

# Supporting Information

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## SI Materials and Methods

**Cell Culture and Treatment.** The immortalized human mammary epithelial cell (HMLE)-Twist-ER which were generously provided by R. Weinberg (Whitehead Institute for Biomedical Research, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA), were generated by infecting the HMLE cells with tamoxifen inducible pWZL-Twist-ER vectors followed by selection with 5 ng/mL of blasticidin and maintained in serum-free MEGM with supplements and growth factors (CC-3150; Lonza). For epithelial–mesenchymal transition (EMT) induction, HMLE-Twist-ER cells were exposed to 4-hydroxytamoxifen (Sigma) at 20 nM for 12 d as described (1). Human breast cancer cell lines MCF-7 were obtained from the American Type Culture Collection and cultured in DMEM (high glucose) containing 10% (vol/vol) FBS and Roswell Park Memorial Institute medium containing 10% (vol/vol) FBS, respectively.

**Flow Cytometry.** Cells were detached with trypsin/EDTA and single cells were washed with PBS containing 2% (vol/vol) FBS. For single-color fluorescence staining, cells were incubated with the indicated primary antibodies for 10 min. After washing, the cells were incubated with appropriate secondary antibodies conjugated with phycoerythrin (PE) (Beckman Coulter) for 20 min. For triple-color fluorescence staining, cells were first stained with anti-glycosphingolipid (GSL) antibodies or isotype controls. Next, cells were stained with PerCPcy5.5-anti-CD44 and ECD-anti-CD24. Approximately  $1 \times 10^6$  cells were stained, and  $1 \times 10^5$  events were analyzed with an LSR II flow cytometer (BD Biosciences) and FlowJo software.

**Mammosphere Assay.** MCF-7 cells ( $2 \times 10^3$ ) were plated in ultra-low-attachment 24-well dishes (Costar) in serum-free Mammary Epithelial Cell Growth Medium (MEGM) basal medium supplemented with all required growth factors as described in *Materials and Methods* in the main text for the growth of HMLE-Twist-ER cells, except bovine pituitary extract with B-27 supplements (1 $\times$ , Invitrogen). After 5 d of culture at 37 °C, resulting mammospheres were counted under microscope.

**Antibodies.** Anti-Gb3 mAb 1A4 was created in our laboratory (2). Anti-GM2 mAb MK1-8 (3) was kindly provided by Reiji Kannagi (Institute of Biomedical Sciences, Academia Sinica, Taipei, Taiwan). The other antibodies were obtained as follows: anti-GD2 mAb 14.G2a, PerCPcy5.5-anti-CD44, and ECD-anti-CD24 (BD Pharmingen); anti-GD3 (mAb clone R24; Abcam); anti-GD1a (mAb clone GD1a-1; Millipore); and PE-goat-anti-mouse-IgG, PE-goat-anti-mouse-IgM, and isotype controls (Beckman Coulter).

**Real-Time RT-PCR.** Total RNA was extracted and purified using an RNeasy Plus Mini Kit (Qiagen). The first strand of cDNA was prepared from 5  $\mu$ g of RNA using SuperScript III first-strand Synthesis SuperMix (Invitrogen) with random primers, according to the manufacturer's instructions. RT-PCR was performed using Applied Biosystems StepOnePlus system according to the manufacturer's protocol. Two hundred nanograms of cDNA was used and relative quantities of mRNAs were determined using the comparative threshold number (Ct value) method.  $\beta$ -actin and Ups11 were used as reference genes.

**Gold Colloidal Phagokinetic Track Assay for Cell Motility.** Gold sol-coated plates (24-well) were prepared as described previously (4, 5). Cells were detached with trypsin/EDTA and  $5 \times 10^2$  cells in complete culture medium were seeded onto gold sol-coated

wells and incubated for 18 h. Photos were taken, and track areas for 30 cells were measured using the ImageJ program and expressed in square pixels.

**GSL Extraction, High-Performance TLC Analysis, and Immunostaining.** GSL extraction was performed as described previously (6). Cells ( $2 \times 10^8$ ) were extracted by sonication four times in 10 mL of each of the following solvents in succession: (i) chloroform/methanol (1:1), (ii) isopropanol/hexane/water (55:25:20, lower phase), (iii) isopropanol/hexane/water (55:25:20, lower phase), and (iv) chloroform/methanol (1:1). The combined extracts were evaporated and dissolved in 6 mL of chloroform/methanol (2:1). The solution was added to 1 mL of water to achieve chloroform:methanol:water (CMW) 4:2:1 then shaken and allowed to separate into upper and lower phases. The lower phase was added to 3 mL of chloroform/methanol/0.1% NaCl (1:10:10), shaken, and allowed to separate into upper and lower phases (this step, Folch partition, was repeated three times). Upper phases were combined and washed once with 0.5 mL of chloroform/methanol (2:1). The upper phase was evaporated and solubilized in distilled water and the resultant solution was applied to a Sep-Pak C18 cartridge (Varian) for desalting.

The Folch partition lower phase was further purified by acetylating methods to remove phospholipids as described previously (6). The lower phase was completely dried and acetylated by 1 mL of dried pyridine and 0.5 mL of acetic anhydride for 16–18 h. Acetylated GSLs were evaporated and dissolved in hexane-dicyanoethylene (DCE) 1:4. The peracetylated GSLs was passed through a Florisil column and washed by hexane-DCE 1:4. After washing, the column was eluted with DCE or DCE-acetone 1:1. Only the eluent with DCE-acetone 1:1 was collected and evaporated to dryness; this eluent contained glycolipids purified from total phospholipids. Acetylated glycolipids were next dissolved in 0.2 mL of methanol and then deacetylated by adding 0.1 mL of 2.5% (wt/vol) sodium methoxide (Sigma). After 3 h, the mixture was neutralized with ethyl acetate. Total reaction mixtures were evaporated to dryness under N<sub>2</sub> stream, dissolved in water, and then desalted by Sep-Pak C18 cartridge (Varian).

GSLs from the Folch partition upper or lower phases were eluted with chloroform/methanol (2:1) from Sep-Pak C18 cartridges, analyzed using high-performance TLC (HPTLC) plates (EMD Bioscience), developed in a solvent system of chloroform/methanol/0.5% aqueous CaCl<sub>2</sub> (50:40:10), and visualized by spraying with 0.5% orcinol in 1 M sulfuric acid.

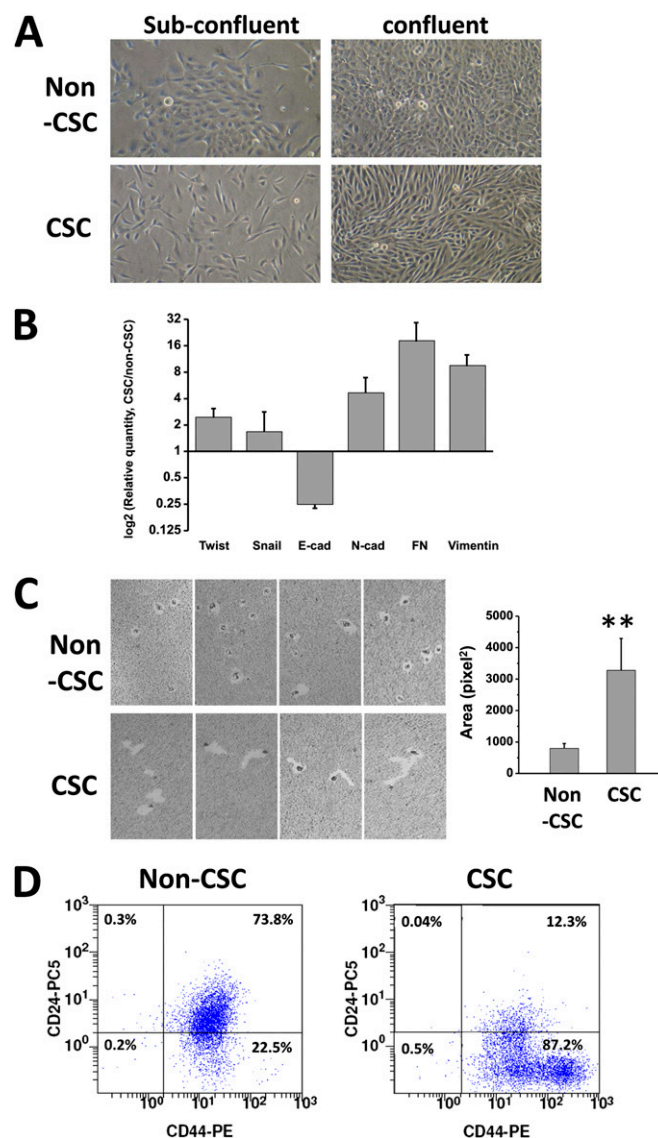
GSLs from the Folch partition upper phase were class-separated as described (7). GSLs were dissolved in CMW (30:60:8), loaded on a DEAE Sephadex column, and eluted with CMW (30:60:8) to obtain neutral GSLs. The column was eluted successively with CMW (30:60:8) containing ammonium acetate at the following concentrations: (i) 0.03 M to obtain monosialo-gangliosides, (ii) 0.13 M to obtain disialo-gangliosides, (iii) 0.45 M to obtain trisialo-gangliosides, and (iv) 0.8 M to obtain polysialo-gangliosides. Each eluent was dried, dialyzed, and then analyzed by HPTLC as above.

GSLs were further analyzed by HPTLC immunostaining, as previously described (8). GSLs were developed on HPTLC plates and the plates were dried, fixed with 5% (wt/vol) poly (isobutyl-metacrylate) in hexane/chloroform (9:1), blocked with 3% (wt/vol) BSA in PBS, and incubated with mAbs directed to various GSLs. TLC plates were then incubated with appropriate secondary antibodies conjugated to horseradish peroxidase and were detected by chemiluminescence detection kit (Pierce).

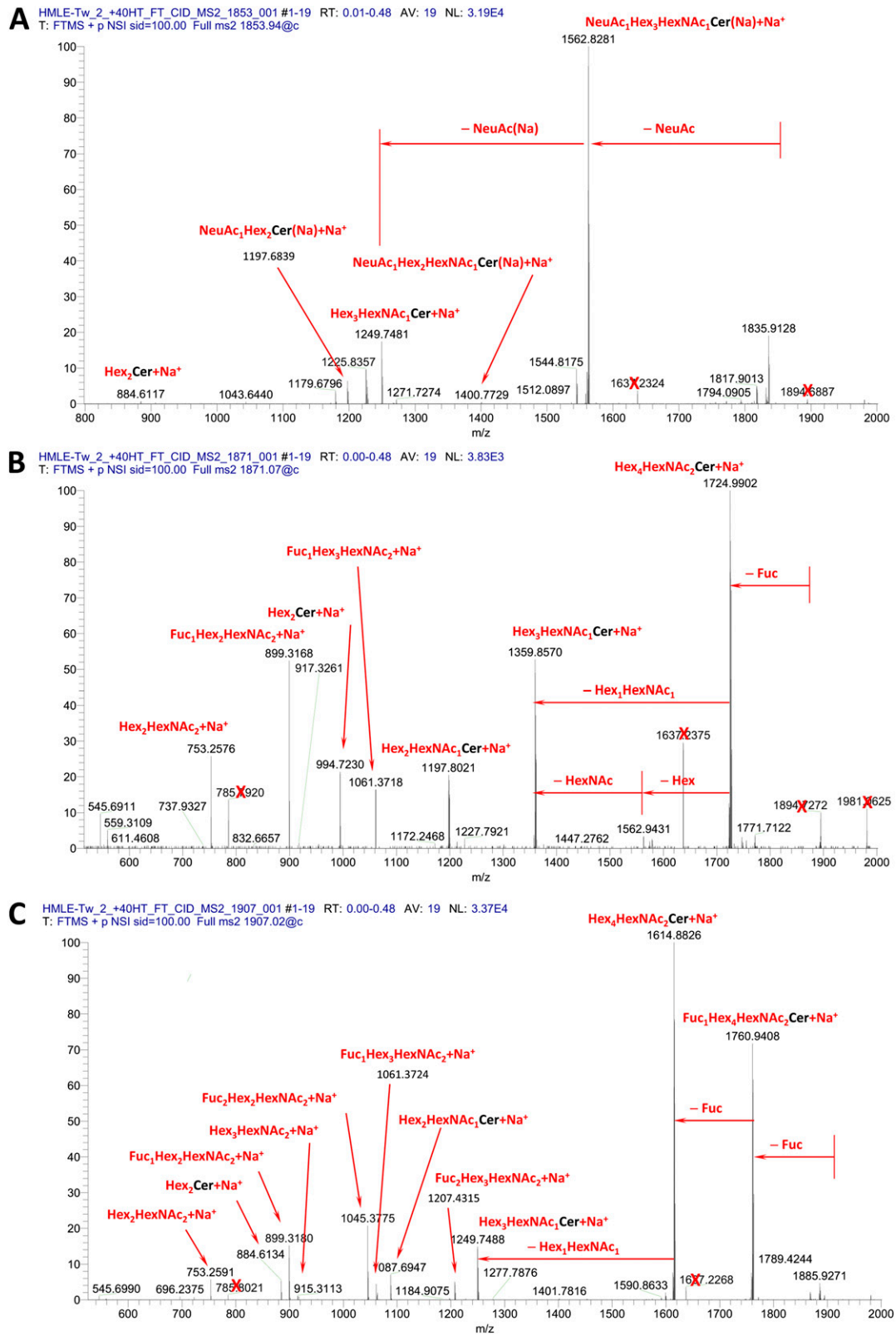
**Immunofluorescence Cell Staining.** For cell-surface GSL staining, cells were fixed in 4% (wt/vol) formaldehyde in PBS for 30 min. After washing, cells were blocked in PBS containing 10% (vol/vol) FBS and 1% (wt/vol) BSA then incubated with appropriate concentrations of the primary antibody and then with Alexa-594–

conjugated secondary antibody in blocking solution. Subsequently, cells were stained with Hoechst 33258 (Invitrogen)/PBS for 1 min. A coverslip was mounted with glycerol mounting medium (Dako) and sealed with clear nail polish. Fluorescent images were observed under a Zeiss confocal immunofluorescence microscope.

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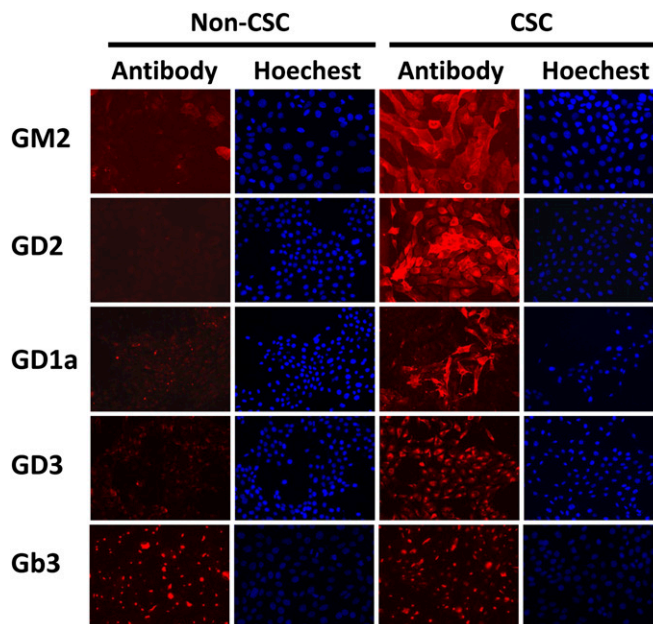
**Fig. S1.** EMT induction by expression of Twist-conferred cell with stem-cell properties. Induction of EMT by Twist expression in HMLE-Twist-ER cultured in the presence of tamoxifen for 12 d. HMLE-Twist-ER cells and Twist-expressing HMLE-Twist-ER cells were used as non-cancer stem cells (CSCs) and CSCs, respectively. (A) Phase-contrast images of the cells treated with tamoxifen for 12 d. (B) Expression levels of mRNAs encoding EMT-associated proteins in Twist-expressing HMLE-Twist-ER cells.  $\beta$ -Actin mRNA was used as reference gene to normalize. The data are shown as means  $\pm$  SEM. (C) Cell motility was analyzed by gold colloidal phagokinetic track assay. Tracks from 30 individual cells were measured and quantified. Mean  $\pm$  SD is shown. **\*\*** $P \leq 0.005$ . (D) Expression profiles of CD24 and CD44 in non-CSCs and CSCs. Induction of EMT by Twist resulted in the appearance of CD44<sup>hi</sup>/CD24<sup>lo</sup> cell populations.



**Fig. S2.** Electrospray ionization–collision-induced dissociation–Fourier transform–MS2 (ESI-CID-FT-MS2) spectra of selected GSL molecular precursors from a CSC sample. (A) ESI-CID-FT-MS2 of precursor at  $m/z$  1,853.94 corresponding to NeuAc<sub>2</sub>-Gg<sub>4</sub>Cer(Na)+Na<sup>+</sup> (Cer = d18:1/16:0) from a Breast Cancer Surveillance Consortium (BCSC) sample. Note that Na refers to salt formation at one NeuAc residue (i.e., M – H + Na),  $\Delta m/z$  +21.9819, in contrast to +Na<sup>+</sup>, which refers to sodium salt adduction,  $\Delta m/z$  +22.9892. Note also that the exclusive and abundant loss of NeuAc residues, and absence of loss of Hex residue (or Hex<sub>1</sub>HexNAC<sub>1</sub>), from the molecular precursor ion is suggestive of GD1a, rather than GD1b, ganglioside structure, although the evidence is not definitive under these conditions (NeuAc losses are highly favored anyway). (B) ESI-CID-FT-MS2 of precursor at  $m/z$  1,871.07 corresponding to Fuc-(n)Lc<sub>6</sub>Cer+Na<sup>+</sup> (Cer = d18:1/24:1) from a BCSC sample. Note that the exclusive and abundant loss of a Fuc residue, and absence of losses of Hex residue (or Hex<sub>2</sub>HexNAC<sub>1</sub>), from the molecular precursor ion is

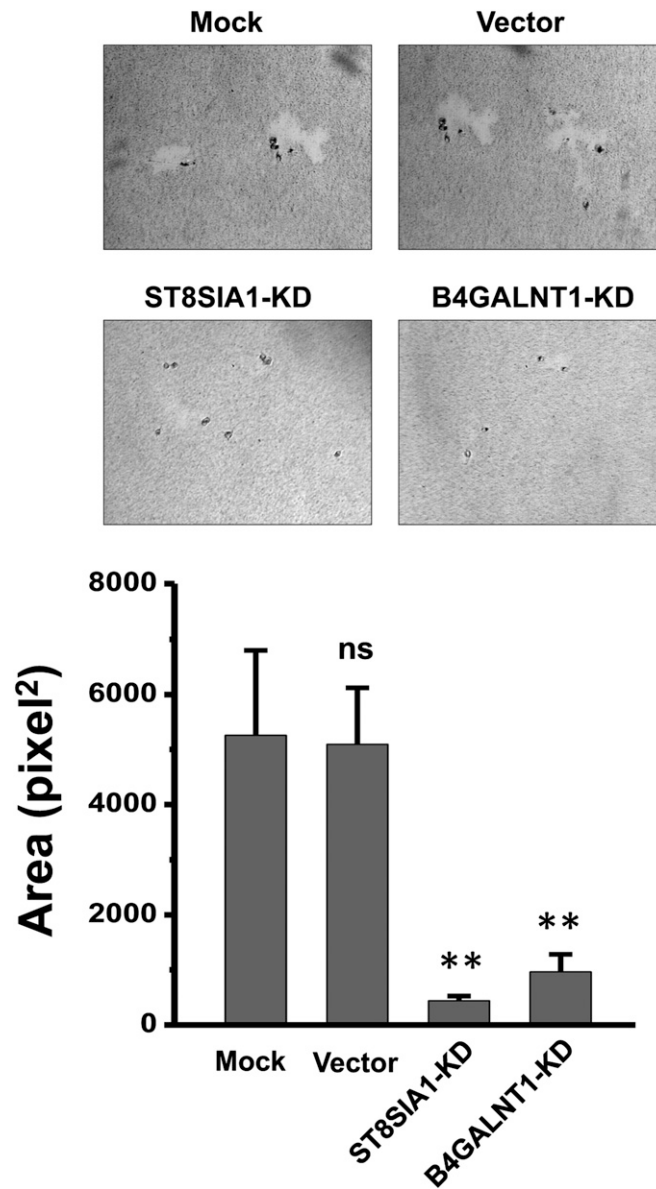
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suggestive of type-2 chain (nLc) core structure (Le<sup>x</sup>), although the evidence is not definitive under these conditions. H blood group structures (having non-reducing terminal Fuc) are also consistent with the observed fragmentation. (C) ESI-CID-FT-MS2 of precursor at  $m/z$  1,907.02 corresponding to Fuc2-(n)Lc6Cer+Na<sup>+</sup> (Cer = d18:1/16:0) from a BCSC sample. Note that the exclusive and abundant loss of Fuc residues, and absence of losses of Hex residue (or Fuc<sub>1</sub>Hex<sub>2</sub>HexNAc<sub>1</sub>), from the molecular precursor ion is suggestive of type-2 chain (nLc) core structure (Le<sup>x</sup>), although the evidence is not definitive under these conditions. H blood group structures (having nonreducing terminal Fuc) are also consistent with the observed fragmentation. In all three spectra, X refers to known FT artifact peaks, which should be disregarded.



**Fig. S3.** Analysis of GSL expression by immunofluorescence cell staining. Semiconfluent monolayers of CSCs and non-CSCs were fixed and then stained with mAbs against each GSL as indicated. Appropriate secondary antibodies conjugated with Alexa Fluor 594 (red) were used. Hoechst staining (blue) was used for nuclei staining.





**Fig. 54.** Knockdown of ST8SIA1 and B4GALNT1 reduces cell motility in MCF-7 cells. ST8SIA1-KD or B4GALNT1-KD cells were incubated and grown for 18 h on gold sol-coated plates. The migrated area was measured as described in *Materials and Methods*. Data represent the mean of three independent experiments,  $**P \leq 0.005$ .



