



**Figure S2. SOX2 regulates self-renewal and protects survival, proliferation and cell cycle in hESCs and hESC-derived hNPCs. Related to Figure 3.**

(A) Morphology of hESCs (H9) transfected with siRNAs of Non-targeting (siNT), SOX2 (si2-1) or SOX2/3 (si2/3-1).

(B) RT-qPCR results for germ layer and pluripotency markers after transfection with indicated siRNA oligos for 3 days in two hESC lines, H9 and SHhES2. Scale bar represents  $\log_2$  of expression level. si2-1, SOX2 siRNA-1; si2/3-1, SOX2/3 siRNA-1.

(C) Morphology of H9 hESC-derived hNPC transfected with indicated siRNA oligos.

(D) RT-qPCR results showing decreased NPC stemness markers after SOX2 KD in hNPCs.

(E) Western blot results decreased p-ERK1/2 and increased active caspase3 upon SOX2 KD in hNPCs.

(F) Relative cell numbers decreased in H9 2 days after SOX2 knock down.

(G) FACS analysis showing efficient knock down of SOX2 in H9 hESCs transfected with siNT and si2/3-1 for 3 days. IWR1-e (10  $\mu$ M) does not restore SOX2 expression.

(H) BrDU/7AAD FACS analysis was performed. Quantification of FACS results showing proliferation defects and increased apoptosis upon SOX2/3 knock down in hESCs. Percentages of subG1 apoptotic cells, cells in G0/G1, S and G2/M phases were shown. IWR1-e (10 $\mu$ M) treatment does not rescue proliferation defects and apoptosis.

(I) Relative cell numbers decreased in H9-derived hNPCs 2 days after SOX2 knock

down.

(J) FACS analysis showing efficient knock down of SOX2 in H9 derived hNPC transfected with siNT, si2-1 and si2-2.

(K) BrDU/7AAD FACS analysis was performed. Quantification of FACS results showing proliferation defects and increased apoptosis upon SOX2 knock down in hNPCs. Percentages of subG1 apoptotic cells, cells in G0/G1, S and G2/M phases were shown.