

## SUPPLEMENTAL DATA

**Supplementary Table S1: Gene array analysis of *GCHI* expression with prognosis of breast cancer in Oxford**

| Tumor characteristics | Spearman rank test          | <i>GCHI</i> gene expression |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| <b>Tumor size</b>     | Correlation coefficient     | 0.193                       |
|                       | <i>p</i> value (two-tailed) | <b>0.017</b>                |
|                       | Number of patients          | 152                         |
| <b>Grade</b>          | Correlation coefficient     | 0.218                       |
|                       | <i>p</i> value (two-tailed) | <b>0.013</b>                |
|                       | Number of patients          | 129                         |
| <b>Age</b>            | Correlation coefficient     | 0.104                       |
|                       | <i>p</i> value (two-tailed) | 0.203                       |
|                       | Number of patients          | 153                         |

Correlation of *GCHI* expression with tumor size and grade in 153 breast cancer cohort in Oxford and a set of published data (Higgins et al., 2010).

## REFERENCE

Higgins GS, Harris AL, Prevo R, Helleday T, McKenna WG, Buffa FM. Overexpression of POLQ confers a poor prognosis in early breast cancer patients. *Oncotarget* 2010; 1: 175-184.

**Supplementary Table S2: Multivariate Cox analysis of *GCHI* expression with patient survival in breast cancer**

| <b>Correlation of <i>GCHI</i> and clinical covariates with recurrence free survival</b> | <b><i>p</i> value</b> | <b>Hazard ratio</b> |
|---|-----------------------|---------------------|
| High <i>GCHI</i>  | <b>0.024</b>          | 3.589               |
| ER positive   | 0.391                 | 0.664               |
| Menopause   | 0.894                 | 0.944               |
| Grade   | 0.638                 | 1.135               |
| Size  | <b>0.010</b>          | 1.301               |
| Node  | 0.801                 | 1.018               |

Correlation of *GCHI* expression with recurrent free survival in 153 breast cancer patients as described previously (Higgins et al., 2010). Clinical covariates in breast cancer patients in a set of gene array data.

Supplementary Table S3: OncoPrint analysis of *GCHI* gene expression in sets of breast cancer cohorts

| Dataset name | Dataset size | Analysis of subtype                  | Comparison (size) | <i>p</i> value | t-Test | Fold of changes | Reporter     |
|--------------|--------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------|----------------|--------|-----------------|--------------|
| Bittner      | 336          | Ductal breast carcinoma vs. others   | 261 vs. 62        | <b>3E-5</b>    | 4.2    | 2.8             | 204224_s_at  |
| TCGA         | 593          |                                      | 397 vs. 54        | <b>2E-5</b>    | 4.4    | 2.6             | A_24_P167642 |
| TCGA         | 593          |                                      | 76 vs. 61         | <b>5E-12</b>   | 7.4    | 2.9             | A_24_P167642 |
| TCGA         | 593          | Invasive breast carcinoma vs. normal | 392 vs. 61        | <b>7E-19</b>   | 10.6   | 3.2             |              |
| Wang         | 286          |                                      | 209 vs. 77        | <b>4E-06</b>   | -4.7   | 0.38            | 204224_s_at  |
| Desmedt      | 198          | ER positive vs. negative             | 102 vs 56         | <b>2E-05</b>   | -4.3   | 0.33            | 204224_s_at  |
| Kao          | 327          |                                      | 204 vs. 123       | <b>4E-12</b>   | -7.2   | 0.37            | 204224_s_at  |
| Gluck        | 158          |                                      | 81 vs. 73         | <b>1E-07</b>   | -5.4   | 0.36            | 6502         |
| Hatzi        | 508          |                                      | 243 vs 258        | <b>3E-05</b>   | -4.0   | 0.42            | 204224_s_at  |
| Kao          | 327          | PR positive vs. negative             | 258 vs. 69        | <b>4E-06</b>   | -4.7   | 0.39            | 204224_s_at  |
| Bild         | 158          |                                      | 101 vs. 57        | <b>2E05</b>    | -4.2   | 0.39            | 37944        |
| Ivshina      | 289          |                                      | 186 vs 61         | <b>5E-06</b>   | -4.7   | 0.41            | 204224_s_at  |
| Ivshina      | 289          |                                      | 68/166/55         | <b>6E-08</b>   |        |                 | 204224_s_at  |
| Yu           | 96           |                                      | 5/26/63           | <b>9E-05</b>   |        |                 | 204224_s_at  |
| Gluck        | 158          |                                      | 19/49/69          | <b>6E-07</b>   |        |                 | 6502         |
| Desmedt      | 198          | Grade I/II/III                       | 21/67/70          | <b>2E-07</b>   |        |                 | 204224_s_at  |
| Bittner      | 336          |                                      | 18/74/126         | <b>2E-06</b>   |        |                 | 204224_s_at  |
| Schmidt      | 200          |                                      | 29/135/36         | <b>8E-07</b>   |        |                 | 204224_s_at  |
| Hatzis       | 508          |                                      | 132/180/258       | <b>4E-06</b>   |        |                 | 204224_s_at  |

Significant results are shown ( $p < 0.0001$ ) for association of *GCHI* expression with histology, biomarker (ER and PR) expression and histological grade (well differentiated/intermediate/poorly differentiated).

**Supplementary Table S4: GTPCH expression in murine fibroblasts elevates BH4 levels in breast cancer cells in cultures**

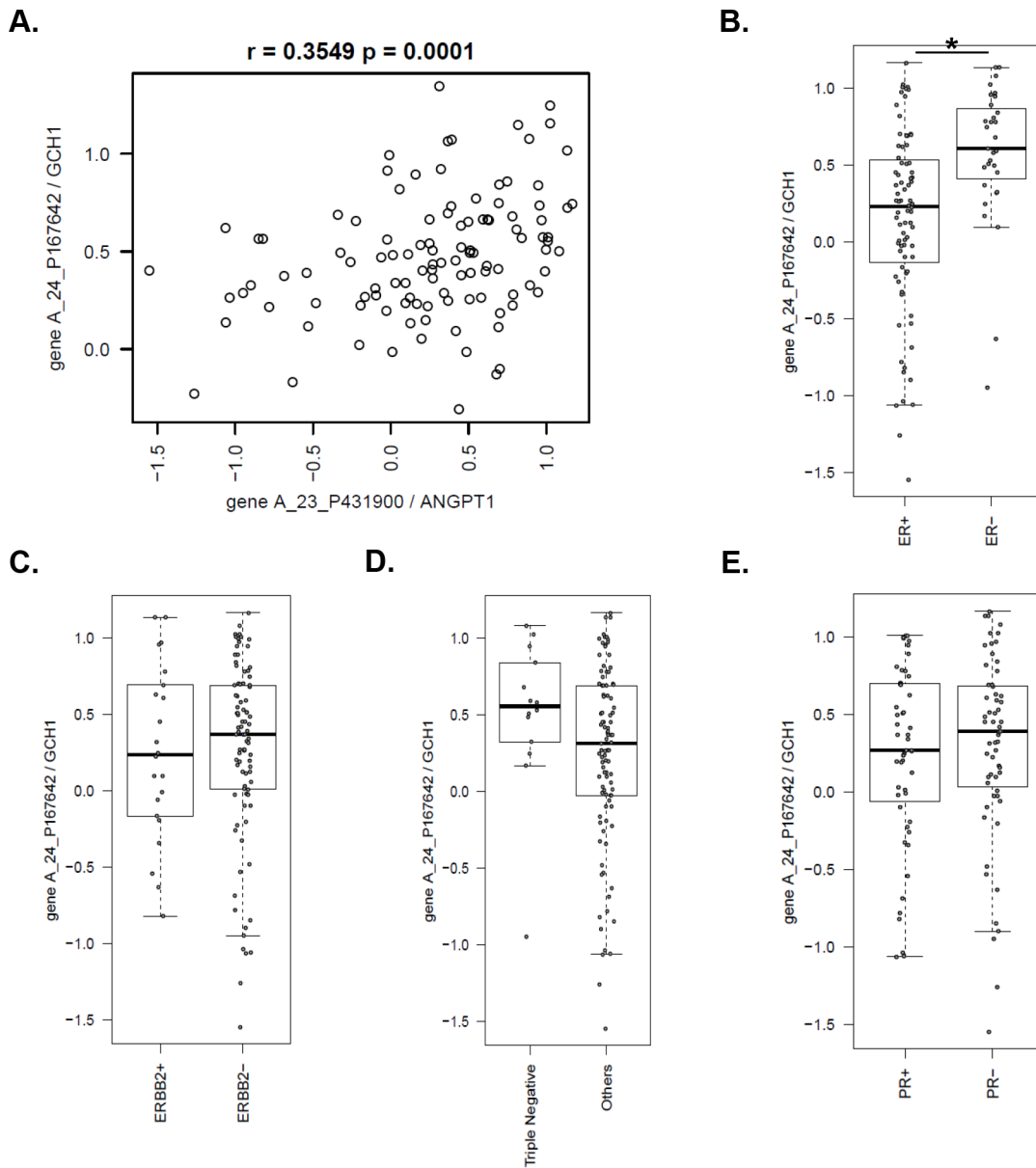
| Condition             | Total biopterin (pmol/mg) | BH4 (pmol/mg) |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|---------------|
| MDA231-GFP/Tet-off-EV | 8.8 ± 3.1                 | 4.1 ± 1.7     |
| MDA231-GFP/GCHtet-off | 62.7 ± 23.2*              | 18.6 ± 8.7*   |
| + DOX                 | 7.5 ± 2.9                 | 4.0 ± 0.8     |
| + DAHP                | 8.5 ± 3.6                 | 6.8 ± 0.9     |

MDA231-GFP was cocultured with GCHtet-off or Tet-off-EV control and incubated with Dox (1 µg/ml), DAHP (5 mM), or DMSO vehicle control for 48 hours. Cell lysates were prepared and biopterin levels were determined by HPLC using both acid-base oxidation with fluorometric detection. Values shown are means of two triplicate determinations ± SEM (\* $p < 0.05$  vs. DMSO vehicle control, Dox or DAHP, n = 6).

**Supplementary Table S5: GTPCH expression in tumor stromal fibroblasts increases BH4 synthesis in mouse xenografts**

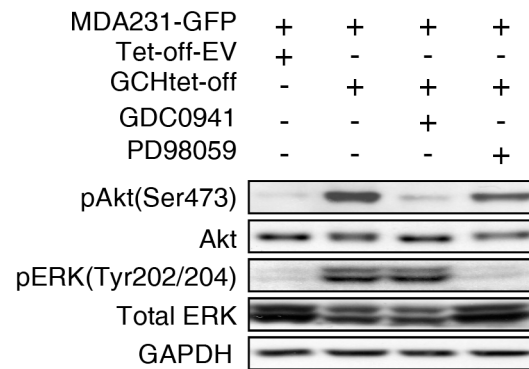
| Condition             | Total biopterin (pmol/mg) | BH4 (pmol/mg) |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|---------------|
| MDA231-GFP/Tet-off-EV | 29.1 ± 1.2                | 11.6 ± 2.1    |
| MDA231-GFP/GCHtet-off | 91.8 ± 24.1*              | 24.0 ± 2.0*   |
| + DOX                 | 37.8 ± 1.8                | 5.5 ± 1.6     |
| + DAHP                | 40.1 ± 2.9                | 5.6 ± 1.6     |

MDA231-GFP cells ( $1 \times 10^6$ ) were coinjected with either GCHtet-off or Tet-off-EV control ( $2 \times 10^5$ ), respectively, and treated with 2 g/L of Dox or DAHP. Tumor tissues were homogenized and biopterin levels were determined by HPLC using both acid-base oxidation with fluorometric detection. Values shown are means ± SEM of 5 animals per group (\*p < 0.05 vs. Dox or DAHP).

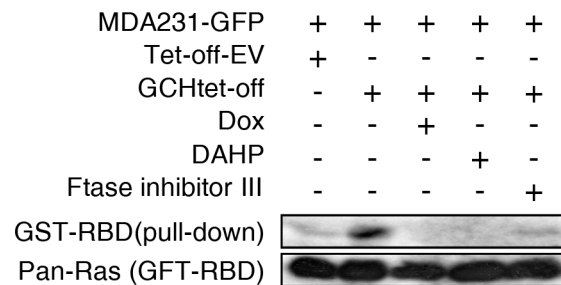


**Supplementary Figure S1: GTPCH gene expression in breast tumor stroma and the patient stratification.** The *GCH1* gene expression is positively correlated with the Ang-1 (A). Spearman's  $\rho=0.3549$ ,  $p$ -value $<0.05$ . It expresses significantly high in the ER- breast cancer (B), but not in any other subtypes of the patients (C-E).  $p < 0.05$  vs. DMSO control, Dox or DAHP treated tumors.

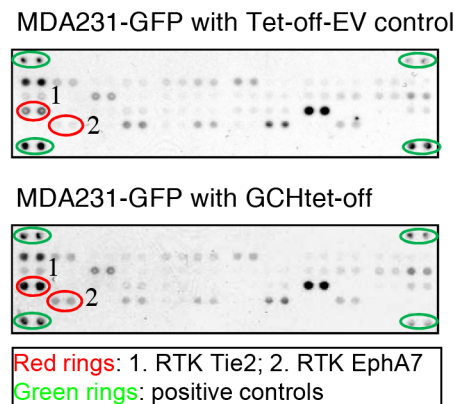
A.



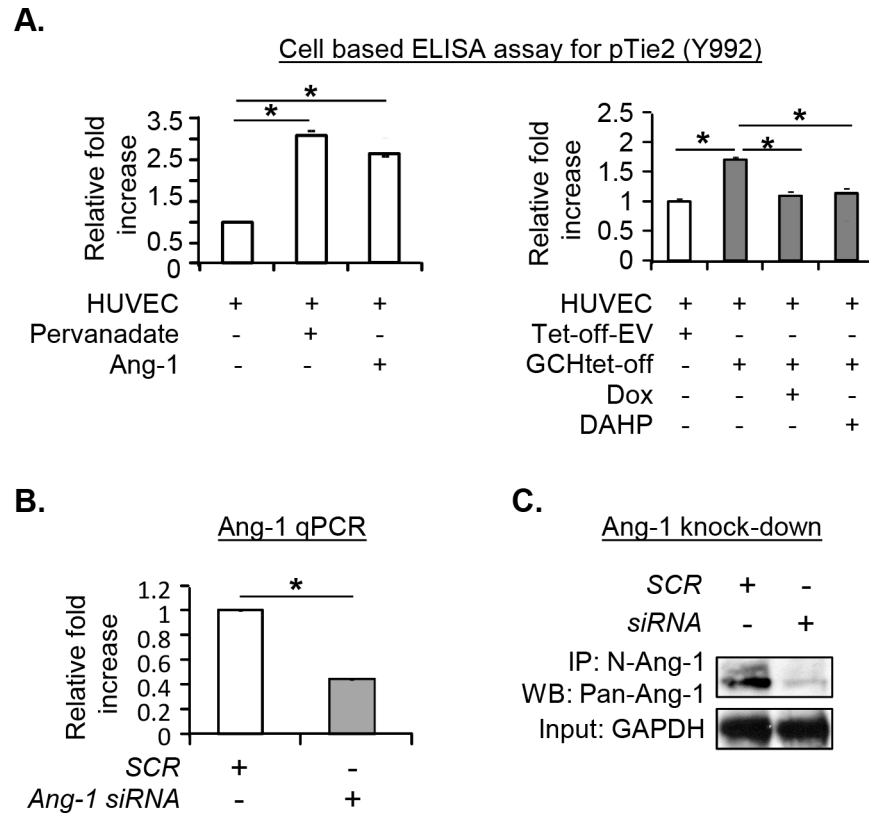
B.



C.

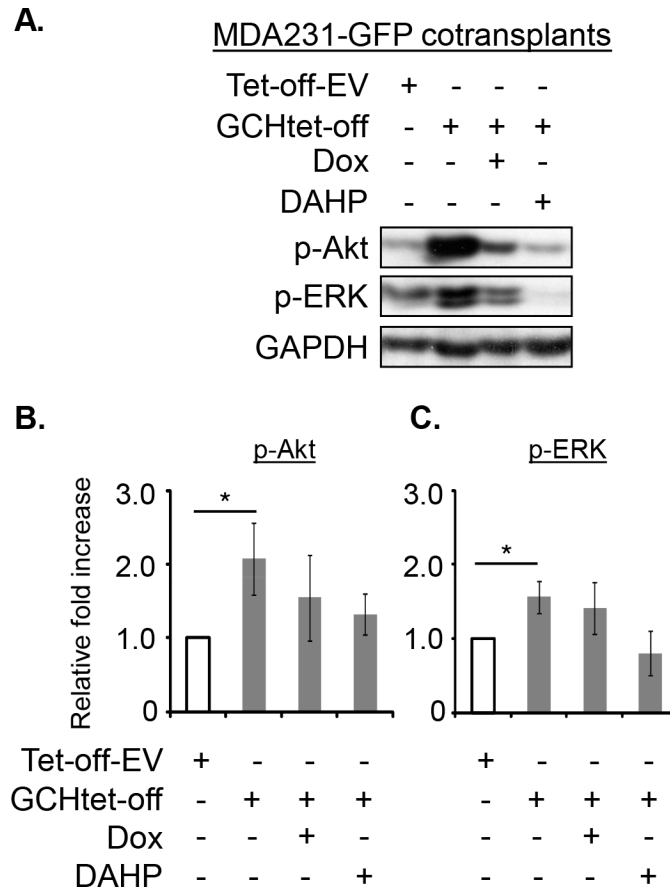


**Supplementary Figure S2: GTPCH-expressing murine fibroblasts induce tumor Akt and ERK phosphorylation in conjunction with oncogenic Ras activation.** As shown in Figure 2-A, cocultures were either pretreated for one hour with GDC0941 (2  $\mu$ M), PD98059 (15  $\mu$ M), the control (DMSO) (A), or incubated 48 hours with Dox (1 $\mu$ g/ml), DAHP (5 mM) or Ftase inhibitor III (15  $\mu$ M) (B). MDA231-GFP lysates were prepared for SDS-PAGE and immunoblotted with antibodies to p-Akt (Ser473), Akt, p-ERK (Tyr202/204), ERK, pan-Ras, and GAPDH, respectively (representative 3 independent experiments) (A and B). For human phospho-RTK assay, the lysates were incubated on RTK antibody arrays and immunoblotted with RTK phospho-tyrosine-HRP. Each RTK antibody is spotted in duplicate. Dots in green circles indicate positive controls; the corresponding RTK in red circles is also listed (C).



**Supplementary Figure S3: Biological effect of GTPCH-induced Ang-1 secretion on tumour Tie2 phosphorylation.** (A).  $1 \times 10^4$  of HUVEC cells/well was seeded in a 96-well plate. After incubation with positive controls of pervanadate ( $100 \mu\text{M}$ ) or recombinant Ang-1 ( $500 \text{ ng/ml}$ ), the GCHtet-off or Tet-off-EV media  $\pm$  the DMSO vehicle control, Dox ( $1 \mu\text{g/ml}$ ), DAHP ( $5 \text{ mM}$ ), pTie2 was quantified using cell based ELISA assay. (B). GCHtet-off fibroblasts were transfected with *Ang-1siRNA* ( $10 \text{ nM}$ ) or *SCRsiRNA* for 72 hours and Ang-1 mRNA were quantified. (C). Cell lysates were prepared for immunoprecipitation of Ang-1. They were immunoblotted with antibody to Ang-1 or GAPDH. All data are shown as mean  $\pm$  SEM ( $*p < 0.05$  vs. the Tet-off-EV control, Dox or DAHP, or *siRNA* knockdown vs *SCRsiRNA*  $n = 3$ ).





**Supplementary Figure S4: Murine fibroblasts expressing GTPCH stimulates tumor Akt/ERK phosphorylation in mouse xenografts.** Xenografts were done and treated as for Figure 5. Tumor tissue lysates were prepared for SDS-PAGE and immunoblotted with antibodies to phospho-Akt, phospho-ERK, and GAPDH (**A**). Bands of intensity of the phospho-Akt and phospho-ERK were quantified on ImageJ software and normalized to GAPDH (**B** and **C**). Data are shown as the mean of 5 animals per group  $\pm$  SEM (\* $p$  < 0.05 vs. DMSO control, Dox or DAHP treated tumors).