

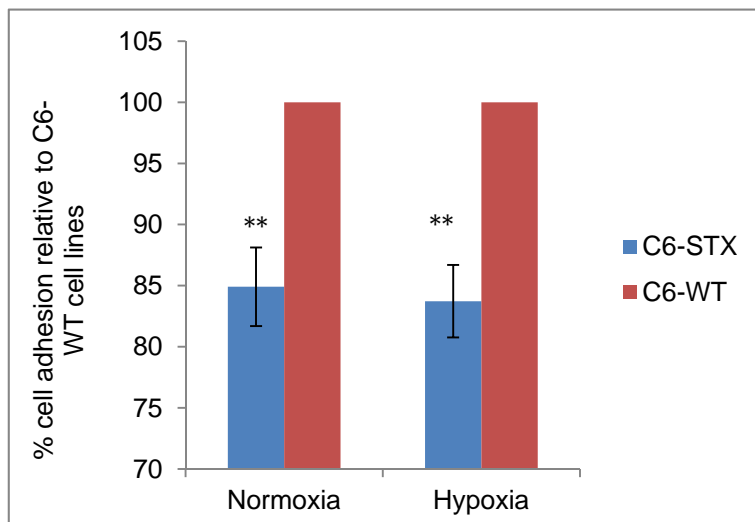
## Polysialic acid sustains cancer cell survival and migratory capacity in a hypoxic environment

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### Supplementary data 1 (S1)



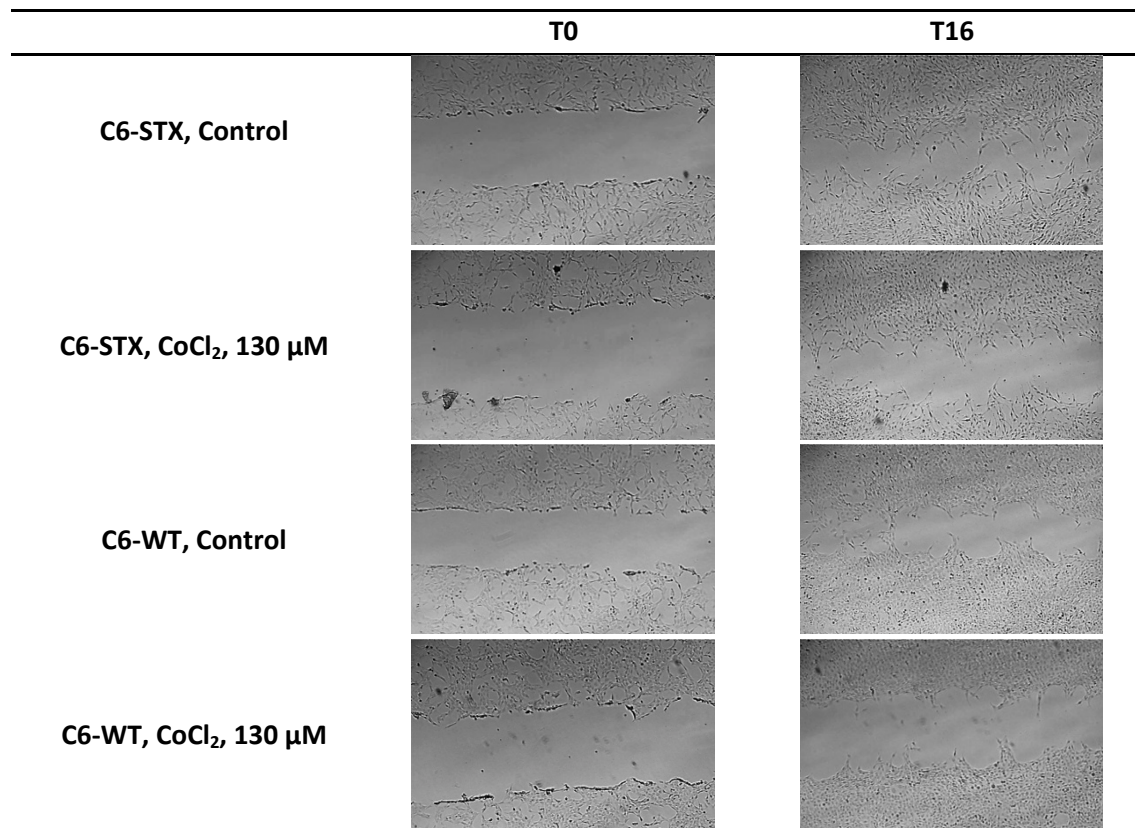
**S1. Effect of hypoxia on the polySia-mediated adhesiveness of cancer cells.** A polySia-mediated reduction in cell adhesion to Matrigel<sup>®</sup> in C6-STX but not C6-WT cell line was observed under both normoxia and hypoxia. (\*\*P≤0.01)

### Supplementary data 2 (S2)

Cell line and conditions	Apoptotic cells		Viable cells
	Late apoptotic (necrotic)	Early apoptotic	
SH-SY5Y (Normoxia)	6.16 ± 0.15	10.36 ± 2.01	81.94 ± 2.19
SH-SY5Y (Hypoxia)	4.41 ± 0.02	7.29 ± 0.29	85.54 ± 0.43

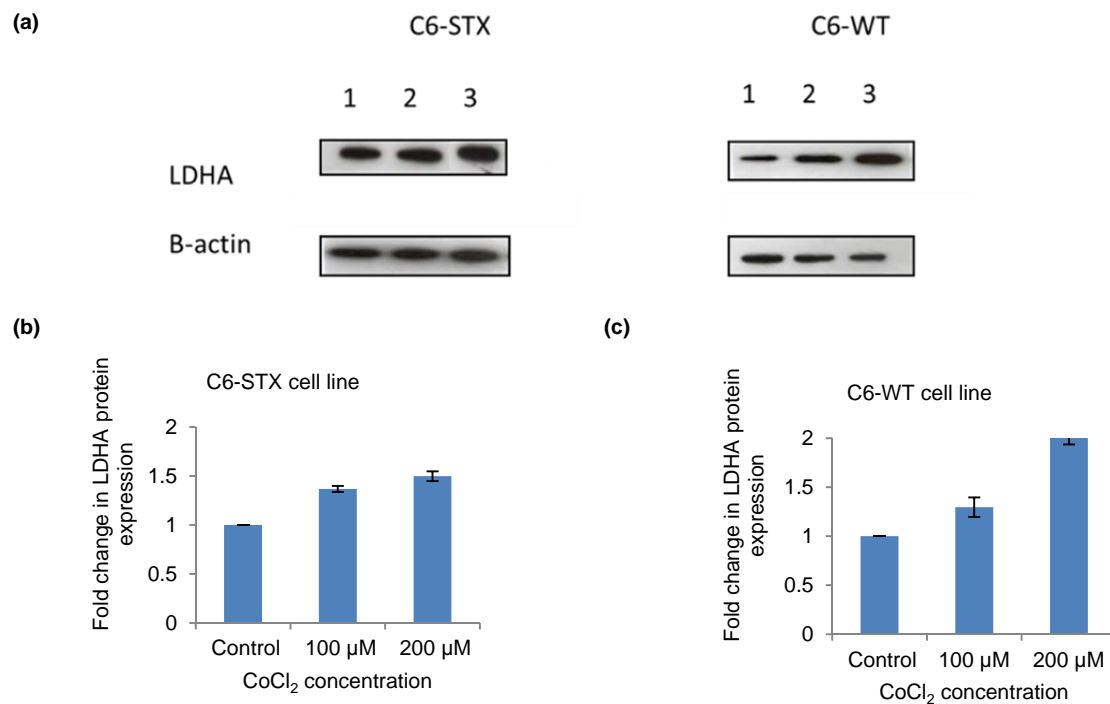
### S2. Percentage of annexin V staining of SH-SY5Y cells under hypoxic and normoxic conditions

### Supplementary data 3 (S3)



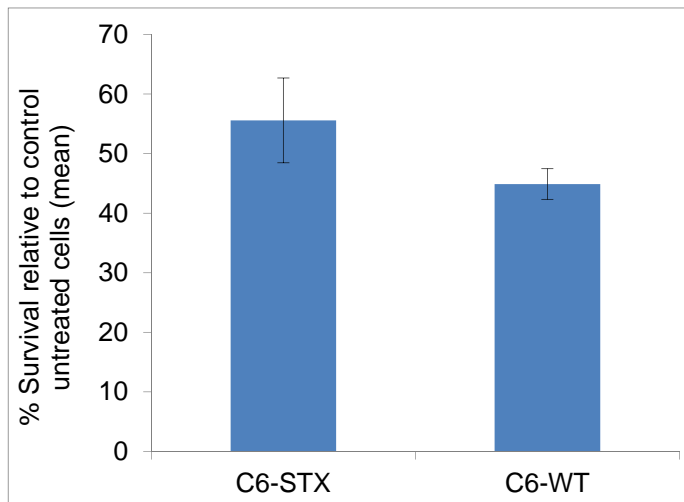
**S3. Migration of C6-STX and C6-WT cells following CoCl<sub>2</sub> treatment.** Wound size immediately and 16 hours after scratching illustrates wound closure of C6-STX and C6-WT cells with/without 100 μM CoCl<sub>2</sub>.

#### Supplementary data 4 (S4)



**S4. Effect of CoCl<sub>2</sub> treatment on C6 cell lines.** (A) Expression of LDHA after treatment of C6-STX and C6-WT cells with different concentrations of CoCl<sub>2</sub>. Lane 1 represents control untreated cells, lane 2 after 130 μM CoCl<sub>2</sub> and lane 3 after 200 μM CoCl<sub>2</sub>. Results are representative of two independent experiments; (B) quantification of fold-change in LDHA expression for C6-STX cells after treatment with 100 μM CoCl<sub>2</sub> (16 hours) and 200 μM CoCl<sub>2</sub> (24 hours); (C) quantification of fold-change in LDHA expression of C6-WT after treatment with 100 μM CoCl<sub>2</sub> (16 hours) and 200 μM CoCl<sub>2</sub> (24 hours).

**Supplementary data 5 (S5)**



**S5. Effect of HIF-1 $\alpha$  induction on the survival of C6-STX and C6-WT cells. ( $P \geq 0.05$ , not significant)**