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**Supplemental Information**

**Caspase-10 Negatively Regulates Caspase-8-Mediated  
Cell Death, Switching the Response to CD95L  
in Favor of NF- $\kappa$ B Activation and Cell Survival**

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# **Caspase-10 is a negative regulator of caspase-8-mediated cell death, switching the response to CD95L in favour of NF- $\kappa$ B activation and cell survival**

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Tencho Tenev<sup>4</sup>, Michaela Ploesser<sup>1</sup>, Pascal Meier<sup>4</sup>, Martin R. Sprick<sup>5\*</sup>,  
Marion MacFarlane<sup>2\*†</sup>, Martin Leverkus<sup>1,6†</sup>**

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Caspase-10 blocks CD95L-induced cell death

#### **Figure S2, related to Figure 2**

Cellular expression levels reflect the stoichiometry of caspase-10 in the DISC

#### **Figure S3, related to Figure 2**

Loss of caspase-10 and/or cFLIP promotes CD95L-induced cell death

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### **Supplemental Experimental Procedures**

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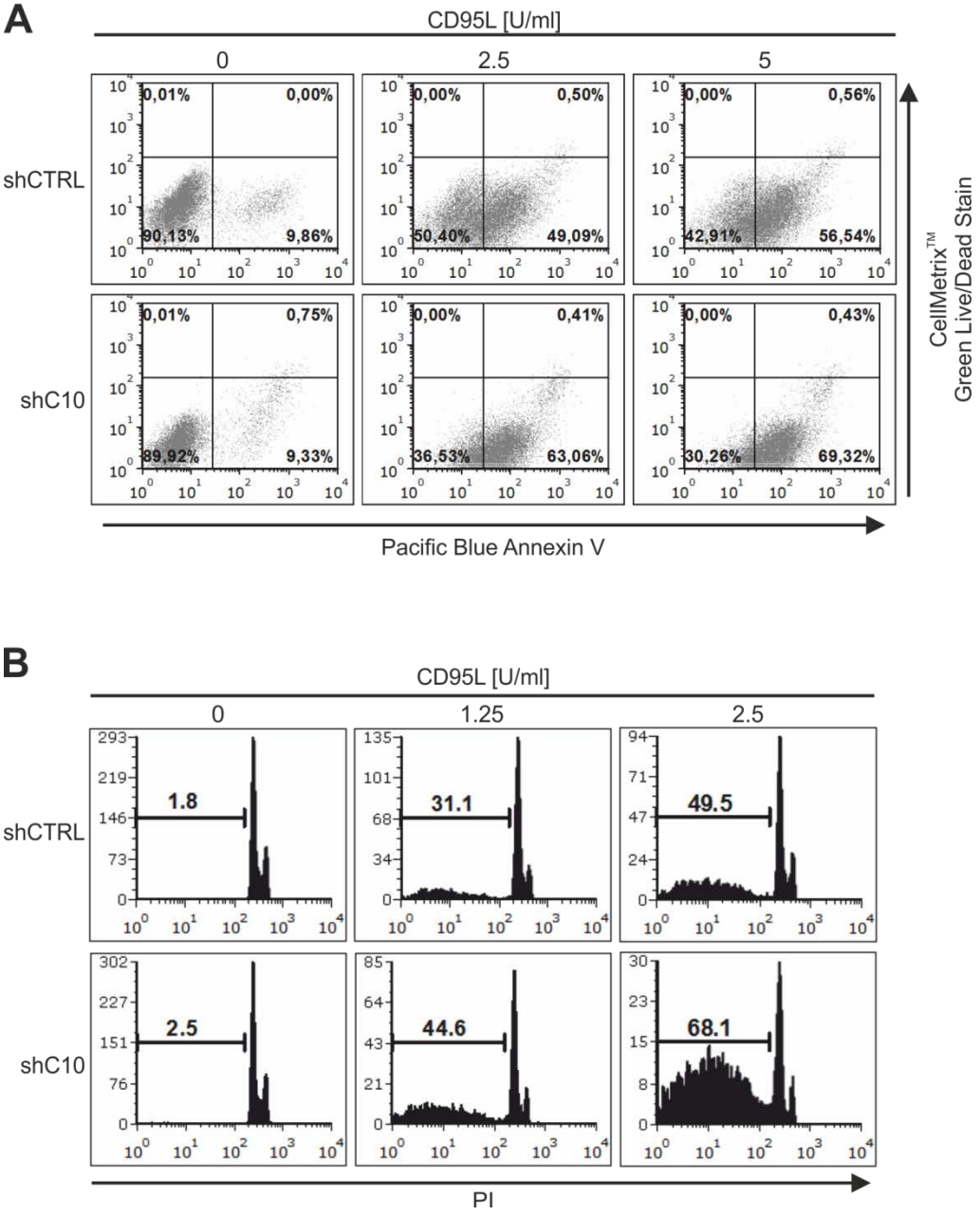
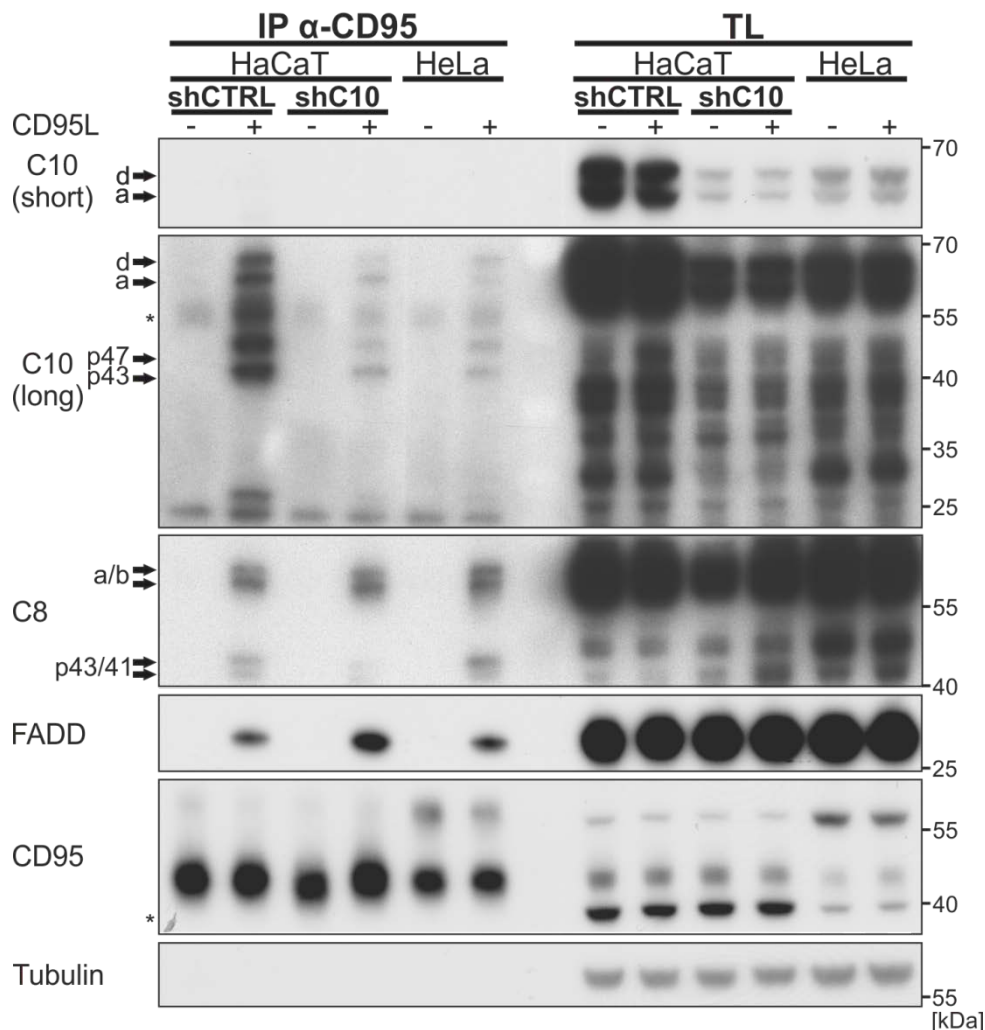


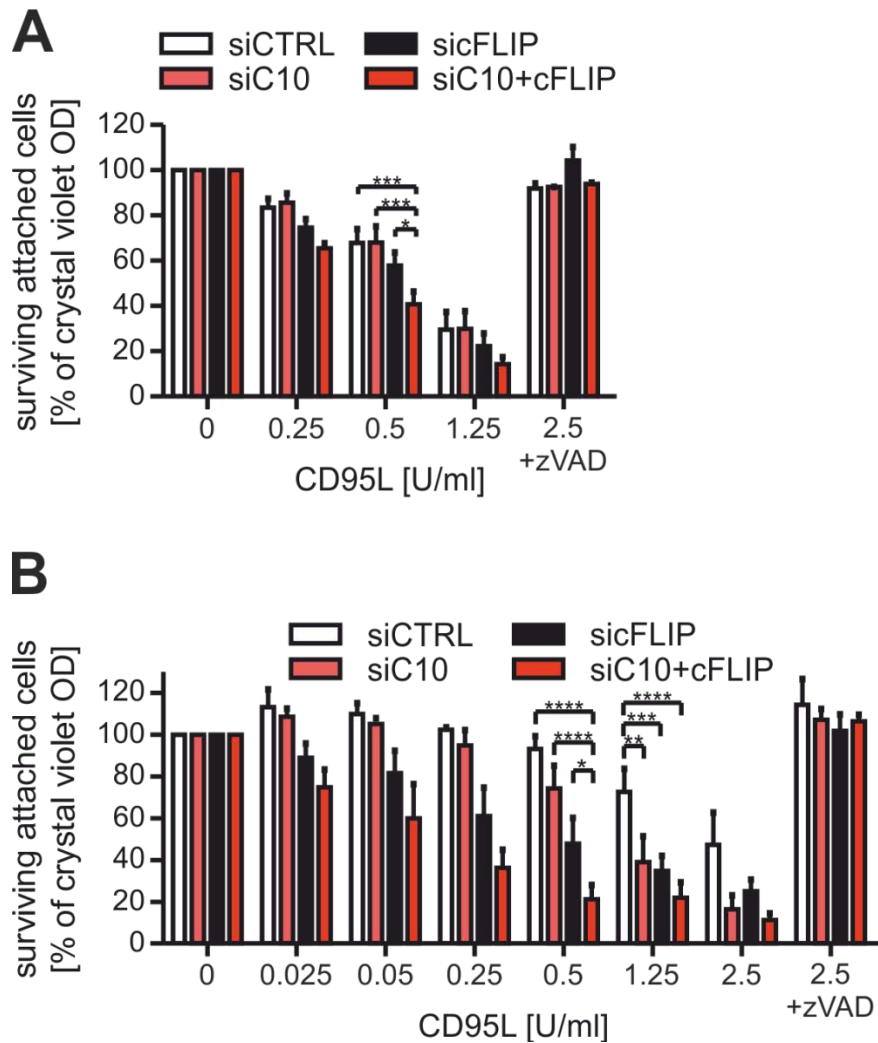
Figure S1, related to Figure 1. Caspase-10 blocks CD95L-induced cell death

(A) Cells were stimulated with the indicated concentrations of CD95L-Fc for 3 h. Apoptotic cells (Annexin V positive and CellMetrix negative) were measured by analyzing the externalization of phosphatidylserine and plasma membrane integrity by Pacific Blue Annexin V plus CellMetrix Green Live/Dead Stain using flow cytometry. A representative experiment is shown. (B) Cells were stimulated with the indicated CD95L-Fc concentrations for 7 h. DNA degradation was quantified by flow cytometry using PI staining for sub G1 populations. A representative experiment is shown.



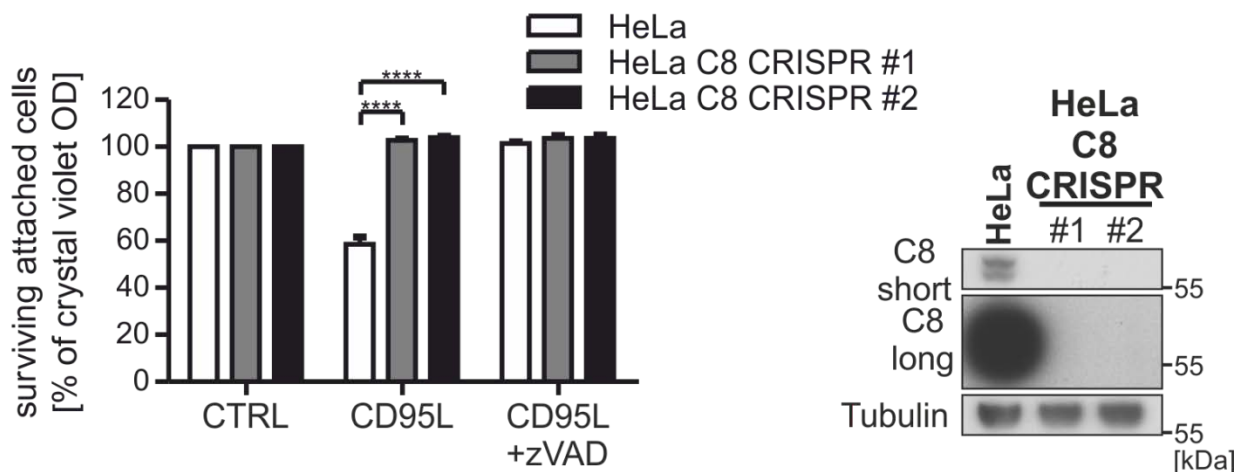
**Figure S2, related to Figure 2. Cellular expression levels reflect the stoichiometry of caspase-10 in the DISC**

Caspase-10 (shC10) or control (shCTRL) shRNA expression was induced in HaCaT cells by the addition of 0.5 µg/ml doxycycline for 72 h. Cells were stimulated with 1 U/ml CD95L-Fc for 40 min and compared to equivalently-treated HeLa cells. CD95 was immunoprecipitated from cell lysates (TL) and co-precipitated proteins were analyzed by Western blotting. The asterisks mark non-specific bands.



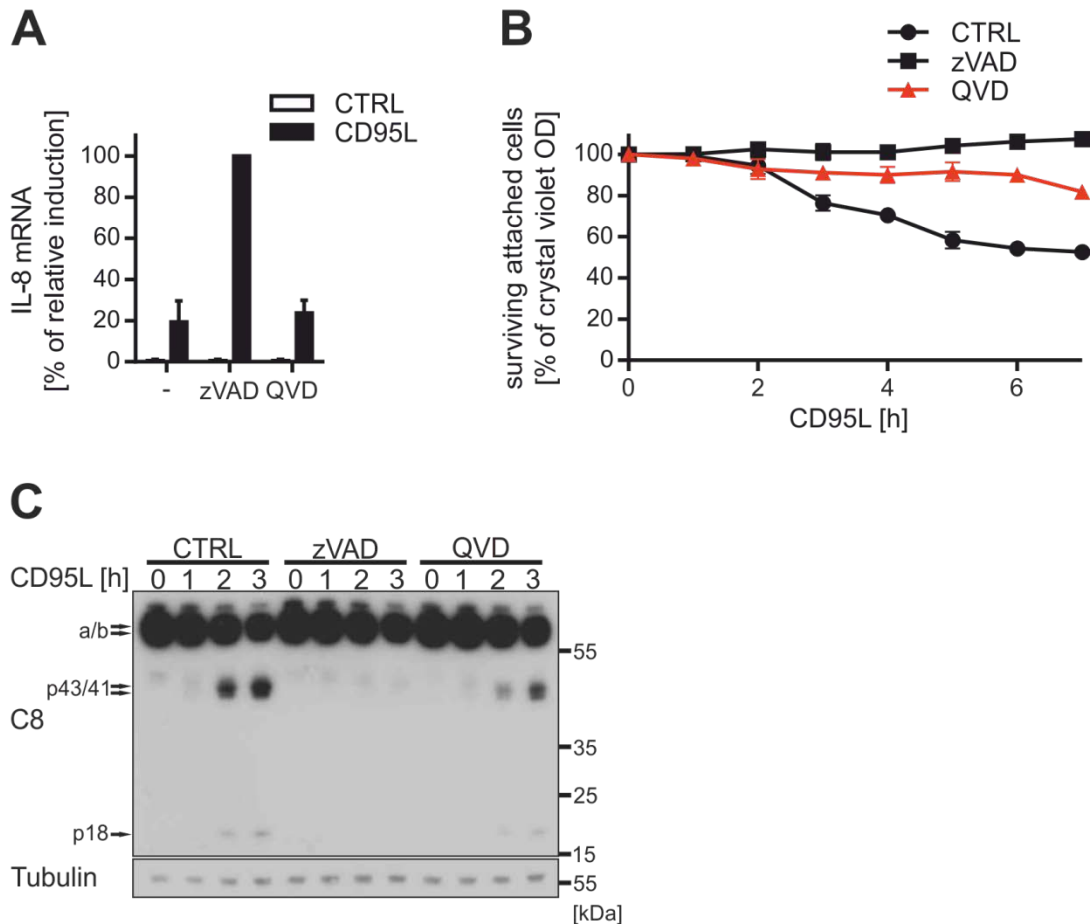
**Figure S3, related to Figure 2. Loss of caspase-10 and/or cFLIP promotes CD95L-induced cell death**

Dose-response to CD95L-Fc stimulation in HaCaT (A) and HeLa (B) cells after cFLIP and/or caspase-10 knockdown by siRNA. Cells were transfected with siC10, sicFLIP, the combination of both, or siCTRL. After 48 h, cells were pre-treated in triplicates with 10  $\mu$ M zVAD for 1 h and further stimulated for 4 h with the indicated concentrations of CD95L-Fc, and cell viability analyzed by crystal violet staining. Each value represents mean  $\pm$  SEM of three independent experiments. Significance levels (p values) were measured by two-way ANOVA test (\* $p < 0.05$ ; \*\* $p < 0.01$ ; \*\*\* $p < 0.001$ ; \*\*\*\* $p < 0.0001$ ).



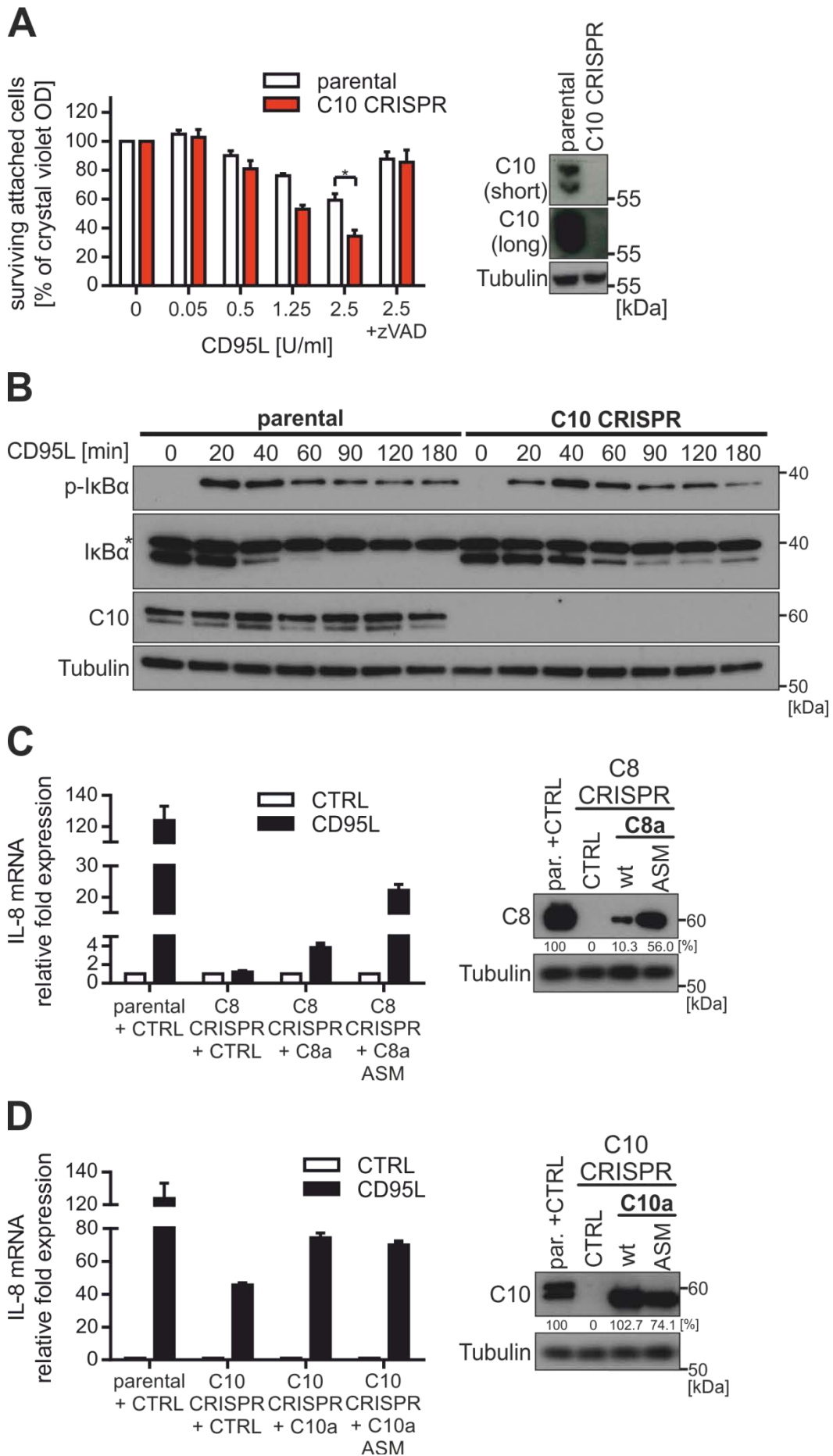
**Figure S4, related to Figure 4. Caspase-8 knockout prevents CD95L-induced cell death**

Caspase-8 deficient HeLa cell lines were generated using the CRISPR-Cas9 system with two different gRNAs targeting caspase-8. Parental HeLa cells as well as caspase-8 deficient cells (HeLa C8 CRISPR) were pre-treated with 10  $\mu$ M zVAD-fmk (zVAD) for 1 h followed by stimulation with 1 U/ml CD95L-Fc for 16-20 h. Cell viability was analyzed in triplicates by crystal violet staining. Shown are mean values  $\pm$  SEM of three independent experiments. Significance levels ( $p$  values) were measured by two-way ANOVA test (\*\*\*\* $p$ <0.0001). Knockout efficiency was measured by Western blotting.



**Figure S5, related to Figure 6. QVD does not support CD95L-mediated gene induction and is a weak inhibitor of caspase-8-mediated cell death**

(A) HeLa+shCTRL cells were starved for 4 h in media containing 0.5 % FCS and pre-treated with 10  $\mu$ M zVAD-fmk or 10  $\mu$ M QVD-OPh for 1 h. Cells were stimulated with 0.1 U/ml CD95L-Fc for 3 h in the presence or absence of ZVAD-fmk or QVD-OPh. RNA was isolated, reverse transcribed to cDNA and mRNA expression levels of *IL-8* were analyzed by RT qPCR. Values shown are the average  $\pm$  range of two independent experiments. (B) Triplicates of HeLa+shCTRL cells were pre-treated with 10  $\mu$ M zVAD-fmk or 10  $\mu$ M QVD-OPh and stimulated for the indicated time points with 0.1 U/ml CD95L-Fc. Cell viability was assayed by crystal violet staining. Shown are mean values of three technical replicates from one experiment. (C) HeLa+shCTRL cells were pre-stimulated as described in B and treated for the indicated time points with 0.1 U/ml CD95L-Fc. Total cell lysates were analyzed for caspase-8 processing by Western blotting.





**Figure S6, related to Figure 6. Caspase-10 and -8 induce DISC-mediated gene expression**

(A) Parental and caspase-10 deficient (C10 CRISPR) HeLa cells were pre-treated for 1 h with 10  $\mu$ M zVAD-fmk (zVAD). Cells were stimulated in triplicate with the indicated concentrations of CD95L-Fc for 4 h. Cell death was analyzed by crystal violet staining. Caspase-10 knockout was controlled by Western blotting. (B) Parental and C10 CRISPR HeLa cells were starved for 4 h in media containing 0.5 % FCS, pretreated with 10  $\mu$ M zVAD, and stimulated with 0.1 U/ml CD95L-Fc for the indicated time points. Caspase-10 knockout and I $\kappa$ B $\alpha$  degradation, as well as phosphorylation, were analyzed by Western blotting. The asterisk marks a non-specific band. (C) Raw data for Figure 6D (without the correction for caspase-8 expression levels). (D) Raw data for Figure 6E (without the correction for caspase-10 expression levels). Shown are mean values  $\pm$  SEM of three independent experiments. Significance levels (p values) were measured by Student's t-test (\*p<0.05).

**Table SI, related to Figure 6: Analysis of CD95L-mediated gene induction by microarray following knockdown of caspase-10**

Gene symbol	log2 fold change (CD95L/CTRL)		Fold change (CD95L/CTRL)		p-values (CD95L/CTRL)		Relative repression of gene induction by shC10 [% of fold change]
	shCTRL	shC10	shCTRL	shC10	shCTRL	shC10	
CCL20	4.65	4.75	25.11	26.91	< 0.001	< 0.001	-7.2
IL8	4.57	4.17	23.75	18.00	< 0.001	< 0.001	24.2
PTX3	2.69	2.41	6.45	5.31	< 0.001	< 0.001	17.6
CCL2	2.09	1.80	4.26	3.48	0.015	0.031	18.2
IL6	2.07	1.71	4.20	3.27	< 0.001	0.001	22.1
CXCL3	2.03	1.76	4.08	3.39	0.012	0.022	17.1
<b>EGR1</b>	<b>1.99</b>	<b>1.17</b>	<b>3.97</b>	<b>2.25</b>	<b>&lt; 0.001</b>	<b>&lt; 0.001</b>	<b>43.4</b>
TNFAIP3	1.96	1.56	3.89	2.95	< 0.001	< 0.001	24.2
IL1A	1.85	1.53	3.61	2.89	0.001	0.005	19.9
NFKBIA	1.77	1.46	3.41	2.75	< 0.001	< 0.001	19.3
<b>JUN</b>	<b>1.60</b>	<b>1.12</b>	<b>3.03</b>	<b>2.17</b>	<b>&lt; 0.001</b>	<b>0.001</b>	<b>28.3</b>
EFNA1	1.51	1.59	2.85	3.01	< 0.001	< 0.001	-5.7
IRF1	1.46	1.45	2.75	2.73	< 0.001	< 0.001	0.7
ICAM1	1.36	1.26	2.57	2.39	0.001	0.001	6.7
NFKBIE	1.16	0.79	2.23	1.73	< 0.001	0.002	22.6
<b>TNF</b>	<b>1.16</b>	<b>0.61</b>	<b>2.23</b>	<b>1.53</b>	<b>0.001</b>	<b>0.031</b>	<b>31.7</b>
OLR1	1.12	1.21	2.17	2.31	< 0.001	< 0.001	-6.4
DUSP5	1.08	0.91	2.11	1.88	< 0.001	< 0.001	11.1
NUAK2	1.06	1.05	2.08	2.07	< 0.001	< 0.001	0.7
NR4A2	1.04	0.76	2.06	1.69	< 0.001	0.002	17.6
KDM6B	1.03	0.93	2.04	1.91	0.003	0.007	6.7
SOD2	1.02	1.11	2.03	2.16	< 0.001	< 0.001	-6.4
IER5	1.01	0.69	2.01	1.61	0.002	0.020	19.9
CSF1	1.00	0.99	2.00	1.99	0.005	0.005	0.7

Dark orange: Significant reduction in gene expression (log2 fold change CD95L (shC10/shCTRL) < -0.5)  
 Light orange: Relative gene repression by shC10 > 15 %

## **Supplemental Experimental Procedures**

### **Cell Lines**

The cell lines, HeLa (cervical carcinoma, kindly provided by Dr. Michael Boutros), HaCaT (spontaneously transformed keratinocytes, generously provided by Dr. Petra Boukamp), SK-Mel and MC (melanoma) were cultured in DMEM high glucose + GlutaMAX™ (Gibco, supplemented with 10 % FCS, 1 % HEPES, and 1 % sodium pyruvate) and maintained at 5 % CO<sub>2</sub> and 37 °C. Cell lines were cultured as previously described (Feoktistova et al., 2011; Geserick et al., 2015, 2009).

### **Materials**

The following antibodies were used for Western blotting: antibodies to caspase-8 (C-15; kindly provided by P.H. Krammer), caspase-10 (4C1; MBL, Nagoya, Japan), cFLIP (NF-6; Alexis, San Diego, CA, USA), FADD (Clone 1; BD Transduction Laboratories™, San Diego, CA, USA); CD95 (C20; Santa Cruz, Delaware Avenue, CA, USA), IκBα (C-21; Santa Cruz, Delaware Avenue, CA, USA), phospho-IκBα (5A5; Cell Signaling Technology, Danvers, MA, USA), and β-tubulin (clone 2.1; Sigma-Aldrich, St. Louis, MO, USA). An expression construct for production of CD95L-Fc (Bossen et al., 2006) was kindly provided by P. Schneider (University of Lausanne, Epalinges, Switzerland). 1 U of CD95L-Fc was determined as 1 U/ml supernatant that was sufficient to kill 50% (LD50) of parental HeLa cells within 16-20 h. Ligand-mediated cell death was fully blocked by addition of soluble CD95-Fc protein. HRP-conjugated goat anti-rabbit, and goat anti-mouse IgG1 and IgG2b were obtained from SouthernBiotech (Birmingham, AL, USA). CD95 antibody for immunoprecipitation (Apo-1 IgG3) was kindly provided by P.H. Krammer (Dhein et al., 1992). Pacific Blue™ Annexin V was from BioLegend (San Diego, CA, USA) and CellMetrix™ Green Live/Dead Stain was purchased from ImmunoChemistry Technologies (Bloomington, MN, USA). 4-hydroxytamoxifen, Necrostatin-1, cycloheximide, and propidium iodide were from Sigma-Aldrich (St. Louis, MO, USA). Doxycycline was purchased from Hexal (Holzkirchen, Germany), QVD-OPh from MP Biomedicals (Santa Ana, CA), and zVAD-fmk from Bachem (Bubendorf, Switzerland).

### **Transient Transfection of siRNA**

For transient knockdown experiments the following siRNA duplexes were used: FlexiTube siRNA for caspase-8 (Hs\_CASP8\_11), caspase-10 (Hs\_CASP10\_8, Hs\_CASP10\_9, Hs\_CASP10\_10, and Hs\_CASP10\_11), cFLIP (Hs\_CFLAR\_9) and the respective control siRNA (AllStars neg. control siRNA 1027281). All siRNA preparations were from QIAGEN (Venlo, Netherlands). For transient transfection 2x10<sup>5</sup> cells per well were seeded in a 6-well plate and incubated overnight. Prior to transfection cells were incubated with Opti-MEM (Gibco 11058-021) medium for 20 min followed by transfection according to the

manufacturer's recommendations using Lipofectamine 2000 (Thermo Fischer Scientific, Waltham, MA, USA) and the respective siRNA species. In case of single cFLIP knockdown, the molarity of cFLIP siRNA was reduced to 500 pM (HeLa) and 1 nM (HaCaT).

### **Cytotoxicity Assays**

Crystal violet staining of attached living cells was performed after stimulations with the indicated concentrations and time points of CD95L-Fc in three technical replicates per condition in 96-well plates as previously described (Leverkus et al., 2000). Experiments were performed 3-5 times and the optical density of control conditions (cells treated with diluents) was normalized to 100 % to allow comparison of independent experiments. Subdiploid DNA content was analyzed as previously described (Diessenbacher et al., 2008) and measured by FACSCanto II analysis. To analyze the externalization of phosphatidylserine and plasma membrane integrity,  $1 \times 10^5$  HeLa cells were seeded per well in a 6-well plate and stimulated as described in the figure legend and further handled exactly as previously described (Geserick et al., 2009) with the exception that Pacific Blue Annexin V and CellMetrix Green Live/Dead Stain were used.

### **Western blotting**

Cell lysates were prepared as previously described (Diessenbacher et al., 2008) and 10-15  $\mu$ g of total cellular proteins were separated by SDS-PAGE on 4-12% gradient gels (Life Technologies, Carlsbad, CA) followed by transfer to PVDF membranes. Blocking of membranes and incubation with primary and appropriate secondary antibodies were essentially performed as described previously (Geserick et al., 2009). Bands were visualized with ECL detection kits (Luminata<sup>TM</sup> Forte Western HRP Substrate, Millipore, Schwalbach, Germany; Pierce ECL Western Blotting Substrate, Waltham, MA, USA). Respective protein bands were quantified by densitometry with *ImageJ* software using non-saturated exposures of blots.

### **Measurement of interleukin-8**

$6 \times 10^4$  HeLa cells were seeded per well in a 24-well plate and incubated over night at 37 °C. Interleukin-8 (IL-8) secretion was measured from cell free cell culture supernatants using the IL-8 ELISA kit obtained from BD Bioscience (Franklin Lakes, NJ, USA), and performed according to the manufacturer's recommendations. Each assay was repeated at least three times and carried out using duplicate samples from each cell culture supernatant.

## **RT qPCR (primer sequences)**

The following primers were used for the RT qPCR reaction:

### *IL-8*

forward 5'- CAC CCC AAA TTT ATC AAA GA -3';

reverse 5'- ACT GGC ATC TTC ACT GAT TC -3';

### *TNF*

forward 5'- TCA GAT CAT CTT CTC GAA CC -3';

reverse 5'- TGG TTA TCT CTC AGC TCC AC -3';

### *IL-6*

forward 5'- ACT CAC CTC TTC AGA ACG AAT TG -3';

reverse 5'- CCA TCT TTG GAA GGT TCA GGT TG -3';

### *CCL2*

forward 5'- CAG CCA GAT GCA ATC AAT GCC -3';

reverse 5'- TGG AAT CCT GAA CCC ACT TCT -3';

### *EGR1*

forward 5'- GGT CAG TGG CCT AGT GAG C -3';

reverse 5'- GTG CCG CTG AGT AAA TGG GA -3';

### *CXCL3*

forward 5'- CCA AAC CGA AGT CAT AGC CAC -3';

reverse 5'- TGC TCC CCT TGT TCA GTA TCT -3';

### *GAPDH*

forward 5'- CCT GGT ATG ACA ACG AAT TT -3';

reverse 5'- AGT GAG GGT CTC TCT CTT CC -3';

### *18S*

forward 5'- GAG GAT GAG GTG GAA CGT GT -3';

reverse 5'- TCT TCA GTC GCT CCA GGT CT -3'.

## Supplemental References

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