

Expression Intensity

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Figure S1 p62 Accumulates in Human PDAC and Its Depletion Decreases Progenitor and Cancer Stem Cell Markers, Related to Figure 1

(A) The table depicts the numbers and percentages of human cancerous (n = 64-87) or healthy (n = 47-82)pancreatic tissues with relative staining intensities (arbitrarily indicated as negative, weak, intermediate or strong) of the indicated markers. *, p < 0.001, normal vs. PDAC. (B) Sox9 and p62 double IHC staining of normal human pancreas and PDAC. Sox9 positive nuclei were visualized with DAB in brown and cytoplasmic p62 was stained with AEC (reddish). Quantitation of Sox9 staining is shown to the right (n =52). Scale bars: 25 µm. (C) RNA was extracted from MIA PaCa-2 and Capan-2 cells in which p62 was ablated or not (n = 3). Expression of the indicated genes was analyzed by Q-RT-PCR. (D) Representative images of spheres formed by WT or p62-ablated MIA PaCa-2 and Capan-2 cells. Scale bars: 100 µm (E) Representative images of spheres formed by WT or NRF2-ablated MIA PaCa-2 and Capan-2 cells. Scale bars: 100 μm. (F) SA-β-gal staining of control and p62-ablated MIA PaCa-2 and Capan-2 cells (n = 6) and IB analysis of γ -H2AX. Scale bars: 100 µm. (G) SA- β -gal staining of control and NRF2-ablated MIA PaCa-2 and Capan-2 cells (n = 6) and IB analysis of γ -H2AX. Scale bars: 100 μ m. (H) Quantification and representative images of spheres formed by WT and p62-ablated MIA PaCa-2 and Capan-2 cells with or without ablated KEAP1 and IB analysis of KEAP1. Scale bars: 100 µm. (I) Quantification and images of SA-β-gal staining of WT and p62-ablated MIA PaCa-2 and Capan-2 cells with or without ablated KEAP1 and γ -H2AX IB. Scale bars: 100 µm. (I). Results in B, C and F-I are mean \pm SEM; *, p < 0.05; **, p < 0.01; ***, p < 0.001. Statistical significance was calculated using Student's t test.



Figure S2 Loss of Pancreatic IKKa in *Kras^{G12D}* Mice Leads to Acinar Cell Damage, Fibrosis, Inflammation and Up-regulation of Progenitor and Stem Cell Markers, Related to Figure 2

(A) Alcian Blue staining of pancreatic sections from indicated mouse strains. Scale bars: 50 μ m. (B) Analysis of serum amylase and lipase in 5-week-old *Kras*^{G12D} and *Kras*^{G12D};*Ikka*^{Apan} mice (n = 4). (C) Q-RT-PCR analysis of ductal, progenitor, stem cell and senescence markers and Notch and p53 pathway genes in acinar and ductal cell fractions obtained from 5-week-old *Kras*^{G12D} and *Kras*^{G12D};*Ikka*^{Apan} mice (n = 6). (D) Sirius Red staining and α SMA and F4/80 IHC of pancreatic tissue sections from 5-week-old *Kras*^{G12D};*Ikka*^{Apan} mice. Scale bars: 50 μ m. (E) Q-RT-PCR analysis of cytokine, chemokine and fibrosis-related genes in pancreata of 5-week-old mice (n = 6). Results in B, C and E are mean ± SEM; *, p < 0.05; **, p < 0.01; ***, p < 0.001. Statistical significance was calculated using Student's t test.



Figure S3 Pathologies Caused by IKKa Loss are Rescued by p62 Ablation, Related to Figure 3 (A) Ki67 IHC of acinar cells and ADM of $Kras^{G12D}$ and $Kras^{G12D}$; $p62^{Apan}$ mice. Scale bars: 25 µm. (B) Representative FACS plots showing frequency of ALDH expression in EpCAM⁺ cells from 8-week-old $Kras^{G12D}$ (n = 3), $Kras^{G12D}$; $Ikka^{Apan}$ (n = 7), and $Kras^{G12D}$; $Ikka/p62^{Apan}$ (n = 4) mice. (C) Representative light microscopy images of spheres formed by sorted ALDH⁺ cell fractions from B. Scale bars: 100 µm. (D) Representative images of control and p62-ablated MIA PaCa-2 and Capan-2 cells with or without NICD1 overexpression. Scale bars: 100 µm.



Figure S4 p62 Ablation Inhibits NRF2 Activation, Transcription of Ductal, Progenitor and Stemness Markers and *Mdm2* **in Cerulein-Induced Acinar-to-Ductal Metaplasia, Related to Figure 4** (A) IB analysis of pancreatic lysates from $Kras^{G12D}$ and $Kras^{G12D}$; $p62^{Apan}$ mice prepared 3 days after treatment with PBS or cerulein. (B) Q-RT-PCR analysis of pancreatic RNA from cerulein-treated $Kras^{G12D}$ and $Kras^{G12D}$; $p62^{Apan}$ mice (n = 3). Results in B are mean \pm SEM; *, p < 0.05; **, p < 0.01; ***, p < 0.001. Statistical significance was calculated using Student's t test.



Figure S5 Effects of NRF2, p62 and Matrigel Culture on Gene Expression and Ductal Structure Formation, Related to Figure 5 (A, B) Q-RT-PCR analysis of indicated mRNAs in acinar (A) and ductal (B) pancreatic cells isolated from 5-week-old $Kras^{G12D}$; $Ikk\alpha^{Apan}$ and $Kras^{G12D}$; $Ikk\alpha^{Apan}$; $Nrf2^{-/-}$ mice (n = 5). (C) NQO1, MDM2 and HES1 IHC of pancreatic tissue sections from 5-week-old mice (ductal lesions are shown). Scale bars: 25 µm. (D) Q-RT-PCR analysis indicated mRNAs in freshly isolated acinar cells (d0) and ductal structures formed after 3 days in Matrigel (d3) by the same cells (n = 5). (E, F) Images of ductal structures formed by the indicated acinar cell genotypes after 4 (E) and 6 (F) days in Matrigel. Scale bar: 50 µm (E), 20 µm (F). (G) p62 IB analysis of WT acinar cells transfected with either empty or p62 expression vectors (n = 3). (I) Representative images of spheres formed by WT or NRF2-ablated MIA PaCa-2 and Capan-2 cells with or without NICD1 overexpression. Scale bars: 100 µm. (J) IB analysis of indicated proteins in whole cell lysates. All results depicted by bar graphs are mean \pm SEM *, p < 0.05; **, p < 0.01; ***, p < 0.001. Statistical significance was calculated using Student's t test.





Figure S6 In Vivo Nutlin-3 Treatment Impairs Expression of Ductal, Progenitor and Stemness Markers, Related to Figure 6 (A, B) Q-RT-PCR analysis of mRNAs isolated from pancreata of $Kras^{G12D}$ (A) and $Kras^{G12D}$; $Ikka^{Apan}$ (B) mice (n = 7 each group) treated as indicated. (C) IB analysis of the indicated proteins in pancreatic lysates from $Ikka^{Apan}$ and $Ikka/Atg7^{Apan}$ mice (n = 4 each group). Results in A and B are mean \pm SEM *, p < 0.05; **, p < 0.01; ***, p < 0.001 by Student's t test.



Figure S7. NRF2 Directly Controls *MDM2* **Transcription in PDAC, Related to Figure 7** (A) Reporter constructs used to assess the functionality of the NRF2 binding site/ARE upstream to the *Mdm2* promoter 2 (P2). (B) Chromatin immunoprecipitation assays probing NRF2 and small MAF protein recruitment to the *Mdm2/MDM2* promoters in WT and NRF2 ablated KPC (n = 3) cells. (C) Positions of the ChIP primer sets used to assess NRF2 binding to the *Mdm2/MDM2* control region, including the P2 promoter with the adjacent NRF2 binding site. (D) Relative *MDM2* mRNA amounts in normal and cancerous pancreatic tissue were obtained from www.oncomine.org and expressed as log2 median-centered intensity. Numbers within the bars represent study participants. p values were obtained from public datasets. (E, F) Q-RT-PCR mRNA analysis of MIA PaCa-2 cells (E) and Capan-2 cells (F), transfected with either MDM2 KO CRISPR/Cas9 or control vector (n = 3). Results in B, E and F are mean \pm SEM; *, p < 0.05; **, p < 0.01; ***, p < 0.001 by Student's t test.

Table S1, related to the STAR Methods. Primers used for analyzing changes in gene expression levels.

Gene name (Forward-F;	Primer sequences
Reverse-R;)	
mAldh1(Aldh1a1) F	CTGTGAAGGCTGCAAGACAGG
mAldh1(Aldh1a1) R	GTCAGCCAGCTTGTTCAGCAG
mAmy2b F	TGGTGACAAGGTGCAACAATG
mAmv2b R	GATTGCCTGAGCCACACATG
$m\alpha Sma (Acta2) F$	GTTCAGTGGTGCCTCTGTCA
$m\alpha Sma (Acta2) R$	ACTGGGACGACATGGAAAAG
mCcl2 F	GCCAGCTCTCTCCTCCA
mCcl2 R	
mCcl5 F	AATCCCCTACTCCCACTCGG
mCcl5 R	TTCTTGGGTTTGCTGTGCAG
mCd3(Cd3e) F	GAGAGACATCGCCTTCTGTGG
mCd3(Cd3e) R	GCTGAAGAGCAAGCTGTGGAG
mCd19 F	TATGCAGCTCCTCAGCTCCAC
mCd19_R	CCATGCTGGTTCTAGGTCGTC
mCd24(Cd24a) E	
mCd24(Cd24a) R	CGCCTGGTAGTTCCTTCCAAC
$mCd24(Cu24u)_R$	CGGAATCTGCAGAGTGTGGAC
mCd44 R	
mCd133(Prom1) F	
mCd133(Prom1) R	TGCTTAGGCTTGGTCTGATGC
$\frac{mcu155(170m1)_{\rm K}}{Ck10 (Krt10) F}$	GGGGGTTCAGTACGCATTGG
$\frac{Ck19(Krt19)}{Ck10(Krt10)}$	GAGGACGAGGTCACGAAGC
mColala E	TAGGCCATTGTGTATGCAGC
mColala R	
mColal3 E	TAGGACTGACCAAGGTGGCT
mColal3 R	GGAACCTGGTTTCTTCTCACC
mEmr1(Adgrel): F	GACTGACAACCAGACGGCTTG
mEmr1(Adgre1): R	TCACTGCCTCCACTAGCATCC
mEncam F	TTAATGCCTAGCCGTGCTGAG
mEncam R	TCTGCAGTCCGAGCTCTTCTG
mGclc F	TTCATGATCGAAGGACACCA
mGclc R	CTGCACATCTACCACGCAGT
mGclm F	GGCTGATTTGGGAACTCCAT
mGclm R	CGGGAACCTGCTCAACTG
mGgt1 F	GGTGGCGTAGAACTCAGAGC
mGgt1 R	TTTGCCTATGCCAAGAGGAC
mGstal F	CTGGACTGTGAGCTGAGTGG
mGstal R	CATTGAAGTGGTGAAGCACG
mGstm1 F	CTACCTTGCCCGAAAGCAC
mGstm1 R	ATGTCTGCACGGATCCTCTC
mHes1 F	TCTACACCAGCAACAGTG
mHes1 R	TCAAACATCTTTGGCATCAC
mHev1 F	GCGGACGAGAATGGAAACTTG
mHev1 R	GCTCAGATAACGGGCAACTTC
mHmox1 F	CCTTCAAGGCCTCAGACAAA
mHmox1 R	GAGCCTGAATCGAGCAGAAC
$mIl1-\beta$ (II1b) F	CAACCAACAAGTGATATTCTCCATG
$mIl1-\beta$ (Il1b) R	GATCCACACTCTCCAGCTGCA
mIl6 F	GAGGATACCACTCCCAACAGACC
mII6_R	AAGTGCATCATCGTTGTTCATACA

mJagl F	GCCACCTGTGTGGATGAGATC
mJag1 R	GGCACTTGGCACCACTATGTC
mMdm2 F	TTCGTGAGAACTGGCTTCCAG
mMdm2 R	AGGCACATCCAAGCCTTCTTC
mMmp7 F	CCCGGTACTGTGATGTACCC
mMmp7 R	AATGGAGGACCCAGTGAGTG
mMuc5ac F	CAGGACTCTCTGAAATCGTACCA
mMuc5ac R	AAGGCTCGTACCACAGGGA
mMuc6 F	CGGCTGCGTCTGTCCTAAG
mMuc6 R	GCATAGTCACATGGGCATTCCT
mNes F	CCCTGAAGTCGAGGAGCTG
mNes R	CTGCTGCACCTCTAAGCGA
mNotch1 F	GATGGCCTCAATGGGTACAAG
mNotch1 R	TCGTTGTTGTTGATGTCACAGT
mNotch2 F	AACGAGAAGGTCCAGCTGTCC
mNotch2 R	ATGTGGCATCGGAGACATACG
mNotch3 F	AGTCAATGGCTTCAGCTGCAC
mNotch3 R	GGAGTGCTTGCACACTCATCC
mNotch4 F	CTGGACCAGAATGCGAGACAG
mNotch4 R	GTTGTAGCCAGATGGCTGTGG
mNoxa (Pmaip1) F	TACCACCTGAGTTCGCAGCTC
mNoxa (Pmaip1) R	CAGTTATGTCCGGTGCACTCC
mNqol F	AGCGTTCGGTATTACGATCC
mNqol R	AGTACAATCAGGGCTCTTCTCG
mPdx1 F	TTAACCTAGGCGTCGCACAAG
mPdx1 R	TTCCAGAAGTCTGCCAGCATC
mProx1 F	GGAGATGGCTGAGAACAAGC
mProx1 R	AGACTTTGACCACCGTGTCC
mPuma (Bbc3) F	CGAAGACTCCAGAAGCAGCAG
mPuma (Bbc3) R	TGCTATTGAGGCACCTTGCTG
mp21 (Cdkn1a) F	TGAGGAGGAGCATGAATGGAG
mp21 (Cdkn1a)_R	CATCACCAGGATTGGACATGG
mp27 (Cdkn1b)_F	GCCTGACTCGTCAGACAATCC
mp27 (Cdkn1b)_R	CTTCTGCAGCAGGTCGCTTC
mp53 (Trp53)_F	GACCATCCTGGCTGTAGGTAGC
mp53 (Trp53)_R	CAGTCTTCGGAGAAGCGTGAC
mp62 (Sqstm1)_F	GCTGCCCTATACCCACATCT
mp62 (Sqstm1)_R	CGCCTTCATCCGAGAAAC
mSox9_F	CGGAACAGACTCACATCTCTCC
mSox9_R	GCTTGCACGTCGGTTTTGG
mTgfb1_F	TTGCTTCAGCTCCACAGAGA
mTgfb1_R	TGGTTGTAGAGGGCAAGGAC
mTimp1_F	AGGTGGTCTCGTTGATTTCT
mTimp1_R	GTAAGGCCTGTAGCTGTGCC
mTnf_F	GCACAGAAAGCATGACCCG
mTnf_R	GCCCCCCATCTTTTGGG
m18s_F	AGCCCCTGCCCTTTGTACACA
m18s_R	CGATCCGAGGGCCTCACTA
hALDH1 (ALDH1a1)_F	TTAGCTGATGCCGACTTGGAC
hALDH1 (ALDH1a1)_R	TCCTGGATGCGGCTATACAAC
hCD24_F	AGTGCAGTGGTGCGATCTCAG
hCD24_R	GTGGCAGGTGCCTGTAATCC
hCD44 F	TTGCATTGCAGTCAACAGTCG

hCD44_R	CTGTCCTCCACAGCTCCATTG
hCD133 (PROM1)_F	GCGTTGGAGAACATGAACAGC
hCD133 (PROM1)_R	TGAGAGATGACCGCAGGCTAG
hCK19 (KRT19)_F	ATCCTGAGTGACATGCGAAGC
hCK19 (KRT19)_R	AACCAGGCTTCAGCATCCTTC
hEPCAM_F	GATCCTGACTGCGATGAGAGC
hEPCAM_R	GCAGTGTTCACACACCAGCAC
hGSTM1_F	AGCAACGCCATCTTGTGCTAC
hGSTM1_R	TGGTTGTCCATGGTCTGGTTC
hHES1_F	CCGGAGCTGGTGCTGATAAC
hHES1_R	TCAGTAGCGCTGTTCCAGGAC
hNES_F	AGGACCAAGAACTGGCTCAGG
hNES_R	CCAGTGAAGCCATCCTGCTC
hNFE2L2_F	GCCTGTAAGTCCTGGTCATCG
hNFE2L2_R	TTGTGAGATGAGCCTCCAAGC
hNOTCH1_F	GATGCCAACATCCAGGACAAC
hNOTCH1_R	CCGGATCAGGATCTGGAAGAC
hNOTCH2_F	CACTGTGGCCAACCAGTTCTC
hNOTCH2 R	CTGGCAGTGTCCTGGAATGTC
hNOTCH3_F	ATCTGGTTGCTGCTGACATCC
hNOTCH3_R	ATTGACATCCATGCCATCAGC
hNOTCH4_F	CACTAGGCGAGGACAGCATTG
hNOTCH4_R	GCCTGAGCACATCACAACTCC
hNQO1_F	CTGGAGTGCAGTGGTGTGATC
hNQO1_R	AGGCAGGAGAATTGCTGGAAC
hPDX1_F	TCCTACAGCACTCCACCTTGG
hPDX1_R	GGAGCCTTCCAATGTGTATGG
hPROX1_F	CGAAGCGAGAAGGCAACAAC
hPROX1_R	CGACATGGCAGTGTTCAGTTC
hP27 (CDKN1B)_F	TCCGGCTAACTCTGAGGACAC
hP27 (CDKN1B) R	TGCAGGTCGCTTCCTTATTCC
hP53 (TP53) F	CCTTGCTTGCAATAGGTGTGC
hP53 (TP53) R	AGTGCAGGCCAACTTGTTCAG
hP62 (SQSTM1)_F	GAAGAGCAGCTCACAGCCAAG
hP62 (SQSTM1) R	AAGGCGATCTTCCTCATCTGC
hSOX9 F	CATCAAGACGGAGCAGCTGAG
hSOX9 R	GGCTGTAGGCGATCTGTTGG
h18S F	GGACACGGACAGGATTGACAG
h18S R	CAACTAAGAACGGCCATGCAC