

### **Supplemental material**



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Figure S1. Determination of the RELCH region that binds Rab11 and analysis of the subcellular localization of RELCH. (A) The yeast strain cotransformed with Gal4AD (AD) plasmids encoding RELCH deletion mutants and Gal4BD (BD) plasmids encoding GTP-locked Rab1a, Rab11a, or Rab11b was grown on a QDO plate to demonstrate the interaction between the two proteins. (B) The deletion constructs used in A are presented. (C) HeLa cells were immunostained with antibodies against RELCH and several organelle markers (EEA1, early endosome; p230, TGN and CD-MPR; Lamp2, LE/lysosome). The nuclei were stained with DAPI (blue). The arrowheads indicate that RELCH colocalized with the TfnR-positive compartment. Bars: (full images) 10 µm; (insets) 2 µm.

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Figure S2. **Cargo protein transport and immunoblotting analyses in knockdown cells. (A)** The siRNA or lentivirus-based shRNA depletion efficiencies of RELCH, Rab11a/b, and OSBP were examined by immunoblotting (IB). **(B)** Transferrin uptake assay in RELCH-depleted cells. The cells were cultured in serum-free medium for 16 h before binding with Alexa Fluor 594-labeled transferrin. The cells were fixed at the indicated time points after incubation at 37°C and immunostained with the TfnR antibody. Bar, 10 μm. **(C)** VSVG transport assay in shRNA-treated HeLa cells. The cells were infected with adenovirus encoding VSVG<sup>tsO45</sup>-GFP and incubated at 40°C for 24 h, followed by incubation at 32°C to allow the cargo to exit from the ER. At the indicated time points, the cell surface proteins were biotinylated and precipitated using streptavidin beads. Total (input) and surface (bead-bound) VSVG proteins were immunoblotted with the GFP antibody. **(D)** The lysates from the RELCH- or Rab11a/b-depleted HeLa cells were immunoblotted using antibodies against various transmembrane cargo proteins (TfnR, Lamp2, and TGN46) that exit from the TGN. **(E)** Lysates from the brains of WT and RELCH heterozygous (HT) and homozygous KO mice were immunoblotted with the antibody against RELCH. Lamin B and GAPDH were used as loading controls.

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Figure S3. Localization of RELCH and Rab11 after 25-OH treatment and translocation of RELCH and OSBP to the TGN area in the Rab11-depleted cells. (A) HeLa cells transfected with EGFP-Rab11a were incubated with solvent (ethanol; EtOH) or 25-OH for 24 h before analysis. The cells were immunostained with the RELCH antibody. (B–E) siRNA-transfected HeLa cells were immunostained with antibodies against OSBP (B) and RELCH (C and D) after 25-OH treatment. The TGN was labeled with the p230 antibody. The enlarged images show the TGN area. (E) Quantification of the ratio of the fluorescence intensity in the Golgi area to the intensity in the whole intracellular area (n = 10-30 cells). Data are expressed as means ± SEM. Significance was calculated by performing two-tailed Student's t tests (\*, P < 0.05; \*\*, P < 0.01; \*\*\*, P < 0.001). The nuclei were stained with DAPI (blue). Bars, 10 µm. IF, immunofluorescence.





Figure S4. **Cholesterol distribution in the RNAi-treated HeLa cells. (A–E)** HeLa cells transfected with siRNA against RELCH, OSBP, or Rab11 were labeled with Filipin (A) or BODIPY-cholesterol (B–E). The cells were costained with antibodies against Lamp2 (A and B), TGN46 (C), TfnR (D), and Rab11a (E). Bars, 10 μm.

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Figure S5. Liposome binding assay and silica bead-based liposome tethering assay. (A-D) Silica beads coated with Golgi-like liposomes containing Rho-PE (red) were incubated with the C-terminal Flag-tagged myristoylated Arf1 Q71L mutant (A and B). Beads coated with RE-like liposomes containing Rho-PE (red) were incubated with the C-terminal His6×-tagged Rab11a Q70A mutant (C and D). Golgi-like and RE-like liposomes were further incubated with Flag-tagged OSBP (B) and untagged RELCH (D), respectively. The proteins on the liposomes were immunostained with the indicated antibodies (green). Bar, 20 μm. (**E**) Liposome flotation assay using Golgi-like liposomes, Flag-OSBP, and myr-Arf1 (Q71L)-Flag. These proteins were mixed with or without Golgi-like liposomes in the presence of GTP, and the mixture was adjusted to 57% sucrose and overlaid with two cushions of sucrose at a lower density (41% and 17%). After ultracentrifugation, the top (T) and bottom (B) fractions were collected and analyzed by immunoblotting (IB) using the Flag antibody. (**F**) Liposome sedimentation assay using RE-like liposomes, RELCH, and Rab11a (Q70A)-His. These proteins were incubated with or without RE-like liposomes in the presence of GTP, and the mixture was ultracentrifuged. The supernatant (S) and pellet (P) were immunoblotted using the RELCH and Rab11 antibodies. (**G**) Representative images of the silica bead-based liposome tethering experiment. In the left panel, Golgi-like liposome (containing Rho-PE)-bound myr-Arf1 (Q71L)-Flag and RE-like liposome (containing OG-PE)-bound Rab11a (Q70A)-His were incubated with or without Flag-OSBP and RELCH proteins, respectively. The protein-bound beads were mixed and incubated. After washing, the beads were suspended, mounted on glass slides, and imaged under a fluorescence microscope. In the right panel, the tethering between the streptavidin-bound RE-like liposomes containing biotin-PC was assessed. The asterisks in the enlarged fields indicate the contacts between two liposomes. Examples of the calc