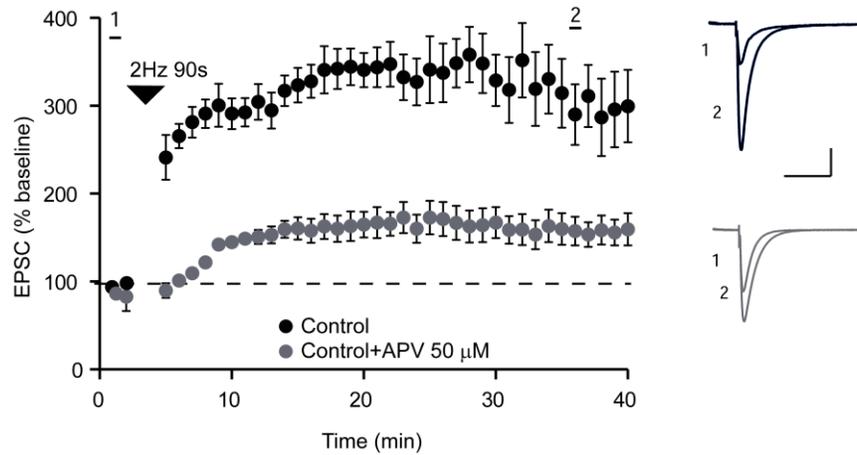
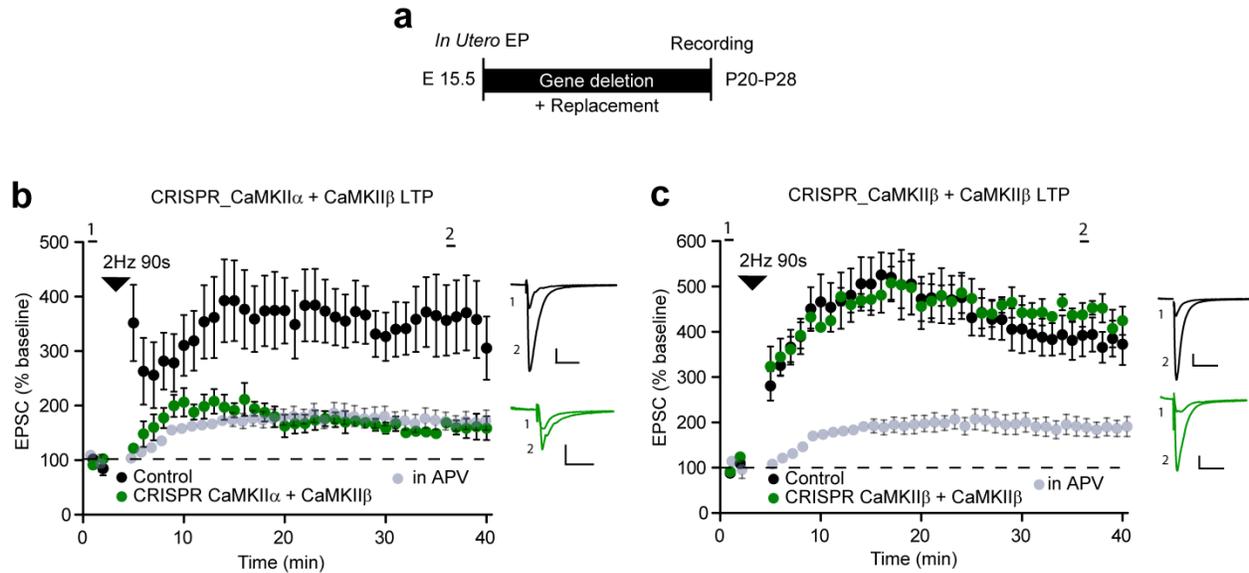


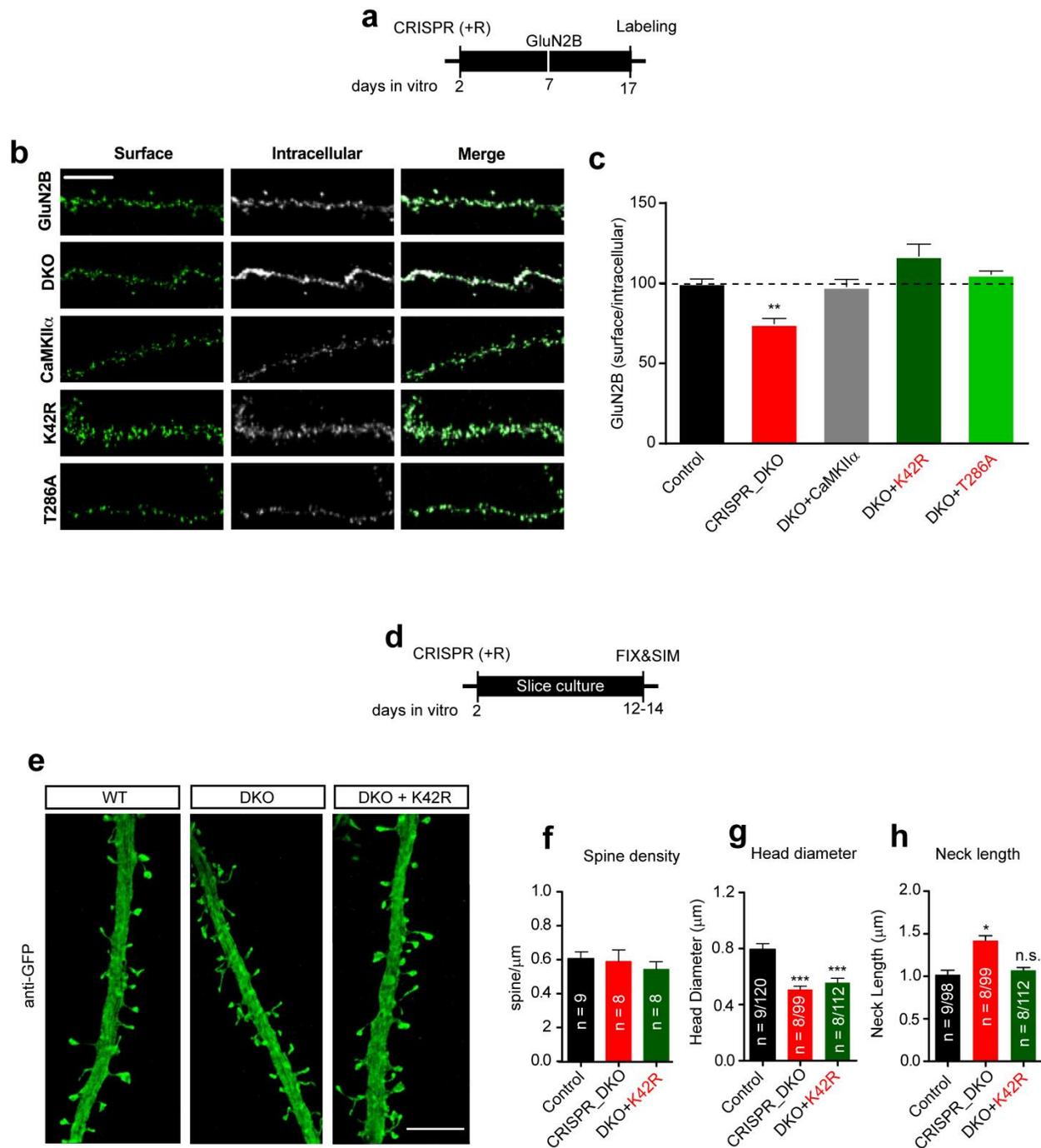
**Supplementary Figure 1** CaMKII elimination effects on pre- and postsynaptic electrophysiological parameters. **a** Timeline of the experiment. **b** Paired pulse ratio traces and bar graph for control and transfected cells, for CRISPR\_CaMKII $\alpha$  shown in figure 1. Mean values of AMPA second to first amplitude are  $1.5 \pm 0.1$  n = 8 and  $1.5 \pm 0.1$  n = 8, respectively. **c** Bar graph shows the decay time constant of NMDAR EPSCs recorded in NBQX at +40 mV (Control,  $267.3 \pm 12.3$  (ms); CRISPR\_CaMKII,  $243.7 \pm 7.9$  (ms) p = 0.11). Scale bar, 0.5 s. This graph includes data from CRISPR\_CaMKII $\alpha$  and CRISPR\_CaMKIIDKO. **d** Mean values of AMPA/NMDA ratio (Control,  $3.1 \pm 0.3$ ; CRISPR\_CaMKII $\alpha$ ,  $2.2 \pm 0.2$ , p < 0.05 unpaired t-test). **e** Sample traces of mEPSCs shown at a low gain and sweep speed. Control averaged trace (black) has been superimposed on the trace from a CRISPR\_CaMKII $\alpha$  cell (green). Scale bar, 10 pA, 500 ms. **f** Paired average mEPSCs amplitude of single pairs from control and transfected CRISPR\_CaMKII $\alpha$  cells. Mean  $\pm$  SEM for control and transfected neurons are  $12.9 \pm 0.7$  and  $10 \pm 0.6$  respectively, \*\*p = 0.003. Wilcoxon signed rank test. **g** Paired average mEPSCs frequency of single pairs from control and transfected CRISPR\_CaMKII $\alpha$  cells. Mean  $\pm$  SEM for control and transfected neurons are  $1.3 \pm 0.2$  and  $1.1 \pm 0.1$ , respectively, p = 0.06. **h** Sample traces of averaged mEPSCs at a high gain and sweep speed. Scale bar 5 pA and 10 ms. **i** Sample traces of mEPSCs shown at a low gain and sweep speed. Control trace (black) has been superimposed on the trace from a CRISPR\_DKO cell (red). Scale bar, 10 pA, 500 ms. **j** Paired average mEPSCs amplitude of single pairs from control and transfected CRISPR\_DKO cells. Mean  $\pm$  SEM for control and transfected neurons are  $11.7 \pm 0.9$  and  $9 \pm 0.6$  respectively, \*\*p = 0.003. **k** Paired average mEPSCs frequency of single pairs from control and transfected CRISPR\_DKO cells. Mean  $\pm$  SEM for control and transfected neurons are  $1.3 \pm 0.2$  and  $1 \pm 0.2$  respectively, p = 0.31. **l** Sample traces of averaged mEPSCs at a high gain and sweep speed. Scale bar 5 pA and 10 ms.



**Supplementary Figure 2** Baseline run up in the presence of APV. Plots showing mean  $\pm$  SEM AMPAR EPSC amplitude of control (black) and control in APV 50  $\mu$ M (grey) pyramidal neurons normalized to the mean AMPAR EPSC amplitude before LTP induction (arrow). The control and APV experiments were interleaved. (Control,  $n=6$ ; APV  $n = 8$ ,  $p = 0.01$  at 35 min). Mann-Whitney test was used to compare LTP at 35 min. Scale bars: 50 pA, 50 ms.

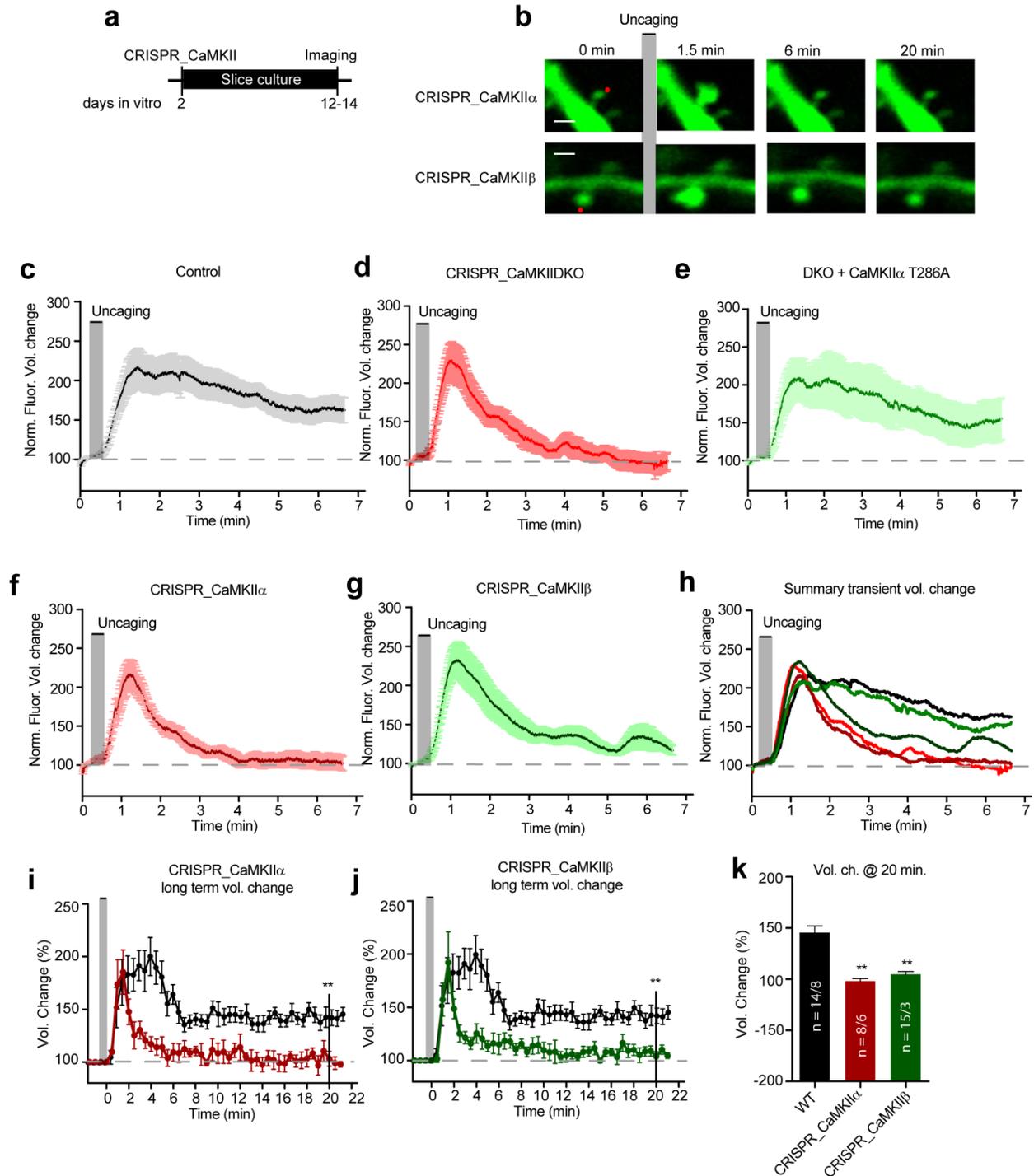


**Supplementary Figure 3** Molecular replacement of CaMKII $\beta$  confirms the key role of CaMKII $\alpha$  in LTP. **a** Timeline of the *in utero* electroporation experiment. **b** CaMKII $\beta$  itself is not able to rescue LTP after CaMKII $\alpha$  deletion. Plots show mean  $\pm$  SEM AMPAR EPSC amplitude of control (black) and transfected (green) CRISPR\_ CaMKII $\alpha$  + CaMKII $\beta$  pyramidal neurons normalized to the mean AMPAR EPSC amplitude before LTP induction (arrow). (Control, n = 7; CRISPR\_ CaMKII $\alpha$  + CaMKII $\beta$  n = 4, p = 0.006 at 35 min). **c** *In utero* electroporated neurons of CRISPR\_ CaMKII $\beta$  + CaMKII $\beta$  show normal LTP. Plots show mean  $\pm$  SEM AMPAR EPSC amplitude of control (black) and transfected (green) CRISPR\_ CaMKII $\beta$  + CaMKII $\beta$  pyramidal neurons normalized to the mean AMPAR EPSC amplitude before LTP induction (arrow). (Control, n = 5; CRISPR\_ CaMKII $\beta$  + CaMKII $\beta$  n = 5, p = 0.34 at 35 min). Grey plots represent mean  $\pm$  SEM AMPAR EPSC amplitude of LTP induction in APV 50  $\mu$ M. Sample AMPAR EPSC current traces from control (black) and electroporated neurons (green) before and after LTP are shown superimposed to the right of each graph. Mann-Whitney test was used to compare LTP at 35 minutes (p values indicated above). Scale bars: 50 ms, 50 pA.



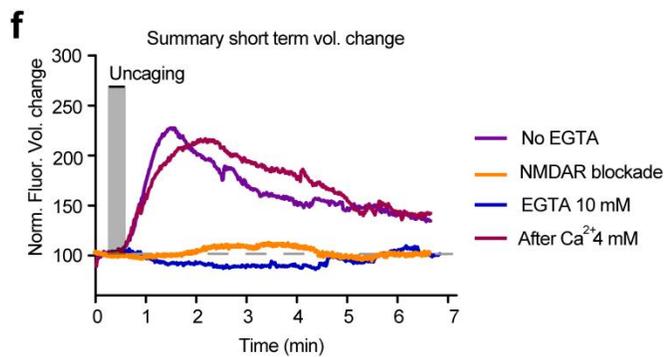
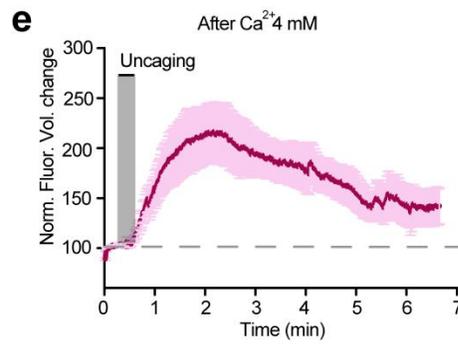
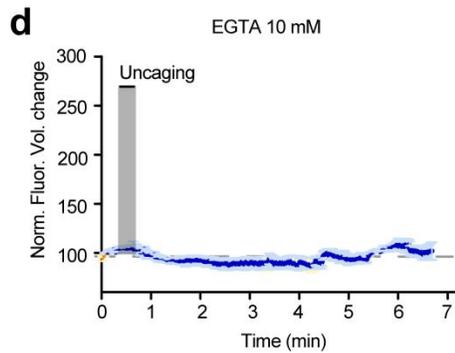
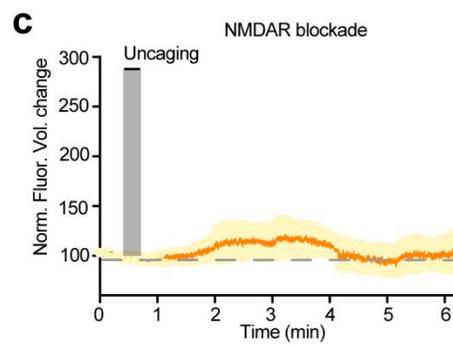
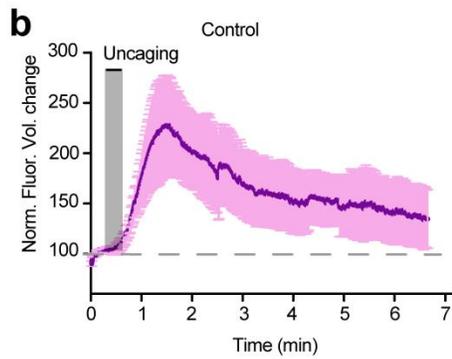
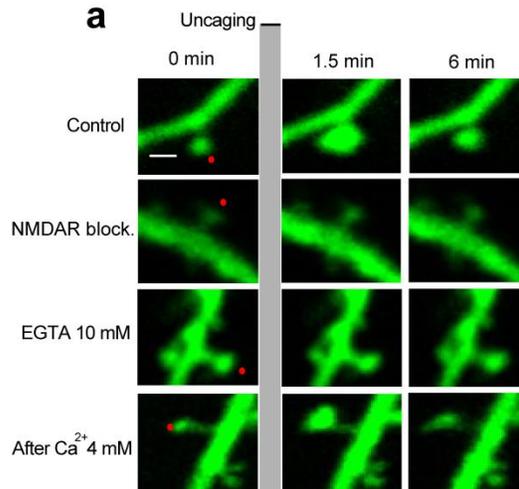
**Supplementary Figure 4** GluN2B immunolabeling and spine morphology. **a** Timeline of the experiment. Hippocampal neurons were transduced with virus to knock down both CaMKII  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  isoforms. **b** Representative images of surface (in green) and intracellular (in grey)

expression of GFP-GluN2B. Scale bar 10  $\mu\text{m}$ . **c** Quantitative analysis of **(b)**. (\*\* $p < 0.001$ ; \*\*\* $p < 0.0001$ ,  $n = 5$ ). **d** Timeline of the experiment. **e** Sample images of primary apical dendrite from neurons expressing GFP, CRISPR\_DKO GFP and DKO GFP + CaMKII $\alpha$  K42R imaged using super-resolution structured illumination microscopy (SIM). For all morphological analysis,  $n = 7$  neurons, 100 control spines;  $n = 8$  neurons, 99 DKO spines,  $n = 8$  neurons, 112 DKO + CaMKII $\alpha$  K42R spines. Scale bar 5  $\mu\text{m}$ . **f** Spine density on primary apical dendrites is unchanged following CaMKII DKO and in DKO + CaMKII $\alpha$  K42R replacement (mean  $\pm$  SEM number, GFP =  $0.604 \pm 0.038 \mu\text{m}$ ; DKO =  $0.59 \pm 0.063 \mu\text{m}$ ; DKO + CaMKII $\alpha$  K42R =  $0.543 \pm 0.037 \mu\text{m}$ ,  $p > 0.05$ ). **g** Spine head diameter is reduced by CaMKII DKO and not rescued by K42R replacement (GFP, diameter =  $0.99 \pm 0.05 \mu\text{m}$ ; DKO, diameter =  $0.63 \pm 0.03 \mu\text{m}$ ; DKO + CaMKII $\alpha$  K42R, diameter =  $0.69 \pm 0.038 \mu\text{m}$ ). **h** Spine neck length is reduced by CaMKII DKO but rescued by CaMKII $\alpha$  K42R replacement (GFP, mean  $\pm$  SEM number length =  $1.019 \pm 0.051 \mu\text{m}$ ; DKO, mean  $\pm$  SEM number length =  $1.42 \pm 0.056 \mu\text{m}$ ; DKO + CaMKII $\alpha$  K42R, mean  $\pm$  SEM number length =  $1.07 \pm 0.03 \mu\text{m}$ ). Scale bar 5  $\mu\text{m}$ . Normalized data were analyzed using a one-way ANOVA. P values were calculated with the Mann-Whitney test (\* $p < 0.01$ ; \*\* $p < 0.001$ ; \*\*\* $p < 0.0001$ ).

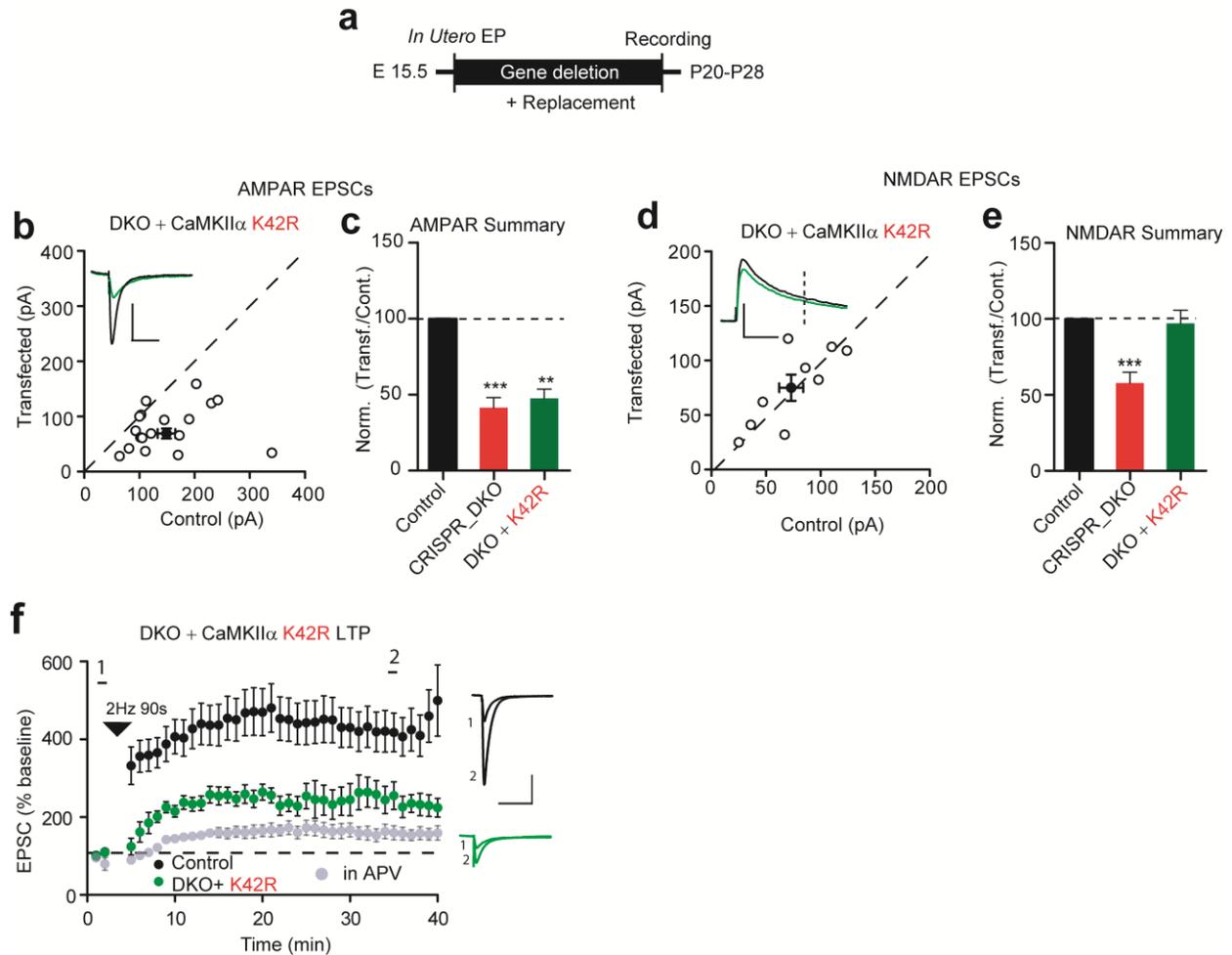


**Supplementary Figure 5** Transient phase of structural LTP is independent from CaMKII. CaMKII is necessary to maintain long term volume change. **a** Timeline of the experiment. **b** Fluorescence GFP sample images of spine structural plasticity during sLTP in CRISPR\_CaMKII $\alpha$  and CRISPR\_CaMKII $\beta$  neurons. The red point indicates the spot of

glutamate uncaging. Scale bar 1  $\mu\text{m}$ . **c - e** graphs are represented by the samples shown in figure 4. **c** Averaged fluorescence intensity normalized to baseline ( $F/F_0$ ) for WT neurons transfected with FUGW GFP. Number of samples (spines/neurons) is 14/8; Black line represents mean  $\pm$  SEM. **d** Averaged fluorescence intensity normalized to baseline ( $F/F_0$ ) for CaMKII DKO neurons transfected with FUGW double gRNA GFP and Cas9. Number of samples (spines/neurons) is 10/6; Red line represents mean  $\pm$  SEM. **e** Averaged fluorescence intensity normalized to baseline ( $F/F_0$ ) for CaMKII DKO + CaMKII $\alpha$  T286A neurons transfected with FUGW double gRNA GFP, Cas9 and pCAGGS CaMKII $\alpha$  T286A. Number of samples (spines/neurons) is 8/6; Green line represents mean  $\pm$  SEM. **f** Averaged fluorescence intensity normalized to baseline ( $F/F_0$ ) for CaMKII $\alpha$  KO neurons. Number of samples (spines/neurons) is 8/6; purple line represents mean  $\pm$  SEM. **g** Averaged fluorescence intensity normalized to baseline ( $F/F_0$ ) for CaMKII $\beta$  KO neurons. Number of samples (spines/neurons) is 15/3; dark green line represents mean  $\pm$  SEM. **h** Summary of the results from **c - g**. **i, j** Long term spine volume change of CRISPR\_ CaMKII $\alpha$  and CRISPR\_ CaMKII $\beta$ . Each point represents the mean  $\pm$  SEM % of volume change every 30 seconds. Both graphs include control long term volume change data. **k** Bar graph of averaged volume change at 20 min. Values represent mean  $\pm$  SEM as % of baseline volume. (Control =  $145.5 \pm 6$ ; CRISPR\_ CaMKII $\alpha$  =  $100 \pm 2.6$ ; CRISPR\_ CaMKII $\beta$  =  $100.4 \pm 6.5$ ). **\*\*p** < 0.001 (ANOVA test followed by Mann-Whitney test to calculate p value).

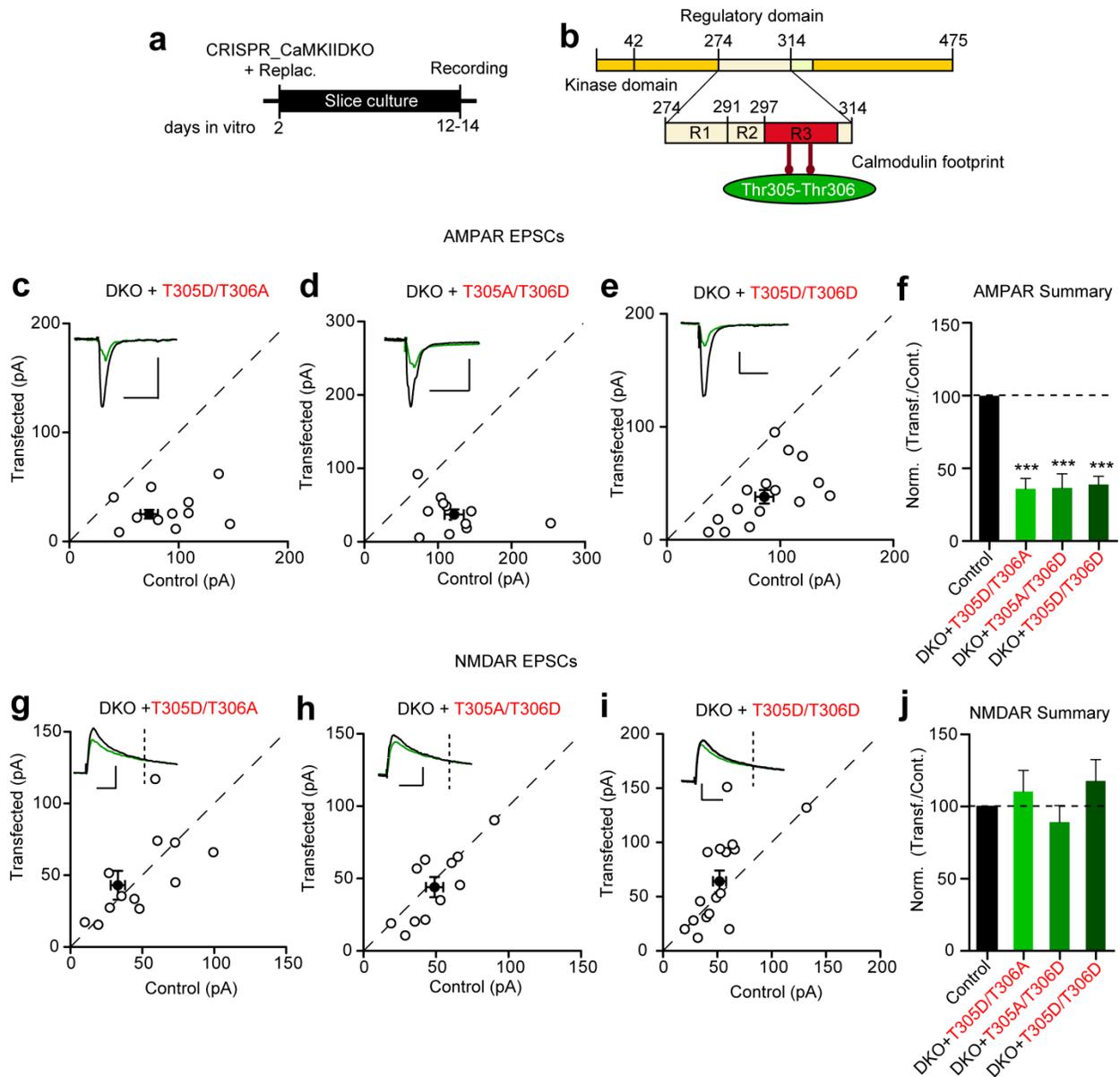


**Supplementary Figure 6**  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  influx through NMDAR fully accounts for the transient phase of sLTP. **a** Fluorescence GFP sample images of spine structural plasticity during sLTP. The red point indicates the spot of glutamate uncaging. Scale bar 1  $\mu\text{m}$ . **b** Averaged fluorescence intensity normalized to baseline ( $F/F_0$ ) for WT neurons transfected with FUGW GFP before adding EGTA. Number of samples (spines/neurons) is 8/4; line represents mean  $\pm$  SEM. **c** Averaged fluorescence intensity normalized to baseline ( $F/F_0$ ) for WT neurons transfected with FUGW GFP after adding CPP 30 $\mu\text{M}$  or APV 50 $\mu\text{M}$  in the ACSF. sLTP is fully prevented. Number of samples (spines/neurons) is 8/4; line represents mean  $\pm$  SEM. **d** Averaged fluorescence intensity normalized to baseline ( $F/F_0$ ) for WT neurons transfected with FUGW GFP after adding EGTA (10 mM) in the ACSF. sLTP is fully prevented. Number of samples (spines/neurons) is 8/4; line represents mean  $\pm$  SEM. **e** Averaged fluorescence intensity normalized to baseline ( $F/F_0$ ) for WT neurons transfected with FUGW GFP after adding EGTA (10 mM) in the ACSF and  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  4 mM. sLTP is fully rescued. Number of samples (spines/neurons) is 7/4; line represents mean  $\pm$  SEM. **f** Summary of the results from **b** - **e**.



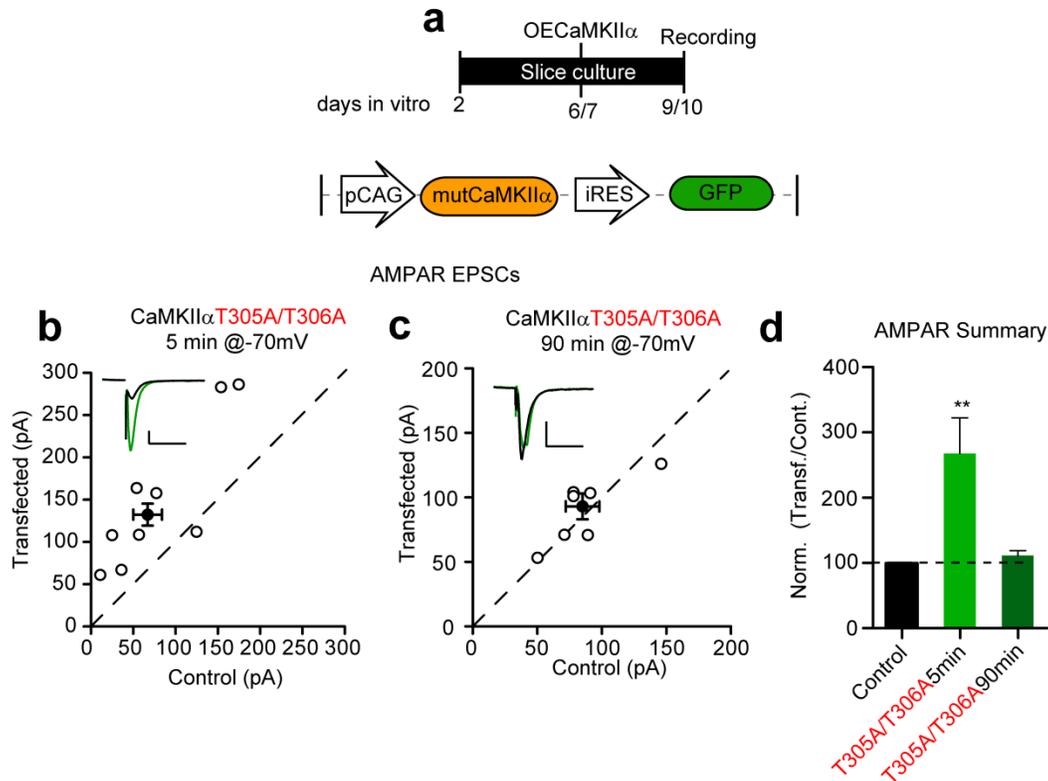
**Supplementary Figure 7** Neurons expressing CaMKII $\alpha$  K42R shows residual LTP. **a** Timeline of the experiment. **b** Scatterplot showing amplitudes of AMPAR EPSCs for single pairs (open circles) of control and transfected cells of DKO + CaMKII $\alpha$  K42R (n = 18 pairs). Filled circle indicates mean  $\pm$  SEM. (Control =  $149.1 \pm 16.6$ ; DKO + CaMKII $\alpha$  K42R =  $79.6 \pm 9.2$  p < 0.0001). **(c)** Bar graph of ratios normalized to control (%) summarizing the mean  $\pm$  SEM of AMPAR EPSCs of values represented in **b** ( $59.1 \pm 7.4$  p = 0.001). DKO (red bar) from figure 1 is included in the graph. **d** Scatterplot showing amplitudes of NMDAR EPSCs for single pairs (open circles) of control and transfected cells of DKO + CaMKII $\alpha$  K42R (n = 9 pairs). Filled circle indicates mean  $\pm$  SEM. (Control =  $73.7 \pm 11.3$ ; DKO + CaMKII $\alpha$  K42R =  $75.1 \pm 12.1$  p > 0.05). **e** Bar graph of ratios normalized to control (%) summarizing the mean  $\pm$  SEM of NMDAR EPSCs of values represented in **d** ( $97 \pm 8.8$  p = 0.79). DKO (red bar) from figure 1 is included in the graph. **f** Plots showing mean  $\pm$  SEM AMPAR EPSC amplitude of control (black) and

transfected DKO + CaMKII $\alpha$  K42R (green) pyramidal neurons normalized to the mean AMPAR EPSC amplitude before LTP induction (arrow). (Control, n=14; DKO + CaMKII $\alpha$  K42R n = 8, p = 0.009 at 35 min). Raw amplitude data from dual cell recordings were analyzed using Wilcoxon signed rank test (p values indicated above). Normalized data were analyzed using a one-way ANOVA followed by the Mann-Whitney test (\*\*p < 0.001; \*\*\*p < 0.0001). Mann-Whitney test was also used to compare LTP at 35 min (p values indicated above). Scale bars: 50 ms, 50 pA.

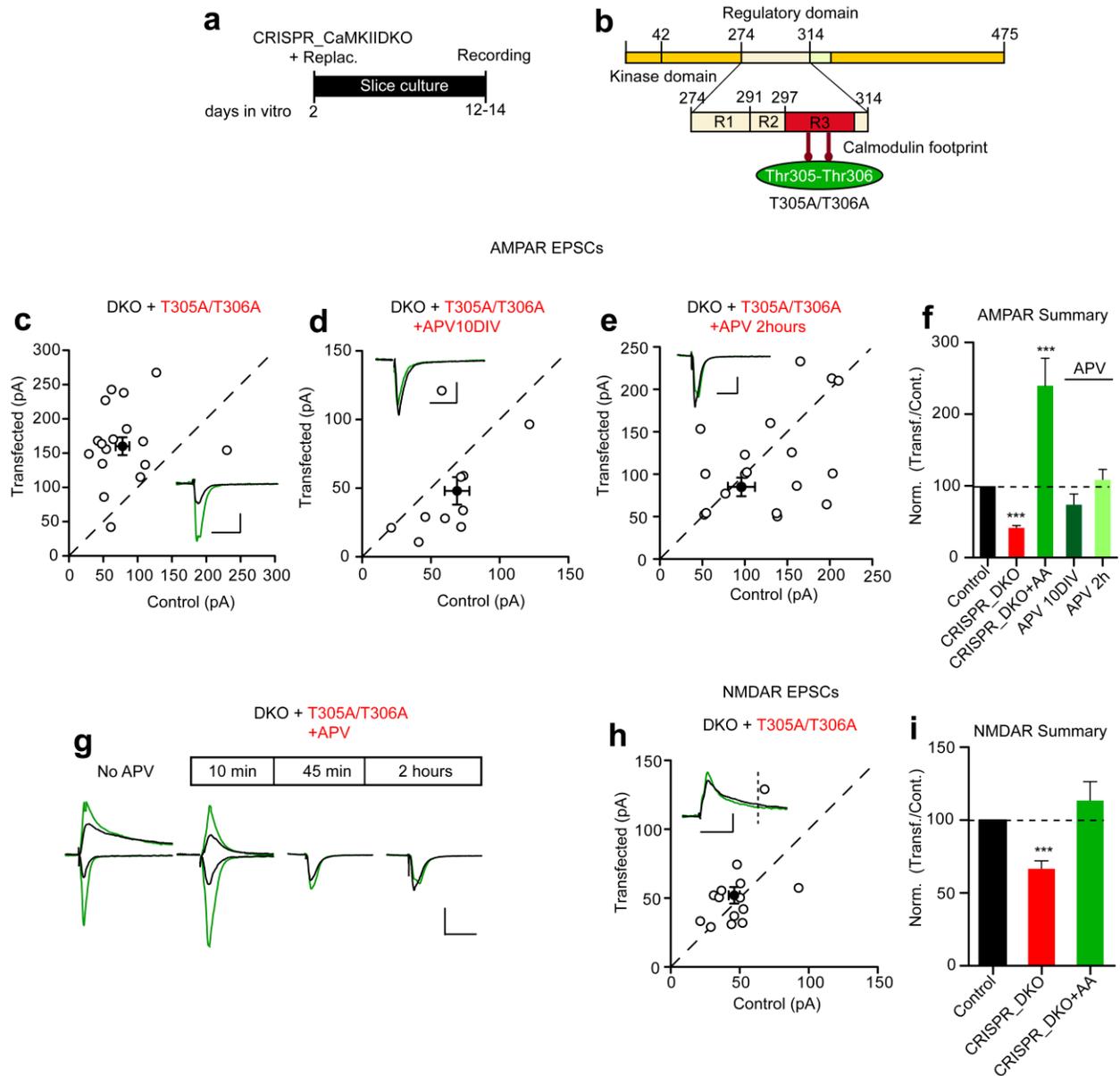


**Supplementary Figure 8** The role of the calmodulin footprint inhibitory domain in the action of CaMKII $\alpha$ . **a** Timeline of the experiment. **b** Scheme of the structural organization of CaMKII $\alpha$  showing point mutations (T305/T306 residues). **c - e** Scatterplots showing amplitudes of AMPAR EPSCs for single pairs (open circles) of control and transfected cells of DKO + CaMKII $\alpha$  T305D/T306A (**c**,  $n = 9$  pairs), DKO + CaMKII $\alpha$  T305A/T306D (**d**,  $n = 11$  pairs) and DKO + CaMKII $\alpha$  T305D/T306D (**e**,  $n = 16$  pairs). Filled circles indicate mean amplitude  $\pm$  SEM (**c**, Control =  $73.4 \pm 8$ ; DKO + CaMKII $\alpha$  T305D/T306A =  $25.3 \pm 4.6$   $p < 0.004$ ; **d**, Control =  $122.7 \pm 13.7$ ; DKO + CaMKII $\alpha$  T305A/T306D =  $37.8 \pm 6.9$   $p < 0.001$ ; **e**, Control =  $87 \pm 7.9$ ; DKO +

CaMKII $\alpha$  T305D/T306D =  $38.8 \pm 6.6$   $p < 0.0001$ ). **f** Bar graph normalized to control (%) summarizing the mean  $\pm$  SEM of AMPAR EPSCs of values represented in **c** ( $35.8 \pm 7.2$   $p < 0.0001$ ), **d** ( $36.5 \pm 9.6$   $p < 0.0001$ ) and **e** ( $38.9 \pm 5.6$   $p < 0.0001$ ). **g - i** Scatterplots showing amplitudes of NMDAR EPSCs for single pairs (open circles) of control and transfected cells of DKO + CaMKII $\alpha$  T305D/T306A (**g**,  $n = 9$  pairs), DKO + CaMKII $\alpha$  T305A/T306D (**h**,  $n = 11$  pairs) and DKO + CaMKII $\alpha$  T305D/T306D (**i**,  $n = 16$  pairs). Filled circles indicate mean amplitude  $\pm$  SEM (**c**, Control =  $36.8 \pm 5.8$ ; DKO + CaMKII $\alpha$  T305D/T306A =  $43.9 \pm 10.9$   $p > 0.05$ ; **d**, Control =  $49.1 \pm 6.1$ ; DKO + CaMKII $\alpha$  T305A/T306D =  $44.7 \pm 6.1$   $p > 0.05$ ; **e**, Control =  $52 \pm 6.3$ ; DKO + CaMKII $\alpha$  T305D/T306D =  $64.1 \pm 10.5$   $p > 0.05$ ). **j** Bar graph normalized to control (%) summarizing the mean  $\pm$  SEM of AMPAR-eEPSCs of values represented in **c** ( $110.4 \pm 14.6$   $p = 0.60$ ), **d** ( $89.3 \pm 11.4$   $p = 0.73$ ) and **e** ( $117.7 \pm 14.8$   $p = 0.41$ ). Raw amplitude data from dual cell recordings were analyzed using Wilcoxon signed rank test ( $p$  values indicated above). Normalized data were analyzed using a one-way ANOVA followed by the Mann-Whitney test ( $***p < 0.0001$ ). Scale bars: 50 ms, 50 pA.

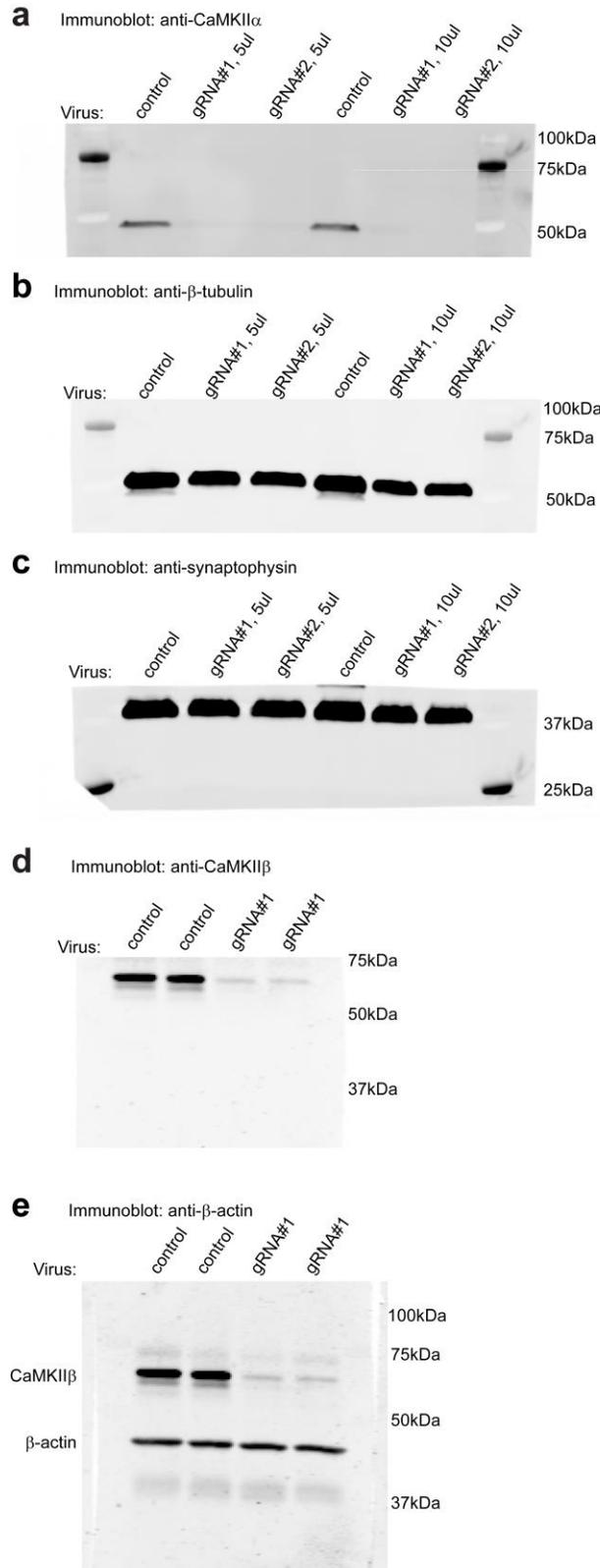


**Supplementary Figure 9** Holding cells at -70mV for 90 minutes reverses AMPAR enhancement caused by the hypersensitive CaMKII $\alpha$  overexpression. **a** Timeline of the experiment and map of the overexpressed plasmid. **b, c** Scatterplots showing amplitudes of AMPAR EPSCs for single pairs (open circles) of control and transfected cells of CaMKII $\alpha$  T305A/T306A after 5 min at -70 mV (**b**, n = 9 pairs) and CaMKII $\alpha$  T305A/T306A after 90 min at -70 mV (**c**, n = 7 pairs). Filled circle indicate mean amplitude  $\pm$  SEM (**b**, Control = 82  $\pm$  19 CaMKII $\alpha$  T305A/T306A (5 min) = 132.68  $\pm$  25.1 p < 0.001; **c**, Control = 85  $\pm$  13; CaMKII $\alpha$  T305A/T306A (90 min) = 93  $\pm$  10 p > 0.05). **d** Bar graph normalized to control (%) summarizing the mean  $\pm$  SEM of AMPAR-eEPSCs of values represented in **b** (268.8  $\pm$  54.1 p = 0.009) and **c** (110.1  $\pm$  9.8 p = 0.22). Raw amplitude data from dual cell recordings were analyzed using Wilcoxon signed rank test (p values indicated above). Normalized data were analyzed using a one-way ANOVA followed by the Mann-Whitney test (\*\*p < 0.001). Scale bars: 50 ms, 50 pA.



**Supplementary Figure 10** Expression of the hypersensitive CaMKII $\alpha$  enhances AMPAR EPSCs in an NMDAR - dependent manner. **a** Timeline of the experiment. **b** Scheme of the structural organization of CaMKII $\alpha$  showing point mutations (T305/T306 residues). **c - e** Scatterplots showing amplitudes of AMPAR EPSCs for single pairs (open circles) of control and transfected cells of DKO + CaMKII $\alpha$  T305A/T306A (**c**,  $n = 18$  pairs), DKO + CaMKII $\alpha$  T305A/T306A in APV during 10 DIV (**d**,  $n = 11$  pairs) and DKO + CaMKII $\alpha$  T305A/T306A in APV during 2 hours (**e**,  $n = 10$  pairs). Filled circles indicates mean amplitude  $\pm$  SEM (**c**, Control

=  $78.4 \pm 11$ ; DKO + CaMKII $\alpha$  T305A/T306A =  $160.9 \pm 10.9$  p = 0.0009; **d**, Control =  $69.1 \pm 48.8$ ; DKO + CaMKII $\alpha$  T305A/T306A + APV 10 DIV =  $48.8 \pm 10.5$  p = 0.06; **e**, Control =  $96.5 \pm 16.6$ ; DKO + CaMKII $\alpha$  T305A/T306A + APV 2h =  $85.9 \pm 11.6$  p > 0.26). **f** Bar graph normalized to control (%) summarizing the mean  $\pm$  SEM of AMPAR EPSCs of values represented in **c** ( $250.4 \pm 3$  p < 0.0001), **d** ( $76.7 \pm 15.2$  p = 0.056) and **e** ( $114 \pm 13.6$  p = 0.58). **g** Sample traces of EPSCs at +40 mV and -70 mV in control (black) and CaMKII $\alpha$  T305A/T306A replacement (green) before and after APV treatment. **h** Scatterplot showing amplitudes of NMDAR EPSCs for single pairs (open circles) of control and transfected cells of DKO + CaMKII $\alpha$  T305A/T306A (**h**, n = 14 pairs). Filled circle indicates mean  $\pm$  SEM. (Control =  $46.7 \pm 7.8$ ; DKO + CaMKII $\alpha$  T305A/T306A =  $52.3 \pm 6.8$  p = 0.42). **i** Bar graph normalized to control (%) summarizing the mean  $\pm$  SEM of AMPAR EPSCs of values represented in **h** ( $113.4 \pm 13$  p = 0.97). DKO (red bar) from figure 1 are included in the graph. Raw amplitude data from dual cell recordings were analyzed using Wilcoxon signed rank test (p values indicated above). Normalized data were analyzed using a one-way ANOVA followed by the Mann-Whitney test (\*\*\*) p < 0.0001). Scale bars: 50 ms, 50 pA.



**Supplementary Figure 11** Full size images of immunoblots shown in Figure 1. The name of the protein labeled and molecular weight markers are indicated.