

## Supplementary FIGURE LEGENDS

**Supplementary Figure 1** – Evidence that hypoxia induces nuclear entry of FIH.

(A) Immunofluorescence staining of FIH (green) in U2OS cells with the indicated treatments. U2OS cells were transfected with control siRNA or FIH siRNA for 3 days, followed by cultured in normoxia (20 % O<sub>2</sub>) or 3 hours' hypoxia (1 % O<sub>2</sub>). TO-PRO-3 (blue) was used to stain nuclei. Scale bar: 10 μm.

(B) Immunofluorescence staining of FIH (green) in HKe3 cells cultured in normoxia (20 % O<sub>2</sub>) or 3 hours hypoxia (1 % O<sub>2</sub>) treatment. TO-PRO-3 (blue) was used to stain nuclei. Scale bar: 10 μm.

(C) Immunofluorescence staining of FIH (green) in MCF7 cells in hypoxia (0.5% O<sub>2</sub>) at the indicated time points. TO-PRO-3 (blue) was used to stain nuclei. Scale bar: 20 μm.

**Supplementary Figure 2** - Nuclear entry of FIH is mainly HIF1 $\alpha$ -dependent and is regulated by inhibition of FIH enzyme activity.

(A) Protein levels of HIF1 $\alpha$ , HIF2 $\alpha$ , HIF1 $\beta$  and FIH in U2OS cells with the indicated treatments. U2OS cells were transfected with the indicated siRNA for 3 days, followed by culture in normoxia (20 % O<sub>2</sub>) or 3 hours hypoxia (1 % O<sub>2</sub>) treatment.  $\beta$ -tubulin was used as a loading control.

(B) The graphs show the ratio of nuclear FIH mean intensity over non-nuclear FIH mean intensity (left) and the percentage of nuclear FIH positive cells (right) with the indicated treatment evaluated by ImageJ. Left:  $n$  represents the total number of cells evaluated by ImageJ over 4 random fields. Each dot in the plot represents the ratio of nuclear FIH mean intensity over non-nuclear FIH mean intensity in an individual cell.

Right: Cells with the ratio of nuclear FIH mean intensity over non-nuclear FIH mean intensity bigger than 2 are considered as nuclear FIH positive ( $n = 4$  random fields). Data are mean  $\pm$  s.d. \*  $P < 0.05$ . \*\*\*  $P < 0.001$ . *n.s.*  $P > 0.05$ . Representative images are given in Fig. 2A.

(C) Protein levels of HIF1 $\alpha$  N803OH, HIF1 $\alpha$  and FIH in U2OS cells treated with DMOG (1 mM), IOX1 (1 mM), IOX2 (0.25 mM), FG2216 (0.25 mM), VGB10B/IOX4 (0.05 mM) or DFO (0.5 mM) for 3 hours.  $\beta$ -tubulin was used as a loading control.

(D) Immunofluorescence staining of FIH (green) in U2OS cells treated with DMOG (1 mM), IOX1 (1 mM), IOX2 (0.25 mM), FG2216 (0.25 mM), VGB10B/IOX4 (0.05 mM) or DFO (0.5 mM) for 3 hours. TO-PRO-3 (blue) was used to stain nuclei. Scale bar: 20  $\mu$ m.

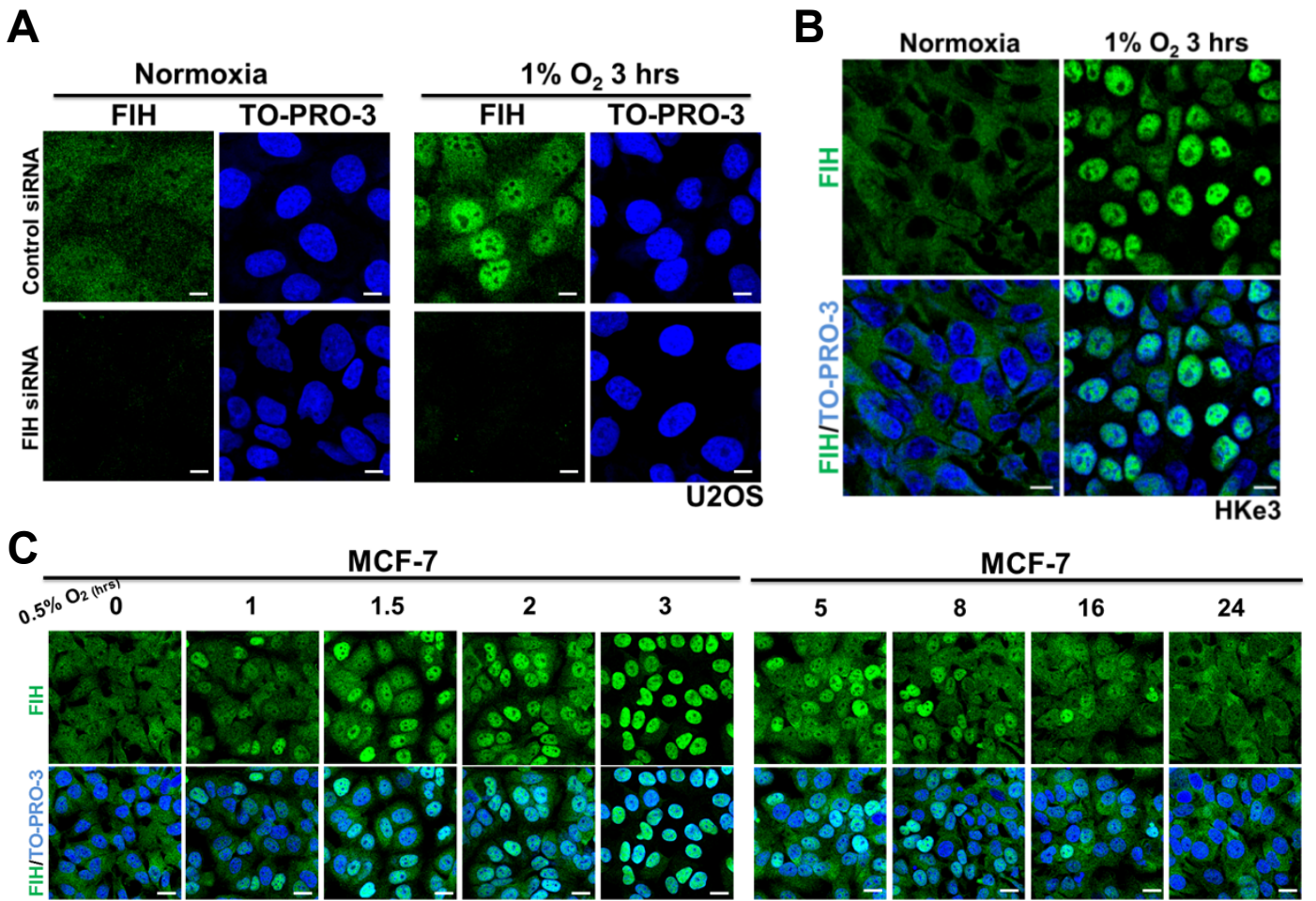
**Supplementary Figure 3** - FIH complexes with importin  $\beta$ 1 via HIF1 $\alpha$  for nuclear import.

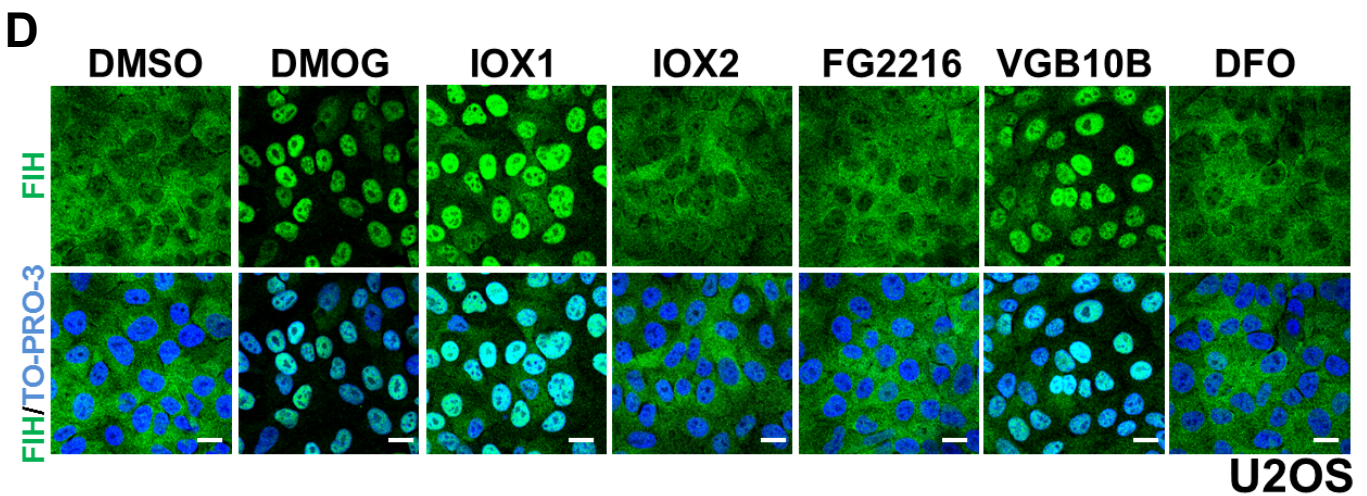
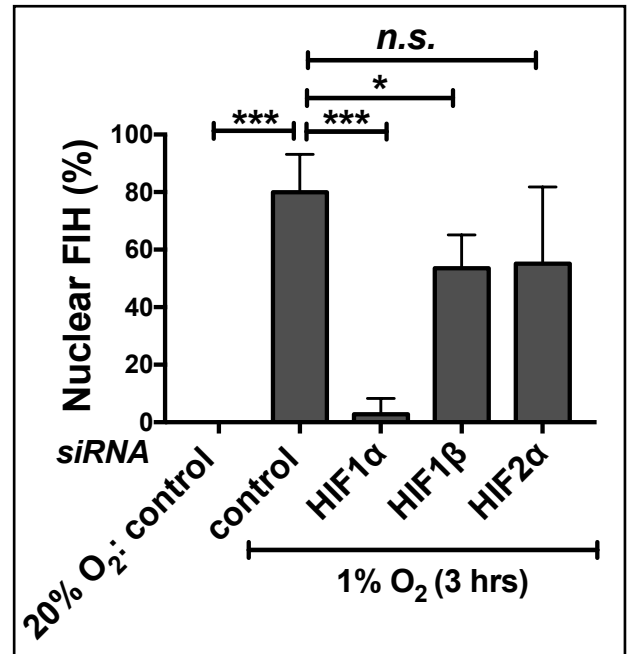
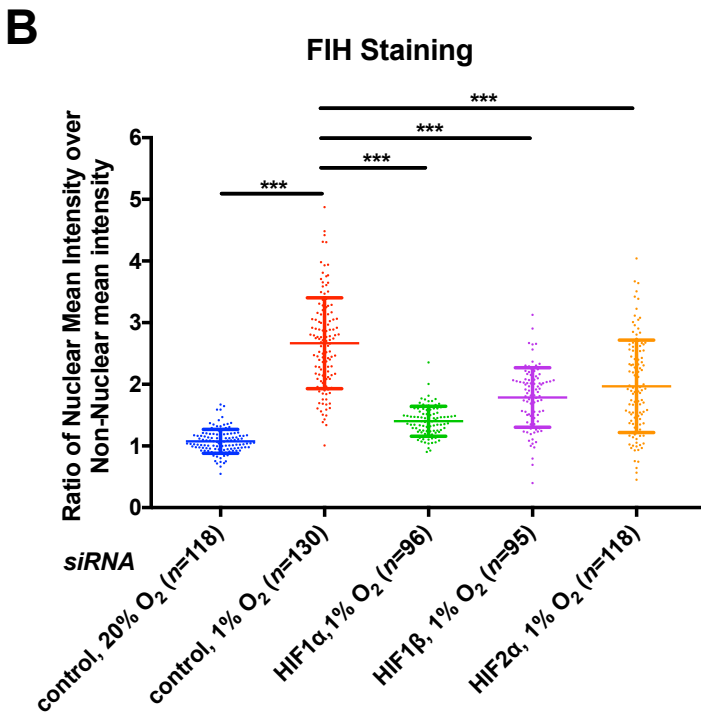
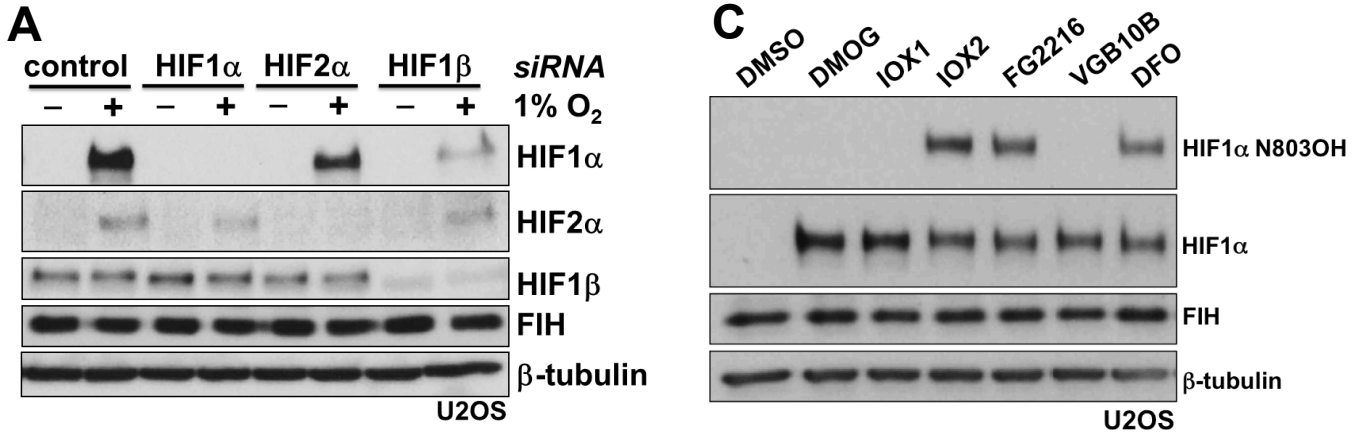
Protein levels of importin  $\beta$ 1, HIF1 $\alpha$  and FIH in U2OS cells with indicated treatments. U2OS cells were transfected with control siRNA or importin  $\beta$ 1 siRNA for 3 days, followed by treatment with DMSO or DMOG (1 mM) for 3 hours.  $\beta$ -tubulin was used as a loading control.

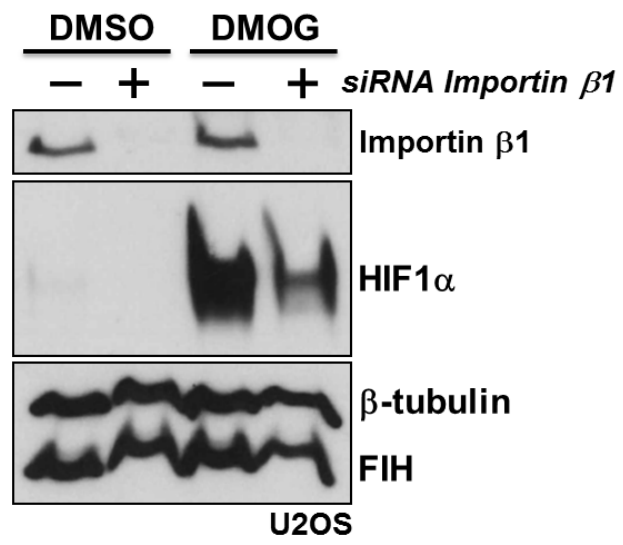
**Supplementary Figure 4** - FIH exits the nucleus via a Leptomycin B-sensitive exportin 1 (CRM1)-dependent pathway.

(A) Immunofluorescence staining of FIH (green), HIF1 $\alpha$  N803OH (green) and HIF1 $\alpha$  (red) in MCF7 cells with the indicated hypoxia (0.5% O<sub>2</sub>) and reoxygenation treatments. TO-PRO-3 (blue) was used to stain the nuclei. Scale bar: 20  $\mu$ m.

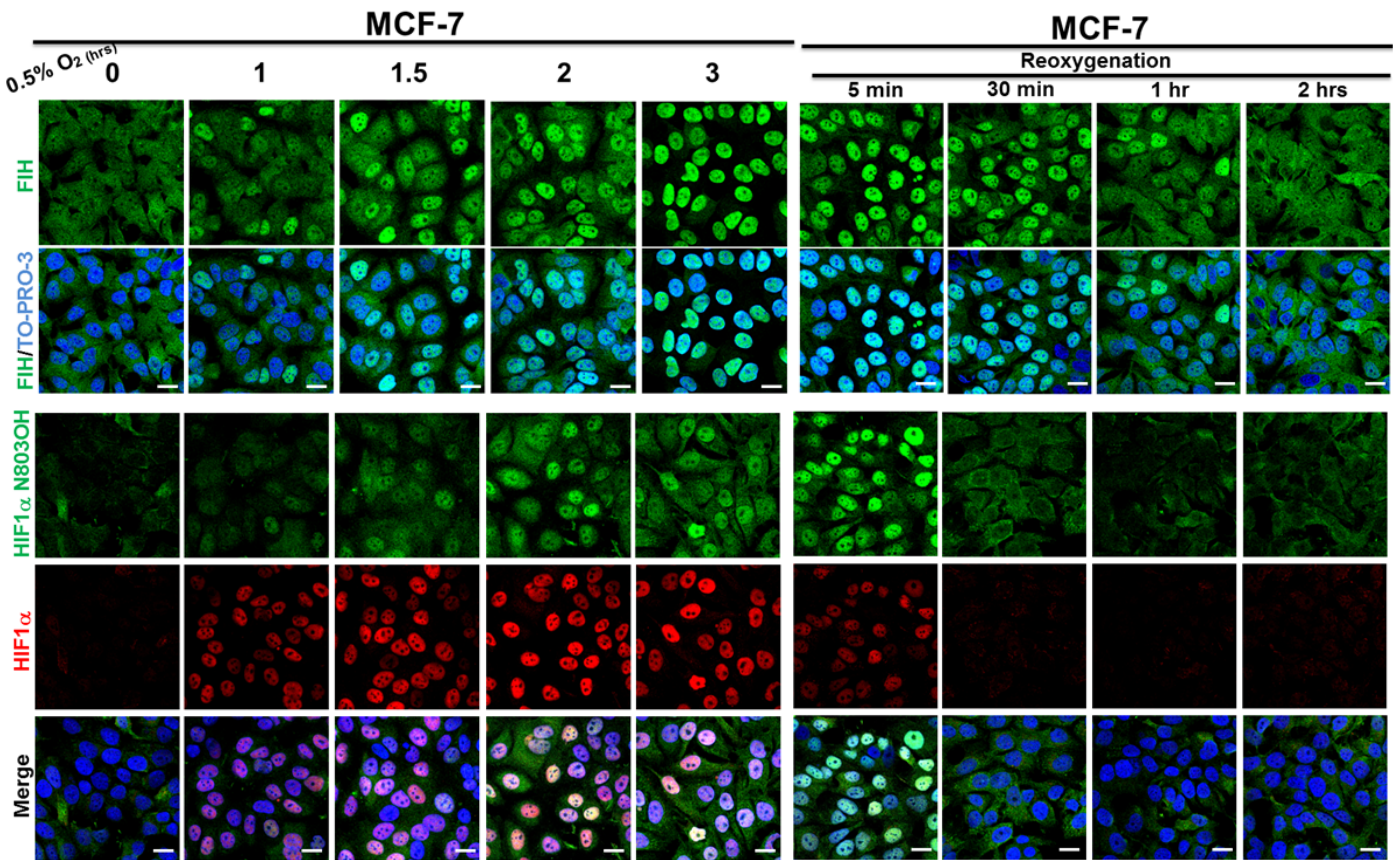
(B) A nuclear export signal (NES) is predicted within FIH (amino acid 128-137) by NetNES (<http://www.cbs.dtu.dk/services/NetNES/>).







**A**



**B**

