

Fig. S1 Diabetic mice have ciliary defects. **a** Blood glucose levels of WT and DB mice (n = 6). **b-d** Examination of WT and DB mouse eyes with electroretinography. **e-j** Tracheal, skin, and testis tissues from WT and DB mice were subjected to immunofluorescence microscopy (**e**, **g**, **j**) or scanning electron microscopy (**f**). Ciliary density (**h**, n = 10) and length (**i**, n = 30) in skin were quantified. **k** Blood glucose levels of pre-diabetic and diabetic NOD mice (n = 6). **l-n** Eyes from pre-diabetic and diabetic NOD mice (n = 6). **l-n** Eyes from pre-diabetic and diabetic no munofluorescence microscopy (**l**). Ciliary density (**m**, n = 10) and length (**n**, n = 30) were quantified. **o** Tracheal tissues from pre-diabetic and diabetic no munofluorescence microscopy. **p**, **q** Blood glucose levels (**p**, n = 6) and immunofluorescence images (**q**) of mouse eye and tracheal tissues. Mice were fed a high-sugar high-fat diet (HSHF) and then untreated or treated with STZ. In the control group, mice were fed a normal diet and untreated with STZ. Scale bars, 10 µm. **P < 0.01, ***P < 0.001, ****P < 0.0001; ns, not significant. Error bars indicate SEM.



Fig. S2 Ciliogenesis is impaired by high glucose concentrations or high *O*-GlcNAcylation levels. **a**, **b** RPE-1 cells cultured in media containing the indicated concentrations of glucose and glucosamine were serum-starved for 48 hr. Cells were then subjected to immunofluorescence microscopy (**a**) or immunoblotting (**b**). **c** WT and DB mouse tissues were subjected to immunoblotting. **d** Tissues from pre-diabetic and diabetic NOD mice were subjected to immunoblotting. **e**, **f** RPE-1 cells cultured in media containing the indicated concentrations of UDP-GlcNAc were serum-starved for 48 hr. Cells were then subjected to immunofluorescence microscopy (**e**) or immunoblotting (**f**). **g**, **h** RPE-1 cells were cultured in serum-free medium containing the indicated concentrations of glucose or UDP-GlcNAc and subjected to immunofluorescence microscopy (**g**). Ciliary length was then quantified (**h**, n = 30). Scale bars, 10 µm. ****P < 0.0001; ns, not significant. Error bars indicate SEM.



Fig. S3 Inhibition or knockdown of either OGA or OGT results in ciliary defects. a-d RPE-1 cells were transfected with control or OGA siRNAs and serum-starved for 24 hr. Cells were lysed and immunoblotted (a) or subjected to immunofluorescence microscopy (b). The percentage of ciliated cells (c, n = 100) and ciliary length (d, n =30) were quantified. e-h RPE-1 cells were serum-starved and treated with TMG (5 μ M) or the control vehicle for 24 hr. Cells were lysed and immunoblotted (e) or subjected to immunofluorescence microscopy (f). The percentage of ciliated cells (\mathbf{g} , $\mathbf{n} = 100$) and ciliary length (\mathbf{h} , n = 30) were quantified. i-l RPE-1 cells were transfected with control or OGT siRNAs and serum-starved for 24 hr. Cells were lysed and immunoblotted (i) or subjected to immunofluorescence microscopy (j). The percentage of ciliated cells (k, n = 100) and ciliary length (I, n = 30) were quantified. m-p RPE-1 cells were serumstarved and treated with BZX (150 µM) or the control vehicle for 24 hr. Cells were lysed and immunoblotted (m) or subjected to immunofluorescence microscopy (n). The percentage of ciliated cells ($\mathbf{0}$, $\mathbf{n} = 100$) and ciliary length (\mathbf{p} , $\mathbf{n} = 30$) were quantified. Scale bars, 10 $\mu m.$ *P < 0.05, **P < 0.01, ***P < 0.001, ****P < 0.0001. Error bars indicate SEM.



Fig. S4 OGT localization at the basal body/centrosome peaks at the early stages of ciliogenesis. **a** RPE-1 cells were subjected to immunofluorescence microscopy with OGT and γ -tubulin antibodies and DAPI. Three different OGT antibodies and their control IgGs were used. **b** RPE-1 cells were subjected to immunofluorescence microscopy with OGA and γ -tubulin antibodies and DAPI. **c** RPE-1 cells were cultured in media with or without serum for 24 hr, and the lysates or isolated centrosomes were subjected to immunofluorescence microscopy (**d**). The localization of OGT at the basal body was then quantified (**e**). **f-h** RPE-1 cells were serum-starved for the indicated time and BZX (150 μ M) was added to the medium at set intervals after serum starvation (PS0, BZX added at initiation of serum starvation; PS2, BZX added after 2 hr of serum starvation; etc.). Cells were subjected to immunofluorescence microscopy (**f**), and the percentage of ciliated cells (**g**, n = 100) and ciliary length (**h**, n = 30) were quantified. Scale bars, 10 μ m. *P < 0.05, **P < 0.01, ****P < 0.0001; ns, not significant. Error bars indicate SEM.



Fig. S5 High glucose-induced ciliary defects could be partially rescued by proper control of protein *O*-GlcNAcylation level. **a-d** RPE-1 cells were cultured in serum-free medium containing the indicated concentrations of glucose and BZX for 48 hr. Cells were subjected to immunofluorescence microscopy (**a**). The percentage of ciliated cells (**b**, n = 100) and ciliary length (**c**, n = 30) were quantified, and cell lysates were immunoblotted (**d**). **e** WT or DB mice were treated with the indicated doses of BZX for 15 days, and the eye lysates were immunoblotted. Scale bars, 10 µm. **P < 0.01, ***P < 0.001; ****P < 0.0001; ns, not significant. Error bars indicate SEM.



Fig. S6 Model for the function of *O*-GlcNAcylation-dependent ciliary defects in diabetic complications.