

Supplemental Information

Inhibition of USP14 Deubiquitinating

Activity as a Potential Therapy

for Tumors with *p53* Deficiency

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1 **SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION**

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3 **Inhibition of USP14 deubiquitinating activity as a potential therapy for tumors**
4 **with *p53* deficiency**

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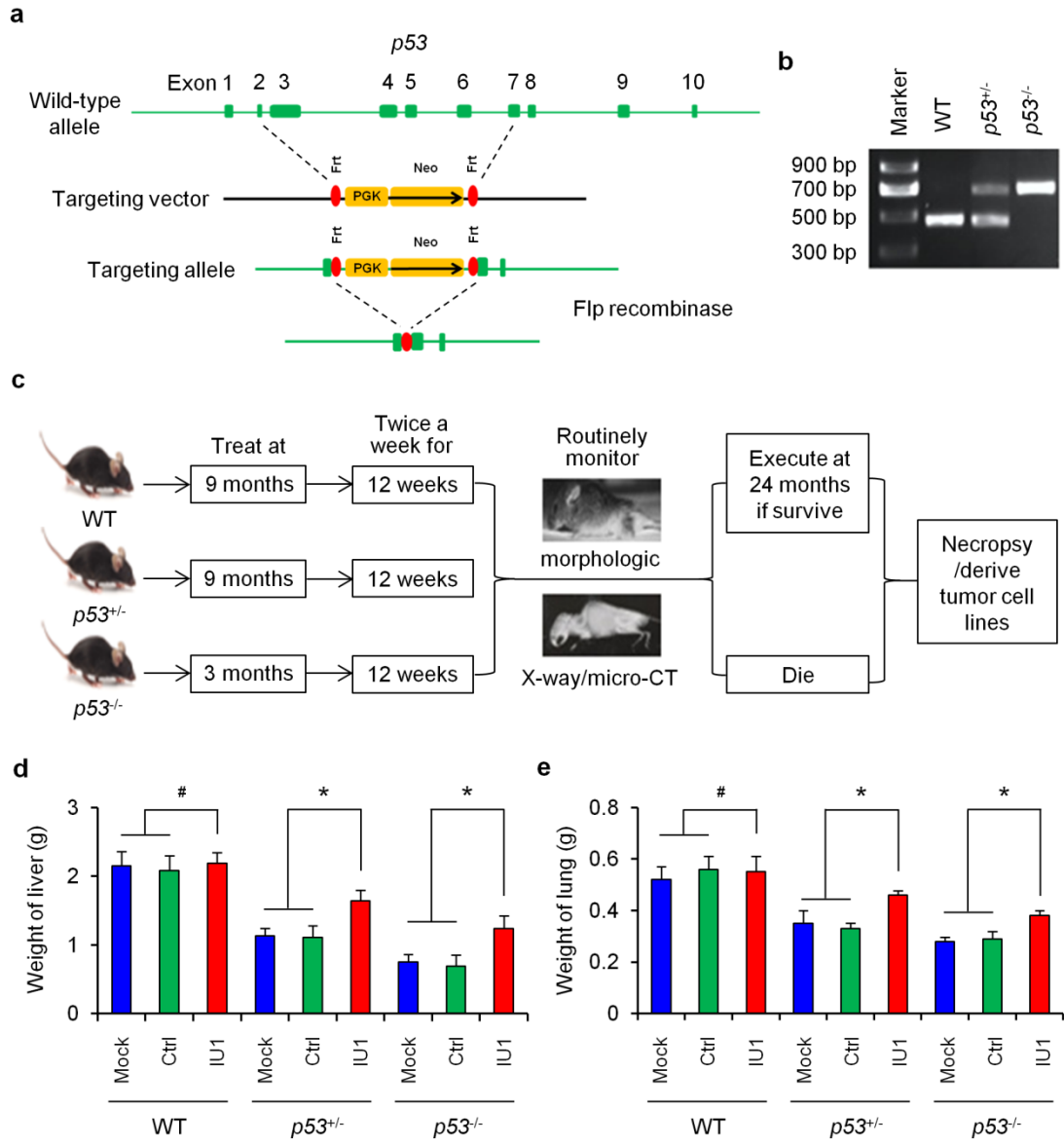
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7 Li¹, Hui-Qiong Yang¹, Ru-Ting Xie¹, Cheng-You Jia², Gai-Xia Lu², Zheng-Yan
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10 Supplemental information contains 3 supplemental figures and legends and online
11 methods.

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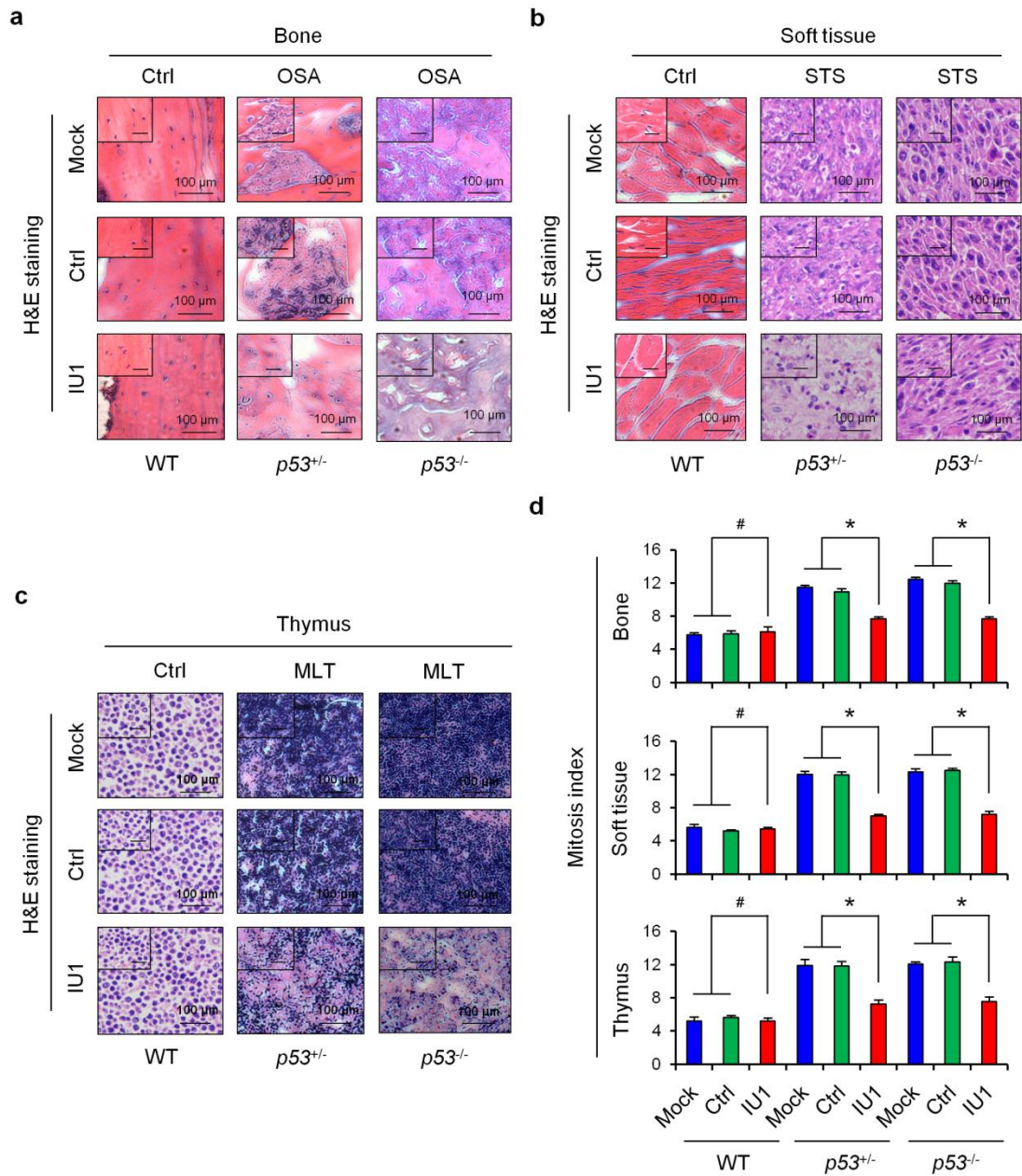
13 **Supplementary Figure 1**



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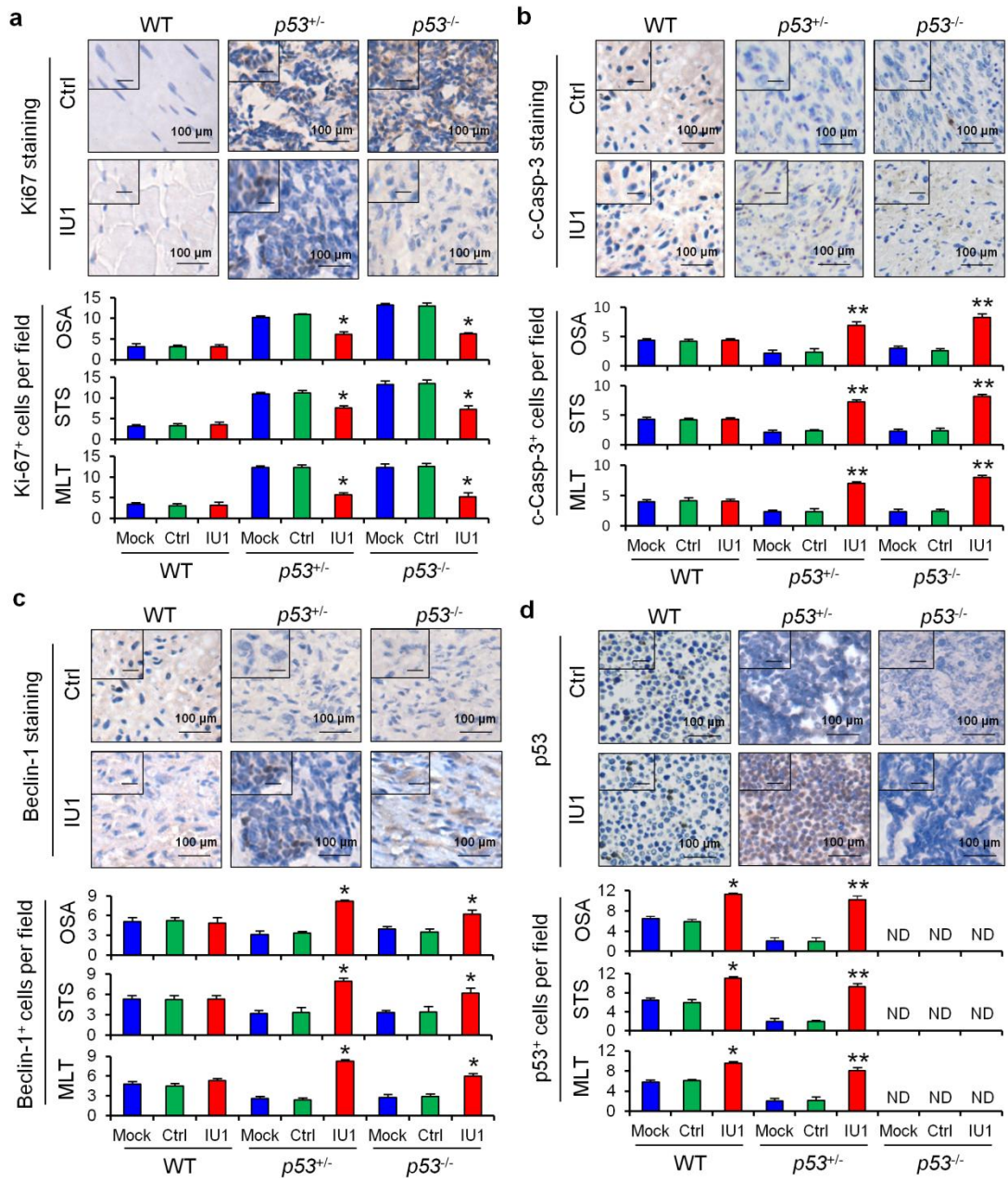
16 **Supplementary Figure 2**



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18

19 **Supplementary Figure 3**



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21

22 **Supplementary legends**

23 **Supplementary Figure 1. p53 gene targeting and treatment with IU1 and b-AP15.**

24 (a) Scheme for generation of primary tumors with Flp recombinase in FRT-flanked
25 *p53* mice. Homologous recombination between the p53KO-targeting vector and one
26 allele of the endogenous p53 gene results in the replacement of p53 coding sequences
27 between exons 2 and 7 with the neo gene expression cassette and the formation of the
28 *p53*^Δ mutant allele. (b) Genotypic analysis of offspring from a *p53* heterozygous cross.
29 Tail biopsies were collected at weaning and offspring were screened for the *p53*
30 mutation. (c) Experimental design of generation of primary tumors and treatment with
31 IU1 for tumors with *p53* deficiency. (d, e) Responses to treatment with IU1 as
32 assessed by weight of liver (d) and lung (e). Data shown are the means ± SDs.
33 Statistical analyses were performed with one-way ANOVA (* $P < 0.05$ and # $P > 0.05$
34 vs. control).

35 **Supplementary Figure 2. H&E staining and mitosis index analysis in WT or**

36 ***p53*-deficient mice.** (a-c) H&E staining analysis of normal or primary tumors in bone
37 (a), soft tissue (b) and thymus (c) in WT or *p53*-deficient mice with or without
38 treatment with IU1. (d) The mitosis index analysis in WT or *p53*-deficient mice with
39 or without treatment with IU1. Data shown are the means ± SDs. Statistical analyses
40 were performed with one-way ANOVA (** $P < 0.01$ and # $P > 0.05$ vs. control).

41 **Supplementary Figure 3. IHC staining analysis for p53, Ki67, c-caspase-3 and**

42 **Beclin-1 in WT or *p53*-deficient mice.** IHC staining analysis and quantitative
43 analysis for p53 (a), Ki67 (b), c-caspase-3 (c) and Beclin-1 (d) in WT or *p53*-deficient

44 mice with or without treatment with IU1 and b-AP15. Data shown are the means \pm
45 SDs. Statistical analyses were performed with one-way ANOVA (* $P < 0.05$ and ** P
46 < 0.01 vs. control). Ctrl, control; MLT, malignant lymphomas of thymus; Mock, mice
47 without treatment; OSA, osteosarcoma; STS, soft tissue sarcoma; WT, wild type.
48

49 **ONLINE METHODS**

50 **Animal models and genotyping**

51 All experimental procedures were approved by the Institutional Animal Care and
52 Use Committee (IACUC) guidelines at Tongji University School of Medicine
53 (SYDW-19-215).

54 The $p53^{-/-}$ mice in C57BL/6 background, purchased from Jackson Laboratory, were
55 crossed with WT mice and the resulting mice were further intercrossed to generate
56 $p53^{+/-}$ mice [1]. Genomic DNA from tail biopsies was genotyped by PCR. The $p53^{+/-}$
57 mice and $p53^{-/-}$ mice were used to observe the spontaneous tumor formation,
58 treatment of IU1 and primary cell cultures. IU1 (5mg/kg, 1%DMSO + 30%PEG300 +
59 1%Tween80 + ddH₂O) was given i.p. twice a week for the number of days indicated.
60 IU1 was purchased from SelleckChem. Mice without any treatment were used as the
61 mock, and mice treated with vehicle (1%DMSO + 30%PEG300 + 1%Tween80 +
62 ddH₂O) were used as the control.

63 All mice were monitored by X-ray, MRI or micro-CT diagnosis for tumor
64 phenotypes weekly up to the age of 24 months before all of the surviving animals
65 were sacrificed. The body and main organs (liver and lung) weight measurements
66 were performed to collect the data when the mouse was died or up to the age of 24
67 months before all of the surviving animals were sacrificed. Moribund animals or those
68 mice developing obvious tumors before this end point were also sacrificed and
69 necropsied. The tumors were placed in 10% neutral buffered formalin for further
70 histopathological analysis. Tumor histological type was independently confirmed by

71 two experienced pathologists and tumor volume was calculated using the following
72 formula: volume = length × width² × 0.52.

73 All cell mitotic figures within each tumor were counted and are presented as
74 number of mitotic figures per unit area (cm²). All experimental procedures were
75 approved by the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) guidelines at
76 Tongji University School of Medicine (SYDW-19-215).

77 **Cell lines**

78 Human osteosarcoma epithelial cell lines U2OS, mouse B lymphoma cell
79 WEH1-231 and human HEK293T cell lines were purchased from the Cell Bank of the
80 Chinese Academy of Sciences (Shanghai, China), and cultured in DMEM media
81 (Invitrogen, Carlsbad, USA) and supplemented with 10 % (v/v) fetal bovine serum
82 (FBS), 100 U/ml penicillin, and 100 mg/ml streptomycin. Cell lines were routinely
83 tested for mycoplasma contamination, and have been authenticated with short-tandem
84 repeat analysis. Derivation of murine thymic lymphoma T-cell lines and primary
85 cultured osteosarcoma cells lines were obtained from *p53*^{-/-} mice and cultured as
86 described previously [2, 3]. Cell culture was conducted at 37 °C in a humidified 5%
87 CO₂ incubator.

88 **Cell viability assay**

89 MTS assay (CellTiter 96 Aqueous One Solution reagent) was used to test cell
90 viability as we previously reported [4]. In brief, exponentially growing cells were
91 seeded at 2500 cells/well in a 96-well plate. After incubation for 24 h, U2OS,
92 WEH1-231, PCOC or MTLTC cells were treated with IU1, USP14, shUSP14, COPS5

93 and/or shCOPS5 plasmids, followed by continuous incubation for 24, 48 or 72 h.
94 MTS reagent (20 μ l) was directly added to each well and the incubation was
95 continued for additional 3 h. The absorbance of optical density was measured with a
96 microplate reader (Sunrise, Tecan, Mannedorf, Switzerland) at wavelength 490 nm.
97 Cell viability was calculated by the following formula: cell viability (%) = (average
98 absorbance of treated group – average absorbance of blank) / (average absorbance of
99 untreated group – average absorbance of blank) \times 100%.

100 **Flow cytometry (FCM) analysis**

101 Cell apoptosis was determined by flow cytometry analysis [5]. Cells were collected,
102 washed with cold phosphate-buffered saline, fixed in cold 70% ethanol, treated with
103 DNase-free RNase (100 μ g/mL, Cat. No. RB473; Sangon Biotech Co., Ltd., Shanghai,
104 China), and stained with 50 μ g/mL propidium iodide (Cat. No. P1112; Sangon
105 Biotech) and the Annexin V-APC/7-AAD Kit (Cat. KGA-1025; KeyGEN Biotech,
106 Nanjing, China). The cells were analysed using a Gallios flow cytometer (Beckman
107 Coulter) to quantify the proportion of cells in apoptosis status. To analyze the cell
108 cycle distribution, cells were treated with IU1 for the previously indicated time
109 periods and the harvested cells were fixed with 75% ethanol overnight. Next, the cells
110 were incubated with a 500 μ L hypotonic solution containing 50 μ g/mL PI, 0.1%
111 sodium citrate, and 0.1% Triton X-100 for 15 min in the dark, and then analyzed by
112 FCM (Becton Dickinson, USA). Data were analyzed using Modfit 2.8 software [6].

113 **Plasmid construction and transfection**

114 Overexpression of USP14, Flag-USP14, COPS5 or HA-COPS5 was performed

115 using the pMSCV retroviral plasmid. All constructs were confirmed by PCR and
116 Sanger sequencing. The plasmids were transiently transfected into target cells with
117 Lipofectamin 2000 (Life Technologies, Gaithersburg, MD).

118 To generate stable cell lines with specific gene overexpression or knockdown, the
119 plasmids were packaged into retroviruses with the amphotropic Phoenix packaging
120 cell line and infected into target cells, followed by puromycin/hygromycin selection
121 of infected cells. USP14 or COPS5-knockdown cell lines were generated using short
122 hairpin RNAs and retroviral transduction. Short hairpinRNA (shRNA) a random
123 sequence was set up as a control.

124 **Western blot**

125 Total proteins were extracted from cells following the standard protocol [7]. Protein
126 concentration was measured using the BCA protein assay kit (Thermo Scientific;
127 23225). The primary antibodies used in this study were as follows: GAPDH (cat.
128 ab8245), USP14 (cat. ab137432), COPS5 (cat. ab210538), p27 (cat. ab32034), DcR2
129 (cat. ab2019), CDC25C (cat. ab32444), CDC2 (cat. ab18), cleaved caspase-3 (cat.
130 ab2302), pro-caspase-3 (cat. ab13585), BAX (cat. ab32503), BCL-2 (cat. ab32124),
131 Cyclin E1 (cat. ab33911), E2F7 (cat. ab56022), p15 (cat. ab53034), PARP1 (cat.
132 ab32064), HA (cat. ab18181), Cyclin B1 (cat. ab72) and p53 (cat. ab26) from Abcam,
133 AP-1 (cat. 9165), p21 (cat. 2947), p16 (cat. 92803) and Beclin-1 (cat. 3495) from Cell
134 Signaling and Cyclin D1 (cat. 554181) from BD. The goat anti-rabbit IgG (Merck)
135 and goat anti-mouse IgG (Merck) antibodies were used for western blot analyses.
136 Antibody dilutions were 1:1,000 for primary antibodies and 1:5,000 for secondary

137 antibodies in western blotting. Data are representation of 3-4 independent
138 experiments.

139 **Histology and immunohistochemistry (IHC) analysis**

140 Standard IHC and H&E staining were used to evaluate protein expression levels in
141 tumor samples. Tissues from mice were flushed and fixed in 4% formaldehyde in PBS
142 for 24 h. Samples were then dehydrated and embedded in paraffin, sectioned at 5 μ M
143 and processed for H&E staining. The primary antibodies were: Ki-67 (Abcam,
144 ab156956), Beclin-1 (Abcam, ab62557), p53 (Abcam, ab1101), COPS5 (Abcam,
145 ab12323), USP14 (Cell Signaling, 11931), and cleaved-caspase3 (Cell Signaling,
146 9661). Staining was visualized with ABC Kit Vectastain Elite (Vector) or TSA kit
147 (Invitrogen). Serial sections were stained in parallel with the primary antibody
148 replaced by PBS as controls.

149 **Immunoprecipitation and immunoblotting**

150 For immunoprecipitation assays, cells were pretreated MG132 or IU1 for the
151 previously indicated time periods, and lysed with HEPES lysis buffer (20 mM HEPES,
152 pH 7.2, 50 mM NaCl, 0.5% NP-40, 1 mM NaF and 1 mM dithiothreitol)
153 supplemented with protease-inhibitor cocktail (Roche). Immunoprecipitations were
154 performed using the indicated primary antibody and protein A/G agarose beads
155 (Roche) at 4 °C. Both lysates and immunoprecipitates were examined using anti-Ub,
156 anti-Flag or anti-HA primary antibodies (Cell Signaling) and the related secondary
157 antibody followed by detection with the chemiluminescence substrate (Millipore). For
158 immunoblotting, total proteins were extracted from cells following the standard

159 protocol. Cytomembrane free lysate were separated from cells by Native Membrane
160 Protein Extraction Kit (Millipore; 444810). Nuclear and cytoplasmic proteins were
161 separated by Cytoplasmic & Nuclear Extraction Kit (Invent; sc-003) [8]. Protein
162 concentration was measured using the BCA protein assay kit (Thermo Scientific;
163 23225).

164 **Mass spectrometry**

165 Pellets of U2OS cell expressing Flag-UCH37 from two 150-mm plates were lysed
166 in 50 mM HEPES-KOH (pH8.0), 100 mM KCl, 2 mM EDTA, 0.1% NP-40, 10%
167 glycerol and affinity-purified using Flag-M2 magnetic beads (Sigma-Aldrich).
168 Subsequently, digestion with trypsin (Worthington, Columbus) was performed
169 on-beads. For liquid chromatography-tandem mass spectrometry analysis, peptides
170 were reconstituted in 5% formic acid and loaded onto a 12–15-cm fused silica column
171 with pulled tip packed with C18 reversed-phase material. Peptides were analysed
172 using an LTQ-Orbitrap Velos (Thermo Scientific) or a 6600 Triple TOF (AB SCIEX,
173 Framingham) coupled to an Eksigent NanoLC-Ultra HPLC system and a
174 nano-electrospray ion source (Proxeon Biosystems, Thermo Fisher Scientific).
175 Peptides were eluted from the column using a 90–100-min gradient of acetonitrile in
176 0.1% formic acid. The lyophilized peptide mixture was re-suspended in water with
177 0.1% formic acid (v/v) and its content was estimated by UV light spectral density at
178 280 nm, then 3 µg of the digest peptides were analyzed by nano-liquid
179 chromatography-tandem mass spectrometry (LC-MS/MS) on LTQ Orbitrap Velos Pro
180 mass spectrometer [9-11]. Raw data was processed by Maxquant software (1.3) and

181 then used for database and spectral library searching using Andromeda peptide search
182 engines. The Maxquant peptide and protein quantification results files were imported
183 into Perseus software (version 1.5.1.6) for further analysis [12].

184 **RNA extraction and quantitative PCR (qPCR)**

185 RNA was extracted using TRIzol (ThermoFisher Scientific) following the
186 manufacture's protocol, and then subjected to cDNA synthesis using iScript kit
187 (Bio-rad). RNA concentration was measured using a NanoDrop2000
188 spectrophotometer (Thermo Fisher Scientific, Waltham, MA, USA). Electrophoresis
189 on 1.5% denaturing agarose gels was performed to evaluate the quality of all RNA
190 specimens. The cDNA was obtained from total RNA by reverse transcription, and the
191 final RNA concentration used in the quantitative PCR reaction was 10 ng, Real-time
192 PCR was performed using the iTag universal SYBR Green kit (Bio-rad) and
193 subsequently analyzed in a CFX Connect system (Bio-rad). Sequences of PCR
194 primers are as following: GAPDH: Forward, 5'-ACCCAGAAGACTGTGGATGG-3',
195 Reverse, 5'-TTCTAGACGGCAGGTCAGGT-3'; USP14: Forward,
196 5'-GGCGTGTGGAGATGTATAAC-3, Reverse,
197 5'-CAGCTCAGCACTATCCAGAC-3' and COPS5, Forward,
198 5'-GTCATGTGGTTGCTGTGATG-3', Reverse,
199 5'-AGGTGACGTGACTGAATGAG-3'. GAPDH were used as the endogenous
200 controls, and the $2^{-\Delta\Delta CT}$ method was used to analyze expression levels [13].

201 **Imaging**

202 In the animal studies, we used the dual tube/detector micro-CT system that has

203 been described in detail elsewhere [14]. The x-ray parameters were 80 kVp, 160 mA,
204 and 10ms per exposure, and the radiation dose associated with the micro-CT scan was
205 16 cGy. MRI experiments were performed on a Bruker BioSpec 7.0 Tesla 30 cm clear
206 bore USR (Ultra Shielded Refrigerated) horizontal bore Superconducting Magnet
207 System [15]. The Bruker-made 23-mm ID birdcage volume radiofrequency coil was
208 used for both radiofrequency excitation and receiving. Animals were anesthetized
209 throughout the imaging procedure through the inhalation of a mixture of 1.5%
210 isoflurane into medically supplied air.

211 **Statistical analysis**

212 Measurement data was expressed as mean \pm S.D. (standard deviation). Categorical
213 data were reported as numbers and percentages. Analysis of two samples was
214 performed with unpaired two-tailed Student t test for equal variance, or t test with
215 Welch's correction for heterogeneity of variance. The chi-square test was used to
216 evaluate the difference among different groups. Univariate survival analysis of overall
217 survival was carried out using the Kaplan-Meier method. Spearman's correlation
218 coefficient was used to test the relationship of two independent groups. All
219 calculations were performed with the Prism 6.0 GraphPad or SPSS 20.0 software
220 program (SPSS Inc, Chicago, IL, USA). The level of significance was set as $P < 0.05$.

221

222 **Supplementary References**

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