

Supplementary Information

Critical role of SOX2–IGF2 signaling in aggressiveness of bladder cancer

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Table S1. Univariate and multivariate analyses of clinical parameters and stem cell factors *SOX2*, *KLF4*, *MYC* and *OCT4* on recurrence-free survival in bladder cancer patients from TCGA_BLCA cohort

| Variable | | Univariate analysis | | Multivariate analysis | |
|-------------|--------------|-----------------------|----------|-----------------------|----------|
| | | Hazard ratio (95% CI) | P value | Hazard ratio (95% CI) | P value |
| Gender | Female | 1 | | 1 | |
| | Male | 0.577 (0.293-1.137) | 0.1118 | 0.629 (0.307-1.292) | 0.2072 |
| Stage | I - II | 1 | | 1 | |
| | III - IV | 2.749 (1.152-6.561) | 0.0227* | 0.687 (0.108-4.356) | 0.6901 |
| T | T0 - T1 - T2 | 1 | | 1 | |
| | T3 | 3.132 (1.297-7.562) | 0.0112* | 3.196 (0.541-18.871) | 0.1997 |
| | T4 | 2.716 (0.865-8.531) | 0.087 | 1.501 (0.209-10.776) | 0.6864 |
| N | N0 | 1 | | 1 | |
| | N1 - N2 - N3 | 2.41 (1.29-4.504) | 0.0058** | 1.833 (0.873-3.847) | 0.1093 |
| M | M0 | 1 | | 1 | |
| | M1 | 3.958 (0.927-16.894) | 0.0632 | 1.978 (0.383-10.231) | 0.4158 |
| <i>SOX2</i> | < Mean | 1 | | 1 | |
| | ≥ Mean | 2.467 (1.292-4.709) | 0.0062** | 2.966 (1.451-6.064) | 0.0029** |
| <i>KLF4</i> | < Mean | 1 | | 1 | |
| | ≥ Mean | 1.185 (0.636-2.206) | 0.5933 | 1.233 (0.595-2.557) | 0.5734 |
| <i>MYC</i> | < Mean | 1 | | 1 | |
| | ≥ Mean | 1.807 (0.942-3.463) | 0.0748 | 1.767 (0.841-3.714) | 0.1332 |
| <i>OCT4</i> | < Mean | 1 | | 1 | |
| | ≥ Mean | 0.373 (0.192-0.724) | 0.0035** | 0.432(0.215-0.869) | 0.0186* |

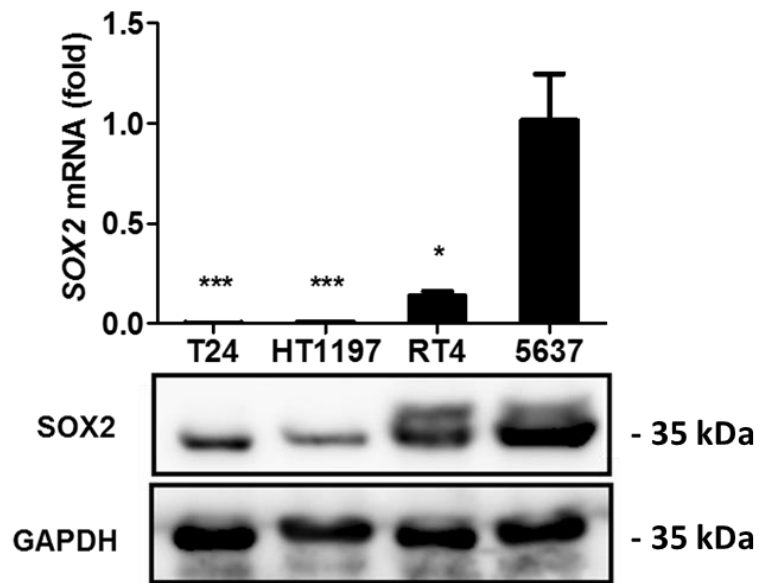


Figure S1. *SOX2* expression in bladder cancer cells.

qPCR (upper) and immunoblotting (lower) analysis to assess *SOX2* expression in bladder cancer cell line T24, HT1197, RT4, and 5637.

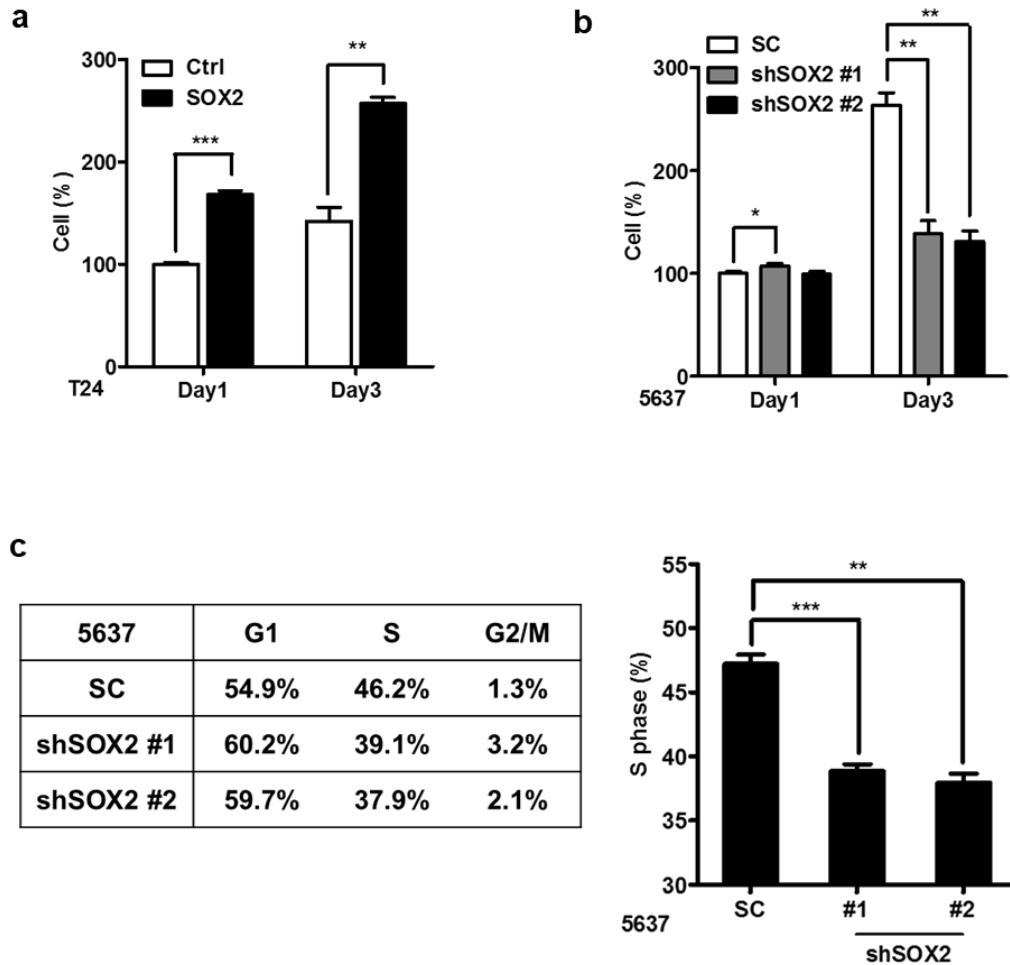


Figure S2. SOX2 regulates cell cycle progression in bladder cancer cells.

(a) AlamarBlue proliferation analysis (right) of T24 cells transduced with the lentiviral vector encoding SOX2 cDNA (SOX2) or empty control vector (Ctrl) for the indicated days. Results are the average of three replicates and expressed as the mean \pm S.D. $**P < 0.01$, $***P < 0.001$. (b) AlamarBlue proliferation analysis (right) of 5637 cells transduced with the lentiviral vector encoding shSOX2 or scrambled control vector (SC) for the indicated days. Results are the average of three replicates and expressed as the mean \pm S.D. $**P < 0.01$. The #1 and #2 indicate the two distinct shRNAs that target different regions within *SOX2*. (c) Flow cytometry analysis to assess cell-cycle distribution of all phases (left) and S phase (right) in 5637 cells transduced with the lentiviral vector encoding shRNA against *SOX2* (shSOX2) or scrambled control vector (SC). $**P < 0.01$, $***P < 0.001$. The #1 and #2 indicate the two distinct shRNAs that target different regions within *SOX2*.

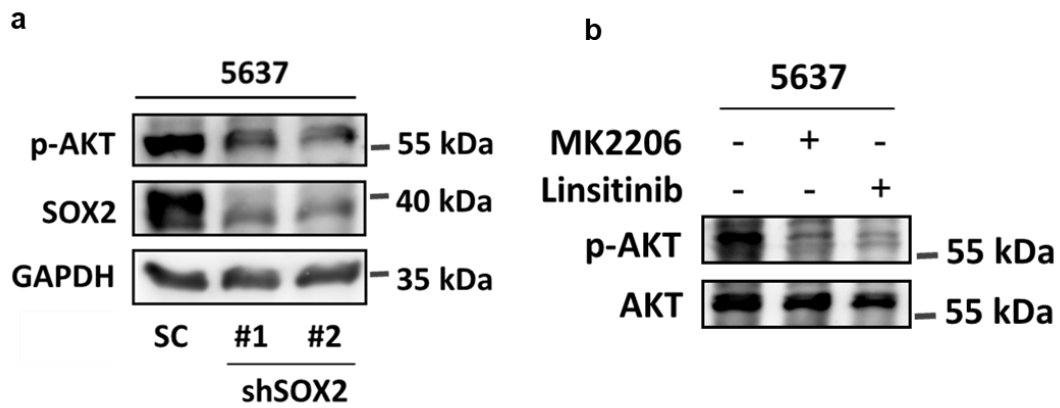


Figure S3. SOX2 regulates AKT phosphorylation.

(a) Immunoblotting analysis to assess the expression of phosphorylated AKT at Ser473 and SOX2 in 5637 cells transduced with shSOX2 or scrambled control (SC) vector (right). The #1 and #2 indicate the two distinct shRNAs that target different regions within *SOX2*. (b) Immunoblotting analysis to assess the expression of phosphorylated AKT at Ser473 and total AKT in 5637 cells treated with MK2006 (1 μ M) or linsitinib (5 μ M) for 48 hr.

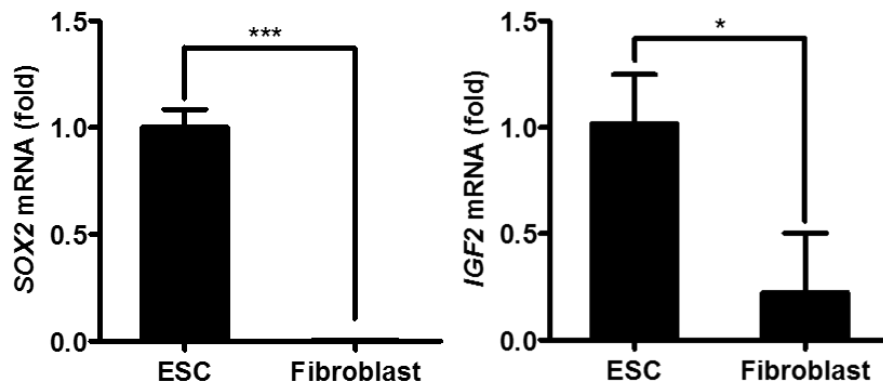


Figure S4. Differential expression of *SOX2* and *IGF2* in embryonic stem cells and fibroblasts.

qPCR analysis to assess *SOX2* (left) and *IGF2* (right) expression in ESC (H9) and derived fibroblast cells. * $P < 0.05$, *** $P < 0.001$.

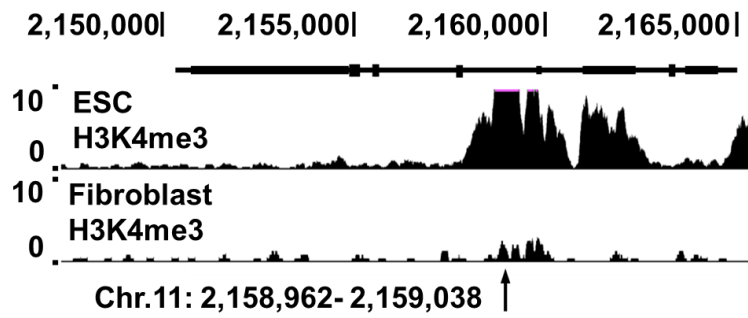
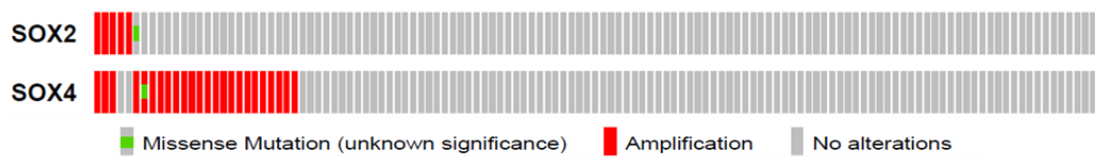


Figure S5. Differential H3K4me3 modification of *IGF2* in ESC and fibroblast.
 H3K4me3 ChIP-seq analysis of *IGF2* region in ESC (H1) and fibroblast (lung fibroblast) cells from ENCODE database. The arrow marks the region examined by ChIP-qPCR.



Genetic Alternation of Bladder Cancer

| Gene | Amplification Frequency |
|-------------|-------------------------|
| <i>SOX2</i> | 3.94% (5/127) |
| <i>SOX4</i> | 18.11% (23/127) |

Figure S6. Gene copy-number variation analysis of *SOX2* and *SOX4* in bladder tumors.

Gene copy-number variation analysis of *SOX2* and *SOX4* in bladder tumors from TCGA_BLCA (cBioPortal) cohort.

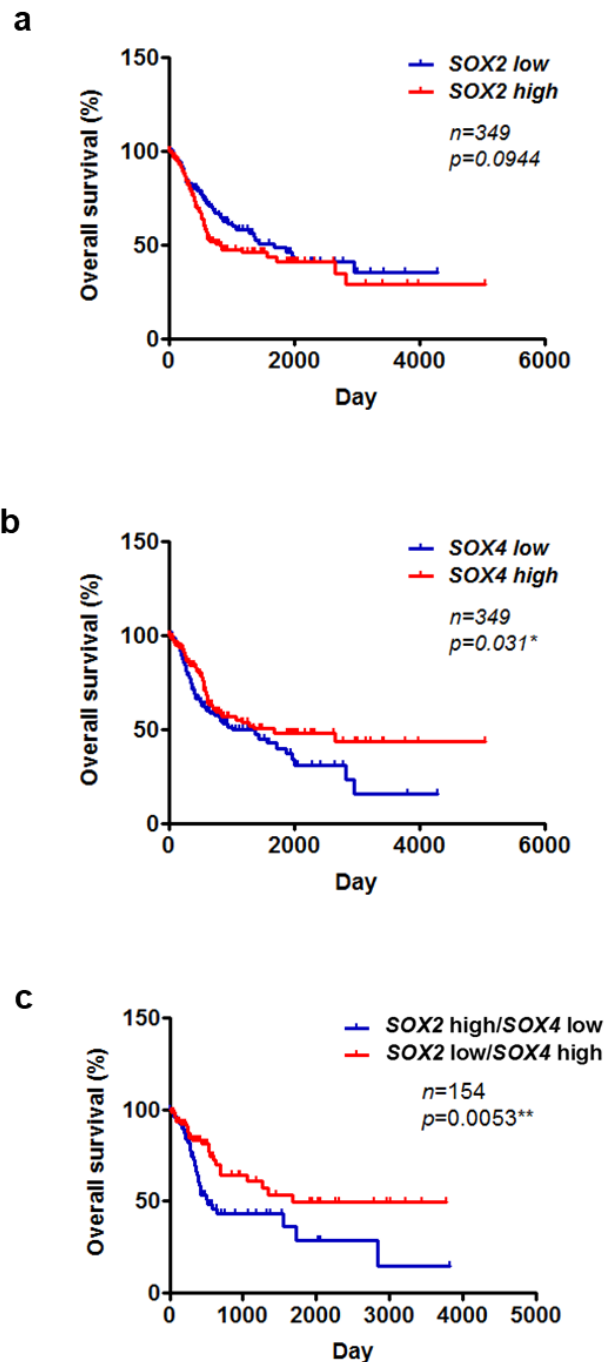


Figure S7. *SOX4* signifies a good survival in bladder cancer patients.

(a-b) Kaplan–Meier analysis of *SOX2* (a) and *SOX4* (b) expression with overall survival in patients from TCGA_BLCA cohort. The significance was examined by log-rank test. (c) Kaplan–Meier analysis to assess the correlation of *SOX2*-high/*SOX4*-low and *SOX2*-low/*SOX4*-high signatures with overall survival in patients from TCGA_BLCA cohort. The significance was examined by log-rank test.

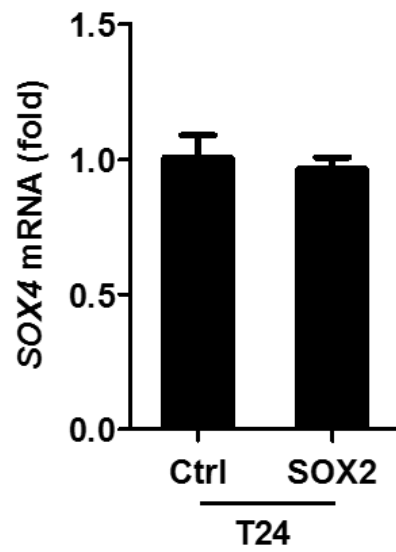


Figure S8. *SOX4* expression is not affected by *SOX2* expression in bladder cancer cells.

qPCR analysis to assess *SOX4* expression in T24 cells transduced with the lentiviral vector encoding *SOX2* cDNA (SOX2) or empty control vector (Ctrl). Results are the average of three replicates and expressed as the mean \pm S.D.

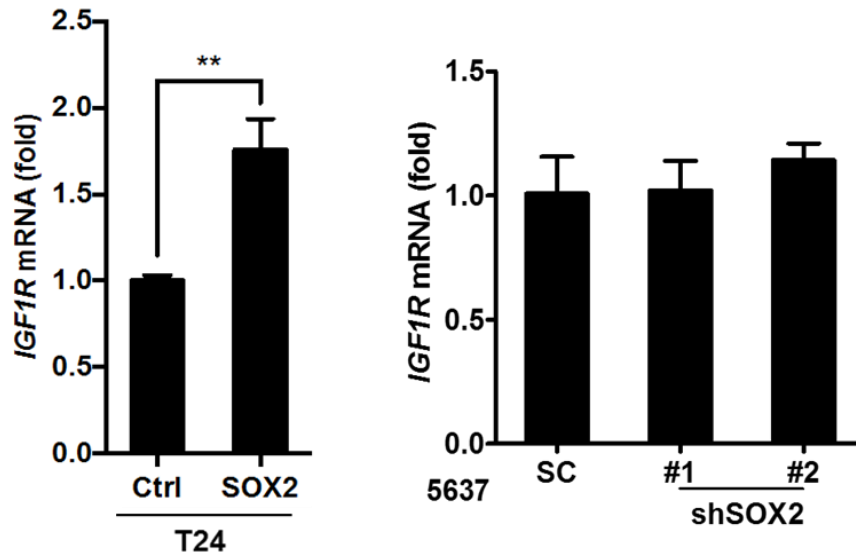


Figure S9. Effect of *SOX2* expression on *IGF1R* expression.

qPCR analysis to assess *IGF1R* expression in *SOX2*-expressing T24 cells (left) and *SOX2*-silenced 5637 cells (right). Results are the average of three replicates and expressed as the mean \pm S.D. $**P < 0.01$.

Table S2. Primer and probe sequence list

| Gene | Forward primer sequence (5' to 3') | Reverse primer sequence (5' to 3') | Probe |
|------------------------|---|---|---|
| 18S | TGGCTCATTAATCA GTTATG | CGGCATGATATTAGC TCTA | FAM-CGCTCGCT CCTCTCCTACTT G-BHQ1 |
| SOX2 | GCAGTACAACCTCCAT GAC | GAGGAAGAGGTAAC CACA | FAM-CGCAGAC CTACATGAACG GC-BHQ |
| IGF2 | CCAGAAGAGCTTGT CAGCAA | AGGACCTGCCATCAT ACTGC | UPL#52 |
| IGF1R | TTCAGCGCTGCTGAT GTG | AAGTTCCCGGCTCAT GGT | UPL#7 |
| IGFBP1 | AATGGATTTTATCAC AGCAGACAG | GGTAGACGCACCAG CAGAGT | UPL#58 |
| IGF2 (ChIP) | GCGTCTGCCATGACT CCT | GAGACCGCGAGAGG AAGAC | UPL#58 |

Table S3. The clinicopathologic information of bladder cancer tissues from BLC661 tissue array (US BIOMAX)

| Case no. | Sex | Age | Organ | Pathology diagnosis | Type | Grade | TMN | IHC score | | | Expression |
|----------|-----|-----|---------|---------------------|-----------|-------|---------|-----------|----|-----|------------|
| | | | | | | | | PS | IS | Sum | |
| 1 | M | 27 | Bladder | TCC | Malignant | I | TisN0M0 | 4 | 2 | 6 | Positive |
| 2 | M | 50 | Bladder | TCC | Malignant | I | T1N0M0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | Negative |
| 3 | F | 49 | Bladder | TCC | Malignant | I | T1N0M0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | Negative |
| 4 | M | 67 | Bladder | TCC | Malignant | I | T1N0M0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | Negative |
| 5 | F | 51 | Bladder | TCC | Malignant | II | T1N0M0 | 2 | 1 | 3 | Positive |
| 6 | M | 57 | Bladder | TCC | Malignant | I | T1N0M0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | Negative |
| 7 | M | 47 | Bladder | TCC | Malignant | I | T2N0M0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | Negative |
| 8 | M | 54 | Bladder | TCC | Malignant | II | T2N0M0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | Negative |
| 9 | M | 45 | Bladder | TCC | Malignant | II | T1N0M0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | Negative |
| 10 | M | 74 | Bladder | TCC | Malignant | II | T2N0M0 | 2 | 2 | 4 | Positive |
| 11 | M | 51 | Bladder | TCC | Malignant | II | T1N0M0 | 2 | 1 | 3 | Positive |
| 12 | M | 80 | Bladder | TCC | Malignant | II | T2N0M0 | 1 | 1 | 2 | Positive |
| 13 | F | 53 | Bladder | TCC | Malignant | I | T1N0M0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | Negative |
| 14 | M | 37 | Bladder | TCC | Malignant | III | T2N0M0 | 3 | 3 | 6 | Positive |
| 15 | M | 55 | Bladder | TCC | Malignant | I | T4N2MX | 0 | 0 | 0 | Negative |
| 16 | M | 52 | Bladder | TCC | Malignant | II | T1N0M0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | Negative |
| 17 | M | 78 | Bladder | TCC | Malignant | II | T1N0M0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | Negative |
| 18 | M | 64 | Bladder | TCC | Malignant | III | T3N2M1 | 4 | 3 | 7 | Positive |
| 19 | M | 70 | Bladder | TCC | Malignant | III | T2N0M0 | 3 | 2 | 5 | Positive |
| 20 | M | 61 | Bladder | TCC | Malignant | III | T2N0M0 | 4 | 2 | 6 | Positive |
| 21 | M | 61 | Bladder | TCC | Malignant | III | T1N0M0 | 3 | 2 | 5 | Positive |
| 22 | F | 39 | Bladder | TCC | Malignant | III | T2N0M0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | Negative |

TCC: Transitional cell carcinoma
PS: Percentage score (0-5)
IS: Intensity score (0-3)

Table S4. Public domain data used in this study

| Dataset | Patient Number | Clinical Outcome | PMID | Source [reference] |
|----------------|-----------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|
| TCGA_BLCA | 279 | OS RFS | | UCSC cancer browser [1] |
| GSE32894 | 308 | DFS Grade | 22553347 | GEO browser [2] |
| GSE73211 | | gene expression | 26501951 | GEO browser [2] |
| ENCODE | | H3K4me3 epigenetic regulation | 22955616 | ENCODE [3] |
| cBioPortal | 127 | gene alternation | 22588877 23550210 | cBioProtal [4] |

[1] <https://genome.ucsc.edu/>

[2] <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/geo/query/acc.cgi?acc=GSE32894>

[3] <https://www.encodeproject.org>

[4] <http://www.cbioportal.org>

Table S5. Spheroid analysis of three independent assays in Figure 3b

| T24 | Day1 | | Day17 | |
|-----|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| | Ctrl (0.1 mm ³) | SOX2 (0.1 mm ³) | Ctrl (0.1 mm ³) | SOX2 (0.1 mm ³) |
| 1st | 3.51 | 3.08 | 1.16 | 2.00 |
| | 3.06 | 3.03 | 1.01 | 2.57 |
| | 4.18 | 2.69 | 0.81 | 2.31 |
| 2nd | 2.92 | 3.51 | 0.48 | 2.97 |
| | 2.75 | 3.17 | 0.48 | 2.52 |
| | 3.51 | 3.32 | 0.49 | 3.01 |
| 3rd | 4.43 | 4.23 | 1.56 | 2.62 |
| | 4.00 | 4.44 | 2.05 | 3.01 |
| | 4.50 | 3.39 | 2.34 | 3.14 |

Table S6. 3D colony-forming analysis of three independent assays in Figure 3f and 5f

| | T24-SOX2 (μm) | | |
|-------------------|----------------------------|-------|-------|
| | - | + | - |
| MK2206 | - | + | - |
| Linsitinib | - | - | + |
| | 80.60 | 35.74 | 61.85 |
| 1st | 73.92 | 34.01 | 48.69 |
| | 69.98 | 40.86 | 41.78 |
| | 69.86 | 40.66 | 31.09 |
| 2nd | 68.56 | 43.69 | 31.87 |
| | 67.31 | 38.35 | 36.29 |
| | 59.28 | 33.24 | 29.77 |
| 3rd | 48.06 | 28.32 | 31.28 |
| | 46.54 | 35.85 | 29.95 |

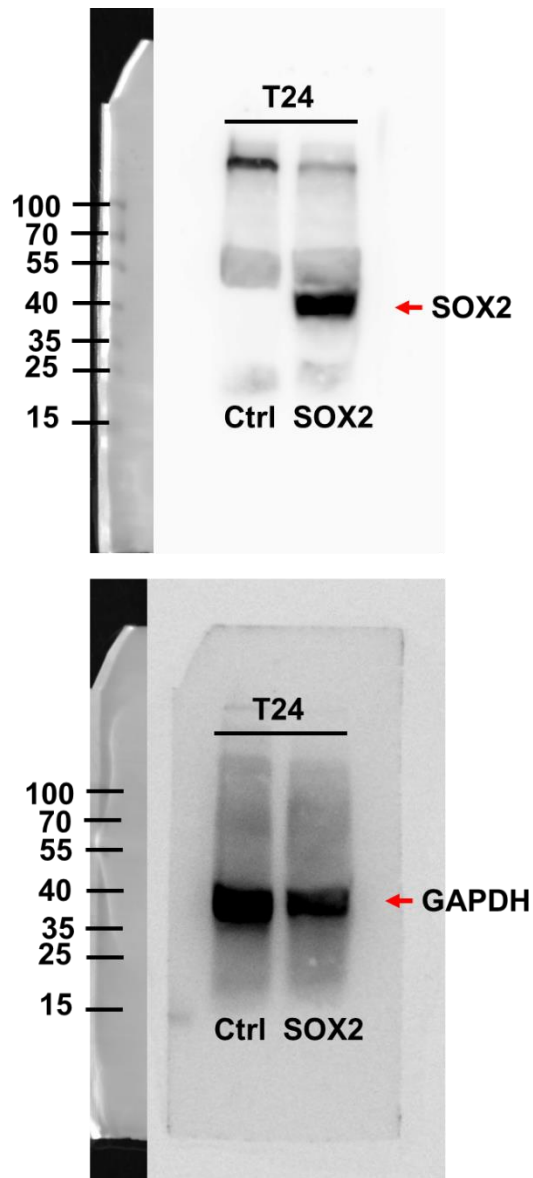


Figure S10. The images of full-length blots of western analysis performed on *SOX2*-expressing (SOX2) and control (Ctrl) T24 cells in Figure 2a.

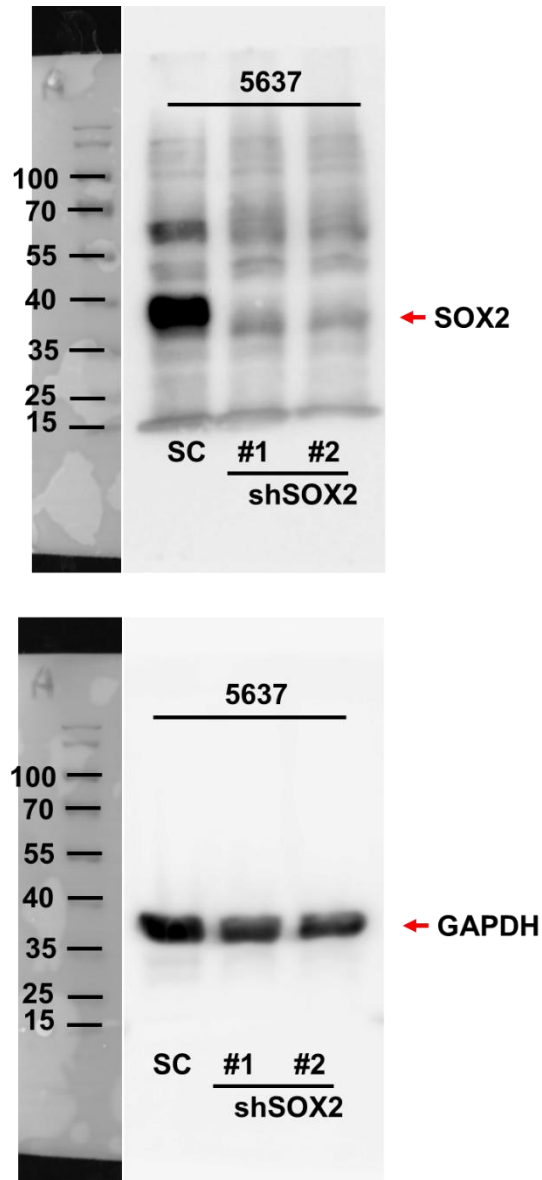


Figure S11. The images of full-length blots of western analysis performed on 5637 cells transduced with shSOX2 or scrambled control (SC) vector in Figure 2b.

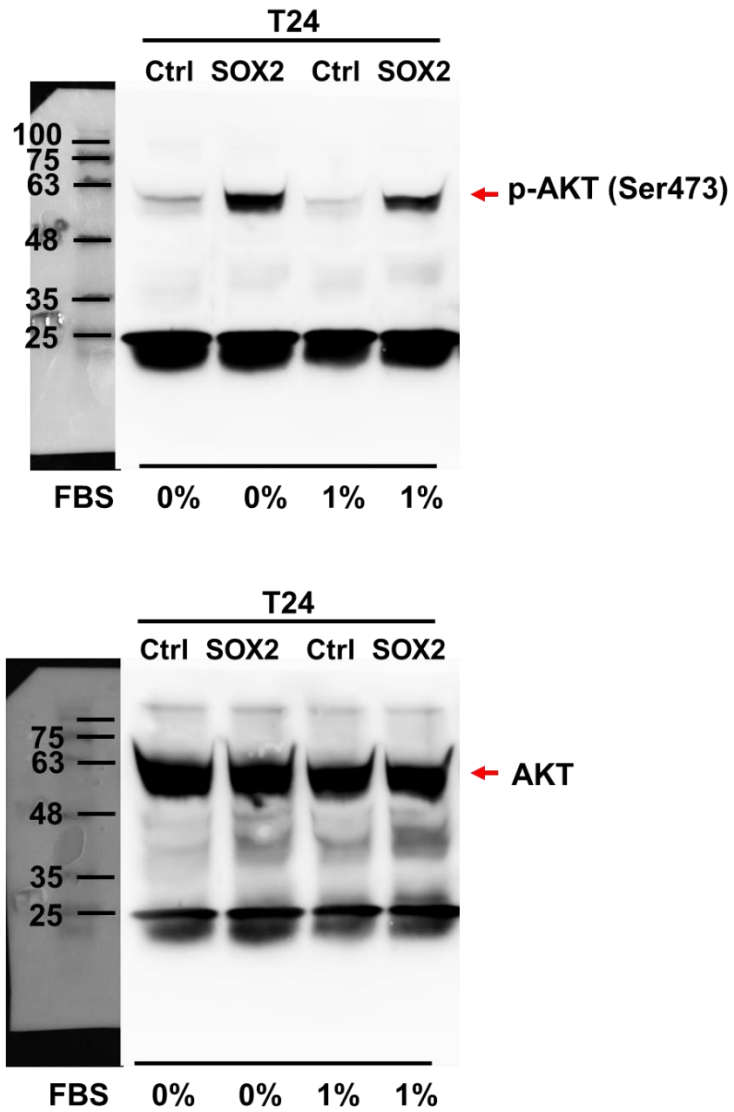


Figure S12. The images of full-length blots of western analysis performed on *SOX2*-expressing (SOX2) and control (Ctrl) T24 cells in Figure 3d.

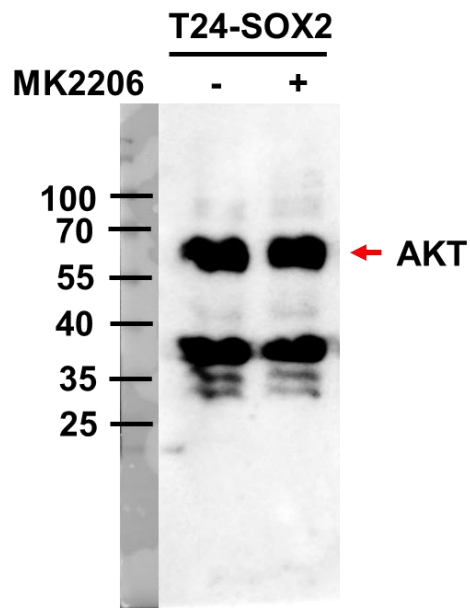
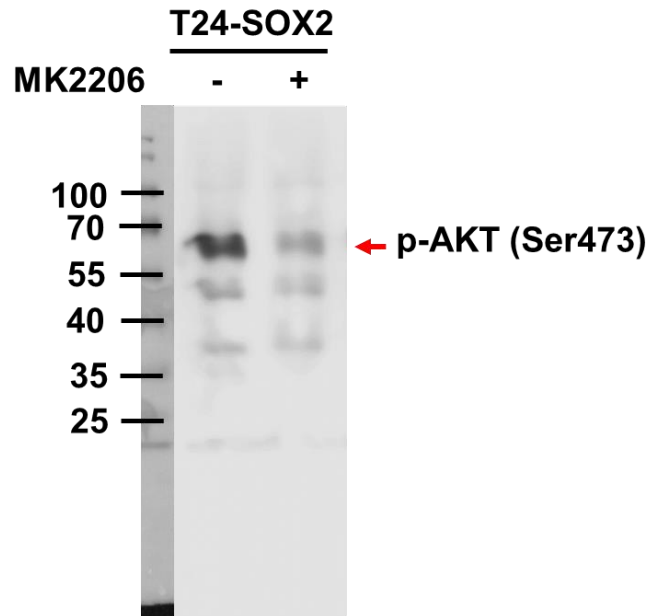


Figure S13. The images of full-length blots of western analysis performed on *SOX2*-expressing T24 cells in Figure 3e.

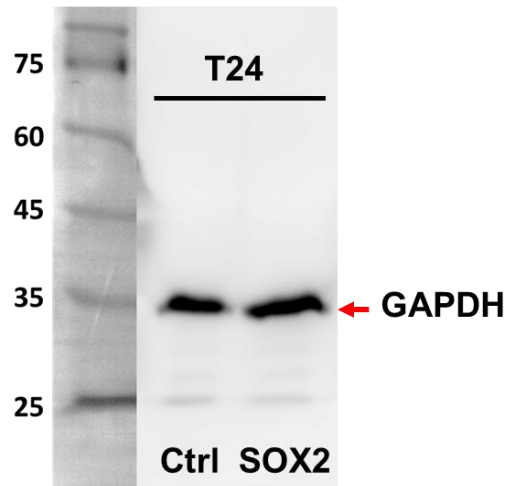
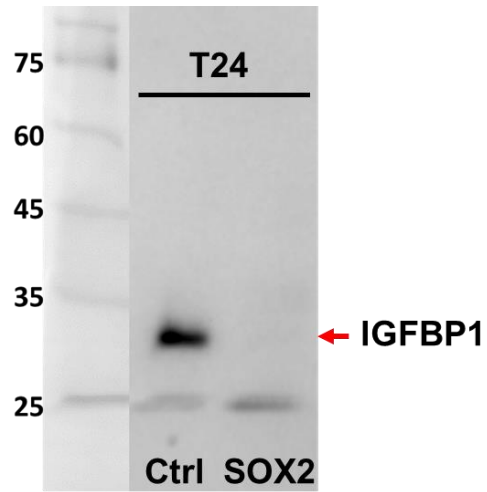


Figure S14. The images of full-length blots of western analysis performed on SOX2-expressing (SOX2) and control (Ctrl) T24 cells in Figure 4e (left).

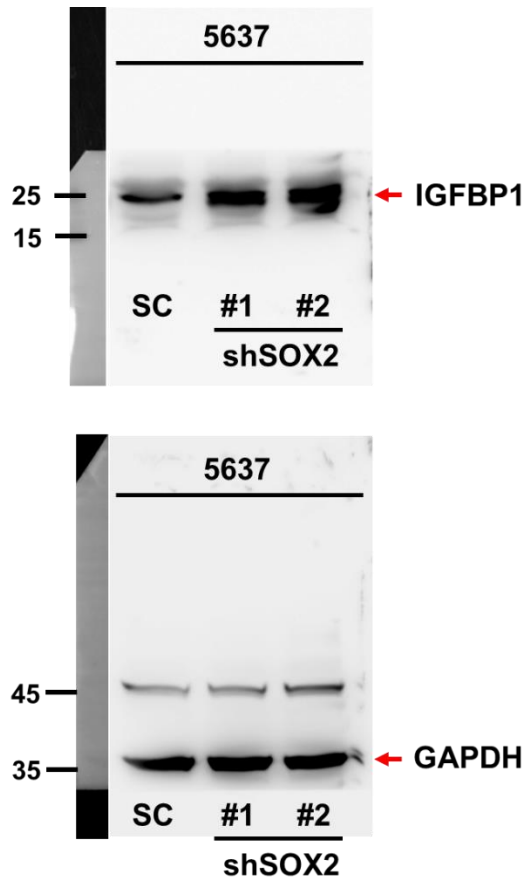


Figure S15. The images of full-length blots of western analysis performed on 5637 cells transduced with shSOX2 or scrambled control (SC) vector in Figure 4e (right).

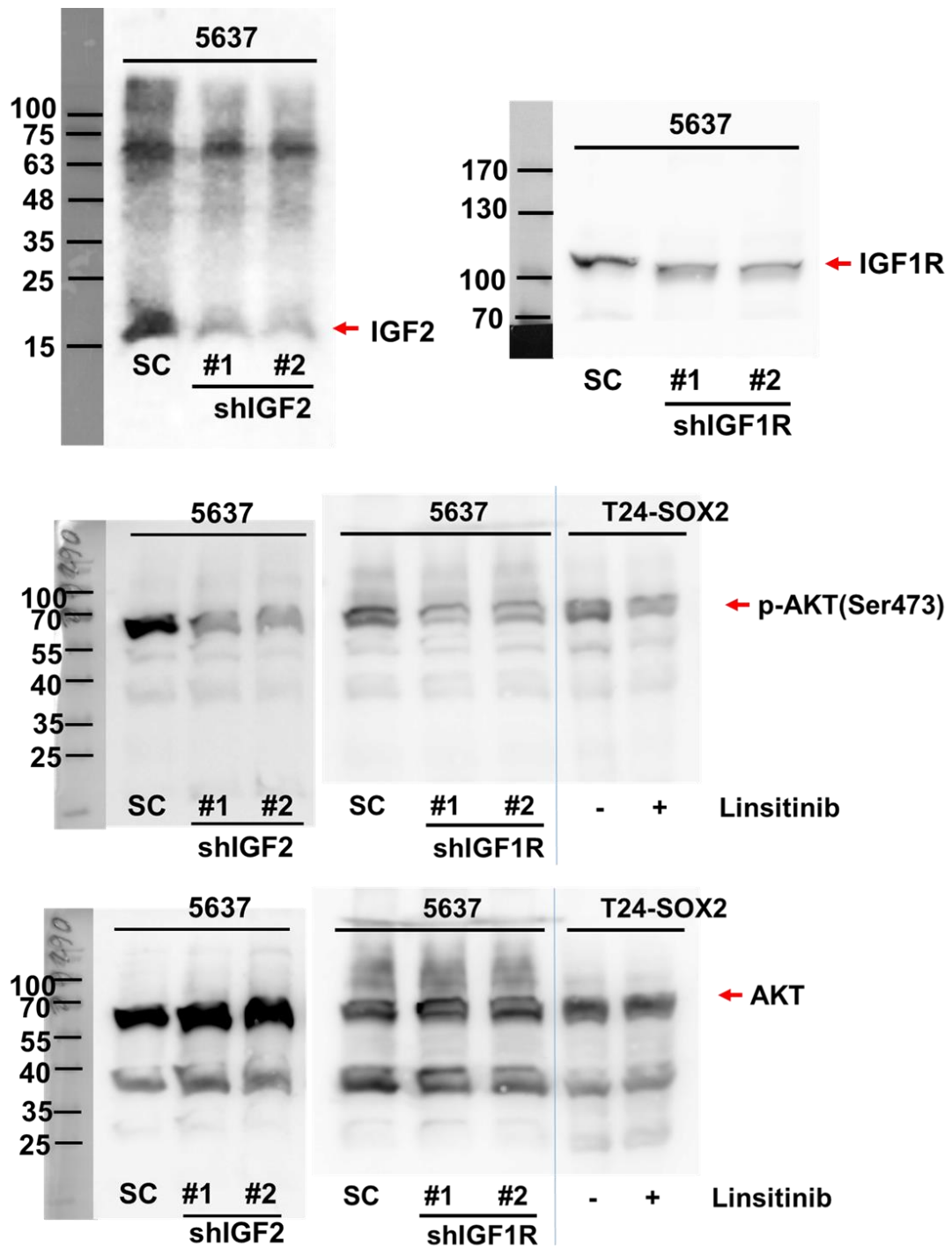


Figure S16. The images of full-length blots of western analysis performed on multiple cell lines presented in Figure 5a and 5c.

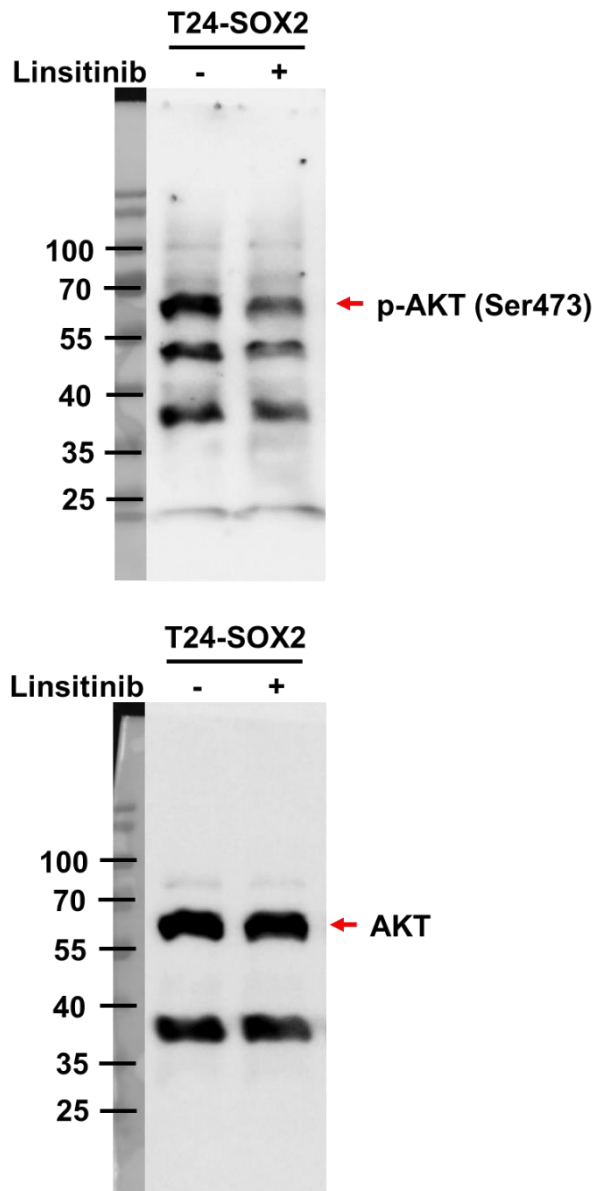


Figure S17. The images of full-length blots of western analysis performed on *SOX2*-expressing T24 cells presented in the Figure 5e.