

**Supplementary Fig. 2.** (A) Colony formation assay in BCAHC-1 cells exposed to vehicle, 100nM E2 or 10nM insulin (Ins) alone and in combination with 1μM ERα antagonist ICI 182,780 (ICI) and 1μM IR inhibitor OSI-906. (B) After 10 days of treatment, the plates were stained with Giemsa, and colonies were counted. (C) The up-regulation of IL11 protein levels induced by 8 h treatment with 100nM E2 and 10nM insulin (Ins) is prevented silencing ERα46 expression. Side panel shows densitometric analysis of the blot normalized to β-actin. Representative immunoblot of the efficacy of ERα silencing is shown in supplementary figure 1 (panel M). Values represent the mean  $\pm$  SD of three independent experiments performed in triplicate. (\*) indicates p < 0.05 for cells exposed to treatments versus vehicle (–).