









Fig. S3. Validation of GCaMP6s-SMO-mCherry-FLAG reporter and the effect of extracellular Ca²⁺.

a. Left panel: confocal microscopy images of ciliary localization of GCaMP6s-SMO-mCherry-FLAG upon treatment with ShhN, SAG or cyclopamine. NIH3T3 cells transfected with GCaMP6s-SMO-mCherry-FLAG and 5-hydroxytryptamine subtype 6 receptor (5HT6)-SNAP (a marker for primary cilia) plasmids grown in round-bottom dish were allowed to reach confluent and serum starved in 0.5% FCS overnight. Then cells were treated with ShhN-conditioned medium (1:6), SAG (100 μ M) or cyclopamine (5 μ M) for 4 hours. 1 hour before imaging, SNAP-Cell 647-SiR (1 μ M) substrate was used to label cells for 30 min and was washed out. Images were taken after 30 min. Bar = 5 μ m. Right panel: Quantification of ciliary SMO intensities upon indicated treatment. *n* = 20. **b.** Analysis of GCaMP6s-SMO-FLAG cholesterylation in HEK-293T cells. **c.** Gli-luciferase activity of SMO(WT) and GCaMP6s-SMO-mCherry in *Smo*-null NIH3T3 cells.

d. Representative confocal images of GCaMP6s intensities in NIH3T3 cells in different concentrations of Ca²⁺-containing media. Related to Fig. 2e. Bar=10 μ m. **e.** Effect of extracellular Ca²⁺ on ShhN-PTCH1 interaction. ShhN-FLAG were produced in HEK-293T cells transfected with pCMV-ShhN(1-198)-FLAG as a secreted protein, concentrated 50 folds, and dialyzed against PBS. NIH3T3 cells were transfected with the cilium-retention mouse PTCH1(PY)-eGFP (harboring Y631F/Y1320F mutations) cDNA and let grown to sub-confluent. Cells were serum-starved in 0.5% FCS overnight and treated with or without 1:50 diluted ShhN-FLAG supernatant in Ca²⁺-free or Ca²⁺-containing media. Cells were then briefly rinsed twice with cold PBS, fixed with 4% PFA, and stained with anti-FLAG antibody. Bar=2 μ m.

f. Quantification of ciliary ShhN in e. n=20 per condition.

g. SAG-induced *Gli1* expression is independent of extracellular Ca^{2+} concentration. Sub-confluent NIH3T3 cells were serum-starved in 0.5% FCS overnight and switched to normal DMEM or Ca^{2+} -free DMEM containing indicated concentration of SAG. Cells were harvested for RNA extraction after 6 hours. Error bars represent s.d..

p=0.2944, Two-way ANOVA with Tukey's test.