

Reporting Summary

Nature Portfolio wishes to improve the reproducibility of the work that we publish. This form provides structure for consistency and transparency in reporting. For further information on Nature Portfolio policies, see our [Editorial Policies](#) and the [Editorial Policy Checklist](#).

Statistics

For all statistical analyses, confirm that the following items are present in the figure legend, table legend, main text, or Methods section.

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| n/a | Confirmed |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The exact sample size (n) for each experimental group/condition, given as a discrete number and unit of measurement |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A statement on whether measurements were taken from distinct samples or whether the same sample was measured repeatedly |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The statistical test(s) used AND whether they are one- or two-sided
<i>Only common tests should be described solely by name; describe more complex techniques in the Methods section.</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> A description of all covariates tested |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A description of any assumptions or corrections, such as tests of normality and adjustment for multiple comparisons |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A full description of the statistical parameters including central tendency (e.g. means) or other basic estimates (e.g. regression coefficient) AND variation (e.g. standard deviation) or associated estimates of uncertainty (e.g. confidence intervals) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> For null hypothesis testing, the test statistic (e.g. F , t , r) with confidence intervals, effect sizes, degrees of freedom and P value noted
<i>Give P values as exact values whenever suitable.</i> |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> For Bayesian analysis, information on the choice of priors and Markov chain Monte Carlo settings |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> For hierarchical and complex designs, identification of the appropriate level for tests and full reporting of outcomes |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Estimates of effect sizes (e.g. Cohen's d , Pearson's r), indicating how they were calculated |

Our web collection on [statistics for biologists](#) contains articles on many of the points above.

Software and code

Policy information about [availability of computer code](#)

Data collection

Data analysis

For manuscripts utilizing custom algorithms or software that are central to the research but not yet described in published literature, software must be made available to editors and reviewers. We strongly encourage code deposition in a community repository (e.g. GitHub). See the Nature Portfolio [guidelines for submitting code & software](#) for further information.

Data

Policy information about [availability of data](#)

All manuscripts must include a [data availability statement](#). This statement should provide the following information, where applicable:

- Accession codes, unique identifiers, or web links for publicly available datasets
- A description of any restrictions on data availability
- For clinical datasets or third party data, please ensure that the statement adheres to our [policy](#)

Field-specific reporting

Please select the one below that is the best fit for your research. If you are not sure, read the appropriate sections before making your selection.

Life sciences Behavioural & social sciences Ecological, evolutionary & environmental sciences

For a reference copy of the document with all sections, see [nature.com/documents/nr-reporting-summary-flat.pdf](https://www.nature.com/documents/nr-reporting-summary-flat.pdf)

Life sciences study design

All studies must disclose on these points even when the disclosure is negative.

Sample size	Sample sizes were chosen according to standard practice in the field. A minimum of three biological repeats for cell biology assays was used to allow statistical analysis of variability. When performing FACS analysis, a minimum of 10,000 events per sample was captured to minimise sampling errors. Three technical replicates per biological replicate were chosen for the RT-PCR assays to assess and control for assay variability. The number of metaphase spreads counted per sample was a function of the number of mitotic cells in the population. Bioinformatic analysis of cancer genomics (mRNA, mutations, copy number) made use of all publicly available data, which therefore defined the sample size.
Data exclusions	No data exclusions.
Replication	Reproducibility was tested using biological replicates for cell biology experiments and all experiments in the main figures were performed a minimum of three independent times. Principle component analysis was used to assess the reproducibility of the proteomic data. In addition, varying doses, time points and drugs were used to interrogate reproducibility (with a minimum of three independent experiments per condition), and results were consistent.
Randomization	Randomization was not relevant to this study because samples were not assigned to groups in the experimental design used here.
Blinding	Blinding was not used in this study because the majority of assays did not rely on subjective analysis that would be biased by the identification of samples (e.g. FACS profiles, CGH, RT-PCR and proteomic analysis). Where readouts relied on subjective assessment (e.g. microscopy), the morphology of the cells was altered in the KO, so identifiable even if blinding was used.

Reporting for specific materials, systems and methods

We require information from authors about some types of materials, experimental systems and methods used in many studies. Here, indicate whether each material, system or method listed is relevant to your study. If you are not sure if a list item applies to your research, read the appropriate section before selecting a response.

Materials & experimental systems

Methods

n/a	Involved in the study	n/a	Involved in the study
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Antibodies	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> ChIP-seq
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Eukaryotic cell lines	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Flow cytometry
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Palaeontology and archaeology	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> MRI-based neuroimaging
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Animals and other organisms		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Human research participants		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Clinical data		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Dual use research of concern		

Antibodies

Antibodies used	Brg-1 (G-7), Santa Cruz Biotechnology, sc-17796, Lot:H1314 alpha-tubulin {DMI A}, Abcam, Ab7291, Lot: GR310199-2 p21 Waf1/Cip1 (12D1), Cell signalling, 2947S, Lot:11 INO80, Bethyl, A303-371A PICH, Millipore, 04-1540 Rabbit anti-Mouse HRP, DAKO, P0260 Goat anti-Rabbit HRP, DAKO, P0448
Validation	Validation of primary antibodies: 1. BRG1 antibody: https://www.scbt.com/p/brg-1-antibody-h-10 Specific for an epitope mapping between amino acids 115-149, recognises human, mouse and rat according to manufacturer. In our lab, validated using siRNA of BRG1 and IP followed by Mass Spec. 2. Alpha-tubulin: https://www.abcam.com/alpha-Tubulin-antibody-DM1A-Loading-Control-ab7291.html Recognises human, rat and mouse according to manufacturer. 3. p21 antibody: https://www.scbt.com/p/p21-antibody-f-8

Specific for aa124-164 of human p21, recognises human, mouse and rat according to manufacturer.

4. INO80 antibody: <https://www.thermofisher.com/antibody/product/INO80-Antibody-Polyclonal/A303-371A>

Recognises human INO80 according to manufacturer. Validated using siRNA of INO80 to show specificity of signal in our lab.

5. PICH antibody: https://www.merckmillipore.com/GB/en/product/Anti-PICH-Antibody-clone-142-26-3,MM_NF-04-1540

Recognises human PICH, validated in WB, IP and ICC according to manufacturer.

Eukaryotic cell lines

Policy information about [cell lines](#)

Cell line source(s)	HCT116 (ATCC)
Authentication	Validation using cell morphology, proliferation characteristics and CGH-array analysis.
Mycoplasma contamination	All cell lines were negative for mycoplasma contamination.
Commonly misidentified lines (See ICLAC register)	No commonly misidentified cell lines were used.

Flow Cytometry

Plots

Confirm that:

- The axis labels state the marker and fluorochrome used (e.g. CD4-FITC).
- The axis scales are clearly visible. Include numbers along axes only for bottom left plot of group (a 'group' is an analysis of identical markers).
- All plots are contour plots with outliers or pseudocolor plots.
- A numerical value for number of cells or percentage (with statistics) is provided.

Methodology

Sample preparation	Cell line fixed with 70% ethanol.
Instrument	BD LSR II Flow Cytometer (BD Biosciences)
Software	BD FACSDiva Flowjo v10.1
Cell population abundance	Around 10000 single cells were used for the cell cycle profile analysis.
Gating strategy	Single cell population was selected through preliminary FSC-A/SSC-A gating followed by PE TxRed-A/PE TxRed-W gating.

Tick this box to confirm that a figure exemplifying the gating strategy is provided in the Supplementary Information.