Supplementary Information for

SOX2-p63 interaction and genomic co-localization

in squamous cell carcinomas

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Supplementary Data

Supplemental Table 1. Identified peptides in SOX2-interacting complex / Pluripotency proteins …………………………………………………...………….Provided as an Excel file Supplemental Table 2. Gene expression correlation with SOX2 of SOX2-associated proteins ……….....…………………………………………………………........………….…10 Supplemental Table 3. SOX2-p63 target genes ………………………........…………..…11 Supplemental Table 4. 2,523 genes targeted by 2,426 SOX2-p63 peaks ……………………………………………………......……………….Provided as an Excel file Supplemental Table 5. 93 SOX2-p63 target genes downregulated by shSOX2 and shTP63………………………………………………………...….………………...………….12

Supplemental Figure 1.

SOX2 binding sites in 3q-amplified SCC cells and in hES cells are enriched for SOX2 motifs and distinct from each other. (A) Estimated copy numbers at chromosome 3q segment containing the SOX2 and TP63 loci from SNP array 6.0 data for three SCC lines used in this study. (B) Appearance of SOX2 DNA binding motif is plotted around the summit of SOX2 binding peaks in the three SCC cell lines and the H9 ES cell line. The motif is highly enriched within 100bp from the SOX2 peak centers in all samples. (C) Overlap of SOX2 occupancy between SCC cells (composite data), H1 ES cell (analyzed with published data from Lister et al.) and H9 ES cell is depicted in Venn diagram (left). Overlaps of SOX2 occupancy in individual SCC cells and H9 cell with H1 ES cell (right).

Supplemental Figure 2.

(A) Expressions of endogenous SOX2 and ectopic FLAG-HA-tagged SOX2 in the whole cell lysate of parental and stable three SCC lines are determined by immunoblotting with anti-SOX2 antibody and quantitation for each signal is shown below the immunoblots. (B) IgG control staining of endogenous SOX2 in parental and stable TT cells. Expression of ectopic FLAG-HA-tagged SOX2 and endogenous SOX2 are determined by immunofluorescence with anti-FLAG and anti-IgG antibodies, nuclei (DAPI) and merge figures are also shown. (C) (left) Separation of soluble and insoluble nuclear extracts were confirmed by immunoblotting with antibodies against known soluble nuclear (PARP), insoluble chromatin Histone H3 markers as well as SOX2 in FLAG-HA-SOX2-TT cells. Proteins from soluble nuclear and chromatin extracts were loaded to represent the same amount of cells or 10 times for chromatin. (right) Representative relative expression of SOX2 in nuclear fraction and chromatin fraction in TT cells following IP determined by immunoblotting with anti-SOX2 antibody. (D) Venn diagram depicting the overlaps of proteins identified in any of the three SCC cell lines (blue), the subset of 45 common SOX2 binding partners found across all three cell lines (green) and proteins previously identified as pluripotent interactome (pink).

Supplemental Figure 3.

(A) Scatter plot of copy number (X-axis) and gene expression (Y-axis) of the SOX2 gene (left) and the TP63 gene (right) in lung SCCs from TCGA project. (B) Isoforms of p63 expressed in the three SCC lines were determined by immunoblotting with an anti-p63 antibody that detect all isoforms of p63 and compared to the migration of ectopically expressed two isoforms (TAp63α and ΔNp63α) with FLAG-tag in 293T cells immunoblotted with anti-FLAG antibody. All samples were run on the same gel, transferred to a membrane and probed with each indicated antibody. Images were then merged to retain the same migrated position. (C) Antibody against endogenous SOX2 co-immunopreciptates p63 in KYSE70 cells with inducible sh TP63 and the corresponding p63 band was reduced upon suppression of TP63. Longer and shorter exposure for p63 immunoblots are shown.

Supplemental Figure 4.

SOX2 and p63 share common genomic binding loci in SCC cell lines. (A) Appearance of p63 DNA binding motif is plotted around the summit of p63 binding peaks in the three SCC lines. The p63 motif is highly enriched within 50bp from the p63 peaks. (B) Venn diagrams depict overlaps between SOX2 and p63 binding sites by ChIP-seq in each of the three SCC lines (top) as well as in a composite analysis using ChIP-seq data from all three SCC lines (bottom). All peaks were determined with the p-value threshold $\lt 1x10^{-5}$. The overlaps of the peaks (each approximately 500-800 bp in size) for SOX2 and p63 in the three cell lines were 13.3%-25.5%. (C) Venn diagram depicts overlaps of the SOX2-p63 overlapping binding sites in each SCC line.

AP1 motifs near high-confidence SOX2 peaks in SCC

B

A

Supplemental Figure 5.

SOX2 binding peaks without p63 occupancy in SCC are enriched for AP-1 binding motif. (A) Motif analysis of recurrent SOX2 peaks without p63 binding in SOX2-amplified SCC lines reveals significant enrichment of SOX2 motif (p=6.4e⁻²²⁴) as well as AP-1 transcriptional response element ($p=1.3e^{-83}$). (B) Appearance of AP-1 DNA binding motifs is plotted around the SOX2 motif near the summit of high-confidence SOX2-p63 co-occupied peaks in the composite SCC ChIP data (left) and recurrent SOX2 peaks without p63 occupancy (right) showing enrichment of the AP-1 motif within 50 bp from the SOX2 motif only in SOX2 peaks without p63 co-occupancy. (C) Appearance of AP-1 DNA binding motif is plotted around the SOX2 motif near the summit of all SOX2 binding peaks in the H9 ES cell line (left) and the three SCC lines (right) showing enrichment of the AP-1 motif within 50 bp from the SOX2 motif in SOX2 peaks in all three SCC lines. (D) ChIP enrichment of JunD in KYSE70 and TT cells at three candidate SOX2-occupied sites with adjacent AP-1 motif (SOX2-AP1 motif loci) as well as negative control regions (HGB1 promoter, HOXC8 promoter, and a SOX2-occupied SOX2 enhancer without adjacent AP-1 motif (SOX2+)) and a positive control locus for AP-1 binding regions (CREB5 promoter) by qPCR. Percent recovery of input for ChIP was calculated based on 10% non-IP DNA sample for each experiment. Mean $%$ recovery \pm s.d. of triplicates are shown. * denotes P < 0.05 in two-way ANOVA-test with Bonferroni's post-test correction.

Supplemental Figure 6.

SOX2 and p63 cooperatively regulate gene expression and ETV4 is essential for SOX2-amplified SCC cells. (A) Venn diagram depicts the overlap between the 2,523 genes with high-confidence SOX2-p63 co-occupied ChIP peaks within 50kb from their TSS, genes whose expression is upregulated (>1.5 fold) upon *SOX2* suppression, and genes whose expression is upregulated (>1.5 fold) upon *TP63* suppression in KYSE70 cells RNA-seq data. See Supplemental Table S6 for 95 genes at the intersection. (B) Cell growth curve of TT cells after seeding following infection of two independent shRNAs against ETV4 or one shRNA against LacZ as control. The plots represent mean cell viabilities \pm s.d. of cell plated in six wells and* denotes P < 0.0001 for sum-of-squares F-test of exponential growth model compared to shLacZ control. Immunoblots for ETV4 protein and β-actin in the lysates from corresponding TT cells with shRNAs are shown.

Supplemental Table S2. Gene expression correlation with SOX2 of SOX2-associated proteins

Supplemental Table S3. SOX2-p63 target genes

Supplemental Table S5: 93 SOX2-p63 target genes downregulated by sh*SOX2* **and sh***TP63*

Supplemental Table S6: 95 SOX2-p63 target genes upregulated by sh*SOX2* **and sh***TP63*

Supplemental Table S7. shRNA sequences

Supplemental Table S8. Primers for PCR

Primers for quantitative RT-PCR 18S Forward GTAACCCGTTGAACCCCATT 18S Reverse CCATCCAATCGGTAGTAGCG *ETV4* Forward TGGAAATCAGGAACAAACTGC *ETV4* R GCCCCTCGACTCTGAAGAT Primers for ChIP-qPCR *HGB1* F -435 ACACTAATCTATTACTGCGCTG *HGB1* R -637 CCAGGATTTTTGACGGGAC *HOXC8* F -506 TGCTGGCTCAGGTATCTCTCT *HOXC8* R -391 **GCTAATGGCTGGGGCCAGTT**

SOX2 F -1587 GGATAACATTGTACTGGGAAGGGACA *SOX2* R -1787 CAAAGTTTCTTTTATTCGTATGTGTGAGCA *CDC42EP3* F "-4k" TCGTTCTGTTCTTGCTGGGT *CDC42EP3* R "-4k" AAGCCTTCTACTTTGCCTCAA **SOX2 F "+200k"** TTCCTGTTTGGCAGGACCTT *SOX2* R "+200k" AGCAATAATCGGCCAGCCTT *HDAC9* F "+13k" ATGCCTCATGGGGTTTTCCC *HDAC9* R "+13k" GATAAAGGCTTCCCCACCCC *CREB5* F -47 ATCGCTTGGCCTGGAATCAA *CREB5* R +70 ATTCCCTCCTGAGGTGCAGA

ETV4 P1 F CGCTAGTAGATTGGGGGCTG *ETV4* P1 R AAGCCACAGCCTGCCTTTAT *ETV4* **P2 F** ACACAGCTTCGTGGACACAT *ETV4* P2 R AGAGCTCAGCCCCCAATCTA *CD55* F -17 CCCAGAGGGTGTTGCCAGCG *CD55* R +172 GTGCTTTGGGCGGGGTCTGG *CCND1* F +76 GAGCAGCAGAGTCCGCACGCTC *CCND1* R +216 TGTTCCATGGCTGGGGCTCTTC *HDAC9* F -604 TGTGCCTGTGGGCCATGCTG *HDAC9* R -471 TCCAGCCGGTGCCCTTCTCC *JUN F* **+100** TCGCTGCTTCAGCCACACTCA *JUN R* -37 CTGAGAGCGACGCGAGCCAATG

Supplemental Table S9. Motifs used for scanning across the genome

Supplemental Methods

Antibodies, and plasmids

Antibodies used are anti-SOX2 (Cell Signaling Technology, D6D9 or R&D, AF2018), anti-p63 (Santa Cruz, sc-8431 or sc-8344), anti-OCT4 (Santa Cruz, sc-5279), anti-ETV4 (Santa Cruz, sc-113), anti-JunD (Santa Cruz, sc-74), anti-vinculin (Sigma), anti-β-actin (Sigma), anti-FLAG (Sigma), anti-PARP (Cell Signaling Technology), anti-Histone H3 (Cell Signaling Technology) and goat IgG antibody (R&D). *SOX2* or *GFP* open reading frame (ORF) was cloned into pMSCV-FLAG-HA gateway vector. pcDNA3-TAp63α-FLAG and pcDNA3-∆Np63α-FLAG were obtained through Addgene and a site encoding Glycine at amino acid position 59 in pcDNA3-∆Np63α-FLAG was corrected to Serine. GST-∆Np63α was generated using pcDNA3-∆Np63α-FLAG and pGEX4T3 (GE Healthcare). pcDNA3-SOX2 and GST-SOX2 were generated by cloning *SOX2* ORF into pcDNA3.1/Hygro (Invitrogen) or pGEX4T3 vector.

Tandem affinity purification

Stable SCC cells expressing pMSCV-FLAG-HA-SOX2 or pMSCV-FLAG-HA-GFP were established by infecting with retrovirus using standard viral transfer protocol followed by puromycin selection. Nuclear pellets were prepared from these stables cells by the methods described previously (1) and tandem affinity purification were performed as recently described (2) with a little modifications. Briefly, the nuclear pellets were thoroughly resuspended in 5 volumes of FLAG-IP buffer (150 mM NaCl, 50 mM Tris (pH 7.5), 1 mM EDTA, 0.5% NP40, 10% Glycerol, Protease inhibitors (Roche Applied Sciences)) and continued the lysis for 30 min. Soluble nuclear fraction and insoluble chromatin pellet were separated after centrifuging at 14,000 rpm for 15 min. The insoluble pellet was washed in 5 pellet volumes of MNase buffer (20 mM Tris (pH 7.5), 100 mM KCl, 2 mM $MgCl₂$, 1 mM CaCl₂, Protease inhibitors) and re-pelleted for 5 min at 10,000 rpm. The pellet then was thoroughly resuspended in one pellet-volume of MNase buffer containing 3 units of Micrococcal nuclease (Nuclease S7, Roche Applied Sciences) per μl and incubated with constant vortexing until complete digestion and solubilization of the chromatin. Solubilized chromatin was then diluted and vortexed with an equal volume of 2x HA-IP buffer (300 mM NaCl, 100 mM Tris (pH 7.5), 2 mM EDTA, 0.1% NP40, 20% Glycerol, Protease inhibitors) for 10 min followed by centrifugation for 10 min at 14,000 rpm. The supernatant containing the solubilized chromatin extract was then incubated with anti-FLAG-agarose (Sigma) for 2 h, followed by elution with FLAG peptide (5 mg/ml) (Sigma) in HA-IP buffer after 3 washes with FLAG-IP buffer. The eluate was filtered through Ultrafree-MC Centrifuge filters (Millipore) and further incubated with anti-HA-agarose conjugate (Santa Cruz) for 3 h, followed by elution with HA peptide (4 mg/ml) in HA-IP buffer after 3 washes with HA-IP buffer. The final HA eluate from CE fractions were further processed for LC–MS/MS sequencing and data analysis.

Protein digestion, LC-MS/MS data acquisition, and database searching

Protein digestion: Proteins from the TAP samples were directly processed in solution: Cysteine residues were reduced with 10 mM DTT for 30 min at 56°C and alkylated with 22.5 mM iodoacetamide for 20 min at room temperature in the dark. Proteins were digested overnight at 37ºC using 5 μg of trypsin after adjusting the pH to 8.0 with 1M Tris. The resulting tryptic peptide solutions were acidified by adding TFA to a final concentration of 1% and desalted by C18 solid phase extraction followed by Strong Cation Exchange (SCX), both performed in batch-mode format. Eluted peptides were concentrated in a vacuum concentrator, and reconstituted with 20 μl of 0.1% TFA.

LC-MS/MS analysis: Purified tryptic peptides were analyzed by LC-MS/MS (3) on an LTQ-Orbitrap-XL mass spectrometer (Thermo) equipped with a Digital PicoView electrospray source platform (New Objective). The spectrometer was operated in data dependent mode where the top 9 most abundant ions in each MS scan were subjected to CAD (35% normalized collision energy, isolation width $= 2.8$ Da, threshold $= 20,000$). Dynamic exclusion was enabled with a repeat count of 1 and exclusion duration of 30 seconds. ESI voltage was set to 2.2 kV.

22

Data processing: MS spectra were recalibrated using the background ion $(Si(CH_3)_2O)_6$ at *m/z* 445.12 +/- 0.03 and converted into a Mascot generic file format (.mgf) using multiplierz scripts (4, 5). Spectra were searched using Mascot (version 2.3) against three appended databases consisting of: i) human protein sequences (downloaded from RefSeq on 07/11/2011); ii) common lab contaminants and iii) a decoy database generated by reversing the sequences from these two databases. For Mascot searches, precursor tolerance was set to 1 Da and product ion tolerance to 0.6 Da. Search parameters included trypsin specificity, up to 2 missed cleavages, fixed carbamidomethylation (C, +57 Da) and variable oxidation (M, +16 Da). Precursors with a recalibrated mass error greater than 10 ppm were discarded. Spectra matching to peptides from the reverse database were used to calculate a global false discovery rate, and were discarded. Data were further processed to remove peptide spectral matches (PSMs) to the forward database with an FDR greater than 1.0%. Protein abundance was estimated by calculating the sum of the extracted ion chromatograms area of the three most intense peptides(6). Any protein identified in more than 1% of 108 negative TAP controls was removed from the sets of SOX2 interactors (7).

SOX2 binding partner analysis

The list of proteins associated with pluripotent factors (pluripotency network) (8-10) was compiled from lists downloaded from BIOGRID. Official HGNC (HUGO Gene Nomenclature Committee) symbols for the human orthologues of all pluripotency genes were retrieved. The significance of the overlap observed between the 291 pluripotency genes (a full list of genes is available in Table S1) and the 45 SOX2 interactors common to all SCCs was calculated using a Fisher's exact test, with a background set consisting of 2818 human genes with "Nuclear lumen" as cellular component annotation (GO: 0031981 and children). This set was extended to include 61 genes from the two test sets. Transcriptional regulators were defined as genes with "Regulation of transcription, DNA-dependent" as biological process annotation (GO: 0006355 and children). Using protein abundance data from the three most intense peptides for each protein, we generated a relative protein abundance score with color intensity using the R package heatmap.2.

RNA interference and quantitative RT-PCR assays

shΔ*NP63* sequence was published previously (11). Other shRNA sequences were obtained from the RNAi Consortium (TRC) (http://www.broadinstitute.org/rnai/trc; Table S7). Oligonucleotides were cloned into pLKO.1 or Dox-inducible pLKO-Tet-On lentiviral vector at AgeI and EcoRI sites. Viral transduction and generation of cell lines stably expressing shRNAs were performed as previously described (12). Optimization for suppression of targeted genes was performed via immunoblotting with antibodies against SOX2 or p63 after treating with Dox at different concentration for different timepoints. Quantitative RT-PCR assays were also performed as previously described (12) with results normalized to *18SrRNA* expression. Primers are listed in Table S8.

Cell proliferation assays, anchorage-independent growth assays

Cell proliferation assays were performed as previously described (12) with a little modification. Specifically, for Dox-inducible shRNA, cell medium were changed every 48 h with fresh Dox at 25 ng/ml in indicated cells. Cell proliferation was assayed at day 1, 3, 5, and 7. Cell numbers at day 3, 5 and 7 were corrected for the ratio of cells from the day 1 reading to correct for plating unevenness. Cell viability determined by CellTiter-Glo (Promega) for Dox-treated KYSE or TT cell lines with inducible sh*LacZ*, sh*SOX2* or sh*TP63* was normalized to Dox-untreated control cell lines and presented as fraction over time-course. For sh*ETV4*, measurements of cell viability were plotted as cell growth curve after seeding. A representative experiment is shown with viability \pm 1 standard deviation (s.d.) of the reading from the six wells shown. Effects of RNAi on cellular proliferation were analyzed with the use of GraphPad Prism software. Curves for cell viability fraction to the non-Dox treated cell lines for sh*LacZ*, sh*SOX2* or sh*TP63* expressing cell lines were modeled to fit exponential decay curve and compared to the non-decay model (k=0). For sh*ETV4*, growth curve for each shRNA-expressing cell line was modeled to fit exponential growth curve and compared to that of the corresponding sh*LacZ*-expressing control cell line. *F* tests were used to determine *P* values. *P* values < 0.05 were considered significant. Anchorage-independent growth assays were performed as previously described (12).

Immunoblotting, immunoprecipitation, and GST pull-down assays

To determine protein expression, cells were lysed in modified RIPA (mRIPA) buffer (50 mM Tris (pH. 7.4), 150 mM NaCl, 1 mM EDTA, 1% NP40, 1 mM Na₃VO₄, 1 mM NaF, and Protease inhibitors) and immunoblotting was performed as previously described(13). For immunoprecipitation, whole cell lysate of KYSE70 cells or 293T cells transfected with pcDNA3-∆Np63α-FLAG and pcDNA3-SOX2 were prepared in mRIPA buffer followed by incubation with SOX2 antibody or goat IgG antibody and Dynabeads Protein G (Invitrogen) or anti-FLAG-agarose on a rotator overnight at 4°C. After washing with mRIPA buffer, the beads were boiled for 10 min in 2x SDS sample buffer. The immunoprecipitates were then processed for immunoblotting. GST pull-down assay was performed as previously described(13) with modification. Briefly, GST, GST-∆Np63α and GST-SOX2 proteins were purified. SOX2 protein was produced by cleavage of purified GST-SOX2 protein with Thrombin (GE Healthcare) and then incubated with equal amount of GST-tagged proteins in binding buffer (1x PBS, 0.5% Triton X-100) for 1 h at room temperature followed by four washes with binding buffer. Bound proteins were resolved in SDS-PAGE gel and probed with anti-SOX2 antibody.

Chromatin immunoprecipitation, quantitative PCR (qPCR), and llumina sequencing

SOX2, p63 and JunD ChIP and qPCR were performed as previously described (14), except that fragmented chromatin with lengths of 200-to-1500bp after sonication was incubated overnight at 4ºC with pre-incubated Dynabeads Protein G with either anti-SOX2 (R&D, AF2018), anti-p63 (Santa Cruz, sc-8431) or with control goat IgG antibodies. Primers used for qPCR are listed in Table S8. For ChIP-sequencing, immunoprecipitated DNA with indicated antibody and input DNA without

25

immunoprecipitation were treated with RNase A and Proteinase K, followed by sonication to enrich DNA fragment lengths between 100-300bp. Ten to 50ng of DNA were used for the library construction. DNA libraries for Illumina cluster generation were prepared according to the manufacturer's protocol. Cluster generation and sequencing was done with Illumina HiSeq 2000.

ChIP-seq data analysis and motif analysis

Peak calling: Sequenced reads were mapped to human reference genome (build 37, hg18) using bowtie aligner (15). Uniquely aligned reads were subsequently normalized for copy number variation to average DNA copies on each cell line used as previously described (14). The summits of binding sites for SOX2 or p63 were detected with the use of MACS (16), with a *p*-value cutoff of 10⁻⁵ and default values for other parameters. Binding profiles were generated using MACS with the resolution of 10 bp, and were used to generate representative images with IGV (17). Significantly enriched peaks in composite data from the three SCC lines were also identified using MACS to increase the power of binding sites detection. The composite data for SOX2 or p63 were direct combinations of aligned reads used for each cell line, which has approximately equal number of reads. Data are publicly available at GEO (accession no. GSE46837).

Correlation analysis: For correlation analysis between SOX2 ChIP-seq datasets, a complete set of peaks composed of all identified peaks from SOX2 ChIP-seq from H9 and three SCC cell lines were used. Peaks from different dataset whose summits are within 600 bp from each other are regarded as overlap and replaced by the genomic locus at the midpoint until the complete peak set contains no "duplicated" peaks. Correlation matrix of ChIP-seq datasets is constructed from Pearson correlations between the peak occurrence profiles of ChIP-seq datasets.

Peak comparison: SOX2 ChIP-seq data for H1 cells (18) were downloaded from GEO (GSM456570), and sequenced reads were mapped to human reference genome (build 37, hg18) using bowtie aligner. Uniquely aligned reads were used for identifying SOX2

binding peaks using MACS with a p-value cutoff of 1x10⁻⁵ and default values for other parameters. Due to the lack of accompanying DNA input control data, ChIP-seq data could not be normalized for copy number variation or sequencing bias along the genome. Overlaps of SOX2 occupancy from our ChIP-seq data were calculated by comparing with the SOX2 occupancy identified from H1 cells.

Co-occupancy analysis: For comparison of SOX2 and p63 binding, numbers of genomic intervals shared by two or more samples were counted and represented in Venn diagrams. Binding sites whose summits are within 600 bp from each other are considered as overlap. To develop a list of high-confidence SOX2-occupied regions, peaks present in two or more of the three individual SOX2 ChIP-seq data from SCC cells were identified. These SOX2 peaks with and without evidence for significant p63 occupancy from the composite p63 ChIP-seq analysis were distinguished. Conversely, high-confidence p63-occupied regions, whose peaks found in two of three p63 ChIP-seq experiments, were queried for the presence of SOX2 occupancy in the composite SOX2 ChIP-seq data. Heatmap of binding profiles near binding sites was drawn using the heatmap module from cistrome project (http://cistrome.org/). Target genes by SOX2 or p63 are defined as genes whose TSS are within 50kb from SOX2 or p63 binding sites.

Motif analysis: SOX2, p63, OCT4 or AP1 consensus binding motif (19-21) occurrence along human reference genome sequence was identified using MAST module in MEME suite (22). Details about threshold and number of occurrences along the genome for each motif are listed in Table S9. Motifs closest to the center of SOX2 occupancy were used to profile the relative distance between motifs. SOX2-occupied regions without evidence of p63 binding were further scanned for sequence motifs with use of the MEME-ChIP module in MEME suite (23). Known motifs at the fixed distance from primary SOX2 motif identified from MEME algorithm were searched using SpaMo (24) module in MEME suite as described.

cDNA library construction for RNA-seq

KYSE70 stable cells expressing Dox-inducible sh*SOX2* or sh*TP63* were treated with or without Dox for 4 d. Total RNA were prepared and suppression of target genes were confirmed by quantitative RT-PCR. For each sample, polyA⁺ RNA was isolated from 5 ug of total RNA using Dynabeads mRNA DIRECT Kit (Ambion). RNA was fragmented by incubation at 98 °C for 41 min in 1 \times RNA restoration buffer (Ambion). cDNA was synthesized with 20-40 ng of polyA⁺ RNA with a peak length around 600-700 bases with the use of SuperScript III Reverse Transcriptase, SuperScript Double-Stranded cDNA Synthesis kit, and random primers (Invitrogen). Primers were annealed at room temperature for 10 min followed by first strand synthesis for 1 h at 50°C and second strand synthesis for 2.5 h at 16°C. Following cDNA size selection with 1.8× AMPure XP beads (Beckman Coulter), end repair, and A-tailing, adapter ligation was performed using the TruSeq DNA Sample Preparation kit (Illumina) according to manufacturer's instruction. Adaptor-ligated cDNAs were cleaned up with 0.8× AMPure XP beads followed by 8 cycles of PCR with primers complementary to the adaptor sequences with indexes. The PCR products were purified with 0.8× AMPure XP beads and then submitted to the Center for Cancer Genome Discovery at the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute for HiSeq 2000 sequencing.

RNA-seq analysis

RNA-seq reads for *SOX2* and *TP63* RNAi experiments were aligned to human reference genome (hg19) and exon-exon junctions (ensembl v64) with PRADA pipeline (25). Transcriptome was collapsed to gene level using the GENCODE v12 transcriptome model. RPKM values were generated by RNA-seQC (26) for each experiment, $log₂$ transformed ($log₂$ (RPKM+1)), and quantile-normalized. Gene expressions for each condition (sh*LacZ*, sh*SOX2*, and sh*TP63*) were represented by the mean of duplicates, and were used to calculate the $log₂$ fold change between two experimental conditions. Gene expression changes (in $log₂$ ratios) following suppression of either *SOX2* or *TP63* were plotted against each other. Genes whose log₂ fold changes are more than $log₂$ (1.5) were regarded as differentially expressed upon suppression via shRNA. Gene expression values in RPKM for TCGA lung SCC samples

28

were obtained through https://tcga-data.nci.nih.gov/docs/publications/lusc_2012/. While the values are log normally distributed, for comparison purpose $log₂$ transformed ($log₂$) (RPKM+1)) values were used. Of 144 samples with available RNA-seq data, *SOX2* high-expressing lung SCC samples at the top quartile were used for average expression of each annotated gene. Correlation to *SOX2* gene expression for expression of each gene was determined by Pearson's correlation (r value). For scatter plots of gene expression versus copy number for *SOX2* and *TP63,* inferred copy number from SNP 6.0 array data in TCGA lung SCC samples were obtained and plotted against the transformed RPKM value from corresponding RNA-seq data from TCGA.

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