

Figure S1. LiCl activates β -catenin and *Tcf-1* in cementoblast cell line. (a) Western blot analyses displayed a time-dependent activation of β -catenin by 10 mM LiCl in cementoblasts; (b) Cells were cultured with or without 10mM LiCl for 12 hrs. Immunofluorescence assay was performed to detect the nuclear translocation of β -catenin (β -catenin signal, red; DAPI stained nucleus, blue; Scale bar, 10 μ m); and (c) Real-time RT-PCR analyses revealed a similar TCF-1 reaction to LiCl with a peak time at 12 and 24 hours after addition of 10 mM LiCl. Results were shown as mean \pm SD of three separate experiments, each performed with triplicate samples.

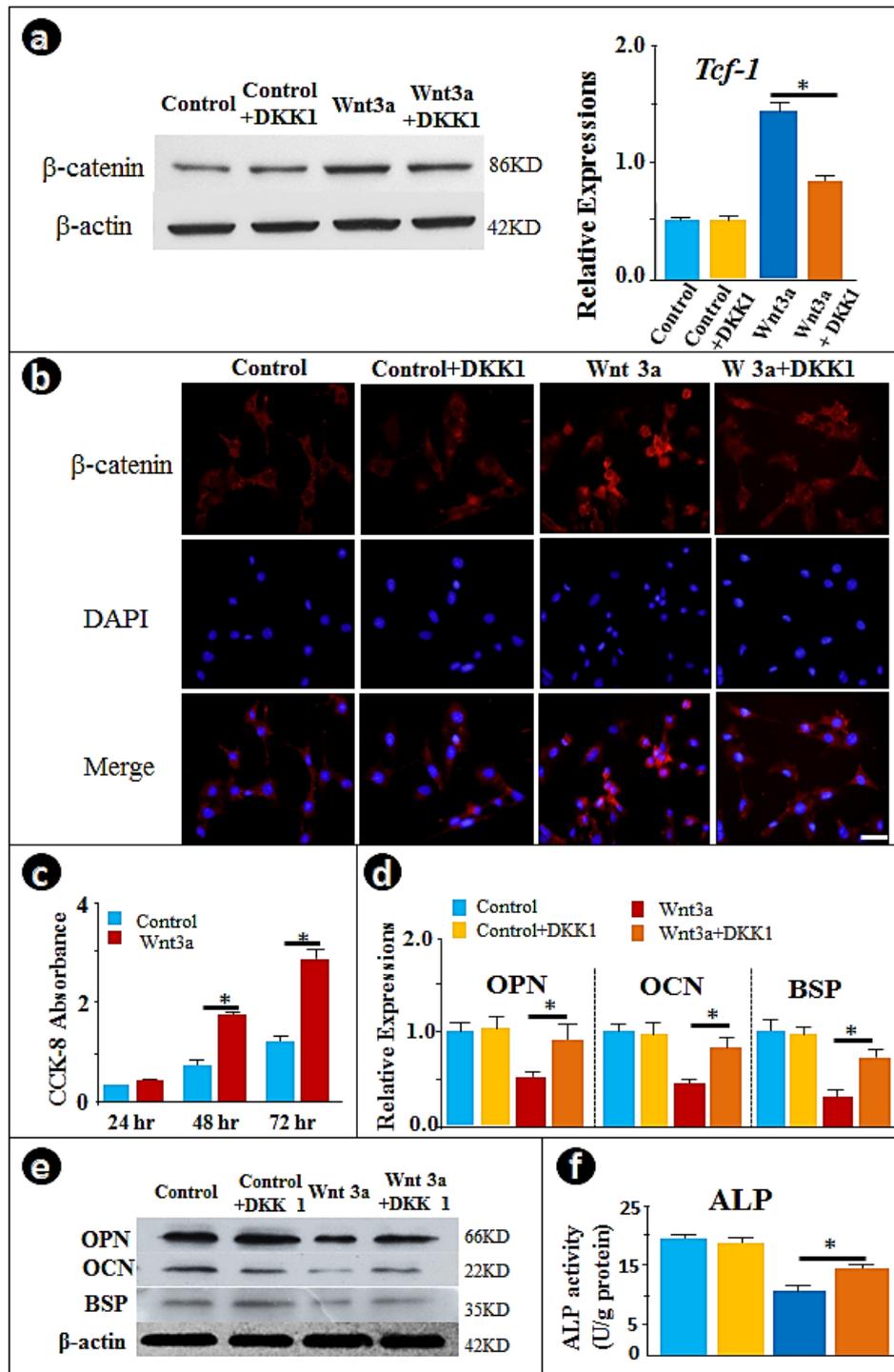


Figure S2. DKK1 attenuates Wnt3 α -induced Wnt/ β -catenin signaling and promotes cementoblast differentiation. (a) Western blot images revealed a partial attenuation of activation of β -catenin by Wnt3; (b) The RT-PCR data showed a blockage of activation of *Tcf-1* by Wnt3; (c) The immuno staining assay presented an increase in translocation of β -catenin into the nucleus by Wnt3, which was partially blocked by addition of DKK1; (d) The cell proliferation assay using CCK-8 kit revealed a time-dependent increase in cell proliferation by Wnt3a; (e) RT-PCR data showed that Wnt3a inhibits expression of OPN, OCN and BSP by Wnt3, and that DKK1 increases their expression; (f) Western blot data displayed a similar inhibition of expression of OPN, OCN and BSP by Wnt3, which is partially blocked by DKK1; and (g) ALP assays showed an inhibition in ALP activity by Wnt3 (dark blue bar), which is partially reversed by an addition of DKK1. Data represented as mean \pm SD of three separate experiments; Statistical differences: *P<0.05.

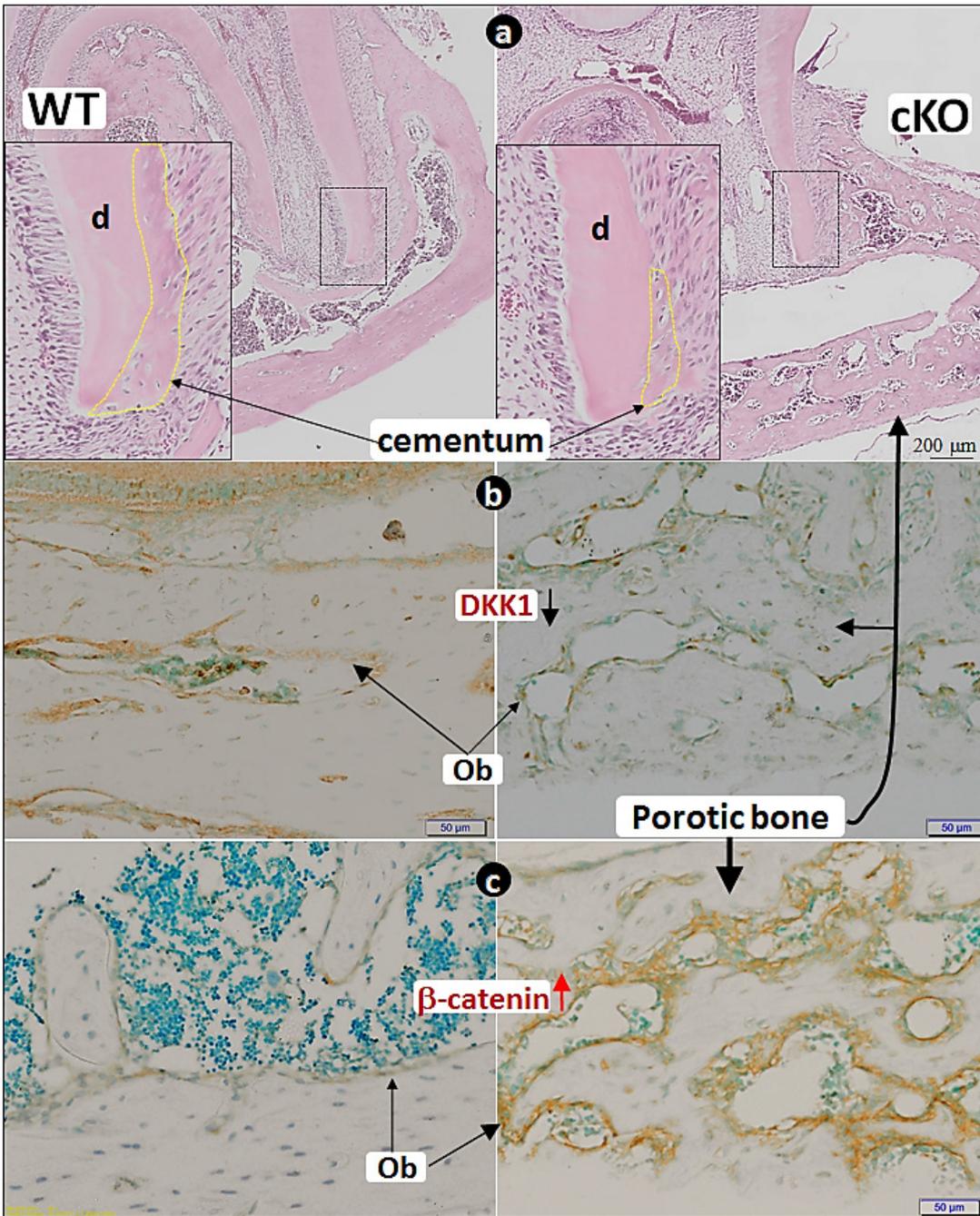


Figure S3. A decrease in DKK1 expression is correlated with the increase in β -catenin expression in the 6-week-old *Osx* cKO lower jaw (crossing between *Osxfx/fx* and 2.3 *Col 1-Cre* mice, *right panels*), which is likely responsible for the poorly formed cementum and bone. (a) The H&E images revealed the reduced cementum and porotic bone in the *Osx* cKO jaw; and (b-c) Immunostained images displayed a reduced DKK1 expression (b) and an increase in β -catenin (c) in the *Osx* cKO lower jaw.