

Supplemental Text

Cell lines

SKOV3 were cultured in McCoy's 5A medium (Gibco, USA) and other cell lines were cultured in DMEM medium (Gibco, USA). Media were supplemented with 10% fetal bovine serum, 1% penicillin/streptomycin at 37 °C in a humidified atmosphere containing 5% CO₂. Cells in the logarithmic growth phase were used in subsequent experiments.

Cell migration

After cells reached 100% confluence, monolayer cells were wounded by scratching the surface straightly as uniformly as possible with a sterilized 200 µl pipette tip. Then the wells were rinsed three times with PBS and replaced with indicated serum-free media. Images were captured by a digital microscopy (Carl Zeiss Jena, Germany) at each indicated time. Experiments were performed in triplicate.

Cell invasion

The cell invasion assay was performed using a 24-well Transwell chamber (Corning, USA). Cells were harvested and suspended in 100 µl serum-free medium were seeded into the upper chamber with an 8-µm pore size insert pre-coated with Matrigel Matrix (BD Biosciences, USA). The lower chamber was filled with 600 µl medium containing 10% FBS. After incubation for 18 hours, cells were stained with a

Computational analyses and bioinformatics

The CASC15 expression data of ovarian cancer patients of GEO (Gene Expression Omnibus) dataset, were downloaded from an international public repository Gene Expression Omnibus [1-8] (GEO, <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/geo/>, last accessed November 15, 2020). And the CASC15, SMAD3 expression data of ovarian cancer specimens of The Cancer Genome Atlas (TCGA) were extracted from exon expression dataset download from UCSC Cancer Browser [9] (<http://genome.ucsc.edu/>, last accessed November 15, 2020), which was a suite of web-based tools to visualize, integrate and analyze cancer genomics and associated clinical data. The expression quantification was done by averaging the expression of its exons.

Potential miRNA targets on CASC15, SMAD3 and HNF1B mRNAs were predicted by the computer algorithm TargetScanHuman 7.2 [10] (http://www.targetscan.org/vert_72/, last accessed November 15, 2020), DIANA tools [11, 12] (http://carolina.imis.athena-innovation.gr/diana_tools/web/index.php, last accessed November 15, 2020) and starBase v3.0 [13] (<http://starbase.sysu.edu.cn/>, last accessed November 15, 2020). The mature miRNA sequences used in this study were download from miRBase [14] (<http://www.mirbase.org/>, last accessed November 15, 2020).

To identify putative transcription factor binding sites in DNA sequences, we analyzed the SMAD3 and CASC15 promoter in PROMO (TRANSFAC v8.3) [15] (http://alggen.lsi.upc.es/cgi-bin/promo_v3/promo/promoinit.cgi?dirDB=TF_8.3, last

Figure S4. CASC15 didn't upregulate SMAD2 expression through miR-23b-3p/miR-24-3p sequestration. (A) The sequence logo of the HNF1B position frequency matrix in the JASPAR database. (B) The sequence logos of the SMAD3 position frequency matrix SMAD2::SMAD3::SMAD4 (left) and SMAD3 (right) in the JASPAR database. (C) Expression of SMAD3 in SKOV3 and ES-2 cells 48 h post SMAD3 siRNA transfection as determined by RT-qPCR and western blots. (D) Expression of SMAD2, SMAD3, and SMAD4 in si-NC or si-C2/si-C5 transfected SKOV3 cells as determined by RT-qPCR. (E) Expression of SMAD2, SMAD3, and SMAD4 in miR-23b-3p or miR-24-3p mimics transfected SKOV3 cells as determined by RT-qPCR and western blots. GAPDH serves as the internal control in RT-qPCR and western blots. ns, no statistical significance, * $p < 0.05$, ** $p < 0.01$, *** $p < 0.001$. Values are mean \pm SEM. Data are representative of three independent experiments.

Table S1. List of siRNA sequences.

siRNA	sense (5'→3')	antisense (5'→3')
Negative control	UUCUCCGAACGUGUCACGUTT	ACGUGACACGUUCGGAGAATT
Si-CASC15-1	GACAGUCAGAAUGACUGAUTT	AUCAGUCAUUCUGACUGUCTT
Si-CASC15-2	GAUUUGUCCAGGAGCAGAUTT	AUCUGCUCCUGGACAAAUCTT
Si-CASC15-3	GAAGUACCCUCAGGUGACUTT	AGUCACCUGAGGGUACUUCTT
Si-CASC15-4	GGGAAUUCUCCACCUUAAATT	UUUAAGGUGGAGAAUCCCTT
Si-CASC15-5	GUGACUACAGAUGUGUUAATT	UUAACACAUCUGUAGUACTT
Si-HNF1B-1	AUCACUCCUCCUCAACAAUC	GAUUGUUGAGGAGGAAGUGAU
Si-HNF1B-2	AGUCAGCACCUUGACGAAUUAU	AUAUUCGUCAAGGUGCUGACU
Si-HNF1B-3	ACAGCCUCUCCCACCAUAAUC	GAUUAUGGUGGGAGAGGCUGU
Si-HNF1B-4	CCGUACUGUCUAUGUUGUGAU	AUCACAACAUAGACAGUACGG
Si-HNF1B-5	CAGUCCAGAGUUCUGGAAUA	UAUUCCAGAACUCUGGACUG
Si-SMAD3-1	CCCAGCACAUAAUAACUUGGA	UCCAAGUUAUUUGUGCUGGG
Si-SMAD3-2	UCCGCAUGAGCUUCGUCAAAG	CUUUGACGAAGCUCAUGCGGA
Si-SMAD3-3	GAGCCUGGUCAAGAAACUCAA	UUGAGUUUCUUGACCAGGCUC

Table S2. List of shRNA sequences.

shRNA	sense (5'→3')
sh-NC	CCTAAGGTTAAGTCGCCCTCGCTCGAGCGAGGGCGACTTAACCTTAGG
sh-CASC15	AAGATTTGTCCAGGAGCAGATCTCGAGATCTGCTCCTGGACAAATCTT

Table S3. List of mRNA primer sequences.

Target gene	Forward primer (5'→3')	Reverse primer (5'→3')
CASC15	TCCAAGTGTGACTGCCAAGA	CATTTCCTCTGGGTTTTCCA
ZEB1	AAGTGGCGGTAGATGGTAATGT	AAGGAAGACTGATGGCTGAAAT
N-Cadherin	ATGGGAAATGGAACTTGATGGC	TGGAAAGCTTCTCACGGCAT
Slug	AACAGTATGTGCCCTGGGGG	AAAAGGCACTTGAAGGGGT
Snail	CTCGGACCTTCTCCCGAATG	AAAGTCCTGTGGGGCTGATG
E-Cadherin	ACAGCACGTACACAGCCCTA	GCAGAAGTGTCCCTGTTCCAG
Claudin-1	TTTACTCCTATGCCGGCGAC	GAGGATGCCAACCACCATCA
SMAD3	AGGGCTTTGAGGCTGTCTACC	GTGCTGGTCACTGTCTGTCTCCT
HNF1B	CCTCCGACAGTTCAGTCAACA	CTTGCTGGGGTTCCTTTTGCC
SMAD2	GCCTTTACAGCTTCTCTGAACAA	ATGTGGCAATCCTTTTCGAT
SMAD4	GCTGCAGAGCCCAGTTTAGA	CCCCAAAGCAGAAGCTACGA
GAPDH	CACCCACTCCTCCACCTTTG	CCACCACCCTGTTGCTGTAG

Table S4. List of microRNA primer sequences.

microRNA	3' specific primer (5'→3')
hsa-miR-23b-3p	ATCACATTGCCAGGGATTACCAC
hsa-miR-24-3p	TGGCTCAGTTCAGCAGGAACAG
hsa-miR-27b-3p	TTCACAGTGGCTAAGTTCTGC

MicroRNA specific 5' primer, U6-Forward and U6-Reverse were provided by the Mir-X™ miRNA First Strand Synthesis Kit (Takara, Japan).

Table S5. Schema of miR-23b-3p, miR-24-3p and miR-27b-3p binding sites in predicted target 3' UTR sequences of human genes.

Gene	microRNA	Target Site	3' UTR Position
CASC15	miR-23b-3p	3' CCAU--UA--GGGACCGUUACACUA 5' (miR-23b-3p)	chr6:22147894- 22147916
		5' ...GGUACA GGUGU AAA UGCUGUUC AUGUGAU ... 3' (3' UTR-WT)	
		5' ...GGTACACCATTAAAGGGACTTCTACTA... 3' (3' UTR-MUT)	
CASC15	miR-24-3p	3' GACAA--GGAC---GACU-----U-----GACUCGGU 5' (miR-24-3p)	chr6:22149601- 22149627
		5' ... GUUGCC AAAA CUGA CAUUGU CUGAGCC ... 3' (3' UTR-WT)	
		5' ...GCAAGGAAAAGACT CATGT GACTCGGC... 3' (3' UTR-MUT)	
CASC15	miR-27b-3p	3' CGUCUUGAA---UC---GGUCACACUU 5' (miR-27b-3p)	chr6:22147507- 22147530
		5' ...UGCAU GCAGAAUUU UCUU UUACUGUGAA ... 3' (3' UTR-WT)	
		5' ...TGCATCGTCTTGAATCTTGGTCACACTT... 3' (3' UTR-MUT)	
SMAD3	miR-23b-3p	3' CCA---UUA---GGGACCGUUACACUA 5' (miR-23b-3p)	chr15:6748512- 7-67485148
		5' ...UGGCA GGU UAUGAA CUUUG --- AAUGUGAU ... 3' (3' UTR-WT)	
		5' ...TGGCACCATATGAAGGGAC---TTACTA... 3' (3' UTR-MUT)	
HNF1B	miR-23b-3p	3' CCAU---UAGGGACCGUUACACUA 5' (miR-23b-3p)	chr17:3604706- 0-36047078
		5' ...GAAAGCC GUACUGUCUAUG ---U--- UGUGAU ... 3' (3' UTR-WT)	
		5' ...GAAAGCCCATCTTAGTAAC---T---ACACTA... 3' (3' UTR-MUT)	
HNF1B	miR-24-3p	3' GACAAGGACGACUUGACUCGGU 5' (miR-24-3p)	chr17:3604697- 8-36046997
		5' ...GAAGGACA UGU -G- CUA UUGAACUGAGCCA ... 3' (3' UTR-WT)	
		5' ...GAAGGACAACA-G-GAAGACTTGACTCGGT... 3' (3' UTR-MUT)	

Putative binding sites were mutated and highlighted in red.

Table S6. The predicted HNF1B-binding sites on the SMAD3 promoter.

	Matrix Name	Predicted sequence	Start	End
HNF1B-binding site 1	HNF1B	TTTTTTTTTAAC	-1430	-1419
HNF1B-binding site 2	HNF1B	GTAAAAACAAAC	-1387	-1375
HNF1B-binding site 3	HNF1B	TTCAAAGATAAAT	-1033	-1021

Table S7. The predicted SMAD3-binding sites on the CASC15 promoter.

	Matrix Name	Predicted sequence	Start	End
SMAD3-binding site 1	SMAD2::SMAD3::SMAD4	GCGGCTCACACCC	-1985	-1973
SMAD3-binding site 2	SMAD3	CGTCCAGACT	-1867	-1858
SMAD3-binding site 3	SMAD2::SMAD3::SMAD4	CCGTCTACCTCAT	-1397	-1385

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