Supplementary Information

Antibodies used in the study			
Antigen	Company	No.	
CKS1B	Invitrogen	36-6800	
Cleaved-caspase3	Cell Signal Technology	20750S	
Cleaved-caspase9	Cell Signal Technology	9661	
Ki67	Abcam	ab16667	
PCNA	Proteintech	60097-1-lg	
CD44	Cell Signal Technology	#3570	
FOXM1	Cell Signal Technology	20459	
FOXM1	Cell Signal Technology	5436S	
OCT-4	BIOWORLD	BS70993	
SOX2	Proteintech	66411-1-lg	
BMI-1	BIOWORLD	MB9014	
ABCG2	proteintech	27286-1-AP	
ALDH1	ABCAM	ab23375	
C-MYC	Cell Signal Technology	9402	
Cyclin D1	Proteintech	26939-1-AP	
P21	Proteintech	10355-1-AP	
P27;KIP1	Proteintech	25614-1-AP	
CD44	BioLegend	338803	
CD24	BioLegend	311105	
CD133	BioLegend	372803	
CK19	abcam	ab52625	
Amylase	Santa	sc-46657	

	PCR primers used	in the study
	HUMAN	
Gene	Forward	Reverse
CKS1B	TATTCGGACAAATACGACGACG	CGCCAAGATTCCTCCATTCAGA
FOXM1	TGCAGCTAGGGATGTGAATCTTC	GGAGCCCAGTCCATCAGAACT
GAPDH	GCGAGATCCCTCCAAAATCA	ACTTCTCATGGTTCACACCC
BMI-1	CGTGTATTGTTCGTTACCTGGA	TTCAGTAGTGGTCTGGTCTTGT
ABCG2	CAGGTGGAGGCAAATCTTCGT	ACCCTGTTAATCCGTTCGTTTT
ALDH1	CCGTGGCGTACTATGGATGC	GCAGCAGACGATCTCTTTCGAT
Oct4	CTTGCTGCAGAAGTGGGTGGAGGAA	CTGCAGTGTGGGTTTCGGGCA
CD24	CTCCTACCCACGCAGATTTATTC	AGAGTGAGACCACGAAGAGAC
MYC	GGCTCCTGGCAAAAGGTCA	CTGCGTAGTTGTGCTGATGT
Amylase	AATACACAACAAGGACGGACATC	TCCAAATCCCTTCGGAGCTAAA
CK19	AACGGCGAGCTAGAGGTGA	GGATGGTCGTGTAGTAGTGGC
	MOUSE	
Gene	Forward	Reverse
18SRNA	ATAAACGATGCCGACTGGCGA	AAATTAAGCCGCAGGCCCAC
CK19	ATTGGGTCAGGGGGTGTTTT	TGTCCAAGTAGGAGGCGAGA
AMY	TGCCAAGGAATGTGAGCGAT	TCCACAGGTACTGCTTGTTCC
CKS1B	CTGGTCCCGAAAACCCATCT	AAGAAAGCAACATGGTCACGC
FOXM1	GAAAGATGAGTTCTGACGGGCT	CTCAGTGCTGTTGATGGCAA
GAPDH	AAGGTGGTGAAGCAGGCATCTGAG	GGAAGAGTGGGAGTTGCTGTTGAAGTC
Amylase	TGCCAAGGAATGTGAGCGAT	TCCACAGGTACTGCTTGTTCC

CHIP-primer used in the study			
	Forward	Reverse	
BS1	AGGCTTGAAAGTAGAGGTGTCC	TGGCCTCGCTTTCAAACACG	
BS2	GCTTCCCACTTTCCCGAGTT	AAGAACGAGCGTGGGTCAAA	

Reagents used in the study			
Name	Company	No.	
TUNEL Apoptosis Detection Kit	Elabscience	E-CK-A320	
Simple ChIP Plus Enzymatic Chromatin IP Kit	Invitrogen	91820	
the Cell Cycle and Apoptosis Analysis Kit	Beyotime	C1052	
the Annexin V-FITC Cell Apoptosis Detection Kit	Beyotime	C1062L	
the PrimeScript RT reagent kit	Takara	RR047A	
FBS (fetal bovine serum)	Nobimpex	A115-500	
RPMI-1640	Gibco	C11875500BT	
DMEM	Gibco	C11995500BT	
IMDM	Gibco	C12440500BT	
Cell Counting Kit-8 (CCK-8)	Dojindo	CK04	
Transwell	CORNING	3422	
EGF	Peprotech	AF-100-15	
bFGF	Peprotech	100-18B	
B27	Gibco	2389185	
DMEM/F12	Gibco	11320033	
gemcitabine	MCE	HY-17026	
oxaliplatin	MCE	HY-17371	
RNAiso Plus	Takara	9108	
In vivo-jet PEI	Polyplus	101000040	
L-arginine	Solarbio	A0013	
Caerulein	MCE	HY-A0190	
2% sodium taurocholate	Merck	S0900000	
DAPI	abcam	ab104139	
TGF-α	R&D	239-A-500	

siRNA used in the study			
	sense (5'-3')	antisense (5'-3')	
CKS1B-1	GGAGUUUGAGUAUCGACAUTT	AUGUCGAUACUCAAACUCCTT	
CKS1B-2	CCAUCUGAUGUCUGAAUCUTT	AGAUUCAGACAUCAGAUGGTT	
H-FOXM1	GGACCACUUUCCCUACUUUtt	AAAGUAGGGAAAGUGGUCCtt	
M-FOXM1	CCAUUCACCCAAGUGCCAAtt	UUGGCACUUGGGUGAAUGGtt	

	🗣 low 🗢 high					
Characteristics	Number (%)	Event		CKS1B(low)	CKS1B(high)	Р
176	All parents	92		40% (29%, 55%)	29% (19%, 45%)	0.036
gender						
96 (54.55)	male	46		43% (27%, 68%)	35% (21%, 58%)	0.137
80 (45.45)	female	46		35% (21%, 59%)	38% (14%, 100%)	0.146
radiation therapy						
100 (72.99)	NO	54		46% (32%, 66%)	31% (18%, 51%)	0.035
37 (27.01)	YES	13	↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓	28% (6.6%, 100%)	38% (14%, 100%)	0.569
history of CP						
127 (90.71)	NO	63		46% (34%, 62%)	33% (21%, 53%)	0.016
13 (9.29)	YES	8	, • · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	— (—, —)	38% (14%, 100%)	0.744
age						
58 (32.95)	<60	26		61% (44%, 86%)	20% (7.8%, 54%)	0.005
118 (67.05)	>=60	66		28% (16%, 48%)	38% (14%, 100%)	0.643
Grade						
30 (17.24)	I	11		73% (53%, 100%)	17% (2.9%, 100%)	0.022
94 (54.02)	II	49		32% (15%, 65%)	38% (14%, 100%)	0.251
48 (27.59)	III	30	i •	28% (14%, 57%)	20% (7.6%, 54%)	0.541
T stage						
7 (4.02)	Τ1	2	I>	50% (19%, 100%)	— (—, —)	0.187
24 (13.79)	Т2	9	ı •>	63% (38%, 100%)	38% (14%, 100%)	<0.001
140 (80.46)	ТЗ	80	•• •	31% (19%, 49%)	27% (17%, 44%)	0.256
surgery type						
135 (77.59)	Whipple	77	 _	29% (17%, 50%)	23% (13%, 40%)	0.079
23 (13.22)	Distal_Pancreatectomy	11	1	47% (25%, 90%)	38% (14%, 100%)	0.646
) 30 60 90			

Clinical characteristics of pancreatic cancer patients from the TCGA database

CKS1B_expression_3_years_survival_rate

Survival analysis based on CKS1B expression in pancreatic cancer patients using data from the TCGA database. This forest plot illustrates the 3-year survival rates segmented by CKS1B expression levels (low vs. high) across various clinical characteristics: history of radiotherapy, chronic pancreatitis history, age (<60 years), early-stage PDAC classification (Grade I), and T2 stage. Statistically significant associations (P-values < 0.05) are noted for these groups. Red dots represent high CKS1B expression, while blue dots represent low expression.







Analysis of CKS1B Upregulation and its Correlation with Cell Proliferation in PDAC Development.

(A) Analysis of single-cell sequencing data from GSE141017 in mice demonstrates CKS1B upregulation in ADM lesions compared to normal acinar cells.

(**B**) RNA sequencing from GSE132326 tracks the progression from pancreatitis to neoplasm in mice, showing a gradual increase in CKS1B expression during PDAC development, particularly in the presence of Kras mutations, p=3.9e-05

(C) Construction of systemic inflammatory AP model (Left, L-ARG) and cholestatic AP model (Right, Sodium Taurocholate). The number of animals per group was 4, and the number of independent in vitro experiments was 3. Immunohistochemical analysis demonstrated that both CKS1B and the proliferation marker Ki67 remained unchanged in the AP lesions.

(**D**) Immunohistochemistry results indicated that ADM lesions occurred 72 and 96 hours after PDL surgery, with an upregulation of both CKS1B and Ki67 within these lesions compared to the control. These findings are consistent with those presented in Figure 2A.

(E) IHC demonstrated the upregulation of both CKS1B and Ki67 in ADM lesions of 30-week-old KC mice, a spontaneous ADM model, with WT mice serving as normal controls.

(**F**) Using WT mice as controls, RT-PCR analysis quantified the upregulation of CKS1B and CK19, and the downregulation of AMY, in pancreatic precancerous lesions from CAE, PDL, and KC mice.

(G) Quantitative IHC assays were used to assess the upregulation of CKS1B and Ki67 in 33-week-old KPC mice as pancreatic lesions progressed from ADM and PanIN to PDAC, with wild-type (WT) mice serving as normal controls.

(H) Quantification of multiplex immunohistochemistry was performed in 33week-old KPC mice to assess the upregulation of CKS1B and CK19 as pancreatic lesions progressed from ADM and PanIN to PDAC, accompanied by a downregulation of amylase expression. Wild-type (WT) mice served as normal controls.



CKS1B Overexpression Enhances Growth and Migration of PDAC Cells

(A) Confirmation of CKS1B mRNA expression in various PDAC cell lines. RT-PCR quantified CKS1B mRNA levels in 12 pancreatic cancer cell lines, with HPDE cells serving as normal controls. *P < 0.05, **P < 0.01, ***P < 0.001 vs. HPDE.

BxPC-3 and CFPAC-1 cells were transfected with CKS1B-siRNA, using NC as controls, while MIA PaCa-2 cells were transfected with a CKS1B overexpression vector, using pc3.1 as controls. CKS1B expression was quantified using (**B**) RT-PCR and (**C**) Western Blot analyses.

(**D**) Quantitative analysis of wound closure in each group demonstrated the impact of CKS1B on cell migration in the wound healing assay

(E) Quantitative analysis of cell cycle distribution in PDAC cells assessed the proportion of cells in each phase. Results indicate that CKS1B significantly hindered the transition from G2 to mitosis. Data are presented as mean \pm SD from at least three independent experiments.



Zhang et al., Supplementary Figure 4

CKS1B Expression Enhances the Stemness Properties of PDAC

(A) Analysis of RNA-sequencing data from TCGA demonstrates a correlation between CKS1B expression and stemness score in PDAC.

(**B**) The sphere formation assay demonstrated increased tumor sphere size and density in PDAC cells overexpressing CKS1B compared to vector control (pc3.1), indicating enhanced sphere-forming ability.

(**C**) *In vivo* limiting dilution assays on C57BL/6J mice injected with Panc02 cells overexpressing CKS1B or vector control (pc3.1) demonstrated that CKS1B overexpression increases the number of tumor-initiating cells, as evidenced by increased tumor weights.

(**D**) The proportion of CD24⁺CD44⁺ cells in CKS1B knockdown and CKS1Boverexpressing PDAC cells was assessed using cellular immunofluorescence. Results indicated that CKS1B expression affects the ratio of pancreatic cancer stem cells (PCSCs). Scale bars: 20 μ m.

(E) Similarly, the proportion of CD133⁺ cells in PDAC cell lines corroborated these results. Scale bars: 20 μ m.

Zhang et al., Supplementary Figure 5



CKS1B Mediates Drug Resistance in PDAC Cells by Blocking Gemcitabine and Oxaliplatin-Induced Apoptosis

(A) Heatmap plot exhibiting the top 20 drugs that are positively and negatively correlated with the expression of CKS1B. Predicted IC50 of selected drugs after being centered and scaled in the row direction for each sample is represented by color. Group showing the expression of CKS1B in samples from TCGA-PAAD cohort.

(B) Lollipop plot depicts correlations between CKS1B expression and eight chemotherapy drugs in pancreatic cancer. Dot size reflects Spearman's R value; color indicates significance: orange (#E69F00) for P < 0.01, , blue (#56B4E9) for P > 0.1.

(**C**) Flow cytometry analysis indicated that HAPC cells (low CKS1B expression) exhibited higher apoptosis rates compared to CFPAC-1 cells (high CKS1B expression) under varying concentrations of Gemcitabine, suggesting that CKS1B expression is closely associated with the sensitivity of PDAC cells to Gemcitabine.

(**D**) Immunofluorescence analysis revealed higher activation of cleaved caspase-3 and cleaved caspase-9 in CKS1B-knockdown cells compared to control (NC). This effect was most pronounced in cells co-treated with gemcitabine, further validating that CKS1B mediates drug resistance in PDAC cells by inhibiting Gemcitabine and Oxaliplatin-induced apoptosis. Scale bars: $100 \,\mu$ m.





CKS1B Enhances Proliferation, Resistance, and Stemness of PDAC In Vivo

(A) Histological analysis on subcutaneous tumors revealed a smaller necrotic area in siRNA and siRNA +GEM groups compared with controls, indicating slower tumor growth. Scale bars: 500 µm.

(**B**) Pathology scoring of IHC staining in tumor tissues revealed that CKS1B knockdown led to decreased CKS1B expression and reduced proliferation markers (Ki67, PCNA). (**C**) Additionally, TUNEL assays quantified an increased apoptosis rate, (**D**) Immunofluorescence analysis showed increased activation of cleaved caspase-3 and cleaved caspase-9. Scale bars: 200 μm. These effects were further amplified upon co-treatment with gemcitabine, suggesting that CKS1B knockdown inhibits proliferation and enhances tumor sensitivity to gemcitabine *in vivo*.

(E) To further confirm that CKS1B modulates cancer stem cell (CSC) resistance to chemotherapy in PDAC, IHC analysis revealed decreased expression of PCSCs markers (BMI-1, OCT-4, CD44, and SOX2) in CKS1B-knockdown tumors. This downregulation was further pronounced following combination treatment with gemcitabine.





CKS1B Mediates FOXM1-Regulated Cell Proliferation, Migration and Stemness

(A) Analysis from TCGA database demonstrates a correlation between CKS1B expression and stemness score in PDAC.

(**B-C**) Consistent with the results shown in Fig. 7A, overexpression or knockdown of FOXM1 in human PDAC cells (PL45, MIA PaCa-2) or mouse PDAC cells (Panc02, MPC-83) resulted in corresponding changes in CKS1B expression

(**D**) Immunofluorescence co-localization of FOXM1 and CKS1B in human PDAC tissues revealed that both proteins are localized in the nucleus, suggesting a potential functional interaction. Scale bars: $50 \,\mu m$

(E-F) In BxPC-3 and CFPAC-1 cells transfected with a CKS1B-overexpression vector and FOXM1-siRNA, with NC+pc3.1 serving as the control, RT-PCR and Western Blot analyses were used to assess the levels of CKS1B, FOXM1, and the cell cycle marker Cyclin D1and P27.

(G) CCK8 proliferation assays demonstrated that CKS1B-overexpression reversed the proliferation reduction caused by FOXM1-siRNA. (H-I)

Additionally, wound healing analysis confirmed and quantified that CKS1Boverexpression also reversed the migration decrease induced by FOXM1-siRNA. Scale bars: 400 μ m.

(**J-K**) In BxPC-3 and CFPAC-1 cells transfected with a FOXM1-overexpression vector and CKS1B-siRNA, with NC+pc3.1 serving as the control, RT-PCR and Western Blot analyses were used to assess the levels of CKS1B, FOXM1, and the cell cycle marker Cyclin D1and P27.

(L) CCK8 proliferation assays showed that CKS1B knockdown reversed the increase in proliferation caused by FOXM1 overexpression. (M-N)

Additionally, wound healing analysis confirmed and quantified that CKS1B knockdown also reversed the enhanced migration induced by FOXM1 overexpression. Scale bars: 400 µm.

These results suggest that FOXM1 promotes a malignant phenotype characterized by enhanced proliferation and migration in PDAC through the mediation of CKS1B.