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1 **Protein Kinase C positively regulates peroxisome biogenesis by promoting peroxisome-**
2 **endoplasmic reticulum interaction**

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1 Abstract

2 Peroxisomes carry out a diverse set of metabolic functions, including oxidation of very long-
3 chained fatty acids, degradation of D-amino acids and hydrogen peroxide, and bile acid production.
4 Many of these functions are upregulated on demand, therefore cells control peroxisome abundance,
5 and by extension peroxisome function, in response to environmental and developmental cues. The
6 mechanisms upregulating peroxisomes in mammalian cells have remained unclear. Here we identify a
7 signaling regulatory network and a mechanism that coordinate cellular demand for peroxisomes and
8 peroxisome abundance by regulating peroxisome proliferation. We show that protein kinase C (PKC)
9 promotes peroxisome PEX11b-dependent formation. PKC activation leads to an increase in
10 peroxisome formation, promoting peroxisome-ER contact site formation through inactivation of
11 GSK3 β . We show that removal of VAPA and VAPB impairs peroxisome biogenesis and PKC
12 regulation. Inhibition of PKC reduces peroxisome-ER interactions, leading to a decrease in
13 peroxisome abundance. During neuronal differentiation, active PKC leads to a significant increase in
14 peroxisome formation. We propose that peroxisomal regulation by transient active PKC signaling
15 enables rapid and fine-tuned responses to the need for peroxisomal activity.

16 Introduction

17 The peroxisome is a small organelle with a large functional repertoire¹⁻³. Prominent examples
18 of peroxisomal function are alpha- and beta-fatty acid oxidation, bile acid and ether-lipid synthesis,
19 degradation of D-amino acids and leukotrienes, glyoxylate cycle and methanol metabolism in yeast,
20 bioluminescence in fireflies, plant hormone synthesis, and degradation of hydrogen peroxide²⁻¹⁵. In
21 addition to their numerous metabolic functions, peroxisomes are increasingly seen as signaling
22 regulators¹⁶⁻²⁰. Several kinases, (e.g. the NDR2 kinase regulator of ciliogenesis) contain peroxisome
23 localization signals^{21, 22}. The peroxisomal membrane has been shown to recruit multiple signaling
24 regulators, including the tuberous sclerosis complex (TSC1/2) regulator of the target of rapamycin
25 (mTOR) kinase pathway, which binds to peroxisomal proteins PEX19 and PEX5¹⁶⁻²⁰.

26 Due to the diversity of peroxisomal functions, the cellular demand for peroxisomes depends
27 on specific conditions, such that peroxisomes must be rapidly mass-produced during specific
28 instances of stress adaptation and development^{7, 23, 24}, necessitating precise regulation. Disruption of
29 peroxisomal biogenesis adversely affects downstream cellular adaptive functions, including
30 autophagy, cholesterol metabolism, immune response, and ciliogenesis^{20, 22, 25-29}. Not surprisingly,
31 therefore, multiple human disorders result from defects in peroxisome biogenesis^{2, 30-32}. Due to the
32 transient “on demand” need for peroxisomal metabolism, the key to understanding the role of
33 peroxisomes in cell biology and disease is to investigate the mechanisms regulating peroxisomal
34 biogenesis.

35 Peroxisomes form through two main pathways: fission of pre-existing peroxisomes³³⁻³⁸, and
36 *de novo* (from intracellular endoplasmic reticulum- and mitochondria-derived membranes)^{35, 36, 39-44}.
37 The peroxisome biogenesis machinery consists of peroxins (PEX), which are conserved in fungi,
38 plants, and animals^{34, 45-48}. Deletion of PEX3, PEX19 and PEX16 results in conditionally viable cells
39 lacking peroxisomes^{34, 39, 41, 43, 44, 47, 49-52}. Peroxisome division, on the other hand, is initiated by the
40 PEX11 protein family, which orchestrate a multistep process that involves peroxisome membrane
41 elongation, and prime assembly of additional peroxisome division components, including MFF, FIS1,
42 and DNM1L⁵³⁻⁵⁷. Both peroxisome biogenesis mechanisms are initiated by several non-mutually
43 exclusive pathways: transcriptional peroxisome proliferator receptor alpha (PPAR α) increases the
44 level of division factors, peroxisome tethering to the endoplasmic reticulum (ER) through a recently
45 defined membrane contact site that is formed between acyl-coenzyme A-binding domain protein 5
46 (ACBD5) and the ER protein vesicle-associated membrane protein-associated protein (VAPB)^{58, 59}
47 potentially sources the membrane, and an increase in peroxisome function in the presence of
48 peroxisomal substrates promotes peroxisome formation via unknown mechanisms. The latter
49 phenomenon of increased peroxisome number in response to increased peroxisomal function is known
50 as “metabolic control of peroxisome abundance (MCPA)”^{23, 60-63}. Recently, Schrader/Costello groups
51 demonstrated how peroxisome-endoplasmic reticulum membrane contacts are negatively regulated by
52 glycogen synthase kinase beta (GSK3 β) that phosphorylates ACBD5 preventing interaction with

1 VAPB and reducing contacts⁵⁸. We showed that abolishing the peroxisome-ER contacts through
2 knockout of VAPB and its homologue VAPA leads to a significant defect in peroxisome biogenesis⁶⁶.

3 Here, using a focused tool compound kinase inhibitor screen, we identify positive and
4 negative regulators of peroxisome abundance, including PKC as a major positive driver. We show
5 that active PKC inhibits GSK3 β , promoting peroxisome-ER tethering and peroxisome biogenesis,
6 promoting ACBD5-VAPB interaction^{58, 67, 68}. We further show that PKC regulation is dependend on
7 PEX11b and VAPs. Inhibition of PKC reduces peroxisome-ER contacts, peroxisome abundance, and
8 function. Our study shows how PKC can rapidly regulate peroxisome-ER interaction, peroxisome
9 formation, and peroxisome function.

10 **Results:**

11 **Tool Compound Kinase Inhibitor screen reveals signaling regulators of peroxisome abundance**

12 We postulated that a sensitive and tractable assay of peroxisome abundance was the key to
13 discovering regulators of peroxisome formation and, by extension, peroxisome function. We therefore
14 developed a new tool for quantifying peroxisomes in live cells. We used CRISPR/Cas9 gene editing
15 to genomically fuse GFP to the C-terminus of the transmembrane peroxisomal protein PMP70 in
16 HEK293T cells (Figure 1A; Figure S1A and S1B). PMP70-GFP localized to peroxisomes,
17 peroxisomal protein import was not impaired, and peroxisomes in the endogenously tagged cells were
18 comparable to the wildtype cells (Figure S1C, S1D, and S1E). Considering the prominent role of
19 kinase signaling in metabolic regulation, we set out to identify kinase modulators of peroxisome
20 abundance. We opted for a small molecule “tool compound” library of 152 kinase inhibitors, which
21 we viewed as preferable to gene manipulation-based screening given the pleiotropic and essential
22 nature of regulatory kinase function (Figure 1B; Figure S1F, Figure S2, Figure S3, and Supplementary
23 Table 1). Peroxisome cellular density (abundance) was calculated as the number of peroxisomes per
24 square micron of the cytoplasmic space in confocal microscopy images, using the overexpression of
25 PEX19 peroxisome biogenesis factor as a positive control⁴⁹, and overexpression of PEX3 as a
26 negative control (Figure 1C)^{69, 70}. We found that 16 kinase inhibitors reduced, and 5 upregulated, the
27 number of peroxisomes in HEK293T cells (Figure S1F and S1G). We performed a secondary screen
28 of the hits in untagged human fibroblasts (Figure 1D), validating 10 compounds that reduced and 2
29 that upregulated the number of peroxisomes (Figure 1E). We then associated the molecules to the
30 kinases they inhibit and mapped the kinases on the human kinome (Figure 1F). Positive regulators
31 (whereby inhibition of the kinase reduces peroxisome number) included: protein kinase C (PKC),
32 TGF β R, MEK1/2, ERK2, PDHK, IGF1R, and ALK4/7. Negative regulators (whereby inhibition of
33 the kinase increases peroxisome numbers) were CK2 and IKK β (Figure 1F). Two different tool
34 compounds targeted the TGF β and PKC pathways. Interestingly, TGF β is a known positive regulator
35 of peroxisome proliferation⁷¹, underlining the broad coverage of our tool compound screen. We
36 elected to further focus on the previously uncharacterized role of PKC in regulating peroxisome
37 abundance.

38 **Protein Kinase C delta positively regulates peroxisome abundance**

39 First, we analyzed which PKC isoforms are inhibited by the small molecules that we
40 identified. Go6983 PKC inhibitor prevents kinase activity as well as the steric PKC interaction with
41 the substrates⁷². Chelerythrine and D-erythrosphingosine C18 are potent inhibitors of PKC^{73, 74}. The
42 human PKC superfamily consists of classical (cPKC): α , β I, β II, γ ; novel (nPKC): δ , ϵ , θ and η ;
43 atypical (aPKC): ζ and ι / λ : and PKC-related kinase (PKN) isoforms^{75, 76}. Identified molecules are
44 not specific to one isoform, and inhibit classical (cPKC: α , β . and γ), novel (nPKC δ), and at least one
45 atypical (aPKC : ζ), inhibition of these PKC isoforms resulted in a decrease of peroxisome abundance
46 (Figure 1E). We, therefore decided to test whether PKC activation by overexpression of one isoform
47 is sufficient to trigger peroxisome proliferation. First, we overexpressed a representative isoform of
48 each class - classical PKC(α), novel PKC(δ), and atypical isoform of PKC(ζ) fused to mCherry and
49 mCherry as a control and measured peroxisome number (Figure 2A-B). Only PKC δ overexpression
50 was able to induce peroxisome proliferation (Figure 2A; Figure S4A). Both cPKC and nPKC bind to
51 and are activated by phorbol esters (PMA)^{77, 78}. We incubated human fibroblasts with PMA, which

1 resulted in a significant increase in peroxisome number (Figure 2C). Together, these data argue that
2 PKC δ is a positive regulator of peroxisome abundance in human cells. To independently test that
3 inhibition of PKC affects peroxisome biogenesis we used a radioactive assay of peroxisomal fatty
4 acid oxidation that we previously established⁶⁶. As a control we generated PEX19 KO that lack
5 peroxisomes (Figure 2D)⁶⁶. Inhibition of PKC resulted in a significant reduction of peroxisome
6 function, but did not inhibit it completely (Figure 2D), consistent with a reduction of peroxisome
7 numbers. PKC, therefore, regulates peroxisome biogenesis – formation and function of peroxisomes.
8 Next, investigated the mechanism of this new role of PKC in peroxisome biology.

9 **Protein Kinase C induces PEX11b-dependent peroxisome formation**

10 Peroxisome abundance is maintained by peroxisome biogenesis by *de novo* and division
11 pathways, and peroxisome degradation^{35, 39, 43, 45, 53, 79-82}. To understand how PKC activation results in
12 an increased number of peroxisomes, we first reproduced the PEX19 functional complementation
13 assay⁴¹ in HEK293T cells (Figure 3A). This assay monitors *de novo* peroxisome formation by
14 complementing PEX19 KO cells with PEX19 and measuring peroxisome formation. We constructed
15 CRISPR/Cas9 PEX19 KO cells, that lack peroxisomes⁶⁶. In line with published observations, it takes
16 more than 24 hours to restore peroxisomes *de novo*^{36, 41} (Figure 3B). Peroxisomes appear on the
17 second day after transfection and continue to proliferate, with a 70% restoration on day 4 (Figure 3B-
18 D). PKC inhibition did not change the *de novo* peroxisome formation. Note, that here we measured
19 the ratio of cells that restored peroxisomes among the cells expressing PEX19 (the density of
20 peroxisomes in single cells was not assayed). Similarly, PKC activation with PMA did not affect *de*
21 *novo* peroxisome formation, however, a long exposure to PMA is inhibitory to PKC, as active PKC is
22 degraded⁸³. Peroxisome division is thought to be a more frequent event than peroxisome *de novo*
23 formation⁸⁴, and it takes considerably less time. Peroxisome proliferation was upregulated with a
24 short 2-hour exposure to PMA that activates PKC, pointing towards the proliferation pathway as a
25 point of PKC regulation of peroxisome abundance (Figure 3E).

26 Peroxisome proliferation is controlled by PEX11b - a key peroxisomal proliferation factor,
27 responsible for early membrane remodeling, elongation, and association with the rest of the division
28 machinery that is shared with mitochondria^{38, 53, 54}. In order to understand whether PKC regulates
29 PEX11b-induced peroxisome division we constructed a CRISPR/Cas9 PEX11b KO (Figure 3F).
30 PEX11b KO has a reduction in peroxisome abundance as was previously shown, and it did not
31 respond to PKC inhibition by further reduction of peroxisome numbers (Figure 3G and 3H)^{54, 85}.

32 Finally, to rule out PKC-driven regulation of the PPAR α peroxisomal transcriptional regulator
33⁸⁶, we measured PPAR α levels following PKC inhibition and activation. PKC inhibition had no effect
34 on PPAR α , whereas PKC activation with PMA showed a modest increase in PPAR α levels, though
35 not PPAR α activity (Figure S4B-E)^{87, 88}. To also rule out a role for pexophagy⁸⁹, we silenced the
36 NBR1 receptor, which did not affect peroxisome abundance over a two day period (Figure S4F, S4G),
37 confirming that PKC does not upregulate peroxisomes by inhibiting their degradation. Collectively
38 these data points to the peroxisome division pathways as a route for PKC regulation of peroxisome
39 abundance. Next, we investigated the mechanism of PKC regulation of peroxisome proliferation.

40 **PKC phosphorylation of PEX11b on S53 is not sufficient to induce peroxisome proliferation**

41 First, to explore whether PEX11b machinery is reorganized during PKC inhibition, we tested
42 whether PEX11b changes its association with other division factors. However, neither the interaction
43 of PEX11b with other factors of peroxisome division machinery or PEX19 (Figure 3I-J) were
44 significantly affected.

45 PEX11 phosphorylation is known to promote peroxisome division in certain yeast species
46 (*Saccharomyces cerevisiae* and *Pichia pastoris*), but not in others (*H. polymorpha*)⁹⁰⁻⁹². Therefore,
47 we were curious whether phosphorylation of PEX11b by PKC regulates proliferation of peroxisomes
48 in human cells. There are 6 predicted PKC phospho-sites on PEX11b according to NetPhos3.1
49 prediction algorithm^{93, 94}. Mass spectrometry analysis of the PEX11b in the lysate results in low
50 peptide coverage, not sufficient for the phospho-proteomic identification. To overcome this limitation,

1 we constructed a CRISPR/Cas9 flag-GFP-PEX11b HEK293T cell line (Figure S5A). Flag pull-down
2 of PEX11b significantly improved PEX11b coverage (Figure S6A), and was used for targeted
3 phospho-peptide identification (Figure S5B, Supplementary Table 2). Among the identified peptides,
4 Ser53 is a predicted PKC target, Ser38 is an unspecified/p38MAPK target, and Ser78 was not
5 identified by the prediction algorithm (Figure S5B; Figure S6B-C). The ratio of phosphorylated to the
6 overall identified peptides was 4.4% for Ser53. To confirm that PKC can directly phosphorylate Ser53
7 of PEX11b we used a pure peptide competition assay – a mix of all the predicted PKC-
8 phosphorylated PEX11b peptides with a known PKC substrate peptide⁹⁵, incubated with or without
9 the addition of pure active PKC and subjected to phospho-mass spectrometry (Figure S5B). 4 out of 6
10 predicted peptides were phosphorylated to a similar extent as the PKC substrate peptide, including the
11 Ser53 site, and none of the peptides were phosphorylated without PKC (Figure S5B-C, S6D).

12 We overexpressed PEX11b, PEX11b S53A (Ser53Ala), and a phosphomimetic PEX11b
13 S53D (Ser53Asp) mutant in PEX11b KO background and assessed peroxisome number (Figure S5C-
14 F). PEX11b S53D overexpression, and that of the WT and S53A, had no effect on peroxisome
15 number (after correction for PEX11b expression level) (Figure S5E). Importantly, N-terminal
16 phosphorylation of PEX11b on S38, was also shown to have no effect on peroxisome division⁹⁶. We
17 also verified that other identified sites (S78, and a triple D mutant) did not affect the number of
18 peroxisomes either (Figure S5G-H).

19 **PKC regulates peroxisome-ER contact sites through GSK3 β inhibition**

20 Given that PKC phosphorylation of PEX11b failed to explain its effect on peroxisome
21 proliferation, we posited that the regulation of the peroxisome-ER interaction can affect peroxisome
22 proliferation. This is based on the discovery of the VAPB-ACDB5 contacts^{59, 68} and our finding that
23 KO of VAPA and VAPB results in a significant decrease in peroxisome abundance⁶⁶. In addition to
24 acting as a structural anchor, the VAPB-ACBD5 contact site regulates lipid transfer between the ER
25 and peroxisomes. Since peroxisomes do not produce their own phospholipids, this activity may be
26 essential for division-associated membrane growth⁵⁸. To independently confirm that peroxisome-ER
27 contact sites are required for peroxisome biogenesis (i.e. an increase in the number of peroxisomes),
28 we used VAPB/VAPA knockout cells⁹⁷. There was a significant decrease in peroxisome number in
29 the VAP KO cells, which was restored upon complementation with VAPB (Figure 4A, Figure S4H).
30 Peroxisome abundance in VAP KO cells was significantly reduced, and not affected by PKC
31 inhibition (Figure 4B)⁶⁶.

32 We then assessed peroxisome-ER interaction^{58, 59}. Inhibition of PKC resulted in a decrease in
33 the VAPB-ACBD5 interaction as evidenced by the co-immunoprecipitation of VAPB (Figure 4C),
34 and resulted in a significant increase in a free-roaming peroxisomes, as evidenced by the lack of
35 peroxisome-ER proximity (Figure 4D), and significant increase in mobility (Figure 4E-F;
36 Supplementary Movies 1-6). One obvious candidate for the mechanism of this regulation was GSK3 β ,
37 due to its established role in the VAPB-ACBD5 negative regulation^{58, 68}. PKC negatively regulates
38 GSK3 β ^{98, 99}, which, in turn, negatively regulates peroxisome contact sites with the ER⁶⁸. We
39 therefore hypothesized that PKC drives peroxisome division by modulating contact site formation.
40 We confirmed that PKC activation inhibits GSK3 β , whereas inhibition of PKC leads to GSK3 β
41 activation, as assayed by measuring GSK3 β S9 inhibitory phosphorylation (Figure 4G). Next, to
42 confirm that PKC regulates peroxisome biogenesis through GSK3 β inactivation, we constructed a
43 GSK3 β S9A constitutively active mutant¹⁰⁰, which suppressed peroxisome proliferation in response to
44 PMA treatment (PKC activation) (Figure 4H and 4I). Finally, analysis of our hits from the small
45 molecule screen, revealed that inhibitor of GSK3 β , CHIR99021, increased peroxisome number in
46 HEK293T cells (Figure S1G). Taken together, these data shows that PKC can positively regulate
47 peroxisome number through inhibition of GSK3 β , by promoting peroxisome-ER interaction through
48 known mechanisms^{58, 68}, which in turn is regulating peroxisome biogenesis (Figure 4A)⁶⁶.

49 **Protein kinase C regulates peroxisome abundance during neuronal differentiation**

50 Finally, we investigated the biological relevance of PKC-regulated peroxisome division. PKC
51 activity varies between tissues, with the highest levels detected in the brain¹⁰¹. Further, peroxisome

1 regulation is critical for brain development, evidenced by the neurodegenerative conditions stemming
2 from impaired peroxisome biogenesis²⁴. We, therefore, tracked peroxisome abundance in
3 differentiating neuronal cells. We used human neuroblastoma SH-SY5Y cells that can be
4 differentiated into neuron-like cells that express neuronal markers after 18 days¹⁰² (Figure 5A; Figure
5 S7A and S7B). PKC activity was significantly increased in differentiating cells (Figure 5B), as was
6 peroxisome number. We then differentiated SH-SY5Y neuronal cells in the presence of PKC
7 inhibitor, that was added from day 10 to day 18 of neuronal differentiation. Apart from PAX6,
8 differentiation markers, including MAP2, NeuN, and β -3 tubulin were upregulated to a similar extent
9 in control and PKC-inhibited samples (Figure 5C; Figure S7B), but peroxisome number was
10 decreased significantly (Figure 5D to F, Figure S7C). Similarly, we detected an increase in PKC
11 activity and peroxisome number while differentiating iPSC to neuronal progenitor cells (Figure 5G-J;
12 Figure S7D-F).

13 Discussion

14 We established a mechanistic connection between PKC activation and peroxisome biogenesis
15 through PEX11b peroxisome formation. We showed that PKC promotes VAPB-dependent
16 peroxisome biogenesis, through its established role in GSK3 β inhibition and, a recently discovered,
17 GSK3 β regulation of peroxisome-ER interaction⁶⁸. This mechanism allows cells to rapidly induce
18 peroxisomes through signaling regulation, providing both an on-demand pool of functional
19 peroxisomes and fulfilling the need for peroxisomal function during neuronal differentiation (Figure
20 5K).

21 PKC is a Serine/Threonine kinase that controls cell-to-cell recognition, cytoskeletal dynamics,
22 GSK3 activity, membrane growth, eisosome assembly, T-cell development, apoptosis, response to
23 oxidative stress, and lysosome biogenesis, among many other cellular functions^{75, 76, 98, 103-114}. The
24 PKC superfamily consists of 4 distinct sub-groups^{75, 76} that share a kinase domain, and have a variety
25 of regulatory domains that regulate spatiotemporal specificity⁷⁵ (Figure 2A). A screen of kinase
26 inhibitor compounds revealed that inhibition of cPKC and nPKC results in a reduction of peroxisome
27 numbers in human cell lines, including neuron-like cells. Peroxisome abundance is a balance between
28 several pathways that produce and degrade peroxisomes, as well as PPAR α -regulated
29 transcriptional response that produces PEX peroxisome biogenesis factors^{38, 46, 82}. Classical isoforms
30 of PKC regulate PPAR α receptor¹¹⁵. One possibility is that PKC inhibition leads to reduced
31 transcription of PEX genes, however we didn't see an effect of PKC inhibition on the PPAR
32 transcriptional response. Another possibility is that PKC inhibition increases pexophagy. However,
33 blocking pexophagy in normal conditions in human cells did not lead to a significant change in
34 peroxisome number. The regulation of peroxisome abundance by pexophagy may be more relevant
35 for clearance of peroxisomes, when excess peroxisomes are degraded, usually after a bout of
36 upregulation^{46, 81, 82, 89, 116}. The timing of PKC-induced peroxisome induction, as well as its
37 dependence on PEX11b, suggested peroxisome division as the mechanism of PKC regulation. Our
38 data showed that PKC positively regulates peroxisome-ER contact by modulating the ACBD5-VAPB
39 tether by inhibiting GSK3 β , which was recently shown to negatively regulate the contact^{58, 68}.
40 Although PKC can phosphorylate PEX11b on the N-terminus S53, the phosphorylation event is not
41 sufficient to increase the number of peroxisomes. We also didn't observe any effect of PKC on
42 PEX11b interaction with other division factors. It remains to be determined how peroxisome division
43 depends on peroxisome-ER contact sites¹¹⁷.

44 The PKC-regulated pathway that we have identified has broad implications for peroxisome
45 physiology. For example, PKC and peroxisomes are known regulators of redox signaling, and
46 peroxisomes both produce and clear hydrogen peroxide¹¹⁸⁻¹²⁰. Both PKC and peroxisomes are known
47 to control levels of D-serine in the brain¹²¹⁻¹²⁵. The model of PKC-induced peroxisome proliferation
48 also explains the notable increase in peroxisome abundance during neuronal differentiation. PKC
49 activity has been recorded to be the highest in the brain, followed by liver and kidney¹⁰¹, the organs
50 which incidentally are primarily affected in peroxisome biogenesis disorders (Peroxisome Biogenesis
51 Disorder/Zellweger syndrome, also known as cerebro-hepato-renal syndrome)^{32, 126}. It would be of

1 interest to explore the peroxisomal contribution to diseases associated with abnormal PKC signaling,
2 such as cancer, cardiovascular diseases, diabetes, psoriasis, and neurodegenerative disorders¹²⁷⁻¹³³.

3

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18 **Author contributions:** A. B., C. H., S. P. and T. A. performed the experiments. T. A. and D. K.
19 designed the experiments, performed the data analysis, wrote the manuscript, and supervised the
20 study.

21 **Competing Interests:** The authors declare that they have no competing interests.

22

23 **Methods**

24 **Materials Availability**

25 Reagents generated in this study are available upon request.

26 **Data and Code Availability**

27 Additional data that support the conclusions of this study are available upon request. This study didn't
28 generate any code.

29

30 **EXPERIMENTAL MODEL AND SUBJECT DETAILS**

31 Human fibroblasts (AFF11), U2OS, HeLa, CHO, and HEK293T cells were maintained in high
32 glucose DMEM supplemented with 10% fetal bovine serum (FBS), 1% penicillin/streptomycin, at
33 37°C/5% CO₂, SH-SY5Y cells were maintained in high glucose DMEM/F12 1:1 media supplemented
34 with 10% FBS, 1% penicillin/streptomycin at 37°C/5% CO₂. Cells modified via CRISPR/Cas9 were
35 maintained as above with addition of puromycin (1µg/ml, Sigma) or Blasticidin (5µg/ml, Sigma)
36 during selection of the clonal populations. Neural progenitor cells were maintained in STEMdiff™
37 neural progenitor medium (STEM CELL Technologies). Neuronal differentiation of SH-SY5Y cells
38 was done according to¹⁰² with modifications, SH-SY5Y cells (initial seeding density 350,000 cells on
39 60mm dish) were gradually FBS starved for 10 days, before plating them on a Matrigel (Corning)
40 extra-cellular matrix (seeding density (100,000 per a well of a 6-well plate), neuronal media was
41 replaced every third day, cells were collected on day 18. Neuronal differentiation of induced
42 pluripotent stem cells (iPSC) derived neuronal progenitor cells (NPC)¹³⁴ was done using STEMdiff™
43 neural differentiation kit (STEM CELL Technologies). The concentration of cells for plating was
44 determined using cell counter (Countess II FL, Life Technologies) with the cell counting chambers
45 (Invitrogen).

46 **METHOD DETAILS**

47 **Antibodies**

48 We used the following reagents to detect proteins: anti-GAPDH (sc-47724, Santa Cruz
49 Biotechnology), anti-mCherry (34974, Invitrogen), anti-PMP70 (SAB4200181, Sigma), anti-PEX19

1 (14713-1-AP, Proteintech), anti-GFP (SAB4301158, Sigma), anti-NBR1 (16004-1-AP, Proteintech),
2 anti-PEX11b (PA5-37011, Thermo Fisher Scientific), anti-PKC (P5704, Sigma), anti-Flag (F1804,
3 Sigma), anti-myc (9E10, Sigma), anti-MFF (17090-1-aP, Proteintech), β -3 tubulin (D71G9, Cell
4 Signaling Technology), anti-VAPB (14477-1-AP, ProteinTech).

5 Secondary antibodies for immunofluorescence: anti-Rabbit IgG Cy3-conjugated (Sigma-Aldrich
6 C2306), anti-Mouse IgG Cy3-conjugated (Sigma-Aldrich C2181), anti-rabbit IgG Cy5 conjugated
7 (Invitrogen A10523), Anti-Mouse IgG H&L (Alexa Fluor® 488) (Abcam).

8 **Chemicals**

9 Hoechst (Sigma), fatty acid free BSA (PAN), Phenylmethylsulfonyl fluoride (PMSF, Sigma), Go6983
10 (Cayman Chemicals), Behenic acid (VLCFA, Sigma), kinase screening library (Cayman Chemicals),
11 D-Serine (Sigma), palmitic acid (LCFA, Sigma), Phorbol 12-myristate 13-acetate (Cayman
12 Chemicals), siRNA NBR1 and control (Qiagen), oleic acid (Sigma), brain derived neurotrophic factor
13 (BDNF, Stem Cell Technologies), Dibutyryl-cAMP (Santa Cruz Biotechnology), Neuropan 27
14 Supplement 50x (Pan Biotech).

15 **CRISPR/Cas9**

16 Knockout and endogenously tagged cell lines were constructed using CRISPR/Cas9 protocol and
17 plasmids described in Ran et. al (Ran et al., 2013). Knockout cell lines were verified by western
18 blotting, immunofluorescence. Genomic DNA was sequenced to verify disrupted region in knockout
19 or the fidelity of endogenous tagging. Functional assay for knockout verification was performed
20 where applicable (Reduced viability of PEX19 on VLCFA). Endogenous tagging was performed by
21 fusing tagging construct (linker-GFP-polyA-Blasticidin for C-terminal tagging of PMP70, and flag-
22 GFP- for the N-terminal tagging of PEX11b) to the region upstream of the stop codon (~500bp) and
23 downstream of stop codon (~500bp) for the C-terminal tagging, and to the region upstream of the start
24 codon, and downstream of the start codon for the N-terminal tagging¹³⁵. PCR product containing
25 homologous regions flanking the tagging construct was co-transfected with px330-gRNA
26 corresponding construct for C-terminal tagging and px459-gRNA construct for N-terminal tagging.
27 Endogenous tagging was verified by western blotting, immunofluorescence staining, and genomic
28 DNA sequencing. CRISPR specificity was profiled using Digenome-Seq web tool
29 (<http://www.rgenome.net/cas-offinder/>) (Bae et al., 2014). Off targets were not found. The following
30 target sequences are used to modify genomic DNA: endogenous tagging of PMP70 on the C-terminus
31 – 5'-GTTGAGTTTGGCTCTTAGAGAAATC-3', endogenous tagging of PEX11b on the N-terminus –
32 5'-CGCGGAGCCTGGGCTGCGGCTGTCA-3', knockout of PEX19 – 5'-
33 GGAGGTAGCAAGATGGCCGCCGCTG-3', knockout of PEX11b – 5'-
34 CGCGGAGCCTGGGCTGCGGCTGTCA-3'.

35 **Plasmid Construction:**

36 All plasmids were constructed using *Escherichia coli* strain DH5 α . Plasmids used in this study are
37 summarized in the Table 1. We used px459 and px330 plasmids to clone CRISPR/Cas9 constructs for
38 gene knockout and endogenous tagging. pSpCas9(BB)-2A-Puro (PX459) V2.0 was a gift from Feng
39 Zhang (Addgene plasmid # 62988 ; <http://n2t.net/addgene:62988> ; RRID:Addgene_62988) (Ran et al.,
40 2013). pX330-U6-Chimeric_BB-CBh-hSpCas9 was a gift from Feng Zhang (Addgene plasmid #
41 42230 ; <http://n2t.net/addgene:42230> ; RRID:Addgene_42230) (Cong et al., 2013). pcDNA4-
42 PKCZeta WT His tagged was a gift from Jeff Wrana (Addgene plasmid # 24609 ;
43 <http://n2t.net/addgene:24609> ; RRID:Addgene_24609)¹³⁶. PKC alpha WT was a gift from Bernard
44 Weinstein (Addgene plasmid # 21232 ; <http://n2t.net/addgene:21232> ; RRID:Addgene_21232)¹³⁷.
45 pWZL Neo Myr Flag PRKCD was a gift from William Hahn & Jean Zhao (Addgene plasmid # 20603
46 ; <http://n2t.net/addgene:20603> ; RRID:Addgene_20603)¹³⁸. HA GSK3 beta wt pcDNA3 was a gift
47 from Jim Woodgett (Addgene plasmid # 14753 ; <http://n2t.net/addgene:14753> ;
48 RRID:Addgene_14753)¹³⁹. pCDNA3.1-PPARA was a gift from Claes Wadelius (Addgene plasmid #
49 169019 ; <http://n2t.net/addgene:169019> ; RRID:Addgene_169019)¹⁴⁰. Human PEX3, PEX19, DAO,
50 and ACBD5 were amplified from Lentiviral plasmid collection. Side Directed Mutagenesis was

1 verified by sequencing. Site directed mutagenesis was performed to obtain PEX11b mutants, and
 2 GSK3bS9A.

3 **Table 1.** Plasmids used in this study

Plasmid name	Source
pcDNA3.1 mCH*4skl	¹³⁴
pcDNA3.1 GSK3beta	Addgene 14753
pcDNA3.1 PPARA	Addgene 169019
pcDNA3.1 PEX3hismyc	This study
pcDNA3.1 flagPEX19	This study
Px459-PEX19 KO	⁶⁶
Px330-PMP70-C	This study
Px459-PEX11b-N	This study
pCtag-PMP70-GFP-Blasti	This study
pNtag-PEX11b-flag-GFP	This study
pcDNA3.1- PKC α -mCherry	This study, PKC α is from Addgene 21232
pcDNA3.1 PKC δ -mCherry	This study, PKC δ is from Addgene 20603
pcDNA3.1- PKC ζ -mCherry	This study, PKC ζ is from Addgene 24609
pcDNA3.1 hismyc-PEX11b	This study
pcDNA3.1 hismyc-PEX11b S53D	This study
pcDNA3.1 hismyc-PEX11b S53A	This study
pEGFP-VAPB	¹⁴¹
pcDNA3.1 hismyc-ACBD5	This study
pcDNA3.1 GFP-SKL	This study
pcDNA3.1 ER-mCherry	¹³⁴

4

5 **PKC activity**

6 Protein kinase activity was determined by PKC Kinase Activity Assay Kit (Abcam) according to the
 7 manufacturer instructions. Protein concentration in lysates was quantified using bicinchoninic acid
 8 (BCA) Assay kit (Interchim).

9 **Peroxisome abundance measurement**

10 We used peroxisome density as a read-out for peroxisome abundance in this study. To calculate the
 11 number of peroxisomes cells were visualized by confocal microscopy. Images were captured using
 12 the same parameters between conditions within the experiment. Images were analyzed by Fiji
 13 (ImageJ) software, peroxisome numbers were quantified as maxima of intensity in the cytoplasmic
 14 space and the number was divided by the size of the areas (square micron) which results in a
 15 peroxisome per square micron cytoplasmic ratio. The cytoplasmic space was defined using threshold
 16 mask that excludes the nuclei (stained with Hoechst) and background using ImageJ Threshold
 17 function. The resultant area was divided into N parts equal to the number of cells (nuclei number). At
 18 least 100 areas were quantified per condition per experiment. 2D areas with a nucleus in focus were
 19 chosen for all of the experiments, because 3D projections often create overlaps between peroxisomal
 20 compartments.

21 **Preparing samples for the Mass spectroscopy**

22 Cells expressing CRISPR/Cas9 flag-GFP-PEX11b were grown to 80% confluency in the presence of
 23 VLCFA for 2 days, washed with PBS, and lysed in 1% TritonX-100 50mM Tris HCl pH7.4, 150mM
 24 NaCl buffer at 4°C for 30min. PEX11b was purified using Anti-FLAG M2 affinity gel (Sigma). 10%
 25 of the sample was collected for the Western Blot analysis. Beads were collected and washed free of
 26 detergents in 50mM Tris HCl, pH7.4 150mM NaCl. Samples were reduced in 10 mM dithioerythritol
 27 (DTE) alkylated in 55 mM iodoacetamide (IAA)). Digestion was performed overnight at 37 °C using

1 mass spectrometry grade trypsin and LysC protease (Thermo Fisher Scientific). The following day,
2 protein digests were then subjected to C18 stage tip cleaning, dried in a speed-vacuum and stored at -
3 20°C until LC-MS analysis.

4 **LC/MS/MS analysis (shotgun approach)**

5 Mass spectrometry-based proteomics-related experiments were performed by the Proteomics Core
6 Facility at EPFL. Mass spectrometry (MS) analysis was performed on an Orbitrap Exploris 480 mass
7 spectrometer (Thermo Fisher Scientific) coupled to a nano-UPLC Dionex pump. For liquid
8 chromatography (LC) MS/MS analysis, trypsin / LysC digested samples were resuspended in 30-60ul
9 of a mobile phase A solution (2% ACN / water, 0.1% formic acid) and then separated by reversed-
10 phase chromatography using a Dionex Ultimate 3000 RSLC nanoUPLC system on a home-made 75
11 μm ID \times 50 cm C18 capillary column (Reprosil-Pur AQ 120 Å, 1.9 μm) in-line connected with the
12 MS instrument. Peptides were separated by applying a non-linear 90min gradient ranging from 99%
13 solvent A (2% ACN and 0.1% FA) to 90% solvent B (90% ACN and 0.1%FA) at a flow rate of
14 250nl/min. For spectral library and charge state determination of Pex11b peptides, the MS instrument
15 was operated in data-dependent mode (DDA). Full-scan MS spectra (300–1500 m/z) were acquired at
16 a resolution of 120'000 at 200 m/z. Data-dependent MS/MS spectra were recorded followed by HCD
17 (higher-energy collision dissociation) fragmentation on the ten most intense signals per cycle (2 s),
18 using an isolation window of 1.4 m/z. HCD spectra were acquired at a resolution of 60'000 using a
19 normalized collision energy of 32 and a maximum injection time of 100 ms. The automatic gain
20 control (AGC) was set to 100'000 ions. Charge state screening was enabled such that unassigned and
21 charge states higher than six were rejected. Precursors intensity threshold was set at 5'000. Precursor
22 masses previously selected for MS/MS acquisition were excluded from further selection for a duration
23 of 20 s, and the mass exclusion window was set at 10 ppm.

24 **MS data processing and database searches**

25 PEAKS Studio X+ Pro (Bioinformatics Solutions Inc.) software was used for data processing. The
26 raw MS data files were imported into PEAKS Studio software using the following parameters for the
27 database search: For protein identification, the UniProt/Swiss-Prot human proteome data base
28 (UP000005640) or searched using the canonical protein sequence of human Pex11b (accession#: O96011)
29 combined with a decoy and contaminant database was used. For peptide identification the
30 following settings were used: Enzyme: Trypsin, missed cleavages: 2 precursor mass tolerance: 10
31 ppm, fragment mass tolerance: 0.1 Da, minimum charge: 2, maximum charge: 5, fixed modifications:
32 Carbamidomethyl (C), variable modifications: Oxidation (M), phosphorylation (STY). False
33 discovery rate (FDR) was calculated based on the target/decoy database and peptides as well as
34 proteins with FDR threshold of $\leq 1\%$ (or $-\log_{10}P \geq 15$ for peptides) were chosen as true positive hits.
35 The PTM identification threshold (PEAKS) was set at the recommended AScore of $-\log_{10}P$ of 20
36 ($p=0.01$).

37 **RNA preparation and real time PCR (rtPCR)**

38 Total mRNA was extracted from cells using RNeasy Mini Kit (Qiagen). cDNA synthesis was
39 performed using iScript cDNA synthesis kit (Biorad). Real time PCR was performed using
40 QuantStudio6 (Thermo Fischer Scientific). mRNA levels were quantified using QuantStudio6
41 software. Experiments were repeated three times with 2 technical repeats and fold difference in
42 expression was calculated by $\Delta\Delta\text{Ct}$ method using GAPDH as a housekeeping gene (Livak and
43 Schmittgen, 2001).

44 **Table 2: Primers for rtPCR**

NT5F	5'-GTGGGAATCGTTGGATACACTCC
NT5R	5'-CAAAACCCGAATGTCCCAGTGC

NESF	5'-GGGCCTACAGAGCCAGATCG
NESR	5'-CTGAAAGCTGAGGGAAGTCTTGG
NeuNF	5'-CACACCAGCACAGACCCACC
NeuNR	5'-GATGTTGGAGACGTGTAGCCGC
MAP2F	5'-GGGAGGATGAAGAGGGTGCC
MAP2R	5'-CAGGACTGCTACAGCCTCAGC
PAX6F	5'-GGAATCAGAGAAGACAGGCCAGC
PAX6R	5'-CCATGGTGAAGCTGGGCATAG
GAPDHF	5'-GGGGAAGGTGAAGGTCGGAGTC
GAPDHR	5'-GTGCCATGGAATTTGCCATGGG
PEX5F	5'-CCTGCAGGACCAGAATGCAC
PEX5R	5'-CTGAGTTACATCCACAGCATCTCC
PEX19F	5'-CAGCACCCCCTTCTACCACC
PEX19R	5'-GGAAGTCTCCACCAGGTG
PEX7F	5'-ACAACGAACATGTCCTCATCACC
PEX7R	5'-GAGCCAGACACCACAAGCTG
CATF	5'-GCATGCTAAAGGAGCAGGGG
CATR	5'-GTCAGCTGAACCCGATTCTCC
BAATF	5'-CCTCCTTGGCCTTGCTTACC
BAATR	5'-CTCCTTGACATACAGAGACTACCCC
ACOX2F	5'-GTGGACATGGCAAGAACAGCC
ACOX2R	5'-ACTGGAACAGGCGTTCGTAGAC
DBPF	5'-CAAAGTTGGGTCTTCTGGGCC
DBPR	5'-GCCACATACTCTGGCTTCAGGG
SCPxF	5'-GTATGGCCTGCAATCCAAAGC
SCPxR	5'-GTGTCAGGCCAGATTTCTCATAGCA
AMACRF	5'-TTTGCTGGTGGTGGCCTTATG
AMACRR	5'-TCGAGGTGCTTCCCACAGAC
ACAA1F	5'-GAATCTGAGGCCGGAACAGC
ACAA1R	5'-ACCTGCTATGCTGGCCACTG
ACOX1F	5'-GTCAGGTCCTTCCTTGTGGGAG
ACOX1R	5'-GTATGCGCCACAAACTGGAAG
PHYHF	5'-CGAAGGTCCAGGATTTCCAGG
PHYHR	5'-TAGTGCAGGTCCTGGTGCAG
DAOF	5'-CTGACCCCAACAACCCACAG
DAOR	5'-CCGAAATCCCAGAACTGTGTCC
PEX3F	5'- CAGAAATCTCGTTGAGCAGCATAAGTC
PEX3R	5'- CTAAAATCTGGGCTTCCAACATGTCTC

1

2 Co-Immunoprecipitation

3 Harvested cells were lysed with CHAPS (1%) in 50mM Tris-HCl pH7.4, 150mM NaCl with a
4 complete protease inhibitor cocktail (Pierce) for 20 min at 4°C with rotation (1%CHAPS in PBS for
5 ACBD5 immunoprecipitation). After 1 min 10,000g centrifugation the supernatant was incubated
6 with protein G Sepharose (GE Healthcare) for 30min at 4°C with rotation. After 1min 10,000g
7 centrifugation 10% of the supernatant was collected as an Input, and the resulting supernatant was

1 incubated with 25µl of Myc-Trap Agarose beads (Chromotek) overnight at 4°C with rotation. After
2 the incubation the beads were washed 4 times for 5 min with the lysis buffer at 4°C with rotation.
3 Before loading on the gel, the beads and input were boiled with a sample buffer. Equal amounts of
4 Input and Eluted bead sample were loaded on the SDS-PAGE.

5 Immunofluorescence

6 Cells were grown on glass bottom plates or glass slides, fixed using 4% paraformaldehyde in
7 phosphate buffered saline (PBS) for 10 minutes, washed with PBS, permeabilized with 0.5% Triton
8 X100, then blocked overnight in 5% BSA in PBS prior to antibody staining.

9 Radioactive measurement of beta fatty acid oxidation using 13,14-3H docosanoic acid (C22:0)

10 Cells were grown in 12-well plates with initial plating density of 100 000 cells per well for two days.
11 Cold C22:0 (4 µM) and 13,14-3H C22:0 (1 µCi, Anawa) were mixed with the media and added to the
12 cells for 20 hours. Media was collected and processed according to ^{142, 143} with minor modifications.
13 Radioactivity was quantified in the media and water fractions transferred to the Scintillation vials
14 after 3 days using scintillation counter. Cold samples, and cell-free samples were used as controls and
15 background subtraction. Peroxisome deficient cells were used as a control to distinguish between
16 peroxisomal and mitochondrial fatty acid oxidation.

17 Microscopy

18 For live cell imaging 4-well microscope glass bottom plates (IBIDI) or Cellview cell culture dish
19 (Greiner Bio One) were used. Alternatively, cells were grown on glass slides (Marienfeld). Confocal
20 images and movies were acquired using SP8 (Leica) confocal microscope equipped with a
21 temperature and CO2 incubator, using a 60x PlanApo VC oil objective NA 1.40. We used 406nm,
22 488nm, 561nm, and 640nm lasers. Peroxisome tracking in the movies was done using TrackMate Fiji
23 plugin¹⁴⁴. Super resolution microscopy was done using STED microscope (Leica TCS SP8 STED 3X)
24 with a 100 × 1.4 NA oil-immersion objective. Image processing was performed using Fiji (ImageJ)
25 software.

26 Peptide phosphorylation competition assay

27 Peptides were synthesized by the Peptide and Tetramer core Facility, University of Lausanne. The
28 following peptides were used for the assay: PEX11b-1 GCGGLESLSLGRKL, PEX11b-2
29 GCGGADALESAKRAV, PEX11b-3 GCGGKWAQRSFRYYL, PEX11b-4
30 GCGGRYYLFSLIMNL, PEX11b-5 GCGGESSACSRRLKG;PEX11b-6
31 GCGGRRLKSGGGVP, PKCa-Control GCGGFKKQGSFAKKK⁹⁵. 100ng of pure
32 peptides were mixed with or without 100ng of pure PKC, and incubated according to the PKC activity
33 assay kit (Abcam). Peptides were then subjected to mass spectrometry.

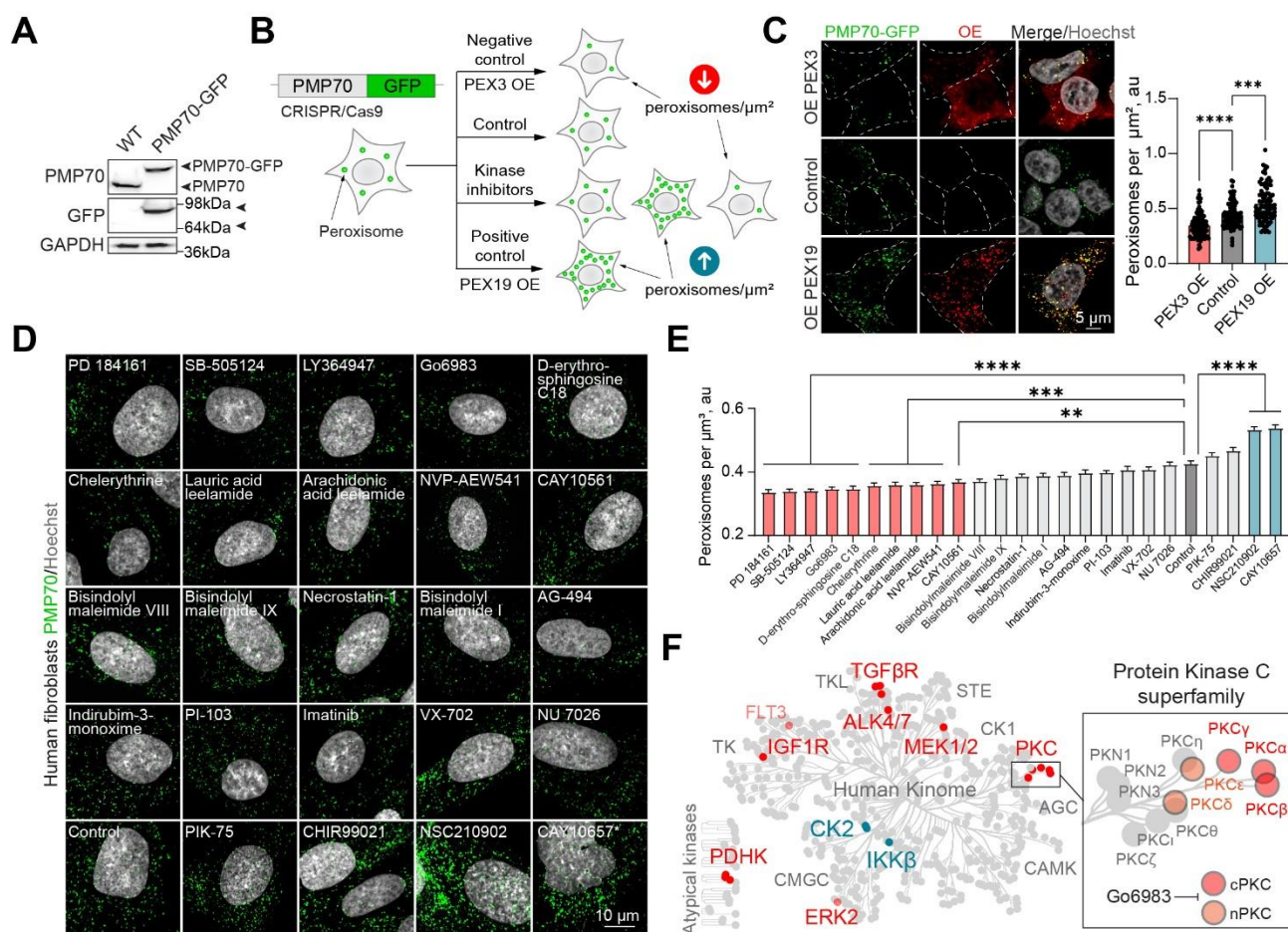
34 QUANTIFICATION AND STATISTICAL ANALYSIS

35 Three or more independent experiments were performed to obtain the data. P values were calculated
36 by two-tailed Student t-test, or one-way ANOVA for samples following normal distribution
37 determined by the Shapiro-Wilks test. The equality of variances was verified by Brown-Forsythe or F
38 test. Mann-Whitney (2 groups), or Kruskal-Wallis (multiple groups) tests were used for samples that
39 didn't follow a normal distribution. The sample sizes were not predetermined. Refer to the
40 Supplementary Table 3 for the details on statistical analysis.

41 Supplemental Items

42 Table S1. Kinase Inhibitor Screen
43 Table S2. Phosphorylation of PEX11b in VLCFA conditions
44 Table S3. Statistical Analysis
45 Supplementary Movies 1-6
46 Supplementary Figures S1-S10

Fig. 1. Kinase Inhibitor screen reveals signaling regulators of peroxisome abundance



1

2 **Figure 1** Kinase Inhibitor screen reveals signaling regulators of peroxisome abundance

3 (A) Western blot of WT and CRISPR/Cas9 PMP70-GFP HEK293T cells. Arrow heads indicate the
4 size shift of the tagged PMP70-GFP.

5 (B) Schematic of the peroxisome biogenesis regulators screen. CRISPR/Cas9 PMP70-GFP HEK293T
6 cells were incubated in control or 1 μM of small molecules for 2 days, PEX3 overexpression was used
7 as a negative control, and PEX19 overexpression was used as a positive control. Refer to Figure S1F
8 to G, S2, and S3 for the screen details.

9 (C) Confocal microscopy of CRISPR/Cas9 PMP70-GFP HEK293T cells overexpressing PEX3-myc,
10 flag-PEX19, or an empty vector. Quantification shows the number of peroxisomes per square micron
11 of the cytoplasm in the 2D confocal image, mean \pm SEM, N=100, *** - $p < 0.001$, **** - $p < 0.0001$.

12 (D-E) Confocal microscopy of peroxisomes in human primary fibroblasts AFF11 treated with
13 indicated kinase inhibitors for 2 days. Peroxisomes were visualized using PMP70 antibody, nuclei
14 were stained with Hoechst (10 $\mu\text{g}/\text{ml}$). Representative images are shown, Scale bar - 10 μm , * -
15 abnormal nuclear morphology. (E) Quantification shows the number of peroxisomes per square
16 micron of the cytoplasm in the flattened 3D image (indicated as cubic micron), mean \pm SEM, N=100,
17 ** - $p < 0.01$, *** - $p < 0.001$, **** - $p < 0.0001$.

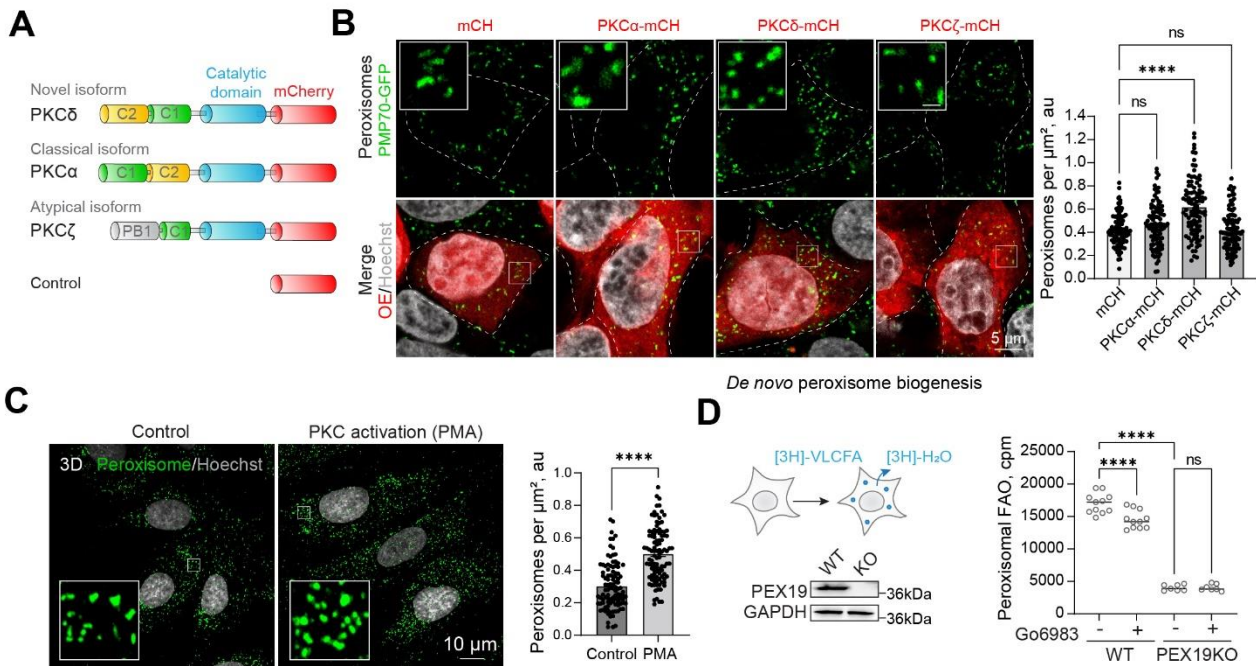
18 (F) Identified kinase inhibitors plotted on the human kinome network^{145, 146}. Positive regulators
19 (inhibition decreases number of peroxisomes) are indicated in red, negative regulators (inhibition

1 increases the number of peroxisomes) are indicated in blue. Protein Kinase C superfamily is shown in
 2 the inlet, cPKC – classical PKC, nPKC – novel PKC isoforms, G06983 inhibits indicated PKC
 3 isoforms.

4

5

Fig. 2. Protein Kinase C Delta positively regulates peroxisome abundance



6

7 **Figure 2** Protein Kinase C Delta positively regulates peroxisome abundance

8 (A) Schematic of different PKC isoforms used in (B)

9 (B) Confocal microscopy of HEK293T CRISPR/Cas9 PMP70-GFP cells overexpressing (OE) PKC α -
 10 mCherry, PKC δ -mCherry, or PKC ζ -mCherry. Quantification shows number of peroxisomes per
 11 square micron of the cytoplasm in the 2D confocal image, mean \pm SEM, N=100, **** - p<0.0001.
 12 Scale bar - 5 μm Refer to Figure S5H.

13 (C) Confocal microscopy of peroxisomes in human primary fibroblasts AFF11 treated with PMA
 14 (0.5 μM) for 1 day. Peroxisomes were visualized using PMP70 antibody, nuclei were stained with
 15 Hoechst (10 $\mu\text{g}/\text{ml}$). Representative images are shown, Scale bar - 10 μm . Quantification shows
 16 number of peroxisomes per square micron, mean \pm SEM, N=103, **** - p<0.0001. Refer to Figure
 17 S5I.

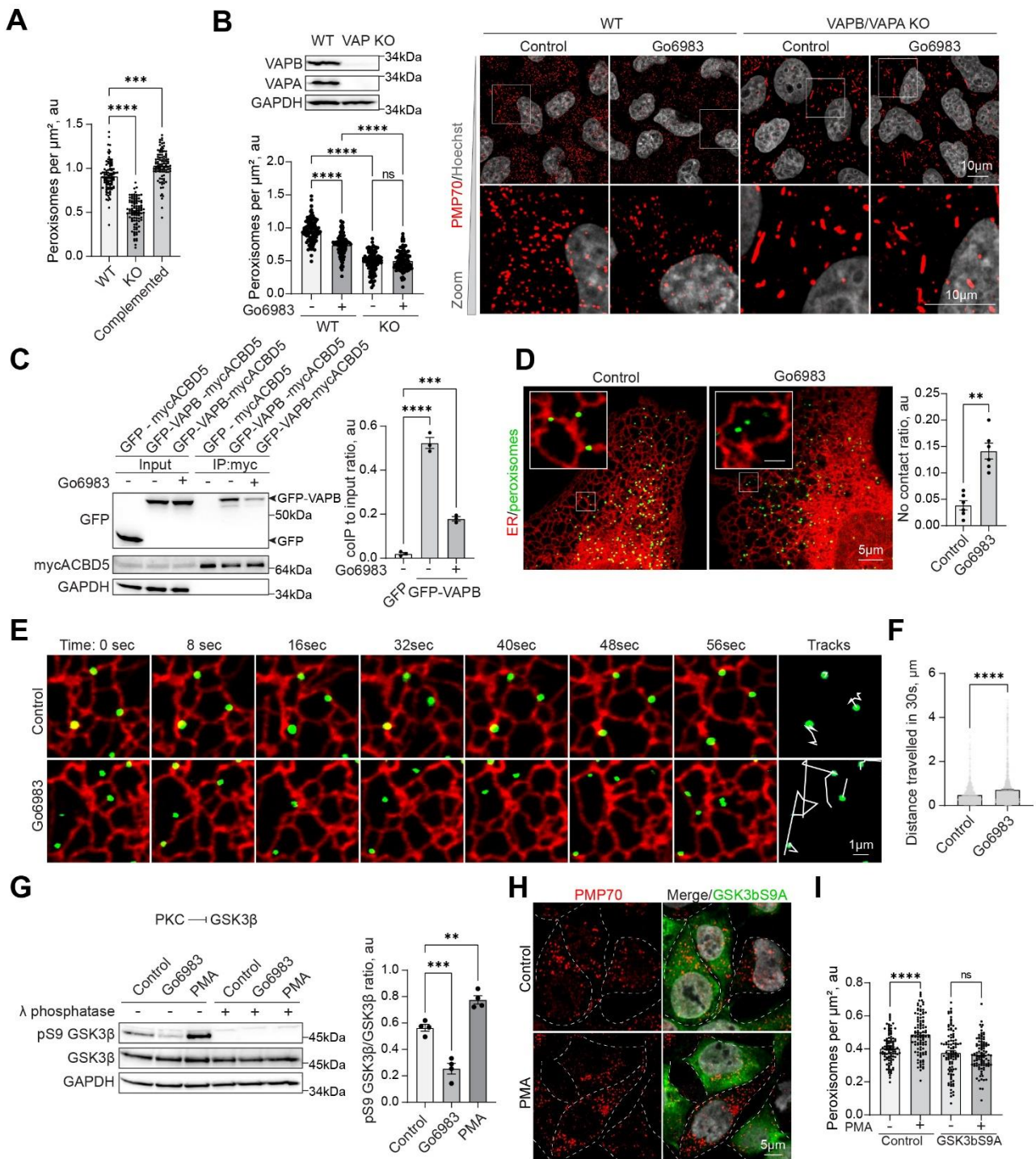
18 (D) Radioactive peroxisomal FAO measurement using 3H-docosanoic acid in HEK293T WT or
 19 PEX19KO in control or Go6983 (5 μM for 48hours) conditions. Quantification shows the number of
 20 counts per minute, mean \pm SEM, N=6-12, *** - p<0.001, ****

21

- 1 fixed and visualized on identified days. (B) Quantification shows the ratio of cells that restored
2 peroxisomes among the transfected cells. Scale bar - 5 μ m. (C) Western blot of PMP70 expression on
3 day 4 of the complementation assay.
- 4 (E) Confocal microscopy of peroxisomes in HEK293T CRISPR/Cas9 flag-GFP-PEX11b cells treated
5 with 0.5 μ M PMA for 2 hours. Nuclei were stained with Hoechst (10 μ g/ml). Representative images
6 are shown, Scale bar - 5 μ m, inlet - 1 μ m. Quantification shows number of peroxisomes per square
7 micron of the cytoplasm in the 2D confocal image, mean \pm SEM, N=100, **** - p<0.0001.
- 8 (F) Western blot of PEX11b and PMP70 in the WT and CRISPR/Cas9 PMP70-GFP PEX11b KO
9 HEK293T cells. Arrow heads indicate the size shift of the tagged PMP70-GFP.
- 10 (G-H) Confocal microscopy of peroxisomes in HEK293T CRISPR/Cas9 PMP70-GFP WT and
11 PEX11b KO cells grown in control or Go6983 5 μ M conditions. Nuclei were stained with Hoechst
12 (10 μ g/ml). Representative images are shown, Scale bar - 5 μ m, inlet - 1 μ m. Quantification shows the
13 number of peroxisomes per square micron of the cytoplasm in the 2D confocal image, mean \pm SEM,
14 N=100, *** - p<0.001, **** - p<0.0001.
- 15 (I) Co-Immunoprecipitation of mycPEX11b in control and PKC inhibition conditions (Go6983 5 μ M,
16 24 hours). Western blot of mycPEX11b and mCherry-PEX19 in the WT HEK293T cells.
17 Quantification shows the IP to Input (I) ratio, mean \pm SEM, N=3.
- 18 (J) Co-Immunoprecipitation of mycPEX11b and peroxisome division factors in control and PKC
19 inhibition conditions (Go6983 5 μ M, 24 hours). Western blot of mycPEX11b and mCherry-, mCherry-
20 PEX11A, PEX11b, PEX11G, FIS1, DNMI1L, MFF, or GDAP1 in the WT HEK293T cells.
21 Quantification shows the IP to Input (I) ratio, mean \pm SEM, N=3, **** - p<0.0001.

22

Fig. 4. PKC regulates peroxisome-ER VAP-dependent interaction through GSK3 β inhibition



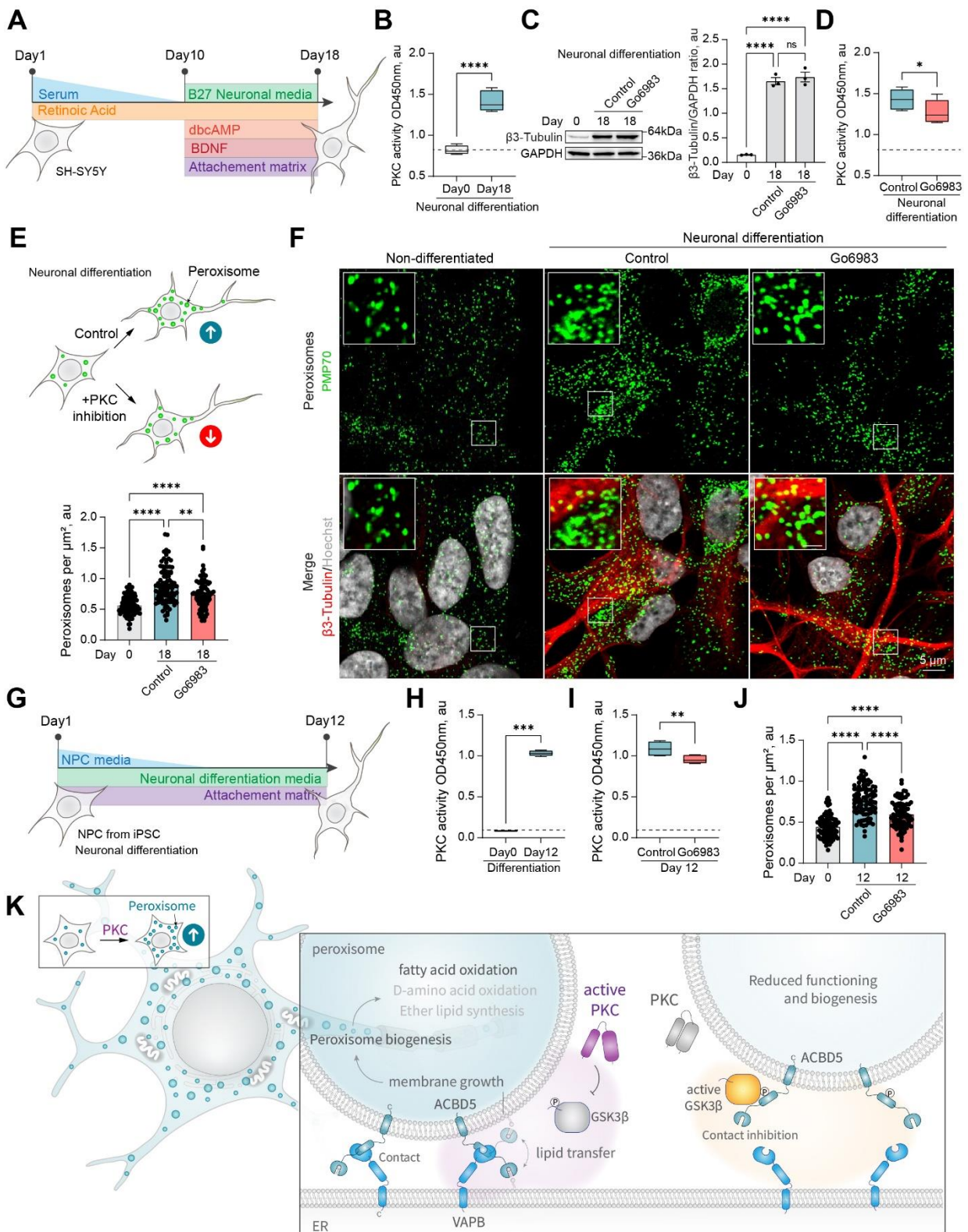
1

2 **Figure 4** PKC regulates peroxisome-ER VAP-dependent interaction through GSK3 β inhibition

3 (A) Quantification of confocal microscopy of peroxisomes stained with antiPMP70 antibody in WT
 4 and VAPB/VAPA KO HeLa cells in control and GFP-VAPB overexpression conditions.
 5 Quantification shows the number of peroxisomes per micron square, mean \pm SEM, N=100, *** -
 6 $p < 0.001$, **** - $p < 0.0001$. Refer to figure S4H

- 1 **(B)** Confocal microscopy of peroxisomes stained with anti-PMP70 antibody in WT and VAPB/VAPA
2 KO HeLa cells in control Go6983 (5 μ M for 48hours). Quantification shows the number of
3 peroxisomes per micron square, mean \pm SEM, N=100, *** - p<0.001, **** - p<0.0001. Western blot
4 confirming the KO is shown.
- 5 **(C)** Co-Immunoprecipitation of mycACBD5 in control and PKC inhibition conditions (Go6983 5 μ M,
6 24 hours), mycACBD5 and GFP or GFP-VAPB were overexpressed in HEK293T cells.
7 Quantification shows the IP to Input ratio, mean \pm SEM, N=3, *** - p<0.001, **** - p<0.0001.
- 8 **(D-F)** Live cell confocal microscopy of ER and peroxisomes in U2OS cells in control and Go6983
9 conditions. Quantification shows the ratio of peroxisomes that are not proximal or overlapping with
10 the ER, mean \pm SEM, N=6 pooled from 1000 peroxisomes in at least 30 cells per condition, ** -
11 p<0.01, and a distance travelled by a single peroxisome in 30seconds, mean \pm SEM , N=1000, **** -
12 p<0.0001.
- 13 **(G)** Western blot of GSK3 β inhibitory S9 phosphorylation in PMA(0.5 μ M for 2hours) and Go6983
14 (5 μ M for 4hours) conditions. Quantification shows the ratio of phosphorylated pS9 GSK3 β to non-
15 phosphorylated GSK3 β , mean \pm SEM, N=4, *** - p<0.001, ** - p<0.01.
- 16 **(H)** Confocal microscopy of peroxisomes stained with antiPMP70 antibody in HEK293T control or
17 overexpression of GSK3 β S9A mutant in control or PMA (0.5 μ M for 4hours) conditions. (I)
18 Quantification shows the number of peroxisomes per micron square, mean \pm SEM, N=100, **** -
19 p<0.0001.
- 20

Fig. 5. Protein kinase C regulates peroxisome abundance in neuronal differentiation



1

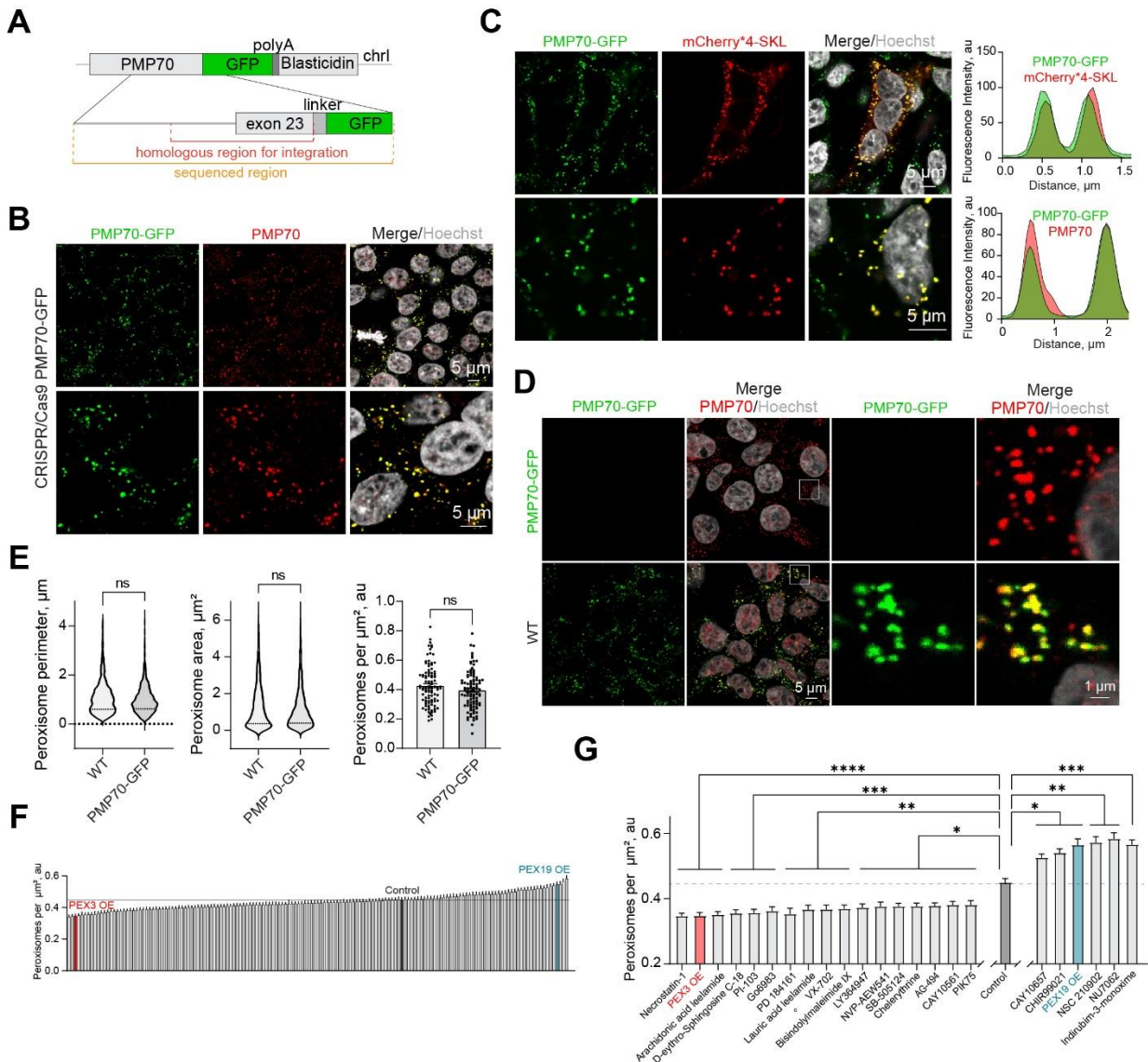
2 **Figure 5** Protein kinase C regulates peroxisome abundance in neurons

3 (A) Schematic of the SH-SY5Y neuronal differentiation.

- 1 **(B)** PKC activity in the non-differentiated and 18-day differentiated SH-SY5Y cells. Quantification
2 shows PKC activity, mean± SEM, N=10, **** - p<0.0001.
- 3 **(C)** Western blot of β-3 tubulin in the non-differentiated and 18-day differentiated SH-SY5Y cells in
4 control and Go6983 1μM conditions, Go6983 was added on days 10-18 of the differentiation
5 protocol. Quantification shows the ratio of β-3 tubulin to GAPDH, mean± SEM, N=3, **** -
6 p<0.0001.
- 7 **(D)** PKC activity in the 18-day differentiated SH-SY5Y cells in control and Go6983 1μM conditions,
8 Go6983 was added on days 10-18 of the differentiation protocol. Quantification shows PKC activity,
9 mean± SEM, N=10, * - p<0.05.
- 10 **(E-F)** Confocal microscopy of peroxisomes in the non-differentiated and 18-day differentiated SH-
11 SY5Y cells in control and Go6983 1μM conditions, Go6983 was added on days 10-18 of the
12 differentiation protocol. Peroxisomes were visualized with the PMP70 antibody, nuclei were stained
13 with Hoechst (10μg/ml), and neuronal differentiation was visualized with β-3 tubulin antibody.
14 Representative images are shown, Scale bar - 5μm, inlet - 1μm. (F) Quantification shows the number
15 of peroxisomes per square micron of the cytoplasm in the 2D confocal image, mean± SEM, N=102,
16 **** - p<0.0001. Refer to Figure S12C.
- 17 **(G)** Schematic of the neuronal progenitor cells (NPCs) neuronal differentiation.
- 18 **(H)** PKC activity in the non-differentiated and 12-day differentiated NPCs. Quantification shows PKC
19 activity, mean± SEM, N=8, **** - p<0.0001.
- 20 **(I)** PKC activity in the 12-day differentiated NPCs in control and Go6983 1μM conditions, Go6983
21 was added on days 1-12 of the differentiation protocol. Quantification shows PKC activity, mean±
22 SEM, N=8, ** - p<0.01.
- 23 **(J)** Quantification of the number of peroxisomes per square micron of the cytoplasm in the 2D
24 confocal image in the non-differentiated and 12-day differentiated NPCs in control and Go6983 1μM
25 conditions, Go6983 was added on days 1-12 of the differentiation protocol, mean± SEM, N=90, ****
26 - p<0.0001. Refer to Figure S12E.
- 27 **(K)** Model of PKC regulation of peroxisome abundance

28

Supplementary Figure S1



1

2 **Figure S1.**

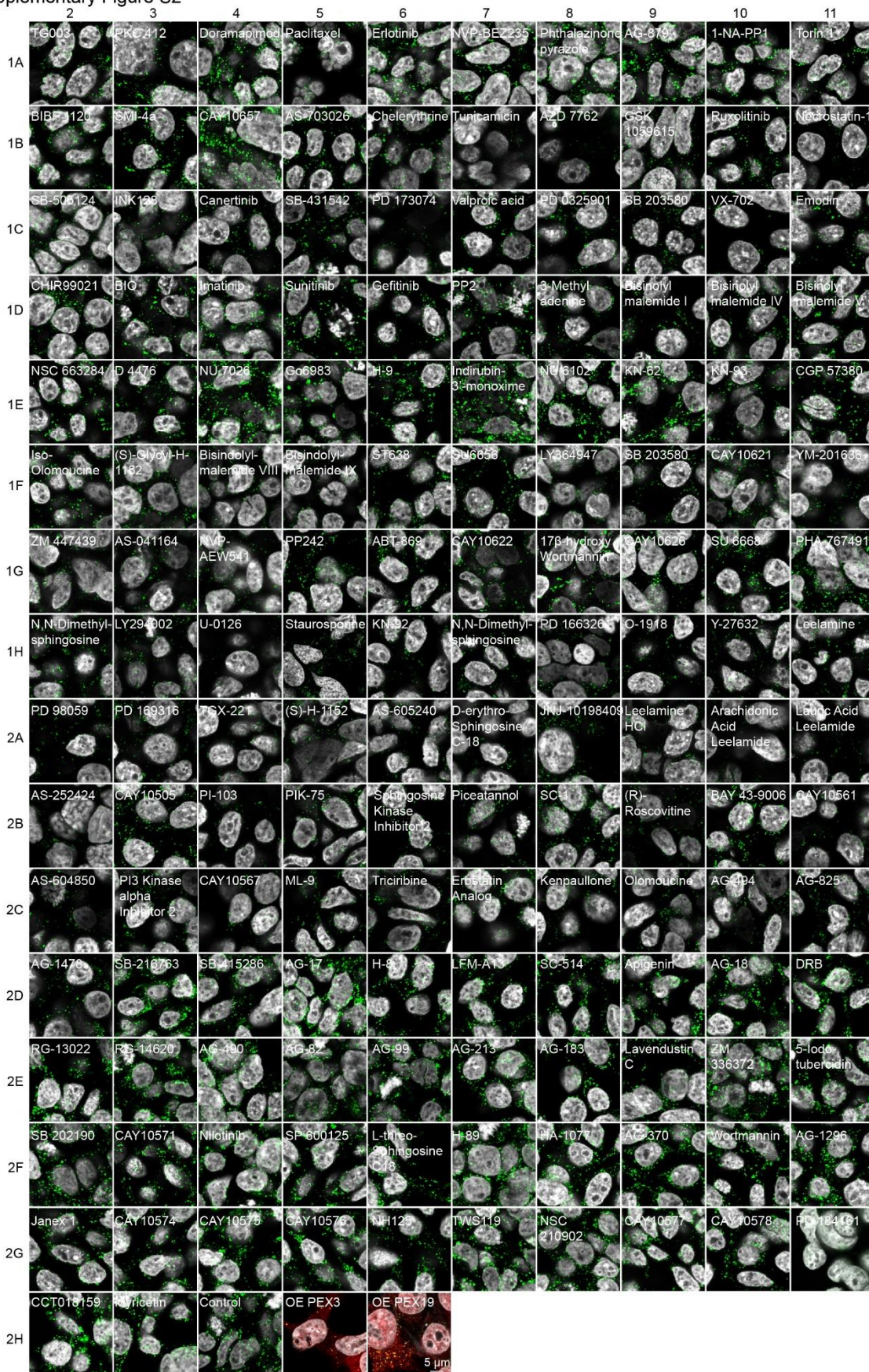
3 (A) Schematic of the genomic DNA region corresponding to the end of the human PMP70 open
4 reading frame endogenously tagged with -GFP-polyA-Blasticidin.

5 (B-C) Confocal microscopy of the peroxisomal import marker mCherry*4-SKL expressed in
6 HEK293T PMP70-GFP, and (B) a confirmation of the PMP70-GFP peroxisomal localization. The
7 fluorescence intensity profiles through single peroxisomes are shown. Scale bar - 5 μm .

8 (D-E) Comparison of WT and PMP70-GFP tagged HEK293T. Confocal images and quantification of
9 perimeter (N=1000), area (N=1000), and density of peroxisomes (N=100) are shown, mean \pm SEM.

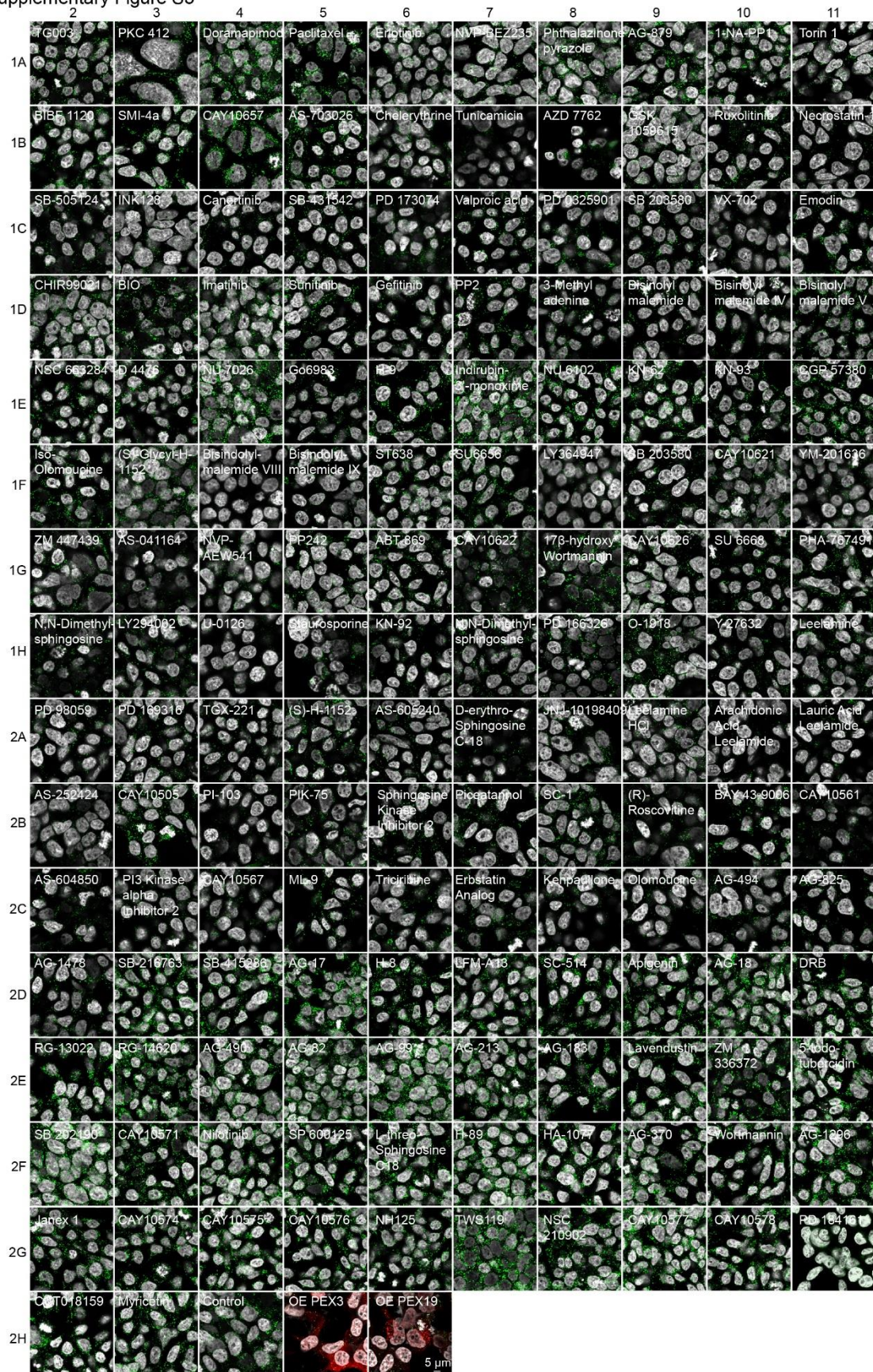
10 (F-G) Quantification of the number of peroxisomes per square micron of the cytoplasm in the
11 HEK293T cells treated with 1 μM of the indicated small molecule, mean \pm SEM, * - p < 0.05, ** -
12 p < 0.01, *** - p < 0.001, **** - p < 0.0001. (D) – significant screen hits are plotted, (E) complete screen.
13 Refer to Figure S2 and S3 for the confocal images, N=100 for each molecule.

Supplementary Figure S2



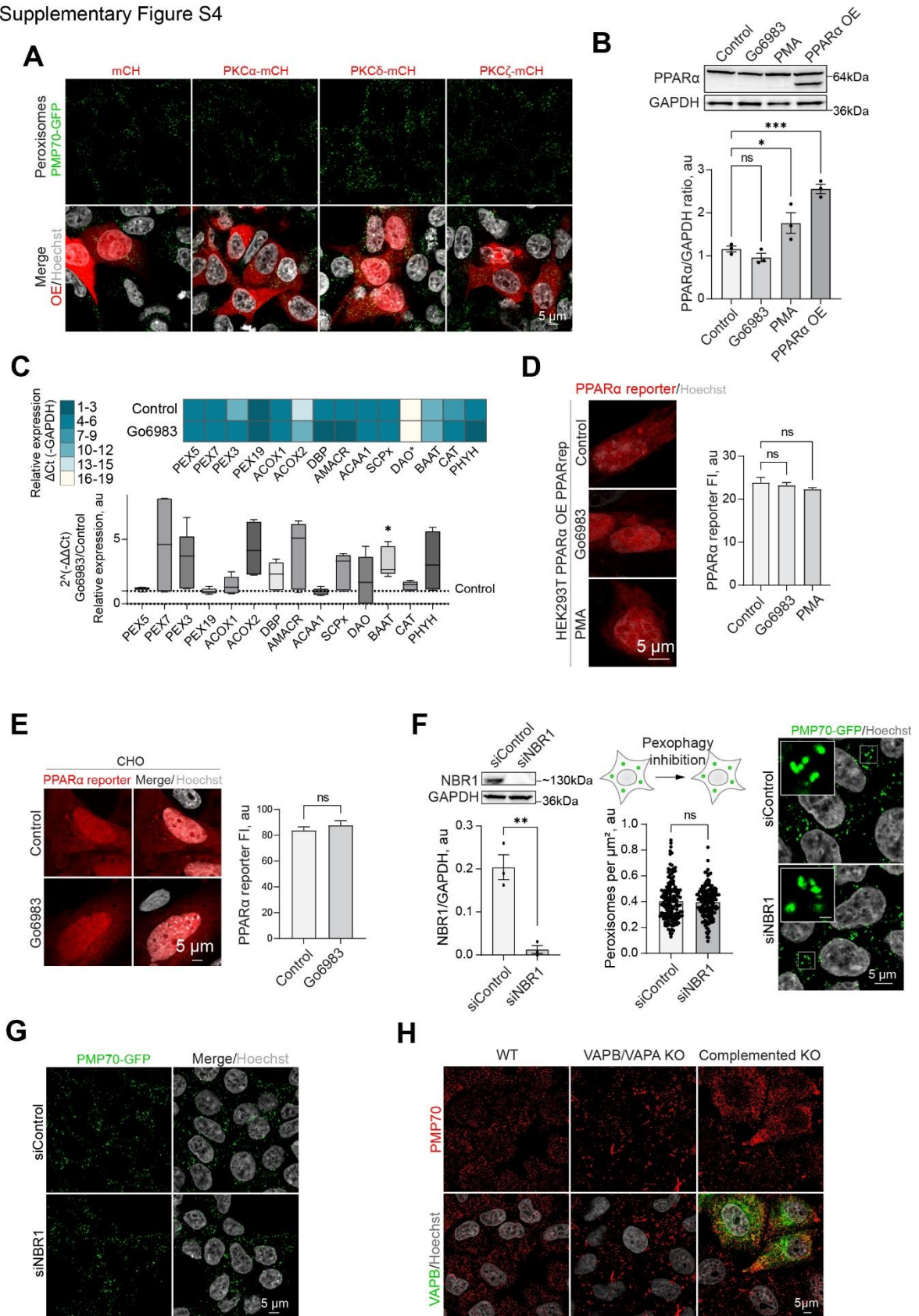
- 1 **Figure S2.**
- 2 Kinase Inhibitor Screen. Confocal microscopy of the HEK293T CRISPR/Cas9 PMP70-GFP cells
- 3 incubated for 2 days with 1 μ M of the indicated small molecule. Note, that endogenous levels of
- 4 PMP70 vary between treatments as do the numbers of peroxisomes. Scale bar - 5 μ m.

Supplementary Figure S3



- 1 **Figure S3.**
- 2 Kinase Inhibitor Screen. Confocal microscopy of the HEK293T CRISPR/Cas9 PMP70-GFP cells
- 3 incubated for 2 days with 1 μ M of the indicated small molecule. Note, that endogenous levels of
- 4 PMP70 vary between treatments as do the numbers of peroxisomes. Scale bar - 5 μ m.

Supplementary Figure S4



1 **Figure S4.**

2 **(A)** Confocal microscopy of HEK293T CRISPR/Cas9 PMP70-GFP cells overexpressing (OE) PKC α -
3 mCherry, PKC δ -mCherry, or PKC ζ -mCherry. Scale bar - 5 μ m.

4 **(B)** Western blot of PPAR α in HEK293T cells in control PMA (0.5 μ M for 1day) and Go6983 (5 μ M
5 for 2days) conditions. Quantification shows the ratio of PPAR α to loading control, mean \pm SEM ,
6 N=3, **** - p<0.001, * - p<0.05

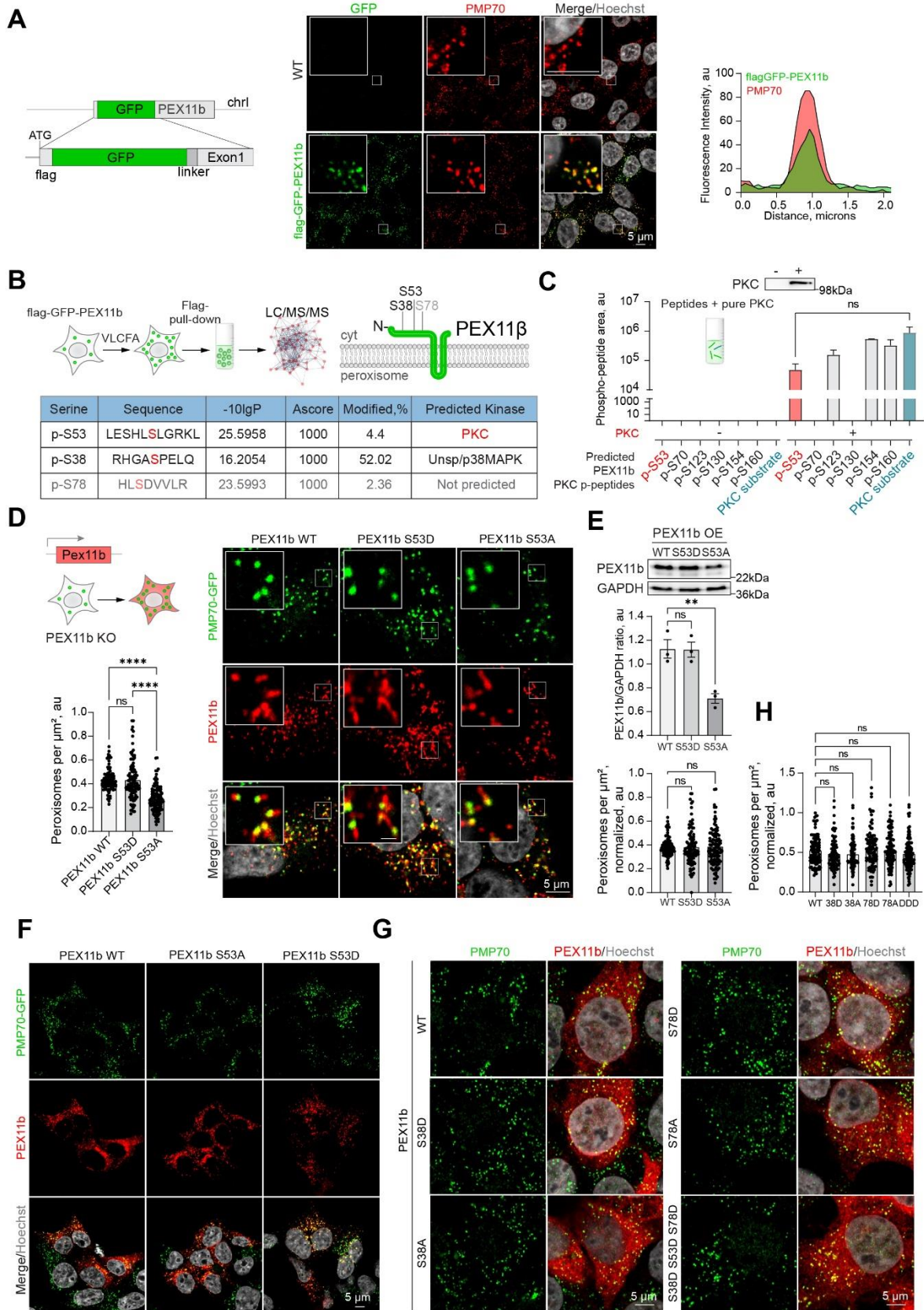
7 **(C)** Quantitative PCR of the peroxisomal genes in HEK293T cells in control and Go6983 5 μ M
8 conditions (2 day treatment). Quantification shows color coded relative expression levels calculated as
9 a Δ Ct (Peroxisomal gene - GAPDH expression reference), and a ratio of Go6983/Contol expression,
10 expressed as $2^{-\Delta\Delta C_t}$, mean \pm SEM, N=4, * - p<0.05.

11 **(D-E)** Confocal microscopy of PPAR mCherry reporter in HEK293T cells expressing PPAR α (D) and
12 CHO (E) cells in control, Go6983 (5 μ M for 2days), or PMA conditions (0.5 μ M for 1day). Nuclei
13 were stained with Hoechst (10 μ g/ml). Representative images are shown, Scale bar - 5 μ m.
14 Quantification shows average fluorescence intensity per cell, N=50, **** - p<0.0001.

15 **(F-G)** Western blot NBR1 and control silencing in HEK293T cells. Quantification shows the
16 NBR1/GAPDH ratio quantified by the lane intensity on the western blot, mean \pm SEM, N=3, **** -
17 p<0.0001. (G) Confocal microscopy of peroxisomes in HEK293T CRISPR/Cas9 PMP70-GFP cells in
18 control silencing or NBR1 silencing conditions. Nuclei were stained with Hoechst (10 μ g/ml).
19 Representative images are shown, Scale bar - 5 μ m, inset - 1 μ m. Quantification shows the number of
20 peroxisomes per square micron of the cytoplasm in the 2D confocal image, mean \pm SEM, N=150.

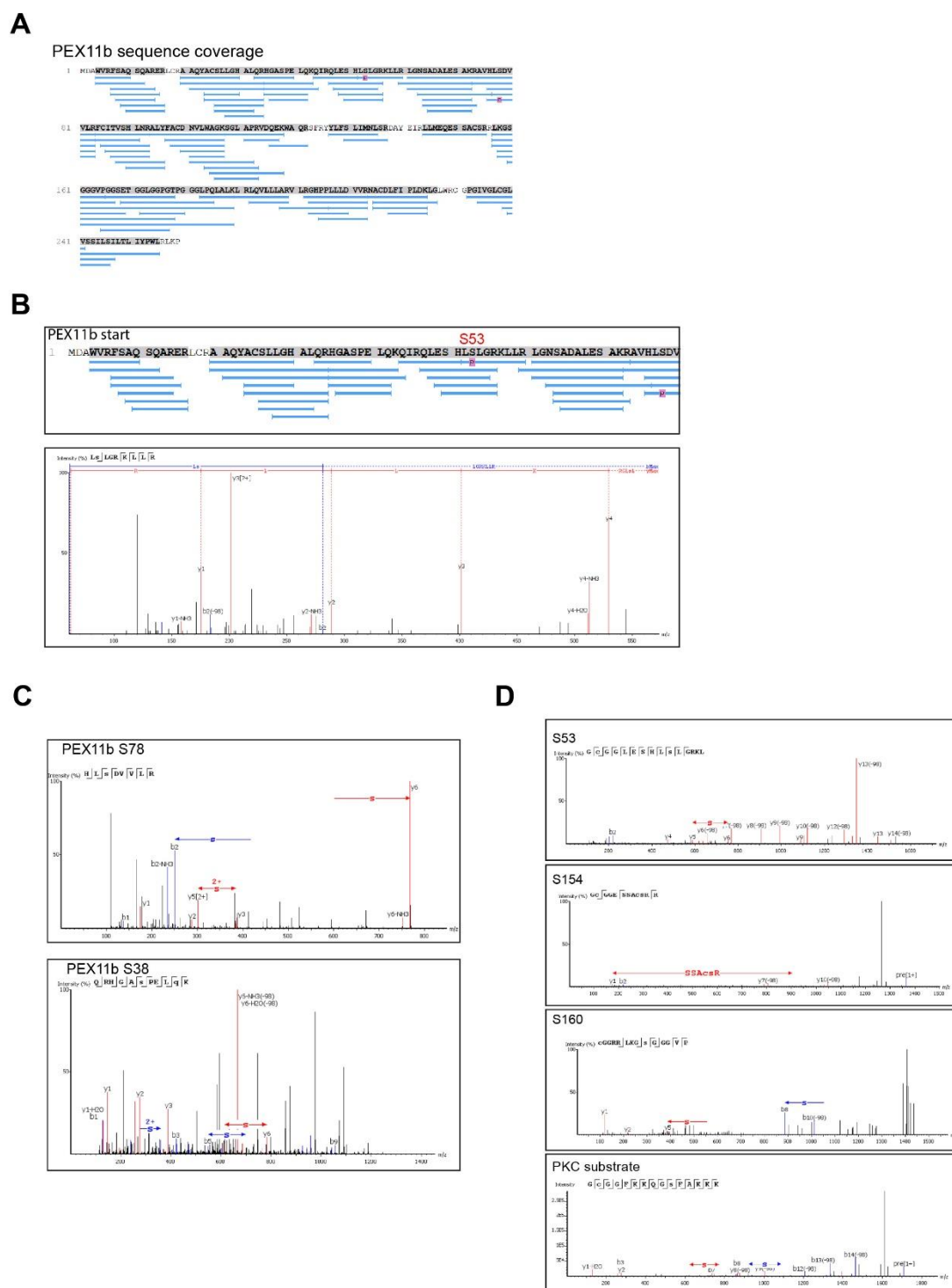
21 **(H)** Confocal microscopy of peroxisomes stained with antiPMP70 antibody in WT and VAPB/VAPA
22 KO HeLa cells in control and GFP-VAPB overexpression conditions.

Supplementary Figure S5



- 1 **Figure S5.** PKC phosphorylation of PEX11b on S53 is not sufficient to induce peroxisome
2 proliferation
- 3 **(A)** Confocal microscopy of flag-GFP-PEX11b CRISPR/Cas9 tagged HEK293T cells. Peroxisomes
4 were visualized with PMP70 antibody, nuclei were stained with Hoechst (10 μ g/ml). Scale bar - 5 μ m,
5 inlet - 1 μ m. Intensity profile through a single peroxisome is shown. Schematic of CRISPR/Cas9 flag-
6 GFP-PEX11b construction, showing the N-terminal region of genomic DNA corresponding to
7 PEX11b ORF.
- 8 **(B)** Identification of PEX11b phosphorylation by targeted LC-MS/MS analysis, showing the
9 identification of site-specific phosphorylation at residues S38, S53 and S78.
- 10 **(C)** Phosphorylation of pure peptides (a mix of PEX11b peptides predicted to be phosphorylated by
11 PKC, and a PKC-specific substrate peptide) incubated with or without active PKC. Western blot
12 shows PKC in the treated and non-treated samples. Quantification shows the size of the peptide area
13 identified by MS, mean \pm SEM, N=3, comparison between PKC-specific substrate and the PEX11b
14 peptides.
- 15 **(D)** Confocal microscopy of peroxisomes and PEX11b in HEK293T CRISPR/Cas9 PMP70-GFP
16 PEX11b KO cells overexpressing myc-PEX11b, myc-PEX11b S53A, or myc-PEX11b S53D. Nuclei
17 were stained with Hoechst (10 μ g/ml). Representative images are shown, Scale bar - 5 μ m, inlet - 1 μ m.
18 Quantification shows the number of peroxisomes per square micron of the cytoplasm in the 2D
19 confocal image, N=100, mean \pm SEM. ****- p<0.0001.
- 20 **(E)** Western blot of myc-PEX11b, myc-PEX11b S53A, or myc-PEX11b S53D, N=3, and corrected
21 quantification showing the number of peroxisomes per square micron, mean \pm SEM, N=100.
- 22 **(F)** Confocal microscopy of peroxisomes and PEX11b in HEK293T CRISPR/Cas9 PMP70-GFP
23 PEX11b KO cells overexpressing myc-PEX11b or myc-PEX11b S53D. Nuclei were stained with
24 Hoechst (10 μ g/ml). Representative images are shown, Scale bar - 5 μ m.
- 25 **(G-H)** Confocal microscopy of peroxisomes and PEX11b in HEK293T overexpressing myc-PEX11b
26 or myc-PEX11b indicated mutants. Nuclei were stained with Hoechst (10 μ g/ml). Representative
27 images are shown, Scale bar - 5 μ m. Quantification shows the density of peroxisomes normalized by
28 PEX11b expression level quantified by fluorescence intensity, mean \pm SEM, N=100.

Supplementary Figure S6



1

2 **Figure S6.**

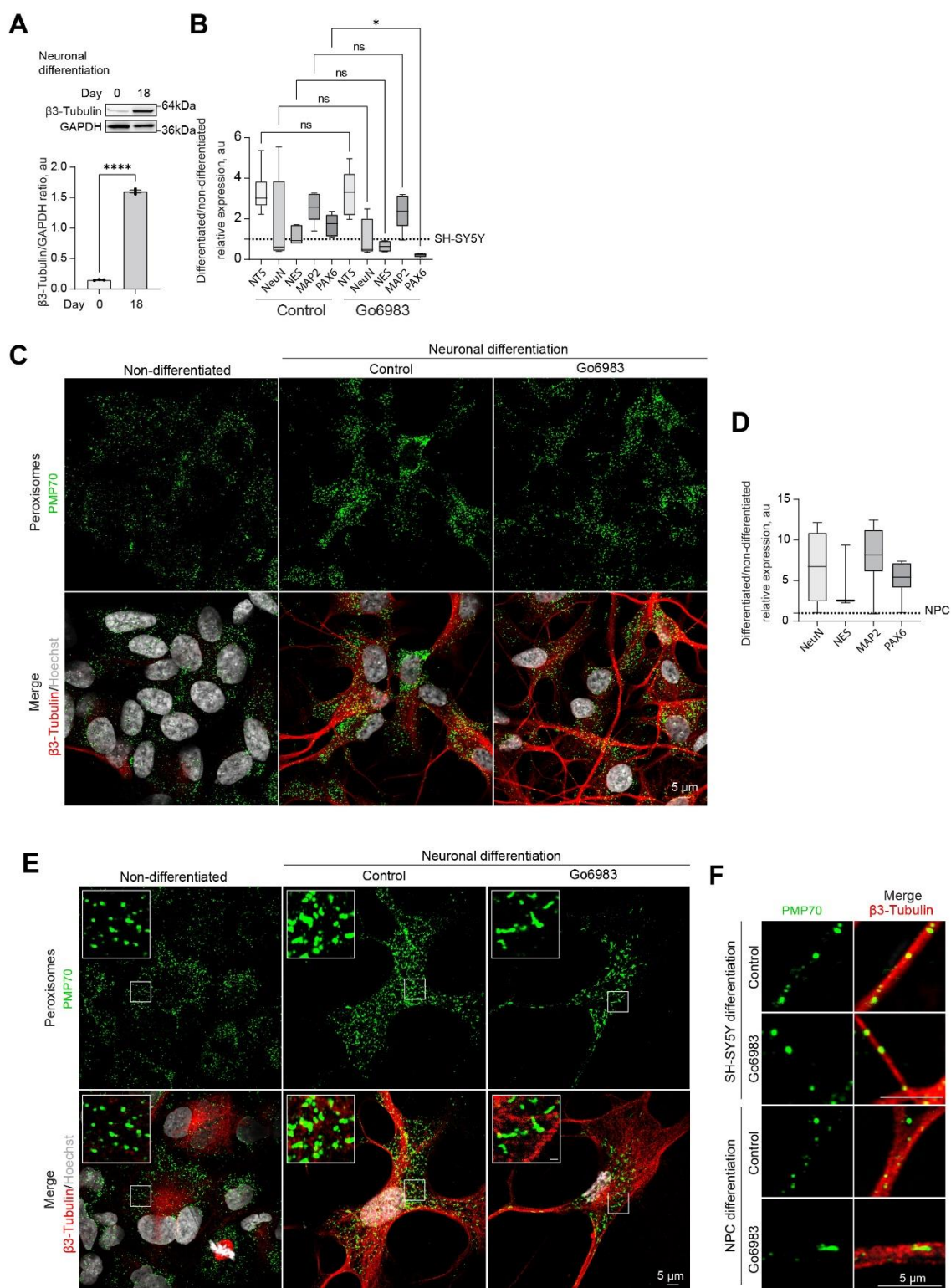
3 (A) Peptide coverage of targeted LC-MS/MS analysis of PEX11b

4 (B) MS/MS spectrum from a targeted, LC-MS/MS analysis of Pex11b peptides, showing the

5 identification of site-specific phosphorylation at residue S53. (Top) PEX11b sequence with identified

- 1 peptide sequences (blue lines) and a site-specific phosphorylation. (Bottom) MS/MS spectrum of
- 2 peptide the sequencing and identification of different -b & -y ions.
- 3 **(C)** MS/MS spectrum from a targeted, LC-MS/MS analysis of Pex11b peptides, showing the
- 4 identification of site-specific phosphorylation at residue S38, and S78.
- 5 **(D)** Examples of MS/MS spectrums from a peptide competition assay, showing PEX11b phosphor-
- 6 peptides as well as the PKC-specific phospho-substrate.

Supplementary Figure S7



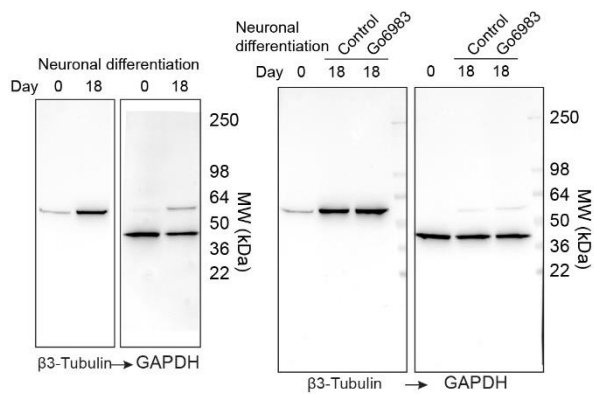
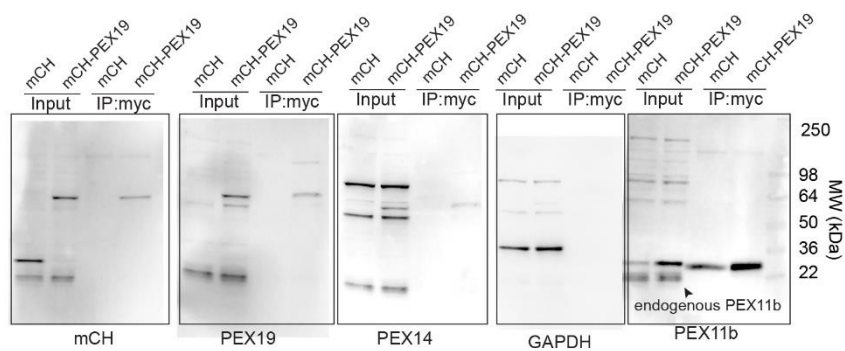
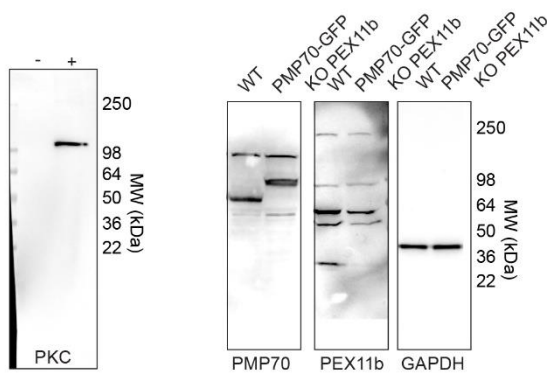
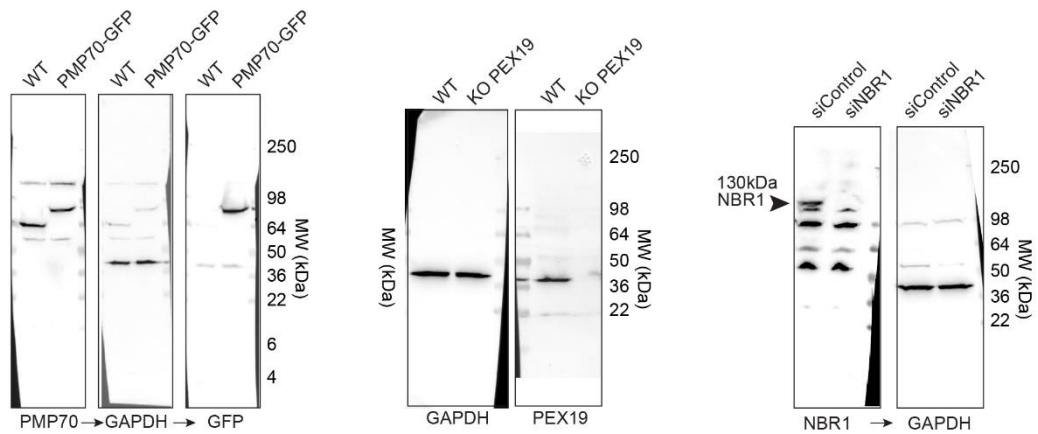
1

2 **Figure S7.**

3 (A) Western blot of β -3 tubulin in the non-differentiated and 18-day differentiated SH-SY5Y.
 4 Quantification shows the ratio of and β -3 tubulin to GAPDH, mean \pm SEM, N=3, **** - $p < 0.0001$.

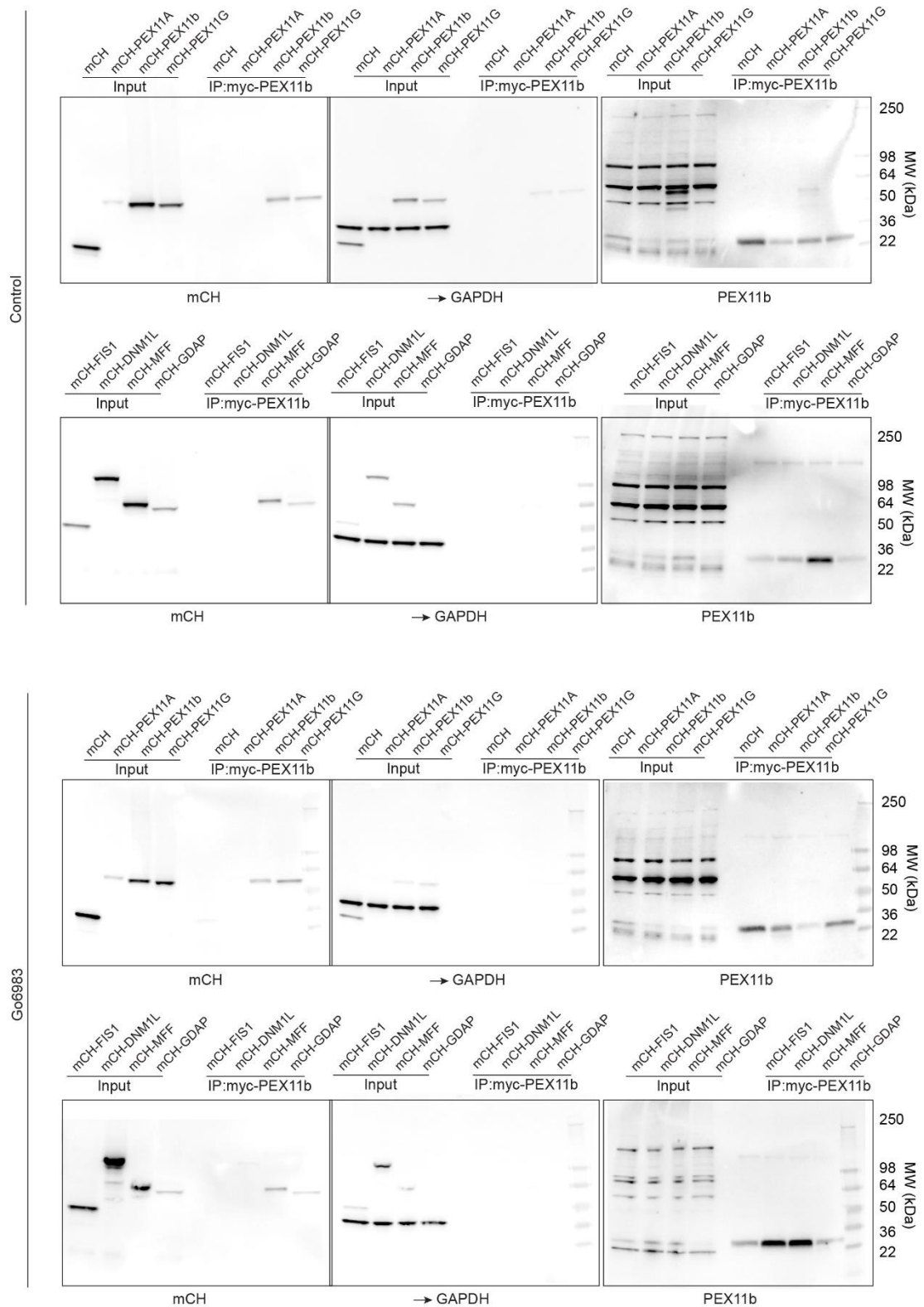
- 1 **(B)** Quantitative PCR of the neuronal markers in the 18-day differentiated SH-SY5Y cells in control
2 and Go6983 1 μ M conditions, Go6983 was added on days 10-18 of the differentiation protocol.
3 Quantification shows the relative expression of differentiated/non-differentiated markers, expressed as
4 $2^{-\Delta\Delta C_t}$, mean \pm SEM, N=4, * - p<0.05.
- 5 **(C)** Confocal microscopy of peroxisomes in the non-differentiated and 18-day differentiated SH-
6 SY5Y cells in control and Go6983 1 μ M conditions, Go6983 was added on days 10-18 of the
7 differentiation protocol. Peroxisomes were visualized with the PMP70 antibody, nuclei were stained
8 with Hoechst (10 μ g/ml), and neuronal differentiation was visualized with β -3 tubulin antibody.
9 Representative images are shown, Scale bar - 5 μ m.
- 10 **(D)** Quantitative PCR of the neuronal markers in the 12-day differentiated NPCs. Quantification
11 shows the relative expression of differentiated/non-differentiated markers, expressed as $2^{-\Delta\Delta C_t}$, mean \pm
12 SEM.
- 13 **(E)** Confocal microscopy of peroxisomes in the non-differentiated and 12-day differentiated NPCs in
14 control and Go6983 1 μ M conditions, Go6983 was added on days 1-12 of the differentiation protocol.
15 Peroxisomes were visualized with the PMP70 antibody, nuclei were stained with Hoechst (10 μ g/ml),
16 and neuronal differentiation was visualized with β -3 tubulin antibody. Representative images are
17 shown, Scale bar - 5 μ m, inset - 1 μ m.
- 18 **(F)** Confocal microscopy of peroxisomes in the neuronal terminals of the 18-day differentiated SH-
19 SY5Y and 12-day differentiated NPCs in control and Go6983 1 μ M conditions. Peroxisomes were
20 visualized with the PMP70 antibody, and neuronal terminals were visualized with β -3 tubulin
21 antibody. Representative images are shown, Scale bar - 5 μ m.

Supplementary Figure S8



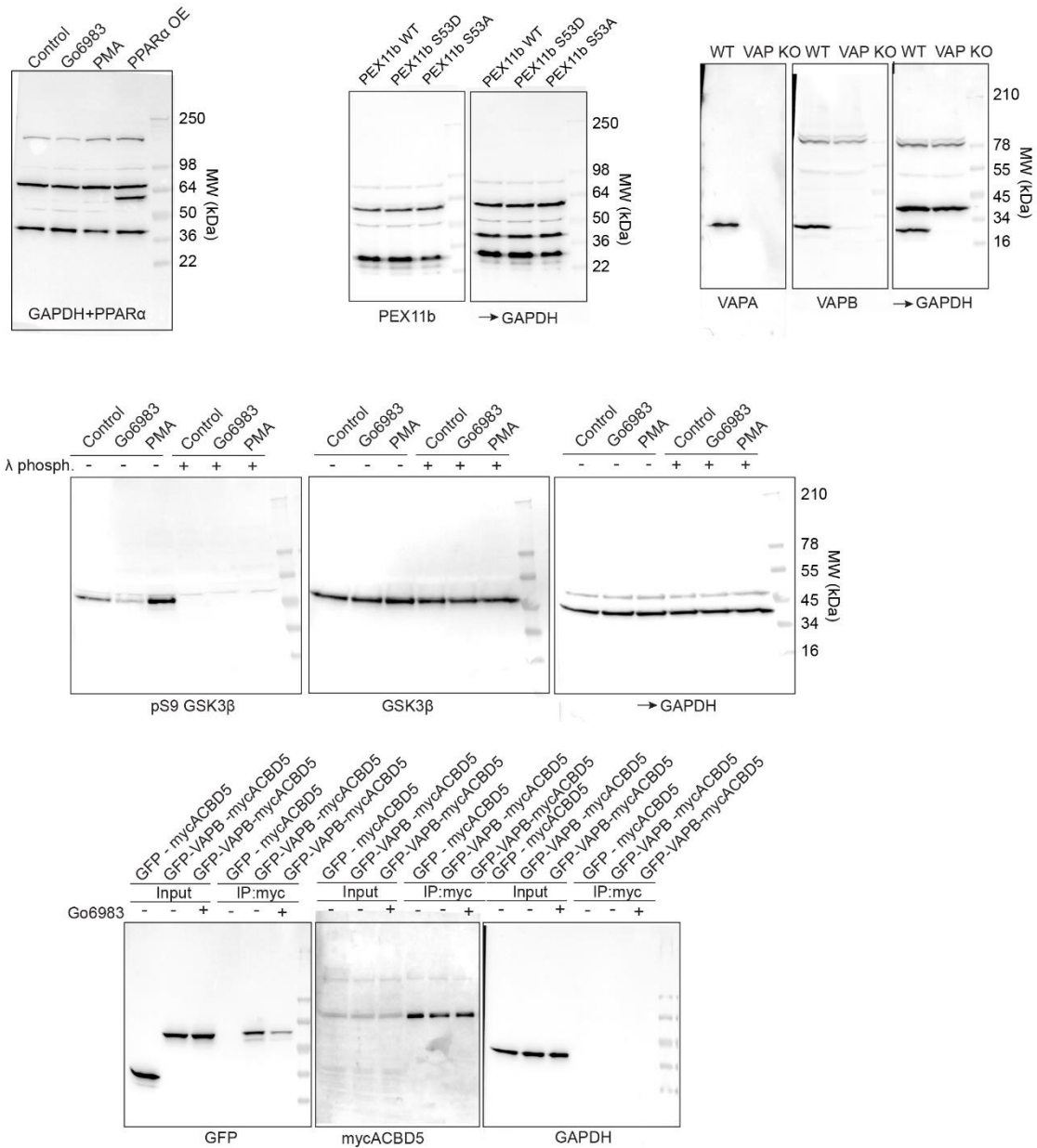
- 1 **Figure S8.**
- 2 Western blots
- 3

Supplementary Figure S9



1 **Figure S9.**
2 Western blots

Supplementary Figure S10



3
4 **Figure S10.**
5 Western blots
6

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