

Materials and methods

Mice

8 weeks old male C57BL/6 (SLAC laboratory) mice and male heterozygous Ai9 (Rosa-CAG-LSL-tdTomato-WPRE, Jackson Laboratory) mice were used for Hydrodynamic tail vein injection. The use and care of animals complied with the guideline of the Biomedical Research Ethics Committee of Shanghai Institutes for Biological Science, Chinese Academy of Sciences.

Generation of plasmids

The CasRx and sgRNA backbone sequences were synthesized by the HuaGene Company. Then we generated vectors: *CAG-CasRx-p2A-GFP*, *U6-BbsI-DRs-EF1 α -mCherry* and *U6-BbsI-CMV-GFP*. The sgRNA sequences were inserted by BbsI restriction enzyme. To insert two sgRNA sequences, overlapped PCR were performed using primers in the table S2. Vectors *U6-BbsI-DRs-EF1 α -mCherry-2A-Pcsk9* and *U6-BbsI-DRs-EF1 α -mCherry-2A-IncLstr* were constructed for screen of sgPcsk9 and sgIncLstr. Vector *PBL-U6-DR-sgPtens-DR-CAG-CasRx-p2A-GFP-PBR* and *CMV-PBase* were constructed for piggyBac-mediated transfer of CasRx and sgPtens to hepatocytes. Vector *ITR-EFS-CasRx-Flag-polyA-U6-DR-sgRNAs-DR-ITR* was constructed to generate AAV8. All of the primers were listed in the table S2.

Cell culture and transfection

N2a (Neuro-2a) and 293T cell lines were purchased from Stem Cell Bank, Chinese Academy of Sciences. N2a and 293T cell lines were cultured with DMEM (Gibco) supplemented with 10% fetal bovine serum (Gibco), 1% penicillin/streptomycin (Thermo Fisher Scientific) and 0.1 mM non-essential

amino acids (Gibco) in an incubator at 37 °C with 5% CO₂. When cells reached 90% confluence, 293T and N2a cells were passaged at a ratio of 1:6 to 24-well plates. After 12 hours, 1 µg/well plasmids were introduced into cells with Lipofectamine 3000 (Thermo Fisher Scientific) using the standard protocol. 48 hours after transfection, GFP and mCherry positive cells were sorted by BD FACS Aria II for RNA extraction. For transcriptome sequencing, 30ug plasmids expressing shRNA or CasRx with sgRNAs were transfected into 10cm dishes. Then 500k positive cells were sorted out to make a pool for sequencing.

RNA extraction and qPCR

The total RNA was extracted by adding 500 µL Trizol (Invitrogen), 200 µL chloroform to the cells. After centrifuge at 12000 rpm for 15 min at 4 °C, the supernatant was transferred to a 1.5 mL RNase-free tube. Then isopropanol and 75% alcohol were used to precipitate and purify the RNA. The cDNA was prepared using HiScript Q RT SuperMix for qPCR (Vazyme, Biotech) according to manufacturer's instructions. qPCR reactions were performed with AceQ qPCR SYBR Green Master Mix (Vazyme, Biotech). All of the reagents were precooled in advance. All of the primers used for qPCR reactions were listed in the table S3.

Preparation of AAV8

AAV plasmids along with adenoviral helper and AAV rep gene, AAV8 cap gene were introduced to HEK293FT cells by Polythylenimine Max (PEI, Polysciences) in DMEM+10% FBS media. Viral supernatant was harvested 7 days later, purified by iodixanol density gradient purification.

Hydrodynamic tail vein injection and hepatocyte isolation

Male C57BL/6 (SLAC laboratory) mice or heterozygous Ai9 (Rosa-CAG-LSL-

tdTomato-WPRE, Jackson Laboratory) mice at the age of 8 weeks were used for hydrodynamic tail vein injection. Mice were infected with 1×10^{11} transducing units (TU) of AAV in 100 μ L PBS by intravenous injection. Vectors for hydrodynamic tail-vein injection were prepared using the Plasmid DNA purification Midi Kit (MACHEREY-NAGEL). For hydrodynamic liver injection, plasmid DNA suspended in 2 ml saline was injected via the tail vein in 5–7 s into 8-week-old male mice. Mice were sacrificed for analysis at 1, 4, 8, 15 or 16 days post-injection of plasmids or 3 weeks post-injection of AAV. Mouse primary hepatocytes were isolated by standard two-step collagenase perfusion and purified by 40% Percoll (Sigma) at low-speed centrifugation (1000 rpm, 10 min). Hepatocytes were resuspended in DMEM plus 10% fetal bovine serum (FBS) for FACS, and specific cell populations were used for RNA extraction or western blot analysis.

Immunofluorescence staining and western blot

Mice were sacrificed at 4 days post-injection of PBase plasmids and CasRx/sgPten plasmids. Separated liver lobes were harvested and fixed in 4% of paraformaldehyde overnight, and stored in 30% sucrose for 12h. After embedding in OCT compound (Sakura Finetek), 10 μ m liver sections were used for immunofluorescence staining. The following antibodies were used: anti-Pten (Cell Signaling, 9559, 1:100), anti-pAkt S473 (Cell Signaling, 4060, 1:100). For immunoblotting, proteins were separated by SDS-PAGE, then transferred onto a PVDF membrane and identified by immunoblot analysis with appropriate primary antibodies, including GAPDH antibody (Proteintech, 10494-1-AP, 1:5000), PTEN antibody (1:2000), p-AKT S473 antibody (1:2000), AKT antibody (1:2000), PCSK9 (10007185, 1:2000). HRP-labeled Goat Anti-Rabbit IgG (H+L) (1:1000) were from Beyotime Institute of Biotechnology. The protein bands were visualized with a BeyoECL Star Kit according to the manufacturer's instructions (Beyotime Institute of Biotechnology, P0018A).

Serum cholesterol and PCSK9 protein mensuration, serum biochemistry

Before whole blood collection, mice were fasted for 4 hours. Then whole blood was collected at the time of euthanasia. Whole blood were stood at room temperature for 1 hour and centrifuged at 2000 g for 20 min. Then transfer the serum into new tubes for further analysis. Serum PCSK9 protein and cholesterol were measured with Mouse Proprotein Convertase9/PCSK9 Quantikine ELISA Kit (R&D Systems) and the Infinity Cholesterol Reagent (Thermo Fisher Scientific), respectively, according to the manufacturer's instructions. In the CCl₄ group, WT mice were intraperitoneally injected with CCl₄ (1 mL/kg body weight; Shanghai Hushi, Shanghai, China) and sacrificed for analysis at 24 hours after injection. Mice intraperitoneally injected with the same volume of saline were sacrificed for analysis at 24 hours after saline injection. Serum parameters of liver functions, including alanine aminotransferase (ALT), aspartate transaminase (AST), were measured by automatic biochemical analyser at the Adicon Clinical Laboratories.inc (Shanghai, China).

RNA-seq analysis

The transcriptome libraries were sequenced using 150 bp paired-end Illumina Xten platform. After filtering the low-quality reads with SolexaQA (V3.1.7.1) ²⁴, RNA-seq reads were aligned the reads to mm10 reference genome with Hisat2 (V2.0.4) ²⁵. All uniquely mapped reads were used to calculate the read counts with htseq-count (v0.11.2) ²⁶. DEseq2 (1.24.0) were used to calculate differentially expressed genes ²⁷. Genes with fold-change>2 and FDR<0.05 were treated as differentially expressed genes.

Statistical analysis

All values are reported as mean \pm SD. A two-tailed unpaired Student's t-test

was used and statistical significance was determined as *p < 0.05, **p < 0.01, ***p < 0.001. Graphpad Prism 8 was used for all statistical analysis.

Data availability

RNA-seq data are available with the SRA accession number SRP218720.

Supplementary figure legends

Fig. S1: Design of sgRNAs.

A. 10 sgRNAs designed in coding sequence of *Pten*. sgPten-5 (g5, red) and sgPten-6 (g6, red) were selected for in vivo targeted knockdown of *Pten*.

B. 11 sgRNAs designed in coding sequence of *Pcsk9*. sgPcsk9-5 (g5, red) and sgPcsk9-6 (g6, red) were selected for in vivo targeted knockdown of *Pcsk9*.

C. 11 sgRNAs designed in *IncLSTR* locus for screening. sgIncLstr-5 (g5, red) and sgIncLstr-6 (g6, red) were selected for in vivo targeted knockdown of *IncLSTR*.

Fig. S2: CasRx-mediated knock-down of metabolism regulator genes *in vitro*

A. N2a cells were transfected with plasmids expressing CasRx and sgRNAs. Left, design of plasmids used for *Pten* sgRNA screen. Right, mRNA levels of *Pten* were quantified in N2a cells receiving CasRx and indicated sgRNA (n=4).

B. Schematic of plasmids used for CasRx-mediated *Pten* knockdown in N2a cells with the combination of different sgRNAs.

C, D. Knockdown of *Pten* by combination of different sgRNAs in N2a cells (n=3).
E, F. 293T cells were transfected with plasmids expressing CasRx, sgRNA and *Pcsk9* (**E**) or *InclStr* (**F**). Knockdown efficiency of *Pcsk9* (**E**) or *InclStr* (**F**) was quantified in 293T cells receiving indicated sgRNA (n=3, except for sgInclStr-9, n=2). Data are represented as mean with SD. **p<0.01.

Figure S3: CasRx-mediated knockdown of metabolic genes in hepatocytes *in vivo*

A. Plasmids expressing CasRx and sgRNAs were delivered to wild-type mouse livers by hydrodynamic tail-vein injection.

B. Hepatocytes receiving the plasmids encoding CasRx, sgPten-5 and sgPten-6 (GFP+/mCherry+) were purified to quantify the expression of *Pten* by qPCR (n=4). The expressions of *Pten* were not significantly changed in hepatocytes receiving CasRx and sgLacZ (n=3).

C, D. CasRx-mediated knockdown of *Pcsk9* in hepatocytes. *Pcsk9* mRNA levels and protein levels were quantified by qPCR (n=4) (**C**) and western blot (**D**). The expressions of *Pcsk9* were not significantly changed in hepatocytes receiving CasRx and sgLacZ (n=3) (**C**).

E, F. CasRx-mediated knockdown of *InclStr* in hepatocytes. *InclStr* (**E**) and its downstream gene *Cyp8b1* (**F**) were quantified by qPCR (n=4). The expressions of *InclStr* were not significantly changed in hepatocytes receiving

CasRx and sgLacZ (n=3) (E).

G. CasRx with sgRNA arrays simultaneously knocked down *Pten*, *Pcsk9* and *Inclstr* in hepatocytes (n=5). Data are represented as mean with SD. *p<0.05, **p<0.01, ***p<0.001.

Fig. S4: Gradually loss of CasRx plasmids in hepatocytes.

A. The proportions of hepatocytes expressing indicated fluorescence proteins were quantified by flow cytometry at day 1, 4, 8 and 15 after hydrodynamic tail-vein injection of CasRx plasmids into ROSA-CAG-IsI-tdTomato mice (D1, n=4; D4, D8, D15, n=3). Data are represented as mean with SD.

Table S1.sgRNA sequences

pten sg1	ggatcagagtcagtggtgtcagaatatcta
pten sg2	ggttcattgtcactaacatctggagtcaca
pten sg3	gaagttgaactgctagcctctggattgat
pten sg4	ggctcctctactgttttgtaaagtatagt
pten sg5	ggagagaagtatcggttggcctgtctttg
pten sg6	ggtgagtacaagatactcctgtcattatc
pten sg7	gcacgctctatactgcaaagtctatcgatt
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pcsk9 sg2	gtgatggtgaccctgccctcaatctcccga
pcsk9 sg3	gtccatcctcctccggcacgctgtgaag
pcsk9 sg4	gtctgtggaagcgtgtccatcctcctccg
pcsk9 sg5	gtgggtgccgtggctgtcacactgtctcgc
pcsk9 sg6	cagcatcccggccgctgaccacacctgcca
pcsk9 sg7	ggctgtgcaggctggtgcccttgccacac
pcsk9 sg8	gtgccctcccttgacagttgagcacacgc
pcsk9 sg9	ggagtagaggcaggcgtcgtcccgaagt

pcsk9 sg10	gattagctgactcttccgaataaaactcca
pcsk9 sg11	gccggcaggcagcggtgaggatgcggtat
lstr sg1	gtttcaggttccagcgacttcattgcaaa
lstr sg2	gatcagatagaatgttctcaaggattgg
lstr sg3	cagcttgctttacccaagcacctgtctcaa
lstr sg4	gtgtactgtcttctctgtgggcagggtat
lstr sg5	gtatacagaactagagcaaggtcacctagcc
lstr sg6	gagtcactgcttcagccttactaactca
lstr sg7	gtctaaccaggctgtagaactggattctg
lstr sg8	gtctcttggcctatggctctctgataagg
lstr sg9	gtactgtgcacacacaggtgggcatatgc
lstr sg10	ggcaagagccacacatttagcttcattaac
lstr sg11	ggctttatacatgtagcaatcgtctgtct
lacz sg	cgctcggccttctgtagccagctttcatc
shPTEN-5	acaaggccaaccgatacttctCTCGAGagaagtatcggttggcctgtTTT TTG
shPTEN-6	atgacaaggagtatctgtacCTCGAGgtacaagatactcctgtcatTTTT TG

Table S2. Primers used for plasmids construction

Pten sg5+6-R1,R2	gaagacccttgataatgacaaggagtatctgtactaccgtttcaaac ccc cacctagcccaagtaaaccctaccaactggtcggggtttgaacgagt
LSRT sg5+6 F1	cact
LSRT sg5+6 R1,R2	gaagacccttgtgaagttagtaaaggctgaagcagtgactcgtttcaaa cccc
LSRT sg5+6 F2	gaagacctaaacgtatacagaactagagcaaggtcacctagcccaagt aaacc acttgctcgccaagtaaaccctaccaactggtcggggtttgaaccagc
pcsk9 sg5+6 F1	atc
pcsk9 sg5+6 R1,R2	gaagacccttgtggcaggtgtggcagcggccgggatgctggtttcaaa ccccg gaagacctaaacgtgggtgccgtggctgtcacactgctcgccaagtaa
pcsk9 sg5+6 F2	acc
Pten sg5+6 pcr F1	caggtctcactagtgagggcctatttccatgat
Pten sg5+6 pcr R1	caggtctcatcagaaataccgcatcagaattcaaa
Lstr sg5+6 pcr F	caggtctcactgagagggcctatttccatgatt
Lstr sg5+6 pcr R	caggtctcacttcaataccgcatcagaattcaaa
2A-F	gcgcatggacgagctgtacaagggcagtgga cgacgtcaccgcatgtagcagacttctctgccttccactgcccttga
2A-R	cagc

Lstr-F	ctaacaatgacgtgacgtcgaggagaatcctggcccaagtctgtcaaact gaatggg
Lstr-R	taaacaagtttactgttagcttatcaatccaatgcaccatttactccaatat ggg
Pcsk9-F	ctaacaatgacgtgacgtcgaggagaatcctggcccagatggaagcagc caggtg
Pcsk9-R	taaacaagtttactgtatcactctggagcagaagctgggg
pten-sg5+6 pcr F2	gattcgacattgattattgagatgggctggcctttgctcag aattgattactattaataactagtagcaataatcaatgtccgtaaggagaaaaat
pten-sg5+6 pcr R2	accgcat

Table S3. qPCR primers

mouse Pten qPCR F	tggattcgacttagacttgacct
mouse Pten qPCR R	gcggtgtcataatgtctctcag
mouse Pcsk9 qPCR F	gcccacgaggagattgagg
mouse Pcsk9 qPCR R	ttccctgacagttgagcaca
mouse IncLSTR qPCR F	caggtgcttgggtaaagcaa
mouse IncLSTR qPCR R	taggaggcagagcttgctg
mouse Gapdh F	ccgtagacaaaatggtgaaggt
mouse Gapdh R	cgtgagtggagtcatactggaa
human Gapdh F	gtggacctgacctgccgtct
human Gapdh R	ggaggagtgggtgtcgctgt
mouse Actb qpcr F	gtgacgttgacatccgtaaaga
mouse Actb qpcr R	gccggactcatctgactcc
mouse Fasn qpcr F	ggagggtgatagccggtat
mouse Fasn qpcr R	tgggtaatccatagagcccag
mouse Srebf1 qpcr F	gcagccaccatctagcctg
mouse Srebf1 qpcr R	cagcagtgagtctgcctgat
mouse G6pc qpcr F	cgactcgctatctcaagtga
mouse G6pc qpcr R	gggctgttccaaacagaat
mouse PEPCK qpcr F	ctgcataacggtctggacttc
mouse PEPCK qpcr R	gcctccacgaacttctcac
mouse Cyp8b1 qpcr F	cacggggatgtcttcacgg
mouse Cyp8b1 qpcr R	tgagcaccagttctttgcatag

Table S4. Antibodies

anti-PTEN	Cell Signaling	Cat# 9559
anti-pAKT S473	Cell Signaling	Cat# 4060
anti-AKT	Cell Signaling	Cat# 9272
anti-GAPDH	Proteintech	Cat# 10494-1-AP
PCSK9 (human) Polyclonal Antibody	Cayman	Cat# 10007185

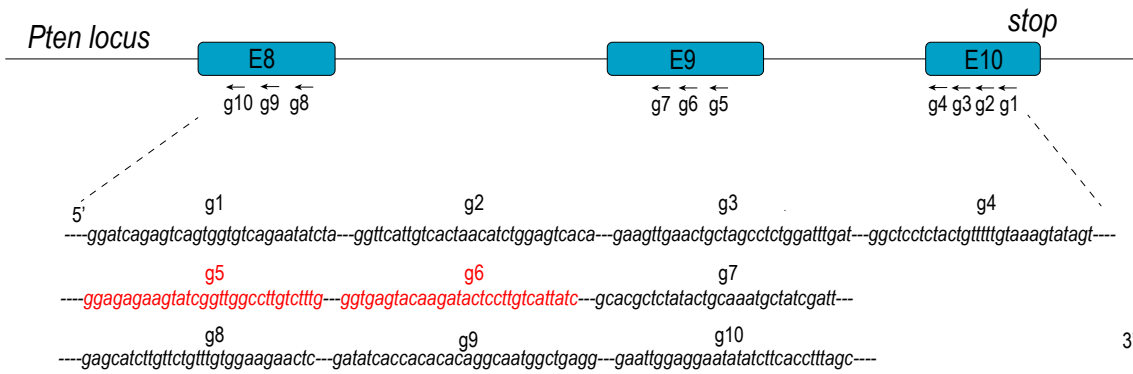
HRP-labeled Goat Anti-Rabbit IgG (H+L)	Beyotime	Cat# A0208
Cy3-conjugated AffiniPure Donkey Anti-Rabbit IgG (H+L)	Jackson	Cat# 711-165-152

Table S5. Software and Algorithms

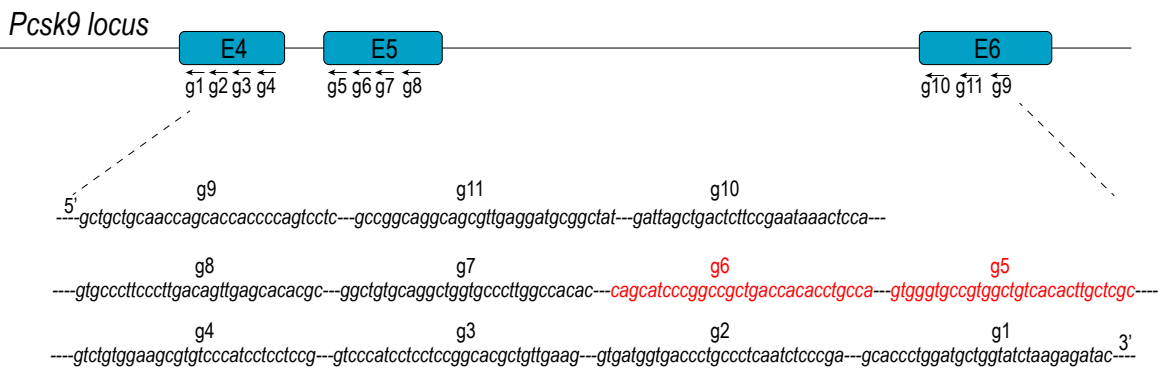
SolexaQA v3.1.7.1	Murray P Cox et al.,2010	https://sourceforge.net/projects/solexaqa/
hisat2 v2.0.4	Daehwan Kim et al.,2015	https://ccb.jhu.edu/software/hisat2/index.shtml
Deseq2 1.24.0	Michael I Love et al.,2014	https://bioconductor.org/packages/release/bioc/html/DESeq2.html
Htseq v0.11.2	Simon Anders et al.,2015	https://htseq.readthedocs.io/en/release_0.11.1/count.html

Figure S1

A



B



C

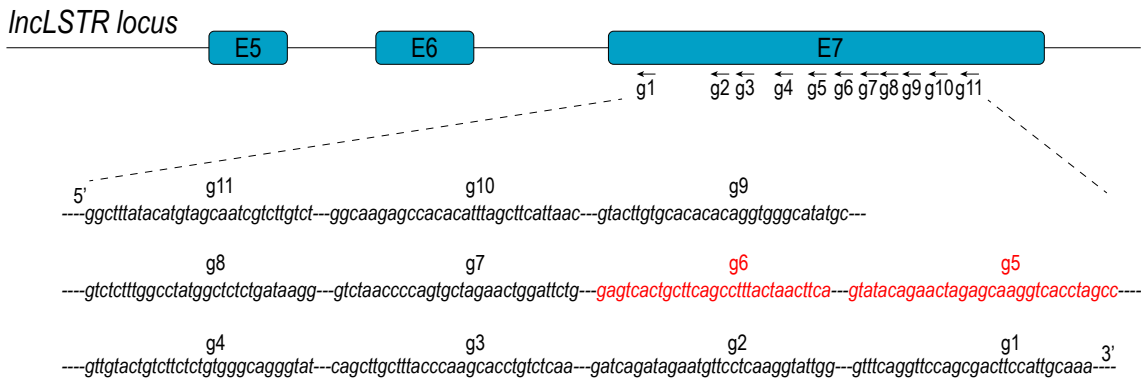


Figure S2

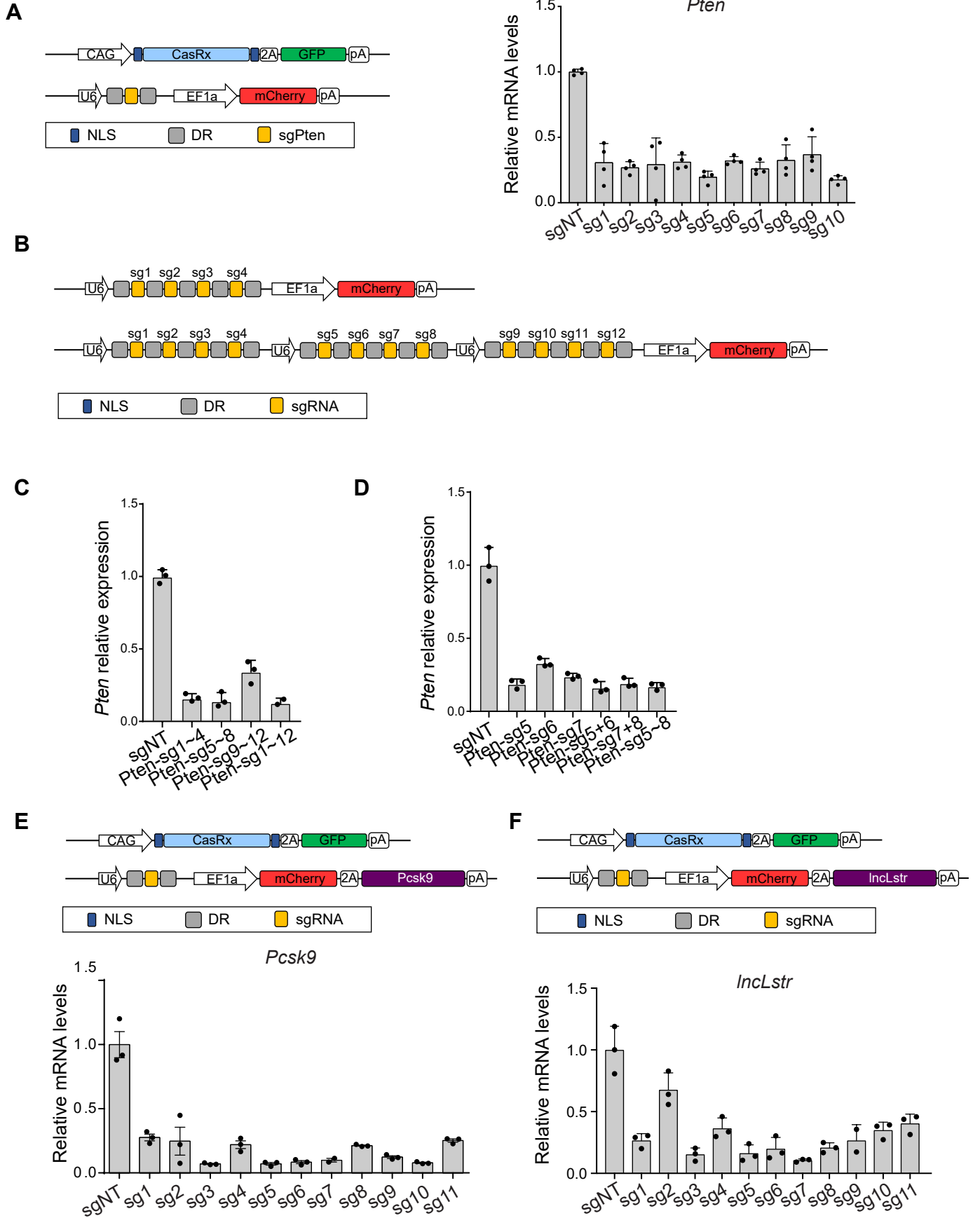


Figure S3

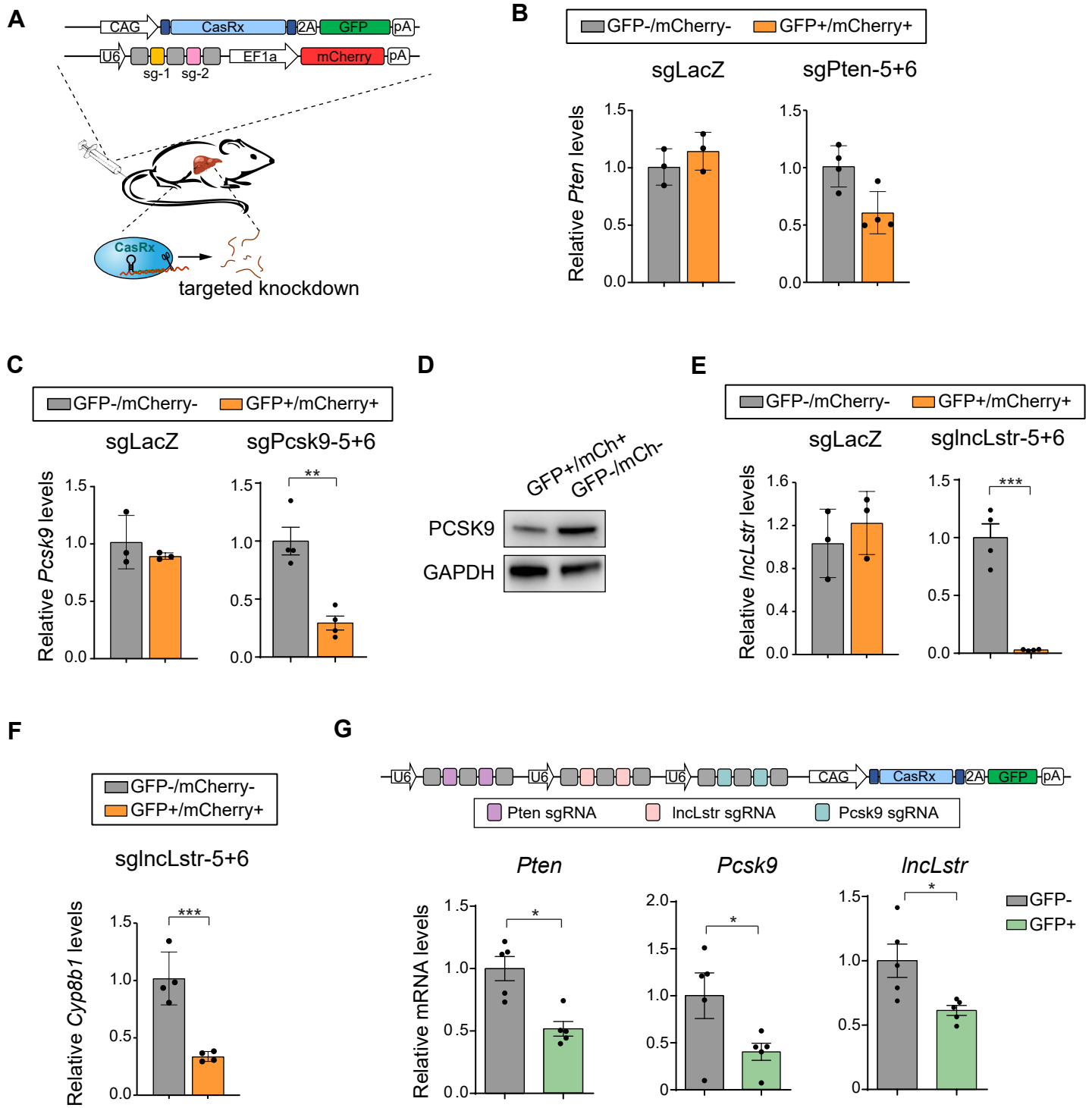


Figure S4

A

