

Supplementary Figures

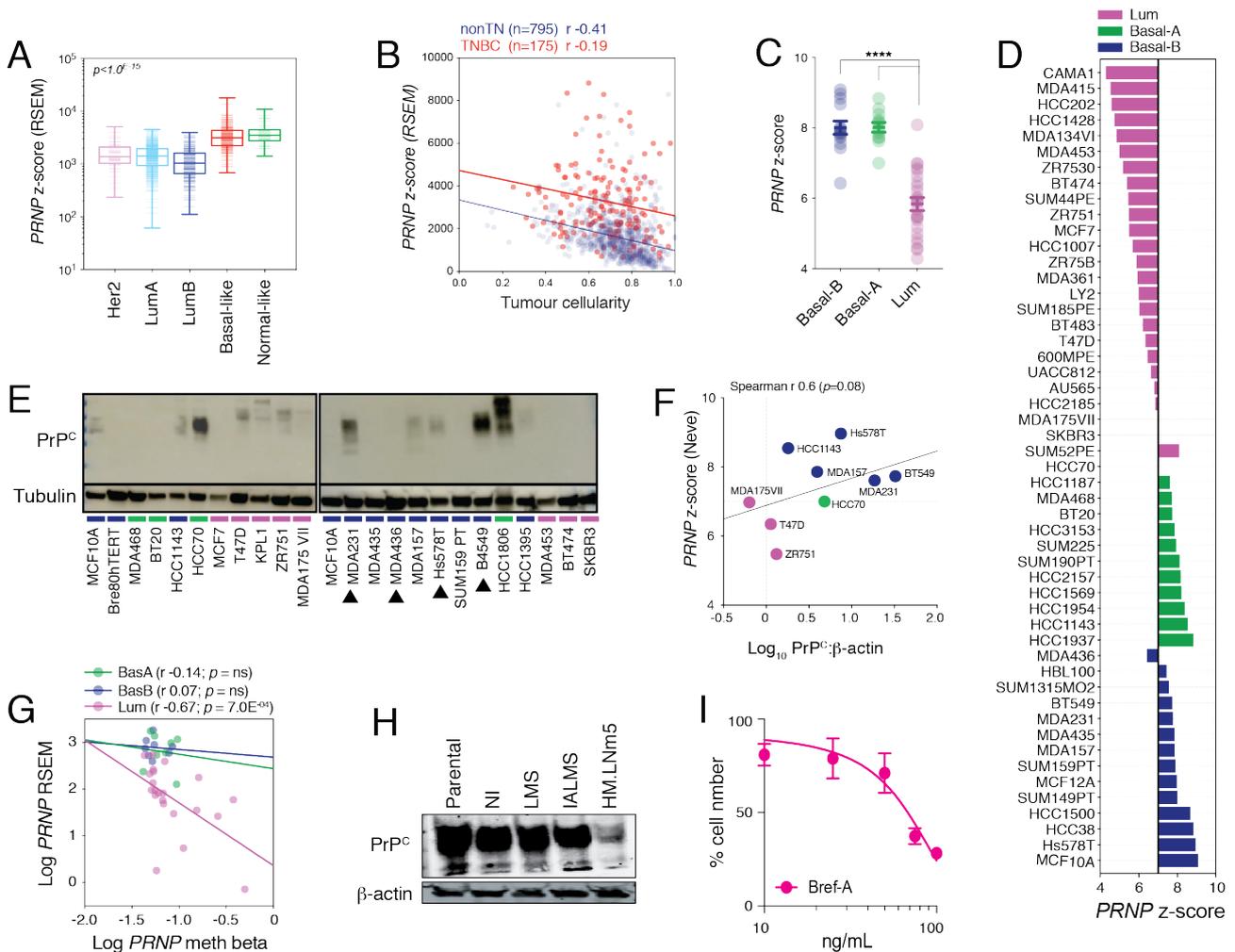


Figure-S1. PrP^C expression in breast tumors and cell lines. [A] Analysis of *PRNP* mRNA expression in the TCGA dataset. *PRNP* is more highly expressed in basal-like and normal-like breast cancers compared to Her2-enriched or luminal A/B types (p -value indicated from non-parametric Kruskal-Wallis test). [B] Relationship between *PRNP* mRNA expression and tumor purity (r , correlation coefficient) (25). [C/D] *PRNP* mRNA levels in breast cancer cell lines according to cell line molecular subtype (26). [E] Western analysis of intracellular PrP^C in selected cell lines (relative to Tubulin), arrows mark cell lines used for doxorubicin mechanistic studies. [F] Relationship between published *PRNP* z-scores and PrP^C protein level (determined by densitometry of S1E). Spearman correlation coefficient (r) and p -value indicated. [G] Relationship between *PRNP* expression and methylation at the *PRNP* genomic locus (average of probes) in breast cancer cell lines from the Daemen et al. dataset (27). [H] PrP^C protein expression relative to β-actin across MDA231 clonal derivatives with increasing metastatic potential. [I] Brefeldin A dose curve for cellular toxicity.

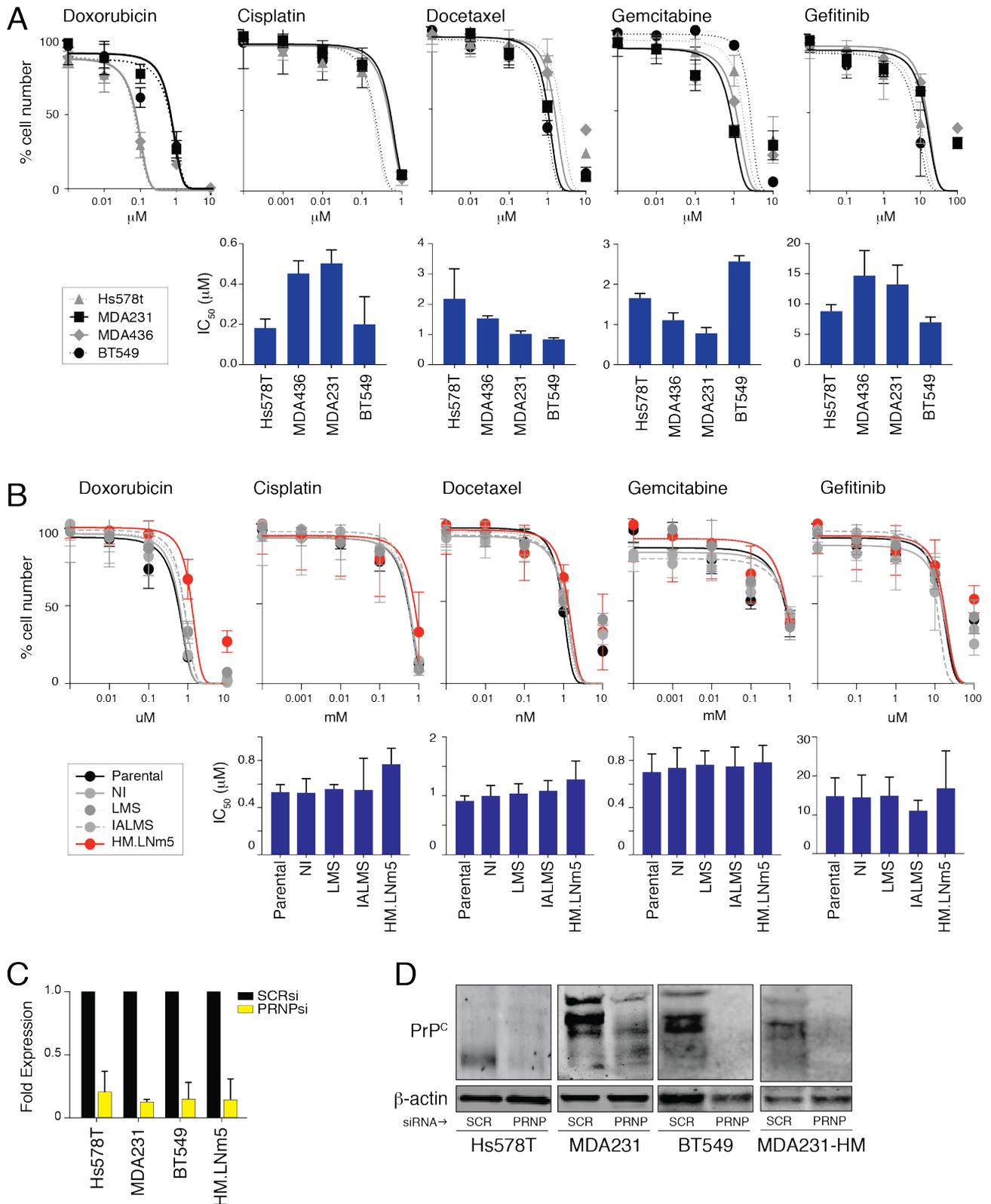


Figure-S2. Soluble PrP^C can mediate resistance to doxorubicin. [A/B] Logarithmic dose-response curves for a set of standard chemotherapeutics in a range of cell lines expressing and secreting different levels of PrP^C. Data shown are the means \pm SEM of triplicate experiments, with non-linear regression lines of best fit. [C] Analysis of *PRNP* mRNA expression by qRT-PCR 48h after transiently transfecting scrambled or *PRNP*-directed siRNA. [D] Western analysis of PrP^C relative to β -actin 48h after transiently transfecting scrambled or *PRNP*-directed siRNA.

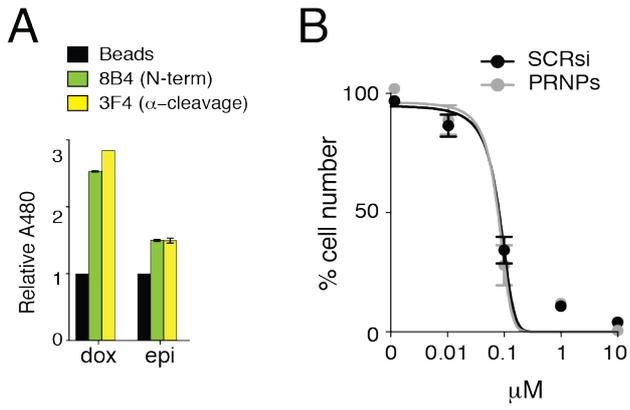


Figure-S3. Effect of PrP^C serum on doxorubicin efficacy *in vitro*. [A] Co-immunoprecipitation of doxorubicin and epirubicin with PrP^C using two different antibodies (mean \pm SEM is shown for three experiments). [B] Epirubicin dose-response assay in HMLNm5 cells with and without siRNA-mediated depletion of PRNP.

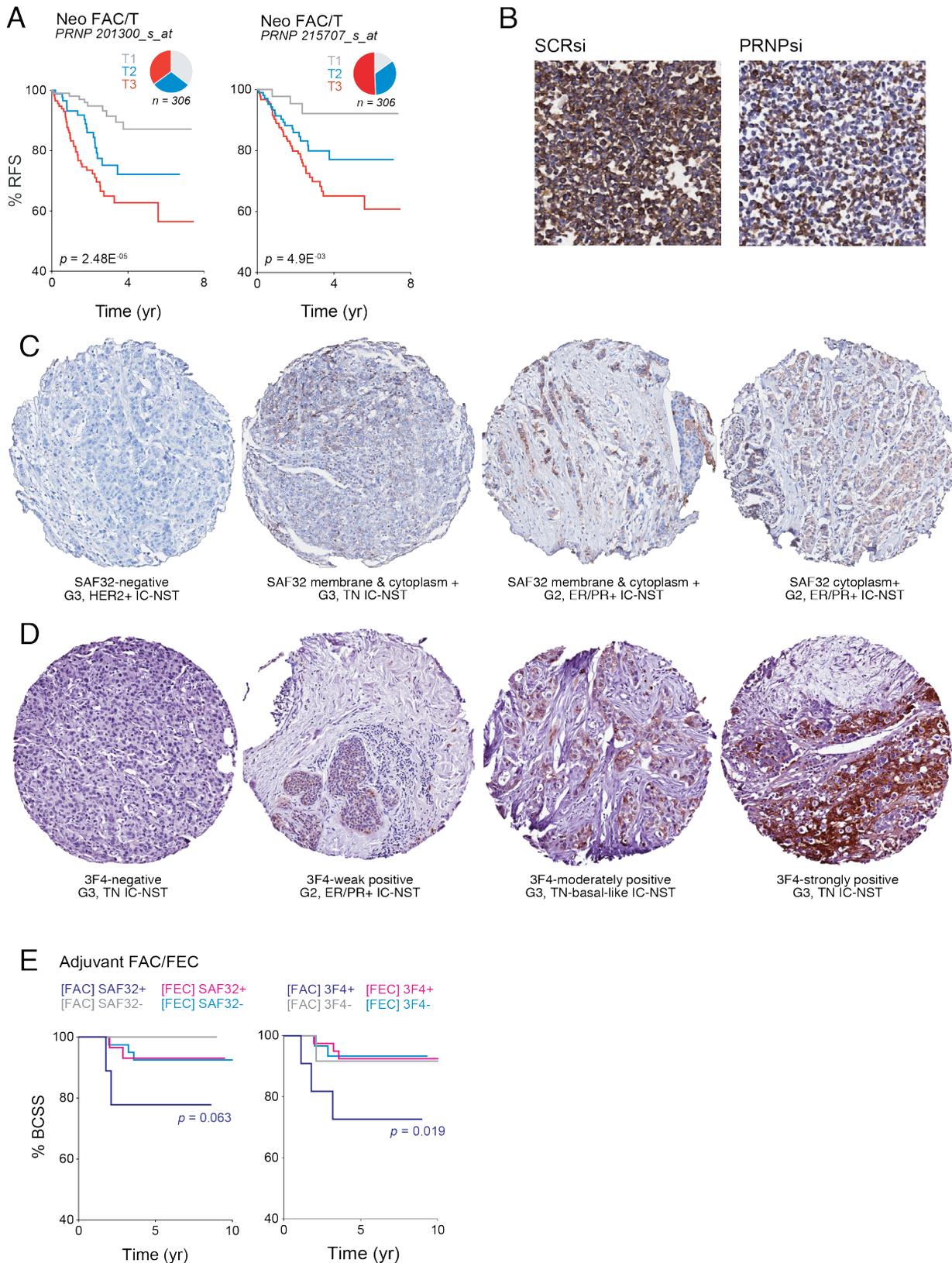


Figure-S4. Relationships between tumor PrP^C expression and clinical outcomes of breast cancer patients treated with anthracycline-based chemotherapy. [A] Similar trends between *PRNP* expression and relapse-free survival (RFS) were observed with two different *PRNP* expression array probes. *PRNP* T1-3, RNA expression tertiles. [B] SAF32 antibody validation by IHC analysis of paraformaldehyde-fixed, pelleted and paraffin embedded MDA231 cells transiently transfected with control (SCR) or *PRNP*-specific siRNAs. [C-D] Additional examples of PrP^C IHC staining with the SAF32 and 3F4 antibodies. [E] Kaplan Meier analysis of the relationships between PrP^C protein isoforms and breast cancer specific survival (BCSS).