Supplementary Information

IncRNA AK054386 functions as a ceRNA to sequester miR-199 and induce sustained endoplasmic reticulum stress in hepatic reperfusion injury

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Supplementary Figures 1 and 2

Supplementary Methods

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Supplementary Figure 1:

Figure S1. Expression levels of miR-199 and ERS-related factors in hepatic IRI.
(A). Representative hematoxylin-and-eosin (HE) stained sections of liver tissues from the sham-operated controls (Control), the mice suffering from hepatic ischemia without reperfusion (Ischemia) and the hepatic IRI mouse model (IRI). More serious necrosis was observed in the IRI group compared with that in the other two groups. (B) Apoptosis rates were assayed by flow cytometry and indicated the successful construction of the hepatic IRI cell model in the mouse BNL-CL2 cell line. Data are representative of three independent experiments. (C and D) The relative expression levels of miR-199a-5p and ER stress-related genes measured by qRT-PCR and normalized to GAPDH in the hepatic IRI cell model using the mouse BNL-CL2 cell line. (E-F) The relative expression levels of AK054386 after its overexpression (E) or knock-down (F), the RNA levels were measured by qRT-PCR and normalized to GAPDH in BNL-CL2 cell line. For all the qRT-PCR analysis in this figure, data are shown as the means±S.D. of three independent experiments. * P<0.05, **P<0.01.
**Supplementary Figure 2:**

(A) Putative NF-κB binding sites in the AK054386 promoter predicted by the JASPAR website.

(B) NF-κB binding site sequences were provided by the JASPAR website.

(C) Putative NF-κB binding sites in the AK054386 promoter.

(D) AK054386 functions as a ceRNA to sequester miR-199 and induce sustained ER stress in hepatic IRI. The unfolded protein-induced ER stress response could result in the elevation of ER mediator mRNAs. In normal hepatocytes, miR-199 could negatively regulate ER stress by targeting the mRNAs of ER-related factors, which...
promotes hepatocyte survival. In hepatic IRI, over-activated UPR causes sustained ERS, which induces the activation of Nuclear Factor-κB (NFκB). NF-κB can bind to the AK054386 promoter and induce its transcription. This LncRNA then sequesters miR-199, resulting in the up-regulation of GRP78, ATF6 and IRE1a, which promotes aggravated and sustained ER stress. This positive feedback response causes hepatocyte apoptosis and cell death.

**Supplementary Figure 3:**

![Figure S3. AK054386 increase liver tissue necrosis and inflammation.](image)

(A) Representative hematoxylin-and-eosin (HE) stained sections of liver tissues from control mice and mouse hepatic IRI models after lentivirus infection. 5 mice were analyzed in each group. (B) Quantitative analysis of necrosis(lysis or loss) of the HE stained...
sections of liver tissues from A. (C) Quantitative analysis of edema degeneration (%) of the HE stained sections of liver tissues from A.

Supplementary Methods

**Mice, cell lines and reagents.** C57BL/6 mice (Female at 9–11 weeks) were purchased from the SMMU Laboratory Animal Center and were used in accordance with the Institutional guidelines for animal care. The cell lines were cultured following a common protocol that was described in our previous manuscript (Dai BH, et al., 2013). The mouse hepatocyte line BNL-CL2 was obtained from the American Type Culture Collection (ATCC, Manassas, VA, USA) and was maintained in minimum essential medium (MEM) supplemented with 10% fetal bovine serum (FBS, Invitrogen, Carlsbad, CA, USA), 100 mM MEM nonessential amino acids, 2 mM l-glutamine, 1 mM sodium pyruvate, and 50 U/ml penicillin & streptomycin (all from Invitrogen). The human embryonic kidney epithelial cell line HEK293 (ATCC) was maintained in DMEM medium containing 10% FBS. SiRNA and miRNA inhibitors/mimics were purchased from GenePharma (Shanghai, China). Anti-ATF6, anti-GRP78 (Bip), anti-IRE1A, anti-CHOP and anti-NFkB1 antibodies were purchased from Cell Signaling Technology (CST, Beverly, MA, USA). Unless specifically indicated, all chemicals were purchased from Sigma Chemical Co. (St. Louis, MO, USA).

**Induction of hepatic IRI model in mice**

Hepatic IRI was induced following a common protocol that is described previously (Abe et al., 2009, Kim J.Y. et al., 2017). Briefly, mice underwent a midline laparotomy after anesthetization with chloral hydrate, and the hepatic hilum was dissected. A microvascular clamp was applied to the Glisson system for constructing
the hepatic IRI model. The clamp was removed and the abdominal wall was closed after 1 h of hepatic ischemia. After a designated period (1 h/3 h/6 h) of reperfusion, the whole blood or liver samples of the mice were collected following anesthesia for further study (histological analysis, TUNEL assay, and other molecular analyses). The hepatic ischemia models underwent only 1 h of ischemia without reperfusion. Sham-operated controls underwent the same procedure except for vascular occlusion. For all the mouse experiments, 5 mice were in each group (Sham-operated controls, ischemia and IRI).

**Induction of hepatic IRI model in cells.**
A three gas incubator was set with the following gas concentrations: (1) 1.0% O2, (2) 5.0% CO2 and (3) 94% N2. The next day, the normal medium on the cultured mouse hepatocyte line BNL-CL2 was changed to ischemia-mimic medium(10.0 mmol/L KCl, 98.5 mmol NaCl, 0.9 mmol/L NaH2PO4, 20.0 mmol/L HEPES, 6.0 mmol/L NaHCO3, 1.8 mmol/L CaCl2, 1.2 mmol/L MgSO4, and 40.0 mmol/L sodium lactate pH 6.8). Then, the cells were placed in to the three gas incubator and cultured for 8 h for ischemia simulation. To simulate reperfusion, the cells were cultured under normal conditions at 5% CO2 and 37°C for 3 h and the ischemia-mimic medium was then replaced with normal culture medium.

**Serum measurements.** Mice serum levels of Aspartate aminotransferase (AST) and alanine aminotransferase (ALT) were measured using a commercial AST Activity Assay Kit (Biovision) and ALT Activity Assay Kit (Biovision) according to the manufacturer’s instructions at the SMMU Animal experiment center.

**Interleukin 6 (IL-6) and C-Reactive Protein (CRP) measurements.**
The liver tissues were homogenized with ice-cold PBS. ELISA kits were applied for measurement of IL-6 and CRP levels in liver tissue homogenates in accordance with
instructions (Xitang Biotechnology, Shanghai, China).

**Subcellular fractionation.** Cytosolic fractions and nuclear fractions of BNL-CL2 cell were isolated and collected with a PARIS kit AM1921 (AmTX) according to the manufacturer’s instructions to investigate the subcellular distribution of AK054386. Then, the total RNA was extracted from the cytosolic fractions and nuclear fractions respectively, followed by cDNA synthesis and qRT-PCR.

**Gene over-express and knock-down.** Lentiviral vectors were purchased from Genepharma (Shanghai, China). For miR-199 overexpression, the lentivirus contained the premiR-199 sequences, whereas for AK054386 overexpression, the whole sequence was included in the lentivirus. The lentiviral infection experiments were performed according to the manufacturer’s instructions and was described in our previous manuscript (Dai BH, et al., 2013). For the *in vivo* experiments, the lentivirus was injected intravenously 3 days before hepatic IRI modeling surgery. The plasmid of AK054386 and AK054386-Mut were purchased from ObioTechnology (Shanghai, China). The siRNAs were synthesized by Genepharma (Shanghai, China) with the following sequence: 5’- GUGGCUGGUUAAUAUCUCATT -3’. The miRNA mimics were synthesized by Genepharma (Shanghai, China). The plasmid and miRNA mimics and siRNA were transfected into cells using Lipofectamine™ 3000 Reagent (Thermo Fisher Scientific, USA) following the instrument.

The sequence of wild-type AK054386 (miR-199 binding site is highlighted):

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1 acaaaaaatg acaagagaga tgaaaacgtt tgattatttt ctcagtgtat ttttgtaaaa
61 aatatataaa gggggtgtta atcggtgtaa atcgctgttt ggatttcctg attttataat
121 agggtggctg gttaatatct cacacagttt gaaaaatcag cccctggttt ctccatgttt
181 acacttcaat ctgcaggctt cttaaagtga cagtatccct taacctgcca ccggtttcca
241 cctttcaacc ccctggtctt ataaggggag gagagttcag cccagcacca taatgcttta
301 aaaaaaaaaa ttttttttt ttaacgaatt gctgttctgt ccagaggttt ttaaaactgg
361 tgcattcaca gaaaaaaaat attttttttttt atcagttgtaa atcgttgttt ggatttcttg attttataat
```
The sequence of AK054386-Mut (mutated sequence is highlighted):

1 acaaaaatg acaagagaga tgaaaacgtt tgattatttt ctcagtgtat ttttgtaaaa
61 aatatataaa gggggtgtta atcggtgtaa atcgct gttt ggatttcctg attttataat
121 agggtgcgtc gttaatatct cacacagttt gaaaaatcag cccctggttt ctccatgttt
181 acacttcaat ctgcaggctt cttaaagtga cagtatccct taacctgcca ccggtttcca
241 cctttcaacc cctgtccttt ataaggggag gagagtccag cccagcacca taatgcttta
301 aaaaaaaaaa ttttttttt taaacgaatt gtgtttctgt ccagaggttt ttaaaccttg
361 tgcattcaca gcaaaaaagg atctgtagc ttaactgtg aaaccacac ttttttcac
421 tttttttat aagaccaaa [tgatgccgttag aaaaacagtt] ctatctaa atgcgcgatttt
481 gatgcgca caacaagtac tcggttca ttctgttatt tgaactttta atctttctta
541 ctggtgcttc aatatataag ttctgatct atggcatggt gatagcatat gtgttcaggt
601 ttatagcttg tgtgtttaaa gattgaaaaa agtggaacaatccttttacat ccagcagcga
661 tgattataat aagacaaag atttggtgta tgtatgttta atataacatg acagggcaga
721 ggagccctgct cttttaagag gcagttccgt taagggtttt tgttttaaaa ctcttttttt
781 tctttttct ttatatctcttttttac catccatct gtgcaatatg cccgttgaaga
841 tattgtcct taaatcaag gccacaaaaa aagacaaaaa aaaaaaaaaca aaaaaaa
901 caaaaaacaa tattttttttt aag
Apoptosis assays. Apoptosis was analyzed by flow cytometry analysis following a common protocol that was described in our previous manuscript (Dai BH, et al., 2013). Cells from each sample were tested using Annexin V-PE apoptosis detection kit (BioVision, Inc., USA) by a BD FACSCalibur flow cytometer (BD Bioscience, San Jose, CA, USA) according to the manufacturer’s instructions. Triplicate samples (30000 events/ sample) were acquired and analyzed using the FACSDiva software (version 4.1.2; BD Biosciences). Apoptosis was also analyzed by TUNEL which evaluated DNA fragmentation as reported in a previous protocol (Mosbah et al., 2012; Zaouali et al., 2013).

Cytotoxicity assays. Hepatocyte damage was determined by analyzing the LDH in cell culture supernatants using semi-automated and routine clinical methods.

RNA preparation, reverse transcription and quantitative real-time-PCR (qRT-PCR). Methods in this part are also following a common protocol that was described in our previous manuscript(Dai BH, et al., 2013). Briefly, total RNA was extracted using TRIzol reagent (Invitrogen). Taqman probes and primer sets (AB, Foster City, CA, USA) were used for testing the miRNA levels according to the manufacturer’s instructions. For mRNA analysis, the Reverse Transcription System Kit (Promega, Madison, WI, USA) was used for the first-strand cDNA generation. The Power SYBR Green PCR Master Mix (Applied Biosystems) was used for real-time PCR testing on a StepOne Plus system (Applied Biosystems). GAPDH mRNA levels or U6 snoRNA were used as internal normalization controls.

The following primer pairs used for PCR:
GAPDH, 5’-CGGATTTGGTCTATTTGG-3’ and 5’-CTG GAAGATGGTGATGGGATT-3’;
U6, 5’-GCTTCGGCAGCACAATATACTAAAAT-3’ and
5’- CGCTTCACGAATTTGCGTGTCAT-3’
LncR-AK054386, 5’-AAGGGGCTTTAATCGGTG-3’ and
5’- AACATGGGAGAAACCAGGGGC-3’
GRP78, 5’-GGAGAGGACAAGAAAGGA-3’ and
5’-AGTGAAGGCGCATAGG A-3’;
IRE1A, 5’-GGTCTGAGGAGGTTGATG-3’ and
5’-CATAGAGGCTGGTAGAGTATT-3’;
CHOP, 5’-CCTCACTCTCCAGATTCACCA-3’ and
5’-AGCCGTTCTATTCTTCAG-3’;
ATF6, 5’-AAAAGACCACAAGACCAAA-3’ and
5’-AGGAGGAATCAGGAATT-3’;
pri-miR-199 A1, 5’-CCGCTCTGTCCCTTCTGACG-3’ and
5’-AAACCCTGCTCTCTGCTCC-3’;
pre-miR-199A1, 5’-GCCAACCCAGTGTTCAGACTAC-3’
5’-GCCTAACCAATGTGCAGACTACT-3’;
pri-miR-199A2, 5’-TGCCCAGTCTTAACCAATGTGC-3’
5’-AGCTGAATGCAACCCCTGG-3’ and
pre-miR-199A2, 5’-AGGAGGAATCAGGAATT-3’
5’-TGCTCTCCCTTGCCCAGTCT-3’;
mir-199a-5p, 5’-TTATTACCGACAGAACGAC-3’ and
5’-ACCGAGTGCGAATGTGGCGAT-3’

**RIP Assay.**
The AK054386-MS2 and AK054386-Mut-MS2 plasmid were cloned using following primers: 5’- CTATAGGGAGACCCAATCGGTGTAATCGCTGTTTG-3’ and
5’- GCTCGGTACCAAGCAGTCATATTGCCACAGTGATGATT-3’. Using the EZ-Magna RIP Kit (Millipore), the MS2bp-MS2bs-based RIP assay was performed
according to previous reports (Gong and Maquat, 2011) with modifications.

**Luciferase reporter assay.** Methods in this part are also following a common protocol that was described in our previous manuscript (Dai BH, et al., 2013) with modifications. Briefly, wild-type AK054386 and MIR199 putative binding site mutated AK054386 (AK054386-Mut) were clone into pMIR-REPORT™ Luciferase using following primers: 5’- AGGTTAAACAGTTA TCGGTGAAATCGCTGTTTG and 5’- GATCCTTTATTAAGCTCATATTGCACAGGATGGATGGT-3’.

These reporters were transfected into HEK293 and BNL-CL2 cells in 96 well plates using Lipofectamine 3000 (Invitrogen). The cells were then co-transfected with wild-type (WT) or mutant(Mut) reporter vector (80 ng), and pRL-TK-Renilla-luciferase plasmid (8 ng) which is the internal control and the indicated RNAs (final concentration of 50 nM) were co-transfected into the cells. The luciferase activities were measured 48h after transfection using the Dual-Luciferase Reporter Assay System (Promega). As reported previously, the data were normalized by dividing the firefly luciferase activity by the Renilla luciferase activity.

**Chromatin immunoprecipitation assay.** Methods in this part are also following a common protocol that was described in our previous manuscript (Dai BH, et al., 2013) with modifications. EZ-Magna ChIP A/G Kit (Merck Millipore Headquarters, Billerica, MA, USA) was used for ChIP assays according to the manufacturer’s instructions. Chromatin was immunoprecipitated using p105/p50 antibody (Cell Signaling Technology, USA) or an anti-IgG antibody as the control (Santa Cruz Technologies, Santa Cruz, CA, USA). ChIP-derived DNA was quantified using qRT-PCR (Applied Biosystems). AK054386’s promoter region was acquired from the UCSC website. The following primer sequences were used for ChIP quantification: (1) primer pair 1, sense 5’-TATAGGTGTAATTGAGAAGACCC-3’ and anti-sense 5’-AAAAAGAAGATAAAAGAAACGAGG-3’; (2) primer pair 2, sense
5’-TAGTGTAGGATAATATAAAAGC-3’ and anti-sense,
5’-GAGGGGGTAAAAATAAACGGGTC-3’; and (3) control primer, sense
5’-GAGGTCTCGTATTGGCTGCATCGTA-3’ and anti-sense
5’-GCTAACCTTTCTCCACCCCCAACCA-3’.

Fold enrichments were calculated from the apparent IP efficiency (ratio of ChIP enriched DNA over control IgG input DNA) and normalized to the levels at a control region.

**Western blotting analysis.** Identical quantities of cell protein lysates were prepared in a 1x sodium dodecyl sulfate buffer and were separated by sodium dodecyl sulfate polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis. The proteins were then transferred onto polyvinylidene fluoride membranes following first and second antibody incubation.

**Statistical analysis.** Most Data are presented as the mean±S.D. of at least 3 independent experiments. ANOVA analysis and Fisher’s exact test or two-tailed Student’s t-test were performed for statistical comparisons between experimental groups, and P <0.05 was considered statistically significant.

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