ION CHANNELS, RECEPTORS AND TRANSPORTERS



# Soluble αKlotho downregulates Orai1-mediated store-operated Ca<sup>2+</sup> entry via PI3K-dependent signaling

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#### Abstract

 $\alpha$ Klotho is a type 1 transmembrane anti-aging protein.  $\alpha$ Klotho-deficient mice have premature aging phenotypes and an imbalance of ion homeostasis including Ca<sup>2+</sup> and phosphate. Soluble  $\alpha$ Klotho is known to regulate multiple ion channels and growth factor-mediated phosphoinositide-3-kinase (PI3K) signaling. Store-operated Ca<sup>2+</sup> entry (SOCE) mediated by pore-forming subunit Orai1 and ER Ca<sup>2+</sup> sensor STIM1 is a ubiquitous Ca<sup>2+</sup> influx mechanism and has been implicated in multiple diseases. However, it is currently unknown whether soluble  $\alpha$ Klotho regulates Orai1-mediated SOCE via PI3K-dependent signaling. Among the Klotho family,  $\alpha$ Klotho downregulates SOCE while  $\beta$ Klotho or  $\gamma$ Klotho does not affect SOCE. Soluble  $\alpha$ Klotho suppresses serum-stimulated SOCE and Ca<sup>2+</sup> release-activated Ca<sup>2+</sup> (CRAC) channel currents. Serum increases the cell-surface abundance of Orai1 via stimulating vesicular exocytosis of the channel. The serum-stimulated SOCE and cell-surface abundance of Orai1 are inhibited by the preincubation of  $\alpha$ Klotho protein or PI3K inhibitors prevents further inhibition by  $\alpha$ Klotho. Functionally, we further show that soluble  $\alpha$ Klotho ameliorates serum-stimulated SOCE and cell migration in breast and lung cancer cells. These results demonstrate that soluble  $\alpha$ Klotho downregulates SOCE by inhibiting PI3K-driven vesicular exocytosis of the Orai1 channel and contributes to the suppression of SOCE-mediated tumor cell migration.

Keywords SOCE · STIM1 · FGF23 · CRAC channel

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## Introduction

Klotho is an aging-suppressor gene that encodes type 1 transmembrane glycoprotein called  $\alpha$ Klotho [22, 23]. Klotho-deficient (kl/kl) mice show accelerated aging phenotypes with a severe imbalance of ion homeostasis including  $Ca^{2+}$  and phosphate (P<sub>i</sub>) [22, 24, 36]. The Klotho family comprises three members:  $\alpha$ Klotho (encoded by the  $\alpha Klotho$  gene; also known as KL),  $\beta Klotho$  (encoded by the  $\beta Klotho$  gene; also known as KLB), and  $\gamma Klotho$ (encoded by Lctl gene; also known as KLG) [19, 20]. αKlotho has at least two functional modes including full-length membrane-bound form and soluble form. The membranous form of  $\alpha$ Klotho binds to multiple fibroblast growth factor (FGF) receptors that function as an obligatory coreceptor for FGF23 to regulate  $P_i$  and Ca<sup>2+</sup> homeostasis [7, 24, 36]. The extracellular domain of  $\alpha$ Klotho is cleaved off and released into blood, urine, and cerebrospinal fluid to function as paracrine and/or endocrine hormone [19, 23]. This soluble form of  $\alpha$ Klotho exerts aging suppression and organ protection with pleiotropic action including regulation of ion channels and growth factor signaling [19–21].

Soluble  $\alpha$ Klotho can positively or negatively regulate transient receptor potential (TRP) superfamily of cation channels. aKlotho upregulates multiple TRPV channels including TRPV2, 5, and 6 [6, 26, 27], whereas several TRPC channels such as TRPC1, 3, and 6 are downregulated by  $\alpha$ Klotho [9, 16, 25, 40, 42, 43]. Additionally,  $\alpha$ Klotho positively regulates multiple K<sup>+</sup> channels such as ROMK, Kv1.3, KCNO1/KCNE1, and hERG channels [1, 2, 4, 29]. Soluble  $\alpha$ Klotho increases the cell-surface abundance of TRPV and K<sup>+</sup> channels by modifying their *N*-glycan through sialidase or  $\beta$ -glucuronidase activity of  $\alpha$ Klotho [1, 2, 4, 6, 26, 27, 29]. This N-glycan modification by aKlotho increases the resident time of these channels at the plasma membrane by delaying their endocytosis [4, 27]. Conversely, a Klotho downregulates TRPC channels with a distinct mechanism. Soluble  $\alpha$ Klotho inhibits TRPC1-mediated Ca<sup>2+</sup> influx via binding directly to vascular endothelial growth factor receptor-2 (VEGFR2)/ TRPC1 complex to promote their co-internalization [25].  $\alpha$ Klotho decreases the cell-surface abundance of TRPC6 and TRPC3 via inhibiting PI3K-dependent exocytosis of these channels [16, 42]. Recently, it is reported that soluble  $\alpha$ Klotho targeting  $\alpha$ 2-3-sialyllactose binds to monosialogangliosides in lipid rafts to regulate TRPC6 [9, 41]. Overall, these studies provide compelling evidence suggesting that soluble  $\alpha$ Klotho can regulate multiple ion channels via distinct mechanisms.

The ubiquitous second messenger Ca<sup>2+</sup> regulates various cellular behaviors. Store-operated Ca<sup>2+</sup> entry (SOCE) is vital for the maintenance of endoplasmic reticulum (ER) Ca<sup>2+</sup> stores at precise levels for signaling in both nonexcitable and excitable tissues to regulate a variety of cellular functions [31, 32]. The molecular components of SOCE are Orai1 and STIM1 (stromal interaction molecule 1), a pore-forming subunit, and an ER Ca<sup>2+</sup> sensor, respectively. STIM1 is oligomerized and translocated to the plasma membrane during ER Ca<sup>2+</sup> depletion that thereby triggers Ca<sup>2+</sup> entry via Orai1, a Ca<sup>2+</sup>-selective channel at the plasma membrane [31, 32]. SOCE is a downstream effector of growth factor signaling. The explicit mechanism of Orail activation by PI3K-driven growth factor signaling in physiological conditions remains elusive. Moreover, soluble aKlotho suppresses aging and protects multiple disease progression by regulating growth factor signaling [19, 23]. The mechanism linking  $\alpha$ Klotho and SOCE by growth factor signaling has not yet been identified. Here, we examined the mechanism by which soluble  $\alpha$ Klotho regulates Orai1-mediated SOCE by growth factor stimulation and its functional implications.

#### Materials and methods

#### Materials and DNA constructs

2-(4-morpholinyl)-8-phenylchromone (LY294002) (cat no. 19-142) was purchased from Calbiochem (San Diego, CA, USA) and wortmannin (WMN) (cat no. W1628), brefeldin A (BFA) (cat no. B7651), and tetanus toxin A (TeNT) (cat no. T3194) were purchased from Sigma-Aldrich (St Louis, MO, USA). Recombinant  $\alpha$ Klotho (human) protein was provided from R&D Systems (cat no. 5334-KL-025, Minneapolis, MN, USA). Non-targeting control oligonucleotides (cat. n. SN-1003) and small interfering RNA (siRNA) against human Orail (cat. n. M-014998-01-0005) were obtained from Bioneer (Daejeon, Korea) and Horizon Discovery Ltd. (Cambridge, UK), respectively.

Expression vectors for the transmembrane full-length mouse  $\alpha$ Klotho (KLFL), an extracellular domain of mouse  $\alpha$ Klotho (KL $^T$ M),  $\beta$ Klotho, and  $\gamma$ Klotho was a kind gift from Prof. Makoto Kuro-o (Jichi Medical University, Japan) [11, 24, 30]. Orai1 (mCherry-3xFlag-Orai1) and STIM1 (YFP-STIM1) plasmids were kindly provided from Drs. Joseph Yuan (University of North Texas, USA).

#### Cell culture and transfection

A HEK293 cell line with an inducible mCherry-STIM1-T2A-Orai1-eGFP (provided from Dr. Chan Young Park (UNIST, Korea)) [34] and HEK293FT cells were cultured under high glucose DMEM medium (cat no. SH30243, Hyclone, Logan, UT, USA) supplemented with 10% fetal bovine serum (FBS) and 1% penicillin. The human breast cancer cell line MDA-MB231 and the human lung cancer cell line H1693 cells were cultured under RPMI1640 (cat no. SH30027, Hyclone, Logan, UT, USA) supplemented with 10% fetal bovine serum (FBS) and 1% penicillin.

All DNA plasmids were transfected by using XtremeGENE HP DNA transfection reagent<sup>®</sup> (Roche, Mannheim, Germany) following the manufacturer's instructions. Experiments were conducted 48 h after transfection. For knockdown by siRNA, oligonucleotides were transfected into MDA-MB231 and H1693 cells with DharmaFect (cat no. T-2001-03, Horizon Discovery Ltd., Cambridge, UK) following the manufacturer's instructions. Cells were trypsinized, and re-seeded on the poly-lysine coated coverglasses after 48 h for live-cell Ca<sup>2+</sup> imaging or on the 6-well plate for in vitro wound-healing assay. Experiments were conducted after 24 h re-seeding the cells.

#### **Real-time quantitative PCR analysis**

Purified total RNA was extracted from the trypsinized pellets of HEK293FT cells through Hybrid-RTM total RNA purification kit (cat. n. 305-101, GeneAll, Seoul, South Korea) according to the manufacturer's instructions. Complementary DNA (cDNA) was synthesized from 1 µg of total RNA by using a ReverTraAce® qPCR RT Master Mix with gDNA Remover (cat. n. FSO-301, Toyobo, Osaka, Japan). The mRNA abundance was analyzed by real-time quantitative PCR with SYBR Green (cat. n. 204143, Oiagen, Germantown, MD, USA) using the following sequencespecific human primers: ORAI1, forward (F) 5'-TTGA GCCGCGCCAAGCTTAAA-3', reverse (R) 5'-CATT GCCACCATGGCGAAGC-3'; ORAI2, F-5'-AAGT GCTTGGATGCGGTGCTG-3', R-5'-GGAG CCAGGCAGGTCATTTATACG-3'; ORAI3, F-5'-TCAG CCGGGCCAAGCTCAAA-3', R-5'-CATG GCCACCATGGCGAAGC-3'; STIM1, F-5'-GTAC ACGCCCCAACCCTGCT-3', R-5'-AGGCTAGGGGACTG CATGGACA-3'; STIM2, F-5'-TGGACCTCTAACAC GCCCACCT-3', R-5'-CTGCGTATAAGCAAACCAGC AGCC-3'. For the analysis of each gene expression, the experiments were performed in triplicate in a real-time PCR system (7900HT, Thermo Fisher Scientific). Data were analyzed following the  $2^{-\Delta\Delta Ct}$  method with 18S as the reference gene.

# Intracellular Ca<sup>2+</sup> ([Ca<sup>2+</sup>]<sub>i</sub>) measurement

Intracellular Ca<sup>2+</sup> concentration ( $[Ca^{2+}]_i$ ) measurement was previously described [5]. A normal physiological salt solution was used for bath solution that contained (in mM) 135 NaCl, 5 KCl, 1 MgCl<sub>2</sub>, 2 CaCl<sub>2</sub>, 10 HEPES, and 10 glucose (pH 7.4). Fura-2 signals were obtained by alternating excitation at 340 or 380 nm, and detecting emission at 510 nm. Data acquisition and analysis were performed using the MetaFluor (Sutter Instruments, Novato, CA, USA) software. All  $[Ca^{2+}]_i$  measurements were performed at ~ 37 °C.

### **Electrophysiological recordings**

For recording Ca<sup>2+</sup>release-activated Ca<sup>2+</sup> (CRAC) currents, HEK293FT cells were co-transfected with cDNAs for mCherry-3xFlag-tagged Orai1 and YFP-STIM1 (0.5  $\mu$ g each per 35 mm dish). The bath and pipette solution for Orai1 currents contained (in mM) 130 NaCl, 5 KCl, 10 CaCl<sub>2</sub>, 2 MgCl<sub>2</sub>, 10 HEPES and 10 glucose (pH 7.4), and 140 Cs-Asp, 10 BAPTA, 6 EGTA, 6 MgCl<sub>2</sub> and 10 HEPES (pH 7.2), respectively. Currents were recorded using the whole cell-dialyzed configuration of the patch-clamp technique as described previously [5]. Whole-cell currents were recorded under voltage-clamp using an EPC-9 patch-clamp amplifier (Heka Electronik, Lambrecht, Germany). The patch electrodes were coated with silicone elastomer (Sylgard 184; Dow Corning, Midland, MI, USA), fire-polished, and had resistances of 2–3 M $\Omega$  when filled with the pipette solution. The cell membrane capacitance and series resistance were compensated (>80%) electronically using the EPC9 amplifier. Data acquisition was performed using the PatchMaster software (Heka Electronik). All electrophysiological recordings were performed at room temperature (~20–24 °C).

#### Western blot and surface biotinylation assay

Western blotting and cell-surface biotinylation assay as described previously [27]. Briefly, HEK293FT cells were mechanically homogenized in RIPA lysis buffer with protease and phosphatase inhibitors. Primary antibodies were used following as: Orai1 (HPA016583, ATLAS antibodies, Stockholm, Sweden), STIM1 (11565-1-AP, ProteinTech Group Inc., Chicago, IL, USA), GFP (ab137687, Abcam, Cambridge, UK), αKlotho (clone KM2076, KAL-KO603, Cosmo Bio Co., Ltd., Tokyo, Japan), ßKlotho (GTX45558, Gene Tex, Inc., Irvine, CA), yKlotho (AF5984-SP, R&D Systems, Minneapolis, MN, USA), Flag-HRP (A8592, Sigma-Aldrich, St. Louis, MO, USA), β-actin (ab6276, abcam, Cambridge, UK), p-Akt<sup>Ser407</sup> (#9271), p-Akt<sup>Thr308</sup> (#2965), and Akt (#9272) were provided from Cell Signaling Technology (Beverly, MA, USA). Bands in the immunoblotting were detected and quantified using ChemiDoc XRS+ Imaging System and the ImageLab software (version 5.2.1, Bio-Rad Laboratories, Hercules, CA, USA) and the ImageJ software (NIH, USA), respectively. Pretreatment of  $\alpha$ Klotho protein and all reagents was processed 1 h before adding serum. Total cellular and biotinylated cell-surface proteins were analyzed by SDS-PAGE followed by western blot. These experiments were performed three times with similar results.

#### **Confocal microscopy**

For immunofluorescence staining, HEK293 cells with an inducible mCherry-STIM1-T2A-Orai1-eGFP were grown on poly-L-lysine-coated coverslips. eGFP-Orai1 and mCherry-STIM1 protein were induced after 12~24 h tetracycline (5  $\mu$ M) treatment [34] and were fixed with 4% paraformaldehyde in PBS for 15 min at room temperature. GFP and mCherry fluorescent images were obtained using a laser scanning confocal microscope (Zeiss, LSM 800, Jena, Germany) with Airyscan. Super-resolution image of the Orai1 expression on the plasma membrane and Airyscan image processing was acquired using the ZEN 2.3 software.

#### In vitro wound-healing assay

A wound-healing assay was conducted as described previously [14, 17]. Briefly, MDA-MB231 and H1693 cells were plated at  $1 \times 10^7$  per well in a 6-well plate until grown to confluence. The cells were incubated with recombinant  $\alpha$ Klotho protein (1 nM) in only 1% penicillin contained RPMI1640 media for 30 min and then exchanged with complete media with or without  $\alpha$ Klotho protein. To distinguish cell migration from proliferation, all wound-healing assays were performed in the presence of anti-tumor drug mitomycin C (M4287, Sigma-Aldrich, a final concentration of 0.1 µg/ml) to prevent proliferation. The image was captured by a microscope after 24 h of drug treatment (time 0, initial time point). The migrated cells were counted using an ImageJ 1.48 (NIH, USA).

#### Data analysis and statistics

Results are presented as mean  $\pm$  SEM. Statistical analysis was performed using a two-tailed unpaired Student's *t* test and one-way ANOVA followed by Tukey's multiple comparison tests by the GraphPad Prism Software (version 5.0, GraphPad Software, San Diego, CA, USA). *p* values less than 0.05 and 0.01 were considered significant for single and multiple comparisons, respectively. All experiments were repeated independently 3–4 times with similar results.

### Results

#### Soluble aKlotho contributes to SOCE regulation

Orail and STIM1 couple are the canonical components of SOCE. There are three isoforms in the Klotho family:  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$ , and  $\gamma$ Klotho [19, 20]. We firstly explored which Klotho isoform regulates Orail-induced SOCE using HEK293FT cells heterologously expressing Klotho isoforms with Orail and STIM1. Overexpression of Orail and STIM1 increased SOCE (Fig. 1a–c). Full-length  $\alpha$ Klotho inhibited SOCE whereas  $\beta$ Klotho or  $\gamma$ Klotho did not affect it (Fig. 1a–c). Among isoforms of Orai and STIM, Orail and STIM1 were predominantly expressed in HEK293 cells (Fig. 1d). In following SOCE and immunoblotting experiments throughout the paper, endogenous Orail and STIM1 were evaluated.

There are at least two types of functional  $\alpha$ Klotho, membranous and soluble form [12]. We next examined which functional mode of  $\alpha$ Klotho effectively regulates endogenous SOCE in HEK293FT cells. We found that both membranous and soluble  $\alpha$ Klotho downregulate SOCE (Fig. 1e–f). The soluble form of  $\alpha$ Klotho is more potent to suppress SOCE. Of note, overexpression of both membranous and secreted forms of  $\alpha$ Klotho did not affect the expression of endogenous Orai1 and STIM1 in HEK293 cells (Fig. 1g). Together, soluble  $\alpha$ Klotho is critical for SOCE regulation.

# Soluble $\alpha$ Klotho downregulates serum-stimulated SOCE and CRAC current

Soluble  $\alpha$ Klotho has pleiotropic cellular function including regulation of ion channels and growth factor signaling [12, 13, 19]. Here, we examined whether soluble  $\alpha$ Klotho regulates serum-stimulated SOCE and Ca<sup>2+</sup> release-activated Ca<sup>2+</sup> (CRAC) channel current in HEK293FT cells. Endogenous SOCE was significantly increased in the application of serum compared with that in serum-deprived conditions, and this stimulation was attenuated by pretreatment with recombinant  $\alpha$ Klotho protein (Fig. 2a and b).

Orail is a principal pore subunit of the CRAC channel [33]. Next, CRAC channel current density was measured in HEK293FT cells overexpressing Orail and STIM1 by ruptured whole-cell patch-clamp recording. ER Ca<sup>2+</sup> depletion evoked inward currents under dialyzed whole-cell configuration (Fig. 2c). Current-voltage (*I-V*) relationship curves showed characteristic inward rectifying CRAC currents (Fig. 2d). Soluble  $\alpha$ Klotho reduced Orail current density and SOCE but had no apparent effects on the general properties of whole-cell currents (Fig. 2c–e). These results support that soluble  $\alpha$ Klotho downregulates serum-stimulated SOCE and Orail currents.

# Serum increases the cell-surface abundance of Orai1 via stimulating its exocytosis

We examined the time course of SOCE stimulation by serum treatment. The stimulation of endogenous SOCE by serum was detected after 10 min incubation and reached a maximal effect at 1 h (Fig. 3a). We and others reported that serum growth factors promote transient translocation of TRPC5 and TRPC6 channels to the plasma membrane [3, 16, 42]. Similarly, serum treatment promoted the relocalization of GFP-tagged Orail to the plasma membrane (Fig. 3b). Moreover, biotinylation assay showed that incubation with serum increased the steady-state surface abundance of Orail but not in the total cell lysates (Fig. 3c). Assessment of the cell-surface abundance of Orai1 was confirmed by no detection of intracellular protein at a biotinylated fraction (Fig. 3c). The growth factor stimulates a cell-surface abundance of TRPC channels via their SNARE-dependent vesicular exocytosis [9, 16, 43]. Thus, we examined whether a similar mechanism may involve the upregulation of Orail by serum. Brefeldin A (BFA) or tetanus toxin (TeNT) disrupt vesicular exocytosis.



Fig. 1 A soluble form of  $\alpha$ Klotho downregulates SOCE without affecting Orai1/STIM1. **a** Representative trace showing the effect of the Klotho family on SOCE. Flag-Orai1 and YFP-STIM1 co-transfected with Klotho isoforms:  $\alpha$ Klotho (KLA),  $\beta$ Klotho (KLB), or  $\gamma$ Klotho (KLG) in HEK293FT cells. Empty vector (pEF1 vector) used as transfection control. **b** Quantification of peak SOCE values is expressed as mean ± SEM (n = 55-173 each group). **c** Immunoblotting showing transfection of Klotho isoforms and Flag-tagged Orai1 and YFP-tagged STIM1. **d** Quantitative real-time PCR for relative mRNA expression of Orais and

STIMs in HEK293FT cells. **e** Representative trace of endogenous SOCE in HEK293FT cells transiently expressing full-length (KLFL) and secreted (KL $\Delta$ TM) form of  $\alpha$ Klotho. Empty vector (pEF1 vector) was used as a transfection control (Vector). **f** Summary of the SOCE in panel **e** (n = 123–186 each group). **g** Effect of  $\alpha$ Klotho (KLFL and KL $\Delta$ TM) on endogenous Orai1 and STIM1 protein expression in HEK293FT cells. \*\*Denotes p < 0.01. Data were analyzed by one-way ANOVA (**b** left panel in **d** and **f**) and *t* test (right panel in **d**)

Serum-stimulated cell-surface abundance of Orail was blunted by preincubation with BFA or TeNT (Fig. 3c and d), indicating that steady-state vesicular exocytosis of Orail occurs in the presence of serum.

# αKlotho reduces the cell-surface abundance of Orai1 via inhibiting exocytosis of the channel

We previously reported that soluble  $\alpha$ Klotho downregulates cell-surface abundance of TRPC6 in cardiac myocyte and podocyte by inhibiting serum growth factor-dependent exocytosis of the channel [16, 42]. We explored whether a similar mechanism may contribute to the suppression of Orai1 and SOCE. We next measured the effects of  $\alpha$ Klotho on a cell-surface abundance of Orail using biotinylation assay. Preincubation of soluble  $\alpha$ Klotho prevented steady-state and serum-stimulated surface abundance of Orail (Fig. 4a and b), which supports the notion that  $\alpha$ Klotho reduces the cell-surface abundance of Orail. These findings of plasma membrane expression of Orail were confirmed by Ca<sup>2+</sup> imaging showing that SOCE was inhibited by BFA or TeNT (Fig. 4c–f). The reduction in the cell-surface abundance of Orail by soluble  $\alpha$ Klotho may result from decreased exocytosis and/or increased endocytosis of the channel. Moreover, inhibition of vesicular exocytosis of the channel by BFA or TeNT decreased SOCE and prevented further inhibition by soluble  $\alpha$ Klotho (Fig. 4c–f). These results indicate that  $\alpha$ Klotho reduces SOCE via downregulating vesicular exocytosis of the Orail channel.



**Fig. 2** Soluble  $\alpha$ Klotho downregulates serum-stimulated SOCE and CRAC current. **a** Representative trace of SOCE showing the effect of soluble  $\alpha$ Klotho protein on serum-stimulated native SOCE in HEK293FT. Serum was deprived (SD) for 16 h followed by incubation of serum (10%) with/without recombinant  $\alpha$ Klotho protein (1 nM) for 1 h. **b** Summary of the SOCE in panel **a** (n = 58-86 each group). **c-e** Effect of soluble  $\alpha$ Klotho on CRAC channel current density. Time course

(c), the current-voltage (I-V) relationship (d), and current density (e n = 13-24 each) of CRAC channel current measured under dialyzed wholecell patch-clamp configuration. All CRAC channel current was measured in HEK293FT cells heterologously expressing Orai1 and STIM1. Orai1 current density was at -100 mV in d and e. \*\*Denotes p < 0.01. Data were analyzed by one-way ANOVA in b and Student's t test in e

# αKlotho inhibits SOCE and cell-surface abundance of Orai1 via PI3K-dependent pathway

Activation of the PI3K-Akt pathway by serum growth factors increases the plasma membrane abundance of TRPC channels by stimulating their exocytosis [3, 16, 42]. Soluble  $\alpha$ Klotho inhibits increased cell-surface abundance of TRPC3 and TRPC6 by inhibiting the PI3K-dependent pathway [9, 16, 42]. We next examined whether  $\alpha$ Klotho suppresses SOCE and cell-surface abundance of Orai1 by inhibiting serumstimulated PI3K signaling. Inhibition of PI3K by preincubation with its blockers, wortmannin (WMN) or LY294002, reduced Akt phosphorylation (Fig. 5a-d). Accordingly, a Klotho also reduced serum-stimulated Akt phosphorylation (Fig. 5e and f). Blockade of PI3K by preincubation with WMN or LY294002 inhibited serumstimulated cell-surface abundance of Orai1 (Fig. 5g and h). Moreover, inhibition of PI3K by WMN or LY294002 abrogated SOCE and prevented further  $\alpha$ Klotho-induced inhibition (Fig. 5i and j). Collectively, these results support that soluble  $\alpha$ Klotho suppresses SOCE via inhibiting PI3Kdependent exocytosis of the Orai1 channel.

### αKlotho ameliorates serum-stimulated SOCE and migration in breast and lung cancer cells

Orai1-mediated SOCE is critical for tumor cell migration and metastasis [14, 44]. We previously reported that soluble  $\alpha$ Klotho inhibits the migration of clear cell renal cell carcinoma via suppressing the IGF-1-stimulated PI3K pathway [15]. Therefore, we explored whether  $\alpha$ Klotho inhibits Orai1-mediated SOCE and migration in breast and lung cancer cells. Orai1 was a primary molecular component of SOCE in both breast and lung cancer cells, MDA-MB231 and H1693, respectively (Fig. 6a–d). Moreover, both tumor cell migrations were also blunted by silencing *ORAI1* (Fig. 6e and f). Consistent with results in HEK293FT cells, SOCE was significantly upregulated by application of serum compared with that by serum deprivation, and the stimulation was attenuated by incubation of  $\alpha$ Klotho protein in





**Fig. 3** Serum increases the cell surface abundance of Orail via stimulating exocytosis of the channel. **a** Time-dependent response of serum incubation on endogenous SOCE (n = 47-72 each point). \*\*p < 0.01 vs. Serum deprivation (18 h). **b** Effect of serum (10%, 1 h) on plasma membrane localization of Orail in HEK293 cells with an inducible eGFP-Orail and mCherry-STIM1 protein. GFP and mCherry signals were measured using a confocal microscope. **c** Representative immunoblotting showing the effect of brefeldin A (BFA, 10  $\mu$ M for

both MDA-MB231 and H1693 cells (Fig. 6g–j). Of note, inhibition of PI3K by WMN abrogated SOCE and prevented further  $\alpha$ Klotho-mediated inhibition (Fig. 6k and l) in both tumor cells supporting the notion that soluble  $\alpha$ Klotho suppresses SOCE via inhibiting PI3K-dependent pathway. Accordingly,  $\alpha$ Klotho also inhibited serumstimulated tumor cell migration (Fig. 6m and n).

#### Discussion

SOCE is essential for the maintenance of ER Ca<sup>2+</sup> stores at a precise level for cellular signaling and functions [31, 32]. Disturbed SOCE-mediated Ca<sup>2+</sup> signaling and homeostasis of Ca<sup>2+</sup> store have been implicated in the pathogenesis of multiple diseases [31]. Major downstream signaling effectors of growth factor receptors are PLC $\gamma$  and PI3K-Akt pathways. The cellular mechanism of Orai1 activation can be mediated by serum and/or growth factors

8 h) or tetanus toxin (TeNT, 60 nM, for 16 h) on the serum-stimulated cell-surface abundance of Orail analyzed by biotinylation assay. The lack of  $\beta$ -actin detection in the membrane fraction was used as a control for biotinylation. Surface and lysate denote biotinylated fraction and total cellular protein, respectively. **d** Densitometry of the surface abundance of Orail in panel **c**. \*\*p < 0.01, data were analyzed by one-way ANOVA in **a** and **d** 

triggering PLC $\gamma$  activation, IP<sub>3</sub> generation, and Ca<sup>2+</sup> release from the ER store. Depletion of ER Ca<sup>2+</sup> store oligomerizes STIM1 to open the Orai1 channel at the plasma membrane [28]. PI3K-Akt pathway signaling contributes to the stimulation of exocytosis of multiple channels such as TRPC5 and TRPC6 [3, 9, 16, 42]. The underlying mechanism of Orai1 regulation by PI3K-derived growth factor signaling remains unsolved. Our data demonstrate that activation of the PI3K-dependent signaling pathway by serum increases the cell-surface abundance of Orail via enhancing forward trafficking of the channel to the plasma membrane. These findings support that a similar mechanism may contribute to the downregulation of Orai1-mediated SOCE. Notably, PI3K inhibitors have pleiotropic effects. Therefore, the underlying mechanism by downstream effectors of PI3K to regulate the cellsurface expression of Orai1 awaits future study.

The aging process is closely related to altered growth factor signaling and ion imbalance including  $Ca^{2+}$  and  $P_i$ 



**Fig. 4**  $\alpha$ Klotho downregulates the serum-stimulated cell surface abundance of Orai1. **a** Cell-surface biotinylation assay showing the effect of  $\alpha$ Klotho on the serum-stimulated cell-surface abundance of Orai1. **b** Quantification of the results in panel **a**. \*\*p < 0.01 vs. serum deprivation and #p < 0.01 vs. serum incubation. **c** Representative SOCE traces showing that  $\alpha$ Klotho suppressed SOCE, and prevented the inhibition by Brefeldin A (BFA). Cells were preincubated with BFA (10  $\mu$ M for 8 h)

before  $\alpha$ Klotho treatment (1 h). **d** Summary of SOCE in panel **c** (n = 53–252 for each). \*\*p < 0.01 vs. vehicle control (no  $\alpha$ Klotho). NS, not significant between each group. **e** Representative SOCE traces show that  $\alpha$ Klotho reduced SOCE and prevented the suppression by tetanus toxin (TeNT, 60 nM, 16 h). **f** Summary of SOCE in panel **e** (n = 84–241 for each). \*\*p < 0.01 vs. vehicle control (no  $\alpha$ Klotho). NS, not significant between each group. One-way ANOVA in **b**, **d**, and **f** 

[18, 19]. The membrane-bound form of  $\alpha$ Klotho and  $\beta$ Klotho forms a binary complex with FGFRs, which serves as the physiological receptors for FGF23 and FGF19/21, respectively [7, 19–21]. We found that membranous  $\alpha$ Klotho but not  $\beta$ Klotho or  $\gamma$ Klotho downregulates SOCE. Membranous  $\alpha$ Klotho associated with FGF receptors functions as a coreceptor for FGF23 signaling to regulate P<sub>i</sub> [7, 24, 36]. Soluble  $\alpha$ Klotho also regulates multiple ion channels [13]. Our data demonstrate that both types of  $\alpha$ Klotho can downregulate SOCE. Soluble  $\alpha$ Klotho is more potent to downregulate SOCE, supporting that soluble  $\alpha$ Klotho is critical for Orai1-mediated SOCE.

Soluble  $\alpha$ Klotho can up- or downregulate multiple channels via a distinct mechanism.  $\alpha$ Klotho positively regulates several TRPV (TRPV2, 5, and 6) and K<sup>+</sup>

channels (ROMK, Kv1.3, KCNQ1/KCNE1, and hERG channels) through increasing cell-surface abundance of the channels by modification of their N-glycan through sialidase or  $\beta$ -glucuronidase activity of  $\alpha$ Klotho [1, 2, 6, 26, 27, 29]. Modifying N-glycans of the channel by  $\alpha$ Klotho delays its endocytosis resulting in increased cell-surface abundance [4, 27]. Conversely,  $\alpha$ Klotho negatively regulates multiple TRPC channels with a distinct mechanism. aKlotho directly binds to the VEGFR2/ TRPC1 complex to promote their cointernalization [25]. On the other hand,  $\alpha$ Klotho downregulates the cellsurface abundance of TRPC6 and TRPC3 via inhibiting their PI3K-dependent exocytosis [16, 42]. In the present study,  $\alpha$ Klotho reduces the cell-surface abundance of Orai1 by inhibiting the serum-stimulated PI3K-dependent pathway. This supports the notion that the growth factor-



Fig. 5  $\alpha$ Klotho inhibits SOCE and cell membrane abundance of Orail via the PI3K-dependent signaling pathway. **a**, **c**, and **e** Representative immunoblotting showing that effect of preincubation of PI3K inhibitors. **a** LY294002 (LY, 10  $\mu$ M for 1 h) and **c** wortmannin (WMN, 50 nM for 1 h) and **e** recombinant  $\alpha$ Klotho protein (1 nM for 1 h) on Akt phosphorylation at serine473 (p-Akt (S)) and threonine308 (p-Akt (T)) by serum stimulation (10%, 1 h). **b**, **d**, and **f** Quantification of Akt phosphorylation levels in panel **a**, **c**, and **e** respectively. \*\*p < 0.01 vs. serum deprivation (SD) and #p < 0.01 vs. serum incubation. **g** Representative biotinylation

assay showing the effect of PI3K inhibitors (WMN and LY) on the cellsurface expression of Orai1 by serum stimulation. **h** Summary of the surface Orai1 level in panel **g**. \*\*p < 0.01 vs. SD and #p < 0.01 vs. serum treated. **i** and **j** Summary of SOCE traces showing that  $\alpha$ Klotho suppressed SOCE and prevented the inhibition by preincubation of PI3K inhibitors, wortmannin (WMN, n = 40-186 each group) or LY294002 (LY, n = 76-188 each group), respectively. \*\*p < 0.01 vs. vehicle. NS, not significant between each group. Data were analyzed by one-way ANOVA in **b**, **d**, **f**, and **h**-**j** 

driven PI3K pathway is the downstream effector signaling of soluble  $\alpha$ Klotho to regulate Orai1 as well as TRPC3 and TRPC6.

Recently, the underlying mechanism of  $\alpha$ Klotho on the downregulation of TRPC6 by growth factor-mediated PI3K signaling is unraveled [9, 41]. Soluble  $\alpha$ Klotho specifically targets  $\alpha$ 2-3-sialyllactose of monosialogangliosides highly enriched in the lipid raft and particularly downregulates lipid raft-dependent PI3K-Akt signaling to suppress TRPC6 [9, 40, 41]. Orail is localized in the lipid raft and binds directly to caveolin-1 and cholesterol [10, 45, 46]. At a steady-state, Orail continuously recycles between the endosome and the plasma membrane [45, 46]. In the present study, we show that soluble  $\alpha$ Klotho suppresses Orail surface abundance via inhibiting PI3K-dependent exocytosis of the channel. Hence,

future studies will explore the mechanism that specific lipid raft-dependent PI3K/Akt signaling may contribute to the downregulation of Orail by soluble  $\alpha$ Klotho.

Accumulating evidence demonstrates that the upregulation of Orai1/STIM1-mediated SOCE is associated with tumor progression and poor prognosis in multiple cancers including breast, lung, and renal cancer [14, 35, 44]. Hyperactivation of the PI3K/Akt signaling pathway promotes tumor cell migration. Currently, targeting growth factor receptor-driven PI3K signaling pathway with pharmaceutical agents have been suggested as a therapeutic solution for treating cancers and applied in clinical trials [8, 37, 38].  $\alpha$ Klotho suppresses growth factor-stimulated cell migration by inhibiting PI3K/Akt pathway in multiple tumors such as breast and renal cancers [15, 39]. This study provides compelling evidence supporting



Fig. 6  $\alpha$ Klotho suppresses serum-stimulated SOCE and cell migration in breast and lung cancer cells via a PI3K-dependent pathway. **a** and **c** Effect of Orai1 silencing (siOrai1) on SOCE traces in the breast (MDA-MB231) and lung (H1693) cancer cells, respectively. Ctrl Oligo (control oligonucleotide), non-targeting control siRNAs. **b** and **d** Summary of the SOCE in panel **a** and **c**, respectively. **e** and **f** Effect of Orai1 knockdown (siOrai1) on MDA-MB231 and H1693 cell migration, respectively. **g** and **i** Representative SOCE traces showing the effect of soluble  $\alpha$ Klotho protein (1 nM for 1 h) on serum-stimulated SOCE in MDA-

MB231 and H1693 cells, respectively. **h** and **j** Summary of the results in the panel **g** and **i**. **k** and **l** Effect of soluble  $\alpha$ Klotho and PI3K inhibitor, wortmannin (WMN, 50 nM for 1 h, n = 104-196 each group) on SOCE in MDA-MB231 and H1693 cells, respectively. \*\*p < 0.01 vs. vehicle. NS, not significant between each group. **m** and **n** Effect of soluble  $\alpha$ Klotho on serum-stimulated cell migration of MDA-MB231 and H1693 cells, respectively. Data were analyzed by Student's *t* test in **b** and **d** and one-way ANOVA in **h**, **j**, **k**, and **l** 

 $\alpha$ Klotho targeting PI3K-stimulated SOCE function as a tumor suppressor. SOCE is critical for finetuning ER Ca<sup>2+</sup> stores for cellular signaling and function and its altered activity leads to pathologies [31, 32]. Hence,  $\alpha$ Klotho-based approaches may be attractive targets for treating SOCE-related pathologies including tumors.

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#### Compliance with ethical standards

This article does not contain any studies with animal and human participants performed by any of the authors.

**Conflict of interest** The authors declare that they have no conflict of interest.

Abbreviations ANOVA, analysis of variance; BFA, Brefeldin A; cDNA, complementary DNA; CPA, cyclopiazonic acid; CRAC, calcium releaseactivated calcium; ER, endoplasmic reticulum; FBS, fetal bovine serum; FGF, fibroblast growth factor; FGFR, fibroblast growth factor receptor; hERG, Ether-a-go-go-related gene; Kv1.3, voltage-gated potassium channel, shaker-related subfamily, member 3; KCNQ1, voltage-gated potassium channel subfamily Q member 1; KCNE1, voltage-gated potassium channel subfamily E regulatory subunit 1; KLFL, transmembrane fulllength mouse aKlotho; KL aTM, Extracellular domain of mouse αKlotho; GFP, Green fluorescent protein; Lctl, lactase-like; P<sub>i</sub>, inorganic phosphate; *PI3K*, phosphoinositide-3-kinase; *PLC* $\gamma$ , phospholipase C gamma; IP3, inositol trisphosphate; RIPA, radioimmunoprecipitation assay; ROMK, renal outer medullary potassium channel; SDS-PAGE, sodium dodecyl sulfate-polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis; SEM, standard error of the mean; *SNARE*, SNAP receptor; *STIM1*, stromal interaction molecule 1; *SOCE*, store-operated Ca<sup>2+</sup> entry; *TeNT*, tetanus toxin A; *TRP*, transient receptor potential; *TRPC*, transient receptor potential canonical type; TRPV, transient receptor potential vanilloid type; VEGFR, vascular endothelial growth factor receptor; WMN, Wortmannin; YFP, Yellow fluorescent protein

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