Electronic Supplementary Material (ESI) for Food & Function. This journal is © The Royal Society of Chemistry 2020

1

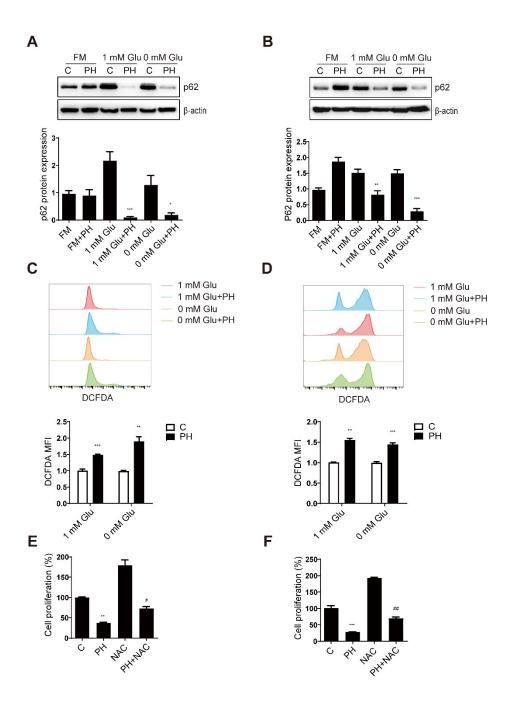


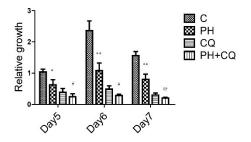
Figure S1. Phloretin triggered oxidative stress in breast cancer cells cultured in glucose-limiting media. (A-B) Immunoblot analyses of p62 expression in MCF7 (A) and MDA-MB-231 cells (B) exposed to phloretin under full media and 1 mM glucose and 0 mM glucose media.

The results from quantitative analyses were shown in the lower panels. **p<0.01, ***p<0.001

1 mM Glu+PH compared with 1 mM Glu, *p<0.05, ***p<0.001 0 mM Glu+PH compared with

0 mM Glu. (C-D) Flow cytometry analyses of ROS levels in MCF7 (C) and MDA-MB-231 (D)

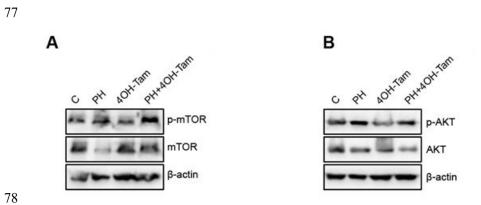
- 8 cells stained with DCFH-DA after phloretin treatment in 1 mM or 0 mM glucose media.
- 9 Quantitative analyses of ROS levels were shown in lower panels, respectively. **p<0.01,
- 10 ***p<0.001 PH compared with vehicle. (E-F) The effect of co-treatment with NAC (10 mM)
- and phloretin on MCF7 (E) and MDA-MB-231 (F) cell proliferation was analyzed by CCK8
- 12 assay. **p<0.01, ***p<0.001 PH compared with control, #p<0.05, ##p<0.01 PH+NAC
- 13 compared with PH.



42 Figure S2. MDA-MB-231 cells were treated with phloretin and CQ for the time intervals as

43 indicated. CCK8 assay was performed. *p<0.05, **p<0.01 PH versus control, #p<0.05,

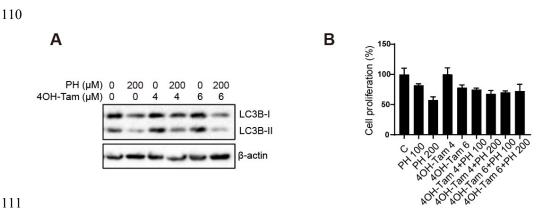
44 ##p<0.01 PH+CQ versus PH.



⁷⁹ Figure S3. PH inhibited autophagy by modulating mTOR/AKT signaling in MCF7 re cells. (A, B)

80 Immunoblot analyses of p-mTOR, mTOR, p-AKT, and AKT expression in MCF7 re cells treated

81 with 4OH-Tam in the presence or absence of PH.



112 Figure S4. PH failed to enhance sensitivity of MCF7 parental cells to 4OH-Tam in 1 mM glucose-limiting media. (A) Immunoblot analyses of LC3B-II expression in MCF7 parental cells treated with 4OH-Tam in the presence or absence of PH. (B) MCF7 parental cells were treated with PH (100, 200 µM), 4OH-Tam (4, 6 µM) or their combinations in 1 mM Glu media and cell proliferation was measured by the CCK-8 assay.



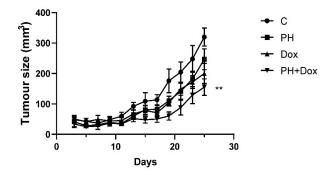


Figure S5. PH displayed a synergetic inhibitory effect with Dox on the growth of subcutaneous

147 xenografts (MDA-MB-231 cells) in Balb/c nude mice. **p<0.01 compared with control.

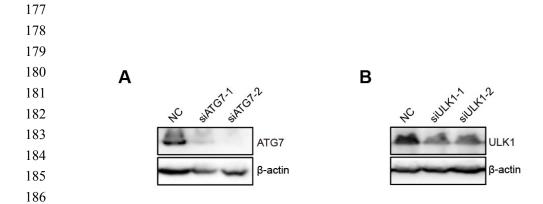


Figure S6. Validation of ATG7 and ULK1 knockdown in MCF7 re cells transfected with siATG7, siULK1 or their scrambled control.