

Supplementary Materials and Methods

Chromosome aberration analysis Chromosome aberrations were analyzed using the standard metaphase spread assay. Cells at exponential growth were plated one day before treatments. At 48 hr post radiation, colcemid (Sigma) were added for 2 hours to impede mitosis; mitotic cells were then collected, washed, and suspended in warm hypotonic (75 mM KCl + 10% FBS) solution for 20 min at 37 °C. Cells were fixed in 3:1 methanol: glacial acetic acid at 4°C overnight. Cell suspensions were dropped onto warm slides at 50 °C, and air dried for 24 hours afterwards. Chromosomes were stained with DAPI in Vectashield (Sigma). Metaphases were imaged using Zeiss AxioImager 2 at 63x magnification. Chromosome aberrations were scored manually by three blinded experimenters from at least 100 metaphases in each treatment conditions of three independent experiments.

Supplemental Data

Figure S1. TGF β signaling is truncated in HPV-positive HNSCC. **A**, TGF β gene signature contains TGF β target genes (n = 50) that were up-regulated by TGF β and down-regulated by TGF β inhibitor on MCF10A cells. **B**, Histology and HPV status of HNSCC cell lines used in this study. **C**, Protein bands of canonical TGF β components in five HNSCC cells. **D**, Representative images of PDX tumor specimens with hematoxylin and eosin staining. **E**, Patient characteristics of the tissue array used in Fig. 1F. **F**, Representative images to show scored p-SMAD2 intensity levels in patient tissue array (upper panel). P-SMAD2 intensity levels in epithelium were shown according to the HPV status in the respective tumors. Mann-Whitney U test: NS, not significant.

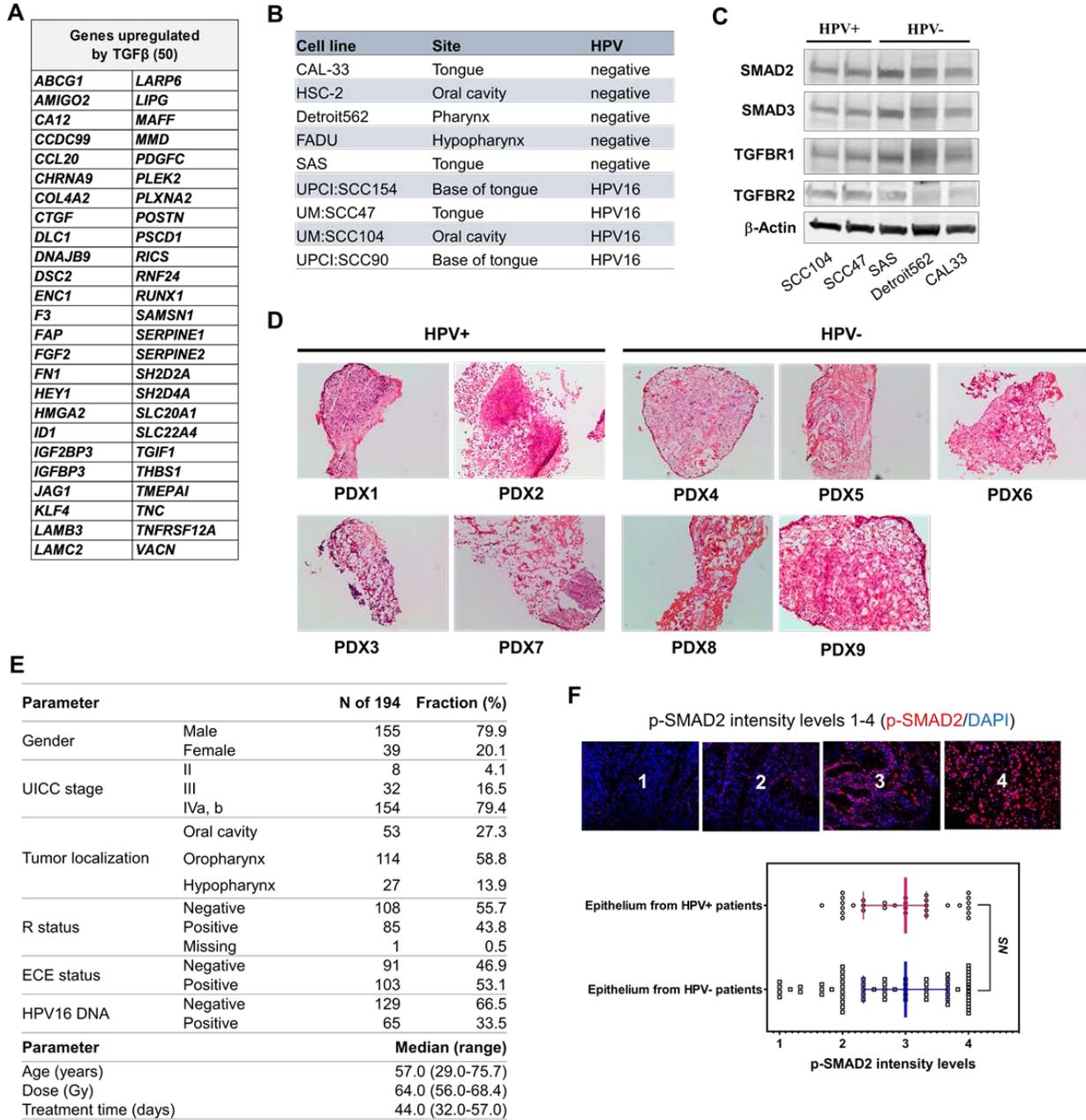


Figure S2. TGF β signaling determines radiosensitivity in HNSCC. **A**, Correlation of percent nuclear p-SMAD2 positive cell following TGF β treatment (from Fig. 1C) with SRF_{2Gy} of LY364947 (from Fig. 2B). Linear regression analysis was used to calculate P value and R^2 . **B**, SRF_{2Gy} measured by a 5 day cell viability assay with TGF β neutralizing antibody, 1D11, or receptor kinase inhibitors, LY364947 and LY2157299, on HPV- SAS or **C**, HPV+ SCC47 cell line. **D**, Relative cell number after combination treatments with cisplatin (5 μ M) for 1 hr and 2 Gy, with or without LY364947. Two-tailed Student's t-test; *, $P < 0.05$.

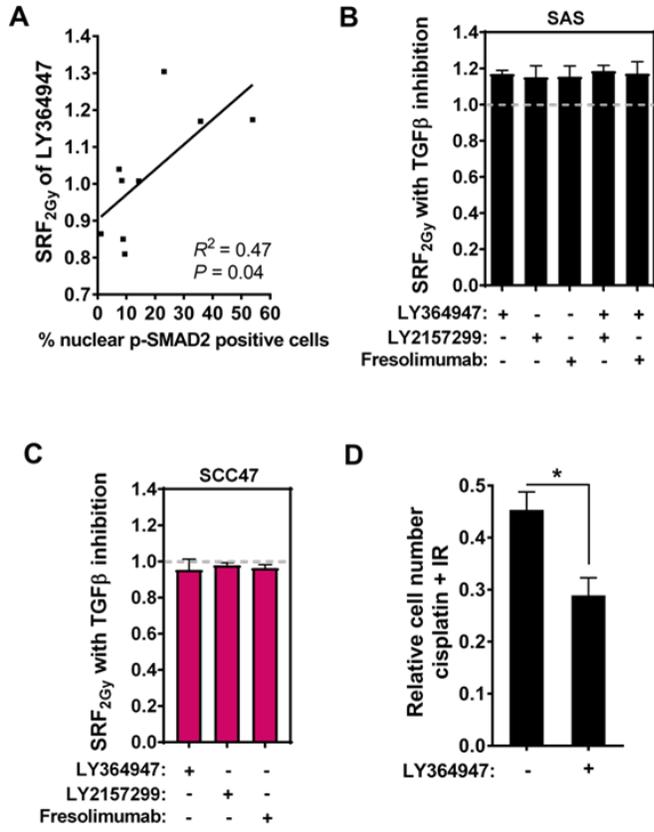


Figure S3. TGF β inhibition effect on DDR is not due to cell cycle changes. **A**, Cell cycle distribution analyses after treatments with T β RI inhibitor LY364947, irradiation (4 Gy, 5 hr) or combinations. Percentage of cells in G1, S, or G2/M are shown on the right panel. **B**, Representative image from geminin (a cell proliferation marker) staining of PDX specimen; percentage of geminin positive cells were shown according to HPV status (right panel). Mann-Whitney U test; NS, not significant. **C**, Number of γ H2AX foci per cell in irradiated (2 Gy) HPV- (white) and HPV+ (grey) PDX pre-treated with (hatched) or without (open) LY364947. **D**, IR induced p-ATM on SAS cells treated with or without LY364947.

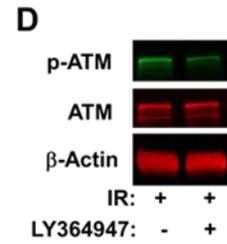
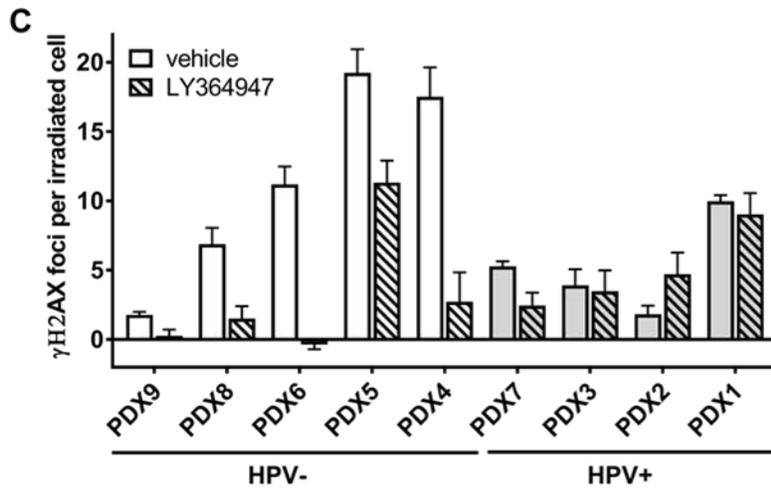
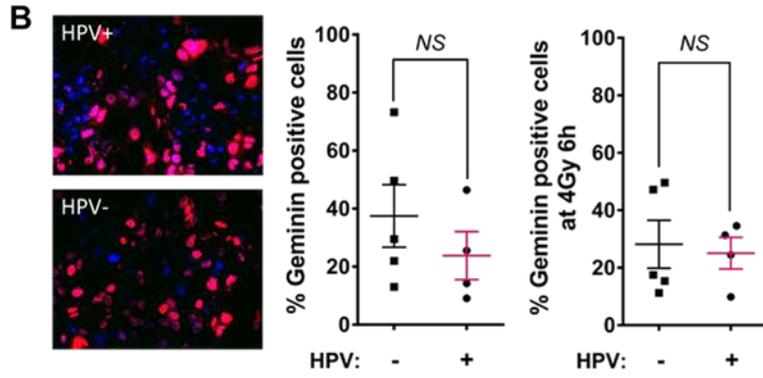
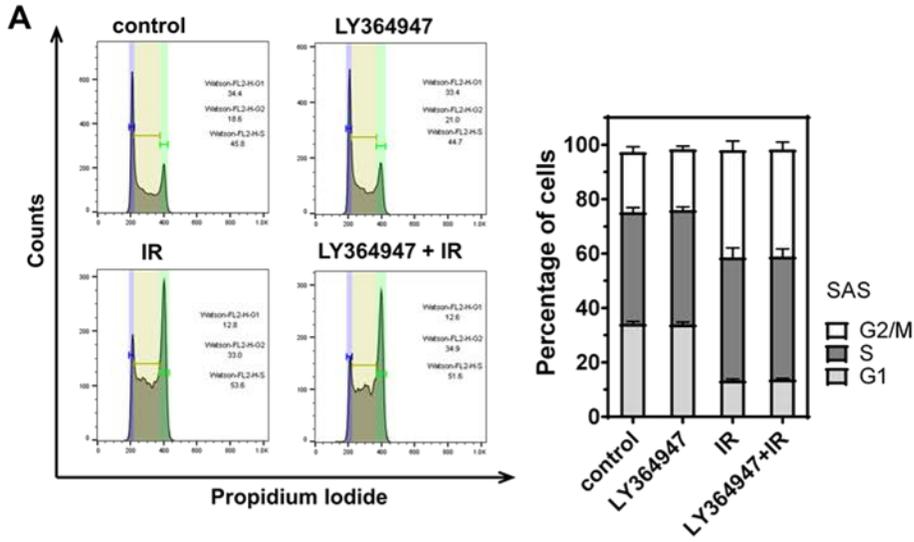


Figure S4. TGF β controls DDR through miR-182. **A**, qRT-PCR of *BRCA1* expression in SAS or SCC47 treated with or without TGF β . **B**, qRT-PCR of *BRCA1* expression in SAS cells treated with TGF β or its inhibitor, LY364947. **C**, Protein bands of FOXO3 and β -actin measured on SAS cells, which were transfected with FOXO3-expressing plasmids or scramble control, and then treated with or without LY364947. Protein expression was quantified from western blots. **D**, Cell cycle distribution analyses after irradiation (4 Gy, 24 hr) on SAS cells transfected with mimic miR-182, anti-miR-182, or scramble RNA for two days. **E**, Nuclear p-SMAD2 intensity at two days after transfection with mimic miR-182, anti-miR-182, or scramble RNA. **F**, qRT-PCR of *BRCA1* expression in SAS cells transfected with scrambles, mimic miR-182, or anti-miR-182. **G**, Representative protein bands of FOXO3, BRCA1, and β -actin in transfected cells with scramble or anti-miR-182 and treated with or without LY364947. Quantified protein expression of BRCA1 from western blots; SAS cells transfected with scramble anti-miR (scr-anti-miR) or anti-miR-182 were treated with or without LY364947; difference in β -actin levels were corrected by normalization. Two-tailed Student's t-test; *, $P < 0.05$; **, $P < 0.01$; NS, not significant.

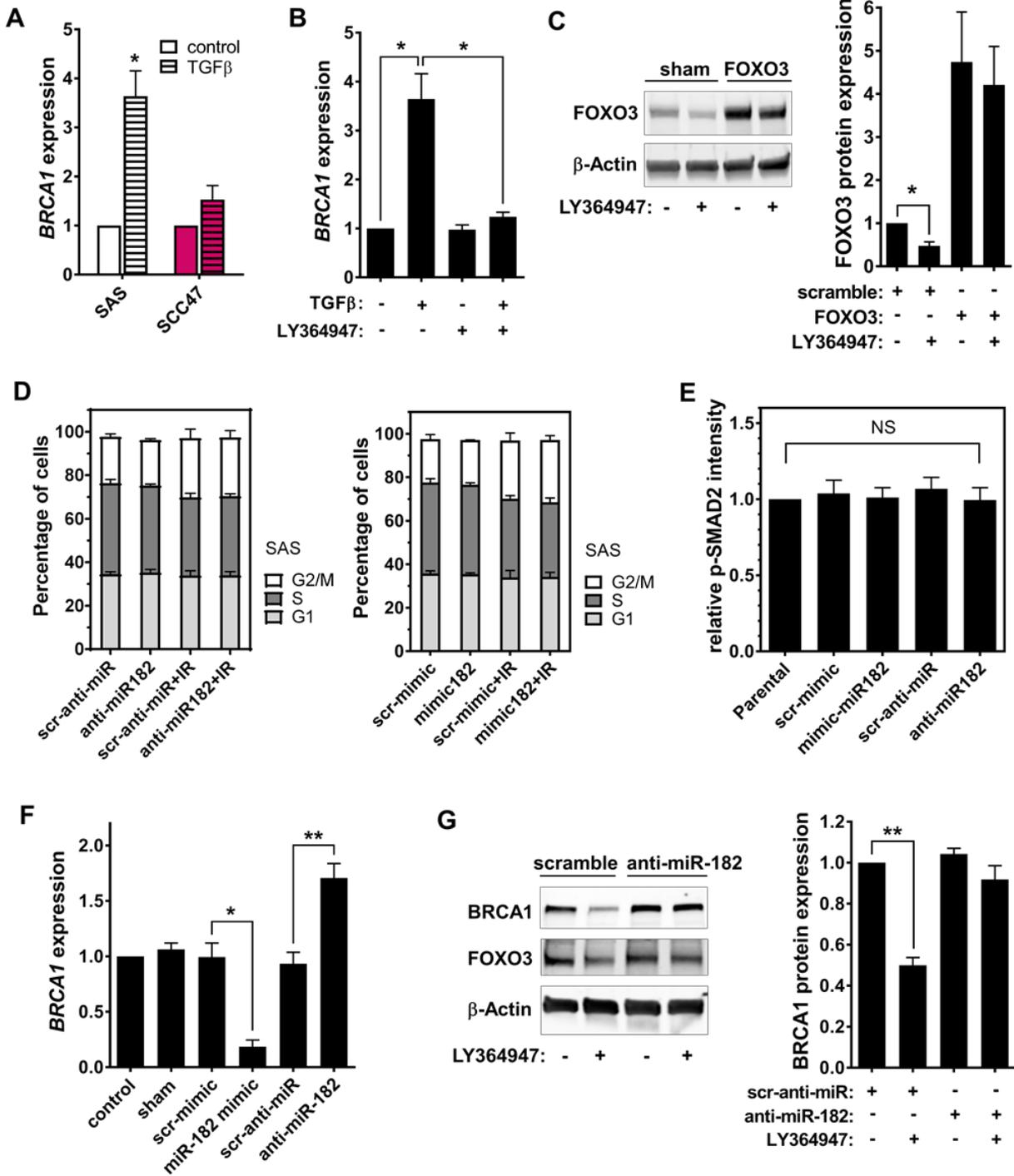


Figure S5. Effects of TGF β signaling in DDR is mediated through miR-182 and SMAD4. **A**, Representative western blot of p-ATM, ATM and β -actin on SAS cells which were transfected with scramble RNA or anti-miR-182 and irradiated (5 Gy) with or without LY364947. **B**, Clonogenic cell surviving fractions of SAS cells transfected with anti-miR scramble or anti-miR-182, and treated with or without T β RI inhibitor LY364947. Statistical difference between survival curves was from F-test; ***, $P < 0.005$. **C**, Surviving fractions and fitted curves from clonogenic assay on CAL33 cells treated with or without T β RI inhibitor LY364947 prior to irradiation. **D**, Protein bands of SMAD4 in five HNSCC cell lines. **E**, qRT-PCR analyses of miR182 expression in CAL33 cells treated with or without TGF β . **F**, Protein bands of SMAD4 in SAS cells transduced with scramble or shRNA-SMAD4 lentivirus. **G**, Relative expression of miR182 in SMAD4 isogenic cells. **H**, SRF_{2Gy} of LY364947 on SAS isogenic cells from lentiviral transduction with scramble or shRNA against SMAD4. **I**, IC₅₀ of cisplatin on HNSCC cell lines with wild type (WT) or mutant (Mut) *SMAD4* genes obtained from Sanger database ³⁷. Two-tailed Student's t-test; *, $P < 0.05$; **, $P < 0.01$; ***, $P < 0.005$.

Figure S6. Loss of TGF β signaling increases sensitivity to PARP inhibition. **A**, RAD51 foci per cell from irradiated (4 Gy) SAS cells that were transfected with scrambled or anti-miR-182 with or without T β RI inhibitor LY364947. **B**, Relative cell number after olaparib treatments with or without LY364947. Data were fitted with 4th polynomial sigmoidal curve for calculations of half maximal inhibitory (IC₅₀) concentrations, which was 5.6 μ M for olaparib alone and 1.4 μ M for olaparib in combination with LY364947, respectively. **C**, Relative cell number for isogenic SMAD4 SAS cells treated with PARP1 inhibitor AG14361 (i.e. PARP1i). **D**, Percentage of annexin V positive cells induced by AG14361 on the SMAD4 cell pair. **E**, IC₅₀ of olaparib on HNSCC cell lines with wild type (WT) or mutant (Mut) *SMAD4* genes obtained from Sanger database³⁷. Two-tailed Student's t-test; *, $P < 0.05$; **, $P < 0.01$; ***, $P < 0.005$.

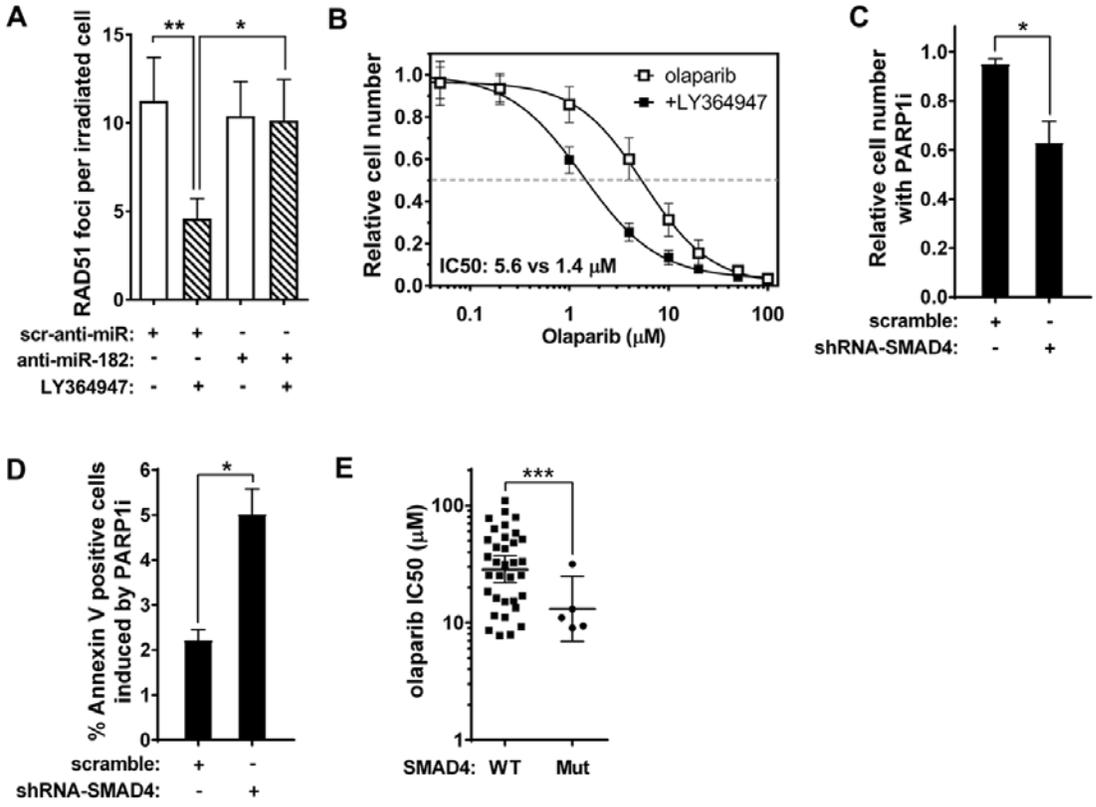


Figure S7. Loss of TGF β signaling increases reliance on alt-EJ. **A**, mRNA expression levels of POLQ and PARP1 based on z-scored TCGA data from cbiportal (www.cbiportal.org). Mann-Whitney U test; ***, $P < 0.005$. **B**, POLQ mRNA expression of isogenic SAS cell pair transfected with shRNA against POLQ or scramble. **C**, Representative images showing chromosome spreads and one dicentric aberration (red arrow; left panel); scored chromosome aberrations per one hundred cells in each condition (right panel); SAS cells with POLQ knock-down or scramble control were fixed 48hr after treatment +/- LY2157299 and +/- irradiated with 5 Gy. **D**, Patient characteristics of the primary HNSCC tissues. **E**, Percentage of p-SMAD2 positive cells in primary HNSCC. **F**, Percentage of p-SMAD2 positive cells were grouped according to their HPV status. Two-tailed Student's t-test; *, $P < 0.05$; ***, $P < 0.005$.

