

1 **PTEN differentially regulates endocytosis, migration, and proliferation in the enteric**
2 **protozoan parasite *Entamoeba histolytica***
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16 Author contributions: Conceptualization: KNT and TN; Data curation: SK and KNT; Formal
17 Analysis: SK, KNT, GJ, and NW; Funding Acquisition: KNT, NW, and TN; Investigation: SK,
18 KNT, and NW; Methodology: SK, KNT, NW, and TN; Project Administration: KNT, GJ, and
19 TN; Resources: SK, KNT, NW, GJ, and TN; Supervision: TN; Validation: SK, KNT, and NW;
20 Writing-Original Draft Preparation: SK and TN; Writing-Review and Editing: TN.

21
22 **Abstract**

23 PTEN is a lipid phosphatase that is highly conserved and involved in a broad range of biological
24 processes including cytoskeletal reorganization, endocytosis, signal transduction, and cell
25 migration in all eukaryotes. Although regulation of phosphatidylinositol (3,4,5)-trisphosphate
26 [PtdIns(3,4,5)P₃] signaling via PTEN has been well established in model organisms and mammals,
27 it remains elusive in the parasitic protist *E. histolytica*, which heavily relies on PtdIns phosphate(s)-
28 dependent membrane traffic, migration, and phago- and trogocytosis for its pathogenesis. In this
29 study, we characterized the major PTEN from *E. histolytica*, EhPTEN1, which shows the highest
30 expression at the transcript level in the trophozoite stage among 6 possible PTENs, to understand
31 the significance of PtdIns(3,4,5)P₃ signaling in this parasite. Live imaging of GFP-EhPTEN1
32 expressing amebic trophozoites showed localization mainly in the cytosol with a higher
33 concentration at pseudopods and the extending edge of the phago- and trogocytic cups.
34 Furthermore, quantitative analysis of phago- and trogocytosis using a confocal image cytometer
35 showed that overexpression of EhPTEN1 caused reduction in trogo- and phagocytosis while
36 transcriptional gene silencing of *EhPTEN1* gene caused opposite phenotypes. These data suggest
37 that EhPTEN1 has an inhibitory role in these biological processes. Conversely, EhPTEN1 acts as
38 a positive regulator for fluid-phase and receptor-mediated endocytosis in *E. histolytica*
39 trophozoites. Moreover, we showed that EhPTEN1 was required for optimal growth and migration
40 of this parasite. Finally, the phosphatase activity of EhPTEN1 towards PtdIns(3,4,5)P₃ was
41 demonstrated, suggesting that the biological roles of EhPTEN1 are likely linked to its catalytic
42 function. Taken together, these results indicate that EhPTEN1 differentially regulates multiple
43 cellular activities essential for proliferation and pathogenesis of the organism, via PtdIns(3,4,5)P₃
44 signaling. Elucidation of biological roles of PTEN and PtdIns(3,4,5)P₃ signaling at the molecular

45 levels promotes our understanding of the pathogenesis of this parasite and potentially leads to the
46 design of novel therapeutics against amebiasis.

47

48 **Author summary**

49 *Entamoeba histolytica* is an intestinal protozoan parasite that causes amoebic dysentery and liver
50 abscesses in humans. It has been well understood how the amoeba's ability to ingest and destroy
51 human cells and invade tissues contributes to disease symptoms such as bloody diarrhea. The
52 underlying mechanisms for such activities, called pathogenicity, include trafficking (transport) and
53 secretion of cytolytic proteins, migration (ameboid movement), and ingestion and destruction of
54 human cells, heavily rely on the signal transduction system via metabolism (synthesis and
55 decomposition) of phosphoinositides (phosphatidylinositols containing 0-5 phosphates), and
56 downstream regulation of cytoskeleton (dynamic network of interlinking protein filaments, such
57 as actin, in the cytoplasm). In this study, we characterized one enzyme called EhPTEN1, which
58 degrades and inactivate PtdIns(3,4,5)P₃. We have shown that EhPTEN1 is involved in migration,
59 internalization of soluble and solid materials (endocytosis, trogo-, and phagocytosis). EhPTEN1
60 apparently regulates cell migration, endocytosis, trogo-, phagocytosis, and proliferation in a
61 complex fashion. Our findings help in the elucidation of the physiological significance of PTEN
62 and cellular events regulated via phosphoinositides in this enteric parasite and other pathogenic
63 parasites, and potentially lead to the development of new control measures against parasitic
64 diseases.

65

66 **Introduction**

67 Phosphatidylinositol phosphates (PIPs) are membrane phospholipids that play pivotal roles in a
68 variety of biological processes such as cytoskeletal reorganization, vesicular trafficking,
69 endocytosis, signal transduction, ion channel activation, and cell migration [1,2]. There are seven
70 different species of PIPs in mammalian cells including three phosphatidylinositol monophosphate,
71 three phosphatidylinositol biphosphate, and one phosphatidylinositol triphosphate [2]. PIPs
72 kinases and phosphatases regulate the cellular function of PIPs through reversible phosphorylation
73 and de-phosphorylation [3]. PTEN (phosphatase and tensin homologue) is a lipid phosphatase that
74 dephosphorylates phosphatidylinositol (3,4,5)-triphosphate [PtdIns(3,4,5)P₃] to
75 phosphatidylinositol (4,5)-biphosphate [PtdIns(4,5)P₂], thus depleting cellular signaling
76 processes downstream of PtdIns(3,4,5)P₃ [4]. PtdIns(3,4,5)P₃ acts as a secondary messenger which
77 activates the proto-oncogenic PI3K–AKT signaling pathway [5]. PTEN plays a crucial role in cell
78 proliferation through its cytoplasmic phosphatase activity against the PI3K–AKT cascade [6]. Also,
79 PTEN regulates cell polarity and migration via the establishment of a PtdIns(3,4,5)P₃-
80 PtdIns(4,5)P₂ gradient [7,8]. Many human cancers are associated to PTEN mutations, including
81 endometrial tumors, glioblastoma, prostate carcinoma, melanoma, and hereditary cancer
82 predisposition syndromes, such as Cowden disease [9,10]. Furthermore, PTEN can modulate
83 immune responses by regulating Fcγ receptor-mediated phagocytosis [11,12].

84 Human amebiasis is caused by the infection of the enteric protozoan parasite *Entamoeba*
85 *histolytica*. World Health Organization estimates 50 million people throughout the world suffers
86 from amebic infections, resulting in around 100,000 deaths annually [13]. Infection by *E.*
87 *histolytica* usually occurs via ingestion of fecally contaminated food or water with the infective
88 cyst of this parasite [14]. Destruction of intestinal epithelial tissue by amoebic trophozoites causes
89 colitis and amoebic dysentery while in some patients trophozoites can infect extraintestinal organs

90 where they form abscesses [15]. It is known that the virulence mechanisms of *E. histolytica* are
91 sustained by actin-associated processes such as migration, adhesion, and trogo-/phagocytosis as
92 well as vesicular traffic involved in the secretion of proteases [16-19]. A sufficient set of PI-kinases
93 and phosphatases to generate 7 species of phosphoinositides appear to be conserved in *E.*
94 *histolytica* [20]. AGC kinases have recently been identified as PtdIns(3,4,5)P₃-binding proteins
95 and shown to be involved in trogocytosis and phagocytosis in *E. histolytica* [21]. Physiological
96 significance of PtdIns(3)P- and PtdIns(4)P-binding proteins including FYVE domain-containing
97 proteins was shown [22]. In addition, the distinct roles of PtdIns(3)P-binding sorting nexins
98 (SNXs) in trogocytosis have been demonstrated in *E. histolytica* [23]. Among them,
99 PtdIns(3,4,5)P₃-mediated signaling is assumed to have a pivotal role in *E. histolytica* virulence.
100 Although physiological roles of PTEN have been well established in higher eukaryotes, the role
101 of PTEN in *E. histolytica* in pathogenesis remains elusive.

102 In the present study, we characterized the biological roles of EhPTEN1, which shows the
103 highest expression at the transcript level in the trophozoite stage among six putative PTENs
104 encoded by the genome. We have shown that EhPTEN1 is enzymatically active against
105 PtdIns(3,4,5)P₃ and is required for optimal growth of *E. histolytica* cells. We have also found that
106 EhPTEN1 is involved in the regulation of different modes of endocytosis, namely fluid-phase
107 endocytosis, receptor-mediated endocytosis, phago-, trogocytosis, and cell migration.

108

109 **Results**

110 **Identification and features of *PTEN* genes in *E. histolytica***

111 A genome-wide survey of PTEN in the genome of *E. histolytica* HM-1:IMSS reference strain
112 (AmoebaDB, <http://amoebadb.org>) by BLASTP analysis using human PTEN (P60484) as a query,

113 revealed that *E. histolytica* possesses 6 possible PTEN or PTEN-like proteins that contain PTEN
114 phosphatase domain, and show different domain configurations (Fig 1A) [20]. We tentatively
115 designated them firstly in an ascending order of the number of recognizable domains and secondly
116 in a descending order of the overall length (EhPTEN1, EHI_197010; EhPTEN2, EHI_098450;
117 EhPTEN3, EHI_131070; EhPTEN4, EHI_054460; EhPTEN5, EHI_041900; EhPTEN6,
118 EHI_010360). Our previous transcriptome data [24-26] verified that one protein (EhPTEN1,
119 EHI_197010) is highly expressed in the trophozoite stage in both *E. histolytica* HM-1: IMSS cl6
120 and G3 strains, while the 5 other PTENs are expressed at relatively low levels (Fig 1B). EhPTEN1
121 shows 39% mutual identity to human PTEN at the amino acid level (S1 Table). Multiple sequence
122 alignment by ClustalW program (<http://clustalw.ddbj.nig.ac.jp>) shows that the key catalytic
123 residues in the phosphatase domain (H-C-K/R-A-G-K-G-R) needed for lipid and protein
124 phosphatase activity [4,27] are well conserved in EhPTEN1 (Fig 1C). In addition, the
125 PtdIns(4,5)P₂-binding motif (K/R-x4-K/R-x-K/R-K/R-R, PDM domain), which is predicted to
126 regulate the recruitment of protein to the plasma membrane, located at the amino terminus, is also
127 conserved in EhPTEN1 [6,28]. The cytosolic localization signal (D-G-F-x-L-D-L, CLS), where
128 mutation of phenylalanine was shown to induce nuclear localization [29], as well as threonine and
129 isoleucine responsible for TI loop formation in an extension of the active site pocket are also
130 conserved (Fig 1C) [27]. EhPTEN1 also possesses C2 domain which has an affinity for membrane
131 phospholipids and helps PTEN to be recruited to the cell membrane [27]. InterPro domain search
132 annotates the region of a.a. 550-680 of EhPTEN1 as a domain of unknown function (DUF457).
133 The two PEST sequences, rich in proline, glutamic acid, serine, and threonine, at the C terminus
134 of human PTEN, are not conserved in EhPTEN1. Although PEST sequences are known to enhance
135 proteolytic sensitivity, the regulation of EhPTEN1 functions may differ from the human PTEN

136 [30]. EhPTEN1 also lacks PDZ-binding motif (T/S-x-V) located at the C-terminal end in human
137 PTEN and facilitates the protein-protein interactions [6,31]. The ~400 a.a. carboxyl-terminal
138 extension which is absent in human ortholog and rich in charged amino acids could be involved in
139 regulating its protein-protein interactions.

140 **Cellular localization and dynamics of EhPTEN1 in the motile *E. histolytica* trophozoite**

141 To examine the cellular localization of EhPTEN1 in trophozoites, we established a transformant
142 line expressing EhPTEN1 with the GFP-tag at the amino terminus (GFP-EhPTEN1). The
143 expression of GFP-EhPTEN1 or GFP (control) in transformant trophozoites was verified by
144 immunoblot analysis using anti-GFP antibody. A single band corresponding to non-truncated GFP
145 fusion protein with an expected molecular mass of GFP-EhPTEN1 (90 kDa plus 26 kDa for the
146 GFP tag) was observed in the GFP-EhPTEN1-expressing transformant (Fig 2A). Live imaging
147 analysis revealed that GFP-EhPTEN1 was localized throughout the cytosol (Fig 2B and S1 Movie).
148 The line intensity plots across the GFP-PTEN1 overexpressing trophozoites further demonstrated
149 the enrichment of GFP-PTEN1 along the extended pseudopod of the motile trophozoite (Fig 2B)
150 (Two additional images are also show in S1A and S1B Fig). The normalized average fluorescence
151 intensities at the leading regions of pseudopods were nearly 1.5-fold higher in GFP-EhPTEN1
152 overexpressing trophozoites compared to mock transformants (Fig 2C). Furthermore, the intensity
153 line plot of GFP-expressing control strain showed no accumulation of GFP signal on pseudopods
154 (S2 Fig and S2 Movie). These findings confirm the enrichment of GFP-EhPTEN1 in the
155 pseudopod-like protrusive structures. Similarly, immunofluorescence imaging of HA-EhPTEN1
156 overexpressing trophozoites using anti-HA antibody revealed that HA-EhPTEN1 was localized in
157 the cytoplasm in steady-state, and enriched in pseudopods (S3B and S3C Fig). The migration
158 (motility) of the GFP-EhPTEN1 overexpressing trophozoites using the montage of time-lapse

159 imaging was 0.54 ± 0.09 $\mu\text{m}/\text{sec}$ (mean \pm S.D.), which was significantly greater than that of control
160 GFP expressing transformants (0.27 ± 0.08 $\mu\text{m}/\text{sec}$) (Fig 2D). We also investigated the effect of
161 repression of *EhPTEN1* gene expression and found that *EhPTEN1* gene silencing reduced
162 migration (see below).

163 **Localization of EhPTEN1 during trogocytosis and phagocytosis**

164 The fact that EhPTEN1 was previously identified as a PtdIns(3)P-binding effector and suggested
165 to be involved in the phagosome biogenesis [23], prompted further characterization of the role of
166 EhPTEN1 in host cell internalization. To examine the role of EhPTEN1 in ingestion of mammalian
167 cells, we first examined trogocytosis (i.e., nibbling or chewing of a part of a live cell) of Chinese
168 hamster ovary (CHO) cells by GFP-EhPTEN1 and GFP expressing transformant lines. We co-
169 cultured trophozoites of the two transformant lines with live CHO cells that had been stained with
170 CellTracker Orange. Time-lapse imaging of trogocytosis of CHO cells by the amoebae (Fig 3A
171 and S3 Movie) revealed that GFP-EhPTEN1 was accumulated in the region that covers, but not
172 always in close proximity to, the tunnel-like structure, which is the extended neck (or tube)-like
173 structure connecting the enclosed (or being enclosed) trogosome and the remaining portion of the
174 target cell that is partially ingested (Fig 3A-3D). Upon completion of closure of the trogosome,
175 GFP-EhPTEN1 appeared to be dissociated from the region around the trogosome and the tunnel-
176 like structure (Fig 3A-3E). The quantification of the fluorescence intensity in a cross section of the
177 cell confirmed the dynamism of GFP-EhPETN1 during trogocytosis (Figs 3B-3E). In contrast, at
178 the very early phase of trogocytosis, GFP-EhPTEN1 was not concentrated on the newly formed
179 trogocytic cup.

180 The dynamics of GFP-EhPTEN1 in a course of phagocytosis (i.e., internalization with a
181 single bite, not multiple bites) of dead CHO cells was also examined. The live imaging of GFP-

182 EhPTEN1 expressing trophozoites co-cultured with pre-killed CHO cells (Fig 4 and S4 Movie)
183 showed an enrichment of GFP-EhPTEN1 at the tip of the leading edge of the phagocytic cup during
184 the internalization of dead host cells until phagosome closure (Fig 4A and 4B). Soon after closure
185 of the phagosome, GFP-EhPTEN1 was concentrated on the closing side of the phagosome (Fig
186 4A-4C), and rapidly disappeared soon after (Fig 4D). The fluorescence intensity line plot of a cross
187 section (as indicated by arrows) of the cell also reinforced the observation (Figs 4A-4D). As control,
188 GFP-expressing mock strain showed no observable concentration of GFP signal in a course of
189 CHO ingestion (S5 Movie and S4 Fig).

190 **Effect of overexpression of EhPTEN1 on trogocytosis and phagocytosis**

191 The dynamism of GFP-EhPTEN1, as revealed by live imaging, suggests that EhPTEN1 plays a
192 role in the early to middle stages of trogo- and phagocytosis. We examined the effect of GFP-
193 EhPTEN1 overexpression on the efficiency (i.e., speed and volume of internalization of prey) of
194 trogocytosis and phagocytosis. GFP-EhPTEN1 expressing and mock transformant strains were
195 incubated with either live or pre-killed CHO cells that had been stained with CellTracker Orange
196 to allow trogocytosis or phagocytosis, respectively. Internalization of CHO cells by the amoebae
197 was measured by CQ1 confocal quantitative image cytometer (Figs 5 and 6). Three parameters
198 were measured and compared between GFP-EhPTEN1 expressing and mock transformant strains:
199 the number of CHO-containing trogosomes or phagosomes per ameba (Figs 5A and 6A), the
200 volume of all CHO-containing trogosomes or phagosomes per ameba (Figs 5B and 6B), and the
201 percentage of the amoebae that ingested CHOs (Figs 5C and 6C). GFP-EhPTEN1 overexpression
202 caused statistically significant reduction in all three parameters in both trogocytosis and
203 phagocytosis.

204 **Gene silencing of *EhPTEN1* enhances trogocytosis and phagocytosis in *E. histolytica***

205 Conversely, we attempted to verify if repression of *EhPTEN1* gene expression by antisense small
206 RNA-mediated transcriptional gene silencing [32] causes reverse phenotypes: enhancement of
207 trogocytosis and phagocytosis. The silencing of the *EhPTEN1* gene expression was confirmed by
208 RT-PCR and the level of silencing was estimated to be approximately $77.0 \pm 9.2\%$ compared to the
209 mock control (G3 transfected with the empty psAP2-Gunma vector) (Fig 7A and 7B). Non-specific
210 off-target gene silencing of other *EhPTEN* genes (*EhPTEN2-6*) was ruled out, except for *EhPTEN2*,
211 which showed a slight reduction in *EhPTEN1* gene silenced strain, validating gene-specific silencing
212 (S5 Fig). The *RNA pol II* transcript level was also unaffected. *EhPTEN1* gene silenced and mock
213 transformants were cultivated with live or dead CHO cells and images were captured every 10 min
214 for 1 hr. As expected, *EhPTEN1* gene silenced strain showed an enhancement of trogocytosis and
215 phagocytosis (Fig 8). All three parameters to evaluate trogocytosis and phagocytosis, as above,
216 i.e., the number of CHO-containing trogosomes or phagosomes per ameba (Figs 8A and 8B), the
217 volume of all CHO-containing trogosomes or phagosomes per ameba (Figs 8C and 8D), and the
218 percentage of the amebae that ingested CHOs (Figs 8E and 8F) was significantly increased in
219 *EhPTEN1* gene silenced strain compared to the mock control stain. For instance, the volume of
220 trogosomes and phagosomes increased by around 1.4 fold for trogocytosis and 2 fold for
221 phagocytosis, respectively, in *EhPTEN1* gene silenced strain at later time points of coincubation
222 (at 40-60 mins). Together with the results of *EhPTEN1* overexpression, shown above, these data
223 indicate that *EhPTEN1* serves as a negative regulator of trogocytosis and phagocytosis.

224 ***EhPTEN1* is a positive regulator for the fluid-phase and receptor-mediated endocytosis in *E.***

225 *histolytica*

226 To investigate the role of *EhPTEN1* in pinocytosis of the fluid-phase marker and receptor-
227 mediated endocytosis, we examined the internalization of RITC dextran and transferrin.

228 Pinocytosis was analyzed by measuring, on a fluorometer, the fluorescence intensity of fluid-phase
229 marker, RITC dextran, which was internalized after incubation of amoebic transformants with
230 RITC dextran at 35°C for up to 1 hr. Overexpression of GFP-EhPTEN1 cause approximately 30%
231 increase in pinocytosis in comparison to mock control (53 ± 5.3 or $28\pm 13\%$ at time 30 or 60 min,
232 respectively; $p < 0.05$, Fig 9A). Conversely, *EhPTEN1* gene silenced strain showed an
233 approximately 30% decrease in pinocytosis at 30-60 min, as compared to mock control cells
234 (30 ± 8.2 or $25\pm 5.1\%$ decrease at time 30 or 60 min, respectively, $p < 0.05$, Fig 9B).

235 We next examined internalization of transferrin conjugated with AlexaFluor 568 by CQ1
236 image cytometer. Transferrin is presumed to be internalized via receptor-mediated endocytosis.
237 The volume of endosomes that contained transferrin-AlexaFluor 568 increased by 30-50% in GFP-
238 EhPTEN1 overexpressing trophozoites compared to mock control at all time points up to 1 hr
239 ($p < 0.05$, Fig 10A). Conversely, transferrin endocytosis decreased by 30-40% in *EhPTEN1* gene
240 silenced strain compared to the mock strain at 40-60 mins ($p < 0.05$, Fig 10B). These data indicate
241 that EhPTEN1 positively regulates pinocytosis of the fluid-phase marker and receptor-mediated
242 endocytosis in *E. histolytica*.

243 **EhPTEN1 is essential for optimum growth and migration of *E. histolytica***

244 The biological role of EhPTEN1 in trophozoite, phagocytosis, and endocytosis was clearly
245 demonstrated as above. To investigate other physiological roles of EhPTEN1 in *E. histolytica*, the
246 growth kinetic was monitored in *EhPTEN1* gene silenced and control strains. *EhPTEN1* gene
247 silencing caused significant growth defect: the population doubling time of *EhPTEN1* gene
248 silenced and control strains was 28.1 ± 0.41 and 19.1 ± 0.52 hr, respectively ($P < 0.05$; Fig 7C). We
249 next examined the migration of the trophozoites of *EhPTEN1* gene silenced and control strains

250 using time lapse imaging by CQ1. The velocity of motility was >60% reduced in *EhPTEN1* gene
251 silenced strain (0.16 ± 0.07 $\mu\text{m}/\text{min}$) compared to the mock control (0.44 ± 0.08 $\mu\text{m}/\text{min}$) (Fig 7D).

252 **Demonstration of phosphatase activity and substrate specificity of EhPTEN1**

253 To see if EhPTEN1 possesses lipid phosphatase activity, bacterial recombinant EhPTEN1 with the
254 histidine tag at the amino terminus was produced using the pCOLD I *E. coli* expression system.
255 SDS-PAGE analysis followed by Coomassie Brilliant Blue staining showed that the purified
256 recombinant EhPTEN1 was apparently homogenous with the predicted molecular mass of 96 kDa
257 including the histidine tag (S6A Fig). Immunoblot analysis of the purified recombinant protein
258 using His-Tag antibody confirmed the absence of truncation (S6B Fig). We first examined the
259 enzymatic activities of recombinant EhPTEN1 using a variety of phosphoinositides (PIs) as
260 substrates. EhPTEN1 revealed reasonable activity in a broad pH range with maximum activity
261 obtained at pH 6.0 when the reaction was performed with 50 μM PtdIns(3,4,5)P₃ at 37°C for 40
262 min (S6C Fig). We then determined the substrate specificity of EhPTEN1, using a panel of di-C8
263 PIs. EhPTEN1 showed highest activity with PtdIns(3,4,5)P₃ with the apparent specific activity of
264 8.18 ± 0.78 nmol/min/mg (Fig 11). EhPTEN1 also catalyzed dephosphorylation of PtdIns(3,4)P₂
265 and PtdIns(3,5)P₂ with 6 or 3 fold lower specific activities, respectively, compared to that toward
266 PtdIns(3,4,5)P₃. The activities against PI monophosphates and PtdIns(4,5)P₂ were relatively low.
267 All these characteristics are similar to those of human PTEN [33,34]. A comparison of kinetic
268 parameters of EhPTEN1 reveals a higher affinity towards PtdIns(3,4,5)P₃ ($K_m = 92.5 \pm 4.72$ μM)
269 as compared to PtdIns(3,4)P₂ (292 ± 18.8 μM) and PtdIns(3,5)P₂ (161 ± 20.1) demonstrating that
270 in vitro is as well the preferred substrate (Table 1, S8 Fig).

271

272 **Table 1. Kinetic parameters of EhPTEN1.**

273	Substrate	K _m (μM)	V _{max} (nmoles min ⁻¹ mg ⁻¹)	K _{cat} (min ⁻¹)
274	PI(3,4)P ₂	292 ± 18.8	6.02 ± 1.11	0.11 ± 0.02
275	PI(3,5)P ₂	161 ± 20.1	8.40 ± 0.42	0.15 ± 0.01
276	PI(3,4,5)P ₃	92.5 ± 4.72	16.9 ± 1.83	0.31 ± 0.03

277 Assay was performed as described in Materials and methods in the presence of MOPS, EhPTEN1,
278 and PtdInsPs. Reaction was conducted at 37°C at pH 6.0. Mean ± SEM of duplicates are shown.

279

280 **Demonstration of phospholipid binding of EhPTEN1**

281 The lipid overlay assay using amebic lysates from GFP-EhPTEN1 expressing and mock
282 transformants showed that EhPTEN1 preferentially bound to PtdIns(3)P, PtdIns(4)P, PtdIns(5)P,
283 and, to a lesser extent, PtdIns(3,5)P₂, and PtdIns(4,5)P₂ (S7 Fig). Furthermore, recombinant His-
284 tagged EhPTEN1 also revealed a similar binding affinity toward a panel of PIs on the membrane,
285 which is similar to the data given for recombinant human PTEN [35].

286

287 **Discussion**

288 PTEN regulates fundamental roles in higher eukaryotes including cell survival, metabolic changes,
289 cell polarity, and migration [9]. In this study, we have characterized the pivotal functions of
290 EhPTEN1 in migration, endocytosis, and cellular proliferation in *E. histolytica*. Confocal live
291 imaging demonstrated the involvement of EhPTEN1 in the initial and intermediate stages of
292 trogocytosis and phagocytosis. In trogocytosis of a live mammalian cell, EhPTEN1 was enriched
293 in the region where the trogocytic tunnel was newly formed. Similarly, EhPTEN1 was
294 accumulated on the cell periphery close to the leading edge of the phagocytic cup during the
295 internalization of a dead host cell. The recruitment of EhPTEN1 was transient as it gradually

296 became dissociated from the region after the completion of ingestion. These results are in line with
297 the previous study that showed PTEN was associated with forming IgG conjugated zymosan
298 containing phagosomes but disappeared once particle ingestion was completed [36]. The
299 biochemical analysis showed that GFP-EhPTEN1 overexpression caused a reduction in
300 trogocytosis and phagocytosis. In good agreement with these results, knockdown of EhPTEN1
301 caused remarkable enhancement in phagocytosis of dead CHO cells while trogocytosis toward live
302 CHO cells was slightly increased. These results match those observed in earlier studies where
303 PTEN deficient macrophages displayed enhanced phagocytic ability both in vitro and in vivo,
304 while overexpression of PTEN significantly inhibited phagocytosis in macrophages [12,37-39]. It
305 was previously demonstrated that PTEN down-regulates phagocytosis through dephosphorylation
306 of PtdIns(3,4,5)P₃, which subsequently affects the downstream events such as the activation of
307 Rac through the pleckstrin homology domain-containing guanine-nucleotide exchange factor,
308 Vav1 [12]. The depletion of PTEN in macrophage resulted in elevated PtdIns(3,4,5)P₃ levels,
309 leading to activation of Vav1 and subsequent activation of Rac1 GTPase, the latter of which
310 induces F-actin polymerization, which in turn enhances the engulfment of targeted cells [40].
311 Furthermore, it has been shown that PTEN negatively regulates Fc γ receptor-mediated
312 phagocytosis by repressing the conversion of Rac-bound GDP to GTP downstream [11]. While
313 PIPs-mediated signaling and downstream effector in *E. histolytica* is not yet well understood, it
314 has been recently reported that two AGC kinases from *E. histolytica* have the ability to bind
315 PtdIns(3,4,5)P₃ and are involved in a panel of endocytic events including trogo-, phago-, and
316 pinocytosis [21]. In addition, it has also been shown that PtdIns(4,5)P₂ is localized on the plasma
317 membrane whereas PtdIns(3,4,5)P₃ is localized on the phagocytic cup and the extended
318 pseudopodia in *E. histolytica* trophozoites [41,42]. These observations suggest that the control of

319 PtdIns(3,4,5)P₃ synthesis and decomposition are important for the regulation of endocytic events
320 in *E. histolytica*. We have clearly demonstrated phosphatase activity and preferred substrate
321 specificity toward PtdIns(3,4,5)P₃ of EhPTEN1. Hence, it is highly conceivable that EhPTEN1
322 can regulate the local concentrations of PtdIns(4,5)P₂ and PtdIns(3,4,5)P₃ at the target sites during
323 trogo- and phagocytic processes. It seems conceivable that EhPTEN1 negatively regulates trogo-
324 and phagocytosis by reducing the local PtdIns(3,4,5)P₃ concentration, leading to the suppression
325 of actin-dependent cytoskeletal reorganization needed for trogo- and phagocytosis. Indeed, the
326 concentration of EhPTEN1 is swiftly reduced on and close to trogo- and phagocytic cups (not-yet-
327 enclosed) and trogosomes and phagosomes (enclosed) soon after the completion of ingestion.

328 We have shown that EhPTEN1 is involved in receptor-mediated endocytosis and
329 macropinocytosis of the fluid-phase marker in an opposite fashion as in trogo- and phagocytosis.
330 GFP-EhPTEN1 overexpression enhanced transferrin uptake while *EhPTEN1* gene silencing
331 decreased it. It was shown that at least two concentration-dependent mechanisms for transferrin
332 endocytosis exist in *E. histolytica* [43]: Receptor-mediated endocytosis active at low transferrin
333 concentrations [44] and receptor-independent internalization at high transferrin concentrations
334 [45]. As previously demonstrated, receptor-mediated endocytosis of transferrin in *E. histolytica* is
335 indeed clathrin-mediated [clathrin-mediated endocytosis (CME)] [46], and receptor-mediated
336 endocytosis is in general clathrin-mediated and actin independent [47]. Unlike trogo- and
337 phagocytosis, CME is also distinct in that it depends on PtdIns(4,5)P₂ and does not require
338 PtdIns(3,4,5)P₃ [47,48]. PtdIns(4,5)P₂ binds and recruits several proteins associated with CME
339 formation thus depleting cells of PtdIns(4,5)P₂ prevents transferrin receptor endocytosis [1,47-49].
340 Taken together, EhPTEN1 possibly facilitates the transferrin internalization through augmentation
341 of PtdIns(4,5)P₂ synthesis. Furthermore, EhPTEN1 showed similar phenotypes toward pinocytosis

342 of the fluid-phase marker. As stated above, transferrin, when present at high concentrations, is
343 internalized by receptor independent fashion in *E. histolytica* [45]. Thus, it is consistent with our
344 observation that *E. histolytica* internalization of the fluid-phase marker and transferrin by actin-
345 dependent macropinocytosis (S7 and S8 Movies), also as previously shown [50]. We also
346 previously showed that EhAGCK2, which preferentially binds PtdIns(3,4,5)P₃ over PtdIns(4,5)P₂,
347 is involved in pinocytosis of the fluid-phase marker [21], supporting the actin-dependence of
348 macropinocytosis. However, it was shown that the local production of PtdIns(4,5)P₂ in the early
349 stages of macropinocytosis is essential for the formation of ruffles and is partly responsible for the
350 remodeling of the actin cytoskeleton [51]. Although phagocytosis and macropinocytosis both
351 construct a cup in an actin-dependent manner, phagocytosis is a receptor-guided zipper-like model
352 that conforms to particle geometry while macropinocytosis is self-organized with little or no
353 guidance from receptors and can form in the absence of particles [52]. Moreover, a number of
354 previous studies have shown that macropinocytosis and phagocytosis are distinct. For instance,
355 RacC or Rap1 overexpressing cells or profilin-null cells displayed a higher phagocytosis rate but
356 macropinocytosis was significantly reduced [53-55]. It has been reported previously that deletion
357 of PTEN in *Dictyostelium discoideum* caused a reduction in fluid uptake [56]. Nevertheless, the
358 lipid rafts in the plasma membrane of *E. histolytica* is highly enriched with PtdIns(4,5)P₂ [42] and
359 disruption of lipid rafts with cholesterol-binding agents significantly inhibited fluid-phase
360 pinocytosis of *E. histolytica* [57]. Altogether, we assume that EhPTEN1 accelerates transient
361 synthesis of PtdIns(4,5)P₂ on the plasma membrane which in turn facilitates the formation of actin-
362 associated macropinocytic cup. This study has provide the first observation that PTEN is
363 differentially involved in multiple actin-related cytoskeletal activities.

364 We have shown that repression of gene expression of *EhPTEN1* caused significant growth
365 defect. This phenotype can be possibly explained by reduced ability in nutrient uptake.
366 Furthermore, it was previously demonstrated that the growth defect in *E. histolytica* in low iron
367 medium was rescued by the addition of iron-loaded holo-transferrin, and that holo-transferrin was
368 recognized by an amoebic transferrin receptor and endocytosed via clathrin-coated vesicles [44,58].
369 These data, taken together, underscore the importance of endocytosis of transferrin for the
370 proliferation of amoebae. Macropinocytosis was previously identified as a mechanism by which
371 malignant cells satisfy their unique metabolic needs and hence support cancer progression [59]. In
372 the amoebae, macropinocytosis is the primary and widely used method for feeding [60]. On the
373 other hand, the downstream signaling molecules that correspond to mammalian PTEN and are
374 related to cellular proliferation, such as B cell lymphoma 2 associated agonist of cell death (BAD)
375 and cyclin-dependent kinase inhibitor p27 [5,8], have not yet been identified in *E. histolytica*.
376 Instead, *E. histolytica* possesses two genes encoding TOR-like proteins by biocomputational
377 approach [61]. These data may suggest that regulation of amoebic growth by PTEN is distinct in
378 *E. histolytica*. On the other hand, it was previously shown that loss of PTEN significantly lowered
379 growth in *D. discoideum*, possibly attributable to mislocalization of myosin II during cytokinesis
380 [62,63]. Similarly, myosin II mutants caused reduction in growth and multinucleation in *E.*
381 *histolytica* [64]. These observations likely support the premise that EhPTEN1 regulates amoebic
382 cell proliferation by regulation of cytokinesis and/or nutrient uptake by macropinocytosis.
383 Furthermore, the requirement of EhPTEN1 for optimum proliferation indicates that *E. histolytica*
384 apparently does not possess compensatory mechanisms for the PIPs dysregulation caused by the
385 loss of EhPTEN1, and thus have posed it as rational drug target.

386 We have shown that EhPTEN1, in two forms of tagged/fusion proteins, GFP-EhPTEN1
387 and HA-EhPTEN1, enhances cell migration while repression of *EhPTEN1* gene expression causes
388 inhibition of motility. These observations agree well with the fact that EhPTEN1 was transiently
389 concentrated in newly formed pseudopods. The GFP-EhPTEN1 distribution in *E. histolytica* is
390 similar to the localization of mammalian PTEN, which predominantly shows cytosolic localization
391 and mediates conversion of PtdIns(3,4,5)P₃ to PtdIns(4,5)P₂ through dynamic interaction with the
392 inner face of the plasma membrane [65,66]. It was also shown that in *D. discoideum* the
393 localization of PTEN changed in response to the chemoattractant stimulation via increase in
394 extracellular cAMP. In resting cells, PTEN is uniformly associated with the plasma membrane,
395 but upon chemoattractant stimulation, PTEN transiently dissociates from the membrane and
396 diffuses into the cytosol with accumulation at the rear of the chemotaxis cells [67]. These data
397 suggest that EhPTEN1 is involved in pseudopods formation and motility. In *D. discoideum*, PTEN
398 was also implicated in cell migration as a positive regulator of motility, because an ameba strain
399 lacking PTEN showed a reduction in migration speed and defect in chemotactic efficiency due to
400 disruption of PtdIns(3,4,5)P₃ / PtdIns(4,5)P₂ concentration gradient throughout the cell [68-70]. In
401 contrast, in mammalian cell types including B cells, glioma cells, and fibroblasts, PTEN was
402 shown to inhibit migration [71,8]. The behavioral analysis of *D. discoideum* showed that loss of
403 PTEN caused a reduction in cell motility due to their inability to repress the formation of lateral
404 pseudopodia that misdirect them, compared with wild-type cells, which produce only one large
405 pseudopod at a time [68,69]. In addition, loss of PTEN also resulted in dysregulation of myosin II
406 assembly at the cell cortex, where PTEN prevents the formation of lateral pseudopodia and
407 promotes cell body contraction and posterior retraction in *D. discoideum* [68,72]. PtdIns(4,5)P₂,
408 produced by PTEN, can recruit and activate a wide variety of actin regulatory proteins at the

409 plasma membrane, thereby controlling motility [1,48]. For example, PtdIns(4,5)P₂ activates N-
410 WASP directly or indirectly through interaction with IQGAP1 which result in promoting actin
411 polymerization by activation of N-WASP–Arp2/3 complex [1,48,73]. Among them, myosin II and
412 Arp2/3 complex are conserved in *E. histolytica*, where myosin II plays a critical role in movement
413 [64,74] and Arp2/3 complex is involved in actin nucleation [75]. Thus, it is conceivable that
414 EhPTEN1 mediates signaling for pseudopod formation and migration through regulation of
415 PtdIns(3,4,5)P₃ metabolism.

416 In conclusion, we have shown the biological significance of EhPTEN1 in different forms
417 of endocytosis including trogocytosis, phagocytosis, pinocytosis, and clathrin-mediated
418 endocytosis. We have also demonstrated the essentiality of EhPTEN1 in pseudopod formation,
419 motility, and optimal growth of *E. histolytica*. Taken together, these findings emphasize the
420 importance of EhPTEN1 in modulating a plethora of functions in *E. histolytica*. Exploring PTEN
421 functions in *E. histolytica* will hopefully increase our knowledge on the regulation of cellular
422 processes related to actin remodeling through the PIPs signaling pathway. Also, it will inform the
423 rational design of novel therapies against eukaryotic pathogens.

424

425 **Materials and methods**

426 **Identification and comparison of PTEN sequences**

427 Amino acid sequences of PTEN from *E. histolytica* and other organisms were gained from
428 AmoebaDB (<http://amoebadb.org/amoeba/>) and NCBI (<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov>)
429 respectively, and aligned using CLUSTAL W program (<http://clustalw.ddbj.nig.ac.jp/>) to examine
430 the domain configuration and the key residues for phosphatase activity [76].

431 **Organisms, cultivation, and reagents**

432 Trophozoites of *E. histolytica* clonal strains HM-1:IMSS cl6 and G3 strain were cultured
433 axenically in 6 ml screw-capped Pyrex glass tubes in Diamond's BI-S-33 (BIS) medium at 35.5°C
434 as described previously [77-79]. CHO cells were grown at 37°C in F12 medium (Invitrogen-Gibco,
435 New York, U.S.A.) supplemented with 10% fetal bovine serum on a 10-cm-diameter tissue culture
436 dish (IWAKI, Shizuoka, Japan). *Escherichia coli* BL21 (DE3) strain was purchased from
437 Invitrogen (California, USA). Ni²⁺-NTA His-bind slurry was obtained from Novagen (Darmstadt,
438 Germany). Rhodamine B isothiocyanate-Dextran (RITC-Dextran) and anti-GFP antibody were
439 purchased from Sigma-Aldrich (Missouri, USA). The anti-HA 16B12 monoclonal mouse antibody
440 was purchased from Biolegend (San Diego, USA). Anti-His antibody was purchased from Cell
441 Signaling Technology (Massachusetts, USA). Lipofectamine, PLUS reagent, and geneticin (G418)
442 were purchased from Invitrogen. CellTracker Green, Orange, and Blue were purchased from
443 Thermo Fisher Scientific (Massachusetts, USA). Restriction enzymes and DNA modifying
444 enzymes were purchased from New England Biolabs (Massachusetts, USA) unless otherwise
445 mentioned. Luria Bertani (LB) medium was purchased from BD Difco (New Jersey, USA). Other
446 common reagents were from Wako Pure Chemical (Tokyo, Japan), unless otherwise stated.

447 **Establishment of *E. histolytica* transformants**

448 To construct a plasmid to express EhPTEN1 fused with HA or GFP tag fused at the amino terminus,
449 a DNA fragment corresponding to cDNA encoding EhPTEN1 was amplified by polymerase chain
450 reaction (PCR) from *E. histolytica* cDNA using a pair of primers listed in S2 Table. The PCR-
451 amplified fragments were digested with XmaI and XhoI and cloned into pEhEx-HA and pEhEx-
452 GFP vectors [21,22] that had been predigested with XmaI and XhoI, to produce pEhExHA-
453 EhPTEN1 and pEhExGFP-EhPTEN1. For antisense small RNA-mediated transcriptional
454 silencing of *EhPTEN1* gene, a 420 bp fragment of the protein coding region of *EhPTEN1* gene,

455 corresponding to the amino terminus of the protein, was amplified by PCR from cDNA with sense
456 and antisense oligonucleotides containing StuI and SacI restriction sites (S2 Table). The amplified
457 product was digested with StuI and SacI and ligated into the compatible sites of the double digested
458 psAP2-Gunma plasmid [80] to synthesize a gene silencing plasmid designated as psAP2-
459 EhPTEN1. Two plasmids, pEhExHA-EhPTEN1 and pEhExGFP-EhPTEN1, were introduced into
460 the trophozoites of *E. histolytica* HM-1:IMSS c16 strain, whereas psAP2-EhPTEN1 was
461 introduced into G3 strain by lipofection as described previously [81]. Transformants were initially
462 selected in the presence of 1 µg/ml G418 until the drug concentration was gradually increased to
463 10 µg/ml for the *EhPTEN1* gene silenced stain and 20 µg/ml for the GFP- and HA-EhPTEN1
464 overexpressing stains. Finally, all transformants were maintained at 10 or 20 µg/ml G418 in BIS
465 medium.

466 **Reverse transcriptase PCR**

467 Reverse transcriptase PCR was performed to check mRNA levels of EhPTEN1 in EhPTEN1 gene
468 silenced and control strains. Total RNA was extracted from trophozoites of EhPTEN1 gene
469 silenced and control strains that were cultivated in the logarithmic phase using TRIZOL reagent
470 (Life Technologies, California, USA). Approximately one µg of DNase treated total RNA was
471 used for cDNA synthesis using Superscript III First -Strand Synthesis System (Thermo Fisher
472 Scientific, Massachusetts, USA) with reverse transcriptase and oligo (dT) primer according to the
473 manufacture's protocol. Ex Taq PCR system was used to amplify DNA from the cDNA template
474 using the primer pairs listed in S2 Table. The PCR conditions were as follow: initial denaturation
475 at 98°C for 10 sec; then 25 cycles at 98°C for 10 sec, 55°C for 30 sec, and 72°C for 20 sec; and a
476 final extension at 72°C for 7 min. The PCR products obtained were resolved by agarose gel
477 electrophoresis.

478 **Immunoblot analysis**

479 Trophozoites of amoeba transformants expressing HA-EhPTEN1 or GFP-EhPTEN1 grown in the
480 exponential growth phase were harvested and washed three times with phosphate buffer saline
481 (PBS). After resuspension in lysis buffer (50 mM Tris-HCl, pH 7.5, 150 mM NaCl, 0.1% Triton-
482 X 100, 0.5 mg/ml E-64, and protease inhibitor), the trophozoites were kept on ice for 30 min,
483 followed by centrifugation at $500 \times g$ for 5 min. Approximately 20 μ g of the total cell lysates were
484 separated on 10% SDS-PAGE and subsequently electrotransferred onto nitrocellulose membranes.
485 The membranes were incubated in 5% non-fat dried milk in Tris-Buffered Saline and Tween-20
486 (TBST; 50 mM Tris-HCl, pH 8.0, 150 mM NaCl, and 0.05% Tween-20) for 1 hr at room
487 temperature to block non-specific protein. The blots were reacted with one of the following
488 primary antibodies diluted as indicated: anti-HA 16B12 monoclonal mouse antibody at a dilution
489 of 1:1,000, anti-GFP mouse monoclonal antibody (1:100), and anti-CS1 rabbit polyclonal antisera
490 [82] (1:1,000) at 4°C overnight. The membranes were washed with TBST and further reacted with
491 horseradish peroxidase-conjugated (HRP) anti-mouse or anti-rabbit IgG antisera (1:10,000) at
492 room temperature for 1 hr. After washings with TBST, the specific proteins were visualized with
493 a chemiluminescence HRP Substrate system (Millipore, Massachusetts, USA) using LAS 4000
494 (Fujifilm Life Science, Cambridge, USA) according to the manufacture's protocol.

495 **Live cell imaging**

496 Approximately 5×10^5 trophozoites of the transformant strain expressing GFP-EhPTEN1 were
497 cultured on a 35 mm (in diameter) collagen-coated glass-bottom dish (MatTek Corporation,
498 Massachusetts, USA) in 3 ml of BIS medium under anaerobic conditions. CHO cells were stained
499 with BIS medium containing 10 μ M CellTracker Orange for 40 min followed by washing three
500 times with PBS. Approximately 2×10^4 prestained CHO cells 200 μ l BIS were gently overlaid to

501 trophozoites grown on the glass-bottom dish as prepared above. The central part of the dish was
502 then carefully covered with a 1 cm square coverslip and the edge of the coverslip on the slide glass
503 was sealed with nail polish. Live imaging was performed, images were captured on Zeiss LSM780
504 confocal microscope, and analyzed by ZEN software (Carl-Zeiss, Oberkochen, Germany).

505 **Indirect immunofluorescence assay (IFA)**

506 Approximately 5×10^3 trophozoites in 50 μ l BIS were transferred to an 8 mm round well on a slide
507 glass (Matsunami Glass Ind, Osaka, Japan). After 30 min incubation in an anaerobic chamber at
508 35.5°C, 5×10^4 CHO cells that had been pre-stained with 10 μ M CellTracker Blue in 50 μ l BIS
509 were added to the well and the mixture was incubated for 15 min. After removing the medium,
510 cells were fixed with PBS containing 3.7 % paraformaldehyde at room temperature for 10 min,
511 and subsequently permeabilized with PBS containing 0.2% Triton 100-X and 1 % bovine serum
512 albumin (BSA) for 10 min each at room temperature. The cells were then reacted with anti-HA
513 mouse monoclonal antibody (1:1000) for 1 hr at room temperature. Then the sample was reacted
514 with Alexa Fluor-488 conjugated anti-mouse IgG (1:1000) antibody (Thermo Fisher,
515 Massachusetts, USA). The images were then captured using LSM 780 confocal microscope and
516 analyzed by ZEN software (Carl-Zeiss, Oberkochen, Germany).

517 **Trogocytosis and phagocytosis assay using CQ1**

518 Trophozoites of *E. histolytica* were incubated in BIS containing 10 μ M CellTracker Blue (Thermo
519 Fisher) at 35.5°C for 1 hr. After staining, ameba trophozoites were washed 3 times with PBS and
520 resuspended in OPTI-MEM medium (Thermo Fisher, Massachusetts, USA) containing 15% adult
521 bovine serum (Sigma Aldrich). Approximately 2×10^4 ameba trophozoites were seeded into a well
522 on a 96-well glass bottom plate (IWAKI, Shizuoka, Japan) and incubated in anaerobic chamber
523 for 40 min. After incubation, about 1×10^5 live or heat killed CHO cells that have been stained with

524 10 μ M CellTracker Orange were added to the well containing amoebae. The images were taken on
525 a Confocal Quantitative image cytometer CQ1 (Yokogawa Electric Corporation, Tokyo, Japan)
526 using 20 \times objective every 10 min for 1 hr. The images were analyzed using CellPathfinder
527 software (Yokogawa Electric Corporation, Tokyo, Japan) according to the manufacture's protocol.
528 The multiple parameters were measured to evaluate the efficiency of trophocytosis and
529 phagocytosis: the average number of internalized CHO cells per amoeba, the combined volume of
530 internalized CHO cells per amoeba, and the percentage of amebic trophozoites that ingested the
531 target cells in the whole population.

532 **Measurement of fluid-phase and receptor-mediated endocytosis**

533 Approximately 2.5×10^5 amebic transformants were incubated in BIS medium containing 2 mg/ml
534 fluorescent fluid-phase marker RITC dextran at 35°C for indicated time points. The cells were
535 collected, washed three times with PBS, and resuspended in 250 μ l of lysis buffer (50 mM Tris-
536 HCl, pH 7.5, 150 mM NaCl, and 0.1% Triton-X 100). Fluorescence intensity was measured using
537 a plate reader (SpectraMax Paradigm Multi-Mode, Molecular Devices, California, USA) at an
538 excitation wavelength of 570 nm and an emission wavelength of 610 nm.

539 Approximately 2×10^4 amebic transformants were incubated in BIS containing 20 μ M
540 CellTracker Blue (Thermo Fisher) at 35.5°C for 1 hr. After staining, approximately 10^4 amebic
541 transformants resuspended in 100 μ l of BIS medium were transferred to a well on a 96-well
542 glass-bottom plate. After incubation at 35.5°C in an anaerobic chamber for 40 min, 0.5 mg/ml of
543 transferrin conjugate with Alexa Fluor 568 was added to the well and images were acquired by
544 CQ1 and analyzed as above.

545 **Migration (motility) assay**

546 Amoebic trophozoites grown in the logarithmic growth phase were harvested and labelled with 20
547 μ M CellTracker Green for 1 hr at 35.5°C. After washing 3 times with PBS, cells were transferred
548 to a well on a 96-well glass-bottom plate and time lapse images were captured on CQ1. The
549 motility of the cells was measured using CellPathfinder software.

550 **Quantitative real-time (qRT) PCR**

551 The relative levels of mRNA of *EhPTEN1* gene and RNA polymerase II gene, as an internal
552 standard, were measured by qRT-PCR. PCR reaction was prepared using Fast SYBR Master Mix
553 (Applied Biosystems, California, USA) with 100 ng cDNA and a primer set shown in S1 Table.
554 PCR was conducted using the StepOne Plus Real-Time PCR system (Applied Biosystems,
555 California, USA) with the following cycling conditions: an initial step of denaturation at 95°C for
556 20 sec, followed by 40 cycles of denaturation at 95°C for 3 sec, annealing and extension at 60°C
557 for 30 sec. The mRNA expression level of *EhPTEN1* gene in the transformants was expressed as
558 relative to that in the control transfected with psAP2.

559 **Growth assay of *E. histolytica* trophozoites**

560 Approximately 10^4 trophozoites of *E. histolytica* G3 strain transformed with psAP2-EhPTEN1 and
561 psAP2 (control), grown in the logarithmic phase, were inoculated into 6 ml of fresh BI-S-33
562 medium containing 10 μ g/mL G418, and the parasites were counted every 24 hr on a
563 hemocytometer.

564 **Production of EhPTEN1 recombinant protein**

565 To construct the plasmid for the production of recombinant EhPTEN1 containing a histidine-tag
566 at the amino terminus, the full-length protein coding sequence of *EhPTEN1* gene was amplified
567 by PCR using oligonucleotide primers listed in S2 Table. PCR was performed with PrimeSTAR
568 Max DNA polymerase (Takara Bio Inc, Shiga, Japan) with the following parameters: initial

569 incubation at 95°C for 1 min; followed by 30 cycles of denaturation at 98°C for 10 sec; annealing
570 at 55°C for 5 sec; and elongation at 72°C for 15 sec; and a final extension at 72°C for 30 sec. The
571 PCR fragment was digested with *Bam*HI and *Sal*I and ligated into *Bam*HI and *Sal*I double digested
572 pCOLD-1 vector (Takara Bio Inc, Shiga, Japan) to produce pCOLD1-EhPTEN1 plasmid. The
573 pCOLD-1-EhPTEN1 was introduced into *E. coli* BL21 (DE3) cells by heat shock at 42°C for 45
574 sec. *E. coli* BL21 (DE3) strain harboring pCOLD-1-EhPTEN1 was grown at 37°C in 50 ml of LB
575 medium (BD Difco, New Jersey, USA) in the presence of 100 µg/ml ampicillin. The overnight
576 culture was used to inoculate 500 ml of fresh medium, and the culture was further continued at
577 37°C with shaking at 220 rpm for approximately 2 hr. When A₆₀₀ absorbance reached 0.6, then
578 1mM of isopropyl β-D-thio galactopyranoside (IPTG) was added, and cultivation was continued
579 for another 24 hr at 15°C. The *E. coli* cells from the induced culture were harvested by
580 centrifugation at 75,000 rpm for 20 min at 4°C. The cell pellet was washed three times with PBS,
581 re-suspended in 30 ml of the lysis buffer (50 mM Tris-HCl, pH 8.0, 300 mM NaCl, and 0.1%
582 Triton X-100) containing 100 µg/ml lysozyme, and 1 mM phenylmethyl sulfonyl fluoride (PMSF),
583 and incubated at room temperature for 30 min. After incubation, the mixture was sonicated on ice
584 and centrifuged at 13,000 rpm for 20 min at 4°C. The supernatant was mixed with 1 ml of 50%
585 Ni²⁺-NTA His-bind resin (Qiagen, Hilden, Germany), incubated for 1 hr at 4°C with mild rotatory
586 shaking. The resin that recombinant His-EhPTEN1 bound was washed in a disposal column three
587 times with 5 ml of lysis buffer containing 10-30 mM of imidazole. Bound proteins were eluted
588 with 3 ml each of lysis buffer containing 100-300 mM imidazole to obtain recombinant EhPTEN1.
589 The integrity and the purity of the recombinant protein were confirmed with 10% SDS-PAGE
590 analysis, followed by Coomassie Brilliant Blue staining. Then the protein was concentrated, and
591 the buffer was replaced with 50 mM Tris-HCl, 150 mM NaCl, pH 8.0 using Amicon Ultra 50K

592 centrifugal device (Millipore, Massachusetts, USA). The protein was stored at -30 °C with 50%
593 glycerol in small aliquots until further use.

594 **Lipid phosphatase assay**

595 EhPTEN1 enzymatic activity was determined by the method previously described [83]. Di-C8
596 phosphatidylinositol phosphate(s) (PIPs) (Echelon Bioscience, Salt Laken City, USA) were
597 dissolved in 100 mM MOPS, pH 6.0, solution, flash frozen in liquid nitrogen, and stored at -20°C
598 between uses. For determination of pH optimum, the following buffers were used, 100 mM acetate
599 buffer (pH 4.0, pH 4.5, pH 5.0, pH 5.5), 100 mM MOPS buffer (pH 6.0, pH 6.5, pH 7.0), and 100
600 mM Tris-HCl (pH 7.5, pH 8.0, pH 8.5, pH 9.0). For determination of substrate specificity, a
601 reaction mixture was composed of 25 µl of 100 mM MOPS pH 6.0 containing 5 µg of recombinant
602 EhPTEN1 and 100 µM PIPs. The reaction was carried out at 37°C for 40 min and the produced
603 phosphate was measured using Malachite Green Reagent (Cell Signaling technology,
604 Massachusetts, USA). After incubation for 15 min at room temperature, the absorbance was
605 measured at a wavelength of 630 nm. The Lineweaver Burk Plot was used to calculate the kinetic
606 parameters of EhPTEN1.

607 **Lipid membrane overlay assay**

608 Approximately 6×10^6 trophozoites of GFP-EhPTEN1 expressing strain were harvested, washed
609 with PBS, and concentrated by centrifugation. Approximately one hundred µl of lysis buffer (50
610 mM Tris-HCl, pH 7.5 150 mM NaCl, and 0.1 % Triton X-100, 1× complete mini, and 0.5 mg/ml
611 E64) was added to the cell pellet. The mixture was incubated on ice for 30 min and centrifuged at
612 13000 rpm for 5 min. The supernatant was collected and used as the total lysate. GFP-EhPTEN1
613 was immunoprecipitated using GFP-Trap Agarose Kit (ChromoTek, Planegg, Germany)
614 according to the manufacturer's instruction, eluted, and confirmed by immunoblot. Lipid

615 membranes on which a panel of phospholipids were immobilized (PIP strips: P-6001, Echelon
616 Bioscience, Salt Laken City, USA) were blocked with 1% fat free BSA in PBS-T (PBS containing
617 0.05% Tween 20) for 1 hr at room temperature. The membranes were then incubated with 2 ml of
618 lipid binding solution (1% fat free BSA in PBS-T, 1x complete mini, 0.05 mg/ml E64, 20 μ l of
619 eluted lysate) for 3 hr at 4C. After the membrane were washed twice with PBS-T at 4°C, they were
620 reacted with anti-GFP at 1:100 dilution with PBS-T containing 1% fat free BSA (PBS-TB) in for
621 3 hr at 4C. After incubation with the first antibody, the membranes were further reacted with HRP
622 conjugated anti-mouse IgG rabbit antiserum at 1:10,000 dilution with PBS-TB in at 4°C for 1 hr.
623 The membranes were washed three times with PBS-T at 4°C and the specific proteins were
624 visualized with a chemiluminescence HRP substrate system (Millipore, Massachusetts, USA)
625 using LAS 4000 (Fujifilm Life Science, Cambridge, USA) according to the manufactures' protocol.
626 Recombinant EhPTEN1 protein was also used except that 1 μ g/ml of recombinant protein were
627 incubated on the membrane over night at 4C and anti-His antibody was used as the first antibody
628 with a dilution of 1:1,000.

629

630 **Acknowledgments**

631 We thank all members of Nozaki lab, particularly Herbert J. Santos, for technical assistance and
632 valuable discussions, and Arif Nurkanto, Emi Mazaki, Kumiko Shibata, Mihoko Imada, and Ratna
633 Wahyuni for all the help and advice.

634

635 **Figure legends**

636 **Fig 1. Structural features and sequence alignments of PTEN in *Entameoba histolytica*. (A)**

637 Domain organization of PTEN from human and *E. histolytica*. PDM [PtdIns(4,5)P₂-binding motif],

638 Ptase (Phosphatase tensin-type domain), C2 (C2 tensin-type domain), DUF547 (Domain of
639 unknown function), PDZ-BM (PDZ-binding motif), PEST (proline, glutamine, serine, threonine
640 sequence), red triangle indicates the nuclear localization sequence. **(B)** Relative mRNA expression
641 of PTEN homologs in *E. histolytica* trophozoites HM1: IMSS cl6 and G3 strains. **(C)** Multiple
642 amino acid sequence alignment of human PTEN (P60484), *D. discoideum* PTEN (Q8T9S), and
643 EhPTEN1 (XP_653141.2) was constructed by using clustalw algorithm
644 (<http://clustalw.ddbj.nig.ac.jp>). PTEN phosphatase domain and C2 domain are shown with blue
645 and yellow backgrounds, respectively. The green rectangle corresponds to the PtdIns(4,5)P₂-
646 binding motif (PDM domain). Amino acid residues implicated for PtdIns(3,4,5)P₃ catalysis are
647 marked with a red rectangle. Cytosolic localization signal and residues important for TI loop
648 formation are indicated in black and blue lines, respectively. Note that for human PTEN, only the
649 amino terminal part is shown.

650 **Fig 2. Expression and localization of GFP-EhPTEN1 in motile trophozoites.** **(A)** Immunoblot
651 of GFP-EhPTEN1 and mock control in *E. histolytica* transformants. Approximately 30 µg of total
652 lysates from mock-transfected control (mock) and GFP-EhPTEN1-expressing transformant (GFP-
653 EhPTEN1) were subjected to SDS-PAGE and immunoblot analysis using anti-GFP antibody and
654 anti-CS1 antibody. Arrow indicates GFP-EhPTEN1. **(B)** Live imaging montage showing a time
655 series of motile trophozoites expressing GFP-EhPTEN1. The pseudopodal localization of GFP-
656 EhPTEN1 is indicated by white arrow. The line intensity plot shows GFP-EhPTEN1 intensity in
657 pseudopods vs. cytoplasm with the distance. (Scale bar, 10 µm) **(C)** Relative fluorescence
658 intensities were quantified in the pseudopod regions of GFP-EhPTEN1 and mock control
659 expressing trophozoites then normalized to the fluorescence intensities in the total cells. Data
660 points in the graph show the mean and error bars represent standard deviation for 30 cells.

661 Statistical significance was examined with t-test (**P<0.001). **(D)** Cell motility of mock and
662 GFP-EhPTEN1 transfected strains. Time-lapse images of the transformant trophozoites were
663 collected every sec for 5 min using CQ1 and 30 cells were selected randomly for analysis by
664 CellPathfinder software. The experiments were performed three times independently. Statistical
665 significance was examined with Dunnet test (**P< 0.05).

666 **Fig 3. Localization of GFP-EhPTEN1 during trogocytosis.** **(A)** Time series montage showing
667 the localization of GFP-EhPTEN1 during trogocytosis of live CHO cells by amoebic trophozoites.
668 The site of trogocytosis is marked with arrow. (Scale bar, 10 μ m). **(B)** Analysis of GFP-EhPTEN1
669 intensity along the line drawn at the initial phase of CHO internalization soon after attachment.
670 **(C)** The plot showing the intensity of GFP-EhPTEN1 along the line drawn reveals its enrichment
671 in the tunnel formed during amoebic trogocytosis. **(D)** The graph shows the intensity of GFP-
672 EhPTEN1 at the late phase of trogocytosis soon after closure of the trogocytic cup **(E)** The graph
673 shows the intensity of GFP-EhPTEN1 after the closure of the trogocytic cup.

674 **Fig 4. Localization of GFP-EhPTEN1 phagocytosis of pre-killed CHO cells.** **(A)** Montage of
675 live trophozoite expressing GFP-EhPTEN1 ingesting pre-killed CHO cells by phagocytosis. (Scale
676 bar, 10 μ m). **(B)** Analysis of intensity of GFP-EhPTEN1 across the phagocytic cup along the line
677 drawn. **(C)** The plot showing the intensity of GFP-EhPTEN1 along the line drawn across the newly
678 formed phagosome. **(D)** The graph shows the intensity of GFP-EhPTEN1 after phagosome
679 maturation.

680 **Fig 5. Effect of GFP-EhPTEN1 expression on trogocytosis.** **(A)** Trophozoites of mock
681 transfected and GFP-EhPTEN1 expressing strains were incubated with live CHO cells that have
682 been stained with CellTracker Orange to evaluate trogocytosis. The images were taken on CQ1 as
683 described in the materials and methods and analyzed to calculate the average numbers of CHO

684 cell-containing trophosomes per amoeba. **(B)** The volume of the ingested CHO cells was calculated
685 using three-dimensionally reconstituted data. **(C)** The percentage of amoeba trophozoites that
686 ingested live CHO cells. Experiments were conducted three times independently in triplicates and
687 a representative data set is shown. Statistical significance was examined with t-test (* $P < 0.05$,
688 ** $P < 0.01$). Error bars indicating standard deviation.

689 **Fig 6. Effect of GFP-EhPTEN1 expression on phagocytosis.** **(A)** Trophozoites of mock
690 transfected and GFP-EhPTEN1 expressing strains were incubated with heat killed CHO cells that
691 have been stained with CellTracker Orange to evaluate phagocytosis. The images were taken on
692 CQ1 as described in the materials and methods and analyzed to calculate the average numbers of
693 CHO cell-containing phagosomes per amoeba. **(B)** The volume of the ingested CHO cells was
694 calculated using three-dimensionally reconstituted data. **(C)** The percentage of amoeba
695 trophozoites that ingested pre-killed CHO cells. Experiments were conducted three times
696 independently in triplicates and a representative data set is shown. Statistical significance was
697 examined with t-test (* $P < 0.05$). Error bars indicating standard deviation.

698 **Fig 7. Establishment and phenotypes of EhPTEN1 gene silenced strain.** **(A)** Confirmation of
699 gene silencing by RT-PCR analysis of mock transfected and EhPTEN1 gene silenced strain (gs)
700 strain. Transcripts of EhPTEN1 and RNA polymerase II genes were amplified by RT-PCR from
701 cDNA isolated from the transformants and examined by agarose gel electrophoresis. **(B)** Relative
702 levels of EhPTEN1 transcripts by qRT-PCR analysis in EhPTEN1gs and mock strains. The
703 transcript levels were normalized against RNA polymerase II and are shown in percentage relative
704 to the transcript level in mock control strain. Data shown are the means \pm standard deviations of
705 two biological replicates. Statistical comparison is made by t-test (** $P < 0.01$). **(C)** Growth kinetics
706 of mock and EhPTEN1gs transformants s during 96 h incubation in BI-S-33 medium. Data shown

707 are the means \pm standard deviations of three biological replicates. Statistical comparison is made
708 by t-test (* $P < 0.05$, ** $P < 0.01$, *** $P < 0.001$). **(D)** Cell motility of mock transfected and EhPTEN1
709 gene silenced strains. The indicated transformant trophozoites were pre-stained with CellTracker
710 green and time-lapse images were collected every sec for 2 min using CQ1 and 30 cells were
711 selected randomly for analysis by CellPathfinder software. The experiments were performed three
712 times independently. Statistical significance was examined with Dunnet test (** $P < 0.05$).

713 **Fig 8. The effect of gene silencing of EhPTEN1 on trogocytosis and phagocytosis. (A, C, and**
714 **E)** Trophozoites of mock and EhPTEN1gs strains were prestained with CellTracker Blue were
715 incubated with live CHO cells that have been stained with CellTracker Orange to evaluate
716 trogocytosis. The images were taken on CQ1 as described in the materials and methods. **(B, D,**
717 **and F)** Trophozoites of mock and EhPTEN1gs strains were prestained with CellTracker Blue were
718 incubated with heat killed CHO cells that have been stained with CellTracker Orange to evaluate
719 phagocytosis. The images were taken on CQ1 as described in the materials and methods. **(A)** The
720 average numbers of CHO cell-containing trogosomes per amoeba. **(B)** The average numbers of
721 CHO cell-containing phagosomes per amoeba. **(C)** The volume of the trogosomes were calculated
722 using three-dimensionally reconstituted data. **(D)** The volume of the phagosomes were calculated
723 using three-dimensionally reconstituted data. **(E)** The percentage of amoeba trophozoites that
724 ingested live CHO cells. **(F)** The percentage of amoeba trophozoites that ingested pre-killed CHO
725 cells. Experiments were conducted three times independently in triplicates. Statistical significance
726 was examined with t-test (* $P < 0.05$, ** $P < 0.01$). Error bars indicating standard deviation.

727 **Fig 9. Effect of EhPTEN1 on pinocytosis. (A)** The effect of GFP-EhPTEN1 expression on
728 pinocytosis. Trophozoites of mock transfected and GFP-EhPTEN1 expressing strains were
729 assayed for RITC dextran uptake in a time-dependent manner. **(B)** The effect of pinocytosis upon

730 EhPTEN1 silencing in comparison to mock control. Trophozoites of mock and EhPTEN1gs strains
731 were incubated in BI-S-33 medium containing RITC dextran and assayed for its uptake for
732 indicated time points. Experiments were conducted three times independently and statistical
733 significance was examined with t-test (*P<0.05). Error bars indicating standard errors.

734 **Fig 10. Effect of EhPTEN1 on endocytosis.** (A) The effect of GFP-EhPTEN1 expression on
735 endocytosis. Trophozoites of mock transfected and GFP-EhPTEN1 expressing strains were
736 incubated in BI-S-33 medium containing transferrin and images were taken every 10 min for 1 hr
737 by CQ1 as described in the materials and methods. The volume of endosomes was calculated using
738 three-dimensionally reconstituted data. (B) The effect of EhPTEN1 gene silencing on endocytosis.
739 Images of mock and EhPTEN1gs transformant trophozoites that have been co-cultivated with
740 transferrin were taken every 10 min for 1 hr by CQ1 as described in the materials and methods.
741 The volume of endosomes was calculated using three-dimensionally reconstituted data. All
742 experiments were conducted three times independently and statistical significance was examined
743 with t-test (*P<0.05). Error bars indicating standard errors.

744 **Fig 11. Substrate specificity and enzymatic activity of EhPTEN1.** Determination of Eh-PTEN1
745 Specific Activity. The specific activity of bacterial recombinant Eh-PTEN1 fusion protein toward
746 a panel of synthetic di-C8-phosphoinositide substrates was determined using a malachite green-
747 based assay for inorganic phosphate. Reactions were carried out in a volume of 25 μ l for 40 min
748 at 37°C, then terminated by the addition of 100 μ l of malachite green reagent as described in the
749 materials and methods. The absorbance at 630 nm was measured and phosphate released was
750 quantified by comparison to a standard curve of inorganic phosphate. The means \pm standard
751 deviations of three independent experiments performed in duplicates are shown.

752

753 **Legends for Supplementary figures**

754 **S1 Fig. Live imaging montage showing localization of GFP-EhPTEN1 in normal motile**
755 **trophozoites. (A-B)** Montage showing a time series of motile trophozoites expressing GFP-
756 EhPTEN1 in left panels. The pseudopodal localization of GFP-EhPTEN1 is indicated by white
757 arrow. The right panels show the fluorescence intensity of GFP-EhPTEN1 across the amoebic
758 trophozoites. (Scale bar, 10 μ m).

759 **S2 Fig. Live imaging montage showing localization of GFP mock in normal motile**
760 **trophozoites. (A-C)** Montage showing a time series of motile trophozoites expressing GFP in left
761 panels. The pseudopods in different time frames have been analyzed for GFP intensity along the
762 marked arrow line. The right panels show the fluorescence intensity of GFP across the amoebic
763 trophozoites. (Scale bar, 10 μ m).

764 **S3 Fig. Expression and localization of HA-EhPTEN1. (A)** Immunoblot analysis of HA-
765 EhPTEN1 in *E. histolytica* transformants. Approximately 30 μ g of total lysates from mock-
766 transfected control (mock) and HA-EhPTEN1-expressing transformant (HA-EhPTEN1) were
767 subjected to SDS-PAGE and immunoblot analysis using anti-HA antibody. EhCS1 (Cysteine
768 synthase 1) was detected by anti-CS1 antiserum as a loading control. Arrow indicates HA-
769 EhPTEN1. **(B)** Localization of HA-EhPTEN1 in a quiescent state. Immunofluorescence assay
770 (IFA) micrographs of HA-EhPTEN1 expressing trophozoites stained with anti-HA antibody
771 (green). (Scale bar, 5 μ m). **(C)** The line intensity plot shows HA-EhPTEN1 intensity in pseudopods
772 vs. cytoplasm with the distance.

773 **S4 Fig. Localization of GFP mock during phagocytosis. (A)** Montage of live trophozoite
774 expressing GFP ingesting pre-killed CHO cells by phagocytosis. (Scale bar, 10 μ m). **(B-C)**
775 Analysis of intensity of GFP across the phagocytic cup along the line drawn.

776 **S5 Fig. Evaluation of gene expression by RT-PCR analysis of *EhPTEN1* gene silenced**
777 **transformant.** The steady-state levels of transcripts of *E. histolytica* PTEN isoforms and *EhRNA*
778 *pol II* genes were measured in mock and EhPTEN1gs transformants trophozoites. cDNA from the
779 generated cell lines was subjected to 25 cycles of PCR using specific primers mentioned in S2
780 Table. RNA polymerase II served as a control.

781 **S6 Fig. Expression and purification of EhPTEN1 in *E. coli*.** (A) Expression and purification of
782 recombinant EhPTEN1. Protein samples at each step of purification were subjected to 10% SDS-
783 PAGE and the gel was stained with Coomassie Brilliant Blue. (B) Immunoblot analysis of purified
784 recombinant EhPTEN1 using anti-His-tag antibody. The recombinant EhPTEN1 in the supernatant
785 was visualized after longer exposure. (C) Optimum pH of EhPTEN1. Enzyme specific activity of
786 recombinant EhPTEN1 was measured at various pHs indicated in the figure. The means \pm standard
787 errors of three independent experiments are shown.

788 **S7 Fig. Lipid binding specificity of EhPTEN1.** Lipid binding specificity of EhPTEN1 observed
789 by lipid overlay assay. A panel of PIPs and phospholipid spotted in nitrocellulose membrane was
790 incubated with total lysates from GFP-EhPTEN1 and mock expressing transformants, and
791 recombinant His-EhPTEN1. LPA, lysophosphatidic acid; LPC, lysophosphocholine; PE
792 phosphatidylethanolamine; PC, phosphatidylcholine; S1P, sphingosine-1-phosphate, PA,
793 phosphatidic acid; PS, phosphatidylserine.

794 **S8 Fig. Kinetic analysis of EhPTEN1 phosphatase activity.** (A) Saturation Kinetics for
795 EhPTEN1 against PI(3,4,5)P₃, PI(3,5)P₂, and PI(3,4)P₂. Varying amount of PI(3,4,5)P₃, PI(3,5)P₂,
796 and PI(3,4)P₂ were mixed with EhPTEN1 recombinant protein and phosphate release was
797 measured by a malachite green binding assay as mentioned in the materials and methods. (B)
798 Double reciprocal plots of the recombinant EhPTEN1. The enzymatic activities were determined

799 with various concentration of PI(3,4,5)P₃, PI(3,5)P₂, and PI(3,4)P₂. Data are shown in means ±
800 standard deviations of duplicate analysis.

801

802 **S1 Table. Percentage of amino acid identity among *E. histolytica* PTEN isoforms and Human**
803 **PTEN by ClustalW multiple sequence alignment score.**

804 **S2 Table. List of primers used in this study. Restriction site marked by bold letter.**

805

806 **S_1 Movie. Live cell imaging showing localization of GFP-EhPTEN1 in the cytoplasm and**
807 **pseudopod like structures formed by trophozoites.** The trophozoites expressing GFP-EhPTEN1
808 proteins were seeded onto 3.5 cm diameter glass bottom dish and then observed using Carl Zeiss
809 LSM780 confocal microscope. (Scale bar, 10 μm)

810 **S_2 Movie. Live cell imaging showing localization of GFP in motile trophozoites.** The
811 trophozoites expressing GFP mock were seeded onto 3.5 cm diameter glass bottom dish and then
812 observed using Carl Zeiss LSM780 confocal microscope. (Scale bar, 10 μm)

813 **S_3 Movie. Live cell imaging showing localization of GFP-EhPTEN1 during trogocytosis.**
814 The trophozoites expressing GFP-EhPTEN1 proteins were co-cultured with CellTracker Orange
815 stained live CHO cells onto 3.5 cm diameter glass bottom dish and then observed using Carl Zeiss
816 LSM780 confocal microscope. (Scale bar, 10 μm).

817 **S_4 Movie. Live cell imaging showing localization of GFP-EhPTEN1 during phagocytosis.**
818 The trophozoites expressing GFP-EhPTEN-1 proteins were co-cultured with CellTracker Orange
819 stained pre-killed CHO cells onto 3.5 cm diameter glass bottom dish and then observed using Carl
820 Zeiss LSM780 confocal microscope. (Scale bar, 10 μm).

821 **S_5 Movie. Live cell imaging showing localization of GFP during phagocytosis.** The
822 trophozoites expressing GFP mock were co-cultured with CellTracker Orange stained pre-killed
823 CHO cells onto 3.5 cm diameter glass bottom dish and then observed using Carl Zeiss LSM780
824 confocal microscope. (Scale bar, 10 μ m).

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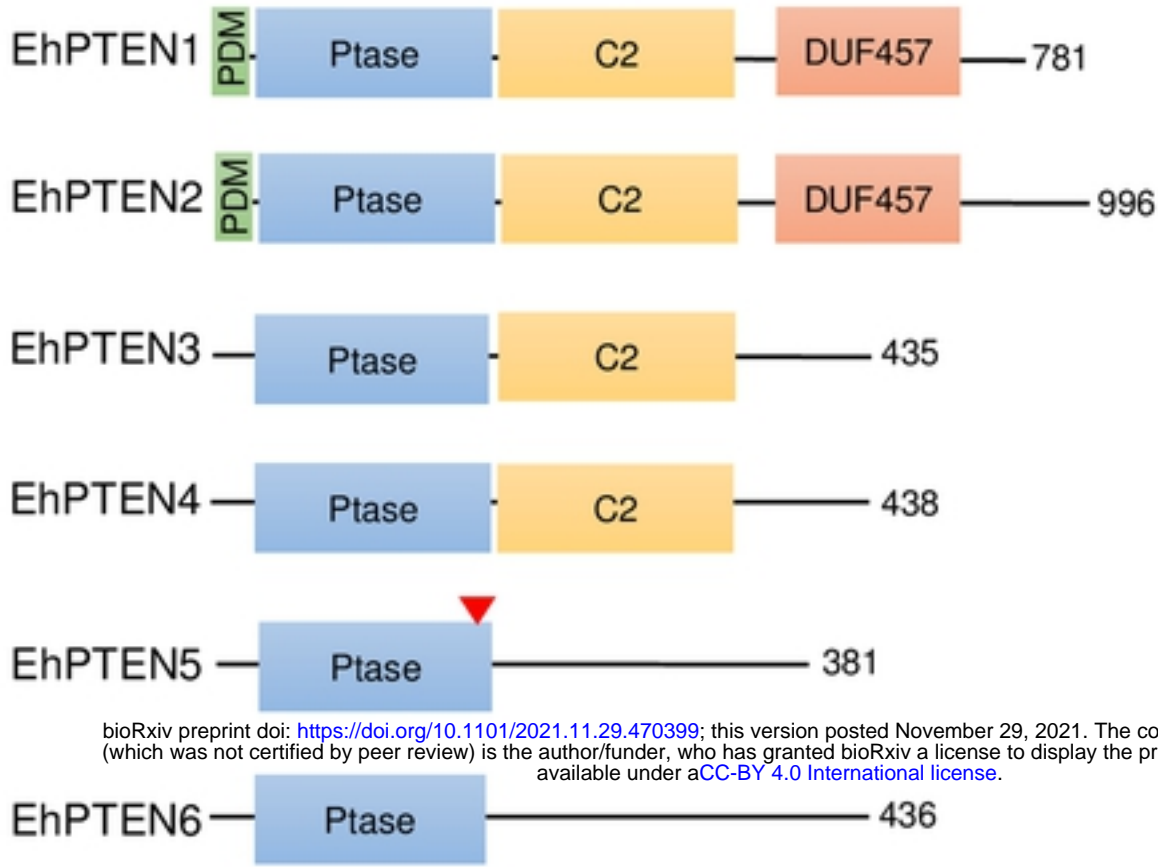
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A

Homo sapiens

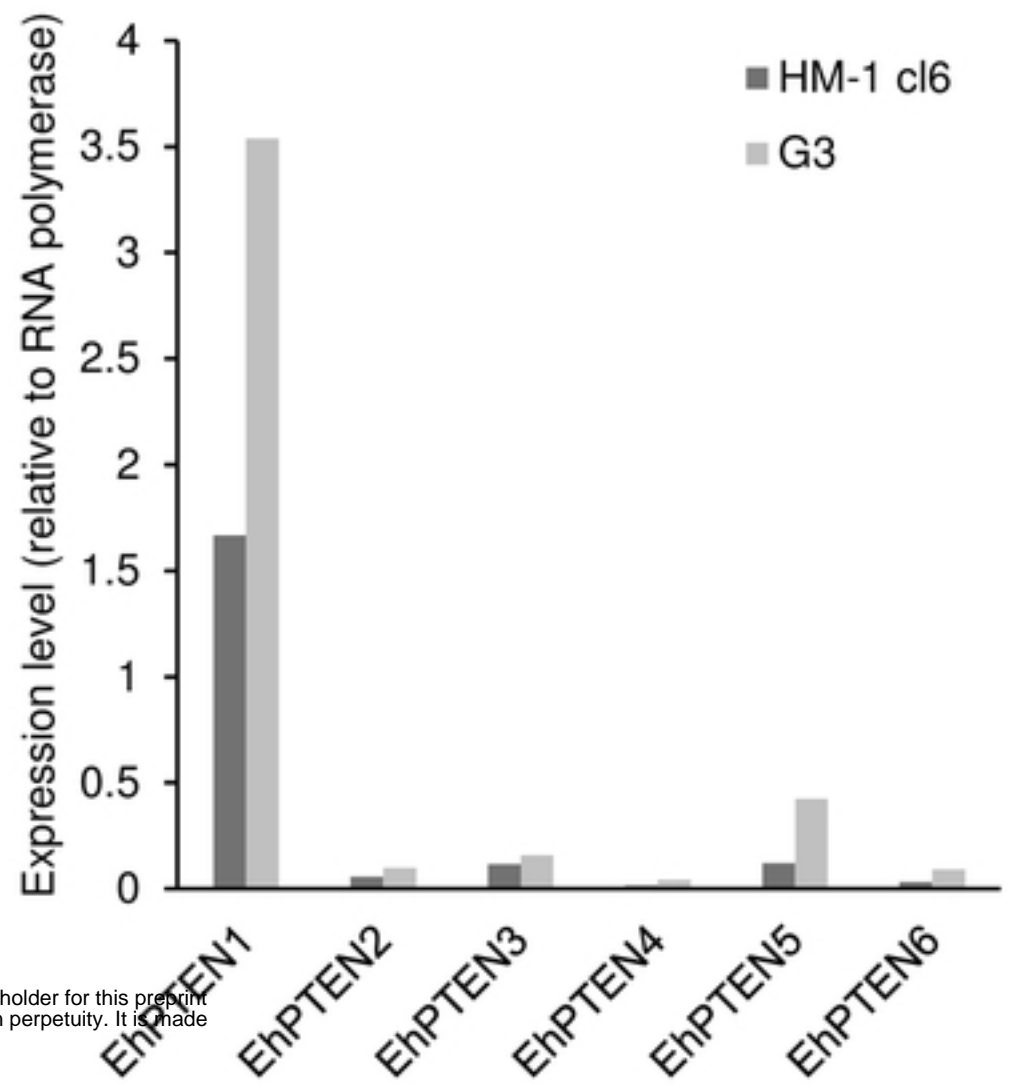


Entamoeba histolytica



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B



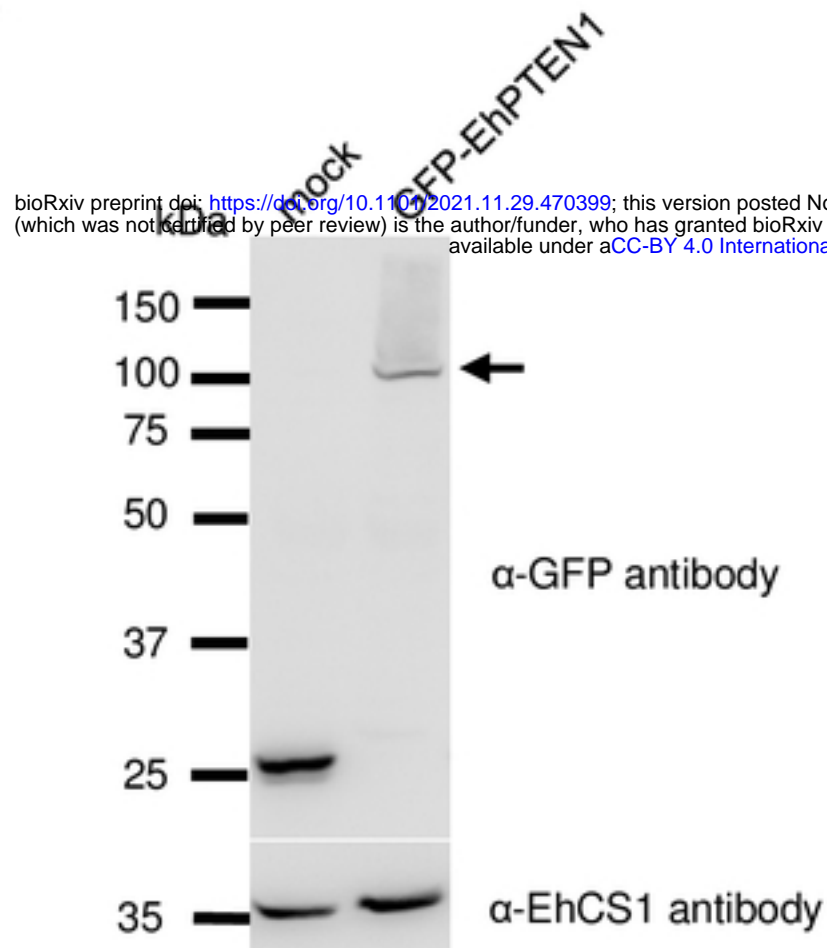
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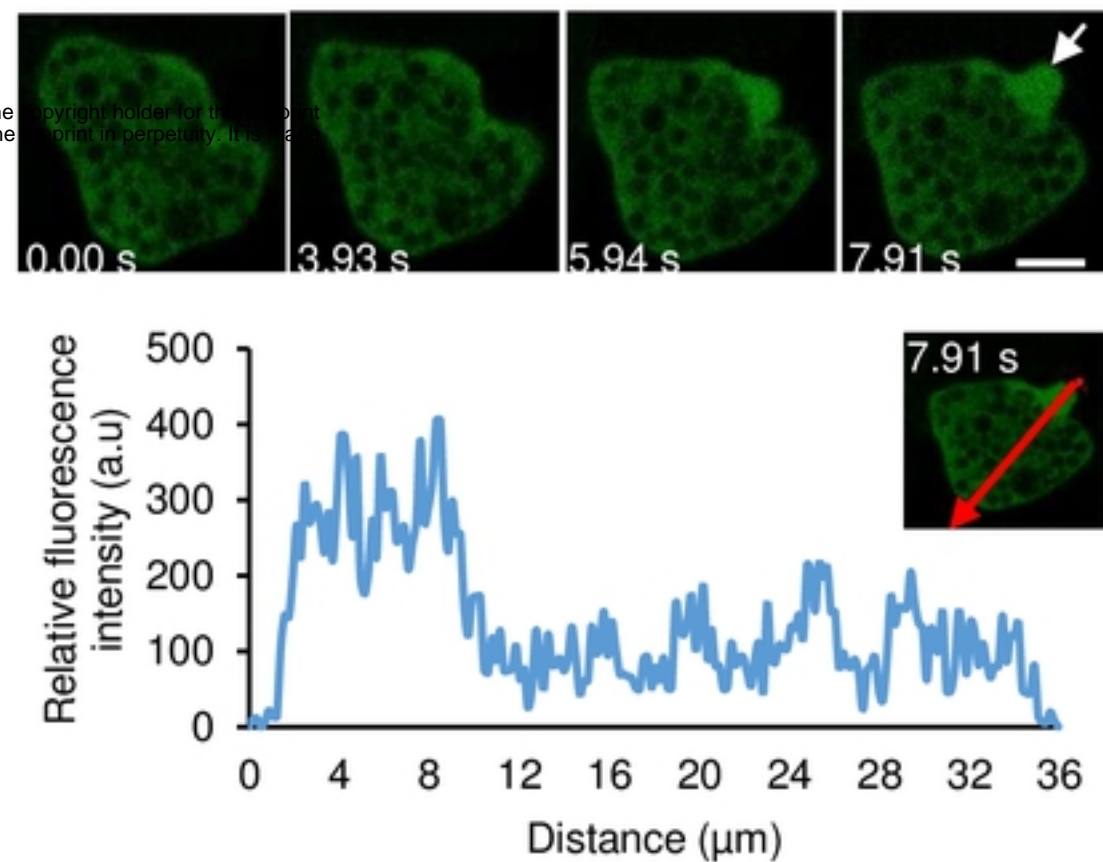
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Fig1

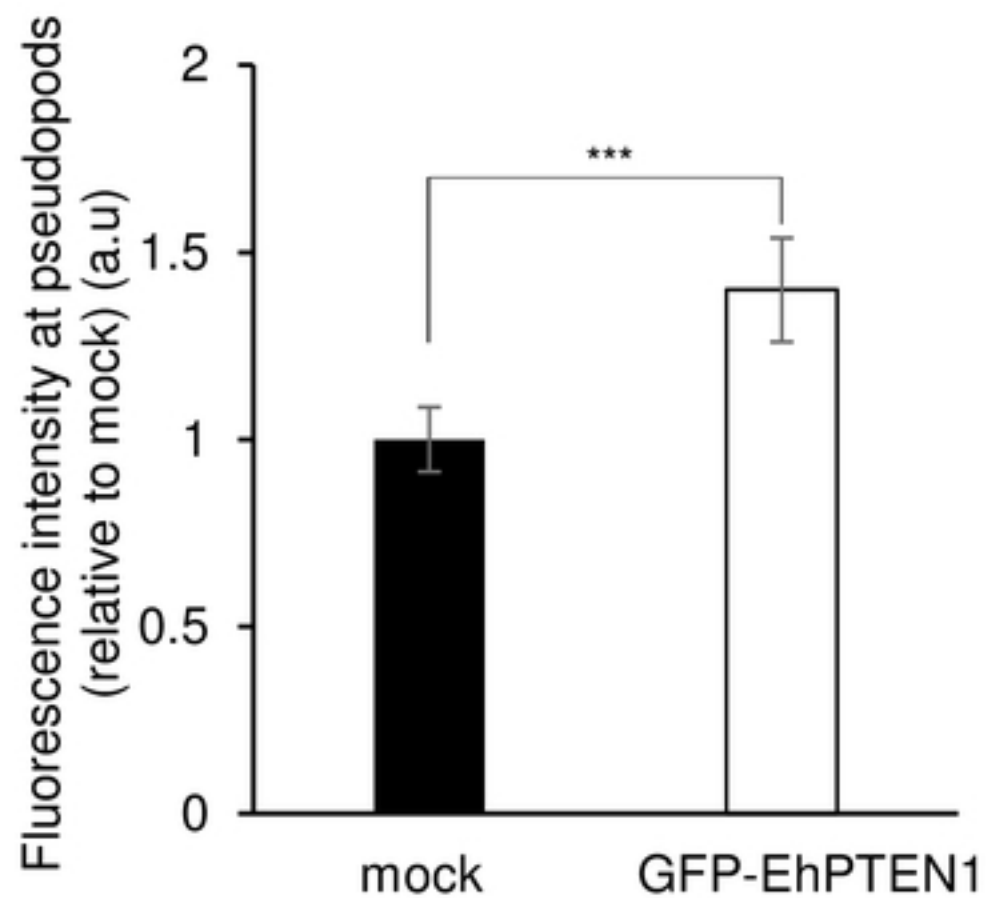
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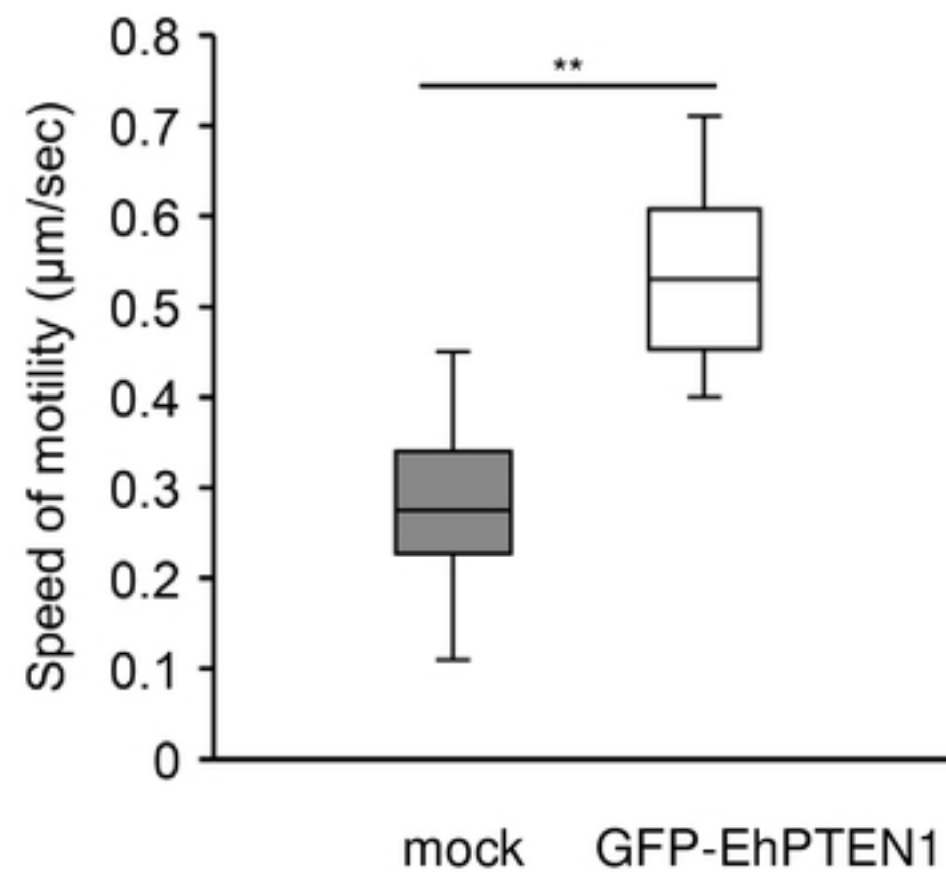
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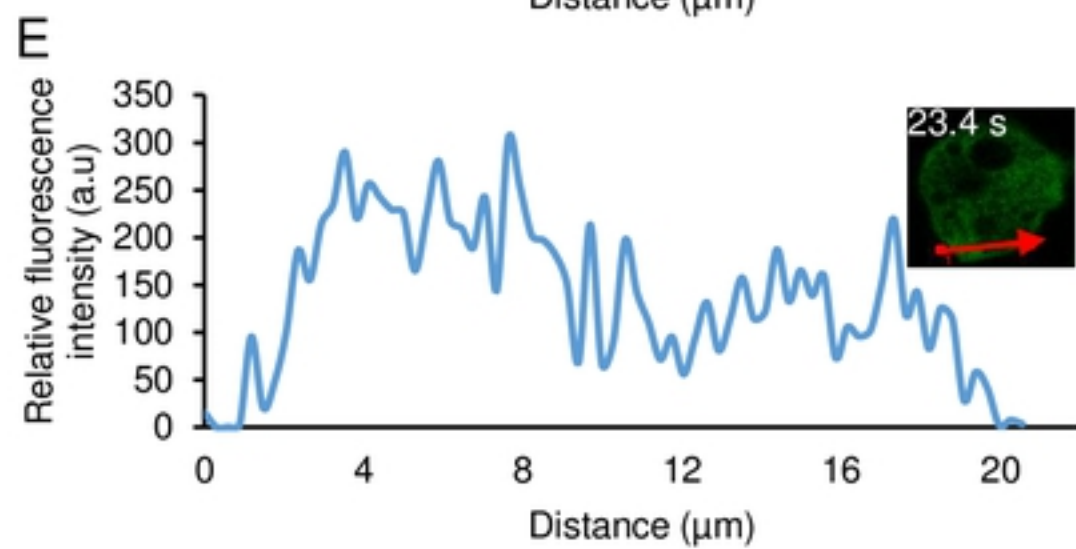
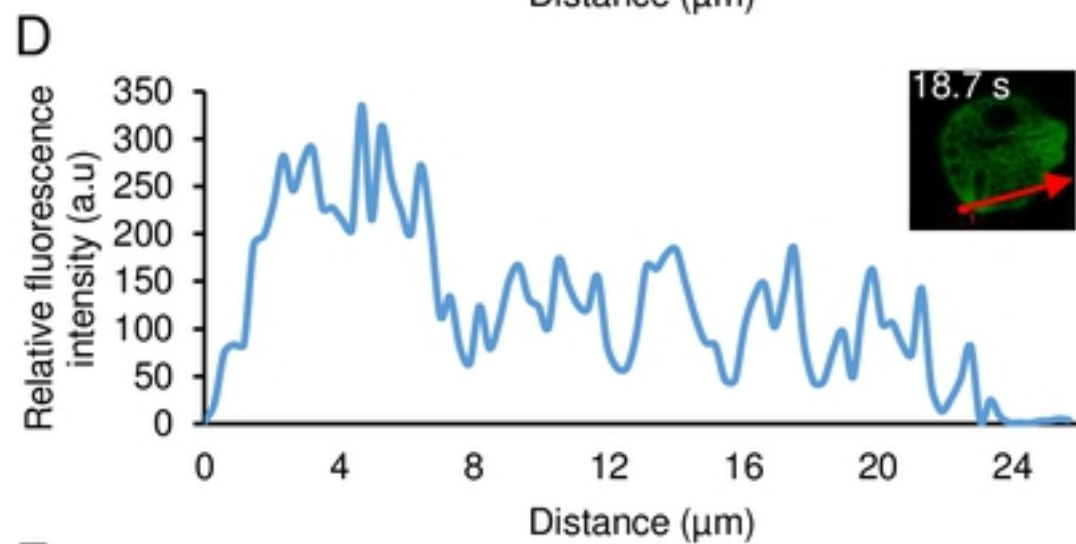
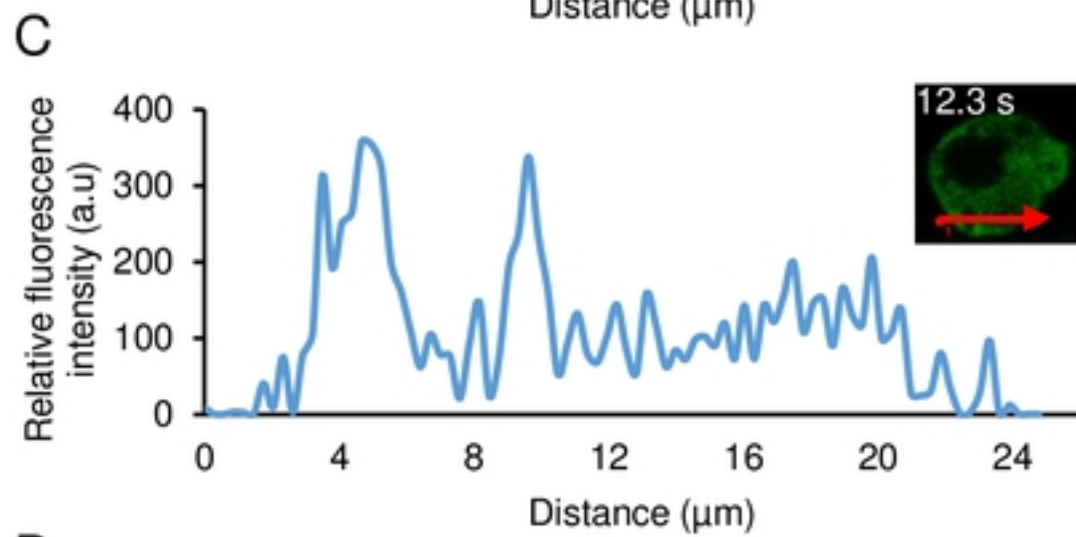
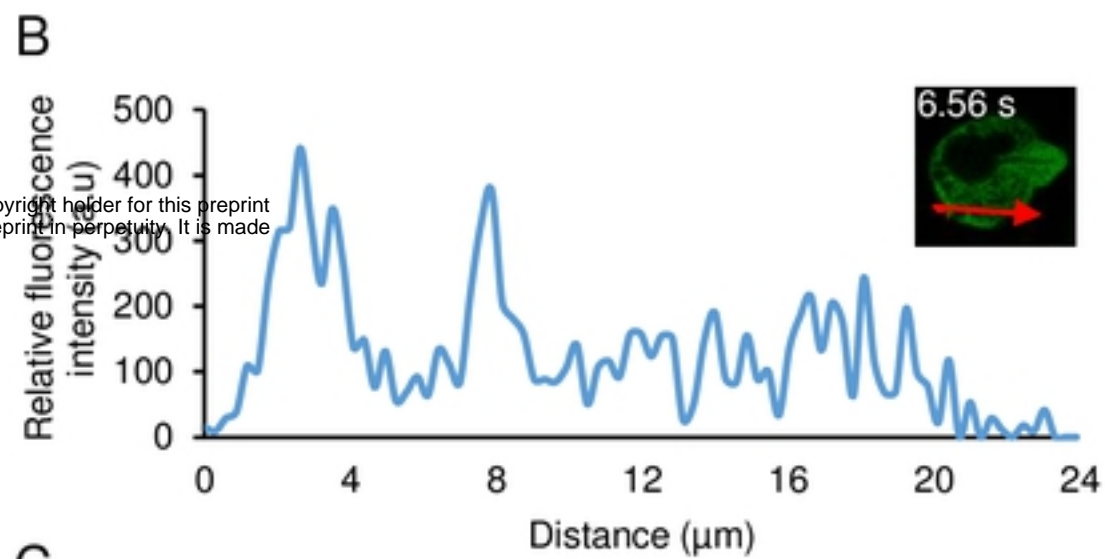
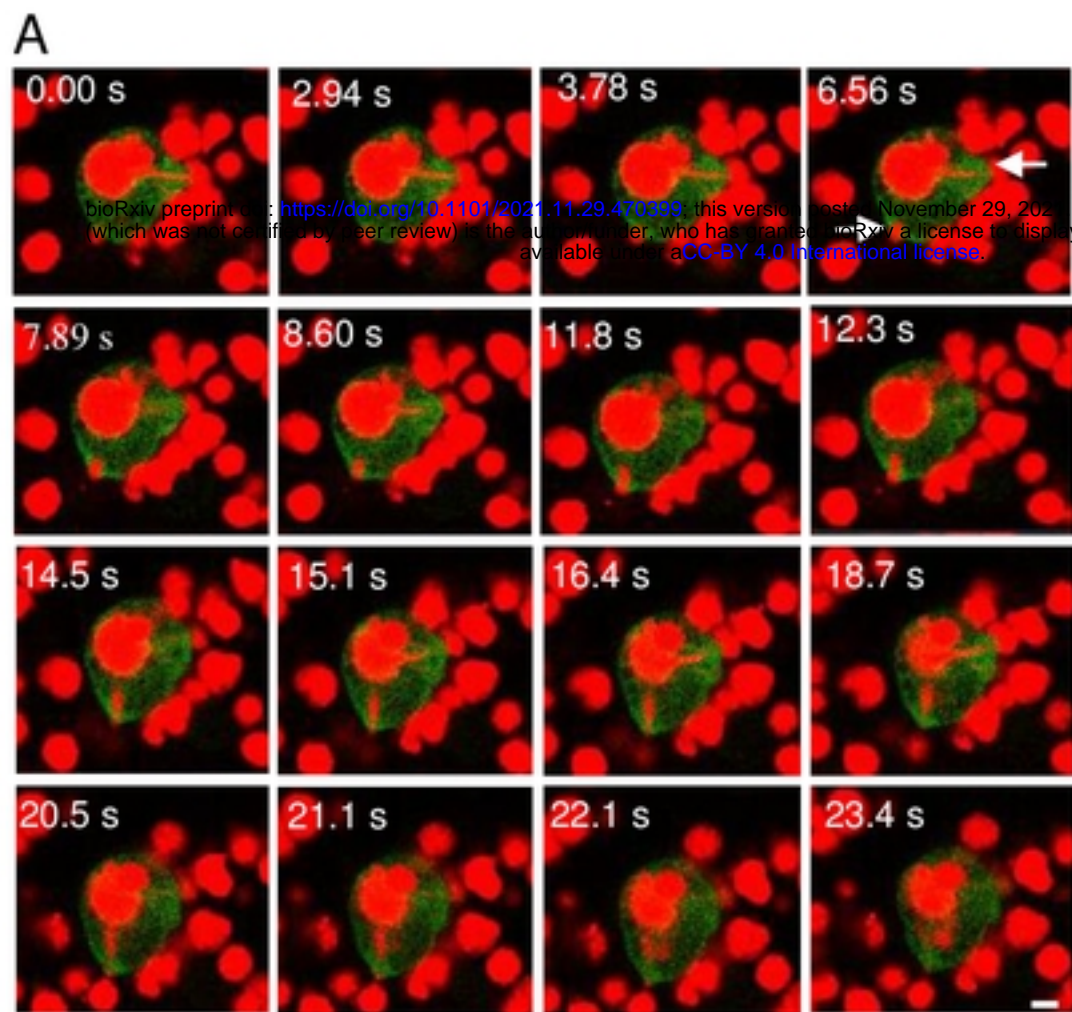


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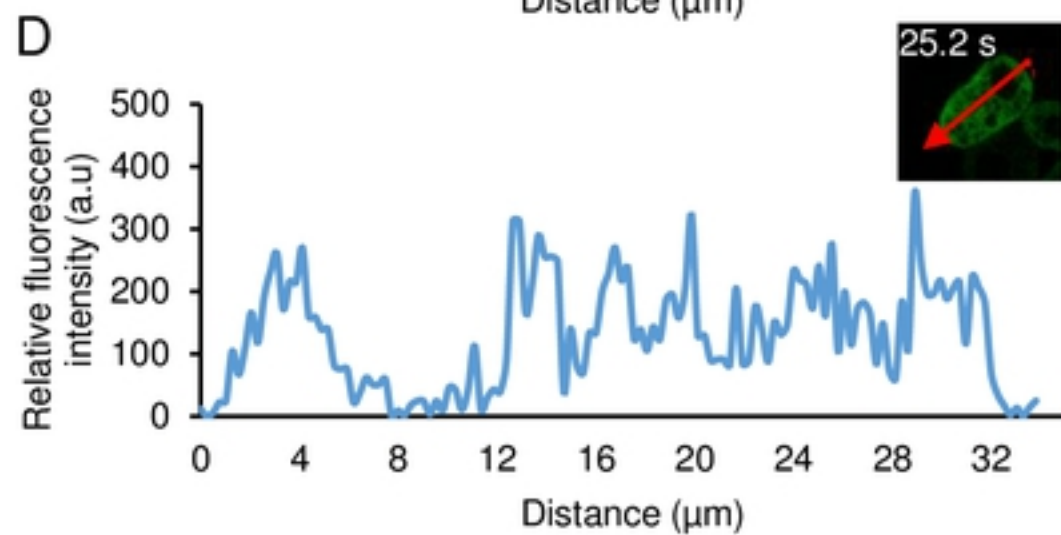
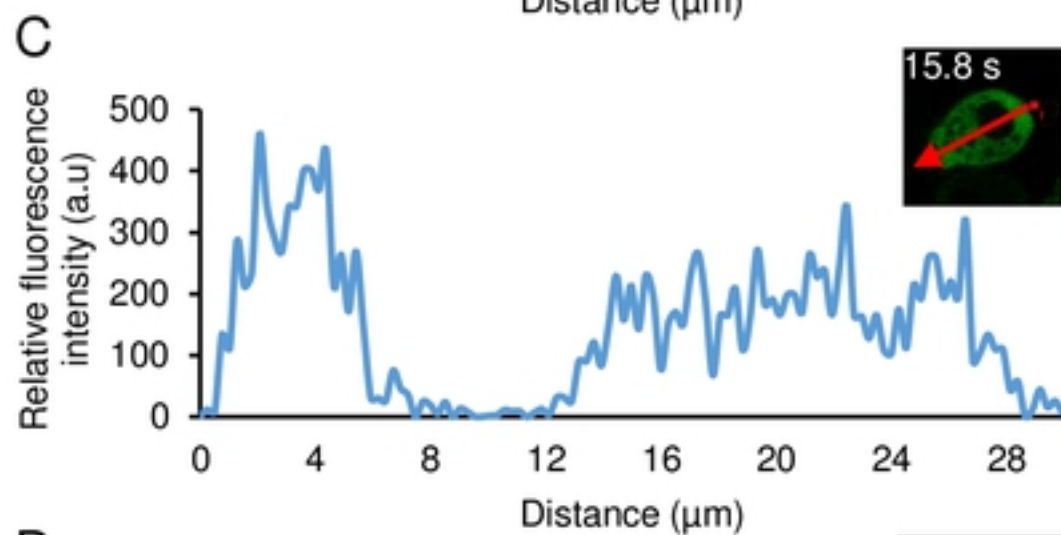
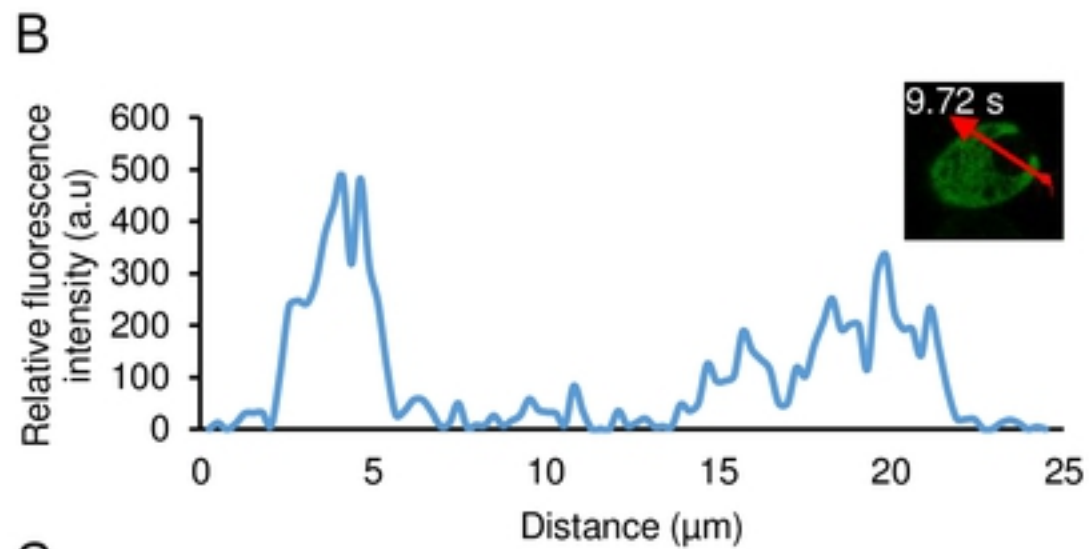
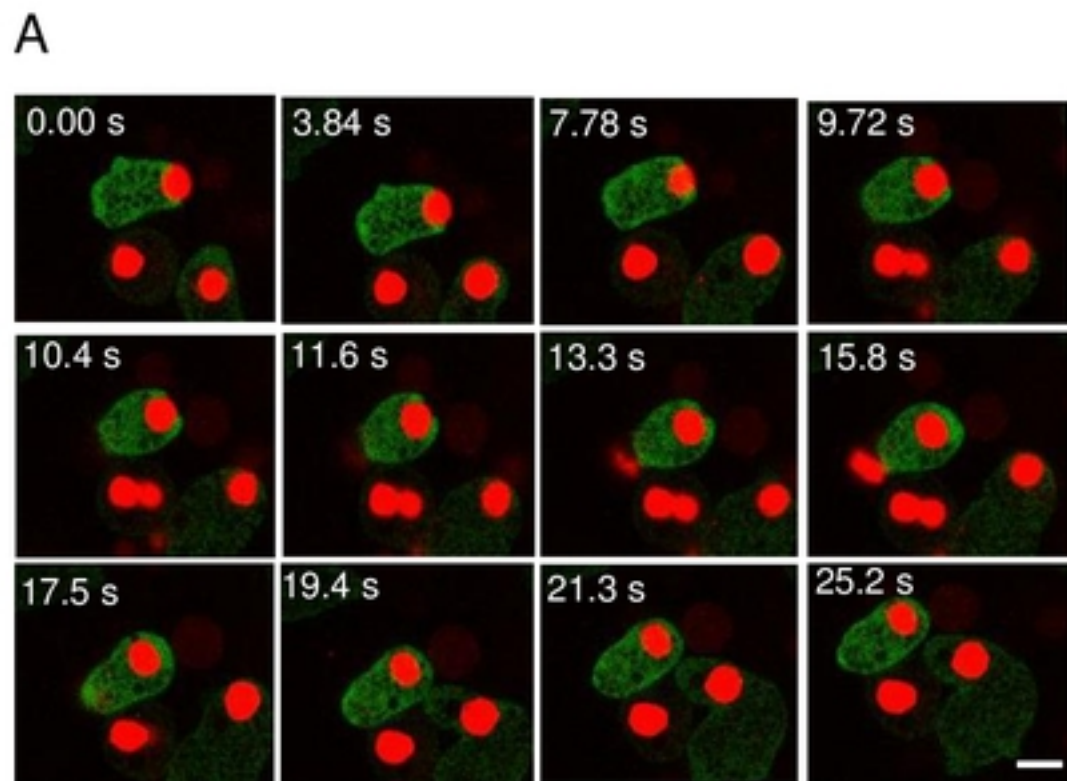
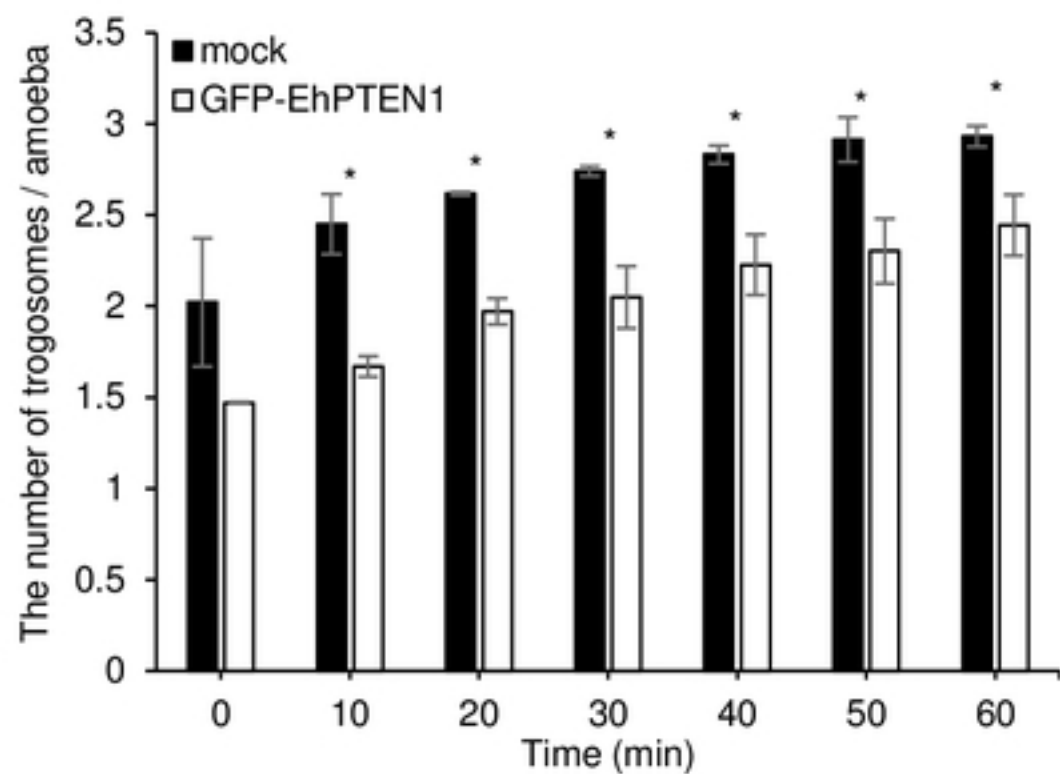
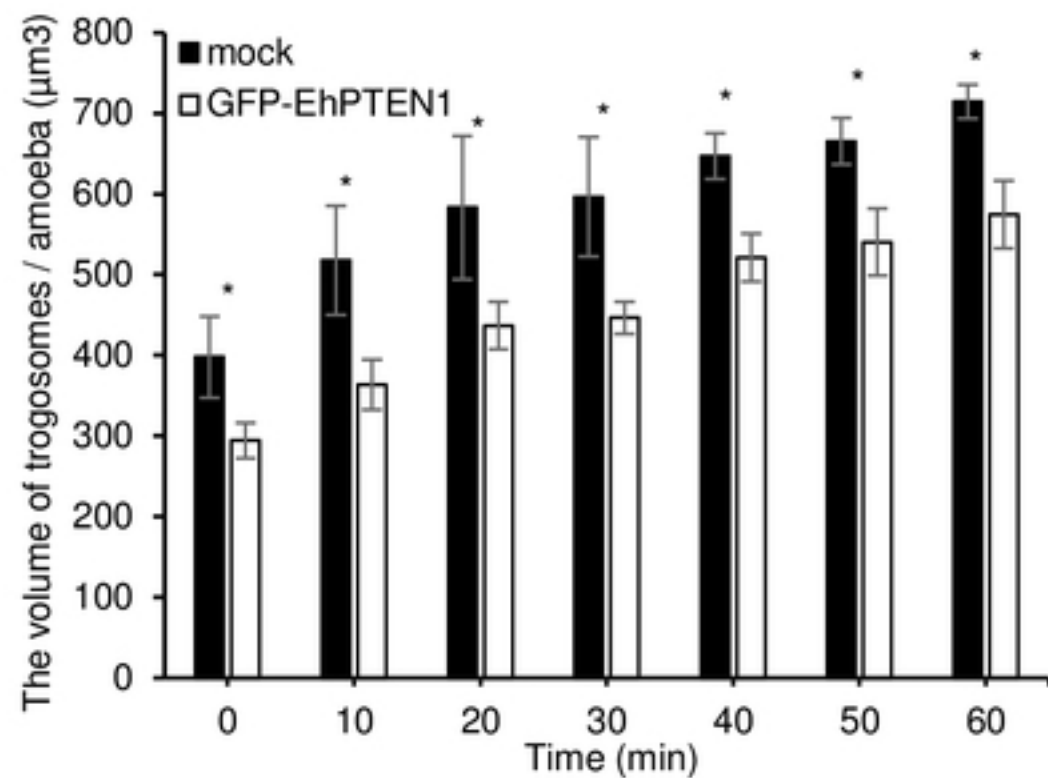


Fig4

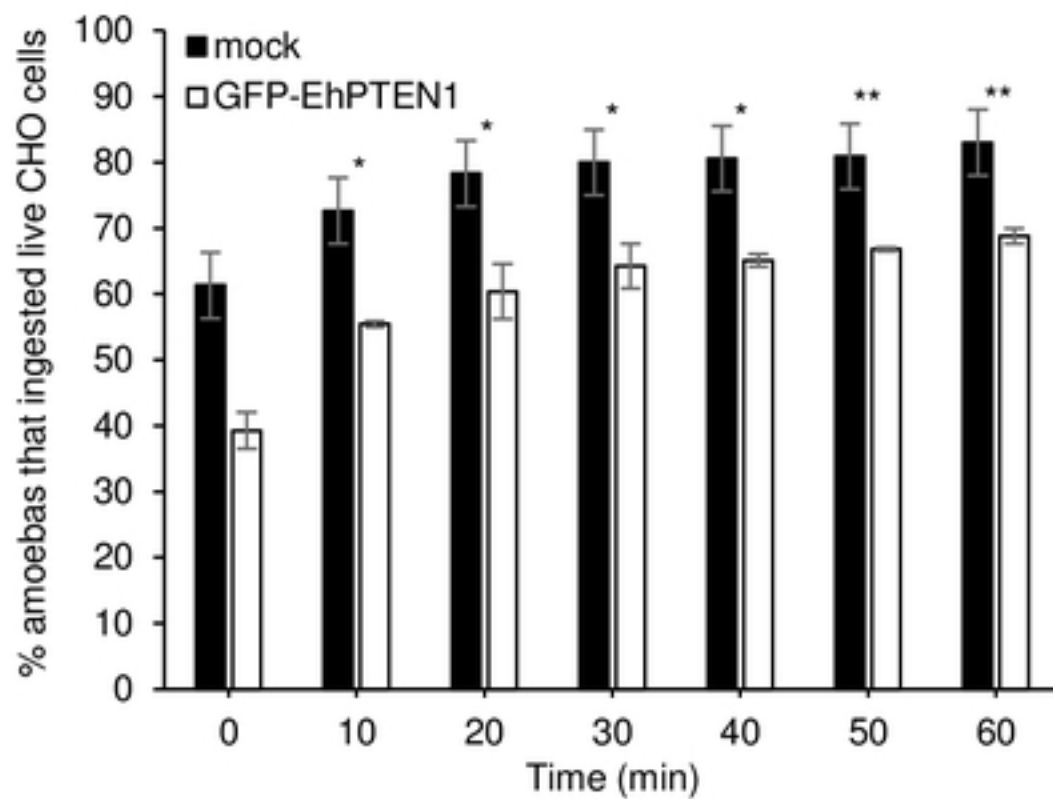
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C



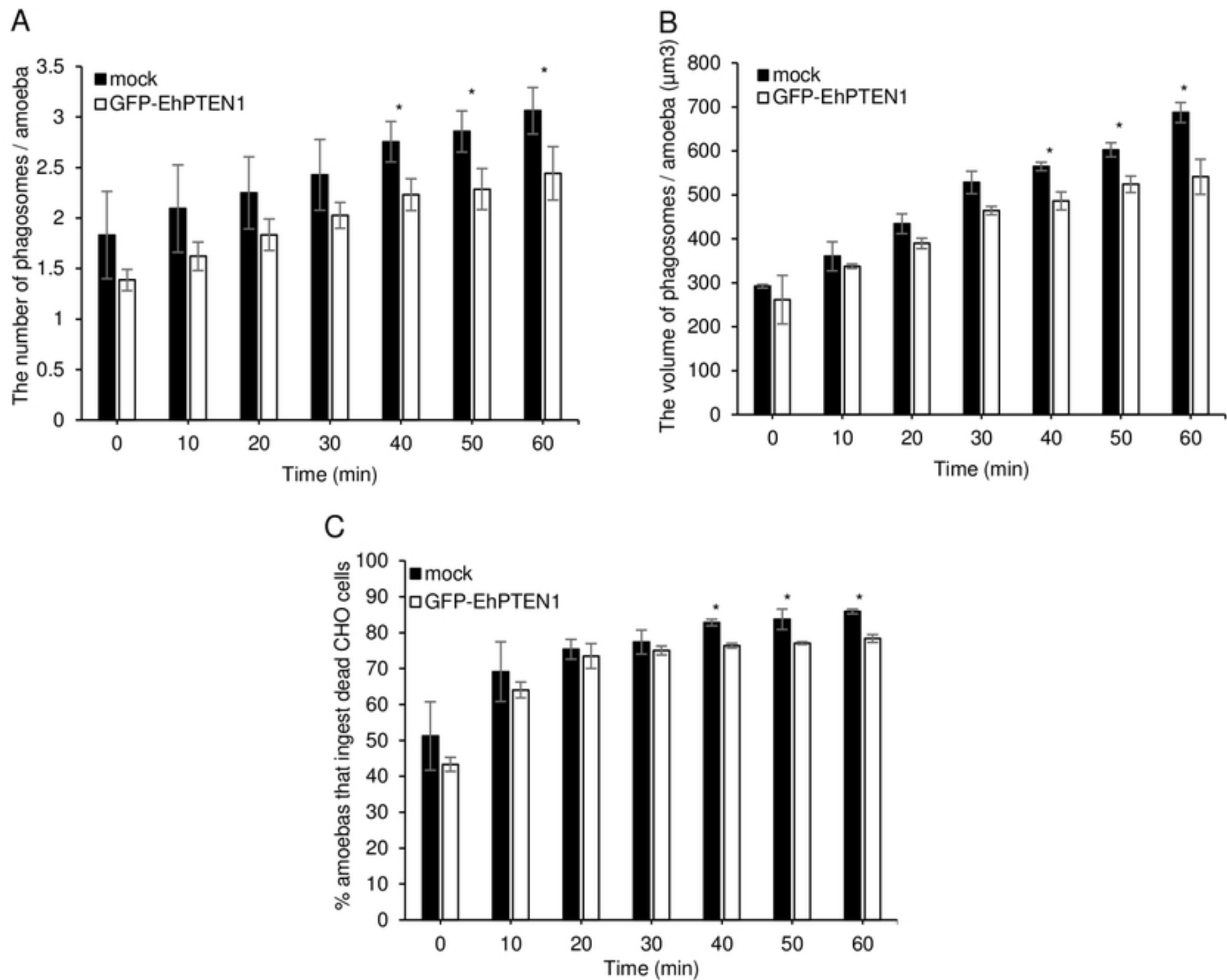
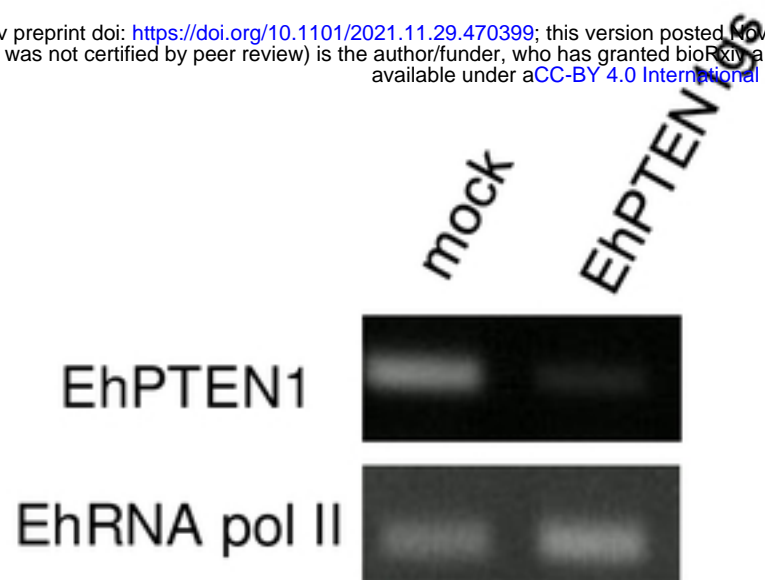


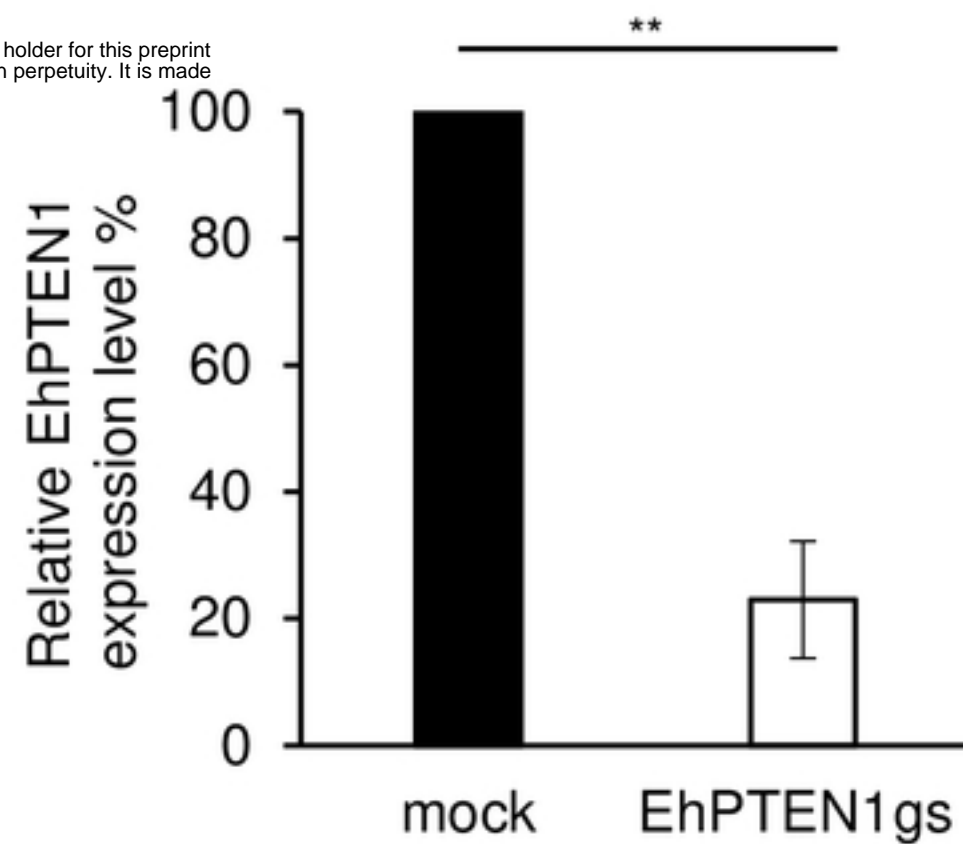
Fig6

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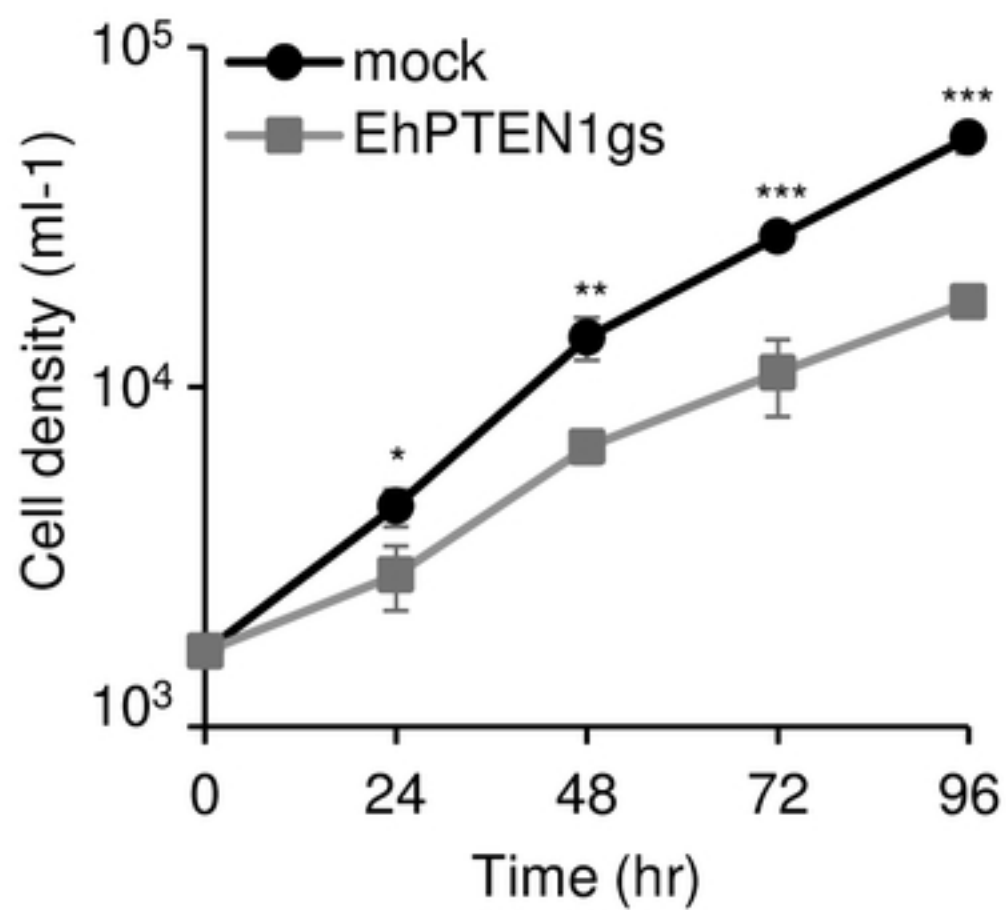
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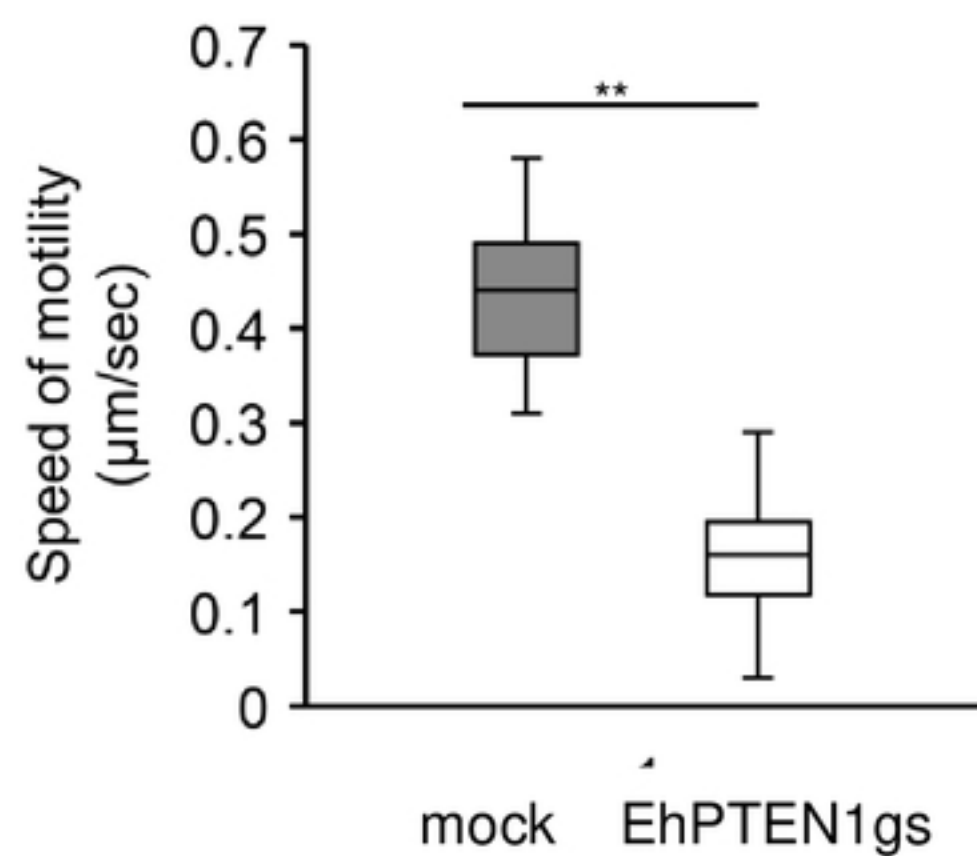
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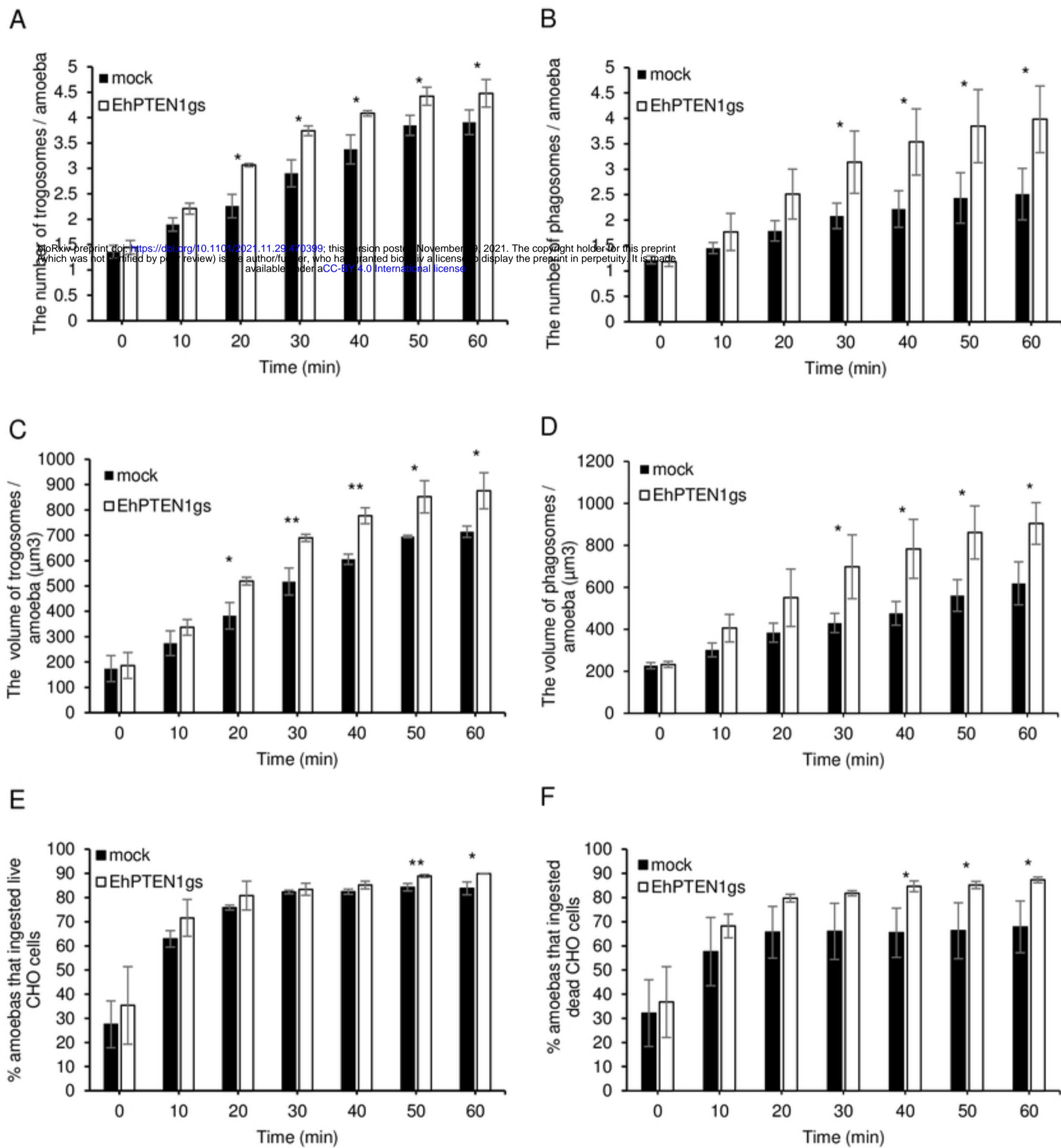


Fig8

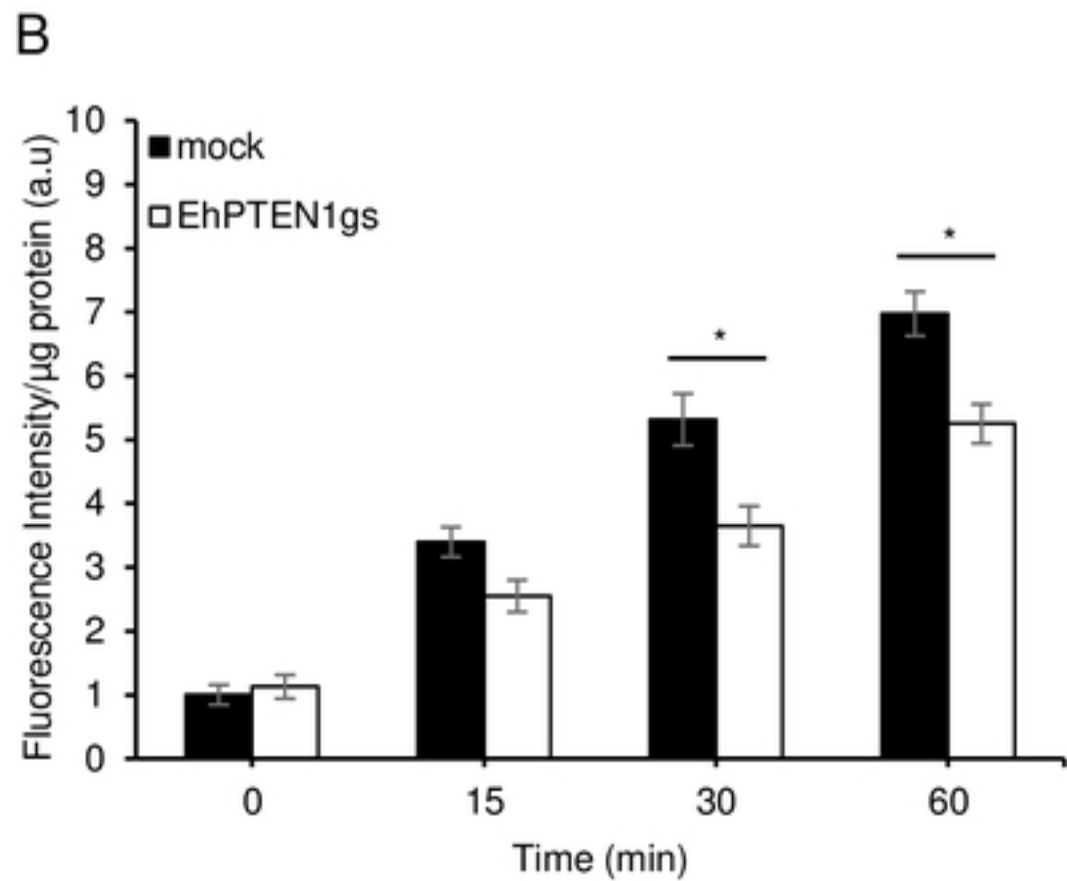
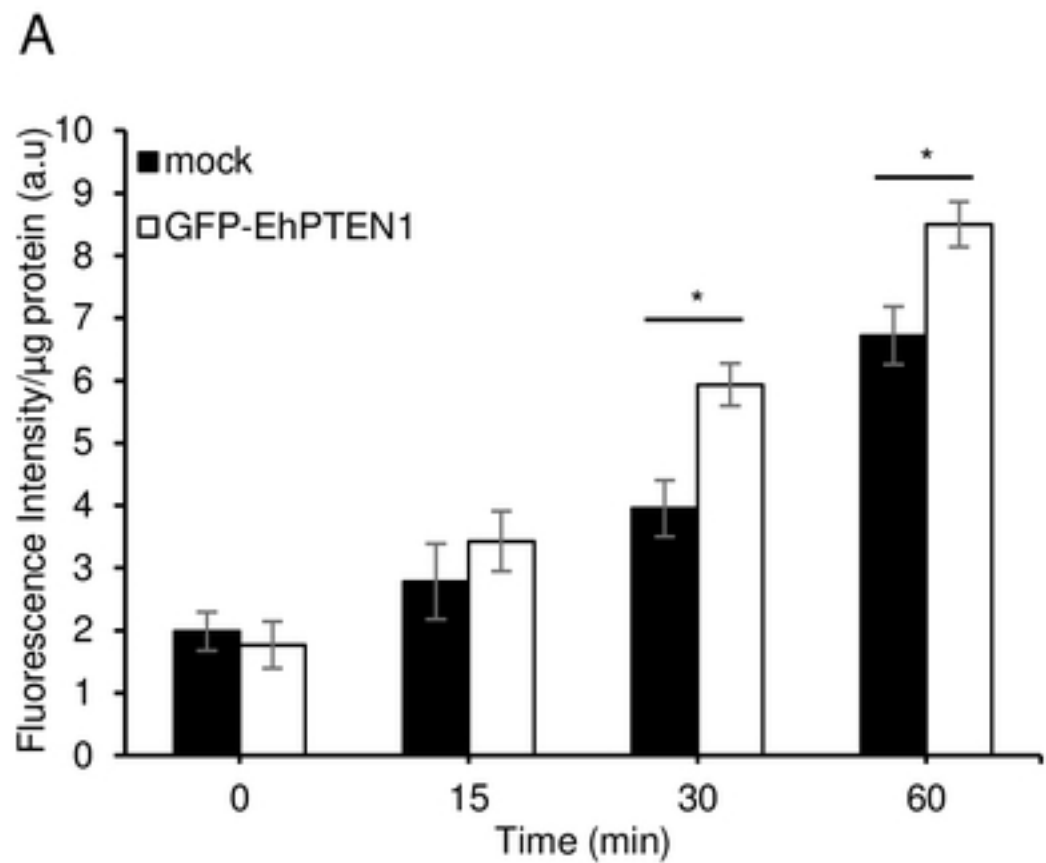


Fig9

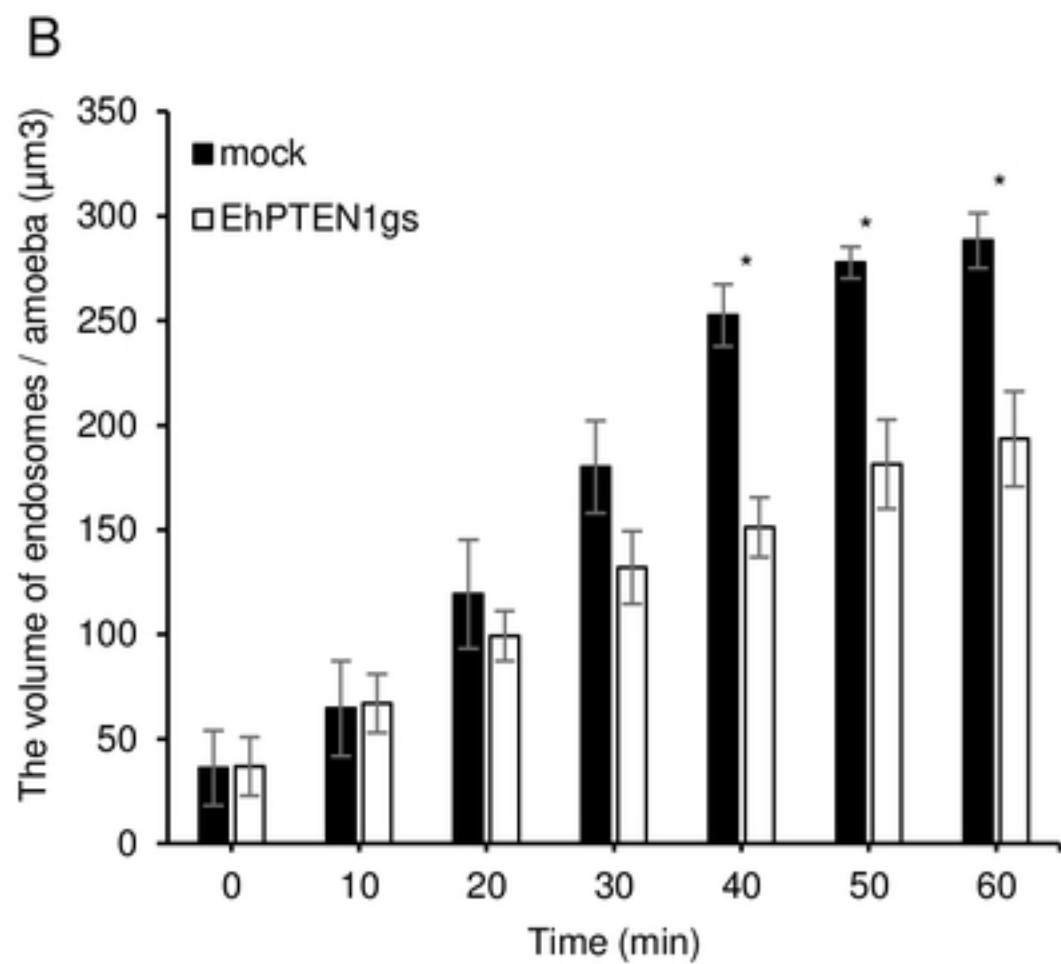
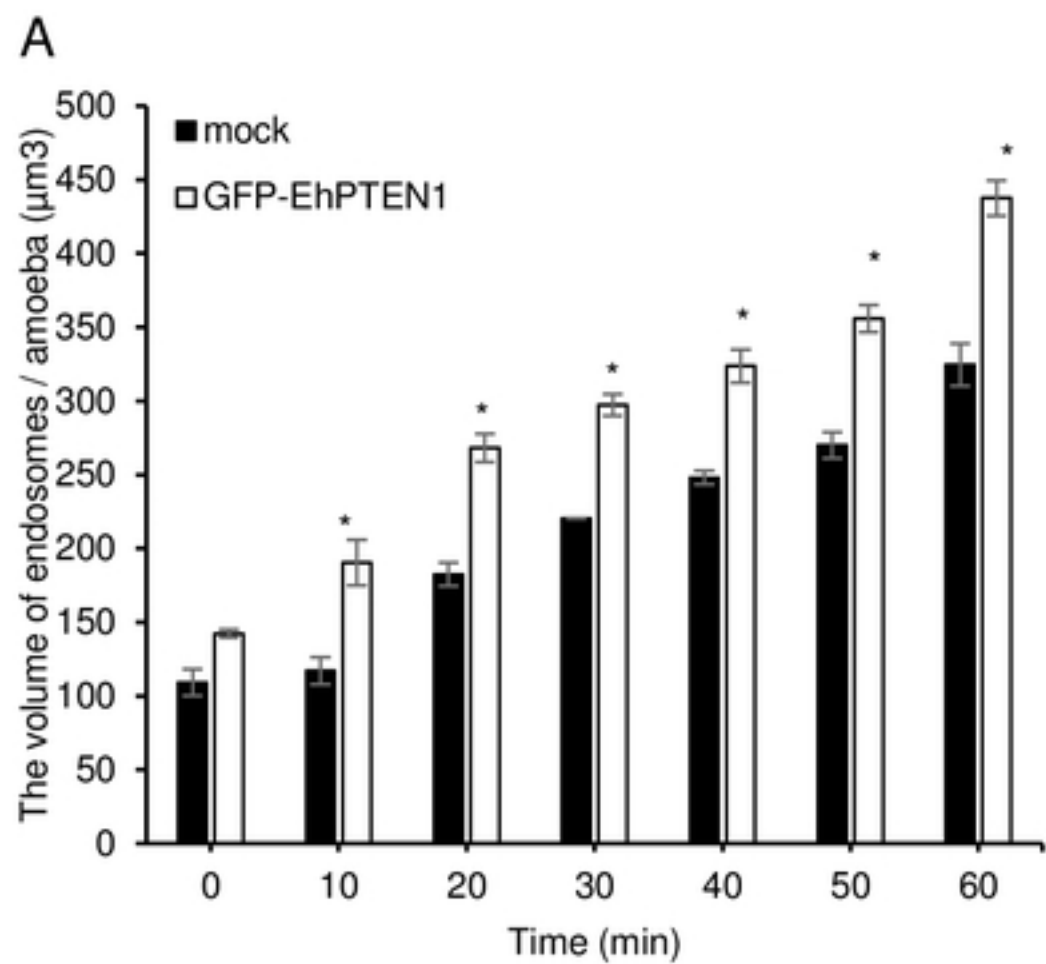


Fig10

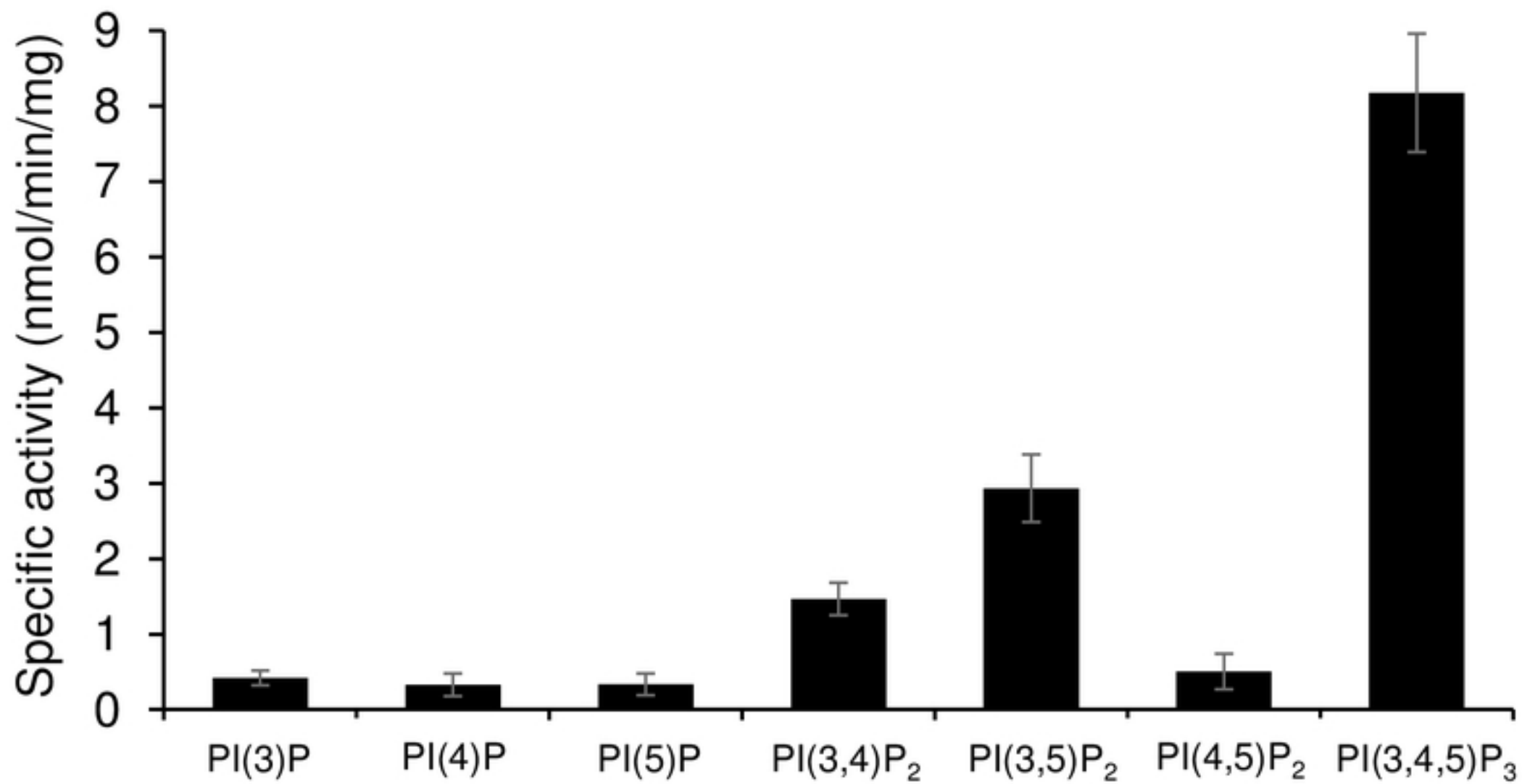


Fig11