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# PTP1B-dependent regulation of receptor tyrosine kinase signaling by the actin-binding protein Mena

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**ABSTRACT** During breast cancer progression, alternative mRNA splicing produces functionally distinct isoforms of Mena, an actin regulator with roles in cell migration and metastasis. Aggressive tumor cell subpopulations express Mena<sup>INV</sup>, which promotes tumor cell invasion by potentiating EGF responses. However, the mechanism by which this occurs is unknown. Here we report that Mena associates constitutively with the tyrosine phosphatase PTP1B and mediates a novel negative feedback mechanism that attenuates receptor tyrosine kinase signaling. On EGF stimulation, complexes containing Mena and PTP1B are recruited to the EGFR, causing receptor dephosphorylation and leading to decreased motility responses. Mena also interacts with the 5' inositol phosphatase SHIP2, which is important for the recruitment of the Mena-PTP1B complex to the EGFR. When Mena<sup>INV</sup> is expressed, PTP1B recruitment to the EGFR is impaired, providing a mechanism for growth factor sensitization to EGF, as well as HGF and IGF, and increased resistance to EGFR and Met inhibitors in signaling and motility assays. In sum, we demonstrate that Mena plays an important role in regulating growth factor-induced signaling. Disruption of this attenuation by Mena<sup>INV</sup> sensitizes tumor cells to low-growth factor concentrations, thereby increasing the migration and invasion responses that contribute to aggressive, malignant cell phenotypes.

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S.K.H. and M.J.O. designed and performed experiments, performed data analysis, and prepared the manuscript. F.B.G. guided overall experimental design and prepared the manuscript. J.T. performed in vitro binding assays, J.N. performed mass spectrometry, L.R. performed PIP2 and actin-cofilin FRET assays, J.C. and J.v.R. interpreted FRET experiments, J.B.W. and J.C. contributed the in vivo invasion assay, U.P. and J.T. performed Mena-SHIP2 coIP, and A.L. supported PLA assays. A.D.R. and B.A.J. analyzed mass spectrometry data. J.C., J.v.R., F.W., and D.A.L. guided experimental design and commented on the manuscript.

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Abbreviations used: CME, clathrin-mediated endocytosis; ECM, extracellular matrix; EGF, epidermal growth factor; EGFR, epidermal growth factor receptor; EVH, Ena/Vasp homology; GFP, green fluorescent proteins; GST, glutathione-S-transferase; HGF, hepatocyte growth factor; IGF, insulin growth factor; IGFR, insulin growth factor receptor; Immuno-EM, immuno-electron microscopy; IP, immuno-precipitation; LC-MS/MS, liquid chromatography tandem mass spectrometry; Lpd, lamellipodin; PLA, proximity ligation assay; PLC $\gamma$ , phospholipase C gamma; RTK, receptor tyrosine kinase; TKI, tyrosine kinase inhibitor; TMEM, tumor microenvironment of metastasis.

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## INTRODUCTION

Tumor initiation, growth, and malignant progression are governed by interactions between cancer cells and their microenvironment (Hanahan and Weinberg, 2011). Aggressive, invasive cancer cells exit the primary tumor in response to growth factors, extracellular matrix (ECM) proteins, and other signals that cause them to invade surrounding tissue. After extravasation, invasive cells migrate to and enter blood or lymphatic vessels and are transported to sites of metastasis (Joyce and Pollard, 2009). Invading cells encounter numerous signals that trigger multiple intracellular pathways, whose activity is integrated to evoke appropriate, spatiotemporally coordinated responses. Tumor cell migration within this complex microenvironment requires continuous, coordinated cytoskeletal remodeling, which matches corresponding dynamic changes in cell–matrix and cell–cell adhesion (Bear and Haugh, 2014). Although distinct tumor cell migration modalities have been described (Petrie and Yamada, 2012), motility is typically initiated by rapid actin polymerization-driven membrane protrusion in response to acute activation of epidermal growth factor receptor (EGFR) and other receptor tyrosine kinases (RTKs; Nürnberg *et al.*, 2011; Roussos *et al.*, 2011b). Many aspects of RTK-regulated actin remodeling have been established (Bear and Haugh, 2014), but little is known about whether, or how, actin networks provide feedback to RTKs.

The Mena protein acts via multiple processes that are important for tumor cell invasion and metastasis: actin polymerization, adhesion, and EGF-elicited motility responses (Gertler and Condeelis, 2011). Mena and the related vasodilator-stimulated phosphoprotein (VASP) and EVL proteins are members of the Ena/VASP family, which increase F-actin elongation rates and delay the termination of filament growth by capping proteins (Bear and Gertler, 2009; Hansen and Mullins, 2010; Breitsprecher *et al.*, 2011). Ena/VASP proteins localize primarily to lamellipodia and filopodia and sites of cell–matrix and cell–cell adhesion (Pula and Krause, 2008). They contain two highly conserved regions—an N-terminal Ena/VASP homology (EVH) 1 domain and a C-terminal EVH2 domain—as well as a central polyproline-rich core. The EVH1 domain mediates protein–protein interactions and typically binds to molecules via a conserved proline-rich motif (Ball *et al.*, 2002). The EVH2 domain harbors actin-binding motifs and a coiled-coil that mediates formation of stable Ena/VASP tetramers (Pula and Krause, 2008). Mena also contains an LERER repeat region not found in other Ena/VASP proteins, and multiple functionally distinct Mena isoforms are produced from alternatively spliced Mena mRNAs (Gertler and Condeelis, 2011).

Mena is up-regulated in breast cancers and other solid tumor types (Gertler and Condeelis, 2011). The aggressive mortality, morbidity, and metastatic burden associated with the polyoma middle T antigen–mouse mammary tumor virus transgenic mouse breast cancer model is almost fully eliminated by genetic ablation of Mena; Mena deficiency does not affect tumor formation or growth but does slow progression and decreases tumor cell invasion, intravasation, and metastasis (Roussos *et al.*, 2010). Highly migratory and invasive tumor cell subpopulations produce Mena mRNAs that contain a 57-nucleotide, alternately included exon (designated INV) to produce Mena<sup>INV</sup> (Gertler and Condeelis, 2011). Further, Mena<sup>INV</sup> mRNA levels in biopsies correlate with the density of Tumor Microenvironment of Metastasis (Roussos *et al.*, 2011c; Pignatelli *et al.*, 2014), a prognostic indicator of metastatic risk that consists of a Mena-expressing carcinoma cell, an endothelial cell, and a macrophage that are all in contact (Robinson *et al.*, 2009; Rohan *et al.*, 2014). Mena<sup>INV</sup> has effects on tumor cell behavior that are potent but differ from those of Mena in magnitude, type, or both (Gertler and Condeelis, 2011). Ectopic Mena<sup>INV</sup> sensitizes carcinoma cells to

EGF and allows them to extend lamellipodia, chemotax, or invade in response to significantly lower concentrations of EGF than required for similar responses by control cells (Philippart *et al.*, 2008; Roussos *et al.*, 2011a). Ectopic Mena<sup>INV</sup> also increases invasion, intravasation, and lung metastasis from xenograft mammary tumors. The mechanisms underlying Mena<sup>INV</sup>-driven increases in metastatic potential and tumor cell sensitivity to EGF are unknown.

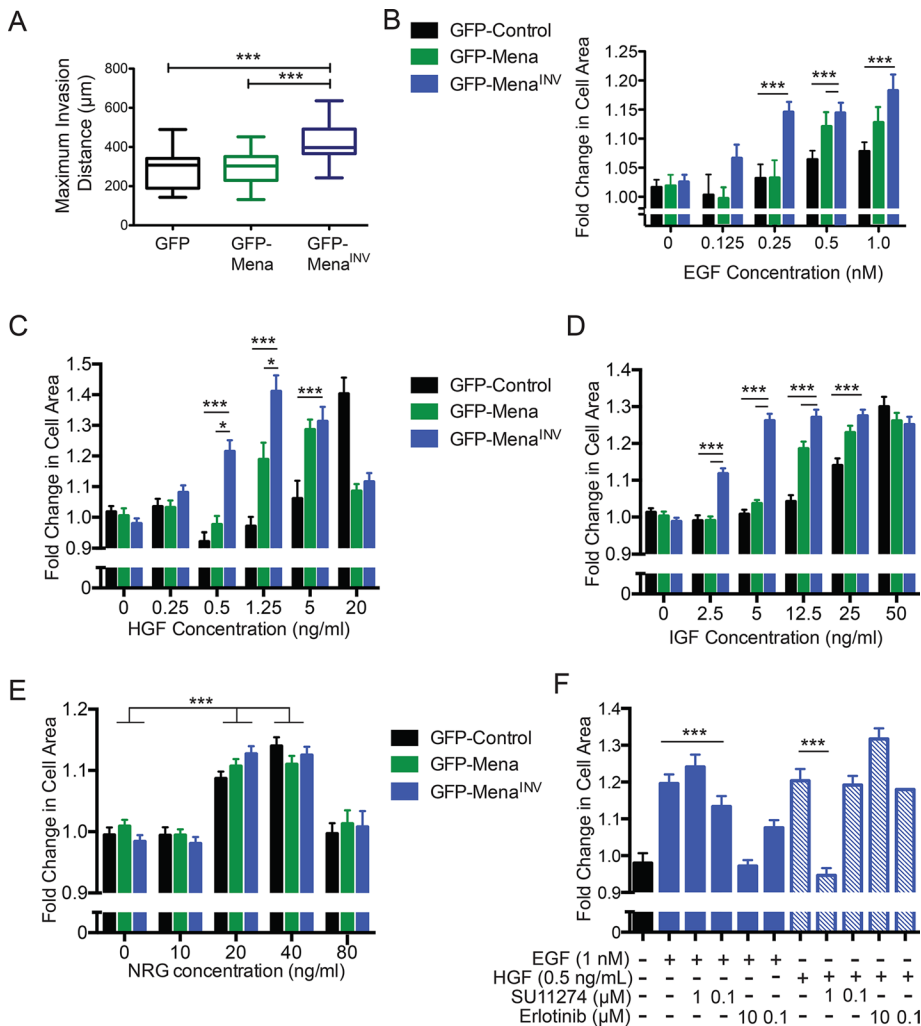
Here we show that Mena participates in a mechanism that attenuates RTK signaling by interacting with the tyrosine phosphatase PTP1B and the 5′ inositol phosphatase SHIP2. Expression of Mena<sup>INV</sup> disrupts this regulation and results in a prometastatic phenotype characterized by increased RTK/activation signaling from low ligand stimulation and decreased sensitivity to targeted RTK inhibitors. Overall our findings explain why Mena<sup>INV</sup>-expressing tumor cells display enhanced sensitivity to several growth factors both in vitro and in vivo.

## RESULTS

### Mena<sup>INV</sup> increases sensitivity to ligands for specific RTKs and confers resistance to targeted kinase inhibitors

Although Mena<sup>INV</sup> is expressed robustly in aggressive tumor cell populations harvested from rodent mammary carcinomas, and in biopsies of human breast cancer patients, we have been unable to identify immortalized breast cancer cell lines that express more than trace amounts of the Mena<sup>INV</sup> mRNA or protein. Thus, to facilitate analysis of the mechanism of Mena<sup>INV</sup>-dependent growth factor sensitization, we used human cell lines that ectopically express green fluorescent protein (GFP)–Mena, GFP–Mena<sup>INV</sup>, or GFP alone. Mena was found to be upregulated ~10-fold at the RNA level in invasive tumor cells collected from primary xenograft tumors, and therefore we engineered our cells to express levels roughly comparable to those seen in invasive cells from primary tumors (Wang *et al.*, 2004; Supplemental Figure S1). As expected, Mena<sup>INV</sup>-expressing cells invaded further into three-dimensional (3D) collagen gels (Figure 1A). When looking at lamellipodial protrusion, an assay that has been described as accurately predicting 3D invasion responses (Meyer *et al.*, 2012), we found that Mena<sup>INV</sup>-expressing cells exhibited increased lamellipodial protrusion in response to fourfold-lower EGF concentrations than required to elicit similar responses by GFP control cells (Figure 1B). Supplemental Figure S2 shows representative images of cells treated with EGF in this assay. Our engineered human cell lines thus faithfully replicate our previously published results demonstrating that ectopic expression of Mena<sup>INV</sup> in rat MTLn3 mammary adenocarcinoma cells enhanced protrusion responses elicited by stimulation with low EGF concentrations (Philippart *et al.*, 2008).

In addition to EGF, other growth factors can drive tumor invasion and metastasis. We thus asked whether Mena<sup>INV</sup> also increased sensitivity to three other breast cancer-relevant growth factors—insulin-like growth factor (IGF), hepatic growth factor (HGF), and neuregulin 1 (NRG1; Friedl and Alexander, 2011)—using the lamellipodial protrusion assay. Similar to the sensitization seen with EGF, ectopic GFP–Mena<sup>INV</sup> enabled MDA-MB231 cells to extend lamellipodia when stimulated with significantly lower IGF and HGF concentrations (20- and 5-fold, respectively) than required for similar responses by control cells (Figure 1, C and D). GFP–Mena-expressing cells exhibited approximately twofold increase in response to IGF and HGF (as well as EGF); however, these effects were modest compared with those induced by GFP–Mena<sup>INV</sup> (Figure 1, A–D). Thus Mena<sup>INV</sup> expression evokes enhanced tumor cell responses, which are mediated by at least three RTKs relevant to breast cancer progression: EGFR, IGFR, and Met (receptors for EGF, IGF, and HGF,



**FIGURE 1:** Mena<sup>INV</sup> expression confers sensitivity to select growth factors. (A) Invasion distance into 2 mg/ml collagen gel in full serum medium, using high-throughput 3D collagen invasion luvo platform (Bellbrook Labs) of MDA-MB231 cells expressing different Mena isoforms. \*\*\* $p < 0.001$  by nonparametric Kruskal–Wallis test and Dunn’s multiple-comparison test. (B) Dose-response of lamellipodial protrusion in MDA-MB231 cells, reflected by fold change in cell area 8 min after addition of EGF. Results shown as mean  $\pm$  SEM. Asterisks indicate significant difference by nonparametric Kruskal–Wallis test and Dunn’s multiple-comparison test, with comparisons indicated by lines above; 35–158 cells/condition. (C–E) Dose-response of lamellipodial protrusion in MDA-MB231 cells, reflected by fold change in cell area 8 min after addition of IGF (C), HGF (D), or NRG (E). Results shown as mean  $\pm$  SEM. Asterisks indicate significant difference by nonparametric Kruskal–Wallis test and Dunn’s multiple-comparison test, with comparisons indicated by lines above; 35–158 cells/condition. (F) Lamellipodial protrusion dose-response 8 min after costimulation with 1 nM EGF or 0.5 ng/ml HGF and SU11274 or erlotinib, respectively. Significance measured by nonparametric Kruskal–Wallis test and Dunn’s multiple-comparison test; \* $p < 0.05$ , \*\*\* $p < 0.001$  as indicated. See also Supplemental Figures S1 and S2.

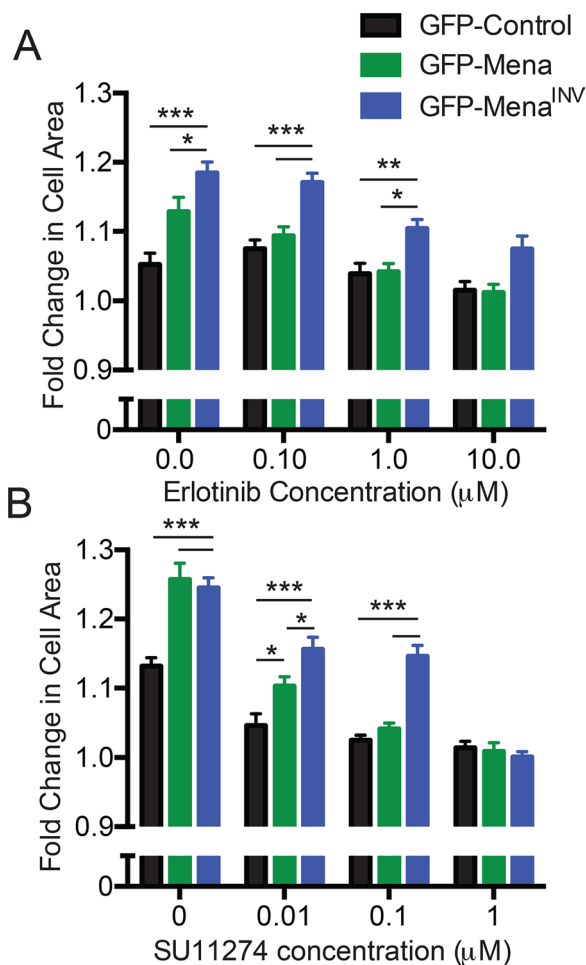
respectively; Alexander and Friedl, 2012). Note, however, that the response to NRG1, a ligand for HER3 and HER4, was unaffected by ectopic GFP-Mena or GFP-Mena<sup>INV</sup> (Figure 1E), indicating that the potentiating effects of Mena<sup>INV</sup> on RTK ligand sensitivity specifically affect only a subset of RTK signaling pathways. Because activation of Met by HGF decreases the efficacy of EGFR TKIs (Suda *et al.*, 2010; Gusenbauer *et al.*, 2013), we asked whether the Mena<sup>INV</sup>-mediated sensitivity to EGF and HGF involved cross-talk between the two receptors. Inhibition of EGFR using the EGFR tyrosine kinase inhibitor (TKI) erlotinib or of Met using the Met-TKI inhibitor

SU11274 in Mena<sup>INV</sup>-expressing cells had no effect on lamellipodial protrusion in response to HGF or EGF, respectively, indicating that the increased sensitivity to EGF and HGF observed in GFP-Mena<sup>INV</sup>-expressing cells was receptor specific (Figure 1F).

To analyze the effects of Mena<sup>INV</sup> on targeted RTK inhibitors, we performed dose-response experiments using the EGFR TKI erlotinib and the Met-TKI SU11274. Cells expressing GFP-Mena<sup>INV</sup> were resistant to at least 10-fold-greater inhibitor than required to block lamellipodial protrusion in GFP control cells (Figure 2, A and B). Collectively these data indicate that Mena<sup>INV</sup> confers increases in ligand sensitivity for responses by EGFR, Met, and IGF1R, as well as in resistance to EGFR- and Met- targeted TKIs.

### Mena<sup>INV</sup> dysregulates tyrosine kinase signaling

To address whether cell behaviors influenced by the Mena<sup>INV</sup>-induced increase in EGF sensitivity and resistance to erlotinib arise from increased actin polymerization (a process that is directly modulated by Mena), by a specific effect on EGFR pathway function, or both, we used anti-pY1173 antibodies to measure EGFR phosphorylation levels. We observed increased phosphorylation in cells expressing Mena<sup>INV</sup> compared with those expressing equivalent levels of ectopic Mena or GFP (Figure 3, A and B). Similarly, expression of Mena<sup>INV</sup> in a second triple-negative breast cancer cell line, BT-549, also significantly increased EGFR phosphorylation at Y1173 (Supplemental Figure S3). Despite the significant differences in magnitude, the relative kinetics of EGFR phosphorylation were similar across the cell lines stimulated with 0.25 nM EGF (Figure 3C) and mirrored the kinetics of membrane protrusion in MDA-MB-231 cells expressing Mena<sup>INV</sup>. Measurement of EGFR abundance and internalization indicated that the Mena<sup>INV</sup>-driven increase in EGFR phosphorylation was not attributable to increased total EGFR protein level or altered receptor internalization (Figure 3, D and E). Whereas Mena<sup>INV</sup> expression induced a small (<10%) increase in surface levels of EGFR (Figure 3F), this minor increase is unlikely to account for the observed Mena<sup>INV</sup>-dependent enhanced response to EGF, given that an ~10-fold increase in total EGFR level is required to increase lamellipodial protrusion detectably at the EGF concentrations tested (Bailey *et al.*, 2000). Furthermore, no apparent changes in EGFR clustering or spacing were evident in immunoelectron microscopy analyses (unpublished data). Overall these data indicate that the increased sensitivity to EGF conferred by Mena<sup>INV</sup> expression is unlikely to arise through changes in EGFR abundance or distribution.



**FIGURE 2:** Mena<sup>INV</sup> expression confers resistance to targeted kinase inhibitors. (A) Lamellipodial protrusion response after stimulation with 1 nM EGF and increasing erlotinib doses. Fold change in cell area calculated 8 min poststimulation. Results shown as mean  $\pm$  SEM; 16–48 cells/condition. Asterisks indicate significant difference by two-way analysis of variance (ANOVA). (B) Lamellipodial protrusion dose-response after costimulation with 0.5 ng/ml HGF and increasing SU11274. Fold change in cell area calculated 8 min poststimulation. Results shown as shown as mean  $\pm$  SEM; 39–71 cells/condition. Asterisks indicate significant difference by two-way ANOVA; \* $p < 0.05$ , \*\* $p < 0.01$ , and \*\*\* $p < 0.001$  as indicated.

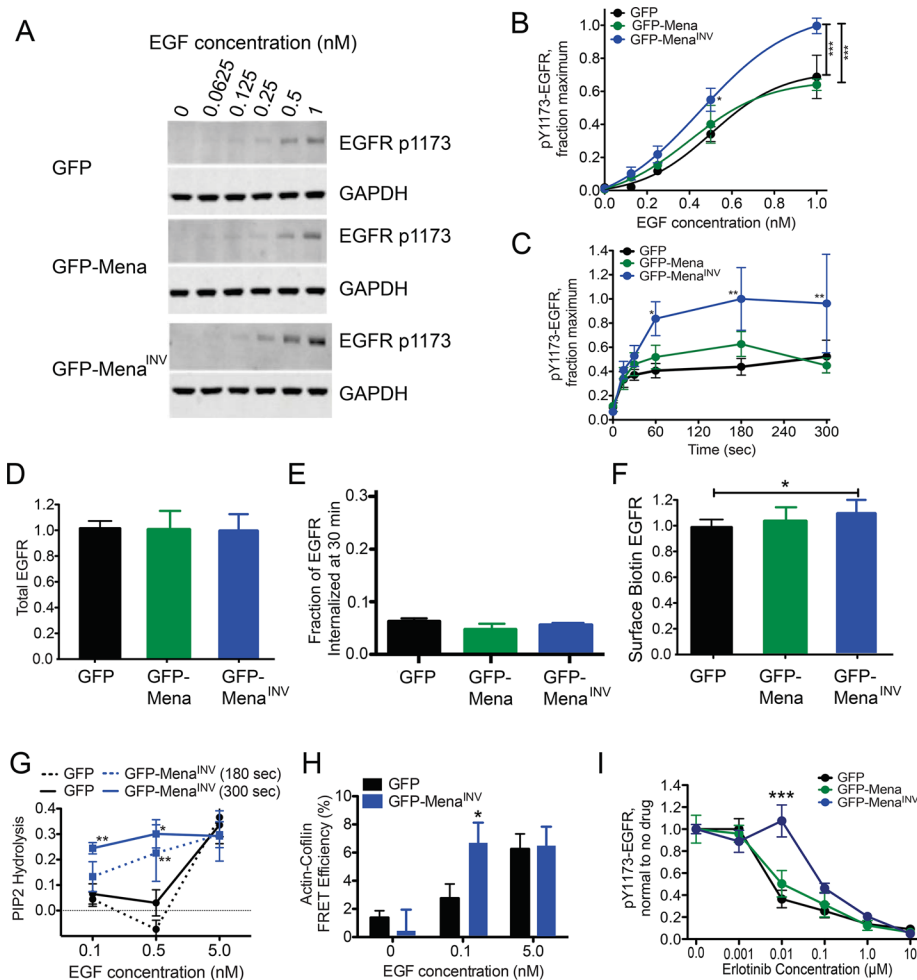
We reasoned that the ligand-dependent RTK activation that leads to Mena<sup>INV</sup>-induced increases in membrane protrusion should be reflected in increased activity of downstream signaling pathways that mediate the protrusion. Analysis of several canonical signaling components downstream of EGFR (such as Erk and Akt) revealed no obvious effect of Mena<sup>INV</sup> on their activities despite increased activation of the receptor itself (Philippart *et al.*, 2008). In breast cancer cells, the actin polymerization needed for EGF-elicited protrusion is initiated by the phospholipase C  $\gamma$  (PLC $\gamma$ )–cofilin pathway (van Rheenen *et al.*, 2007); therefore we asked whether EGFR-dependent activation of PLC $\gamma$  enzymatic activity is altered by Mena<sup>INV</sup>. PLC $\gamma$  activity can be quantified in living cells by measuring the abundance of its substrate, phosphatidylinositol 4,5-bisphosphate (PI(4,5)P<sub>2</sub>), using monomeric red fluorescent protein (mRFP)–PLC $\delta$ -PH, a reporter that is localized to the plasma membrane by binding to PI(4,5)P<sub>2</sub> and is released into the cytosol upon its hydrolysis (van Rheenen *et al.*, 2007). MDA-MB231 cells were unsuitable for this assay due to sensitivity to

expression of mRFP-PLC $\delta$ -PH; thus we performed the assay in MTLn3 mammary adenocarcinoma cell lines, which we used for our initial characterization of Mena<sup>INV</sup>-dependent effects on metastasis (Philippart *et al.*, 2008). Mena<sup>INV</sup> expression increased both PI(4,5)P<sub>2</sub> hydrolysis (Figure 3G) and cofilin activity (Figure 3H) in response to significantly less EGF than required to trigger similar responses in GFP control cells. Consistent with these data, Mena<sup>INV</sup>-expressing cells required 10-fold more erlotinib than controls to decrease ligand-induced EGFR phosphorylation significantly (Figure 3I). We conclude that Mena<sup>INV</sup> potentiates EGF-elicited responses by increasing the activity of EGFR-mediated signaling pathways that are upstream of, and are required for, the initiation of actin polymerization.

### Mena may associate with the tyrosine phosphatase PTP1B

Because abundance, surface levels, or internalization of EGFR did not account for the Mena<sup>INV</sup>-dependent increases in receptor phosphorylation and downstream signaling, we investigated other mechanisms that could increase RTK phosphorylation at a low ligand concentration. Activated RTKs cycle rapidly between phosphorylation and dephosphorylation; the half-life of EGFR tyrosine phosphorylation is  $\sim$ 10–30 s (Kleiman *et al.*, 2011). Changes in the balance of this rapid cycling are believed to control receptor sensitivity to ligand by altering net kinase activity. We hypothesized that Mena<sup>INV</sup>-dependent increases in ligand sensitivity could arise via increased net receptor phosphorylation due to dysregulation of a phosphatase. The tyrosine phosphatase PTP1B (PTPN1) regulates EGFR, IGFR, and MET-mediated signaling responses (Haj *et al.*, 2003; Sangwan *et al.*, 2011), and, given that Mena<sup>INV</sup> sensitizes responses to ligands of all three RTKs (Figure 1), we asked whether Mena is involved in PTP1B regulation.

PTP1B contains the sequence LEPPPEHIPP, with similarities to the consensus EVH1-binding motif ([F/L/W/PX $\phi$ P]; X = any residue,  $\phi$  = any hydrophobic residue; Ball *et al.*, 2002; Pula and Krause, 2008), raising the possibility that PTP1B binds to Mena through its EVH1 domain and thereby allows Mena/Mena<sup>INV</sup> to modulate RTK dephosphorylation. We used purified, recombinant glutathione S-transferase (GST)–PTP1B and His-Mini-Mena proteins to test whether PTP1B can bind Mena directly. Immobilized GST-PTP1B, but not the immobilized control GST protein, bound to soluble, purified His-Mini-Mena in vitro (Figure 4A). To determine whether endogenous Mena and PTP1B are present in protein complexes in situ, we used proximity ligation assays (PLAs). To confirm the specificity of the assay, we performed control PLAs using only one antibody or in Mena<sup>-/-</sup> cells (Supplemental Figure S4, A and B), which significantly reduced the detected PLA signal. Furthermore, transient knockdown of PTP1B expression in MDA-MB231 cells also reduced the Mena-PTP1B PLA signal, further supporting the specificity of this assay for Mena/PTP1B-containing complexes (Supplemental Figure S4, C–E). Significant PLA signal between Mena and PTP1B was observed in MDA-MB231 cells and was unchanged by EGF stimulation, indicating that Mena and PTP1B are in complex independent of EGFR signaling (Figure 4B). Quantification of Mena-PTP1B PLA signal abundance across four human breast cancer cell lines revealed that the amount of Mena-PTP1B PLA signal was correlated with PTP1B expression levels (Figure 4, C–E). The extremely low levels of Mena<sup>INV</sup> normally expressed in cultured cell lines precluded use of PLA to determine whether endogenous Mena<sup>INV</sup> is present in complexes with PTP1B. These results, however, demonstrate that PTP1B and Mena can directly bind each other in vitro and that complexes containing endogenously expressed Mena and PTP1B can be detected within breast cancer cells by PLA.



**FIGURE 3:** Mena<sup>INV</sup> expression does not affect EGFR presentation but increases signaling pathway activation at low levels of EGF. (A) Representative Western blot of MDA-MB231 cells expressing GFP, GFP-Mena, or GFP-Mena<sup>INV</sup> stimulated after bolus stimulation with EGF for 3 min. (B) Quantification of EGFR phosphorylation at Y1173 shown in A by densitometry. Results are mean ± SD; three experiments. Asterisks indicate significant difference by ANOVA with Tukey multiple-comparison test (\**p* < 0.05 vs. MDA-MB231-GFP cells, \*\*\**p* < 0.001). (C) Time course of EGFR phosphorylation at Y1173 in response to 0.25 nM EGF. Asterisks indicate significant difference by ANOVA with Tukey multiple-comparison test (\**p* < 0.05 vs. MDA-MB231-GFP cells at 0.5 nM or \*\**p* < 0.01 vs. conditions indicated by bar). (D) Total EGFR protein normalized to GFP control measured by ELISA. *n* > 10 for each bar in MDA-MB231 cells. Data shown as mean ± SD. (E) Fraction of total EGFR internalized at basal (no EGF) conditions in serum-free medium after 30 min at 37°C. Data shown as mean ± range; *n* = 2. (F) Membrane level of EGFR measured by biotin labeling of surface proteins, EGFR capture ELISA, and detection of protein by HRP-labeled streptavidin in MDA-MB231 cells. Data normalized to GFP control cells in each experiment. Data shown as mean ± SD; *n* > 10 for each bar. (G) Fraction of PI(4,5)P2 lost from the cell membrane at specified time after EGF stimulation, measured using PLCδ-PH domain FRET assay in MTLn3 cells. \**p* < 0.05 and \*\**p* < 0.01 vs. GFP at respective time point using ANOVA with Tukey posttest. (H) Cofilin activity, reflected by the amount of cofilin bound to actin quantified by an antibody FRET assay 300 s after EGF stimulation in MTLn3 cells. \**p* < 0.05 vs. GFP at respective EGF concentration using two-tailed *t* test. (I) EGFR phosphorylation dose-response 3 min poststimulation with 1 nM EGF and increasing erlotinib in MDA-MB231 cells. Data shown as mean ± SEM; \*\*\**p* < 0.001 vs. MDA-MB231-GFP and GFP-Mena by two-way ANOVA. See Supplemental Figure S3.

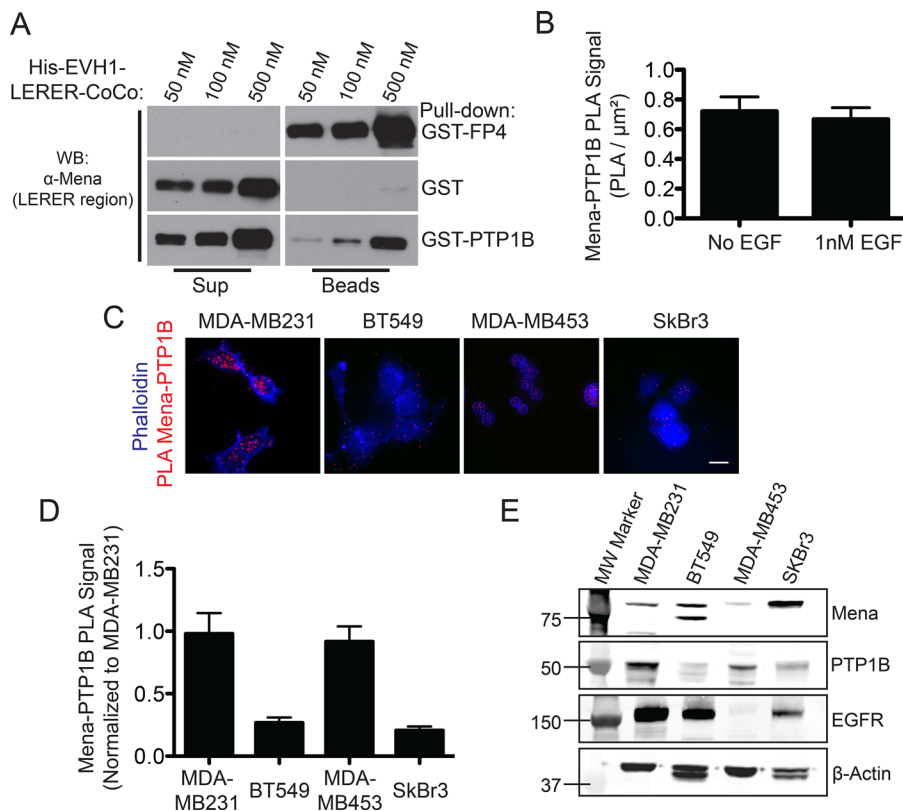
### Inhibition of PTP1B phosphatase activity phenocopies Mena<sup>INV</sup> expression

We next hypothesized that Mena<sup>INV</sup> decreases negative regulation of RTK activity by PTP1B and, thus, that specific inhibition of PTP1B will mimic some or all of the effects of Mena<sup>INV</sup> on EGF responses. Treatment with a specific PTP1B inhibitor increased membrane protrusion

in response to 0.25 nM EGF by both MDA-MB231-GFP-Mena<sup>-</sup> and GFP-expressing control cells but not in MDA-MB231-GFP-Mena<sup>INV</sup> cells (Figure 5A). Therefore PTP1B inhibition mimics Mena<sup>INV</sup>-dependent increased sensitivity to EGF but cannot induce EGF responses of greater magnitude in cells expressing Mena<sup>INV</sup>. PTP1B inhibition also increased the magnitude and kinetics of membrane protrusion in parental MTLn3 cells in response to 0.5 nM EGF, confirming that the effects of PTP1B inhibition were not cell-type dependent (Supplemental Figure S5A). Further, PTP1B inhibition did not increase membrane protrusion in cells expressing Mena<sup>INV</sup> in response to 0.125 nM EGF (Supplemental Figure S5B), a concentration below the threshold required to elicit significant membrane protrusion or EGFR activation in Mena<sup>INV</sup>-expressing cells (Figure 1B), suggesting that PTP1B inhibition alone is not sufficient to drive membrane protrusion independently of EGFR activation.

We next asked whether decreasing PTP1B activity mimics the effects of Mena<sup>INV</sup> expression on EGF-dependent tumor cell invasion in vitro or in vivo. PTP1B inhibition increased EGF-elicited invasion of MDA-MB231-GFP and -GFP-Mena<sup>-</sup> expressing cells into collagen I gels but had no significant effect on cells expressing Mena<sup>INV</sup> (Figure 5B). Expression of Mena<sup>INV</sup> in xenografted tumor cells decreases the concentration of EGF required for efficient chemotaxis/invasion by 25-fold in vivo (Roussos et al., 2011a); we thus asked whether PTP1B inhibition similarly increases the EGF sensitivity of invading cells in tumors. Consistent with the in vitro assays, a dose-response analysis using the in vivo invasion assay (Wyckoff et al., 2000) on xenografts showed that PTP1B inhibition increased the sensitivity of control cells to EGF: maximal tumor cell invasion was elicited into needles containing 5 nM EGF, a fivefold-lower concentration than normally required for such a response (Figure 5C). Furthermore, PTP1B inhibition had no effect at any of the EGF concentrations assayed on invasion in xenograft tumors arising from Mena<sup>INV</sup>-expressing cells (Figure 5C). In sum, these data indicate that PTP1B inhibition mimics the effects of Mena<sup>INV</sup> on EGF-elicited motility, chemotaxis, and invasion in vitro and in vivo but does not increase EGF responses in cells that express Mena<sup>INV</sup>.

Because the effects of Mena<sup>INV</sup> on biophysical cell responses to EGF are mimicked by PTP1B inhibition, we asked whether Mena<sup>INV</sup> similarly dysregulated EGFR signaling. Pretreatment with PTP1B inhibitor increased EGFR Y1173 phosphorylation in control cells stimulated with 0.25 nM EGF but failed to increase Y1173 phosphorylation further in Mena<sup>INV</sup>-expressing cells (Figure 5D). In addition,



**FIGURE 4:** Mena interacts with PTP1B. (A) In vitro binding assay using immobilized GST-PTP1B and increasing concentrations of soluble His-Mena (containing Mena EVH1-LERER domains linked to the C-terminal coiled-coil; bottom lanes). Positive control with GST-PP4 (top lanes) and negative control with glutathione beads + GST alone (middle lanes) included to demonstrate assay specificity. Blots from representative experiment;  $n = 3$ . (B) Quantification of PLA for PTP1B and Mena in wild-type MDA-MB231  $\pm 1$  nM EGF for 60 s. Data shown as mean  $\pm$  SEM. Specificity of assay established using Mena<sup>-/-</sup> mouse embryonic fibroblasts, where background signal was negligible (data not shown). (C) Representative images for PTP1B-Mena PLA in four breast cancer cell lines: MDA-MB231, BT549, MDA-MB453, and SkBr3. (D) Mena-PTP1B PLA across four human breast cancer cell lines compared with signal measured in wild-type MDA-MB231 cells. Data shown as mean PLA/ $\mu\text{m}^2$  normalized to MDA-MB231  $\pm$  SEM (E) Western blot showing expression of Mena, PTP1B, and EGFR in four human breast cancer cell lines. See Supplemental Figure S4.

wild-type MTLn3 cells treated with the PTP1B inhibitor exhibited significantly greater PI(4,5)P<sub>2</sub> hydrolysis after EGF stimulation (Supplemental Figure S5C), similar to the increased PLC $\gamma$  activity exhibited by cells expressing Mena<sup>INV</sup> (Figure 3).

To identify other network participants that are dysregulated by Mena<sup>INV</sup> expression, we used liquid chromatography–tandem mass spectrometry (LC-MS/MS)–based phosphoproteomics to quantify tyrosine phosphorylation after incubation with or without 0.25 nM EGF. We detected 54 tyrosine phosphorylation sites across 41 proteins in at least biological duplicate (Supplemental Figure S6); phosphorylation across the 54 sites was significantly higher in cells expressing Mena<sup>INV</sup> versus control cells ( $p = 0.015$ ). Of the identified proteins, 12 are known PTP1B substrates; as a group, these exhibited significantly higher phosphorylation in Mena<sup>INV</sup>-expressing cells than in controls ( $p = 0.0078$ ); however, these 12 were not significantly more phosphorylated than the 54 phosphorylation sites overall ( $p = 0.06$ ).

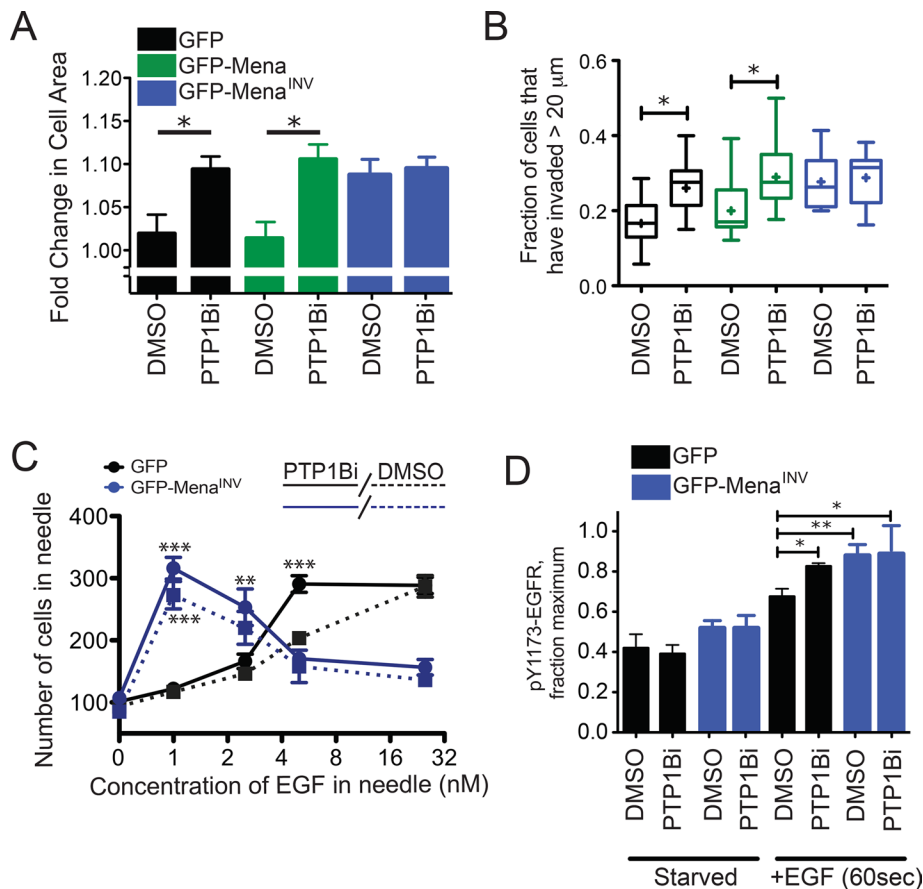
#### A PTP1B-Mena-SHIP2-EGFR complex is dysregulated upon Mena<sup>INV</sup> expression

Because EGFR is a known PTP1B substrate (Haj *et al.*, 2003; Mertins *et al.*, 2008) and we identified complexes containing both Mena and

PTP1B in breast cancer cells, we examined whether Mena facilitates formation of EGFR-PTP1B complexes. In wild-type MDA-MB231 cells, complexes containing endogenous Mena-EGFR were detected by PLA (Figure 6A). EGF stimulation increased abundance of the PLA signal, indicating that EGFR activation induces formation of additional Mena-EGFR-containing complexes (Figure 6B). We then used PLA to quantify EGFR-PTP1B-containing complexes in GFP-, GFP-Mena-, and GFP-Mena<sup>INV</sup>-expressing cells before and after EGF treatment. EGF stimulation increased EGFR-PTP1B PLA in cells expressing GFP or GFP-Mena but had no effect on cells expressing Mena<sup>INV</sup> (Figure 6, C and D). Transient knockdown of PTP1B expression in MDA-MB231-GFP-Mena cells reduced the EGFR-PTP1B PLA signal, indicating that assay detected PTP1B/EGFR-containing complexes specifically (Supplemental Figure S7A). Therefore Mena<sup>INV</sup> expression blocks EGF-elicited recruitment of PTP1B to EGFR, providing a potential explanation for the increased receptor phosphorylation in cells expressing Mena<sup>INV</sup> (Figure 3).

All Mena isoforms are likely maintained as stable tetramers by their conserved C-terminal tetramerization domains (Gertler and Condeelis, 2011) and thus contain EVH1 domains at the N-terminal ends of each of the four subunits. Given their modular composition, the subunits of a Mena tetramer could potentially bind and link together up to four distinct EVH1 ligands. Therefore we asked whether another Mena EVH1-binding protein recruits Mena-PTP1B complexes to EGFR upon receptor activation. We identified SHIP2, a 5' inositol phosphatase that dephosphorylates phosphatidylinositol 3,4,5-trisphosphate to generate phosphatidylinositol 3,4-bisphosphate (PI(3,4)P<sub>2</sub>) in our mass spectrometry screen as one of the 41 proteins phosphorylated in EGF-stimulated MDA-MB231 cells (Supplemental Figure S6). On EGF stimulation, SHIP2 is recruited rapidly into complexes with activated EGFR (Pesesse *et al.*, 2001). We inspected the SHIP2 sequence, found four canonical EVH1-binding motifs, and verified by coimmunoprecipitation (coIP) that endogenous SHIP2 associates with Mena (Figure 7A).

The foregoing observations led us to test the hypothesis that SHIP2 can recruit Mena-PTP1B complexes to activated EGFR by binding to one or more EVH1 domains in Mena tetramers. If SHIP2 links Mena-PTP1B complexes to activated EGFR, then SHIP2 depletion should abolish EGF-induced recruitment of PTP1B into complexes with EGFR. RNA interference–mediated SHIP2 depletion from wild-type MDA-MB231 cells (Supplemental Figure S7B) eliminated the EGF-induced increase in Mena-EGFR complexes, as indicated by PLA assays (Figure 7B). SHIP2 depletion in GFP- and GFP-Mena-expressing cells also eliminated the increase in EGFR-PTP1B complexes normally induced by stimulation with 0.25 nM EGF, reducing their abundance to a



**FIGURE 5:** Inhibition of PTP1B mimics the effects of Mena<sup>INV</sup> expression. (A) Lamellipodial protrusion of MDA-MB231 cells 8 min poststimulation with 0.25 nM EGF after incubation with 0.1% DMSO or 10 μM PTP1B inhibitor for 60 min. Results are mean with 95% confidence intervals; 48 cells/condition. Asterisk indicates significant difference by ANOVA with Tukey multiple-comparison test (\**p* < 0.05). (B) 3D collagen invasion after 24 h in the presence of 0.25 nM EGF and 0.1% DMSO or 10 μM PTP1B inhibitor. Results are represented as box and whiskers at 5 and 95% percentiles; cross indicates mean value; five assays/condition. Asterisk indicates significant difference by nonparametric Kruskal–Wallis test and Dunn’s multiple-comparison test (\**p* < 0.05). (C) EGF dose-response of invasive cells collected from MTLn3 xenograft tumors expressing GFP (black solid and dotted lines) or GFP-Mena<sup>INV</sup> (blue solid or dotted lines). Needles contained EGF and 0.01% DMSO without (dotted lines) or with 10 μM PTP1B inhibitor (solid lines). Results are mean ± SEM and plotted on log<sub>2</sub> x-axis; more than three tumors for conditions with error bars; one tumor for conditions without error bars. Asterisks indicate significant difference by nonparametric Kruskal–Wallis test and Dunn’s multiple-comparison test (\*\**p* < 0.01 or \*\*\**p* < 0.001) at each concentration of EGF for conditions with more than three tumors. (D) EGFR phosphorylation at Y1173 (0.25 nM EGF, 3 min) after 60 min of preincubation with 0.1% DMSO or 10 μM PTP1B inhibitor after 4 h of serum starvation. Results are mean ± SEM; three experiments. Asterisks indicate significant difference by ANOVA with Student–Newman–Keuls multiple-comparison test (\**p* < 0.05, \*\**p* < 0.01). See also Supplemental Figure S5 and Supplemental Table S6.

level similar to that observed in GFP-Mena<sup>INV</sup> cells transfected with control small interfering RNA (siRNA; Figure 7, C and D). In addition to recruiting Mena-PTP1B complexes to activated EGFR, we wondered whether SHIP2 enzymatic activity might also contribute to the observed Mena<sup>INV</sup>-driven changes in breast cancer cell motility and invasion. We used the highly specific SHIP2 inhibitor AS1949490 (Suwa *et al.*, 2009) to determine whether its 5′ inositol phosphatase activity was required for Mena<sup>INV</sup>-enhanced membrane protrusion. SHIP2 inhibition attenuated protrusion at later time points in MDA-MB231-expressing Mena<sup>INV</sup> (Supplemental Figure S7D) and MTLn3 cells (Supplemental Figure S7C).

observed in response to stimulation with low EGF concentrations in cells expressing Mena<sup>INV</sup>.

Our PLA analysis indicated that complexes containing Mena and PTP1B present in unstimulated cells are recruited to the activated EGFR. We attempted to detect Mena and PTP1B in complex by colP without success, perhaps due to low affinity or stoichiometry of the complex. It is possible, however, that Mena associates directly with PTP1B, as the Mena EVH1 domain can bind purified PTP1B directly *in vitro* (Figure 4A). Future studies will address which region in Mena specifically regulates the interaction between these two proteins and whether the interaction is direct or requires additional components. Most of the PTP1B in cells is anchored to the outer

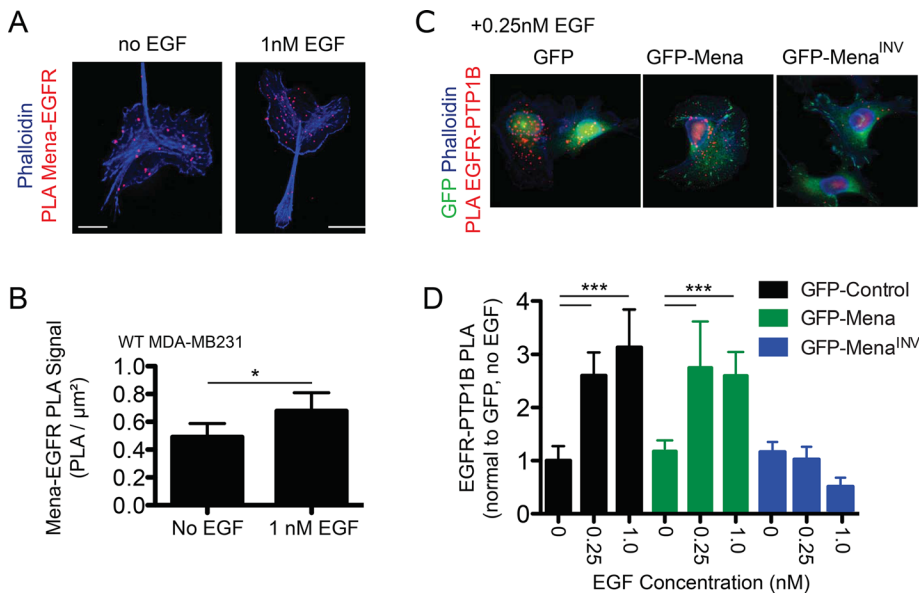
In sum, these data are consistent with a model in which activated EGFR rapidly recruits a SHIP2-Mena-PTP1B complex, which leads to receptor dephosphorylation by PTP1B. In cells that express Mena<sup>INV</sup>, however, SHIP2-dependent recruitment of PTP1B to EGFR is abolished, eliminating PTP1B-mediated dephosphorylation of EGFR (Figure 8). Thus we propose that Mena<sup>INV</sup> disrupts negative feedback to the EGFR and thereby increases signaling and, consequently, cellular responses elicited by low EGF concentrations.

## DISCUSSION

### Mena regulates signaling by specific RTKs

Mena and the other Ena/VASP proteins regulate motility and adhesion of numerous cell types (Pula and Krause, 2008); at a mechanistic level, their most extensively characterized functions influence actin polymerization and modulate the morphology and dynamics of membrane protrusions (Bear and Gertler, 2009). We found that Mena serves an additional, unanticipated, isoform-dependent role as a regulator of at least three RTKs known to drive invasion and metastasis in breast cancer (EGFR, IGFR and Met; Alexander and Friedl, 2012). Cellular responses to EGF and other growth factors are tightly regulated through control of receptor trafficking and activation state (Avraham and Yarden, 2011), with tyrosine phosphorylation of RTKs being regulated by a dynamic interplay between kinases and phosphatases (Kleiman *et al.*, 2011). Here we show that complexes containing Mena and PTP1B are recruited to activated EGFR in a SHIP2-dependent manner. Because PTP1B is known to regulate EGFR, IGFR, and Met signaling (Feldhammer *et al.*, 2013), our findings are consistent with a model in which ligand-induced, SHIP2-mediated recruitment of Mena- and PTP1B-containing complexes contributes to attenuation of signaling by these RTKs. Further, Mena<sup>INV</sup> disrupts EGF-elicited recruitment of PTP1B to EGFR, providing a basis for the enhanced signaling, motility and invasion





**FIGURE 6:** PTP1B recruitment to EGFR is abrogated in cells expressing Mena<sup>INV</sup>. (A) Representative images for Mena-EGFR PLA  $\pm$  EGF (1 nM, 60 s). Phalloidin shown in blue, and Mena-EGFR PLA shown in red. (B) Quantification of Mena-EGFR PLA in wild-type MDA-MB231 cells  $\pm$  EGF (1 nM, 60 s). Asterisk indicates significant difference by two-tailed t test ( $*p < 0.05$ ). (C) Representative images for EGFR-PTP1B PLA for MDA-MB231 cells expressing GFP, GFP-Mena, or GFP-Mena<sup>INV</sup> stimulated with 0.25 nM EGF for 60 s. GFP signal shown in green, phalloidin shown in blue, and EGFR-PTP1B PLA shown in red. (D) Quantification of EGFR-PTP1B PLA  $\pm$  0.25 nM EGF for 60 s. Data are mean with 95% confidence interval;  $>20$  cells/condition. Asterisks indicate significant difference by ANOVA with Tukey multiple-comparison test ( $***p < 0.001$ ).

membrane of the endoplasmic reticulum, where it can contact internalized transmembrane receptors (Eden *et al.*, 2010). However, in platelets (Frangioni *et al.*, 1993) and in MTLn3 rat adenocarcinoma cancer cells (Cortesio *et al.*, 2008), cleavage by calpain has been shown to release catalytically active PTP1B, which can then localize throughout the cytoplasm (Frangioni *et al.*, 1993; Feldhammer *et al.*, 2013). Therefore it is possible that calpain-dependent release of PTP1B into the cytoplasm could contribute to Mena-dependent association of PTP1B with RTKs in these cells. Despite the relatively small fraction present in the cytoplasm, PTP1B clearly functions at a variety of structures within the cytosol (Feldhammer *et al.*, 2013), including focal adhesions, filopodia on neuronal growth cones (Fuentes and Arregui, 2009), and invadopodia (Cortesio *et al.*, 2008), which are actin-driven protrusions that degrade the ECM during invasion. Of interest, these structures are also sites where Mena is localized (Philippart *et al.*, 2008; Pula and Krause, 2008).

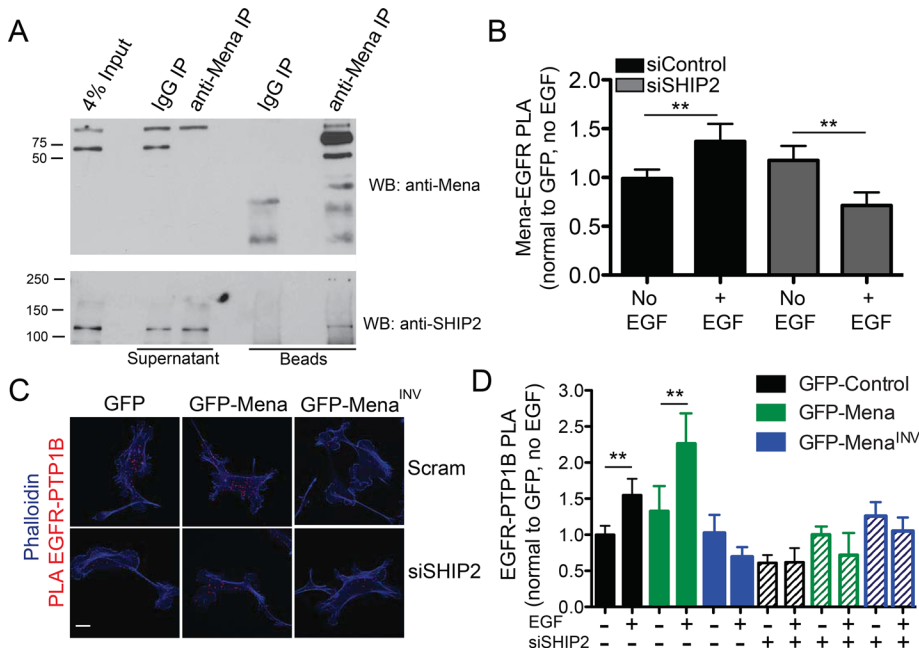
In breast cancer cells, as little as 0.25 nM EGF induces rapid (within 60 s) recruitment of Mena-PTP1B complexes to EGFR, thereby dephosphorylating the receptor and attenuating its activity. Whereas PTP1B can regulate early endosome fusion and trafficking of Met and EGFR (Sangwan *et al.*, 2011), expression of Mena in MDA-MB231 cells was not associated with changes in EGFR surface abundance or distribution. The biochemical and biophysical effects of Mena on the EGF response occur within a time frame that is likely too brief to allow for receptor endocytosis and vesicle scission (Taylor *et al.*, 2011; Zheng *et al.*, 2013), although a novel mechanism for rapid endocytosis has recently been described (Boucrot *et al.*, 2014). Mena-dependent effects on EGFR signaling may occur while the receptor is still on the plasma membrane. Thus, in breast cancer cells, Mena, which enhances the actin polymerization underlying EGF-elicited lamellipodial protrusion (Philippart *et al.*, 2008), also directly participates in EGFR signal attenuation.

### SHIP2 mediates EGF-induced recruitment of Mena and PTP1B to EGFR

We also find that ligand-triggered recruitment of Mena-PTP1B complexes to EGFR requires SHIP2, an SH2 domain-containing inositol phosphatase with known scaffolding functions (Erneux *et al.*, 2011) that is rapidly recruited (via the adaptor protein SHC) to activated EGFR (Pesesse *et al.*, 2001). The kinetics of RTK-dependent recruitment of SHIP2 is very fast, and it occurs within 20 s of stimulation (Zheng *et al.*, 2013). Mena translocation to lamellipodia can also be observed within 20 s after EGF stimulation and depends on availability of F-actin barbed ends (Philippart *et al.*, 2008), which are generated by cofilin severing upon its PLC $\gamma$ -mediated release from the plasma membrane (Van Rheenen *et al.*, 2007). The EGF-induced, EGFR-PTP1B-containing complexes form with kinetics similar to that of the Mena-dependent effects on both EGFR signaling and lamellipodial protrusion. Our data support a model in which individual Mena tetramers associate with both PTP1B and SHIP2 potentially through direct binding of their N-terminal EVH1 domains. This raises the interesting possibility that such complexes may also interact with F-actin barbed ends through the actin-binding motifs within the C-terminal EVH2 domains of Mena.

plexes may also interact with F-actin barbed ends through the actin-binding motifs within the C-terminal EVH2 domains of Mena.

Mena binds other EVH1 ligands that influence its subcellular localization and mediates interactions with signaling and scaffolding proteins (Pula and Krause, 2008; Bear and Gertler, 2009). Mena localization to the leading edge of lamellipodia and tips of filopodia depends, in part, on EVH1-mediated binding to lamellipodin (Lpd; Krause *et al.*, 2004). Recently Lpd was found in complexes with EGFR, and knockdown of Lpd or Mena disrupted scission of clathrin-coated pits, a late step in clathrin-mediated endocytosis (CME) of the receptor (Vehlow *et al.*, 2013). Lpd-EGFR associated constitutively in the HeLa cells used in that study, and, since CME of EGFR initiates only after EGF stimulation, the results of Vehlow *et al.* (2013) imply that growth factor stimulation induces Mena recruitment to the receptor. Our data are consistent with this model; however, we observed Mena recruitment to EGFR and effects on receptor signaling within 60s after stimulation, a time that precedes vesicle scission, the first step in CME affected by Mena depletion (Vehlow *et al.*, 2013). It is possible that the SHIP2-EGFR interaction helps to bring Mena into complex with Lpd or that Lpd in complex with EGFR increases Mena-PTP1B recruitment to the receptor at later times after EGF stimulation. Consistent with this possibility, we found that inhibition of SHIP2 5' inositol phosphatase activity, which produces PI(3,4)P<sub>2</sub>, affects EGF-stimulated protrusion. Of interest, Lpd contains one of the few PH domains specific for PI(3,4)P<sub>2</sub> (Krause *et al.*, 2004), and both SHIP2 and PI(3,4)P<sub>2</sub> regulate CME dynamics (Nakatsu *et al.*, 2010; Posor *et al.*, 2013). In sum, these data support a key role for Mena, via EVH1-mediated interactions, in the recruitment of important signaling proteins downstream of EGFR.



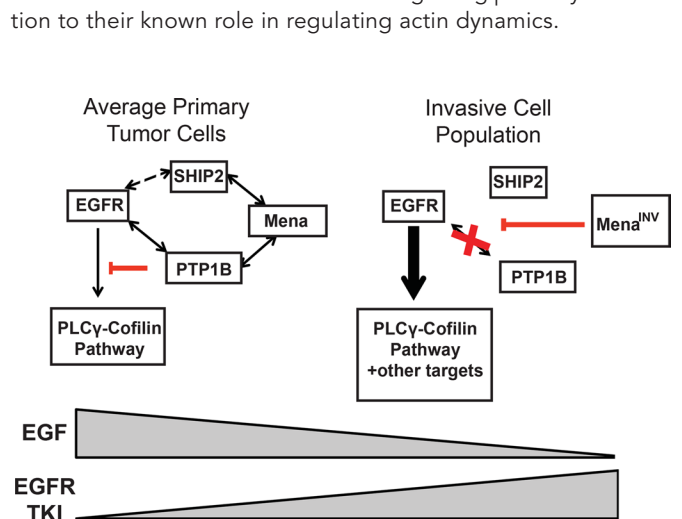
**FIGURE 7:** A SHIP2-Mena-PTP1B complex regulates EGFR-PTP1B interaction in MDA-MB231 cells. (A) Total Mena protein was immunoprecipitated from Rat2 fibroblast lysate and immunoblotted for SHIP2. (B) Quantification of Mena-EGFR PLA in wild-type MDA-MB231 cells starved or stimulated with 1 nM EGF for 60 s. Experiment performed 72 h posttransfection with 25 nM control (siControl) or SHIP2 (siSHIP2)-targeted SMARTPool siRNA. Results are shown as mean with 95% confidence intervals; >20 cells/condition. Asterisks indicate significant difference by ANOVA with Tukey multiple-comparison test (\*\* $p < 0.01$ ). (C) Representative images of EGFR-PTP1B PLA in MDA-MB231 cell lines 72 h posttransfection with siControl or siSHIP2. (D) EGFR-PTP1B PLA in MDA-MB231 cell lines 72 h posttransfection with siControl (indicated by “-” in siSHIP2 line) or siSHIP2. Cells stimulated  $\pm$  0.25 nM EGF for 60 s. Results are shown as mean with 95% confidence intervals; > 50 cells/condition. Asterisks indicate significant difference by nonparametric Kruskal-Wallis test and Dunn’s multiple-comparison test (\*\* $p < 0.05$ ). See also Supplemental Figure S7.

### Expression of Mena<sup>INV</sup> dysregulates phosphotyrosine signaling

Expression of Mena<sup>INV</sup> reduces PTP1B recruitment to the receptor and its dephosphorylation, thereby eliciting EGFR-dependent protrusion and motility-related responses at substantially reduced ligand concentration. Within tumors, spontaneous up-regulation of Mena<sup>INV</sup> expression likely enhances both paracrine signaling with macrophages and the autocrine loops that provide EGFR ligands to tumor cells, increasing prometastatic behaviors (Wyckoff *et al.*, 2004; Patsialou *et al.*, 2009; Zhou *et al.*, 2014). Mena<sup>INV</sup> expression also increases tumor cell sensitivity to HGF and IGF-1 by 20- and 5-fold, respectively, suggesting that tumor cells expressing Mena<sup>INV</sup> in vivo may be sensitized to HGF and IGF-1 secreted by tumor-associated fibroblasts or other cells in the tumor microenvironment (Yee *et al.*, 1989; Mueller *et al.*, 2012). Selective inhibition of PTP1B by Mena<sup>INV</sup> likely affects a set of proteins that are normally dephosphorylated by PTP1B-containing Mena complexes. Mena<sup>INV</sup>, like Mena, localizes to filopodia, lamellipodia, and invadopodia, as well as to sites of cell matrix and cell:cell adhesion; Mena<sup>INV</sup>-mediated attenuation of PTP1B function (or localization) within these structures could have a large effect on tumor cell invasion and motility. Consistent with this idea, several PTP1B targets that localize to these structures and function in tumor cell migration and invasion were among the proteins detected in our mass spectrometry screen for Mena<sup>INV</sup>-induced dysregulated tyrosine phosphorylation. We also found that treatment

of breast cancer cells in vitro or in vivo with a targeted PTP1B inhibitor induced phenotypes that are strikingly similar to those caused by Mena<sup>INV</sup> expression.

The roles that PTP1B plays in cancer are complex and likely context dependent. Complete PTP1B deletion in the HER2/Neu model of murine mammary delays or prevents tumor formation (Bentires-Alj and Neel, 2007). However, mammary-specific ablation of PTP1B after tumor formation does not affect tumor maintenance or growth (Balavenkatraman *et al.*, 2011). More work will be required to determine exactly how selective dysregulation of PTP1B by Mena<sup>INV</sup> contributes to tumor progression. The exact mechanism underlying Mena<sup>INV</sup>-mediated dysregulation of tyrosine phosphorylation remains to be determined. Given that the INV exon is located near the EVH1 domain of Mena, it is possible that inclusion of INV affects formation of complexes with PTP1B, SHIP2, or both, which in turn could affect recruitment of both proteins to RTKs. Because all Mena isoforms form stable tetramers (Gertler and Condeelis, 2011), it is possible that inclusion of INV could alter interactions with up to four distinct EVH1 ligands within a Mena<sup>INV</sup> tetramer. Future studies will address how inclusion of the sequence encoded by the INV exon regulates these interactions. Regardless of the outcome, our findings indicate that Mena and its isoforms act to modulate RTK signaling pathways in addition to their known role in regulating actin dynamics.



**FIGURE 8:** Model for Mena-dependent regulation of RTK signaling. In average primary tumor cells, activation of EGFR leads to rapid recruitment of a SHIP2-Mena-PTP1B complex, which leads to receptor dephosphorylation by PTP1B and sensitivity to TKIs. However, in the invasive tumor cell population, where levels of Mena<sup>INV</sup> are high, SHIP2-dependent recruitment of PTP1B to EGFR is abolished, eliminating PTP1B-mediated dephosphorylation of EGFR, causing sensitivity to EGF, as well as resistance to TKIs.

## MATERIALS AND METHODS

### Antibodies, growth factors, and inhibitors

Growth factors were purchased from Life Technologies, Carlsbad, CA (EGF), and PeproTech, Rocky Hill, NJ (HGF, NRG-1, and IGF). The compounds used were Met inhibitor SU11274 (Selleck Chemicals, Houston, TX), EGFR inhibitor erlotinib (LC Labs, Woburn, MA; PeproTech), PTP1B inhibitor (539741; Calbiochem, Billerica, MA), and SHIP2 inhibitor AS1949490 (Tocris, Minneapolis, MN). The following antibodies were used: EGFR (Cell Signaling Technology, Danvers, MA), pEGFR Y1173 (Cell Signaling Technology; Epitomics), vimentin (BD Transduction Laboratories, San Jose, CA), E-cadherin (Cell Signaling Technology), PTP1B (Millipore, Burlington, MA), SHIP2 (Cell Signaling Technology), and panMena (Lebrand *et al.*, 2004).

### Cell culture

All breast cancer cell lines were obtained from the American Type Culture Collection and cultured in DMEM with 10% heat-inactivated fetal bovine serum. Cell lines were engineered to stably express 10- to 15-fold-higher levels of Mena isoforms more than for wild-type cell lines. For siRNA-mediated knockdown experiments, 25 nM SHIP2- or PTP1B-targeted ON-TARGETplus SMARTpool siRNA (Dharmacon, GE Lifesciences, Lafayette, CO) was transfected in serum-free OptiMeM using Dharmafect4 with assays performed 72 h posttransfection. The ON-TARGETplus nontargeted control pool (25 nM) was used in those conditions labeled “scramble.”

### PTP1B and Mena-EVH1 in vitro binding assay

Constructs used for recombinant protein production were GST-PTP1B (Addgene, Cambridge, MA; plasmid #8602), GST, and GST-FP4 His-Mini-Mena (His-TEV-EVH1-LERER-6xGly-CoCo), which contains mouse Mena (Gertler *et al.*, 1996) residues 1–258 fused, via a 6xGly linker, to the C-terminal 31-residue coiled-coil from Mena. The coiled-coil, which mediates Mena tetramerization, was included to allow for the potential effects of avidity in the binding assay (Gupton *et al.*, 2012), and intervening sequences were omitted to enable recovery of soluble, purified protein. Detailed protocols for protein expression and purification are given in the Supplemental Experimental Procedures.

GST, GST-FP4, and GST-PTP1B (3  $\mu$ M) were immobilized on glutathione beads and blocked for 2 h at 4°C (20 mM 4-(2-hydroxyethyl)-1-piperazineethanesulfonic acid [HEPES], pH 7.6, 150 mM NaCl, 1% NP-40, 3% bovine serum albumin [BSA]). Beads were washed once and incubated with 50, 100, 500 nM His-Mini-Mena, rotating for 2 h at 4°C in binding buffer (20 mM HEPES, pH 7.6, 150 mM NaCl, 1% NP-40). Beads were washed three times in binding buffer while rotating at 4°C for 5 min. Proteins were eluted in 4 $\times$  SDS-PAGE sample buffer and assayed by Western blotting.

### EGFR internalization assays

Surface proteins were biotinylated using the method of Roberts *et al.* (2001; see the Supplemental Experimental Procedures). Cells were lysed in 75 mM HEPES (pH 7.5), 200 mM NaCl, 10% glycerol, 1.5% Triton-X 100, and 0.75% NP-40 with a protease Mini-Complete protease inhibitor tablet (Roche, Indianapolis, IN) on ice. To measure the surface level of EGFR, cells were lysed immediately after labeling with biotin. EGFR STAR enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA; Millipore) was used to quantify total and biotinylated EGFR by modifying the protocol to replace the anti-rabbit immunoglobulin G (IgG)–horseradish peroxidase conjugate with anti-rabbit IR800 and streptavidin-IR680 (Li-Cor, Lincoln, NE) antibodies to facilitate dual detection of total and biotinylated EGFR using the Li-Cor Odyssey scanning system. Negative controls of

nonlabeled samples or surface-stripped samples (without the internalization step) were included for each experiment.

### Protrusion and 3D invasion assays

Protrusion assays were performed as described (Meyer *et al.*, 2012). Briefly, serum-starved cells plated on collagen- and Matrigel-coated dishes were imaged every 20 s for 10 min at 37°C (TE2000 microscope; Nikon) with a 20 $\times$  objective. Growth factor/inhibitor solutions were added after 80 s. Cell areas were traced immediately before stimulation and 9 min after stimulation using ImageJ (National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, MD). Data shown are from individual cells pooled from at least three separate experiments. The 3D invasion assay in Figure 6B was performed as described (Giampieri *et al.*, 2009). See the Supplemental Experimental Procedures.

### PI(4,5)P<sub>2</sub> hydrolysis assay

PI(4,5)P<sub>2</sub> hydrolysis was assayed as described (Van Rheenen *et al.*, 2007). See the Supplemental Experimental Procedures.

### Cofilin:actin fluorescence resonance energy transfer

F-actin:cofilin binding was measured by fluorescence resonance energy transfer (FRET) efficiency using acceptor photobleaching as described (Van Rheenen *et al.*, 2007). See the Supplemental Experimental Procedures.

### Immunoprecipitation and Western blotting

Standard procedures were used for protein electrophoresis, Western blotting, and IP. For IP, cells were lysed in 20 mM HEPES, pH 7.4, 200 mM NaCl, 2 mM MgCl<sub>2</sub>, 5% glycerol, 1% NP-40, and phosphatase inhibitors. See the Supplemental Experimental Procedures. For the Mena-SHIP2 IP, cells were harvested in chilled lysis buffer (20 mM HEPES, pH 7.4, 200 mM NaCl, 2 mM MgCl<sub>2</sub>, 5% glycerol) supplemented with Mini-Complete EDTA-free protease inhibitors (Roche) and a phosphatase inhibitor cocktail (PhosSTOP; Roche) at 4°C. Precleared lysate was incubated with 40  $\mu$ l of 50% slurry of Protein A Plus beads (Pierce, Grand Island, NY) and Mena antibody or IgG control for 3 h at 4°C. Beads were washed three times in lysis buffer, eluted in 2 $\times$  SDS sample buffer, and resolved by SDS-PAGE.

### Proximity ligation assay

Cells were prepared as for protrusion assay and stimulated with growth factor as indicated. Cells were fixed for 20 min in 4% paraformaldehyde in PHEM buffer (60 mM PIPES [piperazine-*N,N'*-bis(ethanesulfonic acid)], pH 7.0, 25 mM HEPES [4-(2-hydroxyethyl)-1-piperazineethanesulfonic acid], pH 7.0, 10 mM EGTA [ethylene glycol tetraacetic acid], pH 8.0, 2 mM MgCl<sub>2</sub>, 0.12 M sucrose), permeabilized with 0.2% Triton X-100, blocked with 10% BSA, and incubated with primary antibodies overnight at 4°C. PLA was then performed according to the manufacturer's protocol (Olink Biosciences, Uppsala, Sweden). The spots per cell were counted, and the number was normalized relative to cell area and/or GFP expression. Data are pooled from at least three different experiments.

### In vivo invasion assay

The in vivo invasion assay was performed in three mice per condition as described (Wyckoff *et al.*, 2000). Briefly, needles were held in place by a micromanipulator around a single mammary tumor of an anesthetized mouse. Needles contained a mixture of Matrigel, 0–25 nM EGF, buffer, and EDTA with either 0.01% dimethyl sulfoxide (DMSO), or 10  $\mu$ M PTP1B inhibitor. After 4 h of cell collection, the contents of the needles were extruded. Cells were stained with

4',6-diamidino-2-phenylindole and counted on an Olympus IX70 inverted microscope.

### Phosphotyrosine analysis via LC-MS/MS

Serum-starved MDA-MB231 cells expressing GFP or GFP-Mena<sup>INV</sup> were stimulated with 0, 0.25, 0.5, or 15.8 nM EGF for 1 min. Cells were immediately lysed in 8 M urea (Sigma-Aldrich, St. Louis, MO) and quantified using the BCA assay (Pierce). As previously described, quantitative LC-MS/MS analyses of tyrosine-phosphorylated peptides using iTRAQ 8plex and an Orbitrap Elite mass spectrometer (Thermo) were performed (Johnson *et al.*, 2012). In brief, proteins were reduced, alkylated, and digested with modified trypsin (Promega, Madison, WI). Peptides were desalted, lyophilized, and labeled with iTRAQ 8plex (AB Sciex, Framingham, MA). Tyrosine-phosphorylated peptides were enriched using IP and immobilized metal affinity chromatography. Mascot peptide identifications, phosphorylation-site assignments, and quantification were verified manually with the assistance of computer-aided manual validation software (Curran *et al.*, 2013). Supplemental Table S1 contains the sequences of identified phosphotyrosine peptides along with relative quantification and statistical analysis. See the Supplemental Experimental Procedures.

### ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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