Figure S1. Relationship between the amount of CAFs and PXN expression in 24 cases of liver metastases. The number of CAFs in liver metastases was counted in ten random fields localized in tumour stroma, with a magnification of x400. (A) PXN expression score of 6 (n=6; average number, 43.1±23.4). (B) PXN expression score of 8 (n=4; average number, 49.4±25.3). (C) PXN expression score of 9 (n=6; average number, 52.2±22.5). (D) PXN expression score of 8 (n=12; average number, 48.1±24.1). Yellow triangle, examples of CAF nuclei. PXN, paxillin; CAFs, cancer-associated fibroblasts.
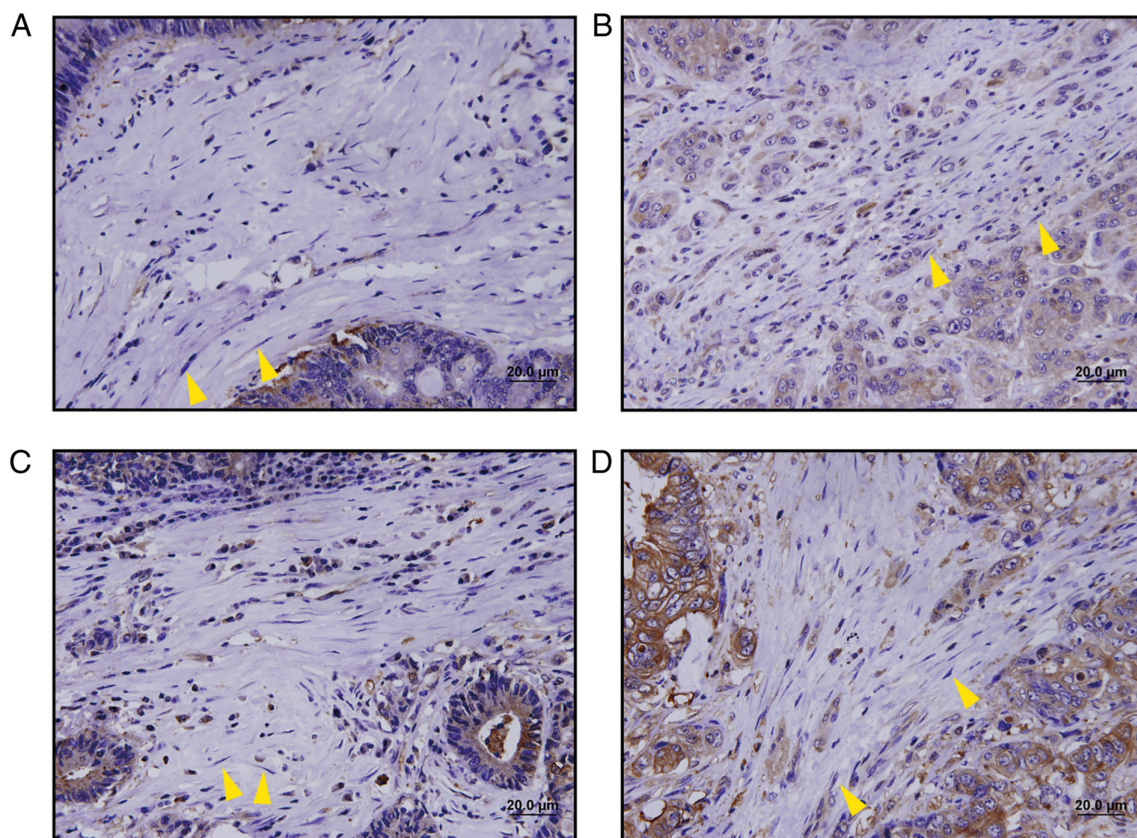
Figure S2. Cell viability under the treatments of ERK activator (hEGF) and inhibitor (EI). A CCK-8 assay was performed to assess the viability of SW480 cells stably expressing shNC and shPXN within 48 h. The experiment was repeated at least three times. Effects of different treatments on cell viability at 0 (moment of first test and administration of drugs), 24 and 48 h were analyzed by repeated measures ANOVA (Tukey's post hoc test). Data are presented as the mean ± SD. ERK, extracellular regulated protein kinase; CCK-8, Cell Counting Kit-8; PXN, paxillin; EI, ERK inhibitor (SCH-772984).