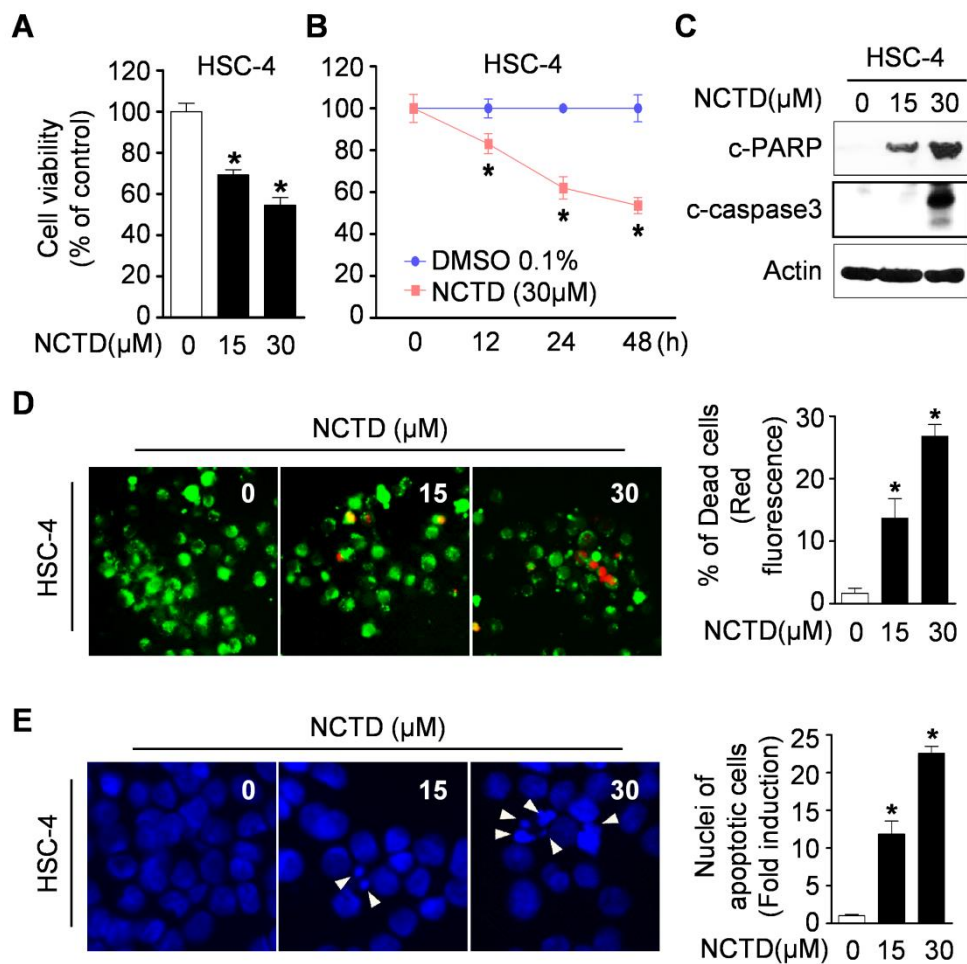


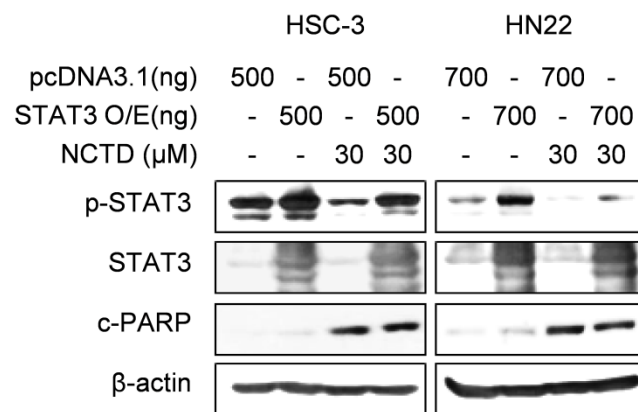
## Supplementary Materials:

### Contribution of p38 MAPK pathway to norcantharidin-induced programmed cell death in human oral squamous cell carcinoma

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**Figure S1.** Effects of NCTD on programmed cell death in HSC-4 human OSCC cells. HSC-4 cells were treated with DMSO or certain concentrations of NCTD for 48hr or 30uM NCTD for 12, 24, and 48 hr. (A, B) Cell viability was analyzed using a trypan blue exclusion assay. (C) The cell lysates were analyzed by western blotting to detect the cleavages of caspase 3 and PARP. (D) Cytotoxic effect of NCTD was detected by a live/dead assay kit. The percentage of dead cells was quantified. (E) Nuclear morphology was detected by DAPI staining (indicated by white arrows). Graphs represent the mean  $\pm$  SD of three independent experiments, and significance compared with the control group is indicated (\*).



**Figure S2.** The role of STAT3 on NCTD-induced programmed cell death. HSC-3 and HN22 cells were transiently transfected with pcDNA3.1 or pcDNA3.1-STAT3 for 24hr and treated with 30  $\mu$ M NCTD for 48hr. The cell lysates were analyzed by western blotting to detect the levels of p-STAT3, STAT3, and cleaved PARP.