## **Supplementary Information**

**Table S1.** Total cholesterol levels: analyzed in CHO-*NPC1*<sup>-/-</sup>, CHO-WT, untreated U373, cholesterol loaded U373 and cholesterol depleted U373 cells. Total cholesterol levels were determined in cell lysates by AmplexRed Cholesterol Assay (Invitrogen, Darmstadt, Germany).

Cells	Total cholesterol levels (μg cholesterol/mg protein)
CHO-WT	10.0
CHO-NPCI <sup>-/-</sup>	16.0
U373 untreated	31.9
U373 cholesterol loaded (100μM)	60.8
U373 cholesterol depleted (4mM MβCD)	16.9

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