Figure S1: Generation of the transgenic mouse model with hepatocyte-specific deletion of Smo.
(A): Structure of the Alf-Cre vector construct.  (B): The Smo locus with loxP sites on either side of exon 1 in the absence of Cre-recombinase activity.  (C): The floxed Smo locus lacking exon 1 in the presence of Cre-recombinase activity.  (D): Immunohistochemical detection of Cre-recombinase in liver sections of SAC-WT and SAC-KO mice. Brown colour indicating Cre-recombinase is present in hepatocyte and cholangiocyte nuclei (strong staining) and cytoplasm (weak staining). Bar: 50 μm.  (E): PCR analysis, using DNA extracted from liver tissue of SAC-WT and SAC-KO mice yields a 600-bp amplicon of wild-type Smo alleles and a 350-bp amplicon of recombinant Smo alleles in the knockout genotype.  (F): Comparison of the relative expression of Smo in different tissues SAC-WT (black bars) (n=7-20) and SAC-KO (white bars) (n=7-20) mice determined by qRT-PCR. Significant decrease of Smo mRNA relative to β-actin is detected only in liver. Values are presented as means ± SEM; *, p<0.05.