Characterization of tumorspheres obtained from different human pancreatic cancer cell lines. (A) Morphology of BxPC3, CP15T, and NP-29 tumorspheres. Cells were maintained under standard culture conditions (monolayers) or in stem cell medium on ultra-low-adhesion plates (tumorspheres). Scale bar = 5 μm. (B) Cell cycle profiles of monolayers and tumorspheres. S-phase represented in light grey, G2/M-phase in dark grey, and G0/G1-phase in black. (C) Dose-response curve and IC50 values of gemcitabine for monolayers and tumorspheres. Cells were seeded with increasing concentrations of gemcitabine, and cell viability was measured by WST-8 assay 72 h after starting treatment. Data are presented as means ± standard deviation of three experiments. ■ BxPC3 monolayer, □ BxPC3 tumorspheres, ● CP15T monolayer, ○ CP15T tumorspheres.