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## The Protexin complex counters resection on stalled forks to promote homologous recombination and crosslink repair

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### Summary

Protection of stalled replication forks is critical to genomic stability. Using genetic and proteomic analyses we discovered the Protexin complex containing the ssDNA binding protein SCAI and the DNA polymerase REV3. Protexin is required specifically for protecting forks stalled by nucleotide depletion, fork barriers, fragile sites and DNA interstrand crosslinks (ICLs) where it promotes homologous recombination and repair. Protexin loss leads to ssDNA accumulation and profound genomic instability in response to ICLs. Protexin interacts with RNA POL2 and both oppose EXO1's resection of DNA on forks remodeled by the FANCM translocase activity. This pathway acts independently of BRCA/RAD51-mediated fork stabilization, and cells with BRCA2 mutations were dependent on SCAI for survival. These data suggest that Protexin and its associated factors establish a new fork protection pathway that counteracts fork resection in part through a REV3 polymerase-dependent resynthesis mechanism of excised DNA, particularly at ICL stalled forks.

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Author Contributions

R.O.A., N.A.W., C.C., A.E.H.E. and S.L. performed experiments. X.W., A.D.D. and R.S. supervised research and provided valuable reagents. R.O.A. and S.J.E. conceived the project, designed experiments and wrote the manuscript. All authors analyzed and interpreted data and contributed to the final article.

Declaration of Interests

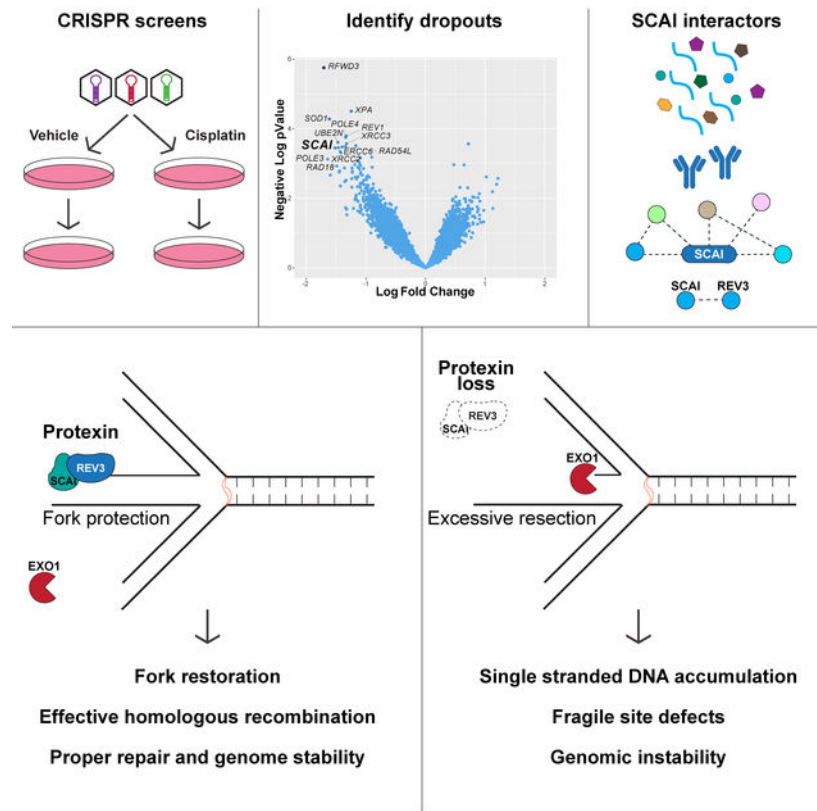
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## eTOC blurb

Adeyemi et al. performed genome-wide cisplatin sensitivity screens and identified SCAI, which they show to be important for maintaining genome stability following replication stress. They show SCAI is in complex with a polymerase, REV3, which they term Protexin. Protexin maintains DNA integrity after damage by protecting replication forks from nucleases.

## Graphical Abstract



## Keywords

CRISPR; Inter-strand crosslinks; resection; homologous recombination; replication stress; Protexin; SCAI; REV3L; FANCM; EXO1

## Introduction

Sensing and responding to DNA damage is critical to the maintenance of genomic stability and the prevention of numerous diseases including birth defects and cancer (Ciccia and Elledge, 2010). DNA polymerase blocks during replication (i.e. replication stress) can cause fork collapse and genomic instability (Zeman and Cimprich, 2014). Single-stranded DNA (ssDNA) accumulation at sites of replication stress acts as a trigger for the activation of the ATR kinase, which coordinates the replication stress response (Cimprich and Cortez, 2008).

DNA strand crosslinks are exceptionally toxic (Garaycochea et al., 2018; Langevin et al., 2011), especially inter-strand crosslinks (ICLs) that covalently ligate both DNA strands, constituting a block to replication and transcription. Eukaryotes employ a distinct set of genes to repair ICLs, and germline mutations in this pathway leads to Fanconi anemia (FA), characterized by cancer predisposition, bone marrow and hematopoietic defects and other phenotypes (Ceccaldi et al., 2016; Kottemann and Smogorzewska, 2013). The *FANCM* complex recognizes the ICL and recruits the FA core complex (Xue et al., 2015) to set up the critical activating step for repair via ubiquitination of the FANCI-FANCD2 complex by FANCL. ATR is required for this activation step via phosphorylation of FANCI (Andreassen et al., 2004; Smogorzewska et al., 2007). Repair of ICLs involves multiple nucleases such as XPF-ERCC1, FAN1, MUS81 and SNM1A. How they are regulated and the exact steps in which they function is not fully clear, however, FANCI-D2 ubiquitination is important for these incisions events that occur prior to translesion synthesis (TLS) and homologous recombination (HR).

HR genes such as BRCA2 and RAD51 function in the FA pathway and are critical for maintenance of fork stability by preventing exonuclease-dependent fork degradation (Chen et al., 2018; Schlacher et al., 2011). HR at stalled forks is now believed to be regulated differently than HR at double strand breaks (DSBs) (Ray Chaudhuri et al., 2016; Willis et al., 2014). One difference is fork reversal at stalled forks. Fork reversal is mediated by remodeling enzymes like the DNA helicases (BLM, WRN, and others) and the DNA translocases FANCM, SMARCAL1, ZRANB3, RAD54 and HLTf (Quinet et al., 2017). Reversed forks can resemble one-ended DSBs and are thus susceptible to nuclease digestion or end-joining events that cause genomic instability. Thus, fork protection mechanisms promote genomic stability following PARP and cisplatin treatment (Ray Chaudhuri et al., 2016) by limiting NHEJ and resection.

In this study, through a genome-wide analysis of genes required for crosslink repair, we identified a previously uncharacterized mechanism of fork protection and fork restoration control mediated by the newly found Protexin complex. Protexin is critical for the replication stress response that protects stalled replication forks. Absence of Protexin causes ssDNA accumulation and profound genomic instability in response to agents that stall forks.

## Results

### **A genome-wide cisplatin sensitivity screen identifies multiple novel genes involved in crosslink repair including SCAI.**

We used CRISPR screening to identify genes required for ICL repair. The screen (Figure 1A) is described in detail in the experimental procedures. U2OS cells infected with a lentiviral sgRNA library targeting 18,148 genes, 5 gRNAs/gene. Selected cells were treated with cisplatin (hereafter cisp) or vehicle for 24 h before washout and passaged for 5 population doublings (PDs) before collection (PD5 arm). A second cisp treatment was performed at PD5, and the cells were allowed to grow for a further 5 PDs before collection (PD10 arm). NextGen sequencing coupled with bioinformatic analyses using MaGeCK (Li et al., 2014) and EdgeR (Robinson et al., 2010) identified gRNAs that change abundance following treatment (Tables S1–S3).

ICL lesions are complex and multiple pathways cooperate in their repair. Analysis of genes with significant dropout p-values at PD5 and PD10 revealed multiple pathways (Figure 1B). As anticipated, the screen identified many ICL repair genes including members of the FA pathway. Nineteen of the 21 known FA genes scored in the top 5% of hits in one or both arms (Tables S1-S2).

Almost all components of the nucleotide excision repair (NER) pathway scored, as did several RNA polymerase subunits. ICL repair often involves a DSB intermediate, and many HR genes scored including RAD51 paralogs, filament processors and stabilizers including *RAD54L*, *FIGNL1*, *MMS22L* and *HELQ*. Microhomology-mediated end joining (MMEJ) genes such as *POLQ* scored more strongly than their non-homologous end joining (NHEJ) counterparts, likely because any DSBs that arise are resected, and largely repaired by HR with MMEJ serving a backup role.

Analysis of both screen arms identified ~400 high confidence hits (Figure 1C, Table S4), many with no prior DNA repair link (Figures S1A and S1B). Chromatin remodelers (e.g. *BPTF*), anti-apoptotic genes, membrane trafficking proteins, and strikingly, several members of the mevalonate metabolism pathway (e.g. *MVD*, *MVK* and *HMGCS1*) scored strongly (Figure 1D). GO term enrichment analyses (Figure S2E) mirrored the findings from Figure 1B. Aside from repair-related themes, one prominent GO term was “RNA secondary structure unwinding” due to multiple RNA helicases scoring such *DHX15*, *DDX46* and *DDX47*.

We validated several candidates (Figure 1E and Figures S1C - S1F) including *POLE4*, a histone fold protein that binds POLE3. *ADSL* is important for purine biosynthesis. Multiple shRNAs to *ADSL* showed significant ICL-sensitivity. *OGDH* catalyzes the conversion of alpha-ketoglutarate to succinyl-CoA in the Krebs’s cycle. Although present in mitochondria, it associated with stalled replication forks (Dungrawala et al., 2015). Several guides to *OGDH* scored (Figure S1C) and 2 of 3 *OGDH* shRNAs showed cisp-sensitivity (Figure 1E). Overall, our screens present a useful resource for identification and characterization of ICL repair genes.

### SCAI promotes ICL repair

A top scoring gene, scoring with all 5 gRNAs, in both cisp-treated arms was *SCAI* (Figures S1A, S1B and S1G, Tables S2–S3). *SCAI* was originally identified as a regulator of invasive cell migration (Brandt et al., 2009), but recently was implicated in DSB repair (Hansen et al., 2016). The marked sensitivity to cisp in our screens suggested that it may play a distinct role in replication stress. To validate *SCAI*, we depleted it in HeLa and U2OS cells using siRNA pools. *SCAI* depletion resulted in reduced cell viability as determined by clonogenic survival assays (CSAs) following cisp treatment (Figures 1F and S2A).

Using Cas9-editing, we generated two independent *SCAI* null clones in U2OS cells (Figure S2B). *SCAI* nulls showed cisp-sensitivity equal to *FANCA* depletion (Figure 1G) and *FANCA* depletion in the *SCAI* null cells led only to a slight reduction in survival that was not statistically significant (Figure 1G). These data suggest that *SCAI* functions in ICL repair, possibly in the FA pathway.

## SCAI protects against genomic instability, cell cycle defects and defective replication restart after replication stress

We characterized SCAI's role in repair of IR, Cisp, camptothecin (CPT) and hydroxyurea (HU)-induced replication stress using multicolor competition assays (MCAs) (Figure 2A). *SCAI* depletion significantly increased sensitivity to CPT, HU, and marked sensitivity to cisp treatment but not IR (Figure 2A). Sensitivity to HU was also seen in CSAs in *SCAI* null cells (Figure 2B).

Such pathologic responses to replication stress often lead to genome instability. To examine this, we performed chromosomal analysis of metaphase spreads from *SCAI*-depleted 293Ts. *SCAI* loss resulted in a significant increase in chromosomal aberrations (Figures 2C–2E), including chromatid breaks and gaps on par with *FANCD2* loss (Figure 2D). Thus, SCAI is profoundly important for the maintenance of genome stability after replication stress.

*SCAI* loss caused a profound accumulation in S (24 h) and G2 (44 h) when treated with cisp but not in untreated cells (Figures S2B, S2C and S2G). To examine replication stress recovery, cells treated with HU or cisp for 18 h were released into fresh media for 3 to 6 h then pulsed with BrdU to determine the rate at which cells begin to restore DNA synthesis (Figure S2F). Cisp treated *SCAI* mutants showed markedly reduced BrdU incorporation compared to WT controls (Figure S2I). Similar but milder effects were seen following HU (Figure S2H). The defects in cell cycle recovery after replication stress in *SCAI* mutants indicates a key role for SCAI in repairing damage or restarting forks.

**SCAI forms a complex with REV3.**—To identify interactions that might mediate *SCAI* function, we inducibly expressed FLAG-HA-*SCAI* in TRES-293 cells. Mass spectrometry of *SCAI* pull-downs revealed multiple SCAI binding partners (Table S5) (Figure 2F) that include chromatin components *KDM3B*, *DOT1L*, *53BP1* and *HELB*, a DNA helicase with roles in end resection (Tkac et al., 2016). None of these scored as cisp sensitizers in our screen. Of interest, we found constitutive interactions with *REV3L* (REV3), *MAD2L2* (REV7) and *REV1* (Figure 2F). REV7 and REV3 together form the pol zeta polymerase complex, and function with REV1 in TLS (Prakash et al., 2005). All three genes scored very highly in our screen for ICL repair factors (Figure 1B and Tables S2–S5).

SCAI and REV3 association was validated by co-IPs in cells expressing GFP-*SCAI* and FLAG-*REV3* (Figure 2G). SCAI also interacted with 53BP1 (Figure 2F) raising the possibility that SCAI exists in one large complex. However, FLAG-REV3 was able to pull down endogenous SCAI but not 53BP1 (Figure 2H) and REV3 was not detected in 53BP1 complexes (Gupta et al., 2018).

To visualize SCAI following replication stress we performed immunofluorescence (IF) for SCAI following cisp or MMC treatment. SCAI forms foci in response to DSBs and localizes to these foci partly by interaction with 53BP1 (Hansen et al., 2016). These SCAI nuclear foci co-localized with  $\gamma$ H2AX (Figure S3A) and were detergent resistant (Figure S3B) suggesting chromatin association. Chromatin fractionation experiments revealed a cisp dose-dependent increase in SCAI accumulation on chromatin (Figure S3C).

Upon IR, SCAI formed fewer but larger foci compared to MMC (Figures 3A and 3B). Importantly, while *53BP1* depletion reduced SCAI foci after IR, it did not block SCAI foci following MMC (Figures 3B and 3C). *REV3* depletion also had no effect on SCAI recruitment to foci (Figures 3B and 3C). Neither depletion of *53BP1* nor *ATM* (Figures 2A and S3D) caused ICL-sensitivity. These data suggest that SCAI exists in at least two separate complexes that respond differently to various kinds of DNA damage, and SCAI's role during replication stress is independent of 53BP1. We named the SCAI-REV3 complex Protexin for reasons delineated below.

### Protexin prevents fork breakage and promotes repair at common fragile sites

Fragile sites are chromosomal regions that are susceptible to chromosome breaks and genomic instability, and are common sources of replication stress (Durkin and Glover, 2007). At some of these sites hairpins form ahead of and stall the replication fork requiring repair by fork reversal. Without *FANCM*, cells are unable to properly replicate through the synthetic common fragile site (CFS) hairpin structures, resulting in fork breakage, detected as increases in mitotic recombination and GFP levels using a modified DR-GFP reporter (Figure 3D) (Wang et al., 2018). We examined Protexin's roles in maintaining fragile site integrity using this assay. *SCAI* or *REV3* depletion led to increased fork breakage at CFSs (Figure 3D). Notably, the extent of mitotic recombination in the absence of Protexin was not as high as that seen following *FANCM* depletion, possibly because, as shown below, Protexin is also important for recombination at stalled forks, which is required for the assay readout. This data suggests that Protexin is required for stability at fragile sites.

### Protexin is required for HR specifically at stalled forks

*SCAI* loss showed severe inviability following replication stress, thus we sought to determine whether Protexin regulates HR specifically at stalled forks. We employed a reporter in which six bacterial Ter sites interrupt the reading frame of an enhanced GFP (eGFP) gene inserted in the ROSA26 locus of a mouse embryonic stem cell line (Willis et al., 2014). Expression of the bacterial Tus protein and its binding to the 6X Ter array leads to site-specific bidirectional fork arrest and eventual fork breakage. Generation of WT GFP detectable by flow cytometry requires recombination of the stalled fork with a 5' adjacent truncated GFP copy (Tr-GFP). The same flow assay allows for additional quantification of HR induced by a chromosomal DSB due to the presence of an I-SceI site next to the 6X Ter array (Figure 3E). In repeated experiments in mouse ES cells using two independent siRNAs, we observed minor effects of depletion of *SCAI* (Figure 3F) or *REV3* (Figure 3G) on I-SceI-induced HR repair that do not reach statistical significance.

In contrast, there was an ~65% and 60% reduction in Tus-induced total HR (Figure 3F, left panel) following *SCAI* (Figure S3E) or *REV3* (Figure S3F) depletion, respectively. This was mostly attributable to reduced short tract gene conversion (STGC - an error free form of HR repair) at stalled forks following *REV3* or *SCAI* loss. Their loss did not result in substantially reduced long tract gene conversion (LTGC - a rarer and more error prone form of repair). Thus, upon loss of Protexin, conventional DSB repair remains largely intact while HR repair by Tus/Ter induced fork stalling is substantially reduced.



## Protexin prevents aberrant RPA phosphorylation and ssDNA accumulation after replication stress

Next, we assayed for DDR activation in response to ICLs in response to ICLs after Protexin loss. Chk1 phosphorylation increased following *SCAI* depletion (Figures 4A and S4B) only in the presence of ICLs. We also observed striking increases in RPA2 phosphorylation (pRPA) following *SCAI* depletion with multiple siRNAs or in *SCAI* null cells (Figures 4A and 4B) in a 53BP1 (Figure S4D) or HELB (Figure S5D)-independent manner. This was seen in multiple cell lines (RPE, Figure S4C; HeLa, Figure S3C), and could be rescued by expressing siRNA-resistant *SCAI* (Figure 4C). *SCAI* protein levels also appeared to increase following replication stress (Figure 4A). Kinetic analysis revealed that the increased pRPA first became detectible at 8 h after ICL treatment (Figure S4A), with similar kinetics to FANCD2 activation (Figure S6A). This pRPA occurs on chromatin (Figure S3C). Increased pRPA was also seen after HU upon *SCAI* depletion (Figure 4A), but was less pronounced because significant pRPA occurs in controls due to HU-induced replication fork uncoupling.

Depletion of *REV3* with multiple siRNAs phenocopied *SCAI* loss for pRPA with ICLs (Figures 4D, S4E–S4H) while *REV1* depletion showed a small effect on pRPA. pRPA accumulation was the same in the individual and double depletions of *REV3* and *SCAI* indicating epistasis. Like *REV3*, *REV7* is essential for TLS as part of pol zeta, however, *REV7* loss had no effect on pRPA levels and did not affect the phenotype of depletion of either *SCAI* or *REV3* in response to ICLs (Figure 4E). This is consistent with a TLS-independent role for *REV3* in preventing increased pRPA during ICL repair.

RPA on ssDNA in S phase is phosphorylated by ATR at replication blocks. To directly visualize whether *SCAI* loss led to ssDNA accumulation, we performed both IF and flow cytometry-based assays to quantify changes in BrdU content under non-denaturing conditions (a proxy for the extent of ssDNA content). *SCAI* loss led to significantly increased numbers of BrdU+ ssDNA foci per cell following MMC treatment (Figure 4G). Increased BrdU intensity was also observed in the absence of *SCAI* when only the nascent strand was labeled (Figure S4I). Taken together, our data demonstrates that *SCAI* and *REV3* appear to function together in the Protexin complex to limit ssDNA formation following treatment replication stress agents.

## Protexin protects against excessive fork degradation by EXO1

Protexin may limit ssDNA by protecting forks from nucleases, as suggested for BRCA2 (Schlacher et al., 2011). Using DNA combing techniques and sequential pulsing of CldU, then IdU followed by HU treatment, we examined fork lengths in the absence of *SCAI*. *SCAI* loss resulted in moderately reduced length of the second signal, diminishing the IdU:CldU ratio (Figure 5D). This is consistent with the reduced recovery of DNA synthesis seen upon HU- treatment of *SCAI* mutant cells (S2H). Thus, *SCAI* protects stalled forks.

To determine the nucleases responsible for ssDNA generation, we depleted known resection enzymes. Neither *CtIP* (Figure S5A) or *MRE11* (Figure S5B) depletion, or the *MRE11* inhibitor mirin (Figure S5C) reduced pRPA in *SCAI* null cells following cisp treatment. However, we did observe a slight, but repeatable, reduction in pRPA following depletion of

either *DNA2* (Figure 5A) or *WRN* (Figure S5E), perhaps via replication slowing owing to DNA2's role in Okazaki fragment maturation, resulting in fewer fork converging lesions. In contrast, *EXO1* depletion completely abolished the increases in pRPA seen following cisp (Figure 5A) or MMC (Figure S6E) treatment, suggesting that *SCAI* activity is important to limit EXO1 function. *EXO1* depletion also abolished pRPA seen following *REV3* loss (Figure 6A).

To examine ssDNA more directly, we stained for BrdU foci in WT and *SCAI* null cells following depletion of EXO1 and observed markedly fewer BrdU foci in *SCAI* null cells following EXO1 depletion (Figure 5B,C). Furthermore, DNA combing analyses showed that depletion of EXO1 suppressed the fork protection defect observed in *SCAI* mutants (Figure 5D).

**Unlike its role during replication stress, SCAI promotes resection at DSBs and mediates resistance to PARP inhibitors.**—Programmed DSBs that form during the unhooking step precede HR during ICL repair. This raises the question as to whether the increased ssDNA seen in the absence of Protexin was due to resection of those DSBs. If so, preventing DSB formation should abolish the increased pRPA seen after Protexin loss. We depleted enzymes that mediate the ‘unhooking’ step of ICL repair, FAN1, ERCC1, SLX4 and MUS81; none of these blocked pRPA accumulation in *SCAI* nulls (Figure 5E, S6F). Loss of ERCC1 caused moderate increases in pRPA in WT cells (Figure 5E). Although an unknown nuclease could be involved, taken together, these experiments suggest that increased pRPA was not due to DSB formation.

Since *SCAI* associated with several genes that control resection following DSBs, e.g. 53BP1, HELB, we examined Protexin roles in resection of DSBs. We used a well characterized system to quantitate ssDNA formation at enzyme-induced DSB sites (Zhou et al., 2014). Unlike members of the 53BP1-RIF1-REV7 pathway, neither *SCAI* nor *REV3* loss increased resection at DSB sites (Figure 5F). *SCAI* loss appeared to, if anything, lead to reduced resection presumably through *SCAI*'s negative regulation of 53BP1 (Isobe et al., 2017).

Loss of 53BP1 pathway genes causes increased resistance to PARPi treatment (Lord and Ashworth, 2017). Since *SCAI* appears to play opposing roles to 53BP1 during DSB repair by promoting resection, we hypothesized that overexpression of *SCAI* might promote resistance to PARP inhibitors. Indeed, overexpression of *SCAI* in *BRCA1* null RPE cells (Figure 5G–H) increased survival following PARPi or cisp treatment as assayed by CSAs. Thus, *SCAI* appears to differentially regulate DNA resection depending on the context of repair.

### **Protexin protects FANCM-reversed forks from degradation during ICL repair**

To understand where in ICL repair *SCAI* acts, we examined several FA pathway steps. *SCAI* was not important for activation of FANCI foci or FANCD2 monoubiquitination after treatment with ICL agents (Figure S6A–C). Furthermore, depletion of the core FA gene *FANCA* (Figure S6F, lanes 5 & 6), *FANCD2* (Figure S6F, lanes 7 & 8) or expression of two different dominant negative mutants in FANCI that block FANCD2 ubiquitination (Ishiai et



al., 2008) (Figure S6H) had little or no effect on the generation of pRPA in *SCAI* mutants treated with cisp. Together, these data suggest that the core FA pathway *per se* was not important for ssDNA accumulation seen in *SCAI* mutants.

Notably, *FANCM* depletion markedly reduced pRPA after cisp or MMC treatment in the absence of *SCAI* (S6E, F) or *REV3* (Figure 6A) and reduced ssDNA generation as measured by BrdU foci formation (Figure 6B). *FANCM* forms a complex with *FAAP24* and the histone fold complex proteins *MHF1* and *MHF2*. Depletion of either *FAAP24* or *MHF2* also led to reduction in pRPA in *SCAI* null cells (Figure S6G). Thus, a *FANCM*-specific function that acts independently of the FA complex or FA pathway activation is essential for driving ssDNA accumulation in the absence of Protexin.

A study using *Xenopus* extracts showed that reversal of one of the converging forks takes place during the process of ICL repair (Abdullah et al., 2017; Amunugama et al., 2018). ssDNA accumulation during *SCAI* loss might occur via fork reversal and subsequent 5' strand degradation by *EXO1*. *FANCM* is a highly conserved member of the XPF heterodimeric endonuclease 3' flap family. Its fork remodeling roles are mediated by its ATP-dependent translocase domain, promoting branch point migration and fork reversal (Gari et al., 2008a; Gari et al., 2008b), a biochemical function conserved in *S. cerevisiae* (*Mph1*), *S. pombe* (*Fml1*) and archaeobacteria (*Hef*) (Meng and Zhao, 2017). A single point mutation (K117R) specifically abolishes its translocase and fork reversal activities (Gari et al., 2008a; Gari et al., 2008b), acting as a separation of function mutant, since it retains proficiency for recruitment and activation of the FANCM-ID complex (Xue et al., 2008). To determine whether the *FANCM* translocase activity is required for ssDNA accumulation following *SCAI* loss, we depleted *FANCM* in *SCAI* null cells. *FANCM* loss led to reduced pRPA, which was restored upon expression of WT *FANCM* but not the K117R mutant (Figure 6C). This phenotype is specific to *FANCM*, as depletion of fork remodelers *ZRANB3* nor *SMARCAL1* failed to impact pRPA after *SCAI* loss (Figure 6D).

The K117R mutant also failed to rescue the increased sensitivity of *FANCM*-depleted cells to MMC (Figure 6E) demonstrating that *FANCM*'s translocase activity was important for ICL repair. Also, whereas *FANCM* depletion led to reduced survival following cisp treatment both in WT and *SCAI* null cells (Figure S6I), depletion of *EXO1* resulted in substantial increases in survival (3–4-fold) compared to control siRNA in the absence of *SCAI* (Figure 6F), suggesting that *SCAI* protects from cell death in response to ICLs at least in part by limiting excessive *EXO1*-dependent resection of *FANCM*-reversed forks. Unlike ICL treatment, in response to HU *FANCM* loss did not prevent the increased pRPA seen in *SCAI* null cells although it did lower overall pRPA (Figure S6J). Taken together, these findings suggest that the *FANCM* dependent fork reversal activity is required to generate the substrate for *EXO1*-dependent ssDNA accumulation seen in the absence of Protexin.

### Protexin mediates a RAD51-independent mechanism of fork stabilization control

Several protection mechanisms have been identified that act via stabilization of *RAD51* on the replication fork (Rickman and Smogorzewska, 2019) which is thought to be resistant to degradation by nucleases such as *MRE11*. To determine whether Protexin acts in a similar fashion, we examined *RAD51* foci formation following replication stress. Remarkably,

SCAI depletion had no effect on RAD51 foci formation (Figure 6G), suggesting Protexin prevents fork resection in a manner independent of RAD51 stabilization. BRCA2 plays important roles in fork stabilization via RAD51 filament regulation unlike SCAI. If they work in a parallel protection pathway, they should genetically interact. Consistent with distinct fork protection mechanisms, *SCAI* mutants were more sensitive to *BRCA2* depletion than controls, even in the absence of damage (Figure 6H).

### **REV3 catalyzes DNA synthesis to restrain ssDNA accumulation.**

While REV3's TLS role was not important for Protexin function, we wished to know if REV3's polymerase activity played a role in protecting stalled forks. Thus, we established cell lines stably expressing either vector alone, GFP-REV3(WT), or GFP fused to a previously published REV3 D2781A/D2783A active site mutation (MUT-REV3) that abrogates polymerase activity (Lange et al., 2016). We then depleted endogenous REV3 using siRNAs against the 3' UTR which is absent in the transgenes. Interestingly, whereas the WT REV3 cDNA was able to reduce pRPA relative to control cells, polymerase-dead REV3 mutant did not (Figures S7A and S7B). Equivalent REV3 expression and foci formation was confirmed by IP-western blots (Figure S7A) and IF assays (Figure S7C). The failure of the polymerase defective mutant to complement Protexin's prevention of pRPA formation was observed in further experiments done using three individual MUT-REV3 clones compared to WT-REV3 clones (Figure 7A). This data suggests that REV3 actively synthesizes DNA to prevent or control accumulation of RPA (and thus ssDNA) in the absence of Protexin, possibly through a replacement mechanism.

### **Protexin loss exposes a previously uncharacterized role for RNA polymerase activity in stalled fork repair.**

Strikingly, we detected substantial enrichment of every RNA polymerase subunit in *SCAI* IPs (Table S6). Reversed forks induced by crosslinks primarily leave a 3' overhang (Amunugama et al., 2018). RNA polymerase II (POL2) can recognize ssDNA overhangs (Kadesch and Chamberlin, 1982), and recently, both POL2 (Pessina et al., 2019) and POL3 (Liu et al., 2021) have been shown to be recruited to and to catalyze RNA synthesis at DSBs to promote resection. The strong association of POL2 with SCAI prompted us to investigate whether POL2 was playing similar pro-resection functions at stalled forks induced by cisp treatment. If true, POL2 inhibition should prevent pRPA accumulation. Surprisingly, while blocking POL2 activity using  $\alpha$ -amanitin (POL2i) slightly reduced pRPA in vehicle treated cells, doing so in cells pre-treated with cisp led instead to marked increases in pRPA (Figure 7B) that approached levels seen following Protexin loss. POL2i treatment of *SCAI*-null cells did not result in similar increases in (nor a reduction in) pRPA levels (Figure 7B). Similar increases were also seen following treatment with DRB, another POL2 inhibitor that acts via a different mechanism (Figure S7D). The increased pRPA seen upon POL2 inhibition was dependent on FANCM and EXO1 activity (Figure S7E), suggesting that it occurred similarly to Protexin loss.

To rule out potential indirect effects from slightly prolonged (6-hour) POL2 inhibition, we used an IF-based approach assaying for detergent-resistant RPA2 foci (used as a proxy for ssDNA accumulation) on chromatin in S phase cells tracked using EdU labeling. Following

3 h cisp treatment, *SCAI* null cells had increased RPA2 amounts on chromatin compared to untreated controls or cisp-treated WT (Figures 7C and 7E). Also, while treatment of WT cells with either POL2i or cisp alone had no effect on total RPA2 chromatin levels, inhibition of POL2 for 2 h in the presence of cisp led to marked increases RPA2 amounts on chromatin in these cells (Figures 7D and 7F) similar to what was seen upon *SCAI* loss. Treatment with DRB led to a similar, FANCM-dependent increase in RPA2 levels on chromatin in WT cells (Figure 7G). Recently, RNA POL3 was shown to be recruited to DSB sites where it regulates resection (Liu et al., 2021). Unlike that seen following POL2 inhibition, POL3 inhibition did not result in increased RPA on chromatin in the presence of cisp (Figure 7H). Taken together, our results demonstrate that POL2 activity has important roles in controlling FANCM-dependent RPA loading, and thus ssDNA accumulation, during ICL repair.

To directly visualize POL2 and its possible direct roles at stalled forks, we performed proximity ligation assays (PLAs). Since  $\gamma$ H2AX foci form at damage sites upon cisp treatment, we used PLA to detect POL2 association with  $\gamma$ H2AX. While we detected a few foci in WT cells (Figure 7I, bottom panel), we consistently observed increased amounts of POL2-H2AX foci in *SCAI* null cells upon cisp treatment (Figure 7I) that only occurred when both antibodies were present (Figure S7F and S7G). We also observed increased association of a 2<sup>nd</sup> distinct POL2 antibody with one to FANCI in the absence of *SCAI* (Figure S7H), ruling out any potential effects of *SCAI* loss on  $\gamma$ H2AX levels, as *SCAI* loss does not affect FANCI recruitment to or foci formation at ICLs (Figure S6B and S6C). Thus, this data is consistent with the interpretation that RNA POL2 is present at ICL sites in both WT and *SCAI* null cells and is consistent with a role for POL2 at these sites. The increased antibody signal with POL2 and FANCI or H2AX at fork sites seen in the absence of *SCAI* could be due to persistence of the ssDNA substrate for POL2 recruitment and activity due to failure of either fork restoration and/or HR. Thus, Protexin loss likely exposed a transient role for POL2 at ICL sites.

Consistent with POL2 presence at ICL sites, depletion of *FANCM* or *EXO1* led to reduction in the amounts of POL2 -  $\gamma$ H2AX PLA signals in the absence of *SCAI* (Figure 7J), suggesting that, similar to ssDNA accumulation seen upon *SCAI* loss (Figure 4G), the association of POL2 and H2AX was dependent on FANCM and EXO1 activity. *FANCM* or *EXO1* depletion did not affect  $\gamma$ H2AX levels in the absence of Protexin (Figure 6A). To directly visualize POL2 products at ICL sites following cisp treatment, we performed PLAs against FANCI and RNA-DNA hybrids (using a known monoclonal antibody, S9.6). We detected increased numbers of S9.6/FANCI foci in the absence of *SCAI* (Figure 7K) although hybrid induction cannot be firmly concluded as these interpretations are dependent on S9.6 specificity for RNA-DNA hybrids (Crossley et al., 2021; Hartono et al., 2018). These experiments suggested the possibility that RNA-DNA hybrids might transiently form on the reversed fork, and that this structure may accumulate due to increases in ssDNA upon *SCAI* loss (Figure S7I).

## Discussion

### **SCAI is a novel replication stress and crosslink repair factor**

In this study we found many genes not previously implicated in ICL repair and focused on *SCAI*, which we show is important for ICL repair, fork protection under multiple circumstances and genomic stability. *SCAI* acts in the FA pathway and was epistatic with *FANCA* and genetically interacts with *FANCM*. Whether *SCAI* mutation in humans presents with an FA-related phenotype is unknown. However, loss of even one allele in humans is heavily selected against, pLi= 1 (<https://gnomad.broadinstitute.org/>). Thus, if *SCAI* mutants could result in a recessive FA phenotype, the homozygous mutants would be exceedingly rare as single LOF alleles are selected against. This is also true for *REV3L* and *REV1*, pLi=1.

### **SCAI forms a complex with REV3 that controls ssDNA accumulation**

SCAI forms a complex, Protexin, with REV3. Protexin acts as a general regulator of stalled fork dynamics being required in response to HU, fragile sites and for HR repair at forks stalled by the Tus/Ter complex. A striking phenotype due to Protexin loss was accumulation of ssDNA in response to ICLs in S phase. That Protexin controls resection at stalled forks is supported by multiple observations. First, depletion of either component of Protexin led to increases in chromatin-bound pRPA and ssDNA following cisp, MMC and HU treatment. Secondly, DNA fiber assays showed increased fork resection following HU treatment in the absence of *SCAI*. Third, recovery of DNA synthesis is impaired following HU-treatment in *SCAI* mutant cells. Finally, RPA accumulation in mutants can be prevented by loss of exonucleases. Importantly, the role for REV3 in regulation of ssDNA accumulation upon replication stress was likely independent of its previously described role in TLS as loss of REV7 did not affect ssDNA accumulation.

### **The Protexin complex promotes reversed fork stability**

ICL-induced ssDNA accumulation in Protexin deficient cells requires the FANCM-FAAP24-MHF2 complex but not members of the core FA complex or FANCI-D2. FANCM initiates repair at ICLs suggesting that the ssDNA accumulation occurs at ICL sites. Genetic evidence suggests the role of FANCM in the Protexin pathway involves fork reversal. In principle, this ssDNA could be generated by either resection on the lagging strand or after fork reversal. Fork reversal occurs during ICL repair both in *Xenopus* extracts (Amunugama et al., 2018) and in mammalian cells (Zellweger et al., 2015). FANCM possesses fork reversal activity *in vitro* (Gari et al., 2008a).

FANCM's role in mediating pRPA accumulation in Protexin mutants could be separated from its role in FA pathway activation, as the defect in ssDNA accumulation in the absence of *SCAI* could not be rescued by the K117R *FANCM* mutant required for fork reversal *in vitro*. This mutant is severely defective in ICL repair *in vivo* but maintains the role of FANCM in recruiting core complex and FA signaling (Gari et al., 2008a; Meetei et al., 2005; Xue et al., 2008). Assuming that the K117R mutant is specific for fork reversal, these data suggest that Protexin acts to protect reversed forks from either extensive reversed strand resection and/or the inability to restore the resected DNA. Resection on the lagging strand

pre-reversal is also possible but would be a minor component of overall resection. Resection of DSBs that form during ICL repair was ruled out by the lack of effect of mutants that prevent DSB formation in ICL repair e.g. FA core complex, FANCD2, MUS81 and SLX4.

### How does Protexin act to prevent excessive ssDNA accumulation?

Protexin limits or counteracts *EXO1* activity at stalled forks but must have additional activities as *EXO1* loss only partly rescues ICL sensitivity in *SCAI* mutants and the HR defect at Tus/Ter stalled forks is not rescued by *EXO1* depletion (data not shown). An alternative formal possibility is that ssDNA occurs constitutively upon fork reversal (e.g. leading strand advancement past the lagging strand leading to a 3' overhang) and Protexin counteracts FANCM fork reversal activity. However, *FANCM* loss did not prevent increases in pRPA following HU in the absence of *SCAI*. It should be noted that while the TLS role of REV3 is likely not required for the function of Protexin at stalled forks, the converse is not true, i.e. that Protexin has no role in TLS, and remains to be examined. Furthermore, *EXO1* and *FANCM* work coordinately because the phenotypes of *EXO1* and *FANCM* loss on proliferative fitness across 600 cell lines is highly correlated [Cancer Dependency Map (<https://depmap.org/portal/>)] as *FANCM* is the most closely correlated gene with *EXO1* in over 18,000 genes (Pearson Coefficient = 0.33).

**Protexin promotes resynthesis of excised DNA.**—While protecting DSBs or reversed forks from resection is thought to occur by prevention of exonuclease accessibility, the requirement for *REV3* suggested the possibility of resynthesis of resected DNA. This model is supported by the observation that *REV3* polymerase activity was required for preventing ssDNA accumulation analogous to what has been proposed for POL alpha and the CST complex at DSBs (Mirman et al., 2018). CST uses primase to prime and, although it is not fully clear how a primer for *REV3* might be generated, it is possible that RNA synthesized by *POL2* could be involved. RNA polymerase can recognize and initiate RNA synthesis on 3' overhangs (Kadesch and Chamberlin, 1982) although this possible function will require future biochemical investigation.

Recently, RNA *POL3* has been shown to be recruited to DSBs where it generates transient RNA that is required for HR, although there is conflicting data on whether *POL2* or *POL3* was required. Using genetic and imaging approaches we have shown that RNA *POL2* is present at stalled forks. Inhibition of *POL2* but not *POL3* using multiple drugs led to *FANCM*- and *EXO1*-dependent increases in RPA2 at stalled forks. We also observed potential formation of RNA-DNA hybrids that persist in the absence of Protexin, although that is dependent on the specificity of the S9.6 antibody for RNA-DNA hybrids. In this role one hypothetical model suggests that *POL2* recognizes ssDNA ends generated during fork reversal and ultimately plays a positive role in protecting these reversed forks. *POL2* recognition of ssDNA may be a common predicament faced during many types of repair, and loss of Protexin might be uncovering a previously unrecognized role for RNA *POL2* upon fork stalling and reversal.

**Differential strategies for fork and DSB protection from resection and roles in HR.**—For reversed stalled forks, limited resection is protective to prevent NHEJ, a role

performed by DNA2 at HU-stalled forks (Thangavel et al., 2015). Excessive resection at stalled forks, however, could be deleterious. For example, RNA persistence in the absence of Protexin could block ssDNA from participating in HR or reversing fork reversal which could increase genomic instability. Thus, while loss of anti-resection factors at DSBs leads to increased HR, this is not the case at stalled forks. Importantly, our data suggests that SCAI has a pro-resection role with respect to the 53BP1 complex at DSBs as SCAI overproduction provided resistance to PARP inhibitors in BRCA1 mutants. Thus, SCAI could protect reversed forks by both countering NHEJ while also preventing excessive resection and promoting HR at forks.

In the absence of Protexin, excessive resection and inability to fill-in the resected DNA in response to ICLs leads to ssDNA accumulation. Inhibition of RNA POL2, which forms a complex with SCAI, phenocopies Protexin loss. How the POL2 and REV3 polymerases coordinate is not clear. One possibility is their interaction initiates REV3 activity after priming by POL2. Nevertheless, Protexin acts in concert with POL2, possibly analogously to the back-filling role proposed for the Shieldin-CST complex at DSBs to prevent pathological excessive resection. It is also possible that a multifaceted mechanism operates that also includes directly impeding EXO1 activity. The fact that short-term POL2 inhibition phenocopies Protexin loss and that POL2 is present at the stalled fork suggests a direct role for POL2 at the fork. However, we cannot rule out the possibility that POL2 controls the expression of a short-lived RNA that acts in trans to protect forks.

Why allow resection in the first place if it can result in a need for a complex repair process? The answer is not known but one possibility is that it simply cannot be avoided kinetically during S phase and must be worked around. Alternatively, resection could help drive fork reversal kinetics in the case of an ICL. However, restoration of the reversed fork may require dsDNA resynthesis. ssDNA may be problematic for fork restoration energetically. Failure to properly restore fork function, particularly if it occurs on both sides of the ICL, could lead to partially unreplicated chromosomes and chromosomal breakage upon mitotic entry. While much remains to be known, it is clear that the Protexin complex and its associated proteins are playing a key role in addressing replication stress, and future elucidation of its mechanisms will illuminate a critical aspect of DNA repair.

## STAR Methods

### RESOURCE AVAILABILITY

**Lead contact**—The lead contact is Stephen Elledge (selledge@genetics.med.harvard.edu)

**Materials availability**—Materials generated in this study are available upon request.

### Data and code availability

- All generated data is available in the main text or supplemental tables. Original images have been deposited in Mendeley and can be accessed using the following link: <http://dx.doi.org/10.17632/35f2n4wsnv.1>. Any additional information is available upon request.



- This paper does not report original code
- Any additional information required to reanalyze the data reported in this paper is available from the lead contact upon request.

## EXPERIMENTAL MODEL AND SUBJECT DETAILS

**Human cell lines**—U2OS cells were passaged in McCoy's 5A media supplemented with 10% fetal bovine serum and 1% penicillin/streptomycin. RPE1 cells were maintained in DMEM:F12 media supplemented with 10% FBS and 1% penicillin/streptomycin. HeLa cells and 293T cells were grown in DMEM supplemented with 10% fetal bovine serum and 1% penicillin/streptomycin. U2OS expressing WT and Dom Neg FANCI were previously described (Ishiai et al., 2008). REV7 KO U2OS cells were previously described (Bluteau et al., 2017). ER-AsiSI cells were previously described (Zhou et al., 2014). All cells were maintained at 37°C in 5% CO<sub>2</sub>.

**Mouse cell lines**—Mouse ES cells were cultured in DMEM supplemented with 15% fetal bovine serum, 500 U/mL LIF, 2 mM glutamine, 1 mM sodium pyruvate, 20 mM Hepes, β-mercaptoethanol, non-essential amino acids, and penicillin/streptomycin.

## METHOD DETAILS

**siRNA transfections**—HeLa, RPE1, U2OS, or mouse 6xTer/HR ES cells were seeded onto 6-well plates and transfected with siRNAs the next day. In other instances, siRNAs were reverse transfected into cells at 20–40 nM using Lipofectamine RNAiMAX reagent (Invitrogen) or Lipofectamine 2000 (Invitrogen) according to the manufacturer's instructions. Cells were harvested or treated with drugs 2–4 days later.

**Plasmids, cloning and virus production/viral transduction**—FLAG-*SCAI*, FLAG-HA-*SCAI* and GFP-tagged *SCAI* were generated by LR cloning. siRNA-resistant *SCAI* constructs were generated by site directed mutagenesis. FLAG-*REV3* was generated by transferring the *REV3* ORF via restriction digestion from JT113-pETDuet1-(R)-h*REV3* (Addgene) into a modified FNpCNA3 (Addgene) vector. *FANCM*-WT and *FANCM*-K117R were previously described (Wang et al., 2018). shRNAs against RAD54, POLE4, ADSL, and OGDH were isolated from a previously described pGIPZ library (Silva et al., 2005). shRNAs against *REV3* and *SCAI* were generated by cloning into pLKO lentiviral vectors.

Lentiviruses were packaged in 293T cells via transfection with PolyJet (SignaGen) or TransIt reagent (MiRus). At 36 and 60h after transfection, harvested supernatants were filtered through 0.45mm-pore low protein binding membranes, concentrated using Lenti-X concentrator (Clontech) according to the manufacturer's instructions and treated with Benzonase (Millipore). Viral titers were calculated by clonogenic assays of serially diluted virus in the cell line of interest. All transductions were performed in the presence of polybrene. Infected U2OS cells were selected using puromycin (1 μg/ml; Clontech) for 3 days, Geneticin (Neomycin - 800 μg/ml; Invitrogen) for 7 days, or blasticidin (7.5 μg/ml; Invitrogen) for 4 days.

**CRISPR library construction and CRISPR screen**—The CRISPR library used in this screen was described previously (Martin et al., 2017). Briefly, a library of gRNAs targeting 18,166 genes with five gRNAs per gene for a total of ~91,000 gRNAs was synthesized and cloned into the lentiCRISPR V2 puro vector. Pooled virus was prepared by transfecting 293T cells with the library plasmid pool with lentiviral packaging vectors. Viral supernatants were harvested after transfection and concentrated with lenti-X concentrator solution (Clontech) before being titred by colony formation assays in U2OS cells. Cisp doses for the screen were determined by titrating a series of drug concentrations in U2OS cells and examining cell survival after 3 days. For the screen, U2OS cells were infected at a low MOI (0.2) with a representation of 500 in duplicate. Cells were selected with puromycin (1 µg/mL) for 3 days until an uninfected control plate completely died. An initial cell pellet was taken as PD0 and cells in each replicate were split into two populations, vehicle treated or treated with 1.5 µM cisp. Vehicle treated cells were grown for 5 PDs and harvested. Drug treated cells were washed after 24 h and grown for 5 PDs before being harvested. For the second arm of the screen, cells were further treated with 1 µM cisp, washed and cultured for another 5 PDs. Control cells were treated with vehicle and cultured for another 5 PDs as well before a final cell pellet was collected at PD10. Genomic DNA was isolated by phenol/chloroform extraction and gRNAs were PCR amplified with barcoded primers for sequencing on an Illumina NextSeq 500. Sequencing reads were aligned to the initial library to obtain read counts for each PD and condition. MAGeCK, EdgeR and R were used to calculate p-values, FDRs, and log<sub>2</sub> fold changes for comparison between the PD0, PD5 and PD10 cisp-treated and vehicle-treated samples. GO term analyses were performed using the GenePattern server (The Broad Institute).

**Generation of CRISPR knockout *SCAI* cells**—The following gRNA sequences 5' CACCGTGCTGAAGATGATATCCCAC and 5' AAACGTGGGATATCATCTTCAGCAC were annealed and cloned into LentiCrispr v2 (Addgene). U2OS cells were infected and selected in puromycin for 3 days. Single cells were cloned and *SCAI* knockout status was ascertained by western blotting.

**Multicolor competition assays (MCAs)**—MCAs were performed as described previously (Smogorzewska et al., 2007). Briefly, GFP-labeled U2OS cells were transfected with the indicated test siRNAs while RFP-labeled U2OS cells were transfected with control siRNAs. After 48 h, cells were mixed in equal quantities in six-well plates. Cells were then treated with the indicated dose of drug or vehicle control for 24 h. Fresh media was added and cells were maintained for 7 to 10 days after treatment. Subsequently, the percentage of GFP and RFP labeled cells were quantified by FACS analyses using a BD LSR II.

**Colony formation assay**—For colony formation assays, WT or CRISPR KO cells were transfected as above after which cells were exposed to the indicated doses of drugs for 16 to 24 h and adjusted for plating depending on dose of drug in six-well plates. Colonies were fixed and stained after 10–14 days and scored with a colony counting pen (VWR).

**96-well plate viability assays**—Cell viability assays using AlamarBlue (ThermoFisher) and CellTiter-Glo 2 (Promega) were performed according to the manufacturers' instructions.

Briefly, following shRNA infections or siRNA treatment, cells were seeded at 500 to 1000 cells per well in triplicate in 96 well plates. Cells were then treated with the indicated drugs for 24 h, washed and left to recover for 48 to 72 h prior to being read on a VICTOR X5 Multilabel Plate Reader (PerkinElmer).

**Western blotting**—Western blotting was done as previously described (Elia et al., 2015). Briefly, cells were harvested and lysed in SDS lysis buffer or RIPA buffer on ice. Cells were sonicated, protein content was measured and analyzed using electrophoresis gels.

**Quantitative reverse transcription PCR (RT-qPCR) analyses**—Total RNA was isolated from U2OS cells or mouse 6xTer/HR ES cells using the RNeasy plus mini kit (Qiagen) and reverse transcribed into cDNA using SuperScript IV reverse transcriptase (Invitrogen) according to the manufacturer's instructions. RT-qPCR was performed in triplicate using the TaqMan Gene Expression Master Mix (Life Technologies) and the respective gene-specific TaqMan Gene expression Assays (Thermo Scientific) on an Applied Biosystems Fast 7500 machine. GAPDH served as an endogenous normalization control.

**Cell cycle analyses**—Cells were treated with siRNA as above and treated or not with drugs as indicated. Cells were then harvested and fixed in 4% formaldehyde for 15 m at room temperature. Alternatively, cells were fixed in 70% ethanol for 15 m on ice. Cells were then pelleted, washed in PBS and resuspended in 50 µg/ml propidium iodide solution containing 0.1 mg/ml RNase A as well as 0.05% Triton X-100 for 40 m at 37°C, resuspended in PBS and flow cytometry was performed using BD-LSR II (Becton Dickinson). Data were analyzed using Flowjo software (Tree Star, OR).

**BrdU restart assay**—Cells were treated with vehicle or drug as indicated in the figure legends. Cells were then labeled with 10 µM BrdU for 30 m, washed and harvested. BrdU incorporation was assayed using an APC BrdU flow kit (BD Pharmingen) according to the manufacturer's instructions and analyzed by flow cytometry on a BD-LSR II Flow Cytometer (Becton Dickinson). Data was collected via BD FACS Diva software (Becton Dickinson). Analysis of cell cycle data was performed using FloJo software.

**Chromatin fractionation assay**—HeLa or U2OS cells were harvested and washed with cold PBS. Sedimented cells were resuspended in cold Solution 1 consisting of 10 mM Hepes (pH 7.9), 0.1% Triton X-100, 10 mM KCl, 1.5 mM MgCl<sub>2</sub>, 0.34 M sucrose, 1 mM DTT, protease and phosphatase inhibitor cocktails. After a 5 m incubation, samples were centrifuged at 1300g for 5 m, and the supernatant removed as the soluble fraction. Sedimented nuclei were washed once with Solution 1 and lysed in Solution 2 (3 mM EDTA, 0.2 mM EGTA, 1 mM DTT) for 10 m. Samples were centrifuged at 1300 g for 5 m, and the chromatin-enriched pellets washed once with Solution 2 followed by resuspension in lysis buffer containing 50mM Tris ph 6.8, 100 mM NaCl, 1.7% SDS, 7% glycerol and protease and phosphatase inhibitors. After sonication, sample buffer was added to 1X and the samples were boiled for western blotting.

**Immunofluorescence assay**—For IF, cells were transfected or not with the indicated siRNAs, then 24 h later plated onto glass coverslips in 6-well plates. After 24–36 h, drug

treatments were performed for the indicated durations. Cells were then washed with PBS, fixed with 4% paraformaldehyde for 15 m and extracted with 0.5% Triton X-100 in PBS for 10 m. In some cases cells were pre-extracted using cytoskeleton buffer (containing 10 mM piperazine-N,N'-bis(2-ethanesulfonic acid) (PIPES), pH 6.8, 100 mM NaCl, 300 mM sucrose, 1 mM MgCl<sub>2</sub>, 1 mM EGTA as well as 0.5% Triton X-100, protease and phosphatase inhibitors) for 5 m on ice prior to the fixation and permeabilization steps. Cells were then blocked in 3% BSA in PBS and incubated with primary and secondary antibodies. The coverslips were mounted and nuclei visualized with DAPI Fluoromount-G (Southern Biotech) and images were acquired using an Olympus FV3000 confocal microscope.

**Detection of ssDNA via BrdU staining**—ssDNA generated by following treatment with ICL agents was detected as previously described (Huang et al., 2010). Briefly, WT or *SCAI*-null U2OS cells were reverse transfected or not with the indicated siRNAs and then grown for 36 h in media containing 20 μM BrdU. Afterwards cells were cultured without BrdU overnight prior to treatment with vehicle or 1 M MMC for 6–8 h. Cells were washed, fixed with cold methanol, rinsed with acetone, and then incubated with anti-BrdU antibody (BD Biosciences, 347580) without DNA denaturation. Total BrdU incorporation was determined under denatured condition via treatment with 2.5 M HCl for 80 minutes.

The native BrdU flow cytometry assay described in Figure S3H was performed as previously described (Tkac et al., 2016) with modifications. Briefly, control or *SCAI* siRNA treated cells were labeled with BrdU for 10 h followed by treatment with vehicle or indicated doses of cisplatin for 6 h. BrdU intensity was assayed using flow cytometry under non-denaturing conditions.

**DSB resection assay**—Measurement of resection at DSBs using the ER-AsiSI U2OS cell lines were performed as previously described (Zhou et al., 2014). DSBs were measured 4 h following addition of 4-hydroxytamoxifen to induce breaks.

**Metaphase spreads**—Cells were either transfected with *SCAI* specific siRNA or control nontargeted siRNA using Lipofectamine RNAiMax (Life Tech). The cells were then treated with 20ng/ml MMC for 48 h or left untreated. Following treatment, the cells were exposed to colcemid (100ng/ml) for 2 h, treated with a hypotonic solution (0.075M KCL) for 20 m and fixed with 3:1 methanol: acetic acid. Slides were stained with Wright's stain and 50 metaphase spreads were scored for aberrations. Metaphase spreads were observed using a Zeiss Axio Imager microscope and captured using CytoVision software from Applied Imaging.

**IP mass spectrometry analyses**—IP mass spec analysis was done as previously described (Elia et al., 2015). 293T cells expressing FLAG-HA-tagged *SCAI* or vector control were treated with vehicle or 3 μM for 3 h and then lysed in low-salt lysis buffer (50 mM Tris, 150 mM NaCl, 10 mM NaF, 0.5% NP-40, pH 7.5) containing 2 mM N-Ethylmaleimide, protease inhibitor tablet, and phosphatase inhibitor cocktails. Lysates were clarified by centrifugation at 14,000g for 10 m. The insoluble pellet was then sonicated in low-salt lysis buffer and clarified a second time by centrifugation at 14,000g. Supernatants were combined and immunoprecipitated with monoclonal anti-HA agarose (Sigma) for 2

h at 4°C, washed 4 times in low-salt lysis buffer and eluted with 500 µg/mL HA peptide (Sigma). *SCAI*-interacting proteins were TCA precipitated, digested with trypsin, desalted using Stage tips, and analyzed by LC-MS/MS.

**Co-immunoprecipitation (Co-IP) analyses**—293T cells were transfected with the indicated plasmids for 60 h, treated with cisp or vehicle, harvested in cold PBS and lysed in RIPA buffer without SDS. Lysates were clarified by centrifugation and the supernatants were precleared with Protein G Dynabeads (Invitrogen) and immunoprecipitated using Anti-FLAG® M2 Magnetic Beads (Sigma) for 2 h at 4°C. Beads were washed four times and boiled in sample buffer prior to western blotting.

**EdU Click-It assays**—EdU click-it assays were performed according to the manufacturer's recommendations (Sigma). EdU was added to cells at a final concentration of 10 µM. Cells were pre-extracted to remove non-chromatin bound RPA2 before staining.

**Proximity ligation assays**—For Proximity ligation assays (PLA), cells were fixed and permeabilized as with IF assays except in experiments detecting interaction of FANCI and S9.6 antibodies where cells were pre-extracted prior to fixation. Cells were then incubated with primary antibody combinations and PLAs were performed using Duolink in situ Mouse/Rabbit Kit (Sigma) according to the manufacturer's instructions. Additional antibodies used for PLA include rabbit anti-RNA polymerase II (Bethyl, A300–653A), mouse monoclonal anti- Pol II (8WG16) (Santa Cruz, sc-56767) and anti-DNA-RNA Hybrid Antibody, clone S9.6 (Millipore, MABE1095).

**DNA fiber assay**—U2OS or *SCAI*-null cells were transfected with control siRNAs or siRNAs to EXO1. After 60 h, cells were incubated with 25 mM CldU for 30 m, washed and subsequently treated with 250mM IdU for 30 mM. Cells were then treated 4.5 mM HU for 4.5 h. Cells were harvested and replication combing assay was performed using the FiberComb machine (Genomic Vision) according to the manufacturer's protocol. Briefly, cells were counted and embedded in low melting point agarose plugs, then treated with proteinase K overnight. Agarose plugs were then washed and digested with agarose, then poured into FiberComb wells and combed onto silanized coverslips. Coverslips were stained as above and visualized by fluorescence microscopy using an Olympus FluoView FV3000 confocal microscope. Images were analyzed with ImageJ. More than 100 fibers were counted for each condition. In all figures, data represent the mean and SEM; p values were calculated using Mann-Whitney test.

**CFS reporter assays**—CFS assays were done as previously described (Wang et al., 2018). Cells infected with lentivirus vectors to express shRNAs to silence the indicated genes were cultured for two weeks. Mitotic recombination was measured by FACS.

**Homologous recombination assay**— $1.6 \times 10^5$  mouse 6xTer/HR embryonic stem reporter cells were co-transfected in suspension with 0.35 µg pcDNA3β control vector, pcDNA3β-myc NLS-I-SceI, or pcDNA3β-myc NLS-Tus, or along with either 20 pmol siLUC, si*SCAI* or si*REV3* siRNAs using Lipofectamine 2000 (Invitrogen) as previously described (Willis et al., 2014). For each independent experiment, HR frequencies from

duplicate samples were scored 72 h after transfection by flow cytometry using a Becton Dickinson 5 Laser LSR II and values corrected for background events and for transfection efficiency (65–85%). Between  $3\text{--}6 \times 10^5$  events were scored per duplicate samples. Transfection efficiency was measured by parallel transfection with 0.05  $\mu\text{g}$  pcDNA3 $\beta$ -*GFP* expression vector, 0.30  $\mu\text{g}$  pcDNA3 $\beta$  control vector, and 20 pmol siRNA. In all figures, data represents the mean and standard error of the mean (SEM) derived from independent experiments performed on different days (SEM = standard deviation/  $n$ , where  $n$  = number of experiments). P-values were calculated using a two-tailed unpaired t-test.

## Supplementary Material

Refer to Web version on PubMed Central for supplementary material.

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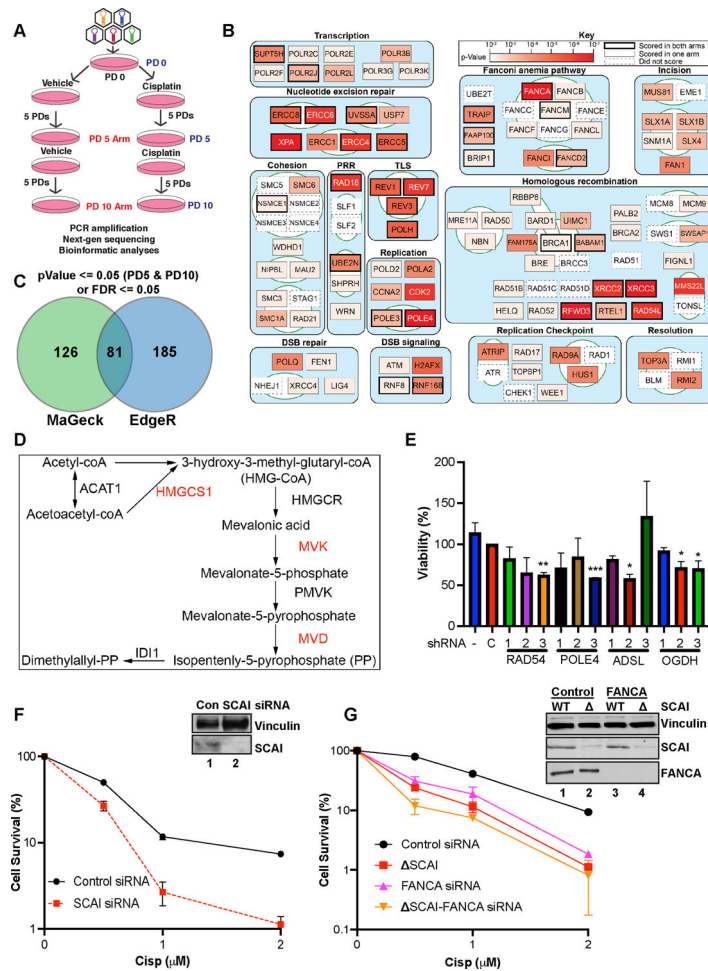
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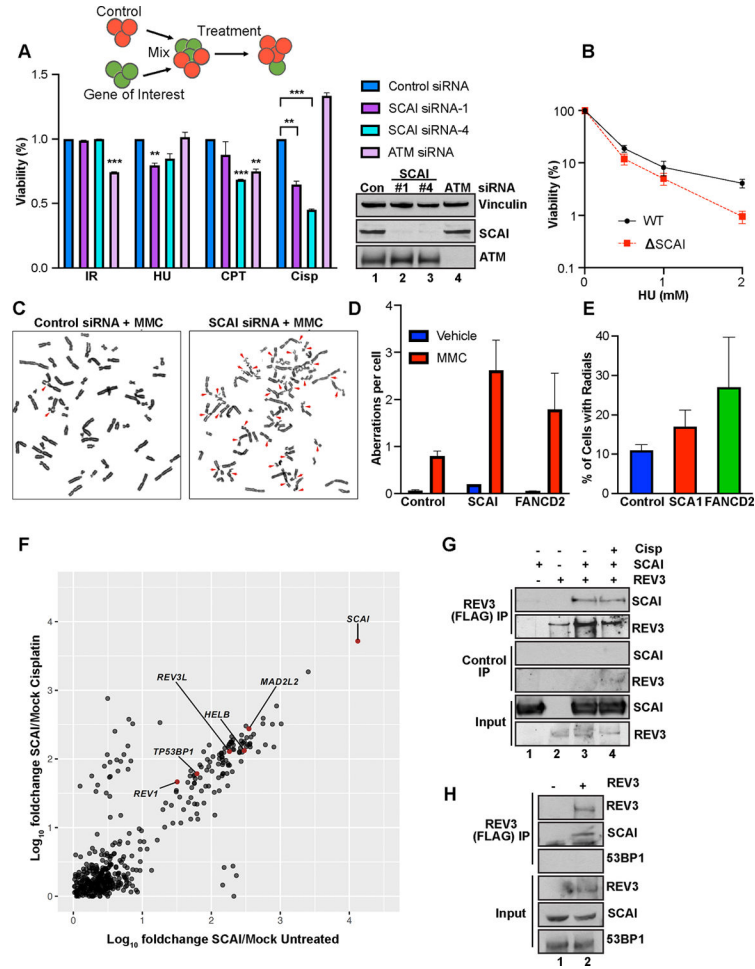
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**Highlights**

- Genome-wide cisplatin sensitivity screens show that SCAI promotes ICL repair
- SCAI forms Protexin complexes with REV3, preventing ssDNA accumulation after damage
- Protexin loss leads to excessive EXO1 resection of FANCM reversed forks at ICLs
- RNA polymerase interacts with Protexin to restore forks and promote repair

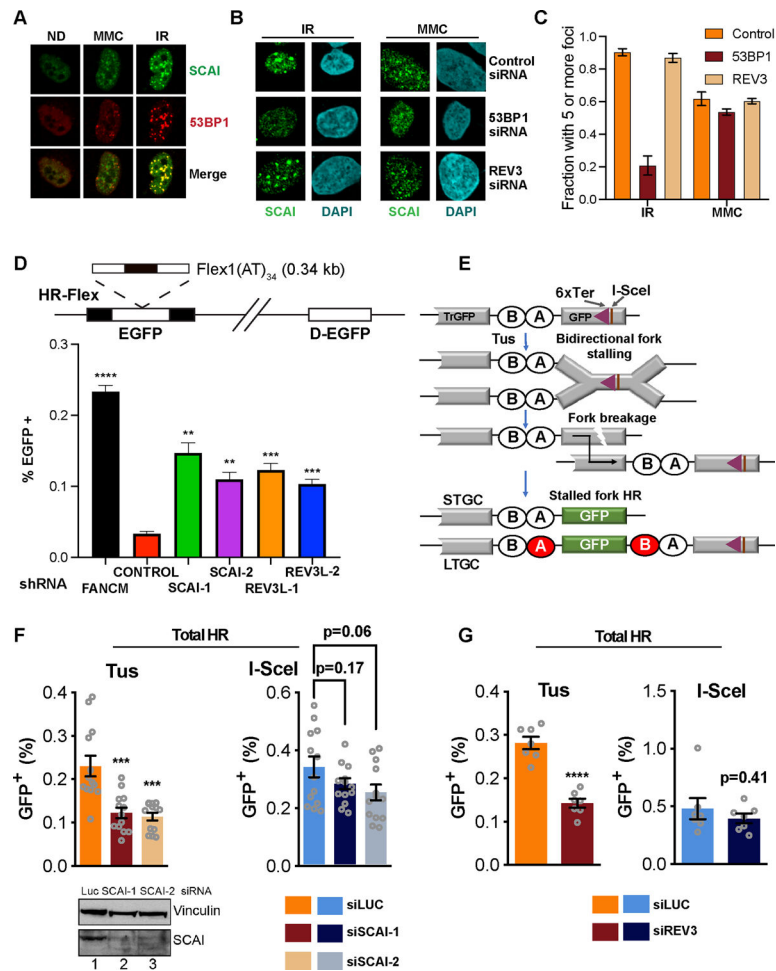


**Figure 1. Genetic screen identifies genes important for cisp sensitivity including SCAI.** (A) Screen schematic. Cisp treatment was 1.5  $\mu$ M at PD0 and was repeated at 1  $\mu$ M at PD5 for the PD10 arm. PD - population doubling. (B) Pathway map showing the top scoring known DNA repair genes from our screens. Some DNA replication and RNA transcription genes were omitted for space constraints. (C) Genes with significant p-values at both PD5 and PD10 or false discovery rates (FDR) <= 0.05 were included. Venn diagram shows the hits identified by EdgeR and MAGeCK. (D) Mevalonate pathway map. Red - genes that scored in the screen. (E) U2OS cells were transduced with lentiviruses expressing shRNAs against the indicated genes, no shRNA, or a control shRNA, C. Cells in 96-well plates were treated with vehicle or 1  $\mu$ M cisp for 24 h and analyzed by AlamarBlue viability assays at 72 h. Data is mean  $\pm$  SEM of two independent experiments. \* =  $p < 0.05$ , \*\* =  $p < 0.01$ , \*\*\* =  $p < 0.001$ . (F) Colony survival assays (CSA) showing survival of control or SCAI siRNA-treated U2OS cells treated with cisp. Data are normalized to untreated cells for each siRNA condition. Mean  $\pm$  SEM survival of 2 independent experiments shown. **Inset.** Western blot showing depletion of SCAI. (G) CSA showing survival of WT and SCAI null with or without siRNA to FANCA. Mean  $\pm$  SEM of two independent experiments shown. **Inset.** Western blots showing SCAI and FANCA depletion.

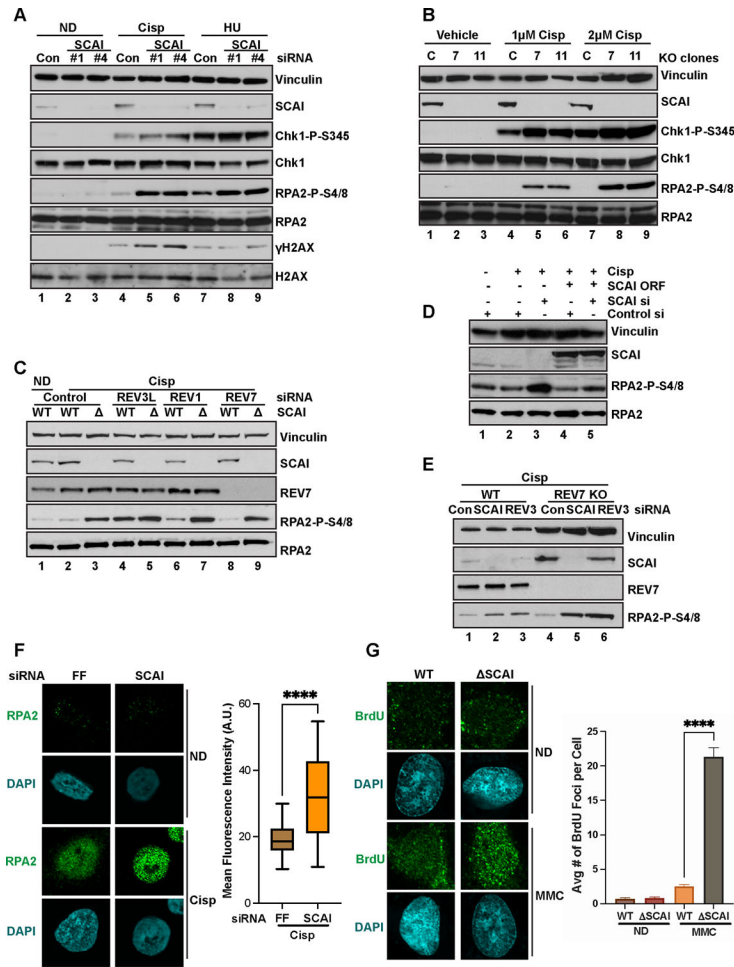


**Figure 2. SCAI promotes repair during replication stress and forms a novel complex with REV3** (A) **Top.** Schematic of the MCA assay. **Middle.** Relative sensitivity of *SCAI* and *ATM* depletion following treatment with 3 Gray (Gy) IR, 2 mM HU, 100 nM CPT or 1  $\mu$ M cisp (Cisp) for 24 h. Data are normalized to untreated cells. Mean  $\pm$  SEM values are plotted. Bottom panel: Western blots showing *SCAI* and *ATM* depletion. (B) CSA showing survival of WT and *SCAI* null U2OS cells following treatment with 0.5, 1 or 2 mM HU for 24 h. Mean  $\pm$  SEM of 2 independent experiments shown. (C) Representative images showing increased genomic instability in MMC-treated, 293Ts following *SCAI* siRNA compared to control. (D, E) Quantification of aberrations (D) and radial percentages (E) from experiment shown in (C). Mean  $\pm$  SEM of 2 independent experiments shown. (F) IP mass spec analyses showing normalized fold changes of IP'd peptides from FLAG-HA-*SCAI* vs vector-expressing 293-TREX cells following mock or cisp treatment. (G) 293Ts transfected with vector, GFP-*SCAI* and/or FLAG-*REV3* as indicated for 60 h and treated or not with 2  $\mu$ M cisp for 3 h. Pellets were IP'd with control or FLAG beads and processed for immunoblotting. (H) 293T cells were transfected with vector or FLAG-*REV3* and processed as above.



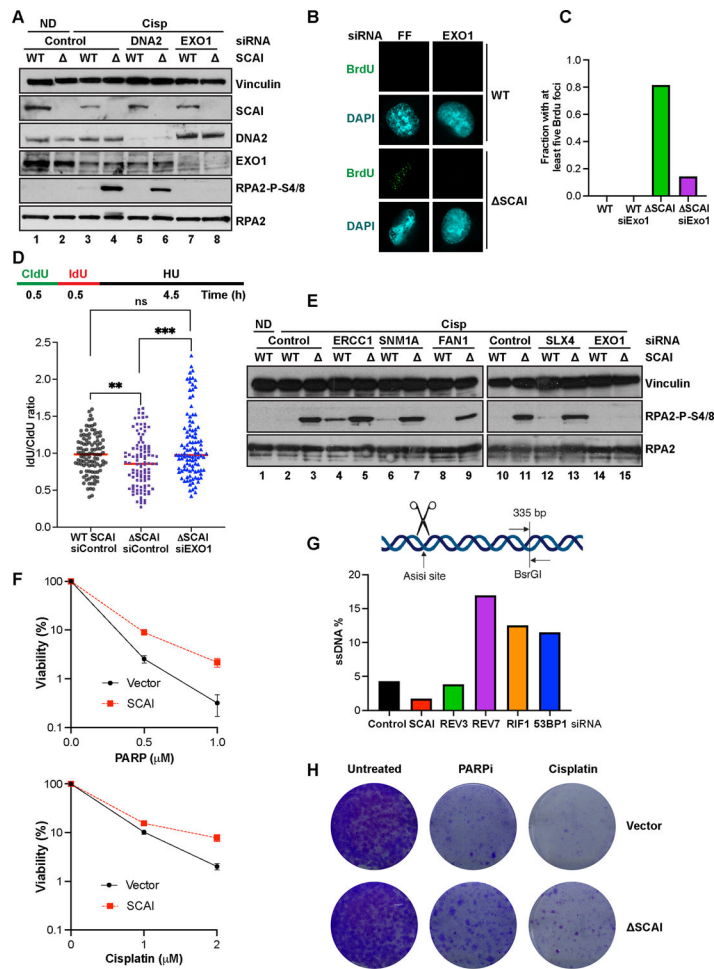


**Figure 3. Protetin is important for genomic stability and repair at stalled forks**  
**(A)** IF images showing foci of FLAG-SCAI and 53BP1 following 100 nM MMC (6h) or 4Gy IR (4h) treatment. **(B)** FLAG-SCAI U2OS transfected with the indicated siRNAs (48 h) then treated and processed for IF as in **(A)**. **(C)** Quantification of the experiment shown in **(B)**. At least 50 cells were counted per condition. **(D) Top.** Schematic showing the EGFP-based HR-Flex reporter described in experimental procedures. D-EGFP: donor EGFP. **Bottom.** Reporter cell lines were infected with the indicated shRNAs and assessed for GFP expression by flow after 14d. **(E)** Schematic of the Tus/6xTer HR reporter and HR repair products of Tus-Ter induced fork stalling. TrGFP is 5' truncated GFP. The triangle shows the 6xTer site adjacent to I-SceI. Open ovals A and B: 5' and 3' artificial RFP exons. STGC, LTGC: short tract and long tract gene conversion HR repair outcomes. LTGC generates wtRFP through splicing (red filled ovals). **(F)** HR frequencies in mouse 6xTer/HR cells co-transfected with Tus (top left panel) or I-SceI (top right panel) and either control or two different mouse siRNAs against *SCAI*. Total HR represents combination of STGC and LTGC values. Data represent the mean  $\pm$  SEM. Welch's test, \*\*\*= $p < 0.001$ . **(G)** HR frequencies in 6xTer/HR cells co-transfected with Tus (top left panel) or I-SceI (top right panel) and either control or siRNAs against *REV3*. Data represent the mean  $\pm$  SEM. Welch's test, \*\*\*= $p < 0.0001$ .



**Figure 4. SCAI limits accumulation of nuclear ssDNA during replication stress**

(A) U2OS cells transfected with the indicated siRNAs for 72 h, then treated with 2 μM Cisp or 1 mM HU for 18 h, harvested and processed for western blotting with the indicated antibodies. ND-no drug. (B) WT U2OS and two independent SCAI null clones (7, 11) were treated with the indicated doses of cisp for 18 h before immunoblotted. (C) U2OS cells were transfected with vector or siRNA resistant FLAG-SCAI. Cells were then treated with indicated siRNAs, with or without 1.5 μM cisp for 18 h before western blotting. (D) WT and SCAI-null U2OS were treated with the indicated siRNAs for 72 h, then treated with vehicle (ND) or 1.5 μM cisp for 18 h before immunoblotting. (E) WT and REV7-null U2OS were transfected with the indicated siRNAs for 72 h, then treated 2 μM cisp for 18 h before immunoblotting. (F) HeLas were transfected with the indicated siRNA for 60 h before treatment with no drug or 0.5 μM Cisp for 6 h. Cells were processed for RPA2 IF. Intensity of nuclear RPA staining from was quantified in 50 cells using ImageJ and plotted. T-tests, \*\*\*\* =  $p < 0.0001$ . (G) WT or SCAI null U2OS were BrdU labeled and then treated with vehicle (ND) or 1 μM MMC for 6 h and processed for BrdU IF. Average number of BrdU foci per cell was quantified and plotted on the right. T-tests, \*\*\*\* =  $p < 0.0001$ .



**Figure 5. SCAI protects stalled forks but not DSBs against resection by EXO1 and promotes resistance to PARP inhibitors.**

(A) Cells treated with the indicated siRNA for 72 h were treated with vehicle or 2 mM cisp for 16 h and analyzed by immunoblotting. (B) IF analyses showing representative BrdU foci from WT and *SCAI* nulls following 60 h treatment with the indicated siRNAs. Cells were treated with MMC for 6 h prior to IF. (C) Quantification of B. (D) **Top.** Schematic showing DNA fiber assay protocol. Cells were pulsed with CldU followed by IdU for 30 m each after which forks were stalled by 4 mM HU treatment for 4.5 h. **Bottom.** WT and *SCAI*-nulls were treated with indicated siRNAs for 60 h before labeling as in schematic. DNA combing analyses was performed and approximately 100 fibers were quantified and plotted. Mann Whitney test, ns= $p>0.05$ , \*\*= $p<0.01$ , \*\*\*= $p<0.001$ . (E) WT and *SCAI*-null U2OS were treated with the indicated siRNAs for 72 h, then treated with vehicle (ND) or 2  $\mu$ M cisp for 18 h before immunoblotting. The same samples were run in lanes 2–3 and lanes 10–11. Depletion of indicated proteins is shown in Figure S5F. (F) ER-AsiSi U2OS transfected with the indicated siRNAs for 60 h were treated with Tamoxifen to induce DSBs. Cells were harvested in low-melting agarose, proteinase-treated and genomic DNA was extracted. After restriction digest, qPCR was performed to determine resection efficiency. (G) *BRCA1*-null, TP53-null RPE1 cells expressing SCAI or vector control were treated with vehicle, or the

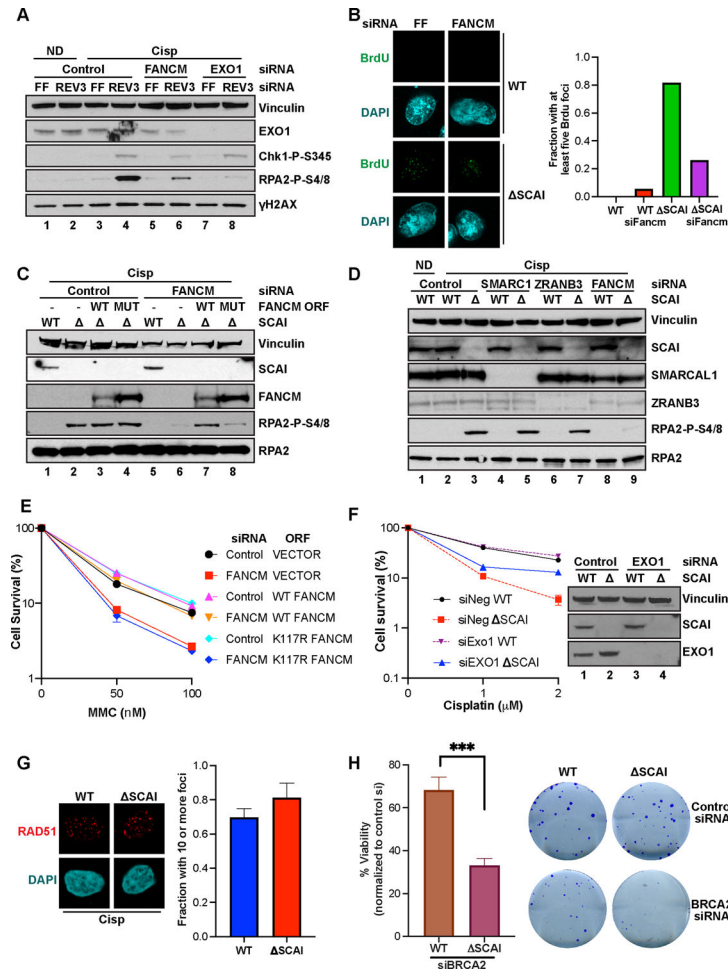
indicated doses of olaparib or cisp for 2 weeks and allowed to form colonies. Mean  $\pm$  SD two independent experiments. Representative images shown.

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**Figure 6. Protetin protects FANCM-reversed forks from degradation**

(A) U2OS transfected with the indicated siRNAs 60 h were treated with vehicle (ND) or 2  $\mu$ M cisp for 18 h before immunoblotting. (B) IF showing representative BrdU foci from WT and *SCAI* nulls 60 h post treatment with indicated siRNAs. Cells were treated with MMC for 6 h prior to IF analyses. Quantification shown on the right. At least 100 cells were counted per condition. (C) WT and *SCAI*-nulls transduced with vector (V), WT or K117R mutant (Mut) *FANCM* ORFs were then treated with control or siRNA to *FANCM* 3' UTR for 72 h, then treated with vehicle or 1.5  $\mu$ M cisp for 18 h before immunoblotting. (D) WT and *SCAI*-null U2OS were treated with control or the indicated siRNAs for 72 h. Cells were then treated with vehicle (ND) or 1.5  $\mu$ M cisp for 18 h before immunoblotting. (E) U2OS cells expressing vector (VECTOR), WT-*FANCM* (*FANCM*-ORF) or K117R-*FANCM* ORFs (K117R-ORF) were transfected with control (siNeg) or siRNAs to *FANCM* 3' UTR (siFancm) for 48 h, treated with vehicle or the indicated MMC doses and analyzed by CSAs. Data are normalized to untreated cells for each siRNA condition. Mean  $\pm$  SEM survival of two independent experiments shown. (F) WT and *SCAI*-null U2OS were treated with siRNAs to *EXO1* or control for 48 h before 16 h treatment with vehicle or 2  $\mu$ M cisp. CSAs showing increased survival upon depletion of *EXO1* in *SCAI*-nulls. Viability is relative to vehicle-treated cells. Mean  $\pm$  SEM of two independent experiments shown.

Western blots shown on the right. **(G)** WT and *SCAI*-null U2OS were treated with 0.5  $\mu$ M cisp for 18 h before staining for RAD51 foci by IF. Representative images shown. Quantified in right panel. At least 100 cells were counted in each condition. **(H)**. WT and *SCAI*-nulls were treated with control or siRNA to BRCA2 for 48 h. Cells were seeded onto plates for CSA. Representative images shown on the right.

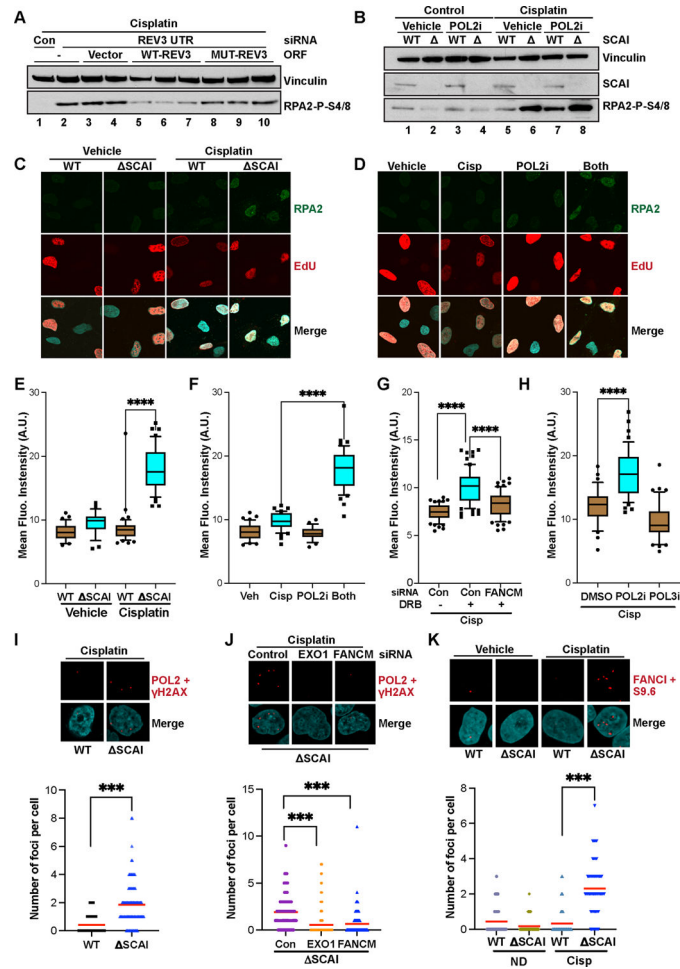
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**Figure 7. Protetin loss exposes a previously uncharacterized role for RNA polymerase activity and REV3 polymerase activity in fork protection.**

(A) WT U2OS were stably transfected with linearized plasmids expressing tagged vector, WT REV3 or REV3 D2781A/D2783A (lacking polymerase activity) and clones were selected. WT U2OS or the above clones were treated with control or an siRNA to endogenous REV3's 3' UTR as indicated for 48 h then treated with cisp for 18 h before immunoblotting. (B) WT and *SCAI*-null U2OS cells were treated with 2  $\mu$ M cisp or vehicle for 10 h then with vehicle control or 10  $\mu$ g/ml  $\alpha$ -amanitin (POL2i) for 6 h before immunoblotting. (C) WT and *SCAI*-null U2OS were treated with EdU 15 minutes prior to treatment with vehicle or 5  $\mu$ M cisp for 3 h. Cells were pre-extracted and stained for RPA2 and EdU (via click-it reaction). Nuclear intensity of EdU positive cells was measured by imageJ. Representative images shown. (D) WT U2OS were treated with EdU and either vehicle, 5  $\mu$ M cisp for 3 h,  $\alpha$ -Amanitin for 2 h or both ( $\alpha$ -Amanitin added after 1 h cisp treatment) and processed as in (C). Representative images shown. (E) Quantification of the experiments in (C). T-tests, \*\*\*\* =  $p < 0.0001$ . (F) Quantification of the experiments in (D). T-tests, \*\*\*\* =  $p < 0.0001$ . (G) WT U2OS were treated with control or siRNA to FANCM for 48 h then with EdU and 5  $\mu$ M cisp for 1 hr followed by vehicle or 100  $\mu$ M DRB for 2 h before processing as in (C). Quantification shown. T-tests, \*\*\*\* =  $p < 0.0001$ . (H) WT U2OS were treated with EdU and 5  $\mu$ M cisp for 1 hr. Vehicle,  $\alpha$ -Amanitin (POL2i) or

ML-60218 (POL3i) were then added for 2 h before processing as in (C). Quantification shown. T-tests, \*\*\*\* =  $p < 0.0001$  (I) WT and *SCAF*-null U2OS treated with 1  $\mu$ M cisp for 8 h were processed for PLAs using the indicated antibodies. Quantification shown in bottom panel. Mann Whitney test, \*\*\* =  $p < 0.001$ . (J) *SCAF*-null U2OS transfected with the indicated siRNAs for 60 h, were treated with 1  $\mu$ M cisp for 8 h and processed for PLAs as in (I). Quantification shown in bottom panel. Mann Whitney test, \*\*\* =  $p < 0.001$ . (K) WT and *SCAF*-null U2OS transfected with the indicated siRNAs for 60 h, were treated with 1  $\mu$ M cisp for 8 h, pre-extracted, fixed and processed for PLAs using the indicated antibodies. Quantification shown in bottom panel. Mann Whitney test, \*\*\* =  $p < 0.001$ .

## KEY RESOURCES TABLE

REAGENT or RESOURCE	SOURCE	IDENTIFIER
Antibodies		
SCAI	Abcam	Ab124688
Mouse anti-Vinculin	Sigma	V9131
Mouse monoclonal anti-Flag	Sigma	F1804
Rabbit monoclonal anti-Flag	Sigma	F7425
Anti-BrdU antibody [BU1/75 (ICR1)]	Abcam	Ab6326
GFP	Abcam	ab290
ATM	Abcam	ab32420
FANCA	Bethyl	A301-980
FANCI	Bethyl	A301-254
FANCD2	Novus	NB100-182
53BP1	Bethyl	A300-272A
BRCA2	Bethyl	A300-005A
SMARCAL1	Santa Cruz	sc-376377
ZRANB3	Bethyl	A303-033A
HELB	Abcam	ab202141
SLX4	Bethyl	A302-270A
ERCC1	Cell Signaling	3885S
SNM1A	Bethyl	A303-747A
FAAP24	GeneTex	GTX117277
RNAseH2A	Abcam	ab92876
REV7	Santa Cruz	sc-135977
CtIP	Bethyl	A300-488A
MRE11	Cell Signaling	4895
MUS81	Santa Cruz	sc-53382
ORC2	Abcam	ab68348
DNA2	Abcam	ab96488
EXO1	Bethyl	A302-640A
RPA2-P-S4/8	Bethyl	A300-245A
RPA32	GeneTex	GTX70258
CHK1-P-S345	Cell Signaling	2348S
CHK1	Santa Cruz	Sc-8408
$\gamma$ H2AX	Millipore	05-636
H2AX	Bethyl	A300-082A
Bacterial and virus strains		
Lenti-Blast-3Flag FANCM WT	Wang et al, 2018	N/A
Lenti-Blast-3Flag FANCM K117R	Wang et al, 2018	N/A

REAGENT or RESOURCE	SOURCE	IDENTIFIER
LentiCrispr v2	Sanjana et al, 2014	Addgene #52961
Biological samples		
Chemicals, peptides, and recombinant proteins		
DMSO	Amresco	N182
Hydroxyurea	Sigma	H8627-10G
Mitomycin C (MMC)	Santa Cruz Biotech	M4287-2MG
Cisplatin (cisp)	HMS Ludwig	N/A
Mirin	Sigma	M9948
Olaparib	Selleck chemicals	S1060
4-hydroxytamoxifen	Sigma	H7904-5MGG
$\alpha$ -Amanitin	Abcam	ab144512
5,6-Dichlorobenzimidazole 1- $\beta$ -D-ribofuranoside (DRB)	Sigma	D1916
RNA Polymerase III inhibitor (ML-60218)	Sigma	557403
Superscript IV reverse transcriptase	Invitrogen	18090050
Lipofectamine RNAiMAX	Invitrogen	13778075
Lipofectamine 3000	ThermoFisher	L3000008
TransIT <sup>®</sup> -LT1 Transfection Reagent	Mirus	MIR2300
5-Chloro-2'-deoxyuridine (ClU)	Sigma	C6891
5-Iodo-2'-deoxyuridine (IdU)	Sigma	I7125
cOmplete, Mini, EDTA-free, Protease Inhibitor Cocktail Tablets	Roche	11836170001
Phosphatase Inhibitor Cocktail Set I	Sigma	524624
Phosphatase Inhibitor Cocktail Set II	Sigma	524625
Halt Protease and Phosphatase Inhibitor Cocktail (100X)	Fisher	78440
Critical commercial assays		
RNeasy Plus mini kit	Qiagen	74134
Taqman Gene expression Mastermix	Life Technologies	4369016
Taqman Gene Expression Assay Human REV1	ThermoFisher Scientific	Catalog # 4331182 Assay ID: Hs00249411_m1
Taqman Gene Expression Assay Human REV3L	ThermoFisher Scientific	Catalog # 4331182 Assay ID: Hs00161301_m1
Taqman Gene Expression Assay Human GAPDH	ThermoFisher Scientific	Catalog # 4331182, Assay ID:Hs99999905_m1
AlamarBlue	ThermoFisher	DAL1025
CellTiter-Glo 2	Promega	G9242
Click-iT <sup>™</sup> Plus EdU Cell Proliferation Kit for Imaging, Alexa Fluor <sup>™</sup> 594 dye	ThermoFisher	C10639
APC BrdU Flow kit	BD biosciences	552598
Quickchange II XL Site Directed Mutagenesis Kit	Agilent	200521
Deposited data		

REAGENT or RESOURCE	SOURCE	IDENTIFIER
<a href="http://dx.doi.org/10.17632/35f2n4wsnv.1">http://dx.doi.org/10.17632/35f2n4wsnv.1</a>		
Experimental models: Cell lines		
Human: U2OS	ATCC	N/A
Human: U2OS SCAI KO	This paper	N/A
Human: U2OS WT FANCI	Ishiai et al, 2008	N/A
Human: U2OS DN FANCI-1	Ishiai et al, 2008	N/A
Human: U2OS DN FANCI-2	Ishiai et al, 2008	N/A
Human: ER-AsiSi U2OS	Zhou et al, 2014	N/A
Human: REV7 KO U2OS	Bluteau et al, 2017	N/A
Human: HeLa	ATCC	N/A
Human: RPE	ATCC	N/A
Human: 293T	ATCC	N/A
Mouse: 6xTer/HR ES cells	Willis et al, 2014	N/A
Experimental models: Organisms/strains		
Oligonucleotides		
Listed in Table S7		
Recombinant DNA		
REV3L (NM_002912) Human Tagged ORF Clone	Origene	RG222943
pETDuet1-(R)-hREV3	Tomida et al, 2015	Addgene #64872
GFP-REV3	This paper	N/A
Flag-SCAI	This paper	N/A
FLAG-HA-SCAI	This paper	N/A
GFP-SCAI	This paper	N/A
Software and algorithms		
MaGeck	Li et al, 2014	<a href="https://sourceforge.net/p/mageck/wiki/Home/">https://sourceforge.net/p/mageck/wiki/Home/</a>
EdgeR	Robinson et al, 2010	<a href="https://bioconductor.org/packages/release/bioc/html/edgeR.html">https://bioconductor.org/packages/release/bioc/html/edgeR.html</a>
Flowjo	N/A	<a href="https://www.flowjo.com/">https://www.flowjo.com/</a>
ImageJ	N/A	<a href="https://imagej.nih.gov/ij/">https://imagej.nih.gov/ij/</a>
Graphpad Prism	N/A	<a href="https://www.graphpad.com/scientific-software/prism/">https://www.graphpad.com/scientific-software/prism/</a>
Other		