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## RIF1 acts in DNA repair through phosphopeptide recognition of 53BP1

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### Summary

The chromatin-binding protein 53BP1 promotes DNA repair by orchestrating the recruitment of downstream effectors including PTIP, RIF1 and shieldin to DNA double-strand break sites. While we know how PTIP recognizes 53BP1, the molecular details of RIF1 recruitment to DNA damage sites remains undefined. Here, we report that RIF1 is a phosphopeptide-binding protein that directly interacts with three phosphorylated 53BP1 epitopes. The RIF1-binding sites on 53BP1 share an essential LxL motif followed by two closely apposed phosphorylated residues. Simultaneous mutation of these sites on 53BP1 abrogates RIF1 accumulation into ionizing radiation-induced foci, but surprisingly only fully compromises 53BP1-dependent DNA repair when an alternative mode of shieldin recruitment to DNA damage sites is also disabled.

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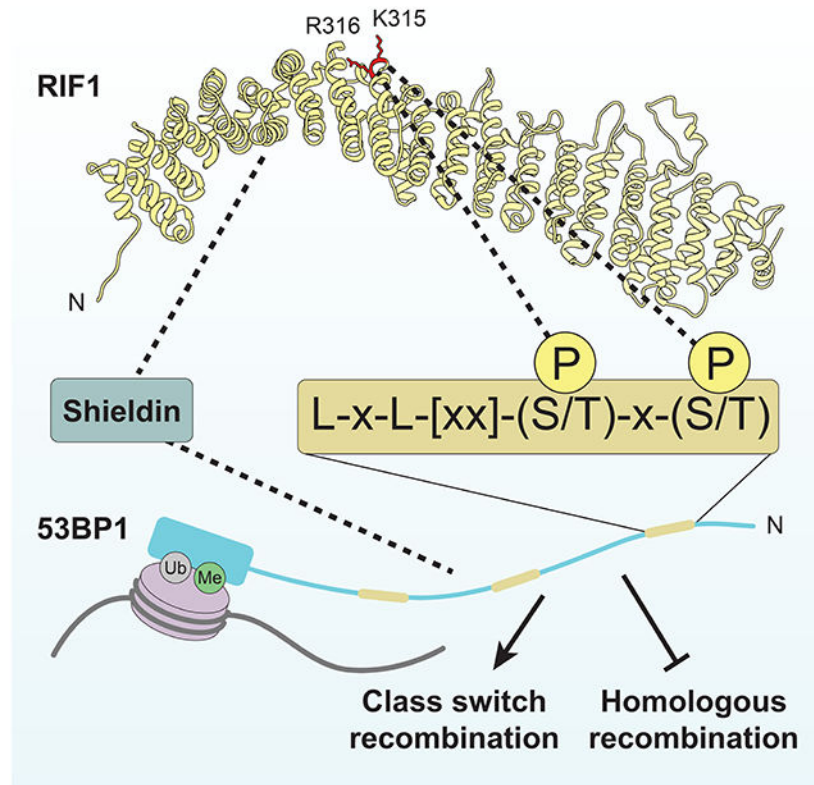
Declaration of interests

DD is a shareholder of and advisor to Repare Therapeutics.

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Intriguingly, this alternative mode of recruitment still depends on RIF1 but does not require its interaction with 53BP1. RIF1 therefore employs phosphopeptide recognition to promote DNA repair but also modifies shieldin action independently of 53BP1 binding.

## Graphical Abstract



## eTOC Blurp

53BP1 promotes DNA repair in part by recruiting RIF1 to DNA break sites. Setiaputra et al. show that RIF1 binds to 53BP1 by recognizing three related phosphorylated epitopes on 53BP1. The 53BP1-RIF1 interaction contributes to DNA repair in parallel to a second mode of 53BP1-dependent shieldin recruitment to DNA lesions.

## Introduction

RIF1 (Rap1-interacting factor 1) is an evolutionarily conserved eukaryotic genome maintenance protein (Fontana et al., 2018). In vertebrates, RIF1 regulates the timing of DNA replication initiation, resolution of ultrafine bridges in mitosis and is a key mediator of 53BP1-dependent DNA double-strand break (DSB) repair (Fontana et al., 2018; Hengeveld et al., 2015). To regulate DNA replication, RIF1 recruits the PP1 protein phosphatase to replication origins where PP1 antagonizes the phosphorylation, and activation, of replicative helicase components such as MCM4 (Hiraga et al., 2014; Hiraga et al., 2017). PP1 binds linear RIF1 sequence motifs (RVxF/SILK) present at the N- and C-terminal regions of RIF1, but how this complex is recruited to origins has not yet been elucidated (Bollen et al.,

2010; Hiraga et al., 2014). During DSB repair RIF1 similarly bridges the shieldin complex to 53BP1-bound chromatin at DSB sites (Dev et al., 2018; Findlay et al., 2018; Gao et al., 2018; Ghezraoui et al., 2018; Gupta et al., 2018; Mirman et al., 2018; Noordermeer et al., 2018; Setiaputra and Durocher, 2019). The RIF1-shieldin module shapes chromatin architecture at DSB sites (Ochs et al., 2019) and protects DNA ends from nucleolytic degradation (Callen et al., 2020; Chapman et al., 2013; Escibano-Diaz et al., 2013; Zimmermann et al., 2013). The molecular details by which RIF1 interacts with both 53BP1 and shieldin remain largely unknown. For example, it is not clear whether RIF1 binds directly to 53BP1 or via an as-yet unidentified partner, nor is it established whether this reported interaction is essential for DNA repair, even if it is widely assumed to be.

Human RIF1 is a 2472-residue protein with a highly structured N-terminal domain (NTD; residues 1-967) consisting mainly of  $\alpha$ -helical HEAT repeats (Buonomo et al., 2009; Fontana et al., 2018; Xu and Blackburn, 2004). The RIF1 NTD is well conserved among eukaryotes, with the structure of the budding yeast Rif1 NTD being recently determined to reveal that it forms an elongated “shepherd’s crook” structure (Mattarocci et al., 2017). The C-terminal half of RIF1 is predicted to be largely unstructured with the exception of a multipartite C-terminal domain (CTD) at the extreme C-terminus consisting of a PP1-binding RVxF/SILK motif, a DNA-binding domain and an interaction site for the BLM helicase (Xu et al., 2010). The NTD is essential and sufficient for recruitment of RIF1 to DSB sites (Escibano-Diaz et al., 2013), indicating that this region is involved in 53BP1 binding.

53BP1 is composed of three main functional regions: an unstructured and highly phosphorylated N-terminus, a focus-forming region (FFR) that binds methylated and ubiquitinated chromatin, and a C-terminal tandem BRCT domains dispensable for DNA repair but involved in p53 regulation (Bothmer et al., 2011; Botuyan et al., 2006; Cuella-Martin et al., 2016; Fradet-Turcotte et al., 2013; Mirman and de Lange, 2020; Panier and Boulton, 2014). The 53BP1 N-terminus is rich in Ser/Thr-Gln (S/T-Q) sites, many of which are phosphorylated by ATM in response to DNA damage (Anderson et al., 2001; Jowsey et al., 2007; Rappold et al., 2001). Alanine substitutions of 28 S/T-Q sites (53BP1<sup>28A</sup>) inactivates all known functions of 53BP1 in DNA repair such as the promotion of non-homologous end-joining (NHEJ) during immunoglobulin class switching, dysfunctional telomere fusion, and the formation of chromosome aberrations in BRCA1-deficient cells following poly(ADP-ribose) polymerase (PARP) inhibition (Bothmer et al., 2011; Dimitrova et al., 2008; Manis et al., 2004). 53BP1 also inhibits homologous recombination (HR) by suppressing the loading of RAD51 onto single-stranded DNA (ssDNA) in *BRCA1*-mutated cells (Bothmer et al., 2011; Callen et al., 2020). The 53BP1 S/T-Q sites promote at a minimum two key protein interactions that are essential for 53BP1 activity. First, phosphorylation of 53BP1 on Ser25 is directly recognized by PTIP via its tandem BRCT domains (Munoz et al., 2007), which is a known phosphopeptide-binding module (Manke et al., 2003; Yu et al., 2003), and second, through the phosphorylation of one or more ATM sites other than Ser25 that promote RIF1 binding and recruitment (Callen et al., 2013; Chapman et al., 2013; Di Virgilio et al., 2013; Escibano-Diaz et al., 2013; Zimmermann et al., 2013).

In this study, we sought to determine the basis of the RIF1-53BP1 interaction of RIF1 with 53BP1. We report that RIF1 is a phosphopeptide-binding protein that directly binds to three distinct phosphorylated epitopes on 53BP1. The combined mutation of these three motifs in 53BP1 abrogates RIF1 accumulation at DSB sites but results in a protein that retains DNA repair activity. The residual activity of this RIF1-binding mutant of 53BP1 was due to a hitherto unsuspected ability of 53BP1 to recruit shieldin to damaged chromatin in a manner that requires RIF1, but not the RIF1-53BP1 interaction per se. Combined inactivation of the RIF1 binding-dependent and - independent modes of shieldin recruitment abrogated RIF1- and 53BP1-dependent DNA repair to the same extent as the 53BP1<sup>28A</sup> mutation. We therefore conclude that RIF1 is a phosphopeptide-binding protein, and that this phospho-recognition activity acts in parallel to a second mode of shieldin recruitment to mediate 53BP1 function.

## Results

### 53BP1 recruits RIF1 through multiple sites in its N-terminus

To identify the phosphorylation sites responsible for the 53BP1-RIF1 interaction, we took advantage of the observation that the combined mutation of the 28 S/T-Q phosphorylation sites to alanine in the N-terminal region of 53BP1 (53BP1<sup>28A</sup>) abolishes recruitment of RIF1 to DSBs (Bothmer et al., 2011; Chapman et al., 2013; Escribano-Diaz et al., 2013; Zimmermann et al., 2013). We reasoned that reverting individual phosphorylation sites from 53BP1<sup>28A</sup> to their corresponding serine or threonine might identify critical residues responsible for the 53BP1-RIF1 interaction. We assessed RIF1 recruitment into ionizing radiation (IR)-induced foci in human U-2 OS (U2OS) cells that were co-transfected with 53BP1-targeting siRNAs and vectors expressing siRNA-resistant mRNA coding for 53BP1 or single-site Ala-to-Ser/Thr revertants derived from 53BP1<sup>28A</sup> (Figure S1A-B). No single phosphoresidue was sufficient to restore RIF1 recruitment to DNA damage sites, indicating that RIF1 recruitment is dependent on more than one phosphorylation event (Figure S1A-B). As an alternative strategy, we searched for regions of the 53BP1 N-terminus that were sufficient to mediate recruitment of RIF1 to DSB sites when fused to the 53BP1 focus-forming region (FFR; residues 1220-1711) (Fradet-Turcotte et al., 2013) (Figure 1A-B). Three distinct 53BP1 segments could support RIF1 IRIF formation, consisting of residues 100-200, 400-550, and 650-800 (Figures 1A-B and S1C). In particular, the 53BP1 [100-200]-FFR fusion restored RIF1 IR-induced foci to wild-type levels, an activity which we further narrowed down to 53BP1 residues 145-182 (Figure 1A-B and S1C). Mutating all S/T-Q sites within the 53BP1 [100-200]-FFR construct ([100-200]-FFR 4A) completely abolished RIF1 accumulation at DSB sites (Figures 1C and S1D-E).

The 53BP1 [145-182] region contains three S/T-Q sites that lie in close proximity: S166, S176, and S178. Alanine scanning mutagenesis of this region revealed that S176 and S178 are essential for RIF1 IR-induced focus formation, while S166 is dispensable for this activity (Figure 1D and S1F). Consistent with this finding, phosphorylation of residues S176/S178 is induced in response to IR treatment whereas phosphorylation of S166 is not (Figure 1E). The combined reintroduction of these two putative ATM-targeted residues in the context of the 53BP1 [100-200]-FFR-4A fusion were sufficient to restore RIF1 accumulation at DSB

sites (Figure 1C and S1D). The combined phosphomimetic mutations of S176 and S178 to either glutamic acid or aspartic acid (S176E/S178E or S176D/S178D) in 53BP1 [100-200]-FFR failed to support RIF1 focus formation whereas mutation of a single residue to Glu or Asp was tolerated (Figure S1H-I). Together, these results suggest that dual phosphorylation of S176 and S178 in 53BP1 promotes RIF1 recruitment to DSB sites. However, cells solely expressing a full-length 53BP1-S176A/S178A mutant still formed RIF1 IR-induced foci, albeit at lower levels (Figure 1F and S1J-K) indicating that sites other than S176 and S178 can recruit RIF1 to DSB sites.

The ability of 53BP1-pS176/pS178 to promote RIF1 accumulation at DSB sites suggests that RIF1 may directly recognize a phosphorylated epitope encompassing these residues. To test this possibility, we assessed whether biotinylated peptides corresponding to 53BP1 residues 145-182 could retrieve RIF1 from nuclear extracts. These experiments showed that a 53BP1 pS176/pS178 peptide, but not its unphosphorylated or singly phosphorylated counterparts, was able to bind RIF1 in nuclear extracts (Figures 1G and S1L).

To test whether RIF1 directly binds to 53BP1-derived phosphopeptides, we expressed and purified an N-terminal RIF1 protein fragment from insect cells, which encompassed the HEAT repeat-rich NTD domain (RIF1<sup>1-980</sup>; Figure S1M) which is competent for DNA damage localization (Escobedo-Diaz et al., 2013). We observed that RIF1<sup>1-980</sup> bound to fluorescently labeled peptides corresponding to 53BP1 [166-182] by fluorescence polarization (Figure 1H). In particular, the doubly phosphorylated peptide showed robust binding to RIF1<sup>1-980</sup>, with a dissociation constant ( $K_D$ ) of  $2.0 \pm 0.3 \mu\text{M}$ , while the unphosphorylated peptide did not display any detectable binding to RIF1 (Figure 1H). Consistent with our earlier experiments, a single phosphomimetic mutation retains the interaction as long as one phosphoserine is present, whereas a double Ser-to-Glu variant had negligible binding (Figure 1H). We conclude that the NTD of RIF1 directly binds to ATM-phosphorylated 53BP1 epitopes.

The alanine scanning mutagenesis experiments described above (Figure 1D) also identified residues other than S176/S178 that were necessary to mediate RIF1 focus formation. Two leucine residues, L173 and L175, located immediately N-terminal of S176 were essential for RIF1 recruitment to DSB sites in the context of 53BP1 [100-200]-FFR (Figure 1D). Substitution of either of these leucine residues to alanine completely abrogated RIF1 IR-induced focus formation and blocked the interaction of RIF1 with the pS176/pS178 peptide (Figure 1I), suggesting that the LxL motif preceding S176/S178 plays a key role in ability of RIF1 to recognize phosphorylated epitopes. As a control, we also generated a pS176/pS178-derived peptide with the E174A substitution, which displayed wild type-level binding, as expected from the alanine scanning experiment (Figures 1D and 1I).

Equipped with this information, we identified similar LxL motifs preceding Ser/Thr residues in the other two 53BP1 segments (450-550 and 650-800) that are able to promote RIF1 focus formation when fused to the FFR (Figure 2A-B and S2A-B). Mutation of the LxL motifs in the context of the 53BP1 [400-550]- or [650-800]-FFR proteins abrogated RIF1 recruitment to DSB sites indicating that they were also important for recognition by RIF1 (Figure 2B and S2A-B). Two S/T-Q sites were present C-terminal to the LxL



motif in the 650-800 segment, T696 and S698, and both have been identified as being phosphorylated in cells (Hornbeck et al., 2012; Sharma et al., 2014) (Figure 2A). These sites are critical for RIF1 recruitment promoted by the 53BP1 [650-800] segment (Figure 2B). Furthermore, pT696/pS698-derived peptides retrieved RIF1 from extracts (Figure 2C) and bound recombinant RIF1(1-980) HEAT repeat region with a  $K_D$  of  $1.3 \pm 0.4 \mu\text{M}$  (Figure 2D). Mapping the phosphorylation sites responsible for the interaction between RIF1 and the 400-550 region proved more complicated owing to the presence of multiple phosphorylatable residues (S518, S520, S523) along with the acidic E521 residue (Figure 2A). While S523 is part of an S/T-Q motif that is phosphorylated in cells (Jowsey et al., 2007), pS523-derived peptides do not bind to RIF1 directly (Figure S2C). Instead, we found that peptides dually phosphorylated on S518 and S520, known 53BP1 phosphosites in cells (Hornbeck et al., 2012; Sharma et al., 2014), could retrieve RIF1 from nuclear extracts (Figure 2C) and were competent for binding to recombinant RIF1 (Figure 2D). Together, this work identifies three RIF1-binding phosphosites on 53BP1 that are anchored by a dileucine LxL motif and that conforms to a consensus LxL[xx](pS/pT)xpS motif where [xx] denotes the optional presence of two residues (Figure 2A).

To test whether these identified binding elements were necessary for the recruitment of RIF1 to DSB sites in the context of a functional 53BP1, we mutated the RIF1-binding motifs in 53BP1 [1-1711], a variant of 53BP1 that lacks its C-terminal tandem BRCT domains that are largely dispensable for 53BP1 function in DSB repair (Bothmer et al., 2011). This truncated protein, which is more amenable to retroviral packaging, is hereafter referred to as 53BP1<sup>WT</sup>. 53BP1<sup>WT</sup> is phosphorylated at S176/178 in response to IR (Figure S2D), and rescues IR-induced RIF1 focus formation when expressed in 53BP1 knockout (KO) cells (Figures 2E and S2E-F). In contrast, mutation of the three dileucine motifs to alanine (53BP1<sup>3LA</sup>) or of the 6 phosphorylatable residues present in these motifs (53BP1<sup>6STA</sup>), abolished RIF1 accumulation at DNA damage sites (Figures 2E and S2E-F) and abrogated the RIF1-53BP1 interaction as detected by co-immunoprecipitation (Figure 2F). The 53BP1<sup>3LA</sup> variant still underwent IR-induced S176/S178 phosphorylation (Figure S2D), suggesting that disruption of the LxL motif impacts RIF1 binding rather than 53BP1 phosphorylation. Mutation of the PTIP-binding site (yielding 53BP1<sup>S25A</sup>) did not impact RIF1 IR-induced focus formation (Figures 2E and S2E-F), as expected (Callen et al., 2013). Similar results were obtained with targeted DSB formation by an mCherry-LacR-FokI fusion protein (Shanbhag et al., 2010) in a U2OS derivative (U2OS 2-6-3) that contains ~256 copies of the Lac operator (lacO<sub>256</sub>) sequence and biallelic *53BP1* inactivating mutations (Figures 2G-H and S2G). We conclude that the three LxL-containing phosphorylated epitopes of 53BP1 are responsible for mediating the 53BP1-RIF1 interaction and recruitment of RIF1 into IR-induced foci.

### RIF1 focus formation is not on its own essential for DNA repair

The 53BP1<sup>3LA</sup> and 53BP1<sup>6STA</sup> mutations are separation-of-function mutations that allowed us to test the role of the 53BP1-RIF1 interaction in 53BP1-dependent DNA repair. Since the 53BP1-RIF1-shieldin pathway suppresses assembly of RAD51 filaments at DSB sites, we evaluated the ability of 53BP1<sup>3LA</sup> to suppress RAD51 IR-induced focus formation in BRCA1-depleted cells. As shown previously (Nacson et al., 2018), loss of 53BP1 partially

rescues RAD51 IR-induced focus formation after siRNA-mediated depletion of BRCA1, while complementation with wild-type 53BP1 suppresses it (Figures 3A and S3A-C). To our surprise, we observed that 53BP1<sup>3LA</sup> and 53BP1<sup>6STA</sup> suppress RAD51 IR-induced focus formation as efficiently as 53BP1<sup>WT</sup>, suggesting that RIF1 accumulation into IR-induced foci is dispensable for the 53BP1 activity that suppresses HR (Figures 3A and S3A-C). This result was unexpected since RIF1 loss results in the formation of RAD51 foci in BRCA1-depleted cells (Escribano-Diaz et al., 2013).

We then tested whether the RIF1-binding deficient 53BP1 mutations impact the recruitment of shieldin, whose localization to DSB sites is dependent on both 53BP1 and RIF1. Shieldin recruitment to DSBs is sufficient to suppress formation of RAD51 IR-induced foci even in the absence of 53BP1 (Noordermeer et al., 2018). Using the U2OS 2-6-3 mCherry-LacR-FokI *53BP1-KO* system, we found that REV7 and SHLD2 localization to DSBs were only partially reduced in cells expressing 53BP1<sup>3LA</sup> (Figures 3B-C and S3D-E). In the course of these studies, we also assessed the impact of another phosphomutant of 53BP1, 53BP1<sup>7A</sup>, which was initially reported to impact RIF1 recruitment to DSB sites in mouse cells (Callen et al., 2013). The sites mutated in 53BP1<sup>7A</sup> (T302A, S452A, S523A, S543A, S625A, S784A, and S892A) do not overlap with the three RIF1-binding phosphoepitopes we characterized above but they do overlap with those altered in another 53BP1 mutant, 53BP1<sup>RIF1</sup>, which also impairs RIF1 DNA damage localization in mouse cells (Sundaravinayagam et al., 2019). Human cells expressing 53BP1<sup>7A</sup> have abundant recruitment of RIF1 (Figure 2H) but were impaired in REV7 and SHLD2 recruitment to FokI-induced DSBs (Figures 3B-C). To further investigate the differential localization of RIF1 and shieldin, we simultaneously measured RIF1 and REV7 recruitment to sites of UV laser microirradiation in complemented *53BP1-KO* cells (Figures 3D-E). Consistent with our previous results, 53BP1<sup>3LA</sup> is severely compromised in its ability to promote RIF1 localization but retains its ability to recruit REV7 to DSB sites, while the converse is true for 53BP1<sup>7A</sup>. We therefore combined the 3LA and 7A mutations, which resulted in a protein (53BP1<sup>3LA7A</sup>) that was unable to support either RIF1 or REV7 recruitment to UV laser-induced DNA lesions (Figures 3D-E and S3A). As expected from our analysis of RIF1 recruitment, 53BP1<sup>3LA7A</sup> is unable to coimmunoprecipitate RIF1 from nuclear extracts, while the interaction of RIF1 with 53BP1<sup>7A</sup> is indistinguishable from that observed with wild type 53BP1 (Figure 3F). We then evaluated the requirement for RIF1 in shieldin recruitment to UV laser-induced DNA damage in the context of the 53BP1<sup>3LA</sup> mutation that results in loss of RIF1 recruitment. Surprisingly, RIF1 knockdown results in loss of REV7 recruitment, indicating that RIF1 is still required for shieldin localization despite its own defective recruitment (Figures 3G and S3F). Together our findings suggest that 53BP1-dependent shieldin recruitment to DSBs may occur by two distinct modes that each rely on different regions of 53BP1. One mode involves RIF1 accumulation at DSBs and is dependent upon the RIF1-binding motifs of 53BP1 identified in this study, whereas in the second mode RIF1 does not accumulate at DNA damage sites but this mode is dependent on the phosphorylated residues that are mutated in 53BP1<sup>7A</sup>.

## The two modes of RIF1 action in 53BP1-dependent DNA repair

Since the 3LA7A mutation disrupts both RIF1 and shieldin recruitment to sites of DNA damage, we investigated whether it also recapitulates *53BP1*- and *RIF1*-null phenotypes in multiple assays that monitor 53BP1-dependent DNA repair. First, unlike the 3LA and 7A mutations, 53BP1<sup>3LA7A</sup> could not suppress RAD51 focus formation in BRCA1-depleted cells (Figure 4A and S4A). We then tested the ability of the 53BP1<sup>3LA</sup>, 53BP1<sup>7A</sup> and 53BP1<sup>3LA7A</sup> mutants to support antibody class switch recombination in reconstituted *Tp53bp1*<sup>-/-</sup> mouse splenic B cells. We found that both 53BP1<sup>3LA</sup>- and 53BP1<sup>7A</sup>-expressing B cells could undergo class switching, albeit with lower efficiency than wild type 53BP1 (Figures 4B-C and S4B). In contrast, B cells expressing 53BP1<sup>3LA7A</sup> had reduced switching to IgG<sup>+</sup> cells comparable to those expressing the 53BP1<sup>28A</sup> mutant or 53BP1<sup>D1521R</sup>, which inactivates the Tudor domain and disrupts 53BP1 localization to DNA damage sites (Botuyan et al., 2006). 53BP1-dependent end-joining during CSR therefore requires either the 53BP1-RIF1 interaction or the shieldin recruitment activity that is disabled in the 53BP1<sup>7A</sup> mutant

Next, we assessed the ability of the various 53BP1 mutants to induce radial chromosome formation in PARP inhibitor-treated *BRCA1*-mutated cells, a hallmark of PARP inhibitor toxicity and indicative of inappropriate DNA end-joining (Bunting et al., 2010). We prepared metaphase spreads from olaparib-treated *Tp53bp1*<sup>-/-</sup>*Brca1*<sup>11/11</sup> mouse embryonic fibroblasts (MEFs) expressing human 53BP1 variants. Consistent with the CSR assays, only the combination of the 3LA and 7A mutations (i.e. 3LA7A) resulted in a decrease of radial chromosome formation comparable to 53BP1<sup>28A</sup> although we note that both the 3LA and 7A mutants showed a partial decrease in radial chromosome formation suggesting partial defects in 53BP1-dependent DSB repair (Figures 4D-E and S4C).

We also sought to test the impact of the 53BP1 mutations on PARP inhibitor sensitivity. However, clonogenic survival assays in MEFs proved inconclusive as we found that re-introduction of active 53BP1 impairs the growth of *Tp53bp1*<sup>-/-</sup>*Brca1*<sup>11/11</sup> MEFs, presumably due to suppression of HR. We therefore assessed the impact of various 53BP1 mutants on the clonogenic survival of a *BRCA1*-mutated SUM149PT cell line in which 53BP1 was knocked-out (*53BP1*<sup>-/-</sup>) (Noordermeer et al., 2018). Re-introduction of 53BP1<sup>WT</sup> via retroviral expression restored PARP inhibitor sensitivity, as expected (Figures 4F and S4D-E). However, expression of 53BP1<sup>3LA</sup>, 53BP1<sup>7A</sup>, or 53BP1<sup>3LA7A</sup> all failed to restore PARP inhibitor sensitivity, suggesting that they were unable to complement the loss of 53BP1 in this cell line. These results suggest that partially defective 53BP1 due to the 3LA or 7A mutations may provide enough HR activity to support viability in response to PARP inhibition, and it also highlights that the 3LA7A set of mutations abrogates 53BP1-dependent DNA repair in all assays tested.

Finally, since 53BP1 remains functional in the absence of the RIF1-recruiting phosphoepitopes as long as the shieldin-recruiting region is intact, we evaluated whether the converse was true. The 53BP1 [100-200]-FFR construct, which does not contain any of the residues mutated in 53BP1<sup>7A</sup>, robustly recruits RIF1 to sites of DNA damage (Figure 1B). If focal accumulation of RIF1 alone is sufficient to mediate 53BP1 activity, this truncated construct should oppose HR. Indeed, 53BP1 [100-200]-FFR suppresses S-phase RAD51



focus formation dependent upon an intact RIF1-binding motif (Figure S4F-G). This result indicates that in the absence of a secondary mode of shieldin recruitment, 53BP1 depends on RIF1 binding for its activity.

### **RIF1 binds phosphorylated 53BP1 through basic surface residues**

We next aimed to narrow down the RIF1 region involved in the recognition of phosphorylated 53BP1. Since large protein truncations in the RIF1 HEAT repeat region were not tolerated, we took advantage of the predicted structural conservation between human RIF1 and budding yeast Rif1. We substituted four segments of the human RIF1 NTD with their equivalent from ScRif1 and assayed the ability of the resulting chimeric protein to localize to FokI-induced DSBs (Figures 5A-B and S5A-B). While experiments with ScRif1-RIF1 chimeras containing substitutions within the N-terminal 632 residues were inconclusive due to loss of protein stability (Figure S5B) that impaired localization (Figure 5B), substitution of RIF1 residues 633-967 with its budding yeast counterpart produced a chimera with a clear ability to accumulate at DSB sites, indicating that the RIF1 633-967 residues are not essential for 53BP1 binding.

Since tandem phosphorylated residues are highly negatively charged, we hypothesized that the recognition of 53BP1 phosphopeptide may be mediated through positively charged surface residues on RIF1. Guided by the AlphaFold2-predicted structure of RIF1 HEAT repeats (Jumper et al., 2021), we generated 18 mutants in the context of RIF1 (1-967), substituting 20 conserved basic surface residues to alanine. The basic residues were all located within the N-terminal 632 residues of RIF1. We assayed the resulting mutant proteins for their ability to localize at FokI-induced DSBs (Figures 5C and S5C-D). 8 out of 18 mutants had impaired DSB localization, with the double K315A/R316A mutant displaying a near-complete loss of localization (Figures 5C and S5C-D). Introduction of the K315A/R316A mutations in the context of full-length RIF1 also produced a protein that failed to localize to FokI-induced DSBs (Figure 5D and Figure S5E-F). Analysis of the individual K315A or R316A mutants revealed that the K315 and R316 residues are both required for RIF1 localization, suggesting they may be part of a single phosphopeptide-binding interface (Figure S5G-H).

Finally, we performed pulldown assays with biotinylated pS176/pS178 peptides with nuclear extracts prepared from cells expressing various RIF1 variants. We found that the RIF1 R315A/K316A mutation impairs binding to the 53BP1-derived phosphopeptide (Figure 5E-F), suggesting that these residues may be directly involved in the recognition of phosphorylated 53BP1.

### **RIF1 binds shieldin and 53BP1 simultaneously**

The critical role of RIF1 for shieldin recruitment to DSB sites suggests that they interact directly. The NTD of RIF1 (residues 1-980) is necessary and sufficient for shieldin recruitment to damaged chromatin (Noordermeer et al., 2018), indicating that this region mediates the RIF1-shieldin interaction. Indeed, RIF1<sup>1-980</sup>, SHLD3, REV7, and SHLD2<sup>1-65</sup> form a stable complex when co-expressed in insect cells (Figure S5I). We employed disuccinimidyl sulfoxide (DSSO) crosslinking coupled to mass spectrometry to probe the

topology of this RIF1-shieldin module (Figure 5G) and mapped the identified crosslinks on the structure of REV7-SHLD2-SHLD3 (PDB ID:6KTO) (Liang et al., 2020). We observed that 16/23 intra- and inter-links that could be mapped to the structure have Ca-Ca distances under 30 Å (Table S1), which is consistent with the lysine-linker-lysine chain length compounded with the flexibility of protein quaternary structure (Merkley et al., 2014). There were extensive crosslinks between the N-terminal 200 residues of RIF1 and both SHLD3 and REV7 (Table S2), suggesting that the RIF1-shieldin binding interface lies within this region. Additionally, the RIF1-SHLD3-REV7-SHLD2<sup>1-65</sup> complex interacts with the phosphorylated 53BP1(166-182) peptide with a similar affinity to that of RIF1 alone (Figure 5H), indicating that RIF1 can simultaneously bind shieldin and the phosphorylated 53BP1 motifs found in this study (Figure 5I).

## Discussion

Our study identifies RIF1 as a phosphopeptide-binding protein that recognizes di-phosphorylated linear motifs located in the N-terminal region of 53BP1 and establishes that RIF1 is recruited to DNA damage sites via this phosphopeptide-binding activity. Interestingly, RIF1 does not contain any commonly known phosphopeptide-binding modules such as BRCT, FHA or WD40 domains, and this activity is instead embedded within the HEAT repeats of RIF1 as supported by our identification of two adjacent and conserved basic residues in the HEAT repeats, K315 and R316, that may directly participate in phosphopeptide recognition by RIF1. However, elucidation of the exact mechanism of phosphopeptide recognition by the RIF1 HEAT repeats must await structural determination of RIF1-phosphopeptide complexes.

In addition to DNA repair, RIF1 regulates other processes such as DNA replication origin firing and resolution of ultrafine bridges through its interaction with PP1 where the RIF1-PP1 complex promotes dephosphorylation of key factors such as MCM4 in the regulation of DNA replication (Hiraga et al., 2014; Hiraga et al., 2017). The fact that RIF1 is likely to be able to simultaneously bind to phosphorylated peptides and a protein phosphatase indicates that RIF1 action is intimately linked to reversible protein phosphorylation. This is analogous to the PP2A phosphatase, which can also be targeted to phosphorylated substrates via the HEAT repeats of its B56 subunit (Hertz et al., 2016). It is therefore attractive to consider that other RIF1-binding proteins, such as those involved in the initiation of DNA replication or ultrafine bridge resolution, may contain RIF1-binding phosphorylated epitopes. However, an initial search for such proteins containing 53BP1-like motifs did not yield any obvious candidate. If RIF1 indeed binds other phosphorylated proteins, these results suggest that it may not be limited to the consensus motif we deduced from the three 53BP1-derived phosphopeptides, or that phosphopeptide-binding may have evolved specifically for its metazoan DNA repair function, since this activity is not apparent in the RIF1 homolog in budding yeast.

While the phosphopeptide-binding activity of RIF1 is clearly linked to its accumulation at DNA damage sites, our work also reveals that RIF1 localization into IR-induced foci does not account, on its own, for all of its DNA repair activity. Indeed, cells expressing the RIF1-binding deficient 53BP1<sup>3LA</sup> mutant retain noticeable end joining-promoting activity

while being severely impaired in RIF1 recruitment to damaged chromatin. Since the genetic inactivation of *RIF1* phenocopies *53BP1*-null phenotypes (Chapman et al., 2013; Escribano-Diaz et al., 2013; Zimmermann et al., 2013), these observations suggest that RIF1 also promotes 53BP1-dependent DNA repair independently of these binding sites. Given that 53BP1<sup>28A</sup> is completely defective in DNA repair, we searched for other ATM phosphorylation sites that contribute to RIF1-dependent action. A crucial hint for identifying these alternative sites came from studies in mouse cells, where work from the Nussenzweig and Di Virgilio groups converged on a set of overlapping phosphorylation sites that they assigned as being important for murine RIF1 accumulation to DNA damage sites (Callen et al., 2013; Sundaravinayagam et al., 2019). While these sites play only a minor role in RIF1 recruitment to DSBs in human cells (Figure 2H for 53BP1<sup>7A</sup> derived from Callen et al., 2013; Figure S5J for 53BP1<sup>RIF1</sup> derived from Sundaravinayagam et al., 2019), they nevertheless play an important role in mediating RIF1-dependent DNA repair redundantly with the three RIF1-binding phosphoepitopes identified in this study. Our results therefore show that shieldin and RIF1 accumulation are not perfectly correlated, arguing against a linear 53BP1-RIF1-shieldin sequence of recruitment. While the function of the sites mutated in 53BP1<sup>7A</sup> is linked to the recruitment of shieldin to DNA lesions, the details of this activity are still unclear and will represent a focus of future work.

### Limitations of the Study

Our results show that RIF1 interacts with three phosphorylated motifs within the 53BP1 N-terminus that mediate its recruitment to DSB sites. Many of our conclusions are based on the observation that mutation of these three motifs on 53BP1 (i.e. the 3LA or 6STA mutations) abrogate RIF1 binding and DSB recruitment. However, we cannot completely rule out the existence of a residual 53BP1-RIF1 interaction, which could explain why this mutant maintains robust shieldin recruitment to DNA damage sites. Assessing RIF1 localization at DSB sites by chromatin immunoprecipitation may help address this issue. Secondly, some of our assays, such as RAD51 IR-induced foci in BRCA1-depleted cells, have a relatively small dynamic range, making the interpretation of some of the results challenging. Finally, while we evaluated the impact of disabling the RIF1-53BP1 interaction in several widely used assays, we did not assess other activities that are influenced by 53BP1 such as DNA repair synthesis, end-protection, DSB mobility or dysfunctional telomere fusions. It is possible that the loss of the 53BP1-RIF1 interaction has a strong impact on these processes.

### STAR Methods

#### RESOURCE AVAILABILITY

##### Lead contact

- Further information and reagent request should be directed to Daniel Durocher (durocher@lunenfeld.ca).

### Materials availability

- Plasmids and cell lines generated in this study will be available upon request from the lead contact.

### Data and code availability

- All data reported in this paper will be shared by the lead contact upon request. Source data is available at doi:[10.17632/ngnjxzy59n.1](https://doi.org/10.17632/ngnjxzy59n.1)
- 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

**Cell lines**—RPE1 (Female), 293T (Female), and Phoenix-AMPHO (Female) cell lines were maintained in Dulbecco's Modified Eagle Medium (DMEM; Gibco) supplemented with 10% fetal bovine serum (FBS; Wisent), 50 IU penicillin and 50 µg/mL streptomycin (Wisent), 1x GlutaMax (Gibco), 1x MEM non-essential Amino Acids (NEAA; Gibco). U2OS (Female) cell lines were maintained in McCoy's 5A (Modified) Medium (Gibco) supplemented with 10% FBS, 50 IU penicillin and 50 µg/mL streptomycin. Mouse embryonic fibroblasts were maintained in DMEM supplemented with 10% FBS, 50 IU penicillin, 50 µg/ml streptomycin, 1x GlutaMax, 1x NEAA, 1 mM sodium pyruvate (Thermo Scientific), and 60 µM β-mercaptoethanol. SUM149PT (Female) cell lines were maintained in DMEM/F-12 (Gibco) supplemented with 5% FBS, 50 IU penicillin and 50 µg/mL streptomycin (Wisent), 1 µg/mL hydrocortisone (Sigma-Aldrich) and 5 µg/mL insulin (Sigma-Aldrich). Sf9 cells were maintained in suspension in EX-CELL 420 serum-free medium (Sigma-Aldrich) and High Five cells were maintained in suspension in Sf-900 II SFM (Gibco). No cell line authentication service was utilized in this study aside from verification of knockout phenotypes by Western blot. U2OS *53BP1-KO* (Orthwein et al., 2015) and U2OS 2-6-3 mCherry-LacR-FokI *53BP1-KO* (Batenburg et al., 2017) were generated in previous studies.

**Mice**—*Trp53bp1*<sup>-/-</sup> mice were described previously (Ward et al., 2003). Both male and female mice between 20-25 weeks of age were used. Mice were maintained in a specific pathogen-free (SPF) facility, and all procedures followed protocol (20-042) approved by the National Institutes of Health Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee.

## METHOD DETAILS

**Plasmids**—53BP1 fragment-expressing plasmids were generated by fusion PCR from pcDNA5-FRT/TO-eGFP-53BP1 (Full length 1-1972) (Escribano-Diaz et al., 2013) and Gateway-mediated cloning into the pDEST-FRT/TO-eGFP backbone. Amino acid substitutions and deletions were introduced by site-directed mutagenesis. RIF1 fragments and mutants were similarly generated from the pDEST-FRT/TO-eGFP-RIF1 vector (Escribano-Diaz et al., 2013). pMX-53BP1- Rif1 were a kind gift from Michela di Virgilio (Sundaravinayagam et al., 2019). Chimeric human- *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*

RIF1 mutants were generated by Gibson assembly using the pDEST-FRT/TO-eGFP-RIF1(1-967) backbone. Chimera (1-217) substituted HsRIF1(1-217) with ScRif1(177-456), chimera (218-452) substituted HsRIF1(218-462) with ScRif1(457-710), chimera (463-632) substituted HsRIF1(463-632) with ScRif1(711-857) and chimera (633-967) substituted HsRIF1(633-967) with ScRif1(734-1031). 53BP1 constructs used in the mCherry-LacR-FokI assays were generated by site-directed mutagenesis of the pMX-53BP1(1-1711)-HA-FLAG vector (Bothmer et al., 2011).

The insect cell expression construct of RIF1(1-980) was generated by restriction endonuclease cloning of a codon-optimized ORF sequence (Integrated DNA Technologies, Coralville) into the pFastBac-Strep-TEV backbone. SHLD3, REV7, and SHLD2 constructs were similarly generated using pAC8-derived Strep-, FLAG-, 6xHis-, or Strep-SUMO-transfer vectors (Abdulrahman et al., 2015).

**PEI transfection**—10-cm dishes of confluent 293T or 293T-derived cells were used for PEI transfection. 10 µg of plasmid DNA was incubated with 100 µg/mL polyethyleneimine (Polysciences Inc; linear 25 kDa) in 500 µL DMEM without serum or antibiotic for 20 minutes at room temperature. After incubation, 3 mL of complete DMEM was added to the transfection mixture. Cell media was then replaced with the transfection mixture, and the cells were subsequently incubated for 2-4 hours. After incubation, 10 mL of complete DMEM was added to the plates.

**siRNA knockdown**—Cells were either forward or reverse transfected with siRNA. For forward transfection, 100,000 U2OS cells were plated in 6-well plates. The next day, the cells were transfected with Lipofectamine RNAiMAX (Thermo Scientific) as per manufacturer recommendations. Briefly, 25 pmol of siRNA and 3 µL of RNAiMAX transfection reagent was incubated in 500 µL Opti-MEM (Thermo Scientific) and then added to cells in 2 ml media without antibiotics. For reverse transfections, 200,000 U2OS cells were plated in 6-well plates and the same transfection mix was added during plating. Cells were harvested for downstream applications 2-3 days after siRNA transfection.

**Retrovirus production and infection**—53BP1-expressing retroviruses were generated in two ways. First, a 10-cm dish of Phoenix-AMPHO helper-free retrovirus packaging cells (Kinsella and Nolan, 1996; Swift et al., 2001) was transfected with 10 µg of pMX-53BP1(1-1711)-HA-FLAG vectors using PEI. 24 hours after transfection, culture media was replaced with 6 mL complete DMEM. 48 hours after transfection, the virus-containing culture media was harvested and filtered using a 0.45 µm syringe filter. Retrovirus was used immediately after harvest. Alternatively, concentrated VSV-G pseudotyped retrovirus was generated by the University of Michigan Retroviral Core and concentrated 10X by ultracentrifugation. VSV-G retrovirus was snap frozen in liquid nitrogen and stored in –80°C until use.

Retroviral infection was conducted in 6-well plates using either 1 mL of unconcentrated virus or 200 µL of concentrated virus in 20 mM HEPES pH 7.4 and 8 µg/mL polybrene (Sigma-Aldrich). If selection was desired, puromycin was added either 24 or 48 hours post-infection (10 µg/mL for RPE1 or 2 µg/mL for MEFs, U2OS, and SUM149PT) for



at least 48 hours. Transduction efficiency was determined by both immunoblotting and immunofluorescence analysis.

**Immunofluorescence**—Cells cultured on glass coverslips were harvested and rinsed with PBS. The coverslips were then fixed by incubation in 4% PFA in PBS for 10 minutes. After washing three times with PBS, the coverslips were permeabilized in 0.3% Triton X-100 in PBS for 30 minutes. For nuclear pre-extraction treatment, the coverslips are first incubated for 10 minutes on ice in nuclear pre-extraction buffer (20 mM HEPES pH 7.4, 20 mM NaCl, 5 mM MgCl<sub>2</sub>, 0.5% NP-40, 1 mM DTT, and 1x cOmplete EDTA-free protease inhibitor cocktail [Roche]), washed once with PBS, and fixed for 10 minutes at room temperature. After these treatments the coverslips were washed three times with PBS, then placed in a humidified chamber and incubated with blocking solution (either PBS + 1% BSA or PBS + 0.2% cold water fish gelatin + 0.5% BSA) for 30 minutes. The coverslips were then incubated with the primary antibody diluted in blocking solution for 1-2 hours at room temperature, followed by washing three times with PBS. The coverslips were then incubated with the secondary antibody diluted in blocking solution for 1h at room temperature and washed three times with PBS. Coverslips were then mounted on glass slides using ProLong Gold Antifade mounting media with DAPI (Invitrogen).

For EdU staining to enrich for S-phase cells, 10  $\mu$ M EdU was added to cells 30 minutes prior to harvesting. The coverslips were treated as above, except that following secondary antibody incubation and washing, they were further fixed using 4% PFA for 5 minutes at room temperature, washed twice with PBS, and incubated for 30 minutes with EdU staining solution (100 mM Tris-HCl pH 8.5, 1 mM CuSO<sub>4</sub>, 100 mM ascorbic acid, 10  $\mu$ M Alexa Fluor azide (either 647 or 555; Thermo-Fisher). The coverslips were then washed three times with PBS and mounted as above.

**Complementation of RIF1 IRIFs**—25,000 U2OS cells were plated in 24-well plates containing glass coverslips. After 24 hours, 53BP1 expression was knocked down by transfection of 10 nM 53BP1 siRNA#1 (ggacaagtctctcagctat; Dharmacon) with 1  $\mu$ L RNAiMAX (total volume of 600  $\mu$ L per well). 24 hours after siRNA transfection, 0.8  $\mu$ g of 53BP1-expression plasmids were transfected using Lipofectamine 2000 (Thermo Scientific) according to the manufacturer guidelines. 24 hours after DNA transfection, cells were treated with 10 Gy of ionizing radiation using a Faxitron X-ray cabinet (Faxitron, Tucson AZ). After irradiation, cells were incubated for 1 hour, then fixed with 4% PFA for further immunofluorescence analysis.

**Peptide pulldown with recombinant RIF1**—5  $\mu$ g of phosphorylated 53BP1 peptides (BioBasic, Markham; New England Peptide, Boston; Sigma-Aldrich) resuspended in manufacturer-recommended solvents were coupled to 10  $\mu$ L Dynabeads M-280 streptavidin beads (Invitrogen) in 250  $\mu$ L peptide pulldown buffer 1 (PPB1; 20 mM HEPES pH 7.8, 100 mM KCl, 0.2 mM EDTA, 1% BSA, 0.5 mM DTT, 0.2 mM PMSF, 1 mM  $\beta$ -glycerophosphate, 1 mM sodium orthovanadate) at 4°C. The peptides are defined in the Key Resources Table. Beads were collected after 30 minutes and washed twice with PPB1. Beads were resuspended in 250  $\mu$ L PPB1 containing purified recombinant RIF1 (0.25 to 1  $\mu$ g) and incubated by rotating at 4°C. Beads were collected and washed twice with 1 mL

PPB1, and twice with 1 mL PPB2 (20 mM HEPES pH 7.8, 20 mM KCl, 0.2 mM EDTA, 0.5 mM DTT, 1 mM  $\beta$ -glycerophosphate, 1 mM sodium orthovanadate). The beads were then boiled in 25  $\mu$ L SDS sample buffer (100 mM Tris-HCl pH 6.8, 4% SDS, 20% glycerol, 2%  $\beta$ -mercaptoethanol, 25 mM EDTA, 0.04% bromophenol blue). After magnetic removal of the beads, the supernatant was analyzed by SDS-PAGE and immunoblotting.

**Peptide pulldown of RIF1 from nuclear extract**—53BP1 peptides were coupled to streptavidin Dynabeads as above. Beads were resuspended in 450  $\mu$ L PPB1 and 50  $\mu$ L of 10 mg/mL HeLa nuclear extracts (Accurate Chemical, Carle Place NY) and incubated by rotating at 4°C. Beads were washed four times with 1 mL PPB1. Bound proteins were harvested by boiling in 25  $\mu$ L SDS sample buffer and analyzed by SDS-PAGE and immunoblotting. For peptide pulldown of exogenously expressed RIF1 mutants, nuclear extracts were prepared from 293T PEI transfected with GFP-RIF1(1-967) plasmids using a modified Dignam protocol (Lee et al., 1988). One 15 cm dish of confluent 293T cells were harvested by scraping into PBS and pelleted by centrifugation at 200 xg for 5 minutes. Cell pellets were resuspended in one pellet volume of buffer A (10 mM HEPES-KOH pH 7.9, 1.5 mM MgCl<sub>2</sub>, 10 mM KCl, and 0.5 mM DTT) and incubated on ice for 15 minutes. Cells were then lysed by rapid ejection through a 26-gauge needle repeated five times. Lysates were centrifuged at 12,000 xg for 20 seconds to pellet nuclei. The nuclei were then resuspended in 2/3 of the original cell pellet volume in buffer C (20mM HEPES-KOH pH 7.9, 25% glycerol, 0.42M NaCl, 1.5 mM MgCl<sub>2</sub>, 0.2 mM EDTA, 0.5mM PMSF, and 0.5 mM DTT) and incubated end over end at 4°C for 30 minutes. The nuclear extract was then centrifuged at 21,000 xg for 5 minutes at 4°C and the supernatant was collected, then dialyzed in buffer D (20 mM HEPES-KOH pH 7.9, 20% glycerol, 0.1 mM KCl, 0.2 mM EDTA, 0.5 mM PMSF, and 0.5 mM DTT) for 2 hours at 4°C using 3.5 kDa MWCO Slide-A-Lyzer Dialysis Cassettes (Thermo Scientific). Dialyzed nuclear extracts were quantified by Bradford assay, and equal concentrations were used for peptide pulldown analysis. Pulldown of proteins were detected by Western blotting visualized using the LI-COR Odyssey CLx (LI-COR Biosciences) and quantified using LI-COR Image Studio software.

**Co-immunoprecipitation of RIF1 and 53BP1**—One confluent 10-cm dish of 293T cells transfected with 10  $\mu$ g of pMX-53BP1(1-1711)-HA-FLAG was used for each co-immunoprecipitation experiment. Prior to harvesting, cells were treated with 10 Gy of X-ray irradiation using a Faxitron cabinet (Faxitron). 1h post irradiation, the cells were harvested by scraping into PBS and pelleted by centrifugation for 5 minutes at 1000xg at 4°C. The cells were then lysed by addition of lysis buffer (50 mM Tris-HCl pH 8, 100 mM NaCl, 2 mM EDTA, 10 mM NaF, 0.5% NP-40, 10 mM MgCl<sub>2</sub>, 1x cComplete EDTA-free protease inhibitor tablet, 1x phosphatase inhibitor cocktail 3 [Sigma-Aldrich] and 5 U/mL of benzonase [Sigma-Aldrich]) and incubated on ice for 30 minutes. Lysates were then pre-cleared by centrifugation at 21,000xg at 4°C, followed by incubation with 10  $\mu$ L bed volumes of anti-FLAG M2 magnetic beads for 1 hour at 4°C. The beads were then washed using 500  $\mu$ L PPB1 buffer (see above), incubated with 450  $\mu$ L PPB1 and 50  $\mu$ L of 10 mg/ml HeLa nuclear extracts (Accurate Chemical) for 1 hour at 4°C. Beads were washed twice with 500  $\mu$ L PPB1, then twice with 500  $\mu$ L PPB1 without BSA. Bound protein was

harvested by boiling beads in 50  $\mu$ L SDS sample buffer and analyzed by SDS-PAGE and immunoblotting.

**U2OS-2-6-3 FokI focus recruitment assay**—200,000 U2OS-2-6-3 cells harboring 256 LacO arrays and an inducible mCherry-LacR-FokI (Shanbhag et al., 2010) were plated in a 6-well plate containing glass coverslips. The next day, cells were transfected using 1-2  $\mu$ g of pMX-GFP or pMX-53BP1 vectors and 6  $\mu$ L Lipofectamine 2000 (Thermo Scientific). The media was changed after 3 hours of incubation. 48 hours after transfection, mCherry-LacR-FokI expression was induced by addition of 10  $\mu$ g/mL 4-hydroxytamoxifen (Sigma) and 1  $\mu$ M of Shield-1 peptide (Clontech, Mountain View CA) for 4-6 hours. Cells were then fixed in 4% PFA for further immunofluorescence analysis. Images were quantified using ImageJ (Schneider et al., 2012), defining a ratio of 1.5 between the average fluorescence intensities colocalizing to mCherry-LacR signal and the nuclear signal as containing a focus. For RIF1 mutant localization experiments, the same procedure was used as above with the addition of RIF1 siRNA #2 (Dharmacon) transfection with RNAiMAX (1  $\mu$ L in 24-well or 3  $\mu$ L in 6-well format) during plating.

**Laser microirradiation**—Cells were first grown on 25 mm glass coverslips until the desired confluence. The cells were then sensitized to laser microirradiation by incubation with 2  $\mu$ g/mL Hoechst 33342 (Invitrogen) for 10 minutes. DNA damage was induced by a 40 mW 355 nm laser (Coherent) via a 40x Plan-Apochromat 40x objective lens using an LSM780 laser scanning confocal microscope (Zeiss) with the following laser setting: 100% power, 128 x 128 frame size, line step 7, 25.21  $\mu$ s pixel dwell time. After irradiation, cells were incubated for 60-90 minutes, processed for nuclear pre-extraction, and fixed with 4% PFA for immunofluorescence analysis. Images were quantified using ImageJ, defining a ratio of 2 between the average fluorescence intensities colocalizing with the 53BP1 stripe and the nucleus as containing a stripe.

**RAD51 IR-induced focus formation**—U2OS cells were reverse transfected with siRNA against BRCA1 using Lipofectamine RNAiMAX (Thermo Fisher) and plated in 6-well plates according to manufacturer's instructions. 48 hours after transfection, cells were exposed to 5 Gy of X-ray irradiation using a Faxitron X-ray cabinet (Faxitron). After irradiation, cells were incubated for 4 hours, processed for nuclear pre-extraction, and fixed with 4% PFA for immunofluorescence analysis. 53BP1, BRCA1, and RAD51 foci were quantified using CellProfiler (McQuin et al., 2018). Cells containing 5 or more RAD51 foci were classified as RAD51-positive.

**Metaphase spread analysis**—MEF cells derived from *Tp53bp1*<sup>-/-</sup> *Brca1*<sup>11/11</sup> mice (Bunting et al., 2010) were infected with 53BP1-expressing retroviruses. At approximately 70% confluence, cells were treated with DMSO or 1  $\mu$ M of the PARPi olaparib (SelleckChem) for 24 hours. After this treatment, MEFs were arrested in mitosis by incubation with 0.2  $\mu$ g/mL KaryoMax colcemid (Thermo Scientific) for 1 hour. Cells were then harvested by trypsinization, pelleted by centrifugation, and incubated with 75 mM KCl at 37°C for 30 minutes. After KCl incubation, cells were pelleted and fixed by dropwise addition of 500  $\mu$ L Carnoy's fixative (3:1 methanol and acetic acid). The mixture was

further resuspended in 10 mL of fixative and stored at 4°C until preparation of slides. For metaphase analysis, fixed cells were pelleted by centrifugation and resuspended in 200-500 µL of fixative. Resuspended cells were dropped on glass coverslips, dried in ambient conditions, and coverslips were mounted using ProLong Gold Antifade mounting media with DAPI (Thermo Scientific).

**Immunoglobulin class switch assay**—Resting primary B lymphocytes (wild-type and *Tp53bp1*<sup>-/-</sup>) were purified from mouse spleens using anti-CD43 microbeads (Miltenyi Biotec). One million cells were stimulated to proliferate with a cytokine cocktail containing 25 µg/mL lipopolysaccharide (LPS, Sigma-Aldrich), 5 ng/mL interleukin-4 (IL-4, Sigma-Aldrich) and 0.5 µg/mL anti-CD180 (BD PharMingen). Infectious pMXs-based retroviruses encoding various 53BP1 proteins were assembled in BOSC23 packaging cells co-transfected with the pCL-Eco helper virus. Retroviral supernatant was collected 40 h later, passed through a sterile 0.45 µm syringe filter (VWR) and used to transduce activated B cells in the presence of 10 µg/mL polybrene (Sigma-Aldrich). Viral transduction was facilitated by centrifugation (2500 rpm, 1.5 h at 20°C, Sorvall Legend XTR, Thermo Scientific), after which cells were incubated in polybrene-containing media for an additional 6 h before being returned to regular B cell activation media. A second round of viral transduction was performed on the following day. Class switching to IgG1 was detected on day 4 by flow cytometry (FACSCanto™ II, BD Biosciences) using biotinylated anti-IgG1 followed by PE-conjugated streptavidin (BD Biosciences). Anti-B220 was used to confirm the purity of B cell samples.

Expression of endogenous and exogenous 53BP1 was confirmed by immunoblotting. Briefly, B cells were lysed on day 4 in a buffer containing 50 mM Tris-HCl (pH 7.5), 200 mM NaCl, 5% Tween-20, 2% Igepal CA-630, 2 mM PMSF, 50 mM β-glycerophosphate (all from Sigma-Aldrich) and protease inhibitor cocktail tablet (cOmplete Mini, Roche Diagnostics). Equal amounts of lysates were resolved by SDS-PAGE. Incubation with primary (polyclonal rabbit anti-53BP1, NB100-304, Novus Biologicals) and secondary (IRDye 680RD Goat anti-Rabbit IgG (H+L), LI-COR Biosciences) antibodies were performed according to standard procedures. Visualization of protein bands was achieved by fluorescence imaging (LI-COR Biosciences).

**Olaparib clonogenic survival assay**—500 cells of SUM149PT and SUM149PT *53BP1-KO* stably expressing exogenous 53BP1 were plated in 6-well plates. Olaparib (SelleckChem) was added to the indicated concentrations, as well as 0.5 µg/ml puromycin to maintain selection for 53BP1-expressing cells. After 9 days, the plates were rinsed with PBS, stained for 30 minutes with crystal violet solution (0.5% w/v crystal violet [Sigma-Aldrich] in 20% methanol) and rinsed three times in water. Number of colonies was determined through manual counting.

**Purification of recombinant proteins**—Baculoviruses were generated in *Spodoptera frugiperda* Sf9 cells (Thermo Fisher) by cotransfecting linearized viral DNA with the transfer plasmid for the pAC8-derived vectors of Bac-to-Bac method for the pFastBac-derived vectors (Abdulrahman et al., 2015). For recombinant protein expression of Strep-TEV-RIF1(1-980) and Strep-TEV-RIF1(1-980)-Strep-TEV-SHLD3-His-TEV-REV7-Strep-

SUMO-TEV-SHLD2(1-65), *Trichoplusia ni* High Five cells (Expression Systems) were infected (or coinfecting) with baculoviruses encoding the desired proteins.

For purification of complexes, cells were harvested by centrifugation 36 h after infection, resuspended in lysis buffer (50 mM HEPES pH 7.4, 300 mM NaCl, 0.1% (v/v) Triton X-100, 1 mM TCEP, 5 mM MgCl<sub>2</sub>, 1 mM KCl, DNase (40 µg per litre of culture) supplemented with 1 × SigmaFast protease inhibitor cocktail (Sigma-Aldrich) and disrupted by sonication. Following high speed centrifugation, the supernatant was filtered through Miracloth (EMD Millipore) and subsequently applied to a 20 mL Strep-Tactin sepharose column (IBA Lifesciences). The affinity resin was washed (wash buffer: 50 mM HEPES pH 7.4, 300 mM NaCl, 1 mM TCEP) and the bound complex was eluted in 50 mM HEPES pH 7.4, 300 mM NaCl, 1 mM TCEP, 2.5 mM desthiobiotin. Fractions containing protein complexes were concentrated (Amicon Ultra-15, 10 kDa molecular weight cutoff) and purified by size exclusion chromatography on a HiLoad 16/60 Superdex 200 column (GE Healthcare), which was pre-equilibrated with buffer containing 50 mM HEPES pH 7.4, 300 mM NaCl, 5% glycerol and 0.5 mM TCEP. Strep-TEV-RIF1(1-980)-Strep-SHLD3-6xHis-REV7 and Strep-TEV-RIF1(1-980)-Strep-SHLD3-6xHis-REV7-Strep-SUMO-SHLD2 was overexpressed in High Five insect cells and purified as Strep tag fusion protein as described for RIF1(1-980). Purified samples were concentrated, quantified using a Bradford assay with bovine serum albumin standard and UV absorption on a Nanodrop spectrophotometer (ThermoFisher Scientific), flash frozen in liquid nitrogen and stored at -80°C.

**Fluorescence polarization**—N-terminally Cy5-labeled peptides (New England Peptide) dissolved in DMSO were diluted in binding buffer (50 mM HEPES pH 7.4, 150 mM NaCl, 2.5 mM MgCl<sub>2</sub>, 0.25 mM TCEP, 50 µg/ml BSA (Sigma), and 0.05% Tween-20 to a concentration of 200 nM. Purified RIF1(1-980) or RIF1(1-980)-SHLD3-REV7 was diluted in binding buffer to generate a 20 µM stock and serially diluted to the desired concentration. 5 µL each of purified protein and peptide were mixed in a 384-well small volume microplate (Hibase, Greiner), and fluorescent polarization was measured with 200 flashes per second over a period of one hour using a PHERAstar FS microplate reader (BMG Labtech, Ortenberg). Peptide sequences can be found in the Key Resources Table.

**Crosslinking coupled to mass spectrometry**—Purified RIF1-SHLD3-REV7-Strep-SUMO-SHLD2(1-65) at a concentration of 0.5 mg/ml in buffer (50 mM HEPES pH 7.4, 300 mM NaCl, 0.5 mM TCEP) was incubated with 0.5, 1, or 2 mM disuccinimidyl sulfoxide (DSSO) for 60 minutes with shaking at room temperature. The reaction was quenched by the addition of 50 mM Tris-HCl pH 6.8. The crosslinked samples were then subjected to ultrafiltration using an Amicon Ultra 0.5 ml centrifugal filter (EMD-Millipore) to remove crosslinking reagent and non-crosslinked proteins. The crosslinked complex was resuspended in 400 µL 8M urea in 50 mM HEPES pH 8.5 to denature and wash the protein, then concentrated again for a total of two urea washes, and concentrated to 50 µL. The sample was reduced and alkylated by addition of reduction/alkylation solution (5 mM TCEP, 10 mM 2-chloroacetamide) for 30 minutes in the dark with shaking. The sample was then washed using a centrifugal spin filter with 8M urea in 50 mM HEPES pH 8.5 for a total of two washes and concentrated to 23.5 µL. The sample was digested by Lys-C



addition (1:100 enzyme to protein ratio) for 1.5 hours at room temperature while shaking. The Lys-C digested samples were diluted to a final concentration of 50 mM HEPES pH 8.4 and 2M urea, followed by the addition of trypsin (1:100 enzyme to protein ratio) and digested overnight with shaking. An additional 1:100 ratio of trypsin was added, followed by acetonitrile to a final concentration of 5%. The sample was then incubated for 4 hours with shaking. The digested sample was acidified using 1% trifluoroacetic acid, sonicated, and centrifuged at 20,000  $\times g$  for 5 minutes yielding a final sample volume of 85  $\mu$ l. 10  $\mu$ l of the sample was subjected to single shot analysis, while the remaining 75  $\mu$ l was subjected to strong cation exchange (SCX) fractionation. LC-MS analysis was performed using a 2 cm trapping column and a 15 cm analytical column coupled to an Orbitrap Fusion Lumos mass spectrometer (Thermo Fisher) using a 240 minute (single shot) or a 120 minute (SCX fractions) gradient and the MS2 MS3 method (Liu et al., 2017). Crosslinks were identified from a library constructed out of the primary amino acid sequences of the purified proteins used in the analysis with the XlinkX search node (Klykov et al., 2018) in Proteome Discoverer (version 2.2, Thermo Fisher) using the default cutoff score of 20. Identified crosslinks were validated by comparison to the SHLD3(1-64)-REV7-SHLD2(1-54) crystal structure (PDB:6KTO) (Liang et al., 2020), with atom-atom distances measured in UCSF Chimera (Pettersen et al., 2004).

## QUANTIFICATION AND STATISTICAL ANALYSIS

All data presented are biological replicates unless otherwise stated. The statistical tests used, number of replicates, definition of error bars and center definitions are all defined within each figure or figure legend. Statistical tests performed in this study (Student's unpaired t-test and ANOVA test with multiple comparisons using Dunnett's method) as well as nonlinear fitting of ligand binding curves (single site model) were performed using Graphpad Prism 8. ns =  $p > 0.05$ , \* =  $p < 0.05$ , \*\* =  $p < 0.01$ , \*\*\* =  $p < 0.001$ , \*\*\*\* =  $p < 0.00001$ . No specific methods were used to determine whether the data met the assumptions of the statistical approach.

## Supplementary Material

Refer to Web version on PubMed Central for supplementary material.

## Acknowledgments

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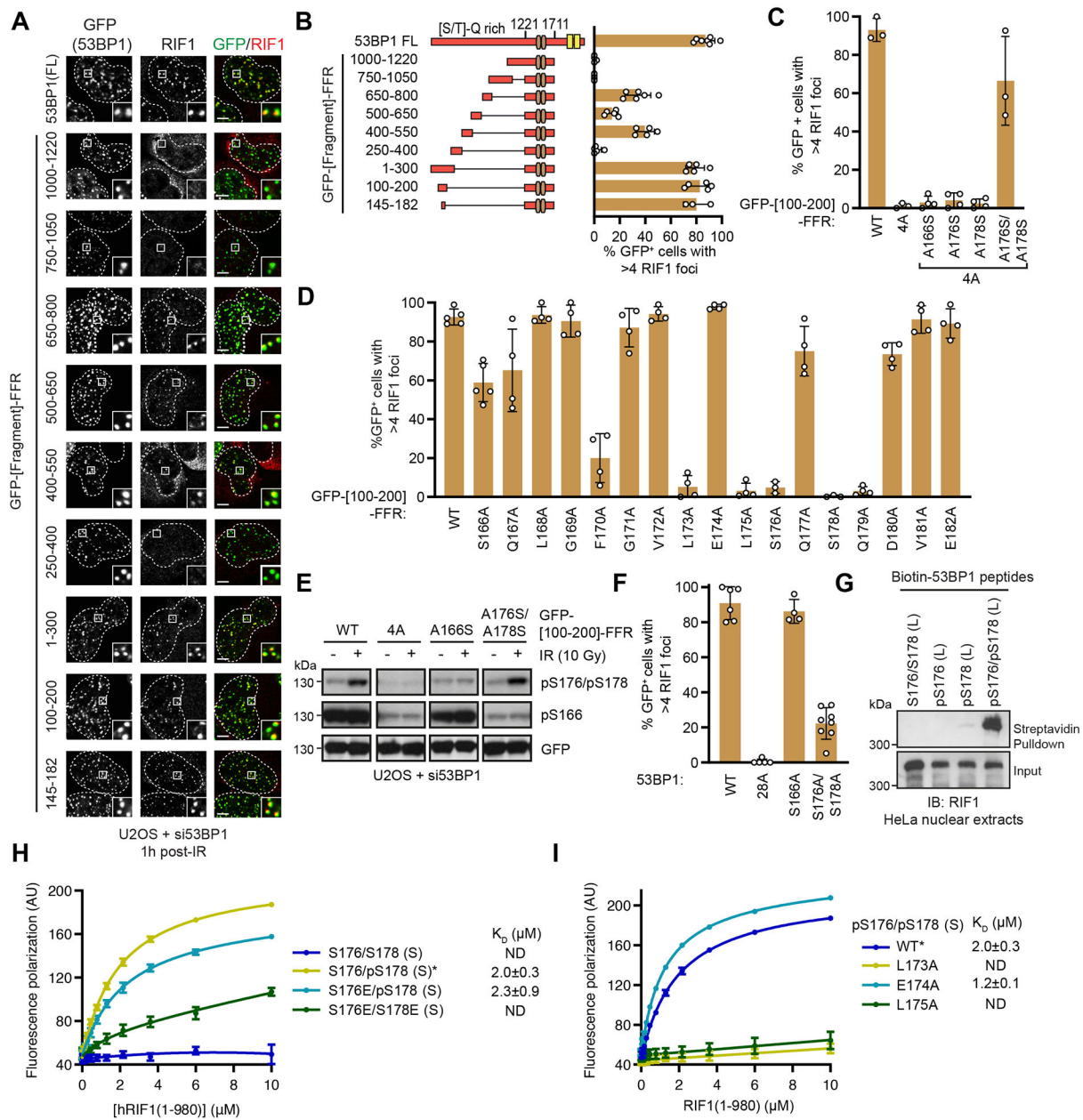
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**HIGHLIGHTS**

- RIF1 is a phosphopeptide-binding protein
- RIF1 recognizes three related diphosphorylated epitopes on 53BP1
- RIF1-binding sites on 53BP1 are essential for RIF1 accumulation at DNA break sites
- RIF1-dependent phosphopeptide recognition contributes to DNA repair



### Figure 1. RIF1 directly binds an ATM-phosphorylated motif in the 53BP1 N-terminus

(A) RIF1 IR-induced focus formation in U2OS cells depleted of 53BP1 by siRNA treatment and transfected with the indicated GFP-fusion constructs (FFR; 53BP1 residues 1220-1711). Cells were fixed 1 h post-IR (10 Gy) and evaluated by immunofluorescence. Representative micrographs are shown. Dashed lines indicate the nuclear area determined by DAPI staining (not shown).

(B) Quantitation of (A). Bar height corresponds to the mean  $\pm$  s.d.; 53BP1 FL; N=7. 650-800; N=6. 1000-1220, 750-1050; N=4. 145-182; N=3, all else N=5.

(C) RIF1 focus formation in cells expressing the indicated GFP-[100-200]-FFR variants 1 h post-IR (10 Gy) was evaluated by immunofluorescence. Bar height corresponds to the mean

± s.d.; WT, 4A, A176S/A178S; N=3, all else N=4. Representative micrographs are shown in Figure S1D.

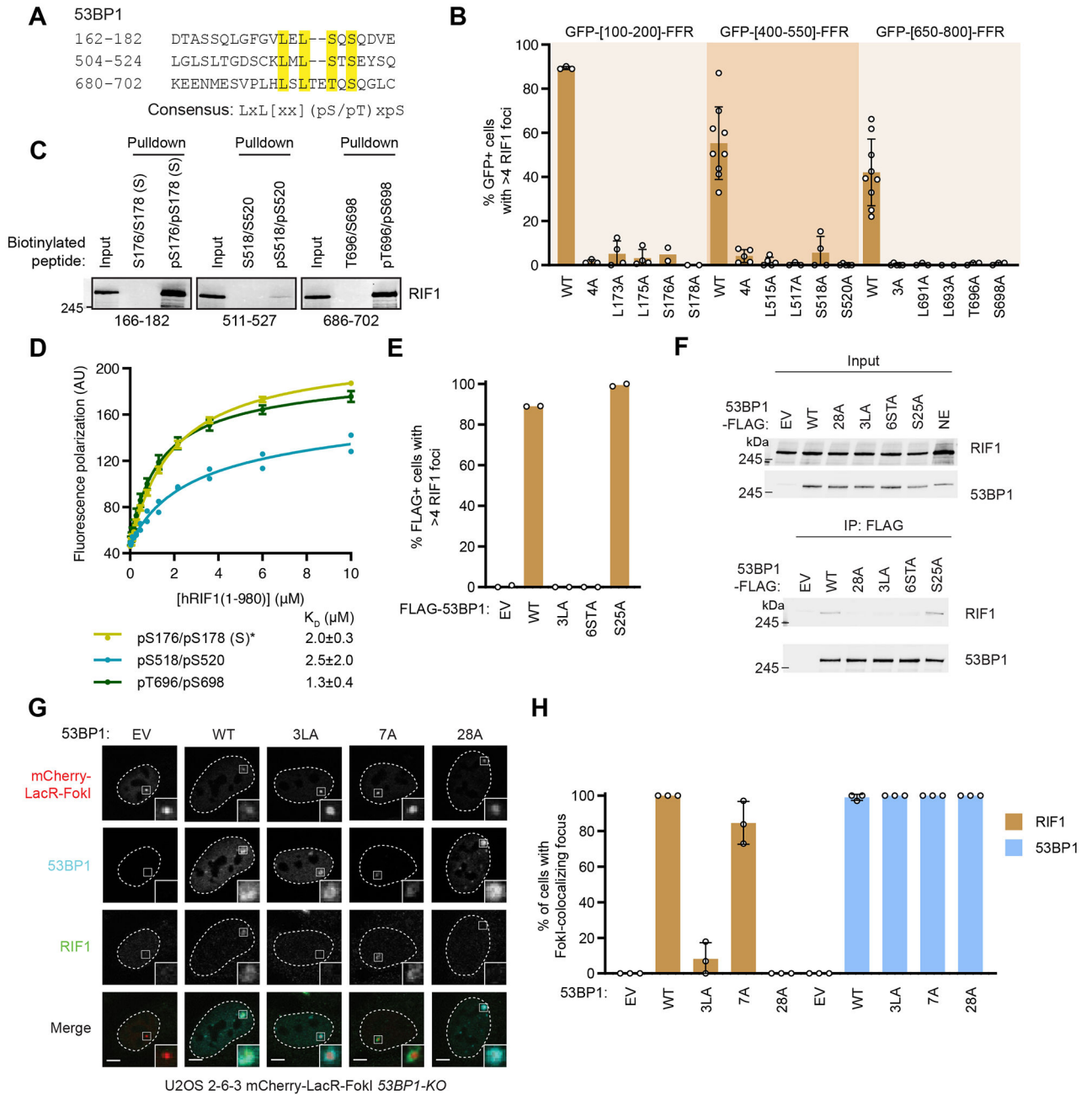
(D) RIF1 focus formation in cells expressing the indicated variants 1 h post-IR (10 Gy) was evaluated by immunofluorescence. Bar height corresponds to the mean ± s.d.; WT, S166A; N=5. S176A, S178A; N=3. All else N=4. Representative micrographs are shown in Figure S1G.

(E) Whole cell lysates of U2OS cells expressing the indicated GFP-[100-200]-FFR 53BP1 variants treated with 10 Gy IR were analyzed by immunoblotting with the indicated antibodies.

(F) RIF1 focus formation in cells expressing full-length 53BP1 variants 1 h post-IR (10 Gy) was evaluated by immunofluorescence. Bar height corresponds to the mean ± s.d.; WT; N=6. 28A; N=5. S166A; N=4. S176A/S178A; N=8. Representative micrographs are shown in Figure S1K.

(G) Streptavidin pulldown assay using biotinylated 53BP1 phosphopeptides incubated with HeLa nuclear extracts. Bound proteins were analyzed by immunoblotting with a RIF1 antibody.

(H-I) Fluorescence polarization assay measuring the binding of Cy5-labeled peptides to recombinant RIF1(1-980). To facilitate comparison, the data for RIF1(1-980) binding to 53BP1 pS176/pS178 peptides (\*) are plotted twice in (H) and (I). Data are presented as the mean ± s.d; N=3 except for S176/S178 and pS176/pS178 where N=6.  $K_D$  values ± 95% C.I. are also shown.



**Figure 2. Disrupting three RIF1-binding phosphopeptide motifs in 53BP1 abolishes RIF1 recruitment to sites of DNA damage**

(A) Sequence of the three 53BP1 sites sufficient to recruit RIF1 to IR-induced foci. Residues essential for RIF1 binding are highlighted. The consensus sequence is shown below.

(B) RIF1 focus formation in U2OS cells expressing the indicated 53BP1 constructs 1 h post-IR (10 Gy) were evaluated by immunofluorescence. Bar height corresponds to the mean  $\pm$  s.d.; N=3, 3, 4, 4, 2, 2, 9, 5, 5, 3, 4, 5, 9, 5, 3, 3, 4, 6 in the order displayed. Representative micrographs are shown in Figure S2A.

(C) Streptavidin pulldown assay using the indicated biotinylated 53BP1 peptides incubated with HeLa nuclear extracts. Peptide-bound proteins were analyzed by immunoblotting with a RIF1 antibody.

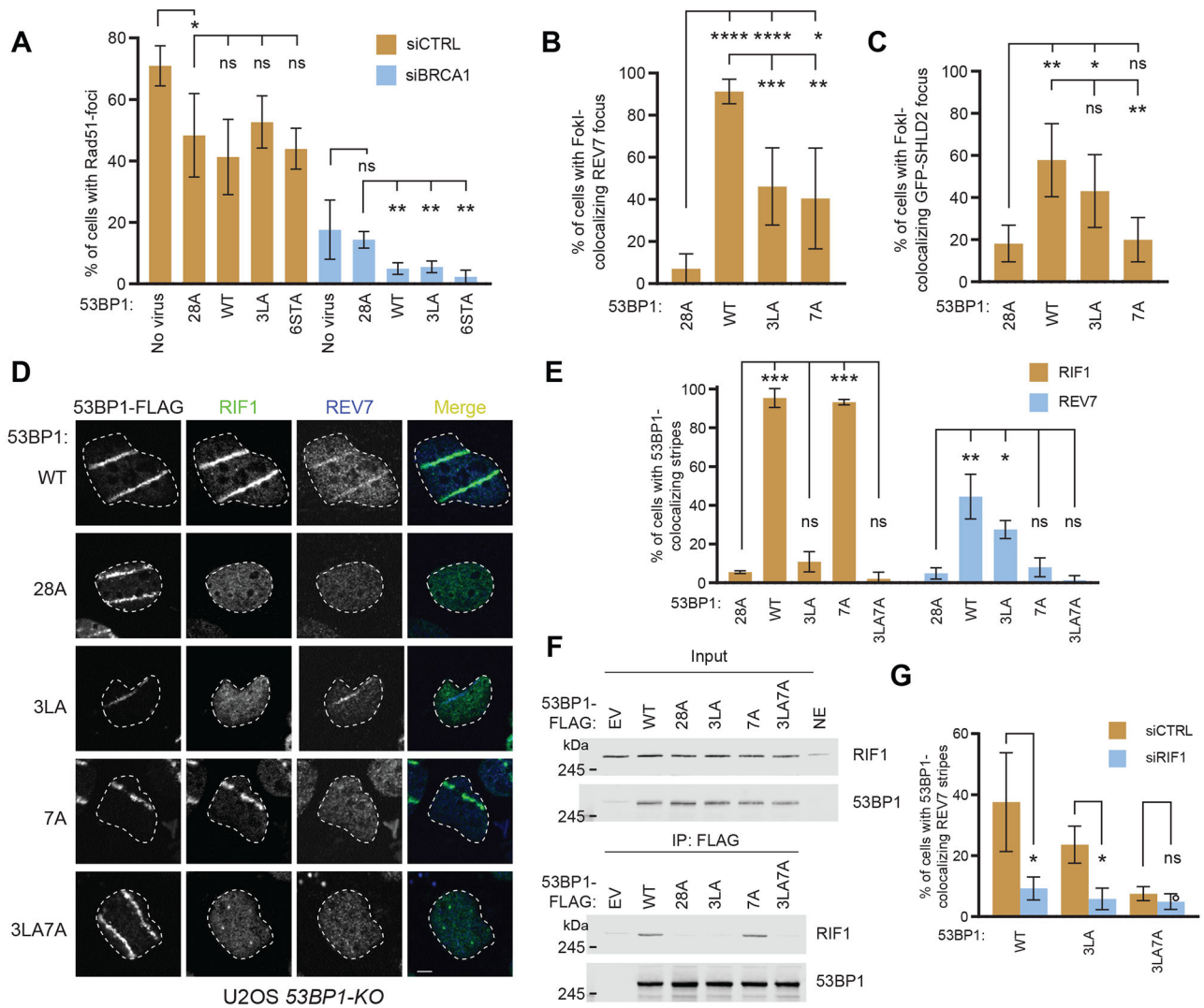
(D) Fluorescence polarization binding assay of Cy5-labeled phosphorylated 53BP1 peptides with recombinant RIF1(1-980). The data of RIF1 binding to the pS166/pS182

(S) peptide is the same as in Figure 1H (\*). Data is presented as the mean  $\pm$  s.d.; N=3 for pS166/pS182 and pT696/pS698 and N=2 pS518/pS520.  $K_D$  values  $\pm$  95% C.I. are also shown.

(E) RPE1-hTERT p53<sup>-/-</sup> 53BP1-KO cells were transfected with the indicated 53BP1-FLAG constructs and assayed for RIF1 focus formation 1 h post-IR (10 Gy). Representative micrographs are shown in Figure S2E. Bar height corresponds to the mean value; N=2.

(F) The RIF1-53BP1 interaction was assessed by combining the indicated 53BP1-FLAG immunoprecipitates with HeLa nuclear extracts. Bound proteins were analyzed by immunoblotting with RIF1 and 53BP1 antibodies.

(G-H) U2OS 2-6-3 53BP1-KO cells were transfected with the indicated 53BP1 expression vectors. Localization of RIF1 at FokI-induced DSBs was determined by immunofluorescence. Representative micrographs are shown in (G). The fraction of cells containing RIF1-mCherry-LacR-FokI colocalizing foci is shown in (H). Bar height corresponds to the mean  $\pm$  s.d.; N=3.



**Figure 3. RIF1 recruitment to sites of DNA damage is not essential for shieldin localization**

(A) Quantitation of RAD51 IR-induced foci in U2OS *53BP1-KO* cells infected with retrovirus encoding the indicated 53BP1 variants and transfected with a non-targeting siRNA (siCTRL) or an siRNA targeting *BRCA1*. Cells were fixed 4 h post-IR (5 Gy) and processed for immunofluorescence with the indicated antibodies. Bar height corresponds to the mean  $\pm$  s.d.; N=3 except for uninfected cells where N=4. Representative micrographs are shown in Figure S3C.

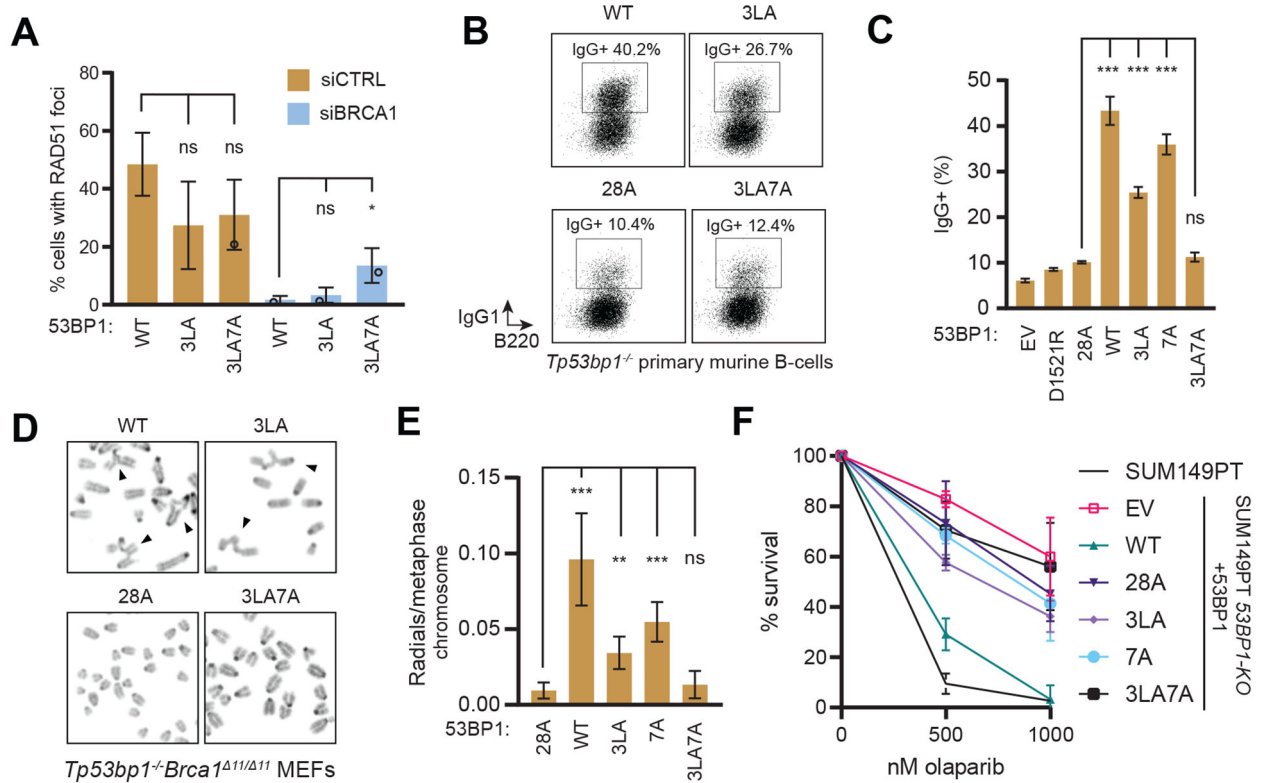
(B-C) Quantitation of REV7 and SHLD2 localization at FokI-induced DSBs in U2OS 2-6-3 *53BP1-KO* cells transfected with the indicated 53BP1-FLAG expression vectors in the presence (C) or absence (B) of a vector expressing GFP-SHLD2. 48 h post-transfection, cells were fixed and processed for immunofluorescence with the indicated antibodies. Colocalization of REV7 (B) and GFP-SHLD2 (C) with mCherry-LacR-FokI was quantitated. Bar height corresponds to the mean  $\pm$  s.d.; N=5. Representative micrographs are shown in Figure S3D-E.



(D-E) U2OS *53BP1-KO* cells expressing the indicated 53BP1-FLAG variants were UV laser microirradiated. RIF1 and REV7 colocalization was evaluated by immunofluorescence. Bar height corresponds to the mean  $\pm$  s.d.; N=3.

(F) The RIF1-53BP1 interaction was assessed by combining the indicated 53BP1-FLAG immunoprecipitates with HeLa nuclear extracts. Bound proteins were analyzed by immunoblotting with RIF1 and 53BP1 antibodies. NE, nuclear extract; EV, empty vector.

(G) U2OS *53BP1-KO* cells expressing the indicated 53BP1-FLAG variants were transfected with siRNA against RIF1 or a non-targeting siRNA (siCTRL) and UV laser microirradiated. REV7 colocalization was evaluated by immunofluorescence. Bar height corresponds to the mean  $\pm$  s.d.; N=3. Representative micrographs are shown in Figure S3G.



**Figure 4. Combination of 53BP1 3LA and 7A mutations impairs DSB repair.**

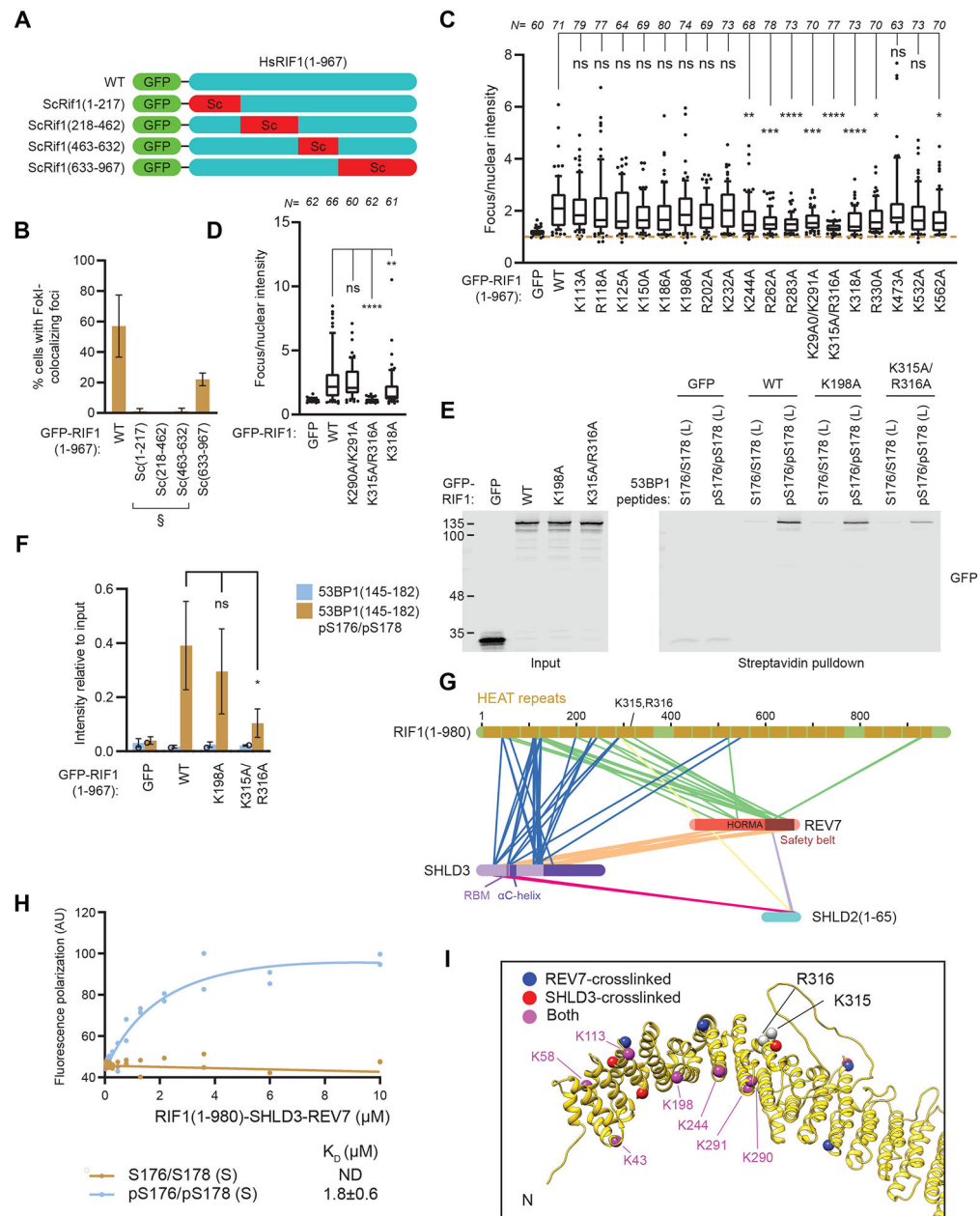
(A) U2OS *53BP1-KO* cells expressing the indicated 53BP1-FLAG constructs were transfected with the indicated siRNAs then irradiated (5 Gy) and processed for RAD51 immunofluorescence 4 h post-IR. Bar height corresponds to the mean  $\pm$  s.d.  $N=3$ . Representative micrographs are shown in Figure S4A.

(B-C) Primary murine splenic B-cells were isolated from *Tp53bp1*<sup>-/-</sup> mice and infected with retroviral vectors encoding the indicated 53BP1-FLAG constructs and assayed for class switching to IgG1 by FACS (B). (C) Quantification of class switch recombination assay shown in (B). Bar height corresponds to mean  $\pm$  s.d.;  $N=3$ . Expression of 53BP1 variants is shown in Figure S4B.

(D-E) *Tp53bp1*<sup>-/-</sup>*Brca1* <sup>$\Delta 11/\Delta 11$</sup>  MEFs were treated with olaparib (1  $\mu$ M) for 16 h. Metaphase spreads were prepared and stained with DAPI and analyzed for radial chromosome formation. (D) Representative micrographs. Arrowheads indicate radial chromosomes. (E) Quantitation of the experiment shown in (D). Bar height corresponds to the mean  $\pm$  s.d.;  $N=4$  (WT and 28A),  $N=5$  (3LA and 3LA7A),  $N=3$  (7A). Expression of 53BP1 variants is shown in Figure S4C.

(F) Clonogenic survival of SUM149PT *53BP1-KO* cells stably expressing the indicated 53BP1 variants treated with olaparib (9 d). Data is presented as the mean  $\pm$  s.d.;  $N=3$ . Representative images and 53BP1 variant expression are shown in Expression of 53BP1 variants is shown in Figures S4D-E.

\*  $p < 0.05$ , \*\*  $p < 0.01$ , \*\*\*  $p < 0.001$ , \*\*\*\*  $p < 0.0001$ . ns, not significant as determined by unpaired two-tailed t-test.



**Figure 5. RIF1 binds phosphorylated 53BP1 through conserved basic surface residues**  
 (A-B) Segments of GFP-RIF1(1-967) were substituted with homologous ScRif1 sequences as indicated in (A) and evaluated for colocalization with FokI-induced DSBs by immunofluorescence in U2OS 2-6-3 cells in (B). Bar height corresponds to the mean  $\pm$  s.d.  $N=3$ . Representative micrographs are shown in Figure S5A. § indicates poorly expressed variants (see Figure S5B).  
 (C) U2OS 2-6-3 cells expressing the indicated GFP-RIF1(1-967) variants were evaluated for colocalization with FokI-induced DSBs by immunofluorescence. Fluorescence intensity relative to nuclear signal is shown. Data from three biological replicates are presented as box plots. Whiskers indicate 10<sup>th</sup> and 90<sup>th</sup> percentiles, while the box indicate median and 25<sup>th</sup> and 75<sup>th</sup> percentiles. Statistical significance was determined using ANOVA with multiple

comparisons to WT using Dunnett's method. Representative micrographs are shown in Figure S5C.

(D) Colocalization of the indicated full-length RIF1 variants to FokI-induced DSBs were evaluated by immunofluorescence. Fluorescence intensity relative to nuclear signal is shown. Data from three biological replicates are presented as box plots. Whiskers indicate 10<sup>th</sup> and 90<sup>th</sup> percentiles, while the box indicate median, 25<sup>th</sup> and 75<sup>th</sup> percentiles. Representative micrographs are shown in Figure S5E.

(E-F) Peptide pulldown assays of nuclear extracts derived from cells expressing the indicated GFP-RIF1(1-967) proteins that were incubated with biotinylated 53BP1 peptides phosphorylated at residues S176 and S178. Bound proteins were analyzed by immunoblotting. Band intensities are quantitated in (F). Bar height corresponds to the mean  $\pm$  s.d.; N=3. Significance was determined by unpaired two-tailed t-test.

(G) Graphical representation of crosslinking mass spectrometry results derived from the RIF1(1-980)-SHLD3-REV7-SUMO-SHLD2(1-65) complex purified from insect cells and treated with the crosslinker DSSO. Inter-protein crosslinks are shown as connecting lines.

(H) Fluorescence polarization assay of purified RIF1-SHLD3-REV7-SHLD2 incubated with Cy5-labeled pS176/pS178 (S) peptides.  $K_D$  values  $\pm$  95% C.I. are shown, N=2.

(I) The predicted shieldin and 53BP1 binding sites on RIF1. Residues essential for DNA damage localization, K315/R316, and residues crosslinked to shieldin are indicated as spheres on an AlphaFold2-generated model of the RIF1 HEAT repeat domain.

\*  $p < 0.05$ , \*\*  $p < 0.01$ , \*\*\*  $p < 0.001$ , \*\*\*\*  $p < 0.0001$ . ns, not significant.

## KEY RESOURCES TABLE

| REAGENT or RESOURCE                               | SOURCE                                  | IDENTIFIER                          |
|---|---|-------------------------------------|
| Antibodies  |   |                                     |
| Goat polyclonal anti RIF1                         | Santa Cruz                              | Cat #: sc-55979; RRID: AB_2126818   |
| Mouse monoclonal anti RIF1                        | Santa Cruz                              | Cat #: sc-515573                    |
| Rabbit polyclonal anti RIF1                       | Bethyl Laboratories                     | Cat#: A300-569A; RRID: AB_669804    |
| Mouse monoclonal anti 53BP1                       | BD Biosciences                          | Cat #: 612523; RRID: AB_399824      |
| Rabbit polyclonal anti 53BP1                      | Bethyl Laboratories                     | Cat #: A300-273A; RRID: AB_185521   |
| Rabbit polyclonal anti 53BP1                      | Novus Biologicals                       | Cat#: NB100-304; RRID:AB_1000303    |
| anti 53BP1 phospho S176/178                       | Gift from J. Rouse (Jowsey et al. 2017) | N/A                                 |
| anti 53BP1 phospho S166                           | Gift from J. Rouse (Jowsey et al. 2017) | N/A                                 |
| Rabbit polyclonal anti 53BP1 phospho S25          | Bethyl Laboratories                     | Cat #: A300-652A; RRID: AB_519340   |
| Rat monoclonal anti FLAG                          | BioLegend                               | Cat#: 637319; RRID: AB_2749907      |
| HRP-Mouse monoclonal anti FLAG                    | Sigma-Aldrich                           | Cat#: A8592; RRID: AB_439702        |
| Mouse monoclonal anti BRCA1                       | Calbiochem                              | Cat#: OP92; RRID: AB_2750876        |
| Mouse monoclonal anti BRCA1                       | Calbiochem                              | Cat#: OP93; RRID: AB_213440         |
| Rabbit polyclonal anti BRCA1                      | (Escribano-Diaz et al. 2013)            | N/A                                 |
| Rabbit monoclonal anti REV7/MAD2L2                | Abcam                                   | Cat#: ab180579                      |
| Rabbit anti RAD51 serum                           | BioAcademia                             | Cat#: 70-001; RRID: AB_2177110      |
| Mouse monoclonal anti $\alpha$ -tubulin           | EMD Millipore                           | Cat#: CP06; RRID: AB_2617116        |
| Rabbit polyclonal anti GFP                        | Gift from L. Pelletier                  | N/A                                 |
| Rabbit polyclonal anti PTIP                       | Abcam                                   | Cat#: ab2614; RRID: AB_303209       |
| Rabbit polyclonal anti Kap1                       | Bethyl Laboratories                     | Cat#: A300-274A; RRID: AB_185559    |
| HRP-Sheep monoclonal anti mouse IgG               | Cytiva                                  | Cat#: 45-000-692                    |
| HRP-Goat polyclonal anti rabbit IgG               | Jackson Immunoresearch Labs             | Cat#: 111-035-144; RRID: AB_2307391 |
| HRP-Bovine polyclonal anti goat IgG               | Jackson Immunoresearch Labs             | Cat#: 805-035-180; RRID:AB_2340874  |
| IRDye 680RD-Donkey polyclonal anti mouse IgG      | LI-COR Biosciences                      | Cat#: 926-68072; RRID: AB_10953628  |
| IRDye 800CW-Donkey polyclonal anti goat IgG       | LI-COR Biosciences                      | Cat#: 926-32214; RRID: AB_621846    |
| IRDye 800CW-Donkey polyclonal anti rabbit IgG     | LI-COR Biosciences                      | Cat#: 926-32213; RRID: AB_621848    |
| IRDye 680RD-Goat polyclonal anti rabbit IgG       | LI-COR Biosciences                      | Cat#: 926-68071; RRID: AB_10956166  |
| IRDye 800CW-Goat polyclonal anti mouse IgG        | LI-COR Biosciences                      | Cat#: 926-32210; RRID: AB_621842    |
| Alexa Fluor 488-Donkey polyclonal anti rat IgG    | Thermo Fisher                           | Cat#: A-21208; RRID: AB_141709      |
| Alexa Fluor 488-Donkey polyclonal anti mouse IgG  | Thermo Fisher                           | Cat#: A-21202; RRID: AB_141607      |
| Alexa Fluor 555-Donkey polyclonal anti rabbit IgG | Thermo Fisher                           | Cat#: A-31570; RRID: AB_2536180     |
| Alexa Fluor 647-Donkey polyclonal anti mouse IgG  | Thermo Fisher                           | Cat#: A-31571; RRID: AB_162542      |
| Alexa Fluor 647-Donkey polyclonal anti rabbit IgG | Thermo Fisher                           | Cat#: A-31573; RRID: AB_2536183     |
| Bacterial and virus strains                       |   |                                     |
| Bacteria: XL1-Blue competent cells                | Agilent                                 | Cat#: 200249                        |

| REAGENT or RESOURCE   | SOURCE  | IDENTIFIER        |
|---|---|-------------------|
| Bacteria: DH10Bac competent cells                           | Thermo Fisher   | Cat#: 10361012    |
| Retrovirus: pMX-53BP1-HA-FLAG and other mutants             | (Bothmer et al. 2011), University of Michigan Retrovirus Core and this study. | N/A               |
| Chemicals, peptides, and recombinant proteins               |   |                   |
| Biotin-53BP1(145-182); S176/S178 (L)                        | New England Peptide   | N/A               |
| Biotin-53BP1(145-182) pS176; pS176 (L)                      | New England Peptide   | N/A               |
| Biotin-53BP1(145-182) pS178; pS178 (L)                      | New England Peptide   | N/A               |
| Biotin-53BP1(145-182) pS176/pS178; pS176/pS178 (L)          | New England Peptide   | N/A               |
| Biotin-53BP1(166-182); S176/S178 (S)                        | Sigma-Aldrich   | N/A               |
| Biotin-53BP1(166-182) pS176/pS178; pS176/pS178 (S)          | Sigma-Aldrich   | N/A               |
| Biotin-53BP1(511-527); S518/S520                            | New England Peptide   | N/A               |
| Biotin-53BP1(511-527) pS523; pS523                          | New England Peptide   | N/A               |
| Biotin-53BP1(511-527) pS518/pS520; pS518/pS520              | BioBasic  | N/A               |
| Biotin-53BP1(686-702); T696/S698                            | New England Peptide   | N/A               |
| Biotin-53BP1(686-702) pT696/pS698; pT696/pS698              | New England Peptide   | N/A               |
| Cy5-53BP1(166-182); S176/S178 (S)                           | New England Peptide   | N/A               |
| Cy5-53BP1(166-182) pS176/pS178; pS176/pS178 (S)             | New England Peptide   | N/A               |
| Cy5-53BP1(166-182) S176E/pS178; S176E/pS178 (S)             | New England Peptide   | N/A               |
| Cy5-53BP1(166-182) S176E/S178E; S176E/S178E (S)             | New England Peptide   | N/A               |
| Cy5-53BP1(166-182) pS176/pS178 L173A; pS176/pS178 (S) L173A | New England Peptide   | N/A               |
| Cy5-53BP1(166-182) pS176/pS178 E174A; pS176/pS178 (S) E174A | New England Peptide   | N/A               |
| Cy5-53BP1(166-182) pS176/pS178 L175A; pS176/pS178 (S) L175A | New England Peptide   | N/A               |
| Cy5-53BP1(511-527) pS518/pS520; pS518/pS520                 | New England Peptide   | N/A               |
| Cy5-53BP1(686-702) pT696/pS698; pT696/pS698                 | New England Peptide   | N/A               |
| HeLa Nuclear Extracts                                       | Accurate Chemical   | Cat#: CC012050    |
| EdU (5-ethynyl-2'-deoxyuridine)                             | Thermo Fisher   | Cat#: E10187      |
| Lipofectamine 2000  | Thermo Fisher   | Cat#: 11668030    |
| Lipofectamine RNAiMAX                                       | Thermo Fisher   | Cat#: 13778100    |
| Puromycin   | InvivoGen   | Cat#: ant-pr      |
| Blasticidin   | InvivoGen   | Cat#: ant-bl      |
| Polybrene   | Sigma-Aldrich   | Cat#: TR-1003     |
| Polyethyleneimine, linear 25 kDa                            | Polysciences Inc  | Cat #: 23966      |
| Penicillin/streptomycin                                     | Wisent  | Cat#: 450-200-EL  |
| Fetal bovine serum  | Wisent  | Cat#: 080-150     |
| Insulin solution human                                      | Sigma-Aldrich   | Cat#: I9278       |
| Hydrocortisone  | Sigma-Aldrich   | Cat#: H0888       |
| Phosphate buffered saline                                   | Gibco   | Cat#: 10010023    |
| Dulbecco's Modified Eagle Medium                            | Gibco   | Cat#: C11965500BT |



| REAGENT or RESOURCE  | SOURCE  | IDENTIFIER        |
|--|---|-------------------|
| McCoy's 5A (Modified) Medium                                   | Gibco   | Cat#: 16600082    |
| DMEM/F-12  | Gibco   | Cat#: 11320033    |
| EX-CELL 420 Serum-free Medium                                  | Sigma-Aldrich                                 | Cat#: 14420C      |
| SF-900 II SFM  | Gibco   | Cat#: 10902088    |
| cOmplete Mini EDTA-free Protease Inhibitor Cocktail            | Roche   | Cat#: 11836170001 |
| cOmplete Mini Protease Inhibitor Cocktail                      | Roche   | Cat#: 11836153001 |
| DAPI (4,6-diamidino-2-phenylindole)                            | Sigma-Aldrich                                 | Cat# D9542        |
| Olaparib   | Selleckchem                                   | Cat#: AZD2281     |
| Lipopolysaccharide (LPS) from E. coli O111:B4                  | Sigma-Aldrich                                 | Cat#: L2630       |
| Interleukin 4 (IL-4) from mouse                                | Sigma-Aldrich                                 | Cat#: I1020       |
| CD43 microbeads (Ly-48)  | Miltenyi Biotec                               | Cat#: 130-049-801 |
| KaryoMAX Colcemid  | Gibco   | Cat#: 15210040    |
| StrepTactin Sepharose  | IBA Lifesciences                              | Cat#: 2-1201-010  |
| FLAG M2 Magnetic Beads   | EMD-Millipore                                 | Cat#: M8823-5ML   |
| Disuccinimidyl sulfoxide                                       | Thermo Fisher                                 | Cat#: A33545      |
| ProLong Gold Antifade Mountant with DAPI                       | Invitrogen                                    | Cat#: P36931      |
| PfuTurbo DNA Polymerase  | Agilent                                       | Cat#: 600250      |
| T5 exonuclease   | New England Biolabs                           | Cat#: M0363S      |
| Phusion DNA polymerase   | New England Biolabs                           | Cat#: M0530S      |
| Taq DNA ligase   | New England Biolabs                           | Cat#: M0208S      |
| NAD  | Sigma-Aldrich                                 | Cat#: 10127965001 |
| PEG8000  | Sigma-Aldrich                                 | Cat#: 81268       |
| Experimental models: Cell lines                                |   |                   |
| Human: U-2-OS (U2OS)   | ATCC  | Cat#: HTB-96      |
| Human: U2OS <i>53BP1-KO</i>                                    | (Orthwein et al. 2015)                        | N/A               |
| Human: U2OS 2-6-3 mCherry-LacR-FokI                            | Gift from R. Greenberg (Shanbhag et al. 2010) | N/A               |
| Human: U2OS 2-6-3 mCherry-LacR-FokI <i>53BP1-KO</i>            | (Batenburg et al. 2017)                       | N/A               |
| Human: RPE1-hTERT p53 <sup>-/-</sup> FLAG-Cas9                 | (Zimmermann et al. 2018)                      | N/A               |
| Human: RPE1-hTERT p53 <sup>-/-</sup> FLAG-Cas9 <i>53BP1-KO</i> | (Noordermeer et al. 2018))                    | N/A               |
| Human: SUM149PT  | BioIVT  | N/A               |
| Human: SUM149PT <i>53BP1-KO</i>                                | Gift from C.J. Lord (Noordermeer et al. 2018) | N/A               |
| Human: 293T  | ATCC  | Cat#: CRL-3216    |
| Human: Phoenix-AMPHO   | (Kinsella et al. 1996)                        | N/A               |
| Human: BOSC23  | ATCC  | Cat#: CRL-11270   |
| MEF: <i>Tp53bp1<sup>-/-</sup></i>                              | (Bunting et al. 2010)                         | N/A               |
| MEF: <i>Tp53b91<sup>-/-</sup>BRCA1<sup>11/11</sup></i>         | (Bunting et al. 2010)                         | N/A               |
| Insect: Spodoptera frugiperda Sf9                              | Thermo Fisher                                 | Cat#: B82501      |
| Insect: Trichoplusia ni High Five                              | Expression Systems                            | Cat#: 94-002F     |

| REAGENT or RESOURCE                                | SOURCE                           | IDENTIFIER  |
|--|----------------------------------|---|
| Experimental models: Organisms/strains             |                                  |   |
| Mouse: Tp53bp1 <sup>-/-</sup> , B6/129             | (Ward et al. 2003)               | N/A   |
| Oligonucleotides                                   |                                  |   |
| ON TARGETplus siRNA 53BP1                          | Horizon Discovery                | Cat#: J-003548-06-0005  |
| ON TARGETplus siRNA BRCA1 SMARTpool                | Horizon Discovery                | Cat#: L-003461-00-0005  |
| ON TARGETplus siRNA RIF1                           | Horizon Discovery                | Cat#: J-027983-10-0002  |
| Recombinant DNA                                    |                                  |   |
| Plasmid: pMX-53BP1(1-1711)-HA-FLAG                 | (Bothmer et al. 2011)            | N/A   |
| Plasmid: pDEST-FRT/TO-eGFP-53BP1                   | (Escribano-Diaz et al. 2013)     | N/A   |
| Plasmid: pMX-53BP1(100-200-FFR)-HA-FLAG            | This study                       | N/A   |
| Plasmid: pMX-53BP1(400-550-FFR)-HA-FLAG            | This study                       | N/A   |
| Plasmid: pMX-53BP1(650-800-FFR)-HA-FLAG            | This study                       | N/A   |
| Plasmid: pMX-53BP1(1000-1220-FFR)-HA-FLAG          | This study                       | N/A   |
| Plasmid: pMX-53BP1(750-1050-FFR)-HA-FLAG           | This study                       | N/A   |
| Plasmid: pMX-53BP1(500-650-FFR)-HA-FLAG            | This study                       | N/A   |
| Plasmid: pMX-53BP1(250-400-FFR)-HA-FLAG            | This study                       | N/A   |
| Plasmid: pMX-53BP1(1-300-FFR)-HA-FLAG              | This study                       | N/A   |
| Plasmid: pMX-53BP1(145-182-FFR)-HA-FLAG            | This study                       | N/A   |
| Plasmid: pMX-53BP1- Rif1                           | (Sundaravivanagam et al. 2019)   | N/A   |
| Plasmid: pDEST-FRT/TO-eGFP-RIF1(1-967)             | (Escribano-Diaz et al. 2013)     | N/A   |
| Plasmid: pDEST-FRT/TO-eGFP-RIF1                    | (Escribano-Diaz et al. 2013)     | N/A   |
| pDEST-FRT/TO-eGFP-RIF1(1-967) Sc(1-217)            | This study                       | N/A   |
| pDEST-FRT/TO-eGFP-RIF1(1-967) Sc(218-462)          | This study                       | N/A   |
| Plasmid: pDEST-FRT/TO-eGFP-RIF1(1-967) Sc(463-632) | This study                       | N/A   |
| Plasmid: pDEST-FRT/TO-eGFP-RIF1(1-967) Sc(633-967) | This study                       | N/A   |
| Plasmid: pFastBac-Strep-TEV-RIF1(1-980)            | This study                       | N/A   |
| Plasmid: pAC8-Strep-TEV-SHLD3                      | This study                       | N/A   |
| Plasmid: pAC8-6xHis-TEV-REV7                       | This study                       | N/A   |
| Plasmid: pAC8-Strep-SUMO-TEV-SHLD2(1-65)           | This study                       | N/A   |
| Plasmid: pCL-ECO                                   | Addgene                          | Cat#: 12371   |
| Software and algorithms                            |                                  |   |
| ImageJ Fiji  | (Schneider et al. 2012)          | <a href="https://imagej.net/Fiji">https://imagej.net/Fiji</a>   |
| CellProfiler 4.1.3                                 | (McQuin et al. 2018)             | <a href="https://cellprofiler.org/">https://cellprofiler.org/</a>   |
| PHERASTAR FS                                       | BMG Labtech                      | <a href="https://www.bmg-labtech.com/software-updates/">https://www.bmg-labtech.com/software-updates/</a>   |
| Prism 8  | GraphPad                         | <a href="https://www.graphpad.com/scientific-software/prism/">https://www.graphpad.com/scientific-software/prism/</a>                                   |
| Chimera 1.13.1                                     | (Pettersen et al. 2004)          | <a href="https://www.cgl.ucsf.edu/chimera/">https://www.cgl.ucsf.edu/chimera/</a>   |
| Proteome Discoverer 2.2 with XlinkX algorithm      | Thermo Fisher, (Liu et al. 2017) | <a href="https://www.thermofisher.com/store/products/OPTON-30945#/OPTON-30945">https://www.thermofisher.com/store/products/OPTON-30945#/OPTON-30945</a> |

| REAGENT or RESOURCE     | SOURCE             | IDENTIFIER  |
|-------------------------|--------------------|---|
| FlowJo 10.1             | FlowJo LLC         | <a href="https://www.flowjo.com/">https://www.flowjo.com/</a>                                 |
| LI-COR Image Studio 5.2 | LI-COR Biosciences | <a href="https://www.licor.com/bio/image-studio/">https://www.licor.com/bio/image-studio/</a> |

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