

# Supporting Information

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## SI Materials and Methods

**Purification of the MM2 Peptide.** cDNA encoding the FANCM MM2 peptide (residues 1218 to 1251) was cloned into a modified pGEX4T-1 plasmid (Amersham) to express a glutathione S-transferase (GST)-MM2 fusion protein in which GST and MM2 are separated by thrombin (pKH0065) or thrombin and tobacco etch virus (TEV) protease cleavage sequences (pKH0066). TEV protease cleavage separates the MM2 peptide (with a residual N-terminal Gly residue) from the remainder of the fusion protein. Multiple silent mutations were introduced for efficient *Escherichia coli* expression (pKH0069). In addition, codons for two N-terminal residues Lys-Trp were added upstream of the MM2 sequence (pKH0070). The Lys side chain is used for fluorescein isothiocyanate (FITC) labeling and the Trp is used for peptide concentration determination. The TEV-cleaved MM2 peptide sequence is: GKWEDIFDCSRDLFSVTFDLGFCSPDSDDEILEHTSD, where the underlined sequence is that of FANCM. MM2 Ala variants for FP were cloned using site-directed mutagenesis with the pKH0070 vector.

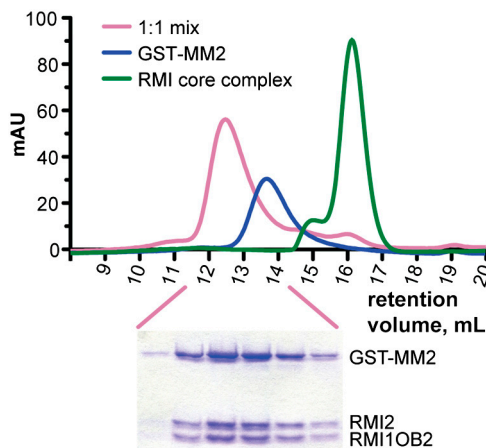
Rosetta 2 (DE3) *E. coli* cells transformed with pLysS (Novagen) and either pKH0069 or pKH0070 were grown at 30 °C in LB medium supplemented with 100 µg/mL ampicillin and 50 µg/mL chloramphenicol. At an OD<sub>600</sub> of approximately 0.6 cells were induced to overexpress protein with the addition of 0.5 mM isopropyl β-D-thiogalactopyranoside for 3.5 hours. Cells were harvested with centrifugation, frozen at -80 °C, and resuspended at 4 °C in lysis buffer (50 mM Tris-HCl, pH 7.5, 20% sucrose, 600 mM KCl) supplemented with 1 mM phenylmethylsulfonyl fluoride and protease-inhibitor tablets (Roche). Cells were lysed by sonication and centrifuged for 30 min at 15,000 rpm. The soluble lysate was incubated with Glutathione

Sepharose 4B resin (Amersham) for 45 min, poured into a column, washed with lysis buffer, and eluted with GS4B elution buffer (25 mM Tris-HCl pH 7.5, 100 mM NaCl, 20 mM reduced glutathione). The eluate was concentrated to approximately 1.5 mL and incubated with TEV protease overnight at 4 °C. MM2 peptide was resolved on a Sephacryl S-100 column (Amersham) run at 0.2 mL/min in S-100 buffer (10 mM Tris pH 7.5, 100 mM NaCl, 1 mM DTT, 5% glycerol). The MM2 peptides that were used in crystallization (from pKH0069) or labeled with FITC (from pKH0070) were further purified using reverse-phase HPLC and their masses confirmed with MALDI mass spectrometry. MM2 peptide variants for competition assays were not HPLC purified; these were dialyzed against 10 mM Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (pH 9.3), lyophilized, and resuspended in water.

**Size-Exclusion Chromatography.** Uncleaved GST-MM2 used in size-exclusion chromatography (from pKH0065) was purified as described for other experiments, except that the cleavage step was omitted and the GST-MM2 was purified using the Sephacryl S-100 column. The size-exclusion experiments were performed using an analytical Sephacryl S-200 column. The GST-MM2 and RMI core complex were run individually, and then mixed at a 1:1 molar ratio and run together. Individual fractions were electrophoresed on a 15% SDS/PAGE gel.

**Coimmunoprecipitations.** Different chicken FANCM variants were transiently transfected into HEK293 cells. Nuclear extracts were prepared, and coimmunoprecipitation was performed using a chicken FANCM antibody (1). Actin was used as an input control.

1. Guo R, Xu D, Wang W (2009) Identification and analysis of new proteins involved in the DNA damage response network of Fanconi anemia and Bloom syndrome. *Methods* 48:72–79.



**Fig. S1.** Size exclusion chromatographic analysis confirms that the RMI core complex interacts with GST-MM2. The elution profiles for the RMI core complex (green), GST-MM2 (blue), and an approximately 1:1 mixture (pink) are shown. A 15% SDS/PAGE gel shown below with the peak fractions of the RMI/GST-MM2 mixture confirms that a complex forms between the RMI core complex and GST-MM2. Fractions were collected every 0.5 mL with fractions corresponding to 11.5–14 mL as shown in the gel below.





