



Figure S4 DNA damage checkpoint could be induced in *smc-5* and *-6* mutant worms similar to wild-type.

a. Immunostaining of Serine 345-phosphorylated CHK-1 and DAPI staining of DNA in the proliferative zone of germline in young adult worms. Germlines were dissected 30 min after irradiation with 60 mJ/cm² UVB. Untreated samples were collected in parallel. Shown are representative images. Scale bar = 10 μm. **b.** The scatter plot shows the nuclear diameter of germ cells ± HU treatment (n≥260 nuclei from 13 or more germlines per condition). The mean diameters are represented by the blue lines.