

Supplementary Figure 1 Molecular and domain composition of HS. HS is a structurally heterogeneous linear polysaccharide composed of repeating HexUA-(1,4)-GlcNX-(1,4) disaccharide units. (**a**) Chemical structures of the constituent HS sugars. HexUA is either GlcUA or IdoUA, which differ only in stereochemistry of the 5 position. GlcNX is either GlcNAc or its N-deacetylated-Nsulfated congener GlcNS. IdoUA, GlcNAc and GlcNS are subject to varying degrees of O-sulfation. Also shown is the structure of ΔHexUA, an unsaturated uronic acid formed at the non-reducing end of heparins depolymerized by bacterial heparin lyases, such as the dp4 tetrasaccharide used in this study. (**b**) Macromolecular 'domain' like organization of mature HS. NA domains are rich in GlcUA and GlcNAc, and show low levels of O-sulfation. NS domains are enriched in IdoUA and GlcNS, with a higher degree of O-sulfation. NA and NS domains are bounded by mixed NA/NS domains, which show intermediate characteristics.

Supplementary Figure 2 Supplemental crystal structure illustrations (**a**) Ribbon representations of HPSE (blue and gold) superposed against the bacterial exoglucuronidase AcaGH79 (dark red; PDB accession code 3VNY), and bacterial endoglucuronidase BpHPSE (coral; PDB accession code 5BWI). The three GH79 proteins possess a high degree of similarity in their overall fold topology. (**b**) M09 S05a -2 subsite GlcNS(6S) with density contoured to 1 σ (0.25 electrons/Å³) and 2 σ (0.51 electrons/ A^3). The relative weakness of 60 sulfate density compared to N-sulfate can be seen. Electron densities are REFMAC maximum-likelihood/σ^Å weighted 2Fo−Fc syntheses. (**c**) View of HPSE (colored by secondary structure) along the active site cleft towards the 'positive' end, showing the presence of a symmetry molecule (ice blue) at the opening. This symmetry molecule prevents HPSE interactions *in crystallo* which involve substrates protruding too far out of the 'positive' end of the cleft.

Supplementary Figure 3 Michaelis-Menten kinetics for HPSE hydrolysis of the HepMers. Reaction was measured using the reducing end detection dye WST1. Baseline subtractions using a no enzyme control were carried out for all reactions, to control for non-enzymatic paranitrophenol autohydrolysis. Error bars are standard errors of the mean for technical replicates (n=3 for all points). N.d. stands for not determinable.

Gly389 (Homo sapiens numbering) interacts with ligands via backbone N-H

b

Supplementary Figure 4 Relationship of HPSE active site residues to other GH79 enzymes. (**a**) Clustal ω^1 alignment of 4 eukaryotic GH79 sequences, AcaGH79, and BpHPSE. Residues corresponding to those which interact with substrates in human HPSE (as outlined in **Figure 4**) are highlighted: green where identical with the human sequence, or orange where a non-conserved residue can interact in a similar fashion. Residues of the -1 subsite are hyperconserved, illustrating their requirement for interacting with GlcUA. In contrast, residues of the -2 and +1 subsites are only well conserved amongst the mammalian heparanases. (**b**) Active site view of the dp4-HPSE complex, with residues colored by conservation to bacterial enzymes AcaGH79 and BpHPSE (green - identical, yellow – partially conserved, red – not conserved). Dp4 ligand is shown in grey.

a

Supplementary Figure 5 Relationship of HSPE proenzyme linker sequence to other GH79 enzymes. Alignment of 4 eukaryotic GH79 sequences, AcaGH79, and BpHPSE, across the region corresponding to the proenzyme linker of human HPSE (dashed box). Eukaryotic GH79s show an extended sequence at this position, likely corresponding to a proteolytically cleavable linker as in human HPSE. The corresponding AcaGH79 sequence is shorter, and forms a loop which creates part of its *exo*binding pocket. The corresponding BpHPSE sequence is effectively absent, and corresponds to a very short loop which reveals the *endo-* acting binding cleft of this enzyme.

Supplementary Table 1 Primers used for cloning HPSE constructs

References for supplementary materials

1. Sievers, F. et al. Fast, scalable generation of high-quality protein multiple sequence alignments using Clustal Omega. *Molecular Systems Biology* **7**(2011).