

Supplemental Information for
Structures of VWF tubules before and after concatemerization reveal a mechanism of disulfide bond exchange

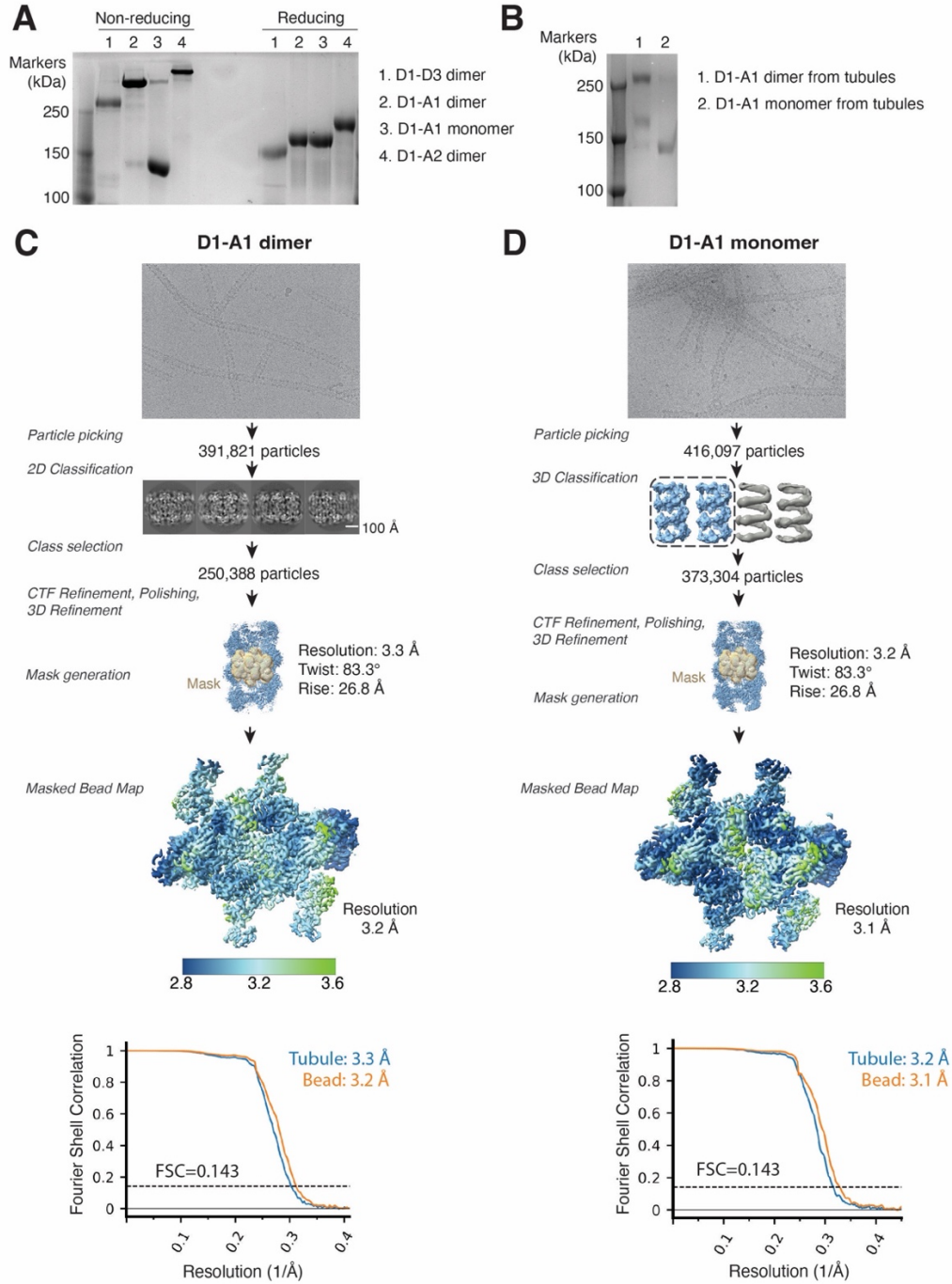


Figure S1. Cryo-EM processing. **A.** Purity of proteins used for tubule formation. All samples were run on a 5% SDS-PAGE gel. Samples on the right had a reducing agent in the loading buffer whereas samples

on the left were run in non-reducing conditions to preserve their disulfide-bond linkages. **B.** Non-reducing SDS-PAGE analysis of proteins after tubules were formed demonstrate that tubule formation was insufficient to cause monomers to dimerize. **C.** Flow diagram of the cryo-EM processing steps used to determine the structure of VWF tubules generated from the D1-A1 dimer. Below, Fourier shell correlation (FSC) curves for the tubule a central single bead, with the resolution at FSC=0.143 indicated. **D.** As C, but for VWF tubules generated from the D1-A1 monomer.

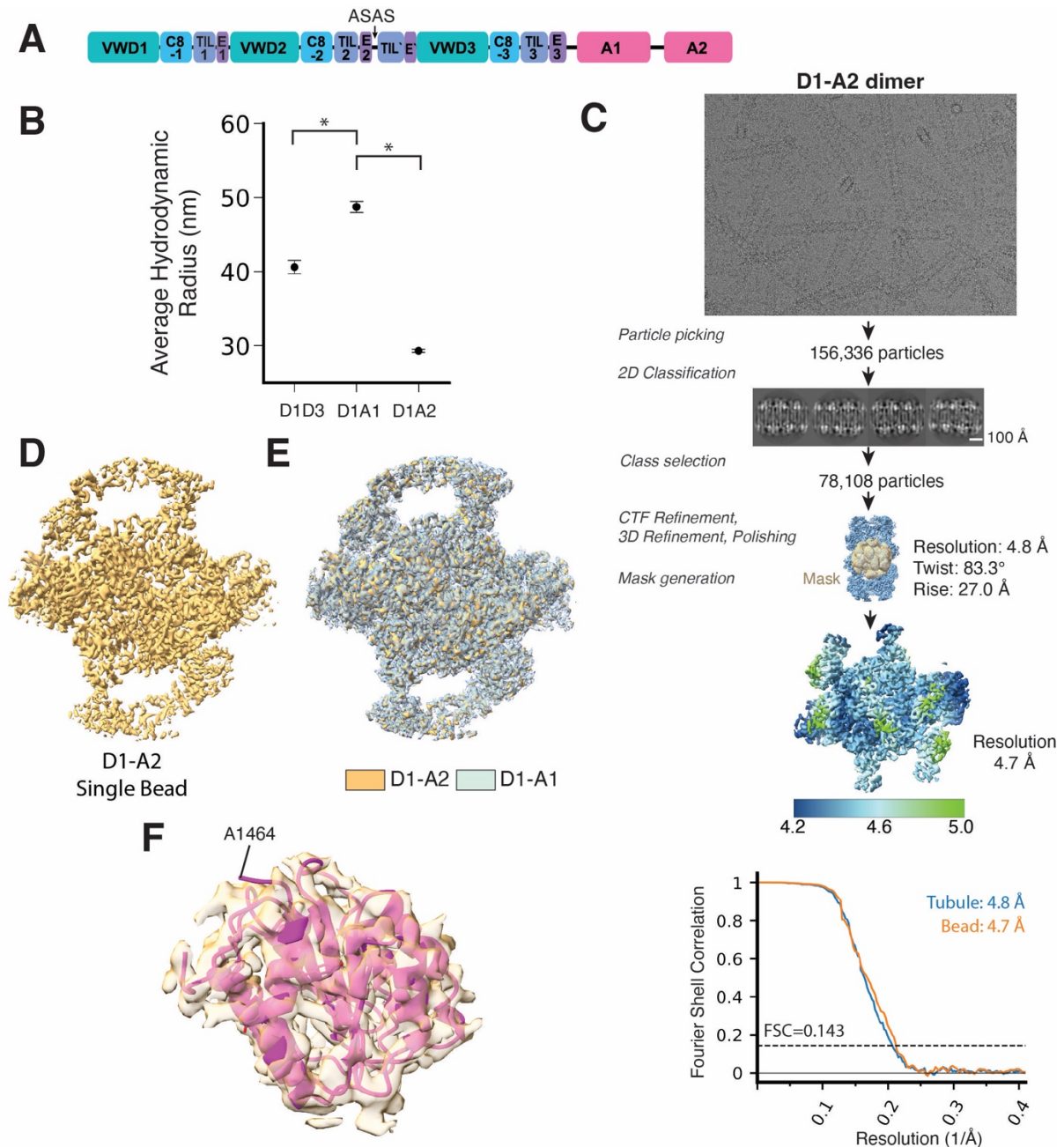


Figure S2. Cryo-EM processing of VWF tubules generated from a D1-A2 construct. **A.** Diagram of the D1-A2 construct. **B.** Hydrodynamic radius from dynamic light scattering (DLS) experiments of D1-D3, D1-A1, and D1-A2 after incubation at pH 5.2 for 24 hours. Error bars represent difference of the mean hydrodynamic radius across two replicates. Asterisks indicate two sample t-test p-value < 0.05. **C.** Flow diagram of the cryo-EM processing steps used to determine the structure of VWF tubules generated from purified D1-A2. Below, Fourier shell correlation (FSC) curves for the tubule and a single central bead, with the resolution at FSC=0.143 indicated. **D.** Density of a single D1-A2 bead. **E.** Overlay of the D1-A2 bead with transparent density from the D1-A1 dimer. No additional domains or domain

rearrangements are observed relative to the D1-A1 map. F. A1 model docked into the density of the A1 domain in D1-A2 tubules. No density is observed after residue A1464 for the A2 domain or linker to the A2 domain.

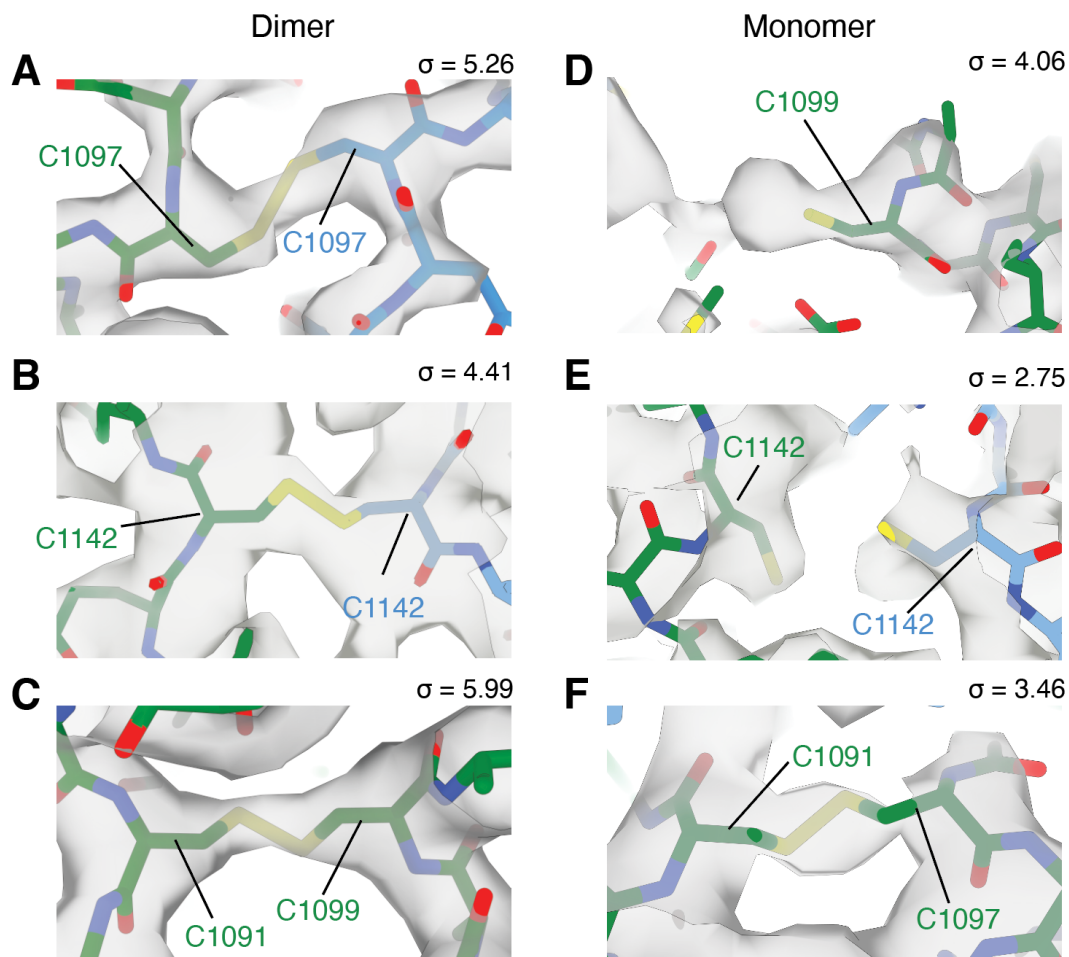


Figure S3. Cryo-EM map densities for mechanistically important cysteines and disulfide bonds. **A.** Density for the intermolecular C1097-C1097 disulfide bond in the D1-A1 dimer-derived tubule. **B.** Density for the intermolecular C1142-C1142 disulfide bond in the D1-A1 dimer-derived tubule. **C.** Density for the intramolecular C1091-C1099 disulfide bond in the D1-A1 dimer-derived tubule. **D.** Density for C1099 in the monomer-derived tubule. Unexplained density is seen adjacent to the sulfhydryl group. **E.** Density for C1142 in adjacent molecules in the monomer-derived tubule. **F.** Density for the intramolecular C1091-C1097 disulfide bond in the monomer-derived tubule. In all panels, the bonds are shown as sticks colored by element. Different molecules have carbons colored in green and blue, respectively. The cryo-EM maps were sharpened with Phenix v1.19²². Contour level is indicated in the upper right of each panel.

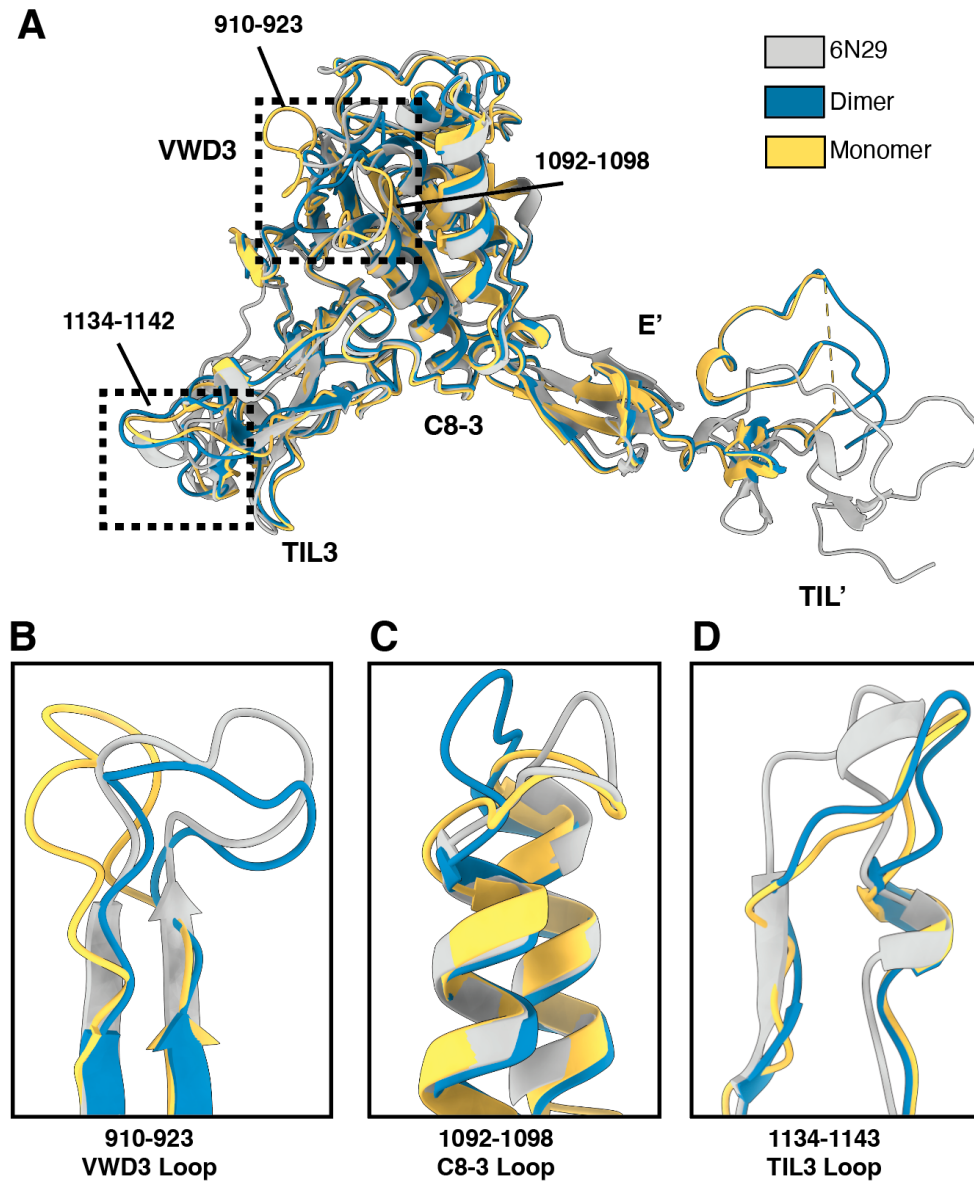


Figure S4. Superposition of atomic models of D'D3. **A.** Superposition of the D'D3 crystal structure (PDB: 6N29)¹⁴ with atomic models determined from cryo-EM maps of VWF tubules assembled with either monomeric or dimeric D1-A1. The positions of interfacial loops highlighted in panels B-D are boxed. **B.** Superposition of the 910-923 loop. **C.** Superposition of the 1092-1098 loop. **D.** Superposition of the 1134-1143 loop. Superposition performed using the matchmake function of ChimeraX 1.3.

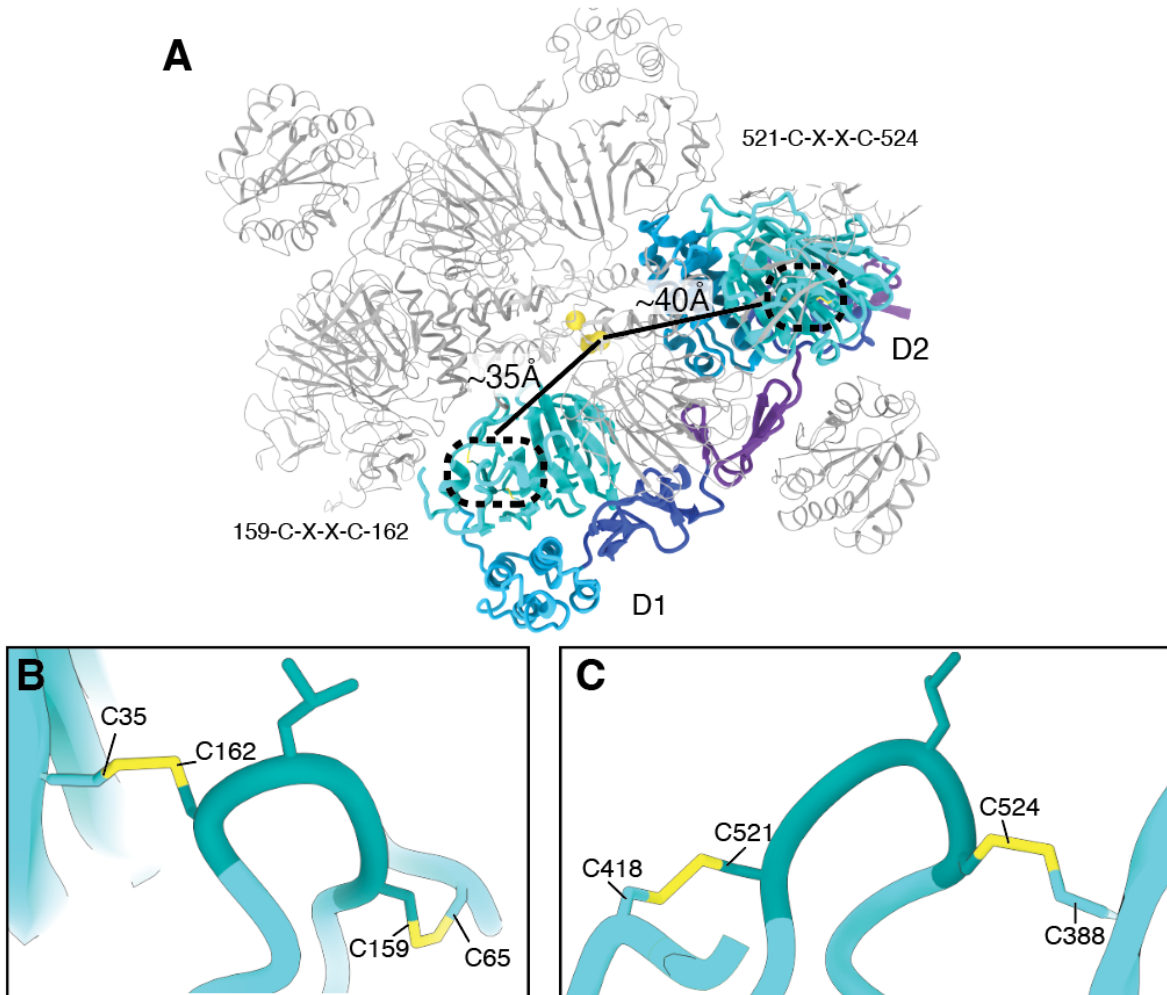


Figure S5. CXXC motifs in the prodomain are unlikely to catalyze disulfide exchange. **A.** Model of a single bead in grey with one D1 and D2 assembly colored by domain. Yellow spheres with 3 Å radius are placed at C1091, C1097, and C1099. Positions of CXXC motifs implicated in VWF intrinsic oxidoreductase activity³⁵ are denoted by dashed ellipses. The distance of each motif to C1099 is measured from the first cysteine. **B.** Atomic model depicting C159 and C162 of the D1 C159-XX-C162 motif in intramolecular disulfide bonds. **C.** Atomic model depicting C521 and C524 of the D2 C521-XX-C524 motif in intramolecular disulfide bonds.

Supplemental Movie Legends

Movie S1. Overview of the VWF tubule showing the organization of the VWF D1-A1 domains. The A1 domain is a component of the tubule wall that links helical repeats. Distinct molecules are denoted by no apostrophe, one apostrophe ('), or two apostrophes ('').

Supplemental Tables

Table S1. Statistics for data collection, data processing, model refinement and validation.

| | D1-A1 (monomer) | D1-A1 (dimer) | D1-A2 (dimer) |
|---|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------|
| Data collection | | | |
| Microscope | Titan Krios | Titan Krios | Talos Artica |
| Detector | K3 | K3 | K3 |
| Voltage (keV) | 300 | 300 | 200 |
| Nominal magnification | 81,000 | 81,000 | 36,000 |
| Electron exposure (e ⁻ /Å ²) | 55.52 | 55.46 | 53.06 |
| Defocus range set during data acquisition (μm) | -0.6 to -2.0 | -0.6 to -1.8 | -1.2 to -2.2 |
| Pixel size (Å) | 1.06 | 1.06 | 1.1 |
| Total movies acquired | 12,996 | 6,121 | 1,065 |
| Data Processing | | | |
| EMDB code | EMDB-27156 | EMDB-27157 | EMDB-27158 |
| Particles | 373,304 | 250,388 | 78,108 |
| Helical Twist | 83.3 | 83.3 | 83.3 |
| Helical Rise | 26.8 | 26.8 | 27.0 |
| Map resolution (Å), Tubule Masked | 3.2 | 3.3 | 4.8 |
| Map resolution (Å), Single Bead Masked | 3.1 | 3.2 | 4.7 |
| Model composition | | | |
| PDB code | 8D3C | 8D3D | |
| Chains | 16 | 16 | |
| Atoms | 162,720 | 163,856 | |
| Residues | 20,880 | 21,024 | |
| Ligands | Ca ²⁺ : 48, NAG: 80 | Ca ²⁺ : 48, NAG: 80 | |
| Refinement | | | |
| Resolution limit set in refinement (Å) | 3.1 | 3.2 | |
| Correlation coefficient (CCmask) | 0.79 | 0.81 | |
| C _{ref} (masked) (Å) | 3.3 | 3.4 | |
| Root-mean-square deviation (bond lengths) (Å) | 0.004 | 0.007 | |
| Root-mean-square deviation (bond angles) (Å) | 1.125 | 1.042 | |
| Validation | | | |
| MolProbity Score | 1.05 | 1.17 | |
| Clashscore | 0.92 | 1.96 | |
| Rotamer outliers (%) | 0.35 | 0 | |
| Ramachandran (favored) (%) | 96.06 | 96.68 | |
| Ramachandran (outliers) (%) | 0 | 0 | |

Table S2. Analysis of VWF D1-A1 histidine residues. Structure-based analysis of all the histidine residues present in human VWF domains D1-A1 in the dimer-derived tubule structure. Conservation scores were determined using ConSurf⁴⁷. pKa values were determined using pdb2pqr 3.4.1⁴⁸. Abbreviations: WT = wild type.

| Histidine | Location | Conservation Score | Structure-based pKa | Protonated upon pH drop (7.4 to 5.2) | Molecular environment | Effect of substitution on D1D3 dimerization ³³ | Effect of substitution on VWF concatemerization ³³ |
|-----------|----------|--------------------|---------------------|--------------------------------------|---|--|---|
| 95 | VWD1 | 7 | 2.9 | No | Near interface with C8-2 of neighbor. In an electronegative environment close to D75, D93 and D106. | Decreased | Slightly reduced |
| 238 | C8-1 | 7 | 5.7 | Yes | Near interface with A1 domain. | WT levels | WT levels |
| 288 | C8-1 | 3 | 6.2 | Yes | Faces solvent. | | |
| 316 | TIL1 | 7 | 5.7 | Yes | Near interface with VWD3 of neighbor. | | |
| 352 | E1 | 9 | 3.8 | No | Near interface with VWD3 of neighbor. Close to E1015 of neighbor. | WT levels | WT levels |
| 395 | VWD2 | 9 | 6.5 | Yes | Potentially forms an intramolecular salt bridge with D611 of the C8-2 domain. | Prevented (H395A and H395R) | No concatemers (H395A or H395R/K) |
| 421 | VWD2 | 3 | 6.2 | Yes | Faces solvent. | | |
| 452 | VWD2 | 2 | 6.5 | Yes | Near VWD2 of neighbor. May help neutralize charge of D467. | | |
| 460 | VWD2 | 9 | 2.6 | No | At interface with E2 of neighbor. Likely helps flanking R505 and K459 make salt bridges. | Prevented (H460L), Reduced (H460M/Q/A), Restored (H460R/K) | Impaired (H460A/L/M/Q) WT levels (H460K/R) |
| 484 | VWD2 | 4 | 5.4 | Yes | 7 Å from interface with VWD2 of neighbor. | | |
| 556 | VWD2 | 5 | 5.5 | Yes | In a histidine-rich region with H725/726 of neighboring molecule. | | |
| 566 | C8-2 | 1 | 4.9 | No | May interact with D437. | | |
| 596 | C8-2 | 9 | 5.6 | Yes | Near interface with C8-3 of neighbor. May interact with E593. | Decreased (H596A and H596R) | Reduced |
| 725 | E2 | 8 | 7.7 | No | In a histidine-rich region. | WT levels | Impaired concatemerization |
| 726 | E2 | 3 | 6.3 | Yes | In a histidine-rich region. | | |
| 737 | E2 | 5 | 6.7 | Yes | In an electronegative region at the interface with VWD1 of neighbor. Could neutralize electronegative charge. | Decreased (H737A and H737R) | Impaired concatemerization (H737A or H737R) |
| 759 | E2 | 5 | - | - | Not resolved. | | |
| 817 | TIL' | 7 | 6.9 | Yes | Potentially form intramolecular salt bridge with E835 of the E' domain. | | |
| 831 | TIL' | 9 | 4.4 | No | Potentially interacts with E543 of neighboring VWD2 domain. May form a water bridge with H1114. | WT levels | WT levels |
| 861 | TIL' | 2 | 6.3 | Yes | Faces solvent. | | |

| | | | | | | | |
|------|------|---|-----|-----|---|--------------------|-----------|
| 874 | VWD3 | 9 | 2.2 | No | Likely coordinates a water molecule. | WT levels | WT levels |
| 916 | VWD3 | 3 | 5.2 | | On a flexible loop. | | |
| 952 | VWD3 | 3 | 6.6 | Yes | Potentially forms a salt bridge with E930 of same molecule. | | |
| 977 | VWD3 | 3 | 5.8 | Yes | In an electronegative environment surrounded by D975, D1096, and D1102. | | |
| 1047 | C8-3 | 2 | 6.9 | Yes | Potentially interacts with D1040. | | |
| 1109 | C8-3 | 7 | 4.1 | No | Forms intramolecular contacts. | | |
| 1114 | C8-3 | 1 | 5.3 | Yes | Potentially forms a water bridge with H831. | | |
| 1159 | TIL3 | 9 | 6.6 | Yes | May neutralize charge of acidic residues at the intramolecular interface with VWD3. | Impaired secretion | |
| 1174 | TIL3 | 8 | 5.0 | No | Near glycosylation. | WT levels | WT levels |
| 1176 | TIL3 | 1 | 6.2 | Yes | Near glycosylation. | | |
| 1221 | E3 | 2 | - | - | Not resolved | Reduced | WT levels |
| 1226 | E3 | 6 | - | - | Not resolved | WT-levels | Reduced |
| 1268 | A1 | 6 | 6.0 | Yes | Faces solvent | | |
| 1322 | A1 | 8 | 3.8 | No | At interface with E1. Forms a potential water bridge with H1326. | | |
| 1326 | A1 | 7 | 3.1 | No | At interface with E1. Forms a potential water bridge with H1322. | | |
| 1419 | A1 | 3 | 5.8 | Yes | Faces solvent | | |

Table S3. Analysis of single-residue substitutions associated with type 2A VW disease.

Abbreviations: HWM, high molecular weight; ER, endoplasmic reticulum; WPBs, Weibel-Palade bodies.

| Mutation | Observations from structure | Evidence from literature |
|-----------------|---|---|
| R202W | At interface between 3 molecules. Forms cation- π interactions with Y730 of neighboring E2 domain and electrostatic interactions with D168 and D434. A tryptophan substitution would disrupt electrostatic interactions but maintain stacking interactions. | Reduced HMW concatemers ³⁸ |
| R273W | Likely forms an intramolecular salt bridge with D141 that would be lost by a substitution to tryptophan. | Patients lacked HMW concatemers in plasma. Mutation increased ER retention of recombinant VWF in COS-7 cells ⁴⁹ . |
| N528S | Involved in coordinating calcium. Loss may lead to a disruption of the calcium-binding site, which occurs at the VWD2-VWD3 interface. | Patients lack HMW concatemers. N528S-VWF variant showed only diffuse staining consistent with no WPBs. Increased ER retention ⁵⁰ . |
| G550R | An arginine substitution would affect intramolecular packing by generating a clash with F406. | Decreased levels of HMW concatemers ⁵¹ . Did not form WPBs potentially because of a secretion defect ⁵² . |
| S979N | May disrupt intramolecular packing. | S979N might be associated with VW disease type 2E ⁵³ . |
| G1180R | Faces solvent. Substitution may decrease local structural flexibility. | Reduced HMW concatemers but not replicated with recombinant VWF protein secreted into media ⁵⁴ . |
| L1276P | Could prevent proper folding of the hydrophobic core of the A1 domain. | Patients lacked HMW concatemers in plasma ⁴⁰ . |
| V1279F | Could prevent proper folding of the hydrophobic core of the A1 domain. | Absence of HMW concatemers ⁵⁵ . |
| L1307P | Could prevent proper folding of the hydrophobic core of the A1 domain. | Marginal decrease of the largest VWF concatemers. Reduced production and increased ER retention. Mainly short/round WPBs ³⁹ . |
| V1316M | Could prevent proper folding of the hydrophobic core of the A1 domain. | Reduced HMW concatemers ⁵⁶ . Also associated with severe thrombocytopenia ⁵⁷ . |
| R1374H | May affect folding of the A1 domain. | Reduced HMW concatamers. ⁵⁸ |

Supplemental References

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