

The deSUMOylase SENP2 coordinates homologous recombination and nonhomologous end joining by independent mechanisms

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SUMOylation (small ubiquitin-like modifier) in the DNA double-strand break (DSB) response regulates recruitment, activity, and clearance of repair factors. However, our understanding of a role for deSUMOylation in this process is limited. Here we identify different mechanistic roles for deSUMOylation in homologous recombination (HR) and nonhomologous end joining (NHEJ) through the investigation of the deSUMOylase SENP2. We found that regulated deSUMOylation of MDC1 prevents excessive SUMOylation and its RNF4-VCP mediated clearance from DSBs, thereby promoting NHEJ. In contrast, we show that HR is differentially sensitive to SUMO availability and SENP2 activity is needed to provide SUMO. SENP2 is amplified as part of the chromosome 3q amplification in many cancers. Increased SENP2 expression prolongs MDC1 focus retention and increases NHEJ and radioresistance. Collectively, our data reveal that deSUMOylation differentially primes cells for responding to DSBs and demonstrates the ability of SENP2 to tune DSB repair responses.

[*Keywords:* DNA repair; homologous recombination; MDC1; nonhomologous end joining; RNF4; SENP2; SUMO]

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The cellular response to DNA double-strand breaks (DSBs) comprises multiple steps; sensing and signaling the lesion, mediating the correct type of repair, clearing repair proteins, and reforming chromatin. The response involves a diverse set of signaling pathways and repair mechanisms coordinated by posttranslational modifications (PTMs) including phosphorylation, acetylation, ubiquitination, SUMOylation (small ubiquitin-like modifier), and others.

A major consequence of SUMOylation is the promotion of protein:protein interactions mediated by simple and short hydrophobic SUMO interaction motifs (SIMs) on proximal proteins (Song et al. 2004; Hecker et al. 2006; Psakhye and Jentsch 2012). In the yeast DNA damage response, a SUMO conjugation wave brought about by the interaction of the E3 SUMO ligase Siz2 with DNA and Mre11 results in modification of protein groups, thereby promoting SUMO–SIM interactions between members of those groups (Psakhye and Jentsch 2012; Jentsch and

Psakhye 2013; Chen et al. 2016). In humans, modification by SUMO E3 ligases PIAS1/4 (protein inhibitor of activated STAT) and CBX4 coordinate the repair response, driving the localization, activity, and stability of many signaling and repair proteins, such as RNF168, BRCA1, XRCC4, and Ku70 (Yurchenko et al. 2006, 2008; Galanty et al. 2009; Morris et al. 2009; Li et al. 2010; Danielsen et al. 2012; Ismail et al. 2012; Luo et al. 2012; Yin et al. 2012; Hang et al. 2014; Lamoliatte et al. 2014; Tammsalu et al. 2014). It also fosters key steps such as SUMO-BLM and SUMO-RPA70/RPA1 mediated promotion of RAD51 accumulation (Eladad et al. 2005; Ouyang et al. 2009; Dou et al. 2010; Shima et al. 2013). Many DSB repair factors are SUMOylated, but we currently lack understanding of specific roles for many of these modifications (for review, see Garvin and Morris 2017).

In the DSB repair response SUMOylation is closely integrated with ubiquitin (Ub) signaling and the Ub–proteasome system (for review, see Morris and Garvin 2017). This involves SUMO targeted Ub ligases (STUbls), that

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bear tandem SIM motifs and recognize poly-SUMOylated or multimono-SUMOylated proteins and target them for ubiquitination and subsequent degradation. Human STUbLs include RNF111/Arkadia (Poulsen et al. 2013) and RING finger 4 (RNF4) (Tatham et al. 2008). Processing of SUMOylated proteins by RNF4 is part of the correct progression of DSB signaling and SUMOylation of MDC1 (mediator of damage checkpoint 1), RIF1 and BRCA1-BARD1 result in their interaction with RNF4 and subsequent degradation after DNA damage (Galanty et al. 2012; Luo et al. 2012; Yin et al. 2012; Vyas et al. 2013; Kumar and Cheok 2017; Kumar et al. 2017). RNF4 may also regulate RPA residency on ssDNA (Galanty et al. 2012; Yin et al. 2012).

Enzymes with the ability to counter SUMO and Ub modifications have the potential to regulate DNA damage signaling and DNA repair. However, since many SUMOylated factors, and the SUMO machinery itself (Kumar et al. 2017) are eventually processed by STUbLs and degraded by the proteasome, it is also possible that the reversal of SUMO conjugation plays only a minor role in the response. Characterization of deubiquitinating enzymes has shown tremendous diversity and complexity in Ub regulation of the response (Nishi et al. 2014; Uckelmann and Sixma 2017) but the extent of deSUMOylation enzyme involvement is not known.

Here we establish two mechanisms of DSB repair regulation by the sentrin-specific protease 2, SENP2. First, we uncover a specific requirement for SENP2 in promoting early DSB signaling by protecting MDC1 from inappropriate SUMOylation and consequent RNF4-VCP (valosin-containing protein/p97) processing. We show interaction between SENP2 and MDC1 is released on damage to allow MDC1 SUMOylation required for its clearance. Second, we reveal that homologous recombination (HR) repair has a greater need for SUMO conjugates than nonhomologous end joining (NHEJ), and thus requires SUMO proteases to contribute to the supply or redistribution of SUMO. We propose that deSUMOylation is critical to the tuning of both major DSB repair pathways.

Results

SENP2 promotes DNA damage signaling and DNA repair

In a prior siRNA screen of SUMO proteases using integrated reporters to measure HR and NHEJ we noted that siRNA to SENP2 resulted in impairment of both repair pathways (Garvin et al. 2013). To address whether SENP2 has a role in DNA repair we compared irradiation (IR)-induced γ H2AX (pSer¹³⁹-H2AX) focus clearance, indicative of DNA repair (Supplemental Fig. S1A), and cellular sensitivity to irradiation or camptothecin (CPT) of wild-type and *SENP2* CRISPR knockout HAP1 cells (*SENP2* knockout) (Supplemental Fig. S1B–D). *SENP2* knockout cells showed both delay in IR induced γ H2AX focus clearance and greater sensitivity to DNA damaging agents than wild-type cells (Supplemental Fig. S1A–D).

SENP2 localizes to several subcellular compartments and is enriched at nuclear pores (Hang and Dasso 2002; Zhang et al. 2002; Panse et al. 2003; Makhnevych et al. 2007; Goeres et al. 2011; Chow et al. 2014; Tan et al. 2015; Odeh et al. 2018). We generated a siRNA-resistant SENP2^{WT} catalytic mutant (C548A) and a mutant with reduced nuclear pore targeting (NPM, as described previously) (illustrated in Supplemental Fig. S1E; Goeres et al. 2011; Odeh et al. 2018). Depletion of SENP2 in HeLa resulted in radio-sensitivity that could be complemented with siRNA-resistant SENP2^{WT} and SENP2^{NPM} but not by SENP2^{C548A} in colony assays (Fig. 1A; Supplemental Fig. S1F). Survival in response to CPT and olaparib and measures of both HR and NHEJ repair were also dependent on the catalytic activity of SENP2 (Fig. 1B,C; Supplemental Fig. S1G). These data illustrate a need for catalytically competent SENP2 in DNA DSB repair.

SUMO1 and SUMO2/3 colocalize with γ H2AX foci in response to genotoxic stress such as IR (Galanty et al. 2009; Morris et al. 2009); however, following IR, we observed less SUMO colocalization in siSENP2 cells (Fig. 1D; Supplemental Fig. S1H). Since a potential cause of SUMO conjugate loss at DSBs is a reduction in the recruitment of proteins on which SUMOylation occurs (Galanty et al. 2009; Morris et al. 2009), we examined cells for DSB repair factor foci. MDC1 is recruited to γ H2AX and begins a Ub signaling cascade involving the E3 Ub ligases RNF8/RNF168 to promote the recruitment of the BRCA1-A complex and 53BP1 complex (for review, see Panier and Boulton 2014). In siSENP2 cells MDC1 colocalization with γ H2AX was observed shortly after IR; however, RNF8, RNF168, Ub conjugates linked through Lys63 (K63-Ub), 53BP1, and BRCA1 showed incomplete, or severely reduced, recruitment (Fig. 1E). Together these data indicate a role for SENP2 in early DSB signaling.

RNF4-VCP is responsible for defective DNA damage signaling in SENP2-depleted cells

To determine the signaling breakpoint in SENP2-deficient cells, we examined MDC1, GFP-RNF168, and 53BP1 focus kinetics following IR. Depletion of SENP2 severely reduced the accumulation of 53BP1 and RNF168 foci throughout the time course; however, MDC1 foci initially formed in siSENP2 and *SENP2* knockout cells and then rapidly became undetectable (Fig. 1F; Supplemental Fig. S1I,J). The formation of both MDC1 and 53BP1 foci at later time points, 4 h after IR, were restored in SENP2^{WT}- but not SENP2^{C548A}-complemented cells (Fig. 1I–K), suggesting that deSUMOylase activity is important to the persistence of MDC1 at sites of damage and to the accumulation of 53BP1 foci.

To address which factors are responsible for the rapid clearance of MDC1 in SENP2-deficient cells, we first investigated RNF4, whose activity has been implicated in MDC1 turnover (Galanty et al. 2012; Luo et al. 2012; Yin et al. 2012; Hendriks and Vertegaal 2015; Hendriks et al. 2015). Codepletion of RNF4 with SENP2 resulted in focus kinetics of MDC1, RNF168, and 53BP1 similar to that of control-treated cells (Fig. 1F–H). The pattern of

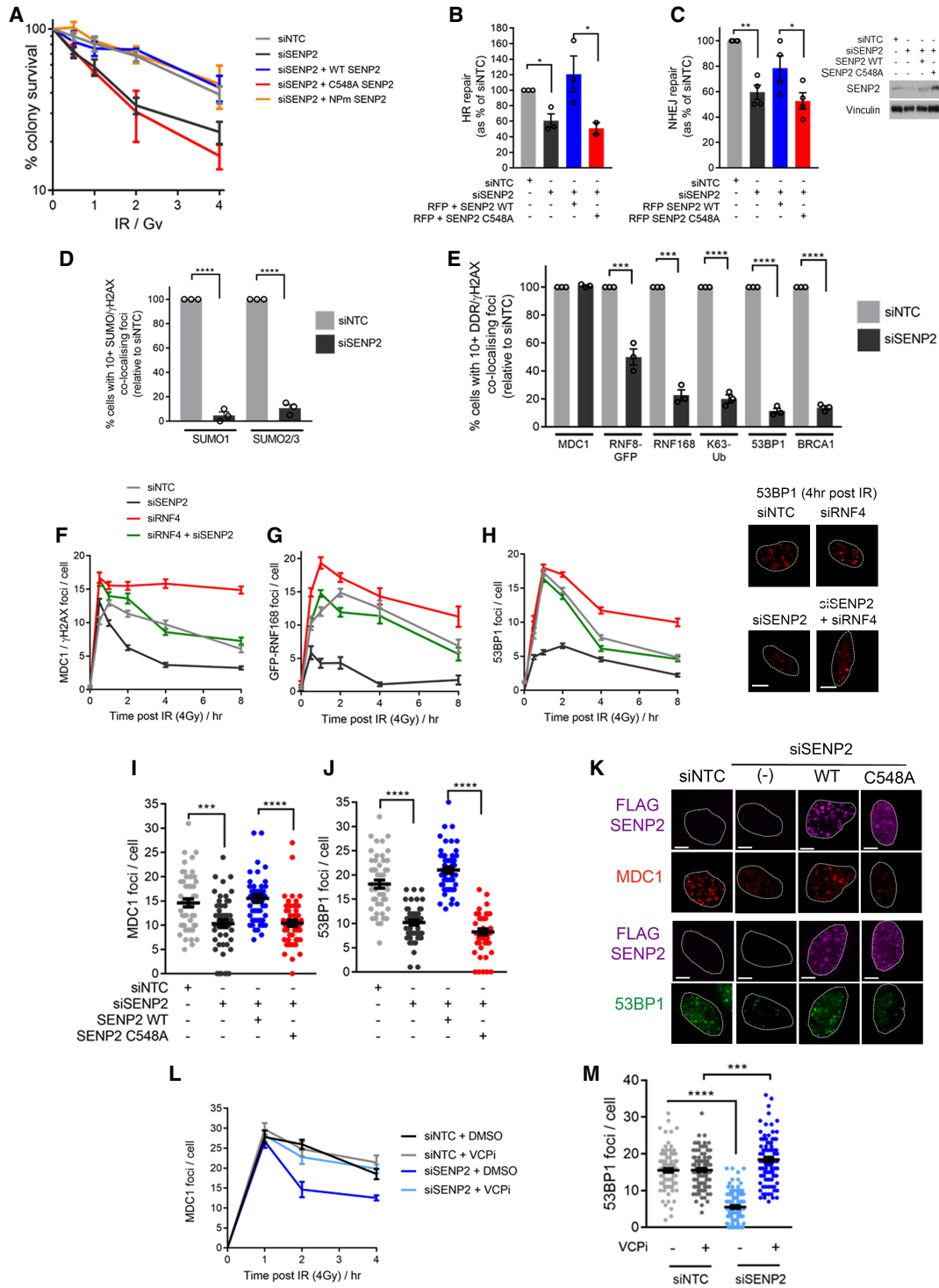


Figure 1. SENP2 promotes DNA damage signaling and DNA repair. (A) IR colony survival in HeLa treated with siNTC or siSENP2 for 72 h. Cells were treated concurrently with 1 μ g/mL doxycycline to induce siRNA-resistant forms of SENP2. $n = 4$. (B,C) HR (U2OS DR3-GFP) or NHEJ (U2OS-EJ5-GFP) assays using siSENP2 or siNTC treated cells transfected with RFP, *I-SceI*, and SENP2^{WT} or SENP2^{C548A}. GFP⁺ cells were normalized to RFP transfection efficiency. Percentage repair is given compared with siNTC. Western blot shows SENP2 knockdown efficiency and restoration with siRNA resistant cDNA. $n = 3$. (D,E) SUMO γ /H2AX colocalizing foci in HeLa siNTC or siSENP2 cells fixed 1 h after 5 Gy of IR. (E) As for D with the indicated DDR factors. $n = 3$. (F-H) Time course of MDC1 ($n = 200$), GFP-RNF168 ($n = 50$), or 53BP1 ($n = 150$) foci in HeLa treated with indicated siRNA for 72 h. Representative images for 53BP1 foci at 4 h after IR are shown. (I-K) MDC1 and 53BP1 foci per cell, respectively, 4 h after 4 Gy of IR in siNTC or siSENP2 HeLa. (K) representative images related to I, $n = 100$ cells. (L,M) HeLa (siNTC/siSENP2) irradiated with 4 Gy and, 0.5 h later, treated with DMSO/0.1 μ M VCPi, CB-5083. Cells were fixed at the indicated times and scored for MDC1 foci. (M) As for L but 53BP1 foci in cells fixed at 2 h. $n = 100$ cells.

total SUMO conjugates seen following IR suggested a similar relationship between SENP2 and RNF4. Control cells exhibited a global increase in high-molecular-weight SUMO conjugates, particularly for SUMO2/3, after treatment (Supplemental Fig. S2A,B). Whereas in siSENP2 cells, SUMO conjugates were constitutively higher in untreated cells and showed only a slight increase after IR (Supplemental Fig. S2A,B), consistent with the observation of poor DDR protein recruitment and SUMO IRIF formation. Conjugate patterns after siRNF4 + siSENP2 codepletion resembled those seen in siNTC cells (Supplemental Fig. S2A,B) consistent with the near normal DDR focus kinetics observed on codepletion. Intriguingly, loss of the closely related protease SENP1 did not have a similar impact on SUMO conjugates, and depleted cells showed an exaggerated induction of SUMO conjugates following IR (Supplemental Fig. S2C).

RNF4-dependent substrate ubiquitination is frequently followed by processing through VCP hexameric AAA ATPase (Dantuma et al. 2014; Torrecilla et al. 2017). We compared the effects of proteasome (MG132) or VCP inhibition (CB-5083) on MDC1 focus loss after IR. As proteasome inhibition depletes the free Ub pool, in turn causing a failure in Ub signaling in DSB repair (Butler et al. 2012), we also transfected the cells with myc-Ub. MG132 treatment resulted in increased MDC1 focus retention, but, in cells expressing additional myc-Ub, focus numbers were reduced, suggesting that Ub rather than the proteasome is critical to MDC1 focus clearance (Supplemental Fig. S2D,E). In contrast, MDC1 focus persistence in the presence of VCP inhibition was unaffected by Ub expression (Supplemental Fig. S2D,E). Moreover, in SENP2-depleted cells the addition of CB-5083 restored near-normal MDC1 focus kinetics and the ability to support downstream 53BP1 foci (Fig. 1L,M). Thus, RNF4-VCP contributes to the rapid MDC1 focus kinetics in SENP2-deficient cells.

In a further test for potential nuclear pore involvement we examined cells depleted for nuclear pore subcomplex components and known SENP2-interacting proteins; NUP153 and NUP107 (Goeres et al. 2011). Reduction in NUP107 had no effect on MDC1 kinetics, and NUP153 depletion modestly increased focus clearance (Supplemental Fig. S2F), confirming no substantial involvement of the nuclear pore in MDC1 kinetics. In contrast, when we codepleted the ligase responsible for MDC1 SUMOylation, PIAS4 (Luo et al. 2012), we found that siPIAS4 (but not siPIAS1) slowed MDC1 focus clearance in siSENP2 cells (Supplemental Fig. S2G). These data consolidate the notion that SUMOylation contributes to the rapid loss of MDC1 foci observed on SENP2 loss.

MDC1 is a SENP2 substrate and hypo-SUMOylation of MDC1 permits DDR signaling

Lysine 1840 is the main SUMO acceptor site on MDC1 (Supplemental Fig. S3A; Luo et al. 2012). To test whether MDC1 might be a substrate of SENP2 we generated cells expressing myc-MDC1^{WT} or MDC1^{K1840R} and assayed focus kinetics in SENP2-depleted cells. MDC1^{WT}

underwent accelerated clearance in siSENP2 cells, as observed for endogenous MDC1. However, MDC1^{K1840R} was resistant to the effects of siSENP2, showing the same increased focus retention (as reported earlier by Luo et al. 2012) in control and siSENP2 cells (Fig. 2A, see MDC1 and MDC1^{K1840R} expression data in Fig. 4D, below). Furthermore, expression of this mutant also permitted the formation of downstream 53BP1 foci in siSENP2-treated cells (Fig. 2A,B; Supplemental Fig. S3B). Since loss of the main MDC1 SUMOylation site renders damage signaling resistant to the effects of SENP2 repression, these data suggest that the impact of SENP2 loss occurs through modification at K1840-MDC1.

We purified His₆-SUMO1 and His₆-SUMO2 from untreated and IR-treated cells (harvested 1 h after IR to capture the MDC1 clearance phase) to test the impact of SENP2 on MDC1-SUMOylation. In untreated siSENP2 or SENP2 knockout cells, we observed an enrichment of MDC1 in SUMO2 conjugates (Fig. 2C,D; Supplemental Fig. S3C,D). Following exposure to IR, cells with SENP2 deficiency exhibited a reduction in SUMOylated MDC1, whereas control cells showed an increase in SUMOylated MDC1 (Fig. 2C,D; Supplemental Fig. S3C,D). In siRNF4 + siSENP2-codepleted cells, the IR-dependent reduction of MDC1-SUMO2, seen in siSENP2 cells, was not observed, and instead increased MDC1-SUMO2 was evident as in control cells (Fig. 2C; Supplemental Fig. S3C,D). We also confirmed directly that SENP2 could deSUMO2ylate a fragment of MDC1 encompassing K1840 in vitro using recombinant SENP2 catalytic domain. (Supplemental Fig. S3E).

A conserved coiled-coil region of SENP2 contributes to MDC1 regulation

We next assessed whether SENP2 and MDC1 interact in cells. Using Flag-RFP-SENP2^{WT}, we were able to detect coimmunoprecipitation with endogenous MDC1 in untreated cells. The interaction was decreased within 30 min of IR (4 Gy) and did not fully return up to 5 h after (Fig. 2E,F). The decrease in interaction was dependent on ATM as the inhibitor KU55933 when added prior to irradiation prevented dissociation (Fig. 2E,F). In a search for regions of SENP2 that may contribute to regulation of MDC1-SUMO, we noted a conserved coiled-coil (CC) domain (Supplemental Fig. S4A,B). We generated a 28-amino-acid deletion mutant (Δ CC) domain and found no changes in protein localization or activity (Supplemental Fig. S4C-F). However, unlike SENP2^{WT}, this mutant retained interaction with MDC1 after exposure to IR (Fig. 2G). In complementation assays, SENP2^{WT} permitted increased MDC1 SUMO-2ylation after IR, but cells expressing SENP2 ^{Δ CC} failed to increase MDC1 SUMOylation (Fig. 2H). Moreover, cells complemented with SENP2 ^{Δ CC} failed to clear MDC1 foci and were radiosensitive (Fig. 2I-K). These data suggest that dissociation of SENP2 from MDC1 requires the activity of ATM and the SENP2 CC domain and that dissociation is essential for the IR-dependent SUMOylation of MDC1, focus resolution, and proper IR repair.

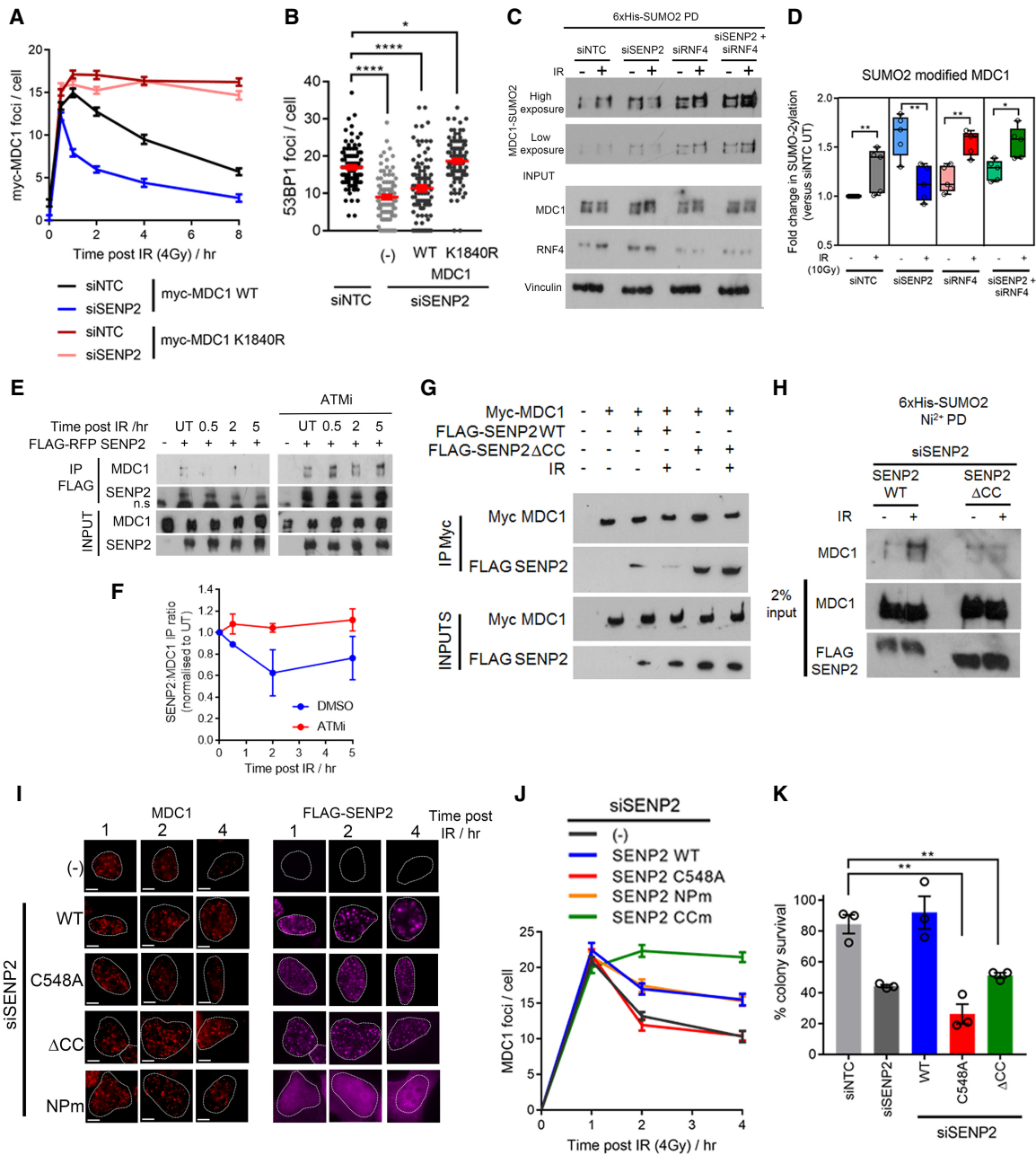


Figure 2. MDC1 is a SEN2 substrate and hypo-SUMOylation of MDC1 permits DDR signaling. (A,B) HeLa treated with siRNA and induced with doxycycline for 72 h to express wild-type or K1840R myc-MDC1. Data show kinetics of foci per cell for the indicated times after treatment with 4 Gy of IR. (B) As for A but 53BP1 foci at 2 h. *n* = 100. (C). HEK293^{FlpIn} 6x-His-myc SUMO2 cells treated with the indicated siRNA (48 h), irradiated (10 Gy), lysed 1 h later, and subjected to Ni²⁺ agarose purification followed by immunoblotting with MDC1 antibodies to determine the relative enrichment in SUMO2 conjugates. (PD) Pull-downs. (D) Quantification of the MDC1 purified by Ni²⁺ pull-downs in HEK293^{FlpIn} 6xHis-myc-SUMO2 cells illustrated in Figure 2C. Relative enrichment in SUMO2-MDC1 conjugates was determined by densitometry with the untreated siNTC sample being set as 1. *n* = 5. Error bars show SEM. (E) HEK293 transiently transfected with Flag-RFP-SEN2^{WT} for 48 h. Thirty minutes preirradiation (4 Gy), cells were treated with 10 μM ATMi or DMSO. Lysates were made at the indicated times and immunoprecipitated with Flag agarose and blotted for endogenous MDC1 and Flag-RFP-SEN2. (F) Quantification of relative Flag SEN2–MDC1 interaction ratio by densitometry, the ratio was set at 1 for untreated cells. *n* = 5. Error bars represent SEM. (G) HEK293^{FlpIn} myc-MDC1^{WT} transiently transfected with Flag-SEN2^{WT} or SEN2^{ΔCC} and treated with doxycycline for 72 h. Cells were irradiated (4 Gy) and lysed 1 h later followed by immunoprecipitation with myc-agarose. (H) HEK293^{FlpIn} 6x-His-myc SUMO2 cells, siRNA depleted for SEN2 and 24-h later transfected with SEN2^{WT} or SEN2^{ΔCC} for an additional 48 h. Cell lysis and Ni²⁺ pull-down was carried out as for C. (I,J). HeLa treated with siSEN2. Twenty-four hours later cells were transfected with Flag-SEN2 for 48 h, irradiated (4 Gy), and fixed at indicated times. (G) MDC1 foci per cell were measured in cells costaining with Flag-SEN2. *n* = 50. (K) Colony survival in IR (2 Gy) HeLa treated with siNTC, siSEN2, or siSEN2 plus doxycycline to induce expression of SEN2 mutants. *n* = 3.

Requirement for SENP2 can be bypassed by increased K63-Ub signaling

We observed an initial association of MDC1 at DSBs in siSENP2 cells (Fig. 1F; Supplemental Fig. S11,I), leading to the question of which element of the DDR is effected by rapid loss of MDC1 from damage sites. Intriguingly, a similar impact is seen on DSB signaling when MDC1 turnover is increased, but steady-state foci are only slightly altered following loss of the DUB Ataxin-3 (ATXN3) (Pfeiffer et al. 2017). We note that both SENP2 and ATXN3 contribute to the longevity of MDC1 foci and colony survival in response to IR (Supplemental Fig. S5A,B), so that together these observations suggest that MDC1 residency, or quality of MDC1 at sites of damage may promote downstream signaling. MDC1 is involved in two positive feedback loops that may require its prolonged association. It contributes to signal amplification of γ H2AX around DNA break sites with MRN and ATM (Stucki et al. 2005; Chapman and Jackson 2008; Savic et al. 2009) and the amplification of K63-Ub linkages on Histone H1 and L3MBTL2 (Thorslund et al. 2015; Nowsheen et al. 2018) with RNF8 and, downstream, RNF168 (for review, see Panier and Boulton 2014). Since we observed no loss of γ H2AX foci in SENP2-deficient cells (Supplemental Fig. S1A,I), we tested whether insufficient K63-Ub generation contributes to DDR signal failure by manipulating the K63-Ub machinery. Overexpression of RNF8, which catalyzes the initial K63-Ub contribution (Lok et al. 2011; Thorslund et al. 2015), and the depletion of the K63-Ub-specific Ub protease BRCC36 (depletion of which increases K63-Ub at sites of damage) (Shao et al. 2009) were capable of restoring 53BP1 foci in siSENP2 cells (Supplemental Fig. S5C-E). These data suggest that

normal turnover kinetics of MDC1 at damage sites is needed for sufficient Ub conjugate generation.

RNF4-VCP is responsible for the IR sensitivity of SENP2-depleted cells

Prompted by our findings that RNF4 is responsible for rapid MDC1 focus kinetics in siSENP2-depleted cells, we next assessed whether RNF4 contributes to their radiosensitivity. Depletion of RNF4 or SENP2 individually increased cell sensitivity to IR, but codepletion resulted in IR resistance similar to siNTC cells (Fig. 3A). Expression of RNF4^{WT} restored resistance to RNF4-depleted cells, however, critically, on a siSENP2 + siRNF4 background reintroduction of RNF4^{WT} resulted in IR sensitivity (Fig. 3B), demonstrating the toxicity of RNF4 in siSENP2 cells. Complementation with RNF4 proteins that reduce interaction with its Ub loaded E2 conjugating enzyme, prevent RNF4 dimerization or interaction with SUMO (Plechanovova et al. 2012; Kung et al. 2014; Rojas-Fernandez et al. 2014) allowed survival on siRNF4 + siSENP2 backgrounds but not cells treated with siRNF4 alone (Fig. 3B). We confirmed the corollary of these findings; that SENP2 protease activity contributes to the toxicity of IR in siRNF4 cells (Fig. 3C). Moreover VCP inhibition restored IR resistance to siSENP2 cells (Fig. 3D). Thus the STUbL function of RNF4 and VCP activity contributes to the IR sensitivity of SENP2 depleted cells. Among the SENP family of SUMO proteases SENP2 is alone in contributing significantly to the lethality of IR in RNF4-depleted cells (Supplemental Fig. S5F). Together, our data reveal a strong reciprocal relationship between RNF4 and SENP2 in the cellular response to IR,

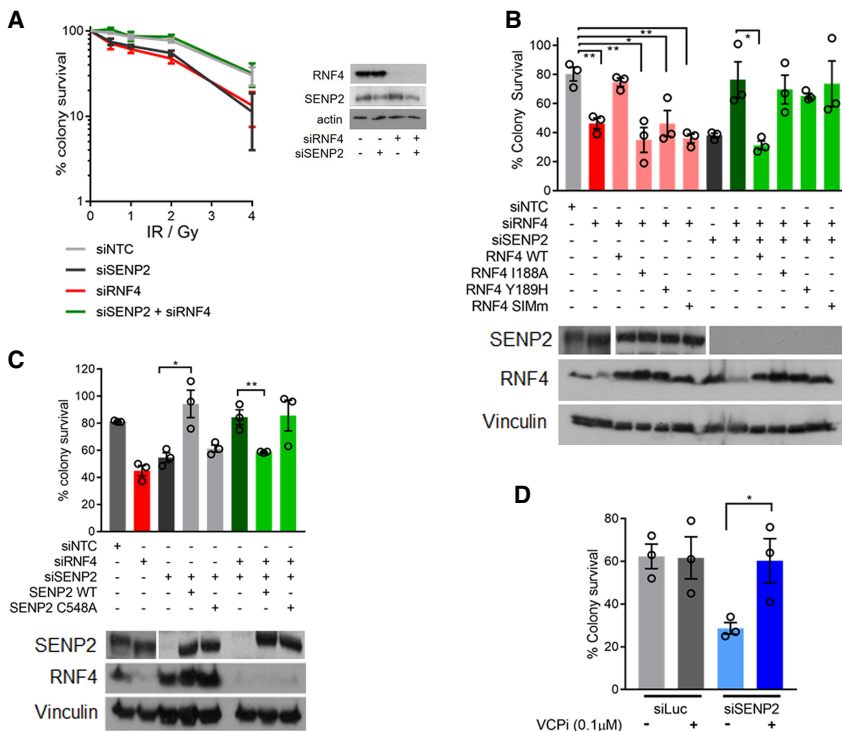


Figure 3. RNF4-VCP is responsible for the IR sensitivity of SENP2-depleted cells. (A) IR colony survival in HeLa treated with the indicated siRNA for 72 h. (Right panel) Western blot of siRNA depletions. (B) Colony survival in HeLa^{FlpIn} RNF4 treated with the indicated siRNA and doxycycline to induce expression of RNF4 and its mutants for 72 h prior to 2 Gy IR, n=3. Western blot is shown below. Note that RNF4 antibody will also detect exogenous protein. (C) Colony survival in HeLa^{FlpIn} SENP2 treated with indicated siRNA and doxycycline to induce expression of SENP2 and its mutants for 72 h prior to 2 Gy IR. n=3. Western blot is shown below. (D) Colony survival of HeLa treated with the indicated siRNAs for 72 h and 4 Gy IR. Thirty minutes after irradiation, cells were treated with DMSO and 0.1 μ M VCP inhibitor CB-5083 for an additional 90 min prior to plating for colonies in fresh media n=3.

consistent with their opposing influences on MDC1 in DSB damage signaling.

SENP2 is not relevant to S-phase clearance of MDC1

We expected to see a role for SENP2 in regulating MDC1 at repair foci throughout the cell cycle. However, when we labeled cells with a nucleotide analog to differentiate S-phase cells, we found that SENP2 depletion had no influence on MDC1 in S-phase marked cells (Fig. 4A–C). Expression of the MDC1^{K1840R} SUMO site mutant results in cellular IR sensitivity due to a failure of the mutant to clear from sites of DNA damage (Luo et al. 2012). We confirmed these data (Fig. 4D,E), but also challenged cells with olaparib and CPT, agents that require HR repair for resistance, and found that MDC1^{K1840R} did not increase sensitivity to these agents (Fig. 4F,G). Moreover, the MDC1^{K1840R} mutant had no negative impact on RAD51 focus formation in S-phase cells (Fig. 4H). While MDC1^{K1840R} expression increased 53BP1 focus numbers in EdU⁻ cells, as reported previously (Luo et al. 2012), it did not alter 53BP1 focus number in EdU⁺ cells (Fig. 4I). Moreover, unlike the response to IR, codepletion of RNF4 and SENP2 did not improve survival of cells challenged by olaparib or CPT and did not substantially improve HR reporter activity or RAD51 focus accumulations over single depletions (Fig. 4J–N). We conclude that S-phase cells turn over MDC1 from broken DNA ends independently of the major MDC1 SUMO acceptor site and of SENP2, suggesting that the role of SENP2 in HR repair occurs in another pathway.

HR is highly sensitive to the supply of SUMO

Since we observed increased high molecular weight SUMO conjugates in untreated cells depleted of SENP2 (Supplemental Fig. S2A) we speculated that SENP2 loss may disable HR through reduced availability of SUMO for conjugation. We overexpressed conjugation proficient and deficient SUMO in siSENP2 cells and examined survival in response to IR, CPT, or olaparib. We also assessed MDC1 foci 4 h after IR and RAD51 foci in S-phase cells. SUMO supplementation had no influence on IR resistance nor on MDC1 foci (Fig. 5A–C), but conjugation-competent SUMO2 improved CPT and olaparib resistance and restored RAD51 foci in SENP2-depleted cells (Fig. 5D–F). Intriguingly SENP2 depletion had no impact on RPA focus accrual, suggesting a role for SENP2 in RAD51 loading but not DNA end resection (Supplemental Fig. S5G). To test the hypothesis that differential requirements for SUMO availability exist between different repair mechanisms we performed a partial depletion of SUMO2/3 (Fig. 5G,H). Remarkably, partial SUMO2/3 depletion resulted in CPT and olaparib, but not IR, sensitivity and impaired HR, but not NHEJ in integrated repair assays (Fig. 5I,J), indicating that the HR pathway is more sensitive to SUMO availability. We further explored this in HAP1 cells (which, unlike HeLa, have an abundant pool of free SUMO) that had been enriched in G1, S, or M phases of the cell cycle. In G1 there was no difference in free SUMO2/3 levels

between wild-type and *SENP2* knockout cells, while in S- and M-phase enriched cells we noted lower levels of free SUMO in *SENP2* knockout cells versus wild-type cells (Fig. 5K). Therefore SENP2 is important for maintaining a free SUMO pool during stages of the cell cycle in which HR occurs. Many HR factors are known to be SUMO modified (Garvin and Morris 2017). Increasing available SUMO circumvents the loss of SENP2 in HR sensitivity; therefore, we could not use the 6× histidine-SUMO pull-down assays used previously to detect MDC1 SUMOylation. Therefore, to measure endogenous SUMO association of HR factors, we used immobilized SIM peptides to enrich SUMO-associated factors from lysates derived from control or CPT-treated HAP1 cells. We confirmed that the SIM peptide was enriching SUMO2/3 by using mutant peptides lacking a functional SIM (Supplemental Fig. S5H). We probed these pull-downs against a number of HR factors and detected increased SUMO association following CPT treatment with BLM, SMARCAD1, KAP1, and RPA70 antibodies in wild-type HAP1 cells. However, in *SENP2* knockout cells, the CPT-dependent increase in SUMO association was seen with KAP1 and RPA70 but not with BLM and SMARCAD1 (Supplemental Fig. S5H). While we tested only a small panel of HR factors, these results suggest that CPT-dependent changes in SUMOylation/SUMO association are disrupted in SENP2-deficient cells in at least two HR factors. Intriguingly, BLM SUMOylation has been shown to be important for RAD51 loading (Ouyang et al. 2009), a step that is deficient in SENP2 disrupted cells (Fig. 4M).

High levels of SENP2 disrupt DSB repair

The *SENP2* gene maps to chromosome 3q26-29, a region commonly amplified in epithelial cancers of the lung, ovaries, esophagus, and head and neck (Supplemental Fig. S6A,B; Qian and Massion 2008; Cancer Genome Atlas Network 2015). In lung cancer, high SENP2 mRNA levels correlate both with copy number and reduced patient survival (Supplemental Fig. S6C,D).

The 3q amplification carries two more genes involved in DNA repair: the Ub ligase RNF168, and the deubiquitinating enzyme USP13 (Supplemental Fig. S6E), which contribute to DNA-damage signaling (Doil et al. 2009; Stewart et al. 2009; Nishi et al. 2014; Chroma et al. 2017; Li et al. 2017). We compared the influence of high expression of each repair gene in HeLa^{FipIn} stable doxycycline-inducible cells. Of the three genes, SENP2 had the greatest influence on IR resistance, while increased SENP2 and USP13 reduced CPT resistance (Supplemental Fig. S6F–H)

Since our data show a critical role for SENP2 in DSB repair, we explored whether increased SENP2 expression alters repair. We found that elevation of SENP2 expression resulted in increased 53BP1 and MDC1-dependent resistance to IR (Fig. 6A,B) and was accompanied by persistent MDC1 foci at 2 h after IR (Fig. 6C,D). With the exception of SENP6, no other SENP expression slowed MDC1 clearance (Supplemental Fig. S6I,J). High expression of SENP2 also induced a 2.5-fold increase in NHEJ measured from an

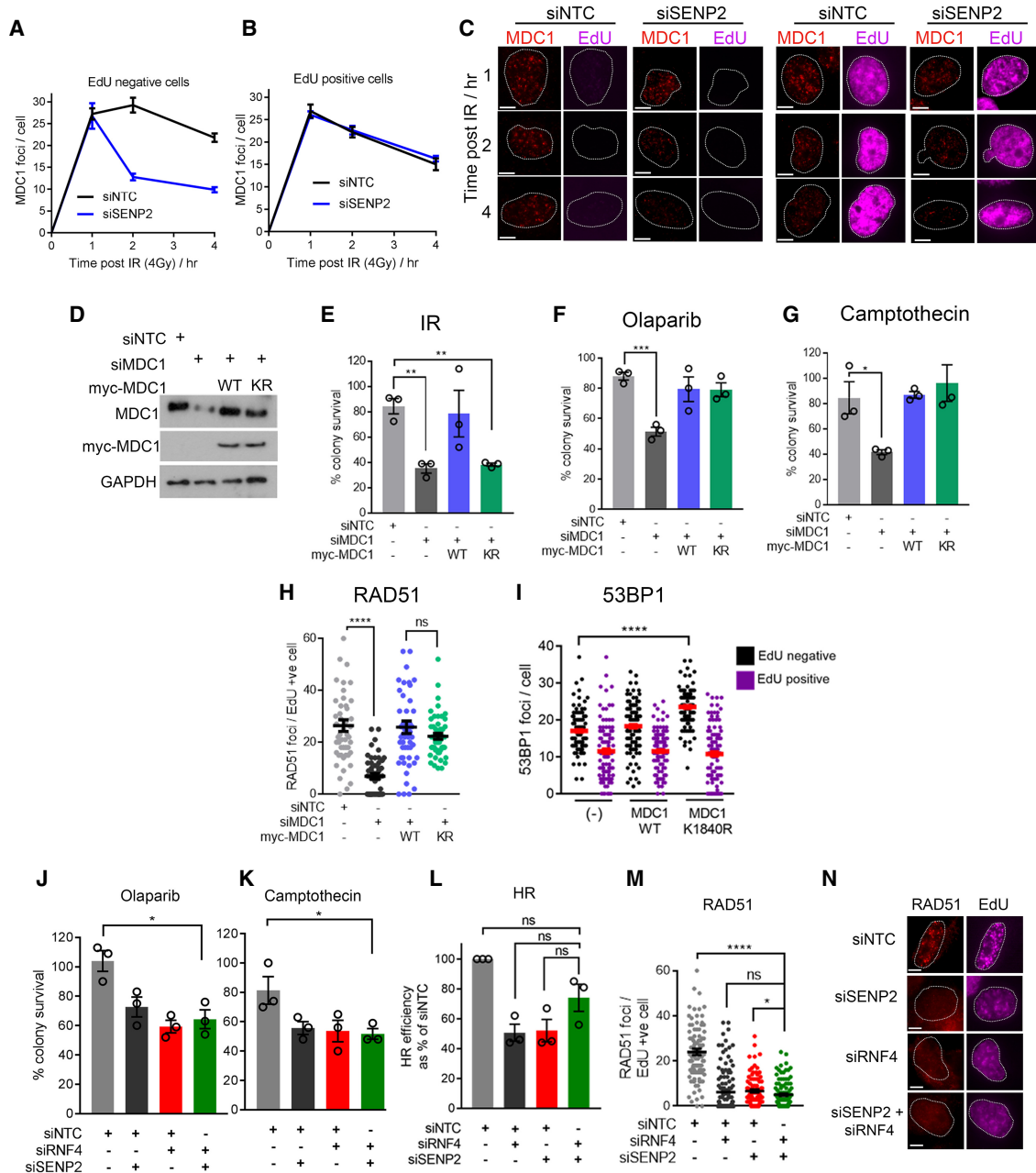


Figure 4. SENP2 is not relevant to S-phase clearance of MDC1. (A,B) HeLa treated with siNTC (black) or siSENP2 (blue) for 72 h, pulsed with 10 μ M EdU 1 h prior to IR (4 Gy). Cells were fixed at indicated times and subjected to Click-It labeling with 647 nm azide to detect EdU incorporation into nascent chromatin. MDC1 foci per cell in EdU-negative (A) and EdU-positive (S phase) (B) cells. Fifty cells were scored per condition from a total of three experiments. Error bars represent SEM. (C) Representative images relating to A and B. (D) Western blot showing MDC1 knockdown and expression in HeLa^{FlpIn} myc-MDC1 wild type or K1840R (KR). (E–G) HeLa^{FlpIn} myc-MDC1^{WT} (blue) and K1840R (green) cells siRNA depleted for endogenous MDC1 and treated with doxycycline to induce MDC1. After 72 h, cells were treated with 2 Gy of IR (E), 10 μ M olaparib (F), or 2.5 μ M CPT (G) for 2 h and subjected to colony survival analysis. $n = 3$. (H) HeLa myc-MDC1^{WT} (blue) and K1840R (green) cells siRNA depleted for endogenous MDC1 and treated with doxycycline to induce myc-MDC1. After 72 h, cells were pulsed with 10 μ M EdU 1 h prior to 4 Gy of IR. Cells were fixed 2 h after IR and subjected to Click-It labeling with 647-nm azide to detect EdU incorporation into nascent chromatin and stained with RAD51. $n = 100$ EdU⁺ cells. (I) HeLa treated with doxycycline to induce expression of myc-MDC1^{WT} or K1840R for 72 h. One hour prior to 4 Gy of IR, cells were pulsed with EdU and fixed 2 h later. Cells (100 from a total of three experiments) were scored for 53BP1 foci per cell in EdU^{-/+} cells. (J,K) Colony survival in HeLa treated with indicated siRNA and 10 μ M olaparib for 2 h (J) or 2.5 μ M CPT for 2 h (K). $n = 3$. (L) U2OS-DR3 homologous recombination reporter cells treated with siRNA for 24 h prior to transfection with *I-Sce-I* nuclease and RFP (to control for transfection efficiency) for a further 48 h. The percentage of RFP/GFP-positive cells relative to siNTC is shown for three experiments. (M) HeLa depleted for indicated siRNA for 72 h were pulsed with 10 μ M EdU for 1 h prior to 4 Gy of irradiation. Cells were fixed 4 h later and RAD51 foci counted in EdU-positive cells. $n = 100$. (N) Images relating to M.

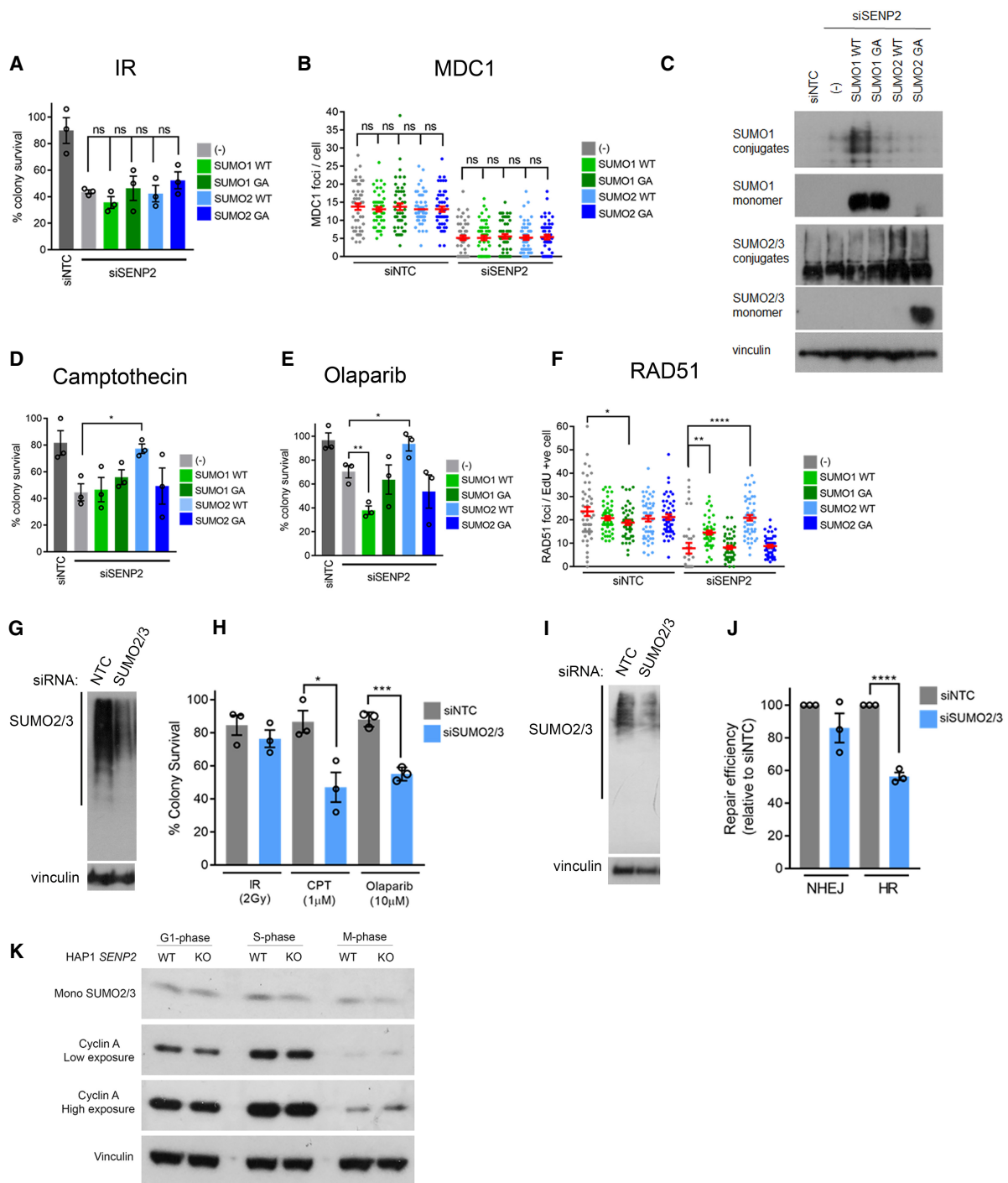


Figure 5. HR is sensitive to the supply of SUMO. (A) Colony survival after 2 Gy IR in HeLa^{FlpIn} 6xHis-myc SUMO in siNTC/siSENP2-depleted cells. GA indicates diglycine → alanine mutants in SUMO isoforms that prevent conjugation. *n* = 3. (B) HeLa treated with siRNA for 24 h before transfection with myc-SUMO; 48 h later cells were treated with 4 Gy, fixed at 4 h, immunostained, and scored for MDC1 in myc-SUMO expressing cells. *n* = 100. (C) Western blot of SUMO conjugates relating to (A,B). (D,E) As for A but using 1 μM CPT (D) or 10 μM olaparib (E) for 2 h before plating for colony survival. *n* = 3. (F) HeLa treated with siRNA for 24 h before transfection with myc-SUMO for 48 h. Cells were incubated with 10 μM EdU 30 min prior to 4 Gy of IR, fixed at 4 h, and immunostained for RAD51 and myc to detect myc-SUMO-expressing cells. *n* = 100. Only EdU⁺ myc-SUMO-positive cells were counted for RAD51 focus number. (G) Western blot showing partial depletion of SUMO2/3 conjugates in HeLa. (H) Colony survival in HeLa depleted with siNTC or siSUMO2/3 followed by treatment with 2 Gy of IR, 1 μM CPT, or 10 μM olaparib. (I) Western blot showing SUMO2/3 knockdown. (J) U2OS HR and NHEJ reporters treated with siNTC or siSUMO2/3 and transfected with *i-Sce-I* and RFP for 72 h. HR and NHEJ efficiency was set at 100% for siNTC. (K) HAP1 cells synchronized into G1-, S-, and M-enriched populations; lysed, and probed for free SUMO2/3. Cyclin A1 is a late S-phase marker.

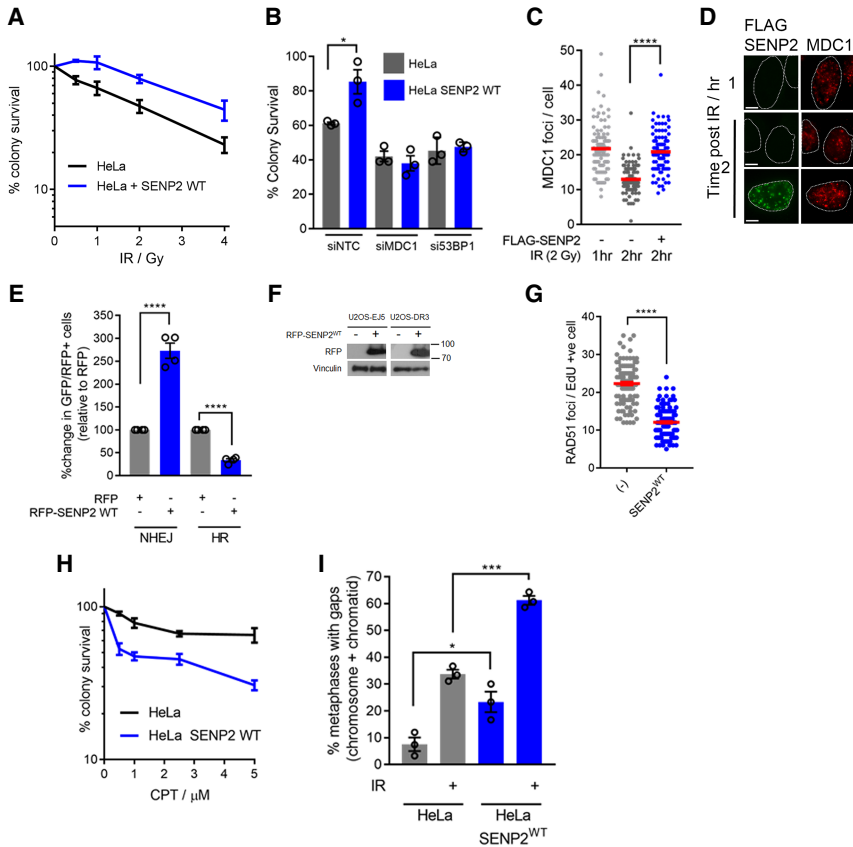


Figure 6. SENP2 overexpression disrupts responses to DSBs. (A,B) HeLa^{FlpIn} SENP2^{WT} mock or doxycycline (to induce SENP2 expression) for 72 h were treated with indicated dose of IR and subjected to colony survival analysis. (B) Colony assay performed as for A but with siRNA transfection concurrent with doxycycline addition. IR = 2 Gy. $n = 3$. (C,D) HeLa transfected with SENP2^{WT} for 48 h prior to 4 Gy IR and fixation 2 h later. MDC1 foci per cell were scored in Flag-SENP2-positive cells. $n = 100$. (D) Representative images of C. (E,F) HR and NHEJ U2OS reporters expressing RFP or RFP-SENP2 and *I-Sce1* GFP-positive cells were normalized to RFP-transfection efficiency. Percentage repair is given compared with NTC. (F) Western blot showing expression of RFP-SENP2. $n = 4$. (G) HeLa transfected with SENP2^{WT} for 48 h prior to 30 min of EdU pulse and 4 Gy of IR followed by fixation 4 h later. One-hundred EdU/Flag-SENP2-positive and 100 EdU/untransfected cells were scored for RAD51 foci across three experiments. (H) As for A but using 2 h of treatment of 2.5 μ M CPT for 2 h prior to plating. (I) HeLa SENP2^{WT} or HeLa treated with doxycycline for 72 h prior to IR 2 Gy. Eighteen hours later, cells were treated with colcemid for 6 h and processed for metaphase spread analysis. Data show percentage metaphases with chromosome/chromatid gaps from three experiments. Error bars represent SEM.

integrated substrate (Fig. 6E,F). Thus, increased SENP2 results in slower MDC1 clearance correlating with increased IR resistance and improved NHEJ. Increased expression of SENP2 reduces high-molecular-weight SUMO conjugates (Supplemental Fig. S4E,F), leading us to speculate whether persistent removal of SUMO may also influence HR. High SENP2 expression resulted in reduced HR reporter product, reduced RAD51 foci, and reduced CPT resistance (Fig. 6G,H). Examination of chromosome aberrations in cells acutely overexpressing SENP2 showed increased chromosomal gaps following IR, suggesting an overall reduced repair ability despite improved IR resistance (Fig. 6I).

Discussion

The sequential action of PTMs is essential for the proper cellular response to DSBs. While cross-talk between SUMOylation and ubiquitination is important for the integration of signaling cues for the response, the extent of a role for deSUMOylation was poorly defined. Here we provide evidence that deSUMOylation is required prior to the onset of DSB signaling to govern correct PTM timing following damage. Mechanistically, we identified two distinct pathways in which deSUMOylation is required (Supplemental Fig. S7A,B).

We show that interaction between MDC1 and SENP2 in untreated cells is associated with MDC1-hypoSUMOylation and with Ub signaling in the damage response. In

the absence of SENP2, PIAS4-mediated SUMOylation facilitates rapid RNF4-VCP-mediated MDC1 turnover and a failure of downstream signaling. MDC1 SUMOylation and RNF4-processing is induced on chromatin (Luo et al. 2012), so one question arising from our study is why constitutive interaction with a SUMO protease is needed? MDC1-SUMO is detected in untreated cells (Galanty et al. 2012; Luo et al. 2012; Yin et al. 2012; Vyas et al. 2013; Hendriks and Vertegaal 2015; Hendriks et al. 2015), suggesting a constitutive propensity to modification even in the presence of SENP2. Thus, interaction with a SUMO protease may be needed to prevent the accumulation of a heavily modified protein at DSBs capable of driving its own removal.

We show that DDR signaling via ATM and conserved coiled-coil region (amino acids 203–228) in SENP2 is needed to release MDC1–SENP2 interactions following IR and to allow subsequent MDC1 SUMOylation needed for its eventual clearance from damaged chromatin. The SENP family of SUMO proteases contain relatively few functionally annotated domains outside of the C-terminal catalytic regions (Mukhopadhyay and Dasso 2007). How the coiled-coil allows IR-regulated dissociation remains to be discovered. Its conservation in evolution as far as chicken and zebrafish (Supplemental Fig. S4B) suggests an important role for the motif.

We found that the role of SENP2 in HR repair has no relationship with the MDC1-processing pathway, that MDC1 foci are cleared in S-phase cells at the same

kinetics with or without SENP2, and that MDC1 in which the main SUMO acceptor site is mutated is also cleared in S-phase cells at the same rate as wild-type protein. MDC1-depleted cells complemented with the K1840R mutant were IR-sensitive, as described previously (Luo et al. 2012); however, they exhibit normal levels of RAD51 foci in S-phase cells and exhibit both olaparib and CPT resistance, suggesting adequate HR repair. A previous report correlated RNF4 activation with altered MDC1 kinetics in S phase (Luo et al. 2015). We suggest that the altered MDC1 kinetics in S-phase RNF4 depleted or mutant cells may be due to indirect regulation by RNF4 through other aspects of DNA repair. However, the previous finding that MDC1-K1840R significantly impacts HR repair (Luo et al. 2012) was not supported by the current study. We cannot rule out that another SUMO site is significant, although, if such a site were SUMO-modified for RNF4 interaction, it would differ in its response to SENP2.

Instead, measures of HR repressed in SENP2-deficient cells are rescued by the expression of exogenous SUMO2/3. SUMO conjugation is required for both main pathways of DSB repair so that a total loss of SUMO availability/conjugation restricts both mechanisms (Galanty et al. 2009; Morris et al. 2009). What is striking in our findings is evidence for a level of SUMO availability at which NHEJ can function but HR cannot. The degree to which each repair process captures available SUMO is not known. The differential requirement may reflect the greater number of SUMOylated factors in HR over NHEJ, a greater need for group modification in HR, or a greater need for the promotion of particular interactions, for example, between BLM, RPA, and RAD51 (Eladad et al. 2005; Ouyang et al. 2009; Dou et al. 2010; Galanty et al. 2012; Bologna et al. 2015; Hendriks and Vertegaal 2016; Garvin and Morris 2017). Alternatively, cells in S phase may have a greater need for available SUMO in replicative processes, reducing availability for HR, which is somewhat supported by our data (Fig. 5K).

In the HeLa^{FlpIn} cells used in the current study we detected no free SUMO pool and no accumulation of exogenous SUMO2 in a free SUMO2/3 pool, suggesting that the increase in SUMO2 availability was immediately captured within conjugates. In some cell types, the vast majority of SUMO exists in conjugates; for example, shifting from 93% of SUMO2/3 in conjugates to 96% and 98% on MG132 and heat shock, respectively, in HEK293T cells (Hendriks et al. 2018). In these contexts, induced SUMO conjugation in stress responses may be reliant on SUMO synthesis and recycling from SUMOylated proteins.

We also show that acute, high-level expression of SENP2 results in increased NHEJ correlating with extended MDC1 focus longevity and 53BP1-dependent IR resistance, consistent with extended defense of MDC1-SUMO. SENP2 overexpression also reduces global SUMO conjugates, and we speculate strips SUMO from HR proteins during the damage response. In both pathways SENP2 levels dramatically influence repair outcomes.

Many cancers have altered SUMOylation (Seeler and Dejean 2017) and SENP2 transcription can be up-regulat-

ed by NF- κ b, which is commonly activated during cancer development (Lee et al. 2011). SENP2 is one of several genes on the amplified region of chromosome 3q with the capacity to influence survival to DNA-damaging therapeutics. Evidence of SUMO-pathway addiction has been found in Myc- and Ras-driven cancers (Kessler et al. 2012; Yu et al. 2015), while those with low SUMOylation may be sensitive to further targeting of the SUMO system (Licciardello et al. 2015). Differential needs for SUMO conjugation and deconjugation therefore could expose tumor-specific vulnerabilities. SUMO E1 and E2 inhibitors have been described (Lu et al. 2010; Kumar et al. 2016; He et al. 2017), and our data imply that partial SUMO conjugation inhibition could disable HR but not NHEJ, increasing sensitivity to HR-directed therapies. Common 3q-amplified tumors such as those in the aerodigestive track cancers often receive postoperative radiotherapy, so further investigation into targeting altered DNA repair that may occur as a result of 3q amplification is warranted.

In summary, the need for the SUMO protease, SENP2, in aspects of mammalian DSB repair presented here reveal unexpected requirements for SUMO deconjugation and its regulation in the DNA damage response. They place the need for the activity largely in undamaged cells before the stress of DSBs occurs. We found deSUMOylation by SENP2 first prevents engagement of RNF4-VCP with MDC1, restricting an “over before it has begun” repair response and secondly promotes SUMO supply, critical to the completion of HR. Increased SENP2 expression therefore dramatically dysregulates DSB repair mechanisms.

Materials and Methods

Colony survival assays

Cells were plated at 2.5×10^5 cells per milliliter in a 24-well plate. For siRNA transfections, cells were transfected 24 h after plating for an additional 48 h. For overexpression, cells were treated with 1 μ g/mL doxycycline for 72 h. Cells were treated with the indicated dose of DNA-damaging agent prior to plating at limiting dilution in six-well plates to form colonies and grown for 10 d (three wells per technical repeat). Colonies were stained with 0.5% crystal violet (BDH Chemicals) in 50% methanol and counted. Colony survival was calculated as the percentage change in colonies versus untreated matched controls. Graphs shown are combined data from a minimum of three independent experiments and error bars show SEM.

Transfections

siRNA transfections (10 nM) were performed using Dharmafect1 (Dharmacon) and DNA plasmids using FuGENE 6 (3 μ L of FuGENE:1 μ g of DNA) (Promega) following the manufacturer's protocols. SMARTPools were from Dharmacon and individual sequences were from Sigma. See Supplemental Table 3 for siRNA sequences. Cells were grown for 48–72 h after transfection before treatment and harvesting.

Drug treatments

Irradiation was performed with a Gamma-cell 1000 Elite (Cs¹³⁷) radiation source. The following chemicals were used: 0.1 μ M

CB-5083/VCPi, 10 μ M olaparib (Selleck Chemicals), 1 μ M CPT, 10 μ M MG132, 0.05 μ g/mL colcemid, 1 μ g/mL aphidocolin, 2 mM thymidine, 150 ng/mL nocodazole (Sigma), 10 μ M EdU (Life Technologies), and KU55933 (Abcam, ab120637).

NHEJ and HR assays

U2OS-DR3-GFP (gene conversion), and U2OS-EJ5-GFP (NHEJ) were a generous gift from Jeremy Stark (City of Hope, Duarte, USA). U2OS reporter cell lines were simultaneously cotransfected with siRNA using Dharmafect1 (Dharmacon) and DNA (RFP, or Flag-SEN2 and *I-Sce1* endonuclease expression constructs) using FuGene6 (Promega), respectively. After 16 h, the media was replaced and cells were grown for a further 48 h before fixation in 2% PFA. RFP and GFP double-positive cells were scored by FACS analysis using a CyAn flow cytometer and a minimum of 10,000 cells counted. Data was analyzed using Summit 4.3 software. Each individual experiment contained three technical repeats and normalized to siRNA controls or wild-type-complemented cells. Graphs shown are combined data from a minimum of three independent experiments and error bars show standard error.

Immunofluorescence

Cells were plated on 13-mm circular glass coverslips at a density of 5×10^4 cells per milliliter and treated as required. For RPA and RAD51, cells were labeled with 10 μ M EdU 1 h prior addition of DNA damage. For staining, cells were pre-extracted in CSK buffer (100 mM sodium chloride, 300 mM sucrose, 3 mM $MgCl_2$, 10 mM PIPES at pH 6.8) for 1 min at room temperature. For all other stainings, cells were first fixed in 4% PFA and permeabilized with 0.5% Triton X-100 in PBS. After blocking in 10% FCS, cells were incubated with primary antibody for 1 h (unless stated otherwise) and with secondary Alexa fluor antibodies for 1 h. EdU was visualized by Click-iT chemistry according to the manufacturer's protocols (Life Technologies) with Alexa-647-azide. The DNA was stained using Hoechst at 1:20,000. In some images, the DNA stain was drawn around (but not shown) to illustrate the location of the nucleus.

With the exception of Figure 1, G and H, all immunofluorescent staining was imaged using the Leica DM6000B microscope using a HBO lamp with a 100-W mercury short-arc UV bulb light source and four filter cubes (A4, L5, N3, and Y5) to produce excitations at wavelengths 360, 488, 555, and 647 nm, respectively. Images were captured at each wavelength sequentially using the plan apochromat HCX 100 \times /1.4 oil objective at a resolution of 1392 \times 1040 pixels. Detection of SUMO IRIF was performed according to Morris et al. (2009).

Cell lines

The growth conditions and vendors for all cell lines are detailed in Supplemental Table 2. FlpIn stable cell lines were generated using HEK293^{TrEx-FlpIn} (Invitrogen) and HeLa^{FlpIn} (a gift from Grant Stewart, University of Birmingham) cells transfected with pcDNA5/FRT/TO-based vectors and the recombinase pOG44 (Invitrogen) using FuGene6 (Promega). After 48 h, cells were placed into 100 μ g/mL hygromycin selection medium and grown until colonies formed on plasmid transfected plates but not controls. HAP1 SENP2 knockout cells (128-base-pair deletion in exon 3, HZGHC002974c003) and parental cells were from Horizon Discovery and were cultured according to manufacturer's instructions.

Coimmunoprecipitation

HEK293^{FlpIn} myc-MDC1^{WT} were seeded on 10-cm plates in the presence of 1 μ g/mL doxycycline for 24 h prior to transfection with 3 μ g of Flag-SEN2 per plate for a further 48 h. Cells were treated with 4 Gy of IR and pelleted 1 h later in cold PBS. Cell pellets were lysed in 0.5 mL hypotonic buffer (10 mM HEPES at pH 7.8, 10 mM KCl, 1.5 mM $MgCl_2$, 340 mM sucrose, 10% glycerol 0.2% NP40, protease, phosphatase inhibitor cocktails) for 5 min on ice and centrifuged at 3000 rpm for 3 min. The nuclear pellet was lysed in nuclear buffer (0.05% NP40, 50 mM Tris pH 8, 300 mM NaCl, protease and phosphatase inhibitor cocktails) and rotated for 30 min at 4°C. Lysates were briefly sonicated and clarified at 12,000 rpm for 10 min to remove debris. Cleared lysates (0.9 mL) were incubated with either myc (Thermo Fisher) or M2 (Sigma) agarose (20- μ L packed bead volume) for 16 h at 4°C with rotation. Beads were washed three times with NETN buffer (100 mM NaCl, 20 mM Tris-HCl at pH 8, 0.5 mM EDTA, 0.5% NP40) before elution with 4 \times Lamelli buffer.

Supplemental methods

Methods describing cloning, in vitro assays, pull-downs, metaphase spreads, and cell cycle synchronization are in the Supplemental Material. Supplemental Tables 1–4 contain details on antibodies, cell lines, siRNA, and oligonucleotide sequences, respectively.

Statistics

Unless stated otherwise, all statistical analysis was by two-sided Student's *t*-test throughout ($P < 0.05$ [*], $P < 0.01$ [**], $P < 0.005$ [***], and $P < 0.001$ [****]). All center values are given as the mean, and all error bars are SEM. Data were analyzed using Graphpad Prism 7.03.

Quantification

All Western blot or image analysis for quantification was done using ImageJ unless specified otherwise.

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Author contributions: Cloning and generation of stable cell lines was performed by A.J.G., A.K.W., and R.M.D. Coimmunoprecipitation and pull-downs were performed by A.J.G., A.K.W., and A.S.C. Immunofluorescence analysis was performed by A.J.G., A.K.W., M.D.-M., and H.R.S. FACS analysis was performed by K.S. and J.F.B. Metaphase spreads were performed by K.S. and J.F.B. Immunoblots were performed by A.J.G., A.K.W., A.S.C., H.L.M., and G.E.R. The manuscript was written and the project was conceived by A.J.G. and J.R.M. All authors reviewed the manuscript.

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