UFMylation and TRAMP-like complexes are required for hepatitis A virus pathogenesis

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Abstract

Hepatitis A virus (HAV) is a positive-sense RNA virus causing acute inflammation of the liver. Here,

using a genome-scale CRISPR screen in a human hepatocyte cell line, we provide a

comprehensive picture of the cellular factors, which are exploited by HAV during replication. We

identified genes involved in sialic acid and ganglioside biosynthesis, the eukaryotic initiation

factor complex and the ESCRT pathway. Additionally, we found all components of the cellular

machinery for UFMylation, a ubiquitin-like protein modification, and showed that optimal

translation of the HAV genome depends on UFM1 conjugation of the ribosomal protein RPL26.

Furthermore, we demonstrated that components related to the yeast Trf4/5–Air1/2–Mtr4

polyadenylation (TRAMP) complex, are required for viral translation, independent of regulating

HAV poly(A) tails. Finally, pharmacological inhibition of the TRAMP-like complex decreased HAV

replication in hepatocyte cells and human liver organoids, thus providing a strategy for host-

directed therapy of HAV infection.

Introduction

Hepatitis A virus (HAV) is a single-stranded, positive-sense RNA virus and a hepatotropic member of the *Picornaviridae*. Despite successes in vaccine development, HAV remains a common cause of enterically transmitted hepatitis globally, responsible for epidemics in developing and developed countries with symptoms ranging from mild inflammation and jaundice to acute liver failure (CDC, 2019; Jacobsen, 2018). HAV enters host cells through interactions with cell surface molecules, followed by uncoating and delivery of viral RNA from endosomes to the cytosol. The viral polyprotein is synthesized under the control of an internal ribosome entry site (IRES) and processed into the individual structural and non-structural proteins. HAV then co-opts cellular membranes to form organelle-like structures, where viral genome replication occurs. The newly synthesized genomes are packaged and HAV egresses in the form of quasi-enveloped virions (McKnight and Lemon, 2018). Despite a general understanding of the life cycle and characterization of certain host proteins involved during replication, a comprehensive overview of the most critical host factors for HAV infection is lacking. CRISPR screens are a powerful technology to interrogate cell components critical for viral infection in an unbiased fashion and have been used to study human pathogens, such as mosquito-borne flaviviruses, enteroviruses or hepatitis C virus (Diep et al., 2019; Marceau et al., 2016; Zhang et al., 2016). Using this approach to dissect HAV infection, we identified previously known and unknown host factors and highlight that HAV co-opts pathways distinct from other *Picornaviridae* members. Additionally, we reveal a strategy for host-directed therapy of HAV infections.

Results

To identify host cellular factors that are critical for HAV infection, we conducted a genome-wide

CRISPR knockout (KO) screen in the human hepatocyte cell line Huh7.5.1 using the cytopathic

HAV HM175/18f strain (Lemon et al., 1991) (Figure 1A). Infection led to notable cell death after

~3 days and surviving cells were collected after 12 days for analysis. We consistently found

enrichment of guide RNA (gRNA) sequences targeting genes involved in several pathways known

to be required for picornaviral replication (Figure 1B, Figure 1-figure supplement 1A, Figure 1-

source data 1). For example, sialic acid and ganglioside biosynthesis genes (*GNE, CMAS, SLC35A1,*

UGCG, ST3GAL5) were previously implicated in entry of picorna- and other viruses (Baggen et al.,

2016; Ding et al., 2018; Drake et al., 2017; Han et al., 2018). We also identified *PTBP1* and

members of the eukaryotic initiation factor complex (*EIF4B, EIF3C, EIF3CL*), which have known

roles in IRES-mediated translation of HAV and other picornaviruses (Avanzino et al., 2017;

Borman et al., 2001; Gosert et al., 2000; Pestova et al., 1996). VPS4A is an endosomal sorting

complexes required for transport (ESCRT) component, important for budding of several

enveloped viruses as well as egress of HAV (Feng et al., 2013; Votteler and Sundquist, 2013).

Importantly, gene ontology (GO) analysis of enriched genes (RIGER p-value < 0.001) revealed

additional pathways, which have not previously been implicated in HAV infection, such as the

machinery for UFMylation (*UFM1, UBA5, UFL1, UFC1, UFSP2*), a ubiquitin-like protein

modification (Gerakis et al., 2019; Komatsu et al., 2004), and the TRAMP complex components

PAPD5 (also known as TENT4B or TRF4-2) and PAPD7 (also known as TENT4A or TRF4-1) (Figure

1B and C and Figure 1-source data 2) (Lubas et al., 2011; Warkocki et al., 2018). Zinc Finger CCHC

Domain-Containing Protein 14 (ZCCHC14), which has been shown to associate with PAPD7 using

BioID, is likely to be part of a TRAMP-like complex, which generally contains a zinc knuckle protein

(Go et al., 2019; Hamill et al., 2010).

We systematically compared our hits with CRISPR screens for host factors of human

rhinovirus C15 (HRV-C15) and enterovirus D68 (EV-D68), two distantly related *Picornaviridae*

members (Figure 1-figure supplement 1B) (Diep et al., 2019). Other than sialic acid biosynthesis

genes among the EV-D68 hits, there were no commonalities, indicating divergent evolution of

host factor dependencies (Figure 1-figure supplement 1C and D). Additionally, we compared our

results to a CRISPR screen for hepatitis C virus (HCV) infection, another hepatotropic positive-

sense RNA virus (and member of the *Flaviviridae* family) but found no overlap in the host factor

requirements (Figure 1-figure supplement 1E) (Marceau et al., 2016).

To validate the results of our screen, we generated isogenic KO cell lines in several genes

by CRISPR-Cas9 gene editing resulting in loss of protein expression (Figure 2-figure supplement

1A-C). Upon HAV infection, we observed significant reduction of both intra- and extracellular viral

RNA (ranging from 10-1,000 fold) relative to levels in wild-type (WT) cells at 72 hours post-

infection (hpi) (Figure 2A and Figure 2-figure supplement 2A). As PAPD5 and PAPD7 are both

human orthologues of yeast Trf4p and display redundancy in their polyadenylation function

(Warkocki et al., 2018), we generated *PAPD5/PAPD7* double knockout (DKO) cell lines (Figure 2-

figure supplement 1A). We observed a significantly stronger reduction in viral replication in the

DKO cells compared to the single *PAPD5* or *PAPD7* KO cells underscoring their redundant activity

for HAV replication (Figure 2B). To rule out that phenotypes are not only observed with the highly

tissue culture adapted HM175/18f strain, we additionally performed infection assays in KO cell

lines using a lower-passage HM175 strain with similar results (Figure 2-figure supplement 2B).

Next, we performed a timecourse infection assay using a recombinant reporter virus that

expresses nanoluciferase from within its polyprotein (HAV-NLuc). We measured a ~10^4 fold

increase in luminescence in WT cells after 72hpi but there was striking attenuation of luciferase

expression in host factor KO lines (Figure 2C). Moreover, when we complemented *UBA5*, *PAPD5*

and *ZCCHC14* KO cells with the respective cDNAs, we observed a significant increase in HAV RNA

levels (Figure 2D-F and Figure 2-figure supplement 1C).

Next, we compared replication of different *Picornaviridae* members in *UFM1* KO cells. As

expected, HAV RNA levels were greatly reduced while enterovirus 71 (EV-71) and

encephalomyocarditis virus (EMCV) RNA levels were not affected (Figure 2G). Interestingly,

human rhinovirus A2 (RV-A2) replication was increased suggesting that UFMylation can mediate

pro- and antiviral functions in host cells, depending on the virus species. In cells deficient in both

PAPD5 and PAPD7, HAV RNA levels were severely and EMCV RNA levels moderately decreased

while EV-71 and RV-A2 replication were unaffected (Figure 2H).

It is of note that our screen did not reveal HAVCR1 (also known as TIM1) as an essential

host factor for HAV infection. HAVCR1 was originally identified as a HAV receptor but a more

recent study questioned its essentiality for HAV infection (Das et al., 2017; Kaplan et al., 1996).

To address this further, we generated isogenic *HAVCR1* KO lines (Figure 2-figure supplement 1A)

and performed a viral attachment and internalization assay. We only observed a minor defect of

internalized virions at 6hpi and viral RNA levels were only reduced by ~2 fold relative to WT cells

at 30hpi (Figure 2-figure supplement 3). Thus, *HAVCR1* KO cells were unlikely to be protected

against cytopathic HAV infection in the CRISPR screen. By contrast, in *SLC35A1* KO cells

intracellular viral RNA was decreased by ~80% at 6hpi and ~95% at 30hpi. We conclude that

HAVCR1 is not essential for the HAV life cycle, while sialic acid biosynthesis is critical for viral

entry and establishing infection. Together, these data confirm that the genes identified by the

CRISPR screen play an important role in the HAV life cycle.

UFM1 encodes the 85 amino acid long ubiquitin-fold modifier 1, which acts as a protein

modification and is conserved among most eukaryotes except for yeast and other fungi (Komatsu

et al., 2004). Like ubiquitination, UFM1 is covalently attached to its targets following an E1–E2–

E3 reaction consisting of the UFM1-activating enzyme UBA5, the UFM1-conjugating enzyme

UFC1 and the UFM1-specific ligase UFL1 (Figure 3A) (Komatsu et al., 2004; Tatsumi et al., 2010).

Usually, UFM1 is present in a precursor form, which first requires cleavage of the last two C-

terminal amino acids by the UFM1-specific protease UFSP2 to expose Gly at position 83 (Komatsu

et al., 2004). UFSP2 also operates as the major de-UFMylation enzyme, removing UFM1

molecules from their targets (Kang et al., 2007). Our screen identified all known components of

the UFMylation machinery including the additionally associated proteins DDRGK1 and ODR4

(encoded by *C1orf27*) (Figure 3A) (Chen et al., 2014; Wu et al., 2010). To date, this protein

modification has not been implicated to play a role in viral infections. WT cells contain free UFM1

as well as conjugated UFM1 as detected by immunoblot (Figure 3B). To probe whether functional

conjugation of UFM1 is required for HAV infection, we mutated different components of the

pathway. Deletion of UBA5 led to an absence of conjugated UFM1, while UFSP2 KO resulted in

hyper-conjugation (Figure 3B). However, both conditions led to a stark reduction of viral RNA in

infected cells, suggesting that the modification needs to be reversible for its proviral function

(Figure 3C). Moreover, we generated cell lines either lacking UFM1 completely or expressing WT

UFM1, Gly83Ala UFM1 or ΔC3 UFM1 (lacking the last 3 C-terminal amino acids) and showed the

presence of conjugated UFM1 in cells containing WT UFM1, hyper-conjugation with Gly83Ala

UFM1 and absence of UFM1 linkage for ΔC3 UFM1 consistent with previous findings (Figure 3B)

(Komatsu et al., 2004). Complementation with WT UFM1 significantly restored HAV replication,

although less than the hyper-conjugated Gly83Ala UFM1, possibly because the Gly83Ala mutant

may be more stable due to resistance to UFM1 processing (Figure 3C). By contrast, conjugation-

deficient ΔC3 UFM1 did not rescue viral infection indicating that functional UFM1 conjugation is

indeed critical for HAV (Figure 3C). Complementation of *UBA5* KO cells with WT UBA5 but not

catalytically inactive enzyme also restored UFM1 conjugation and viral replication (Figure 3B and

Figure 3-figure supplement 1A and B).

Next, we used HAV replicon RNA expressing firefly luciferase to assess whether the defect

occurs during the viral translation or genome replication step and detected a marked defect in

UBA5, UFSP2 as well as *UFM1* KO cells within 10h post-electroporation (Figure 3D and Figure 3-

figure supplement 2A). To specifically measure the effect on translation of incoming viral RNA,

we additionally used a replication-incompetent replicon (containing a GDD→GAA mutation in

the viral polymerase) and observed a decrease of luciferase expression in all KO cells (Figure 3E

and Figure 3-figure supplement 2B). We excluded that observed phenotypes were due to

differences in cell viability or proliferation post-electroporation (Figure 3-figure supplement 2C).

Thus, we conclude that functional and reversible conjugation of UFM1 is required for optimal

translation of HAV RNA.

To explore further whether a cellular or viral protein is UFMylated upon infection, we

performed immunoblot analysis. We did not observe an additional UFM1 conjugate upon

infection, suggesting that a viral protein is not the direct target of UFMylation (Figure 3F).

Recently, the ribosomal protein RPL26 was identified as a major target for UFMylation in human

cells (Walczak et al., 2019; Wang et al., 2019). Thus, we sought to test whether UFMylated RPL26

is important for efficient HAV translation. Consistent with previous findings, we detected

modified RPL26 at the molecular weight corresponding to UFM1 conjugates (Figure 3F).

Interestingly, only a small fraction of RPL26 is UFMylated and the conjugation appears transient

as it can only be visualized in *UFSP2* KO cells, which lack de-UFMylation activity. It was further

shown that conjugation of UFM1 occurs at C-terminal lysines of RPL26 (Walczak et al., 2019;

Wang et al., 2019). We generated cell lines expressing WT RPL26 or RPL26 containing five lysine

to arginine mutations ("5KR RPL26") (Figure 3-figure supplement 3A) and confirmed that ectopic

5KR RPL26 was not UFMylated (Figure 3G). HAV infection of WT Huh7.5.1 cells expressing 5KR

RPL26 was reduced compared to cells containing ectopic WT RPL26, which largely phenocopied

the *UFM1* KO effect (Figure 3H). By contrast, an additional dominant negative effect of 5KR RPL26

was not observed in transduced *UFM1* or *UFSP2* KO cells where HAV replication was already

lower compared to WT Huh7.5.1 containing WT RPL26 (Figure 3H). Similarly, we measured

reduced HAV RNA levels in previously characterized U2OS cells expressing 5KR RPL26 and a

CRISPRi system to knockdown endogenous WT RPL26 (Walczak et al., 2019) (Figure 3-figure

supplement 3B). Lastly, RV-A2 infection was increased in 5KR RPL26 cells (Figure 3-figure

supplement 3C), mirroring the effect of *UFM1* deletion and indicating that UFM1 and RPL26 are

functionally linked (Figure 2G). Together, the results support a model that HAV requires active

UFMylation of RPL26 for optimal translation.

PAPD5 and PAPD7 are two non-canonical poly(A) RNA polymerases (ncPAPs), which can transfer

oligo(A) to a variety of RNA substrates (including mRNAs, miRNAs, snoRNAs and rRNAs) in a

template-independent manner (Berndt et al., 2012; Boele et al., 2014; Rammelt et al., 2011;

Shcherbik et al., 2010; Shin et al., 2017). Their activities have been shown to stabilize mRNAs for

translation as well as to specify different RNA species for turnover by the exosome complex

(Lubas et al., 2011; Vaňáčová et al., 2005; Warkocki et al., 2018). ZCCHC14 has been implicated

to interact with these ncPAPs forming a TRAMP-like complex (Go et al., 2019; Hyrina et al., 2019).

We measured the effects of either *PAPD5/7* DKO or *ZCCHC14* KO on viral translation and

replication using viral replicon RNA and observed a notable defect early post-electroporation

before the onset of viral genome replication (Figure 4A). While we detected low levels of

replication between 24 and 32h in the host factor KO cell lines, luminescence dropped to near

background levels by 48h. We determined that the catalytic activities of PAPD5 and PAPD7 are

likely to be required to support viral infection as complementation of KO or DKO cells with WT

PAPD5 and/or PAPD7 but not catalytically inactive (CAT) PAPD5 or PAPD7 (containing two

aspartate to alanine substitutions in the active site) restored HAV replication (Figure 2-figure

supplement 1C and Figure 4-figure supplement 1A-C) (Rammelt et al., 2011). PAPD5 and PAPD7

can regulate the length of poly(A) tails of certain mRNAs, which can affect RNA stability and

translation (Shin et al., 2017). As HAV has a polyadenylated genome, we assessed the length of

viral poly(A) tails from infected WT and DKO cells by polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis but we

did not observe a notable difference (Figure 4B). We additionally analyzed the poly(A) tails by

TOPO cloning and Sanger sequencing as well as electrophoretic shift using TapeStation with

similar results (Figure 4C and Figure 4-figure supplement 2A). By contrast, we observed reduced

poly(A) tail lengths as well as infection levels with hepatitis B virus (HBV) in cells deficient of

ZCCHC14, a host factor reported to be critical for HBV surface antigen expression (Figure 4-figure

supplement 2B and C) (Hyrina et al., 2019).

Recently, it was shown that PAPD5 and PAPD7 can introduce guanosines at low

frequencies into poly(A) tails resulting in increased stability against CCR4-NOT dependent

deadenylation and prolonged mRNA half lives (Lim et al., 2018). However, we did not observe an

elevated frequency of non-adenosine nucleotides in WT vs DKO cells within HAV poly(A) tails

(Figure 4D and Figure 4-source data 1). Rather, almost all tails exclusively consisted of

adenosines. In addition to the absence of changes in HAV poly(A) tail length or composition, we

did not detect differences in overall viral RNA levels between WT, DKO as well as *ZCCHC14* KO

cells early post viral entry and prior to onset of genome amplification (2-8h) (Figure 4E). Next,

using pulse-chase labeling, we did not see a notable difference in HAV RNA decay rates between

WT and *PAPD7* KO, which allowed moderate HAV replication but were additionally treated with

the PAPD5/7 inhibitor RG7834 prior to the chase to mimic a genetic-chemical DKO condition

(Mueller et al., 2019) (Figure 4F).

Finally, we probed viral translation directly using the replication-incompetent HAV

replicon and observed drastically reduced luciferase levels in the first 10h post-electroporation

in DKO and *ZCCHC14* KO cells, consistent with the WT replicon data (Figure 4G). Treatment of WT

cells with RG7834 post-electroporation also reduced luminescence levels after 8h (Figure 4-figure

supplement 2D). By contrast, translation of electroporated firefly mRNA was not affected and

RNA stability as well as poly(A) tail lengths of the *in-vitro* transcribed replicon RNA remained

unchanged post-electroporation into DKO cells (Figure 4-figure supplement 2E and F). Therefore,

we propose a critical role of the TRAMP-like complex in facilitating HAV translation in a HAV

poly(A) tail length and RNA stability-independent manner.

Next, we sought to explore whether pharmacological inhibition of PAPD5/7 exhibits an antiviral

effect on HAV replication. We used RG7834 (Figure 5A), a small molecule compound belonging

to the chemical class of the dihydroquinolizinones, which was first identified as a potent inhibitor

for HBV surface antigen secretion (Mueller et al., 2018). Additional studies using yeast three-

hybrid screening identified PAPD5 and PAPD7 as the cellular targets for RG7834 (Mueller et al.,

2019). We performed a dose-response curve and calculated a 50% effective concentration (EC_{50})

of 12.76nM for inhibition of HAV replication, which is far below the reported 50% cytotoxic

concentration (CC_{50}) of >10 µM and consistent with our measurements (Figure 5B and Figure 5-

figure supplement 1A) (Mueller et al., 2018). Drug treatment of infected *PAPD5* or *PAPD7* KO

cells suggested that RG7834 has a stronger inhibitory effect on the PAPD5 activity as reduction

of viral RNA is more substantial in the *PAPD7* KO+RG7834 condition (Figure 5-figure supplement

1B). Intrigued by the fact that RG7834 inhibits both HAV and HBV, we also measured the effects

on two additional liver-specific viruses, HCV and hepatitis E virus (HEV). However, RG7834 only

showed significant reduction of HAV and HBV RNA levels (Figure 5C-F). This is consistent with

unchanged viral replication levels of HCV and HEV in DKO cells (Figure 5-figure supplement 1C).

Finally, we performed infection assays in human liver organoid cultures (Broutier et al., 2016).

We observed significant reduction of HAV RNA in both stem cell-like and differentiated organoids

under RG7834 treatment (Figure 5G and Figure 5-figure supplement 1D), highlighting that

pharmacological targeting of PAPD5/7 is a promising strategy for host-directed therapy of HAV

infection.

Discussion

This study provides a comprehensive assessment of the host factors that are required for HAV

infection. We revealed two cellular pathways, UFMylation and a TRAMP-like complex, which had

not been implicated in HAV life cycle before. We demonstrated that UFMylation is required for

optimal HAV translation in an RPL26-UFM1-conjugation dependent manner. The cellular function

of this protein modification is still an emerging field of research but it has been linked to the

regulation of the ER stress response and ribosome-associated quality control (Walczak et al.,

2019; Wang et al., 2019). Specific ribosomal or ribosome-associated proteins have been shown

to be required for efficient translation of viral genomes (Landry et al., 2009; Majzoub et al., 2014).

RPL26 is located near the ribosome exit tunnel and its modification could facilitate dynamic and

reversible conformation changes to improve translation of specific amino acid sequences or

resolve certain secondary structure in the RNA as suggested by the requirement for active

UFMylation and de-UFMylation during HAV infection. Additional studies, such as biochemical

analysis and ribosome profiling of the different ribosomal subpopulations, are needed to gain a

better understanding of its role during translation of viral and cellular mRNAs. The contrasting

phenotypes observed during HAV and RV-A2 infection in *UFM1* KO cells may also be utilized as

tools for future studies of the molecular effects of UFMylation.

Furthermore, we identified the TRAMP-like complex components ZCCHC14, PAPD5 and

PAPD7. In the context of the nuclear TRAMP machinery, PAPD5/7 interact with ZCCHC7, another

CCHC-motif containing zinc knuckle protein, and the Mtr4 exosome RNA helicase

(MTREX/SKIV2L2) (Lubas et al., 2011), which were not enriched in the HAV CRISPR screen. This

suggests that PAPD5/7 can form different complexes with specific cellular activities. For example,

template-independent polyadenylation of nuclear RNA substrates with short oligo(A) tails for

targeted degradation by the exosome as well as increase of mRNA stability by poly(A) tail

extension or mixed tailing have been reported (Schmid and Jensen, 2018; Warkocki et al., 2018).

We revealed that the pro-viral function of the TRAMP-like complex is important for the

translatability of HAV RNA, independent from modifying its poly(A) tails. This is consistent with

previous observations that picornavirus polyadenylation is template-dependent, for example by

the presence of a homotypic poly(U) sequence in the picornavirus negative-sense RNA (Spector

and Baltimore, 1975). Moreover, studies using poliovirus, another picornavirus, suggested that

the picornaviral RNA-dependent RNA polymerase uses reiterative transcription as it replicates

the poly(A) tails of viral RNA (Kempf et al., 2013; Steil et al., 2010). These findings support that

ncPAPs are not required for HAV poly(A) tail generation or maintenance. In studies using *C.*

elegans, deletion of the worm orthologs of PAPD5 (gld-4) and ZCCHC14 (gls-1) led to reduced

polysome formation but did not affect global poly(A) tail lengths, providing evidence of

polyadenylation-independent functions of TRAMP-like complexes (Nousch et al., 2014).

Unexpectedly, we found that mutations in the active sites of PAPD5/7 affected HAV infection. It

is possible that the catalytic mutations have structural implications and impair the co-opted non-

catalytic activity or, alternatively, PAPD5 and PAPD7 regulate another host factor critical to HAV

translation through RNA tailing.

Interestingly, other tested picornaviruses were not dependent on the TRAMP-like

complex for efficient translation despite commonalities in their gene expression strategy.

Surprisingly though, PAPD5, PAPD7 and ZCCHC14 were identified as critical factors for infection

with HBV, a hepatotropic DNA virus with a vastly different life cycle, using chemical and CRISPR

screens (Hyrina et al., 2019; Mueller et al., 2019). Mechanistically, the TRAMP-like complex plays

an important role in HBsAg expression by poly(A) tail extension of HBsAg mRNAs (Hyrina et al.,

2019). This highlights a remarkable convergence of two unrelated hepatitis viruses to co-opt the

same cellular complex. Finally, we provided proof-of-concept that pharmacological inhibition of

PAPD5 and PAPD7 decreases HAV as well as HBV levels. Overall, this study provides a

comprehensive picture of HAV host factors and uncovered UFMylation and the TRAMP-like

complex as important components for successful viral protein biogenesis.

Figure 1

Figure 1. Genome-wide CRISPR KO screen identifies host cellular factors important for HAV

infection. (A) Schematic of the genome-wide CRISPR KO screening setup. A library of Huh7.5.1

CRISPR-Cas9 cells was infected with cytopathic HAV HM175/18f and virus-resistant cells were

harvested 12 days post-infection (dpi). gRNA abundance was measured in the original and

selected cell population by next-generation sequencing. **(B)** RIGER analysis to calculate the

significance of enriched genes in CRISPR KO screen. Enriched genes were clustered and colored

by function. The screen was performed once. **(C)** Selected terms from gene ontology (GO)

analysis of genes enriched in CRISPR KO screen (RIGER p-value < 0.001).

Figure 1 - figure supplement 1

Figure 1-figure supplement 1. Comparative analysis of CRISPR screen results for HAV,

enterovirus D68, rhinovirus C15 and HCV host factors. (A) Comparison of RIGER and MaGECK

analysis of HAV CRISPR screen. **(B)** Phylogenetic tree of HAV, HCV, EMCV, enterovirus A71,

enterovirus D68, rhinovirus A2 and rhinovirus C15. **(C)** Comparison of HAV CRISPR screen results

from this study with enterovirus D68 CRISPR screen results from (Diep et al., 2019) using MaGECK

analysis. **(D)** Comparison of HAV CRISPR screen results from this study with human rhinovirus C15

CRISPR screen results from (Diep et al., 2019) using MaGECK analysis. **(E)** Comparison of HAV

CRISPR screen results from this study with HCV CRISPR screen results from (Marceau et al., 2016)

using RIGER analysis.

Figure 2

Figure 2. Validation of identified HAV host factors. (A) Quantification of HAV RNA in WT and

clonal KO cell lines 3 dpi by RT-qPCR. (B) Quantification of HAV RNA in WT, *PAPD5* KO, *PAPD7* KO

and *PAPD5/PAPD7* double KO (DKO) cells 3 dpi by RT-qPCR. (C) Viral growth curves using

recombinant HAV expressing nanoluciferase (HAV-Nluc). WT, *SLC35A1* KO, *UBA5* KO, *PAPD5/7*

DKO and *ZCCHC14* KO cells were infected, lysed at indicated timepoints and luciferase levels were

measured. Dotted line indicates luminescence levels in WT cells at 72 hpi. Data are displayed as

means ± s.d. (n=2 biological replicates). (D-F) Quantification of HAV RNA in WT, *UBA5* KO (**D**),

PAPD5 KO (**E**), or *ZCCHC14* KO (**F**) cells and KO cells complemented with respective cDNAs 3 dpi

by RT-qPCR. (G-H) Quantification of HAV, human rhinovirus A2 (RV-A2), enterovirus 71 (EV-71)

and encephalomyocarditis virus (EMCV) RNA in WT vs *UFM1* KO cells (**G**) or WT vs DKO cells (**H**)

by RT-qPCR. Cells infected with HAV or RV-A2 were harvested after 48h, with EV-71 after 24h and

with EMCV after 8h.

329   For all RT-qPCR experiments, viral RNA was normalized to 18S RNA and results are displayed

330   relative to infection in WT cells. Datasets represent means ± s.e.m. (n=3 biological replicates). P

331   values were determined by unpaired two-sided t-tests using GraphPad Prism 8. *, $p < 0.05$; **,

332    $p < 0.01$; ***, $p < 0.001$; ****< 0.0001.

Figure 2 - figure supplement 1

Figure 2-figure supplement 1. Genotyping and immunoblotting of clonal Huh7.5.1 KO cell lines.

(A) Sanger sequencing of gRNA targeted loci of clonal KO cell lines. Traces were aligned to

corresponding reference sequences and indel mutations determined. Reads of gRNA targeted

PAPD5 and PAPD7 loci in clonal Huh7.5.1 DKO cells are displayed. UFM1 gene was simultaneously

targeted by two gRNAs cutting in exon 2 and exon 5 resulting in a large genomic deletion. **(B)**

Immunoblots for clonal *eIF4B*, *SLC35A1*, *VPS4A* and *UFSP2* KO cell lines. For eIF4B, a heterozygous

clone harboring one allele with a -2bp deletion and one WT allele, quantification of the band (in

%) is normalized to GAPDH signal and relative to WT indicating decrease of expression in

heterozygous clone. For SLC35A1, WT and KO cells were lysed in RIPA buffer and lysates were

immunoprecipitated using anti-SLC35A1 antibody and protein G beads prior to immunoblot.

GAPDH and Vinculin were used as loading controls. **(C)** Immunoblots of WT, *UBA5* KO, *PAPD5* KO

or *ZCCHC14* KO cells as well as KO cells complemented with respective cDNAs. GAPDH and

Vinculin were used as loading controls.

Figure 2 - figure supplement 2

Figure 2-figure supplement 2. Measurement of extracellular viral RNA and validation of HAV

host factors using a lower-passage HAV HM175 strain. (A) Quantification of extracellular viral

RNA in supernatant of cells 3 dpi using HM175/18f HAV. RNA was extracted from supernatant,

measured by RT-qPCR and compared to a standard curve of in vitro transcribed viral RNA to

determine genome copies. Dataset represents means ± s.e.m. (n=2 biological replicates). **(B)**

Quantification of HAV RNA in WT or clonal KO cell lines by RT-qPCR using a lower passage HAV

strain. Viral RNA was normalized to 18S RNA and results are displayed relative to infection in WT

cells. Dataset represents means ± s.e.m. (n=3 biological replicates).

P values were determined by one-way Anova with uncorrected Fisher's Least Significant

Difference test using GraphPad Prism 8. *, $p < 0.05$; **, $p < 0.01$; ***, $p < 0.001$; ****< 0.0001.

Figure 2 - figure supplement 3

359   **Figure 2-figure supplement 3. Viral attachment and entry assay.** Quantification of HAV RNA in

360   WT, *HAVCR1* KO and *SLC35A1* KO cells by RT-qPCR after cells were infected on ice, incubated at

361   37C, and washed before harvest at indicated times. Viral RNA was normalized to 18S RNA and

362   results are displayed relative to infection in WT cells. Datasets represent means ± s.e.m. (n=3

363   biological replicates).

Figure 3

Figure 3. HAV depends on functional UFM1 conjugation of the ribosomal protein RPL26 for

optimal translation. **(A)** Schematic of cellular UFMylation pathway. (#) indicates rank of gene in

the RIGER analysis of CRISPR screen. **(B)** UFM1 immunoblot of WT, *UFSP2* KO, *UBA5* KO, *UFM1*

KO and *UFM1* KO cells complemented with WT, Gly83Ala or ΔC3 UFM1 as well as *UBA5* KO cells

complemented with WT or catalytically inactive UBA5. Upper bands represent UFM1 conjugation

products and bottom band represents free UFM1. P84 was used as loading control. **(C)**

Quantification of HAV RNA in WT, *UFSP2* KO, *UBA5* KO, *UFM1* KO and *UFM1* KO cells

complemented with WT, Gly83Ala or ΔC3 UFM1. Viral RNA was normalized to 18S RNA and

results are displayed relative to infection in WT cells. **(D)** Timecourse of luciferase activity

expressed by electroporated HAV-FLuc subgenomic replicon RNA in WT, *UBA5* KO and *UFSP2* KO

cells. **(E)** Timecourse of luciferase activity expressed by electroporated HAV-FLuc replication-

incompetent replicon RNA in WT, *UBA5* KO and *UFSP2* KO cells. **(F)** Immunoblots of uninfected

and HAV infected WT, *UBA5* KO, *UFM1* KO and *UFSP2* KO cells. Membranes were stained with

anti-UFM1, anti-HAV VP1 or anti-RPL26 antibodies. Anti-Vinculin served as loading control. **(G)**

FLAG immunoblot of WT, *UFM1* KO and *UFSP2* KO cells transduced with lentivirus expressing

FLAG-tagged WT RPL26 or 5KR RPL26. Vinculin served as loading control. **(H)** Quantification of

HAV RNA in WT, *UFM1* KO and *UFSP2* KO cells transduced with lentivirus expressing FLAG-tagged

WT RPL26 or RPL26 containing five lysine to arginine (5KR) mutations in the UFM1 acceptor site.

Viral RNA was normalized to 18S RNA and results are displayed relative to infection in WT cells

expressing WT RPL26.

For all RT-qPCR experiments, datasets represent means ± s.e.m. (n=3 biological replicates). For

luciferase experiments, datasets represent means ± s.d. (n=2 biological replicates) for each

timepoint. P values were determined by unpaired two-sided t-tests using GraphPad Prism 8. ns,

non-significant; *, $p<0.05$; **, $p<0.01$; ***, $p<0.001$; ****<0.0001.

Figure 3 - figure supplement 1

Figure 3-figure supplement 1. HAV depends on catalytically active UBA5. (A) FLAG immunoblot

of lysates from *UBA5* KO cells transduced with FLAG-tagged WT or catalytically inactive (CAT)

UBA5. P84 was used as loading control. **(B)** Quantification of HAV RNA in WT, *UBA5* KO and *UBA5*

KO complemented with WT or CAT UBA5 3 dpi by RT-qPCR. Viral RNA was normalized to 18S RNA

and results are displayed relative to infection in WT cells. Datasets represent means ± s.e.m. (n=3

biological replicates). P values were determined by unpaired two-sided t-tests using GraphPad

Prism 8. ns, non-significant; *, $p<0.05$.

Figure 3 - figure supplement 2

Figure 3-figure supplement 2. HAV translation is impaired in UFMylation deficient cells. (A)

Timecourse of luciferase activity expressed by electroporated HAV-FLuc subgenomic replicon

RNA in WT, *UBA5* KO and *UFM1* KO cells. Datasets represent means ± s.d. (n=2 biological

replicates) for each timepoint. **(B)** Timecourse of luciferase activity expressed by electroporated

HAV-FLuc replication-incompetent replicon RNA in WT, *UBA5* KO and *UFM1* KO cells. Datasets

represent means ± s.d. (n=2 biological replicates) for each timepoint. **(C)** Cell Titer Glo assay to

measure cell viability of electroporated WT, *UBA5* KO and *UFSP2* KO cells 24h post-

electroporation. Datasets represent means ± s.d. (n=2 biological replicates).

Figure 3 - figure supplement 3

Figure 3-figure supplement 3. UFM1 conjugation to C-terminal lysines of RPL26 is required for

optimal HAV infection. (A) Reference and Sanger sequence of lentiviral construct expressing

RPL26 with five lysine to arginine point mutations at C-terminus (5KR). (B) Quantification of HAV

RNA in U2OS dCas9-KRAB cells expressing WT RPL26 or 5KR RPL26 as well as a control (non-

targeting) or RPL26 targeting gRNA. Viral RNA was normalized to 18S RNA and results are

displayed relative to infection in cells expressing WT RPL26 and the control gRNA. (C)

Quantification of HAV and RV-A2 RNA in WT cells transduced with lentivirus expressing FLAG-

tagged WT RPL26 or 5KR RPL26. Viral RNA was normalized to 18S RNA and results are displayed

relative to infection in WT cells expressing WT RPL26.

419   Dataset represents means ± s.e.m. (n=3 biological replicates). P values were determined by

420   unpaired two-sided t-tests using GraphPad Prism 8. ns, non-significant; *, p<0.05; **, p<0.01;

421   ***, p<0.001; ****<0.0001.

Figure 4

Figure 4. TRAMP-like complex is important for HAV translation independent of viral poly(A) tail

length or RNA stability. (A) Timecourse of luciferase activity expressed by electroporated HAV-

FLuc subgenomic replicon RNA in WT, DKO and *ZCCHC14* KO cells. Datasets represent means ±

s.d. (n=2 biological replicates) for each timepoint. **(B)** HAV poly(A) tail length assay. Total RNA

from infected WT or DKO cells was G/I tailed at 3'ends, reverse transcribed and PCR amplified by

i) HAV genome-specific (GS) forward and GS reverse primer, ii) GS forward and G/I reverse primer

and iii) forward primer upstream of HAV poly(A) start site and G/I reverse primer. PCR products

were analyzed by polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis. **(C)** Length distribution of sequenced HAV

poly(A) tails. An RNA linker was ligated to 3'ends of rRNA-depleted RNA from infected WT or DKO

cells followed by reverse transcription and PCR amplification of the HAV poly(A) tail region. PCR

products were TOPO cloned and Sanger sequenced. **(D)** Analysis of nucleotide composition of

sequenced HAV poly(A) tails from (C). **(E)** Quantification of HAV RNA in WT, DKO and *ZCCHC14*

KO cells by RT-qPCR after cells were infected on ice and incubated at 37C for 1h. Subsequently

cells were washed 3 times and bound virus stripped away by trypsinization to prevent any further

viral uptake. Finally, cells were harvested at indicated times. Viral RNA was normalized to 18S

RNA. Datasets represent means ± s.e.m. (n=3 biological replicates). **(F)** Ethynyl uridine (EU) pulse-

chase experiment to measure viral RNA decay. WT and partially permissive *PAPD7* KO cells were

infected for 64h to allow sufficient viral RNA accumulation. EU was added for 16h. Additionally,

the PAPD5/7 inhibitor RG7834 was added to *PAPD7* KO to block remaining PAPD5 activity. At

t=0h EU was removed and total RNA was harvested at indicated timepoints. EU labeled RNA was

isolated by biotin click chemistry and quantified using RT-qPCR. Viral EU RNA was normalized to

18S RNA. Datasets represent means ± s.e.m. (n=2 biological replicates). Percentages indicate RNA

levels relative to respective t=0h levels in WT and *PAPD7* KO cells. **(G)** Timecourse of luciferase

activity expressed by electroporated HAV-FLuc replication-incompetent replicon RNA in WT, DKO

cells and *ZCCHC14* KO. Datasets represent means ± s.d. (n=2 biological replicates) for each

timepoint.

Figure 4-figure supplement 1. Catalytic activities of PAPD5 and PAPD7 are required for HAV

infection. (A) Quantification of HAV RNA in WT, *PAPD5* KO and *PAPD5* KO cells complemented

with either WT or catalytically inactive (CAT) PAPD5 3 dpi by RT-qPCR. Viral RNA was normalized

to 18S RNA and results are displayed relative to infection in WT cells. Datasets represent means

± s.e.m. (n=3 biological replicates). **(B)** Quantification of HAV RNA in DKO cells transfected with

GFP cDNA, PAPD5 WT or CAT cDNA, or PAPD7 WT or CAT cDNA 3 dpi by RT-qPCR. Viral RNA was

normalized to 18S RNA and results are displayed relative to infection in WT cells transfected with

GFP cDNA. Datasets represent means ± s.e.m. (n=3 biological replicates). **(C)** Quantification of

HAV RNA in WT or DKO cells transfected with GFP cDNA or co-transfected with both PAPD5 and

PAPD7 WT cDNAs. Datasets represent means ± s.e.m. (n=3 biological replicates).

P values were determined by unpaired two-sided t-tests using GraphPad Prism 8. ns, non-

significant; *, p<0.05; **, p<0.01; ***, p<0.001.

Figure 4 - figure supplement 2

A

B

C

D

E

F

4h post-electroporation

8h post-electroporation

24h post-electroporation

Figure 4-figure supplement 2. TRAMP-like complex supports HAV translation independent of

viral RNA stabilization. (A) Electrophoretic analysis of poly(A) tail region of HAV from infected

WT, DKO and *ZCCHC14* KO cells at 72hpi. Total RNA was G/I tailed at 3'ends, reverse transcribed

and PCR amplified by forward primer ~300bp upstream of HAV poly(A) start site and G/I reverse

primer. **(B)** Polyacrylamide gel analysis of amplified HBV poly(A) tail region from infected WT or

ZCCHC14 KO HepG2-NTCP cells as well as of amplified HAV poly(A) tail region from infected WT,

DKO and *ZCCHC14* KO Huh7.5.1 cells. Arrow indicates a longer HBV poly(A) tail in WT cells. **(C)**

Quantification of HBV RNA in WT and *ZCCHC14* KO HepG2-NTCP cells 14dpi. Viral RNA was

normalized to 18S RNA and results are displayed relative to infection in WT cells. Datasets

represent means ± s.e.m. (n=3 biological replicates). **(D)** Timecourse of luciferase activity

expressed by electroporated HAV-FLuc replication-incompetent replicon RNA in WT cells, left

untreated or treated with RG7834 post-electroporation. Datasets represent means ± s.d. (n=2

biological replicates) for each timepoint. **(E)** Timecourse of luciferase activity expressed by

electroporated firefly mRNA in WT and DKO cells. Datasets represent the means ± s.d. (n=2

biological replicates). **(F)** Electrophoretic analysis of poly(A) tail region of electroporated HAV

replicon RNA in WT and DKO cells at 4, 8 and 24h post-electroporation. Total RNA from

electroporated cells was G/I tailed at 3'ends, reverse transcribed and PCR amplified by forward

primer near HAV poly(A) start site and G/I reverse primer. Expected product size for full-length

in-vitro transcribed (IVT) RNA is 124bp (containing a 40bp poly(A) tail).

P values were determined by unpaired two-sided t-tests using GraphPad Prism 8. ****, p<0.0001.

Figure 5

Figure 5. Small molecule inhibition of PAPD5 and PAPD7 reduces HAV infection in human hepatocyte cells and human liver organoids. (A) Chemical structure of RG7834. (B) Dose-response curve of HAV RNA levels in Huh7.5.1 cells treated with different RG7834 concentrations as measured by RT-qPCR 3 days post-infection/treatment. Non-linear curve was fitted with least squares regression using GraphPad Prism 8 and EC_{50} was determined. (C) Quantification of HAV RNA in control and RG7834 (100 nM) treated Huh7.5.1 cells 3 dpi by RT-qPCR. (D) Quantification of HBV total RNA in control and RG7834 (100 nM) treated HepG2-NTCP cells 15 dpi by RT-qPCR. Drug was replenished every 3-4 days. (E) Quantification of HCV RNA in control and RG7834 (100 nM) treated Huh7.5.1 cells 3 dpi by RT-qPCR. (F) Quantification of HEV RNA in control and RG7834 (100 nM) treated Huh7.5.1 cells by RT-qPCR 6 days post-transfection of viral RNA. (G) Quantification of HAV RNA in control and RG7834 (100 nM) treated human liver organoids 7 dpi by RT-qPCR. Organoids were either stem-like or differentiated to adult hepatocytes prior to infection.

For all RT-qPCR experiments, viral RNA was normalized to 18S RNA and results are displayed

relative to infection in control (DMSO) condition. Datasets in (**B-F**) represent means ± s.e.m. (n=3

biological replicates). For organoid experiments (**G**) donor 1 and 2 represent 2 independent

biological replicates and qPCR was performed with 2 technical replicates. P values were

determined by unpaired two-sided t-tests using GraphPad Prism 8. ns, non-significant; *, $p<0.05$;

**, $p<0.01$; ***, $p<0.001$.

Figure 5-figure supplement 1. Small molecule inhibition of PAPD5 and PAPD7 reduces HAV infection in human hepatocyte cells and human liver organoids. (A) Cell viability assay of Huh7.5.1 cells treated with different concentrations of RG7834 for 3 days. Dataset represents means ± s.d. (n=3 biological replicates) for each time point and values are relative to DMSO treated control. **(B)** Quantification of HAV RNA in WT, *PAPD5* KO, *PAPD7* KO or DKO cells untreated or treated with 100 nM RG7834 3 dpi by RT-qPCR. **(C)** Quantification of HAV and HCV RNA 3 dpi, and of HEV RNA 5 days post viral RNA transfection in WT or DKO cells using RT-qPCR. **(D)** Quantification of HAV RNA in human liver organoids treated with no, 100 nM or 500 nM RG7834 by RT-qPCR.

For RT-qPCR experiments, viral RNA was normalized to 18S RNA and results are displayed relative to infection in (untreated) WT cells. Datasets represent means ± s.e.m. (n=3 biological replicates). P values were determined by unpaired two-sided t-tests using GraphPad Prism 8. ns, non-significant; *, p<0.05; **, p<0.01; ***, p<0.001; ****<0.0001.

Methods

<u>Cell lines, viruses and reagents</u>

Huh7.5.1 (gift from Frank Chisari), HEK293FT (Thermo Scientific) and U2OS cells (gift from Ron

Kopito) were cultured in DMEM (Gibco) supplemented with 10% fetal bovine serum (FBS, Omega

Scientific), penicillin/streptomycin (Gibco), non-essential amino acids (Gibco) and L-glutamine

(Gibco) at 37C and 5% CO_2. HepG2-NTCP-K7 cells (Ko et al., 2018) (gift from Ulrike Protzer) and

HepAD38 cells (Ladner et al., 1997) (gift from Christoph Seeger) were cultured in DMEM/F12

(Gibco) supplemented with 10% FBS, penicillin/streptomycin, non-essential amino acids, L-

glutamine and sodium pyruvate (Gibco) at 37C and 5% CO_2. Cell lines were tested negative for

mycoplasma and were authenticated by STR profiling. Hepatitis A virus HM175/18f (NR-137) was

obtained through BEI Resources (NIAID, NIH) and HM175/clone 1 (VR-1541) through ATCC. HAV

strains were propagated in Huh7.5.1 cells grown in adeno expression media (Gibco)

supplemented with penicillin/streptomycin, non-essential amino acids and L-glutamine,

supernatant was collected 5-12 dpi and filtered (0.45 micron). To generate concentrated HAV

stocks, supernatant was incubated with 8% PEG-8000 at 4C overnight, centrifuged at 3,200g for

60min and pellet was resuspended in a small volume of DMEM with 10% FBS and aliquoted. For

the generation of HAV-Nluc (gift from Stanley Lemon) (Rivera-Serrano et al., 2019), the infectious

clone plasmid was linearized, RNA was *in-vitro* transcribed using MEGAscript T7 Transcription Kit

(Invitrogen) and transfected into Huh7.5.1 cells using TransIT-LT1 Transfection Reagent (Mirus

Bio). Subsequently, cell supernatant was collected 8-13dpi, filtered and aliquoted. Purified

encephalomyocarditis virus (NR-46441) was obtained through BEI Resources (NIAID, NIH).

Enterovirus 71 (MP4), rhinovirus A2 and HCV JFH1 stocks were kindly provided by Jan Carette.

For HBV production, supernatant was collected from HepAD38 cells, filtered (0.45 micron), and

concentrated using 8% PEG-8000 as described above. The HEV infectious clone (genotype 3) was

obtained from the NIH/NIAID and viral RNA was generated by *in-vitro* transcription from

linearized plasmid (Shukla et al., 2012). For virus stocks, titers were determined by plaque- or

focus-forming assay. RG7834 was purchased from MedKoo Biosciences and resuspended in

DMSO at 50mg/ml. Puromycin and blasticidin were obtained from Gibco.

<u>CRISPR host factor screen</u>

Huh7.5.1 cells were stably transduced with lentivirus from lentiCas9-Blast (Addgene #52962, gift

from Feng Zhang) and subsequently selected using blasticidin. Next, a total of 300 million

Huh7.5.1-Cas9 cells were then separately transduced with the lentiviral gRNA sublibraries A and

B of the human GeCKO v2 library (Addgene #1000000049, gift from Feng Zhang) at a multiplicity

of infection (MOI) of 0.3. Each sublibrary contained 3 guides per gene. Subsequently, the cells

were selected using puromycin and expanded for 10 days. A total of 60 million mutagenized cells

for each sublibrary (A and B) were collected for genomic DNA extraction, and a total of 45 million

mutagenized cells for each sublibrary were infected with 15ml of unconcentrated HAV

HM175/18f per T175 flask (1:1 diluted with fresh DMEM media). An additional 15ml of media

was added after 2h. Media was refreshed 4 and 8dpi and surviving cells were collected 12dpi for

genomic DNA extraction using QIAamp DNA Blood Maxi Kit (Qiagen). gRNA encoding DNA

sequences were amplified in a two-step nested PCR using KAPA HiFi HotStart ReadyMixPCR Kit

(Kapa Biosystems) and sequenced on an Illumina NextSeq (High Output) (for primer sequences,

see Supplementary Table 4). For analysis, reads were aligned to gRNA reference table and

enrichment of each gRNA was calculated by comparing the relative abundance in the selected

and unselected cell population. For screen analysis, the gRNA enrichment tables from the two

biological samples were merged to increase statistical power and RIGER analysis (using weighted

sum) as well as MaGeCK were performed to calculate gene significance (Li et al., 2014; Luo et al.,

2008). Gene ontology analysis of enriched genes in target list (containing 72 genes with RIGER p-

value < 0.001) was performed using GOrilla (Eden et al., 2009). No secondary validation screen

was performed.

<u>Generation of clonal KO cell lines</u>

Oligos containing gRNA sequence were annealed and ligated into pX458 (Addgene #48138, gift

from Feng Zhang). Cells were transfected with pX458 constructs using Lipofectamine 3000

(Invitrogen) and two days later GFP positive cells were single-cell sorted into 96-well plates using

a Sony SH800 cell sorter. For genotyping, genomic DNA was isolated from obtained clones using

QuickExtract (Lucigen), the gRNA-targeted sites PCR amplified and the products Sanger-

sequenced. Obtained sequences were compared to reference sequences for indel mutations or

large deletion. A list of all used gRNA oligo and genotyping primer sequences can be found in

Supplementary Table 4.

<u>Intracellular RNA RT-qPCR assays</u>

Cells were plated in 96-well plates (in triplicates for each condition) and infected the next day

with virus at the following MOIs: HAV (~5-10 FFU/cell), RV-A2 (~1 PFU/cell), EV-71 (~0.2 PFU/cell),

EMCV (~0.2 PFU/cell), HCV (~1 FFU/cell) and HBV (~1 FFU/cell). Cells were harvested, lysates

reverse transcribed and quantitative PCR performed on a Bio-Rad CFX96 Touch system using the

Power SYBR Cells-to-CT kit (Invitrogen). All viral RNA levels were normalized to 18S levels. Primer

sequences can be found in Supplementary file 1.

Quantification of extracellular viral RNA

Cells were plated in 96-well plates (duplicates for each condition) and infected with HAV at an

MOI of 5. After 4h, inoculum was removed and cells were washed with PBS. At 3 dpi 100µl of

supernatant was collected and RNA was isolated using the Qiagen Viral RNA Mini kit. Eluted RNA

was reversed transcribed and analyzed by qPCR as described above. For determination of

genome copies in-vitro transcribed HAV RNA was serially diluted and also quantified by RT-qPCR.

Viral attachment and entry assay

96-well plates containing WT, *SLC35A1* KO or *HAVCR1* KO Huh7.5.1 cells were chilled on ice

before infection with HAV HM175/18f at an MOI of 500 FFU/cell. Cells were incubated for 1h on

ice before moving them to a 37C incubator. At each harvest timepoint, cells were washed three

times with PBS and processed for RT-qPCR as described above.

HAV nanoluciferase reporter assay

Cells were plated in 96-well plates and infected the next day with equal amounts of HAV-Nluc.

Lysates were harvested by washing once with PBS wash followed by addition of 22µl of Passive

Lysis Buffer (Promega) under shaking for 15min. For luminescence readout, 15µl of lysate were

mixed with 50µl of Nano-Glo assay buffer (Promega) in a flat bottom white-walled luminescence

plate, incubated for 5min at room temperature and read on an EnVision plate reader

(PerkinElmer).

<u>Complementation of KO cells with cDNA</u>

UBA5 cDNA was obtained from Dharmacon (DNA Accession: BC009737, Clone ID: 3879061). To

generate cDNA encoding catalytically inactive enzyme, a Cys250Arg mutation was introduced by

PCR. Additionally, a C-terminal FLAG-tag was added to WT and CAT cDNA sequences. UFM1 was

obtained from Dharmacon (cDNA Accession: BC005193, Clone ID: 3829206). N-terminal FLAG and

C-terminal mutations (Gly83Ala or ΔC3 (deletion of GlySerCys)) were introduced by PCR. For

RPL26, cDNA was obtained from OriGene (RC209922) and a C-terminal FLAG-tag was added. To

introduce 5KR mutations, a reverse primer containing point 5 mutations was used. ZCCHC14

cDNA was obtained from Dharmacon (cDNA Accession: BC101478, Clone ID: 8068984). The N-

terminus was extended using a Gblock (Integrated DNA Technologies) resembling the protein

coding sequence for a longer isoform (1086 amino acids, ENST00000671377.1) to match the

molecular weight of ZCCHC14 detected in WT Huh7.5.1 by immunoblot. PCR products were gel-

purified and cloned into EcoRV-cut pLenti CMV Puro DEST (w118-1) (Addgene #17452, gift from

Eric Campeau & Paul Kaufman) using NEBuilder HiFi DNA Assembly Master Mix (New England

BioLabs). Lentivirus was produced in HEK293FT and collected 48h post-transfection. KO cells

were transduced with filtered, lentiviral containing supernatant under addition of polybrene and

selected using 4 µg/ml puromycin for 3-4 days. For PAPD5 and PAPD7, pCI3 plasmids with WT or

catalytic mutant cDNA sequences were kindly provided by V. Narry Kim and were described

previously (Lim et al., 2018). For transient complementation, plasmids were transfected into WT

or DKO cells using TransIT-LT1 Transfection Reagent (Mirus Bio), and transfected cells were

plated in 96-wells the next day for HAV infection. To generate stable cell lines, cDNA sequences

were cloned into the PB-CMV-MCS-EF1α-Puro vector (PB510B-1, SBI System Biosciences) where

the CMV promoter was replaced by a PGK promoter. Plasmids were co-transfected together with

a plasmid expressing piggyBac transposase into *PAPD5* KO cells, which were subsequently

selected with puromycin for 5 days starting 3 days post-transfection. All primer sequences can

be found in Supplementary file 1.

<u>Immunoblotting</u>

Cell were lysed using Laemmli SDS sample buffer containing 5% beta-mercaptoethanol and boiled

for 10min. Lysates were separated by SDS-PAGE on pre-cast Bio-Rad 4-15% poly-acrylamide gels

in Bio-Rad Mini-Protean electrophoresis system. Proteins were transferred onto PVDF

membranes using Bio-Rad Trans-Blot Turbo transfer system. PVDF membranes were blocked

with PBS buffer containing 0.1% Tween-20 and 5% non-fat milk. Blocked membranes were

incubated with primary antibody diluted in blocking buffer and incubated overnight at 4C on a

shaker. Primary antibodies were detected by incubating membranes with 1:4000 dilution of HRP-

conjugated (Southern Biotech) or 1:5000 dilution of IRDye-conjugated (LI-COR) secondary anti-

mouse and anti-rabbit antibodies for 1 h at room temperature. Blots were visualized using a

ChemiDoc MP Imaging System (Bio-Rad). The following primary antibodies (and their dilutions)

were used in this study: p84 (Genetex, GTX70220) at 1:1000, GAPDH (SCBT, sc-32233) at 1:1000,

vinculin (SCBT, sc-73614), 1:1000, eIF4B (SCBT, sc-376062) at 1:250, VPS4A (SCBT, sc-393428) at

1:300, SLC35A1 (Proteintech, 16342-1-AP) at 1:250, HAV VP1 (LS Bio, LS-C137674-100) at 1:1000,

FLAG M2 (Sigma, F1804) at 1:1000, UFM1 (Abcam, ab109305) at 1:1000, UBA5 (Bethyl, A304-

115A) at 1:2500, UFSP2 (SCBT, sc-376084) at 1:100, RPL26 (Bethyl, A300-686A) at 1:1000, PAPD5

(Atlas Antibodies, HPA042968) at 1:1000 and ZCCHC14 (Bethyl, A303-096A) at 1:1000. For

SLC35A1, lysates from 10^6 cells were immunoprecipitated using 4 µg anti-SLC35A1 antibody and

Protein G magnetic Dynabeads (Thermo Scientific, 10-003-D) overnight at 4C prior to

immunoblotting to enhance signal and specificity of signal.

<u>Replicon assay</u>

The replicon plasmids pLuc-HAV/18f and pLuc-HAV/18f-3D^{pol}GDD$\rightarrow$GAA (replication-defective

mutant) were kindly provided by Stanley Lemon and were described previously (González-López

et al., 2018). Plasmids were linearized using MluI-HF (New England BioLabs), RNA was generated

using the MEGAscript T7 Kit (Invitrogen) and subsequently purified by lithium chloride

precipitation. For electroporation, 1-2 million cells were washed three times in PBS, resuspended

in 100µl SF Nucleofector solution (Lonza), mixed with 250ng replicon RNA per 80k cells,

transferred to a 100 µl nucleocuvette and pulsed using the program FF-137 on an Amaxa 4D-

Nucleofector X Unit (Lonza). Cells were then resuspended in equilibrated, antibiotic-free

medium, distributed into 96-wells and lysed at different timepoints post-electroporation using

40µl Passive Lysis buffer (Promega). Luminescence was measured using Luciferase Assay System

(Promega) on a white-walled luminescence plate with an EnVision plate reader (PerkinElmer).

<u>Poly(A) tail length assay by polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis</u>

Cells were infected with HAV HM175/18f (MOI=10) and harvested 3 days post-infection using

Trizol (Invitrogen). RNA was purified with Direct-zol RNA Microprep columns (Zymo Research).

HAV poly(A) tails were analyzed using the Poly(A) Tail-Length Assay Kit (Thermo Scientific)

according to the manufacturer's instructions. Briefly, 1µg total RNA per condition was used as

input for G/I tailing reaction followed by reverse transcription. Next, RT products were amplified

using different PCR primer combinations: i) HAV genome-specific (GS) forward and GS reverse

primer, ii) GS forward and G/I reverse primer and iii) forward primer upstream of HAV poly(A)

start site and G/I reverse primer. Similarly, for HBV, cDNA was amplified by either a GS primer

pair or the GS forward primer with the G/I reverse primer. PCR products were analyzed using

polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis on a 5% Mini-PROTEAN Tris/Boric Acid/EDTA (TBE) gel in TBE

buffer (100V for 60min). Gel was stained with SYBR Gold (diluted 1:10000 in TBE buffer) for

~30min in the dark and imaged on a ChemiDoc MP Imaging System (Bio-Rad).

Poly(A) tail sequencing

RNA was isolated from infected cells as described above. Ribosomal RNA (rRNA) was depleted

from 1µg total RNA by addition of rRNA Removal Mix – Gold (Illumina) followed by incubation at

68C for 5min, addition of rRNA Removal Beads (Illumina), removal of supernatant while tubes

are on a magnetic rack, and finally elution of rRNA-depleted RNA. Next, a 5′ adenylated, 3′

blocked oligodeoxynucleotide RNA linker (S1315S, New England BioLabs) was ligated to the 3'

ends of RNAs by incubation with RNA ligase 2, truncated (New England BioLabs) for 3h at 22C.

Ligation products were then reverse transcribed using a primer, which is reverse complement to

the RNA linker, and Superscript IV (Invitrogen). Finally, HAV poly(A) tails were specifically

amplified in a nested PCR, cloned into the pCRBlunt II-TOPO vector (Invitrogen) and Sanger

sequenced (Quintarabio). Number of adenosines downstream of the HAV 3'UTR region and

occurrence of non-adenosine nucleotides were counted.

Tapestation analysis of poly(A) tails of replicon RNA

10^6 cells were electroporated with *in-vitro* transcribed replicon RNA containing a 40bp long

poly(A) tail as described above. For each timepoint, cells were washed with PBS, trypsinized,

pelleted and lysed using Trizol followed by RNA extraction with Direct-zol columns. Total RNA

was G/I tailed, reverse transcribed and poly(A) tail region was amplified using forward primer

upstream of HAV poly(A) start site and G/I reverse primer. Products were analyzed using a High

Sensitivity D1000 ScreenTape System (Agilent).

EU pulse-chase assay

WT or *PAPD7* KO cells were plated in 12-well plates and infected with HAV. After 48h media was

changed to DMEM containing 100 µM 5-ethynyl uridine (EU) and cultured for 16h to label all

nascent RNAs. Additionally, 1 µM RG7834 was added to *PAPD7* KO cells to mimic the DKO

phenotype. At t=0h of the chase, EU containing media was replaced to DMEM without EU but

still containing RG7834 in the *PAPD7* KO wells. At each timepoint cells were harvested in Trizol

and total RNA was extracted. To capture EU labeled RNA, the Click-iT® Nascent RNA Capture Kit

(Thermo Scientific, C10365) was used. Briefly, 1.5 µg input RNA was used for the click-based

biotinylation. Next, RNA was precipitated and resuspended in 35 µl. 20 µl of biotinylated RNA

were added to 16 µl of Dynabeads® MyOneTM Streptavidin T1 and incubated for 1h. After

washes, beads were resuspended in 16 µl wash buffer and used as template for reverse

transcription. Finally, Dynabeads were removed from resulting cDNA and qPCR was performed.

<u>Cell viability assay</u>

Huh7.5.1 cells were treated with different concentrations of RG7834 for 3 days and viability was

measured using Cell Titer Glo (Promega) according to the manufacturer's instructions.

<u>Culture and HAV infection of human liver organoids</u>

Bi-potent stem cell organoids were generated as previously described (Broutier et al., 2016; Huch

et al., 2015). Briefly, liver tissue samples from healthy resection margins of partial hepatectomies

were obtained through the Ibrahim El-Hefni Liver Biorepository at the California Pacific Medical

Center Research Institute. Following tissue digest, the heterogeneous mixture of single cells was

suspended in reduced growth factor BME2 (Basement Membrane Extract, Type 2, Trevigen).

From this mixture, 50 µL drops containing 1,000 to 20,000 cells were seeded in 24-well

suspension culture plates (GreinerBio). Drops were incubated at 37C for >20 min and solidified.

After this, 500 µL of expansion media (EM) was added to each well. Expansion media is basal

media (Advanced DMEM/F12 with 1% penicillin/streptomycin, 1% Glutamax, and 10 mM HEPES

(all from ThermoFisher) supplemented with 1% N2 (Gibco), 1% B27 (Gibco), 1 mM N-

Acetylcysteine (Sigma-Aldrich), 10 nM [Leu^{15}]-gastrin I human (Sigma-Aldrich), 10% (vol/vol) R-

spondin1 conditioned media (generated as described in (Broutier et al., 2016)), and 10 mM

Nicotinamide (Sigma-Aldrich). Expansion media additionally contains 50 ng/ml recombinant

human EGF, 25 ng/ml recombinant human HGF, 100 ng/ml recombinant human FGF10, 10 µM

Forskolin, and 5 µM A83-01 (all from Stem Cell Technologies). Expansion media was replaced

every 3-4 days. Organoids in expansion media grew in culture for 4-6 months and needed to be

routinely passaged with TRYPLE (Gibco). To induce differentiation to a hepatocyte-like fate,

expansion media was supplemented with 25 ng/ml BMP7 (ProSpec) for 3-4 days. After this, media

was changed to differentiation media (DM). Differentiation media is basal media supplemented

with 1% N2, 1% B27, 1 mM N-acetylcysteine, 10 nM [Leu^{15}]-gastrin I human, 50 ng/ml EGF, 25

ng/ml HGF, 0.5 µM A83-01, 25 ng/ml BMP7, 3 µM dexamethasone (Sigma-Aldrich), 10 µM DAPT

(Stem Cell Technologies), and 100 ng/ml recombinant human FGF19 (ProSpec). Differentiation

media was changed every 3-4 days for a period of 3-15 days. For HAV infection, organoid lines

from two non-viral donors were spin-infected with the HM175/18f strain of HAV as follows.

Organoids from EM and DM d3 conditions were collected and lightly dissociated by a 3 min

incubation at 37°C with TRYPLE. Cells were then suspended in basal media containing 10 µM Y-

27632 (Stem Cell Technologies) and counted. These cells were mixed with HAV at an MOI of 500

FFU/cell in the presence and absence of RG7834 at 100 or 500 nM. Cell suspensions were then

added to a 24-well suspension culture plate. The plate was centrifuged at 600 x g for 1 h at room

temperature, followed by a 2 h incubation at 37C. After this, cells were collected and washed 3x

in basal media. Washed cells were seeded in fresh BME2 drops in a new 24-well suspension

culture plate. At 7 days post-infection, infected organoid samples were washed 2x in cold basal

media, and cell pellets were lysed in Trizol.

Generation of phylogenetic tree

Whole viral genome sequences for HAV (KP879216), HCV (EU363761), EV-D68 (KU509997), EV-

71 (AB204853), RV-A2 (MN228695), RV-C15 (MG881840) and EMCV (KP892662) were aligned

using the Geneious Prime Tree Builder based on the Tamura-Nei genetic distance model.

Statistical analysis

Prism 8 (GraphPad Software) was used for statistical analysis. Statistical tests and p-value

definitions are listed in the figure legends.

Supplementary files

Supplementary file 1: Oligo sequences.

Data availability

Raw sequencing data for CRISPR KO screen is deposited at the EMBL-EBI ArrayExpress

(https://www.ebi.ac.uk/arrayexpress/) under the accession number E-MTAB-8646.

Author contributions

JK and ASP were responsible for design and execution of experiments, data analysis and

manuscript preparation. RW performed comparative analysis of CRISPR screens and assisted with

molecular biology experiments. NLM conducted organoid experiments under the supervision of

MO. ASP conceptualized and supervised the study.

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