

1 **Cargo receptor-assisted endoplasmic reticulum**
2 **export of pathogenic α 1-antitrypsin polymers**

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4 **Running title: Trafficking of polymeric α 1-antitrypsin**

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19 **Abstract**

20 Circulating polymers of alpha1-antitrypsin (α 1AT) are chemo-attractant for neutrophils
21 and contribute to inflammation in pulmonary, vascular and adipose tissues. Cellular
22 factors affecting the intracellular itinerary of mutant polymerogenic α 1AT remain
23 obscure. Here, we report on an unbiased genome-wide CRISPR/Cas9 screen for
24 regulators of trafficking of the polymerogenic α 1AT^{H334D} variant. Single guide RNAs
25 targeting genes whose inactivation enhanced accumulation of polymeric α 1AT were
26 enriched by iterative construction of CRISPR libraries based on genomic DNA from
27 fixed cells selected for high polymer content by fluorescence-activated cell sorting.
28 This approach bypassed the limitation to conventional enrichment schemes imposed
29 by cell fixation and identified 121 genes involved in polymer retention at false
30 discovery rate < 0.1. From that set of genes, the pathway 'cargo loading into COPII-
31 coated vesicles' was overrepresented with 16 significant genes, including two
32 transmembrane cargo receptors, LMAN1 (ERGIC-53) and SURF4. *LMAN1* and
33 *SURF4*-disrupted cells displayed a secretion defect extended beyond α 1AT
34 monomers to polymers, whose low-level secretion was especially dependent on
35 SURF4 and correlated with SURF4- α 1AT^{H334D} physical interaction and with enhanced
36 co-localisation of polymeric α 1AT^{H334D} with the endoplasmic reticulum (ER). These
37 findings suggest that ER cargo receptors co-ordinate intracellular progression of
38 α 1AT out of the ER and modulate the accumulation of polymeric α 1AT not only by
39 controlling the concentration of precursor monomers but also through a previously-
40 unrecognised role in secretion of the polymers themselves.

41 (223 words)

42

43 **Keywords:**

44 Alpha1-antitrypsin; SURF4; LMAN1 (ERGIC-53); cargo receptors; polymer trafficking;
45 endoplasmic reticulum; genome-wide CRISPR/Cas9 screen; CHO cells.

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50 Introduction

51 Alpha1-Antitrypsin (α 1AT) (*SERPINA1*) is a glycoprotein synthesised primarily in
52 hepatocytes and secreted as a monomer into blood to constitute the most abundant
53 SERine Protease INhibitor (SERPIN) in circulation. Its main function is to inhibit
54 neutrophil elastase in lungs defending against excessive tissue degradation by the
55 endogenous protease-enzyme activity ([Carrell and Lomas, 2002](#)).

56 Missense variants in *SERPINA1*, including the most-common Z variant (E342K),
57 perturb the stability and conformation of α 1AT monomers, resulting in their
58 intracellular retention and formation of ordered and pathogenic polymers that
59 accumulate within the lumen of the endoplasmic reticulum (ER) of hepatocytes.
60 Intracellular retention is the basis of plasma α 1AT deficiency underlying early-onset
61 emphysema ([Gooptu et al., 2014](#)). Accumulation of polymers within liver cells is also
62 associated with a toxic gain-of-function that predisposes to neonatal hepatitis and
63 hepatocellular carcinoma ([Eriksson et al., 1986](#)). Interestingly, only 10-15% of
64 patients develop severe liver pathology, suggesting variation in the handling of
65 intracellular polymers ([Wu et al., 1994](#)).

66 Whilst α 1AT polymers are most abundant intracellularly, polymers have also been
67 identified in circulation ([Tan et al., 2014](#)) and in tissues; in the skin and kidney of
68 α 1AT-deficient patients with panniculitis ([Gross et al., 2009](#)) or vasculitis ([Morris et al.,](#)
69 [2011](#)) and in bronchoalveolar lavage fluid of patients with lung disease ([Morrison et](#)
70 [al., 1987](#)). *In vitro* ([Mulgrew et al., 2004](#)) and *in vivo* studies ([Mahadeva et al., 2005](#))
71 implicate extracellular polymers as chemo-attractants for human neutrophils that
72 could contribute to inflammation and lung damage and less common extra-pulmonary
73 manifestations of α 1AT deficiency ([Gooptu and Lomas, 2008](#)).

74 Despite its importance to disease development, the processing and fate of
75 intracellular polymers remain poorly understood. Both autophagy and ER-associated
76 degradation (ERAD) have been implicated in their clearance ([Kroeger et al., 2009](#)).
77 Less is known about how polymers reach the extracellular compartment. This has
78 long been thought to be the result of either polymer release from dying cells or
79 polymerisation of mutant α 1AT secreted as monomers. Recently, studies of plasma of
80 α 1AT-deficient patients before and after liver transplant ([Tan et al., 2014](#)) and cellular
81 models suggest that circulating polymers are more likely to arise from secretion of

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82 pre-formed polymers rather than polymerisation extracellularly (Fra et al., 2016).
83 Notably, levels of polymers in plasma from α 1AT-deficient patients do not increase
84 after incubation at 37°C for 3 days (Fra et al., 2016). This observation suggests that
85 plasma levels of mutant polymerogenic α 1AT (which are typically 10-15% the levels
86 found in normal individuals) are below the threshold for aggregation. However, the
87 processes underlying polymer secretion remain largely unknown.

88 Here, we performed a forward genetic screen to identify components affecting the
89 intracellular levels of a highly polymerogenic α 1AT variant, the King's mutant (H334D)
90 (Miranda et al., 2010). Our observations indicate that α 1AT polymers can be secreted
91 from the cells by the canonical secretory pathway and identify LMAN1 and SURF4 as
92 cargo receptors involved in the trafficking of monomeric and polymeric α 1AT.

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95 Results

96 *Flow cytometry-based assay to monitor intracellular α 1AT polymers*

97 To identify genes that modify intracellular levels of α 1AT polymers, we developed a
98 quantitative fluorescence-activated cell sorting (FACS)-compatible readout for the
99 abundance of intracellular polymers using the well-described α 1AT polymer-specific
100 monoclonal antibody 2C1 (Mab2C1) (Miranda et al., 2010) in a previously-
101 characterised CHO-K1 cell line (Ordonez et al., 2013). These cells express the
102 polymerogenic variant (H334D) of α 1AT, under control of a tetracycline-inducible
103 (Tet-on) promoter that enables tight regulation of α 1AT expression (Fig. S1A). A
104 derivative CHO-K1 Tet-on_ α 1AT^{H334D} clone that stably expresses Cas9 and
105 maintained parental regulation of Tet-inducible α 1AT^{H334D} expression was selected for
106 screening.

107 To favour an experimental system that could respond to genetic perturbations with an
108 increase in intracellular α 1AT^{H334D} polymers, cells were treated with a range of
109 concentrations of doxycycline in the absence or presence of BafilomycinA1, an
110 inhibitor of lysosomal activity. BafilomycinA1 enhances accumulation of α 1AT
111 polymers (Kroeger et al., 2009) and proved useful in exploring the dynamic range of
112 the assay. Doxycycline at 5-50 ng/ml was associated with low basal levels of

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113 Mab2C1-staining that increased conspicuously upon BafilomycinA1 treatment,
114 suggesting a suitable assay window for the screen (Fig. S1B).

115

116 ***A genome-wide screen identifies a set of genes affecting the intracellular*** 117 ***itinerary of polymerogenic α 1AT***

118 CHO-K1 Tet-on_ α 1AT^{H334D}_Cas9 cells were initially transduced with a genome-wide
119 CRISPR/Cas9 knockout library (Lib₀) comprising 125,030 single guide RNAs
120 (sgRNAs) (Fig. 1A). α 1AT^{H334D} expression was then induced with doxycycline
121 followed, 24 hrs later by fixation, permeabilisation and staining with the Mab2C1
122 primary antibody. Cells were FACS sorted into 3 bins based on Mab2C1-dependent
123 fluorescence intensity: 'brightest', 'medium-bright' and 'dull' (Fig. 1B).

124 Cell fixation, required to detect intracellular polymers, precluded conventional
125 enrichment schemes through successive rounds of phenotypic selection and
126 expansion of the pooled cells. To circumvent this impasse, we implemented an
127 approach based on recovery of sgRNA sequences from phenotypically-selected cell
128 populations (Fig. 1A,B). Genomic DNA from the 'brightest'-sorted cells was extracted
129 and fragments covering integrated sgRNA sequences were PCR-amplified and used
130 to generate a derivative CRISPR library (Fig. 1A, lower segment). The derivative
131 library (Lib₁), enriched in viral particles bearing phenotype-linked sgRNA sequences,
132 was transduced into parental CHO-K1 Tet-on_ α 1AT^{H334D}_Cas9 cells followed by
133 further phenotypic selection and generation of a second, enriched derivative library
134 (Lib₂, Fig. 1B). Transduction with Lib₀, Lib₁ and Lib₂ progressively increased
135 intracellular α 1AT polymers, as assessed by FACS (Fig. 1B) and ELISA (Fig. 1C).

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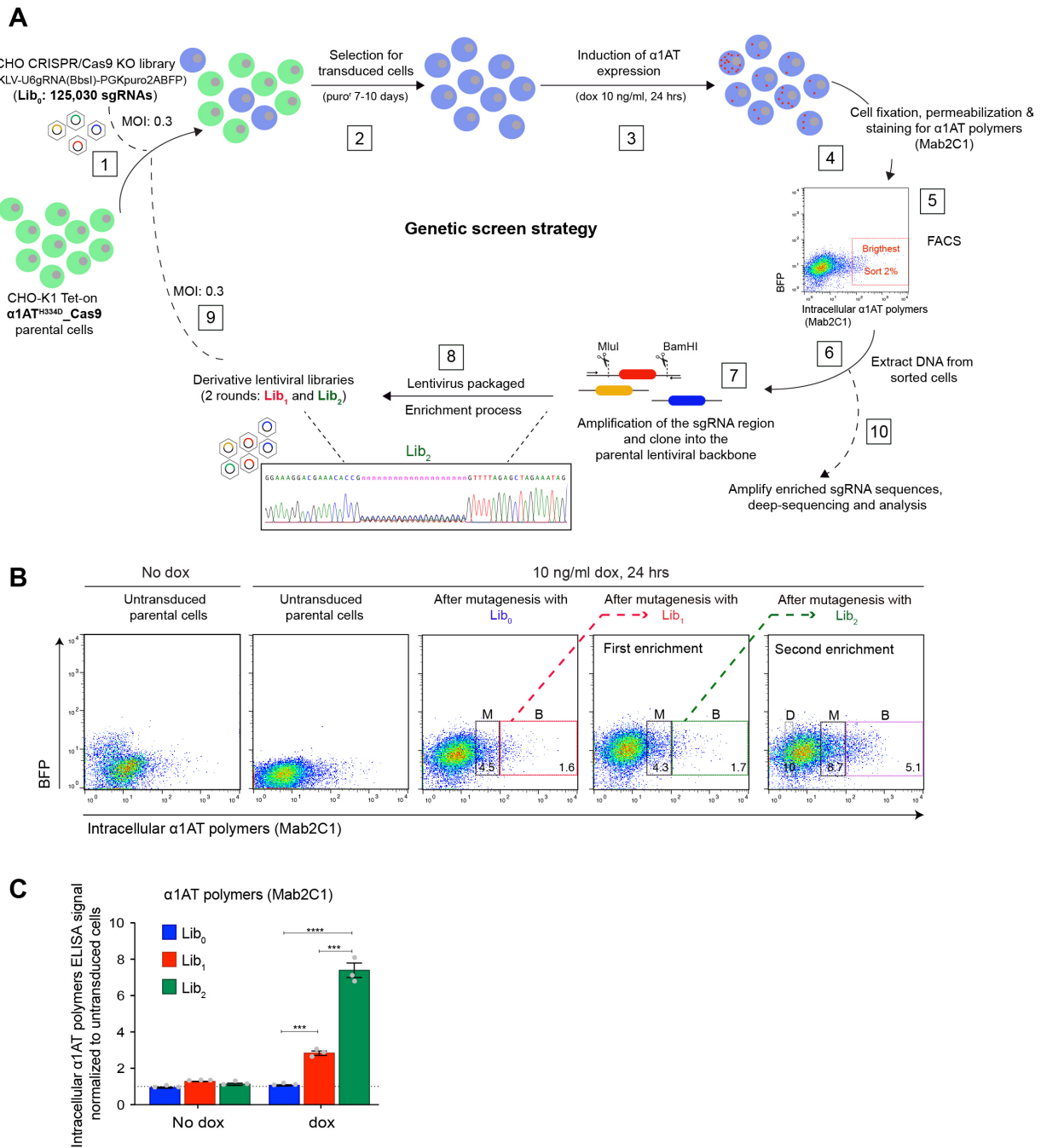


Fig. 1. CRISPR/Cas9 screen to identify modifiers of intracellular levels of $\alpha 1$ -antitrypsin polymers. (A) Workflow of a genome-wide CRISPR/Cas9 knockout (KO) screen. CHO-K1 cells expressing Cas9 and a Tet-inducible allele of $\alpha 1AT^{H334D}$ were transduced at low multiplicity of infection (MOI: 0.3) with a lentiviral library of sgRNAs targeting the whole CHO genome (Lib_0) [1]. Transduced cells were selected for presence of the puromycin resistance marker [2]. Expression of the $\alpha 1AT^{H334D}$ transgene was induced with doxycycline (dox) [3]. Cells were fixed and stained for polymeric $\alpha 1AT$ using the polymer-specific monoclonal antibody 2C1 (Mab2C1) [4] and FACS sorted based on signal intensity [5]. Genomic DNA was extracted from pools of cells with the highest level of polymer signal ('brightest') [6] and used to amplify enriched sgRNA sequences to create new lentiviral libraries (Lib_1 and Lib_2). Sanger sequencing indicates the presence of sgRNA sequence diversity in the new

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lentiviral Lib₂ [7 & 8]. The selection cycle was repeated [9] and at its conclusion [10] genomic DNA from the selected cells was prepared for high throughput sequencing and analysis of the successively enriched sgRNA sequences. **(B)** Dual-channel flow cytometry of intracellular levels of α1AT polymers (stained with Mab2C1) and BFP (transduction marker) in α1AT^{H334D}-expressing cells before and after transduction with Lib₀ (unenriched library), and successively-enriched Lib₁ and Lib₂. The boxed areas include the cells sorted for genomic analysis: 'brightest' (B), 'medium-bright' (M) and 'dull' (D). **(C)** Intracellular α1AT polymer signals quantified by sandwich ELISA of unsorted cells, transduced with Lib₀, Lib₁ and Lib₂, respectively, in the presence or absence of doxycycline (dox; 10 ng/ml, 24 hrs). Shown is the mean ± SEM normalised to untransduced cells of three independent experiments. ***, P < 0.001; and ****, P < 0.0001. Unpaired t-test.

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138 Next, genomic DNA, pooled from sorted cells in the different bins at different stages
139 of the phenotypic enrichment process and from unsorted control cells, was subjected
140 to high-throughput sequencing and MAGeCK bioinformatics analysis (Li et al., 2014)
141 to determine sgRNA sequence enrichment and the corresponding gene ranking list
142 (Table S1). Quality control based on sgRNA sequence read counts showed that over
143 90% of the reads mapped to the libraries (Fig. S2A). Distribution of normalised read
144 counts indicated that after successive rounds of positive phenotypic selection the
145 diversity of sgRNA species declined from libraries Lib₀ to Lib₂, with increasing
146 percentage of sgRNAs with zero read counts and sgRNA with very high counts (Fig.
147 S2B,C).

148 Gene ontology (GO) analysis of the most significantly enriched genes in the 'brightest'
149 Mab2C1-stained cells [with a false discovery rate (FDR) < 0.1] revealed that
150 'regulation of chromosome organisation' was the strongest selected GO term (Fig.
151 2A). This cluster, thought to reflect the indirect effects of altered transcriptional
152 regulation on polymer levels, was not further considered. The second highly
153 represented cluster was 'cargo loading into COPII-coated vesicle', which included 16
154 genes that were significantly enriched during the selection process (Fig. 2A,B). These
155 encode components of the coat protein II (COPII) complex that initiates vesicle
156 budding at the ER (*SEC23B*, *SAR1A* and *SEC24B*), non-COPII proteins important to
157 vesicle formation (*RAB1A*, *TFG*, *TRAPPC12* and *MAPK10*) (D'Arcangelo et al., 2013)
158 and two cargo receptors with a known role in protein transport from ER to Golgi
159 apparatus (*LMAN1* and *SURF4*) (Gomez-Navarro and Miller, 2016). In addition,
160 protein-protein interaction network analysis of the proteins encoded by the 16

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161 identified genes revealed that 5 of them form an independent network, highlighting
 162 their interconnectivity (Fig. 2C). Thus, this screen hints at an important role for the
 163 early secretory pathway in specifying intracellular levels α 1AT polymers (Fig. 2D).

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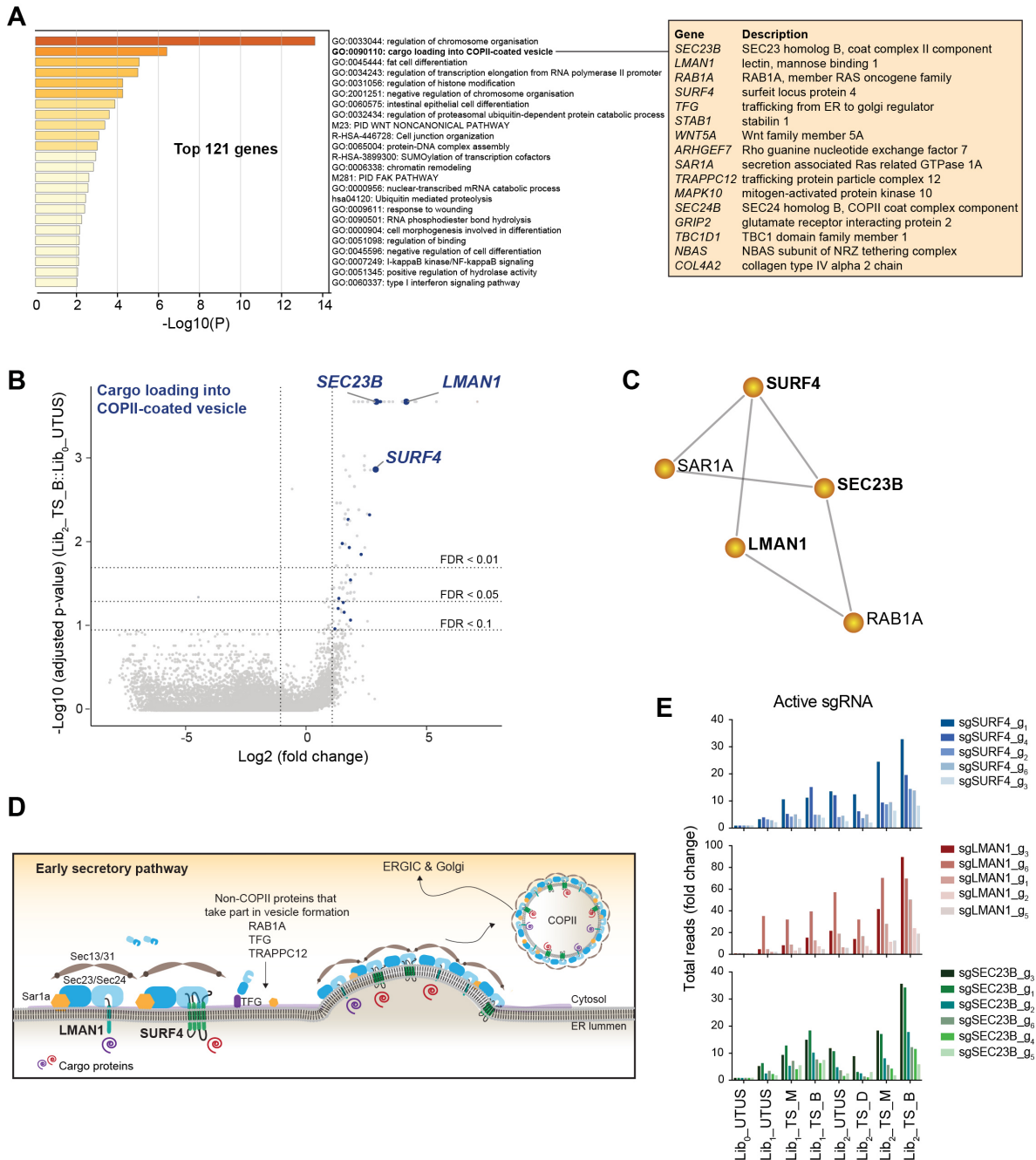


Fig. 2. sgRNAs targeting genes encoding components of the early secretory pathway are enriched in cells with elevated intracellular α 1-antitrypsin polymers. (A) Gene ontology (GO) enrichment analysis of the top 121 hits identified in the CRISPR screen and annotation of the 16 genes included in the GO term 'cargo loading into COPII-coated vesicle'. (B) Volcano plot showing the Log_2 (fold change) and the Log_{10} (adjusted p-value) of the genes targeted by sgRNAs in 'treated and

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sorted' (TS) cells transduced with Lib₂ versus 'untreated and unsorted' (UTUS) cells transduced with Lib₀. Genes above the horizontal dashed lines were significantly enriched in Lib₂. Genes of the GO term 'cargo loading into COPII-coated vesicle' are in blue. **(C)** Protein-protein interaction network (Metascape) of the 16 proteins encoded by the genes of the 'cargo loading into COPII-coated vesicle' cluster. **(D)** Cartoon of the early secretory pathway where relevant factors identified in the screen are depicted. **(E)** Total reads for each active sgRNA targeting the selected genes for validation.

165

166 ***Elevated intracellular $\alpha 1AT^{H334D}$ polymer levels in cells lacking SURF4, LMAN1*** 167 ***and SEC23B***

168 Of the genes targeted by guides enriched in the 'brightest' cells, we deemed those
169 encoding proteins with an ER luminal domain that could interact with polymers to be
170 of particular interest. LMAN1 (lectin mannose binding1) and SURF4 (surfeit protein
171 locus 4), two transmembrane cargo receptors (Hauri et al., 2000; Reeves and Fried,
172 1995), satisfied that criterion. Another highly enriched gene, SEC23B, encoding the
173 cytosolic component of the COPII machinery (Jensen and Schekman, 2011), was
174 included as a reference (Fig. 2A,B). Five of the six sgRNA targeting each of these
175 three genes were significantly enriched in the 'brightest' population, adding
176 confidence that they represent reliable hits (Fig. 2E).

177 To validate the genotype-phenotype relationship suggested by the screen, SURF4,
178 LMAN1 and SEC23B were re-targeted by CRISPR/Cas9-mediated gene disruption in
179 parental CHO-K1 Tet-on_ $\alpha 1AT^{H334D}$ cells, using two guides mapping to separate
180 exons (Fig. 3A). Cells expressing wild-type $\alpha 1AT$ (Ordonez et al., 2013) were also
181 targeted. Clonal knockout derivative cell lines were validated by genomic sequencing
182 and, in case of SURF4 and LMAN1, by evidence for depletion of the proteins by
183 immunoblotting (Fig. 3B,C).

184 Disruption of SURF4, LMAN1 and SEC23B increased intracellular polymer levels as
185 assessed by flow cytometry after immunostaining of polymeric $\alpha 1AT^{H334D}$ (Fig. 3D).
186 These observations were confirmed by ELISA with two different antibodies: the
187 polymer-specific Mab2C1 and a monoclonal antibody that recognises all $\alpha 1AT$
188 conformers (Mab3C11) (Fig. 3E).

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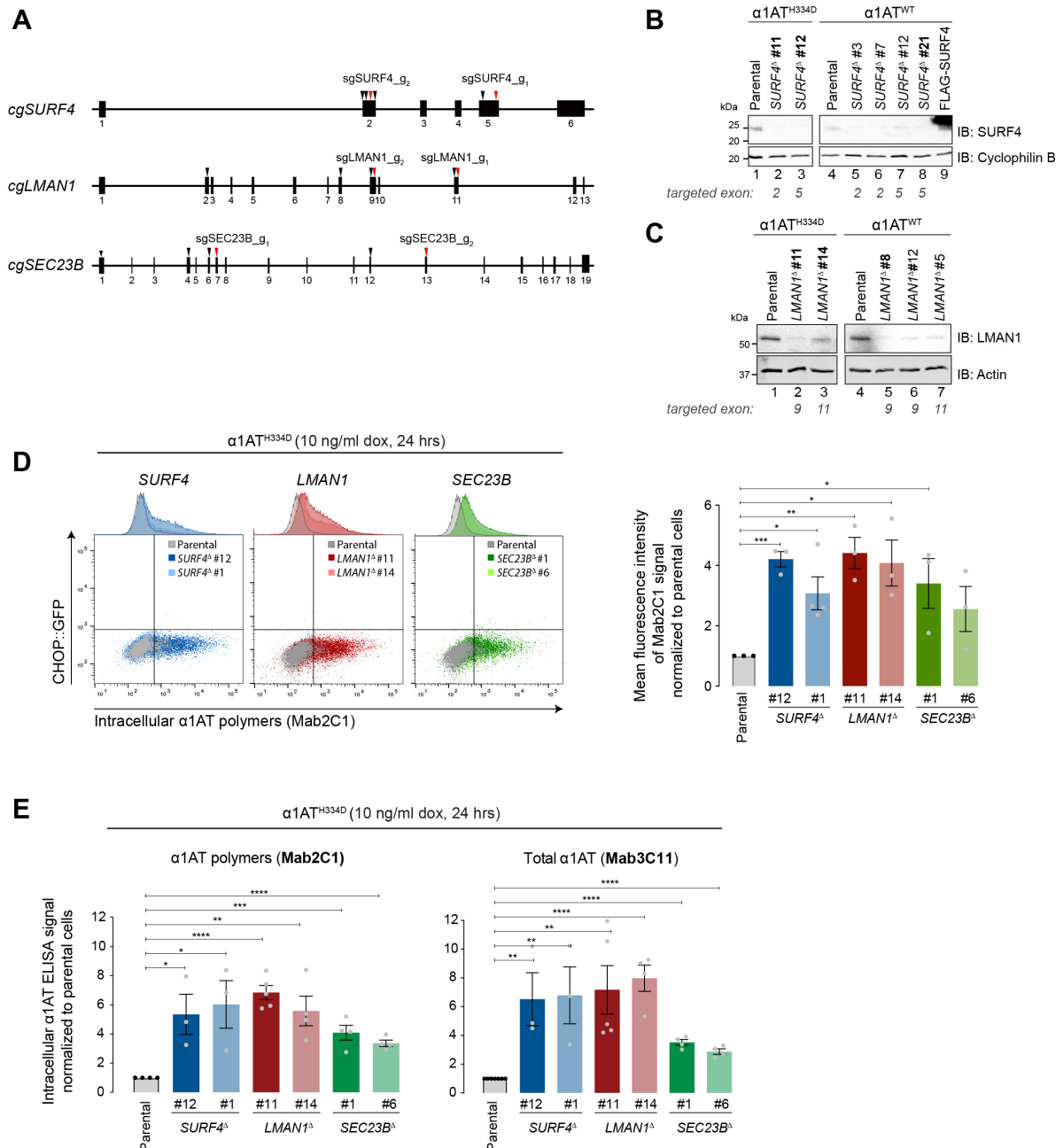


Fig. 3. Disruption of *SURF4*, *LMAN1* and *SEC23B* increases the intracellular levels of $\alpha 1$ -antitrypsin polymers in CHO-K1 cells. (A) Diagrams of the *Cricetulus griseus* *SURF4*, *LMAN1* and *SEC23B* loci showing the target sites of the 6 sgRNAs (arrowheads) included in the CRISPR/Cas9 library. Red arrowheads indicate sgRNAs selected for validation. (B and C) Immunoblots of SURF4 (upper panel) and LMAN1 (lower panel) in lysates of parental CHO-K1 Tet-on cells expressing either $\alpha 1\text{AT}^{\text{H334D}}$ or $\alpha 1\text{AT}^{\text{WT}}$ and several *SURF4* and *LMAN1* deleted derivatives. In bold, clones selected for functional experiments. Lysate of parental cells transfected with a FLAG-SURF4-encoding plasmid served as a positive control. (D) Dual-channel flow cytometry of intracellular levels of $\alpha 1\text{AT}$ polymers and *CHOP::GFP* in CHO-K1 parental Tet-on_ $\alpha 1\text{AT}^{\text{H334D}}$ cells and two independent clones where *SURF4*, *LMAN1* or *SEC23B* were disrupted. The bar graph shows the mean \pm SEM of the Mab2C1-signal normalised to doxycycline-treated parental cells from three or four independent

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experiments. **(E)** As in 'D' but plotting the intracellular α 1AT signal from sandwich ELISA assays using the anti-polymer Mab2C1 (left panel) and the anti-total α 1AT Mab3C11 (right panel). *, $P < 0.05$; **, $P < 0.01$; ***, $P < 0.001$; and ****, $P < 0.0001$. Unpaired t-test.

189
190 *SURF4* and *LMAN1*, confirmed above as genes whose inactivation enhances levels
191 of intracellular polymeric α 1AT^{H334D}, play a broad role in trafficking of cargo out of the
192 ER. Perturbations in ER function caused by protein misfolding or by impeded egress
193 of proteins from the ER lead to ER stress and trigger the unfolded protein response
194 (UPR), a protective and adaptive response aimed to re-establish ER homeostasis
195 (Walter and Ron, 2011). Notably, *in vitro* studies indicate that Brefeldin A, an inhibitor
196 of protein transport from ER to the Golgi apparatus, leads to the activation of the UPR
197 (Citterio et al., 2008). Therefore, to gauge the contribution of any general perturbation
198 to ER function that may arise from the inactivation of such genes, we turned to CHO-
199 K1 S21 cells bearing *CHOP::GFP* and *XBP1s::Turquoise* unfolded protein response
200 (UPR) reporters (Sekine et al., 2016). *SURF4* and *LMAN1* were inactivated by sgRNA
201 whose expression was linked to a mCherry reporter. This enabled scoring UPR
202 activation in populations of mutant cells, free of the bias that might otherwise be
203 introduced by clonal selection. No induction of the UPR reporters was observed
204 following *SURF4* and *LMAN1* inactivation. Inactivation of *HSPA5*, encoding the ER
205 chaperone BiP, a positive control, strongly inducing both UPR branches (Fig. 4).
206 These observations indicate that inactivation of *SURF4* and *LMAN1* did not globally
207 perturb ER protein homeostasis and suggested that the observed increase in
208 polymers may arise by a more specific mechanism.

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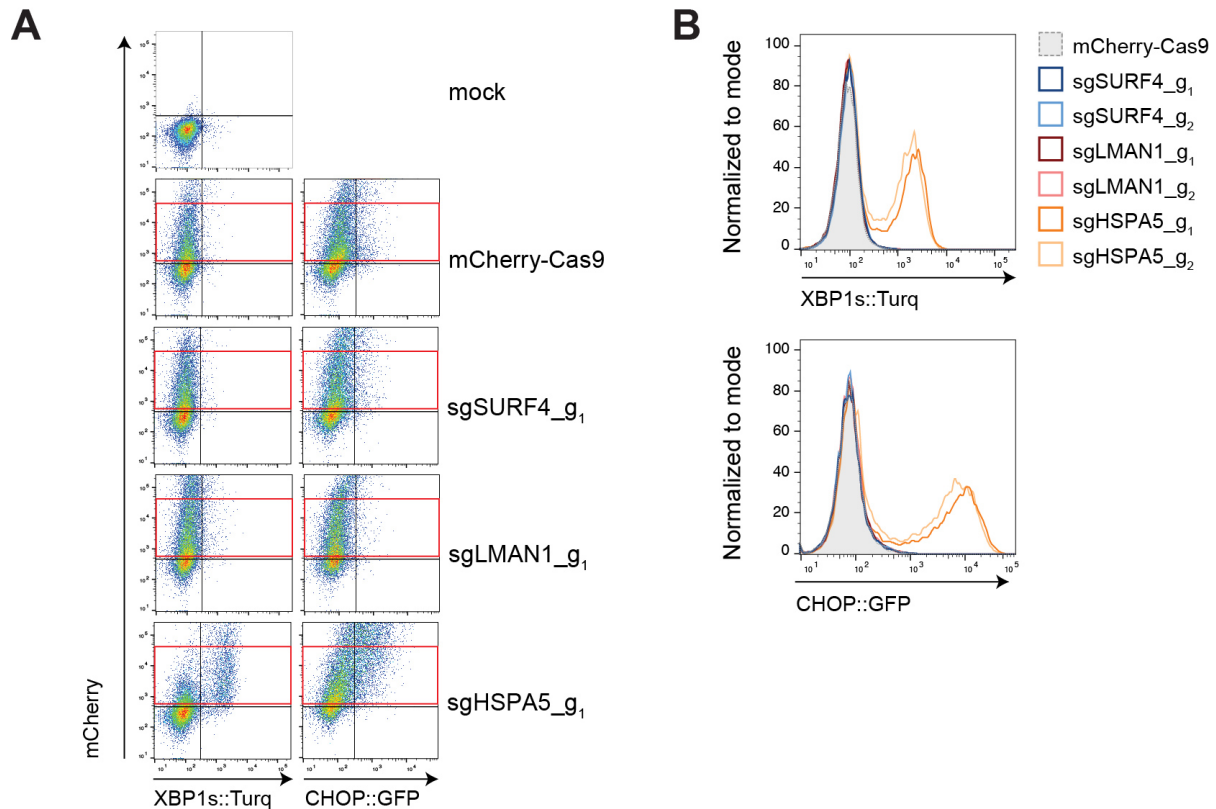


Fig. 4. SURF4 and LMAN1 depletion does not activate the unfolded protein response. (A) Dual-channel flow cytometry of *XBP1s::Turquoise* or *CHOP::GFP* and mCherry in CHO-K1 S21 cells transiently transfected with sgRNA-mCherry-Cas9 plasmids targeting *SURF4*, *LMAN1* and *HSPA5* (BiP protein). Dot-plots are representative of one experiment. The red rectangles delineate cells expressing moderate levels of mCherry-tagged plasmid selected for the histogram shown in 'B'. **(B)** Distribution of the *XBP1s::Turquoise* and *CHOP::GFP* signals, in mCherry-positive cells gated by red rectangles in 'A'. The same experiment was repeated with equal results using a second sgRNA for each gene.

209

210 *LMAN1* and *SURF4* promote trafficking of α 1AT in CHO-K1 cells

211 *LMAN1* has been previously implicated in mediating ER exit of wild-type monomeric
212 α 1AT (Nyfeler et al., 2008; Zhang et al., 2011). *SURF4*, by contrast, has been
213 reported to lack such a function; at least in HEK293 cells (Emmer et al., 2018). To
214 examine the roles of *SURF4* and *LMAN1* in the trafficking of polymeric
215 α 1AT^{H334D}, we performed pulse-chase experiments to compare the kinetics of α 1AT
216 secretion and the accumulation of polymers in parental, *SURF4*^Δ and *LMAN1*^Δ CHO-
217 K1 Tet-on_ α 1AT^{H334D} cells. Cells were pre-treated with low concentration of
218 doxycycline followed by radioactive pulse labelling for 20 min and a subsequent
219 chase (Fig. 5A). α 1AT immunoprecipitation from cell-lysates and culture media was

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220 performed with antibodies reactive with all forms of α 1AT (total) or selective for
221 polymers (Mab2C1) (Fig. 5B). α 1AT contains three N-glycosylation sites. Thus, the
222 ER-associated 52-kDa α 1AT^{H334D} species gradually appeared in the culture media as
223 mature-glycosylated species of 55-kDa (Fig. 5B). Disruption of *LMAN1*, and to a
224 lesser degree *SURF4*, led to a significant defect in the clearance of the ER form and
225 appearance of the mature-glycosylated form in the culture media (Fig. 5B,C). This
226 trend was even more conspicuous in terms of α 1AT^{H334D} polymer secretion as
227 *LMAN1*^Δ and *SURF4*^Δ cells accumulated more intracellular polymers than parental
228 cells (Fig. 5B,D). Similar findings were observed in an independently derived *SURF4*^Δ
229 clone (Fig. S3). Interestingly, both *LMAN1*^Δ and *SURF4*^Δ cells secreted proportionally
230 fewer α 1AT^{H334D} polymers than parental cells (Fig. 5B,E).

231 Having confirmed a role for *LMAN1* and *SURF4* in trafficking of α 1AT^{H334D}, we then
232 sought to determine their role in trafficking of α 1AT^{WT} in CHO cells. The same pulse-
233 chase labelling procedure described above was applied to parental, *SURF4*^Δ and
234 *LMAN1*^Δ CHO-K1 Tet-on- α 1AT^{WT} cells. Clearance of wild-type, monomeric α 1AT
235 from the ER was significantly delayed in *LMAN1*^Δ cells, consistent with previous
236 observations (Nyfeler et al., 2008; Zhang et al., 2011), but also in *SURF4*^Δ cells, albeit
237 to a lesser degree (Fig. 5F,G). Of note, the accumulation of wild-type monomer in
238 *SURF4*^Δ and *LMAN1*^Δ cells did not result in detectable polymer formation by ELISA.

239 These observations implicate both *LMAN1* and *SURF4* in trafficking of wild-type and
240 polymerogenic α 1AT in CHO-K1 cells. This explains enhanced intracellular
241 accumulation of α 1AT polymers observed in the α 1AT^{H334D}-expressing cells lacking
242 either *LMAN1* or *SURF4*.

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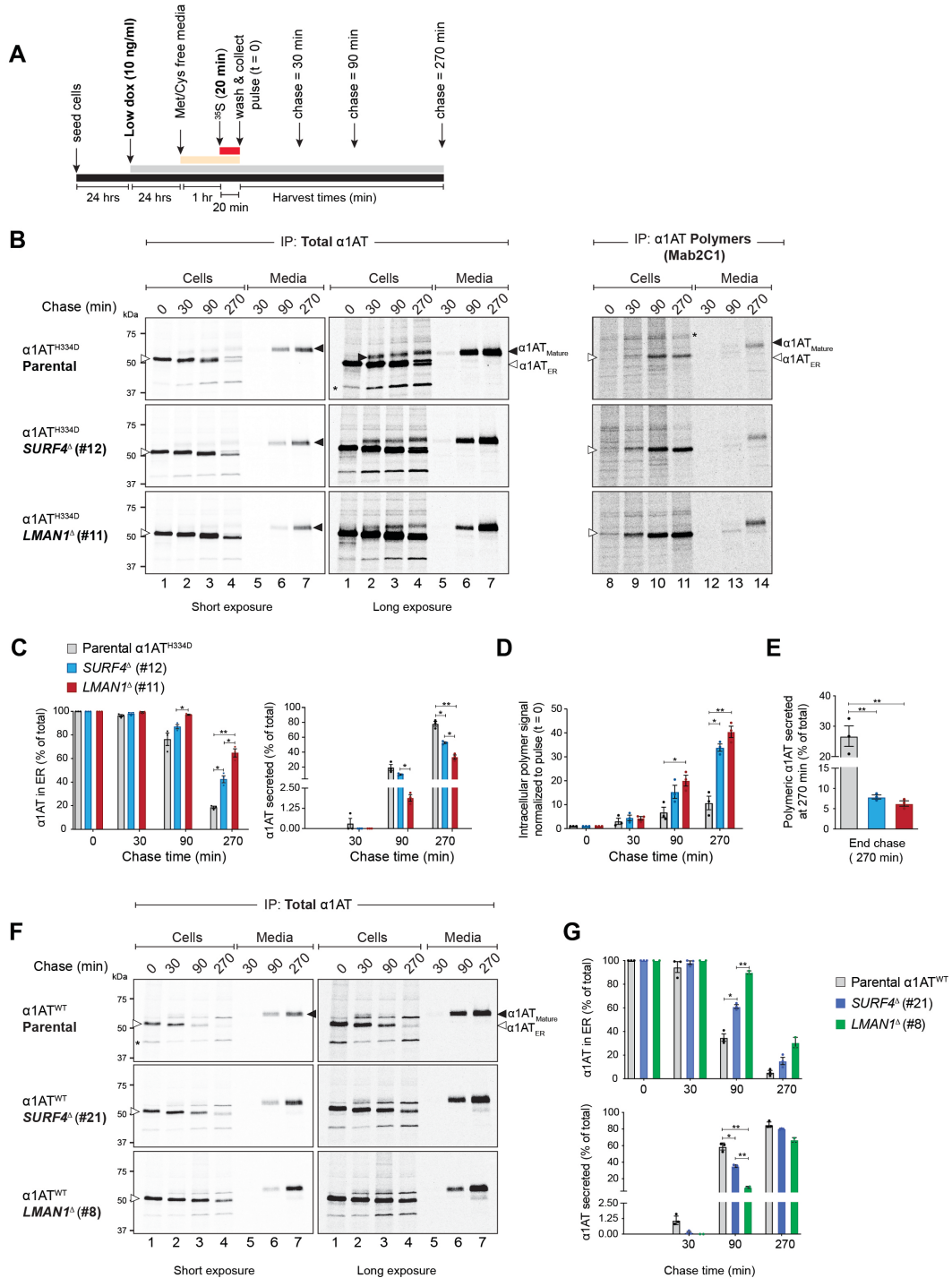


Fig. 5. Altered intracellular trafficking of α 1-antitrypsin in *SURF4* and *LMAN1* disrupted cells. (A) Schema of the experimental design. Note the induction of α 1AT expression with low concentration (10 ng/ml) of doxycycline (dox), 35 S-methionine/cysteine (Met/Cys) pulse labelling (20 min) and chase times (30-270 min). (B) Short and long exposures of autoradiographs of SDS-PAGE gels load with labelled α 1AT immunoprecipitated with a polyclonal antibody reactive with all forms of α 1AT (left panels) or Mab2C1, selective for α 1AT polymers (right panel) from lysates of parental CHO-K1 Tet-on- α 1AT^{H334D} cells and their *SURF4* Δ and *LMAN1* Δ derivatives ('Cells') or the culture supernatant ('Media'). White arrowheads indicate the ER-associated form (α 1AT_{ER}) and black arrowheads the mature-glycosylated form (α 1AT_{Mature}). Asterisks (*)

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represent unspecific bands. **(C)** Percentage of $\alpha 1\text{AT}^{\text{H334D}}$ retained in the ER [$(\alpha 1\text{AT}_{\text{ER}}$ in 'B'), left panel] or secreted into the media (right panel) of total protein ['cell' signal + 'media' signal] at each time point. **(D)** Intracellular polymer signal normalised to $\alpha 1\text{AT}$ polymer signal at pulse end (lane 8). **(E)** Percentage of $\alpha 1\text{AT}$ polymers present in the media of total protein at 270 min, calculated as in 'C'. **(F)** As in 'B', but using parental CHO-K1 Tet-on- $\alpha 1\text{AT}^{\text{WT}}$ cells and their SURF4^{Δ} and LMAN1^{Δ} derivatives. Total $\alpha 1\text{AT}$ from cells and media was immunoprecipitated as in 'B'. **(G)** Percentage of $\alpha 1\text{AT}^{\text{WT}}$ retained in the ER (upper panel) or secreted into the media (lower panel), calculated as in 'C'. Autoradiographs are representative of three independent experiments except for LMAN1^{Δ} (clone #8, $n = 2$). Quantitative plots show the mean \pm SEM. *, $P < 0.05$; and **, $P < 0.01$. Two-way (in 'C', 'D' and 'G') or one-way ANOVA (in 'E') followed by Tukey's post-hoc multiple comparison test.

244

245 ***SURF4* disruption preferentially impairs intracellular trafficking of $\alpha 1\text{AT}$** 246 ***polymers***

247 SURF4 has been proposed as an ER cargo receptor that prioritises export of large,
248 polymeric proteins (Saegusa et al., 2018; Yin et al., 2018). This, together with our
249 observations noted above, suggested the possibility that SURF4 might also have a
250 role in facilitating the exit of $\alpha 1\text{AT}$ polymers from the ER. To address this question, we
251 modified the pulse-chase procedure: synthesis of $\alpha 1\text{AT}^{\text{H334D}}$ was increased by
252 treating the cells with a higher concentration of doxycycline, thus shifting the
253 equilibrium towards polymer formation. Crucially, the pulse and chase windows were
254 prolonged to allow clearance of the fast-trafficking (labelled) mutant monomeric
255 species and thereby focused the analysis on the remaining polymers (Fig. 6A).

256 The efficacy of these modifications is reflected in the appearance of a detectable pool
257 of intracellular polymers at the end of the pulse and their persistence throughout the
258 lengthy chase period, more conspicuously so in the SURF4^{Δ} and LMAN1^{Δ} cells (Fig.
259 6B). In all three genotypes, labelled polymers also appeared in the culture media (Fig.
260 6B) and these exhibited slower mobility on SDS-PAGE, compared to the cell-
261 associated polymers. This observation is consistent with post-ER glycan
262 modifications and indicates conventional trafficking through the secretory pathway.

263 In all three genotypes, intracellular polymer levels continued to increase after the
264 pulse with levels peaking between 2.15-4.5 hrs chase (Fig. 6C, upper panel). Thus,
265 considering this peak as a reference point by which to track the fate of ER-localised
266 polymers, we found that SURF4^{Δ} cells retained proportionally more polymers
267 compared to parental or LMAN1^{Δ} cells (Fig. 6C, lower panel). This finding correlated

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268 with higher degree of co-localisation of the polymers with the ER marker BiP in
 269 *SURF4*^Δ cells (Fig. 6D and Fig. S4B). Notably, the kinetics of the ratio of secreted
 270 polymers to cell-associated polymers was significantly slower in *LMAN1*^Δ and
 271 *SURF4*^Δ cells (Fig. 6E). Similar results were obtained with another independently
 272 derived *SURF4*^Δ clone (Fig. S4).
 273 These findings implicate both LMAN1 and SURF4 in secretion of α1AT polymers in
 274 CHO-K1 cells and suggest a preference of SURF4 for the transport of intracellular
 275 α1AT polymers out of the ER compared to LMAN1.

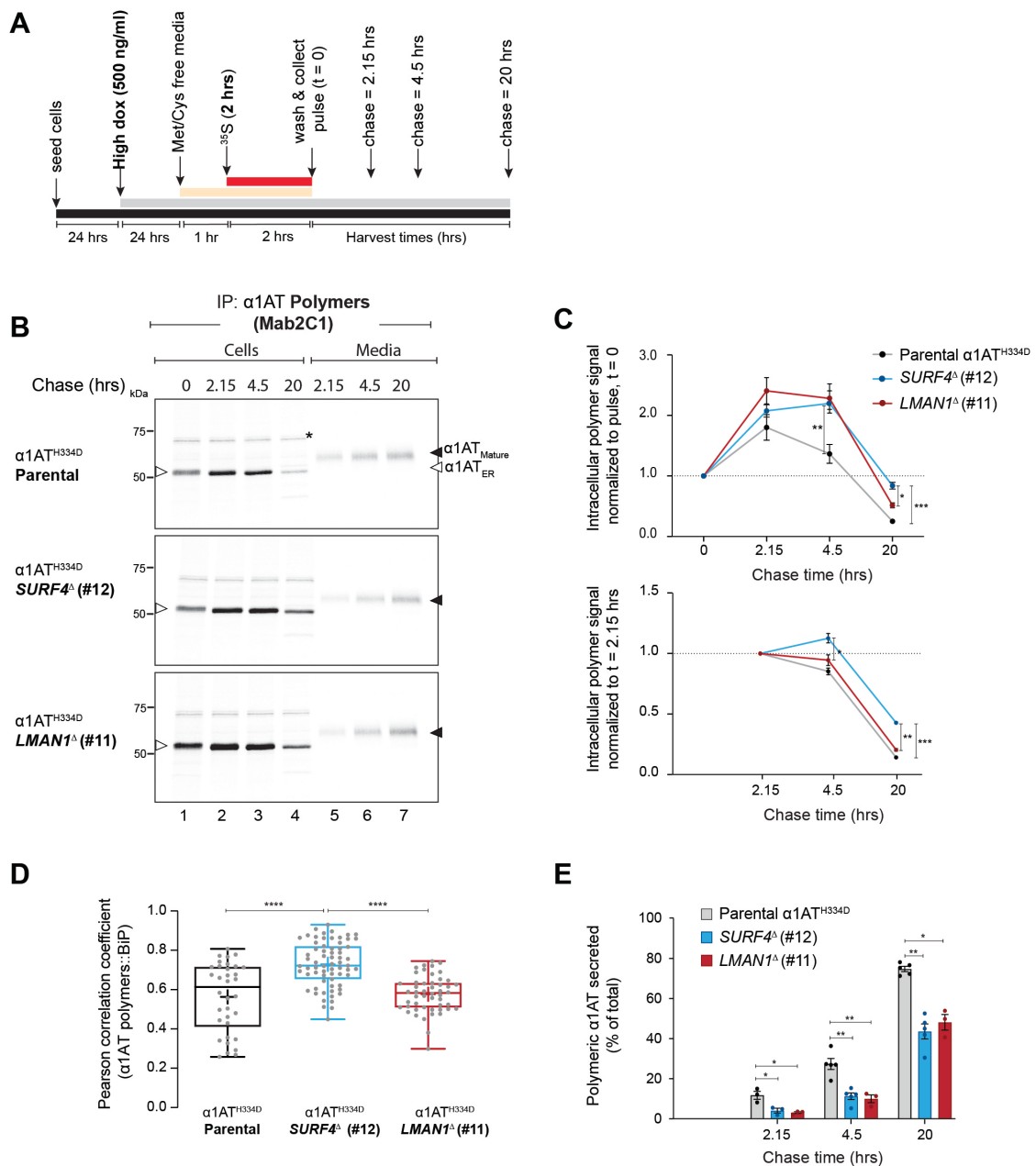


Fig. 6. SURF4 and LMAN1 favour ER exit of α1-antitrypsin polymers. (A) Schema of the experimental design. Note the induction of α1AT expression with a high

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concentration (500 ng/ml) of doxycycline (dox) and the lengthy ^{35}S -Met/Cys pulse labelling period (2 hrs) and chase times (2.15 - 20 hrs). **(B)** Autoradiographs of SDS-PAGE gels loaded with labelled $\alpha 1\text{AT}$ immunoprecipitated with polymer-selective Mab2C1 from lysates of parental CHO-K1 Tet-on- $\alpha 1\text{AT}^{\text{H334D}}$ cells and their *SURF4* $^{\Delta}$ and *LMAN1* $^{\Delta}$ derivatives ('Cells') or the culture supernatant ('Media'). White arrowheads indicate the ER-associated form ($\alpha 1\text{AT}_{\text{ER}}$) and black arrowheads the mature-glycosylated form ($\alpha 1\text{AT}_{\text{Mature}}$). Asterisks (*) represent unspecific bands. **(C)** Plot of the cell-associated $\alpha 1\text{AT}$ polymer signal at the indicated times, normalised to the signal at pulse end (lane 1; upper panel) or to the signal at 2.15 hrs (lane 2; bottom panel). **(D)** Pearson coefficient for the co-localisation of $\alpha 1\text{AT}$ polymers (Mab2C1-stained) with the ER marker BiP in doxycycline-induced parental CHO-K1 Tet-on- $\alpha 1\text{AT}^{\text{H334D}}$ cells (n = 34) and their *SURF4* $^{\Delta}$ (n = 67) and *LMAN1* $^{\Delta}$ (n = 50) derivatives (Fig. S4B). **(E)** Percentage of $\alpha 1\text{AT}$ polymers present in the media of total protein ['cell' signal + 'media' signal] at each time point in 'B'. Quantitative plots show the mean \pm SEM (n = 3-5). *, P < 0.05; **, P < 0.01; ***, P < 0.001; and ****, P < 0.0001. Two-way (in 'C' and 'E') or one-way ANOVA (in 'D') followed by Tukey's post-hoc multiple comparison test

276

277 ***SURF4 interacts with $\alpha 1\text{AT}$ in CHO-K1 cells***

278 The interaction of *LMAN1* and $\alpha 1\text{AT}$ has been previously explored (Nyfeler et al.,
279 2008). To assess possible physical interactions of *SURF4* and $\alpha 1\text{AT}$, cells expressing
280 $\alpha 1\text{AT}^{\text{H334D}}$ or $\alpha 1\text{AT}^{\text{WT}}$ were transfected with FLAG-tagged *SURF4* and subjected to
281 crosslinked. FLAG-tagged *SURF4* was selectively recovered by anti-FLAG
282 immunoprecipitation, accompanied by either $\alpha 1\text{AT}^{\text{WT}}$ or $\alpha 1\text{AT}^{\text{H334D}}$ (Fig. 7A,B).
283 Transfection with a 7xHis-tagged *SURF4* provided an opportunity to recover *SURF4*-
284 $\alpha 1\text{AT}$ complexes under denaturing conditions, which also allowed more stringent
285 wash steps. Nickel affinity pulldowns indicated that both $\alpha 1\text{AT}^{\text{WT}}$ and $\alpha 1\text{AT}^{\text{H334D}}$ were
286 recovered in complex with 7xHis-*SURF4* (Fig. 7C,D). Their recovery under denaturing
287 conditions is consistent with a proximal interaction between the two species, though
288 bridging by a third factor cannot be excluded.

289 The evidence provided here for an interaction between *SURF4* and $\alpha 1\text{AT}$ is in
290 keeping with *SURF4*'s functional role in trafficking of both polymeric and monomeric
291 forms of $\alpha 1\text{AT}$.

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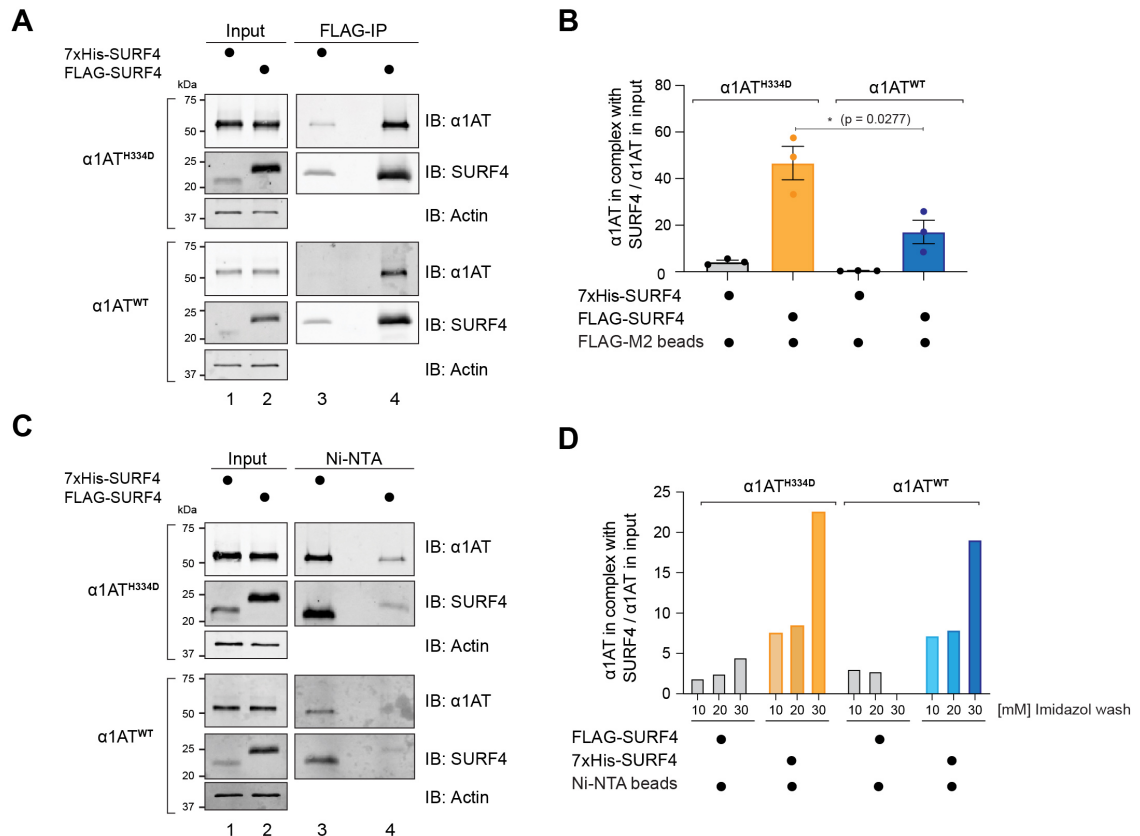


Fig. 7. SURF4 interacts with α 1-antitrypsin. (A) Representative immunoblots of α 1AT recovered in complex with FLAG-SURF4 (FLAG-IP) from CHO-K1 Tet-on cells expressing α 1AT^{WT} or α 1AT^{H334D} transfected with a FLAG-tagged or 7xHis-tagged (as control) SURF4 plasmids and subjected to crosslinking. (B) Ratio of the signal from the α 1AT recovered in complex with FLAG-SURF4 to the α 1AT signal in the 'input'. Shown is mean \pm SEM from three independent experiments as in 'A' (Student's t test). (C) As in 'A', but performing Ni-NTA affinity pulldowns under denaturing conditions on the same lysates used in 'A'. An imidazole gradient from 10-30 mM in the wash buffer was used across three experiments. This SDS-PAGE gel represents samples washed with 30 mM imidazole. Cells transfected with a FLAG-tagged SURF4 reported on the background in this assay. (D) Ratio of the signal from the α 1AT recovered in complex with 7xHis-tagged SURF4 to the α 1AT signal in the 'input' from three different experiments performed as in 'C' in buffers with the indicated concentration of imidazole.

292

293

294 Discussion

295 By interfering with secretion, intracellular polymerisation of mutant α 1AT limits its
 296 plasma concentration and contributes to the loss-of-function features of α 1AT
 297 deficiency. Simultaneously, polymer retention contributes to gain-of-function features
 298 such as liver cirrhosis, whilst extracellular polymers appear to play a pro-inflammatory

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299 role in the lung (Lomas and Mahadeva, 2002) and elsewhere (Gross et al., 2009;
300 Morris et al., 2011). Here, an unbiased genome-wide screen identified modifiers of
301 intracellular levels of α 1AT polymers, uncovering a previously under-appreciated role
302 for cargo receptors in their active export from the ER and ultimately secretion of a
303 fraction of the intracellular pool.

304 The strongest coherent signature to emerge from our screen was factors involved in
305 cargo exit from the ER. These included LMAN1, a transmembrane cargo receptor
306 known to have a role in the ER export of wild-type α 1AT (Nyfeler et al., 2008; Zhang
307 et al., 2011), validating the experimental approach. The screen also implicated
308 SURF4 in affecting the intracellular levels of α 1AT polymers. SURF4, the human
309 orthologue of the yeast cargo receptor Erv29p (Belden and Barlowe, 2001), has been
310 shown to be a versatile multi-spanning cargo receptor that facilitates export of large
311 proteins such as the 550-kDa apolipoprotein B (Saegusa et al., 2018), small proteins
312 such as the 75-kDa PCSK9 (Emmer et al., 2018), and soluble cargos that tend to
313 aggregate within the ER (Yin et al., 2018). SURF4 has not been previously-
314 recognised to have a role in the trafficking of α 1AT, but it has been reported to form
315 multiprotein complexes with LMAN1, along with other components of the ER exit
316 complex (Mitrovic et al., 2008). Therefore, we focused our attention on the
317 mechanisms by which loss of these cargo receptors altered the intracellular fate of
318 α 1AT. These studies were carried out in genetically malleable CHO-K1 cells that
319 recapitulate both ER morphology changes observed in hepatocytes of α 1AT-deficient
320 patients (Ordonez et al., 2013) and the impairment of intracellular protein mobility
321 observed in induced pluripotent stem cell-derived α 1AT deficiency hepatocytes
322 (Segeritz et al., 2018).

323 Disruption of either *LMAN1* or *SURF4* delayed trafficking of both polymerogenic
324 α 1AT^{H334D} and α 1AT^{WT} out of the ER in this CHO-K1 system. As polymerisation is a
325 concentration-dependent process (Lomas et al., 1993), impaired ER egress of mutant
326 α 1AT monomers could account for all the increase in intracellular polymer signal
327 observed in the *LMAN1*^Δ and *SURF4*^Δ cells. This finding nonetheless emphasises the
328 fact that variation in the efficiency of monomer trafficking out of the ER could
329 contribute to the clinical heterogeneity in polymer-induced liver disease (Wu et al.,
330 1994).

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331 Less anticipated were findings pointing to a role for LMAN1 and SURF4 in the egress
332 of polymers out of the ER and, ultimately, in their secretion from cells. This insight
333 was gleaned from cells expressing high levels of mutant $\alpha 1\text{AT}^{\text{H334D}}$, conditions
334 predicted to shift the equilibrium in the ER towards polymerisation. Introducing a
335 delay in the pulse-chase experiment that favoured clearance of residual fast-
336 trafficking labelled monomers, focused the analysis on the fate of polymers. *LMAN1*^Δ
337 and even more so *SURF4*^Δ cells retained relatively more polymers and secreted
338 relatively fewer polymers than parental cells. Co-localisation of the excess polymers
339 with the ER marker BiP, was particularly conspicuous in the *SURF4*^Δ cells, supporting
340 the idea that SURF4 may have an important role in clearing the ER of $\alpha 1\text{AT}$ polymers
341 and possibly other large cargos, as suggested previously ([Saegusa et al., 2018](#)).

342 Co-immunoprecipitation experiments hinted at direct contact, or at least close
343 proximity between SURF4 and $\alpha 1\text{AT}$. This was observed despite the absence from
344 $\alpha 1\text{AT}$ of an N-terminal motif previously reported to promote cargo binding to SURF4
345 ([Yin et al., 2018](#)) but also absent from other putative SURF4 cargos (e.g., PCSK9 and
346 apolipoprotein B). Thus, at present, the basis for SURF4's ability to select monomeric
347 and polymeric $\alpha 1\text{AT}$ for export from the ER remains unknown.

348 The mobility of $\alpha 1\text{AT}$ during SDS-PAGE suggests that polymeric $\alpha 1\text{AT}$ found in the
349 culture supernatant had undergone post-ER glycan modifications. This finding,
350 together with the genetic evidence of a role for ER cargo receptors in its itinerary
351 suggests that at least a fraction of extracellular polymers found their way through the
352 conventional secretory pathway. The existence of pathway(s) by which misfolded ER
353 proteins traffic out of the compartment, ultimately to be degraded in the lysosome
354 ([Fregno et al., 2018](#)), raises the possibility that LMAN1 or SURF4 also restrain
355 intracellular polymer levels by promoting a trafficking event that contributes to their
356 intracellular degradation. These issues remain unsettled even in our CHO-K1 model.
357 Nonetheless, the role of ER cargo receptors in the itinerary of $\alpha 1\text{AT}$ monomers and
358 polymers highlighted in this study conjures the possibility of mechanism-based
359 interventions to alter the balance of polymers retained in cells, degraded
360 intracellularly or secreted and could represent new therapeutic targets for the
361 underlying lung disease.

362

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368 advice.

369 **Author's contributions**

370 **A.O.** conceived, initiated, and led the project, designed and conducted the
371 experiments, analysed and interpreted the data, prepared figures and tables and
372 wrote the first draft of the manuscript. **H.P.H.** designed the CHO CRISPR/Cas9 library
373 and contributed experimentally with the lentiviral library, in data analysis and reviewed
374 the manuscript. **S.J.M.** contributed to discussion and revision of the manuscript. **D.R.**
375 conceived and oversaw the project, interpreted the data, and co-wrote the
376 manuscript. All authors read and approved the final manuscript.

377 **Conflict of interest**

378 No conflict to disclose.

379 **Financial support statement**

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382

383 **Material and methods**

384 Standard molecular cloning methods were used to create the plasmids DNAs listed in
385 the [Table S2](#). Single guides RNAs (sgRNAs) and oligonucleotides are listed in [Table](#)
386 [S3](#). Antibodies, reagents and software are listed in [Table S4](#).

387 **Cell culture**

388 CHO-K1 cells expressing human $\alpha 1AT^{WT}$ or the polymerogenic $\alpha 1AT^{H334D}$ mutant
389 under a tetracycline inducible promoter ([Ordonez et al., 2013](#)) were cultured in DMEM
390 cell media (Sigma) supplemented with 10% Tet-free serum (Pan-Biotech), 1x
391 Penicillin-Streptomycin (Sigma), 1x MEM-non-essential-amino-acids (Sigma), 2 mM

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392 L-glutamine (Sigma), 200 µg/mL G418 and 500 µg/mL of Hygromycin B (Invitrogen).
393 Depending on the experiment, α1AT expression was induced with 10 ng/ml ('low dox')
394 or 500 ng/ml ('high dox') doxycycline for 24 hrs. Although not relevant for these
395 experiments, the open reading frame of *Cricetulus griseus DDIT3* locus was replaced
396 by GFP (*CHOP::GFP* reporter) in the parental CHO-K1 Tet-on cells. For the
397 CRISPR/Cas9 screen we stably introduced the Cas9 nuclease into CHO-K1 Tet-
398 on_α1AT^{H334D} cells via lentiviral transduction (UK1714, see [Table S2](#) and [Table S3](#)).
399 Cas9 activity in derivative cell lines was confirmed by targeting the *CHOP::GFP*
400 reporter with a EGFP-targeting sgRNA (UK1717) followed by induction of ER stress.

401 CHO-K1 S21 cells bearing *CHOP::GFP* and *XBP1s::Turquoise* reporters ([Sekine et](#)
402 [al., 2016](#)) were maintained in Nutrient Mixture F12 (Sigma) supplemented with 10%
403 serum (FetalClone II, ThermoScientific), 1× Penicillin-Streptomycin and 2 mM L-
404 glutamine. HEK293T cells (ATCC CRL-3216) were cultured in DMEM supplemented
405 as above. All cells were grown at 37°C and 5% CO₂.

406 **Lentivirus production**

407 Lentiviral particles were produced by transfecting HEK293T cells with the library
408 plasmids (UK2561, UK2321 and UK2378) together with the packaging plasmids
409 psPAX2 (UK1701) and pMD2.G (UK1700) at a 10:7.5:5 ratio using TransIT-293
410 reagent (Mirus). The supernatant containing the viral particles was collected 48 hrs
411 after transfection, filtered through a 0.45 µm filter, and directly used to infect CHO-K1
412 cells seeded in 6-well plates for viral titration.

413 **Intracellular polymer staining, FACS and flow cytometry**

414 Cells were washed twice with PBS, collected in PBS containing 4 mM EDTA and 0.2%
415 BSA and fixed in 1% formaldehyde for 10 min. Fixative was washed-out at 700× g for
416 5 min and cells were permeabilised in blocking buffer [PBS containing 0.1% Triton X-
417 100 and 10% FBS] for 20 min, incubated with the primary α1AT polymer-specific
418 monoclonal antibody 2C1 (Mab2C1) ([Miranda et al., 2010](#)) for 30 min, washed three
419 times in blocking solution, and then incubated with the secondary DyLight 633-
420 labelled anti-mouse antibody for 20 min. Cells were washed, resuspended in PBS
421 containing 2 mM EDTA and 2% FBS, filtered and sorted on an Influx cell sorter (BD)
422 or analysed by flow cytometry (20,000 cells/sample) using a LSRFortessa cell
423 analyser (BD). In order to reduce cell clumping, a cell density of ~2×10⁶ cells/ml was

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424 adjusted and all incubations were done with orbital agitation at room temperature or
425 4°C, when required. α 1AT polymers (Mab2C1 signal) were detected by excitation at
426 640 nm and monitoring emission at 670/14 nm; blue fluorescent protein (BFP) by
427 excitation at 405 nm and monitoring at 450/50 nm; *CHOP::GFP* by excitation at 488
428 nm and monitoring at 530/30 nm; *XBP1s::Turquoise* by excitation at 405 nm and
429 monitoring at 450/50 nm. Data were processed using FlowJo and statistical analysis
430 using Prism8 (GraphPad).

431 The sensitivity to UPR induction in CHO-K1 S21 cells bearing *CHOP::GFP* and
432 *XBP1s::Turquoise* reporters was analysed after transient transfection with 1 μ g
433 sgRNA-mCherry-Cas9 encoding plasmids, targeting *SURF4*, *LMAN1* and *HSPA5*
434 (BiP protein) (see Table S2). Each gene was targeted with two different sgRNA and
435 four days after transfection cells were analysed by flow cytometry.

436 **Whole genome CRISPR screen**

437 High-throughput screen was carried out as previously described (Shalem et al., 2014)
438 using a Chinese hamster knockout CRISPR/Cas9 library containing 125,030 sgRNAs
439 targeting 20,680 genes (most with 6 guides per gene) as well as 1,239 non-targeting
440 sgRNAs as a negative control cloned into the lentiviral sgRNA expression vector
441 pKLV-U6gRNA(BbsI)-PGKpuro2ABFP as described (Harding et al., manuscript in
442 preparation). Approximately 2.1×10^8 CHO-K1 Tet-on_ α 1AT^{H334D}_Cas9 cells were
443 infected at a multiplicity of infection (MOI) of 0.3, to favour infection with a single viral
444 particle/cell and selected with 8 μ g/ml puromycin for 7 days. Expression of α 1AT was
445 induced with 10 ng/ml doxycycline for 24 hrs. Afterwards, the cells were fixed and
446 permeabilised for intracellular staining of α 1AT polymers. Approximately 6.6×10^7
447 Mab2C1-stained fixed cells were subjected to FACS and collected in 3 bins according
448 to their fluorescence intensity at 670 nm (Mab2C1): 'brightest' (~2% of total sorted),
449 'medium-bright' (~4.5% of total), and 'dull' (~10% of total) as shown in Fig. 1B.
450 Rounds of enrichment were carried on by extracting the genomic DNA of the
451 'brightest'-binned fixed cells and recovering by PCR a 220bp fragment containing the
452 sgRNA-bearing region (oligonucleotides 2182 and 1758). The amplicon was ligated
453 into the parental lentiviral backbone (UK1789) to generate derivative enriched
454 libraries (called Lib₁ and Lib₂) that were used to perform two successive cycles of
455 infection of $\sim 2 \times 10^7$ parental CHO-K1 Tet-on_ α 1AT^{H334D}_Cas9 cells. In each round an

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456 equal number of infected, untreated cells (no doxycycline) or uninfected, doxycycline-
457 treated cells were passed without sorting as a control group.

458 Genomic DNA from fixed, enriched, and sorted populations as well as fixed, unsorted
459 libraries was extracted from $\sim 1-3 \times 10^6$ and $\sim 3.6 \times 10^7$ cells respectively, by incubation
460 in proteinase K solution [100 mM Tris-HCl pH 8.5, 5 mM EDTA, 200 mM NaCl, 0.25%
461 SDS, 0.2 mg/ml Proteinase K] overnight at 50°C. To reverse formaldehyde crosslinks,
462 samples were supplemented with 500 mM NaCl and incubated at 65°C for 16 hrs.
463 Integrated sgRNA sequences were amplified by nested PCR and the adaptors for
464 Illumina sequencing (HiSeq4000) were introduced at the final amplification round
465 using oligonucleotides 1759-1769 (Table S3). Downstream analysis to obtain sgRNA
466 read counts, gene rankings, and statistics were obtained using the MAGeCK
467 computational software (Li et al., 2014). Gene ontology analyses were performed
468 using Metascape software with default parameters (Zhou et al., 2019).

469 **Validation of candidate genes**

470 Two individual sgRNAs designed in the library targeting exon regions of *Cricetulus*
471 *griseus* *LMAN1*, *SURF4* and *SEC23B* were cloned into the pSpCas9(BB)-2A-
472 mCherry plasmid (UK1610) as previously reported (Ran et al., 2013). Cells were
473 transfected with 1 μ g of sgRNA/Cas9 plasmids (UK2501-UK2506) using Lipofectamine
474 LTX (Thermofisher). Forty-eight hours after transfection, mCherry-positive cells were
475 individually sorted into 96-well plates using a MoFlo Cell Sorter (Beckman Coulter).
476 The presence of frameshift-causing insertion/deletions in both alleles of the obtained
477 clones was achieved by capillary electrophoresis on a 3730xl DNA analyser (Applied
478 Biosystems) and amplifying the targeted region by PCR using a gene-specific 5' 6-
479 carboxyfluorescein (FAM)-labelled oligonucleotides (Hjelm et al., 2010). The
480 knockouts were confirmed by Sanger sequencing and immunoblotting. Genomic
481 information of the clones used in this study is provided in Table S5.

482 **Mammalian cell lysates, sandwich ELISA, and immunoblotting**

483 Cells were lysed in Nonidet lysis buffer [150 mM NaCl, 50 mM Tris-HCl pH 7.5, 1%
484 Nonidet P-40] supplemented with protease inhibitor mixture (Roche) for 20 min on
485 ice. To quantify polymer and total levels of intracellular α 1AT, cell lysates were
486 analysed by sandwich ELISA using the polymer-specific Mab2C1 and a monoclonal
487 antibody that recognises all α 1AT conformers (Mab3C11) (Tan et al., 2015)

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488 respectively. Briefly, high binding surface COSTAR 96-well plates (Corning) were
489 coated overnight with purified rabbit polyclonal antibody against total α 1AT at 2 μ g/ml
490 in PBS. After washing with PBS containing 0.9% NaCl and 0.05% Tween-20, the
491 plates were blocked for 1 hr in blocking buffer (PBS containing 0.25% BSA and
492 0.05% Tween-20). Samples and standard curves were diluted in blocking buffer and
493 incubated for 2 hrs with the primary antibodies, Mab2C1 or Mab3C11. Anti-mouse
494 IgG horseradish peroxidase-labelled antibody was used as a secondary antibody and
495 incubated for 1 hr. The reaction was developed with TMB liquid substrate for 10 min
496 in the dark, and the reaction was stopped with 1 M H₂SO₄. Absorbance was read at
497 450 nm on a microplate reader. For immunoblots, SDS sample buffer was added to
498 the lysates and proteins were denatured by heating at 70°C for 10 min and separated
499 on 10-12% SDS-PAGE gels and transferred onto PVDF membranes prior to
500 immunodetection. Cyclophilin B and actin were detected as loading controls. To
501 detect the multi-pass transmembrane protein SURF4, samples were incubated at
502 37°C for 15 min. Native-PAGE (4.5% stacking gel and a 7.5% separation gel) was
503 performed to separate and identify α 1AT monomers and polymers. Membranes were
504 scanned using an Odyssey near infrared imager (LI-COR) and signals were
505 quantified with ImageJ software.

506 **[³⁵S] metabolic labelling and immunoprecipitation**

507 Cells were starved in Methionine/Cysteine-free DMEM for 1 hr, pulsed with 100
508 μ Ci/well [³⁵S]methionine/cysteine (Expre³⁵S Protein Labelling Mix) and harvested or
509 chased in DMEM containing 200 mM methionine and cysteine and 10% dialysed
510 FBS. After the chase, culture media were collected and cells harvested on ice in
511 Nonidet lysis buffer supplemented with protease inhibitor mixture (Roche). Culture
512 media and cell lysates were precleared and α 1AT was immunoprecipitated with a
513 α 1AT polyclonal antibody (total) or the Mab2C1 (polymer-specific) by splitting each
514 sample in two equal parts. Radiolabelled proteins were recovered in 2 \times SDS-PAGE
515 loading buffer, separated on 10% SDS-PAGE gels, detected by autoradiography with
516 a Typhoon biomolecular imager (GE Healthcare) and quantified using ImageJ.

517 ***Cross-linking and co-immunoprecipitation***

518 CHO-K1 Tet-on cells expressing α 1AT^{WT} or α 1AT^{H334D} were grown in 10-cm dishes
519 and transfected with either a 7 \times His- or FLAG-tagged SURF4 (UK2622 and UK2549)
520 for 6 hrs. Afterwards, medium was exchanged against medium supplemented with

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521 500 ng/ml doxycycline and cells were further incubated for 20 hrs. Cross-linking was
522 performed following a previously-published protocol (Zlatic et al., 2010) with
523 modifications. Cells were washed twice with PBS/Ca/Mg solution (PBS containing 0.1
524 mM CaCl₂ and 1 mM MgCl₂) and incubated for 2 hrs on ice with 1 mM
525 dithiobis(succinimidyl propionate) (DSP, reversible crosslinker) diluted in pre-warmed
526 (37°C) PBS/Ca/Mg solution. The DSP-containing solution was removed and the
527 residual DSP was quenched for 15 min with PBS/Ca/Mg solution supplemented with
528 20 mM Tris-HCl pH 7.4. Cells were washed with PBS/Ca/Mg and lysed in Nonidet
529 lysis buffer. A post-nuclear supernatant was prepared by centrifugation at
530 20,000× *g* at 4°C for 15 min, and then cleared again at 20,000× *g* for 5 min. For
531 immunoprecipitation of FLAG-SURF4, cell lysates (750 µg total protein) were
532 precleared with empty agarose beads and then incubated with anti-FLAG-M2 agarose
533 affinity beads (Sigma) with rotation overnight at 4°C. Beads were washed four times
534 with RIPA buffer [50 mM Tris-HCl pH 8, 150 mM NaCl, 1% triton X-100, 0.5% sodium
535 deoxycholate, 0.1% SDS]. Bound proteins were eluted by addition of 2×SDS sample
536 buffer (without DTT) and shaking at 37°C for 15 min to avoid aggregation of SURF4.
537 Eluted proteins were recovered at 2,800× *g* for 5 min, 50 mM DTT was added and
538 samples were further incubated at 37°C for 10 min. For pulldowns of 7xHis-SURF4,
539 cell lysates were incubated in denaturing binding buffer (8 M Urea, 10 mM imidazole)
540 containing protease inhibitors. Cell lysates were loaded onto Ni-NTA agarose beads
541 (Qiagen) and incubated with orbital rotation overnight at RT. The beads were washed
542 in denaturing washing buffer containing 150 mM NaCl, 50 mM Tris, 8 M Urea. Over
543 the three independent experiments different concentrations of imidazole were used
544 (10, 20 and 30 mM, respectively) to successively increase stringency of the wash
545 step. Beads were then suspended in elution buffer [8 M Urea, 2% SDS, 50 mM DTT,
546 4 mM EDTA]. Equal volumes of the samples were loaded on 12% SDS-PAGE gels.
547 Samples of the normalised cell lysates (15 µg) were loaded as 'input' controls and
548 bands were quantitated using ImageJ.

549 ***Confocal microscopy***

550 Cells were seeded on coverslips pretreated with 0.1 mg/ml poly-L-lysine (Sigma) in
551 12-well plates and then fixed with 4% paraformaldehyde for 30 min, followed by
552 permeabilisation with 0.1% Triton X-100 for 15 min. After 30 min blocking with PBS
553 containing 10% BSA and 0.1% Triton X-100 the cells were co-stained with primary

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554 antibodies (Mab2C1 and anti-BiP) and the corresponding fluorescent secondary
555 antibodies. Coverslips were mounted in FluorSave reagent (Calbiochem) containing
556 2% 1,4-diazabicyclo-[2.2.2]octane (Sigma). Imaging was performed on a Zeiss 710
557 confocal microscope using a 63x/1.4 oil immersion objective and diode, argon and
558 HeNe lasers. The quantification of co-localisation between both fluorescence
559 channels (Pearson correlation coefficient) was quantified using Volocity software,
560 version 6.3 (PerkinElmer).

561 **Statistics**

562 Data groups were analysed as described in the figure legends using GraphPad
563 Prism8 software. Differences between groups were considered statistically significant
564 if $P < 0.05$ (*, $P < 0.05$; **, $P < 0.01$; and ***, $P < 0.001$). All error bars represent mean
565 \pm SEM.

566

567

568 **Listing of supplemental materials**

569 [Fig. S1](#) shows the concentration-dependence of the response of CHO-K1 Tet-on cells
570 to doxycycline and bafilomycinA1. [Fig. S2](#) shows the quality control data analysis of
571 the CRISPR/Cas9 screen performed by MAGeCK. [Fig. S3](#) (related to Fig. 5) shows
572 the altered intracellular trafficking of α 1AT in an additional *SURF4*^Δ clone. [Fig. S4](#)
573 (related to Fig. 6) shows that SURF4 favours ER exit of α 1AT polymers in an
574 additional *SURF4*^Δ clone and contains microscopic images showing co-localisation of
575 α 1AT polymers with the ER marker BiP. [Table S1](#) contains the complete ranked list of
576 genes enriched in 'brightest' cells generated by MAGeCK. [Table S2](#) indicates the
577 recombinant plasmid DNAs used in this study. [Table S3](#) indicates the list of sgRNAs
578 and oligonucleotides. [Table S4](#) indicates the list of antibodies, reagents and software.
579 [Table S5](#) indicated the clones generated in this study.

580

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713 Supplementary Figures

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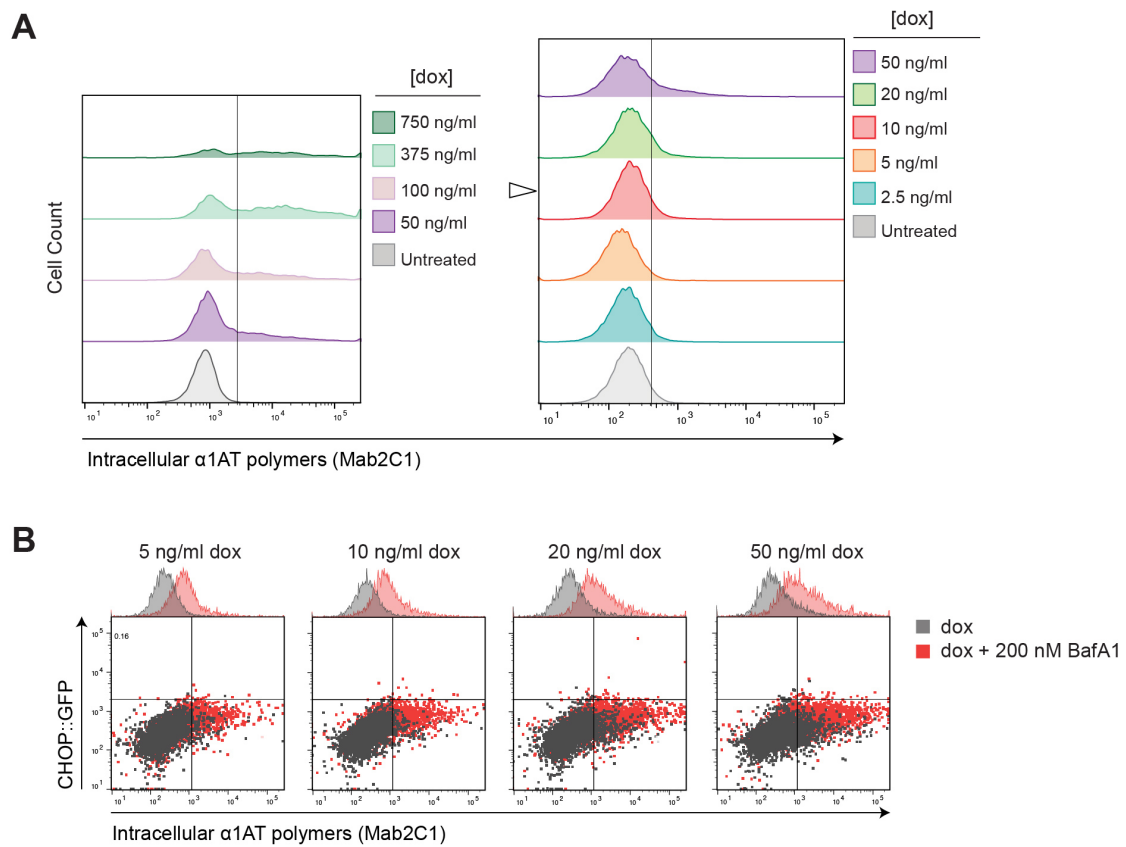


Fig. S1. Concentration-dependence of the response of CHO-K1 Tet-on cells to doxycycline and bafilomycinA1. (A) Flow cytometry analysis of the fluorescence intensity as a measure of intracellular α 1AT polymer levels (stained with Mab2C1) in CHO-K1 Tet-on_ α 1AT^{H334D}_Cas9 cells treated for 24 hrs with the indicated concentrations of doxycycline (dox). The left and right panels represent two independent experiments. The white arrowhead indicates the dox concentration used in the screen. (B) Dual-channel flow cytometry of the UPR marker, *CHOP::GFP*, and intracellular levels of α 1AT polymers in CHO-K1 Tet-on_ α 1AT^{H334D}_Cas9 cells treated for 24 hrs with the indicated concentration of dox in presence or absence of bafilomycinA1 (BafA1; 200 nM, added during the last 16 hrs). 5,000 cells were analysed.

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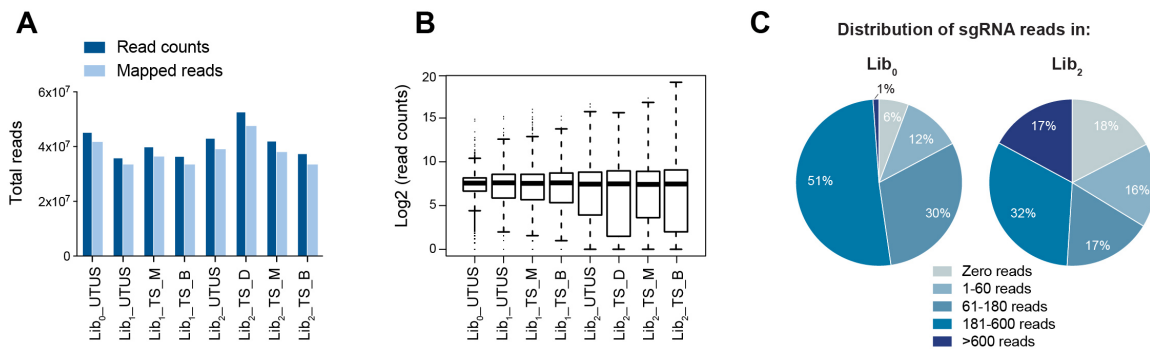


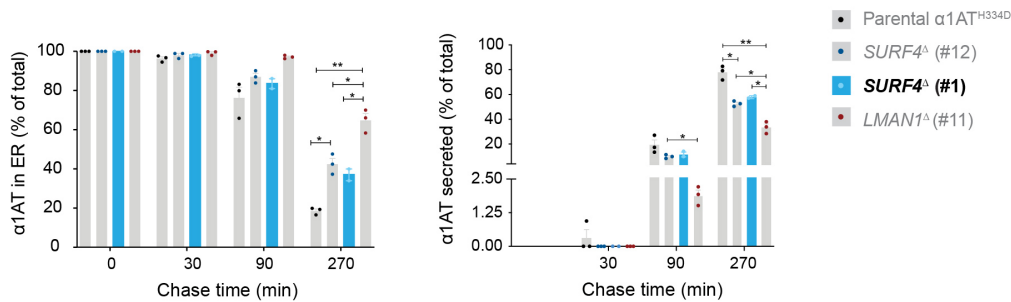
Fig. S2. Quality control data analysis of the CRISPR/Cas9 screen performed by MAGeCK. (A) Total read counts and reads mapped to the CHO library analysed by MAGeCK [UTUS: untreated (no doxycycline) and unsorted; TS: treated (plus doxycycline) and sorted; Lib₀: unenriched library; Lib₁: derivative enriched library 1; Lib₂: derivative enriched library 2; B: brightest; M: medium-bright; D: dull]. **(B)** Frequency distribution of sgRNA in each sample, showing the median-normalised read counts. **(C)** Representation of sgRNAs in unsorted cells after infection with the unenriched genome-wide library (Lib₀) and enriched library (Lib₂) according to their read counts.

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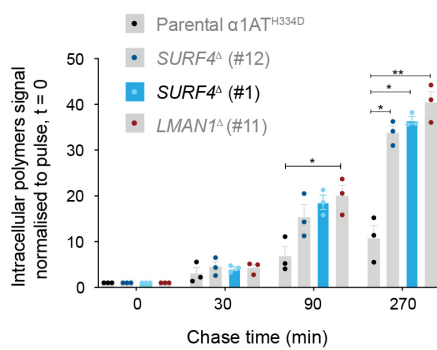
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A Related to Fig. 5C



B Related to Fig. 5D



C Related to Fig. 5E

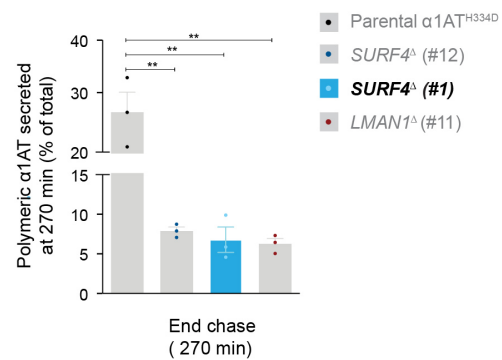


Fig. S3. Altered intracellular trafficking of $\alpha 1$ -antitrypsin in an additional SURF4^{Δ} clone. Labelled $\alpha 1\text{AT}$ was immunoprecipitated with a polyclonal antibody reactive with all $\alpha 1\text{AT}$ forms or a monoclonal antibody selective for $\alpha 1\text{AT}$ polymers from lysates of parental CHO-K1 Tet-on- $\alpha 1\text{AT}^{\text{H334D}}$ cells and their SURF4^{Δ} and LMAN1^{Δ} derivatives or from the culture media supernatant. **(A) Related to Fig. 5C.** Plots of the percentage of $\alpha 1\text{AT}$ retained in the ER (left panel) or secreted into the media (right panel) at the indicated times. The additional SURF4^{Δ} disrupted clone [SURF4^{Δ} (#1)] is highlighted in blue and the other three genotypes (previously shown in Fig. 5C) are coloured in grey. **(B) Related to Fig. 5D.** Plot of the intracellular polymer signal normalised to polymer $\alpha 1\text{AT}$ signal at pulse end ($t = 0$) at the indicated times. The additional SURF4^{Δ} (#1) clone is highlighted in blue. **(C) Related to Fig. 5E.** Plot of the percentage of $\alpha 1\text{AT}$ polymers present in the media at 270 min. The additional SURF4^{Δ} (#1) clone is highlighted in blue. All quantitative plots show the mean \pm SEM of two or three independent experiments; * $p < 0.05$, ** $p < 0.01$. Two-way (in 'A' and 'B') or one-way ANOVA (in 'C') followed by Tukey's post-hoc multiple comparison test.

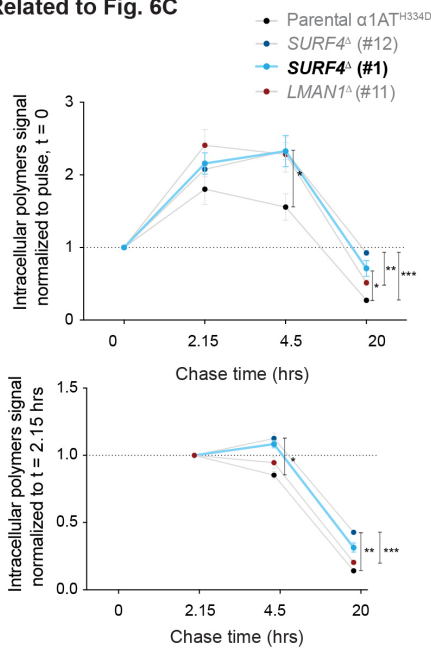
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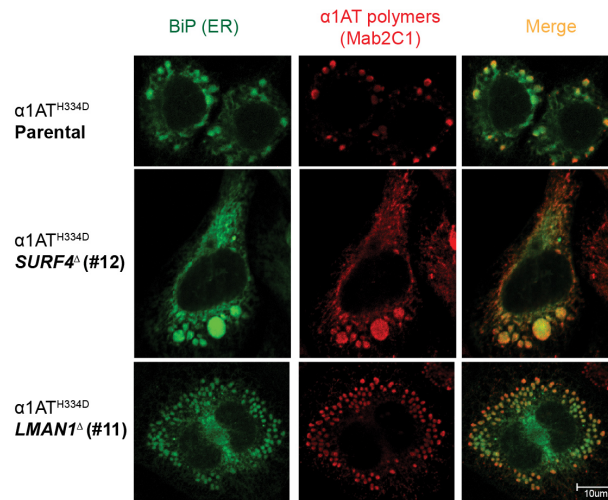
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A Related to Fig. 6C



B Related to Fig. 6D



C Related to Fig. 6E

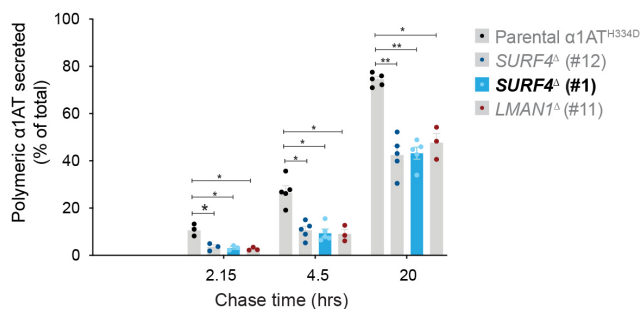


Fig. S4. SURF4 favours ER exit of $\alpha 1$ -antitrypsin polymers in an additional $SURF4^{\Delta}$ clone. Labelled $\alpha 1AT$ was immunoprecipitated with a monoclonal antibody selective for $\alpha 1AT$ polymers from lysates of parental CHO-K1 Tet-on- $\alpha 1AT^{H334D}$ cells and their $SURF4^{\Delta}$ and $LMAN1^{\Delta}$ derivatives or from the culture media supernatant. **(A) Related to Fig. 6C.** Plots of the cell-associated $\alpha 1AT$ polymer signal at the indicated times, normalised to the signal at pulse end [t = 0, (upper panel)] or at 2.15 hrs (bottom panel). The additional SURF4 disrupted clone [$SURF4^{\Delta}$ (#1)] is highlighted in blue and the other three genotypes (previously showed in Fig. 6C) are coloured in grey. **(B) Related to Fig. 6D.** Representative confocal immunofluorescence microscopy images of $\alpha 1AT$ polymers (Mab2C1, red) together with an ER marker (BiP, green) in fixed parental CHO-K1 Tet-on- $\alpha 1AT^{H334D}$ cells and their $SURF4^{\Delta}$ (#12) and $LMAN1^{\Delta}$ (#11) derivatives clones. $\alpha 1AT$ expression was induced with 500 ng/ml doxycycline for 24 hrs. **(C) Related to Fig. 6E.** Percentage of $\alpha 1AT$ polymers present in the media at the indicated times. The additional $SURF4^{\Delta}$ (#1) clone is highlighted in blue. All quantitative plots show the mean \pm SEM of three to five independent experiments; * $p < 0.05$, ** $p < 0.01$, *** $p < 0.001$, **** $p < 0.0001$. Two-way ANOVA test followed by Tukey's post-hoc multiple comparison test.

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724 **Supplementary Tables**

725 **Table S1: Rank of genes enriched in cells with the highest level of polymer**
726 **signal (see attached file).** Rank of genes enriched in cells infected with the “derivative
727 enriched Lib₂” doxycycline-treated and sorted, relative to cells infected with the
728 “unenriched Lib₀” untreated and unsorted. Genes are ranked by "pos | rank" with
729 *ATF7IP* (activating transcription factor 7 interacting protein) on the top of positively
730 selected genes. The top 121 positively selected genes correspond to Fig. 2A.

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732 **Table S2: Recombinant DNA used in this study.**

Lab ID	Plasmid name	Description	Reference
UK1610	pSpCas9(BB)-2A-mCherry	Modified pSpCas9(BB)-2A vector to express mCherry together with guide RNA & Cas9	Amin-Wetzel N et al., 2017
UK1700	pMD2.G	Addgene plasmid 12259, lentiviral packaging helper, (VSVG)	Unpublished, gift from Didier Trono
UK1701	psPAX2	Addgene plasmid 12260, next gen lentiviral packaging helper	Unpublished, gift from Didier Trono
UK1702	LentiGuide-puro	Addgene plasmid 52963	Sanjana et al., 2014, gift from Feng Zhang
UK1714	Lenti-Cas9	Lenti-Cas9 in which 2TA-blast sequence is removed to make a lenti-Cas9 without resistance selection marker	This study
UK1717	EGFPsgRNA_lentiGuide-Puro	Lentiviral vector expressing EGFP CRISPR guides without expression of Cas9	This study
UK1789	pKLV-U6gRNA(BbsI)-PGKpuro2ABFP	Addgene 50946, BFP-2A-Puro tagged gRNAvector	Koike-Yusa et al., 2014, gift from Kosuke Yusa
UK1857	cgHSPA5_g1_pSpCas9(BB)-2A-mCherry	mCherry-tagged CRISPR plasmid (UK1610) for targeting hamster HSPA5 (BiP)	Preissler et al., 2017
UK1858	cgHSPA5_g2_pSpCas9(BB)-2A-mCherry	mCherry-tagged CRISPR plasmid (UK1610) for targeting hamster HSPA5 (BiP)	Preissler et al., 2017
UK2561	pKLV-CHO_libA-PGKpuro2ABFP (Library0)	CHO CRISPR KO library of 125030 selected guides for whole genome CRISPR screening	Unpublished
UK2321	pKLV-α1AT derivative enriched CHO library1 (MluI_BamHI)-PGKpuro2ABFP	CHO CRISPR KO derivative library 1 (Lib1) for α1AT polymer enrichment_Brightest population-After first sorting	This study
UK2378	pKLV-α1AT derivative enriched CHO library2 (MluI_BamHI)-PGKpuro2ABFP	CHO CRISPR KO derivative library 2 (Lib2) for α1AT polymer enrichment_Brightest population-After second sorting	This study
UK2501	cgLman1_g1_exon 11_pSpCas9(BB)-2A-mCherry	mCherry-tagged CRISPR plasmid (UK1610) targeting cgLMAN1_guide 1	This study
UK2502	cgLman1_g2_exon 9_pSpCas9(BB)-2A-mCherry	mCherry-tagged CRISPR plasmid (UK1610) targeting cgLMAN1_guide 2	This study
UK2503	cgSurf4_g1_exon 5_pSpCas9(BB)-2A-mCherry	mCherry-tagged CRISPR plasmid (UK1610) targeting cgSURF4_guide 1	This study
UK2504	cgSurf4_g2_exon 2_pSpCas9(BB)-2A-mCherry	mCherry-tagged CRISPR plasmid (UK1610) targeting cgSURF4_guide 2	This study
UK2505	cgSec23b_g1_exon 7_pSpCas9(BB)-2A-mCherry	mCherry-tagged CRISPR plasmid (UK1610) targeting cgSEC23b_guide 1	This study
UK2506	cgSec23b_g2_exon 13_pSpCas9(BB)-2A-mCherry	mCherry-tagged CRISPR plasmid (UK1610) targeting cgSEC23b_guide 2	This study
UK2549	FLAG-tagged SURF4 [pNLF-FLAG-SURF4-puro)	FLAG-tagged SURF4 [pNLF-FLAG-SURF4-puro)	Emmer et al., 2018, gift from David Ginsburg
UK2622	pNLF-H7-SURF4-puro	Mammalian expression plasmid 7xHis N-term tagged SURF4	This study

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735 **Table S3: List of sgRNAs and oligonucleotides used in this study.**

Lab ID	Name	Sequence 5' – 3'	Comment	Reference
2486	cgLman1_g1_e11_1S	CACCGCTCATAGACGCCTG CAGAGC	CRISPR-Cas9 guide targeting chinese hamster Lman1 exon 11	This study
2487	cgLman1_g1_e11_2A S	AAACGCTCTGCAGGCGTCT ATGAGC	CRISPR-Cas9 guide targeting chinese hamster Lman1 exon 11	This study
2488	cgLman1_g2_e9_1S	CACCGCTGGAGATCTCTT CTGTCA	CRISPR-Cas9 guide targeting chinese hamster Lman1 exon 9	This study
2489	cgLman1_g2_e9_2A S	AAACTGACAGAAGAGATCT CCAGGC	CRISPR-Cas9 guide targeting chinese hamster Lman1 exon 9	This study
2490	cgSurf4_g1_e5_1S	CACCGCTTAGGGGAGCTCT CACGCA	CRISPR-Cas9 guide targeting chinese hamster Surf4 exon 5	This study
2491	cgSurf4_g1_e5_2AS	AAACTGCGTGAGAGCTCCC CTAAGC	CRISPR-Cas9 guide targeting chinese hamster Surf4 exon 5	This study
2492	cgSurf4_g2_e2_1S	CACCGCATCCGCATGTGGT TTCAG	CRISPR-Cas9 guide targeting chinese hamster Surf4 exon 2	This study
2493	cgSurf4_g2_e2_2AS	AAACCTGAAACCACATGCG GATGC	CRISPR-Cas9 guide targeting chinese hamster Surf4 exon 2	This study
2494	cgSec23b_g1_e7_1S	CACCGATATCGTGCCAGGA ACGAAT	CRISPR-Cas9 guide targeting chinese hamster Sec23b exon 7	This study
2495	cgSec23b_g1_e7_2A S	AAACATTGTTCTTCTGGCAC GATATC	CRISPR-Cas9 guide targeting chinese hamster Sec23b exon 7	This study
2496	cgSec23b_g2_e13_1 S	CACCGCAGTCTTGATGGCA CGGCT	CRISPR-Cas9 guide targeting chinese hamster Sec23b exon 13	This study
2497	cgSec23b_g2_e13_2 AS	AAACAGCCGTGCCATCAAG ACTGC	CRISPR-Cas9 guide targeting chinese hamster Sec23b exon 13	This study
2547	cgSurf4_e2_1S	ACCAAGCAGTACCTGCCTC A	for sequencing CRISPR mutants made in the cgSurf4 locus	This study
2548	cgSurf4_e2_2AS	ACACAAAGGATGAGGCCAA C	for sequencing CRISPR mutants made in the cgSurf4 locus	This study
2549	cgSurf4_e5_1S	GAGGTTTGCTGCTGCTCTT G	for sequencing CRISPR mutants made in the cgSurf4 locus	This study
2550	cgSurf4_e5_2AS	AGCTGGCATCAAAGTGAAG G	for sequencing CRISPR mutants made in the cgSurf4 locus	This study
2516	cgLman1_e11_1S	GAACTCCATGAGTGAAACA GTCC	for sequencing CRISPR mutants made in the cgLman1 locus	This study
2517	cgLman1_e11_2AS	ATGTTGCGCTGAGCAAGG	for sequencing CRISPR mutants made in the cgLman1 locus	This study
2518	cgLman1_e9_1S	CGATCGCGAGCTAAGACAA G	for sequencing CRISPR mutants made in the cgLman1 locus	This study
2519	cgLman1_e9_2AS	CTGGAGCATTGAGGGAA C	for sequencing CRISPR mutants made in the cgLman1 locus	This study
2528	cgSec23b_e7_1S	GGATCATGCTGTTCACTGG A	for sequencing CRISPR mutants made in the cgSec23b locus	This study
2529	cgSec23b_e7_2AS	AGTGACAGCTGGAATCCAC A	for sequencing CRISPR mutants made in the cgSec23b locus	This study
2182	sgRNA_outer_Mlul_s hort_F	CAGCAGAGATCCAGTTTGG TTAGTACC	primer for PCR of pKLV CHO_CRISPR library for recloning in UK1789	This study
1432	P5-sgRNA_inner_F	AATGATACGGCGACCACCG AGATCTACACTCTCTTGTGG AAAGGACGAAACACCG	primer for barcoding and adapting plentiGuide PCR products from CRISPR library screening for NGS	Harding et al., 2019
1434	sgRNA_outer_short_ F	GCTTACCCTAACTTGAAGT ATTCG	primer for barcoding and adapting plentiGuide PCR products from CRISPR library screening for NGS	Harding et al., 2019
1435	Illumina-sgRNA_seq	ACACTCTCTTGTGGAAAGG ACGAAACACCG	PAGE purified primer for NGS of PCR products from CRISPR library screening	Harding et al., 2019
1758	sgRNA_outer_short_ R2	GAATGTGTGCGAGGCCAGA G	primer for 1st round PCR of pKLV CHO_CRISPR library for NGS sequencing	Harding et al., 2019
1759	pKLV_NEBNXT01	CAAGCAGAAGACGGCATA GAGATCGTGATGTGACTGG AGTTCAGACGTGTGCTCTT	primer for barcoding and adapting pKLV CHO_CRISPR PCR	Harding et al., 2019

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		CCGATCTGAGGCCACTTGT GTAGCGCCAAG	products for NGS	
1760	pKLV_NEBNXT02	CAAGCAGAAGACGGCATA GAGATACATCGGTGACTGG AGTTCAGACGTGTGCTCT CCGATCTGAGGCCACTTGT GTAGCGCCAAG	primer for barcoding and adapting pKLV CHO_CRISPR PCR products for NGS	Harding et al., 2019
1761	pKLV_NEBNXT03	CAAGCAGAAGACGGCATA GAGATTGCCTAAGTGACTG GAGTTCAGACGTGTGCTCT TCCGATCTGAGGCCACTTG GTAGCGCCAAG	primer for barcoding and adapting pKLV CHO_CRISPR PCR products for NGS	Harding et al., 2019
1762	pKLV_NEBNXT04	CAAGCAGAAGACGGCATA GAGATTGGTCAGTGACTGG AGTTCAGACGTGTGCTCT CCGATCTGAGGCCACTTGT GTAGCGCCAAG	primer for barcoding and adapting pKLV CHO_CRISPR PCR products for NGS	Harding et al., 2019
1763	pKLV_NEBNXT05	CAAGCAGAAGACGGCATA GAGATCACTGTGTGACTGG AGTTCAGACGTGTGCTCT CCGATCTGAGGCCACTTGT GTAGCGCCAAG	primer for barcoding and adapting pKLV CHO_CRISPR PCR products for NGS	Harding et al., 2019
1764	pKLV_NEBNXT06	CAAGCAGAAGACGGCATA GAGATTATTGGCGTGACTG GAGTTCAGACGTGTGCTCT TCCGATCTGAGGCCACTTG GTAGCGCCAAG	primer for barcoding and adapting pKLV CHO_CRISPR PCR products for NGS	Harding et al., 2019
1765	pKLV_NEBNXT07	CAAGCAGAAGACGGCATA GAGATTGATCTGGTGACTG GAGTTCAGACGTGTGCTCT TCCGATCTGAGGCCACTTG GTAGCGCCAAG	primer for barcoding and adapting pKLV CHO_CRISPR PCR products for NGS	Harding et al., 2019
1766	pKLV_NEBNXT08	CAAGCAGAAGACGGCATA GAGATTTCAAGTGTGACTG GAGTTCAGACGTGTGCTCT TCCGATCTGAGGCCACTTG GTAGCGCCAAG	primer for barcoding and adapting pKLV CHO_CRISPR PCR products for NGS	Harding et al., 2019
1767	pKLV_NEBNXT09	CAAGCAGAAGACGGCATA GAGATTCTGATCGTGACTG GAGTTCAGACGTGTGCTCT TCCGATCTGAGGCCACTTG GTAGCGCCAAG	primer for barcoding and adapting pKLV CHO_CRISPR PCR products for NGS	Harding et al., 2019
1768	pKLV_NEBNXT10	CAAGCAGAAGACGGCATA GAGATAAGCTAGTGACTGG AGTTCAGACGTGTGCTCT CCGATCTGAGGCCACTTGT GTAGCGCCAAG	primer for barcoding and adapting pKLV CHO_CRISPR PCR products for NGS	Harding et al., 2019
1769	pKLV_NEBNXT11	CAAGCAGAAGACGGCATA GAGATTGTAGCCGTGACTG GAGTTCAGACGTGTGCTCT TCCGATCTGAGGCCACTTG GTAGCGCCAAG	primer for barcoding and adapting pKLV CHO_CRISPR PCR products for NGS	Harding et al., 2019
2606	cgSurf4_exon4_6FA M_2AS	[6FAM]AGCTGGCATCAAAGT GAAGG	oligo 2550 with 5'-[6FAM] for screening for efficient CRISPRs	This study
2607	cgSurf4_exon1_6FA M_2AS	[6FAM]ACACAAAGGATGAG GCCAAC	oligo 2548 with 5'-[6FAM] for screening for efficient CRISPRs	This study
2665	cgLman1_exon10_6F AM_2AS	[6FAM]ATGTTGCGCTGAGC AAGG	oligo 2517 with 5'-[6FAM] for screening for efficient CRISPRs	This study
2666	cgLman1_exon8_6FA M_2AS	[6FAM]CTGGAGCATTTTGAG GGAAC	oligo 2519 with 5'-[6FAM] for screening for efficient CRISPRs	This study
1402	EGFP_guide1_1S	CACCGGGCGAGGAGCTGTT CACCG	CRISPR-Cas9 guide targeting targeting EGFP	This study
1403	EGFP_guide1_2AS	AAACCGGTGAACAGCTCCT CGCCC	CRISPR-Cas9 guide targeting targeting EGFP	This study

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737 **Table S4: List of antibodies, reagents and software used in this study.**

Reagent or Resource	Source	Identifier
Antibodies		
Monoclonal Mouse anti- α 1AT polymer-specific 2C1	Miranda et al., 2010	Mab2C1
Monoclonal Mouse anti-total α 1AT 3C11	Tan et al., 2015	Mab3C11
Polyclonal Rabbit anti-total α 1AT	Agilent, Dako	A0012
Polyclonal Rabbit anti-ERGIC-53	Sigma	E1031
Polyclonal Rabbit anti-SURF4	Invitrogen	PA5-69676
Monoclonal Mouse anti FLAG-M2	Sigma	F1804
Polyclonal Rabbit anti-cyclophilin B	Abcam	AB16045
Monoclonal Mouse anti-actin	Abcam	AB3280
Polyclonal Chicken anti-hamsterBiP	Avezov et al., 2013	anti-BiP
Goat anti-Mouse IgG (H+L) Cross-Adsorbed Secondary Antibody, DyLight 633	Thermo Fisher Scientific	35513
Chemicals		
Doxycycline	Sigma	D9861
DMEM	Sigma	D6429
Tet Free Serum	Pan-Biotech	P30-3602
HyClone II Serum	Thermo Fisher Scientific	SH30066.03
Penicillin/Streptomycin	Sigma	P0781
L-glutamine	Sigma	G7513
Non-essential amino acids solution	Sigma	M7145
Nutrient Mixture F12	Sigma	N4888
Lipofectamine LTX	Thermo Fisher Scientific	A12621
Bafilomycin A1	Sigma	B1793
Dithiobis(succinimidyl propionate) (DSP)	Thermo Scientific Pierce	22585
Puromycin	MERCK-milipore	540222
EDTA-free Protease inhibitor Cocktail	Roche	11873580001
DMEM (-Glu/-Met/-Cys)	Gibco	21013024
Easy TagTM Express ³⁵ S Protein Labelling Mix	Perkin Elmer	NEG072007MC
Protein A-Sepharose	Sigma	P3391
Protein G- Sepharose 4B fast flow	Sigma	P3296
Anti-FLAG M2 Affinity Gel	Sigma	F3165
Ni-NTA Agarose beads	Qiagen	30210
Experimental Models: Cell lines		
CHO-K1 Tet-on α 1AT ^{H334D} CHOP::GFP_Cas9	This study	
CHO-K1 Tet-on α 1AT ^{H334D} CHOP::GFP	This study	
CHO-K1 Tet-on α 1AT ^{WT} CHOP::GFP	This study	
CHO-K1 Tet-on α 1AT ^{H334D}	Ordonez et al., 2013	
CHO-K1 Tet-on α 1AT ^{WT}	Ordonez et al., 2013	
CHO-S21	Sekine et al., 2016	
Software and Algorithms		
MAGeCK	Li et al., 2014	
Metascape	Zhou et al., 2019	
MacVector		
Photoshop and Illustrator		
FlowJo		
ImageJ		
GraphPad-Prism V8		
Velocity V6.3	Perkin Elmer	

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739 **Table S5: Clones generated in this study.**

Gene targeting	Cell line	Clone	Exon	Allele	Amino acid sequence (number shows amino acid position at which insert/deletion occurred)
<i>SURF4</i>	CHO-K1 Tet-on α 1AT ^{H334D} _CHOP::GFP	#12	5	1	....VTMR149in*
				2	....VTMR149in*
		#1	2	1	....DGIR44delISGVSNVTILTLPGAVATCWP HPLCSSTSWDS*
				2	Δ W45-Q47
<i>LMAN1</i>	CHO-K1 Tet-on α 1AT ^{WT} _CHOP::GFP	#21	5	1	....VTMR149in*
				2	....VTMR149inLRGHPDRQAEGDQGWPPA LRLVRAPLSSTCNLEEGSCWS*
		#11	9	1	....VSSL375delIRRDLQERSGDPRAAWAGL STGTRYSCENPA*
				2	....VSSL375delIKKRSPGEERGPQGS LGRS LNRN*
<i>SEC23B</i>	CHO-K1 Tet-on α 1AT ^{H334D} _CHOP::GFP	#14	11	1	....QHPG433indelVYETTSALHGHQRAPAC REERY*
				2	....QHPG433inWHVVALAPVLVASGQHLVV DGVVLQKALRHD MVHIVVGPVDVQFLVH VHIPILQVVQVQLLVQLGVFHGVFFQDL AAQLFDAXXDPXXSLAAVLLSRRRL*
		#8	9	1	....VSSL375delRSPGEERGPQGS LGRSLN RN*
				2	....VSSL375delIKKRSPGEERGPQGS LGRS LNRN*
<i>SEC23B</i>	CHO-K1 Tet-on α 1AT ^{H334D} _CHOP::GFP	#1	7	1KTP313delIIPGTILKKIMHGS*
				2KTP313delIIPGTILKKIMHGS*

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