Pathogenic mutations in the chromokinesin KIF22 disrupt anaphase chromosome segregation

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ABSTRACT

The chromokinesin KIF22 uses plus end-directed motility and direct binding to chromosome arms to generate pushing forces that contribute to mitotic chromosome congression and alignment. Mutations in the motor domain of KIF22 have been identified in patients with abnormal skeletal development, and we report the identification of a patient with a novel mutation in the coiled-coil domain of the KIF22 tail. The mechanism by which these mutations affect development is unknown. We assessed whether pathogenic mutations affect the function of KIF22 in mitosis and demonstrate that mutations do not result in a loss of KIF22 function. Pathogenic mutations did not alter the localization or prometaphase function of KIF22. Instead, mutations disrupted chromosome segregation in anaphase, resulting in reduced proliferation, abnormal daughter cell nuclear morphology and, in a subset of cells, cytokinesis failure. This phenotype could be explained by a failure of KIF22 to inactivate in anaphase. Consistent with this model, a phosphomimetic mutation, which constitutively activates the motor, phenocopied the effects of pathogenic mutations. These findings offer insight into the mechanism by which mutations in KIF22 may affect human development, the balance between polar ejection forces and antiparallel microtubule sliding in anaphase, and potential mechanisms of KIF22 regulation.

INTRODUCTION

Mitosis requires mechanisms that mechanically control chromosome movements to ensure equal segregation of chromosomes to daughter cells. Forces that move mitotic chromosomes are generated by microtubule dynamics within the mitotic spindle and by molecular motor proteins. The chromokinesin KIF22 (or Kid, kinesin-like DNA-binding protein) is a plus-end directed member of the kinesin-10 family (Yajima et al., 2003). KIF22 and its orthologs, including

Nod (*Drosophila melanogaster*) (Zhang, Knowles, Goldstein, & Hawley, 1990) and Xkid (*Xenopus*

laevis) (Antonio et al., 2000; Funabiki & Murray, 2000; Takagi, Itabashi, Suzuki, & Ishiwata, 2013),

generate forces that move chromosomes away from the spindle poles. Structurally, KIF22

contains a conserved kinesin motor domain responsible for ATP hydrolysis and microtubule

binding (Tokai et al., 1996; Yajima et al., 2003), a second microtubule binding domain in the tail

(Shiroguchi, Ohsugi, Edamatsu, Yamamoto, & Toyoshima, 2003), a predicted coiled-coil domain

(Shiroguchi et al., 2003), and a C-terminal DNA binding domain which includes a helix-hairpin-

helix motif (Tokai et al., 1996) **(Figure 1A)**.

In interphase, KIF22 localizes to the nucleus (Levesque & Compton, 2001; Tokai et al.,

1996). As cells enter mitosis, chromosomes condense and KIF22 binds along chromosome arms

(Levesque & Compton, 2001; Tokai et al., 1996). In prometaphase, chromosomes must congress

and align at the center of the spindle. The interactions of the KIF22 motor domain with spindle

microtubules and the KIF22 tail domain with chromosome arms allows the motor to generate polar

ejection forces (Bieling, Kronja, & Surrey, 2010; Brouhard & Hunt, 2005), which push the arms of

chromosomes away from the spindle poles and towards the center of the spindle (Marshall,

Marko, Agard, & Sedat, 2001; Rieder & Salmon, 1994; Rieder, Davison, Jensen, Cassimeris, &

Salmon, 1986), contributing to chromosome congression in prometaphase (Iemura & Tanaka,

2015; Levesque & Compton, 2001; Wandke et al., 2012), as well as chromosome arm orientation

(Levesque & Compton, 2001; Wandke et al., 2012). In metaphase, polar ejection forces also

contribute to chromosome oscillation and alignment (Antonio et al., 2000; Funabiki & Murray,

2000; Levesque & Compton, 2001; Levesque, Howard, Gordon, & Compton, 2003; Stumpff,

Wagenbach, Franck, Asbury, & Wordeman, 2012; Takagi et al., 2013; Tokai-Nishizumi, Ohsugi,

Suzuki, & Yamamoto, 2005). Purified KIF22 is monomeric (Shiroguchi et al., 2003), and the forces

generated by KIF22 on chromosomes arms may represent the collective action of many

monomers. In anaphase, KIF22 is inactivated to reduce polar ejection forces and allow

chromosomes to segregate towards the spindle poles (Soeda, Yamada-Nomoto, & Ohsugi, 2016;

Su et al., 2016).

The generation of polar ejection forces by KIF22 is regulated by the activity of cyclin-

dependent kinase 1 (CDK1)/cyclin B, which is high in prometa- and metaphase, and drops sharply

at the metaphase to anaphase transition when cyclin B is degraded (Hershko, 1999; Morgan,

1995). KIF22 is phosphorylated by CDK1/cyclin B at T463, a residue in the tail of the motor

between the second microtubule binding and coiled-coil domains. Phosphorylation of T463 is

required for polar ejection force generation in prometa- and metaphase, and dephosphorylation

of T463 is necessary for the suspension of polar ejection forces to allow chromosome segregation

in anaphase (Soeda et al., 2016). Reduced polar ejection forces in anaphase are one component

of an overall shift in force balance at the metaphase to anaphase transition as microtubule

dynamics and motor activities change to promote anaphase chromosome segregation rather than

metaphase congression. In addition to its activity, the expression level of KIF22 is also regulated

as the cell cycle progresses. Expression is highest in G2 phase and mitosis, and drops as cells

exit mitosis (Germani et al., 2000; Yount, Zong, & Walczak, 2015).

Mutations in KIF22 have been identified in patients with a developmental disorder,

spondyloepimetaphyseal dysplasia with joint laxity, leptodactylic type (SEMDJL2, also referred to

as Hall Type or lepto-SEMDJL) (Boyden et al., 2011; Min et al., 2011; Tüysüz, Yılmaz, Erener-

Ercan, Bilguvar, & Günel, 2014). Four point mutations in two amino acids have been reported in

SEMDJL2 patients (Boyden et al., 2011; Min et al., 2011; Tüysüz et al., 2014) **(Figure 1A)**. These

mutations occur in adjacent residues P148 and R149 in the α2 helix of the KIF22 motor domain

(Figure 1B). P148 and R149 are conserved in kinesin-10 family members across species **(Figure**

1C) and in many human members of the kinesin superfamily **(Figure 1D)**. All identified patients

are heterozygous for a single mutation in KIF22. Mutations dominantly cause SEMDJL2, and

patients with both *de novo* and inherited mutations in KIF22 have been identified (Boyden et al.,

2011; Min et al., 2011).

Although KIF22 mRNA is expressed throughout the body (Human Protein Atlas,

http://www.proteinatlas.org (Uhlen et al., 2015)), the effects of these mutations are largely tissue-

specific, and the development of the skeletal system is most affected in SEMDJL2 patients. A

primary symptom of SEMDJL2 is short stature, resulting from shortening of both the trunk and the

limbs. Additionally, patients present with joint laxity, midface hypoplasia, scoliosis, and

leptodactyly, a narrowing of the fingers (Boyden et al., 2011; Min et al., 2011). In very young

children, the softness of the cartilage in the larynx and trachea can cause respiratory issues

(Boyden et al., 2011). Growth plate radiology demonstrated delayed maturation of the

metaphyses and epiphyses in SEMDJL2 patients, and symptoms became more pronounced as

patients aged (Tüysüz et al., 2014). Leptodactyly, specifically, was only observed in older (young

adult) patients (Boyden et al., 2011).

Pathogenic mutations in the KIF22 motor domain were predicted to be loss of function

mutations (Min et al., 2011). However, KIF22 knockout in mice did not affect skeletal

development. Loss of KIF22 was lethal early in embryogenesis for approximately 50% of

embryos, but mice that survived past this point developed to adulthood and demonstrated no

gross abnormalities or pathologies (Ohsugi et al., 2003). As such, the cellular mechanism by

which mutations in KIF22 affect development is unknown.

Here we characterize an additional patient with a mutation in KIF22 and assess the effect
of previously reported and novel pathogenic mutations on the function of KIF22 in mitosis. We
demonstrate that mutations are not loss of function mutations, and do not alter the localization of
the motor or the generation of polar ejection forces in prometaphase. Instead, mutations disrupt
anaphase chromosome segregation, consistent with continued KIF22 activation and consequent
polar ejection force generation in anaphase. Defects in anaphase chromosome segregation affect
daughter cell nuclear morphology and, in a subset of cells, prevent cytokinesis. These findings
demonstrate that anaphase inactivation of KIF22 is critical for daughter cell fitness. As such,
mitotic defects may contribute to pathogenesis in patients with KIF22 mutations. Additionally, we
demonstrate that aberrant polar ejection force generation in anaphase is sufficient to affect the
movements of not only the chromosomes but also the spindle poles, offering insight into the
balance of forces required in anaphase for accurate chromosome segregation.
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RESULTS
A novel mutation in KIF22 affects development
We report the identification and characterization of a patient with a novel mutation in KIF22
(Figure 1E). The patient is a 15-year-old male with a history of short stature, cryptorchidism and
shawl scrotum, minimal scoliosis, secondary enuresis, and skin hyperpigmentation. He presented
for evaluation at 9 years of age. At that time, his height was just below 3% for age, weight was at
40% for age, and BMI was 82% for age. He was noted to have relative macrocephaly, with a head
circumference at 93% for age. He had a broad forehead and hypertelorism, round face, flaring of
eyebrows, and ankyloglossia. He also had mild brachydactyly **(Figure 1F)**. He had a history of
short stature since infancy, but followed a trajectory close to the third percentile. Growth hormone
and thyroid function were normal. Bone age showed a normal, age-appropriate bone maturation
with normal epiphyseal ossification centers. However, skeletal survey at age 11 years disclosed
mild scoliosis of 14 degrees, as well as mild increase of the central anteroposterior diameter of
several lower thoracic vertebrae with mild "bullet-shaped" appearance, mild posterior scalloping
of the lumbar vertebrae, and mild foreshortening of both 4th metacarpals **(Figure 1G)**.
Genetic testing was performed to determine the cause of these developmental
differences. Clinical whole exome sequencing revealed two variants of uncertain significance: a
maternally inherited heterozygous *SLC26A2* variant [NM_000112.3(SLC26A2): c.1046T>A
(p.F349Y)] (SCV000782516.1) as well as a *de novo* heterozygous *KIF22* variant
[NM_007317.3(KIF22):c.1424T>G (p.V475G)] (SCV000782515.1) **(Figure 1E)**. The *SLC26A2*
gene encodes the diastrophic dysplasia sulfate transporter (Haila et al., 2001; Rossi & Superti-

Furga, 2001). However, results of carbohydrate deficient transferrin testing were not consistent

with a congenital disorder of glycosylation (transferrin tri-sialo/di-oligo ratio 0.07).

The c.1424T>G, p.(V475G) *KIF22* variant has not been observed previously in the

Genome Aggregation Database (gnomAD). This missense variant is predicted to be deleterious

by Sorting Intolerant from Tolerant (SIFT) (Vaser, Adusumalli, Leng, Sikic, & Ng, 2015), benign

by Polymorphism Phenotyping (PolyPhen-2) (Adzhubei et al., 2010), and disease causing by

MutationTaster (Schwarz, Rödelsperger, Schuelke, & Seelow, 2010). According to American

College of Medical Genetics 2015 criteria, the variant was classified as a variant of uncertain

significance (VUS). V475 is located in the coiled-coil domain in the tail of KIF22 **(Figure 1A)**. This

residue is conserved in most kinesin-10 family members across species **(Figure 1C)**. However,

the tail domains of kinesin motors diverge in both structure and function, and as such meaningful

alignments to assess the conservation of V475 across the human kinesin superfamily were not

possible.

Figure 1

A Motor Domain | 2nd Microtubule Binding Domain | Coiled-Coil Domain | DNA Binding Domain

N — C

P148L
P148S
R149Q
R149L

V475G

B α2 Helix
R149
P148
ADP

C

Homo sapiens	141 PEQPGVIPRALMDLLQLTREE 161	468 RMVLMKTVEEKDLEI 482
Mus musculus	136 PEQPGVIPRALMDLLQLAREE 156	463 RMVLMKTVEEKNLEI 477
Xenopus laevis	130 PNQPGVIPRAVRDLLQMSRTA 150	450 RMALLKKWEESQMEI 464
Danio rerio	117 QEQPGVIPRAVKEVFNLVGAQ 137	426 RLNLLKTVAQSRKEI 440
Bos taurus	136 PEQPGVIPRALMDLLQLTREE 156	463 RMVLMKTVEEKDLEI 477
Drosophila melanogaster	107 PEHLGILPRALGDIFERVTAR 127	445 NSTLMGIVEETEPK- 459

D

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KIF22   141 PEQPGVIPRALMDLLQLTREE 161
KIF5A   122 PQLMGIIPRIARDIFNHIYSM 142
KIF5B   121 PEGMGIIPRIVQDIFNYIYSM 141
KIF5C   122 PQLMGIIPRIAHDIFDHIYSM 142
KIF3A   116 PELRGIIPNSFAHIFGHIAKA 136
KIF3B   112 PEKRGVIPNSFDHIFTHISRS 132
KIF3C   113 PELRGVIPNAFEHIFTHISRS 133
KIF17   107 PSQRGIIPRAFEHVFESVQCA 127
KIF1A   112 KDQQGIIPQLCEDLFSRINDT 132
KIF1B   112 ESQAGIIPQLCEEELFEKINDN 132
KIF1C   112 PGQQGIVPQLCEDLFSRVSEN 132
KIF13A  116 -EQLGLIPRLCCALFKRISLE 135
KIF13B  117 -DQPGLIPRLCSGLFERTQKE 136
KIF4B   108 EPTVGIIPRVIQLLFKEIDKK 128
KIF7    114 EDEQGIVPRAMAEAFKLIDEN 135
KIF21A  108 EEELGIISRAVKHLFKSIEEK 128
KIF21B  107 EEEQGIIPRAIAHLFGGIAER 127
KIF11   128 DPLAGIIPRTLHQIFEKLTD- 147
KIF20A  176 --DGGILPRSLALIFNSLQGQ 194
KIF20B  168 --NIGILPRTLNVLFDSLQER 196
KIF23   128 --EGGLLPRCLDMIFNSIGSF 146
KIF10   101 --HLGVIPRAIHDIFQKIKKF 119
KIF18A  125 ADEPGVMYLTMLHLYKCMDEI 145
KIF18B  121 EGDPGIMYLTTVELYRRLEAR 141
KIF19   116 DQEPGIYVQTLNDLFRAIEET 136
KIF6    113 YSDRGIIPRTLSYIFEQLQKD 133
KIF9    109 YKHRGILPRALQQVFRMIEER 129
KIF12   128 PSLAGIMQRTFAWL---LDRV 145
KIF15   130 HNLRGVIPRSFEYLFSLIDRE 130
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E

I

1 □* — 2 ○*

II

1 ■* | 2 □ | 3 ◇

KIF22
1424 T>G
V475G

* Exome sequencing performed

F

L

G

L | R

Figure 1. Identification of a novel pathogenic mutation in the tail of KIF22.

(A) Schematic of the domains of KIF22 with pathogenic mutations in the motor domain (magenta)

and coiled-coil domain (yellow) indicated. **(B)** Location of amino acids P148 and R149 in the

alpha-2 helix of the KIF22 motor domain (PDB 6NJE). **(C)** Alignment of amino acid sequences of

kinesin-10 family members to assess conservation of motor domain (P148 and R149, left) and

coiled-coil domain (V475G, right) residues across species. **(D)** Alignment of amino acid

sequences of human kinesin motors to assess conservation of motor domain residues across the

kinesin superfamily. For C and D, alignments were performed using Clustal Omega. **(E)** Pedigree

identifying the *de novo* V475G (1424 T>G) mutation. **(F)** Radiograph of the patient's hand,

posteroanterior view. **(G)** Radiographs of the patient's spine. Left: anteroposterior view of the

chest, right: lateral view of the lumbo-sacral spine. Arrowheads indicate "bullet-shaped" vertebrae.

Pathogenic mutations in KIF22 do not disrupt the localization of the motor

To assess the effect of published pathogenic mutations in the motor domain and the novel pathogenic mutation in the tail on the function of KIF22 in mitosis, we generated human cervical adenocarcinoma (HeLa-Kyoto) cell lines with inducible expression of KIF22-GFP. Treatment of these cells with doxycycline induced KIF22-GFP expression at a level approximately two- to three-fold higher than the level of expression of endogenous KIF22 as measured by immunofluorescence **(Figure S1A-C)**. To facilitate both overexpression of and rescue with KIF22-GFP constructs, siRNA-resistant silent mutations were introduced into exogenous KIF22 **(Figure S1D-E)**. Initial experiments were performed using HeLa-Kyoto cell lines expressing each known pathogenic mutation in KIF22 (P148L, P148S, R149L, R149Q, and V475G), and a subset of experiments then focused on cells expressing one representative motor domain mutation (R149Q) or the coiled-coil domain mutation in the tail (V475G). Additionally, we generated inducible retinal pigmented epithelial (RPE-1) cell lines expressing wild type and mutant KIF22-GFP to assess any differences between the consequences of expressing mutant KIF22 in aneuploid cancer-derived cells (HeLa-Kyoto) and genomically stable somatic cells. RPE-1 cells are human telomerase reverse transcriptase (hTERT)-immortalized (Bodnar et al., 1998), and metaphase chromosome spreads demonstrated that these cell lines are near-diploid, with a modal chromosome number of 46, even after selection to generate stable cell lines **(Figure S1F-G)**. The expression level of siRNA-resistant KIF22-GFP in RPE-1 cell lines was approximately four- to seven-fold higher than the level of expression of endogenous KIF22 **(Figure S1H-K)**.

KIF22 localizes to the nucleus in interphase, and primarily localizes to chromosomes and spindle microtubules during mitosis (Tokai et al., 1996). KIF22-GFP with pathogenic mutations demonstrated the same localization pattern throughout the cell cycle as wild type motor (**Figure 2A)**. In all cell lines, KIF22-GFP was localized to the nucleus in interphase cells and was bound to condensing chromosomes in prophase. In prometaphase, metaphase, and anaphase mutant and wild type KIF22-GFP localized primarily to chromosome arms, with a smaller amount of motor signal visible on the spindle microtubules. The same localization patterns were seen for mutant and wild type KIF22-GFP expressed in RPE-1 cells **(Figure S2A)**.

Since mutations did not grossly disrupt localization of KIF22-GFP, fluorescence recovery after photobleaching (FRAP) was used to compare the dynamics of mutant and wild type KIF22 localization. In interphase nuclei, KIF22-GFP signal recovered completely 220 seconds after bleaching (97% $\pm$ 3% of intensity before bleaching, mean $\pm$ SEM), indicating a dynamic pool of KIF22-GFP **(Figure 2B and S2B)**. Similar high recovery percentages were also measured in interphase nuclei of cells expressing KIF22-GFP R149Q and KIF22-GFP V475G (100% $\pm$ 6% and

103% $\pm$ 7% at 220 seconds, respectively) **(Figure 2E and 2H)**. In contrast, KIF22-GFP recovery

was minimal in cells bleached during metaphase (25% $\pm$ 3% of intensity before bleaching) **(Figure**

2C and S2B) and anaphase (35% $\pm$ 6%) **(Figure 2D and S2B)** during the same time period,

suggesting that KIF22 stably associates with mitotic chromosomes. Pathogenic mutations did not

change these localization dynamics; recovery percentages in mitosis were also low in cells

expressing KIF22-GFP R149Q (32 $\pm$ 3% in metaphase, 39 $\pm$ 6% in anaphase) **(Figure 2F and**

2G) and KIF22-GFP V475G (29 $\pm$ 2% in metaphase, 35 $\pm$ 6% in anaphase) **(Figure 2I and 2J)**.

These data indicate that pathogenic mutations do not alter the localization of KIF22 to

chromosomes and spindle microtubules, and do not alter KIF22 localization dynamics.

Supplemental Figure 1

Supplemental Figure 1. HeLa-Kyoto and RPE-1 stable cell lines express mutant KIF22.

(A) Immunofluorescence images of HeLa-Kyoto cells expressing KIF22-GFP under the control of

a doxycycline inducible promoter. Images are maximum intensity projections in z of five frames

at the center of the spindle. Fixed approximately 24 hours after siRNA transfection and treatment

with doxycycline to induce expression. Scale bar 5 μm. KD: knockdown. **(B-E)** Quantification of

KIF22 fluorescence intensity in untreated HeLa-Kyoto cells transfected with control siRNA (B),

cells treated with doxycycline to induce expression and transfected with control siRNA (C),

untreated cells transfected with KIF22 siRNA (D), and cells treated with doxycycline and

transfected with KIF22 siRNA (E) normalized to the mean intensity of uninduced, control

knockdown cells (endogenous KIF22 expression level) for each cell line (B). 21-33 HeLa-Kyoto

cells per condition from 3 experiments. **(F)** DAPI-stained metaphase chromosome spreads from

uninduced RPE-1 cell lines with inducible expression of GFP, KIF22-GFP, KIF22-GFP R149Q, or

KIF22-GFP V475G. Scale bar 10 μm. Images are representative of 3 experiments. **(G)** Numbers

of chromosome pairs counted in metaphase spreads prepared from RPE-1 stable cell lines.

Dashed line indicates the expected chromosome number for diploid human cells (46). The mode

for each cell line is 46. 53-58 spreads per condition from 3 experiments. **(H-K)** Quantification of

KIF22 fluorescence intensity in untreated RPE-1 cells transfected with control siRNA (H), cells

treated with doxycycline to induce expression and transfected with control siRNA (I), untreated

cells transfected with KIF22 siRNA (J), and cells treated with doxycycline and transfected with

KIF22 siRNA (K) normalized to the mean intensity of uninduced, control knockdown cells for each

cell line (H). 21-29 RPE-1 cells per condition from 3 experiments. For B-E and H-K, bars indicate

means. p values from Brown-Forsythe and Welch ANOVA with Dunnett's T3 multiple comparisons

test. p values are greater than 0.05 for comparisons without a marked p value.

Figure 2

Figure 2. Pathogenic mutations in KIF22 do not disrupt the localization of the motor.

(A) Immunofluorescence images of HeLa-Kyoto cells expressing KIF22-GFP constructs in

prophase (top two rows) and metaphase (bottom two rows). KIF22-GFP was visualized using an

anti-GFP antibody. Images are maximum intensity projections in z of five frames at the center of

the spindle (metaphase cells) or maximum intensity projections in z of two frames (prophase

cells). Fixed approximately 24 hours after treatment with doxycycline to induce expression. Scale

bars 5 μm. **(B-J)** Fluorescence recovery after photobleaching (FRAP) of KIF22-GFP (B-D), KIF22-

GFP R149Q (E-G), and KIF22-GFP V475G (H-J) in interphase nuclei (B, E, H) or on metaphase

(C, F, I) or anaphase (D, G, J) chromosomes. Bleaching occurred at time zero. Thin lines are

traces from individual cells and thick lines represent means. Intensity values are normalized to

the KIF22-GFP intensity in the first imaged frame before bleaching. 6-14 cells from 3-5

experiments per condition.

Supplemental Figure 2

Supplemental Figure 2. Pathogenic mutations in KIF22 do not disrupt the localization of

the motor in RPE-1 cells.

(A) Immunofluorescence images of RPE-1 cells expressing KIF22-GFP constructs in prophase

(top two rows) and metaphase (bottom two rows). KIF22-GFP was visualized using an anti-GFP

antibody. Images are maximum intensity projections in z of five frames at the center of the spindle

(metaphase cells) or maximum intensity projections in z of three frames (prophase cells). Fixed

approximately 18 hours after treatment with doxycycline to induce expression. Scale bars 5 μm.

(B) Time-lapse images of fluorescence recovery after photobleaching (FRAP) in HeLa-Kyoto cells

expressing KIF22-GFP. Bleaching occurred at time zero, and arrowheads indicate bleached area.

Scale bars 10 μm. Images are representative of 3 or more experiments.

Mutations do not reduce polar ejection forces

In prometaphase and metaphase, KIF22 contributes to chromosome congression and
alignment by generating polar ejection forces (Brouhard & Hunt, 2005; Levesque & Compton,
2001; Stumpff et al., 2012; Wandke et al., 2012). In cells treated with monastrol to inhibit
Eg5/KIF11 and generate monopolar spindles, polar ejection forces push chromosomes away from
a single central spindle pole (Levesque & Compton, 2001) **(Figure 3A)**. A loss of KIF22 function
causes chromosomes to collapse in towards the pole in this system (Levesque & Compton, 2001)
(Figure 3A). To determine whether overexpression of KIF22-GFP with pathogenic mutations has
a dominant effect on polar ejection force generation, wild type or mutant KIF22-GFP-expressing
HeLa-Kyoto cells were treated with monastrol to induce mitotic arrest with monopolar spindles.
Relative polar ejection forces were compared by measuring the distance from the spindle pole to
the maximum DAPI signal **(Figure 3A)**. Expression of mutant motor did not reduce polar ejection
forces **(Figure 3B and 3C)**. Rather, expression of KIF22-GFP R149L and R149Q significantly
increased the distance from the pole to the maximum DAPI signal (R149L 4.6 ± 0.13 μm, R149Q
4.3 ± 0.11 μm, GFP control 3.7 ± 0.04 μm, mean $\pm$ SEM), indicating higher levels of polar ejection
forces in these cells.

The same assay was used to test whether mutant KIF22 could rescue polar ejection force
generation in cells depleted of endogenous KIF22. In control cells expressing GFP, depletion of
endogenous KIF22 resulted in the collapse of chromosomes towards the pole **(Figure 3B)**, and
the distance from the pole to the maximum DAPI signal was reduced to 1.6 ± 0.11 μm, indicating
a loss of polar ejection forces **(Figure 3D)**. This reduction was not observed in cells expressing
wild type or mutant KIF22-GFP, demonstrating that KIF22-GFP with pathogenic mutations is
capable of generating polar ejection forces **(Figure 3B and 3D)**.

Together, the localization of mutant KIF22 and the ability of mutant KIF22 to generate
polar ejection forces indicate that pathogenic mutations P148L, P148S, R149L, R149Q, and
V475G do not result in a loss of KIF22 function during early mitosis.

Figure 3

Figure 3. Pathogenic mutations in KIF22 do not reduce polar ejection forces.

(A) Schematic of changes in chromosome positions resulting from loss of polar ejection forces.

In cells with monopolar spindles, both spindle poles (magenta) are positioned together and

chromosomes (blue) are pushed toward the cell periphery by polar ejection forces (green) (left).

In cells depleted of KIF22, polar ejection forces are reduced and chromosomes collapse in toward

the center of the cell (right). Relative polar ejection forces were quantified using radial profile plots

to measure the distance from the spindle pole to the maximum DAPI signal intensity. **(B)**

Immunofluorescence images of monopolar HeLa-Kyoto cells. KIF22-GFP was visualized using

an anti-GFP antibody. Fixed approximately 2-3 hours after treatment with monastrol and 24 hours

after siRNA transfection and treatment with doxycycline to induce expression. Scale bar 5 μm.

Images are representative of 3 or more experiments. **(C)** Distance from the spindle pole to the

maximum DAPI signal, a measure of relative polar ejection force level, in cells transfected with

control siRNA. 28-69 cells from 3-7 experiments per condition. **(D)** Distance from the spindle pole

to the maximum DAPI signal in cells transfected with KIF22 siRNA. 26-75 cells from 3-7

experiments per condition. For C-D, bars indicate means. p values from Brown-Forsythe and

Welch ANOVA with Dunnett's T3 multiple comparisons test. p values are greater than 0.05 for

comparisons without a marked p value.

KIF22 mutations disrupt anaphase chromosome segregation

While pathogenic mutations did not disrupt the function of KIF22 in prometa- or metaphase, HeLa-Kyoto cells expressing mutant KIF22-GFP exhibited defects in anaphase chromosome segregation. In these cells, chromosomes did not move persistently towards the spindle poles. Instead, chromosomes began to segregate, but then reversed direction and moved back towards the center of the spindle or remained in the center of the spindle until decondensation **(Figure 4A).** This phenotype was dominant and occurred in the presence of endogenous KIF22. Recongression was quantified by measuring the distance between separating chromosome masses as anaphase progressed. In cells expressing wild type KIF22-GFP, this value increases steadily and then plateaus. Expression of mutant KIF22-GFP causes the distance between chromosome masses to increase, then decrease as chromosomes recongress, and then increase again as segregation continues **(Figure 4B)**. Recongression reduces the distance between chromosome masses 7 minutes after anaphase onset in cells expressing KIF22-GFP with pathogenic mutations (median distance 2.0 – 7.2 μm) compared to cells expressing wild type KIF22-GFP (median distance 12.9 μm) **(Figure 4C)**. Defects in anaphase chromosome segregation were also observed in RPE-1 cells expressing KIF22-GFP R149Q or V475G **(Figure S3D, S3E, S3F)**. This phenotype is consistent with a lack of KIF22 inactivation in anaphase, resulting in a failure to suspend polar ejection force generation.

If recongression is the result of increased KIF22 activity in anaphase, we would predict that increased levels of KIF22-GFP expression would cause more severe anaphase chromosome segregation defects. Indeed, plotting the distance between chromosome masses 7 minutes after anaphase onset against mean GFP intensity for each HeLa-Kyoto cell demonstrated that these two values were correlated (Spearman correlation coefficient -0.6246, one-tailed p value < 0.0001) **(Figure S3A)**. Considering only cells expressing lower levels of KIF22-GFP (mean background subtracted intensity <100 arbitrary units) emphasized the differences in the distance between chromosome masses as anaphase progressed between cells expressing wild type and mutant motor **(Figure S3B, S3C)**.

In a subset of HeLa-Kyoto cells, expression of KIF22-GFP with pathogenic mutations caused cytokinesis failure **(Figure 4D)**. In these cells, cleavage furrow ingression began, but did not complete, resulting in a single daughter cell. The percentage of cells failing to complete cytokinesis was approximately ten-fold higher in cells expressing mutant KIF22-GFP (R149Q 36%, V475G 25%) than in cells expressing wild type KIF22-GFP (3%). Additionally, the distance between chromosome masses at the time of cleavage furrow ingression was reduced in cells expressing KIF22-GFP R149Q or V475G, suggesting that the position of the chromosome

330   masses may be physically obstructing cytokinesis **(Figure 4E)**. Consistent with this hypothesis,

331   cells that failed to complete cytokinesis tended to have lower distances between chromosome

332   masses than the distances measured in cells in which cytokinesis completed despite expression

333   of mutant KIF22-GFP **(Figure 4E)**.

Figure 4

Figure 4. Pathogenic mutations in KIF22 disrupt anaphase chromosome segregation.

(A) Time-lapse images of dividing HeLa-Kyoto cells expressing KIF22-GFP R149Q or KIF22-GFP V475G. Times indicate minutes after anaphase onset. Images are maximum intensity projections in z through the entirety of the spindle. Imaged approximately 18 hours after treatment with doxycycline to induce expression. Scale bar 5 μm. Images are representative of 3 or more experiments. **(B)** Distance between separating chromosome masses throughout anaphase in HeLa-Kyoto cells. Lines represent the mean and the shaded area denotes SEM. 16-43 cells from 4-10 experiments per condition. **(C)** Distance between separating chromosome masses 7 minutes after anaphase onset. Bars indicate medians. p values from Kruskal-Wallis test. p values are greater than 0.05 for comparisons without a marked p value. 16-43 cells from 4-10 experiments per condition. **(D)** Time-lapse images of dividing HeLa-Kyoto cells expressing mCherry (mCh)-CAAX to visualize cell boundaries. Times indicate minutes after anaphase onset. Arrowheads indicate cytokinesis failure. Imaged approximately 8 hours after treatment with doxycycline to induce expression and 24-32 hours after transfection with mCh-CAAX. Scale bars 20 μm. Images are representative of 3 or more experiments. **(E)** Distance between chromosome masses at the time of cleavage furrow ingression. p values from Kruskal-Wallis test. p values are greater than 0.05 for comparisons without a marked p value. 52-62 cells from 9-10 experiments per condition.

Supplemental Figure 3

Supplemental Figure 3. Anaphase recongression defects are KIF22-GFP expression level

dependent and disrupt chromosome segregation in RPE1 cells.

(A) Background-subtracted GFP intensity plotted against the distance between separating

chromosome masses at 7 minutes to assess dependence of recongression on expression level

(Spearman correlation coefficient -0.6246, one-tailed p value < 0.0001). Grey dashed line

indicates mean background subtracted GFP intensity of 100. 16-43 cells from 4-10 experiments

per condition. **(B)** Distance between separating chromosome masses of cells expressing lower

levels of KIF22-GFP (mean background subtracted GFP intensity less than 100). Lines represent

the mean and the shaded area denotes SEM. 6-24 cells from 3-8 experiments per condition. **(C)**

Distance between separating chromosome masses 7 minutes after anaphase onset of cells

expressing lower levels of KIF22-GFP (mean background subtracted GFP intensity less than

100). Bars indicate medians. p values from Kruskal-Wallis test. p values are greater than 0.05 for

comparisons without a marked p value. 6-24 cells from 3-8 experiments per condition. **(D)** Time-

lapse images of dividing RPE-1 cells expressing KIF22-GFP R149Q or KIF22-GFP V475G.

Imaged approximately 12-18 hours after treatment with doxycycline to induce expression. Times

indicate minutes after anaphase onset. Images are maximum intensity projections in z through

the entirety of the spindle. Scale bar 5 μm. Images are representative of 3 or more experiments.

(E) Distance between separating chromosome masses throughout anaphase in RPE-1 cells.

Lines represent the mean and the shaded area denotes SEM. 8-25 cells from 6-7 experiments

per condition. **(F)** Distance between separating chromosome masses 7 minutes after anaphase

onset in RPE-1 cells. Bars indicate medians. p value from Kruskal-Wallis test. p values are greater

than 0.05 for comparisons without a marked p value. 8-25 cells from 6-7 experiments per

condition.

Mutations disrupt the separation of the spindle poles in anaphase

Anaphase chromosome segregation requires both that chromosomes move towards the spindle poles (anaphase A) and that the spindle poles move away from one another (anaphase B) (Ris, 1949). To test whether the activity of mutant KIF22 in anaphase affects one or both of these processes, anaphase was imaged in HeLa-Kyoto cells expressing fluorescent markers for the poles (pericentrin-RFP) and centromeres (CENPB-mCh) **(Figure 5A)**. The reduced distance between separating chromosome masses seen in these cells **(Figure 5B, 5C)** was compared to the distances between the centromeres **(Figure 5D, 5E)** and the distances between the poles **(Figure 5F, 5G)** as anaphase progressed. The distances between all three structures showed the same trend: in cells expressing wild type KIF22-GFP, the distance between chromosome masses, between centromeres, and between the spindle poles increased throughout the measured time interval in anaphase. Pathogenic mutations altered the movements of all three structures **(Figure 5B, 5D, 5F)**. The distance between chromosome masses, between centromeres, and between the spindle poles 10 minutes after anaphase onset was significantly reduced in cells expressing KIF22-GFP R149Q **(Figure 5C, 5E, 5G)**. In cells expressing KIF22-GFP V475G, the same trend was observed, but the reductions in distance were not statistically significant. This suggests that pathogenic mutations in KIF22 disrupt anaphase chromosome segregation by reducing both chromosome segregation to the poles (anaphase A) and spindle pole separation (anaphase B). Comparing the distance between chromosome masses and the spindle pole within each half spindle **(Figure 5H)** with the distance between centromeres and the spindle pole in the same half spindles **(Figure 5I)** demonstrated that expression of mutant KIF22 more potently reduced the segregation of chromosome arms than centromeres, consistent with continued generation of polar ejection forces in anaphase.

Figure 5

Figure 5. Mutations disrupt the separation of spindle poles in anaphase.

(A) Time-lapse images of dividing HeLa-Kyoto cells expressing pericentrin-RFP to mark the spindle poles and CENPB-mCh to mark centromeres. Times indicate minutes after anaphase onset. Colored distances in the bottom right of each greyscale image indicate the distance between the spindle poles in the image. Images are maximum intensity projections in z through the entirety of the spindle. Imaged approximately 24 hours after transfection and 12-18 hours after treatment with doxycycline to induce expression. Images depicting pericentrin-RFP and CENPB-mCh signal were background subtracted by duplicating each frame, applying a gaussian blur (sigma 30 pixels), and subtracting this blurred image from the original. Scale bar 10 μm. Images are representative of 3 or more experiments. **(B)** Distance between separating chromosome masses throughout anaphase in HeLa-Kyoto cells. Lines represent the mean and the shaded area denotes SEM. **(C)** Distance between separating chromosome masses 10 minutes after anaphase onset in HeLa-Kyoto cells. Bars indicate medians. **(D)** Distance between centromeres (CENPB-mCh) throughout anaphase in HeLa-Kyoto cells. Lines represent the mean and the shaded area denotes SEM. **(E)** Distance between centromeres 10 minutes after anaphase onset in HeLa-Kyoto cells. Bars indicate medians. **(F)** Distance between spindle poles (pericentrin-RFP) throughout anaphase in HeLa-Kyoto cells. Lines represent the mean and the shaded area denotes SEM. **(G)** Distance between spindle poles 10 minutes after anaphase onset in HeLa-Kyoto cells. Bars indicate medians. Measurements from the same cells (6-9 cells from 3 experiments per condition) are shown in B-G. For C, E, and G, p values from Kruskal-Wallis test. p values are greater than 0.05 for comparisons without a marked p value. **(H)** Distance between chromosome masses and spindle poles throughout anaphase in HeLa-Kyoto cells. Lines represent the mean and the shaded area denotes SEM. **(I)** Distance between centromeres and spindle poles throughout anaphase in HeLa-Kyoto cells. Lines represent the mean and the shaded area denotes SEM. Measurements from the same cells (12-18 half-spindle measurements from 3 experiments per condition) as in B-G are shown in H and I.

Division of cells expressing KIF22 with pathogenic mutations results in daughter cells with abnormally shaped nuclei

To understand the consequences of the observed defects in anaphase chromosome segregation, we examined the daughter cells produced by the division of cells expressing KIF22-GFP with pathogenic mutations. In these cells, the nuclei are lobed and fragmented **(Figure 6A)**. The percentage of divisions resulting in nuclear morphology defects was approximately ten-fold higher than in control cells (KIF22-GFP 6%, KIF22-GFP R149Q 64%, KIF22-GFP V475G 68%) when live divisions were observed **(Figure 4E)**. To further quantify this phenotype, the solidity of fixed cell nuclei (the ratio of the area of each nucleus to the area of the convex shape that would enclose it) was measured. A perfectly oval nucleus would have a solidity value of one. Solidity values were reduced in cells expressing KIF22-GFP with pathogenic mutations **(Figure 6B)**, indicating that these cells had more irregularly shaped nuclei. This reduction in solidity was dominant, and occurred both in the presence of endogenous KIF22 and when endogenous KIF22 was depleted via siRNA knockdown. Using the fifth percentile solidity of control cells (control knockdown, GFP expression) as a cut-off, 44-63% of cells expressing mutant KIF22-GFP had abnormally shaped nuclei 24 hours after treatment with doxycycline to induce expression of KIF22-GFP **(Figure 6C)**. Expression of wild type KIF22-GFP also resulted in a small increase in the percentage of cells with abnormally shaped nuclei (12%). This percentage was reduced when endogenous KIF22 was depleted (7%), consistent with nuclear morphology defects resulting from an increase in KIF22 activity.

Expression of KIF22-GFP with pathogenic mutations also caused abnormally shaped nuclei in RPE-1 cells **(Figure S4A)**. The solidity of nuclei in cells expressing mutant KIF22-GFP was reduced **(Figure S4B)**, and 40-49% of RPE-1 cells expressing mutant KIF22-GFP had abnormally shaped nuclei, again defined as a solidity value less than the fifth percentile of control cells **(Figure 4C)**. In RPE-1 cells, expression of wild type KIF22-GFP resulted in a higher percentage of cells with abnormally shaped nuclei (18% in control knockdown cells, 15% with KIF22 knockdown) than was seen in HeLa-Kyoto cells. This may be a result of the higher expression level of KIF22-GFP in the RPE-1 inducible cell lines **(Figure S1I, S1K)**.

To determine whether these nuclear morphology defects depended on the ability of KIF22 to generate forces within the mitotic spindle, cells were treated with nocodazole to depolymerize microtubules and reversine to silence the spindle assembly checkpoint, allowing cells to enter and exit mitosis without assembling a spindle or segregating chromosomes (Samwer et al., 2017; Serra-Marques et al., 2020) **(Figure 6D)**. The solidity of nuclei was measured before chromosomes condensed **(Figure 6E)** and after mitotic exit **(Figure 6F)**. At both time points, there

was no difference in nuclear shape between control cells and cells expressing KIF22-GFP with

pathogenic mutations, indicating that the effects of mutations on nuclear structure are spindle-

dependent.

The effect of nuclear morphology defects on daughter cell fitness may partially depend on

whether the nuclear envelopes of abnormally shaped nuclei are intact. The expression of mCherry

(mCh) with a nuclear localization signal (NLS) indicated that even highly lobed and fragmented

nuclei in cells expressing mutant KIF22-GFP are capable of retaining nuclear-localized proteins

(Figure 6G). This suggests that the nuclear envelopes of these abnormally shaped nuclei are still

intact enough to function as a permeability barrier (Hatch, Fischer, Deerinck, & Hetzer, 2013).

Figure 6

Figure 6. Division of cells expressing KIF22 with pathogenic mutations results in daughter cells with abnormally shaped nuclei.

(A) DAPI stained nuclei of cells expressing KIF22 with pathogenic mutations. Values in the bottom right of each image indicate the solidity of the boxed nucleus. Fixed approximately 24 hours after treatment with doxycycline to induce expression. Scale bar 20 μm. Images are representative of 3 or more experiments. **(B)** Measured solidity of nuclei in HeLa-Kyoto cell lines. Small circles represent the solidity of individual nuclei, and large circles with black outlines indicate the median of each experiment. A dashed line marks a solidity value of 0.939, the fifth percentile of solidity for control cells transfected with control siRNA and expressing GFP. **(C)** Percentage of nuclei with abnormal shape, indicated by a solidity value less than 0.939, the fifth percentile of control (control knockdown, GFP expression) cell solidity. A chi-square test of all data produced a p value < 0.0001. Plotted p values are from pairwise post-hoc chi-square tests comparing control (control knockdown, GFP expression) cells to each other condition. Applying the Bonferroni correction for multiple comparisons, a p value of less than 0.00385 was considered significant. p values are greater than 0.00385 for comparisons without a marked p value. Data in (B) and (C) represent 336-1045 cells from 3-6 experiments per condition. **(D)** Time-lapse images of HeLa-Kyoto cells treated with nocodazole and reversine and stained with SPY595-DNA to visualize chromosomes. Time indicates the number of minutes before or after chromosome condensation. Images are maximum intensity projections in z of two focal planes, one at the level of interphase nuclei and one at the level of mitotic chromosomes. Imaged approximately 8 hours after treatment with doxycycline to induce expression, 1.5-2 hours after treatment with SPY595-DNA, and 0.5-1 hour after treatment with nocodazole and reversine. Scale bar 10 μm. Images are representative of 3 or more experiments. **(E)** Nuclear solidity of HeLa-Kyoto cells treated with nocodazole and reversine. Measurements were made 15 minutes before chromosome condensation. **(F)** Nuclear solidity of HeLa-Kyoto cells treated with nocodazole and reversine. Measurements were made 100 minutes after chromosome decondensation. Data in (E) and (F) represent 56-76 cells from 3 experiments per condition. For (E) and (F), bars indicate medians, and the Kruskal-Wallis test indicated no significant difference between groups. **(G)** Time-lapse images of HeLa-Kyoto cells expressing mCherry (mCh)-NLS to assess nuclear envelope integrity. Times indicate minutes before or after chromosome condensation. Imaged approximately 8 hours after treatment with doxycycline to induce expression and 24 hours after transfection with mCh-CAAX. Scale bar 20 μm. Images are representative of 3 or more experiments.

Supplemental Figure 4

Supplemental Figure 4. Mutations cause abnormally shaped nuclei in RPE1 cells.

(A) DAPI-stained nuclei of RPE-1 cells expressing KIF22-GFP with pathogenic mutations. Fixed

approximately 24 hours after treatment with doxycycline to induce expression. Scale bar 20 μm.

Images are representative of 3 or more experiments. **(B)** Measured solidity of nuclei in RPE-1 cell

lines. Small circles represent the solidity of individual nuclei, and large circles with black outlines

indicate the median of each experiment. A dashed line marks a solidity value of 0.907, the fifth

percentile of solidity for control cells transfected with control siRNA and expressing GFP. **(C)**

Percentage of nuclei with abnormal shape, indicated by a solidity value less than 0.907, the fifth

percentile of control (control knockdown, GFP expression) cell solidity. A chi-square test of all

data produced a p value < 0.0001. Plotted p values are from pairwise post-hoc chi-square tests

comparing control (control knockdown, GFP expression) cells to each other condition. Applying

the Bonferroni correction for multiple comparisons, a p value of less than 0.00714 was considered

significant. p values are greater than 0.00714 for comparisons without a marked p value. Data in

(B) and (C) represent 146-244 cells from 3 experiments per condition.

Proliferation is reduced in cells expressing KIF22 with pathogenic mutations

If defects in anaphase chromosome segregation and nuclear morphology affect cellular function, they may impact the ability of cells to proliferate. To test this, HeLa-Kyoto cells expressing KIF22-GFP with pathogenic mutations were imaged over 96 hours to count the numbers of cells over time **(Figure 7A)**. The growth rates of cells expressing mutant KIF22 were reduced **(Figure 7B)**. After 96 hours, the fold change in cell number was reduced by approximately 30% for cells expressing KIF22-GFP with pathogenic mutations (GFP control median 5.3, KIF22-GFP R149Q 3.7, KIF22-GFP V475G 3.8) **(Figure 7C)**.

To consider what might be limiting the proliferation rate of cells expressing mutant KIF22-GFP, predictions for proliferation rate based on the observed rates of nuclear morphology defects and cytokinesis failure were calculated. For these purposes, only data from the first 48 hours of the proliferation assay were used, as cell growth rates plateaued after this timepoint. The doubling time of control HeLa-Kyoto cells expressing GFP was calculated to be 20.72 hours in these experiments, which is consistent with published data (Y. Liu et al., 2018). Using this doubling rate, assuming exponential growth, and assuming every cell divides, the normalized cell count at 48 hours (normalized to a starting cell count of 1) was predicted to be 4.98. This is close to the experimental 48-hour cell count for control cells (4.60), and higher than the experimental 48-hour cell count for cells expressing KIF22-GFP R149Q (3.13) or V475G (3.60), as these cell lines have reduced proliferation **(Figure 7B, square)**. If one assumed that cells with abnormally shaped nuclei stop dividing, given that approximately 60% of mutant KIF22-GFP cell divisions result in abnormally shaped nuclei **(Figure 4E),** the predicted cell count at 48 hours would be 2.18 **(Figure 7B, triangle)**. This is lower than the experimental cell count for cells expressing mutant KIF22-GFP, suggesting that cells with abnormally shaped nuclei must be capable of additional divisions. If, instead, one assumed that only cells that fail cytokinesis (30% of cells **(Figure 4E)**) stop dividing, the predicted cell count would be 3.42 **(Figure 7B, diamond)**. This value is consistent with the experimental 48-hour cell count for cells expressing KIF22-GFP with pathogenic mutations (3.13 – 3.60), suggesting the rate of cytokinesis failure may limit the rate of proliferation in these cells. Consistent with this possibility, an increased number of large cells that may have failed cytokinesis are visible in proliferation assay images at 72 hours **(Figure 7A)**.

To test the prediction that cells with nuclear morphology defects are capable of division, KIF22-GFP expression was induced approximately 24 hours before imaging to generate a population of cells with abnormally shaped nuclei. Division of these cells was observed **(Figure 7D)**, demonstrating that nuclear morphology defects do not prevent subsequent divisions. The percentage of cells that divided over the course of this experiment was not reduced in cells

546   expressing KIF22-GFP with pathogenic mutations despite the abnormal nuclear morphology of

547   cells in those populations **(Figure 7E)**.

Figure 7

Figure 7. Proliferation is reduced in cells expressing KIF22 with pathogenic mutations.
(A) Time-lapse bright field images of HeLa-Kyoto cells to assess proliferation rate. Scale bar 500 μm. Images are representative of 3 or more experiments. **(B)** Proliferation rates measured using automated bright field imaging. Lines represent the mean cell count, normalized to the number of cells at 0 hours, and the shaded area denotes SEM. Black outlined shapes indicate the predicted cell count for cell lines expressing pathogenic mutations at 48 hours if every cell doubled every 20.72 hours (the doubling time measured from 48 hours of control cell proliferation) (square), if the rate of cytokinesis failure limited proliferation and 30% of cells did not divide (diamond), and if the rate of nuclear morphology defects limited proliferation and 60% of cells did not divide (triangle). **(C)** Fold change of normalized cell counts after 96 hours. Bars indicate medians. p values from Kruskal-Wallis test. p values are greater than 0.05 for comparisons without a marked p value. Data in (B) and (C) represent 8-16 technical replicates from 4 experiments per condition. **(D)** Time-lapse imaging of HeLa-Kyoto cells treated with doxycycline for 24 hours to induce expression of KIF22-GFP with pathogenic mutations and stained with SPY595-DNA. Arrowheads indicate cells with abnormally shaped nuclei that divide. Images are maximum intensity projections in z of two focal planes, one at the level of interphase nuclei and one at the level of mitotic chromosomes. Scale bars 20 μm. Images are representative of 3 or more experiments. **(E)** Nuclear morphology at the start of imaging (dark grey or blue, oval; light grey or blue; abnormal morphology) and outcome (grey, cell divides during the experiment; blue, the cell does not divide). The total number of dividing cells was compared between cell lines using the chi-square test ($p <$ 0.0001 across all conditions). Post-hoc chi-square tests comparing all conditions to one another indicated that the proliferation rate of cells expressing KIF22-GFP R149Q is statistically different than that of cells expressing GFP ($p = 0.0025$), KIF22-GFP ($p = 0.0003$), or KIF22-GFP V475G ($p < 0.0001$). Applying the Bonferroni correction for multiple comparisons, a p value of less than 0.008 was considered significant. p values are greater than 0.008 for all other comparisons. 1890-2611 cells from 4 experiments per condition.

Mimicking phosphorylation of T463 phenocopies pathogenic mutations

The phenotypes observed in cells expressing KIF22-GFP with pathogenic mutations

suggest that mutations may prevent inactivation of KIF22 in anaphase, and that polar ejection

forces in anaphase disrupt chromosome segregation. If this is the case, then preventing KIF22

inactivation would be predicted to phenocopy the pathogenic mutations. One mechanism by

which KIF22 activity is controlled is phosphorylation of T463: phosphorylation of this tail residue

is necessary for polar ejection force generation, and dephosphorylation at anaphase onset

contributes to polar ejection force suppression (Soeda et al., 2016). Therefore, we generated

HeLa-Kyoto inducible cell lines expressing KIF22-GFP with phosphomimetic (T463D) and

phosphonull (T463A) mutations to test whether preventing KIF22 inactivation in anaphase by

expressing the constitutively active T463D construct phenocopies the expression of KIF22-GFP

with pathogenic mutations. When treated with doxycycline, these cells expressed

phosphomimetic and phosphonull KIF22-GFP at levels comparable to those seen in cells lines

expressing KIF22-GFP with pathogenic mutations, which was approximately two- to three-fold

higher than the level of expression of endogenous KIF22 **(Figure S5A-D)**.

To assess the activity of KIF22-GFP T463D and T463A in HeLa cells, polar ejection force

generation in monopolar spindles was measured **(Figure 8A)**. In cells with endogenous KIF22

present, expression of KIF22-GFP T463D increased the distance from the spindle pole to the

maximum DAPI signal (GFP control 3.7 ± 0.07 μm, KIF22-GFP T463D 4.4 ± 0.12, mean $\pm$ SEM),

indicating increased polar ejection forces, consistent with phosphorylation of T463 activating

KIF22 in prometaphase (Soeda et al., 2016) **(Figure 8B)**. Conversely, when endogenous KIF22

was depleted, expression of KIF22-GFP T463A was less able to rescue polar ejection force

generation (distance from the spindle pole to the maximum DAPI signal 3.0 ± 0.08 μm, mean $\pm$

SEM) than expression of wild type KIF22-GFP (3.6 ± 0.07 μm) or KIF22-GFP T463D (3.7 ± 0.10

μm) **(Figure 8C)**. Again, this is consistent with previous work demonstrating that KIF22

phosphorylation at T463 activates the motor for prometaphase polar ejection force generation

(Soeda et al., 2016), although the reduction in polar ejection forces seen with KIF22-GFP T463A

rescue is less severe in our system, possibly due to differences in cell type, level of depletion of

endogenous KIF22, or the method used to quantify polar ejection forces.

In anaphase, expression of phosphomimetic KIF22-GFP T463D, but not phosphonull

KIF22-GFP T463A, caused chromosome recongression **(Figure 8D, 8E)**. The distance between

chromosome masses at 7 minutes was reduced in cells expressing KIF22-GFP T463D (median

5.8 μm) compared to cells expressing wild type KIF22-GFP (12.5 μm) or KIF22-GFP T463A (10.8

μm) **(Figure 8F)**. As in cells expressing KIF22-GFP with pathogenic mutations, the severity of

anaphase chromosome recongression, indicated by the distance between chromosome masses

at 7 minutes, was dependent on GFP expression level (Spearman correlation coefficient -0.3964,

one-tailed p value 0.0004) **(Figure S5E)**. When only cells expressing lower levels of KIF22-GFP

(mean background subtracted intensity <100 arbitrary units) were considered, the same effect

(expression of KIF22-GFP T463D causes recongression) was still observed **(Figure S5F, S5G)**.

This recongression phenocopies the effect of pathogenic mutations on anaphase chromosome

segregation, consistent with pathogenic mutations preventing anaphase inactivation of KIF22.

In addition to causing the same defects in anaphase chromosome segregation, expression

of KIF22-GFP T463D also affects daughter cell nuclear morphology. Cells expressing KIF22-GFP

T463D have lobed and fragmented nuclei **(Figure S5H)** and correspondingly reduced nuclear

solidity measurements **(Figure 8G)**. An increased percentage of cells expressing KIF22-GFP

T463D in the presence of endogenous KIF22 (65%) or in cells depleted of endogenous KIF22

(72%) have abnormally shaped nuclei, as indicated by a solidity value below the fifth percentile

of control cell nuclear solidity **(Figure 8H)**.

Expression of KIF22-GFP T463A also resulted in a small increase in the percentage of

abnormally shaped nuclei (26% in control or KIF22 knockdown conditions) **(Figure 8H)**. Since

expression of KIF22-GFP T463A does not cause anaphase recongression **(Figure 8E)**, the level

of compaction of the segregating chromosome masses was explored as a possible explanation

for this modest increase in the percentage of cells with nuclear morphology defects. In KIF22

knockout mice, loss of KIF22 reduces chromosome compaction in anaphase, causing the

formation of multinucleated cells (Ohsugi et al., 2008). The phosphonull T463A mutation reduces

KIF22 activity and may therefore exhibit a KIF22 loss of function phenotype. Measurement of the

widths of separating chromosome masses in anaphase **(Figure S5I)** did demonstrate a modest

broadening of the chromosome masses in cells expressing KIF22-GFP T463A **(Figure S5J,**

S5K), which may contribute to the modest defects in nuclear morphology seen in these cells.

Figure 8

Figure 8. Phosphomimetic mutation of T463 phenocopies pathogenic mutations in KIF22.
(A) Immunofluorescence images of monopolar HeLa-Kyoto cells. KIF22-GFP was visualized using an anti-GFP antibody. Fixed approximately 2-3 hours after treatment with monastrol and 24 hours after siRNA transfection and treatment with doxycycline to induce expression. Scale bar 5 μm. Images are representative of 3 or more experiments. **(B)** Distance from the spindle pole to the maximum DAPI signal, a measure of relative polar ejection force level, between HeLa-Kyoto cell lines expressing KIF22-GFP with phosphomimetic and phosphonull mutations. 26-29 cells from 3 experiments per condition. **(C)** Distance from the spindle pole to the maximum DAPI signal in cells depleted of endogenous KIF22 and expressing KIF22-GFP with phosphomimetic and phosphonull mutations. 27-47 cells from 3-4 experiments per condition. For B-C, bars indicate means. p values from Brown-Forsythe and Welch ANOVA with Dunnett's T3 multiple comparisons test. p values are greater than 0.05 for comparisons without a marked p value. **(D)** Time-lapse images of dividing HeLa-Kyoto cells. Cells expressing KIF22-GFP T463D exhibit recongression of the chromosomes during anaphase. Times indicate minutes after anaphase onset. Images are maximum intensity projections in z through the entirety of the spindle. Imaged approximately 18 hours after treatment with doxycycline to induce expression. Scale bar 5 μm. Images are representative of 3 or more experiments. **(E)** Distance between separating chromosome masses throughout anaphase in HeLa-Kyoto cells. Lines represent the mean and the shaded area denotes SEM. 13-32 cells from 5 experiments per condition. **(F)** Distance between separating chromosome masses 7 minutes after anaphase onset. Bars indicate medians. p values from Kruskal-Wallis test. p values are greater than 0.05 for comparisons without a marked p value. 13-32 cells from 5 experiments per condition. **(G)** Measured solidity of nuclei in HeLa-Kyoto cell lines. Small circles represent the solidity of individual nuclei, and large circles with black outlines indicate the median of each experiment. A dashed line marks a solidity value of 0.950, the fifth percentile of solidity for control cells transfected with control siRNA and expressing GFP. **(H)** Percentage of nuclei with abnormal shape, indicated by a solidity value less than 0.950, the fifth percentile of control (control knockdown, GFP expression) cell solidity. A chi-square test of all data produced a p value < 0.0001. Plotted p values are from pairwise post-hoc chi-square tests comparing control (control knockdown, GFP expression) cells to each other condition. Applying the Bonferroni correction for multiple comparisons, a p value of less than 0.00714 was considered significant. p values are greater than 0.00714 for comparisons without a marked p value. Data in (G) and (H) represent 312-376 cells from 3 experiments per condition.

Supplemental Figure 5

Supplemental Figure 5. Cells expressing KIF22-GFP T463A have broader anaphase chromosome masses.

(A-D) Quantification of KIF22 fluorescence intensity in untreated HeLa-Kyoto cells transfected with control siRNA (A), cells treated with doxycycline to induce expression and transfected with control siRNA (B), untreated cells transfected with KIF22 siRNA (C), and cells treated with doxycycline and transfected with KIF22 siRNA (D) normalized to the mean intensity of uninduced, control knockdown cells (endogenous KIF22 expression level) for each cell line (A). 23-32 HeLa-Kyoto cells per condition from 3 experiments. **(E)** Plotting background-subtracted GFP intensity against the distance between separating chromosome masses at 7 minutes indicates that this distance is dependent on expression level (Spearman correlation coefficient -0.3964, one-tailed p value = 0.0004). Grey dashed line indicates mean background subtracted GFP intensity of 100. 13-32 cells from 5 experiments per condition. **(F)** Distance between separating chromosome masses of cells expressing lower levels of KIF22-GFP (mean background subtracted GFP intensity less than 100). Lines represent the mean and the shaded area denotes SEM. 7-14 cells from 4-5 experiments per condition. **(G)** Distance between separating chromosome masses 7 minutes after anaphase onset of cells expressing lower levels of KIF22-GFP (mean background subtracted GFP intensity less than 100). Bars indicate medians. p values from Kruskal-Wallis test. p values are greater than 0.05 for comparisons without a marked p value. 7-14 cells from 4-5 experiments per condition. **(H)** DAPI-stained nuclei of Hela-Kyoto cells. Fixed approximately 24 hours after treatment with doxycycline to induce expression. Scale bar 20 μm. Images are representative of 3 or more experiments. **(I)** Schematic depicting the measurement of chromosome signal intensity in anaphase and the use of the full width at half maximum (FWHM) as a measure of anaphase chromosome mass broadness. **(J)** Full width at half maximum of the plotted intensities of separating chromosome masses of HeLa-Kyoto cells expressing KIF22-GFP or KIF22-GFP T463A. Lines represent the mean and the shaded area denotes SEM. **(K)** Minimum FWHM value, representing maximal anaphase chromosome compaction, between cells expressing KIF22-GFP and KIF22-GFP T463A. p value from Mann-Whitney test. Bars represent medians. Data in (J) and (K) represent 24-48 cells from 5 experiments per condition.

Figure 9

A

Wild type KIF22

Prometaphase → Metaphase → Anaphase → Mitotic Exit

Polar ejection force generation

Polar ejection forces attenuated in anaphase

No defects

B

KIF22 with pathogenic mutations

Polar ejection force generation

Polar ejection forces continue in anaphase, disrupting chromosome segregation

~ 70%

~ 30%

Cytokinesis failure, defects in nuclear morphology, and reduced proliferation

Figure 9. Pathogenic mutations disrupt the anaphase, but not prometaphase, function of KIF22.

(A) Wild type KIF22 generates polar ejection forces to contribute to chromosome congression and alignment in prometaphase. In anaphase, KIF22 inactivation results in the attenuation of polar ejection forces (green arrows), allowing chromosomes to segregate toward the poles. Daughter cells form regularly shaped nuclei and continue to proliferate. **(B)** In cells expressing KIF22 with pathogenic (P148L, P148S, R149L, R149Q, V475G) or phosphomimetic (T463D) mutations, prometaphase proceeds as in cells expressing wild type motor. Mutant KIF22 is capable of polar ejection force generation. In anaphase, KIF22 fails to inactivate, resulting in continued generation of polar ejection forces, which disrupts anaphase chromosome segregation. Daughter cells exhibit nuclear morphology defects. In about 30% of cells, cytokinesis fails, and proliferation rates are reduced.

DISCUSSION

We have determined that pathogenic mutations in KIF22 disrupt anaphase chromosome segregation, causing chromosome recongression, nuclear morphology defects, reduced proliferation, and, in a subset of cells, cytokinesis failure. Wild type KIF22 is inactivated in anaphase (Soeda et al., 2016), resulting in an attenuation of polar ejection forces, which allows chromosomes to move towards the spindle poles **(Figure 9A)**. The phenotypes we observe in cells expressing KIF22-GFP with pathogenic mutations are consistent with KIF22 remaining active in anaphase **(Figure 9B)**. Polar ejection forces could cause recongression by continuing to push chromosomes away from the spindle poles during anaphase. These forces would result in aberrant positioning of chromosomes during telophase and cytokinesis, which could cause the nuclear morphology defects and cytokinesis failure we observe in cells expressing mutant KIF22-GFP. Consistent with this model, mimicking phosphorylation of T463 to prevent KIF22 inactivation in anaphase phenocopies the effects of pathogenic mutations. Thus, we conclude that pathogenic mutations result in a gain of KIF22 function, consistent with findings that KIF22 mutations are dominant in heterozygous patients (Boyden et al., 2011; Min et al., 2011; Tüysüz et al., 2014).

Mutations in both the motor domain (P148L, P148S, R149L, and R149Q) and the coiled-coil domain (V475G) of KIF22 disrupt chromosome segregation in a manner consistent with a failure of KIF22 inactivation in anaphase. This finding could contribute to our understanding of the mechanism by which KIF22 is inactivated. Given that mutations in the tail and motor domain of KIF22 both disrupt chromosome segregation, the tail and motor domain may interact to inactivate the motor. Head-tail autoinhibition is a known regulatory mechanism of other members of the kinesin superfamily (Blasius et al., 2021; Coy, Hancock, Wagenbach, & Howard, 1999; Espeut et al., 2008; Friedman & Vale, 1999; Hammond, Blasius, Soppina, Cai, & Verhey, 2010; Hammond et al., 2009; Imanishi, Endres, Gennerich, & Vale, 2006; Ren et al., 2018; Verhey & Hammond, 2009; Verhey et al., 1998), and disruption of autoinhibition can be a mechanism of disease pathogenesis (Asselin et al., 2020; Bianchi et al., 2016; Blasius et al., 2021; Cheng et al., 2014; van der Vaart et al., 2013). Mutations in either the tail or motor domain could disrupt this interaction, preventing KIF22 inactivation in anaphase. As amino acids P148, R149, and V475 are highly conserved across species in members of the kinesin-10 family **(Figure 1C)**, this inactivation mechanism may be present in these motors as well.

Alternatively, it has been proposed that the tail of KIF22 may interact with microtubules to suspend polar ejection force generation (Soeda et al., 2016). In this framework, the mutation in the tail of KIF22 (V745G) could disrupt anaphase chromosome segregation by altering this

interaction with microtubules. Motor domain mutations would not be expected to alter the

interaction of the tail with the surface of microtubules, and in this model would cause the same

cellular phenotype by altering KIF22 inactivation via a different mechanism, potentially related to

the mechanochemical cycle of the motor given the location of these mutations in the α2 helix.

While chromosomes in some cells, particularly those expressing KIF22-GFP at high

levels, completely failed to segregate and decondensed in the center of the spindle, most cells

demonstrated chromosome recongression wherein poleward motion of chromosomes begins, but

then chromosomes switch direction and move anti-poleward. These dynamics may be due to

differences in microtubule density closer to the poles compared to the center of the spindle. This

model is consistent with work demonstrating that in monopolar spindles, poleward movement of

chromosomes is limited by chromosomes reaching a threshold density of microtubules at which

polar ejection forces are sufficient to cause chromosomes to switch to anti-poleward movement

(Cassimeris, Rieder, & Salmon, 1994). We observed that chromosomes on the periphery of the

spindle remain closer to the poles while central chromosomes are pushed further away from the

poles during recongression in cells expressing KIF22-GFP with pathogenic mutations. This could

also be explained by the central chromosomes encountering a higher density of microtubules,

and KIF22 bound to these chromosomes therefore generating higher levels of polar ejection

forces. In addition, this mechanism is consistent with observations that oscillations of peripheral

chromosomes are reduced compared to chromosomes at the center of the spindle (Cameron et

al., 2006; Cimini, Cameron, & Salmon, 2004; Civelekoglu-Scholey et al., 2013; Stumpff, Dassow,

Wagenbach, Asbury, & Wordeman, 2008), which could also be explained by reduced peripheral

microtubule density limiting peripheral polar ejection force generation.

Our observation that the expression of KIF22-GFP with pathogenic mutations changes not

only the movements of chromosome arms and centromeres in anaphase, but also the movements

of the spindle poles, offers insight into the relative magnitude of polar ejection forces compared

to the forces generated by the sliding of antiparallel spindle microtubules to separate the spindle

poles in anaphase (Brust-Mascher, Civelekoglu-Scholey, Kwon, Mogilner, & Scholey, 2004; Fu

et al., 2009; Nislow, Lombillo, Kuriyama, & McIntosh, 1992; Sawin, LeGuellec, Philippe, &

Mitchison, 1992; Straight, Sedat, & Murray, 1998; Tanenbaum et al., 2009; van Heesbeen,

Tanenbaum, & Medema, 2014; Vukušić, Buđa, & Tolić, 2019; Vukušić, Ponjavić, Buđa, Risteski,

& Tolić, 2021). In cells expressing mutant KIF22-GFP, spindle pole separation stalled, and poles

moved closer to one another during anaphase chromosome recongression. This suggests that

the polar ejection forces collectively generated by mutant KIF22 motors are of greater magnitude

than the forces sliding the spindle poles apart during anaphase B. Although it is important to note

that this phenotype was observed with moderate overexpression of mutant KIF22, the observed

effects on spindle pole separation underscore the importance of KIF22 inactivation, and imply that

reducing polar ejection forces is required for both anaphase A and anaphase B.

Patients with mutations in KIF22 exhibit defects in skeletal development. The pathology

observed in the patient heterozygous for the V475G mutation differs from those seen in SEMDJL2

patients with motor domain mutations **(Figure 1E, 1F)** (Boyden et al., 2011; Min et al., 2011;

Tüysüz et al., 2014). However, a meaningful comparison of pathologies between patients is

limited both by the fact that only a single patient with a mutation in the tail of KIF22 has been

identified, and by the considerable variation in clinical presentation between patients with motor

domain mutations, even between patients with the same point mutation (Boyden et al., 2011; Min

et al., 2011; Tüysüz et al., 2014). The defects in chromosome segregation we observed in cells

expressing mutant KIF22-GFP may contribute to skeletal developmental pathogenesis. Mutations

could cause reduced proliferation of growth plate chondrocytes, which in turn could limit bone

growth. Disrupting cytokinesis in the growth plate causes shorter bones and stature in mice (Gan

et al., 2019), and mutations in KIF22 could affect development via this mechanism. The presence

of pathologies in other cartilaginous tissues, including the larynx and trachea, in patients with

mutations in the motor domain of KIF22 (Boyden et al., 2011) is also consistent with a disease

etiology based in aberrant chondrocyte proliferation. Defects in mitosis could result in tissue-

specific patient pathology based on differences in force balance within anaphase spindles in

different cell types arising from different expression or activity levels of mitotic force generators or

regulators. Growth plate chondrocytes, particularly, are organized into columns and must divide

under geometric constraints (Dodds, 1930), which could increase sensitivity to anaphase force

imbalances. Additionally, we cannot exclude the possibility that these mutations may affect the

function of interphase cells, which could affect development via a mechanism independent from

the effects of the mutations on mitosis. Future work will be required to distinguish among these

possible explanations.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Patient assessment

Clinical exome sequencing was performed by the Department of Laboratory Medicine and

Pathology at Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota, USA as previously described (Cousin et al.,

2019). Carbohydrate deficient transferrin testing for congenital disorders of glycosylation was

performed at Mayo Clinic Laboratories, Rochester, Minnesota, USA (Lefeber, Morava, & Jaeken,

2011).

Cell culture

HeLa-Kyoto and RPE-1 cell lines were grown in Minimum Essential Media α (Gibco #12561-056) supplemented with 10% fetal bovine serum (Gibco #16000-044) at 37°C with 5% CO_2. Cell lines were validated by short tandem repeat (STR) DNA typing using the Promega GenePrint 10 System according to the manufacturer's instructions (Promega #B9510). Cells were cryopreserved in Recovery Cell Culture Freezing Medium (Gibco #12648-010). HeLa-Kyoto and RPE-1 acceptor cell lines for recombination (both gifts from Ryoma Ohi, University of Michigan) were maintained in media supplemented with 10 μg/mL blasticidin (Thermo Fisher Scientific #R21001).

Transfection

siRNA transfection was performed using Lipofectamine RNAiMax Transfection Reagent (Thermo Fisher Scientific #13778150) in Opti-MEM Reduced Serum Media (Gibco #31985-062). KIF22 was targeted for siRNA-mediated depletion using a Silencer Validated siRNA (Ambion #AM51331, sense sequence GCUGCUCUCUAGAGAUUGCTT). Control cells were transfected with Silencer Negative Control siRNA #2 (Ambion #AM4613). DNA transfections were performed using Lipofectamine LTX (Thermo Fisher Scientific #15338100) in Opti-MEM Reduced Serum Media (Gibco #31985-062).

Plasmids

Plasmids related to the generation of inducible cell lines are described in Table 1. A C-terminally tagged KIF22-GFP plasmid was constructed by adding EcoRI and KpnI sites to the KIF22 open reading frame (from pJS2161 (Stumpff et al., 2012)), performing a restriction digest, and ligating the products into a digested pEGFP-N2 vector (Clontech) (pAT4206). Site-directed mutagenesis was performed to add silent mutations for siRNA resistance (pAT4226). The open reading frame from pAT4226 and the pEM791 vector (Khandelia, Yap, & Makeyev, 2011) were amplified and combined using Gibson Assembly (New England BioLabs) to generate a plasmid for recombination-mediated construction of inducible cell lines (pAT4250). Site-directed mutagenesis was performed on pAT4250 to generate plasmids encoding KIF22-GFP P148L, P148S, R149L, R149Q, V475G, T463D, and T463A for recombination. See Table 1 for primer sequences.

The mCh-CAAX plasmid was a gift from Alan Howe (University of Vermont). The mCh-NLS plasmid was generated by Michael Davidson and obtained from Addgene (mCh-Nucleus-7,

#55110). The pericentrin-RFP plasmid (Gillingham & Munro, 2000) was a gift from Sean Munro

(MRC Laboratory of Molecular Biology). The CENPB-mCh plasmid (D. Liu et al., 2010) was

generated by Michael Lampson and obtained from Addgene (#45219).

Generation of inducible cell lines

Inducible cell lines were generated using recombination-mediated cassette exchange as

previously described (Khandelia et al., 2011). Briefly, plasmids (see Table 1) encoding siRNA-

resistant KIF22-GFP constructs were cotransfected with a plasmid encoding nuclear localized

Cre recombinase (pEM784) into HeLa-Kyoto (Sturgill, Norris, Guo, & Ohi, 2016) or RPE-1

acceptor cells using Lipofectamine LTX transfection (Thermo Fisher Scientific #15338100). For

HeLa-Kyoto cell lines, 24 hours after transfection cells were treated with 1 μg/mL puromycin

(Thermo Fisher Scientific #A11139-03) for 48 hours, then 2 μg/mL puromycin for 48 hours for

more stringent selection, and finally 1 μg/mL puromycin until puromycin-sensitive cells were

eliminated. Selection of RPE-1 cells was accomplished via treatment with 5 μg/mL puromycin for

48 hours beginning 24 hours after transfection, then 10 μg/mL puromycin for 48 hours, and finally

5 μg/mL puromycin until puromycin-sensitive cells were eliminated. Inducible cell lines were

maintained in puromycin (HeLa-Kyoto 1 μg/mL, RPE-1 5 μg/mL) for continued selection. To

confirm the sequence of inserted DNA in the selected cell populations, genomic DNA was

extracted using the QIAmp DNA Blood Mini Kit (Qiagen #51106) and subjected to sequencing

(Eurofins). Expression of inserted DNA sequences was induced via treatment with 2 μg/mL

doxycycline (Thermo Fisher Scientific #BP26531).

Immunofluorescence

For fixed cell imaging, cells were grown on 12 mm glass coverslips in 24-well plates. Cells

were fixed in 1% paraformaldehyde in ice-cold methanol for 10 minutes on ice. Cells were blocked

for 1 hour using 20% goat serum (Gibco #16210-064) in antibody dilution buffer (AbDil, 1% bovine

serum albumin (Sigma Aldrich #B4287), 0.1% Triton X-100 (Sigma Aldrich #93443), 0.02%

sodium azide (Fisher Scientific #BP9221) in TBS) and incubated with the following primary

antibodies for one hour at room temperature: mouse anti-α-tubulin (DM1α) 1:500 (Millipore Sigma

#T6199), rat anti-tubulin clone YL1/2 1:1500 (Millipore Sigma #MAB1864), rabbit anti-KIF22 1:500

(GeneTex #GTX112357), mouse anti-centrin 1:500 (Millipore Sigma #04-1624), or rabbit anti-

GFP 1:1000 (Invitrogen #A11121). Cells were incubated with secondary antibodies conjugated to

AlexaFluor 488, 594, or 647 (Invitrogen Molecular Probes #A11034, A11037, A21245, A11029,

A11032, A21236, A11007) for one hour at room temperature. Coverslips were mounted on slides

using Prolong Gold mounting medium with DAPI (Invitrogen Molecular Probes #P36935).

Microscopy

Images were acquired using a Nikon Ti-E or Ti-2E inverted microscope driven by NIS

Elements software (Nikon Instruments). Images were captured using a Clara cooled charge-

coupled device (CCD) camera (Andor) or Prime BSI scientific complementary metal-oxide-

semiconductor (sCMOS) camera (Teledyne Photometrics) with a Spectra-X light engine

(Lumencore). Samples were imaged using Nikon objectives Plan Apo 40X 0.95 numerical

aperture (NA), Plan Apo λ 60X 1.42 NA, and APO 100X 1.49 NA. For live imaging, cells were

imaged in CO_2-independent media (Gibco #18045-088) supplemented with 10% fetal bovine

serum (Gibco #16000-044) in a 37º C environmental chamber. Images were processed and

analyzed using Image J/FIJI (Schindelin et al., 2012; Schneider, Rasband, & Eliceiri, 2012).

KIF22-GFP expression level quantitation

HeLa-Kyoto or RPE-1 cells were treated with 2 μg/mL doxycycline to induce expression

and transfected with control or KIF22 siRNA approximately 24 hours prior to fixation. Metaphase

cells were imaged for measurement of KIF22 expression levels. Measurements of KIF22

immunofluorescence intensity were made in a background region of interest (ROI) containing no

cells and an ROI representing the chromosomes, identified by thresholding DAPI signal. The

mean background subtracted KIF22 signal on the chromosomes was calculated by subtracting

the product of the mean background intensity and the chromosome ROI area from the

chromosome ROI integrated density and dividing by the area of the chromosome ROI. KIF22

intensities were normalized to the mean KIF22 intensity in control cells (control knockdown,

uninduced) in each experimental replicate.

Metaphase chromosome spreads

RPE-1 cells were grown in 60 mm dishes for approximately 24 hours. Media was

exchanged to fresh growth media for 2 hours to promote mitosis. Cells were arrested in 0.02

μg/mL colcemid (Gibco KaryoMAX #15212012) for three hours at 37°C, then trypsinized, pelleted,

and gently re-suspended in 500 μL media. 5 mL 0.56% KCl hypotonic solution was added

dropwise to the cell suspension, which was then incubated for 15 minutes in a 37°C water bath.

Cells were pelleted, gently resuspended, and fixed via the addition of 1 mL ice-cold 3:1

methanol:glacial acetic acid. Cells were pelleted and resuspended in fixative an additional three

times, then stored at -20°C. Metaphase chromosome spreads were prepared by humidifying the

surface of glass slides by exposing them to the steam above a 50°C water bath, placing the slides

at an angle relative to the work surface, and dropping approximately 100 μL of ice-cold cell

suspension onto the slide from a height of approximately one foot. Slides were dried on a hot

plate, then covered with Prolong Gold mounting medium with DAPI (Invitrogen Molecular Probes

#P36935) and sealed.

Fluorescence recovery after photobleaching

HeLa-Kyoto cells were seeded in glass-bottom 35 mm dishes (Greiner Bio-One #627975

and #627965) and treated with 2 μg/mL doxycycline to induce expression 18-24 hours before

imaging. Cells were imaged at 5 second intervals for 25 seconds before bleaching, photobleached

using a point-focused 405 nm laser, and imaged at 20 second intervals for 10 minutes after

bleaching. Fluorescence intensities in bleached, unbleached, and background regions of each

frame were measured using a circular ROI, area 0.865 μm^2. For interphase and metaphase cells,

unbleached measurements were made on the opposite side of the nucleus or chromosome mass

as the bleached measurements. For anaphase cells, one segregating chromosome mass was

bleached, and unbleached measurements were made on the opposite chromosome mass.

Background intensities, measured in cell-free area, were subtracted from bleached and

unbleached intensities. Background-subtracted intensities were normalized to the intensity of the

first frame imaged.

Polar ejection force assay

HeLa-Kyoto cells were treated with 2 μg/mL doxycycline to induce expression and

transfected with control or KIF22 siRNA approximately 24 hours prior to fixation. Cells were

arrested in 100 μM monastrol (Selleckchem #S8439) for 2-3 hours before fixation. Monopolar

mitotic cells oriented perpendicular to the coverslip were imaged at the focal plane of the spindle

pole for polar ejection force measurements. A circular ROI with a 12.5 μm radius was centered

around the spindle pole of each cell, and the radial profile of DAPI signal intensity at distances

from the pole was measured (Radial Profile Plot plugin, https://imagej.nih.gov/ij/plugins/radial-

profile.html). The distance from the pole to the maximum DAPI signal was calculated for each cell

as a measure of relative polar ejection forces.

Analyses of anaphase chromosome segregation

HeLa-Kyoto or RPE-1 cells were treated with 2 μg/mL doxycycline to induce expression

approximately 18 hours before imaging. For HeLa-Kyoto cells, media was exchanged to CO_2-

indpendent media containing 2 μg/mL doxycycline and 100 nM SiR-Tubulin (Spirochrome

#SC002) approximately 1-1.5 hours before imaging. For RPE-1 cells, media was exchanged to

CO_2-indpendent media containing 2 μg/mL doxycycline, 20-100 nM SiR-Tubulin (Spirochrome

#SC002), and 10 μM verapamil (Spirochrome #SCV01) approximately 1.5-3 hours before

imaging. Cells were imaged at 1 minute time intervals. Distances between segregating

chromosome masses were measured by plotting the KIF22-GFP signal intensity along a line

drawn through both spindle poles (macro available at https://github.com/StumpffLab/Image-

Analysis). This data set was split at the center distance to generate two plots, each representing

one half-spindle/segregating chromosome mass. The distance between the maximum of each

intensity plot was calculated using MATLAB (Mathworks, Version R2018a) (script available at

https://github.com/StumpffLab/Image-Analysis). To assess the broadness of segregating

chromosome masses in cells expressing KIF22-GFP T463A, a Gaussian curve was fit to the same

intensity plots and the full width at half maximum was calculated in MATLAB.

To measure the movements of spindle poles and kinetochores in anaphase, HeLa-Kyoto

cells were seeded in glass-bottom 24-well plates (Cellvis #P24-1.5H-N) and cotransfected with

PCM-RFP and mCh-CENPB using Lipofectamine LTX (Thermo Fisher Scientific #15338100)

approximately 24 hours before imaging. Cells were treated with 2 μg/mL doxycycline to induce

expression approximately 12-18 hours before imaging. Cells were imaged at 20 second time

intervals. To more clearly visualize spindle poles and kinetochores, images of PCM-RFP and

mCh-CENPB signal were background subtracted by duplicating each frame, applying a gaussian

blur (sigma 30 pixels), and subtracting this blurred image from the original. For each frame, a line

was drawn between spindle poles (PCM-RFP signal) to measure the distance between them, and

the intensity of KIF22-GFP and mCh-CENPB along this line was plotted. These data sets were

split at the center distance to generate two plots, and the distance between plot maxima and the

distance from maxima to the spindle poles were calculated using MATLAB (scripts available at

https://github.com/StumpffLab/Image-Analysis).

Assessment of cytokinesis failure

To visualize cell boundaries, HeLa-Kyoto cells were transfected with mCh-CAAX using

Lipofectamine LTX approximately 24-32 hours before imaging and treated with 2 μg/mL

doxycycline approximately 8 hours before imaging. Cells were imaged at 3-minute intervals. Cells

were scored as failing cytokinesis if the product of mitosis was a single cell with a single boundary
of mCh-CAAX signal.

Nuclear morphology quantification

HeLa-Kyoto or RPE-1 cells were treated with 2 μg/mL doxycycline to induce expression
approximately 24 hours before fixation. Nuclear solidity was measured for each interphase
nucleus in each imaged field. The 5th percentile of solidity for control cells (transfected with control
siRNA and expressing GFP) was used as a threshold below which nuclear solidity was considered
abnormal.

To assess the ability of nuclei to retain nuclear-localized proteins, cells were transfected
with mCh-NLS using Lipofectamine LTX approximately 24-32 hours before imaging and treated
with 2 μg/mL doxycycline approximately 8 hours before imaging. Cells were imaged at 3-minute
intervals during and after division, and the presence of mCh-NLS signal in all nuclear structures
(KIF22-GFP positive regions) was assessed.

Assessment of spindle dependence of nuclear morphology defects

To assess whether nuclear morphology defects caused by KIF22 depend on force
generation within the mitotic spindle, cells were treated with 2 μg/mL doxycycline approximately
8 hours before imaging, SPY595-DNA (1X per manufacturer's instructions) (Spirochrome
#SC301) approximately 1.5-2 hours before imaging, and 500 nM nocodazole (Selleckchem
#S2775) and 900 nM reversine (Cayman Chemical #10004412) approximately 0.5-1 hour before
imaging. Cells were imaged at 5-minute intervals. Nuclear solidity was measured 15 minutes
before chromosome condensation and 100 minutes after chromosome decondensation.

Proliferation assay

HeLa-Kyoto cells were seeded in a 96-well plate and treated with 2 μg/mL doxycycline to
induce expression or transfected with KIF22 siRNA approximately eight hours before the first
assay timepoint. Automated bright field imaging using a Cytation 5 Cell Imaging Multi-Mode
Reader (Biotek) (4X Plan Fluorite 0.13 NA objective (Olympus)) driven by Gen5 software (Biotek)
was used to measure cell proliferation (Marquis et al., 2021). Images were collected every 4 hours
for 96 hours. Gen5 software was used to process images and count the number of cells in each
imaged field. Cell counts were normalized to the cell count in the first image acquired at time 0.
Fold change at 96 hours was calculated by dividing the cell count at 96 hours by the cell count at
time 0. Predicted cell counts at 48 hours were calculated using an experimentally determined

doubling time of 20.72 hours for the control case where all cells divide ($Cells_T = 2^{(\frac{T}{20.72})}$), the case

where nuclear morphology defects limit proliferation and 60% of cells do not divide ($Cells_T =$

$1.4^{(\frac{T}{20.72})}$), and the case where cytokinesis failure limits proliferation and 30% of cells do not divide

($Cells_T = 1.7^{(\frac{T}{20.72})}$).

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1013   **Statistical analyses**

1014   Statistical tests were performed using GraphPad Prism software (GraphPad Software,

1015   Inc.), version 9.2.0. Specific statistical tests and n values for reported data are indicated in the

1016   figure legends. All data represent a minimum of three independent experiments.

Table 1

Plasmid	Description	Primers (5' to 3', Fw: Forward, Rev: Reverse)	Source
pEM784	nlCre recombinase	NA	Khandelia 2011 PMID 21768390
pEM791	EGFP for recombination	NA	Khandelia 2011 PMID 21768390
pJS2161	GFP-KIF22	NA	Stumpff 2012 PMID 22595673
pAT4206	KIF22-GFP	Fw: TACGTGGAATTCCACCATGGCCGCGGGCGGCTCGA Rev: GTGACTGGTACCTGGAGGCGCCACAGCGCTGGC	This study
pAT4226	KIF22-GFP, siRNA resistant	Fw: GGGCATGGACAGCTGCTCACTCGAAATCGCTAACTGGAGGA ACCAC Rev: GTGGTTCCTCCAGTTAGCGATTTCGAGTGAGCAGCTGTCCA TGCCC	This study
pAT4250	KIF22-GFP, siRNA resistant, for recombination	Fragment Fw: CTGGGCACCACCATGGCCGCG Fragment Rev: GCTAGCTCGATTACTTGTACAGCTCGTCCATGCC Vector Fw: GTACAAGTAATCGAGCTAGCATATGGATCCATATAACT Vector Rev: CATGGTGGTGCCCAGTGCCTCACGACC	This study
pAT4251	KIF22-GFP R149Q, siRNA resistant, for recombination	Fw: GGGGTGATCCCGCAGGCTCTCATGGAC Rev: GTCCATGAGAGCCTGCGGGATCACCCC	This study
pAT4258	KIF22-GFP V475G, siRNA resistant, for recombination	Fw: TGCTAATGAAGACAGGAGAAGAGAAGGACCT Rev: AGGTCCTTCTCTTCTCCTGTCTTCATTAGCA	This study
pAT4260	KIF22-GFP T463D, siRNA resistant, for recombination	Fw: CCCCTCTGTTGAGTGACCCAAAGCGAGAGC Rev: GCTCTCGCTTTGGGTCACTCAACAGAGGGG	This study
pAT4261	KIF22-GFP T463A, siRNA resistant, for recombination	Fw: CCTCTGTTGAGTGCCCCAAAGCGAG Rev: CTCGCTTTGGGGCACTCAACAGAGG	This study
pAT4264	KIF22-GFP R149L, siRNA resistant, for recombination	Fw: GGGTGATCCCGCTGGCTCTCATGGAC Rev: GTCCATGAGAGCCAGCGGGATCACCC	This study
pAT4269	KIF22-GFP P148L, siRNA resistant, for recombination	Fw: CCTGGGGGTGATCCTGCGGGCTCTCATG Rev: CATGAGAGCCCGCAGGATCACCCCAGG	This study
pAT4270	KIF22-GFP P148S, siRNA resistant, for recombination	Fw: CTGGGGGTGATCTCGCGGGCTCTCATG Rev: CATGAGAGCCCGCGAGATCACCCCAG	This study

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COMPETING INTERESTS

The authors declare no competing interests.

VIDEO LEGENDS

Video 1. Fluorescence recovery after photobleaching of KIF22-GFP.

Fluorescence recovery after photobleaching (FRAP) in HeLa-Kyoto cells expressing KIF22-GFP (top), KIF22-GFP R149Q (middle), or KIF22-GFP V475G (bottom). Cells represent interphase (left), metaphase (middle), or anaphase (right). Bleaching occurred at time zero. Scale bar 10 μm. Cells were imaged at 5 second intervals for 25 seconds before bleaching, photobleached, and imaged at 20 second intervals for 10 minutes after bleaching. Playback at 10 frames per second.

Video 2. Anaphase in HeLa-Kyoto cells.

Anaphase chromosome segregation in HeLa-Kyoto cells expressing KIF22-GFP (left), KIF22-GFP R149Q (middle), or KIF22-GFP V475G (right). Magenta: SiR-Tubulin, green: KIF22-GFP. Times indicate minutes after anaphase onset. Scale bar 5 μm. Cells were imaged at 1 minute intervals. Playback at 10 frames per second (600X real time).

Video 3. Anaphase in RPE-1 cells.

Anaphase chromosome segregation in RPE-1 cells expressing KIF22-GFP (left), KIF22-GFP R149Q (middle), or KIF22-GFP V475G (right). Magenta: SiR-Tubulin, green: KIF22-GFP. Times indicate minutes after anaphase onset. Scale bar 5 μm. Cells were imaged at 1 minute intervals. Playback at 10 frames per second (600X real time).

Video 4. Anaphase spindle pole separation.

1049 Anaphase in HeLa-Kyoto cells expressing pericentrin-RFP (magenta), CENPB-mCh (magenta),

1050 and KIF22-GFP (cyan). Times indicate seconds after anaphase onset. Scale bar 5 μm. Cells were

1051 imaged at 20 second intervals. Playback at 15 frames per second (300X real time).

1052

1053 **Video 5. Cytokinesis and cytokinesis failure.**

1054 Mitosis and cytokinesis in HeLa-Kyoto cells expressing KIF22-GFP (left), KIF22-GFP R149Q

1055 (middle), or KIF22-GFP V475G (right) (all KIF22-GFP represented in green) and mCh-CAAX

1056 (magenta). Scale bar 10 μm. Cells were imaged at 3 minute intervals. Playback at 25 frames per

1057 second (4500X real time).

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