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5	Fanconi Anemia FANCM/FNCM-1 and FANCD2/FCD-2 are required for maintaining
6	histone methylation levels and interact with the histone demethylase LSD1/SPR-5 in C.
7	elegans
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34 ABSTRACT

35 The histone demethylase LSD1 was originally discovered as removing methyl groups from diand monomethylated histone H3 lysine 4 (H3K4me2/1), and several studies suggest it plays roles 36 in meiosis as well as epigenetic sterility given that in its absence there is evidence of a 37 progressive accumulation of H3K4me2 through generations. In addition to transgenerational 38 sterility, growing evidence for the importance of histone methylation in the regulation of DNA 39 40 damage repair has attracted more attention to the field in recent years. However, we are still far from understanding the mechanisms by which histone methylation is involved in DNA damage 41 42 repair and only a few studies have been focused on the roles of histone demethylases in germline 43 maintenance. Here, we show that the histone demethylase LSD1/CeSPR-5 is interacting with the Fanconi Anemia (FA) protein FANCM/CeFNCM-1 based on biochemical, cytological and 4445 genetic analyses. LSD1/CeSPR-5 is required for replication stress-induced S-phase checkpoint 46 activation and its absence suppresses the embryonic lethality and larval arrest observed in *fncm-1* mutants. FANCM/CeFNCM-1 re-localizes upon hydroxyurea exposure and co-localizes with 47FANCD2/CeFCD-2 and LSD1/CeSPR-5 suggesting coordination between this histone 48 demethylase and FA components to resolve replication stress. Surprisingly, the FA pathway is 49 required for H3K4me2 maintenance regardless of the presence of replication stress. Our study 50 51 reveals a connection between Fanconi Anemia and epigenetic maintenance, therefore providing new mechanistic insight into the regulation of histone methylation in DNA repair. 52

53

54 **INTRODUCTION**

55 Most eukaryotes package their DNA around histones and form nucleosomes to compact the genome. A nucleosome is the basic subunit of chromatin composed of ~147bp of DNA wrapped 56 around a protein octamer comprised of two molecules each of four highly conserved core 57 histones: H2A, H2B, H3, and H4. Core histones can be replaced by various histone variants, 58 each of which is associated with dedicated functions such as packaging the genome, gene 59 60 regulation, DNA repair, and meiotic recombination (TALBERT AND HENIKOFF 2010). Both the Nand C-terminal tails of core histones are subjected to various types of post-translational 61 62 modifications including acetylation, methylation, SUMOylation, phosphorylation, ubiquitination, 63 ADPribosylation, and biotinylation.

Histone demethylases have been linked to a wide range of human carcinomas (PEDERSEN AND HELIN 2010). Dynamic histone methylation patterns influence DNA doublestrand break (DSB) formation and DNA repair, meiotic crossover events, and transcription levels (ZHANG AND REINBERG 2001; CLEMENT AND DE MASSY 2017). However, the mechanisms by which histone modifying enzymes coordinate their efforts to signal for the desired outcome are not well understood, and even less is known about the role of histone demethylases in promoting germline maintenance.

The mammalian histone demethylase LSD1 was originally discovered as an H3K4me2/1 specific demethylase (SHI *et al.* 2004). Studies in flies and fission yeast revealed increased sterility in the absence of LSD1, however, the underlying mechanism of function by which LSD1 promotes fertility remained elusive (DI STEFANO *et al.* 2007; LAN *et al.* 2007; RUDOLPH *et al.* 2007). *C. elegans* studies suggested it plays a role in meiosis and LSD1/CeSPR-5 mutant analysis revealed a progressive sterility accompanied by a progressive accumulation of 77 H3K4me2 on a subset of genes, including spermatogenesis genes (KATZ et al. 2009). In addition 78 to transgenerational sterility, our previous studies discovered that this histone demethylase is important for double-strand break repair (DSBR) as well as p53-dependent germ cell apoptosis 79 in the C. elegans germline (NOTTKE et al. 2011), linking H3K4me2 modulation via SPR-5 to 80 proper repair of meiotic DSBs for the first time. Other studies supporting the importance of 81 82 histone methylation in the regulation of DNA damage repair have attracted more attention to the field in recent years (HUANG et al. 2007; KATZ et al. 2009; BLACK et al. 2010; 83 MOSAMMAPARAST et al. 2013; PENG et al. 2015). However, the mechanisms by which histone 84 demethylation is involved in DNA damage repair remain unclear and only a few studies have 85 86 been focused on its roles in germline maintenance.

A growing body of work supports a role for components from the Fanconi Anemia (FA) 87 pathway in DNA replication fork arrest in addition to inter-strand crosslink (ICL) repair (ADAMO 88 et al. 2010; SCHLACHER et al. 2012; RAGHUNANDAN et al. 2015; LACHAUD et al. 2016). Here, we 89 show that the histone demethylase LSD1/CeSPR-5 interacts with the Fanconi Anemia (FA) 90 FANCM/CeFNCM-1 protein based on biochemical, cytological and genetic analyses. 91 92 LSD1/CeSPR-5 is required for hydroxyurea (HU)-induced S-phase DNA damage checkpoint activation and its absence suppresses the embryonic lethality and larval arrest displayed in *fncm*-93 94 *I* mutants. We show that FANCM/CeFNCM-1 re-localizes upon HU exposure and co-localizes FANCD2/CeFCD-2 and LSD1/CeSPR-5. We also 95 with show that the potential helicase/translocase domain of FANCM/CeFNCM-1 96 is necessary for recruiting 97 FANCD2/CeFCD-2 to the site of replication arrest. Surprisingly, the FA pathway is required for H3K4me2 maintenance regardless of the presence of replication stress. Our study reveals a link 98 99 between Fanconi Anemia and epigenetic maintenance, therefore providing new insights into the 100 functions of the Fanconi Anemia pathway and the regulation of histone methylation in DNA

101 repair.

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103 MATERIALS AND METHODS

104 Strains and alleles

105 *C. elegans* strains were cultured at 20°C under standard conditions as described in Brenner 106 (BRENNER 1974). The N2 Bristol strain was used as the wild-type background. The following 107 mutations and chromosome rearrangements were used: LGI: fncm-1(tm3148), spr-5(by101), 108 hT2[bli-4(e937) let-?(q782) qIs48](I; III); LGIV: spo-11(ok79), nT1 [unc-?(n754) let-?(m435)]109 (IV; V), fcd-2 (tm1298), opIs406 [fan-1p::fan-1::GFP::let-858 3'UTR + unc-119(+)](KRATZ et110 al. 2010).

111

112 Transgenic animals

The following set of transgenic worms was generated with CRISPR-Cas9 technology as 113 described in (KIM AND COLAIACOVO 2014; KIM AND COLAIACOVO 2015c; NORRIS et al. 2015). 114 In brief, the conserved potential helicase motifs were mutated in FNCM-1 (*fncm-1(ri43*[S154Q]) 115 and fncm-1(rj44[M247N E248Q K250D]) animals as described in (KIM AND COLAIACOVO 2014; 116 KIM AND COLAIACOVO 2015c; KIM AND COLAIACOVO 2016). The FNCM-1 tagged animal 117 (rj45[fncm-1::GFP::3xFLAG]) was created with a few modifications of the CRISPR-Cas toolkit 118 as described in (NORRIS et al. 2015). The SPR-5 tagged animal (ri18[spr-5::GFP::HA + loxP 119 120 unc-119(+) loxP]) I; unc-119(ed3) III) was generated as described in (DICKINSON et al. 2013). All transgenic lines were outcrossed with wild type between 4 to 6 times. 121 122

123 Analysis of FNCM-1 protein conservation and motifs

FNCM-1 homology searches and alignments were performed using T-COFFEE
 (<u>http://tcoffee.crg.cat/</u>) (DI TOMMASO *et al.* 2011). Pfam and Prosite (release 20.70) were used
 for zinc-finger motif predictions (SONNHAMMER *et al.* 1997).

127

128 Plasmids

129 sgRNAs targeting *fncm-1* were created as described in (NORRIS *et al.* 2015; KIM AND 130 COLAIACOVO 2016). In brief, the top and bottom strands of the sgRNA targeting 131 oligonucleotides (5µl of 200 µM each) were mixed and annealed to generate double-stranded 132 DNA which then replaced the *Bam*HI and *Not*I fragment in an empty sgRNA expression vector 133 (pHKMC1, Addgene #67720) using Gibson assembly (NORRIS *et al.* 2015; KIM AND 134 COLAIACOVO 2016).

To build the *fncm-1*::GFP::FLAG donor plasmid, genomic DNA containing up and downstream ~1kb homology arms were PCR amplified and cloned into the multi cloning site of the pUC18 plasmid along with GFP and FLAG tags synthesized by IDT. To build the *spr-*5::GFP::HA donor vector, *spr-5* genomic DNA containing up and downstream ~1kb homology arms together with GFP::HA + loxP *unc-119*(+) loxP were cloned into the ZeroBlunt Topo vector as described in (DICKINSON *et al.* 2013).

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142 **DNA microinjection**

Plasmid DNA was microinjected into the germline as described in (FRIEDLAND *et al.* 2013; TZUR *et al.* 2013; KIM AND COLAIACOVO 2016). Injection solutions were prepared to contain 5 ng/µl of
pCFJ90 (P*myo-2*::mCherry; Addgene), which was used as the co-injection marker, 50-100 ng/µl

of the sgRNA vector, 50 ng/µl of the *Peft-3*Cas9-SV40 NLS*tbb-2* 3'UTR and 50-100 ng/µl of the

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147 donor vector.
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149 Monitoring S-phase progression in the germline

Nuclei in the *C. elegans* germline are positioned in a temporal-spatial manner and both mitotic as well as meiotic S-phase progression can be monitored at the distal tip (JARAMILLO-LAMBERT *et al.* 2007). To monitor S-phase progression in the germline, ~ 200pmol/µl Cyanine 3-dUTP (ENZO Cy3-dUTP) was injected into the distal tip of the gonad of 20-24 hours post-L4 worms. Worms were dissected and immunostained 2.5 hours after injection.

155

156 **DNA damage sensitivity experiments**

Young adult homozygous *fncm-1* animals were picked from the progeny of *fncm-1/hT2* parent 157 animals. To assess for IR sensitivity, animals were treated with 0 and 50 Gy of γ -IR from a Cs¹³⁷ 158 source at a dose rate of 1.8 Gy/min. HU sensitivity was assessed by placing animals on seeded 159 NGM plates containing 0, 3.5 and 5.5 mM HU for 12-16 hours. For interstrand crosslink 160 sensitivity, animals were treated with 0 and 25µg/ml of Trioxsalen (trimethylpsoralen; Sigma) in 161 M9 buffer with slow agitation in the dark for 30 minutes. Worms were exposed to 200 J/m^2 of 162 UVA. For all embryonic hatching assays, >36 animals were plated, 6 per plate, and hatching was 163 monitored 60-72 hours after treatment as a readout of mitotic effects given how long it takes to 164 proceed from the pre-meiotic region to egg laying (JARAMILLO-LAMBERT et al. 2010; KIM AND 165 COLAIACOVO 2015a; KIM AND COLAIACOVO 2015b). 166

For larval arrest assays, L1 worms were plated on NGM plates with either 0 or 5.5 mM
 HU and incubated for 12-16 hours. The number of hatched worms and live adults were counted.

169 Each damage condition was replicated at least twice in independent experiments as described in

- 170 (KIM AND COLAIACOVO 2015a).
- 171

172 Immunofluorescence and Western blot analysis

173 Whole mount preparations of dissected gonads, fixation and immunostaining procedures were carried out as described in (COLAIACOVO et al. 2003). Primary antibodies were used at the 174following dilutions: rabbit anti-SPR-5 (Santa Cruz sc-98749, 1:500), rabbit anti-SPR-5 ((NOTTKE 175 et al. 2011), 1:1000 for western blot), rabbit anti-RAD-51 (SDI, 1:20000), rat anti-FCD-2 ((LEE 176 et al. 2010), 1:300), rat anti-RPA-1 ((LEE et al. 2010), 1:200), rabbit anti-pCHK1 (Santa Cruz 177178 sc17922, 1:50), chicken anti-GFP (Abcam ab13970, 1:400), and mouse anti-H3K4me2 (Millipore CMA303, 1:200). Secondary antibodies used were: Cy3 anti-rabbit, FITC anti-rabbit, 179 180 Cy3 anti-rat, Alexa 488 anti-chicken, and FITC anti-mouse (all from Jackson Immunochemicals), 181 each at 1:250. Immunofluorescence images were collected at 0.2um intervals with an IX-70 microscope (Olympus) and a CoolSNAP HQ CCD camera (Roper Scientific) controlled by the 182 DeltaVision system (Applied Precision). Images were subjected to deconvolution by using the 183 SoftWoRx 3.3.6 software (Applied Precision). 184

For western blot analysis, age-matched 24 hours post-L4 young adult worms were washed off of plates with M9 buffer. 6x SDS buffer was added to the worm pellets, which were then flash frozen in liquid nitrogen and boiled before equal amounts of samples were loaded on gels for SDS-PAGE separation.

190 **Co-localization analysis**

The co-localization tool in Softworx from Applied Precision was employed for co-localization
 analysis (ADLER AND PARMRYD 2010).

193

194 Mass spectrometry analysis

Pellets of age-matched 24 hours post-L4 young adult worms (wild type or *spr-5*::GFP::HA) were 195 flash-frozen in lysis buffer (50mM HEPES pH 7.4, 1mM EGTA, 3mM MgCl2, 300mM KCl, 10% 196 glycerol, 1% NP-40 with protease inhibitors (Roche 11836153001) using liquid nitrogen and 197 then ground to a fine powder with a mortar and pestle. Lysis buffer was added to the thawed 198 199 worms and samples were sonicated for 30 cycles of 20 seconds each. The soluble fraction of the 200 lysate was applied to a 0.45 µm filter and applied to either anti-HA beads (Sigma E6779) or GFP-201 Trap (Chromotek gta-20) that were incubated at 4°C overnight. After 3 washes with lysis buffer 202 lacking NP-40, the bound proteins were eluted with either 1mg/ml HA peptide (Sigma I2149) or 0.1M glycine and precipitated using the Proteo Extract Protein Precipitation Kit (Calbiochem 203 539180). The dry pellet was submitted to the Taplin Mass Spectrometry Facility (Harvard 204 Medical School) for analysis. The wild type sample was used as a negative control to remove 205 false positive hits. 206

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208 **Co-immunoprecipitation**

Co-immunoprecipitations were performed with worm lysates from FNCM-1 tagged animals (rj45[fncm-1::GFP::3xFLAG]). Lysis buffer was added to the worm lysates and they were sonicated for 30 cycles of 20 seconds each. The soluble fraction of the lysates was applied to anti-flag M2 magnetic beads (Sigma) that were incubated at 4°C overnight. Interacting proteins

213	were eluted with glycine buffer (pH 2). Eluates were used for Western blot analysis to confirm		
214	the interaction of SPR-5 and FNCM-1 proteins.		
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216	Statistical analysis		
217	Statistical comparisons between mutants and control worms were carried out using the two-tailed		
218	Mann-Whitney test with a 95% confidence interval. *p<0.05.		
219			
220 221	RESULTS		
221	Mass spectrometry and co-immunoprecipitation analyses reveal that SPR-5 interacts with		
223	FNCM-1		
224	The histone demethylase SPR-5 in C. elegans as well as its orthologs in humans have been		

reported to function in DSB repair (HUANG et al. 2007; KATZ et al. 2009; BLACK et al. 2010; 225 NOTTKE et al. 2011; MOSAMMAPARAST et al. 2013; PENG et al. 2015). To better understand the 226 227 roles played by SPR-5 in DNA damage repair throughout the germline, we applied a proteomic approach to search for its interacting partners. Specifically, we performed pull-downs with a 228 229 CRISPR-Cas9 engineered transgenic line expressing the endogenous SPR-5 tagged with GFP 230 and HA (spr-5::GFP::HA), which did not display either the embryonic lethality or DSB sensitivity observed in spr-5 null mutants (Supplemental Figure 1), followed by liquid 231 chromatography-mass spectrometry (LC-MS) analysis. The Fanconi anemia (FA) FANCM 232 homolog in C. elegans, FNCM-1, was identified in two independent samples utilizing this 233 strategy, each processed with α -HA and α -GFP antibodies (Table 1). The SPR-5 and FNCM-1 234 interaction was not detected in control worms with untagged SPR-5 (Table 1) suggesting that 235 SPR-5's interaction with FANCM/FNCM-1 is specific. Proteins previously shown to interact 236

with SPR-5, such as SPR-1, the ortholog of human co-repressor CoREST, and RCOR-1, an
ortholog of human REST co-repressors 2 and 3 (RCOR2 and RCOR3) (JARRIAULT AND
GREENWALD 2002; LEE *et al.* 2008), were also identified indicating that the pull-down followed
by LC-MS worked efficiently.

To further validate the interaction between SPR-5 and FNCM-1, we utilized a functional CRISPR-Cas9 engineered transgenic line expressing endogenous FNCM-1 tagged with GFP and FLAG (*fncm-1*::GFP::FLAG; Supplemental figure 2) in co-immunoprecipitation experiments. We detected SPR-5 in pull-downs done from *fncm-1*::GFP::FLAG worm lysates with an α -FLAG antibody, further supporting an SPR-5 and FNCM-1 interaction *in vivo* (Figure 1A).

246

247 SPR-5 and FNCM-1 cooperate upon DNA replication fork arrest

Since our analysis supports the interaction of SPR-5 with FANCM/FNCM-1 and we previously 248 249 demonstrated that SPR-5 is required for DSB repair (NOTTKE et al. 2011) we set out to gain insight into the link between SPR-5 and the FA pathway during DNA repair. To this end, we 250 examined the sensitivity of *fncm-1* and *spr-5* null mutants to different types of DNA damage 251 252 (LEE et al. 2010; NOTTKE et al. 2011). First, we found that fncm-1 mutants displayed sensitivity 253 to HU treatment, which results in replication arrest (Figure 1B and 1C). Specifically, only 61% 254 of embryos hatched in *fncm-1* mutants compared to 75% for wild type (P=0.0367 by the twotailed Mann-Whitney test, 95% C.I.) following an exposure to 3.5mM HU. Moreover, the HU 255 sensitivity observed in fncm-1 mutants was suppressed in fncm-1 spr-5 double mutants 256 257 (P=0.0006), while *spr-5* single mutants did not exhibit any sensitivity compared to wild type (P= 258 0.1120). Similarly, the increased larval arrest observed in *fncm-1* mutants following HU treatment was also suppressed in *fncm-1 spr-5* double mutants (Figure 1C). Taken together, these 259

observations suggest that FNCM-1 and SPR-5 play a role in DNA repair following collapse of
 stalled replication forks.

Next we examined the DNA damage sensitivity of *spr-5* and FA pathway mutants to exogenous DSBs generated by γ -IR. A significant reduction in the levels of hatched embryos was observed in *spr-5* null mutants compared to wild type animals (Figure 1D, 61% and 89% respectively, at a dose of 50Gy; P=0.0175 by the two-tailed Mann-Whitney test, 95% C.I.). However, both *fncm-1* and *fcd-2* null mutants, which lack the FANCD2 homolog in worms, were not sensitive to exogenous DSBs (100% and 90% hatching, respectively) suggesting that the FA pathway is not involved in DSB repair.

Analysis of the sensitivity to DNA interstrand crosslink's (ICLs) revealed that spr-5 269 mutants were not sensitive to ICLs induced by psoralen-UVA in germline nuclei (Figure 1E). 270 Specifically, 75% of embryos laid by spr-5 mutants hatched compared to 94% in wild type 271 (P=0.2307 by the two-tailed Mann-Whitney test, 95% C.I.). However, as expected given that 272 FNCM-1 is required for ICL repair (COLLIS et al. 2006), fncm-1 mutants exhibited significant 273 274 sensitivity as shown by only 55% hatching (P=0.0087). fncm-1 spr-5 double mutants did not alter the sensitivity observed in *fncm-1* single mutants (57%, P=0.9176) indicating that SPR-5 275 276 does not play a role in ICL repair in germline nuclei (Figure 1E). Altogether, these observations suggest that the FA pathway may not be involved in DSB repair in conjunction with SPR-5 and 277 that SPR-5 does not participate in ICL repair along with the FA pathway, but that instead their 278 interaction is necessary upon DNA replication fork arrest. 279

281 A potential helicase/translocase domain in FNCM-1 is important for somatic repair

282 The FANCM C. elegans homolog FNCM-1 contains well-conserved helicase/translocase domains also present from budding yeast to humans (Figure 1F). We generated a 283 284 helicase/translocase dead mutant by CRISPR-Cas9 engineering based on helicase/translocase dead mutants produced in the MPH1 gene in yeast (SCHELLER et al. 2000) that contains the 285 following amino acid changes: M to N, E to Q, and K to D at positions 247, 248, and 250. 286 Interestingly, the *fncm*- l^{NQD} mutant exhibited larval arrest levels similar to that observed in *fcd*-2 287 null mutants (Figure 1C and 1F, P=0.0247; 84% adults for NQD and 100% for wild type, values 288 are normalized against untreated controls), suggesting that the potential helicase/translocase 289 domain (M²⁴⁷E²⁴⁸K²⁵⁰) is important for somatic repair. However, this helicase/translocase 290 domain is not necessary for DNA repair upon replication fork arrest in the germline (Figure 1B, 291 P=0.0017 and P=0.7206, compared to *fncm-1* and wild type respectively). 292

293

FNCM-1 promotes replication fork progression and SPR-5 is required for the formation of single-stranded DNA regions induced by FNCM-1 deficiency

Since FANCM has been implicated in promoting S-phase progression (WHITBY 2010), we 296 hypothesized that FNCM-1 might have a similar role. To address FNCM-1's potential role in S-297 phase progression, we monitored the incorporation of a fluorescent nucleotide during S-phase by 298 injecting Cyanine-3-dUTP in the C. elegans gonad. Although we did not observe overt 299 differences in the overall length of the gonads in the mutants compared to wild type, we 300 accounted for this possibility by assessing the relative distance of Cy3-labeled nuclei. We 301 302 divided the distance of Cy3-labeled nuclei from the distal tip by the length of the specific gonad 303 from distal tip to late pachytene. The relative distance between the Cy3-labeled nuclei and the

304 distal tip was reduced significantly in *fncm-1* mutant germlines compared to wild type, 305 suggesting a slowdown in the rate of S-phase progression in the *fncm-1* mutants (Figure 2, relative distance of 7.4 for *fncm-1* and 9.5 for wild type, P<0.0001). Consistent with the HU 306 307 sensitivity assay, the slowdown in S-phase progression observed in *fncm-1* single mutants was suppressed in *fncm-1 spr-5* double mutants (P<0.0001). Furthermore, *fncm-1^{NQD}* mutants also 308 displayed a slowdown in S-phase progression, albeit not as severe as that observed for fncm-1 309 null mutants, suggesting that the *fncm-1^{NQD}* mutant is likely a hypomorphic allele (Figure 2, 7.4) 310 for *fncm-1* and 8.7 for *fncm-1*^{NQD}, P=0.0078. Relative distance of 9.5 for wild type and 8.7 for 311 *fncm-1^{NQD}*, P=0.3165). To further validate the Cy3 labeling results we examined the formation of 312 single-stranded DNA regions as a result of replication blockage by assessing the presence of 313 RPA-1 signal, which localizes to single-stranded DNA. RPA-1 signal was detected following 314 treatment with 3.5mM HU in *fncm-1* mutants but not in either wild type or *spr-5* null mutants 315 316 (Figure 3A). Moreover, the RPA-1 signal observed in *fncm-1* mutants was suppressed in the fncm-1 spr-5 double mutants. Taken together, these observations suggest that FNCM-1 is 317 required for replication fork progression upon DNA damage and that SPR-5 may be involved in 318 319 the formation of the single-stranded DNA regions induced upon absence of FNCM-1 function.

320

321 S-phase DNA damage checkpoint activation is SPR-5-dependent

The DNA replication-dependent S-phase checkpoint is activated upon stress, such as HU treatment, DNA damage, and the presence of abnormal DNA structures, and results in S-phase arrest which is characterized by a premeiotic tip exhibiting enlarged nuclear diameters as well as a reduced number of nuclei in the *C. elegans* germline (BARTEK *et al.* 2004; GARCIA-MUSE AND BOULTON 2005; KIM AND COLAIACOVO 2014). Since the *spr-5* null mutation suppressed the single-stranded DNA formed in *fncm-1* we examined whether SPR-5 is required for the
 activation of the S-phase DNA damage checkpoint.

The ratio of mitotic nuclei (+HU/-HU) was not significantly changed in *fncm-1* mutants compared to wild type suggesting that the S-phase checkpoint is intact (Figure 3B, 0.45 and 0.28, respectively). However, a significant increase in the number of nuclei was observed in both *spr-5* single (0.70) and *fncm-1 spr-5* (1.126) double mutants compared to wild type (P=0.0422 and P=0.0095, respectively), indicating that SPR-5 is required for the S-phase DNA damage checkpoint and that lack of SPR-5, which causes accumulation of active chromatin (KATZ *et al.* 2009; NOTTKE *et al.* 2011), circumvents proper activation of the S-phase checkpoint.

336 Single-stranded DNA formed at a stalled replication fork is recognized by RPA and this triggers ATR kinase activation, which results in S phase checkpoint activation by 337 338 phosphorylating its downstream target checkpoint kinase 1 (Chk1) (CIMPRICH AND CORTEZ 339 2008). Consistent with our observations of an impaired S-phase checkpoint, such as the increased number of mitotic germline nuclei as well as suppressed detection of single-stranded 340 DNA, we detected a decrease in the levels of phosphorylated CHK-1 (pCHK-1) in these nuclei in 341 342 spr-5 mutants compared to wild type upon 3.5mM HU treatment (Figure 3C, P=0.0053). Altogether, these data indicate that SPR-5 is required for S-phase DNA damage checkpoint 343 activation. 344

345

The localization of SPR-5 and the FA pathway components FCD-2, FAN-1, and FNCM-1 is altered in response to replication stress

348 Since our analysis links SPR-5 with the FA pathway via FNCM-1 as functioning at stalled 349 replication forks, we examined the localization of SPR-5 and factors acting in the FA pathway by 350 immunostaining. Consistent with our previous observation, SPR-5 shows a nuclear-associated 351 pattern (NOTTKE et al. 2011). Interestingly, upon HU treatment, we observed an increase in both peri-chromosomal SPR-5 signal as well as bright foci on chromatin compared to untreated (-HU) 352 control wild type (Figure 4A), suggesting a role for the histone demethylase at replication fork 353 arrest during S-phase. We also observed a brighter and elevated number of FANCD2/FCD-2 as 354 well as FAN1/FAN-1 chromatin-associated foci following HU treatment, which supports the 355 356 function of the *C. elegans* Fanconi Anemia pathway at stalled DNA replication forks, analogous to recent reports in other species (Figure 4A; (LACHAUD et al. 2016; MICHL et al. 2016)). 357 FNCM-1::GFP::FLAG signal was observed as a combination of foci associated with the DAPI-358 359 stained chromosomes as well as a diffuse haze throughout the germline, which was not detected in the control wild type (Figure 4B and Supplemental figure 2). FNCM-1::GFP::FLAG partly co-360 localized with FCD-2 in the absence of any stress (-HU). However, its localization was altered 361 362 upon replication fork arrest (+HU), as shown by the reduction of the diffuse germline signal and increase in bright chromatin-associated foci, suggesting that FNCM-1 responds to replication 363 stress similar to FCD-2 and FAN-1, consistent with reports in other species (Figure 4B; (XUE et 364 365 al. 2008)). Furthermore, we observed a higher level of co-localization between FNCM-1 and FCD-2 in the mitotically dividing nuclei at the premeiotic tip and a reduction in the level of co-366 localization at the pachytene stage, which supports FNCM-1 and FCD-2's role in replication fork 367 arrest at the mitotic stage (Figure 4C). 368

While FNCM-1 is known to be required for FCD-2 localization (Figure 4B, (ColLIS *et al.* 2006)), analysis of our helicase-dead *fncm-1*^{NQD} mutant revealed a lack of FCD-2 localization, suggesting that the helicase/translocase domain is required for recruiting FCD-2 (Figure 4B). This is further supported by the observation that both *fcd-2* null and *fncm-1*^{NQD} mutants displayed similar levels of larval arrest (Figure 1C) potentially due to the lack of FCD-2 localization in *fncm-1*^{NQD} mutants mimicking *fcd-2* mutants. Taken together, these data support the idea that FNCM-1 responds to replication fork arrest and recruits downstream players FCD-2 and FAN-1 consistent with previous reports from other species. Also, we show for the first time that the helicase/translocase domain of FNCM-1 is necessary for recruiting FCD-2.

378

379 SPR-5 co-localizes with FNCM-1

Both SPR-5 and FNCM-1 localize from the premeiotic tip (PMT, mitotic zone) to pachytene 380 (Figure 5A). We investigated whether SPR-5 and FNCM-1 co-localize on germline nuclei. 381 However, since SPR-5 exhibits a dispersed localization, not limited to distinct foci, it is not 382 possible to assess the co-localization of SPR-5 and FNCM-1 by scoring levels of superimposed 383 foci. To circumvent this issue, we applied a Pearson correlation coefficient method (ADLER AND 384 PARMRYD 2010). Consistent with their interaction by co-IP and LC-MS analysis, we found a 385 high level of co-localization for FNCM-1 and SPR-5 (Figure 5B). Average Pearson correlation 386 coefficient was 0.89 at the premeiotic tip and 0.80 at the pachytene stage in the germline. 387 Interestingly, upon replication arrest following HU treatment, we found a high level of co-388 localization between SPR-5 and FNCM-1 persisting from the premeiotic tip to the pachytene 389 stage, unlike in the control where this was progressively reduced. These observations support the 390 idea that cooperation between the H3K4me2 histone demethylase and the FA pathway is 391 reinforced to deal with replication fork blockage. 392

Two-way interaction of FANCM/FNCM-1 and LSD1/SPR-5: FNCM-1 and FCD-2 are necessary for maintaining proper H3K4 dimethylation levels

Since lack of LSD1/SPR-5 suppresses the HU sensitivity observed in *fncm-1* mutants, we next 396 examined whether H3K4me2, which is regulated by the SPR-5 histone demethylase (KATZ et al. 397 2009; NOTTKE et al. 2011), was altered by the lack of FNCM-1. Surprisingly, we observed an 398 increase in the levels of H3K4me2 in mutants lacking *fncm-1* suggesting a bidirectional 399 400 functional interaction between SPR-5 and FNCM-1 (Figure 6A, numbers represent mean data from three independent experiments). Furthermore, H3K4me2 levels are also increased in fcd-2 401 mutants, indicating that not only FANCM/FNCM-1 but also the FA pathway is necessary for 402 403 maintaining histone demethylation together with LSD1/SPR-5. Although, we cannot rule out the possibility that the increase in H3K4me2 levels could be an indirect consequence resulting, for 404 405 example, from alterations to cell cycle progression in the mutants.

A previous study reported that human FANCD2 and FANCI are required for histone H3 exchange when cells are saturated with mitomycin C-induced DNA ICLs (SATO *et al.* 2012). Since defective H3 mobility possibly interferes with the accurate interpretation of H3K4 dimethylation levels, we normalized the H3K4me2 value to alpha-tubulin in addition to H3. Although we observed changes in the normalized level of H3K4me2, the overall conclusion from this analysis was not altered.

Since we observed an inverse correlation between the FA components and the levels of H3K4me2, we also examined the level of SPR-5 protein expression in *fncm-1* and *fcd-2* mutants in the absence or presence of HU exposure. However, the normalized expression level of SPR-5 against alpha-tubulin was not altered in wild type with or without HU exposure (Figure 6B). Also, FA mutants did not affect the level of SPR-5 expression regardless of HU exposure. These observations show that the level of H3K4me2 is not regulated by the level of expression of SPR-5 protein when replication forks stall. Taken together, our data support a two-way functional interaction between SPR-5 and the FA pathway in the germline: 1) in the activation of the Sphase DNA damage checkpoint in response to stalled replication forks, and 2) in the regulation of H3K4me2.

422

423 **DISCUSSION**

Several studies have investigated the connections between epigenetic marks and DNA repair, 424 however, the mechanisms by which epigenetic marks work in DNA repair remained unclear. 425 426 Here, we show that the histone demethylase LSD1/CeSPR-5 interacts with the Fanconi Anemia FANCM/CeFNCM-1 protein based on biochemical, cytological and genetic analyses. LSD-427 428 1/CeSPR-5 is required for activation of the S-phase DNA damage checkpoint. Surprisingly, the 429 FA pathway is required for H3K4me2 maintenance. Although a previous mouse study reported that FANCD2 modulates H3K4me2 at the sex chromosome, their analysis was confined to 430 immunostaining (ALAVATTAM et al. 2016). With biochemical, cytological and genetic analyses, 431 432 our study reveals that the FA pathway is necessary for epigenetic maintenance and sheds light on understanding the epigenetic mechanisms underlying Fanconi Anemia. 433

434

435 The FA pathway responds to HU-induced replication fork arrest

The Fanconi Anemia pathway has been mainly studied in mitotically dividing cells but not in germline nuclei. In this study we identified a dynamic localization pattern for FNCM-1, FCD-2, FAN-1 and LSD-1/CeSPR-5 upon replication fork arrest induced by HU exposure (Figure 4A and 4B). In addition, co-localization, supported by an increased co-localization correlation 440 coefficient, and co-IP results suggest that SPR-5 and FNCM-1 work together in response to 441 replication fork arrest (Figures 1 and 5). Interestingly, *spr-5* mutants displayed DSB sensitivity but not the HU-induced replication fork sensitivity observed in *fncm-1* mutants (Figure 1D and 442 Figure 1B, P=0.0175 and P=0.1720, respectively). However, a mild but significant reduction in 443 larval arrest was observed (Figure 1C, P=0.0285, 100% for wild type and 79% for spr-5), 444 suggesting a role for SPR-5 in mitotic cell division upon DNA replication stress. The interaction 445 446 between these two proteins, as well as their altered localization upon HU stress, suggest that SPR-5 and FNCM-1 work together upon replication fork arrest. 447

448

449 SPR-5 is necessary for activation of the DNA damage checkpoint

The S-phase checkpoint failure observed in *spr-5* mutants can be due to an impaired checkpoint 450 signaling pathway *per se*. Suppression of the formation of a single-stranded DNA region in the 451 *fncm-1 spr-5* double mutants (Figure 3A) suggests that SPR-5 may function in replication fork 452 stalling/pause and that being deficient for SPR-5 prevents fork stalling, which then circumvents 453 S-phase checkpoint activation. The defective checkpoint was observed at a lower (3.5mM) but 454 not at a higher (5.5mM) dose of HU, suggesting that an alternative/redundant mechanism for S-455 phase checkpoint activation is triggered under severe replication stress conditions (Supplemental 456 figure 3). It is worth noting that a similar role in checkpoint function was proposed in fission 457 yeast for the Lsd1/2 histone demethylases which are indispensable for replication fork pause 458within the ribosomal DNA region (HOLMES et al. 2012). 459

Fanconi Anemia components are required for proper H3K4me2 levels regardless of replication fork arrest

Surprisingly, FNCM-1 and FCD-2 were necessary to maintain proper H3K4me2 levels 463 regardless of replication fork arrest (Figure 6). Since HU-induced replication arrest accumulates 464 active chromatin marks during S-phase, the slowing down of S-phase observed in fncm-1 465 mutants may result in H3K4me2 accumulation (Figure 2A, 3A and 6A, (ALPER et al. 2012)). 466 However, this does not explain how FCD-2, which did not alter S-phase progression, is required 467 for H3K4me2 with or without replication stress (Figure 2B and 6A). This suggests that, in 468 addition to promoting the S-phase induced euchromatic state, the FA pathway may have an 469 470 alternative role in maintaining histone methylation.

Although the FA pathway is connected to the regulation of histone demethylation 471 regardless of the presence of stalled replication, a direct role for the FA pathway in histone 472 473 demethylation became more evident when *fncm-1 spr-5* double mutants suppressed H3K4me2 upon HU arrest unlike either single mutant (Figure 6A). One possibility is that a defective 474 checkpoint in spr-5 somehow gains synergy in fncm-1 mutants. Alternatively, a severe 475 476 accumulation of dimethylation displayed in the double mutants may trigger/activate other histone demethylases. In fact, the LSD2 ortholog in C. elegans, amx-1, has been reported to be up-477 regulated over five-fold in *spr-5* mutants supporting this idea (KATZ *et al.* 2009; NOTTKE *et al.* 478 2011). 479

480

481 The potential helicase domain (MEK) of FNCM-1 is necessary for recruiting FCD-2

482 Although *C. elegans* FNCM-1 displayed relatively less conservation of its DExD/H domain 483 compared to other species, its flanking sequences are still well conserved (Figure 1F). Previous studies reported that the helicase domain of budding yeast Mph1, an ortholog of human FANCM, was required for mitotic crossover formation (PRAKASH *et al.* 2009). Interestingly, mutations in the potential helicase domain (MEK to NQD) of FNCM-1 resulted in loss of FCD-2 localization and a slowdown of S-phase progression (Figure 2). Moreover, it also led to larval arrest upon replication fork arrest comparable to that observed in *fcd-2* mutants, albeit not as severe as observed in *fncm-1* mutants (Figure 1C), which supports our observation that this domain in FNCM-1 is necessary to recruit the downstream FA pathway component FCD-2 (Figure 4B).

Fanconi Anemia (FA) is a rare genetic disorder but still the most frequent inherited 491 instability syndrome, characterized by bone marrow failure, hypersensitivity to cross-linking 492 493 agents and a high risk for acute myeloid leukemia, ataxia aelangiectasia, xeroderma pigmentosum, and Bloom, Werner, Nijmegen, Li-Fraumeni and Seckel syndromes (SCHROEDER 494 495 1982). Recent studies emphasize the role of Fanconi Anemia components in DNA replication 496 arrest in addition to inter-strand crosslink repair (BLACKFORD et al. 2012; LACHAUD et al. 2016). Our findings that the FA pathway has a role in maintaining histone H3 K4 dimethylation 497 regardless of replication stress supplies an important connection between DNA damage repair 498 and epigenetic regulation (Figure 7). Furthermore, *fncm-1* mutants that are defective in recruiting 499 FCD-2 will assist to define the precise contribution of the FA genes in this regulation. 500

501

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- 650

651 **FIGURE LEGENDS**

652

666

Figure 1. FANCM/CeFNCM-1 interacts with histone demethylase LSD1/CeSPR-5 and

displays hydroxyurea-induced replication stress sensitivity that is suppressed in spr-5

- 655 mutants
- A. Western blots showing co-immunoprecipitation (co-IP) of FNCM-1 and SPR-5 from *fncm*-

657 1::GFP::FLAG transgenic whole worm lysates with anti-FLAG and anti-SPR-5 antibodies,

658 respectively. Input represents a concentrated whole worm lysate sample prepared for co-IP. A

wild type (N2) worm lysate is shown as a control for anti-SPR-5 and anti-FLAG antibodies. IgG

is used as a control for the IP. **B.** and **C.** Relative percentage of hatching and larval arrest for the

661 indicated genotypes after treatment with 3.5mM and 5.5mM hydroxyurea (HU), respectively.

Relative values are calculated against the absence of treatment. **D.** FNCM-1 and FCD-2 are not required for DSB repair. *fncm-1* and *fcd-2* mutants did not exhibit a decrease in embryonic

viability (shown as % hatching) compared to wild type following exogenous DSB formation by

665 γ-IR exposure (P=0.0530, 100% hatching for *fncm-1* and P=0.8357, 90% hatching for *fcd-2*).

667 test, 95% C.I. E. Relative percentage of hatching for the indicated genotypes after treatment with

Asterisks indicate statistical significance. P values calculated by the two-tailed Mann-Whitney

668 0 and $25\mu g/ml$ of trimethylpsoralen-UVA. Asterisks indicate statistical significance; P values 669 were calculated by the two-tailed Mann-Whitney test, 95% C.I. F. Representation of the helicase/translocase amino acid sequence conservation of C. elegans FNCM-1 and its homologs 670 in H. sapiens, M. musculus, D. melanogaster, X. tropicalis, S. pombe, and S. cerevisiae. 671 672 Alignment was performed using T-COFFEE and Pfam (http://pfam.sanger.ac.uk). Dark gray boxes (*) indicate amino acid identity and light gray boxes (:) indicate similarity. Three vertical 673 674 dots inside the green boxes indicate the position of the represented amino acid sequence. The location of the MEK to NQD mutation in the C. elegans sequence is underlined (MELK). 675

676

Figure 2. FNCM-1 is required for S-phase progression and impaired S-phase progression in *fncm-1* mutants is suppressed by lack of SPR-5

679 **A.** Cyanine-3-dUTP was injected into *C. elegans* gonads to monitor S-phase progression. Top, 680 the distance between the Cy3-labeled nuclei and the distal tip (*) was measured for at least four gonads for each of the indicated genotypes. Bar, 2 µm. Bottom, diagram of the C. elegans 681 germline indicating the mitotic (premeiotic tip) and meiotic stages represented in the top panel. **B**. 682 Quantitation of the relative distance between Cy3-labeled nuclei and the distal tip in the 683 germlines of the indicated genotypes. To account for potential variations in gonad size, the 684 distance of Cy-3 labeled nuclei from the distal tip is divided by the length of the specific gonad 685 from distal tip to late pachytene. Relative distance of Cy3-labeled nuclei = the distance of Cy3-686 labeled nuclei from the distal tip/the length of the specific gonad from distal tip to late pachytene 687 688 x 100. At least four gonads were scored for each. Asterisks indicate statistical significance; P values calculated by the two-tailed Mann-Whitney test, 95% C.I. 689

691 Figure 3. FNCM-1 promotes replication fork progression and SPR-5 is required for the S-

692 phase checkpoint sensing the single-stranded DNA region formed upon lack of FNCM-1

A. Immunolocalization of single-stranded DNA binding protein RPA-1 upon 3.5mM HU 693 treatment in the premeiotic tip for the indicated genotypes. Bar, 2 µm. B. Quantitation of the 694 average number of mitotic nuclei within 40 µm in the premeiotic tip region of the germlines 695 from the indicated genotypes. Ratio represents the number of nuclei observed following HU 696 treatment (+ HU) divided by the number observed without treatment (- HU). Asterisks indicate 697 statistical significance compared to wild type control. P=0.0422 for spr-5, P =0.0095 for fncm-1 698 spr-5. P values calculated by the two-tailed Mann-Whitney test, 95% C.I. C. S-phase DNA 699 700 damage checkpoint activation is impaired in *spr-5* single and *fncm-1 spr-5* double mutants. Left, immunostaining for phospho CHK-1 (pCHK-1) on germline nuclei at the premeiotic tip 701 following 3.5mM HU treatment. Bar, 2 µm. Right, quantitation of pCHK-1 foci. P values 702 703 calculated by the two-tailed Mann-Whitney test, 95% C.I.

704

Figure 4. Proteins in the Fanconi anemia pathway and the histone demethylase SPR-5 display a dynamic localization upon HU treatment and co-localize

A. Immunolocalization of SPR-5, FCD-2 and FAN-1::GFP (FAN-1::GFP was detected with an anti-GFP antibody) upon 3.5mM HU treatment in the mitotically dividing germline nuclei (premeiotic tip, PMT). The localization pattern of SPR-5 and of the FA pathway components FCD-2 and FAN-1 is altered in response to replication stress (+HU). Bar, 2 μ m. **B**. Immunolocalization of FNCM-1::GFP and FCD-2 upon 3.5mM HU treatment in the premeiotic tip (PMT). FNCM-1 and FCD-2 co-localize on chromatin-associated foci (indicated by white arrows). Panel on the right shows that FNCM-1 re-localizes in response to replication stress 714 changing from a more diffuse to a more focal localization. The dispersed FNCM-1::GFP signal 715 was not detected in control wild type (Supplemental figure 2). Bar, 2 µm. C. Top, graphs showing Pearson co-localization correlation coefficient values indicate higher co-localization 716 levels between FCD-2 and FNCM-1::GFP starting at the premeiotic tip (PMT) and slowly 717 718 decreasing throughout meiosis (zones 1 and 2 = mitotic zone; zone 5 = mid-pachytene; zone 7 =late pachytene). Bottom left, mean numbers of Pearson co-localization correlation coefficient 719 values between FCD-2 and FNCM-1::GFP for both mitotic (PMT) and meiotic (pachytene) 720 zones with or without HU exposure. n > 5 gonads. A value of 1 indicates that the patterns are 721 perfectly similar, every pixel that contains Cy3 (FCD-2, red) also contains GFP (FNCM-1::GFP, 722 723 green), while a value of -1 would mean that the patterns are perfectly opposite, every pixel that contains Cy3 does not contain GFP and vice versa. Bottom right, diagram of the C. elegans 724 725 germline indicating the mitotic (zones 1 and 2) and meiotic stages (zones 5 and 7) represented in 726 the top panel.

727

728 Figure 5. SPR-5 and FNCM-1 co-localization is extended upon replication fork stalling

A. Immunostaining of SPR-5 and FNCM-1::GFP (endogenous signal) in nuclei at either the premeiotic tip (PMT) or at pachytene in the presence or the absence of 3.5mM HU treatment. Bar, 2 μ m. **B.** Quantitation of Pearson co-localization correlation coefficient observed in A indicating that co-localization between SPR-5 and FNCM-1::GFP extends into the pachytene stage upon replication fork stalling. 1 indicates a perfect positive linear relationship between variables. P=0.0079 for - and + HU treatment in the pachytene stage. P values calculated by the two-tailed Mann-Whitney test, 95% C.I.

737 Figure 6. FNCM-1 and FCD-2 are necessary for maintaining H3K4 dimethylation levels

A. Top, Western blot analysis comparing H3K4me2 levels with histone H3 and alpha-tubulin antibodies for the indicated genotypes either in the absence or presence of HU (3.5mM). **Bottom**, Quantitation of H3K4me2 levels normalized against either histone H3 or alpha-tubulin. Signal intensity was measured with GelQuant.net. Numbers represent average for data from three independent experiments. SEM (standard error of mean) values are presented in parentheses. **B.** Western blot analysis comparing the levels of SPR-5 normalized against alpha-tubulin for the indicated genotypes upon absence or presence of 3.5mM HU treatment.

745

Figure 7. The FA pathway and SPR-5 cooperate in DNA repair and regulation of histone demethylation

a. *C. elegans* FNCM-1 is required for recruiting FCD-2 and its downstream nuclease FAN-1 in the germline. The potential helicase/translocase domain in FNCM-1 is necessary for this process. **b.** SPR-5 and FNCM-1 interact with each other and their co-localization in the germline is extended under conditions leading to stalled replication forks. **c.** FNCM-1 and FCD-2 are necessary for maintaining proper H3K4 dimethylation levels. **d.** SPR-5-dependent S-phase checkpoint activation is required in response to the single-stranded DNA region formed in the absence of FNCM-1 in germline nuclei.

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756 SUPPLEMENTAL FIGURE LEGENDS

757

Supplemental figure 1. *spr-5*::GFP::HA animals generated by CRISPR-Cas9 do not display
 either sensitivity against exogenous DSBs induced by γ-IR (Left) or embryonic lethality

760 (Right). Left, Normalized embryonic survival (shown as % hatching) was reduced in *spr-5* null 761 mutants, but not in spr-5::GFP::HA worms, compared to control wild type animals following treatment with γ -irradiation (50 Gy), suggesting that insertion of the dual tags at the *spr-5* locus 762 do not alter SPR-5 expression. 89% for wild type, 61% for spr-5 and 98% for spr-5::GFP::HA. 763 P=0.0175 for spr-5 compared to wild type by the two-tailed Mann-Whitney test, 95% C.I. 764 765 P=0.0065 for spr-5 compared to spr-5::GFP::HA. P=0.0931 for spr-5::GFP::HA worms compared to wild type. Right, spr-5::GFP::HA animals generated by CRISPR-Cas9 do not 766 display embryonic lethality as in spr-5 mutants. Embryonic survival was scored among the 767 progeny of worms of the indicated genotypes. P=0.0027 for spr-5 compared to spr-5::GFP::HA. 768 Error bars represent standard error of the mean. n = at least 36 for each genotype. 769

770

Supplemental figure 2. FNCM-1::GFP::FLAG co-localizes with FCD-2 and exhibits normal brood size.

773 A. Endogenous FNCM-1::GFP::FLAG expression was detected as both foci on DAPI-stained 774 chromatin as well as a dispersed signal observed throughout the germline, which was not detected in wild type. Localization of FNCM-1::GFP::FLAG clearly corresponded to FCD-2 775 776 indicated with white arrows. **B**. The *fncm-1*::GFP::FLAG tag line displayed a brood size similar to wild type and significantly different (*) from *fncm-1* mutants suggesting that the *fncm-*777 1::GFP::FLAG transgenic line expressed wild type FNCM-1. Mean number of eggs laid per 778 adult was 239 for wild type, 157 for fncm-1, and 249 for fncm-1::GFP::FLAG. P=0.0004 for 779 fncm-1 and fncm-1::GFP::FLAG. P=0.2234 for wild type and fncm-1::GFP::FLAG. 780

781

782 Supplemental figure 3. Defective checkpoint activation observed in spr-5 mutants is HU

783 dose-dependent

- 784 S-phase DNA damage checkpoint activation is impaired in *spr-5* mutants at a lower (3.5mM) but
- not at a higher (5.5mM) dose of HU. Immunostaining for phospho CHK-1 (pCHK-1) of mitotic
- nuclei (premeiotic tip) in the germline following either 3.5 or 5.5mM HU treatment. Bar, 2 μm.

Table 1. SPR-5 interacting proteins identified by liquid chromatography-mass spectrometry (LC-MS) analysis.

Protein	SPR-5::GFP::HA	Control
Name		
RCOR-1	45	Not detected
SPR-1	18	Not detected
SPR-5	268	Not detected
FNCM-1	3	Not detected

790

Immunoprecipitations from *spr-5*::GFP::HA and wild type (N2) whole worm extracts with antibodies against either HA or GFP were analyzed by LC-MS. The Fanconi anemia FANCM homolog in *C. elegans*, FNCM-1, was identified with both anti-HA and anti-GFP antibodies. The wild type (N2) extract was used as a negative control to remove false positive hits. SPR-5 interacting proteins that were identified in both anti-HA and anti-GFP pull-downs are listed. Numbers indicate the total mass spectra collected from two samples.

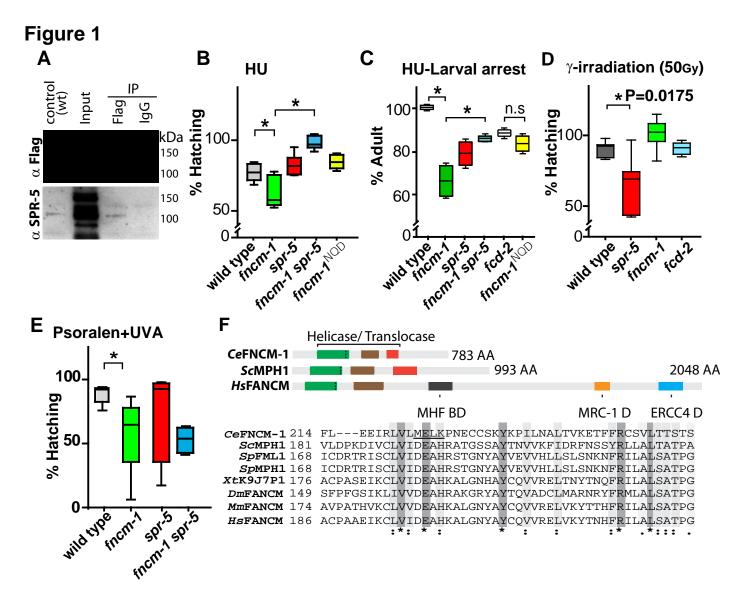
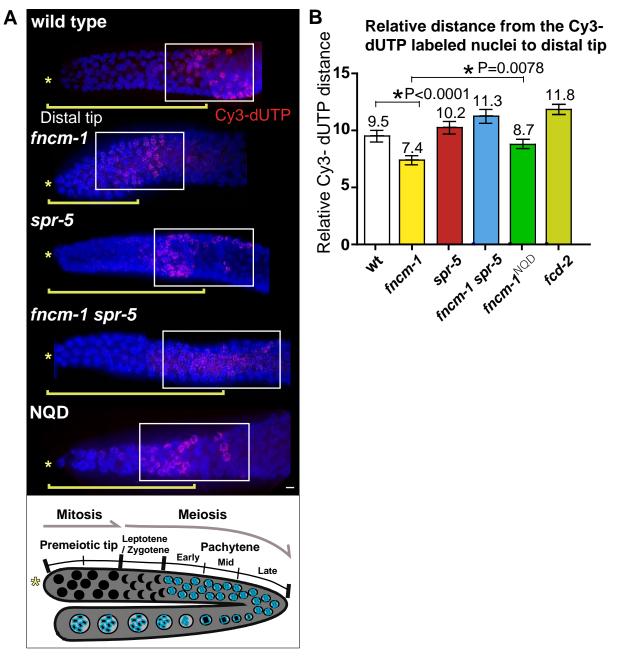
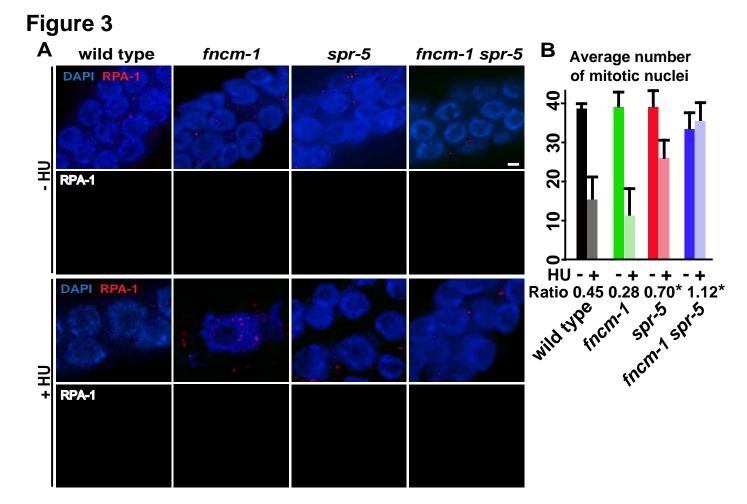
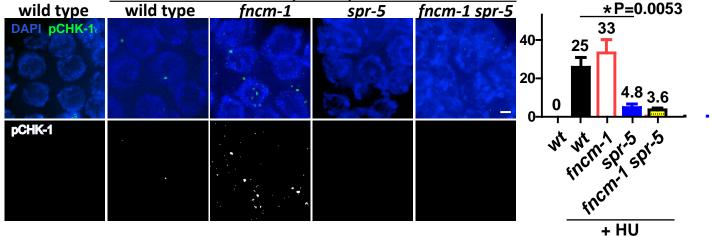


Figure 2



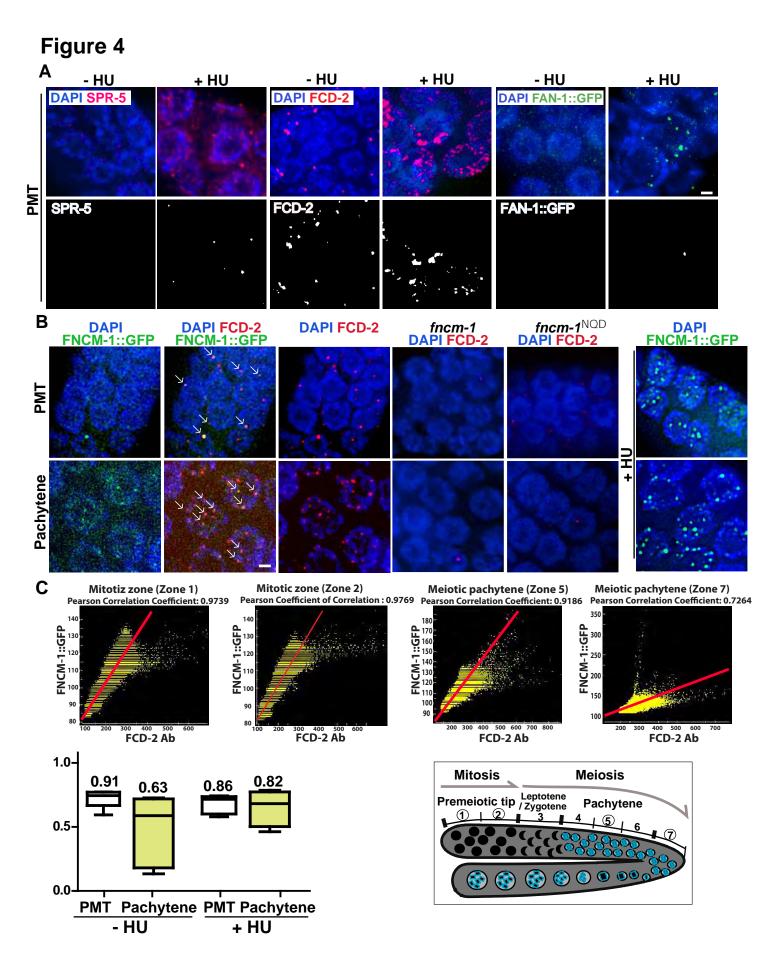


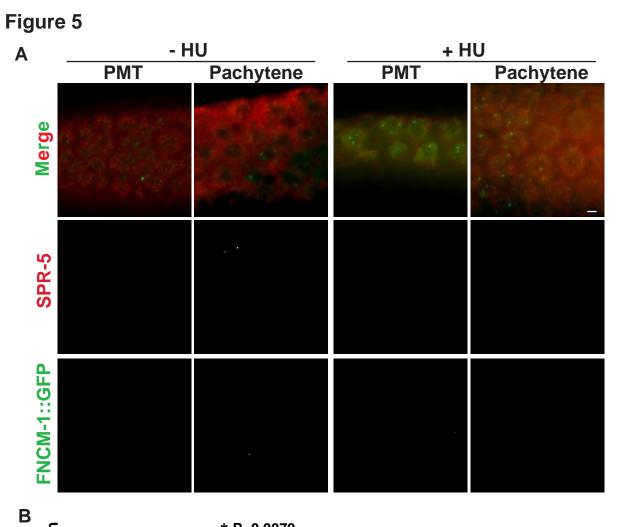
Average no of pCHK1 foci/nucleus <u>spr-5</u> <u>* P=</u>0.0053

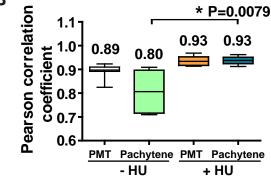


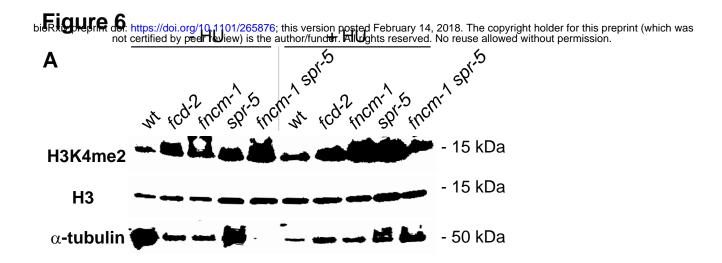
+ HU (3.5mM)

С









H3K4me2 fold increase over H3(average) H3K4me2 fold increase over α -tub.(average)

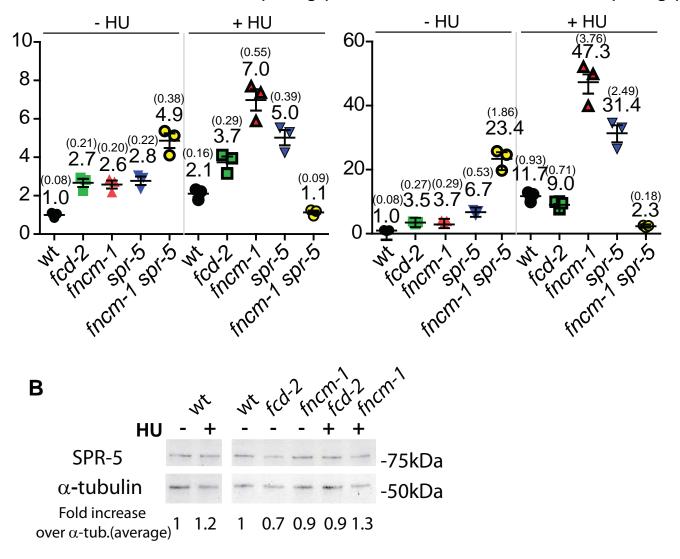
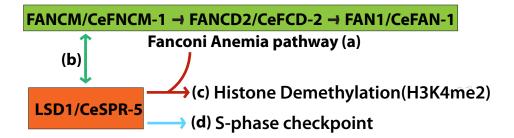


Figure 7



Supplemental figure 1

