Vpr drives massive cellular proteome remodelling in HIV-1 infection

Edward JD Greenwood[1][*], James C Williamson[1][*], Agata Sienkiewicz[1], Adi Naamati[1], Nicholas J Matheson[1], Paul J Lehner[1].

* These authors contributed equally to this work

1. Department of Medicine, CIMR, University of Cambridge, CB2 0XY, UK.

Abstract

Viral infection causes global remodelling of the cellular proteome. We previously mapped the temporal changes in abundance of thousands of proteins in HIV-1 infected cells (Greenwood & Matheson, 2016). While a small proportion of these changes were attributable to specific HIV-1 accessory proteins, most were unexplained. Here, we use complementary unbiased mass spectrometry-based approaches to demonstrate that a single viral protein, Vpr, is both necessary and sufficient to cause the vast majority of these changes. This global protein regulation requires substrate binding and degradation via DCAF1, but is mostly independent of Vpr-mediated cell cycle arrest. Combined approaches of pulsed-Stable Isotope Labelling with Amino Acids in Cell Culture (pulsed-SILAC) and immunoprecipitation-mass spectrometry (IP-MS) identified at least 38 such cellular proteins directly targeted for degradation by Vpr. Thus, whilst other HIV-1 accessory proteins downregulate a small number of host factors, Vpr degrades multiple protein targets, causing systems-level remodelling of the cellular proteome.

Impact statement

HIV infection causes massive changes to the cellular proteome and a single HIV protein, Vpr, is necessary and sufficient to drive almost all these changes by degrading multiple host proteins.

Introduction

The HIV-1 'accessory proteins' Vif, Vpr, Nef and Vpu deplete host proteins in infected cells, and are required for viral replication *in vivo* [1-3]. We previously used unbiased quantitative proteomics to map temporal changes in cellular protein abundance during HIV infection of CEM-T4 T-cells, and identify novel targets of Vpu (SNAT1), Nef (SERINC3/5) and Vif (PPP2R5A-E) [4, 5]. Nonetheless, known accessory protein targets only account for a tiny fraction of all protein changes observed during HIV infection [5]. Since a single accessory protein, Vif, is sufficient to drive global remodelling of the cellular phosphoproteome [5], we hypothesised that undiscovered targets of the accessory protein, Vpr, might explain a proportion of the remaining protein-level changes.

Results

Vpr is required for global proteome remodelling in HIV infected cells.

We compared total proteomes of uninfected cells with cells infected with either WT HIV or an HIV Vpr deletion mutant (HIV ΔVpr) at an infectious MOI of 1.5 (**Figure 1A**), resulting in approximately 75% infection (**Figure 1B**). Data from this experiment are available, together with the other proteomics datasets presented here, in a readily searchable interactive format in **Figure 1—source data 1**. Amongst the 7,774 quantitated proteins, we observed widespread changes in cells infected with wild-type HIV (**Figure 1C** left panel). Together with known Nef, Vpu and Vif, targets, we saw

depletion of previously reported Vpr targets including HLTF [6, 7], ZGPAT [8], MCM10 [9], UNG [10],
TET2 [11], MUS81 and EME1 [12, 13]. DCAF1, part of the ligase complex used by Vpr to degrade
targets was also depleted, consistent with a previous report [14].

In HIV ΔVpr infection (**Figure 1C**, right panel), depletion of Nef, Vpu and Vif targets was maintained.
Remarkably, as well as abolishing depletion of known Vpr targets, almost all of the previously
uncharacterised protein changes were also reduced or abolished in HIV ΔVpr infection. Whilst 1,944
proteins changed significantly (q<0.01) in WT HIV-infected cells, only 41 protein changes (2%)
retained significance when cells were infected with HIV ΔVpr. Indeed, principle component analysis
showed that cells infected with HIV ΔVpr virus share more similarity on the proteome level with
uninfected cell than with cells infected with WT virus (**Figure 1D**).

Incoming Vpr protein alone drives massive cellular proteome remodelling.
Since Vpr enhances expression of other viral proteins [15, 16] (**Figure 1C**), differences between WT
and ΔVpr viruses could potentially be explained by secondary changes in expression levels of other
proteins, or different rates of progression of WT and ΔVpr viral infections. To eliminate these
potential confounders, we therefore examined the effect of Vpr alone. Further, unlike other HIV-1
accessory proteins, Vpr is specifically packaged into nascent viral particles, and as such, we wanted
to examine the effect of this delivered protein. We therefore repeated our proteomic analysis using
cells exposed to lentiviral particles lacking or bearing Vpr in the presence of reverse transcriptase
inhibitors (RTi). We therefore excluded all *de novo* viral protein expression and examined the
changes induced by Vpr-containing viral particles delivered directly from the virion (**Figure 2A**). Cells
were exposed to these viral particles at an infectious MOI of 0.5 (determined in the absence of RTi).

Strikingly, changes induced by Vpr-containing viral particles phenocopied the Vpr-dependent
proteome remodelling seen in HIV infection (**Figure 2B**), with a high degree of correlation ($r^2 = 0.67$;
Figure 2C). Taking both experiments together, Vpr is both necessary and sufficient to cause the
significant (q<0.01) depletion of at least 302 proteins, and the upregulation of 413 – highlighted in
blue and red, respectively (**Figure 2c**). This is a stringent false discovery rate and, in practice, the
number of Vpr-dependent changes is almost certainly even higher. Where antibodies were available,
we confirmed a proportion of these changes by immunoblot (**Figure 2 – figure supplement 1**).

Cellular proteome remodelling requires interaction with DCAF1 and cellular substrates.
While the function or functions of Vpr remain controversial, in all phenotypic descriptions, Vpr
activity is dependent on the interaction between Vpr and the DCAF1/DDB/Cul4 ligase complex,
recruitment of which results in ubiquitination and degradation of known Vpr targets through the
ubiquitin-proteasome system. Therefore, in addition to testing the effect of wild type Vpr protein
delivered in viral particles to the cellular proteome, we tested a number of previously described
mutant Vpr variants (See schematic in **Figure 2A** and results in **Figures 2D,E** and additional
information in **Figure 2 - figure supplement2**)

Since the Q65 residue of Vpr is required for the interaction with DCAF1 [17], we compared proteome
changes caused by a Q65R Vpr mutant with WT Vpr. As predicted, the Q65R Vpr was almost
completely inactive (**Figure 2D,E**). We recapitulated this finding by comparing the effects of WT Vpr
in control cells, or cells depleted of DCAF1 (**Figure 2 – figure supplement 3**). ShRNA mediated
depletion of DCAF1 resulted in an approximately 50% reduction in protein abundance of DCAF1

(**Figure 2 – figure supplement 3B**). Depletion of DCAF1 alone did not phenocopy the Vpr mediated

proteome remodelling, and the widespread effects of Vpr are therefore unlikely to be only

dependent on the Vpr mediated sequestration and/or depletion of DCAF1. As a proportion of

cellular DCAF1 was still expressed, known Vpr effects including degradation of HLTF and

upregulation of CCNB1 was partially rather than completely inhibited (**Figure 2 – figure supplement**

C). Consistent with this, Vpr mediated changes were broadly reduced in magnitude in the DCAF1

knockdown cells (**Figure 2 – figure supplement 3D)**. Thus, as with depletion of known Vpr targets,

extensive Vpr-dependent proteomic remodelling is dependent on Vpr's interaction with its cognate

DCAF1/DDB/Cul4 ligase.

Residues E24, R36, Y47, D52 and W54 of Vpr are also required for the recruitment and degradation

of previously described Vpr targets, and are reported to form the substrate-binding surface [7, 18,

19]. Y47, D52 & W54 make up the proposed DNA mimicking motif by which Vpr binds the cellular

target UNG2 [18]. In agreement, the $Vpr_{E24R, R36P}$ and Vpr_{W54R} mutants showed attenuated

remodelling of the proteome, while a triple mutant, $Vpr_{Y47A, D52A, W54R}$, was defective for almost all

Vpr-dependent protein changes (**Figure 2D,E**). Global protein remodelling therefore depends on

both the substrate binding surfaces of Vpr, and the recruitment of DCAF1, suggesting that this

process is mediated by recruiting Vpr substrates to the DCAF1/DDB1/CUL4 E3 ligase complex, and

their subsequent degradation.

Vpr causes G2/M arrest in cycling cells, but the mechanism is contentious [9, 13, 20-26], as is the

connection to any replicative advantage Vpr provides *in vivo.* To investigate this important issue, we

took advantage of previously characterised Vpr mutants. Residue S79 of Vpr is required for Vpr-

dependent cell cycle arrest [27] (**Figure 2D** and **Figure 2 – figure supplement 1**). Of the other

mutants we tested, Vpr_{Q65R} and $Vpr_{Y47A, D52A, W54R}$ mutants are also unable to cause G2/M arrest, while

$Vpr_{E24R, R36P}$ has an intermediate phenotype, and Vpr_{W54R} caused G2/M arrest at wild type levels

(**Figure 2D** and **Figure 2 – figure supplement 1**). Strikingly, most Vpr-dependent protein changes

were also observed with the Vpr_{S79A} mutant (**Figure 2D, E**), and are therefore independent of G2/M

cell cycle arrest. The presence or absence of G2/M arrest was also a poor correlate of proteomic

remodelling across the entire panel of mutants. Cell cycle arrest therefore only explains a minority of

Vpr-dependent changes **(Figure 2D,E)**.

Further, previous datasets/reports investigating gene and protein expression during the cell cycle

have identified proteins increased or depleted during different phases of the cell cycle, or in

chemically G2/M arrested cells [28, 29] (**Figure 2 – figure supplement 4**). Cells arrested in G2 using a

PLK1 inhibitor show similar regulation of the cyclin family of proteins (**Figure 2 - figure supplement**

4B), but there is little other correlation between these datasets. Thus, whilst some changes in

protein levels induced by Vpr may be explained by the effects of cell cycle arrest, proteins regulated

by cell cycle in these datasets only account for a small fraction of Vpr-dependent changes (**Figure 2 -**

figure supplement 4A,C,D).

Within this minority of changes that correlate with Vpr mediated G2/M arrest, depleted proteins

may either represent secondary effects of alteration to the cell cycle, or may correspond to proteins

depleted by Vpr, resulting in G2/M arrest. For example, MCM10 has previously been identified as a

direct target for Vpr mediated depletion, and it was also reported that depletion of MCM10 by Vpr is

at least partly responsible for Vpr mediated G2/M arrest [9]. We found that depletion of MCM10

correlated with the degree of G2/M arrest mediated by the different Vpr variants tested in this
experiment (**Figure 2 – figure supplement 5A),** and confirmed that RNAi-mediated depletion of
MCM10 could partly phenocopy Vpr by inducing G2/M arrest, (**Figure 2 – figure supplement 5**), as
shown previously. Thus, a proportion of proteins whose depletion correlates with G2/M arrest in this
system may be causes, rather than consequences of Vpr mediated G2/M arrest.

Identifying direct targets for Vpr-mediated degradation.
Vpr has a nuclear localisation and all reported direct Vpr targets are nuclear proteins. Primary Vpr
targets are therefore predicted to be nuclear. Conversely, secondary effects resulting from, for
example, transcriptional changes, can be distributed across the cell. Analysis of the 302 proteins
depleted by Vpr revealed a profound enrichment for proteins that reside in the nucleus (>80%)
(**Figure 3A**). This raised the possibility that a large proportion of the proteins depleted by Vpr are
direct targets, as secondary effects should not be limited to the nucleus. Consistent with this,
proteins upregulated by Vpr, which are all predicted to be secondary effects, were distributed across
multiple compartments. Furthermore, proteins depleted by Vpr were enriched (>70%) for nucleic
acid binding activity (**Figure 3B**). Vpr associates with DNA binding proteins such as UNG via a
substrate-binding surface that mimics DNA [18]. Thus, rather than targeting a small number of
cellular proteins for degradation, Vpr may have a much wider range of direct cellular targets, and the
structure of the substrate binding surface suggests a possible this mechanism for recruitment of
multiple cellular factors.

To identify those proteins targeted directly by Vpr, we first adopted a co-immunoprecipitation
approach (**Figure 4A**). Cells were transduced with a 3xHA tagged Vpr lentivirus in the presence of an
shRNA to DCAF1 and the pan-cullin inhibitor MLN4924, to minimise substrate degradation and allow
successful co-immunoprecipitation. Factors specifically co-immunoprecipitated in the presence of
Vpr are expected to include direct Vpr targets and, accordingly, were enriched for proteins depleted
(rather than increased) in the presence of Vpr (**Figure 4B,D,E**). However, the co-IP was dominated by
DCAF1, a stable binding partner of Vpr, identified with a signal intensity 2 orders of magnitude
greater than all other proteins (**Figure 4C**). This is despite the knockdown of DCAF1 in these cells,
which reduces the DCAF1 protein abundance by approximately 50% (**Figure 2 – figure supplement
3B**). In addition, at least 13 of the proteins co-immunoprecipitating with Vpr are reported to
physically interact with DCAF1 alone [30-32], of which 11 are not regulated by Vpr, and two, CEP78
and IQGAP2, are upregulated by Vpr, explaining their presence in this list of proteins.

This mismatch between the high abundance of DCAF1 and the relatively low abundance of direct Vpr
targets for degradation is reminiscent of previous reports, which have also found that MS-IP based
techniques are ideal for the identification of the cellular machinery co-opted by viral proteins, but
often struggle to identify cellular targets, which interact transiently and in competition with each
other [33, 34]. We therefore adopted an alternative, pulsed-Stable Isotope Labelling with Amino
Acids in Cell Culture (pulsed-SILAC) approach to identify host proteins specifically destabilised within
6 hrs of exposure to Vpr (**Figure 5A**). This technique is directly analogous to a traditional pulse-chase
experiment using radiolabelled methionine/cysteine, but allows a global, unbiased analysis of
potential cellular targets [35]. Since proteins are fully labelled prior to exposure to Vpr, differences in
abundances of labelled proteins between conditions exclusively reflect changes in protein
degradation rates.

Six hours after exposure to Vpr, the stability of most proteins was unchanged (**Figure 5B,** top panel).
However, a subset of proteins depleted by Vpr were already destabilised, consistent with Vpr-
dependent proteasomal degradation. These 27 proteins, including HLTF, are therefore very likely to
represent direct targets for Vpr-mediated depletion (**Figure 5C**). After 24 hours of exposure to Vpr,
changes in protein stability reflected overall changes in protein abundance caused by Vpr in other
experiments (**Figure 5B,** lower panel), including proteins with increased as well as decreased
stability. These changes are therefore indicative of both direct and indirect Vpr targets.

Combining all our orthogonal approaches - TMT-based whole cell proteomics to identify proteins
depleted by Vpr in the context of viral infection or Vpr protein alone delivered in viral particles, MS
co-IP with epitope tagged Vpr, and pulsed-SILAC based identification of proteins post-translationally
degraded by Vpr - we have identified 38 direct targets for Vpr mediated degradation (**Table 1**). Vpr is
both necessary and sufficient for depletion of these proteins, which are either bound by Vpr, or
destabilised within 6 hours of Vpr exposure (or both). This list very likely underestimates the true
number of direct Vpr targets, as several known targets of Vpr behaved appropriately, but beyond
the statistical cut-offs used to derive this table (**Table 1 – table supplement 1**). It is also limited to
proteins expressed in this T-cell model.

Novel Vpr target involvement in G2/M arrest
Several cellular phenotypes have been described for Vpr, including G2/M arrest, transactivation of
the HIV LTR, and modulation of cellular signalling pathways such as NFκB and NFAT arrest [21, 22,
36-40]. The mechanisms responsible for these phenotypes are controversial. The wide-scale
proteome remodelling by Vpr, and the direct targeting of multiple proteins, suggests a model in
which Vpr interacts with diverse cellular proteins and pathways, perhaps resulting in cumulative or
redundant effects on cellular phenotypes. This model does not contradict any single mechanism, but
suggests that several are involved. To test this, we investigated the best described phenotype for
Vpr, cell cycle arrest at the G2/M phase. As noted, MCM10 degradation correlated with the extent of
G2/M arrest in the panel of Vpr mutants tested, and that RNAi for MCM10 results in G2/M arrest, as
previously described [9]. We therefore interrogated the Vpr mutant panel dataset (**Figure 2**) for
other direct targets of Vpr mediated degradation described in **Table 1** that correlated with the
extent of G2/M arrest. 14 proteins with a significant relationship (a linear regression analysis with p
< 0.05) **(Figure 6A)** were identified. We tested if their shRNA-mediated depletion could phenocopy
Vpr by inducing cell cycle arrest at G2/M (**Figure 6A**). Depletion of 3 Vpr targets: SMN1, CDCA2 and
ZNF267 caused G2/M arrest, and these phenotypes were confirmed with a second shRNA (**Figure
6C**). We suggest that depletion of multiple cellular Vpr targets contribute to the Vpr-mediated G2/M
arrest, consistent with our proposed model.

Conservation of Vpr targets across primate lentiviruses.
Targeting of key cellular proteins such as BST2 or the APOBEC3 family is conserved across multiple
lentiviral lineages, demonstrating the *in vivo* selective advantage of these interactions. We therefore
tested a diverse panel of lentiviral Vpr proteins to determine if they shared activity with the NL4-3
Vpr variant used in all the experiments above. We included Vpr variants from primary isolates of
HIV-1 from two distinct cross-species transmissions from apes to humans (Group M and Group O), in
addition to a closely related SIVcpz variant. We also tested Vpr variants from divergent primate
lineages, including HIV-2, SIVsmm, SIVagm and SIVrcm (**Figure 7A** and **Figure 7 – figure supplement
1**). In addition to Vpr, which is present in all primate lentiviruses, viruses of some lineages also bear

207 Vpx, a gene duplication of Vpr. Since depletion of some substrates switches between Vpr and Vpx in
208 lineages bearing this accessory gene, we also included a Vpx variant from HIV-2.

209 Extensive Vpr-dependent remodelling of the cellular proteome was conserved across the HIV-
210 1/SIVcpz lineage (**Figure 7B** – top row). Vpr variants from other lineages showed a narrower set of
211 changes, but the depletion of some proteins, particularly those most heavily depleted by HIV-1, was
212 conserved by Vpr variants across multiple lineages (**Figure 7B**,**C**). Depletion of selected proteins for
213 which commercial antibody reagents were available was readily confirmed by immunoblot of cells
214 transduced with an overlapping panel of Vpr variants (**Figure 7D**). Conserved targets of direct Vpr-
215 mediated degradation (highlighted in **Figure 7C** and **Figure 7 – figure supplement 1**) are therefore
216 likely to provide an *in vivo* replicative advantage for all primate lentiviruses.

217 While none of the identified HIV-1 Vpr targets were degraded by the HIV-2 Vpx (HIV-2$_{ROD}$) tested, we
218 noted a shared ability of HIV-2 Vpx and SIVagm Vpr to deplete TASOR, a critical component of the
219 Human Silencing Hub (HuSH) transcription repressor complex we recently described [41] (**Figure 8**).
220 The HuSH complex mediates position-dependent transcriptional repression of a subset of lentiviral
221 integrations, and antagonism of HuSH is able to potentiate HIV reactivation in the J-LAT model of
222 latency [41]. As predicted, Vpx-VLPs phenocopied the effect of RNAi-mediated TASOR depletion on
223 reactivation of the HuSH-sensitive J-LAT clone A1 (**Figure 8B**). With some exceptions, most primate
224 lentiviruses can be categorised into 5 lineages (**Figure 8C**), of which two encode Vpx. The previously
225 described canonical function of Vpx is the degradation of SAMHD1 [42, 43]. Two lentiviral lineages
226 lack Vpx, but use Vpr to degrade SAMHD1, while the HIV-1/SIVcpz lineage lacks SAMHD1 antagonism
227 [44]. We considered that TASOR antagonism may follow the same pattern, and thus tested Vpx
228 proteins from both Vpx bearing lineages, and representative Vpr variants from lineages that use Vpr
229 to degrade SAMHD1. All of these proteins were able to deplete TASOR in Vpx/Vpr transduced cells
230 (**Figure 8D**). Antagonism of SAMHD1 and TASOR therefore follow the same pattern. Whilst this
231 manuscript was in preparation, two other groups independently discovered Vpx-mediated depletion
232 of TASOR [45, 46], and the role of HuSH antagonism in lentiviral infection is the subject of ongoing
233 investigation.

234 While the targeting of some substrates was conserved across Vpr varients from multiple lineages, we
235 did not observe broad proteome remodelling outside the HIV-1/SIVcpz lineage. However, in the
236 experiment described in **Figure 7** an HIV-1 based lentiviral transduction system was used. Of the Vpr
237 and Vpx variants tested, only Vpr protein from only the HIV-1/SIVcpz alleles are efficiently packaged.
238 In these cases, cells receive both incoming and *de novo* synthesized Vpr, while in the case of other
239 variants tested, only *de novo* synthesized Vpr is present. There is therefore a time-lag of at 18-24
240 hours for viral entry, reverse transcription, integration and de novo synthesis of protein to begin. As
241 such, the more limited proteome remodelling seen in Vpr variants may reflect a lack of time for such
242 changes to occur.

243 In order to account for this, we carried out an experiment in which cells were transduced with a Vpr
244 or Vpx from the primary HIV-2 isolate 7312a and assayed 48 h to 96 hours post transduction (**Figure**
245 **9A**), allowing time for additional changes to develop after *de novo* Vpr/Vpx synthesis. Even at 96
246 hours post transduction, HIV-2 Vpr showed very limited changes. The majority of these changes
247 consisted of the depletion of proteins described above as being also targeted by HIV-1 Vpr (**Figure**
248 **9B** left panel). Widespread proteome remodelling was not observed, and global regulation of the

proteome is therefore unique to the HIV-1/SIVcpz lineage. As the HIV-1/SIVcpz lineage appears to

be more pathogenic than other primate lentiviral lineages [47, 48] this activity of HIV-1 Vpr may be

significant, particularly given the potential to drive these changes in Vpr exposed but uninfected

bystander cells.

Curiously, 7312a HIV-2 Vpx depleted several proteins we have identified as being modulated by HIV-

1 Vpr (**Figure 9B –** right panel), including direct targets for HIV-1 Vpr mediated degradation, BBX,

HASPIN and ARHGAP11A. Some proteins were degraded by both HIV-2 Vpr and Vpx, while others

were only degraded by the Vpx of this isolate. In lentiviral strains and/or lineages that encode both

Vpr and Vpx, responsibility for degrading key targets of HIV-1 Vpr is therefore shared between Vpr

and Vpx, further emphasising their *in vivo* importance.

Discussion

Proteomic analyses of cells infected with viruses from different orders have revealed widespread

and varied changes to the cellular proteome [5, 49-51]. While these changes are presumed to be

multifactorial, in the case of HIV-1 infection, the majority can be attributed to the action of a single

viral protein, Vpr. We propose that this massive cellular proteome remodelling consist of firstly, the

direct targeting of multiple cellular proteins for proteosomal degradation via the

DCAF1/DDB1/CUL4A E3 ligase complex, followed by resulting secondary effects on other proteins.

While many of the changes caused by Vpr are secondary, these changes occur within 48 hours of

infection or exposure to Vpr, the physiological timeframe of productively infected T-cell [52, 53], and

are therefore relevant to our understanding of the HIV-1 infected cell.

The list of direct targets for Vpr mediated depletion was already extensive. We have confirmed here

the Vpr mediated depletion of previously described Vpr targets HLTF [6, 7], ZGPAT [8], MCM10 [9],

UNG2 [10], TET2 [11], MUS81 and EME1 [12, 13], while other previously described Vpr targets

SMUG1 [10] and PHF13 [54] were not detected in this cell line. Based on our knowledge of the

activity of other HIV accessory proteins, it might have been predicted that this list of Vpr targets was

nearly complete. Rather, we show here that it is only the tip of the iceberg. Indeed, even with the

large number of direct targets identified or confirmed in this work, we do not propose that the list of

38 proteins identified here as direct targets here is comprehensive.

While surprising, the ability of Vpr to degrade multiple cellular factors can perhaps be explained by

elements of the biology of this small protein. Mechanistically, depletion of multiple proteins with

nucleic acid binding properties is consistent with known structural determinants of Vpr substrate

recruitment. From the functional viewpoint, while HIV-1 has three accessory proteins (Vpu, Nef and

Vif) to aid viral replication and counteract host defences in the late stages of the viral life cycle, Vpr is

the only HIV-1 accessory protein specifically packaged in virions. Multiple targets may therefore be

required both to protect incoming virions from cellular factors, and to prime newly infected cells for

productive viral replication.

This work does not represent the first attempt to use unbiased proteomics analysis to characterise

Vpr function. In general, previous studies have used one proteomics based experiment or method to

identify candidate proteins that either interact with, or are depleted by, Vpr, with individual proteins

subsequently followed up using targeted methods with immunoreagents. For example, proteins

identified as binding Vpr by co-immunoprecipitation MS were identified by Jager *et al* [33] and

Hrecka *et al* [7]. Of proteins co-immunoprecipitating with Vpr, Jager *et al* did not determine whether
any proteins were depleted following binding Vpr. Hrecka *et al* [7] also used an MS-IP and confirmed
identified the single target protein, HLTF, as depleted by Vpr, thus satisfying the criteria to be
identified as a Vpr target. Conversely, Lahuassa *et al* [6] used a SILAC based approach to quantify
protein changes in cells exposed to viral particles bearing Vpr, identifying 8 proteins which were
depleted by at least 20%. Of these, only one, HLTF was subsequently found to also bind Vpr, and
thus again by identified as a direct Vpr target. As expected, the lists of 'candidate' Vpr proteins,
identified, but not pursued, in the above studies overlaps with this work, and in some examples we
have confirmed these candidates as direct targets for Vpr mediated degradation. For example,
SMN1 has been identified as binding Vpr by Jager *et al*, and as being degraded by Vpr by Lahuassa *et*
al in indepenedent proteomics experiments. ESCO2 was identified as binding Vpr by Hrecka *et al,* but
the depletion was not confirmed by immunoblot – most likely due to poor performance of the
commercial antibody used. We have confirmed that both of these proteins are direct targets for Vpr
mediated degradation.

By contrast to previous studies, rather than using a targeted approach to follow up only a small
number of potential Vpr targets we have combined complementary proteomic analyses to describe
(i) the global proteome remodelling caused by Vpr, and (ii) multiple direct substrates for Vpr
mediated depletion. The two established criteria for Vpr targets, that Vpr both directly binds and
depletes a given protein are satisfied by several of the proteins identified here, including ESCO2,
SMN1, BBX and KIF18A. Thus, these proteins are not candidate Vpr targets, but *bone fide* Vpr
targets, proven to the same standard of evidence as previously described direct substrates.

However, in our proposed model, Vpr binds and degrades multiple cellular proteins, with the total
pool of Vpr shared over multiple targets. The identification of cellular targets by co-IP is thus
technically problematic and more prone to false negatives compared to other proteins that establish
interactions with a small number of binding partners. We therefore propose an alternative method
of identifying direct targets for Vpr mediated depletion – proteins that are post-translationally
degraded within 6 hours of treatment with Vpr. This strategy was more successful at capturing the
known effects on cellular Vpr targets than the MS-IP approach, with the degradation of HLTF and
ZGPAT being demonstrated within 6 hours of Vpr exposure. We are confident that the other proteins
identified in this fashion also represent direct targets for Vpr mediated degradation, as secondary
effects are excluded by both intrinsic elements of the technique, and the short time frame allowed.

A comparison of this work with the recent publication by Lapek *et al* [14] is required, given the major
differences between these studies, despite apparent similarities in the approach. Lapek *et al* use an
inducible HIV-1 provirus and quantify changes to the cellular proteome up to 24 hours post
activation. They compare a wild type and a Vpr deficient provirus but find fewer differences than in
this study – indeed, they identify only nine proteins with significant difference between wild type
and dVpr, none of which are previously defined Vpr targets – although DCAF1 is significantly reduced
in the presence of Vpr. The difference most likely relates to differences between the systems used.
In our model system, as in physiological conditions, Vpr is delivered with the virus particle at '0 h'
but de novo production of Vpr occurs late in the virus lifecycle. In Lapek *et al*, The experiment is
concluded 24 hours after induction of the provirus. As production of de novo Vpr is Rev-dependent,
Vpr production must occur after a significant delay within that 24-hour period. Thus, while some
limited primary effects are evident such as the depletion of DCAF1, other primary and secondary

effects may not have had time to occur. Aside from the matter of timing, it is also worth noting that
that in the Lapek *et al* system, all Vpr is produced concurrently with Gag. The interaction between
Vpr and Gag, and the recruitment of a proportion of Vpr into nascent viral particles, may inhibit
nuclear localisation and substrate degradation.

Despite the importance of Vpr *in vivo*, an *in vitro* viral replication phenotype is often absent in T-cell
infection models [55]. Nonetheless, expression of Vpr in T-cells causes cell cycle arrest [36-38], cell
death [37], transactivation of the viral LTR [36], enhancement or antagonism of crucial signalling
pathways including NFAT [21] and NF-κB [22, 39, 40], disruption of PARP1 localisation [21, 40],
defects in chromatid cohesion [56] and induction of the DNA damage response [57, 58]. At least
some of these phenotypes can be segregated [21, 37]. The molecular mechanisms underpinning
these phenomena have remained controversial. In our model, we propose that these multiple
phenotypes can be explained by Vpr targeting multiple cellular proteins and pathways, with
potential for redundant or cumulative effects.

Here, we have considered the most well described cellular phenotype for Vpr, G2/M cell cycle arrest,
with findings compatible with this model. In addition to confirming the previously described effect of
Vpr mediated MCM10 degradation, we have identified three other proteins that are directly
targeted by Vpr, show depletion correlating with the extent of G2/M mediated arrest in a panel of
Vpr mutants and result in arrest at G2/M when depleted through RNAi. Notably, depletion of two of
these proteins, SMN1 and CDCA2 (Repo-Man), has been shown to activate the DNA damage
response and stimulate ATM/ATR kinase activity [59, 60], demonstrated by many groups to be a
critical step towards the G2/M arrest caused by Vpr [20, 23, 61]. The contribution of depletion of
multiple cellular targets towards difference cellular phenotypes is also illustrated by another
example of a Vpr mediated, premature chromatid segregation (PCS). While this phenotype was not
investigated here, the RNAi mediated knockdown of any of three proteins we describe as novel
targets for Vpr mediated depletion, ESCO2, CDCA5 (Sororin) or HASPIN results in this phenotype [62-
64].

In conclusion, Vpr degrades multiple cellular targets, resulting in global remodeling of the host
proteome, and labyrinthine changes to different cellular pathways. This explains why its effects on
cellular phenotypes and viral replication are complex and remain poorly understood, why the
functional consequences of individual Vpr targets identified and studied in isolation have proved
elusive, and why the search for a single, critical Vpr target has been problematic.

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Data availability
370   In addition to **Figure 1—source data 1**, which includes data from all of the proteomics experiments
371   carried out here, proteomics data have been deposited to the ProteomeXchange Consortium via the
372   PRIDE [65] partner repository with the dataset identifier PXD01029.

Experimental Procedures

NL4-3 molecular clones

pNL4-3-dE-EGFP (derived from the HIV-1 molecular clone pNL4-3 but encoding Enhanced Green Fluorescent Protein (EGFP) in the *env* open reading frame (ORF), rendering Env non-functional) was obtained through the AIDS Reagent Program, Division of AIDS, NIAD, NIH: Drs Haili Zhang, Yan Zhou, and Robert Siliciano [66] and the complete sequence verified by Sanger sequencing. The ΔVpr mutant was generated by cloning three stop codons into the Vpr open reading frame, immediately after the overlap with Vif to prevent interference with that gene:

WT Vpr ORF sequence

ATGGAACAAGCCCCAGAAGACCAAGGGCCACAGAGGGAGCCATACAATGAATGGACACTAGAGCTTTTAGAGGAA

ΔVpr ORF sequence

ATGGAACAAGCCCCAGAAGACCAAGGGCCACAGAGGGAGCCATACAATGAATGGACACTAGAGCTTTAATAGTAA

Viral stocks

VSVg-pseudotyped NL4-3-dE-EGFP HIV viral stocks were generated by co-transfection with pMD.G (VSVg) as previously described[5]. NL4-3-dE-EGFP HIV viral stocks were titred by infection/transduction of known numbers of relevant target cells under standard experimental conditions followed by flow cytometry for GFP and CD4 at 48 hr to identify % infected cells. Single Vpr and Vpx proteins were expressed in a modified dual promotor pHRSIN[67] vector in which Vpr or Vpx expression is driven by the rous sarcoma virus (RSV) promotor, and Emerald GFP expression is driven by the ubiquitin promotor. Virus was generated by co-transfection with p8.91 and pMD.G in 293T as previously described[5]. Infectious MOI was normalised by infection in the absence of reverse transcription (RTi) inhibitors, which were included where specified (see below). The panel of Vpr and Vpr proteins used are detailed in **Table 2**. Amino acid sequences were codon optimized and synthesized as double stranded DNA (IDT), inserted into the empty vector construct by Gibson assembly, and confirmed by sanger sequencing.

CEM-T4 T-cell infections

CEM-T4 T-cells were infected with concentrated NL4-3-dE-EGFP or pHRSIN lentiviral stocks by spinoculation at 800 ×g for 1 h in a non-refrigerated benchtop centrifuge in complete media supplemented with 10 mM HEPES. Where reverse transcription treatment was specified (RTi), cells were incubated with zidovudine (10 μM) and efavirenz (100 nM) (AIDS Reagent Program, Division of AIDS, NIAD, NIH) for 1 hr prior to spinoculation, and inhibitors maintained at these concentrations during subsequent cell culture. For MS experiments, cells were subject to dead cell removal (magnetic dead cell removal kit, Miltenyi). Subsequent sample preparation, TMT labelling, and MS are described below, at the end of this section.

Pulsed Stable isotope labelling with amino acids in cell culture (Pulsed-SILAC)

For SILAC labelling, CEM-T4 T-cells were grown for at least 7 cell divisions in SILAC RPMI lacking lysine and arginine (Thermo Scientific, Thermo Fisher Scientific, UK) supplemented with 10% dialysed FCS (Gibco, Thermo Fisher Scientific), 100 units/ml penicillin and 0.1 mg/ml streptomycin, 280 mg/L proline (Sigma, UK) and medium (K4, R6; Cambridge Isotope Laboratories, Tewksbury, MA) or heavy (K8, R10; Cambridge Isotope Laboratories) $^{13}C/^{15}N$-containing lysine (K) and arginine (R) at 50 mg/L. At 0 h, cells were washed in media containing only light ($^{12}C /^{14}N$) lysine and arginine and were

maintained in this media for the duration of the experiment. Additional detail on MS methods is
available at the end of this section.
Lentivector for shRNA expression
For lentiviral shRNA-mediated knockdown of DCAF1 hairpins were cloned into pHRSIREN-PGK-hygro,
with transduced cells selected for hygromycin resistance.
The following oligonucleotide was inserted using BamHI-EcoRI (only top oligonucleotide shown),
identified from the Broad Institute GPP Web portal. Gene specific target sequence (forward and
reverse complement) is underlined.

DCAF1
GATCC<u>GCTGAGAATACTCTTCAAGAA</u>TTCAAGAGA<u>TTCTTGAAGAGTATTCTCAGC</u>TTTTTTG

The same methodology was used to clone other shRNA haripins, the forward orientation targeting
sequence used for each is shown below.

MCM10-1

AGATGCAGGAGCGCTACTTTG

MCM10-2

GACGGCGACGGTGAATCTTAT

CCNT1

GCCTGCATTTGACCACATTTA

PINX1

CCTTCAGCAAGAGAGTTTAAT

ZNF267-1

TACTCGTTCCTCCAATCTTAT

ZNF267-2

ATCAATATAGGAAGGTCTTTA

MBD1

CACCAACCTTCCAAGTGTAAA

KIF20A

CCGATGACGATGTCGTAGTTT

CWC25

GATCACAGAAGAAGATGGCA

CDCA5

CGAGAAACAGAAACGTAAGAA

ZNF574

ACCACCTTGTAAGTTCTAAAT

SMN1-1

ATCTGTGAAGTAGCTAATAA

SMN1-2

GGCTATCATACTGGCTATTAT

CDCA2 -1

AGACTGGGTTCAGGTTATTTC

CDCA2 -2

CCGTTCTCAGTTCTCCTAATA

DDX20

TCAGCTACTTATCCCGAATTT

ZNF316

CTTCCAAAGTGCTGGGATTAT

MSH6

AGGCGAAGTAGCCGCCAAATA

RFC1

CGCACTAATTATCAAGCTTAT

Mass spectrometry Immunoprecipitation (MS-IP)
CEM-T4 T-cells were lysed in 1 % NP-40. Lysates were pre-cleared with IgG-Sepharose (GE
Healthcare, UK) and incubated for 3 hr at 4°C with anti-HA coupled to agarose beads (Sigma EZview
Red Anti-HA Affinity Gel). After washing in 0.5% NP-40, samples were eluted with 0.5 mg/ml HA
peptide at 37°C for 1 hr. Additional detail on MS methods is available at the end of this section.

Proteins defined as co-immunoprecipitating with Vpr were detected with at least 3 peptides in the
Vpr condition, not identified in the control condition, and were present in <20% of MS-IP available in
the Crapome [68] database http://crapome.org/.

Antibodies
Antibodies against the following proteins were used for immunoblot, listed by manufacturer: Atlas
antibodies: TASOR (HPA006735). Bethyl: BBX (A303-151A), HLTF (A300-230A), RALY (A302-070A),
ZNF512B (A303-234A). Cell signalling : SMN1/2 (2F1). Novus: ESCO2 (NB100-87021). Origine: UNG2
(2C12). Proteintech: Vpr (51143-I-AP). Santa Cruz: CCNB1 (SC-245), ZGPAT (SC-51524). Sigma: β-actin
(AC74). Abcam : p24 (ab9071), VCP (ab11433). The following secondary antibodies were used: goat
anti-mouse-HRP and anti-rabbit-HRP (immunoblot, Jackson ImmunoResearch, West Grove, PA). Anti-
CD4-AF647 (clone OKT4; BioLegend) and anti-CD271 (NGFR)-APC (clone ME20.4, Biolegend) were
used for flow cytometry.

J-LAT reactivation experiments.
JLAT A1 cells were transduced with Cre recombinase, NL4-3 Vpr or HIV-2 ROD Vpx within a pHRSIN
IRES NGFR vector[69]. 24 h after transduction, cells were treated with 2 ng/ml TNFα (PeproTech,
300-01A). After an additional 24 h cells were stained with anti-NGFR APC and analysed for APC and
GFP expression by flow cytometry. Cells were gated for NGFR+ cells to exclude non-transduced cells.
Flow cytometry data was acquired on a BD FACSCalibur.

Statistical analysis
Anova and Fisher's exact test analysis were carried out as described in figure legends using
Graphpad Prism (v7.04). TMT multiplexed proteomics datasets were analysed using a moderated T-
test analysis with Benjamini-Hochberg correction [70], carried out using R (v3.3.1) [71]. Significance
B values for pulsed-SILAC analysis were calculated using Perseus [72].

Gene ontology enrichment analysis
Analysis was carried out using Panther [73], using the web interface at: http://pantherdb.org/. Lists
of proteins highly significantly depleted or increased by Vpr were compared to a background list of
proteins quantified in the two experiments used to define those lists.

7-AAD staining

Cells were fixed in ice cold 70% ethanol for at least 30 minutes, washed with PBS and stained in
25ug/ml 7-AAD for 15 minutes before acquisition on a BD FACSCalibur. Analysis was carried out in
Flowjo, v.10.5.2. Dead cells and doublets were excluded by gating on forward scatter, side scatter,
and fluorescent area and height. Univariate cell cycle modelling was carried out using the Watson
pragmatic method.

ShRNA knockdown confirmation by RT-PCR

Total RNA was extracted using the RNeasy Plus Mini kit (Qiagen). Total RNA (250 ng) was reverse
transcribed into cDNA using a poly(d)T primers and SuperScript III Reverse Transcriptase (Invitrogen)
following the manufacturer's instructions. Real-time qRT–PCR was performed using the ABI 7500
Real-Time PCR system (Applied Biosystems) and SYBR Green PCR Master Mix (Applied Biosystems),
with cycling parameters of 50°C for 2 min and 95°C for 5 min, followed by 40 cycles of 95°C for 15 s

and 60°C for 1 min. The gene-of-interest specific primer pairs were predesigned and purchased from Sigma-Aldrich as KiCqStart primers, with the following sequences: MCM10_FOR 5'-CTTATACAGAAGAGGCTGATG and MCM10_REV 5'-CCTCTTGCAACTCTTCATTC; ZNF267_FOR 5'-GTAGAATTCTCTTTGGAGGAG and ZNF267_REV 5'-CTCACTCTTCACATTCCAAG; CDCA2_FOR 5'-AGGAAAGTCATCATCCTACC and CDCA2_REV 5'-GATGGTTTGTTTCAGGAGAG; SMN1_FOR 5'-GGAAAGCCAGGTCTAAAATTC and SMN1_REV 5'-AGAATCTGGACATATGGGAG. The difference in the amount of input cDNA was normalized to an internal control of GAPDH, using the following primers: GAPDH_FOR: 5' ATGGGGAAGGTGAAGGTCG and GAPDH_REV: 5'- CTCCACGACGTACTCAGCG.

Phylogenetic tree of Vpr sequences.

An existing nucleic acid sequence alignment of 191 representative Vif sequences from HIV-1, HIV-2 and SIVs from 22 primate species was downloaded from:

https://www.hiv.lanl.gov/content/sequence/NEWALIGN/align.html

A tree was generated using the percentage identity average distance in jalview [74] and visualised in Figtree:

http://tree.bio.ed.ac.uk/software/figtree/

10 sequences from 5 primate species not falling into the 5 highlighted linages are not shown.

Sample Preparation for Mass spectrometry

Samples were prepared using three different methods depending on the experiment. Initial infection experiment was by SDC-FASP. VLP and shRNA experiments were by PreOmics NHS-iST sample preparation Kit. pSILAC and MS-IP experiments were by SP3.

SDC-FASP

Samples prepared essentially according to the protocol in Leon *et al*[75]. Briefly samples were lysed in 50mM TEAB (pH8.5) 2% SDS, reduced and alkylated with TCEP/Iodoacetamide, quantified by BCA assay. 50ug of each sample was diluted with TEAB/8M urea for loading onto 30kDa ultrafiltration devices. Samples were washed 3 times with 500uL urea buffer and 3 times with digestion buffer (TEAB/0.5% sodium deoxycholate) before resuspending in 50uL digestion buffer containing 1ug trypsin and incubating overnight at 37 degrees. After digestion samples were spun through the filters and filters washed with 50uL TEAB. SDC was removed by acidification and two phase partitioning with ethyl acetate before vacuum drying and labelling with TMT reagents according to the manufacturer's instructions.

PreOmics iST

Samples lysed in kit lysis buffer and quantified by BCA assay. 25ug of each sample was digested essentially according to manufacturer's instructions, scaling volumes for a digestion of 25ug total protein.

SP3

Samples were lysed in 50mM TEAB (pH8.5) 2% SDS (MS-IPs were adjusted to 2% SDS), reduced and alkylated with TCEP/Iodoacetamide before digestion using the SP3 method[76]. Briefly, carboxylate modified paramagnetic beads are added to the sample and protein is bound to the beads by acidification with formic acid and addition of acetonitrile (ACN, final 50%). The beads are then washed sequentially with 100% ACN, 70% Ethanol (twice) and 100% ACN. 10-20uL TEAB (Triethylammonium

bicarbonate) pH8 and 0.1% Sodium deoxycholate (SDC) is then added to the washed beads along with trypsin. Samples were then incubated overnight at 37 degrees with periodic shaking at 2000rpm. After digestion, peptides are immobilised on beads by addition of 200-400uL ACN and washed twice with 100uL ACN before eluting in 19uL 2% DMSO and removing the eluted peptide from the beads.

Off-line high pH reversed-phase (HpRP) peptide fractionation

For whole cell proteome samples HpRP fractionation was conducted on an Ultimate 3000 UHPLC system (Thermo Scientific) equipped with a 2.1 mm × 15 cm, 1.7µ Aqcuity BEH C18 column (Waters, UK). Solvent A was 3% ACN, Solvent B was 100% ACN, solvent C was 200 mM ammonium formate (pH 10). Throughout the analysis solvent C was kept at a constant 10%. The flow rate was 400 µL/min and UV was monitored at 280 nm. Samples were loaded in 90% A for 10 min before a gradient elution of 0–10% B over 10 min (curve 3), 10-34% B over 21 min (curve 5), 34-50% B over 5 mins (curve 5) followed by a 10 min wash with 90% B. 15 s (100 µL) fractions were collected throughout the run. Peptide containing fractions were orthogonally recombined into 24 fractions (i.e. fractions 1, 25, 49, 73, 97 combined) and dried in a vacuum centrifuge. Fractions were stored at −80°C prior to analysis.

Mass spectrometry

Data were acquired on an Orbitrap Fusion mass spectrometer (Thermo Scientific) coupled to an Ultimate 3000 RSLC nano UHPLC (Thermo Scientific). HpRP fractions were resuspended in 20 µl 5% DMSO 0.5% TFA and 10uL injected. Fractions were loaded at 10 µl/min for 5 min on to an Acclaim PepMap C18 cartridge trap column (300 um × 5 mm, 5 um particle size) in 0.1% TFA. After loading a linear gradient of 3–32% solvent B was used for sample separation over a column of the same stationary phase (75 µm × 50 cm, 2 µm particle size) before washing at 90% B and re-equilibration. Solvents were A: 0.1% FA and B:ACN/0.1% FA. 3h gradients were used for whole cell proteomics samples, 1h gradients for MS-IPs.

An SPS/MS3 acquisition was used for TMT experiments and was run as follows. MS1: Quadrupole isolation, 120'000 resolution, 5e5 AGC target, 50 ms maximum injection time, ions injected for all parallelisable time. MS2: Quadrupole isolation at an isolation width of m/z 0.7, CID fragmentation (NCE 35) with the ion trap scanning out in rapid mode from m/z 120, 8e3 AGC target, 70 ms maximum injection time, ions accumulated for all parallelisable time. In synchronous precursor selection mode the top 10 MS2 ions were selected for HCD fragmentation (65NCE) and scanned out in the orbitrap at 50'000 resolution with an AGC target of 2e4 and a maximum accumulation time of 120 ms, ions were not accumulated for all parallelisable time. The entire MS/MS/MS cycle had a target time of 3 s. Dynamic exclusion was set to +/−10 ppm for 90 s, MS2 fragmentation was trigged on precursor ions 5e3 counts and above. For MS-IPs, MS2 instead used HCD fragmentation (NCE 34) and a maximum injection time of 250ms and had a target cycle time of 2s. For pSILAC MS1 was acquired at 240'000 resolution.

Data processing and analysis

For TMT labelled samples data were searched by Mascot within Proteome Discoverer 2.1 in two rounds of searching. First search was against the UniProt Human reference proteome (26/09/17), the HIV proteome and compendium of common contaminants (GPM). The second search took all unmatched spectra from the first search and searched against the human trEMBL database (Uniprot, 26/09/17). The following search parameters were used. MS1 Tol: 10 ppm, MS2 Tol: 0.6 Da. Enzyme:

Trypsin (/P). MS3 spectra were used for reporter ion based quantitation with a most confident centroid tolerance of 20 ppm. PSM FDR was calculated using Mascot percolator and was controlled at 0.01% for 'high' confidence PSMs and 0.05% for 'medium' confidence PSMs. Normalisation was automated and based on total s/n in each channel. Protein/peptide abundance was calculated and output in terms of 'scaled' values, where the total s/n across all reporter channels is calculated and a normalised contribution of each channel is output. Proteins/peptides satisfying at least a 'medium' FDR confidence were taken forth to statistical analysis in R. This consisted of a moderated T-test (Limma) with Benjamini-Hochberg correction for multiple hypotheses to provide a q value for each comparison [70]. MS-IPs were submitted to a similar search workflow with quantitative data being derived from MS1 spectra via proteome discover minora feature detector node. For pSILAC experiments data were processed in MaxQuant and searched using Andromeda with similar search parameters [77]. MaxQuant output was uploaded into Perseus for calculation of significance B [72]. Where conditions were not carried out in triplicate, downstream analysis was limited to proteins identified with at least 3 unique peptides.

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Figure legends

Figure 1. Proteomic analysis of the effect of Vpr in HIV infection.

A, Graphical summary of the HIV and ΔVpr HIV infection TMT experiment. Three replicates of
uninfected (mock), WT HIV infected and ΔVpr infected cells were prepared and analysed in parallel
using TMT labelling. **B,** FACS plots showing the quantification of infection in an example replicate for
each of the three conditions. Infected cells lose CD4 expression and become GFP positive. **C,**
Scatterplots displaying pairwise comparisons between WT, ΔVpr and mock-infected cells. Each point
represents a single protein, with HIV proteins and host proteins of interest highlighted with different
symbols (see key). **D,** Principle component analysis of the samples in this experiment, with WT
infected replicates in red, ΔVpr in blue and mock infected cells in grey.

Figure 1 – source data 1. Interactive database of protein changes in the datasets presented here.

Figure 2. Analysis of the nature of Vpr mediated proteome remodelling.

A, Graphical summary of the Vpr viral particle TMT experiment. Three replicates of cells exposed to
empty viral particles or Vpr bearing viral particles, along with single replicates of cells exposed to
viral particles bearing five different Vpr mutants were prepared and analysed in parallel using TMT
labelling. **B,** Scatterplot displaying pairwise comparison between cells exposed to empty or Vpr
bearing viral particles. **C**, Scatterplot comparing pairwise comparisons from two proteomics
experiments, demonstrating the effect of Vpr in the context of HIV-1 infection (x-axis, as shown in
Figure 1A) or through cellular exposure to Vpr protein alone (y- axis, as shown in **Figure 2A**). **D,**
scatterplots showing the pairwise comparison between each Vpr mutant tested and empty vector
control, with defined groups of 302 Vpr depleted and 413 increased proteins highlighted in blue and
red respectively. **E,** Heatmap showing the behaviour of the 100 proteins most depleted by Vpr
particles (blue) and increased (red) within the defined highly modulated subsets. Colour indicates
the $\log_2$ fold change of each protein in each condition compared to empty particle treatment. Genes

were clustered using uncentered Pearson correlation and centroid linkage, and conditions clustered
by column means.

Figure 2 – figure supplement 1. Example proteins modulated by Vpr

A, Scatterplots displaying pairwise comparisons between WT, ΔVpr and mock-infected cells. Vpr
depleted proteins confirmed by blot in this figure are highlighted in blue, UNG, ZGPAT and HLTF are
previously identified targets for Vpr mediated degradation, shown in purple. CCNB1 is increased by
Vpr (red). **B,** Scatterplot displaying pairwise comparison between cells exposed to empty or Vpr
bearing viral particles. **C,** Scatterplot comparing pairwise comparisons from two proteomics
experiments, demonstrating the effect of Vpr in the context of HIV-1 infection (as shown in **Figure**
1A, x-axis) or through cellular exposure to Vpr protein alone (**Figure 2A**, y-axis). **D,** Bar charts
showing the Vpr mediated changes in protein abundance in both proteomics experiments of the
proteins highlighted in this figure. **e,** Immunoblot of proteins highlighted in this figure.

Figure 2 – figure supplement 2. Additional details of the Vpr WT and Mutant experiment in Figure
2.

A, Immunoblot of purified virus preparations used to infect cells for the proteomics experiment
displayed in **Fig 2A**. **B,** Bar chart showing the average scaled abundance of matrix, capsid and
integrase peptides detected in the cell lysate by MS. Bars show mean and standard deviation. **c,** 7-
AAD stain of cells exposed to empty vector, or Vpr wild type or Vpr mutants. Watson pragmatic
modelling was used to identify cells in G1 (blue), S (grey) or G2/M (red) phase.

Figure 2 - figure supplement 3. Quantifying the effect of Vpr under reduced DCAF1 conditions.

A, Graphical summary of the DCAF1 KD experiment. **B,** Scatterplot displaying pairwise comparison
between Sh-Control and Sh-DCAF1 cells at 0 h, with defined groups of 302 Vpr depleted (blue) and
413 increased (red) proteins highlighted. DCAF1 is highlighted in purple. **C,** Example time-course
behaviour for one Vpr target (HLTF) and one secondary Vpr effect (CCNB1). **D,** Scatterplots showing
the pairwise comparison between the 6 or 24 h timepoint with the 0 h condition for each sh-
transduced cell line.

Figure 2- figure supplement 4. Cell cycle regulation of Vpr modulated proteins.

A, Ly, 2015 contains a proteomic analysis of NB4 cells treated with RO-3306 cells arrested in G2/M
with the PLK1 inhibtor RO-3306. Scatterplot showing the pairwise comparison of abundance of
proteins isolated from RO-3306 treated vs mock treated cells. Groups of proteins defined in the
current study of 302 Vpr depleted (blue) and 413 increased (red) proteins are highlighted, indicating
the behaviour of these proteins in NB4 cells arrested at G2/M.

B, Correlation of the Vpr mediated change in cyclin abundance in the present study (x-axis), with RO-
3306 mediated changes in NB4 cells in Ly, 2015. Changes in cyclin abundance in HIV infection are
assumed to be secondary to cell cycle arrest, and thus this correlation indicates the concordance
between effects secondary to cell cycle arrest between the two datasets.

C, Pie charts showing the overlap between changes in the present study and changes induced by
G2/M arrest in Ly, 2015. Left panel shows the behaviour of all proteins quantified in both the
present study (**Figure 1A** and **Figure 2A**) and Ly, 2015, i.e. a total of 1643 proteins were quantified in
both datasets, of which 1100 proteins did not significantly change in G2/M arrest, 260 proteins were
significantly depleted in G2/M arrested cells, and 283 proteins were significantly increased in G2/M

arrested cells. Middle panel shows the behaviour the defined group of 302 Vpr depleted proteins.
I.e. of 302 proteins, a total of 90 proteins were detected in Ly, 2015, 58 of which did not significantly
change in G2/M arrest, 18 were significantly depleted in G2/M arrest and 14 were significantly
increased in G2/M arrest. † Indicates the fraction in each case where the change induced by cell
cycle arrest is in the same direction as the effect of Vpr, i.e. the fraction for which cell cycle arrest
could explain the Vpr mediated protein changes. Right panel shows the behaviour of the defined
group of 413 Vpr increased proteins.

D, Fischer, 2016, define lists of 115 proteins whose expression peaks in G1/S phase and 174 proteins
whose expression peaks in G2/M phase. Pie-charts show the overlap between these lists and (left)
all proteins detected in the present study, (middle) proteins defined as being depleted by Vpr, and
(right) proteins defined as being increased by Vpr. As in the proteomics dataset, there is some
enrichment of proteins with peak expression in G2/M within Vpr increased proteins, and some
enrichment of proteins with peak expression in G1/S in Vpr depleted proteins, consistent with some
effects being secondary to cell cycle arrest, but these effects are in the minority.

Figure 2 – figure supplement 5. Role of MCM10 in Vpr medated G2/M arrest.

A, Correlation between depletion of MCM10 by each Vpr mutant tested and the extent of G2/M
arrest caused by that mutant, red line shows linear regression analysis. **B,** Example DNA staining
showing G2/M arrest caused by shRNA mediated depletion of MCM10, representative of three
independent experiments. Watson pragmatic modelling was used to identify cells in G1 (blue), S
(grey) or G2/M (red) phase. **C**, Real-time qRT-PCR analysis of MCM10 mRNA abundance in cells
transduced with control or MCM10 targeting shRNA. Values were generated using the ΔΔCT
method, relative to GAPDH mRNA abundance and normalised to the control condition. Bars show
mean values, error bars show SEM of three technical replicates.

Figure 3. Gene ontology enrichment analysis for proteins depleted or increased by Vpr

Defined groups of Vpr depleted and increased proteins were subject to gene ontology enrichment
analysis, compared with a background of all proteins quantitated in these experiments. **A,** Cellular
compartment analysis – GO enrichment analysis results were manually curated for 9 commonly used
organelle level classifications, shown here. + / - indicates if the classification was enriched or de-
enriched compared with the expected number of proteins expected by chance. Where significant,
associated p value represents the results of a Fisher's exact test with Bonferroni correction. This is
highly conservative as it is corrected for all 1061 possible cellular compartment terms, not just those
shown. **B,** Molecular function analysis. Plots show all significantly enriched (Fisher's exact test with
Bonferroni correction) molecular function terms with associated p values. In all cases, proteins with
no available compartment or function classification were removed from the denominator.

Figure 4. MS-IP approach to identify direct targets for Vpr mediated degradation.

A, Graphical summary of the MS-IP experiment. All cells were stably transduced with an ShDCAF1
vector as described earlier. MLN4924 is a pan-Cullin inhibitor. **B,** 20 most abundant proteins
identified by Co-IP determined by number of unique peptides, normalised as a proportion of the
maximum possible peptide count for each protein, (Exponentially modified protein abundance
index, emPAI). Proteins falling within the defined list of 302 Vpr depleted and 413 Vpr increased
proteins are highlighted in blue and red respectively. **C,** The same 20 proteins with signal intensity
rather than peptide number shown. **D,** Pie chart indicating the overlap between the proteins co-
immunoprecipitated with Vpr and the defined list of 302 Vpr decreased (blue) and 413 Vpr increased

proteins (red), and proteins detected but falling into neither list (grey). **E**, Bar chart showing the
enrichment of Vpr depleted and Vpr increased proteins within proteins co-immunoprecipitated with
Vpr compared to the expected numbers of proteins that would be co-immunopreciptated from each
group by chance. p-value indicates a Fisher's exact test of a 2x2 contingency table (Vpr
depleted/increased, identified by co-IP/not identified), indicating that the two criteria are
significantly linked.

Figure 5. Pulsed SILAC method to identify direct targets for Vpr mediated decay.

A, Graphical summary of the pulsed SILAC experiment. **B,** Scatterplots showing the changes to
protein stability of proteins after 6 or 24 hours of exposure to Vpr bearing lentivirus compared to
control lentivirus, with defined groups of 302 Vpr depleted (blue) and 413 increased (red) proteins
highlighted. **C,** Expanded view of proteins degraded within 6 hours of Vpr exposure. Significantly
degraded (Sig.B <0.01) proteins are highlighted in gold. Previously described Vpr targets HLTF,
MUS81 and ZGPAT are shown in purple.

Table 1. Direct targets for Vpr mediated degradation

Summary of the direct targets for Vpr mediated degradation. Proteins highlighted in purple are
previously described Vpr targets, proteins with red text were predicted as potential Vpr targets
based on their temporal profile of depletion in Greenwood & Matheson, 2016 [5].

Table 1 – table supplement 1. Behaviour of previously identified direct Vpr targets.

Figure 6. Novel Vpr targets involved in G2/M arrest.

A, Targeted shRNA screen of direct Vpr target proteins identified here, whose depletion correlated
with G2/M arrest in **Figure 2.** Bars show averages of at least two replicates from more than three
independent experiments, error bars showing SEM. Lines show control average +/- 3 standard
deviations. Control condition contains combined data from three different control shRNA. **B,** Real-
time qRT-PCR analysis of mRNA abundance in cells transduced with control or targeting shRNA.
Values were generated using the ΔΔCT method, relative to GAPDH mRNA abundance and normalised
to the control condition. Bars show mean values, error bars show SEM of three technical replicates.
C, Example DNA staining showing G2/M arrest caused by shRNA mediated depletion of SMN1,
CDCA2 and ZNF267, representative of at least two independent experiments.

Figure 7. Identification of proteome changes conserved between human and primate lentiviral Vpr
lineages. A, Graphical summary of the TMT experiment testing conservation of Vpr functions. **b,**
Scatterplots showing the pairwise comparison between each Vpr tested and empty vector control
with defined groups of 302 Vpr depleted (blue) and 413 increased (red) proteins highlighted. **C,**
Heatmap showing the behaviour of the 100 proteins most depleted by Vpr particles (blue) and
increased (red) within the defined highly modulated subsets. Colour indicates the $\log_2$ fold change of
each protein in each condition compared to empty vector virus transduction. **D,** Bar chart showing
the significantly Vpr depleted group showing profound (more than 50%) depletion in more than one
lineage, of the four lineages tested (HIV-1/SIVcpz, HIV-2/SIVsmm, SIVagm, SIVrcm). Gold bars
indicate proteins identified as direct targets for Vpr mediated degradation, DCAF1, known to interact
with multiple lineages, is highlight in purple. **E**, Immunoblot of example known, non-conserved and
conserved targets of Vpr mediated depletion. N.B. The HIV-2 Vpr is a primary isolate HIV-2 Vpr
(7312a), while the proteomics experiment included HIV-2 ROD Vpr.

Figure 7 – figure supplement 1. Additional information relating to expanded panel of primate lentiviral Vpr and Vpx varients.

A, %GFP positive (transduced) cells at harvest. Cells were transduced at an infectious MOI of 1.5 based on prior titration, with the actual resulting % transduction varying slightly across the samples. **B**, Proportion of cells in G2/M at point of harvest based on 7-AAD staining and Watson pragmatic modelling. **B,** Scatterplots displaying pairwise comparisons between Vpr/Vpx transduced cells and empty vector. Labelled proteins are direct targets for Vpr mediated degradation that are depleted by Vpr varients from at least 3 different lineages.

Figure 8. Depletion of HuSH components by lentiviral Vpx and Vpr proteins.

 A, Scatterplots showing the pairwise comparison between each Vpr tested and empty vector control with HuSH complex components highlighted. **B**, Bar graph of GFP percentage positive of JLAT-A1 cells after transduction with control (Cre recombinase), Vpr or Vpx proteins and treatment with TNFα. Mean and SEM of 3 biological replicates per condition are shown, representative of three independent similar experiments. p-values determined by ordinary one-way ANOVA with Bonferroni comparison between Vpr/Vpx treatment and control treated cells. **C,** Phylogenetic tree of primate lentiviruses based on an alignment of Vif nucleic acid sequences, with 5 major lineages of primate lentiviruses labelled. Information on Vpr and Vpx activity based on a selected number of isolates tested in each lineage in Lim, 2012 [44] **D,** Immunoblot of TASOR in cells transduced with a panel of Vpx and Vpr proteins.

Figure 9. Extended time-course analysis of HIV-2 primary isolate Vpr and Vpx proteins.

A, Graphical summary of the TMT experiment. **B,** Scatterplots displaying pairwise comparison between cells transduced with 7312a HIV-2 Vpr and Vpx for 96 h compared with those transduced with empty vector for 96 h. Blue and red dots represent the defined groups or proteins depleted or increased by NL4-3 Vpr respectively. Points ringed in gold indicate direct targets for NL4-3 Vpr mediated degradation listed in Table 1.

Table 2. Vpr and Vpx variants tested.

Figure 1

Figure 2

Figure 2 - figure supplement 2

A

Purified Virus

IB: Vpr
Antibody binding may be affected by amino acid changes.

B

Cell Lysate

Gag-Pol
peptide abundance

C

Figure 2 - figure supplement 3

A

sh-Cntrl Vpr viral particles   shDCAF1 Vpr Viral particles

0h 6h 24h   0h 6h 24h

Digest proteins and label peptides with TMT reporters

Mix peptides, fractionate and analyse by LC/MS³

B

Sh-DCAF1 vs Sh Cntrl
(Time = 0 h)

DCAF1

Log₁₀ intensity

Log₂ (fold change)

C

Protein abundance
(normalised to time 0 h for each line)

HLTF

CCNB1

0 h   6 h   24 h

D

6 h   24 h

sh-Cntrl

sh-DCAF1

Log₁₀ intensity

Log₂ (fold change)

Figure 2 - figure supplement 4

A Ly, 2015, Proteomics in cells arrested at G2/M using PLK1 inhibitor RO-3306

RO-3306 vs Mock

q<0.05
q>0.05

-Log$_2$ (q value)

Log$_2$ (fold change)

B

Cyclins

r^2=0.81
P=0.01

Log$_2$(RO-3306 VS Mock)

Log$_2$ (HIV-1 WT / ΔVpr)

C

All Quantified	Vpr depleted	Vpr increased
260	18 †	7
283	14	24 †
1100	58	42

🟧 Signifciantly depleted in G2/M arrested cells

🟩 Signifciantly increased in G2/M arrested cells

⬜ Not significantly changed by G2/M arrest

D Fischer, 2016 - Transcriptional anlalysis

All Quantified	Vpr depleted	Vpr increased
102 / 160	14 † / 3	12 / 37 †
6657	285	364

🟧 Peak G1/S

🟩 Peak G2/M

⬜ Not identified as peaking in either phase

Figure 2 - figure supplement 5

A

B

C

Figure 3

A

GO: Cellular compartment (Organelles)

Vpr depleted

Vpr increased

B

GO: Molecular Function

Figure 4

Figure 5

Table 1

Accession	Gene	Vpr necessary	Incoming Vpr sufficient	Degraded within 6 h	Co-IP
Q56NI9	ESCO2	Yes	Yes	ND	Yes
Q16637	SMN1 / SMN2	Yes	Yes	NS	Yes
Q14527	HLTF	Yes	Yes	Yes	-
Q96KM6	ZNF512B	Yes	Yes	Yes	-
Q8WY36	BBX	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
A6NFI3	ZNF316	Yes	Yes	Yes	-
Q8NI77	KIF18A	Yes	Yes	ND	Yes
Q8TF76	HASPIN	Yes	Yes	Yes	-
Q9Y4B6	VPRBP	Yes	Yes	NS	Yes
Q96FF9	CDCA5	Yes	Yes	Yes	-
Q6PK04	CCDC137	Yes	Yes	Yes	-
Q9NXE8	CWC25	Yes	Yes	Yes	-
Q86Y91	KIF18B	Yes	Yes	Yes	-
Q6P4F7	ARHGAP11A	Yes	Yes	Yes	-
Q6NW34	NEPRO	Yes	Yes	Yes	-
Q9BVJ6	UTP14A	Yes	Yes	Yes	-
Q9NVN8	GNL3L	Yes	Yes	Yes	-
Q5QJE6	DNTTIP2	Yes	Yes	Yes	-
Q69YH5	CDCA2	Yes	Yes	Yes	-

Accession	Gene	Vpr necessary	Incoming Vpr sufficient	Degraded within 6 h	Co-IP
Q96BK5	PINX1	Yes	Yes	Yes	-
Q8N5A5	ZGPAT	Yes	Yes	Yes	-
Q13823	GNL2	Yes	Yes	Yes	-
Q9UHI6	DDX20	Yes	Yes	NS	Yes
Q96ME7	ZNF512	Yes	Yes	Yes	-
Q14586	ZNF267	Yes	Yes	NS	Yes
Q9H8V3	ECT2	Yes	Yes	Yes	-
P57678	GEMIN4	Yes	Yes	NS	Yes
P52701	MSH6	Yes	Yes	NS	Yes
O75190	DNAJB6	Yes	Yes	Yes	-
Q96NY9	MUS81	Yes	Yes	Yes	-
O60563	CCNT1	Yes	Yes	Yes	-
Q9P031	CCDC59	Yes	Yes	Yes	-
Q9UIS9	MBD1	Yes	Yes	NS	Yes
Q9UMY1	NOL7	Yes	Yes	Yes	-
Q6ZN55	ZNF574	Yes	Yes	NS	Yes
Q9BXS6	NUSAP1	Yes	Yes	Yes	-
O95235	KIF20A	Yes	Yes	Yes	-
P35251	RFC1	Yes	Yes	NS	Yes

ND: Not detected in this experiment
NS: Degraded with Sig.B >0.01

Table 1 - Supplement 1

Accession	Gene	Vpr necessary	Incoming Vpr sufficient	Degraded within 6 h	Co-IP	In direct target list (Fig. 3d)?
Q14527	HLTF	Yes	Yes	Yes	-	Yes
Q7L590	MCM10	Yes	Yes	ND	-	No - Not detected in 6 hour pulsed SILAC or IP
Q8N5A5	ZGPAT	Yes	Yes	Yes	-	Yes
Q96AY2	EME1	Yes	Yes	NS	-	No - depleted but with a Sig.B value of >0.01 in the pulsed SILAC experiment, not detected in IP
Q96NY9	MUS81	Yes	Yes	Yes	-	Yes
Q6N021	TET2	Yes	ND	ND	-	No - Not detected in incoming Vpr experiment (Fig. 2a)
P13051	UNG	Yes	Yes	NS	-	No - depleted but with a Sig.B value of >0.01 in the pulsed SILAC experiment. Detected in the Co-IP but with a single peptide

Figure 6

Figure 7

Figure 9

Table 2

<u>**Vpr**</u>

Species	Genbank Accession	Data presented in:
HIV-1 NL4-3	AF324493.2[78]	Figures 1-9.
HIV-1 98BR004 (Clade C)	AAK31002.1[79]	Proteomics experiment & IB (Figure 9A-D)
HIV-1 BCF09 (Group O)	CAA75954.1	Proteomics experiment (Figure 9A-C)
SIVcpzPtt MB897	ABU53019.1[80]	Proteomics experiment & IB (Figure 9A-D)
SIVrcm 02CM8081	ADK78264.1[81]	Proteomics experiment & IB (Figure 9A-D)
SIVagm Sab92018	ADO34202.1[82]	Proteomics experiment & IB (Figure 9A-D), I.B, (Figure 10D)
SIVsmm E660	ANT86736.1[83]	Proteomics experiment & IB (Figure 9A-D)
HIV-2 ROD	CAA28911.1[84]	Proteomics experiment (Figure 9A-C)
HIV-2 7312a	AAL31354.1	I.B. (Figure 9D), Proteomics experiment, (Figure 11A-C)
SIVmus 01CM1239	ABO61047.1[85]	I.B. (Figure 9D), I.B. (Figure 10D)

<u>**Vpx**</u>

Species	Genbank Accession	Data presented in:
HIV-2 ROD	AAB00766.1[84]	Proteomics experiment (Figure 9A-C)
HIV-2 7312a	AAL31353.1	I.B. (Fig.9D), I.B. (Fig. 10D), Proteomics experiment, (Figure 11A-C)
SIVrcm Ng411	AAK69676.1[86]	I.B. (Fig. 10D)
SIVmnd-2 5440	AAO22477.1 [87]	I.B. (Fig. 10D)