

1 **Novel strand exchange activity of the human PALB2 DNA Binding**
2 **Domain and its critical role for DNA repair in cells.**

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17 **ABSTRACT**

18 Breast cancer associated proteins 1 and 2 (BRCA1, -2) and partner and localizer of BRCA2 (PALB2)
19 protein are tumor suppressors linked to a spectrum of malignancies, including breast cancer and
20 Fanconi anemia. They stimulate RAD51 recombinase during homology-directed repair (HDR). Along
21 with being a hub for a protein interaction network, PALB2 interacts with DNA. The mechanism of
22 PALB2 DNA binding and its function are poorly understood. We identified a major DNA-binding site
23 in PALB2, mutation of which reduces the RAD51 foci formation and the overall HDR efficiency in cells
24 by 50%. PALB2 N-terminal DNA-binding domain (N-DBD) stimulates the RAD51 strand exchange
25 reaction. Surprisingly, it promotes the strand exchange without RAD51. Moreover, N-DBD stimulates
26 the inverse strand exchange and can use both DNA and RNA substrates. Our data reveal a versatile
27 DNA interaction property of PALB2 and demonstrate a critical role of PALB2 DNA binding for
28 chromosome repair in cells.

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34 INTRODUCTION

35 Breast cancer associated proteins 1 and 2 (BRCA1, -2) regulate an efficient non-mutagenic
36 pathway of chromosome break repair and are described as guardians of chromosomal integrity
37 (Venkitaraman, 2014). They initiate RAD51-mediated homologous recombination (HR) (Davies et al.,
38 2001; Moynahan et al., 2001; Sharan et al., 1997; Venkitaraman, 2000) and facilitate restart of stalled
39 replication (Badie et al., 2010; Lomonosov et al., 2003; Schlacher et al., 2011). The partner and
40 localizer of BRCA2 (PALB2) protein was discovered as a protein forming a complex with BRCA2 and
41 regulating BRCA2 activity (Xia et al., 2006). Similarly, to BRCA proteins, PALB2 is an essential
42 mammalian protein linked to a similar spectrum of cancers and Fanconi anemia (Pauty et al., 2014;
43 Xia et al., 2007). PALB2 C-terminal WD40 domain interacts with BRCA2 (Oliver et al., 2009; Xia et
44 al., 2006) while the N-terminus forms a complex with BRCA1 (Zhang et al., 2009a; Zhang et al.,
45 2009b). The latter localizes at double stranded DNA break (DSB) sites at earlier stage of repair,
46 inhibiting an alternative pathway of non-homologous end joining and initiating homology-directed
47 repair (HDR) through interactions with PALB2/BRCA2/RAD51 (Prakash et al., 2015).

48 PALB2 is often described as the hub for a network of tumor suppressors involved in DNA repair
49 (Park et al., 2014b; Sy et al., 2009b). In addition to BRCA1 and -2 interactions, it contains a chromatin-
50 association motif (ChAM) in its central region, responsible for PALB2 association with chromatin
51 through the nucleosome core histones H3 and H2B (Bleuyard et al., 2012). It interacts with MRG15
52 protein, a component of histone acetyltransferase-deacetylase complexes (Hayakawa et al., 2010;
53 Sy et al., 2009a); with RAD51 itself and with its paralogs RAD51C, RAD51AP1 and XRCC3 (Dray et
54 al., 2010; Park et al., 2014a); with translesion polymerase η during recombination-associated DNA
55 synthesis (Buisson et al., 2014); with KEAP1, an oxidative stress response protein (Ma et al., 2012);
56 and with RNF168 ubiquitin ligase (Luijsterburg et al., 2017). PALB2 is ubiquitylated in G1 phase of
57 the cell cycle by KEAP1 and CUL3, leading to its degradation, and, thereby, restraining its activity in
58 S/G2 (Orthwein et al., 2015).

59 PALB2 promotes assembly of RAD51-ssDNA presynaptic nucleofilaments and formation of D-
60 loop even in the absence of BRCA2 (Buisson et al., 2010; Dray et al., 2010). PALB2 recruits
61 Pol η polymerase to DSB sites and stimulates a recombination-associated DNA synthesis by Pol η
62 (Buisson et al., 2014).

63 BRCA1, -2 and PALB2 proteins also contain DNA binding domains (DBDs) (Buisson et al., 2010;
64 Dray et al., 2010; Paull et al., 2001; Pellegrini et al., 2002). The functional role of DBDs in these
65 proteins is poorly understood. Majority of missense mutations in the BRCA2 DBD are pathogenic
66 (Guidugli et al., 2013; Wu et al., 2005). Disruption of BRCA2 DNA binding leads to HDR reduction
67 with a BRCA2 construct lacking the PALB2-binding motif (Siaud et al., 2011). Recently, studies of

68 BRCA1/BARD1 complex interaction with DNA and RAD51 led to the discovery of the BRCA1/BARD1
69 role in RAD51-mediated strand invasion and D-loop formation (Zhao et al., 2017). Two DBDs were
70 previously identified in PALB2 (Buisson et al., 2010; Dray et al., 2010). The functional role of these
71 domains remains unknown. PALB2 construct lacking 500 amino acids between the BRCA1 and
72 BRCA2 binding motifs does not support BRCA2 and RAD51 foci formation in cells during DNA
73 damage (Sy et al., 2009b). Since both the BRCA1-binding N-terminal and the BRCA2-interacting
74 WD40 C-terminal domains were retained in this mutant, the results points to the potential importance
75 of DBDs in PALB2 function.

76 In the current study, we identified a major DBD of PALB2 (N-DBD) and specific amino acids
77 involved in DNA binding. Mutations of four amino acids significantly reduce RAD51 foci formation and
78 the efficiency of HDR in a model cell system. Surprisingly, we found that N-DBD supports both forward
79 and inverse strand exchange even in the absence of RAD51 and can use RNA as a substrate.
80 Altogether, our data reveal a novel activity of PALB2 and highlight the importance of PALB2 DNA
81 binding in chromosome maintenance in cells.

82 RESULTS

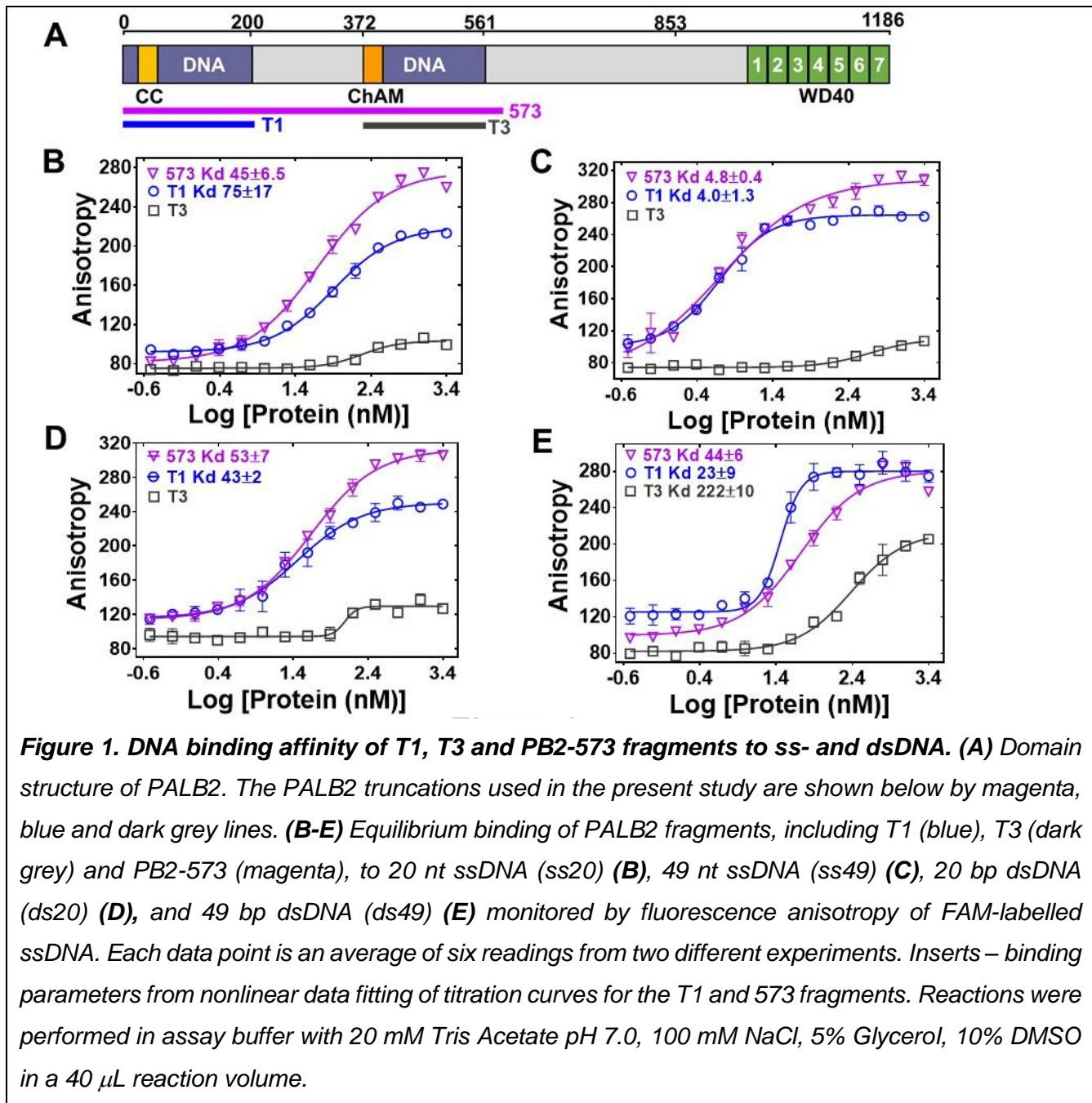
83 The DNA-binding mechanism of PALB2 and its function in DNA repair.

84 The major DNA-binding site of PALB2 is localized in the N-terminal domain (N-DBD). Two truncation
85 fragments of PALB2 were previously reported to interact with DNA, T1 (residues 1-200) and T3
86 (residues 372-561)(Buisson et al., 2010). Both fragments together with the fragment consisting of
87 amino acids 1-573 (PB2-573 in text), which includes both the T1 and T3, were cloned and purified
88 (Fig. S1).

89 **Figure S1.** SDS PAGE analysis of purified proteins used in this study: **A)** T1 and T1 146AAAA mutant,
90 **B)** T3, **C)** PB2-573 and PB2-573 146AAAA, and **D)** RAD51.

91 Quantitative measurement of PALB2 interaction with ss- and dsDNA oligonucleotides of different
92 lengths demonstrate that T1 fragment alone interacts with all tested substrates with almost
93 indistinguishable affinity from that of PB2-573 (Fig. 1). The T3 fragment has significantly lower affinity
94 for DNA by itself. The K_d of the T1 and PB2-573 fragments were similar with both ss- and dsDNA
95 substrates. The only difference was observed at an elevated salt concentration of 250 mM NaCl,
96 where the PB2-573 fragment retained partial DNA binding activity (Fig. S2). In both cases, interactions
97 were inhibited by addition of 500 mM NaCl. The T1 fragment will be referred as N-DBD in the text
98 below. Interestingly, N-DBD binds long ssDNA substrates (49 nt) with significantly higher affinity than
99 short ones (20 nt). This suggests an interaction with ssDNA through multiple binding sites, potentially
100 formed by the previously described PALB2 oligomerization (Buisson and Masson, 2012; Sy et al.,

101 2009c) or through interaction with multiple binding sites within a monomer (see below). Interaction
 102 with dsDNA was length-independent, suggesting that more rigid dsDNA interacts with a single site.



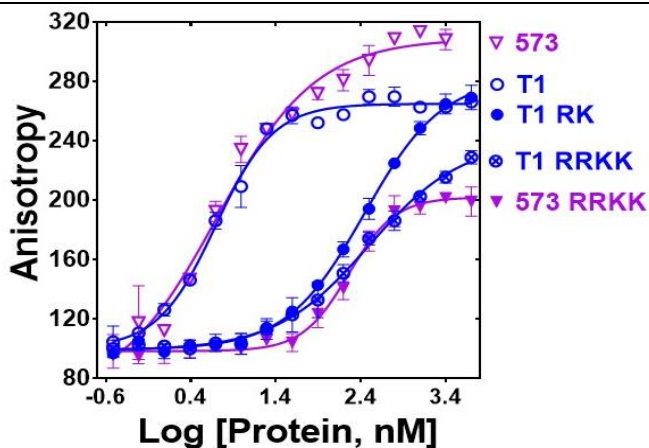
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113 **Figure S2. Effect of increasing salt concentration on PALB2 fragments binding to DNA.** A)
 114 Equilibrium binding of T1 with FAM-ss49, B) equilibrium binding of PB2-573. Each data point is an
 115 average of six readings from two different experiments.

116 Identification of DNA-binding residues. Since the PALB2 DNA binding is salt dependent, we
 117 performed alanine scanning mutagenesis of several clusters of positively charged amino acids to
 118 identify the DNA binding site in the N-DBD (Fig. S3).

119 **Figure S3.** Amino acid sequence alignment of PALB2 T1 from different organisms with residues color-
120 coded accordingly to polarity, with mutated residues identified by red boxes, and with the secondary
121 structure elements depicted at the bottom of alignment in cartoon representation as predicted by
122 Phyre server. Following sequences were used in the analysis. gi|21757330 – *Homo sapiens*,
123 gi|1297718444 - *Ptilocolobus tephrosceles*, gi|724966540 - *Rhinopithecus roxellana*, gi|967502006 -
124 *Macaca mulatta*, gi|1060946151 - *Callithrix jacchus*, gi|1328794872 - *Loxodonta africana*, gi|
125 1244140196 - *Enhydra lutris kenyoni*, gi|821391924 - *Orcinus orca*, gi|1111220295 - *Panthera pardus*,
126 gi|664756985 - *Equus przewalskii*, gi|124486979 - *Mus musculus*.

127 The main DNA-binding cluster is formed by amino-acids R146, R147, K148, and K149. Alanine
128 mutation of these residues reduced binding affinity by two orders of magnitude with a K_d change from
129 4.0 ± 1.3 nM to 316 ± 59 nM in the case of T1 and from 4.8 ± 0.4 nM to 167 ± 50 nM in the case of PB2-
130 573 (Fig. 2). DNA binding was moderately affected by mutations of two other clusters, including
131 K45A/K50A, for which the K_d was increased to 28 ± 5.2 nM (Fig. S4), and the triple mutant
132 R170A/K174A/R175A with similar change in K_d . From these experiments, we concluded that the main
133 DNA binding site is formed by residues 146-149 with a potential minor contribution from other basic
134 amino acids of the N-DBD.

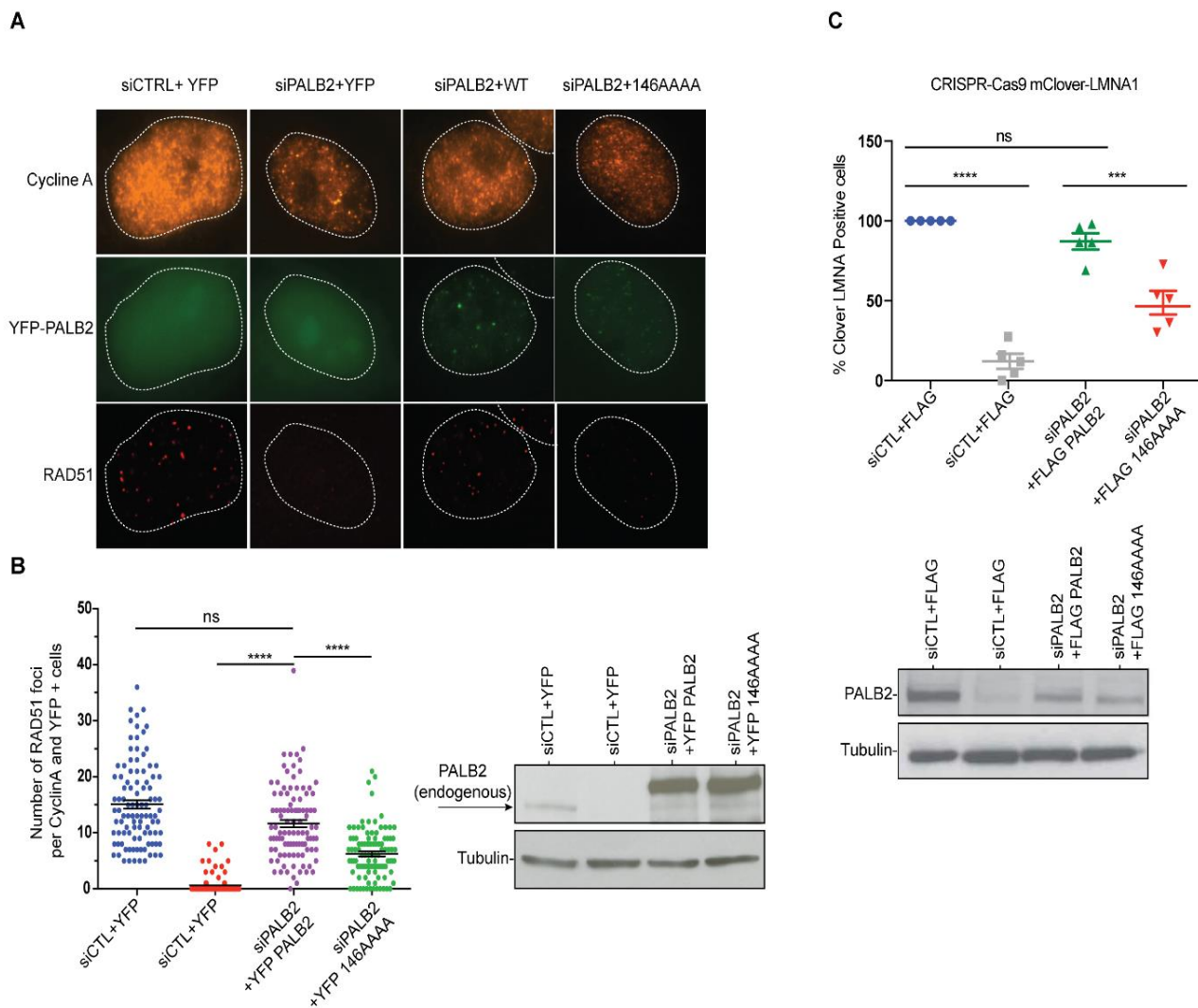


135
136 **Figure 2. Mutation of DNA binding residues.** Isotherm of fluorescence anisotropy of FAM-ss49 (5
137 nM) titrated by PALB2 T1 (blue, open circles) and PB2-573 (magenta, open triangles) fragments and
138 their mutants: T1 146-RK/AA (filled blue circles), T1 146-RRKK/AAAA (crossed open blue circles),
139 and 573 146-RRKK/AAAA (filled magenta triangles) under conditions identical to those in Fig. 1.

140 **Figure S4. DNA binding of T1 mutants.** Equilibrium binding of 5 nm FAM-ss25 (A,C) or FAM-ss49
141 (B,D) to PALB2 T1 (blue). In A) and B) isotherm for K45A is in green, for K50A in red, for K45A/K50A
142 in black. In C) and D) isotherm for R170A is in red, for K174A in green, for R170A/K174A in magenta,
143 for R170A/R175A in orange, and for R170A/K174A/R175A in black. The binding buffer is 20 mM Tris-
144 acetate pH 7.0, 100 mM NaCl, 5% glycerol, 10% DMSO.

145 Impairment of DNA repair in cells with the PALB2 DNA-binding mutant. The mutations described
 146 above were used to separate the DNA-binding function from other macromolecular interactions of
 147 PALB2 during DNA repair in HeLa cell. Positively charged residues 146-149 were mutated to alanines
 148 in the full length PALB2 protein and the effect of these mutations was measured in two assays. First,
 149 we evaluated RAD51 foci formation in cells after gamma irradiation (Fig. 3A). Endogenous PALB2
 150 was depleted by siRNA and cells were transformed with either wild type PALB2 or the DNA-binding
 151 mutant (Fig. 3A, bottom panel). PALB2 depletion leads to a severe defect in RAD51 foci formation.
 152 WT PALB2 restores RAD51 foci formation, while the DNA-binding PALB2 mutant restores only ~ 50%
 153 of RAD51 foci formation. Therefore, mutagenesis of only four positively charged residues in PALB2
 154 has a major effect on efficiency of RAD51 recruitment to DNA damage sites.

155



156

157 **Figure 3. Effect of a PALB2 DNA-binding mutation on homologous recombination. A)**

158 **Representative immunofluorescence images of RAD51 foci in PALB2 knockdown HeLa cells**

159 *complemented with the indicated YFP construct and synchronized in S/G2 by double thymidine block,*
160 *as determined by cyclin A staining. B) Left: RAD51 foci quantification in control siRNA (blue), siPALB2*
161 *(red) and with siPALB2 with subsequent complementation by siRNA resistant constructs YFP-PALB2*
162 *(magenta) and 146AAA DNA-binding mutant PALB2 (green). Right: Western blotting of the samples*
163 *shown in B to monitor knockdown and complementation efficiency. C) Top: Gene-targeting efficiency*
164 *of siRNA PALB2 cells complemented with wild-type and 146AAA siRNA resistant constructs mClover*
165 *positive/iRFP cells were quantified. Bottom: Western blotting of the samples shown in C) to monitor*
166 *knockdown and complementation efficiency. ***P<0.01 and ****P<0.001. (Fig S5B).*

167 Similarly, we tested the role of PALB2 interaction with DNA for the efficiency of HDR in U2OS
168 cells using a novel LMNA-Clover based assay, where DNA breaks at a specific gene are introduced
169 by the CRISPR system (Fig. S5) (Buisson et al., 2017b). As in case of RAD51 foci formation,
170 complementation of PALB2-depleted cells with the DNA-binding PALB2 mutant restores only 50% of
171 HDR efficiency, in contrast to WT PALB2, which restores more than 90% of activity (Fig. 3B).
172 Altogether, these studies show that PALB2 DNA binding plays a significant role in HR and DNA repair
173 *in vivo.*

174 **Figure S5.** *Representative images and schematic representation of CRISPR Cas9/mClover-LMNA1*
175 *mediated HR assay. Following nucleofection, Cas9 creates a double-strand break in the LMNA locus*
176 *leading to integration of the mClover gene by homologous recombination. Clover-labeled Lamin A/C*
177 *proteins exhibit green fluorescence enriched at the nuclear periphery, which is indicative of the*
178 *successful gene targeting by homologous recombination.*

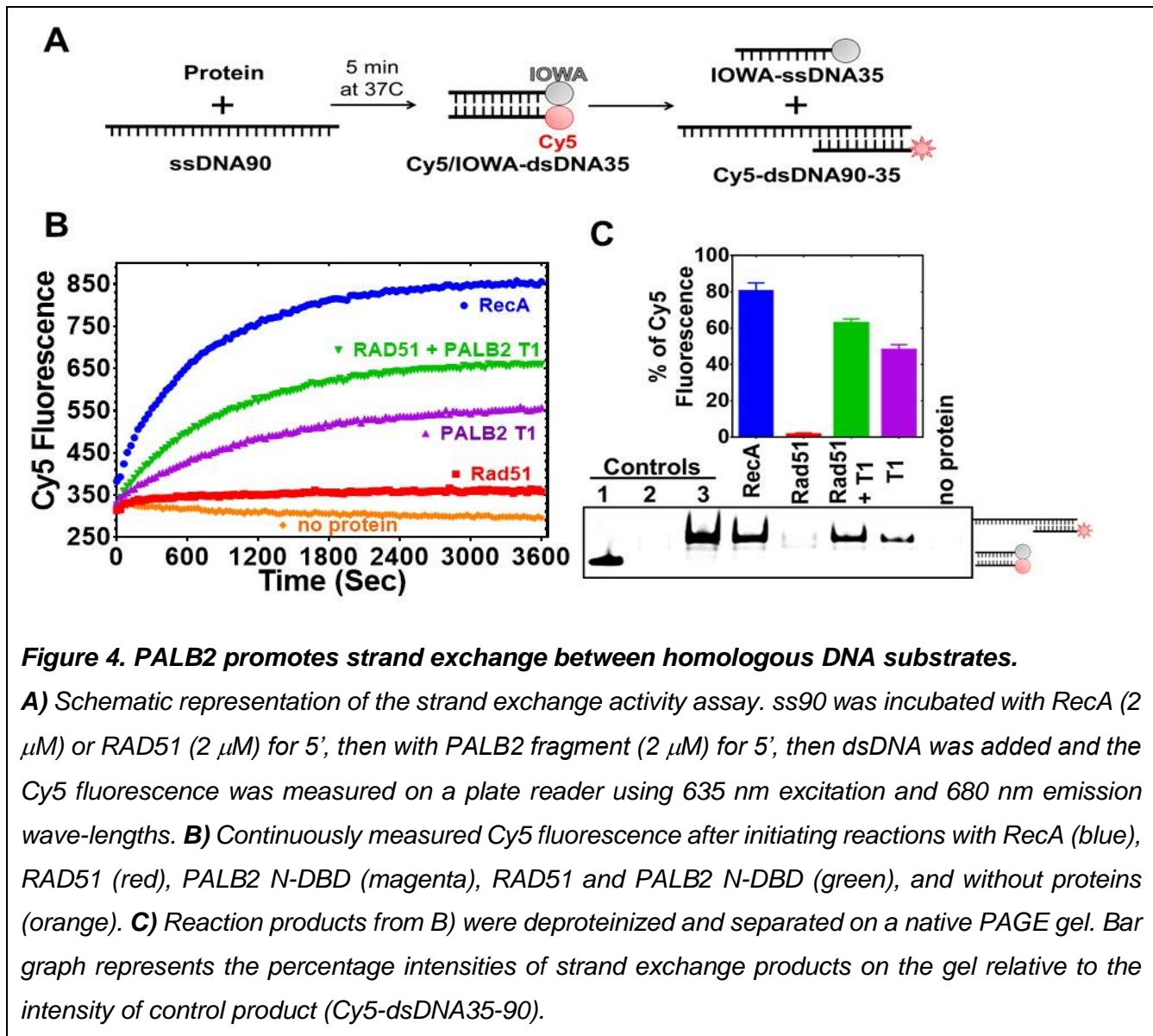
179 **PALB2 promotes DNA and RNA strand exchange.**

180 *PALB2 stimulates RAD51-mediated strand exchange and promotes a similar reaction without RAD51.*

181 PALB2 stimulates RAD51 filament formation even in the absence of BRCA2 (Buisson et al., 2010).
182 Here, we investigated the ability of the PALB2 N-DBD to stimulate the strand exchange activity of
183 RAD51 using a fluorescence-based strand exchange assay similar to the one previously published
184 (Fig. 4A) (Jensen et al., 2010; Ryzhikov et al., 2014). Under solution conditions used in DNA-binding
185 assays in Fig. 1 and even with reduced NaCl concentration, RAD51 displayed a low activity, in
186 contrast to *E. coli* RecA (Fig. 4B, C).

187 RAD51 activity was stimulated by addition of 5 mM CaCl₂ (Fig. S6). Recombination mediator proteins
188 (RMPs) stimulate recombinase activity even at unfavourable solution conditions, such as in the case
189 of Rad52 (Krejci et al., 2002; New et al., 1998), BRCA2 (Jensen et al., 2010)(Liu et al., 2010;
190 Thorslund et al., 2010) and the Hop2-Mnd1 complex (Chi et al., 2007). Similar to the previously
191 published finding that the full length PALB2 stimulates RAD51 function (Buisson et al., 2010; Dray et

192 al., 2010), we found that the PALB2 N-DBD alone stimulates RAD51-mediated strand exchange (Fig.
193 4).



194

195 **Figure 4. PALB2 promotes strand exchange between homologous DNA substrates.**

196 **A)** Schematic representation of the strand exchange activity assay. ss90 was incubated with RecA (2
197 μ M) or RAD51 (2 μ M) for 5', then with PALB2 fragment (2 μ M) for 5', then dsDNA was added and the
198 Cy5 fluorescence was measured on a plate reader using 635 nm excitation and 680 nm emission
199 wave-lengths. **B)** Continuously measured Cy5 fluorescence after initiating reactions with RecA (blue),
200 RAD51 (red), PALB2 N-DBD (magenta), RAD51 and PALB2 N-DBD (green), and without proteins
201 (orange). **C)** Reaction products from B) were deproteinized and separated on a native PAGE gel. Bar
202 graph represents the percentage intensities of strand exchange products on the gel relative to the
203 intensity of control product (Cy5-dsDNA35-90).

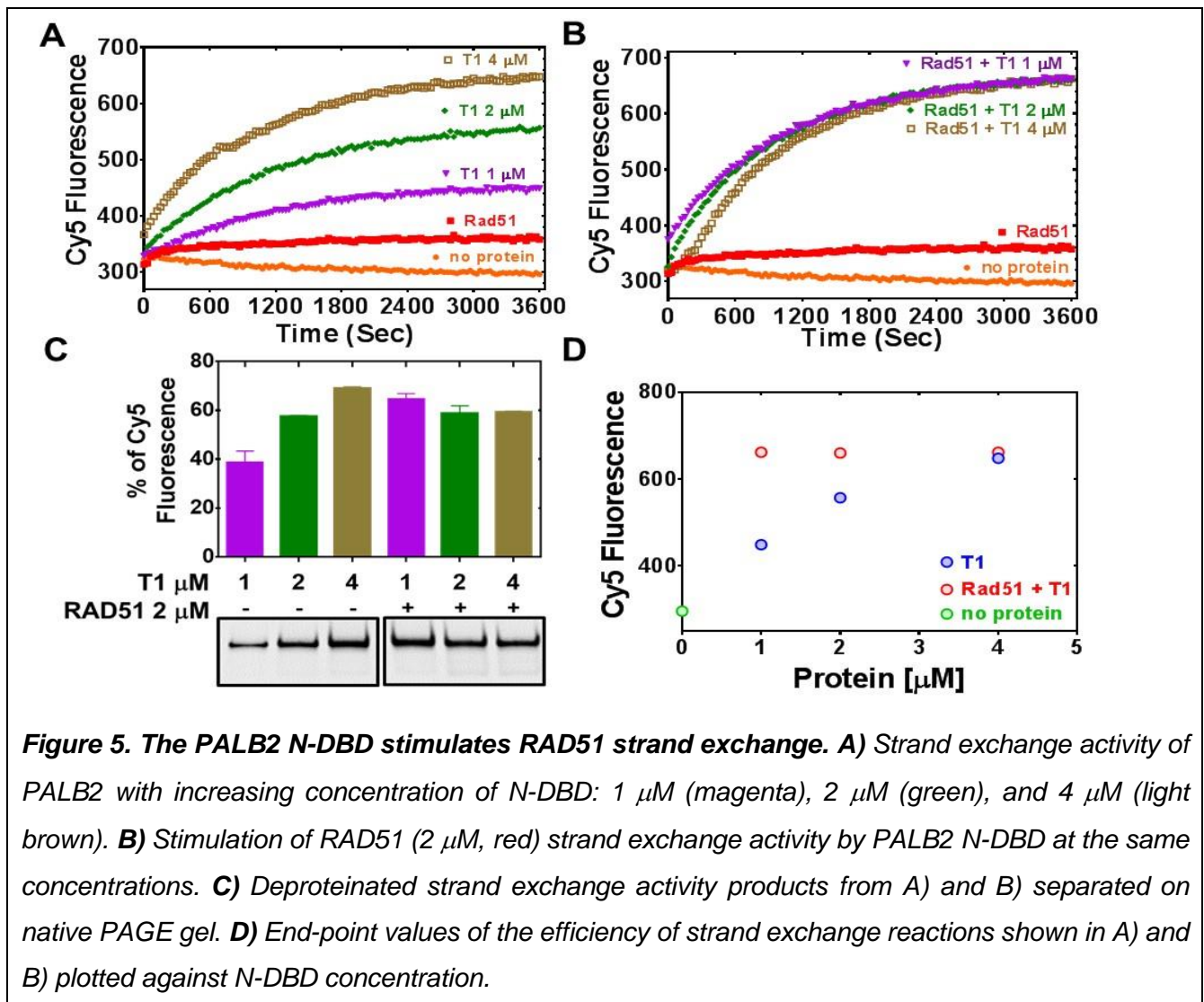
204 **Figure S6. A)** Strand exchange by RAD51 monitored by Cy5 fluorescence under optimized conditions
205 with 5 mM CaCl₂, 5 mM MgCl₂. **B)** End products of the reaction in A) analyzed with EMSA.

206 Surprisingly, the N-DBD promotes strand exchange at a comparable rate even without RAD51.
207 Reaction products were further analysed by EMSA gel shift to rule out any artefact of protein-specific
208 fluorophore quenching (Fig. 4C). The results were confirmed using DNA with different fluorescent
209 labels (Fig. S7). The strand exchange activity of N-DBD was even more efficient with longer dsDNA
210 substrate (Fig. S8).

211 **Figure S7. EMSA of N-DBD-mediated strand exchange products using Cy3- and Cy5-labeled ds35**
212 **DNA.**

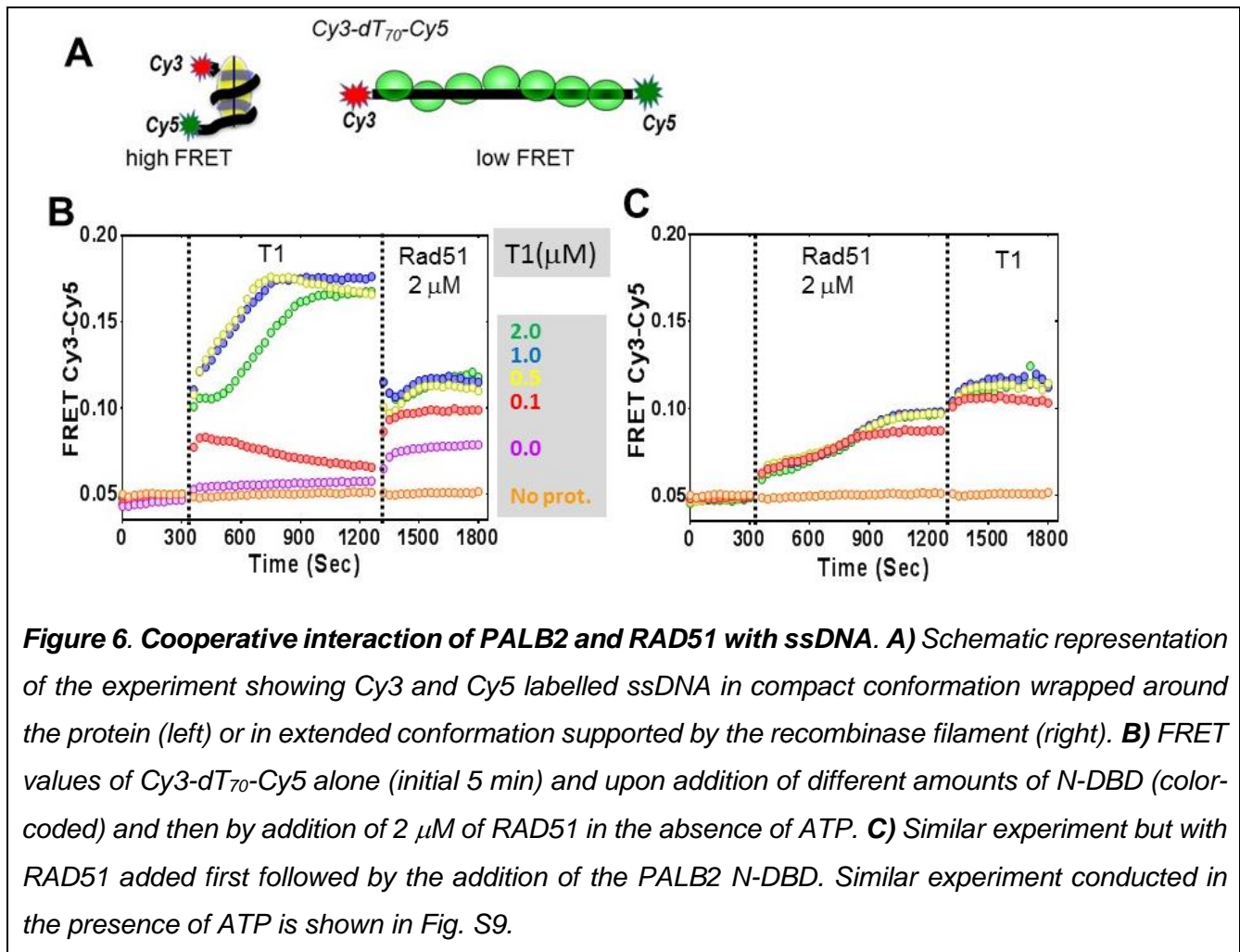
213 **Figure S8.** Forward (A) and inverse (B) strand exchange reactions supported by N-DBD at different
 214 concentrations ranging from 0.25 mM to 3 mM performed with ss90 and FAM/Dadsyl-labelled ds49.

215 Since N-DBD stimulates a similar reaction on its own, it is unclear whether the N-DBD fragment
 216 stimulates RAD51 activity or if the two proteins function independently. In a limited titration experiment
 217 shown in Figure 5, the efficiency of the strand exchange increases proportionally to N-DBD
 218 concentration in the absence of RAD51. However, in the presence of 2 μ M of RAD51, the maximum
 219 rate of strand exchange is reached at 1 μ M of N-DBD. These data suggest a synergistic effect of two
 220 proteins in a strand exchange reaction.



228 Additional evidence of synergism between the two proteins comes from conformational changes
 229 of ssDNA labelled with a Cy3 at 5' and Cy5 at 3' ends (Cy3-dT₇₀-Cy5) (Figs. 6, S9). PALB2 N-DBD
 230 supports a compact conformation with a high FRET, as in the cases of RAD52 (Grimme et al., 2010)
 231 and SSB (Roy et al., 2007). RAD51 binds ssDNA in an extended confirmation with a low FRET. Both
 232 proteins support an intermediate FRET value that remains constant even with changed molar ratio of

233 two proteins in solution. The conformation became more extended upon addition of ATP in the case
234 of RAD51 and of RAD51 with N-DBD (Fig. S9). Addition of excess N-DBD does not increase FRET,
235 suggesting that RAD51 and N-DBD form a stronger complex with ssDNA than N-DBD alone. Both
236 experiments together (Figs. 5, 6, S9) strongly support formation of a complex between PALB2 N-DBD
237 and RAD51 on ssDNA and synergism during the presynaptic filament formation and the strand
238 exchange.



239

240 **Figure 6. Cooperative interaction of PALB2 and RAD51 with ssDNA.** **A)** Schematic representation
241 of the experiment showing Cy3 and Cy5 labelled ssDNA in compact conformation wrapped around
242 the protein (left) or in extended conformation supported by the recombinase filament (right). **B)**
243 FRET values of Cy3-dT₇₀-Cy5 alone (initial 5 min) and upon addition of different amounts of N-DBD (color-
244 coded) and then by addition of 2 μM of RAD51 in the absence of ATP. **C)** Similar experiment but with
245 RAD51 added first followed by the addition of the PALB2 N-DBD. Similar experiment conducted in
246 the presence of ATP is shown in Fig. S9.

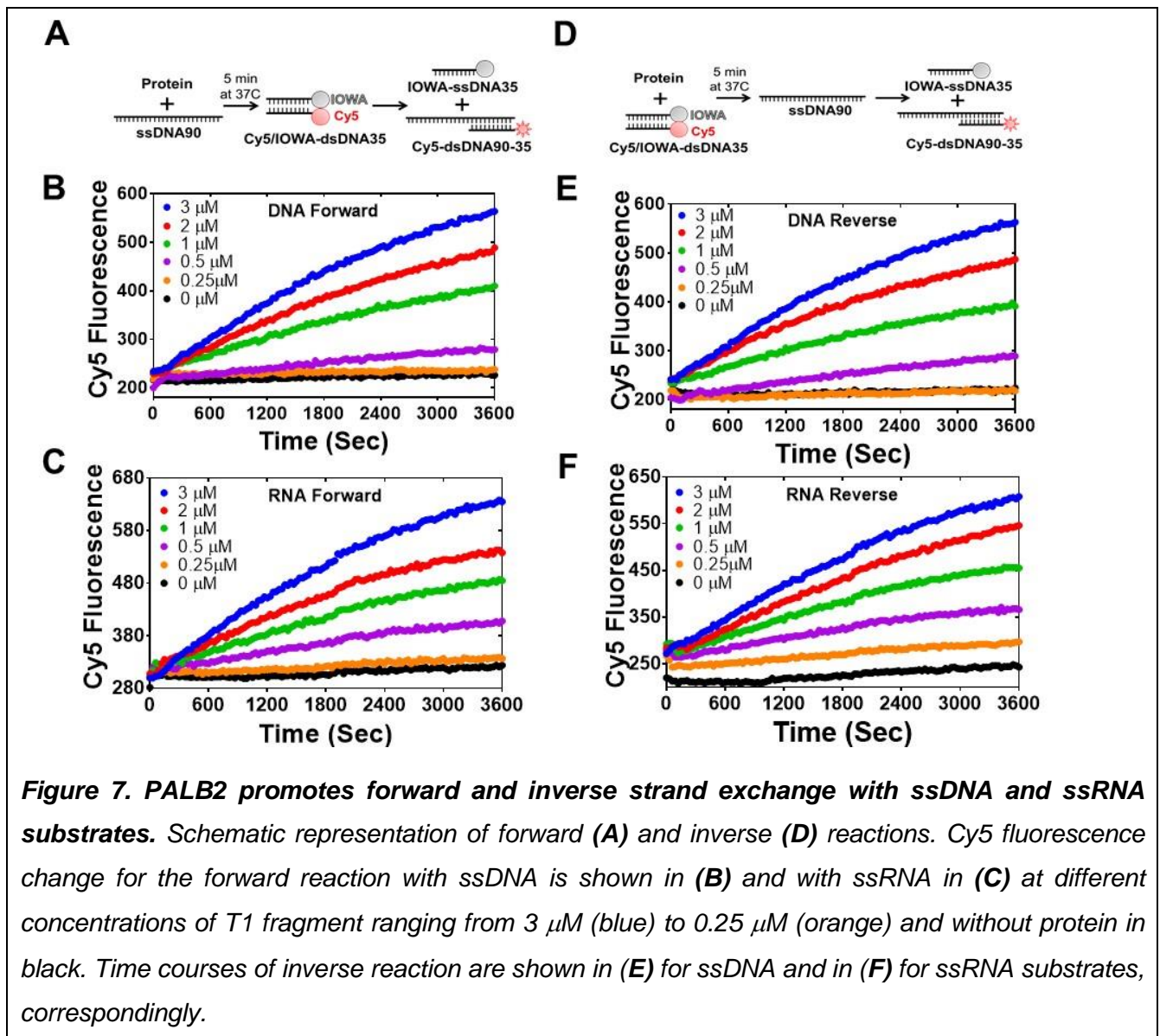
247 **Figure S9. Interaction of PALB2 and RAD51 with ssDNA.** **A)** FRET of Cy3-dT₇₀-Cy5 alone (initial
248 5 min) is changed upon addition of different amounts of N-DBD (color-coded) and then by addition of
249 2 μM of RAD51 in the absence of ATP. FRET decreases further on addition of 2 mM ATP. **B)** A
250 Similar experiment but with RAD51 added first followed by the addition of PALB2 N-DBD.

251 PALB2 stimulates an inverse strand exchange and can use an RNA substrate. RecA and Rad52
252 support an inverse strand exchange as well as an R-loop formation (Kasahara et al., 2000; Mazina et
253 al., 2017; Zaitsev and Kowalczykowski, 2000). We tested the PALB2 N-DBD for similar activities. The
254 PALB2 N-DBD supported both forward and inverse strand exchange with similar efficiencies (Fig. 7B,

255 E). Furthermore, PALB2 supported both reactions with a ssRNA substrate (Figs. 7C, F). DNA-binding
 256 mutant fragment (146AAAA) did not support strand exchange on its own and in the presence of
 257 RAD51 (Fig. S10). RAD52 was shown to have different efficiency of forward and inverse reactions
 258 with relatively low forward and a more efficient inverse reactions (Mazina et al., 2017). We did not
 259 observe this difference with PALB2. The inverse strand exchange was slower than in case of RAD52
 260 and comparable to that of RAD51 under optimal conditions.

261 **Figure S10. PALB2 DNA binding site mutants do not support strand exchange. A)** Forward
 262 strand exchange activity of PALB2 N-DBD DNA binding mutants. **B)** The strand exchange of PALB2
 263 N-DBD mutants in the presence of Rad51. Strand exchange reactions were performed with Cy5 and
 264 Iowa labelled 35bp DNA at 2 μ M protein concentration.

265



273 *Mechanism of the PALB2 stimulated strand exchange.* To rule out a potential effect of DNA melting
274 by PALB2, which may lead to nonspecific reannealing of a separated strands with complementary
275 ssDNA in solution, the N-DBD was incubated with dsDNA without ssDNA (Fig. S11). The N-DBD does
276 not melt dsDNA as there was no change in fluorescence of Cy5/lowa-ds35 upon incubation with the
277 protein, while the addition of complimentary ssDNA triggers the reaction. Moreover, the N-DBD
278 stimulates annealing of complimentary ssDNA (Fig. S12). Therefore, the observed strand exchange
279 is is not a consequence of a nonspecific dsDNA melting by the protein.

280 **Figure S11. PALB2 does not unwind dsDNA.** *Cy5/lowa ds35 DNA was incubated with three*
281 *different concentrations of N-DBD for 30' before adding complementary ss90 DNA.*

282 **Figure S12. PALB2 anneals complimentary ssDNA.** *Annealing of Cy5- and lowa-labeled*
283 *complimentary ss35 strands in the presence of different concentrations of PALB2 N-DBD.*

284 Both RecA and RAD52 proteins, which support strand exchange, simultaneously interact with ds-
285 and ssDNA through distinct binding sites located next to each other (Arai et al., 2011; Chen et al.,
286 2008; Honda et al., 2011; Kagawa et al., 2002; Mazin and Kowalczykowski, 1998; Seong et al., 2008).
287 PALB2 also interacts with both ss- and dsDNA (Fig. 1 and Buisson et al., 2010; Dray et al., 2010),
288 although the structure and the molecular details of PALB2 interaction with DNA remains unknown. To
289 verify if other proteins characterized by comparable affinities to both ss- and dsDNA also support
290 strand exchange, we tested prokaryotic RMPs, RecO and RecR. *E. coli* RecO alone stimulates strand
291 annealing (Kantake et al., 2002; Luisi-DeLuca and Kolodner, 1994) and, in complex with RecR,
292 stimulates RecA-mediated strand exchange with ssDNA bound to SSB (Ryzhikov et al., 2014; Umezu
293 et al., 1993; Umezu and Kolodner, 1994). Both RecO and RecOR interact with ss- and dsDNA
294 (Ryzhikov et al., 2014). However, neither RecO nor RecOR complex promote strand exchange in the
295 absence of RecA (Fig. S13). Therefore, the simple ability of a protein to interact with ss- and dsDNA
296 is not enough to promote strand exchange and even RMPs, which stimulate the reaction by RecA
297 recombinase, do not support it in the absence of recombinase.

298 **Figure S13. RecO and RecOR do not support strand exchange without RecA.** **A)** *Strand*
299 *exchange activity measured under conditions identical to those in Fig. 4 of RecO (magenta), RecOR*
300 *(orange) and RecOR in the presence of RecA and SSB (brown) monitored by Cy5 fluorescence.*
301 *Activity of RecA alone without SSB is shown in green.* **B)** *Reaction products from A) were*
302 *deproteinized and separated on native PAGE gel.*

303 DISCUSSION

304 In this report, we identify major DNA-binding residues of PALB2 and demonstrate their critical
305 role for the HDR in cells. PALB2 is described as a scaffold protein linking BRCA1 with BRCA2 during
306 HDR and interacting with many other chromatin proteins. However, the mutant with BRCA1 and

307 BRCA2 binding motifs without the middle portion of the proteins does not support BRCA2 and RAD51
308 recruitment to DSBs (Sy et al., 2009b). A critical role of PALB2 DNA binding was also suggested by
309 studies of the BRCA2 mechanism (Siaud et al., 2011), where the “miniBRCA2” construct, which
310 includes only DBDs with two BRC repeats, was 3-4 times less efficient in the absence of PALB2
311 interaction. Moreover, interaction with PALB2 alleviates the requirement of BRCA2 DNA binding,
312 including a deletion of the entire BRCA2 DBD. Here, we demonstrate that mutation of only four DNA-
313 binding residues of PALB2 reduces both RAD51 foci and overall HDR efficiency by 50%, even in the
314 presence of endogenous BRCA2. Therefore, PALB2 interaction with DNA is critical for recruitment of
315 the BRCA2 and RAD51 to DSB sites and efficient DNA repair in cells.

316 Secondly, we demonstrate that PALB2 N-DBD stimulates RAD51-mediated strand exchange *in*
317 *vitro*. Therefore, PALB2 can cooperate with BRCA2 in loading RAD51 onto DNA and/or promoting
318 the subsequent steps of D-loop formation and recombination dependent DNA synthesis.

319 The most unexpected finding is the ability of PALB2 to stimulate strand exchange between
320 homologous ss- and dsDNA fragments in the absence of recombinase. This process is protein specific
321 and is not a consequence of a simple DNA melting and reannealing of separated strands in solution,
322 since the PALB2 N-DBD does not unwind the DNA helix and promotes DNA annealing. Proteins
323 supporting strand exchange, such as RecA and RAD52, share several common features. They
324 interact with both ss- and dsDNA through distinct sites located next to each other (Arai et al., 2011;
325 Chen et al., 2008; Honda et al., 2011; Kagawa et al., 2002; Mazin and Kowalczykowski, 1998;
326 Saotome et al., 2018; Seong et al., 2008), they form oligomeric structures, such as recombinase-DNA
327 filament (Chen et al., 2008; Egelman and Stasiak, 1986; Yang et al., 2001) or Rad52 ring structure
328 (Shinohara et al., 1998; Singleton et al., 2002), and they distort the dsDNA helix to initiate strand
329 exchange with the bound complementary ssDNA. RecA stretches dsDNA (Chen et al., 2008; Leger
330 et al., 1998), while Rad52 bends the DNA helix bound to the toroidal oligomeric ring (Brouwer et al.,
331 2017). The PALB2 N-DBD interacts with both ss- and dsDNA. Both N-DBD and the full length PALB2
332 form oligomeric structures and the oligomerization is partially mediated by the N-terminal coiled-coil
333 motif (Fig. S14A) and (Buisson and Masson, 2012; Sy et al., 2009c). Titration of ss49 by the N-DBD
334 suggests a stoichiometry of four or five N-DBD monomers per ss49 (Figs. S14B, C) which fits an
335 oligomeric state suggested by the size-exclusion chromatography data (Fig. S14A).

336 **Figure S14. Oligomerization and DNA-binding stoichiometry of PALB2 T1. A)** Gel filtration of T1
337 fragment using Superdex-200 10/300 column (blue isotherm). Magenta isotherm corresponds to SEC
338 of BioRad MW standards with MW in kDa shown above each peak. The elution volume of N-DBD
339 correspond to tetrameric or pentameric structure. **B)** and **C)** Titration of FAM-labeled ss49 (at
340 concentration of 50 nM in B) and 100 nM in C)) by N-DBD revealed a 5:1 protein:DNA stoichiometry.

341 Previously, we demonstrated that PALB2 immobilized on ssDNA beads efficiently pulls down
342 non-homologous dsDNA (Buisson et al., 2010). It is unclear whether ss- and dsDNA substrates are
343 bound to same site of different subunits of PALB2 oligomer of two different DNA binding site of the
344 same monomer. The presence of at least two other minor DNA-binding sites in the N-DBD suggests
345 such a possibility. Higher affinity towards longer ssDNA and the FRET experiment support a model
346 of wrapping long flexible ssDNA around an oligomer and binding to multiple sites. In contrast,
347 interaction with dsDNA is less length dependent. We can speculate that binding of dsDNA to more
348 than one monomer in PALB2 oligomer can trigger DNA helix distortion. Indeed, bending of dsDNA
349 was observed upon PALB2 binding to 40 bp dsDNA labelled with a Cy3/Cy5 FRET pair as the
350 increase of FRET signal (Fig. S15). Thus, PALB2 shares several specific structural and DNA
351 interaction features with both RecA/RAD51 and Rad52 proteins and supports a protein-specific strand
352 exchange reaction.

353 **Figure S15. PALB2 N-DBD bends dsDNA.** FRET of Cy3-ds40-Cy5 alone (initial 5 min) is changed
354 upon addition of different amounts of N-DBD (color-coded). Protein interaction does not significantly
355 change fluorescence with DNA substrates labelled by either fluorophore alone.

356 It is important to note one distinct feature of the PALB2 N-DBD: the secondary structure prediction
357 (Fig.S3) suggests a different folding of the N-DBD fragment than that of RecA-like domains or a Rad52.
358 The latter proteins are formed by α/β sandwich folds, while PALB2 N-DBD folding is predicted to be
359 composed of only α -helices, which may form helical bundle-like structure similar to that of Hop2-
360 Mnd1(Kang et al., 2015). Therefore, PALB2 N-DBD represents a novel structural fold that supports
361 strand exchange.

362 While the functional significance of this property remains to be investigated, it further supports
363 the involvement of PALB2 in specific DNA transactions during HDR, similar to the involvement of
364 BRCA1/BARD1 in D-loop formation (Zhao et al., 2017). It was shown that both PALB2 and BRCA2
365 stimulate Pol η DNA synthesis within a D-loop substrate *in vitro* through the recruitment of the
366 polymerase to the invading strand in the D-loop (Buisson et al., 2014). Interestingly, DNA synthesis
367 was more efficient in the presence of PALB2 than BRCA2, while both proteins were shown be equally
368 efficient in recruiting polymerase to DSB sites. PALB2 strand exchange may contribute to other steps
369 of HDR such as second-end capture(Mazloum and Holloman, 2009; McIlwraith and West, 2008;
370 Nimonkar et al., 2009). Interestingly, PALB2 (FANCN) and BRCA2 (FANCD) are involved in
371 replication-dependant removal of interstrand DNA crosslinks associated with Fanconi anemia
372 (Howlett et al., 2002; Moldovan and D'Andrea, 2009; Xia et al., 2007). The strand exchange function
373 of PALB2 may be also important for alternative DNA repair pathways. Indeed, PALB2 supports strand
374 exchange not only with ssDNA, but with ssRNA substrates, and can be involved in transcription-
375 initiated DNA repair.

376 MATERIAL AND METHODS

377 Protein Purification:

378 *PALB2 truncations*: PALB2 N-terminal fragments PALB2-T1 (1-200 aa) and PALB2-573 (1-573 aa)
379 were cloned into pET28b+ based pSMT3 vector (provided by Dr. R.A. Kovall, University of Cincinnati)
380 containing the N-terminal 6xHis-SUMO tag using *SaI* and *NdeI* cloning sites. pSMT3-PALB2 T1,
381 pSMT3-PALB2 573 were transformed into BL21* cells. Cell culture were grown in LB to OD₆₀₀=0.7
382 and protein expression was induced by adding 0.2 mM IPTG and carried out at 16°C overnight. Cells
383 were lysed with lysozyme (0.25 mg/mL at RT for 30 min) in lysis buffer (25 mM HEPES pH 8.0, 1 M
384 NaCl, 10% Glycerol, 0.3% Brij35, 1 mM TCEP, 2 mM CHAPS and 1 mM PMSF), followed by three
385 rounds of sonication (50% output and 50% pulsar settings for 4 min). Cell debris was removed by
386 centrifugation at 30,600 x g for 45 min. Supernatant was loaded on a NiNTA column (5 ml) equilibrated
387 with binding buffer (25 mM HEPES pH 8.0, 1 M NaCl, 10% glycerol, 1 mM TCEP, 2 mM CHAPS and
388 10 mM imidazole). NiNTA beads were washed with binding buffer and the protein was eluted with
389 binding buffer supplemented with the same buffer adjusted to 250 mM imidazole. The SUMO tag was
390 cleaved with Ulp1 protease while dialyzing against buffer without imidazole (25 mM HEPES pH 8.0,
391 1 M NaCl, 10% Glycerol, 1 mM TCEP and 2 mM CHAPS) overnight and the protein was purified with
392 a second NiNTA column. The protein was diluted 10X by binding buffer without NaCl to the final NaCl
393 concentration of 100 mM, loaded to a Hi-Trap heparin affinity column (5 ml, GE health sciences) and
394 eluted with a gradient of NaCl (100 mM to 1000 mM). Protein eluted from the heparin column at ~500
395 mM NaCl concentration. Protein fractions were dialysed against storage buffer (25 mM HEPES pH
396 8.0, 300 M NaCl, 40% Glycerol, 1 mM TCEP and 2 mM CHAPS) overnight, aliquoted and stored in -
397 80°C.

398 PALB2 T3 fragment was purified as described in (Buisson et al., 2010).

399 *RAD51 purification*: We used two expression constructs and purification protocols. 1) Human RAD51
400 protein was purified from the pET11-Rad51 vector (gift from Dr A. Mazin) similarly to the published
401 protocol (Sigurdsson et al., 2001). The protein was induced at 37°C for 3h by supplementing LB media
402 with 0.5 mM IPTG. Cells were suspended in 25 mM Tris-HCl pH8.0, 1 M urea, 1 M NaCl, 5 mM DTT,
403 0.3 % Brij35 and 10 % glycerol. Cells were lysed with lysozyme (0.25 mg/mL at RT for 30 min) followed
404 by three rounds of sonication (50% output and 50% pulsar settings for 1 min). 24 mg/ml ammonium
405 sulphate was gradually added to the supernatant and equilibrated overnight at 4°C. Precipitates were
406 centrifugation at 30,600 x g for 45 min. Pellets were solubilized in 30 ml of binding buffer (25 mM Tris-
407 HCl pH8.0, 1 M NaCl, 5 mM DTT, 10 % glycerol and 20 mM imidazole). Insoluble particles were
408 removed by centrifugation at 30,600 x g for 40 min. The protein was bound to Ni NTA beads,
409 extensively washed with binding buffer and eluted in binding buffer supplemented with 250 mM
410 imidazole.

411 2) Alternatively, human RAD51 gene was cloned into pSMT3 vector using *SalI* and *NdeI* cloning sites.
412 pSMT3-Rad51 protein expression was carried out at 16°C overnight by addition of 0.2 mM IPTG.
413 SUMO tagged Rad51 protein was purified according to the steps described for the PALB2 fragments.
414 Purified Rad51 protein was dialysed against storage buffer (25 mM HEPES pH 8.0, 300 M NaCl, 40%
415 glycerol, 1 mM TCEP and 2 mM CHAPS) overnight, aliquoted and stored in -80°C until further use.
416 Proteins from both preparations had comparable properties. Data are shown for experiments
417 performed with the second construct, except the experiment represented in Fig. S10.

418 *E. coli* RecA was purified exactly as described in (Gupta et al., 2013). *E. coli* RecO and RecR proteins
419 were purified as described in (Ryzhikov and Korolev, 2012; Ryzhikov et al., 2011).

420 **Site-directed mutagenesis:** Target amino acids were mutated by site directed mutagenesis of using
421 Stratagene QuikChange™ protocol. Single, double, triple and four residues mutants were generated
422 by single stranded synthesis (Table S1). PCR samples were subjected to *DpnI* digestion at 37°C for
423 6 h and annealed gradually by reducing temperature from 95°C to 37°C for an hour with a degree 1C
424 drop per min. *DpnI* treated PCR samples were transformed into chemically competent OmniMAX cells
425 (ThermoFischer). Mutations were confirmed by sequencing and plasmids were transformed into
426 BL21(DE) cells. The PALB2 573 AAAA mutant was generated as described for PALB2 T1. Mutant
427 proteins were expressed and purified exactly as described for wild type fragments.

428 **DNA binding assay:** Fluorescence anisotropy experiments were carried out at room temperature
429 with 5 nM fluorescein (6FAM)-labelled DNA substrates (Table S2) using a Synergy 4 plate reader
430 (BioTek). Titration with protein was performed by serially diluting protein in 40 µL of assay buffer (20
431 mM Tris Acetate pH 7.0, 100 mM NaCl, 5 % glycerol, 1 mM TCEP and 10% DMSO) from 5000 nM to
432 0.3 nM and incubating with DNA substrate for 15 min at RT. Fluorescence anisotropy was measured
433 by excitation at 485/20 nm and by monitoring emission 528/20 nm at room temperature. Data were fit
434 using a standard four-parameter logistic fit (Prism).

435 **DNA annealing assay:** DNA annealing assays were performed with Cy5-labelled ss35 and
436 complimentary IOWA-labelled ss35 (100 nM, Table S3). The protein at 1, 2 and 4 µM concentrations
437 was mixed and incubated with Cy5-labeled ssDNA for 5 min at 37°C in 40 µL reaction buffer (40 mM
438 HEPES pH 7.5, 20 mM NaCl and 1 mM TCEP). Reaction was initiated by addition of complimentary
439 IOWA-labelled ss35 (100 nM) in 40 µL of reaction buffer. Decrease in Cy5 fluorescence was
440 monitored by measuring fluorescence at 680 nm by excitation at 635nm on a Synergy 4 plate reader
441 (BioTek).

442 **Strand exchange fluorescent assays:** DNA strand exchange assays (80 µl) were performed with
443 35bp dsDNA obtained by annealing of 5'-Cy5- and 3'-IOWA labelled complimentary strands (Table
444 S3) and a 90mer ssDNA (ss90) with homologous region to plus strand. Alternatively, FAM/Dabsyl 49

445 bp DNA was used. For the forward reaction, ss90 (100 nM) was incubated with 2 μ M (or as mentioned
446 in the figure legends) protein for 10 min in 40 μ L reaction buffer (40 mM HEPES pH 7.5, 20 mM NaCl,
447 5 mM MgCl₂, 1 mM TCEP and 0.02 % Tween 20) at 37°C. Strand exchange was initiated by addition
448 of 100 nM 35bp dsDNA (ds35), plate was immediately placed in plate reader and the intensity of Cy5
449 fluorescence was measured at 30 sec intervals for 1 hour with excitation at 635 nm and emission at
450 680 nm. For reactions with RecA and Rad51, an ATP regeneration system (2 mM ATP, 30 mM
451 phosphoenol pyruvate and 30 U of pyruvate kinase) was used (Sigma-Aldrich, USA). For the inverse
452 reaction, protein was incubated with Cy5/IOWA-dsDNA35 substrate and reaction was initiated by
453 addition of ss90. The strand exchange assay with an ssRNA substrate was performed as described
454 above using a 60 ribonucleotide RNA (table S1) complimentary to that of 35bp DNA. Alternatively,
455 Cy3- and Cy5-labelled DNA oligonucleotides were used to prepare dsDNA substrate and the products
456 were analysed by EMSA PAGE (below).

457 **EMSA PAGE.** Fluorescent-labelled DNA products of strand exchange reactions were also analysed
458 on EMSA PAGE. After fluorescence measurement on plate reader, the final reaction mix (80 μ L)
459 products were deproteinated by incubation with proteinase K (0.5 mg/ml) with 0.5 mM EDTA and 1%
460 w/v SDS for 20 min at 37°C and the DNA fragments were separated on 10% PAGE gel in TBE buffer.
461 The gel was imaged using a Typhoon 9400 image scanner (GE) and analysed with ImageJ software.

462 **FRET assay:** FRET assay was performed in 96 well plate format. 100 nM of dual labelled dT₇₀ (Cy5
463 at 5' end and Cy3 at 3' end) was dispensed into 80 μ L assay buffer identical to those in strand
464 exchange assay (Table 3). Alternatively, dual labelled 40 bp DNA was prepared by annealing dual
465 labelled 40 nt ssDNA (Cy3 and Cy5 on single strand) with unlabelled complimentary 40 nt ssDNA
466 (Table 3). Excitation was at 540/25nm bandpass. Emission for both Cy3 at 590/35nm bandpass and
467 Cy5 at 680/30 nm were monitored at 30 s intervals for 5 min at 37°C, then for 10 min following the
468 addition of PALB2 N-DBD, then for 10 min following the addition of RAD51 with or without ATP. FRET
469 efficiency was calculated by using the formula $FRET = \frac{I_{cy5}}{(I_{cy5}+I_{cy3})}$. For each addition, the plate was
470 removed from the plate reader and returned to the reader within 60 s. Protein concentrations were as
471 described in the figure legends.

472 **RAD51 foci assay:** HeLa cells were seeded on glass coverslips in 6-well plates at 225 000 cells per
473 well. Knockdown of PALB2 was performed 18 hours later with 50 nM PALB2 siRNA (Table S4) using
474 Lipofectamine RNAiMAX (Invitrogen). After 5 hours, cells were subjected to double thymidine block.
475 Briefly, cells were treated with 2 mM thymidine for 18 hours and released after changing the media.
476 After a release of 9h, PALB2 silenced cells were complemented using transfection with the indicated
477 YFP constructs using Lipofectamine 2000. Then, cells were treated with 2 mM thymidine for 17 hours
478 and protected from light from this point on. After 2 h of release from the second block, cells were X-

479 irradiated with 2 Gy and processed for immunofluorescence 4 h post-irradiation. All
480 immunofluorescence dilutions were prepared in PBS and incubations performed at room temperature
481 with intervening washes in PBS. Cell fixation was carried out by incubation with 4% paraformaldehyde
482 for 10 min followed by 100% ice-cold methanol for 5 min at -20 °C. Cells were then permeabilized in
483 0.2% Triton X-100 for 5 min and quenched using 0.1% sodium borohydride for 5 min. After blocking
484 for 1 h in a solution containing 10% goat serum and 1% BSA, cells were incubated for 1 h with primary
485 antibodies to RAD51 (B-bridge International, #70-001) and to cyclin A (BD Biosciences, # 611268)
486 diluted in 1% BSA. Secondary antibodies, Alexa Fluor 568 goat anti-rabbit (Invitrogen, #A-11011) and
487 Alexa Fluor 647 goat anti-mouse (Invitrogen, #A-21235), were used in PBS containing 1% BSA for 1
488 h. Nuclei were stained for 10 min with 1 µg/mL 4, 6-diamidino-2-phenylindole (DAPI) prior to mounting
489 onto slides with 90% glycerol containing 1 mg/ml paraphenylenediamine anti-fade reagent. Z-stack
490 images were acquired at 63X magnification on a Leica DM6000 microscope, then deconvolved and
491 analysed for RAD51 foci formation with Volocity software v6.0.1 (Perkin-Elmer Improvion). The
492 number of RAD51 foci per cyclin A-positive cells (n=100), among the transfected population, was
493 manually scored and reported in a scatter dot plot representing the SEM. An Anova test (Kruskal-
494 Wallis test for multiple comparison) was performed followed by a non-parametric Mann-Whitney test.

495 **CRISPR Cas9/mClover-LMNA1 mediated HR assay (Pinder et al., 2015).** U2OS cells were seeded
496 in 6-well plates. Knockdown of PALB2 (Buisson et al., 2017a) was performed 6-8 h later using
497 Lipofectamine RNAiMAX (Invitrogen). Twenty-four hours post-transfection, $1.5-2 \times 10^6$ cells were
498 pelleted for each condition and resuspended in 100 µL complete nucleofector solution (SE Cell Line
499 4D-Nucleofector™ X Kit, Lonza) to which 1µg of pCR2.1-mClover-LMNA donor, 1µg pX330-
500 LMNAgRNA, 0.1µg of iRFP670 and 1µg of pcDNA3 empty vector or the Flag-PALB2 constructs, and
501 20nM of each siRNA were added. Once transferred to a 100 ul Lonza certified cuvette, cells were
502 transfected using the 4D-Nucleofector X-unit, program CM-104 and transferred to a 10 cm dish. After
503 48 h, cells were trypsinized and plated onto glass coverslips. Expression of the mClover was assayed
504 the next day by fluorescence microscopy (63X), that is 72h post-nucleofection. Data are represented
505 as mean percentages of mClover-positive cells over the iRFP-positive population from five
506 independent experiments (total n>100 iRFP-positive cells) and reported in a scatter dot plot
507 representing SEM, and a classical one-way Anova test was performed.

508 **Plasmids and siRNA**

509 peYFP-C1-PALB2 was modified to be resistant to PALB2 siRNA by Q5 Site-Directed Mutagenesis Kit
510 (NEB, E0554) using primers JYM3892/3893 (Table S4). The resulting siRNA-resistant construct was
511 then used as a template to generate the mutant construct YFP-PALB2 146AAAA with the primers
512 JYM3909/JYM3910. Flag-tagged PALB2 146AAAA mutant was also obtained via site-directed
513 mutagenesis on pcDNA3-Flag PALB2 (Pauty et al., 2017).

514 **SUPPLEMENTARY DATA**

515 **Supplementary data are available in Supplementary Figures.**

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527 **CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

528 None declared

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- 736

Table S1. Primers for DNA binding site mutagenesis.

Mutation	Sequence
RK146AA F	ACT GCC GAG CGC TCG TGC AAA ACA ACA AAA GC
RK146AA R	GCT TTT GTT GTT TTG CAC GAG CGC TCG GCA GT
RK147AA F	ACT GCC GAG CCG TGC TAA AGC ACA ACA AAA GC
RK147AA R	GCT TTT GTT GTG CTT TAG CAC GGC TCG GCA GT
KKK90AAA F	CGA AAA AAT TGC ACA TAG CAT TGC AGC AAC GGT GGA AG
KKK90AAA R	CTT CCA CCG TTG CTG CAA TGC TAT GTG CAA TTT TTT CG
K90A F	CGA AAA AAT TGC ACA TAG CAT TAA AAA AAC
K90A R	GTT TTT TTA ATG CTA TGT GCA ATT TTT TCG
K94A F	AAT TAA ACA TAG CAT TGC AAA AAC GGT GGA AG
K94A R	CTT CCA CCG TTT TTG CAA TGC TAT GTT TAA TT
K95A F	CAT AGC ATT AAA GCA ACG GTG GAA GAA C
K95A R	GTT CTT CCA CCG TTG CTT TAA TGC TAT G
RKR190AAA F	CCG ATT CGT TAG CTC TGA GCG GCG CAG CGC TGA AAG AAC
RKR190AAA R	GTT CTT TCA GCG CTG CGC CGC TCA GAG CTA ACG AAT CGG
R190A F	CCG ATT CGT TAG CTC TGA GCG G
R190A R	CCG CTC AGA GCT AAC GAA TCG G
K194A F	CTG AGC GGC GCA CGG CTG AAA GAA C
K194A R	GTT CTT TCA GCC GTG CGC CGC TCA G
R195A F	CTG AGC GGC AAA GCG CTG AAA GAA CAG
R195A R	CTG TTC TTT CAG CGC TTT GCC GCT CAG
KR174,175A F	CTG AGC GGC GCA GCG CTG AAA GAA CAG
KR174,175A R	CTG TTC TTT CAG CGC TGC GCC GCT CAG
KK49,50AA F	A ATT AAA CAT AGC ATT GCA GCA ACG GTG GAA G
KK49,50AA R	CTT CCA CCG TTG CTG CAA TGC TAT GTT TAA TT
RRKK146AAAA F	AAA CTG CCG AGC GCT GCT GCA GCA CAA CAA AAG CGC
RRKK146AAAA R	GCG CTT TTG TTG TGC TGC AGC AGC GCT CGG CAG TTT
K148A F	GAG CCG TCG TGC CAA ACA ACA AAA G
K148A R	CTT TTG TTG TTT GGC ACG ACG GCT C
R146A F	ACT GCC GAG CGC TCG TAA AAA AC
R146A R	GTT TTT TAC GAG CGC TCG GCA GT
K148A – RK147	GAG CCG TGC TGC CGC ACA ACA AAA G
K148A – RK147	CTT TTG TTG TGC GGC AGC ACG GCT C
R146A –RK147	ACT GCC GAG CGC CGC TAA AGC AC
R146A –RK147	GTG CTT TAG CGG CGC TCG GCA GT
RK146,148AA –RK147	ACT GCC GAG CGC CGC TGC GGC ACA ACA AAA G
RK146,148AA –RK147	CTT TTG TTG TGC CGC AGC GGC GCT CGG CAG T
146AAAA (JYM3909F)	GCGGCGCAGCAGAAGAGGACATTTATTTT
146AAAA (JYM3910R)	TGCTGCGCTTGCCAGCTTCTGCTT

Table S2. Substrates for DNA binding assay.

Sample	Sequence
15-FAM	/56-FAM/-CCGCTACCAGTGATC
15-comp	GATCACTGGTAGCGG
20-FAM	/56-FAM/-CCGCTACCAGTGATCACCAA
20-comp	TTGGTGATCACTGGTAGCGG
25-FAM	/56-FAM/-CCGCTACCAGTGATCACCAATGGAT
25-comp	ATCCATTGGTGATCACTGGTAGCGG
30-FAM	/56-FAM/-CCG CTA CCA GTG ATC ACC AAT GGA TTG CTA -
30-comp	TAGCAATCCATTGGTGATCACTGGTAGCGG
49-FAM	/56-FAM/ -TGG CGA CGG CAG CGA GGC TCT CTA CAG GAG CCT GTT AAG TGC TTG TAA C
49-comp	TTA CAA GCA CTT AAC AGG CTC CTG TAG AGA GCC TCG CTG CCG TCG CCA-3'
dT30-FAM	/56-FAM/-(30)T
dT49-FAM	/56-FAM/-(49)T
dT71-FAM	/56-FAM/-(71)T

Table S3. Substrates for strand exchange activity and FRET assays.

Sample	Sequence
35mer-Cy5	AGGTCTTGTTTCGCAGATGGCTTAGAGCTTATTTGC-/Cy5Sp/
35mer-IA-comp	/IA/-GCAAATAAGCTCTAAGCCATCTGCGAACAAGACCT
35mer-Cy3	AGGTCTTGTTTCGCAGATGGCTTAGAGCTTATTTGC-/Cy3Sp/
35mer-Cy5-comp	/CY5/-GCAAATAAGCTCTAAGCCATCTGCGAACAAGACCT-3'
ss90-1 (for ds35)	GCCTCTAGTCGAGGCATCAATACGAAACCTTATTCTTTTCAGTCT ACAAGCACTTAAGGTCTTGTTTCGCAGATGGCTTAGAGCTTATTT GC
49mer-FAM	/6FAM/-TGG CGA CGG CAG CGA GGC TCT CTA CAG GAG CCT GTT AAG TGC TTG TAA
49mer-DAB-comp	GTT ACA AGC ACT TAA CAG GCT CCT GTA GAG AGC CTC GCT GCC GTC GCC A-/DAB/
ss90-2 (for ds49)	CACTTAAGGTCTTGTTTCGCAGATGGCTTAGAGCTTATTTGCGTT ACAAGCACTTAACAGGCTCCTGTAGAGAGCCTCGCTGCCGTCCCA
RNA60	TACGAAACCTTATTCTTTTCAGTCTACAAGCACTTAAGGTCTTGTT CGCAGATGGCTTAGAGCTTATTTGC
Cy3-dT70-Cy5	/Cy3Sp/-dT ₇₀ -/Cy5Sp/
Cy3-ds40-Cy5	/Cy5Sp/-ATAAGAGGTCATTTTTGCGGATGGCTTAGAGCTTAATTGC-/Cy5Sp/ GCAATTAAGCTCTAAGCCATCCGCAAAAATGACCTCTTAT

Table S4. siRNA resistance primers:

JYM3892	gatCTTATTGTTCTACCAGGAAAATC
JYM3893	ttccTCTAAGTCCTCCATTTCTG
siRNA target sequences	
siCTL	UUCGAACGUGUCACGUCAA
siPALB2	CUUAGAAGAGGACCUUAUU

Figure S1

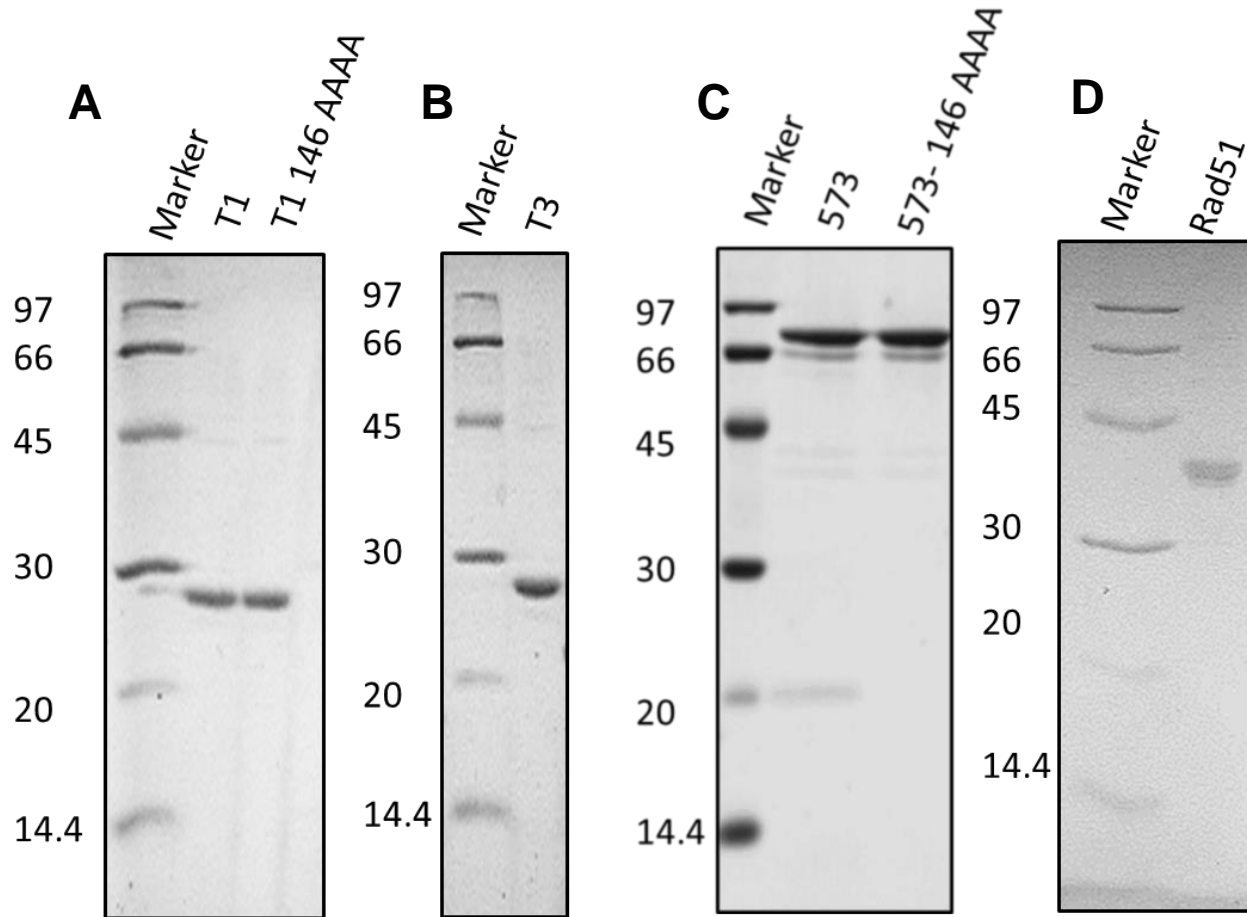


Figure S2

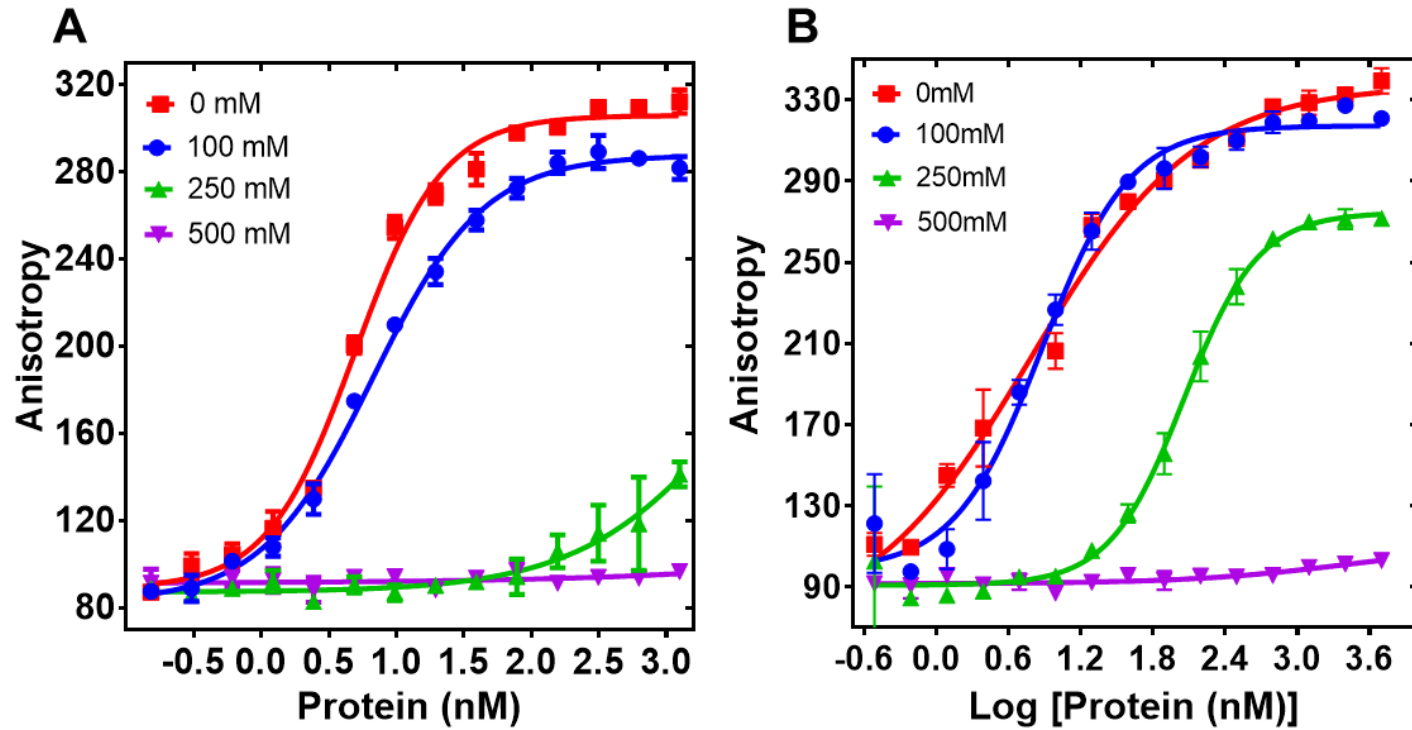


Figure S3

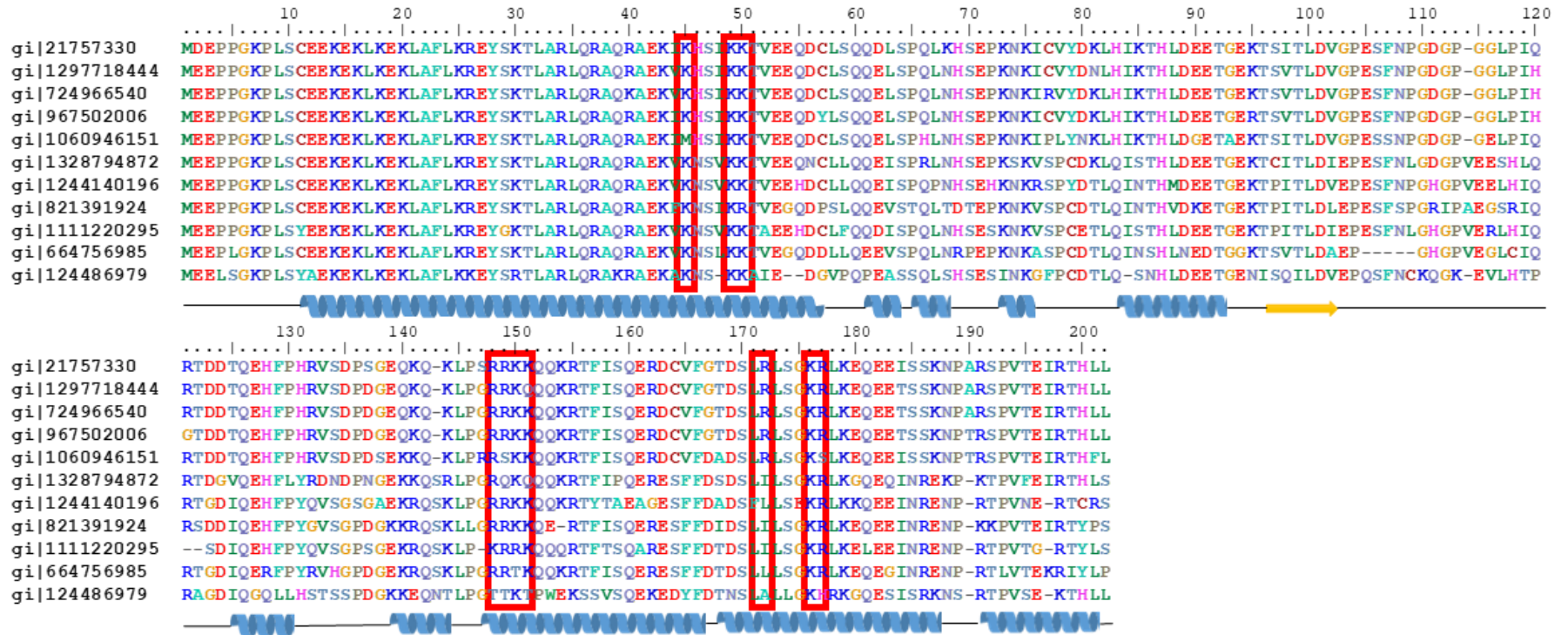


Figure S4

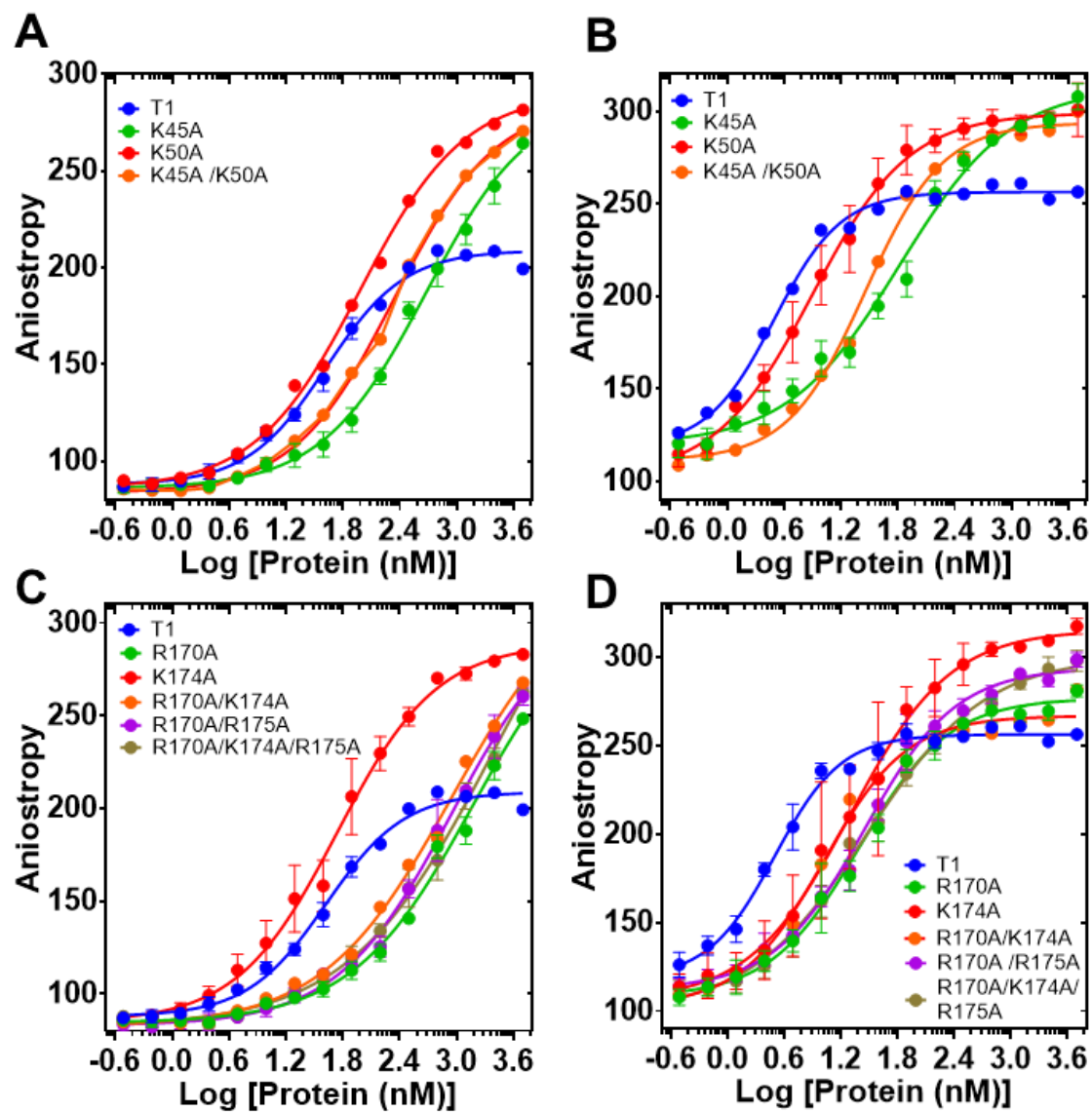
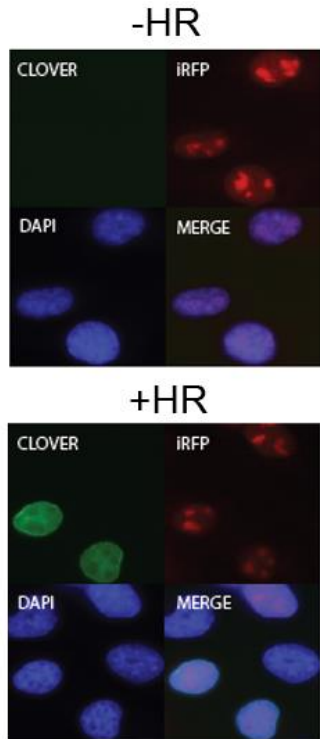


Figure S5



Nucleofection

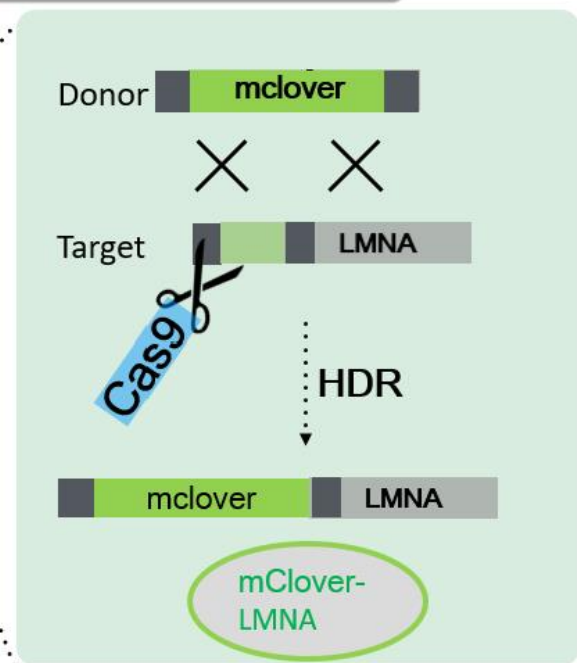
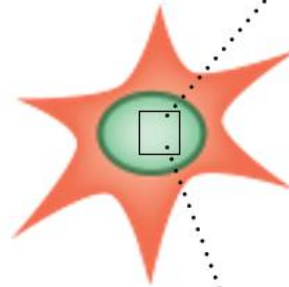


Figure S6

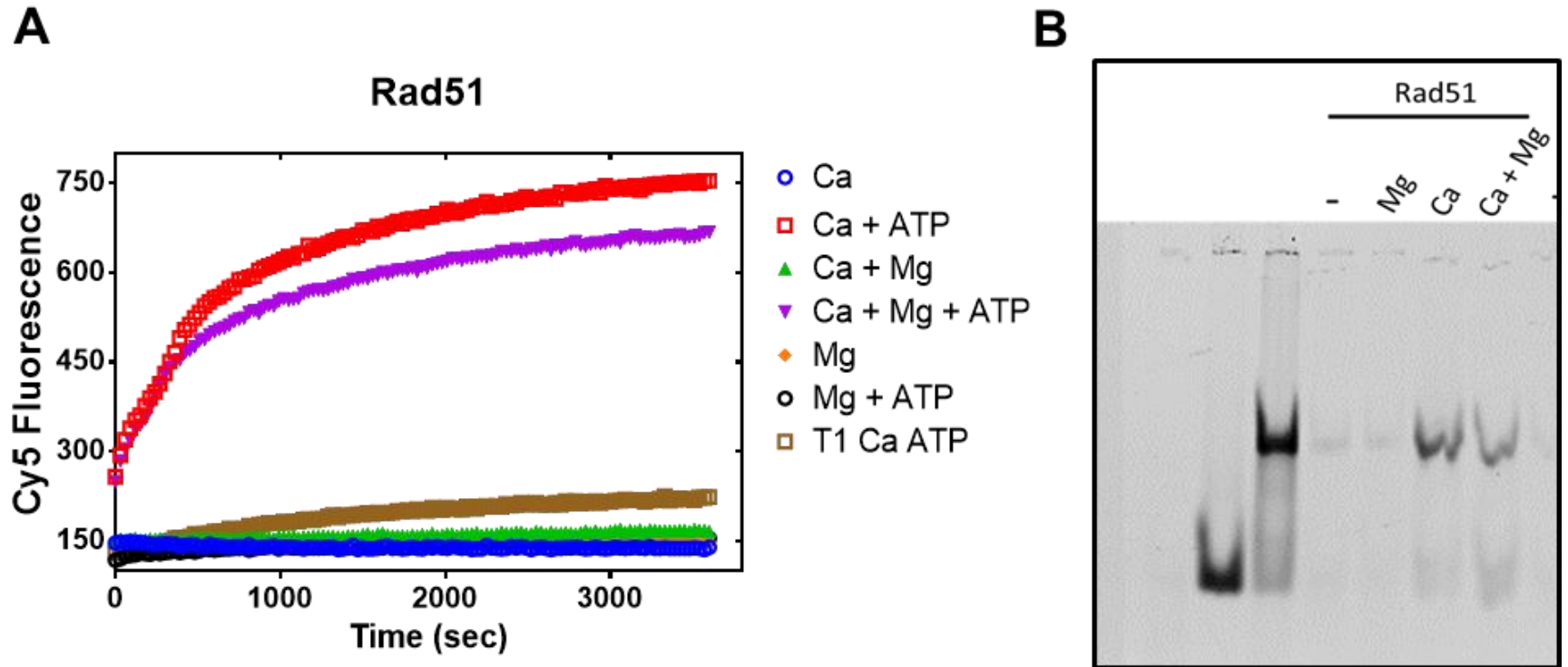


Figure S7

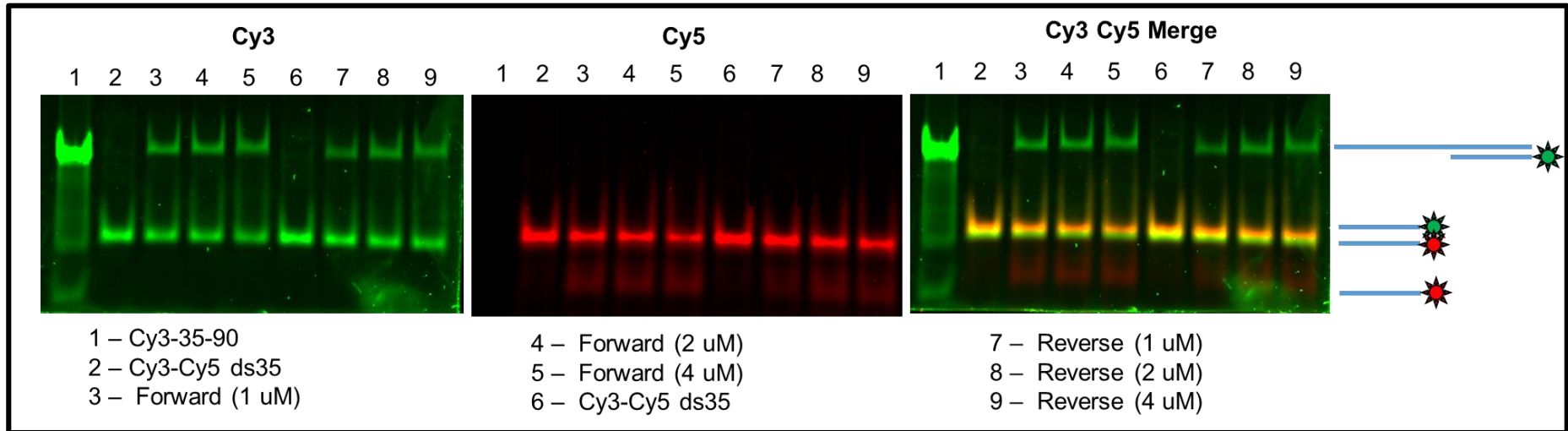
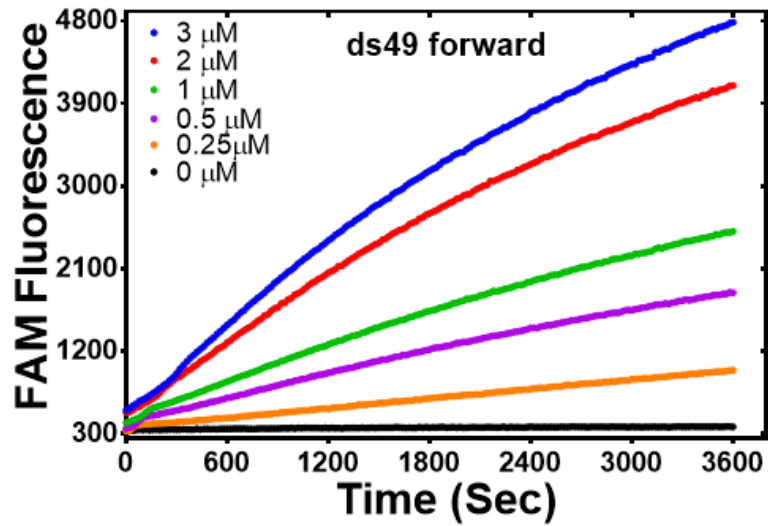


Figure S8

A



B

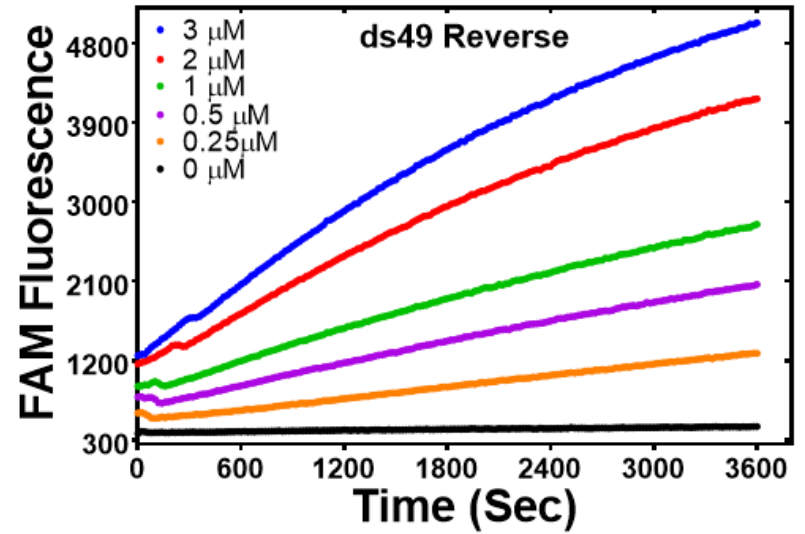
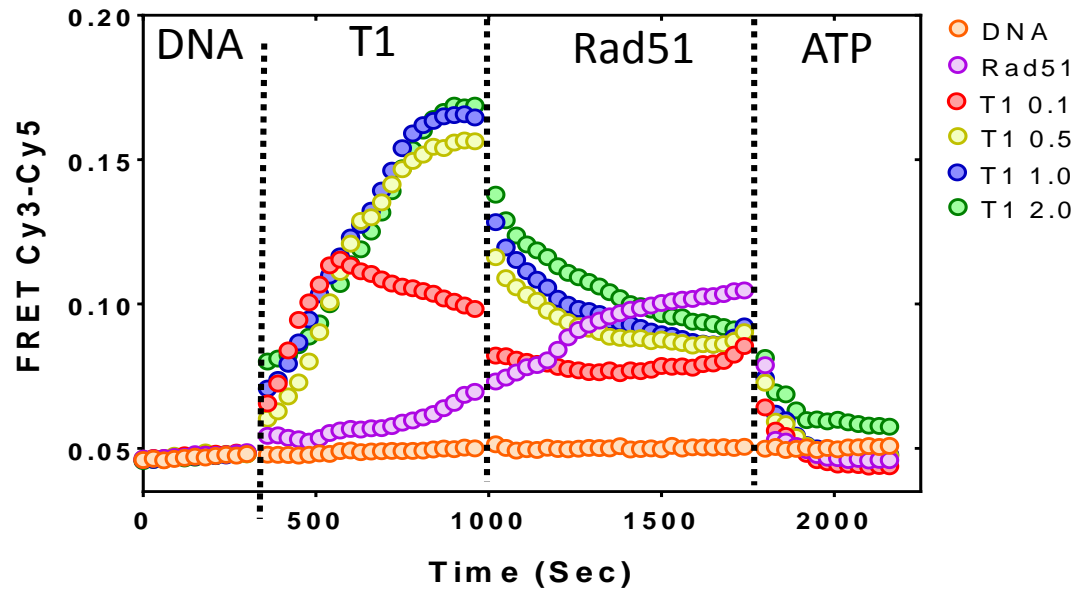


Figure S9

A



B

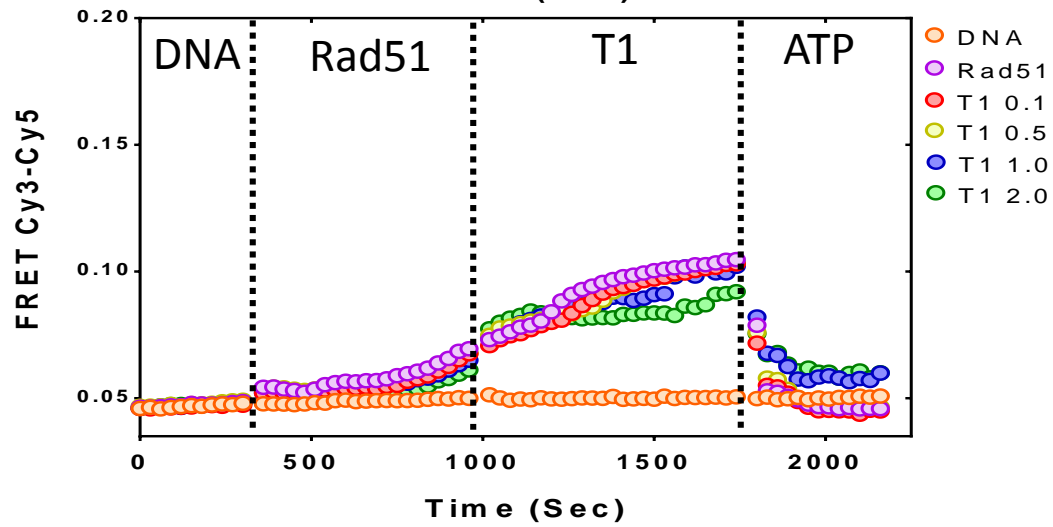


Figure S10

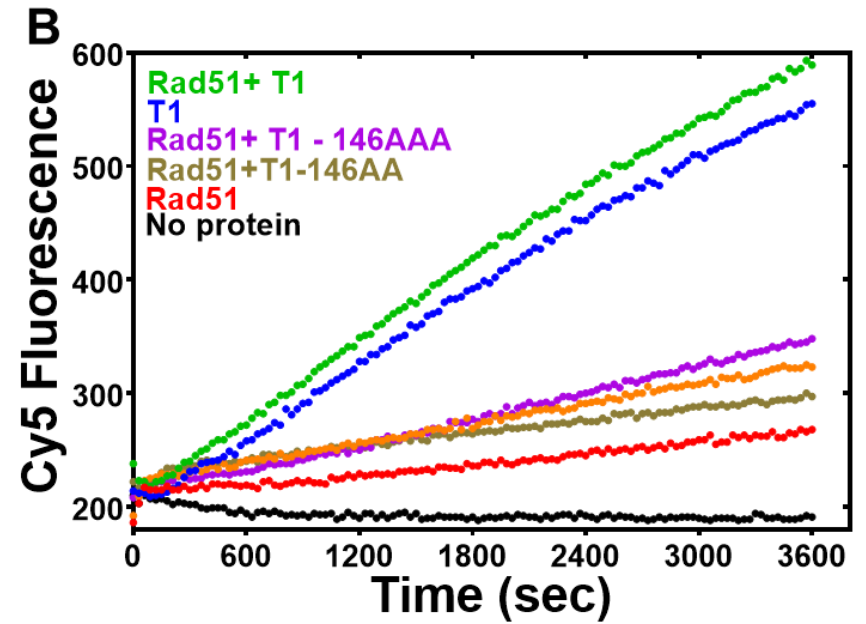
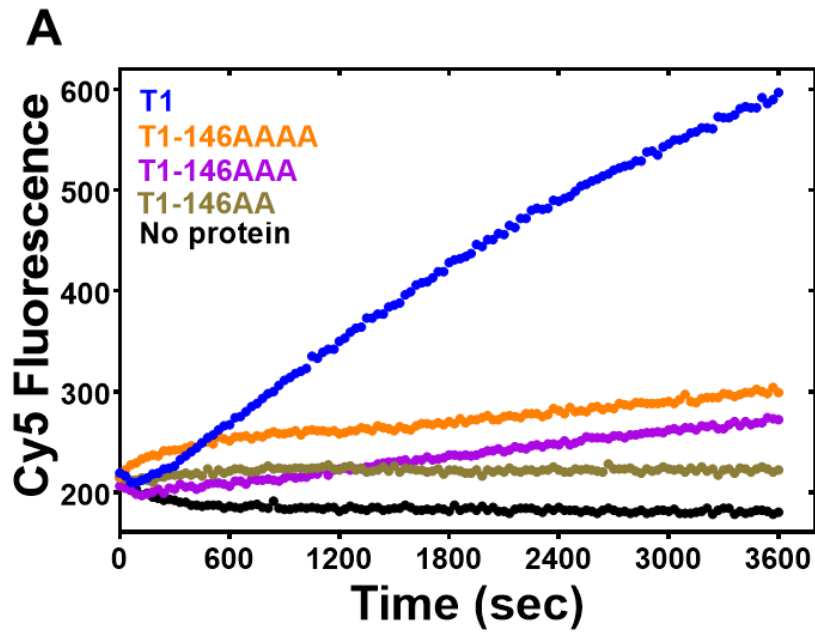


Figure S11

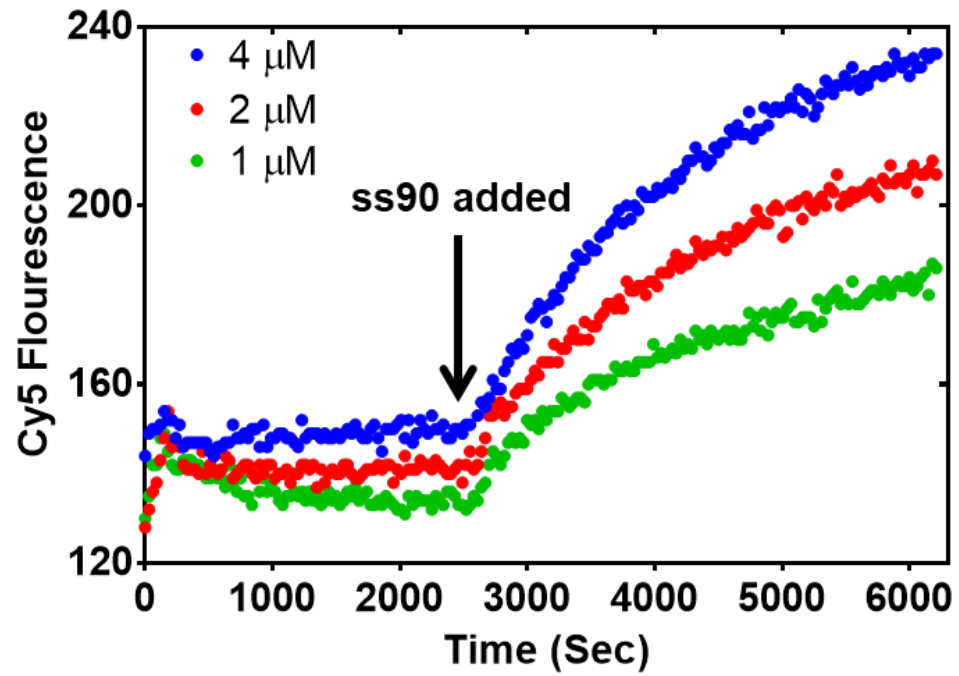


Figure S12

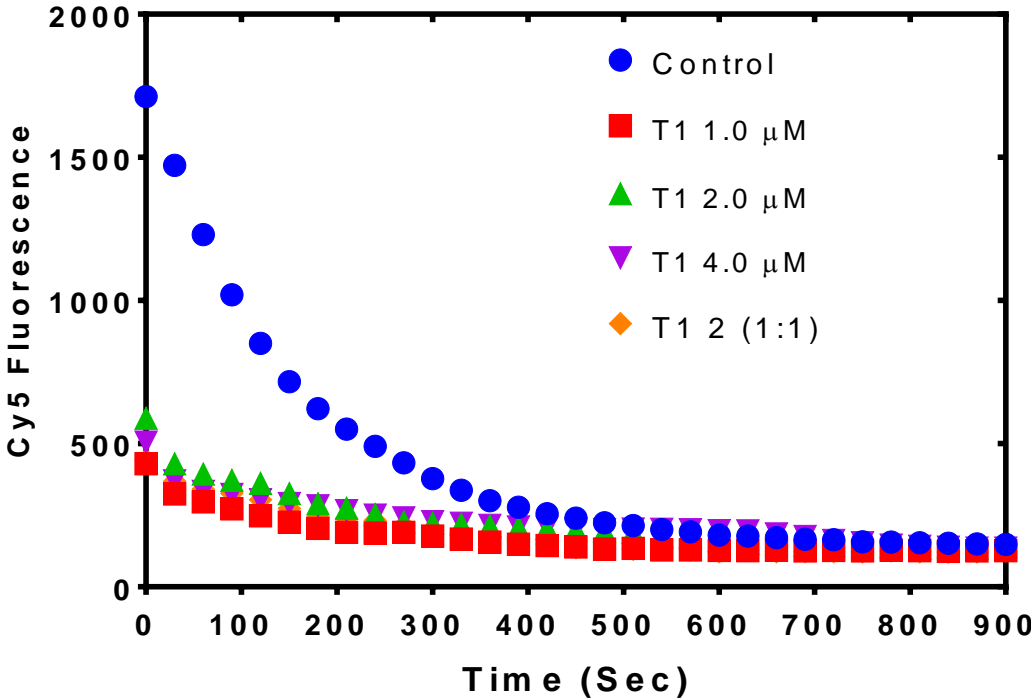
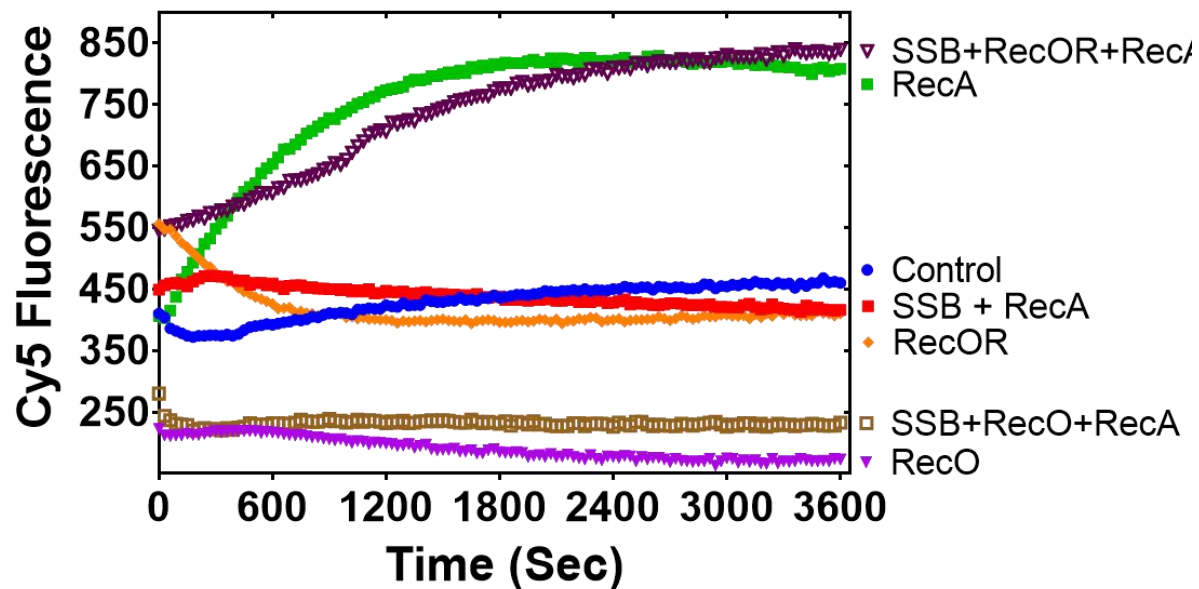
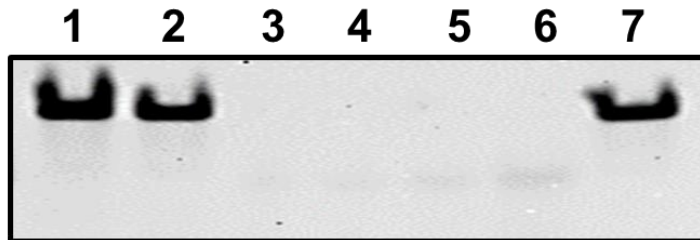


Figure S13

A



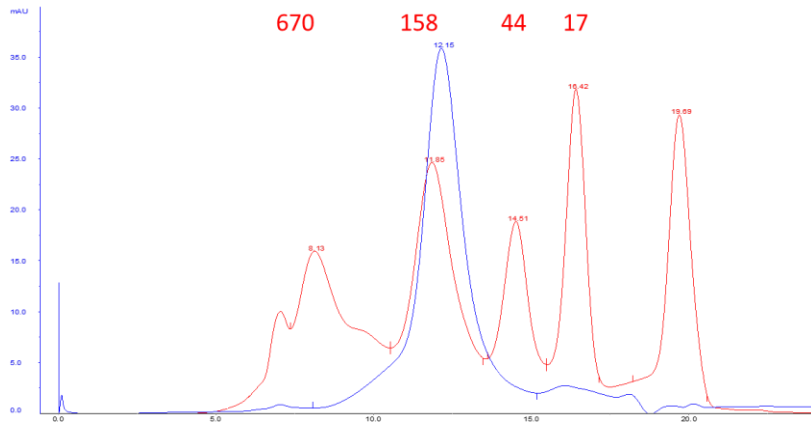
B



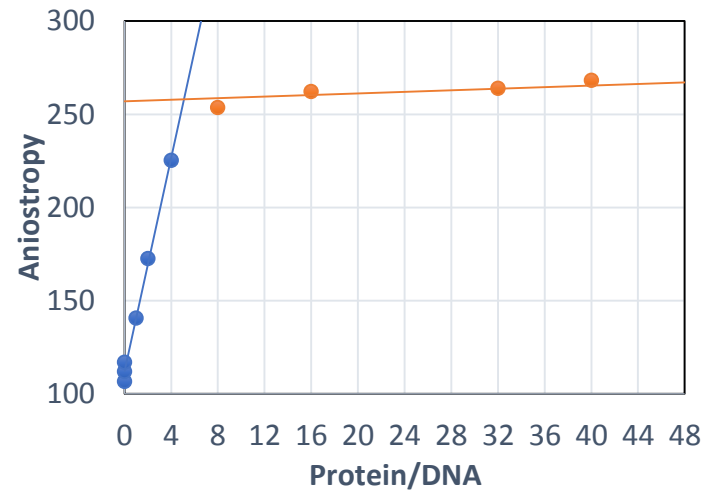
1 – Control 5 – RecOR
2 – RecA 6 – SSB + RecO + RecA
3 – RecA + SSB 7 – SSB + RecOR + RecA
4 – RecO

Figure S14

A)



B)



C)

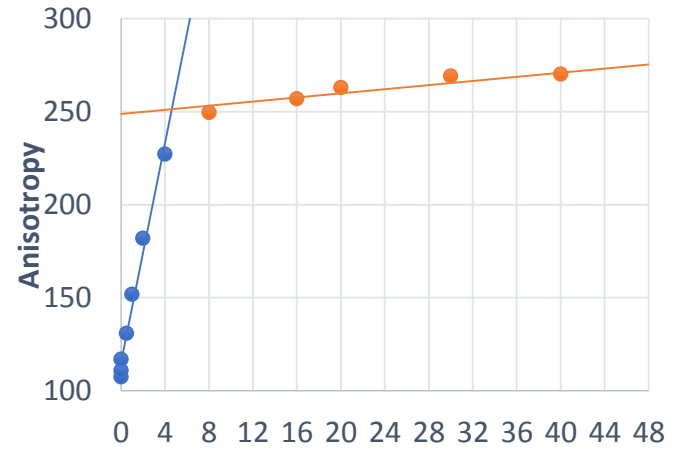


Figure S15

