

1 **TRIM5 $\alpha$  restricts flavivirus replication by targeting the viral protease for proteasomal**  
2 **degradation.**

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33 **Abstract**

34 Tripartite motif-containing protein 5 $\alpha$  (TRIM5 $\alpha$ ) functions as a cellular antiviral restriction  
35 factor with exquisite specificity towards the capsid lattices of retroviruses. The relative avidity  
36 of TRIM5 $\alpha$  binding to retrovirus capsids directly impacts primate species susceptibility to  
37 infection, but the antiviral role of TRIM5 $\alpha$  is thought limited to retroviruses. In contrast to this  
38 current understanding, here we show that both human and rhesus TRIM5 $\alpha$  possess potent  
39 antiviral function against specific flaviviruses through interaction with the viral protease  
40 (NS2B/3) to inhibit virus replication. Importantly, TRIM5 $\alpha$  was essential for the antiviral  
41 function of IFN-I against sensitive flaviviruses in human cells. However, TRIM5 $\alpha$  was ineffective  
42 against mosquito-borne flaviviruses (yellow fever, dengue, and Zika viruses) that establish  
43 transmission cycles in humans following emergence from non-human primates. Thus, TRIM5 $\alpha$   
44 is revealed to possess remarkable plasticity in recognition of diverse virus families, with  
45 potential to influence human susceptibility to emerging flaviviruses of global concern.

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48 **Main**

49 Flaviviruses (family *Flaviviridae*) include 53 recognized virus species of which 40 are known to  
50 cause disease in humans, with over 40% of the world's population at risk of flavivirus infection  
51 annually <sup>1</sup>. These viruses have high potential for emergence into human populations as  
52 witnessed historically through global emergence of dengue virus (DENV), West Nile virus  
53 (WNV), and Zika virus (ZIKV). Additional (re)emerging viruses of considerable medical  
54 importance include yellow fever virus (YFV), Japanese encephalitis virus (JEV) and members of  
55 the tick-borne encephalitis virus (TBEV) serogroup. Flaviviruses share in common a positive-  
56 sense single-stranded RNA (ssRNA) genome encoding a single polyprotein that is cleaved by  
57 host cell signalases <sup>2</sup> and the viral protease to generate three structural (capsid [C], pre-  
58 membrane [M] and envelope [E]) and seven nonstructural (NS) proteins (NS1, NS2A, NS2B, NS3,  
59 NS4A, NS4B and NS5) <sup>3</sup>. Two of the nonstructural proteins have enzymatic activity; the NS3  
60 protein encodes the viral RNA helicase and together with its co-factor NS2B (NS2B/3) functions

61 as the viral protease, whereas NS5 possesses both methyltransferase (MTase) and RNA-  
62 dependent RNA polymerase (RdRP) activities.

63

64 The repeated emergence of flaviviruses as human pathogens is in part due to the fact that they  
65 are arthropod-borne, transmitted by mosquitoes and ticks. In addition, the zoonotic reservoir  
66 species' supporting virus replication in nature are highly diverse. For example, small mammals,  
67 particularly rodents, are thought critical for maintenance of transmission cycles of TBEV and  
68 related viruses. In contrast, WNV utilizes birds, whereas DENV, ZIKV and YFV evolved in non-  
69 human primates before at least DENV and ZIKV established urban transmission cycles  
70 maintained exclusively through human infections <sup>4</sup>. The ability of a virus to avoid or evade host  
71 antiviral responses is essential to establish replication and transmission <sup>5</sup>. However, it is not  
72 fully understood how evolution in different reservoir hosts to avoid innate immunity has  
73 shaped replication and pathogenesis of different flaviviruses following infection of humans.  
74 Host-specific interactions with the interferon (IFN) response have been demonstrated for DENV  
75 and ZIKV that can only antagonize IFN-dependent signaling in the context of primate hosts <sup>6</sup>.  
76 However, the IFN-stimulated genes (ISGs) that might also contribute to host-specific restriction  
77 of flaviviruses are not well characterized.

78

79 Tripartite motif-containing proteins (TRIMs) are strong candidates for mediating host-specific  
80 restriction of virus replication in the context of an IFN response. Approximately 100 tripartite  
81 TRIMs exist in the human genome <sup>7</sup>, many of which are ISGs with functions as direct antiviral  
82 restriction factors or as modulators of the cellular response to infection <sup>8</sup>. The most  
83 characterized primate TRIM is TRIM5 $\alpha$ , which functions as a cellular antiviral restriction factor  
84 with exquisite specificity, thought to restrict only retroviruses through complex interactions  
85 with the capsid lattice structure that accelerates uncoating of the viral nucleic acid and also  
86 blocks reverse transcription <sup>9-11</sup>. The significant influence of TRIM5 $\alpha$  is exemplified by the  
87 observations that its antiviral activity drives lentivirus evolution <sup>9</sup> and limits cross-primate  
88 species transmission <sup>12</sup>. Importantly, the relative ability of TRIM5 $\alpha$  to bind retrovirus capsid  
89 lattices directly impacts primate species susceptibility to infection. For example, TRIM5 $\alpha$  from

90 Old World monkeys such as rhesus macaques (rhTRIM5 $\alpha$ ) exerts potent antiviral activity against  
91 HIV-1 to confer host resistance. In contrast, human TRIM5 $\alpha$  (hTRIM5 $\alpha$ ) only weakly interacts  
92 with HIV-1 capsid lattices and this reduced efficacy may promote HIV-1 transmission and  
93 disease progression<sup>13</sup>. The antiviral specificity of TRIM5 $\alpha$  has evolved rapidly in the past 30  
94 million years of primate evolution, with particularly strong signatures of positive selection over  
95 the last 4-5 million years<sup>14,15</sup>. Evolutionary studies support the conclusion that TRIM5 $\alpha$  positive  
96 selection throughout primate evolution is driven at the interaction interface between TRIM5 $\alpha$   
97 and retrovirus capsids, and thus reinforce the paradigm that the antiviral activity of TRIM5 $\alpha$   
98 and its role in host resistance is specific to the retroviruses<sup>16</sup>.

99  
100 Given the extensive evolution of multiple medically important flaviviruses with primate species,  
101 we examined the antiviral capacity of both rhTRIM5 $\alpha$  and hTRIM5 $\alpha$  towards the vector-borne  
102 flaviviruses. Surprisingly, both rhTRIM5 $\alpha$  and hTRIM5 $\alpha$  possessed potent antiviral function  
103 against specific flaviviruses within the TBEV serogroup, but not towards mosquito-borne  
104 flaviviruses. The antiviral activity of TRIM5 $\alpha$  was mediated through interactions with the viral  
105 protease NS2B/3 at sites of virus replication, and association of TRIM5 $\alpha$  with NS2B/3 from a  
106 sensitive virus resulted in proteasomal degradation of the viral protein. Importantly, human  
107 TRIM5 $\alpha$  contributed significantly to the antiviral effects of type I IFN against sensitive tick-  
108 borne viruses. However, TRIM5 $\alpha$  was ineffective against important mosquito-borne flaviviruses  
109 including YFV, DENV, and ZIKV. Thus, this work reveals an unexpected role for primate TRIM5 $\alpha$   
110 as an anti-flavivirus restriction factor that may influence human susceptibility to infection.

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## 113 **RESULTS**

### 114 **TRIM5 $\alpha$ is a functional restriction factor for flaviviruses.**

115 The association of various mosquito-borne flaviviruses with primates prompted us to test  
116 whether ectopic expression of TRIM5 $\alpha$  might have anti-flavivirus activity. HEK293 cells were  
117 engineered to stably express various TRIM5 $\alpha$  proteins (Supplementary Fig. 1a). Expression of  
118 rhesus macaque (rh) TRIM5 $\alpha$  restricted infection of vesicular stomatitis virus glycoprotein (VSV-

119 G) pseudotyped HIV-1 in 293 cells, demonstrating that these cells are appropriate to observe  
120 TRIM5-mediated restriction (Supplementary Fig. 1b). Compared to empty vector control cells,  
121 expression of either human (h) TRIM5 $\alpha$  or rhTRIM5 $\alpha$  restricted replication of related viruses in  
122 the TBEV serogroup, including TBEV (strain Sofjin), Kyasanur Forest disease virus (KFDV) and  
123 Langat virus (LGTV; an attenuated member of the TBEV serocomplex), but not WNV (strain NY99),  
124 DENV (strain NGC, serotype 2), ZIKV (strain 2013 French Polynesia) or YFV (strain 17D) (Fig. 1a).  
125 TRIM5 $\alpha$  did not affect replication of Powassan virus (POWV; strain LB) despite this virus also  
126 belonging to the TBEV serogroup. The impact of hTRIM5 $\alpha$  or rhTRIM5 $\alpha$  on replication of sensitive  
127 flaviviruses was significant, reducing production of infectious virus by up to 1000-fold during the  
128 exponential phase of virus growth. hTRIM5 $\alpha$  was functional but less efficient, imposing a 90%  
129 reduction but this may be attributable to the lower expression of hTRIM5 $\alpha$  compared to  
130 rhTRIM5 $\alpha$  (Supplementary Fig. 1a). Therefore, we also used CrFK cells stably expressing  
131 hTRIM5 $\alpha$ -HA as a cell model historically used to examine retrovirus restriction as they lack  
132 intrinsic TRIM5 $\alpha$  expression<sup>17</sup>. Expression of hTRIM5 $\alpha$  suppressed replication of both TBEV  
133 (Supplementary Fig. 1c) and LGTV (data not shown), but not WNV (Supplementary Fig. 1d). In  
134 HEK293 cells that support more optimal flavivirus growth, restriction was observable up to a  
135 starting multiplicity of infection (MOI) of 10 (Supplementary Fig. 1e), but replication of TRIM5 $\alpha$ -  
136 sensitive viruses eventually overcame restriction which is consistent with viral saturation of  
137 antiviral restriction factors<sup>18</sup> (Fig. 1a). A related human TRIM with anti-retrovirus function,  
138 TRIM22<sup>1919191919</sup>, did not impact replication of TBEV, KFDV or LGTV, demonstrating a specific role  
139 for TRIM5 $\alpha$  in flavivirus restriction (Fig. 1a). Suppressed replication of KFDV was also observed at  
140 the level of protein expression, with reduced accumulation of NS3 in cells expressing hTRIM5 $\alpha$ -  
141 HA or rhTRIM5 $\alpha$ -HA compared to the empty vector controls (Fig. 1b). Expression of the envelope  
142 protein (E) of sensitive viruses was also reduced when examined by flow cytometry (Fig. 1d).  
143 However, no reduction in either NS3 by Western blot or E expression by flow cytometry was  
144 observed following POWV infection, supporting flavivirus species-specific restriction by TRIM5 $\alpha$   
145 (Fig. 1c, d).  
146

147 To determine if human TRIM5 $\alpha$  is a functional restriction factor, *TRIM5* mRNA was depleted by  
148 RNA interference (RNAi) in A549 cells using lentivirus-delivered short hairpin RNA (shRNA), or  
149 *TRIM5* was knocked out using CRISPR/Cas9 in Hap1 cells. Cells were left untreated, or treated  
150 with IFN $\beta$  for 6 h prior to infection to upregulate *TRIM5* expression and induce an antiviral state.  
151 Reduced *TRIM5* expression did not affect the responsiveness of cells to IFN $\beta$  as measured by  
152 upregulation of canonical IFN-stimulated genes (ISGs), *RSAD2* (viperin) and *CXCL10* (Fig. 2a).  
153 However, depletion of *TRIM5* partially relieved the antiviral effect of IFN $\beta$  on LGTV (Fig. 2a).  
154 Transfection of A549 cells with an independent siRNA sequence targeted towards hTRIM5 $\alpha$  also  
155 increased replication of LGTV but not YFV (Fig. 2b). Furthermore, deletion of TRIM5 using  
156 CRISPR/Cas9 in Hap1 cells (Supplementary Fig. 1f,g) rescued  $\sim 2 \log_{10}$  LGTV replication in the  
157 presence of IFN $\beta$  (Fig. 2c). Virus replication was also increased for TBEV, but not POWV, WNV,  
158 ZIKV, DENV or YFV (Fig. 2c). Together, these results identify TRIM5 $\alpha$  as a restriction factor for  
159 specific species of flaviviruses, and demonstrate that TRIM5 $\alpha$  is an effector of the human type I  
160 IFN response to these viruses.

161

#### 162 **TRIM5 $\alpha$ expression restricts viral RNA replication.**

163 To determine which step in the flavivirus life cycle was restricted by TRIM5 $\alpha$ , LGTV replication  
164 was examined in rhTRIM5 $\alpha$ -HA HEK293 cells. At 48 hours post infection (hpi) supernatants and  
165 cell lysates were subjected to three cycles of freeze-thaw lysis to compare levels of intra- and  
166 extra- cellular virus. In the presence of rhTRIM5 $\alpha$ , no change in the ratio ( $\sim 1:10$ ) of  
167 intracellular:extracellular infectious virus was observed (Fig. 3a) although intracellular  
168 accumulation of positive-sense (genomic) viral RNA was reduced by approximately 50-fold (Fig.  
169 3b). Viral entry was not affected as differences in positive-sense RNA were not apparent after  
170 virus entry until at least 8-12 hpi when flavivirus RNA replication is initiated<sup>3,20</sup>(Fig. 3c). Thus,  
171 TRIM5 $\alpha$  imposes a block in virus replication at or preceding RNA replication without affecting  
172 virus entry or release. In flavivirus-infected cells, cellular localization of dsRNA is an obligate  
173 marker of sites of replication, and most perinuclear foci containing NS3 (the viral protease and  
174 RNA helicase) also colocalize with dsRNA, suggesting these perinuclear foci are sites of active  
175 replication<sup>21</sup> (Supplementary Fig. 2a). In infected cells, small aggregates of rhTRIM5 $\alpha$  often

176 termed cytoplasmic bodies<sup>22</sup> colocalized with NS3 and dsRNA suggesting that TRIM5 $\alpha$  is  
177 recruited to replication complexes (Fig. 3d). RhTRIM5 $\alpha$  aggregates also colocalized with NS5 (the  
178 viral RdRP) but only at perinuclear sites likely together with NS3 at the ER (Fig. 3e). Recruitment  
179 of human TRIM5 $\alpha$  to sites of NS3 expression was also observed in LGTV-infected cells  
180 (Supplementary Fig. 2b). Areas of colocalization were observable between TRIM5 $\alpha$  and dsRNA in  
181 the context of DENV or ZIKV, but unlike LGTV, infection did not induce strong aggregation of  
182 TRIM5 $\alpha$  (Supplementary Fig. 3a,b). Next, we validated the association of either hTRIM5 $\alpha$  or  
183 rhTRIM5 $\alpha$  with NS3 by immunoprecipitation (IP) in LGTV-infected cells (Fig. 3f). Despite low levels  
184 of viral protein associated with restriction, IP of NS3 from infected cells resulted in co-  
185 precipitation with either hTRIM5 $\alpha$  or rhTRIM5 $\alpha$  (Fig. 3f). As expected, NS5 also co-precipitated  
186 with NS3 in infected cells which supports the IFA data and suggests that TRIM5 $\alpha$  interactions  
187 with NS3 occur at sites of virus replication where NS3 and NS5 interact. Consistent with lack of  
188 TRIM5 $\alpha$  aggregation at sites of dsRNA staining (Supplementary Fig. 2c, d), IP of NS3 from WNV-  
189 infected cells did not result in co-precipitation of rhTRIM5 $\alpha$  (Supplementary Fig. 2e). Thus,  
190 TRIM5 $\alpha$  localizes to viral replication complexes and suppresses RNA replication in a flavivirus-  
191 specific manner.

192

### 193 **TRIM5 $\alpha$ targets the flavivirus protease for proteasomal degradation.**

194 To examine interactions with NS3 and NS5 separately, stable rhTRIM $\alpha$ -HA cells were transfected  
195 with plasmids encoding LGTV NS2B/3 or NS5. NS2B was included as it forms an integral structural  
196 component of the NS3 protease active site, and transmembrane domains within NS2B target NS3  
197 to ER membranes, with NS2B/3 being an important antiviral drug target<sup>23</sup>. LGTV NS5 showed  
198 some co-localization with rhTRIM5 $\alpha$  (Fig. 4a) and caused low levels of TRIM5 $\alpha$  aggregation (Fig.  
199 4b) but did not co-precipitate (Supplementary Fig. 4a). However, LGTV NS2B/3 expression caused  
200 rhTRIM5 $\alpha$  to aggregate into discrete cytoplasmic bodies (Fig. 4a,b and Supplementary Fig. 4b)  
201 and co-localize reminiscent of that observed following virus infection, and LGTV NS2B/3 strongly  
202 associated with rhTRIM5 $\alpha$  by co-precipitation (Fig. 4g). In addition, expression levels of NS2B/3  
203 were reduced in cells expressing rhTRIM5 $\alpha$  compared to the control cell line, whereas NS5 levels  
204 were not strongly affected (Fig. 4c). To further explore this observation, a constant level of LGTV

205 NS2B/3 was expressed with increasing amounts of either rhTRIM5 $\alpha$  or hTRIM5 $\alpha$  by transfection  
206 of expression plasmids. In either case, expression of both unprocessed NS2B/3 and NS3  
207 generated through autonomous cleavage was reduced in a dose-dependent fashion (Fig. 4d,e),  
208 although this effect was quickly saturated. Again, expression of LGTV NS5 was not affected by  
209 rhTRIM5 $\alpha$  expression (Fig. 4f).

210

211 In the context of HIV-1, TRIM5 $\alpha$  utilizes the proteasome (MG132 sensitive) for capsid disruption  
212 but not for restriction<sup>24</sup>, and may also use lysosomes following autophagy (BafA1-sensitive) to  
213 degrade the capsid<sup>25,26</sup>. Treatment of NS2B/3-expressing cells with BafA1 to inhibit lysosomal  
214 degradation increased expression of NS2B/3 when expressed alone but did not rescue the  
215 relative loss of NS2B/3 in the presence of rhTRIM5 (Fig. 4h,i). This was despite the BafA1-sensitive  
216 rescue of p62/SQSTM1 which is a reported co-factor to TRIM5-mediated retrovirus restriction<sup>27</sup>  
217 (Fig. 4h). Selective autophagy of the HIV-1 capsid by TRIM5 $\alpha$  is also mediated by Beclin, ATG5,  
218 p62, GABARAP and LC3<sup>26</sup>, but siRNA-mediated knockdown of these genes did not significantly  
219 relieve LGTV restriction (Supplementary Fig. 5a,b,c). Finally, the C-type lectin langerin, but not  
220 DC-SIGN, was previously shown to be sufficient for autophagic degradation of HIV-1 capsid by  
221 hTRIM5 $\alpha$ <sup>25</sup>. However, while DC-SIGN augmented LGTV replication as expected in its role as a  
222 flavivirus attachment factor<sup>28</sup>, langerin expression had no effect and did not further increase the  
223 restriction of LGTV in TRIM5 $\alpha$  expressing cells (Supplementary Fig. 5d), strongly suggesting that  
224 selective autophagy following virus entry or establishment of viral replication complexes is not  
225 the main mechanism of restriction. In contrast, treatment with epoxomicin (Fig. 4h,i) recovered  
226 the majority of NS3 in the presence of rhTRIM5 $\alpha$  implicating proteasomal degradation of NS2B/3.  
227 This was supported by reciprocal IP of NS2B/3 ectopically co-expressed with rhTRIM5 in the  
228 presence of epoxomicin demonstrating a) increased interactions between TRIM5 $\alpha$  and both the  
229 uncleaved NS2B/3 precursor and the mature, autocleaved NS3 protein, and b) increased  
230 ubiquitination of NS2B/3 co-precipitating with TRIM5 $\alpha$  (Fig. 4g). TRIM5 $\alpha$  did not appear to affect  
231 protease activity as autocleavage to produce NS3 measured by the ratio of NS2B/3:NS3 did not  
232 change in the presence of TRIM5 $\alpha$  (Supplementary Fig. 5e). Furthermore, overexpression of  
233 K48R-HA ubiquitin (Ub) that cannot make K48-linked Ub chains, but not K63R-HA Ub, rescued



234 expression of both NS2B/3 and rhTRIM5 $\alpha$  (Fig. 4j), further suggesting that NS2B/3 degradation  
235 involves K48-linked ubiquitination which generally involves the proteasome.

236

237 To determine the domain of NS2B/3 recognized by TRIM5 $\alpha$ , degradation assays were performed  
238 on various truncated NS2B/3 constructs (Fig. 4k). LGTV NS3 expressed without NS2B  
239 (Supplementary Fig. 5f) or the NS3 helicase domain alone (Supplementary Fig. 5g) was not  
240 sufficient for TRIM5 $\alpha$ -mediated degradation. A construct containing the entire NS2B protein  
241 fused to the NS3 protease domain (NS2B-NS3pro) was also not degraded suggesting that NS2B  
242 alone is not sufficient as a target (Supplementary Fig. 5h). However, expression of NS3pro  
243 containing the 40 amino acids of NS2B required for NS3 protease activity in frame with a flexible  
244 glycine linker, the NS3 protease domain and the linker sequence between the NS3 protease and  
245 helicase domains, enabled degradation (Fig. 4l). Thus, the target for TRIM5 $\alpha$  degradation  
246 requires NS2B in addition to NS3 sequences (NS3pro). Recognition of NS2B/3 is therefore likely  
247 dependent on protease conformation, but is independent of protease activity as the S138A active  
248 site mutant of NS2B/3 was also degraded (Supplementary Fig. 5i).

249

#### 250 **TRIM5 $\alpha$ interaction with the flavivirus protease is associated with virus restriction.**

251 The N-terminus of TRIM proteins is composed of a RBCC motif which includes a really interesting  
252 new gene (RING) domain, one or more B-box domains and a coiled-coiled (CC) domain<sup>29</sup>. The  
253 RING and B-box can mediate conjugation of Ub thereby functioning as an E3 Ub ligase, whereas  
254 the CC domain allows oligomerization of TRIM proteins and formation of cytoplasmic bodies<sup>30</sup>.  
255 The specificity of TRIM proteins is mainly determined by their C-terminal B30.2/SPRY domain that  
256 is responsible for binding to specific substrates including retroviral capsids<sup>15</sup>. The C15/18A RING  
257 mutant of rhTRIM5 $\alpha$  did not degrade NS2B/3 (Fig. 5a) and instead stabilized it consistent with  
258 retention of binding (Fig. 5b). Restriction of infectious virus production was also dependent on  
259 rhTRIM5 $\alpha$  RING function, particularly at early times post infection (Fig. 5d). Compared to co-  
260 expression of LGTV NS2B/3 with WT-rhTRIM5 $\alpha$ -HA, the C15/18A RING mutant retained strong  
261 colocalization by IFA, but lost the ability to form discrete cytoplasmic bodies (Fig. 5e,f). In  
262 contrast, deletion of the B30.2/SPRY domain eliminated degradation of NS2B/3 (Fig. 5a)

263 associated with failure to bind NS3 in infected cells (Fig. 5c), reduced colocalization with  
264 ectopically expressed NS2B/3 (Fig. 5f), and the loss of antiviral activity (Fig. 5d). Importantly, this  
265 data directly links TRIM5 $\alpha$  binding and degradation of NS2B/3 to its antiviral restriction capacity  
266 in the context of flaviviruses.

267

268 In the context of retroviruses, capsid binding by cyclophilin A (CypA) is required for virus  
269 replication<sup>31,32</sup> and substitution of the B30.2/SPRY domain of hTRIM5 $\alpha$  with CypA facilitates  
270 hTRIM5 $\alpha$  binding to HIV-1 and virus restriction<sup>29,33</sup>. The tick-borne flaviviruses, including LGTV,  
271 are sensitive to Cyp inhibition (Supplementary Fig. 6a)<sup>34</sup>, and CypA specifically is required for  
272 efficient virus replication (Supplementary Fig. 6b). However, while substitution of Owl Monkey  
273 CypA<sup>35</sup> or human CypA<sup>32</sup> for the hTRIM5 $\alpha$  B30.2/SPRY domain suppressed replication of VSV-G  
274 pseudotyped HIV-1 (Supplementary Fig. 1a,b), these fusion proteins had no effect on replication  
275 of LGTV (Supplementary Fig. 6c, d). Thus, although CypA is required for flavivirus replication, and  
276 binds to nonstructural proteins NS5<sup>36</sup> and NS4B<sup>37</sup> within viral replication complexes, TRIM5-  
277 CypA fusion proteins are not sufficient to restrict tick-borne flavivirus replication, confirming the  
278 importance of the B30.2/SPRY domain of TRIM5 $\alpha$  in flavivirus restriction.

279

### 280 **Endogenous human TRIM5 is an antiviral restriction factor for flaviviruses.**

281 The role of human TRIM5 $\alpha$  in suppression of HIV-1 has been controversial, in part because early  
282 studies suggested no restriction of laboratory strains of HIV-1. However, recent studies suggest  
283 that cytotoxic T lymphocyte (CTL)-selected HIV-1 isolates from so-called 'elite controllers' are  
284 susceptible to restriction by human TRIM5 $\alpha$ <sup>38</sup>, and genetic studies suggest that human  
285 polymorphisms in *TRIM5* impact disease progression<sup>13</sup>. To further examine whether TRIM5 $\alpha$  in  
286 human cells restricts flavivirus replication, we first immunoprecipitated LGTV NS2B/3 following  
287 ectopic expression in unmodified HEK293 cells which revealed an interaction with endogenous  
288 TRIM5 $\alpha$  (Fig. 6a). Treatment of these cells with epoxomicin increased the levels of co-  
289 precipitating TRIM5 and NS2B/3 as well as the presence of endogenous K48-linked Ub smears in  
290 the complex (Fig. 6b), whereas depletion of TRIM5 $\alpha$  by CRISPR/Cas9-mediated gene editing both  
291 increased levels of NS3 and decreased endogenous K48-linked Ub smears in the precipitates (Fig.

292 6c). Endogenous interactions between NS3 and TRIM5 $\alpha$  were also confirmed in the HAP1 cells  
293 knocked out for TRIM5 $\alpha$  by CRISPR/Cas9 and infected with LGTV (Fig. 6d). Finally, infection of  
294 primary human monocyte derived dendritic cells (DCs) resulted in upregulation of *TRIM5*  
295 expression (Fig. 6e). Silencing of *TRIM5* expression in human DCs by lentivirus-delivered shRNA  
296 expression<sup>39</sup> increased release of infectious KFDV by approximately 170 fold at 48 hpi compared  
297 to cells expressing shRNA specific for luciferase as a control (Fig. 6f,g). No effect of TRIM5 $\alpha$   
298 silencing was observed following infection with ZIKV (Fig. 6h). Together, these data demonstrate  
299 that human TRIM5 $\alpha$  is a bona fide restriction factor for specific flaviviruses that functions through  
300 interactions with the viral replication complex and proteasomal degradation of NS3.

301

## 302 **Discussion**

303 TRIM5 $\alpha$  functions as an intrinsic cellular restriction factor that recognizes retrovirus capsids  
304 with high specificity and with definitive consequences for primate susceptibility to HIV-1  
305 infection<sup>9-13,40,41</sup>. Our work significantly extends the paradigm of TRIM5 $\alpha$  as an antiviral  
306 restriction factor and suggests that, in contrast to the current view, TRIM5 $\alpha$  exhibits a  
307 remarkable plasticity in recognition of unrelated viruses. Both human and rhesus TRIM5 $\alpha$  are  
308 capable of restriction of specific flaviviruses within the TBEV serocomplex, and endogenous  
309 TRIM5 $\alpha$  is required for the antiviral effects of type I IFN against sensitive flaviviruses in human  
310 cells. Interestingly, a recent report revealed that IFN-dependent activation of the  
311 immunoproteasome in human CD4<sup>+</sup> T cells enables K48-ubiquitin-dependent, TRIM5 $\alpha$ -  
312 mediated, restriction of HIV-1<sup>42</sup>. Our results suggest that IFN is not required for TRIM5 $\alpha$  to  
313 degrade NS2B/3 via the proteasome, although restriction of LGTV and TBEV by TRIM5 $\alpha$  in  
314 human cells was strongly evident when cells were pre-treated with IFN. Thus, it will be  
315 important to determine the interplay between IFN, TRIM5 $\alpha$ , and flavivirus restriction. The  
316 mechanisms by which some flaviviruses evade restriction is unknown, and could involve  
317 evolution to avoid TRIM5 $\alpha$  recognition at the sequence level, or more direct antagonism of  
318 TRIM5 $\alpha$  and its putative cellular partners that may regulate this process. Alternatively, given  
319 the role of IFN for TRIM5 $\alpha$ -mediated restriction of HIV-1 in human cells, the varied IFN  
320 antagonism strategies utilized by flaviviruses<sup>6</sup> may aid in TRIM5 $\alpha$  escape.

321  
322 The rapid evolution of the TRIM5 gene throughout primate evolution is associated with  
323 selection pressure from lentivirus capsid sequences<sup>16</sup>. It is therefore unclear how evolutionary  
324 selection of TRIM5 $\alpha$  for retrovirus restriction has left the protein with enough flexibility to  
325 maintain antiviral activity against flaviviruses. It may be possible that ancient flavivirus-like  
326 viruses have influenced the evolution of human TRIM5 $\alpha$ . However, the timeframe of flavivirus  
327 evolution is in the order of thousands of years in contrast to millions of years for retroviruses  
328 and the TRIM5 gene<sup>14</sup>. The *Flaviviridae* includes the more ancient genera of Hepaciviruses,  
329 although evidence for a zoonotic origin of hepatitis C virus (HCV) in non-human primates is not  
330 strong despite the extremely narrow host range of HCV limited to humans and chimpanzees<sup>43</sup>.  
331 Therefore, it seems unlikely that flaviviruses influenced positive selection of the *TRIM5* gene  
332 within the human lineage. However, our work raises the possibility that human polymorphisms  
333 within the *TRIM5* locus could influence resistance to infection with medically important  
334 flaviviruses. Thus, understanding the genetic trade-offs in both TRIM5 $\alpha$  and NS2B/3 that enable  
335 restriction of flaviviruses versus retroviruses represents an important model to illustrate how  
336 host resistance is shaped by multiple pathogens, and might provide new insight to human  
337 susceptibility to emerging flaviviruses. The finding that primate TRIM5 $\alpha$  can recognize and  
338 degrade NS2B/3 from specific flaviviruses combined with a strong antiviral role in the type I IFN  
339 response suggests that TRIM5 $\alpha$  has high potential to function as an important human barrier to  
340 infection with emerging flaviviruses. We speculate that viral resistance to TRIM5 $\alpha$ -mediated  
341 restriction may be an important factor in enabling use of primates, including humans, as  
342 reservoirs for viruses like YFV, DENV and ZIKV.

343

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351

## 352 **Contributions**

353 Conceptualization, A.I.C and S.M.B.; Methodology, A.I.C., N.R.M, S.L.S., and S.M.B.;

354 Investigation, A.I.C., N.R.M., K.L.M., R.M.B., V.R.M., O.M.-S., S.J.R., F.B., G.L.S., K.J.L., V.N.,

355 B.H.Y., R.T.T., K.K., and S.M.B.; Resources, R.T.T., S.L.S. and S.M.B.; Data Curation, A.I.C., N.R.M.,

356 S.M.B.; Writing – Original Draft, A.I.C. and S.M.B.; Writing – Review & Editing, A.I.C., N.R.M.,

357 R.T.T., S.L.S. and S.M.B.; Resources, J.L., V.M.H, R.T.T., S.L.S. and S.M.B.; Visualization, A.I.C.,

358 N.R.M., V.R.M., K.L.M., O.M.-S., S.J.R., G.L.S., K.J.L., V.N., S.L.S. and S.M.B.; Supervision, J.L.,

359 R.T.T., S.L.S. and S.M.B.

360

## 361 **Methods.**

362 **Cell Culture and Reagents.** HEK293T cells (human embryonic kidney, ATCC; CRL-3216), HEK293

363 cells (human embryonic kidney, ATCC; CRL-1573), CRFK cells (feline kidney, ATCC; CCL-94), A549

364 cells (lung carcinoma, ATCC; CCL-185) and Vero cells were cultured in Dulbecco's modified Eagle

365 media (Gibco; 11995) supplemented with 10% fetal bovine serum (Gibco; 16000-044), 2 mM L-

366 glutamine (Invitrogen; 25030-081), and 1% antibiotics (Gibco; 15140) (complete media) at 37°C

367 and 5% CO<sub>2</sub>. Cell culture grade epoxomicin and MG132 (proteasomal inhibitors), bafilomycin A1

368 (Baf-A1), puromycin and blasticidin were purchased from Sigma. Interferon  $\beta$  (IFN $\beta$ ) was

369 purchased from PBL Assay Science (#11410-2).

370

371 **Virus Infections and Lentivirus production.** The viruses used in this study were handled under

372 biosafety level 2 (BSL2), BSL3 and BSL4 conditions at the Rocky Mountain Laboratories

373 Integrated Research Facility in accordance with DSAT regulations for study of select agents and

374 Institutional Biosafety approvals (Hamilton, MT). The viruses in this study include: Langkat virus

375 (LGTV) strain TP21 (from Dr. A. Pletnev, NIAID, NIH), TBEV strain Sofjin (also referred to as

376 Russian spring summer encephalitis [RSSE] virus), Kyasanur forest disease virus (KFDV) [from Dr.

377 M. Holbrook, NIAID, NIH], Powassan virus (POWV, strain LB) and West Nile virus (strain NY99)

378 [from the WRCEVA], Dengue virus (DENV-2, strain New Guinea C) from Dr. Adolfo García-  
379 Sastre), Zika virus (ZIKV, strain 2013 French Polynesia, from Dr. David Safronetz) and Yellow  
380 fever virus (YFV, strain 17D), from NIH Biodefense and Emerging Infections Research Resources  
381 Repository, NIAID, NIH, NR115. All viruses were propagated as previously described<sup>44</sup>. Cell  
382 monolayers were infected for 1 h at 37°C, after which virus inoculum was removed and cells  
383 replenished with fresh cell culture medium. Virus titers are represented as plaque forming  
384 units (PFUs) or focus forming units (FFU) per 1 ml.

385  
386 HIV-1 virus pseudotyped with VSV-G and encoding a GFP reporter for single-cycle infection  
387 assays were packaged in 293T cells seeded at a concentration of  $1 \times 10^6$  cells/well in a 6-well  
388 dish. One day after seeding, cells were co-transfected with 0.5  $\mu\text{g}$  pMDLg/pRRE, 0.25  $\mu\text{g}$  pRSV-  
389 Rev, 0.2  $\mu\text{g}$  pMD2.G, and 1  $\mu\text{g}$  pRRSIN.cPPT.PGK-GFP.WPRE (plasmids 60488, 12253, 12252  
390 respectively available from Addgene). Cells were transfected using TransIT-293 at a 1:3 ratio ( $\mu\text{g}$   
391 DNA: $\mu\text{l}$  TransIT-293). After 48 hours, supernatant containing viruses was harvested, filtered,  
392 and frozen. For infection assays, CrFK stable cells lines were plated at a concentration of  
393  $7.5 \times 10^4$  cells/well in a 24-well plate or HEK293 stable cell lines were plated at a concentration  
394 of  $1.0 \times 10^5$  cells/well in a 24-well plate, and infected with HIV-1 single-cycle virus. Two days  
395 post-infection, cells were fixed, washed, resuspended in PBS supplemented with 1% FBS, and  
396 analyzed by flow cytometry for expression of GFP using the BD Bioscience Fortessa cell  
397 analyzer.

398

### 399 **Lentivirus generation expressing shRNAs.**

400 The shTRIM5 and shluciferase lentiviruses were generated by transfecting HEK293T cells with  
401 lentivirus shRNA plasmid (pAPM CoE D4 L1221 or pAPM CoE D4 TRIM5 ts2 for shluciferase or  
402 shTRIM5, respectively), pSPAX2, and pMD.G using the ProFection Mammalian Transfection  
403 System (Promega). pAPM CoE D4 is a truncated derivative of the pAPM lentiviral vector that  
404 expresses the puromycin acetyltransferase and miR30-based shRNA from the SFFV promoter  
405 (Pertel et al. 2011). The target sequences are: pAPM CoE D4 L1221 5'-  
406 TACAAACGCTCTCATCGACAAG-3' and pAPM CoE D4 TRIM5 ts2 5'-TGCCAAGCATGCCTCACTGCAA-

407 3'. The vpx-vlp was generated by transfecting 293T cells with pMD.G and SIV<sub>MAC</sub> packaging  
408 plasmid kindly provided by Dr. Andrea Cimarelli<sup>45</sup>. Media was replaced 18-20 hours post  
409 transfection (hpt). Supernatant was harvested at 48 hpt, passed through a 0.45 µm filter, and  
410 ultracentrifuged over a cushion consisting of 25% sucrose in TNE buffer (10 mM Tris-HCl, pH  
411 7.5, 1 mM EDTA, 100 mM NaCl, pH 7.4) at 28,000 rpm in a SW-28 Rotor (Beckman). Lentivirus  
412 pellets were resuspended in PBS, aliquoted, and stored at -80°C prior to use. shRNA-luc and  
413 shRNA-TRIM5 lentivirus titers were normalized by serial dilution on HEK293 cells followed by  
414 puromycin selection.

415

#### 416 **Knockdown of TRIM5 in Human monocyte-derived dendritic cells (hMDDC) cultures**

417 Human monocyte cultures<sup>46</sup> were seeded in 48-well plates and transduced with a combination  
418 of vpx-vlp and shControl or shTRIM5 lentivirus for three hours followed by addition of IL-4 and  
419 GM-CSF-conditioned RPMI media. Conditioned media was replenished at 3 days post  
420 transduction (dpt). Five dpt, cells were collected to confirm knockdown of TRIM5 transcripts by  
421 qRT-PCR. Remaining cells were infected with ZIKV PRABC59 (MOI = 5) or KFDV (MOI = 0.1) for  
422 48 hours. Supernatants were collected at the indicated times, and virus was measured in the  
423 supernatant by limiting dilution plaque assay.

424

425 **Expression constructs.** HA-tagged (C-term) human and rhesus *TRIM5* in the pLPCX retroviral  
426 vector were obtained from the National Institutes of Health AIDS Research and Reference  
427 Reagent Program. HA-tagged (C-term) owl monkey *TRIM-CypA* in the pLPCX retroviral vector  
428 was a kind gift from Dr. Michael Emerman (Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center).

429 Approximately 5x10<sup>6</sup> HEK293 cells were used to isolate RNA with the All Prep RNA/DNA Mini Kit  
430 (Qiagen; 80204). cDNA was generated using 1µg of RNA with oligo(dT) primers and the  
431 Superscript III First-Strand Synthesis System (Invitrogen; 18080-051). This cDNA was used as a  
432 template to amplify the *CypA* coding region (see below). All primers used in this study for qRT-  
433 PCR or to generate constructs, along with a description of their use, can be found in Extended  
434 Data Table 1. Human *TRIM22* was amplified from a pcDNA3 construct kindly provided by  
435 Dianne Lou. *TRIM-CypA* and *TRIM-RanCyp* constructs were generated by amplifying fragments

436 (aa 1-309 from human *TRIM5* in pLPCX and the complete coding sequence of *CypA* from  
437 HEK293 cDNA) with 20-25bp overlapping regions. Overlapping fragments were spliced together  
438 in a PCR reaction using each fragment as a template and outside flanking primers. Human and  
439 rhesus *TRIM5de/B30.2* constructs were generated using pLPCX templates and primers that  
440 amplify aa 1-276 from human *TRIM5* or 1-278 from rhesus *TRIM5*. All above PCR reactions were  
441 carried out using PCR Supermix High Fidelity (Thermo Fisher; 10790020) with an annealing  
442 temperature of 58°C. Constructs were TA-cloned into the gateway entry plasmid pCR8  
443 (Invitrogen; K2500-20). An LR Clonase II reaction (Invitrogen; 11791-100) was used to move  
444 these constructs into a Gateway-converted pLPCX retroviral packaging vector (Clontech;  
445 631511). The RING C15/18A mutant of *TRIM5* was generated using PfuTurbo DNA polymerase  
446 (Stratagene; 600250) with an annealing temperature of 55°C. Parental pLPCX plasmids were  
447 used as a template along with primers containing the mutations of interest. Constructs  
448 expressing LGTV and WNV<sub>NY99</sub> NS2B/3 and NS5 were generated as previously described<sup>44</sup>.  
449 Expression plasmids for Langerin (HG13040-UT) and DC-SIGN (HG10200-UT) were purchased  
450 from Sino Biological.

451

452 **Generation of stable cells lines.** To make cell lines that stably express *TRIM5* constructs, pLPCX  
453 retroviral vectors were used to transduce HEK293 cells. To generate the retroviruses used for  
454 transduction, HEK293T cells were seeded at a concentration of  $1 \times 10^6$  cells/well in a 6-well dish.  
455 24 hours later each well was transfected with 2  $\mu$ g pLPCX construct (empty or encoding the  
456 gene fragment of interest), 1  $\mu$ g pCS2-mGP encoding MLV gag-pol<sup>2</sup>, and 0.2  $\mu$ g pC-VSV-G  
457 (provided by Hyeryun Choe) at a final 1:3 ratio of DNA to TransIT-293 ( $\mu$ g DNA:  $\mu$ l TransIT-293).  
458 Supernatants were collected after 48 h, passed through a 0.2  $\mu$ m filter, and used to infect  
459 HEK293 cells grown in complete media. HEK293 cells were seeded in a 12-well dish at a  
460 concentration of  $7.5 \times 10^4$  cells/well. After 24 h, varying amounts of retrovirus from each  
461 construct were added to cells along with polybrene (Sigma; 107689) at a final concentration of  
462 10  $\mu$ g/mL. After 24 h, media containing 0.75  $\mu$ g/ml puromycin (Sigma; P8833) was added to  
463 select for transduced cells. Cell lines were eventually expanded into 10 cm dishes, checked for  
464 expression of the appropriate construct by Western blot, and frozen down in 1 mL aliquots



465 containing complete media supplemented with an additional 10% FBS (total of 20%) and 5%  
466 DMSO. A549 cells were stably knocked-down using lentiviruses coding short hairpin RNAs  
467 (shRNAs) against *Cyclophilin A, B* and *non-targeting* (control) as previously described (kindly  
468 provided by Prof. Ralf Bartenschlager)<sup>47</sup>. HAP1 cells edited within the TRIM5 gene were  
469 generated by Horizon Genomics (Vienna) with the RNA guide sequence:  
470 CGATTAGGCCGTATGTTCTC.

471

472 **Antibodies.** HA-tagged constructs for western blotting were detected using a 1:5000 dilution of  
473 anti-HA-peroxidase antibody (Roche clone 3F10, #12013819001). HA-tagged constructs for  
474 indirect immunofluorescence were detected using anti-HA (Zymed, #71-5500).  $\beta$ -actin was also  
475 detected as a loading control using a 1:10,000 dilution of mouse anti- $\beta$ -actin (Sigma, A5441). A  
476 1:3,000 dilution of goat anti-mouse (Dako, #P0447), anti-rabbit (Thermo Scientific, #P0448) or  
477 anti-chicken (Millipore, #12-341) horseradish peroxidase-conjugated antibody was used as a  
478 secondary probe. V5 tagged constructs were probed with anti-mouse V5 (Invitrogen #R960-25).  
479 Blots were developed using the ECL Plus detection reagent (GE Healthcare, #RPN2132).  
480 Antibodies to detect viral antigens, LGTV (NS3 and NS5) (previously described in Taylor et al.,  
481 2011), WNV-NS3 (R&D Systems, #AF2907) and dsRNA antibody J2 (English& Scientific  
482 Consulting, #10010200). Autophagy and cellular markers were detected using LC3B (Nanotools,  
483 #5F10), GABARAP (Cell Signaling, #E1J4E), Beclin-1 (Novus Biologicals, # 110-53818), ATG5 (Cell  
484 Signaling, #2630), p62 (BD Transduction Laboratories, #610833), cyclophilin A (Enzo, #BML-  
485 SA296-0100), cyclophilin B (Thermo Scientific, #PA1-027A), langerin (R&D Systems, #AF2088)  
486 and DC-SIGN (BD Biosciences, #551186).

487

488 **Immunoprecipitation (IP) and Western Blot Analysis.** 293 cells were washed three times with  
489 PBS (1X) and lysed on ice in RIPA buffer (50 mM Tris-HCl [pH 7.6], 150 mM NaCl, 0.1% SDS, 1%  
490 Igepal, and 0.5% Na-deoxycholate) with protease inhibitor cocktail (Roche). For IPs of over-  
491 expressed proteins, 2 wells of a 6 well dish at  $1 \times 10^6$  cells/well were used per reaction; for IPs of  
492 virus-infected stable TRIM5 HEK293 cells, a 10cm dish of  $7 \times 10^6$  cells/dish was used per reaction;  
493 for detection of endogenous TRIM5, HEK293 or HAP1 cells were grown to confluency in 3-4

494 T150 tissue culture flasks. Samples were subjected to centrifugation for 10 min at maximum  
495 speed to remove cellular debris. Protein G-conjugated agarose beads (Roche) or PrecipHen for  
496 chicken antibodies (Aves Labs) were used to clear cell lysates at 4°C for 3 h. Samples were  
497 centrifuged to remove beads, and 2 µg of antibody analogous to the protein of interest was  
498 added to each lysate for 1 h with rotation at 4°C. 50 µl protein G-agarose or PrecipHen beads  
499 and were incubated with rotation at 4°C overnight. Lysates were subjected to centrifugation,  
500 and beads were washed three times with RIPA buffer prior to elution by incubation at 95°C in  
501 1× sample buffer (62.5 mM TRIS [pH 6.8], 10% glycerol, 15 mM EDTA, 4% 2-ME, 2% SDS, and  
502 bromophenol blue). For western blot analysis HEK293 cell lines were grown to confluency in a  
503 12-well or 6-well dish, collected using a cell scraper, and lysed in RIPA buffer containing  
504 complete protease inhibitor (Roche, #11836170001). After quantification of protein  
505 concentration using a Bradford assay, 30 µg of whole cell extract was resolved using a 10%  
506 polyacrylamide gel and transferred to a nitrocellulose membrane. Ubiquitination assays were  
507 performed as previously described (Campbell et al., 2015). Densitometry analysis was  
508 performed using ImageJ software.

509

510 **Confocal Microscopy.** Cells were seeded onto 4 well Lab-Tek II chamber slides overnight. Slides  
511 were prepared by washing cells twice with PBS (1X) and subsequently fixed with  
512 paraformaldehyde (4%) for 10 min. For double-stranded RNA (dsRNA) staining, cells were fixed  
513 with methanol (100%) for 5 min at -20°C. Slides fixed with paraformaldehyde (4%) were further  
514 incubated with permeabilization buffer (Triton X-100 [0.1%], sodium citrate [0.1%]) for 5 min at  
515 room temperature and incubated with blocking buffer (PBS[1X], BSA [0.5%] and goat serum [1%])  
516 for 30 min. Cells were incubated with primary antibody overnight at 4°C, washed three times  
517 with PBS (1X) and further incubated with secondary antibody conjugated to Alexa-488, - 594 or -  
518 647 (Molecular Probes) for 1 h. Slides were washed three time with PBS(1X) and once with ddH<sub>2</sub>O,  
519 and mounted onto glass coverslips using Prolong Gold + DAP1 mounting media (Molecular  
520 Probes). Processed slides were imaged using a Zeiss LSM710 confocal microscope and vector  
521 profiles analyzed using Zen software (Carl Zeiss).

522

523 **Flow cytometry.** Cells were harvested at 48 hpi and processed for flow cytometry analysis. Cells  
524 were stained with LIVE/DEAD Fixable Aqua Dead Cell Stain Kit (ThermoFisher) and fixed with 4 %  
525 paraformaldehyde for 20 min at RT. Cells were permeabilized with saponin-containing buffer and  
526 probed with anti-E 11H12 antibody. Data were generated using an LSRII flow cytometer (BD  
527 Biosciences) and analyzed using FlowJo (Tree Star).

528  
529 **RNA Isolation and quantitative RT-PCR.** RNA was isolated from cells using RNeasy kit (Qiagen)  
530 and genomic DNA was removed with RNase-free DNase (Qiagen). Reverse transcription of RNA  
531 was performed using Superscript Vilo cDNA Synthesis Kit (Invitrogen) according to  
532 manufacturer's protocol. Details of TaqMan probes specific for *TRIM5*, hypoxanthine-guanine  
533 phosphoribosyltransferase (*HPRT*), interferon beta (*IFN $\beta$* ), interleukin -6 (*IL6*), tumor necrosis  
534 factor alpha (*TNF $\alpha$* ) and C-X-C motif chemokine 10 (*CXCL10*) are listed Extended Data Table 1.  
535 All probes were obtained from Applied Biosystems. Reactions for Real-time RT-PCR were set up  
536 in triplicate, cycled and data was collected on the Applied Biosystems GeneAmp 9500 Sequence  
537 detection system. Quantification of relative gene expression was relative to untreated controls  
538 with comparative C<sub>T</sub> method.

539  
540 **RNA interference.** HEK293 and A549 cells were transfected with 15 pmol of siRNA using  
541 Lipofectamine RNAiMAX (Life Technologies). siRNAs (Dharmacon; SMART pool) were specific  
542 against TRIM5 (L-007100), LC3B (L-012846), GABARAP (L-012368), Beclin-1 (L-010552), ATG5 (L-  
543 004374) and p62 (L-010230).

544  
545 **Statistical Analysis.** All data were evaluated for significance using one-tailed unpaired Student's  
546 *t*-test, or Mann-Whitney U test or one-way ANOVA with Tukey post-test using GraphPad Prism  
547 7 software.

548

549

550

551

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553

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682 **Figure Legends:**

683 **Fig. 1. Stable expression of TRIM5 $\alpha$  in HEK293 cells restricts replication of specific flaviviruses.**

684 **a**, HEK293 cells stably overexpressing human (h) or rhesus (rh) TRIM5 $\alpha$ -HA, hTRIM22-HA or  
685 empty vector (control) were infected with tick-borne encephalitis virus (TBEV), Kyasanur Forest  
686 disease virus (KFDV), Langat virus (LGTV), Powassan virus (POWV), West Nile virus (WNV),  
687 dengue virus (DENV-2), Zika virus (ZIKV) or yellow fever virus (YFV) with a multiplicity of  
688 infection (MOI) of 0.001 (except YFV at MOI 0.1). Infectious virus release was determined in  
689 supernatants by plaque assay. All data are from three independent experiments performed in  
690 triplicate (mean  $\pm$  s.d., \*P < 0.05, \*\*P < 0.01, \*\*\*P < 0.001, \*\*\*\* P < 0.0001, n.s. not significant).  
691 Grey dotted line indicates limit of detection. **b-c**, NS3 protein levels in stable HEK293 cells  
692 infected with **b**, KFDV, or **c**, POWV. **d**, Dot plots depicting an overlay of E protein in empty  
693 vector (black) or rhTRIM5 $\alpha$ -HA cells (red) infected with LGTV or POWV measured by flow  
694 cytometry. The percentage of cells infected as measured by E protein staining is quantified in  
695 the bar graphs.

696

697 **Fig. 2. Endogenous human TRIM5 is an ISG required for the antiviral effects of IFN $\beta$  against**

698 **TBEV and LGTV. a**, Left panel: qRT-PCR for *TRIM5*, *RSAD2* or *CXCL10* mRNA isolated from A549  
699 cells following transduction with lentiviruses expressing short hairpin RNAs (shRNAs) for GFP  
700 (control) or *TRIM5*, and untreated or treated with IFN $\beta$  (IFN) at 1000 U/ml for 6 h. Right panel:  
701 LGTV titers in A549 cells that were left untreated or pre-treated with IFN $\beta$  for 6 h and infected  
702 at MOI-0.001. Supernatants were collected at the indicated times and titrated by plaque assay.  
703 All data are from three independent experiments performed in triplicate (mean  $\pm$  s.d., \*P <  
704 0.05, \*\*P < 0.01 by Mann-Whitney; ns, not significant). **b**, A549 cells were transfected with  
705 siRNAs specific for *TRIM5* or a non-targeting (NT) control. Cells were infected with LGTV or YFV  
706 at 48 h post-transfection (MOI 0.001), and supernatants harvested for virus titration 48 h later.  
707 Data are from 3 independent experiments (mean  $\pm$  s.d.; \*\*\*P < 0.001 by Mann-Whitney). Inset  
708 shows the relative *TRIM5* mRNA expression measured by qRT-PCR in A549 cells. **c**, Replication  
709 of LGTV, TBEV, POWV, WNV, ZIKV, DENV-2 and YFV (all infected at MOI 0.1) in Hap1 cells with  
710 *TRIM5* gene disruption by CRISPR/Cas9. Hap1 cells were left untreated or pretreated for 6 h  
711 with IFN $\beta$ . Data are from 2-3 independent experiments performed in triplicate (mean  $\pm$  s.d.,  
712 \*\*\*P < 0.001, \*\*\*\* P < 0.0001 by one-way ANOVA with Tukey's multiple comparisons post-test;  
713 ns, not significant).

714

715 **Fig. 3. TRIM5 $\alpha$  restricts flavivirus RNA replication and co-precipitates with the viral protease**

716 **NS2B/3. a**, HEK293 cells with stable expression of rhTRIM5 $\alpha$ -HA or the empty vector (control)  
717 were infected with LGTV (MOI of 0.01). Infectious virus in cell supernatants or intracellular virus  
718 was quantified by plaque assay at 48 hpi. **b**, Accumulation of LGTV positive-sense viral RNA in  
719 cells infected in part A. was determined at 48hpi by qRT-PCR (mean  $\pm$  s.d., \*P<0.05; \*\*\*P <  
720 0.001). **c**, Changes in genomic RNA over time following binding of LGTV to control and  
721 rhTRIM5 $\alpha$ -HA-expressing HEK293 cells at 4°C and three washes with DPBS (mean  $\pm$  s.d.,

722 \*\*\*\* $P < 0.0001$  2-way ANOVA with Sidak's posttest). **d**, Colocalization of NS3 (red), dsRNA  
723 (greyscale) and rhTRIM5 $\alpha$  (green) in HEK293 rhTRIM5 $\alpha$ -HA LGTV-infected cells at 24 hpi by IFA  
724 (MOI of 5). **e**, Colocalization of NS3 (red) or NS5 (red), and rhTRIM5 $\alpha$  (green) in HEK293  
725 rhTRIM5 $\alpha$ -HA LGTV-infected cells at 24 hpi by IFA. Nuclei are counterstained with DAPI (blue)  
726 (MOI of 5). **f**, Interactions between rhTRIM5 $\alpha$  or hTRIM5 $\alpha$  with NS3 at 48 hpi with LGTV shown  
727 by immunoprecipitation (IP) of NS3 from infected HEK293 cells. WCE, whole cell extract.  
728  
729

730 **Fig. 4. Binding of the flavivirus protease by rhTRIM5 $\alpha$  is conformation dependent and results**  
731 **in proteasome-dependent degradation of NS2B/3.** **a**, Stable HEK293 rhTRIM5 $\alpha$ -HA (green)  
732 cells were transfected with plasmids coding for either NS2B/3-V5 or NS5-V5 (red) from LGTV  
733 and imaged by confocal microscopy. **b**, Relative intensity of TRIM5 aggregates were measured  
734 along vectors drawn in cells expressing LGTV NS2B/3 or NS5, with example vectors shown in  
735 Figure S3B. **c**, Western blot of LGTV NS2B/3-V5 or NS5-V5 in stable rhTRIM5 $\alpha$ -HA or control  
736 HEK293 cells. **d-f**, Western blot analysis of HEK293 cells transfected with **d**, increasing amounts  
737 of rhTRIM5 $\alpha$ -HA and constant amounts of LGTV NS2B/3-V5, **e**, increasing amounts of hTRIM5 $\alpha$ -  
738 HA and constant amounts of LGTV NS2B/3-V5, **f**, increasing amounts of rhTRIM5 $\alpha$ -HA and  
739 constant amounts of LGTV NS5-V5. **g**, Reciprocal co-IP of rhTRIM5 $\alpha$ -HA and LGTV NS2B/3-V5  
740 following cotransfection and 4 h treatment with epoxomicin (200 nM). The asterisk indicates a  
741 non-specific band. **h**, Western blot of LGTV NS2B/3-V5, rhTRIM5 $\alpha$ -HA and endogenous p62 in  
742 HEK293 cells following 4 h treatment with DMSO (vehicle), Baf-A1 (200 nM) or epoxomicin (200  
743 nM). **i**, Quantification of LGTV NS2B/3 expression with or without rhTRIM5 $\alpha$  and treated with  
744 Baf-A1 or epoxomicin from 11 individual experiments. **j**, LGTV NS2B/3-V5 and rhTRIM5 $\alpha$ -FLAG  
745 were co-expressed with ubiquitin (Ub)-HA WT or K48R or K63R mutants in HEK293 cells. Target  
746 proteins were immunoprecipitated using anti-V5 or anti-FLAG antibodies, and blots probed  
747 with anti-HA to examine Ub conjugation. **k**, Domain structure of flavivirus NS2B/3 (PDB: 2vbc)  
748 and schematic representation of truncation mutants. **l**, Western blot analysis of HEK293 cells  
749 transfected with increasing amounts of rhTRIM5 $\alpha$ -HA and constant amounts of LGTV NS3pro.  
750 Lysates were probed specifically for HA, V5 and b-actin.

751  
752  
753 **Fig. 5. TRIM5 $\alpha$  interaction with the flavivirus protease is associated with virus restriction.** **a**,  
754 Western blot analysis following transfection of constant amounts of LGTV NS2B/3-V5 plasmid  
755 with increasing amounts of rhTRIM5 $\alpha$ -HA, RING mutant rhTRIM5(C15/C18A)-HA, or rhTRIM5-  
756 delta SPRY-HA as indicated in HEK293 cells. **b-c**, Immunoprecipitation of NS3 from LGTV-  
757 infected HEK293 cells (MOI 0.01; 48 hpi) stably expressing **b**, RING rhTRIM5(C15/C18A)-HA or **c**,  
758 rhTRIM5 $\alpha$ -HA or rhTRIM5-delta SPRY-HA. **d**, LGTV replication kinetics in HEK293 cells stably  
759 expressing rhTRIM5 $\alpha$ -HA, RING mutant rhTRIM5(C15/C18A)-HA, rhTRIM5-delta SPRY or the  
760 empty vector control following infection at MOI of 0.001. All data are from three independent  
761 experiments (mean  $\pm$  s.d., \* $P < 0.05$  Mann Whitney test). **e-f**, HEK293 cells were co-transfected  
762 with LGTV NS2B/3-V5 (shown expressed alone in **e**), WT rhTRIM5 $\alpha$ -HA, RING mutant  
763 rhTRIM5(C15/C18A)-HA or rhTRIM5-delta SPRY-HA. Slides were fixed and processed for indirect  
764 immunofluorescence staining with antibodies specific for HA (green) and V5 (red), and nuclei



765 were counterstained with DAPI (blue). Images were analyzed using confocal microscopy with  
766 fluorescence intensity profiles measured across the white line of insets to demonstrate  
767 colocalization using Zen Imaging software.

768

769 **Fig. 6: Endogenous human TRIM5 is an antiviral restriction factor for flaviviruses.** **a**, IP of LGTV  
770 NS2B/3-V5 following ectopic expression in unmodified HEK293 cells and probed for TRIM5. **b**, IP  
771 of LGTV NS2B/3-V5 following ectopic expression and epoxomicin treatment in unmodified  
772 HEK293 cells. Western blots were probed for TRIM5 and K48-linked ubiquitin. **c**, IP of LGTV  
773 NS2B/3-V5 following ectopic expression in HEK293 cells transfected with plasmids encoding  
774 TRIM5 gRNA and Cas9. Western blots were probed for TRIM5 and K48-linked ubiquitin. **d**, HAP1  
775 control and TRIM5<sup>-/-</sup> cells were infected with LGTV (MOI 0.1) and NS3 was immunoprecipitated  
776 at 48 hpi. Western blots were probed for TRIM5, NS3 and NS5. **e,f**, TRIM5 mRNA expression in  
777 primary human MDDCs **e**, infected with LGTV (MOI 5 at 24 hpi) or **f**, transduced with lentiviruses  
778 expressing shRNA-Luc (control) or shRNA-TRIM5 (mean  $\pm$  s.d. from 3 experiments, \*P < 0.0001 T-  
779 test). **g**, KFDV titers or **h**, ZIKV titers following infection of human MDDCs generated in part F.  
780 (MOI 0.1; mean  $\pm$  s.d. from one of two experiments performed, \*\*\*\*P < 0.0001 ANOVA with  
781 Sidak post-test).

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Figure 1

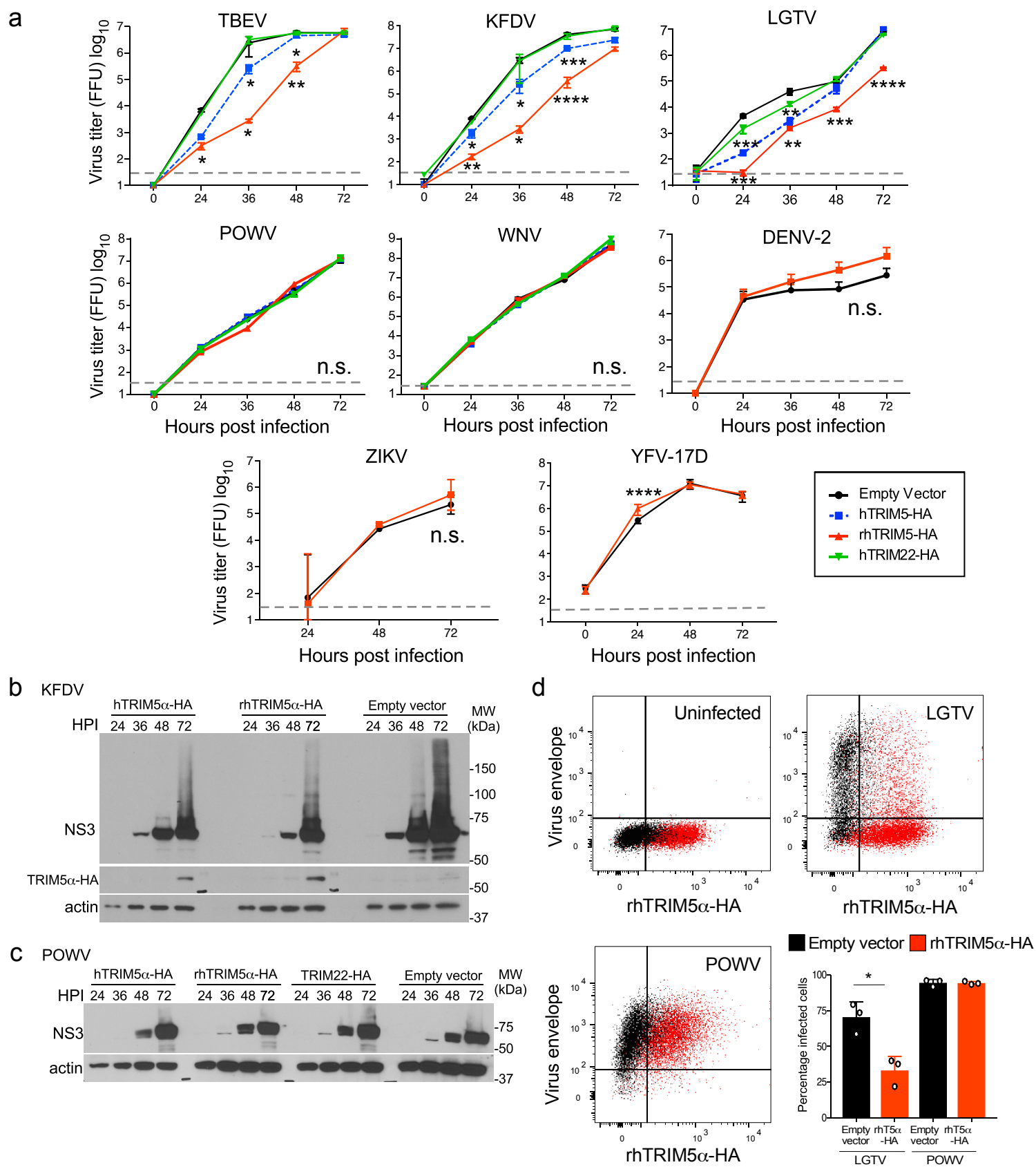


Figure 2

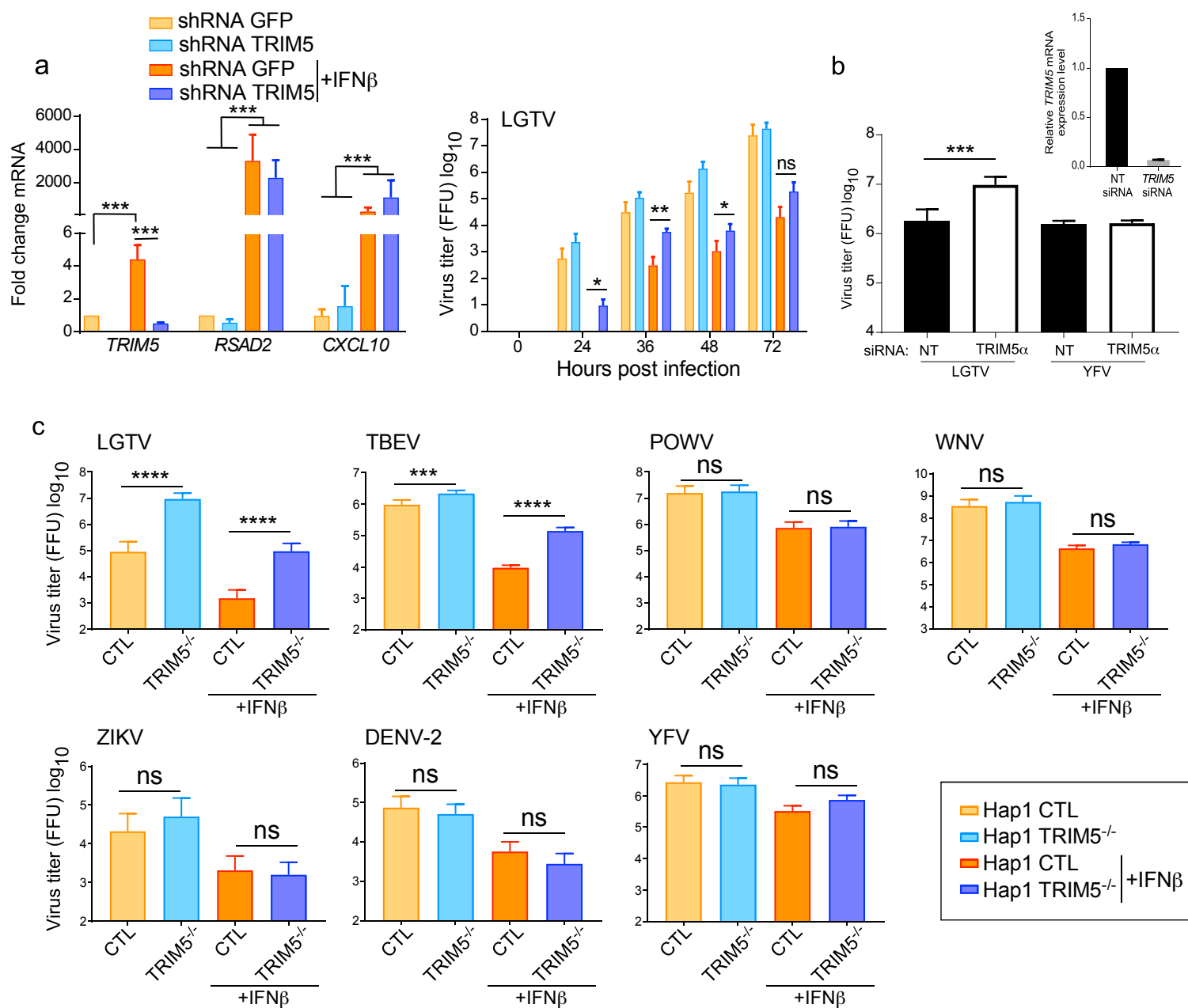


Figure 3

