

S-acylation targets ORAI1 channels to lipid rafts for efficient Ca²⁺ signaling by

T cell receptors at the immune synapse

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1 **Abstract**

2 Efficient immune responses require Ca²⁺ fluxes across ORAI1 channels during engagement of
3 T cell receptors (TCR) at the immune synapse (IS) between T cells and antigen presenting cells. Here,
4 we show that ZDHHC20-mediated S-acylation of the ORAI1 channel at residue Cys143 is required for
5 TCR assembly and signaling at the IS. Cys143 mutations reduced ORAI1 currents and store-operated
6 Ca²⁺ entry in HEK-293 cells and nearly abrogated long-lasting Ca²⁺ elevations, NFATC1 translocation,
7 and IL-2 secretion evoked by TCR engagement in Jurkat T cells. The acylation-deficient channel had
8 reduced mobility in lipids, accumulated in cholesterol-poor domains, formed tiny clusters, failed to
9 reach the IS and unexpectedly also prevented TCR recruitment to the IS. Our results establish S-
10 acylation as a critical regulator of ORAI1 channel assembly and function at the IS and reveal that local
11 Ca²⁺ fluxes are required for TCR recruitment to the synapse.

12

13 Introduction

14 The development of an efficient immune responses by T lymphocytes require long-lasting Ca^{2+}
15 elevations mediated by the plasma membrane (PM) channel ORAI1 during engagement of T cell
16 receptors (TCR) at the immune synapse (IS) forming between T cells and antigen-presenting cells.
17 Following TCR engagement, the Ca^{2+} depletion of the endoplasmic reticulum (ER) causes the ER-bound
18 Ca^{2+} sensors STIM1-2 to oligomerize and to accumulate in ER-PM junctions, where they trap and gate
19 the Ca^{2+} -release-activated (CRAC) ORAI1 channel. The ensuing Ca^{2+} influx sustains long-lasting Ca^{2+}
20 signals that initiate gene expression programs of T cell proliferation and differentiation. Proper ORAI1
21 function is essential for immunity in humans and patients with ORAI1 mutations suffer from severe
22 combined immunodeficiency ¹. Recent studies have revealed the structural rearrangements occurring
23 within ORAI1 as STIM1 binding opens the channel pore and increases its selectivity for Ca^{2+} ^{2, 3},
24 reviewed in ⁴. Crystal structure from the highly homologous *Drosophila* Orai1 channel revealed a
25 hexamer of four concentric TM subunits, with pore-lining TM1 helices bearing an acidic selectivity
26 filter followed by hydrophobic and basic regions ^{5, 6}. The closed structure is stabilized by multiple
27 interactions between interlocking TM2 and TM3 helices and peripheral TM4 helices, bent in three
28 crossed helical pairs extending in the cytosol. STIM1 binds to the external M4 helix, generating a gating
29 signal transmitted by the TM2/TM3 ring to TM1, opening the channel pore and increasing its Ca^{2+}
30 selectivity. The reversible switch of ORAI1 between a quiescent to an active state is highly regulated
31 to avoid inappropriate Ca^{2+} fluxes at the wrong time or place (reviewed in ⁴).

32 Protein S-acylation, the reversible thioester linkage of a medium length fatty acid, often
33 palmitic acid, on intracellular cysteine residues, dynamically controls the trafficking and gating of more
34 than 50 ion channels by increasing the hydrophobicity of protein domains ⁷. S-acylation regulates
35 ligand-gated (AMPA, GABA, Kainate, nAChR, NMDA, K_{ATP} , P2X7 receptors), voltage-gated (Ca_v , K_v , K_{Ca}
36 Na_v), epithelial (ENaC), and water channels (AQP4). The S-acylation reaction is mediated by zinc-finger
37 and DHHC-domain containing Protein AcylTransferases (PATs) at the ER and Golgi ⁸ and reversed by
38 acyl protein thioesterases at the PM ⁹, with 23 PATs and 5 thioesterases isoforms identified in human

39 so far ¹⁰. Due to the hydrophobic nature of the attached acyl moieties, protein S-acylation impacts the
40 distribution of proteins in membrane microdomains and between intracellular membranes ¹¹. Indirect
41 evidences suggest that ORAI1 activity might also be controlled by S-acylation. First, the human isoform
42 ORAI1 was identified by acyl-biotinyl exchange chemistry coupled to mass spectrometry as a robustly
43 S-acylated proteins in primary human T cells ¹² and human platelets ¹³. Second, the mouse Orai1
44 orthologue is reportedly to be S-acylated in neural stem cells and in a T-cell hybridoma ^{14, 15} according
45 to the protein S-acylation database SwissPalm (<https://swisspalm.org>). Orai isoforms have two
46 conserved Cys residues at potential S-acylation sites: Cys¹⁴³, located in a privileged S-acylation position
47 at the edge of the second transmembrane domain (TM2), and Cys¹²⁶ within TM2. A third Cys residue,
48 Cys¹⁹⁵, sensitive to oxidation ^{16, 17}, is exposed to the extracellular side and thus unlikely to be S-
49 acylated. Among these three Cys residue, Cys¹⁴³ is the only one conserved in *C. elegans* (Fig. S1).

50 Here, we show that the pore-forming subunit of the CRAC channel ORAI1 can undergo S-
51 acylation at Cys¹⁴³ and that this modification is required for efficient channel activity and for proper
52 assembly of TCR at the immune synapse. Cys¹⁴³ but not Cys¹²⁶ substitutions prevents ORAI1 S-acylation
53 mediated by PAT20. S-acylation-deficient ORAI1-C143A resides in cholesterol-poor membrane
54 domains, forms tiny PM clusters upon store depletion, mediates reduced SOCE and I_{CRAC} , and fails to
55 reach the immune synapse in Jurkat T cells, severely impairing TRC assembly and synapse formation.
56 S-acylation of ORAI1 therefore controls the recruitment and function of channels and receptors at the
57 immune synapse to mediate efficient T cell responses.

58

59 **Results**

60 **The ORAI1 channel can undergo S-acylation on Cysteine 143.**

61 Orai1 can potentially be S-acylated according to the SwissPalm 2.0 S-acylation database
62 (<https://swisspalm.org/>) that compiles palmitoyl-proteomes¹⁸. To validate that ORAI1 can undergo S-
63 acylation, we assessed whether PEG-5k or tritiated palmitate could be incorporated by palmitoyl-
64 thioester bonds into endogenous ORAI1 channels. HeLa cells were lysed in the presence of N-
65 ethylmaleimide (NEM) to block free thiols, treated or not with hydroxylamine (HA) to break acyl-
66 thioester bonds, and then with PEG-5k to label S-acylation sites. A mobility shift was observed in the
67 presence of PEG-5k on western blots with anti-ORAI1 antibodies (Fig. 1A). Tritiated palmitate was
68 detected by autoradiography in HeLa cells labelled for 2 h with ³H-palmitic acid and
69 immunoprecipitated with anti-ORAI1 antibodies (Fig. 1B). These data show that endogenous ORAI1
70 channels incorporate palmitic acid and can be labelled by acyl exchange of the acyl moiety with PEG-
71 5k. A single band of higher molecular weight was observed in the acyl-PEG assay, indicating that a
72 single residue of the ORAI1 channel can be S-acylated in these conditions. The fact that a non-shifted
73 ORAI1 band remains indicates that only a sub-population undergoes S-acylation under our
74 experimental conditions.

75 S-Acylation occurs on cysteine residues, present in ORAI1 at positions 126, 143 and 195, with
76 C143 conserved up to *C.elegans* (Fig. S1A) and C195 facing the extracellular side (Fig. S1B). To test
77 whether C126 and/or C143 are S-acylation sites we overexpressed ORAI1-GFP fusion proteins bearing
78 substitutions at these residues in HeLa cells and evaluated ³H-palmitate incorporation by
79 autoradiography. Cells expressing ORAI1-GFP bearing the C143A substitution or the double
80 C126A/C143A mutation, but not the single C126A mutation, failed to incorporate ³H-palmitate (Fig.
81 1C). Identical results were obtained with these ORAI1-GFP mutants expressed in RPE1 cells (Fig. 1D),
82 establishing that ORAI1 channels can undergo palmitoylation at residue C143.

83 **S-acylation potentiates ORAI1 channel function**

84 S-acylation can alter ion channel trafficking, gating, and distribution in membrane lipids. To
85 understand if S-acylation could affect ORAI1 activity we measured Ca^{2+} fluxes carried by ORAI1-GFP
86 fusion constructs bearing substitutions at C126 and C143. In HEK-293 cells lacking all three ORAI
87 isoforms (HEK-TKO, kindly provided by Rajesh Bhardwaj ¹⁷), expression of wild-type ORAI1
88 reconstituted Ca^{2+} fluxes upon store depletion (Fig. 1E-F). C143 substitutions by alanine or serine, but
89 not C126 substitutions, reduced ORAI1-mediated SOCE (Fig. 1E-F). These findings were confirmed by
90 alanine substitutions in HEK-293 cells stably expressing mCherry-STIM1 (mCh-STIM1) and ORAI1-GFP,
91 (HEK-S1/O1). Although these cell lines were sorted for the same fluorescence and presented
92 comparable STIM1 and ORAI1 levels as judged by epifluorescence microscopy (Fig. S1C), SOCE
93 responses were strongly reduced in cells bearing the C143A mutation (Fig. 2A-B and S1D). We then
94 recorded I_{CRAC} currents in HEK-S1/O1-WT and -C143A cell lines and observed a current density
95 reduction of 5-fold in cells expressing the C143A mutant (Fig. 2C-D). The currents retained the inward
96 rectification, positive reversal potential, and Gd^{3+} -sensitivity characteristic of highly Ca^{2+} selective
97 CRAC currents (Fig. 2C and 2E) but activated more slowly and failed to inactivate in a significant
98 fraction of C143A cells (Fig 2F and S2). Our Ca^{2+} imaging and electrophysiological data thus establish
99 that replacing the S-acylated Cys 143 residue within ORAI1 reduces the CRAC channel function.

100 **Acylation increases ORAI1 cluster size, PM mobility, and affinity for lipid rafts.**

101 To gain insight into the underlying mechanism, we then recorded the formation of STIM1 and
102 ORAI1 clusters during store depletion by TIRF microscopy. ORAI1-C143A clusters were tinier and
103 occupied a smaller fraction of the TIRF plane (Fig. 3A-B). In contrast, the morphometric parameters of
104 mCh-STIM1 clusters were not altered (Fig. S3). Lipid incorporation into proteins changes their
105 lipophilic preference, and potentially their membrane mobility. To assess ORAI1 mobility in the PM
106 we used fluorescence recovery after photobleaching (FRAP) and measured the lateral diffusion of
107 ORAI1-GFP in HEK-S1/O1-WT and -C143A cell lines. The C143A mutant had a significantly lower
108 diffusion coefficient indicative of a reduced mobility in membrane lipids (Fig. 3C). The addition of an
109 acyl chain to transmembrane proteins increases their hydrophobicity, which may promote their

110 association with lipid microdomains. To study whether S-acylation impacts ORAI1 lipid partitioning,
111 we generated giant plasma membrane vesicles (GPMV) from HEK-293 cells transiently expressing
112 ORAI1-YFP and measured the lipid distribution of the WT and mutated channel using the lipid raft and
113 non-raft markers cholera toxin B and DiD, respectively. ORAI1-C143A co-localized less extensively with
114 the raft marker in GPMVs from store-replete cells (i.e. not treated with thapsigargin), indicating that
115 the acylation-deficient mutant has a reduced preference for lipid rafts (Fig. 3D). These results indicate
116 that the acylation-deficient ORAI1-C143A mutant accumulates in cholesterol-poor lipid domains, has
117 reduced mobility in the PM and forms tiny clusters upon store depletion. Preventing S-acylation thus
118 impairs ORAI1 mobility in membrane lipids and its ability to form clusters during SOCE.

119 **Protein S-acyl transferase 20 (PAT20) mediates ORAI1 S-acylation**

120 S-Acylation is exerted by DHHC-domain containing protein acyltransferases (PATs) proteins,
121 which form a large family of enzymes containing 23 members. To identify the enzyme(s) promoting
122 ORAI1 S-acylation, we transiently transfected ORAI1-GFP in HeLa cells stably expressing different PATs
123 and measured palmitate incorporation in the immunoprecipitated channel by autoradiography. An
124 enhanced palmitate incorporation was observed in cells expressing PAT3, PAT7 and PAT20 (Fig. 4A
125 and S4A). Interestingly, a single band of ~65 kDa was labelled in cells overexpressing PAT20,
126 corresponding to full-length ORAI1 fused to GFP, while a ~50 kDa band was predominantly detected
127 in cells overexpressing PAT3 and PAT7, corresponding to a shorter form, likely Orai1 β generated by
128 alternative translation initiation at Met64¹⁹. We then assessed whether the enhanced ORAI1 S-
129 acylation conferred by PATs overexpression could modulate channel activity. Enforced expression of
130 PAT20 but not of PAT3 or PAT7 in HeLa cells enhanced SOCE (Fig. 4B) while siRNA against any of these
131 PAT isoforms decreased SOCE equally (Fig. S4B). Importantly, PAT20 potentiated SOCE in HEK-293 cells
132 stably expressing ORAI1-WT but not the C143A mutant (Fig. 4C), indicating that the gain of function
133 conferred by increased PAT20-driven S-acylation requires this cysteine residue. PAT20-Myc
134 immunoreactivity decorated reticular intracellular structures that co-localized with ORAI1-GFP
135 clusters at the cell cortex (Fig. 4D), consistent with this enzyme mediating ORAI1 S-acylation. These

136 experiments indicate that PAT20 mediates ORAI1 S-acylation and that this post-translational
137 modification enhances SOCE.

138 **ORAI1 S-acylation is required for TCR-mediated long-lasting Ca²⁺ elevations in Jurkat T cells**

139 Orai1 activity is critical for the function of B and T lymphocytes, which fittingly express PAT20
140 but neither PAT3 nor PAT7 (Fig. S5A, <http://www.humanproteomemap.org>). To assess whether ORAI1
141 S-acylation by PAT20 impacts T cell function, we generated by CRISPR an ORAI1-deficient Jurkat T cell
142 line, in which SOCE was severely blunted (Fig. 5A and S5B-C). Stable transduction of ORAI1-WT
143 restored SOCE in these cells while ORAI1-C143A expressed at comparable levels was less effective
144 (Fig. 5A and S5D). Activation of the T cell receptor (TCR) with CD3/CD28 beads evoked long-lasting Ca²⁺
145 elevations in CRISPR ORAI1 + ORAI1-WT stable cells (Fig. 5B). In contrast, cells reconstituted with
146 ORAI1-C143A exhibited delayed responses of much smaller amplitude and duration upon TCR
147 engagement. The Ca²⁺ signalling defect persisted when these cells were stimulated with TCR-coated
148 beads in Ca²⁺-free medium, and subsequent Ca²⁺ readmission evoked minimal Ca²⁺ responses (Fig 5C).
149 This indicates that the physiological Ca²⁺ signals engaged by the TCR receptors are severely affected
150 in Jurkat cells expressing acylation-deficient ORAI1-C143A. Accordingly, PAT20 expression augmented
151 SOCE in WT cells but had no effect in cells lacking ORAI1 (Fig. S5F). We then tested whether the
152 downstream responses of T cells were similarly affected. Cells bearing the C143A mutation had
153 reduced nuclear translocation of the transcription factor NFATC1 and IL-2 production following
154 stimulation with Tg or CD3 beads (Fig. 5D-F-E and S5E). Furthermore, ORAI1 ablation prevented the
155 potentiating effects of PAT20 expression on the IL-2 secretion evoked by Tg and CD3/CD28 beads (Fig.
156 S5G). These results indicate that ORAI1 S-acylation at C143A is required for efficient activation of
157 Jurkat T cells following TCR engagement.

158 **ORAI1 S-acylation sustains TCR assembly and signaling at the immune synapse**

159 TCR activation triggers the formation of an immune synapse (IS) between T cells and antigen-
160 presenting cells, a structure that maximizes the membrane contact area and organizes TCR and
161 signalling proteins into concentric zones²⁰. ORAI1 channels are rapidly recruited into the IS^{21, 22} and

162 are required for the formation of dynamic actin structures²³ in a self-organizing process enabling long-
163 lasting local Ca²⁺ signals to initiate gene expression programs that drive T cell proliferation²⁴. To test
164 whether S-acylation impacts the recruitment of ORAI1 to the IS, we imaged CRISPR mediated ORAI1
165 deficient cells reconstituted with WT or mutant ORAI1-GFP during stimulation with antigen-coated
166 beads or during plating on coverslips coated with anti-CD3 mAb²⁵. As previously reported, ORAI1-GFP
167 accumulated at sites of bead contact, decorating dynamic cup structures labelled with SiR-Actin (Fig.
168 6A). Fewer SiR-Actin cups were observed in CRISPR ORAI1 Jurkat cells reconstituted with ORAI1-C143A,
169 and the mutated GFP-tagged channel was not enriched at sites of contact when cups were detected
170 (Fig. 6B). To better visualize the molecular organization of the IS, we performed TIRF imaging in
171 coverslips coated with anti-CD3 mAb. ORAI1-GFP accumulated into contact zones surrounded by SiR-
172 Actin rings. The formation of actin rings was severely compromised in cells reconstituted with the S-
173 acylation-deficient ORAI1-C143A channel, which failed to accumulate at contact sites (Fig. 6C and S6A
174 Suppl Video 1 and 2). The few rings forming in C143A mutant expressing cells had a comparable actin
175 area (Fig. S6B) but contained less ORAI1-associated GFP fluorescence, detected predominantly in the
176 centre of the IS (Fig. 6D and S6C). Unexpectedly, TCR cluster formation was also severely impaired in
177 CRISPR ORAI1 cells reconstituted with acylation-deficient ORAI1. Although the two cell lines had
178 comparable TCR surface expression (Fig. S6D), the number of CD3 immunoreactive dots within the IS
179 was reduced 3-fold while their intra-IS distribution remained unaltered in cells reconstituted with
180 ORAI1-C143A (Fig. 6E and S6C). The extent of co-localisation between ORAI-GFP and CD3
181 immunoreactivity was reduced in these cells, confirming the differential distribution of the two
182 proteins in the IS (Fig. 6F and S6D). These data indicate that S-acylation is required for the recruitment
183 of the ORAI1 channel to the IS and for the formation of TCR clusters that determine the intensity and
184 duration of TCR signalling at the synapse (Fig. 6G).

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188 **Discussion**

189 In this study, we show that S-acylation of ORAI1 at a single cysteine residue enhances the
190 affinity of the channel for cholesterol rich lipid microdomains and promotes its trapping at the immune
191 synapse, thereby enabling the local Ca²⁺ fluxes that control the proliferation of T cells. Using acyl-PEG
192 exchange, palmitate incorporation, and mutagenesis, we show that ORAI1 can be chemically modified
193 by S-acylation and identify the acylation site as Cys143 on the cytosolic rim of the second TM domain.
194 Substitutions at Cys143 but not at Cys126 within TM2 prevented palmitate incorporation and
195 decreased SOCE as well as I_{CRAC}. A comparable inhibition was observed with cysteine-less ORAI1 in an
196 earlier study focusing on Cys195 substitutions that prevent I_{CRAC} inhibition by hydrogen peroxide ¹⁶.
197 These data indicate that the ORAI1 channel is S-acylated at Cys143 and that replacement of this
198 residue, but not of the two other ORAI1 cysteines, prevents S-acylation and impacts channel function.
199 Cys143 is the only cysteine conserved in all human isoforms and in ORAI1 homologs up to *C.elegans*,
200 suggesting that S-acylation at this site is an evolutionary conserved function.

201 Using Ca²⁺ imaging and electrophysiology, we establish that ORAI1 S-acylation has a significant
202 functional impact on the channel function. Substitutions at Cys143, but not at Cys126, decreased SOCE
203 by 50% in HEK-293 cells when the channel was transiently expressed alone and by 80% when it was
204 stably co-expressed with STIM1. SOCE was also reduced when the S-acylation-defective ORAI1-C143A
205 was expressed in HEK-293 cells lacking all ORAI isoforms or in Jurkat T cells lacking ORAI1, firmly linking
206 the SOCE defect to the ORAI1 Cys143 mutation. Patch-clamp recordings confirmed that I_{CRAC} currents
207 were reduced by 80% by the mutation when ORAI1-GFP was stably expressed together with mCh-
208 STIM1, at identical expression levels. ORAI1-C143A currents retained the characteristic inward
209 rectification and high Ca²⁺ selectivity of CRAC channels but activated more slowly and failed to
210 inactivate in a significant fraction of cells perfused with 10 mM BATPA in the pipette solution. This
211 indicates that the C143A mutation does not grossly alter the gating or permeation properties of the
212 CRAC channel. Instead, its main effect is to decrease the amplitude and to delay the activation of CRAC
213 currents.

214 We further identify the zinc-finger and DHHC-containing S-acyltransferase zDHHC20 (PAT20)
215 as mediating the S-acylation reaction. Among an array of PAT exogenously expressed in HeLa cells,
216 PAT20 was the only isoform that increased the incorporation of tritiated palmitate into full-length
217 ORAI1-GFP (Orai1 α). PAT3 and PAT7 promoted palmitate incorporation in a lower band corresponding
218 to a shorter form of ORAI1 (Orai1 β). PAT20 co-localized with ORAI1-GFP at the cell cortex and unlike
219 PAT3 and PAT 7 promoted SOCE when expressed. S-acylation by PAT20 thus positively modulates the
220 activity of both endogenous and exogenously expressed ORAI1 channels. Importantly, SOCE
221 potentiation was not observed when PAT20 was co-expressed with the acylation-deficient ORAI1-
222 C143A mutant. This indicates that Cys143 is required for the potentiation by PAT20. Since ORAI1-
223 C143A was co-expressed with STIM1 in these experiments, they also indicate that potential S-acylation
224 sites on STIM1 are not relevant for the effect of PAT20. These data indicate that PAT20-mediated S-
225 acylation at Cys143 enhances ORAI1 channel function.

226 Using biochemical and imaging approaches, we then show that mutating the Cys143 S-
227 acylation site reduces the size of ORAI1 PM clusters during SOCE. We further show that the mutation
228 reduces ORAI1 mobility in the PM and prevents its accumulation in ordered lipid domains rich in
229 cholesterol. ORAI1 PM clusters are the macroscopic signature of ORAI1 trapping by STIM1, a dynamic
230 event involving the entry and exit of ORAI1 particles into PM domains facing STIM1 molecules on
231 apposed cortical ER cisternae ²⁶. Molecularly, ORAI1 trapping reflects the interactions between the
232 STIM1 CAD domain and ORAI1 C terminal tail, with residues within ORAI1 M4 helix being critical for
233 trapping and gating. STIM1 clusters, on the other hand, reflect interactions between its lysin-rich C
234 terminal tail and PM domains rich in negatively charged phospholipids such as PIP2. STIM1 therefore
235 traps ORAI1 in PIP2-rich domains, while S-acylation increases ORAI1 affinity for cholesterol-rich
236 domains. The increased mobility of S-acylated ORAI1 in cholesterol-rich domains likely increases its
237 trapping by STIM1 into neighboring PIP2-rich domains since the escape probability of ORAI1 from
238 STIM1-ORAI1 complexes is <1% ²⁶. Increased ORAI1 retention at ER-PM contact sites would promote
239 the formation of larger channel clusters and enhance transmembrane Ca²⁺ fluxes while preserving the

240 biophysical properties of the channel, consistent with our observations. Alternatively, the formation
241 of large clusters could reflect an increased affinity of S-acylated ORAI1 for STIM1 or increased lateral
242 interactions between S-acylated channels leading to the formation of high-order channel multimers
243 corresponding to the larger clusters.

244 By re-expressing the acylation-resistant ORAI1-C143A in ORAI1-deficient Jurkat T cells, we
245 show that ORAI1 S-acylation is required for the efficient activation of T lymphocytes during TCR
246 engagement. Replacing the single ORAI1 S-acylation site strongly reduced the long-lasting Ca^{2+}
247 elevations driven by TCR engagement and the ensuing NFATC1 translocation and IL-2 production,
248 signature markers of T cell activation. Unexpectedly, the responses were also reduced in Ca^{2+} -free
249 conditions, indicating that the inhibition of TCR signalling does not simply reflect the impaired channel
250 function of ORAI1-C143A at the cell surface. Expressing PAT20 increased Ca^{2+} responses and TCR-
251 induced IL-2 secretion in WT but not in ORAI1-deficient Jurkat T cells, confirming that ORAI1 S-
252 acylation positively modulates TCR signalling. The reliance on S-acylation was most apparent at the IS,
253 the specialized membrane contact area that form at the interface between T cells and an antigen
254 presenting cells (APC). We observed three major synapse assembly defects in Jurkat T cells
255 reconstituted with ORAI1-C143A. First, fewer synapses formed in ORAI1-C143A exposed to CD3-
256 coated beads or plated on activating coverslips. Second, ORAI1-C143A was poorly recruited to the IS
257 and the mutant channels accumulated in the IS centre. The IS contains a high percentage of highly
258 ordered lipids²⁷ forming lipid rafts migrating to its periphery²⁸. S-acylation might target ORAI1
259 channels to these cholesterol-rich regions to optimize Ca^{2+} signalling efficiency at the synapse
260 periphery (Fig. 6G). Third, the formation of TCR clusters was strongly reduced by the lack of ORAI1 S-
261 acylation. This defect was unexpected as ORAI1 was not previously reported to control the molecular
262 dynamics of TCR. During strong antigenic stimuli, TCR form clusters with associated scaffolding and
263 signalling proteins that segregate in three concentric zones of the IS^{29,30}. The clusters migrate from
264 the periphery towards the centre of the IS where they are sorted for degradation^{31,32}, the strength of
265 signalling reflecting a balance between the formation of new clusters in the periphery and their

266 disassembly in the centre ³³. Defective ORAI1 targeting might impact TCR dynamics in several ways. In
267 quiescent T cells, Ca²⁺ fluxes across ORAI1 channels might disrupt the CD3-lipid interactions that
268 prevent spontaneous TCR phosphorylation ³⁴, enhancing the activity state of TCR prior to their
269 engagement. ORAI1 targeting to specialized PM domains such as filopodia might be required for this
270 priming effect to occur. Alternatively, ORAI1 channels might control the rates of TCR recycling via
271 endosomes by promoting the activity of Ca²⁺-dependent actin-severing proteins such as gelsolin. Our
272 unexpected observation that ORAI1-C143A hinders TCR signalling even in the absence of extracellular
273 Ca²⁺ suggests that ORAI1 might act from an intracellular location to promote endosomal recycling. The
274 presence of ORAI1 channels in endosomes is well documented ³⁵, but whether these channels mediate
275 Ca²⁺ efflux from endosomes is not known. Preventing ORAI1 targeting could also impact the location
276 or activity of integrin receptors such as ICAM-1, thereby indirectly altering the formation of TCR
277 clusters. Further experiments are required to establish whether ORAI1 S-acylation promotes its
278 endocytosis and whether S-acylation is dynamic or a one-off event that can impact the affinity of
279 ORAI1 for accessory proteins or its potential interactions with other channels such as TRPC.

280 In summary, our findings reveal that the ORAI1 channel is regulated by S-acylation. The fatty
281 acid addition is mediated by PAT20 and targets the channel to lipid-ordered PM domains rich in
282 cholesterol, thereby facilitating channel trapping by STIM1 during cellular activation. The acylation-
283 deficient channel failed to accumulate in the IS and prevented the formation of TCR clusters during
284 TCR engagement, severely impeding the signals that drive T cell proliferation. We propose that S-
285 acylation dynamically targets the ORAI1 channel to peripheral regions of the synapses rich in
286 cholesterol to ensure efficient T cell signalling following TCR engagement.

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292 **Materials and Methods**

293 **Antibodies and reagents**

294 The following reagents were used in this manuscript; Thapsigargin (T9033/CAY10522, Sigma);
295 Ionomycin (I9657, Sigma); Phorbol 12-myristate 13-acetate (PMA) (79346, Sigma); Fura2-AM, (F1201,
296 Invitrogen); Fluo-8, AM (21082, AAT Bioquest); SiR-Actin (Far Red, Spirochrome) Cyclopiazonic acid
297 from *Penicillium cyclopium*, (c1530, Sigma); Gadolinium (G7532, Sigma); Vybrant® Alexa Fluor® 555
298 Lipid Raft Labeling Kit cholera toxin subunit B (V34404, Thermo-Fisher); Lipophilic Tracer Sampler DiD
299 (L7781, Thermo-Fisher); Hoechst 33342 (H3570, Thermo-Fisher); Dynabeads™ Human T-Activator
300 CD3/CD28 (11161D, Thermo-Fisher), GFP-trap agarose (GTA-10, Chromotek), -hydroxylamine (55460,
301 Sigma, used at 0.5M), Zebra spin desalting columns (PIER89882, Pierce), 3H- palmitic acid (ART0129-
302 25, American radio labelled chemicals), NEM (04559, Sigma), protein G (17-0618-01, GEHealthcare),
303 5kDa PEG (63187, Sigma). For protein detection either on Western blot or immunofluorescence, we
304 used; NFATc1 (clone 7A6, MABS409, Sigma), TCR alpha/beta-PE (12-9986-42, eBioscience™), Anti-
305 Cholera Toxin, B-Subunit (227040, Sigma), Myc-Tag (9B11) (2276, Cell-Signalling), gamma Tubulin
306 (4D11) (MA1-850, Thermofisher), ANTI-FLAG® M2 (F1804, Sigma), anti-ORAI1 (600-401-DG9, rockland
307 immunochemicals Inc), anti-GFP (SAB4301138, Sigma), anti-mouse-HRP and rabbit-HRP (1706516 and
308 172101, Bio-Rad (USA).

309 **Cell culture, cell lines and DNA constructs**

310 Human embryonic kidney (HEK-293T) and Human retinal pigment epithelial-1 (RPE1) cells were
311 obtained from ATCC (CRL-11268, Manassas, VA, USA) maintained in Dulbecco's modified Eagles
312 medium (cat. no. 31966-021) supplemented with 10% fetal bovine serum and 1 %
313 penicillin/streptomycin, and grown at 37°C and 5% CO₂. HeLa cells purchased from the European
314 collection of cell culture (ECACC) were grown in MEM Gibco (41090 in the same conditions. HEK-293
315 cells CRISPR triple knockout for ORAI1, 2 and 3 were a kind gift from Dr. Rajesh Bhardwaj, University
316 of Bern. HEK-293T Stable cell lines expressing Cherry-Stim1 and hORAI1-WT or mutant C126A, C143A
317 or C1267C143A were first infected with Cherry STIM1 p2K7 lentiviral vector, sorted, and then infected

318 for the indicated mutants at a MOI of 2 and sorted for the same Cherry-STIM1 and ORAI1-GFP
319 intensity. Indicated constructs were subcloned into a pWPT vector and co transfected with pCAG-
320 VSVG/psPAX2 into HEK-293T cells to produce viral particles as described in ³⁶. Briefly, indicated
321 constructs were subcloned into a pWPT vector and co transfected with pCAG-VSVG/psPAX2 into HEK-
322 293T cells to produce viral particles. After accumulation, ultracentrifugation and titration of the virus
323 these were stored at -80°C. Jurkat T clone E6 cells were purchased from ECACC and grown in RPMI
324 1640 (21875-034 Life Technologies) supplemented with 10 FCS and 1% Pen/Strep. CRISPR Jurkat T
325 cells were generated by stably expressing with lentiviral particles pLX-311-Cas9 construct (Addgene
326 96924) and transiently transfecting with Amaxa® Cell Line Nucleofector® Kit T (Ref: VCA-1002, Lonza)
327 two sets of sgRNAs (Hs.Cas9.ORAI1.1.AA Ref : 224748421 / Hs.Cas9.ORAI1.1.AB Ref : 224748422, IDT).
328 Single clone sorting and DNA sequencing were used to validate ORAI1 KO cells. ORAI1 rescue on
329 CRISPR Jurkat T ORAI1 KO cells was performed by infecting at a MOI of 5 and FACS sorting for GFP
330 fluorescence. To avoid clonal effects all cells used or generated in this study were pooled populations
331 with the exception of HEK-TKO for ORAI1/2/3 or Jurkat CRISPR ORAI1 cells which were validated
332 standard rescue, using either transient (HEK-293) or stable (Jurkat) expression. All cells sorted in this
333 study were generated using a Beckman Coulter MoFlo Astrios integrated in PSL2 hood.
334 The ORAI1 - yellow fluorescent protein (YFP) construct was purchased from Addgene (Cambridge,
335 MA, USA; plasmid no. 19756). Site directed mutagenesis using the Pfu Turbo DNA polymerase from
336 Agilent Technologies (Santa Clara, CA, USA; 600250) was used to introduce Cysteine mutants C143A,
337 or S, and C126 A or S). Forward (fwd) and complementary reverse mutagenesis primers (Mycrosynth
338 (Balgach, Switzerland) were as follows: C143A fwd: 5'-GCG CTC ATG ATC AGC ACC gcC ATC CTG CCC
339 AAC ATC GAG GC-3', C143S fwd: 5'-GCT CAT GAT CAG CAC CaG CAT CCT GCC CAA CAT CG-3', C126A
340 fwd: 5'-GCT CAT CGC CTT CAG TGC Cgc CAC CAC AGT GCT GGT GGC-3', C126S fwd: 5'-GCT CAT CGC
341 CTT CAG TGC CaG CAC CAC AGT GCT GGT GGC-3'. All plasmids encoding for human DHHC1, 2, 3, 6, 7,
342 13, 17 and 20 were Myc tagged in the N-terminus in pcDNA3 vectors, kindly provided by the Fukata
343 lab.

344 **Radiolabeling 3H-palmitic acid incorporation**

345 To follow S-acylation, transfected or non-transfected cells were incubated 1 hour in medium without
346 serum (Glasgow minimal essential medium buffered with 10 mM Hepes, pH 7.4), followed by 2 hours
347 at 37°C in IM with 200 μ Cl /ml 3H palmitic acid (9,10-3H(N)), washed with cold PBS prior
348 immunoprecipitation overnight with anti-ORAI antibodies and protein G-beads or anti-GFP agarose-
349 coupled beads. Beads were incubated 5 minutes at 90°C in reducing sample buffer prior to SDS-PAGE.
350 Immunoprecipitates were split into two, run on 4-20% gels and analysed either by autoradiography
351 (3H-palmitate) after fixation (25% isopropanol, 65% H₂O, 10% acetic acid), gels were incubated 30
352 minutes in enhancer Amplify NAMP100, and dried; or Western blotting.

353 **Acyl-Peg-exchange**

354 To block free cysteine, cells were lysed and incubated in 400 μ l buffer (2.5% SDS, 100 mM HEPES,
355 1 mM EDTA, 40mM NEM pH 7.5, and protease inhibitor cocktail) for 4 h at 40°C. To remove excess
356 unreacted NEM, proteins were acetone precipitated and resuspended in buffer (100 mM HEPES, 1
357 mM EDTA, 1% SDS, pH 7.5). Previously S-acylated cysteines were revealed by treatment with 250 mM
358 hydroxylamine (NH₂OH) for 1 hour at 37°C. Cell lysates were desalted using Zebra spin columns and
359 incubated 1 hour at 37°C with 2mM 5kDa PEG: methoxypolyethylene glycol maleimide. Reaction was
360 stopped by incubation in SDS sample buffer for 5 minutes at 95°C. Samples were separated by SDS-
361 PAGE and analysed by immunoblotting.

362 **Ca²⁺ imaging and plate reader**

363 Calcium assays in single cell live imaging were performed as described previously³⁷. Briefly, cells were
364 loaded with 3 μ M Fura-2-AM, in modified Ringer's for 30 min at room temperature (RT). 340/380 nm
365 excitation and 510 \pm 40nm emission ratiometric imaging was performed every 2 seconds. SOCE activity
366 was triggered by emptying the ER stores by blocking SERCA with Thapsigargin in a Ca²⁺-free solution
367 containing 1 mM EGTA instead of 2 mM CaCl₂. Extracellular calcium addition revealed ORAI1 activity.
368 Jurkat cells attachment to the coverslip was achieved by seeding 200.000 cells in 25mm poly-L lysine
369 coated coverslips for 25 minutes at RT. When indicated, Jurkat cells were transfected with YFP

370 cameleon (YC 3.6) calcium cytosolic probe to measure cytosolic calcium. YC 3.6 was excited at 440nm
371 and emission was collected alternatively at 480 and 535 nm. Calcium imaging in HEK-293 cells Triple
372 Knockout for ORAI1,2 and 3 was performed in plate reader using Fura2 as calcium Dye. Fluorescence
373 was measured using a 96-well microplate reader with automated fluid additions at 37 °C (FlexStation
374 3, Molecular Devices).

375 **TIRF imaging.**

376 TIRF imaging to determine ORAI and STIM clusters in HEK-293 cells S1/O1 was performed on a Nikon
377 Eclipse Ti microscope equipped with a Perfect Focus System (PFS III) using a 100× oil CFI Apochromat
378 TIRF Objective (NA 1.49; Nikon Instruments Europe B.V.). To observe STIM1/ORAI1 clusters cells were
379 bathed with CPA 10μM and imaged every 20 seconds in calcium free solution. Jurkat T cell lines were
380 used in TIRF to image immune Synapse. Actin was imaged by loading Jurkat T cells (1×10^5) with SiR-
381 Actin (500nM) for 30 min at 37 °C 5% CO₂. 500.000 Jurkat T cells were seeded on CD3 (OKT3, 1μg/ml)
382 coated glass coverslips (25mm) at the beginning of the experiment and imaged every 1 minutes for 25
383 minutes. Then, TCRα/β-PE conjugated antibody was added (1:1000) in order to image TCR cluster
384 formation in the IS in living cells. For both cell lines, ORAI1 was imaged using ZET488/10 excitation
385 filter (Chroma Technology Corp.). STIM1 cherry (in HEK-293 cells) or TCR clusters were imaged using a
386 ZET 561/10 excitation filter (Chroma Technology Corp., Bellows Falls, VT). SiR-Actin was measured
387 using 640 nm laser line. All emission signals were collected by a cooled EMCCD camera (iXon Ultra
388 897, Andor Technology Ltd). All experiments were performed at room temperature (22-25° C).

389 **Confocal live imaging, FRAP and Beads assay**

390 Confocal time lapse microscopy was used to image JurkaT cells with CD3/CD28 beads and
391 Fluorescence recovery after photobleaching. For IS we used Jurkat ORAI1 expressing cells loaded with
392 SiR to visualize Actin (same protocol as for TIRF). 500.000 Jurkat cells were seeded on Poly-L lysine
393 coated glass coverslips (25mm) for 25 minutes at RT. Beads (1:1 bead cell ratio) were added after 2
394 minutes of imaging of the experiment and imaged every 2 in a XYZ configuration (Z stack spanning
395 all cell with 1 μm of thickness) for minutes for 25 minutes at RT. Images were obtained in a Nikon A1r

396 Spectral with a 60x 1.4 CFI Plan Apo Lambda WD:0.13mm objective using 488 and 639 laser lines.
397 Image analysis was performed by selecting in focus stacks where the bead was observed and
398 measuring ORAI1 or SiR-Actin fluorescence over time in the bead contact area normalized to the
399 fluorescence of the opposite pole as described previously³⁸.

400 FRAP was performed in HEK-293 S1/O1 under resting condition using the same microscope. ORAI1
401 FRAP was accomplished by following the protocol previously described³⁹. Briefly, we used a live
402 chamber at 37°C and 5% CO₂. Pinhole was settled at 1AU and images were sampled every 3 seconds
403 for 100 images. Bleaching was for 20 seconds (488nm 100% output) after 1 minute of basal acquisition.
404 ROI of interest was compared to the same size ROI in the same field of view and normalized to basal.
405 Traces were fitted with an exponential one-phase association model to obtain the half-life, $\tau_{1/2}$ and
406 fluorescence recovery. Diffusion coefficient was calculated with the formula $D = 0.224r^2/(\tau_{1/2})$, in
407 which r is the radius of the bleached circle region as described in³⁹.

408 **Flow cytometry**

409 Cytometry calcium experiments on Jurkat cells were performed by incubation with Fluo8 (2 μ M 30
410 min, RT) and washed for 15 minutes in a calcium containing solution. BD Accuri C6 was used to
411 measure calcium movements over time by setting the flow at 1 μ L per second. Every experiment
412 started with 5 x 10⁵ cells in 510 μ L of calcium free solution (1mM EGTA). After 1 min 50 μ L of Tg 10 μ M
413 was added to empty ER stores. After 300 seconds we added 100 μ L of CaCl₂ (Final concentration
414 2.5mM) to reveal SOCE. IL-2 measurements were performed as described previously⁴⁰. Briefly, Jurkat
415 cells (50.000) were seeded in pre coated CD3 (OKT3) round bottom 96 cell plates for 2 days. Cells were
416 then fixed (PFA 4%) and perm/blocked with PBS-2%BSA 0.5% Saponin previous to IL-2 PE incubation.
417 IL-2 FACS measurements were acquired in a BDLSR Fortessa unit.

418 **Giant Plasma Membrane Vesicles (GPMV)**

419 GPMVs were formed and analysed following this protocol⁴¹. Briefly, HEK-293 cells were seeded in
420 poly-L-lysine coated 25mm glass coverslips and transfected with YFP-ORAI1 WT or the C143A mutant.
421 The day after cells were washed with GPMV buffer (150mM NaCl, 2mM CaCl₂ and 10mM HEPES, pH:

422 7.4) and incubated for 1h at 37°C 5% CO₂ with a vesiculation buffer (25mM PFA, 2mM DTT,). Cell super
423 natant was then spun for 30 minutes at 20.000 x g and incubated with Alexa-555 Cholera Toxin B
424 subunit and DiD (Far red) lipid staining markers for 10 minutes on ice. Imaging was performed at 10°C
425 using Open Perfusion Microincubator (PDMI-2, Medical Systems, Greenvale, NY) temperature
426 controller to enhance lipid partitioning. Vesicles were imaged using a Nikon A1r Spectral with a 60x
427 1.4 CFI Plan Apo Lambda WD:0.13mm objective using 488, 551 and 639 laser lines.

428 **Electrophysiology**

429 I_{CRAC} currents were recorded using the whole-cell configuration in HEK-293 cells stably expressing
430 mCherry-STIM1 and ORAI1-GFP (O1/S1) bearing or not the C143A mutation. The cells were
431 trypsinized, seeded on 35 mm dishes (Corning, NY, USA) and incubated overnight at 37 °C to allow
432 attachment of separated cells. The experiments were performed at room temperature. Pipettes were
433 pulled from 1.5 mm thin-wall glass capillaries (GC150TF, Harvard Apparatus) using a vertical PC-10
434 Narishige puller to obtain a resistance between 2-4 MΩ. Currents were recorded with pCLAMP 10.7
435 software (Molecular Devices, Sunnyvale, CA, USA), using the Axopatch 200B amplifier (Axon
436 Instruments, Molecular Devices) with a low-pass filtering at 1 kHz, and digitized with the Axon
437 Digidata 1440A at 1 ms. Voltage ramps of 180 ms were applied from -120 to +100 mV every 5 seconds
438 from a holding potential of 0 mV. Peak current densities (I_{max}) were measured at -100 mV after
439 subtraction of basal or 10 μM GdCl₃-insensitive currents. The standard 10 mM Ca²⁺ recording solution
440 contained 130 mM NaCl, 5 mM KCl, 1 mM MgCl₂, 10 mM CaCl₂ and 10 mM HEPES (300-310 mOsm,
441 pH 7.4 adjusted with NaOH). The intracellular pipette solution contained 130 mM Cs
442 methanesulfonate, 8 mM MgCl₂, 10 mM BAPTA, and 10 mM HEPES (290-300 mOsm, pH 7.2 adjusted
443 with CsOH).

444 **Immunofluorescence**

445 PAT20 and ORAI1 immunofluorescence was performed in HeLa cells co-transfected with ORAI1-YFP
446 and PAT20-myc. After 24h of transfection, cells were fixed (Pfa 4%) for 20 min at RT, then
447 permeabilized (PBS-BSA0.5% + NP-40 0.1%) for 10 minutes and then blocked (PBS-BSA0.5% + FBS 5%)

448 for 1h at RT. Then cells were incubated with primary antibodies O/N at 4°C then with secondary 1:1000
449 with Hoesch 1:5000 for 1h at RT. For NFAT translocation Jurkat cells were treated with the indicated
450 compounds (Tg 1µM or CD3 plastic coated plates) for the indicated times and seeded into poly-L lysine
451 coated coverslips for 15 minutes at RT. Immunofluorescences for NFATC1 were performed as
452 described for HeLa cells. NFATC1 analysis was done by dividing the nuclear to the cytosolic (total-
453 nuclear) pixel intensity per cell into 3 to 5 randomized fields per condition. Images were obtained in
454 a LSM700 Nikon microscope.

455 **Image analysis and statistics**

456 All images were analysed using ImageJ software. Co-localisation and particle concentric counting for
457 TCR were performed by applying a previously described macro ⁴².

458 **Data availability**

459 The data that support the findings of this study are available from the corresponding author upon
460 reasonable request.

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467 **Author contributions**

468 ACS, Conception and design, Acquisition of data, Analysis and interpretation of data, Drafting or
469 revising the article; JK, MB, LA, & MF, Acquisition of data, Analysis and interpretation of data; GvG &
470 ND, Conception and design, Analysis and interpretation of data, Drafting or revising the article.

471 **Competing Financial Interests**

472 The authors have no competing financial interests.

473

475 **Figures Legends**

476

477 **Fig. 1. ORAI1 is S-acylated at Cysteine C143.**

478 (A) ORAI1 immunoblot of HeLa cells treated with PEG-5k to label S-acylation sites after exposure to
479 NEM to block free thiols and then to hydroxylamine (HA) to break acyl-thioester bonds. (B) Western
480 blot and corresponding autoradiogram of HeLa cells labelled for 2 h with ^3H -palmitic acid with or
481 without HA and immunoprecipitated with anti-ORAI1. (C, D) Western blots and corresponding
482 autoradiograms of HeLa (C) and RPE-1 (D) cells expressing the indicated GFP-tagged ORAI1 mutants
483 labelled with ^3H -palmitic acid and immunoprecipitated with anti-GFP. Blots are representative of 3
484 independent experiments. (E) Normalized mean fura-2 responses evoked by Ca^{2+} readmission in HEK-
485 TKO cells transiently transfected with the indicated ORAI1-GFP constructs and exposed to Tg. (F) Peak
486 amplitude of the responses in E after background subtraction. Data are mean \pm SEM of 8 independent
487 experiments. One way ANOVA Dunnett's multiple comparisons test.

488

489 **Fig. 2. Preventing ORAI1 S-acylation reduces I_{CRAC} currents**

490 (A) Normalized fura-2 responses evoked by Ca^{2+} readmission to Tg-treated HEK-293 cells stably
491 expressing mCh-STIM1 and ORAI1-GFP (O1/S1) bearing or not the C143A mutation. (B) Peak amplitude
492 of the responses in A. Data are mean \pm SEM of 196 (WT) and 198 (C143A) cells from 5 independent
493 experiments. (C) Representative I_{CRAC} recordings of WT and C143A O1/S1 cells, measured every 5
494 seconds at -100 mV. I_{CRAC} was activated by cell dialysis with 10 mM BAPTA and blocked by 10 μM Gd^{3+} .
495 (D) Current-voltage relationship of the peak current in the cells shown in C (mean \pm SEM). (E) Peak
496 current densities (I_{max}) of WT and C143A O1/S1 cells after subtraction of basal or Gd^{3+} -insensitive
497 currents. (F) Time-course of current activation in cells without pre-activated currents. Left: Recordings
498 were aligned to the first inflexion point and basal and maximal values set to 0 and 1, respectively.
499 Right: Statistical evaluation of the activation time. Data are mean \pm SEM, number of cells is indicated
500 on the graphs. Two-tailed unpaired Student's *t*-test.

501 **Fig. 3. Preventing ORAI1 S-acylation reduces channel clustering and affinity for lipid rafts.**

502 (A) Representative TIRF images of WT and C143 O1/S1 cells exposed to 10 μ M CPA for 10 min to induce
503 mCh-STIM1 and ORAI1-GFP clustering Bars = 5 μ m. (B) Averaged size of individual ORAI1-GFP clusters
504 (left) and extent of PM covered by clusters (right) after CPA treatment. Data are mean \pm SEM of 29 (WT)
505 and 30 (C143A) cells from 3 independent experiments. (C) FRAP recordings from WT and C143 O1/S1
506 cells. Top: representative GFP images. Bottom: representative fluorescence decay and recovery (left),
507 diffusion coefficients (middle), and fluorescence plateau values (right). Data are mean \pm SEM of 21 (WT)
508 and 15 (C143A) cells from 3 independent experiments Bars = 5 μ m. (D) Lipid partitioning of ORAI1 in
509 giant vesicles from HEK-293 cells transiently transfected with WT or C143 ORAI1-GFP. Top:
510 representative fluorescence images of vesicles from cells expressing WT or C143 ORAI1-GFP (green)
511 stained with cholera toxin subunit B (red) as raft marker and DiD (white) as non-raft marker top bar =
512 3 μ m; bottom bar = 2 μ m. Bottom: Manders co-localization index for the indicated staining and
513 conditions. Data are mean \pm SEM of 11 (WT) and 10 (C143A) vesicles from 3 independent experiments.
514 Two-tailed unpaired Student's *t*-test.

515

516 **Fig. 4. PAT20 S-acylates ORAI1 and modulates its activity**

517 (A) Western blot and matching autoradiogram of RPE-1 cells expressing ORAI1-GFP plus the indicated
518 PAT isoform, labelled with 3 H-palmitic acid and immunoprecipitated with anti-GFP. Representative of
519 3 independent experiments. (B) Functional effect of PAT3, 7, and 20 expression. Western blot of HeLa
520 cells expressing Myc-tagged PAT isoforms (left), averaged SOCE responses (middle), and peak
521 amplitude (right). Data are mean \pm SEM of 49-74 cells from 3 independent experiments. (C) Averaged
522 SOCE responses of WT (left) or C143A (middle) S1/O1 cells expressing these PAT isoforms and their
523 peak amplitude (right). Data are mean \pm SEM of 31-129 cells from 5 independent experiments. (D)
524 Confocal images of HeLa cells expressing Myc-tagged PAT20, treated or not with Tg (600s). Graphs
525 show co-localization coefficients of Myc immunoreactivity with ORAI1-GFP, indicated by arrows on
526 images. Bar = 10 μ m. One way ANOVA Dunnett's multiple comparisons test.

527 **Fig. 5. ORAI1 S-acylation promotes Jurkat T cell activation**

528 (A) Averaged fura-2 responses and their peak amplitude evoked by Tg in Jurkat T cells lines generated
529 by CRISPR with control or ORAI1-targeted guiding sequences and stably re-expressing either WT or
530 C143A ORAI1-GFP. (B) Representative Fura-2 recordings of the indicated cell lines exposed to
531 CD3/CD28-coated beads in physiological saline (left). Graph bars show the peak values evoked by
532 CD3/CD28 beads in individual cells during the recording period. The percentages of cells with one or
533 more elevation exceeding a threshold of 150% above basal is indicated. Data are from 102 cells (WT)
534 and 124 cells (C143A) from 3 independent experiments. (C) Representative Fura-2 recordings of
535 indicated cells exposed to CD3/CD28 beads in Ca²⁺-free media and then to 1 mM and 2 mM Ca²⁺ (left),
536 and peak amplitude of these responses (right). Graph data are mean±SEM of 228 cells (WT) and 185
537 cells (C143A) from 3 independent experiments. (D) NFATC1 translocation evoked by Tg in the indicated
538 cell lines. Data are mean±SEM of the nuclear to cytosol NFATC1-GFP intensity ratio of 58-161 cells
539 from 4 independent experiments. (E) Time-course of NFATC1 translocation evoked by CD3 (OKT3
540 1µg/ml). Data are mean±SEM of 51-132 cells from 3 independent experiments. (F) IL-2 production
541 evoked by CD3 (OKT3 1µg/ml). Data are mean±SEM of 3 independent experiments. One way ANOVA
542 Dunnett's multiple comparisons test (A and D) or two-tailed unpaired Student's *t*-test.

543

544 **Fig. 6. ORAI1 S-acylation regulates TCR clustering and signaling at the immune synapse**

545 (A) Confocal images of ORAI1-deficient Jurkat T cells reconstituted with WT or mutant ORAI1-GFP,
546 stained with SiR-Actin during initial contact with CD3/CD28-coated beads (visible by their
547 autofluorescence in the GFP channel). Graphs show fluorescence intensities along IS-centred
548 transcellular sections indicated by rectangles on GFP images. Dotted lines on SiR-Actin image indicate
549 the zoomed regions. (B) Time-course of ORAI1-GFP (left) and SiR-Actin (right) accumulation at synapses
550 forming in cells reconstituted with ORAI1-WT (5 cells) and ORAI1-C143A (3 cells). Two-ways ANOVA.
551 (C) TIRF images of these cells stained with SiR-Actin and then with anti-TCR mAb after plating on
552 activating coverslips coated with anti-CD3 mAb. Sketches show densities of TCR and ORAI1 in different

553 concentric regions within the IS (Bar = 10 μm). (D) Averaged ORAI-GFP fluorescence and (E) numbers
554 of TCR clusters within IS forming in these two Jurkat T cell lines. (F) Manders co-localisation index for
555 TCR and ORAI1 WT or mutant. Data are mean \pm SEM of 28-61 cells from four independent experiments.
556 Two-tailed unpaired Student's *t*-test. (G) Scheme representing the effect of ORAI1 S-acylation on IS
557 molecular composition and function. Addition of palmitate to ORAI1 channels by PAT20 targets the
558 channel to lipid-ordered PM domains, promoting the formation of concentric ORAI1 and TCR clusters
559 engaging MHC at the immune synapse. The resulting sustained local Ca^{2+} elevations (in red) induce
560 nuclear translocation of NFATC1 to trigger IL-2 production. (H) Scheme representing the observed
561 phenotype in TIRFF, where C143A mutant cells would accumulate less ORAI1 at the IS, it would
562 redistribute in the centre and would have less TCR dots.

563

564 **Supplementary Fig. 1 (related to Fig. 1)**

565 (A) Orai1 protein sequences aligned with CLustalW algorithm for the indicated organisms. Cysteines
566 susceptible to be S-acylated are highlighted in yellow. (B) Schematic ORAI1 representation.
567 Superimposed structures of the WT and H206A dOrai (PDB ID: 4HKR and 6BBF) conformations in
568 ribbon representation highlighting cysteine residues at position 126, 143 and 195 (C) Fluorescence
569 images of WT O1/S1 cells (left) and averaged mCh-STIM1 and ORAI1-GFP fluorescence of the different
570 O1/S1 stable cell lines. (D) Averaged fura-2 responses (left) and peak amplitude (right) of O1/S1 cells
571 bearing or not the indicated ORAI1 mutation(s). Data are mean \pm SEM of 44-82 cells from two
572 independent experiments. One way ANOVA Dunnett's multiple comparisons test.

573

574 **Supplementary Fig. 2 (related to Fig. 2)**

575 (A) Number of recorded WT and C143A O1/S1 cells exhibiting or not I_{CRAC} inactivation. Chi-square p
576 value: 0.0237, two-sided Fisher's exact test.

577

578 **Supplementary Fig. 3 (related to Fig. 3)**

579 Time-course of CPA-induced changes in the number, size (μm^2), and extent of PM covered by ORAI1-
580 GFP (left) and mCh-STIM1 (right) clusters in WT and C1434A O1/S1 cells. Data are mean \pm SEM of 29
581 (WT) and 30 (C143A) cells from 3 independent experiments. Two-Way ANOVA fitting mixed model.

582

583 **Supplementary Fig. 4 (related to Fig. 4)**

584 (A) ^3H -palmitate incorporation in RPE-1 cells expressing ORAI1-GFP plus the indicated PAT isoforms as
585 in Fig. 4A, normalized for expression levels. Data are from 2 independent experiments. (B) PAT3, PAT7,
586 and PAT20 expression levels (left), averaged SOCE responses (middle), and peak amplitude (right) in
587 HEK-293T- S1/O1-WT cells transfected with the indicated siRNAs. Data are mean \pm SEM of 61-126 cells
588 from 2 independent experiments. One way ANOVA Dunnett's multiple comparisons test.

589

590 **Supplementary Fig. 5 (related to Fig. 5)**

591 (A) ORAI1, PAT3, PAT7, and PAT20 abundance in proteomes from different tissues (from
592 <http://www.humanproteomemap.org/> consulted on Dec. 16, 2020). (B) Sequences of genomic DNA
593 used to generate the CRISPR ORAI1 Jurkat T cell lines (top) and FLAG immunoblot of Jurkat T cells
594 expressing FLAG-tagged Cas9 (bottom). (C) Representative flow cytometry Fluo 8 responses evoked
595 by the Tg/ Ca^{2+} protocol in the indicated cells (top) and their averaged response and peak amplitude
596 (bottom). Data are mean \pm SD of 2 independent experiments. (D) Fluorescence intensity profiles of
597 CRISPR ORAI1 cells reconstituted with WT and C143 ORAI1-GFP measured by flow cytometry (N = 4).
598 (E) Fluorescence images of CRISPR ORAI1 cells reconstituted with WT and C143 ORAI1-GFP cells
599 blotted against NFATC1 ab treated or not with Tg to induce nuclear translocation of NFATC1 Bar = 10
600 μm . (F) Averaged SOCE responses (left) and peak SOCE amplitude (right) measured with YC3.6 in
601 indicated cells expressing PAT20 or the empty vector (PCDNA3) (CRISPR Control + vector, 34 cells;
602 CRISPR Control +PAT20, 40 cells; CRISPR ORAI1 +vector, 10 cells; CRISPR ORAI1+PAT20, 12 cells). (G)
603 IL-2 positive cells in same cells as F treated with Tg or CD3/CD28 beads plus Ionomycin $1\mu\text{M}$ +PMA
604 20nM for 2h. One way ANOVA Dunnett's multiple comparisons test.

605

606 **Supplementary Fig. 6 (related to Fig. 6)**

607 (A) Fraction of CRISPR ORAI1 cells reconstituted with WT or C143A ORAI1-GFP forming actin rings upon
608 plating onto activating coverslips (WT = 258 cells C143A = 235 cells). (B) Averaged IS area of indicated
609 cells forming actin rings. (C) Percentage of ORAI1 (left) and TCR (middle) signal originating from
610 different concentric regions within the IS depicted in the sketch (right). WT = 44 cells; C143A = 27 cells.
611 (D) TCR-PE intensity profiles of these cell lines (N = 3). Data are mean \pm SEM of three experiments. Two-
612 tailed unpaired Student's *t*-test (C) or Fisher's exact test (A).

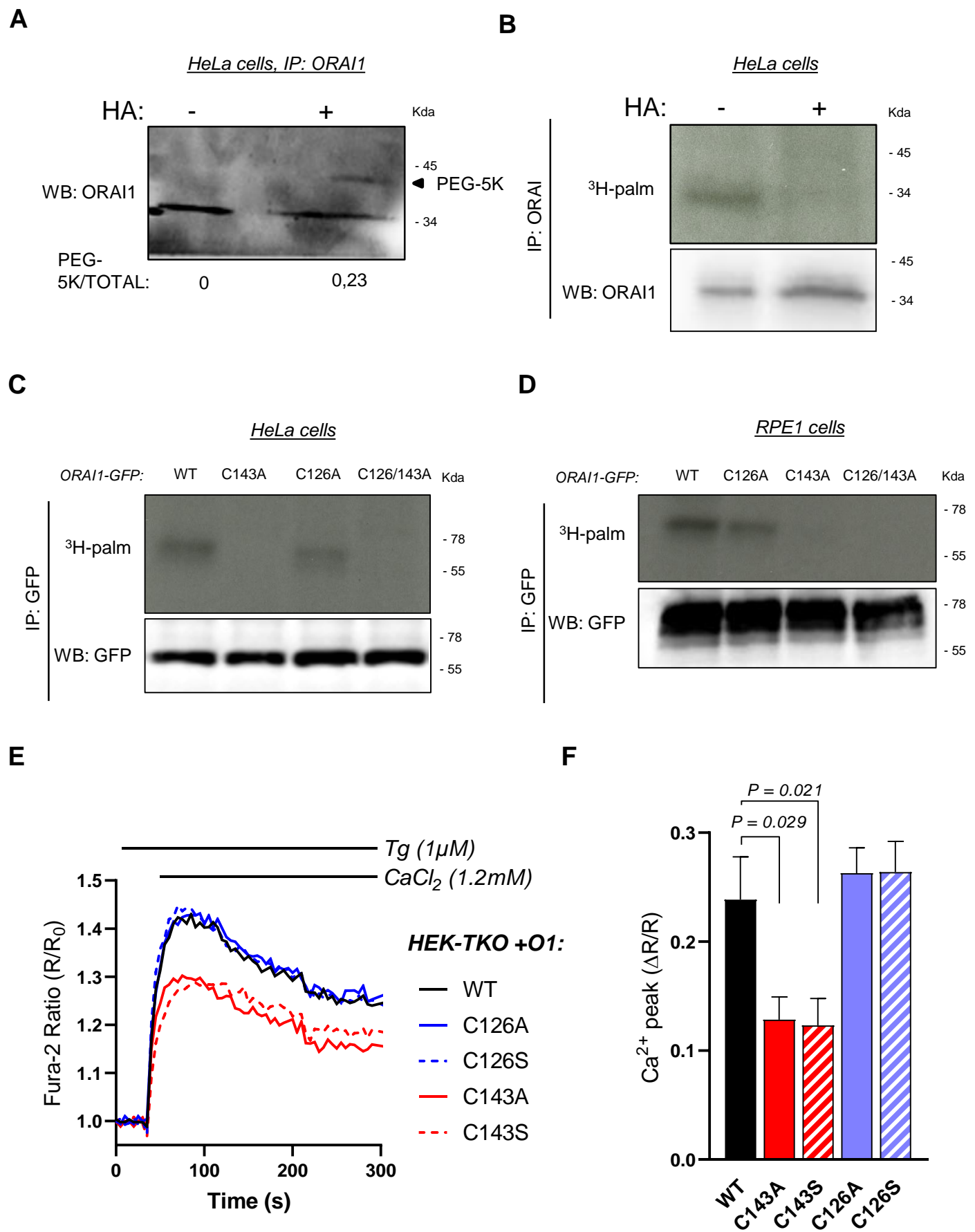
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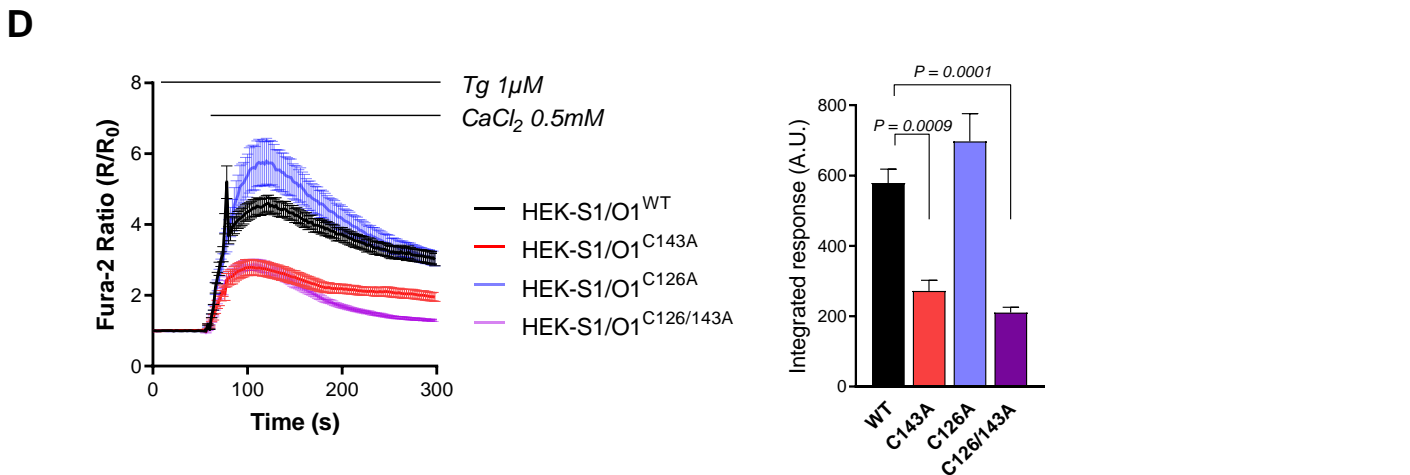
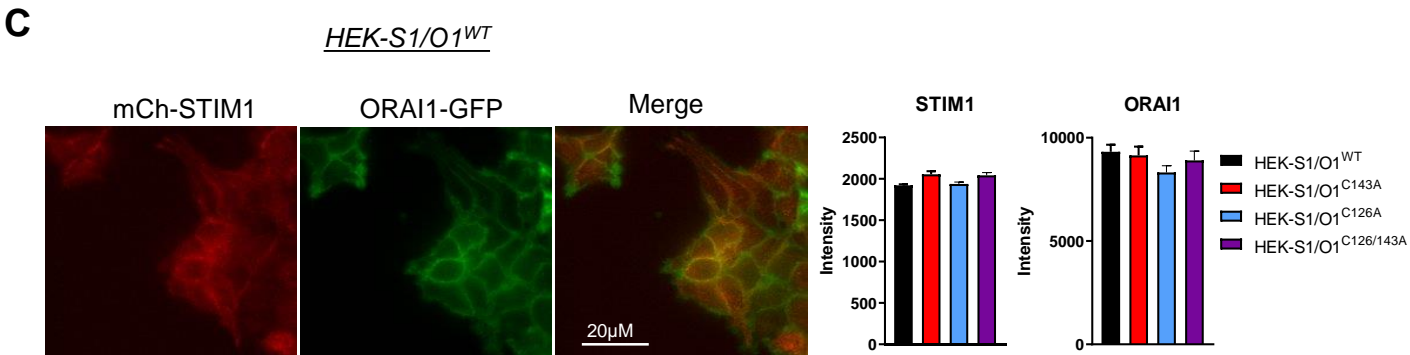
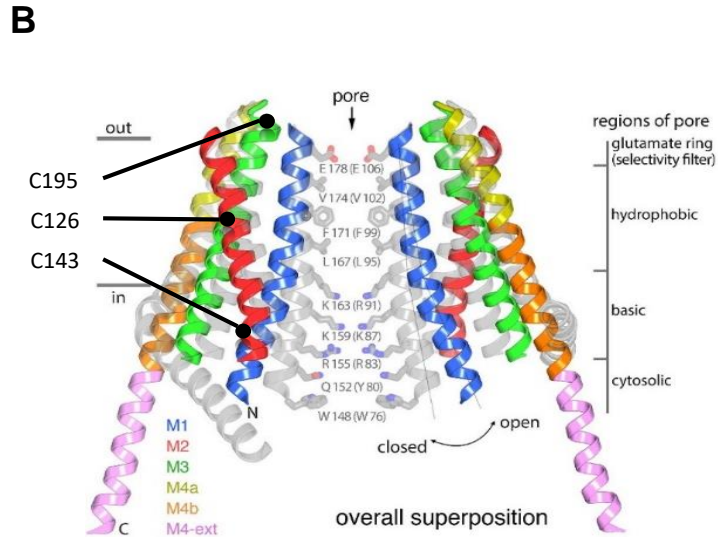
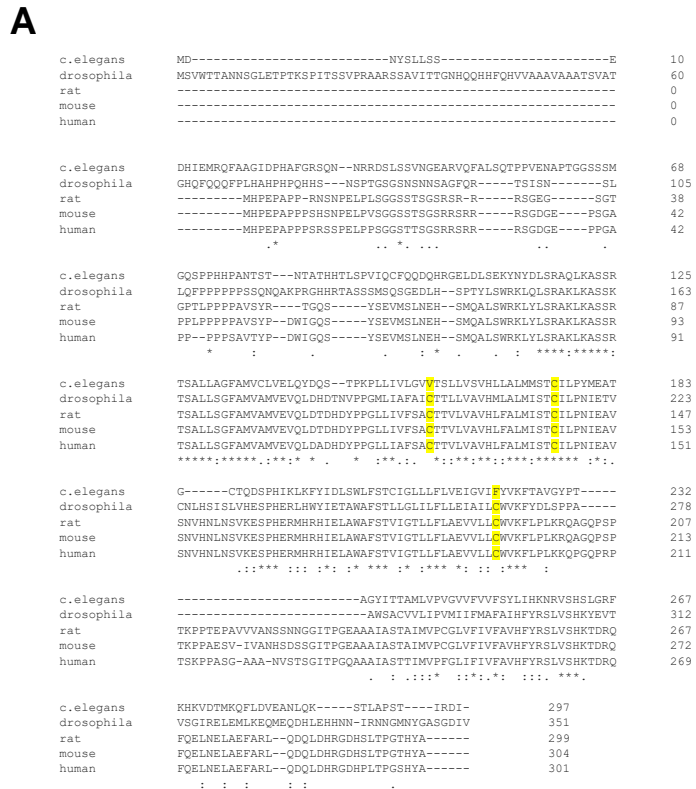
614 **References**

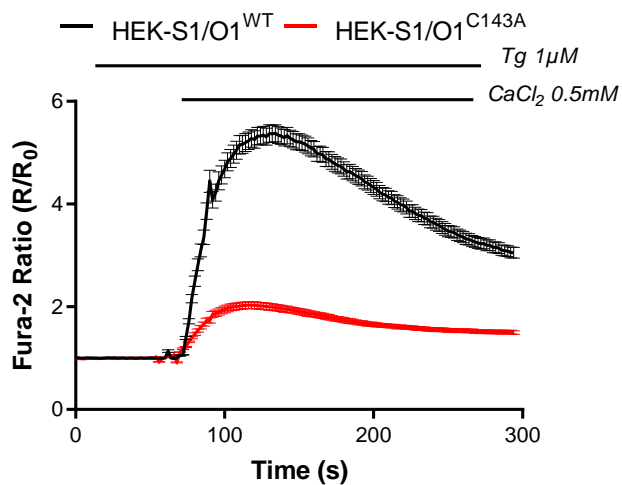
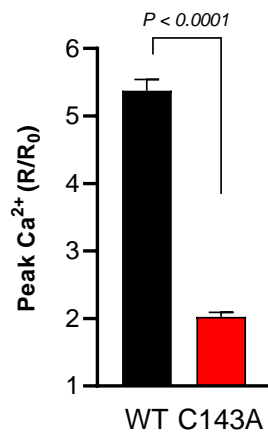
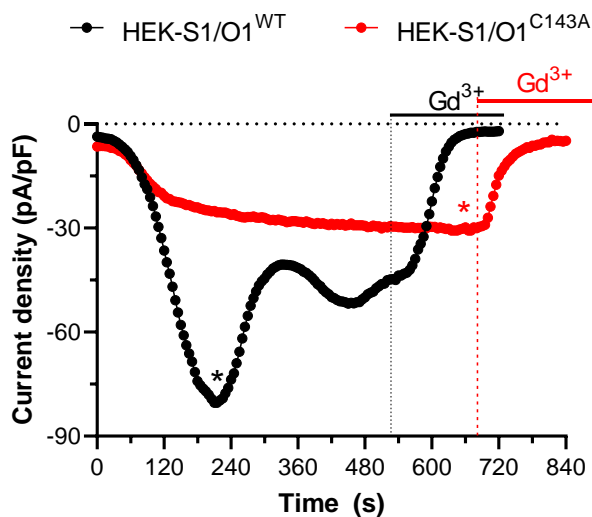
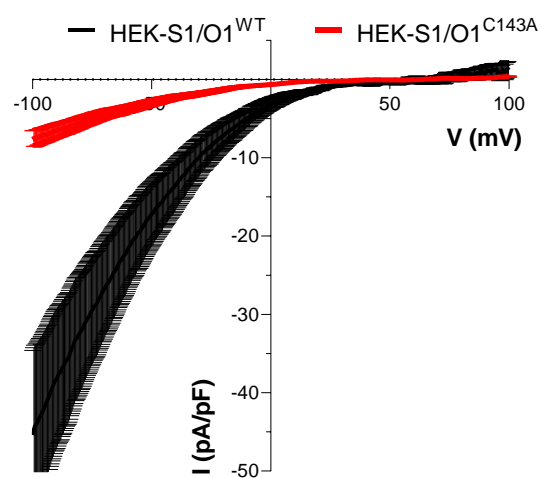
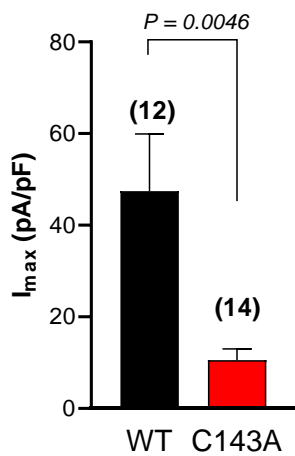
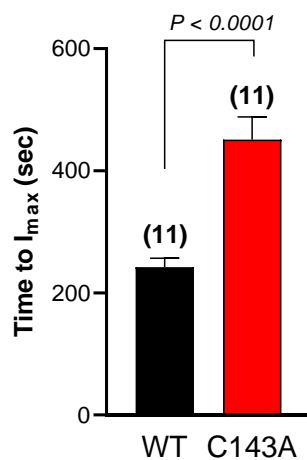
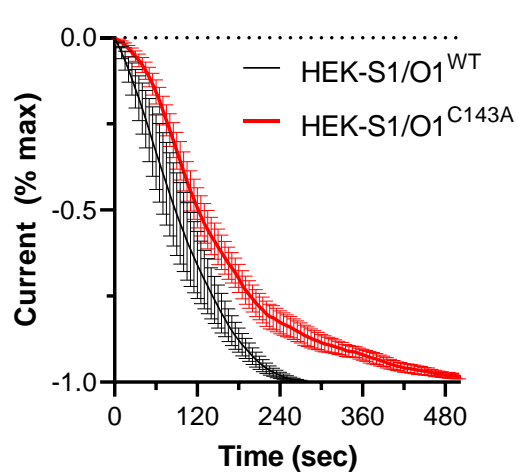
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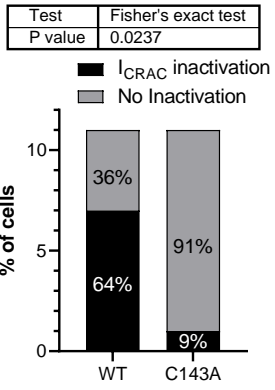
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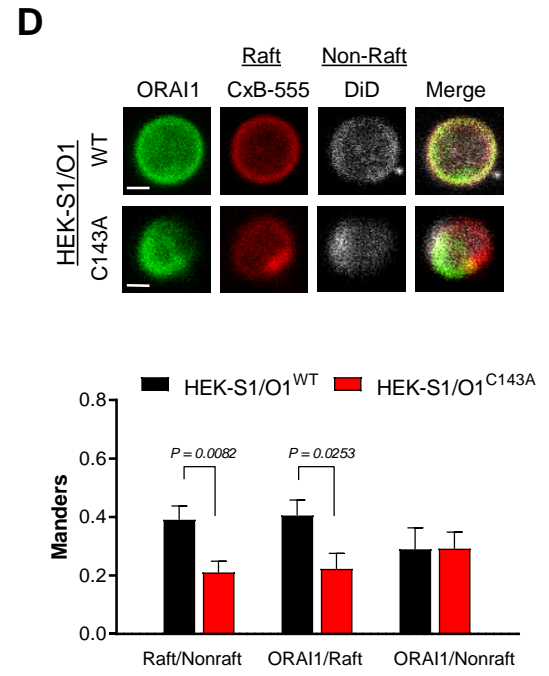
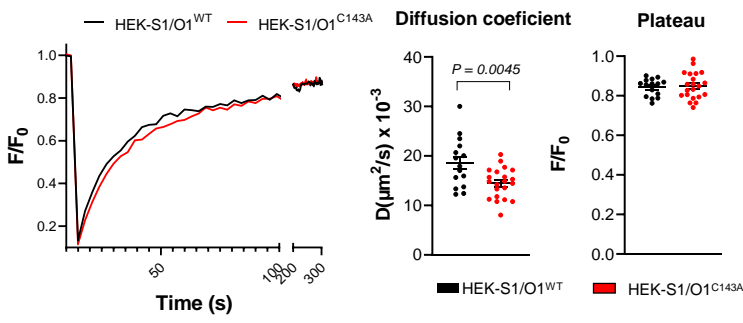
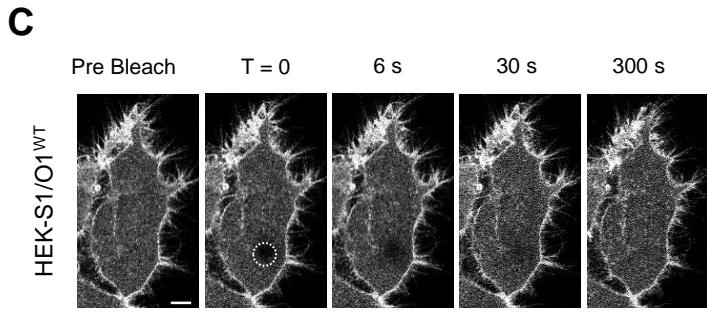
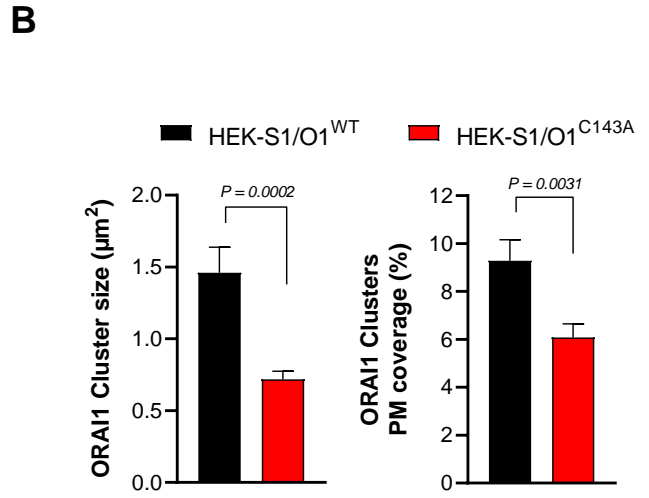
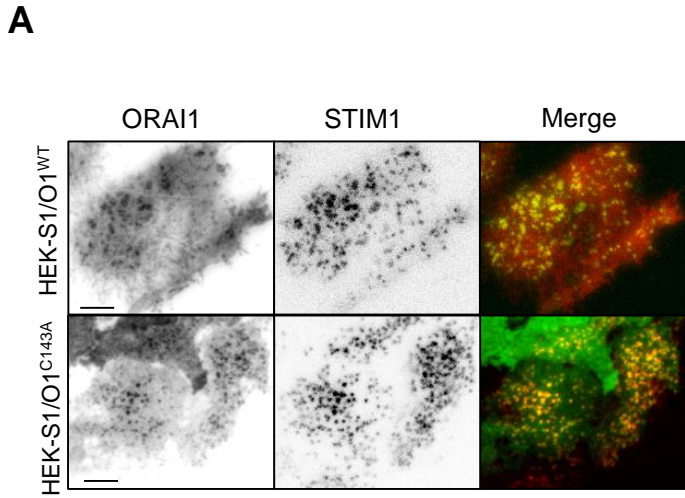
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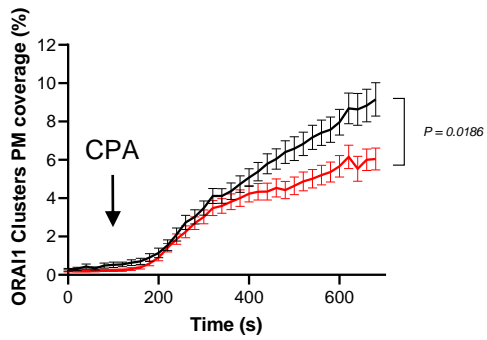
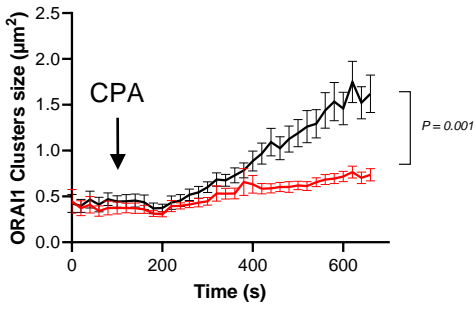
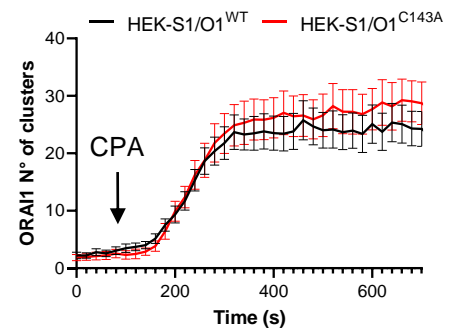
A**B****C****D****E****F**

A



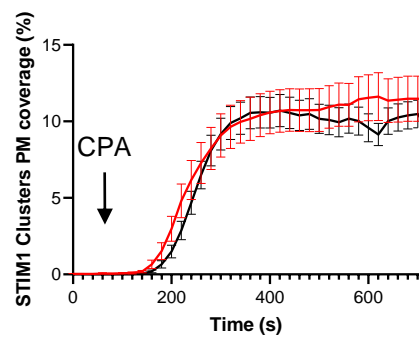
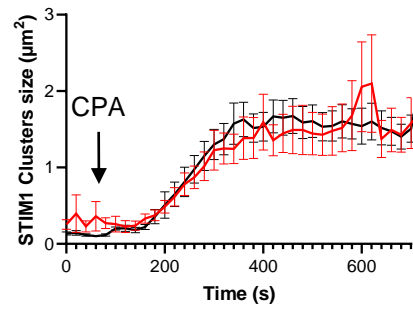
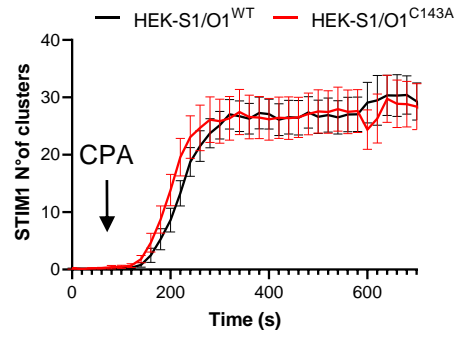
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ORAI1 Parameters

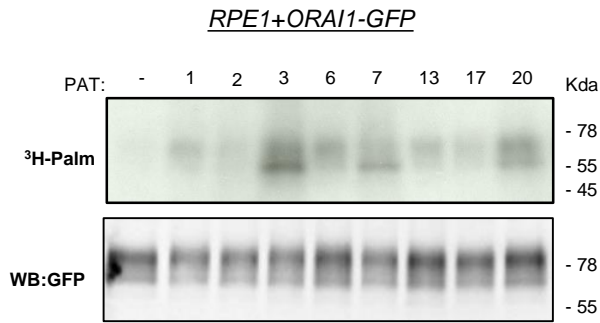


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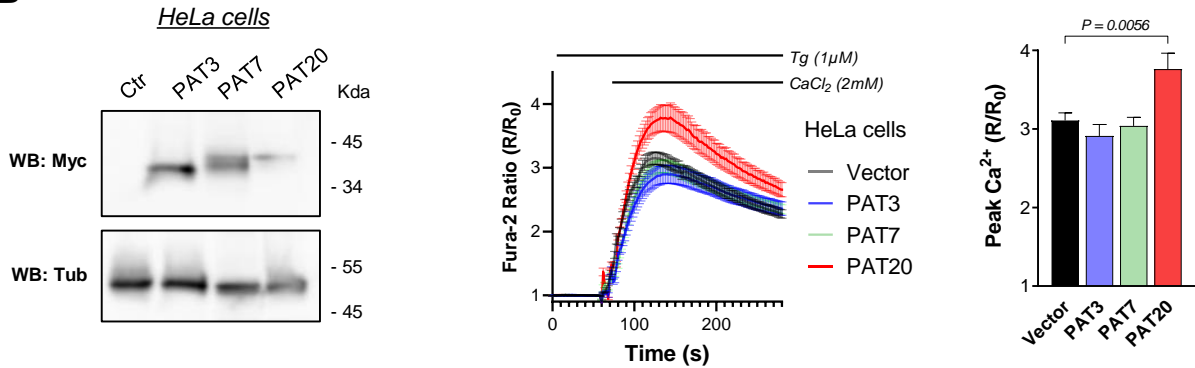
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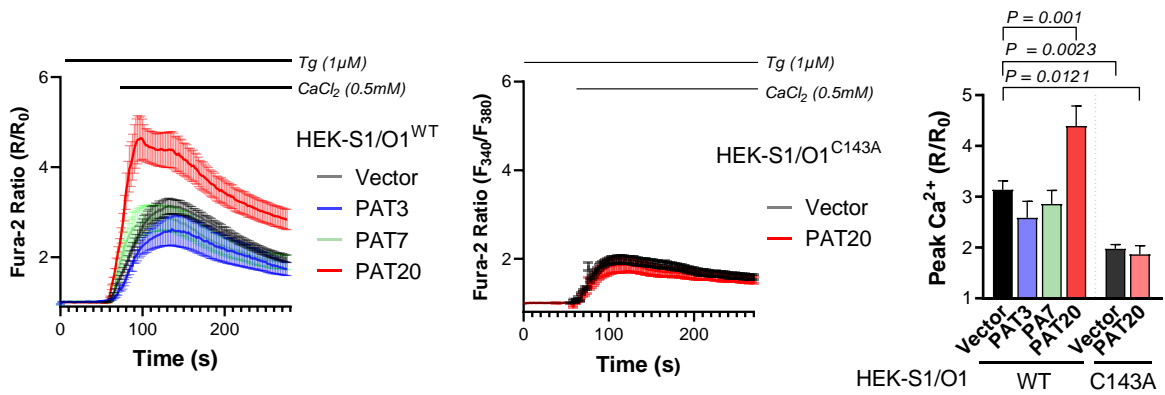
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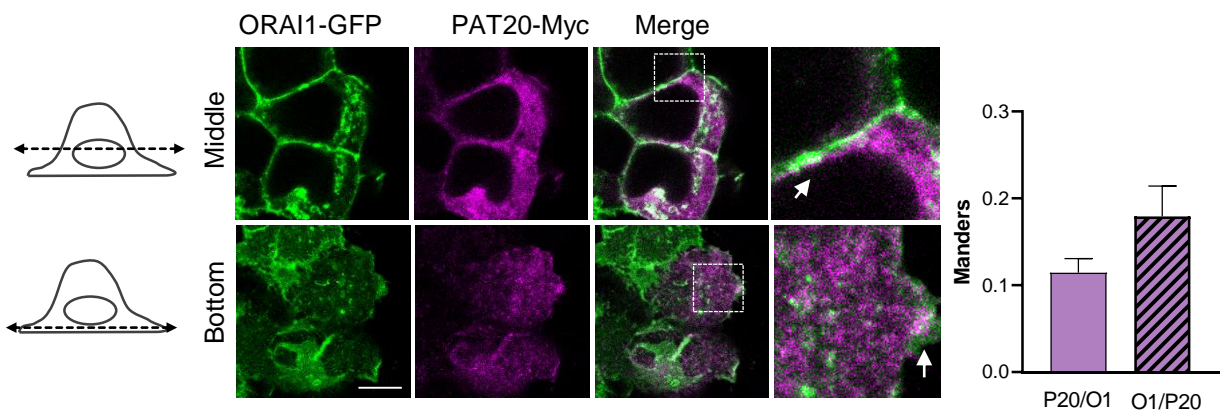
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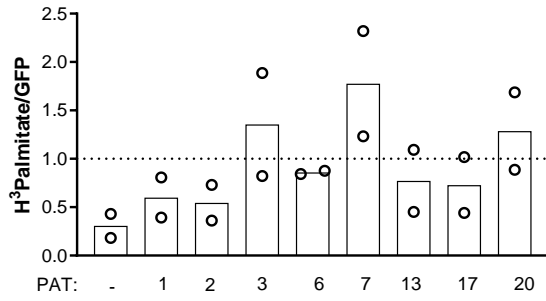
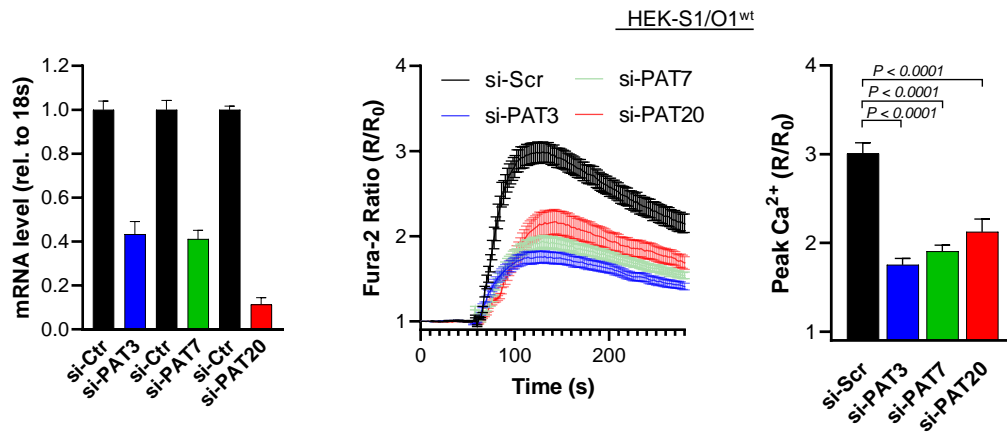


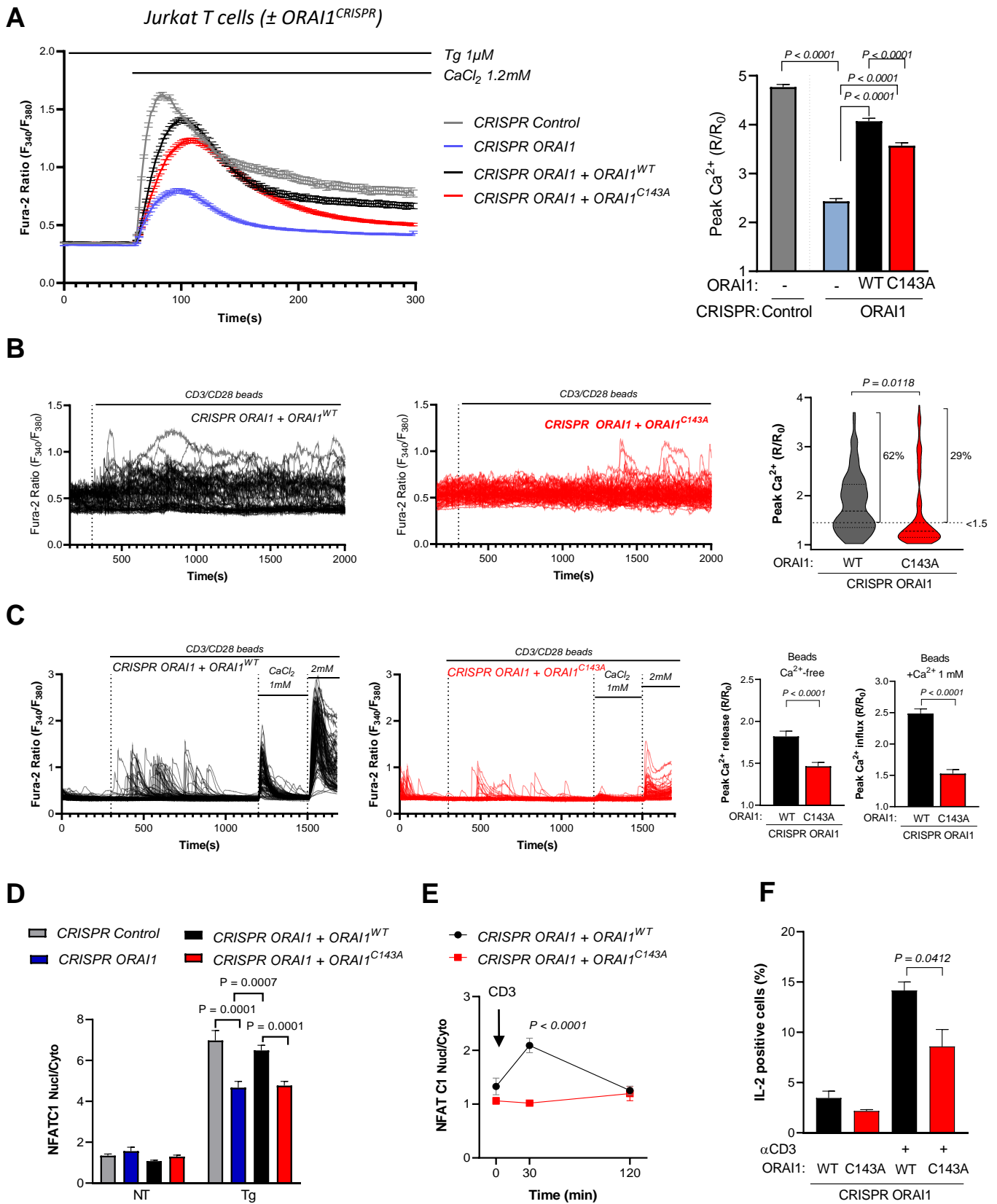
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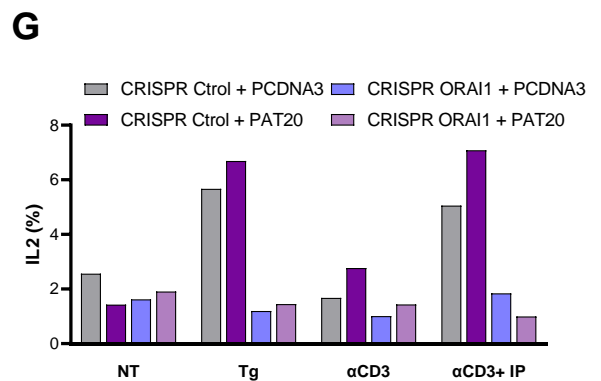
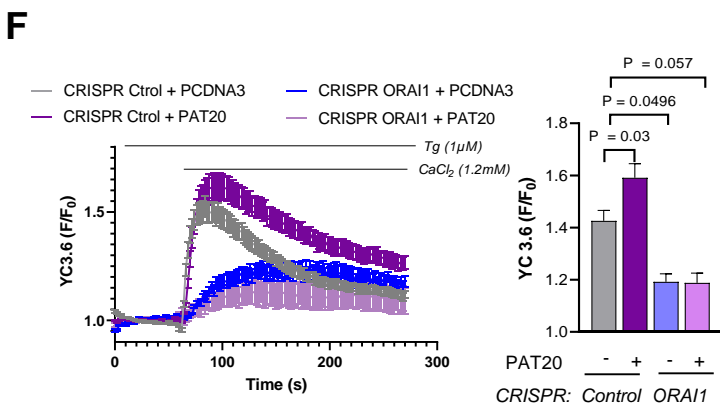
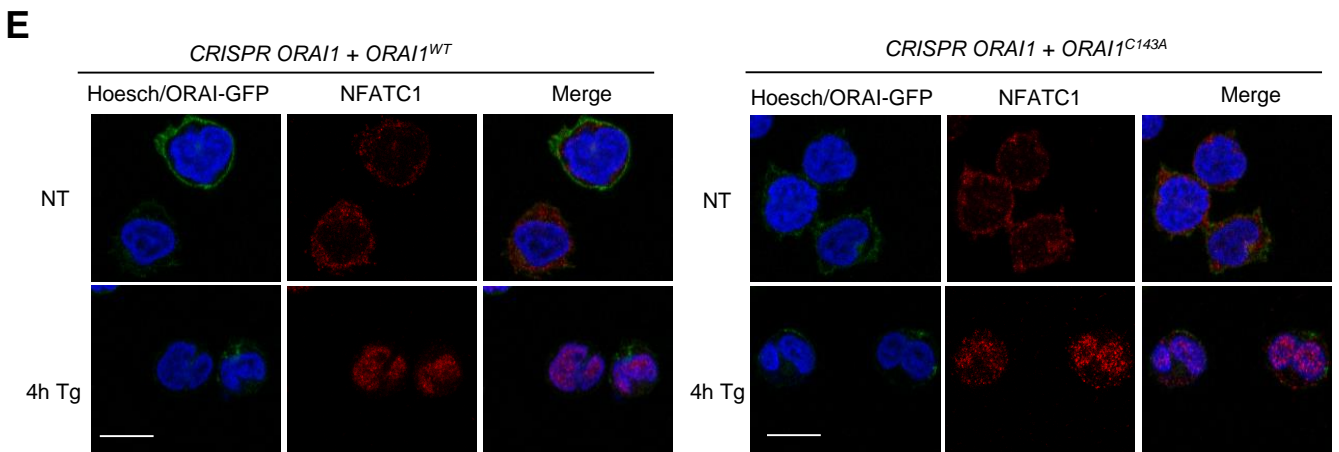
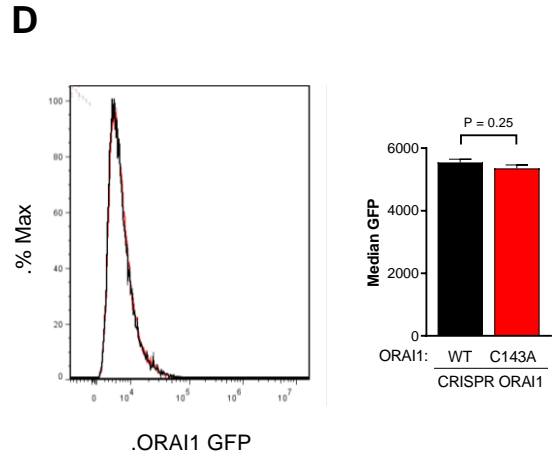
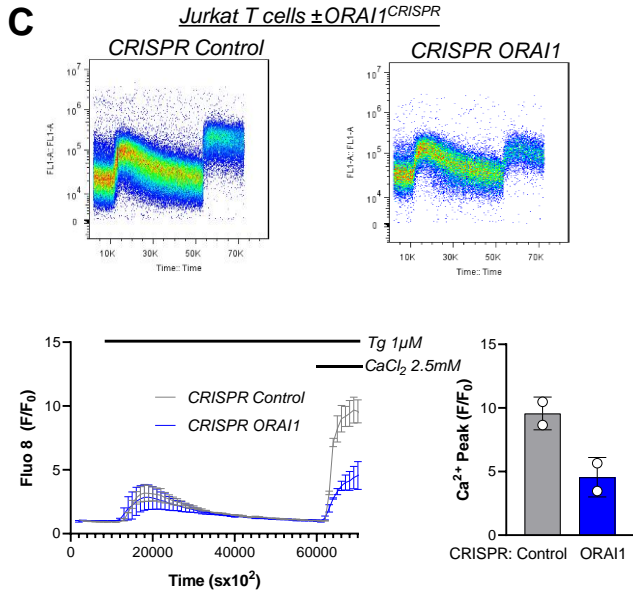
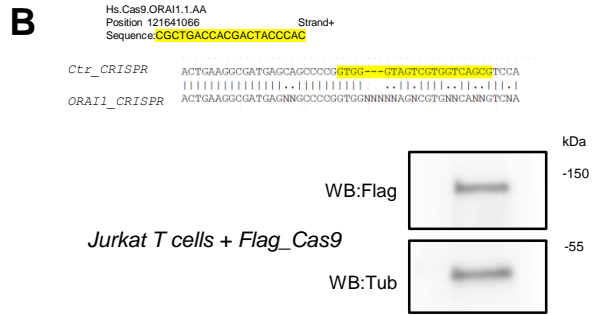


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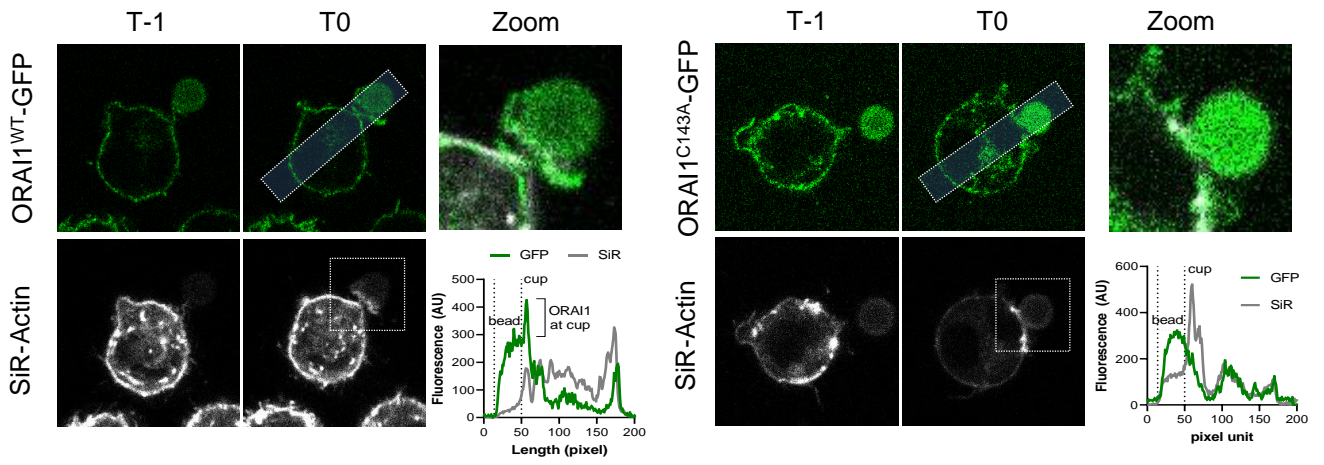


A**B**

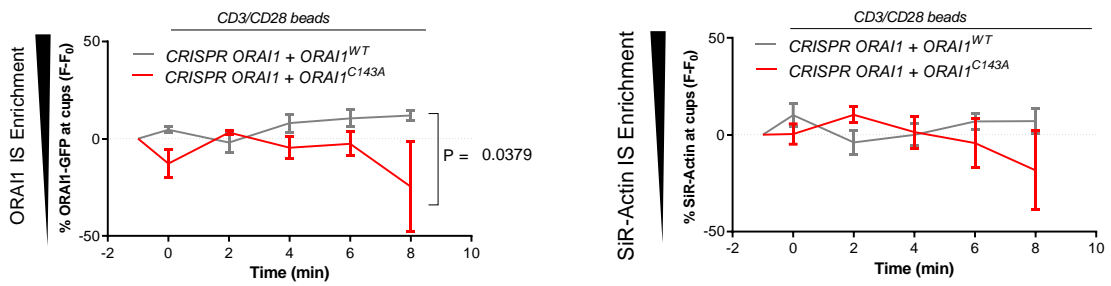




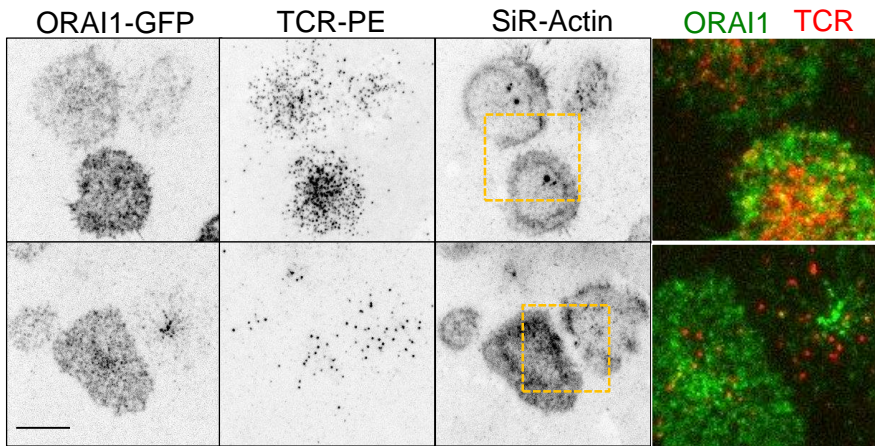
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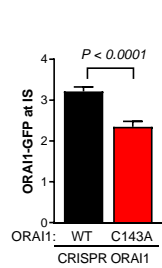
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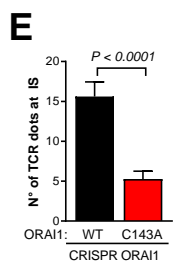
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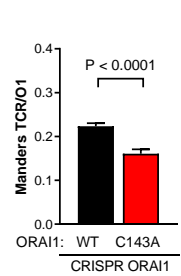
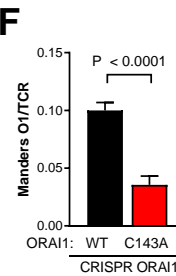
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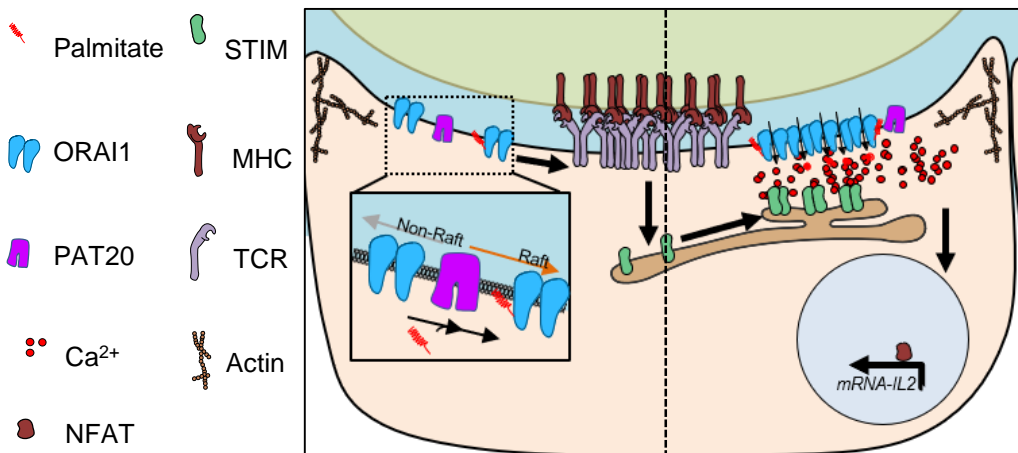
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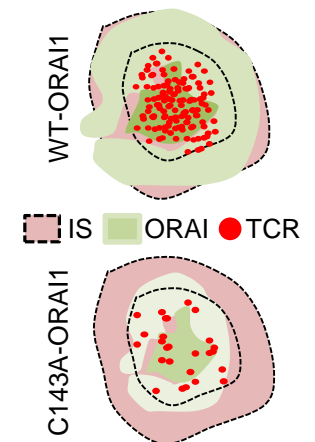
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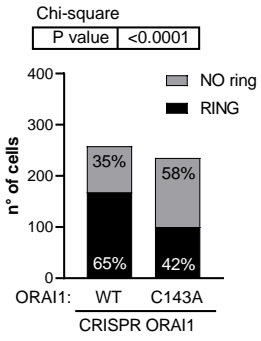
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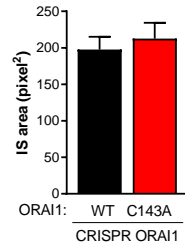
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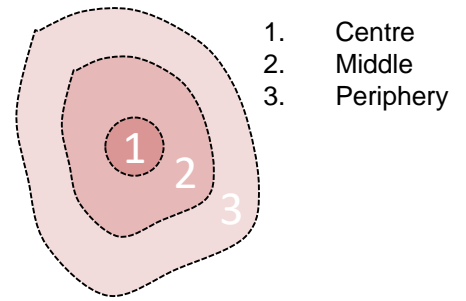
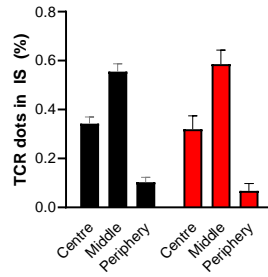
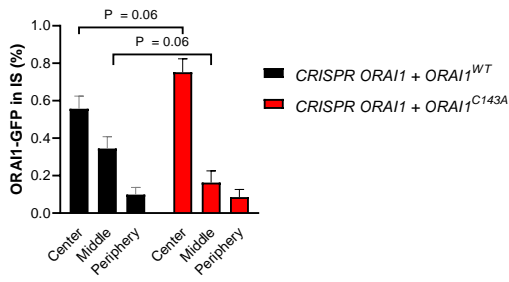
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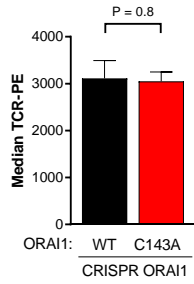
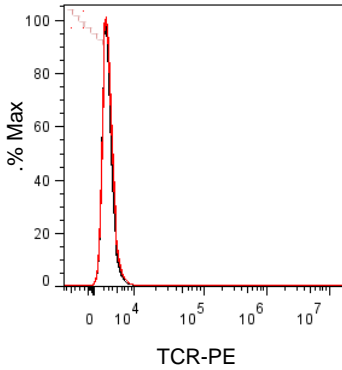
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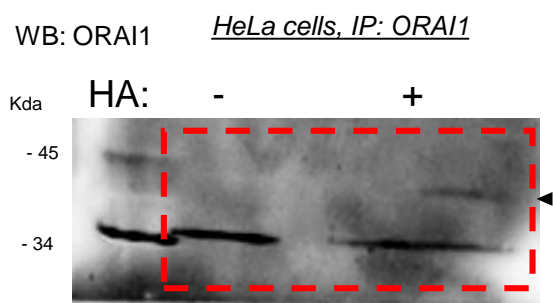


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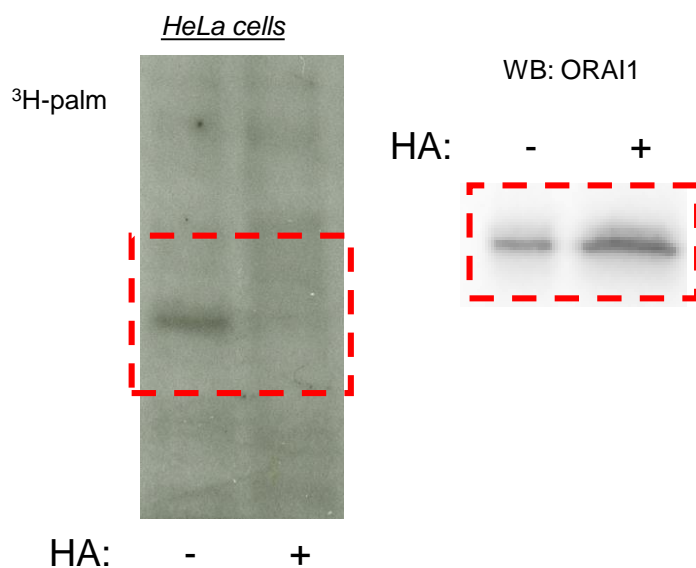


FULL SCANS Figure 1, Carreras-Sureda et al.

A



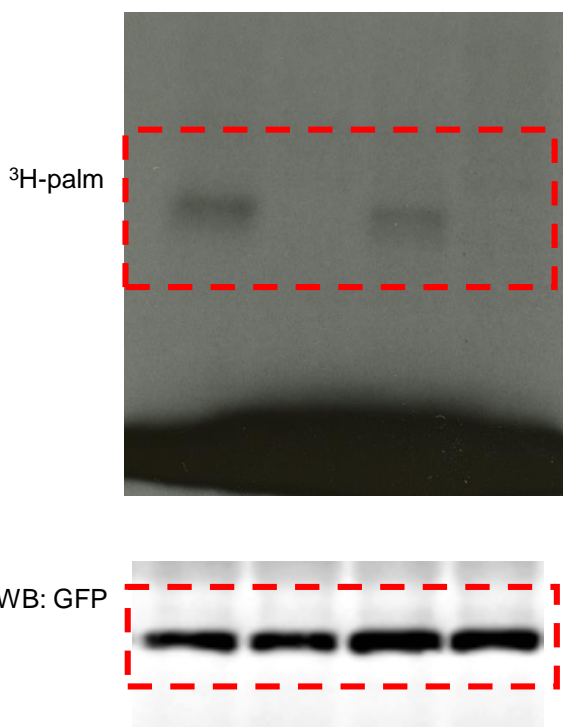
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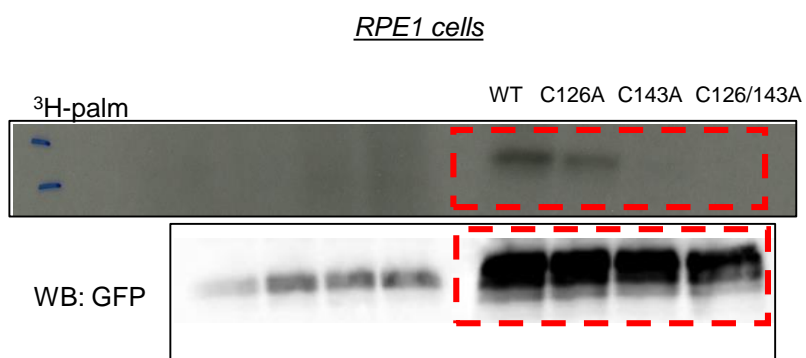
C

HeLa cells

ORAI1-GFP: WT C143A C126A C126/143A

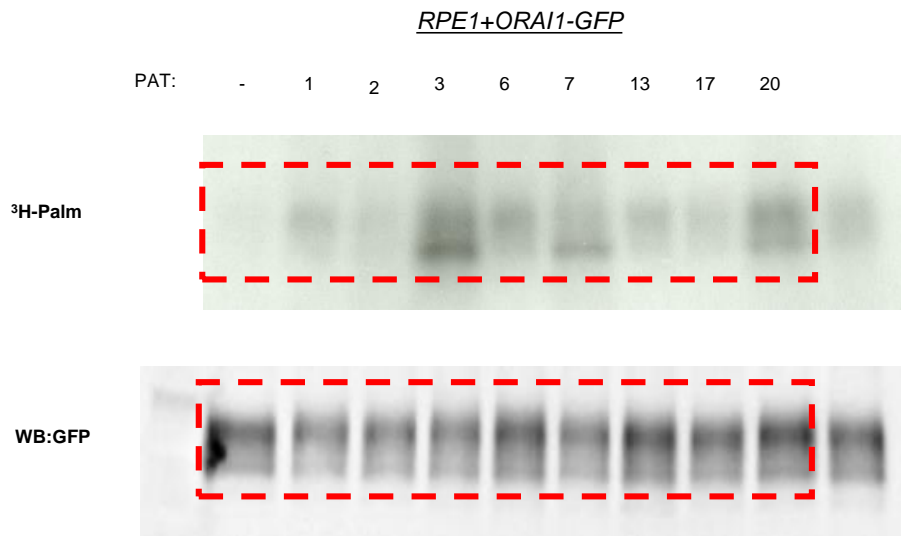


D



FULL SCANS Figure 4, Carreras-Sureda et al.

A



B

