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1 **Longevity by RNA polymerase III inhibition downstream of TORC1**

2

3 Danny Filer¹, Maximillian A. Thompson², Vakil Takhaveev³, Adam J. Dobson¹, Ilektra

4 Kotronaki¹, James W.M. Green², Matthias Heinemann³, Jennifer M.A. Tullet² and

5 Nazif Alic¹

6

7 ¹Institute of Healthy Ageing, Department of Genetics, Evolution and Environment,
8 University College London, Gower St, London, WC1E 6BT, UK.

9 ²School of Biosciences, University of Kent, Canterbury, CT2 7NJ, UK.

10 ³Molecular Systems Biology, Groningen Biomolecular Sciences and Biotechnology
11 Institute, University of Groningen, 9747 AG, Groningen, Netherlands.

12 **Summary**

13 Three distinct RNA polymerases (Pols) transcribe different classes of genes in the
14 eukaryotic nucleus¹. Pol III is the essential, evolutionarily conserved enzyme that
15 generates short, non-coding RNAs, including transfer RNAs (tRNAs) and 5S
16 ribosomal RNA (rRNA)². Historical focus on transcription of protein-coding genes has
17 left the roles of Pol III in organismal physiology relatively unexplored. The prominent
18 regulator of Pol III activity, Target of Rapamycin kinase Complex 1 (TORC1), is an
19 important longevity determinant³, raising the question of Pol III's involvement in
20 ageing. Here we show that Pol III limits lifespan downstream of TORC1. We find that
21 a reduction in Pol III extends chronological lifespan in yeast and organismal lifespan
22 in worms and flies. Inhibiting Pol III activity in the adult worm or fly gut is sufficient to
23 extend lifespan, and in flies, longevity can be achieved by Pol III inhibition specifically
24 in the intestinal stem cells (ISCs). The longevity phenotype is associated with
25 amelioration of age-related gut pathology and functional decline, dampened protein
26 synthesis and increased tolerance of proteostatic stress. Importantly, Pol III acts
27 downstream of TORC1 for lifespan and limiting Pol III activity in the adult gut achieves
28 the full longevity benefit of systemic TORC1 inhibition. Hence, Pol III is a pivotal output
29 of this key nutrient signalling network for longevity; Pol III's growth-promoting, anabolic
30 activity mediates the acceleration of ageing by TORC1. The evolutionary conservation
31 of Pol III affirms its potential as a therapeutic target.

32 **Main text**

33 The labour of transcription in the eukaryotic nucleus is divided amongst Pol I, II and
34 III^{1,4}. This specialisation is evident in the biogenesis of the translation machinery, a
35 task for which all three Pols are co-ordinately required: Pol I generates the 45S pre-
36 rRNA that is subsequently processed into mature rRNAs, Pol II transcribes various
37 RNAs including messenger RNAs (mRNAs) encoding ribosomal proteins (RPs), while
38 Pol III provides the tRNAs and 5S rRNA. To match the extrinsic conditions and the
39 intrinsic need for protein synthesis, this costly process of generating protein synthetic
40 capacity is tightly regulated by the key driver of cellular anabolism: TORC1^{5,6}. The
41 central position of TORC1 in the control of fundamental cellular processes is mirrored
42 by the striking impact of its activity on organismal physiology: following the initial
43 discovery in worms⁷, the inhibition of TORC1 has been demonstrated to extend
44 lifespan in all organisms tested, from yeast to mice^{8,9}, with beneficial effects on a range
45 of age-related diseases and dysfunctions^{3,10}. TORC1 strongly activates Pol III
46 transcription^{5,6} and this relationship suggests the possibility that inhibition of Pol III
47 promotes longevity. Here, we test this hypothesis.

48 In *S. cerevisiae*, each of the 17 Pol III subunits is encoded by an essential gene.
49 We generated a yeast strain in which its largest subunit (C160, encoded by
50 *RPC160/RPO31*⁴) is fused to the auxin-inducible degron (AID). The fusion protein can
51 be targeted for degradation by the ectopically expressed E3 ubiquitin ligase (OsTir) in
52 the presence of indole-3-acetic acid (IAA)¹¹ to achieve conditional inhibition of Pol III
53 (**Extended Data Fig. 1a**). We confirmed that IAA treatment triggered the degradation
54 of the fusion protein (**Fig. 1a**) and observed IAA improve the survival of the *RPC160-*
55 *AID* strain upon prolonged culture (**Fig. 1b**). In addition, IAA treatment of the control
56 strain lacking the AID fusion reduced its survival, relative to same strain in absence of

57 IAA and the *RPC160-AID* strain in presence of IAA (**Extended Data Fig. 1b**). Hence,
58 Pol III depletion appears to extend yeast chronological lifespan. Note that IAA had no
59 substantial effect on the survival of a strain carrying the AID domain fused to the
60 largest subunit of Pol II (*RPB220-AID*), which appeared to survive better than the
61 control strain in the presence of IAA (**Extended Data Fig. 1a and b**), indicating
62 inhibition of Pol II may also extend chronological lifespan. Yeast chronological lifespan
63 is a measure of survival in a nutritionally-limited, quiescent population. Replicative
64 lifespan, on the other hand, measures the number of daughters produced by a single
65 mother cell in its lifetime. We found no evidence that inhibition of Pol III causes an
66 increase in yeast replicative lifespan (**Extended Data Fig. 1c**).

67 The observed increase in yeast chronological lifespan may simply be indicative
68 of increased stress resistance and hence bear limited relevance to organismal ageing.
69 To examine the role of Pol III in organismal ageing directly, we turned to animal
70 models. We treated *C. elegans* from the L4 stage with RNAi against *rpc-1*, the worm
71 orthologue of *RPC160*, achieving a partial knockdown of its mRNA (**Fig. 1c**). This
72 consistently extended worm lifespan at both 20°C and 25°C (**Fig. 1d; Extended Data**
73 **Fig. 2a and b**, see **c** for summary of worm lifespans). To reduce Pol III activity in the
74 fruit fly, we backcrossed a P-element insertion deleting the transcriptional start site of
75 the gene encoding the Pol III-specific subunit C53 (*CG5147^{EY22749}*, henceforth called
76 *dC53^{EY}*, **Extended Data Fig. 3**) into a healthy, outbred *D. melanogaster* population.
77 Homozygous *dC53^{EY/EY}* mutants were not viable but heterozygous females had a
78 partial reduction in *dC53* mRNA and lived longer than controls (**Fig. 1e and f**; see
79 **Extended Data Fig. 4a** for summary of fly lifespans). Taken together, our data strongly
80 indicate that Pol III limits lifespan in multiple model organisms and, conversely, that
81 partial inhibition of its activity is an evolutionarily conserved longevity intervention.

82 The longevity of an animal can be governed from a single organ. In the worm,
83 this role is often played by the gut^{12,13}. To restrict the *rpc-1* knock-down to the gut, we
84 used *rde-1* null worms whose RNAi machinery deficiency is restored solely in the gut
85 by gut-specific *rde-1* rescue¹⁴. *rpc-1* RNAi extended the lifespan of this strain, both at
86 20°C and 25°C (**Fig. 2a, Extended Data Fig. 2d**). Similarly, in the adult fly, driving an
87 RNAi construct targeting the *RPC160* orthologue (*CG17209*, henceforth called *dC160*,
88 **Extended Data Fig. 3**) with the mid-gut-specific, RU486-inducible driver (*TIGS*)
89 extended female lifespan (**Fig. 2b**), while the presence of the inducer (RU486) did not
90 affect survival of the control lines (**Extended Data Fig. 4b and c**). The longevity
91 phenotype could also be recapitulated with RNAi against another Pol III subunit (*dC53*,
92 **Extended Data Fig. 4d**), indicating it is not due to off-target effects, or subunit-specific.
93 The longevity phenotype appeared specific to the gut, since no significant lifespan
94 extension was observed upon induction of *dC160*^{RNAi} in the adult fly fat-body and only
95 a modest, albeit significant extension resulted from neuronal induction (**Extended**
96 **Data Fig. 4e and f**); fat-body and neurons being other two sites often associated with
97 longevity¹³.

98 Worm gut is composed of only post-mitotic cells. In flies, like in mammals, the
99 adult gut epithelium contains the mitotically active ISCs¹⁵. ISC homeostasis is
100 important for longevity¹⁶ and the *TIGS* gut driver appears active in at least some ISCs
101 (**Extended Data Fig. 5**), prompting us to further restrict *dC160*^{RNAi} induction to solely
102 this cell type. ISC-specific *dC160*^{RNAi}, achieved with the *GS5961* driver, was sufficient
103 to promote longevity (**Fig. 2c**, see **Extended Data Fig. 4b and g** for controls). In
104 summary, Pol III activity in the gut limits survival in worms and flies, and in the fly, Pol
105 III can drive ageing specifically from the gut stem cell compartment.

106 We assessed the consequences of Pol III inhibition in the fly gut. Pol III acts to
107 generate precursor-tRNAs (pre-tRNAs) that are rapidly processed to mature tRNAs.
108 Due to their short half-lives, pre-tRNA are suitable readouts of *in-vivo* Pol III activity.
109 Profiling the levels of *pre-tRNA^{His}*, *pre-tRNA^{Ala}* and *pre-tRNA^{Leu}*, relative to the levels
110 of *U3*, a small nucleolar RNA transcribed by Pol II¹⁷, revealed a moderate but
111 significant reduction in Pol III activity upon gut-specific induction of *dC160^{RNAi}* (**Fig.**
112 **2d**). The three Pols can be directly coordinated for the generation of translation
113 machinery¹⁸. Indeed, Pol III inhibition had knock-on effects on Pol I but not Pol II-
114 generated transcripts, revealing a partial cross-talk (**Extended Data Fig. 6a** and **b**).
115 Consistent with reduced Pol III activity, *dC160^{RNAi}* reduced protein synthesis in the gut
116 (**Fig. 2e**, **Extended Data Fig. 6c**). These effects (reduction in pre-tRNAs or protein
117 synthesis) were not observed after feeding RU486 to the driver-alone control
118 (**Extended Data Fig. 6d - f**). The reduction in protein synthesis was not pathological:
119 total protein content of the gut was unaltered; fecundity, a sensitive readout of a
120 female's nutritional status, was unaffected; and the flies' weight, triacylglycerol and
121 protein levels also remained unchanged (**Extended Data Fig. 6g - i**). Reduced protein
122 synthesis can liberate protein-folding machinery from protein production and increase
123 homeostatic capacity¹⁹. Indeed, inducing *dC160^{RNAi}* in the gut increased the resistance
124 of adult flies to a proteostatic challenge with tunicamycin (**Fig. 2f**, and **Extended Data**
125 **Fig. 6j** for *TIGS*-alone control). Hence, Pol III can fine-tune the rate of protein synthesis
126 in the adult fly gut, without obvious detrimental outcomes, while increasing resistance
127 to proteotoxic stress.

128 Having demonstrated the relevance of Pol III for ageing, we examined whether
129 it acts downstream of TORC1 for lifespan using the fruit fly. Numerous observations
130 in several organisms support the model where TORC1 localises on Pol III-transcribed

131 loci and promotes the phosphorylation of the components of Pol III transcriptional
132 machinery to activate transcription, in part by inhibition of the Pol III repressor, Maf1⁵.
133 Using chromatin immunoprecipitation (ChIP) with two independently generated
134 antibodies against *Drosophila* TOR^{20,21}, we observed the kinase enriched on Pol III-
135 target genes in the adult fly, relative to Pol II targets (**Fig. 3a**; **Extended Data Fig. 7a**
136 to **d**, and **e** for mock ChIP). Inhibition of TORC1 by feeding flies rapamycin reduced
137 the levels of pre-tRNAs in whole flies (**Fig. 3b**). Rapamycin also reduced pre-tRNA
138 levels specifically in the gut relative to *U3* (**Fig 3c**). Since rapamycin results in re-
139 scaling of the gut, evidenced by the reduction in the organ's total RNA content
140 (**Extended Data Fig. 7f**), we also confirmed that the drug reduced pre-tRNA levels
141 relative to total RNA (**Extended Data Fig. 7g**). Interestingly, rapamycin did not cause
142 a decrease in 45S pre-rRNA in the gut (**Extended Data Fig. 7h and i**), suggesting a
143 lack of sustained Pol I inhibition. Additionally, gut-specific over-expression of *Maf1*
144 reduced the levels of pre-tRNAs and extended lifespan (**Fig 3d**, **Extended Data Fig.**
145 **7j**), confirming this Pol III repressor acts on Pol III in the adult gut. Our data are
146 consistent with TORC1 driving systemic and gut-specific Pol III activity in the adult fruit
147 fly.

148 To examine whether Pol III is downstream of TORC1 for lifespan, we combined
149 adult-onset Pol III inhibition with rapamycin treatment. Rapamycin feeding or gut-
150 specific *dC160^{RNAi}* resulted in the same magnitude of lifespan extension (**Fig. 3e**). The
151 two treatments were not additive (see **Extended Data Fig. 8a** for summary and
152 statistical analyses), consistent with their acting in the same longevity pathway. The
153 same was observed with RNAi against *dC53* in the gut (**Extended Data Fig. 8b**), as
154 well as when *dC160^{RNAi}* expression was restricted to the ISCs (**Fig. 3f**). Importantly,
155 rapamycin feeding also inhibited the phosphorylation of TORC1 substrate, S6 kinase³

156 (S6K), in both the gut and the whole fly, and decreased fecundity, whilst gut-specific
157 induction of *C160^{RNAi}* did not (**Fig. 3g and h, Extended Data Fig. 8c - f**). This confirms
158 that Pol III inhibition does not impact TORC1 activity, neither locally nor systemically,
159 and hence, Pol III acts down-stream of TORC1 in ageing (**Fig. 3i**).

160 TORC1 inhibition is known to ameliorate age-related pathology and functional
161 decline of the gut²². We examined whether inhibition of Pol III was sufficient to block
162 the dysplasia resulting from ISC mis-differentiation by assessing the characteristic,
163 age-dependent increase in dividing, phospho-histone H3 positive (pH3+) cells¹⁶.
164 Inducing *dC160^{RNAi}* in the fly gut or solely in the ISCs ameliorated this pathology
165 (**Extended Data Fig. 9a, Fig. 4a and b**). The treatment was also sufficient to
166 counteract the age-related loss of gut barrier function, decreasing the number of flies
167 displaying extra-intestinal accumulation of a blue food dye (“smurf” phenotype²³,
168 **Extended Data Fig. 9b, Fig. 4c**). Interestingly, we also found that *rpc-1* RNAi feeding
169 reduced the severity of age-related loss of gut-barrier function in worms (**Extended**
170 **Data Fig. 9c**). In *Drosophila*, gut health²⁴ and TORC1 inhibition²⁵ are specifically linked
171 to female survival. Indeed, induction of *dC160^{RNAi}* in the gut had a sexually dimorphic
172 effect on lifespan, as the effect on males, albeit significant, was reduced in magnitude
173 relative to females (**Extended Data Fig. 9d**). Overall, our data show that gut/ISC-
174 restricted inhibition of Pol III, which extends lifespan, is sufficient to ameliorate age-
175 related impairments in gut health, which may be causative or correlate with this
176 longevity.

177 Our study demonstrates that adult-onset decrease in the growth-promoting,
178 anabolic function mediated by Pol III in the gut, and specifically in the stem cell
179 compartment, is sufficient to recapitulate the longevity benefits of rapamycin
180 treatment. Pol III activity is essential for growth⁶; its detrimental effects on ageing

181 suggest an antagonistic pleiotropy²⁶ where wild-type levels of Pol III activity are
182 optimised for growth and reproductive fitness in early life but prove detrimental for later
183 health. We reveal a fundamental role for Pol III in adult physiology, implicating wild-
184 type Pol III activity in age-related stem cell dysfunction, declining gut health and
185 organismal survival, downstream of nutrient signalling pathways. The longevity
186 resulting from partial Pol III inhibition in adulthood likely stems from the reduced
187 provision of protein synthetic machinery, however, differential regulation of tRNA
188 genes or Pol III-mediated changes to chromatin organisation may also be involved, as
189 has been suggested in other contexts². The strong structural and functional
190 conservation of Pol III in eukaryotes suggests that studies of its influence on
191 mammalian ageing are warranted and may lead to important therapies.

192

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209

210 **Author contributions**

211 NA conceived the study; DF and NA made the yeast strains and performed
212 chronological lifespans; VT performed and analysed yeast replicative lifespans under
213 supervision of MH; MAT and JWVG performed and analysed worm experiments under
214 supervision of JMAT; DF, AJD, IK and NA performed and analysed fly experiments
215 under supervision of NA; DF, MAT, JMAT and NA wrote the manuscript with
216 contributions from AJD.

217

218 **Author information**

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220 The authors declare no competing financial interests.

221 Correspondence and requests for materials should be addressed to:

222 NA: n.alic@ucl.ac.uk (lead contact), JMAT: j.m.a.tullet@kent.ac.uk (co-
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12

1 **Figure Legends**

2 **Figure 1 Inhibition of Pol III extends lifespan.**

3 Treatment of the *RPC160-AID-myc pADH-OsTir-myc* budding yeast strain with 0,
4 0.125 and 0.25 mM IAA: **a**, triggers degradation of C160-AID-myc and **b**, extends its
5 chronological lifespan, measured as colony formation after normalisation for optical
6 density and 10-fold serial dilution ([a] and [b] show a representative of two
7 experimental trials). Feeding N2 worms with *E. coli* expressing the *rpc-1* RNAi
8 construct from L4 stage: **c**, reduces the levels of *rpc-1* mRNA ($p < 10^{-4}$, *two-tailed t-test*)
9 and **d**, extends their lifespan relative to vector alone at 20°C in presence of FUDR
10 ($p = 0.03$, *log-rank test*, $n = 86$ control, 94 *rpc-1* RNAi animals; representative of three
11 trials). Female flies heterozygous for the *dC53^{EY}* allele display: **e**, a reduction in *dC53*
12 transcript ($p = 10^{-4}$, *two-tailed t-test*, 95% confidence intervals [CI] = 0.89-1.1 wt, 0.64-
13 0.71 *dC53^{EY/+}*) and **f**, extended lifespan ($p = 6 \times 10^{-13}$, *log-rank test*, $n = 152$ control, 144
14 *dC53^{EY/+}* animals; single trial). Bar charts show mean \pm Standard Error of the Mean
15 (SEM), with $n =$ number of biologically independent samples indicated and overlay
16 showing individual data points. For more detailed demography and summary of worm
17 and fly lifespan trials see **Extended Data Fig. 2c and 4a**. For gel source data, see
18 **Sup. Fig. 1**.

19

20 **Figure 2 Gut-specific inhibition of Pol III extends lifespan, reduces protein** 21 **synthesis and increases tolerance to proteostatic stress.**

22 **a**, Activating RNAi against *rpc-1* specifically in the worm gut, using the VP303 strain,
23 extends worm lifespan at 20°C in presence of FUDR ($p = 0.02$, *log-rank test*, $n = 90$
24 control, 67 *rpc-1* RNAi animals; representative of two trials). **b**, Feeding RU486 to
25 *TIGS>dC160^{RNAi}* female fruit flies to induce *dC160^{RNAi}* in the gut alone extends their
26 lifespan ($p = 6 \times 10^{-16}$, *log-rank test*, $n = 150$ -RU486, 157 +RU486 animals;
27 representative of three trials). **c**, Feeding RU486 to *GS5961>dC160^{RNAi}* female fruit
28 flies to induce *dC160^{RNAi}* in the ISCs alone extends their lifespan ($p = 2 \times 10^{-4}$, *log-rank*
29 *test*, $n = 139$ -RU486, 142 +RU486 animals; representative of three trials). Inducing
30 *dC160^{RNAi}* in the gut with RU486 feeding of *TIGS>dC160^{RNAi}* females leads to: **d**,
31 reduction in pre-tRNAs (mean \pm SEM, $p = 0.04$, *Multivariate Analysis of Variance*
32 [*MANOVA*], $n = 10$ biologically independent samples per -/+RU486 condition, CI = 0.91-
33 1.1, 0.76-1.0, 0.90-1.1, 0.75-0.92, 0.88-1.1, 0.68-1.0 left to right); **e**, reduction in gut
34 protein synthesis, as quantified by *ex-vivo* puromycin incorporation and western

1 blotting (representative of three biologically independent repeats; see **Extended Data**
2 **Fig. 6c**); **f**, improved survival in response to tunicomycin challenge ($p=3 \times 10^{-15}$, *log-*
3 *rank test*, $n=185$ animals per condition; representative of two trials). For more detailed
4 demography and summary of lifespan trials see **Extended Data Fig. 2c** and **4a**. For
5 gel source data, see **Sup. Fig. 1**.

6

7 **Figure 3 Pol III acts downstream of TORC1 for lifespan.**

8 **a**, Relative enrichment of Pol III-transcribed genes is higher than that of Pol II-
9 transcribed genes after ChIP against TOR ($p < 10^{-4}$, *Linear Model [LM]* with an *a priori*
10 contrast, $n=3$ biologically independent samples). Rapamycin feeding causes a
11 decrease in pre-tRNAs relative to *U3* in: **b**, whole female flies ($p=0.01$, *MANOVA*, CI=
12 0.76-1.2, 0.58-0.79, 0.75-1.3, 0.49-0.79, 0.70-1.3, 0.48-0.78 left to right); **c**, their guts
13 ($p=0.01$, *MANOVA*, CI= 0.98-1.1, 0.90-1.0, 0.87-1.1, 0.74-0.99, 0.90-1.1, 0.77-0.97
14 left to right). **d**, Induction of *Maf1* in the guts of *TIGS>HA-Maf1* females by RU486
15 feeding reduces the levels of pre-tRNAs relative to *U3* ($p=4 \times 10^{-3}$, *MANOVA*, CI= 0.87-
16 1.1, 0.74-1.0, 0.90-1.1, 0.82-1.0, 0.76-1.2, 0.53-1.0 left to right). **e**, Induction of
17 *dC160^{RNAi}* in the adult guts by RU486 feeding of *TIGS>dC160^{RNAi}* females and
18 rapamycin feeding both extend lifespan and are not additive (effect of rapamycin
19 $p=2 \times 10^{-14}$, effect of RU486 $p < 2 \times 10^{-16}$, interaction $p=7 \times 10^{-9}$, *Cox Proportional Hazards*
20 [*CPH*], $n=135$ control, 144 +RU486, 141 +rapamycin and 146 +RU486 and rapamycin
21 animals; single trial). **f**, Induction of *dC160^{RNAi}* in the ISCs by RU486 in
22 *GS5961>dC160^{RNAi}* females and rapamycin both extend lifespan and are not additive
23 (effect of rapamycin $p=8 \times 10^{-14}$, effect of RU486 $p=2 \times 10^{-5}$, interaction $p=3 \times 10^{-7}$, *CPH*,
24 $n=113$ control, 130 +RU486, 145 +rapamycin and 144 +RU486 and rapamycin
25 animals; single trial). Rapamycin but not *dC160^{RNAi}* induction in the gut by RU468
26 feeding of *TIGS>dC160^{RNAi}* females leads to: **g**, reduction in S6K phosphorylation in
27 the gut or the whole fly (representative of four biologically independent repeats; see
28 **Extended Data Fig. 6c-f**); **h**, reduction in egg laying (effect of rapamycin $p < 10^{-4}$,
29 RU486 $p=0.87$ and interaction $p=0.96$, *LM*). **i**, Model of the relationship between
30 TORC1, Pol III and lifespan. Bar charts show mean \pm SEM, with $n=$ number of
31 biologically independent samples indicated and overlay showing individual data
32 points. For more detailed demography, statistics and summary of lifespan trials see
33 **Extended Data Fig. 8a**. For gel source data see **Sup. Fig. 1**

34

1 **Figure 4 Stem cell-restricted Pol III inhibition improves age-related dysplasia**
2 **and gut barrier function.**

3 *dC160^{RNAi}* induction in the ISCs of adult *GS5961>dC160^{RNAi}* females by RU486
4 feeding suppresses age-related accumulation of pH3 positive cells: **a**, images of pH3
5 staining in the posterior mid-gut at 70 d of age (white bar = 100 μ m, white “>” marks
6 pH3+ cells, representative of seven -RU486 and nine +RU486 animals); **b**, the number
7 of pH3+ cells per gut (effect of age $p < 10^{-4}$, RU486 $p = 2 \times 10^{-3}$, interaction $p = 2 \times 10^{-3}$, *LM*,
8 young: 7-9 d, old: 56-70 d, CI= 2.6-8.6, 1.8-9.4, 14-36, 6.0-14 left to right). **c**, *dC160^{RNAi}*
9 induction in the ISCs of adult *GS5961>dC160^{RNAi}* females by RU486 feeding reduces
10 the age-related increase in the number of flies with a leaky gut (effect of age $p < 10^{-4}$,
11 RU486 $p = 0.09$, interaction $p = 0.01$, *Ordinal Logistic Regression*, young: 21 d, old: 58
12 d, CI= 0.19-0.28, 1.5-1.8, 18-19, 14-15 % smurf left to right). Bar charts show mean \pm
13 SEM, with n= number of biologically independent animals indicated and overlay
14 showing individual data points.

15

16

17 **Methods**

18 **Yeast stocks, chronological lifespans and microfluidics assessment**

19 pMK43-based cassette was integrated into *w303 MATa leu2-3,112 trp1-1 can1-*
20 *100 ura3-1 pADH-OsTir-9Myc::ADE2::ade2-1 his3-11,15* to produce *RPC160* or
21 *RPB220* C-terminal AID fusions as described¹¹, confirmed by PCR and absence of
22 growth in presence of 2.5 mM IAA.

23 Primers for strain construction:

<i>C160 Fw</i>	<i>TGTCTATTTGAAAGTCTCTCAAATGAGGCAGCTTTAAAAGCGAACCGTACGCTGCAGGTCGAC</i>
<i>C160 Rv</i>	<i>AGAAAAATAATACAAATGCTATAAAAAAGTTTAAAACGACTACTATCGATGAATTCGAGCTCG</i>
<i>B220 Fw</i>	<i>CCAAAGCAAGACGAACAAAAGCATAATGAAAATGAAAATTCAGACGTACGCTGCAGGTCGAC</i>
<i>B220 Rv</i>	<i>ATATATAATGTAATAACGTCAAATACGTAAGGATGATATACTATAATCGATGAATTCGAGCTCG</i>

24 Primers for verification:

<i>C160 Fw</i>	<i>TTGGGTCAAACGATGTCTG</i>
----------------	----------------------------

B220 Fw *CGCCTTCATACTCTCCAAC*
C160/B220 Rv *TGCCCATCATGGTACCTG*

1 For chronological lifespans, the strains were grown to exponential phase
2 (OD₆₀₀~0.4) in Synthetic Complete medium (2% glucose, 0.5% ammonium sulphate,
3 0.17% yeast nitrogen base, 0.001% adenine, uracil, tryptophan, histidine, arginine,
4 methionine, 0.0025% phenylalanine, 0.003% tyrosine, lysine, 0.004% isoleucine,
5 0.005% glutamate, aspartate, 0.0075% valine, 0.01% threonine, 0.02% serine and
6 leucine [w/v]), the culture split and treated with IAA in acetone or acetone alone (0.1%,
7 day 0) and kept with aeration and shaking at 30°C. Cells were harvested for protein
8 extraction after 30 min. Cultures essentially reached stationary phase after 24h. The
9 viability was measured on the indicated days by plating 5 µl of 10-fold serial dilutions
10 starting from initial concentration corresponding to OD₆₀₀=0.5 on YEPD plates and
11 growth for 2 d at 30°C.

12 For replicative lifespan, cells from single colonies were inoculated in 10 mL of
13 minimal medium²⁷ with 1% glucose, 0.02% leucine and 0.001% tryptophan, arginine,
14 histidine and uracil (w/v) and pH 5 maintained with K-Phthalate-KOH buffer. The 10
15 mL cultures were cultivated overnight in 100 mL shake flasks at 30°C and 300 rpm.
16 Still exponential, they were diluted next morning to OD₆₀₀ of 0.005-0.01 and cultivated
17 for several hours to OD₆₀₀ of 0.045-0.09 when they were loaded into the microfluidics
18 device as described^{28,29}. The growth medium was aerated in advance by shaking for
19 at least two hours. Trapped in the device, the cells were constantly provided with fresh
20 medium containing the synthetic auxin hormone 1-naphthaleneacetic acid (NAA) at
21 the concentrations of 0.0005, 0.001, 0.005 or 0.01 mM; the control did not contain
22 NAA. These concentrations of the hormone span through the dynamic range of the
23 auxin-based degron system where the degree of protein depletion can be efficiently

1 modulated in the set-up used³⁰. Temperature of 30°C was maintained throughout the
2 experiment.

3 Microscopic imaging in the bright field channel was performed for up to 5 days
4 with the time interval of 5 minutes, using a Nikon Ti-E inverted microscope equipped
5 with a 40x Nikon Super Fluor Apochromat objective, and halogen lamp with additional
6 UV-blocking filter. For each cell, the time points of (1) the budding events, (2) the
7 eventual cell losses due to wash away, or (3) cell death were recorded by visual
8 inspection of the movies with the help of ImageJ and a custom written macro. For
9 assessment of cell division times, the first six cell cycles of each cell were used.

10

11 **Worm husbandry, lifespans and gut integrity assay.**

12 Prior to experiments animals were maintained at 20°C and grown for at least
13 three generations with ample OP50 *Escherichia coli* food to assure full viability. The
14 *rpc-1* RNAi clone, gene code C42D4.8, was obtained from the Ahringer library.
15 Lifespan assays were performed on HT115 *E. coli* expressing either the *rpc-1* RNAi
16 plasmid or pL4440 empty vector control. Experiments were carried out at both 20°C
17 and 25°C. Worms were scored as dead or alive at intervals and worms that crawled
18 off the plate or died from explosion or bagging phenotypes were censored. *rpc-1* RNAi
19 treatment from L4 stage increased the incidence of a vulval explosion phenotype
20 (noted in **Extended Data Fig. 2c**). However, we found that at 25°C this phenotype
21 was greatly reduced (**Extended Data Fig. 2c**). For gut-restricted RNAi, the VP303
22 strain was used¹⁴. The “smurf” assay for gut integrity was carried out essentially as
23 described³¹. Worms were aged from the L4 stage at 25°C and on the appropriate day
24 soaked in blue dye for 3 hours. The dye was removed by allowing the worms to crawl
25 around on a bacterial lawn for 30 minutes prior to microscopy analysis. Individual

1 worms were scored from 0-4 for their degree of “smurfness” with 0 being no blue
2 beyond the gut barrier and 4 being completely blue.

3

4 **Fly husbandry, lifespan, tunicamycin survival, smurf and fecundity assays**

5 The outbred, wild-type stock was collected in 1970 in Dahomey (now Benin)
6 and has been kept in population cages to maintain lifespan and fecundity at levels
7 similar to wild-caught flies. *w*¹¹¹⁸ mutation was backcrossed into the stock and
8 *Wolbachia* cleared by tetracycline treatment. *TIGS*³² (a.k.a. *TIGS-2*), *GS5961*³³,
9 *S₁106*³⁴, *elavGS*³⁵, *UAS-HA-Maf1*³⁶, *UAS-dC160*^{RNAi} and *UAS-dC53*^{RNAi} (v30512 and
10 v103810 from Vienna Drosophila Resource Centre), and *dC53*^{EY22749} (*CG5147*^{EY22749}
11 from Bloomington Stock Centre) were all backcrossed at least 6 times into the *w*¹¹¹⁸
12 Dahomey background.

13 Stocks were maintained and experiments conducted at 25°C on a 12L:12D
14 cycle at 60% humidity, on SYA food³⁷ containing 10% brewer’s yeast, 5% sucrose,
15 and 1.5% agar (all w/v; with propionic acid and Nipagin as preservatives). RU486
16 (Sigma) and Rapamycin (LC Laboratories, both dissolved in ethanol) were added to
17 200µM final concentration as required. Tunicamycin (Cell Signaling, DMSO stock) was
18 used in food with only sugar and agar at concentration of 10mg/l. For control
19 treatments, equivalent volumes of the vehicle alone were added.

20 Flies were reared at standardised larval density and adults collected over 12 h,
21 allowed to mate for 48 h and sorted into experimental vials at a density of 15 flies per
22 vial (10 flies per vial for RNA extractions). For lifespan experiments, flies were
23 transferred to fresh vials and their survival scored three times a week. Flies were
24 transferred onto food containing tunicamycin on day 9 and survival scored once or
25 twice daily. For smurf assays, at the indicated age the flies were placed on SYA food

1 containing 2.5% (w/v) blue dye (FD&C blue dye no. 1, Fastcolors) for 48 h and scored
2 as full smurfs if completely blue or partial smurfs if the dye had leaked out of the gut
3 but not reached the head. Eggs layed over ~24h were counted on day 10. Other
4 phenotypic tests were performed essentially as described³⁸.

5

6 RNA extraction, qPCR and RNA-Seq

7 Synchronised populations of worms were placed on control or *rpc-1* RNAi at
8 the L4 stage, grown at 20°C and harvested after 4 days. Ten whole adult flies, or ten
9 dissected mid-guts, were harvested on day 7-9. Total RNA was isolated using TRIZOL
10 (Invitrogen). RNA isolation was quantitative – the amount obtained was proportional
11 to the starting amount. RNA was converted to cDNA using random hexamers and
12 Superscript II (Invitrogen). Quantitative PCR was performed using Power SYBR Green
13 PCR Master Mix (ABI), with the relative standard curve method. For worms, *rpc-1*
14 transcript levels were normalised to the geometric mean of three stably expressed
15 reference genes *cdc-42*, *pmp-3* and *Y45F10D.4* as described³⁹. For flies, primers
16 specific for pre-tRNAs were designed based on previous biochemical
17 characterisation⁴⁰ or predicted intronic sequences⁴¹.

18

19 Primer sequences:

20 Flies:

21 Gene of Interest	Forward Primer	Reverse Primer
22 <i>dC53 (CG5147)</i>	GGGTGACCCAGAGTCCCT	GGCGAGCTCAGCGAAGAG
23 <i>pre-rRNA ITS</i>	<i>TTAGTGTGGGGCTTGGCAACCT</i>	<i>CGCCGTTGTTGTAAGTACTCGCC</i>
24 <i>pre-rRNA ETS</i>	<i>GTTGCCGACCTCGCATTGTTTCG</i>	<i>CGGAGCCAAGTCCCGTGTTCAA</i>
25 <i>pre-tRNA^{HIS}</i>	CGTGATCGTCTAGTGGTTAG	CCCAACTCCGTGACAATG
26 <i>pre-tRNA^{ALA}</i>	CGCACGGTACTTATAATCAG	CCAGGTGAGGCTCGAACTC
27 <i>pre-tRNA^{LEU}</i>	GCGCCAGACTCAAGATTG	TGTCAGAAGTGGGATTTCG

1	<i>Tub</i>	TGGGCCCGTCTGGACCACAA	TCGCCGTCACCGGAGTCCAT
2	<i>U3</i>	CACACTAGCTGAAAGCCAAG	CGAAGCCCTGCGTCCCGAAC
3			
4	Worms:		
5	Gene of Interest	Forward Primer	Reverse Primer
6	<i>rpc-1</i>	ACGATGGATCACTTGTTTGAAGC	GTTCCGACAGTCATTGGGGT
7	<i>cdc-42</i>	CTGCTGGACAGGAAGATTACG	CTCGGACATTCTCGAATGAAG
8	<i>pmp-3</i>	GTTCCCGTGTTTCATCACTCAT	ACACCGTCGAGAAGCTGTAGA
9	<i>Y45F10D.4</i>	GTCGCTTCAAATCAGTTCAGC	GTTCTTGTC AAGTGATCCGACA

10

11 For RNA-Seq, RNA was further cleaned up with Qiagen RNeasy (Qiagen), ribo-
 12 depleted (Ribo-Zero Gold; Illumina) and sequenced on the Illumina platform at
 13 Glasgow Polyomics (75 bp, pair-end reads). Transcript abundance was estimated with
 14 Salmon⁴² (<https://combine-lab.github.io/salmon/>) in quazi-mapping mode onto all
 15 *Drosophila* cDNA sequences (BDGP6), imported with tximport
 16 (<https://bioconductor.org/packages/release/bioc/html/tximport.html>) into R
 17 (<https://www.r-project.org/>) and differential expression determined with DESeq2
 18 (<https://bioconductor.org/packages/release/bioc/html/DESeq2.html>) using dissection
 19 batch as covariate at 10% false discovery rate⁴³.

20

21 **Western blots, immunoprecipitation (IP), S2 dsRNA treatment, translation**
 22 **assays and ChIP**

23 Proteins were extracted from yeast (10 ml culture), S2 cells (0.1-2 ml culture;
 24 S2 cells were obtained from L. Partridge), 10 flies or ten dissected mid-guts with
 25 trichloroacetic acid, washed and re-suspended in SDS-PAGE loading buffer,
 26 separated by SDS-PAGE and transferred to nitrocellulose. Western blots were
 27 performed with anti-puromycin 12D10 antibody (Millipore), anti-Actin (Abcam, ab1801

1 or ab8224), anti-Myc (Sigma), anti-FLAG (Sigma), anti-phospho-T398-S6K (Cell
2 Signaling, 9209), anti-S6K antibody⁴⁴ or anti-TOR antibody²⁰.

3 IPs were performed on ~2mg of total protein extracted from 2-5 ml of S2 cell
4 culture (transfected with pAFW-dTOR, treated with dsRNA or untreated) into 50mM
5 HEPES-KOH pH 8, 100 mM KCl, 5 mM EDTA, 10% glycerol, 0.5% NP-40 and
6 protease inhibitors with 0.5 µl of anti-dTOR serum²⁰, washed five times with the same
7 buffer and eluted into SDS-PAGE sample buffer. dsRNA against *dTOR* corresponds
8 to fragment 3694-4208 bp of the *dTOR* open reading frame (this is DRSC02811 from
9 DRSC/TRiP) and was generated with Megascript RNAi Kit (Thermo Fisher Scientific).

10 Relative translation rates were determined with the SUNSET assay⁴⁵: 10 mid-
11 guts of 7 day old flies per sample were dissected in ice-cold PBS and kept in 200 µl of
12 ice-cold Schneider's medium followed by incubation in 1 ml of Schneider's medium
13 with 10 µg/ml puromycin for 30 min at 25°C. 333 µl of 50 % trichloroacetic acid were
14 added to stop the reaction. Level of puromycin incorporation was determined by
15 western blots.

16 ChIP was performed as described⁴⁶ on chromatin prepared from 7-day old,
17 wild-type females using either the anti-TOR antibody raised against a recombinant
18 TOR protein fragment²⁰, or anti-TOR raised against a peptide²¹. The mock control
19 included no antibody. Enrichment after IP was measured relative to input with qPCR.
20 Primers for 5' and 3' end of *aop* and the P2 *InR* promoter have been described^{46,47}.

21 Further primers used:

Gene of Interest	Forward Primer	Reverse Primer
5S rRNA	GCCAACGACCATAACCACGCTG	AGTACTAACCGCGCCCGACG
tRNA ^{MET}	CGCAGTTGGCAGCGCGTAAG	CCCCGGGTGAGGCTCGAACT

25

26 **pH3, Prospero and anti-HRP staining**

1 Guts were dissected at indicated ages in ice-cold PBS and immediately fixed
2 in 4% formaldehyde for 30 minutes. The staining was performed essentially as
3 described³⁸ with anti-phospho-H3 antibody (Cell Signaling, 9701), anti-Prospero
4 (Developmental Studies Hybridoma Bank) or anti-HRP⁴⁸. Guts were mounted in
5 mounting medium with DAPI (Vectastain). pH3 positive cells per midgut were counted
6 on a fluorescence microscope. Representative images were acquired with the Zeiss
7 LSM700 confocal microscope.

8

9 **Statistical Analysis**

10 Fly and worm: Survival assays were analysed with *log-rank* test in Excel
11 (Microsoft) or JMP (SAS), or with *CPH* in R using the *survival* package ([https://cran.r-](https://cran.r-project.org/web/packages/survival/index.html)
12 [project.org/web/packages/survival/index.html](https://cran.r-project.org/web/packages/survival/index.html)). All other tests were performed in JMP.
13 Data obtained from dissections, ChIP or westerns were scaled to
14 dissection/chromatin/replicate batch, except for pH3 counts, to account for batching
15 effects. *MANOVA* was used to test for overall effect of RU486 or rapamycin feeding.
16 For ChIP analysis, “gene” was used as covariate in a *LM* with an *a priori* contrast
17 comparing Pol III- to Pol II-transcribed genes. All regression models had a fully
18 factorial design.

19 Yeast microfluidics platform: The data, including the number of buds produced
20 by each cell and its final event (death or washout), were used for Kaplan-Meier
21 estimation of survival curves with the Lifelines module (Davidson-Pilon, C., Lifelines,
22 (2016), Github repository, <https://github.com/CamDavidsonPilon/lifelines>) in Python.
23 Plotting and statistical analysis were done in Python.

24

25 **Code Availability statement**

1 A custom designed code was used to analyse the yeast replicative lifespan
2 data and will be made available upon reasonable request.

3

4 **Data Availability statement**

5 The data that support the findings of this study are available within the paper
6 and its supplementary information files, including source data for figures, or are
7 available from the corresponding author upon reasonable request. RNA-Seq data
8 have been deposited in ArrayExpress: accession code E-MTAB-5252.

1 **Extended Data Legends**

2 **Extended Data Figure 1. Inhibition of Pol III in yeast.**

3 **a**, The growth of strains carrying *pADH-OsTir* with *RPC160-AID*, *RPB220-AID* or the
4 control lacking any AID fusion in the presence or absence of 2.5 mM IAA (single trial).
5 **b**, Chronological lifespans of the control and *RPB220-AID* strains treated with 0, 0.125
6 and 0.25 mM IAA. Top panels show a representative of two experiments, performed
7 in parallel with *RPC160-AID* shown in **Fig. 1b**. The bottom panels show a single
8 experiment; the improved survival of *RPB220-AID* was also observed at a higher IAA
9 concentration in a second experiment. **c**, Yeast replicative lifespan (top panels) is not
10 altered by 1-naphthaleneacetic acid (NAA; analogue of IAA) while cell cycle duration
11 (bottom panels) is. Both were assessed in the *pADH-OsTir RPC160-AID* strain on a
12 microfluidics dissection platform. The concentrations of NAA span the dynamic range
13 where the degree of protein depletion can be efficiently modulated in this set-up³⁰. The
14 same control data are shown in each panel for comparison. For each NAA
15 concentration one experiment was performed. For replicative lifespans, 95% CIs are
16 indicated by shading, or in brackets for median lifespan, together with *log-rank* p value.
17 One-sided *Mann-Whitney U test* was used to test for significant differences in cell cycle
18 duration. No adjustments were made for multiple comparisons. Dashed lines on
19 bottom panels represent medians.

20

21 **Extended data Figure 2. Inhibition of Pol III extends worm lifespan.**

22 **a**, Lifespan is extended by feeding N2 worms with *rpc-1* RNAi at 20°C in absence of
23 FUDR ($p < 10^{-3}$ *log-rank test*, n= 100 control and *rpc-1* RNAi treated animals). **b**, It is
24 also extended at 25°C in presence of FUDR ($p = 9 \times 10^{-3}$, *log-rank test*, n= 60 control, 77
25 *rpc-1* RNAi animals). **c**, Summary of each worm lifespan experiment performed
26 including the representative trials presented in the figures. *Log-rank test* p value is
27 reported. The total number of animals in the trial = dead + censored. In general, fewer
28 worms were censored in control vs *rpc-1* RNAi conditions (average of N2 at 25°C 25%
29 vs 38%; average of N2 at 20°C 53% vs 73%; average of VP303 at 25°C 3% vs 4%
30 and average of VP303 at 20°C 37% vs 54%) which is likely to be due to an increased
31 number of gut explosions in the *rpc-1* RNAi treated worms. On average 84.9% of
32 control and 85.6% of *rpc-1* RNAi-treated censored events occurred before the 25th
33 percentile of the survival curve. Overall, increasing the temperature to 25°C reduced

1 censoring without altering our findings. **d**, Lifespan is extended when the RNAi against
2 *rpc-1* is restricted to the gut using VP303 strain, at 25°C in presence of FUDR ($p=9 \times 10^{-3}$,
3 *log-rank test*, $n= 84$ control, 103 *rpc-1* RNAi treated animals). In (a), (b) and (d), a
4 representative of two trials is shown.

5
6 **Extended data Figure 3. Genes corresponding to unique Pol III subunits in**
7 ***Drosophila*.**

8 The genes encoding the unique Pol III subunits were identified in fruit flies based on
9 their homology to the yeast genes (BLAST, followed by reverse BLAST), or to the
10 human orthologue.

11
12 **Extended Data Figure 4. Inhibition of Pol III extends fly lifespan.**

13 **a**, Summary of each fly lifespan experiment performed including the representative
14 trials presented in the figures but excluding the ones with rapamycin (see **Extended**
15 **Data Fig. 8a**). Experiments were performed on females unless otherwise noted. The
16 total number of animals in the trial = dead + censored. *Log-rank test* p value is
17 reported. RU486 feeding does not have an effect on the lifespans of: **b**, *UAS-*
18 *dC160^{RNAi}* alone ($p=0.28$, *log-rank test*, $n= 142$ -RU486, 146 +RU486 animals); or **c**,
19 *TIGS* alone controls ($p=0.41$, *log-rank test*, $n= 141$ -RU486, 145 +RU486 animals). **d**,
20 Inducing *dC53^{RNAi}* in the gut of *TIGS>dC53^{RNAi}* females by RU486 extends their
21 lifespan ($p=3 \times 10^{-6}$, *log-rank test*, $n= 143$ -RU486, 139 +RU486 animals). **e**, Inducing
22 *dC160^{RNAi}* predominantly in the fat body of *S₁106>dC160^{RNAi}* females by RU486 has
23 no effect on their lifespan ($p=0.21$, *log-rank test*, $n= 158$ -RU486, 155 +RU486
24 animals). **f**, Inducing *dC160^{RNAi}* in neurons of *elavGS>dC160^{RNAi}* females by RU486
25 has a modest effect on their lifespan ($p=0.03$, *log-rank test*, $n= 148$ -RU486, 155
26 +RU486 animals). **g**, RU486 feeding does not have an effect on the lifespan of the
27 *GS5961* alone control ($p=0.88$, *log-rank test*, $n= 89$ -RU486, 91 +RU486 animals). In
28 (b) to (g) the single trial performed is shown.

29
30 **Extended Data Figure 5. TIGS is active in ISCs.**

31 Images from the posterior region of the midgut showing GFP expression driven by
32 *TIGS* in the presence of RU486 and stained with: **a**, anti-Prospero; **b**, anti-HRP. GFP
33 expression can be observed in cells with small nuclei that are Prospero-negative in (a)
34 and those that stain with anti-HRP in (b). Examples of both types are indicated with a

1 white “>” on the merged images. GFP-positive cells can be observed whose
2 morphology and staining pattern correspond closely to that of the ISCs (small nucleus,
3 small cell size, Prospero-negative, anti-HRP-positive [see ref. ⁴⁸ regarding anti-HRP]).
4 *TIGS* has a complex expression pattern, showing variation between neighbouring cells
5 of the same type and between gut regions. *TIGS* appears active in at least some ISCs.
6 Images are representative of two animals.

7

8 **Extended Data Figure 6. Effects of *dC160^{RNAi}* induction in *Drosophila* adult gut.**

9 Induction of *dC160^{RNAi}* in the guts of *TIGS>dC160^{RNAi}* females results in: **a**, decreased
10 levels of 45S pre-rRNA ($p=4\times 10^{-3}$, *MANOVA*, CI= 0.95-1.1, 0.85-1.0, 0.95-1.1, 0.81-
11 0.92 left to right; EST = 5' external transcribed spacer, IST = internal transcribed
12 spacer), indicating a reduction in Pol I activity as a result of Pol III – Pol I crosstalk; **b**,
13 unaltered levels of mRNAs encoding ribosomal proteins (RNA-Seq data, no significant
14 differences at 10% false discovery rate, *DESeq2*, $n= 3$ biologically independent
15 samples), indicating no crosstalk between Pol III and Pol II; **c**, decreased protein
16 synthesis (two further biological repeats and quantification related to **Fig. 2e**; $p=4\times 10^{-3}$,
17 *two-sided t-test*, $n=3$ biologically independent samples, CI= 0.65-1.4 -RU486, -
18 0.033-0.68 +RU486). RU486 feeding of *TIGS*-alone control females does not result in
19 a significant decrease in: **d**, levels of pre-tRNAs ($p=1\times 10^{-4}$, *MANOVA*, CI= 0.96-1.0,
20 1.1-1.2, 0.93-1.1, 1.1-1.2, 0.91-1.1, 1.2-1.3 left to right); **e**, levels of 45S pre-rRNA
21 ($p=2\times 10^{-4}$, *MANOVA*, CI= 0.94-1.1, 1.1-1.3, 0.94-1.1, 1.1-1.2 left to right); **f**, protein
22 synthesis ($p=0.74$, *two-sided t-test*, $n=3$ biologically independent samples). Induction
23 of *dC160^{RNAi}* in the guts of *TIGS>dC160^{RNAi}* females does not result in significant
24 changes to: **g**, total gut protein content ($p=0.43$, *two-sided t-test*); **h**, female fecundity
25 ($p=0.51$, *two-sided t-test*); **i**, whole-fly body weight, triacylglycerol or protein content
26 ($p=0.58$, 0.40, 0.16 respectively, *two-sided t-test*). **j**, RU486 feeding of *TIGS*-alone
27 control females does not result in increased resistance to tunicamycin ($p=0.89$, *log-*
28 *rank test*, $n= 149$ -RU486, 153 +RU486 animals; single trial). Bar charts show mean \pm
29 SEM, with $n=$ number of biologically independent samples indicated and overlay
30 showing individual data points. For gel source data see **Sup. Fig. 1**.

31

32 **Extended Data Figure 7. Regulation of Pol III activity by TORC1 in *Drosophila*.**

33 **a**, The antibody raised against a recombinant fragment of *Drosophila* TOR protein ²⁰
34 and used for ChIP (**Fig. 3a**) recognises a single band of the expected size on western

1 blots of S2 cell extracts. **b**, The same antibody can immunoprecipitate (IP) dTOR from
2 S2 cells expressing the endogenous and FLAG-tagged dTOR. **c**, It can also IP
3 endogenous dTOR and the intensity of this band is reduced upon treatment of S2 cells
4 with dsRNA against *dTOR*. For (a) to (c), a single experiment was performed; the
5 ability of the *dTOR* RNAi to reduce the intensity of the band was confirmed in an
6 independent experiment. **d**, Relative enrichment of Pol III-transcribed genes is higher
7 than that of Pol II-transcribed genes after ChIP using a second antibody against
8 *Drosophila* TOR (raised against a peptide²¹, $p=2 \times 10^{-4}$; *LM* with an *a priori* contrast, $n=$
9 3 biologically independent samples, CI= 1.6-2.6, 0.81-2.3, 1.1-2.7, 0.77-2.8, -0.24-2.5,
10 -0.065-2.0, 0.13-1.7 left to right). **e**, No enrichment for Pol III-transcribed genes over
11 Pol II-transcribed genes is observed after mock ChIP with no antibody ($p=0.09$, *LM*
12 with an *a priori* contrast, $n=3$ biologically independent samples). **f**, Rapamycin feeding
13 results in a decrease in total RNA content of the adult gut ($p < 10^{-4}$, two-sided *t*-test). **g**,
14 Rapamycin feeding results in reduction of pre-tRNAs relative to total RNA in the fly gut
15 ($p=10^{-4}$, *MANOVA*). Rapamycin feeding does not result in a reduction of pre-rRNA in
16 the fly gut relative to: **h**, *U3* ($p < 10^{-4}$, *MANOVA*); **i**, total RNA ($p=0.57$, *MANOVA*). **j**,
17 Feeding RU486 to *TIGS>HA-Maf1* female fruit flies to induce *HA-Maf1* in the gut alone
18 extends their lifespan ($p=0.006$, *log-rank test*, $n= 153$ -RU486, 146 +RU486 animals;
19 single trial). Bar charts show mean \pm SEM, with $n=$ number of biologically independent
20 samples indicated and overlay showing individual data points. For gel source data see
21 **Sup. Fig. 1**.

22

23 **Extended Data Figure 8. Relationship between TORC1 and Pol III.**

24 **a**, Summary of fly lifespans examining the epistasis between Pol III and TORC1
25 inhibition (top), including the CPH analyses results (bottom). In the summary (top),
26 *log-rank test* p value, relative to -RU486 -rapamycin control, is reported and the total
27 number of animals in the trial = dead + censored. **b**, Induction of *dC53^{RNAi}* in the adult
28 guts by RU486 feeding of *TIGS>dC53^{RNAi}* females and rapamycin feeding both extend
29 lifespan and are not additive (for statistical analysis see [a]; $n= 135$ control, 135
30 +RU486, 120 +rapamycin and 137 +RU486 and rapamycin animals; single trial). **c - f**,
31 Rapamycin but not induction of *dC160^{RNAi}* in the guts of *TIGS>dC160^{RNAi}* females by
32 RU486 reduces the phosphorylation of S6K in the gut (effect of rapamycin $p=3 \times 10^{-4}$,
33 RU486 $p=0.77$ and interaction $p=0.55$, *LM*, CI= 0.51-1.5, 1.0-1.2, 0.33-0.73, 0.08-0.91
34 left to right) and whole flies (effect of rapamycin $p < 10^{-4}$, RU486 $p=0.10$ and interaction

1 p=0.16, LM, CI=0.77-1.2, 0.60-1.0, 0.016-0.19, 0.019-0.15 left to right). Further
2 biological repeats related to **Fig. 3g** are presented in (c) for the gut and in (d) for the
3 whole fly. These are quantified in (e) and (f) respectively. In (c) to (f), data from four
4 biologically independent samples are shown. For gel source data see **Sup. Fig. 1**.

5

6 **Extended Data Figure 9. Inhibition of Pol III in the gut preserves organ health.**

7 **a**, $dC160^{RNAi}$ induction in the gut of adult $TIGS>dC160^{RNAi}$ females by RU486 feeding
8 supresses accumulation of pH3 positive cells in old flies ($p=1 \times 10^{-3}$, 2-tailed *t*-test, CI=
9 58-110 -RU486, 10-46 +RU486). **b**, $dC160^{RNAi}$ induction in the gut of adult
10 $TIGS>dC160^{RNAi}$ females by RU486 feeding supresses loss of gut barrier function
11 (number of “smurfs”) in old flies ($p=5 \times 10^{-4}$, χ^2 -test, CI=16-26 -RU486, 8.7-16 +RU486
12 % smurf). **c**, *rpc-1* RNAi suppresses the severity of the age-related loss of gut barrier
13 function in worms (effect of age $p < 10^{-4}$, *rpc-1* RNAi $p=0.51$, interaction $p=0.01$, *Ordinal*
14 *Logistic Regression*, CI=5.0-31, 16-50, 24-48, 25-51, 53-78, 34-66 % smurf grades 3
15 and 4). Age-related loss of gut barrier function has been previously described for
16 worms³¹. **d**, $dC160^{RNAi}$ induction in the gut of adult $TIGS>dC160^{RNAi}$ males by RU486
17 feeding results in a small but significant extension of lifespan ($p=0.03$, *log-rank-test*,
18 $n=141$ -RU486, 139 +RU486 animals; single trial). Bar charts show mean \pm SEM with
19 $n=$ number of animals indicated and overlay showing individual data points.

Fig. 1

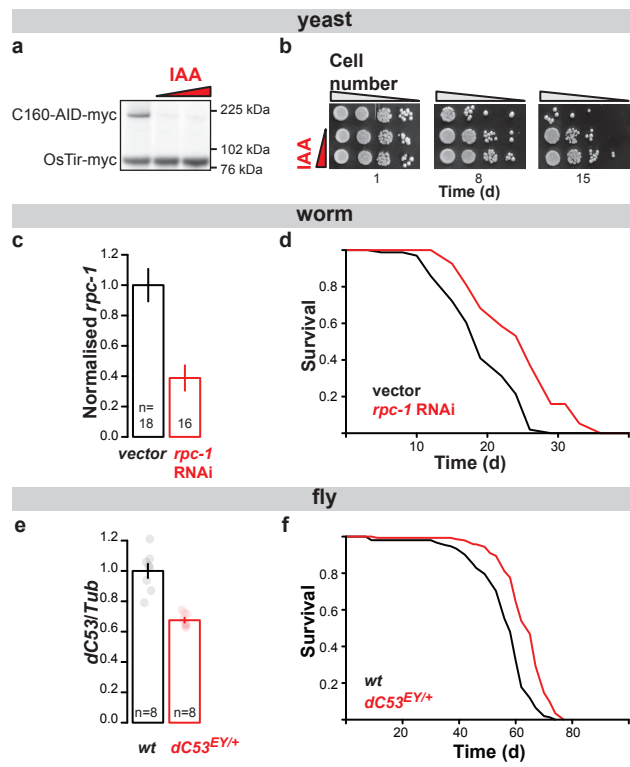


Fig. 2

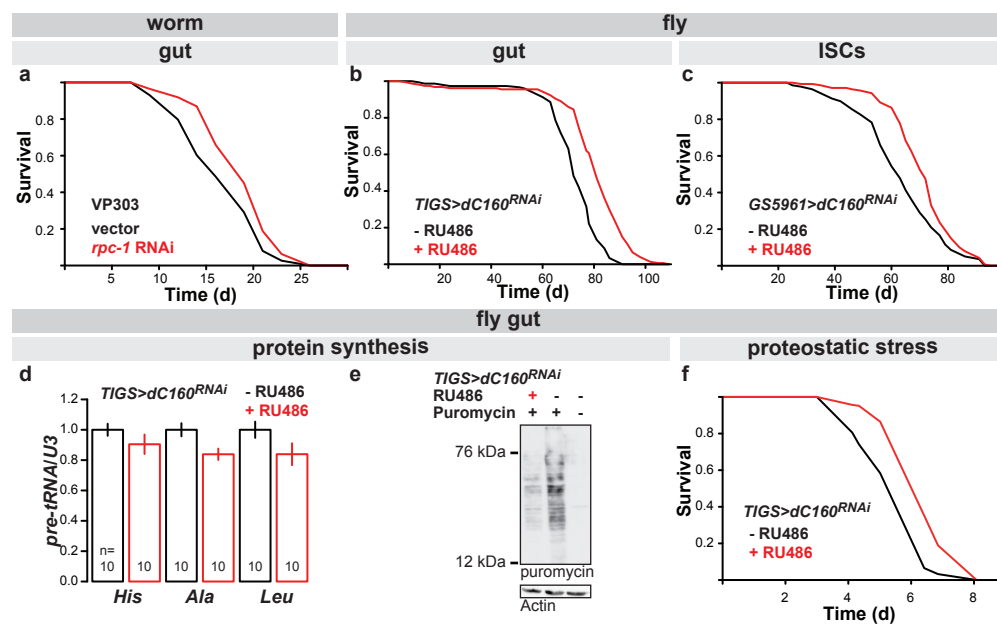


Fig. 3

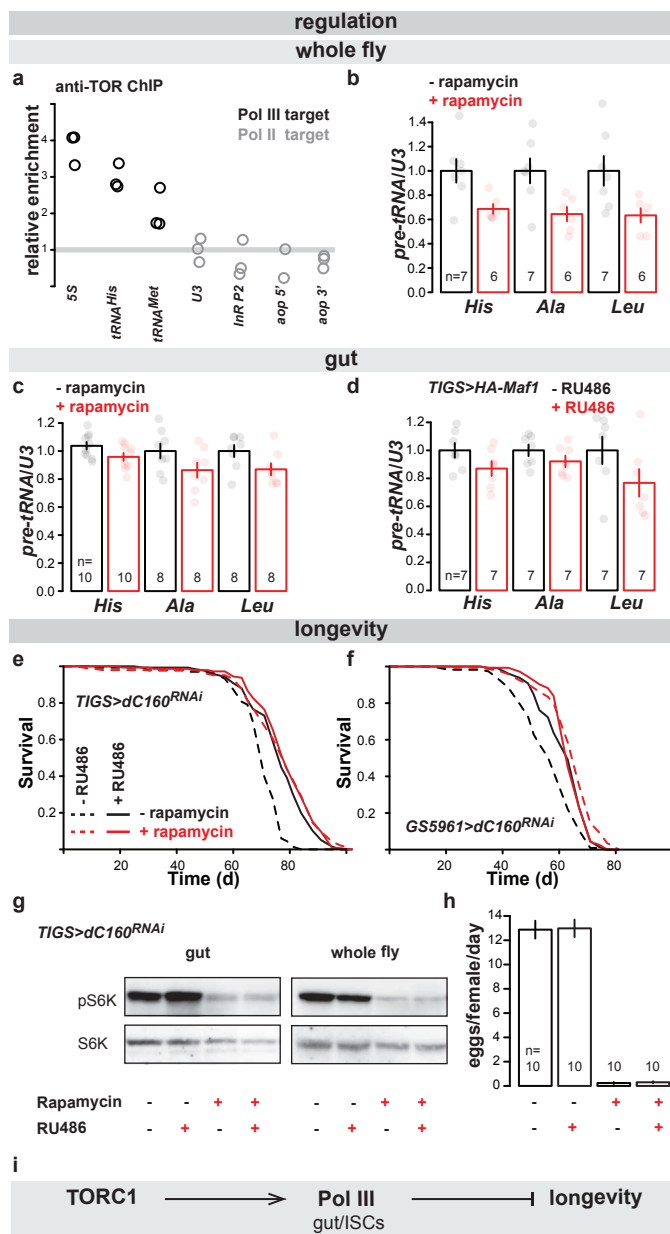
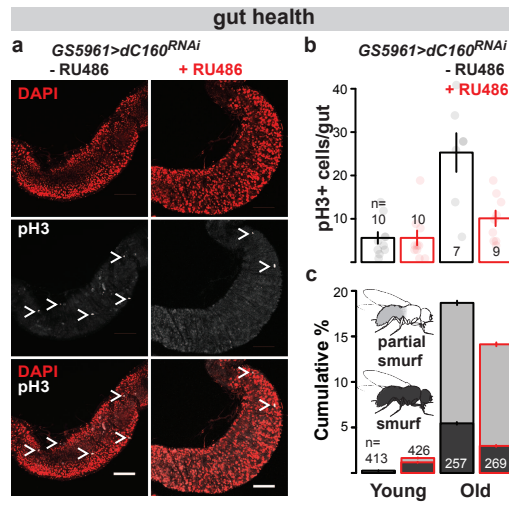
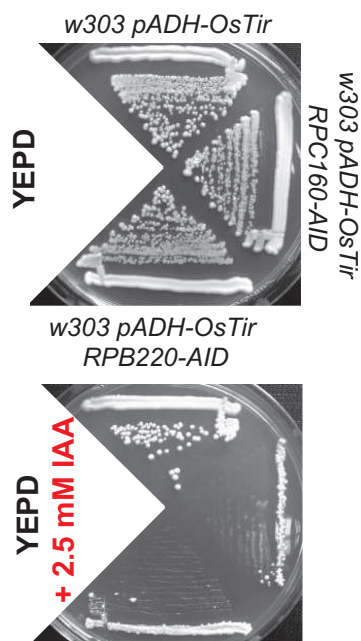


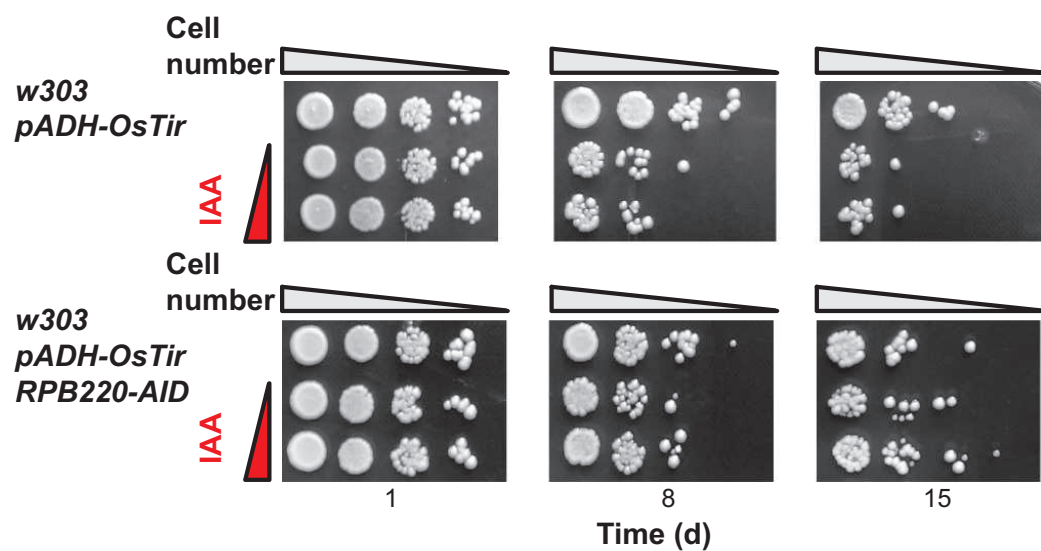
Fig. 4



a



b



c

Control median = 24 (23-26)

202 cells, 168 washed

0.0005 mM NAA = inf (20-inf)

219 cells, 213 washed

p=0.44

0.001 mM NAA = 22 (20-inf)

525 cells, 494 washed

p=0.1

0.005 mM NAA = 21 (20-inf)

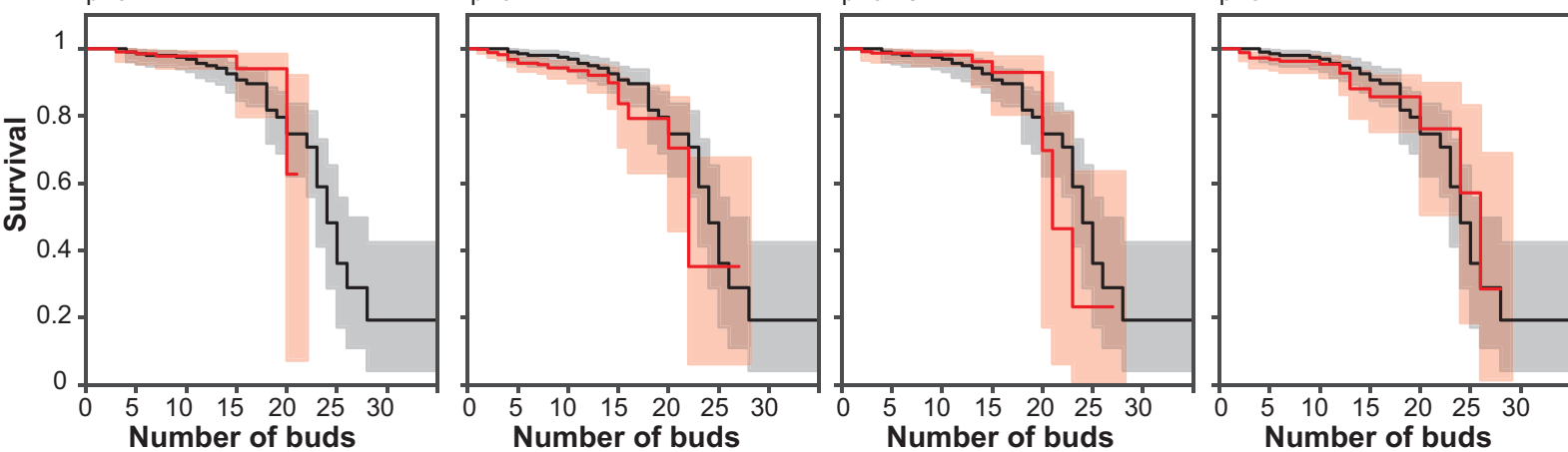
233 cells, 224 washed

p=0.73

0.01 mM NAA = 26 (24-inf)

259 cells, 240 washed

p=0.72



Control median = 105.0 min

0.0005 mM NAA = 115.0 min

p=2.34x10⁻²⁰

0.001 mM NAA = 115.0 min

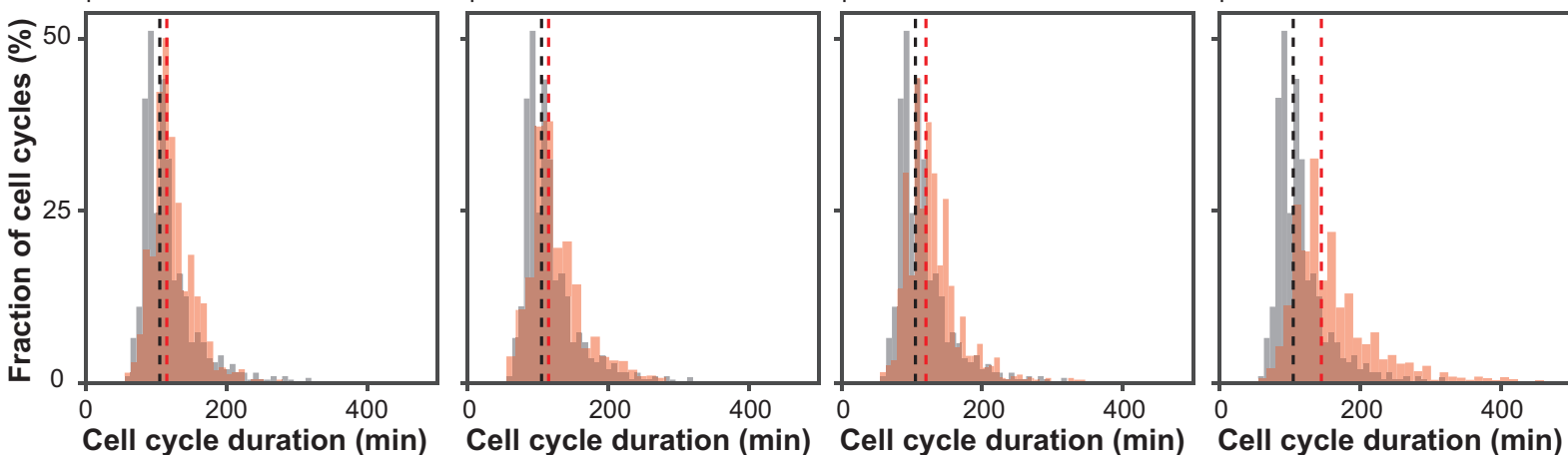
p=4.42x10⁻²⁴

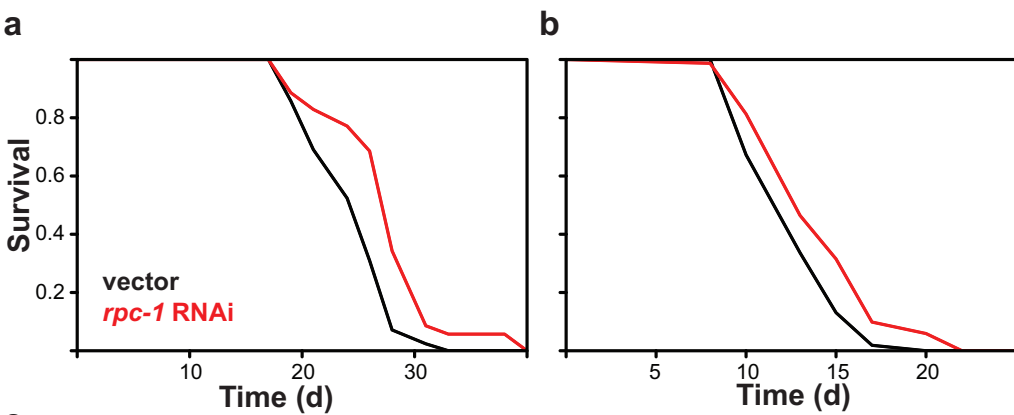
0.005 mM NAA = 120.0 min

p=2.60x10⁻³⁵

0.01 mM NAA = 145.0 min

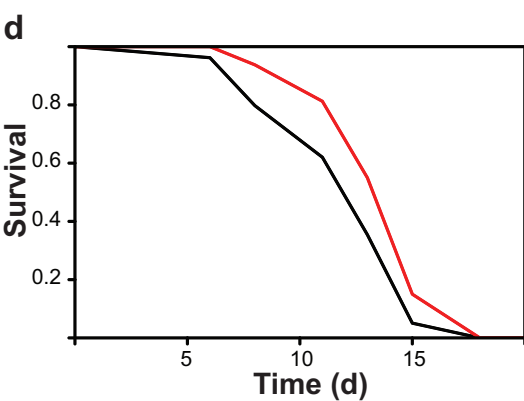
p=2.57x10⁻¹²⁵





c

Strain	<i>rpc-1</i> RNAi	FUDR	Temp	Mean	Dead	Censored	<i>p</i>
N2	-	+	25°C	13.01	54	6	
N2	+	+	25°C	14.31	62	15	0.009
N2	-	+	25°C	14.09	85	42	
N2	+	+	25°C	15.55	101	42	0.002
N2	-	+	20°C	20.72	59	41	
N2	+	+	20°C	28.14	22	78	<0.001
N2	-	+	20°C	21.86	48	52	
N2	+	+	20°C	27.10	29	71	<0.001
N2	-	+	20°C	21.96	52	34	
N2	+	+	20°C	24.67	21	73	0.032
N2	-	-	20°C	24.71	42	58	
N2	+	-	20°C	27.77	35	65	<0.001
N2	-	-	20°C	24.67	26	74	
N2	+	-	20°C	29.43	23	77	0.002
VP303	-	+	20°C	16.89	52	38	
VP303	+	+	20°C	18.92	29	38	0.024
VP303	-	+	20°C	16.36	57	27	
VP303	+	+	20°C	19.06	50	56	<0.001
VP303	-	+	25°C	12.48	78	6	
VP303	+	+	25°C	13.86	97	6	0.009
VP303	-	+	25°C	12.42	79	0	
VP303	+	+	25°C	13.99	80	3	0.001



Yeast gene	<i>Drosophila</i> orthologue
<i>RPC160 (RPO31)</i>	<i>CG17209</i>
<i>RPC128 (RET1)</i>	<i>RpIII128</i>
<i>RPC82</i>	<i>CG12267*</i>
<i>RPC53</i>	<i>CG5147</i>
<i>RPC37</i>	<i>Sin</i>
<i>RPC34</i>	<i>CG5380</i>
<i>RPC31</i>	<i>CG33051*</i>
<i>RPC25</i>	<i>CG7339</i>
<i>RPC17</i>	<i>Rcp†</i>
<i>RPC11</i>	<i>CG33785</i>

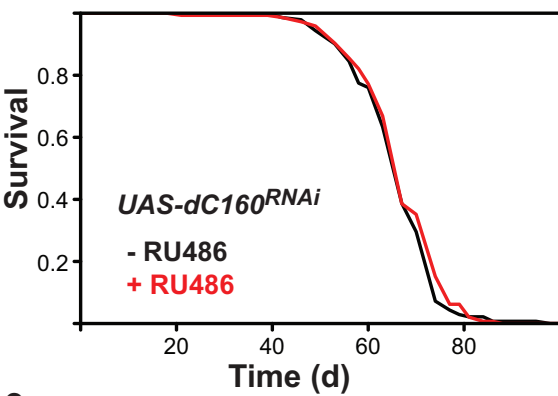
* - identified by homology to the human orthologue

† - low confidence hit identified by homology to the human orthologue

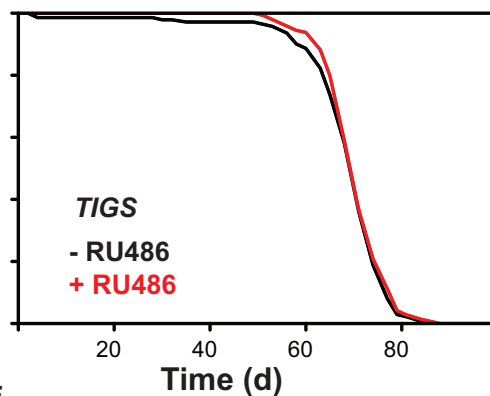
a

Genotype	RU486	Dead	Censored	Median	p
<i>wt</i>	NA	152	0	57	
<i>dC53^{EY/+}</i>	NA	143	1	63.5	6.1×10^{-13}
<i>TIGS>dC53^{RNAi}</i>	-	140	3	69.5	
	+	115	24	72.5	3.1×10^{-6}
<i>TIGS>dC160^{RNAi}</i>	-	149	1	71	
	+	155	2	79.5	6.4×10^{-16}
<i>TIGS>dC160^{RNAi}</i>	-	119	2	65	
	+	134	0	70.5	5.9×10^{-7}
<i>TIGS>dC160^{RNAi}</i>	-	140	2	64.5	
	+	152	0	69	1.8×10^{-13}
<i>TIGS>dC160^{RNAi} males</i>	-	137	4	57	
	+	137	2	59	0.033
<i>GS5961>dC160^{RNAi}</i>	-	138	1	61.5	
	+	139	3	71	2.3×10^{-4}
<i>GS5961>dC160^{RNAi}</i>	-	113	0	57	
	+	130	0	60.5	1.5×10^{-5}
<i>GS5691>dC160^{RNAi}</i>	-	138	3	64.5	
	+	131	1	68.5	1.0×10^{-3}
<i>TIGS</i>	-	140	1	69.5	
	+	144	1	69.5	0.41
<i>GS5961</i>	-	88	1	68.5	
	+	87	4	68.5	0.88
<i>UAS-dC160^{RNAi}</i>	-	141	1	65	
	+	145	1	65	0.28
<i>S₁₁₀₆>dC160^{RNAi}</i>	-	158	0	75.5	
	+	154	1	75.5	0.21
<i>elavGS>dC160^{RNAi}</i>	-	147	1	75.5	
	+	155	0	78	0.026
<i>TIGS>HA-Maf1</i>	-	150	3	63	
	+	142	4	65	0.006

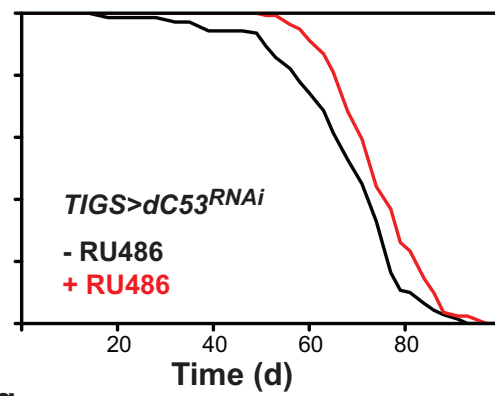
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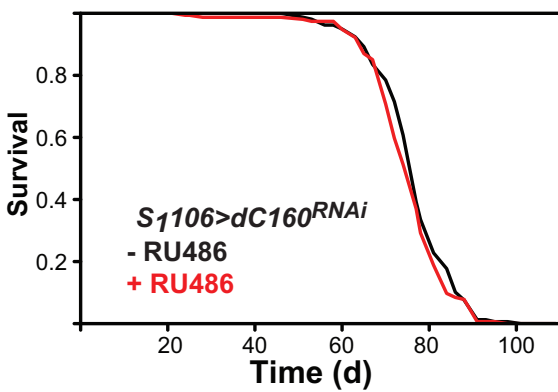
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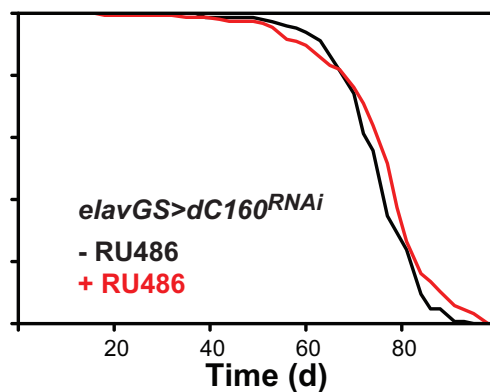
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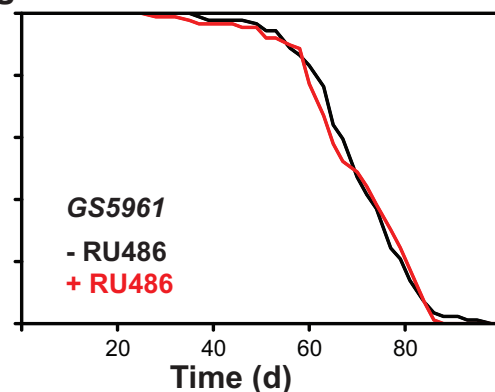
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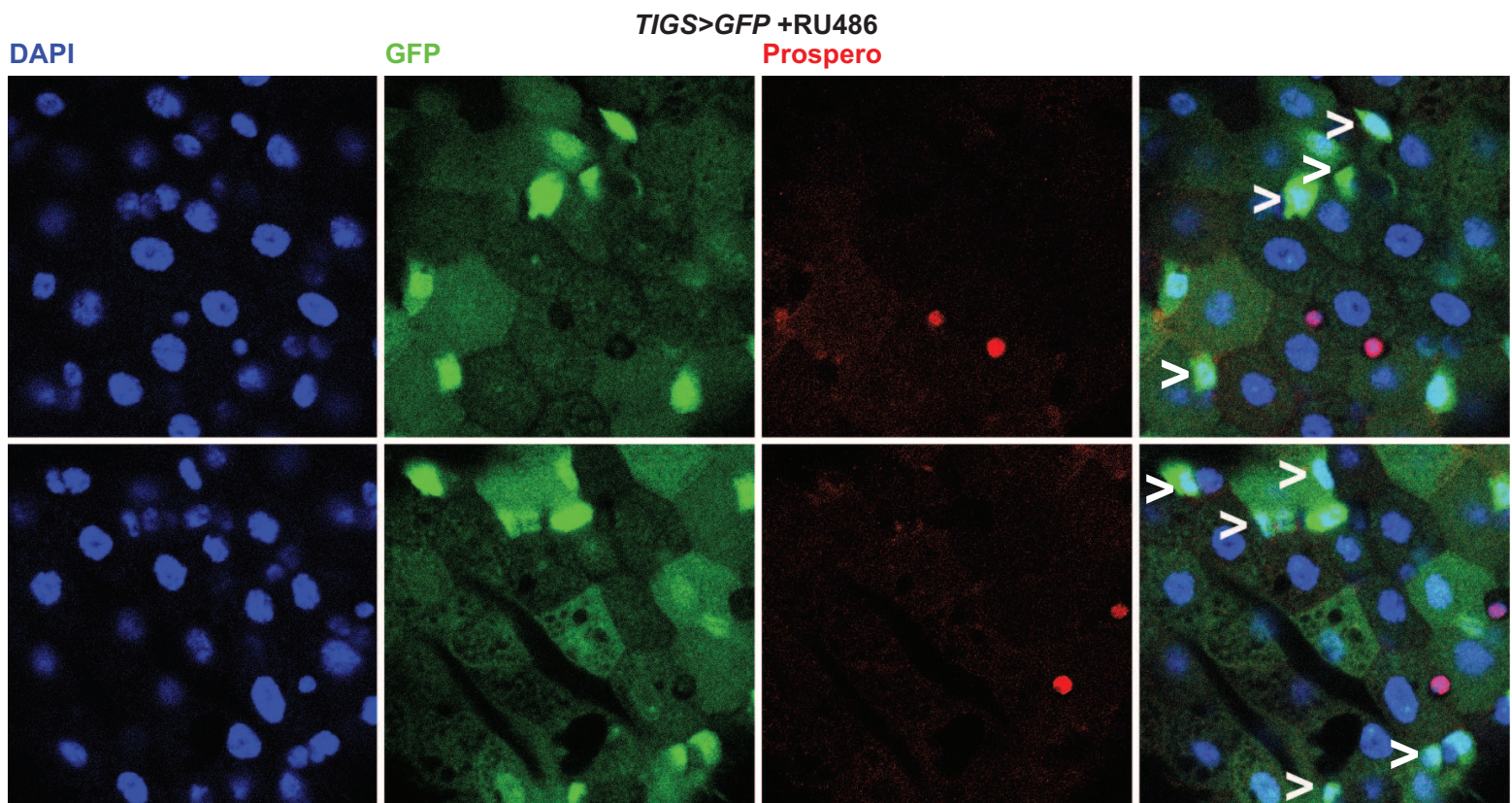
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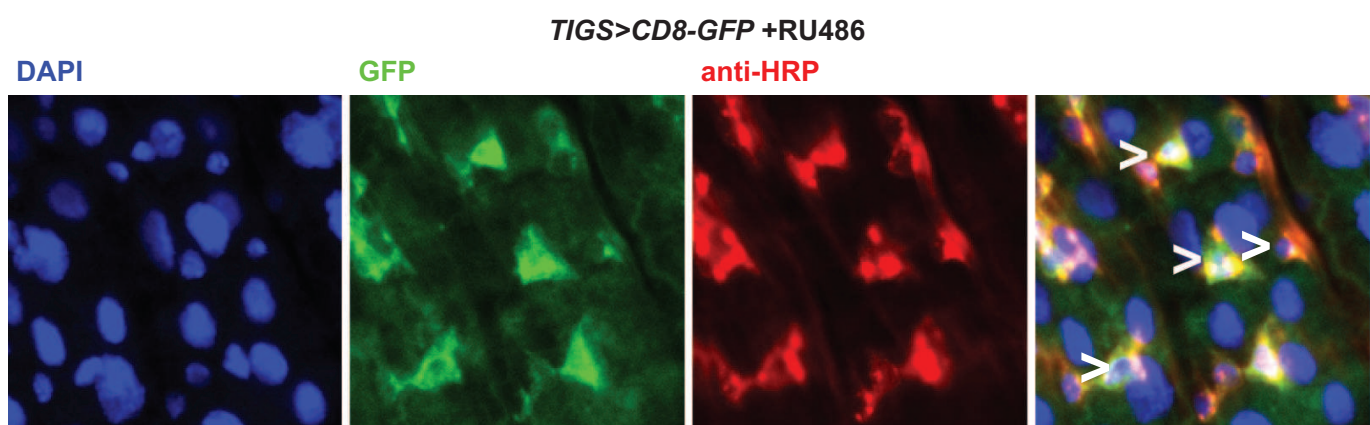
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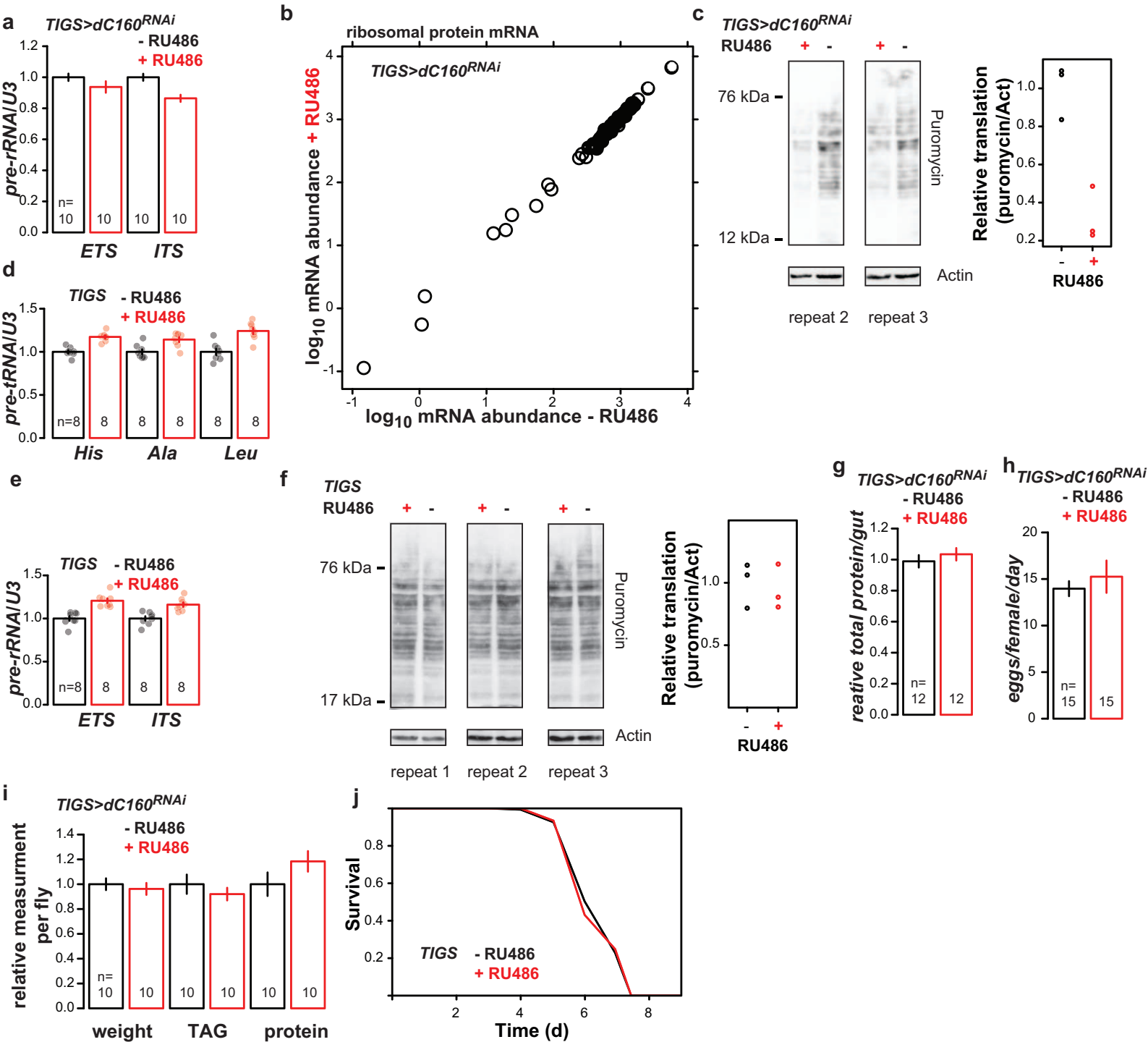


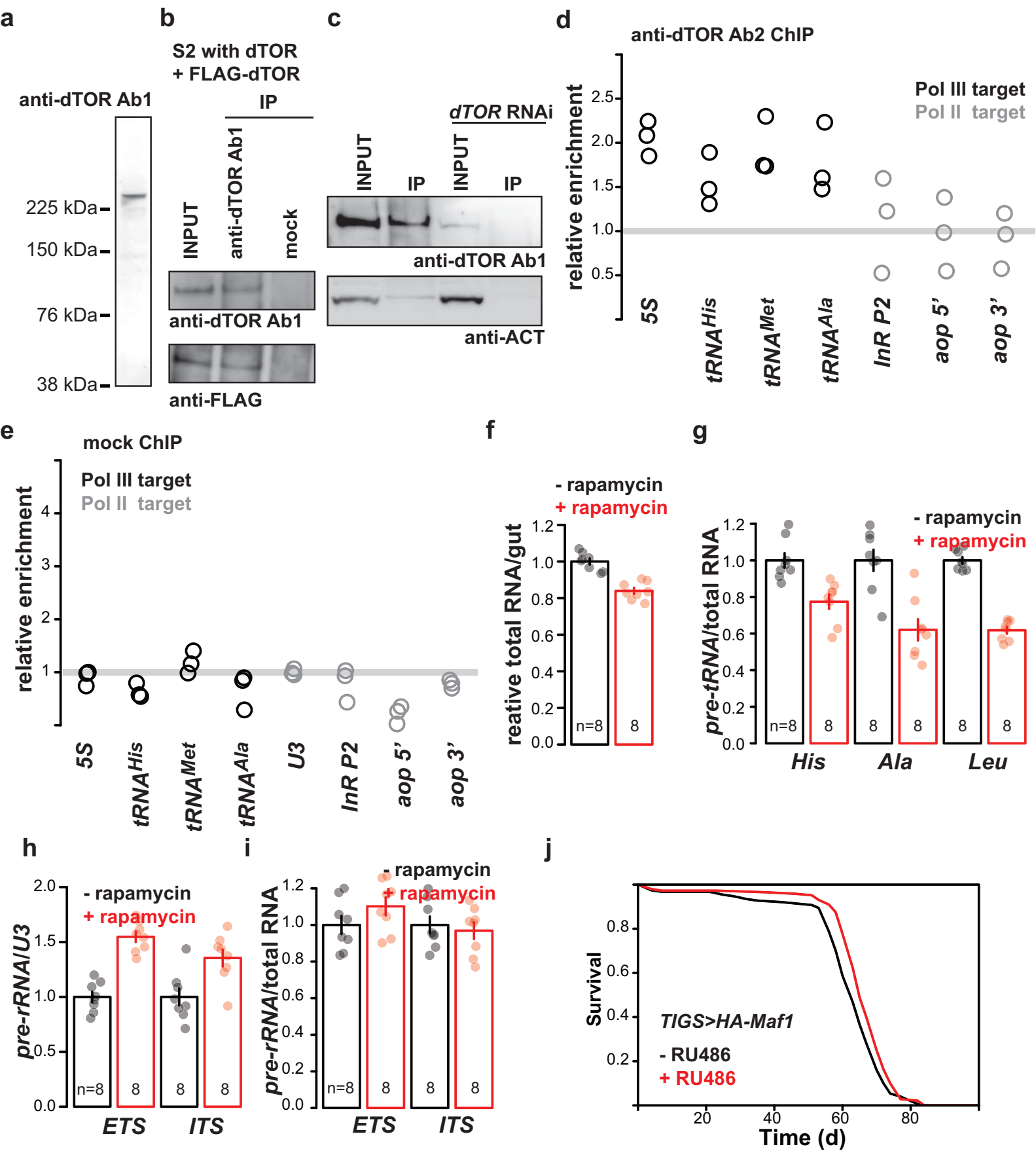
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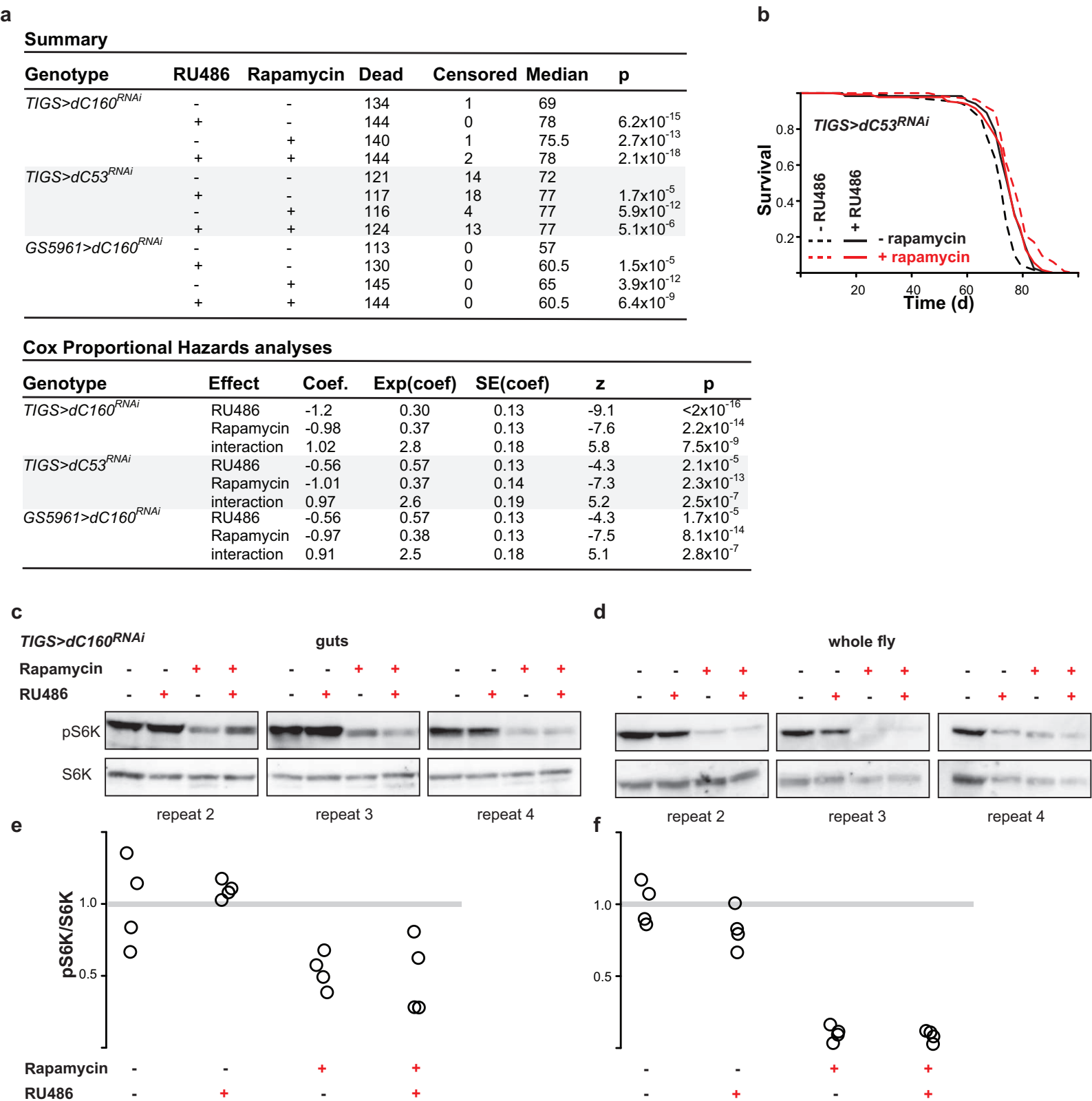


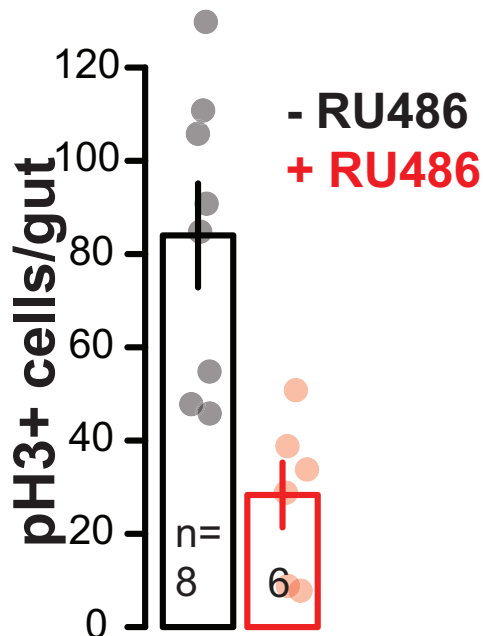
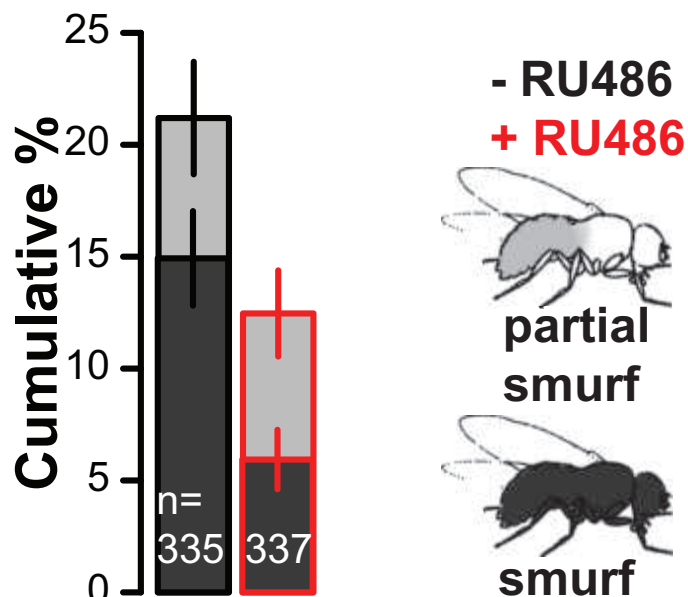
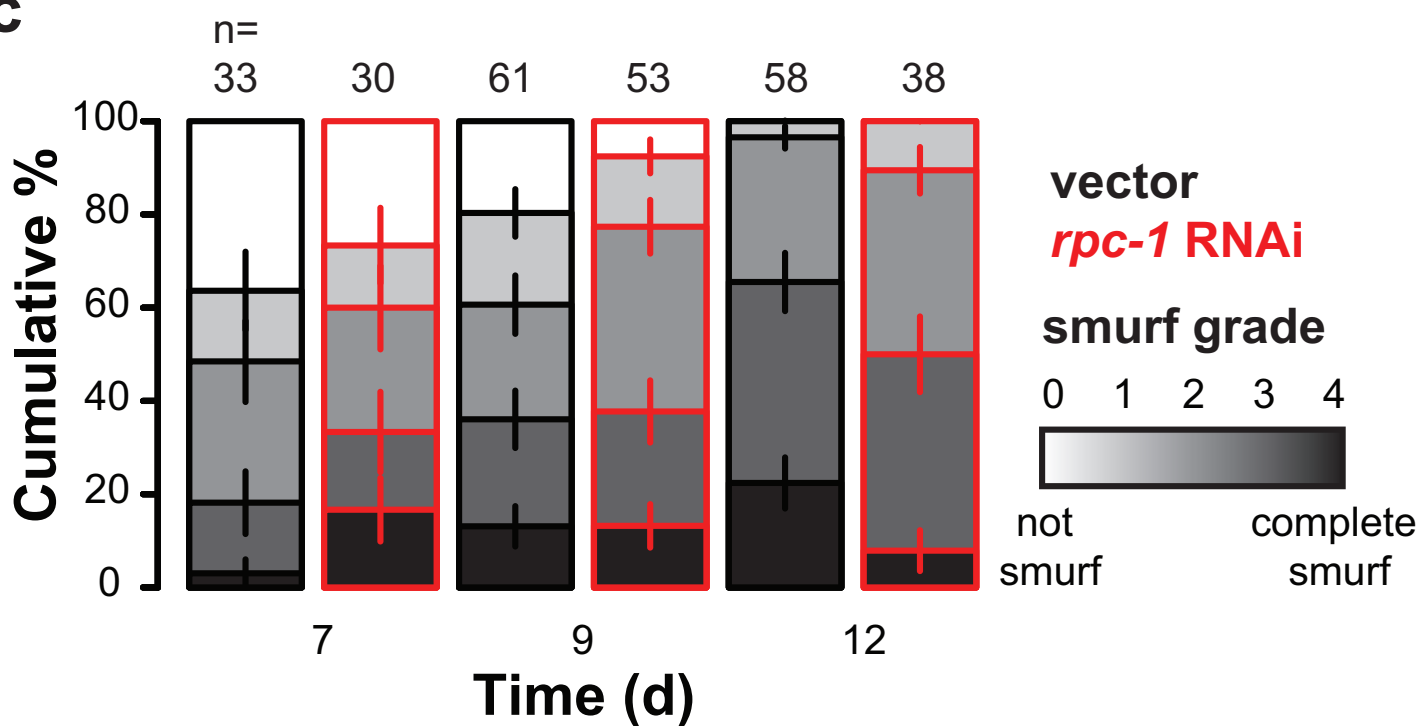
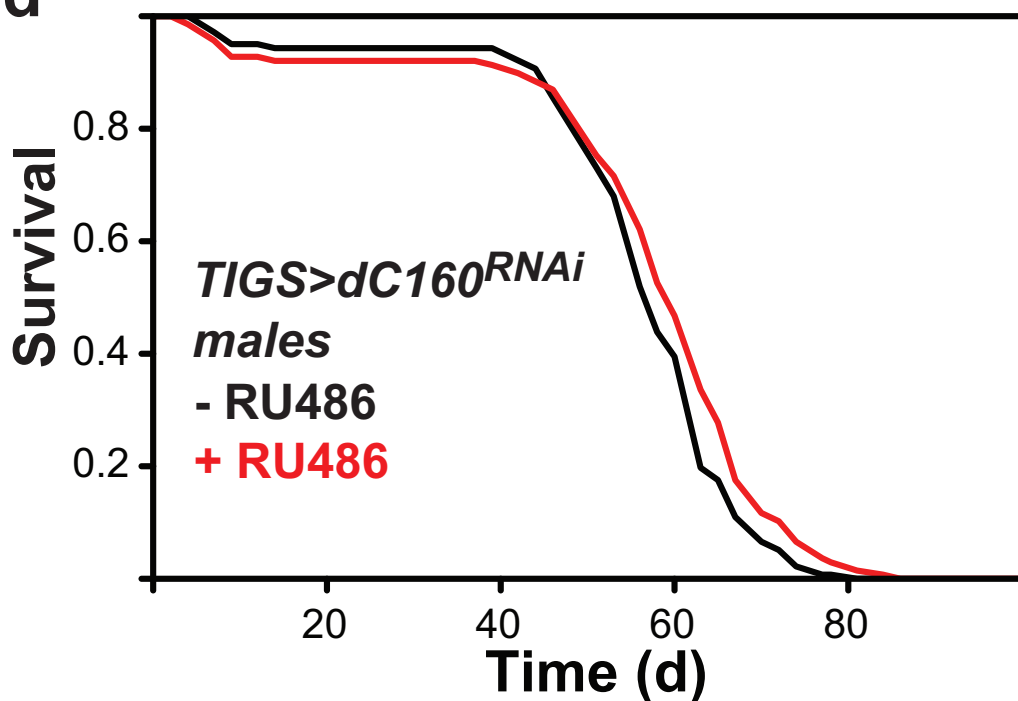
b









a *TIGS>dC160^{RNAi}***b** *TIGS>dC160^{RNAi}***c****d**

- 1 **SI Guide**
- 2
- 3 Supplementary Figure 1 – source data for gels. Single pdf.

Sup. Fig. 1

