

Supplementary Materials for

CLIP-Seq analysis enables the design of protective ribosomal RNA bait oligonucleotides against *C9ORF72* ALS/FTD poly-GR pathophysiology

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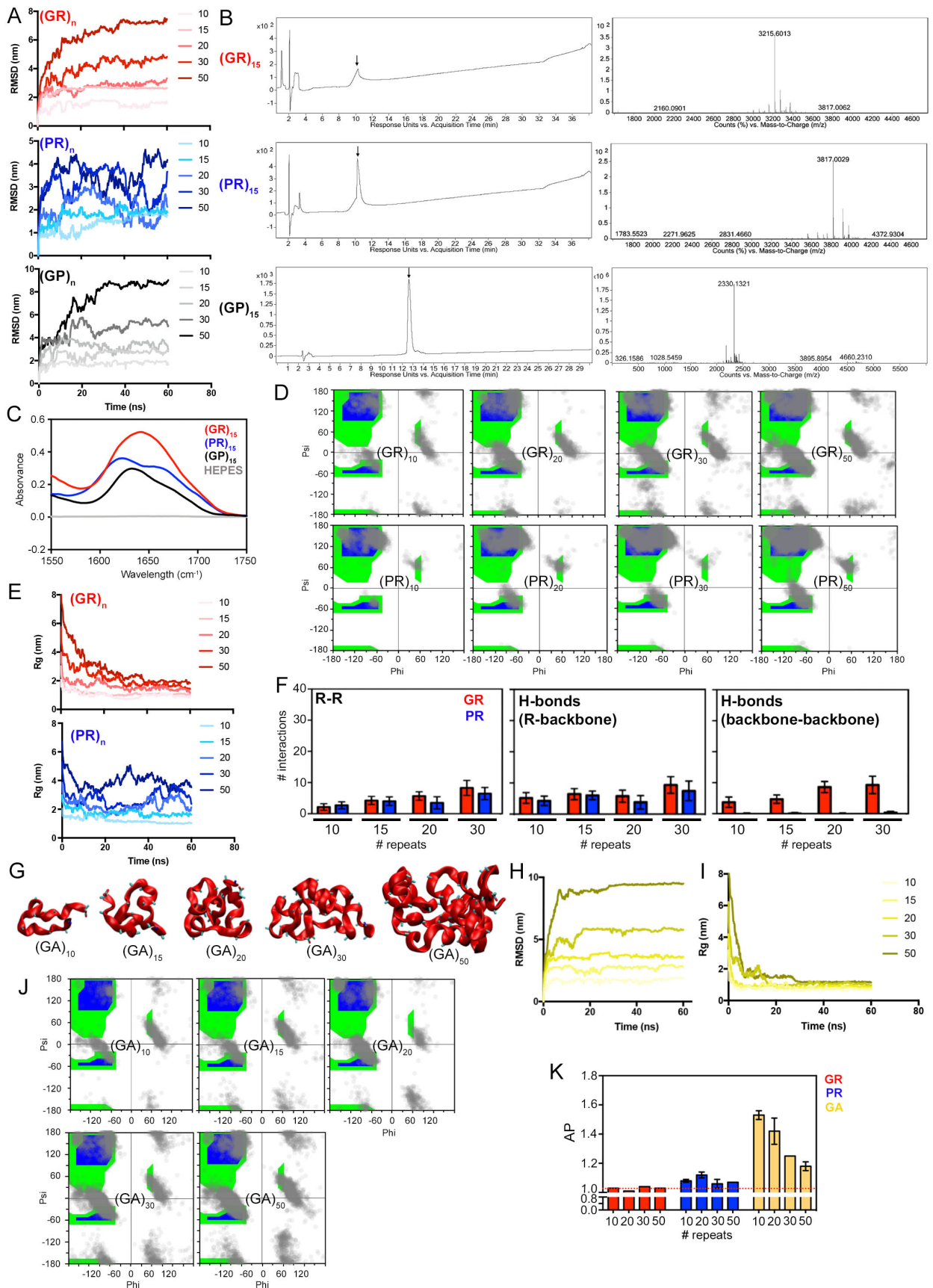
Sci. Adv. **9**, eadf7997 (2023)
DOI: 10.1126/sciadv.adf7997

The PDF file includes:

Figs. S1 to S10
Legends for tables S1 to S6

Other Supplementary Material for this manuscript includes the following:

Tables S1 to S6



Supplementary Figure 1. Computational and empirical characterization of the physicochemical features of C9 R-DPRs.

A. Line graphs showing changes from the initial structure calculated by root-mean-square deviation (RMSD) over time in (GR)_n (top), (PR)_n (middle), and (GP)_n (bottom) with different repeat number (n=10, 15, 20, 30, 50) in MD simulations.

B. LC-MS chromatograms using UV-vis absorbance (left) and electrospray ionization mass spectrometry (ESI-MS) spectra (right) obtained from pure fractions of synthesized (GR)₁₅, (PR)₁₅, and (GP)₁₅.

C. Line graph showing the secondary structure traces of (GP)₁₅, (GR)₁₅, and (PR)₁₅ analyzed by solid FTIR. Gray line indicates HEPES baseline.

D. Ramachandran plots mapping the secondary structures population present in (GR)_n (top) and (PR)_n (bottom) with different repeat number (n=10, 20, 30, 50).

E. Line graphs representing the radius of gyration (Rg) changes over time in the MD simulations of (GR)_n and (PR)_n with different repeat number (n=10, 15, 20, 30, 50).

F. Bar graphs showing the number of R-R and H-bond (within the backbone or between backbone and R residues) interactions in (GR)_n and (PR)_n with different number of repeats (10, 15, 20, and 30). Values represent mean ± SD.

G. All-atoms MD simulation of the secondary structure of (GA)_n with different repeat number (n=10, 15, 20, 30, 50).

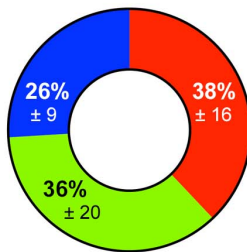
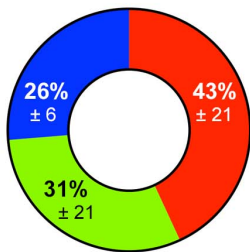
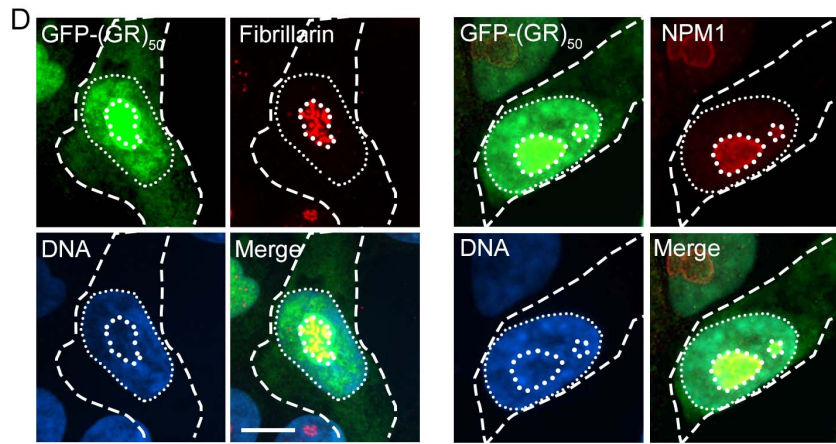
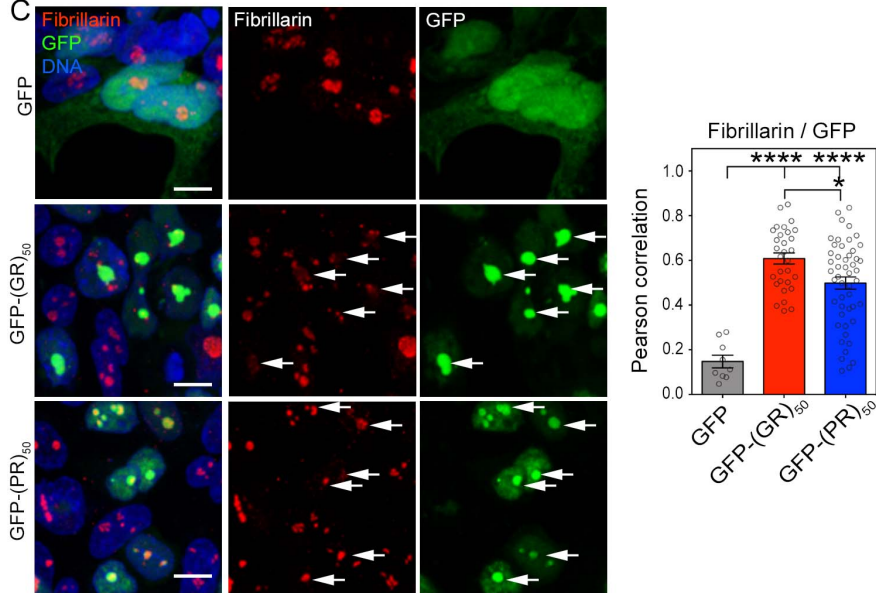
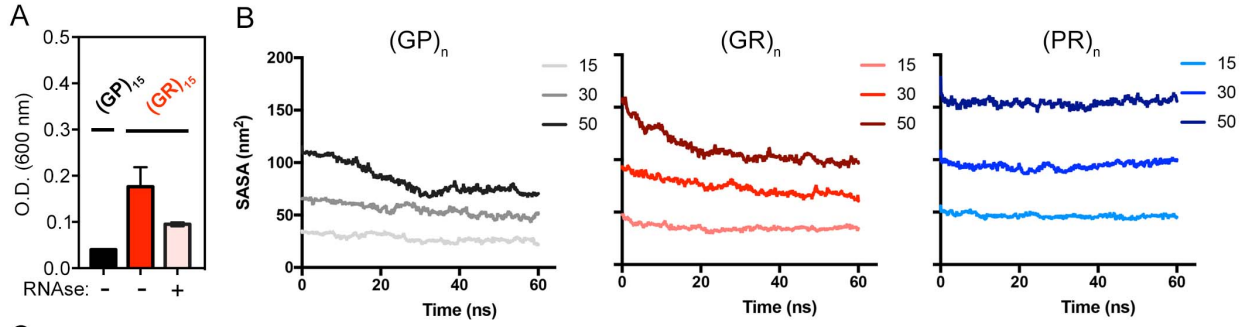
H. Line graph showing the changes from the initial structure calculated by RMSD over time in (GA)_n with different repeat number (n=10, 15, 20, 30, 50).

I. Line graph representing the Rg changes over time in the MD simulations of (GA)_n with different repeat number (n=10, 15, 20, 30, 50).

J. Ramachandran plots mapping the secondary structures population present in (GA)_n with different repeat number (n=10, 15, 20, 30, 50).

K. Bar graph showing coarse-grained MD simulation-based aggregation propensity (AP) calculated for (GR)_n, (PR)_n, and (GA)_n (n=10, 20, 30, 50). Red dashed line indicates the average AP values calculated in poly-GR. Values represent mean ± SD.

Raw data of all the simulations presented in this figure can be found in Table S1.



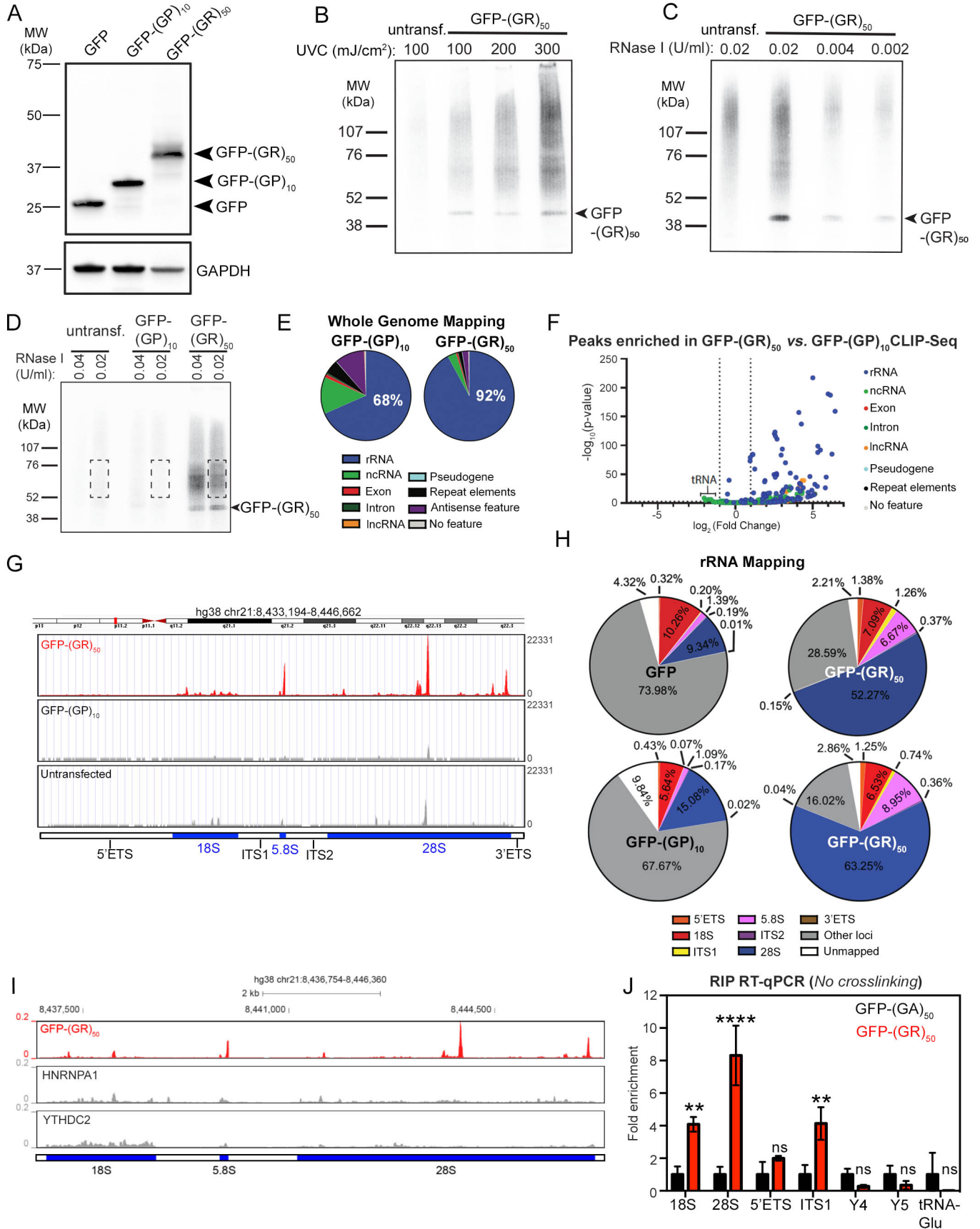
Supplementary Figure 2. Characterization of the interaction between R-DPRs and RNA *in vitro*, and localization of R-DPRs in cells.

A. Bar plot showing turbidity assay measurements utilized to assess the level of interaction of (GR)₁₅ with total human RNA in the absence/presence of RNase. (GP)₁₅ was used as a reference as it does not bind to RNA.

B. Line graphs representing the SASA changes over time in MD simulations of (GP)_n, (GR)_n, and (PR)_n with different number of repeats (n=15, 30, 50).

C. Left: Confocal images of HEK-293 cells transfected with GFP, GFP-(GR)₅₀, or GFP-(PR)₅₀ and labeled for the nucleolar marker fibrillarin using immunocytochemistry. Scale bar = 15 μm. Right: Dot plot showing the level of colocalization of fibrillarin with GFP and GFP-fused R-DPRs. Each dot in graph represents a single cell. Bars represented the mean ± standard error mean (SEM); ANOVA p* < 0.05; **** < 0.0001.

D. Top: Confocal images of HEK-293 cells transfected with GFP-(GR)₅₀ and immunostained for Fibrillarin or Nucleophosmin (NPM1), which label the fibrillar and granular components of the nucleolus, respectively. DNA was visualized by staining with Hoechst 33342. Scale bar = 10 μm. Dashed lines indicate cytosolic borders, while thin and thick pointed lines depict nuclear and nucleolar borders, respectively. Bottom: Pie charts displaying the distribution of the GFP-(GR)₅₀ signal within the different subcellular compartments (cytosol, nucleoplasm, and nucleolus) defined by the selected markers. ROI: region of interest. Values are presented as the mean ± standard error mean (SEM).



Supplementary Figure 3. Characterization of the interactions between poly-GR and RNA in live cells.

A. Lysates of HEK-293 cells transfected with GFP, GFP-(GP)₁₀ or GFP-(GR)₅₀ were subjected to western blot (WB) to detect GFP. GAPDH is a loading control.

B. After crosslinking HEK-293 cells expressing GFP-(GR)₅₀ with increasing doses of UV (254 nm) and IP with anti-GFP antibodies, RNPs were labeled with [γ -³²P]-ATP, fractionated by SDS-PAGE, transferred to a membrane, and detected by autoradiography. Untransfected cells were controls. Arrow indicates the GFP-(GR)₅₀ band.

C. Lysates of UV-crosslinked untransfected HEK-293 cells and cells expressing GFP-(GR)₅₀ were incubated with the indicated amounts of RNase I prior to IP and analysis as in (B). Arrow indicates the GFP-(GR)₅₀ band.

D. After UV crosslinking, HEK-293 cells expressing GFP, GFP-(GP)₁₀ or GFP-(GR)₅₀ were lysed, treated with the indicated amounts of RNase I and immunoprecipitated with anti-GFP antibodies. RNPs in immunoprecipitates were labeled with [γ -³²P]-ATP and detected as in (B). Dashed lines indicate RNPs excised for library preparation. Arrow indicates the GFP-(GR)₅₀ band.

E. Pie charts indicating the percentage of CLIP-Seq (replicate #2) peaks in the indicated classes of RNAs in GFP-(GP)₁₀ and GFP-(GR)₅₀ samples. Peaks were defined as having at least 5 overlapping reads.

F. Volcano plot showing CLIP-Seq peaks enriched in GFP-(GR)₅₀ compared to GFP-(GP)₁₀ in CLIP-Seq (replicate #2). Negative log₂ (fold change) indicates peaks that were more abundant in the GFP-(GP)₁₀ control. As in replicate #1, GFP-(GR)₅₀-CLIP-Seq peaks are enriched for rRNA, while tRNA peaks are more abundant in the control.

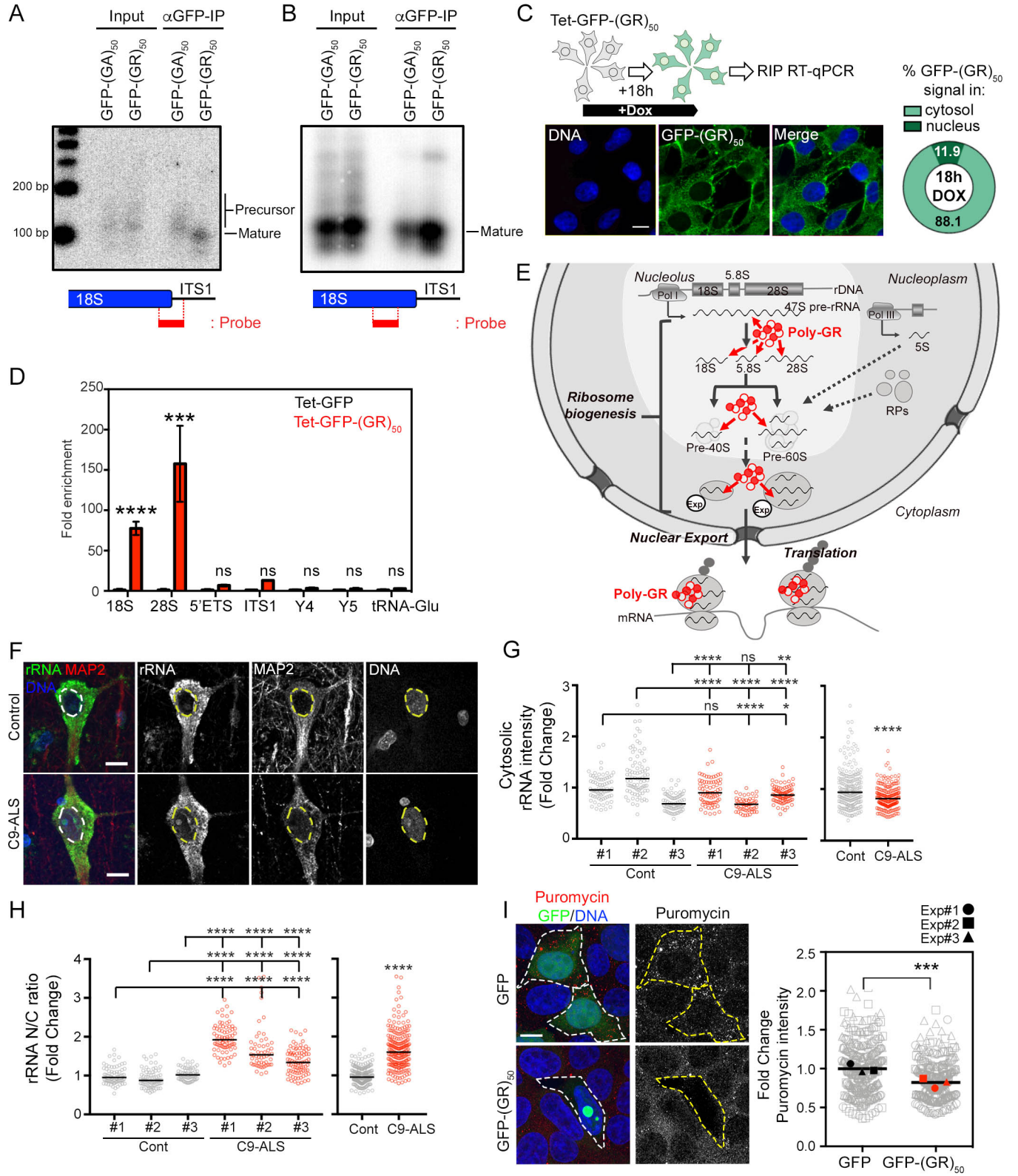
G. Distribution of reads mapping to the RNA45SN1 locus from the GFP-(GR)₅₀ (top), GFP-(GP)₁₀ (middle), and untransfected (bottom) CLIP-Seq (replicate #2) analyses.

H. Reads from the GFP, GFP-(GP)₁₀, and GFP-(GR)₅₀ CLIP-Seq (replicates #1 and #2) analyses were mapped to the RNA45SN1 locus. Reads that did not map to this locus were re-mapped to the hg38 human genome to determine the fraction that mapped to other genomic loci. Reads that did not map to hg38 are designated as “unmapped”. The percentage of reads in each category was quantified as a percentage of the total reads.

I. Distribution of reads mapping to the RNA45SN1 locus from CLIP-Seq analyses after IP for GFP-(GR)₅₀ (top), HNRNPA1 (middle), and YTHDC2 (bottom).

J. After IP, the levels of the indicated RNAs in anti-GFP-(GA)₅₀ and anti-GFP-(GR)₅₀ immunoprecipitates were measured by RT-qPCR. The fold-enrichment of each RNA relative to

the anti-GFP control is shown. n=2 independent biological replicates; Values are presented as the mean \pm SEM; Two-Way ANOVA, p**<0.01; ****<0.0001; ns, not significant.



Supplementary Figure 4. Poly-GR binds to multiple ribosomal RNA species in live cells.

A. and B. Lysates of HEK-293 cells expressing GFP-(GA)₅₀ or GFP-(GR)₅₀ were subjected to IP with anti-GFP antibodies. The isolated RNA was used in 3' RACE and the resulting cDNAs subjected to Southern blotting and probed with the indicated oligonucleotides to preferentially detect 3'-extended (A) and mature (B)18S rRNAs.

C. Top: Schematic of the doxycycline-inducible GFP-(GR)₅₀ expression system utilized to determine the level of interaction of poly-GR with cytosolic rRNA/ribosomes. Bottom: Confocal images of Doxycycline-induced expression of GFP-(GR)₅₀ in HEK-293 cells, after 18h of induction. Hoechst 33342 was used to counterstain nuclei. Scale bar= 10µm. Right: Pie chart showing the distribution of the GFP-(GR)₅₀ signal within the nucleus or cytosol after 18h of doxycycline induction.

D. After IP, the levels of the indicated RNAs in anti-GFP and anti-GFP-(GR)₅₀ immunoprecipitates were measured by RT-qPCR. The fold-enrichment of each RNA relative to the anti-GFP control is shown. n=2 independent biological replicates; Values are presented as the mean ± SEM; Two-Way ANOVA, ***<0.001; ****<0.0001; ns, not significant.

E. Schematic model summarizing poly-GR interactions with rRNA and the potential consequences, including defects in ribosome biogenesis and protein translation.

F. Representative immunohistochemistry confocal images of layer V neurons immunolabeled for rRNA (green), MAP2 (red), and DNA (blue) in motor cortex tissue from a non-neurological control and a C9-ALS patient. Scale bars= 10µm.

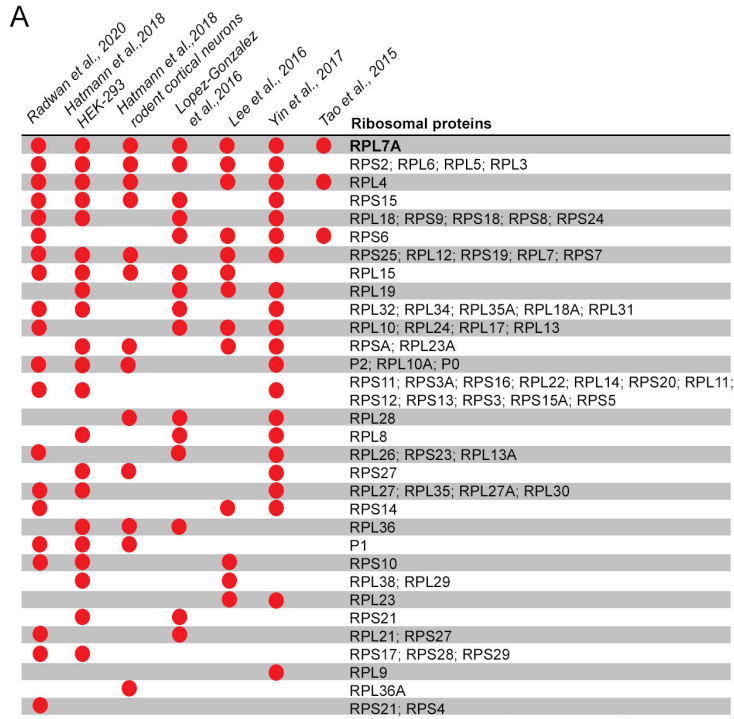
G. Left: Dot plot displaying cytosolic rRNA intensity of rRNA signal observed in cortical neurons of three non-neurological age-matched controls and three C9-ALS patients. Compiled control (n=225 cells) vs. C9-ALS (n=218 cells) data is shown on the right dot plot. Bars represent median; ANOVA followed by Kruskal-Wallis rank test (left) and Mann-Whitney U test (right), p *<0.05, **<0.01, ****<0.0001. ns, not significant.

H. Left: Dot plot displaying the fold change in the N/C ratio of rRNA signal observed in cortical neurons of three non-neurological age-matched controls and three C9-ALS patients. Compiled control (n=225 cells) vs. C9-ALS (n=218 cells) data is shown on the right dot plot. Bars represent median; ANOVA followed by Kruskal-Wallis rank test (left) and Mann-Whitney U test (right), p****<0.0001.

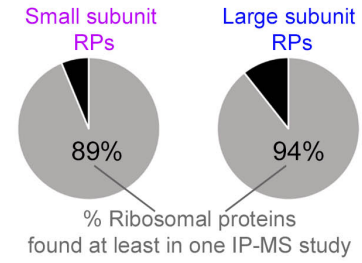
I. Left: Confocal images of GFP- and GFP-(GR)₅₀-transfected HEK-293 cells immunolabeled for puromycin. Hoechst 33342 was used to counterstain nuclei. Scale bar= 20µm. Right: Dot plot showing the fluorescence intensity of puromycin staining in GFP- and GFP-(GR)₅₀-transfected HEK-293 cells (n=324 cells/condition). Individual cells from 3 experiments are represented by

distinct shaped symbols in grey, median values of each experiment are represented by distinct shaped symbols in color, and bars represent the global median per condition. Multiple Comparisons of Means: Tukey contrasts test, $p^{***}<0.001$.

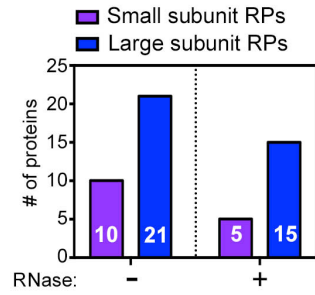
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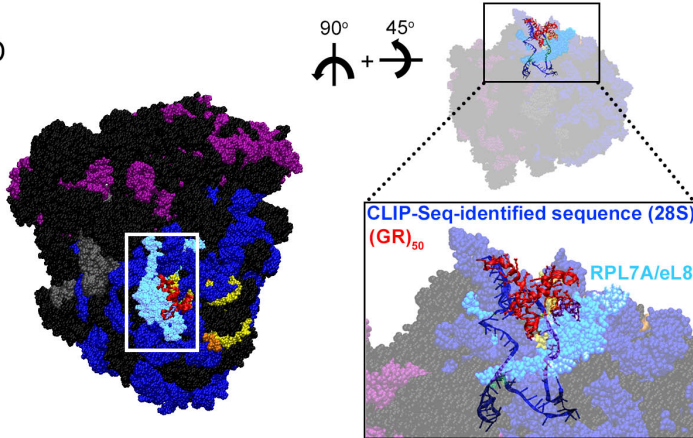
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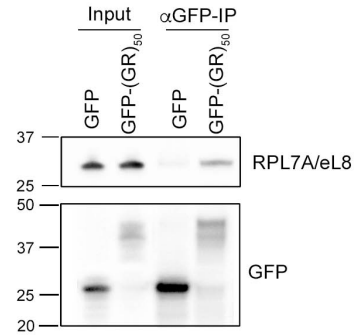
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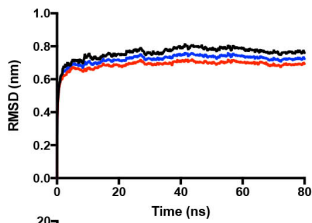


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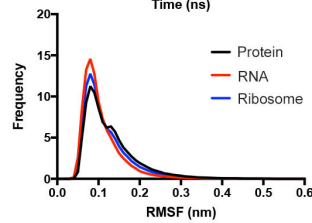


Stability of the simulated ribosome

F

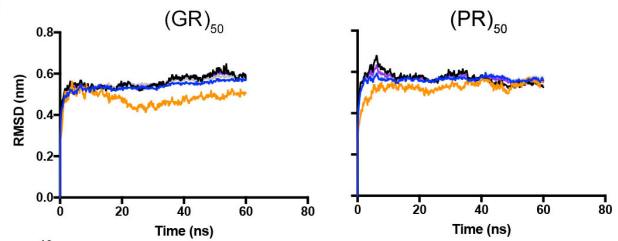


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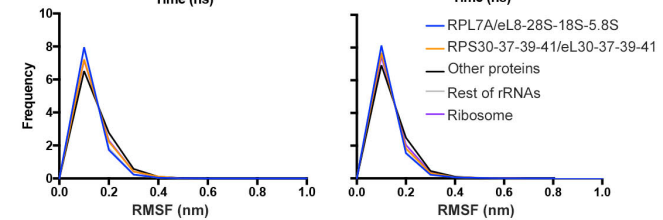


Stability of the *pocket* region with R-DPRs

H



I



Supplementary Figure 5. Computational modeling of poly-GR binding to ribosomal RNA and protein subunits.

A. Comparative data analysis of the RPs detected in published datasets of IP-MS experiments performed in mammalian *in vitro* cell models. Red dots indicate a positive interaction of poly-GR with the respective RPs.

B. Pie charts showing the percentage of small and large ribosomal subunit proteins immunoprecipitated with poly-GR in at least one previous study.

C. Bar graphs displaying the number of small (purple) and large (blue) ribosomal subunit proteins immunoprecipitated with poly-GR in the presence or absence of RNase as described by (44).

D. Left: All-atoms MD simulation of the mammalian 80S ribosome showing a putative region (indicated by a white line box) of interaction with (GR)₅₀ (pocket). The RPs and RNAs surrounding this region are labeled as follows: RPL7A: turquoise; RPS30/RPL37/RPL39/RPL41: orange; 28S: blue; 5.8S: yellow; 18S: purple; Other proteins and RNAs are labeled in black and gray respectively. (GR)₅₀ is colored in red. Right: A different angle of view of the mammalian ribosome reflects the close proximity between the 28S sequence identified by our CLIP-Seq analysis and RPL7A/eL8, consistently detected as a (GR)₅₀-interactor by 7 independent IP-MS studies. Angle of view with respect to the image on the left is represented at the top left part of the panel.

E. IP-WB analysis of GFP-(GR)₅₀ or GFP in HEK-293 transfected cells. Cell lysates were subjected to IP with anti-GFP antibodies and WB was performed to detect RPL7A/eL8 (top) and GFP (bottom).

F. Line graph showing changes from the initial structure calculated by RMSD over time in the different components of the mammalian ribosome.

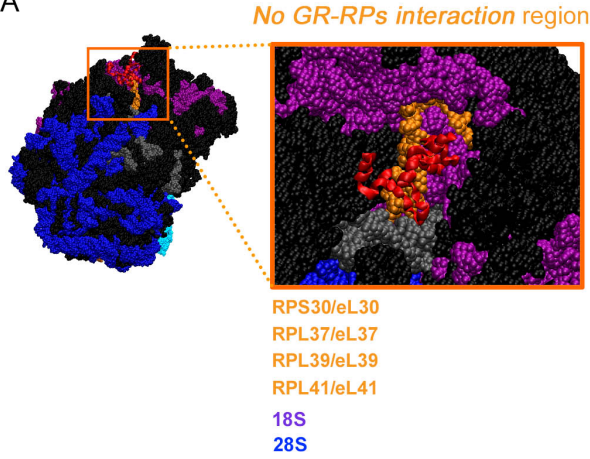
G. Line graph showing the frequency of changes calculated by root-mean-square fluctuation (RMSF) of the last 10 ns in the different components of the mammalian ribosome.

H. Line graphs showing changes from the initial structure calculated by RMSD over time in the RNA and protein components of the “*pocket*” region of the mammalian ribosome in the presence of (GR)₅₀ and (PR)₅₀.

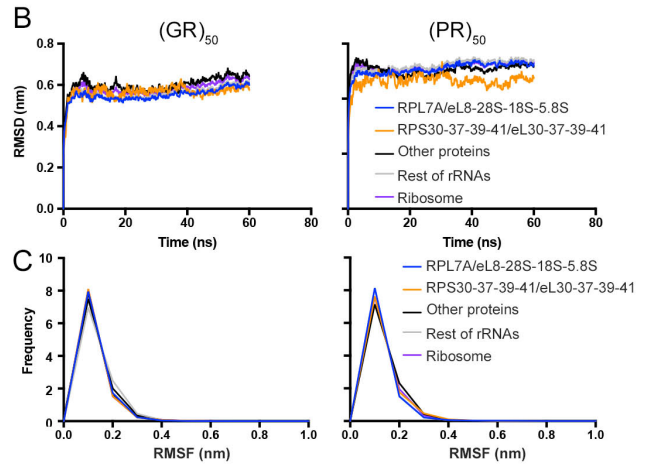
I. Line graphs showing the frequency of changes calculated by RMSF of the last 10 ns in the different components of the mammalian ribosomal “*pocket*” region in the presence of (GR)₅₀ and (PR)₅₀.

Raw data of all the simulations presented in this figure can be found in Table S4.

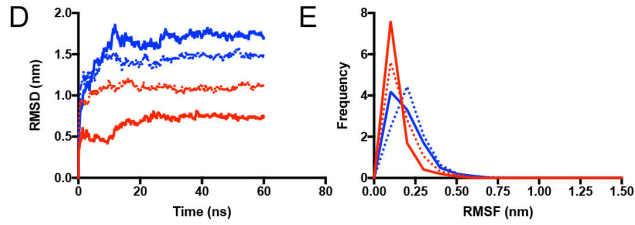
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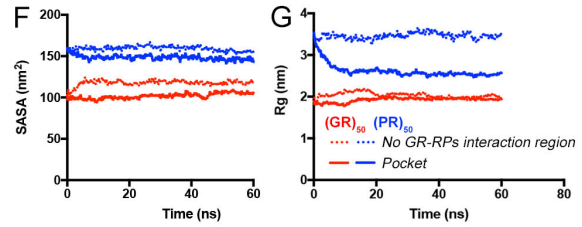
Stability of the *no GR-RPs interaction region*



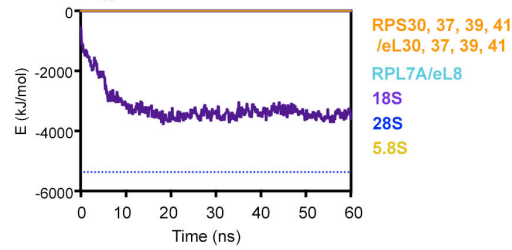
Stability of the R-DPRs in the *Pocket* and *no GR-RPs interaction regions*



Folding of the R-DPRs in the *Pocket* and *no GR-RPs interaction regions*



H $(GR)_{50}$ @ *no GR-RPs interaction region*



Supplementary Figure 6. Computational modeling of poly-GR binding to ribosomal RNA and protein subunits.

A. Representative image recreated by all-atoms MD simulations of (GR)₅₀ and (PR)₅₀ interacting with distinct rRNAs and RPs present in the “*no GR-RPs interaction*” region magnified in the inset on the right. Based on 7 different IP-MS studies, the proteins in this ribosomal region do not interact with poly-GR.

B. Line graphs showing changes from the initial structure calculated by RMSD over time in the RNA and protein components of the “*no GR-RPs interaction*” region of the mammalian ribosome in the presence of (GR)₅₀ (left) and (PR)₅₀ (right).

C. Line graphs showing the frequency of changes calculated by RMSF of the last 10 ns in the RNA and protein components of the “*no GR-RPs interaction*” region of the mammalian ribosome in the presence of (GR)₅₀ (left) and (PR)₅₀ (right).

D. Line graph showing changes from the initial structure calculated by RMSD over time of (GR)₅₀ and (PR)₅₀ in the “*pocket*” and “*no GR-RPs interaction*” region of the mammalian ribosome.

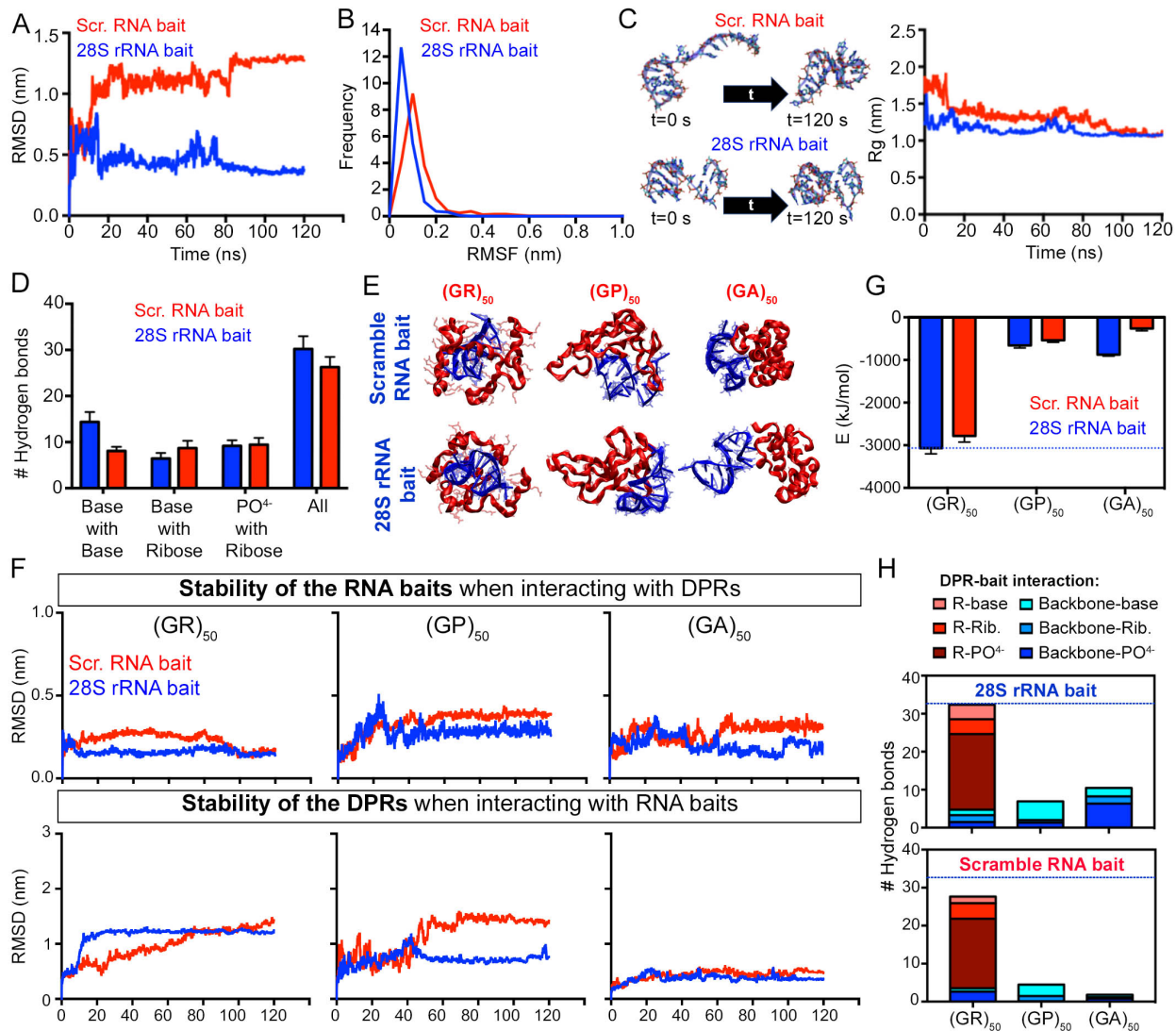
E. Line graph showing the frequency of changes calculated by RMSF of the last 10 ns for (GR)₅₀ and (PR)₅₀ in the “*pocket*” and “*no GR-RPs interaction*” region of the mammalian ribosome.

F. Line graph representing the SASA value changes over time of (GR)₅₀ and (PR)₅₀ in the “*pocket*” and “*no GR-RPs interaction*” region of the mammalian ribosome.

G. Line graph representing the Rg changes over time of (GR)₅₀ and (PR)₅₀ in the “*pocket*” and “*no GR-RPs interaction*” region of the mammalian ribosome.

H. Line graph indicating the energetic strength of the interactions of (GR)₅₀ in the “*no GR-RPs interaction*” region of the ribosome over time. Dashed line indicates the highest interaction energy achieved between (GR)₅₀ and 28S rRNA.

Raw data of all the simulations presented in this figure can be found in Table S4.



Supplementary Figure 7. Modified RNA-based strategy to inhibit the toxic effects of poly-GR on ribosomal homeostasis.

A. Line graph showing changes from the initial structure calculated by RMSD over time in the scrambled and 28S rRNA baits.

B. Line graph showing the frequency of changes calculated by RMSF of the last 10 ns in the scrambled and 28S rRNA baits.

C. Line graph (right) representing the Rg changes over time in the MD simulations of the scrambled and 28S rRNA baits (left).

D. Bar plot showing the number of hydrogen bonds established in the secondary structure of scrambled and 28S rRNA baits between bases, bases and ribose groups, or PO⁴⁻ and ribose groups. The values are presented as the mean ± SD.

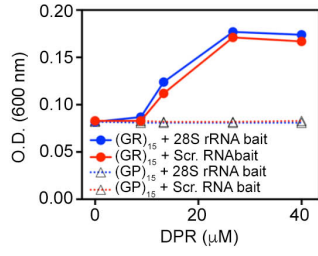
E. MD simulation snapshots showing how differential secondary structures of scrambled and 28S rRNA baits interact with distinct DPRs.

F. Top: Line graphs showing changes from the initial structure calculated by RMSD over time of scrambled and 28S baits upon interaction with DPRs. Bottom: Line graphs showing changes from the initial structure calculated by RMSD over time of (GR)₅₀, (GP)₅₀, and (GA)₅₀ upon interaction with scrambled and 28S rRNA baits.

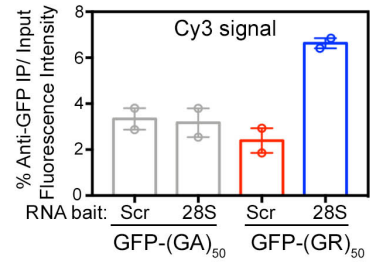
G. Bar graph showing average energy of interaction of scrambled and 28S baits with distinct DPRs during the last 10 ns, when structure is considered stable. Values are presented as mean ± SD. Blue dashed line indicates the highest interaction energy achieved between (GR)₅₀ and the 28S rRNA bait.

H. Bar plots showing the number of hydrogen bonds established between the bases, ribose, or PO⁴⁻ groups of scrambled or 28S rRNA baits, and the backbone or R residues of distinct DPRs. The values are presented by mean values. Blue dashed line indicates the highest interaction energy achieved between (GR)₅₀ and the 28S rRNA bait.

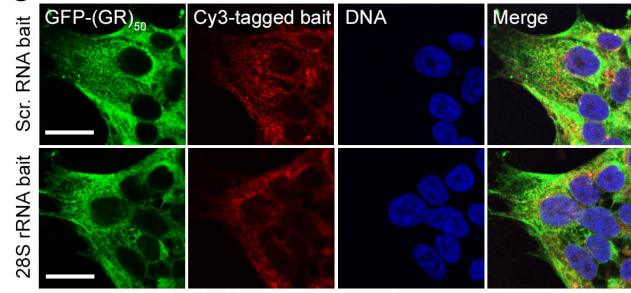
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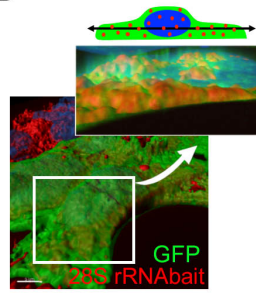
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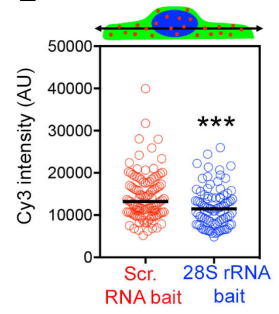
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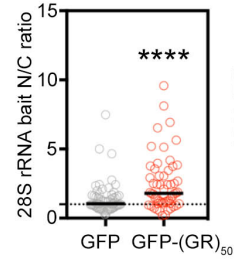
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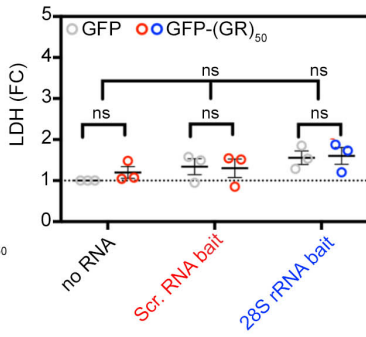
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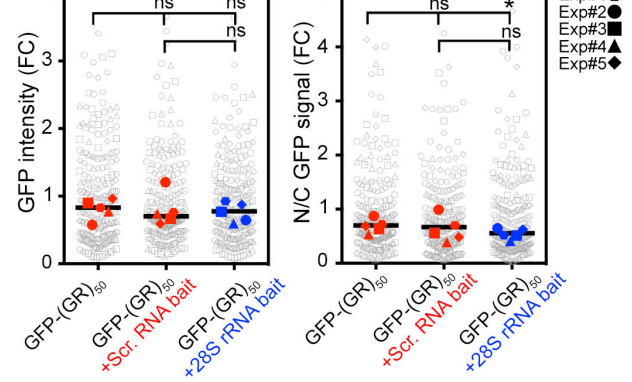
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Supplementary Figure 8. Modified RNA-based strategy to inhibit the toxic effects of poly-GR on ribosomal homeostasis.

A. Line graph depicting (GR)₁₅ and (GP)₁₅ concentration-dependent precipitation of scrambled and 28S rRNA baits calculated by optical density.

B. Lysates of HEK-293 cells co-transfected with Cy3-labeled scrambled or 28S rRNA baits and GFP-(GA)₅₀ or GFP-(GR)₅₀, were subjected to IP with an anti-GFP antibody. Bar graph showing the level of Cy3-labeled bait detected within the immunoprecipitates normalized to input.

C. Confocal images of HEK-293 cells sequentially co-transfected with scrambled or 28S rRNA baits, conjugated with Cy3 (red), and GFP (green). Hoechst 33342 was used to counterstain nuclei. Scale bar= 20μm.

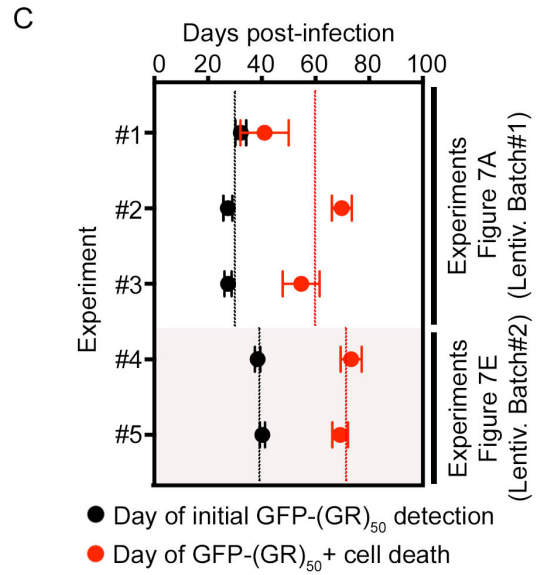
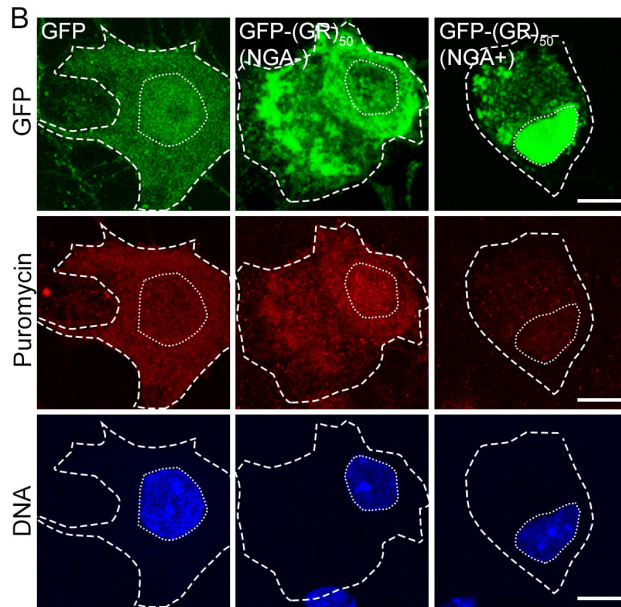
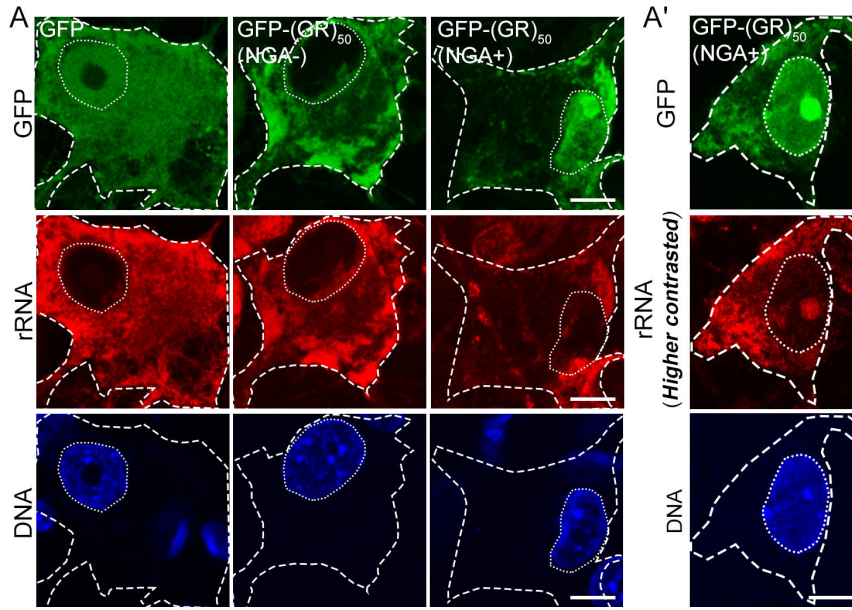
D. Volumetric reconstruction of confocal images of HEK-293 cells sequentially co-transfected with 28S rRNA bait, conjugated with Cy3 (red), and GFP (green). Hoechst 33342 was used to counterstain nuclei. Scale bar=10μm. Inset shows a single plane reconstruction of GFP and Hoechst 33342 signal in combination with volumetric Cy3-bait signal.

E. Dot plot showing the total intensity of the signal associated to scrambled or 28S rRNA baits, conjugated with Cy3, in GFP-transfected HEK-293 cells. Bars represent median. Mann-Whitney U test, p***<0.001.

F. Dot plot showing the nuclear/cytosolic (N/C) distribution of the 28S rRNA bait conjugated with Cy3 in GFP- or GFP-(GR)₅₀-transfected HEK-293 cells. Individual cells are represented as dots from 3 independent experiments and bars represent median. Mann-Whitney U test, p****<0.0001.

G. Dot plot showing the fold change (FC) levels of LDH in the media of HEK-293 cells sequentially co-transfected with scrambled or 28S rRNA baits and GFP- or GFP-(GR)₅₀. Average values of each experiment are represented as dots and the dotted line marks the median in no RNA bait treated GFP-transfected cells. n=3 independent biological replicates; bars represent mean ± SEM; ANOVA, ns, not significant.

H. Dot plots showing the intensity (left) and N/C distribution (right) of GFP signal in GFP-(GR)₅₀-transfected HEK-293 cells upon treatment with scrambled or 28S rRNA baits. Individual cells from 3 experiments are represented by distinct shaped symbols in grey, median values of each experiment are represented by distinct shaped symbols in color, and bars represent the global median per condition. Multiple Comparisons of Means: Tukey Contrasts, p*<0.05; ns, not significant.

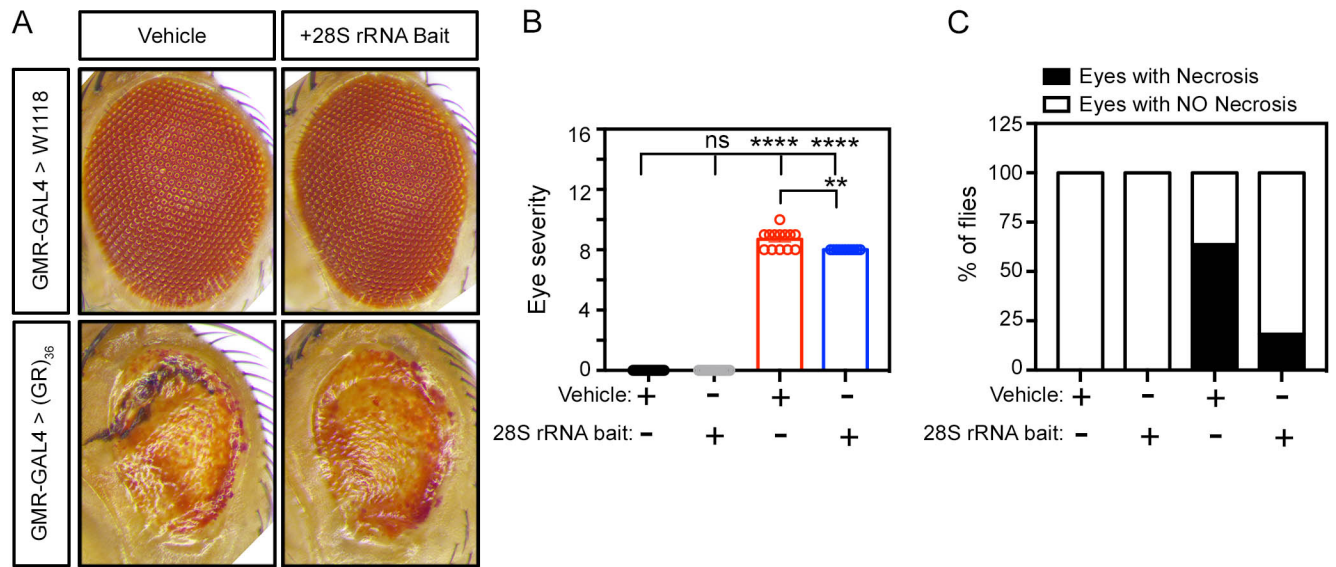


Supplementary Figure 9. RNA-based strategy to inhibit the toxic effects of poly-GR in stem cell derived MNs.

A. Confocal images of GFP- and GFP-(GR)₅₀-transduced iPSC-derived MNs, with or without NGA, immunolabeled for rRNA at 80 days post-infection (dpi). Hoechst 33342 was used to counterstain nuclei. A', Image of a GFP-(GR)₅₀-transduced iPSC-derived MN with nucleolar NGA where the contrast in rRNA intensity was increased to enable the observation of nucleolar rRNA. Scale bars=10 μm.

B. Confocal images of GFP- and GFP-(GR)₅₀-transduced iPSC-derived MNs, with or without NGA, immunolabeled for puromycin at 80 days post-infection (dpi). Hoechst 33342 was used to counterstain nuclei. Scale bar = 10 μm.

C. Dot plot graph displaying the average post-infection day for initial expression of GFP-(GR)₅₀ and cell death across experiments. Dashed lines indicate average values of each metric across experiments and lentiviral batches. The time between GFP-(GR)₅₀ expression and cell death is preserved across experiments.



Supplementary Figure 10. RNA-based strategy to inhibit the toxic effects of poly-GR *in vivo*.

A. Representative eye images from (GMR-GAL4 x W1118) and (GMR-GAL4 x (GR)₃₆) mutant flies treated or non-treated with 28S rRNA-based bait.

B. Bar graph displaying the level of eye degeneration in the different conditions as referred to A. Each dot represents values of a single fly. ANOVA test, p**<0.01; p****<0.0001; ns, not significant.

C. Graph bar showing the percentage of (GMR-GAL4 x W1118) and (GMR-GAL4 x (GR)₃₆) flies with or without eye necrosis.

Descriptive Caption for Supplementary Tables

Supplementary Table 1. Computational raw data of RMSD, Rg, Intramolecular interaction, AP, and SASA analyses of the distinct DPRs characterized in this study.

Supplementary Table 2. Features annotated for each peak detected in CLIP-Seq analysis in GFP-(GR)₅₀ to GFP comparisons.

Supplementary Table 3. Metanalysis of previous anti-poly-GR IP-MS experiments. The table includes a detailed description of the ribosomal proteins that immunoprecipitated along with poly-GR in 7 different studies.

Supplementary Table 4. Computational raw data of RMSD, RMSF, Rg, SASA, and binding energies' analyses of a mammalian ribosome in the presence or absence of R-DPRs.

Supplementary Table 5. Secondary conformation analyses of 28S rRNA-based and scrambled baits. Secondary structures were obtained through 3 independent simulation methods.

Supplementary Table 6. Donor information and karyotyping results for the iPSC lines utilized in this study.