

TELOMERI E COMPLESSI DEL TELOMERO

Telomeres are the terminal **nucleoprotein** structures located at the ends of eukaryotic chromosomes.

These structures function as

A **guardians of genome stability** by **limiting unwanted DNA repair** activity at chromosome ends, and in human cells,

B by **controlling the total number of times a cell can divide**, thereby limiting the accumulation of genomic instability in actively cycling cells

2015 -1260 pubblicazioni !!

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Results: 1 to 20 of 19058

[Telomere length and LINE1 methylation is associated with](#)

1. [chromosomal aberrations in peripheral blood.](#)

Li H, Hilmarsen HT, Hossain MB, Björk J, Hansteen IL, Albin M, Furu Skjelbred C, Broberg K.

Genes Chromosomes Cancer. 2012 Sep 21. doi: 10.1002/gcc.22000. [Epub ahead of print]

PMID: 22997064 [PubMed - as supplied by publisher]

[Related citations](#)

[Understanding the molecular pathways associated with seed vigor.](#)

2. Ventura L, Donà M, Macovei A, Carbonera D, Buttafava A, Mondoni A, Rossi G, Balestrazzi A.

Plant Physiol Biochem. 2012 Sep 1;60C:196-206. doi: 10.1016/j.plaphy.2012.07.031. [Epub ahead of print]

Results by year



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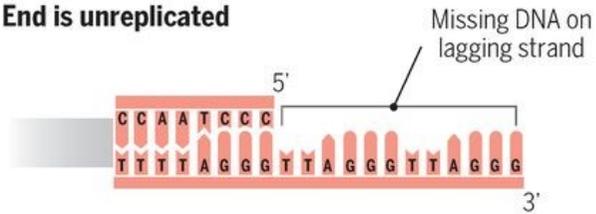
PMC Images search for

telomere

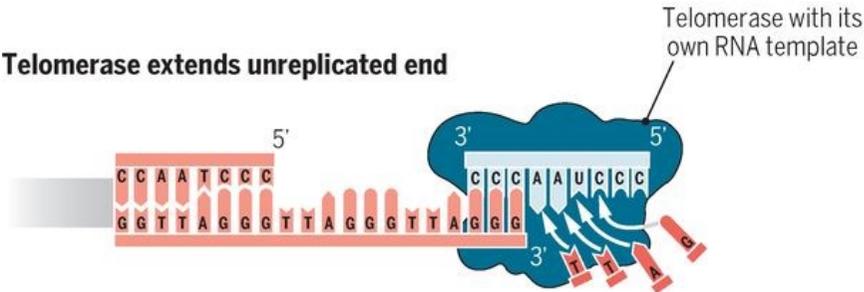
Long-term maintenance of telomeric DNA length requires telomerase.

A

End is unreplicated



Telomerase extends unreplicated end



Again, telomerase extends unreplicated end



Lagging strand is completed

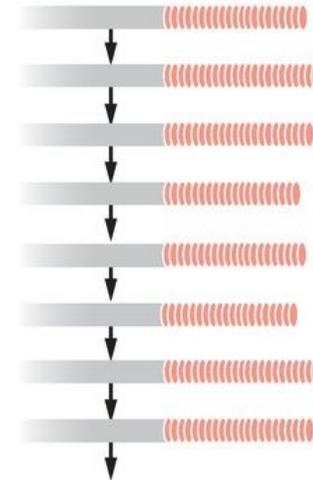
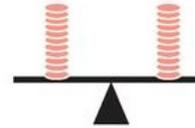


Long-term maintenance of telomeric DNA length requires telomerase.

B

Abundant telomerase as cell divides

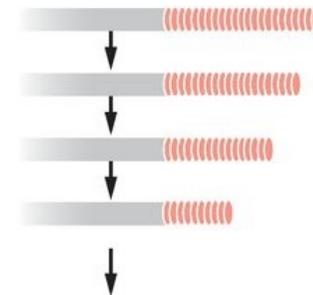
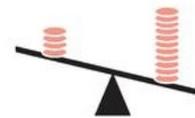
Addition and shortening stay balanced



Cells keep dividing
Most human cancers

C

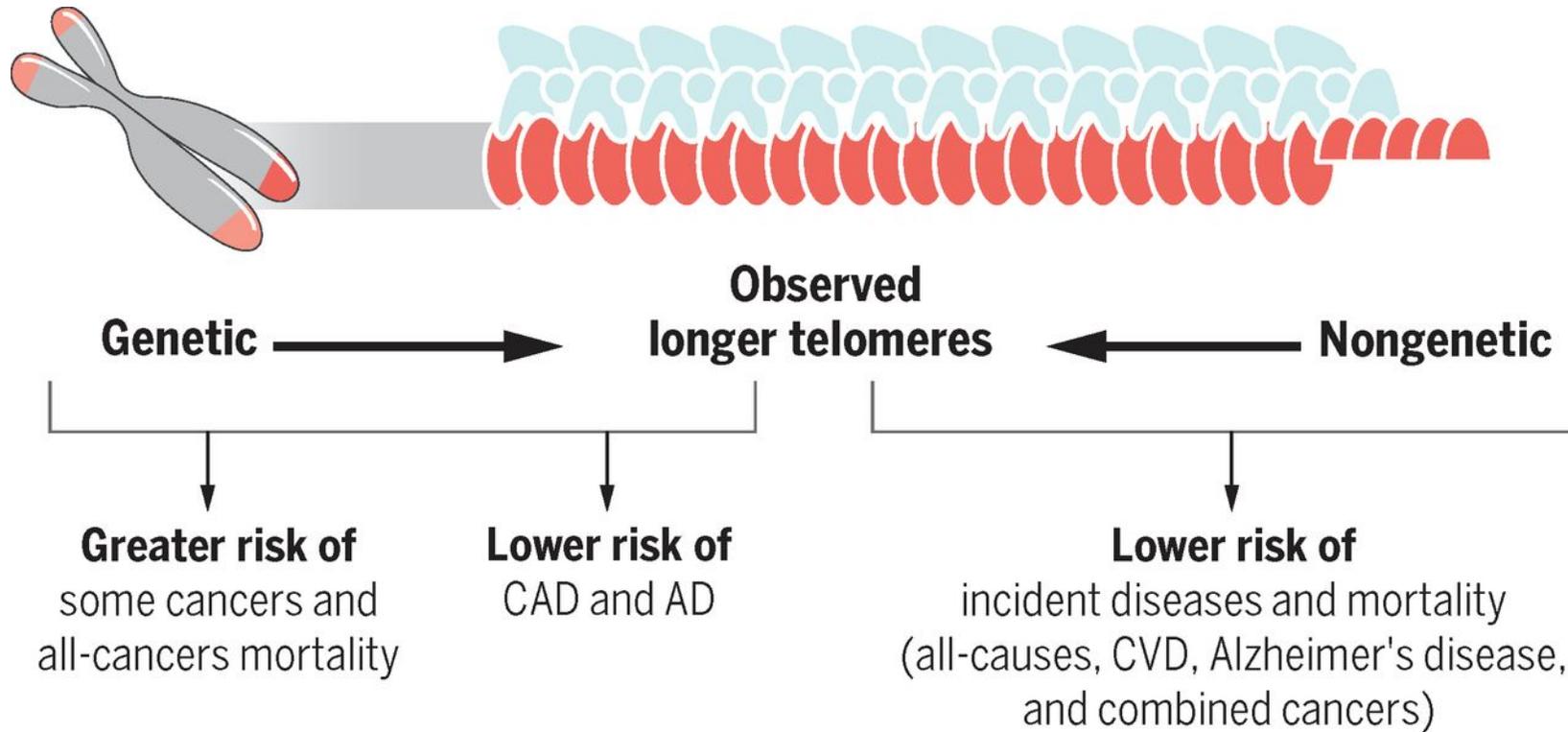
Insufficient telomerase as cell divides



Cell division STOPS after a delay
Senescence; cell malfunctions; genomic instability
Mitochondrial malfunction, pro-inflammatory,
tumorigenic factors



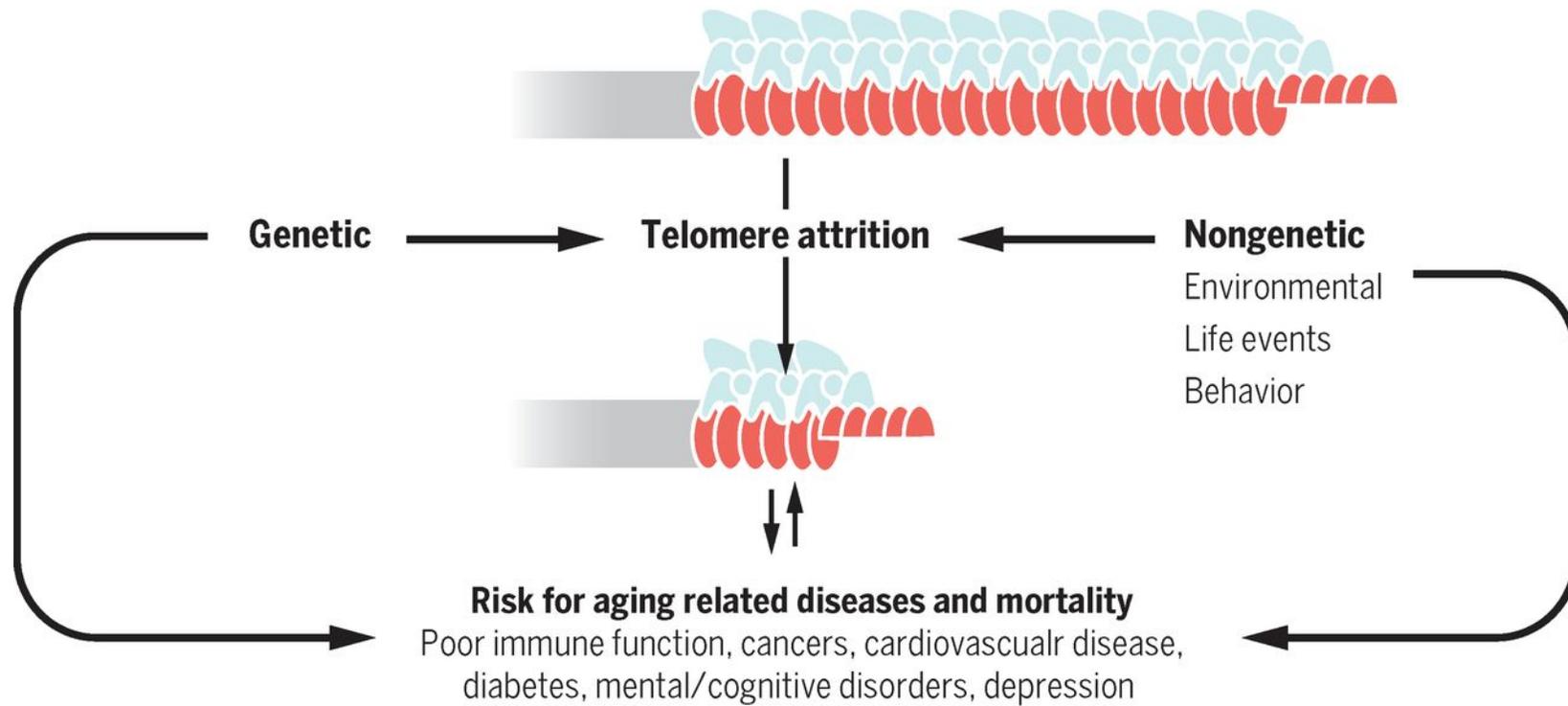
Different inputs to telomere maintenance have disease-specific consequences.



Elizabeth H. Blackburn et al. *Science* 2015;350:1193-1198



Relationship of telomere attrition to human aging-related diseases.



Elizabeth H. Blackburn et al. *Science* 2015;350:1193-1198



IL DNA Telomerico e le sue strutture alternative

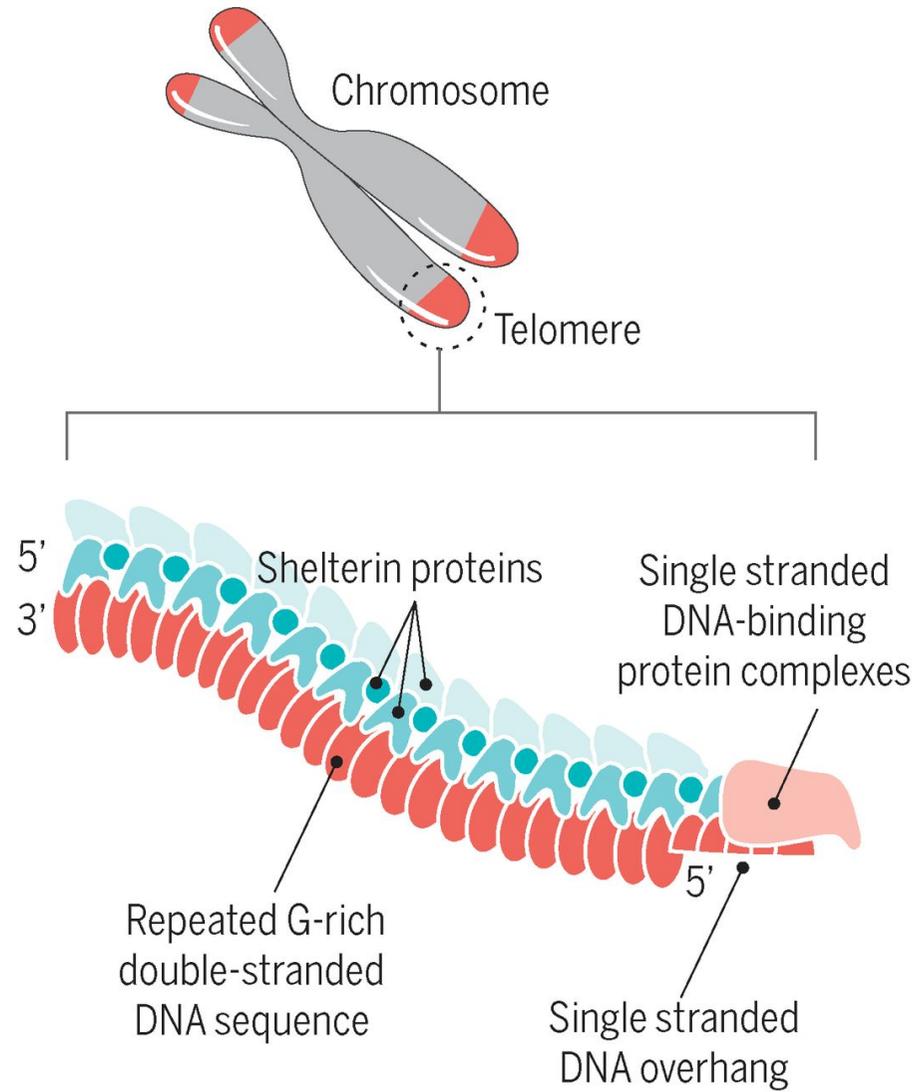
SEQUENZA TELOMERICA



5–15 kb in humans, ~48 kb in mice

Watson et al., BIOLOGIA
MOLECOLARE DEL GENE,
Zanichelli editore S.p.A.
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Telomere general structure.



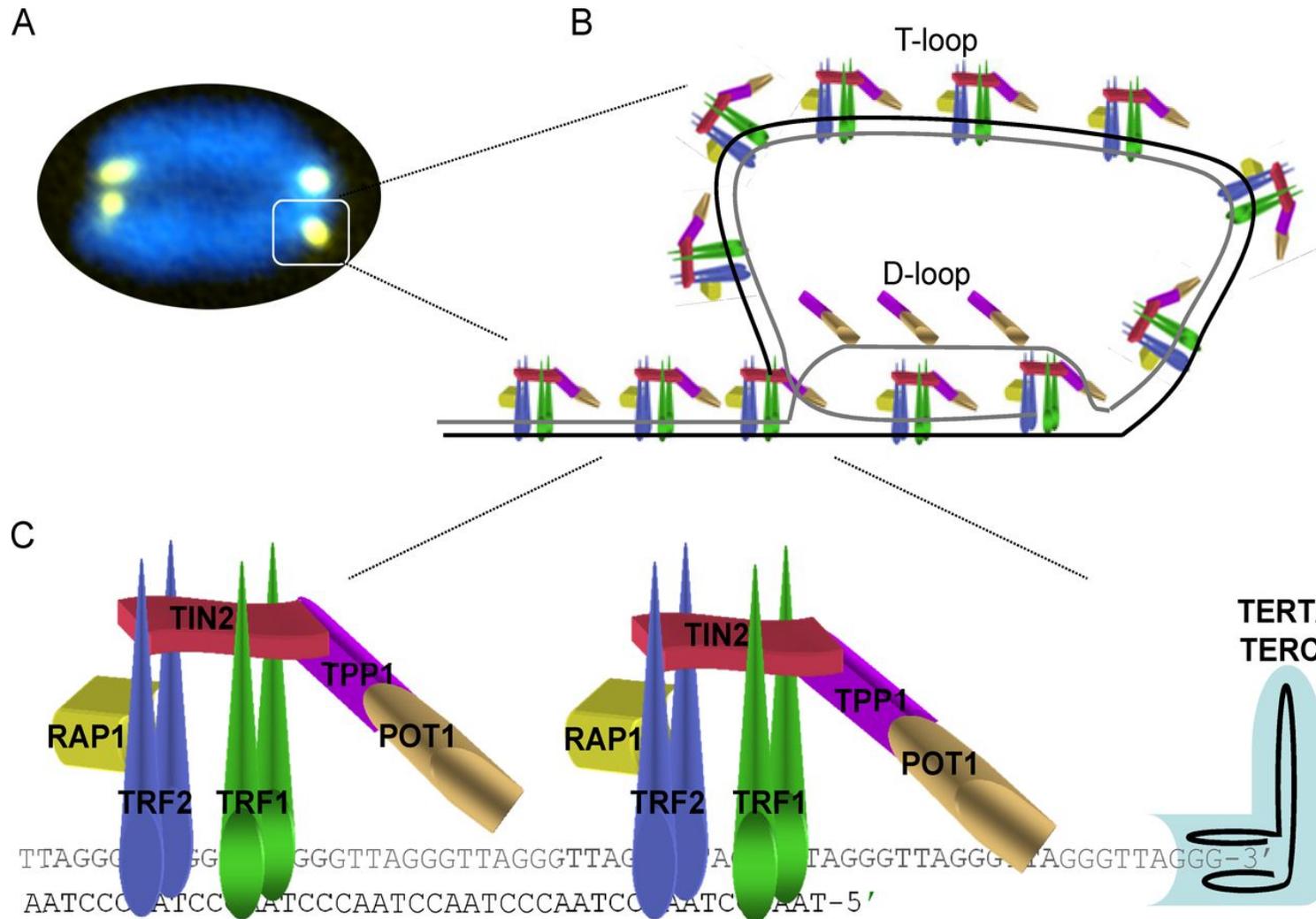
Elizabeth H. Blackburn et al. *Science* 2015;350:1193-1198



The single-stranded 3' overhang folds back into the telomeric DNA, invades the double-helix, and anneals with the C-rich strand, forming a loop known as T-loop, thus hiding the very ends of chromosomal DNA.



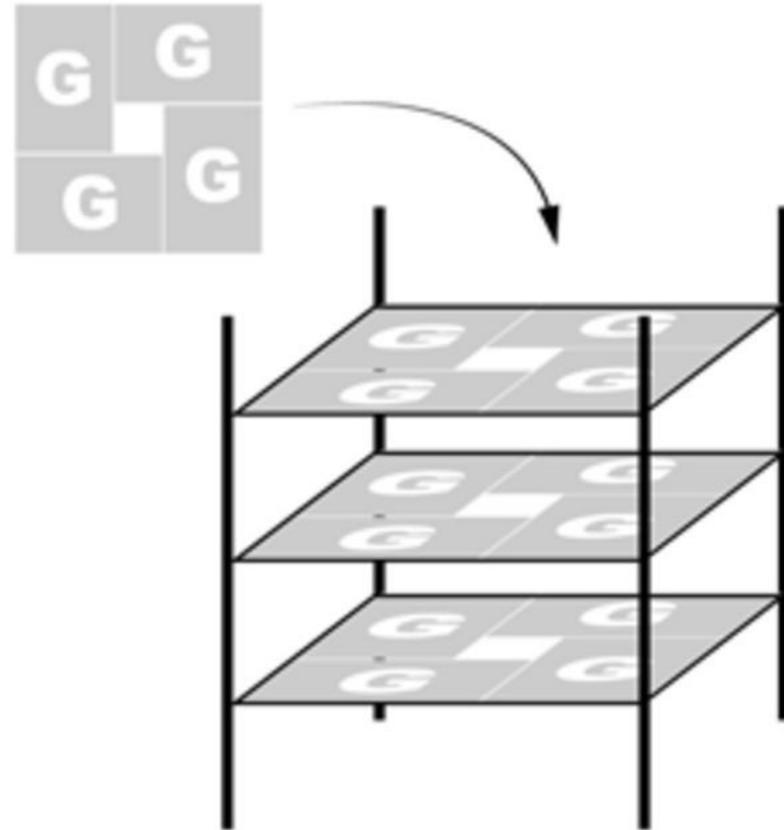
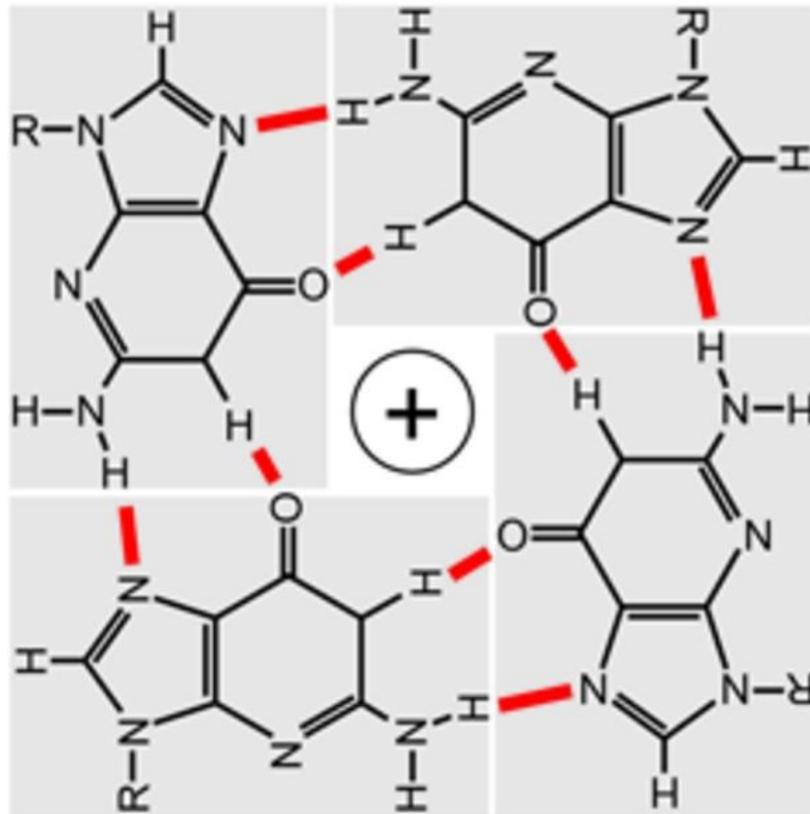
The shelterin complex and the structure of telomeres.



Paula Martínez, and Maria A. Blasco *J Cell Biol*
 doi:10.1083/jcb.201610111

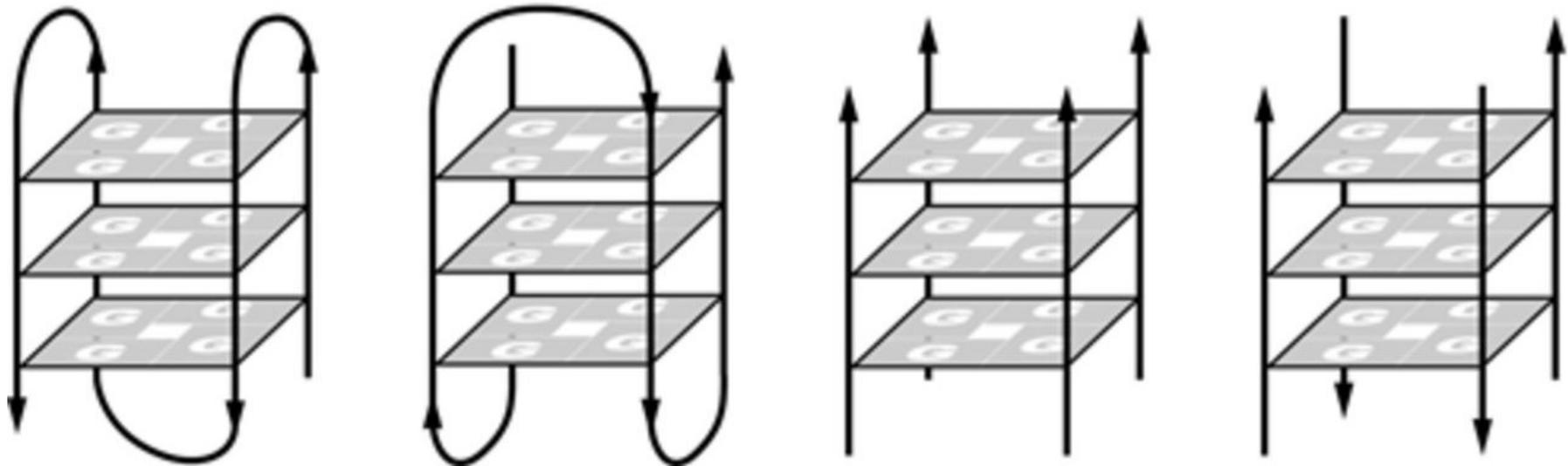
Structure of G-quadruplexes.

A



Structure of G-quadruplexes.

B

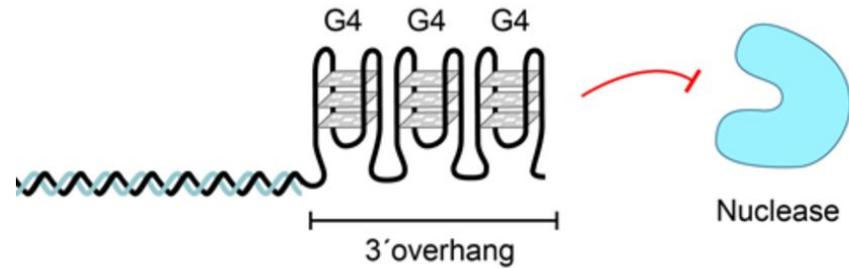


G-quadruplexes at telomeres.

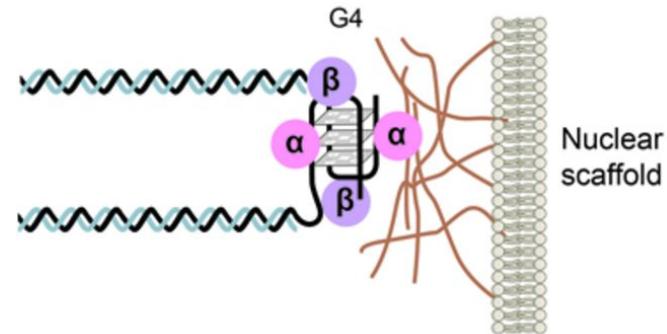
G-quadruplex structures involving two telomeres promoted by the telomere-end binding protein TEBP β

G-quadruplexes binding ligands (yellow stars) impairs telomere repeat synthesis by the telomerase enzyme and lead to telomere shortening

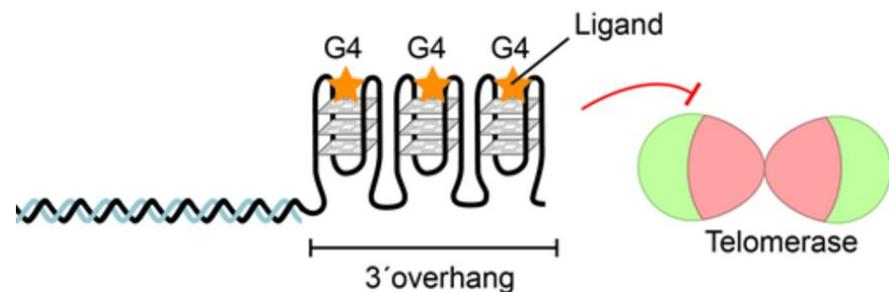
A Protection of telomeres



B Organization of ciliate telomeres



C Binding of ligands to telomeric G4



G-quadruplexes at telomeres?

For human telomeres, the first indication that G-quadruplexes may be present came from the observation that G-quadruplex stabilizing ligands impaired telomere metabolism and lead to telomere shortening

A number of G-quadruplex stabilizing ligands are now available and it has become evident that many do not target the telomerase enzyme but the telomere itself

A structure-specific antibody against human G-quadruplexes detect signals at the ends of chromosomes, **albeit not all ends**.

A number of helicases that are known to unwind G-quadruplex in vitro (such as WRN) localize at telomeres. WRN is required for telomere integrity and physically interacts with the critical telomere binding proteins TRF2 and POT1.

This suggests that G-quadruplexes form at telomeres and if not resolved result in DNA damage.

The resolution of light microscopy is insufficiently high to decipher whether binding occurred **at the very end of the chromosome or at subtelomeric regions**

whether G-quadruplexes are present at human telomeres remains to be established.

La cromatina telomerica e la sua modificazione

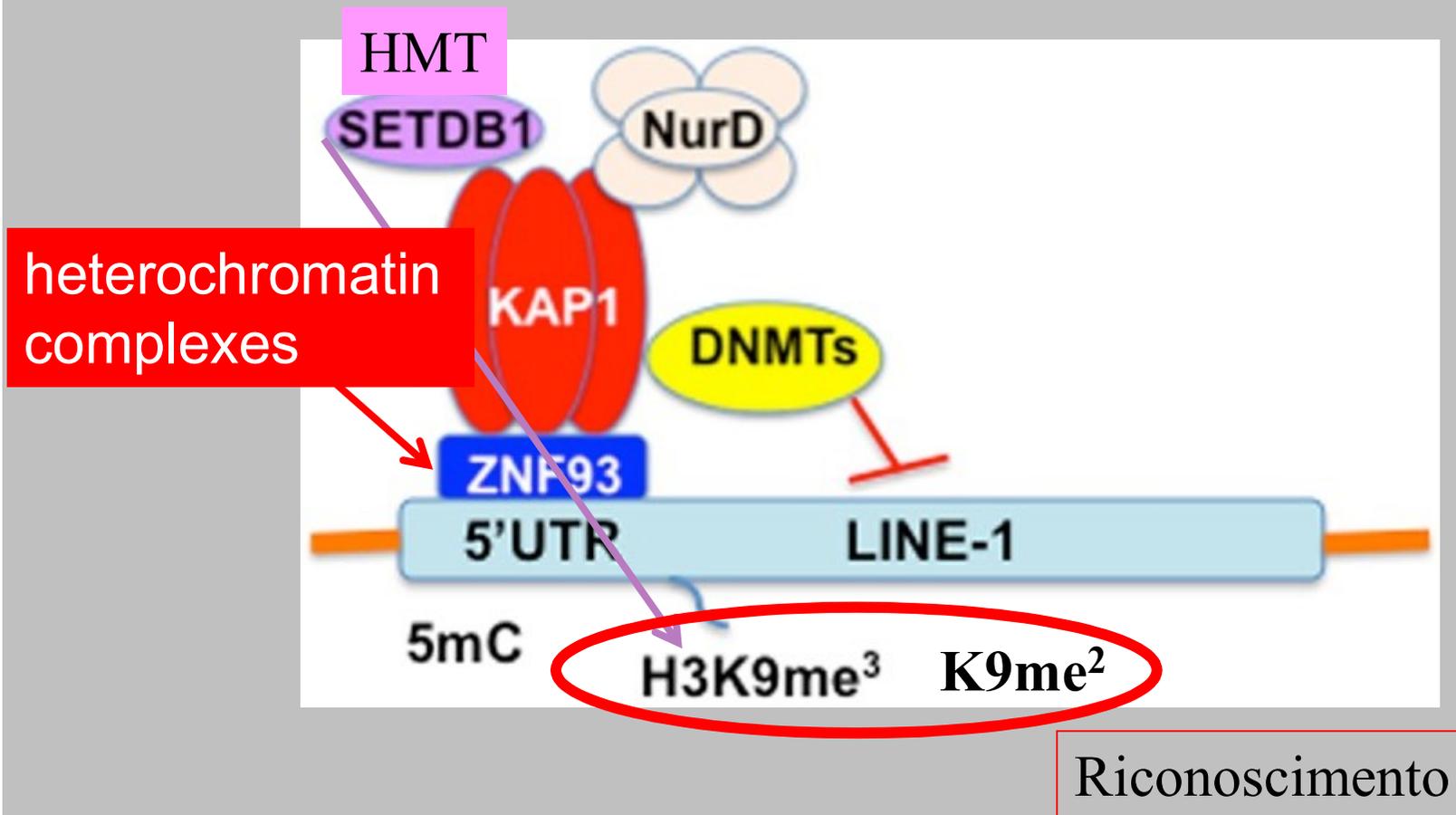
Telomeres also bind to nucleosomes, which are rich in modified histones.

Major histone modifications *found in telomeres are*

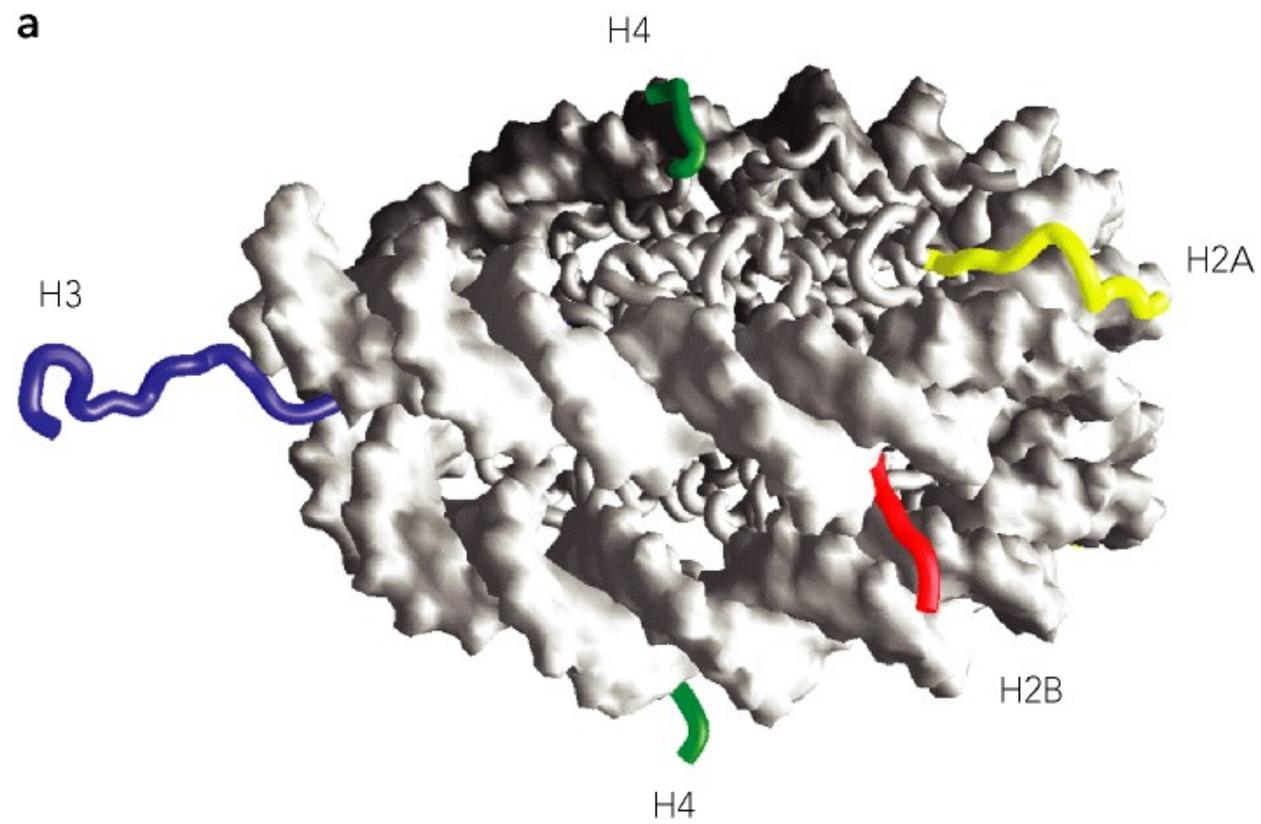
-H3K9 and H4K20 trimethylation

-low abundance of acetylated H3 and H4

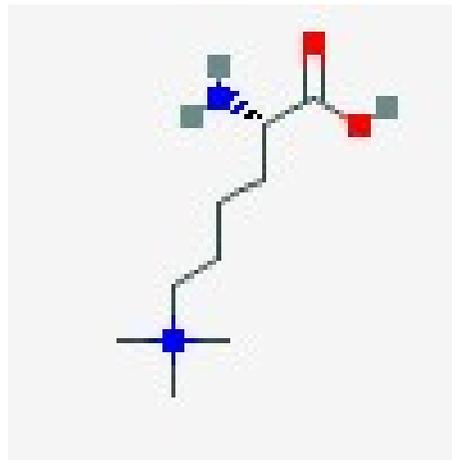
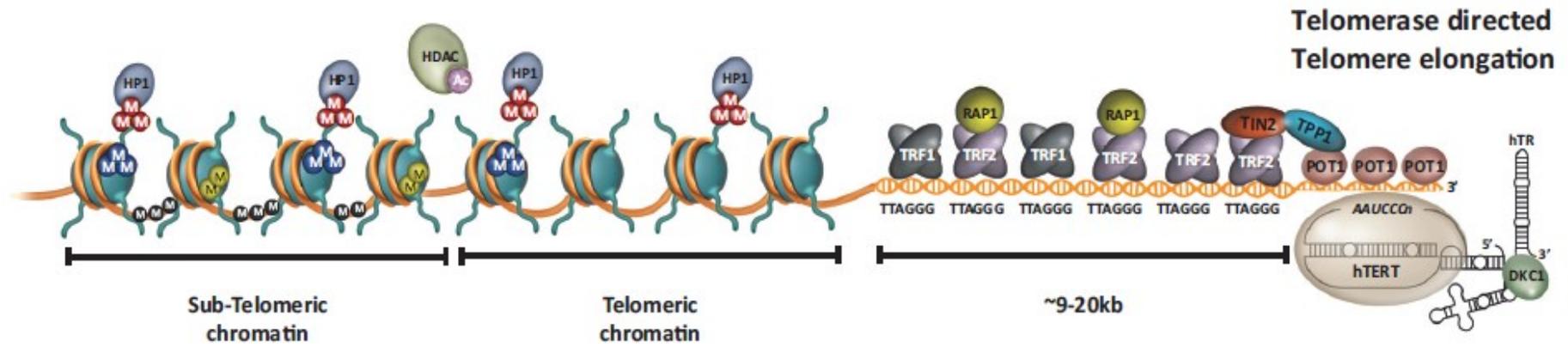
Negative Control of the transcriptional activity of L1 in ES cells



HMT istone metiltransferasi



Telomeres in germ and stem cells



Kme3 = trimetillisina

Key: M DNA Methylation M M M H3K9me3 M M M H4K20me3 M M H3K79me2 Ac Histone acetylation S Protein sumoylation

Coda dell'istone H4

Acetilisina

Riconoscimento
acetilisina
bromodominio



Un enzima deacetilante specifico: SIRT6

SIRT6 is a histone H3 lysine 9 deacetylase that modulates telomeric chromatin

The Sir2 deacetylase regulates chromatin silencing and lifespan in *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*.

In mice, deficiency for the Sir2 family member SIRT6 leads to a shortened lifespan and a premature ageing-like phenotype.

SIRT6 is a chromatin-associated NAD⁺-dependent, histone H3 lysine 9 (H3K9) deacetylase that modulates telomeric chromatin.

SIRT6 is a histone H3 lysine 9 deacetylase that modulates telomeric chromatin

SIRT6 associates specifically with telomeres, and SIRT6 depletion leads to telomere dysfunction with end-to-end chromosomal fusions and premature cellular senescence. Moreover, SIRT6-depleted cells exhibit abnormal telomere structures

We propose that SIRT6 contributes to the propagation of a specialized chromatin state at mammalian telomeres, which in turn is required for proper telomere metabolism and function.

Our findings link chromatin regulation by SIRT6 to telomere maintenance and a human premature ageing syndrome

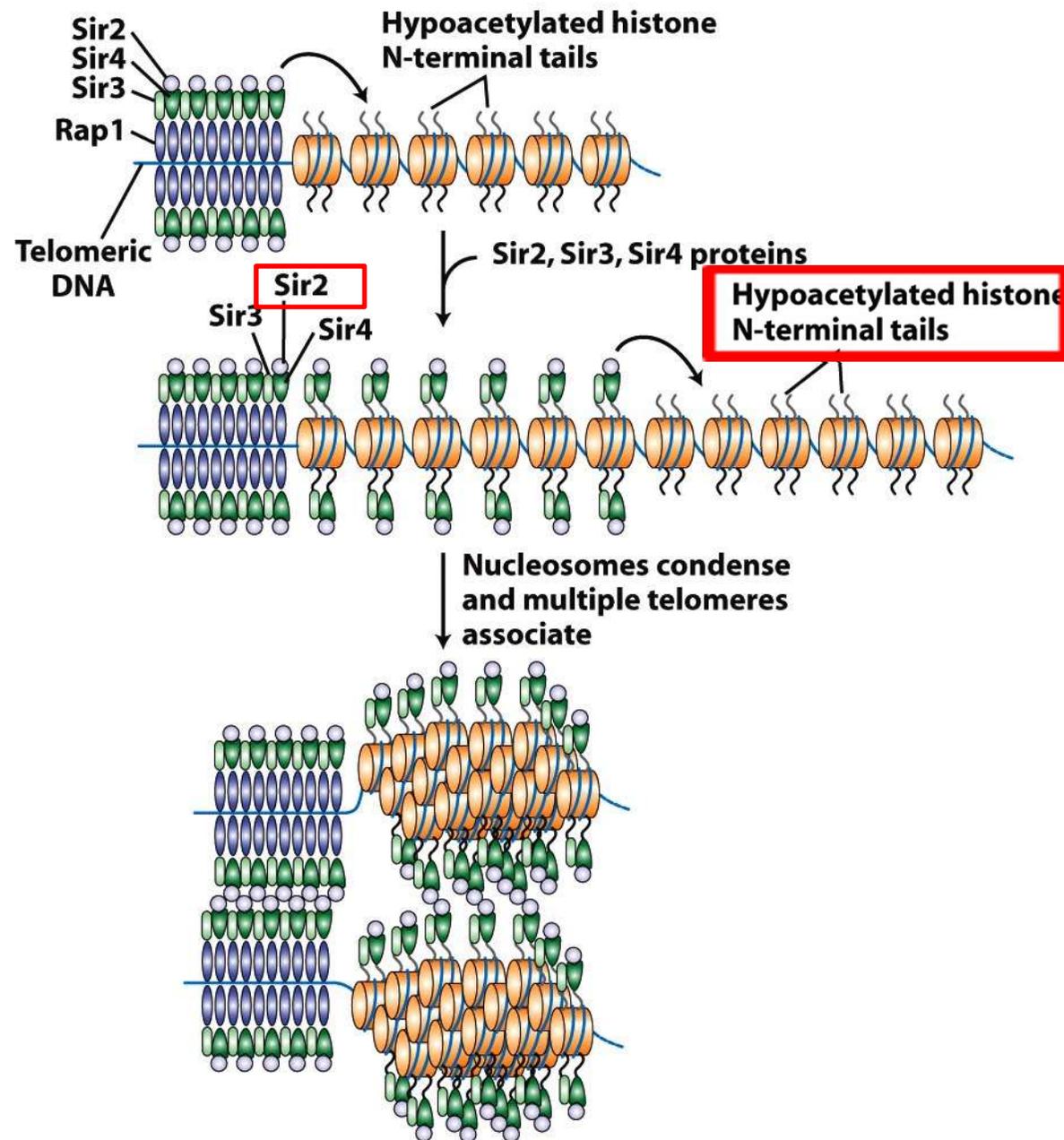


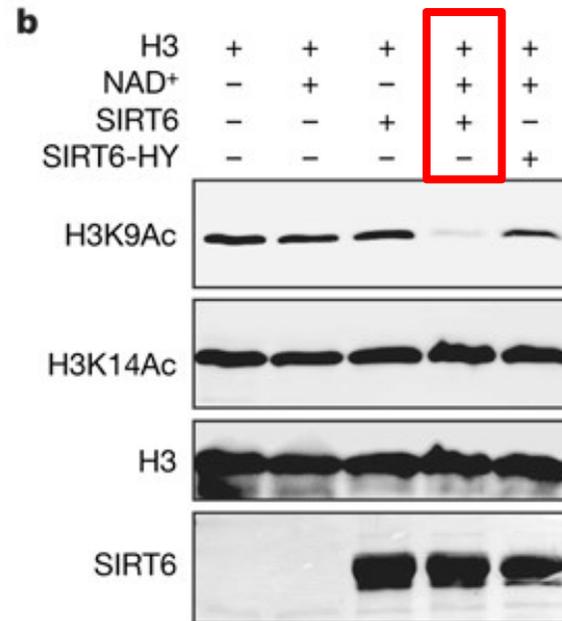
Figure 7-35
Molecular Cell Biology, Sixth Edition
 © 2008 W. H. Freeman and Company

SIRT6 (sir 2) deacetylates lysine 9 of histone H3 at telomeric chromatin

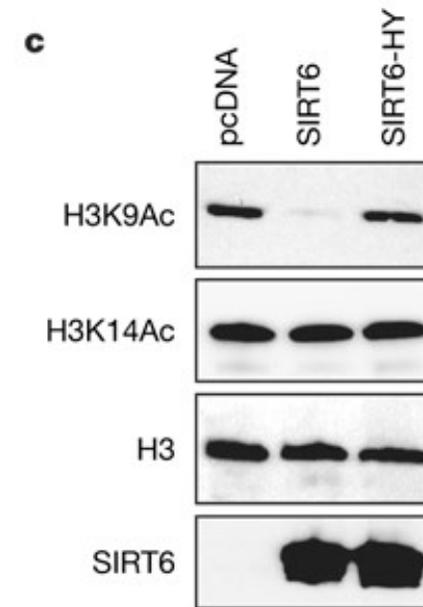
a

Peptide	Activity
H2AK5Ac	-
H2AK13Ac	-
H2BK5Ac	-
H2BK12Ac	-
H2BK15Ac	-
H2BK20Ac	-
H3K9Ac	+
H3K14Ac	-
H3K27	-
H4K5Ac	-
H4K8Ac	-
H4K12Ac	-
H4K16Ac	-

histone tail peptides



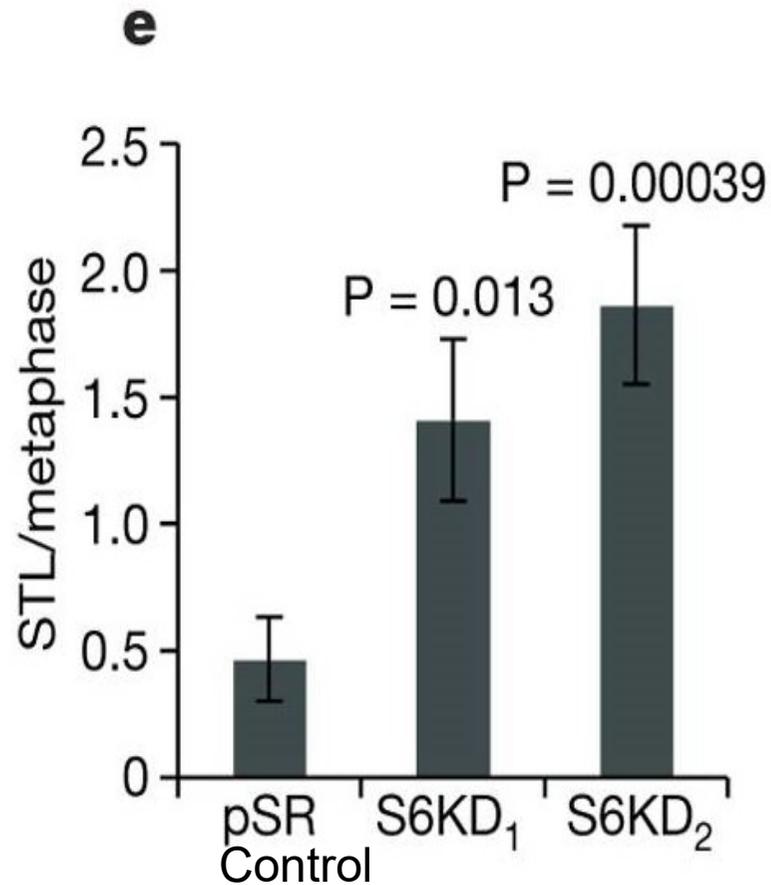
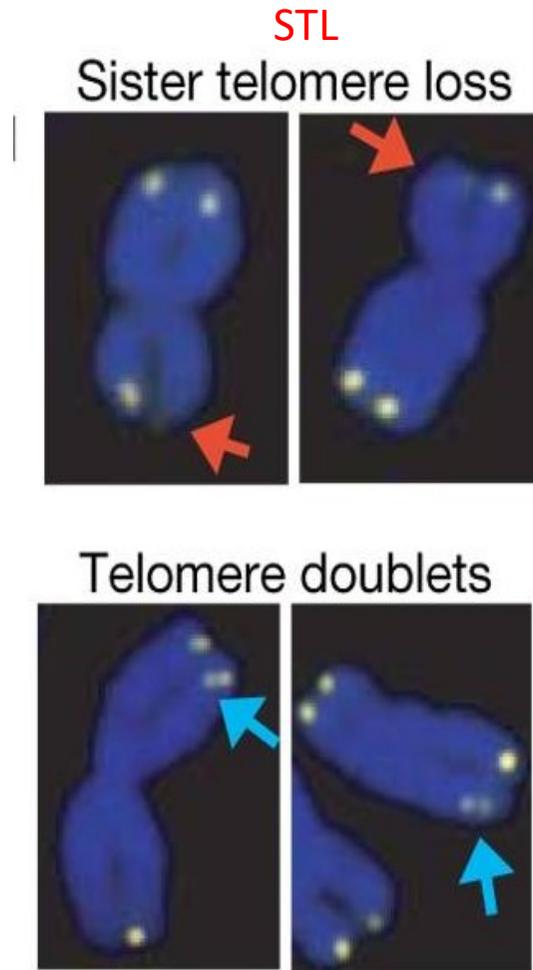
full-length histone H3



293T cells overexpressing SIRT6

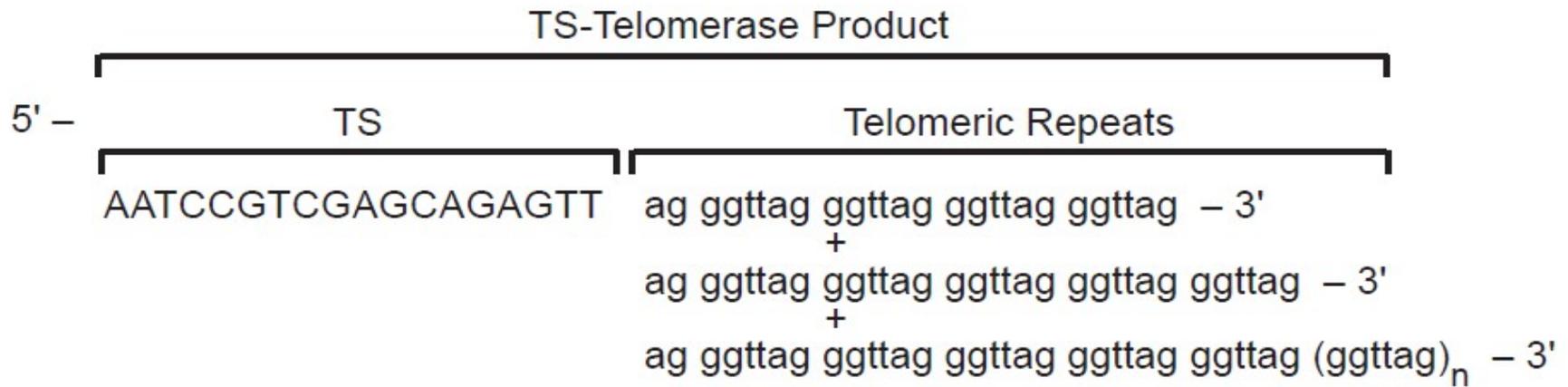
SIRT6-HY: *catalytic H133Y SIRT6 mutant protein*

SIRT6 knockdown (S6KD) cells

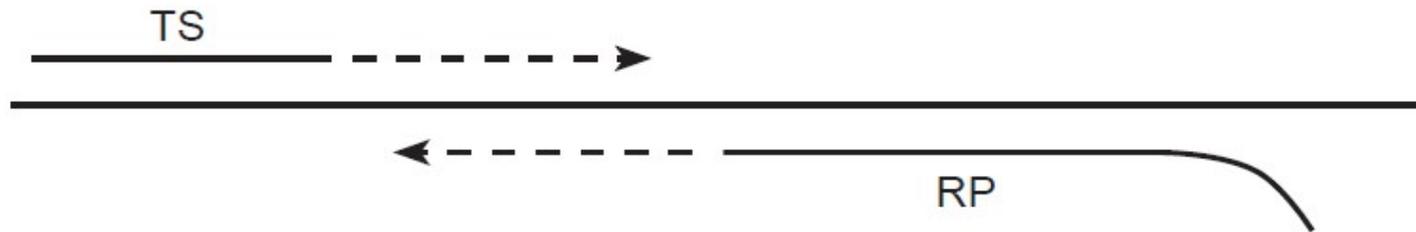


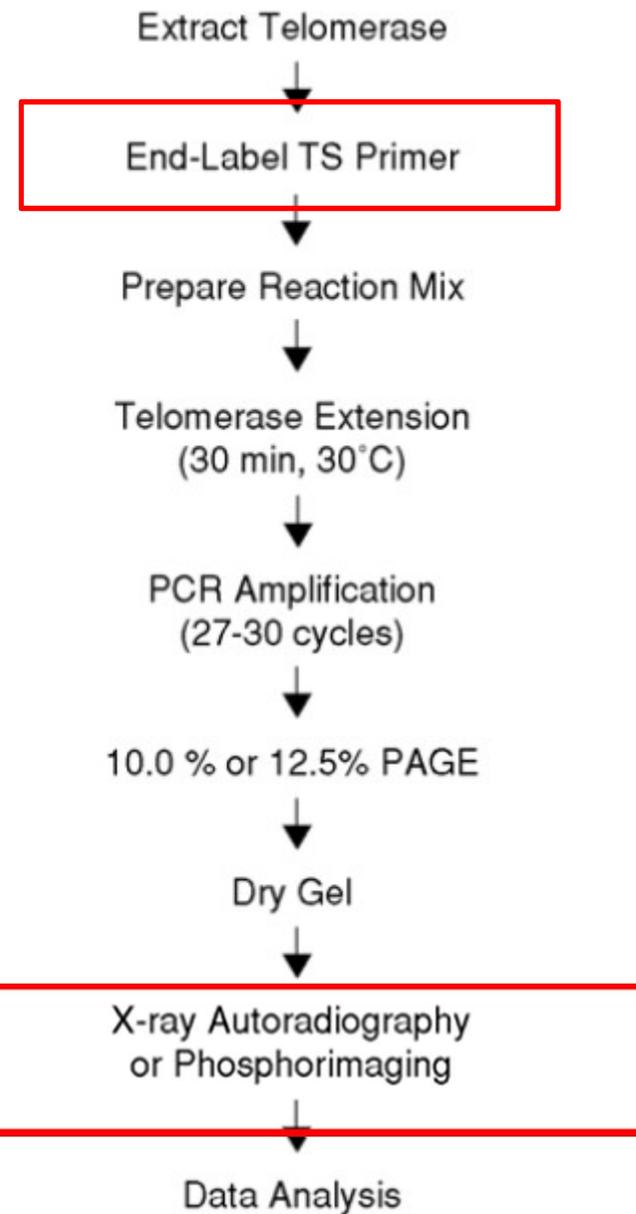
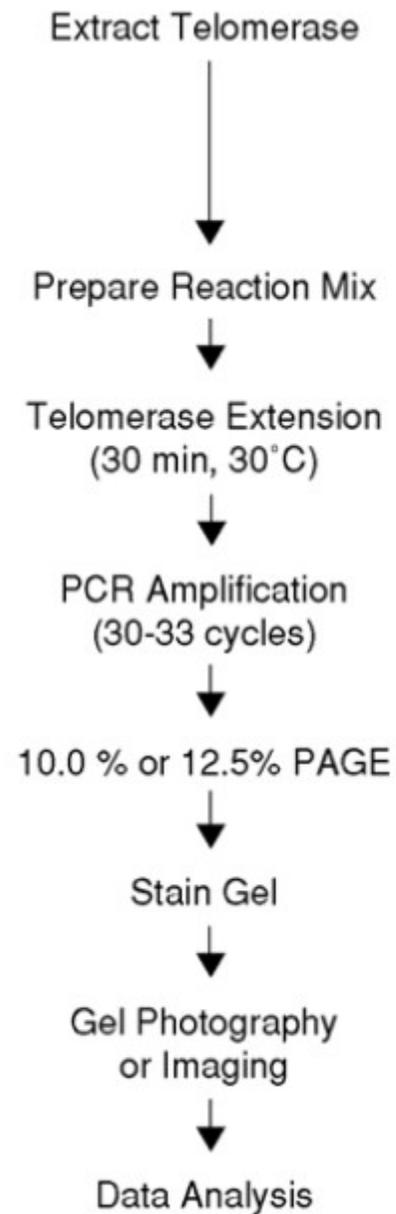
d, Representative S6KD metaphases showing aberrant telomere signals. Red arrows, sister telomere loss; blue arrows, telomere doublets. e, Quantification of sister telomere loss

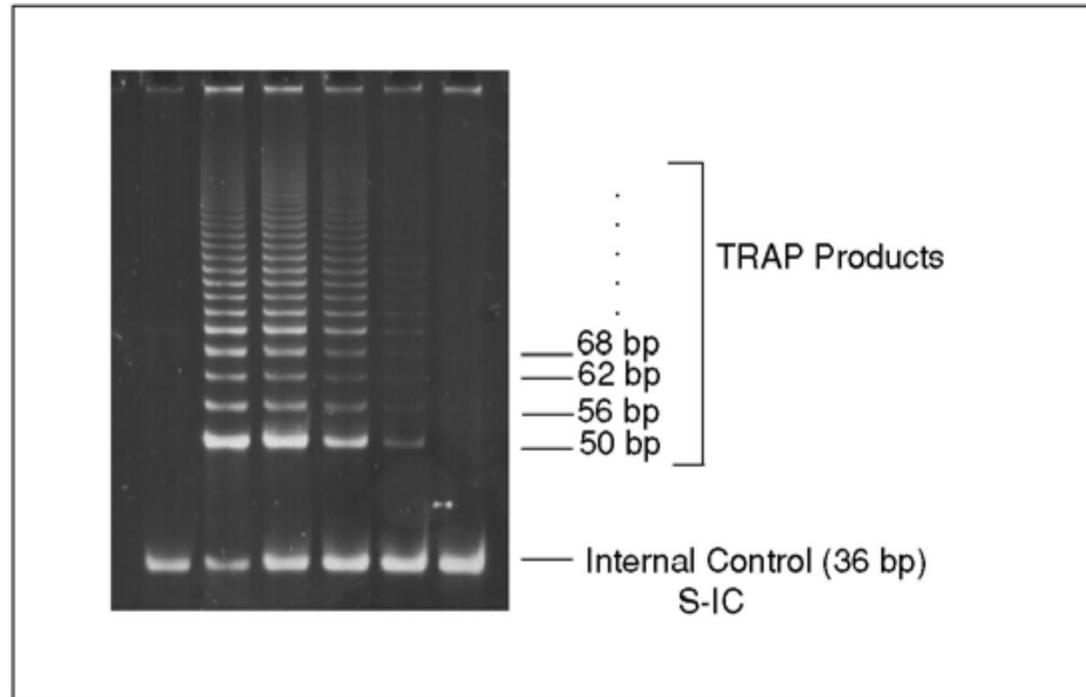
Metodi per lo studio dell'attività telomerasica



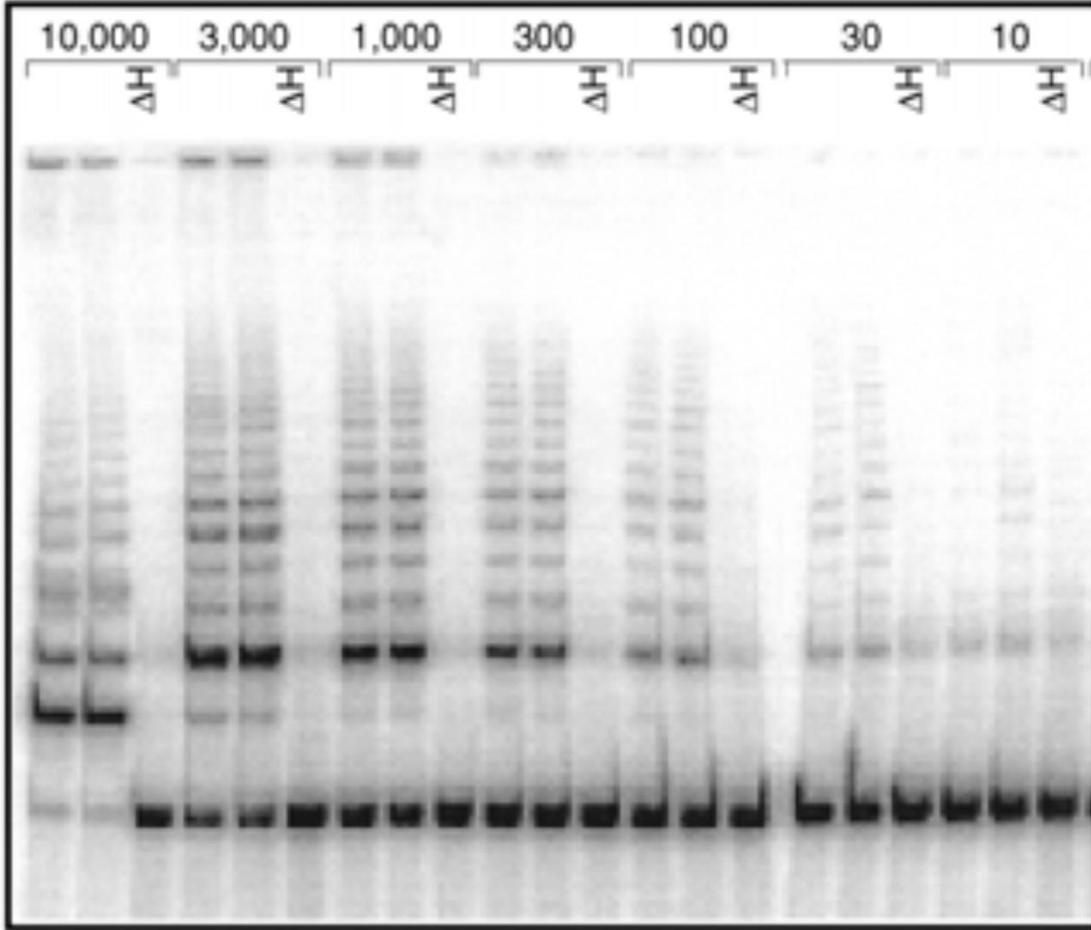
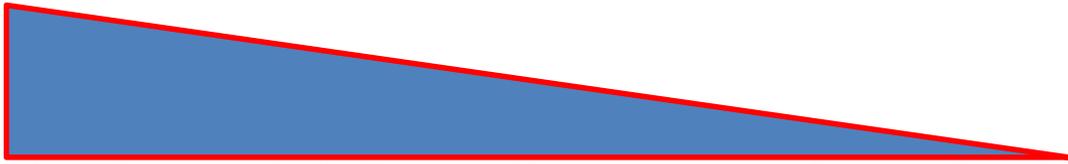
STEP 2. Amplification of TS-Telomerase Product By PCR





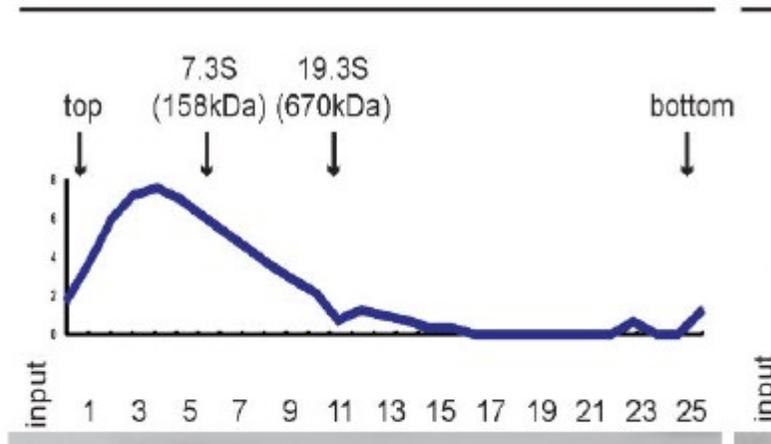


Telomeric Repeat Amplification Protocol



10-30% glycerol gradients

HeLa

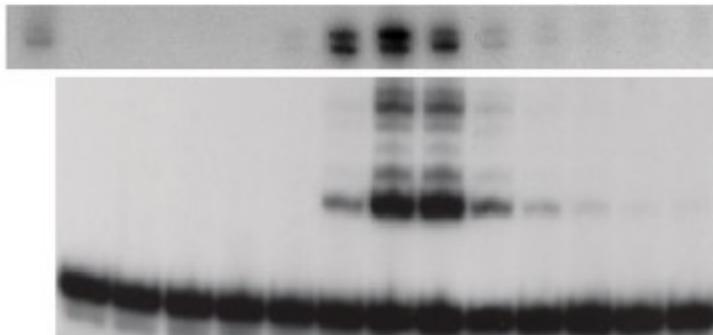


COMPLESSI TELOMERICI

Total protein

NB: TERC

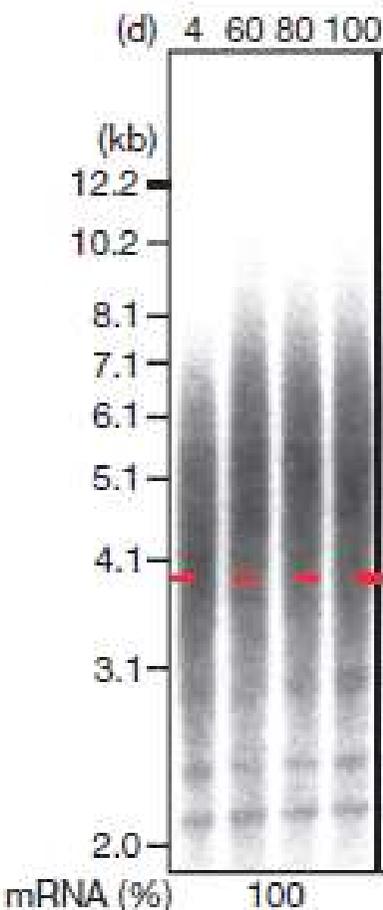
TRAP



Telomeric Repeat Amplification Protocol

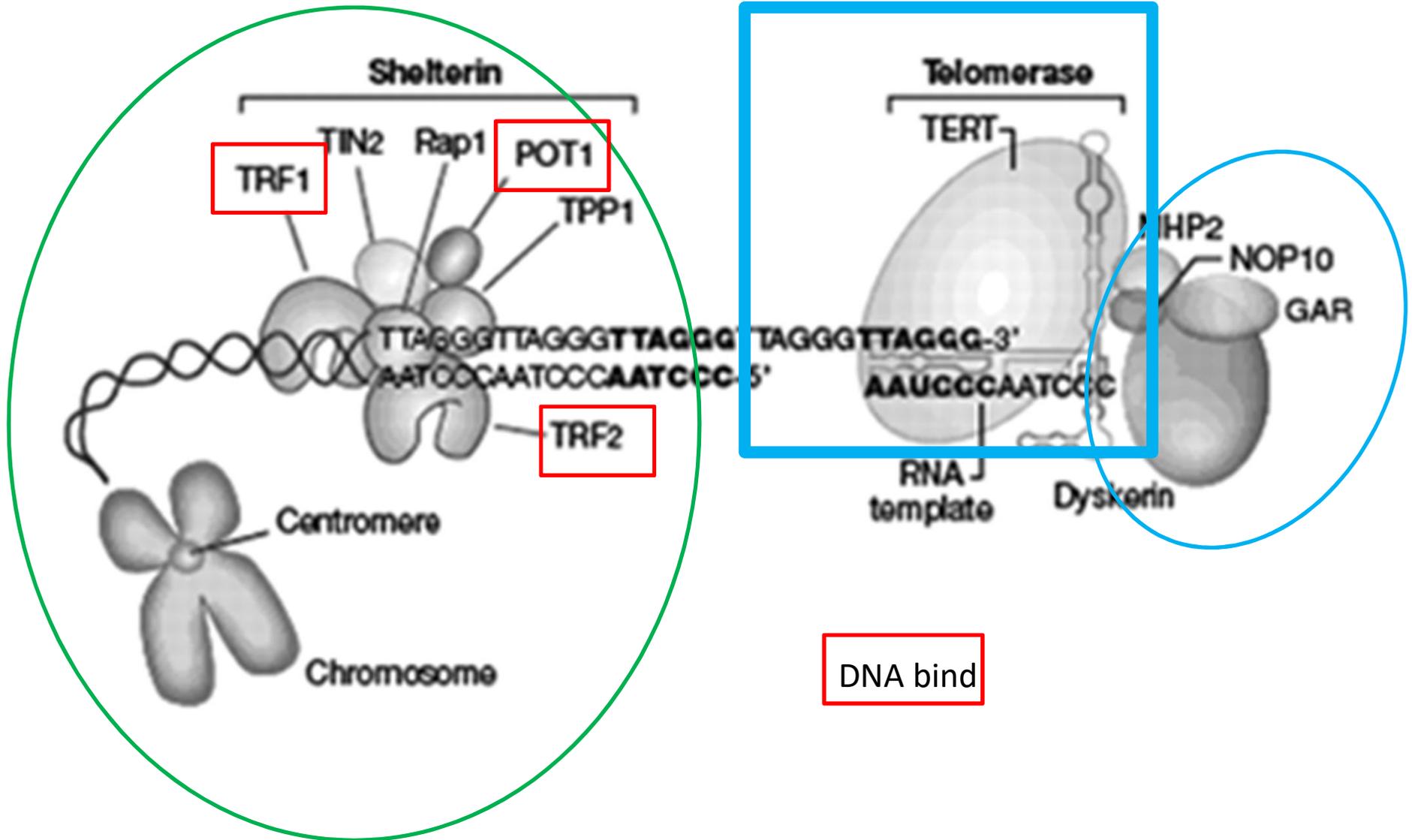
Metodi per lo studio dello stato dei telomeri

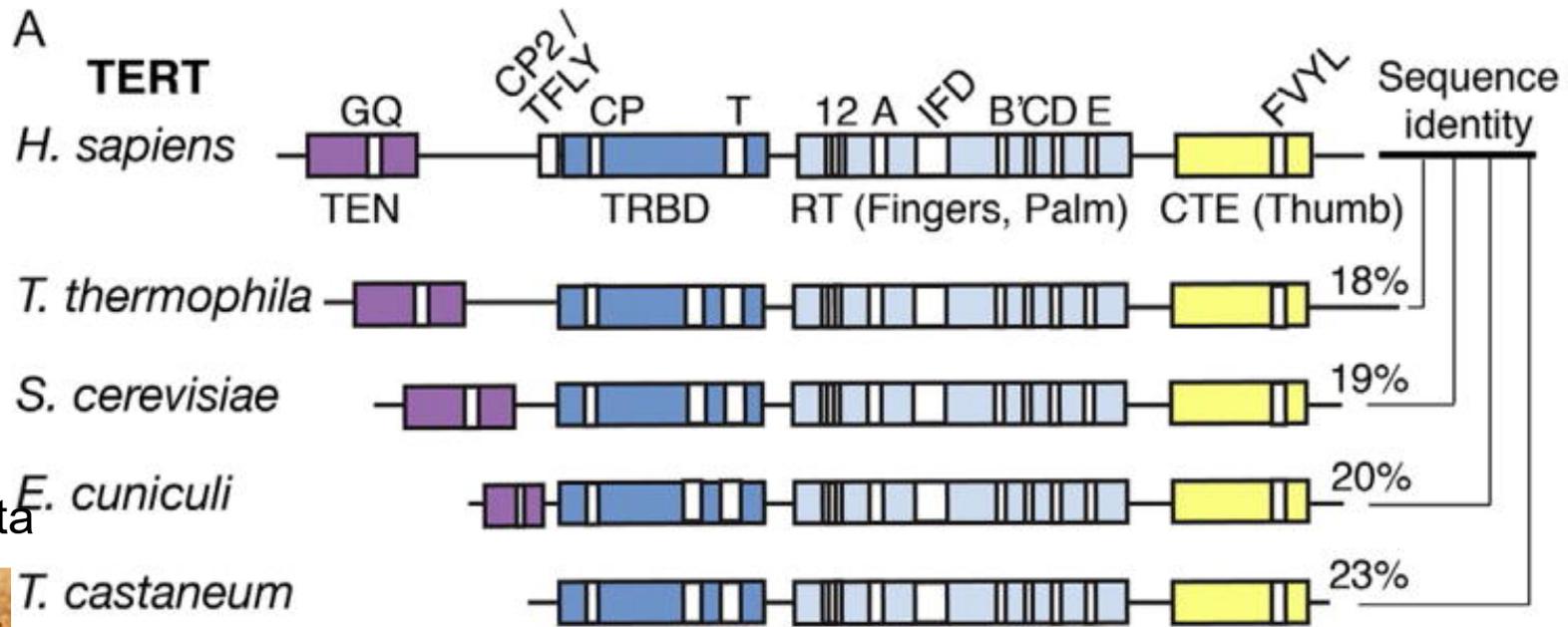
DNA TELOMERICO



Complessi macromolecolari associati al Telomero: funzioni

Complessi macromolecolari associati al Telomero ed alla Telomerasi

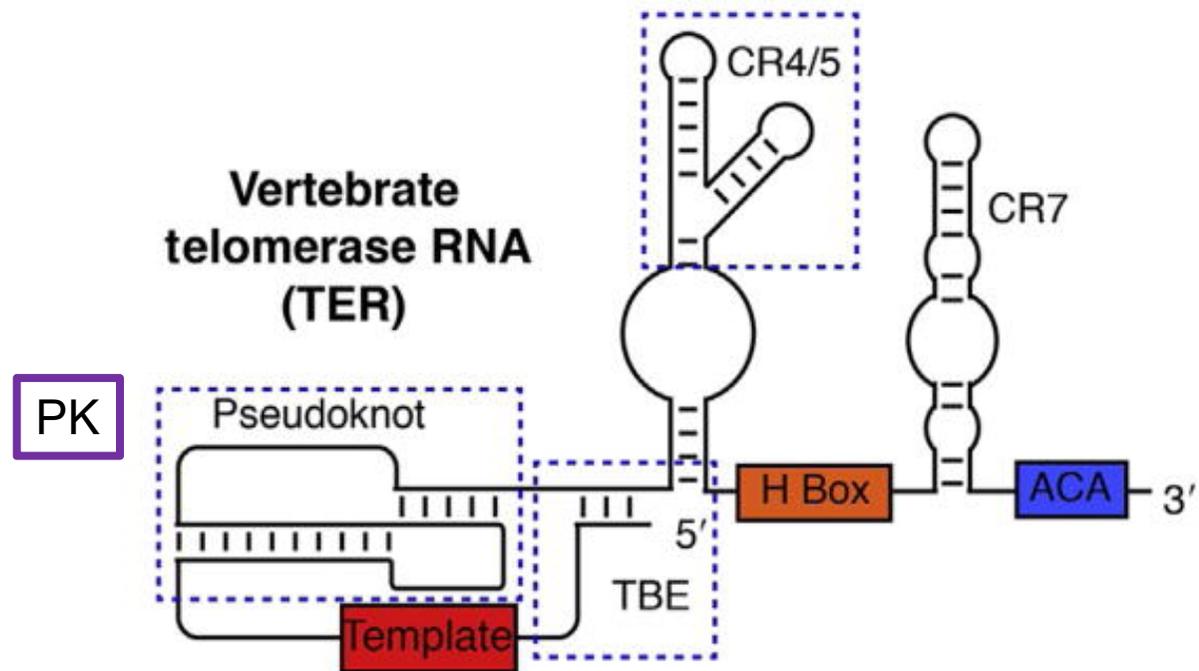


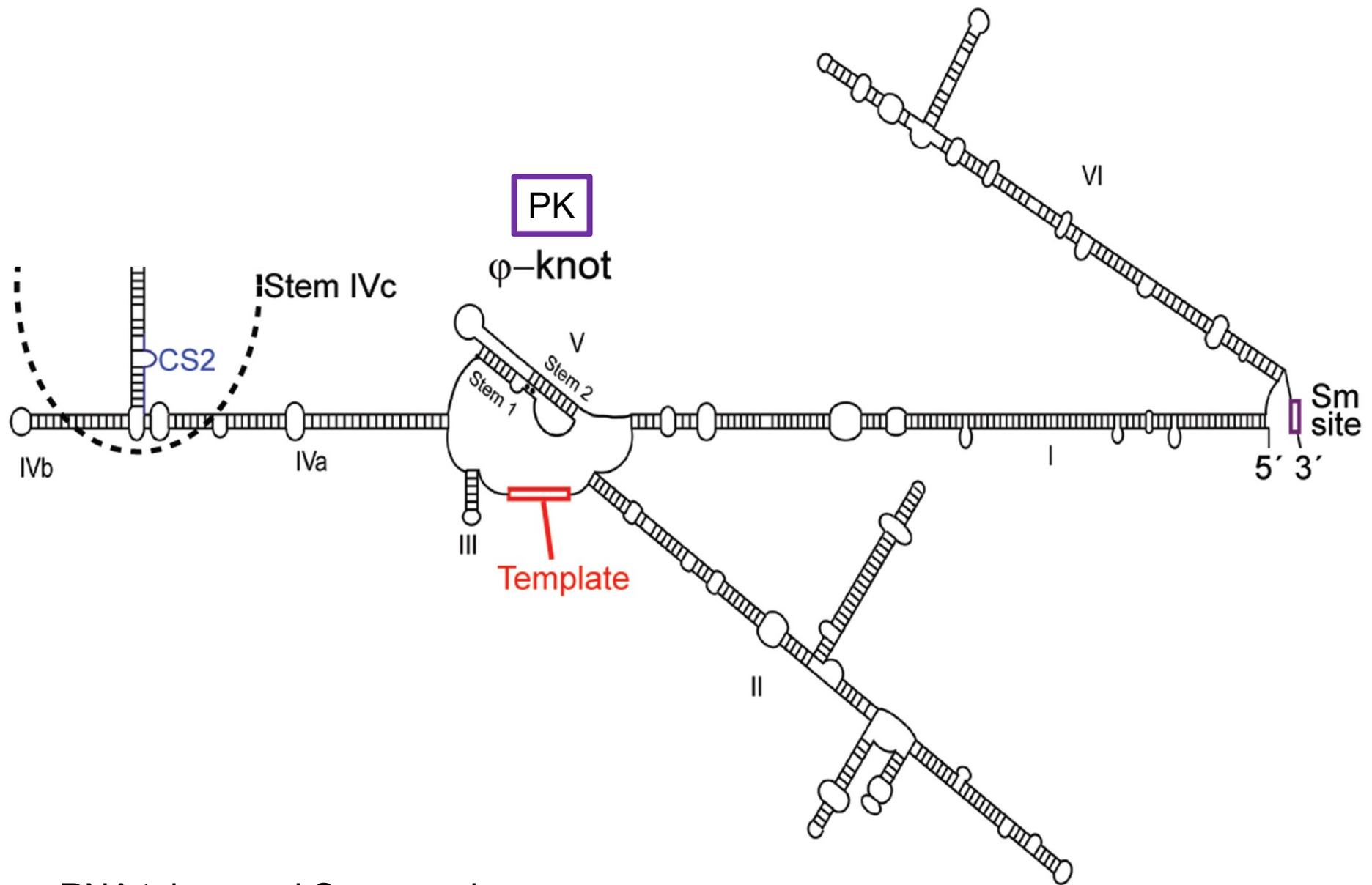


Fungo
parassita



B



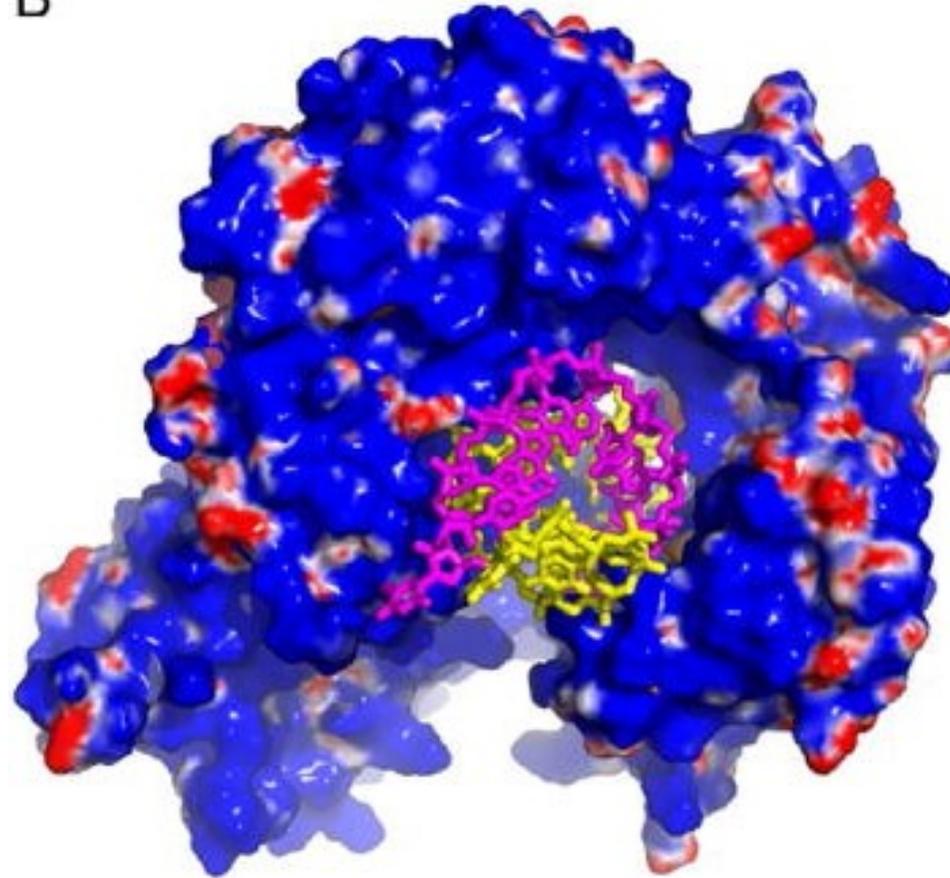


D RNA telomerasi *Saccharomyces*

hTR is a 451-nucleotide RNA which contains a box H/ACA motif at its 3' end. The box H/ACA motif is essential for hTR stability and for its assembly with hTERT. These functions are mediated by the presence of the box H/ACA-binding dyskerin complex, which is composed of four proteins: dyskerin, NOP10, NHP2 and GAR1.

RNA (magenta stick)–DNA (yellow stick) hairpin cocrystallized with tcTERT

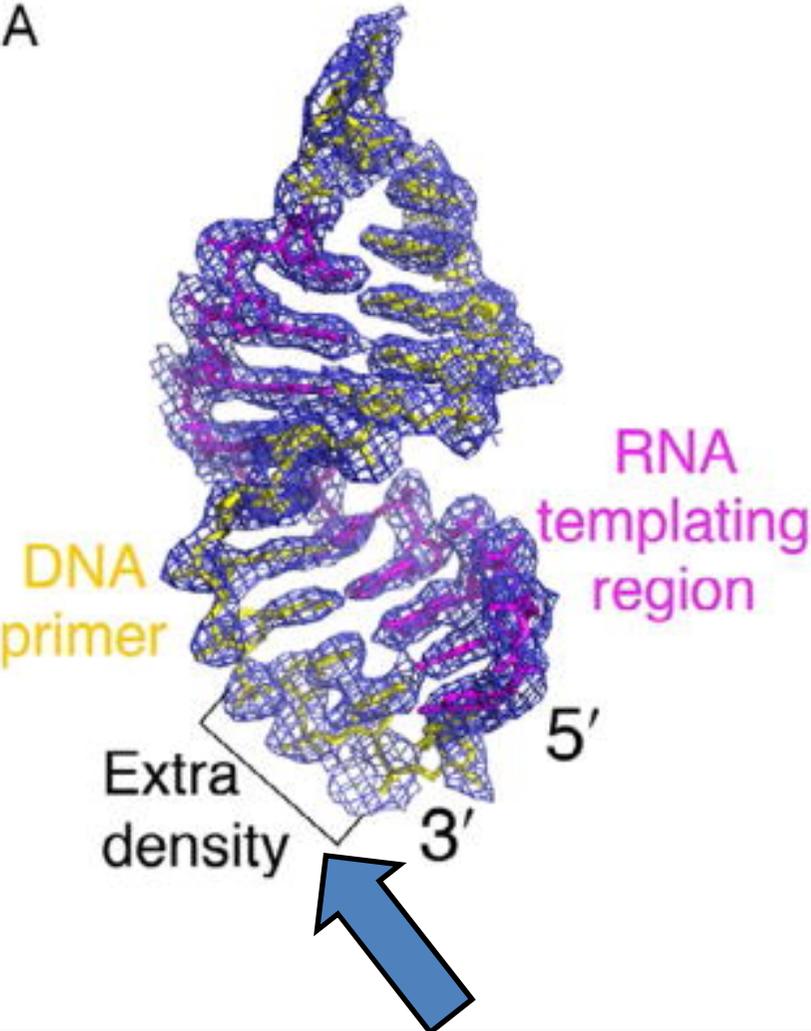
B



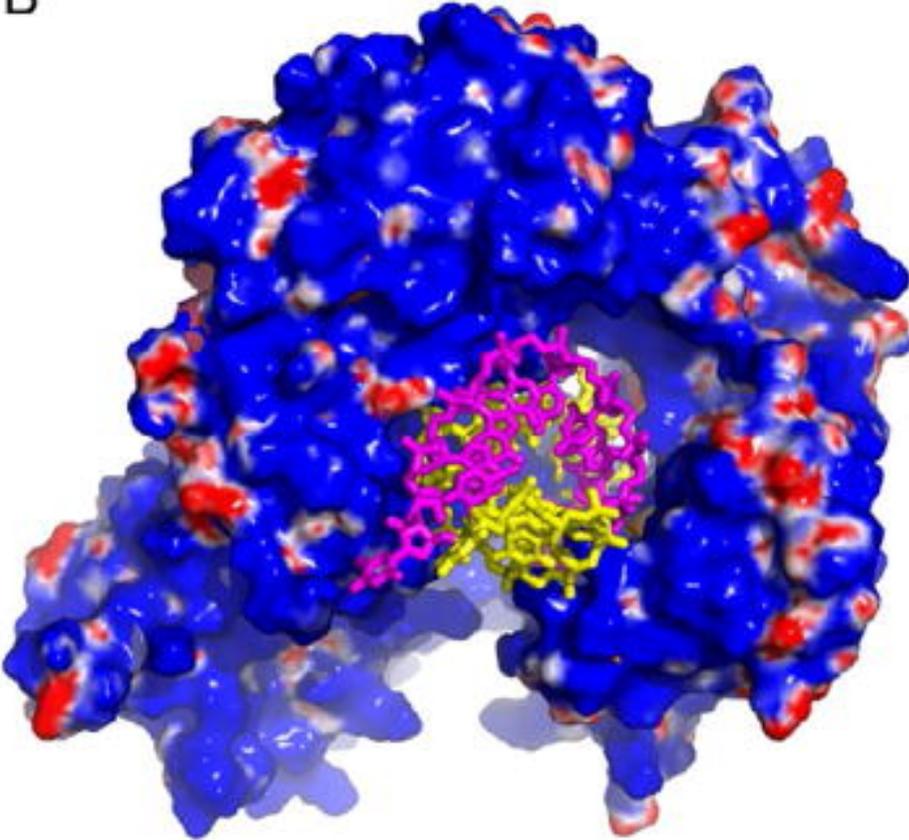
tcTERT surface charge representation,
the RNA–DNA hybrid (stick) docked in the
interior cavity of the TERT ring

RNA (magenta stick)–DNA (yellow stick) hairpin cocrystallized with tcTERT

A



B

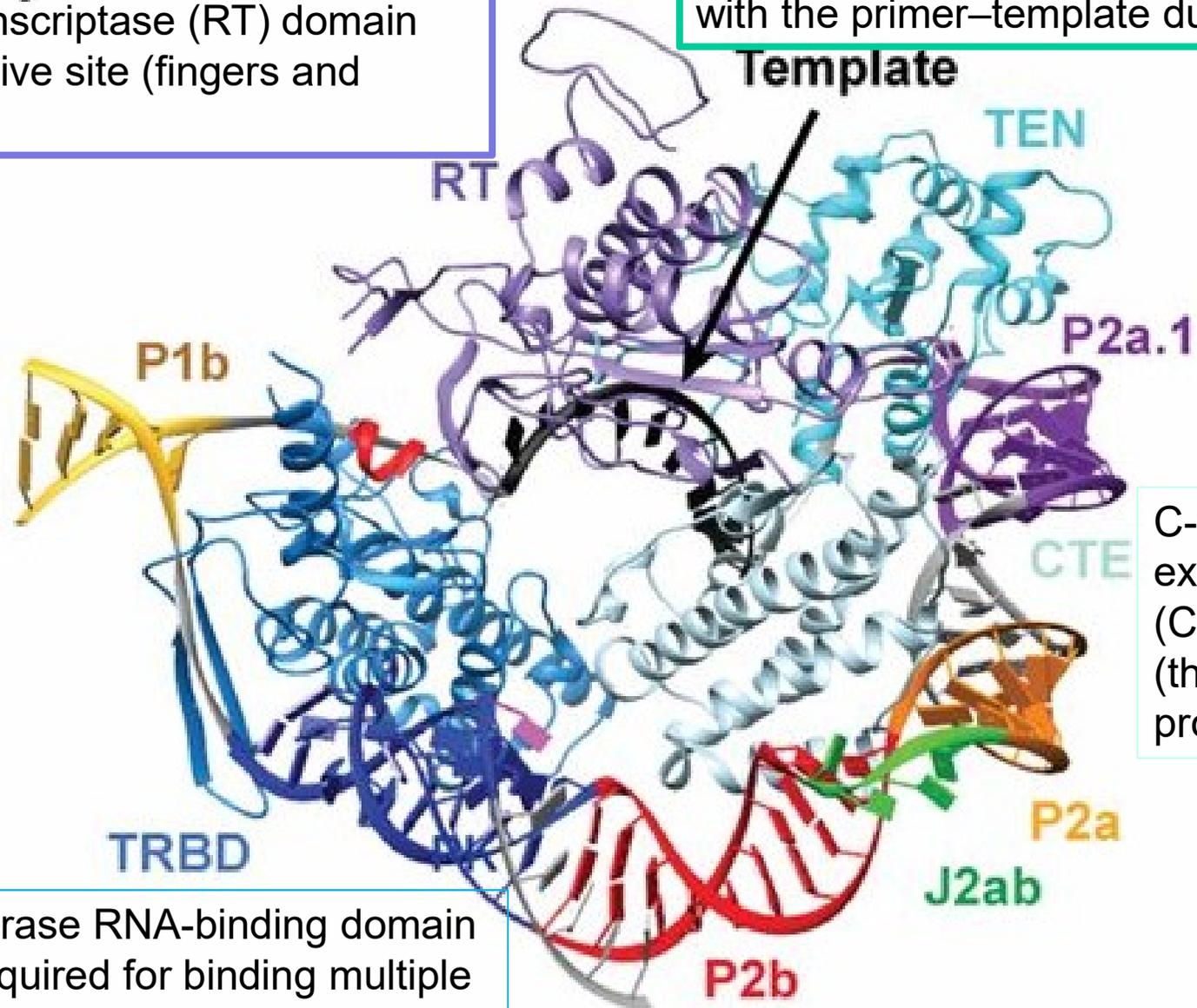


three additional nucleotides at the 3'-end of the telomeric DNA !!

Models of human TERT-t/PK.

reverse transcriptase (RT) domain
enzyme active site (fingers and
palm)

N-terminal (TEN) domain interacts
with the primer-template duplex

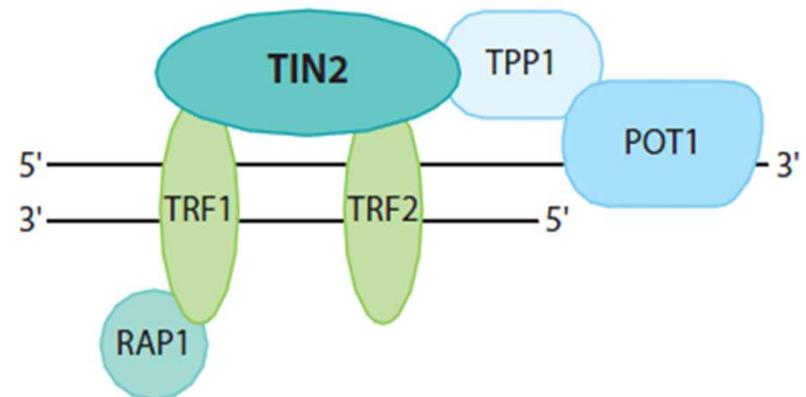


C-terminal
extension
(CTE)
(thumb)
processivity

the telomerase RNA-binding domain
(TRBD) required for binding multiple
sites of TR with high affinity

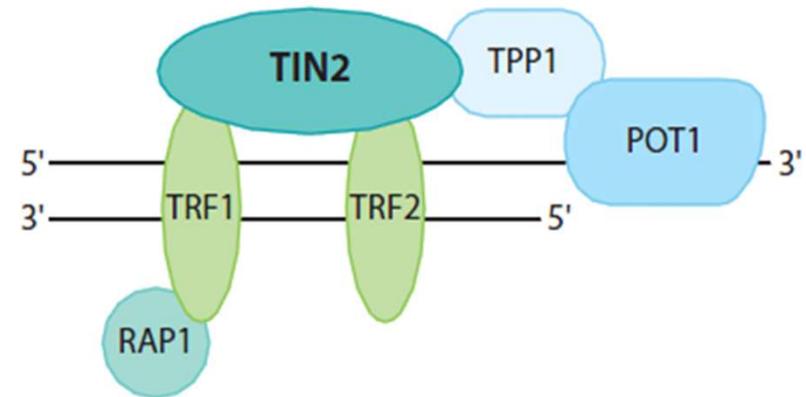
MUTATIONS IN TELOMERIC PROTEINS AND CANCER

Protein	Cancer(s)
Shelterin	
TRF1/TRF2	Gastric
POT1	Leukemia (CLL) Melanoma Glioma
TPP1	DC Melanoma
TIN2	DC
RAP1	Melanoma

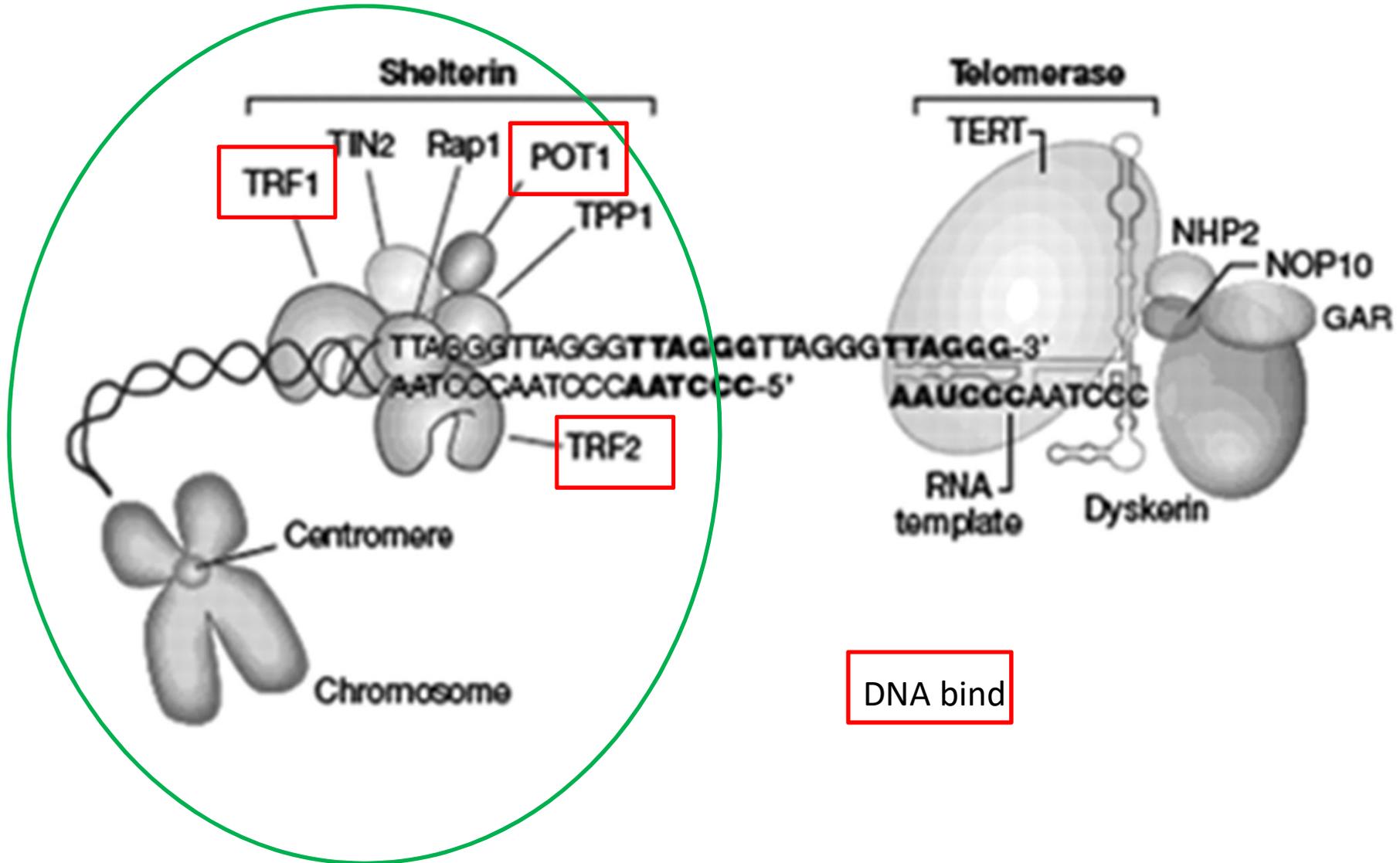


MUTATIONS IN TELOMERIC PROTEINS AND CANCER

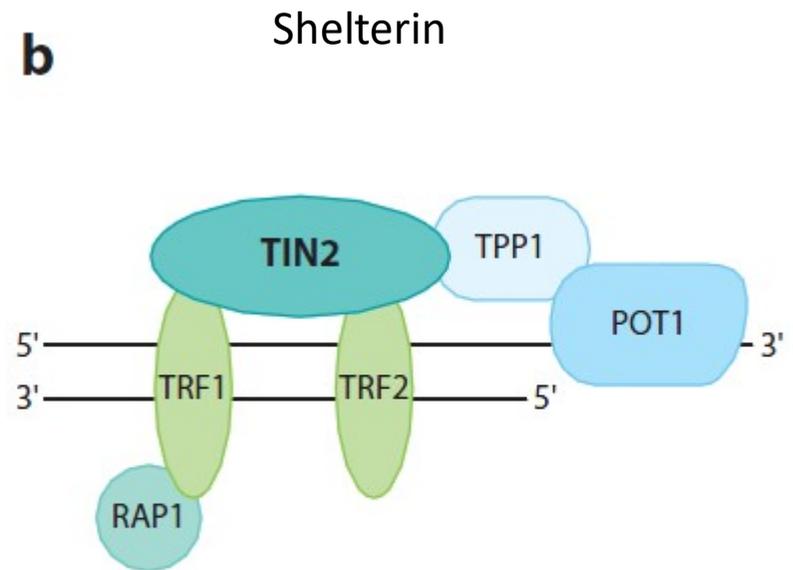
Protein	Cancer(s)
Shelterin	
TRF1/TRF2	Gastric
POT1	Leukemia (CLL) Melanoma Glioma
TPP1	DC Melanoma
TIN2	DC
RAP1	Melanoma
Telomere elongation	
TERT	Glioma Bladder Thyroid Melanoma Breast/ovarian
TERC	MDS



Complessi macromolecolari associati al Telomero ed alla Telomerasi



Complessi macromolecolari associati al Telomero



Telomeres are coated by a group of at least six proteins, collectively called **shelterin**

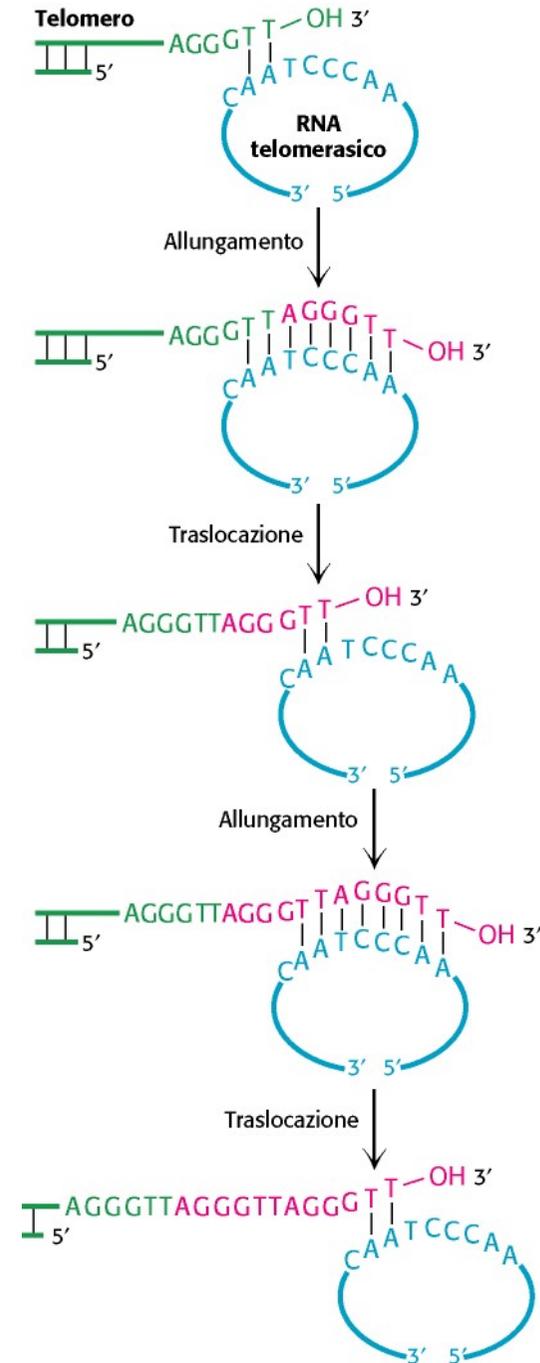
Three proteins, TRF1, TRF2, and POT1(single-stranded repeats) directly recognize and bind to TTAGGG repeats

TIN2 TPP1, and Rap1, interconnect the telomere-binding proteins to form the entire complex

Shelterin serves as a signal that allows the cellular DNA repair machinery to distinguish telomeres from DNA double-stranded breaks

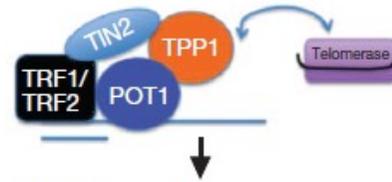
L'allungamento del telomero modello riassuntivo

During every cell division, telomeres are potentially shortened by 50–200 bp due to the end replication problem

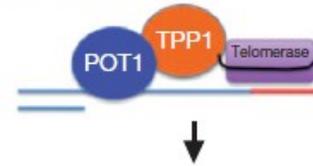


h

1. Recruitment



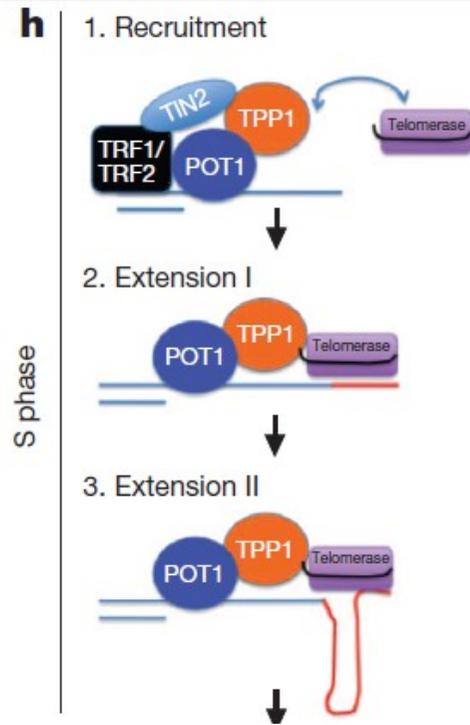
2. Extension I



S phase

Late S/G2 phase

TIN2–TPP1 recruits telomerase and POT1–TPP1 promotes processive telomere elongation



TIN2–TPP1 recruits telomerase and
POT1–TPP1 promotes processive
telomere elongation

IL RECLUTAMENTO DELLA TELOMERASI

TPP1 recruits telomerase to telomeres

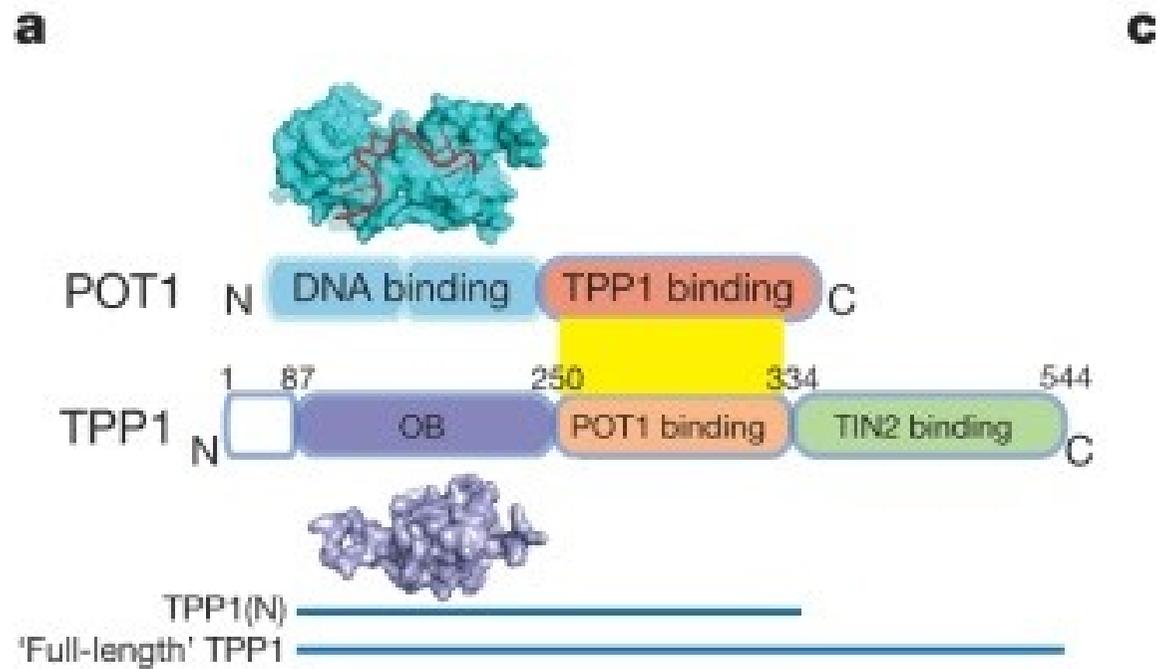
Telomere synthesis involves trafficking of telomerase and telomerase is thought to be recruited to telomeres through interactions with telomere-binding proteins.

The OB-fold domain of the telomere-binding protein TPP1 recruits telomerase to telomeres through an association with the telomerase reverse transcriptase, TERT.

The TPP1 OB-fold domain is sufficient to recruit telomerase to a heterologous chromatin locus.

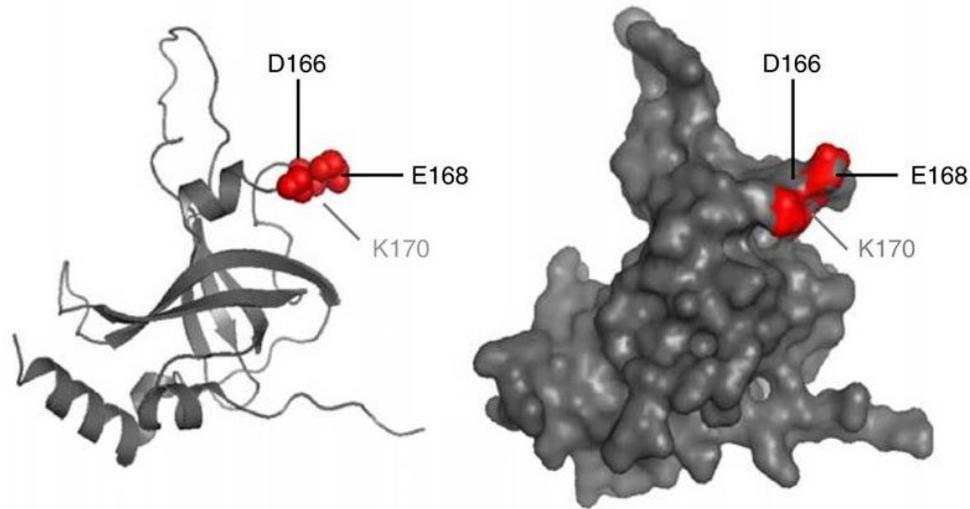
A minimal TPP1 OB-fold inhibits telomere maintenance by blocking access of telomerase to its binding site at telomeres.

A specific loop residues within the TPP1 OB-fold is necessary for association with critical residues in TERT Telomerase, including those mutated in pulmonary fibrosis patients, which defines the interface required for telomerase-TPP1 interaction.



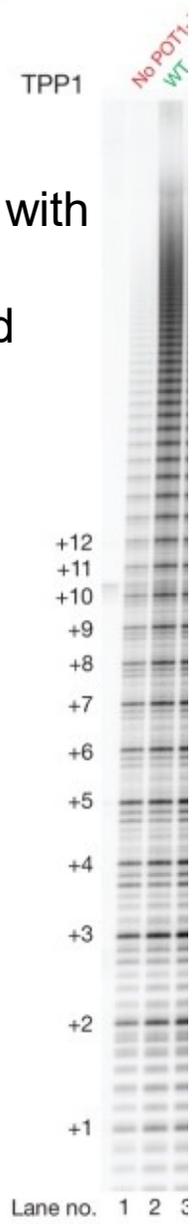
nature

the OB-fold domain of the telomere-binding protein TPP1 recruits telomerase to telomeres through an association with the telomerase reverse transcriptase, TERT



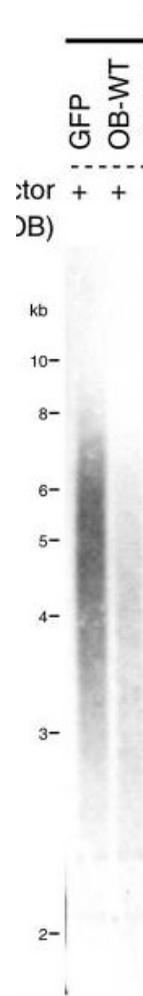
Structural representation of TPP1-OB domain (PDB 2i46).
Residues required for telomerase interaction shown in red

Direct telomerase activity assay with primer of lysates from cells co-transfected with a TR plasmid and POT1, TPP1 MUTANTS and TERT.

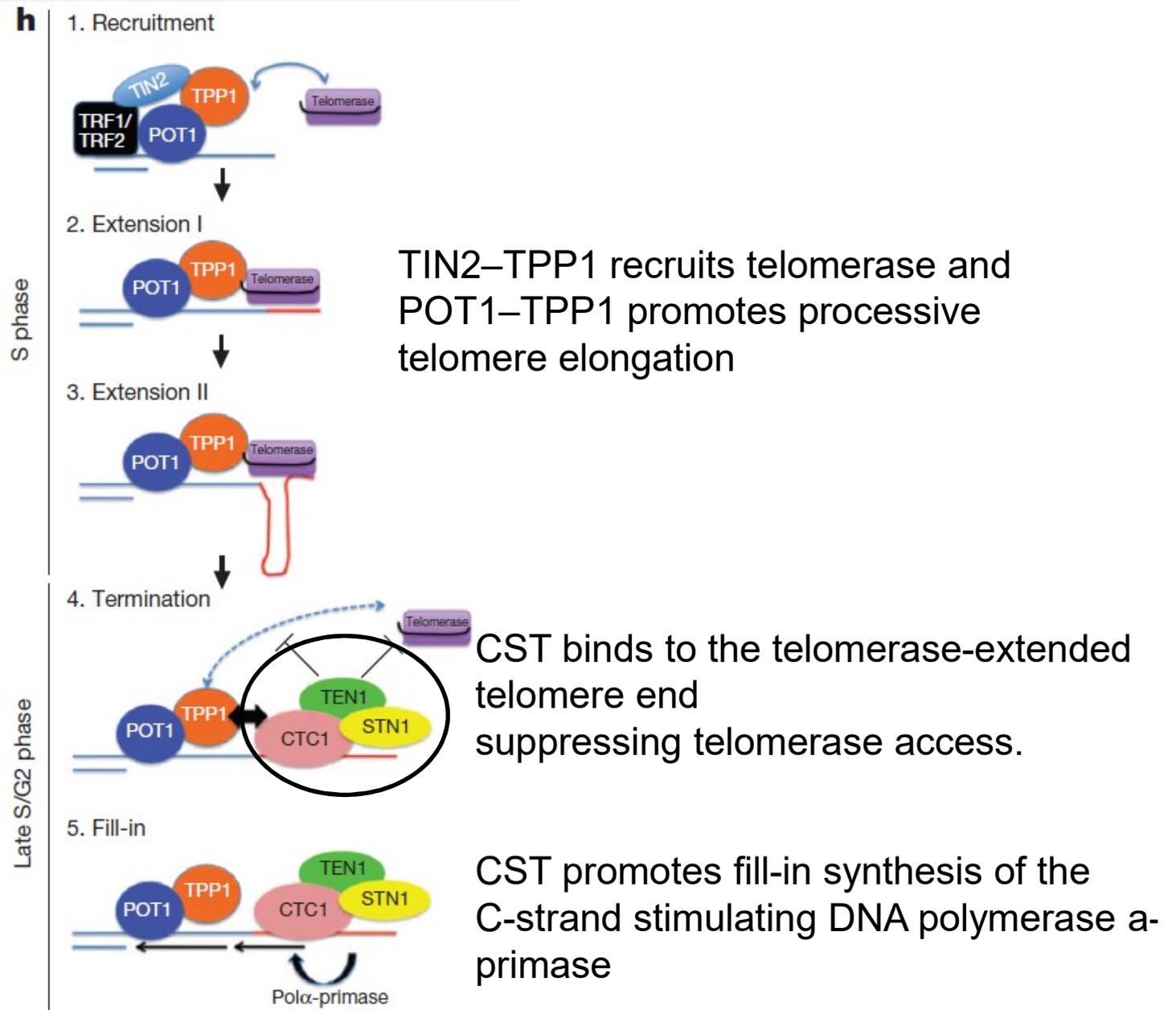


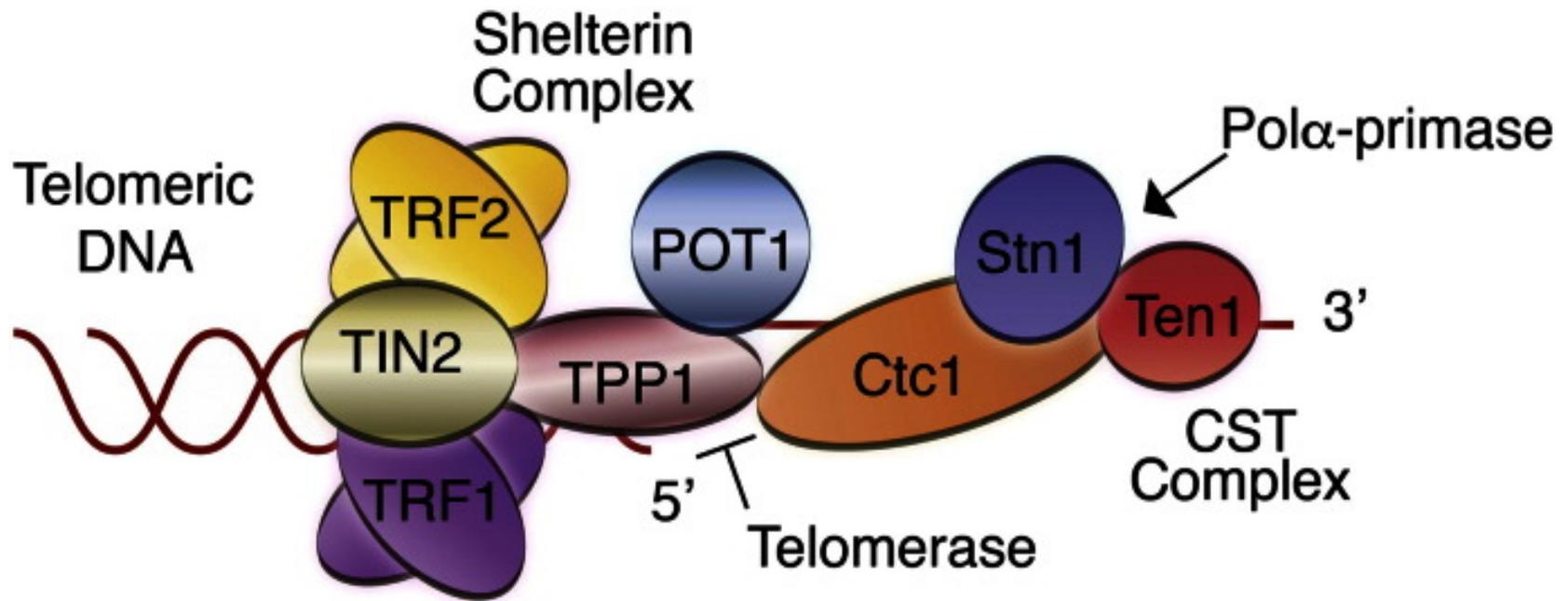
nature

TPP1-OB inhibits telomere length maintenance by telomerase and blocks endogenous telomerase recruitment



The CST complex is a terminator of telomerase activity

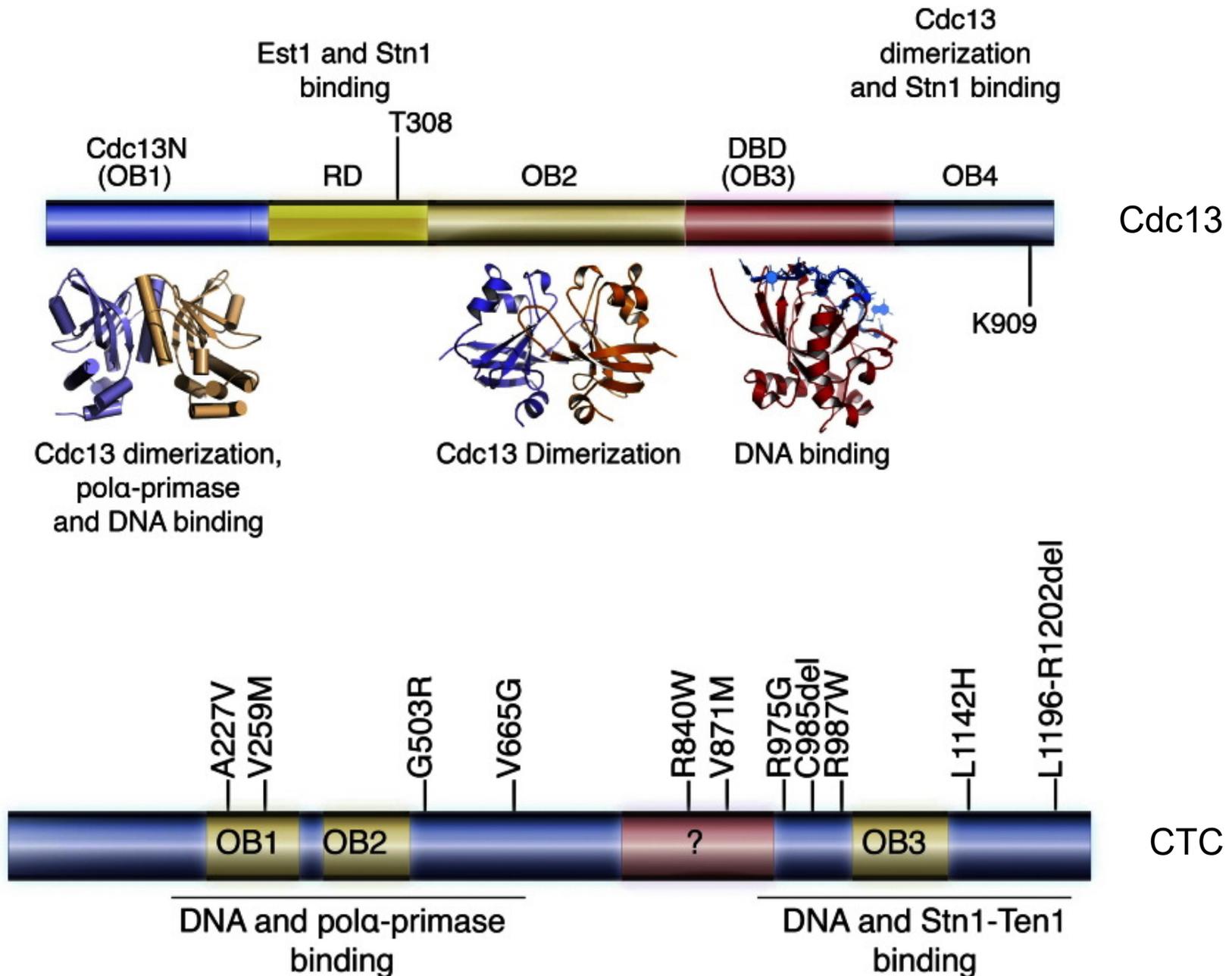




CST localizes specifically to the single-stranded telomeric DNA

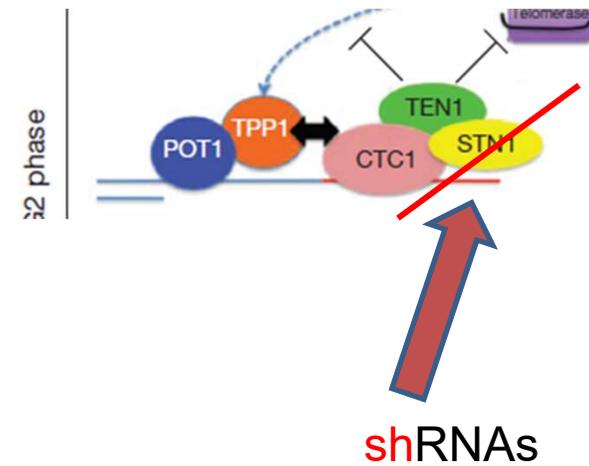
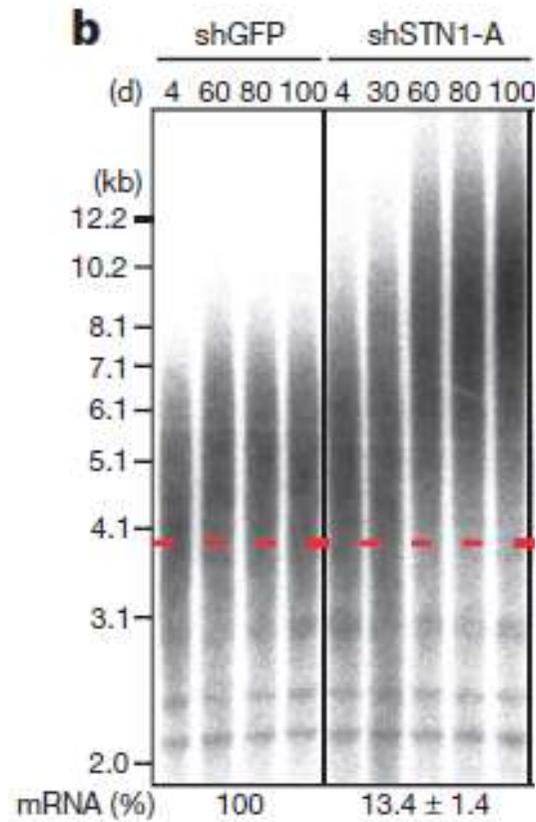
chromosome end capping and telomere length regulation

Primary structures of **Cdc13 / CTC** indicating domain organization



The CST complex limits telomere elongation

HT1080
human cancer cells



GLI STATI DEL TELOMERO

Telomeric nucleosomes

Telomeric nucleosomes are hypersensitive to micrococcal nuclease.

Reconstituted nucleosomes on TTAGGG repeats show higher mobility than on other sequences.

Telomeric chromatin is enriched for heterochromatin modification, such as trimethylation of H3K9 and H4K20, and loss of these marks affects telomere length regulation.

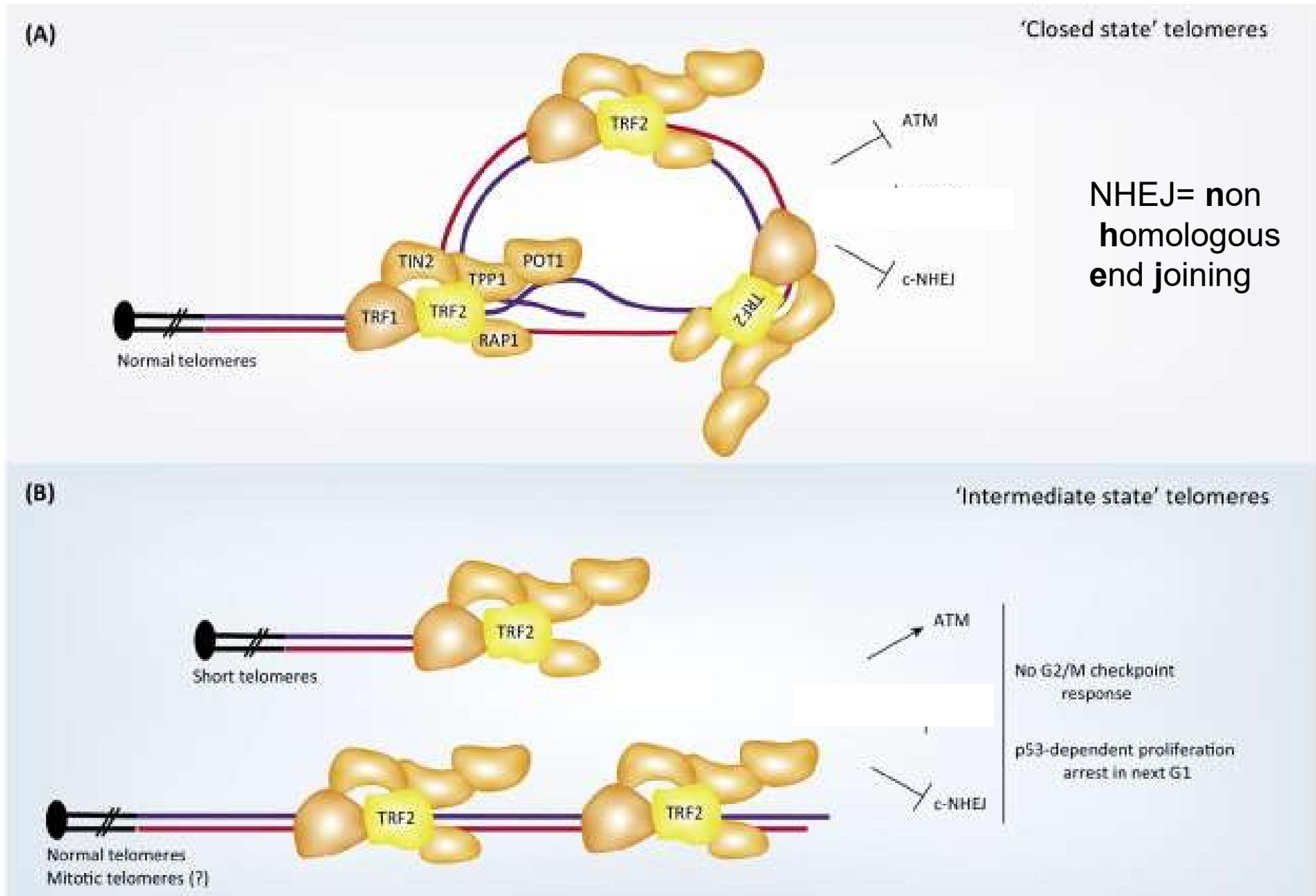
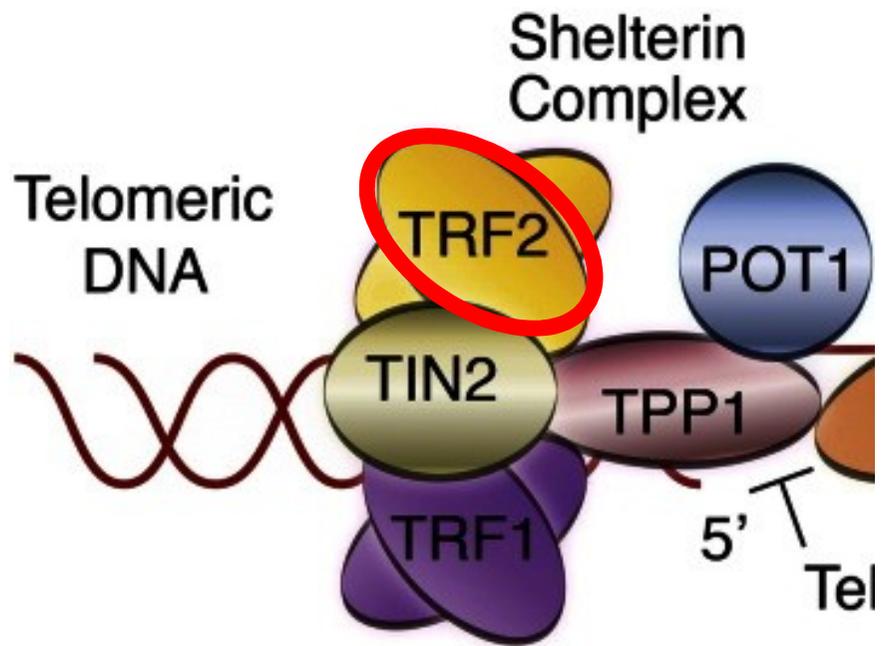
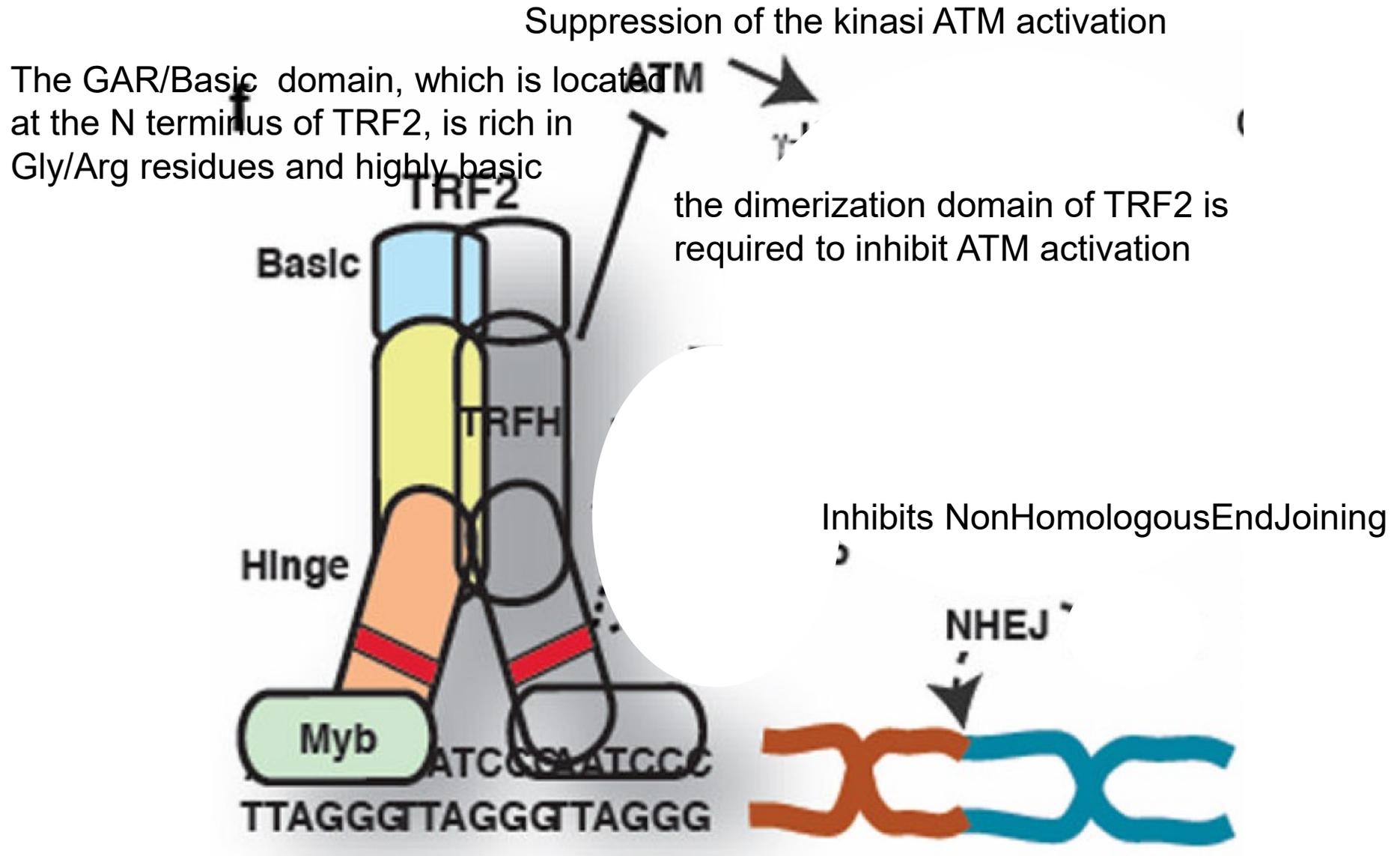


Figure 2. The different states of telomeres: from the physiological 'closed state' to the pathological 'uncapped state'



mechanism for TRF2-mediated chromosome end protection

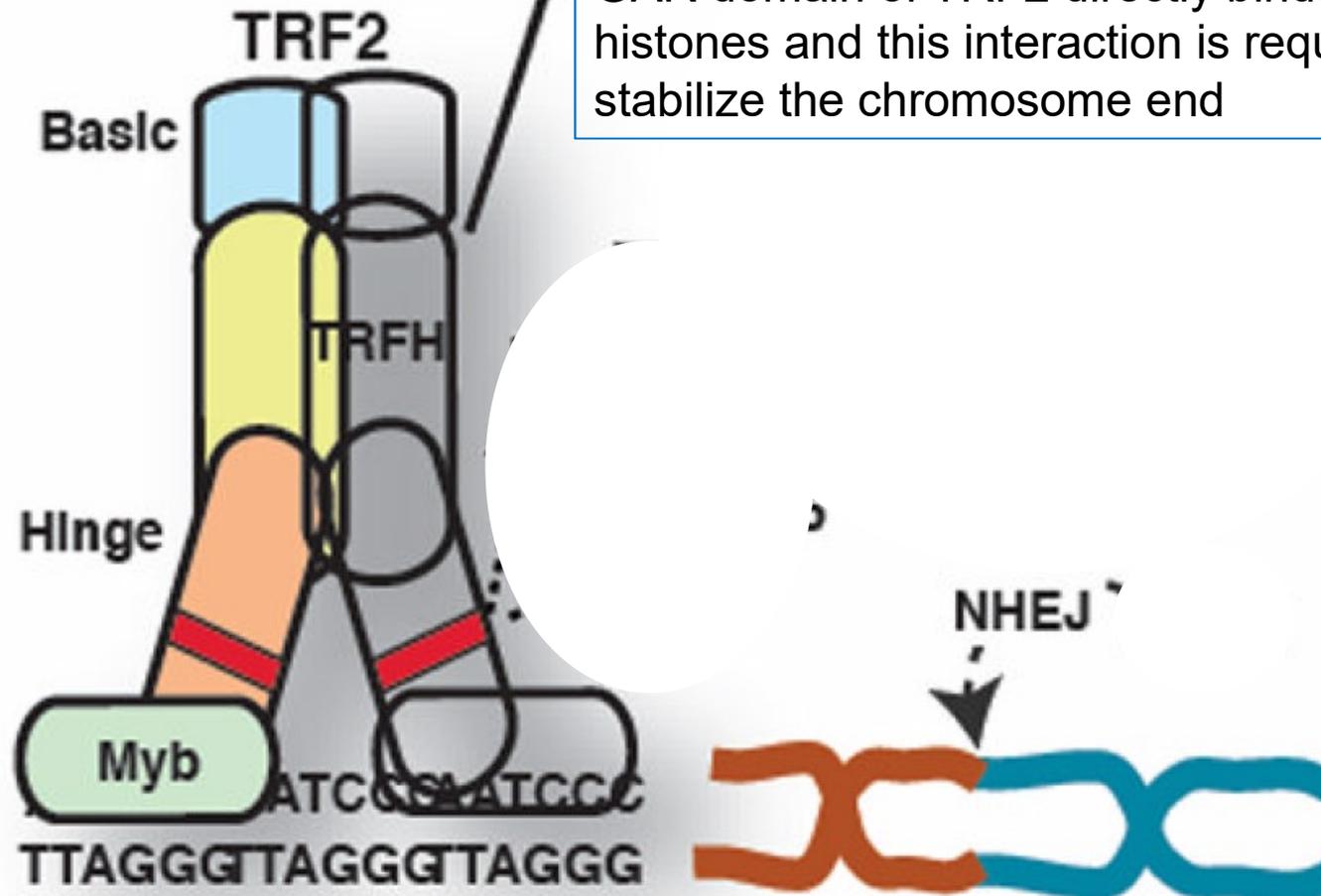


mechanism for TRF2-mediated chromosome end protection

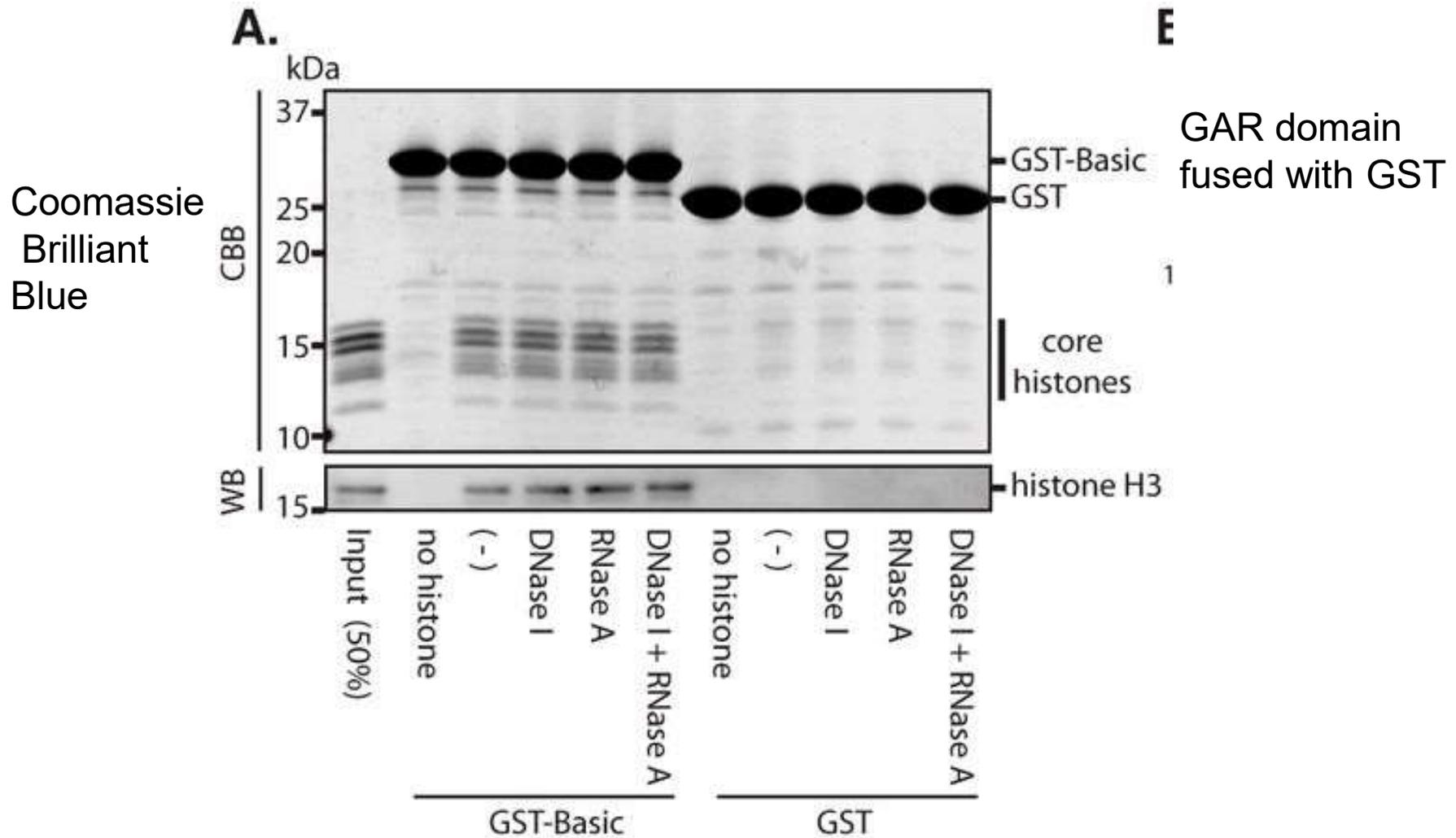
The GAR/Basic domain, which is located at the N terminus of TRF2, is rich in Gly/Arg residues and highly basic

ATM

GAR domain of TRF2 directly binds to core histones and this interaction is required to stabilize the chromosome end



Direct binding of the GAR domain of TRF2 and core histones.



Core histones: mono-nucleosomes were purified using from HeLa cell nuclei digested with micrococcal nuclease- mono-nucleosome peaks were collected and partially digested with trypsin to generate the tailless histones.

Direct binding of the GAR domain of TRF2 and core histones.

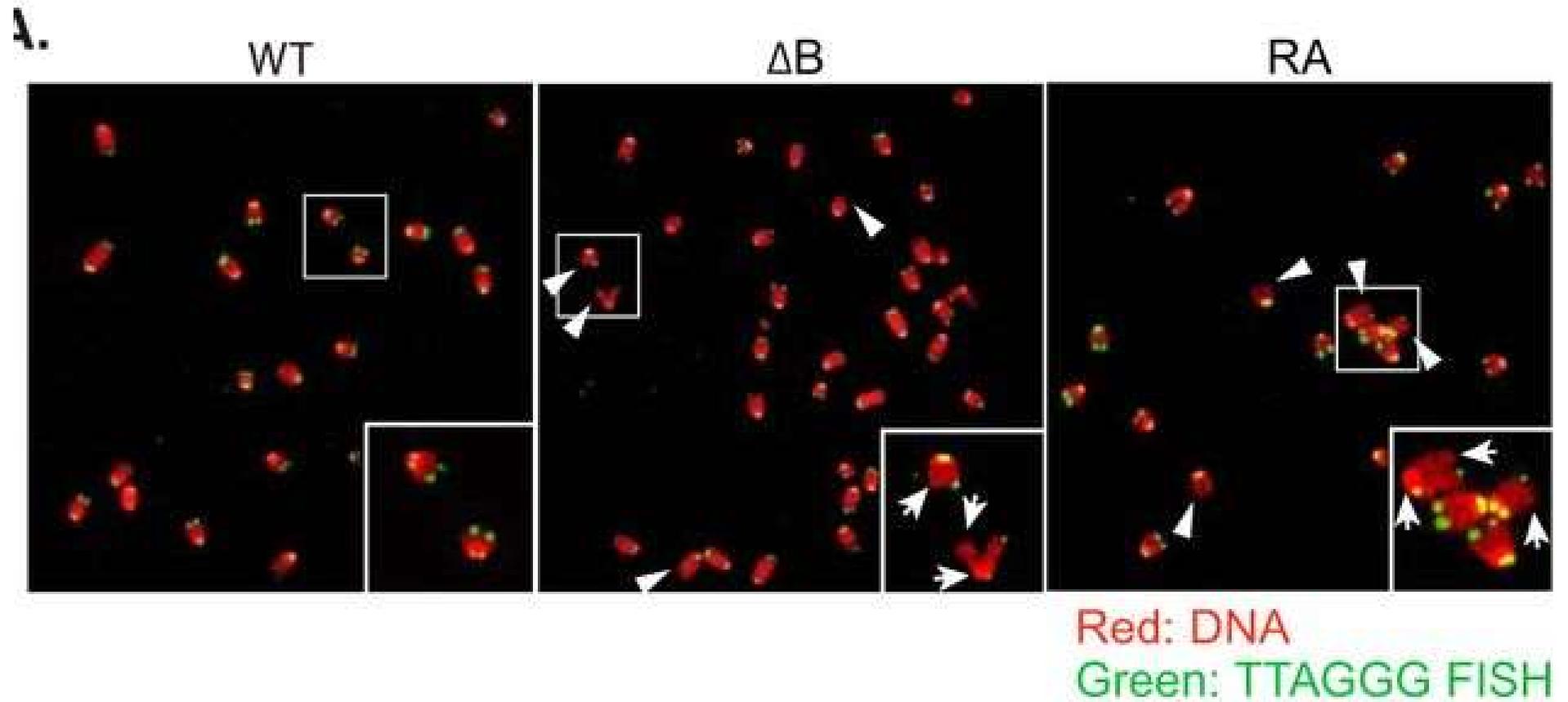
basic domain

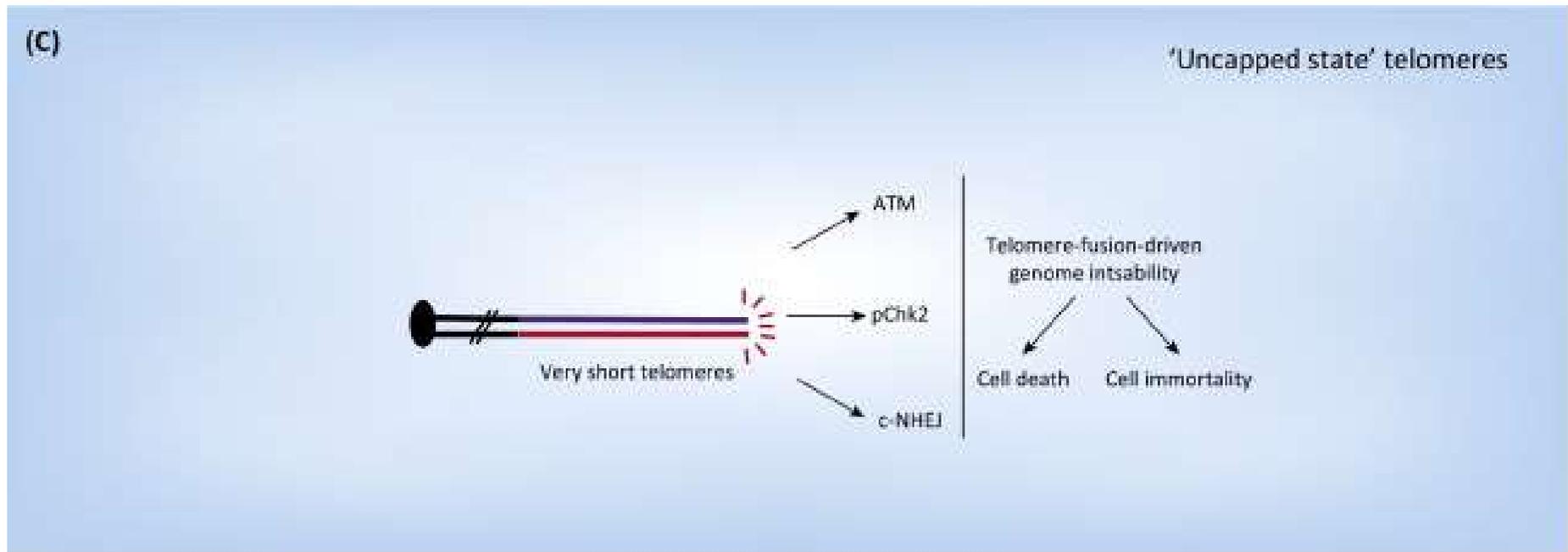
E.

		* * *	
		MAPP <u>GMRLRSGR</u> ---STGAPLTRGSC	
LANA			
hTRF2	MAGGGGSSDGS	GRAAGRRA	SRSSGRARRGRHEPGLGGPAERGAGEARLEEAVNRW
mTRF2	MAGGGGSSDSS	GRAASRRASRS	GGRARRGRHEPGLGGAAERGAGEARLEEAVNRW
Basic2-45	AGGGGSSDGS	GRAAGRRA	SRSSGRARRGRHEPGLGGPAERGAGE (+)
Basic2-24	AGGGGSSDGS	GRAAGRRA	SRSSG (-)
Basic2-30	AGGGGSSDGS	GRAAGRRA	SRSSGRARRGR (+)
Basic10-37		GSGRAAGRRA	SRSSGRARRGRHEPGLGG (+)
			core histone binding
Basic RA	AGGGGSSDGS	GRAAGRRA	SRSSGAAAAGAHEPGLGGPAERGAGE

latency-associated nuclear antigen (LANA)
viral element essential for the DNA replication and genome maintenance
during latency

Rapid telomere DNA loss and t-circle generation by loss of histone binding of TRF2.



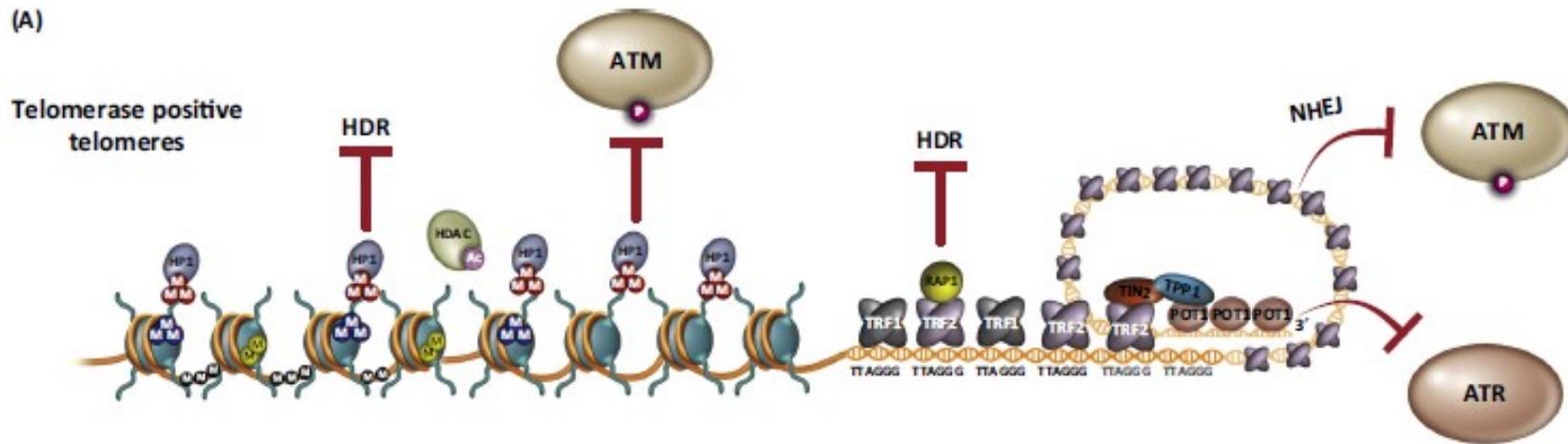


TIBS

Figure 2. The different states of telomeres: from the physiological 'closed state' to the pathological 'uncapped state'

No DDRama at chromosome ends: TRF2 takes centre stage, Sascha Feuerhahn, Liuh-yow Chen, Brian Luke, Antonio Porro

(A)



DNA damage suppression at mammalian telomeres in the T-loop structure blocks the association of ATM) and ATR kinases to prevent non-homologous end joining (NHEJ)-mediated fusion of telomeres

Key:	T-Loop associated shelterin	Histone acetylation
T-Loop associated NR2F2	H2A K15 mono-ubiquitination	Lysine poly-ubiquitination
DNA methylation	Protein phosphorylation	Protein sumoylation
H3K9me3	γ H2AX (phosphorylation of serine 139 of histone H2AX)	
H4K20me3		
H4K20me2		
H3K79me2		