

11<sup>TH</sup> EDITION

DECEMBER 10-13, 2024

# HIV PERSISTENCE DURING THERAPY

Reservoirs & Eradication Strategies Workshop



**Selective export of HIV mRNAs is regulated by compartmentalized interactions with Sam68, PTB and m6A RNA methylation in reactivated latently infected T-cells**

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12.11.2024

[www.hiv-persistence.com](http://www.hiv-persistence.com)

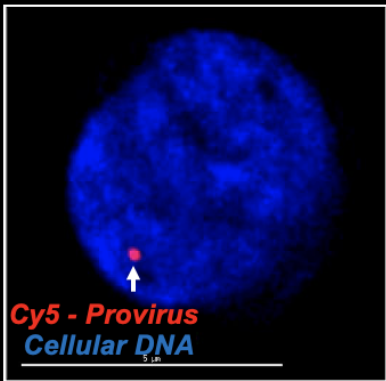
## DECLARATION

The Authors Declare No Competing Interests

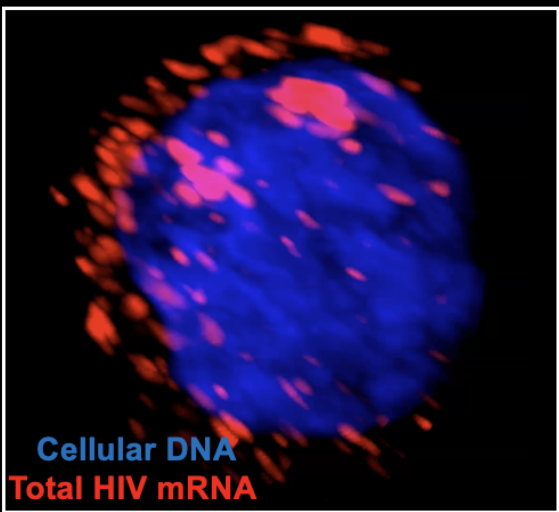
# INTRODUCTION

## HIV-1 Latency and subsequent reactivation

No Stimulation



TCR-activated

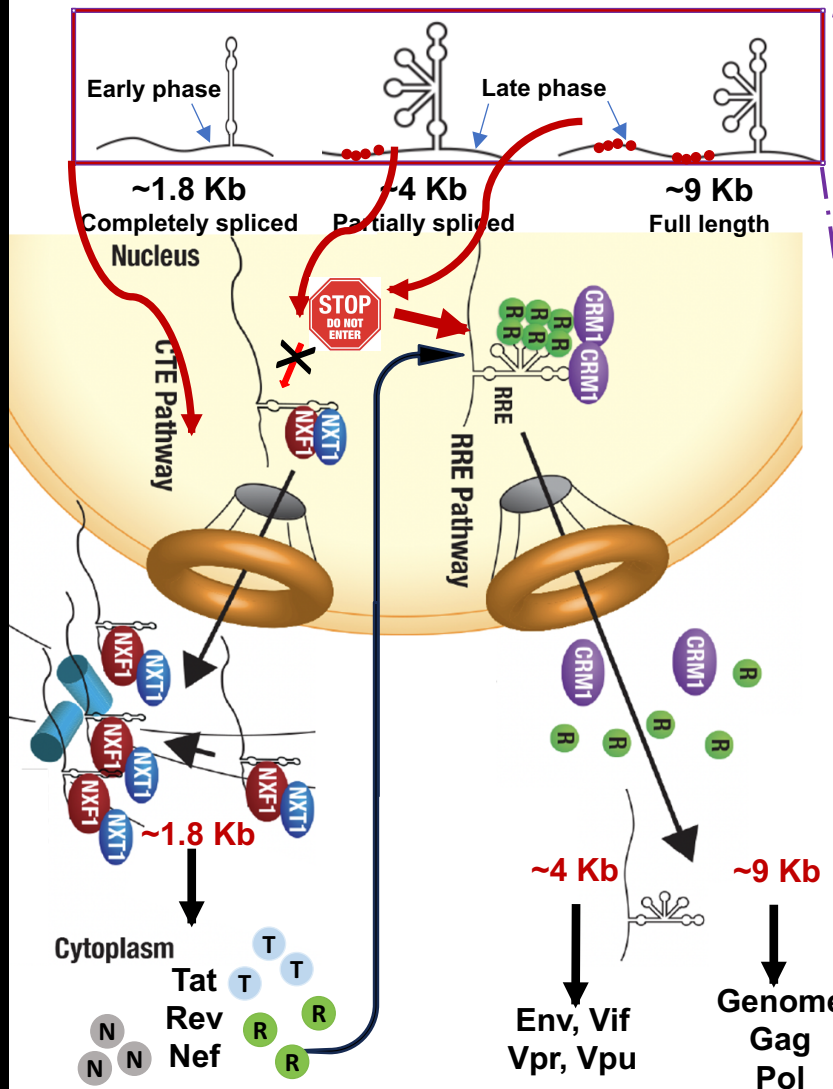


Latent CD4+ T cell

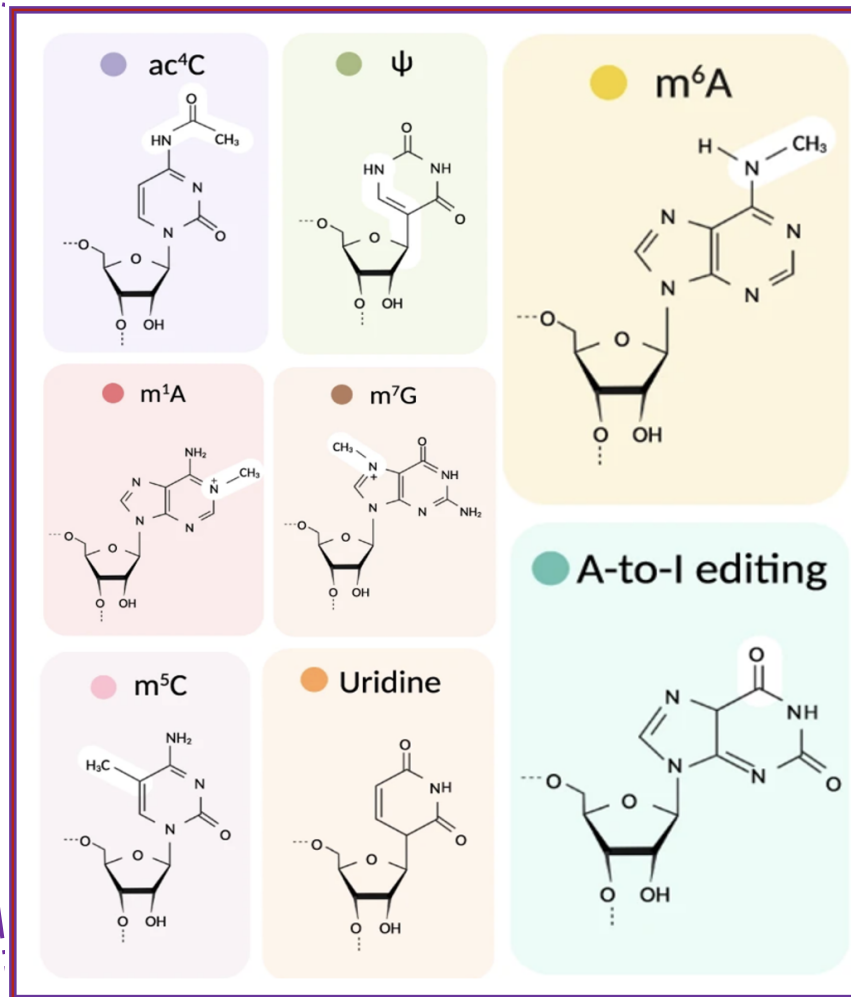
Activation from Latency

Fredrick Kizito, et al., (To be published soon)

## Alternative splicing products and export of HIV-RNA



## RNA modifications



Liu, WW. et al. 2024



# THE PROBLEM

CD4+ T cells sequester HIV-1 RNA. This is a supplementary mechanism of HIV-1 Persistence!

## Sequestration of HIV-1 RNA in the Nucleus

### Nuclear retention of multiply spliced HIV-1 RNA in resting CD4+ T cells.

Lassen KG<sup>1</sup>, Ramyar KX, Bailey JR, Zhou Y, Siliciano RF.

#### Author information

1 Department of Medicine, Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, Baltimore, Maryland, USA.

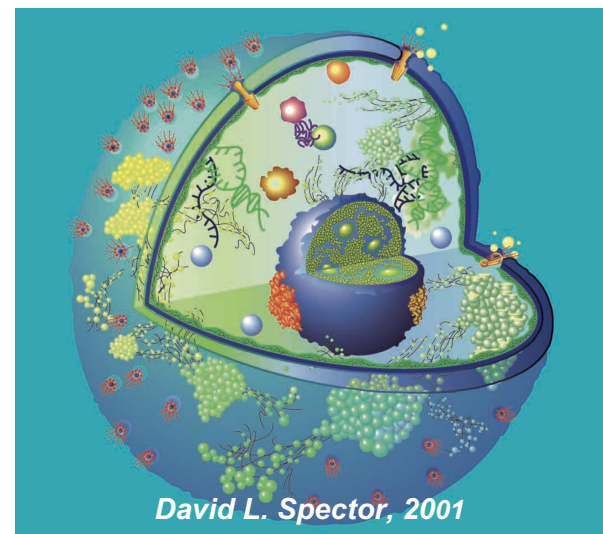
## Why do we care?

### Gene expression and viral production in latently infected, resting CD4+ T cells in viremic versus aviremic HIV-infected individuals

Tae-Wook Chun\*, J. Shawn Justement\*, Richard A. Lempicki\*, Jun Yang\*, Glynn Dennis, Jr.†, Claire W. Hallahan\*, Christina Sanford\*, Punita Pandya\*, Shuying Liu\*, Mary McLaughlin\*, Linda A. Ehler\*, Susan Moir\*, and Anthony S. Fauci\*

To-date, little is known about the critical nuclear compartmentation and chemical modifications which determine segregation, compartmentation and trafficking vis a vis subnuclear sequestration and retention

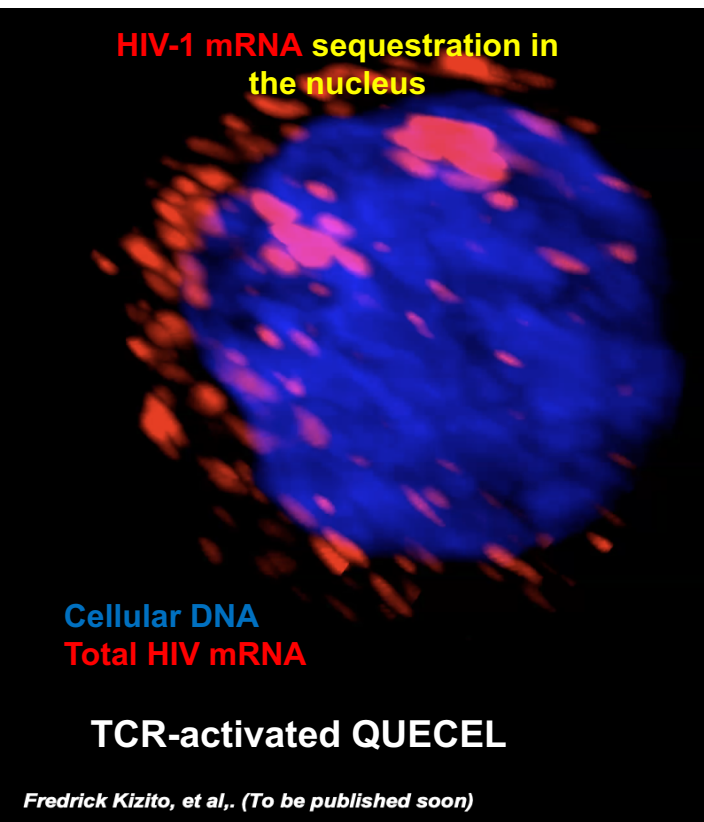
### A Complex Nuclear Environment



David L. Spector, 2001

### Aims

- Identify the subnuclear compartments, cellular factors for HIV-1 RNA segregation, sequestration and assembly and trafficking
- Identify the HIV-1 RNA modifications for sequestration and retention versus trafficking and export



HIV-1 mRNA sequestration in the nucleus

Cellular DNA  
Total HIV mRNA

TCR-activated QUECEL

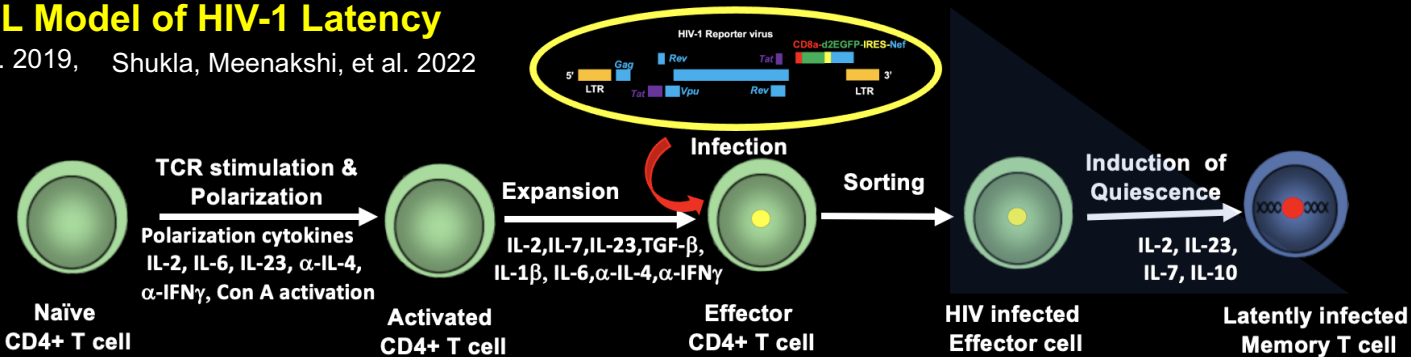
Fredrick Kizito, et al., (To be published soon)



# METHODS

## The QUECEL Model of HIV-1 Latency

Dobrowolski et al. 2019, Shukla, Meenakshi, et al. 2022

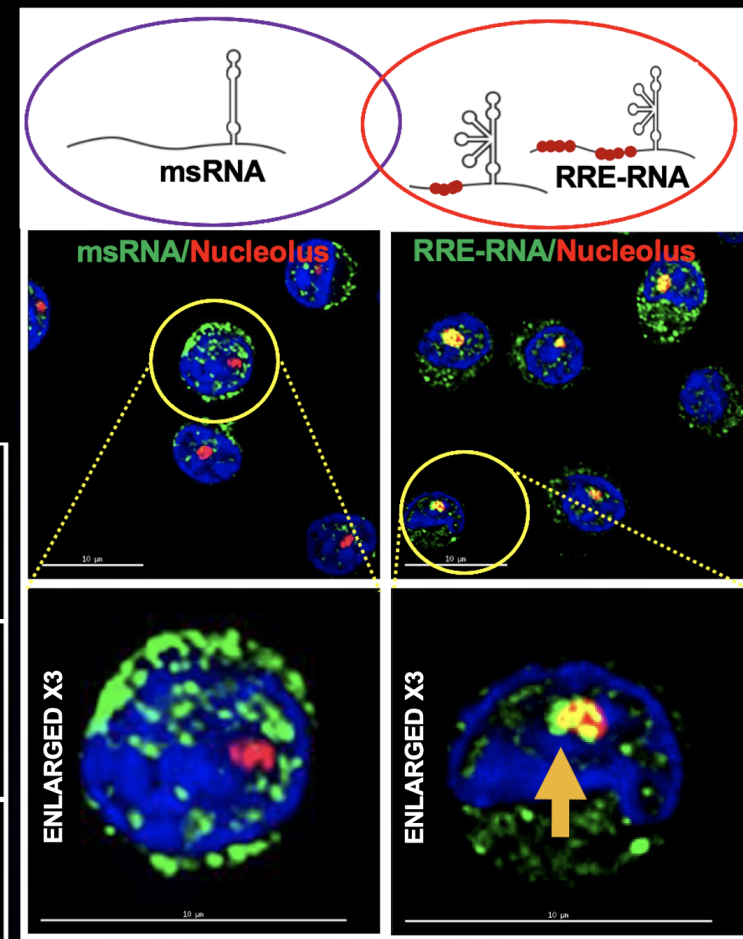
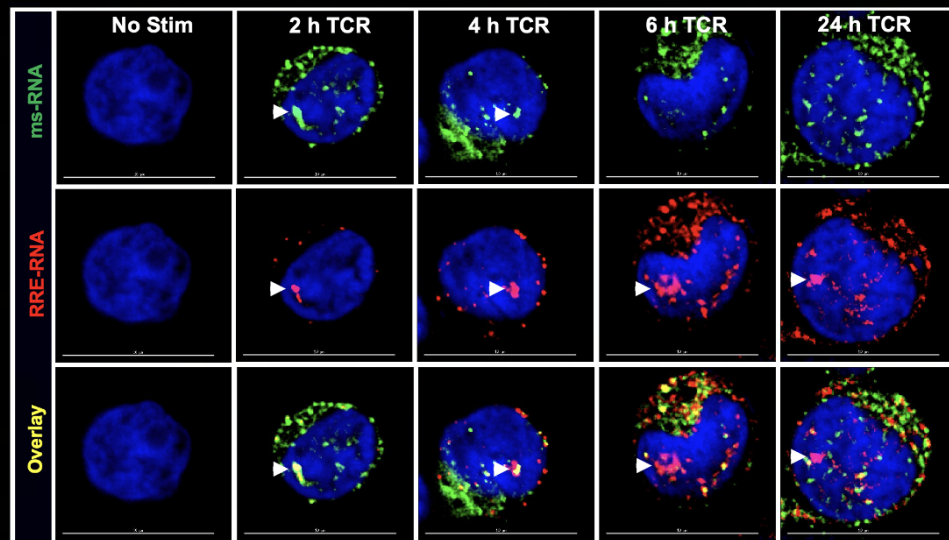
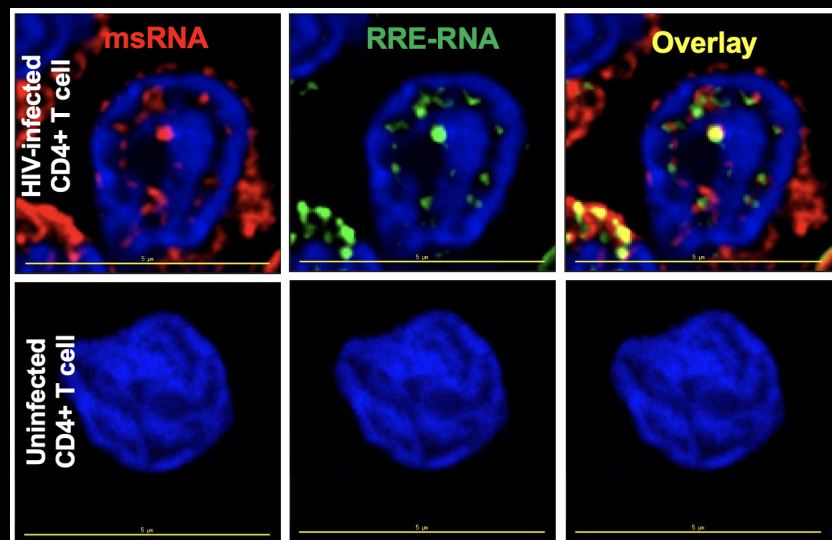


## HIV mRNA interactions with the nucleolus

Imaging analysis to track spatiotemporal induction, segregation and subnuclear compartmentation of HIV-1 RNA, early RNPs assembly and export

### Differential expression of **msRNA** and **RRE-RNA**

### Nuclear dynamics of **msRNA** and **RRE-RNA**

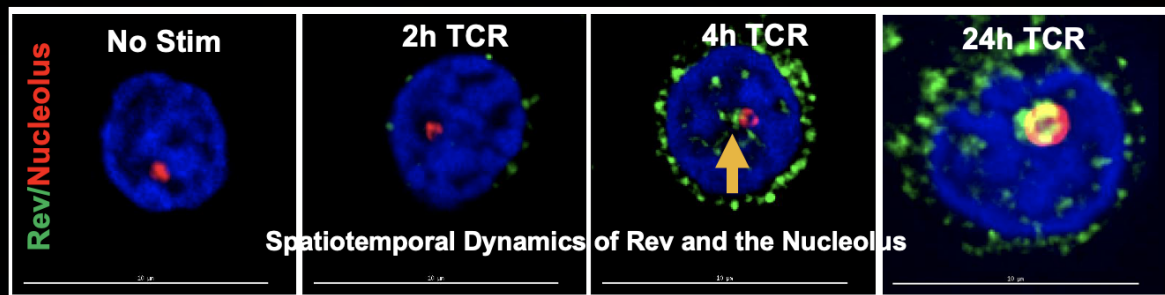


A Critical Validation

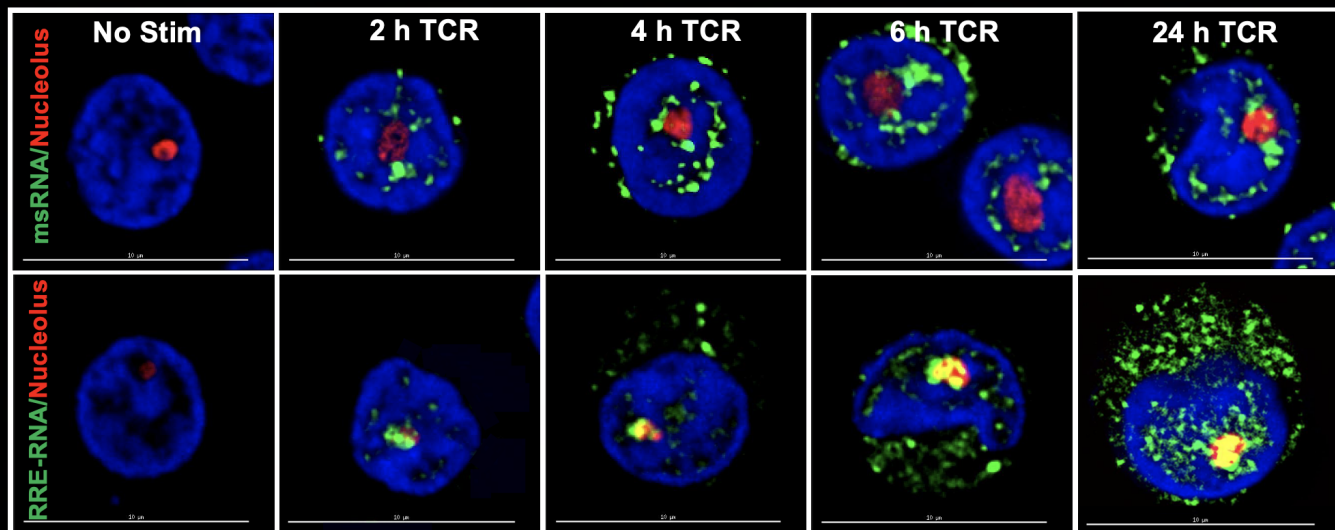
# RESULTS

## HIV-1 RNA accumulated in the Perinucleolar compartment (PNC)

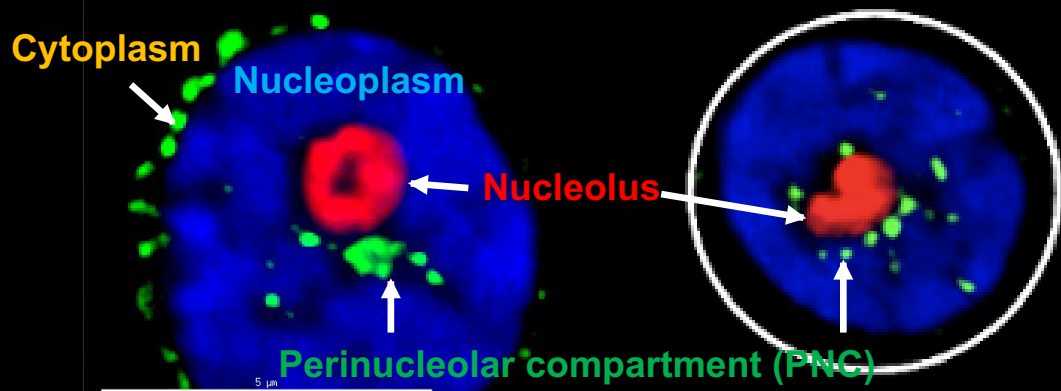
Cellular dynamics of HIV-Rev relative to the nucleolus



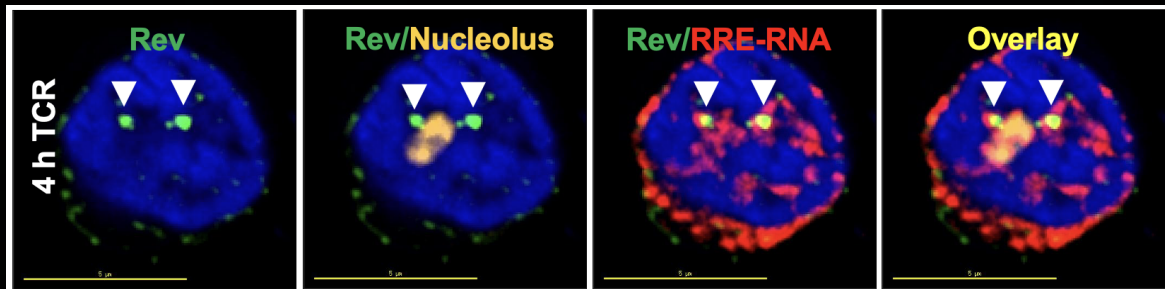
Sequestration of msRNA and RRE-RNA in the Perinucleolar compartment (PNC)



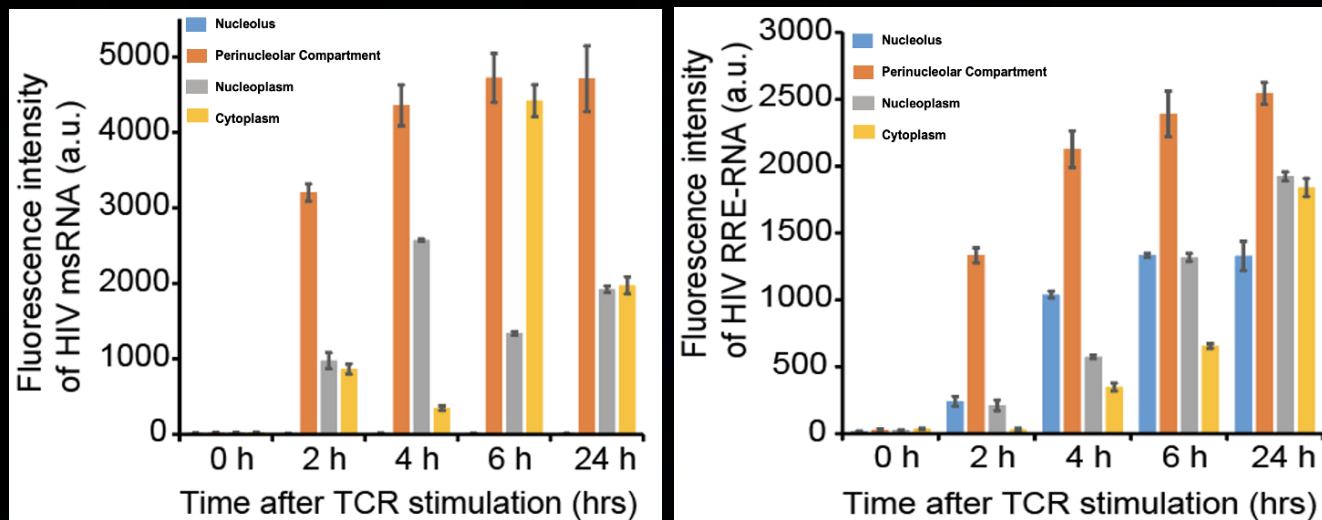
THE 4 MAIN SUBCELLULAR COMPARTMENTS



Colocalization of early HIV-Rev and RRE-RNA relative to the nucleolus



Subcellular distribution of msRNA and RRE-RNA



# Mutagenesis studies of HIV-1 Rev

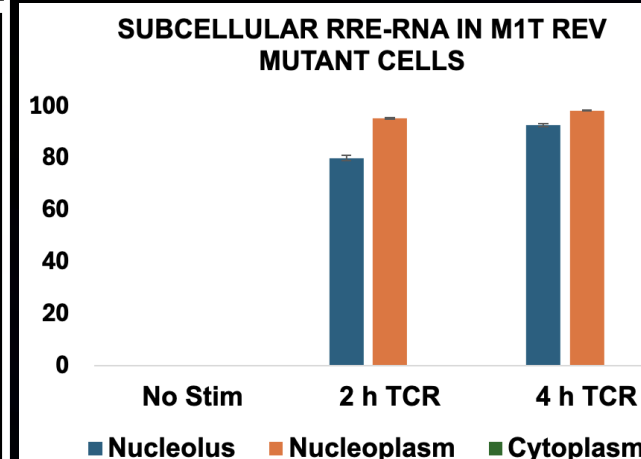
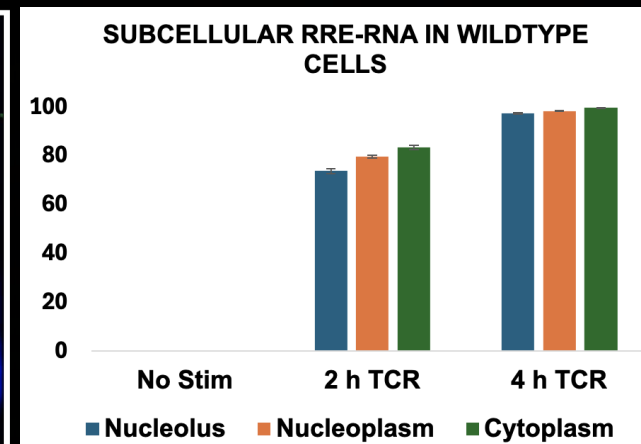
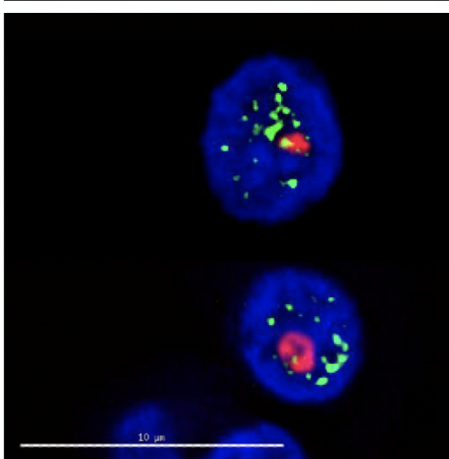
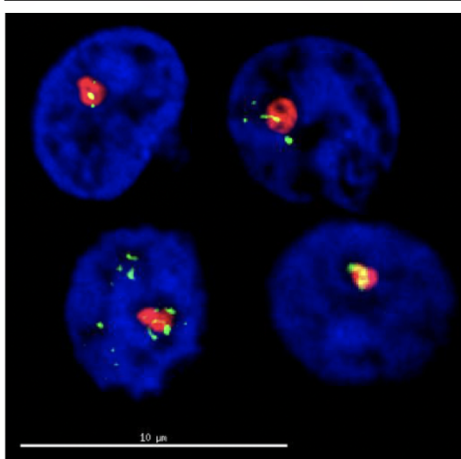
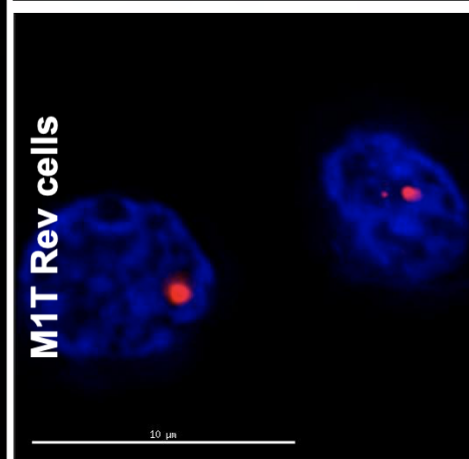
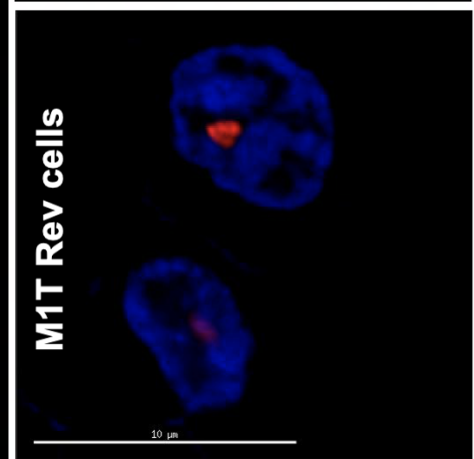
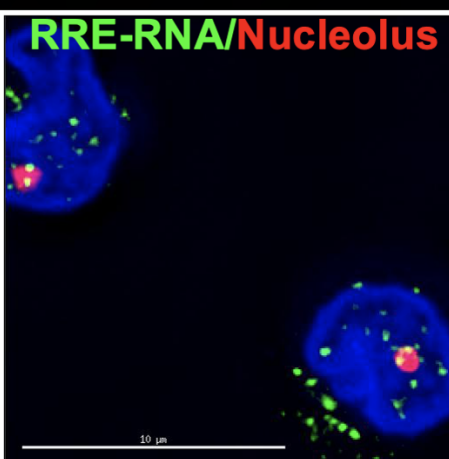
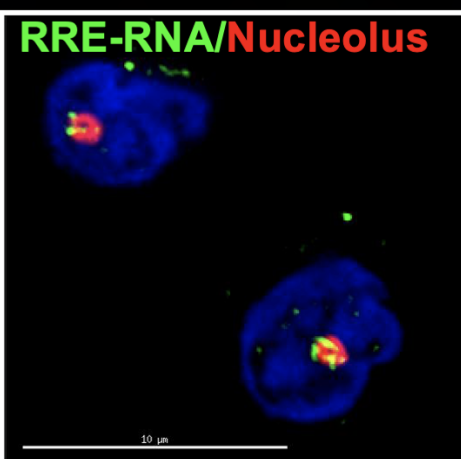
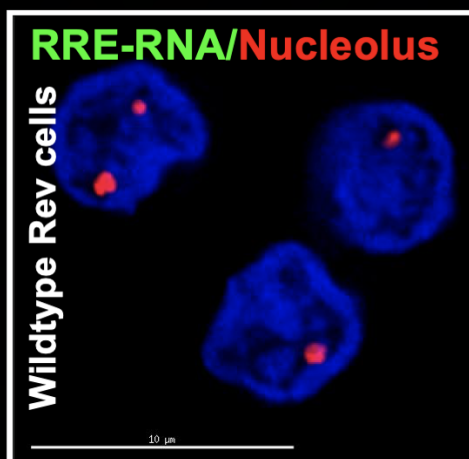
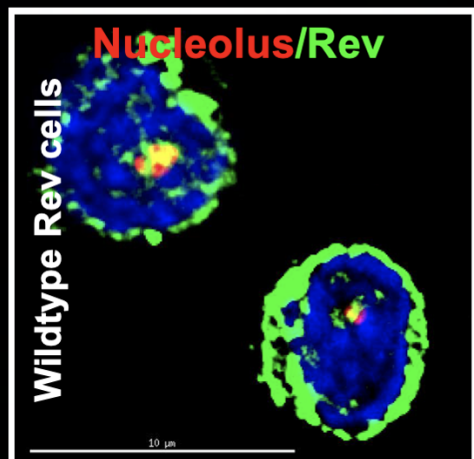
**A portion of RRE-RNA appeared in the nucleolus in a Rev-independent manner**

24 h TCR

No Stim

2 h TCR

4 h TCR



Kien Nguyen, PhD

**✓ RRE-RNA was dispersed in the nucleoplasm in a Rev-independent manner**



# The PNC is critical in the establishment of HIV Latency and Reactivation

PNAS

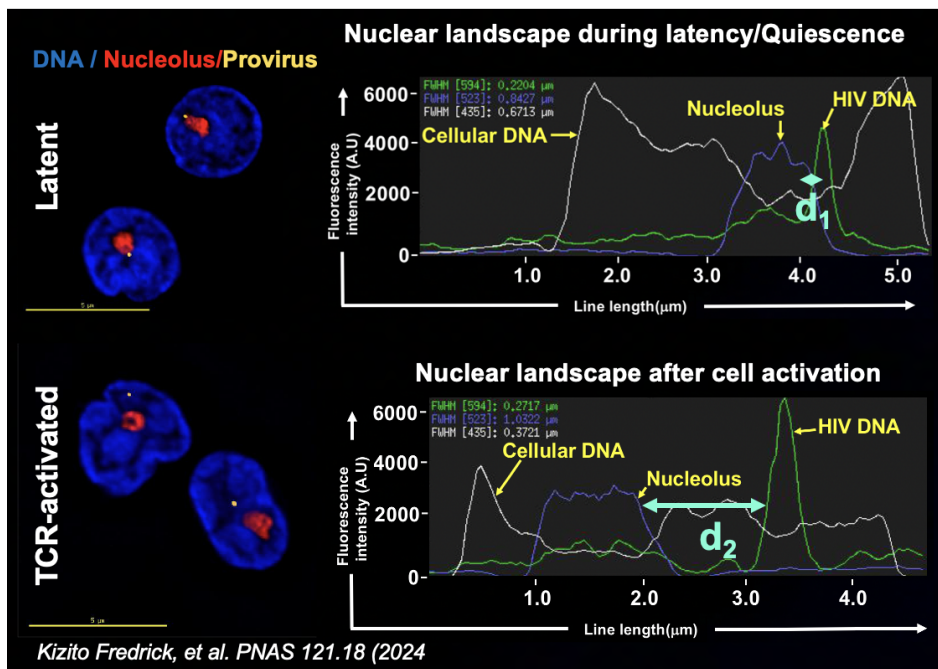
RESEARCH ARTICLE | MICROBIOLOGY

OPEN ACCESS

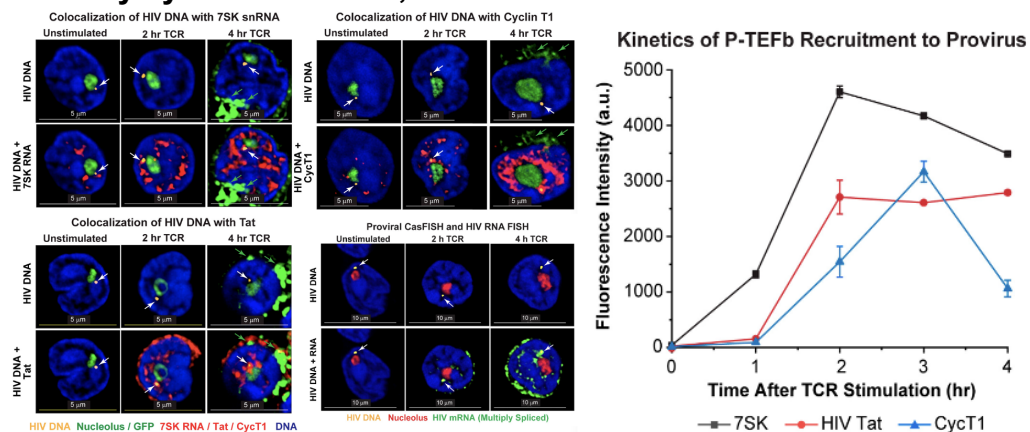
## Structural rearrangements in the nucleus localize latent HIV proviruses to a perinucleolar compartment supportive of reactivation

Frederick Kizito<sup>1</sup>, Kien Nguyen<sup>1</sup>, Uri Mbonye<sup>1</sup>, Meenakshi Shukla<sup>2</sup>, Benjamin Luttmann<sup>1</sup>, Mary Ann Checkley<sup>1</sup>, Anna Agapova<sup>1</sup>, Konstantin Leskov<sup>1</sup>, and Jonathan Karn<sup>1,3</sup>

### Locations of the Provirus in latent and reactivated CD4+ T cells

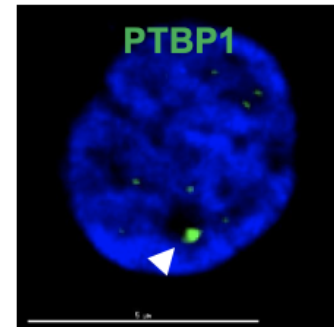


### Early synthesized 7SK, Tat and P-TEFb and HIV-RNA

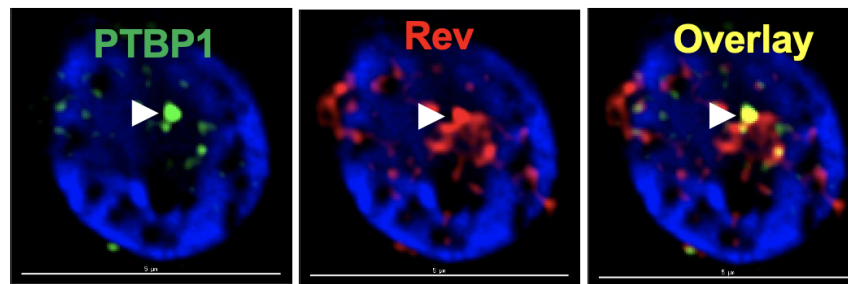


### PTBP1 colocalization with the provirus

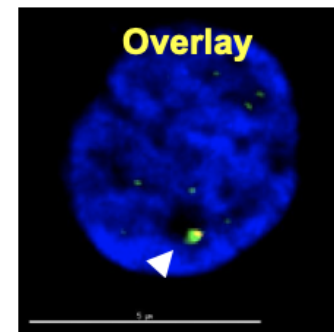
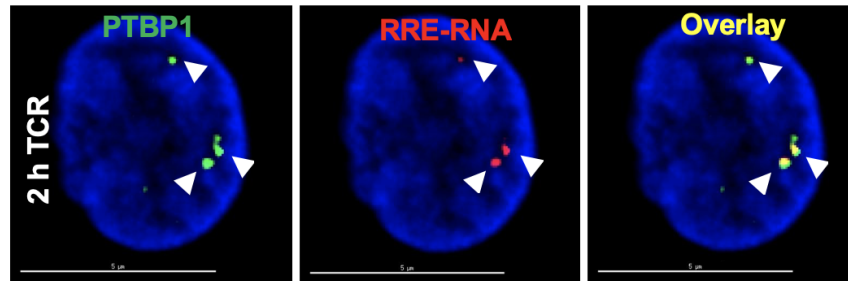
#### No Stimulation



#### Basal PTBP1 colocalization with Rev



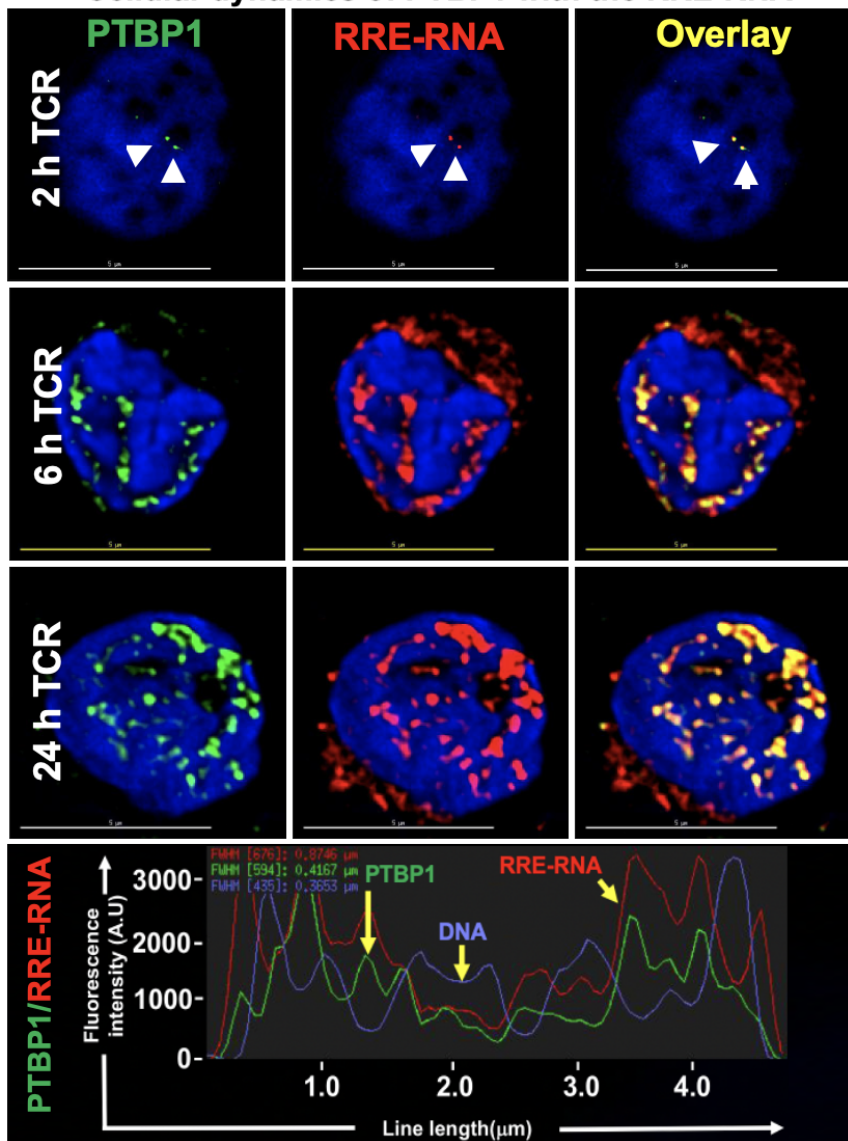
#### Basal PTBP1 colocalization with RRE-RNA



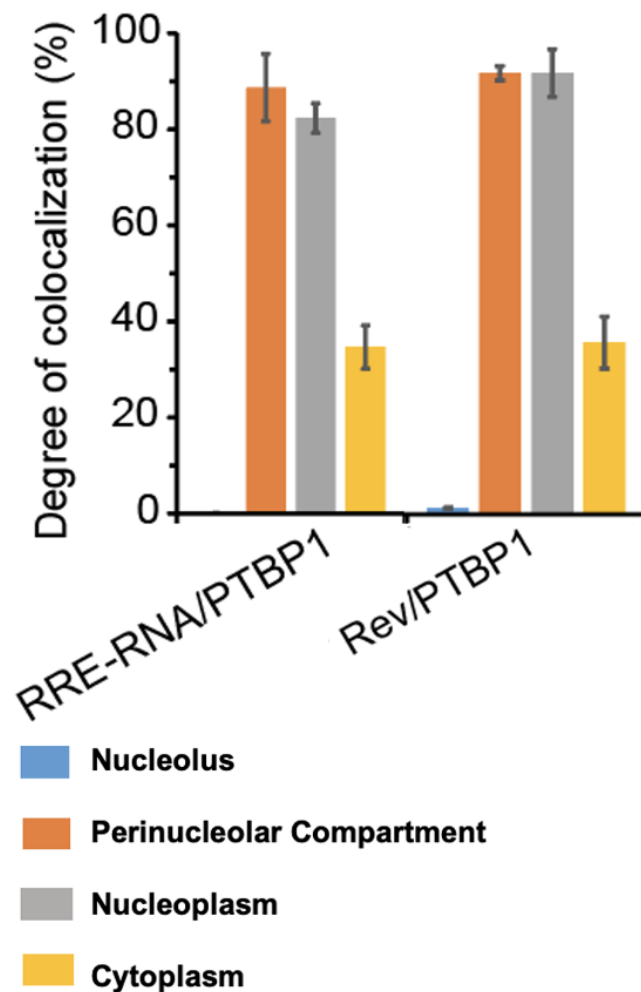
Is the PNC not only a high proviral transcription site but also High HIV-RNA regulatory site?

# PTBP1 colocalized with RRE-RNA and Rev in the nucleoplasm, but not in the cytoplasm

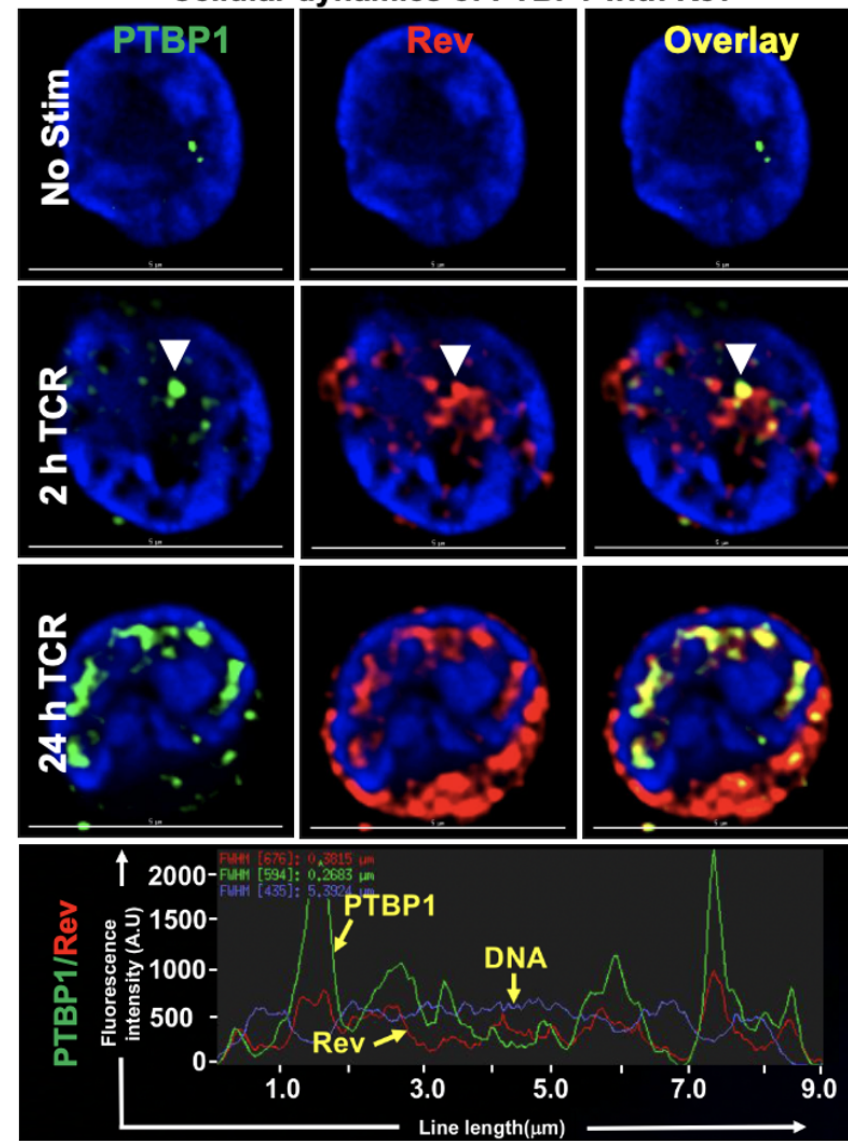
Cellular dynamics of PTBP1 with the RRE-RNA



Colocalization profiles of PTBP1 with the RRE-RNA and Rev



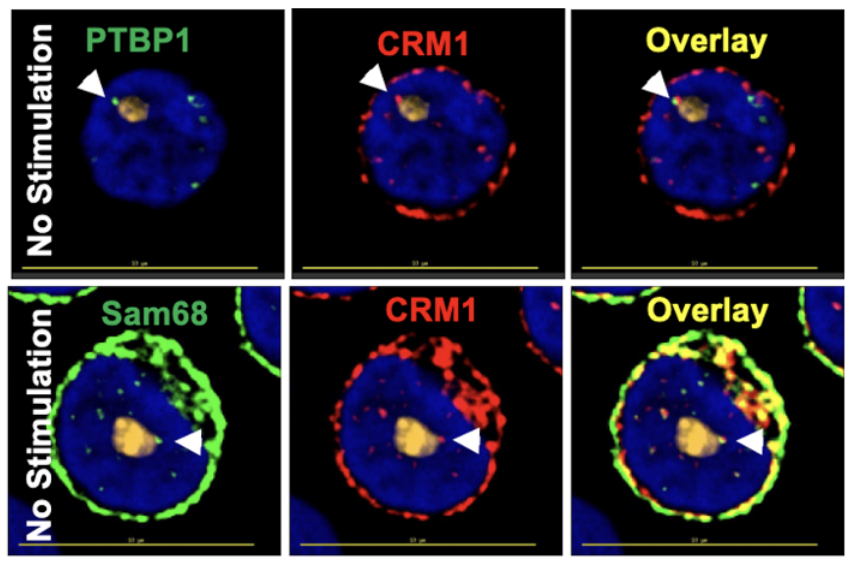
Cellular dynamics of PTBP1 with Rev



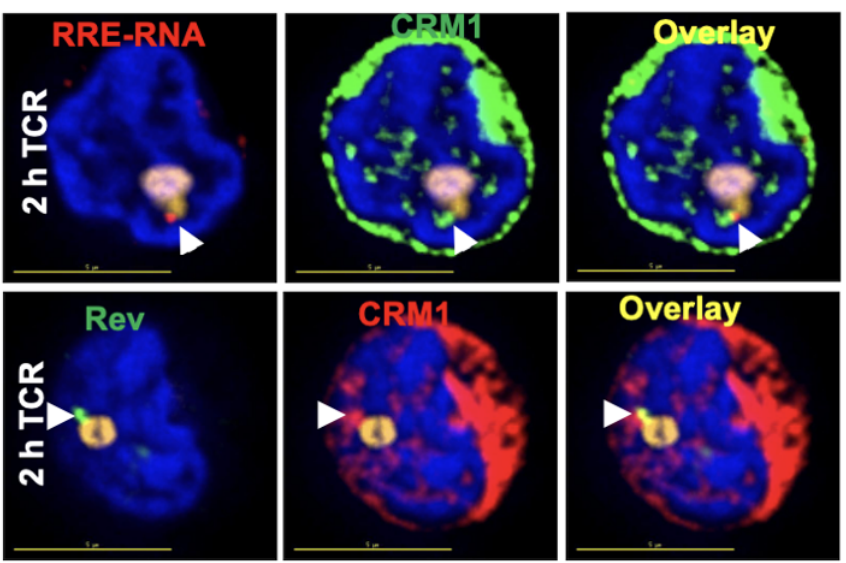


# Imaging analysis of the RRE-RNP macromolecular export complex assembly in the PNC

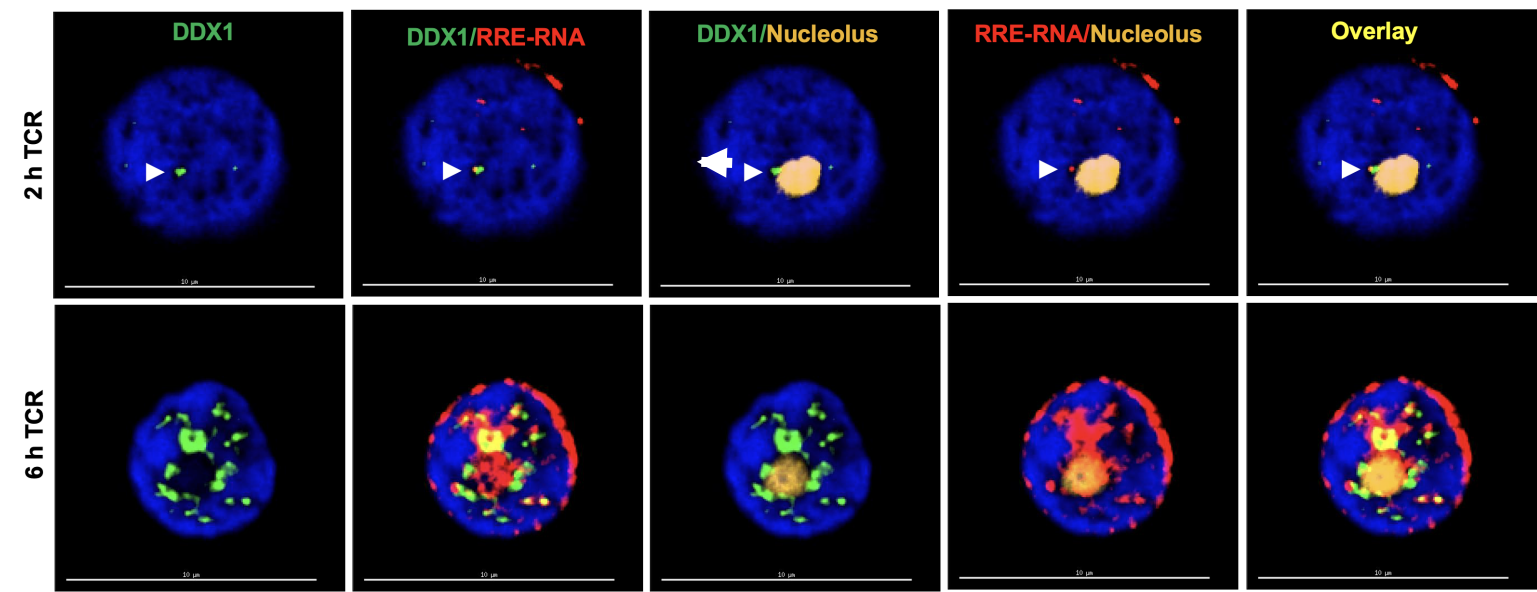
PNC-mediated interactions in latently infected resting CD4+ T cells



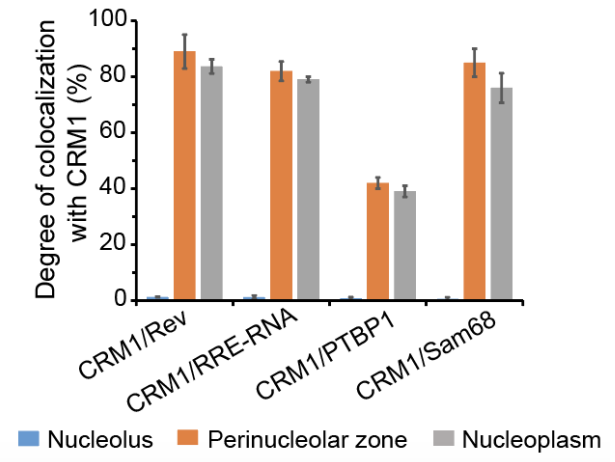
PNC-mediated interactions in activated resting CD4+ T cells



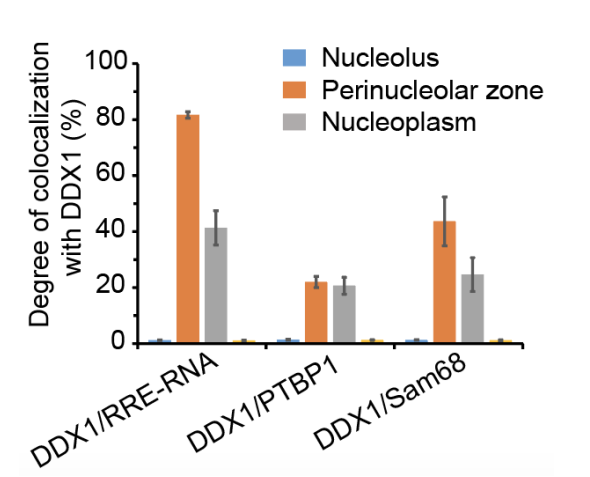
Initial DDX1 and RRE-RNA colocalization in the PNC



Colocalization profile of CRM1 with Rev, RRE-RNA, PTBP1 and Sam68



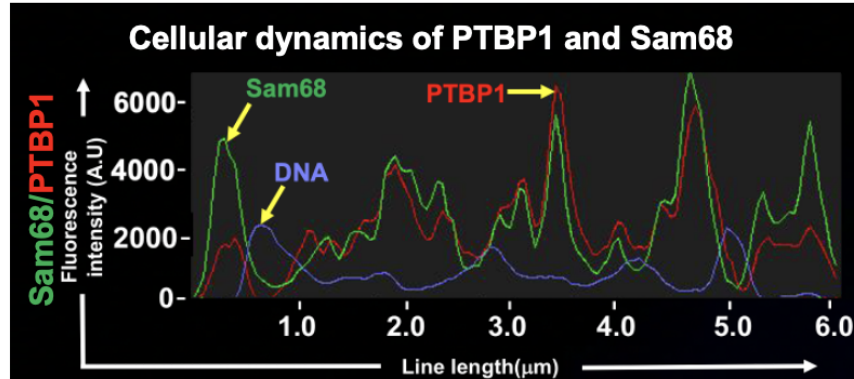
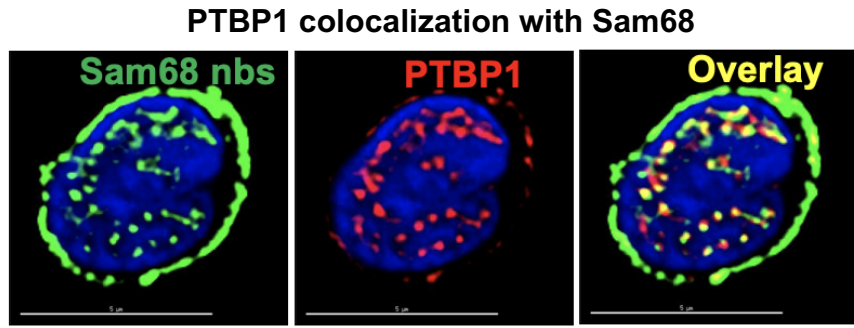
Colocalization profiles of DDX1 with the RRE-RNA, PTBP1 and Sam68



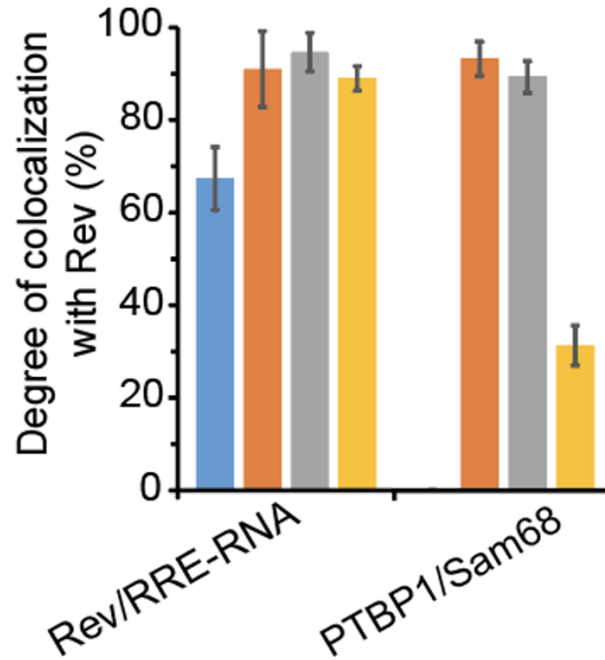
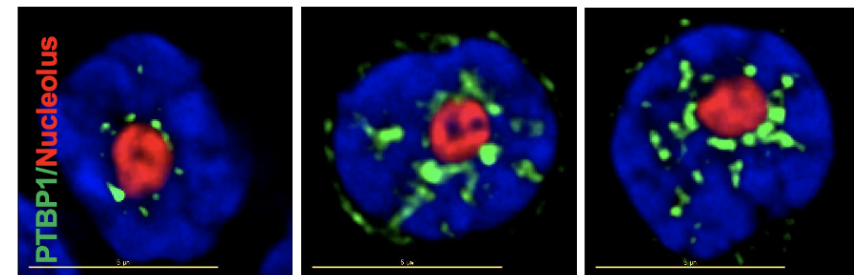


# Sam68 colocalized with PTBP1 in the nucleoplasm

Colocalization profiles of PTBP1 with Sam68,  
 and Rev with RRE-RNA

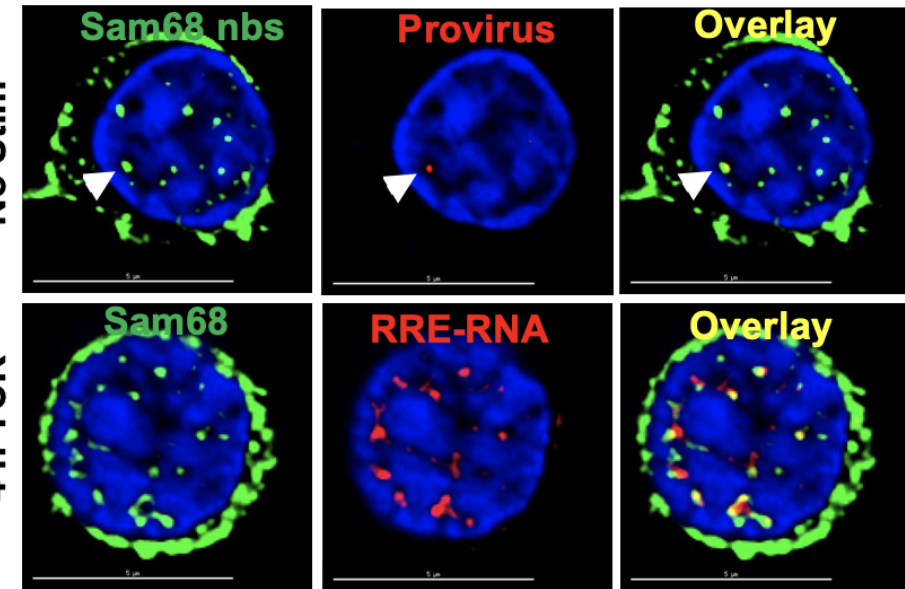


Cellular dynamics of PTBP1 relative to the nucleolus

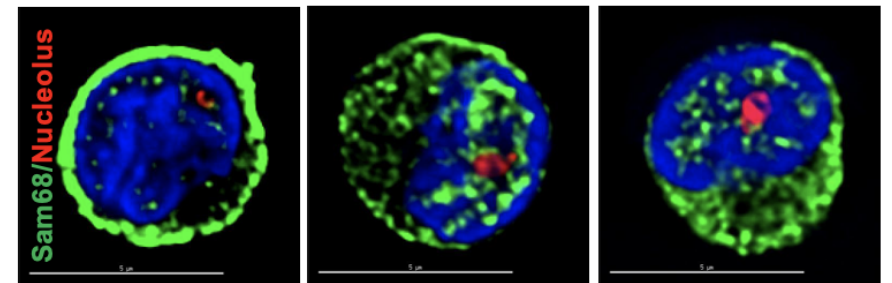


- Nucleolus
- Perinucleolar Compartment
- Nucleoplasm
- Cytoplasm

Sam68 colocalization with the provirus and RRE-RNA

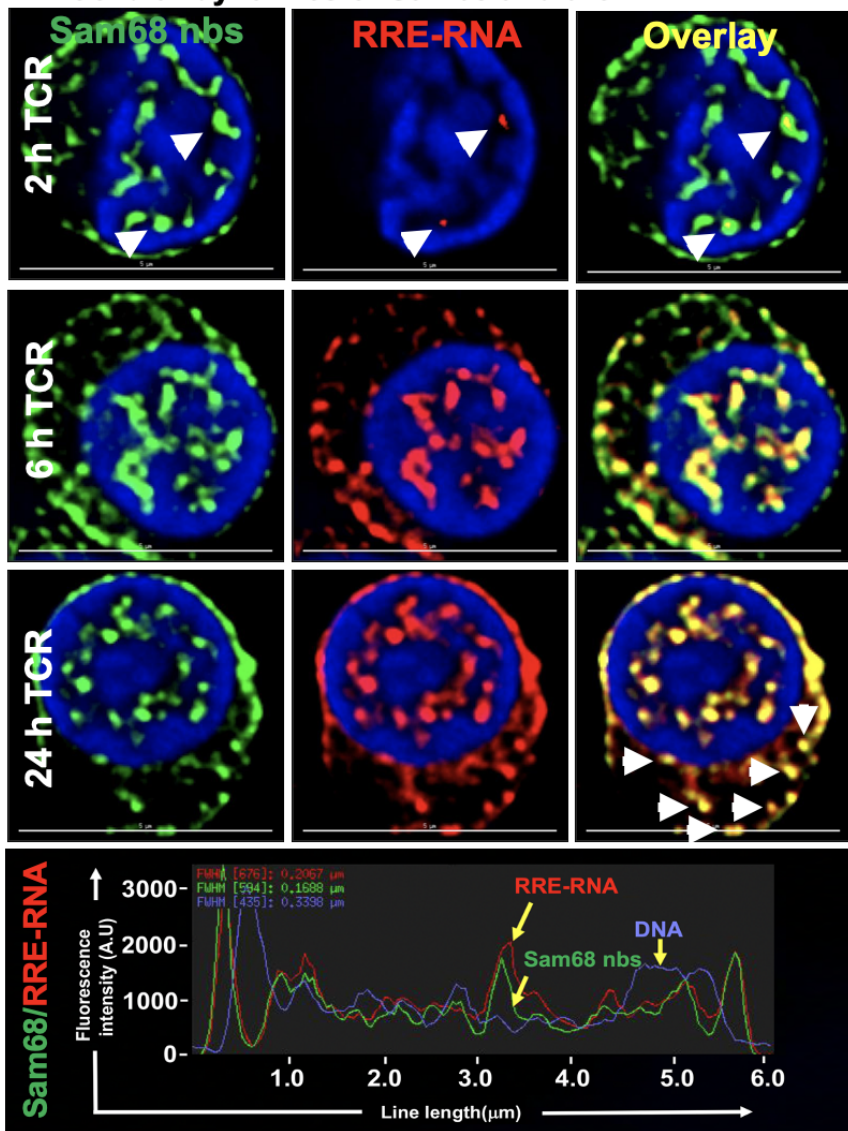


Cellular dynamics of Sam68 relative to the nucleolus

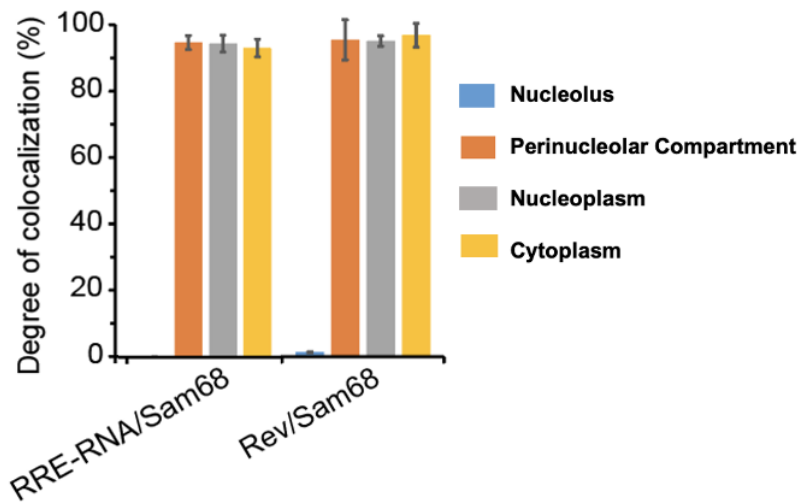


# Sam68 colocalized with the RRE-RNA in the nucleoplasm and cytoplasm

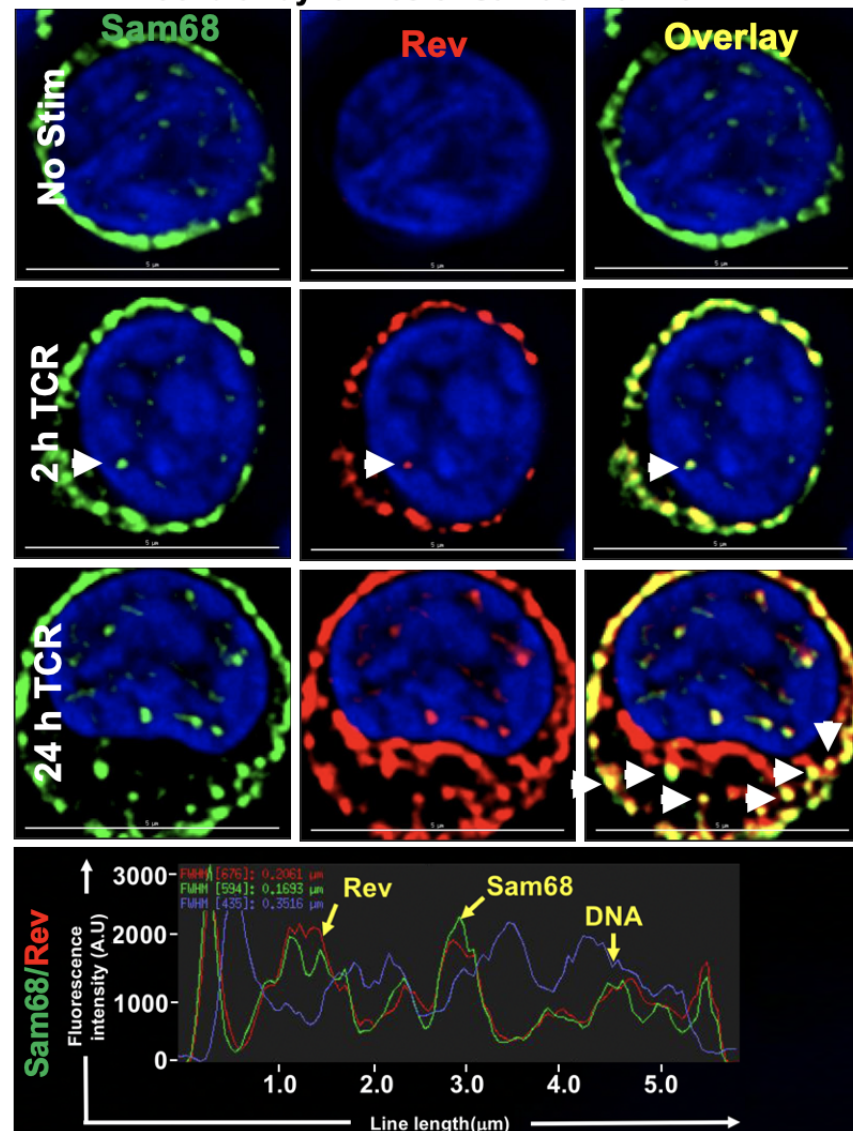
**Cellular dynamics of Sam68 and the RRE-RNA**



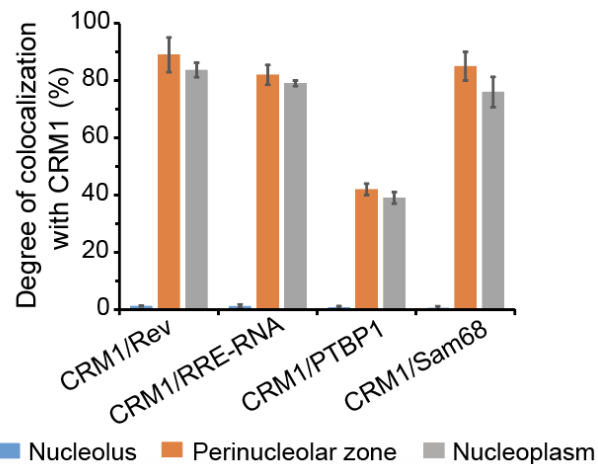
**Colocalization of Sam68 with the RRE-RNA and Rev**



**Cellular dynamics of Sam68 with Rev**



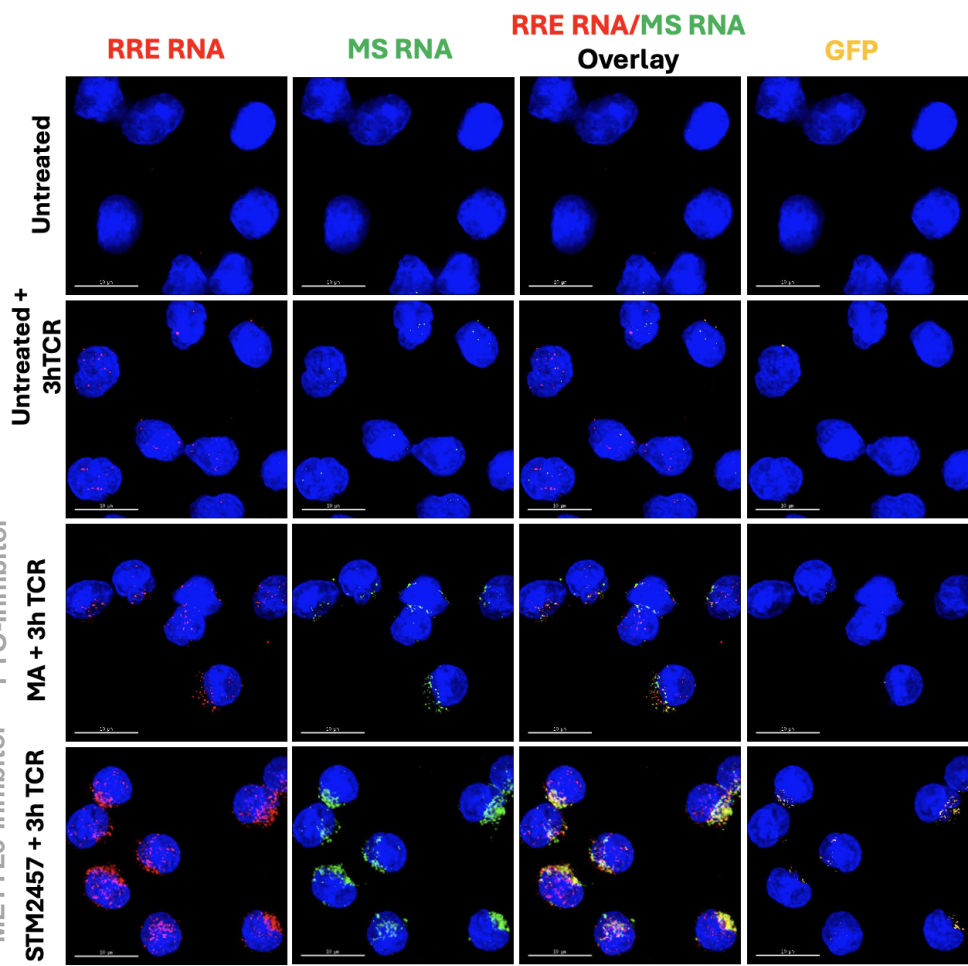
**Colocalization profile of CRM1 with Rev, RRE-RNA, PTBP1 and Sam68**



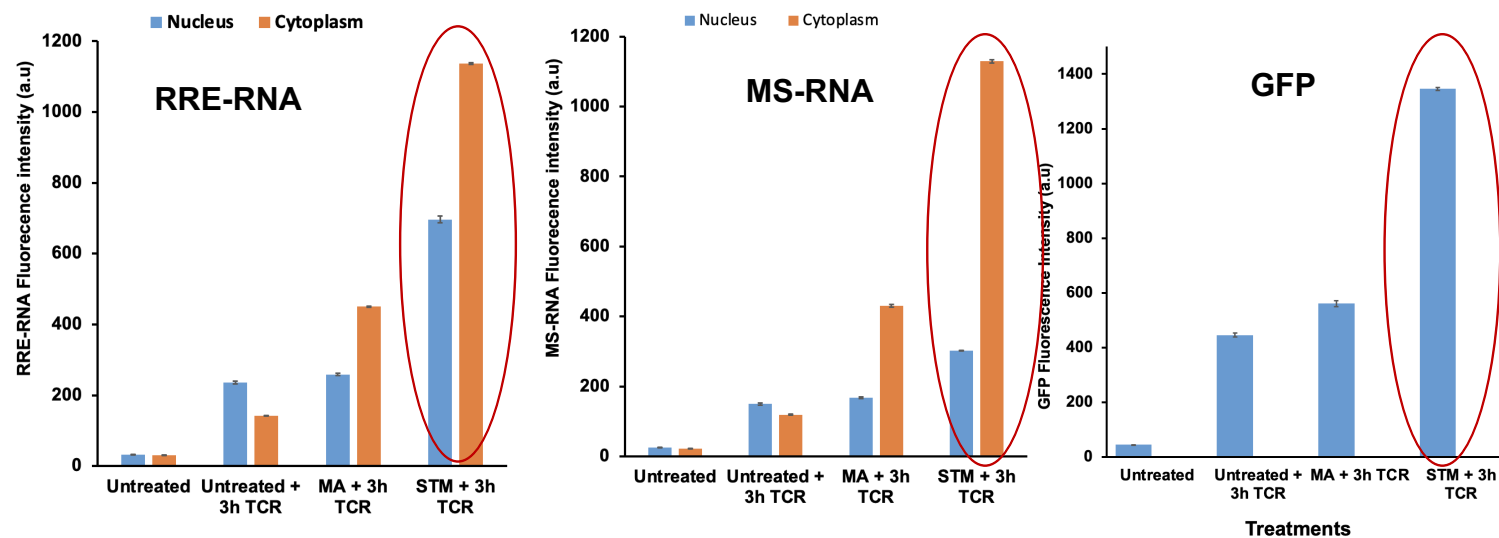


# Reduced M6A modifications increased selective export and translation of HIV-1 RRE-RNA

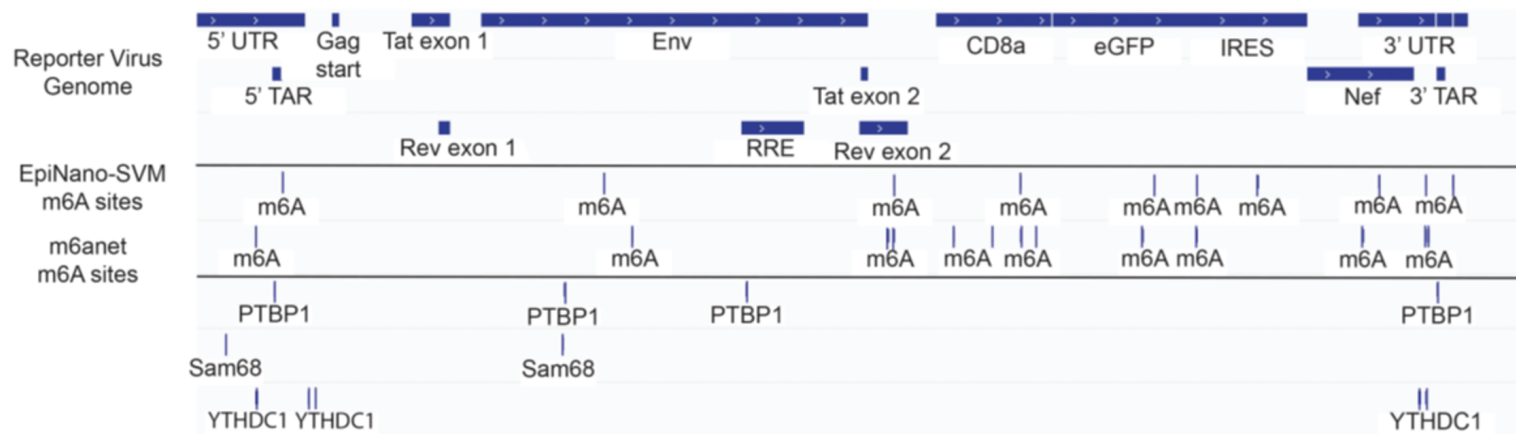
## Differential effects of FTO and METTL3 inhibitors on the expression of HIV-1 RNA transcripts



## Expression profiles of RRE-RNA, MS-RNA and GFP in untreated and inhibitor-treated cells



## Potential overlap of M6A sites with PTBP1, Sam68 and canonical M6A reader, YTHDC1





## TAKE HOME

- ✓ The Perinucleolar compartment was the 'Hotspot' subnuclear compartment for segregation and initial assembly of HIV-RNA-macromolecular export complexes in reactivation T-Cells
- ✓ RRE-RNA appearance in the nucleolus and distribution in the nucleoplasm were Rev-independent processes
- ✓ PTBP1 was the critical mediator of HIV-RNA segregation and assembly in the Perinucleolar compartment and mediated an independent RRE-RNA subnuclear trafficking pathway from that of the nucleolus
- ✓ Sam68 was the critical mediator of Rev-mediated nucleo-cytoplasmic export of RRE-RNA
- ✓ M6A modifications likely affect the export and translation kinetics of HIV-1 RNA

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

## Karn Lab

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*Anna Agaponova, M.S*

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*Isabella Hendrickson*

*Muda Yang B.S*

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