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Human Tim8a, Tim8b and Tim13 maintain late-stage Complex IV assembly

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1 **Abstract (175 words)**

2 Human Tim8a and Tim8b are paralogous intermembrane space proteins of the small TIM
3 chaperone family. Yeast small TIMs function in the trafficking of proteins to the outer and inner
4 mitochondrial membranes. This putative import function for hTim8a and hTim8b has been
5 challenged in human models, but their precise molecular function(s) remains undefined.
6 Likewise, the necessity for human cells to encode two Tim8 proteins and whether any potential
7 redundancy exists is unclear. We demonstrate that hTim8a and hTim8b function in the
8 assembly of cytochrome c oxidase (Complex IV). Using affinity enrichment mass
9 spectrometry, we define the interaction network of hTim8a, hTim8b and hTim13, identifying
10 subunits and assembly factors of the Complex IV COX2 module. hTim8-deficient cells have a
11 COX2 and COX3 module defect and exhibit an accumulation of the Complex IV S2
12 subcomplex. These data suggest that hTim8a and hTim8b function in assembly of Complex
13 IV via interactions with intermediate-assembly subcomplexes. We propose that hTim8-hTim13
14 complexes are auxiliary assembly factors involved in the formation of the Complex IV S3
15 subcomplex during assembly of mature Complex IV.

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17 Key words: Complex IV/mitochondria/protein assembly/protein trafficking/small TIMs

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26 Introduction

27 The yeast small TIM family of chaperones (Tim8, Tim9, Tim10, Tim12 and Tim13) function in
28 the mitochondrial intermembrane space (IMS) to shield unfolded, hydrophobic membrane
29 proteins and maintain an import-competent state for downstream translocation [1, 2]. Yeast
30 Tim9-Tim10 hexameric complex (Tim9₃-Tim10₃) facilitates the transport of metabolite carrier
31 proteins to the inner membrane [3], whereas the Tim8₃-Tim13₃ complex [4] preferences β -
32 barrel cargo directed to the outer membrane [5]. Subsequent work highlighted an overlap of
33 substrates [6], and showed that Tim8 and Tim13 are non-essential for yeast viability [7]. The
34 small TIM proteins are unstable as monomeric units and acquire stability in their
35 heterooligomeric hexameric forms (~70 kDa), which are the functional chaperone entities in
36 yeast [8].

37 Human cells have six small TIM proteins; hTim8a, hTim8b, hTim9, hTim10a, hTim10b, and
38 hTim13 [9]. The human Tim9₃-Tim10a₃ hexamer delivers membrane proteins to the TIM22
39 translocase, where the Tim9₂-Tim10a₃-Tim10b₁ hexamer aids their translocation. Human
40 Tim8a and Tim8b are paralogues, which arose through gene duplication with the evolution of
41 chordate animals and diverged as more differentiated body plans emerged [10]. hTim8a and
42 hTim8b share 49% sequence identity and show most divergence in the putative substrate
43 binding regions at both the N- and C-termini. Human Tim8b has broad tissue expression, most
44 prominently in endocrine and skeletal muscle tissue [9], while hTim8a is predominantly
45 expressed in the liver and brain, and has particularly high levels of expression in the fetal brain
46 [11, 12]. Mutations in *TIMM8A* are associated with the degenerative neuronopathy Mohr-
47 Tranebjærg syndrome (MTS) [13]. In contrast, there is currently no disease association with
48 *TIMM8B*, which may imply a unique and/or non-essential function. Studies using yeast
49 mitochondria expressing hTim8a [14] proposed the loss of hTim8a-mediated import of Tim23
50 as the pathomechanism underlying MTS. More recently, *TIMM8A* gene-edited human cell
51 models of MTS showed that loss of hTim8a does not perturb Tim23 import, but rather results
52 in Complex IV (cytochrome c oxidase) dysfunction giving rise to increased levels of reactive
53 oxygen species (ROS) and sensitises neurons to apoptotic induction [15].

54 Despite this insight into the mechanisms of mitochondrial dysfunction in MTS, the molecular
55 basis of Complex IV deficiency in cells lacking hTim8a is unclear. It remains unknown if
56 hTim8b also plays a role in Complex IV biology. In the canonical model of Complex IV
57 assembly, mature Complex IV is assembled from modules built around core subunits that are
58 encoded by the mitochondrial DNA (MT-CO1, MT-CO2 and MT-CO3) [16]. During the
59 assembly process these modules come together to form assembly intermediates known as
60 subcomplexes or subassemblies (**Fig EV1A**). MT-CO1 (COX1 module/*S1 subcomplex*)
61 combines with the *scaffold* of COX4I1–COX5A to form the *S2 subcomplex*. Independently,
62 MT-CO2 assembles with associated subunits (COX5B, COX6C, COX7B, COX7C, COX8A) to
63 create the COX2 module and is integrated with the S2 subcomplex to form the *S3 subcomplex*.
64 MT-CO3 and COX6A, COX6B, COX7A, NDUFA4, also known as the COX3 module, are
65 added to the S3 subcomplex to give rise to mature Complex IV (*S4 mature and monomeric*
66 *assembly*) [16, 17]. The sequence of assembly continues to be refined and the independence
67 of the core modules has been challenged [18-20]. What is clear is that the formation and
68 biogenesis of Complex IV relies on numerous assembly factors (>30), that facilitate the
69 integration of co-factors and combining of subcomplexes to build mature Complex IV [21].

70 We interrogated the organisation of the human Tim8 proteins and mapped their interactions
71 to explore the molecular function of these proteins in Complex IV biogenesis. Here, we show
72 that hTim8a and hTim8b largely share the same protein interaction network across cell types
73 but are unable to completely rescue the loss of the other paralogue. We show function of
74 hTim8a and hTim8b in Complex IV assembly, specifically an interaction with COX2 module
75 assembly factors and subunits of the Complex IV S3 subcomplex. Loss of hTim8 proteins
76 renders subunits of the COX2 and COX3 modules more easily extracted from the membrane
77 and causes stalling at the S2 subcomplex (MT-CO1–COX4I1–COX5A), as observed in other
78 cases of dysfunctional COX2 module and COX3 module assembly [22, 23]. We propose that
79 hTim8a, hTim8b and hTim13 function as auxiliary chaperones/assembly factors in the
80 formation of the S3 subcomplex of Complex IV.

81

82 Results

83 The interaction network of hTim8a, hTim8b and hTim13 is similar across cell types

84 The interaction profiles of hTim8a and hTim8b in mitochondria were investigated using affinity
85 enrichment mass spectrometry. hTim8a^{FLAG} and hTim8b^{FLAG} (C-terminal tags) were expressed
86 in respective CRISPR/Cas9 gene-edited (knock-out; KO) cell lines in HEK293 or SH-SY5Y
87 backgrounds. For clarity, these cell models are referred to as: hTim8a^{KO HEK} (*TIMM8A* KO in
88 HEK293); hTim8a^{MUT SH} (*TIMM8A* mutant in SH-SY5Y cells – a heterozygous mutant with one
89 wild-type allele but no hTim8a protein); hTim8b^{KO HEK} (*TIMM8B* KO in HEK293) and hTim8b^{KO}
90 ^{SH} (*TIMM8B* KO in SH-SY5Y cells). Creation of the cell lines is described in detail [15], and
91 they were generated to reflect the distinct tissue expression profiles of hTim8a and hTim8b.
92 hTim8a^{FLAG} and hTim8b^{FLAG} expressed in the respective knock-out cells are functional based
93 on the restoration of AIFM1 and COX17 levels in hTim8a^{KO HEK} cells relative to the control (**Fig**
94 **1A**); and recovery of COX17, COX6A1 and MT-CO2 in hTim8b^{KO HEK} cells (**Fig 1B**).

95 Immunoprecipitation of hTim8b^{FLAG} under native conditions from HEK293 cells strongly
96 enriched hTim8a and hTim13 indicating stable interactions between these proteins, but weak
97 interactions with other proteins (**Fig EV1B; Dataset EV1**). Dithiobis-succinimidyl propionate
98 (DSP) crosslinking and affinity enrichment mass spectrometry in mitochondria isolated from
99 HEK293 cells expressing hTim8a^{FLAG} (**Fig 1C**) or hTim8b^{FLAG} (**Fig 1D**); or SH-SY5Y cells
100 expressing hTim8a^{FLAG} (**Fig 1E**) or hTim8b^{FLAG} (**Fig 1F**) showed similar interaction networks
101 for both hTim8a and hTim8b across both cell types. This included: (i) substrates of the
102 Mitochondrial Intermembrane Space Assembly (MIA) import machinery, which oxidises
103 incoming cysteine-rich IMS proteins; and (ii) Complex IV assembly factors and subunit,
104 including COA4, COA6, COA7 and COX6B1, which were common across all four datasets
105 (**Fig 1C-F; Dataset EV1**). Enriched in at least two of the four cell lines were Complex IV
106 assembly factors CMC1, COA5, COX19, SCO1 and SCO2, electron carrier cytochrome c
107 (CYCS), plus the subunits COX4I1, COX5A and COX6C (**Dataset EV1**). These Complex IV
108 subunits and assembly factors are members of the S3 subcomplex comprised by the COX1
109 module, COX2 module and the COX4I1–COX5A scaffold [21]. Crosslinking and

110 immunoprecipitation of hTim8b^{FLAG} from HEK293 and hTim8a^{FLAG} from SH-SY5Y cells yielded
111 the most Complex IV protein interactors (19 and 15 significantly enriched, respectively) (**Fig**
112 **1D-E; Dataset EV1**), correlating with the tissue expression profiles of the paralogues. There
113 were no unique interactors of either hTim8a or hTim8b across the cell lines used. Lower
114 protein expression of hTim8b^{FLAG} retained key interactors COA4, COA6, COA7, CMC1,
115 COX6B1, COX6C and CHCHD-family proteins in HEK293 cells (**Fig EV1C; Dataset EV1**),
116 and interactions with COA4, COA6 and COA7 were maintained SH-SY5Y cells (**Fig EV1D;**
117 **Dataset EV1**). hTim13^{FLAG} expressed in HEK293 cells showed the same interaction network,
118 which included 9 Complex IV proteins also identified as hTim8a^{FLAG} and hTim8b^{FLAG} interactors
119 (**Fig 1G; Dataset EV1**). Both hTim8a and hTim8b were strongly enriched by hTim13^{FLAG}.
120 Across the five datasets (**Fig 1C-G**), a total of 147 proteins were enriched, of which 72 proteins
121 were common to hTim8a^{FLAG}, hTim8b^{FLAG} and hTim13^{FLAG} (enriched ≥ 4 -fold in $\geq 3 / 5$
122 immunoprecipitations). 85% of the common interactors localise to the IMS or inner membrane
123 (**Fig 1H**) aligning with the IMS localisation of small TIM proteins. By comparison, crosslinking
124 and immunoprecipitation of hTim10b^{3xFLAG} from HEK293 mitochondria enriched known
125 interacting partners of the TIM22 complex hTim9, hTim10a and Tim29 [24] (**Fig EV1E**), and
126 captured components of the MIA machinery and MIA substrates such as hTim8a, hTim8b,
127 hTim13, COA7 and COX6B1. However, numerous Complex IV subunits and assembly factors
128 were not readily apparent.

129 STRING analysis [25] clustered the 72 common interactors of hTim8a, hTim8b and hTim13
130 into groups, including: the electron transport chain (predominantly Complex I and IV);
131 MICOS/MIB complex, which maintains mitochondrial architecture; mitochondrial
132 translocase subunits (TIMM and TOMM), or Mia40 (CHCHD4) substrates (**Fig 2A**). To
133 interrogate the functional interplay of these interactions we cross-referenced if the identified
134 interactors had changes in their protein abundance from mitochondrial proteomics data of the
135 respective knock-out cell lines [15] (**Fig 2B-C**). In **Fig 2B** and **2C** each quadrant indicates a
136 ± 1.5 -fold change in steady-state protein level in the absence of hTim8a or hTim8b in HEK293
137 (**Fig 2B**) or SH-SY5Y cells (**Fig 2C**). HEK293 mitochondria lacking either hTim8a or hTim8b

138 showed depletion of hTim13 in addition to Complex IV assembly factors and MIA substrates
139 COX17 and COA4 (**Fig 2B**), while the hTim8b^{FLAG} interactors CMC4, COA7, CHCHD5,
140 CHCHD7, and CCDC58 are depleted in hTim8b^{KO HEK} mitochondria alone (**Fig 2B**). In SH-
141 SY5Y cells, hTim13, MT-CO2 and COX6B1 are depleted in both hTim8a- and hTim8b-
142 deficient mitochondria. This implies the function(s) of hTim8a and hTim8b is required, directly
143 or indirectly, for the persistence of these proteins and suggests the Complex IV related
144 interactors of hTim8a and hTim8b are functionally relevant.

145

146 **Exploring the functional implications of the small TIM interaction network**

147 Mia40 (CHCHD4) substrates [26], represented one third of the hTim8a, hTim8b and hTim13
148 common interacting network. Compared to other respiratory complexes, a disproportionate
149 number of Complex IV assembly factors and subunits are Mia40 substrates (Complex IV has
150 10:14 cys-rich assembly/subunits : total subunits, Complex I has 4:45, Complex III 1:11) [27].
151 This includes COX17, COA4, COA6, COA7 and COX6B1, which show decreased abundance
152 in hTim8a or hTim8b-deficient cells [15]. Crosslinked immunoprecipitation of Mia40^{FLAG}
153 expressed in HEK293 cells enriched hTim8a, hTim8b and hTim13, but not the other small TIM
154 family members and known MIA substrates hTim10a, hTim10b and hTim9 (**Fig EV2A**;
155 **Dataset EV1**), suggesting that interaction between hTim8a, hTim8b, hTim13 and Mia40 may
156 have functional significance. The Mia40^{FLAG} interaction profile was concordant with previous
157 affinity enrichment analyses of Mia40 interactors [28, 29]. Notably, COA4, COA6, and
158 COX6B1 were among the most strongly enriched known MIA substrates.

159 We assessed if hTim8a or hTim8b were acting pre- or post MIA in the import of substrates, in
160 particular Complex IV assembly factors and subunits, to facilitate the biogenesis of these
161 proteins. Import of the control [³⁵S]-Tim23 and test MIA substrates [³⁵S]-hTim10a, [³⁵S]-
162 COX6B1, [³⁵S]-COX17, [³⁵S]-COA6 into mitochondria from control and hTim8b^{KO HEK} cells
163 suggested no import defect in cells lacking hTim8b (**Fig EV2B-F**). As MIA import defects are
164 associated with cytosolic accumulation of IMS proteins [30], we examined the levels of known

165 MIA substrates [26] in total, mitochondrial and cytosolic fractions of control and hTim8b^{KO HEK}
166 cells following treatment with the proteasome inhibitor MG132 (**Fig EV2G; Dataset EV2**).
167 Increase in the cytosolic levels of UQCRH (Complex III) in both cell lines, a substrate degraded
168 by the proteasome [31], showed the validity of the approach. However, MIA substrates were
169 unaffected, suggesting hTim8b is not acting at a pre-MIA stage in the biogenesis of cysteine-
170 rich IMS proteins. Studies in both yeast and human cells indicate many MIA substrates are
171 degraded by *i*-AAA protease Yme1L [32, 33]. We considered if hTim8b functions to protect
172 IMS proteins from intramitochondrial degradation post-import as Yme1L was enriched in all
173 five small TIM immunoprecipitations (**Fig 1C-G**). *YME1L*-targeted siRNA treatment (**Fig**
174 **EV2H**) failed to recover hTim8b^{FLAG} interactors and MIA substrates such as COX17 (**Fig EV2I**),
175 while Yme1L substrates such as OCIAD2, STARD7, SLMO2, MICU1 and TIM23 showed
176 increased abundance independent of cell line background (**Fig EV2I; Dataset EV2**). These
177 data confirmed that hTim8b does not play a direct role in the import or Yme1L-mediated
178 proteostasis of MIA substrates and thus we explored the function of hTim8a and hTim8b in
179 Complex IV biogenesis.

180

181 **Loss of hTim8a or hTim8b influences Complex IV COX2 and COX3 module subunits** 182 **and assembly factors**

183 Complex IV subunits and assembly factors were decreased in abundance across quantitative
184 mitochondrial proteomics datasets from cells lacking hTim8a or hTim8b [15]. We interrogated
185 these datasets to identify any trends for further investigation (**Fig 3A**). Particularly impacted
186 were COX2 module assembly factors (COX17, COA6, COA7 and SCO2) and subunits (MT-
187 CO2, COX5B, COX6C, COX7C and COX8A). Furthermore, subunits of the COX3 module
188 (MT-CO3, COX6A1, COX6B1, COX7A1 and NDUFA4), which is formed after COX2 assembly,
189 are reduced in abundance in addition to the MT-CO3 assembly factor HIGD2A [23] (**Fig 3A;**
190 **Fig EV3A**, SH-SY5Y proteomics data mapped to Complex IV structure PDB5Z62 [34]).
191 Consistent with perturbations to Complex IV, hTim8a^{KO HEK} and hTim8b^{KO HEK} cells show an
192 increase in reactive oxygen species (ROS) or a sensitivity to ROS induction (**Fig EV3B**). The

193 most striking feature common to all hTim8-deficient cell lines was the decreased abundance
194 of the assembly factor and copper chaperone COX17 (**Fig 3A**), thought to be responsible for
195 Cu(I) delivery to the COX1 and COX2 modules [35, 36].

196 To ascertain if the changes we observe to Complex IV subunits and assembly factors in cells
197 lacking hTim8a or hTim8b is a secondary impact of COX17 depletion, we targeted *COX17*
198 using CRISPR/Cas9 in HEK293 and SH-SY5Y cells (*COX17^{MUT HEK}* – a mutant protein product
199 is translated, but no wild-type COX17 present; *COX17^{KO SH}*; *COX17 KO* in SH-SY5Y) (**Fig**
200 **EV3C**). Quantitative mitochondrial proteomics showed depletion of numerous Complex IV
201 subunits of the COX2 and COX3 modules upon loss of COX17 (**Fig 3B-C**, **Fig EV3D**; **Dataset**
202 **EV3**). This phenotype was more severe than that observed in cells lacking hTim8a and hTim8b
203 (**Fig 3A**). Loss of COX17 did not affect other assembly factors of the COX2 and COX3
204 modules such as COA4, COA6, COA7 and HIGD2A (**Fig 3B-C**), which are altered in hTim8a
205 and hTim8b-deficient cells. MT-CO1 and assembly factors of the COX1 module (COA3,
206 COA5, COX15, SMIM20, SURF1) were unaffected or increased in abundance in the absence
207 of COX17 (**Fig 3B-C**; **Dataset EV3**). HEK293 cells lacking COX17 show increased levels of
208 hTim8a, hTim8b and hTim13 (**Fig 3B**), concomitant with an increase in the endogenous
209 hTim8a-containing complex observed by BN-PAGE (**Fig 3D**). Published datasets show
210 hTim8a, hTim8b and hTim13 abundance increases in other models of COX2 and COX3 mis-
211 assembly [23, 37]. Much like COX17 and hTim8-deficient cells, mitochondria lacking the
212 assembly factors COA6 and HIGD2A are depleted of COX2 and COX3 module subunits such
213 as COX6A1, COX6B1, COX7A2 and NDUFA4, plus have higher levels of hTim8a, hTim8b
214 and hTim13 (**Table 1-2**). The loss of mature Complex IV was observed in SH-SY5Y lacking
215 COX17 and the accumulation of an intermediate subcomplex (labelled *) was present in both
216 COX17-deficient cell lines (**Fig 3D**). Crosslinked affinity enrichment of ^{FLAG}COX17 (N-terminal
217 tag) from *COX17^{MUT HEK}* mitochondria confirmed that COX17 interacts with hTim8a, hTim8b,
218 and hTim13 (**Fig 3E**). Given, the role of COX17 in copper handing we assessed copper levels
219 in hTim8b^{KO HEK} mitochondria using inductively coupled plasma-mass spectrometry (ICP-MS).
220 Unlike mutant SCO1 and SCO2 cells in which copper delivery to MT-CO2 (directly

221 downstream of COX17) is perturbed [38], we observed that copper levels in mitochondria
222 lacking hTim8b did not substantially change (**Fig 3F; Dataset EV4**). Further, neither
223 recombinant hTim8a nor hTim8b were able to bind copper, compared to the known copper-
224 binding assembly factor COA6 [39] (**Fig 3G**). Given the comparative severity of Complex IV
225 deficiency between COX17 and hTim8a or hTim8b knock-out cells, and unperturbed copper
226 regulation in mitochondria lacking hTim8b, it is unlikely hTim8a or hTim8b function directly
227 with COX17 in the metalation of MT-CO2. However, the similar loss of mature Complex IV
228 assembly and COX2 and COX3 module subunits suggests the small TIMs act in an adjacent
229 stage of Complex IV biogenesis.

230 We set out to characterise the stage of Complex IV biogenesis mediated by hTim8a and
231 hTim8b by first examining the independent assembly of the COX2 module. The biogenesis of
232 mitochondrial DNA (mtDNA) encoded subunits was assessed with a 2 h 'pulse' of [³⁵S]-Met in
233 control and hTim8-deficient HEK293 cells, followed by removal of the radiolabel and chase of
234 mtDNA-encoded subunits for 3 and 24 hours. Analysis using SDS-PAGE suggested the hTim8
235 proteins are not involved in the translation or stability of any mtDNA encoded subunits of
236 Complex IV (**Fig 4A**). The *in vitro* import and assembly of nuclear encoded subunits of the
237 COX2 module showed no difference in the assembly profile of [³⁵S]-COX6C and [³⁵S]-COX7C
238 by BN-PAGE in mitochondria isolated from control or hTim8a^{MUT SH} and hTim8b^{KO HEK} cells (**Fig**
239 **4B-C**). These results provide evidence that the independent assembly of the COX2 module
240 does not involve hTim8a or hTim8b. Therefore, the cause of the COX2 and COX3 module
241 deficiency observed in hTim8-deficient cells (**Fig 3A**) may lie in a subsequent stage of
242 assembly.

243 To pinpoint where in the Complex IV assembly pathway the hTim8 proteins act, we
244 investigated how the pool of Complex IV assembly intermediates changes in the absence of
245 either paralogue. This was achieved using the scaffold subunit COX4I1 as bait to enrich
246 Complex IV intermediate subcomplexes from mitochondria; as the COX4I1 scaffold is present
247 in each subcomplex during the assembly to mature Complex IV [21] (**Fig EV1A**). COX4I1^{FLAG}
248 was introduced into control, COX17^{MUT HEK}, hTim8b^{KO HEK} and hTim8a^{MUT SH} cells by viral

249 transduction. Affinity enrichment mass spectrometry showed that in the absence of COX17
250 the association of COX4I1^{FLAG} with MT-CO1 and COX1 module assembly factors CMC1,
251 COX11, COX19 and SURF1 was increased, indicating an accumulation of the early-stage S2
252 subcomplex (COX4I1–COX5A–MT-CO1) in the absence of COX17 (**Fig 4D; Dataset EV1**).
253 Consistent with a COX2 module defect and loss of the S3 subcomplex (COX4I1–COX5A–MT-
254 CO1–COX2 module), COX4I1^{FLAG} interactions with MT-CO2, COX7B, COA6, COX6B1 and
255 NDUFA4 were decreased or lost in COX17^{MUT HEK} compared to control mitochondria. In the
256 absence of hTim8b, the interaction of COX4I1^{FLAG} with COX2 subunits was maintained,
257 implying the COX2 module is sufficiently assembled to engage with the S2 subcomplex (**Fig**
258 **4D**). Yet COX4I1^{FLAG} also enriched COX2 assembly factors TMEM177, COX20 and SCO1
259 which function together in the biogenesis of MT-CO2 [40], suggesting the enrichment of
260 predominantly nascent COX2 module. As in COX17^{MUT HEK} mitochondria, the COX1 assembly
261 factors COX11, COX15, COX19 and SURF1 were more robustly enriched with COX4I1 from
262 hTim8b^{KO HEK}; SURF1 being required for progression from S2 to S3 subcomplex [41, 42] (**Fig**
263 **4D**). Similarly, COX4I1^{FLAG} interaction with assembly factors COX15, COX19, SURF1, and
264 SCO1 was more enriched in the hTim8a^{MUT SH} background. In the absence of hTim8a,
265 COX4I1^{FLAG} enriched COX2 module subunits except for COX6C, suggesting some overlap of
266 COX2 assembly and the transition from S2 to S3 subcomplex (**Fig 4D**). Subunits of respiratory
267 complexes I and III were highly enriched from each knock-out (**Dataset EV1**), consistent with
268 Complex IV biogenesis within respiratory supercomplexes being favoured when its monomeric
269 assembly is compromised [43, 44]. Collectively, the results suggest hTim8 proteins contribute
270 to the progression of the S2 subcomplex into the S3 subcomplex.

271 Sodium carbonate treatment of isolated mitochondria revealed membrane subunits of COX2
272 and COX3 modules (COX5B, COX6C, MT-CO3, COX6A1, COX7A2, COX7A2L) are more
273 easily extracted from the membrane in HEK293 cells lacking hTim8a or hTim8b, implying a
274 lack of incorporation into stable monomeric Complex IV (**Fig 4E; Dataset EV5**).
275 Immunoblotting of mitochondria isolated from hTim8a^{MUT SH} or hTim8b^{KO HEK} cells with COX4I1
276 antibody confirms accumulation of a subcomplex (**Fig 4F**, labelled *) relative to the levels of

277 the mature Complex IV (intensity of subcomplex as % of mature Complex IV). Compared to
278 their relevant control mitochondria, the subcomplex increased ~4.5-fold in Tim8a^{MUT} SH-SY5Y
279 mitochondria and ~1.8-fold in hTim8b^{KO HEK} mitochondria. By BN-PAGE and immunoblotting
280 with antibodies against MT-CO1, MT-CO2 and COX4I1 we can conclude that the subcomplex
281 is increased in COX17^{MUT HEK}, hTim8a^{KO HEK} and hTim8b^{KO HEK} cells, and lacks MT-CO2 but
282 contains MT-CO1 and COX4I1 (**Fig 4G**). Thus, we infer that this accumulating subcomplex is
283 the S2 subcomplex, the assembly intermediate prior to incorporation of the COX2 module into
284 the S3 subcomplex.

285

286 **hTim8a and hTim8b support formation of the Complex IV S3 subcomplex**

287 To validate the function of the hTim8 proteins in the formation of the S3 subcomplex we
288 performed complexome analysis. Mitochondria from SILAC-labelled control and hTim8-
289 deficient HEK293 and SH-SY5Y cells were separated by BN-PAGE and analysed by mass
290 spectrometry (**Dataset EV5**). The subcomplex previously identified by immunoblot (**Fig 4F-G**)
291 was consistent with the COX4I1–COX5A–MT-CO1 S2 subcomplex (white dashed box, ~210
292 kDa), which was found to also migrate with COX1 module assembly factors CMC1, COA3,
293 SMIM20 and SURF1 in HEK293 cells (**Fig 5A**). The COX2 module subunits COX7C, COX5B
294 and COX7B were also detected in this region, but the core MT-CO2 and other COX2 module
295 components were absent (**Fig 5A**). Relative to control mitochondria, hTim8b^{KO HEK} had
296 elevated levels of COX4I1, COX5A, MT-CO1 and SURF1 in this region (**Fig 5A**, right panel).
297 Although still the dominant arrangement, all Complex IV subunits were less abundant in
298 mature monomeric Complex IV in both hTim8a^{MUT SH} and hTim8b^{KO HEK} mitochondria (**Fig 5B-**
299 **C**). By normalising for the total abundance of each protein in each cell line, the change in
300 distribution of Complex IV subunits across assembly stages was assessed (**Fig 5D**). In the
301 absence of hTim8a or hTim8b, COX2 subunits COX5B, COX7B and COX8A were re-
302 distributed to lower intermediates (~200 kDa), which may represent early COX2 module
303 assembly (**Fig 5D; Dataset EV5**).

304 We also observed a pool of COX2 module subunits re-distributed to an assembly at
305 approximately ~280 kDa in hTim8a^{MUT SH} mitochondria (**Fig 5D**, top panel, grey box.). The size
306 of this assembly relative to monomeric Complex IV, and the co-migration of COX3 module
307 subunits and assembly factors (MT-CO3, COX7A2, NDUFA4, HIGD2A, PET100 and MR-1S)
308 are consistent with previous complexome studies describing the addition of COX3 module to
309 the S3 subcomplex (**Dataset EV5**) [18]. However, in the absence of hTim8a, the abundances
310 of COX5A, MT-CO2, COX6C, NDUFA4, PET100 and MR-1S were decreased (**Fig 5E**, top
311 panel), suggesting a reduction in S3 subcomplex and perturbation of COX3 module assembly.
312 Although levels of MT-CO3 in this region were unchanged, there was a large increase in
313 HIGD2A which is required for the stability of nascent MT-CO3 [23]. The same region in
314 hTim8b^{KO HEK} mitochondria showed a decrease in constituents of the S3 subcomplex (COX4I1,
315 COX5A, MT-CO1, MT-CO2, COX5B and COX6C) in addition to the depletion of COX3 module
316 assembly factors PET100 and MR-1S (**Fig 5E**, bottom panel). These changes were specific
317 to Complex IV, as Complex V and monomeric CIII were unperturbed (**Dataset EV5**). The CIII₂-
318 CIV complex was diminished, forcing COX7A2L to associate more with the monomeric CIII as
319 previously reported (**Fig 5D**, ~600 kDa; **Dataset EV5**) [45]. Overall, in cells lacking hTim8a
320 and hTim8b the early intermediates of Complex IV assembly (S2 subcomplex and early COX2
321 assembly) are stalled. The complexome data suggests the COX2 module is partially able to
322 incorporate into the S3 subcomplex but with decreased efficacy, preventing the efficient
323 addition of COX3 module subunits. We propose the presence of hTim8a and hTim8b supports
324 the efficiency of this step.

325

326 **Functional overlap of hTim8a and hTim8b in Complex IV biology**

327 The findings above suggest hTim8a and hTim8b are auxiliary assembly factors for building of
328 the S3 subcomplex of Complex IV. We wanted to ascertain if there is functional overlap
329 between the paralogues in this step or in Complex IV biogenesis overall. We attempted to
330 rescue hTim8a^{MUT SH} or hTim8b^{KO HEK} by expressing the reciprocal paralogue protein.
331 Expression of hTim8b^{FLAG} in hTim8a^{MUT SH} cells did not recover the depleted subunits MT-CO1

332 and MT-CO2, or the assembly factor COX17 (**Fig 6A**). This was confirmed by quantitative
333 proteomics which showed hTim8b^{FLAG} expression did not rescue the loss of subunits from the
334 COX2 (MT-CO2, COX5B, COX6C, COX7C) and COX3 (MT-CO3, COX6B1, COX7A2)
335 modules (**Fig 6B; Dataset EV6**), despite COX6B1, COX6C and COX17 being hTim8b^{FLAG}
336 interacting partners (**Fig 1D and 1F**). hTim8b^{FLAG} was unable to completely recover mature
337 Complex IV compared to wild-type mitochondria as shown by BN-PAGE (**Fig 6C**).
338 Reciprocally, hTim8a^{FLAG} expression in hTim8b^{KO HEK} cells was unable to recover mature
339 Complex IV levels on BN-PAGE (**Fig 6D**). Mitochondrial proteomics of hTim8b^{KO HEK} cells with
340 and without hTim8a^{FLAG} showed subunits of the COX2 (MT-CO2, COX6C) and COX3 (MT-
341 CO3, COX6A1, COX6B1, NDUFA4) modules were not rescued with hTim8a^{FLAG} expression
342 (**Fig 6E; Dataset EV6**), suggesting that both proteins function in Complex IV biogenesis, but
343 potentially at distinct steps in formation of the S3 subcomplex, or under specific cell
344 conditions/requirements.

345 We next sought to elucidate if the lack of complementation reflected the two paralogues
346 existing in distinct hexameric arrangements with hTim13. Small TIM proteins are stable as
347 heterohexameric assemblies in cells, but it remains unclear whether a complex exists with all
348 three members, or if individual complexes between hTim8a-hTim13 and hTim8b-hTim13 exist
349 in mitochondria. Recombinant hTim8a, hTim8b, and hTim13 were overexpressed and purified
350 by affinity and size-exclusion chromatography (SEC), individually (hTim8a and hTim8b) and
351 as complexes (hTim8a-hTim13 and hTim8b-hTim13) before further SEC analysis. hTim13
352 could not be purified alone due to its insolubility in the absence of the hTim8a and hTim8b
353 proteins. Comparison of the SEC elution profiles of hTim8a or hTim8b alone with those of the
354 hTim8a-hTim13 and hTim8b-hTim13 complexes (**Fig EV4A-B**) showed that the co-purified
355 proteins eluted as two peaks at ~14.0 and ~15.5 mL. SDS-PAGE (inset **Fig EV4A-B**) showed
356 that hTim8a and hTim8b co-eluted with the hTim13 in the ~14.0 mL peak (fraction 13),
357 indicating complex formation. Attempts to isolate a hTim8a-hTim8b complex by incubation of
358 the corresponding cell lysates prior to purification, yielded a single elution peak (at ~15.5 mL)
359 consistent with the peaks of hTim8a and hTim8b alone (**Figure EV4C**). The addition of purified

360 hTim8b or hTim8a to pure hTim8a-hTim13 and hTim8b-hTim13 complexes, respectively, did
361 not result in 'exchange' of the hTim8a or hTim8b proteins (to create mixed hTim8a-hTim8b-
362 hTim13 complexes) (insets **Fig EV4D**) or the generation of higher order oligomers (with elution
363 volumes below ~14 mL) (**Fig EV4D**). To identify the complexes observed by SEC, we analysed
364 the singular and co-purified proteins by native and denaturing mass spectrometry (**Fig EV4E-
365 F**). Monomeric protein masses were determined under denaturing conditions (**Fig EV4G**),
366 which enabled the identification of hTim8a₃-hTim13₃ and hTim8b₃-hTim13₃ hexamers (each
367 with 3:3 stoichiometry) under native conditions (**Fig EV4H**). In agreement with the SEC results,
368 no complexes larger than hexamer size were detected nor was the presence of mixed hTim8a-
369 hTim8b-hTim13 heterohexamers. These results indicate that, *in vitro*, hTim8a and hTim8b do
370 not oligomerise together in isolation and form distinct heterohexameric complexes with
371 hTim13.

372 To ascertain if this is also the case *in organello* we performed *in vitro* import of [³⁵S]-hTim8a,
373 [³⁵S]-hTim8b and [³⁵S]-hTim13 into mitochondria isolated from HEK293 cells. This showed a
374 complex of approximately 140 kDa (**Fig EV5A**, labelled #), which is larger than the observed
375 mass of the heterohexamers (60-65 kDa) and suggests an alternate arrangement in cells,
376 either a double hexamer or additional protein interactions. To address the nature of hTim8a,
377 hTim8b and hTim13 in this arrangement [³⁵S]-hTim8a and [³⁵S]-hTim8b were incubated with
378 mitochondria isolated from control HEK293 cells, or cells expressing FLAG-tagged versions
379 of the respective partner proteins. [³⁵S]-hTim8a import into control mitochondria or
380 mitochondria expressing hTim8b^{FLAG} or hTim13^{FLAG} showed the ~140 kDa complex. Antibody-
381 shift with anti-FLAG antibodies shifted this complex although only weakly in hTim8b^{FLAG}
382 mitochondria (**Fig EV5B**, right panel). The same was observed for [³⁵S]-hTim8b which
383 indicated interactions with hTim8a and hTim13 in the ~140 kDa complex (**Fig EV5B**, left
384 panel), though a more robust shift was observed in the hTim8b-hTim13 interaction. As a
385 control, import of [³⁵S]-Tim22 into mitochondria from control or hTim10b^{3xFLAG} expressing cells
386 showed a shift of TIM22 with anti-AGK and anti-FLAG antibodies (**Fig EV5C**). In support of an
387 interaction between hTim8 paralogues *in organello*, the endogenous hTim8a complex

388 migrated faster in hTim8b-deficient HEK293 and SH-SY5Y cells (**Fig EV5D**). Finally, siRNA
389 knock-down of hTim13 (**Fig EV5E**) decreased the abundance of the endogenous hTim8a
390 complex, as observed by immunoblot (**Fig EV5F**), and levels of hTim8b by mass spectrometry
391 (**Fig EV5G; Dataset EV2**). This suggests hTim8a and hTim8b both require hTim13 for
392 heterohexamer formation, in agreement with SEC analysis (**Fig EV4C**). Alongside the
393 recombinant protein analysis, these data suggest hTim8a and hTim8b form independent
394 heterohexamers that then may only interact in the presence of their common interacting
395 partners as part of the ~140 kDa complex within mitochondria. The data are consistent with
396 hTim8a-hTim13 and hTim8b-hTim13 heterohexamers having unique but complementary
397 functions in the biogenesis of Complex IV.

398

399 **Discussion**

400 We describe a role for the human small TIM proteins hTim8a, hTim8b and hTim13 as auxiliary
401 assembly factors in the assembly of Complex IV; specifically, the formation of the S3
402 subcomplex. The assembly of mature Complex IV relies on >30 assembly factors to bring
403 together both mtDNA and nuclear encoded subunits in addition to the integration of copper
404 and heme co-factors [21]. The current and favoured model of Complex IV assembly suggests
405 that mature Complex IV is assembled from modules built around core membrane subunits.
406 The mtDNA-encoded MT-CO1 (COX1 module /*S1 subcomplex*) combines with a *scaffold* of
407 COX4I1-COX5A to form the *S2 subcomplex*. Independently, MT-CO2 assembles with
408 COX5B, COX6C, COX7B, COX7C and COX8A to create the COX2 module that is then
409 integrated with the S2 subcomplex to create the *S3 subcomplex*. MT-CO3 and COX6A,
410 COX6B, COX7A and NDUFA4 (the COX3 module) are then added to give rise to the mature
411 Complex IV (*S4 monomeric assembly*) [16, 17]. The creation of the S1 and S2 subcomplexes
412 (early stages of biogenesis) are not affected in the absence of hTim8a and hTim8b.
413 Quantitative proteomics of mitochondria lacking either hTim8 protein in either HEK293 or SH-
414 SY5Y cells shows no significant changes to either of the scaffold components COX5A or
415 COX4I1. This contrasts with other systems where mutation or loss of COX1 module assembly

416 factors COA3, COX10 and COX14 leads to loss of MT-CO1, COX4I1 and COX5A [42, 46].
417 Strikingly, hTim8-deficient cells are depleted of COX2 and COX3 subunits and assembly
418 factors, including core subunits of these modules, MT-CO2 and MT-CO3. The loss of MT-
419 CO2, MT-CO3, COX6A1, COX6B1, COX6C, COX7A, and NDUFA4 is also observed across
420 knock-out or patient cells with dysfunctional COA6, COA7, COX16 and COX20 [22, 37, 47,
421 48], highlighting the crucial role of numerous accessory factors in this complicated assembly
422 pathway.

423 COX17-depleted cells served as a model for COX2 mis-assembly and recapitulated the same
424 loss of COX2 and COX3 subunits as in hTim8-deficient cells, albeit more striking in the
425 absence of COX17. COX1 assembly factors were upregulated in mitochondria lacking hTim8
426 proteins or COX17, including CMC1 [49], COA3 [50], COA5 [51], COX15 [52] and SURF1 [42].
427 Accordingly, we observed an accumulation of the COX1 module in the S2 subcomplex across
428 hTim8a, hTim8b and COX17 knock-out cell lines. Additionally, COX4I1^{FLAG} association with
429 the COX1 module assembly factors COX11, COX15, COX19 and SURF1 was enhanced in
430 the absence of COX17, hTim8a or hTim8b suggesting a delay in the progression of this entity.
431 In contrast, COX4I1^{FLAG} enriched subunits and assembly factors of early COX2 module
432 biogenesis (MT-CO2, COX20, SCO1, SCO2, TMEM177) from hTim8-deficient mitochondria
433 whereas these interactions were decreased in COX17^{MUT HEK} cells. This showed that, in
434 contrast to COX17, hTim8 proteins are not required for assembly of the COX2 module and
435 was further supported by the *in vitro* import or radiolabelling of COX2 module subunits in
436 hTim8-deficient cells, which showed no assembly defect. Further, lack of COX17 has a striking
437 impact on stability of mature Complex IV by BN-PAGE, whereas the lack of hTim8a or hTim8b
438 presents a milder phenotype. This is unsurprising given the role of COX17 in copper delivery
439 and, as we show, the hTim8 proteins are likely not directly contributing to cofactor integration.
440 However, the depletion of COX17 protein levels in all cell models lacking either hTim8a or
441 hTim8b suggests an interplay between these proteins.

442 Based on the data presented we propose hTim8a or hTim8b function as auxiliary assembly
443 factors in the formation of the Complex IV S3 subcomplex. This entails the merging of the S2

444 subcomplex (consisting of COX1- COX4I1-COX5A) with the independently established COX2
445 module consisting of MT-CO2, COX5B, COX6C, COX7B, COX7C and COX8A. This inference
446 is supported by: (i) the constituents of the COX2 and COX3 modules are reduced in
447 abundance in mitochondria lacking either hTim8a or hTim8b; (ii) immunoprecipitation and
448 STRING analysis of hTim8a, hTim8b and hTim13 common interacting partners shows a
449 cluster of interactions with COX4I1 COX5A, COX6B1 and COX6C, which comprise the S3
450 subcomplex; and (iii) complexome profiling of hTim8-deficient mitochondria revealed a
451 decrease in the levels of the S3 subcomplex, accumulation of S2 subcomplex and perturbation
452 of COX3 assembly, indicating the maintenance of competent S3 subcomplex is less
453 efficacious. The assembly of Complex IV requires that subcomplexes and core subunits are
454 stabilised until later modules are added as in the case of SMIM20 (MITRAC7), which prevents
455 COX1 turnover until the addition of COX2 module [53], and TMEM177, required for the
456 maturation and stability of nascent MT-CO2 [40]. We show that in the absence of hTim8
457 proteins, the translation and stability of mtDNA-encoded core subunits (MT-CO1, MT-CO2
458 and MT-CO3) is not influenced. However, akin to SMIM20, the interaction of hTim8-hTim13
459 chaperone complexes might help stabilise the COX2 module in the S3 subcomplex, awaiting
460 the subsequent addition of the COX3 module. The current data cannot distinguish whether
461 hTim8-hTim13 complexes recruit the assembled COX2 module to the S3 subcomplex or act
462 to stabilise the S3 subcomplex after COX2 module integration, preventing dissociation or
463 turnover, but both are reasonable options worthy of exploration. Even though a proportion of
464 monomeric Complex IV and S3 subcomplex persist in hTim8-deficient cells, loss of SURF1
465 (involved in the S2-to-S3 transition) in patient cells displays a similar decrease but not
466 complete ablation of monomeric Complex IV [43], suggesting there might be redundancy in
467 this system with numerous factors acting at discrete sites.

468 Unlike other respiratory chain complexes, Complex IV has multiple tissue-specific subunits
469 and alternate isoforms [54-56]. These isoforms can drive adaptations, such as improved
470 Complex IV activity in hypoxia [57], necessary for specialised cell types or the tissue
471 environment. We previously observed cell-specific differences in the metabolism and survival

472 of hTim8-deficient cells [15]. Our data suggests the paralogues have distinct functions, which
473 is consistent with only hTim8a being associated with a neurological mitochondrial disease
474 (MTS) [15]. Indeed, our previous work showed that only hTim8a-deficient cells displayed
475 increased levels of cytochrome *c* and apoptotic sensitivity driven by redox stress associated
476 with Complex IV dysfunction. Importantly, while cells lacking hTim8b have reduced levels of
477 COX17 they do not display apoptotic sensitivity as observed in hTim8a cells, reiterating cell-
478 specific function of the paralogues and/or unique functions. How the functions of hTim8a and
479 hTim8b are supported by the arrangement of these proteins within heterohexameric
480 assemblies warrants further investigation. We show that both hTim8a and hTim8b proteins
481 rely on hTim13 for heterohexamer formation, but do not interact together as a hTim8a-hTim8b
482 heterohexamer *in vitro*. In mitochondria, both western blotting and *in vitro* import analysis of
483 the individual hTim8 proteins showed assembly into a ~140 kDa complex, quite distinct from
484 the expected 60-65 kDa of the heterohexamers. Antibody-shift analysis suggests that hTim8a
485 can interact with both hTim8b and hTim13 in this ~140 kDa species, implying an alternate
486 arrangement in cells to what is observed *in vitro*; either a double hexamer or indeed additional
487 common protein interactions with those detected here in immunoprecipitation analysis.
488 Whether this complex is the functional species facilitating Complex IV assembly cannot be
489 speculated with the data at hand.

490 In summary, we propose a novel function of hTim8a, hTim8b and hTim13 in the assembly of
491 Complex IV as auxiliary assembly factors/chaperones for the formation of S3 subcomplex.

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498 **Materials and Methods**

499 **Human cell lines and culturing conditions, stable cell line generation, siRNA** 500 **transfection**

501 Cell lines used in this study include: HEK293T (RRID: CVCL_0063), HEK Flp-In T-REx
502 (ThermoFisher Scientific; RRID: CVCL_U427), SH-SY5Y (RRID: CVCL_0019). CRISPR/Cas9
503 knock-out cell lines edited for *TIMM8A* (HEK293 and SH-SY5Y) and *TIMM8B* (HEK293 and
504 SH-SY5Y) were described previously [15]. Parental lineages have been authenticated and all
505 cell lines were free from mycoplasma contamination. Cells were cultured in Dulbecco's
506 modified Eagle's medium (DMEM, Gibco) supplemented with 5% or 10% [v/v] foetal bovine
507 serum (FBS; In vitro Technologies), and 0.01% [v/v] penicillin-streptomycin at 37°C and with
508 5% atmospheric CO₂. Tetracycline inducible HEK Flp-In T-REx 293 stable cell lines were
509 generated according to the manufacturer's instructions. Lentiviral and retroviral transduction
510 (of hTim8b^{FLAG} and COX411^{FLAG}) was undertaken as previously described [15] using pLVX-
511 TetOne-[ORF]-Puro or pBMN-[ORF]-Puro plasmids with the packaging plasmids pVSVG and
512 pSPAX2. siRNA targeting Yme1L (5' CGAAUUUGAUGAGAUGUUU[dT][dT] 3') and hTim13
513 (5' CAAGUGUUUCCGGAAGUGU[dT][dT] 3'), or control scrambled siRNA (Sigma-Aldrich)
514 were transfected into HEK Flp-In T-REx 293 cells using DharmaFECT (Dharmacon). 10 nM
515 of siRNA was transfected into cells. 46 h post transfection cells were transfected with another
516 10 nM of siRNA and then harvested a total 72 h after initial transfection. For proteasome
517 inhibition, cells were treated with 5 µM MG132 in DMSO for timepoints up to 6 h.

518 **CRISPR/Cas9 gene editing and screening**

519 The pSpCas9(sgRNA)-2A-GFP plasmid (Addgene #48138) encoding short guide RNA
520 (sgRNA) targeting exon 1 of *COX17* was transfected into cells prior to single-cell sorting
521 (FACSAria™ III sorter, BD Biosciences) by GFP fluorescence [58]. Individual clones were
522 expanded and screened by immunoblotting for the presence of COX17. The *COX17* locus
523 was refractory to PCR amplification, so the loss or modification of COX17 in candidate clones
524 was interrogated by tandem mass spectrometry.

525 **Whole cell lysis, mitochondrial isolation, and cellular fractionation**

526 Cell pellets were resuspended in lysis buffer (150 mM NaCl, 1% [v/v] TritonX-100, 0.1% [w/v]
527 SDS, 10 mM Tris pH 7.5, 5 mM EDTA, 1x complete protease inhibitor (Roche)) and incubated
528 on ice for 20 min. Lysates were clarified at 16,000 g for 10 min at 4°C. Mitochondrial isolation
529 was performed as previously described [24]. Cytosolic fractions were obtained by
530 centrifugation of the post-mitochondrial supernatant at 100,000 g for 30 min at 4°C. For
531 membrane protein extraction, isolated mitochondria were resuspended in 100 mM Na₂CO₃ pH
532 9.0 and incubated for 30 min on ice. Pellet and supernatant fractions were separated by
533 centrifugation at 100,000 g for 30 min at 4°C. Protein quantitation was achieved using Pierce™
534 BCA protein assay kit (ThermoFisher Scientific).

535 ***In vitro* protein import**

536 mRNA encoding targets of interest was created using mMessage mMachine SP6 transcription
537 kit (Ambion) according to the manufacturer's instructions. Cell-free translation of proteins was
538 undertaken in rabbit reticulocyte lysate (Promega) using [³⁵S]-methionine as per
539 manufacturer's instruction. Isolated mitochondria were resuspended to 1 mg/mL in import
540 buffer (20 mM HEPES-KOH pH 7.4, 250 mM sucrose, 5 mM magnesium acetate and 80 mM
541 magnesium acetate) supplemented with 10 mM sodium succinate, 1 mM 1,4-dithiothreitol and
542 5 mM ATP, then incubated at 37°C prior to the addition of radiolabelled proteins. Proteinase
543 K was added at 50 µg/mL and incubated for 10 min on ice, followed by 1 mM PMSF for 5 min
544 on ice. Samples were processed for SDS-PAGE or BN-PAGE analysis; SDS-PAGE samples
545 were precipitated with 12.5% [v/v] trichloroacetic acid prior to the addition of SDS-PAGE
546 loading dye. For antibody-shift analysis, 1 µL of antibody was added to each sample during
547 the solubilisation step of BN-PAGE preparation. Gels were transferred to PVDF membrane
548 before exposure of the radioactive signal to a phosphorimager screen (Cytiva), which was
549 detected using an Amersham Typhoon Biomolecular Imager (Cytiva).

550 **Radiolabelling of mitochondrial translation products**

551 Cells were cultured for radiolabelling as previously described [22]. Briefly, cells were labelled
552 in Met/Cys-free DMEM (Life Technologies), supplemented with 10% [v/v] dialysed FBS (GE
553 Healthcare), 0.01% [v/v] penicillin-streptomycin, 1 mM sodium pyruvate, 1×GlutaMAX (Life
554 Technologies), 50 µg/mL uridine, 7 µg/mL anisomycin (Sigma Aldrich), and 7 µCi [³⁵S]-
555 Met/Cys (PerkinElmer) and labelled for 2 h. Labelling was quenched with 10 µM “cold”
556 methionine and labelling media was replaced with standard DMEM media for 0, 3, or 24 h.
557 Mitochondria isolated from radiolabelled cells were analysed by SDS-PAGE and transferred
558 to PVDF membrane before exposure of the radioactive signal to a phosphorimager screen
559 (Cytiva) and detection using an Amersham Typhoon Biomolecular Imager (Cytiva).

560 **Immunoprecipitation and crosslinking**

561 Isolated mitochondria were solubilised at 2 mg/mL in solubilisation buffer (20 mM Tris-Cl pH
562 7.4, 50 mM NaCl, 0.1 mM EDTA, 10% [v/v] glycerol) supplemented with 1% [w/v] digitonin and
563 1x protease inhibitor. Lysates were mixed end-over-end at 4°C for 30 min and clarified at
564 16,000 g for 30 min at 4°C. Lysates were diluted 1:10 [v/v] solubilisation buffer (to final 0.1%
565 digitonin) and applied to equilibrated M2 anti-FLAG resin (Sigma-Aldrich) and mixed end-over-
566 end at 4°C for 1.5 h. The resin was washed with x4 500 µL volumes of solubilisation buffer
567 (with 0.1% digitonin), followed by elution in x2 100 µL volumes of 0.2 M glycine, pH 2.0. For
568 DSP crosslinking and immunoprecipitation, isolated mitochondria were resuspended at 1
569 mg/mL in import buffer (with 5 mM ATP) and either 0.2 mM DSP (ThermoFisher Scientific) or
570 DMSO alone and crosslinked for 1 h at 4°C, mixing end-over-end, after which the reaction
571 was quenched with 100 mM Tris-Cl, pH 7.4 for 30 min on ice. Mitochondrial pellets were
572 solubilised at 2.5 mg/mL in SDS lysis buffer (20 mM Tris-Cl, pH 7.4, 1 mM EDTA, 1% [w/v]
573 SDS) by heating at 95°C for 15 min. The supernatant was clarified by centrifugation, diluted
574 1:10 [v/v] in TritonX-100 buffer (1% [v/v] TritonX-100, 20 mM Tris-Cl pH 7.4, 150 mM NaCl, 1
575 X cOmplete protease inhibitor), and applied to equilibrated M2 anti-FLAG resin with end-over-
576 end mixing at 4°C for 1.5 h. The resin was washed with x4 500 µL volumes of TritonX-100
577 buffer, followed by elution in x2 100 µL volumes of 0.2 M glycine, pH 2.0.

578 **Protein gel electrophoresis and immunoblot analysis**

579 Tris-Tricine SDS-PAGE was performed as detailed previously [24, 59]. Acrylamide stock
580 solution (49.5% [w/v] acrylamide, 1.5% [w/v] bisacrylamide) was diluted in tricine buffer (1 M
581 Tris-Cl pH 8.45, 0.1% [w/v] SDS) to make 10% and 16% acrylamide gel mixes, with 13% [v/v]
582 glycerol added to the latter. 10-16% acrylamide separating gel was overlaid with a 4%
583 acrylamide (in tricine buffer) stacking gel. SDS-PAGE loading dye (50 mM Tris-Cl pH 6.8, 100
584 mM 1,4-dithiothreitol, 2% [w/v] sodium dodecyl sulphate, 10% [v/v] glycerol, 0.1% [w/v]
585 bromophenol blue) was added to samples prior to heating at 95°C for 5 min; or 50°C for 15
586 min for analysis of core OXPHOS subunits. Electrophoresis was performed in Tris-tricine SDS-
587 PAGE cathode buffer (0.1 M Tris, 0.1 M Tricine pH 8.45, 0.1% SDS) and anode buffer (0.2 M
588 Tris-Cl pH 8.9).

589 Blue native-PAGE (BN-PAGE) was performed as previously described [15]. Acrylamide stock
590 solution was diluted in blue native gel buffer (66 mM α -amino n-caproic acid, 50 mM Bis-Tris
591 pH 7.0) to create 4% and 16% acrylamide gel mixes, with 13% glycerol added to the latter. A
592 4-16% acrylamide gradient separating gel was poured by gradient mixer and a 4% acrylamide
593 stacking gel overlaid on top. Isolated mitochondria were solubilised in solubilisation buffer
594 (20 mM Tris-Cl pH 7.4, 50 mM NaCl, 0.1 mM EDTA and 10% [v/v] glycerol) plus 1% [w/v]
595 digitonin and incubated on ice for 30 min. The samples were clarified by centrifugation and
596 the supernatant added to blue native loading dye (0.5% [w/v] Coomassie blue G250 (MP
597 Biomedicals, LLC), 50 mM α -amino n-caproic acid, 10 mM Bis-Tris pH 7.0). Electrophoresis
598 was carried out using blue native cathode buffer (50 mM tricine, 15 mM Bis-Tris pH 7.0, 0.02%
599 [w/v] Coomassie blue G 250) and anode buffer (50 mM Bis-Tris pH 7.0). Gels were transferred
600 to 0.45 μ m polyvinylidene fluoride (PVDF) membranes by semi-dry transfer. Immunoblotting
601 employed primary antibodies, detailed in the resource table (**Appendix**), and horse radish
602 peroxidase-conjugated secondary antibodies (Sigma-Aldrich). Signal was generated by
603 Clarity Western ECL Substrate (BioRad) and imaged using a ChemiDoc™ MP imaging
604 machine (BioRad). Image processing and quantification was done in ImageLab software
605 (BioRad).

606 **Hydrogen peroxide measurement**

607 H₂O₂ released by cells into the culture media was measured by ROS-Glo™ H₂O₂ Assay
608 (Promega). Briefly, 4x10⁴ cells were seeded in triplicate in 96-well plates. After 24 h growth,
609 the provided H₂O₂ dilution buffer and luciferin precursor substrate were added with either 10
610 μM menadione or DMSO (vehicle alone) and incubated at 37°C for 2 h. The addition of
611 detection solution was followed by a 20 min incubation in the dark at room temperature.
612 Luminescence was measured using FLUOstar OPTIMA microplate reader (BMG LABTECH).
613 An unpaired two-tailed Student's t-test was employed for hypothesis testing.

614 **Complexome profiling**

615 Control and knock-out cells were isotopically labelled in SILAC media (Arg/Lys-free DMEM,
616 10% [v/v] dialysed FBS, 0.01% [v/v] penicillin-streptomycin, 1 mM sodium pyruvate,
617 1×GlutaMAX, 50 μg/mL uridine) containing 'light' (¹²C₆¹⁴N₄-arginine, ¹²C₆¹⁴N₂-lysine) or 'heavy'
618 (¹³C₆¹⁵N₄-arginine, ¹³C₆¹⁵N₂-lysine) amino acids for 2 weeks (~6 doublings). Mitochondria
619 isolated from SILAC-labelled cells were prepared in 100 μg aliquots. Heavy- and light-labelled
620 aliquots were combined and separated by BN-PAGE. Protein complexes were fixed by
621 soaking the gel in 50% [v/v] carbonyl-free methanol, 10% [v/v] acetic acid, 10 mM ammonium
622 acetate for 30 min at RT. Proteins were stained in Coomassie gel solution (0.025% [w/v]
623 Coomassie blue G250, 10% acetic acid) for 30 min at RT and then destained in 10% acetic
624 acid overnight. The gel was washed thrice in dH₂O prior to excising and slicing the lane into
625 60 even slices. Each slice was minced and transferred to 50 mM ammonium bicarbonate
626 (ABC) in a filtered microtitre plate (30-40 μM PP/PE, Acroprep™) before proceeding with in-
627 gel digestion as described below.

628 **Peptide digestion and clean-up for mass spectrometry**

629 Isolated mitochondria were solubilised, reduced, and alkylated in SDC buffer (1% [w/v] sodium
630 deoxycholate, 100 mM Tris-Cl pH 8.1, 40 mM chloroacetamide, 10 mM tris(2-
631 carboxyethyl)phosphine (TCEP)) by first boiling at 99°C for 5 min with 1500 rpm shaking, then
632 sonication (Powersonic 603 Ultrasonic Cleaner, 40 KHz on high power) for 15 min at room
633 temperature. Proteins were digested with 1:50 [w/w; trypsin:protein] trypsin (ThermoFisher

634 Scientific) for 4-6 h at 37°C, then clarified by centrifugation. Peptides were loaded onto stage-
635 tips [60] with x3 plugs of SDB-RPS substrate (3M™Empore™) in the presence of isopropanol
636 with 1% [v/v] trifluoroacetic acid (TFA). Sample binding and subsequent washing was
637 achieved by centrifugation at 2,500 g. Peptides were washed first in isopropanol, 1% TFA,
638 and then 0.2% [v/v] TFA, before being eluted in 80% [v/v] acetonitrile (ACN), 1% [v/v]
639 ammonium hydroxide. Eluates were lyophilised by CentriVap SpeedVac concentrator
640 (Labconco) or Modulyo D-230 freeze-dryer (Thermo Electron) and reconstituted in 0.1% [v/v]
641 TFA, 2% [v/v] ACN for analysis.

642 Immunoprecipitation eluates and MG132 or sodium carbonate treated fractions were acetone-
643 precipitated and then solubilised in 8 M urea, 50 mM ABC pH 8.0, by vortex and sonication for
644 15 min. Reduction and alkylation was achieved with 5 mM TCEP, 50 mM chloroacetamide
645 and incubation at 37°C with 700 RPM shaking for 30 min. Urea content was diluted to 1 M by
646 addition of 50 mM ABC and 1 µg of trypsin was added to incubate overnight at 37°C. Stage-
647 tips were created with SDB-XC substrate (x2 plugs for eluates, x6 plugs for fractions;
648 3M™Empore™) and activated with 100% ACN, then equilibrated with 0.1% TFA, 2% ACN.
649 The addition of TFA (1% [v/v] final concentration) acidified the peptides prior to their loading
650 on stage-tips. Stage-tips were washed twice with 0.1% TFA, 2% ACN and peptides eluted in
651 0.1% [v/v] TFA, 80% [v/v] ACN. Eluates were lyophilised by CentriVap SpeedVac concentrator
652 (Labconco) or Modulyo D-230 freeze-dryer (Thermo Electron) and reconstituted in 0.1% [v/v]
653 TFA, 2% [v/v] ACN for analysis.

654 Proteins for complexome analysis were subject to in-gel digestion as described previously
655 [61]. The minced samples were centrifuged at 1,500 g for 3 min at RT and destained in 60%
656 [v/v] carbonyl-free methanol, 50 mM ABC for 1 h at RT with 500 RPM shaking. Destaining was
657 repeated twice, with 15 min incubations. Samples were washed in 50% [v/v] ACN, 50 mM
658 ABC, reduced by incubation in 10 mM DTT, 50 mM ABC at 56°C for 1 h, and then alkylated
659 in 40 mM chloroacetamide, 50 mM ABC for 45 min at RT. Samples were washed twice in 50%
660 ACN, 50 mM ABC and left to air-dry in the plate. Once dry, 20 µL of digestion solution (10
661 ng/µL MS-grade trypsin (ThermoFisher Scientific), 10 % [v/v] ACN, 0.01% [w/v] ProteaseMAX

662 surfactant (Promega), 1 mM CaCl₂, 50 mM ABC) was added to each well and allowed to swell
663 for 10 min at 4°C. An additional 80 µL of 50 mM ABC was added, followed by overnight
664 incubation at 37°C in a pre-humidified incubator. Peptides were eluted by centrifugation at
665 1,500 *g* for 3 min at RT and subsequent addition of 30% ACN, 3% FA and centrifugation.
666 Peptide elutions were lyophilised in CentriVap SpeedVac concentrator (Labconco) then
667 reconstituted in 2% ACN, 0.1% TFA. Peptides were then desalted using SDB-XC staged-tips
668 and prepared for analysis as described for immunoprecipitation samples.

669 LC-MS/MS machine methods and data analysis pipeline are described in the **Appendix**.

670 **Inductively coupled plasma-mass spectrometry**

671 Intact cells and isolated mitochondria were isolated, in triplicate, as 100 µg samples. Each
672 sample was digested in 200 µL 35% [v/v] nitric acid (HNO₃, Suprapur, Merck) at 96°C for 20
673 min. Samples were diluted to a final volume of 1 mL using MilliQ-H₂O and centrifuged at
674 20,000 *g* for 25 min. All elemental analyses were performed using an Agilent 8900 Triple
675 Quadrupole ICP-MS (Agilent Technologies) using a MicroMist nebulizer (Glass Expansion,
676 Australia) with instrument parameters detailed in **Dataset EV4**. Torch positioning, sample
677 depth adjustment and lens optimisation were set according to manufacturer recommendations
678 while the other instrumental parameters were optimized during a batch-specific user tune prior
679 to each experimental run (**Dataset EV4**). The mass spectrometer was calibrated for
680 magnesium (Mg), calcium (Ca), manganese (Mn), iron (Fe), copper (Cu), zinc (Zn) and
681 cadmium (Cd) using 0, 10, 25, 50, 100, 250 & 500 µg/L mixed multi-element standard
682 calibration solutions in standard diluent from commercially available (Multi-element Calibration
683 Standard 2A) certified reference standards (Agilent Technologies). A reference elemental
684 solution containing 100 µg/L yttrium (Y) in standard (Agilent Technologies) was used to
685 normalize all measurements.

686 **Copper binding assay**

687 The binding affinities of the hTim8a, hTim8b and COA6 proteins for Cu(I) were measured as
688 previously described [37]. Briefly, purified proteins (in 20 mM Tris-MES pH 8.0) were titrated

689 at increasing concentrations (0 – 30 μ M) into solutions containing buffer (20 mM Tris-MES pH
690 8.0), CuSO₄ (20 μ M), BCS (200 μ M) and NH₂OH (1 mM). The transfer of Cu(I) from the
691 [Cu^IBCS₂]³⁻ complex to protein samples was monitored by measuring the absorbance of
692 solutions at 483 nm, using a CLARIOstar plate reader (BMG Labtech). [Cu^IBCS₂]³⁻ complex
693 concentrations were determined using absorbance values at 483 nm and plotted against
694 protein:Cu ratios. Data was fit using Kaleidagraph software (version 4) and the copper binding
695 affinities calculated as previously described [37, 62]. Plots were visualised using Prism
696 GraphPad software (version 9).

697 **Expression and purification of recombinant small TIM proteins**

698 *Escherichia coli* strain SHuffle T7 (New England Biolabs) were transformed with pGEX-6P-1
699 plasmids with ORFs encoding the hTim8a, hTim8b and hTim13 proteins. Cultures were grown
700 in Luria Broth supplemented with ampicillin (100 μ g/mL), chloramphenicol (35 μ g/mL) and
701 streptomycin (50 μ g/mL) at 30°C to an OD₆₀₀ of 0.6-0.8, then induced with IPTG (0.2 mM)
702 and incubated with shaking for 16 h at 16°C. Cells were harvested by centrifugation at 8000
703 g, 15 min, 4°C and stored at -20°C until use. Recombinant hTim8a, hTim8b and hTim13 were
704 purified by a two-step protocol consisting of glutathione (GSH) affinity and size-exclusion
705 chromatography (SEC). Cell pellets were suspended in PBS (pH 7.4) containing 1x cComplete
706 protease inhibitor (Sigma-Aldrich) and lysed using a TS series bench top cell disrupter
707 (Constant System Ltd) at 35 kpsi, followed by centrifugation at 30000 g, 30 min, 4°C. The
708 supernatant was incubated with Sepharose 4B resin (Cytiva) that had been pre-equilibrated
709 with PBS (3 h, 4°C). Unbound protein was eluted following incubation, and resin-bound protein
710 incubated overnight (4°C) with 3C PreScission Protease to cleave the glutathione s-
711 transferase (GST) tag. Cleavage of the GST tag introduced five residues (GPLGS) to the N-
712 termini of the proteins. Cleaved proteins were further purified using size-exclusion
713 chromatography (HiLoad 16/600 Superdex 75 pg (Cytiva), 50 mM Tris-Cl pH 8.0 and 150 mM
714 NaCl). The hTim13 precipitated from solution after GST-tag cleavage and could not be further
715 purified. For the preparation of the hTim8a-hTim13 and hTim8b-hTim13 complexes, cells
716 expressing hTim13 were disrupted, and debris cleared by centrifugation before combining with

717 cleared lysates from the hTim8a or hTim8b overexpressions in equal volumes. The purification
718 of the hTim8a-hTim13 and hTim8b-hTim13 complexes proceeded as described above for the
719 hTim8a and hTim8b proteins. Unsuccessful attempts to co-purify a hTim8a-hTim8b complex
720 followed the same protocol. Purified proteins were concentrated to 10 mg/mL and stored at -
721 80°C until use.

722 **Size-exclusion chromatography**

723 Pure samples of hTim8a, hTim8a, the hTim8a-hTim13 and hTim8b-hTim13 complexes were
724 prepared as described above. These samples were analysed by analytical SEC (Superdex
725 S200 Increase 10/300 GL (Cytiva), 50 mM Tris-Cl pH 8.0 and 150 mM NaCl). Mixtures of
726 hTim8a with the hTim8b-hTim13 complex and hTim8b with the hTim8a-hTim13 complex were
727 incubated on ice (1 h), so that the hTim8a:hTim8b was at approximate molar equivalence. The
728 samples were then re-separated by analytical SEC (as above). Fractions from the SEC step
729 were analysed by SDS-PAGE. Chromatography traces and SDS-PAGE analyses were used
730 in combination to assess oligomerisation activity.

731 **Experimental design and statistical rationale**

732 Label-free quantitative LC-MS/MS methods and statistical treatments were consistent with
733 published analyses employing similar instrumentation and protocols [23, 37]. All mass
734 spectrometry experiments were performed in n=3 biological replicates for each experimental
735 condition and compared to n=3 biological replicates of the relevant control (wild-type cells,
736 non-crosslinked, vehicle treated, or scramble siRNA). The log₂-transformed LFQ intensity data
737 fit a normal distribution and statistical significance of fold change differences was determined
738 by unpaired two-sided t-test with permutation-based FDR for multiple hypothesis testing.
739 Replicates were sufficiently concordant to achieve significance with n=3 samples. Differences
740 in purity of mitochondrial isolates were accounted for by global row normalisation and
741 fractionated samples were analysed independently (for MG132 treatment) or normalised for
742 'total protein abundance' using samples taken prior to fractionation (for sodium carbonate
743 treatment). Random error was further mitigated by minimum LFQ count in the search

744 parameters and a threshold of ≥ 2 unique peptides identified in ≥ 2 experimental replicates for
745 the application of a t-test. Additional search and statistical parameters are described in the
746 **Appendix**. Mass spectrometric analyses were validated by parallel methods where
747 appropriate/possible.

748 **Please see Appendix for: LC-MS/MS; Data Analysis; Antibodies.**

749

750 **Data availability**

751 The mass spectrometry proteomics data have been deposited to the ProteomeXchange
752 Consortium, via the PRIDE partner repository, with the dataset identifier PXD037906
753 (<https://www.ebi.ac.uk/pride/archive/projects/PXD037906>).

754

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768

769 **Conflict of interest**

770 The authors have no conflicts of interest to declare.

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960

961 **Figure Legends**

962 **Figure 1. hTim8a, hTim8b and hTim13 interact together and with Complex IV and**
963 **intermembrane space proteins.**

964 **(A-B)** Mitochondria isolated from **(A)** hTim8a^{KO HEK} cells with and without hTim8a^{FLAG} re-
965 expression, or **(B)** hTim8b^{KO HEK} cells with and without hTim8b^{FLAG} re-expression were
966 compared to mitochondria isolated from control HEK293 cells by SDS-PAGE and immunoblot.
967 Protein expression of the hTim8 protein was induced with tetracycline (Tet) for the indicated
968 time. Representative of n=2 biological replicates.

969 **(C-G)** Affinity enrichment mass spectrometry. Mitochondria isolated from **(C)** hTim8a^{KO HEK}
970 cells expressing hTim8a^{FLAG}, **(D)** hTim8b^{KO HEK} cells expressing hTim8b^{FLAG}, **(E)** hTim8a^{MUT SH}
971 cells expressing hTim8a^{FLAG}, **(F)** hTim8b^{KO SH} cells expressing hTim8b^{FLAG} and **(G)** wild-type
972 HEK293 cells expressing hTim13^{FLAG} were treated with DSP crosslinker prior to
973 immunoprecipitation with anti-FLAG resin. The log₂ fold change in mean LFQ intensity is
974 plotted against Student's t-test p-value (n=3 biological replicates). Curve indicates significantly
975 enriched proteins. FDR<0.01; **(C)** s0=5.5, **(D)** s0=4.5, **(E)** s0=2, **(F)** s0=5, **(G)** s0=2.5.
976 Functional annotations manually curated.

977 **(H)** Sub-mitochondrial localisation of protein interacting partners identified in **(C-G)** compared
978 to the sub-mitochondrial proteome as annotated by the MitoCarta3.0 database [63]. The total
979 uniquely identified proteins (FDR<0.01; orange) and those commonly identified (fold-change
980 >4 in ≥3 of 5 experiments; red). The number of interactors in each mitochondrial compartment
981 indicated as total identified and percentage of total annotated mitochondrial proteins (grey).
982 OM = outer membrane, IMS = intermembrane space, IM = inner membrane, unknown = no
983 localisation annotation.

984 Data information: **(C-G)** Data presented as log₂(ratio of mean LFQ intensity). Significance
985 determined by unpaired Student's t-test with permutation-based false-discovery rate (FDR)
986 statistics to adjust for multiple hypothesis testing.

987

988 **Figure 2. Complex IV components and substrates of the MIA import complex are**
989 **common interactors of hTim8a, hTim8b and hTim13.**

990 **(A)** 72 proteins were enriched >4-fold in ≥ 3 of the 5 immunoprecipitation experiments of
991 hTim8a^{FLAG}, hTim8b^{FLAG} and hTim13^{FLAG} in HEK293 and SH-SY5Y cells. These common
992 interacting partners were visualised by known interactions using the STRING database.
993 Functional annotations were manually curated by literature review. Nodes with no connections
994 are proteins that did not have any known interactions with ≥ 0.500 confidence scoring, as
995 determined by STRING. Dashed border around nodes indicates substrates of the MIA import
996 complex.

997 **(B-C)** Changes in protein abundance of hTim8a and hTim8b interactors in mitochondria
998 isolated from **(B)** hTim8a^{KO HEK} and hTim8b^{KO HEK}, or **(C)** hTim8a^{MUT SH} and hTim8b^{KO SH} cells;
999 determined by quantitative mass spectrometry as published in [15]. Quadrants are labelled
1000 with 8a/8b \uparrow or \downarrow to indicate the increase or decrease of protein abundances in each knock-
1001 out cell line. The \log_2 fold change in mean LFQ intensity between knock-out and control cells
1002 is plotted on each axis. Lines indicate fold change in abundance of ± 1.5 . n=3 biological
1003 replicates for each cell line.

1004 Data information: **(B-C)** Data presented as $\log_2(\text{ratio of mean LFQ intensity})$.

1005

1006 **Figure 3. COX17 knock-out cells have a COX2 module defect similar to, but more severe**
1007 **than, hTim8-deficient cells.**

1008 **(A)** Changes in protein abundance of Complex IV subunits and assembly factors in
1009 mitochondria isolated from hTim8a^{KO HEK}, hTim8a^{MUT SH}, hTim8b^{KO HEK} and hTim8b^{KO SH} cells;
1010 by quantitative mass spectrometry published in [15]. The \log_2 fold change in mean LFQ
1011 intensity between knock-out and control HEK293 and SH-SY5Y cells is shown. ‘-’ indicates
1012 protein was undetected. n=3 biological replicates for each cell line. Complex IV proteins listed
1013 by module. Transc./Transl. = proteins involved in transcription or translation of Complex IV

1014 genes, SC = subunits involved in supercomplex formation, Aux. or unknown = proteins with
1015 auxiliary or unknown functions in Complex IV assembly.

1016 **(B-C)** Mitochondria isolated from **(B)** COX17^{MUT HEK} and **(C)** COX17^{KO SH} cells were analysed
1017 by quantitative mitochondrial proteomics relative to control cells. The log₂ fold change in mean
1018 LFQ intensity is plotted against Student's t-test p-value (n=3 biological replicates). Curve
1019 indicates significantly altered proteins; FDR<0.05; s0=0.5. Functional annotations manually
1020 curated.

1021 **(D)** Mitochondria isolated from control cells, COX17^{MUT HEK} and COX17^{KO SH} cells were
1022 analysed by BN-PAGE and immunoblotting with the indicated antibodies. COX4I1-containing
1023 complexes indicated as SC: Respiratory supercomplex, CIII₂+CIV: Complex III₂-Complex IV
1024 complex, CIV₂: Complex IV dimer, CIV: mature Complex IV, and S2*: COX4I1-containing S2
1025 subcomplex. Representative of n=2 biological replicates.

1026 **(E)** Mitochondria isolated from COX17^{MUT HEK} cells complemented with FLAG^{COX17} were
1027 treated with DSP crosslinker prior to immunoprecipitation with anti-FLAG resin. The log₂ fold
1028 change in mean LFQ intensity is plotted against Student's t-test p-value (n=3 biological
1029 replicates). Curve indicates significantly enriched proteins; FDR<0.05; s0=7. Functional
1030 annotations manually curated.

1031 **(F)** Intact cells or mitochondria isolated from hTim8b^{KO HEK} and control HEK293 cells were
1032 subject to ICP-MS analysis to measure copper (Cu) and iron (Fe) content. Abundance is
1033 shown as mean ±S.D for metal content per gram of protein. Significance determined by
1034 Student's t-test (n=3 biological replicates). **, p<0.01; 'ns' indicates not significant, p>0.05.

1035 **(G)** Recombinant COA6, hTim8a and hTim8b were purified and incubated, in increasing
1036 concentrations, with Cu(I) and bathocuproine disulfonic acid (BCS). Protein-Cu(I) binding
1037 outcompetes BCS₂-Cu(I) binding and the decrease in BCS₂-Cu(I) is shown by absorbance,
1038 particularly at 482 nm. n=1 biological replicates.

1039 Data information: **(A-C, E)** Data presented as log₂(ratio of mean LFQ intensity). Significance
1040 determined by unpaired Student's t-test with permutation-based false-discovery rate (FDR)

1041 statistics to adjust for multiple hypothesis testing. **(F)** Data presented as mean \pm S.D.
1042 Significance determined by unpaired Student's t-test and p-value threshold of $p < 0.05$.

1043

1044 **Figure 4. hTim8a and hTim8b function in the progression of the S2 to S3 subcomplex**
1045 **via the incorporation of COX2 module**

1046 **(A)** hTim8a^{KO HEK}, hTim8b^{KO HEK} and control HEK293 cells were pulsed with [35S]-Met/Cys for
1047 2 h in the presence of anisomycin and chased for the indicated times. Isolated mitochondria
1048 were analysed by SDS-PAGE, auto-radiography and immunoblot. n=1 biological replicates.

1049 **(B-C)** [³⁵S]-COX6C and [³⁵S]-COX7C were incubated with mitochondria isolated from **(B)**
1050 hTim8a^{MUT SH} or **(C)** hTim8b^{KO HEK} and control SH-SY5Y or HEK23 cells. Import proceeded in
1051 the presence or absence of mitochondrial membrane potential ($\Delta\Psi$) for the indicated times.
1052 Samples were analysed by BN-PAGE and autoradiography. CBB = Coomassie brilliant blue
1053 staining. Representative of n=2 biological replicates.

1054 **(D)** Constitutive COX4I1^{FLAG} expression was induced in COX17^{MUT HEK}, hTim8b^{KO HEK} and
1055 hTim8a^{MUT SH} cells in addition to wild-type HEK293 and SH-SY5Y cells. Mitochondria isolated
1056 from these cell lines were solubilised in 1% digitonin buffer prior to immunoprecipitation with
1057 anti-FLAG resin. The log₂ fold change in mean LFQ intensity (enrichment in knock-out cells
1058 compared to wild-type background) is shown. Significance was determined by Student's t-test
1059 p-value (n=3 biological replicates) and '+' indicates proteins enriched significantly differently
1060 by COX4I1^{FLAG} in the knock-out or wild-type background; FDR<0.05; s0=0.1.

1061 **(E)** Mitochondria isolated from hTim8a^{KO HEK}, hTim8b^{KO HEK} and control HEK293 cells were
1062 resuspended in sodium carbonate solution (pH 9) and centrifuged at 100,000 g. Supernatant
1063 (Sup) and pellet fractions were analysed by mass spectrometry and normalised against protein
1064 abundance in a total fraction (collected prior to centrifugation). The log₂ fold change in
1065 normalised mean LFQ intensities between knock-out and control HEK293 cells is shown for
1066 subunits of Complex IV (n=3 biological replicates). '-' indicates protein was undetected.

1067 **(F)** Mitochondria isolated from control, hTim8a^{MUT SH} and hTim8b^{KO HEK} cells were analysed by
1068 BN-PAGE and immunoblotting. COX4I1-containing complexes indicated as SC: Respiratory
1069 supercomplex, CIII₂+CIV: Complex III₂-Complex IV complex, CIV₂: Complex IV dimer, CIV:
1070 mature Complex IV, and S2*: COX4I1-containing S2 subcomplex. Levels of COX4I1 present
1071 in subcomplex (*) was quantified as mean ±S.D percentage of COX4I1 present in mature
1072 Complex IV (CIV) for each cell line. Significance determined by Student's t-test (hTim8b^{KO HEK}
1073 n=6 biological replicates; hTim8a^{MUT SH} n=4 biological replicates). *, p<0.05; **, p<0.01.

1074 **(G)** Mitochondria isolated from control HEK293, COX17^{MUT HEK}, hTim8a^{KO HEK}, hTim8b^{KO HEK}
1075 were analysed by BN-PAGE and immunoblotting with the indicated antibodies. Complexes
1076 indicated as SC: Respiratory supercomplex, CIII₂+CIV: Complex III₂-Complex IV complex,
1077 CIV₂: Complex IV dimer, CIV: mature Complex IV, and S2*: COX4I1-containing S2
1078 subcomplex. Representative of n=2 biological replicates.

1079 Data information: **(D)** Data presented as log₂(ratio of mean LFQ intensity). Significance
1080 determined by unpaired Student's t-test with permutation-based false-discovery rate (FDR)
1081 statistics to adjust for multiple hypothesis testing. **(E)** Data presented as log₂(ratio of mean
1082 LFQ intensity). **(F)** Data presented as mean ±S.D expressed as percentage of the mature
1083 Complex IV (CIV) signal.

1084

1085 **Figure 5. hTim8a and hTim8b assemble the S3 subcomplex to enable the addition of**
1086 **COX3 module components.**

1087 **(A)** Mitochondria isolated from wild-type HEK293 and hTim8b^{KO HEK} SILAC-labelled cells were
1088 separated by BN-PAGE. The gel was cut into 60 slices and analysed by LC-MS/MS. Protein
1089 abundance was quantified as iBAQ absolute intensity. The relative intensities of Complex IV
1090 subunits/assembly factors were hierarchically clustered by Pearson Correlation Distance
1091 function. Relative abundances are scaled for each individual protein across both cell lines and
1092 all gel slices. Representative BN-PAGE immunoblot is aligned to the complexome profile of
1093 control HEK293 cells showing the migration of the S2 subcomplex (left). Enlarged region (red

1094 box) shows proteins only detected in that region and the S2 subcomplex is highlighted (white
1095 dashed box). Subunits and assembly factors are coloured by module: Scaffold (green), COX1
1096 (red), COX2 (blue), COX3 (gold). COX4I1-containing complexes by immunoblot indicated as
1097 SC: Respiratory supercomplex, CIII₂+CIV: Complex III₂-Complex IV complex, CIV: mature
1098 Complex IV, and S2*: COX4I1-containing S2 subcomplex. Representative of n=2 biological
1099 replicates.

1100 **(B-C)** Profile plots of iBAQ intensity for Complex IV subunits across the complexome profile
1101 of mitochondria isolated from **(B)** hTim8a^{MUT SH} and control SH-SY5Y cells; and **(C)** hTim8b^{KO}
1102 ^{HEK} and control HEK293 cells. Subunits are plotted by Complex IV module and iBAQ intensity
1103 relative to the maximum intensity of plotted subunits. Solid line indicates subunits from control
1104 cells, dashed line from knock-out cells. Complex IV assemblies are indicated as SC:
1105 Respiratory supercomplex, CIII₂+CIV: Complex III₂-Complex IV complex, CIV: mature
1106 Complex IV, and S2*: COX4I1-containing S2 subcomplex. Representative of n=2 biological
1107 replicates.

1108 **(D)** Heatmap showing the changes in the distribution of Complex IV subunits in complexome
1109 profiling of mitochondria isolated from hTim8a^{MUT SH} (top) and hTim8b^{KO HEK} (bottom) compared
1110 to controls. Changes in total protein abundance between cell lines were accounted for by
1111 normalisation: the abundances of individual proteins (iBAQ intensity) in each slice were
1112 expressed as a percentage of their total abundance (as detected across all slices) in the
1113 individual cell line (control or knock-out). This treatment, denoting the distribution of Complex
1114 IV subunits, indicates the efficiency of assembly. Difference in distribution (% of total protein)
1115 was calculated for each slice (KO% - WT%). Negative values indicate a decrease of protein
1116 distributed to this region in knock-out cells as an indicator of diminished assembly and vice-
1117 versa for positive values. Grey dashed box highlights a region of increased distribution in
1118 hTim8a^{MUT SH}. Complex IV subunits are grouped by module: Scaffold (green), COX1 (red),
1119 COX2 (blue), COX3 (gold). Complex IV assemblies are indicated as SC: Respiratory
1120 supercomplex, CIII₂+CIV: Complex III₂-Complex IV complex, CIV: mature Complex IV, and

1121 S2*: COX4I1-containing S2 subcomplex. Complex III monomer indicated as CIII.
1122 Representative of n=2 biological replicates.

1123 **(E)** Complexome profiling of mitochondria isolated from hTim8a^{MUT SH} and control SH-SY5Y
1124 cells (top), and hTim8b^{KO HEK} and control HEK293 cells (bottom). The relative intensities of
1125 Complex IV subunits/assembly factors were hierarchically clustered by Pearson Correlation
1126 Distance function. Relative abundances are scaled for each individual protein across both cell
1127 lines (knock-out/control) and all gel slices shown. Subunits and assembly factors are coloured
1128 by module: Scaffold (green), COX1 (red), COX2 (blue), COX3 (gold). Representative of n=2
1129 biological replicates.

1130 Data information: **(A, E)** Data presented as iBAQ intensity. Normalisation by total iBAQ
1131 intensity for each cell line. **(B-C)** Data presented as iBAQ intensity, normalised as in (A) and
1132 expressed as a ratio of the maximum iBAQ intensity. **(D)** Data presented as % of total iBAQ
1133 intensity for each protein (Protein A_{slice}/Protein A_{total}). Normalised iBAQ intensities expressed
1134 as % of total protein in each cell line and the difference in % (KO-WT) plotted for every gel
1135 slice.

1136

1137 **Figure 6. hTim8a and hTim8b have distinct functions in Complex IV biogenesis**

1138 **(A)** Mitochondria isolated from hTim8a^{MUT SH} cells with and without hTim8b^{FLAG} expression
1139 compared to mitochondria from control SH-SY5Y cells were analysed by SDS-PAGE and
1140 immunoblotting. Amount of protein after 12 h induction (lanes 4 and 10) was quantified as
1141 mean ±S.D percentage of control SH-SY5Y mitochondria. Significance determined by
1142 Student's t-test (n=3 biological replicates). *, p<0.05; **, p<0.01; ***, p<0.001; ****, p<0.0001;
1143 'ns' indicates not significant, p>0.05.

1144 **(B)** Changes in protein abundance in mitochondria isolated from hTim8a^{MUT SH} cells with and
1145 without hTim8b^{FLAG} expression was quantified using mass spectrometry. The log₂ fold change
1146 in mean LFQ intensity (n=3 biological replicates) between knock-out and control SH-SY5Y

1147 cells is shown for the subunits and assembly factors of Complex IV altered in hTim8a^{MUT SH} as
1148 identified in this analysis and previous mitochondrial proteomics (Fig 3A).

1149 **(C)** Mitochondria isolated from hTim8a^{MUT SH} cells with and without hTim8b^{FLAG} expression
1150 compared to mitochondria isolated from control SH-SY5Y cells analysed by BN-PAGE and
1151 immunoblotting. COX4I1-containing complexes are indicated as SC: Respiratory
1152 supercomplex, CIII₂+CIV: Complex III₂-Complex IV complex, CIV₂: Complex IV dimer, CIV:
1153 mature Complex IV, and S2*: COX4I1-containing S2 subcomplex. Amount of COX4I1 present
1154 in mature monomeric Complex IV (CIV) was quantified as mean ±S.D percentage of control
1155 SH-SY5Y mitochondria. Significance determined by Student's t-test (n=3 biological
1156 replicates). **, p<0.001; ***, p<0.001; 'ns' indicates not significant, p>0.05.

1157 **(D)** Mitochondria isolated from hTim8b^{KO HEK} cells with and without hTim8a^{FLAG} expression
1158 compared to mitochondria isolated from control HEK293 cells by BN-PAGE. hTim8a^{FLAG}
1159 expression induced by tetracycline for 8 h. Native protein complexes detected by immunoblot.
1160 COX4I1-containing complexes by immunoblot indicated as SC: Respiratory supercomplex,
1161 CIII₂+CIV: Complex III₂-Complex IV complex, CIV₂: Complex IV dimer, CIV: mature Complex
1162 IV, and S2*: COX4I1-containing S2 subcomplex. Amount of COX4I1 present in mature
1163 monomeric Complex IV (CIV) was quantified as mean ±S.D percentage of control HEK293
1164 mitochondria. Significance determined by Student's t-test (n=3 biological replicates). **,
1165 p<0.01; 'ns' indicates not significant, p>0.05.

1166 **(E)** Change in protein abundance in mitochondria isolated from hTim8b^{KO HEK} cells with and
1167 without hTim8a^{FLAG} expression, by mass-spectrometry. The log₂ fold change in mean LFQ
1168 intensity (n=3 biological replicates) between knock-out and control HEK293 cells is shown for
1169 subunits and assembly factors of Complex IV altered in hTim8b^{KO HEK} as identified in this
1170 analysis and previous mitochondrial proteomics (Fig 3A).

1171 Data information: **(A, C-D)** Data presented as mean ±S.D. Significance determined by
1172 unpaired Student's t-test and p-value threshold of p<0.05. **(B, E)** Data presented as log₂(ratio
1173 of mean LFQ intensity).

1174 **Tables and their legends**

1175 **Table 1:** Increased abundance of hTim8a, hTim8b and hTim13 correlates with a COX2
 1176 defect in COA6^{KO} cells.

STUDY		CELL LINES	
Stroud et al. (2015) Hum. Mol. Genet.#		COA6 ^{KO} HEK293T	
METHOD			
Isolated mitochondria - SILAC - DDA			
Gene	Unique peptides	Log₂ (COA6^{KO}/WT)	p-val <0.05[†]
TIMM8A	6	1.188	+
TIMM8B	5	0.815	
TIMM13	6	0.989	+
COA6	4	-3.174	+
MT-CO2	7	-4.404	+
COX7A2	3	-1.736	+
NDUFA4	5	-1.585	+
COX6B1	6	-0.920	+
COX6C	4	-0.307	+
COX5B	7	-0.200	+
MT-CO1	2	-0.148	+
COX5A	12	0.126	+
COX4I1	10	0.157	+

1177 # Data ref [64]

1178 † p-val = Unpaired Student's t-test p-value

1179

1180 **Table 2:** Increased abundance of hTim8a, hTim8b and hTim13 correlates with a COX3
 1181 defect in HIGD2A^{KO} cells.

STUDY		CELL LINES			
Hock et al. (2020) MCP#		HIGD1A ^{KO} HEK293T & HIGD2A ^{KO} HEK293T			
METHOD					
Isolated mitochondria - TMT - SPS MS3					
Gene	Unique peptides	Log ₂ (HIGD1A ^{KO} /WT)	FDR<5% [†]	Log ₂ (HIGD2A ^{KO} /WT)	FDR<5% [†]
TIMM8A	1	-0.280		0.618	
TIMM8B	3	-0.919	+	0.935	+
TIMM13	2	-0.245		0.325	
COX7A2	3	-0.112		-1.490	+
COX6A1	3	-0.118		-1.437	+
NDUFA4	6	-0.113		-1.081	+
COX6B1	5	0.014		-1.075	+
COX7A2L	4	-0.005		-0.137	
COX5A	7	-0.725	+	-0.074	
COX7C	4	-0.349	+	-0.055	
COX6C	4	-0.546	+	-0.030	
COX5B	9	-0.387	+	0.032	
COX4I1	10	-0.691	+	0.035	
COX8A	2	-0.519	+	0.261	

1182 # Data ref [65]

1183 † FDR = false-discovery rate. Permutation-based p-value adjustment

1184

1185 **Expanded View Figure Legends**

1186 **Figure EV1. Native affinity enrichment of hTim8b^{FLAG} captures hTim8a and hTim13 but**
1187 **few other interacting partners**

1188 **(A)** Schematic depicting the modular assembly of Complex IV. Complex IV subunits (listed in
1189 bold) assemble around core subunits to form modules (COX411-COX5A scaffold: green,
1190 COX1 module: red, COX2 module: blue, COX3 module: gold) which are progressively
1191 combined into subcomplexes. The incorporation of subunits (listed in bold) is enabled by
1192 numerous assembly factors (listed in italics).

1193 **(B)** Mitochondria isolated from hTim8b^{FLAG} expressing cells and control HEK293 cells were
1194 solubilised in 1% digitonin buffer prior to immunoprecipitation with anti-FLAG resin. Eluate
1195 fractions were processed for mass spectrometry. The log₂ fold change in mean LFQ intensity
1196 is plotted against Student's t-test p-value (n=3 biological replicates). Curve indicates
1197 significantly enriched proteins; FDR<0.01, s0=4. Functional annotations manually curated.

1198 **(C-E)** Mitochondria isolated from **(C)** hTim8b^{KO HEK} expressing hTim8b^{FLAG}, **(D)** hTim8b^{KO SH}
1199 expressing hTim8b^{FLAG}, or **(E)** wild-type HEK293 cells expressing hTim10b^{3xFLAG} were treated
1200 with DSP crosslinker prior to immunoprecipitation with anti-FLAG resin. The log₂ fold change
1201 in mean LFQ intensity is plotted against Student's t-test p-value (n=3 biological replicates).
1202 Curve indicates significantly enriched proteins. FDR<0.01, **(C)** s0=7.6, **(D)** s0=2, **(E)** s0=8.
1203 Functional annotations were manually curated.

1204 Data information: **(B-E)** Data presented as log₂(ratio of mean LFQ intensity). Significance
1205 determined by unpaired Student's t-test with permutation-based false-discovery rate (FDR)
1206 statistics to adjust for multiple hypothesis testing.

1207

1208 **Figure EV2. hTim8b is not required for the oxidative import of intermembrane space**
1209 **MIA substrates**

1210 **(A)** Mitochondria isolated from wild-type HEK293 cells expressing Mia40^{FLAG} were treated with
1211 DSP crosslinker prior to immunoprecipitation with anti-FLAG resin. Eluate fractions were
1212 processed for mass spectrometry. The log₂ fold change in mean LFQ intensity is plotted
1213 against Student's t-test p-value (n=3 biological replicates). Curve indicates significantly
1214 enriched proteins. FDR<0.01, s0=4.5. Functional annotations manually curated.

1215 **(B-F)** [³⁵S]-Tim23, [³⁵S]-hTim10a, [³⁵S]-COX17, [³⁵S]-COX6B1 and [³⁵S]-COA6 were incubated
1216 with mitochondria isolated from hTim8b^{KO HEK} or control HEK293 cells for the indicated
1217 timepoints. Following import mitochondria were isolated and treated with proteinase K and
1218 analysed by SDS-PAGE, autoradiography and immunoblot. The amount of imported [³⁵S]-
1219 protein over time was quantified as mean ±S.D and plotted as a percentage of total amount in
1220 control mitochondria at 30 min (n=3 biological replicates). 'ns' indicates not significant, p>0.05.

1221 **(G)** hTim8b^{KO HEK} and control HEK293 cells were treated with 5 μM MG132 for 6 h prior to the
1222 fractionation of cells into total, mitochondrial (mito), and cytosol fractions by centrifugation.
1223 Protein abundance was quantified by LC-MS/MS for MG132, or vehicle (DMSO) treated cells.
1224 The log₂ fold change in mean LFQ intensity is shown for known substrates of the MIA import
1225 complex (n=3 biological replicates).

1226 **(H)** Mitochondria isolated from hTim8b^{KO HEK} and control HEK293 cells treated with Yme1L
1227 siRNA twice over 72 h. Isolated mitochondria were analysed by SDS-PAGE and immunoblot.
1228 Representative of n=2 biological replicates.

1229 **(I)** hTim8b^{KO HEK} and control HEK293 cells were treated with Yme1L siRNA twice over 72 h
1230 prior to mitochondrial isolation. Protein abundance in isolated mitochondria was quantified by
1231 LC-MS/MS for Yme1L-siRNA and scramble-siRNA (control) treated cells. The log₂ fold change
1232 in mean LFQ intensity (n=3 biological replicates) is shown for proposed Yme1L substrates
1233 [32] and hTim8b^{FLAG} interactors are labelled in bold. '—' indicates protein was undetected.

1234 Data information: **(A)** Data presented as log₂(ratio of mean LFQ intensity). Significance
1235 determined by unpaired Student's t-test with permutation-based false-discovery rate (FDR)
1236 statistics to adjust for multiple hypothesis testing. **(B-F)** Data presented as mean ±S.D.

1237 Significance determined by unpaired Student's t-test and p-value threshold of $p < 0.05$. **(G, I)**
1238 Data presented as $\log_2(\text{ratio of mean LFQ intensity})$.

1239

1240 **Figure EV3. hTim8-deficient cells display a similar, but milder, COX2/COX3 module**
1241 **defect compared to knock-out of COX17.**

1242 **(A)** Topographical heatmap showing protein abundance changes in hTim8a^{MUT SH} and
1243 hTim8b^{KO SH} mitochondria compared to control SH-SY5Y mitochondria. \log_2 fold change in
1244 mean LFQ intensity is mapped to the structure of human Complex IV (PDB5Z62).

1245 **(B)** hTim8b^{KO HEK} cells with and without hTim8b^{FLAG}, hTim8a^{KO HEK} and control HEK293 cells
1246 were treated with 10 μM menadione for 2 h. Extracellular H_2O_2 was detected by luciferase-
1247 reporter luminescence using ROS-GloTM H_2O_2 Assay (Promega). Relative luminescence units
1248 (RLU) were quantified as mean \pm S.D and significance determined by Student's t-test
1249 (hTim8b^{KO} n=4 technical replicates, hTim8a^{KO} n=3 technical replicates). *, $p < 0.05$; **, $p < 0.01$;
1250 ***, $p < 0.001$; ****, $p < 0.0001$; 'ns' indicates not significant, $p > 0.05$. hTim8b^{KO HEK}/hTim8b^{KO}
1251 ^{HEK+hTim8b^{FLAG}} analysis representative of n=2 biological replicates. hTim8a^{KO HEK} analysis n=1
1252 biological replicates.

1253 **(C)** Validation of CRISPR/Cas9 gene-editing in COX17^{MUT HEK} and COX17^{KO SH} cells. Isolated
1254 mitochondria from gene-edited cells were compared to control HEK293 or SH-SY5Y cells by
1255 SDS-PAGE and immunoblot. CRISPR/Cas9 guide-RNA targeted exon 1 of the COX17 gene.
1256 Mass spectrometric analysis of mitochondria isolated from COX17-deficient cells and control
1257 HEK293 or SH-SY5Y cells shows multiple peptides were detected in control cells, but not in
1258 CRISPR/Cas9-edited cells.

1259 **(D)** Topographical heatmap showing protein abundance changes in COX17^{MUT HEK} and
1260 COX17^{KO SH} mitochondria compared to control HEK293 or SH-SY5Y mitochondria. \log_2 fold
1261 change in mean LFQ intensity is mapped to the structure of human Complex IV (PDB5Z62).

1262 Data information: **(A, D)** Data presented as \log_2 (ratio of mean LFQ intensity). **(B)** Data
1263 presented as mean \pm S.D. Significance determined by unpaired Student's t-test and p-value
1264 threshold of $p < 0.05$.

1265

1266 **Figure EV4. Human Tim8 proteins are each stable in heterohexameric complex with**
1267 **hTim13.**

1268 **(A-C)** Recombinant **(A)** hTim8a and hTim13, **(B)** hTim8b and hTim13, or **(C)** hTim8a and
1269 hTim13 were combined and purified prior to separation by size-exclusion chromatography
1270 (SEC). The protein content of fractions taken from SEC was quantified by absorbance at 280
1271 nm and normalised as percentage of maximum absorbance. Fractions were analysed by SDS-
1272 PAGE and in-gel protein staining. Representative of $n=2$ biological replicates.

1273 **(D)** Recombinant hTim8a was incubated with co-purified hTim8b-hTim13 (left) and hTim8b
1274 incubated with hTim8a-hTim13 (right) in equimolar concentrations, prior to separation by size-
1275 exclusion chromatography (SEC). The protein content of fractions taken from SEC was
1276 quantified by absorbance at 280 nm and normalised as percentage of maximum absorbance.
1277 Fractions were analysed by SDS-PAGE and in-gel protein staining. $n=1$ biological replicates.

1278 **(E-F)** Example intact protein mass spectra. Co-purified recombinant hTim8a-hTim13
1279 complex(es) were analysed by **(E)** native mass spectrum at 200 mM ammonium acetate (pH
1280 7.0), showing the characteristic shifting of the charge envelope to lower charge state at higher
1281 m/z (Inset: zoom-in on lowly charged masses at up to 5,000 m/z); and, **(F)** denaturing mass
1282 spectrum (0.1% formic acid and acetonitrile), showing the highly charged monomers at lower
1283 m/z . $n=1$ biological replicates.

1284 **(G)** Deconvoluted spectra from the denaturing mass spectra of recombinant hTim8a-hTim13
1285 complex (left) and recombinant hTim8b (right), showing the presence of monomers of hTim8a
1286 (11,406 Da), hTim13 (10,906 Da) and hTim8b (9,751 Da). $n=1$ biological replicates.

1287 **(H)** Deconvoluted spectra from the native mass spectra of recombinant hTim8a-hTim13
1288 complex (left) and recombinant hTim8b-hTim13 (right), showing the presence of the
1289 heterohexameric complexes calculated to be in 3:3 stoichiometry in both cases (hTim8a₃-
1290 hTim13₃ = 66,940 Da; hTim8b₃-hTim13₃ = 61,976 Da). n=1 biological replicates

1291 Data information: No statistical treatments.

1292

1293 **Figure EV5. hTim8a-hTim13 and hTim8b-hTim13 complexes interact in mitochondria**

1294 **(A)** [³⁵S]-hTim13, [³⁵S]-hTim8a and [³⁵S]-hTim8b were incubated with mitochondria isolated
1295 from wild-type HEK293 cells for 15 or 60 min. Following import mitochondria were isolated
1296 and treated with proteinase K and analysed by BN-PAGE and autoradiography.
1297 Representative of n=3 biological replicates.

1298 **(B)** [³⁵S]-hTim8a was imported into control and mitochondria isolated from cells expressing
1299 hTim8b^{FLAG} or hTim13^{FLAG}, **(C)** [³⁵S]-hTim8b was imported into control and mitochondria
1300 isolated from cells expressing hTim8a^{FLAG} or hTim13^{FLAG}; and **(D)** [³⁵S]-Tim22 was incubated
1301 with control and mitochondria isolated from cells expressing hTim10b^{3xFLAG}. Following import
1302 mitochondria were treated with proteinase K and then solubilised in the absence or presence
1303 of the indicated antibodies. Interaction in native complexes analysed by BN-PAGE and
1304 autoradiography. CBB = coomassie brilliant blue staining. Representative of n=2 biological
1305 replicates.

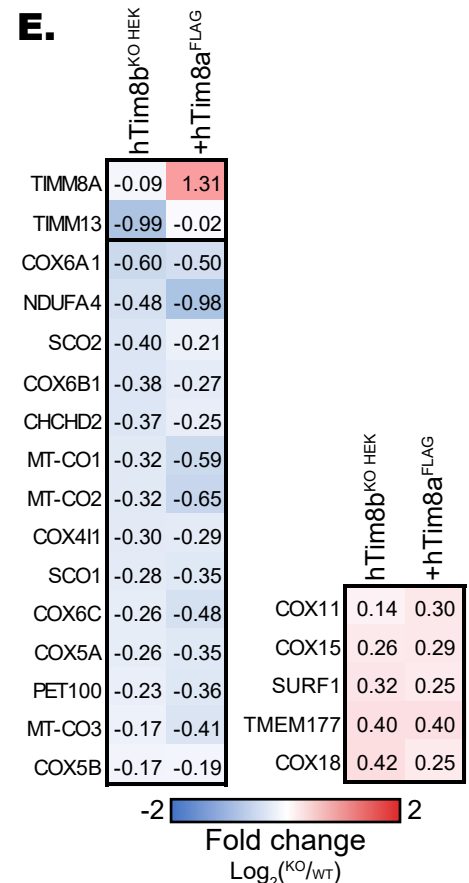
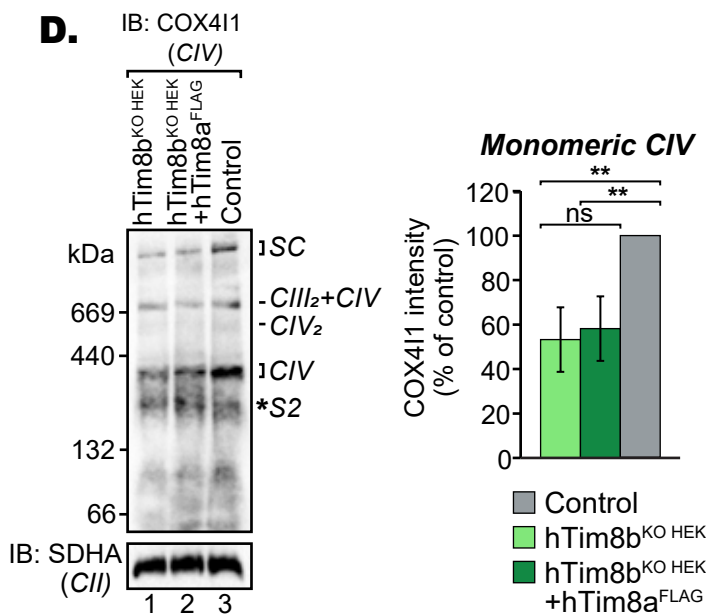
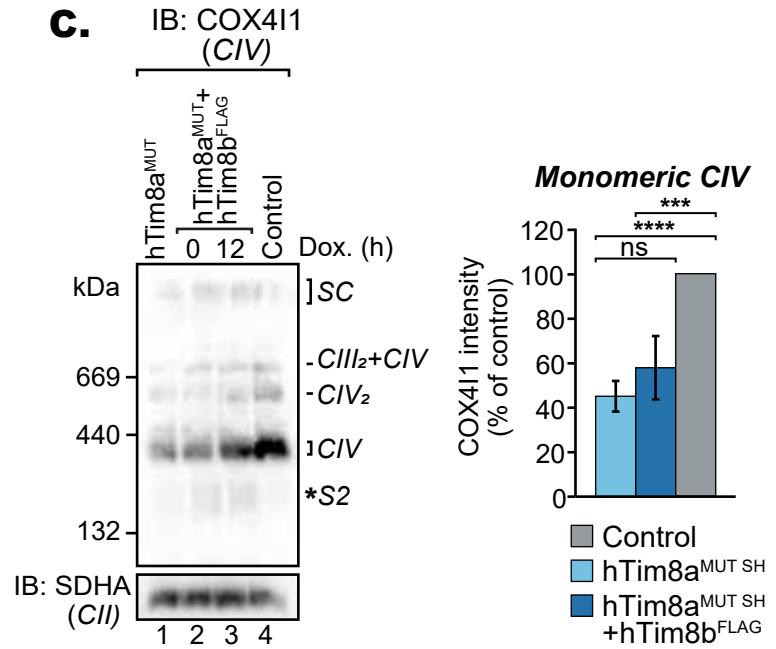
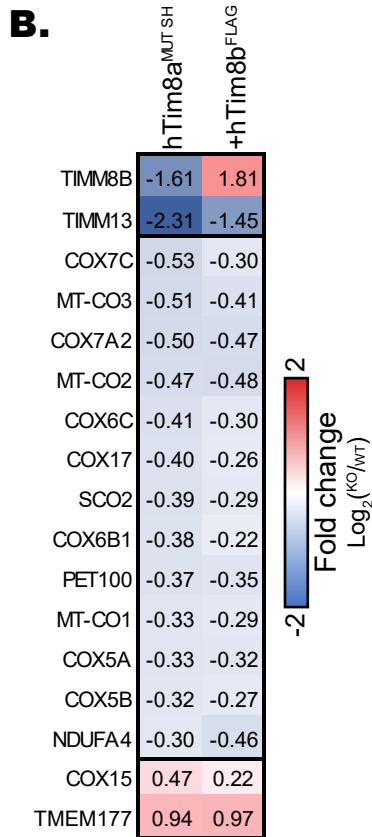
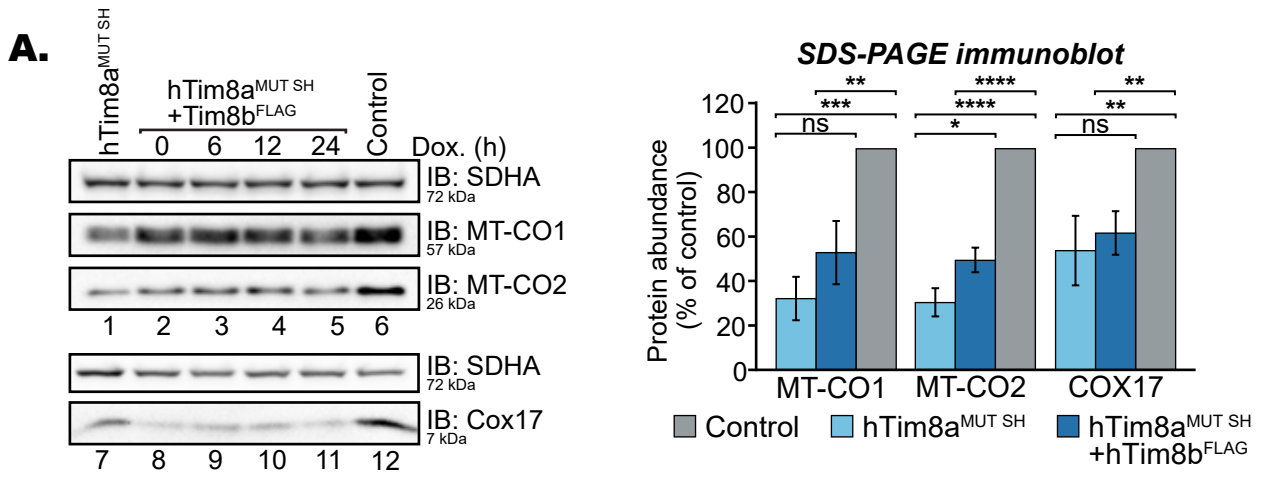
1306 **(D)** Mitochondria isolated from hTim8b^{KO HEK} and hTim8b^{KO SH} cells were compared to
1307 mitochondria from control HEK293 and SH-SY5Y cells by BN-PAGE analysis and immunoblot.
1308 hTim8b^{KO HEK} analysis representative of n=3 biological replicates. hTim8b^{KO SH} analysis n=1
1309 biological replicates

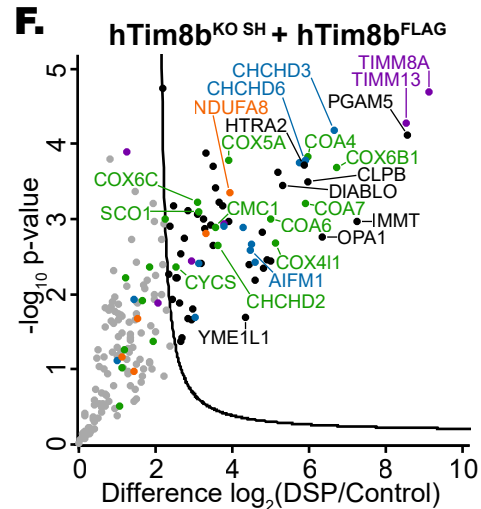
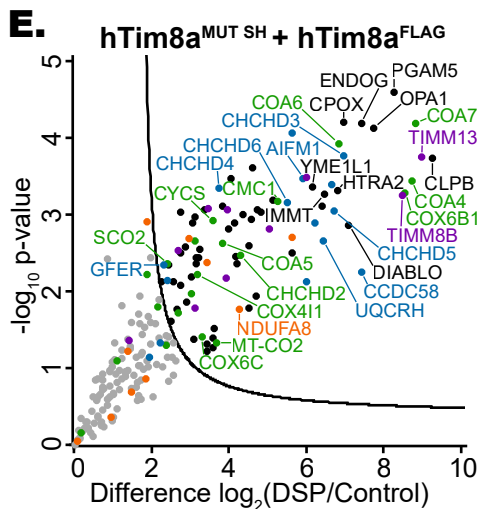
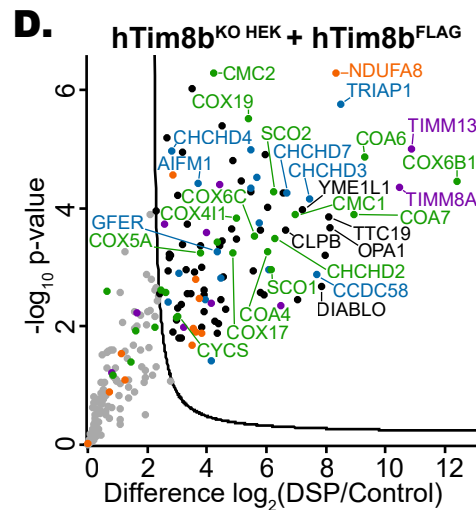
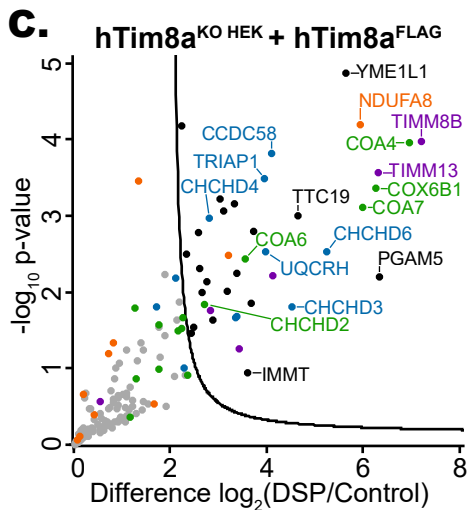
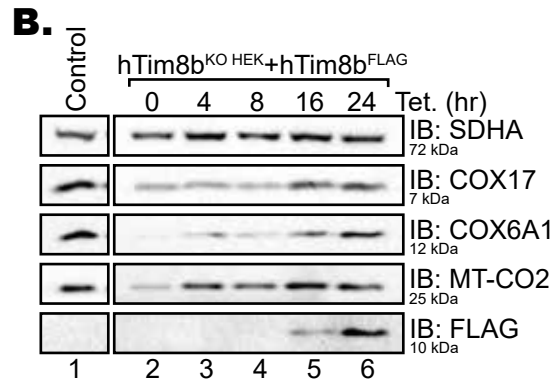
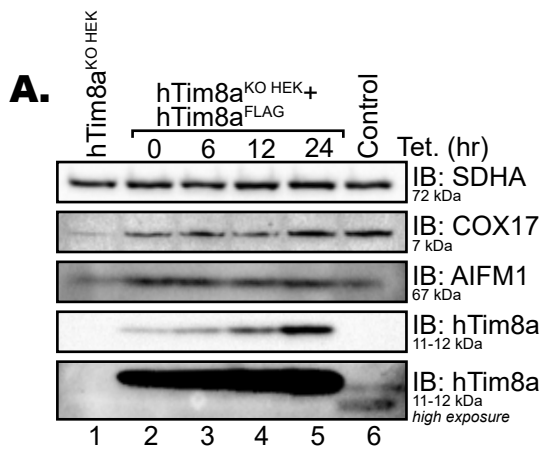
1310 **(E-F)** Mitochondria isolated from wild-type HEK293 cells, treated twice over 72 h with hTim13-
1311 siRNA, were analysed by **(E)** SDS-PAGE and immunoblot, or **(F)** BN-PAGE and immunoblot.
1312 hTim13 levels were quantified as mean ±S.D percentage of cells treated with control siRNA.

1313 Significance determined by Student's t-test (n=3 biological replicates.). *, p<0.05. **(E)**
1314 Representative of n=3 biological replicates. **(F)** Representative of n=2 biological replicates.

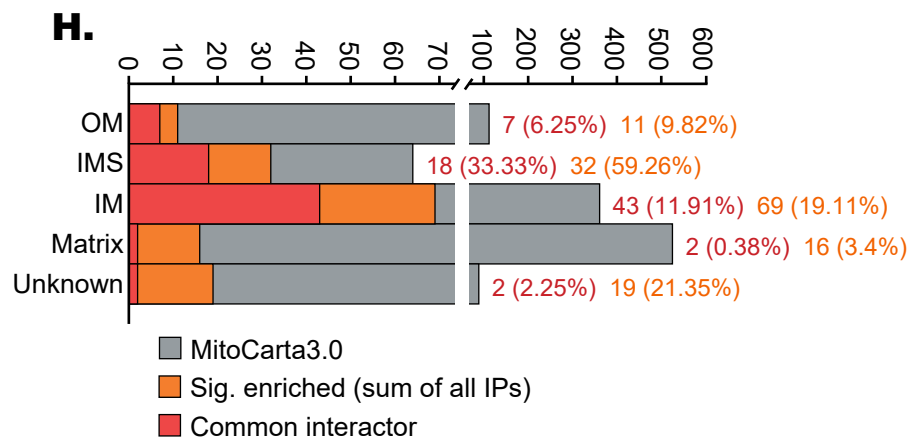
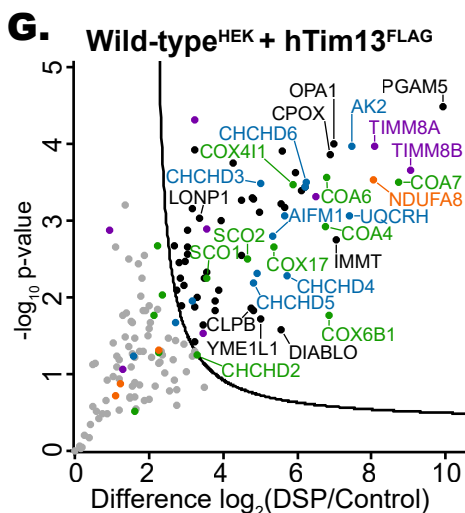
1315 **(G)** Wild-type HEK293 cells were treated with hTim13 siRNA twice over 72 h prior to
1316 mitochondrial isolation. Protein abundance in isolated mitochondria was quantified by LC-
1317 MS/MS for hTim13-siRNA and scramble-siRNA (control) treated cells. The log₂ fold change
1318 in mean LFQ intensity is plotted against Student's t-test p-value (n=3 biological replicates).
1319 Curve indicates significantly altered proteins; FDR<0.05; s0=0.5. Functional annotations
1320 manually curated.

1321 Data information: **(E)** Data presented as mean ±S.D. Significance determined by unpaired
1322 Student's t-test and p-value threshold of p<0.05. **(G)** Data presented as log₂(ratio of mean
1323 LFQ intensity). Significance determined by unpaired Student's t-test with permutation-based
1324 false-discovery rate (FDR) statistics to adjust for multiple hypothesis testing.

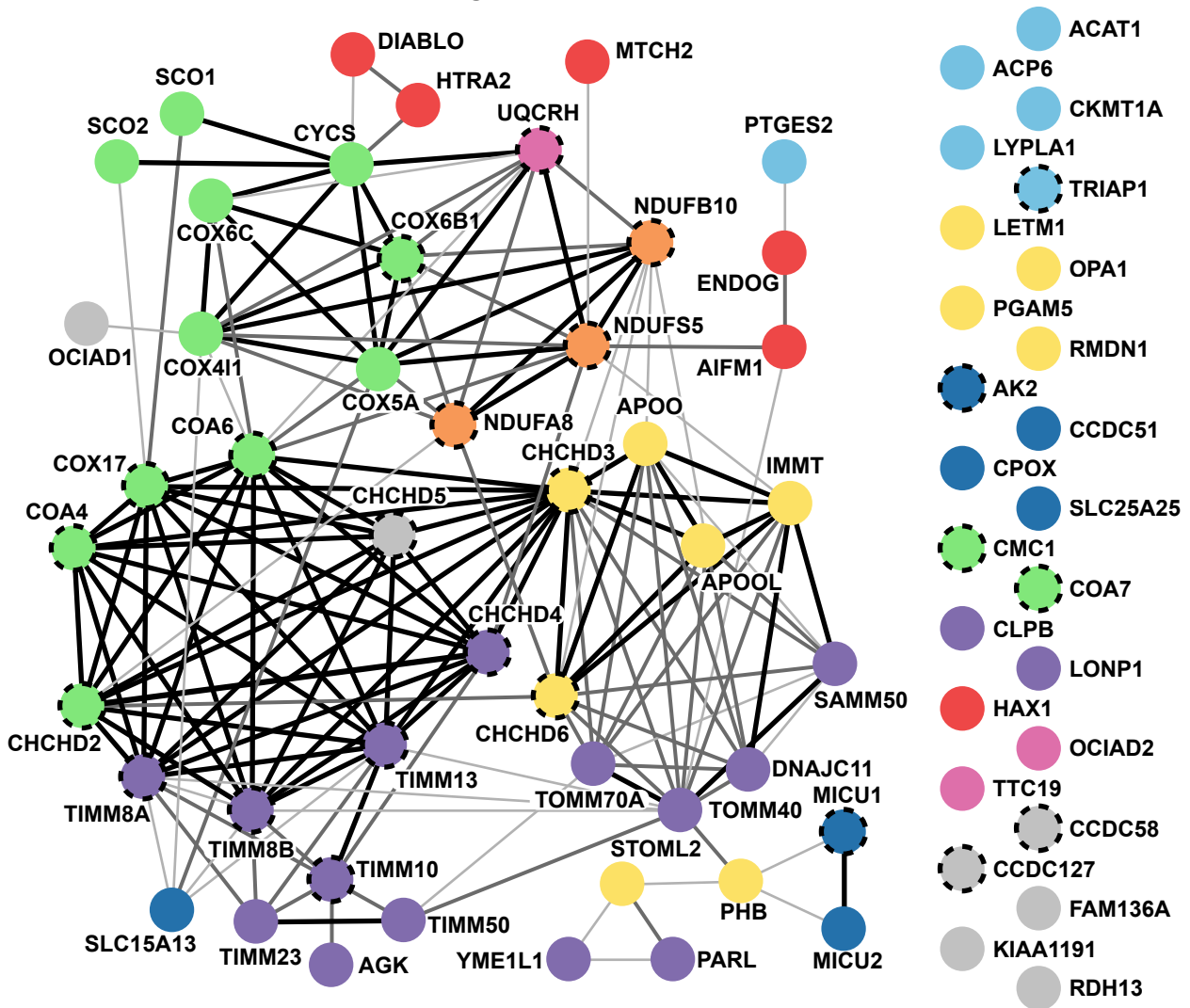




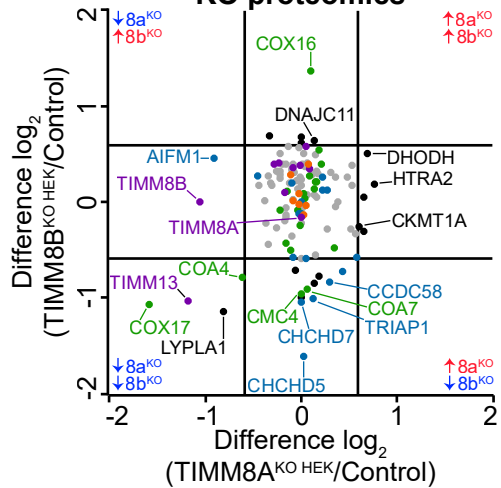
● TIMM family ● Complex I ● Complex IV ● MIA substrate



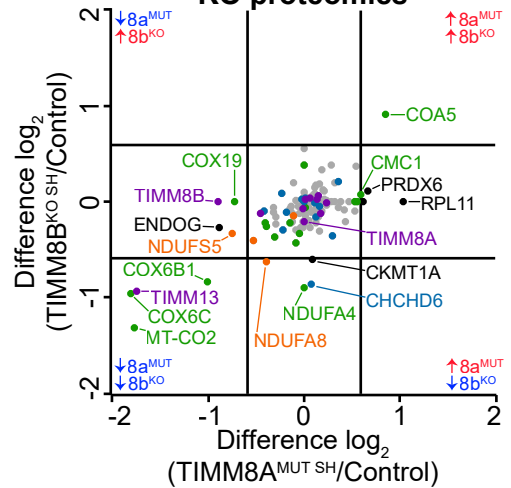
A. Common interacting partners of Tim8a, Tim8b, and Tim13



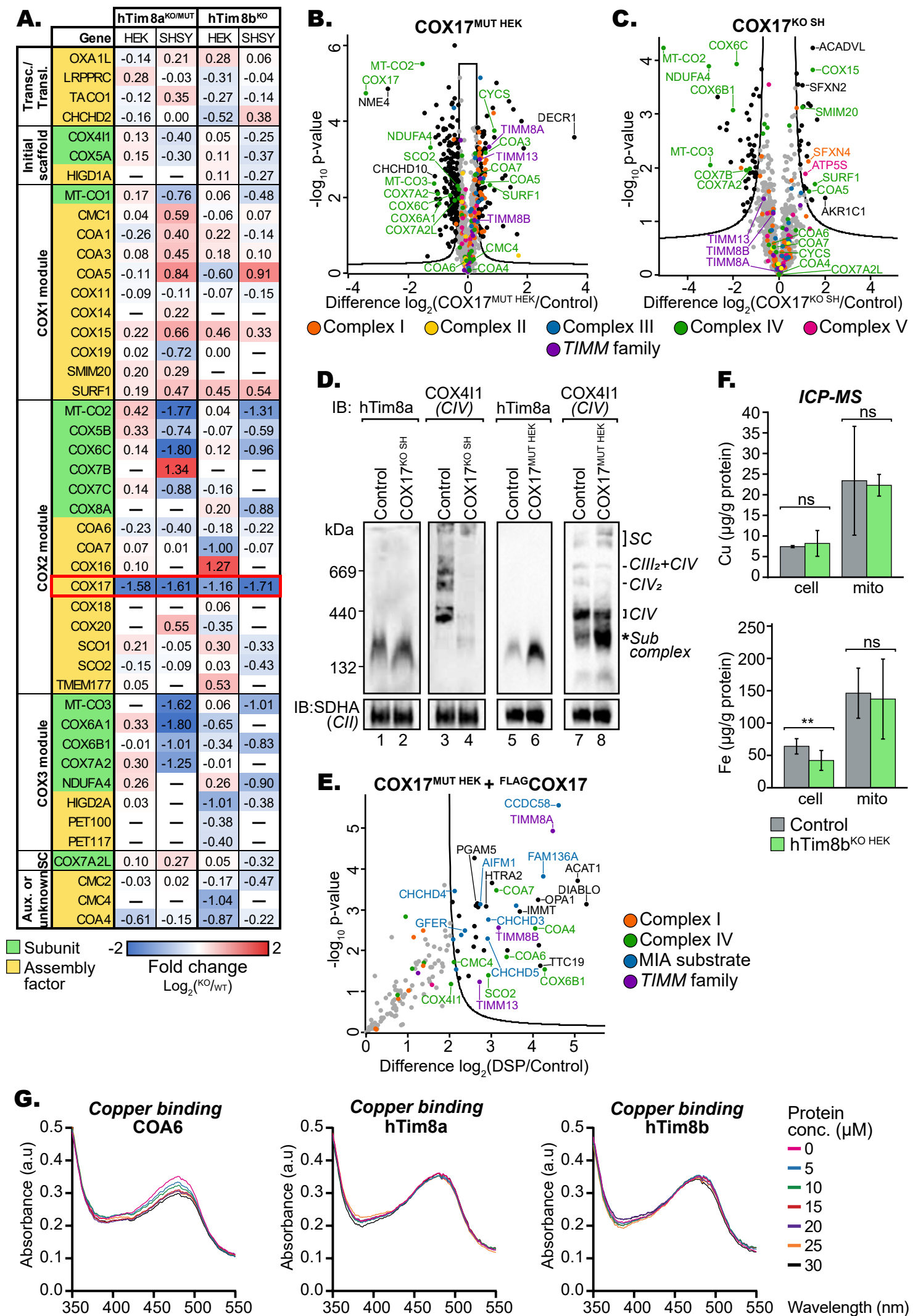
B. HEK293 interacting partners KO proteomics



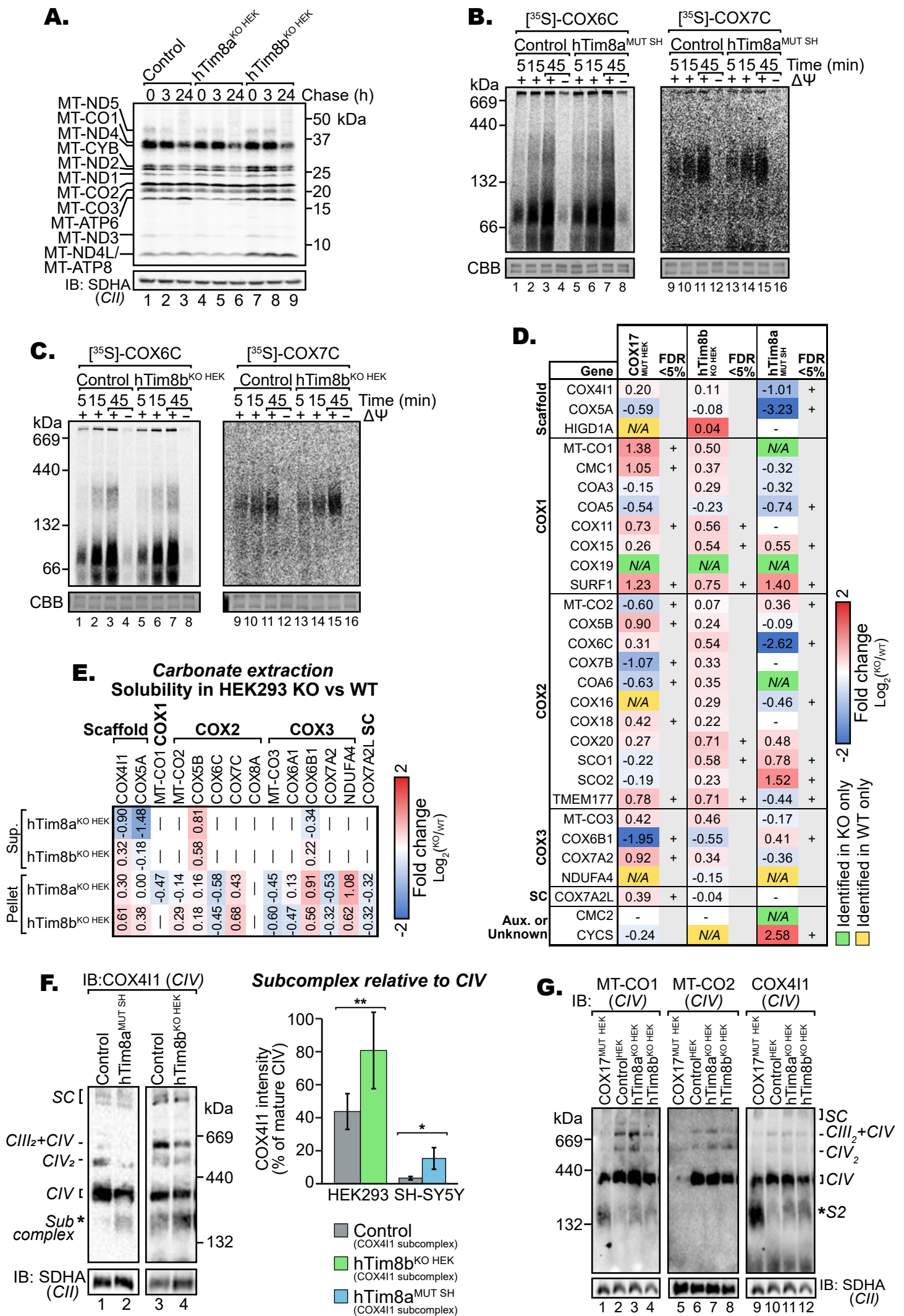
C. SH-SY5Y interacting partners KO proteomics

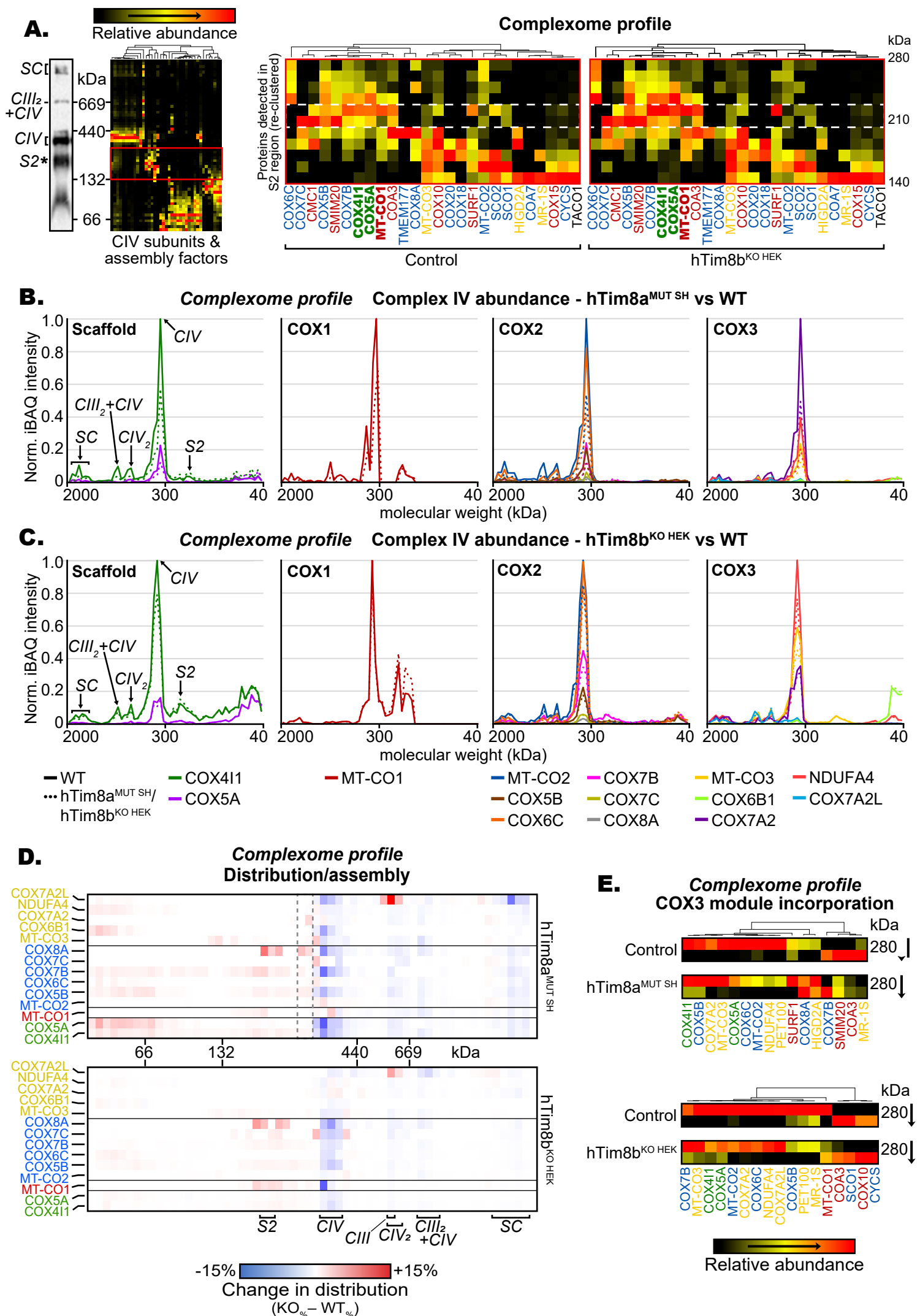


● TIMM family ● Complex I ● Complex IV ● MIA substrate



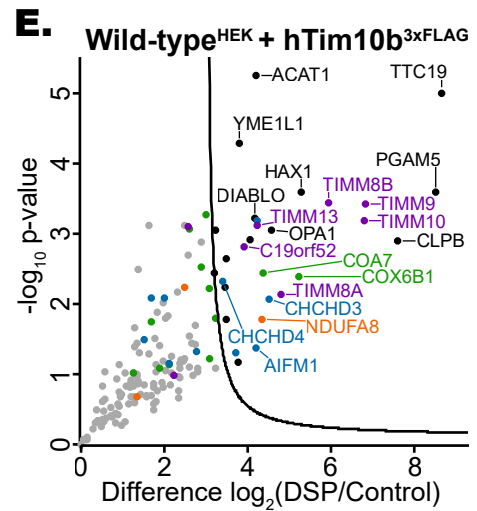
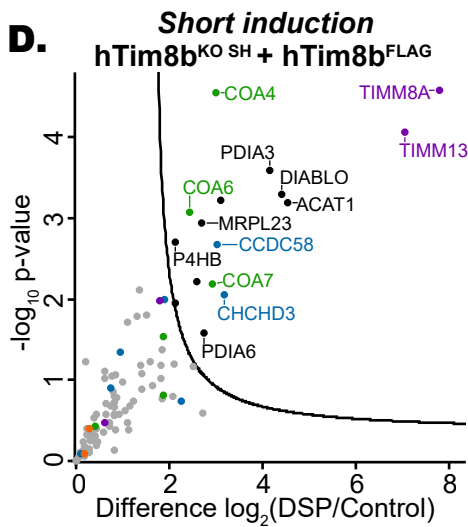
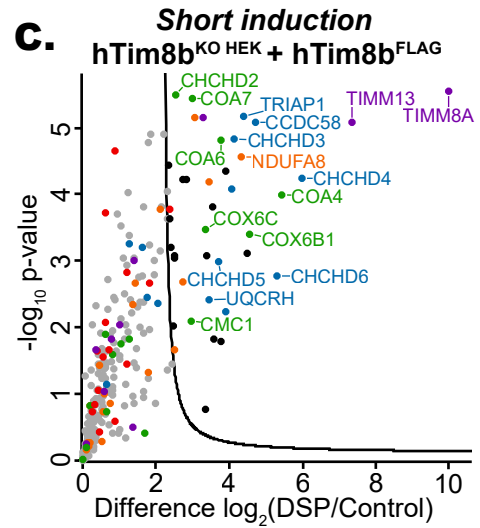
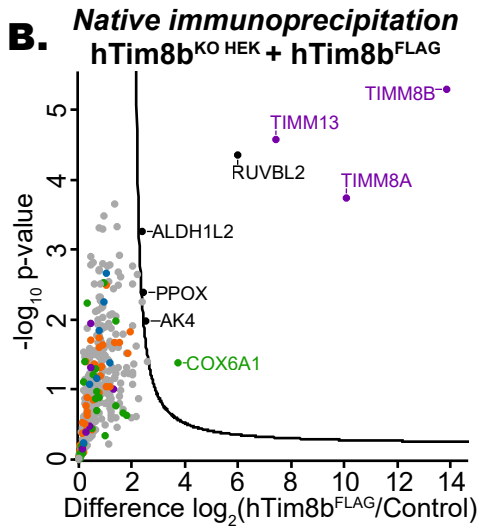
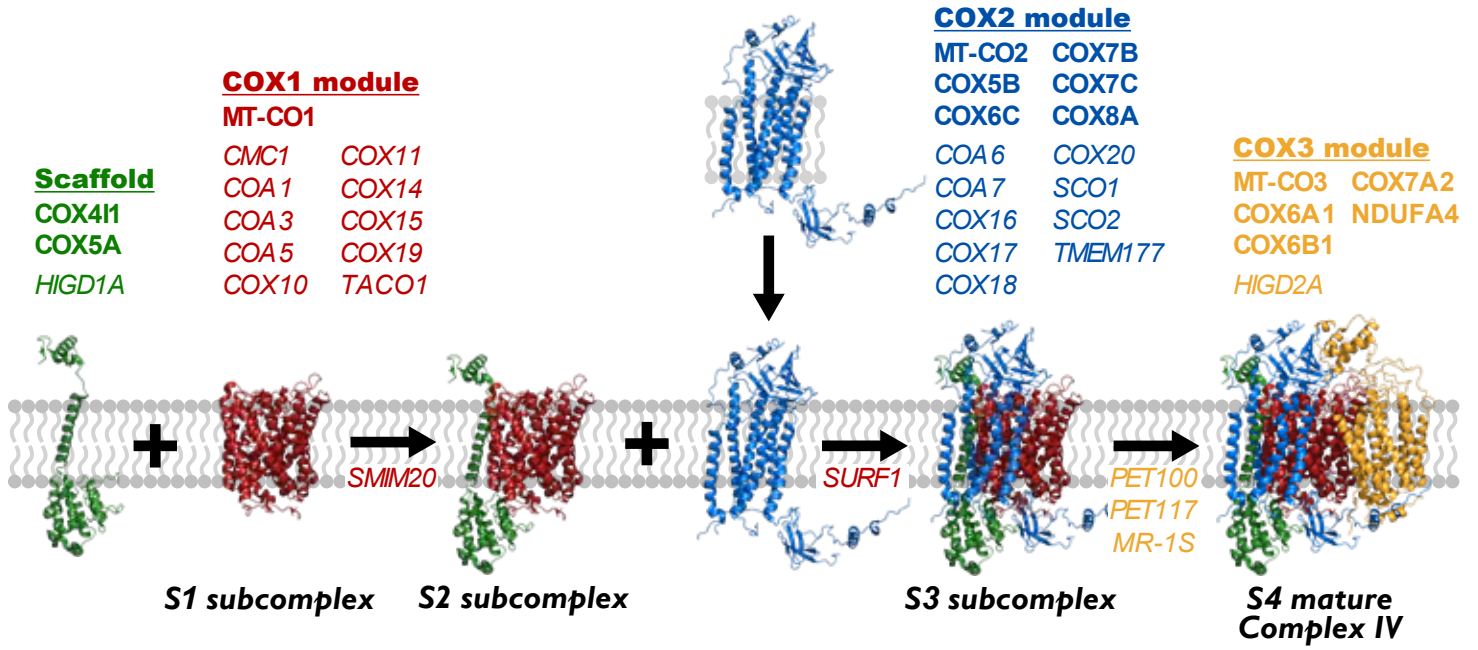
Anderson et al. Figure 3





A.

Complex IV assembly model



● Complex I ● Complex IV ● MIA substrate ● TIMM family

