

1 **Cytoplasmic polyadenylation by TENT5A is required for proper bone formation**

2 **Running title:** Polyadenylation by TENT5A in osteoblasts

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## 30 **Abstract**

31 Osteoblasts orchestrate bone formation by secreting dense, highly cross-linked type I collagen  
32 and other proteins involved in osteogenesis. Mutations in *Col1 $\alpha$ 1*, *Col1 $\alpha$ 2*, or collagen  
33 biogenesis factors lead to the human genetic disease, osteogenesis imperfecta (OI). Herein, we  
34 show that the *TENT5A* gene, whose mutation is responsible for poorly characterized type XVIII  
35 OI, encodes an active cytoplasmic poly(A) polymerase regulating osteogenesis. *TENT5A* is  
36 induced during osteoblast differentiation and *TENT5A* KO osteoblasts are defective in  
37 mineralization. The *TENT5A* KO mouse recapitulates OI disease symptoms such as bone  
38 fragility and hypomineralization. Direct RNA sequencing revealed that *TENT5A*  
39 polyadenylates and increases expression of *Col1 $\alpha$ 1* and *Col1 $\alpha$ 2* RNAs, as well as those of other  
40 genes mutated in OI, resulting in lower production and improper folding of collagen chains.  
41 Thus, we have identified the specific pathomechanism of XVIII OI and report for the first time  
42 a biologically relevant post-transcriptional regulator of collagen production. We further  
43 postulate that *TENT5A*, possibly together with its paralogue *TENT5C*, is responsible for the  
44 wave of cytoplasmic polyadenylation of mRNAs encoding secreted proteins occurring during  
45 bone mineralization.

46 **Keywords:** osteogenesis imperfecta, *TENT5A*, *FAM46A*, polyadenylation, osteoblasts, direct  
47 RNA sequencing

48

## 49 **Introduction**

50 Bone formation or osteogenesis is a very complex process in which osteoblasts play a  
51 crucial role. The primary function of these cells of mesenchymal origin is the secretion of  
52 non-mineralized bone matrix (osteoid), whose predominant component is collagen type I  
53 (Bilezikian et al., 2008). The collagen fibers form a scaffold on which, with the help of  
54 proteoglycans, hydroxyapatite crystals mineralize. Collagens are also secreted by many other  
55 types of cells, which makes these fiber-forming proteins the most abundant proteinous  
56 constituent of the human body (Brinckmann, 2005). Importantly, mutations affecting  
57 collagen I production lead to the human disease osteogenesis imperfecta (OI) (Chu et al.,  
58 1983), which comprises a phenotypically and biochemically heterogeneous group of heritable  
59 disorders of connective tissue. Characteristic features of OI are skeletal abnormalities leading  
60 to bone fragility and frequent fractures, and in some cases short stature and deformations.  
61 (Besio et al., 2019; Rauch and Glorieux, 2004). Mutations in *COL1A1* or *COL1A2*, resulting

62 in a quantitative or qualitative defect in type I collagen formation, are responsible for  
63 approximately 90% of all OI cases (Van Dijk and Silience, 2014). Recent studies have led to  
64 the discovery of many new, non-collagenous genes causative of OI, most of which are  
65 required for collagen I synthesis (Besio et al., 2019), as well as genes involved in bone  
66 mineralization and osteoblast homeostasis.

67 Collagen I undergoes complex posttranslational processing in the endoplasmic  
68 reticulum and the Golgi apparatus, which includes hydroxylation, glycosylation, and  
69 formation of a triple helix composed of two Col  $\alpha$ 1(I) chains and one Col  $\alpha$ 2(I). After  
70 secretion, the ends of pro-collagen polypeptides are processed by dedicated proteases, and  
71 finally, long collagen fibers are formed. These processing steps are relatively well understood  
72 (Bilezikian et al., 2008)

73 In contrast to the posttranslational phase of  $\alpha$ 1(I) and  $\alpha$ 2(I) chain biogenesis, very little  
74 is known about the regulation of collagen expression at the mRNA level, although some  
75 proteins presumably involved in the stabilization of collagen mRNA, such as LARP6, have  
76 been identified (Cai et al., 2010; Zhang and Stefanovic, 2016). However, LARP6 KO mice do  
77 not show prominent defects in bone formation (Dickinson et al., 2016). Recently, several  
78 patients with OI carrying a mutation in the TENT5A gene were identified (Doyard et al.,  
79 2018). TENT5A is a paralogue of the cytoplasmic poly(A) polymerase TENT5C, which acts  
80 as an onco-suppressor in multiple myeloma (Mroczek et al., 2017). Importantly, TENT5C  
81 increases the expression of immunoglobulins and other secreted proteins in the B cell lineage  
82 by stabilizing their mRNAs (Bilska et al., 2020; Mroczek et al., 2017). This may suggest that,  
83 by analogy, TENT5A regulates via the same mechanism the expression of secreted proteins in  
84 osteoblasts, which dysfunction could lead to a bone-related phenotype.

85 Here, we show that TENT5A is indeed a cytoplasmic poly(A) polymerase expressed  
86 in osteoblasts and osteocytes. Comprehensive analysis of TENT5A KO mouse revealed  
87 severe skeletal abnormalities, including frequent bone fractures appearing during or shortly  
88 after birth, hypomineralization, short posture, and deformations. Importantly, analysis of the  
89 global poly(A) tail distribution by nanopore direct RNA sequencing (DRS) of primary  
90 osteoblast cultures revealed that TENT5A polyadenylates and enhances the mRNA  
91 expression of both Col1 $\alpha$ 1 and Col1 $\alpha$ 2, but also that of other proteins involved in bone  
92 formation. In the absence of TENT5A, the production of collagens was drastically decreased.  
93 The defect was not only quantitative but also qualitative, as revealed by the aberrant structure  
94 of collagen fibers, which correlated with concomitant downregulation of collagen processing

95 enzymes in the TENT5A KO. Therefore, for the first time, we provide a molecular basis for  
96 the pathogenesis of TENT5A-related OI (Type XVIII). Additionally, we show that poly(A)  
97 tail distribution in osteoblasts undergoes a global change during mineralization, suggesting  
98 existence of a wave of cytoplasmic polyadenylation, indispensable for proper bone formation.

99

## 100 **Results**

101

102 1. TENT5A KO mice exhibit a bone-related phenotype with frequent bone fractures.

103 To study the role of TENT5A at the organismal level, we generated TENT5A KO mouse  
104 lines in two different backgrounds, inbred C57BL/6N and mixed C57BL/6JxCBA, because in  
105 case of TENT5C, a paralogue of TENT5A, genetic background is known to strongly affect  
106 the viability of KO mice (Dickinson et al., 2016; Mroczek et al., 2017; Zheng et al., 2019).  
107 The CRISPR/Cas9 method was used to establish two mouse lines harboring mutations at the  
108 beginning of the second exon (c.436\_462del26 in C57BL/6N and c.403\_406del4ins50bp in  
109 C57BL/6JxCBA), resulting in frameshifts that destroy the catalytic center of the protein  
110 (Fig 1A). Initial phenotyping, including microCT analysis, revealed no significant differences  
111 between the two strains.

112 TENT5A KO animals had slightly decreased survival, which was probably due to  
113 perinatal or embryonic lethality, because decreased survival was already visible at P6 and did  
114 not change significantly thereafter (Fig EV1A-B). The TENT5A KO mouse was smaller than  
115 the WT mouse (Fig 1B, EV1D) and had an abnormal posture with frequent kyphosis and  
116 wavy tail (Fig 1C, EV1C). This skeletal phenotype corroborates what was observed  
117 previously in mice with the TENT5A mutation generated by ENU-mutagenesis (Diener et al.,  
118 2016). However, we also observed frequent bone fractures (Fig 1D, EV1E), which is  
119 reminiscent of one of the symptoms of human OI patients harboring the TENT5A mutation  
120 (Doyard et al., 2018).

121 Alizarin Red/Alcian Blue staining of the skeletons of 8-week-old mice revealed multiple  
122 rib fractures (Fig EV1E). Occasionally, we detected long bone fractures (Fig EV1F). To  
123 determine when fractures first occurred, consecutive staining of newborn mice (P6) and late  
124 embryos (E17) was performed. Rib fractures were present in newborn mice (Fig 1D), but not  
125 in late embryos (Fig EV1H), suggesting that they appear during or shortly after parturition.

126 Additionally, in adult TENT5A KO mice, we detected decreased cartilage ossification of the  
127 tail (Fig 1E).

128 Biochemical analyses of the TENT5A KO mice revealed that serum calcium and phosphate  
129 levels were within normal ranges (Fig 1F-G), as observed in OI type XVIII patients (Doyard  
130 et al., 2018). Alkaline phosphatase (ALP) was 2.5-fold higher than in WT mice (Fig 1H). Up  
131 until now, the only OI type with an abnormally high ALP level was type VI, which is caused  
132 by loss-of-function mutation in the *SERPINF1* gene (Glorieux et al., 2002; Homan et al.,  
133 2011). TENT5A KO mice also had low plasma albumin levels (Fig 1I), which was probably a  
134 consequence of inflammatory responses to frequent bone fractures.

135 We concluded that TENT5A KO mice display a bone phenotype typical of OI.

136 2. TENT5A mice exhibit skeletal bone hypomineralization and altered long-bone cortical  
137 and trabecular bone microarchitecture.

138 Whole-body scans using micro-computed tomography ( $\mu$ CT) showed multiple  
139 morphological abnormalities in the bones of 13–14-week-old TENT5A KO mice and strong  
140 hypomineralization over the entire skeleton, as reported previously for the ENU-generated  
141 TENT5A mutant (Fig 2A, EV Movie 1-2). In addition, several bone fractures were observed,  
142 as well as healed rib fractures, in all of the samples analyzed (Fig 2B). The shape of the  
143 ribcage was altered and compressed. Fractures in long bones were less frequent, although  
144 broken femurs, the hardest long bone in the body, were sometimes observed (Fig 2C).  
145 Notably, the decreased of mineral content is most visible by X-ray absorption heatmap in the  
146 paws of TENT5A KO mice, where the blue color stains for hypomineralized loci (Fig 2D).

147 High resolution  $\mu$ CT analysis confined to the segmented bone tissue in the femur revealed  
148 no significant differences in the bone mineral density of trabecular and cortical bone between  
149 TENT5A KO mice and wild-type mice, despite the fact that the whole-body skeleton was  
150 hypomineralized (Fig 2I). This was clear indication for possible structural abnormalities in  
151 bones rather than mineral composition. To analyze further the structural properties of  
152 trabecular and cortical bone (Fig 2E-K, EV2A), we performed volumetric analysis of  
153 trabecular bone, which confirmed that the total volume of the trabecular region was not  
154 significantly different between WT and TENT5A KO mice (Fig EV2B); however, trabecular  
155 bone mass was significantly reduced (Fig 2E, G, EV Movie 3-4). The ratio of trabecular bone  
156 volume to the volume of the trabecular region represented as a percentage of the object  
157 volume was more than two-fold lower in TENT5A KO mice than in WT mice (7.3451% WT

158 vs. 2.8768% TENT5A,  $p < 0.05$ ) (Fig 2J). The reduced volume of trabeculae was associated  
159 with a decrease in their density and thickness, which resulted in a significantly higher  
160 trabecular space in TENT5A KO, strongly affecting the mechanical properties of the bone  
161 (Fig 2E, F, EV Movie 3-4).

162 The second important area responsible for bone mechanic resistance is the bone cortical  
163 region. Gross morphology analysis revealed strong shape alteration in TENT5A KO mice,  
164 which was best visible in the transverse tomographic section. Unlike the characteristic elliptic  
165 shape of WT femurs, TENT5A KO femurs had a circular shape. The total volume of the  
166 cortical bone was also 44% lower than in WT mice ( $0.8161 \text{ mm}^3 \pm 0.0535$  in WT vs.  $0.4465$   
167  $\text{mm}^3 \pm 0.0519$  in TENT5A KO,  $p < 0.05$ ) (Fig. 2H). However, the thickness of the cortical  
168 bone itself was not significantly different (Fig EV2B). Moreover, the most striking difference  
169 was the strong reduction in the percentage of cortical pores (0.6% in WT vs. 0.2% in  
170 TENT5A KO) and their volume ( $0.0057 \text{ mm}^3 \pm 0.0016$  in WT vs.  $0.0010 \text{ mm}^3 \pm 0.0009$  in  
171 TENT5A KO) within the entire cortical bone (Fig 2K).

172 Bone detailed analysis clearly demonstrated that ultrastructural changes in bones are  
173 responsible for general hypomineralized character of TENT5A KO whole skeleton and  
174 moreover combination with pore number reduction in cortical bone, which are important for  
175 mechanical resistance of bone and causative for frequent bone fractures found in TENT5A  
176 KO mice.

### 177 3. TENT5A KO mineralization defect is recapitulated *in vitro*

178 The observation that bone mineralization *in vivo* was drastically different in TENT5A KO  
179 mice prompted us to examine TENT5A expression in bone tissue. However, despite our best  
180 efforts, we could not buy or raise specific antibodies against TENT5A protein. Thus, we  
181 generated a TENT5A--3xFLAG mouse line. The animals did not display any detectable  
182 phenotypes. We observed TENT5A-3xFLAG expression in osteoblasts and osteocytes  
183 (Fig 3A), in agreement with previously reported transcriptomic data (Youlten et al., 2020) and  
184 confirmed TENT5A expression in *in vitro* cultured primary osteoblasts derived from neonatal  
185 calvaria using two independent approaches: ICC and WB analysis (Figure 3B-C).

186 To examine the mineralization defect in *in vitro* cultures, we established primary calvarial  
187 osteoblast cultures from TENT5A WT and KO neonates and performed the maturation assay.  
188 NBT/BCIP staining of alkaline phosphatase and evaluation of matrix mineralization by  
189 Alizarin Red staining every 7 days showed that osteoblast mineralization was abnormal in



190 TENT5A KO mice (Fig 3D). Mineralized bone nodules were barely present on day 21, and  
191 even by day 35, mineralization did not reach the expected level. To confirm compromised  
192 differentiation of osteoblasts, we checked the level of *Bglap* (osteocalcin), a marker of mature  
193 osteoblasts. Indeed, by day 28 of mineralization, we observed a 670-fold increase in the *Bglap*  
194 mRNA level in WT osteoblasts and only an 80-fold increase in KO osteoblasts (Figure 3E).

195 To assess whether defective osteoblast differentiation and mineralization was caused by  
196 loss of TENT5A expression, we examined the level of TENT5A mRNA at different stages in  
197 the *in vitro* maturation assay, in TENT5A KO and WT cultures. As expected, the *TENT5A*  
198 mRNA level in TENT5A KO osteoblast was residual and did not change over time, whereas  
199 the *TENT5A* mRNA level in WT osteoblasts was higher and increased during osteoblast  
200 differentiation (Figure 3F). The marked increase in *TENT5A* expression during osteoblast  
201 differentiation was also visible at the protein level, as visualized in cultures from TENT5A-  
202 3xFLAG animals (Figure 3G). Finally, an examination of proliferation rates of osteoblasts  
203 isolated from adult calvaria showed that the doubling time of TENT5A KO osteoblasts was  
204 significantly lower than that of WT osteoblasts (Figure 3H).

205 We concluded that TENT5A plays a direct role in osteoblast differentiation and  
206 mineralization.

#### 207 4. TENT5A polyadenylates collagen I and other OI-related gene transcripts.

208 Having established that osteoblast cultures recapitulate mineralization defects in TENT5A  
209 KO mice, we used this model to dissect further the role of TENT5A in bone mineralization.  
210 Initially, we confirmed that, similar to other TENT5 protein family members, TENT5A is an  
211 active poly(A) polymerase by using a standard tethering assay (Fig EV3A-B). To determine  
212 which mRNAs are regulated by TENT5A polyadenylation, we established primary murine  
213 osteoblast cultures and performed genome-wide poly(A) tail profiling using nanopore-based  
214 direct full-length RNA sequencing (DRS), which we previously used successfully to identify  
215 substrates of TENT5C poly(A) polymerase in B cells (Bilska et al., 2020).

216 Neonatal WT and TENT5A KO calvarial osteoblasts on D0 and D14 of the maturation  
217 assay, in duplicate, were used to generate more than 9 mln mappable transcriptome-wide full-  
218 length native-strand mRNA reads (EV Table 1, EV Table 2). We observed no global changes  
219 in mRNA polyadenylation status between WT and TENT5A-deficient cells at D0 (Fig 4A),  
220 but we did observe subtle shortening of poly(A) tails in TENT5A KO osteoblasts at D14 (Fig  
221 4B). As expected, the majority of the mRNAs encoding housekeeping genes such as

222 components of the translational apparatus or mitochondrial proteins were not affected (Fig  
223 EV3C-D). Because TENT5A was upregulated during osteoblast maturation (Fig 3F-G), we  
224 examined differences in poly(A) tails between WT and TENT5A KO osteoblasts on D14,  
225 which revealed that 52 mRNAs had statistically shorter tails in the TENT5A KO osteoblasts  
226 (EV Table 1). Strikingly, genes in which mutations lead to OI and/or are involved in  
227 osteoblast differentiation and mineralization were at the top of the list (Fig 4C).

228       Importantly, the poly(A) tails of the mRNAs of *Colla1* and *Colla2*, the most commonly  
229 mutated OI-causative genes, were noticeably shorter in TENT5A KO osteoblasts than in the  
230 WT. Median poly(A) tail length of *Colla1* mRNAs was decreased from 118 nucleotides in  
231 the WT to 94 nucleotides in the TENT5A KO ( $p < 0.0001$ , Fig 4D), whereas that of *Colla2*  
232 mRNA was decreased from 115 in the WT to 99 nucleotides in TENT5A KO ( $p < 0.0001$ , Fig  
233 4E). Next, we examined the level of collagen I mRNAs through osteoblast maturation assay.  
234 In agreement with the results of DRS, both *Colla1* and *Colla2* mRNA levels were strongly  
235 decreased in TENT5A KO osteoblasts, especially on days 7 and 14 of mineralization (Fig 4H-  
236 I). Collagen deficiency was global and observed at the organismal level, as evidenced by the  
237 75% decreased level of pro-collagen I alpha 1 in the serum of TENT5A KO mice compared  
238 with their WT littermates (Fig 4J).

239       The low level of collagen I in TENT5A KO mice is a plausible cause of the frequent bone  
240 fractures of OI type XVIII patients and TENT5A KO mice. However, their symptoms were  
241 more severe than those of OI type I patients and the *Mov13* (+/-) mouse (Jaenisch et al.,  
242 1983), particularly with respect to bowing of the lower limbs, malformations, and short  
243 posture. This suggests that more factors may be involved in the pathogenesis of  
244 TENT5A--related OI. Interestingly in this respect, two other OI-causative genes: *SPARC* and  
245 *SerpinF1* were also identified as TENT5A substrates by DRS and had the most shortened  
246 poly(A) tails among all TENT5A substrates. Both were downregulated at the protein level in  
247 TENT5A KO mice, presumably leading to a more severe phenotype (Fig EV3E-F).

248       Based on these results, we conclude that TENT5A polyadenylates *Colla1* and *Colla2*  
249 mRNA to increase its translation efficiency. This is the first study to report regulation of  
250 collagen I production at the post-transcriptional level by cytoplasmic modification of the  
251 length of its poly(A) tail. Moreover, we identified two additional substrates of TENT5A  
252 among OI-related genes, suggesting that the pathogenesis of type XVIII OI is complex.

253       5. Collagen I defect in TENT5A KO is both quantitative and qualitative.



254 To determine whether the structure of collagen I fibers was compromised in TENT5A KO  
255 mice, we examined the migration patterns of collagen I extracted from the tendons of  
256 TENT5A WT and KO mice on SDS-PAGE gels. We did not detect any significant changes  
257 (Fig 5A), suggesting that posttranslational modifications of collagen I are not affected by  
258 TENT5A KO. This was confirmed by mass spectrometry analysis of SDS-PAGE collagen  
259 bands, which showed no differences in the global proline hydroxylation level or oxidation  
260 level (Fig 5B).

261 To examine collagen fiber structure *in situ*, we first performed scanning electron  
262 microscopy analysis of femur structure, which revealed a high level of disorder in collagen  
263 organization and assembly in TENT5A KO mice (Fig 5C). TENT5A KO fibrils were  
264 narrower than those of the WT ( $28.5 \text{ nm} \pm 1.3$  vs.  $37.2 \text{ nm} \pm 1.2$ ,  $p < 0.001$ ). Moreover,  
265 TENT5A KO fibrils exhibited disassembly into thinner prototypic fibrils of  $11 \text{ nm} \pm 2 \text{ nm}$ ,  
266 which were not observed in the WT. This characteristic differentiates collagen fiber  
267 robustness in the WT from those TENT5A KO, causing an abnormal and disarranged  
268 collagen fibers meshwork.

269 We next isolated collagen from mouse tendons using the acetic acid-pepsin method and  
270 visualized collagen by cryo-EM. This showed that WT tendon collagen preparation consisted  
271 of a mixture of two types of populations with diameters of  $17.0 \pm 1.2 \text{ nm}$  (red arrowhead) and  
272  $1.7 \pm 0.2 \text{ nm}$  (observed as a background) whereas TENT5A KO tendon collagen consisted of  
273 one type with a diameter of  $1.6 \pm 0.1 \text{ nm}$  (Fig 5D). The finer diameter population corresponds  
274 to that of tropocollagen, while the thicker to that of fibril. The lack of fibrils in TENT5A KO  
275 preparation suggests that fibrils in these mice are extremely fragile and vulnerable to pepsin  
276 digestion.

277 As collagen I is the main protein secreted by osteoblasts, and the endoplasmic reticulum  
278 (ER) plays a crucial role in the process of osteogenesis, we measured the size of this  
279 subcellular organelle in TENT5A WT and KO osteoblasts. First, long bone-derived  
280 osteoblasts grown on glass coverslips were incubated with anti-calreticulin antibody to  
281 measure the area of the ER with respect to the whole-cell area delineated by HCS CellMask  
282 staining (Fig 5E). We also measured ER size by subjecting ER-tracker stained cells to flow  
283 cytometry (Fig 5F). Both approaches showed that the endoplasmic reticulum was smaller in  
284 TENT5A KO osteoblasts than in the WT.

285 Taken together, our results suggest that TENT5A KO animals have both quantitative  
286 and qualitative defects in collagen I production caused by aberrant mRNA polyadenylation of  
287 Col1a1, Col1a2, and collagen processing protein mRNAs.

288

289 6. Cytoplasmic adenylation plays a crucial role during osteoblast differentiation.

290 We observed significantly longer poly(A) tails in samples derived from mineralizing  
291 osteoblasts (D14) than in those derived from non-differentiated neonatal calvarial osteoblasts  
292 (D0) from both WT and TENT5A KO osteoblasts (Fig 6A-B); however, the difference was  
293 clearer in the WT (median length of poly(A) tails: WT: D0, 74 nt; D14, 86 nt) than in the  
294 TENT5A KO (D0: 74 nt, D14: 82 nt). Since poly(A) tails were elongated not only in the WT  
295 but also in the TENT5A KO mice, upregulation of TENT5A expression during osteoblast  
296 differentiation may only be partially responsible. One possibility is that the expression of  
297 poly(A) polymerases other than TENT5A is upregulated during osteoblast differentiation. We  
298 found that, in addition to TENT5A, only TENT5C was upregulated (Fig 6C; EV4A).  
299 TENT5C KO mice do not exhibit any obvious skeletal dysplasia (Bilska et al., 2020; Mroczek  
300 et al., 2017; Zheng et al., 2019), but TENT5A/TENT5C KO mice showed preweaning  
301 lethality with almost complete penetrance (Fig 6D), suggesting redundancy in the poly(A)  
302 activities of TENT5A and TENT5C, possibly during bone formation.

303 To determine the specificity of TENT5A, we performed gene ontology analysis, which  
304 revealed that transcripts encoding secreted proteins and especially extracellular matrix  
305 constituents were strongly enriched among transcripts with shortened poly(A) tails in  
306 TENT5A KO mice (Fig 6E). These transcripts have relatively long poly(A) tails and seem to  
307 be predominant substrates of TENT5A since their exclusion from the analysis eliminates the  
308 global difference in poly(A) tails lengths between WT and TENT5A KO on D14 (EV4B  
309 Fig 6F,). To see if the effect also applies to osteoblasts isolated from long-bones of adult  
310 animals, we performed an additional DRS experiment. Although the results were less  
311 reproducible, the distribution of poly(A) tails lengths was strikingly similar to that of mRNAs  
312 in mineralizing (D14) osteoblasts isolated from neonatal calvaria. In other words, the average  
313 lengths of poly(A) tails were relatively long, and mRNAs encoding extracellular matrix  
314 constituents, including Col1a1 and Col1a2, were TENT5A substrates (Fig EV5A-D). Western  
315 blot analysis of cellular osteoblastic fractions revealed that membranes are enriched in

316 TENT5A protein, which is in agreement with the localization of its substrates to the ER (Fig  
317 EV4C)

318 To determine what distinguishes TENT5A substrates, we first performed 3'UTR motif  
319 analysis of transcripts identified as TENT5A substrates. No specific motive was found,  
320 despite the canonical polyadenylation signal (Fig EV4D) Nonetheless, TENT5A substrate  
321 mRNA was relatively short, had a higher %GC content, and tended to have short 3'UTRs (Fig  
322 6G, EV4E-F). We then searched for potential alternative polyadenylation sites among  
323 TENT5A-responsive genes, which revealed that several collagens are alternatively  
324 polyadenylated. Importantly, in all cases, mRNAs with shorter 3'UTRs employing a proximal  
325 poly(A) signal were more TENT5A dependent and had longer poly(A) tails. In Col1a1 and  
326 Col1a2 transcripts, which possess two alternative polyadenylation sites, the proximal pA site  
327 was clearly more responsive to TENT5A (Fig 6H).

328 In conclusion, our analysis reveals that TENT5A, possibly in cooperation with TENT5C,  
329 is responsible for the cytoplasmic polyadenylation of extracellular matrix constituents. It also  
330 for the first time suggests the existence of a wave of cytoplasmic polyadenylation occurring  
331 during osteoblast mineralization mainly focused on ER-targeted mRNAs.

## 332 **Discussion**

333 In this paper, we describe a post-transcriptional mechanism essential for proper bone  
334 formation. TENT5A polyadenylates and enhances the expression of proteins secreted by  
335 osteoblasts that are crucial for the mineralization process. Patients suffering from type XVIII  
336 OI display severe symptoms of the disease, which include numerous spontaneous fractures  
337 appearing as soon as early infancy, congenital bowing of lower limbs, hypomineralization,  
338 and in some cases death in childhood (Doyard et al., 2018). Type XVIII patients also have  
339 blue sclerae, which is consistent with the observed in TENT5A KO mice defect in collagen I  
340 production. The severe phenotype of type XVIII patients can be explained by the relatively  
341 broad spectrum of TENT5A substrates identified in the TENT5A KO mouse model, which  
342 recapitulates the disease symptoms of type XVIII OI. TENT5A targets mRNAs not only  
343 encoding collagen chains and other proteins directly involved in collagen secretion/folding  
344 (EV Table 1, EV Table 2), but also SerpinF1 mRNA, whose expression was clearly  
345 downregulated in TENT5A KO mice. Mutation of SerpinF1, which encodes a secreted  
346 collagen-binding protein that participates in various signaling pathways, is responsible for  
347 type VI OI, whose characteristic feature, elevated ALP levels, was also observed in type

348 XVIII OI. However, because of the diversity of TENT5A regulated mRNAs, it is impossible  
349 at present to describe in detail how downregulation of a particular TENT5A substrate  
350 contributes to diseases syndromes.

351 We provide evidence that during osteoblast differentiation, TENT5A and TENT5C are  
352 induced and responsible for a wave of polyadenylation of secreted proteins. This is analogous  
353 to the role of TENT5C in B cells, whose main substrates are immunoglobulins. In osteoblasts,  
354 as indicated above, the range of TENT5A substrates is more divergent than those of TENT5C  
355 in B cells. The mechanism that determines substrate specificity has yet to be identified;  
356 however, it is clear that TENT5A and TENT5C perform a novel type of cytoplasmic  
357 polyadenylation that is different from the waves of polyadenylation previously described  
358 during oocyte maturation and postulated to be involved in neuronal processes (Villalba et al.,  
359 2011; Wu et al., 1998) . TENT5A/TENT5C substrates do not undergo translational  
360 inactivation via deadenylation and are not stored, but are probably actively engaged in  
361 translation at the endoplasmic reticulum, where TENT5A/TENT5C poly(A) polymerases are  
362 enriched. Moreover, no specific sequence motive or other sequence feature, apart from  
363 relatively short UTRs and a preference for proximal poly(A) sites, were found in TENT5  
364 substrates, which is in contrast to CPEB-mediated regulation of polyadenylation in oocytes  
365 (Ivshina et al., 2014)

366 Finally, our results change the generally held view of poly(A) tail metabolism. In osteoblasts,  
367 the most abundant transcripts have long poly(A) tails, which is in sharp contrast to recent data  
368 indicating that the lengths of poly(A) tails of highly abundant mRNAs are relatively short  
369 (Lima et al., 2017). Clearly, the dynamics of poly(A) tail metabolism differ according to cell  
370 type and organ, and results obtained using one particular model system cannot be extrapolated  
371 to other systems. Our knowledge of poly(A) tail metabolism is still very fragmentary and  
372 there is much to be discovered in the future.

### 373 **Methods:**

#### 374 **Mice**

375 TENT5A knock-out mouse lines with a loss of function deletion in exon 2 (c.436\_462del26)  
376 in C57BL/6N genetic background and (c.403\_406del4ins50bp) in C57BL/6/Tar x CBA/Tar  
377 mixed background, were established using the CRISPR/Cas9 method.

378 TENT5A-3xFLAG knock-in was established in C57BL/6/Tar x CBA/Tar mixed background  
379 mice. TENT5C mouse line was established previously (Bilska et al., 2020; Mroczek et al.,  
380 2017). Experimental mice originated from heterozygotic matings and were cohoused with  
381 littermates. TENT5A KO (C57BL/6/Tar x CBA/Tar) and TENT5A-3xFLAG mice were bred  
382 in the animal house of Faculty of Biology, University of Warsaw. TENT5A KO  
383 (C57BL/6/Tar x CBA/Tar), TENT5A-3xFLAG, TENT5C KO, and TENT5C-3xFLAG mice  
384 were maintained under conventional conditions in open polypropylene cages filled with wood  
385 chip bedding (Rettenmaier). The environment was enriched with nest material and paper  
386 tubes. Mice were fed *ad libitum* with a standard laboratory diet (Labofeed B, Morawski). In  
387 rooms, humidity was kept at  $55 \pm 10\%$  and temperature at  $22 \text{ }^\circ\text{C} \pm 2 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ , with 12 h/12 h  
388 light/dark cycles (lights were on from 6:00 to 18:00) and at least 15 air changes per hour.  
389 TENT5A KO (C57BL/6N) mice were bred at Czech Center of Phenogenomics and  
390 maintained in individually ventilated cages in a room with controlled temperature ( $22 \pm 2 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ )  
391 and humidity under a 12 h light/12 h dark cycle. Food (Standard diet from Altromin) and  
392 drink were provided *ad libitum*. Animals were closely followed-up by the animal caretakers  
393 and researchers, with regular inspection by a veterinarian, according to the standard health  
394 and animal welfare procedures of the local animal facility. No statistical method was used to  
395 predetermine sample size. All animal experiments were approved by the Animal Ethics  
396 Committee of the Czech Academy of Sciences (primary screen project number: 62/2016 and  
397 secondary screen project number: 45/2017) or by the Local Ethical Committee in Warsaw  
398 affiliated to the University of Warsaw, Faculty of Biology (approval numbers: 176/2016,  
399 732/2018, decision number 781/2018) and were performed according to Czech guidelines for  
400 the Care and Use of Animals in Research and Teaching or according to Polish Law (Act  
401 number 266/15.01.2015).

## 402 **Mouse Genotyping**

403 DNA isolation was performed using the HotShot method (Truett et al 2000) with minor  
404 modifications. For ear and tail tips from mature and newborn mice, the volumes of alkaline  
405 and neutralization solutions were scaled up to 175  $\mu\text{l}$  and 100  $\mu\text{l}$ , respectively. Lysis time was  
406 reduced to 30 minutes. Crude DNA extract (1  $\mu\text{l}$ ) was added to 19  $\mu\text{l}$  of PCR mix containing  
407 Phusion HSII polymerase, HF buffer (Thermo), and 10pM of primers (Tent5A\_seq1F and  
408 Tent5A\_seq1R for genotyping of TENT5A KO mice and Tent5A\_seq1F and Tent5A\_seq1R  
409 for genotyping TENT5A-3xFLAG mice; Appendix Table 1). Genotyping of TENT5C KO  
410 mice was performed as described previously (Bilska et al., 2020).

## 411 **Strains used**

412 The following experiments were performed using TENT5A KO mice with the C57BL/6J/Tar  
413 × CBA/Tar mixed background: initial phenotyping, DRS, osteoblast maturation assay,  
414 consequential analysis whole mount staining, collagen migration analysis, cryo-EM, pro-  
415 collagen I level analysis in serum, western blot analysis, mass spectrometry analysis,  $\mu$ CT,  
416 osteoblast proliferation analysis, and SEM. The following experiments were performed using  
417 TENT5A KO mice with the C57BL/6N background: initial phenotyping,  $\mu$ CT, analysis of  
418 serum biochemistry, and SEM.

## 419 **Analysis of lethality**

420 For TENT5A KO mice, analysis were performed independently on day 6 and day 35 on mice  
421 derived from TENT5A(WT/-) × TENT5A(WT/-) matings. Mice were genotyped as described  
422 above.

423 For TENT5A/TENT5C dKO analysis was performed retrospectively on 85 weanling mice  
424 deriving from TENT5A(WT/-); TENT5C(-/-) × TENT5A(WT/-); TENT5C(WT/-) matings.  
425 This choice of mating strategy was made based on animal welfare and fertility issues.

## 426 **Whole-Mount Skeletal Staining**

427 Alizarin Red/Alcian Blue staining of E17, P6, and adult WT and TENT5A KO mouse was  
428 performed as described previously (Hilton, 2014).

## 429 **Immunohistochemistry**

430 For immunodetection of FLAG in bones, femurs from 11-week-old mice were fresh-frozen in  
431 Killik medium (Bio-Optica, Milan, Italy) and 10- $\mu$ m sections were cut using the Kawamoto  
432 method (Kawamoto, 2003) on adhesive films (Section-Lab, Hiroshima, Japan) with a cryostat  
433 (Leica CM 1950, Leica, USA).

434 Sections on films were fixed in 4% PFA for 10 minutes at 4 °C, washed in TBS, incubated  
435 with Proteinase K for antigen unmasking (5  $\mu$ g/ml in TBS, 10 minutes at room temperature  
436 (RT)), quenched with 3% H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> in TBS, and washed again with TBS. Then, sections were  
437 blocked with 10% donkey serum, 1% BSA and 0.3% Triton X-100 in TBS and incubated  
438 overnight with rabbit anti-FLAG antibody (Appendix Table 2). The next day, sections were  
439 washed with wash buffer (TBS with Triton X-100 0.025%), incubated with donkey anti-rabbit  
440 IgG antibody conjugated with HRP (Agrisera, Vannas, Sweden; diluted 1:200 in blocking



441 solution) for 1 h at RT together with Hoechst 33342 diluted 1:1000. After incubation, sections  
442 were washed and developed in CF488A-tyramide (Biotium, Fremont, CA, USA) diluted  
443 1:100 in 0.1M borate buffer pH 8.7 with 0.1% Tween-20 and 0.003% H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> (5' at RT),  
444 washed with TBS, and mounted on microscope slides with Prolong Gold (Invitrogen).

445 Stained specimens were scanned using an Opera Phenix high-throughput confocal system  
446 (PerkinElmer, Waltham, MA, USA) equipped with a 40× water immersion objective. The  
447 obtained tile arrays of stack series were used for flatfield correction with BaSiC Tool (Peng et  
448 al., 2017) at the default settings, maximum orthogonal projection and stitching with  
449 Grid/Collection Stitching Plugin (Preibisch et al., 2009) , all using (Fiji Is Just) ImageJ  
450 software.

### 451 **Serum biochemical analysis**

452 Biochemical data were collected from the phenotyping pipeline performed by the  
453 International Mouse Phenotyping Consortium (IMPC) in the Czech Center for  
454 Phenogenomics (CCP). Sixteen-week-old mice were used in experiments, and nine TENT5A  
455 KO males and six TENT5A KO females were analyzed against a WT cohort. Blood samples  
456 were taken from isoflurane-anesthetized mice by retro-bulbar sinus puncture with non-  
457 heparinized glass capillaries. Samples were collected in lithium/heparin-coated tubes (KABE  
458 cat # 078028). After collection, each sample was mixed by gentle inversion and then kept on  
459 RT until centrifugation. Samples were centrifuged within 1 h of collection at 5000 × g, for 10  
460 minutes at 8 °C. Once separated from the cells, plasma samples were analyzed using a  
461 Beckman AU480 biochemical analyzer.

### 462 **Mouse body weight analysis**

463 Five-week-old littermates deriving from heterozygotic matings were weighed using a standard  
464 laboratory scale.

### 465 **Preparation of long bones**

466 Tibia and fibula were dissected and boiled in 100 °C water for 5 h without stirring. Soft  
467 tissues were separated from the bone. Pre-cleaned bones were subjected to 30% hydrogen  
468 peroxide treatment and incubated for 24–48 h. The obtained preparations were washed with  
469 PBS, photographed, and stored dry.

### 470 **MicroCT scanning and analysis**

471 Five mice from each genotype (WT and TENT5A KO) were sacrificed by cervical dislocation  
472 at 13–14 weeks of age. Mice in 4% PFA were transported to the Czech Center for  
473 Phenogenomics (CCP) for  $\mu$ CT analysis of the whole skeleton and high-resolution analysis of  
474 femurs.

475 First, the whole body scan was performed in a SkyScan 1176 instrument (Bruker, Belgium) at  
476 a resolution of 9  $\mu$ m per voxel (0.5 mm Al filter; voltage, 50 kV; current, 250  $\mu$ A; exposure,  
477 2000 ms; rotation, 0.3°; spiral scan, 2x averaging) in a wet atmosphere. Reconstruction was  
478 performed in an NRecon 1.7.1.0 (Bruker, Belgium) with the following parameters: smoothing  
479 = 2, ring artifact correction = 3, beam hardening correction = 36%, and defect pixel masking  
480 threshold = 10%. The range of intensities was set from 0.004 AU to 0.23 AU.

481 Then, femur bones were extracted from the mice and mounted in 2.5% low melting agarose  
482 (Sigma-Aldrich Co., USA). After at least 1 day in the fridge (4 °C) for sample stabilization,  
483 they were scanned in a SkyScan 1272 (Bruker, Belgium) at a resolution of 1.5  $\mu$ m per voxel  
484 (Al filter, 1 mm; voltage, 80 kV; current, 125  $\mu$ A; exposure, 2584 ms, rotation, 0.21° in a  
485 360° scan, 2x averaging). NRecon 1.7.3.1 (Bruker, Belgium) with the InstaRecon 2.0.4.0  
486 (InstaRecon, USA) reconstruction engine was used to obtain digital sections. Reconstruction  
487 was performed with the following parameters: smoothing = 6, ring artifact reduction = 8,  
488 beam hardening correction = 28%, and defect pixel masking threshold = 10%. The range of  
489 intensities was set from 0.00 AU to 0.110 AU.

490 Reconstructions were reoriented to the same orientation in DataViewer 1.5.4.0 (Bruker,  
491 Belgium) and subsequently, regions of interest for trabecular and cortical bones analysis were  
492 selected in CT analyzer 1.18.4.0 (Bruker, Belgium). Bone was separated from the background  
493 by the Otsu method (CIT). Regions of interest for trabecular bone were selected automatically  
494 based on the Bruker Method note MCT-124 with some modifications due to the high  
495 resolution of the scan. Parameters, such as bone volume, porosity, and bone mineral density  
496 (BMD) in cortical bone, and relative bone volume, volume:surface ratio, structure linear  
497 density, orientation, and thickness in trabecular bone, were measured. BMD was established  
498 with calibrated Hydroxyapatite (HAP) phantoms (25% and 75%) scanned and reconstructed  
499 under the same conditions as for samples. CTvox 3.3.0 (Bruker, Belgium) was used for scan  
500 visualization and image processing.

501 **Neonatal murine calvarial osteoblast isolation**

502 Primary osteoblast cultures were established using the standard collagenase method (Hilton,  
503 2014). Briefly, three to six old neonates from heterozygotic matings were euthanized using  
504 isoflurane and decapitated. Mice were genotyped, and calvaria were isolated and pooled (four  
505 per culture), rinsed with PBS, and subjected to five rounds of digestion using type II  
506 collagenase (Thermo Fisher Scientific, 17101015). Digests three to five were collected for  
507 culture. All osteoblast cultures were grown in MEM alpha medium supplemented with 10%  
508 FBS (Sigma) and penicillin-streptomycin (Thermo Fisher Scientific).

### 509 **Osteoblast maturation assay**

510 Osteoblasts were isolated as described above and cultured until they reached confluency.  
511 Cells were seeded into 12-wells plates at 35000 cells/well. After reaching confluency,  
512 medium was changed to MEM alpha supplemented with 10% FBS, 50 µg/ml sodium  
513 ascorbate (Sigma), and 10 mM β-glycerophosphate (Roth).

514 Cells were collected and stained on days 0, 7, 14, 21, 28, and 35. Medium was changed every  
515 2–3 days. Cell were detached using trypsin (ThermoFisher Scientific). For RNA isolation  
516 collected cells were washed with PBS and resuspended in TRI reagent (Sigma). For protein  
517 extraction cells were resuspended in PBS containing 0.1% NP-40 and protease inhibitors and  
518 incubated for 30 minutes in 37 °C in the presence of 250 U of Viscolase (A&A  
519 Biotechnology).

520 For staining cells were fixed in 4% formaldehyde and washed either three times with distilled  
521 water (for NBT/BCIP) or three times with PBS and once in 96% ethanol (for Alizarin Red).  
522 Staining was performed using 0.1% Alizarin Red S (Sigma) in 95% ethanol or NBT/BCIP  
523 Substrate Solution (ThermoFisher Scientific).

### 524 **Western blot analysis**

525 For western blot analysis, equal amount of cells were lysed in PBS containing with 0.1%  
526 NP40 , protease inhibitors, and viscolase (A&A Biotechnology, 1010-100) for 30 minutes at  
527 37 °C. After shaking at 600 rpm and homogenization with a Dounce homogenizer, Laemmli  
528 buffer was added and samples were denatured for 10 minutes at 100 °C. Samples were  
529 separated on 10–12% SDS-PAGE gels and proteins were transferred to Protran nitrocellulose  
530 membranes (GE Healthcare), after which membranes were stained with 0.3% w/v Ponceau S  
531 in 3% v/v acetic acid and digitized. Membranes were incubated with 5% milk in TBST buffer

532 for 1 h followed by overnight incubation in 4 °C with specific primary antibodies (Appendix  
533 Table 2).

#### 534 **Immunostaining of osteoblasts**

535 Neonatal osteoblasts were isolated as described above and at P1 were seeded onto glass  
536 18-mm coverslips in a 12-well plate. The next day, cells were fixed using paraformaldehyde  
537 (10 minutes in 4% in 0.1M phosphate buffer, pH 7.4) and washed with PBS. For  
538 immunodetection of FLAG, fixed cells on coverslips were treated in the same way as tissue  
539 cryosections on film, as described the Immunohistochemistry section, but without the antigen  
540 unmasking step. Stained cells were imaged using a LSM800 confocal microscope (Zeiss,  
541 Jena, Germany) equipped with 20× air and 63× oil immersion objectives. Collected Z-stacks  
542 were used to generate orthogonal maximum projections using ImageJ software.

#### 543 **RNA isolation**

544 Total RNA was isolated using TRIzol (Thermo Fisher Scientific) according to the  
545 manufacturer's instructions, dissolved in nuclease-free water, and stored at -80 °C.

#### 546 **RT-qPCR**

547 For quantitative analysis, RNA was first treated with DNase (TURBO DNA-free Kit,  
548 Invitrogen; AM1907) for 30 minutes at 37 °C and then reverse transcribed using SuperScript  
549 III (Invitrogen; 18080085), oligo(dT)<sub>20</sub>, and random-primers (Thermo Fisher Scientific).  
550 Quantitative PCR was performed using Platinum SYBR Green qPCR SuperMix-UDG  
551 (Thermo Fisher Scientific; 11733046) in a LightCycler 480 II (Roche) PCR device and the  
552 primers listed in Appendix Table 1. Gene expression was normalized to that of HMBS  
553 (Stephens et al., 2011). Differences were determined using the  $2^{-\Delta\Delta C(t)}$  calculation.

#### 554 **Osteoblast isolation from murine adult long bones**

555 Isolation of osteoblasts from adult long bones was performed as described previously with  
556 minor modifications (Bakker and Klein-Nulend, 2012). Briefly, febur and tibia were isolated,  
557 and muscles and surrounding tissue were removed. Bone marrow was removed by  
558 centrifugation. Diaphyses were cut into small pieces and bone pieces were washed several  
559 times with PBS solution. Bone pieces were incubated in OptiMEM medium (Thermo Fisher  
560 Scientific) containing 1 mg/ml collagenase II (Thermo Fisher Scientific) for 2 h at 37 °C in a  
561 shaking water bath. Bone pieces were rinsed several times with DMEM (Thermo Fisher  
562 Scientific) containing 10% FBS (Sigma), and then transferred to T25 flask containing the

563 same medium. Cells were cultured for 10–14 days and medium was changed two or three  
564 times per week. Experiments were performed at passage 3.

### 565 **Cell proliferation analysis**

566 Adult osteoblasts were isolated as described above. To calculate the proliferation ratio, cells  
567 were stained with 1  $\mu$ M CFSE according to the manufacturer's instructions. The signal was  
568 measured at time 0 h, 48 h and 96 h, and qMFI were calculated. The proliferation ratio was  
569 calculated based on the gMFI. The intensity of fluorescence was measured as gMFI. Cells  
570 were measured with BD LSRFortessa™ under FACS Diva Software v8.0.1 (BD) software  
571 control and analyzed using FlowJo (Data Analysis Software v10).

### 572 **Nanopore direct RNA sequencing (DRS)**

573 *Cell culture and RNA retrieval:* Neonatal calvarial and adult long-bones osteoblasts were  
574 isolated as described above. Adult osteoblasts were passaged three times before harvesting.  
575 Neonatal osteoblasts were passage once. After reaching confluency, cells were either  
576 harvested (for D0 timepoint) or medium was changed to differentiation medium (MEM alpha  
577 supplemented with 10% FBS, 50  $\mu$ g/ml sodium ascorbate (Sigma) and 10 mM  
578  $\beta$ -glycerophosphate (Roth) and the cells were cultured for 14 days with two medium changes  
579 per week and harvested (for the D14 time point). RNA was isolated as described before. The  
580 cap-enriched mRNA was prepared from 100  $\mu$ g of total RNA with GST-eIF4E<sup>K119A</sup> protein  
581 and glutathione sepharose 4B (GE Healthcare), as described previously (Bilska et al., 2020).

582 *Library preparation and sequencing:* DRS libraries were prepared using Direct RNA  
583 Sequencing (ONT, SQK-RNA002) with 5  $\mu$ g of murine cap-enriched mRNA according to the  
584 manufacturer's instructions, and to optimize sequencing efficiency, were mixed with 100–  
585 150 ng of *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* oligo(dT)-enriched mRNA. Sequencing was performed  
586 using a MinION device, MinKNOW 19.10.1 software, Flow Cell (Type R9.4.1 RevD), and  
587 basecalling with Guppy 3.3.0 (ONT). Raw sequencing data (fast5 files), as well as basecalled  
588 reads were deposited at ENA (project accession number: PRJEB39819). Summary of  
589 sequencing runs is presented in the Appendix Table 5.

590 *Bioinformatic analysis:* Obtained reads were mapped to GencodeVM22 reference transcript  
591 sequences (Frankish et al., 2019) using Minimap 2.17 (Li, 2018), with options -k 14 -ax map-  
592 ont –secondary=no and processed with samtools 1.9 to filter out supplementary alignments  
593 and reads mapping to the reverse strand (samtools view -b -F 2320). The poly(A) tail lengths

594 for each read were estimated using Nanopolish 0.13.2 polyA function (Li, 2018). In  
595 subsequent analyses, only length estimates with QC tag reported by Nanopolish as PASS  
596 were considered. Statistical analysis was performed using functions provided in the NanoTail  
597 R package (<https://github.com/smaegol/nanotail>, manuscript in preparation). In detail, the  
598 Generalized Linear Model approach, with  $\log_2(\text{polyA length})$  as a response variable, was  
599 employed, and transcripts that had a low number of supporting reads in each condition ( $<20$ )  
600 were filtered out. To correct for the batch effect, a replicate identifier was used as one of the  
601 predictors, in addition to the condition (Tent5A KO/WT) identifier. P values (for the  
602 condition effect) were estimated using the Tukey HSD post hoc test and adjusted for multiple  
603 comparisons using the Benjamini–Hochberg method. Transcripts were considered as having a  
604 significant change in poly(A) tail length, if the adjusted P value was  $< 0.05$ , the absolute value  
605 of calculated Cohen's d (effect size) was  $>0.2$ , and there were at least 20 supporting reads for  
606 each condition. Functional Enrichment Analysis was done using DAVID Functional  
607 Annotation Tool (Huang et al., 2009a, 2009b)

608 For differential expression estimates, reads were mapped to the mouse GRCm38 genome using  
609 Minimap 2.17 (Li, 2018), with options `-k 14 -ax splice -uf`. Features were assigned using  
610 Gencode VM22 and featureCounts from the subread package (Li, 2018) in the long read, strand-  
611 specific mode (`-L -s 1`), including only features covered by at least 20% (`--fracOverlapFeature`  
612 `0.2`) and reads overlapping with a feature by at least 50% (`--fracOverlap 0.5`). Statistical analysis  
613 of differential expression was performed using the DESeq2 (v.1.24.0). Bioconductor package  
614 (Li, 2018), using default settings and correcting for the batch effect.

### 615 **Motif enrichment analysis**

616 Fasta sequences of 3'UTRs of (1) TENT5A substrates and (2) all Gencode-annotated transcripts  
617 in mm10 genome (background) were obtained using bedtools getfasta tool (v. 2.29.2) (Quinlan  
618 and Hall, 2010), using bed files with 3'UTR coordinates downloaded from UCSC Table  
619 Browser tool (GENCODE VM23 track and known\_gene table) (Karolchik et al., 2004) and  
620 GRCm38 genome sequence. Sequence motifs enriched in 3'UTRs of TENT5A substrates were  
621 identified using DREME tool (Bailey, 2011), run with options `-rna -norc -k 8 -l`, with  
622 background set to 3'UTRs of all Gencode-annotated transcripts in mm10 genome.

### 623 **Measurement of pro-collagen I level**



624 Elisa for pro-collagen I was performed using Mouse Pro-Collagen I alpha 1 ELISA Kit  
625 (Abcam, ab210579) according to manufacturer's instructions with 1:2000–1:4000 serum  
626 dilutions.

### 627 **Tethering assay**

628 Tethering assays were performed as previously described (Chekulaeva et al., 2011). In brief,  
629 one day before transfection, 0.75 ml of HEK293 cells were seeded into 6-well plates to achieve  
630 about 70–80% confluence on the day of transfection. Next, cells were co-transfected with  
631 100 ng of constructs expressing the reporter Renilla luciferase (RL-5BoxB), 100 ng of control  
632 firefly luciferase (FL, pGL3 plasmid), and 2 µg of plasmid encoding tethered NHA-protein  
633 using 5 µl of Lipofectamine 2000 and OPTI-MEM media (Invitrogen) according to  
634 manufacturer's instructions. All transfections were repeated at least three times.

### 635 **Northern blot**

636 Low-molecular weight RNA samples were separated on 4–6% acrylamide gels containing 7M  
637 urea in 0.5× TBE buffer and transferred to a Hybond N+ membrane by electrotransfer in 0.5×  
638 TBE buffer. High-molecular weight RNA samples were separated on 1.2% agarose gels in 1×  
639 NBC buffer containing formaldehyde and transferred to membranes by capillary elution using  
640 8× SSC buffer crosslinked by 254 nm UV light. Radioactive probes were prepared with a  
641 DECAprime II DNA Labeling Kit (Invitrogen) according to manufacturer's instructions.  
642 Northern blots were carried out in PerfectHyb Plus Hybridization Buffer (Sigma), scanned  
643 with Fuji Typhoon FLA 7000 (GE Healthcare Life Sciences), and processed with Multi  
644 Gauge software Ver. 2.0 (FUJI FILM).

### 645 **Collagen isolation from tendon**

646 For Cryo-EM and migration analysis, collagen from tendons was isolated using the acetic  
647 acid/pepsin method as described previously (Pokidysheva et al., 2013). Briefly, tendons were  
648 isolated from 9–10-week-old WT and TENT5A mice. After an initial 4 h incubation in 0.5 M  
649 acetic acid, tissues were digested in 0.5 M acetic acid containing 1 mg/ml porcine pepsin  
650 (Sigma) for 20 h. Samples were centrifuged to remove insoluble material and NaCl was added  
651 at a final concentration of 0.7 M to precipitate collagens. After 2 h of incubation, samples  
652 were centrifuged (20000 × g, 1 h, 4 °C) and precipitates were resuspended in 0.1 M acetic  
653 acid. After pH neutralization using 1 M Hepes pH 8 (Sigma), NaCl was added at a final  
654 concentration of 2.5 M and collagen was precipitated for 7 h. After centrifugation (20000 × g,

655 1 h, 4 °C) precipitates were resuspended in 0.1 M acetic acid to achieve a collagen  
656 concentration of approximately 1 mg/ml.

### 657 **Collagen migration analysis**

658 Protein concentration in isolated collagen samples (described above) was measured at 280 nm  
659 using Nanodrop OneC (Thermo Scientific). After pH neutralization using 1 M Hepes pH 8  
660 (Sigma), samples were diluted in Laemmli sample buffer and 2 µg of protein was separated  
661 on a NuPage 3–8% Tris-Acetate gel (Invitrogen). The gel was then stained with Coomassie  
662 Blue and digitalized.

### 663 **Mass Spectrometry**

664 Collagen was isolated and separated as described above. Bands corresponding to Colla1 and  
665 Colla2 were cut into slices and subjected to the standard “in-gel digestion” procedure, during  
666 which proteins were reduced with 100 mM DTT (for 30 minutes at 56 °C), alkylated with 0.5  
667 M iodoacetamide (45 minutes in a darkroom at RT), and digested overnight with 10 ng/µl  
668 trypsin solution (sequencing grade modified trypsin, Promega V5111). The resultant peptides  
669 were eluted from the gel with 0.1% trifluoroacetic acid (TFA) and 2% acetonitrile (ACN).  
670 Finally, to stop digestion, trifluoroacetic acid was added at a final concentration of 0.1%. The  
671 digest was centrifuged at 14 000 × g for 30 minutes at 4 °C to pellet solids. The particle-free  
672 supernatant was analyzed by LC-MS/MS in the Laboratory of Mass Spectrometry (IBB PAS,  
673 Warsaw) using a nanoAcquity UPLC system (Waters) coupled to an Orbitrap QExactive mass  
674 spectrometer (Thermo Fisher Scientific). The mass spectrometer was operated in the data-  
675 dependent MS2 mode, and data were acquired in the m/z range of 300–2000. Peptides were  
676 separated on a 180 min linear gradient of 95% solution A (0.1% formic acid in water) to 35%  
677 solution B (acetonitrile and 0.1% formic acid). Each sample measurement was preceded by  
678 three washing runs to avoid cross-contamination. The final MS washing run was searched for  
679 the presence of cross-contamination between samples.

680 Data were searched with Max-Quant (Version 1.6.3.4) platform search parameters: match  
681 between runs (match time window, 0.7 minutes; alignment time, 20 minutes); enzyme,  
682 trypsin/p specific; max missed, 2; minimal peptide length, 7 aa; variable modification,  
683 methionine and proline oxidation; fixed, cysteine alkylation; main search peptide tolerance,  
684 4.5 ppm; protein FDR, 0.01. Data were searched against the protein database containing all  
685 mice collagen sequences.

686 The list of peptides containing oxidized proline was statistically analyzed. The list of peptides  
687 containing oxidized proline was statistically analyzed. No difference has been detected both at  
688 the level of a single peptide and at the general level of sum of a intensities of all oxidated  
689 peptides identified in WT and TENT5A KO samples.

#### 690 **Femur collagen visualization in SEM**

691 Seven-week-old mice femurs were dissected and transferred to 0.9% saline physiological  
692 solution. Epiphyses were cut off, and bones were flushed out. Bone tissue was cut into 2-  
693 mm pieces and placed in PBS buffer containing 4% paraformaldehyde (Schuchardt,  
694 Muenchen, Germany) and 1% glutaraldehyde (Merck, electron microscopy grade, Sigma-  
695 Aldrich, Czech Republic) for 1 h at RT and then 1 week at 4 °C. Fixed bone tissue pieces  
696 were extensively washed on a rotator (PBS buffer, three times, 20 minutes, RT) and post-  
697 fixed in 1% OsO<sub>4</sub> (1 h, RT). Post-fixed samples were extensively rewashed on a rotator  
698 (ddH<sub>2</sub>O, three times, 20 minutes, RT) and dehydrated in the graded alcohol series (25%, 50%,  
699 75%, 90%, 96%, 100% and 100%, 20 minutes each). Finally, the samples were critical point  
700 dried (K850 Critical Point Dryer, Quorum Technologies Ltd, Ringmer, UK).

701 Dried tissue pieces were mounted onto standard 12.5-mm aluminum stubs (Agar Scientific,  
702 UK) using Ultra Smooth Carbon Discs (SPI Supplies, USA) or with Silberleitlack (Ferro  
703 GmbH, Frankfurt am Main, Germany). The samples were then sputter-coated with 3 nm of  
704 platinum (Turbo-Pumped Sputter Coater Q150T, Quorum Technologies Ltd, Ringmer, UK).

705 The mounts were examined in a FEI Nova NanoSEM 450 field emission gun scanning  
706 electron microscope (FEI, Brno, Czech Republic, now Thermo Fisher Scientific) at 3–5 kV  
707 using ETD, CBS, and TLD detectors. Sample charging, when it occurred, was eliminated in  
708 the beam deceleration mode of the scanning electron microscope.

#### 709 **Cryoelectron microscopy**

710 Collagen preparations were plunge-frozen onto Quantifoil R2/2 holey carbon grids using a  
711 Thermo Fisher Vitrobot. CryoEM data collection was performed using a Thermo Fisher  
712 Glacios TEM operating at 200 kV, equipped with a 4k × 4k Falcon 3EC direct electron  
713 detection camera at a magnification of 92k, corresponding to a pixel size of 1.5 Å at the  
714 specimen level.

#### 715 **Osteoblast fractionation**

716 Neonatal osteoblasts were isolated as described above. Cells were harvested at passage 1, and  
717 fractionation was performed using Subcellular Protein Fractionation Kit (Thermo Fisher  
718 Scientific). In parallel, total protein fractions were prepared by lysing cells in PBS containing  
719 0.1% NP40, protease inhibitors (Invitrogen), and Viscolase (A&A Biotechnology).

## 720 **ER size analysis**

721 Adult long-bone derived osteoblasts were isolated as described above.

722 For microscopic analysis, osteoblasts were seeded onto 18-mm glass coverslips in a 12-well  
723 plate and fixed with 4% formaldehyde (Sigma) the next day. Fixed cells were permeabilized  
724 using ice-cold methanol in -20 °C for 10 minutes and blocked in blocking buffer (PBS with  
725 5% goat serum and 0.3% Triton X-100) for 30 minutes. Incubation with primary anti-  
726 calreticulin antibody (Cell signaling #12238; 1:600; O/N; 4 °C, wet chamber) and secondary  
727 goat anti-rabbit HRP conjugated antibody (Agrisera, AS101069; 1 h, RT) was performed in  
728 antibody dilution buffer (1% BSA, 0.1% Triton X-100 in PBS). Cells were stained with  
729 Hoechst 33342 (Thermo) and mounted with ProLong Gold Antifade Mountant (Thermo).  
730 Imaging was done with an automated IX81 microscope (Olympus) equipped with a MT20  
731 illuminating unit with a 150 W mercury-xenon burner and a motorized stage (Merzhäuser), a  
732 20×/0.75 objective lens, and a 5-channel SEDAT filter set (Semrock). Data were acquired  
733 using ScanR Acquisition software (Olympus) and initial image analysis (segmentation,  
734 gating, intensity quantification) was done with ScanR Analysis (Olympus). Downstream  
735 analysis was done in R, using packages dplyr, tidyr, and data.table. Plots were generated with  
736 ggplot2. For each condition, 500 cells were analyzed.

737 For cell cytometry analysis, ER-tracker red (ER-Tracker™ Red, BODIPY™ TR  
738 Glibenclamide; for live-cell imaging, E34250, Thermo Fisher Scientific) was used according  
739 to the manufacturer's instructions to selectively stain endoplasmic reticulum. Samples  
740 intensity were measured with BD LSRFortessa™ under FACS Diva Software v8.0.1 (BD)  
741 software control and analyzed using FlowJo (Data Analysis Software v10).

742

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753 Higher quality and capacity for transgenic models breeding by MEYS and ERDF to RS and  
754 JP.

755 **Authors contributions**

756 OG analyzed the mouse phenotypes and performed all experiments on osteoblasts. GAN  
757 participated in mouse phenotyping and histological analysis, PK performed all bioinformatics  
758 analysis, SM performed DRS sequencing, tethering experiments, and supported the  
759 experimental design, MKK performed qRT-PCR and cytometry analyses, BT and AC  
760 performed microscopic analysis, FS and GAN performed microCT analysis, OB and OK  
761 performed SEM analysis, PS performed cryoEM analysis, DC performed mass spectrometry  
762 analysis, JG and MS constructed and genotyped mice, RS coordinated the mouse phenotyping  
763 pipeline at CCP, AD and JP conceived and directed the studies. OG and AD drafted the paper  
764 with the contribution of GAN and JP.

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925 **Figure legends**

926 **Figure 1.** TENT5A KO display phenotypes resembling type XVIII osteogenesis imperfecta.

927 A. Schema of the frameshift mutation introduced by the CRISPR/Cas9 method for the  
928 generation of TENT5A KO mice.

929 B. Comparison of the size of adult WT and TENT5A KO littermates.

930 C. Abnormal posture of the TENT5A KO mouse with visible kyphosis.

931 D. Alizarin Red/Alcian Blue staining of a 6-day-old TENT5A KO thorax showing  
932 multiple healing bone fractures.

933 E. Alizarin Red/Alcian Blue staining of an 8-week-old WT and TENT5A KO tails  
934 reveals decreased cartilage ossification in the TENT5A KO mouse.

935 F–I: Biochemical parameters of TENT5A KO and WT mice. Measurements of calcium (F),  
936 phosphate (G), alkaline phosphatase (H) ( $p < 0,0001$ ) and albumin (I) ( $p < 0,0001$ ) in mouse  
937 serum (KO,  $n=15$ ; WT,  $n=140$  – data gathered for the IMPC mouse phenotyping pipeline);  
938 Mann–Whitney test.

939 **Figure 2.** MicroCT analysis reveals skeletal abnormalities of TENT5A KO mice

940 A–H. 3D-MicroCT images of representative WT (A–H) and TENT5A KO mice (A'–H').

941 A. Whole body hypomineralized skeleton with fractures (dashed squares) and  
942 malformations in TENT5A KO mice. Scale bar, 5 mm.

943 B–D. Closer view of several healing ribs fractures (arrowheads) (B, B'). Femur fracture is  
944 indicated with the arrow (C, C') and hypomineralization of paws is displayed in blue (D,  
945 D'). Scale bar, 5 mm.

946 E–H. High resolution 3D-MicroCT images of the altered microstructure of distal femoral  
947 metaphyseal trabecular bone and mid-diaphyseal cortical bone. Scale bar, 250  $\mu\text{m}$ .

948 E–F. 3D structure of trabecular bone trabeculae showing a bone volume decrease in  
949 TENT5A mice is shown in yellow (E, E'). Increase of space between the trabecular bone  
950 of TENT5A mice (E, E', F, F') is shown in green for the smallest space and yellow-white  
951 for the biggest space. Dashed lines represent the sections selected for figure F.

952 G. Longitudinal and transversal sections showing no significant difference in trabecular  
953 thickness in shown in color in WT and TENT5A KO mice.

954 H. TENT5A KO Mid-diaphyseal cortical bone showing a decrease in porosity of the bone  
955 (left image, pores in red) and altered morphology observed in transversal sections in  
956 purple.

957 I-K. MicroCT-derived femur morphometry results.

958 I. Bone mineral density (BMD) analysis of cortical and trabecular bone revealed no  
959 significant difference in density. Data is presented as mean  $\pm$  SD. \* $P \leq 0.05$ , (Two-way  
960 Anova test).

961 J. Trabecular bone histomorphometry analysis showing trabecular bone percent object  
962 volume (%) and Structure linear density (1/mm) decrease in TENT5A KO mice (1.9521  
963 1/mm  $\pm$  0.4428 vs. 0.9118 1/mm  $\pm$  0.3350) and Object surface/volume ratio (1/mm)  
964 increase (107.43 1/mm  $\pm$  5.551 vs. 143.85 1/mm  $\pm$  13.876). Data are presented as mean  $\pm$   
965 SD. \* $P \leq 0.05$ , \*\*\* $P < 0.001$  (Student's t-test).

966 K. Cortical bone quantification of total volume of object of interest (mm<sup>3</sup>), total porosity  
967 of cortical pores (%), and total volume of pore space (mm<sup>3</sup>) were decreased in TENT5A  
968 KO mice. Data are presented as mean  $\pm$  SD. \* $P \leq 0.05$ , \*\*\* $P < 0.001$  (Student's t-test).

969 Data information: All color bars are displayed as 0 to 1 ratios of the parameter values. Femurs  
970 of five WT mice and five TENT5A KO mice were used for the experiment.

971 **Figure 3.** TENT5A is expressed in osteoblasts and regulates the mineralization process

972 A. Immunohistochemical staining for FLAG in femur bone sections from TENT5A-3xFLAG  
973 knock-in and wild-type controls with FLAG in green and Hoechst in blue; Cx - cortical bone;  
974 BM - bone marrow; arrows and arrowheads indicate FLAG-positive osteocytes within the  
975 bone mass and osteoblasts on the bone/bone marrow interface, respectively; scale bars denote  
976 200 $\mu$ m and 50 $\mu$ m on 40x stitch fragment and inset magnification, respectively.

977 B-C: TENT5A-3xFLAG is detectable in TENT5A-3xFLAG, but not in WT osteoblasts.

978 B. Immunofluorescent staining for FLAG in in vitro cultured osteoblasts from Tent5a-  
979 3xFLAG and wild-type controls with FLAG in green and Hoechst in blue; scale bars denote  
980 100 $\mu$ m and 20 $\mu$ m for 20x and 63x objective-collected images, respectively.

981 C. Cell lysates from TENT5A-3xFLAG and WT osteoblast neonatal primary cultures were  
982 probed with anti-FLAG antibody. Ponceau staining was used as a loading control.

983 D. Osteoblast maturation assay performed on WT and TENT5A KO neonatal calvarial  
984 osteoblasts reveals aberrant mineralization in TENT5A KO mice. Cells were stained with  
985 Alizarin Red and NBT/BCIP solution on days 0, 7, 14, 21, 28 and 35.

986 E. RT-qPCR analysis of Bglap mRNA levels during osteoblast maturation reveals low  
987 levels of Bglap in TENT5A KO mice. Expression was normalized to that of HMBS (n=4–6,  
988 medium values from technical triplicates). (Two-way Anova and Sidak's multiple comparison  
989 tests; p-values: D0, ns; D7, ns; D14, 0.0012; D21, 0.0001; D28, 0.0001.)

990 F. RT-qPCR analysis of mRNA levels of TENT5A during osteoblast maturation reveals  
991 upregulation of TENT5A expression in the WT, but not in TENT5A KO mouse. TENT5A  
992 expression was normalized to that of HMBS (n=4–6, medium values from technical  
993 triplicates). (Two-way Anova and Sidak's multiple comparisons tests; p-values: D0, ns; D7,  
994 0.0008; D14, <0.0001; D21, 0.0001; D28, <0.0001.)

995 G. Western blot analysis of WT and TENT5A-3xFLAG osteoblasts collected on days 0, 7, 14,  
996 21 and 28 of maturation showing upregulation of TENT5A during osteoblast mineralization.

997 H. Analysis of the proliferation rate of adult long-bone derived osteoblasts. Osteoblasts from  
998 WT and TENT5A KO mice were stained with CFSE and measured by flow cytometry at 0,  
999 48, and 96 h of culture. Dots represent the average doubling time for each population (n=5–6,  
1000  $p = 0.0022$ ; Unpaired t-test with Welch's correction).

1001 **Figure 4.** TENT5A polyadenylates and increases the expression of collagen I and other OI  
1002 causative genes.

1003 A. DRS-based poly(A) length global profiling of mRNA isolated from WT and TENT5A  
1004 KO neonatal calvarial osteoblasts at day 0 of maturation reveals no changes in poly(A) tail  
1005 length.

1006 B. DRS-based poly(A) lengths global profiling of mRNA isolated from WT and  
1007 TENT5A KO neonatal calvarial osteoblasts on day 14 of the maturation assay showing  
1008 shortening of poly(A) tails in TENT5A KO mice.

1009 C. List of 10 transcripts with most shortened poly(A) tails in TENT5A KO D14  
1010 osteoblasts. Differential expression statistics were calculated with DESeq2 package.



1011 D-G: DRS-based poly(A) lengths profiling of Col1a1, Col1a2, SerpinF1 and Sparc mRNAs  
1012 isolated from WT and TENT5A KO calvarial neonatal osteoblasts on day 14 of the  
1013 maturation assay showing shortening of poly(A) tails in TENT5A KO osteoblasts.

1014 D. Col1a1: median poly(A) tail lengths (WT=118 nucleotides; TENT5A KO=94  
1015 nucleotides; p-value <0.0001).

1016 E. Col1a2: median poly(A) tail lengths (WT=115 nucleotides; TENT5A KO=99  
1017 nucleotides; p-value <0.0001).

1018 F. SerpinF1 (PEDF): median poly(A) tail lengths (WT=123 nucleotides; TENT5A  
1019 KO=86 nucleotides; p-value <0.0001).

1020 G. Sparc (Osteonectin): median poly(A) tail lengths (WT=130 nucleotides; TENT5A  
1021 KO=103 nucleotides; p-value <0.0001).

1022 H. RT-qPCR analysis of mRNA levels of Col1a1 during the osteoblast maturation assay,  
1023 normalized to HMBS (n=5–6, medium values from technical triplicates) (p-values: D0, ns;  
1024 D7, < 0.0001; D14, < 0.0001; D21, ns; D28, ns; Two-way ANOVA, Sidak's multiple  
1025 comparisons tests).

1026 I. RT-qPCR analysis of mRNA levels of Col1a2 during the osteoblast maturation assay,  
1027 normalized to HMBS (n=4–6, medium values from technical triplicates) (p-values: D0, ns;  
1028 D7, < 0,0001; D14, ns; D21, ns; D28, ns; Two-way ANOVA, Sidak's multiple comparisons  
1029 tests).

1030 J. Elisa measurement of the pro-collagen I alpha 1 level in WT and TENT5A serum  
1031 (n=7; p-value = 0.0006, Mann–Whitney test).

1032

1033 Data information: DRS (A-G) was performed in three biological replicates. Vertical dashed  
1034 lines represent median poly(A) lengths for each condition.

1035 **Figure 5.** Lack of TENT5A leads to defects in collagen production

1036 A. Analysis of SDS-PAGE migration of collagen I isolated from WT (left) and TENT5A  
1037 KO (right) tendons showing no differences between WT and TENT5A KO.

1038 B. Measurement of global proline hydroxylation using MS/MS.

1039 C. SEM images of collagen fibrils from mice femur shows prototypic fibrils in the  
1040 TENT5A KO sample and compact collagen fibers in the WT sample. Scale bar, 500 nm.

1041 D. CryoEM visualization of isolated collagen I fibers from WT (left) and TENT5A KO  
1042 (right) tendons. Arrowheads indicate fibers with a diameter of approximately  $17.0 \pm 1.2$  nm;  
1043 fibers with a diameter of approximately  $1.7 \pm 0.2$  nm are observed as background.

1044 E–F. Endoplasmic reticulum is smaller in TENT5A than in WT adult long-bone derived  
1045 osteoblasts.

1046 E. Osteoblasts were stained with anti-calreticulin antibody and fluorescence intensity was  
1047 determined for 500 random cells. ( $p < 0.001$ ; Unpaired t-test with Welsch correction).

1048 F. Osteoblasts were stained with ER tracker and analyzed by cell cytometry.

1049

1050 **Figure 6.** TENT5A is responsible for the wave of cytoplasmic polyadenylation that increases  
1051 the expression of secreted proteins.

1052 A–B. DRC-based comparison of global poly(A) distribution in WT (A) and TENT5A KO (B)  
1053 on day 0 and day 14 of the osteoblast maturation assay showing the existence of a  
1054 polyadenylation wave during osteoblast differentiation, which was partially dependent on the  
1055 activity of TENT5A.

1056 A. WT: median poly(A) tail lengths at D0 = 74 nucleotides, at D14 = 86 nucleotides

1057 B. TENT5A KO: median poly(A) tail lengths at D0 = 74 nucleotides, at D14 = 82 nucleotides

1058 C. Heatmap showing expression of non-canonical poly(A) polymerases in D0 and D14  
1059 osteoblasts. The only poly(A) polymerases upregulated during osteoblast differentiation were  
1060 TENT5A and TENT5C.

1061 D. Prewaning lethality of TENT5A/C KO with incomplete penetrance. Observed frequency  
1062 of TENT5A(-/-); TENT5C (-/-) is 1.2% instead of the expected 12.5% and TENT5A(-/-);  
1063 TENT5C(WT/-) is 5.9% instead of the expected 12.5%.  $n=85$ ;  $p = 0,0065$ ; Chi-square test

1064 E. Functional GO term annotation of transcripts with shortened poly(A) tails in TENT5A KO.  
1065

1066 F. Distribution of poly(A) tail lengths of mRNA encoding extracellular matrix proteins (top)  
1067 and other proteins (bottom) in WT and TENT5A KO neonatal calvarial osteoblasts on D14 of

1068 the maturation assay. Extracellular matrix mRNA medium poly(A) tail length for WT =114  
1069 nucleotides; for TENT5A KO =101 nucleotides; other mRNAs: WT = 81 nucleotides;  
1070 TENT5A KO = 80 nucleotides.

1071 G. Metagene analysis showing the distribution of 3`UTR lengths in TENT5A substrates and  
1072 other mRNAs of neonatal calvarial osteoblasts at D14 of the maturation assay.

1073 H. Violin plot showing the distribution of poly(A) tail lengths of different Col1a2 isoforms  
1074 arising from alternative polyadenylation sites.

### 1075 **Expanded View Figure Legends**

1076 **Expanded View Figure 1.** Selected phenotypes of TENT5A KO mice.

1077 A–B. Genotyping of pups born from TENT5A(WT/-) × TENT5A(WT/-) heterozygotic  
1078 matings on day 6 (A) and day 35 (B), performed for two independent cohorts.

1079 C. Representation of wavy tail of the TENT5A KO mouse, which was present mainly in  
1080 adult individuals.

1081 D–E. Body weight analysis of WT, TENT5A heterozygotic, and TENT5A KO mice at 5  
1082 weeks old. (D) weight of males ((n=7–20);  $p < 0.0001$ , Unpaired t test with Welch's  
1083 correction). (E) weight of females ((n=6–19);  $p = 0.0043$  for WT vs TENT5A KO;  $p < 0.0001$   
1084 for TENT5A(WT/-) vs. TENT5A KO).

1085 F. Alizarin Red/Alcian Blue staining of 8-week-old TENT5A KO skeleton with multiple  
1086 ribs fractures visible.

1087 G. Tibia and fibula dissected from WT and TENT5A KO adult mice. Bones were  
1088 prepared by boiling and treatment with 30% hydrogen peroxide. Deformation of TENT5A  
1089 KO tibia can be observed.

1090 H. Alizarin Red/Alcian Blue staining of E18 embryo revealed no fractures. Five  
1091 independent stainings were performed.

1092 **Expanded View Figure 2.** Additional skeletal phenotypes

1093 A. MicroCT image of a WT femur with selected regions of interest on metaphyseal  
1094 trabecular bone (yellow) and mid-diaphyseal cortical bone (purple) for imaging and  
1095 quantification. Scale bar, 1 mm.

1096 B. MicroCT-derived femur morphometry results of trabecular bone total volume,  
1097 trabecular thickness, and cortical thickness. Data are presented as mean  $\pm$  SD. \*P  $\leq$   
1098 0.05 (Student's t-test).

1099 C. Wider view of confocal scans of immunohistochemical staining for FLAG in femur  
1100 sections from Tent5a-3xFLAG knock-in and control animals with FLAG in green and  
1101 Hoechst in blue; insets denote parts of scans depicted in the main figure, Cx - cortical  
1102 bone, BM - bone marrow; scale bar indicates 200 $\mu$ m;

1103

1104 **Expanded View Figure 3.** Additional TENT5A activity and substrate data

1105 A. High-resolution northern blot analysis of SSR4 transcripts from SKMM1 cells  
1106 transduced with TENT5AWT-GFP up to 72 h reveals that the SSR4 transcript is extensively  
1107 polyadenylated by TENT5A.

1108 B. Poly(A) tails added to reporter mRNA can be removed by RNase H treatment in the  
1109 presence of oligo(dT)<sub>25</sub>. High-resolution northern blot analysis of RL mRNA from control  
1110 HEK293 cells (lanes 1–2), after tethering of NHA-TENT5AaWT (lanes 3–4) or NHA-  
1111 TENT5Amut (lanes 5–6).

1112 C–D. DRS-based poly(A) lengths profiling of Rplp1 (C) and mtRnr2 (D) mRNAs from WT  
1113 and TENT5A KO neonatal calvarial osteoblasts on day 14 of the maturation assay showing no  
1114 significant changes in poly(A) lengths.

1115 C. Rplp1: median poly(A) tail lengths (WT=66 nucleotides; KO=65 nucleotides).

1116 D. mt-Rnr2: median poly(A) tail lengths (WT=9 nucleotides; KO=10 nucleotides).

1117 E. Western blot analysis of SerpinF1 levels in mouse serum showing higher levels in WT than  
1118 in TENT5A KO. Ponceau S staining was used as loading control.

1119 F. Western blot analysis showing that expression of SPARC is higher in WT than TENT5A  
1120 KO both on days 14 and 21 of the osteoblast maturation assay.

1121 **Expanded View Figure 4.** TENT5A substrates are targeted to the ER and possesses  
1122 relatively long poly(A) tails.

1123 A. RT-qPCR analysis of TENT5C expression during the osteoblast maturation assay showing  
1124 upregulation of TENT5C expression on days 7–21, normalized to the expression of HMBS

1125 (n=3–6; Mann–Whitney test: D0 vs. D7,  $p = 0.0159$ ; D0 vs. D14,  $p = 0.0095$ ; D0 vs. D21,  $p =$   
1126  $0.0159$ ; D0 vs. D28,  $p = 0.0571$ ).

1127 B. Functional annotations (GO terms) significantly enriched for genes with short or long  
1128 tails.

1129 C: Fractionation of TENT5A-3xFLAG and WT osteoblasts followed by western blot analysis  
1130 using anti-FLAG antibody. Cyt, cytoplasmic fraction; Mem, membrane fraction; Nuc, nuclear  
1131 fraction.

1132 D: 3`UTR motif analysis did not reveal any enriched motifs except for the canonical  
1133 polyadenylation signal.

1134 E: Substrates of TENT5A are characterized by higher than usual GC content.

1135 F. Substrates of TENT5A are relatively short.

1136 **Expanded View Figure 5.** Poly(A) tails distribution and TENT5A substrates in osteoblasts  
1137 derived from long adult bones are similar to those of neonatals on day 14 of the maturation  
1138 assay.

1139 A. DRC based profiling of global poly(A) distribution in WT and TENT5A osteoblasts  
1140 derived from adult long bones. WT median, 81 nucleotides; TENT5A KO median, 76  
1141 nucleotides.

1142 B-C. DRC-based poly(A) lengths profiling of Col1a1 and Col1a2 mRNAs isolated from WT  
1143 and TENT5A KO osteoblasts isolated from adult long bones.

1144 B: Col1a1: median lengths of poly(A) tails (WT, 130 nucleotides; TENT5A KO, 98  
1145 nucleotides;  $p < 0.001$ ).

1146 C: Col1a2: median lengths of poly(A) tails (WT, 127 nucleotides; TENT5A KO, 108  
1147 nucleotides;  $p = 0.07$ ).

1148 D: Distribution of poly(A) tail lengths of mRNAs encoding extracellular matrix proteins (top)  
1149 and other proteins (bottom) in WT and TENT5A KO adult long bones osteoblasts showing  
1150 that mRNA encoding extracellular matrix proteins are the main targets of TENT5A.

1151 Extracellular matrix mRNAs medium poly(A) tail lengths (WT, 101; TENT5A KO, 78; other  
1152 mRNAs: WT, 75; TENT5A KO, 64).

- 1153 **Expanded View Table 1:** Analysis of differences in the lengths of poly(A) tails between WT  
1154 TENT5A KO at D14
- 1155 **Expanded View Table 2:** Differential expression analysis of TENT5A WT and TENT5A KO  
1156 at D0 and D14.
- 1157 **Expanded View Movie 1:** Video of 3D whole body scan of WT mouse rotating at the  
1158 longitudinal axis
- 1159 **Expanded View Movie 2:** Video of 3D whole body scan of TENT5A KO mouse rotating at  
1160 the longitudinal axis where skeleton malformations are visible.
- 1161 **Expanded View Movie 3:** Micro-CT-derived video showing longitudinal crossing through  
1162 the WT trabecular bone. First, we observe the trabecular volume in yellow and then the  
1163 trabecular spacing in a color heatmap.
- 1164 **Expanded View Movie 4:** Micro-CT-derived video showing longitudinal crossing through  
1165 the TENT5A KO trabecular bone. First, we observe the volume difference in yellow and then  
1166 the trabecular spacing difference of TENT5A KO mouse.
- 1167 **Appendix Table 1:** List of oligos used in this study.
- 1168 **Appendix Table 2:** List of antibodies used in this study.
- 1169 **Appendix Table 3:** Summary of DRS runs



Figure 1

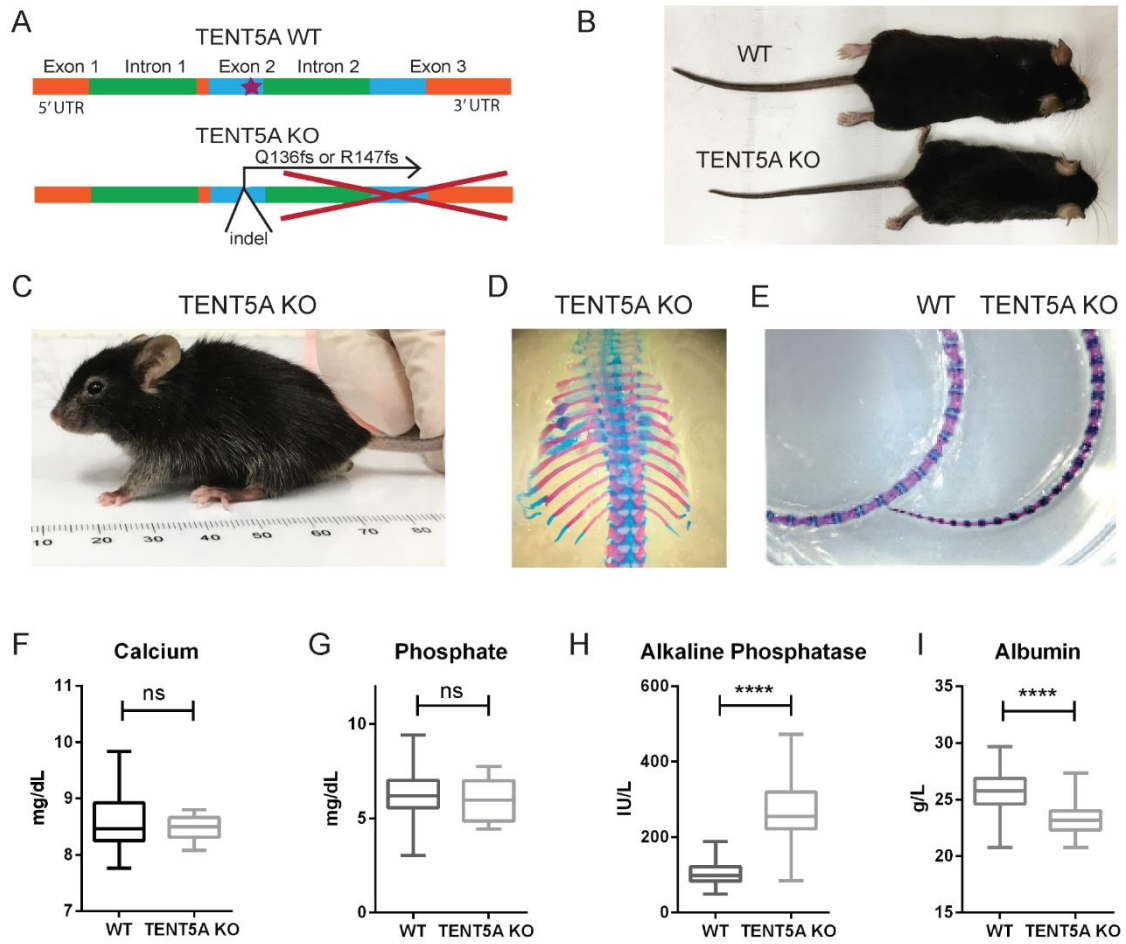


Figure 2

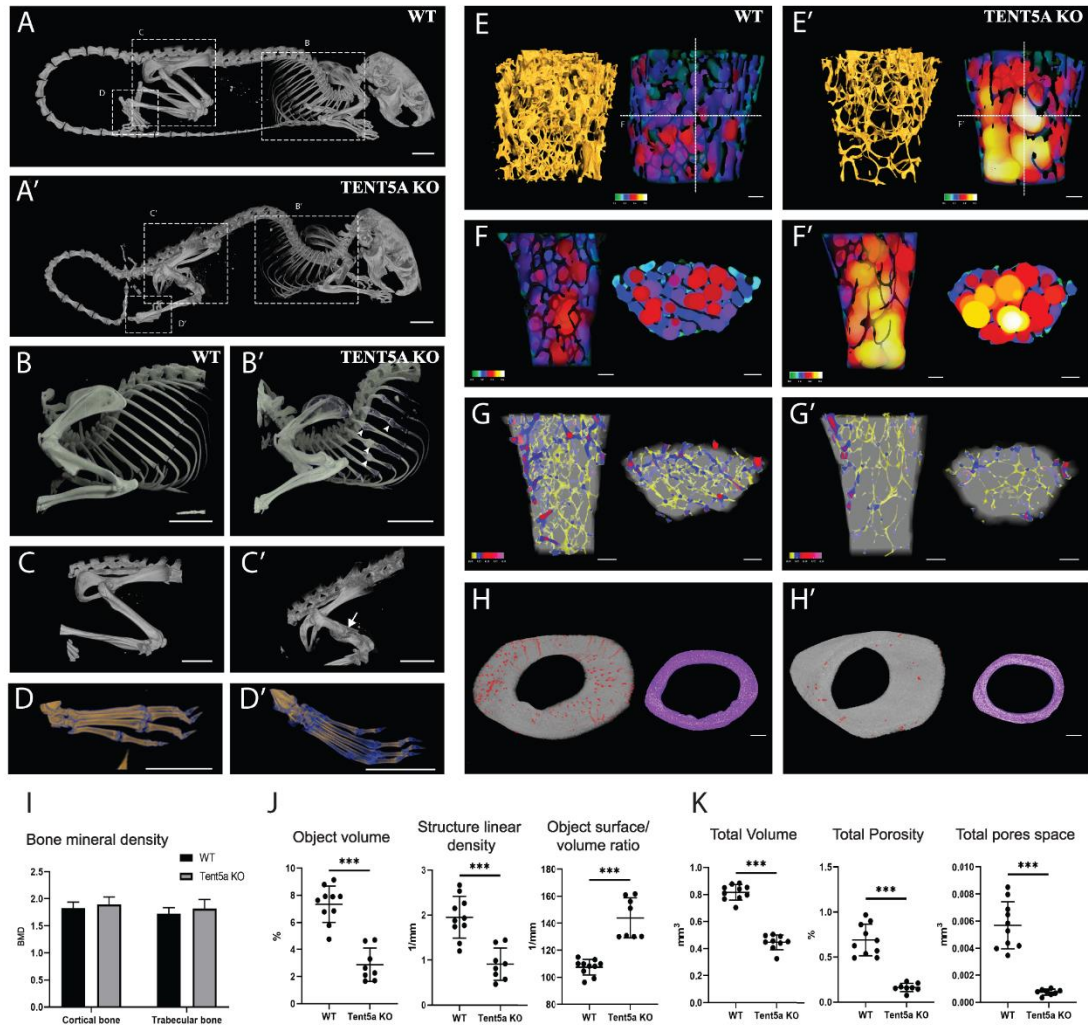


Figure 3

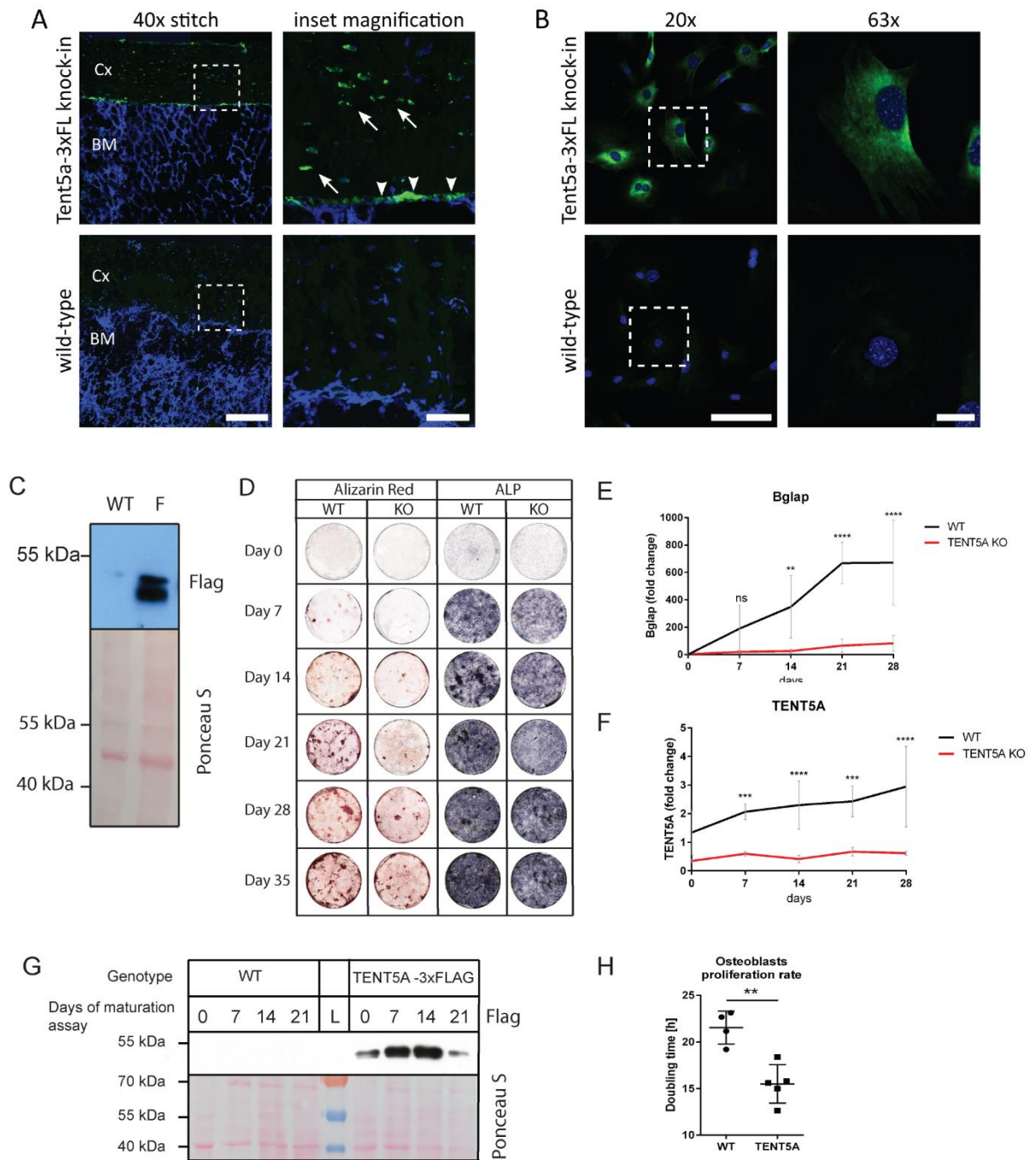


Figure 4

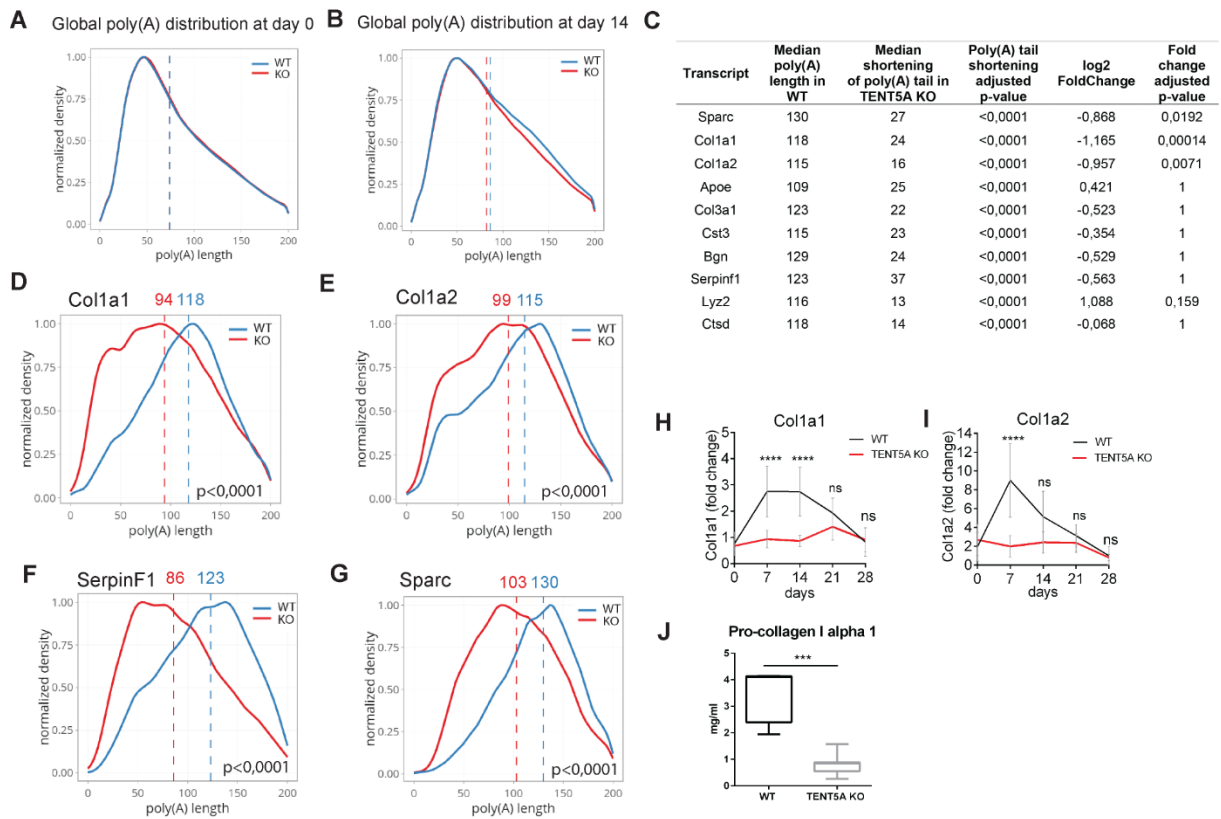


Figure 5

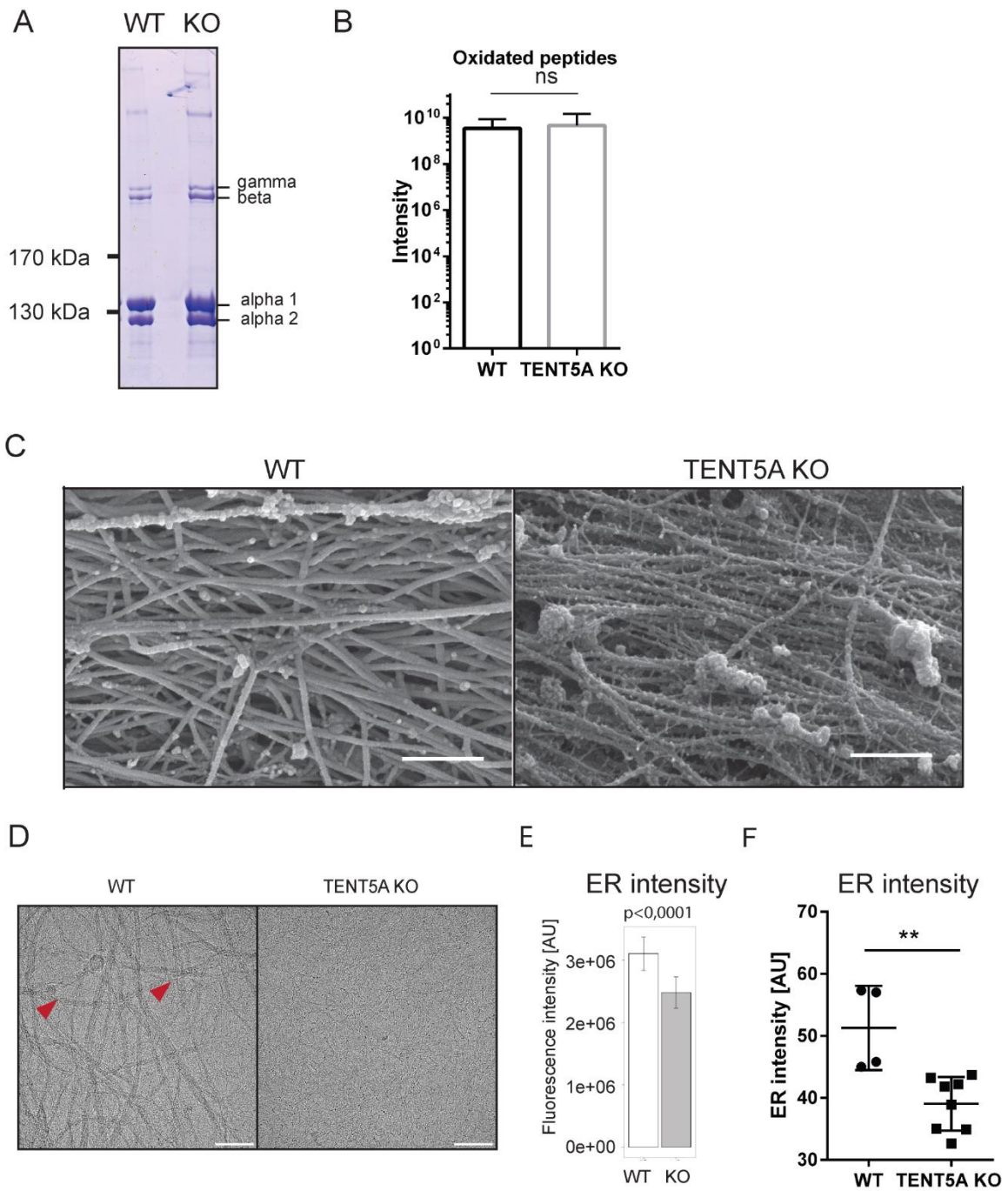




Figure 6

