

1 **Endocytic vacuole formation by WASH-mediated endocytosis**

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17 **Summary**

18 Endocytosis of extracellular or plasma membrane material is a fundamental process.
19 A variety of endocytic pathways exist, several of which are barely understood in
20 terms of mechanistic execution and biological function. Importantly, some
21 mechanisms have been identified and characterized by following virus internalization
22 into cells. This includes a novel endocytic pathway exploited by human
23 papillomavirus type 16 (HPV16). However, its cellular role and mechanism of
24 endocytic vacuole formation remain unclear. Here, HPV16 was used as a tool to
25 examine the mechanistic execution of vesicle formation by combining systematic
26 perturbation of cellular processes with electron and video microscopy. Our results
27 indicate cargo uptake by uncoated, inward-budding pits facilitated by the membrane
28 bending retromer protein SNX2. Actin polymerization-driven vesicle scission is
29 promoted by WASH, an actin regulator typically not found at the plasma membrane.
30 Uncovering a novel role of WASH in endocytosis, we propose to term the new
31 pathway WASH-mediated endocytosis (WASH-ME).

32

33 **Introduction**

34 Cells internalize extracellular ligands, fluids, plasma membrane lipids and receptors
35 by endocytosis. This is crucial for cellular and organismal homeostasis, signal
36 transduction, intercellular communication, immune response, development and
37 neurotransmission (Schmid and Conner, 2003). Several endocytic mechanisms exist
38 that are distinguished by diverse criteria. Morphologically, cargo is engulfed either by
39 outward membrane protrusions (macropinocytosis, phagocytosis) or by inward
40 budding pits that may or may not display a visible coat in electron microscopy (EM)
41 (e.g. clathrin-mediated endocytosis (CME), glycosphingolipid enriched endocytic
42 carriers (GEEC)) (Heuser and Evans, 1980; Kirkham *et al.*, 2005). The cellular
43 machinery executing endocytic vacuole formation and the destination of endocytic
44 cargo further define the identity of endocytic pathways (Doherty and McMahon,
45 2009). For instance, macropinocytosis occurs by growth factor-induced, actin-driven
46 protrusions that form large vacuoles upon backfolding with help of the
47 Bin1/Amphiphysin/Rvs (BAR) protein C-terminal binding protein 1 (CtBP1) (Liberali *et*
48 *al.*, 2008; Lim and Gleeson, 2011). Of the inward budding mechanisms, CME occurs
49 by sequential recruitment of adaptor proteins (AP) such as AP2 and the clathrin coat.
50 Dynamin-2 mediated scission then leads to vacuole formation (McMahon and
51 Boucrot, 2011; Merrifield and Kaksonen, 2014). In contrast, caveolar endocytosis
52 occurs by preassembled coat structures (Pelkmans *et al.*, 2004; Hayer *et al.*, 2010;
53 Stoeber *et al.*, 2016). Another criterium is cargo specificity. For instance,
54 macropinocytosis and CME are responsible for bulk fluid uptake or specific
55 membrane receptor internalization, respectively. A subset of GEEC is specifically
56 responsible for lectin uptake (Lakshminarayan *et al.*, 2014). In addition to the well-
57 established pathways, a number of less well understood endocytic mechanisms have
58 emerged. Only little information is available on which cellular processes they

59 regulate, or on how vesicles are formed, as they are defined by their independence
60 of classical endocytic regulators such as clathrin, caveolin, dynamin-2, or cholesterol
61 (Doherty and McMahon, 2009). Importantly, several of these mechanisms have been
62 identified by following the internalization of viruses such as lymphocytic
63 choriomeningitis virus (LCMV), influenza A virus (IAV), and human papillomavirus
64 type 16 (HPV16) (Rust *et al.*, 2004; Quirin *et al.*, 2008; Mercer, Schelhaas and
65 Helenius, 2010; Schelhaas *et al.*, 2012).

66

67 As intracellular parasites, viruses depend on host cells for their life-cycle. This is
68 particularly important during the initial phase of infection termed entry, during which
69 viruses deliver their genome to the site of replication within cells. As virus particles
70 lack locomotive abilities, they strictly rely on cellular transport mechanisms to cross
71 the plasma membrane, the cytosol, or the nuclear envelope. Following viral particles
72 *en route* to the site of replication thus allows to study cellular mechanisms exploited
73 by viruses (Marsh and Helenius, 2006). Most viruses make use of endocytosis to
74 overcome the plasma membrane. Among them is HPV16, a small non-enveloped
75 DNA virus and the leading cause of cervical cancer (de Sanjose *et al.*, 2010;
76 Mirabello *et al.*, 2017). HPV16 initially infects basal keratinocytes of squamous
77 mucosal epithelia, whereas completion of its life cycle requires suprabasal
78 keratinocyte differentiation (Doorbar, 2005). For entry, it utilizes a unique endocytic
79 pathway for which little to no mechanistic information exists (Schelhaas *et al.*, 2012).
80 As viruses strictly hijack existing endocytic mechanisms, the intriguing question
81 remains which cellular cargo targets this pathway. Uptake of HPV16 into cells is slow
82 and asynchronous, with individual virus internalization events occurring over a period
83 of many hours after binding (Schelhaas *et al.*, 2012; Becker *et al.*, 2018). Binding to
84 heparan sulfate proteoglycans (HSPGs) initiates crucial structural changes in the

85 virus capsid that allow transfer to an internalization receptor (complex) to induce
86 uptake (Giroglou *et al.*, 2001; Richards *et al.*, 2006; Selinka *et al.*, 2007; Cerqueira *et*
87 *al.*, 2013, 2015; Becker *et al.*, 2018). Uptake involves growth factor receptors
88 (Schelhaas *et al.*, 2012; Surviladze, Dziduszko and Ozbun, 2012; Bannach *et al.*,
89 2020), integrin $\alpha 6$ (Evander *et al.*, 1997; Yoon *et al.*, 2001; Scheffer *et al.*, 2013),
90 tetraspanins cluster of differentiation (CD) 151 and CD63 (Scheffer *et al.*, 2013; Fast
91 *et al.*, 2018), and annexin A2 heterotetramer (Woodham *et al.*, 2012; Dziduszko and
92 Ozbun, 2013). These proteins are thought to constitute specifically functionalized
93 tetraspanin-enriched microdomains termed HPV16 entry platforms that induce
94 uptake and co-internalize with the virus (Raff *et al.*, 2013; Florin and Lang, 2018).
95 After endocytosis, HPV16 traffics through the endosomal system, accompanied by
96 partial capsid disassembly (Smith *et al.*, 2008; Spoden *et al.*, 2008; Bienkowska-
97 Haba *et al.*, 2012). From endosomes, the virus is routed to the trans-Golgi network
98 by retrograde transport (Day *et al.*, 2013; Lipovsky *et al.*, 2013) and reaches its site
99 of replication, the nucleus, after nuclear envelope breakdown during mitosis (Pyeon
100 *et al.*, 2009; Aydin *et al.*, 2014).

101

102 HPV16 exploits an endocytic pathway independent of a long list of prominent
103 endocytic regulators including clathrin, caveolin, dynamin and cholesterol. Instead, it
104 depends on sodium/proton exchange, actin polymerization and signaling via
105 epidermal growth factor receptor (EGFR), phosphatidylinositol-4,5-bisphosphate
106 3-kinase, p21-activated kinase 1, protein kinase C, and Abelson tyrosine-protein
107 kinase 2 (Abl2) (Schelhaas *et al.*, 2012; Bannach *et al.*, 2020). It remains largely
108 elusive how these factors contribute to endocytic vesicle formation. We know,
109 however, that EGFR and Abl2 regulate endocytosis induction and pit maturation,
110 respectively (Bannach *et al.*, 2020). As such, the requirements for HPV16 uptake are

111 somewhat reminiscent of macropinocytosis, during which sodium/proton exchange
112 regulates large actin-driven membrane protrusions to engulf bulk extracellular
113 material (Doherty and McMahon, 2009; Mercer, Schelhaas and Helenius, 2010).
114 However, HPV16 endocytosis typically involves small vesicles of about 60-100 nm
115 diameter that contain single virus particles, and that are generated independently of
116 cholesterol and the classical Rho-like GTPases cell division cycle 42 (Cdc42), rat
117 sarcoma (Ras)-related C3 botulinum toxin substrate 1 (Rac1), and Ras homolog
118 family member 1 (RhoA) (Schelhaas *et al.*, 2012; Bannach *et al.*, 2020). Perhaps, it
119 represents a small-scale version of macropinocytosis, i.e. “micropinocytosis”
120 (Helenius, 2018, 2020).

121

122 Here, we used HPV16 as cargo of this unique endocytic pathway to address how
123 vesicles would be mechanistically formed. We demonstrated that HPV16
124 endocytosis occurred via uncoated vesicles severed from the plasma membrane by
125 actin-related proteins (Arp) 2/3 complex-dependent branched actin polymerization.
126 Interestingly, Arp2/3 complex activation did not involve nucleation promoting factors
127 (NPFs) typically found at the plasma membrane, but the Wiskott-Aldrich syndrome
128 protein (WASP) and suppressor of cAMP receptor (Scar) homologue (WASH), a well-
129 known regulator of endosomal cargo sorting. WASH was recruited to endocytic sites
130 at the same time as sorting nexin 2 (SNX2), a BAR domain protein of the endosomal
131 retromer complex, which supposedly assists in membrane bending during endocytic
132 vesicle formation. Providing insights into the mechanism of a unique endocytic
133 pathway, our findings for the first time conclusively demonstrated a direct
134 involvement of WASH in endocytosis and implicated retromer components in
135 endocytic cargo uptake.

136

137 **Results**

138 **HPV16 endocytosis occurred via uncoated, inward budding vesicles**

139 To assess how this unique mechanism generates endocytic vesicles, we employed
140 HPV16 as trackable cargo in correlative light and EM (CLEM). Our goal was to
141 visualize different stages of endocytic vacuole formation and to address whether
142 potential coat structures were associated with these vacuoles, similar to clathrin-
143 coated pits or caveolae. For this, fluorescent virus particles were correlated with
144 structures on the cytosolic leaflet of plasma membrane sheets analyzed by
145 transmission EM (TEM) of metal replicas (Heuser and Evans, 1980; Sochacki *et al.*,
146 2014; Bucher *et al.*, 2018). As expected, different stages of clathrin-coated pit
147 formation were readily observable at sites distinct from virus localizations (Figure
148 1A). For HPV16, about 20% of viruses were associated with no obvious structure,
149 likely representing virus binding to HSPGs prior to engagement of HPV16 entry
150 platforms and endocytosis induction. A considerable proportion (31%) was correlated
151 with dense actin network patches (Figure 1B). These may constitute anchoring
152 structures for tetraspanin microdomains/HPV entry platforms, either prior to or during
153 induction of endocytosis (Schelhaas *et al.*, 2008; Ménager and Littman, 2016).
154 Importantly, inward-budding structures at virus sites were readily observed and
155 classified into stages of vesicle formation in analogy to CME (Figures 1A and 1B).
156 Designated as early stage, 14% of virions were associated with roughened plasma
157 membrane patches representing initial curvature formation (Figures 1A and 1B).
158 Small invaginations (100-150 nm in diameter) were assigned as intermediate stage,
159 and represented pit maturation (13%). Fully rounded invaginations of 80-100 nm
160 (22%) were classified as late-stage endocytic pits ready for scission (Figures 1A and
161 1B). Notably, all invaginations were devoid of a discernable coat or other regular
162 structures (Figure 1A). Thus, HPV16 endocytosis occurred by a stepwise, inward

163 budding process, in which endocytic vacuoles were formed without observable
164 contribution of a coat structure.

165

166 Actin polymerization facilitates HPV16 endocytosis (Schelhaas *et al.*, 2012).
167 Accordingly, perturbation of actin assembly by cytochalasin D (cytoD) reduced
168 HPV16 infection (Figure 1C). To analyze how defective actin assembly impacts the
169 steps of endocytic pit formation, we used CLEM of cytoD-treated cells. As expected,
170 the actin network population was no longer detectable (Figure 1B). However, notably
171 all stages of membrane invaginations were present to a similar extent in cytoD- and
172 untreated samples (Figure 1B). This indicated not only that pit formation was
173 independent of actin polymerization, but also that actin polymerization was
174 expendable for the induction of endocytic pits responsible for HPV16 uptake. In
175 addition, virus-correlated tubular structures devoid of an apparent coat newly
176 appeared in cytoD-treated cells (Figure 1B). In fact, these tubular membrane
177 invaginations were filled with virus particles (Figure 1D). This suggested a fully
178 functional formation of endocytic structures, but a failure in vesicle scission from the
179 plasma membrane. In conclusion, scission but not induction and membrane
180 invagination were facilitated by polymerized or polymerizing actin filaments during
181 HPV16 endocytosis.

182

183 **Actin polymerization coincided with HPV16 endocytosis**

184 Consistent with actin dynamics aiding vesicle scission in HPV16 uptake, we
185 observed actin signals at the neck of constricted endocytic pits in immunogold
186 labelling EM (Figure 2A). To gain insights into how the dynamics of actin at virus
187 entry sites may facilitate vesicle scission, we employed live cell TIRF microscopy
188 (TIRF-M). In TIRF-M, only the basal plasma membrane is observable. Hence, HPV16

189 endocytosis into the cell interior was denoted by a rapid loss of virus signal (Figures
190 2B and 2C, Suppl. Movie 1). Virus signal loss correlated with an increase of
191 filamentous actin signals (Figures 2B and 2C, Suppl. Movie 1) indicating actin
192 polymerization at the time of scission. Detailed analysis of intensity profiles revealed
193 that virus signal loss occurred for about 4 s (Figures 2C and 2D, Suppl. Movie 1).
194 The onset of actin polymerization was somewhat variable. However, the increase in
195 actin signals was on average initiated 7 s prior to virus internalization, peaked just
196 before virus uptake, and decreased thereafter (Figures 2C and 2D, Suppl. Movie 1).
197 The dynamics of actin polymerization resembled dynamin recruitment during scission
198 in CME, starting about 20 s prior to loss of the clathrin signal from the plasma
199 membrane (Figures S1A-S1C, Suppl. Movie 2) (Merrifield *et al.*, 2002). Since
200 dynamin is dispensable for HPV16 endocytosis (Spoden *et al.*, 2008; Schelhaas *et*
201 *al.*, 2012), similar recruitment profiles suggested that actin functionally replaced
202 dynamin as a scission factor. Moreover, the dynamics of polymerization indicated
203 that polymerized actin did not merely serve as anchor for other scission factors, but
204 was specifically induced for and actively contributed to endocytic vesicle scission as
205 reported for other endocytic mechanisms (Merrifield *et al.*, 2002; Pelkmans, Püntener
206 and Helenius, 2002; Mooren, Galletta and Cooper, 2012).

207

208 **Branched actin polymerization regulated HPV16 endocytosis**

209 To understand the mechanism of actin polymerization for HPV16 endocytosis, we
210 investigated the involvement of branched versus unbranched actin filaments. Formin-
211 mediated unbranched actin polymerization was perturbed by SMIFH2, a small
212 molecule inhibitor binding the formin homology 2 domain in formins (Rizvi *et al.*,
213 2009). SMIFH2 treatment dose dependently decreased vesicular stomatitis virus
214 (VSV) infection, confirming the role of formins in actin-dependent CME of VSV

215 (Figure 3A) (Cureton *et al.*, 2009). In contrast, SMIFH2 did not affect HPV16 infection
216 (Figure 3A). Furthermore, HPV16 infection was largely unaffected by siRNA-
217 mediated depletion of individual formins (Figure S2). However, sequestering the
218 Arp2/3 complex as key regulator of branched actin polymerization by overexpression
219 of the Arp2/3 binding domain of WASP and WASP-family verprolin-homologous
220 protein (WAVE) (Scar-WA) (Machesky and Insall, 1998) strongly reduced HPV16
221 infection compared to cells expressing a control lacking the Arp2/3 binding domain
222 (Scar-W) (Figure 3B). In line with a requirement of branched actin polymerization,
223 RNA interference (RNAi) with Arp3 expression reduced infection by about 80%
224 (Figure 3C) compared to cells transfected with a non-targeting control (ctrl.).
225 Similarly, vaccinia virus (VV) infection by macropinocytosis (Mercer and Helenius,
226 2008; Mazzon and Mercer, 2014) was reduced upon Arp3 depletion, whereas Semliki
227 Forest virus (SFV) uptake by actin-independent CME (Marsh and Helenius, 1980;
228 Marsh, Kielian and Helenius, 1984; DeTulleo and Kirchhausen, 1998) was even
229 increased (Figure 3C). Taken together, active branched but not unbranched actin
230 polymerization was crucial for HPV16 infection.

231

232 To verify the impact on HPV16 uptake, we employed a *bona fide* virus endocytosis
233 assay. For this, HPV16 covalently labelled with the pH-sensitive dye pHrodo was
234 used, which gives rise to fluorescence only upon delivery to acidic endosomal
235 organelles (Figure 3D) (Ventayol and Schelhaas, 2015; Becker *et al.*, 2018).
236 Depletion of Arp3 reduced virus internalization by about 70% (Figure 3D). Thus,
237 branched actin polymerization was essential for HPV16 endocytosis.

238

239 **WASH was the major NPF in HPV16 infection**

240 Since the Arp2/3 complex is inherently inactive, how is it activated for virus uptake?
241 Several NPFs with distinct cellular functions and localizations regulate Arp2/3
242 complex activity (Stradal and Scita, 2006; Rottner, Hänisch and Campellone, 2010).
243 To identify, which NPF acted during HPV16 infection, we employed RNAi. Depletion
244 of the most prominent actin regulators in endocytic processes, neuronal WASP (N-
245 WASP) and WAVE isoforms 1 or 2, (Qualmann and Kelly, 2000; Suetsugu *et al.*,
246 2003; Chadda *et al.*, 2007), did not alter HPV16 infection (Figures S3A-S3C and
247 S3F). N-WASP RNAi results were confirmed in cells stably expressing a short hairpin
248 RNA (data not shown). Taken together, N-WASP, WAVE1 and 2 were dispensable
249 for HPV16 uptake. Consequently, a potential involvement of NPFs typically not found
250 at the plasma membrane was assessed. Neither depletion of junction mediating and
251 regulatory protein, p53 cofactor (JMY), a regulator of DNA damage response and cell
252 migration (Shikama *et al.*, 1999; Zuchero *et al.*, 2009), nor depletion of WASP
253 homolog associated with actin, Golgi membranes and microtubules (WHAMM), which
254 is involved in the secretory pathway (Campellone *et al.*, 2008), impaired infection with
255 HPV16 (Figures S3D-S3F). However, depletion of WASH, a well-known actin
256 regulator of endosomal cargo sorting (Linardopoulou *et al.*, 2007; Derivery *et al.*,
257 2009; Duleh and Welch, 2010), strongly reduced HPV16 infection, whereas VV
258 uptake by macropinocytosis was only mildly affected (Figures 4A and S3F). In
259 conclusion, WASH was the major NPF during HPV16 infection rather than NPFs
260 typically found at the plasma membrane.

261

262 **WASH acted during late stages of HPV16 endocytic vesicle formation**

263 To date, no evidence exists that WASH facilitates endocytic vesicle formation.
264 However, since it was the only NPF important for HPV16 infection, we hypothesized
265 a novel role of WASH in regulating actin polymerization for endocytic vacuole

266 formation. Consistently, silencing of WASH resulted in a strong decrease of HPV16
267 uptake (Figure 4B). In corroboration, HPV16 infection was completely abrogated in
268 CRISPR/Cas9-derived mouse fibroblast WASH knock-out (KO) cells (NIH-3T3,
269 Figures 4C and S4C). Ectopic expression of wild type WASH rescued HPV16
270 infection in these cells (Figure 4C and S4A), whereas expression of WASH lacking
271 the WASP-homology 2, central and acidic (WCA) domain crucial for Arp2/3 complex
272 activation did not (Figure S4A). This indicated that WASH was an essential actin
273 regulator during HPV16 uptake. In support, HPV16 infection was also strongly
274 reduced in human osteosarcoma WASH KO cells (U2OS) (Figures S4B and S4C),
275 which not only supported the importance of WASH for HPV16 infection, but also
276 suggested the functional existence of WASH-dependent endocytosis in cells derived
277 from different tissues and species.

278

279 After confirming that HPV16 binding to cells was unaffected in WASH KO cells
280 (Figures S4D and S4E), we investigated how loss of WASH would interfere with
281 HPV16 endocytosis by analyzing the morphology of virus-containing pits in ultra-thin
282 section TEM. Compared to wild type cells, the endocytic pits were morphologically
283 unaltered in WASH KO cells, i.e., they were fully formed and partially constricted at
284 the neck (Figure 4D). Thus, early stages of endocytic vesicle formation such as
285 induction and membrane invagination were independent of WASH. Strikingly, the
286 average number of virus containing plasma membrane invaginations more than
287 doubled in the absence of WASH (Figures 4D). Hence, HPV16 endocytosis was
288 stalled at a late stage in WASH KO cells. Taken together, the roles of actin
289 polymerization in vesicle scission, of WASH as the single NPF to promote actin
290 polymerization, and the loss of WASH stalling HPV16 endocytosis at a late stage of

291 vesicle formation strongly suggested that WASH regulated endocytic vesicle scission
292 but not endocytic pit formation.

293

294 To directly stimulate vesicle scission, WASH would have to be present at virus
295 endocytosis sites. To probe recruitment of WASH to HPV16 entry platforms marked
296 by HA-CD151 (Scheffer *et al.*, 2013), we employed the proximity ligation assay (PLA)
297 (Söderberg *et al.*, 2006). A small fraction of virus particles co-localized with the PLA
298 signal of WASH and CD151 (Figure S5), indicating that WASH indeed acted at virus
299 entry sites. A limited association of HPV16 with WASH/CD151 structures was
300 expected due to the highly asynchronous virus uptake over many hours, during which
301 only few viruses interact with entry platforms at any given time (Schelhaas *et al.*,
302 2012; Becker *et al.*, 2018). To more conclusively demonstrate recruitment of WASH
303 to virus entry sites and to gain information on recruitment dynamics, WASH
304 association in relation to uptake of HPV16 was analyzed by live cell TIRF-M. WASH
305 was detected together with virus signals for more than 50 seconds prior to HPV16
306 uptake and co-internalized with the virus (Figures 4E and 4F, Suppl. Movie 3). Thus,
307 WASH was recruited already early during vesicle formation, although it likely exerted
308 its NPF function only during scission (Figure 4D). To further investigate the stage of
309 WASH recruitment to virus endocytic sites, we performed immunogold labelling of
310 WASH. WASH was observed in close proximity to virus particles bound to flat plasma
311 membrane regions (binding), slightly curved membranes associated with virus
312 particles (early pit), and with fully formed HPV16 endocytic pits (late pit) (Figure 4G).
313 In summary, our data supports a model in which WASH acts in a novel function
314 during endocytosis: WASH was recruited to the plasma membrane early during pit
315 formation, stayed associated during all stages of pit maturation (Figure 4G), and

316 acted at a late stage (Figure 4D) to initiate actin polymerization for vesicle scission
317 during HPV16 endocytosis.

318

319 **The retromer BAR protein SNX2 facilitated HPV16 endocytosis**

320 How is WASH then recruited to virus entry sites? On endosomes, WASH recruitment
321 occurs by interaction of the WASH regulatory complex with the retromer complex
322 (Gomez and Billadeau, 2009; Harbour, Breusegem and Seaman, 2012; Jia *et al.*,
323 2012). In line with its well established function in endosomal cargo sorting, the
324 retromer has also been implicated in HPV16 retrograde transport to the Golgi
325 (Lipovsky *et al.*, 2013; Popa *et al.*, 2015; Zhang *et al.*, 2018).

326

327 To analyze whether retromer components would play an additional role in HPV16
328 uptake, we initially used retro-2, a selective inhibitor of retrograde trafficking of e.g.
329 Shiga toxin B from endosomes to the Golgi (Bujny *et al.*, 2007; Popoff *et al.*, 2007;
330 Stechmann *et al.*, 2010). As expected, retro-2 dose-dependently reduced HPV16
331 infection (Figure 5A) (Lipovsky *et al.*, 2013), while herpes simplex virus 1 (HSV-1)
332 infection was unaffected (Nicola *et al.*, 2005) (Figure 5A). HPV16 binding was
333 unchanged in presence of retro-2 (Figure S6A). Hence, decreased infection was not
334 a consequence of perturbed recycling and reduced receptor presentation. Next, we
335 dissected possible effects of retro-2 on HPV16 endocytosis and retrograde
336 trafficking, respectively. First, we selectively targeted trafficking in an inhibitor swap
337 experiment. HPV16 uptake was allowed in presence of NH₄Cl, a weak base that
338 raises the endosomal pH and prevents onward trafficking of HPV16 (Day, Lowy and
339 Schiller, 2003; Schelhaas *et al.*, 2012). At 12 h post infection (p.i.), when a large
340 fraction of virus had reached endosomes, NH₄Cl was swapped for retro-2 to prevent
341 retrograde transport. HPV16 infection was dose-dependently decreased (Figure 5B),

342 in line with the requirement for HPV16 endosome-to-Golgi transport (Lipovsky *et al.*,
343 2013). To assess potential additional effects of retro-2 on HPV16 endocytosis, we
344 analyzed virus uptake in an infectious internalization assay. Cells were infected in
345 presence of retro-2 for 12 h, when extracellular virions were inactivated by a high pH
346 wash and infection by already internalized virions was allowed to continue in absence
347 of retro-2. Uptake of infectious HPV16 was dose-dependently reduced by about 70%
348 in presence of retro-2 (Figure 5C). In conclusion, retro-2 inhibited both retrograde
349 trafficking (Figure 5B) and HPV16 uptake by endocytosis (Figure 5C). To determine
350 the stage of pit formation affected by retro-2 treatment, we performed ultra-thin
351 section TEM. Since retro-2 decreased the number of virus-containing endocytic pits
352 by 90%, it is likely that retro-2 inhibited the initiation of pit formation (Figure 5D). In
353 conclusion, components of the retrograde trafficking machinery already acted during
354 early steps of HPV16 endocytosis.

355

356 To specifically address a role for the retromer in either initiation of pit formation or
357 membrane curvature formation, we targeted retromer components by RNAi. The
358 retromer is composed of a cargo-selective complex (CSC) of vacuolar protein sorting
359 (Vps) 26, Vps29, and Vps35, and a dimeric membrane-bending subunit consisting of
360 sorting nexin BAR proteins SNX1/SNX2 and SNX5/SNX6 (Seaman, 2012). As
361 previously observed, RNAi against Vps26, Vps29 and SNX2 strongly reduced
362 infection and suggested that both retromer subunits were required for HPV16
363 infection (Figures 6A and S6B) (Lipovsky *et al.*, 2013; Siddiqi *et al.*, 2018). As
364 control and to differentiate HPV16 endocytosis from macropinocytosis, depletion of
365 CtBP1, a prominent BAR domain containing regulator of macropinocytosis (Liberali *et*
366 *al.*, 2008; Valente, Luini and Corda, 2013), did not impair HPV16 infection (Figure
367 6A).

368

369 Since previous work indicates that depletion of Vps29 is expendable for HPV16
370 uptake but demonstrates an essential role of the CSC in HPV16 endosomal
371 trafficking (Lipovsky *et al.*, 2013, 2015; Popa *et al.*, 2015; Xie *et al.*, 2020), the CSC
372 is unlikely to facilitate HPV16 endocytosis. Recent evidence suggests that retromer
373 BAR proteins can act independent of the CSC on endosomes (Kvainickas *et al.*,
374 2017; Simonetti *et al.*, 2017; Yong *et al.*, 2020). Hence, we focused our attention on
375 the role of SNX2. While binding of HPV16 to cells was unaffected upon knockdown of
376 SNX2 (Figures S6C and S6D), HPV16 uptake was significantly reduced thereby
377 strengthening a potential role of SNX2 in endocytosis (Figure 6B).

378

379 Similar to WASH, a direct involvement of SNX2 in endocytosis necessitates its
380 presence at endocytic sites. During live cell TIRF-M, SNX2 and HPV16 signals co-
381 localized for more than 50 seconds prior to virus uptake and co-internalized
382 (Figures 6C and 6D, Suppl. Movie 4). Thus, SNX2 resembled WASH dynamics
383 during endocytosis. Immunogold labeling confirmed that SNX2 was indeed present at
384 the same endocytic stages than WASH, namely from virus binding to late stages of
385 pit formation (Figure 6E). Thus, these findings indicated a novel function of the
386 retromer protein SNX2 in facilitating HPV16 endocytosis, likely through membrane
387 bending and/or recruitment of WASH to endocytic sites.

388 **Discussion**

389 HPV16 uptake occurs by a unique endocytic mechanism, which is distinguished from
390 other mechanisms predominantly in negative terms, i.e., clathrin-, caveolin-,
391 dynamin-, cholesterol-independent and morphologically distinct from
392 macropinocytosis. This work provides evidence for a mechanistic model, in which
393 HPV16 is internalized by inward budding of uncoated endocytic vesicles. Pit
394 formation is facilitated by recruitment of the membrane bending retromer unit and
395 WASH, the latter of which stimulates branched actin polymerization for scission
396 (Figure 7). Hence, our work not only describes an unexpected direct function of
397 SNX2 and WASH in endocytosis, but also delineates that this mechanism follows a
398 stepwise itinerary similar to CME and distinct from macropinocytosis (Figure 7).
399 Since WASH has neither been described at the plasma membrane nor been
400 attributed to any other endocytic pathway, it defines the molecular identity of the
401 unique endocytic mechanism. Thus, we propose to call this pathway WASH-
402 mediated endocytosis (WASH-ME).

403

404 The endocytic landscape includes a variety of pathways, in which endocytic vesicle
405 formation is achieved by different machineries. These pathways typically differ in
406 morphology, key cargos, and molecular features (Doherty and McMahon, 2009).
407 WASH-ME falls in the category of pathways that form endocytic vacuoles by inward
408 budding of the plasma membrane in distinguishable steps. Thus, vesicles are formed
409 by *de novo* assembly of the endocytic machinery in a modular manner, a mode
410 comparable to CME (Figure 7). Vesicle formation is completed by a scission event.
411 In many endocytic pathways, this is mediated by the large GTPase dynamin. During
412 CME, dynamin polymerizes to form a collar that compresses the vesicle neck by an
413 extensively discussed mechanism leading to membrane fission (Hinshaw and

414 Schmid, 1995; Takei *et al.*, 1995; Sweitzer and Hinshaw, 1998; Morlot and Roux,
415 2013). In contrast, WASH-ME occurs independently of dynamin (Spoden *et al.*, 2008;
416 Schelhaas *et al.*, 2012) but involves actin polymerization, which coincided with
417 vesicle scission in a timely fashion that resembled dynamin recruitment during CME
418 (Merrifield *et al.*, 2002; Merrifield, 2004). Hence, actin most likely facilitates vesicle
419 scission by a force-driven mechanism rather than as anchoring structure for other
420 scission factors. How actin polymerization creates the force for vesicle scission
421 remains elusive. However, in analogy to observations from CME or endocytosis in
422 *Xenopus* oocytes, actin polymerization towards the vesicle neck may serve to
423 constrict and propel the vesicle away from the plasma membrane (Bement, Sokac
424 and Mandato, 2003; Sokac *et al.*, 2003; Collins *et al.*, 2011).

425

426 Endocytic vesicle scission is tightly coupled to membrane remodeling (Dawson, Legg
427 and Machesky, 2006; Shin *et al.*, 2008). This is often coordinated by BAR domain
428 proteins, which sense and stabilize membrane bending by intrinsic curvature (Gallop
429 *et al.*, 2006; Jao *et al.*, 2010; Qualmann, Koch and Kessels, 2011). For instance,
430 SNX9 not only participates in dynamin recruitment (Soulet *et al.*, 2005), but also
431 recruits and directly activates the NPF N-WASP for vesicle scission during CME
432 (Yarar, Waterman-Storer and Schmid, 2007; Shin *et al.*, 2008). Since we
433 demonstrated similar dynamics of SNX2 and WASH at virus entry sites during
434 WASH-ME, perhaps SNX2 aids WASH function in a similar fashion. However,
435 whereas SNX9 and N-WASP are recruited at late stages of CME (Taylor, Perrais and
436 Merrifield, 2011; Kaksonen and Roux, 2018), SNX2 and WASH are already present
437 much prior to vesicle scission. Despite the early recruitment, our findings indicated
438 that WASH promoted actin polymerization only late during vesicle scission. Hence, in
439 contrast to CME, recruitment and activation of the NPF are likely uncoupled in

440 WASH-ME. How SNX2 recruitment and WASH activation are induced for WASH-ME
441 is unclear. In analogy to their function on endosomes, however, binding of SNX2 to
442 specific phosphoinositides (Zhong *et al.*, 2002; Carlton *et al.*, 2005) and
443 posttranslational modifications of WASH (Hao *et al.*, 2013) are likely involved in their
444 function during WASH-ME. In line with this notion, WASH-ME is controlled by several
445 protein and lipid kinases (Schelhaas *et al.*, 2012; Bannach *et al.*, 2020).

446

447 How WASH-ME is induced by ligand-receptor interactions is an intriguing question. In
448 addition to mechanistic insights, it would point to the cellular role of WASH-ME and
449 the cargo it internalizes. Likely, WASH-ME is induced only during specific cell states,
450 as WASH is infrequently observed at the plasma membrane. It is reasonable to
451 assume that HPV16 exploits a pathway that is highly active during infection of target
452 cells. These are basal keratinocytes of the mucosal epidermis that become
453 accessible to the virus upon epidermal wounding (Doorbar, 2005; Roberts *et al.*,
454 2007; Aksoy, Gottschalk and Meneses, 2017). Wounding and other cellular
455 responses stimulate epithelial to mesenchymal transition and cell migration, which
456 are accompanied by the remodeling of cell-matrix adhesion complexes, such as focal
457 adhesions and hemidesmosomes (HDs) (Jones, Hopkinson and Goldfinger, 1998;
458 Borradori and Sonnenberg, 1999; Webb, Parsons and Horwitz, 2002; Ezratty,
459 Partridge and Gundersen, 2005; Walko, Castañón and Wiche, 2015). To date, little is
460 known about the dynamics of HD remodeling during cell migration, but HD containing
461 plasma membrane domains can be rapidly endocytosed upon detachment from the
462 underlying extracellular matrix (ECM) (Owaribe *et al.*, 1990). Since HDs contain
463 integrin $\alpha 6$ and CD151, which are part of the HPV16 entry platform (Scheffer *et al.*,
464 2013; Walko, Castañón and Wiche, 2015; Mikuličić *et al.*, 2019), WASH-ME may
465 promote HD uptake during wound healing to aid cell migration and thereby wound

466 closure. Another essential process during wound healing is matrix remodeling.
467 Interestingly, WASH was previously implicated in apical endocytosis of extracellular
468 material in the *Drosophila* airway epithelium during embryogenesis (Tsarouhas *et al.*,
469 2019). Hence, WASH-ME could also contribute to matrix remodeling as a specialized
470 mechanism for internalization of extracellular material.

471

472 While extensive future research will have to address the cellular role of WASH-ME,
473 its role in pathogen invasion may be of considerable interest as well. For instance,
474 WASH is recruited to the plasma membrane during *Salmonella* infection presumably
475 serving as one of several entry pathways (Hänisch *et al.*, 2010). Moreover, WASH
476 regulatory complex protein family with sequence similarity 21 co-localizes with a
477 subset of VV particles in plasma membrane lipid rafts (Huang *et al.*, 2008). Thus,
478 WASH-ME may constitute an important entry route for pathogens. Accordingly,
479 viruses such as IAV and LCMV exploit pathways with endocytic vacuole morphology
480 and mechanistic requirements similar yet not identical to HPV16 endocytosis
481 (Sieczkarski and Whittaker, 2002; Quirin *et al.*, 2008; Rojek, Perez and Kunz, 2008;
482 de Vries *et al.*, 2011).

483

484 The identification of SNX2 and WASH marks the beginning of a deeper
485 understanding of the mechanism underlying WASH-ME. Future research will aim to
486 reveal its cellular function, to identify additional components and the functional
487 interplay of the machinery in this uncharacterized new endocytic pathway to better
488 understand the mechanism of WASH-ME.

489

490

491

492

493 **Limitations of the study**

494 This work describes a novel function of the NPF WASH in regulating actin
495 polymerization for vesicle scission, thereby defining a molecular identity of a unique
496 endocytic pathway exploited by HPV16 for infection. Based on the fact that HPV16
497 uptake through WASH-ME occurs highly asynchronously over many hours, only very
498 few endocytic events are observable per cell at any given time post infection. Thus,
499 identification of endocytic structures proves to be challenging. For example,
500 colocalization analysis with marker proteins leads to statistically inconclusive results.
501 While dynamic association of cellular proteins with HPV16 during uptake delineated
502 by TIRF-M as well as identification of endocytic pits by EM together with immunogold
503 labelling of cellular proteins demonstrated WASH and SNX2 localization and
504 recruitment to endocytic pits events, the sample size of these experiments is limited if
505 compared to typical colocalization experiments.

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517

518 **Author contributions**

519 Conceived and designed experiments: PB, LK, PSV, CB, TS, MS; Performed
520 experiments: PB, LK, PSV, LG, CB, DB, JK; Analyzed data: PB, LK, PSV, LG, CB,
521 DB, JK, SB, TS, MS; Resources: PD, SB, TS, MS; Writing: PB, LK, MS with input
522 from the other authors.

523

524 **Declaration of interests**

525 The authors declare no competing interests.

526 **Figure legends**

527 **Figure 1 HPV16 endocytosis as an uncoated, inward budding mechanism**

528 (A) HaCaT cells were seeded on HPV16-AF568 bound to ECM, treated with 10 µg/ml
529 cytoD or DMSO and unroofed. Fluorescent virus particles imaged by spinning disk
530 microscopy and depicted in the small insets were correlated with structures identified
531 in TEM images of platinum/carbon replicas of unroofed membranes. Arrowheads
532 indicate endocytic pits. (B) Depicted is the percentage of particles associated with the
533 indicated structure ± variation between the membranes (DMSO: 134 viruses/
534 7 membranes; cytoD: 101 viruses/5 membranes). Of note, about 20-25% of particles
535 were not associated with any prominent structure. (C) HeLa ATCC cells were
536 infected with HPV16-GFP in presence of cytoD. Infection was scored by flow
537 cytometry and normalized to DMSO treated controls. The mean of three experiments
538 ± SD is shown. (D) HeLa ATCC cells treated with 10 µg/ml CytoD or left untreated
539 (ctrl.) were infected with HPV16-GFP and processed for ultra-thin section TEM at 6 h
540 p.i.. All scale bars are 100 nm.

541

542 **Figure 2 Actin polymerization coincided with HPV16 uptake**

543 (A) HeLa ATCC cells were infected with HPV16-GFP, subjected to immunogold
544 labeling of actin on ultra-thin cryosections, and analyzed by TEM. Asterisks indicate
545 HPV16 in endocytic pits. Scale bars are 100 nm. (B) HeLa ATCC cells were
546 transfected with lifeact-EGFP, infected with HPV16-AF594 and imaged by live cell
547 TIRF-M at 1 h p.i.. Movies were acquired with 0.5 Hz frame rate for 5 min. HPV16
548 entry events were identified manually after background subtraction and filtering. The
549 yellow box indicates the virus entry event shown as a kymograph (right) and intensity
550 profile (C). Scale bar is 2 µm. (C) Plotted are the intensity profiles of HPV16 and
551 lifeact (light red/green) as well as moving averages (intense red/green). Values are

552 depicted relative to the half time of virus loss ($t = 0$). The time points of the onset of
553 actin polymerization (1) and of virus signal loss (2) from the cell surface, as well as of
554 actin peak intensity (3) and of completion of virus uptake (4) were determined
555 manually. (D) Time points were determined for 21 virus entry events as indicated in
556 (C), averaged and are depicted as box plots.

557

558 Figure 3 **Branched actin polymerization mediated HPV16 endocytosis**

559 (A) HeLa ATCC cells were infected with HPV16-GFP or VSV-GFP in presence of the
560 formin inhibitor SMIFH2. Infection was scored by flow cytometry, normalized to
561 solvent treated controls and is depicted as mean \pm SD (HPV16: $n = 3$, VSV: $n = 4$).
562 (B) HeLa ATCC cells transfected with Scar-W-GFP or Scar-WA-GFP were infected
563 with HPV16-RFP. Infection of transfected cells was analyzed by microscopy,
564 normalized to Scar-W-GFP control cells and is depicted as the mean of three
565 experiments \pm SD. (C) HeLa Kyoto cells were depleted of Arp3 and infected with
566 HPV16-GFP, VV-GFP or SFV. Infection was scored by automated microscopy or
567 flow cytometry, normalized to cells transfected with a non-targeting control siRNA
568 (ctrl.) and is depicted as mean \pm SD (HPV16/SFV: $n = 3$, VV: $n = 4$). (D) Arp3
569 depletion was followed by infection with HPV16-pHrodo and live cell spinning disk
570 microscopy at 6 h p.i.. Shown are average intensity projections of the HPV16-pHrodo
571 signal with cell outlines (yellow), scale bar is 25 μ m. Virus signal intensities per cell
572 were measured using a CellProfiler pipeline and normalized to ctrl. ($n = 4$, mean
573 \pm SD). Knock down levels were analyzed by Western blotting against Arp3.

574

575 Figure 4 **WASH associated early, but acted late during HPV16 uptake**

576 (A) HeLa Kyoto cells were depleted of WASH and infected with HPV16-GFP or VV-
577 GFP. Infection was determined by automated microscopy and flow cytometry and

578 normalized to cells transfected with a control siRNA (ctrl.) (n = 4, mean \pm SD.) (B)
579 After depletion of WASH or Arp3, cells were infected with HPV16-pHrodo and
580 imaged live by spinning disk microscopy at 6 h p.i.. Shown are average intensity
581 projections of the HPV16-pHrodo signal with cell outlines (yellow), scale bar is 25
582 μ m. The intensity of virus signal per cell was normalized to ctrl. and is depicted as the
583 mean of three experiments \pm SD. (C) EGFP (ctrl.) or EGFP-WASH were expressed
584 in NIH-3T3 wild type and WASH KO cells. Infection with HPV16-RFP was scored by
585 flow cytometry and normalized to wild type cells expressing EGFP (ctrl.). Values are
586 depicted as the mean \pm SD (n = 3). (D) NIH-3T3 wild type and WASH KO infected
587 with HPV16-GFP were subjected to ultra-thin section TEM at 6 h p.i.. The number of
588 virus filled plasma membrane invaginations was determined for 43 cells per cell line
589 in two independent experiments. Total pit numbers were normalized to wild type cells
590 and are depicted as mean \pm SD. Scale bars are 100 nm. (E) HeLa ATCC cells
591 transfected with EGFP-WASH were infected with HPV16-AF647. Cells were imaged
592 by live cell TIRF-M at 1 h p.i.. Movies were acquired with 0.5 Hz frame rate for 5 min.
593 HPV16 entry events were identified manually after background subtraction and
594 filtering. Shown is a kymograph of the virus entry event highlighted by the yellow box,
595 and the corresponding EGFP-WASH signal. Scale bar is 2 μ m. (F) Intensity profiles
596 of HPV16 and WASH (light red/green) as well as moving averages (intense
597 red/green) of the virus entry event shown in (E) depicted relative to the half time of
598 virus loss (t = 0). (G) HeLa ATCC cells were transfected with EGFP-WASH and
599 infected with HPV16. At 6 h p.i., cells were subjected to immunogold labeling of GFP
600 (WASH, 15 nm gold) and actin (10 nm gold) on ultra-thin cryosections analyzed by
601 TEM. Asterisks indicate HPV16 particles, black and white arrowheads indicate
602 WASH staining and the membrane, respectively. Scale bars are 100 nm.
603

604 **Figure 5 Components of the retrograde trafficking pathway acted early during**
605 **HPV16 endocytosis**

606 (A) HeLa Kyoto cells were treated with retro-2 and infected with HPV16-GFP or
607 HSV-1-GFP. Infection was scored by flow cytometry and normalized to solvent
608 treated controls (n = 3, mean \pm SD). (B) HeLa Kyoto cells were infected with HPV16-
609 GFP in presence of 10 mM NH₄Cl. At 12 h p.i., NH₄Cl was washed out and infection
610 was continued in presence of 100 μ M retro-2. Infection was scored by flow cytometry
611 at 48 h p.i. and normalized to solvent treated controls. The mean of three
612 experiments \pm SD is shown. (C) HeLa Kyoto cells were treated with 100 μ M retro-2
613 and infected with HPV16-GFP. At 12 h p.i., extracellular virus was inactivated by a
614 basic pH wash. Infection was continued in absence of the inhibitor and scored by
615 flow cytometry. Depicted is the fraction of infected cells after the basic wash
616 normalized to DMSO treated cells washed with PBS as the mean of three
617 experiments \pm SD. (D) HeLa Kyoto cells were infected with HPV16-GFP in presence
618 of 100 μ M retro-2 and subjected to ultra-thin section TEM at 6 h p.i.. Scale bars are
619 100 nm. The number of virus filled plasma membrane invaginations was determined
620 for 34 and 32 cells in untreated and retro-2 treated cells, respectively, in two
621 independent experiments, normalized to control cells and is depicted as the mean \pm
622 SD.

623

624 **Figure 6 The retromer protein SNX2 resembled WASH dynamics**

625 (A) HeLa Kyoto cells were depleted of Vps26a, Vps29, SNX2 or CtBP1 and infected
626 with HPV16-GFP. Infection was scored by automated microscopy and normalized to
627 ctrl. (n = 3, mean \pm SD). (B) Cells were depleted of Arp3 or SNX2 and infected with
628 HPV16-pHrodo followed by live cell imaging at 6 h p.i.. Shown are average intensity
629 projections of the HPV16-pHrodo signal acquired by spinning disk microscopy. Cell

630 outlines in yellow were manually created with brightfield images, scale bar is 25 μ m.
631 The intensity of virus signal per cell was normalized to ctrl. and is shown as mean
632 \pm SD (SNX2: n = 3, Arp3: n = 2). (C) HeLa ATCC cells were transfected with EGFP-
633 SNX2, infected with HPV16-AF647 and imaged live by TIRF-M at 1 h p.i.. Movies
634 were acquired with 0.5 Hz frame rate for 5 min. HPV16 entry events were identified
635 manually after background subtraction and filtering. Shown is a kymograph of the
636 virus entry event highlighted with the yellow box and the corresponding EGFP-SNX2
637 signal. Scale bars is 2 μ m. (D) Intensity profiles of HPV16 and SNX2 (light red/green)
638 as well as moving averages (intense red/green) of the virus entry event shown in (C)
639 depicted relative to the half time of virus loss ($t = 0$). (E) HeLa ATCC cells were
640 transfected with EGFP-SNX2, infected with HPV16 and subjected to immunogold
641 labeling of EGFP-SNX2 on ultra-thin cryosections analyzed by TEM at 6 h p.i.. Black
642 and white arrowheads indicate SNX2 staining and the membrane, respectively,
643 asterisks mark virus particles. Scale bars are 100 nm.

644

645 Figure 7 **Model**

646 Schematic model of the mechanistic regulation of endocytic vesicle formation during
647 WASH-ME in comparison to CME and macropinocytosis. Additional regulators
648 involved in the latter mechanisms were omitted for clarity.

649 **Supplemental figure legends**

650 **Figure S1 Kinetics of dynamin recruitment during CME resembled actin**
651 **dynamics during HPV16 uptake** (Related to Figure 2)

652 (A) HeLa ATCC cells were co-transfected with mRFP-clathrin light chain (CLC) and
653 EGFP-dynamin 2 (Dyn2). Cells were imaged by live cell TIRF-M. Movies were
654 acquired with 0.5 Hz frame rate for 5 min. CME events denoted by CLC signal loss
655 were identified manually after background subtraction and filtering. The yellow box
656 indicates the CME event shown as kymograph. Scale bar is 2 μm . (B) Plotted are the
657 intensity profiles of CLC and Dyn (light red/green) as well as moving averages
658 (intense red/green). Note that due to its additional role in vesicle maturation, Dyn2
659 was already present early during vesicle formation (Loerke *et al.*, 2009; Taylor,
660 Lampe and Merrifield, 2012). A second wave of recruitment was observed for
661 scission and quantified in (C). (C) The onset of Dyn2 recruitment for scission (1)
662 relative to the half time of CLC loss from the cell surface ($t = 0$) as well as the
663 timepoint of the completion of CLC (3) and Dyn2 (2) signal loss were manually
664 determined from intensity profiles. Values from 10 profiles were plotted.

665

666 **Figure S2 Unbranched actin polymerization regulated by formins was not**
667 **required for HPV16 infection** (Related to Figure 3)

668 HeLa Kyoto cells were depleted of individual formins and infected with HPV16-GFP.
669 Infection was scored by automated microscopy and normalized to ctrl., siRNAs that
670 reduced cell numbers by more than 80% were considered cytotoxic (\dagger) and excluded
671 from the analysis. Depicted is the mean of three experiments \pm SD.

672

673

674 **Figure S3 The NPFs N-WASP, WAVE, WHAMM and JMY were dispensable for**
675 **HPV16 infection** (Related to Figure 4)

676 HeLa Kyoto cells were infected with HPV16-GFP after siRNA mediated depletion of
677 N-WASP (A), WAVE1 (B), WAVE2 (C), JMY (D), WHAMM (E). Infection was scored
678 by automated microscopy, normalized to ctrl. and is depicted as the mean \pm SD (n =
679 3). (F) Protein expression levels were determined by Western blotting against the
680 siRNA target proteins.

681

682 **Figure S4 The WASH WCA domain was essential for HPV16 infection** (Related to
683 Figure 4)

684 (A) EGFP (ctrl.), YFP-WASH or YFP-WASH lacking the WCA domain (dWCA) were
685 expressed in NIH-3T3 wild type and WASH KO cells. Cells were infected with
686 HPV16-RFP. Infection was scored by flow cytometry and normalized to wild type
687 cells transfected with EGFP(ctrl.). Values are depicted as mean \pm SD of three
688 independent experiments. (B) U2OS wild type and WASH KO cells were infected
689 with HPV16-GFP. Infection was analyzed by flow cytometry and normalized to wild
690 type cells (mean \pm SD, n = 8). (C) WASH KO in NIH-3T3 and U2OS cells was
691 confirmed by immunoblotting against WASH. (D) HPV16-AF488 was bound to NIH-
692 3T3 WASH KO cells. Virus pre-incubated with 1 mg/ml heparin was used as a non-
693 binding control. At 2 h p.i., virus binding was measured by flow cytometry. Values are
694 shown as relatives to wild type cells and depicted as mean of three experiments
695 \pm SD. (E) Binding of HPV16-AF568 was performed as in (D). After fixation, the actin
696 cytoskeleton was stained with phalloidin-Atto488. Shown are maximum intensity
697 projections of z-stacks acquired by spinning disk microscopy, scale bars are 10 μ m.

698

699 **Figure S5 PLA indicated WASH recruitment to virus entry sites** (Related to
700 Figure 4)

701 HPV16-AF488 was bound to ECM. HaCaT cells transfected with the entry platform
702 protein HA-CD151 were seeded on top. Close proximity between WASH and HA-
703 CD151 was detected using a PLA and plasma membrane localization was analyzed
704 by TIRF-M. Scale bars are 2 μm and 0.5 μm .

705

706 **Figure S6 Retro-2 treatment and SNX2 knock down did not affect HPV16**
707 **binding** (Related to Figures 5 and 6)

708 (A) Confluent HeLa Kyoto cells were infected with HPV16-AF488 or -AF594 for 2 h in
709 presence of 100 μM retro-2. Pre-incubation of the virus with 1 mg/ml heparin was
710 used as a non-binding control. The intensities of fluorescent HPV16 were determined
711 by spinning disk microscopy and normalized to solvent treated control cells. Depicted
712 are mean values from three experiments \pm SD. (B) Depletion of siRNA target proteins
713 was confirmed by Western blotting. (C) HPV16-AF488 was bound to HeLa Kyoto
714 cells depleted of SNX2 for 2 h. Virus binding was determined by flow cytometry.
715 Values are shown as relatives to ctrl. (mean of three independent experiments \pm SD).
716 (D) HPV16-AF568 was bound to HeLa Kyoto cells depleted of SNX2 as above.
717 Spinning disk microscopy was employed after actin staining with phalloidin-Atto488.
718 Shown are maximum intensity projections of z-stacks, scale bar is 10 μm .

719 **STAR methods**

720 **KEY RESOURCES TABLE**

REAGENT or RESOURCE	SOURCE	IDENTIFIER
Antibodies		
mouse anti actin (4F7)	BRICS	bsbs300470
rabbit polyclonal anti Arp3	(Steffen <i>et al.</i> , 2006)	N/A
mouse monoclonal (11G5a) anti CD151	Bio Rad	MCA1856GA
mouse monoclonal (3) anti CtBP1	Becton Dickinson	612042
rabbit polyclonal anti ERK2 (C-14)	Santa Cruz Biotechnology	sc-154
rabbit polyclonal anti GFP	Abcam	ab290
mouse monoclonal anti HA (16B12)	Covance	MMS-101R
goat polyclonal anti JMY (L-16)	Santa Cruz Biotechnology	sc-10027
primary rabbit antiserum "Lady Di" against SFV E1/2	kind gift from A. Helenius (ETH Zurich, Switzerland), (Singh and Helenius, 1992)	N/A
mouse monoclonal (13) anti SNX2	Becton Dickinson	611308
mouse monoclonal (B-5-1-2) anti tubulin	Sigma-Aldrich	T5168
rabbit polyclonal anti Vps26a	Abcam	Ab137447
rabbit polyclonal anti Vps29	Abcam	Ab98929
rabbit polyclonal anti WASH	kind gift from A. Gautreau (Institut Polytechnique De Paris, Paris, France), (Derivery <i>et al.</i> , 2009)	N/A
rabbit polyclonal anti WASH	Atlas Antibodies	HPA002689
rabbit polyclonal anti WAVE1	Sigma-Aldrich	W2142
rabbit polyclonal anti WAVE2 (H-110)	Santa Cruz Biotechnology	sc-33548
rabbit polyclonal anti WHAMM (K-13)	Santa Cruz Biotechnology	sc-136951
goat anti-mouse AF488 IgG	Thermo Fisher Scientific	A-11029
goat anti-mouse AF647 IgG	Thermo Fisher Scientific	A-21235
goat anti-rabbit AF488 IgG	Thermo Fisher Scientific	A-11034
rabbit anti mouse IgG + IgM	Dianova	315-005-048
sheep anti-mouse HRP linked IgG	GE Healthcare	NA931
donkey anti-rabbit HRP linked IgG	GE Healthcare	NA934
Duolink In Situ PLA Probe anti-mouse PLUS	Sigma-Aldrich	DUO92001
Duolink In Situ PLA Probe anti-rabbit MINUS	Sigma-Aldrich	DUO92005
Protein A gold 10 nm	CMC, UMC Utrecht	N/A
Protein A gold 15 nm	CMC, UMC Utrecht	N/A
Bacterial and Virus Strains		
<i>E. coli</i> DH5a	kind gift from A. Helenius (ETH Zurich, Switzerland)	N/A
HPV16-GFP pseudoviruses (PsVs)	(Buck and Thompson, 2007)	N/A
HPV16-RFP PsVs	(Johnson <i>et al.</i> , 2009)	N/A
HSV-1-EGFP (17syn ⁺)	kind gift from W. Hafezi (University of Münster, Germany) (Hafezi <i>et al.</i> , 2012)	N/A
SFV (prototype strain)	kind gift from A. Helenius (ETH Zurich, Switzerland), (Marsh and Helenius, 1980)	N/A
VSV-GFP (Indiana)	kind gift from A. Helenius (ETH Zurich, Switzerland) (Johannsdottir <i>et al.</i> , 2009)	N/A

VV-GFP (Western Reserve)	kind gift from J. Mercer (UCL London, UK), (Mercer and Helenius, 2008)	N/A
Chemicals, Peptides, and Recombinant Proteins		
AGAR 100 Resin kit (Epoxy resin)	Agar Scientific	R1031
Alexa Fluor 488 succinimidyl ester	Thermo Fisher Scientific	A20000
Alexa Fluor 568 succinimidyl ester	Thermo Fisher Scientific	A20003
Alexa Fluor 594 succinimidyl ester	Thermo Fisher Scientific	A20004
Alexa Fluor 647 succinimidyl ester	Thermo Fisher Scientific	A20006
bafilomycin A1	Applichem	A7823
Brij-58	Sigma-Aldrich	P5884
cytochalasin D	Sigma-Aldrich	C8273
glutaraldehyde, EM grade	Polysciences	01909
heparin	Sigma-Aldrich	H4784
Lipofectamine 2000	Invitrogen	11668019
Lipofectamine RNAi max	Invitrogen	13778075
osmium tetroxide	Electron Microscopy Sciences	19100
paraformaldehyde, EM grade	Polysciences	00380
phalloidin-Atto488	Sigma-Aldrich	49409
pHrodo Red succinimidyl ester	Thermo Fisher Scientific	P36600
retro-2	ChemBridge	5374762
RedDot2	VWR	40061-1
ROCK inhibitor	Becton Dickinson	Y-27632
SMIFH2	Sigma-Aldrich	S4826
uranyl acetate	Polysciences	21447
X-tremeGENE™ 9	Merck	XTG9-RO
Critical Commercial Assays		
Duolink In Situ Detection Reagents Red	Sigma-Aldrich	DUO92008
Experimental Models: Cell Lines		
Hamster: BHK-21-Helsinki	kind gift from A. Helenius (ETH Zurich, Switzerland) (Johannsdottir <i>et al.</i> , 2009)	N/A
Hamster: BHK-21	kind gift from W. Hafezi (University of Münster, Germany) (Hafezi <i>et al.</i> , 2012)	N/A
African green monkey: BSC-40	kind gift from J. Mercer (UCL London, UK), (Brockman and Nathans, 1974)	N/A
Human: HaCaT	(Boukamp <i>et al.</i> , 1988)	N/A
Human: HeLa ATCC	ATCC (Manassas, USA)	N/A
Human: HeLa Kyoto	kind gift from L. Pelkmans (ETH Zurich, Switzerland), (Landry <i>et al.</i> , 2013)	N/A
Mouse: NIH 3T3	ATCC (Manassas, USA)	N/A
Mouse: NIH 3T3 WASH KOs	this study	N/A
Human: U2OS	German collection of Microorganisms and Cell Cultures (DSMZ, Braunschweig, Germany)	N/A
Human: U2OS WASH KOs	this study	N/A
Non-human, primate: Vero	ATCC (Manassas, USA)	N/A

Human: 293 TT	kind gift from J. Schiller (NIH, Bethesda, USA) (Buck <i>et al.</i> , 2005)	N/A
Oligonucleotides		
refer to supplemental table 1 for siRNAs		
single guide RNA (sgRNA) WASH exon 2 (murine, top strand)	GCGACGAGAGGAGGCAA TCC	
sgRNA WASH exon 2 (murine, bottom strand)	GGATTGCCTCCTCTCGTC GC	
sgRNA WASH exon 4 (human, top strand)	TCTTCACGGGCGCCCAG GAC	
sgRNA WASH exon 4 (human, bottom strand)	GTCCTGGGCGCCCGTGA AGA	
sgRNA WASH exon 5 (human, top strand)	GTGTGCGTGAGCACCAA GCC	
sgRNA WASH exon 4 (human, bottom strand)	GGCTTGGTGCTCACGCA CAC	
murine WASH sequencing primer (forward)	ATAGGCAGAGGGGTGAG TGT	
murine WASH sequencing primer (reverse)	ACACTGGGCATTAGTTG GGT	
M13r primer for TOPO vector	CAGGAAACAGCTATGAC	
Recombinant DNA		
Plasmid: pSpCas9(BB)-2A-GFP (pX458)	Addgene	48138
Plasmid: pEGFP C1_CD151	kind gift from L. Florin (Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz, Germany) (Liu <i>et al.</i> , 2007)	N/A
Plasmid: pcDNA3 HA_CD151	this study	N/A
Plasmid: pmRFP C3_Clc	kind gift from A. Helenius (ETH Zurich, Switzerland)	N/A
Plasmid: pEGFP-Dyn2	kind gift from M. A. McNiven (Mayo Clinic, Rochester, USA) (Cao, Garcia and McNiven, 1998)	N/A
Plasmid: pCIneoEGFP	kind gift from C. Buck (NIH, Bethesda, USA) (Buck and Thompson, 2007)	N/A
Plasmid: Lifeact_EGFP-N1	kind gift from R. Wedlich-Söldner (University of Münster, Germany) (Riedl <i>et al.</i> , 2008)	N/A
Plasmid: pEGFP C1	kind gift from A. Helenius (ETH Zurich, Switzerland)	N/A
Plasmid: pRwB	kind gift from C. Buck (NIH, Bethesda, USA) (Johnson <i>et al.</i> , 2009)	N/A
Plasmid: pEGFP C1_Scar-W-GFP	(Machesky and Insall, 1998)	N/A
Plasmid: pEGFP-C1_Scar-WA-GFP	(Machesky and Insall, 1998)	N/A
Plasmid: pcDNA5_RT-PC-EGFP-SNX2	kind gift from A. Gautreau (Institut Polytechnique De Paris, France), (Helfer <i>et al.</i> , 2013)	N/A
Plasmid: pcDNA5_EGFP-WASH	(Derivery <i>et al.</i> , 2009)	N/A
Plasmid: pcCM3H1p YFP WASH wild type	kind gift from D. Billadeau (Mayo Clinic, Rochester, USA), (Gomez and Billadeau, 2009)	N/A

Plasmid: pCMS3H1p YFP WASH dWCA	kind gift from D. Billadeau (Mayo Clinic, Rochester, USA), (Gomez and Billadeau, 2009)	N/A
Plasmid: p16SheLL	kind gift from C. Buck (NIH, Bethesda, USA) (Buck <i>et al.</i> , 2005)	N/A
Software and Algorithms		
Adobe Illustrator	Adobe Inc.	version 16.0.4
Adobe Photoshop	Adobe Inc.	C4, extended version 11.0
Affinity Designer	Serif (Europe) Ltd	version 1.7.3
ApE – A plasmid Editor	M. Wayne Davis (https://jorgensen.biology.utah.edu/wayned/ape/)	version 1.11
BD CellQuest Pro	Becton Dickinson	version 5.2
CellProfiler	(Kamentsky <i>et al.</i> , 2011)	version 2.1.1
CellSens Dimension	Olympus	version 2.3
FACSDiva	Becton Dickinson	version 6.1
Fiji (ImageJ)	(Schindelin <i>et al.</i> , 2012)	versions 2.0.0/1.50g and 2.1.0/1.53c
FlowJo	Becton Dickinson	versions 8.8.6 and 10.6.1
guavaSoft	Merck	version 3.1.1
iTEMFEI	FEI/Olympus	version 5.2
MATLAB	MathWorks	version R2015a, 8.5.0.197613
MATLAB InfectionCounter Program	(Snijder <i>et al.</i> , 2012)	version blue, release B3
Metamorph (Spinning disk)	Molecular Devices	version 7.7.2
Metamorph (IX71 TIRF)	Molecular Devices	version 7.7.1
Microsoft Excel	Microsoft Corporation	versions 15.41.0 and 16.40
Prism	GraphPad Software, Inc.	version 6.0f
SnapGene Viewer	SnapGene	version 2.6.2
Tecnai software	FEI/Thermo Fisher Scientific	version 3.1.3
Volocity software	PerkinElmer	version 6.3

721

722 RESOURCE AVAILABILITY

723 Lead Contact

724 Further information and requests for resources should be directed and will be fulfilled

725 by the lead contact, Mario Schelhaas (schelhaas@uni-muenster.de).

726

727

728

729

730 **Materials Availability**

731 Plasmids generated in this study are available from the lead contact. WASH knock
732 out cell lines described in this study are available from Theresia Stradal
733 (Theresia.Stradal@helmholtz-hzi.de) with a completed Material Transfer Agreement.

734

735 **Data and Code Availability**

736 All data reported in this paper will be shared by the lead contact upon request. The
737 paper does not report original code. Any additional information required to reanalyze
738 the data reported in this paper is available from the lead contact upon request.

739

740 **EXPERIMENTAL MODEL AND SUBJECT DETAILS**

741 **Cell lines**

742 HeLa ATCC, HeLa Kyoto (both female origin), HaCaT cells (male origin) and non-
743 human, primate Vero cells (female origin) were cultured in high glucose Dulbecco's
744 modified eagle medium (DMEM, D5796 Sigma-Aldrich) supplemented with 10% fetal
745 bovine serum (FBS). 293TT cells (female origin) were grown in DMEM with 10% FBS
746 and 400 µg/µl hygromycin B. U2OS wild type and WASH KO cells (female origin) as
747 well as murine NIH 3T3 wild type and WASH KO cells (male origin) were cultured in
748 DMEM supplemented with 10% FBS and 1% non-essential amino acids (NEAA).
749 Primate, non-human BSC-40 cells (sex unspecified) were grown in DMEM
750 supplemented with 10% FBS, 5% NEAA and 5% sodium pyruvate. Hamster BHK-21
751 cells (male origin) were cultured in Glasgow's minimum essential medium (GMEM)
752 supplemented with 10% FBS. All cells were cultivated in a humidified atmosphere at
753 37°C and 5% CO₂ and routinely tested for mycoplasma contamination.

754

755

756 **Bacteria strains**

757 Chemocompetent *E. coli* DH5a used for plasmid preparation were grown in lysogeny
758 broth (LB) medium supplemented with antibiotics at 37°C and 210 rpm.

759

760 **Virus strains**

761 VV-GFP (Western Reserve) containing a fluorescent version of the core protein A5
762 was propagated and titrated on BSC-40 cells in standard growth medium and purified
763 as described previously (Mercer and Helenius, 2008). HSV-1-EGFP (17syn+)
764 expressing EGFP under control of the cytomegalovirus promoter was propagated on
765 BHK-21 cells and titrated on Vero cells, both grown in GMEM supplemented with 2%
766 FBS, as described previously (Schelhaas *et al.*, 2003; Hafezi *et al.*, 2012). SFV
767 (prototype strain) was propagated and titrated on BHK-21-Helsinki cells as previously
768 described (Marsh, Kielian and Helenius, 1984). Infection was carried out in GMEM
769 supplemented with 10% FBS and 10% Tryptose Broth. VSV-GFP (Indiana)
770 expressing an additional transgene encoding GFP was propagated on BHK-21-
771 Helsinki cells grown in GMEM supplemented with 10 mM HEPES (pH 6.5). At 1 h
772 p.i., GMEM supplemented with 30 mM HEPES (pH 7.3) and 10% Tryptose
773 Phosphate Broth and 1% FBS was added, as previously described (Johannsdottir *et*
774 *al.*, 2009). The virus was titrated on BHK-21-Helsinki cells grown in RPMI
775 supplemented with 30 mM HEPES (pH 6.5). HPV16 PsVs were produced as
776 described in the method details.

777

778 **METHOD DETAILS**

779 **Cloning and plasmid purification**

780 *Cloning of HA-CD151 construct*

781 Lentiviral expression constructs of HA-tagged CD151 were a kind gift from M. Hemler
782 (Dana Farber Cancer Institute and Harvard Medical School, Boston, USA) (Hwang,
783 Takimoto and Hemler, 2019). For subcloning, HA-CD151 was cut from the lentiviral
784 vector using *EcoRI* and *XbaI* for 2 h at 37°C. A pcDNA3 expression vector was cut
785 using the same enzymes and conditions. For purification, both samples were run on
786 a 2% acrylamide gel. The DNA was visualized with ethidium bromide and bands
787 representing the cut pcDNA3 backbone as well as HA-CD151 (insert) were isolated
788 from the gel. Gel extraction was performed with a NucleoSpin Gel and PCR Clean-up
789 kit (Macherey-Nagel). DNA concentrations were determined with help of a 1.5%
790 agarose gel by comparison to the marker bands (Gene Ruler 1 kb DNA ladder,
791 Thermo Scientific). Insert and backbone were ligated by incubation with the T4 ligase
792 overnight at 16°C.

793

794 *Plasmid purification*

795 Chemocompetent *E. coli* DH5a were incubated with 5 µl ligation product for 10 min
796 on ice. Heat shock was performed by 60-90 sec incubation at 42°C. Immediately
797 afterwards, bacteria were incubated on ice for 5 min before LB medium was added.
798 Bacteria were grown at 37°C and 350 rpm for 30-60 min and plated on LB agar
799 plates with antibiotics using inoculation loops. Plates were incubated overnight at
800 37°C and inspected for colony growth the next day. For HA-CD151 cloning, several
801 overnight cultures with LB supplemented with antibiotics were inoculated with one
802 colony each. Plasmids were purified using the NucleoSpin Plasmid kit (Macherey-
803 Nagel) and sent for sequencing by Eurofins Genomics (Luxembourg). Sequence
804 analysis was performed with ApE. For use in experiments, plasmids were purified
805 using the NucleoBond Xtra Maxi kit (Macherey-Nagel).

806

807

808

809 *sgRNA design and cloning*

810 sgRNAs were provided by a CRISPR design tool (CRIPR.mit.edu or CCTop).
811 Specifically, the murine gene was disrupted by sgRNAs targeting exon 2 and the
812 human gene by simultaneously targeting exons 4 and 5 (key resources table). Top
813 and bottom strands of sgRNAs were annealed using T4 ligase for 30 min at 37°C and
814 cloned into pSpCas9(BB)-2A-GFP (pX458) by digestion with *BbsI* and ligation with
815 T4 ligase (6 cycles: 37°C for 5 min, 21°C for 5 min). Residual linearized DNA was
816 removed by treatment with PlasmidSafe exonuclease at 37°C for 30 min. Chemically
817 competent *E.coli* DH5a were transformed with the ligation product as described
818 above.

819

820 **Generation and characterization of WASH KO cell lines with CRISPR/Cas9**

821 NIH-3T3 and U2OS cells were plated in 6-well plates and maintained in DMEM
822 (4.5 g/L glucose, Invitrogen, Germany) supplemented with 10% (v/v) FBS (Sigma,
823 Germany), 1 mM sodium pyruvate, 1x non-essential amino acids and 2 mM L-
824 glutamine at 37°C in a humidified 7.5% CO₂-atmosphere overnight. Cells were
825 genome edited using the CRISPR/Cas9 technology (Ran *et al.*, 2013) to generate
826 WASH KO cell lines. Selected sgRNAs (key resources table) were cloned into pX458
827 allowing simultaneous expression of sgRNA, Cas9 and selection via EGFP
828 expression as described above. The resulting constructs were transfected into NIH-
829 3T3 or U2OS cells, respectively. Plasmids (1 µg) and X-tremeGene™ 9 (3 µl) were
830 diluted in 100 µl optiMEM, incubated for 30 min at room temperature and added to
831 cells for 16-24 h. Transfection efficiency was monitored using an EVOS® FL Cell
832 Imaging System (Thermo Fisher, Germany). Cells were grown to confluence and

833 subsequently single, GFP-positive cells were sorted into 96-well plates by flow
834 cytometry using a FACSAria II instrument (BD Biosciences) and FACSDiva software.
835 Sorted cells were maintained in growth medium supplemented with penicillin (50
836 Units/ml)/streptomycin (50 mg/ml) (Thermo Fisher Scientific) and containing 30%
837 conditioned medium and 10 μ M ROCK inhibitor (BD Biosciences). After
838 approximately 10 days, clones were picked from single wells and expanded. Derived
839 cell clones were screened for the absence of WASH expression by Western blotting
840 and NIH-3T3 clones lacking detectable amounts of WASH were subjected to
841 genomic sequencing as described (Kage *et al.*, 2017). Cells from confluent 6 cm
842 dishes were trypsinized, pelleted and lysed by overnight incubation in lysis buffer
843 (100 mM Tris pH 8.5, 5 mM EDTA, 0.2% SDS, 200 mM NaCl, 20 mg/ml proteinase
844 K) at 55°C. Nucleic acid extraction was performed by ethanol precipitation. Addition
845 of 700 μ l 100% ice cold ethanol was followed by centrifugation at 16,000 x g at 4°C
846 for 30 min. The pellet was washed with 400 μ l 70% ice-cold ethanol and samples
847 were dried at 45°C for 20 min. DNA was dissolved in 100 μ l deionized water at 4°C
848 overnight and served as template in PCR using GoTaq G2 flexi DNA polymerase.
849 The selected primer pair (key resources table) revealed a PCR product of 330 base
850 pairs. PCR products were examined on 2% agarose gels and appropriate samples
851 purified with a NucleoSpin Gel and PCR clean-up kit (Macherey-Nagel). DNA
852 fragments were cloned into a zero blunt TOPO vector (Zero Blunt TOPO Cloning Kit
853 for Sequencing, Invitrogen) for 5 min at room temperature. After transformation as
854 above, single bacterial colonies were inoculated overnight and plasmid DNA purified
855 using NucleoSpin Plasmid kit (Macherey-Nagel). Sequencing of isolated plasmid
856 DNA was carried out by MWG-Biotech using a standard M13r sequencing primer
857 (key resources table). Clones were examined for frameshift mutations and mono- or
858 biallelic deletions/insertions using SnapGene Viewer software. Mutations or deletions

859 generating stop codons shortly downstream of the target site were defined as 'null'
860 alleles. Cell populations exclusively harboring such alleles out of more than 50
861 sequencing reactions were selected for further analyses. For WASH targeted clones
862 of murine NIH-3T3 cells, three clones were identified that did not display a wild type
863 allele in more than ten sequencing reactions. All clones showed similar effects on
864 HPV16 infection, thus only one clone is shown in this study. For WASH targeted
865 clones of human U2OS cells no clear sequencing result was obtained probably due
866 to pseudogenes being targeted by sequencing primers.

867

868 **Western blotting**

869 For analysis of protein amounts after siRNA treatment or CRISPR/Cas9 mediated
870 KO, lysates were prepared in 2x sample buffer (4% SDS, 20% glycerol, 0.01%
871 bromophenol blue, 100 mM Tris HCl (pH 6.8), 200 mM DTT). Samples were
872 denatured for 5 min at 95°C and loaded on polyacrylamide gels. For stacking gels,
873 5% polyacrylamide was used and separating cells were 6 or 8% for JMY and
874 WHAMM, respectively. All other proteins were separated on 10% gels.
875 Electrophoresis was performed in Laemmli running buffer (0.1% SDS, 25 mM Tris,
876 192 mM glycine). Proteins were transferred from gels to nitrocellulose membranes for
877 50 min at 400 mA in pre-cooled transfer buffer (192 mM glycine, 25 mM Tris, 10%
878 methanol). After transfer, membranes were blocked in 5% milk powder (MP) in Tris-
879 buffered saline (TBS) supplemented with 0.2% Tween 20 (TBS-TMP) or in 0.2-3%
880 bovine serum albumin (BSA) for at least 30 min. Primary antibodies were diluted in
881 TBS-TMP or BSA and membranes were incubated for 2 h at room temperature or
882 overnight at 4°C. Three washes with TBS supplemented with Tween 20 (TBS-T)
883 were followed by incubation with anti-mouse or -rabbit secondary antibodies
884 conjugated to HRP diluted in TBS-TMP or BSA. Membranes were washed twice with

885 TBS-T and once with TBS before the signal from HRP-conjugated antibodies was
886 revealed using enhanced chemiluminescence (ECL) or ECL prime and photographic
887 films.

888

889

890 **Virus production**

891 *Production of HPV16 PsVs*

892 PsV production was performed as previously described (Buck *et al.*, 2005). A total of
893 1.8×10^7 293TT cells were seeded in 145 mm cell culture dishes. The next day, cells
894 were co-transfected with p16sheLL and the reporter plasmid pCIneoEGFP (GFP) or
895 pRwB (RFP). Both plasmids (30 μ g each) as well as Lipofectamine 2000 (132.5 μ l)
896 were diluted in optiMEM and incubated for 5 min at room temperature. The DNA
897 dilution was added to the Lipofectamine 2000 dilution and samples were incubated
898 for 20 min at room temperature before the transfection mix was added to fresh
899 growth medium in the dishes. At 48 h post transfection, cells were harvested and
900 pelleted. For cell lysis and virus maturation, the pellet was incubated with 0.35% Brij
901 58, 0.2% Plasmid Safe DNase and 0.2% benzonase for 24 h at 37°C on an overhead
902 rotator. PsVs were purified using a linear 25%-39% OptiPrep density gradient. A PsV
903 fraction at around 30% OptiPrep was collected with a needle and analyzed for virus
904 content and purity by Coomassie staining of SDS-PAGE gels.

905

906 *Labeling of HPV16 PsVs*

907 HPV16 PsVs were incubated with Alexa Fluor 488, 568, 594 or 647 succinimidyl
908 ester in virion buffer (635 mM NaCl, 0.9 mM CaCl₂, 0.5 mM MgCl₂, 2.1 mM KCl in
909 PBS, pH 7.6) using a 1:8 molar ratio of L1 to the dye for 1 h on an overhead rotator
910 (Schelhaas *et al.*, 2008; Ventayol and Schelhaas, 2015). Free dye was removed by

911 ultracentrifugation using a 15-25-39% OptiPrep step gradient. The labeled virus
912 between the 25% and 39% OptiPrep fraction was collected with a needle. The PsV
913 concentration was determined by SDS-PAGE and subsequent Coomassie staining.
914 The labeled virus was characterized by binding to glass coverslips and HeLa ATCC
915 cells (Ventayol and Schelhaas, 2015). Labeling of PsVs with pHrodo was achieved
916 following the same protocol. Virus characterization was performed in citric acid buffer
917 (pH 4.4) (Ventayol and Schelhaas, 2015).

918

919 **Infection experiments**

920 *Infection of KO cells*

921 NIH-3T3 (4×10^5 cells/well) and U2OS (both 5×10^4 cells/well) wild type and WASH
922 KO cells were seeded in 12-well plates. The next day, the growth medium was
923 replaced with 300 μ l fresh growth medium and HPV16-GFP was added to result in
924 20% infection in wild type cells. The virus was bound on a shaker at 37°C. At 2 h p.i.,
925 the inoculum was replaced by fresh growth medium and infection was continued. At
926 48 h p.i., cells were trypsinized and fixed in 4% PFA for 15 min at room temperature.
927 Cells were resuspended in FACS buffer (250 mM EDTA, 2% FBS, 0.02% NaN₃ in
928 PBS) and analyzed for infection (percentage of GFP positive cells) by flow cytometry
929 (FACSCalibur, Becton Dickinson). Gating of infected cells was done with help of
930 uninfected controls. The percentage of infected cells was normalized to the
931 respective wild type cells using Microsoft Excel.

932

933 *Inhibitor studies*

934 HeLa ATCC cells were seeded in 12-well plates (5×10^4 cells/well) about 16 h prior
935 to experimentation. Retro-2 experiments were done with HeLa Kyoto cells (1×10^5
936 cells/well). For HPV16 and HSV-1 infection experiments, small compound inhibitors

937 and solvent controls were diluted in growth medium, while they were diluted in
938 infection medium (RPMI supplemented with 30 mM HEPES, pH 6.5) for VSV
939 infection. Cells were pre-treated with inhibitors or solvent controls for 30 min at
940 indicated concentrations and infected with HPV16-GFP as described above. The
941 inoculum was replaced at 2 h p.i. and infection was continued in presence of the
942 inhibitor. At 12 h p.i., inhibitors were exchanged for 10 mM NH₄Cl/10 mM HEPES in
943 growth medium to reduce cytotoxicity (Schelhaas *et al.*, 2012). Cells were fixed and
944 processed for flow cytometry analysis as described above. For infection with VSV-
945 GFP, the virus was added to the infection medium +/- inhibitor to result in 20%
946 infection in solvent treated controls. VSV-GFP was bound for 2 h on a shaker at 37°C
947 until the inoculum was replaced with 1 ml growth medium. Cells were trypsinized and
948 fixed at 6 h p.i. as described for HPV16. HSV-1 infection was carried out in growth
949 medium containing the inhibitor or the solvent control. The virus was bound at 4°C for
950 1 h, the medium was exchanged for fresh, warm medium with inhibitors and infection
951 was continued for 5 h at 37°C. Cells were fixed at 6 h p.i. as described before.

952

953 To investigate additional effects of retro-2 treatment on HPV16 trafficking, the virus
954 was accumulated in the endolysosomal system by treatment with 10 mM NH₄Cl for
955 the first 12 h of infection (Schelhaas *et al.*, 2012). Then, the inhibitors were replaced
956 by 50/100 µM retro-2 and cells were fixed at 48 h p.i. as described above. All
957 samples were analyzed for infection (percentage of GFP positive cells) by flow
958 cytometry (FACSCalibur, Becton Dickinson). Gating of infected cells was done with
959 help of solvent treated controls to which the percentage of infected cells was
960 normalized.

961

962 *Infection studies after siRNA-mediated depletion*

963 For siRNA-mediated knockdown, 2×10^3 or 2×10^4 HeLa Kyoto cells were reverse
964 transfected in 96-well optical bottom plates or 12-well plates, respectively.
965 Transfection was performed using 0.2 μ l (96-well) or 0.5 μ l (12-well) Lipofectamine
966 RNAi max per well diluted in optiMEM and siRNAs were diluted in optiMEM to reach
967 the working concentration indicated in supplemental table 1. The following procedure
968 and incubation times were as for Lipofectamine 2000. Besides the siRNA against the
969 cellular proteins of interest, the AllStars negative siRNA (ctrl.) was included as a non-
970 targeting control, whereas the AllStars death siRNA was used to test for successful
971 transfection. Moreover, an siRNA targeting GFP was included to suppress the
972 expression of the HPV16-GFP reporter plasmid as a measure for maximal reduction
973 of infection. For RNAi against WASH, cells were transfected twice in 48 h intervals.
974 Cells were infected with HPV16-GFP at 48 h post transfection to result in 20%
975 infection in ctrl. negative transfected controls. In 12-well plates, infection was
976 performed and analyzed by flow cytometry as described above. Absolute infection
977 values were normalized to ctrl. transfected controls. In 96-well plates, the virus was
978 added without prior medium exchange to reduce cell loss. At 48 h p.i., cells were
979 fixed in 4% PFA in PBS and nuclei were stained with RedDot2 for 30 min after
980 permeabilization with 0.1% Triton in PBS. Infection was analyzed by automated
981 microscopy on a Zeiss Axiovert Z.1 microscope equipped with a Yokogawa CSU22
982 spinning disk module (Visitron Systems). Images were acquired using a 20x
983 objective, a CoolSnap HQ camera (Photometrics) and MetaMorph Software. Cell
984 number and infection were determined using a MATLAB-based infection scoring
985 procedure (Engel *et al.*, 2011). The program detects nuclei and infection signal
986 individually, based on their limiting intensity edges. The edges were filled to objects,
987 which were classified by size. Binary masks of nuclei and infection signal were
988 created and cells were classified as infected if equal or greater than 5% of their

989 nuclei overlapped with infection signal above a certain threshold. In this study, signal
990 twice above the background in the uninfected sample was considered infected. An
991 infection index was obtained for each image and averaged per well (Snijder *et al.*,
992 2012).

993

994 Infection with VV-GFP was carried out in 96-well plates following the same protocol
995 as for HPV16 with the exception that 3×10^3 cells were transfected. Virus amounts
996 leading to 20% infection in ctrl. treated controls were used. Cells were fixed at 6 h p.i.
997 and analyzed by automated microscopy, as described above.

998

999 For siRNA experiments with SFV, 5×10^4 HeLa Kyoto cells were reverse transfected
1000 in 12-well plates. Infection was performed by addition of the virus to infection medium
1001 (RPMI supplemented with 10% FBS, 10 mM HEPES (pH 7.3)). The virus was bound
1002 on a shaker at 37°C. At 2 h p.i., the inoculum was replaced by growth medium. Cells
1003 were trypsinized and fixed at 6 h p.i.. Since SFV did not carry a fluorescent reporter
1004 plasmid, samples were immunostained for SFV E1/E2 after fixation at 6 h p.i.. Cells
1005 were permeabilized with FACS perm (250 mM EDTA, 2% FBS, 0.02% NaN₃, 0.05%
1006 Saponin in PBS) for 30 min at room temperature and subsequently incubated with
1007 the Lady Di antiserum (Singh and Helenius, 1992) diluted in FACS perm for 2 h at
1008 room temperature. Samples were washed thrice with FACS perm and incubated with
1009 an anti-rabbit AF488 secondary antibody in FACS perm for 1 h at room temperature.
1010 Washing with FACS perm was followed by infection scoring with FACS analysis
1011 (FACSCalibur, Becton Dickinson) as described for HPV16. Infection values were
1012 normalized to ctrl. using Microsoft Excel.

1013

1014 *Infection studies in transiently transfected cells*

1015 NIH-3T3 wild type and WASH KO cells were seeded in 12-well plates
1016 (4×10^4 cells/well). One day later, cells were transfected with plasmids (1 μ g)
1017 encoding EGFP-WASH or EGFP, YFP-WASH or YFP-WASH dWCA using
1018 Lipofectamine 2000 (0.5 μ l/well) diluted in optiMEM. Incubation times were the same
1019 as for virus preparation. At about 16 h post transfection, cells were infected with
1020 HPV16-RFP as described above to result in 20% infection in control cells transfected
1021 with GFP. Cells were trypsinized at 48 h p.i., fixed in 4% PFA in PBS and analyzed
1022 by flow cytometry (Guava easyCyte, Merck). Final analysis was performed with
1023 FlowJo. Transfected cells were gated with help of untransfected controls. Then, the
1024 GFP positive population was gated for infection using transfected, but uninfected
1025 controls. The percentage of transfected and infected cells (GFP and RFP positive)
1026 was normalized to NIH-3T3 wild type cells transfected with the GFP control to obtain
1027 relative infection values using Microsoft Excel.

1028

1029 HeLa ATCC cells were transfected with Scar-W and -WA constructs as described
1030 above 16-24 h prior to infection. Cells were infected with HPV16-RFP and fixed 48 h
1031 p.i. using 4% PFA. Infection was scored using an Olympus IX70 inverted microscope
1032 equipped with an electron multiplier CCD camera (EDMCCD, C9100-02, Hamamatsu
1033 Photonics K. K.) and a monochromator for epifluorescence excitation. Images were
1034 thresholded manually and at least 100 cells were scored for transfection and infection
1035 using Fiji.

1036

1037 *HPV16 binding assay*

1038 For analysis of HPV16 binding by flow cytometry, 5×10^4 NIH-3T3 wild type and
1039 WASH KO cells were seeded per well of a 12-well plate. The next day, fluorescently
1040 labeled HPV16-AF488 (~1000 particles/cell) was bound to the cells for 2 h on a

1041 shaker at 37°C. Cells treated with siRNAs were reseeded at 48 h post transfection (5
1042 $\times 10^4$ cells/well). Virus binding was performed once cells were attached, typically
1043 about 6 h post seeding. As a non-binding control, HPV16-AF488 was pre-incubated
1044 with 1 mg/ml heparin for 1 h at room temperature prior to binding to cells (Cerqueira
1045 *et al.*, 2013). Cells were trypsinized and fixed with 4% PFA. Virus binding was
1046 analyzed by measuring the mean fluorescence intensity (geometric mean) of cells in
1047 flow cytometry (FACSCalibur). The geometric mean of uninfected cells was
1048 subtracted from infected cells and virus binding was normalized to control cells. A
1049 similar procedure was applied to measure virus binding to HeLa Kyoto cells depleted
1050 of SNX2. Binding was qualitatively assessed for NIH-3T3 wild type and WASH KO
1051 cells as well as after SNX2 KD in HeLa Kyoto cells. For this, HPV16-AF568 was
1052 bound to these cells as described above. At 2 h p.i., cells were fixed with 4% PFA
1053 and stained with 0.1 $\mu\text{g/ml}$ phalloidin-Atto488 diluted in PHEM buffer (60 mM PIPES,
1054 10 mM EGTA, 2 mM MgCl_2 , 25 mM HEPES, pH 6.9) supplemented with 0.01% Triton
1055 X-100 for 30 min. Cells were washed thrice with PBS and mounted on glass slides
1056 using AF1 mounting medium. Images were acquired with a Zeiss Axiovert Z.1
1057 microscope equipped with a Yokogawa CSU22 spinning disk module (Visitron
1058 Systems) using a 40x objective, a CoolSnap HQ camera (Photometrics) and
1059 MetaMorph Software. Z-stacks covering the cell volume were converted to maximum
1060 intensity projections using Fiji. Brightness and contrast were adjusted using
1061 uninfected samples.

1062

1063 For microscopy-based analysis of retro-2 treated cells, HeLa Kyoto cells were
1064 seeded to confluency in a 96-well plate. At least 6 h post seeding, HPV16-AF594 or -
1065 AF488 (~1000 particles/cell) were bound to cells in presence or absence of the
1066 inhibitor, as above. At 2 h p.i., cells were fixed with 4% PFA and binding was

1067 analyzed using a 40x objective of a spinning disk confocal microscope described
1068 above. Z-stacks covering the cell volume were converted to sum intensity z-
1069 projections using Fiji. The mean fluorescence intensities of HPV16 AF were
1070 measured as arbitrary units per field of view. Background intensities measured in
1071 uninfected samples were subtracted from raw intensities, which were normalized to
1072 solvent treated control cells.

1073

1074

1075

1076 *Infectious internalization assay*

1077 One day prior to infection, 5×10^4 HeLa Kyoto cells were seeded per well of a 12-well
1078 plate. Cells were pre-incubated with inhibitors and infected with HPV16-GFP as
1079 described above. At 12 h p.i., extracellular virus was inactivated by washing with 1 ml
1080 0.1 mM CAPS buffer (pH 10.5) for 90 sec (Schelhaas *et al.*, 2012; Becker *et al.*,
1081 2018). The cells were washed twice with PBS to remove CAPS and infection was
1082 continued in fresh growth medium. To control for inhibitor reversibility, the inhibitor
1083 was washed out thrice with PBS without prior CAPS treatment and fresh growth
1084 medium was added. At 48 h p.i., cells were fixed and infection was scored by flow
1085 cytometry as described above. Infection results were normalized to inhibitor
1086 reversibility.

1087

1088 *Endocytosis assay with HPV16-pHrodo*

1089 Cells were reverse transfected with siRNAs as described above. At 48 h after the first
1090 (Arp3, SNX2) or second (WASH) siRNA transfection, HPV16-pHrodo (~1000
1091 particles/cell) was added to 350 μ l growth medium and bound for 2 h on a shaker.
1092 The inoculum was replaced at 2 h p.i. and cells were imaged live at 6 h p.i. at 37°C

1093 and 5% CO₂ in humidified atmosphere using custom made imaging chambers and
1094 DMEM high glucose without phenol red supplemented with 10% FBS, 1% L-
1095 glutamine and 1% penicillin/streptomycin. Images were acquired on a Zeiss Axiovert
1096 Z.1 microscope equipped with a Yokogawa CSU22 spinning disk module (Visitron
1097 Systems) using a 40x objective, a CoolSnap HQ camera (Photometrics) and
1098 MetaMorph Software. Average intensity projections of confocal slices were generated
1099 using Fiji software. Intensity based analysis was performed with CellProfiler (Becker
1100 *et al.*, 2018). In brief, the virus signal was enhanced by application of a white top-hat
1101 filter. Virus spots were segmented by application of a gaussian filter and maximum
1102 correlation thresholding. Virus intensity was then measured in enhanced and original
1103 images. Pivot tables (Microsoft Excel) were used to summarize the intensity of spots
1104 per condition. These values were normalized to the cell number, which was
1105 determined by manual counting from brightfield images. The virus intensity per cell
1106 was then normalized to ctrl. treated controls to obtain relative internalization values.
1107 Cell outlines were created manually for presentation purposes.

1108

1109 **Electron microscopy and CLEM**

1110 *CLEM*

1111 A circular mark used for localization of unroofed cells was generated in the center of
1112 coverslips (22 mm diameter) using a diamond knife. For ECM production, 2 x 10⁶
1113 HaCaT cells were seeded onto the coverslips placed in a 6-well plate. At 48 h post
1114 seeding, ECM was obtained by detaching cells through incubation with 10 mM
1115 EDTA/EGTA for 45 min at 37°C, subsequent clapping of the plate and washes with
1116 PBS (Culp *et al.*, 2006). HPV16-AF568 was bound to the ECM in 1 ml growth
1117 medium/well for 2 h on a shaker at 37°C. HaCaT cells were trypsinized and 12 x 10⁵
1118 cells/well were seeded onto the virus bound to ECM. At 1 h post seeding, 10 µg/ml

1119 cytoD or DMSO (solvent control) were added. A total of 6 h post seeding, cells were
1120 put on ice and washed thrice with cold stabilization buffer (70 mM KCl, 30 mM
1121 HEPES (pH 7.4 with KOH), 5 mM MgCl₂). For unroofing, the cells were kept on ice
1122 and 1 ml cold 2% PFA in stabilization buffer was aspirated with a 1 ml pipette. The
1123 pipette was positioned above the marked area in the center of the coverslip and PFA
1124 was harshly released onto the cells. The coverslip was then rapidly transferred to a
1125 new well containing cold 2% PFA in stabilization buffer to avoid sedimentation of cell
1126 debris on the unroofed membrane. Membrane sheets were fixed for 10 min at 4°C.
1127 Samples were mounted in custom-made imaging chambers and imaged in PBS at a
1128 Nikon Ti Eclipse microscope equipped with a PerkinElmer UltraVIEW VoX spinning
1129 disk module. Images were acquired using a 60x objective, an Orca Flash 4 camera
1130 (Hamamatsu) and Volocity software (PerkinElmer, version 6.3). Montages of 10 x 10
1131 images and 10% overlap were acquired around the center of the marked area. The
1132 unroofed membranes were prepared for EM by fixation with 2% glutaraldehyde (GA)
1133 in PBS overnight at 4°C. After two washes with water, samples were incubated with
1134 0.1% tannic acid for 20 min at room temperature and subsequently washed with
1135 water. Contrasting was performed with 0.1% uranyl acetate (UAC) for 20 min at room
1136 temperature. After three washes with water, samples were dehydrated with a series
1137 of ethanol solutions (15%/30%/50%/70%/80%/90%/100%). Coverslips were
1138 incubated with each solution for 5 min, incubation with 100% ethanol was repeated
1139 thrice. Samples were dried using hexamethyldisilazane (HDMS). After 5 min
1140 incubation at room temperature, fresh HDMS was added and samples were
1141 incubated for further 30 min at room temperature. Coverslips were dried and coated
1142 under vacuum using a Balzers BAF301 device (former Balzers AG, Liechtenstein). A
1143 first layer of platinum was applied at an angle of 11°C while rotating. A second layer
1144 of carbon was applied at an angle of 90° while rotating. Coverslips were cut to fit on

1145 EM grids before 5% hydrofluoric acid were used to separate the metal replica from
1146 the glass. Replicas were extensively washed with water prior to transfer to glow
1147 discharged, formvar coated EM grids. Replicas were imaged with a phase contrast
1148 microscope for orientation. Intact membranes associated with virus particles were
1149 manually selected based on overlays of images from fluorescence and phase
1150 contrast microscopy and imaged at a TEM (Jeol JEM-1400, Jeol Ltd., Tokyo, Japan,
1151 camera: TemCam F416; TVIPS, Gauting, Germany). Membrane sheets were imaged
1152 using montages of 5 x 5 images and 15% overlap. Fluorescence and EM images
1153 were initially overlaid manually using Photoshop, then the Fiji plugin Landmark
1154 Correspondences (Saalfeld and Tomancák, 2008) was used for transformation of the
1155 fluorescence image according to the EM image using three manually identified
1156 landmarks. For analysis, HPV16 was identified manually based on the fluorescent
1157 signal and classification was done by visual evaluation of associated structures in
1158 TEM images. At total of 134 and 101 membrane associated virus particles in DMSO
1159 (7 membranes) and cytoD (5 membranes) treated cells were analyzed, respectively.

1160

1161 *Ultra-thin section EM*

1162 Samples for ultra-thin section EM were prepared and analyzed as described
1163 previously (Bannach *et al.*, 2020). A total of $1-2 \times 10^5$ NIH 3T3 wild type, WASH KO
1164 and HeLa Kyoto cells or were seeded in 3 cm dishes. Two days post seeding, cells
1165 were either pretreated with inhibitors for 30 min or were left untreated. Cells were
1166 infected with 40 μ g HPV16 PsVs in 1 ml growth medium. At 6 h p.i., cells were fixed
1167 in 2.5% GA in PBS (pH 7.2) for 10 min at room temperature. A second fixation was
1168 performed with cold 2.5% GA at 4°C overnight. Cells were washed thrice with PBS,
1169 post-fixed with 1% OsO₄ in ddH₂O for 1 h and washed twice with ddH₂O at room
1170 temperature and at 4°C for 20 min, respectively. Block contrasting was performed

1171 with 0.5% UAC in ddH₂O at 4°C overnight. Cells were washed thrice with ddH₂O and
1172 dehydrated using ascending graded alcohol series. Detaching and dehydrating with
1173 propylene oxide were followed by incubation with propylene oxide and epoxy resin
1174 (1:3, 1:1, 3:1) for 2 h each, before cells were incubated with pure epoxy resin for 3 h
1175 and embedded in BEEM capsules. The resin was allowed to polymerize at 60°C for
1176 three days before 60 nm ultra-thin sections were cut and counterstained with uranyl
1177 acetate and lead. Samples were imaged at a 80 kV on a Tecnai 12 electron
1178 microscope (FEI) using an Olympus Veleta 4k CCD camera or Dtabis imaging
1179 plates. Images were contrast enhanced and cropped using Adobe Photoshop CS4.
1180 The total number of endocytic pits per cell was determined for 31 and 43 cells in wild
1181 type and WASH KO cells, respectively, in two independent experiments. Only
1182 endocytic pits containing virus(es) were counted, since HPV16 pits are hardly
1183 distinguishable from uncoated pits from other endocytic pathways without further
1184 staining. Pit numbers were normalized to wild type cells.

1185

1186 *Immunogold labeling*

1187 HeLa ATCC cells (2-3 x 10⁵ cells) were seeded in 6 cm dishes. The next day, cells
1188 were transfected with a plasmid encoding EGFP-WASH or EGFP-SNX2 (7 µg) using
1189 Lipofectamine 2000 (3.5 µl) according to the manufacturer's instructions or left
1190 untransfected. At 48 h post transfection, cells were infected with 80 µg HPV16 PsVs
1191 and incubated for 6 h at 37°C until pre-fixation by addition of 4% formaldehyde in
1192 0.1 M phosphate buffer (pH 7.2) to the culture medium (1:1 ratio) for 5 min. Then,
1193 cells were fixed in 2% formaldehyde, and 0.2% GA in 0.1M phosphate buffer
1194 (pH 7.2). Samples were processed for TEM as previously described (Humbel and
1195 Stierhof, 2009). In brief, cells were quenched by incubation in 0.1% glycine in 0.1 M
1196 PB (2 x 30 min), washed thrice in 0.1 M PB for 30 min and scraped with 1% gelatin.

1197 After centrifugation, the gelatin was replaced with 12% gelatin and cells were infused
1198 at 37°C. Cells were cooled down on ice and the gelatin-cell pellet was cut into small
1199 blocks that were infused with 2.3 M sucrose overnight at 4°C. The blocks were
1200 mounted on specimen carriers and frozen in liquid nitrogen. Ultra-thin cryosections
1201 were prepared according to Tokuyasu (Tokuyasu, 1980). In brief, ultra-thin
1202 cryosections of 50 nm thickness were prepared with an EM UC6/FC6 ultramicrotome
1203 (Leica Microsystems). Sections were collected in a sucrose-methylcellulose mixture
1204 and stored on TEM grids at 4°C until further processing. Methylcellulose was melted
1205 and sections were washed five times with 20 mM glycine in PBS. Quenching was
1206 followed by blocking with 1% BSA for 3 min. Cells were then incubated with a GFP-
1207 antibody for 30 min, washed 6 times with 0.1% BSA in PBS and incubated with
1208 protein A gold 15 nm for 20 min. Sections were rinsed 10 times with PBS and re-fixed
1209 in 1% GA in PBS (pH 7.2). For double labeling, the sections were quenched, blocked
1210 and immunostained with an actin antibody as described above. Then sections were
1211 incubated with a rabbit anti-mouse bridging antibody followed by 6 washes with 0.1%
1212 BSA in PBS and incubated with protein A gold 10 nm (1:50). Sections were rinsed
1213 10 times with PBS and re-fixed in 1% GA in PBS, pH 7.2. Sections were rinsed 10
1214 times with ddH₂O and contrasted with uranyl acetate for 6 min (pH 7). After one wash
1215 with ddH₂O, cells were embedded in an uranyl acetate-methylcellulose mixture (pH
1216 4) for 10 min. After looping out with filter paper, sections were dried and images were
1217 acquired as above.

1218

1219 **Fluorescence microscopy**

1220 *CLC and virus internalization analysis by live cell TIRF microscopy*

1221 HeLa ATCC cells were seeded on coverslips in 12-well plates (5 x 10⁴ cells/well) one
1222 day prior to transfection. Cells were transfected with plasmids encoding lifeact-EGFP,

1223 EGFP-WASH, EGFP-SNX2, mRFP-CLC or EGFP-Dyn2 as described above. For
1224 internalization analysis, fluorescently labeled virus (HPV16-AF594/AF647) was
1225 bound at 37°C at about 18 h post transfection. At 1 h p.i., coverslips were mounted in
1226 custom-made imaging chambers. Cells were imaged at 37°C and 5% CO₂ in
1227 humidified atmosphere in DMEM without phenol red supplemented with 10% FBS,
1228 1% L-glutamine and 1% penicillin/streptomycin. Time lapse movies of cells
1229 expressing lifeact-EGFP were acquired with a 60x TIRF-objective on an Olympus
1230 IX70 microscope equipped with a TIRF condenser and an electron multiplier CCD
1231 camera (EDMCCD, C9100-02, Hamamatsu Photonics K. K.) using MetaMorph
1232 software (Molecular Devices) (Visitron Systems). All other time lapse movies were
1233 acquired using a 100x TIRF-objective at an Olympus IX83 microscope equipped with
1234 a four-line TIRF condenser and an EMCCD camera (iXon Ultra 888, Andor Oxford
1235 Instruments) using CellSens Dimensions software (Olympus). Movies were acquired
1236 with 0.5 Hz frame rate for 5 min. HPV16 entry events were identified manually and
1237 the intensity of fluorescent proteins at virus entry sites was analyzed after rolling ball
1238 background subtraction and filtering (mean intensity filter) with Fiji. Kymographs,
1239 intensity profiles along a manually drawn line through the virus/clathrin signal over
1240 time, were generated with Fiji after background subtraction and filtering. Intensity
1241 profiles measured with Fiji using a circular region of interest, were processed by
1242 min/max normalization and aligned by setting the half time of virus internalization to 0
1243 s. Profiles were plotted with Microsoft Excel. Moving averages of signals are shown
1244 as a trendline (period 4-20). The time points of recruitment onset, maximal signal or
1245 signal loss were manually determined relative to the half time of internalization and
1246 box plots were generated with GraphPad Prism. Cells co-transfected with CLC and
1247 Dyn2 were analyzed the same way at about 16 h post transfection. Movies were
1248 compressed to 20 fps and PNG.

1249

1250 *Proximity ligation assay*

1251 For ECM production on coverslips, 5×10^5 HaCaT cells were seeded per well of a
1252 12-well plate and cultivated at 37°C for 2 days. Additionally, 7×10^4 HaCaT cells
1253 were seeded per well and transfected the next day with a plasmid encoding HA-
1254 CD151. The procedure was the same as for infection studies with transfected cells,
1255 but 0.4 µg DNA and 1 µl Lipofectamine 2000 per well were used. ECM on coverslips
1256 was obtained by detaching cells with 0.5 ml 10 mM EDTA/EGTA as described above.
1257 HPV16-AF488 (~1000 particles/cell) was bound to the ECM in 400 µl growth medium
1258 on a shaker at 37°C. At 2 h post binding, HaCaT cells expressing HA-CD151 were
1259 trypsinized and transferred onto the virus bound to ECM. Cells were allowed to
1260 attach for 5 h and fixed in 2% PFA in PBS for 10 min at 4°C. Cells were
1261 permeabilized with 0.2% Brij 58 in PBS for 10 min at room temperature prior to
1262 blocking in 1% BSA in PBS for 30 min at room temperature. Primary antibody
1263 staining against HA (1:10,000) and WASH (1:500) was carried out in a wet chamber
1264 overnight at 4°C. Next, cells were incubated with anti-mouse PLUS and anti-rabbit
1265 MINUS Duolink PLA probes diluted 1:5 in 1% BSA in PBS for 1 h at 37°C in a
1266 humidity chamber. Duolink In Situ Detection Reagents Red were used for further
1267 sample processing. For ligation of PLA probes, 1.25 U ligase per sample were added
1268 to the corresponding ligation buffer diluted in ddH₂O. The cells were incubated in at
1269 wet chamber for 30 min at 37°C followed by two washes with wash buffer B (2 min,
1270 room temperature). Amplification was performed with 6.25 U polymerase and Duolink
1271 Amplification Red (1:5) diluted in ddH₂O in a wet chamber at 37°C for 100 min. Cells
1272 were washed twice for 10 min with wash buffer B at room temperature followed by a
1273 quick wash with 0.1x wash buffer B in ddH₂O. As a counterstain, HA (CD151) was
1274 detected with an anti-mouse AF647 antibody, which was diluted 1:2000 in 1% BSA in

1275 PBS. Samples were transferred to custom made imaging chambers. Images were
1276 acquired with a 100x TIRF-objective at an Olympus IX83 microscope equipped with a
1277 four-line TIRF condenser and an EMCCD camera (iXon Ultra 888, Andor Oxford
1278 Instruments) using CellSens Dimension software (Olympus).

1279

1280 **Quantification and statistical analysis**

1281 Information on data representation (mean \pm SEM) and n can be found in the figure
1282 legends. Statistical significance was determined using unpaired t-tests conducted
1283 with GraphPad Prism. A P-value below 0.05 ($P < 0.05$) indicated a significant
1284 difference, denoted by asterisks in the figures (* $P \leq 0.05$, ** $P \leq 0.01$, *** $P \leq 0.001$).
1285 If not specifically indicated, differences were not significant.

1286

1287 **Supplemental movie legends**

1288 Supplemental movie 1 **Actin polymerization coincided with HPV16 internalization**

1289 (Related to Figure 2)

1290 HeLa ATCC cells transfected with lifeact-EGFP (actin, green) were infected with
1291 HPV16-AF594 (HPV16, red) and imaged by live cell TIRF-M at 1 h p.i.. Movies were
1292 acquired with 0.5 Hz frame rate for 5 min and processed by background subtraction
1293 and mean filtering. Shown is the virus entry event characterized in Figure 2. Depicted
1294 are 200 frames corresponding to 1:40 min real time at a compression rate of 20
1295 frames per seconds (fps). The virus internalizing during the movie is highlighted by a
1296 circle. Scale bar is 200 nm.

1297

1298 Supplemental movie 2 **Dynamin recruitment during CME resembled actin**
1299 **dynamics during HPV16 endocytosis** (Related to Figure S1)

1300 HeLa ATCC cells co-transfected with mRFP-clathrin light chain (CLC, red) and
1301 EGFP-dynamin 2 (Dyn2, green) were imaged by live cell TIRF-M. Movies, acquired
1302 with 0.5 Hz frame rate for 5 min, were processed by background and mean filtering.
1303 Shown are 1:40 min (200 frames) of the CME event characterized in Figure S1 at a
1304 compression rate of 20 fps. The CLC of interest is marked by a circle. Scale bar is
1305 200 nm.

1306

1307 Supplemental movie 3 **WASH co-internalized with HPV16** (Related to Figure 4)

1308 EGFP-WASH (WASH, green) was expressed in HeLa ATCC cells, which were
1309 subsequently infected with HPV16-AF647 (HPV16, red). Movies were acquired by
1310 live cell TIRF-M at 1 h p.i. for 5 min at 0.5 Hz frame rate. The virus entry event
1311 highlighted by a circle was characterized in Figure 4. Shown are 1:14 min

1312 (150 frames) with a compression rate of 20 frames per second. The movie was
1313 processed by background subtraction and mean filtering. Scale bar is 200 nm.

1314

1315 Supplemental movie 4 **SNX2 co-internalized with HPV16** (Related to Figure 6)

1316 HeLa ATCC cells were transfected with EGFP-SNX2 (SNX2, green) and infected

1317 with HPV16-AF647 (HPV16, red). Movies of live cells were acquired with 0.5 Hz

1318 frame rate for 5 min at a TIRF-M. An excerpt of 1:14 min (150 frames) compressed to

1319 20 frames per second is shown after background subtraction and mean filtering. The

1320 virus particle of interest is marked with a circle. Scale bar is 200 nm.

1321

1322 **Supplemental table 1 (siRNA)**

siRNA	working concentration (nM)	Qiagen identifier
AllStars death	10	SI04381048
AllStars negative (siCtrl.)	10/20/50	SI03650318
Arp3 siRNA_1	10	Hs_ACTR3_5
Arp3 siRNA_2	10	Hs_ACTR3_8
CtBP1 siRNA_1	10	Hs_CTBP1_5
CtBP1 siRNA_2	10	Hs_CTBP1_6
Formin 1 siRNA_1	10	Hs_FMN1_5
Formin 1 siRNA_2	10	Hs_FMN1_6
Formin 1 siRNA_3	10	Hs_FMN1_7
Formin 2 siRNA_1	10	Hs_FMN2_12
Formin 2 siRNA_2	10	Hs_FMN2_7
Formin 2 siRNA_3	10	Hs_FMN2_9
FNL2 siRNA_1	10	Hs_FMNL2_6
FNL2 siRNA_2	10	Hs_FMNL2_7
FNL2 siRNA_3	10	Hs_FMNL2_8
FNL3 siRNA_1	10	Hs_FMNL3_1
FNL3 siRNA_2	10	Hs_FMNL3_5
FNL3 siRNA_3	10	Hs_FMNL3_6
GFP siRNA	10	SI04380467
JMY siRNA_1	50	Hs_JMY_1
JMY siRNA_2	50	Hs_JMY_5
DIAPH2 siRNA_1	10	Hs_DIAPH2_1

DIAPH2 siRNA_2	10	Hs_DIAPH2_4
DIAPH2 siRNA_3	10	Hs_DIAPH2_6
N-WASP siRNA_1	10	Hs_WASL_1
N-WASP siRNA_2	10	Hs_WASL_6
SNX2 siRNA_1	10	Hs_SNX2_1
SNX2 siRNA_2	10	Hs_SNX2_3
WASH siRNA_1	20	Hs_WASH1_4
WASH siRNA_2	20	Hs_WASH1_8
WAVE1 siRNA_1	20	Hs_WASF1_3
WAVE1 siRNA_2	50	Hs_WASF1_4
WAVE2 siRNA_1	10	Hs_WASF2_5
WAVE2 siRNA_2	10	Hs_WASF2_6
WHAMM siRNA_1	50	Hs_WHDC1_1
WHAMM siRNA_2	50	Hs_WHDC1_2
Vps26 siRNA_1	10	Hs_VPS26A_1
Vps26 siRNA_2	10	Hs_VPS26A_2
Vps29 siRNA_1	10	Hs_VPS29_6
Vps29 siRNA_2	10	Hs_VPS29_2

1323

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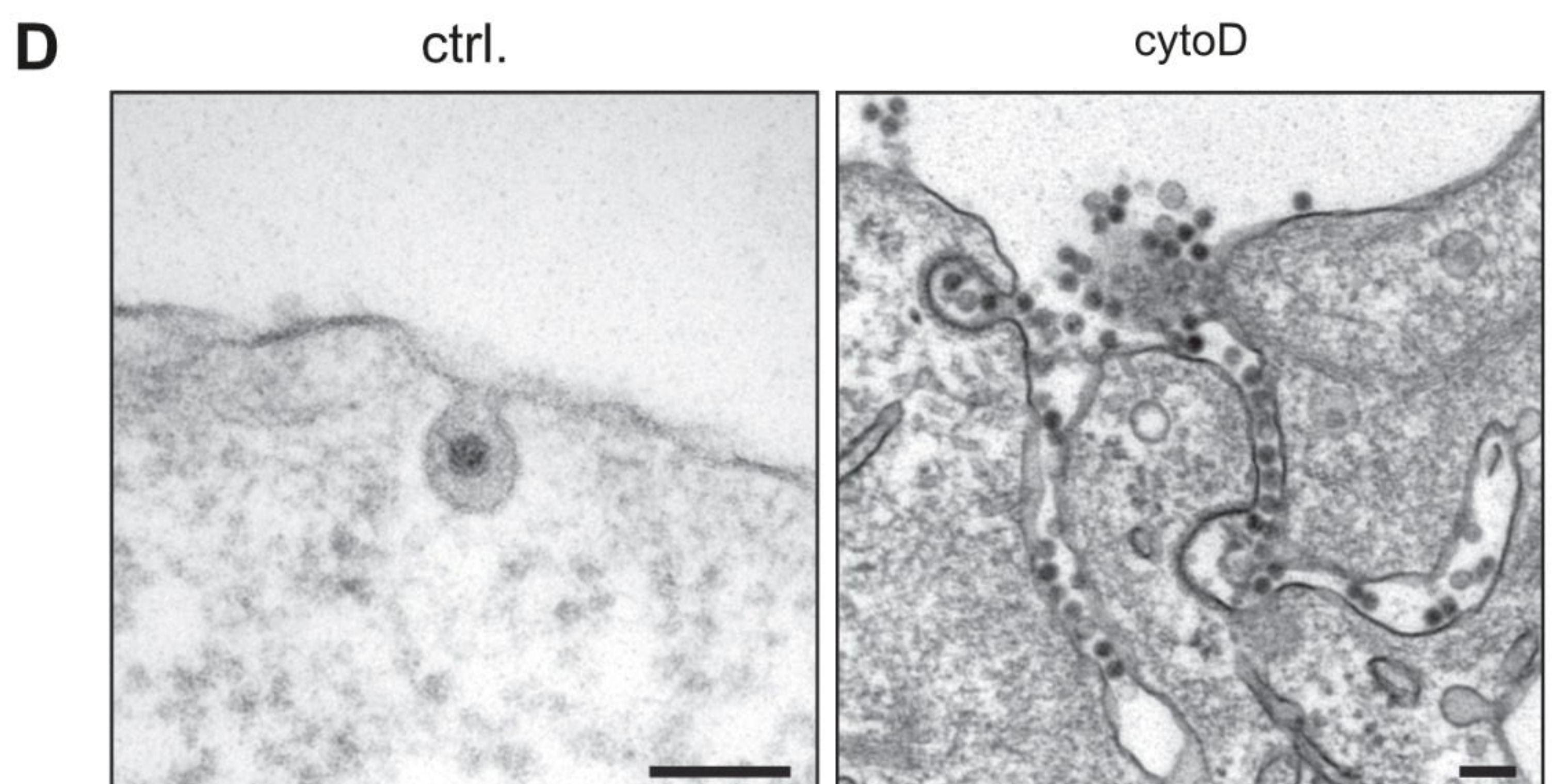
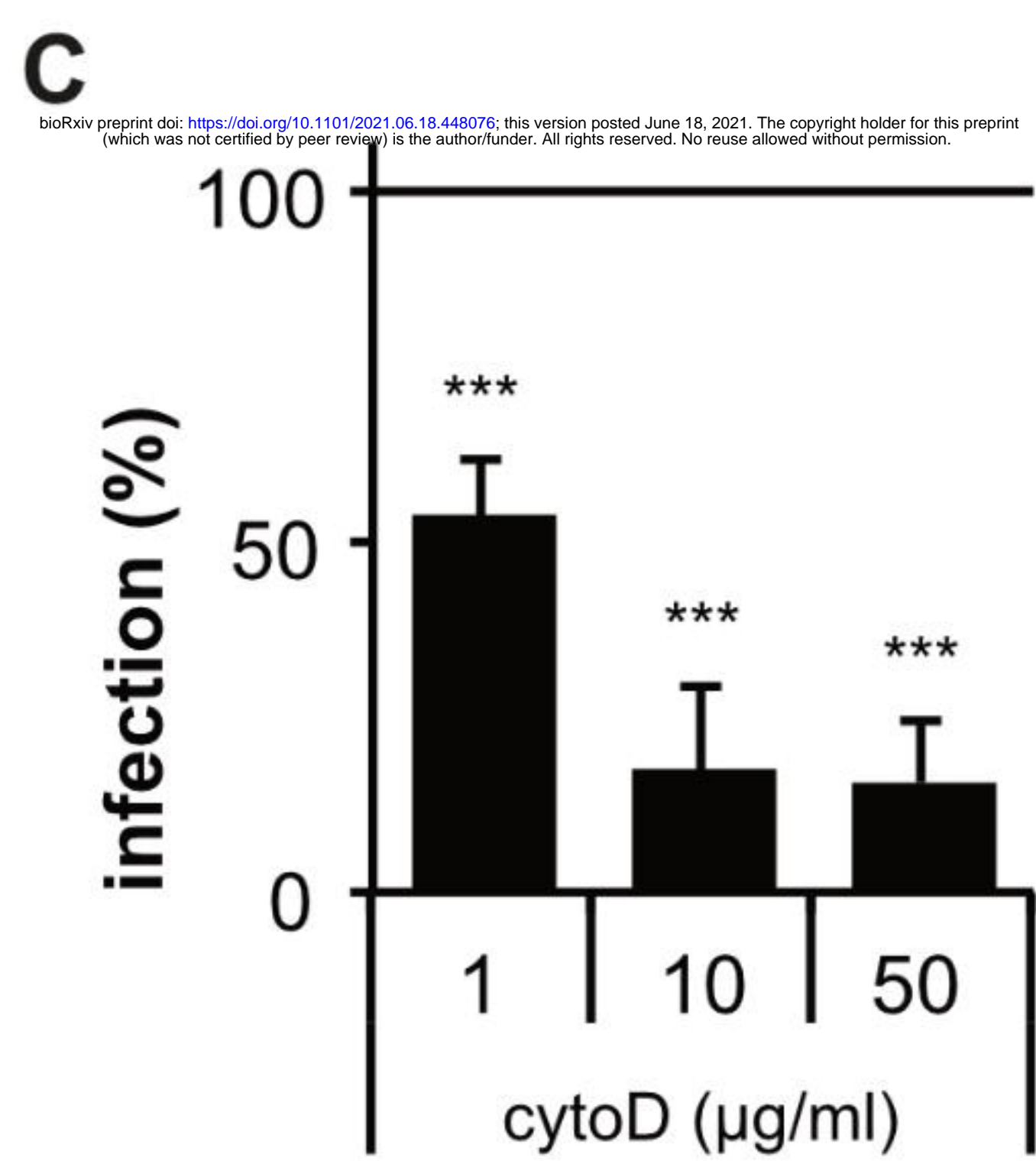
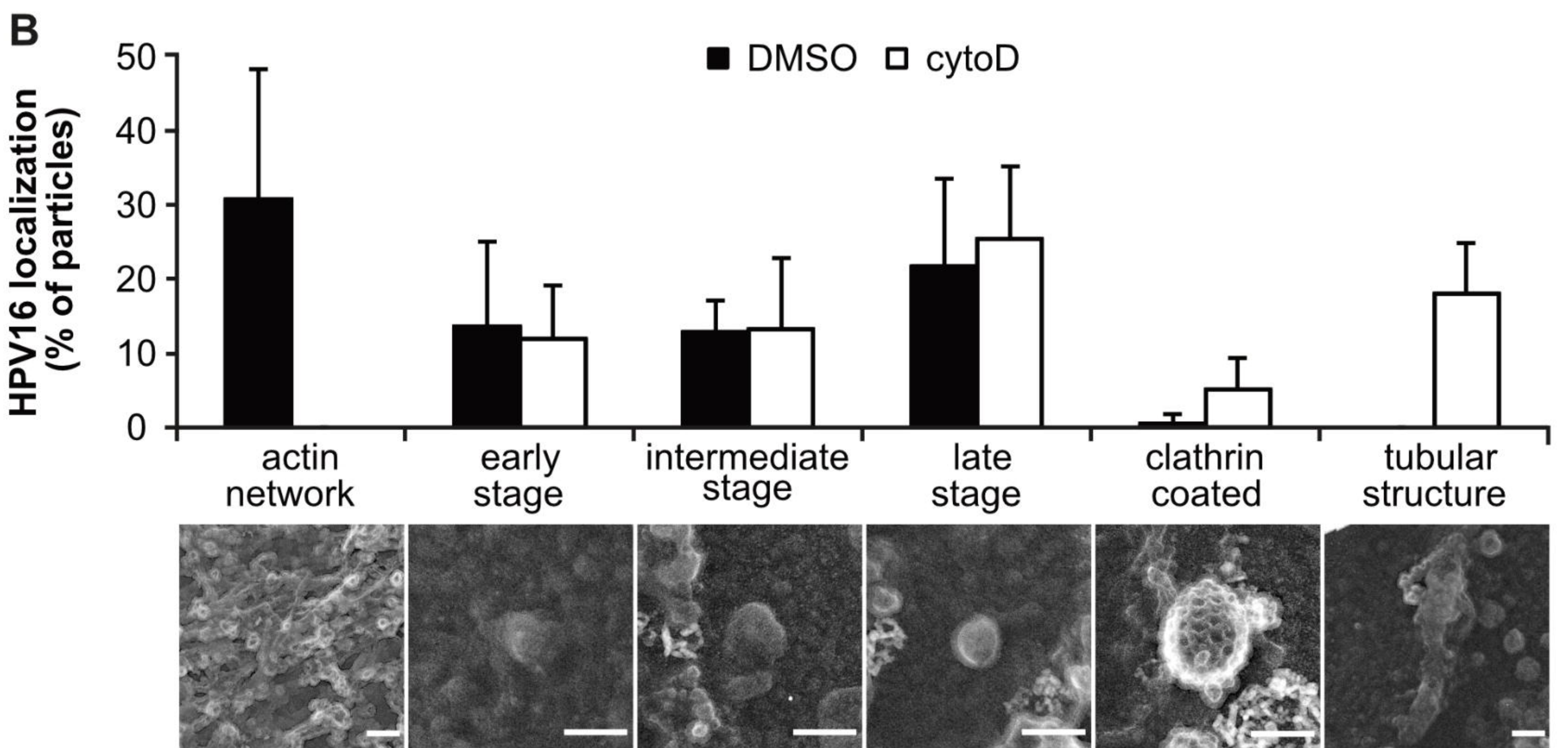
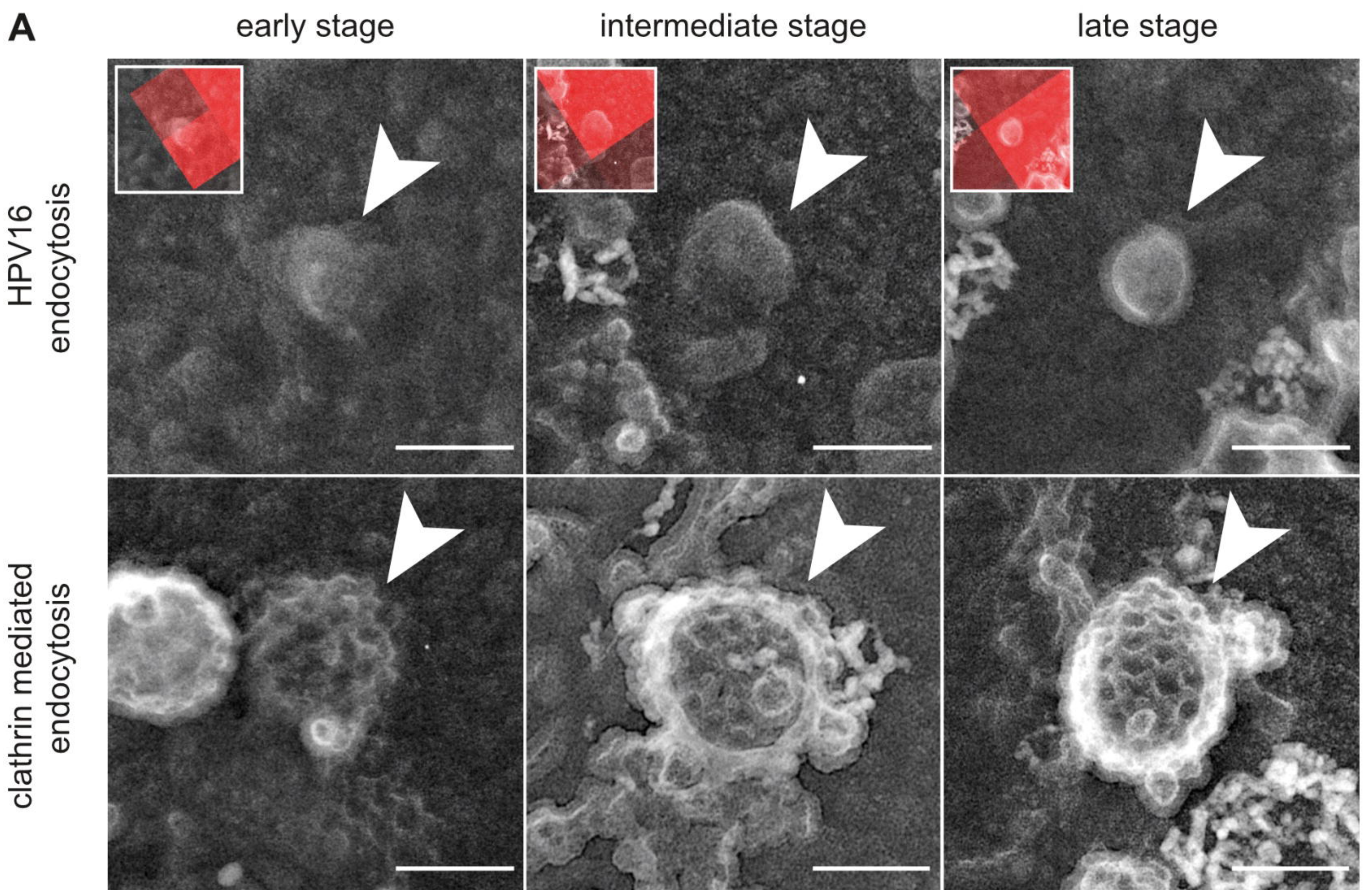
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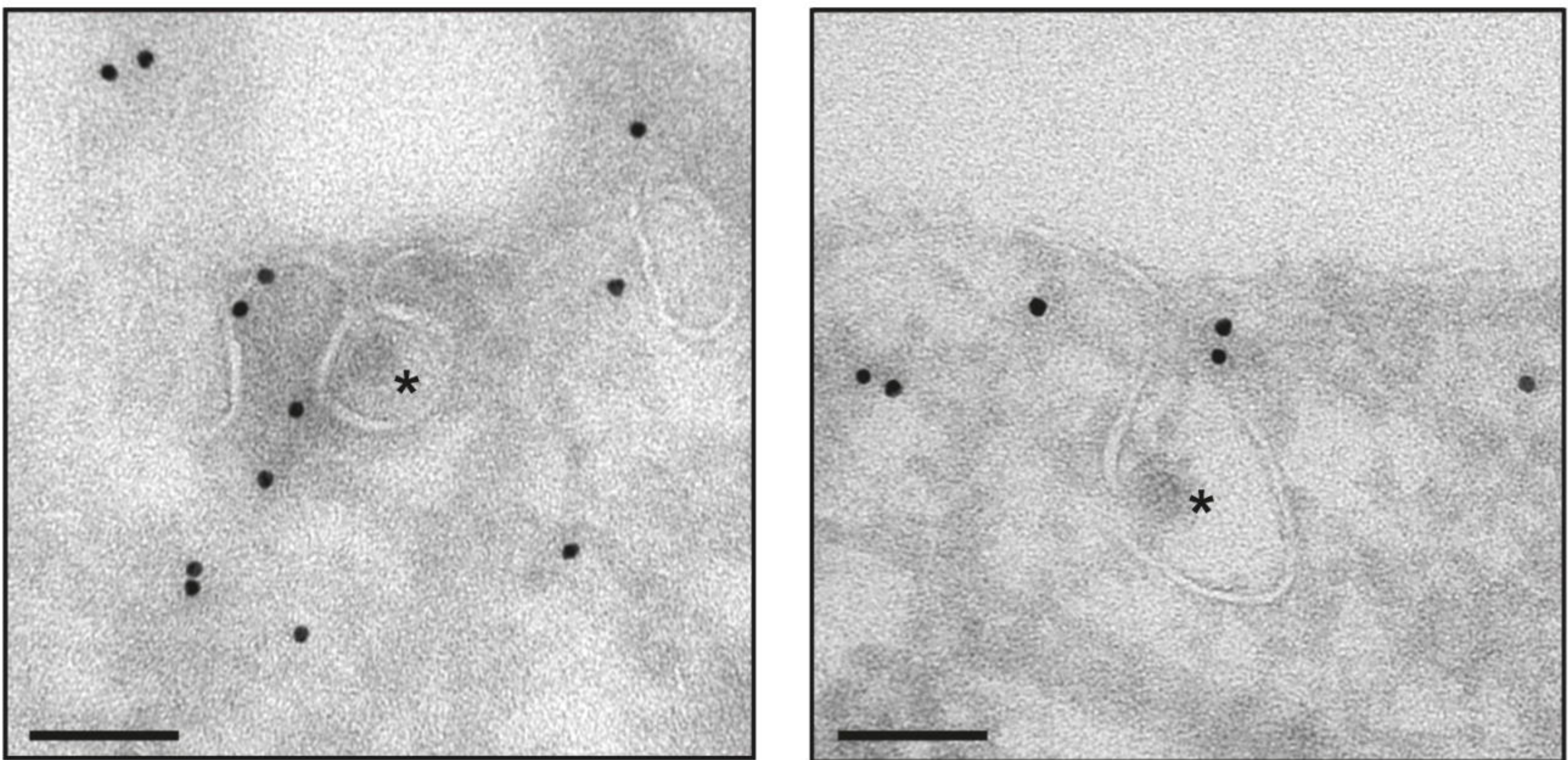
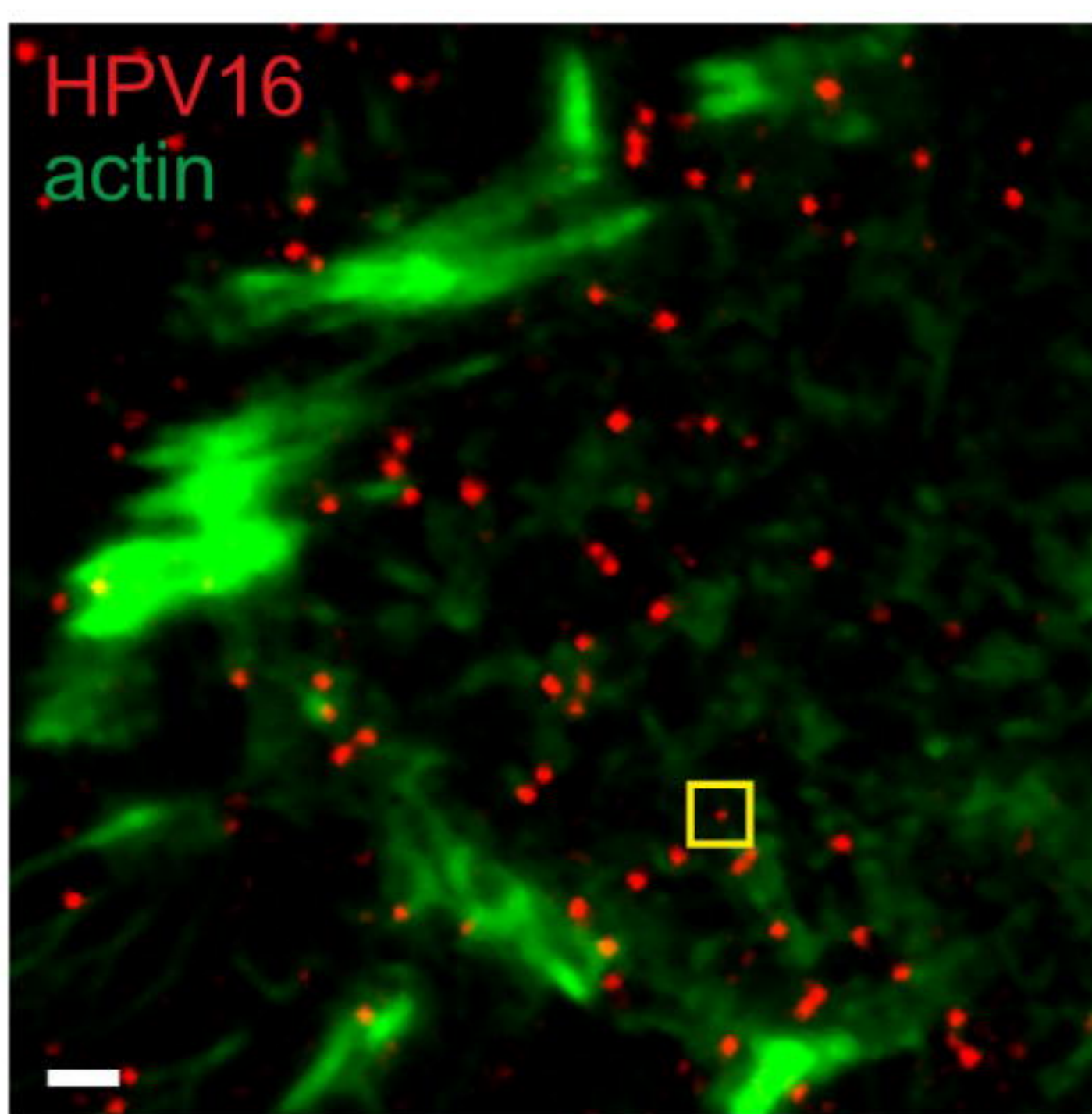
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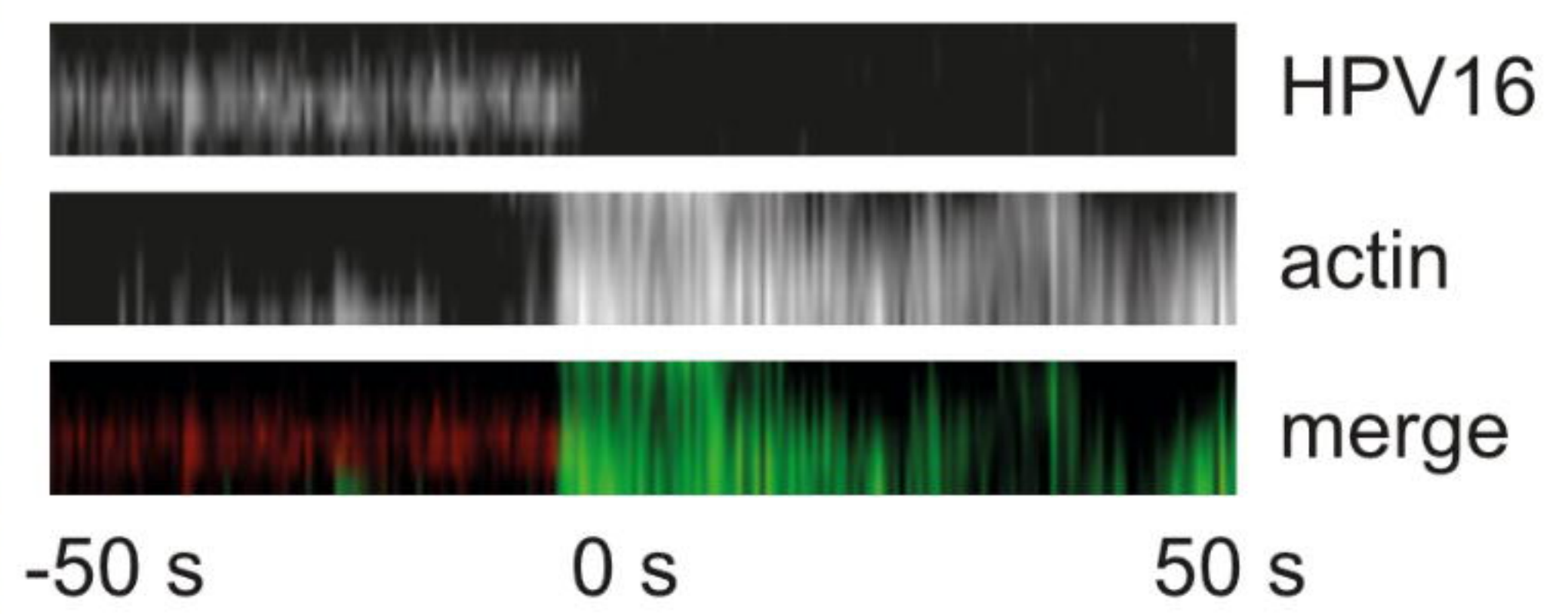
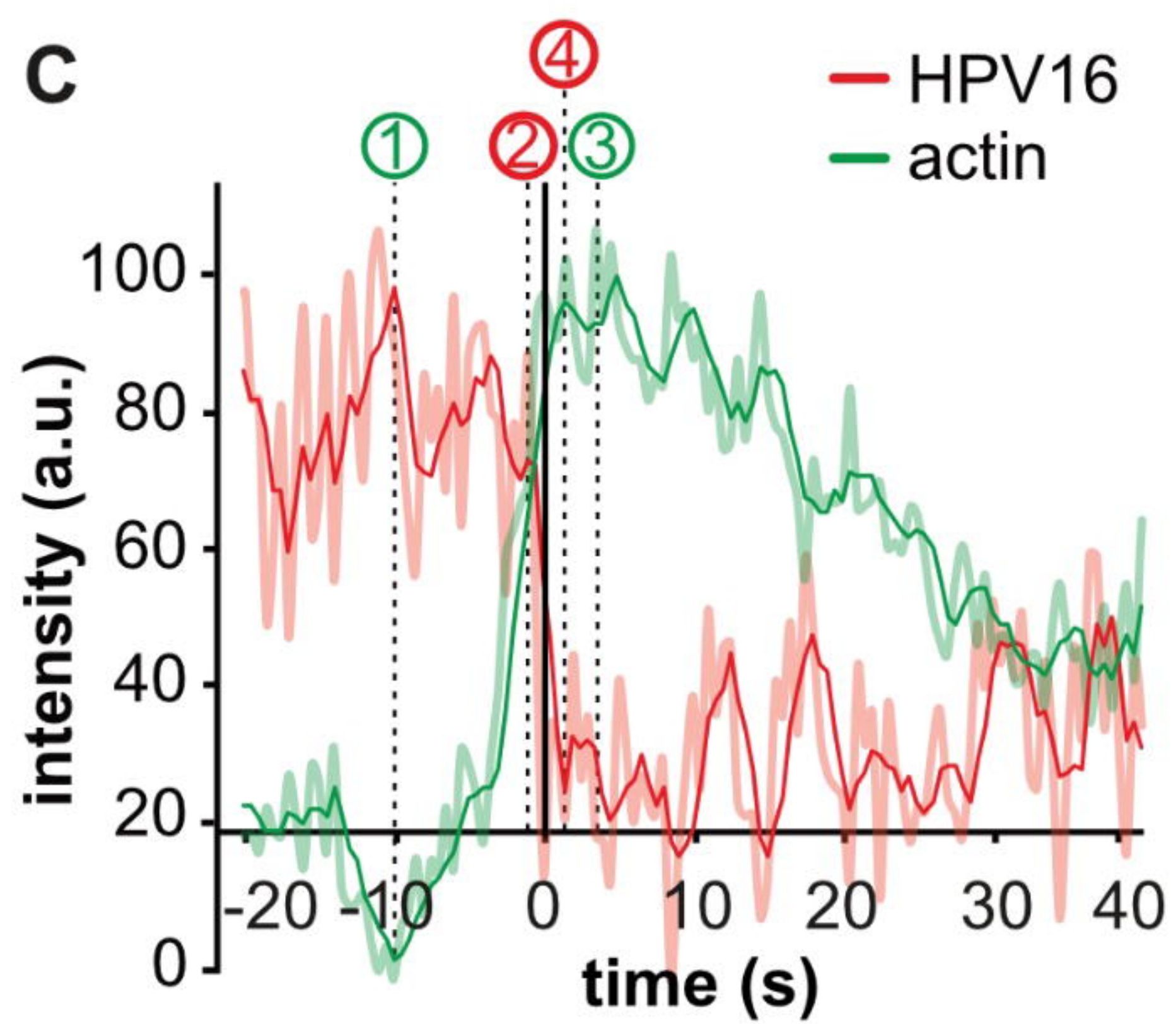
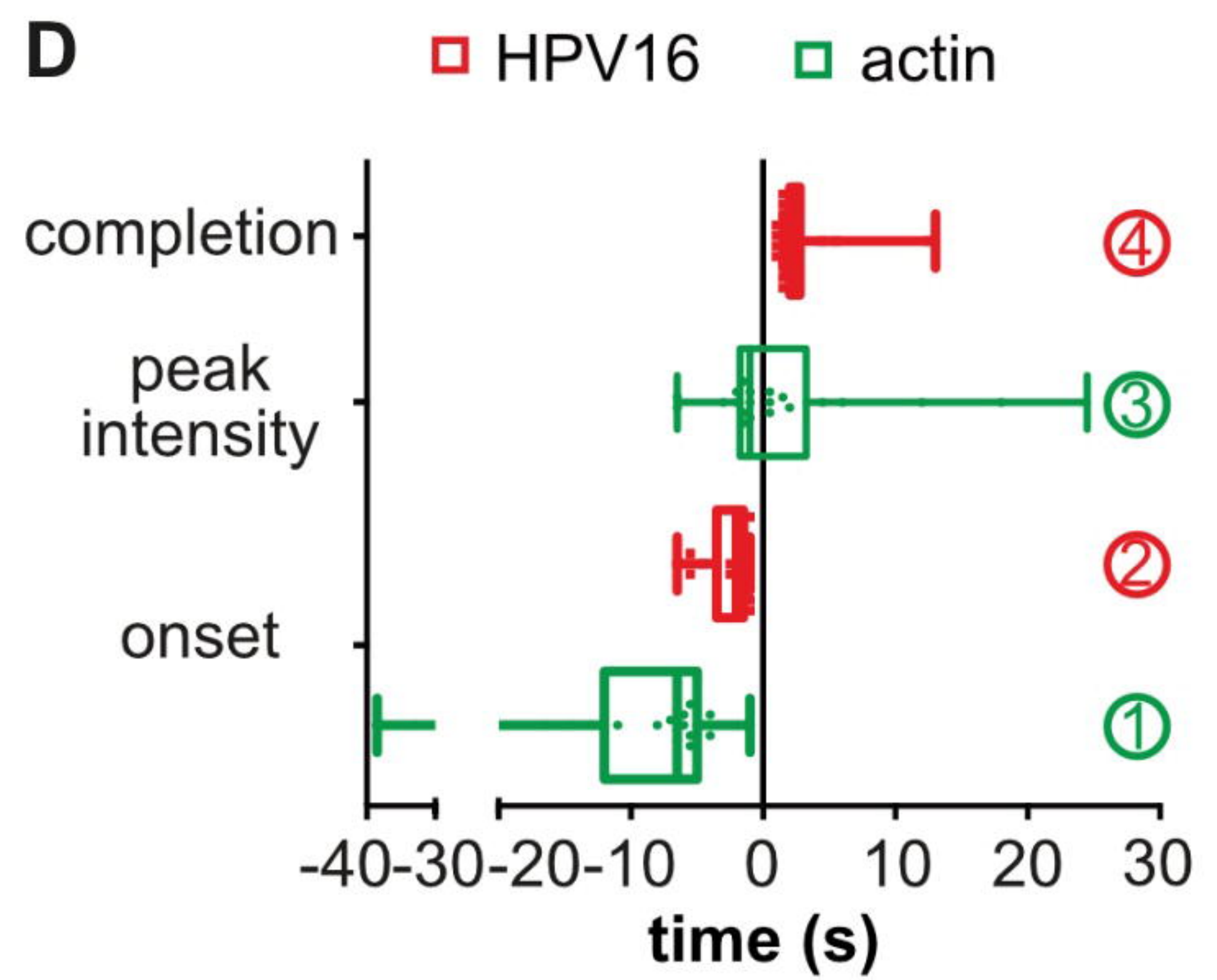


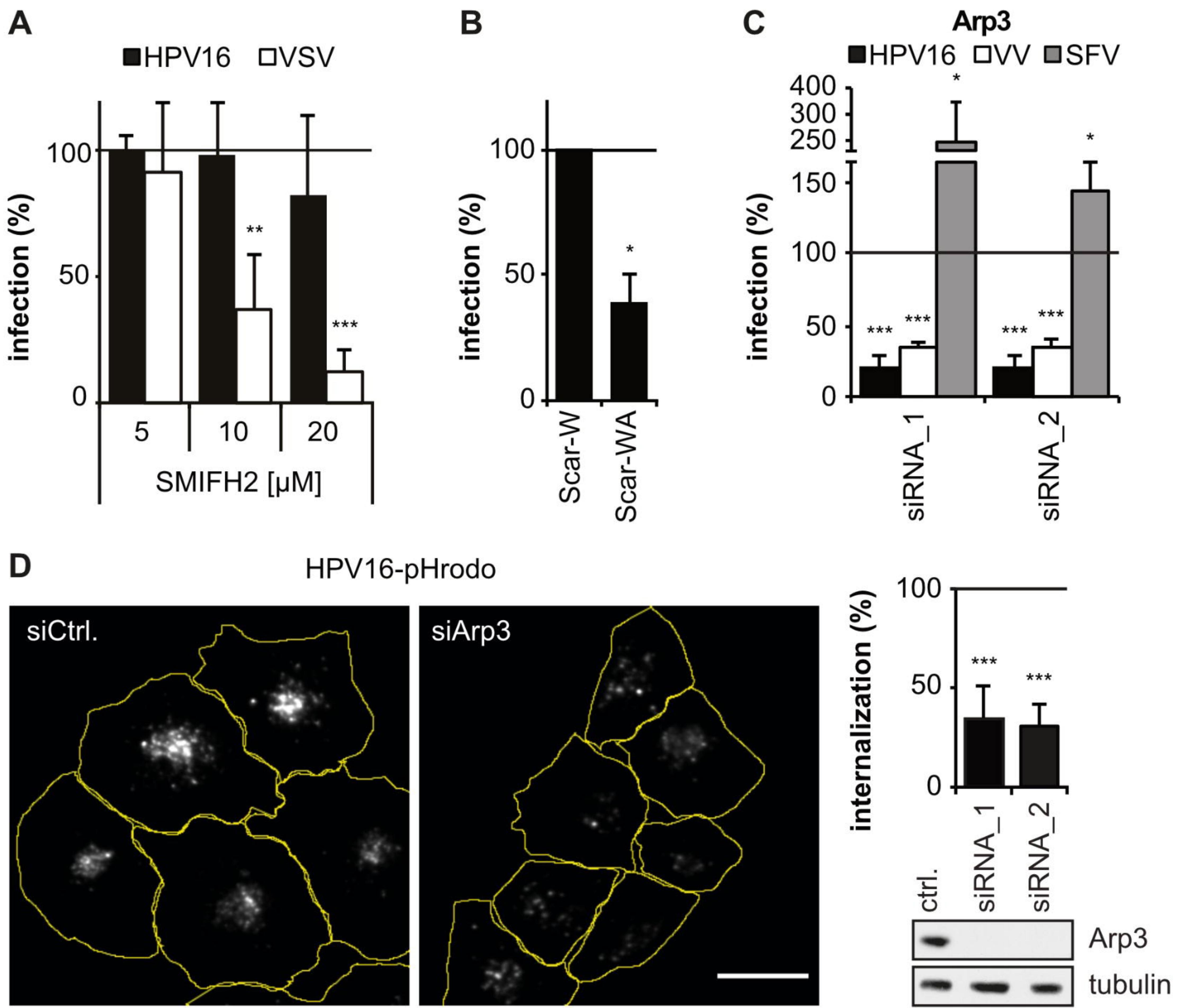
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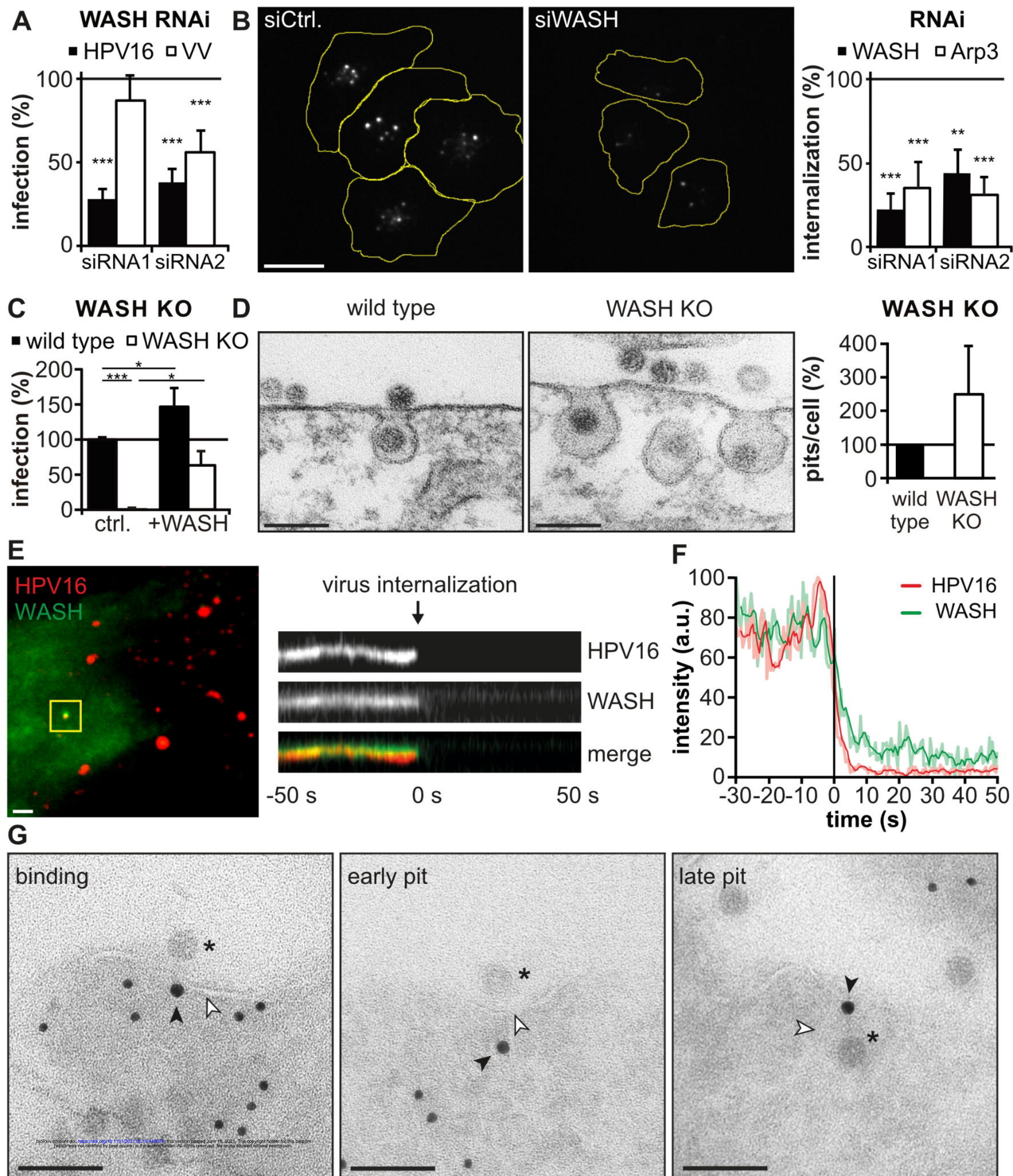
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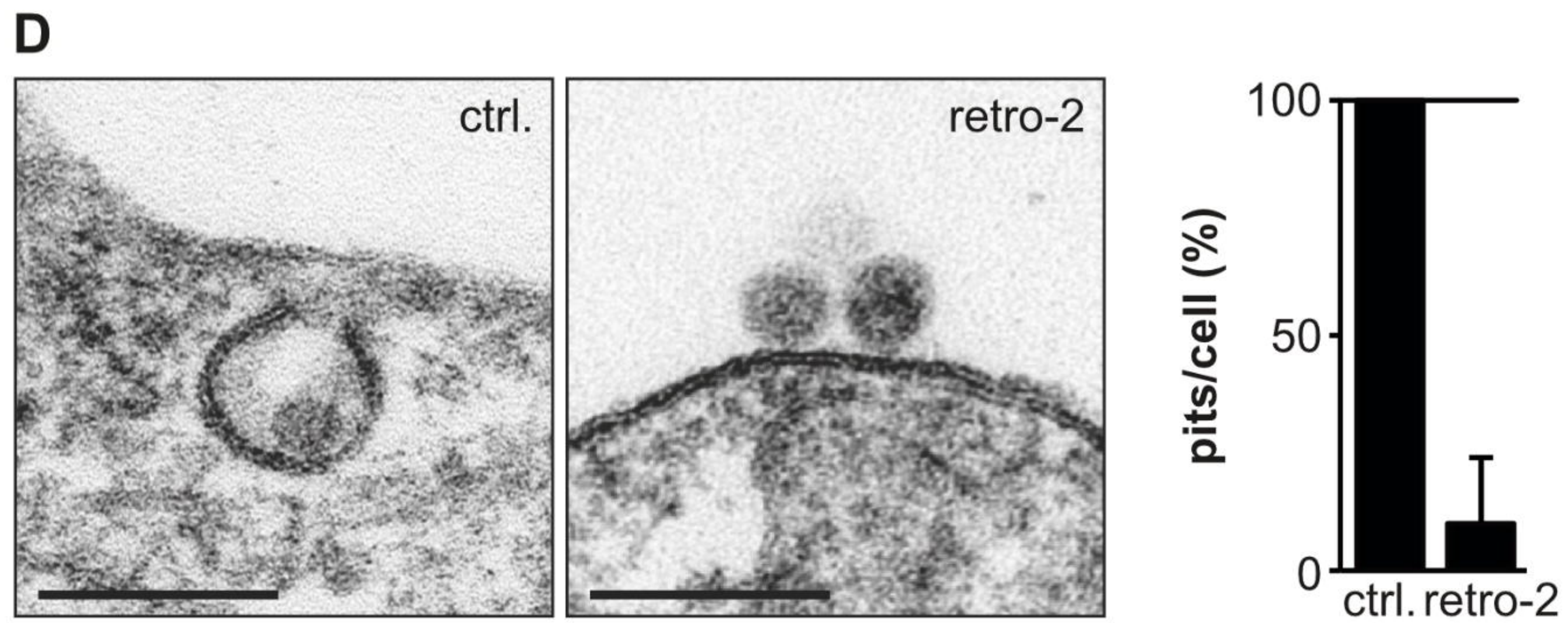
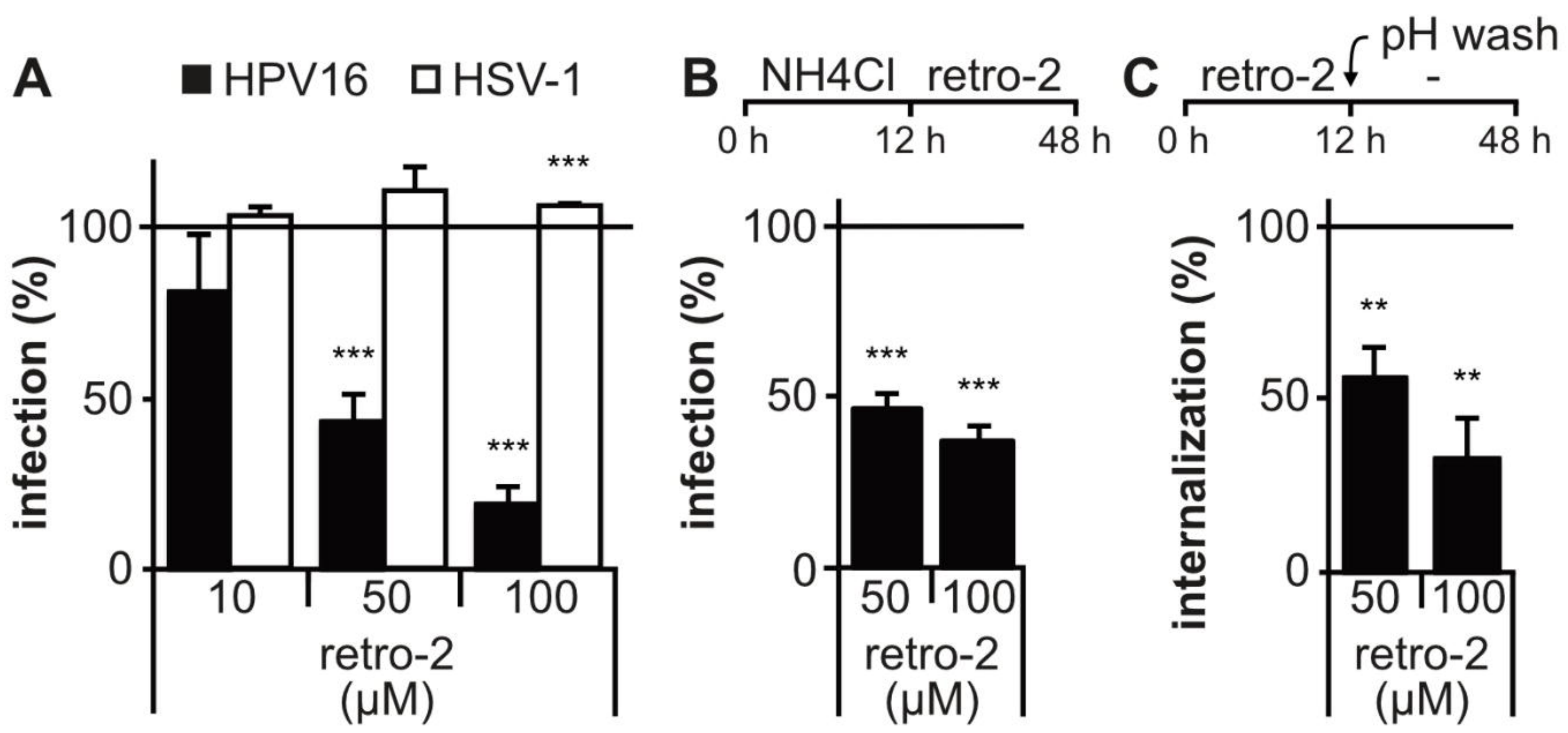
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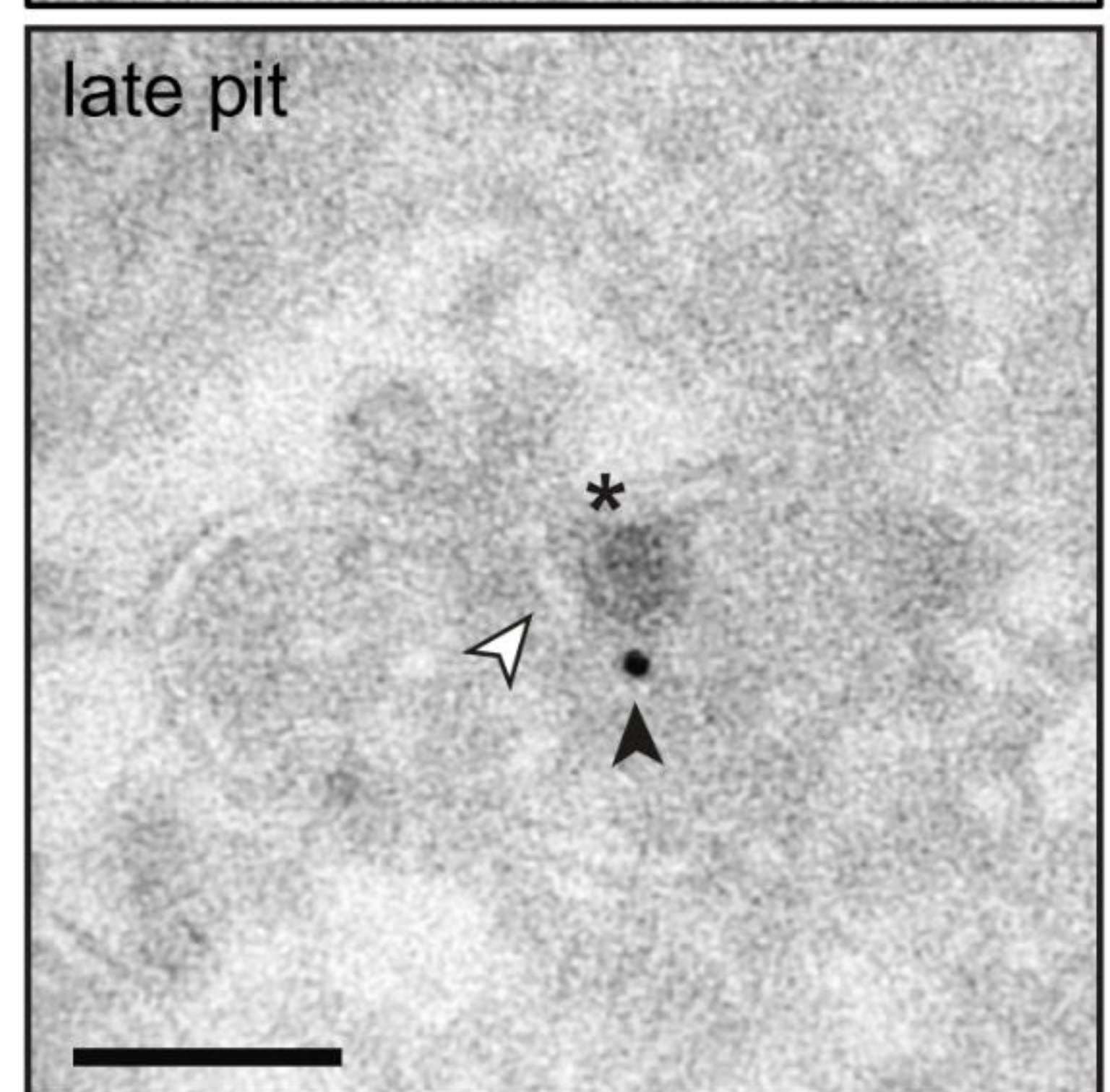
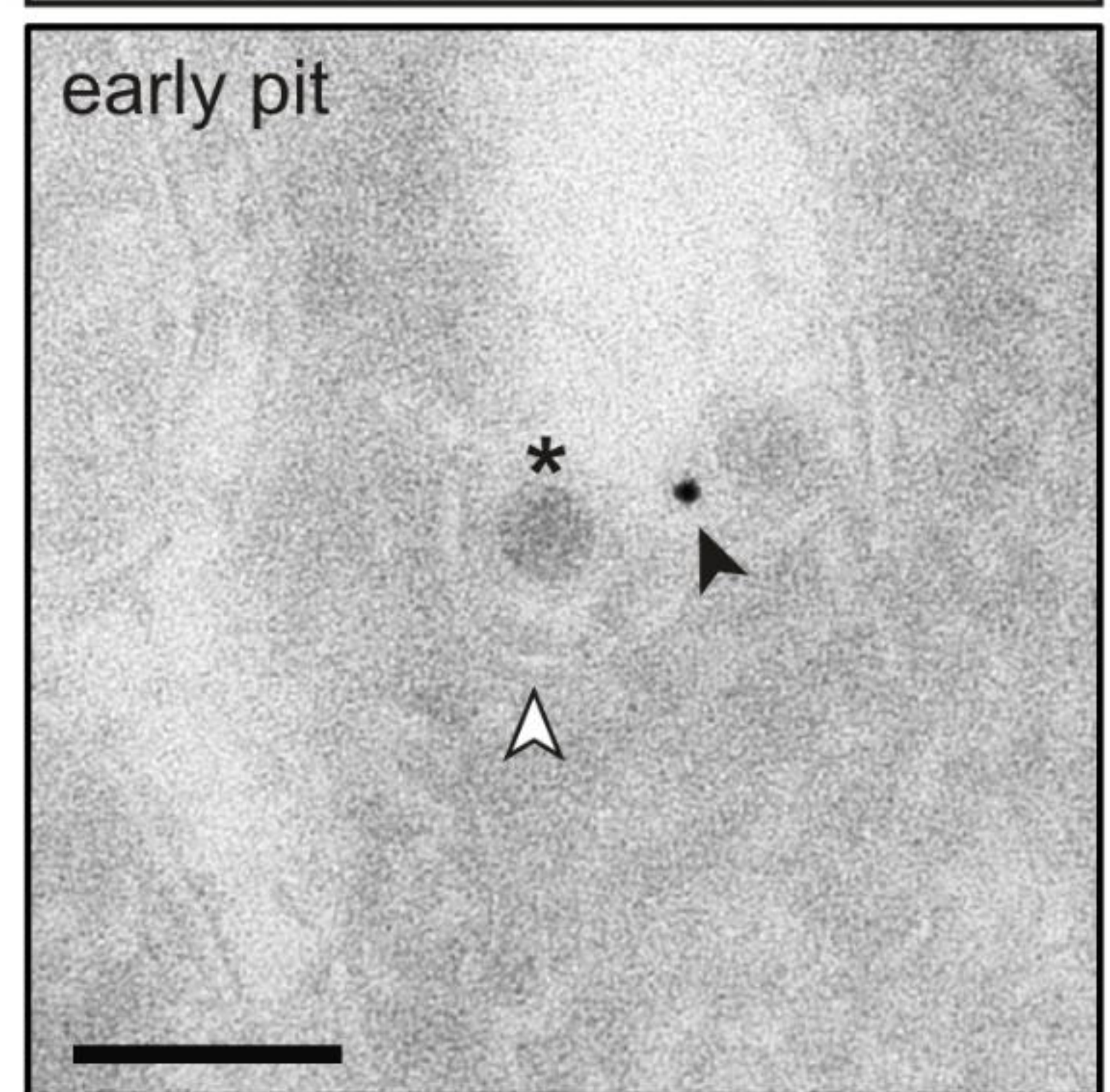
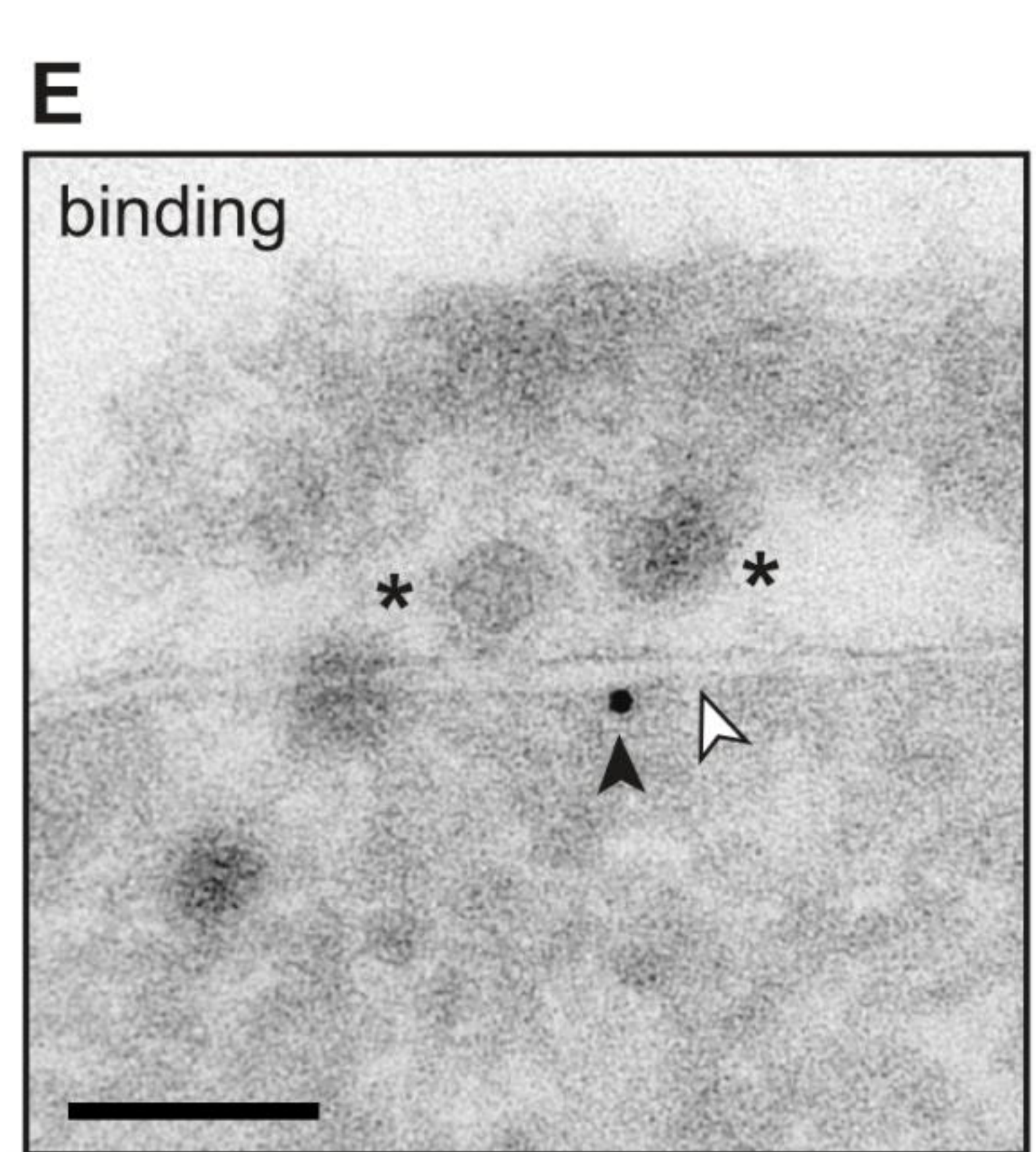
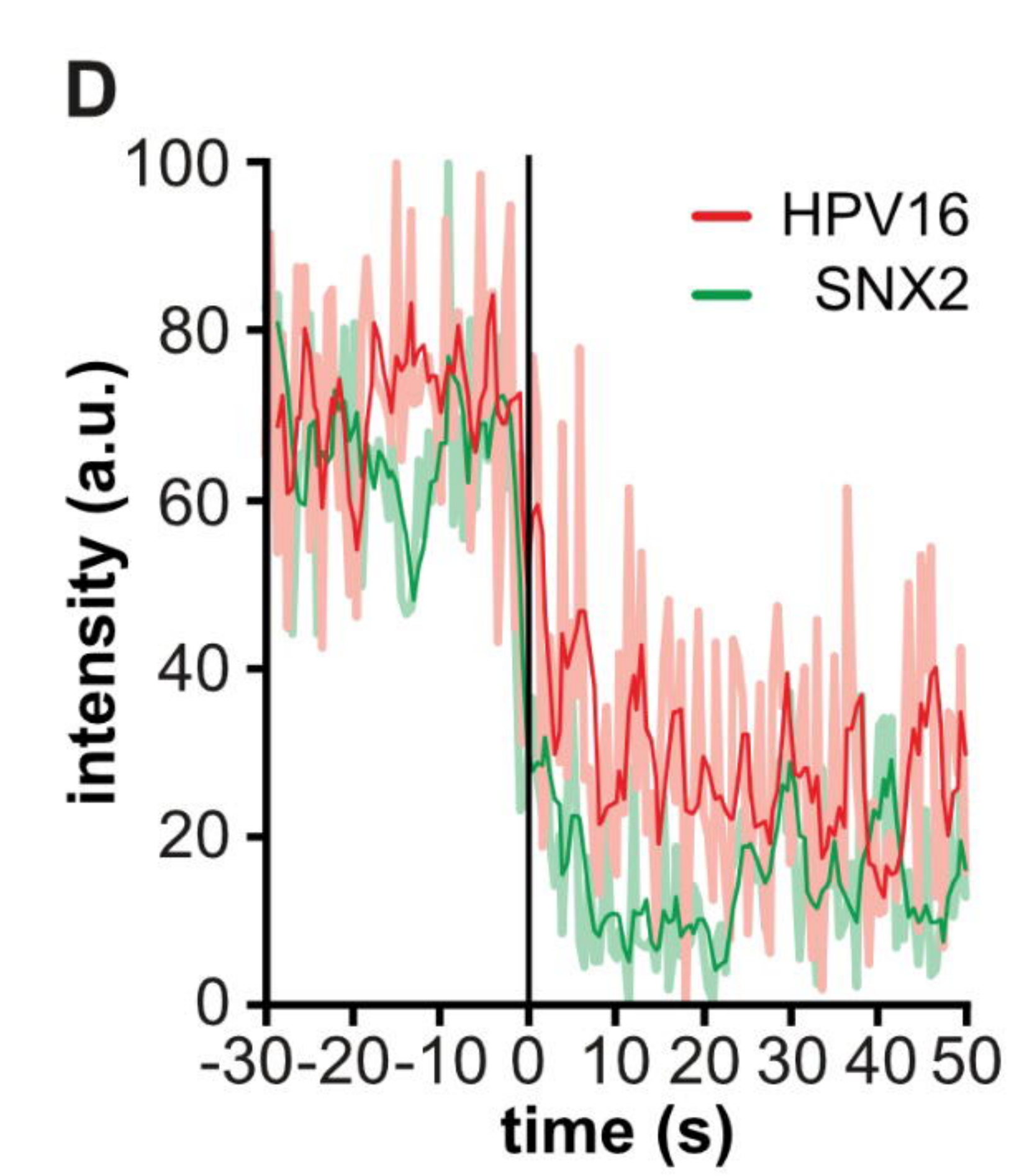
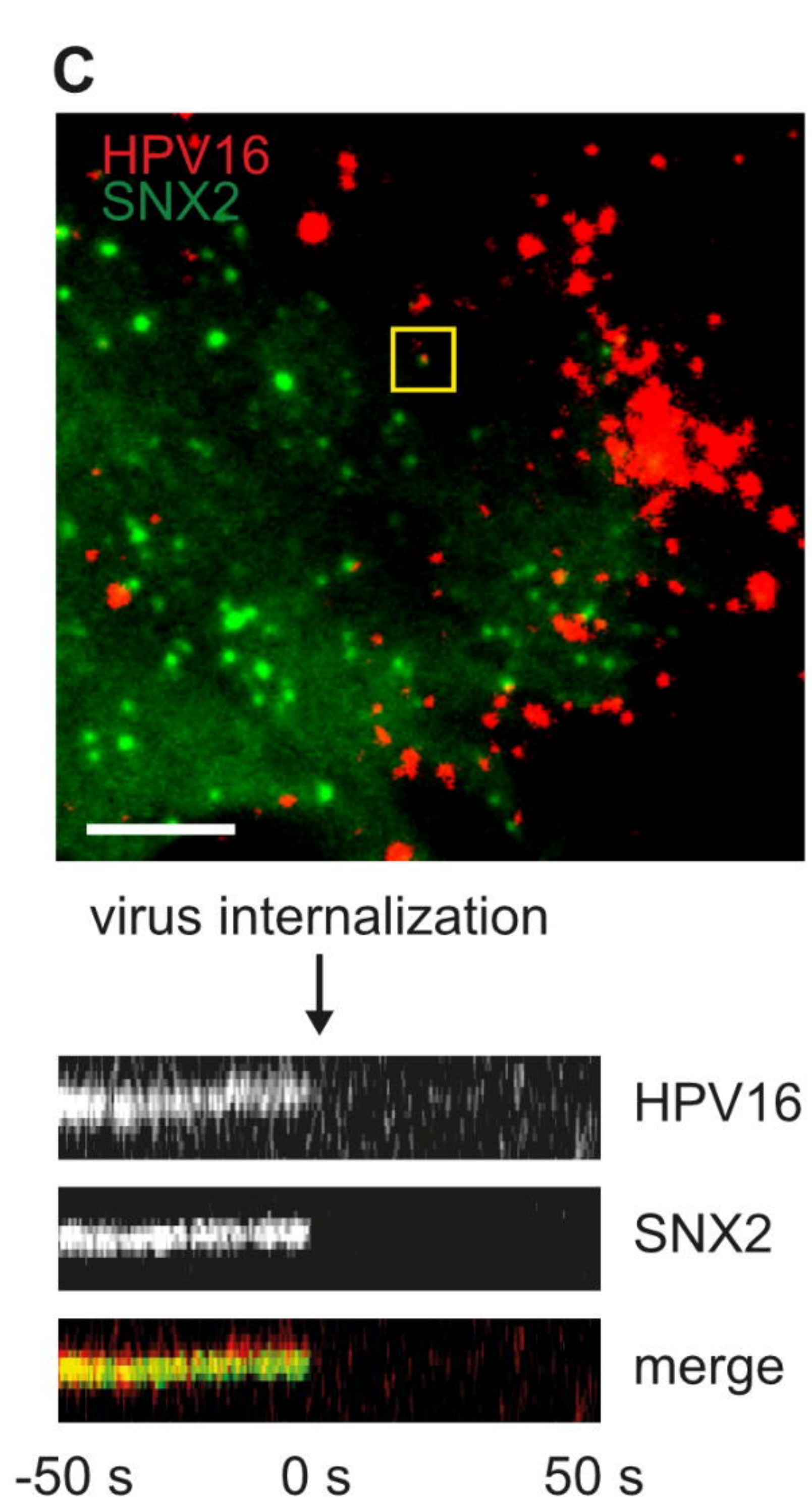
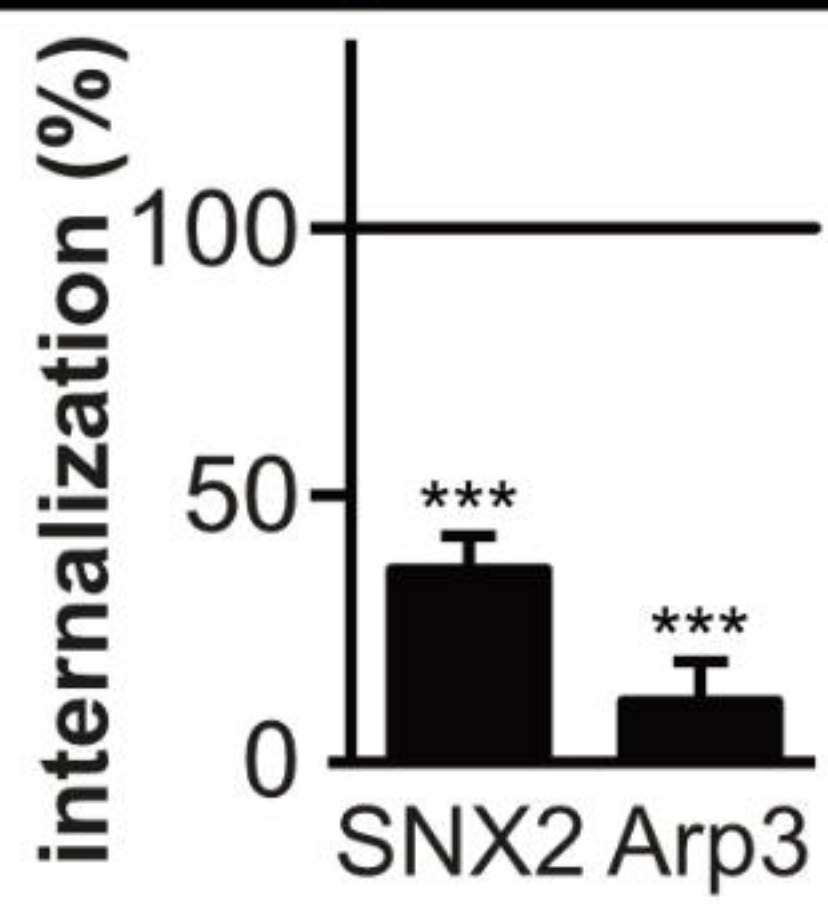
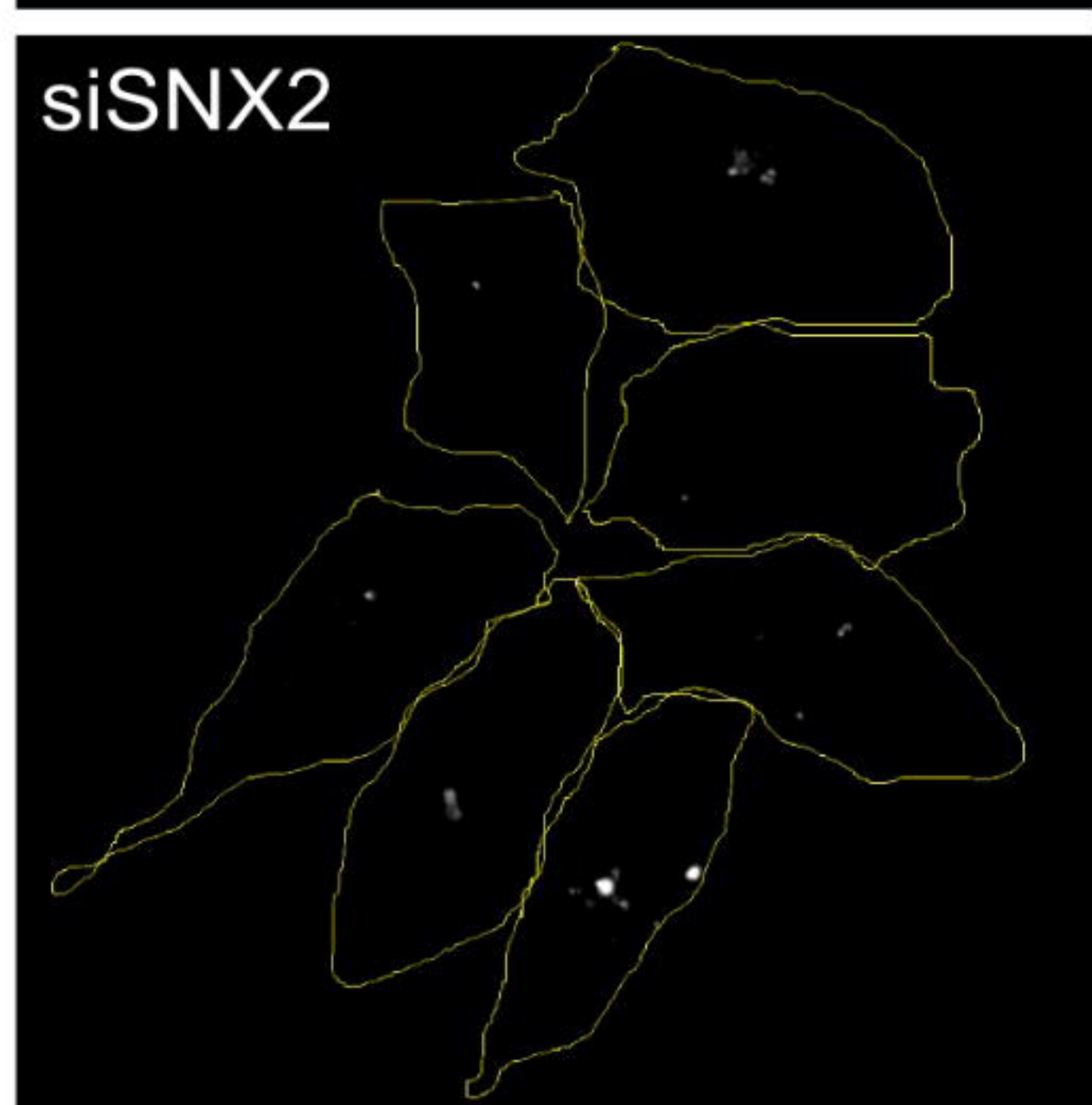
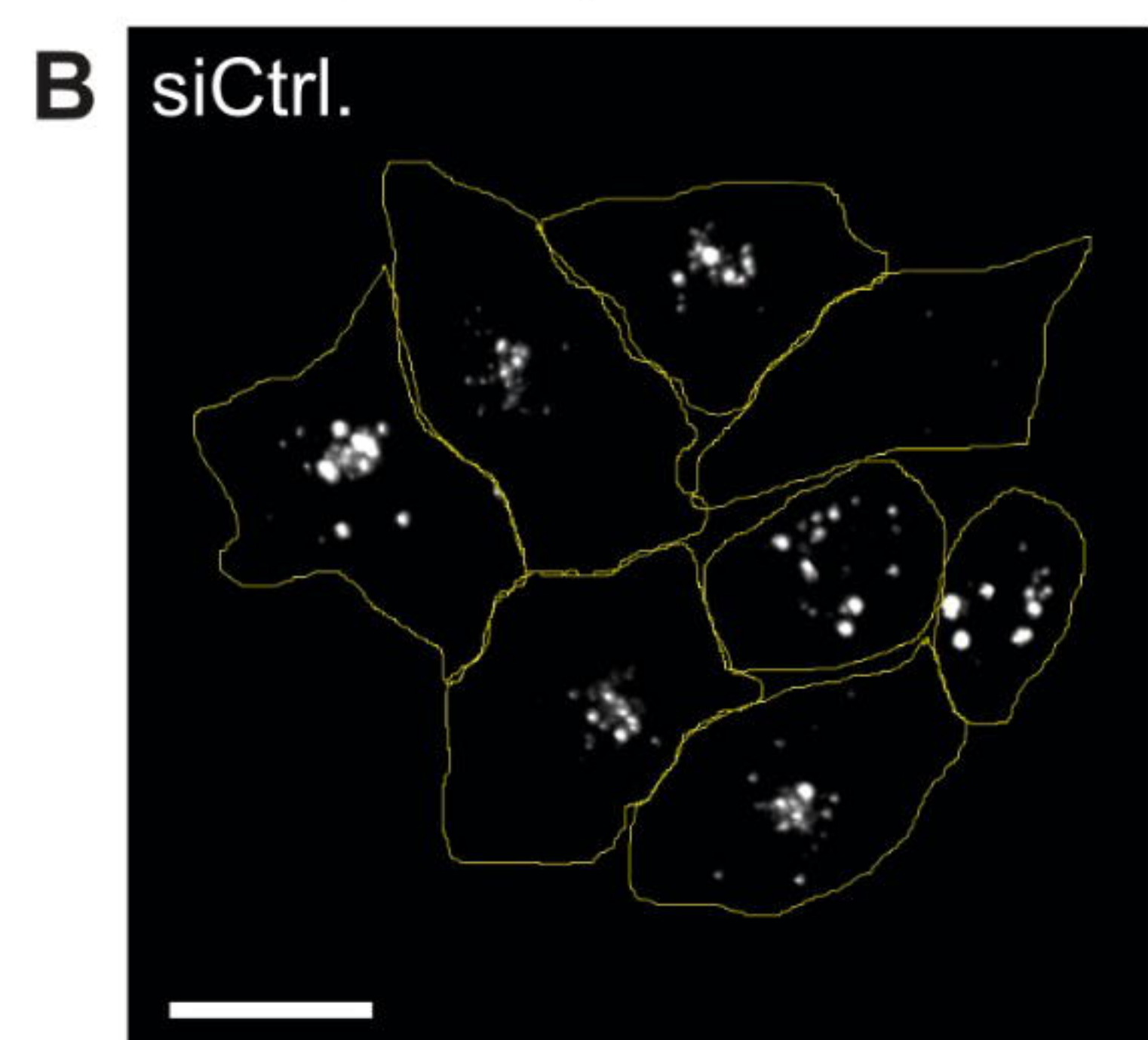
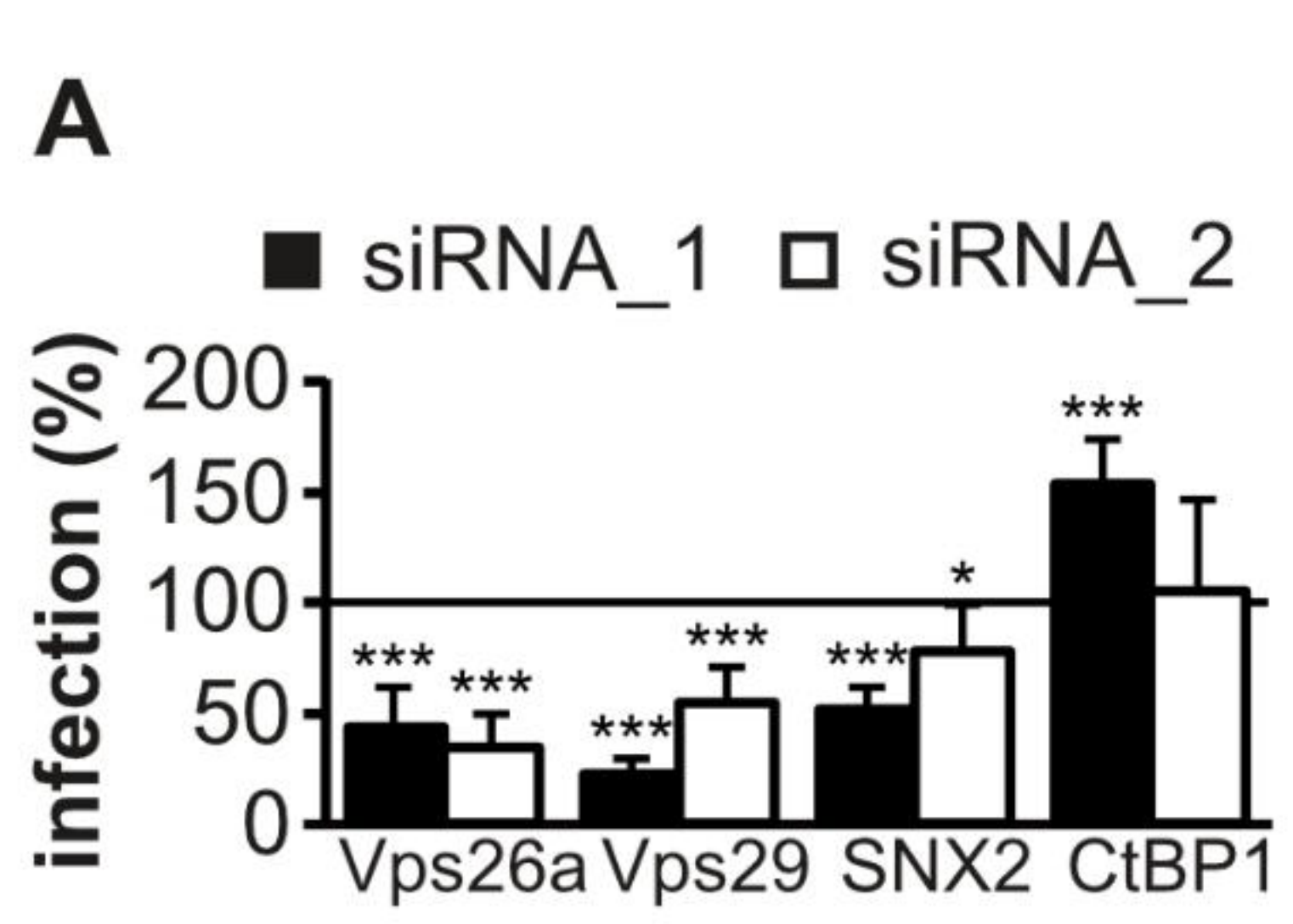
virus internalization

**C****D**







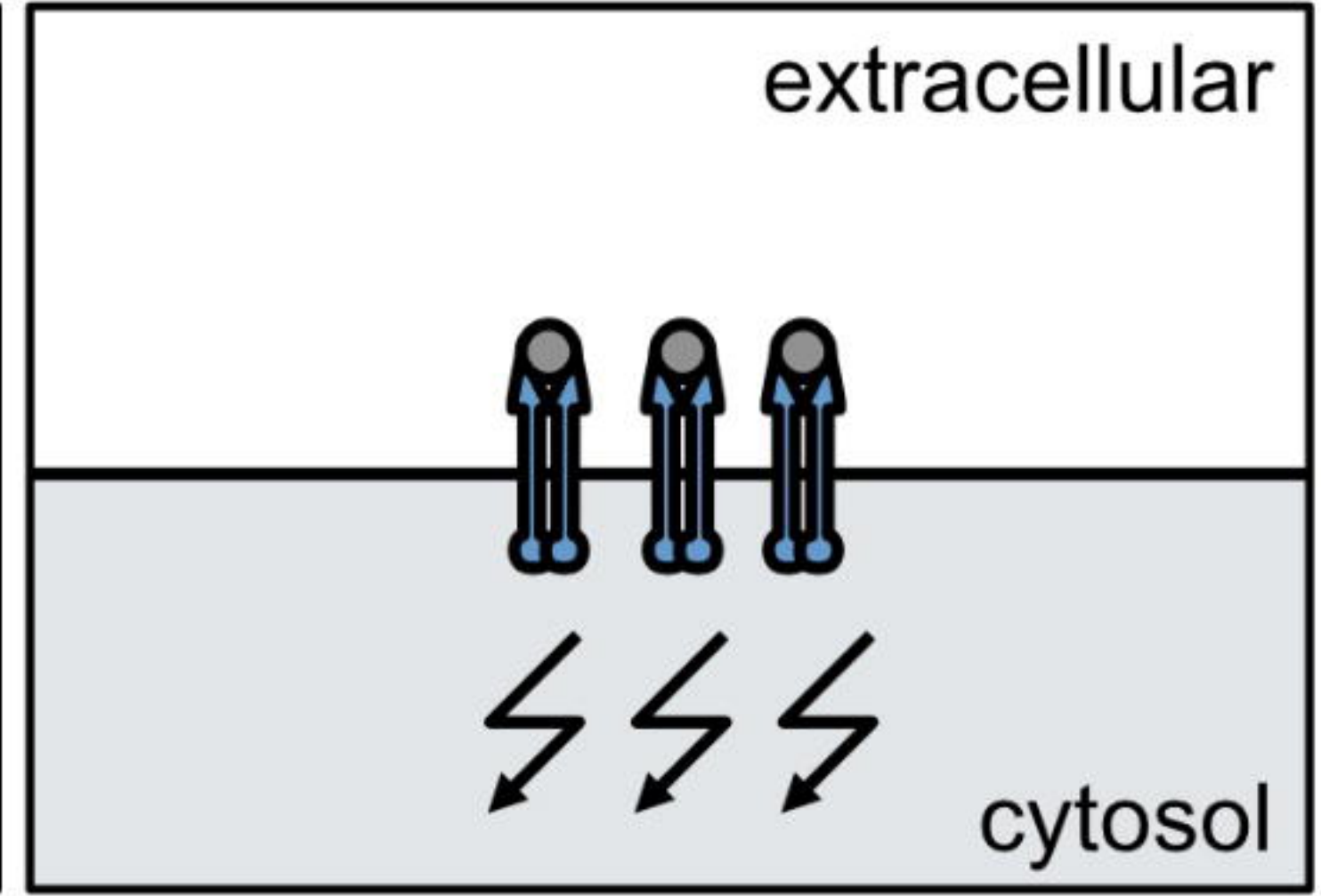
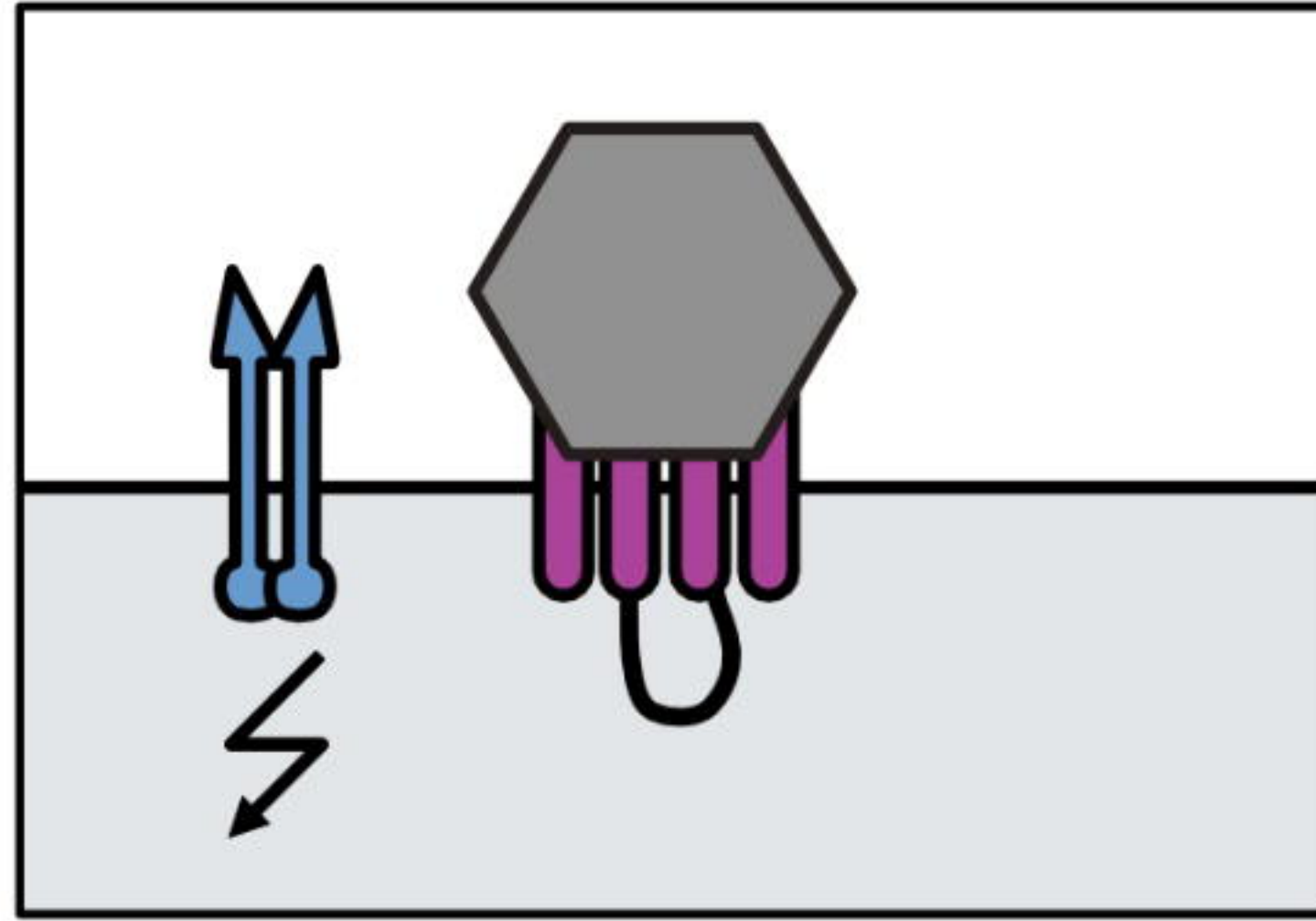
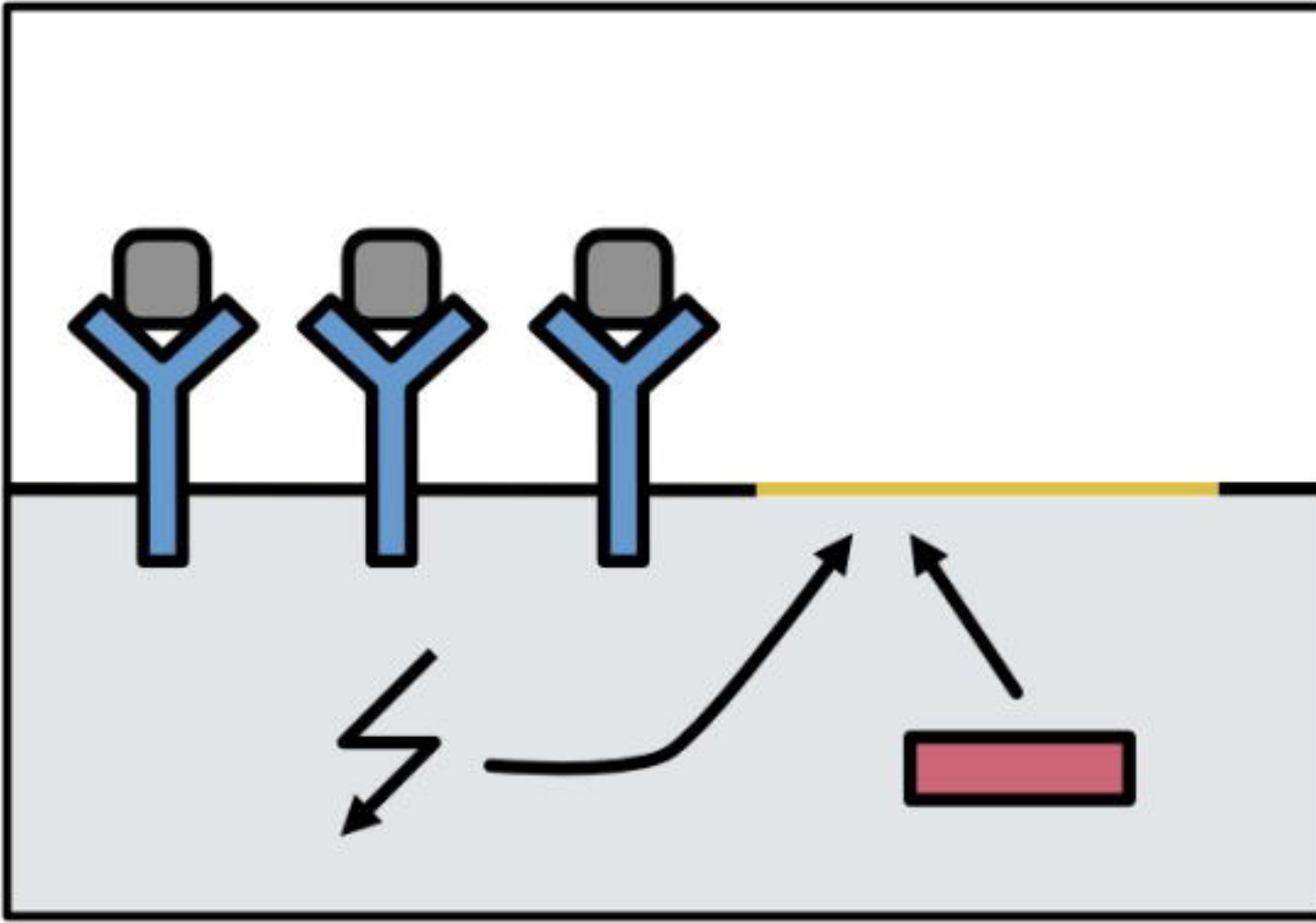


CME

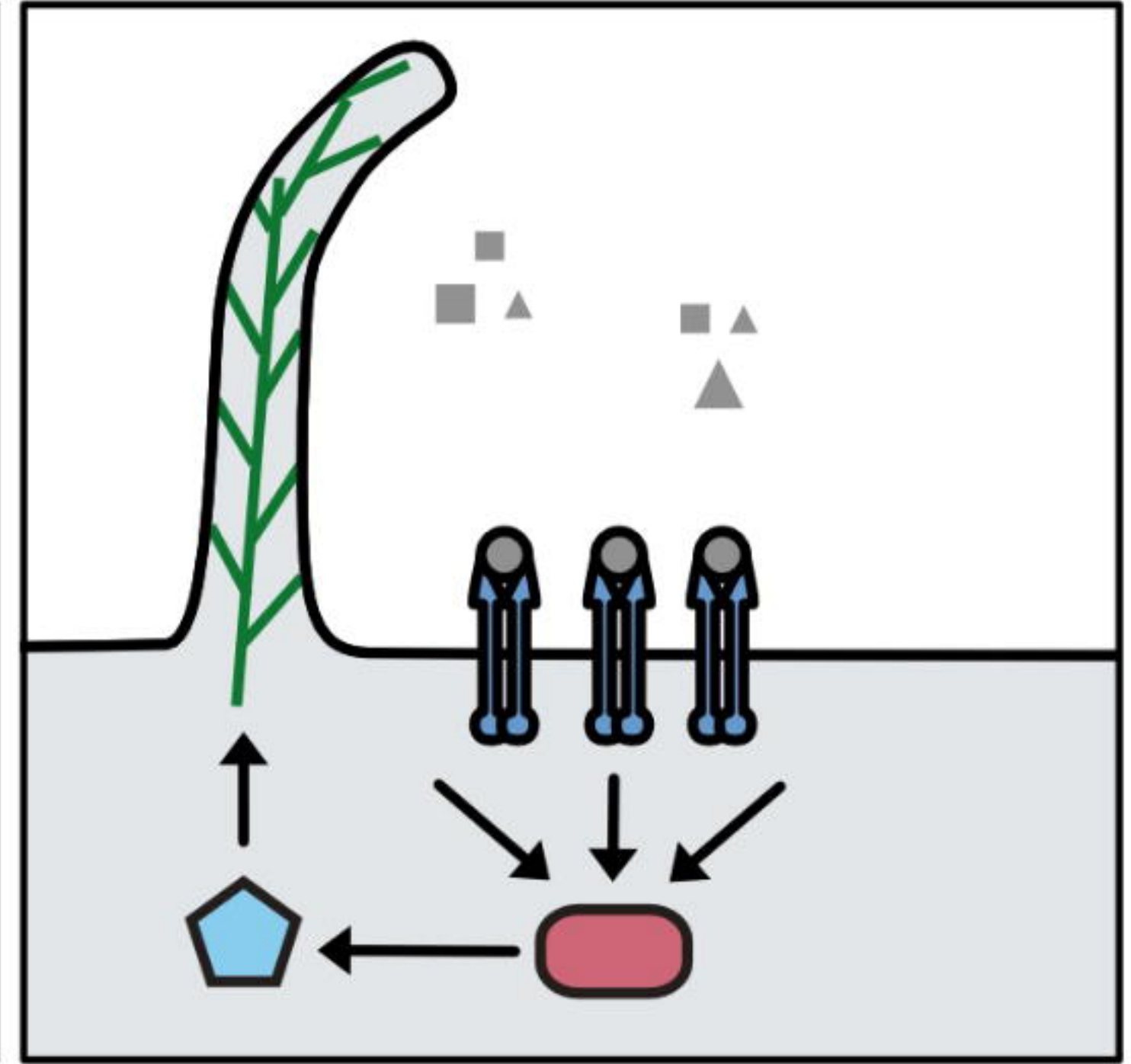
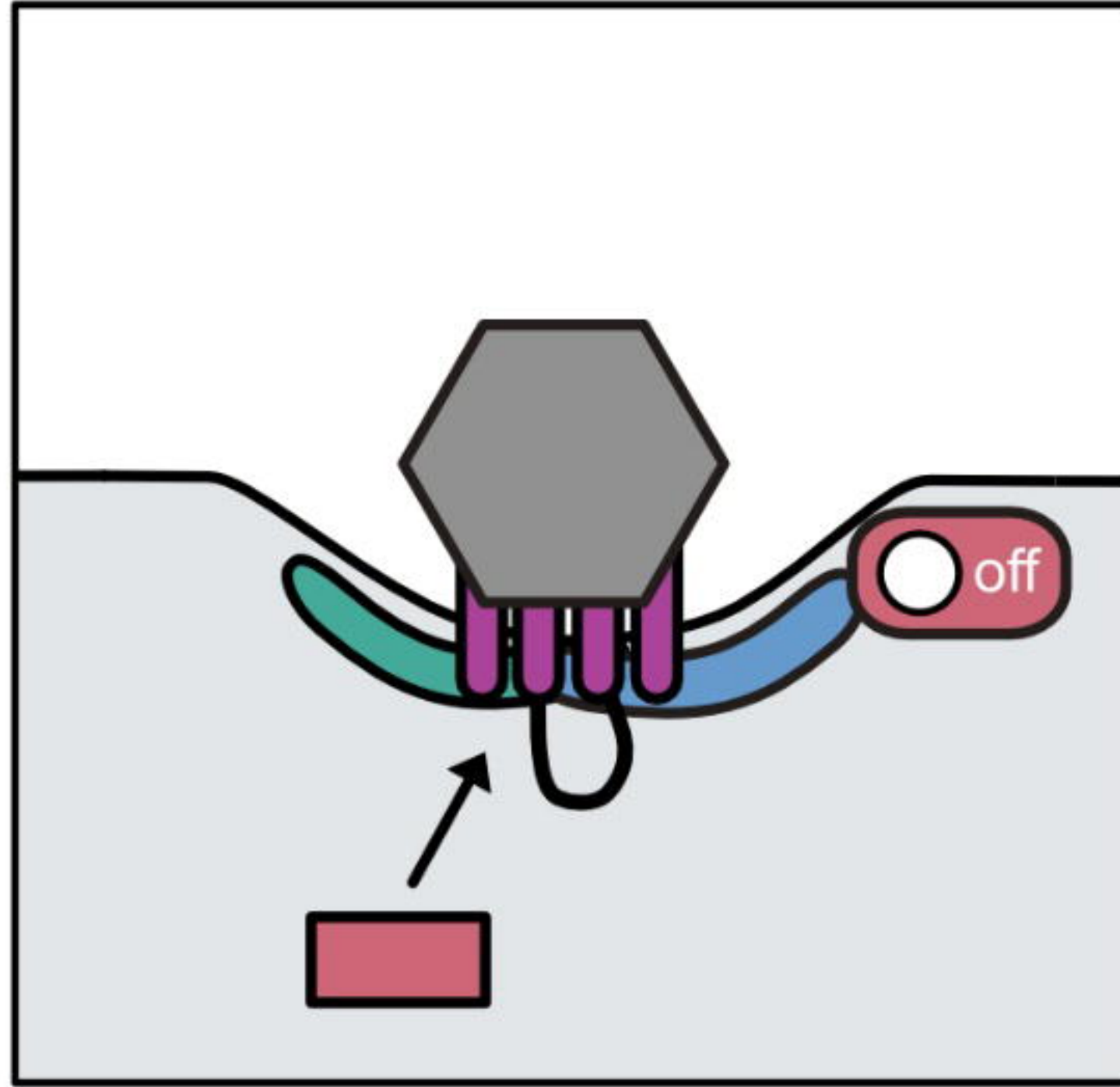
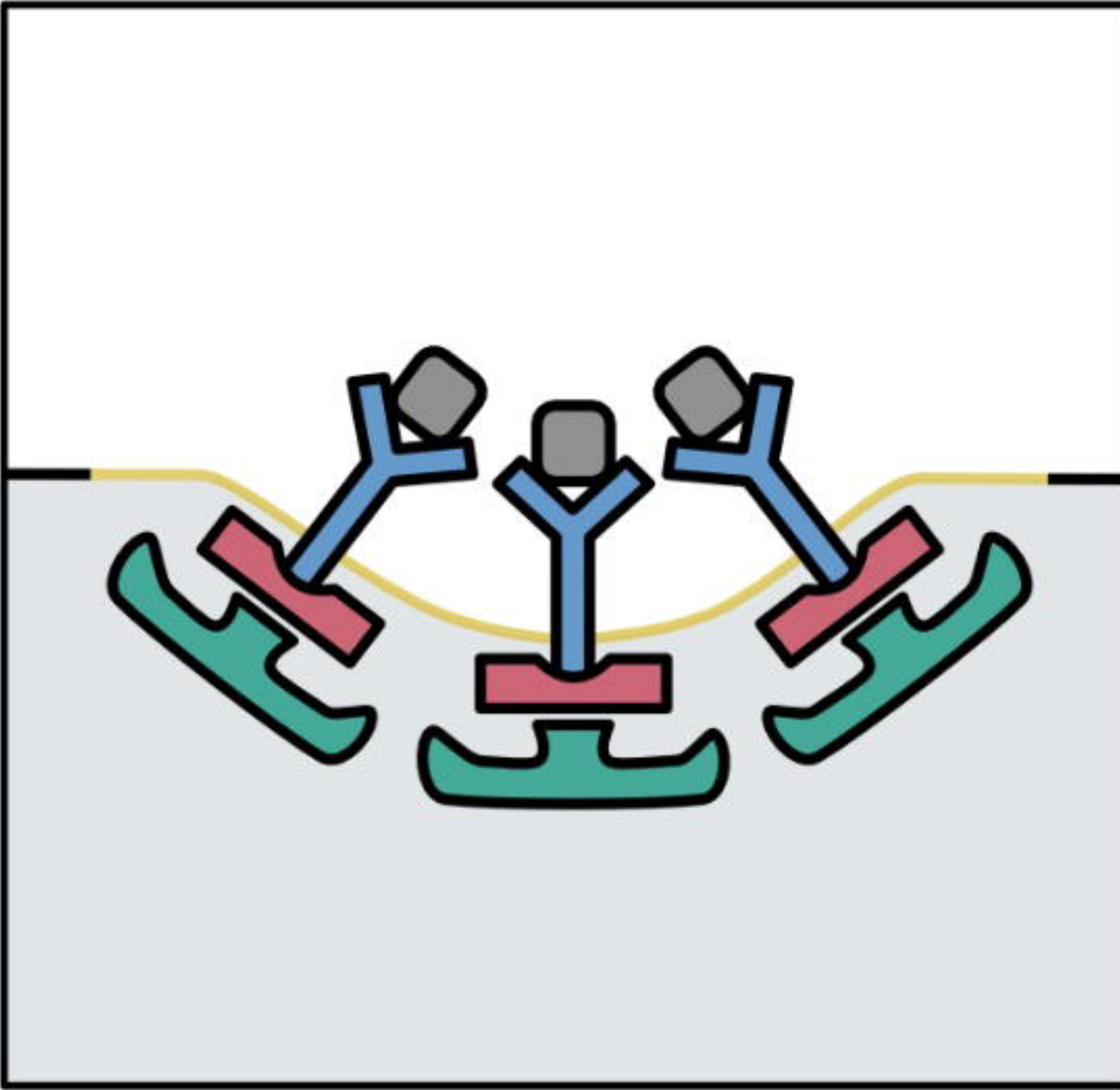
WASH-ME

macropinocytosis

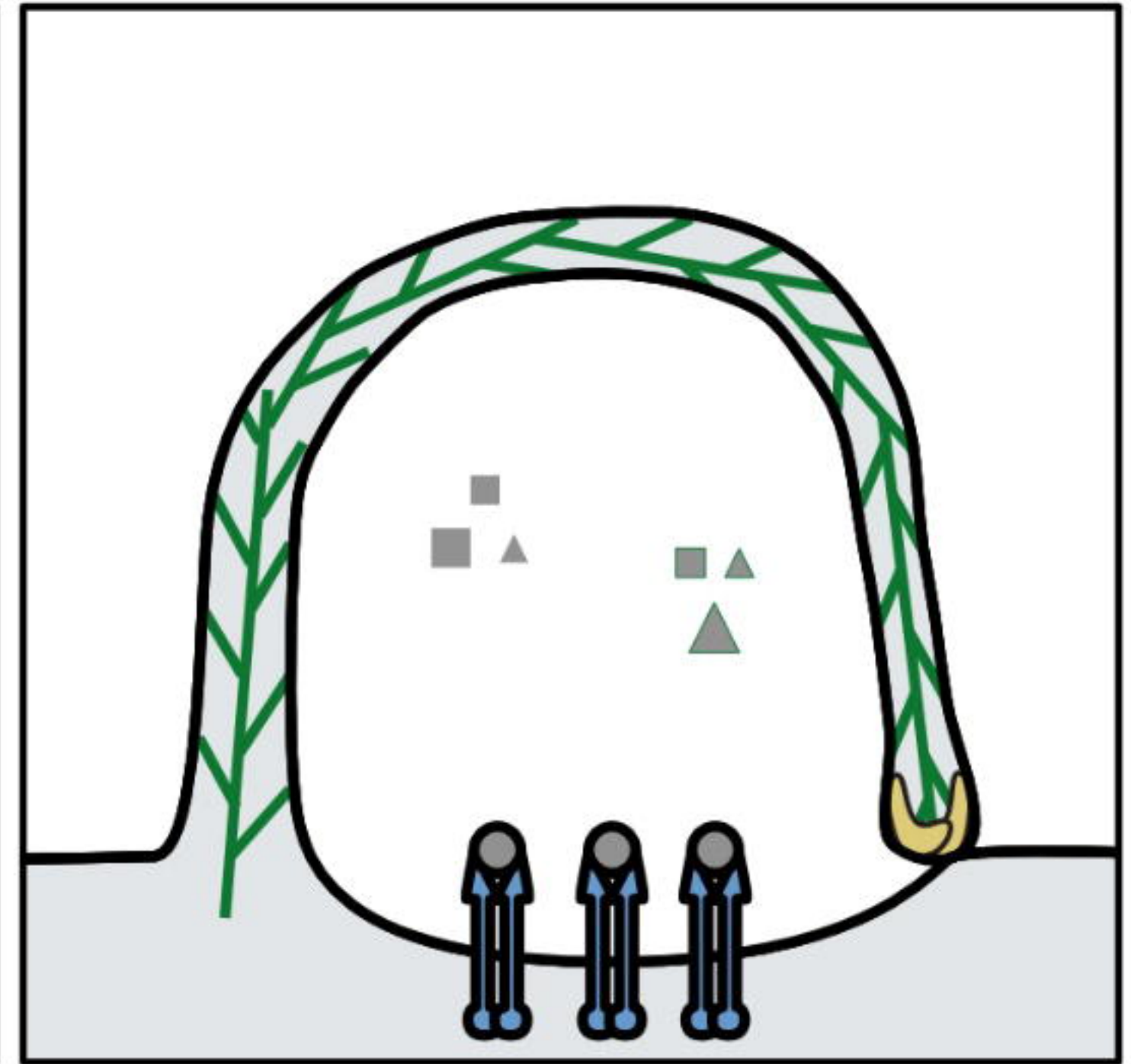
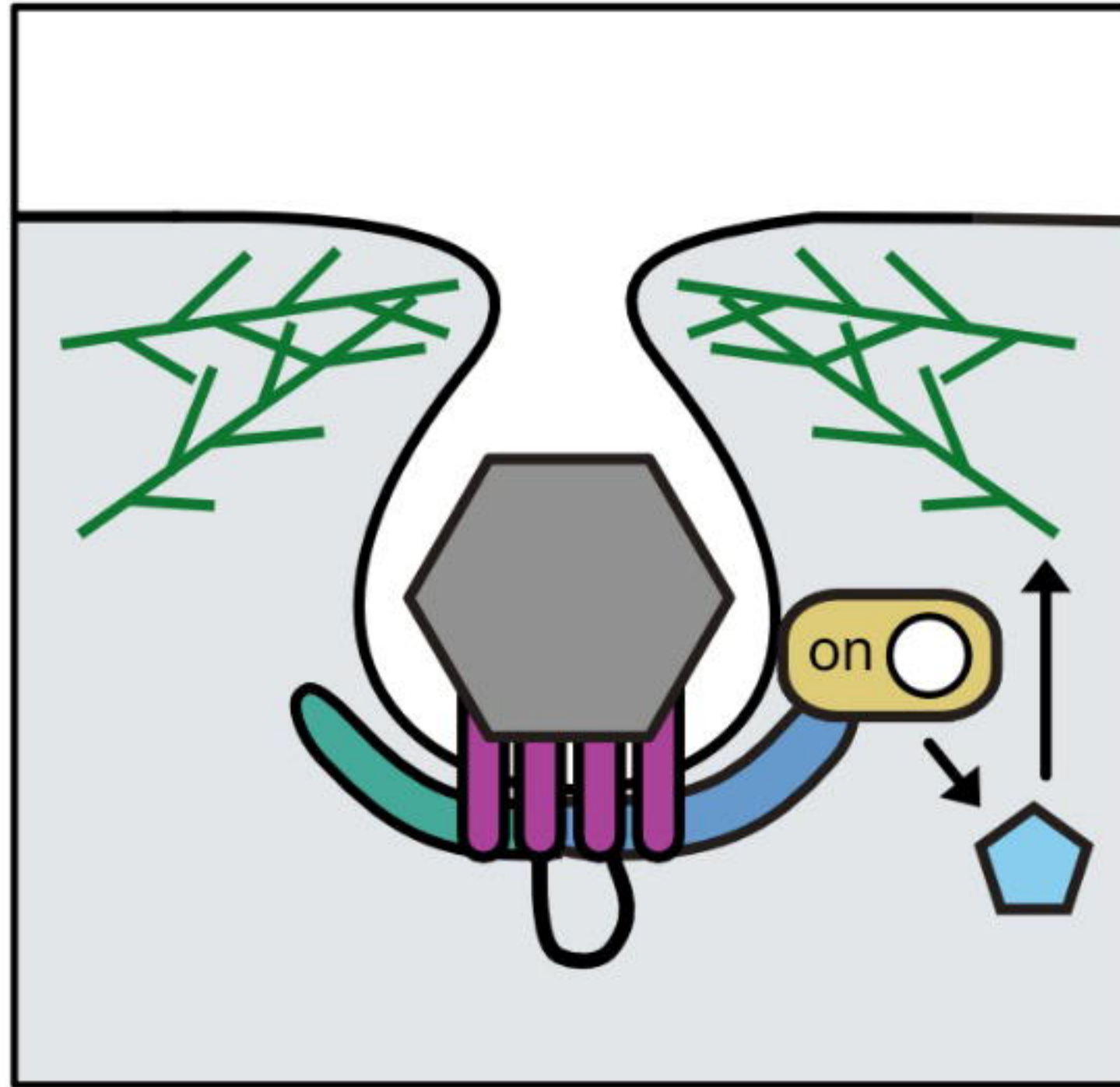
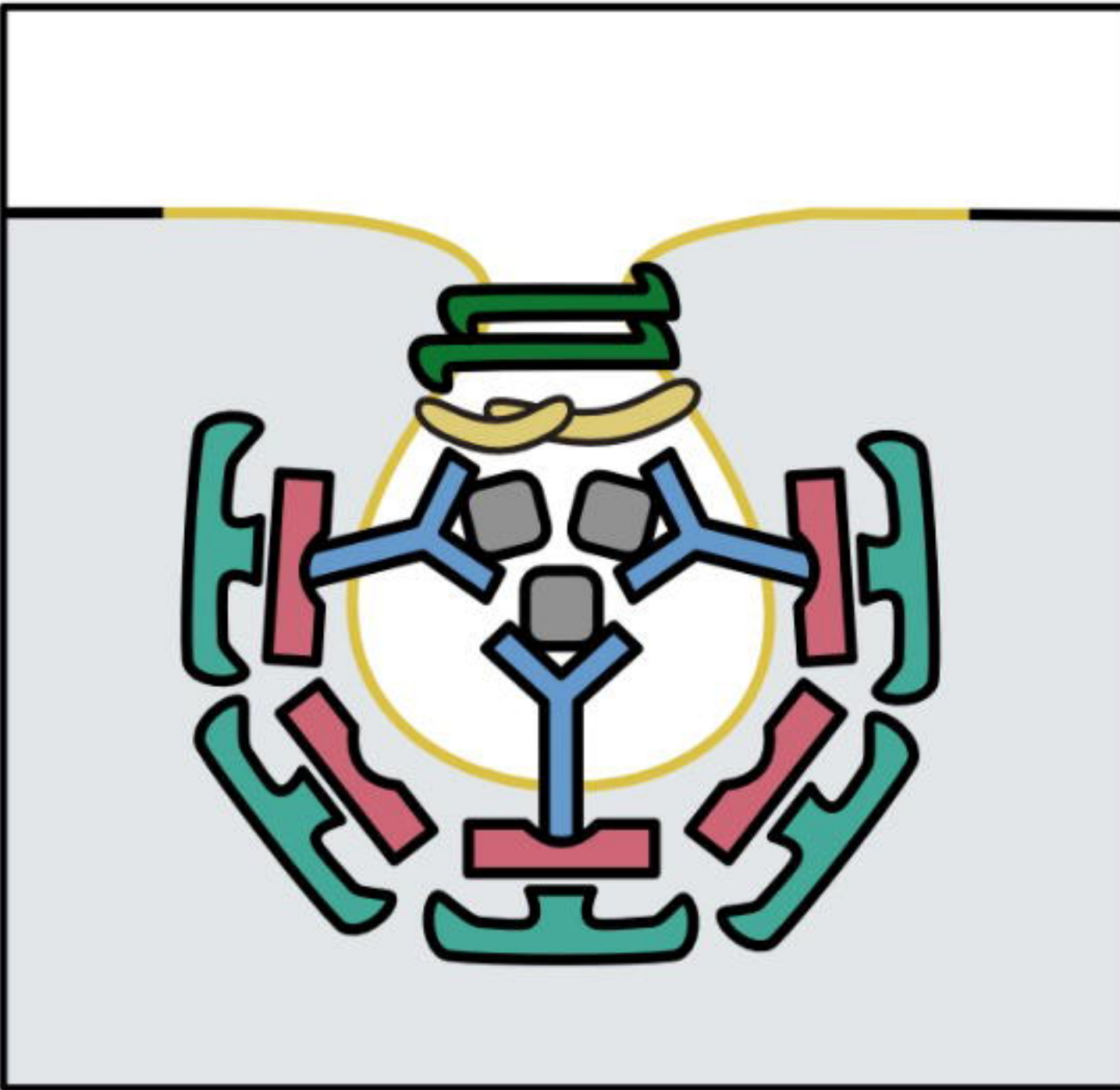
pit induction



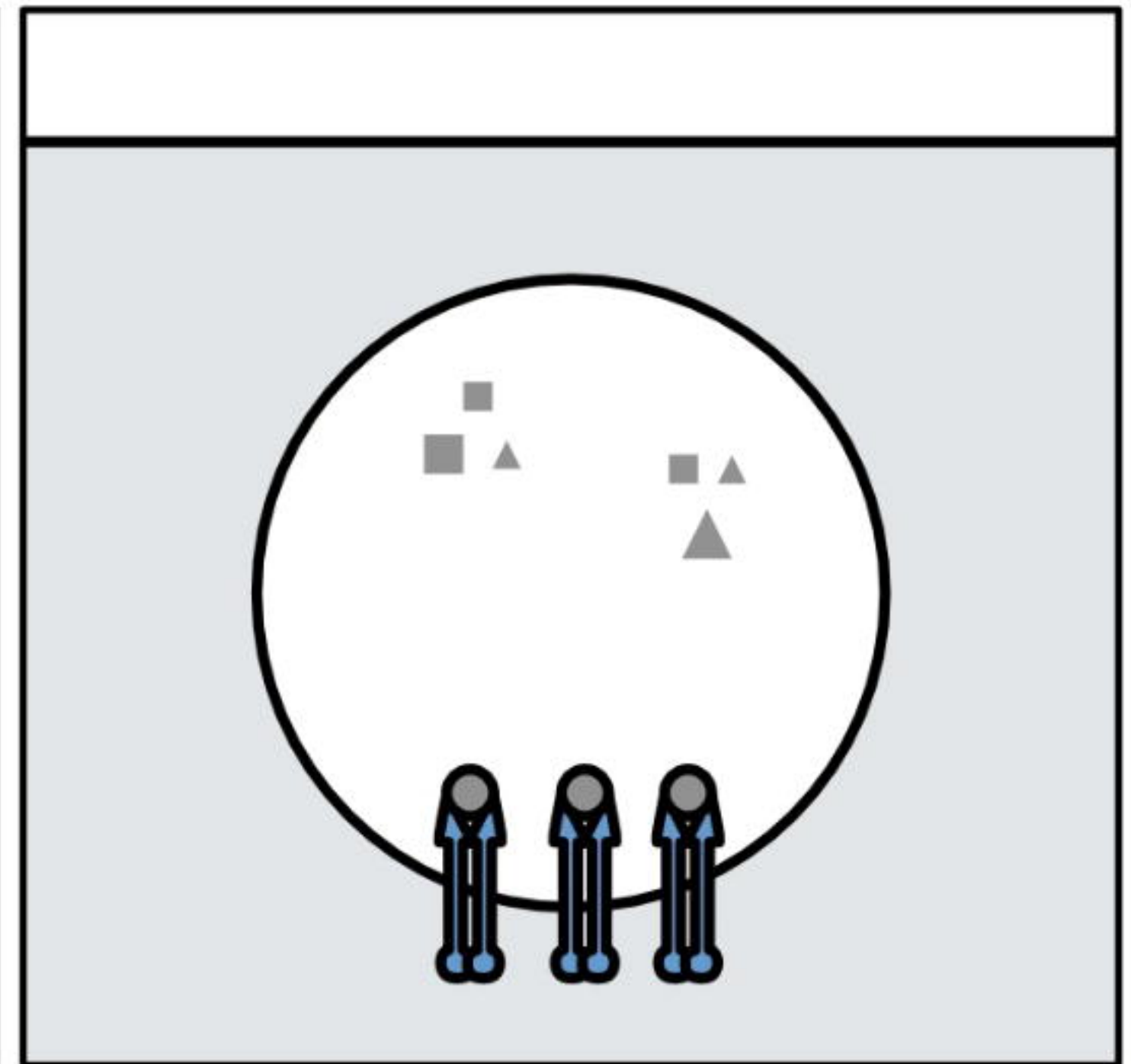
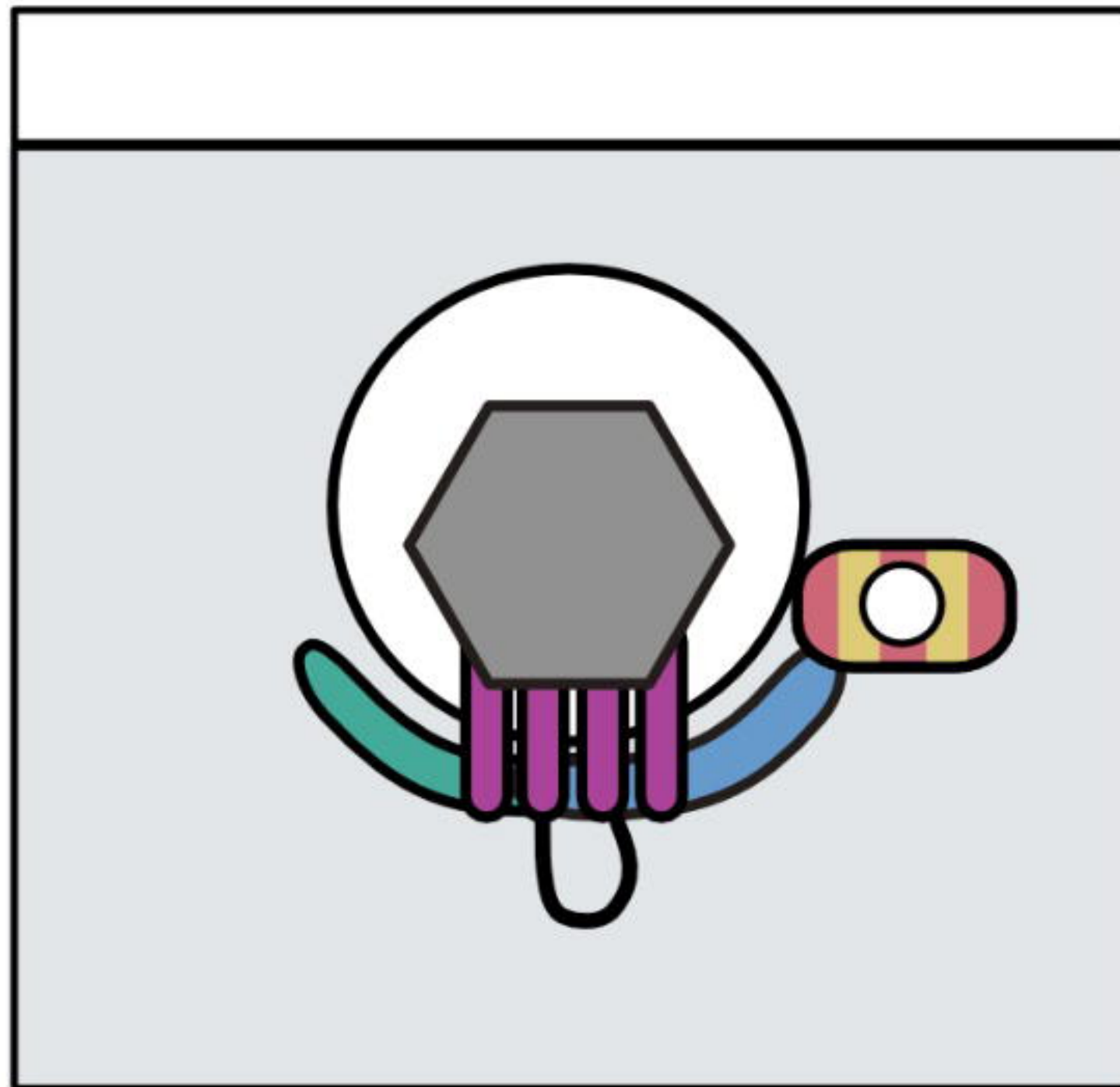
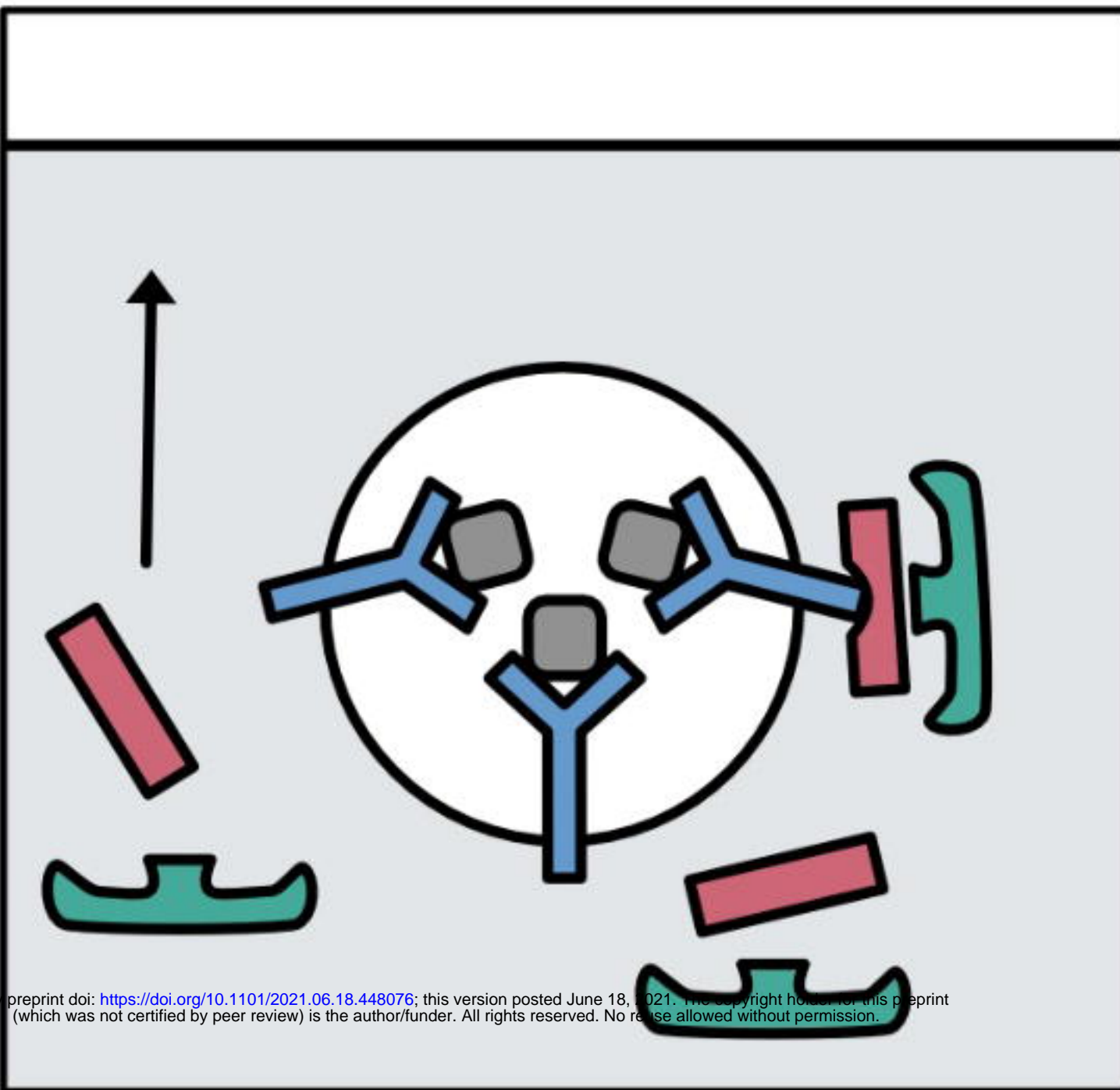
pit dilation



scission



endocytic vacuole



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