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8 **Inorganic Polyphosphate Interacts with Nucleolar and**
9 **Glycosomal Proteins in Trypanosomatids**

10

11 Running title: Inorganic polyphosphate and trypanosomatids

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28 **Keywords:** polyphosphate, glycolysis, oxidative stress, glycosomes, nucleolus,
29 trypanosoma

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32 **Summary**

33 Inorganic polyphosphate (polyP) is a polymer of three to hundreds of phosphate units
34 bound by high-energy phosphoanhydride bonds and present from bacteria to humans.
35 Most polyP in trypanosomatids is concentrated in acidocalcisomes, acidic calcium stores
36 that possess a number of pumps, exchangers, and channels, and are important for their
37 survival. In this work, using polyP as bait we identified > 25 putative protein targets in
38 cell lysates of both *Trypanosoma cruzi* and *T. brucei*. Gene ontology analysis of the
39 binding partners found a significant over-representation of nucleolar and glycosomal
40 proteins. Using the polyphosphate-binding domain (PPBD) of *Escherichia coli*
41 exopolyphosphatase we localized long chain polyP to the nucleoli and glycosomes of
42 trypanosomes. A competitive assay based on the pre-incubation of PPBD with exogenous
43 polyP and subsequent immunofluorescence assay of procyclic forms of *T. brucei* showed
44 polyP concentration-dependent and chain length-dependent decrease in the fluorescence
45 signal. Subcellular fractionation experiments confirmed the presence of polyP in
46 glycosomes of *T. brucei* procyclic forms (PCF). Targeting of yeast exopolyphosphatase
47 to the glycosomes of PCF resulted in polyphosphate hydrolysis, alteration in their
48 glycolytic flux and increase in their susceptibility to oxidative stress.

49

50 **Introduction**

51 African trypanosomiasis, caused by the *Trypanosoma brucei* group of parasites, and
52 Chagas disease, caused by *T. cruzi*, are neglected tropical diseases that affect millions of
53 people, causing thousands of deaths and affecting the ability of people to earn a living.
54 Vaccines are not available and drug treatments have serious side effects or are not
55 completely effective. The study of metabolic pathways in these parasites that may be
56 essential for their survival could provide information on potential new targets that could

57 be exploited for development of new therapeutic approaches.

58 Trypanosomatids are characterized by the compartmentation of the first six or seven
59 enzymes of the glycolytic pathway in a peroxisome-like organelle, which for this reason
60 was named the glycosome (Opperdoes & Borst, 1977), and by their high content of
61 inorganic polyphosphate (polyP) that accumulates in acidocalcisomes, acidic calcium
62 stores also rich in other organic and inorganic cations (Docampo & Huang, 2016). PolyP
63 is a polymer of three to hundreds of high-energy phospho-anhydride-bonded
64 orthophosphate units, and is universally conserved (Kornberg, 1995).

65 Although polyP accumulates in acidocalcisomes and acidocalcisome-like vacuoles
66 (Docampo *et al.*, 2005) of eukaryotes, it has also been found in most cellular
67 compartments including mitochondria (Lynn & Brown, 1963), cytosol (Kulaev &
68 Kulakovskaya, 2000), endoplasmic reticulum (Vorisek *et al.*, 1982), nucleus (Griffin *et al.*,
69 1965), nucleolus (Jimenez-Nunez *et al.*, 2012), plasma membrane (Kumble &
70 Kornberg, 1995) and lysosomes (Pisoni & Lindley, 1992). Rat liver nuclei and plasma
71 membranes have several times the polyP concentration found in cytosol, mitochondria
72 and microsomes (Kumble & Kornberg, 1995). Early work proposed that polyP is
73 covalently bound to non-histone nuclear proteins (Offenbacher & Kline, 1984), a concept
74 that was revived by the demonstration in yeast that nucleolar proteins Nsr1 and Top1 can
75 be polyphosphorylated in lysine residues (Azevedo *et al.*, 2015). Interestingly, recent
76 work reported the polyphosphorylation of 15 target proteins in yeast, including a
77 conserved network of proteins of nucleolar localization involved in ribosome biogenesis
78 (Bentley-DeSousa *et al.*, 2018). Nucleolar polyP was also found in myeloma cells and
79 proposed to regulate RNA polymerase I activity (Jimenez-Nunez *et al.*, 2012).

80 Several studies have shown that bacteria or unicellular eukaryotes lacking polyP are
81 more sensitive to different stress conditions, including heat shock, osmotic stress,
82 starvation, and reactive oxygen species (ROS), among others (Moreno & Docampo, 2013,
83 Rao *et al.*, 2009). The reason for this was never clearly understood until recent studies
84 shed light on one possible mechanism behind this phenomenon (Kampinga, 2014). PolyP
85 was initially shown to suppress glyceraldehyde 3-phosphate dehydrogenase thermal
86 aggregation without noticeable loss in enzymatic activity (Semenyuk *et al.*, 2013) and
87 was recently identified in bacteria as a global, highly effective chaperone, that stabilizes

88 proteins, prevents protein aggregation both *in vitro* and *in vivo*, and maintains proteins in
89 a refolding-competent form (Gray *et al.*, 2014). These results help to explain the long
90 known but largely unexplained role of polyP in protecting bacteria against stress
91 conditions, and suggest that polyP may have served as one of nature's first chaperones
92 (Gray *et al.*, 2014). On the other hand, polyP was also shown to have a remarkable
93 efficacy in accelerating amyloid fibril formation, serving as an effective nucleation
94 source for different amyloid proteins, increasing fibril stability and reducing the
95 formation of toxic oligomeric species (Cremers *et al.*, 2016).

96 In this work we used biotinylated polyP to identify polyP-binding proteins in lysates
97 from *T. cruzi* and *T. brucei* and were able to identify > 25 proteins in each parasite as
98 putative polyP interaction partners. Among these proteins there was a significant
99 enrichment in nucleolar and glycosomal proteins, which correlated with the cellular
100 localization of polyP in these organelles. Targeting of *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*
101 exopolyphosphatase to the glycosomes of *T. brucei* procyclic forms resulted in polyP
102 hydrolysis, increase of their glycolytic rate and increased susceptibility to oxidative stress.

104 **Results**

106 Lysates of *T. brucei* procyclic forms and *T. cruzi* epimastigotes were incubated with
107 biotinylated polyP after which the polyP-protein complexes were pulled down using
108 magnetic streptavidin-coated beads, followed by washing and elution of bound proteins
109 with high salt buffer. The proteins were identified by mass spectrometry. Two
110 independent experiments for each parasite were done. We report the proteins that were
111 identified in the two experiments from each parasite (Table 1 and 2), as well as all the
112 proteins identified in at least one experiment (Tables S1 and S2). Proteins found in
113 samples using biotinylated heparin (another anionic polymer) as control for non-specific
114 binding were subtracted as described under Materials and Methods.

116 *T. brucei* polyP-binding protein identification

118 A Mascot search against *T. brucei* Lister 427 database led to the identification of 35
119 potential polyP-binding proteins identified in both experiments performed, from which
120 28 have been annotated as putative proteins with a predicted function, and 7 appear as
121 hypothetical proteins (Table 1). The largest groups of identified proteins corresponded to
122 nuclear/nucleolar/ribosomal proteins (13 proteins), and proteins of other or unknown
123 locations (16 proteins), followed by glycosomal proteins (6 proteins). The protein with
124 highest Mascot score in the second experiment was NHP2/RS6-like protein, followed by
125 the glycosomal protein phosphoenolpyruvate carboxykinase, the cytosolic RNA-binding
126 protein (TbAlba2) (Mani *et al.*, 2011), a protein involved in signal transduction (high
127 mobility group protein), and other ribosomal proteins (S15 and L10a), indicating a high
128 relative abundance of these proteins in this proteome.

129 The list of potential *T. brucei* polyP-binding proteins found in this study is
130 summarized in Table 1, where proteins were grouped by subcellular localization or
131 functional relatedness. Table 1 also includes two additional glycosomal proteins
132 identified in only one of the experiments (labeled with an asterisk). A complete list of *T.*
133 *brucei* polyP-binding proteins identified in at least one experiment is in Table S1. The
134 distribution according to gene ontology (GO) analysis of the proteins in Table 1 is shown
135 in Fig. S1.

136

137 *T. cruzi* polyP-binding protein identification

138

139 To identify *T. cruzi* polyP-binding proteins a Mascot search was performed against *T.*
140 *cruzi* CL Brener (Esmeraldo and non-Esmeraldo like) databases, as the genome sequence
141 of *T. cruzi* Y strain is not yet available.

142 This search led to the identification of 25 potential polyP-binding proteins found in
143 both experiments, from which 23 have been annotated as putative proteins with a
144 predicted function, and 2 correspond to hypothetical proteins (Table 2).

145 It is important to mention that additional proteins (31 proteins) were found in *T. cruzi*
146 pull downs but we are reporting here only the ones that were found in both *T. cruzi*
147 experiments (25 proteins). A high number of proteins in *T. cruzi* polyP-binding proteome
148 belong to the group of nuclear/nucleolar/ribosomal proteins (10 proteins), and proteins of

149 other or unknown location (11 proteins) followed by glycosomal proteins (4 proteins).
150 Mascot scores indicate that the most abundant proteins in this proteome are histidine
151 ammonia lyase and nucleolar protein 56, followed by fructose-1,6-bisphosphatase. Two
152 other proteins of the gluconeogenesis and glycolysis pathways exhibited a high score (>
153 300): malate dehydrogenase, and 6-phospho-1-fructokinase. Other high-score proteins
154 found in this proteome were: ribosomal proteins L38 and S8, retrotransposon hot spot
155 (RHS) protein and casein kinase II (Table 2). Some of these high-score proteins were also
156 found in the *T. brucei* polyP-binding proteome, three of them being present in all four *T.*
157 *brucei* and *T. cruzi* samples analyzed: phosphofructokinase, fructose-1,6-bisphosphatase,
158 and ribosomal protein S8. The proteins glyceraldehyde-3-phosphate dehydrogenase,
159 ribosomal protein L36, and fibrillarin were also found in *T. brucei* and *T. cruzi* samples.
160 Table 2 also includes one additional glycosomal protein identified in only one of the
161 experiments (labeled with an asterisk). Table S2 shows the complete list of *T. brucei*
162 polyP-binding proteins identified in at least one experiment. The distribution according to
163 gene ontology (GO) analysis of the proteins in Table 2 is shown in Fig. S2.

164 GO analysis of the polyP-binding partners found a significant overrepresentation of
165 nuclear/nucleolar/ribosomal and glycosomal proteins. We therefore investigated whether
166 polyP was localized in these organelles using the polyphosphate-binding domain (PPBD)
167 of *E. coli* exopolyphosphatase (PPX) (Saito *et al.*, 2005). This technique has been used
168 before to localize polyP in yeast (Saito *et al.*, 2005), fungi (Saito *et al.*, 2006), sea urchin
169 eggs (Ramos *et al.*, 2010), and mast cells (Moreno-Sanchez *et al.*, 2012) vacuoles and
170 myeloma cell nucleoli (Jimenez-Nunez *et al.*, 2012). The original technique (Saito *et al.*,
171 2005) used the recombinant PPBD of *E. coli* PPX containing an epitope tag at the N-
172 terminal end (Xpress) that was detected with antibodies against the tag. Instead of using a
173 tag and antibodies we labeled PPBD with Alexa Fluor 488 and directly detected the
174 fluorescence signal of the polyP-bound PPBD.

175

176 *Localization of polyP in T. brucei*

177

178 We investigated the localization of polyP in procyclic (PCF) and bloodstream forms
179 (BSF) of *T. brucei* grown in culture using super-resolution structured illumination

180 microscopy. Figs. 1A and 1B show the staining with Alexa Fluor 488 PPBD of numerous
181 intracellular vesicles randomly distributed in the cytosol of *T. brucei* PCF and staining of
182 the nucleolus, the position of which was identified by the absence of DAPI staining
183 (Landeira & Navarro, 2007). PolyP co-localizes in vesicles with antibodies against
184 glycosomal phosphate pyruvate dikinase (PPDK) (Fig. 1A and Video S1) but not with
185 antibodies against the acidocalcisome vacuolar proton pyrophosphatase (VP1) (Fig. 1B,
186 and Video S2). There was also no co-localization with the mitochondrial marker
187 MitoTracker, or the endoplasmic reticulum marker BiP as detected by
188 immunofluorescence analysis (Fig. S3). The nucleolar localization was also confirmed by
189 co-localization with an unknown nucleolar protein recognized by monoclonal antibody
190 L1C6 (Devaux *et al.*, 2007), which labels an area of the nucleolus distinct from those
191 labeled by DAPI or PPBD (Fig. 1C).

192 To further demonstrate that the PPBD is detecting longer chain polyP, we pre-
193 incubated it with different concentrations of polyP₁₀₀ and found a concentration-
194 dependent decrease in nucleolar and glycosomal staining in *T. brucei* PCF (Fig. 2A,B).
195 The nucleolus labeling was abolished when PPBD was pre-incubated with 0.1 and 1 mM
196 (in phosphate units) of polyP₁₀₀. Pre-incubation of PPBD with 1 mM of polyP₁₀₀ reduced
197 overall labeling by approximately 57% in relation to the control. Similarly, pre-
198 incubation with fixed concentrations (1 mM) of longer chain polyP (polyP₆₀, polyP₁₀₀,
199 and especially polyP₇₀₀), but not polyP₃, prevented labeling of PCF with PPBD (Figs.
200 S4A,B). The labeling of the nucleolus disappeared after pre-incubations of PPBD with
201 polyP₆₀, polyP₁₀₀ and polyP₇₀₀. Most effectively, polyP₇₀₀ decreased overall PPBD
202 labeling by almost 78% compared to the control.

203 In contrast with the results obtained with PCF, there was no labeling of the BSF
204 nucleoli with PPBD and only partial co-localization with the glycosomal marker PPDK
205 (Fig. 3A). However, as occurs with PCF, there was no co-localization of PPBD with VP1
206 in BSF (Fig. 3B).

207 208 *Localization of polyP in T. cruzi*

209
210 We also investigated the localization of polyP in *T. cruzi* using PPBD. Figs. 4A,B show a

211 strong nucleolar staining of epimastigotes with PPBD and a weak cytosolic staining that
212 did not co-localize with antibodies against PPDK (Fig. 4A) or VP1 (Fig. 4B). Although
213 cytosolic staining appears punctate this is because super-resolution microscopy
214 eliminates the fluorescence coming from regions occupied by organelles, but this pattern
215 is not apparent in regular fluorescent images (Fig. S5). In contrast, *T. cruzi*
216 trypomastigotes (Figs. 4C,D) and amastigotes (Fig. 4E,F) showed strong nucleolar
217 localization, partial co-localization with the glycosomal marker PPDK, and no co-
218 localization with VP1.

219

220 *Detection of long chain polyP in isolated glycosomes and acidocalcisomes*

221

222 We isolated glycosomes and acidocalcisomes by a modification of an isolation procedure
223 described previously (Huang *et al.*, 2014). After grinding with silicon carbide to break the
224 cells, the lysates were fractionated by differential centrifugation followed by density-
225 gradient ultracentrifugation using high-density solutions of iodixanol (Fig. S6). The crude
226 glycosomal fraction obtained from the first iodixanol gradient was applied to the 27%
227 step of the second iodixanol gradient resulting in seven fractions. Fig. 5 shows protein
228 abundance (Fig. 5A) as well as distribution of markers for glycosomes (hexokinase) (Fig.
229 5B) and acidocalcisomes (aminomethylenediphosphonate (AMDP)-sensitive vacuolar
230 pyrophosphatase activity, TbVP1) (Fig. 5C). Glycosomes were enriched in fractions 1
231 and 2, while acidocalcisomes were enriched in fractions 3 and 5. We also evaluated our
232 purification method by western blot analyses of the fractions using antibodies against a
233 glycosomal marker (phosphate pyruvate dikinase, TbPPDK) and an acidocalcisomal
234 marker (TbVP1). The crude glycosomal fraction (C) showed contamination with the
235 acidocalcisome marker. However, fractions 1 and 2 of the second gradient were free of
236 TbVP1 antibody reaction (Fig. 5D). Some pyrophosphatase activity was detected in
237 fraction 2 (Fig. 5 C) but since no antibody reaction was detected (Fig. 5D) it can be
238 attributed to the soluble inorganic pyrophosphatase described in trypanosomatids
239 (Gomez-Garcia *et al.*, 2004) or other non-specific pyrophosphatase activity. Fractions 1
240 and 2, or the acidocalcisome fractions obtained in the first iodixanol gradient (Fig. S6)
241 were pooled and extracted for polyP analyses. Long chain polyP assayed by 30%

242 polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis (PAGE), and staining with toluidine blue, showed the
243 presence of long chain polyP in both glycosomal and acidocalcisomal fractions (Fig. 5E).

244

245 *Expression of S. cerevisiae PPX in the glycosomes and E. coli PPX in the nuclei of T.*
246 *brucei and phenotypic changes detected*

247

248 To decrease the amount of polyP in PCF glycosomes, we expressed *S. cerevisiae* PPX1
249 (ScPPX1), which specifically hydrolyzes polyP to inorganic phosphate (Wurst &
250 Kornberg, 1994), fused to a glycosomal targeting sequence (peroxisome-targeting
251 sequence 2 [PTS2]) and enhanced yellow fluorescent protein (eYFP) (Bauer *et al.*, 2013).
252 The plasmid integrates into the tubulin locus and the procyclin repetitive acidic protein
253 promoter (PARP) drives its constitutive expression (Bauer *et al.*, 2013). Expression of
254 PTS2-ScPPX1-eYFP in glycosomes was confirmed by fluorescence microscopy. Fig. 6A
255 shows co-localization of the green fluorescent signal from the expressed protein with
256 antibodies against PDK, a glycosomal marker. Western blot analysis confirmed the
257 expression of the protein (Fig. 6B, Fig. S7). We confirmed the activity of the expressed
258 enzyme by measuring levels of P_i of cell lysates from cells transfected with the plasmid
259 as compared to those of lysates from wild type cells. PolyP is very abundant in the cells
260 and upon lysis it is released from different cellular compartments together with the
261 glycosomally targeted ScPPX. When the lysates were incubated at 30°C there was an
262 increase in the PPX activity of lysates from *PTS2-ScPPX1-eYFP*-expressing cells when
263 compared to the endogenous PPX activity of lysates from WT cells (Fig. 6C) but this
264 activity did not increase by adding exogenous polyP₁₀₀ indicating that there was enough
265 polyP in the medium to saturate the enzyme released from the glycosomes.

266 To establish whether expression of ScPPX resulted in a decrease in polyP we
267 measured total short and long chain polyP in wild type and *PTS2-ScPPX1-eYFP*-
268 expressing cells using a biochemical method based on the P_i release by recombinant
269 ScPPX, but we did not observe significant differences (Fig. S8). However, when we
270 measured short chain polyP by 35.5% polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis (PAGE),
271 toluidine blue staining revealed a higher accumulation of short chain polyP (lower than
272 60 P_i units) in *PTS2-ScPPX1-eYFP*-expressing cells as compared to wild type cells.

273 These results are consistent with the hydrolysis of long chain polyP by glycosomally
274 targeted ScPPX (Figs. 6D, E).

275 *T. brucei* PCF expressing glycosomal PPX grew at the same rate as control cells (Fig.
276 6F, Fig. S9). However, glucose consumption of *PTS2-ScPPX1-eYFP*-expressing cells
277 after 6 h of incubation in culture medium was higher (Fig. 6G), and these cells were more
278 sensitive to oxidative stress than control cells (Fig. 6H).

279 To decrease the levels of polyP in the nucleolus we tried to target *E. coli* PPX
280 (EcPPX) to the nucleolus using a nucleolar localization signal (NoLS) reportedly used to
281 target GFP to this organelle in *T. brucei* (Hoek *et al.*, 2000). Expression of the protein
282 NoLS-EcPPX-GFP was confirmed by western blot analysis (Fig. 7A) and it had nuclear
283 but not nucleolar localization and failed to decrease PPBD staining of nucleolar polyP
284 (Fig. 7B).

285

286 Discussion

287

288 Inorganic polyP has multiple functions in both bacteria and eukaryotes. Some of these
289 functions can be attributed to its chemical properties, such as its ability to store phosphate
290 in an osmotically neutral form, to bind and store organic and inorganic cations, to store
291 energy in the form of a few to hundreds of phosphoanhydride bonds, to combine with
292 other polymers for the formation of channels and pumps, or to act as inorganic chaperone
293 of proteins (Kornberg, 1995, Gray *et al.*, 2014, Moreno & Docampo, 2013). Other more
294 complex functions, however, such as its role in transcriptional control, and regulation of
295 enzyme activity, motility, or resistance to stress response might depend on its interaction
296 with proteins and cell signaling (Rao *et al.*, 2009). However, besides its interaction with
297 proteins of the blood coagulation cascade (Smith *et al.*, 2006), or its ability to
298 polyphosphorylate proteins (Azevedo *et al.*, 2015, Bentley-DeSousa *et al.*, 2018), little is
299 known of other interactions with cellular proteins. Our proteomic studies are a first step
300 in the identification of polyP-interacting proteins in eukaryotes.

301 The proteomic studies of polyP-binding proteins revealed an overrepresentation of
302 nucleolar and glycosomal proteins in both *T. cruzi* and *T. brucei* and these results
303 correlated with the localization of the polymer to the nucleolus and glycosomes.

304 Interestingly, known polyP-associated proteins such as the components of the VTC
305 complex involved in its synthesis (Lander *et al.*, 2013, Ulrich *et al.*, 2014, Fang *et al.*,
306 2007a) and the exopolyphosphatase (PPX) (Fang *et al.*, 2007b) and vacuolar soluble
307 pyrophosphatase (VSP) (Lemercier *et al.*, 2004, Yang *et al.*, 2016), involved in its
308 degradation, were not identified among the interacting partners. This could be explained
309 because these enzymes are involved in short chain polyP synthesis and degradation while
310 we used long chain polyP bound to biotin for the pull downs.

311 Besides several glycolytic enzymes (phosphofructokinase, fructose-bisphosphate
312 aldolase, glyceraldehyde 3-phosphate dehydrogenase) other glycosomal enzymes
313 (phosphoenolpyruvate carboxykinase, malate dehydrogenase, pyruvate phosphate
314 dikinase, fructose 1,6-bisphosphatase, glycerol 3-phosphate dehydrogenase, glycerol
315 kinase, hypoxanthine-guanine phosphoribosyl-transferase) were present in the pull downs.
316 Multiple nuclear and nucleolar proteins (ribosomal subunits, snoRNP protein GAR1,
317 small nucleolar ribonucleoprotein SmD3, fibrillarin, histones, high mobility group protein,
318 casein kinase 2) were also detected. These results are in agreement with the localization
319 of polyP in the nucleolus and glycosomes of the parasites. Interestingly, not all PPDK-
320 stained glycosomes were detected by PPBD staining and many PPBD-positive particles
321 were not recognized by anti-PPDK, suggesting the possibility of different populations of
322 glycosomes.

323 The first report of the presence of PPDK in *T. brucei* (Bringaud *et al.*, 1998) showed
324 that the enzyme was not detectable in long slender BSF trypanosomes of Lister 427 or
325 GUTat strain grown in rats and that short stumpy forms of GUTat strain grown in mice
326 had low expression levels, as detected by western blot analyses. No PPDK was detected
327 by immunofluorescence analysis of BSF trypanosomes. Our results suggest that either the
328 BSF trypanosomes grown in culture that we used have stumpy-like characteristics or that
329 the antibody we used was able to detect this enzyme using our standard IFA protocol.

330 It is interesting to note that many glycosomal proteins have the highest calculated
331 positive charge within its family of homologous proteins (Wierenga *et al.*, 1987). These
332 observations led some authors to postulate the presence of “hot spots” of basic amino
333 acids about 40 Å apart that could be important for the glycosomal import of these
334 proteins (Wierenga *et al.*, 1987). This idea was later discarded but the reason for the high

335 positive charge of these proteins is still puzzling. It is tempting to speculate that polyP is
336 the scaffold that maintains the tight packing of the glycosomal enzymes (Michels *et al.*,
337 2000), and could be involved in the transfer of the negatively-charged glycolytic
338 intermediates between the enzymes.

339 Another potential reason for the highest glycolytic rate of parasites targeted with
340 ScPPX to the glycosomes is an inhibitory effect of polyP or a stimulatory effect of its
341 hydrolytic products (Pi and PPI) on glycolytic activities. Glycosomes contain enzymes
342 that can be inhibited by PPI such as the hexokinases of *T. cruzi* (Caceres *et al.*, 2003) and
343 *L. mexicana* (Pabon *et al.*, 2007), one of the hexokinases of *T. brucei* (Chambers *et al.*,
344 2008), and the phosphoenolpyruvate carboxykinase (PEPCK) of *T. cruzi* (Acosta *et al.*,
345 2004), but their inhibition by polyP has not been tested. On the other hand binding of
346 glycosomal enzymes to polyP could be explained by the presence of binding domains to
347 polyP. Several glycosomal enzymes found in our proteome analyses, like hypoxanthine-
348 guanine phosphoribosyl-transferase (HGPRT) (Shih *et al.*, 1998) and pyruvate phosphate
349 dikinase (PPDK) (Bringaud *et al.*, 1998, Maldonado & Fairlamb, 2001, Shih *et al.*, 1998)
350 produce or utilize PPI. Phosphofructokinase (PFK) is an ATP-dependent enzyme but
351 shows a high degree of sequence and structural similarity with PPI-dependent enzymes
352 (Rodriguez E., 2009, Michels *et al.*, 1997, McNae *et al.*, 2009). Thus, interaction with
353 potential PPI- or polyP-binding sites could explain their pull down by polyP. PolyP
354 anions have been involved in stabilization of glyceraldehyde 3-phosphate dehydrogenase
355 (GAPDH) (Semenyuk *et al.*, 2013), another glycolytic enzyme found in both polyP-
356 binding proteomes. In that work the authors demonstrated that polyP suppresses thermal
357 aggregation of the enzyme without affecting its activity. This could be a general
358 mechanism for polyP-mediated regulation of glycolytic enzymes and it could explain the
359 presence of polyP in *T. brucei* and *T. cruzi* glycosomes. Our results indicate that a
360 detailed analysis of the effect of polyP on glycosomal enzymatic activities is warranted.

361 PolyP has been found in most subcellular compartments investigated so far but this is
362 the first report of its presence in a peroxisome-related organelle. As glycosomes share not
363 only similar biogenesis mechanisms, morphology, and some metabolic processes, but
364 also have in common a dense matrix of proteins with pI values on average 1 to 2 pH unit
365 higher than those in the cytosol (Michels & Opperdoes, 1991, Gabaldon *et al.*, 2016), it is

366 possible that polyP is present in peroxisomes of other organisms. In this regard, it has
367 been indicated that peroxisomes seem to entirely lack proteinaceous chaperones and that
368 it will be intriguing to test how the polyP pathway might play a role in the development
369 of stress resistance in these organelles (Kampinga, 2014).

370 Only one polyP-synthesizing activity has been described in trypanosomes, which is
371 catalyzed by the acidocalcisomal vacuolar transporter chaperone (VTC) complex (Lander
372 *et al.*, 2013). However, conditional knockout of VTC4, the catalytic subunit of the
373 complex, in *T. brucei* did not affect the levels of long chain polyP suggesting the
374 involvement of other enzymes in its synthesis (Ulrich *et al.*, 2014). It is currently
375 unknown whether polyP is synthesized within glycosomes or reach the organelles by
376 piggy-backing on the glycosomal matrix enzymes that are synthesized in the cytosol and
377 post-translationally imported via transient pores or by non-selective pores such as those
378 that have been detected in *T. brucei* glycosomal (Gualdrón-Lopez *et al.*, 2012) or in
379 different organisms peroxisomal (Antonenkov & Hiltunen, 2012) membranes. On the
380 other hand, it has been reported that several NUDIX hydrolases in yeast and humans
381 (Lonetti *et al.*, 2011) possess polyP degrading activity and at least two NUDIX
382 hydrolases (TbNH2 and TbNH3) have been detected in the glycosome proteome (Guther
383 *et al.*, 2014). Work is in progress to investigate their activity.

384 The interaction of polyP with ribosomal proteins has been previously reported in *E.*
385 *coli* for two main processes: degradation of ribosomal protein through polyP-Lon
386 protease complex (Kuroda *et al.*, 2001) and as promoter of translation fidelity
387 (McInerney *et al.*, 2006). The ATP-dependent Lon protease forms a complex with polyP
388 that degrades most of the ribosomal proteins, thereby supplying the amino acids required
389 for response to starvation (Kuroda *et al.*, 2001). On the other hand, polyP interacts with
390 ribosomes to maintain optimal translation efficiency, as demonstrated in experiments
391 measuring the *in vivo* translation rate in polyP kinase (*ppk*) mutants (McInerney *et al.*,
392 2006). These studies provide an explanation for the abundance of ribosomal proteins
393 observed in *T. brucei* and *T. cruzi* polyP-binding proteomes.

394 Transcription factors and RNA binding proteins represent another significant
395 functional group in the *T. brucei* and *T. cruzi* polyP-binding proteomes. A previous work
396 reported a role for polyP in transcription of myeloma plasma cells, where they

397 accumulate higher levels of nucleolar polyP than normal plasma cells (Jimenez-Nunez *et*
398 *al.*, 2012). In that work they confirmed that nucleolar RNA polymerase I was modulated
399 by polyP, opening up a broad spectrum of possibilities regarding the role of polyP as
400 regulator of gene expression at the transcriptional level. In fact, another nucleolar enzyme
401 that appeared with high score in *T. cruzi*, and also with a lower score in the *T. brucei*
402 polyP-binding proteome, was the casein kinase II alpha subunit (CK2 α). This enzyme has
403 been characterized in *T. brucei* and it accumulates in the nucleolus, which is the site of
404 ribosome biogenesis and where many of the CK2 substrates are present (Park *et al.*,
405 2002). This isoform of the catalytic subunit prefers ATP over GTP as a substrate and
406 modulators of its function are still unknown. It would be interesting to evaluate whether
407 polyP regulates CK2 activity, as the anionic polymer and the enzyme localize to the
408 nucleolus and are involved in transcription regulation. The report that many nucleolar
409 proteins can be polyphosphorylated (Bentley-DeSousa *et al.*, 2018) supports the presence
410 of this polymer in the nucleoli.

411 Most polyP in trypanosomatids have been proposed to be concentrated in
412 acidocalcisomes (Docampo, 2016). Early ^{31}P -NMR studies of isolated acidocalcisomes
413 from *T. brucei* PCF and *T. cruzi* epimastigotes found that the average chain lengths of
414 polyP are 3.39 and 3.25 (Moreno *et al.*, 2000), respectively, values that were in good
415 agreement with the average phosphate chain lengths determined by X-ray microprobe
416 analysis in *T. cruzi* (Scott *et al.*, 1997, Moreno *et al.*, 2000). This was considered
417 consistent with the ability of the acidocalcisomal recombinant Vtc4 to synthesize short
418 chain polyP *in vitro* (Lander *et al.*, 2013). However, subcellular fractionation of *T. cruzi*
419 epimastigotes detected both short and long chain polyP in acidocalcisome fractions (Ruiz
420 *et al.*, 2001). In this work we confirmed that acidocalcisomes, like glycosomes, possess
421 considerable amounts of long chain polyP (Fig. 5E). This apparent discrepancy could be
422 explained by the difficulty in detecting long chain polyP by ^{31}P -NMR because of its
423 broad signal, and the potential need of a membrane potential to efficiently synthesize and
424 translocate long chain polyP in intact vacuoles (Hothorn M, 2009), in contrast to the *in*
425 *vitro* synthesis by the recombinant enzyme. Acidocalcisomes, however, were not stained
426 by PPBD. One potential explanation is that this highly charged polymer is known to bind
427 Mg^{2+} and other cations in acidocalcisomes and form gels (Klompmaker *et al.*, 2017) that

428 could be inaccessible to PPBD. This might not occur in the glycosomes and nucleolus
429 where polyP could be associated with proteins leaving free negatively charged residues
430 that could more easily bind to PPBD. *In vitro* competitive binding assays previously
431 showed that PPBD binds strongly to free long chain polyP and has been described as a
432 reliable method for long chain polyP detection (Saito *et al.*, 2005). Long chain polyP is
433 very abundant in different trypanosomatids with reported values of 2.9, 0.8 and 0.13 mM
434 in *T. cruzi* epimastigotes, trypomastigotes, and amastigotes, respectively (Ruiz *et al.*,
435 2001); 57 mM in *Leishmania major* promastigotes (Rodrigues *et al.*, 2002), and 6 mM in
436 *T. brucei* procyclic forms (Lemercier *et al.*, 2002).

437 We were not able to detect significant differences in short and long chain polyP
438 content of total lysates from wild type and *PTS2-ScPPX1-eYFP*-expressing *T. brucei*
439 procyclic forms. Therefore, we assayed polyP by PAGE in total cell extracts and we
440 detected an increase in short chain polyP in *PTS2-ScPPX1-eYFP*-expressing cells. The
441 results could be explained if only the glycosomal long chain polyP is hydrolyzed in
442 *PTS2-ScPPX1-eYFP*-expressing cells, resulting in the increase in polyP of less than 60 P_i
443 units, with no apparent decrease in short and long chain polyP levels in total cell extracts.

444 Our results using the PPBD of *E. coli* PPX suggest that the nucleolus and glycosomes
445 possess long chain polyP. Targeting of yeast exopolyphosphatase to glycosomes of *T.*
446 *brucei* resulted in decreased cellular polyP levels, alteration in their glycolytic flux, and
447 increase in the susceptibility to oxidative stress. It is interesting to note that *T. cruzi*
448 glycosomes only possess a glutathione peroxidase I, which decomposes hydroperoxides
449 but not H₂O₂ (Wilkinson, 2002), and that polyP has been shown to protect cells from
450 oxidative stress (Gray *et al.*, 2014).

451 The nucleoli are membrane-less RNA/protein bodies within the nucleus where they
452 function in ribosome subunit biogenesis. Despite the knowledge gained on their function
453 there is still some lack of understanding of what holds the RNA and protein components
454 together as a physical structure (Brangwynne, 2011). Recent evidence suggests that they
455 have liquid-like properties, with an effective surface tension that minimizes surface area
456 by viscous relaxation to a spherical shape and that may assemble by intracellular phase
457 separation (Brangwynne, 2011). The nucleation properties of polyP (Cremers *et al.*,
458 2016) could have a role in phase separation and RNA-protein interactions.

459 Targeting of *E. coli* exopolyphosphatase to the nucleolus did not reduce PPBD
460 staining suggesting that nucleolar polyP could not be hydrolyzed because the enzyme
461 could not localize to the nucleolus. The liquid droplet-like behavior of nucleoli could
462 make them inaccessible to the enzymatic activity of EcPPX. In this regard,
463 overexpression of EcPPX in yeast was also unable to reverse polyphosphorylation of
464 target proteins (Bentley-DeSousa *et al.*, 2018). Another possible explanation could be the
465 reported masking of some polyP chains, which makes them resistant to the hydrolytic
466 action of exopolyphosphatases (Rao *et al.*, 2009). In this regard, derivatization of the
467 terminal phosphates of polyP conferred resistance to exopolyphosphatase digestion (Choi
468 *et al.*, 2010). Furthermore, it has been suggested (Saiardi, 2012) that inositol
469 hexakisphosphate (IP₆) could be at the edge of polyP acting as a cap, like the one
470 protecting mRNA for degradation, and protect polyP from the action of
471 exopolyphosphatases.

472 In conclusion, our work reveals a novel localization of polyP to the glycosomes and
473 nucleolus of trypanosomatids and that hydrolysis of glycosomal polyP results in an
474 increased glycolytic rate and increased susceptibility to oxidative stress.

475

476 **Experimental procedures**

477

478 *Chemicals and reagents*

479

480 Monoclonal antibody L1C6 (Devaux *et al.*, 2007) was provided by Dr. Keith Gull
481 (Oxford University, UK), polyclonal antibody against TbBiP (Bangs *et al.*, 1993) was
482 provided by Dr. Jay Bangs (University at Buffalo, NY), polyclonal rabbit antibody
483 against TbVP1 (Lemercier *et al.*, 2002) was provided by Dr. Norbert Bakalara
484 (University of Montpellier, France), monoclonal antibody against *T. brucei* pyruvate
485 phosphate dikinase (TbPPDK) (Bringaud *et al.*, 1998) was provided by Dr. Frédéric
486 Bringaud (University of Bordeaux, France), the pXS2-AldoPTS2-eYFP vector (Bauer *et*
487 *al.*, 2013) was provided by Dr. Meredith T. Morris (Clemson University, NC), pTrc-
488 PPBD plasmid (Saito *et al.*, 2005) was provided by Dr. Katsuharu Saito (Shinshu
489 University, Nagano-Ken, Japan), and pLEW100v5bld-BSD plasmid was provided by Dr.

490 George Cross. PolyP₆₀ was provided by Dr. Toshikazu Shiba (RegeneTiss Inc., Okaya,
491 Japan). PolyP₃ (Na₅P₃O₁₀) was from Sigma-Aldrich (St. Louis, MO), and polyP₁₀₀ and
492 polyP₇₀₀ were from Kerafast (Boston, MA). Aminomethylenediphosphonate (AMDP)
493 was synthesized by Michael Martin (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign). Slide-
494 A-Lyzer Dialysis Cassette, HisPur Ni-NTA Chromatography Cartridge and Slide-A-
495 Lyzer Dialysis Cassette were from Thermo Scientific (Thermo Fisher Scientific,
496 Waltham, MA). Alexa Fluor 488 Microscale Protein Labeling kit, MitoTracker Red
497 CMXRos, and rabbit anti-GFP antibody were from Invitrogen Molecular Probes (Eugene,
498 OR). Rabbit anti-HA was from Abcam (Cambridge, MA). Dynabeads MyOne
499 Streptavidin T1 beads, blasticidin S HCL, and hygromycin B were from Invitrogen
500 (Carlsbad, CA). Biotinylated heparin (Cat. No. 375054) was from Merck (Millipore
501 Sigma, Burlington, MA). BCA Protein Assay kit and ECL Western Blotting Substrate
502 were from Pierce Protein Biology (Thermo Fisher Scientific, Waltham, MA). Phusion
503 High-Fidelity DNA polymerase and restriction enzymes were from New England Biolabs
504 (Ipsich, MA). In-Fusion HD Cloning kit, and *E. coli* Stellar Competent Cells were from
505 Clontech Laboratories (Mountain View, CA). Zymo 5α Mix & Go competent cells was
506 from Zymo Research (Irvine, CA). LigaFast Rapid DNA Ligation System was from
507 Promega (Madison, WI). G418 was from KSE Scientific (Durham, NC). Fluoromount-G
508 mounting medium was from Southern Biotech (Homewood, AL). Benzonase was from
509 Novagen (Merck Millipore, Burlington, MA). Mini-PROTEAN TGX Precast Protein Gel
510 was from BioRad (Hercules, CA). MagicMark XP Western Protein Standard was from
511 Life Technologies (Carlsbad, CA). D-Glucose Assay Kit (GOPOD Format) was from
512 Megazyme Inc. (Chicago, IL). Protease inhibitor cocktail for use in purification of
513 histidine-tagged proteins (Cat. No. P8849), protease inhibitor cocktail for use with
514 mammalian cell and tissue extracts (Cat. No. P8340), polyclonal rabbit anti-tubulin and
515 anti-IgG antibodies, and all other reagents of analytical grade were from Sigma-Aldrich
516 (St. Louis, MO).

517

518 *Cell cultures*

519

520 For most studies *T. brucei* PCF and BSF (Lister 427) were grown as reported previously
521 (Lander *et al.*, 2013, Huang *et al.*, 2014). Cell density was verified by counting parasites
522 in a Neubauer chamber. *PTS2-ScPPX1-eYFP*-expressing PCF were grown in the
523 presence of 10 µg/ml blasticidin. *NoLS-EcPPX-GFP*-expressing PCF were grown in the
524 presence of 15 µg/ml G418, 50 µg/ml hygromycin, and 10 µg/ml blasticidin. For
525 proteomic studies *T. brucei* PCF (29-13 strain) were grown at 28°C in SM medium
526 (Cunningham & Honigberg, 1977) supplemented with 10% heat-inactivated fetal bovine
527 serum (FBS), 8 µg/ml hemin, 15 µg/ml G418 and 50 µg/ml hygromycin. Cultures were
528 scale-up in glass sterile bottles under shaking until reaching a final volume of 3.0 L cell
529 culture in exponential phase ($1-1.5 \times 10^7$ cells/ml). *T. cruzi* epimastigotes (Y strain) were
530 grown at 28°C in LIT medium (Bone & Steinert, 1956) supplemented with 10% heat-
531 inactivated FBS. Cultures were scale-up in glass sterile bottles under shaking until
532 reaching a final volume of approximately 1.0 L cell culture in exponential phase ($\sim 4 \times$
533 10^7 cells/ml). *T. cruzi* trypomastigotes and amastigotes (Y strain) were collected from the
534 culture medium of infected Vero cells, using a modification of the method of Schmatz
535 and Murray as described before (Moreno *et al.*, 1994). Vero cells were grown in RPMI
536 supplemented with 10% FBS and maintained at 37°C with 5% CO₂.

537

538 *Cell lysis for proteomic studies*

539

540 Approximately 4×10^{10} cells (*T. brucei* PCF and *T. cruzi* epimastigotes) were harvested
541 separately by centrifugation at $1,000 \times g$ for 15 min at room temperature (RT) and then
542 washed twice with buffer A with glucose (BAG: 116 mM NaCl, 5.4 mM KCl, 0.8 mM
543 MgSO₄, 50 mM Hepes, pH 7.2, and 5.5 mM glucose). Cells were resuspended in 5 ml
544 hypotonic lysis buffer plus protease inhibitors (50 mM Hepes, pH 7.0, protease inhibitor
545 cocktail (P8340, 1:250 dilution), 1 mM PMSF, 2.5 mM TPCK and 100 µM E64) and then
546 incubated for 1 h on ice. Three rounds of freeze-thaw were applied to the cells (5 min on
547 dry ice/ethanol bath, 5 min at 37°C in water bath). Then cells were sonicated 3 times for
548 30 s at 40% amplitude, keeping them on ice for at least 1 min between pulses. Cell lysis
549 was verified under light microscope and lysates were filtered through a 5 µm pore
550 nitrocellulose membrane to remove cell ghosts. Protein concentration was determined by

551 BCA Protein Assay kit. Cell lysates were stored at -80°C until processed for polyP-
552 binding protein pull down within a week after lysis.

553

554 *PolyP biotinylation*

555

556 Biotinylated polyP was prepared as previously described (Choi *et al.*, 2010). Briefly,
557 medium size polyP (<1000 mers) was end-labeled by the covalent linkage of a primary
558 biotinylated amine (amine-PEG₂-biotin) to the terminal phosphates of polyP in the
559 presence of 1-ethyl-3-[3-dimethylamino-propyl]carbodiimide (EDAC) (Choi *et al.*, 2010).

560

561 *PolyP-binding protein pull down*

562

563 Twenty mg streptavidin-coated magnetic beads (Dynabeads MyOne Streptavidin T1)
564 were washed three times with dynabeads wash buffer (1 M LiCl, 50 mM Tris-HCl, pH
565 7.4) in a 15 ml tube using a DynaMag™ magnet. Beads were incubated with 1×10^{-5}
566 moles biotinylated polyP (resuspended in 5 ml dynabeads wash buffer) for 1 h, at RT
567 under rotation. Then, beads were washed twice with 10 ml wash buffer and once with 10
568 ml 50 mM Tris-HCl, pH 7.4. Ten pull down rounds were performed as follows: 10 mg
569 protein from *T. cruzi* (or *T. brucei*) total lysate were diluted in 10 ml wash buffer (50 mM
570 Tris-HCl pH 7.4, 5 mM EDTA, 0.1% polyethylenglycol (PEG), 0.01% sodium azide)
571 plus phosphatase inhibitors (2 mM imidazole, 1 mM sodium fluoride, 1.15 mM sodium
572 molybdate, 1 mM sodium orthovanadate and 4 mM sodium tartrate) and filtered through
573 a 0.22 µm pore nitrocellulose membrane. Diluted/filtered protein extracts were incubated
574 with 10 mg polyP-coated beads on a rotator for 30 min at RT. Beads were washed 5 times
575 with 10 ml wash buffer and polyP-binding proteins were eluted with 500 µl elution buffer
576 (1 M NaCl, 50 mM Tris-HCl, pH 7.4). Eluates from 100 mg initial protein extract were
577 combined and precipitated with trichloroacetic acid (TCA). Finally, polyP-binding
578 proteins were resuspended in 500 µl 50 mM Tris-HCl pH 7.4 and quantified by BCA
579 Protein Assay kit. As a control of binding specificity, biotinylated heparin was bound to
580 streptavidin-coated magnetic beads following the same protocol, and then used for

581 protein pull down from *T. cruzi* and *T. brucei* total protein extracts, as performed with
582 polyP-coated beads.

583

584 *Sample preparation*

585

586 Samples containing *T. brucei* and *T. cruzi* polyP-binding proteins from two independent
587 experiments were processed at the Protein Sciences Facility of University of Illinois
588 (Urbana, IL) for liquid chromatography tandem mass spectrometry analysis (LC-MS/MS).
589 Sample cleanup was performed using Perfect Focus according to manufacturer's
590 instructions. Protein samples were reduced in 10 mM DTT at 56°C for 30 min and
591 alkylation was performed using 20 mM iodoacetamide for 30 min in the dark. Samples
592 were digested with trypsin (G-Biosciences, St. Louis, MO) at a ratio of 1:10 – 1:50 using
593 a CEM Discover Microwave Digestor (Mathews, SC) at 55°C for 15 min. Digested
594 peptides were extracted with 50% acetonitrile, 5% formic acid, dried under vacuum and
595 resuspended in 5% acetonitrile, 0.1% formic acid for LC-MS/MS analysis.

596

597 *Mass spectrometry*

598

599 LC-MS/MS was performed using a Thermo Dionex Ultimate RSLC3000 operating in
600 nano mode at 300 microliters/min with a gradient from 0.1% formic acid to 60%
601 acetonitrile plus 0.1% formic acid in 120 min. The trap column used was a Thermo
602 Acclaim PepMap 100 (100 µm x 2 cm) and the analytical column was a Thermo Acclaim
603 PepMap RSLC (75 µm x 15 cm).

604

605 *Data analysis*

606

607 Xcalibur raw files were converted by Mascot Distiller interface (Matrix Science) into
608 peak lists that were submitted to Mascot Server to search against specific protein
609 databases: *T. brucei* Lister 427 and *T. cruzi* CL Brener (Esmeraldo and Non-Esmeraldo-
610 like) on TriTrypDB (Aslett *et al.*, 2010). Proteins found in control samples from *T. cruzi*
611 and *T. brucei* pull downs using heparin-coated beads, with Mascot scores higher than 50,

612 were considered unspecific binding proteins and subtracted from polyP-binding
613 proteomes of *T. cruzi* and *T. brucei*, respectively.

614

615 *PPBD conjugation to Alexa Fluor 488*

616

617 *E. coli* TOP10 F' harboring pTrc-PPBD plasmid (Saito *et al.*, 2005) was grown in 550 ml
618 of Luria-Bertani (LB) broth with 50 µg/ml ampicillin at 37°C until reaching an OD₆₀₀ of
619 0.6. The recombinant PPBD expression was induced with 1 mM isopropyl β-D-1-
620 thiogalactopyranoside (IPTG) at 37°C for 3 h. Cells were harvested by centrifugation at
621 10,000 x g for 10 min at 4°C and resuspended in 30 ml of binding buffer (phosphate-
622 buffered saline (PBS: 20 mM Na₂HPO₄, 300 mM NaCl), pH 7.4, plus 10 mM imidazole),
623 containing protease inhibitor cocktail (P8849, 50 µl per g of pellet), 100 µg/ml lysozyme,
624 and 75 U benzonase. The sample was incubated on ice for 30 min and then cells were
625 lysed on ice for 2.5 min with 10 s-pulses (20 s between pulses) of a Branson Sonifier Cell
626 Disruptor with Microtip. Cell debris were removed by centrifugation at 20,000 x g for 20
627 min at 4°C. The supernatant was filtered through a 0.45-µm membrane filter and loaded.
628 PPBD purification was performed at 4°C using 1 ml HisPur Ni-NTA Chromatography
629 Cartridge coupled to an ÄKTA Prime Plus chromatography system (GE Healthcare)
630 selecting the standard program His Tag Purification His Trap. The column was washed
631 with binding buffer and PPBD was eluted with elution buffer (PBS, pH 7.4, plus 300 mM
632 imidazole). Both buffers were previously filtered through 0.22-µm membrane filter. The
633 purity of PPBD in the FPLC fractions was determined by SDS-PAGE and the gel was
634 stained with Coomassie Blue G-250. The purest PPBD fractions were combined and the
635 buffer was exchanged to PBS, pH 7.4, using a 3-12 ml 10 kDa Slide-A-Lyzer Dialysis
636 Cassette at 4°C (a total of four buffer exchanges, including an overnight exchange). After
637 dialysis, the sample was concentrated using an Amicon Ultra-15 10K device (Millipore)
638 until reaching a volume of 1-1.5 ml. Protein concentration was quantified by using the
639 BCA Protein Assay kit. Fluorescent labeling of PPBD (100 µg) was done using the Alexa
640 Fluor 488 Microscale Protein Labeling kit as recommended by the manufacturer. Alexa
641 Fluor 488-labeled PPBD was kept in 10% glycerol at -20°C and protected from light for
642 further experiments. Alexa Fluor 488-labeled PPBD concentration (in mg/ml) was

643 determined by absorbance at 280 nm (A_{280}) and at 494 nm (A_{494}) according to the
644 manufacturer's manual.

645

646 *Localization of polyP and co-localization with cellular markers in T. brucei and T. cruzi*

647

648 Alexa Fluor 488-labeled PPBD was used for localization of polyP and co-localization
649 with cellular markers in PCF and BSF of *T. brucei*, and in epimastigotes,
650 trypomastigotes, and amastigotes of *T. cruzi*. Incubations with PPBD were always
651 performed in tris-buffered saline (TBS: 100 mM Tris-HCl, 150 mM NaCl).

652 For co-localization of PPBD and mitochondria, PCF and BSF live cells were labeled
653 for 30 min with 50 nM MitoTracker Red CMXRos in the corresponding culture medium
654 before the immunofluorescence assays.

655 PCF (Lister 427), and Y strain epimastigotes and trypomastigotes/amastigotes were
656 washed twice with BAG and then fixed with 4% paraformaldehyde in TBS, pH 7.4
657 (TBS1) at RT for 1 h. BSF (Lister 427) were washed with ice-cold TBS1 containing 1%
658 glucose and then fixed with 1% paraformaldehyde in the same buffer at 4°C for 1 h. After
659 fixation, all cells were washed twice with TBS1 and allowed to adhere to poly-L-lysine-
660 coated coverslips for 30 min. The coverslips were washed three times with TBS1 and the
661 fixed parasites were permeabilized with 0.3% Triton X-100 in TBS1 for 3 min for PCF,
662 epimastigotes, and trypomastigotes/amastigotes or 0.1% Triton X-100 in TBS1 for 3 min
663 for BSF. Coverslips were washed twice with TBS1 and blocked with TBS1 containing
664 5% goat serum, 50 mM NH_4Cl , 3% BSA, 1% fish gelatin at 4°C overnight.

665 After blocking, for co-localization with mitochondria, cells which were pre-incubated
666 with MitoTracker were then incubated with Alexa Fluor 488-labeled PPBD (8 $\mu\text{g}/\text{ml}$)
667 diluted in 1% BSA in TBS, pH 8.0 (TBS2), for 1 h, at RT in the dark.

668 For co-localization with other cellular compartments, after blocking cells were
669 concomitantly incubated with Alexa Fluor 488-labeled PPBD (8 $\mu\text{g}/\text{ml}$) and one of the
670 following primary antibodies diluted in 1% BSA in TBS2 for 1 h at RT in the dark:
671 monoclonal mouse anti-TbPPDK antibody (glycosomal marker, 1:30 dilution),
672 polyclonal rabbit anti-TbVP1 antibody (acidocalcisomal marker, 1:500 dilution for PCF,
673 1:1,000 dilution for BSF, epimastigotes, and trypomastigotes/amastigotes), or polyclonal

674 rabbit anti-BiP antibody (endoplasmic reticulum marker, 1:500). All these coverslips
675 were washed three times with 1% BSA in TBS2 and then incubated with Alexa Fluor
676 546-conjugated goat anti-rabbit or Alexa Fluor 546-conjugated goat anti-mouse
677 secondary antibodies (1:1,000 dilution) diluted in 1% BSA in TBS2 for 1 h at RT in the
678 dark.

679 For the co-localization of PPBD and a nucleolus marker in PCF, following the
680 blocking step, an immunofluorescence assay with three incubation steps was performed
681 due to PPBD works well in TBS but not in PBS, and L1C6 antibody works well in PBS:
682 (1) incubation with monoclonal mouse L1C6 antibody (1:200 dilution in PBS, pH 8.0,
683 plus 1% BSA) followed by three washes with the same buffer; (2) incubation with the
684 secondary antibody Alexa Fluor 546-conjugated goat anti-mouse (1:1,000 dilution in 1%
685 BSA in PBS, pH 8.0) in the dark followed by three washes with TBS2 and (3) incubation
686 with Alexa Fluor 488-labeled PPBD (2 $\mu\text{g}/\text{ml}$ in TBS2 plus 1% BSA) in the dark; all
687 incubations for 1 h at RT. In this case, PPBD was used at a lower concentration to
688 minimize glycosomal labeling and show mainly the nucleolus labeling.

689 For all IFAs cited above, following the final incubation step with either PPBD or
690 antibody, cells were washed three times with 1% BSA in TBS2, washed once with TBS2
691 and counterstained with DAPI (3 $\mu\text{g}/\text{ml}$) in Fluoromount-G mounting medium on the
692 slides. Differential interference contrast and fluorescent optical images were taken with a
693 100X oil immersion objective (1.35 aperture) under nonsaturating conditions with a
694 Photometrix CoolSnapHQ charge-coupled device camera driven by DeltaVision software
695 (Applied Precision, Issaquah, WA) and deconvolved for 15 cycles using SoftWoRx
696 deconvolution software. For super-resolution microscopy images were taken with a 100X
697 oil immersion objective, a high-power solid-state 405 nm laser and EM-CCD camera
698 (Andor iXon) under nonsaturating conditions in a Zeiss ELYRA S1 (SR-SIM) super-
699 resolution microscope. Images were acquired and processed with ZEN 2011 software
700 with SIM analysis module. Videos were done with Imaris Version 8.0 software using the
701 Surface Reconstruction and Animation functions. For conventional fluorescent images of
702 *T. cruzi* epimastigotes showing cytosolic and nucleolar PPBD labeling, images were
703 acquired using a 100X oil immersion objective, with an Olympus BX60 fluorescence

704 microscope coupled to Olympus DP70 digital camera, and processed with DP controller
705 software.

706

707 *Effect of polyP in PPBD labeling*

708

709 *T. brucei* PCF Lister 427 parasites were washed twice with BAG and fixed with 4%
710 paraformaldehyde in TBS1 for 1 h at RT. After fixation, cells were washed twice with the
711 same buffer and allowed to adhere to poly-L-lysine-coated coverslips for 30 min. The
712 coverslips were washed three times with TBS1 and incubated with 0.3% Triton X-100 in
713 TBS1 for 3 min. Permeabilized cells were washed twice with TBS1 and blocked with the
714 same buffer, containing 5% goat serum, 50 mM NH₄Cl, 3% BSA, and 1% fish gelatin at
715 4°C overnight. In separate tubes, Alexa Fluor 488-labeled PPBD (8 µg/ml) was pre-
716 incubated in the absence or the presence of polyP diluted in TBS2 containing 1% BSA at
717 RT for 1 h in the dark. Three independent experiments of two types of assays were done:
718 (1) Varying the concentration of polyP₁₀₀: 1, 10, 100, and 1000 µM (in phosphate units),
719 and (2) Varying the polyP chain length: 1 mM polyP (in phosphate units) of polyP₃,
720 polyP₆₀, polyP₁₀₀, and polyP₇₀₀. These samples were then incubated with the parasites-
721 coated coverslips for 1 h at RT in the dark. In both cases, a control was done by
722 incubation of the coverslips with Alexa Fluor 488-labeled PPBD that was not pre-
723 incubated with polyP. The cells were washed three times with 1% BSA in TBS2, washed
724 once with TBS2, and counterstained with DAPI (3 µg/ml) in Fluoromount-G mounting
725 medium on the slides. Differential interference contrast and fluorescent optical images
726 were taken as above. Cells were imaged and fluorescence intensity of each cell was
727 quantified after subtracting background fluorescence, using an image processing software
728 (FiJi, Image J, University of Wisconsin-Madison, WI). The averages of fluorescence
729 intensities were calculated and the relative fluorescence (in comparison to the control,
730 using PPBD that was not pre-incubated with polyP) was plotted using GraphPad Prism
731 software. For the assay with variation of polyP₁₀₀ concentration, we examined
732 fluorescence intensity of at least 42 cells from at least 10 fields per replicate, totalizing
733 471 cells for three biological replicates. For the assay with different polyP chain lengths,

734 at least 56 cells from at least 20 fields per replicate, totalizing 664 cells for three
735 biological replicates.

736

737 *Subcellular fractionation*

738

739 Fractions enriched in glycosomes were isolated and purified using two iodixanol gradient
740 centrifugations as described previously (Huang *et al.*, 2014), with some modifications
741 (Fig. S6). PCF trypanosomes (3-4 g wet weight) were washed twice with Buffer A with
742 glucose (BAG), and once with cold isolation buffer (125 mM sucrose, 50 mM KCl, 4
743 mM MgCl₂, 0.5 mM EDTA, 20 mM Hepes, 3 mM dithiothreitol (DTT)) supplied with
744 Complete, EDTA-free, protease inhibitor cocktail (Roche) prior to lysis with silicon
745 carbide in isolation buffer. Silicon carbide and cell debris were eliminated by a series of
746 low speed centrifugations (100 x g for 5 min, 300 x g for 10 min, and 1,200 x g for 10
747 min). The supernatant was centrifuged at 17,000 x g for 10 min, and the pellet was
748 resuspended in 2.2 ml isolation buffer and applied to the 20% step of a discontinuous
749 gradient with 4 ml steps of 20, 24, 28, 34, 37 and 40% iodixanol (diluted in isolation
750 buffer). The gradient was centrifuged at 50,000 g in a Beckman JS-24.38 rotor for 60 min
751 at 4°C, and fractions were collected from the top. The fractions containing crude
752 glycosomes or acidocalcisomes (Fig. S6) were combined and then washed twice with 25
753 ml isolation buffer by centrifugation at 17,000 g for 15 min at 4°C. The washed pellet
754 containing acidocalcisomes was used for polyP extraction and analysis. The washed
755 pellet containing crude glycosomes was resuspended in 700 µl isolation buffer and
756 applied to the 27% step of another discontinuous gradient of iodixanol, with 1.4 ml of
757 isolation buffer containing 10% w/v sucrose over-layered on the top and 1 ml steps of 27,
758 62 and 80% iodixanol, which were diluted from 90% w/v iodixanol with isolation buffer.
759 To prepare 90% w/v iodixanol, 60% w/v iodixanol solution (Optiprep) was dried
760 completely at 70°C and resuspended with isolation buffer. After the second gradient
761 centrifugation at 50,000 g for 60 min at 4°C, fractions were collected from the top,
762 washed twice with isolation buffer by centrifugation at 20,000 g for 15 min at 4°C, and
763 analyzed by glycosome or acidocalcisome marker enzyme assays. The protein
764 concentration was quantified by Bradford assay using a SpectraMax Microplate Reader.

765 The fractions 1 and 2, containing approximately 70% (Fig. 5A) of total proteins with the
766 highest hexokinase activity (Fig. 5B), were combined and used for polyP extraction and
767 analyses. Hexokinase (glycosome marker) and pyrophosphatase (PPase) (acidocalcisome
768 marker) activities and immuno-blots were assayed as described previously (Huang *et al.*,
769 2014). Mouse antibodies against TbPPDK (1:200) or rabbit antibodies against TbVP1
770 (1:3,000) were used as indicated.

771

772 *Molecular constructs and transfection*

773

774 For the amplification of *ScPPX1* (*Saccharomyces cerevisiae* exopolyphosphatase) gene
775 (GeneBank ID L28711.1) by PCR, the following primers were designed: ScPPX1-F (5'-
776 TACCCA**ACTCGCTAGCT**CGCCTTTGAGAAAGACGGTTCCTG-3'), and ScPPX1-
777 R (5'-CCTTGCTCAC**GCTAGCCTCT**CCAGGTTTGAGTACGCTTCC-3'), (*NheI*
778 restriction sites are in bold), and pTrcHisB-ScPPX1 plasmid (Wurst *et al.*, 1995) was
779 used as DNA template. PCR analysis was done in a reaction volume of 100 µl using
780 Phusion High-Fidelity DNA polymerase with 20 ng of DNA, as follows: initial
781 denaturation for 30 s at 98°C, followed by 30 cycles of 10 s at 98°C, 30 s at 55°C, 1 min
782 at 72°C and then a final extension for 10 min at 72°C. The pXS2-AldoPTS2-eYFP vector
783 (Bauer *et al.*, 2013), which provides resistance to blasticidin, was digested with *NheI*-HF.
784 The 1.2 Kb-insert *ScPPX1* was then cloned into *NheI*-digested pXS2-AldoPTS2-eYFP
785 vector using the In-Fusion HD Cloning kit, generating the *pXS2-PTS2-ScPPX1-eYFP*
786 plasmid. The recombination product was transformed into *E. coli* Stellar Competent Cells
787 following the manufacturer's instructions. The recombinant construct was confirmed by
788 digestion with restriction enzymes, and sequencing. For *T. brucei* transfection, *pXS2-*
789 *PTS2-ScPPX1-eYFP* plasmid was linearized with *MluI* and purified with QIAGEN's
790 DNA purification kit.

791 To attempt to deliver EcPPX to the nucleolus of *T. brucei*, we designed the primers
792 NoLS-EcPPX-F (5'-
793 CCCAAGCTTAAACCACCATGCGTATCGGAGGGAGACGGAAGGCTAACCCTC
794 ACCTTTTGCGTGAGATAGCTGATGTGACGATGGAGTTGAAAAGATATAGGAA
795 GGGTCGTAGTGGTCCAATACACGATAAATCCCCTCGTC-3') and EcPPX-R (5'-

796 GCTCTAGAAGCGGCGATTCTGGTGTACTTTCTTC-3'); respective *Hind*III and
797 *Xba*I restriction sites are in bold and a reported nucleolar localization signal (NoLS)
798 sequence is underlined (Hoek *et al.*, 2000). NLS-EcPPX-HA plasmid was used as DNA
799 template. PCR analysis was done in a reaction volume of 100 μ l using Phusion High-
800 Fidelity DNA polymerase with 20 ng of DNA, as follows: initial denaturation for 30 s at
801 98°C, followed by 30 cycles of 10 s at 98°C, 30 s at 55°C, 1 min at 72°C and then a final
802 extension for 10 min at 72°C. The 1.6 Kb-insert *NoLS-EcPPX* and the vector pLEW100-
803 MCS-GFP were digested with *Hind*III-HF and *Xba*I. The ligation of *NoLS-EcPPX* and
804 pLEW100-MCS-GFP was done with LigaFast Rapid DNA Ligation System, originating
805 NoLS-EcPPX-GFP plasmid. The recombination product was transformed into Zymo 5 α
806 Mix & Go competent cells according to manufacturer's instructions. The recombinant
807 constructs were confirmed by digestion with restriction enzymes, and sequencing. For *T.*
808 *brucei* transfection, NoLS-EcPPX-GFP plasmid was linearized with *Not*I-HF and purified
809 with QIAGEN's DNA purification kit.

810 *T. brucei* PCF Lister 427 was used for transfection of the plasmid *PTS2-ScPPX1-*
811 *eYFP* plasmid. *T. brucei* PCF 29-13 was used for transfection of the plasmid NoLS-
812 EcPPX-GFP. Cell transfections were done as reported previously (Huang *et al.*, 2014). In
813 brief, parasites in exponential phase were harvested by centrifugation at 1,000 \times *g* for 7
814 min at RT, washed once with 10 ml of Cytomix buffer (2 mM EGTA, 5 mM MgCl₂, 120
815 mM KCl, 0.15 mM CaCl₂, 10 mM K₂HPO₄, 25 mM Hepes, 0.5 % glucose, 0.1 mg/ml
816 bovine serum albumin, and 1 mM hypoxanthine, pH 7.6) and resuspended in 0.45 ml of
817 the same buffer at a cell density of 1.5 \times 10⁸ cells/ml (7 \times 10⁷ cells per cuvette). The
818 washed cells were mixed with 10 μ g of plasmid in a 4 mm electroporation cuvette and
819 subjected to two pulses from a Bio-Rad Gene Pulser Xcell electroporator set at 1,500 V,
820 25 μ F, 200 Ω , with resting on ice for 1 min between pulses. Negative controls were flasks
821 containing cells without plasmid DNA, submitted to the electroporation and flasks
822 containing cells without plasmid DNA that were not submitted to electroporation.
823 Transfectant *PTS2-ScPPX1-eYFP* were cultured in SDM-79 medium supplemented with
824 15% heat-inactivated FBS plus 10 μ g/ml blasticidin until stable cell lines were obtained.
825 The protein *PTS2-ScPPX1-eYFP* is constitutively expressed in these parasites.
826 Transfectant *NoLS-EcPPX-GFP*-expressing cells were cultured in SDM-79 medium

827 supplemented with 15% tetracycline-free and heat-inactivated FBS plus 50 µg/ml
828 hygromycin, 15 µg/ml G418, and 10 µg/ml blasticidin until stable cell lines were
829 obtained.

830

831 *Western blot analyses*

832

833 To confirm the expression of the protein PTS2-ScPPX1-eYFP, mid log phase parasites
834 from PCF wild type and *PTS2-ScPPX1-eYFP*-expressing cells were harvested by
835 centrifugation at 1,000 x g for 7 min and washed twice with BAG at RT. The pellet was
836 resuspended in 200 µl of RIPA buffer (150 mM NaCl, 20 mM Tris-HCl, pH 7.5, 1 mM
837 EDTA, 1% sodium dodecylsulphate, and 0.1% Triton X-100) plus 2 mM
838 phenylmethanesulfonyl fluoride (PMSF), and protease inhibitor cocktail (P8340, 1:250
839 dilution). The samples were incubated on ice for 1 h and then homogenized with a 1 mL-
840 syringe. The lysates were kept at -80 °C until further use. The protein concentration in the
841 lysates was determined using the BCA Protein Assay Kit. Approximately 20 µg of each
842 lysate were submitted to electrophoresis using 4-20% Mini-Protean TGX Precast Protein
843 Gel. Magic Mark XP Western Protein Standard was applied on the gel. Electrophoresed
844 proteins were transferred to nitrocellulose membranes using a Bio-Rad transblot
845 apparatus for 1 hour at 100 V at 4°C. Following transfer, the membrane blots were
846 blocked with 5% non-fat dry milk in PBS containing 0.1% (v/v) Tween-20 (PBS-T) at
847 4°C overnight. Blots were probed with polyclonal rabbit anti-GFP antibody (1:10,000
848 dilution in PBS-T) or polyclonal rabbit anti-tubulin antibody (1:20,000 dilution in PBS-
849 T) for 1 h at RT. After washing three times with PBS-T, the blots were incubated with
850 horseradish peroxidase conjugated anti-rabbit IgG antibody (1:20,000 dilution in PBS-T)
851 for 1 h at RT. The membranes were washed three times with PBS-T, and western blot
852 images were processed and analyzed using ECL Western Blotting Substrate according to
853 the manufacturer's instructions.

854 For expression of the protein NoLS-EcPPX-GFP, the culture was induced with 1
855 µg/ml tetracycline for 48 h. Lysates from non induced and induced cultures were
856 analysed by western blot that were performed as above with the following modifications.
857 Approximately 50 µg of each lysate were submitted to electrophoresis using 10% SDS-

858 PAGE. Blots were probed with polyclonal rabbit anti-GFP antibody (1:10,000 dilution in
859 PBS-T) or polyclonal rabbit anti-tubulin antibody (1:20,000 dilution in PBS-T) for 1 h at
860 RT.

861 For loading control of Fig. 6D, the western blot was performed using rabbit anti-
862 tubulin antibody (1:10,000 dilution) and IRDye 680RD goat anti-rabbit (1:20,000
863 dilution) and was analyzed with Li-Cor Odyssey CLx Imaging System.

864

865 *Immunofluorescence analyses*

866

867 For immunofluorescence assays of PCF expressing PTS2-ScPPX1-eYFP, the cells were
868 washed twice with BAG and fixed with 4% paraformaldehyde in PBS, pH 7.4, (PBS1)
869 for 1 h at RT. After fixation, cells were washed twice with the same buffer and allowed to
870 adhere to poly-L-lysine-coated coverslips for 30 min. The coverslips were washed three
871 times with PBS1 and incubated with 0.3% Triton X-100 in PBS1 for 3 min.
872 Permeabilized cells were washed twice with PBS1 and blocked with PBS1 containing 5%
873 goat serum, 50 mM NH₄Cl, 3% BSA, and 1% fish gelatin, at 4°C overnight. After
874 blocking, cells were incubated with the primary antibodies, polyclonal rabbit anti-GFP
875 antibody (1:1,000 dilution), and monoclonal mouse anti-PPDK antibody (1:30 dilution)
876 diluted in 1% BSA in PBS, pH 8.0 (PBS2) for 1 h at RT. The coverslips were washed
877 three times with 1% BSA in PBS2 and then incubated with Alexa Fluor 488-conjugated
878 goat anti-rabbit and Alexa Fluor 546-conjugated goat anti-mouse secondary antibodies
879 (1:1,000 dilution) diluted in 1% BSA in PBS2 for 1 h at RT in the dark. The cells were
880 washed three times with 1% BSA in PBS2, washed once with PBS2 and counterstained
881 with DAPI (3 µg/ml) in Fluoromount-G mounting medium on the slides. Two negative
882 controls were done, wild type PCF Lister 427, according to the protocol described above,
883 and PTS2-ScPPX1-transfected PCF in the absence of primary antibodies. Differential
884 interference contrast and fluorescent optical images were taken with DeltaVision system
885 as described above. Pearson's correlation coefficient was calculated using the SoftWoRx
886 software by measuring the whole-cell images.

887 NoLS-EcPPX-GFP culture was induced with 1 µg/ml tetracycline for 24 h and IFA
888 was performed as above with some modifications related to antibody incubations. A two-

889 step IFA was chosen for *NoLS-EcPPX-GFP*-expressing cells due to PPBD works well in
890 TBS but not in PBS, and rabbit anti-GFP antibody works well in PBS: until incubation
891 with primary antibodies, PBS1 was used. Cells were then incubated with polyclonal
892 rabbit anti-GFP antibody (1:2,000 dilution) diluted in 1% BSA in PBS2. Afterwards cells
893 were washed three times with TBS2 and then concomitantly incubated with the
894 secondary antibody Alexa Fluor 546-conjugated goat anti-rabbit, and PPBD (8 µg/ml),
895 diluted in 1% BSA in TBS2. From this step all washes were done in TBS2. The negative
896 control consisted in non-induced cells.

897

898 *PPX activity determination*

899

900 Parasites (4.5×10^7 cells) from wild type (Lister 427) and *PTS2-ScPPXI*-expressing PCF
901 were harvested by centrifugation at $1,000 \times g$ for 7 min at RT, washed twice with BAG at
902 RT, and resuspended in 1 ml of resuspension buffer (150 mM NaCl, 20 mM Tris-HCl pH
903 7.5, 1 mM EDTA, 2 mM PMSF, and protease inhibitor cocktail (1:250 dilution, P8340)).
904 Cells were lysed by 7 cycles of freezing and thawing (for freezing steps, the tubes were
905 incubated in dry ice/ethanol bath, and for thawing steps, in water at RT) and then the
906 lysates were homogenized using a 1 ml-syringe. In a 96-well plate, 20 µl of each lysate
907 were incubated in the presence or the absence of 10 µM polyP₁₀₀ (in phosphate units) in
908 activity buffer (50 mM Tris-HCl pH 7.4, and 2.5 mM MgSO₄) at 30°C for 10 min,
909 totalizing 100 µl of reaction volume. Negative controls were reaction buffers without
910 lysates (blank) and lysates kept on ice (sample named “ice” on the graph). After the
911 incubation time, the reactions were stopped by addition of 100 µl of freshly prepared
912 malachite green solution (three parts of 0.045% malachite green and one part of 4.2%
913 ammonium molybdate/4M HCl) (Lanzetta *et al.*, 1979). Release of phosphate from polyP
914 due to the PPX activity was measured in triplicate wells by reading the absorbance at 660
915 nm immediately on the plate reader Biotek Synergy H1. Three independent experiments
916 were done. In all biological replicates, a standard curve of potassium phosphate was
917 included in triplicate wells.

918

919 *Short and long chain polyP extraction and analysis*

920

921 Short chain polyP was extracted from wild type (Lister 427) and *PTS2-ScPPX1*-
922 expressing PCF using a protocol reported previously (Ruiz *et al.*, 2001). Long chain
923 polyP was extracted from cells or from subcellular fractions according to a published
924 protocol (Ault-Riche *et al.*, 1998).

925 Quantification of short and long chain polyP (both extracted from 10^8 cells) was
926 determined by measuring the amount of P_i released upon addition of recombinant
927 ScPPX1 to the plate wells. For both short and long chain polyP quantification, 10 μ l of
928 polyP were incubated with 90 ng of recombinant ScPPX1 in activity buffer (50 mM Tris-
929 HCl pH 7.4, and 2.5 mM $MgSO_4$) at 30°C for 1 h, in a final volume of 100 μ l. A negative
930 control was reaction buffer without enzyme. The rest of the protocol was followed as
931 cited in the previous section. Three independent experiments were performed.

932 Short chain polyP was also resolved by PAGE. PCF (2×10^9 cells) were harvested by
933 centrifugation at 1,000 x g for 7 min and washed twice with BAG. For loading controls,
934 we collected from each sample 10^8 cells that were immediately lysed with RIPA buffer,
935 the protein concentration measured using BCA Protein Assay kit (see methods for
936 Western blot analysis) and used for western blot analysis with rabbit anti-tubulin
937 antibodies. The other part of the cell cultures (1.9×10^9 cells) was centrifuged at 1,000 x
938 g for 7 min and resuspended in 100 μ l of ice-cold 1 M perchloric acid ($HClO_4$) for polyP
939 analysis. The samples were incubated on ice for 5 min and cell debris were removed by
940 centrifugation at 18,000 x g for 5 min at 4°C. The supernatants were transferred to new
941 tubes and neutralized with 20 μ l of neutralizing solution (0.6 M $KHCO_3$, 0.72 M KOH).
942 The pH was checked with pH strips and neutralized to 7.0-7.5, if necessary. The
943 precipitated salt was removed by centrifugation at 18,000 x g for 5 min at 4°C. An
944 additional centrifugation step was carried out to eliminate remaining precipitates. The
945 supernatants were immediately submitted to electrophoresis or kept at -80 °C until further
946 use. Short chain polyP was resolved by PAGE using 35.5% acrylamide/bis-acrylamide
947 19:1 gels in Tris/Borate/EDTA (TBE) buffer. Gels were stained with toluidine blue.
948 PolyP density in each gel lane was quantified using FiJi software. Four independent
949 experiments were done.

950 Analysis of long chain polyP in subcellular fractions from wild type PCF was done by
951 PAGE using a 30% acrylamide/bis-acrylamide 19:1 gel stained with toluidine blue. Three
952 independent biological experiments were done.

953

954 *Effect of oxidative stress*

955

956 Wild type (Lister 427) and *PTS2-ScPPXI*-expressing PCF (1.2×10^8 cells) were
957 harvested by centrifugation at 1,000 x g for 7 min and resuspended in 4 ml of SDM-79
958 medium plus 10% heat-inactivated FBS (with addition of 10 $\mu\text{g/ml}$ blasticidin to *PTS2-*
959 *ScPPXI*-expressing PCF). Hydrogen peroxide (H_2O_2 , 50 μM) was added and the cells
960 were incubated at 28°C for 1 h. Cultures were then diluted 10 times (with addition of
961 blasticidin to the medium of *PTS2-ScPPXI*-expressing PCF) and incubated at 28°C for 24
962 h. The cell density after 24 h was determined by counting parasites in a Neubauer
963 chamber. Three independent experiments were done.

964

965 *Glucose consumption*

966

967 Wild type (Lister 427) and *PTS2-ScPPXI*-expressing PCF (10^8 cells/ml) were incubated
968 in a modified SDM-79 medium (without phenol red and hemin plus 10% heat-inactivated
969 FBS and addition of 10 $\mu\text{g/ml}$ blasticidin to the *PTS2-ScPPXI*-expressing cells) for 6 h at
970 28 °C. 100 μl of both cultures at time 0 and after 6 h of incubation were centrifuged at
971 14,000 x g for 1 min. Two μl of each supernatant were used to quantify glucose in
972 triplicate plate wells, using the D-Glucose Assay Kit. After addition of 200 μl of glucose
973 oxidase/oxidase (GOPOD) reagent to each well, the plate was incubated at 48°C for
974 20 min. The absorbance was read at 510 nm on the Biotek Synergy H1 plate reader.
975 Three independent experiments were done. In all biological replicates, a standard curve
976 of glucose was included in triplicate wells. The glucose consumption plotted in the graph
977 was calculated by the difference in the amount of glucose in the supernatants at time 0
978 and after 6 h of incubation.

979

980 *Statistical analyses*

981

982 Values are expressed as means \pm SEM, or means \pm SD, as indicated. Significant
983 differences between treatments were compared using unpaired Student's *t*-test, and one-
984 way and two-way ANOVA tests. Differences were considered statistically significant
985 at $P < 0.05$, and *n* refers to the number of experiments performed. All statistical analyses
986 were conducted using GraphPad Prism 6 (GraphPad Software, San Diego, CA).

987

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989

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1000

1001 **Author contributions**

1002

1003 R.S.N., N.L., G.H., C.D.C., and R.D. designed the experiments and analyzed the data.
1004 R.S.N., N.L., G.H., C.D.C., and S.S. conducted the experiments. R.D. wrote the majority
1005 of the manuscript, with specific sections contributed by R.S.N., N.L., C.D.C., S.S., and
1006 J.H.M. R.D., G.H., and J.H.M supervised the work and contributed to the analysis of
1007 experiments.

1008

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1010

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1262 **Table 1. Polyphosphate-binding proteins identified in *Trypanosoma brucei*.**

Mascot score ^a	Protein name	Gene ID ^b	aa ^c	IP ^d
Glycosomal enzymes				
214/473	glycosomal phosphoenolpyruvate carboxykinase	Tb427.02.4210	525	8.75
145/106	hypoxanthine-guanine phosphoribosyl transferase, putative	Tb427.10.1390	234	9.77
165/47	ATP-dependent phosphofructokinase	Tb427.03.3270	487	9.77
69/100	glycerol 3-phosphate dehydrogenase [NAD+], glycosomal	Tb427.08.3530	354	8.75
78/78	fructose-1,6-bisphosphatase	Tb427tmp.211.0540	350	9.46
75/75	glyceraldehyde-3-phosphate dehydrogenase, glycosomal	Tb427.06.4280	359	9.74
74*	pyruvate phosphate dikinase	Tb427tmp.02.4150	913	8.82
59*	glycerol kinase, glycosomal	Tb427tmp.211.3540	512	8.36
Nuclear/nucleolar/ribosomal proteins				
247/660	NHP2/RS6-like protein	Tb427tmp.160.3670	126	7.37
56/453	ALBA2	Tb427tmp.02.2030	117	9.80
94/401	40S ribosomal protein S15, putative	Tb427.07.2370	172	10.56
22/338	60S ribosomal protein L10a, putative	Tb427tmp.01.1470	214	10.22
74/287	40S ribosomal protein S24E, putative	Tb427.10.7330	137	11.74
138/269	ribosomal protein L36, putative	Tb427.10.1590	109	12.17
133/230	60S ribosomal protein L6, putative	Tb427.10.11390	192	11.05
51/217	40S ribosomal protein S10, putative	Tb427.10.5360	172	10.83
243/162	40S ribosomal protein S8, putative	Tb427.08.6160	220	11.66

187/80	histone H2B, putative	Tb427.10.10460	112	12.29
58/69	histone H3, putative	Tb427.01.2430	133	11.60
60/64	ATP-dependent DEAD/H RNA helicase, putative	Tb427.04.2630	843	10.02
49/18	fibrillarin, putative	Tb427.10.14750	304	10.44
Proteins of other or unknown locations				
155/426	high mobility group protein, putative	Tb427.03.3490	271	10.24
197/162	cyclophilin, putative	Tb427.08.2000	301	10.32
44/118	nascent polypeptide associated complex alpha subunit, putative	Tb427tmp.01.1465	101	10.07
92/80	kinetoplast DNA-associated protein, putative	Tb427.10.8950	126	11.46
88/88	kinetoplast DNA-associated protein, putative	Tb427.10.8890	209	11.33
77/88	acyl-CoA binding protein, putative	Tb427.04.2010	93	10.82
67/67	kinetoplast-associated protein, putative	Tb427.08.7260	1028	10.33
62/62	calmodulin	Tb427tmp.01.4621	149	3.86
42/50	trichohyalin, putative	Tb427tmp.01.3320	658	10.55
69/222	hypothetical protein, conserved ^c	Tb427.03.1820	246	12.03
55/132	hypothetical protein, conserved ^f	Tb427tmp.02.3560	206	12.39
53/64	hypothetical protein, conserved ^g	Tb427tmp.03.0720	174	11.16
60/101	hypothetical protein, conserved	Tb427tmp.01.2800	348	9.99
41/72	hypothetical protein, conserved	Tb427tmp.160.1100	198	11.07
34/53	hypothetical protein, conserved	Tb427tmp.211.4200	337	10.97
94/18	hypothetical protein, conserved	Tb427.10.10030	100	5.04

1263 ^aMascot scores obtained from search using *T. brucei* Lister 427 database on TriTrypDB (Aslett *et al.*,
1264 2010) in two independent experiments.

1265 ^bGene identifier from TriTrypDB.

1266 ^cProtein length in amino acids.

1267 ^dIsoelectric point.

1268 ^eThe protein is annotated as “mitochondrial RNA binding complex 1 subunit (Tb927.3.1820)” in the
1269 reference strain TREU927 database.

1270 ^fThe protein is annotated as “surfeit locus protein 6 (Tb927.11.5810)” in the reference strain TREU927
1271 database.

1272 ^gThe protein is annotated as “Fcf2 pre-rRNA processing, putative (Tb927.11.420)” in the reference
1273 strain TREU927 database.

1274 *Glycosomal proteins detected in only one experiment.

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Table 2. Polyphosphate-binding proteins identified in *Trypanosoma cruzi*.

Mascot score ^a	Protein name	Gene ID ^b	aa ^c	IP ^d
Glycosomal enzymes				
643/719	fructose-1,6-bisphosphatase, putative	TcCLB.506649.70	344	8.01
108/592	glycosomal malate dehydrogenase, putative	TcCLB.506503.69	323	8.88
148/479	ATP-dependent 6-phosphofructokinase, glycosomal	TcCLB.508153.340	485	9.29
71/108	glyceraldehyde-3-phosphate dehydrogenase, putative	TcCLB.506943.50	359	9.20
36*	fructose-bisphosphate aldolase, glycosomal, putative	TcCLB.510301.20	372	8.78
Nuclear/nucleolar/ribosomal proteins				

516/1179	nucleolar protein 56, putative (fragment)	TcCLB.511573.58	387	8.44
527/380	casein kinase II, putative	TcCLB.510761.60	345	8.53
30/553	ribosomal protein L38, putative	TcCLB.503575.34	82	11.09
22/462	40S ribosomal protein S8, putative	TcCLB.511903.110	221	11.41
80/291	snoRNP protein GAR1, putative	TcCLB.510687.120	239	11.92
85/164	fibrillarin, putative	TcCLB.509715.40	316	10.37
78/92	60S ribosomal protein L22, putative	TcCLB.504147.120	130	10.79
56/95	ribosomal protein L36, putative	TcCLB.509671.64	114	12.07
79/76	ribosomal protein S20, putative	TcCLB.508823.120	117	10.52
73/41	small nuclear ribonucleoprotein sm d3	TcCLB.508257.150	115	10.72

Proteins of other or unknown locations

7900/1379	histidine ammonia-lyase, putative	TcCLB.506247.220	534	8.00
438/503	retrotransposon hot spot (RHS) protein, putative	TcCLB.503483.9	916	8.40
288/180	tripartite attachment complex protein 102	TcCLB.509207.40	1136	5.36
182/53	eukaryotic translation initiation factor 5, putative	TcCLB.504105.20	379	8.24
68/125	serine carboxypeptidase S28, putative	TcCLB.506425.10	631	6.52
76/66	ARP2/3 complex subunit, putative	TcCLB.508737.194	180	7.90
30/85	actin-related protein 2/3 complex subunit 1, putative	TcCLB.504215.40	383	7.61
27/17	ARP2/3 complex subunit, putative	TcCLB.506865.10	328	9.57
63/52	Mu-adaptin 1, putative	TcCLB.510533.40	432	7.84
33/102	hypothetical protein, conserved	TcCLB.506857.30	508	7.53
83/28	hypothetical protein	TcCLB.511439.40	455	8.95

1293 ^aMascot scores obtained from search using *T. cruzi* CL Brener Esmeraldo-like and Non-Esmeraldo-
1294 like databases on TriTrypDB (Aslett *et al.*, 2010) in two independent experiments.

1295 ^bGene identifier from TriTrypDB.

1296 ^cProtein length in amino acids.

1297 ^dIsoelectric point.

1298 *Glycosomal protein detected in only one experiment.

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1301 **Figure Legends**

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1303 **Fig. 1.** Super-resolution images of PPBD-labeled *T. brucei* PCF.

1304 (A) PPBD (*green*) (8 $\mu\text{g/ml}$) localizes in the nucleolus, which is identified as the nuclear
1305 region not stained with DAPI (*blue*) and co-localizes (Merge, *yellow*) with antibodies
1306 against the pyruvate phosphate dikinase (PPDK, *red*) in the glycosomes.

1307 (B) PPBD does not co-localize with antibodies against TbVP1 (*red*), the acidocalcisome
1308 marker.

1309 (C) PPBD nucleolar localization coincides but does not superimpose to the labeling by
1310 nucleolar antibody L1C6 (*red*). The concentration of PPBD used in (C) was lower (2
1311 $\mu\text{g/ml}$) to show only nucleolar labeling. Scale bars = 5 μm .

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1313 **Fig. 2.** Fluorescence microscopy analysis of the effect of different concentrations of
1314 polyP₁₀₀ on PPBD staining in *T. brucei* PCF.

1315 (A) PPBD (*green*) was pre-incubated with 0 to 1.0 mM polyP₁₀₀ (in phosphate units) for
1316 1 h and then cell labeling was analyzed by fluorescence microscopy. Nucleolus labeling
1317 is indicated by *white arrows*. Differential interference contrast (DIC) images are shown
1318 on the left panel. DAPI staining is in *blue*. Scale bars = 5 μm .

1319 (B) Quantification of the fluorescence of cells labeled with PPBD previously incubated
1320 with polyP₁₀₀ as compared with control cells. A total of 471 cells were examined in three
1321 biological experiments. Values are means \pm SEM (n = 3), * $P < 0.05$, One-Way ANOVA
1322 test with multiple comparisons.

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1324 **Fig. 3.** Super-resolution images of PPBD-labeled *T. brucei* BSF.

1325 (A) PPBD (*green*) does not label the nucleolus and partially co-localizes (Merge, *yellow*)
1326 with antibodies against PPDK (*red*).

1327 (B) PPBD does not co-localize with antibodies against TbVP1 (*red*). DAPI staining is in
1328 *blue*. Scale bars = 5 μm .

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1330 **Fig. 4.** Super-resolution images of PPBD-labeled *T. cruzi*.

1331 (A, B) In epimastigotes PPBD (*green*) labels the nucleolus and shows diffuse cytosolic
1332 labeling that does not co-localize (Merge, *yellow*) with antibodies against PPDK (*red*)
1333 (A) or with antibodies against TbVP1 (*red*) (B). Scale bars = 5 μ m.
1334 (C, D) In trypomastigotes PPBD labels the nucleolus and partially co-localizes (Merge,
1335 *yellow*) with antibodies against PPDK (*red*) (C) but not with antibodies against TbVP1
1336 (*red*) (D). Scale bars = 5 μ m.
1337 (E, F) In amastigotes PPBD labels the nucleolus and partially co-localizes (Merge,
1338 *yellow*) with antibodies against PPDK (*red*) (E) but not with antibodies against TbVP1
1339 (*red*) (F). DAPI staining is in *blue*. Scale bars = 5 μ m.

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1341 **Fig. 5.** Distribution on iodixanol gradients of organellar markers from wild type PCF
1342 trypanosomes and detection of long chain polyP.

1343 (A) Protein distribution.

1344 (B) Glycosomal marker (hexokinase) distribution.

1345 (C) Acidocalcisomal marker (pyrophosphatase) distribution.

1346 In (A-C) the *y*-axis indicates relative distribution; the *x*-axis indicates fraction number
1347 from wild-type *T. brucei* PCF; *bars* show means \pm SD from three independent
1348 experiments. In (B-C) the values are expressed as a percentage of the total recovered
1349 activity.

1350 (D) Western blot analyses done with aliquots of fractions from wild-type *T. brucei* PCF,
1351 using antibodies against the glycosomal protein marker TbPPDK or the acidocalcisomal
1352 protein marker TbVP1, as described under Materials and Methods. C, crude glycosomes
1353 from the first iodixanol gradient. F1 to F7, fractions from the second iodixanol gradient,
1354 as indicated in Fig. S6. Molecular weight markers (M) and antibodies are shown at left
1355 and at right, respectively. Arrows show the bands corresponding to TbPPDK and TbVP1.

1356 (E) Long chain polyP as detected by PAGE. Long chain polyP was extracted from
1357 glycosome (Gly) and acidocalcisome (Acc) subcellular fractions (Fig. S6). PolyP₇₀₀ was
1358 used as a marker. Arrowheads indicate the orange G dye used in the sample buffer.

1359

1360 **Fig. 6.** Glycosomal expression of ScPPX in *T. brucei* PCF and resulting phenotypic
1361 changes.

1362 (A) PTS2-ScPPX1-eYFP (*green*) co-localizes (Merge, *yellow*) with antibodies against
1363 PDK (*red*) (Pearson's correlation coefficient = 0.5726). DIC, differential interference
1364 contrast. DAPI staining is in *blue*. Scale bar = 5 μ m.

1365 (B) Western blot analysis of PCF WT and *PTS2-ScPPX1-eYFP*-expressing cells using
1366 polyclonal antibody against GFP. Molecular weight markers are at *left* and *arrow* shows
1367 the band corresponding to *PTS2-ScPPX1-eYFP* (expected size: ~ 73 kDa). Tubulin was
1368 used as a loading control. Full gel in shown in Fig S7.

1369 (C) Exopolyphosphatase assays in lysates. Lysates (4.5×10^7 cell equivalents) of WT or
1370 *PTS2-ScPPX1-eYFP*-expressing cells were incubated in ice or at 30°C for 10 min in the
1371 absence or presence of 10 μ M polyP₁₀₀ (in phosphate units). ScPPX means *PTS2-*
1372 *ScPPX1-eYFP*-expressing cells. Values are means \pm SEM (n = 3), *****P* < 0.0001. Two-
1373 way ANOVA test with multiple comparisons.

1374 (D) Exopolyphosphatase activity as detected by PAGE. Short chain polyP was extracted
1375 from WT and *PTS2-ScPPX1-eYFP*-expressing cells. PolyP₆₀ was used as a marker.
1376 Arrowhead indicates orange G dye. Tubulin was used as a loading control.

1377 (E) Densitometry of toluidine stained polyP from WT and *PTS2-ScPPX1-eYFP*-
1378 expressing cells. Values are means \pm SEM (n = 4), *****P* < 0.0001. Student's t test.

1379 (F) Growth of WT or *PTS2-ScPPX1-eYFP*-expressing cells at 24 and 48 h. No significant
1380 differences observed, n = 3.

1381 (G) Glucose consumption in WT and *PTS2-ScPPX1-eYFP*-expressing cells after 6 h of
1382 incubation in culture medium at high cell density (10^8 cells/ml). Values are means \pm SEM
1383 (n = 3), **P* < 0.05. Student's t test.

1384 (H) Percentage of live cells following 24 h-incubation after treatment with 50 μ M H₂O₂
1385 for 1 h at 28°C. Values are means \pm SEM (n = 3), *****P* < 0.001. Student's t test.

1386

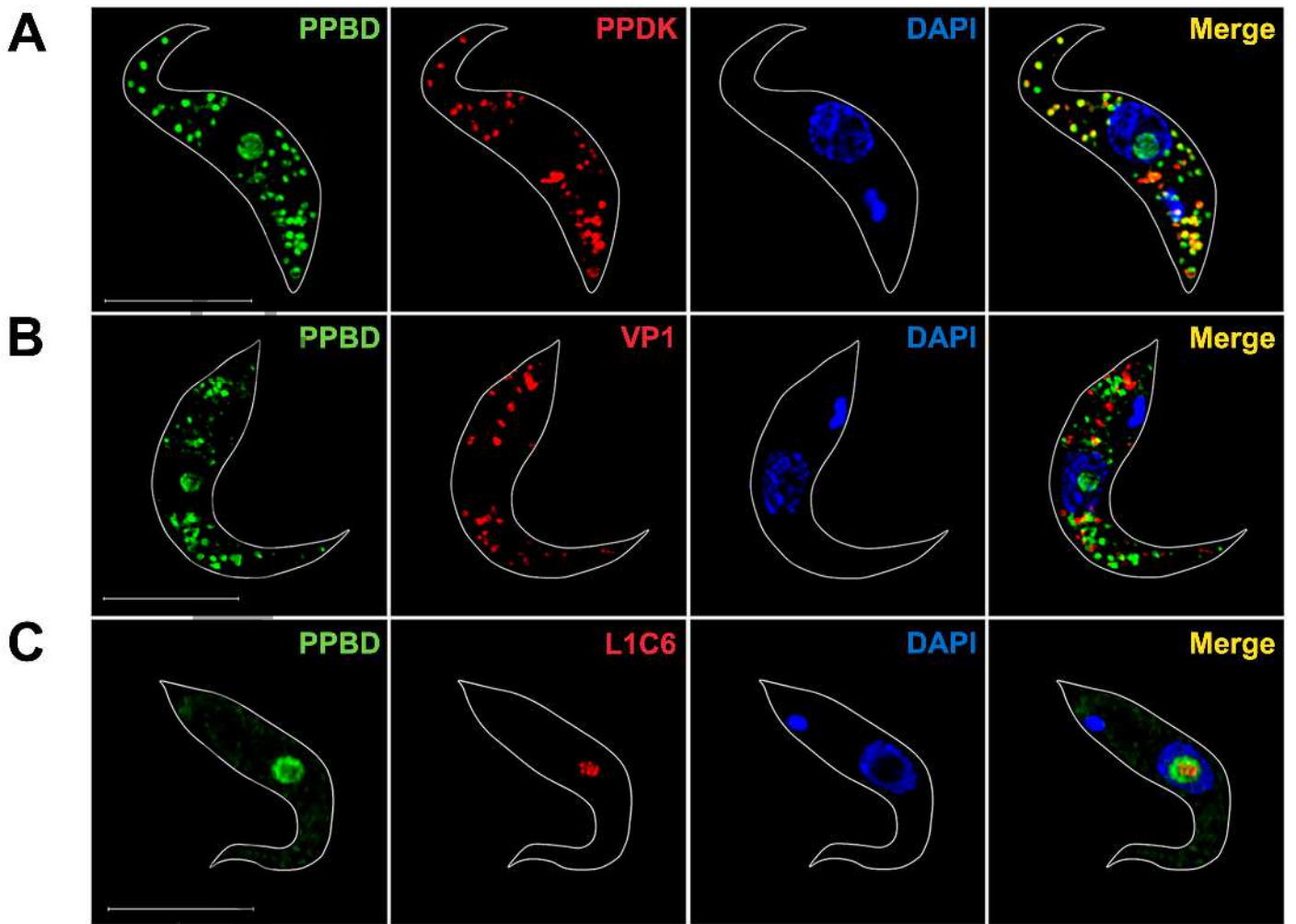
1387 **Fig. 7.** Western blot analysis and fluorescence microscopy of *NoLS-EcPPX-GFP*-
1388 expressing *T. brucei* PCF.

1389 (A) Western blot analysis of uninduced (-TET) and induced (+TET) *T. brucei* PCF
1390 transfected with an expression vector containing *EcPPX-GFP* with a nucleolar
1391 localization signal (*NoLS*) using polyclonal antibody against GFP. Molecular weight

1392 markers are at *left* and *arrow* shows the band corresponding to NoLS-EcPPX-GFP
1393 (expected size: ~ 89 kDa). Tubulin was used as a loading control.

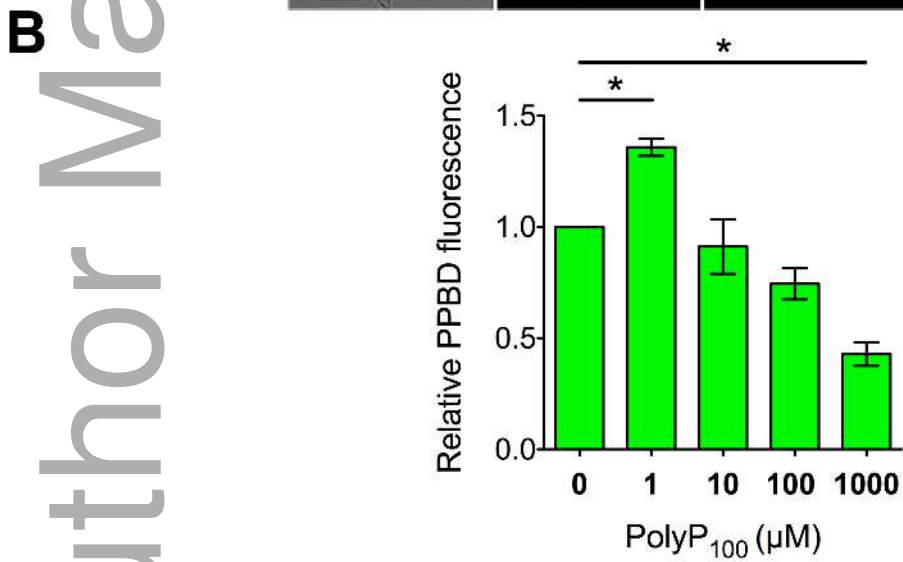
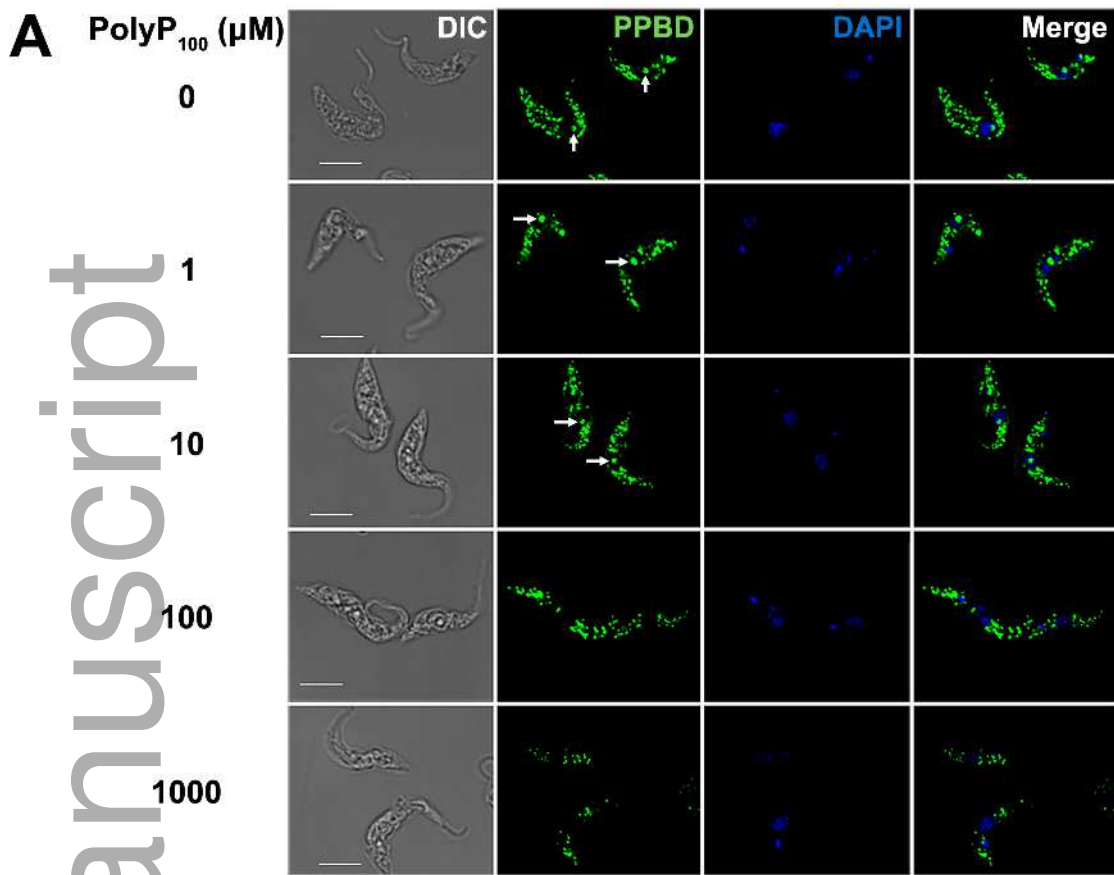
1394 (B) Uninduced (-TET) and induced (+TET) *T. brucei* PCF transfected with NoLS-
1395 EcPPX-GFP plasmid were subjected to immunofluorescence analysis. Parasites were
1396 labeled with PPBD (*green*), antibodies anti-GFP (*red*), and DAPI (*blue*). Differential
1397 interference contrast (DIC) images are shown on the left panel. Merged images are shown
1398 on the right panel. In induced cells, EcPPX (*red*) exhibits nuclear localization and does
1399 not co-localize with nucleolar PPBD (*green*). Scale bars = 5 μ m. TET: tetracycline.

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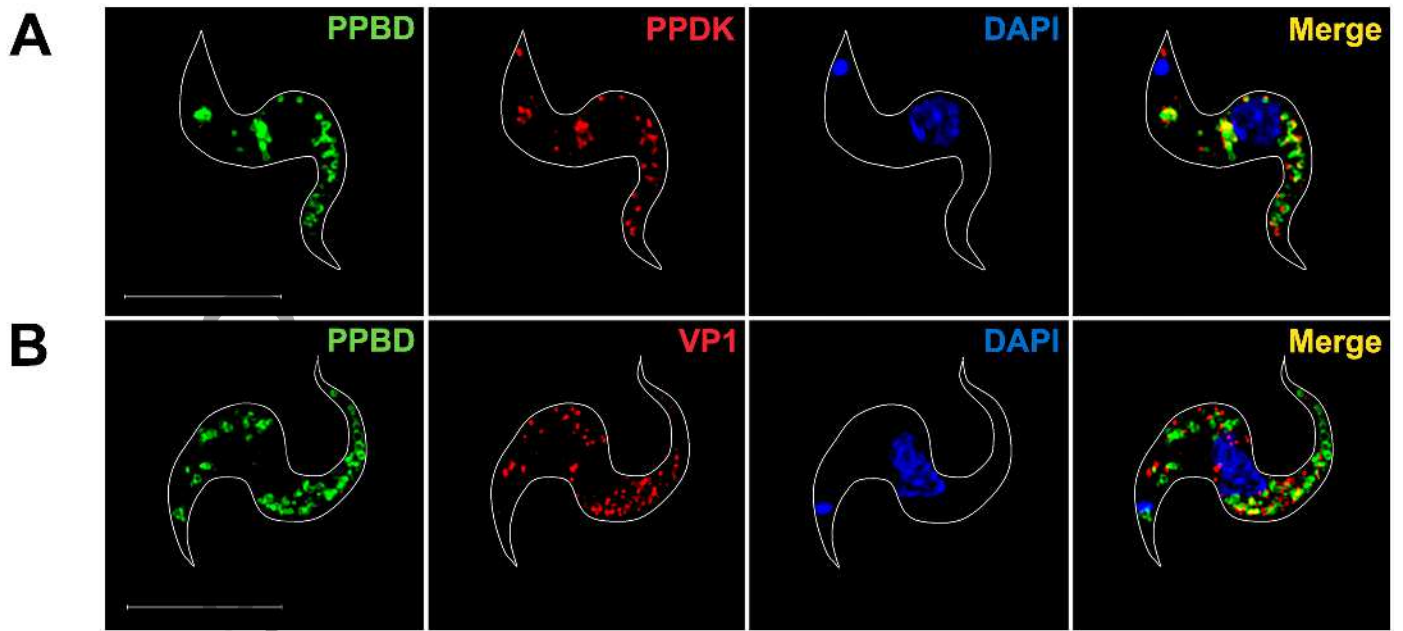


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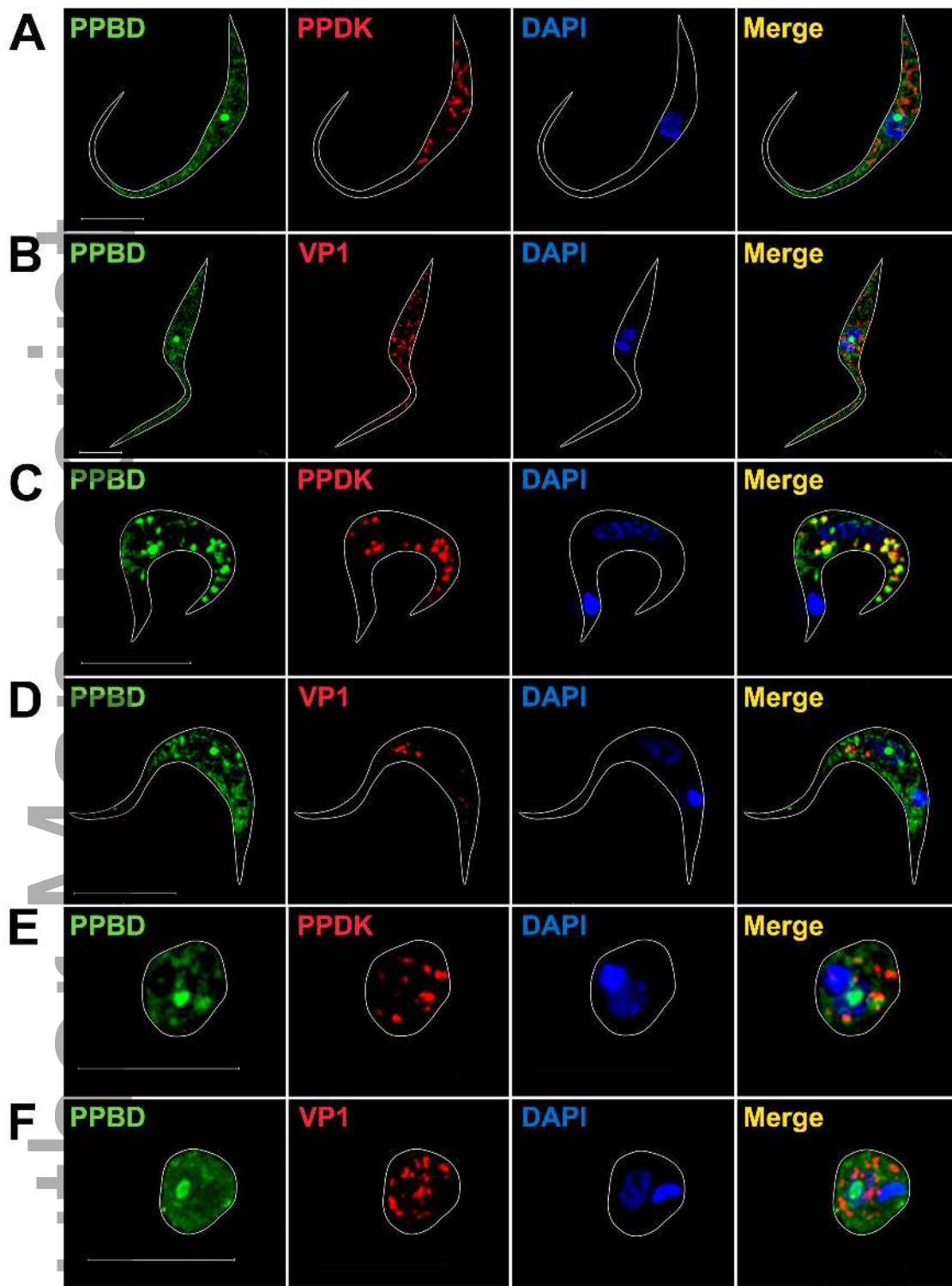


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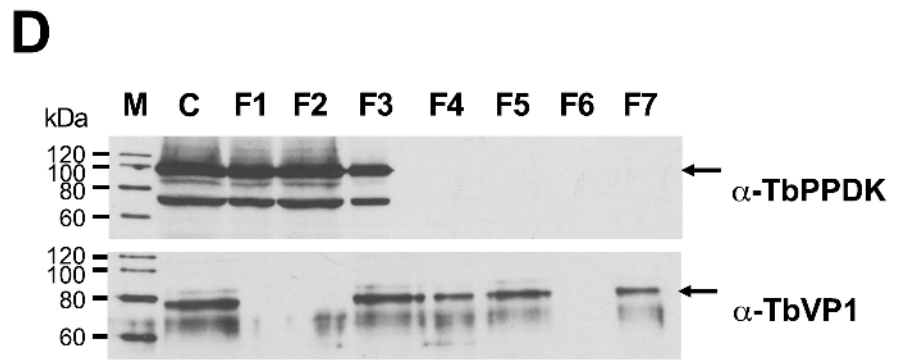
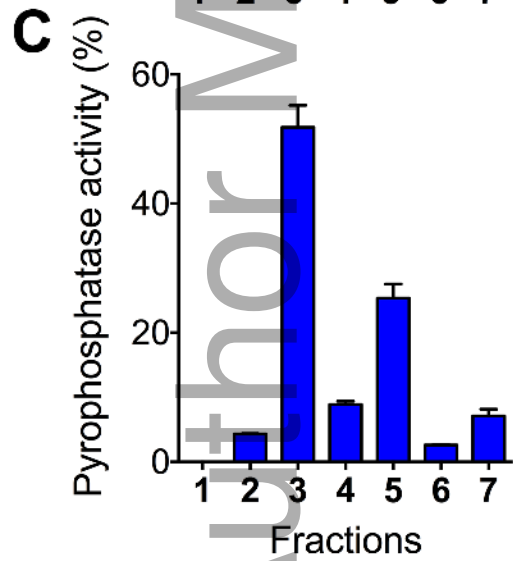
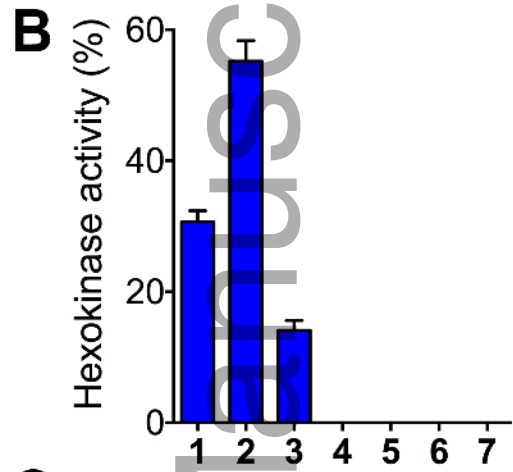
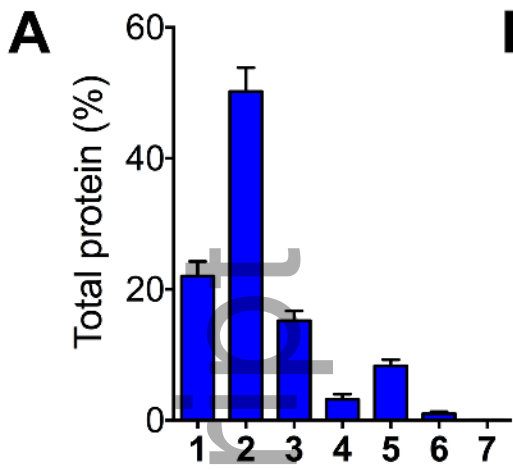


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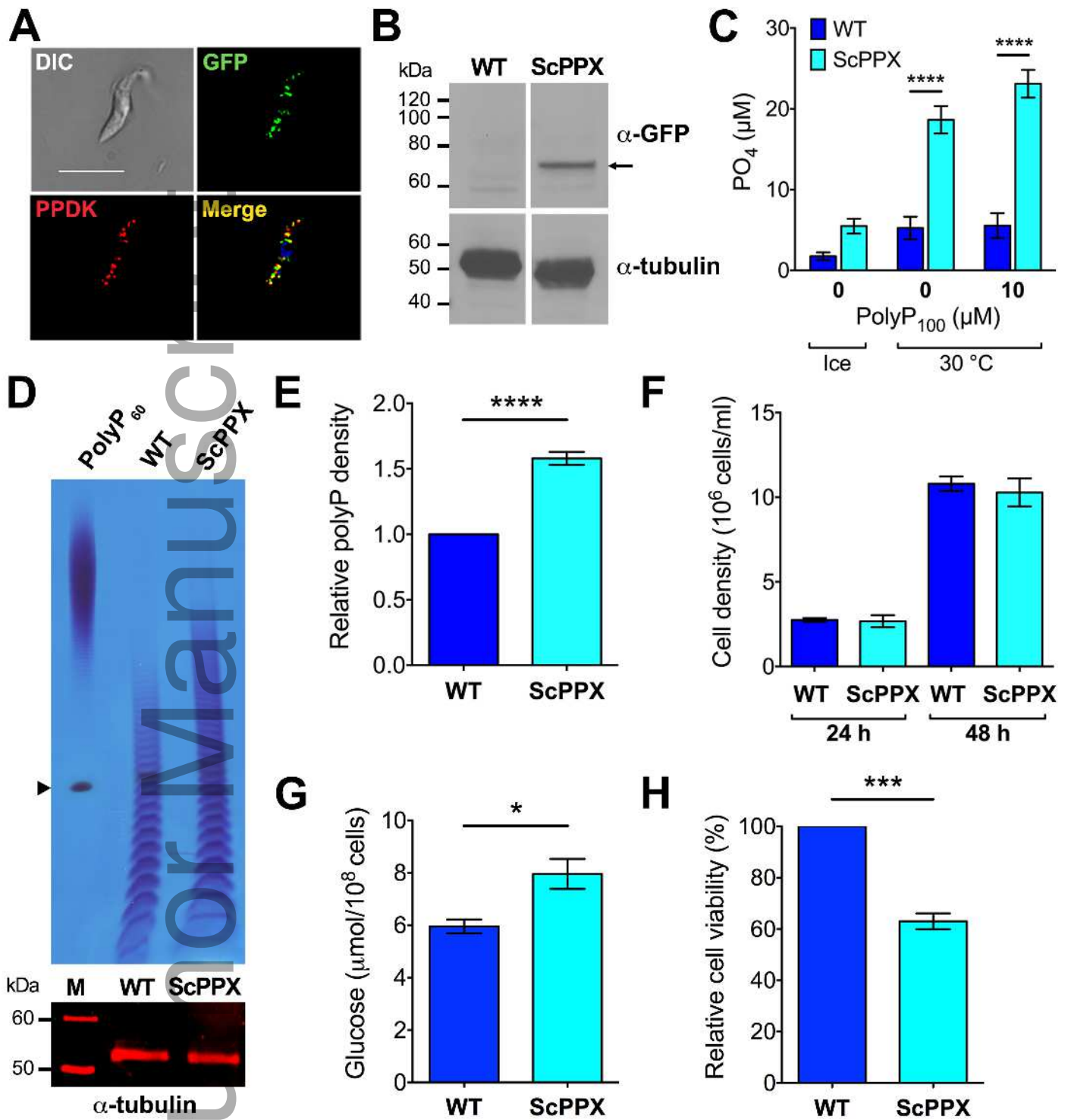
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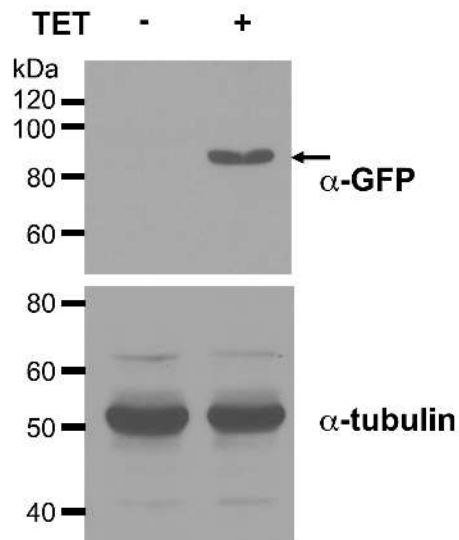
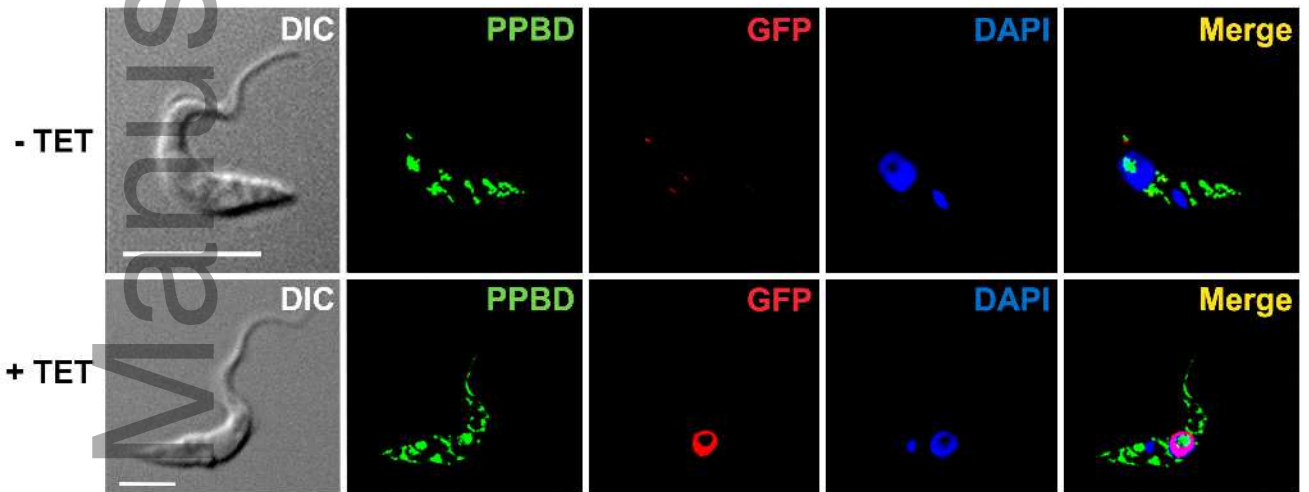
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A**B**

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