

p53 beyond region 2 (Fig. 3, B and C), as indicated by p53Rps expression in region 3 of the germarium and later-staged egg chambers, where a substantial increase in the incidence of reporter activation was observed (Fig. 3C). To test whether persistent p53 activation is functionally relevant, we examined animals doubly mutated for *p53* and *rad54*. *p53*^{-/-}, *rad54*^{AA/RR} females were sterile, despite the fact that corresponding trans-allelic combinations of the single-gene mutants were fertile (see methods for allele descriptions). Furthermore, severe oogenesis defects, which are not seen in single mutants, were evident in double mutants, including abnormal numbers of nurse cell nuclei (Fig. 3D) and shortened egg lengths (fig. S5). To test whether genetic interactions between *p53* and *rad54* were instigated by meiotic recombination, we created *spo11*, *p53*, *rad54* triple mutants. In these animals, fertility and normal nurse cell numbers were restored (Fig. 3, D and E), and defects in egg length were suppressed (fig. S5). Hence, genetic interactions between *p53* and *rad54* required the action of *spo11*. Furthermore, these results indicate that failure to properly resolve meiotic recombination can lead to sustained and functionally relevant p53 activity.

To determine whether activation of p53 by meiotic recombination is conserved, we examined mouse testes with antibodies that specifically detect phosphorylated p53 at Ser15 (18). In seminiferous tubules from wild-type (WT) animals, p53 was transiently activated in early spermatocytes (Fig. 4, A and B). On the basis of nuclear morphology (described in supplemental methods), staining appeared to peak between the leptotene and zygotene stages and disappeared after the early pachytene stage. This pattern is consistent with earlier studies on Spo11 activity (19) and p53 promoter-driven chloramphenicol acetyltransferase transgenes in this tissue (20). Staining for phospho-p53 (Ser15) was absent from testes of Spo11-deficient mice (Fig. 4, B and C), where spermatocytes survive through the leptotene and zygotene stages (21). Therefore, we can exclude cell loss as a reason for the absence of signal, and, as in flies, meiotic recombination is necessary to provoke p53 activation.

We demonstrate that a defining step in sexual reproduction, meiosis, signals a programmed burst of p53 activation. This activity is stimulated by the action of Spo11 in *Drosophila* females (recombination does not occur in males) and in mice. In flies, activation requires the kinase *chk2* [which also has roles later in oogenesis (22)] but appears to be independent of the ATM and ATR kinases (fig. S3), suggesting that alternative transducers could mediate Spo11-dependent activation of p53.

In mice (Fig. 4), potential functions of Spo11-mediated activation of p53 are indicated by altered kinetics of gametogenesis in p53-deficient mice (23, 24), as well as giant-cell degenerative syndrome in the testes of p53-deficient males (25) and implantation defects in females (26). Additional layers of complexity or redundant activities conferred by the p63 and p73 paralogs (27, 28)

could obscure conserved functions, because recombination appeared normal without p53 (29). Nevertheless, these findings raise the possibility that the act of recombination during meiosis may have been an intrinsic primordial stimulus that shaped ancestral features of the p53 regulatory network. Future studies could elucidate whether p53 directly affects crossover reactions (30) or imposes quality control on selected gametes.

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Supporting Online Material

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FCHo Proteins Are Nucleators of Clathrin-Mediated Endocytosis

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Clathrin-mediated endocytosis, the major pathway for ligand internalization into eukaryotic cells, is thought to be initiated by the clustering of clathrin and adaptors around receptors destined for internalization. However, here we report that the membrane-sculpting F-BAR domain-containing Fer/Cip4 homology domain-only proteins 1 and 2 (FCHo1/2) were required for plasma membrane clathrin-coated vesicle (CCV) budding and marked sites of CCV formation. Changes in FCHo1/2 expression levels correlated directly with numbers of CCV budding events, ligand endocytosis, and synaptic vesicle marker recycling. FCHo1/2 proteins bound specifically to the plasma membrane and recruited the scaffold proteins eps15 and intersectin, which in turn engaged the adaptor complex AP2. The FCHo F-BAR membrane-bending activity was required, leading to the proposal that FCHo1/2 sculpt the initial bud site and recruit the clathrin machinery for CCV formation.

Clathrin-mediated endocytosis is the process by which cargo is internalized into vesicles with the aid of adaptors [such as the adaptor protein complex 2 (AP2)] and the coat-protein clathrin (1, 2). Amphiphysins and

sorting nexin 9 probably recruit the membrane scission protein dynamin to membranes of high curvature by their N-terminal BAR (Bin/Amphiphysin/Rvs) domains (3, 4). We investigated the possibility that membrane-sculpting proteins play

an early role in invagination even before AP2 and clathrin recruitment. We studied the F-BAR-containing protein family FCHO1/2 [Fer/Cip4 homology domain-only (FCHO) proteins 1 and 2], whose F-BAR homodimer module can recognize less extreme curvatures than BAR modules (5–7). FCHO1/2 are ubiquitously expressed (fig. S1, A and B) and have a twisted shape that is distinct from the F-BAR dimers of FBP17 and CIP4 (5–7). The yeast homolog Syp1 is recruited early to sites of actin-dependent endocytosis (8–10). We confirmed that FCHO1/2 are localized to clathrin-coated pits (CCPs) only on the plasma membrane (PM) (fig. S1, C to F). Furthermore, a FCHO signal defined where a CCP forms because it was detected before the visible appearance of clathrin or its PM-specific adaptor, AP2 (Fig. 1, A and C, and fig. S2, A and B). The FCHO1/2 signal decreased before the clathrin signal intensity reached its maximum, but in some rare cases the FCHO protein did not leave and defined sites where clathrin returned multiple times, thus marking endocytic “hotspots” (fig. S2C). In contrast, FBP17—another F-BAR protein implicated in clathrin-mediated endocytosis (6)—was

recruited at later stages to some ($3 \pm 1\%$) CCPs (fig. S2E). FCHO2 was detected with cryogenic immunoelectron microscopy (cryoimmuno-EM) at early to late stages of CCPs, which is consistent with live cell imaging kymographs (Fig. 1B). A complete loss of CCPs was observed when FCHO1+2 levels were greatly reduced by using double RNA interference (RNAi) (Fig. 1, C and D, and fig. S3, A to D) with a concomitant reduction in internalization of three known cargoes for clathrin-mediated endocytosis: transferrin (Tf), low-density lipoprotein (LDL), and epidermal growth factor (EGF) (Fig. 1E). In the absence of FCHO proteins, both AP2 and clathrin were cytosolic. These phenotypes were rescued by an RNAi-resistant form of FCHO2 (Fig. 1, C to E, and fig. S3E) (11). FCHO1/2 function was not limited to fibroblasts but was also associated with clathrin-mediated endocytosis in primary astrocytes and the recycling of synaptic vesicle markers (synaptotagmin1 and synaptophysin) after stimulated exocytosis in hippocampal neurons cultured for 4 days in vitro (fig. S4). Overexpression of FCHO1 or FCHO2 led to a dramatic increase in CCP density. This increase was not due to slowed or inhibited clathrin-coated vesicle (CCV) budding [as with epsin1 overexpression (fig. S5B) or dynamin inhibition by dynasore (12)] because CCPs were dynamic (increased nucleation rate) and functional (increased Tf uptake) during FCHO1 or 2 overexpression (Fig. 1, F to H, fig. S5, and movie S1). Because CCP numbers directly correlate with FCHO1/2 levels, FCHO proteins appear to act as CCP nucleators.

The presence of a membrane-bending protein early in CCP formation caused us to seek an explanation for how FCHO1/2 recruitment connects to clathrin recruitment. We looked for FCHO2 C-terminal AP2- μ homology domain (μ HD) interactors in brain and HeLa cell extracts and found that the main interaction partners were known CCP proteins eps15, eps15R, and intersectin 1 and 2 (Fig. 2A and fig. S6, A and B). The interaction of eps15 with the μ HD was direct (fig. S6C) (8) as was that with intersectin 1. The CCP localization of eps15 and intersectin was dependent on FCHO1/2 (Fig. 2B). These proteins interact directly with AP2 but not with clathrin, unlike many other CCV accessory proteins (2). Eps15 and intersectin appearance coincided with that of FCHO2 (Fig. 2C), suggesting that these proteins constitute an early module for nascent CCP assembly. FCHO1/2 are necessary for CCP formation, and yet their fluorescent intensity diminished before vesicle budding (Fig. 1A), just as dynamin intensity increased (fig. S6D). Similarly, the yeast Syp1 intensity decreased as Abp1 increased (9, 10). In purified CCVs, FCHO1/2, eps15, and intersectin levels were reduced as compared with that of total extracts (Fig. 2D and fig. S6E), which is consistent with their absence in previous mass spectrometry studies (13). Thus, FCHO1/2 initiate CCPs but are excluded from mature vesicles, with FCHO1/2 being primarily PM-associated, which is consistent with their localization on constricted CCP necks (Fig. 2E).

RNAi of AP2 leads to a marked reduction in CCP numbers (14). Thus, we tested the localization

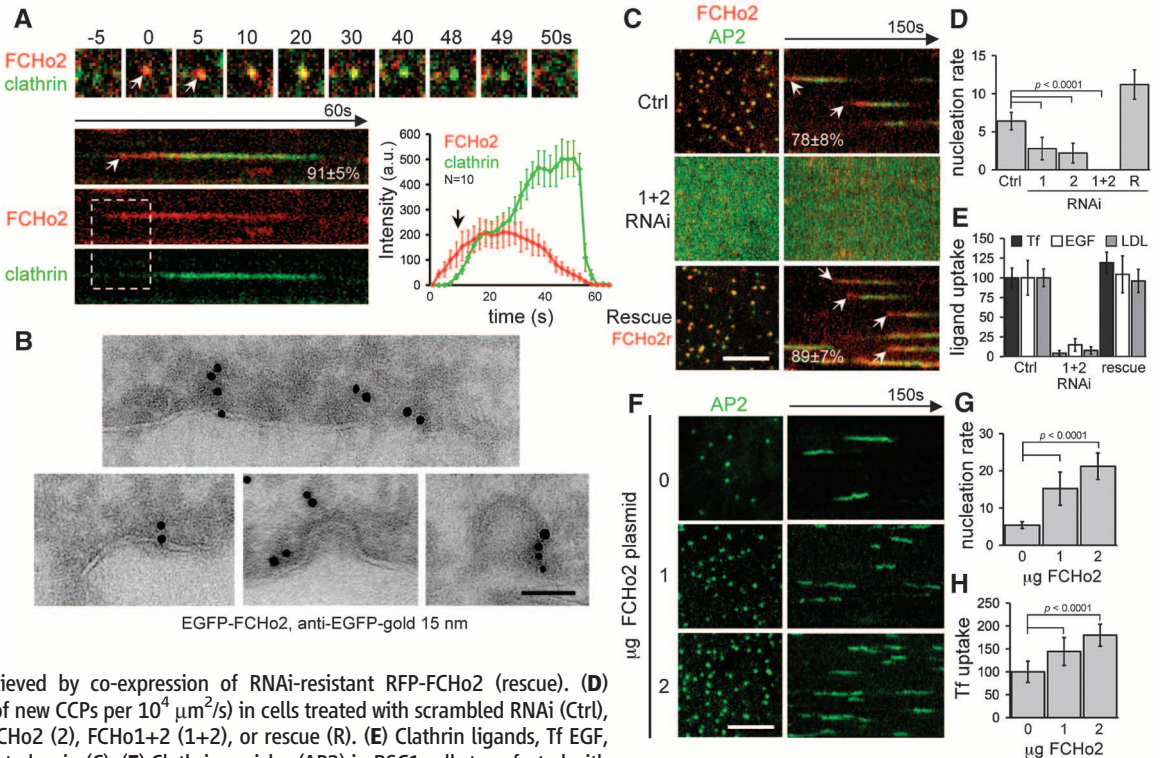
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Fig. 1. FCHO1/2 proteins are clathrin/AP2 nucleators. (A) Dynamic cell-surface localization (top) and kymograph (bottom left) of representative CCPs labeled with red fluorescent protein (RFP)–FCHO2 (FCHO2) and GFP-LCa (clathrin). FCHO2 was detected before clathrin (white arrow and bottom right graph). a.u., arbitrary units. (B) Cryoimmuno-EM-localized GFP-FCHO2 at CCPs. Scale bar, 100 nm. (C) CCVs, labeled with σ 2-GFP (AP2), did not form with double RNAi of FCHO1+2 (FCHO1+2 RNAi) in which AP2 became cytosolic (contrast was enhanced so as to show the diffuse signal at the plasma membrane). Inhibition was relieved by co-expression of RNAi-resistant RFP-FCHO2 (rescue). (D) Nucleation rates (number of new CCPs per $10^4 \mu\text{m}^2/\text{s}$) in cells treated with scrambled RNAi (Ctrl), RNAi against FCHO1 (1), FCHO2 (2), FCHO1+2 (1+2), or rescue (R). (E) Clathrin ligands, Tf, EGF, and LDL uptake in cells treated as in (C). (F) Clathrin vesicles (AP2) in BSC1 cells transfected with 0, 1, or 2 μg of untagged-FCHO2 for 2×10^5 cells. (G) Nucleation rate and (H) Tf uptake in cells treated as in (F). Scale bars, 5 μm (C and F) and 200 nm (B). Displayed kymographs were representative (percentage, $n = 319$ CCPs) (11).



of FCHO2 in the absence of AP2. Although AP2 puncta were largely missing, FCHO2 puncta at the PM remained and still colocalized with eps15 and intersectin (Fig. 2G and fig. S7A). The FCHO2- μ HD interactions were also AP2-independent in vitro (Fig. 2F and fig. S7B). In contrast, the localization of epsin, another membrane-sculpting molecule that binds clathrin and AP2, was dependent on the presence of AP2 (fig. S7C). An alter-

native strategy to disrupt CCP formation is the overexpression of the C terminus of AP180, which binds to clathrin with high affinity (15). Overexpression led to an accumulation of AP2 puncta, which colocalized with FCHO2, eps15, and intersectin but had no clathrin and were static (fig. S7, D to F). Thus FCHO2, eps15, and intersectin do not require AP2 or clathrin to cluster. An eps15/eps15R/intersectin1/intersectin2 quadruple knockdown af-

fected FCHO2 clustering into puncta but not its PM localization, whereas AP2 was cytosolic (Fig. 2H and fig. S8, A to E). RNAi of Dab2, a μ HD interaction partner that arrives early at CCPs (figs. S6A and S8F) and that was not enriched in CCVs (Fig. 2D), did not lead to a reduction in CCPs (fig. S8, F and G). Thus, eps15 and intersectin cluster FCHO1/2 to define nascent sites of CCP nucleation. Mutation of K797 in FCHO2 μ HD [a conserved residue that is equivalent to where AP2- β interacts with AP2- μ in pdb:2VGL (fig. S9A)] (16, 17) abolished interactions with eps15 and intersectins (Fig. 2J and fig. S9B). In the FCHO1+2 RNAi background, K797E did not rescue CCP formation and Tf uptake and was diffusely located on the PM (Fig. 2I). Thus, FCHO membrane recruitment and clustering by eps15 and intersectins initiates CCP maturation with subsequent recruitment of AP2 and clathrin, leading to coated vesicle formation.

Functionality of F-BAR domains is mediated by three distinct properties: membrane binding, dimerization, and membrane sculpting (5, 6, 18). To test the importance of each property in FCHO2 function, we designed (i) a chimera to replace the F-BAR domain with a PM-targeting PH domain, which dimerizes because of an enhanced green fluorescent protein (EGFP) tag (19); (ii) a structure-based mutant of FCHO2 (F38E+W73E), which should disrupt dimer formation; and (iii) a fluorescently tagged SGIP1, which is a close relative of FCHO1/2 and a CCP component that has a C-terminal μ HD but no F-BAR domain (20). All three proteins localized to CCPs in wild-type cells (fig. S10A) but upon depletion of endogenous FCHO1+2 did not rescue CCP formation (Fig. 3A). As expected, both the PH chimera and SGIP1 localized to the PM (sometimes in large sheets), whereas the dimer mutant remained cytosolic. Thus, the dimeric, membrane-sculpting F-BAR module is necessary for CCP formation. The region following the FCHO1/2 F-BAR domain (residues 263 to 430) is rich in positively charged amino acids and has a high homology with the N terminus of SGIP1 (9). An extended F-BAR module containing this homology region (F-BAR-x, for “extended”), showed enhanced membrane binding and tubulation in vitro (fig. S10, B and C). The F-BAR-x module co-sedimented preferentially with liposomes enriched with phosphatidylinositol 4,5-bisphosphate [PI(4,5)P₂], helping to explain why FCHO proteins are PM-targeted (Fig. 3B). Acute decrease of cellular PI(4,5)P₂ levels by the addition of 1-butanol (21) led to acute relocation of FCHO2 to the cytosol (fig. S10D), supporting the role of PI(4,5)P₂ in the targeting of FCHO1/2 to the PM. The F-BAR-x module caused extensive tubulation of PI(4,5)P₂ liposomes to high curvatures (from 130- to 18-nm tubules and many small vesicles) in a protein concentration-dependent manner (Fig. 3C). Protein density surrounding tubules sometimes exhibited striations in which the angle correlated with the degree of membrane curvature (fig. S10E and movie S2). Narrower tubules displayed more oblique angles,

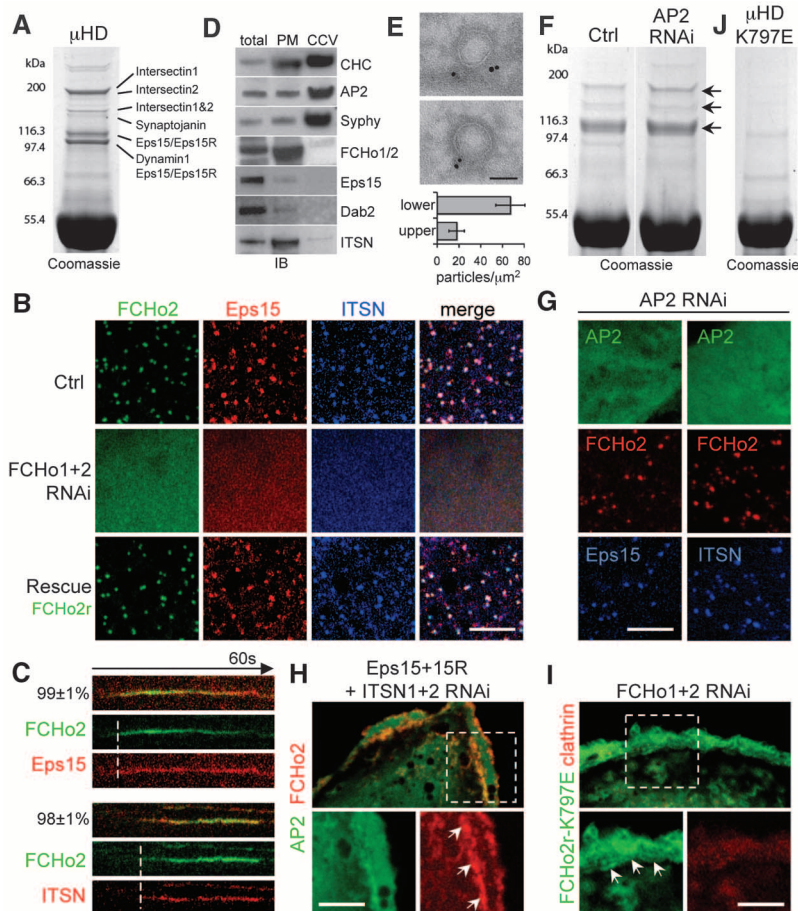
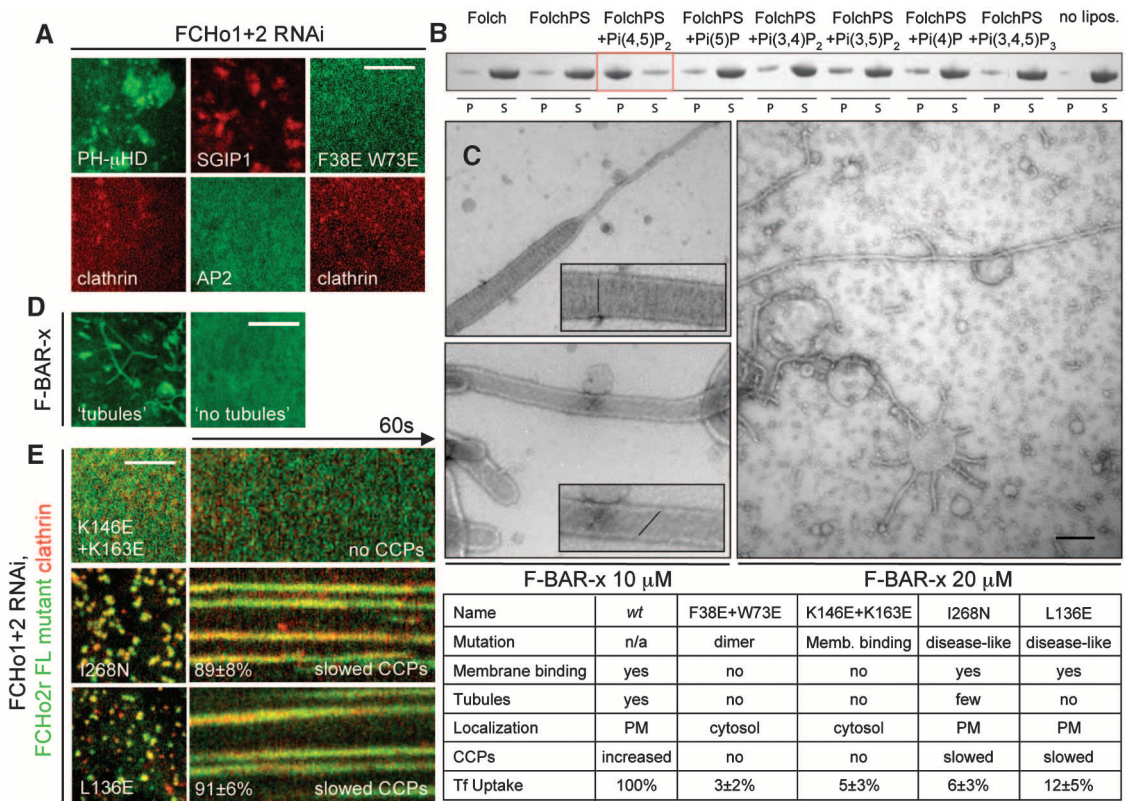


Fig. 2. FCHO2 directly binds and recruits eps15 and intersectin to initiate CCP maturation. (A) Pull-down with GST-FCHO2- μ HD and rat brain lysate. Interacting proteins were identified by means of mass spectrometry. (B) Eps15 and intersectin (ITSN) formed puncta at the PM, colocalizing with FCHO2. In double FCHO1+2 RNAi cells, eps15 and ITSN were cytosolic (contrast was enhanced so as to show the diffuse signal); co-expression of RNAi-resistant FCHO2 (FCHO2r) rescued PM-targeting (Rescue). (C) Kymograph of CCPs (percentages indicate how representative the displayed profiles are; $n = 210$ CCPs) (11) labeled with FCHO2 and Eps15 or ITSN. (D) FCHO2, eps15, and ITSN were CCV de-enriched. Clathrin (CHC), AP2, and vesicle marker synaptobrevin (Syphy) displayed enrichment in CCV fractions (CCV). FCHO2 and ITSN were PM enriched. IB, immunoblot. (E) Cryoimmuno-EM of GFP-FCHO2 localized it to the CCP neck. Bar graph shows gold-particle density in the upper and lower half of constricted CCPs ($P < 0.01$). (F) Pull-downs with GST- μ HD from (left) scrambled or (right) AP2 RNAi-treated HeLa cells. Eps15 and ITSN bands were visible in both (arrows). (G) Upon AP2 depletion (μ 2 RNAi), σ 2-GFP (another AP2 subunit) was cytosolic (contrast was enhanced so as to show the diffuse signal), but Eps15 and ITSN still colocalize with FCHO2 at the PM (arrows). (H) FCHO2 and AP2 (σ 2-GFP) puncta disappeared under Eps15 + Eps15R + ITSN1 + ITSN2 quadruple RNAi. AP2 became cytosolic (diffuse signal), whereas FCHO2 remained at the PM (inset). (I) In FCHO1+2 RNAi cells, RNAi-resistant FCHO2-K797E (FCHO2r-K797E) bound to the PM (arrows) but did not cluster nor rescue CCP formation, as reported by means of RFP-LCa (clathrin). In these cells, FCHO1+2 RNAi inhibition of Tf uptake was also not rescued [$7.2 \pm 3.5\%$ of control uptake ($P < 0.0001$)]. (J) GST- μ HD K797E no longer pulled down the protein bands that are visible in (A). Green, red, and blue panels indicate GFP-, RFP-, and blue fluorescent protein (BFP)-tagged proteins, respectively. Scale bars, 5 μ m [(B), (H), (G), and (I)] and 100 nm (E).

Fig. 3. Lipid-binding and membrane-sculpting FCHo1/2 abilities are both essential for CCP formation. **(A)** Chimeric GFP-PLC-PH+FCHo2μHD (PH-μHD), a dimer interface mutant GFP-FCHo2(F38E+W73E), and RFP-SGIP1 all could not rescue CCP nucleation—monitored by following either clathrin or AP2 fluorescence—in double RNAi FCHo1+2 cells. **(B)** Lipid co-sedimentation assay of 15 μM F-BAR-x in presence of 1 mg/mL liposomes: Folch (Avanti brain lipid), FolchPS (80% Folch and 20% phosphatidylserine), or FolchPS +5% of indicated phosphatidylinositols. Liposome-bound proteins were pelleted (P) by means of ultracentrifugation, and unbound protein remained in the supernatant (S). **(C)** Folch+15%PS+5%Pi(4,5)P₂ liposomes incubated with either 10 or 20 μM F-BAR-x and spotted onto EM grids gave mainly tubules of diameters of 50 to 80 nm (10 μM) or 18 nm (at 20 μM, most were visibly twisted). (Insets) Enlarge-ments with protein density striations. **(D)** F-BAR-x-induced in vivo tubulation. Shown are representative images of “tubules” and “no tubules.” **(E)** RNAi-resistant form of full-length FCHo2 (FCHo2r) with membrane-binding mutation (K146E+K163E) remained cytosolic and could not rescue FCHo1/2



and the narrowest ones were twisted (Fig. 3C) (5, 18). This provides a mechanistic explanation for the generation of increasing curvature required for CCP budding and dynamin recruitment. To test the contribution of membrane sculpting in FCHo2 function, we mutated two conserved lysines (K146E+K165E) on the concave face of the F-BAR module as well as a conserved residue (I268N) associated with a macrophage-induced autoimmune disease (22) and its interacting residue (L136E) along the F-BAR “wing” (fig. S11, A and B). As expected, the K146E+K165E mutant displayed reduced membrane binding in vitro and relocalized to the cytosol, whereas I268N and L136E mutations did not abrogate membrane binding but failed to tubulate the PM (fig. S11, C and D). When placed into full-length FCHo2, I268N and L136E induced enlarged and static aberrant CCPs and could not rescue FCHo1+2 RNAi-induced Tf uptake defect (Fig. 3E). Thus, FCHo2-mediated membrane sculpting is essential for normal CCP nucleation.

We showed that FCHo1/2 proteins nucleate CCPs and that AP2 is a later component recruiting clathrin, cargo, and accessory proteins (fig. S12). We also uncovered a role for membrane sculpting in the initiation of clathrin-mediated endocytosis. Thus, curvature generation appears to be funda-

mental to PM CCV formation from neurons to fibroblasts, and FCHo1 and -2 represent key initial proteins that ultimately control cellular nutrient uptake, receptor regulation, and synaptic vesicle retrieval.

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17. In the mutants, other amino acids were substituted at certain locations; for example, K797E indicates that lysine at position 797 was replaced by glutamic acid.

Single-letter abbreviations for the amino acid residues are as follows: A, Ala; C, Cys; D, Asp; E, Glu; F, Phe; G, Gly; H, His; I, Ile; K, Lys; L, Leu; M, Met; N, Asn; P, Pro; Q, Gln; R, Arg; S, Ser; T, Thr; V, Val; W, Trp; and Y, Tyr.

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Movies S1 and S2

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FCHo Proteins are Nucleators of Clathrin-Mediated Endocytosis

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Materials and methods:

Plasmids, cloning and protein purification. Full length mouse FCHo2 (Riken AK142282) and human FCHo1 (IMAGE 5757146) were cloned into pGEX6P1 and pEGFP (Clontech), pTagRFP, and pTagBFP vectors (Evrogen). We introduced a point mutation (S158T) rendering TagRFP more photostable (S1) into the pTagRFP plasmids used for all TagRFP constructs of this study. For simplicity EGFP, TagRFP and TagBFP are called 'GFP', 'RFP' and BFP' in the text and figures. Mammalian expression of untagged constructs of FCHo1 and FCHo2 used in the titration experiments (Fig. 1F-H and S5) were generated by cloning into pEGFP-N3 with a stop codon introduced by mutagenesis before the EGFP sequence and verified by sequencing. The F-BAR (1-262), F-BAR-x (1-327), extended region "x" (263-430), and μ HD (525-809) of FCHo2 were cloned separately. The FCHo2 chimera was generated by inserting the middle region and μ HD of FCHo2 (395-809) into a construct expressing EGFP-PLC δ PH domain (1-175) at its N-terminus, a kind gift of Matilda Katan (S2), plus a 17 amino acid linker region. The RNAi-resistant form of FCHo2 used in the 'rescue' experiments was generated by introducing the following mutations D310D (GAT-GAC), A311L (GCA-TTA) and L314L (CTT-TTG). Rat EGFP-LCa (Clathrin Light chain a) was a kind gift of Margaret Robinson (University of Cambridge, UK). RFP-LCa was generated by transfer of the LCa gene into pTagRFP. EGFP-intersectin(ITSN)1L was a kind gift from Peter McPherson (McGill University, Canada) (S3). RFP-ITSN, and BFP-ITSN were generated by transfer of the intersectin 1L gene into pTagRFP and pTagBFP vectors, respectively. Human eps15 (1-896) was cloned from a construct from Alexandre Benmerah (Institut Cochin, Paris) (S4, S5) and transferred into pEGFP, pTagRFP or pTagBFP vectors to generate GFP-eps15, RFP-eps15 and BFP-eps15, respectively. EGFP-rapostlinS (FBP17 short form) was a kind gift from Manabu Negishi (Kyoto University, Japan) (S6). SypHy (synaptophysin-fluorin) was a kind gift from Leon Lagnado (S7). For testing the direct binding of eps15 to FCHo2 μ HD, a construct corresponding to the C-terminal region (residues 530-791) of human eps15 was cloned and purified by GSH-sepharose gel chromatography. Mouse Dab2/p96 (residues 1-548) was cloned from a construct originally from Shelli Morris (S8). Rat Epsin1-myc was cloned as previously described (S9). AP180 C-terminus (residues 530-915), described previously (S10), was transferred into pTagBFP. Point mutations were made by PCR mutagenesis and constructs were sequenced. GST-tagged constructs were expressed in BL21 *E.coli* (Stratagene) and purified on GSH-sepharose beads (GE Healthcare), tags were cleaved with PreScission protease (GE Healthcare), and proteins were subsequently purified by ion exchange and gel filtration chromatography.

Clathrin-coated vesicles (Fig. 2D) were enriched as in (S11).

Antibodies. For Western blotting and immunofluorescence (IF) studies, the following antibodies were used: anti-FCHo2 Ra103 (in house affinity purified rabbit polyclonal raised against residues 3-274 of human FCHo2 F-BAR domain), anti-eps15/eps15R Ra15 (in house rabbit polyclonal raised against human eps15 539-896), anti-actin 6276ab (Abcam mouse monoclonal), anti-Dab2/p96 D45720 (mouse monoclonal, Transduction Laboratories), anti-intersectin S750 (rabbit polyclonal, a kind gift from Tom Südhof), anti-AP2 α -adaptin for IF

staining 2730ab (mouse monoclonal, Abcam), anti-AP2 α -adaptin for Western blotting A43920 (mouse monoclonal, Transduction Laboratories), anti-synaptophysin P38/CL43.1 (mouse monoclonal, a kind gift from Reinhart Jahn), anti-clathrin heavy chain (CHC) for immunofluorescence studies X22 (mouse monoclonal, a kind gift from Frances Brodsky), anti-clathrin heavy chain for Western blotting 610500 (mouse monoclonal, Transduction Laboratories) and anti-GFP for cryoimmuno-electron microscopy ab290 (rabbit polyclonal, AbCam), anti-dynamin Hudy-1 (05-319) (mouse monoclonal, Upstate), anti-synaptotagmin1 V216 (rabbit polyclonal monoclonal, a kind gift from Tom Südhof) and anti-EGFR antibody 13A9 (mouse monoclonal, a kind gift from Genentech).

Cryo-immuno electron microscopy (Fig. 1B and 2E). HEK293T cells expressing EGFP-FCHo2 were fixed in 2% paraformaldehyde/0.2% glutaraldehyde in phosphate buffered saline (PBS). The cells were pelleted in 1% gelatine in PBS at 37°C, resuspended in 12% gelatine in PBS, pelleted and solidified on ice. Small blocks (~0.5 mm) of the cell pellet were prepared and infiltrated with 2.3 M sucrose at 4°C overnight, and then mounted on aluminium stubs, frozen and sectioned. The sections (60nm) were picked up in drops of 2.3M sucrose and collected on Formvar-coated, carbon-coated nickel mesh grids. After blocking in 0.1% BSA in PBS the sections were incubated with an anti-GFP antibody (0.25mg/ml; AbCam ab290), washed, and incubated with a secondary antibody conjugated to 15 nm gold particles (GE Healthcare). The sections were fixed in 1% glutaraldehyde and stained with ice cold 0.4% uranyl acetate/1.8% methyl cellulose (pH 4) and dried. The samples were viewed in a FEI Tecnai 12 transmission electron microscope. The density of gold particles in the upper and lower half (in an area of $0.02\mu\text{m}^2$) of 22 constricted clathrin-coated pits was quantified using ImageJ.

Cell culture, transfection, and RNAi. BSC1 cells (ECACC 85011422) and HeLa cells (ECACC 93021013) were cultured in DMEM-GlutaMAX-I media (Gibco) supplemented with 10% foetal bovine serum (FBS). Non-transformed hTERT-RPE1 cells (Clontech) were cultured in DMEM F12 HAM (Sigma) supplemented with 10% FBS, 2mM GlutaMAX-I (Gibco) and 0.25% sodium bicarbonate. BSC1 cells stably expressing $\sigma 2$ -EGFP (S12) were a kind gift of Tom Kirchhausen (Harvard Medical School, USA). For live-cell imaging (see details below), approximately 2×10^5 cells were cultured on 35mm glass bottom dishes (MatTek). Cells were transfected using Lipofectamine 2000 (Invitrogen), using 0.1-1 μg of the various plasmids (except for the titrations (Fig. 1F-H and fig. S5) where 0.5, 1 or 2 μg of plasmids were used). Cells were typically incubated 24 hours to express the constructs before imaging. For gene silencing experiments, siRNAs were purchased from Invitrogen (Stealth Select siRNAs) or Dharmacon (ON-TARGETplus SMARTpool). RNAi oligos used were (all human): FCHo2 (HSS151016), FCHo1 (HSS118255), SGIP1 (HSS130804), AP2- μ subunit (HSS101955), Dab2 (HSS102610), intersectin1 (HSS109703), intersectin2 (HSS121345), eps15 (HSS103327), eps15R (J-004006-05), clathrin heavy chain (CHC, HSS174637), control siRNAs (WILDE000533). RNAi oligos were resuspended to a 20 μM stock concentration, and delivered using Oligofectamine (Invitrogen) to a total final concentration of 80pM. Cells typically received two doses of siRNA with a one day interval and were used up to three days later. A final concentration of 160pM was used when only one transfection was performed. Most cell cultures did not display complete loss of

the RNAi-targeted protein, and this is likely due to the spectrum of knockdown degrees among cells in the same culture, as well as the relatively low transfection efficiency seen for the BSC1 cell line. However, the cells selected for imaging were assessed individually (Tf uptake or co-transfection marker, see 'RNAi depletion' paragraph above). For the GST- μ HD pull-down experiments in μ 2-depleted HeLa lysate, cells received μ 2 RNAi treatment and were FACS sorted to enrich only cells eliciting μ 2 knockdown. Briefly, RNAi-treated HeLa cells were exposed to 5mg/mL Alexa488-transferrin (A488-Tf) for 5 min at 37°C, quickly acid washed (pH 5.5, 4°C, to remove the surface-bound A488-Tf), and FACS sorted at 4°C. Only Tf^{neg} cells (~90%) were collected and used for GST- μ HD pull-down experiments. A small fraction was lysed and blotted for AP2 α -adaptin to confirm knockdown (fig. S7B).

Protein pull-down experiments. (Fig. 2A, F and J). To test for interactions between proteins, GST-FCHo2 μ HD (525-809) was produced in BL21 *E. coli* and purified as described above. GST-protein was eluted off of GSH-sepharose beads, further purified by gel filtration, and rebound to fresh GSH-sepharose beads for use in pull downs. HeLa cell or brain lysates (5-10mg/mL) were prepared in 150mM NaCl buffered with 20mM HEPES and 5mM DTT with added 0.1% Triton X-100 and a protease inhibitor cocktail (lysis buffer). Bead bound protein was then exposed to cell or rat brain lysate for 30 minutes to 1 hour, pelleted in a cooled desktop centrifuge, and washed three times in lysis buffer. The final pellet was boiled in sample buffer and ran on SDS-PAGE. For protein identification, Coomassie Brilliant Blue-stained protein bands were excised from the gels and underwent LC-MS-MS mass spectrometry for identification.

Live-cell fluorescent microscopy and analysis. Cells were grown on MatTek dishes and before imaging the medium was changed to α -MEM without phenol red supplemented with 20 mM HEPES, pH 7.4 and 5 % FBS and placed into a temperature controlled chamber on the microscope stage with 95% air:5% CO₂ and 100 % humidity. Live-cell imaging data were acquired using a fully motorized inverted microscope (Eclipse TE-2000, Nikon) equipped with a CSU-X1 spinning disk confocal head (UltraVIEW VoX, Perkin-Elmer, England) using a 60x lens (Plan Apochromat VC, 1.4 NA, Nikon) under control of Volocity 5.0 (Improvision, England). 14-bit digital images were obtained with a cooled EMCCD camera (9100-02, Hamamatsu, Japan). Four 50 mW solid-state lasers (405, 488, 561 and 647 nm; Crystal Laser and Melles Griots) coupled to individual acoustic-optical tunable filter (AOTF) were used as light source to excite TagBFP, EGFP, Alexa488, TagRFP, Alexa546 and Alexa647, as appropriate. Rapid two- or three-colours time-lapses were acquired at 500ms to 1s intervals, using a dual (525/50; 640/120, Chroma) and a triple filter (450/25; 525/40; 600/35, Chroma), respectively. The power of the lasers supported excitation times of 50ms in each wavelength and the AOTFs allowed minimum delay between 2 colours (e.g. delay between green-red for each timepoint), which was an important factor during the measurement of the timing of incorporation of the various CCP components we investigated.

Automated unbiased identification of all clathrin or AP2 fluorescent spots and quantitative tracking of their dynamics as a function of time were performed using SlideBook 4.1 (Intelligent Imaging Innovations) following the same criteria and procedures as in (S12, S13).

The graph on Fig. 1A represents 10 representative pits of equal length (60s). The fluorescence intensities (a.u.: arbitrary units), corrected for their respective surrounding background, of RFP-FCHo2 and GFP-LCa were plotted versus time. Zero '0' values correspond to background levels (for y-axis, intensities) and to the timeframe before RFP-FCHo2 intensity became above background levels (for x-axis, time), respectively. Nucleation rates (Fig. 1D and G, fig. S5) represent the number of new CCPs / $10^4 \mu\text{m}^2$ / second. Statistical significances (*p* values) were calculated by unpaired two-tailed Student's *t*-test. *p* values inferior to 0.01 were considered significant. Colocalization scorings (fig. S1E, F and S2E) were performed on at least 500 dynamic CCPs (kymographs), from 3 cells imaged during independent experiments. The scorings annotated on each kymograph represent the proportion of CCPs profiles that displayed the phenotype shown in the representative kymographs reported (to report that the kymographs displayed are truly representative). For example, in Fig. 1A, $91 \pm 5\%$ (mean \pm standard deviation (SD)) of 319 CCPs (from 3 cells imaged during independent experiments) had detectable RFP-FCHo2 at least 2 timeframes before GFP-CLC. Apart for fig. S2E where the number of CCPs which had detectable FBP17 was very low ($\sim 3\%$) and only 50 CCPs could be analysed, all the other scorings were done on at least 200 (up to 400 in some cases) CCPs analysed randomly, from 3 cells imaged during independent experiments.

For experiments (fig. S10D) involving the addition of tert-butanol or 1-butanol to culture media (S13), a 4% alcohol stock buffer (in DMEM) was added in equal volume directly into the cell culture dish to give a final concentration of 2% tert- or 1-butanol. Washout was performed by decanting the total media in the culture dish and quickly replacing with fresh media. Cells were imaged continually throughout the process.

Rat hippocampal neuron cultures and synaptic-vesicle endocytosis (SypHy). E18 day old pups were harvested from Sprague-Dawley rats in accordance with UK Animal policy. The hippocampus was excised and placed into ice-cold EBSS buffer (Gibco) supplemented with 10mM HEPES and Penicillin/Strep mix. Hippocampi were placed into warm buffer with added papain protease (10U/mL), mechanically homogenized into 2mLs of culture medium, and decanted onto 16mm MatTek glass-coverslip dishes coated with poly-D-lysine (50 $\mu\text{g}/\text{mL}$) and laminin (20 $\mu\text{g}/\text{mL}$). Cultures were typically analysed at 4 DIV (days in vitro). Cultured neurons were transfected via electroporation in an Amaxa Nucleofector machine according to the manufacturer's protocol. Alternatively, cultured neurons were transfected with lipofectmine 2000 at 7 DIV and analysed at 15 DIV according to (S7). SypHy experiments were performed in a pH 7.4 extracellular medium containing 10mM glucose, 136mM NaCl, 2.5mM KCl, 10mM HEPES, 1.3mM MgCl_2 , 2mM CaCl_2 , 0.01mM CNQX and 0.05mM DL-APV, according to (S7). Neurons were imaged at 1Hz using spinning-disk confocal microscopy system described above. Neurons depolarization was achieved by application of extracellular medium containing 50mM KCl for 30 sec, followed by a washout into the pH 7.4 extracellular medium. Quenching (pH5.5 medium) was performed at the end of recording to confirm the SypHy signal was at the neurons surface.

Immunostaining and ligand uptakes (transferrin, EGF and LDL). For immunofluorescence staining (fig. S1C), cells were grown on glass coverslips, fixed with 3.7% paraformaldehyde and

permeabilized with either 0.1% saponin or 0.1% Triton X-100 for 1 hour room temperature in 10% goat serum. Primary and secondary antibodies were delivered in 1% goat serum, and cells were washed in PBS before being mounted with DABCO anti-fade agent on glass slides. For surface staining of synaptotagmin1 (Syt1, fig. S4D), neurons were incubated at 4°C for 1h with the V216 antibody (rabbit) in 10% goat serum in PBS without prior permeabilization of the neurons. After wash of the unbound antibody, the neurons were fixed with 3.7% paraformaldehyde, and the antibody revealed with anti-rabbit-conjugated secondary antibody. To measure transferrin, EGF and LDL uptake, cells grown on coverslips were incubated with either 10µg/mL Alexa546-transferrin, 50µg/mL anti-EGFR monoclonal antibody (13A9) together with 2ng/mL unlabelled-EGF (a concentration of EGF ligand that activate principally clathrin-mediated endocytosis (S14)) or 1µg/mL Dil-LDL for 5minutes at 37°C. Cells were washed with ice-cold PBS to halt uptake and remove unbound ligands. Cells were then briefly acid washed (3 washed, 2 min with pH 5.5 buffer, at 4°C) to remove surface-bound ligands, fixed in 3.7% paraformaldehyde and mounted on slides. Imaging of fixed-samples (endogenous staining and transferrin, EGF and LDL uptake) was performed with the same confocal imaging system described above. Three-dimensional (3D) stacks were acquired with a piezo-driven stage using 0.3 µm steps. All the Tf, EGF and LDL signals contained within the boundaries (PM) of each cells (measured on 3D stacks of images) were quantified and background-corrected. The values were normalized to the mean (average) of the control set to 100. The quantification represents the mean \pm standard deviation (SD) of at least 50 cells in each category, from 3 independent experiments. Statistical significances (*p* values) were calculated by unpaired two-tailed Student's *t*-test. *p* values inferior to 0.01 were considered significant.

Liposome co-sedimentation and in vitro tubulation assays. (Fig. 3B and C, fig. S10B, C and S11C). For protein-membrane binding experiments, liposomes were made by pore extrusion. Liposomes were composed of 80% Folch brain derived lipids (Avanti Polar Lipids, item 131101P) 15% phosphatidylserine (PS), and 5% Pi(4,5)P2 . Lipid components were mixed in 1:1 chloroform:methanol, dried in glass tubes by Argon gas, rehydrated into buffer (150mM NaCl, 20mM HEPES pH 7.4, and 2.5mM DTT), sonicated at 37°C, and filtered through Whatman 0.8µm diameter polycarbonate filters to a final concentration of 1mg/ml. For lipid co-sedimentation assays, 15µM protein was incubated with 0.5mg/ml liposomes for 30 minutes at room temperature, and then spun down in a benchtop ultracentrifuge (Optima TL Ultracentrifuge) for 10 minutes at 70,000rpm (rotor TLA100). The supernatant was separated from the pellet, both were resuspended in sample buffer, and samples were boiled and run on SDS-PAGE gels. For in vitro tubulation assays, protein was incubated with 0.5mg/ml liposomes in 1.5ml eppendorf tubes at room temperature for 15-30 minutes and pipetted onto glow discharged carbon-coated copper TEM grids (Agar brand) for ~1 min. Grids were negative stained with 2% uranyl acetate for 60 seconds, washed in water briefly, and dried by blotting. Samples were examined on a PW6010/20 EM2055 transmission electron microscope (Phillips).

Supporting text, technical considerations:

Overexpression of fluorescently-tagged versions of FCHo1/2 proteins. We observed that, even at low expression levels, C-terminally tagged versions of FCHo1/2 (e.g. FCHo2-EGFP) had a severe dominant-negative effect on CCPs dynamics (which were very slow) and Tf uptake (impaired) (not shown). This was consistent with the reported inhibition of Tf and LDL uptake in cells overexpressing FCHo1-EGFP (S15) and slowed dynamics of CCPs reported under SGIP1 α -GFP (S16). This effect is likely due to a compromised effectiveness of the μ HD – however this is speculation, as we did not test the effectiveness of this fusion protein to bind to eps15 or intersectin.

In this study, we used N-terminally tagged versions of FCHo1/2 and SGIP1 (e.g. EGFP-FCHo2) since they did not perturb CCP dynamics and Tf uptake, as long as they were used at very low levels of overexpression and observed after a short time of overexpression (12 to 20 hours). We typically transfected 0.1-0.2 μ g of DNA (without scaling down the lipofectant) per 10 cm² dishes containing $\sim 2 \times 10^5$ cells. This led to ~ 15 -30 % cells displaying very low levels of overexpression. The movies generated with N-terminally tagged versions of FCHo1/2 and SGIP1 were individually assessed for their CCP dynamics before being further used. These criteria were considered to be legitimate since overexpression of untagged versions of FCHo1 and FCHo2 - even with 2 μ g of plasmid per 10 cm² dishes containing $\sim 2 \times 10^5$ cells - dramatically increased the number of CCPs and Tf uptake (see Fig. 1F-H and S5).

RNAi depletion. For RNAi experiments we confirmed knockdown of the said protein by immunoblotting on the complete cell population treated with RNAi (Fig. S8A, B, C, and G). This analysis underestimates the efficiency of knockdown in an individual cell as there is generally a low transfection efficiency ($\sim 20\%$) as judged by the expression of RFP-tagged respective protein. To correct for this (Fig. S8D) we have quantified the protein expression levels compared with controls (no RNAi) and normalized these for the numbers of cells (using actin as an internal control in each sample). Then we corrected for the 20% transfection efficiency thus giving a more accurate view of how much the said protein was depleted in the cells imaged by live-cell imaging.

FCHo proteins and synaptic vesicle recycling. FCHo proteins nucleate clathrin in 4 DIV (days in vitro) hippocampal neurons and are required for normal synaptic vesicle markers recycling. Given the expression of FCHo1/2 in the brain, we depleted FCHo proteins in 4 DIV cultured hippocampal neurons and found that clathrin puncta on neurites were decreased (fig. S4B-C). Inhibition of clathrin-mediated endocytosis induces surface accumulation of synaptic vesicle markers, like synaptotagmin-1, which fail to recycle following exocytosis (S17). Upon FCHo1+2 RNAi, we observed a concomitant accumulation of the endogenous synaptotagmin-1 on the plasma membrane as detected by a monoclonal antibody against a luminal epitope of synaptotagmin that will be exposed on vesicle collapse (fig. S4D). To follow the kinetics of synaptic vesicle marker endocytosis, we used the SypHy reporter (pH-sensitive pHluorin fused to an intracellular loop of the synaptic vesicle protein, synaptophysin), which has been shown to be internalized by clathrin-mediated endocytosis (S7). After depolarization, increased SypHy

signals (the result of synaptic vesicles exocytosis) progressively decreased back to resting levels in control cells but remained elevated for longer in FCHo1+2 RNAi treated neurons, as a consequence of a reduction in endocytosis (fig. S4E). We concluded that FCHo1/2 proteins are nucleators of clathrin-mediated endocytosis in 4 DIV hippocampal neurons and are required for normal synaptic vesicle markers recycling.

F-BAR-x lipid specificity and twisted tubules. The FCHo2 F-BAR-x module bound preferentially to $\text{Pi}(4,5)\text{P}_2$ -containing liposomes. As with all BAR-membrane interactions the interaction was concentration dependent, but we also note that the preference for $\text{Pi}(4,5)\text{P}_2$ was not as evident at high protein concentrations ($20\mu\text{M}$ +), where binding to $\text{Pi}(3,5)\text{P}_2$ -liposomes but not $\text{Pi}(3)\text{P}$ -liposomes could now be observed. Where we see significant membrane binding then we can also detect tubulation, suggesting that significant binding naturally leads to membrane deformation. It is evident in Fig. 3C that the narrow 18nm tubules are twisted. It is likely that the protein induces this twisting as the membrane interaction sites are not precisely along the concave face of the F-BAR structure. On the extremities of the structure the membrane binding regions are positioned more towards the sides, and as the F-BAR module is symmetrical this results in the membrane twisting around the dimer module (unpublished observations).

Supporting discussion:

Altogether, this study places FCHo1/2 as part of a lipid-binding module that, by recruiting eps15 and intersectin, functions as a nucleator of clathrin vesicle budding. This study elucidates the centrality of membrane sculpting in the initiation of clathrin-mediated endocytosis and leads to a model (fig. S12) whereby AP2 is not the initiator of vesicle formation but is mainly an adaptor for clathrin, cargos and accessory proteins. The F-BAR domain found in FCHo2 can support a number of different curvatures from relatively flat to more extreme curvatures. Vesicle formation requires the generation of progressively higher curvatures. Given that this transition is observed for FCHo2 in vitro as increased protein concentrations leads to more extreme curvatures, we would propose that the narrow curvatures are likely facilitating vesicle neck formation and potentially provide a template for dynamin recruitment. Indeed we see FCHo2 at the rim of constricted CCP profiles by IEM (Fig. 2E). This notion is consistent with the recruitment of dynamin at CCPs toward the time when FCHo2 has passed its maximal signal (Fig. 1A and fig. S6D) and also the concomitance between the curvature produced by FCHo2 (below 20 nm diameter) and the diameter found to be optimal for dynamin spontaneous recruitment (S18). We also found that FCHo2 was not present in mature CCVs and we observed that the protein intensity frequently decreased before CCV budding, and if the protein intensity remained then there were multiple rounds of clathrin cycling. It is interesting that FCHo1/2 proteins did not bind directly to either AP2 or clathrin and thus this may ensure some time-lag between the initiation of curvature and vesicle maturation. All these observations are consistent with FCHo1/2 initiating curvature while being excluded from the final vesicle. FCHo2 binds to $\text{Pi}(4,5)\text{P}_2$ and thus provides some specificity for plasma membrane vesicle budding. Given the abundance of polylysine motifs in the F-BAR-x it could potentially help to

concentrate $\text{Pi}(4,5)\text{P}_2$, a key binding substrate for AP2, epsin, AP180/CALM, all components involved in CCP maturation (S9, S10, S19).

FCHo1/2 proteins also have a μHD that can be found in a number of other proteins and has recently been crystallized from the yeast Syp1p (S15). We show that binding of eps15 and intersectin to this domain is necessary for maturation of the coated-pit. This is likely because these proteins provide the link to AP2 (as each has an AP2 interaction region) and also eps15 is (at least) a dimer and may help crosslink the FCHo2 proteins, helping to concentrate them. Consistent with this, we observe that FCHo2 (while plasma membrane localized) is not clustered in the absence of eps15/eps15R and intersectins. It is notable that yeast Syp1p interacts with the yeast homologue of eps15 (Ede1) (S15). It points to a primordial origin for the clathrin pathway where sculpting and crosslinking proteins, rather than clathrin and its adaptors, may be the commonality between yeast and metazoans.

It is notable that the F-BAR-x (membrane binding/sculpting) and μHD (eps15/intersectin recruiting) domains function synergistically in FCHo1/2 to nucleate CCPs. Indeed, SGIP1 which contains a μHD that binds eps15 (S20) but lacks the F-BAR-x did not rescue CCP formation in the absence of FCHo1/2 (Fig 3A). Consistently, SGIP1 is not recruited early to CCPs (fig. S10A).

FCHo1/2 proteins are conserved across species and are ubiquitous in mammals and are thus likely to play a fundamental role in most CCV budding events from the plasma membrane, including synaptic vesicle endocytosis. These observations put curvature generation as fundamental to clathrin-coated pit formation and vesicle budding and place FCHo1/2 as the key initial element for nutrient uptake, receptor regulation and synaptic vesicle retrieval.

Supplementary figures

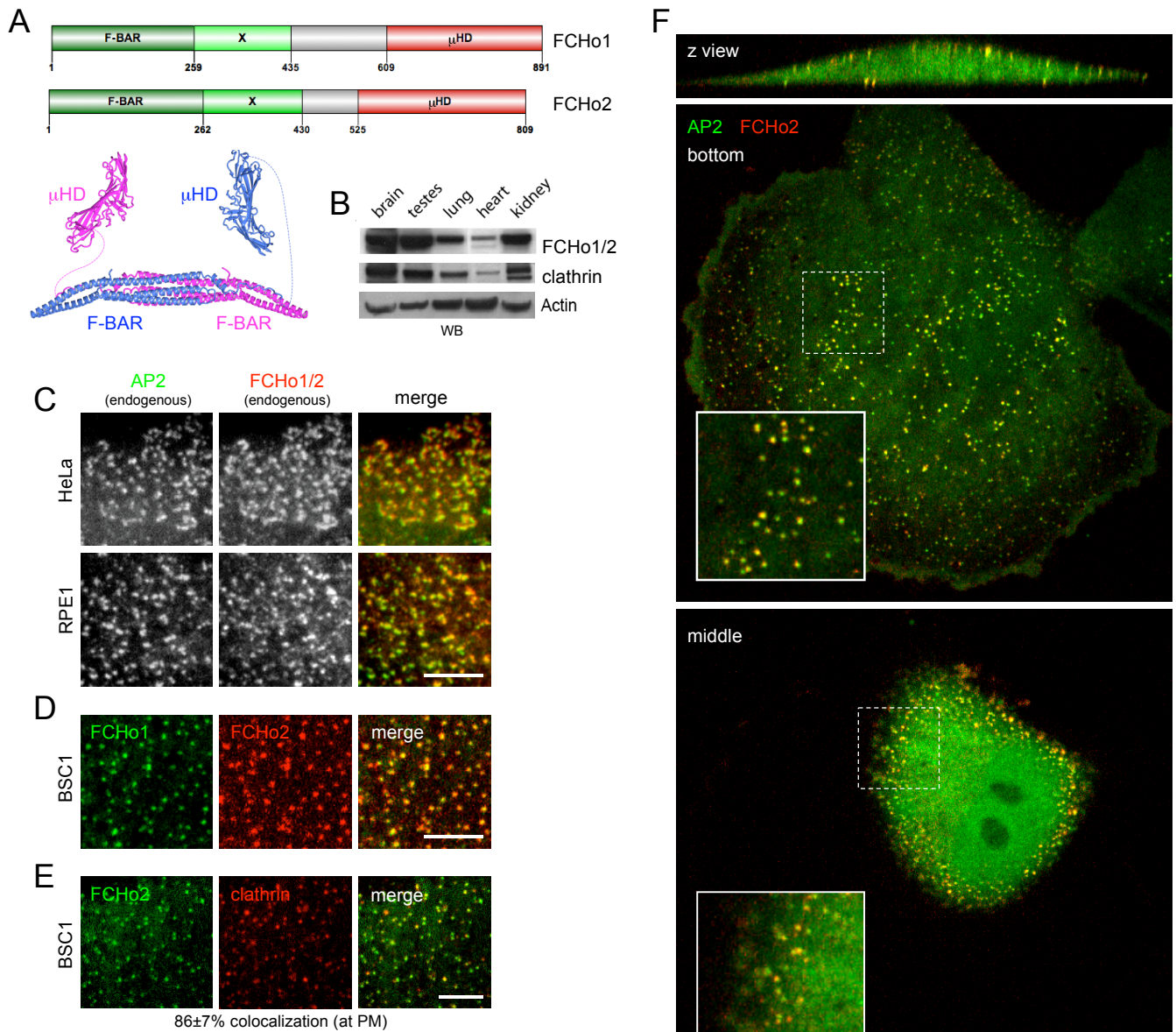


fig. S1 Preliminary to Fig. 1 (A) Domain organization of human FCHO1 and mouse FCHO2 (the clones used in this study). The proteins have a similar organization and contain N-terminal F-BAR domains (residues 1 to 262 in FCHO2), immediately followed by an extended (x) domain (residues 263-430) found in the yeast homolog Syp1p and in SGIP1 (S16) and which enhances lipid membrane binding (see fig. S10B). The region following the extended domain but prior to the μ HD is predicted to be unstructured and shows very low sequence homology between FCHO proteins. In the yeast homolog Syp1p, this region has been shown to inhibit Las17/WASP-dependent actin assembly (S21). Both FCHO1 and FCHO2 end with C-terminal μ HDs (a domain with homology with μ 2-subunit of AP2 (see fig. S9A and (S15)) that are also found in stonin 1 and 2, δ COP, SGIP1 and the yeast homolog Syp1p (S15, S22). Bottom - FCHO2 F-BAR domains homodimerize. Syp1p μ HD (S15) are shown at scale. (B) FCHO1/2 is expressed ubiquitously. The expression level of FCHO1/2 directly correlates with that of clathrin heavy chain (CHC). (C) Endogenous FCHO1/2 colocalize with endogenous AP2 (labelled with a monoclonal anti- α -adaptin) in human transformed HeLa and non-transformed RPE1 cells. (D) EGFP-FCHO1 (FCHO1) colocalizes with RFP-FCHO2 (FCHO2). (E) EGFP-FCHO2 (FCHO2) colocalizes with RFP-LCa (clathrin) on the plasma membrane of BSC1 cells. (F) RFP-FCHO2 colocalizes with σ 2-EGFP (AP2), the plasma-membrane specific clathrin adaptor. Note that FCHO2 is detected mainly at the plasma membrane (z view, and insets). Scale bars, 5 (C-E) or 10 μ m (F).

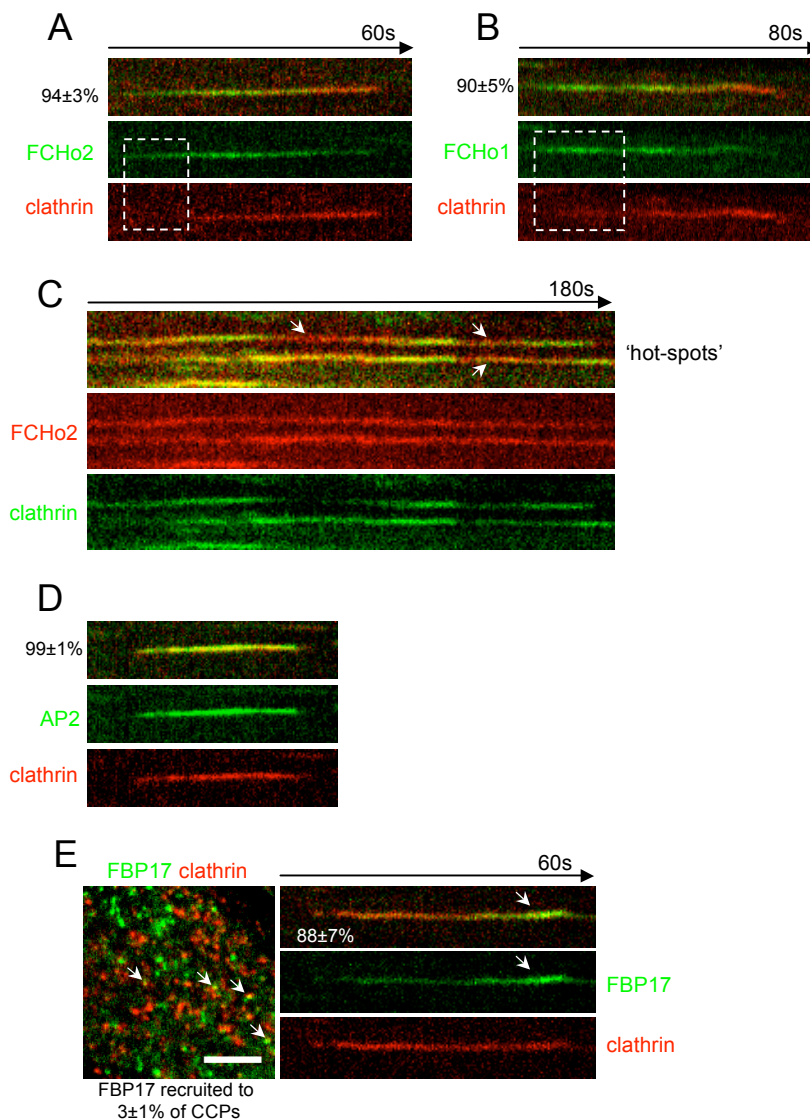


fig. S2 Supplement for Fig. 1A (A) Kymograph of a representative CCP labelled with GFP-FCHo2 (FCHo2) and RFP-LCa (clathrin) - inverse tags compared to Fig. 1A. Note the inversion of the tags did not affect the detection of FCHo2 before clathrin. (B) Kymograph of a representative CCP labelled with EGFP-FCHo1 (FCHo1) and RFP-LCa (clathrin). Like FCHo2, FCHo1 appeared prior to clathrin. (C) FCHo2 marked clathrin endocytic 'hot-spots'. Kymograph of RFP-FCHo2 and EGFP-LCa. FCHo2 and clathrin co-localized and when clathrin signal diminished, FCHo2 remained and marked a site where clathrin returns (arrows). (D) Kymograph of a representative CCP labelled with σ 2-EGFP (AP2) and RFP-LCa (clathrin). AP2 was not detected before clathrin. (E) EGFP-FBP17 (FBP17) was recruited to 3±1% of CCPs (labelled with RFP-LCa (clathrin)) in BSC1 cells. Some colocalizations were nevertheless observed (arrows). Kymograph of a CCP labelled with EGFP-FBP17 and RFP-LCa. Note that FBP17 accumulated late (arrow) during CCP formation. Scale bars, 5 μ m. Displayed kymographs were representative (percentage).

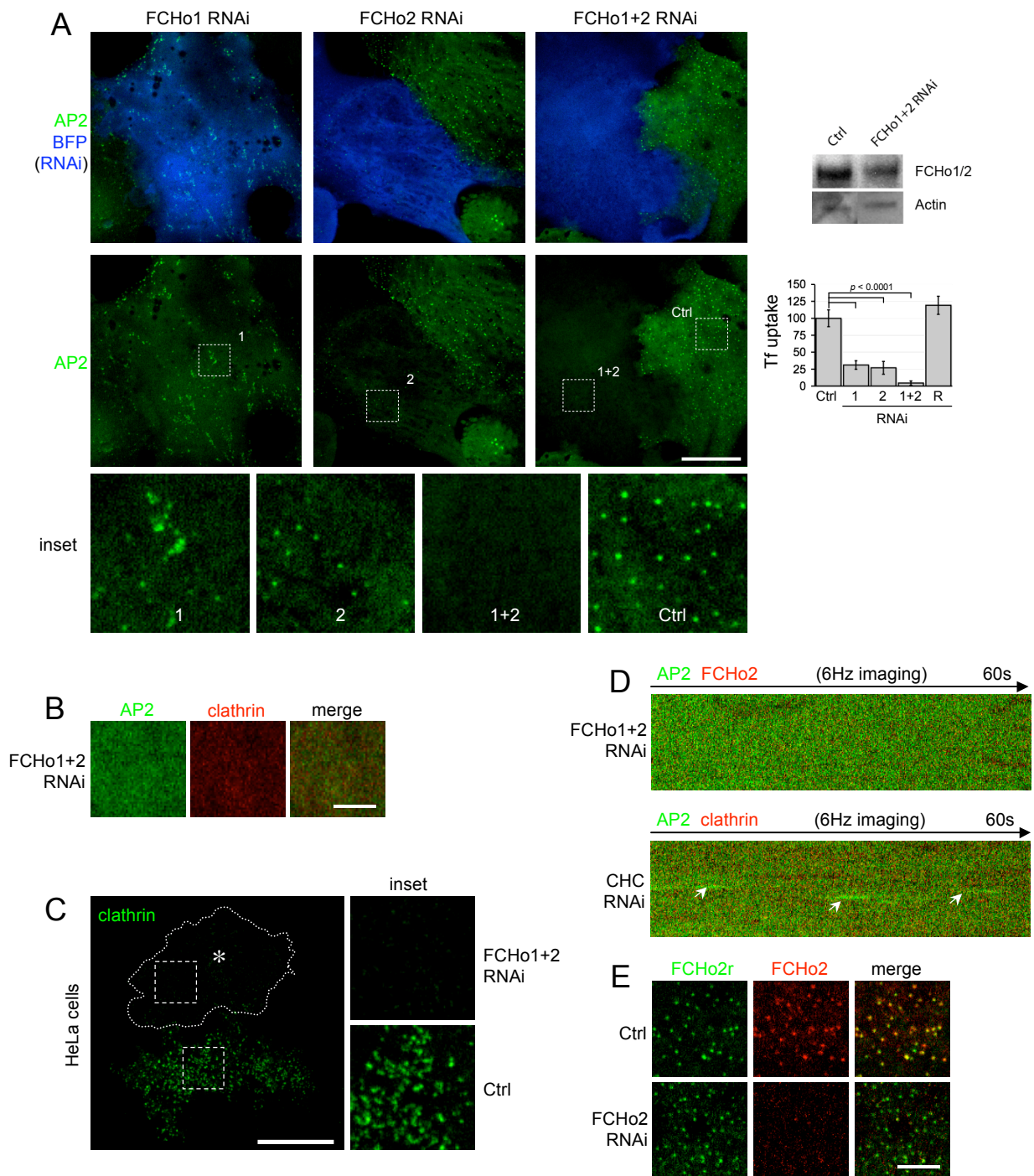


fig. S3 Supplement for Fig 1C (A) FCHo1+2 double RNAi was required for complete block of CCP nucleation and transferrin (Tf) uptake. BSC1 σ 2-EGFP (AP2) cells co-transfected with BFP (transfection marker) and either Ctrl, FCHo1, FCHo2 or FCHo1+2 RNAi were mixed with non-transfected BSC1 σ 2-EGFP cells and imaged live by spinning-disk confocal microscopy. Note the decrease of AP2 spots and Tf uptake (graph) in both FCHo1 and FCHo2 single-RNAi and the virtually total disappearance of AP2 spots and strong decreased of Tf uptake (graph) in FCHo1+2 double RNAi. (B) FCHo1+2 double RNAi stops nucleation of both σ 2-EGFP (AP2) and RFP-LCa (clathrin), and their fluorescent signals are re-distributed to the cytoplasm (diffuse signals at the bottom confocal plane - contrast enhanced to insure that no puncta remained). (C) HeLa were transfected with FCHo1+2 RNAi for 2 days were mixed and plated with control cells for 24h, fixed and stained for endogenous clathrin. FCHo1+2 -depleted cells (*, borders outlined) had reduced clathrin staining. Note that the first bottom confocal plane is displayed, normal clathrin signal was visible at the perinuclear region of both cells (D) High speed (6 Hz, or 1 frame every 166 ms) live-cell imaging could not detect AP2 nucleation in FCHo1+2 RNAi cells (contrast enhanced to insure that no puncta remained). By contrast, in clathrin heavy chain (CHC) RNAi cells, many transient (~1-6 sec) and weak recruitment events of AP2 (arrows) were observed. (E) RNAi resistant form of EGFP-FCHo2 (FCHo2r) colocalized with RFP-FCHo2 in control cells (Ctrl) and remained on the PM as puncta under FCHo2 RNAi conditions. RFP-FCHo2, however, became cytosolic and displayed decreased fluorescence indicative of being reduced by RNAi. Scale bars, 20 (A, C) and 10 μ m (B, D).

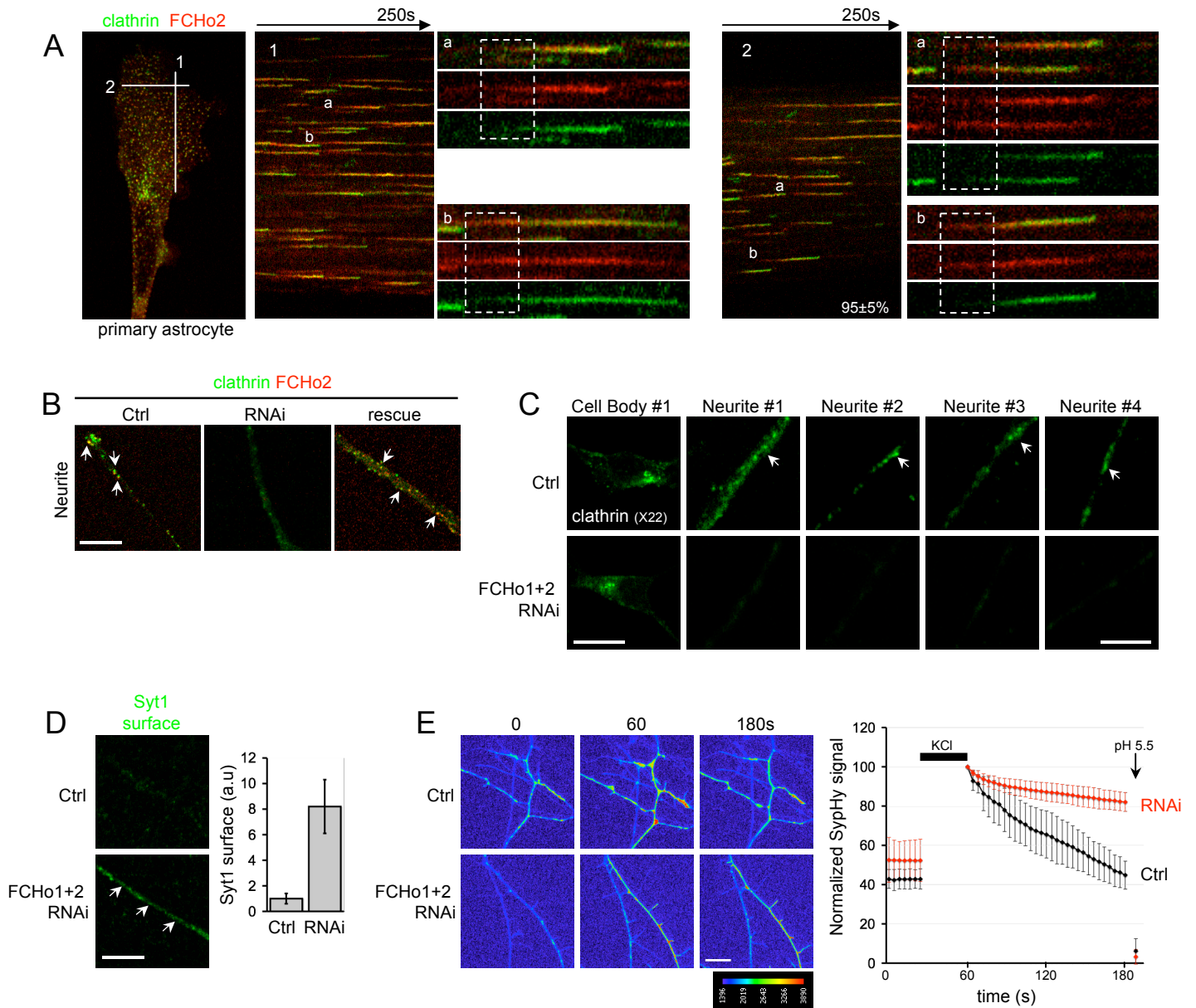


fig. S4 Supplement for Fig 1C (A) 4 DIV (days in vitro) rat primary astrocytes transfected with FCHO1+2 double RNAi and expressing EGFP-LCa (clathrin) and an RNAi-resistant form of RFP-FCHO2 (FCHO2). Kymographs 1 and 2 were generated along the respective lines. Note the detection of FCHO2 before clathrin (inset kymographs). Displayed kymographs were representative (percentage). (B) 4 DIV rat hippocampal neurons expressing EGFP-LCa (clathrin) and RFP-FCHO2 (FCHO2) displayed characteristic punctate staining along the neuronal processes (Ctrl, arrows), which were absent upon double RNAi of FCHO1+2 (RNAi). This inhibition was relieved by the co-expression of an RNAi-resistant form of RFP-FCHO2 (rescue). (C) 4 DIV hippocampal primary neurons transfected with FCHO1+2 double RNAi or not (Ctrl), fixed and stained for endogenous clathrin (X22 monoclonal antibody). Neurites from 4 different neurons in both categories are shown. Clathrin signals within neuronal cell bodies (endosomes, pericentriolar area) remained in FCHO1+2 RNAi neurons, but not the puncta on neurites (arrows). Scale bars, 10 and 5 μ m for cell body or neurite pictures, respectively. (D) Surface staining of endogenous synaptotagmin 1 (Syt1) was low in the control (Ctrl, 1 ± 0.4 a.u.) since Syt1 is recycled (S17) and increased under FCHO1+2 RNAi (8.2 ± 2.1 a.u., normalized to the Ctrl (mean of Ctrl set to 1), indicating a decrease of clathrin-mediated endocytosis and synaptic vesicle recycling. (E) 4 DIV hippocampal neurons expressing SytHy (S7) and treated or not with FCHO1+2 RNAi were imaged at 1Hz by spinning-disk confocal microscopy. 50mM KCl were applied to depolarize the neurons and induce exocytosis. Intensity-coded colours are shown. Signals along neuronal projections from 3 neurons in each categories were quantified every 4s and normalized to 100 corresponding to the signals at the time of KCl washout. Neurons treated with FCHO1+2 had strongly decreased kinetics of SytHy endocytosis. Scale bars, 10 μ m, unless specified.

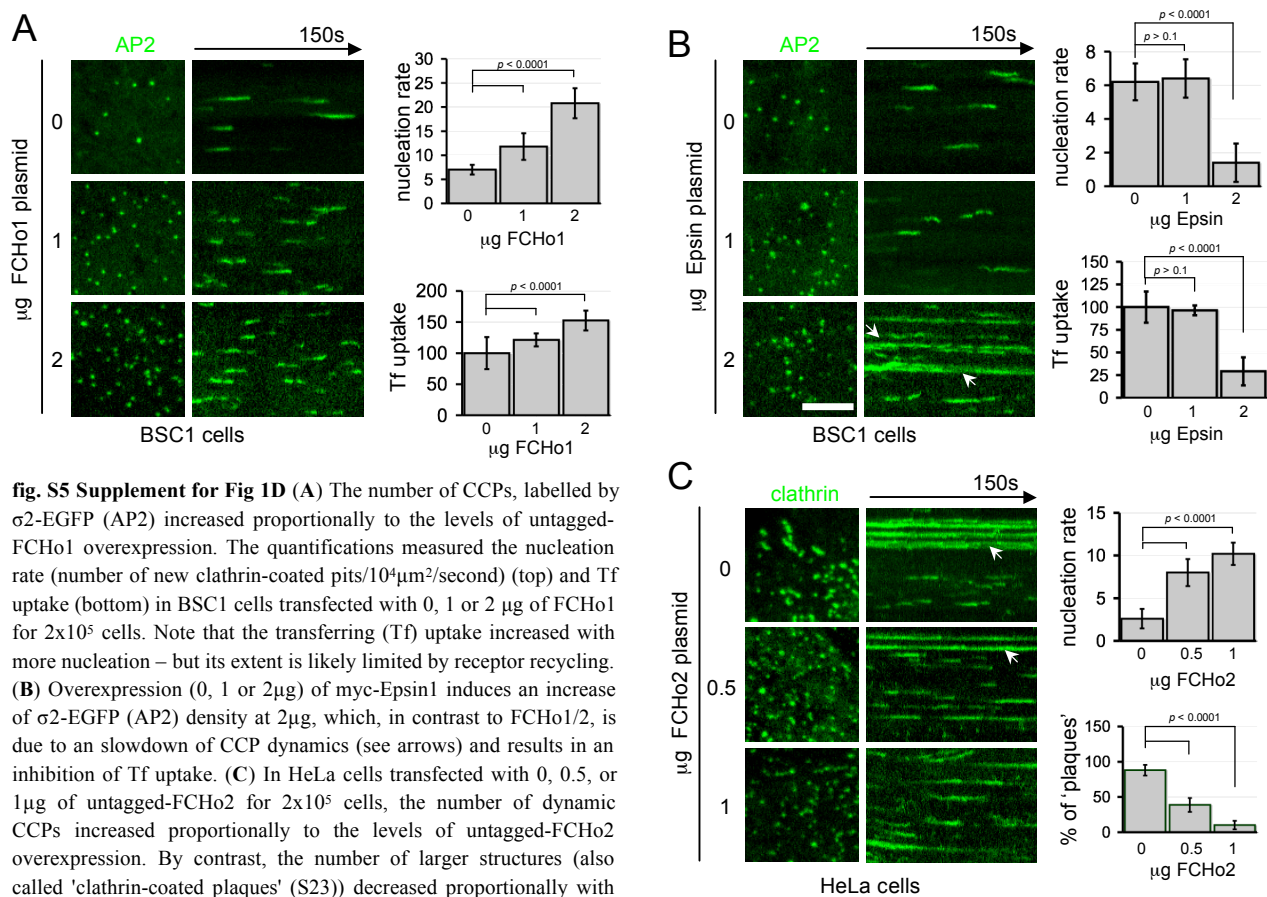


fig. S5 Supplement for Fig 1D (A) The number of CCPs, labelled by $\sigma 2$ -EGFP (AP2) increased proportionally to the levels of untagged-FCHO1 overexpression. The quantifications measured the nucleation rate (number of new clathrin-coated pits/ $10^4 \mu\text{m}^2/\text{second}$) (top) and Tf uptake (bottom) in BSC1 cells transfected with 0, 1 or 2 μg of FCHO1 for 2×10^5 cells. Note that the transferring (Tf) uptake increased with more nucleation – but its extent is likely limited by receptor recycling. **(B)** Overexpression (0, 1 or 2 μg) of myc-Epsin1 induces an increase of $\sigma 2$ -EGFP (AP2) density at 2 μg , which, in contrast to FCHO1/2, is due to an slowdown of CCP dynamics (see arrows) and results in an inhibition of Tf uptake. **(C)** In HeLa cells transfected with 0, 0.5, or 1 μg of untagged-FCHO2 for 2×10^5 cells, the number of dynamic CCPs increased proportionally to the levels of untagged-FCHO2 overexpression. By contrast, the number of larger structures (also called 'clathrin-coated plaques' (S23)) decreased proportionally with the levels of untagged-FCHO2 overexpression (arrows). Scale bar, $5 \mu\text{m}$.

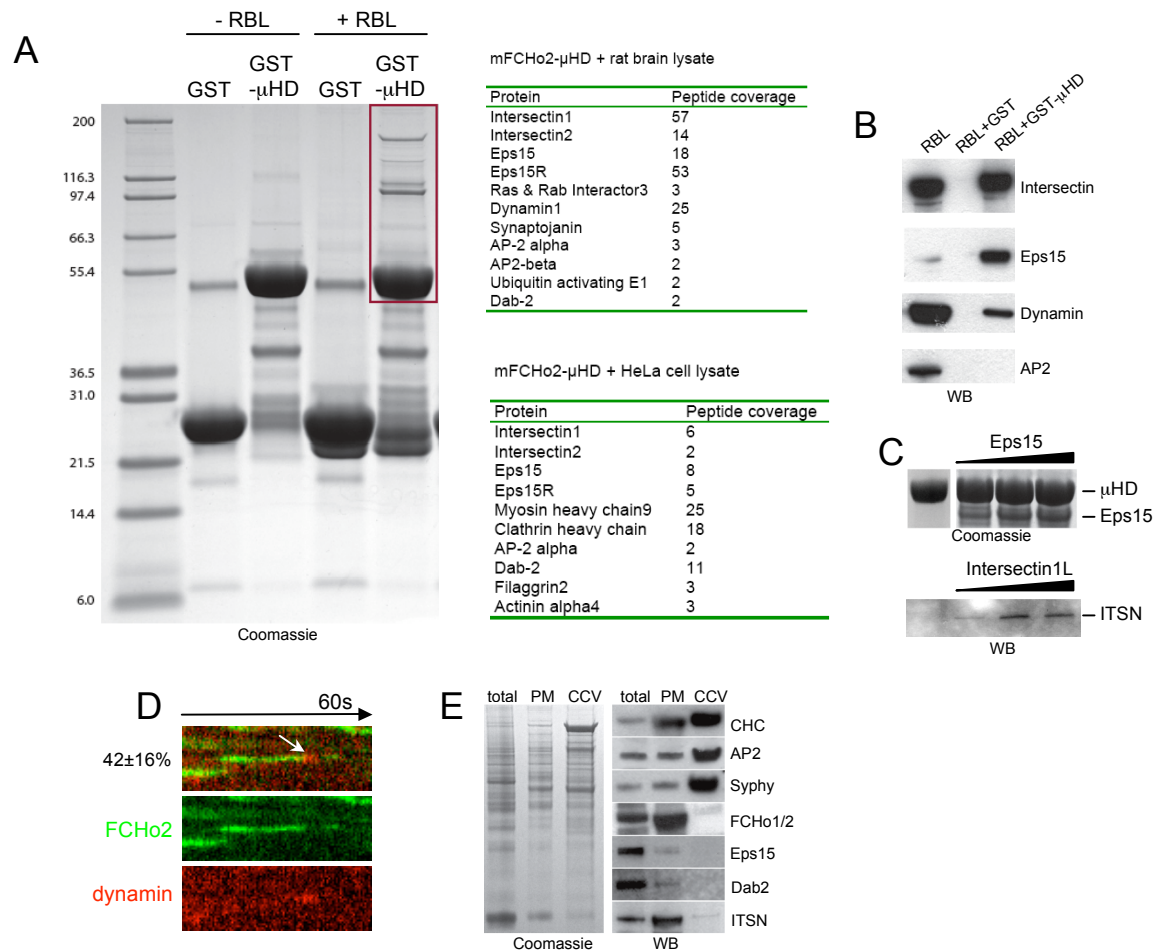


fig. S6 Supplement for Fig. 2A-D (A) Pull downs were conducted with GST-FCHo2 μHD (525-809) fusion protein bound to GSH-sepharose beads. Beads were incubated with rat brain lysate (RBL) for 1 hour, pelleted, washed three times, and run on SDS-PAGE gels. Bands were identified by mass spectrometry (LC-MS-MS). The area highlighted in red corresponds to the pull down shown in Figure 2A. The tables show a more complete list of protein interactions and the peptide coverage from GST-FCHo2 μHD pull downs out of rat brain and HeLa cell lysates. The presence of dynamin is potentially indirect as it binds intersectin with high affinity (S24). (B) Western blots of the GST-FCHo2 μHD pull down lysates. Total cell lysate (RBL), RBL+GST, and GST-μHD + RBL were blotted for intersectin1, eps15, dynamin, and AP2-α adaptin subunit. Intersectin and Eps15 displayed enrichment in GST-μHD pull downs, whereas dynamin was de-enriched and AP2-α was absent. (C) The interactions between the μHD and eps15 and intersectin are direct. Recombinant eps15 (aa530-791) (0.1, 0.5 and 1mg/ml) and full-length intersectin1L (ITSN) (5, 10 and 20 μg) were titrated into GST-μHD sample on beads in separate experiments, centrifuged and washed. Samples were visualized by Coomassie staining (Eps15) or Western-blotting (ITSN). (D) Kymograph of a representative CCP (scoring) labelled with EGFP-FCHo2 (FCHo2) and mCherry-dynamin2 (dynamin). Note the appearance of dynamin after FCHo2 signal diminished rather like the appearance of the yeast Abp1 after the intensity of Syplp decrease (S16, S21). (E) same data than Fig. 2D but including Coomassie loading controls.

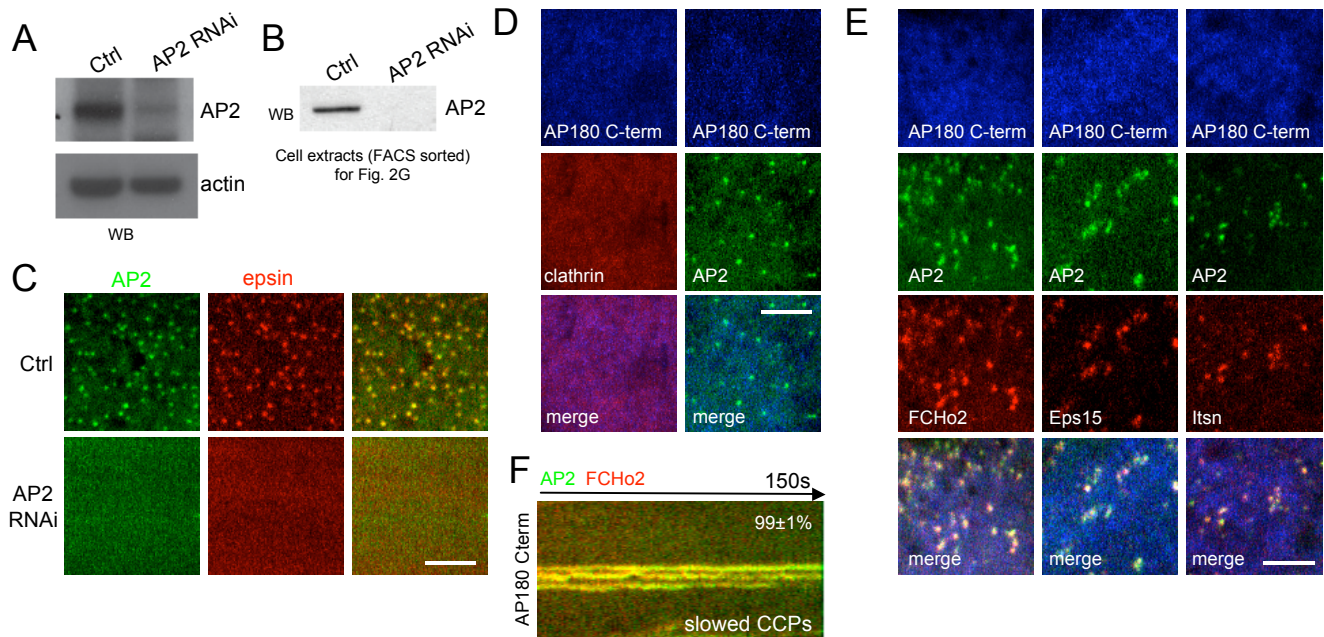


Fig. S7 Supplement for Fig 2F-G (A) Down-regulation of AP2 by μ 2 RNAi in cells used for live-cell imaging, as verified by western-blot using antibody against AP2- α subunit (when μ 2 is depleted, the α subunit of AP2 is destabilized and degraded (S25)) (B) Down-regulation of AP2 by μ 2 RNAi in HeLa cells used for the GST- μ HD pull downs in FACS-sorted HeLa extracts (see Methods) used in Fig. 2G, as verified by Western-blot using antibody against AP2- α subunit. (C) Upon AP2 depletion by μ 2 RNAi, both σ 2-EGFP (AP2) and Epsin1-RFP (epsin) were cytosolic. (D) Overexpression of BFP-AP180 C-terminus (AP180 C-term) abrogated RFP-LCA (clathrin) recruitment to the plasma membrane but not σ 2-EGFP (AP2). (E) Overexpression of BFP-AP180 C-terminus (AP180 C-term) did not abrogate plasma membrane recruitment of RFP-FCHo2 (FCHo2), RFP-eps15 (Eps15) and RFP-intersectin1L (Its). FCHo2, eps15, and intersectin remained colocalized with σ 2-EGFP (AP2). (F) RFP-FCHo2 (FCHo2) and σ 2-EGFP (AP2) spots had slowed dynamics ('slowed CCPs') in BFP-AP180 C-terminus expressing cells, as expected (attributable to the absence of clathrin at plasma membrane puncta). The displayed kymograph was representative (percentage). Scale bars, 5 μ m.

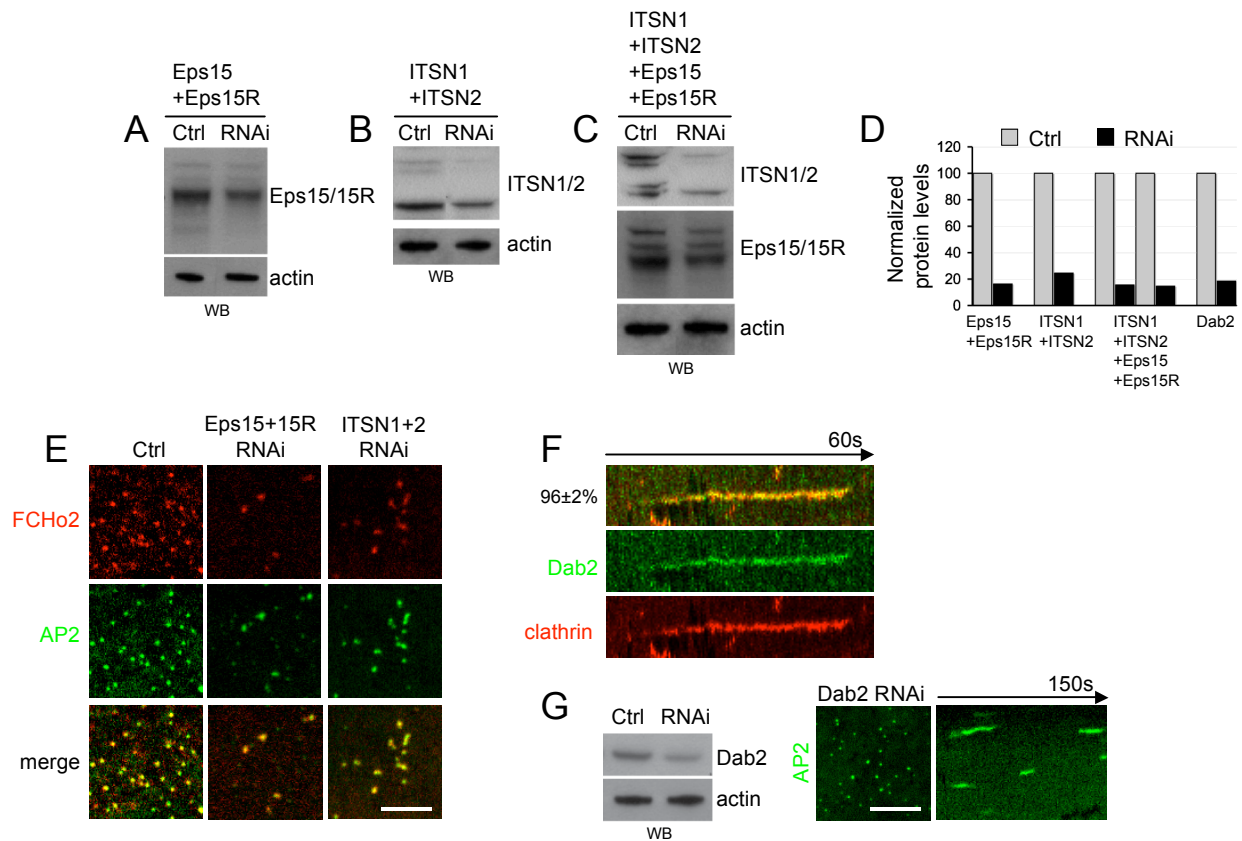


Fig. S8 Supplement for Fig 2H (A) Down-regulation of eps15+eps15R by double RNAi in σ 2-EGFP expressing cells used for live-cell imaging in E, as verified by Western-blot. (B) Down-regulation of intersectin1 + 2 by double RNAi in σ 2-EGFP expressing cells used for live-cell imaging in E, as verified by Western-blot. (C) Down-regulation of Eps15+Eps15R +Intersectin 1 + 2 by quadruple RNAi in σ 2-EGFP cells used for live-cell imaging in Fig. 2G, as verified by Western-blot. (D) The incomplete knockdown in RNAi-treated cell cultures used in A, B, C and G was due to a transfection efficiency of ~20%, as judged by the expression of RFP-tagged respective proteins which explains why depletion of these proteins was not complete by Western Blot analysis of the whole population. Quantification of the Western-blot bands of the gels presented in A, B, C and G, (background-corrected, actin-level normalized and corrected for 20% transfection) predicted between 75 to 85 % decrease in proteins levels in transfected cells. (E) The number of RFP-FCHo2 (FCHo2) and σ 2-EGFP (AP2) puncta decreased under both eps15 + eps15R (Eps15+15R) and itsn1 + itsn2 (ITSN1+2) double RNAi. (F) Kymograph of a representative CCP labelled with EGFP-Dab2 (Dab2) and RFP-LCa (clathrin). Dab2 was recruited early to CCP but not before clathrin. The displayed kymograph was representative (percentage). (G) Down-regulation of Dab2 by RNAi as verified by western-blot. BSC1 σ 2-EGFP (AP2) cells transfected with Dab2 RNAi displayed normal nucleation rate of AP2 (5.8 ± 0.8 number of new clathrin-coated pits/ $10^4 \mu\text{m}^2/\text{second}$ versus 6.8 ± 1.1 for control, $p < 0.01$).

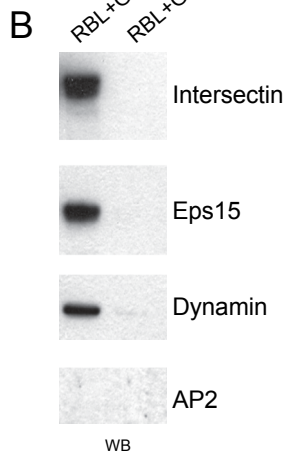
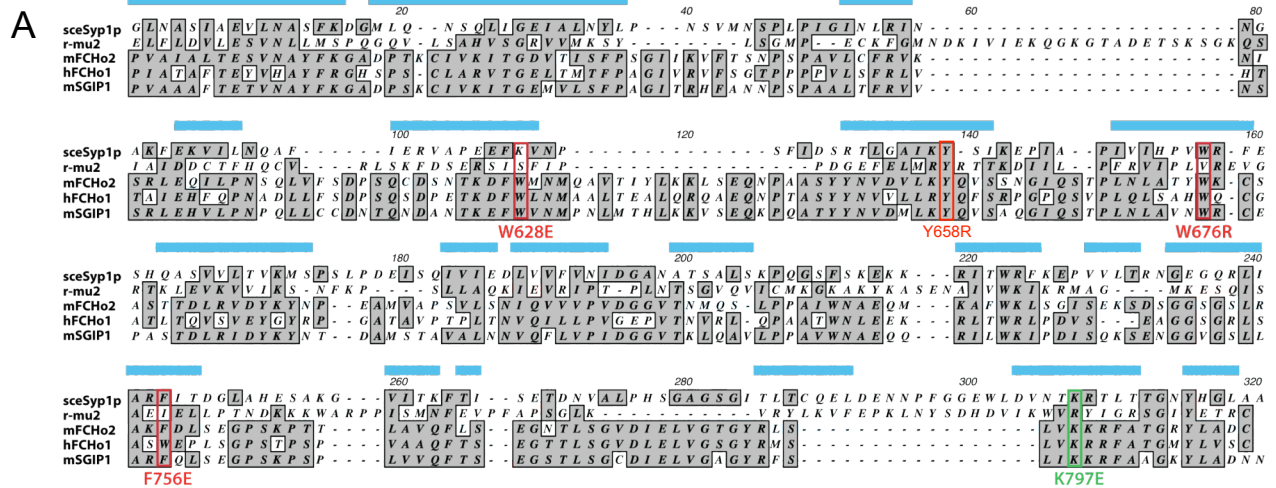


fig. S9 Supplement for Fig. 2 I-J (A) Structure-based alignment of the recently solved μHD of yeast Syp1p (3G9H) and rat μ2 (1I32) compared with μHDs of FCHo2 (Riken AK142282), FCHo1 (IMAGE 5757146), and SGIP1 (AAH17596). Mutated residues that did not express in *E.coli* are shown in red. K797E (green) was used in Fig. 2G. β-sheets are denoted by blue bars. (B) Pull-downs were conducted with GST-FCHo2 μHD (525-809, K797E) fusion protein bound to GSH-sepharose beads. Beads were incubated with rat brain lysate (RBL) for 1hour, pelleted, washed three times, and run on SDS-PAGE gels. GST-μHD + RBL and GST-μHD Y555A+K797E + RBL were blotted for Intersectin1, Eps15, Dynamin, and AP2-α subunit. All were absent in the pull-down performed with the mutant. Although this pull down was done with the double mutant Y555A+K797E, Y555A alone mutants display no phenotypes alone by pull down nor *in vivo* (not shown), thus the phenotype here was attributed to mutation K797E.

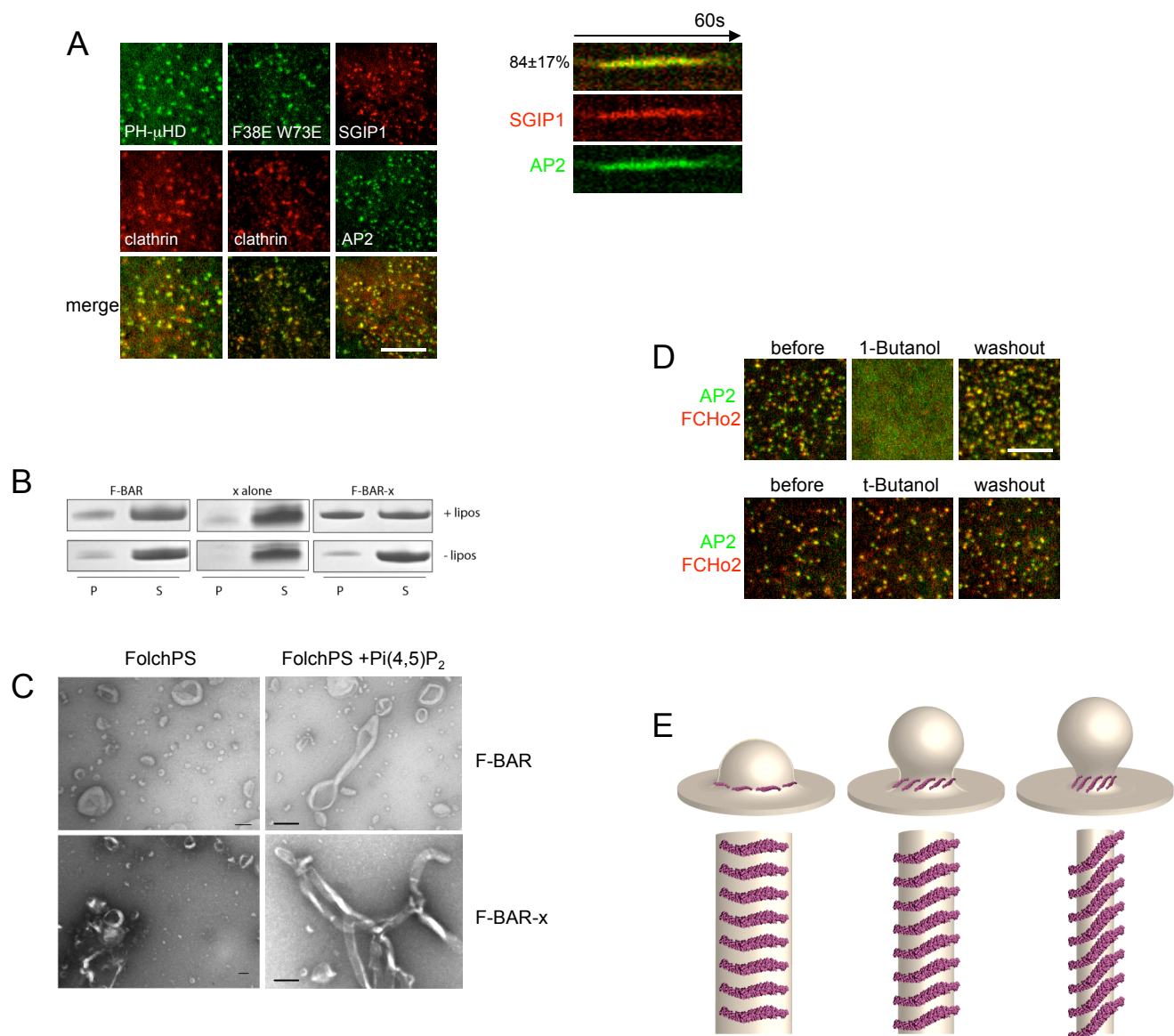


fig. S10 Supplement for Fig. 3A-C (A) A chimera EGFP-PH-μHD (PH-μHD), an FCHo2 which cannot dimerize EGFP-FCHo2 (F38E+W73E), and RFP-SGIP1 were all targeted to CCP in normal (non-RNAi treated) cells. SGIP1 was an early component in CCP formation but was not detected before AP2, as shown on the kymograph of a representative CCP labelled with RFP-SGIP1 (SGIP1) and σ2-EGFP (AP2). The displayed kymograph was representative (percentage). (B) The F-BAR and extended (x) domains acted synergistically to enhance lipid membrane binding. Lipid-protein co-sedimentation assays of F-BAR-x (1-327), F-BAR (1-262), and x (263-430) proteins with 0.5mg/mL liposomes (see Methods for composition). All proteins were used at 15μM concentration. Samples were incubated, centrifuged, and separated into pellet (P) and supernatant (S) fractions, and run out on SDS-PAGE gel electrophoresis. (C) Pi(4,5)P₂ stimulated membrane tubulation by the FCHo2 F-BAR-x module. 5μM of FCHo2 F-BAR (1-262) or FCHo2 F-BAR-x (1-327) protein were incubated with Avanti Folch liposomes spiked with either 20% phosphatidylserine (FolchPS) or FolchPS + 5% Pi(4,5)P₂ (Folch+Pi(4,5)P₂), and evaluated by EM. No tubulation was observed by either F-BAR or F-BAR-x protein on Folch+PS liposomes. Moderate tubulation was seen by F-BAR protein on FolchPS +Pi(4,5)P₂ liposomes, and tubules were broad in diameter (70-130nm). The F-BAR-x module produced a higher degree of membrane tubulation of FolchPS+Pi(4,5)P₂ liposomes. Scale bars, 200 nm (D) The acute decrease of cellular Pi(4,5)P₂ by the addition of 2% of the primary alcohol 1-butanol (S13) induced reversible loss of FCHo2 plasma membrane localization. EGFP-FCHo2 (FCHo2) and RFP-LCa (clathrin), which colocalize in the cell before treatment, became cytosolic within 1 minute following the addition of 2% 1-butanol, as observed by live-cell imaging. Following washout of 1-butanol, FCHo2 and clathrin rapidly relocated to the plasma membrane. During 1-butanol washout, nucleation rate were transiently higher, as reported earlier (S13). As expected, 2% of the tertiary alcohol t-butanol had no effect (bottom panel). Scale bar, 5 μm. (E) A model indicating how the F-BAR dimer can support both moderate and extreme positive membrane curvature. When the F-BAR dimer orients perpendicular to the long axis of a membrane tubule, only moderate curvature is generated since the F-BAR dimer is only shallowly curved. If the F-BAR dimers are shifted to an oblique angle, however, high curvature is generated (see Supplementary Movie S2). This may explain how FCHo2 can localize to relatively flat regions of the plasma membrane, accumulate, and create the initial dimple of the nascent CCP.

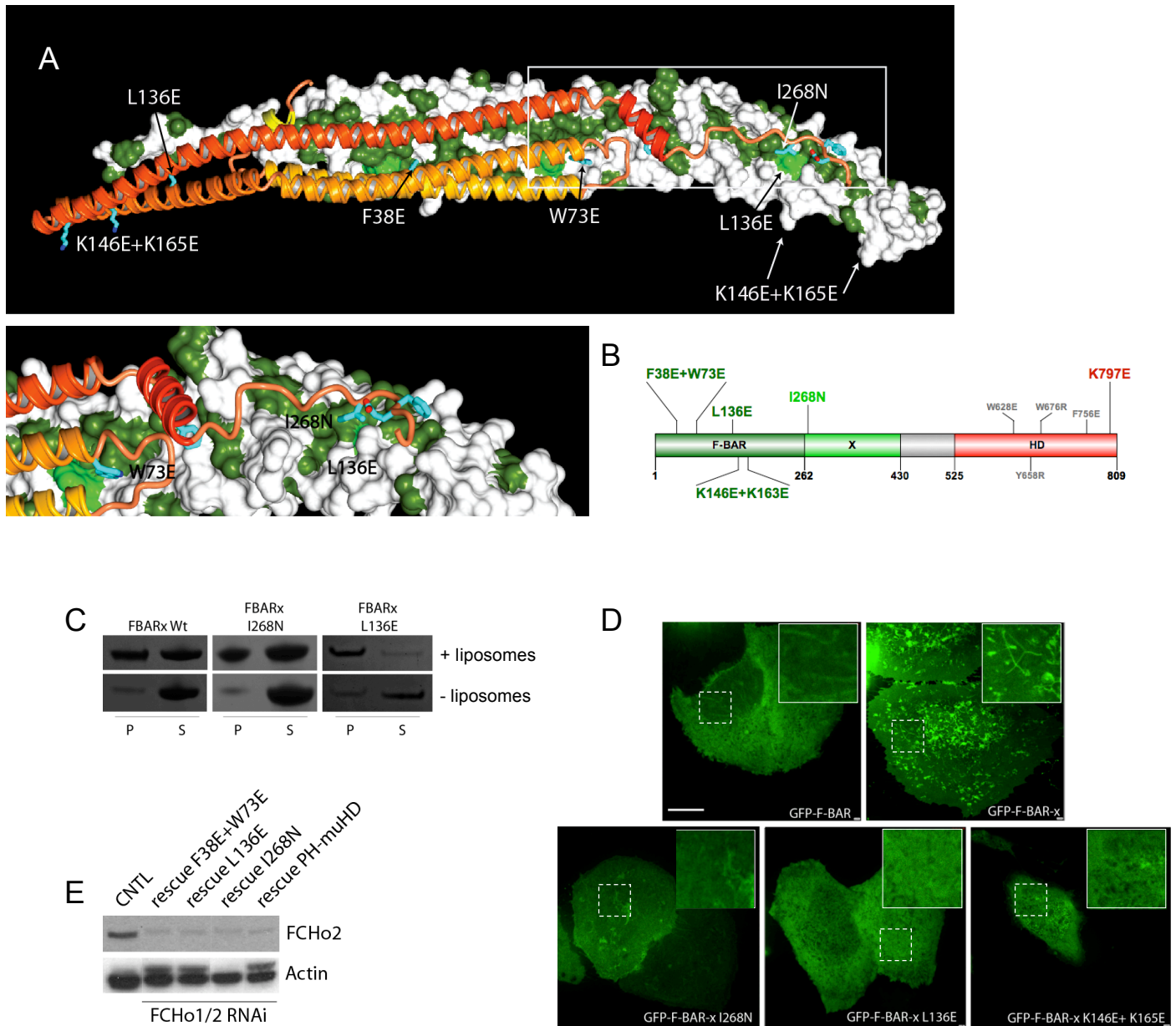


fig. S11 Supplement for Fig. 3D-E (A) Structure-based mutations of the F-BAR and extended (x) domains which affect CCP formation and transferrin uptake (refer to Fig 4D). The lipid binding mutants (K146E+K165E) are located on the concave face of the F-BAR dimer. The dimer interface mutants (F38E+W73E) are buried within the dimer core. I268N lies on the beginning of the extended domain and faces inward into the conserved hydrophobic pocket along the F-BAR 'wing'. This mutation is derived from the I282N mutation in mouse protein MAYP which generates a macrophage-associated autoimmune disease (S26). L136E is across from I268N and interacts directly in the hydrophobic pocket. (B) Structure-based mutations scheme on FCHo2. (C) F-BAR-x mutants that lose tubulation ability still bound to lipid membrane *in vitro*. Lipid protein co-sedimentation assays with mutant F-BAR-x protein and Avanti Folch liposomes (+20% PS and 5% Pi(4,5)P₂). Protein and liposomes were incubated, centrifuged, and the pellet (P) and supernatant (S) were separated and run on SDS-PAGE gels. Mutant proteins I268N and L136E cosedimented with liposomes in amounts comparable to WT protein. (D) An *in vivo* tubulation assay to assess mutations that affect membrane sculpting. HeLa cells expressing EGFP-FCHo2 F-BAR (1-272) or F-BAR-x (1-327). The F-BAR domain alone generated few plasma membrane tubules in HeLa cells when over-expressed, but expressing of F-BAR-x lead to membrane tubulation (see inset). Mutants attenuate membrane tubulation and lead to a diffuse plasma membrane signal (see insets). Scale bar, 20 μ m (E) FCHo1/2-depleted BSC1 cells expressing RNAi-resistant mutants FCHo2 FL (see chart Fig. 3D). Western blots against FCHo2 demonstrate ~80% knockdown of endogenous FCHo2.

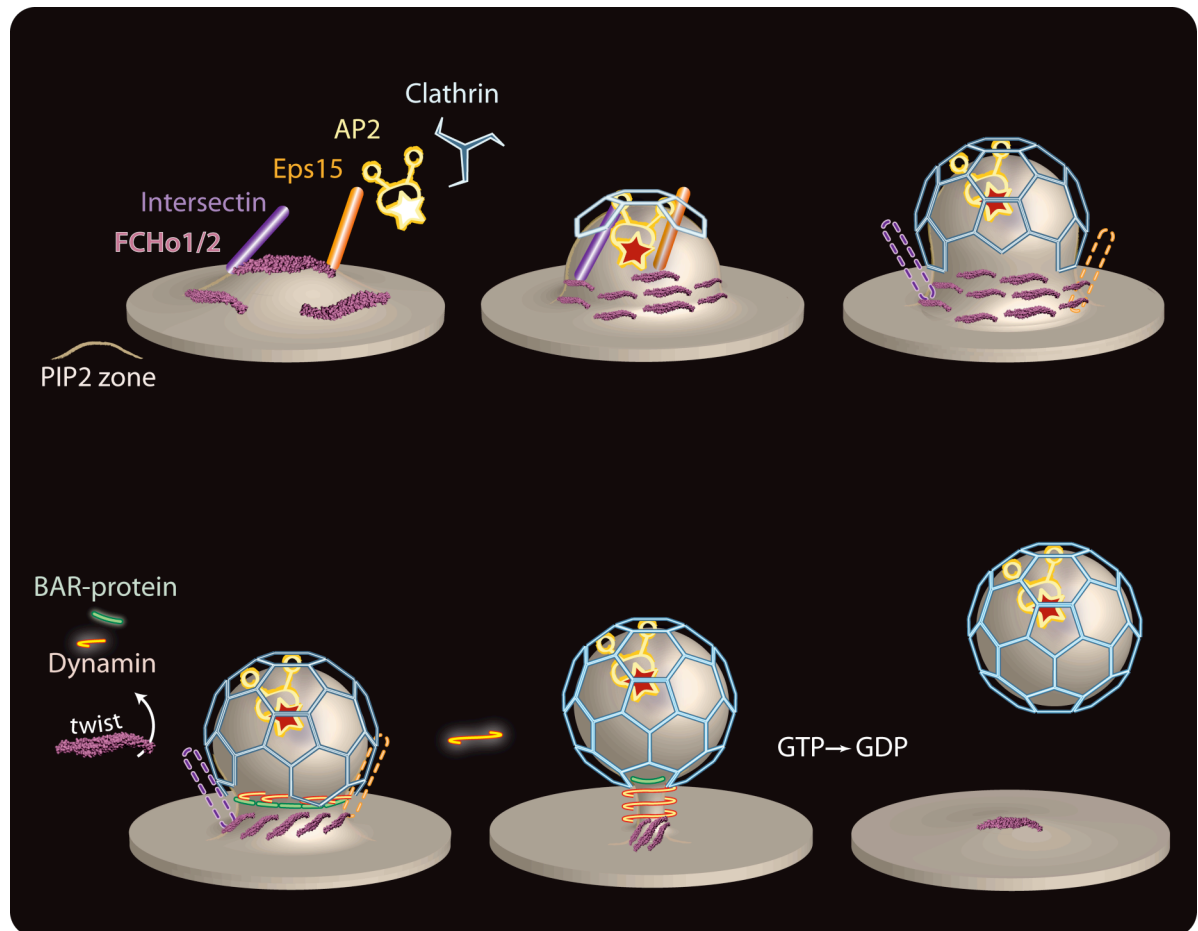


fig. S12 A model for FCHo1/2 proteins as nucleators of CCP formation. FCHo proteins bind to the plasma membrane at sites where CCPs will form. They recruit the early CCP proteins eps15 and intersectin, which function to cluster FCHo proteins into puncta and generate the initial curvature. As FCHo proteins and Eps15 (S27) accumulate at the rim of nascent CCP, more extreme curvatures are generated by FCHo proteins as they accumulate and change their angle on the membrane. Eps15 and intersectin recruit AP2, which can subsequently engage clathrin and additional accessory factors necessary for maturation of vesicle formation and budding.

Supplementary movies and legends:

Supplementary Movie S1: BSC1 σ 2-EGFP cells imaged for 150 frames at 2s interval using a spinning-disk confocal. Control (left panel) or transfected (2 μ g of untagged FCho2 plasmid, right panel). The movie was accelerated 10 times. Please note the increased density of CCP with FCho2 overexpression.

Supplementary Movie S2: Simulation of membrane bending by multiple F-BAR dimer modules. The FCho2 F-BAR module was based on the crystal structure (pdb: 2V0o). The F-BARs are initially recruited to flat membrane, and as they accumulate, they generate membrane curvature and shift to support a more extreme membrane curvature by reorienting at an oblique angle relative to the tubule axis.

Authors contributions:

W.M.H. performed lipid co-sedimentation, tubulation assays, CCV purification and imaging, E.B. performed live-cell imaging, ligand uptake assays, and quantification of CCP dynamics, M.M. performed pull-down experiments and in vitro binding, E.E. performed cryoimmuno electron microscopy and in vitro binding, Y.V. prepared hippocampal neurons, R.M. provided guidance and reagents and H.M.M. supervised the project. H.M.M., E.B., and W.M.H. wrote the paper with input from all the other authors.

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