**Supplementary Information** 

# Chronic irradiation of human cells reduces histone levels and deregulates gene expression

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## Supplementary figure 1. Reactive oxygen species levels are not increased in chronically irradiated cells

**a**, ROS levels in primary fibroblasts exposed to chronic radiation at 20 mGy/h for 7 days, with/without N-acetyl-Cysteine ROS inhibitor, plus hydrogen peroxide positive control. Measured by plate reader of cell population (upper) or flow cytometry of individual cells (lower). **b**, histone levels in the same cells as 'a'.

а

b



## Supplementary figure 2. Chronic radiation-induced histone reductions do not depend on ATM activity

**a**, Amounts of cellular double-stranded DNA per 5ug of total protein from each cell lysate, measured using SYBR Gold fluorescence dye. **b**, Chronic radiation-induced changes in wild-type or *ATM* knockout RPE-1 cells, exposed to 20 mGy/h chronic radiation at stated dose rates for 7 days. **c**, Inhibition of ATM with 10  $\mu$ M Ku55933 in primary fibroblasts chronically irradiated for 7 days, treated either for 2 h prior to harvesting or for the duration of the 7-day chronic radiation exposure.



Supplementary figure 3. SILAC protein changes following 20 mGy/h chronic IR for 7 days Significant and consistent changes determined by proteins with >1.5 mean fold change and the same direction of change in all triplicate samples; assigned to main function and ordered by foldchange. Primary human fibroblasts





### Supplementary figure 4. Chronic radiation-induced senescence

β-galactosidase staining of primary fibroblasts exposed to chronic radiation at stated dose rates for 7 days (upper panel) and immunoblotting of protein extracts of these samples (lower panel).



#### Supplementary figure 5. Histone changes in senescent keratinocytes

Primary keratinocytes cultured in sub-confluent conditions. Untreated cells, either proliferating or not (via withdrawal of culture media supplements), and senescent cells induced by exposed to chronic or acute radiation, or passaged until replicative senescence reached. Phase contrast images of cells at harvesting (upper panel) were acquired using EVOS microscope with 10X objective and western blot analysis of histone levels in these cells (lower panel).



#### Supplementary figure 6. p53 phosphorylation in chronically irradiated cells

**a**, Total p53 and phosphorylation of p53 in response to chronic radiation at 20 mGy/h for 7 days, UVB irradiation (2.5 J/cm<sup>2</sup>, 312nm). Lanes 1-3 fibroblasts, lane 4 RPE-1 cells. **b**, phosphorylated p53 at serine 15 in chronically irradiated RPE cells.



| 21 | Genes |
|----|-------|
|    |       |

304 Genes

Downregulated = 13 Upregulated = 8 Downregulated = 169 Upregulated = 135

### Supplementary figure 7. RNA-seq data analysis

Significant differential gene expression changes from all donors per sample type with adjusted p-value (FDR) <0.01; fold change >1.5