

## Supporting materials

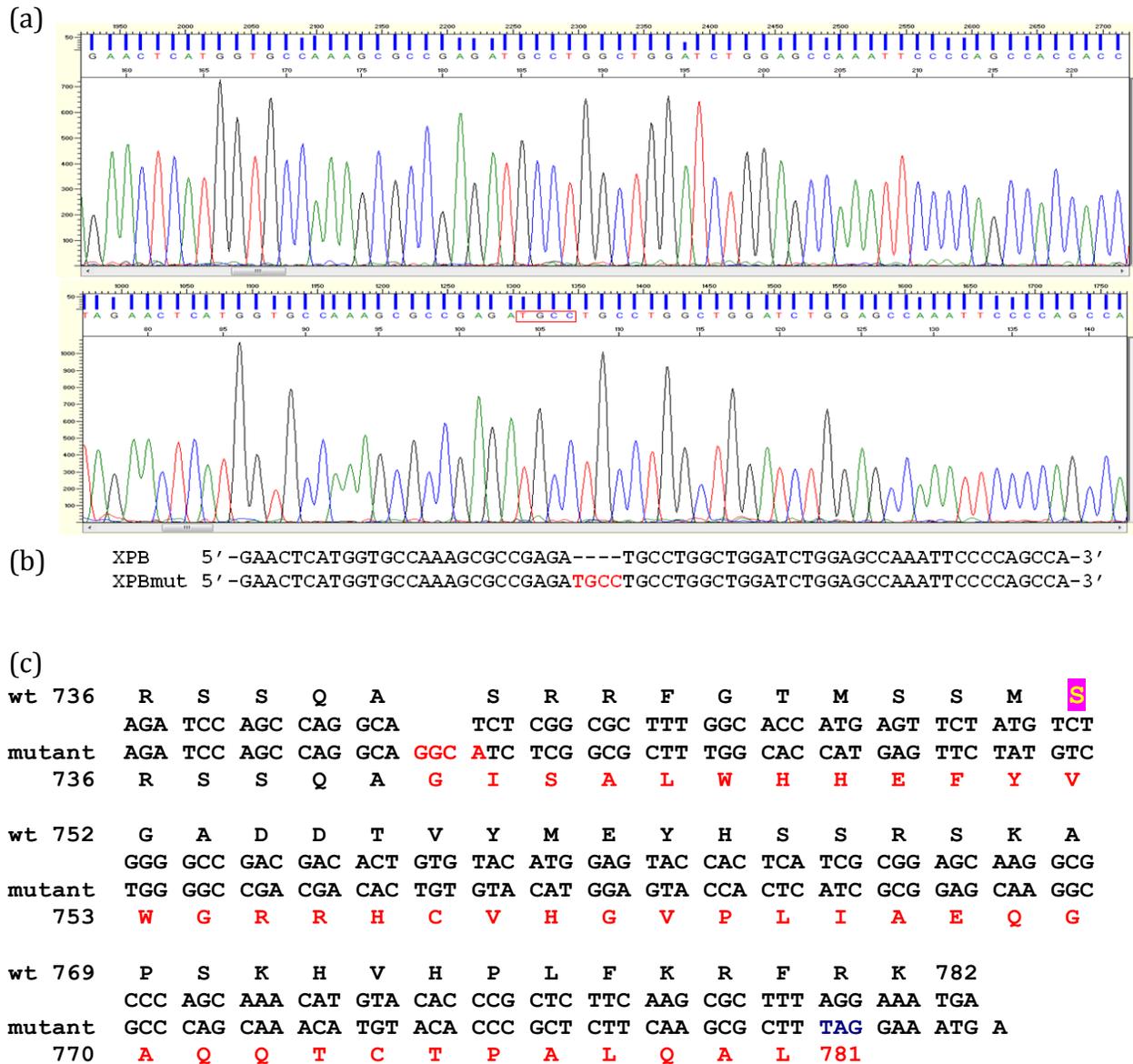
### Methods

#### S1. Cloning, Expression, and Purification of XPB-C Recombinant Protein.

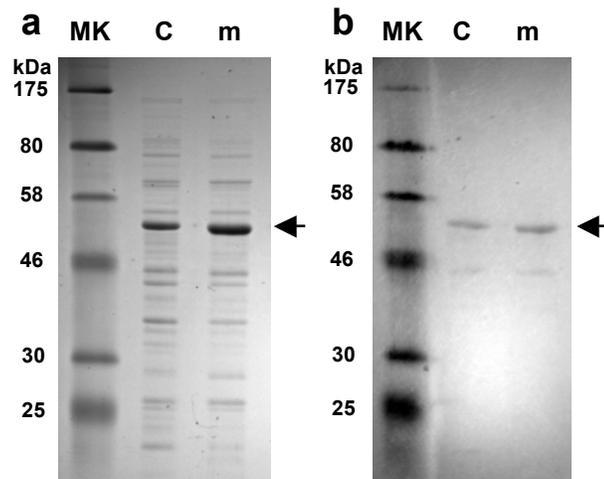
The cDNA sequence encoding the amino acid residues 494 through 782 of the human XPB was amplified by polymerase chain reaction (PCR) using Phusion® High-Fidelity DNA Polymerase (NEB BioLabs, USA) using the plasmid pOTB7-HsXPB (The CCSB Human ORFEOME collection) as the template and a pair of oligonucleotide primers HSXPB-F4 (5'-GGATCCGAGCTGCAGAATAATG-3') and HSXPB-R3 (5'-GTCGACTAATTCCTAAAGCGCTTG-3'). The underlined sequences in both primer sequences correspond, respectively, to the *Bam*HI and *Sal*I restriction sites. The mutagenesis to prepare the GST-XPBm(494-781) was constructed in a sequential two-step PCR reaction. The first PCR is to amplify two fragments labeled as A and B, respectively. The A fragment was amplified with primers HSXPB-F4 and XPBmutR (5'-GCGCCGAGATGCCTGCCTGGCTGGATCT-3') and the B fragment with primers XPBmutF (5'-AGATCCAGCCAGGCGAGGCATCTCGGCGC-3') and HSXPB-R3. The underlined sequences in XPBmutF/R primer correspond to the mutation insertion. Amplified fragments were then gel purified. 100 ng of each fragment DNA were mixed together and incubated at 96°C for 2 min and at 25°C for 5 min. The recombinant strands were extended with Phusion® High-Fidelity DNA Polymerase at 72°C for 5 minutes. After that, primers HSXPB-F4 and HSXPB-R3 were added to amplify the entire mutant sequence (A+B) in the second PCR. The final PCR products corresponding to DNA encoding XPB-C and mutant XPBm(494-781) were cloned separately into the pMOSblue plasmid using the commercial cloning kit (GE Healthcare, USA). After DNA sequencing analysis, both fragments were cloned into the *Bam*HI and *Sal*I restriction sites of the *Escherichia coli* expression vector pGEX-6P1 (GE HealthCare, USA). Protein expression is under the control of the isopropyl-beta-D-thiogalactopyranoside (IPTG) inducible T7 promoter. The final plasmid constructions pGEX6P1-XPB-C and pGEX6P1-XPBm(494-781) were transformed into competent cells of *E. coli* strain Rosetta (DE3) pLys-S (Invitrogen, USA). A single colony was amplified in 10 mL of LB media containing 100 ug mL<sup>-1</sup> ampicillin and 35 ug mL<sup>-1</sup> chloramphenicol, in incubator at 37°C overnight shaking (250 rev min<sup>-1</sup>). Cell aliquots were then used to inoculate larger volume cultures. Protein expression was induced at OD<sub>600</sub>=0.6 after adding IPTG to a final concentration of 0.1 mM at 25°C. GST-XPB-C was expressed at 25°C, 225 rev

min<sup>-1</sup>, and overnight expression. Cells from 6x 1L culture were harvested at 5,000 x g for 20 min at 4°C and pellet was re-suspended in 300 mL of buffer A (PBS 2x, pH 7.5, containing 5% glycerol, 0.5% nonidet NP-40, 2 mM EDTA, 2 mM EGTA, 10 mM benzamidine, 1 mM PMSF, 1 mM beta-glycerophosphate, 1 mM sodium pyrophosphate, 1 mM sodium vanadate), and immediately quick-frozen in liquid nitrogen. Cells were thawed in an ice water bath and disrupted by sonication at 100% output power level, 50% duty cycle, for 10 minutes (Branson Sonifier D450 with ½" disruptor horn). Supernatant fraction was clarified at 50,000 x g for 20 min at 4°C and loaded at a flow rate 2 mL min<sup>-1</sup> onto a 5 mL Glutathione Sepharose column (GE Healthcare) using the Äkta Purifier UPC10 (GE Healthcare) at 8°C. Recombinant GST-tagged protein was eluted in buffer B (50 mM Tris-Cl, pH 8.0, 10 mM reduced glutathione, 100 mM NaCl, 5% glycerol, 1 mM EDTA, 10 mM benzamidine, 1 mM PMSF, 1 mM beta-glycerophosphate, 1 mM sodium pyrophosphate, 1 mM sodium vanadate). Aliquots of the eluate fractions were analyzed by SDS-PAGE 12% (w/v) and fractions containing the GST-XPB-C protein were pooled and concentrated in Amicon Ultra 30K filters (Millipore, USA) at 4°C and 3,000 x g. The concentrated sample was diluted in PreScission Protease buffer (GE Healthcare, USA) and digestion was carried out as described by the manufacturer recommendations. The digestion reaction mixture was passed through a GSTrap FF 5mL column and the flow-through fraction containing the XPB-C protein was collected and concentrated in Amicon Ultra 10K filters (Millipore, USA) at 4°C. Concentrated sample was loaded at the flow rate of 0.1 mL min<sup>-1</sup> onto a HiPrep 16/60 Sephacryl S-100 High Resolution size exclusion column (GE Healthcare) previously equilibrated in buffer C (10 mM Tris-Cl, pH 8.0, containing 100 mM NaCl, and 5% glycerol). Samples corresponding to the peak fractions were analyzed by SDS-PAGE 15% (w/v). Fractions containing the pure HsXPB-C were pooled, concentrated in Amicon Ultra 10K filters, and stored in aliquots containing protein at 10 mg mL<sup>-1</sup> at -80°C for crystal preparation.

## Supplementary Figures



**Fig. S1. Sequence of XPBm(494-781) and XPB-C cloning.** (a) Chromatograms of DNA sequencing results for XPB(497-782) (top panel) and XPBm(494-781) (bottom panel) at the 4-bp insertion region for the non-coding strand. The 4-bp insertion is framed in red in the bottom panel. (b) The DNA sequence of the non-coding strand for XPB-C (XPB) and XPBm(494-781) (XPBmut) at the 4-bp insertion (red letters) region. (c) Both DNA and amino acid sequences for XPB-C (wt) and XPBm(494-781) (mutant) for the region starting from residue 736 until the ending residue. The residues after the frameshift in XPBm(494-781) are colored in red. The phosphorylation residue Ser751 in the XPB-C sequence is highlighted in purple with a yellow letter.



**Fig. S2. Western blot analysis of GST-XPB-C and GST-XPBm(494-781) using anti-XPB-C serum.** Normalized crude extracts (1 $\mu$ g/lane) containing the recombinant GST-XPB-C (C) or GST-XPBm(494-781) (m) were separated by 12% SDS-PAGE. (a) Coomassie blue stained gel. (b) Western blot results with rabbit serum against XPB-C and goat anti-rabbit IgG antibody conjugated with alkaline phosphatase (Pierce, USA). Pre-stained protein markers (MK) were used for (a) and (b). Arrows indicate the positions of targeted proteins.