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Enteroendocrine cells sense bacterial tryptophan catabolites to activate enteric and vagal neuronal pathways

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SUMMARY

The intestinal epithelium senses nutritional and microbial stimuli using epithelial sensory enteroendocrine cells (EECs). EECs communicate nutritional information to the nervous system, but whether they also relay signals from intestinal microbes remains unknown. Using *in vivo* real-time measurements of EEC and nervous system activity in zebrafish, we discovered that the bacteria *Edwardsiella tarda* activate EECs through the receptor transient receptor potential ankyrin A1 (Trpa1) and increase intestinal motility. Microbial, pharmacological, or optogenetic activation of Trpa1⁺EECs directly stimulates vagal sensory ganglia and activates cholinergic enteric neurons

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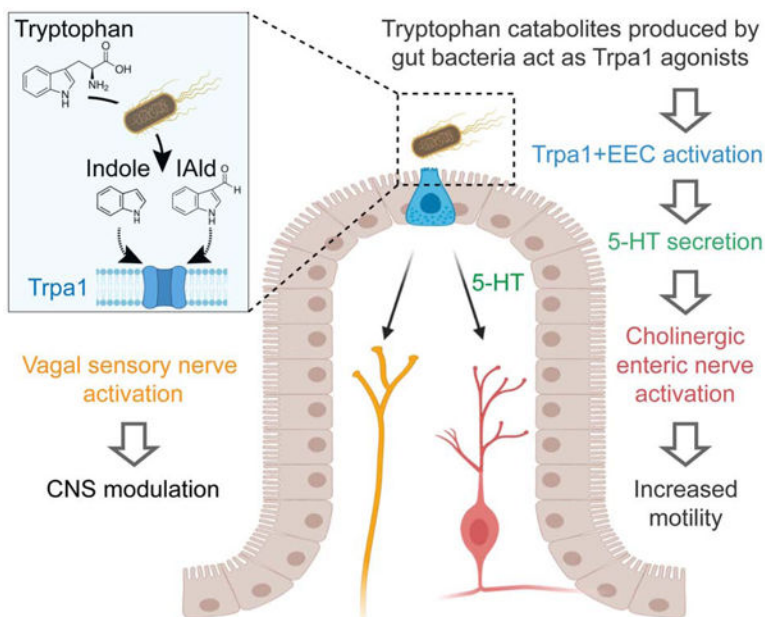
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DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

The authors declare no competing interests.

by secreting the neurotransmitter 5-hydroxytryptamine (5-HT). A subset of indole derivatives of tryptophan catabolism produced by *E. tarda* and other gut microbes activates zebrafish EEC Trpa1 signaling. These catabolites also directly stimulate human and mouse Trpa1 and intestinal 5-HT secretion. These results establish a molecular pathway by which EECs regulate enteric and vagal neuronal pathways in response to microbial signals.

Graphical Abstract



In Brief

The gut communicates nutritional information to the nervous system through epithelial sensory enteroendocrine cells (EECs). Ye et al. reveal that EECs also relay signals from gut microbes. They find that gut bacteria produce tryptophan catabolites that activate Trpa1 channels on EECs causing rapid activation of enteric and vagal neurons.

INTRODUCTION

The intestine harbors complex microbial communities that shape intestinal physiology, modulate systemic metabolism, and regulate brain function. These effects on host biology are often evoked by distinct microbial stimuli including microbe-associated molecular patterns (MAMPs) and microbial metabolites derived from digested carbohydrates, proteins, lipids, and bile acid (Brown and Hazen, 2015, Liu et al., 2020, Coleman and Haller, 2017). The intestinal epithelium is the primary interface that mediates this host-microbe communication (Kaiko and Stappenbeck, 2014). The mechanisms by which the intestinal epithelium senses distinct microbial stimuli and transmits that information to the rest of the body remains incompletely understood.

The intestinal epithelium has evolved specialized enteroendocrine cells (EECs) that exhibit conserved sensory functions in insects, fishes, and mammals (Guo et al., 2019, Ye et al.,

2019, Furness et al., 2013). Distributed along the entire digestive tract, EECs are activated by diverse luminal stimuli to secrete hormones or neuronal transmitters in a calcium dependent manner (Furness et al., 2013). Recent studies have revealed that EECs form synaptic connections with sensory neurons (Kaelberer et al., 2018, Bellono et al., 2017, Bohorquez et al., 2015). The connection between EECs and neurons forms a direct route for the intestinal epithelium to transmit nutrient sensory information to the brain (Kaelberer et al., 2018). EECs are classically known for their ability to sense nutrients (Symonds et al., 2015) but whether they can be directly stimulated by microbes or microbially derived products is less clear. Limited examples include the observation that short chain fatty acids and branched chain fatty acids from microbial carbohydrate and amino acid catabolism activate EECs via G-protein coupled receptors (Bellono et al., 2017, Lu et al., 2018). Indole, a microbial catabolite of the amino acid tryptophan, has also been reported to activate EECs, but the EEC receptor that mediates the effect remains unidentified (Chimerel et al., 2014). With the growing understanding of gut microbiota and their metabolites, identifying the EEC receptors that recognize distinct microbial stimuli as well as the downstream pathways by which EECs transmit microbial stimuli to regulate local and systemic host physiology, has emerged as an important goal.

The vertebrate intestine is innervated by the intrinsic enteric nervous system (ENS) and extrinsic neurons from autonomic nerves, including sensory nerve fibers from the nodose vagal ganglia and dorsal root ganglia in the spinal cord (Furness et al., 1999). Both vagal and spinal sensory nerve fibers transmit visceral stimuli to the central nervous system and modulate a broad spectrum of brain functions (Brookes et al., 2013). A previous study demonstrated that stimulating EECs with the microbial metabolite isovalerate activates spinal sensory nerves through 5-hydroxytryptamine (5-HT) secretion (Bellono et al., 2017). Whether and how gut microbial stimuli modulate ENS or vagal sensory activity through EECs is still unknown.

RESULTS

Edwardsiella tarda* activates EECs through *Trpa1

To identify stimuli that activate EECs in live animals, we developed a transgenic zebrafish line that permits recording of EEC activity by expressing the calcium modulated photoactivatable ratiometric integrator (CaMPARI) protein in EECs under control of the *neurod1* promoter (Fig. 1A, Fig. S1A–F; see Methods for details). When exposed to 405nm light, CaMPARI protein irreversibly photoconverts from a configuration that emits green light to one that emits red in a manner positively correlated with intracellular calcium levels $[Ca^{2+}]_i$. A high red:green CaMPARI ratio thus reports high intracellular calcium (Fosque et al., 2015). This EEC-CaMPARI system therefore enables imaging of the calcium activity history of intestinal EECs in the intact physiologic context of live free-swimming animals (Fig. 1A–B, Fig. S1G–J). To test the validity of this EEC-CaMPARI system, we first stimulated larvae with different nutrients known to activate zebrafish EECs (Ye et al., 2019). Exposure to only water as a vehicle control revealed an expected low basal red:green CaMPARI ratio (Fig. 1C, E–F). Following long-chain fatty acid stimulation with linoleate, a subpopulation of EECs displayed high red:green CaMPARI ratio (Fig. 1D, E–F). EECs with

a high red:green CaMPARI ratio were classified as “activated EECs”. The percentage of activated EECs significantly increased in response to chemical stimuli known to activate EECs, including linoleate, oleate, laurate, and glucose (Fig. 1F), but not in response to the short chain fatty acid butyrate, consistent with our previous finding (Fig. 1F) (Ye et al., 2019).

We next applied the EEC-CaMPARI system to ask whether EECs acutely respond to live bacterial stimulation *in vivo*. We exposed *Tg(neurod1:CaMPARI)* zebrafish to individual bacterial strains for 20 mins in zebrafish housing water (GZM), followed by photoconversion and imaging of CaMPARI fluorescence. For these experiments, we selected a panel of 11 bacterial strains including 3 model species (*P. aeruginosa*, *E. coli*, *B. subtilis*), 7 commensal strains isolated from the zebrafish intestine (Rawls et al., 2006, Stephens et al., 2016), and the pathogen *E. tarda* FL6–60 (also called *E. piscicida* (Abayneh et al., 2013, Bujan et al., 2018); Fig. 1K and Key Resources Table). Within this panel, the only strain that induced a high red:green EEC-CaMPARI signal was *E. tarda* (Fig. 1G–K). We further confirmed that *E. tarda* directly activates EECs using an alternative reporter of EEC activity based on the $[Ca^{2+}]_i$ -sensitive fluorescent protein *Gcamp6f* (*neurod1:Gcamp6f*) (Fig. 1L, Fig. S1K–P) (Ye et al., 2019). Although *E. tarda* has been reported to infect zebrafish (Abayneh et al., 2013, Flores et al., 2020), we observed no overt pathogenesis in these acute exposure experiments.

EECs express a variety of sensory receptors that can be activated by different environmental stimuli. To investigate the mechanisms by which EECs perceive *E. tarda* stimulation, we isolated EECs from zebrafish larvae and performed RNA-seq analysis. Transcript levels in FACS-sorted EECs (*cldn15la:EGFP+*; *neurod1:TagRFP+*) were compared to all other intestinal epithelial cells (IECs) (*cldn15la:EGFP+*; *neurod1:TagRFP-*) (Fig. 2A). We identified 192 zebrafish transcripts that were significantly enriched in EECs by DESeq2 using $P_{FDR} < 0.05$ (Fig. 2B and Table S1A–D). Gene Ontology analysis revealed that those zebrafish genes are enriched for processes like hormone secretion, chemical synaptic transmission and neuropeptide signaling (Table S1A–D). To identify gene homologs enriched in EECs in both zebrafish and mammals, we compared these 192 genes to published RNA-seq data from *Neurod1+* EECs from mouse duodenum and CHGA+ EECs from human jejunum (Roberts et al., 2019). Despite the evolutionary distance and differences in tissue origin, we found that 24% of zebrafish EEC-enriched gene homologs (46 out of 192) were shared among zebrafish, human, and mouse, and that 40% of zebrafish EEC-enriched genes (78 out of 192) were shared between zebrafish EECs and human jejunal EECs (Table S2E–I). The genes with conserved EEC expression include those encoding hormones, transcription factors, G-protein coupled receptors, and ion channels that regulate membrane potential (Fig. 2C and Table S3J–N). Using published data from mouse intestinal epithelial single-cell RNA-seq data that revealed different EEC subtypes (Haber et al., 2017), we found that many of the signature genes in mouse enterochromaffin cells (EC), which are identified by their 5-HT synthesis, are enriched in zebrafish EECs (Table S3J–N). Among these conserved EEC-enriched genes, one of the genes with the highest expression in zebrafish EECs is transient receptor potential ankyrin 1 (*Trpa1*) (Fig. 2C and Table S1A–I).

Trpa1 is an excitatory calcium-permeable non-selective cation channel that has important roles in pain sensation and neurologic inflammation (Bautista et al., 2013, Lapointe and Altier, 2011). A broad spectrum of chemical irritants, including AITC and other compounds derived from food spices, activate Trpa1 (Nilius et al., 2011). In addition to chemical irritants, certain bacterial products, including lipopolysaccharide (LPS) and hydrogen sulfide (H₂S), stimulated nociceptive neurons in a Trpa1-dependent manner (Meseguer et al., 2014). The zebrafish genome encodes two *trpa1* paralogs, *trpa1a* and *trpa1b* (Prober et al., 2008). Our data establish that *trpa1b*, but not *trpa1a*, is expressed by a subset of zebrafish EECs and is required for EEC activation by Trpa1 agonist AITC (Fig. 2D–F, Fig. S2B–G). Since the expression of classic microbial pattern recognition receptors is very low in zebrafish EECs (Table S1J–N), we tested if Trpa1 mediated *E. tarda*-induced EEC activation. We first observed that treatment of wild-type (WT) *Tg(neurod1:CaMPARI)* fish with the Trpa1 antagonist HC030031 significantly inhibited *E. tarda*'s ability to induce EEC activation (Fig. 2G–J). The ability of *E. tarda* to induce EEC activity in the EEC-CaMPARI model was similarly blocked in *trpa1b* mutant zebrafish (Fig. 2K–N). In accord, experiments in *Tg(neurod1:Gcamp6f)* zebrafish confirmed that *Gcamp6f* fluorescence increased in EECs in response to *E. tarda* stimulation in WT, but not *trpa1b* mutant zebrafish (Fig. 2O–R). Therefore live *E. tarda* bacteria stimulate EECs in a Trpa1-dependent manner, suggesting that EEC Trpa1 signaling may play an important role in mediating microbe-host interactions.

EEC Trpa1 signaling is important to maintain microbial homeostasis by regulating intestinal motility

To determine how *E. tarda*-induced Trpa1 signaling in EECs affects the host, we exposed *trpa1b*^{+/+} and *trpa1b*^{-/-} zebrafish larvae to an *E. tarda* strain expressing mCherry fluorescent protein. High-dose (10⁷ CFU/mL) *E. tarda* exposure for 3 days decreased survival rate and caused gross pathology (Fig. S2M–N), consistent with its reported activity as a zebrafish pathogen (Abayneh et al., 2013, Flores et al., 2020). To investigate the interaction between *E. tarda* and Trpa1+EECs under relatively normal physiological conditions, we exposed zebrafish with a low *E. tarda* dose (10⁶ CFU/mL) that did not significantly affect survival rate or cause gross pathology (Fig. S2M–N and Fig. 3A). When reared under conventional conditions in the absence of *E. tarda*, we observed no significant difference in the abundance of culturable gut microbes between *trpa1b*^{+/+} and *trpa1b*^{-/-} zebrafish (Fig. S2H–I). However, upon 3-day treatment with *E. tarda*, there was significant accumulation of *E. tarda* mCherry⁺ bacteria in the intestinal lumen in *trpa1b*^{-/-} but not *trpa1b*^{+/+} larvae (Fig. 3A–C). This accumulation could be observed by either quantifying intestinal *E. tarda* mCherry fluorescence (Fig. 3D) or counting *E. tarda* colony forming units (CFU) from digestive tracts dissected from *E. tarda* treated *trpa1b*^{+/+} and *trpa1b*^{-/-} zebrafish (Fig. 3E). This suggests that Trpa1 signaling may act as a host defense mechanism to facilitate clearance of specific types of bacteria such as *E. tarda*.

In addition to EECs, Trpa1 is also expressed in mesenchymal cells within the intestine (Fig. 2D–E and Fig. S4O) and nociceptive sensory neurons (Yang et al., 2019, Holzer, 2011). To test if the phenotype we observed above is specifically mediated by EECs, we generated a Cre-*loxP* transgenic system that permits specific ablation of EECs without affecting other

IECs or other *neurod1* expressing cells like CNS or pancreatic islets (Fig. 3F, Fig. S2J). Quantitative RT-PCR and immunofluorescence confirmed a reduction of EEC hormones but not non-EEC marker genes (Fig. S2K–L). Establishing this EEC ablation system allowed us to define the specific role of EECs in mediating *E. tarda*-host interaction. As with *trpa1b*^{-/-} zebrafish, we did not detect significant differences in gut microbial abundance between unexposed WT and EEC-ablated zebrafish (Fig. S2O). However, in response to *E. tarda* exposure, a significantly higher amount of *E. tarda* mCherry accumulated in EEC-ablated zebrafish compared to WT sibling controls (Fig. 3H and Fig. S2P–Q). Together, these data establish that EEC Trpa1 signaling maintains gut microbial homeostasis by facilitating host clearance of specific types of bacteria like *E. tarda*. To understand the mechanisms by which EEC Trpa1 regulates gut microbial homeostasis, we used an opto-pharmacological approach that permits temporal control of EEC Trpa1 activation through UV light exposure (Fig. 4A). We pretreated zebrafish with Optovin, a chemical that specifically activates Trpa1 only in the presence of UV light (Kokel et al., 2013) (Fig. S3A). To specifically activate Trpa1 in EECs, we mounted zebrafish larvae pretreated with Optovin and restricted UV light exposure specifically to the intestinal epithelium using a confocal laser (Fig. S3A). UV light activation significantly increased [Ca²⁺]_i in a subpopulation of EECs in WT larvae, as measured by Gcamp6f fluorescence (Fig. S3B–C). The same UV light exposure in *trpa1b*^{-/-} larvae pretreated with Optovin did not increase EEC [Ca²⁺]_i (Fig. 4B–C), indicating that EEC activation induced by Optovin-UV was dependent on Trpa1. Next, we used this approach to examine the effect of EEC Trpa1 activation on intestinal motility. Trpa1 activation in EECs within the middle intestine via UV light application in WT larvae produced a propulsive movement of the intestine from anterior to posterior, and the velocity of intestinal motility increased accordingly (Fig. 4D–F, Fig. S3D–E and Video 1). In contrast, Optovin treatment and UV activation failed to induce intestinal motility in EEC-ablated zebrafish (Fig. 4D–F and Video 1). These results indicate that intestinal motility triggered by Trpa1 activation is dependent on EECs. To further test if signaling from Trpa1+EECs is sufficient to activate intestinal motility, we developed an optogenetic system in which a mCherry tagged Channelrhodopsin (ChR2-mCherry) is expressed in EECs from the *neurod1* promoter (Fig. 4G–H). Blue light activation of ChR2 causes cation influx and plasma membrane depolarization, and [Ca²⁺]_i then increases through the activation of voltage-dependent calcium channels (Nagel et al., 2003) which are abundantly expressed in zebrafish EECs (Fig. 4I–J, Table S3J–N). This tool permits selective activation of the ChR2-mCherry+ EECs using a confocal laser, without affecting the activity of nearby EECs (see Methods and Fig. S3F). We therefore used *Tg(neurod1:Gal4); Tg(UAS:ChR2-mCherry); TgBAC(trpa1b:EGFP)* larvae to selectively activate ChR2-mCherry expressing EECs that are either *trpa1b*⁺ or *trpa1b*⁻. We found that activation of *trpa1b*⁺ EECs but not *trpa1b*⁻ EECs consistently increased intestinal velocity magnitude (Fig. 4K–L, Fig. S3F–H and Video 2), again indicating a unique role for Trpa1+EECs in regulating intestinal motility. Consistent with the Optovin-UV result, stimulating Trpa1+ChR2+ EECs in the middle intestine resulted in anterograde intestinal movement (Video 8). Interestingly, stimulating Trpa1+ChR2+ EECs in the proximal intestine initiated a retrograde intestinal movement (Video 2). This is consistent with previous findings that the zebrafish proximal intestine typically exhibits a retrograde motility pattern whereas the middle and distal intestine display antegrade motility (Fig. S3D) (Roach et al., 2013). Finally, we tested whether

microbial activation of Trpa1 signaling in EECs also increased intestinal motility. Using microgavage (Cocchiaro and Rawls, 2013), we found that delivery of live *E. tarda* into the intestinal lumen significantly promoted intestinal peristalsis and motility compared to PBS-gavaged controls (Fig. 4M–O and Video 3). *E. tarda* induced intestinal motility was significantly reduced in *trpa1b*^{-/-} zebrafish (Fig. S3I). When we gavaged zebrafish with *Aeromonas* or *Bacillus*, two of the tested bacterial strains that do not activate EECs (Fig. 1), no significant change of intestinal motility was observed (Fig. 4M–O and Video 3). These experiments together establish that activation of Trpa1 in EECs directly stimulates intestinal motility, and provide a potential physiologic mechanism underlying Trpa1-dependent clearance of *E. tarda* from the intestinal lumen.

EEC Trpa1 signaling promotes intestinal motility by activating cholinergic enteric neurons

To test the role of the ENS in Trpa1-activated intestinal motility, we used zebrafish that lack an ENS due to mutation of the receptor tyrosine kinase gene *ret* (Taraviras et al., 1999). Immunofluorescence demonstrated that *ret*^{-/-} zebrafish lack all identifiable enteric nerves (marked by *NBT* transgenes, Fig. 5B and Fig. S4A–B), whereas EECs remain intact (marked by *neurod1* transgenes, Fig. 5B) and responsive to Trpa1 agonist (Fig. S4C–F). Using the Optovin-UV system (Fig. 5A), we observed that EEC Trpa1 activation increased intestinal motility in control (*ret*^{+/+} or *ret*^{+/-}) but not *ret*^{-/-} zebrafish (Fig. 5C–D and Fig. S4G–H). These results were confirmed using a second zebrafish mutant that lacks an ENS due to mutation of the transcription factor gene *sox10* (Bondurand and Sham, 2013) (Fig. S4I–N). These data suggest that Trpa1+ EECs do not signal directly to enteric smooth muscle to promote intestinal motility, but instead signal to the ENS.

The ENS is a complex network composed of many different neuronal subtypes. Among these subtypes, cholinergic neurons secrete the excitatory neurotransmitter acetylcholine to stimulate other enteric neurons or smooth muscle (Pan and Gershon, 2000, Qu et al., 2008) and are essential for normal intestinal motility (Johnson et al., 2018). One of the key enzymes for the synthesis of acetylcholine in the ENS is choline acetyltransferase (Chat) (Furness et al., 2014). Using *TgBAC(chata:Gal4); Tg(UAS:NTR-mCherry)* transgenic zebrafish, we visualized the cholinergic enteric neurons in the zebrafish intestine (Fig. 5E and Fig. S5E–J). We found that *chata*⁺ neurons have smooth cell bodies which are located within the intestinal wall, many of which display multiple axons (Fig. 5E and Fig. S5E–F). Such multipolar neurons have also been classified as Dogiel type II neurons (Cornelissen et al., 2000). These Dogiel type II neurons are likely to be the intestinal intrinsic primary afferent neurons (IPANs) (Bornstein, 2006). Our results indicate that some EECs including Trpa1+EECs form direct contacts with nerve fibers extending from *chata*⁺ enteric neurons (Fig. 5F–H and Fig. S5G–J). In addition, we found that zebrafish EECs are enriched for transcripts encoding presynaptic vesicle proteins (Fig. S5P and Table S1A–D) and form neuropod structures that connect with neurons (Fig. S5A–D) similar to mouse EECs (Bohorquez et al., 2015, Bellono et al., 2017, Kaelberer et al., 2018). To test if activation of Trpa1+EECs stimulates *chata*⁺ enteric neurons, we employed *TgBAC(chata:Gal4); Tg(UAS:Gcamp6s)* zebrafish, which permit recording of *in vivo* calcium activity in *chata*⁺ neurons (Fig. 5I–J). Upon Trpa1+EEC activation, Gcamp6s fluorescence increased in *chata*⁺ enteric neurons (Fig. 5K, L). We found that Trpa1 is not expressed in *chata*⁺ enteric neurons

or in any other ENS cells (Fig. S6O–R), indicating that *chata*⁺ enteric neurons cannot be directly activated by optic Trpa1 stimulation but are instead activated via stimulation by Trpa1⁺ EECs. In addition to the ENS, efferent vagal nerves also play an important role in modulating intestinal motility (Travagli and Anselmi, 2016). However, we observed similar Trpa1+EEC induced intestinal motility change and *chata*⁺ enteric neuron activation in zebrafish whose intestine is anatomically disconnected from the CNS (Fig. S5K–O), suggesting that vagal efferent nerves are not required for Trpa1+EEC induced intestinal motility, and that Trpa1+EEC induced intestinal motility is mediated by intrinsic enteric circuitry which likely involves *chata*⁺ enteric neurons.

Previous mouse studies demonstrated that *Trpa1* mRNA is highly enriched in 5-HT-secreting EC cells in the small intestine (Nozawa et al., 2009). Immunofluorescence staining indicated that, similar to mammals, 5-HT expression in the zebrafish intestinal epithelium is also highly enriched in Trpa1+EECs (Fig. 5M). 5-HT in EECs is synthesized from tryptophan via tryptophan hydroxylase 1 (*Tph1*) (Li et al., 2011). Zebrafish possess two *Tph1* paralogs, *tph1a* and *tph1b* (Ulhaq and Kishida, 2018), but only *tph1b* is expressed in zebrafish EECs (Fig. S5S). The expression of *tph1b* in Trpa1+EECs was also confirmed by crossing a *Tg(tph1b:mCherry-NTR)* transgenic line to *TgBAC(trpa1b:EGFP)* zebrafish (Fig. 5N and Fig. S5Q–R, T–U). To investigate whether 5-HT mediates EEC Trpa1-induced intestinal motility, we tested whether a similar response was present in *tph1b*^{+/+} and *tph1b*^{-/-} zebrafish larvae (Tornini et al., 2017) using the Optovin-UV platform. Under baseline conditions, we did not observe a significant difference in intestinal motility between *tph1b*^{+/+} and *tph1b*^{-/-} zebrafish (Fig. S5V). However, in response to UV stimulated EEC Trpa1 activation, intestinal motility was significantly reduced in *tph1b*^{-/-} compared to *tph1b*^{+/+} zebrafish (Fig. 5O). These findings suggest a working model in which Trpa1+EECs signal to cholinergic enteric neurons through 5-HT, which in turn stimulates intestinal motor activity and promotes intestinal motility.

Chemical and microbial stimulation of EEC Trpa1 signaling activate vagal sensory ganglia

The intestine is innervated by both intrinsic ENS and extrinsic sensory nerves from the brain and spinal cord (Brookes et al., 2013). In mammals, afferent neuronal cell bodies of the vagus nerve reside in the nodose ganglia and travel from the intestine to the brainstem to convey visceral information to the CNS. However, in zebrafish, it is unknown if the vagal sensory system innervates the intestine. The zebrafish vagal sensory ganglia can be labelled using *TgBAC(neurod1:EGFP)* or immunofluorescence staining of the neuronal marker acetylated α Tubulin (Ac- α Tub) (Fig. 6B). Using lightsheet confocal imaging, we demonstrated that not only do the vagal ganglion in zebrafish extend projections to the intestine (Fig. 6B–C and Fig. S6A–B) but vagal sensory nerve fibers directly contact a subpopulation of EECs (Fig. 6D). Using *Tg(neurod1:cre); Tg(β -act2:Brainbow)* transgenic zebrafish (Gupta and Poss, 2012) (Vagal-Brainbow) in which individual vagal ganglion cells are labeled with different fluorescent colors through Cre recombination (Foglia et al., 2016) (Fig. S6C), we revealed that zebrafish vagal sensory ganglia cells also directly project to the vagal sensory region in the hindbrain (Fig. 6E–F). Using this Vagal-Brainbow system, we found vagal sensory nerves that are labelled by Cre recombination in both the proximal and distal intestine (Fig. S6D–G). To further visualize the vagal sensory network in zebrafish, we

used *Tg(is11:EGFP)* zebrafish in which EGFP is expressed in vagal sensory ganglia and overlaps with *neurod1* (Fig. 6G and Fig. S6H–J). Our data revealed that after leaving the vagal sensory ganglia, the vagus nerve travels along the esophagus and enters the intestine in the region between the pancreas and the liver (Fig. 6G and Fig. S6I–J). Direct contact of EECs and the vagus nerve could also be observed in *Tg(is11:EGFP); Tg(neurod1:TagRFP)* zebrafish (Fig. 6H). These data demonstrate the existence of a vagal network in the zebrafish intestine.

We next investigated whether this vagal network is activated in response to enteric microbial stimulation with *E. tarda*. We gavaged *Tg(neurod1:Gcamp6f); Tg(neurod1:TagRFP)* zebrafish larvae with either PBS or live *E. tarda* bacteria. We found that 30 min after enteric stimulation with Trpa1 agonist AITC or *E. tarda*, but not after PBS vehicle stimulation, Gcamp6f fluorescence intensity significantly increased in a subset of vagal sensory neurons (Fig. 6I–K, Fig. S6K–L). This result indicated that acute enteric chemical or microbial stimulation directly activated vagal sensory neurons. To further investigate whether the vagal activation induced by enteric *E. tarda* was mediated by Trpa1+EECs, we used a published method that labels active zebrafish neurons through pERK immunofluorescence (Randlett et al., 2015) to measure vagal activity. Delivering AITC into the zebrafish intestine by microgavage (Cocchiario and Rawls, 2013) increased the number of pERK+ vagal cells compared to PBS treatment (Fig. 6L–N, R). AITC-induced vagal activation was abrogated in the absence of EECs (Fig. 6N, R), indicating that Trpa1 signaling in the intestine increases vagal sensory activity in an EEC-dependent manner. Next, we gavaged live *E. tarda* into both WT and EEC-ablated zebrafish. Similar to Trpa1 chemical agonist stimulation, *E. tarda* gavage increased the number of activated pERK+ vagal sensory neurons in WT zebrafish (Fig. 6O–Q, S) but not in EEC ablated zebrafish (Fig. 6Q, S). Furthermore, the vagal activation induced by enteric *E. tarda* was dependent on Trpa1 as pERK+ vagal cell number was significantly reduced in *E. tarda* treated *trpa1b^{-/-}* zebrafish (Fig. 6T). Together, these results reveal that chemical or microbial stimuli in the intestine can stimulate Trpa1+ EECs, which then signal to the vagal sensory ganglia.

Tryptophan catabolites secreted from *E. tarda* activate the EEC Trpa1 gut-brain pathway

To identify the molecular mechanism by which *E. tarda* activates Trpa1 in EECs, we examined the effects of live and killed *E. tarda* cells and cell-free supernatant (CFS) on EEC calcium activity (Fig. 7A). Formalin-killed or heat-killed *E. tarda* cells failed to stimulate EECs, however, CFS, at levels comparable to live *E. tarda* cells, stimulated EECs (Fig. 7A–B). The ability of *E. tarda* CFS to activate EECs was diminished in *trpa1b* mutant zebrafish (Fig. 7C), suggesting that a factor secreted from *E. tarda* has the ability to activate Trpa1 in EECs. HPLC-MS analysis revealed that *E. tarda* CFS is enriched for several indole ring-containing tryptophan catabolites (Fig. 7D and Fig. S7A–C), three of the most abundant being indole, tryptophol (IET), and indole-3-carboxyaldehyde (IAld) (Fig. 7D and Fig. S7A–C). To test if other bacteria secrete tryptophan catabolites like *E. tarda*, we performed similar HPLC-MS analysis of CFS from bacteria we previously tested for EEC activation (Fig. 1K). Although several tested bacterial strains produced indole or IAld when cultured in nutrient-rich medium (Fig. S7D), *E. tarda* was the only bacteria that uniquely retained a high level of indole and IAld production when cultured in zebrafish GZM housing water (Fig. 7E),

consistent with our finding that *E. tarda* uniquely activates zebrafish EECs when added into GZM water (Fig. 1K). To investigate whether these tryptophan metabolites were directly linked with *E. tarda* pathogenesis, we tested two other *E. tarda* strains (*E. tarda* 23685 and *E. tarda* 15974) which were isolated from human gut microbiota and do not cause fish pathogenesis (Yang et al., 2012, Srinivasa Rao et al., 2003, Nakamura et al., 2013). Both *E. tarda* strains activated EECs and exhibited similar indole and IAld secretion capacity as pathogenic *E. tarda* FL6–60 and *E. tarda* LSE40 (Fig. 7E and Fig. S7G–H). This result suggested that tryptophan catabolites production, EEC Trpa1 activation and its downstream consequences may be distinct from *E. tarda* pathogenesis in fish (Edwardsiellosis) (Park et al., 2012).

We next tested if *E. tarda* tryptophan catabolites are sufficient to activate EECs. Indole and IAld, but not other tested tryptophan catabolites, strongly activated zebrafish EECs in a *tpa1b*-dependent manner (Fig. 7F–G, Fig. S7F and Video 4). Indole and IAld also activated the human TRPA1 receptor transfected into HEK cells (Fig. 7H–J and Fig. S7I–J). Both indole and IAld exhibited full TRPA1 agonist activity with an efficiency comparable to cinnamaldehyde (CAD), a well characterized TRPA1 activator (Fig. 7I–J and Fig. S7I–J) (Macpherson et al., 2007). Both indole and IAld also activated mouse Trpa1, but in a less potent manner (Fig. S7M). Both indole- and IAld-induced human and mouse Trpa1 activation were blocked by the TRPA1 inhibitor A967079 (Fig. 7J and Fig. S7K–L, N). These results identify the microbial tryptophan catabolites indole and IAld as evolutionarily-conserved agonists of vertebrate TRPA1.

Next, we investigated whether indole and IAld can mimic live *E. tarda* bacterial stimulation and activate a similar gut-brain pathway through EEC Trpa1 signaling. Our results indicate that enteric delivery of indole or IAld by microgavage increased Gcamp6f fluorescence in a subset of vagal sensory neurons (Fig. 7K–O, Fig. S8E–F) and stimulating zebrafish larvae with indole increases intestinal motility (Fig. S8A–D). This vagal sensory neuron activation induced by enteric indole was abrogated in zebrafish larvae lacking EECs (Fig. 7K–O, Fig. S8E–F). To test if the ability of microbial tryptophan metabolites to induce Trpa1+EEC signaling is conserved in mammals, we used amperometry on fresh tissue sections from human and mouse small intestine to measure the impact of acute indole exposure on 5-HT secretion. Indeed, indole was able to significantly induce 5-HT secretion from both human and mouse small intestine, and this effect was blocked by the Trpa1 inhibitor HC030031 (Fig. 7P–R). These data support our model and further suggest that these microbial tryptophan catabolites may modulate intestinal motility and gut-brain communication in humans.

DISCUSSION

Microbially derived tryptophan catabolites interact with the host through Trpa1

Trpa1 is a primary nociceptor involved in pain sensation and neuroinflammation. Trpa1 can be activated by several environmental chemical irritants and inflammatory mediators (Bautista et al., 2006), however, it was not known if and how Trpa1 might be activated by microbes. Tryptophan is an essential amino acid that is released in the intestinal lumen by dietary protein digestion or microbial synthesis. It is well known that gut microbes can

catabolize tryptophan to produce a variety of metabolites, among which indole was the first discovered and often the most abundant (Smith, 1897). These tryptophan-derived metabolites secreted by gut bacteria can act as interspecies and interkingdom signaling molecules. Some microbially-derived tryptophan catabolites including indole and IAld may regulate host immune homeostasis and intestinal barrier function through ligand binding to the transcription factors, Ahr and Pxr (Venkatesh et al., 2014, Zelante et al., 2013). Another microbial tryptophan catabolite, tryptamine, activates epithelial 5-HT₄R and increases anion-dependent fluid secretion in the proximal mouse colon (Bhattarai et al., 2018). Though several tryptophan metabolites including IAld can act as Ahr agonists (Zelante et al., 2013), conflicting effects of indole on AhR activation have been reported (Heath-Pagliuso et al., 1998, Hubbard et al., 2015, Jin et al., 2014). Our results indicate that *E. tarda* or Trpa1+EEC-induced intestinal motility is not mediated via AhR (Fig. S8G–L). Whether other host receptors can recognize microbially derived tryptophan catabolites was previously unknown. Here, we present evidence that bacteria-derived tryptophan catabolites activate Trpa1 in zebrafish, human, and mouse. A previous study suggested that indole also activates the yeast TRP channel homolog TRPY1 (John Haynes et al., 2008). This together with our findings point to an ancient role for TRP channels in microbial metabolite sensing. Our results indicate that intestinal colonization by bacteria that produce high levels of tryptophan catabolites (e.g., *E. tarda*) leads to detection of those catabolites by Trpa1+EECs leading to purging of those bacteria by increased intestinal motility. These discoveries were made possible because *E. tarda*, but none of the other tested zebrafish commensals, exhibited high capacity to produce and secrete tryptophan catabolites in zebrafish water conditions. Since we did not detect overt pathogenesis in *E. tarda*-treated zebrafish under those experimental conditions, and since many of the *E. tarda* induced responses were recapitulated by indole or IAld alone, we speculate that EEC Trpa1 activation and its downstream consequences reported here are separable from *E. tarda* induced pathogenesis and have broader relevance for host-microbial relationships in the gut.

Trpa1+EECs in humans and rodents are abundant in the small intestine but not in the colon (Yang et al., 2019, Nozawa et al., 2009). Our data demonstrated that microbially derived tryptophan metabolites are restricted to the colon and largely absent in small intestine under normal physiological conditions (Fig. S8G–H), suggesting that Trpa1+EECs may not play a major role to regulate intestinal motility under normal physiological conditions. Instead, Trpa1+EECs may act as a host protective mechanism that detects tryptophan catabolites accumulating in the small intestine due to aberrant microbiota overgrowth or invasion of specific microbes like *E. tarda* that precociously produce those catabolites, and in response increase intestinal motility to purge that particular community. On one hand, loss or impairment of that protective mechanism may result in overgrowth or dysbiosis of small intestinal microbial communities or an increased risk of enteric infection. On the other hand, excessive or chronic activation of those Trpa1+EECs may result in pathophysiological changes. One such scenario may be small intestinal bacteria overgrowth (SIBO), which is prevalent in patients suffering from diarrhea-dominant irritable bowel syndrome (IBS) (Ghoshal et al., 2017). IBS is a complicated disease that display comorbidities of both impairment of GI motility and CNS symptoms. The cause of SIBO in IBS is incompletely understood although several studies demonstrated that some of the indole producing bacteria

like *Escherichia coli* exhibit high abundance in the small intestine of SIBO associated IBS patients (Ghoshal et al., 2014, Leite et al., 2020, Avelar Rodriguez et al., 2019). Our findings raise the possibility that SIBO leads to an increase of microbial tryptophan metabolite production in the small intestine, which then activates Trpa1+EECs to increase intestinal motility and modulate CNS activity through the vagal nerve, resulting in the complex comorbidities of intestinal and psychiatric disorders in IBS.

Gut microbiota-EEC-ENS communication

Nerve fibers do not penetrate the gut epithelium therefore, sensation is believed to be a transepithelial phenomenon as the host senses gut contents through the relay of information from EECs to the ENS (Gershon, 2004). Using an *in vitro* preparation of mucosa-submucosa, mechanical or electrical stimulation of mucosa was shown to activate submucosal neuronal ganglia, an effect blocked by a 5-HT_{1R} antagonist (Pan and Gershon, 2000). Consistent with these previous findings, our zebrafish data suggest a model that 5-HT released from Trpa1+EECs stimulates intrinsic primary afferent neurons (IPANs) which then activate secondary neurons to promote intestinal motility through the local enteric EEC-ENS circuitry.

90% of 5-HT in the intestine is produced by EC cells, and therefore, EC cell 5-HT secretion was thought to be important in regulating intestinal motility (Gershon, 2013). This hypothesis, however, was challenged by recent findings that depletion of EC 5-HT production in *Tph1*^{-/-} mice had only minor effects on gastric emptying, intestinal transit, and colonic motility (Li et al., 2011). Therefore, the physiological role of EC 5-HT production and secretion remains unclear. Our data suggest that EEC 5-HT production may be necessary for intestinal motility changes in response to environmental chemical or microbial stimuli, but not for intestinal motility under normal physiological conditions. Mice raised germ-free displayed lower 5-HT content in the colon, however no significant difference of 5-HT production was observed in the small intestine compared to colonized mice (Yano et al., 2015). Whether gut microbiota regulate small intestinal 5-HT secretion and signaling remains unknown. Our data suggest a model in which specific microbial communities or constituent species stimulate 5-HT secretion from Trpa1+EECs to modulate small intestinal motility by producing tryptophan catabolites. This may provide a mechanism by which gut microbiota can regulate 5-HT signaling in the small intestine. Indole, IAld and other tryptophan catabolites are produced by a wide range of gut bacteria, so we expect our results to be applicable to commensal and pathogenic bacteria and their host interactions.

Gut microbiota-EEC-CNS communication

The vagus nerve is the primary sensory pathway by which visceral information is transmitted to the CNS. Recent evidence suggests that the vagus nerve may play a role in communicating gut microbial information to the brain (Fulling et al., 2019, Breit et al., 2018, Bonaz et al., 2018). For example, the beneficial effects of *Bifidobacterium longum* and *Lactobacillus rhamnosus* in neurogenesis and behavior were abolished following vagotomy (Bercik et al., 2011, Bravo et al., 2011). However, direct evidence for whether and how vagal sensory neurons perceive and respond to gut bacteria has been lacking. Our

results demonstrate that bacterial tryptophan catabolites activate vagal sensory ganglia through EEC Trpa1 signaling. Previous findings have shown that EC cells transmit microbial metabolite and chemical irritant stimuli to pelvic fibers from the spinal cord dorsal root ganglion (Bellono et al., 2017). Our findings here demonstrate that, in addition to spinal sensory nerves, EEC-vagal signaling is an important pathway for transmitting specific gut microbial signals to the CNS. The vagal ganglia project directly onto the hindbrain, and that vagal-hindbrain pathway has key roles in appetite and metabolic regulation (Grill and Hayes, 2009, Han et al., 2018, Travagli et al., 2006, Berthoud et al., 2006). Our findings raise the possibility that certain tryptophan catabolites, including indole, may directly impact these processes as well as emotional behavior and cognitive function (Jaglin et al., 2018). If so, this pathway could be manipulated to treat gut microbiota-associated neurological disorders.

STAR METHODS

Resource Availability

Lead Contact—Further information and requests for resources and reagents should be directed to and will be fulfilled by the Lead Contact, John F. Rawls (john.rawls@duke.edu).

Materials Availability—Zebrafish strains and plasmids and bacterial strains generated and used in this study are available upon request from the Lead Contact.

Data and Code Availability—Sequencing reads generated as part of this study are available at Gene Expression Omnibus accession GSE151711.

Experimental Model and Subject Details

Zebrafish strains and husbandry—All zebrafish experiments conformed to the US Public Health Service Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals, using protocol numbers A115-16-05 and A096-19-04 approved by the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee of Duke University. For experiments involving conventionally raised zebrafish larvae, adults were bred naturally in system water and fertilized eggs were transferred to 100mm petri dishes containing ~25 mL of egg water at approximately 6 hours post-fertilization. The resulting larvae were raised under a 14 h light/10 h dark cycle in an air incubator at 28°C at a density of 2 larvae/mL water. All the experiments performed in this study ended at 6 dpf unless specifically indicated. The strains used in this study are listed in Key Resources Table. All lines were maintained on a mixed Ekkwill (EKW) background.

Bacterial strains and growing conditions—All bacterial strains in this study were cultured at 30°C in Trypticase soy broth (TSB) or Gnotobiotic zebrafish medium (GZM) (Pham et al., 2008). Tryptic Soy Agar (TSA) plate was used for streaking bacterial from glycerol stock or performing colony forming unit (CFU) experiments. The antibiotic carbenicillin was used to select *E. tarda* LSE that express mCherry at the working concentration of 100 µg/mL.

Method Details

Generating transgenic zebrafish—The Gateway Tol2 cloning approach was used to generate the *neurod1:CaMPARI* and *neurod1:cre* plasmids (Kawakami, 2007, Kwan et al., 2007). The 5kb pDONR-neurod1 P5E promoter was previously reported (McGraw et al., 2012) and generously provided by Dr. Hillary McGraw. The pME-cre plasmid as reported previously (Cronan et al., 2016) was generously donated by Dr. Mark Cronan. The pcDNA3-CaMPARI plasmid was reported previously (Fosque et al., 2015) and obtained from Addgene. The CaMPARI gene was cloned into pDONR-221 plasmid using BP clonase (Invitrogen, 11789–020) to generate PME-CaMPARI. pDONR-neurod1 P5E and PME-CaMPARI were cloned into pDestTol2pA2 using LR Clonase (ThermoFisher, 11791). Similarly, pDONR-neurod1 P5E and pME-cre were cloned into pDestTol2CG2 containing a *cmlc2:EGFP* marker. The final plasmid was sequenced and injected into the wild-type EKW zebrafish strain and the F2 generation of alleles *Tg(neurod1:CaMPARI)^{du78}* and *Tg(neurod1:cre; cmlc2:EGFP)^{du79}* were used for this study.

To make transgenic lines, that permit specific EEC ablation, we used a *Tg(neurod1:cre)* and *TgBAC(gata5:loxP-mCherry-stop-loxP-DTA)* transgenic system. This system consists of two transgene alleles that we generated - one expressing Cre recombinase from the *neurod1* promoter (in EECs, CNS, and islets) and a second expressing the diphtheria toxin (DTA) in *gata5+* cells (in EECs, other IECs, heart, and perhaps other cell types) only in the presence of Cre (Fig. 3F). As the only cells known to co-express *neurod1* and *gata5* in the zebrafish larvae, EECs are ablated whereas non-EEC cell populations, including islets and the CNS, remain unaffected (Fig. 3G). A small percentage of EECs remained in the distal intestine presumably due to the low level of *gata5* expression in that region (Fig. S4C). The method for generating *Tg(neurod1:cre)* was described above. To generate the *TgBAC(gata5:loxP-mCherry-stop-loxP-DTA)* transgenic line, the translational start codon of *gata5* in the BAC clone DKEYP-73A2 was replaced with the loxP-mCherry-STOP-loxP-DTA (RSD) cassette by Red/ET recombineering technology (GeneBridges). For recombination with arms flanking the RSD cassette, the 5' homologous arm used was a 716 bp fragment upstream of the start codon and the 3' homologous arm was a 517 bp downstream fragment. The vector-derived loxP site was replaced with an I-SceI site using the same technology. The final BAC was purified using the Qiagen Midiprep kit, and coinjected with I-SceI into one-cell stage zebrafish embryos. The full name of this transgenic line is *Tg(gata5:loxP-mCherry-STOP-loxP-DTA)^{pd315}*.

Tg(tph1b:mCherry-NTR)^{pd275} zebrafish were generated using I-SceI transgenesis in an Ekkwill (EK) background. Golden Gate Cloning with BsaI-HF restriction enzyme (NEB) and T4 DNA ligase (NEB) was used to generate the *tph1b:mCherry-NTR* plasmid by cloning the 5kb *tph1b* promoter sequence (*tph1bP* GG F: GGTCTCGATCGGtctaaggtgaatctgtcacattc; *tph1bP* GG R: GGTCTCGGCTACggatggatgctctgttttag), mCherry (mC GG F: GGTCTCGTAGCCgcccaccatggtgag; mC GG R: GGTCTCGGTACCctgtacagctgctccatgccgc), a P2A polycistronic sequence and triple mutant variant nitroreductase (Mathias et al., 2014) (mutNTR GG F: GGTCTCGGTACCtactgtacaaggaagcggagc; mutNTR GG R: GGTCTCCCATGCcaggatcggtcgtctcga), into a pENT7 vector backbone with a poly-A tail

and I-SceI sites (pENT7 mCN GG F: GGTCTCGCATGGacacctccccctgacctg; pENT7 mCN GG R: GGTCTCCCGATC gtcaaaggtttggggctccgc). 500 pL of 25 ng/μL plasmid, 333 U/mL I-SceI (NEB), 1x I-SceI buffer, 0.05% Phenol Red (Sigma-Aldrich) solution was injected into EK 1-cell zebrafish embryos. F0 founders were discovered by screening for fluorescence in outcrossed F1 embryos.

RNA sequencing and bioinformatic analysis—To isolate zebrafish EECs and other IECs, we crossed two transgenic zebrafish lines, one that specifically expresses enhanced green fluorescent protein (EGFP) in all intestinal epithelial cells (*TgBAC(cldn15la:EGFP)*) (Alvers et al., 2014) and a second that expresses red fluorescent protein (RFP) in EECs, pancreatic islets, and the central nervous system (CNS) (*Tg(neurod1:TagRFP)*) (McGraw et al., 2012). The FACS-isolated EECs were identified by *cldn15la:EGFP+*; *neurod1: TagRFP +*; and the other IECs were identified by *cldn15la:EGFP+*; *neurod1:TagRFP-*. Conventionalized (CV) and germ-free (GF) *TgBAC(cldn15la:EGFP)*; *Tg(neurod1:TagRFP)* ZM000 fed zebrafish larvae were derived and reared using our published protocol (Pham et al., 2008) for Flow Activated Cell Sorting (FACS) to isolate zebrafish EECs and other IECs. The protocol for FACS was adopted from a previous publication (Espenschied et al., 2019). Replicate pools of 50–100 double transgenic *TgBAC(cldn15la:EGFP)*; *Tg(neurod1:TagRFP)* zebrafish larvae were euthanized with Tricaine and washed with de yolking buffer (55 mM NaCl, 1.8 mM KCl and 1.25 mM NaHCO₃) before they were transferred to dissociation buffer [HBSS supplemented with 5% heat-inactivated fetal bovine serum (HI-FBS, Sigma, F2442) and 10 mM HEPES (Gibco, 15630–080)]. Larvae were dissociated using a combination of enzymatic disruption using Liberase (Roche, 05 401 119 001, 5 μg/mL final), DNaseI (Sigma, D4513, 2 μg/mL final), Hyaluronidase (Sigma, H3506, 6 U/mL final) and Collagenase XI (Sigma, C7657, 12.5 U/mL final) and mechanical disruption using a gentleMACS dissociator (Miltenyi Biotec, 130-093-235). 400 μL of ice-cold 120 mM EDTA (in 1x PBS) was added to each sample at the end of the dissociation process to stop the enzymatic digestion. Following addition of 10 mL Buffer 2 [HBSS supplemented with 5% HI-FBS, 10 mM HEPES and 2 mM EDTA], samples were filtered through 30 μm cell strainers (Miltenyi Biotec, 130-098-458). Samples were then centrifuged at 1800 rcf for 15 minutes at room temperature. The supernatant was decanted, and cell pellets were resuspended in 500 μL Buffer 2. FACS was performed with a MoFlo XDP cell sorter (Beckman Coulter) at the Duke Cancer Institute Flow Cytometry Shared Resource. Single-color control samples were used for compensation and gating. Viable EECs or IECs were identified as 7-AAD negative.

Samples from three independent experimental replicates were performed. 250–580 EECs (n=3 for each CV and GF group) and 100 IECs (n=3 for each CV and GF group) from each experiment were used for library generation and RNA sequencing. Total RNA was extracted from cell pellets using the Argencourt RNAdvance Cell V2 kit (Beckman) following the manufacturer's instructions. RNA amplification prior to library preparation had to be performed. The Clontech SMART-Seq v4 Ultra Low Input RNA Kit (Takara) was used to generate full-length cDNA. mRNA transcripts were converted into cDNA through Clontech's oligo(dT)-priming method. Full length cDNA was then converted into an Illumina sequencing library using the Kapa Hyper Prep kit (Roche). In brief, cDNA was

sheared using a Covaris instrument to produce fragments of about 300 bp in length. Illumina sequencing adapters were then ligated to both ends of the 300bp fragments prior to final library amplification. Each library was uniquely indexed allowing for multiple samples to be pooled and sequenced on two lanes of an Illumina HiSeq 4000 flow cell. Each HiSeq 4000 lane could generate >330M 50bp single end reads per lane. This pooling strategy generated enough sequencing depth (~55M reads per sample) for estimating differential expression. Sample preparation and sequencing was performed at the GCB Sequencing and Genomic Technologies Shared Resource.

Zebrafish RNA-seq reads were mapped to the danRer10 genome using HISAT2(Galaxy Version 2.0.5.1) using default settings. Normalized counts and pairwise differentiation analysis were carried out via DESeq2 (Love et al., 2014) with the web based-galaxy platform: <https://usegalaxy.org/>. For the purpose of this study, we only displayed the CV EEC (n=3) and CV IEC (n=3) comparison and analysis in the Results section. The default significance threshold of $FDR < 5\%$ was used for comparison. Hierarchical clustering of replicates and a gene expression heat map of RNA-seq data were generated using the online expression heatmap tool: <http://heatmapper.ca/expression/>. The human and mouse RNA-seq raw counts data were obtained from the NCBI GEO repository: human, GSE114853; mouse, GSE114913 (Roberts et al., 2019). Pairwise differentiation analysis of human jejunum CHGA+ (n=11) and CHGA- (n=11) and mouse duodenum Neurod1+ (n=3) and Neurod1- (n=3) was performed using DESeq2. The mouse and zebrafish ortholog Gene ID conversion was downloaded from Ensemble. The genes that were significantly enriched ($P_{FDR} < 0.05$) in the human and mouse EEC data sets were used to query the zebrafish EEC RNA seq dataset and data were plotted using Graphpad Prism7. RNA-seq data generated in this study can be accessed under Gene Expression Omnibus accession GSE151711.

Recording *in vivo* EEC activity—CaMPARI undergoes permanent green-to-red photoconversion (PC) under 405 nm light when calcium is present. This permanent conversion records the calcium activity for all areas illuminated by PC-light. Red fluorescence intensity correlates with calcium activity during photoconversion (Fosque et al., 2015). In the *Tg(neurod1:CaMPARI)* zebrafish line, the CaMPARI (calcium-modulated photoactivatable ratiometric integrator) transgene is expressed under control of the -5kb promoter cloned from the zebrafish *neurod1* locus. CaMPARI mRNA is transcribed and the CaMPARI protein is expressed in cells that are able to activate the *neurod1* promoter. There are multiple cell types in the zebrafish body that are sufficient to activate the *neurod1* promoter, including all EECs in the intestine (Ye et al., 2019). CaMPARI protein is a calcium indicator protein that binds calcium and converts from green fluorescence to red fluorescence in the presence of UV light. This protein is engineered and described in detail in a previous publication (Fosque et al., 2015). We use this transgenic model to measure the level of intracellular calcium in EECs. Similar to neurons, it is well known that when extracellular stimulants act on various receptors on EECs, this leads to an increase of intracellular calcium either due to calcium influx through calcium channels in the plasma membrane or release of calcium stored in the ER. Through either of these pathways, increased intracellular calcium then directly triggers EECs to release hormone/neurotransmitter vesicles. To record *in vivo* EEC activity using the CaMPARI platform,

conventionally raised *Tg(neurod1:CaMPARI)* zebrafish larvae were sorted at 3 dpf and maintained in Gnotobiotic Zebrafish Media (GZM) (Pham et al., 2008) with 1 larvae/mL density. At 6 dpf, for each experimental group, ~20 larvae were transferred into 50mL conical tubes in 2 mL GZM medium. The larvae were adjusted to the s environment for 30 mins before stimuli were added to each conical tube. For nutrient stimulation, since linoleate, oleate and laurate are not soluble in water, a bovine serum albumin (BSA) conjugated fatty acid solution was generated as described previously (Ye et al., 2019). 2 mL linoleate, oleate, laurate, butyrate or glucose was added to the testing tube containing ~20 zebrafish larvae in 3 mL GZM. The final stimulant concentrations were: linoleate (1.66 mM), oleate oleate (1.66 mM), laurate (1.66 mM), butyrate (2 mM) and glucose (500 mM). Zebrafish larvae were stimulated for 2 mins (fatty acids) or 5 mins (glucose) before the UV pulse. For bacterial stimulation, single colonies of the different bacterial strains were cultured aerobically in tryptic soy broth (TSB) at 30°C overnight (rotating 50–60 rpm, Thermo Fisher Tissue Culture Rotator CEL-GRO #1640Q)(see strains listed in Key Resources Table). O/N TSB cultured bacteria were harvested, washed with GZM and resuspended in 2 mL GZM. 2 mL bacteria were then added to a test tube containing ~20 zebrafish larvae in 3 mL GZM. The final concentration of the bacterial is ~ 10⁸ CFU/ml. Zebrafish were then stimulated for 20mins before treated with a UV pulse. A customized LED light source (400 nm–405 nm, Hongke Lighting CO. LTD) was used to deliver a UV light pulse (100 W power, DC32–34 V and 3500 mA) for 30 seconds. Following the UV pulse, zebrafish larvae were transferred to 6-well plates. To block spontaneous intestinal motility and facilitate *in vivo* imaging, zebrafish larvae were incubated in 20 μM 4-DAMP (mAChR blocker), 10 μM atropine (mAChR blocker) and 20 μM clozapine (5-HTR blocker) for 30 mins. Zebrafish larvae were then anesthetized with Tricaine (1.64 mg/ml) and mounted in 1% low melting agarose and imaged using a 780 Zeiss upright confocal microscope in the Duke Light Microscope Core Facility. Z-stack confocal images were taken of the mid-intestinal region in individual zebrafish. The laser intensity and gain were set to be consistent across different experimental groups. The resulting images were then processed and analyzed using FIJI software (Schindelin et al., 2012). To quantify the number of activated EECs, the color threshold was set for the CaMPARI red channel. EECs surpassing the color threshold were counted as activated EECs. The CaMPARI green channel was used to quantify the total number of EECs in each sample. The ratio of activated EECs to the total EEC number was calculated as the percentage of activated EECs. As reported in Fig. S1A–F, in *Tg(neurod1:CaMPARI)* zebrafish model, in addition to EECs, CaMPARI is also expressed in other *neurod1+* cells including CNS and pancreatic islet. Therefore, the *Tg(neurod1:CaMPARI)* model can also be used to measure the activity of the CNS and pancreatic islet. However, the method we described above permit us to specifically analyze EEC signal through restricting our image inquiry in the middle intestine, a region in which only EECs express CaMPARI.

To record *in vivo* EEC activity using the *Tg(neurod1:Gcamp6f)* system, we used our published protocol with slight modification (Ye et al., 2019). In brief, unanesthetized zebrafish larvae were gently mounted in 3% methylcellulose. Excess water was removed and zebrafish larvae were gently positioned with right side up. Zebrafish were then moved onto an upright Leica M205 FA fluorescence stereomicroscope equipped with a Leica DFC

365FX camera. The zebrafish larvae were allowed to recover for 2mins before 100 μ L of test agent was pipetted directly in front of the mouth region. Images were then recorded every 10 seconds. The stimulants used in this study are listed in Supplemental Table 1. The data shown in Fig. 2O–R, depicting the EEC responses to *E. tarda* stimulation, were obtained by mounting unanesthetized zebrafish larvae in 1% low melting agarose. A window (5 \times 5 mm) was cut to expose the head region of the zebrafish. 10 μ L of *E. tarda* culture [$\sim 10^9$ Colony Forming Unit (CFU)] were delivered at the zebrafish mouth area. Images were recorded every 10 secs for 20 mins. Image processing and analysis were performed using FIJI software. Time-lapse fluorescence images were first aligned to correct for experimental drift using the plugin “align slices in stack.” Normalized correlation coefficient matching and bilinear interpolation methods for subpixel translation were used for aligning slices (Tseng et al., 2012). The plugin “rolling ball background subtraction” with the rolling ball radius=10 pixels was used to remove the large spatial variation of background intensities. The Gcamp6f fluorescence intensity in the intestinal region was then calculated for each time point. The ratio of maximum fluorescence (Fmax) and the initial fluorescence (F0) was used to measure EEC calcium responses.

Immunofluorescence staining and imaging—Whole mount immunofluorescence staining was performed as previously described (Ye et al., 2019). In brief, ice cold 2.5% formalin was used to fix zebrafish larvae overnight at 4°C. The samples were then washed with PT solution (PBS+0.75% Triton-100). The skin and remaining yolk were then removed using forceps under a dissecting microscope. The deyolked samples were then permeabilized with methanol for more than 2 hrs at -20° C. Samples were then blocked with 4% BSA at room temperature for more than 1 hr. The primary antibody was diluted in PT solution and incubated at 4°C for more than 24 hrs. Following primary antibody incubation, the samples were washed with PT solution and incubated overnight with secondary antibody with Hoechst 33342 for DNA staining. Imaging was performed with Zeiss 780 inverted confocal and Zeiss 710 inverted confocal microscopes with 40 \times oil lens. The primary antibodies were listed in Supplemental Table 1. The secondary antibodies in this study were from Alexa Fluor Invitrogen were used at a dilution of 1:250.

To quantify vagal activity by pERK staining, we used a published protocol with slight modification (Randlett et al., 2015). Zebrafish larvae were quickly collected by funneling through a 0.75 mm cell strainer and dropped into a 5mL petri dish containing ice cold fix buffer (2.5% formalin+ 0.25% Triton 100). Larvae were fixed overnight at 4°C, then washed 3 times in PT (PBS+ 0.3% Triton 100), treated with 150 mM Tris-HCl (PH=9) for 15 mins at 70°C, washed with PT and digested with 0.05% trypsin-EDTA on ice for 45 mins. Following digestion, samples were then washed with PT and transferred into block solution [PT + 1% bovine serum albumin (BSA, Fisher) + 2% normal goat serum (NGS, Sigma) + 1% dimethyl sulfoxide (DMSO)]. The primary antibodies [pERK (Cell signaling); tERK (Cell signaling); GFP (Aves Lab)] were diluted in block solution (1:150 for pERK; 1:150 for tERK and 1:500 for GFP) and samples were incubated in 100 μ L of primary antibody overnight at 4°C. Following primary antibody incubation, samples were then washed with PT and incubated with secondary antibody overnight at 4°C. Samples were then washed with PBS, mounted in 1% LMA and imaged using a Zeiss 780 upright confocal microscope.

Zebrafish *E. tarda* colonization—For *E. tarda* colonization experiments, fertilized zebrafish eggs were collected, sorted and transferred into a cell culture flask containing 80 mL GZM at 0 dpf. At 3 dpf, dead embryos and 60 mL GZM were removed and replaced with 50 mL fresh GZM in each flask. To facilitate consistent commensal gut bacterial colonization, an additional 10 mL of filtered system water (5 µm filter, SLSV025LS, Millipore) were added to each flask. Overnight *E. tarda* mCherry (Amp^r, see details in Supplemental Table 1) culture was harvested, washed three times with GZM. 150 µL of GZM-washed *E. tarda* mCherry culture were inoculated into each flask. The *E. tarda* concentration is ~10⁶ CFU/ml. Daily water changes (60 ml) was performed and 200 µL autoclaved solution of ZM000 food (ZM Ltd.) was added from 3 dpf to 6 dpf as previously described (Pham et al., 2008). At 6 dpf, zebrafish larvae were subjected to fluorescence imaging analysis or CFU quantification. For fluorescence imaging analysis, zebrafish larvae were anesthetized with Tricaine (1.64 mg/ml), mounted in 3% methylcellulose and imaged with a Leica M205 FA upright fluorescence stereomicroscope equipped with a Leica DFC 365FX camera. For CFU quantification, digestive tracts were dissected and transferred into 1 mL sterile PBS which was then mechanically disassociated using a Tissue-Tearor (BioSpec Products, 985370). 100 µL of serially diluted solution was then spread on a Tryptic soy agar (TSA) plate with Carbenicillin (100 µg/ml) and cultured overnight at 30°C under aerobic conditions. The mCherry+ colonies were quantified from each plate and *E. tarda* colony forming units (CFUs) per fish were calculated.

Zebrafish microgavage and chemical treatment—For delivering bacterial or chemicals specifically to the intestine, we adopted our established microgavage technique (Cocchiario and Rawls, 2013). Zebrafish were anesthetized with 1 mg/mL α-Bungarotoxin (α-BTX) and the gavage procedure was performed as previously described using microinjection station (Cocchiario and Rawls, 2013). For bacteria gavage experiments, 1ml of overnight bacterial culture was harvested, pelleted, washed with PBS and resuspended in 100ul PBS. ~ 8nl was then delivered into the zebrafish intestine using microgavage. The gavaged zebrafish was then transferred into egg water and mounted in 1% LMA for imaging. For chemical gavage experiments, ~ 8nl of AITC (100mM), indole (1mM) and IAld (1mM) was gavaged into the intestine.

For Trpa1 inhibition, Trpa1 antagonist HC030031 (280µM) was treated 2 hours before and during the 30 mins of *E. tarda* stimulation. For AhR inhibition, two AhR inhibitors, CH030031 and folic acid, were selected based on previous publications (Puyskens et al., 2020, Kim et al., 2020). CH030031 is a well-established specific AhR inhibitor (Choi et al., 2012). Whereas folic acid is shown to act as a competitive AhR antagonist at the concentration as low as 10ng/ml (Kim et al., 2020). For the *E. tarda* treatment experiment, DMSO, CH030031 (1µM) or folic acid (10µM) was added into zebrafish water at 3 dpf zebrafish at the same time as *E. tarda* administration. The AhR inhibitors were replenished during daily water changes, and zebrafish were analyzed at 6 dpf. For the Optovin-UV experiment, overnight Optovin treated zebrafish were treated for 2 hours with DMSO, CH030031 (10µM) or folic acid (10µM). As demonstrated by previous study, 2-hour 10µM and 3-day 0.5µM CH030031 treatment is sufficient to inhibit larve zebrafish AhR signaling (Puyskens et al., 2020, Sun et al., 2019b, Yue et al., 2017). The concentration of FA was

chosen based on zebrafish tolerance and a previous study shown the treatment of early zebrafish embryos with 0.05 μ M FA inhibits AhR signaling (Yue et al., 2017).

Optic EEC activation—For EEC Trpa1 activation using the Optovin platform, zebrafish larvae were treated with 10 μ M Optovin overnight. Following Optovin treatment, unanesthetized zebrafish were mounted in 1% LMA and imaged under a 780 upright Zeiss confocal microscope using 20 \times water objective lenses. For all the experiments, the mid-intestine region was imaged (Fig. S5D). The intestinal epithelium was selected as the region of interest (ROI) (Fig. S5A). Serial images were obtained at 1 s/frame. A 405 nm pulse of light was applied to the ROI at 1 pulse/10s. For some experiments (Fig. 4D–F, Fig. S5B–G), the images were obtained at 10s/frame. When measuring Optovin effects on intestinal motility in *ret*^{-/-}, *sox10*^{-/-} or *tph1b*^{-/-} zebrafish larvae, embryos were collected from heterozygous zebrafish. *ret*^{-/-} zebrafish were identified by lack of ENS and deflated swim bladder (Knight et al., 2011), *sox10*^{-/-} zebrafish were identified by lack of pigment (Rolig et al., 2017), and *tph1b*^{-/-} zebrafish were identified by PCR-based genotyping (Tornini et al., 2017).

Photoactivation of channelrhodopsin (ChR2) in EECs was performed in *Tg(neurod1:Gal4, cmlc2;EGFP); Tg(UAS:ChR2-mCherry)* transgenic zebrafish. In this model, ChR2 expression in EECs is mosaic. At 6 dpf, unanesthetized zebrafish larvae were mounted in 1% LMA. Photoactivation and imaging were performed with a Zeiss 780 upright confocal using 20 \times water objective lenses. Individual ChR2⁺ EECs were selected as ROI (Fig. S5H, I). Serial images were obtained at 1 s/frame. The 488 nm and 458 nm pulses were applied to the selected ROI at 1 pulse/s. For selectively activating *trpa1b*⁺ or *trpa1b*⁻ ChR2 expressing EECs, *Tg(neurod1:Gal4, cmlc2;EGFP); Tg(UAS:ChR2-mCherry)* was crossed with *TgBAC(trpa1b:EGFP)*. In each zebrafish, either Trpa1⁺ChR2⁺ EEC or Trpa1⁻ChR2⁺ EEC was selected to activate and examine the motility pre and post activation. Each dot in updated Fig. 4L and Fig. S3H represent data from individual zebrafish. A snapshot of the intestinal area was obtained to determine the *trpa1b*⁺ChR2⁺ and *trpa1b*⁻ChR2⁺ EECs (Fig. S5H, I) and light pulses were applied to the selected EECs as indicated above. Due to the mosaic expression of ChR2 in the EECs in the Gal4-UAS transgenic system, the ChR2⁺EECs in both proximal and middle intestinal regions are selected.

To determine whether Optovin-UV or ChR2 was sufficient to activate EECs, *Tg(neurod1:Gcamp6f)* zebrafish were used. To facilitate EEC calcium imaging under the confocal microscope, zebrafish larvae were incubated in 20 μ M 4-DAMP, 10 μ M atropine and 20 μ M clozapine for 30 mins before mounting in 1% LMA to reduce spontaneous motility. The Gcamp6f signal was recorded with 488nm laser intensity less than 0.5.

The zebrafish intestinal motility is quantified through recorded image series of zebrafish intestine using the method similar as previously described (Ganz et al., 2018). Intestinal μ velocity and ν velocity were used to estimate intestinal motility in zebrafish as previously described using the PIV-Lab MATLAB app (Ganz et al., 2018). A positive value of the μ velocity indicates an anterograde intestinal movement and a negative value of the μ velocity indicates a retrograde intestinal movement. The time-course μ velocity number is plotted as heatmaps. When calculating the mean velocity, only the mean velocity magnitude was

calculated, which therefore doesn't account for the movement direction. The MTrackJ FIJI plugin was used to quantify the mean velocity magnitude (Meijering et al., 2012).

To assess whether *Trpa1*^{+EEC} activation induced intestinal motility change is due to the indirect communication through vagal afferent and efferent system, we anatomically disconnected zebrafish CNS with the intestine by decapitating. Optovin-treated unanesthetized zebrafish were mounted and placed on the 780 Zeiss upright confocal station as described above. The zebrafish head was then removed with a razor blade. The same imaging and 405nm activation of the mid-intestinal region was performed as described above.

Enteric cholinergic neuron and vagal ganglion calcium imaging—

TgBAC(chata:Gal4); Tg(UAS:Gcamp6s); Tg(NBT:DsRed) or *TgBAC(chata:Gal4); Tg(UAS:Gcamp6s); Tg(UAS:NTR-mCherry)* zebrafish were used to record *in vivo* calcium activity in enteric cholinergic neurons. The NBT promoter labels all ENS neurons while the Chata promoter labels only cholinergic enteric neurons. DsRed or mCherry fluorescence was used as reference for cholinergic neuron Gcamp quantification. Zebrafish larvae were incubated in 20 μ M 4-DAMP for 30 mins before mounting in 1% LMA to reduce spontaneous motility and facilitate *in vivo* imaging using a Zeiss 780 upright confocal microscope with 20 \times water lenses. Serial images were taken at 5 s/frame. To record cholinergic neuron calcium activation, zebrafish was pretreated with Optovin and 40 nm light was applied at the frequency of 1 pulse/5s to the intestinal epithelium ROI. The Gcamp6s to DsRed fluorescence in cholinergic neurons was calculated for recorded.

Tg(neurod1:Gcamp6f); Tg(neurod1:TagRFP) zebrafish were used to record vagal sensory ganglia calcium activity *in vivo*. Zebrafish were anesthetized with 1 mg/mL α -Bungarotoxin (α -BTX) and gavaged with chemical compounds or bacteria as described (Naumann et al., 2016). Zebrafish larvae were mounted in 1% LMA and imaged under a Zeiss 780 upright confocal microscope. Z-stack images of the entire vagal ganglia were collected as serial images at 10 mins/frame and processed in FIJI. Individual vagal sensory neurons were identified and the Gcamp6f to TagRFP fluorescence ratios of individual vagal sensory neurons were calculated.

Quantitative real-time PCR—Quantitative real-time PCR was performed as described previously (Murdoch et al., 2019). In brief, 20 zebrafish larvae digestive tracts were dissected and pooled into 1 mL TRIzol (ThermoFisher, 15596026). mRNA was then isolated with isopropanol precipitation and washed with 70% ethanol. 500ng mRNA was used for cDNA synthesis using the iScript kit (Bio-Rad, 1708891). Quantitative PCR was performed in triplicate 25 μ L reactions using 2X SYBR Green SuperMix (PerfeCTa, Hi Rox, Quanta Biosciences, 95055) run on an ABI Step One Plus qPCR instrument using gene specific primers (Supplementary file 1). Data were analyzed with the Ct method. *18S* was used as a housekeeping gene to normalize gene expression.

Mammalian TRPA1 activity analysis—HEK-293T cells were cultured in DMEM (ThermoFisher Scientific, Waltham, MA) and supplemented with 10% fetal bovine serum (FBS) (ThermoFisher Scientific), penicillin (100 units/mL) and streptomycin (0.1 mg/mL).

Cells were plated on 100 mm tissue culture plates coated with poly-D-lysine (Sigma Aldrich, Saint Louis, MO) and grown to ~60% confluence. The cells were transiently transfected for 16–24 hours with either human or mouse orthologs of TRPA1 using Fugene 6 transfection reagents and Opti-MEM (Thermofisher Scientific) according to the manufacturer's protocol. Subsequently, cells were trypsinized, re-suspended and replated onto poly-D-lysine coated 96-well plates (Krystal black walled plates, Genesee Scientific) at 5×10^5 cells/mL (100 μ L/well) and allowed to grow for another 16–20 hrs prior to the experiments. Cells were maintained as monolayers in a 5% CO₂ incubator at 37°C.

Measurements of changes in intracellular Ca²⁺ concentrations ([Ca²⁺]_i) were performed as described previously (Caceres et al., 2017). In brief, cells in 96-well plates were loaded with Calcium 6, a no-wash fluorescent indicator, for 1.5 hrs (Molecular Devices, San Jose, CA) and then transferred to a FlexStation III benchtop scanning fluorometer chamber (Molecular Devices). Fluorescence measurements in the FlexStation were performed at 37°C (Ex:485 nm, Em: 525 nm at every 1.8 s). After recording baseline fluorescence, agonists (indole, IAld, cinnamaldehyde) were added and fluorescence was monitored for a total of 60 s. To determine the effects of TRPA1 inhibition on agonist response, TRPA1 transfected HEK-293 cells were pretreated with various concentrations of A967079 (Medchem101, Plymouth Meeting, PA), a specific antagonist of TRPA1, and then exposed to either 100 μ M indole or IAld. The change in fluorescence was measured as F_{max}-F₀, where F_{max} is the maximum fluorescence and F₀ is the baseline fluorescence measured in each well. The EC₅₀ and IC₅₀ values and associated 95% confidence intervals for agonist (Indole and IAld) stimulation of Ca²⁺ influx and A967079 inhibition of agonist-induced Ca²⁺ influx, respectively, were determined by non-linear regression analysis with a 4-parameter logistic equation (Graphpad Prism, San Diego, CA). Indole and IAld concentration-response data was normalized to 1 mM cinnamaldehyde for EC₅₀'s calculations and A967079 concentration-response data was normalized to 100 μ M indole or IAld for IC₅₀'s calculations.

HPLC-MS analysis of Trp-Indole derivatives—The chemical profiling of Trp-Indole derivatives was performed using 1 L culture of *E. tarda*. The strain was inoculated in 3 mL of TSB medium and cultivated for 1 day on a rotary shaker at 180 rpm at 30°C under aerobic conditions. After 1 day, 1 mL of *E. tarda* liquid culture was inoculated in 1 L of TSB medium in a 4-L Pyrex flask. The *E. tarda* culture was incubated at 30°C for 24 hr under aerobic conditions. For time-course screening, 10 mL from the *E. tarda* TSB culture was collected at 0, 6, 18, and 24 hours. Each 10 mL sample of *E. tarda* culture was extracted with 15 mL of ethyl acetate (EtOAc). The EtOAc layer was separated from the aqueous layer and residual water was removed by addition of anhydrous sodium sulfate. Each EtOAc fraction was dried under reduced pressure, then resuspended in 500 μ L of 50% MeOH/50% H₂O and 50 μ L of each sample were analyzed using an Agilent Technologies 6130 quadrupole mass spectrometer coupled with an Agilent Technologies 1200-series HPLC (Agilent Technologies, Waldbron, Germany). The chemical screening was performed with a Kinetex® EVO C18 column (100 \times 4.6 mm, 5 μ m) using the gradient solvent system (10 % ACN/90 % H₂O to 100 % ACN over 20 min at a flow rate of 0.7 mL/min).

For HPLC-MS analysis of *E. tarda* in GZM medium, the remaining 1 L culture of *E. tarda* in TSB culture was centrifuged at 7,000 rpm for 30 min. Pellets were transferred to 1 L of

GZM medium in a 4-L Pyrex flask and cultivated on a rotary shaker at 30°C for 24 hr. For time-course screening, 10 mL from the *E. tarda* GZM culture was collected at 0, 1, 6, and 24 hours. Sample preparation and HPLC-MS analysis of *E. tarda* culture GZM medium were performed using same procedures as described above for TSB. Trp-Indole derivatives of *E. tarda* culture broths were identified by comparing the retention time and extracted ion chromatogram with authentic standards. Extracted ions were selected for Indole (m/z 117, Sigma-Aldrich), IAld (m/z 145, Sigma-Aldrich), IAAld (m/z 159, Ambeed), IET (m/z 161, Sigma-Aldrich), IAM (m/z 174, Sigma-Aldrich), IAA (m/z 175, Sigma-Aldrich), and IpyA (m/z 203, Sigma-Aldrich).

For HPLC-MS analysis of Trp-indole derivatives from 15 different bacterial strains in TSB medium, each of the strains (*Acinetobacter* sp. ZOR0008, *Aeromonas veronii* ZOR0002, *Bacillus subtilis* 168, *Chryseobacterium* sp. ZOR0023, *Edwardsiella tarda* 15974, *Edwardsiella tarda* 23685, *Edwardsiella tarda* LSE40, *Edwardsiella tarda* FL6–60, *Enterobacter* sp. ZOR0014, *Escherichia coli* MG1655, *Exiguobacterium acetylicum* sp. ZWU0009, *Plesiomonas* sp. ZOR0011, *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* PAK, *Shewanella* sp. ZOR0012, and *Vibrio* sp. ZWU0020) were inoculated in 3 mL of TSB medium and cultivated for 1 day on a rotary shaker at 180 rpm at 30°C under aerobic conditions. After 1 day, 1 mL of each liquid culture was inoculated in 100 mL of TSB medium in 500 mL Pyrex flasks and cultivated on a rotary shaker at 30°C overnight. A 10 mL sample was taken from each culture and extracted and analyzed via HPLC-MS as explained above. CFU was calculated for each bacterial liquid culture and the HPLC-MS data was normalized to the CFU.

For HPLC-MS analysis of Trp-indole derivatives from 15 different bacterial strains in GZM medium, the remaining 100 mL culture of each strain was centrifuged at 4500 rpm for 20 min. Pellets were transferred to 100 mL of GZM medium in 500 mL Pyrex flasks and cultivated on a rotary shaker at 30°C overnight. Sample preparation and HPLC-MS analysis of each GZM culture were performed using the same procedure as described above.

For HPLC-MS analysis of Trp-indole derivatives from murine small intestine and large intestine, three 10-week old female and three 10-week old male conventionally-reared specific pathogen-free C57BL/6J mice were ordered from Jackson Lab. The mice were not fast in advance and euthanized with 5% isoflurane. The 2/5–4/5 portion of the small intestinal region and the colon caudal to cecum was collected from each mouse and transferred to a 50 mL conical tube that was placed on dry-ice. 80% methanol was then added according to the tissue weight (50 μ L/mg tissue). The intestine was then homogenized with a Tissue-Tearor (BioSpec Products, 985370). Following homogenizing, the tryptophan metabolites were extracted and analyzed with HPLC-MS as explained above. The relative metabolite abundance was normalized to tissue weight. These mouse experiments conformed to the US Public Health Service Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals, using protocol number A170–17-07 approved by the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee of Duke University.

Measurement of serotonin release from mouse and human small intestine—

These experiments using C57BL/6J mice were approved by the Flinders University Animal

Welfare Committee (number 965–19) and human ileum tissue was collected from resected small and large intestine from patients that gave written informed consent under the approval of the Southern Adelaide Clinical Human Research Ethics Committee (number 50.07) as previous (Sun et al., 2019a). Mice were euthanized at 8 to 12 weeks by isoflurane overdose followed by cervical dislocation. The duodenum was removed and placed in Krebs solution oxygenated with 95 % O₂, 5 % CO₂. A midline incision was made along the duodenum to create a flat sheet, the section was pinned with the mucosal side up in an organ bath lined with Sylgard and containing oxygenated Krebs solution. Serotonin release was measured using amperometry. A carbon-fibre electrode (5- μ m diameter, ProCFE; Dagan Corporation, Minneapolis, MN), was lowered above the mucosa and 400 mV potential was applied to the electrode causing oxidation of serotonin (Zelkas et al., 2015). 10mM Indole and/or 50 μ M HC030031 were applied to tissue by constantly perfusing the bath. The change in amplitude due to serotonin oxidation was recorded using an EPC-10 amplifier and Pulse software (HEKA Electronic, Lambrecht/Pfalz, Germany), and samples at 10 kHz and low-pass filtered at 1 kHz. Data was assessed as peak current during each treatment. Data was analyzed comparing all groups using one-way ANOVA with Tukey's post-hoc test. For the mouse experiments, 6 independent experiments were performed in 6 mouse duodenal samples. For the human experiments, 4 independent experiments were performed in 3 human samples.

Statistical analysis—The appropriate sample size for each experiment was suggested by preliminary experiments evaluating variance and effects. Using significance level of 0.05 and power of 90%, a biological replicate sample number 8 was suggested for EEC CaMPARI analysis. For each experiment, wildtype or indicated transgenic zebrafish embryos were randomly allocated to test groups prior to treatment. Individual data points, mean and standard deviation are plotted in each figure. The raw data points in each figure are represented as solid dots. Data were analyzed using GraphPad Prism 7 software. For experiments comparing just two differentially treated populations, a Student's t-test with equal variance assumptions was used. For experiments measuring a single variable with multiple treatment groups, a single factor ANOVA with post hoc means testing (Tukey) was utilized. Statistical evaluation for each figure was marked * P<0.05, ** P<0.01, *** P<0.001, **** P<0.0001 or ns (no significant difference, P>0.05).

Supplementary Material

Refer to Web version on PubMed Central for supplementary material.

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Highlights:

- Intestinal bacteria activate enteroendocrine cells (EECs) through Trpa1.
- Bacterial tryptophan metabolites activate zebrafish, mouse and human Trpa1.
- Activated EECs transmit bacterial signals to enteric and vagal nerves in zebrafish.
- Bacterial tryptophan metabolites induce mouse and human small intestinal 5-HT secretion.

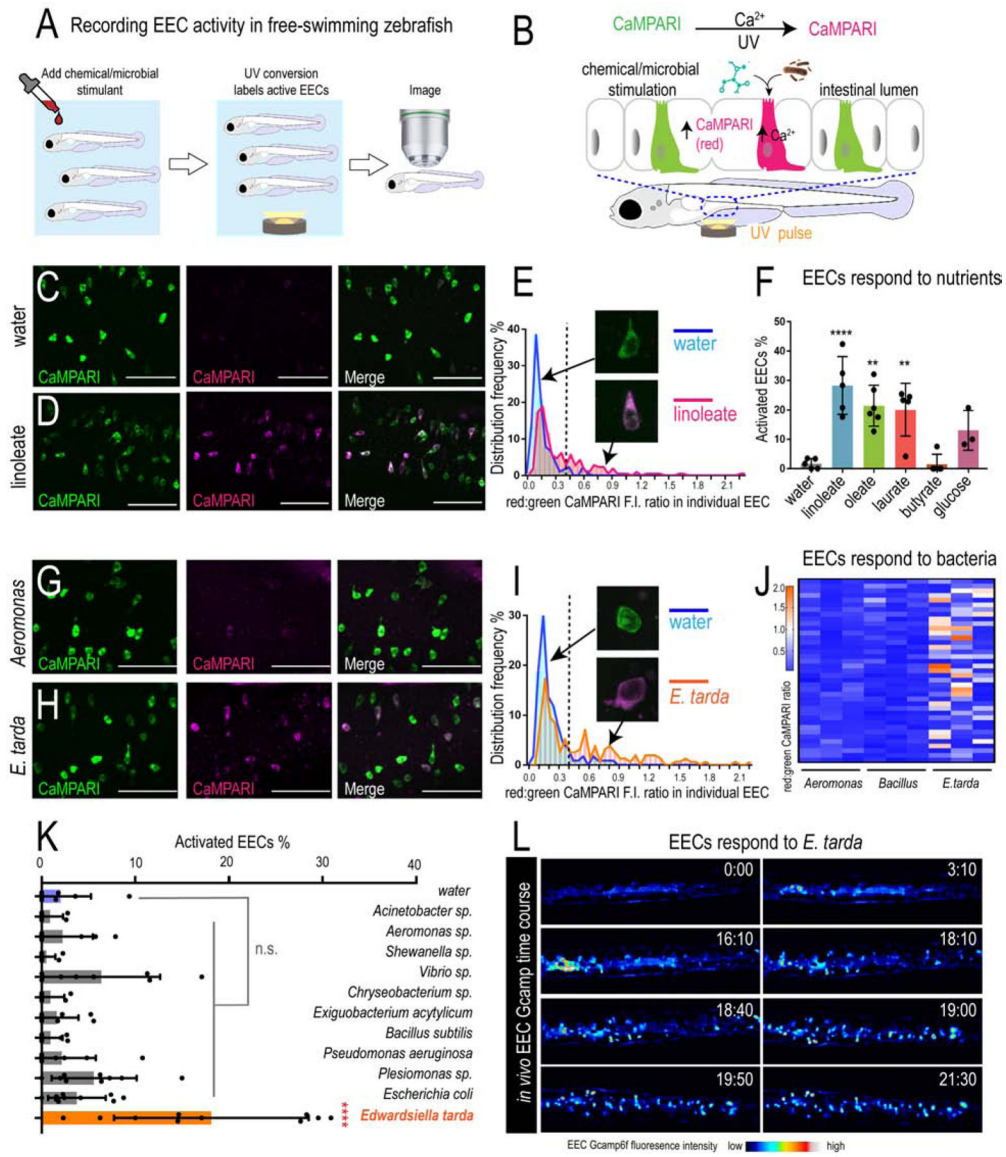


Figure 1. *E. tarda* activates zebrafish EECs *in vivo*.

(A) Experimental approach for measuring EEC activity in free-swimming zebrafish. (B) Method for recording EEC responses to chemical and microbial stimulants in the EEC-CaMPARI model. (C-D) Confocal projection of mid-intestinal EECs upon water (C, negative control) or linoleate (D) stimulation in *Tg(neurod1:CaMPARI)* following UV-photoconversion. (E) Frequency distribution of EECs' red:green CaMPARI fluorescence intensity ratio in water or linoleate-stimulated zebrafish. n=177 for water group and n=213 for linoleate group. (F) Percent EEC response in *Tg(neurod1:CaMPARI)* zebrafish. (G-H) Confocal projection of mid-intestinal EECs upon *Aeromonas* sp. (G) or *E. tarda* (H) stimulation in *Tg(neurod1:CaMPARI)* following UV-photoconversion. (I) Frequency distribution of EECs' red:green CaMPARI fluorescence intensity ratio in zebrafish treated with water or *E. tarda*. n=117 for water group and n=156 for *E. tarda* group. (J) Representative heatmap image showing *Aeromonas* sp., *B. subtilis* and *E. tarda* stimulated

EEC red:green CaMPARI fluorescence ratio. (K) EEC activation in *Tg(neurod1:CaMPARI)* zebrafish stimulated with different bacterial strains. (L) Representative *Tg(neurod1:Gcamp6f)* zebrafish intestine stimulated with *E. tarda*. One-way ANOVA with Tukey's post-test was used in F and K. *p<0.05; **p<0.01; ***p<0.001; ****p<0.0001.

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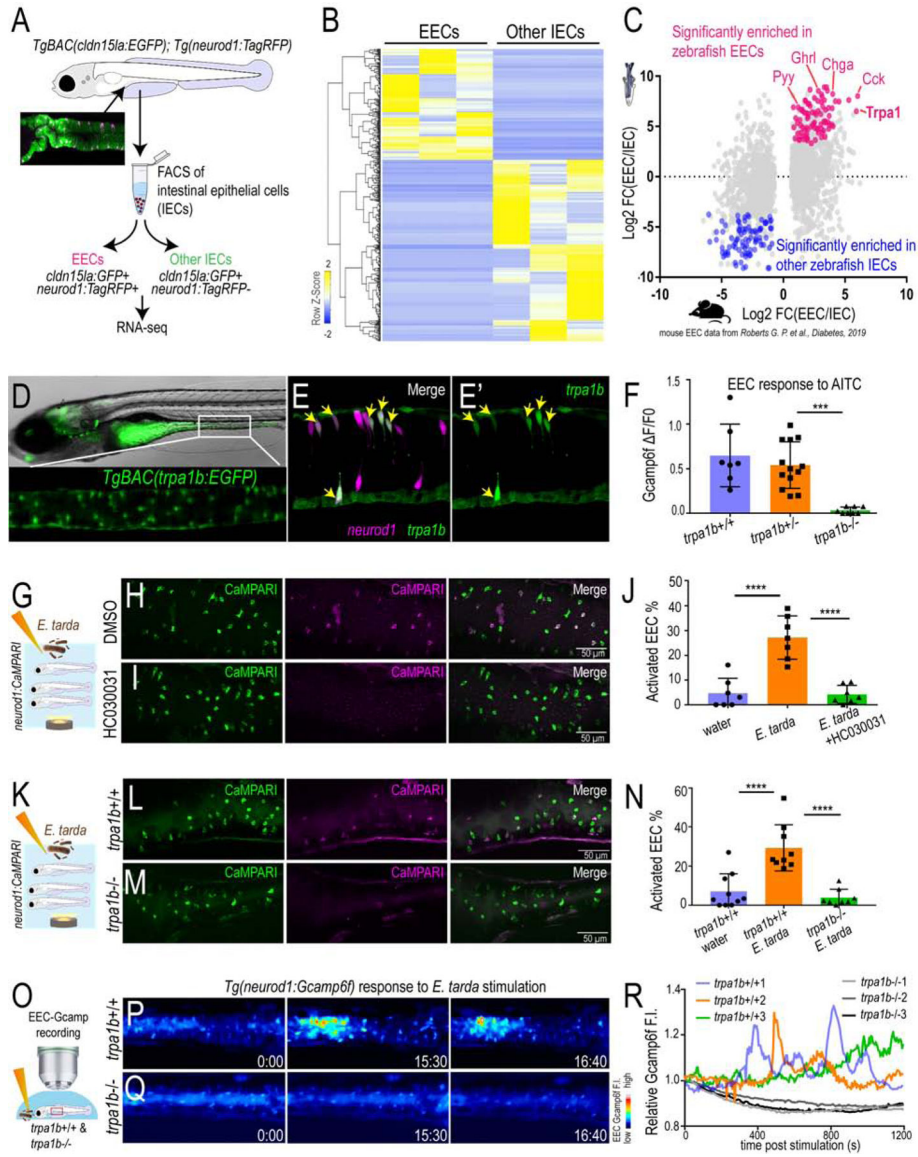


Figure 2. *E. tarda* activates EECs through Trpa1. (A) Schematic diagram of zebrafish EEC RNA-seq. (B) Clustering of genes that are significantly enriched in zebrafish EECs and other IECs ($P_{adj} < 0.05$). (C) Comparison of zebrafish and mouse EEC enriched genes. Mouse EEC RNA-seq data was obtained from GSE114913 (Roberts et al., 2019). (D) Fluorescence image of *TgBAC(trpa1b:EGFP)* (Pan et al., 2012). Zoom-in view shows the expression of *trpa1b+* cells in intestine. (E) Confocal projection of a *TgBAC(trpa1b:EGFP);Tg(neurod1:TagRFP)* zebrafish intestine. Yellow arrows indicate zebrafish EECs that are *trpa1b:EGFP+*. (F) Quantification of EEC Gcamp responses to Trpa1 agonist AITC stimulation in *trpa1b+/+*, *trpa1b+/-* and *trpa1b-/-* zebrafish. (G) Experimental design. (H-I) Confocal projection of *Tg(neurod1:CaMPARI)* zebrafish intestine stimulated with *E. tarda* with or without the Trpa1 antagonist HC030031. (J) Quantification of activated EECs in control and HC030031 treated zebrafish treated with water or *E. tarda*. (K) Experimental approach. (L-M) Confocal projection of *trpa1b+/+* or *trpa1b-/-* zebrafish. (N) Quantification of activated EECs in control and *E. tarda* treated *trpa1b+/+* or *trpa1b-/-* zebrafish. (O) EEC-Gcamp recording. (P) Heatmap of *Tg(neurod1:Gcamp6f)* response to *E. tarda* stimulation. (Q) Heatmap of EEC-Gcamp6f FI. (R) Line graph of relative Gcamp6f FI over time post stimulation (s).

tpa1b^{-/-} *Tg(neurod1:CaMPARI)* intestine after stimulation with water or *E. tarda*. (N) Quantification of activated EEC percentage in WT and *tpa1b*^{-/-} zebrafish treated with water or *E. tarda*. (O) Experimental design. (P-Q) Timed images of *tpa1b*^{+/+} or *tpa1b*^{-/-} *Tg(neurod1:Gcamp6f)* zebrafish stimulated with *E. tarda*. (R) Quantification of relative EEC Gcamp6f fluorescence intensity in WT or *tpa1b*^{-/-} zebrafish treated with *E. tarda*. One-way ANOVA with Tukey's posttest was used in F, J, N. *p<0.05; **p<0.01; ***p<0.001; ****p<0.0001.

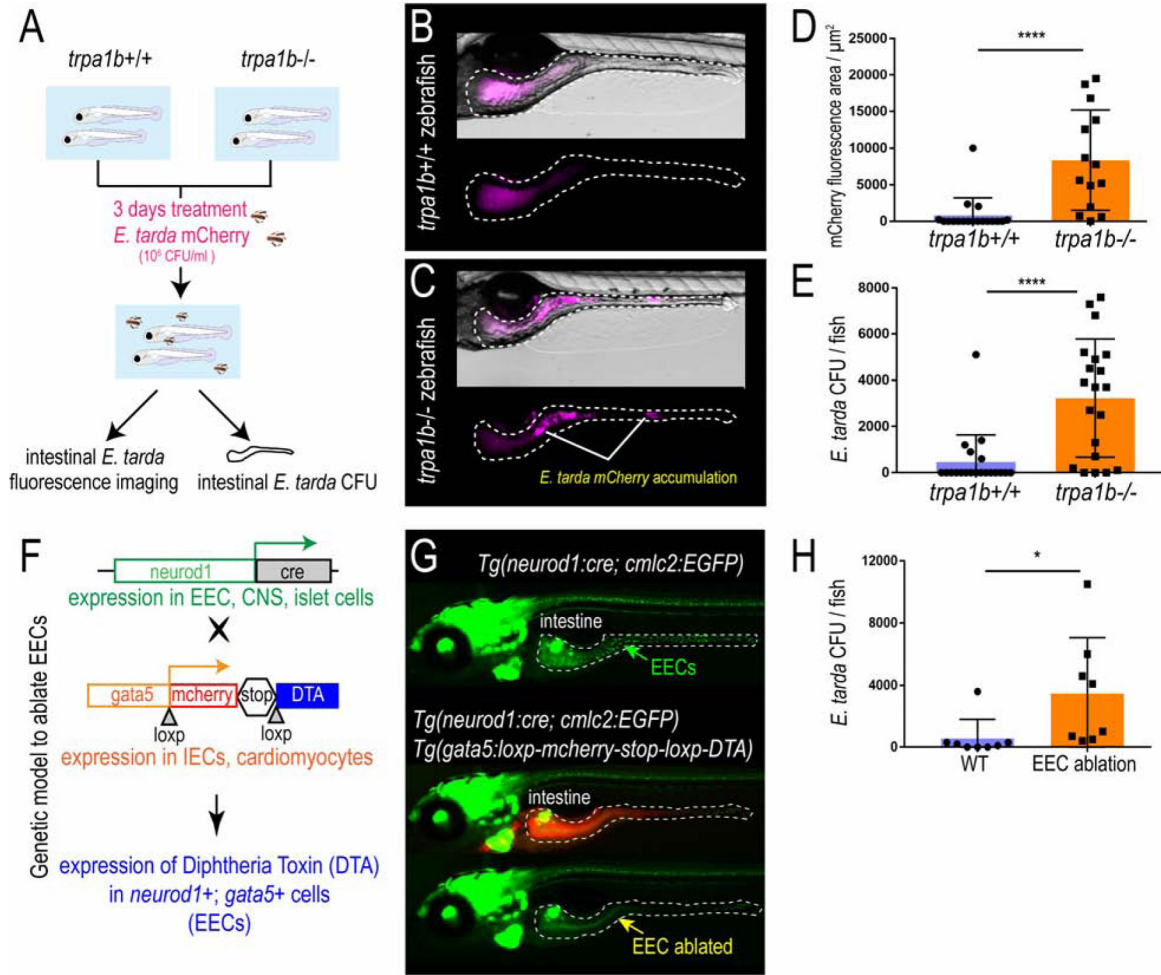


Figure 3. Activation of EEC Trpa1 signaling facilitates enteric *E. tarda* clearance.

(A) Schematic of zebrafish *E. tarda* treatment. (B-C) Representative image of *trpa1b*^{+/+} or *trpa1b*^{-/-} zebrafish treated with *E. tarda* expressing mCherry (*E. tarda* mCherry). (D) Quantification of *E. tarda* mCherry fluorescence in *trpa1b*^{+/+} or *trpa1b*^{-/-} zebrafish intestine. (E) Quantification of intestinal *E. tarda* CFU in *trpa1b*^{+/+} or *trpa1b*^{-/-} zebrafish. (F) Schematic of genetic model in which EECs are ablated via Cre-induced Diphtheria Toxin (DTA) expression. (G) Representative image of *Tg(neurod1:cre; cmlc2:EGFP)* and *Tg(neurod1:cre; cmlc2:EGFP); TgBAC(gata5:RSD)* with EECs that are labelled by *Tg(neurod1:EGFP)*. (H) Quantification of intestinal *E. tarda* CFU in WT or EEC ablated zebrafish. Student's t-test was used in D, E, H. *p<0.05; ****p<0.0001.

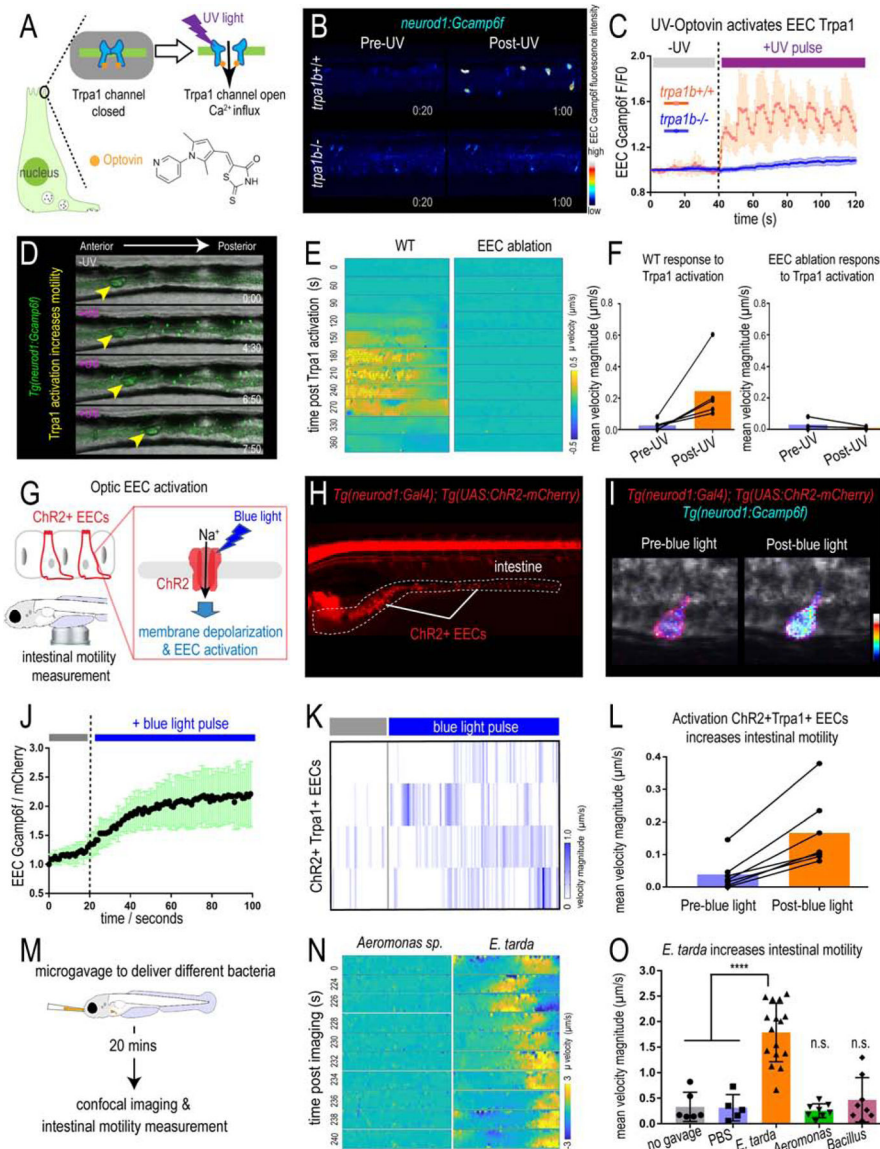


Figure 4. Activation of EEC Trpa1 signaling promotes intestinal motility.

(A) Illustration of EEC Trpa1 activation using an Optovin-UV platform. (B) Confocal image of *trpa1b*^{+/+} and *trpa1b*^{-/-} *Tg(neurod1:Gcamp6f)* zebrafish EECs before and after UV activation. (C) Quantification of EEC Gcamp6f fluorescence changes in *trpa1b*^{+/+} and *trpa1b*^{-/-} zebrafish before and after UV induction. (D) Representative images of *Tg(neurod1:Gcamp6f)* zebrafish intestine before and after UV-induced Trpa1 activation. Yellow arrowheads indicate the movement of intestinal luminal contents from anterior to posterior following EEC activation. (E) PIV-Lab velocity analysis to quantify intestinal motility in WT and EEC ablated zebrafish. Spatiotemporal heatmap series representing the μ velocity of the imaged intestinal segment at the indicated timepoint post Trpa1 activation. (F) Quantification of the mean intestinal velocity magnitude before and after UV activation in WT and EEC ablated zebrafish. (G) Model of light activation of ChR2 in EECs. (H) Fluorescence image of *Tg(neurod1:Gal4); Tg(UAS:ChR2-mCherry)* zebrafish that express

ChR2 in EECs. (I) Confocal image of ChR2 expressing EECs in *Tg(neurod1:Gcamp6f)* intestine before and after blue light-induced ChR2 activation. (J) Quantification of EEC Gcamp fluorescence intensity before and after blue light-induced ChR2 activation. (K) Intestinal velocity magnitude before and after blue-light induced activation in ChR2+Trpa1+ EECs. (L) Mean velocity magnitude before and after blue light-induced activation in ChR2+Trpa1+ EECs. (M) Experimental design schematic for panels N and O. (N) Heatmap representing the μ velocity of the imaged intestinal segment at indicated timepoints following *Aeromonas* sp. or *E. tarda* gavage. (O) Mean intestinal velocity magnitude in zebrafish without gavage or gavaged with PBS or different bacterial strains. Student's t-test was used in O. ****p<0.0001.

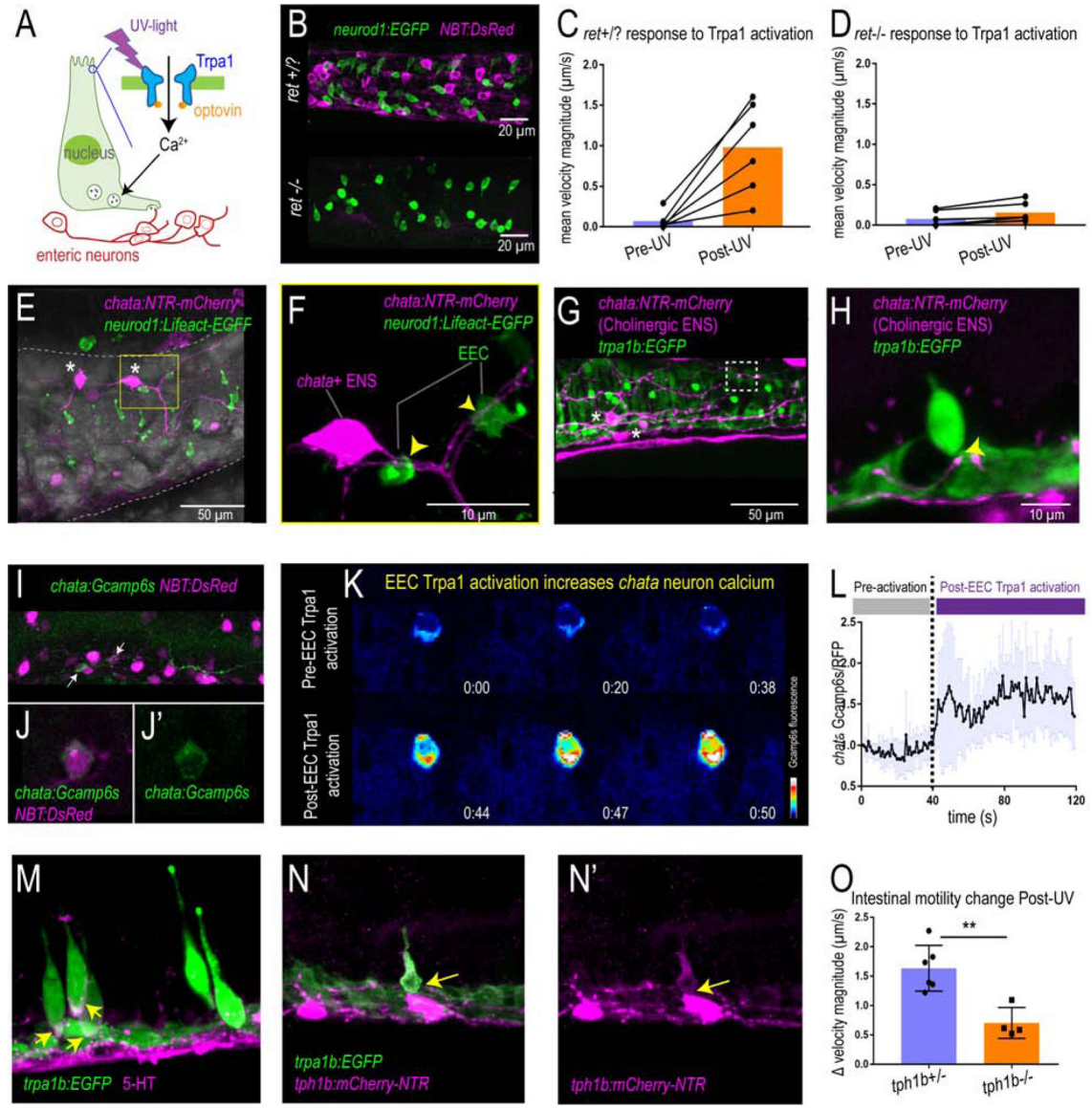


Figure 5. Activation of EEC Trpa1 signaling activates enteric cholinergic neurons and promotes intestinal motility through 5-HT.

(A) Working model showing Trpa1 stimulation in EECs activates enteric neurons. (B) Confocal image of *ret*^{+/?} (*ret*^{+/+} or *ret*^{+/-}) and *ret*^{-/-} zebrafish intestine. *neurod1* labelled EECs shown in green and *NBT* labelled ENS shown in magenta. (C) Quantification of mean intestinal velocity magnitude before and after EEC Trpa1 activation in *ret*^{+/?} zebrafish. (D) Quantification of mean intestinal velocity magnitude before and after UV activation in *ret*^{-/-} zebrafish. (E) Confocal image showing EECs (*neurod1*⁺; green) and cholinergic enteric neurons (*chata*⁺; magenta) in the zebrafish intestine. Asterisks indicate Cholinergic enteric neuron cell bodies which reside on the intestinal wall. (F) Higher magnification view indicates the EECs (green) directly contact nerve fibers that are extended from the *chata*⁺ enteric neuron cell body (magenta) as indicated by yellow arrows. (G-H) Confocal image showing Trpa1+EECs (green) form direct contact with *chata*⁺ enteric neurons (magenta). (I-J) In vivo calcium imaging of cholinergic enteric neurons. All the enteric neurons are

labelled as magenta by *NBT:DsRed*. Yellow arrow indicates a *chata+* enteric neuron that express Gcamp6s. (K) *In vivo* calcium imaging of *chata+* enteric neuron before and after EEC Trpa1 activation. (L) Quantification of *chata+* enteric neuron Gcamp6s fluorescence intensity before and after EEC Trpa1 activation. (M) Confocal image of *TgBAC(trpa1b:EGFP)* zebrafish intestine stained for 5-HT. Yellow arrows indicate the presence of 5-HT in the basal area of *trpa1b+* EECs. (N) Confocal image showing zebrafish Trpa1b+ EECs (green) express Tph1b (magenta). (O) Quantification of intestinal motility changes in response to EEC Trpa1 activation in *tph1b+/-* and *tph1b-/-* zebrafish. Student's t test was used in O. **p<0.01

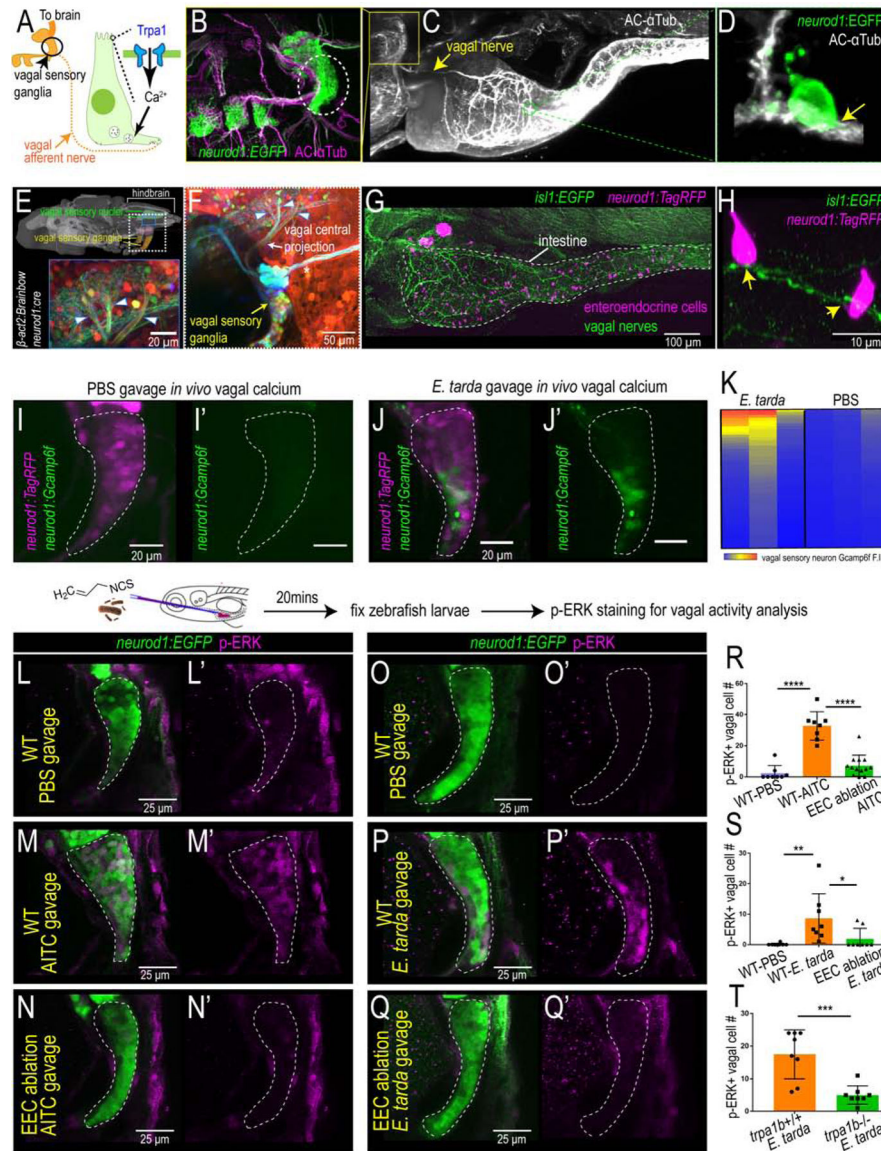


Figure 6. EEC *Trpa1* signaling activates vagal sensory ganglia. (A) Working model. (B) Confocal image of zebrafish vagal sensory ganglia labelled with *Tg(neurod1:EGFP)* (green) and acetylated α Tubulin antibody staining (AC- α Tub, magenta). (C) Lightsheet projection of zebrafish stained for AC- α Tub. Yellow arrow indicates vagal nerve innervation to the intestine. (D) *neurod1:EGFP*+ EECs (green) directly contact vagal sensory nerve fibers labelled with α Tubulin (white). (E) Confocal image of the vagal sensory nucleus in zebrafish larvae hindbrain where vagal sensory neurons project. Vagal sensory nerve fibers are labeled with different fluorophores through Cre-brainbow recombination in *Tg(neurod1:cre); Tg(β act2:Brainbow)* zebrafish. The 3D zebrafish brain image was generated using mapzebrain (Kunst et al., 2019). (F) Confocal image of vagal sensory ganglia in *Tg(neurod1:cre); Tg(β act2:Brainbow)* zebrafish. Asterisk indicates posterior lateral line afferent nerve fibers. Blue arrowheads indicate three branches from vagal sensory ganglia that project to the hindbrain. (G) Confocal image demonstrates the

EEC-vagal network in zebrafish intestine. EECs are labeled as magenta by *neurod1:TagRFP* and the vagal nerve is labeled green by *is11:EGFP*. (H) EECs (*neurod1+*; magenta) directly contact vagal nerve fibers (*is11+*; green) as indicated by yellow arrows. (I-J) *In vivo* calcium imaging of vagal sensory ganglia in zebrafish gavaged with PBS (I) or *E. tarda* (J). (K) Quantification of individual vagal sensory neuron Gcamp6f fluorescence intensity in *E. tarda* or PBS gavaged zebrafish. (L-N) Confocal image of vagal ganglia (*neurod1+*; green) stained with p-ERK antibody (activated vagal sensory neurons; magenta) in WT or EEC ablated zebrafish gavaged with PBS or Trpa1 agonist AITC. (O-Q) Confocal projection of vagal ganglia stained with p-ERK antibody in WT or EEC ablated zebrafish gavaged with PBS or *E. tarda*. (R) Quantification of p-ERK+ vagal sensory neurons in WT or EEC ablated zebrafish following PBS or AITC gavage. (S) Quantification of p-ERK+ vagal sensory neurons in WT or EEC ablated zebrafish following PBS or *E. tarda* gavage. (T) Quantification of p-ERK+ vagal sensory neurons in WT or *trpa1b*^{-/-} zebrafish following *E. tarda* gavage. One-way ANOVA with Tukey's post test was used in R and S and Student's t-test was used in T. *p<0.05; **p<0.01; ***p<0.001; ****p<0.0001.

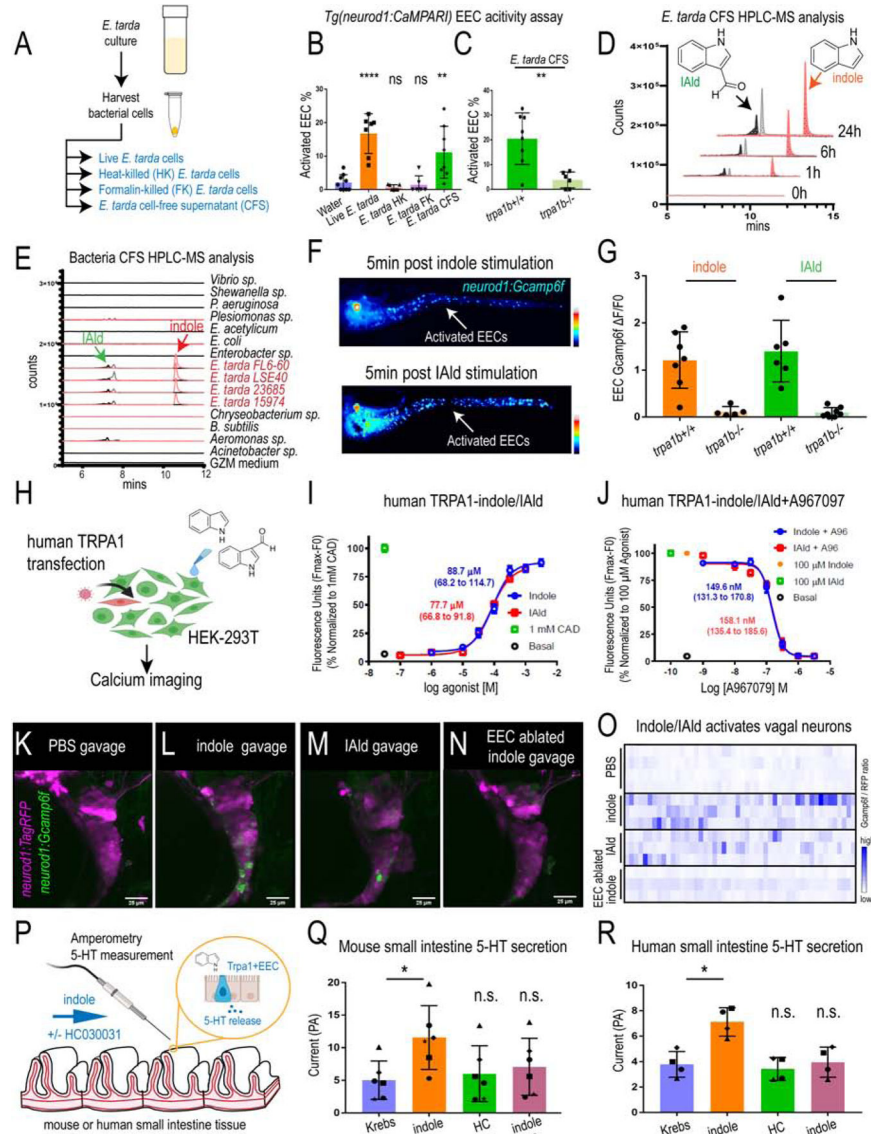


Figure 7. *E. tarda* derived Tryptophan catabolites activate Trpa1 and the EEC-vagal pathway. (A) Method for preparing different fractions from *E. tarda* GZM (zebrafish water) culture. (B) Activated EECs in *Tg(neurod1:CaMPARI)* zebrafish stimulated by different *E. tarda* fractions. (C) Activated EECs in *tpa1b*^{+/+} and *tpa1b*^{-/-} *Tg(neurod1:CaMPARI)* zebrafish stimulated with *E. tarda* CFS. (D) Screening of supernatants of *E. tarda* in GZM culture medium by HPLC-MS. Samples were collected at 0, 1, 6, 24 h. Abbreviations are as follows: IAld, indole-3-carboxaldehyde; and IET, tryptophol. Extracted ions were selected for IAld (m/z 145), IET, (m/z 161), and Indole (m/z 117). (E) Chemical profiles of Trp-Indole derivatives from supernatants of various commensal bacteria in GZM medium for 1 day of cultivation. Y-axis values represent production of Trp-Indole derivatives normalized to CFU, with each strain beginning at zero. (F) *Tg(neurod1:Gcamp6f)* zebrafish stimulated by Indole or IAld. Activated EECs in the intestine are labelled with white arrows. (G) Quantification of EEC Gcamp activity in *tpa1b*^{+/+} and *tpa1b*^{-/-} zebrafish stimulated with

Indole or IAld. (H) Schematic of experimental design to test effects of indole and IAld on human or mouse Trpa1. (I) Dose-response analysis of the integrated Calcium 6 fluorescence response above baseline (Fmax-F0; maximal change in Ca²⁺ influx) as a function of indole and IAld concentration in human TRPA1 expressing HEK-293T cells. (EC₅₀ = 88.7 μM, 68.2–114.7 μM 95% CI for indole; and, EC₅₀ = 77.7 μM, 66.8–91.8 μM 95% CI for IAld). Concentration-response data were normalized to 1 mM cinnamaldehyde (CAD), a known TRPA1 agonist. Data represent the mean of 3–4 experiments, each performed with 3–4 replicates. (J) Dose-response analysis of A967079 inhibition of Indole and IAld induced Ca²⁺ influx. (IC₅₀ = 149.6 nM, 131.3–170.8 nM 95% CI for Indole; and, IC₅₀ = 158.1 nM, 135.4 – 185.6 μM 95% CI for IAld). Concentration-response data of A967079 inhibition was normalized to response elicited by 100 μM agonist (Indole or IAld). (K-N) *In vivo* calcium imaging of vagal sensory ganglia in WT or EEC ablated *Tg(neurod1:Gcamp6f)*; *Tg(neurod1:TagRFP)* zebrafish gavaged with PBS, Indole or IAld. (O) Quantification of individual vagal sensory ganglia cell Gcamp6f fluorescence intensities in WT or EEC ablated zebrafish gavaged with PBS or 1mM Indole. (P) Schematic of amperometric measurements to examine the effects of indole on 5-HT secretion in mouse and human small intestinal tissue. (Q) Indole caused a significant increase in 5-HT secretion in mouse duodenum; however, no such effects were observed in the presence of Trpa1 antagonist HC030031. (R) Indole caused a significant increase in 5-HT secretion in human ileum; however, no such effects were observed in the presence of Trpa1 antagonist HC030031. Data in B, C, G, Q, R are presented as mean ± SD. One-way ANOVA with Tukey's post test was used in B and Q, Student's t-test was used in C, H and paired one-way ANOVA with Tukey's post test was used in P-R. *p<0.05; **p<0.01; ***p<0.001; ****p<0.0001.

KEY RESOURCES TABLE

REAGENT or RESOURCE	SOURCE	IDENTIFIER
Antibodies		
Chicken anti-GFP Polyclonal antibody	Aves Lab	Cat# GFP-1010, RRID:AB_2307313
Living Colors® anti DsRed Polyclonal Antibody	TAKARA	Cat# 632496, RRID:AB_10013483
Mouse anti-zebrafish gut secretory cell epitopes Monoclonal antibody [FIS 2F11/2]	Abcam	ab71286
Mouse anti-zebrafish Zn-12 Monoclonal antibody	ZIRC	AB_10013761
Rabbit anti-serotonin whole Polyclonal antibody	Sigma	Cat# 5545
Mouse anti-p44/42 MAPK (Erk1/2) (L34F12) Monoclonal antibody	Cell Signaling	Cat# 4696
Rabbit anti-Phospho-p44/42 MAPK (Erk1/2) (Thr202/Tyr204) (D13.14.4E) Monoclonal antibody	Cell Signaling	Cat# 4370T
Rabbit anti-chicken desmin Polyclonal Antibody	Sigma	Cat# D8281
Rabbit anti-mouse PYY antibody	PMID: 28614796	Custom antibody generated in Liddle Laboratory, aa4–21 (mouse)
Bacterial and Virus Strains		
<i>Edwardsiella tarda</i> FL6–60	PMID: 22003892	N/A
<i>Edwardsiella tarda</i> LSE40; <i>pmkb:mCherry</i>	Gift by Mark Cronan	N/A
<i>Edwardsiella tarda</i> 23685	ATCC	ATCC ²³⁶⁸⁵
<i>Edwardsiella tarda</i> 15974	ATCC	ATCC ¹⁵⁹⁷⁴
<i>Acinetobacter</i> sp. ZOR0008	PMID: 26339860	N/A
<i>Aeromonas veronii</i> ZOR0002	PMID: 26339861	N/A
<i>Shewanella</i> sp. ZOR0012	PMID: 26339862	N/A
<i>Enterobacter</i> sp. ZOR0014	PMID: 26339863	N/A
<i>Vibrio</i> sp. ZWU0020	PMID: 26339864	N/A
<i>Chryseobacterium</i> sp. ZOR0023	PMID: 26339865	N/A
<i>Exiguobacterium acetylicum</i> ZWU0009	PMID: 26339866	N/A
<i>Bacillus subtilis</i> 168	PMID: 18723616	N/A
<i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i> PAK	PMID: 30524971	N/A
<i>Plesiomonas</i> sp. ZOR0011	PMID: 26339861	N/A
<i>Escherichia coli</i> MG1655	PMID: 26339862	N/A
Chemicals, Peptides, and Recombinant Proteins		
Optovin	Tocris Biotech	4901
HC030031	Sigma	377430–5g
Allyl isothiocyanate	Sigma	H4415–10MG
Atropine	Sigma	A0132
4-DAMP	Sigma	SML0255
Clozapine	Sigma	C6305
α-Bungarotoxin	Sigma	203980
Indole-3-carboxaldehyde	Sigma	129445

REAGENT or RESOURCE	SOURCE	IDENTIFIER
Indole-acetaldehyde	Ambeed	A626636
Indole	Sigma	I3408–25G
L-Tryptophan	Sigma	T8941–10mg
Indole-3-acetic acid sodium salt	Sigma	I5148–2G
Indole-3-pyruvic acid	Sigma	I7017
Indole-3-acetamide	Sigma	286281–1G
Tryptophol	Sigma	T90301–5G
CH030031	Sigma	C8124–5M
Folic acid	Sigma	F7876–1G
Deposited Data		
Raw and analyzed data	This paper	GSE151711
Experimental Models: Cell Lines		
HEK-293T cells	ATCC	ATCC-CRL-1573
Experimental Models: Organisms/Strains		
Zebrafish: <i>Tg(neurod1:CaMPARI)^{du78}</i>	This paper	N/A
Zebrafish: <i>Tg(-5kbneurod1:Gcamp6f)^{icm05}</i>	PMID: 27231612	N/A
Zebrafish: <i>TgBAC(cldn151a:EGFP)^{pd1034}</i>	PMID: 24504339	N/A
Zebrafish: <i>Tg(-5kbneurod1:TagRFP)^{w69}</i>	PMID: 22738203	N/A
Zebrafish: <i>TgBAC(tpa1b:EGFP)¹²⁹</i>	PMID: 22190641	N/A
Zebrafish: <i>Tg(neurod1:cre; cmlc2:EGFP)^{du79}</i>	This paper	N/A
Zebrafish: <i>TgBAC(gata5:loxp-mcherry-stop-loxp-DTA)^{pd315}</i>	This paper	N/A
Zebrafish: <i>tpa1b</i> mutant ^{vu197}	PMID: 18829968	N/A
Zebrafish: <i>tpa1a</i> mutant ^{hu2163}	PMID: 18829968	N/A
Zebrafish: <i>TgBAC(neurod1:EGFP)^{pl1}</i>	PMID: 19424431	N/A
Zebrafish: <i>Tg(-5kbneurod1:Gal4; cmlc2:EGFP)^{du71}</i>	PMID: 31793875	N/A
Zebrafish: <i>Tg(-5kbneurod1:Lifeact-EGFP)^{du70}</i>	PMID: 31793875	N/A
Zebrafish: <i>Tg(UAS:ChR2(H134R)-mCherry)^{s1985}</i>	PMID: 26752076	N/A
Zebrafish: <i>Tg(NBT:DsRed)^{ef148}</i>	PMID: 29628374	N/A
Zebrafish: <i>ret</i> mutant ^{hu2846}	PMID: 21490065	N/A
Zebrafish: <i>sox10</i> mutant ^{t3}	PMID: 28207737	N/A
Zebrafish: <i>TgBAC(chata:Gal4)^{mpn202}</i>	PMID: 28701772	N/A
Zebrafish: <i>Tg(UAS:Gcamp6s)^{mpn101}</i>	PMID: 28701772	N/A
Zebrafish: <i>Tg(UAS:NTR-mCherry)^{f264}</i>	PMID: 24496182	N/A
Zebrafish: <i>Tg(isl1:EGFP)^{w0}</i>	PMID: 23850871	N/A
Zebrafish: <i>tph1b</i> mutant ^{pd249}	PMID: 28811310	N/A
Zebrafish: <i>Tg(tph1b:mCherry-NTR)^{pd275}</i>	This paper	N/A
Zebrafish: <i>Tg(β-act2:Brainbow1.0L)^{pd50}</i>	PMID: 22538609	N/A
Zebrafish: <i>Tg(neurod1:CaMPARI)^{du78}</i>	This paper	N/A

REAGENT or RESOURCE	SOURCE	IDENTIFIER
Zebrafish: <i>Tg(-5kbneurod1:Gcamp6f)^{jc}m05</i>	PMID: 27231612	N/A
Zebrafish: <i>TgBAC(cldn15la:EGFP)^{d1034}</i>	PMID: 24504339	N/A
Zebrafish: <i>Tg(-5kbneurod1:TagRFP)^{w69}</i>	PMID: 22738203	N/A
Zebrafish: <i>Tg(-5kbneurod1:mitoEos)^{Y586}</i>	PMID: 30410881	N/A
Mouse: C57BL/6J	Jackson Laboratory	000664
Oligonucleotides		
RT-qPCR for zebrafish gene: <i>pyyb</i> NM_001327895	Eurofins Genomics	AGCGTATCCACCCAACCTG
		GCCGGATGTCCTGTTTCATCA
RT-qPCR for zebrafish gene: <i>ccka</i> XM_001346104	Eurofins Genomics	AACCAAAGGCTCATACCGCA
		TCATATTCCTCGGCGCTTCG
RT-qPCR for zebrafish gene: <i>adcyap1a</i> NM_152885	Eurofins Genomics	GGGGTTTTACGGACAGCTA
		TGTGTCACAAAGCCGGAAT
RT-qPCR for zebrafish gene: <i>insl5a</i> NM_001037669	Eurofins Genomics	TGCTGTAAGCAGACGAGACC
		AGCAGAGGAACGTCAGGTCA
RT-qPCR for zebrafish gene: <i>fabp2</i> NM_131431	Eurofins Genomics	TGGAAAGTCGACCGCAATGA
		TGAACTTGTCTCCGGTCTGC
RT-qPCR for zebrafish gene: <i>muc5.3</i> XM_021477626	Eurofins Genomics	ATGCGAACCATGGGGCTTTA
		TTGTTCCGGTTCCCGTCATA
RT-qPCR for zebrafish gene: <i>sypa</i> NM_001143977	Eurofins Genomics	GATCGTGGCACCGTTTATGC
		ATTGTAGCCTTGCTGGCTGT
RT-qPCR for zebrafish gene: <i>sypb</i> NM_001030242	Eurofins Genomics	ATCCTATGGGAGGCAACCT
		ACCTTCCTGTCCATAGCCCT
RT-qPCR for zebrafish gene: <i>agr2</i> NM_001012481	Eurofins Genomics	AGTGCTCTGGTCATGGTGG
		AGGGGCTTGTCTTGATCG
RT-PCR for zebrafish gene: <i>trpa1a</i> NM_001007065	Eurofins Genomics	TACCAACATGTCGTGTTTTCAGTG
		GATTGCACACAACCGGTTTACA
RT-PCR for zebrafish gene: <i>trpa1b</i> NM_001007066	Eurofins Genomics	CTCATTGTCTTGAAAGGGAGC
		GGAGGAAGTTGCGACCTGTT