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Hedgehog signaling and Tre1 regulate actin dynamics through PI(4,5)P₂ to direct migration of *Drosophila* embryonic germ cells

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SUMMARY

The Tre1 G-protein coupled receptor (GPCR) was discovered to be required for *Drosophila* germ cell (GC) coalescence almost two decades ago, yet the molecular events both upstream and downstream of Tre1 activation remain poorly understood. To gain insight into these events, we describe a bona fide null allele and both untagged and tagged versions of Tre1. We find that the primary defect with complete *Tre1* loss is the failure of GCs to properly navigate, with GC mis-migration occurring from early stages. We find that Tre1 localizes with F-actin at the migration front, along with PI(4,5)P₂; dPIP5K, an enzyme that generates PI(4,5)P₂; and dWIP, a protein that binds activated Wiskott-Aldrich syndrome protein (WASP), which stimulates F-actin polymerization. We show that Tre1 is required for polarized accumulation of F-actin, PI(4,5)P₂, and dPIP5K. Smoothed also localizes with F-actin at the migration front, and Hh, through Smo, increases levels of Tre1 at the plasma membrane and Tre1's association with dPIP5K.

Graphical Abstract

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AUTHOR CONTRIBUTIONS

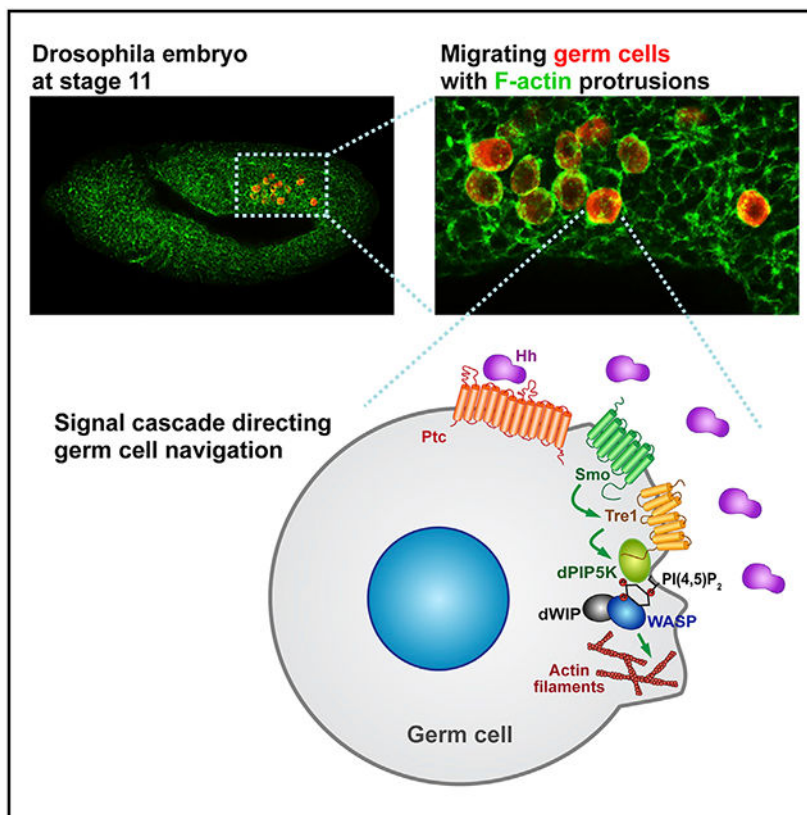
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SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

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DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

The authors declare no competing interests.



In brief

Kim et al. uncover molecular and cellular events upstream and downstream of the Tre1 G-protein coupled receptor (GPCR), which is required for germ cell navigation in *Drosophila*. Hedgehog signaling through Smoothened localizes Tre1 to activate F-actin assembly through dPIP5K, PI(4,5)P₂, and WASP.

INTRODUCTION

Directional cell migration plays pivotal roles in shaping and positioning developing organs. This highly complex process requires multi-dimensional controls on signal transduction, intracellular trafficking, cytoskeletal and membrane dynamics, and cell mechanics. *Drosophila* embryonic germ cells (GCs) are ideal for studying cell migration *in vivo* due to the wide range of genetic tools and an easily observable, stereotypical migration pattern (Kunwar et al., 2006). During the initial stages of development, the approximately 30 GCs form at the posterior pole of the embryo and are then passively internalized into the posterior midgut pocket. Subsequently, GCs actively traverse the midgut endoderm as individual cells (Figure 1A). Each cell then migrates through the mesoderm dorsally and away from the midgut (Figure 1B). The cells continue to migrate antero-laterally with the somatic gonad precursors (SGPs) (Figures 1C and 1D), which eventually coalesce to form the embryonic gonad (Figure 1E; Jaglarz and Howard, 1995; Kunwar et al., 2006; Santos and Lehmann, 2004). Unlike systems where persistent migration in a single direction is observed (e.g.,

Drosophila border cells [Percy and Starz-Gaiano, 2020] and zebrafish lateral line [Olson and Nechiporuk, 2018]), migration of individual GCs is often locally somewhat stochastic. Nonetheless, the net movements are directional, with most GCs arriving and coalescing with the somatic gonad by the beginning of embryonic stage 14 (~11 h post-fertilization).

Although GCs are actively attracted to the SGPs after departing the midgut, the source of earlier migratory signals is unknown, and the cue provided by the SGPs remains controversial. Hedgehog (Hh) has been proposed as the attractive SGP guidance molecule based on the following: (1) Hh expression in SGP cells; (2) GC migration defects with loss of the Hh signaling genes *hh*, *smoothed (smo)*, and *patched (ptc)*; and (3) mis-migration of GCs toward regions ectopically expressing Hh (Deshpande and Schedl, 2005; Deshpande et al., 2001). Renault et al. (2009) have challenged this role for Hh based on (1) the argument that Hh is also expressed in other non-SGP mesoderm; (2) the lack of detectable Ptc (Hh receptor) in GCs; and (3) their failure to observe GC migration defects when ectopically expressing Hh, expressing mutant versions of cubitus interruptus (CI), or using the same or comparable genetic backgrounds as those used by the original group. Whereas an independent party confirmed the originally reported migration defects associated with ectopic Hh (Deshpande et al., 2013), other reports continue to contest these findings (Kenwick et al., 2019). Consequently, the molecular roles for other genes required for GC migration, such as *HMG coenzyme A reductase (hmgcr)* and *Multi drug resistance 49 (Mdr49)*, have been heavily debated; one argument is that these genes are required for the production of the mature accessible Hh ligand (Deshpande et al., 2009, 2013, 2016; Deshpande and Schedl, 2005), and the other is that these genes are required to generate a signal completely unrelated to Hh (Barton et al., 2016; Renault et al., 2009; Ricardo and Lehmann, 2009; Van Doren et al., 1998).

GCs are also passively repelled from regions of the embryo due to depletion of putative GC attractants. The lipid phosphate phosphatases, Wunen and Wunen2, provide this repelling function as GCs are scattered throughout embryos mutant for the *wunen* genes and are excluded from regions ectopically expressing Wunen proteins (Mukherjee et al., 2013; Renault et al., 2010; Sano et al., 2005; Zhang et al., 1997). The requirement for molecules such as Wunen and Wunen2 suggests that the GC attractant(s) could be widely expressed and must therefore be spatially limited for normal GC migration.

The G-protein coupled receptor (GPCR) Trapped in endoderm 1 (Tre1) is critical for GCs to arrive at their correct final destinations in the somatic gonad (Kunwar et al., 2003, 2008). Loss-of-function phenotypes in other tissues have revealed roles for Tre1 in both cell migration and cell polarization. Hemocytes, *Drosophila* immune cells, require Tre1 for their extravasation and migration toward wounded tissues (Thuma et al., 2018), and neuroblasts require Tre1 to polarize for oriented cell divisions (Yoshiura et al., 2012). Indeed, a role for Tre1 in relocalizing E-cadherin and the Rho1 GTPase to the “rear” of the cell to allow GCs to polarize, disassociate from one another, and subsequently migrate through the midgut endoderm was proposed (Kunwar et al., 2008; LeBlanc and Lehmann, 2017): the conserved Tre1 asparagine, proline, isoleucine, isoleucine, tyrosine (NPIIY) motif polarizes Rho1 and ECadherin (ECad) for GC dissociation, and the conserved Tre1 asparagine, arginine,

tyrosine (NRY) domain is needed for the G-protein-dependent migratory response to guidance cues (LeBlanc and Lehmann, 2017).

In a more recent detailed analysis of wild-type (WT) and *Tre1* mutant phenotypes, the Lehmann lab made several observations that contradict their original findings and instead support a model wherein all of the GC phenotypes of *Tre1* mutants can be explained simply by a failure to sense and respond to guidance cues (Lin et al., 2020). Included in their findings was the observation that, as opposed to their previous view that Tre1 generates Rho1 polarity, Tre1 regulates only the orientation of an intrinsic Rho1 polarity. Whereas polarized Rho1 activity (and the consequent downstream localization of activated Myosin II [MyoII]) is quite stable in WT, active Rho1 and activated MyoII rapidly change position in *Tre1* mutant GCs. The group further showed that relocalization of Ecad does not require Tre1 and that overexpression of Ecad (or of another cell adhesion molecule) has no effect on GC dispersal. Finally, they propose a model wherein the random movement of *Tre1* mutant cells within the endoderm impedes the dissociation of these cells. Thus, GCs are not “trapped in endoderm” because they cannot move; rather, they simply keep bumping into one another, making it challenging for the cells to separate and escape through the endoderm. Thus, the current consensus is that Tre1 functions as the receptor for one or more guidance cues required for GC navigation (Coffman et al., 2002; LeBlanc and Lehmann, 2017; Lin et al., 2020; this study). How Tre1 orients the mechanics of migration, as well as the identity of the guidance cue(s), remains unknown.

In this study, we take advantage of a complete null allele and tagged forms of Tre1 to characterize both the signaling cascade downstream of Tre1 during GC migration and the upstream events regulating Tre1 activation. We demonstrate that Tre1 localizes to the leading edge of migrating GCs, where we propose it drives F-actin assembly by modulating the levels of phosphatidylinositol 4,5-bisphosphate (PI(4,5)P₂) at the cell membrane. Our findings support a model wherein *Drosophila* PI4P 5-kinase (dPIP5K) and Wiskott-Aldrich syndrome protein (WASP) function downstream of Tre1 activation to generate PI(4,5)P₂ and polymerize actin, respectively. We show that both Ptc and Smo are expressed in GCs and that Smo also localizes at the F-actin-enriched protrusions in migrating GCs. We find that Hh is not only expressed in SGPs, but also endocytosed in migrating GCs from very early stages. We show that in S2R+ cells expressing Smo, the addition of Hh decreases intracellular vesicular pools of Tre1 and increases both plasma membrane (PM) localization of Tre1 and its association with dPIP5K. Our findings thus suggest a molecular mechanism for how the Tre1 GPCR activates the cellular machinery to direct cell navigation *in vivo* and provide supporting evidence for a role for Hh signaling in guiding this process.

RESULTS

Tre1 is required in GCs for their navigation

To fully characterize the role of *Tre1* in GCs, we first generated a complete null allele of *Tre1* by homologous recombination (*Tre1*^{KO}), since the existing allele previously described as null (Kunwar et al., 2003) produces mRNA with an intact open reading frame (ORF) (Figures S1A-S1E and S1J-S1M) and turns out to have notably less penetrant GC migration defects than *Tre1*^{KO} when homozygous (data not shown). The *Tre1*^{KO} allele removes almost

the entire *Tre1* ORF, leaving only the two upstream non-coding exons and a very small 3' portion of the final exon (Figure S1I; (Larkin et al., 2020)). *Tre1^{KO}* maternal and zygotic mutants exhibited severe migration defects, with ~90% of embryos having at least six (and often more) GCs failing to reach the somatic gonad (Figures 1F, 1G, 1M, and 1Z). The *Tre1^{KO}* allele failed to complement previously characterized *Tre1* alleles *Tre1^{EP5}* and *Tre1^{scitt}* (Figures 1J, 1K, 1P, 1Q, and 1Z). Our analysis of the *Tre1^{KO}* null allele also reveals that *Tre1* is required only maternally for GC migration (Figures 1G-1I and 1Z), unlike findings reported with previously existing *Tre1* alleles (Kamps et al., 2010; Kunwar et al., 2003).

GCs in *Tre1^{KO}* embryos were found throughout the posterior half of the embryo at late stages (Figure 1G), with some GCs even on the outside of the embryo (Figure 1M). This broad scattering of GCs indicates that without *Tre1* activity, GCs can actively migrate across the midgut endoderm but cannot properly navigate to the gonad. Supporting this idea, *Tre1^{KO}* GCs showed aberrant migration even at very early stages. Instead of migrating only posteriorly through the midgut endoderm, GCs were frequently found in a more anterior-dorsal position within the midgut pocket, often within or exiting the nascent hindgut (Figures 1L and 1N-1Q). Thus, *Tre1* is required for GC navigation from very early stages, consistent with the recent observation that the failure to cross the midgut endoderm is due to a failure of oriented navigation (Lin et al., 2020) and in contrast to earlier studies suggesting a failure to polarize to allow for migration (Kunwar et al., 2008; LeBlanc and Lehmann, 2017).

To verify that the navigation defects observed in *Tre1^{KO}* were attributable to loss of *Tre1* specifically in GCs, we asked if GC-specific expression of untagged or tagged forms of the *Tre1* ORF could rescue the GC navigation defects of *Tre1^{KO}*. This experiment also allowed us to learn where the tagged functional forms of *Tre1* localize. Expression of full-length *Tre1* (UAS-*Tre1*; provided through the fathers) driven by GC-specific *Nanos-Gal4* (*nos-Gal4*; provided through the mothers) rescued the GC navigation defects of *Tre1^{KO}* embryos (Figures 1R-1T and 1Z). Thus, although endogenous zygotic *Tre1* expression does not rescue maternal loss, GC-specific expression driven at early stages can. We found that GC-specific expression of *Tre1* tagged with FLAG or HA at the C terminus (UAS-*Tre1*-FLAG or UAS-*Tre1*-HA) also rescued GC navigation in *Tre1^{KO}* mutants (Figures 1U, 1V, and 1Z), although not quite as well as untagged *Tre1*. In contrast, *Tre1* tagged with GFP (UAS-*Tre1*-GFP) completely failed to rescue (Figures 1W and 1Z). Moreover, *nos-Gal4*-driven expression of *Tre1*-GFP in otherwise WT embryos also resulted in strong GC navigation defects, a phenotype not observed with GC expression of other tagged or untagged versions of *Tre1* (Figures 1X-1Z), suggesting that *Tre1*-GFP functions as a dominant negative. Altogether, these data show that *Tre1* is required cell autonomously for GC navigation and that it is the maternal mRNA/protein that normally supplies this function.

***Tre1* colocalizes with F-actin during GC migration**

Migrating GCs generate F-actin-enriched protrusions at their migration fronts (Jaglarz and Howard, 1995; LeBlanc and Lehmann, 2017); the localization of F-actin to the migration front is observed even early before GCs have begun to cross the midgut endoderm (Lin et

al., 2020). To learn where Tre1 localizes with respect to F-actin, we co-stained stage 11 embryos (when GCs are most spread out) expressing tagged forms of Tre1 in GCs with antibodies recognizing the tags (α FLAG or α GFP) and with fluorescently labeled Phalloidin. Both forms of Tre1 showed significant overlap with F-actin. Tre1-FLAG, the tagged version that best rescued GC navigation, colocalized with F-actin in a PM domain at the presumed migration front (Figures 2A-2C'). Tre1-GFP, the tagged version that caused mis-migration of GCs even in a WT background, colocalized with F-actin around the entire PM and in large intracellular puncta near the cell surface (Figures 2D-2F). As a control for this colocalization, we expressed the PM marker UAS-Transmembrane-GFP (TMEM-GFP) in GCs. Whereas GFP from this construct was detected more broadly along the GC PM, high-level F-actin accumulation was observed in only a limited PM domain, as in WT GCs (Figures S2B-S2B'''). To quantify the Tre1-FLAG and F-actin colocalization versus the control TMEM-GFP and F-actin colocalization, we measured the fluorescence intensity around the cell periphery in the different channels (Figure 2C) and determined the Pearson's correlation coefficient for relative staining intensity. For Tre1-FLAG and F-actin, the average value was 0.73 ± 0.16 , whereas the value was only 0.21 ± 0.25 for Tre1-FLAG and Vasa (which stains GC cytoplasm but also overlaps the membrane staining because of the resolution of our confocal imaging) (Figure 2C'). With TMEM-GFP and F-actin, the average Pearson's correlation coefficient was 0.47 ± 0.20 , whereas it was 0.70 ± 0.20 for the TMEM-GFP and Vasa (Figure S2C), indicating that F-actin intensity is not simply higher where the PM (and cell) is thicker or vice versa. Altogether, these findings indicate that Tre1 normally localizes where F-actin assembles in migrating GCs.

Tre1-GFP consistently presented much stronger GC signal intensity compared to Tre1-FLAG or Tre1-HA. Thus, we speculated that Tre1-GFP might not turn over as readily as other tagged forms due to its relatively larger C-terminal tag (Figure S2A) and, we propose, could continuously activate F-actin assembly. Indeed, when the synthesis of new proteins was blocked in *Drosophila* S2R+ cells with cycloheximide, the amount of Tre1-GFP remained stable, whereas levels of Tre1-FLAG or Tre1-HA decreased over several hours, with Tre1-HA—the form most challenging to detect in embryos—showing the shortest half-life (Figures 2G and 2H). We also examined Tre1 and F-actin accumulation in the S2R+ cells expressing the different tagged forms of Tre1. In all cases, Tre1 was found in numerous small vesicular structures within the cells, with limited and variable accumulation at the cell periphery (Figures 2I-2K). With all three constructs, some limited amount of F-actin was also detected at the cell periphery (Figures 2I'-2K'). Tre1-GFP also induced extensive F-actin accumulation in large intracellular aggregates that overlapped with the GFP staining, a feature not observed with either Tre1-FLAG or Tre1-HA (Figures 2I''-2K''). These data suggest that the site of Tre1 accumulation determines where F-actin assembles and that Tre1-GFP continuously activates F-actin assembly by failing to turn over and thus functions as a dominant negative.

F-actin assembly in GCs through PI(4,5)P₂ synthesis

We next asked how Tre1 regulates actin assembly. Phosphoinositides (PIs) are versatile signaling molecules that coordinate diverse cellular processes including actin cytoskeleton dynamics (Di Paolo and De Camilli, 2006). To determine if GCs utilize PIs for directional

migration, we first examined localization of GFP-labeled sensors that specifically bind to each PI. Among the six PIs tested, only the PI(4,5)P₂ sensors localized to the PM near where F-actin assembly occurs during GC migration (Figures S3A-S3F'). Consistent with a potential involvement for PI(4,5)P₂ in GC navigation, tagged PI(4,5)P₂ sensors co-localized with F-actin at GC protrusions (Figures 2L-2N; GFP-PLC γ -PH) and were enriched with Tre1-GFP in GCs (Figures 2O-2Q; PLC δ -PH-mCherry). Again, measuring levels of the GFP-PLC γ -PH PI(4,5)P₂ sensor and F-actin in the periphery of GCs revealed a high Pearson's correlation coefficient (0.82 ± 0.11), whereas a similar comparison between the PI(4,5)P₂ sensor and Vasa had a lower correlation coefficient (0.40 ± 0.31 ; Figure 2N'). Furthermore, live imaging of migrating GCs reveals that both F-actin and the GFP-PLC γ -PH PI(4,5)P₂ sensor are transiently enriched at the leading front of GCs that are migrating entirely within the plane captured in Videos S1 and S2. Although we observed GC colocalization of both Tre1 and F-actin and the PI(4,5)P₂ sensors and F-actin, the position of high-level accumulation was never polarized in the same direction in all GCs captured within a given field. GCs migrate in response to cues provided by the SGPs (Deshpande et al., 2001; Kenwrick et al., 2019). Co-staining of GCs and SGPs (Figure 1B) indicates that at this stage, the two cell types are in very close proximity, but the SGPs are not positioned such that all migrating GCs will be receiving the cue from the same direction at any given time. This observation can explain why GC migration is somewhat stochastic at the local level.

We also expressed tagged PI(4,5)P₂ sensors in S2R+ cells along with the tagged forms of Tre1; colocalization was observed with Tre1-FLAG and Tre1-HA in limited regions, mostly along the PM (Figures S4A-S4C''). With Tre1-GFP, however, the PI(4,5)P₂ sensor localized to the same large intracellular aggregates where both Tre1-GFP and F-actin colocalized (Figures 2K-2K'' and S4D-S4D''). Since PI(4,5)P₂ can facilitate actin polymerization by recruiting and activating actin-regulating proteins (Senju and Lappalainen, 2019; Yin and Janmey, 2003), these observations suggest that PI(4,5)P₂ mediates F-actin assembly downstream of localized Tre1 activation.

The major biochemical pathway to generate PI(4,5)P₂ is phosphorylation on PI(4)P by Phosphatidylinositol-4-phosphate 5-kinases (PIP5Ks) (van den Bout and Divecha, 2009). We found that a *Drosophila* PIP5K, dPIP5K (encoded by the gene *pip5k59b*; Chakrabarti et al., 2015), localizes at the PM of migrating GCs and other surrounding cells (Figures 2R-2S'). To more carefully localize this enzyme in GCs, we drove expression of Venus-tagged dPIP5K in GCs with nos-Gal4 and visualized the Venus signal with antibody staining. We found that the tagged form of dPIP5K was concentrated at the F-actin-enriched protrusions of GCs (Figures 2T-2U'') with a high Pearson's correlation coefficient (0.67 ± 0.18 ; Figures 2V and 2V'), suggesting that dPIP5K could be the enzyme that generates local pools of PI(4,5)P₂ to activate actin polymerization. In further support of this idea, tagged forms of dPIP5K also colocalized with tagged forms of Tre1 in S2R+ cells in the same pattern as observed with the PI(4,5)P₂ sensor and F-actin (Figures S4E-S4H''): some co-localization mostly at the PM with Tre1-FLAG and Tre1-HA, but extensive colocalization in intracellular aggregates with Tre1-GFP.

To test the functional requirement of dPIP5K in GC migration, we examined embryos mutant for *dpip5k*. *dpip5k* and *skittles (skt)*, *dpip5k* double-zygotic mutants (*skt* encodes another *Drosophila* PIP5K), did not exhibit GC navigation defects (Figures 2W-2Z and 2AF), possibly due to maternal supplies. Supporting this idea, maternal knockdown of *dpip5k* expression using RNAi resulted in statistically significant ($p = 1.16E-06$), albeit low-level, GC migration defects (Figures 2AA, 2AB, and 2AF). GC expression of a kinase-dead version of dPIP5K, which suppresses endogenous kinase activity, synergistically increased GC navigation defects in embryos from *Tre1^{KO}* heterozygous mothers (Figures 2AC-2AF). Together, these results suggest that activated Tre1 can recruit dPIP5K for localized PI(4,5)P₂ synthesis to generate F-actin-enriched migratory protrusions.

***Tre1^{KO}* GCs lose polarized localization of PI(4,5)P₂, dPIP5K, and F-actin**

If Tre1 recruits dPIP5K for localized PI(4,5)P₂ synthesis and actin polymerization, we would expect that loss of Tre1 would affect the localization of these molecules. To test this hypothesis, we expressed Venus- or GFP-tagged dPIP5K, a PI(4,5)P₂ sensor (GFP-PLC γ -PH), and an F-actin probe (MoeABD) and measured the fluorescent intensities along the PMs in at least 50 WT and 50 *Tre1^{KO}* GCs. dPIP5K, PI(4,5)P₂, and F-actin exhibited intense local concentrations in GCs, manifested as a single peak of fluorescent intensity, as shown in the examples (Figures 3A, 3D, and 3G), in about 60%–70% of WT GCs (Figures 3C, 3F, 3I, S5A, S5D, and S5G). This local concentration disappeared in *Tre1^{KO}* mutant GCs, as shown by the lack of a prominent high-intensity peak in the examples (Figures 3B, 3E, and 3H) and only ~20%–30% of all mutant GCs showing a single intensity peak (Figures 3C, 3F, 3I, S5B, S5E, and S5H). Our observation that *Tre1^{KO}* mutant GCs demonstrated significantly more uniform distributions of fluorescent signals through the entire cellular circumferences is also captured by the smaller variances of fluorescent intensities around the cell periphery in the mutants compared with WT GCs (Figures 3J, S5C, S5F, and S5I). This finding is consistent with the model that localized Tre1 activation of actin polymerization through recruitment of dPIP5K and synthesis of PI(4,5)P₂ guides the directional migration of GCs. Indeed, activated GPCRs have been shown to recruit PIP5K following release of G proteins through adaptor proteins such as β -arrestin (Nelson et al., 2008).

WASP and WIP are expressed in GCs and are required for their navigation

Although the aforementioned pathway suggests a mechanism for how Tre1 can regulate PI(4,5)P₂, it does not directly link Tre1 to actin assembly. A well-known actin regulator downstream of PI(4,5)P₂ is WASP, an actin-nucleation-promoting factor and activator of the Arp2/3 complex. PI(4,5)P₂ releases WASP from an auto-inhibitory conformation by binding to the Pleckstrin homology (PH) domain and exposing the VCA domain (Figures 4A and 4B). The exposed verprolin homology sequence (V) that binds monomeric actin and central (C) and acidic sequences (A) (VCA) domain activates Arp2/3-complex-mediated actin polymerization (Figure 4B) (Padrick and Rosen, 2010). In migrating GCs, WASP is expressed but not enriched at the F-actin protrusions; GC-specific expression of GFP-tagged WASP shows a similar localization (Figures 4C-4H'). Importantly, dWIP, which binds WASP in its open PI(4,5)P₂-bound configuration and stabilizes active WASP protein, is enriched at the F-actin protrusions (Figures 4I-4K''; average Pearson's correlation

coefficient = 0.80 ± 0.18 ; Anton et al., 2007; Kim et al., 2007; Massarwa et al., 2007), consistent with local pools of PI(4,5)P₂ activating WASP to drive actin assembly.

To test if WASP and/or Drosophila WASP-interacting protein (dWIP) are involved in GC navigation, we examined GC localization in embryos missing zygotic function of the corresponding genes. Loss of *wasp* resulted in significant GC navigation defects (Figures 4L-4O and 4T), whereas loss of *dwip* resulted in lower-level GC migration defects (Figures 4R-4T). The defects observed with zygotic loss of *wasp* alone were intensified in *dpip5k; wasp* double mutants, supporting a functional requirement for both proteins in GC navigation and consistent with the proteins functioning in the same pathway (Figures 4P, 4Q, and 4T). Altogether, the localization data and the GC migration defects observed in mutants are consistent with roles for WASP and dWIP in activating actin polymerization downstream of Tre1 and PI(4,5)P₂ in GC navigation.

Hh signaling and GC navigation

Whereas the requirement for Tre1 in GC navigation has been clearly demonstrated (this study; Kamps et al., 2010; LeBlanc and Lehmann, 2017), how Tre1 is activated in GCs remains unknown. Indeed, Tre1 is one of many orphan receptors with no known ligand (Hanlon and Andrew, 2015). As described in the Introduction, Hh has been proposed as an attractive guidance cue for GC migration (Deshpande et al., 2001, 2017; Deshpande and Schedl, 2005); this suggestion is controversial, however, due in part to questions regarding the expression of necessary downstream signaling components within the GCs (Renault et al., 2009). To address these issues, we re-examined the localization of the early Hh signaling components.

We took advantage of a line carrying a Bac construct encoding a functional GFP-tagged version of Hh, which has been shown to recapitulate endogenous expression and protein localization (Chen et al., 2017). Interestingly, we observed not only the previously reported Hh expression in the co-migrating SGPs, but also high levels of Hh-GFP in large intracellular puncta within GCs (Figures 5A-5B''). Indeed, we observed Hh-positive puncta in GCs from stage 9, when they are in the endoderm pocket, through stage 14, when they coalesce with SGPs to form the gonad (Figure S6 shows single confocal slices revealing Hh puncta within GCs). *smo* mRNA is observed at the posterior end of *Drosophila* embryos where GCs (also called pole cells) form at very early stages [Berkeley Drosophila Genome Project], and both Smo and Ptc proteins are detectable in GCs (Figures 5C-5E''). We also observe variable low-level expression of βgal (UAS-lacZ^{NZ}) driven by a *ptc*-Gal4 driver that reflects reported *ptc* activation downstream of Hh, although levels are not as high as in surrounding somatic tissues (Figures 5F-5F''). Importantly, Smo is enriched near F-actin protrusions (Figures 5D-5D''). To more easily localize Ptc and Smo in only migrating GCs, we expressed either GFP-tagged Smo or GFP-tagged Ptc in GCs using the *nos*-Gal4 driver. GFP-Smo was highly concentrated with F-actin often at protrusions (average Pearson's correlation value 0.64 ± 0.14 ; Figures 5G-5I'), suggesting that Smo could function to organize F-actin in the GCs just as Tre1 does. In contrast, GFP-Ptc staining did not coincide with the F-actin protrusions (average Pearson's correlation value 0.25 ± 0.17 ; Figures 5J-5L'). Indeed, high levels of GFP-Ptc were often observed in large intracellular puncta, much

like those seen with Hh in GCs, with relatively lower levels in the PM (Figures 5J and 5K). This finding suggests the possibility that Ptc-bound Hh is internalized in GCs, fully consistent with a role for Hh signaling in GC navigation.

Complete loss of zygotic *hh* results in severe GC migration defects (Deshpande et al., 2001; our own findings that 100% of *hh* mutants have severe migration defects). However, these migration defects could be an indirect consequence of the segmental patterning defects of *hh* nulls. Supporting this idea, we find that loss of *wg*, which is also required for segmental patterning, also results in severe GC mis-migration. However, only the complete loss of *hh* and not of *wg* resulted in the early GC mis-migration we observe with loss of *Tre1* (Figure S7). We also examined GC migration in embryos heterozygous for the *Mrt* allele of *hh* (*hh^{Mrt}*) (Deshpande and Schedl, 2005), which deletes 24 nt of the *hh* enhancer and results in ectopic *hh* expression in wing discs (Pérez et al., 2011). We observed significant GC mis-migration in *hh^{Mrt}* heterozygotes (Figures 6A, 6B, and 6I) with no accompanying segmental patterning defects, consistent with the migration defects observed by others with ectopic Hh (Deshpande et al., 2001, 2013). When Smo function was reduced by maternally driven RNAi, we also observed significant GC navigation defects in the absence of any of the segmentation defects associated with zygotic loss of *Smo* (Figures 6C-6F and 6I). Moreover, *smo* RNAi also resulted in the same early GC navigation defects and occurrence of GCs on the outside of the embryo as observed in *Tre1* mutant embryos and in *hh* nulls (Figures 6J-6L), further supporting a role for Smo in GC migration.

Based on the Smo requirement in GC navigation and its colocalization with F-actin, we next asked if it also localizes with molecules that function downstream of activated Tre1 to facilitate actin polymerization. Indeed, GFP-Smo colocalizes with the PI(4,5)P₂ sensor PLCδPH-mCherry in migrating GCs (Figures 6M-6O'). The polarized localization of PI(4,5)P₂ and F-actin in GFP-Smo embryos suggests that the GCs in these embryos should properly navigate to the somatic gonad, which we found to be the case (Figures 6G and 6I). Since GCs mis-migrate in *hh*, *ptc*, and *smo* mutant embryos (Deshpande and Schedl, 2005; Deshpande et al., 2001), we predicted that interfering with Smo signaling would also result in loss of PI(4,5)P₂ localization. Smo signaling can be blocked by overexpression of its negative regulator, Ptc. As expected, overexpression of GFP-Ptc in GCs not only perturbed the localization of the PI(4,5)P₂ sensor (Figures 6Q-6S), but also caused significant, low-level GC navigation defects (Figures 6H and 6I). Overall, these findings are consistent with a role for Hh signaling through Smo in guiding GC migration through the same actin polymerization mechanism as Tre1.

Hh-activated Smo recruits and/or stabilizes Tre1 in the PM

The observation that Smo localizes with PI(4,5)P₂ and F-actin in migrating GCs prompted us to investigate how Tre1 integrates into this model. We hypothesize that activation of Smo recruits and/or stabilizes Tre1 in the PM and that Tre1 then recruits dPIP5k to synthesize PI(4,5)P₂ to facilitate actin assembly. Classically, Smo accumulates on the PM in response to Hh, a response that can be recapitulated in S2R+ cells, which do not express endogenous Hh (Figures 7A-7D''; Flybase; Thurmond et al., 2019). We then asked if Hh-mediated PM localization of Smo also affected the localization of Tre1 and its downstream effectors. To

address this question, we expressed Tre1-HA, GFP-Smo, and FLAG-dPIP5K and induced signaling by treating the cells with Hh-conditioned media. In these transiently transfected S2R+ cells, not all cells expressed all three proteins, allowing for internal controls within the same field of view. In cells lacking Smo (indicated by lack of blue GFP signal and “-”), Tre1 localized primarily to intracellular puncta with only low-level PM staining (Figures 7E-7G’). Strikingly, in nearby cells where GFP-Smo had been activated by Hh (indicated by the presence of blue GFP on the PM and “+”), Tre1 localization was reduced in intracellular puncta and relatively higher at the PM (Figures 7E-7G’). dPIP5K exhibited constant localization on the PM in S2R+ cells regardless of the activation of Smo (Figures 7E’, 7F’, and 7G’; see also merged images). This membrane localization is also visible in Figures S4E-S4H’—except in the case of expression of Tre1-GFP, where it accumulates with Tre1-GFP in large intracellular puncta—and suggests that dPIP5K localization in S2R+ cells differs from its localization in GCs (Figures 2L-2P’). In any case, these results suggest that activation of Smo by Hh stabilizes Tre1 at the PM and/or causes Tre1 to translocate to the PM.

To confirm that Hh signaling increases PM levels of Tre1, we used a biochemical approach. In this approach, we exclusively labeled proteins on the cell surface with cell-membrane-impermeable biotin and compared the amounts of biotinylated Tre1 in the absence and presence of Hh. Hh increased Tre1 on the PM by about 2-fold, on average (Figures 7H and 7H’). Correspondingly, we found that the physical association of Tre1 with dPIP5K increased with Hh treatment by about 3-fold under the same conditions (Figures 7I and 7I’). These observations support a model wherein Hh signaling through Smo localizes/stabilizes Tre1 on the PM to facilitate PI(4,5)P₂ synthesis through dPIP5K (Figure 7J).

DISCUSSION

In this study, we provide evidence from both *Tre1* loss-of-function analysis and analysis of an abnormally stable form of the protein (Tre1-GFP) that Tre1 activation results in the polarized accumulation of dPIP5K to generate localized PI(4,5)P₂. Our findings further suggest a model wherein localized PI(4,5)P₂ activates WASP to induce locally boosted Arp2/3-mediated actin polymerization at the migration front (Figure 7J). The failure of GCs to polarize dPIP5K, PI(4,5)P₂, and F-actin explains the navigation defects of the *Tre1*^{KO} mutants. Likewise, the altered distributions of PI(4,5)P₂ and F-actin associated with Tre1-GFP can explain the GC navigation defects associated with expression of this highly stable form of Tre1. We also provide evidence that Hh-Smo signaling guides GC navigation. Smo, the signal transducer in the Hh signaling pathway, is enriched at the migrating front in GCs, colocalizing with PI(4,5)P₂ and F-actin and, by extension, Tre1, dPIP5K, activated WASP, and WIP. When activated by Hh, Smo localizes to the PM. Activated Smo induces and/or stabilizes Tre1 localization at the PM and increases Tre1 binding to dPIP5K to presumably facilitate local PI(4,5)P₂ synthesis for robust actin assembly. Taken together, these findings suggest a mechanism for directional cell migration whereby Hh signaling provides the directional guidance cue to migrating GCs through Smo to regulate actin cytoskeleton dynamics via Tre1.

Our model is consistent with the report showing that GCs harboring mutations in *Tre1*'s conserved motifs are found outside the midgut (LeBlanc and Lehmann, 2017) and that *Tre1* null GCs are randomly migrating from very early stages (Lin et al., 2020), indicating that *Tre1* mutant GCs are capable of migration but not navigation. Furthermore, GCs of *Tre1^{scff}*, which lacks key residues required for interactions with G-proteins, are unable to maintain directionally relevant F-actin protrusions and instead form abnormal protrusions in random directions (LeBlanc and Lehmann, 2017) (Figure 7J). Our work suggests a role for *Tre1* in migrating GCs to locally elevate F-actin assembly through PI metabolism to direct persistence in migration (Figure 7J). GCs mutant for *Tre1* in all the genotypes we tested were scattered throughout the embryos. More importantly, *Tre1* mutant GCs move out of the midgut (often heading in the wrong direction) from very early stages, indicating that *Tre1* function is not required to initiate or maintain migration but is instead required for directionality (Figure 1).

We also provide supporting evidence that Hh guides GCs via the Ptc and Smo signaling cascade (Deshpande and Schedl, 2005; Deshpande et al., 2001). We show that Hh uptake is observed in GCs from very early stages, even before these cells have begun to exit the endoderm (Figure S6). The early mis-migration of GCs observed with loss of Hh, Smo, and *Tre1* suggests that Hh could be the guidance cue for all stages of GC navigation, even well before the association of GCs with the SGPs. The broad expression pattern of Hh in developing embryos, however, raises a reasonable question about its effectiveness as an attractant cue (Renault et al., 2009). This potential issue can be explained by the localized expression of positive regulators of Hh activity. The cofactors necessary for Hh secretion and trafficking are expressed in more limited spatial domains than Hh, including 3-hydroxy-3-methyl-glutaryl-CoA reductase (HMGCR), the enzyme that catalyzes the rate limiting step of cholesterol biosynthesis. Cholesterol modification of Hh is essential for the range and shape of Hh gradients (Jeong and McMahon, 2002). HMGCR, which is not only required for GC navigation but can also result in GC mis-migration when overexpressed (Kenwick et al., 2019), is normally expressed throughout the mesoderm surrounding the midgut endoderm early (Van Doren et al., 1998; stage 9). Later, HMGCR is expressed more specifically in SGPs (Deshpande et al., 2009, 2013; Deshpande and Schedl, 2005; Van Doren et al., 1998), consistent with a role for this protein in limiting the spatial distributions of active Hh at all stages of GC migration (Deshpande et al., 2009, 2013; Deshpande and Schedl, 2005; Van Doren et al., 1998). Indeed, the finding that ectopic HMGCR expression can result in GC mis-migration even in the absence of Hh (challenging results to interpret given that GCs are already mis-migrating without Hh) can be explained by the observation that the binding of cholesterol and oxysterols to the extracellular N-terminal domain of Smo is sufficient to activate Smo signaling (Luchetti et al., 2016; Nachtergaele et al., 2013). Importantly, there is no evidence that cholesterol or the oxysterols (the oxygenated derivatives of cholesterol) are endogenous Smo ligands (Nachtergaele et al., 2013), suggesting that HMGCR is normally acting through its effects on Hh (and/or some yet-to-be-discovered cholesterol-dependent ligand).

Our findings further suggest that Hh signaling in GCs might not follow the canonical Hh signaling pathway. In the canonical model, *ptc* expression is transcriptionally upregulated in response to Hh signaling (Robbins et al., 2012), a regulatory event we did not explore in

these studies other than to show that we can detect low-level Hh-dependent Ptc expression in WT GCs. The finding by others that expression of neither dominant-negative nor constitutively active forms of the Ci transcription factor affect GC migration (Renault et al., 2009) is consistent with the notion that the Hh signaling cascade in GCs is non-canonical. Thus, we propose that Tre1 is directly activated by Smo downstream of Hh signaling. This hypothesis is supported by evidence that Tre1 localization to the PM is induced and/or stabilized by Hh activation of Smo in S2R+ cells (Figure 7), which do not express *ci* transcripts (Brown et al., 2014). Additionally, both loss of Tre1 and Ptc overexpression in GCs result in similar PI(4,5)P₂ polarization defects (Figures 3 and 6).

To our knowledge, the proposed non-canonical pathway of Smo signaling through Tre1 to regulate PI metabolism and cytoskeleton dynamics is novel. However, Smo has been shown to regulate the localization of other GPCRs during canonical Hh signaling. In vertebrate primary cilia, Shh-activated Smo relocates Gpr161, a negative regulator of Gli activation, from the cilia to the cell body in a Grk2- and β -arrestin-dependent manner (Mukhopadhyay et al., 2013; Pal et al., 2016). Conversely, an orphan GPCR, Gpr175, relocates to the primary cilia upon Hh stimulation in a Smo-dependent manner (Singh et al., 2015). Whereas it is clear that Smo can regulate the localization of other GPCRs, how this process occurs is not well understood, although there are several possible mechanisms. First, Smo may enhance exocytosis or suppress endocytosis. In *Drosophila* olfactory sensory neurons, odorant receptors are trafficked to primary cilia by the kinesin-like protein Costal-2 (Cos2) that is regulated by Hh- and Smo-dependent signaling (Sanchez et al., 2016). Second, Smo may physically bind and activate/stabilize GPCRs on the PM. Heterodimerization of certain GPCRs is required for proper localization and functional activation (Prinster et al., 2005). In this case, within GCs, Smo would be the functional ligand or stimulant for Tre1. In light of this scenario, it is relevant that Smo has been shown to not only bind PI(4)P upon activation, but also to require PI(4)P binding for its signaling function (Jiang et al., 2016; Yavari et al., 2010). These discoveries suggest that Smo may not only stabilize Tre1 at the membrane but may also provide a proximal source of the substrate for the dPIP5K that associates with Tre1 upon activation. The requirement for PI(4)P binding for Smo function also provides a feedback mechanism for the subsequent downregulation of signaling as the PI(4)P is converted to PI(4,5)P₂ by dPIP5K. Alternatively, Smo may affect GPCR localization by regulating post-translational modification of Tre1 through Smo-engaged kinases like Fu, PKA, and Gprk2. In support of this possibility, Deshpande et al. (2001) reported that loss of *fu* or of *pka* causes GC migration defects. Finally, Smo and Tre1 may localize to the same secretory vesicles that get activated and fuse with the PM upon Hh activation. Indeed, our preliminary findings suggest that this could be the case, at least in S2R+ cells. Further study of how Smo regulates Tre1 localization in GCs will allow us to distinguish among these possibilities.

Tre1 is believed to exert its downstream effects through classical G-protein signaling. GCs lacking G γ 1 or G β 13f are unable to migrate properly (Kunwar et al., 2008), and conserved residues in Tre1 that are necessary for G α signaling are required for GC navigation (Kamps et al., 2010; LeBlanc and Lehmann, 2017). Although no single G α protein has been identified as a binding partner of Tre1, overexpression of G α o-GDP in GCs results in *Tre1*-like GC migration defects (LeBlanc and Lehmann, 2017), and Tre1 and G α o interact to

direct the orientation of neuroblast cell division (Yoshiura et al., 2012). Our observed interaction between Tre1 and dPIP5K (Figures 7I and 7I') could be facilitated indirectly via the heterotrimeric G proteins or other intermediate molecules. One intriguing candidate for this is β -arrestin. Classically, β -arrestins are known for their role in receptor recycling; however, studies indicate that β -arrestins can also function as signaling scaffolds through local recruitment and activation of cellular enzymes. β -arrestin has been shown to bind and activate PIP5K enzymes to generate PI(4,5)P₂ upon GPCR activation (Nelson et al., 2008). Although the sole β -arrestin (outside the visual system) in *Drosophila*, *kurtz* (*krz*), has been shown to be required for GC development, its role in GC migration remains to be revealed (Molnar et al., 2011). Understanding how Tre1 coordinates its downstream effectors like dPIP5K, Rho1, and the heterotrimeric G proteins during GC navigation will be important to better understand the complexity of GPCR signaling.

In conclusion, we propose that Tre1 functions as a master helmsman in GC navigation by integrating extracellular signals to induce intracellular changes. Future studies on Tre1—including its trafficking, post-translational modifications, and interacting proteins—will provide a more general understanding of GPCR function and regulation during *in vivo* cell migration. Our discoveries provide a better understanding of GC guidance mechanisms by potentially reconciling the controversial findings on the role of Hh signaling in GC migration. More broadly, aberrant Hh signaling has been implicated in the metastasis of many cancer types (Skoda et al., 2018), and PIP5Ks have been increasingly shown to have pathological relevance in cancer metastasis (Semenas et al., 2014; Yamaguchi et al., 2010). These studies suggest that PIP5K enzymes could be important downstream effectors in the migration of metastatic cancer cells in response to Hh signaling. Altogether, our work has broad implications in the fields of both developmental biology and cell migration.

STAR ★METHODS

RESOURCE AVAILABILITY

Lead contact—Any additional information and/or requests for resources and reagents should be directed to and will be fulfilled by the Lead Contact, Deborah J. Andrew (dandrew@jhmi.edu)

Materials availability—All antibodies and fly lines generated in this study are available from the Lead Contact without restriction.

Data and code availability—This study did not generate/analyze datasets or code.

EXPERIMENTAL MODEL AND SUBJECT DETAILS

***Drosophila* strains and cell culture**—*Drosophila* crosses and embryo collections were performed at 25°C, unless otherwise indicated. The *Drosophila* lines used include: *Oregon-R* (wild-type control; Bloomington *Drosophila* Stock Center), *Tre1^{KO}* (this study), *Tre1^{EP5}*, *Tre1^{EP19}* (Ueno et al., 2001), *Tre1^{scut}* (Coffman et al., 2002), *nos-Gal4* (Van Doren et al., 1998), *UAS-Tre1*, *UAS-Tre1-Flag*, *UAS-Tre1-HA*, *UAS-Tre1-GFP* (this study), *UAS-GFP-PLC γ PH* (Pinal et al., 2006), *UAS-PLC δ PH-mCherry*, *tGPH* (Bloomington *Drosophila*

Stock Center), *UAS-PX-Phox40-GFP*, *UAS-GFP-PH-FAPP1*, *UAS-GFP-PH-TAPP1*, *UAS-GFP-Atg18* (gifts from Amy Kiger), *UAS-TMEM-GFP* (Finley et al., 1998; Fox and Andrew, 2015), *UAS-GFP-Smo*, *UAS-GFP-Ptc*, *UAS-lacZ^{NZ}* (Bloomington *Drosophila* Stock Center), *UAS-Venus-dPIP5K* (this study), *UAS-HA-dPIP5K^{KD}*, *dPIP5K¹⁸*, *dPIP5K³⁰* (Chakrabarti et al., 2015), *skt1¹⁵* (Hassan et al., 1998), *TRiP.HMC05328* (*UAS-dPIP5K* RNAi stock), *TRiP.GL00072* (*UAS-skt1* RNAi stock), *wasp¹*, *wasp³*, *wasp^{MI05533-GFSTF.0}*, *Df(2R) Exel17170* (Bloomington *Drosophila* Stock Center), *UAS-GFP-WASP* (Jin et al., 2011), *dwip^{S1946}* (Kim et al., 2007), *y¹w*;P{70FLP} 11 P{70I-SceI} 2B noc^{Sco}/CyO,S²*, *TRiP.HMC03577* and *TRiP.GL01472*, (*UAS-Smo* RNAi stocks), *wg¹⁻⁸*; *pftz-lacZ*, *hh^{AC}/TM3*, *Sb¹*, *hh^{Mrt}/TM3*, *Sb¹*, and *hh^{Mrt}/TM3, Sb¹* (Bloomington *Drosophila* Stock Center). For Hh localization in SGP and GCs, we used the *Hh:GFP* Bac provided by the Kornberg Lab (Chen et al., 2017). To express a UAS-transgene in embryonic GCs in rescue and overexpression experiments, virgins carrying *nos-Gal4* were crossed with the UAS-transgene male flies. To knock down maternal contributions of different genes, we used *maternal-Tub-Gal4* (Staller et al., 2013).

S2 and S2R+ cells were cultured in Schneider's medium (GIBCO) supplemented with 10% fetal bovine serum (FBS) (GIBCO) and penicillin/streptomycin (Sigma). S2 cells stably expressing Hh-N (S2-Hh^N; a gift from J. Jiang) were selected with 200 µg/ml hygromycin B (Invitrogen). Effectene (QIAGEN) was used to transfect cells to express proteins according to the manufacturer's protocol.

Tre1^{KO} and UAS expression lines—The *Tre1^{KO}* flies were generated by homologous recombination following the protocol of Rong and Golic (2001), replacing the region spanning from ~540 nt upstream of the ATG start codon of *Tre1* up to the residues encoding the last 23 residues of the *Tre1* ORF. The UAS constructs to express Tre1, dPIP5K, PLCδPH, and Smo were generated by PCR and Gateway Cloning system (Invitrogen) into either the pTW, pTWG, pTWH or pTWF vectors. Template DNAs used for PCR were as follows: RE07751 (*Tre1*, *Drosophila* Genomics Resource Center [DGRC]), FI05352 (dPIP5K, DGRC), genomic DNA extracted from the UAS-PLCδPH-mCherry line (PLCδPH), and genomic DNA extracted from the UAS-Smo-GFP line (Smo).

METHOD DETAILS

Embryo *in situ* hybridization, immunostaining and imaging—Whole-mount *in situ* hybridization and fluorescence *in situ* hybridization were performed as described (Knirr et al., 1999; Lehmann and Tautz, 1994) using an anti-sense digoxigenin-labeled *Tre1* RNA probe generated from cDNA RE07751. For immunostaining, embryos were fixed with 4% formaldehyde and devitellinized with methanol. For F-actin staining with phalloidin, the vitelline membrane was removed by hand after fixation. The dilution ratios of primary antibodies follow: rabbit α-Vasa (1:100, Santa Cruz), rabbit α-GFP (1:500, Molecular Probes), rabbit α-βGalactosidase (1:100, Invitrogen), rat α-Vasa (1:100, DSHB), rat α-dPIP5K (1:100, a gift from P. Raghu), rat α-dWIP (1:50, a gift from E. Chen), mouse α-Flag (1:200, Sigma-Aldrich), chicken α-GFP (1:500, Abcam), mouse α-Eya (1:10, DSHB), mouse α-Smo (1:10, DSHB) and mouse α-Ptc (1:10, DSHB). Fluorescence- or biotin-conjugated secondary antibodies (Life technologies) were used at 1:200. To visualize

filamentous actin, Alexa Fluor 488- or Alexa Fluor 568-conjugated phalloidin (ThermoFisher) were used at 1:200. DIC images were obtained on an Axiophot microscope (Zeiss) equipped with ProgRes CapturePro (Jenoptik). Fluorescent images were obtained on an LSM 700 Meta confocal microscope (Zeiss) equipped with Zen software (Zeiss) and processed using Adobe Photoshop CS.

For live imaging of migrating GCs, embryos were collected and dechorionated in 50% bleach. Subsequently, embryos were washed in water and covered with a layer of Halocarbon oil 700/27 (2:1; Sigma) on a microslide. Time lapse image acquisition was carried out on an LSM 700 Meta confocal microscope (Zeiss).

Cultured cell immunostaining and imaging—For immunofluorescent staining of culture cells, cells were fixed with 4% formaldehyde in PBS, washed in PBST (PBS with 0.1% Triton X-100) and PBSTB (PBST with 0.2% BSA) consecutively. The primary antibodies were used in PBSTB with the dilution ratios that follow: mouse α -Flag (1:1000), rabbit α -HA (1:500), rabbit α -GFP (1:1000), chicken α -GFP (1:1000). To stain cell surface GFP-Smo proteins exclusively, chicken α -GFP was treated in PBS without detergent. Secondary Alexa Fluor 488-, Alexa Fluor 568-, or Alexa Fluor 647-conjugated antibodies were used at 1:400. To visualize F-actin, Alexa Fluor 488- or Alexa Fluor 568-conjugated phalloidin was used at 1:500 in PBST. DAPI (0.1 μ g/ml) was used to stain nuclei. Fluorescent images were obtained on an LSM 700 Meta confocal microscope (Zeiss), acquired with Zen software (Zeiss), and processed using Adobe Photoshop.

The preparation and treatment of Hh-conditioned medium was performed as described previously (Chen et al., 2010). Hh-conditioned medium was prepared by inducing the secreted Hh, Hh^N, expression in the S2-Hh^N cells with 0.7 mM CuSO₄ in the absence of hygromycin B for 24-48 hours. The collected Hh-conditioned medium was diluted with fresh medium at 6:4 ratio and applied to S2R+ cells for 24-48 hr.

Co-immunoprecipitation—S2R+ cells were transfected to express proteins of interest. After harvesting cells by centrifugation, cells were washed with cold PBS and lysed in Lysis buffer (10 mM Tris, pH 7.4, 150 mM NaCl, 1 mM EDTA, 1% Triton X-100, 0.5% NP-40) containing a protease/phosphatase inhibitor cocktail (ThermoFisher). After centrifugation, supernatants were incubated with the indicated antibodies at 4°C for 2-3 hr. Protein A/G agarose resin (Pierce) was used to precipitate the antibodies. Immunoprecipitated proteins were analyzed by SDS-PAGE and western blot.

Cycloheximide chase of Tre1—S2R+ cells were transfected with constructs for expression of tagged Tre1 proteins. Cells were treated with 50 μ g/ml cycloheximide at 48 hr after transfection and harvested at individual time points. The amounts of Tre1 proteins in whole cell lysates prepared in Lysis buffer containing the protease/phosphatase inhibitor cocktail were analyzed by SDS-PAGE and western blot.

Biotinylation of cell surface proteins—S2R+ cells were transfected to express GFP-Smo and Tre1-Flag. After treatment of control or Hh-conditioned medium, cells were washed with cold PBS (pH 8.0) and incubated with 1 mg/ml cell-impermeable Sulfo-NHS-

biotin (ThermoFisher) in PBS for 30 min at room temperature. Biotinylation was terminated by washing cells with 100 mM glycine in PBS 3 times. Cells were harvested and lysed in PBS containing 1% NP-40 and the protease/phosphatase inhibitor cocktail. Streptavidin-agarose resin (Pierce) was used to precipitate biotinylated proteins from the cell lysates. Precipitated proteins were analyzed by SDS-PAGE and western blot.

QUANTIFICATION AND STATISTICAL ANALYSIS

To quantify GC migration phenotypes, embryos were stained with α -Vasa antibody. In embryos older than stage 14, GCs separated from the somatic gonads were counted as mis-migrating cells. The statistical significance between genotypes was calculated using a G-test of maximum likelihood of statistical significance (<http://www.biostathandbook.com/gtestind.html>). n in each graph (Figures 1Z, 2AF, 4T, and 6I) represents the number of embryos in which GCs were counted.

To quantify fluorescent signals of dPIP5K, the PI(4,5)P₂ sensor, and the F-actin probe in GC, the signal intensities on the entire plasma membrane were measured by the ImageJ program (<https://imagej.nih.gov/ij/>) and normalized with background signals measured from control areas. Normalized data were used to calculate the variance of the fluorescent signals in each cell by Microsoft Excel. Variance is defined as the average of the squared differences from the mean and indicates how far each number in the set is from the mean. Since the majority of WT GCs present a single peak that stands out in the fluorescent signals, variance can be used as an indicator of fluorescence signal polarization. Microsoft Excel and GraphPad Prism softwares were used to generate graphs and calculate statistical values. n in each graph (Figures 3J and 6S) represents the number of GCs in which the fluorescent signals were measured. Dispersion and precision measures (mean, SD, SEM) are described in the figure legends.

To determine the average number of peaks of signal intensity with the markers described above, the signal intensity data from ImageJ scans of the entire plasma membrane of all WT and *Tre1* mutant GCs were first binned so that every cell had 36 average pixel intensity measurements. The highest value was then shifted to the middle position for every cell. The number of peaks was calculated by normalizing the data; for all cells, the data for each cell was normalized to its average and was also normalized to the average of all wild-type values, so that the data reflected that the knockout values in the mutants were lower than the wild-type values. This is more easily seen in the line plots for the wild-type and knockout cells (Figure S4). Peaks were defined as five or more consecutive values that were greater than 110 (e.g., greater than 110% of the average) (Figures 3C, 3F, and 3I). All calculations were performed in Microsoft Excel.

Supplementary Material

Refer to Web version on PubMed Central for supplementary material.

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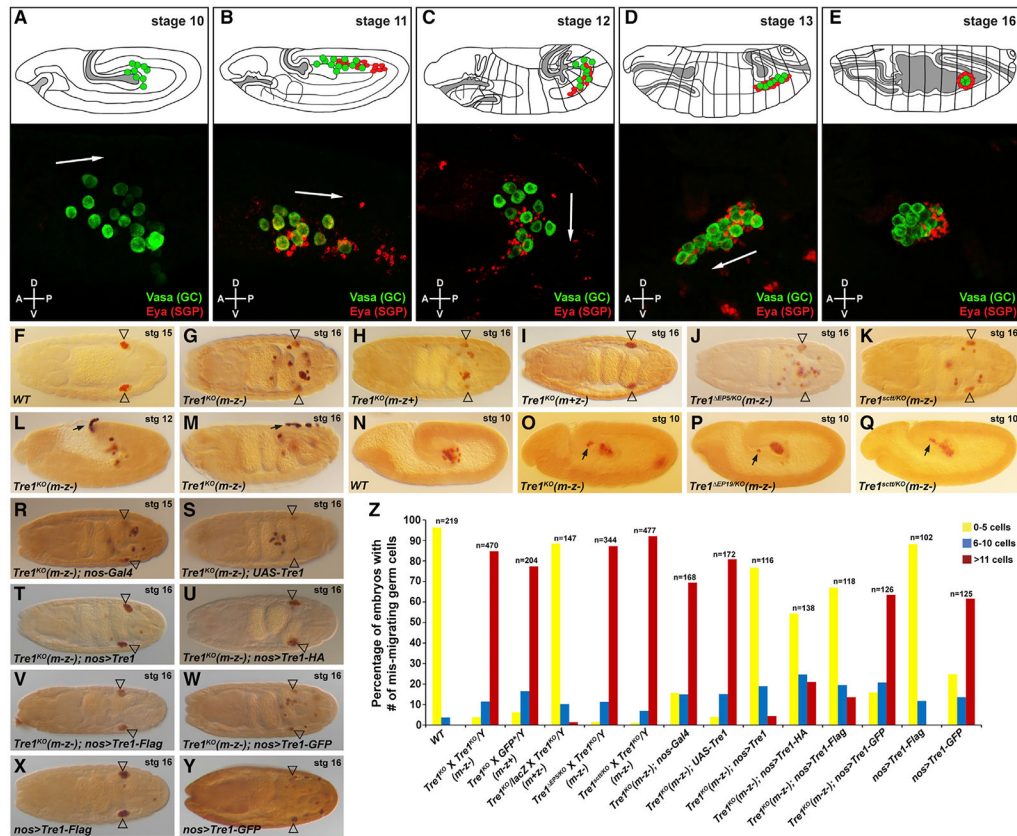
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Highlights

- Tre1 localizes with dPIP5K, PI(4,5)P₂, and F-actin and is required for their localization
- Hh and its receptor Ptc accumulate in intracellular structures within migrating GCs
- Smoothed also colocalizes with F-actin in GCs and is required for GC navigation
- Hh, through Smo, increases Tre1 at the plasma membrane and its association with dPIP5K



The statistical analysis of the phenotypes is provided in Table S1.

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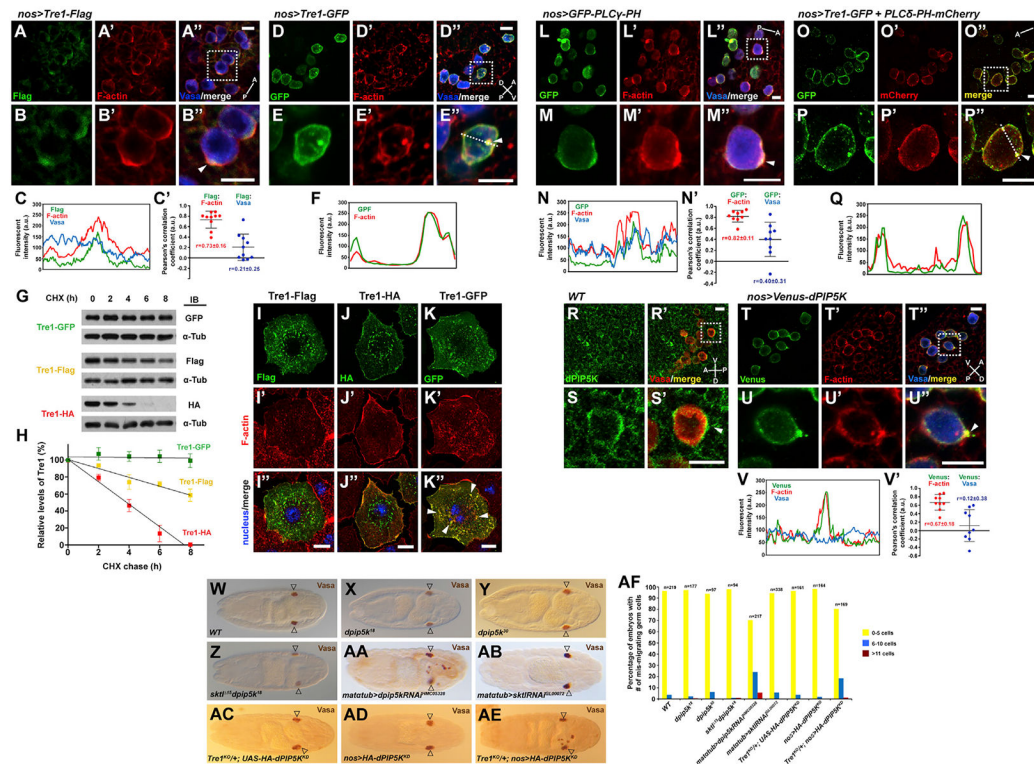


Figure 2. Tre1, PI(4,5)P₂, and dPIP5K localize at F-actin-enriched protrusions in migrating GCs (A–B'') GCs (blue, Vasa staining) from stage 11 embryos expressing Tre1-FLAG show the localization of Tre1-FLAG (green) at protrusive regions (arrowhead) enriched with F-actin (red). The embryo is in a dorsal view, and the A-P axis is indicated. Scale bars, 10 μ m. See also Video S1.

(C and C') The line scan of fluorescent signals on the entire GC circumference in (B'') and the Pearson's correlation coefficients between fluorescent signals from GCs in (A'').

(D–E'') GCs expressing Tre1-GFP show high-level F-actin colocalization with Tre1-GFP at the PM and in intracellular puncta (arrowhead). The embryo is in a lateral view, and the A-P and D-V axes are indicated. Scale bars, 10 μ m.

(F) The line scan of fluorescent signals on the dotted line in (E''). GCs boxed in (A'') and (D'') are shown in magnified views in (B)–(B'') and (E)–(E''), respectively.

(G) Western blots of extracts from S2R+ cells expressing different tagged forms of Tre1 at different times post-treatment of the cells with cycloheximide (CHX) and probed with antibodies to the tags and to α -tubulin for loading control.

(H) Graph showing relative levels of each tagged Tre1 protein over several hours from three independent chase experiments for each tagged Tre1.

(I–K'') S2R+ cells expressing different C-terminally tagged forms of Tre1 with staining for the Tre1 tags (green), F-actin (red), and nucleus (blue, DAPI). Although some limited colocalization at the cell periphery is observed with all three tagged versions, note the numerous large puncta of intracellular colocalization of Tre1-GFP and F-actin (arrowheads) not observed with Tre1-FLAG or Tre1-HA. Scale bars, 10 μ m. See also Video S1 Figure S2.

(L–M'') In stage 11 GCs (blue, Vasa) expressing a GFP-tagged PI(4,5)P₂ sensor (PLCγ-PH, green), the PI(4,5)P₂ sensor was enriched at F-actin (red) protrusions (arrowhead). The embryo in dorsal view and the A-P axis are indicated.

(N and N') The line scan of fluorescent signals on the entire GC circumference in (M'') and the Pearson's correlation coefficients between fluorescent signals from GCs in (L'').

(O–P'') GCs with co-expression of Tre1-GFP (green) and an mCherry-tagged PI(4,5)P₂ sensor (PLCδ-PH, red) reveal overlap throughout the PM and in intracellular punctae (arrowhead). The embryo in dorsal view and the A-P axis are indicated. GCs boxed in (L'') and (O'') are shown in magnified views in (M)–(M'') and (P)–(P''), respectively. Scale bars, 10 μm.

(Q) The line scan of fluorescent signals on the dotted line in (P'').

(R–S') Staining of WT stage 11 GCs (Vasa, red) with dPIP5K antiserum (green). The embryo is in a lateral view and the A-P and D-V axes are indicated. dPIP5K is enriched at GC boundary (arrowhead).

(T–U'') Venus-tagged dPIP5K (green) expression in GCs (Vasa, blue) reveals high accumulation of dPIP5K at membrane protrusions (arrowhead) with F-actin (red). The embryo is in a lateral view and the A-P and D-V axes are indicated. GCs boxed in (R') and (T'') are shown in magnified views in (S) and (S') and (U)–(U''), respectively.

(V and V') The line scan of fluorescent signals on the entire GC circumference in (U'') and the Pearson's correlation coefficients between fluorescent signals from GCs in (T''). Scale bars, 10 μm. See also Figures S3-S5 and Video S2.

(W–AB) Vasa staining of stage 16/17 (W) WT embryo, (X–Z) embryos missing zygotic function of *dpip5k* or both *sktl* and *dpip5k*, and (AA and AB) embryos in which the maternal expression of *dpip5k* or *sktl* were knocked down by RNAi.

(AC–AE) Expression of a kinase-dead (KD) form of dPIP5K disrupts GC migration in embryos from *Tre1* heterozygous mothers (AE) but does not affect GC migration in embryos from WT mothers (AD). Open arrowheads indicate GC destination of the somatic gonad.

(AF) Quantification of embryos with different numbers of mis-migrated GCs in all genotypes from (W) to (AE).

The statistical analysis of the phenotypes is provided in Table S2.

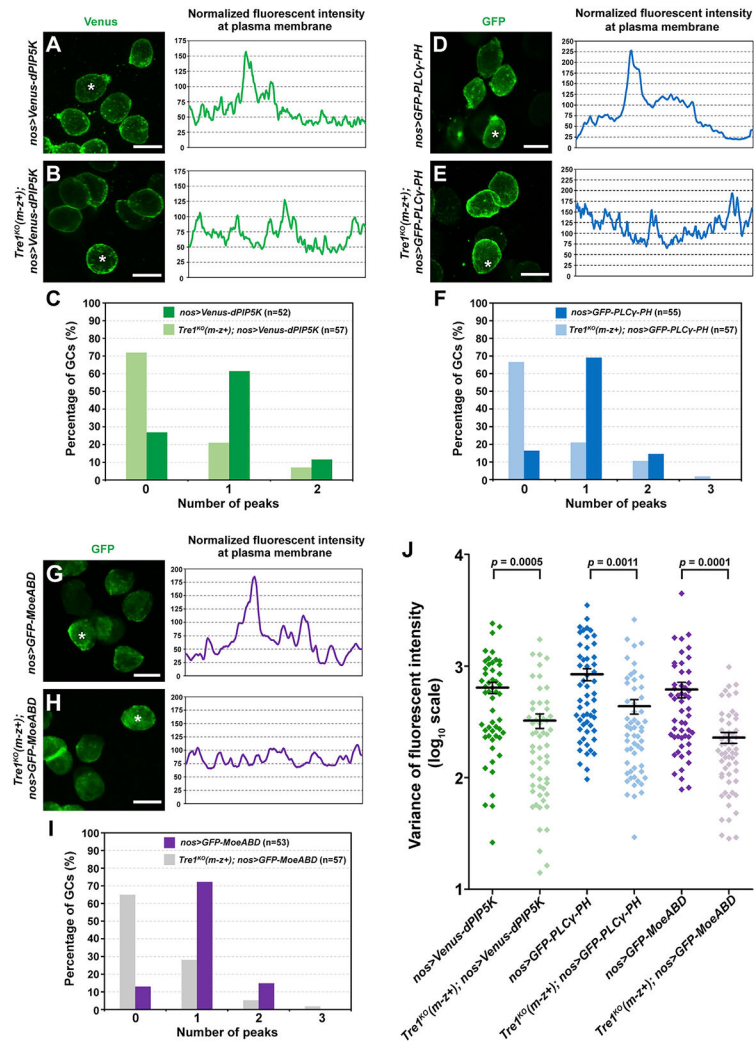


Figure 3. Polarized accumulation of dPIP5K, PI(4,5)P₂, and F-actin is lost in *Tre1* mutant GCs (A–C) Localization of Venus-tagged dPIP5K in WT GCs and in GCs missing maternal *Tre1*. Scale bars in (A) and (B), 10 μ m.

(D–F) Localization of GFP-tagged PI(4,5)P₂ sensor (the PH domain of PLC γ) in WT GCs and in GCs missing maternal *Tre1*. Scale bars in (D) and (E), 10 μ m.

(G–I) Localization of GFP-tagged F-actin sensor (the actin binding domain of Moesin) in WT GCs and in GCs missing maternal *Tre1*. All GCs are from stage 11 embryos. Trace to the right of each confocal image is from a single cell from each sample (asterisk). Counting of the peak numbers in the fluorescent intensity is shown in (C), (F), and (I). Scale bars in (G) and (H), 10 μ m.

(J) The variance of fluorescent intensity to quantify polarized distribution of each marker on PM in each genetic background—at least four to six embryos per genotype were scored with a minimum of 50 total GCs. Mean and SEM are shown.

See also Figure S5.

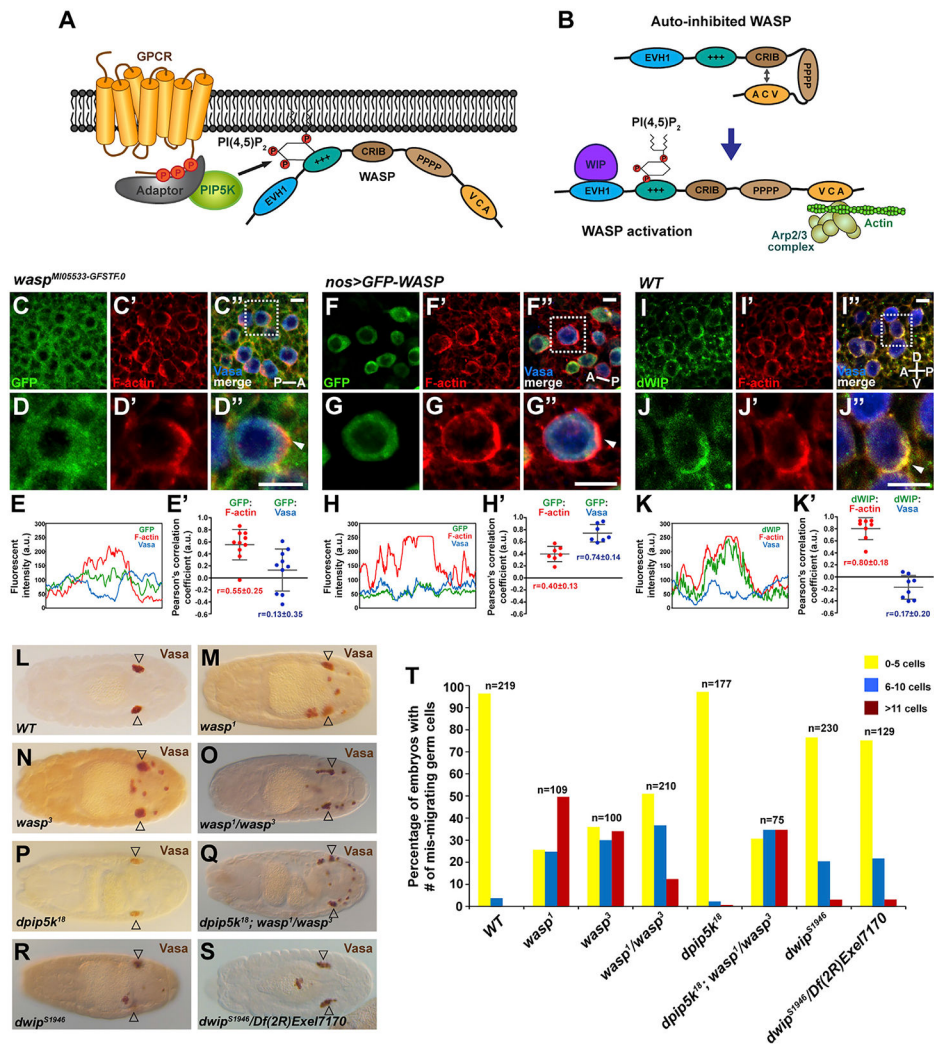


Figure 4. The requirement of WASP and dWIP in GC navigation

(A) A signaling cascade from GPCR to WASP via PIP5K and PI(4,5)P₂.

(B) WASP is activated by interaction with PI(4,5)P₂ and WIP to induce Arp2/3-mediated actin polymerization. Cartoons here and in (A) were adapted from Min and Defea (2011).

(C–D'') Staining of endogenous WASP tagged with GFP (green) and F-Actin (red) in GCs (Vasa, blue) of a *wasp* GFP-trap line. The stage 11 embryo is in a dorsal view with the A-P axis indicated. Scale bars, 10 μm.

(E and E') The line scan of fluorescent signals on the entire GC circumference in (D'') and the Pearson's correlation coefficients between fluorescent signals from GCs in (C'). Scale bars, 10 μm.

(F–G'') F-Actin (red) and GFP-tagged WASP (green) expression driven by *nos*-Gal4 in GCs (blue, Vasa). The stage 11 embryo is in a dorsal view with the A-P axis indicated. WASP is not enriched at the F-actin (red) protrusions (arrowheads in D'' and G''). Scale bars, 10 μm.

(H and H') The line scan of fluorescent signals on the entire GC circumference in (G'') and the Pearson's correlation coefficients between fluorescent signals from GCs in (F''). Scale bars, 10 μm.

(I–J'') dWIP (green) antibody staining shows its colocalization with F-actin (red) at the protrusions (arrowhead) in GCs (blue, Vasa). The stage 11 embryo is in a lateral view, and the A-P and D-V axes are indicated. Scale bars, 10 μm .

(K and K') The line scan of fluorescent signals on the entire GC circumference in (J'') and the Pearson's correlation coefficients between fluorescent signals from GCs in (I''). GCs boxed in (C''), (F''), and (I'') are shown in magnified views in (D)–(D''), (G)–(G''), and (J)–(J''), respectively. Scale bars, 10 μm .

(L–S) Vasa staining of (L) WT embryo, (M and N) embryos homozygous for the *wasp*¹ or *wasp*³ allele, (O) *wasp* zygotic mutant embryo carrying two null alleles in *trans*, (P and Q) embryo missing zygotic function of *dpip5k* or both *dpip5k* and *wasp*, and (R and S) embryos mutant for *dwip* or carrying a null allele of *dwip* over a deficiency that deletes *dwip*. Note that loss of zygotic *dpip5k* exacerbates the GC migration defect in *wasp*¹/*wasp*³. Open arrowheads indicate GC destination of the somatic gonad.

(T) Quantification of embryos with different numbers of mis-migrated GCs in all genotypes from (L) to (S). The statistical analysis of the phenotypes is provided in Table S3.

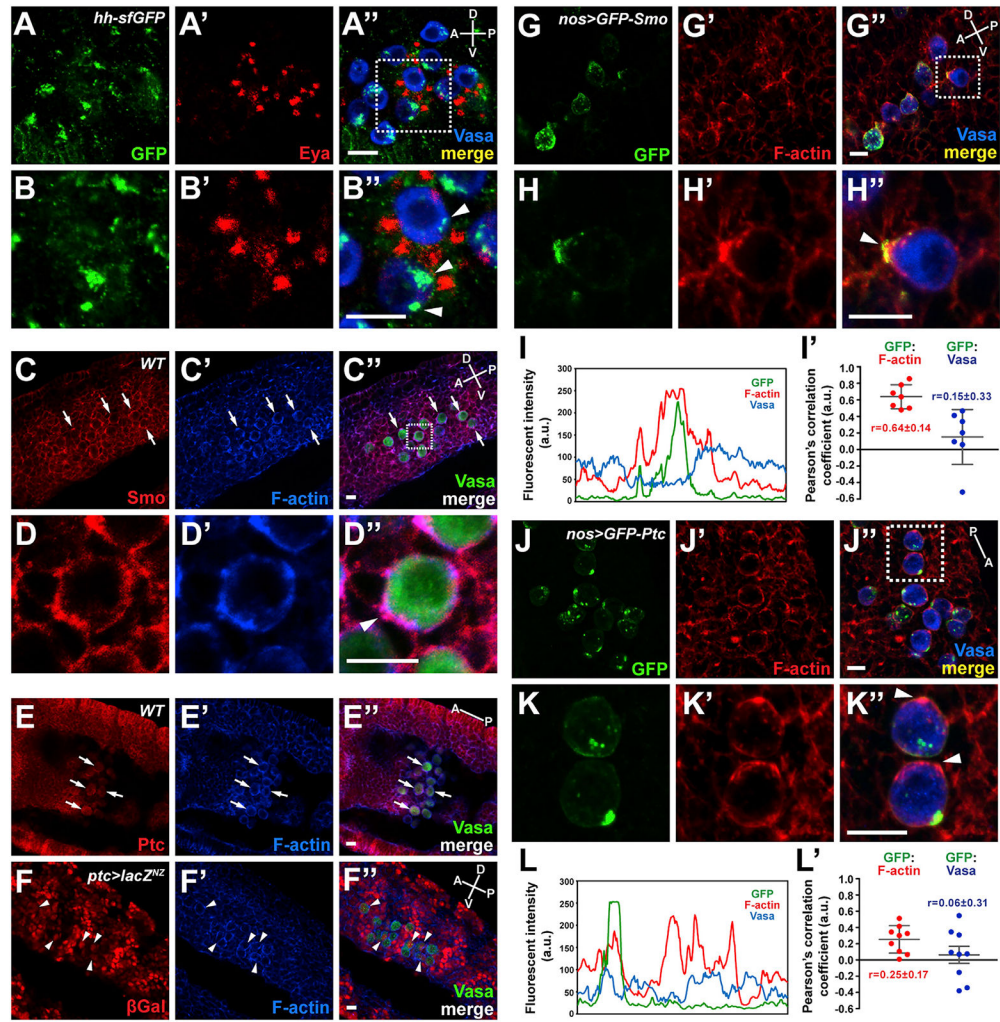


Figure 5. Hh uptake and Smo localization in migrating GCs

(A–B'') GFP-tagged Hh protein, expressed under the control of its endogenous promoter in a Bac transgene, is stained with anti-GFP antibody (green) (A and A''). Nuclear Eya (red) (A' and A'') and cytoplasmic Vasa (blue) (A'') staining indicate SGP and GCs, respectively. A GC boxed in (A'') is magnified in (B)–(B''). Arrowheads in (B'') indicate Hh proteins internalized and accumulated in GCs. Scale bars, 10 μ m.

(C–E) Smo and Ptc are expressed in migrating GCs. Immunostaining with anti-Smo (C) or anti-Ptc (E) antibody reveals the presence of Smo and Ptc proteins in GCs. A GC boxed in (C'') is magnified in (D)–(D'') and shows colocalization of Smo and F-actin at the protrusion (arrowhead in D''). Note the segmented staining patterns with both antibodies through the embryos showing the developmental expression patterns of these Hh pathway components. Arrows indicate representative GCs showing Smo (C) or Ptc (E) expression. Scale bars, 10 μ m.

(F–F'') Expression of the *ptc-Gal4* shown by *UAS-lacZ* expression, which reports on canonical Hh signaling. A subset of migrating GCs exhibits lacZ expression shown by anti- β -Galactosidase antibody staining (arrowheads in F–F''). Scale bars, 10 μ m.

(G–H'') GFP-Smo (green) and F-actin (red) colocalize to the leading edge of migrating GCs. Scale bars, 10 μ m.

(I and I') The line scan of fluorescent signals on the entire GC circumference in (H'') and the Pearson's correlation coefficients between fluorescent signals from GCs in (G'').

(J–K'') GFP-Ptc (green) and F-actin (red) do not colocalize. Scale bars, 10 μ m.

(L and L') The line scan of fluorescent signals on the entire GC circumference (the cell at bottom) in (K'') and the Pearson's correlation coefficients between fluorescent signals from GCs in (J'').

GCs boxed in (G'') and (J'') are shown in magnified views in (H)–(H'') and (K)–(K''), respectively. The A-P (dorsal view) and A-P/D-V axes (lateral view) are indicated. All GC images are from stage 11 embryos.

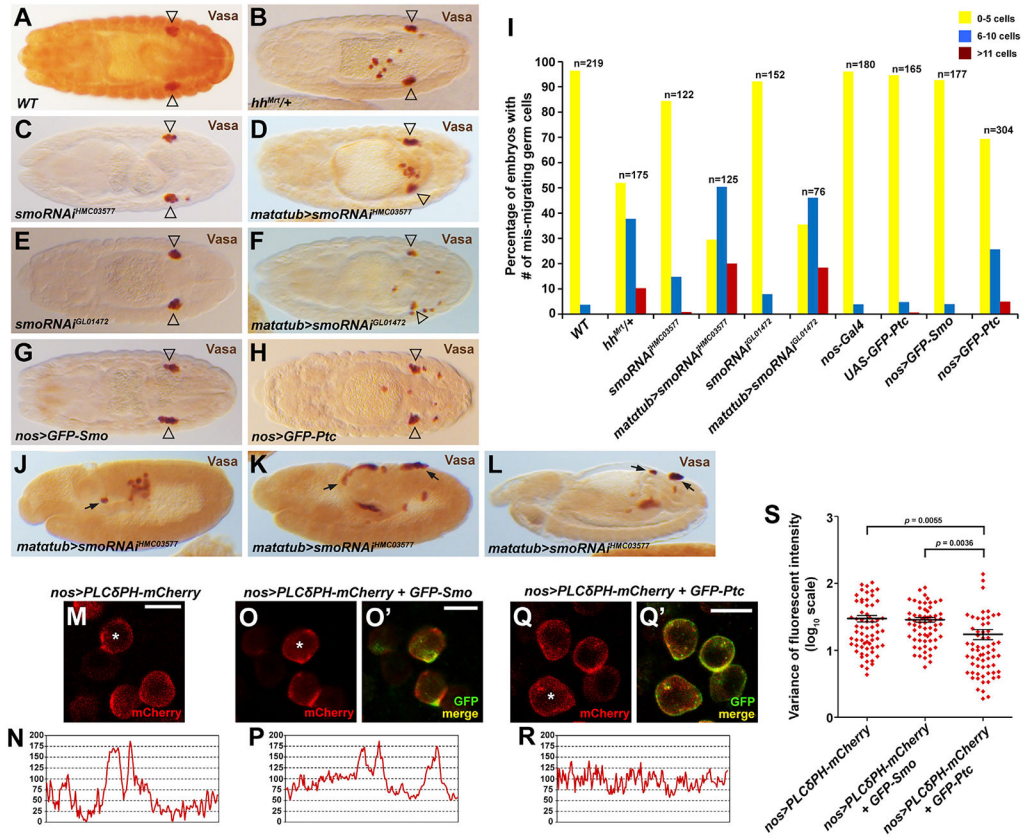
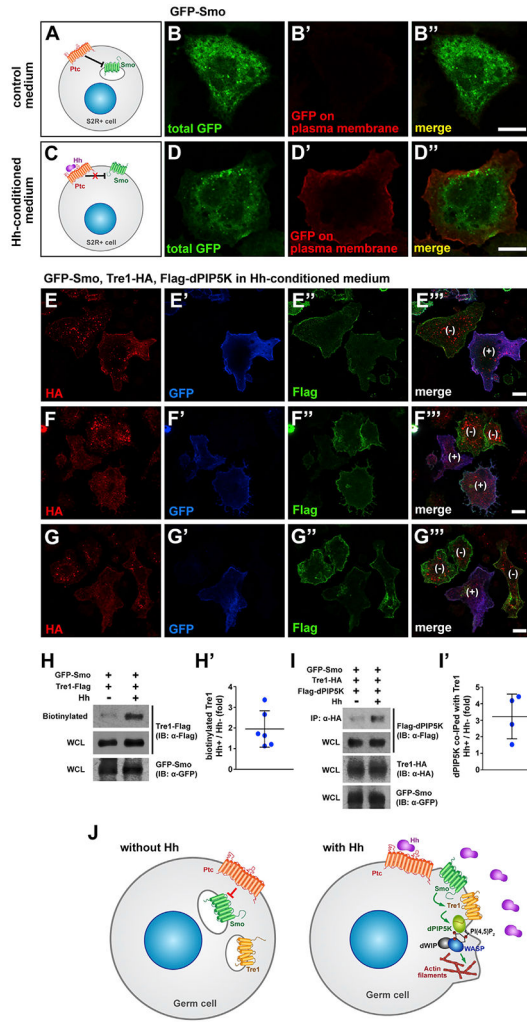


Figure 6. Smo activity is required for GC navigation and the polarized localization of PI(4,5)P₂ (A–H) Stage 15/16 embryos of the genotype indicated in lower left of each panel stained with Vasa. Open triangles indicate position of GC coalescence in gonad. (I) Quantification of embryos with different numbers of mis-migrated GCs in all genotypes from (A)–(H). The statistical analysis of the phenotypes is provided in Table S4. (J–L) Early embryos stained with Vasa reveal GC mis-migration at very early stages and (L) at a later stage (arrows). (M–R) PM localization of PI(4,5)P₂ sensor in WT GCs (M and N), GFP-Smo-expressing GCs (O and P), and GFP-Ptc-expressing GCs (Q and R). All GCs are from stage 11 embryos. Scale bars, 10 μm. (S) The variance of fluorescent intensity for the PI(4,5)P₂ sensor in each genetic background—four to six embryos and at least 60 GCs were analyzed for each genotype. Mean and SEM are shown.



dPIP5K associated with Tre1-HA with control or Hh-conditioned media were quantified from four independent experiments in (I').

(J) Model for how Hh signaling directs GC navigation through Tre1. Localized Hh signaling relieves Ptc repression of Smo, which allows Smo to translocate from intracellular vesicles to the PM. At the PM, activated Smo increases/prolongs Tre1 localization. Activated Tre1 then recruits dPIP5K to synthesize local pools of PI(4,5)P₂. In turn, PI(4,5)P₂ activates WASP with dWIP to facilitate localized assembly of F-actin at the leading edge of migrating GCs. Polarized actin assembly and consequent protrusion formation leads directional migration of GCs.

KEY RESOURCES TABLE

REAGENT or RESOURCE	SOURCE	IDENTIFIER
Antibodies		
Rabbit polyclonal anti-Vasa	Santa Cruz	Cat# sc-30210, RRID:AB_793874
Rat monoclonal anti-Vasa	Developmental Studies Hybridoma Bank	Cat# anti-vasa, RRID:AB_760351
Mouse monoclonal anti-Eya	Developmental Studies Hybridoma Bank	Cat#eya10H6, RRID:AB_528232
Mouse monoclonal anti-Smo	Developmental Studies Hybridoma Bank	Cat# 20C6, RRID:AB_528472
Mouse monoclonal anti-Ptc	Developmental Studies Hybridoma Bank	Cat# Apa1, RRID:AB_528441
Rabbit polyclonal anti- β Galactosidase	Invitrogen	Cat# A-11132; RRID:AB_221539
Mouse monoclonal anti-Flag	Sigma-Aldrich	Cat# F3165, RRID:AB_259529
Rabbit polyclonal anti-HA	ThermoFisher	Cat# PA1-985, RRID:AB_559366
Rabbit polyclonal anti-GFP	Molecular Probes	Cat# A-11122, RRID:AB_221569
Chicken polyclonal anti-GFP	Abcam	Cat# ab13970, RRID:AB_300798
Rat polyclonal anti-dPIP5K	Gift from Padinjat Raghu (NCBS, India)	Chakrabarti et al., 2015
Rat polyclonal anti-dWIP	Gift from E. Chen (UT Southwestern)	Kim et al., 2007
Alexa Fluor 488-conjugated goat anti-mouse IgG	Invitrogen	Cat# A32723; RRID: AB_2633275
Alexa Fluor 488-conjugated goat anti-rabbit IgG	Invitrogen	Cat# A32731;RRID: AB_2633280
Alexa Fluor 488-conjugated goat anti-rat IgG	Invitrogen	Cat# A11006; RRID: AB_2534074
Alexa Fluor 488-conjugated goat antichicken IgY	Invitrogen	Cat# A11039; RRID: AB_2534096
Alexa Fluor 568-conjugated goat anti-rabbit IgG	Invitrogen	Cat# A-11011; RRID: AB_143157
Alexa Fluor 647-conjugated goat anti-rabbit IgG	Invitrogen	Cat# A32733; RRID: AB_2633282
Alexa Fluor 647-conjugated goat antichicken IgY	Invitrogen	Cat# A-21449; RRID: AB_2535866
Biotin-conjugated goat anti-mouse IgG (H+L)	Jackson ImmunoResearch	Cat# 115-065-003, RRID:AB_2338557
Biotin-conjugated goat anti-rabbit IgG (H+L)	Jackson ImmunoResearch	Cat# 111-065-003, RRID:AB_2337959
Chemicals, peptides, and recombinant proteins		
Cycloheximide	Sigma-Aldrich	Cat# 01810
Protein A/G-agarose resin	Pierce	Cat# 20421
Halt Protease and phosphatase inhibitor cocktail	ThermoFisher	Cat# 78444
Alexa Fluor 488-phalloidin	ThermoFisher	Cat# A12379
Alexa Fluor 568-phalloidin	ThermoFisher	Cat#A12380
DAPI	ThermoFisher	Cat# 62247
EZ-Link Sulfo-NHS-Biotin	ThermoFisher	Cat# 21217
Streptavidin-agarose resin	Pierce	Cat# 20357
Experimental models: cell lines		
<i>D.melanogaster</i> . S2-Hh ^N	Gift from J. Jiang (UT Southwestern)	Chen et al., 2010

REAGENT or RESOURCE	SOURCE	IDENTIFIER
<i>D.melanogaster</i> : S2R+	Gift from E. Chen (UT Southwestern)	RRID:CVCL_Z831
Experimental models: organisms/strains		
<i>D.melanogaster</i> : Oregon-R	Bloomington Drosophila Stock Center	RRID: BDSC_2376
<i>D.melanogaster</i> : <i>Tre1</i> ^{EP5}	Gift from R. Lehmann	Ueno et al., 2001
<i>D.melanogaster</i> : <i>Tre1</i> ^{EP19}	Gift from R. Lehman	Ueno et al., 2001
<i>D.melanogaster</i> : <i>Tre1</i> ^{scrt}	Gift from C. Coffman	Coffman et al., 2002
<i>D.melanogaster</i> : <i>Tre1</i> ^{KO}	This study	N/A
<i>D.melanogaster</i> : <i>dpip5k</i> ¹⁸	Gift from Padinjat Raghu (NCBS, India)	Chakrabarti et al., 2015
<i>D.melanogaster</i> : <i>dpip5k</i> ³⁰	Gift from Padinjat Raghu (NCBS, India)	Chakrabarti et al., 2015
<i>D.melanogaster</i> : <i>sktl</i> ¹⁵	Gift from J. Brill (Univ. of Toronto)	Hassan et al., 1998
<i>D.melanogaster</i> : <i>wasp</i> ¹	Bloomington Drosophila Stock Center	RRID: BDSC_51657
<i>D.melanogaster</i> : <i>wasp</i> ³	Bloomington Drosophila Stock Center	RRID: BDSC_39725
<i>D.melanogaster</i> : <i>dwip</i> ^{S1946}	Gift from E. Chen (UT Southwestern)	Kim et al., 2007
<i>D.melanogaster</i> : <i>wg</i> ¹⁻⁸ ; <i>pftz-lacZ</i>	Bloomington Drosophila Stock Center	RRID: BDSC_5351
<i>D.melanogaster</i> : <i>Df(2R)Exel7170</i>	Bloomington Drosophila Stock Center	RRID: BDSC_7901
<i>D.melanogaster</i> : <i>UAS-Tre1</i>	This study	N/A
<i>D.melanogaster</i> : <i>UAS-Tre1-HA</i>	This study	N/A
<i>D.melanogaster</i> : <i>UAS-Tre1-Flag</i>	This study	N/A
<i>D.melanogaster</i> : <i>UAS-Tre1-GFP</i>	This study	N/A
<i>D.melanogaster</i> : <i>UAS-Venus-dPIP5K</i>	This study	N/A
<i>D.melanogaster</i> : <i>UAS-HA-dPIP5K^{KD}</i>	Gift from Padinjat Raghu (NCBS, India)	Chakrabarti et al., 2015
<i>D.melanogaster</i> : <i>TRiPHMC05328</i>	Bloomington Drosophila Stock Center	RRID: BDSC_62855
<i>D.melanogaster</i> : <i>TRiP.GL00072</i>	Bloomington Drosophila Stock Center	RRID: BDSC_35198
<i>D.melanogaster</i> : <i>TRiPHMC03577</i>	Bloomington Drosophila Stock Center	RRID: BDSC_53348
<i>D.melanogaster</i> : <i>TRiP.GL01472</i>	Bloomington Drosophila Stock Center	RRID: BDSC_43134
<i>D.melanogaster</i> : <i>UAS-GEP-PLCγ-PH</i>	Gift from M. Baylies (Sloan Kettering Institute)	Pinal et al., 2006
<i>D.melanogaster</i> : <i>UAS-PLCδ-PH-mCherry</i>	Bloomington Drosophila Stock Center	RRID: BDSC_51658
<i>D.melanogaster</i> : <i>tGPH</i>	Bloomington Drosophila Stock Center	RRID:BDSC_8164
<i>D.melanogaster</i> : <i>UAS-GFP-Atg18</i>	Gift from A. Kiger (UC San Diego)	N/A
<i>D.melanogaster</i> : <i>UAS-GFP-PH-TAPP1</i>	Gift from A. Kiger (UC San Diego)	N/A
<i>D.melanogaster</i> : <i>UAS-GFP-PH-FAPP1</i>	Gift from A. Kiger (UC San Diego)	N/A
<i>D.melanogaster</i> : <i>UAS-PX-Phox40-GFP</i>	Gift from A. Kiger (UC San Diego)	N/A
<i>D.melanogaster</i> : <i>UAS-TMEM-GFP</i>	S. Hayashi	Fox and Andrew, 2015
<i>D.melanogaster</i> : <i>UAS-lacZ^{NZ}</i>	Bloomington Drosophila Stock Center	RRID: BDSC_3956
<i>D.melanogaster</i> : <i>wasp</i> ^{M105533-GFSTF:0}	Bloomington Drosophila Stock Center	RRID: BDSC_60289
<i>D.melanogaster</i> : <i>UAS-GEP-WASP</i>	Gift from E. Chen (UT Southwestern)	Jin et al., 2011
<i>D.melanogaster</i> : <i>y¹w[*];P{70FLP}11 P{70I-Scel}2B noc^{Sco}/CyO,S²</i>	Bloomington Drosophila Stock Center	RRID: BDSC_6934
<i>D.melanogaster</i> : <i>ptc-Gal4</i>	Bloomington Drosophila Stock Center	RRID: BDSC_2017

REAGENT or RESOURCE	SOURCE	IDENTIFIER
<i>D.melanogaster: y¹ w[*]; nos-Gal4</i>	Gift from R. Lehmann	Van Doren et al., 1998
Recombinant DNA		
UAS-Tre1	This study	N/A
UAS-Tre1-Flag	This study	N/A
UAS-Tre1-HA	This study	N/A
UAS-Tre1-GFP	This study	N/A
UAS-Venus-dPIP5K	This study	N/A
UAS-HA-dPIP5K	This study	N/A
UAS-Flag-dPIP5K	This study	N/A
UAS-GFP-dPIP5K	This study	N/A
UAS-Flag-PLC6PH	This study	N/A
UAS-GFP-PLC6PH	This study	N/A
UAS-GFP-Smo	This study	N/A
Software and algorithms		
Zen	Zeiss	https://www.zeiss.com/microscopy/us/microscope-cameras.html
ProgRes CapturePro	Jenoptik	https://www.jenoptik.com/products/cameras-and-imaging-modules/microscope-cameras/progres-camera
Photoshop	Adobe	https://www.adobe.com/products/photoshop.html
Illustrator	Adobe	https://www.adobe.com/products/illustrator.html
ImageJ	NIH	https://imagej.nih.gov/ij/
Prism	GraphPad	https://www.graphpad.com/scientific-software/prism/
Excel	Microsoft	https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/microsoft-365/excel
G-test of goodness-of-fit	Handbook of Biological Statistics	http://www.biostathandbook.com/gtestind.html
Zeiss LSM 700 confocal microscope	Zeiss	https://www.zeiss.com/microscopy/us/products/confocal-microscopes.html
Zeiss Axiophot fluorescent microscope	Zeiss	https://www.micro-shop.zeiss.com/de/de
Program to visualize Tre1 structures	Protter Interactive Protein Feature Visualization Program	http://wlab.ethz.ch/protter/start/