

Supplemental Materials

Figure S1. Aging-associated phenotypic analysis of mouse cochlea.

(A) Statistical data of relative number of outer hair cells in 1-, 5-, and 15-month-old mice. Data are shown as mean \pm SEMs ($n = 5$ mice). Two-tailed student's *t*-test *P*-values were indicated. Month, M.

(B) Immunofluorescence analysis of Myo7a in the 1-, 5-, and 15-month-old cochlear samples. Scale bars, 20 μ m. The relative number of Myo7a-positive cells is quantified as fold changes and presented as the mean \pm SEMs ($n = 5$ mice). Two-tailed student's *t*-test *P*-values were indicated.

(C) Examination of cochlear basilar membranes under the scanning electron microscope in the 1-, 10-, and 20-month-old cochlear samples. Scale bars, 100 μ m. The relative numbers of OHCs and IHCs are quantified as fold changes and presented as the mean \pm SEMs ($n = 3$ mice). Two-tailed student's *t*-test *P*-values were indicated. The red arrowheads indicate the loss of IHCs, and the yellow ones indicate the loss of OHCs.

(D) Statistical data of relative cell density in cochlear modiolus from 1-, 5-, and 15-month-old mice. Data are shown as mean \pm SEMs ($n = 5$ mice). Two-tailed student's *t*-test *P*-values were indicated. Month, M.

(E) Immunofluorescence staining of TUJ1 in the 1-, 5-, and 15-month-old cochlear samples. The relative TUJ1-positive cells at the 1-, 5-, and 15-month-old mice cochleae are quantified as fold changes and presented as the mean \pm SEMs ($n = 5$ mice). Two-tailed student's *t*-test *P*-values were indicated. Month, M. Scale bars, 80 μ m and 5 μ m (zoomed-in images).

(F) Statistical data of relative thickness of stria vascularis at the 1-, 5-, and 15-month-old mice cochleae. Data are shown as mean \pm SEMs ($n = 5$ mice). Two-tailed student's *t*-test *P*-values were indicated. Month, M.

(G) Statistical data of relative density of cells in stria vascularis in the 1-, 5-, and 15-month-old mice cochleae. Data are shown as mean \pm SEMs ($n = 5$ mice). Two-tailed student's *t*-test *P*-values were indicated. Month, M.

(H) Statistical data of relative density of cells in spiral ligament in the 1-, 5-, and 15-month-old mice cochleae. Data are shown as mean \pm SEMs ($n = 5$ mice). Two-tailed student's *t*-test *P*-values were indicated. Month, M.

(I) Statistical data of relative 4-HNE fluorescence intensity at the 1-, 5-, and 15-month-old mice cochleae. Data are shown as mean \pm SEMs ($n = 5$ mice). Two-tailed student's *t*-test *P*-values were indicated. Month, M.

(J) Immunofluorescence staining showed neutrophils located in the cochlear spiral ligament. Scale bars, 40 μ m and 10 μ m (zoomed-in images). The relative percentage is quantified as fold changes relative to that of apical turn in 1-month-old cochlea ($n = 5$ mice). Two-tailed student's *t*-test *P*-values were indicated.

Figure S2. Construction of single-cell atlas of mouse cochlear aging.

(A) Bar plot showing the distribution of quality control for each sample. Reads mapping rate represents the fraction of reads mapped to the genome.

(B) The plot showing the proportion of mitochondrial genes.

- (C) The density plot showing the distribution of the number of genes per cell.
- (D) The density plot showing the distribution of number of UMI per cell.
- (E) UMAP plots showing the cochlear cell distribution from various ages. Month, M.
- (F) Principal component analysis (PCA) of cochlear single-cell transcriptome data from each age group. The age and sex of each sample are annotated on the dot. M, Male. F, Female.
- (G) Representative GO terms of PDEGs of the male (left) and female (right) across four pairwise comparisons between different age groups.

Figure S3. Cochlear cell subpopulation analysis.

- (A) Dot plot showing the expression of canonical cell-type-specific marker genes for diverse cell types.
- (B) Boxplot showing the value of ROGUE of each cell type. Box shows the median and the quartile range (25-75%) and the length of whiskers represents $1.5 \times$ the IQR.
- (C) UMAP plot showing the distribution of subclusters of DC_PC.
- (D) Violin and box plots showing the gene set scores of DC (top) or PC (bottom) signature genes in different subclusters of DC_PC. Signature scores of DC marker genes are relatively higher in cluster 0, 3, 4, 8, 10, thus combinedly named as DC subtype. Whereas, scores of PC marker genes are higher in cluster 1, 2, 6, 7, 9, which were defined as PC subtype. The remaining cluster 5 co-expressed the markers for DC and PC and was defined as a mixed subtype. Boxes show the medians and the quartile ranges (25-75%) and the lengths of whiskers represent $1.5 \times$ the IQR.
- (E) Violin plots showing the expression level of selected marker genes that are differentially expressed in the DC and PC.
- (F) UMAP plot showing the distribution of DC_PC subpopulations, including DC, PC, and mixed subtype.
- (G) UMAP plot showing the distribution of PC subpopulations.
- (H) Left, heatmap showing the expression profile of marker genes of PC and *Nudt4*⁺ PC. Right, bar plot showing the representative GO terms enriched for the marker genes in PC and *Nudt4*⁺ PC.
- (I) Left, UMAP plot showing the distribution of IHCs and OHCs. Right, bar plot showing the representative GO terms enriched for the marker genes in IHC and OHC.
- (J) Left, UMAP plot showing the distribution of type I and II SGNs. Right, bar plot showing the representative GO terms enriched for the marker genes in type I and II SGNs.

Figure S4. Coefficient of variation analysis of the mouse cochlea across all cell types.

- (A) Boxplots showing the coefficient of variation of each cell type from 3 different comparisons including 2 M vs. 1 M (left), 5 M vs. 1 M (middle) and 15 M vs. 1 M (right).
- (B) Heatmap showing the row Z-score expression level of genes with high Pearson's correlation coefficients (correlation coefficient > 0.6 and FDR < 0.05) between coefficient of variation and expression levels in intermediate cells. The bins are

arranged based on the coefficient of variation rank in each group.

(C) The scatter plots showing the high correlation between coefficient of variation and average gene expression level in intermediate cells (5 M vs. 1 M).

Figure S5. Pairwise differential expression analysis pinpoints cell type-specific temporal signatures during cochlear aging.

(A) Heatmap showing the frequency of upregulated PDEGs shared by more than 12 cell types.

(B) Heatmap showing the frequency of downregulated PDEGs shared by more than 12 cell types.

(C) Representative GO terms of upregulated PDEGs shared by less than 3 cell types.

(D) Representative GO terms of downregulated PDEGs shared by less than 3 cell types.

Figure S6. Functional enrichment analysis of the pairwise differentially expressed genes.

(A)-(B) Representative GO terms of age-specific upregulated (A) or downregulated (B) PDEGs. Count indicates gene number.

Figure S7. Gene expression signatures for the pairwise differentially expressed genes.

(A)-(B) GSVA analysis of pathway enrichment of upregulated (A) and downregulated (B) PDEGs across four pairwise comparisons between different age groups.

(C) Network visualization of upregulated and downregulated core regulatory transcription factors in four different comparisons of all cell types. Node size positively correlates with the number of target genes.

(D) Dot plots showing the PDEGs overlapped with genes from Aging Atlas database. The node size indicates the frequency of PDEGs appearing across four pairwise comparisons.

Figure S8. GSVA analysis of dynamic differentially expressed genes.

(A) GSVA analysis of pathway enrichment of upregulated (left) and downregulated (right) DDEGs across four pairwise comparisons between different age groups. The size of each bar indicates the t -value for each pathway (two-sided unpaired limma-moderated t -test).

(B) Violin and box plots showing the GSVA scores (scored per cell by GSVA) of upregulated (top) and downregulated (bottom) DDEGs related to key pathways in cochlear cells across different timepoints.

Figure S9. Gene expression signatures of dynamic differentially expressed genes and the upregulation of *Hsp90aa1* expression in aged cochlear tissue.

(A) Left, heatmap showing the relative expression levels of *Calr* in cochlear cells from 1-, 2-, 5-, 12-, and 15-month-old mice. Right, immunofluorescence analysis of CALR in the 1-, 5-, and 15-month-old cochlear samples. The pink and white boxes indicate the magnified regions of stria vascularis and spiral ligament, respectively. Scale bars,

20 μ m. The relative fluorescence intensity was quantified as fold changes and presented as the mean \pm SEMs ($n = 5$ mice). Two-tailed student's t -test P -values were indicated.

(B) Left, heatmap showing the relative expression levels of *S100a8* in cochlear cells from 1-, 2-, 5-, 12-, and 15-month-old mice. Right, immunofluorescence analysis of S100A8 in the 1-, 5-, and 15-month-old cochlear samples. Scale bars, 20 μ m. The relative fluorescence intensity was quantified as fold changes and presented as the mean \pm SEMs ($n = 5$ mice). Two-tailed student's t -test P -values were indicated.

(C) Left, heatmap showing the relative expression levels of *S100a9* in cochlear cells from 1-, 2-, 5-, 12-, and 15-month-old mice. Right, immunofluorescence analysis of S100A9 in the 1-, 5-, and 15-month-old cochlear samples. Scale bars, 20 μ m. The relative fluorescence intensity was quantified as fold changes and presented as the mean \pm SEMs ($n = 5$ mice). Two-tailed student's t -test P -values were indicated.

(D)-(E) Representative GO terms of shared upregulated (d) or downregulated (e) DDEGs. Counts indicate gene number.

(F) Heatmap showing the relative expression levels of upregulated (left) and downregulated (right) DDEGs in HCs.

(G) Heatmap showing the relative expression levels of upregulated DDEGs in SGNs.

Figure S10. Transcriptional profiles for the activation of HSP90AA1 in stria vascularis cells.

(A) Network visualization of upregulated and downregulated core regulatory transcription factors in intermediate cells. Node size positively correlates with the number of target genes. *Hsp90aa1* was highlighted in yellow.

(B) Western blotting and band intensity quantification of HSP90AA1 protein levels in cochlear tissues from young and aged mice. The relative protein level was quantified as fold changes and presented as the mean \pm SEMs ($n = 5$ mice). Two-tailed student's t -test P -value was indicated.

(C) Western blotting showing the protein level of KCNJ13 in OP9 and SV-k1 cell lines. β -Tubulin was used as loading control. The protein levels are quantified as fold changes and presented as mean \pm SEMs ($n = 6$). Two-tailed student's t -test P -value was indicated.

(D) Principal component analysis (PCA) of bulk transcription data from each group. Each sample is annotated on the dot.

(E) Volcano plot showing the DEGs between sg-NTC (TM) and sg-NTC (Vehicle).

(F) Heatmap showing the row z-score expression of DEGs between sg-NTC (TM) and sg-NTC (Vehicle) and corresponding representative GO terms. Count indicates gene number.

(G) Western blotting and band intensity quantification of HSP90AA1 protein levels in SV-k1 cells transduced with non-targeting or *Hsp90aa1*-targeting sgRNA. Data are presented as the mean \pm SEMs, $n = 3$ biological repeats. Two-tailed student's t -test P -values were indicated. A representative data from one of the two independent experiments. sg-N, sg-NC; sg-H, sg-*Hsp90aa1*.

(H) Left, aggregates intensity analysis of stria vascularis cells transduced with non-targeting or *Hsp90aa1*-targeting sgRNA after treatment with vehicle (Veh) or TM.

Right, data are presented as mean \pm SEMs, $n = 3$ biological repeats. Two-tailed student's t -test P -values were indicated. A representative data from one of the two independent experiments.

(I) Left, apoptosis analysis of stria vascularis cells transduced with non-targeting or *Hsp90aa1*-targeting sgRNA after treatment with vehicle or TM. Right, the percentages of apoptotic cells are presented as mean \pm SEMs, $n = 3$ biological repeats. Two-tailed student's t -test P -values were indicated. A representative data from one of the two independent experiments.

(J) Volcano plot showing the DEGs between *sg-Hsp90aa1* (TM) and *sg-NTC* (TM).

(K) Heatmap showing the row Z-score expression of DEGs between *sg-Hsp90aa1* (TM) and *sg-NTC* (TM) and corresponding representative GO terms. Count indicates gene number.

Supplementary Table Legends

Table S1. Marker genes for each cell type in mouse cochlea.

Table S2. Pairwise differentially expressed genes (PDEGs) for each cell type.

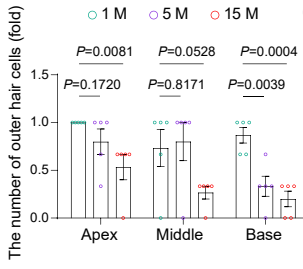
Table S3. List of age-related genes in different database or pathways used in this study.

Table S4. Age-dependent dynamic differentially expressed genes (DDEGs) for each cell type.

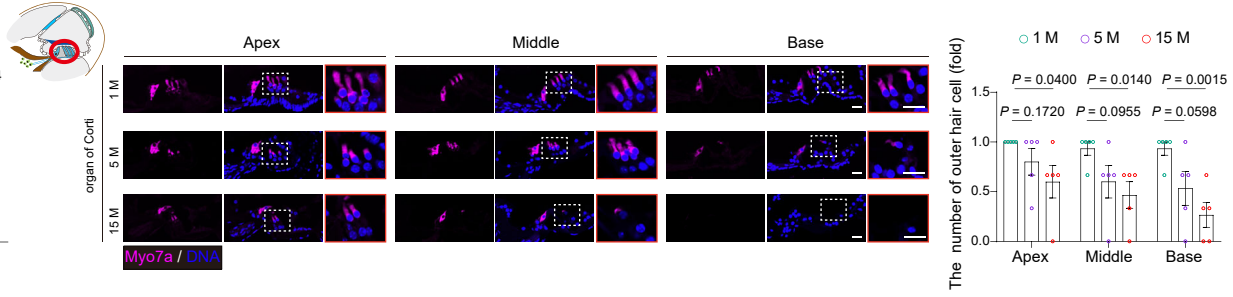
Table S5. Differentially expressed genes (DEGs) in bulk RNA-seq data.

Figure S1

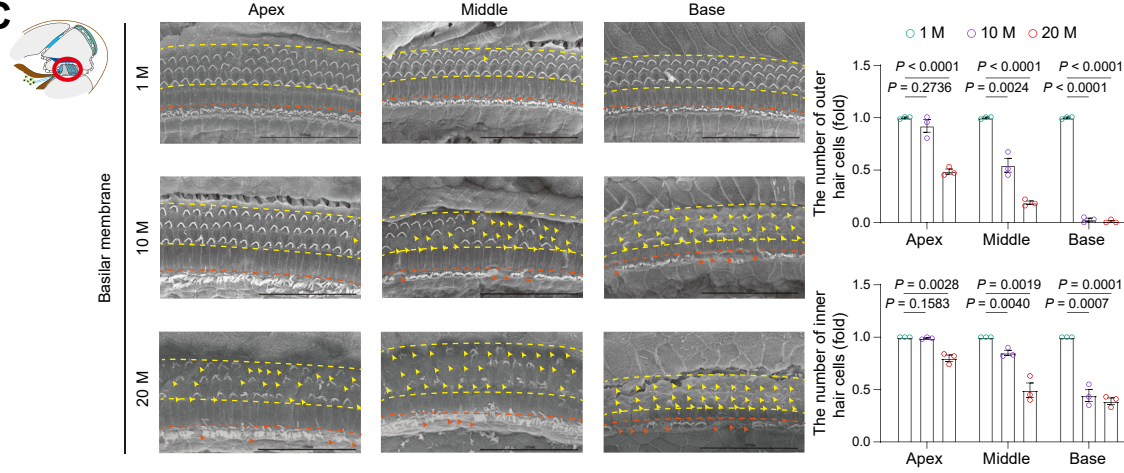
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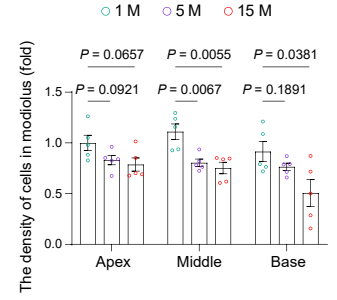
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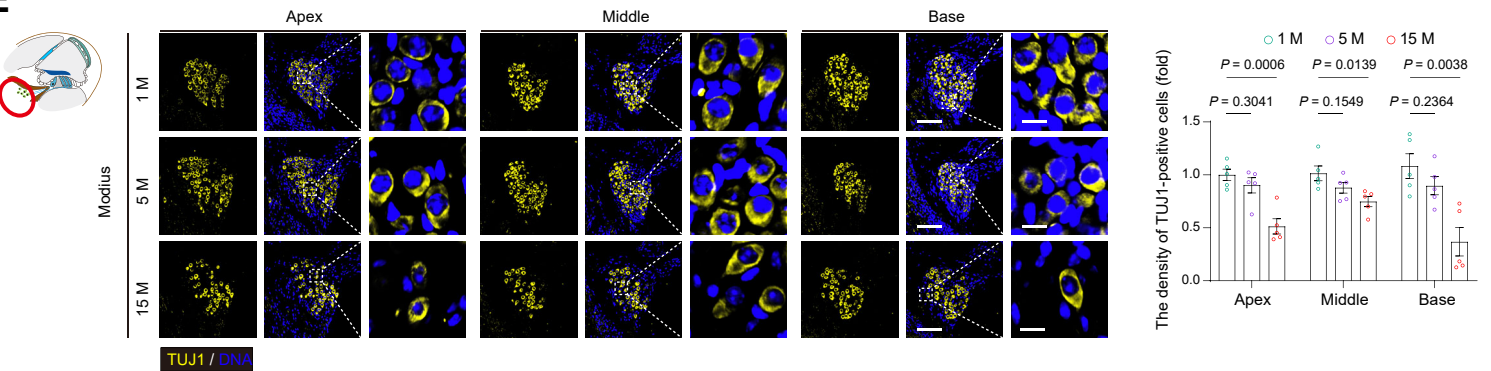
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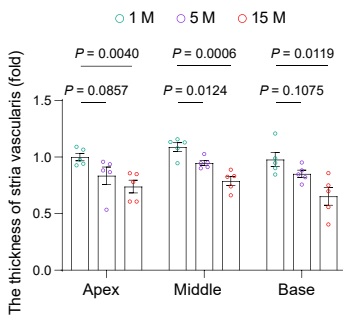
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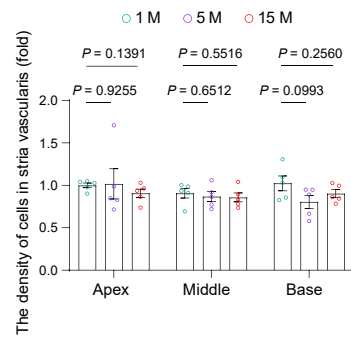
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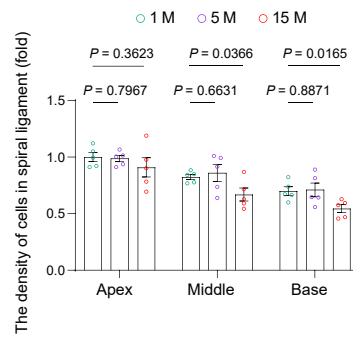
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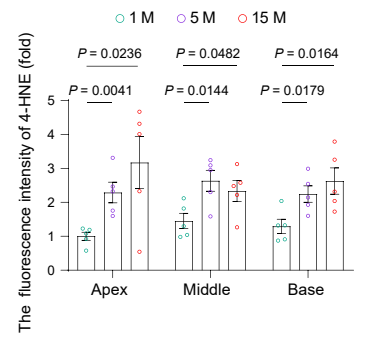
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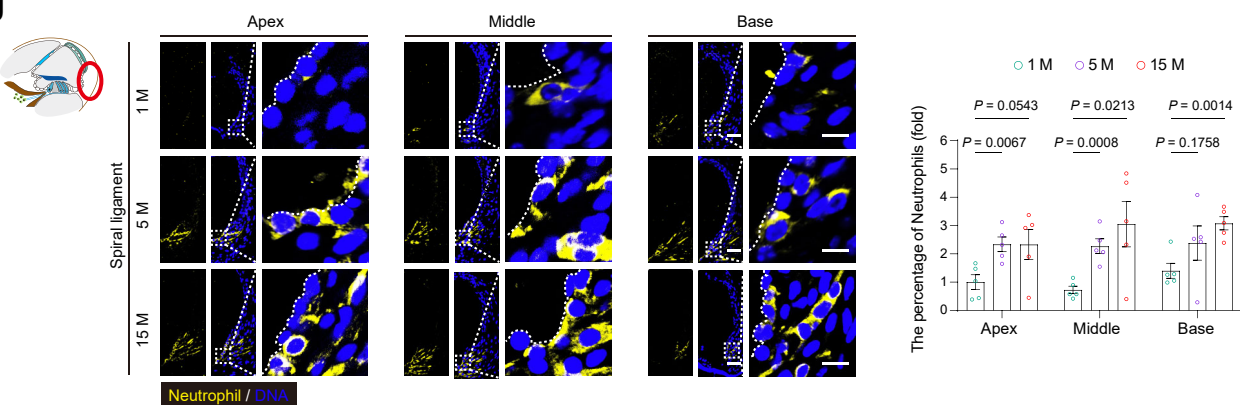
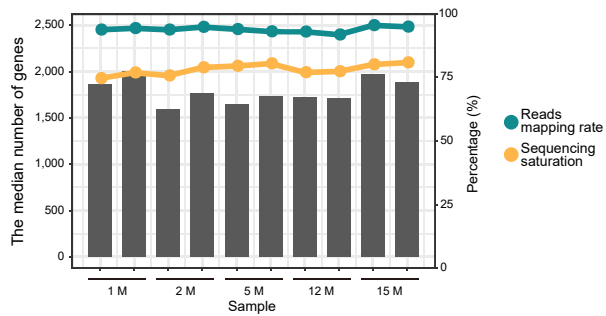
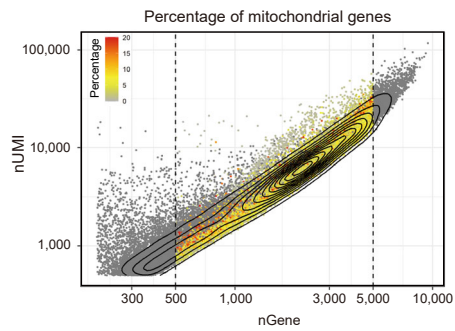


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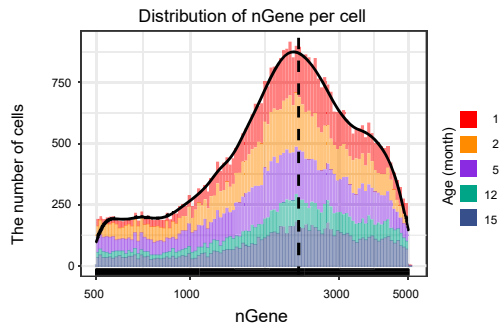
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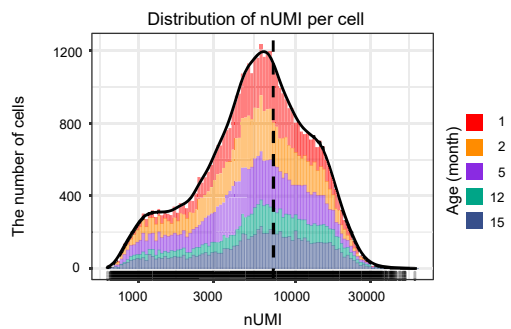
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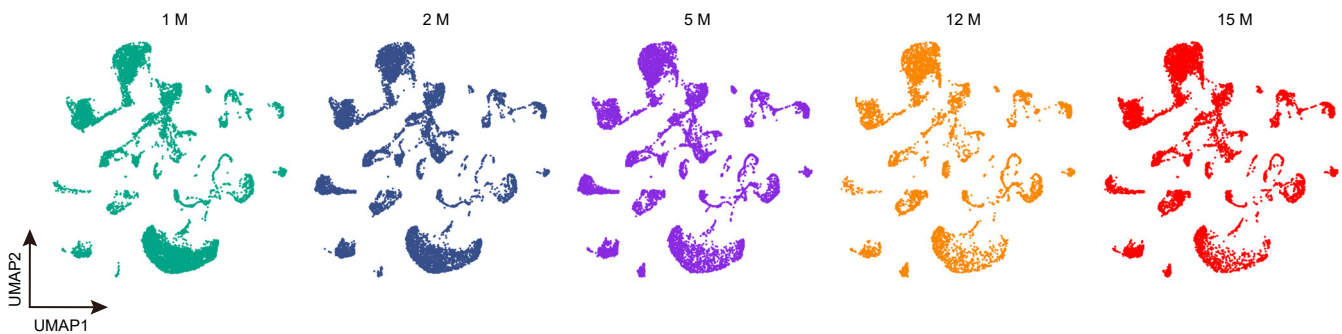
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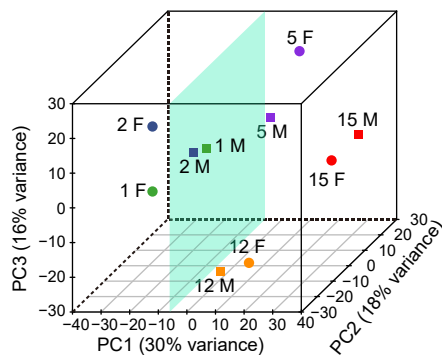
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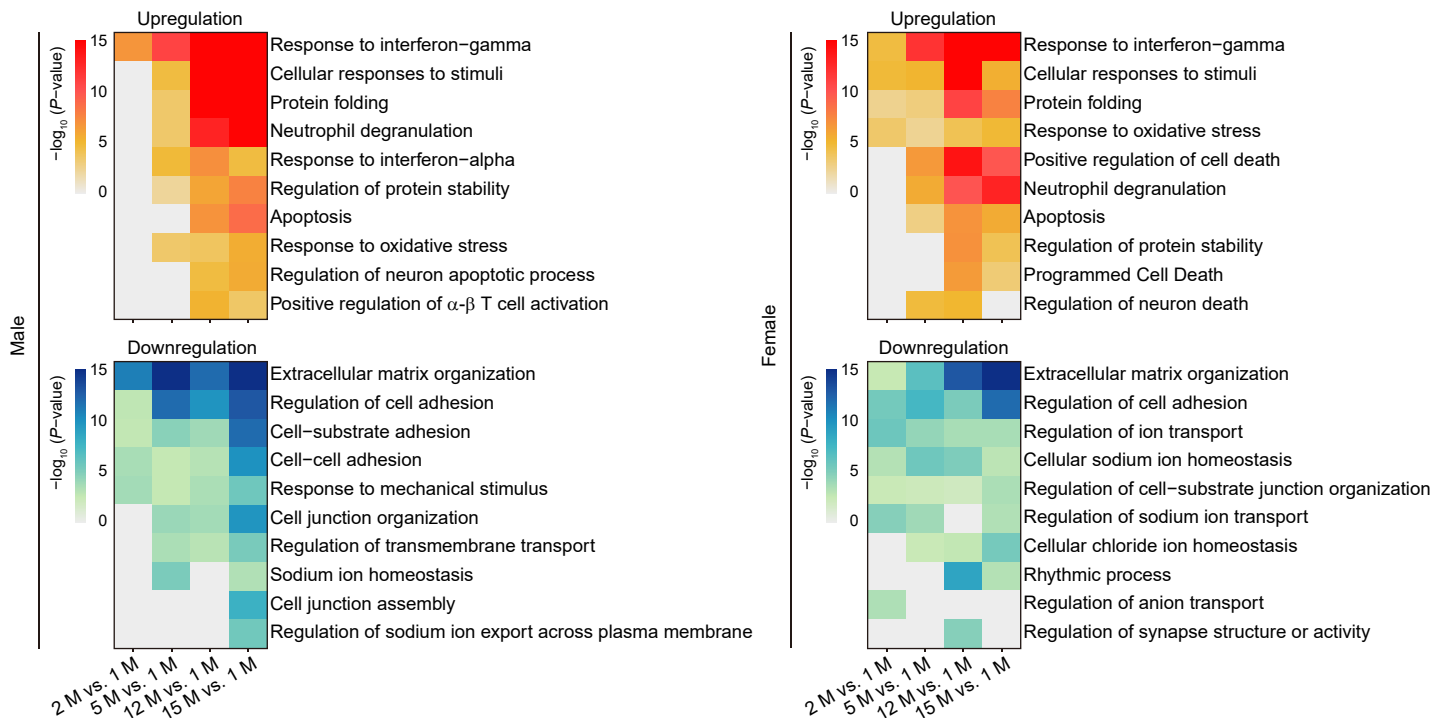


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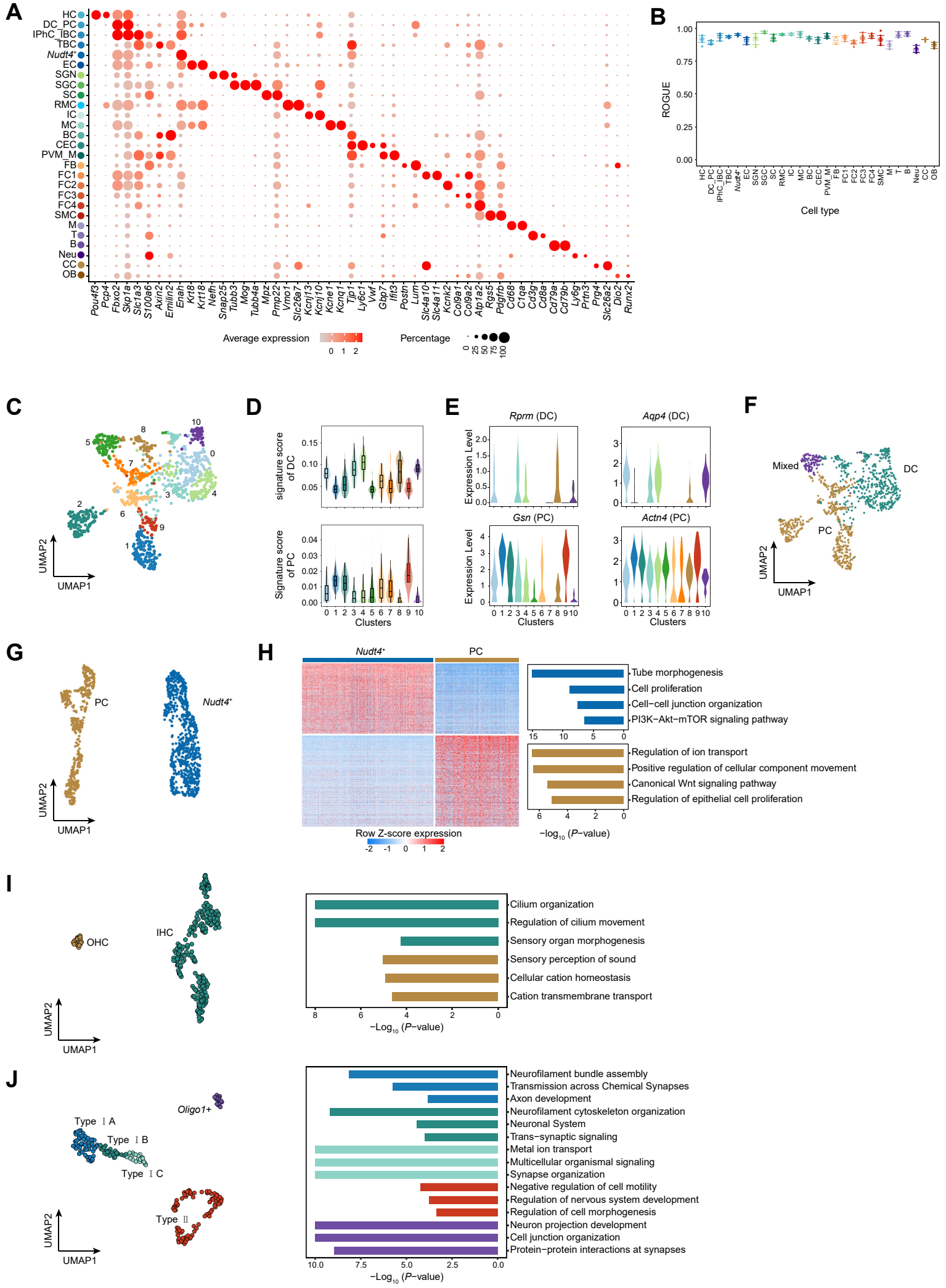


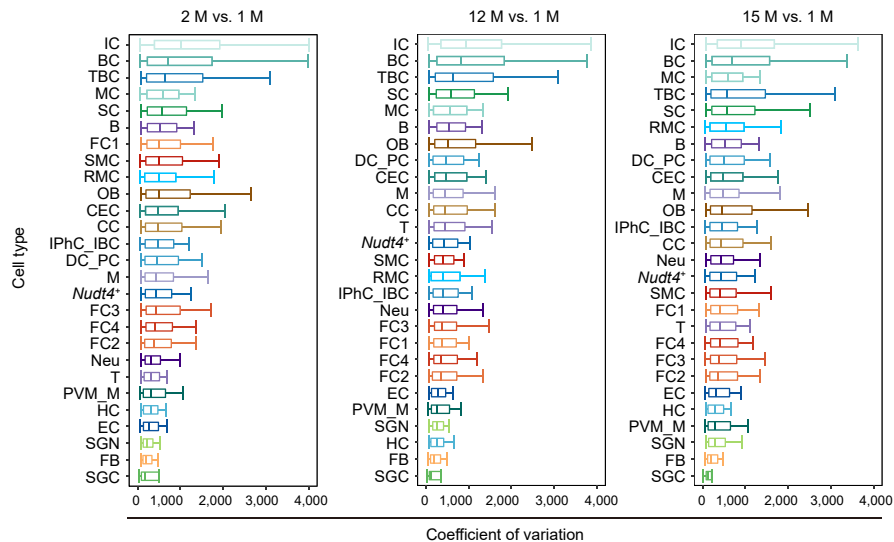
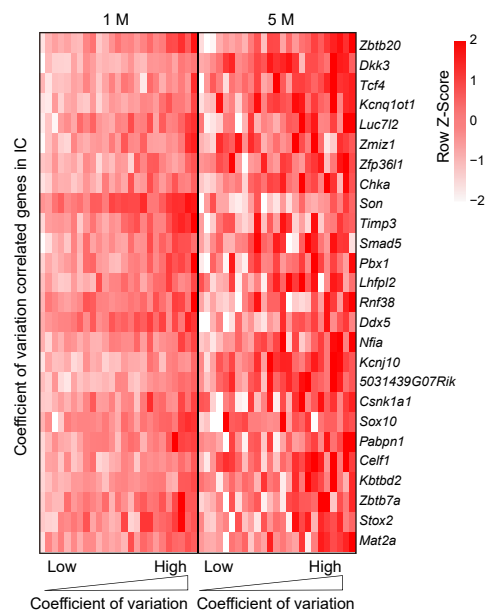
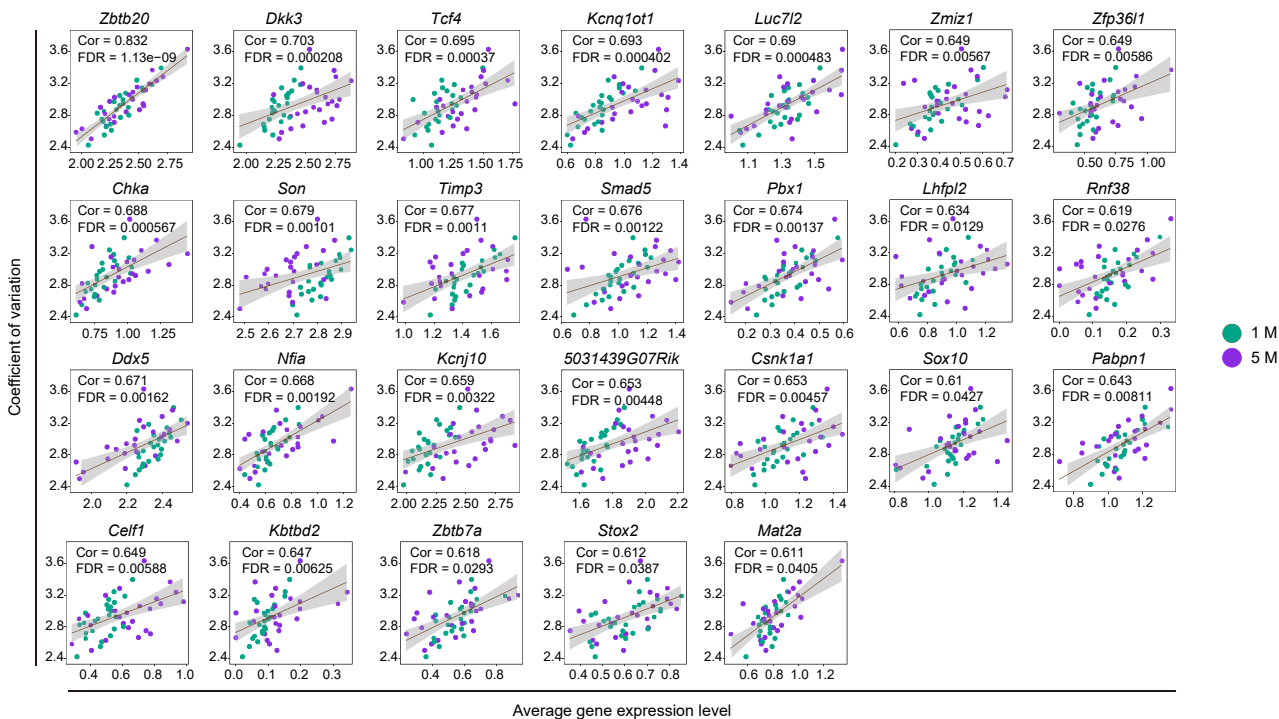
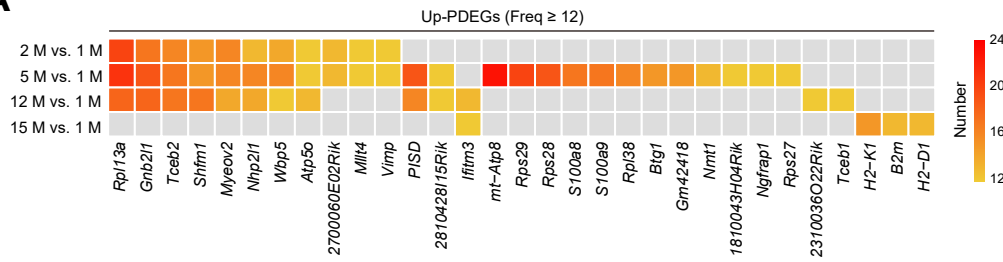
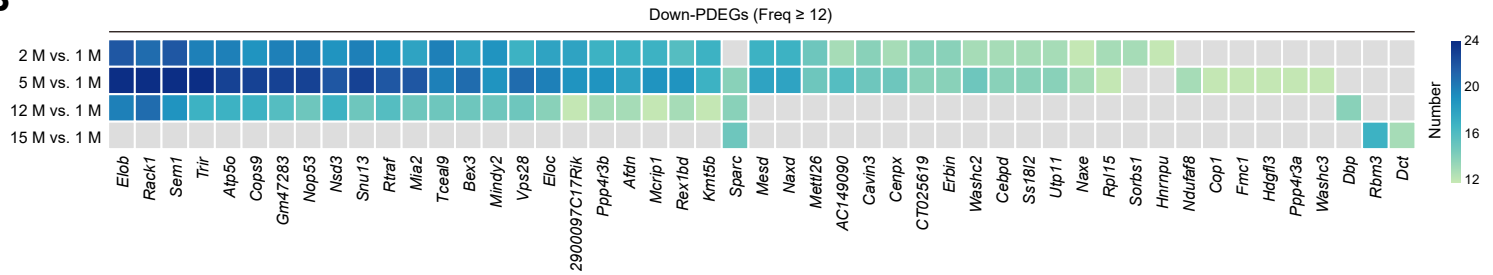
Figure S4**A****B****C**

Figure S5

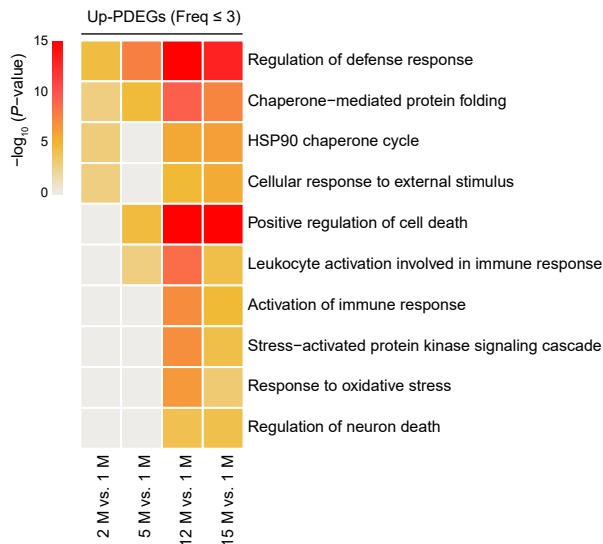
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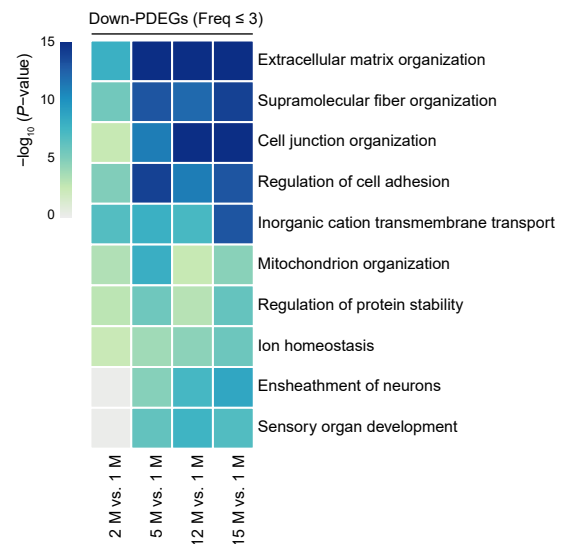
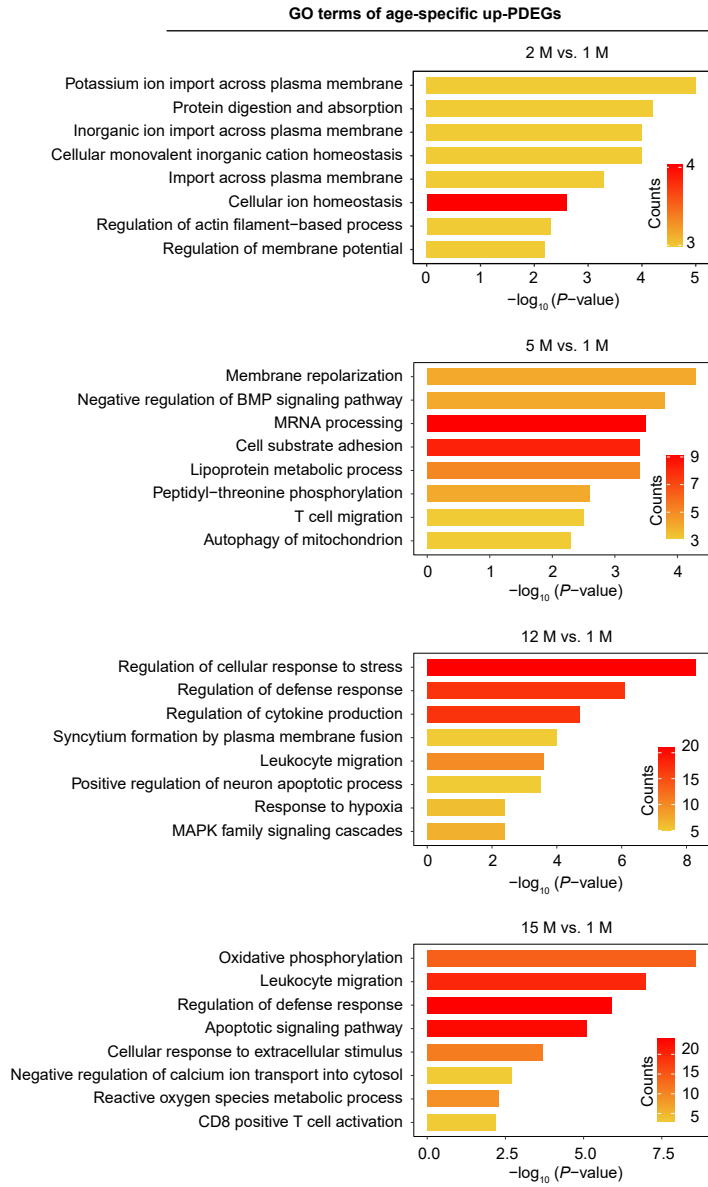


Figure S6

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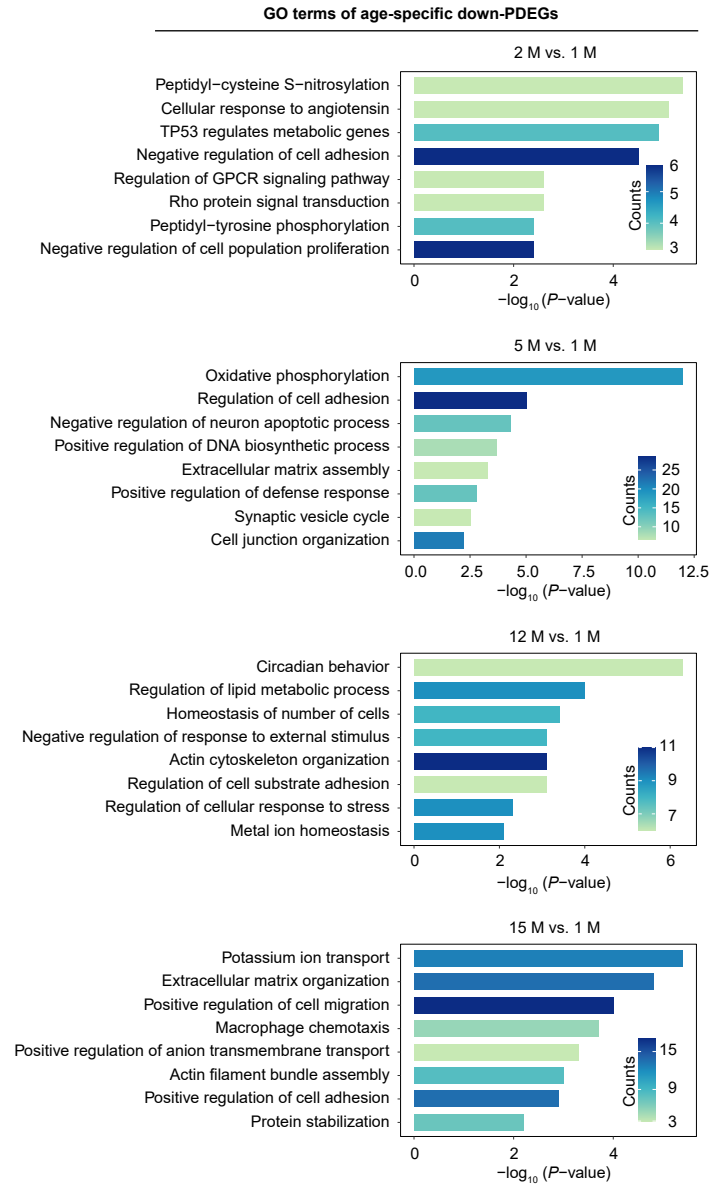
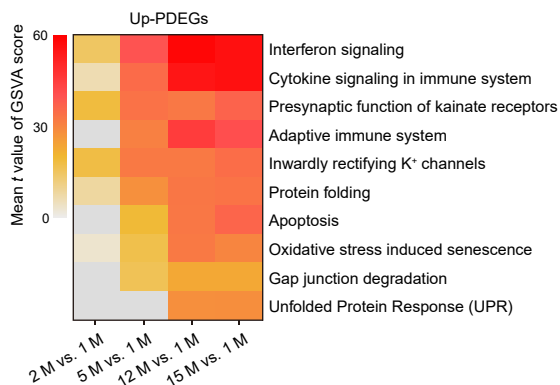
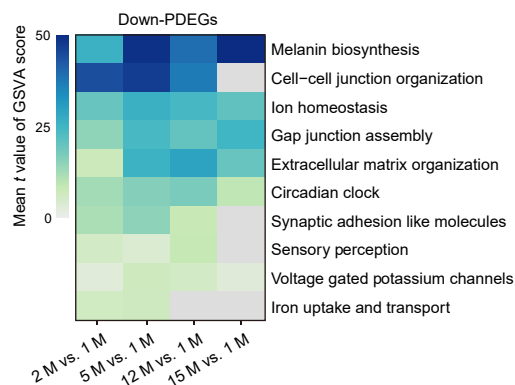


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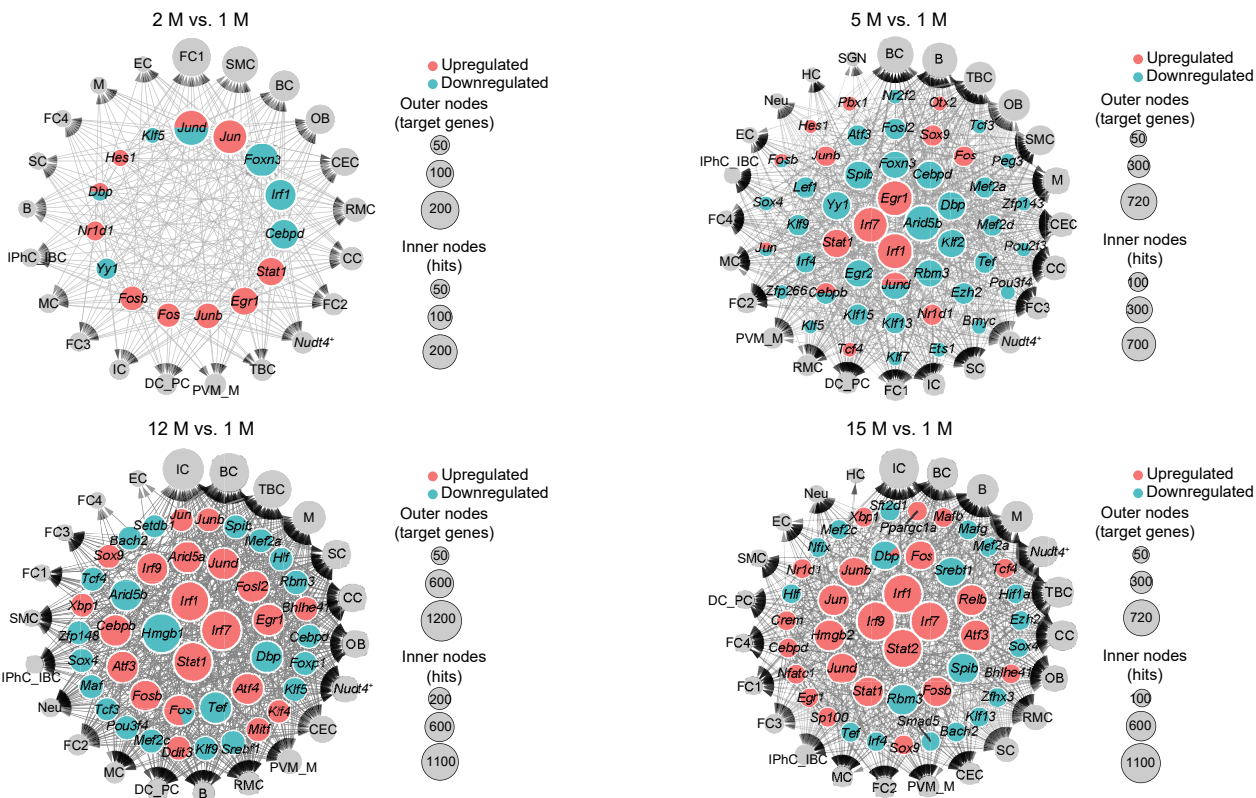
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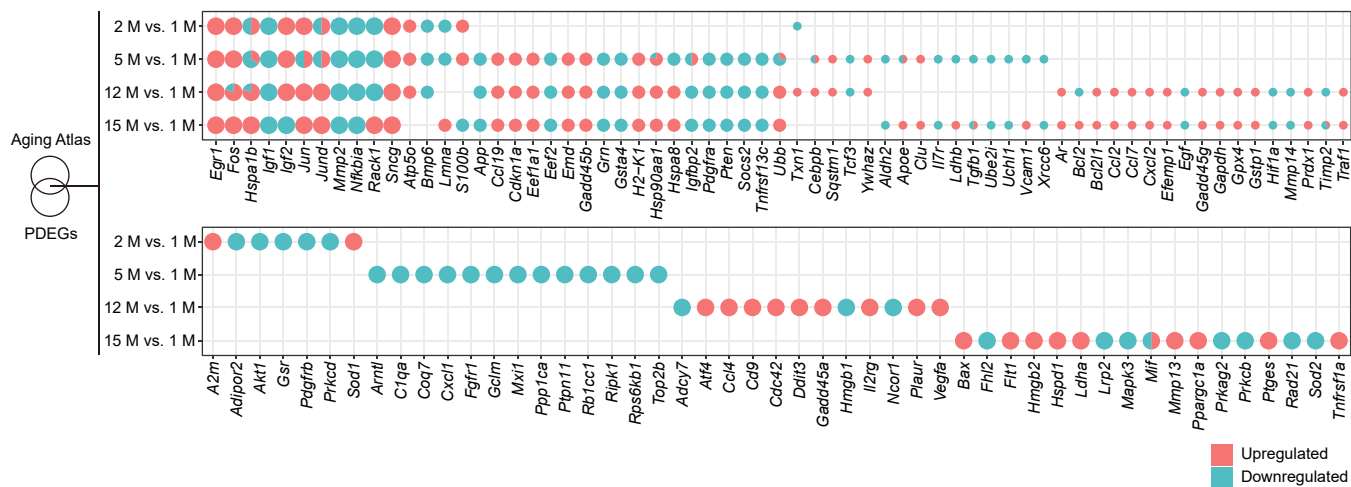
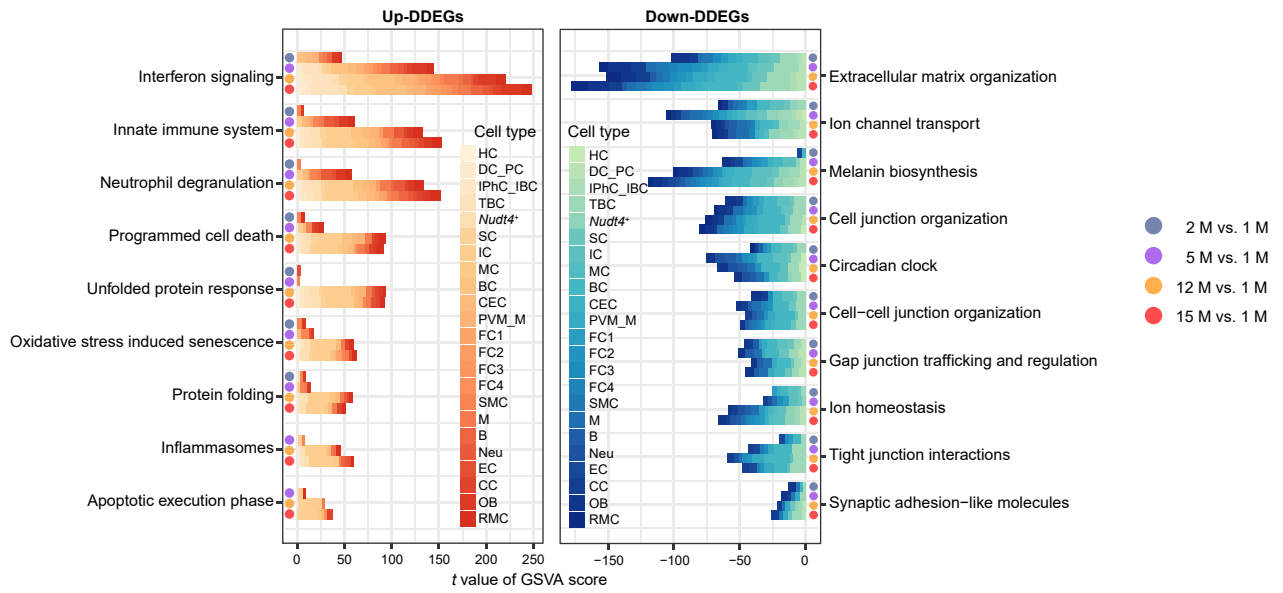


Figure S8

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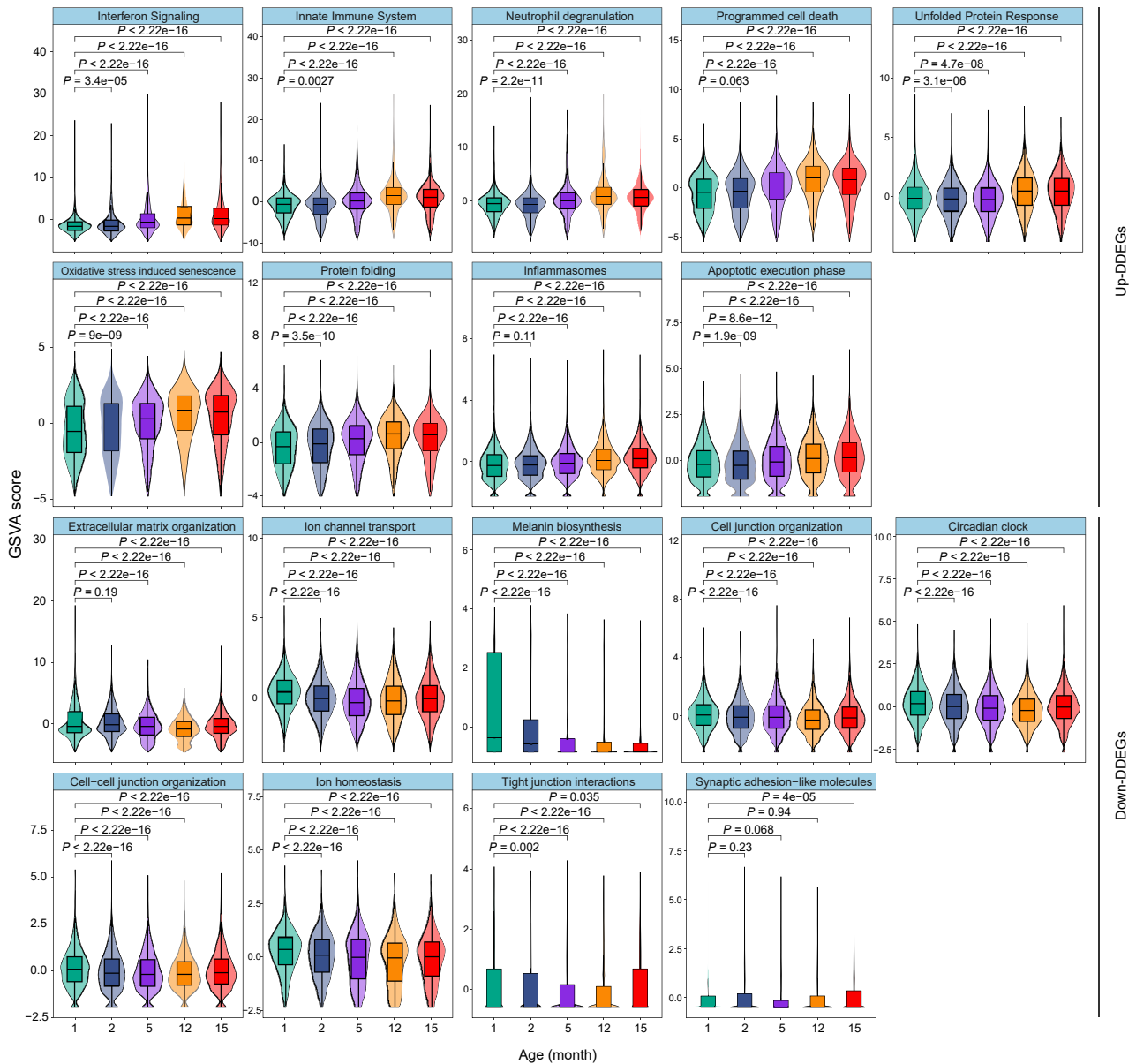
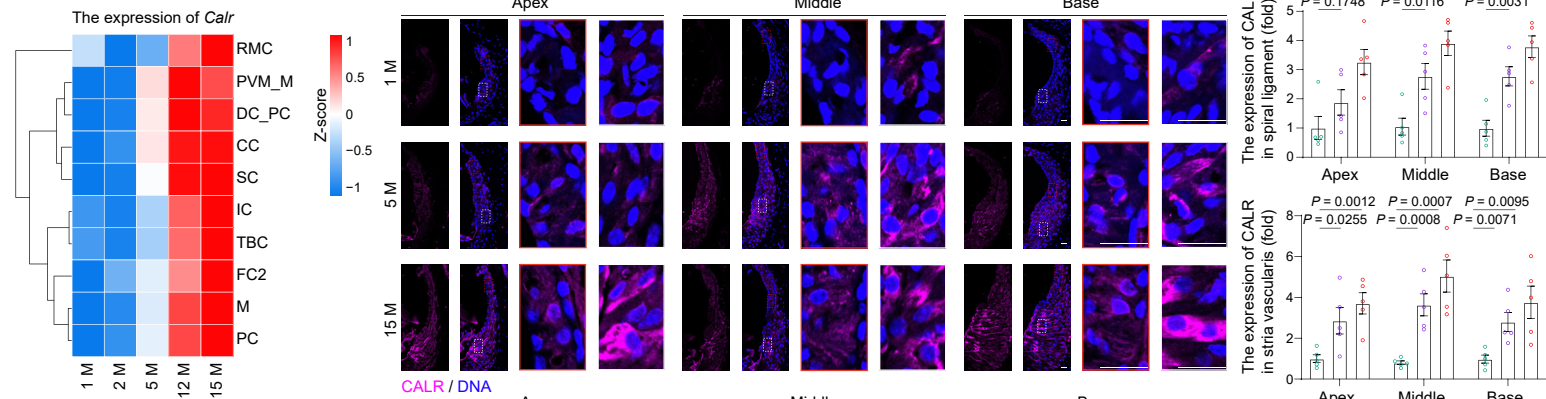
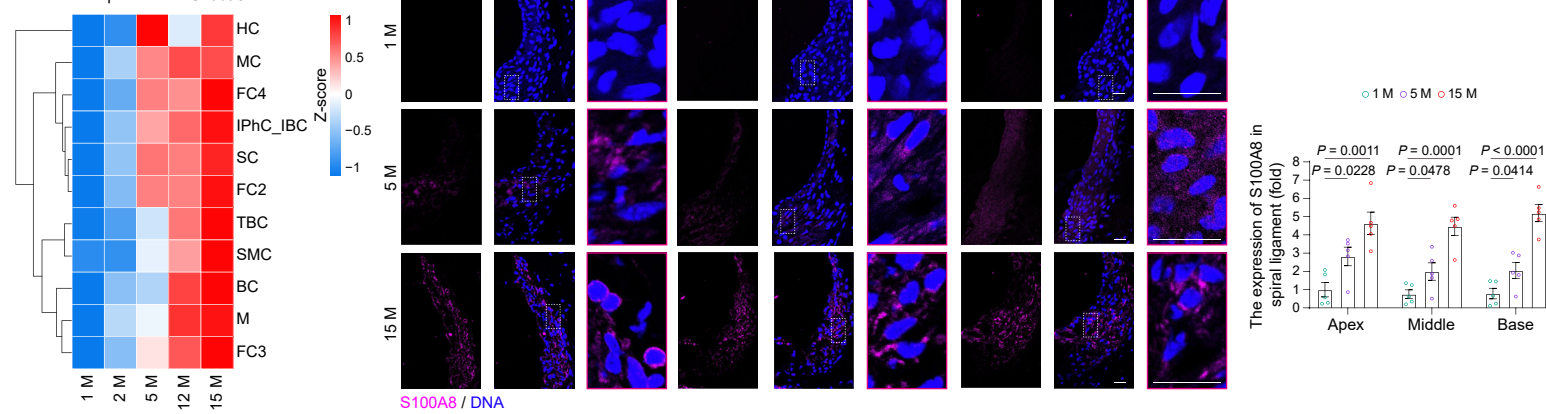


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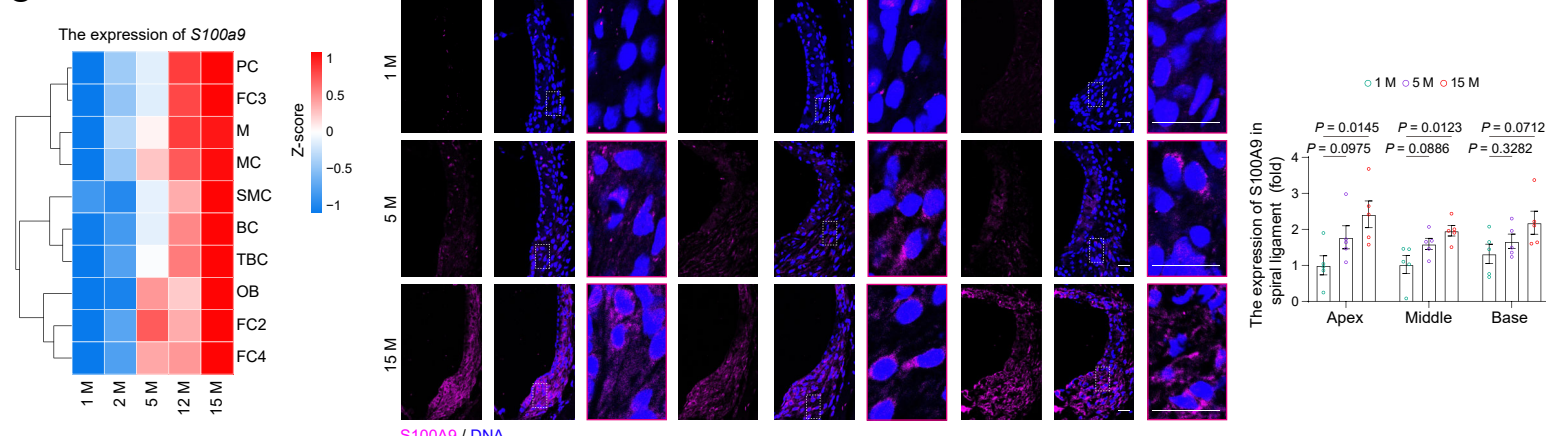
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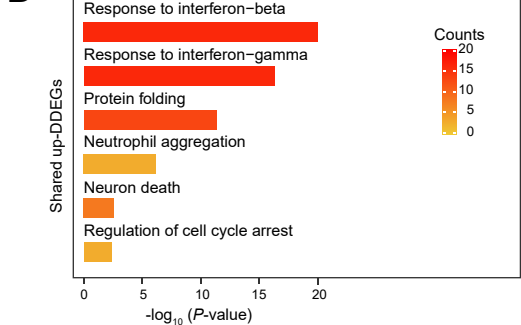
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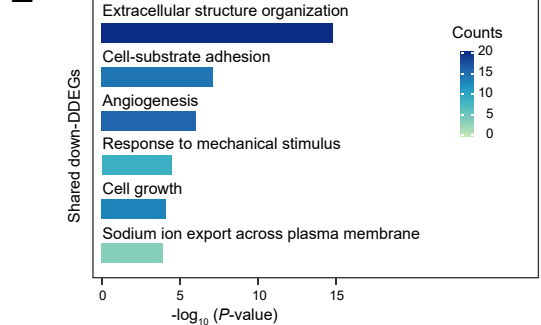
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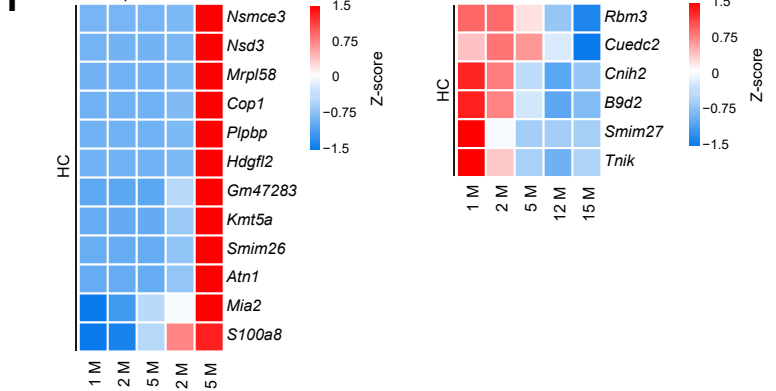
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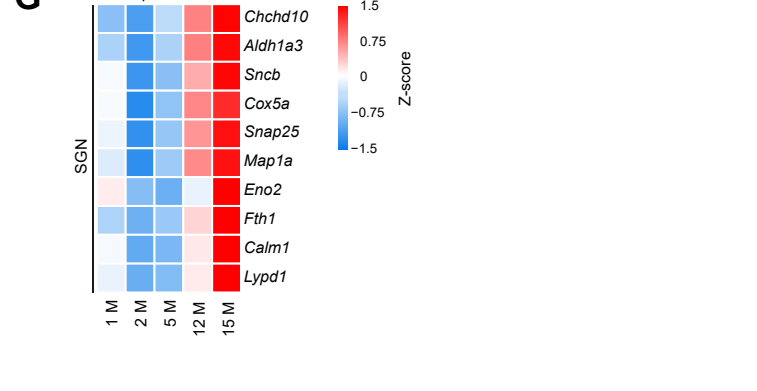
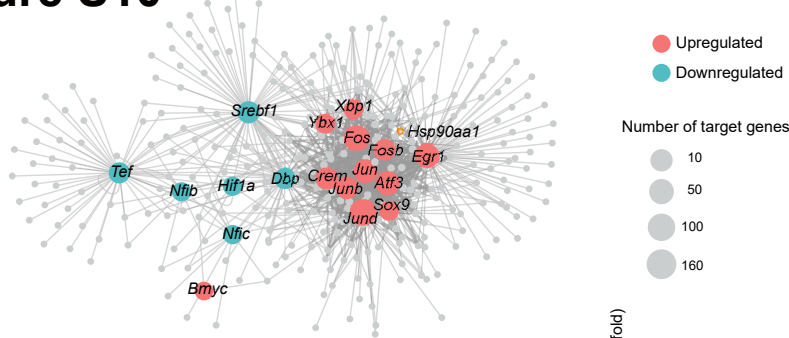
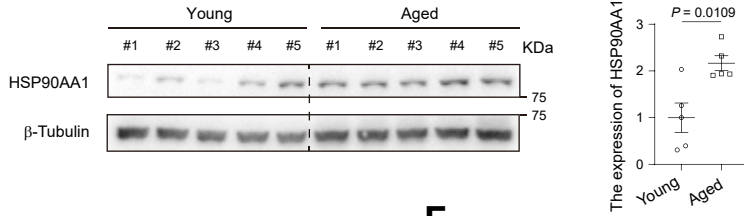


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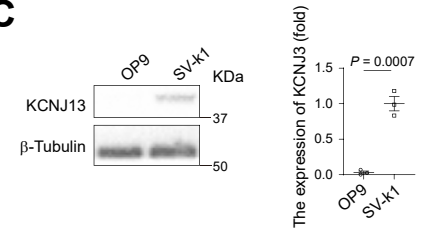
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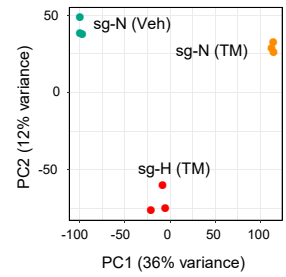
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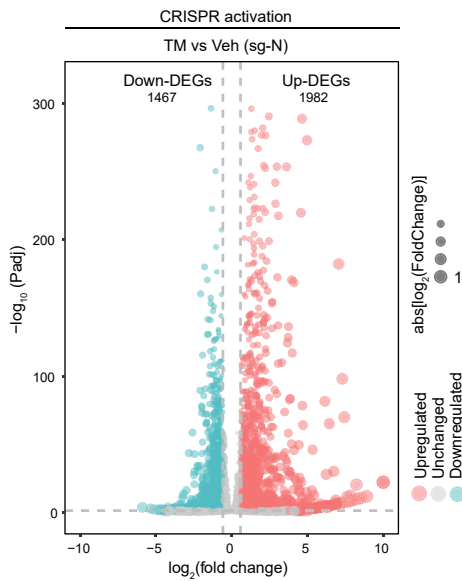
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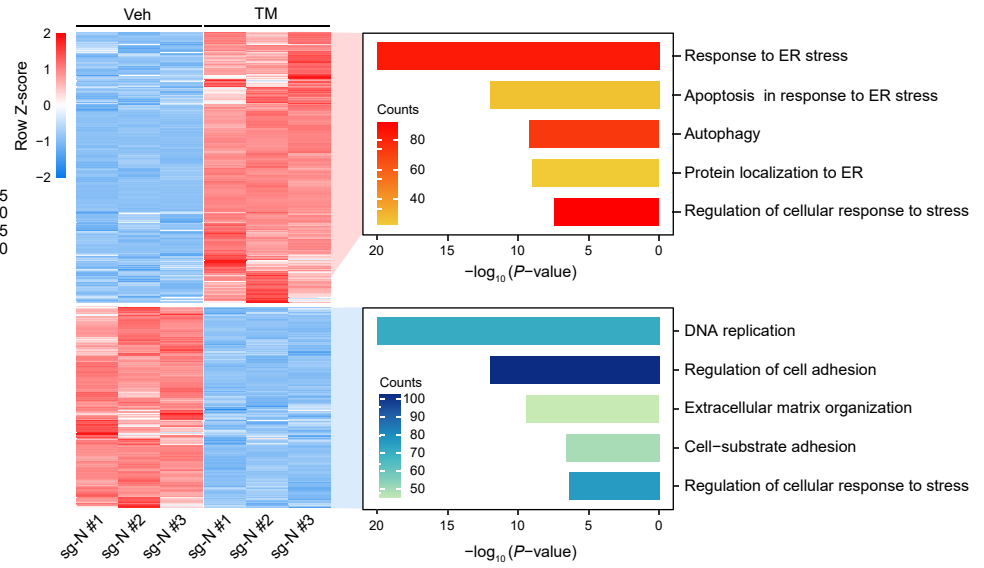
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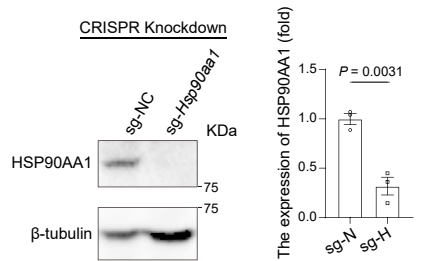
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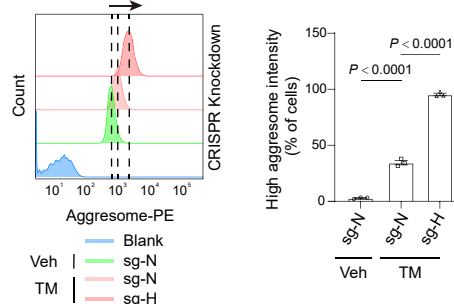
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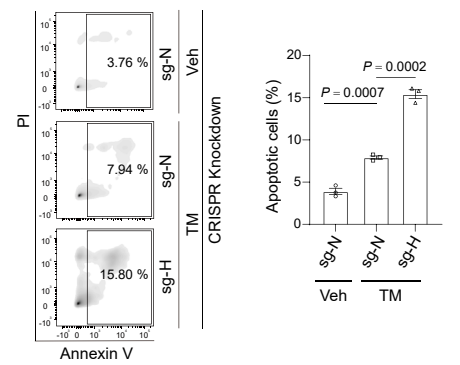
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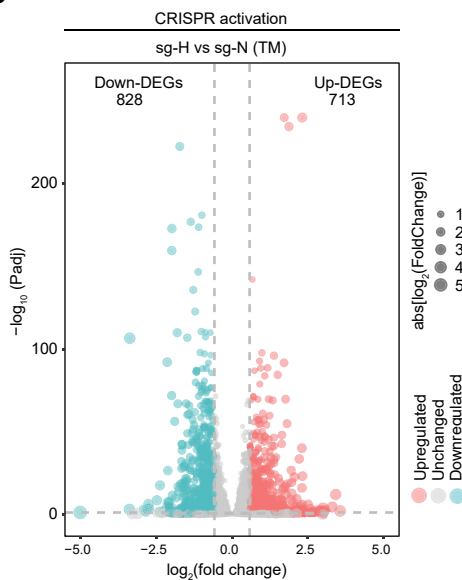
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