nature portfolio

Corresponding author(s): Mark VINEY

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Reporting Summary

Nature Portfolio wishes to improve the reproducibility of the work that we publish. This form provides structure for consistency and transparency in reporting. For further information on Nature Portfolio policies, see our <u>Editorial Policies</u> and the <u>Editorial Policy Checklist</u>.

Statistics

For all statistical analyses, confirm that the following items are present in the figure legend, table legend, main text, or Methods section.					
n/a	Confirmed				
	X	The exact sample size (n) for each experimental group/condition, given as a discrete number and unit of measurement			
×		A statement on whether measurements were taken from distinct samples or whether the same sample was measured repeatedly			
	X	The statistical test(s) used AND whether they are one- or two-sided Only common tests should be described solely by name; describe more complex techniques in the Methods section.			
×		A description of all covariates tested			
×		A description of any assumptions or corrections, such as tests of normality and adjustment for multiple comparisons			
	×	A full description of the statistical parameters including central tendency (e.g. means) or other basic estimates (e.g. regression coefficient) AND variation (e.g. standard deviation) or associated estimates of uncertainty (e.g. confidence intervals)			
	×	For null hypothesis testing, the test statistic (e.g. <i>F</i> , <i>t</i> , <i>r</i>) with confidence intervals, effect sizes, degrees of freedom and <i>P</i> value noted Give <i>P</i> values as exact values whenever suitable.			
×		For Bayesian analysis, information on the choice of priors and Markov chain Monte Carlo settings			
×		For hierarchical and complex designs, identification of the appropriate level for tests and full reporting of outcomes			
	X	Estimates of effect sizes (e.g. Cohen's d, Pearson's r), indicating how they were calculated			
		Our web collection on statistics for biologists contains articles on many of the points above.			

Software and code

Policy information about <u>availability of computer code</u>			
Data collection	Software not used for data collection		
Data analysis	Listed in manuscript		
For manuactions, utilizing output and a proof to an experiment to the response but not used described in published literature, software must be made sociable to aditary and			

For manuscripts utilizing custom algorithms or software that are central to the research but not yet described in published literature, software must be made available to editors and reviewers. We strongly encourage code deposition in a community repository (e.g. GitHub). See the Nature Portfolio guidelines for submitting code & software for further information.

Data

Policy information about availability of data

All manuscripts must include a <u>data availability statement</u>. This statement should provide the following information, where applicable:

- Accession codes, unique identifiers, or web links for publicly available datasets
- A description of any restrictions on data availability
- For clinical datasets or third party data, please ensure that the statement adheres to our policy

Data Deposition The genome data of the 90 larvae are deposited in the European Variation Archive, study PRJEB32744, https://www.omicsdi.org/dataset/eva/PRJEB32744.

Research involving human participants, their data, or biological material

Policy information about studies with <u>human participants or human data</u>. See also policy information about <u>sex, gender (identity/presentation)</u>, and sexual orientation and race, ethnicity and racism.

Reporting on sex and gender	n/a
Reporting on race, ethnicity, or other socially relevant groupings	n/a
Population characteristics	n/a
Recruitment	n/a
Ethics oversight	n/a

Note that full information on the approval of the study protocol must also be provided in the manuscript.

Field-specific reporting

Please select the one below that is the best fit for your research. If you are not sure, read the appropriate sections before making your selection.

×	ife sciences		Behavioural & social sciences		Ecological, evolutionary & environmental science	es
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For a reference copy of the document with all sections, see nature.com/documents/nr-reporting-summary-flat.pdf

Life sciences study design

All studies must disclose on these points even when the disclosure is negative.

Sample size	The study was observation of individual, wild-caught nematode larvae. The sample size was the number of larvae available and that could be whole genome sequenced.
Data exclusions	No data were excluded
Replication	The study was observation of individual, wild-caught nematode larvae.
Randomization	We selected a number of larvae from randomly collected different faecal rat pellets. There were no experimental groups in this study.
Blinding	The study design did not include experimental groups

Reporting for specific materials, systems and methods

We require information from authors about some types of materials, experimental systems and methods used in many studies. Here, indicate whether each material, system or method listed is relevant to your study. If you are not sure if a list item applies to your research, read the appropriate section before selecting a response.

Materials & experimental systems

n/a	Involved in the study
×	Antibodies
×	Eukaryotic cell lines
x	Palaeontology and archaeology
	X Animals and other organisms
×	Clinical data

v		Dual use research of concern
		Dual use research of concern

🗶 🗌 Plants

Methods

- n/a Involved in the study
- K ChIP-seq
- **x** Flow cytometry
- **X** MRI-based neuroimaging

Animals and other research organisms

Policy information about studies involving animals; ARRIVE guidelines recommended for reporting animal research, and Sex and Gender in Research

Laboratory animals

No laboratory animals were used.

Wild animals	No wild vertebrate animals were used.
Reporting on sex	n/a
Field-collected samples	Faeces were collected from the wild and returned to the laboratory where the nematode larvae were then obtained.
Ethics oversight	The study did not require ethical approval.

Note that full information on the approval of the study protocol must also be provided in the manuscript.