

532 **Supplementary Information:**

533 **Methods:**

534 No statistical methods were used to predetermine sample size and the investigators were not blinded to
535 allocation during experiments and outcome assessment.

536

537 **Reprogramming and efficiency calculation:**

538 Passage three wild-type, heterozygous TauEGFP knock-in MEFs or human embryonic fibroblasts were
539 infected with indicated lentivirus (available from us through Addgene or specified in Table S4) in MEF
540 media containing 8 µg/ml polybrene (Sigma) for 16-20 h. Cells were switched into fresh MEF media
541 containing 2 µg/ml doxycycline (Sigma) to induce transgene expression for 2 days. At day 3 cells were
542 switched into N3 media (DMEM/F12) containing N2 supplement, B27, 20 µg/ml Insulin,
543 penicillin/streptomycin (all from Invitrogen) and doxycycline to continue reprogramming. The media
544 was changed every 2–3 days for the duration of the reprogramming. To calculate the efficiency of
545 neuronal induction the total number of TauEGFP and/or TUJ1 expressing cells with complex neurite
546 outgrowth (cells having a spherical cell body and at least one thin process three times the size of their
547 cell body), were quantified manually 7 or 14 days after transgene induction by immunofluorescence
548 microscopy. To calculate the efficiency of myocyte-like cells the total number of Desmin and MYH
549 expressing cells was quantified manually 14 days after transgene induction by immunofluorescence
550 microscopy. The quantification was based on the average number of neuronal or myocyte-like cells
551 present in a minimum of 30 randomly selected 20x fields of view from at least three biological
552 replicates. The number of reprogrammed cells was then either normalised to the number of
553 reprogrammed cells in the control condition or to the total number of cells determined by DAPI staining.
554 TauEGFP-expressing cells in Fig. 4a and ED9b were quantified using a LSRFortessa FACS analyser
555 (BD Biosciences) based on the average number of TauEGFP positive cells detected in 60.000 to 120.000
556 analysed cells from at least three to six biological replicates.

557

558 **In utero electroporation:**

559 All animal protocols have been approved by Stanford University. For in utero electroporation pregnant
560 CD-1 mice (Charles River) were deeply anesthetized with Isoflurane (Henry Schein), after which the
561 uterine horns were carefully exposed through a midline abdominal incision. pSico constructs encoding
562 both GFP and indicated shRNA-oligos from the same DNA plasmid (1–2 µl of 2 µg/µl) were diluted in
563 PBS containing 0.01% fast green (Sigma) as a tracer and injected in utero into the lateral ventricle of
564 mouse embryos at E13.5 using a micropipette made from G-1 glass capillaries (Narishige). After
565 injection, the embryo in the uterus was placed between a 5 mm platinum tweezertrode and five 50 ms
566 square pulses of 25 V with 950 ms intervals were applied with an ECM 830 electroporation system
567 (both from Harvard Apparatus). We performed randomized electroporations of control or Myt1l-
568 targeting shRNAs in the right and left uterine horns of several pregnant mice to avoid any technical
569 effect on the experimental outcome. Then, uterine horns were placed back into the abdominal cavity,
570 and the abdominal wall of the pregnant mouse was sutured. Embryonic brains were harvested and
571 dissected 2 days (E15.5) after electroporation for subsequent immunofluorescence processing and
572 analysis. Brain sections were then co-stained with indicated antibodies and anti-GFP to identify
573 electroporated cells expressing the indicated knock-down constructs. The distribution of GFP positive
574 cells as well as the number of GFP and respective marker double positive cells was determined by
575 dividing the number of GFP positive cells in each layer or the number of double positive cells by the
576 total number of GFP-positive cells in the entire section, respectively.

577

578 **Electrophysiology:**

579 Electrophysiological recordings were performed from mouse primary hippocampal neurons 14 days
580 after *in vitro* culture and 11 days upon shRNA-infection or MEF-derived iN cells 21 days after transgene
581 induction and 14 days after co-culturing on glia following previous protocols⁹. In brief, action potentials
582 were recorded using current-clamp configuration with pipette solution containing (in mM): 130
583 KMeSO₃, 10 NaCl, 2 MgCl₂, EGTA 0.5 for MEF-iN 1 for primary cultures, CaCl₂ 0.16 for MEF-iN 0.1
584 for primary cultures, 4 Na₂ATP, 0.4 NaGTP, 14 Tris-creatine phosphate, and 10 HEPES-KOH (pH
585 adjusted to 7.3, 310 mOsm). The bath solution contained (in mM): 140 NaCl, 5 KCl, CaCl₂ 2 for MEF-
586 iN 3 for primary cultures, 1 MgCl₂, 10 glucose, and 10 HEPES-NaOH (pH 7.4). Membrane potentials
587 were kept around -60 mV using small holding currents, and step currents were injected to elicit action
588 potentials. Recordings of the intrinsic and active membrane properties were performed in the presence
589 of 50 μM picrotoxin, 10 μM CNQX and 50 μM D-AP5 in the bath solution (all from Tocris). The
590 synaptic current recordings were performed in voltage-clamp mode with internal solution containing (in
591 mM): 135 CsCl₂, 1 EGTA, 4 Na₂ATP, 1 Na-GTP, 1 QX-314, and 10 HEPES-NaOH (pH adjusted to 7.4,
592 310 mOsm). AMPA-receptor EPSCs were pharmacologically isolated by application of 50 μM
593 picrotoxin, and were subsequently blocked by addition of 50 μM CNQX. Evoked synaptic responses
594 were triggered by 1-ms, 1 mA current injection through a local extracellular electrode (FHC concentric
595 bipolar electrode) with a Model 2100 Isolated Pulse Stimulator (A-M Systems). All recordings were
596 performed in whole-cell configuration using a Multiclamp 700B amplifier (Molecular Devices). All
597 average data were analyzed from three or more biological replicates using Clampfit 10.4 (Axon
598 Instruments).

599

600 **Cell line generation and maintenance:**

601 Mouse embryonic fibroblasts (MEFs) were isolated from wild-type or heterozygous TauEGFP knock-in
602 mouse embryos at E13.5 (Jackson Laboratories) after removal of all neural cell containing tissues.
603 Mouse glial cells were isolated from forebrains of wild-type mice (Jackson Laboratories) at postnatal
604 day two. Both cell types were maintained in MEF media (DMEM; Invitrogen) containing 10% cosmic
605 calf serum (CCS; Hyclone), beta-mercaptoethanol (Sigma), non-essential amino acids, sodium pyruvate
606 and penicillin/streptomycin (all from Invitrogen) and passaged three times before experiments. Mouse
607 neural stem cells (NSCs) were isolated from forebrains at E13.5 or cortex at E14.5 of wild-type mouse
608 embryos. The cells were maintained on PO-laminin coated tissue culture dishes or as neurospheres in
609 proliferation medium (DMEM/F12) containing N2 or B27 supplement, penicillin/streptomycin (all from
610 Invitrogen), and 20 ng/ml EGF, 10 ng/ml FGF (both from Peprotech). Cells were infected and kept in
611 proliferation medium for 7 days after transgene induction using doxycycline or changed one day after
612 infection to N3 media (DMEM/F12) containing N2 supplement, B27, 20 μg/ml Insulin,
613 penicillin/streptomycin (all from Invitrogen) 1 % fetal bovine serum (FBS; Hyclone), and doxycycline
614 to induce differentiation for 7 days. For primary neuronal cultures the hippocampus of P0 wild-type
615 mouse pups was isolated and cultured on Matrigel-coated plates (Corning) in MEM supplemented with
616 B27, glucose, transferrin and 5% FBS. 2 days after plating the medium was supplemented with 2 mM
617 Ara-C (Sigma) as published previously²⁹. Primary myoblasts were isolated and cultured on Collagen-
618 coated plates (Corning) in DMEM supplemented with 20% FBS and penicillin/streptomycin
619 (Invitrogen) as described earlier³⁰. One day after infection and transgene induction using doxycycline
620 primary myoblasts were changed to DMEM containing penicillin/streptomycin and 5 % horse serum (all
621 from Invitrogen) to induce muscle differentiation for 4 days. The media for all cells was changed every
622 2–3 days for the duration of the experiment and all cells were grown at 37 °C and 5% CO₂. Cells were
623 tested negative for mycoplasma contamination.

624

625 **Virus production and infection:**

626 Lentivirus was produced by transfection of lentiviral backbones containing the indicated transgenes
627 together with third-generation packaging plasmids into HEK293 cells following the Trono laboratory
628 protocol³¹. Virus was concentrated from culture supernatant by ultra-centrifugation (23000 rpm, 2 h, 4
629 °C) and cells were infected with three different viral titers. Infected cell populations that were used for
630 reprogramming and genomic analysis were verified by immunofluorescence to contain approximately
631 70%-90% transgene-positive cells two days after induction based on immunofluorescence microscopy.
632

633 **Plasmid constructs:**

634 DNA constructs were generated by PCR amplification with Phusion polymerase followed by restriction
635 digest using indicated enzymes and ligation with T4 DNA ligase (all from NEB). Site directed mutations
636 of *Myt1l ZF2-3* were generated using the QuikChange Multi Site-Directed Mutagenesis Kit (Agilent
637 Technologies) following the manufacturer's instructions. A complete list of all constructs and primers
638 generated in this study can be found in Table S4&6.
639

640 **Protein expression and purification:**

641 Proteins for immunisation and GST pull downs were expressed in *E. coli* Rosetta DE3 (Novagen). All
642 His- and His-GST-tagged Myt1l fragments were purified under native conditions using Ni-NTA
643 Agarose (Qiagen) and eluted in bacterial lysis buffer containing (in mM): 20 Tris pH 7.5, 500 NaCl, 1
644 MgCl₂ supplemented with 400 imidazole (all from Sigma). Eluted proteins were dialysed overnight
645 against phosphate buffered saline (PBS) and supplemented with 10% glycerol (both from Sigma) prior
646 to use or storage at -80 °C.
647

648 **Antibodies:**

649 Polyclonal antibodies against Myt1l were raised in rabbits using recombinant His-tagged mmMyt1l
650 aa170-240. Immune sera were affinity purified against the antigen immobilised on Affigel (Bio-rad) and
651 eluted in buffer containing (in mM): 100 glycine pH 2.7, 150 NaCl followed by 100 glycine pH 2.2, 150
652 NaCl. 50 ml anti-Asc11 hybridoma supernatant, 2.5 mg affinity purified anti-Myt1l antibody, and mouse
653 or rabbit control IgG (Sigma) were coupled to 250 µl protein A Sepharose (GE Healthcare) using buffer
654 containing (in mM): 20 dimethylpimelimidate in 200 Na₂B₄O₇ pH 9, blocked with 1000 Tris pH 8,
655 followed by 200 ethanolamine pH 8, washed with 200 Na₂B₄O₇ pH 9, washed with 200 glycine pH 2.2,
656 150 NaCl, and finally washed extensively using PBS (all from Sigma). A complete list of all primary
657 antibodies used in this study can be found in Table S7. Secondary Alexa-conjugated antibodies were
658 used at 1:2000 (all from Invitrogen), secondary HRP-conjugated antibodies were used at 1:5000 (all
659 from Jackson Immunoresearch) and secondary IRDye-conjugated antibodies were used at 1:5000 (all
660 from LI-COR).
661

662 **Immunofluorescence:**

663 Cultured cells were washed with PBS and fixed using 4% paraformaldehyde (PFA: Affymetrix) for 10
664 min. Cells were then permeabilised in 0.5% Triton X-100 (Sigma) in PBS for 5 min, blocked in a
665 solution of PBS containing 2% bovine serum albumin (BSA; Sigma) for 1 h, followed by incubation
666 with primary antibody for 1 h at room temperature or overnight at 4°C. Cells were washed three times
667 for 15 min using blocking solution prior to incubation for 30 min with secondary antibodies. For DNA
668 staining 100 ng/ml DAPI was added to the last washing step (Invitrogen). Embryonic mouse brains were

669 dissected and immersion fixed in 4% PFA overnight, while adult mice were transcardially perfused first
670 with PBS followed by ice cold 4% PFA, then the brains were isolated and post fixed in 4% PFA
671 overnight. After fixation embryonic and adult brains were cryoprotected overnight in 30% sucrose in
672 PBS. Embryonic brains were embedded in OCT compound (Sakura), frozen in dry ice, cryostat
673 sectioned at 20 μm and mounted on glass slides. Adult brains were sectioned at 40 μm using a freezing
674 sliding microtome. For immunofluorescence, mounted (embryonic) or free-floating (adult) sections were
675 washed in potassium phosphate buffer (KPBS). Then incubated in KPBS with 0.25% Triton-X100 and
676 5% normal donkey and goat serum (pre-incubation solution; both from Jackson Immunoresearch) for 1 h
677 at room temperature followed by primary antibody incubation in pre-incubation solution overnight at
678 4°C. Following washes in KPBS with 0.25% Triton-X100, sections were incubated with secondary
679 antibodies and Hoechst (Invitrogen) in pre-incubation solution for 2 h at room temperature. After final
680 washes in KPBS free-floating sections were mounted on gelatin-coated slides and sealed using glycerol
681 based mounting media. Microscopy images were obtained using a DM6000 B microscope equipped with
682 a 20x HCX PL air objective (NA 0.4) and a DFC365 FX digital camera (all from Leica).

683

684 **Immunoprecipitation experiments (IP):**

685 For each immunoprecipitation 20×10^6 MEF cells infected with the indicted transgenes two days after
686 induction were lysed in 1 ml cell lysis buffer containing (in mM): 0.5% Tween-20, 50 Tris pH 7.5, 2
687 EDTA, 1 DTT, 1 PMSF, 5 NaF (all from Sigma), and complete protease inhibitor (Roche) for 15 min at
688 4 °C. Nuclei were pelleted by centrifugation (3200 rpm, 1 min, 4 °C) and resuspended in 1 ml NP-40
689 lysis buffer containing (in mM): 0.5% NP-40, 50 Tris pH 8, 150 NaCl, 2 EDTA, 1 DTT, 1 PMSF, 5
690 NaF, 5 $\mu\text{g}/\text{ml}$ cytochalasin B (all from Sigma), complete protease inhibitor (Roche), and benzonase
691 (Merck). Debris was removed by centrifugation (14000 rpm, 10 min, 4 °C) and nuclear lysate was pre-
692 cleared by incubation with 15 μl uncoupled protein A beads prior to addition with 15 μl antibody
693 coupled beads for 2 h at 4 °C. After binding the beads were washed extensively in NP-40 lysis buffer
694 and bound proteins were eluted with SDS-PAGE sample buffer.

695

696 **GST pull-down experiments (GST-PD):**

697 For each pull-down 20×10^6 MEF cells were lysed in 1 ml cell lysis buffer containing (in mM): 0.5%
698 Tween-20, 50 Tris pH 7.5, 2 EDTA, 1 DTT, 1 PMSF, 5 NaF (all from Sigma), and complete protease
699 inhibitor (Roche) for 15 min at 4 °C. Nuclei were pelleted by centrifugation (3200 rpm, 1 min, 4 °C) and
700 resuspended in 0.5 ml cell lysis buffer containing 500 mM NaCl, 5 $\mu\text{g}/\text{ml}$ cytochalasin B (Sigma), and
701 benzonase (Merk). Debris was removed by centrifugation (14000 rpm, 10 min, 4 °C) and nuclear lysate
702 was diluted with cell lysis buffer 1:1.25 (200 mM NaCl c.f.). 50 μg of GST alone or GST-tagged Myt11
703 fragments were incubated with 20 μl glutathione Sepharose 4B beads (GE Healthcare) in PBS
704 supplemented with 2 $\mu\text{g}/\text{ml}$ BSA (Sigma) and complete protease inhibitor (Roche) for 1 h at 4 °C. Beads
705 were then washed extensively in cell lysis buffer containing 200 mM NaCl prior to addition of diluted
706 nuclear lysate and incubation for 2 h at 4 °C. After binding the beads were washed extensively in cell
707 lysis buffer containing 200 mM NaCl and bound proteins were eluted with SDS-PAGE sample buffer.

708

709 **Chromatin immunoprecipitation sequencing (ChIP-seq) and computational analysis:**

710 For each ChIP-seq experiment either 4 brains from wild-type E13.5 mouse embryos or $20\text{-}40 \times 10^6$
711 primary cells two days after transgene induction were cross-linked using 1% formaldehyde (EMS) for

712 10 min followed by lysis in 1 ml swelling buffer containing (in mM): 0.5% NP-40, 5 HEPES pH 7.9, 85
713 KCl, 1 DTT, 1 PMSF (all from Sigma), and complete protease inhibitors (Roche) for 20 min on ice.
714 Nuclei were pelleted by centrifugation (3200 rpm, 1 min, 4 °C) and lysed in 1 ml lysis buffer containing
715 (in mM): 1% SDS, 50 Tris pH 8, 10 EDTA, 1 DTT, 1 PMSF (all from Sigma), and complete protease
716 inhibitors (Roche) for 10 min on ice. Chromatin was sheared using a Bioruptor sonicator (Diagenode)
717 until DNA was fragmented to 200-500 bp followed by 1:4 dilution with buffer containing (in mM): 1%
718 Triton X-100, 20 Tris pH 8, 2 EDTA, 150 NaCl, 1 PMSF (all from Sigma), and complete protease
719 inhibitors (Roche). Diluted lysate was pre-cleared by incubation with 15 µl Staph A cells or 50 µl
720 protein A beads prior to addition with antibody (20 µg Sin3b or 50 µg HDAC1) or 50 µl antibody
721 coupled beads (Myt11) overnight at 4 °C, respectively. After binding the antibody coupled beads were
722 washed extensively in wash buffer containing (in mM): 1% NP-40, 0.05% SDS, 20 Tris pH 8, 250 NaCl,
723 2 EDTA (all from Sigma), and complete protease inhibitors (Roche). The reactions with uncoupled
724 antibody were supplemented with 15 µl Staph A cells washed extensively in the following three wash
725 buffers containing (in mM): 1% Triton X-100, 0.1% SDS, 20 Tris pH 8, 150 NaCl, 2 EDTA; 1% Triton
726 X-100, 0.1% SDS, 20 Tris pH 8, 500 NaCl, 2 EDTA; and 1% NP-40, 1% DOC, 10 Tris pH 8, 250 LiCl,
727 1 EDTA. After washing, the bound fraction was eluted in 100 µl elution buffer containing (in mM): 1%
728 SDS, 50 Tris pH 8, 10 EDTA, 100 PMSF and reversed cross-linked by overnight incubation at 65 °C.
729 The isolated DNA was RNase (NEB) treated and purified using QIAGEN columns. Libraries were
730 generated using the NEBNext ChIP-seq Library Prep Master Mix Set for Illumina (NEB) and single-end
731 sequencing reads (50bp) were generated on Hi-Seq 2000 platforms (Illumina). ChIP-sequence reads are
732 available on NCBI GEO accession GSE72121. Raw reads were mapped to mouse reference genome
733 GRCm38/mm10 using bowtie2 (version 2.2.3) allowing maximum one mismatch³². Peaks for each
734 sample were called using MACS2 algorithm (version 2.0.10.20131216)³³ using the shift size values
735 calculated from the run_spp.R script from the SPP peak caller³⁴. High quality peaks were identified
736 using IDR2 (<https://github.com/nboley/idr> version 2.0.2). A negative control ChIP was performed as
737 described above using the Myt11 antibody on rtTA-only infected. Any rtTA peak that overlapped a peak
738 in any other condition by greater than 50% was excluded from the final analyses. Heatmaps of ChIP-seq
739 signals were generated around peak summits (\pm 2kb region) using 25 bp sliding windows with the
740 HOMER suite (version 4.7)³⁵. Read histograms, motif analysis, peak annotation, and GO analysis was
741 also performed using HOMER and PHANTER²⁸. Both Bedtools and SAMtools were used for file
742 processing and format conversions^{36,37}. Differential Myt11 localisation was determined using the
743 DiffBind R package³⁸. All ChIP-sequence data was analysed from two or three biological replicates.

744

745 **MNase-seq analysis:**

746 To assess nucleosome occupancy at candidate regions, we utilised a previously reported MEF MNase-
747 seq dataset (GSE40896)²⁵. The raw reads were mapped to GRCm38/mm10 using bowtie (version 1.1.1)
748 allowing for one mismatch as described³⁹. Histograms of read densities for the Myt11 peaks and Ascl1
749 peaks⁸ (lifted over to mm10) were compiled using HOMER.

750

751 **Transcript analysis using RNA-seq and quantitative PCR:**

752 RNA was isolated using Trizol (Invitrogen) and treated with DNase (NEB). For RNA-sequencing,
753 libraries were prepared following the dUTP protocol⁴¹ and paired-end sequencing reads (100bp) were
754 generated on Hi-Seq 2000 platforms (Illumina). RNA-sequence reads are available on NCBI GEO

755 accession GSE72121. Raw reads were mapped to mouse reference genome GRCm38/mm10 using
756 TopHat2 (version 2.0.10)⁴² and transcript assembly and differential expression determined using
757 cufflinks (version 2.1.1) according to the cuffquant pipeline⁴³. CummeRbund was used to generate
758 expression scatterplots and cluster3/treeview were used to generate heatmaps⁴⁴⁻⁴⁶. GSEA was
759 performed using all genesets in the MsigDB database (GSE14012)^{47,48}, including a MEF gene signature
760 that was compiled by taking the genes that were enriched by a factor of 10 in the MEF condition
761 compared to the iN condition from the Wapinski et al. raw RNA-seq data (Table S3)⁸. Significance for
762 GSEA profiles were determined by an FDR < 0.25 as described⁴⁸. Cell type specific gene signatures
763 were derived from the top 10% of the genes unique to the particular cell type⁴⁹⁻⁵², excluding any genes
764 common amongst 4 out of 5 sets to exclude housekeeping genes (Table S3). Odds ratio analysis was
765 performed using the GeneOverlap R package (version 1.6.0)²⁷. For quantitative PCR, RNA was reverse
766 transcribed using Superscript II (Invitrogen) following the manufacturer's instructions. Quantitative real
767 time PCR was performed from cDNA templates using the SYBER Green PCR master mix and a
768 7900HT Fast Real-Time PCR System (Applied Biosystems). Transcript levels were determined after
769 normalisation against GAPDH using the Relative Expression Software Tool (REST)²⁶. A complete list
770 of real time PCR primers used in this study can be found in Table S6. All RNA-sequence data was
771 analysed from two biological replicates.

772

773 **SELEX:**

774 Constructs encoding Myt11 DNA-binding domains were generated by gene synthesis (codon optimised,
775 Genscript) as indicated in Table S5. Clones were transferred to N-terminal thioredoxin hexahistidine
776 bacterial expression vector (pETG-20A-SBP;⁵³) by a Gateway LR reaction (Invitrogen). Proteins were
777 produced in the *E. coli* Rosetta DE3 pLysS (Novagen), and purified, and HT-SELEX analyses were
778 performed as described previously⁵⁴. After each SELEX cycle, the selection ligands were sequenced
779 using Illumina HiSeq 2000 sequencer, and PWM models generated using the seed, cycle and
780 multinomial model reported in Table S5 as described here⁵⁴.

781

782 **Data availability statement:**

783 ChIP and RNA-sequencing data were deposited on NCBI GEO accession number GSE72121.

784

785 **Supplementary Information References:**

- 786
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