Supplementary Information

Supplementary Figures

Supplementary Fig. 1. Quality control (QC) metrics for snRNA-seq data. (a) Cumulative proportion of the number of detected genes, percentage of reads mapped to the mitochondrial genome, and doublet score (from scrublet¹) for nuclei in each snRNA-seq sample, grouped by donor ID, diagnosis and brain region. Shaded areas in gray mark the nuclei that failed the QC filtering (number of detected genes > 500, % mitochondrial reads < 1, or doublet score < 0.2). Nuclei in the C9-FTD samples failed QC mainly due to high percentage of mitochondrial reads. (b) Summary of the total number of collected nuclei, and the number that passed QC, in each sample. (c) Proportion of nuclei that passed QC. Circles represent biologically independent individual donors; $N = 6$ C9-ALS and 6 control samples for both brain regions, and $N = 5$ and 4 C9-FTD samples in motor cortex and frontal cortex, respectively. In each box plot, the lower and upper hinges correspond to the first and third quartiles; the whiskers extend 1.5 * IQR (interquartile range) away from the hinges; and the center denotes the median. *, two-sided Welch's t-test p = 0.038, 0.014, and 0.012 for the comparisons from left to right, respectively. Source data are provided as a Source Data file.

Supplementary Fig. 2. The clusters identified in snRNA-seq were not biased by known covariates and were largely stable. (a-e) Uniform manifold approximation and projection (UMAP²) embedding of snRNA-seq profiles (see Fig. 1a) were colored by brain region (a), diagnosis (b), donor sex (c), sequencing batch (d), or

individual donor (e). (f) Clustree³ analysis to evaluate cluster stability with increasing Leiden resolutions from 0 to 3 in our full dataset clustering and the sub-clusterings for the three major cell classes. Clusters found at each resolution value are represented by nodes in the corresponding column. The nodes are colored by the SC3 stability index⁴ and sized proportional to the number of nuclei in the cluster. The transparency of the edges is adjusted according to the in-proportion, a metric defined as the ratio between the number of nuclei on the edge and the number of nuclei in the cluster it goes toward. Low in-proportion edges tend to arise as clusters become unstable. The selected resolutions we used before cell type annotation are highlighted in red circles. Source data are provided as a Source Data file.

Supplementary Fig. 3. Annotations of the identified cellular populations in snRNA-seq based on the expression of known markers. Nuclei were first categorized into excitatory and inhibitory neurons, and nonneuronal cells using cell class marker genes (a). Fine-grained cell types were then annotated using marker genes for non-neuronal cells (b), excitatory neurons (c), and inhibitory neurons (d). Major cell types (left colored bars) were defined using shared marker genes. Normalized expression is defined as the z-score of log(CPM) for each gene across all cells. Dots were colored by the average normalized expression in each cell type, and dot size represents the percentage of nuclei expressing the marker genes (with non-zero counts) in the cell type. CGE, caudal ganglionic eminence; Astro, astrocytes; Endo, endothelial cells; Micro, microglia; Oligo, oligodendrocytes; OPC, oligodendrocyte precursor cells; VLMC, vascular leptomeningeal cell; IT, intratelencephalic; CT, corticothalamic; NP, near-projecting; ET, extratelencephalic. Source data are provided as a Source Data file.

49 subtypes (this study)

 $\overline{0}$

0.2

0.4

Fraction of matched nuclei per column

Fraction of matched nuclei per column

0.6

0.8

1

Human primary motor cortex cell types (Bakken et al. 2021) Human primary motor cortex cell types (Bakken *et al.* 2021)

Supplementary Fig. 4. Comparison of the cell types identified in our snRNA-seq dataset with a

previously published dataset. (a) Cumulative proportion of the maximum prediction score across nuclei from the label transfer analysis using the published human primary motor cortex cell types⁵ as the reference dataset (see Methods). Curves are grouped and colored by diagnosis, brain region, and the major cell types identified in our study. (b) The annotations in Fig. 1 and Supplementary Fig. 3 were consistent with cell types in the study of the human motor cortex⁵. ARI, adjusted Rand index. Source data are provided as a Source Data file.

Supplementary Fig. 5. Fluorescence-activated nuclei sorting (FANS) isolation of nuclei of major brain cell types. (a,b) Sequential FANS gating procedure to isolate nuclei from cell populations. (a) Three cell populations were isolated for bulk RNA-seq (Figs. 2e-f and 6f): neurons (NeuN+), oligodendrocyte lineage cells (NeuN–/Sox10+, consisting mainly of mature oligodendrocytes and a smaller population of OPCs), and other glia (NeuN–/Sox10–, mostly consisting of microglia and astrocytes). Anti-NeuN and anti-SOX10 antibodies were used to separate these three populations. (b) For H3K27ac ChIP-seq (Fig. 5), the NeuN–/Sox10– population was further split to isolate microglia (IRF5+), and astrocytes (IRF5–). (c) Validation of FANSseparated neurons, oligodendrocyte lineage cells, microglia and astrocytes using H3K27ac ChIP-seq. Signals from two donors are shown. In each population, H3K27ac signal enrichment was detected for known cell-typespecific genes. NEUR, neurons; ASTR, astrocytes; OLIG, oligodendrocyte lineage; MG, microglia. (d) Percentage of putative neurons (NeuN+SOX10- nuclei) from FANS. Circles represent biologically independent individual donors; $N = 6$ C9-ALS, 6 control and 7 C9-FTD samples, respectively. In each box plot, the lower and upper hinges correspond to the first and third quartiles; the whiskers extend 1.5 * IQR (interquartile range) away from the hinges; and the center denotes the median. No significant differences were found in any pairwise comparison between diagnosis groups (two-sided Welch's t-test, p=0.41-0.97). Source data are provided as a Source Data file.

Supplementary Fig. 6. Quantification of proteins encoded by genes dysregulated in C9-ALS astrocytes using automated Western blot analysis. (a) Protein levels were determined in selected DE genes identified in astrocytes in our snRNA-seq analysis. Bulk motor cortex tissues (~80-100mg) from six C9-ALS and six control donors were used. Automated capillary Western blot analysis was performed using the ProteinSimple Jess-Wes System (Methods). For each protein, an experiment was run once with two technical replicates for

each sample. See Fig. 3c for the quantifications of protein levels. A two-sided Welch's t-test was used to compare the immunoreactive signals between C9-ALS and control, considering the averaged signals between two replicates for each donor as an observation. GFAP, CD44, and TGFB2 proteins were upregulated ($p =$ 0.033, 0.012, 0.033 respectively) in C9-ALS motor cortex, whereas RANBP3L protein trended in the expected direction ($p = 0.063$) and CHI3L1 was not significant ($p = 0.303$). (b) MAOB protein levels from nine C9-ALS and five control donors. Each sample was assessed in two repeated experiments. (c) Quantifications of protein levels in (b). Arb. units, arbitrary units. Circles represent the signal for each biologically independent individual donor; N = 9 C9-ALS and 5 control samples. In each box plot, the lower and upper hinges correspond to the first and third quartiles; the whiskers extend 1.5 * IQR (interquartile range) away from the hinges; and the center denotes the median. For each repeat experiment, a two-sided Welch's t-test was used to compare the immunoreactive signals between C9-ALS and control. No significant changes of MAOB protein levels were detected (p=0.549 and 0.297). See Supplementary Dataset 10 for raw values. Source data are provided as a Source Data file.

Supplementary Fig. 7. Quantification of proteins encoded by genes dysregulated in C9-ALS excitatory neurons using automated Western blot analysis. (a) Same as Supplementary Fig. 6a but for selected DE genes identified in excitatory neurons with our snRNA-seq dataset. (b) Quantification of protein levels in (a) with automated Western blot analysis. Arb. units, arbitrary units. Circles represent the average signal across duplicates for each donor; N = 6 C9-ALS and 6 control biologically independent samples. *, two-sided Welch's t-test $p < 0.05$; ***, $p < 0.001$. HSP90 and CLU proteins were upregulated ($p = 6.35e-4$ and 0.041, respectively), KCND3 was downregulated (p = 0.036), and HSP27, RAP1GAP and DNMT3A proteins were not significant (p = 0.226, 0.238 and 0.163, respectively). None of the tested genes had a change in protein abundance in the opposite direction from the mRNA expression change. (c) ATP5A, CYCS and COX5A protein levels (n=10 C9-ALS and 6 control donors for CYCS; n=9 C9-ALS and 5 control donors for ATP5A and COX5A). Each sample was assessed in two repeated experiments. (d) Quantifications of protein levels in (c). Arb. units, arbitrary units. Circles represent the signal for each donor; N = 10 C9-ALS and 6 control donors for CYCS, and N = 9 C9-ALS and 5 control donors for ATP5A and COX5A. For each repeat experiment, a twosided Welch's t-test was used to compare the immunoreactive signals between C9-ALS and control. No significant changes of ATP5A, CYCS or COX5A protein levels were detected (p=0.206-0.757). In each box plot in panels (b) and (d), the lower and upper hinges correspond to the first and third quartiles; the whiskers extend 1.5 * IQR (interquartile range) away from the hinges; and the center denotes the median. See Supplementary Dataset 10 for raw values. Source data are provided as a Source Data file.

Fine-grained cell types Fine-grained cell types

Supplementary Fig. 8. Functional enrichment analysis of differentially expressed (DE) genes in upperand deep-layer excitatory neurons. (a) Left panel: Top gene ontology (GO) terms enriched for genes downregulated in upper and/or deep layer excitatory neurons. Enrichments of the same terms for downregulated DE genes in other neuronal cell types are shown for comparison. Enriched GO categories (FDR<0.01) were selected by affinity propagation. Right panel: Differences in the C9-ALS vs. control foldchanges between motor and frontal cortex ($\Delta \log_2$ FC = \log_2 FC in motor cortex - \log_2 FC in frontal cortex). The boxes denote the distribution of these differences ($\Delta \log_2FC$) for all expressed genes in each GO category. As background comparisons, the distributions of these differences for all expressed genes (labeled as "all genes") and for all ALS vs. control DE genes (labeled as "DE gene") are shown on top. Two-sided Welch's t-tests were used to test whether the $\Delta \log_2$ FC in each group of genes were significantly different from the $\Delta \log_2$ FC of the "all genes" control set. No significant differences were found. In each box plot, the lower and upper hinges correspond to the first and third quartiles; the whiskers extend 1.5 * IQR (interquartile range) away from the hinges; and the center denotes the median. Exact N numbers and p-values for this analysis are provided in Supplementary Dataset 5. (b) Comparison of effects in motor vs. frontal cortices for GO categories exemplifying processes/structures that are specific for neurons (synapse organization, axon development), or important for neuronal function (passive transmembrane transport activity). r, Pearson correlation coefficient. (c) mRNA expression fold-change (C9-ALS vs. control) of top 10 DE genes for GO terms enriched for upregulated DE genes (left panel) and downregulated genes (right panel) in fine-grained upper- and deep-layer excitatory neurons. See Supplementary Dataset 5 for the full list of GO enrichment results. Source data are provided as a Source Data file.

Supplementary Fig. 9. QC metrics used in the snATAC-seq data pre-processing. (a) Distribution of snATAC-seq fragment sizes in each sample that passed QC, showing periodicity related to nucleosome spacing. (b-c) Box-and-whisker plots to show the distribution of transcription start site (TSS) enrichment score (b) and number of unique fragments (c) across nuclei grouped by samples. In each box plot, the lower and upper hinges correspond to the first and third quartiles; the whiskers extend 1.5 * IQR (interquartile range) away from the hinges; and the center denotes the median. N numbers for each box plot in panels (b) and (c)

can be derived from the full metadata information of each nucleus from the snATAC-seq data provided in Supplementary Dataset 6. Source data are provided as a Source Data file.

Supplementary Fig. 10. The epigenetic landscape of C9-ALS brain cells determined by snATAC-seq. (a) Clustering n=109,198 high-quality snATAC-seq profiles (TSS enrichment ≥ 4, unique fragments ≥ 1,000 per cell) identified 11 major brain cell types. The clusters were annotated by transferring labels from the snRNAseq data (see Methods). (b) Major cell types from snATAC-seq were distributed across brain regions, diagnosis groups, sex, and donors. TSS, transcription start site. (c) snATAC-seq signal at cell-type-specific marker genes. Track height represents pseudo-bulk counts normalized by reads in TSS. (d-e) Box-and-whisker plots to show the distribution of TSS enrichment score (d) and number of unique fragments (e) across nuclei grouped by major cell types. In each box plot, the lower and upper hinges correspond to the first and third quartiles; the whiskers extend 1.5 * IQR (interquartile range) away from the hinges; and the center denotes the median. N numbers for each box plot in panels (d) and (e) can be derived from the full metadata information of each nucleus from the snATAC-seq data provided in Supplementary Dataset 6. (f) Spearman correlation of the C9-ALS vs. control fold-change (FC) for snRNA expression vs. snATAC gene activity score in frontal cortex; the corresponding analysis for motor cortex is shown in Fig. 5e. The analysis was performed for strongly DE genes (FC > 2) in each major cell type in frontal cortex. Two-sided Spearman's rank correlation test: *, p < 0.05; **, p < 0.01; ***, p < 0.001. Exact values of r and p are provided in Supplementary Dataset 12. Source data are provided as a Source Data file.

Supplementary Fig. 11. ChromVAR scores in non-redundant transcription factor (TF) motif archetypes. (a) Variability (standard deviation) of the ChromVAR 6 Z scores across all nuclei for TF motif archetypes (see Methods). (b) Distribution of ChromVAR Z score across nuclei from each major cell type for three representative TF motif archetypes with high variability. Sequence logos of the motif archetypes are shown on top. (c) ChromVAR Z scores of motif archetypes for each cell are displayed on the UMAP embedding. (d) Heatmap of average ChromVAR Z scores across groups of nuclei (columns) by major cell types, brain region and diagnosis, for the top 100 motif archetypes (rows) with highest variability across all nuclei. Top 3 cell-typespecific motif archetypes for each cell type are labeled. Source data are provided as a Source Data file.

Supplementary Fig. 12. Comparison of the disease effect on gene expression in non-neuronal cells in C9-ALS and C9-FTD. (a-b) Related to Fig. 6b-c. Relative abundance of neurons (a), and percent of excitatory neurons among all neurons (b) using relaxed QC criteria (without thresholds on the number of detected genes, the percentage of mitochondrial reads, and doublet scores). This analysis included all 195,144 non-empty droplets determined by CellBender⁷. No significant difference in the percentage of neurons was detected between diagnostic groups in (a) (two-sided Welch's t-test, p=0.20-0.76). Circles represent individual donors; N $= 6$ C9-ALS and 6 control samples for both brain regions, and N = 5 and 4 C9-FTD samples from motor cortex and frontal cortex, respectively. $*$, two-sided Welch's t-test $p = 0.021$. In each box plot, the lower and upper hinges correspond to the first and third quartiles; the whiskers extend 1.5 * IQR (interquartile range) away from the hinges; and the center denotes the median. (c) Number of significant DE genes identified in the two diseases. For this analysis, control samples were split into two independent groups (from different donors) for

comparison with C9-ALS and with C9-FTD to avoid double dipping (see Methods). (d-e) Heatmap to compare the gene expression fold-changes of C9-ALS vs. control and C9-FTD vs. control. Strongly DE genes (foldchange > 2) identified from the full dataset (same genes shown in Fig. 2d for C9-ALS and Fig. 6h for C9-FTD) were used, and the fold-changes from the split control analysis were shown to avoid double dipping. Source data are provided as a Source Data file.

Spearman corr. of disease

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C

Supplementary Fig. 13. Comparison of C9-ALS vs. control gene expression fold-changes with AD vs. control gene expression fold-changes. (a) Spearman correlations of disease fold-changes between C9-ALS (this study) and AD^8 for matching cell types. Only genes that were significantly DE in both diseases were included in this analysis. Asterisk denotes significant correlations (FDR < 0.05). (b-e) Scatter plots showing the

correlation of the disease fold-changes between the two diseases for astrocytes, oligodendrocytes, and excitatory neurons in the two studies. Examples of genes with concordant or discordant changes in the two diseases are highlighted. n, number of significant DE genes in both studies in the corresponding cell types; rho and p, two-sided Spearman's rank correlation test coefficient and p-value. Source data are provided as a Source Data file.

Supplementary Fig. 14. Principal component analysis of the pseudobulk snRNA-seq counts from each donor in each cell type. (a-b) Separation of the pseudobulk gene expression profiles in each major cell type

for C9-ALS and control donors in motor cortex (a) and frontal cortex (b). (c-d) Separation of the pseudobulk gene expression profiles in each non-neuronal nuclei for C9- FTD and control donors in motor cortex (c) and frontal cortex (d). Counts were normalized with DEseq2's median of ratios method⁹, and the natural logarithm of the normalized count plus one was used in the principal component analysis. CGE, caudal ganglionic eminence; Astro, astrocytes; Endo, endothelial cells; Micro, microglia; Oligo, oligodendrocytes; OPC, oligodendrocyte precursor cells; VLMC, vascular leptomeningeal cell; Exc, excitatory neurons; Inh, inhibitory neurons; PC, principal component. Source data are provided as a Source Data file.

Supplementary Fig. 15. Separations of disease and control samples in the snRNA-seq dataset. (a-b) Cell type prioritization using Augur¹⁰. (a) The area under the receiver operating characteristic curve (AUC) was reported by Augur as a metric of the separability between the disease (C9-ALS or C9-FTD) and control samples. (b) For C9-ALS vs. control, n = 82 random shuffles with balanced diagnosis and sex were generated by permutation of the diagnosis labels of the donors. Augur was run on these shuffles and the mean AUCs are shown in grey dots. Data are presented as mean values +/- 95% confidence intervals of the mean. Observed

AUCs with real diagnosis labels are shown in red dots. Cell types that were not detected in all 12 donors were omitted in this analysis. (c) Discriminability of C9-ALS vs. control cells is shown as the area under the receiver operating characteristic (ROC) for four sets of cells. Donors were split using k-fold cross-validation, with 10 subjects used for training a linear discriminant classifier and 2 subjects used for testing (one control and one C9-ALS subject). The AUC for training subjects (orange) increases with the number of PCs used, whereas the test-set AUC (blue) shows that the C9-ALS cells can be significantly discriminated from the control cells using the top few PCs. Data are presented as mean values $+/- 95%$ confidence intervals of the mean; n = 6 groups of split samples. Astro, astrocytes; Endo, endothelial cells; Micro, microglia; Oligo, oligodendrocytes; OPC, oligodendrocyte precursor cells; VLMC, vascular leptomeningeal cell; Exc, excitatory neurons; Inh, inhibitory neurons; AUC, area under the ROC curve. Source data are provided as a Source Data file.

Supplementary References

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