

Data presented in figures 2 and 6 to 9

Fig 2: Birthdating of horizontal cells

Expressed as % immunolabelled cells also positive for 3H-dT (analysed at st35)

| Injection stage | Prox1 | ± s.d. | Lim1 | ± s.d. | Difference (=Isl1+ HC) | t-test p<0.05 |
|-----------------|-------|--------|------|--------|------------------------|---------------|
| 19 | 34.8 | 8.1 | 29.9 | 3.9 | 4.9 | n |
| 20 | 48.4 | 6.7 | 40.5 | 4.3 | 7.9 | n |
| 21 | 58.8 | 11.5 | 44.2 | 3.3 | 14.6 | y |
| 22 | 57.2 | 9.5 | 33.8 | 4.7 | 23.4 | y |
| 23 | 52.9 | 8.5 | 21.0 | 4.3 | 31.9 | y |
| 24 | 50.9 | 5.5 | 15.4 | 3.8 | 35.5 | y |
| 25 | 41.7 | 6.6 | 9.3 | 2.8 | 32.4 | y |
| 26 | 43.2 | 3.8 | 8.6 | 3.0 | 34.6 | y |
| 27 | 27.9 | 6.4 | 5.0 | 3.8 | 22.9 | y |
| 28 | 26.6 | 3.3 | 6.3 | 2.8 | 20.3 | y |
| 29 | 14.9 | 3.9 | 6.2 | 2.0 | 8.7 | y |
| 30 | 11.2 | 2.2 | 4.0 | 2.1 | 7.2 | y |
| 31 | 7.0 | 2.3 | 2.5 | 2.6 | 4.5 | y |
| 32 | 2.6 | 3.0 | 0.8 | 1.0 | 1.8 | n |
| 33 | 1.6 | 2.0 | 0.4 | 0.8 | 1.2 | n |

Fig 6A: qRT-PCR

| Stage | Relative values | |
|-------|-----------------|-------|
| | Follistatin | FSTL1 |
| st14 | 2689.24 | 3.10 |
| st16 | 593.64 | 3.36 |
| st18 | 246.28 | 3.85 |
| st21 | 63.87 | 4.78 |
| st23 | 22.77 | 4.30 |
| st25 | 5.68 | 4.99 |
| st28 | 1.00 | 4.54 |
| st30 | 1.43 | 3.36 |
| st35 | 7.45 | 1.82 |
| st38 | 157.44 | 1.14 |
| st42 | 145.83 | 1.00 |
| st45 | 110.76 | 1.30 |

Fig. 6E: Lim1+ cells 22h after follistatin injection

Expressed as Lim1+cells/mm²

| Stage | st21 | | st22 | | st23 | |
|---|---------|-------------|---------|-------------|---------|-------------|
| | Control | Follistatin | Control | Follistatin | Control | Follistatin |
| n animals | 4 | 5 | 6 | 6 | 4 | 7 |
| Median | 245.0 | 192.4 | 274.0 | 192.4 | 305.6 | 236.3 |
| p-value (MW) | 0.0159 | | 0.0022 | | 0.0424 | |
| Mean values ± s.d. | | | | | | |
| Mean value | 248.7 | 185.2 | 271.8 | 199.0 | 293.2 | 234.0 |
| ± pooled s.d. | 36.9 | 24.2 | 33.4 | 27.1 | 40.6 | 21.9 |
| Expressed as % of average mean value | | | | | | |
| Mean value | 100.0 | 74.5 | 100.0 | 73.2 | 100.0 | 79.8 |
| ± s.d. | 6.9 | 6.0 | 4.4 | 11.8 | 14.1 | 8.8 |

Fig. 7C: BrdU+ cells 22h after activin injection at st23Expressed as BrdU+cells/mm²

| Treatment | Control | Activin |
|---------------------------|---------|---------|
| n animals | 4 | 5 |
| Median | 1443.9 | 366.2 |
| p-value (MW) | 0.0159 | |
| Mean values ± s.d. | | |
| Mean value | 1468.8 | 420.9 |
| ± pooled s.d. | 153.9 | 78.7 |

Fig. 8G-I: Number of horizontal cells at st35 after follistatin injection at E3

Expressed as cells/ 40x visual field

| 8G: Prox1 | | | | | | |
|---|---------|--------|-------------|--------|-------|-------|
| Treatment | Control | | Follistatin | | | |
| | st21 | st23 | st20 | st21 | st22 | st23 |
| n animals | 5 | 4 | 5 | 4 | 4 | 6 |
| Median | 53.5 | 58.9 | 71.1 | 70.6 | 71.4 | 75.5 |
| Mann-Whitney p-value (vs. ctrl st21) | 0.0079 | 0.0159 | 0.0159 | 0.0043 | | |
| Mann-Whitney p-value (vs. ctrl st23) | 0.0159 | 0.0286 | 0.0286 | 0.0095 | | |
| Mean values ± s.d. | | | | | | |
| Mean value | 53.0 | 59.2 | 73.3 | 72.3 | 71.9 | 79.3 |
| ± pooled s.d. | 4.6 | 6.3 | 7.7 | 6.9 | 8.0 | 9.9 |
| Expressed as % of average mean value | | | | | | |
| Mean value | 100.0 | | 131.5 | 129.5 | 128.9 | 142.2 |
| ± s.d. | 6.6 | | 12.2 | 14.3 | 4.9 | 16.0 |

| 8H: Lim1 | | | | | | |
|---|---------|--------|-------------|--------|-------|-------|
| Treatment | Control | | Follistatin | | | |
| | st21 | st23 | st20 | st21 | st22 | st23 |
| n animals | 5 | 4 | 5 | 4 | 4 | 6 |
| Median | 26.0 | 25.6 | 36.0 | 36.9 | 36.8 | 39.4 |
| Mann-Whitney p-value (vs. ctrl st21) | 0.0079 | 0.0159 | 0.0159 | 0.0043 | | |
| Mann-Whitney p-value (vs. ctrl st23) | 0.0159 | 0.0286 | 0.0286 | 0.0190 | | |
| Mean values ± s.d. | | | | | | |
| Mean value | 26.1 | 26.7 | 35.0 | 36.6 | 36.4 | 38.3 |
| ± pooled s.d. | 2.6 | 2.4 | 4.0 | 3.5 | 4.4 | 5.0 |
| Expressed as % of average mean value | | | | | | |
| Mean value | 100.0 | | 133.0 | 139.1 | 138.4 | 145.4 |
| ± s.d. | 6.2 | | 8.8 | 19.5 | 5.2 | 22.0 |

| 8I: Isl1 | | | | | | |
|---|---------|--------|-------------|--------|-------|-------|
| Treatment | Control | | Follistatin | | | |
| | st21 | st23 | st20 | st21 | st22 | st23 |
| n animals | 5 | 4 | 5 | 4 | 4 | 6 |
| Median | 25.8 | 29.6 | 40.3 | 37.3 | 43.8 | 44.4 |
| Mann-Whitney p-value (vs. ctrl st21) | 0.0079 | 0.0159 | 0.0159 | 0.0043 | | |
| Mann-Whitney p-value (vs. ctrl st23) | 0.0159 | 0.0286 | 0.0286 | 0.0095 | | |
| Mean values ± s.d. | | | | | | |
| Mean value | 26.4 | 29.3 | 43.2 | 39.1 | 41.1 | 44.8 |
| ± pooled s.d. | 2.6 | 4.0 | 6.2 | 4.7 | 5.6 | 7.6 |
| Expressed as % of average mean value | | | | | | |
| Mean value | 100.0 | | 156.0 | 141.2 | 148.4 | 161.8 |
| ± s.d. | 7.2 | | 33.9 | 19.3 | 11.5 | 28.8 |

Fig. 9G-I: Number of various cell types at st35 after follistatin injection at st23

Expressed as cells/ 40x visual field

9G: Photoreceptors

| Cell type Treatment | Isl1 PRs | | Lim3 PRs | |
|---------------------------|----------|-------------|----------|-------------|
| | Control | Follistatin | Control | Follistatin |
| n animals | 4 | 6 | 3 | 4 |
| Median | 96.6 | 99.0 | 115.3 | 108.0 |
| p-value (MW) | 0.914 | | | |
| Mean values ± s.d. | | | | |
| Mean value | 97.9 | 104.2 | 111.4 | 105.2 |
| ± pooled s.d. | 7.6 | 14.2 | 7.4 | 9.8 |

9H: Bipolar cells

| Cell type Treatment | Isl1 BPs | | Lim3 BPs | |
|---------------------------|----------|-------------|----------|-------------|
| | Control | Follistatin | Control | Follistatin |
| n animals | 4 | 6 | 3 | 4 |
| Median | 121.4 | 128.5 | 228.8 | 231.5 |
| p-value (MW) | 0.610 | | | |
| Mean values ± s.d. | | | | |
| Mean value | 121.5 | 115.0 | 234.4 | 234.1 |
| ± pooled s.d. | 11.8 | 15.9 | 14.9 | 21.8 |

9I: Ganglion cells and amacrine cells

| Cell type Treatment | Isl1 RGCs/ACs | | Ap2α ACs | |
|---------------------------|---------------|-------------|----------|-------------|
| | Control | Follistatin | Control | Follistatin |
| n animals | 4 | 6 | 3 | 4 |
| Median | 109.6 | 119.4 | 242.0 | 244.5 |
| p-value (MW) | 0.257 | | | |
| Mean values ± s.d. | | | | |
| Mean value | 107.6 | 117.6 | 238.9 | 245.5 |
| ± pooled s.d. | 10.2 | 19.2 | 14.3 | 17.5 |

Note on "pooled s.d.-values":

The ""± pooled s.d."- values were calculated by pooling the variances of all individuals adhering to a specific stage and treatment, using the standard formula:

$$PooledSD = \sqrt{\frac{((n_1 - 1)s_1^2 + (n_2 - 1)s_2^2 + \dots)}{(n_1 - 1) + (n_2 - 1) + \dots}}$$

n= number of observations for each individual

(eg. Individual 1= 4 observations, individual 2= 8 observations)

s= s.d. for those 4 or 8 observations, respectively

Thus, each s.d. value that belongs to an individual is weighed based on the number of observations that gave the value.
(e.g. A s.d.-value based on 4 observations is given less weight than a s.d.-value based on 8 observations).

P-values were calculated in Prism using either the Student's t-test (Fig. 2), or the Mann-Whitney (Figs. 6-9, indicated by MW).