## **Supplementary Data**

**Suppl. Fig. 1. Ganglioside levels in 4 month-old mice.** One of three representative thin layer chromatography plates is shown; in 2 of the 3 analyses there was no change in GM1 levels, but a small decrease in GM1 levels is observed in the thin layer chromatography plate shown in the figure. The *right-hand* lane shows pure ganglioside standards.



## Suppl. Movie 1. EEG recording of the CerS2 null mice during an audible induced stimulus, inflicted by key jerking.

Recording of a CerS2 null mouse during an audible-induced stimulus response inflicted by shaking a key bundle above the transgenic mouse for 5 secs, which induced a myoclonic jerk in the CerS2 null mouse. EEG recording during the induced response is shown. No change in cortical EEG was observed indicating a sub-cortical origin of the motor dysfunction.



	HexCer acyl chain length (pmol/mg of tissue) (WT)						
Age (days)	C16	C18	C18:1	C20	C22	C24:1	C24
0	$1.2 \pm 0.04$	$8.5\pm6.6$	$0.2 \pm 0.02$	$0.3 \pm 0.1$	$1.3 \pm 0.6$	$0.4 \pm 0.3$	$0.3 \pm 0.1$
30	$1.2 \pm 0.5$	$36.9\pm7.7$	$0.1 \pm 0.1$	$3.3 \pm 0.8$	$16 \pm 1.2$	$122.1 \pm 5.2$	$39.8 \pm 4.1$
120	$2.2 \pm 0.4$	51.5 ± 11.2	$0.4 \pm 0.1$	$17 \pm 5.5$	$112.6 \pm 22.2$	$838\pm80$	$281 \pm 52.1$

Supplementary Table 1. HexCer composition of WT and CerS2 null mouse brains. For details, see Fig. 1.

	HexCer acyl chain length (pmol/mg of tissue) (CerS2 null)						
Age (days)	C16	C18	C18:1	C20	C22	C24:1	C24
0	$1.3 \pm 0.5$	$5.5 \pm 1.6$	$0.3 \pm 0.1$	$0.4 \pm 0.2$	$0.7 \pm 0.2$	$0.3 \pm 0.1$	$0.2\pm0.005$
30	$3.9\pm0.3$ <sup>a</sup>	$214 \pm 12.2^{a}$	$0.0\pm0.0$ <sup>a</sup>	$2.1\pm0.2^{\ a}$	$0.8\pm0.2$ <sup>a</sup>	$0.4\pm0.2$ <sup>a</sup>	$0.4\pm0.1$ <sup>a</sup>
120	$3.2\pm0.9^{a}$	$106 \pm 38^{a}$	$0.9\pm0.5~^a$	$9\pm0.6^{a}$	$3.9\pm0.3^{\ a}$	$4.1 \pm 1.5^{a}$	$4.2\pm0.6^{\ a}$

<sup>a</sup> p<0.05 (CerS2 null versus WT)

	SL acyl chain length (pmol/mg of tissue) (WT)						
Lipid	C16	C18	C18:1	C20	C22	C24:1	C24
Ceramide	$22.3 \pm 5.1$	$549\pm75$	$4.7 \pm 1.3$	$14.3 \pm 1.8$	$9.6 \pm 2.3$	$258\pm91$	$23.5 \pm 5.2$
SM	$46.8\pm6$	$452\pm20.6$	$120 \pm 20$	$34.3 \pm 4.1$	$34.4\pm4.2$	$447\ \pm 60$	$82.5\pm6.8$
GlcCer	$0.4 \pm 0.3$	$2.3 \pm 0.4$	$1 \pm 0.2$	$0.2\pm0.04$	$0.5\pm0.04$	$7.4 \pm 1.9$	$1.5 \pm 0.5$
GalCer	$6.2 \pm 3.5$	$79 \pm 33$	$1.7 \pm 1.2$	$26.6 \pm 13.5$	$147 \pm 67$	$1963 \pm 1158$	$417\pm200$
LacCer	$1.2 \pm 0.3$	$16.4 \pm 1.6$	$0.3\pm0.04$	$0.5 \pm 0.2$	$0.5 \pm 0.1$	$4.2 \pm 1.1$	$0.9 \pm 0.3$

Supplementary Table 2. SL composition of purified myelin from WT and CerS2 null mice. For details, see Fig. 3.

		SL acyl chain length (pmol/mg of tissue) (CerS2 null)						
Lipid	C16	C18	C18:1	C20	C22	C24:1	C24	
Ceramide	$34.1 \pm 29.8$	$652 \pm 515$	$24 \pm 17.3^{a}$	$17.2 \pm 15.3^{a}$	$0.4\pm0.3$ <sup>a</sup>	$0.6 \pm 0.1^{a}$	$0.5 \pm 0.1^{a}$	
SM	$66.2\pm62.2$	$711 \pm 586$	$56.2\pm54.4$	$45.8\pm40.5$	$0.8\pm0.4~^a$	$0.6\pm0.3$ <sup>a</sup>	$0.4\pm0.1~^a$	
GlcCer	$0.2\pm0.05^{\ a}$	$5.3 \pm 1.3$	$5.2\pm2.6^{a}$	$0.6 \pm 0.5$	$0.3\pm0.2^{\ a}$	$0.9\pm0.3^{\ a}$	$0.8\pm0.6^{\ a}$	
GalCer	$1.6 \pm 1.3$	$336\pm239$	$3 \pm 2.4$	$2.9 \pm 2.7$	$2.5 \pm 1$ <sup>a</sup>	$8.9\pm2.9^{\text{ a}}$	$3.4 \pm 1.2^{a}$	
LacCer	$0.6 \pm 0.2$	$23.3 \pm 17.3$	$0.3 \pm 0.1$	$1.0 \pm 0.5$	$0.2\pm0.1~^{a}$	$0.1 \pm 0.1^{a}$	$0.9\pm0.04^{\ a}$	

<sup>a</sup> p<0.05 (CerS2 null versus WT)