

DCTV L KPT LM AAV PEIM D R IYKNV M S K V Q EM N Y IQ K T L F K IGYDYK L EQ IK K

Homo_sapiens_short *ntl*

321

B

Smad2 202 GIEPPNNYIPETPPPGYISEDGEASDQQMNQSMDTGSPAELSPSTLSPV 258

Smad3 160 GIEPQSNYIPETPPPGYISEDGETSDHQMNRSMDTGSP-NLSPNPVSPA 215

Supplemental Figure Legends

Figure S1: Identification and embryonic expression of zebrafish *acsl4a,* **which is necessary for proper dorsoventral patterning, related to Figure 1.**

(A-D) Zebrafish Acsl4a is closely related to characterized ACSL4 proteins.

(A) Regions of conserved synteny demonstrate the relationship between human and zebrafish *acsl4* orthologs. Syntenic analysis was performed using reciprocal BLASTN searches of the latest zebrafish (Ensembl Zv9) and human (Ensembl GRCh37) genomic assembly. These data were used to identify the genes adjacent to zebrafish *acsl*4 homologs and search for their human ortholog's chromosomal locations. Genes surrounding both human *ACSL4* and zebrafish *acsl4* genes are shown.

(B) Amino acid sequence comparison of zebrafish (Danio rerio) Acsl4 proteins (*Dr* Acsl4a and *Dr* Acsl4l) to human ACSL4 splice isoforms (*Hs* ACSL4v1 and *Hs* ACSL4v2). Percentages shown are percent identity (ID) and homology (H) determined using BLOSUM62 matrix (Henikoff and Henikoff, 1992).

(C) Motif-II (Black et al., 1992; Kameda and Imai, 1985; Steinberg et al., 2000; Watkins et al., 2007) of ACSL4 homologs. Multiple sequence alignment of ACSL4 orthologs performed using the Jalview software (Clamp et al., 2004; Waterhouse et al., 2009). The MUSCLE algorithm was used with default settings (BLOSUM62). Acsl4l has an amino acid change from Glutamine to Glutamate at position 526 (arrowhead), an amino acid important for arachidonic acid specificity (Stinnett et al., 2007).

(D) Acsl4a contains the homologous N-terminal region of the longer human ACSL4 isoform. Multiple sequence alignment of zebrafish Acsl4 proteins and human ACSL4 splice isoforms performed using the Jalview with MUSCLE. Sequences are colored for percent identity.

(E) *acsl4a* expression in late stage embryonic development. Whole-mount mRNA *in situ* hybridizations using *acsl4a* sense control riboprobe (control) and antisense riboprobe (*acsl4a*). Lateral views, anterior to the left. ysl: yolk syncytial layer, cns: central nervous system.

(F-G) Whole-mount mRNA *in situ* hybridization of *pax2a*/*erg2b*/*myod1* in 12 somite stage embryos either uninjected (control) or injected with 500 fmol *acsl4a* MO. *pax2a* marks m/h: midbrain/hindbrain boundary, o: otic vesicle. *erg2b* marks r3: rhombomere 3, r5: rhombomere 5. *myod1* marks s: somites. (F) Lateral view, anterior to the left. (G) Dorsal view, anterior to the left.

(H) Whole-mount mRNA *in situ* hybridization of *pax2a* in 12-somite stage embryos either uninjected (control) or injected with 500 fmol *acsl4a* MO. Anterior view, dorsal to the right.

(I) Whole-mount mRNA *in situ* hybridization of *ntl* in 12-somite stage embryos either uninjected (control) or injected with 500 fmol *acsl4a* MO*.* Dorsal view, anterior to the left.

Figure S2: *acsl4a* **MOs specifically inhibit maternal** *acsl4a* **transcripts essential for dorsoventral patterning defect, related to Figure 1.**

(A-D) Two translation-blocking *acsl4a* MOs dorsalize zebrafish embryos.

(A) Whole-mount mRNA *in situ* hybridization of *pax2a* in 20 hpf embryos of control, *acsl4a* MO1-injected (750 fmol) or *acsl4a* MO2-injected (750 fmol) embryos. *pax2a* marks m/h: midbrain/hindbrain boundary, r: anterior retina. (top) Dorsal view, anterior to the left. (bottom) Lateral view, anterior to the left. White arrowhead indicates wound-up trunk.

(B) *tbx6*, a marker of dorsal presumptive paraxial mesoderm, is expanded ventrally in *acsl4a* MO1 and *acsl4a* MO2-injected embryos (750 fmol). Lateral view, dorsal to the right.

(C-D) *acsl4a* MOs dose dependently decreases ventral marker *gata1a.*

(C) Representative images of whole-mount mRNA *in situ* hybridization of *gata1a* expression in embryos injected with increasing doses of *acsl4a* MOs. *gata1a* expression was binned into one of three levels: wild-type (blue), decreased (yellow), or absent (red). 8-somite stage embryos. Dorsal view, anterior to the left.

(D) Percentages of embryos with wild-type (blue), decreased (yellow), or absent (red) levels of *gata1a* expression after injection of varying doses of *acsl4a* MOs (*acsl4a* MO1: n=31-50 embryos, from 3 separate experiments; *acsl4a* MO2: n=30-60 embryos, from 3 separate experiments).

(E-F) Injection of *acsl4a* mRNA attenuates the *acsl4a* morphant's dorsalized phenotype.

(E) Representative images of whole-mount mRNA *in situ* hybridization of *tbx6* expression in 80% epiboly stage embryos. Embryos were uninjected (control), injected with *acsl4a* MO1, or injected with *acsl4a* MO1 combined with *acsl4a* mRNA lacking the MO target sequence. Vegetal pole view, dorsal to the right.

(F) Quantification of the angle of *tbx6* expression. Data are mean ± SE of a representative experiment with more than 20 embryos per condition. ANOVA with REGWQ post-hoc test was performed. * p<0.05

(G-H) *acsl4a* is required maternally for dorsoventral patterning.

(G) Acsl4a MOs that inhibits splicing of zygotic Acsl4a transcript do not yield dorsoventral patterning defect. Representative bright field images control embryo and embryo injected with *acsl4a* splice-site blocking MO (30 hpf; spliceMO1 1000 fmol).

(H) Acsl4a is not required in the yolk syncytial layer for proper dorsoventral patterning. Representative combined bright-field and fluorescent images of embryos injected with a fluorescein-conjugated MO (control) to indicate injection site or fluorescein-conjugated MO plus *acsl4a* MO (translation blocking acsl4a MO1). 30 hpf, lateral view anterior to the left. (Top) Embryos were injected at the 1-4 cell stage. (Bottom) Embryos were injected into the yolk syncytial layer (YSL) at 1K-cell stage. The MOs were restricted from the cells of the embryo proper. 99% of embryos injected at the 1-cell stage with acsl4a MO were dorsalized in comparison to 3% of those injected in the YSL (n=92-93 embryos from 4 experiments). Embryos injected with control MO into the YSL also had occasional dorsalization (4%, n=52 embryos from 3 experiments), whereas 0% of control embryos injected at the 1-cell stage were dorsalized.

Figure S3: Bmp signaling is dependent on Acsl4a, related to Figure 2.

Representative western blots of C-Terminal phosphorylated (pSmad^{C-Term}) and pan Smad1/5/8 (Smad^{Total}) from control embryos and embryos injected with *alk8CA* mRNA (20-40 pg), *acsl4a* MO (500 fmol). Anti-BAP/MAK32 is shown as a loading control.

(A) Lysates from sphere-stage embryos.

(B) Lysates from shield-stage embryos.

Figure S4: Acsl4a is epistatic to the Bmp receptor Alk8, related to Figure 3.

(A) Representative bright-field images of 24 hpf embryos injected with 500 fmol *acsl4a* MO (class C4), 50 fmol *bmp2b* MO (class C5), 20-40 pg constitutively active (CA) *alk8* mRNA (class V3), a combination of *acsl4a* MO and *alk8CA* mRNA (class C4), or a combination of *bmp2b* MO and *alk8CA* mRNA (class V3). Lateral view, anterior to the left.

(B) Percentages of phenotypic classes. Dorsalization: strong (C5) to weak (C1). Ventralization: strong (V4) to weak (V1). n=283-298 embryos, from 3 separate experiments.

Figure S5: Epistasis analysis of Bmp signaling cascade, related to Figure 4.

(A-B) Diagrams of Smad5 constructs, showing mutated residues in the linker region.

(A) MAPK-insensitive Smad5: Smad5^{ΔMAPK}

(B) Non degradable Smad5: Smad5^{ΔSmurf}

(C) Quantification of the angle of *tbx6* expression from whole-mount *in situ* hybridization after injection with acsl4a MO (750 fmol) alone or combined with *chordin* morpholino (chdMO 20fmol), constitutively active *alk8* mRNA (alk8CA 1.5 ng) mRNA, C-terminal phosphomimic s*mad5* (smad5PM 1.5 ng) mRNA, and MAPK-insensitive *smad5* (smad5^{ΔMAPK} 1.5 ng) mRNA. Data are represented as mean of experimental means ± pooled SE. For *acsl4a* MO+ *chordin* MO, data are represented as mean of experimental means ± pooled SD (n=2-8 experiments, 12-80 embryos/experiment). ANOVA with Dunnett post-hoc test was performed; *acsl4a* MO+ *chordin* MO data was excluded from analysis. ** p ≤0.005, ***** p<0.0001: compared to control.

(D-E) Constructs used for rescue analysis in Figures 2B&C, 4B&C and S5A ventralize embryos to a similar extent.

(D) Whole-mount *in situ* hybridization of ventral mesoderm marker *eve1* after injection with chdMO or mRNAs from Figures 2B&C, 4B&C and S5A. Injections were performed in parallel (i.e., with the same injection needle) with those in Figures 2B&C, 4B&C and S5A. Vegetal pole view, dorsal to the right (80% epiboly).

(E) Data are represented as mean of experimental means ± pooled SD (n=2-7 experiments, 8-47 embryos/experiment).

(F) Smad5 mutant constructs are phosphorylated by the Bmp receptor independent of Acsl4a. Representative western blot (n=4) of C-Terminal phosphorylated Smad (pSmad^{C-Term}) from control embryos, embryos injected with *acsl4a* MO (750 fmol) or embryo injected with acsl4a MO combined with *smad5^ΔMAPK* (1.5 ng) or *smad5^ΔSmurf* (1.5 ng) mRNA. Anti-alpha tubulin is shown as a loading control. An extraneous lane between *acsl4a* MO and *acsl4a* MO+ *smad5^ΔMAPK* is omitted.

Figure S6: Acsl4a does not activate Erk1/2 or Jnk MAPK cascades, related to Figure 5.

(A) Erk1/2 is not activated in *acsl4a* morphants. Representative western blot of phosphorylated Erk1/2 from control embryos and embryos injected with *acsl4a* MO (500 fmol) at sphere stage. Anti-BAP/MAK32 is shown as a loading control. An extraneous lane is omitted. pERK1/2 levels in acsl4a MO-injected embryos are 90±19% of control (not significant, n=3).

(B) Jnk signaling cascade is not activated in *acsl4a* morphants. Representative western blot of phosphorylated MKK4 from control embryos and embryos injected with *acsl4a* MO (750 fmol) at sphere stage. Blots were stripped and probed with alpha tubulin as a loading control. pMKK4 levels in acsl4a MOinjected embryos are $1.57 \pm .82\%$ of control (not significant, n=4).

(C) Representative western blot (n=3) testing the antibody against MAPK phosphorylated hSmad1 (pSmad^{AMAPK}) (gift of Eddie de Robertis (Fuentealba et al., 2007)) on zebrafish Smad constructs (1 ng). An extraneous lane between *smad1^ΔSmurf* and *smad1^ΔSmurfΔMAPK* is omitted.

Figure S7: Acsl4a does not significantly alter Smad2/3 signaling, related to Figure 7.

(A) Whole-mount mRNA *in situ* hybridization of *ntl* in 50% epiboly stage embryos, uninjected (control) or injected with 500 fmol *acsl4a* MO*.* Animal pole view. 96% of acsl4a MO-injected embryos appear wild-type (n=3 experiments; 127 embryos). (B) Sequence alignment of zebrafish Smad1/5 and Smad2/3 linker regions with important residues highlighted.

Supplemental Experimental Procedures

Syntenic Analysis

Regions of shared or conserved synteny were determined by exploring the latest genomic assemblies of zebrafish (Ensembl Zv9) and human (Ensembl GRCh37). Syntenic analysis was performed by reciprocal BLASTN searches of the genes immediately surrounding the zebrafish *acsl* genes to look for the human ortholog. Only orthologous genes were shown.

mRNA synthesis, cloning and mutagenesis

Full-length *acsl4a* coding sequence was PCR amplified from zebrafish cDNA with iProof polymerase (Bio-Rad Labs). An ideal Kozak sequence (GCCACC) was added. The resulting amplicon was cloned into a pCS2+ based gateway destination vector, pCSDest (gift of Lawson Lab). The following primers were used for cloning *acsl4a* for mRNA synthesis:

Forward: GCCACC**ATG**GACCTCAGTGCCGTTC

Reverse: **CTA**CTTGTGGCCATACATTCTTTC

AKT-1/PKBα (Ramaswamy et al., 1999)Addgene #9005) was cloned into pCS2+. The following mutated versions of pCSDest-Acsl4a, p64TS-Smad5 (Hild et al., 1999) and pCS2+ -Smad1 (Dick et al., 1999) were created by site-directed mutagenesis (Stratagene):

Acsl4aCl (G437L), Smad5PM (S461D/S462D/S464D), Smad5^{ΔMAPK} (S189A/S197A/S207A/S215A), Smad5^{ΔSmurf} (Δ224-228), Smad5^{ΔMAPKΔSmurf} (S189A/S197A/ S207A/S215A, Δ224-228), Smad1^{ΔMAPK} (S189A/S197A/S211A/ S219A), Smad1^{ΔSmurf} (Δ227-231), and Smad1^{ΔMAPKΔSmurf} (S189A/S197A/S211A/ S219A, Δ227-231).

Morpholinos

The two MOs targeting Acsl4a 5'UTR are:

MO1: TCTGCTGAGAAGCTGGAGGGGACTG and

MO2: GGACTGAAGGATGAAGGGTCAGGCA.

The MOs targeting Acsl4a splice junctions are:

Splice1: GGTTTCTTAAATAAAAGCTCACCTT (Figure S3A),

Splice2: AGCTCACCTTTAGTTTTGTTTCCAG, and

Splice3: GAAGAAGAACACTCTACATGGGAAT.

chordin MO: ATCCACAGCAGCCCCTCCATCATCC (Nasevicius and Ekker, 2000), *bmp2b* MO: CGCGGACCACGGCGACCATGATC (Lele et al., 2001) and FITC MO: fluorescein-tagged CTTTCCAGGTCCCGTTGAAGGTCAT were also used.

Microinjection of zebrafish embryos

For mRNA and MOs, injection solutions were made in $H₂O$ or Danieau buffer containing 0.2% phenol red. A volume of 1-3 nl was injected into embryos with a microforged glass needle connected to a $N₂$ gas pressure injector (P420) picopump, World Precision Instruments) or (PL1–100, Harvard Apparatus). For most experiments, embryos were injected from the 1-4 cell stage. For YSL injections, embryos were injected at the 1000-cell to high-stage (3-3.5 hpf) into the newly formed YSL.

in situ **probes**

Trizol-prepared zebrafish total RNA was oligo-dT primed and AMV Reverse transcriptase amplified to synthesize cDNA for PCR cloning. For *in situ* probes against *acsl4a, pax2a, erg2b, ntl* and *gata1a*, 500+ base pairs of transcriptspecific sequence were amplified from cDNA. All primers were designed to amplify a region spanning an intron. Amplicons were TA cloned into the dual promoter pCRII-TOPO® vector (Invitrogen) for both sense and antisense probe synthesis. *In situ* probes were synthesized using the DIG RNA labeling kit and SP6 or T7 polymerase (Roche), according to the manufacturer's instruction.

In situ hybridization was performed using the following published probes: *bmp2b* (Martinez-Barbera et al., 1997), *bmp7a* (Hild et al., 1999), *tbx6* (Nikaido et al., 2002), *eve1* (Joly et al., 1993), *foxb1.2* (Furutani-Seiki et al., 1996)*, gata1a* (Detrich et al., 1995), *myod1* (Weinberg et al., 1996), *pax2a* (Krauss et al., 1991), *egr2b* (Oxtoby and Jowett, 1993), *ntl* (Schulte-Merker et al., 1994) and *gata2a* (Detrich et al., 1995).

Whole-mount immunohistochemistry

For Figure 2D, anti-phosphoSmad1/5/8 antibody (Cell Signaling Technology) and a biotinylated goat anti-rabbit secondary antibody (Jackson ImmunoResearch Labs) were used at a concentration of 1:200 and detection was performed using the Vectastain ABC Kit (Vector Laboratories). For Figure 2E, fluorescein was detected with anti-fluorescein/Oregon Green AlexaFluor488 (Invitrogen) and pSmad1/5^{C-Term} was detected with anti-phosohoSmad1/5/8 (Cell Signaling Technology) and AlexaFluor647 goat anti-rabbit (Invitrogen), each at 1:200.

pSmadC-Term Signal Quantification

A subset of transplanted cells was quantified for pSmad^{C-Term} signal intensities (data represent transplanted cells into 5-6 embryos/group from 2- 3 experiments). Relative fluorescence signal intensities of nuclear pSmad^{C-Term} staining were determined for individual cells and normalized to DAPI intensities of the same cells. Quantification of fluorescence signals was determined using ImageJ.

Western Blot

Western Blots were performed slightly differently in the two labs.

For blots in Figures 3, 6, S3, and S6A:

Manually dechorionated embryos were dissociated in $Ca²⁺$ -free Ringer's solution. Cells were separated from yolk (and debris) by centrifugation. Protein extracts were prepared by standard procedures (Sambrook and Russell, 2001) and separated on 9% or 12% polyacrylamide gels (~13 embryos/lane). Protein extracts concentrations were determined using the DC Protein Assay kit (BioRad Labs). Proteins were transferred on to Nitrocellulose membranes and Ponceau S staining was used to ensure proper transfer. Membranes were blocked with 4% BSA/TBST. Jackson ImmunoResearch Labs' secondary antibodies were used. ECL Western Blotting detection reagent (Pierce) was used for detection.

For blots in Figures 2, 5, and S6B&C:

Staged embryos were either snap frozen (manually dechorionated) or fixed in 100% ice-cold acetone overnight. Fixed embryos were rehydrated in PBS and manually dechorionated. For embryos 30% epiboly and younger, the yolk was manually removed with forceps. Protein extracts were prepared by standard procedures (Sambrook and Russell, 2001) and separated on 8.5% or 10% polyacrylamide gels (3-10 embryos/lane). Proteins were transferred on to PVDF membranes (Millipore). Ponceau S staining was used to ensure proper transfer. Membranes were blocked with 5% skim milk in TBST. Biorad secondary antibodies were used. The anti-Rabbit secondary antibody and pSmad^{MAPK} primary antibody were preabsorbed on membranes that had only yolk proteins (from the manually removed yolks described above). To probe with additional antibodies, membranes were stripped with $\text{Restore}^{\text{TM}}$ stripping reagent (Pierce) according to manufacturer's instruction. Supersignal West Pico or Femto Western Blotting detection reagent (Pierce) was used for detection.

Primary Antibodies for Western Blot

Secondary Antibodies for Western Blot

Western Blot quantification

Film and optical density standards were scanned in the transmissive mode of desktop scanners. Using optical density standards, scans were either converted to scaled optical density (Matlab) or were calibrated using the Rodbard curve fitting function of ImageJ. ImageJ was used to determine the band intensities. Experimental data was normalized to either BAP/MAK32 or Tubulin loading controls.

RNA-seq

AB embryos were injected (1-4 cell) with 2 nl of either: (1) 500 fmol of Acsl4a MO1 plus 250 fmol of fluoresceinated control MO (FITC MO, see above) and 0.2% phenol red or (2) 250 fmol of FITC MO and phenol red 0.2%. The FITC MO was used as a control to determine that each embryo was properly injected; embryos were confirmed for fluorescein fluorescence and examined for healthy appearance. Embryos (20 embryos/tube) were processed at 80% epiboly. A fraction of the embryos (10-20) were raised to \sim 20 somites to confirm the morphant phenotype as well as health of control group.

Total RNA was prepared with Trizol according to the manufacturer's instructions, genomic DNA was digested with RNase free DNase, and the RNA was purified with RNeasy Plus Mini Kit (Qiagen). RNA samples were sent to the Johns Hopkins Deep Sequencing & Microarray Core Facility where staff constructed a mRNA library for RNA-seq, performed the sequencing and analyzed the resulting data.

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