Cell Reports, Volume 15

Supplemental Information

De Novo Mutations in DENR Disrupt Neuronal

Development and Link Congenital Neurological

Disorders to Faulty mRNA Translation Re-initiation

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Supplemental Figure S1 related to Figure 1



fetal newborn

adult



0.2 0.4 0.0 Proportion of GFP+ cells

Proportion of GFP+ cells



Supplemental Figure S3 related to Figure 3



Supplemental Figure S4 related to Figure 4 Apical dendrite

Supplemental Figure S5 related to Figure 5

Relative Luminescenc (RLuc/FLuc)

0.75

0.50

0.2

0.0

ctrl

control

wildtype

human stuORF reporter

C37Y

P121L

hDENR rescue

reporter

А Homo sapiens ---MAADISESSGADCKGDPRNSAKLDADYPLRVLYCGVCSLPTEYCEYMPDVAKCRQWL 57 Mus musculus ---MATDISESSGADCKGDTKNSAKLDADYPLRVLYCGVCSLPTEYCEYMPDVAKCRQWL 57 Xenopus Laevis MASIAIENAEPVPSDCKGDLKIS-KFDGDLPLKVLYCGVCSLPTEYCEYMPDVAKCRQWL 59 Danio rerio --MATTENAESGSPENKVDRADP---DAKYPLKVLYCGVCSLPAEYCEYMPEPAKCKQWL 55 Drosophila melanogaster --MTNEDVGTNSVADRLQLGPRE---GVTYPIOMKYCGHCTMPIEYCEYYPEYEKCKEWL 55 --MSD---GETAVIQSLAPGPID---GVSYPLKMVYCGQCSMPPEYCDYSGQTDVCRAWA 52 Caenorhabditis elegans *::: *** *::* ***:* : EKNFPNEFAKLTVENSPKQEA----GISEGQG-----TAGEEEEKKKQKRGGRGQIK 105 Homo sapiens EKNFPNEFAKLTVENSPKQET----GITEGQG-----PVGEEEEKKKQKRGGRGQIK 105 EKNFPDEFSKLTLGISPKQET----GTVEGQA-----TSGEEEEKKKQKRGGRGQIK 107 Mus musculus Xenopus laevis EKNFPDVFAKLTLGTAPKQESKGGGGGEDGGGGRGRGEAPPAGEEEEKKKQKRGGRGQIK 115 Danio rerio Drosophila melanogaster ELHMPDDFERLKIEEEAAAADG-----TDDDKKRQKRGGKGLLR 94 Caenorhabditis elegans TQNAPELLEGLEISDEPAADG-----DEKKKQKRGGKGSKT 88 : *: : * : -----OKKKTVPOKVTIAKIPRAKKKYVTRVCGLATFEIDLKEAORFFAOKFS 153 Homo sapiens Mus musculus -----QKKKTVPQKVTIAKIPRAKKKYVTRVCGLATFEIDLKEAQRFFAQKFS 153 Xenopus laevis -----QKKKTVPQKVTIAKIPRAKKKYVTRVCGLATFEIELKDAQRFFAQKFS 155 Danio rerio -----QKKKTVPQKVTIAKIPRAKKKYVTRVCGLATFDIELKEAQRFFAQKFS 163 Drosophila melanogaster -----VKKKEDVPKRICVSRAARGKKKSVTVVTGLSTFDIDLKVAAKFFGTKFA 143 Caenorhabditis elegans GAAAAQAAASGGKKKGGGPQKVTLQREPRGKK-SVTVIKGLATFDIDLKVASKLFAQKFA 147 :** *::::::::** **::*:*:*:*:*:*:*:* *::: : : .*.** Homo sapiens CGASVTGEDEIIIQGDFTDDIIDVIQEKWPEVDDDSIEDLGEVKK- 198 Mus musculus CGASVTGEDEIIIQGDFTDDIIDVIQEKWPEVDDDSIEDLGEVKK- 198 Xenopus laevis CGASVTGEDEIIIQGDFTDDIIDVIQEKWPEVDDDSIEDLGEVKK- 200 CGASVTAEDEIIIQGDFTDDIIDVIQEKWPEVDDDSIDDLGEVKK- 208 Danio rerio CGSSVTGDDEIVIQGDVKDDLFDVIPEKWAEIDEDVIEDLGDQKRT 189 Drosophila melanogaster Caenorhabditis elegans CGSSVTGADEIVIQGDVKDDLLDLIPEKWKQVTDEQIDDLGDKKR- 192 **:***. ***:****..**::*:* *** :: :: *:***: *: В С DENR WT DENR WT DENR P121L DENR P121L DENR C37Y DENR C37Y myc-MCTS1: b-actin ratio 2.0 ratio IP:myc input 1.5 1.0 0.5 0.0 0.0 D Experiment 2 Experiment 3 1.50 1.50 1.25 1.25 Relative Luminescence (RLuc/FLuc) 1.00 1.00



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0.75

0.50

0.25

0.0

ctrl

control

wildtype

human stuORF reporter

C37Y

P121L

hDENR rescue

reporter

Supplemental Figure S6 related to Figure 6



LEGENDS TO SUPPLEMENTARY FIGURES

Figure S1 related to Figure 1. (A to B) A survey of *DENR* and *MCTS1* expression in human brain tissue samples from human fetal (pink bars), newborn (light blue) and adult (yellow bars) using Capped Analysis of Gene Expression (CAGE) in FANTOM5 (Consortium et al., 2014). (C) An expression profile for the related factor *LIGATIN* is also provided. Quantitative data was normalized across libraries and expressed as Tags Per Million (TPM) mapped reads in a given CAGE library. Where multiple samples were available from a given tissue, data is plotted as an average \pm standard deviation. As a guide, expression levels at 10 TPM reflect approximately 3 copies of a given transcript in a cell (Consortium et al., 2014). (D) The relative expression level of *DENR* across brain tissues was significantly higher than *LIGATIN* (p<0.0001, n=34 brain tissue libraries where expression level of *MCTS1* across brain tissues was also significantly higher than *LIGATIN* (p<0.0001, n=34 brain tissue samples were expression level of *MCTS1* across brain tissues was also significantly higher than *LIGATIN* (p<0.0001, n=34 brain tissue libraries where expression level of *MCTS1* across brain tissues was also significantly higher than *LIGATIN* (p<0.0001, n=34 brain tissue libraries where expression level of *MCTS1* across brain tissues was also significantly higher than *LIGATIN* (p<0.0001, n=34 brain tissue libraries where expression level of *MCTS1* across brain tissues was also significantly higher than *LIGATIN* (p<0.0001, n=34 brain tissue libraries where expression level of *MCTS1* across brain tissues was also significantly higher than *LIGATIN* (p<0.0001, n=34 brain tissue libraries where expression level of *MCTS1* across brain tissues was also significantly higher than *LIGATIN* (p<0.0001, n=34 brain tissue libraries where expression data (TPM>0) was available for both genes).

Figure S2 related to Figure 2. Evaluating *Denr* shRNA effects on cortical neuroprogenitors, as well as the effects of *Denr* shRNA and *Mcts1* siRNA treatment on cell migration within the embryonic mouse cerebral cortex.

(A) *In utero* electroporation was performed on E14.5 embryos to investigate the effects of *Denr* shRNA treatment on cortical progenitors within the E16.5 cortex. The proportion GFP-labelled cells undergoing cell division, indicated by co-expression of the M-phase mitosis marker phosphorylated histone H3 (pH3), was not significantly different (B). Co-labelling for the neuroprogenitor marker Pax6, as well as the basal progenitor marker Tbr2 in parallel experiments demonstrate that treatment with *Denr*

shRNAs did not significantly affect the co-expression of these markers in labelled cells (C and D, respectively, n=6 control and 5 Denr shRNA-treated brains per condition). (E) In utero electroporation studies of an additional, Denr shRNA 2 introduced into cells of the E14.5 embryonic cortex and analysed three days later at E17.5. (F) Treatment with Denr shRNA 2 leads to a significant reduction in the proportion of GFP+ cells within the CP (Control 0.543±0.062, shRNA 2 0.377±0.054, 2-Way ANOVA F(4,54)=3.618, P=0.0110, with Bonferroni multiple comparisons *p<0.05, n=6-8 per condition). (G) Immunoblotting studies with Denr shRNA 1 and shRNA 2 showing knock down of FLAG-tagged mouse DENR (FLAG-muDENR) signal in lysates of transiently transfected Neuro2A cells. Parallel experiments show that both Denr shRNAs do not suppress FLAG-humanDENR (FLAG-huDENR) immunoblotting signal. (H to I) There is no significant difference in the proportion of cells which express the glial cell marker, GFAP (1-way ANOVA F(3,24)=2.7, P=0.0654) nor the pro-apoptotic marker, activated Caspase-3, between the conditions indicated (1-Way ANOVA F(3, 22)=2.7, P=0.681). (J) Evaluation of an expression construct comprising mouse wildtype Denr cDNA clone (designated as muDenr*) in pCIG-F vector which is refractory to Denr shRNA-mediated knockdown, as demonstrated a Western blotting assay with protein lysate from Neuro2a cells transiently transfected with a non-targeting shRNA (scr) or Denr shRNA 1 (sh1). In biological triplicate experiments, there is no significant difference in the amount of immunodetectable FLAG-muDenr* between shRNA treatments. (K to L) The defective migration of Denr shRNA-treated cells can be restored by co-delivery of muDenr* (denoted as "Denr WT rescue"). As shown, while Denr shRNA treatment leads to a significant impairment in GFP+ cells within the CP, this defect can be rescued by mouse Denr to levels which are not significantly different to control profile within the CP (Control 0.526 \pm 0.056, *Denr* shRNA 0.281 \pm 0.014, Denr WT rescue 0.494 \pm 0.035, n=4-5 brains per condition, 2-Way ANOVA F(4,30)=16, P<0.0001, with Bonferroni multiple comparisons). (M) The migration profile of GFP-labelled cells treated with *Denr* shRNA together with DENR WT was not significantly different to Control whereby a GFP-only vector was co-delivered with a non-targeting shRNA vector (2-way ANOVA F(2,24)=0.4278, P=0.6568). (N) The migration profile of mouse Denr WT rescue cells and human DENR WT rescue cells was not significantly different (2-way ANOVA F(2,21)=0.95, P=0.4036). (O) Western blotting analysis with transiently transfected Neuro2a cells demonstrates that *Mcts1* siRNAs suppress Mcts1 immunoblotted protein signal. (P and Q) Treatment with *Mcts1* siRNAs did not significantly perturb migration (2-way ANOVA F(2,33)=0.07616, P=0.7930). (R and S) The defective migration of *Denr* shRNA-treated cells was not exacerbated upon co-delivery of *Mcts1* siRNAs (2-way ANOVA F(2,21)=0.1080, P=0.8982). Values represent mean \pm SEM. Scale bar = (A, E, K, P, R), 50µm; (H and I), 50µm (H and I insets) 15µm.

Figure S3 related to Figure 3. The effects of *Denr* disruptions on the identity, dendritic branching and dendritic spine morphologies of P17 cortical neurons.

(A) Forced expression of DENR WT does not significantly impair the long-term positioning of E14.5-born cells within the postnatal P17 cortex (2-way ANOVA F(4,50)=1.1, P=0.3583). (B) Treatment with *Denr* shRNA or forced expression of DENR WT, C37Y or P121L did not significantly affect the proportion of GFP+/CUX1+ cells in the cortex (1-way ANOVA F(4,10)=1.189, P=0.3732). (C to D) ANCOVA analysis of Sholl profiles to characterize potential differences in dendritic complexity of P17 cortical neurons. Graphs plot mean \pm SEM. (C and D)

ANCOVA analysis of branching profiles between control (GFP-only; plotted with red triangles) treatment and *Denr* shRNA treatment (plotted with green circles) shows regional differences in dendritic branching. While there is no significant difference in the branching complexity of neurons between Sholl intersections analysed 5-25µm from the soma (P = 0.456), there is a significant difference in Sholl profiles analysed 30-50µm from the soma (P < 0.05) which indicates that *Denr* shRNA-treated neurons are more simplified within this domain. (E) Forced expression of DENR WT also leads to a significant difference in the Sholl profile 30-50µm from the soma when compared with control-treated neurons (P < 0.05).

Figure S4 related to Figure 4. Disruptions to DENR do not significantly alter the morphology of dendritic spines.

Dendritic spine types along the apical and basal dendrites, classified as filopodia, long thin, stubby, mushroom. There was no significant interaction between Denr perturbations and dendritic spine morphologies on apical dendrites (2-way ANOVA F(6,176)=1.403, P=0.2158) as well as basal dendrites (2-way ANOVA F(6,196)=0.9675, P=0.4484). Graphs plot mean \pm SEM.

Figure S5 related to Figure 5. Studies of FLAG-DENR(WT), FLAG-DENR(C37Y) and FLAG-DENR(P121L) protein *in vitro* and *in vivo*.

(A) Multiple species alignments for DENR polypeptide sequences reveal that C37 is conserved between humans and drosophila, while P121 is not (key residues are identified in red text). (B) Quantification of immunoprecipitated myc-MCTS1 as immunoblotted signals relative to myc-MCTS1 input for biological triplicate experiments revealed no significant differences between DENR(WT), DENR(P121L) and DENR(C37Y) (1-way ANOVA F(2,6)=0.8183, P=0.485, n=3 biological replicates). (C) Quantification of MYC-MCTS1 protein signals relative to β-actin suggests a trend in which transfection of DENR(C37Y) results in a reduction MYC-MCTS1 derived from co-transfected construct (1-way ANOVA F(2,3)=7.731, P=0.065, n=3 biological replicates). (D) Luciferase reporter assay using a heterologous human reporter. Multiple biological replicates indicate that hDENR(C37Y) consistently fails to rescue luciferase reporter activity (under the control of a heterologous human stuORF) as a result of siRNA-mediated loss of endogenous hDENR, whereas hDENR(P121L) gives highly variable results, suggesting a mild functional impairment. HeLa cells were treated with non-targeting control siRNA or siRNA targeting DENR, and then re-constituted with constructs expressing DENR(WT), DENR(C37Y) or DENR(P121L) which were refractory to siRNA-mediated silencing. (E) Immunostaining for FLAG-tagged DENR(WT), DENR(C37Y) and DENR(P121L) in E14.5-born cortical cells within the CP of E17.5 brains. The cellular distribution of FLAG immunoreactivity was not qualitatively different between DENR WT and its variants. Graphs plot mean \pm SEM. Scale bar, $(E) = 30 \mu m.$

Figure S6 related to Figure 6. Distinct effects of DENR C37Y and DENR P121L overexpression on the long-term positioning of cortical neurons, as well as their dendritic complexity.

(A) The migration profile of DENR C37Y overexpressing cells is different to DENR WT (2-way ANOVA F(8,80)=3.1, P=0.0042), since the migration profile of DENR C37Y treated cells is significantly different to Control, while DENR WT treated cells are not. (B) The migration profile of DENR P121L overexpressing cells is also

significantly different, albeit to a lesser degree. (C and D) Detection of heterotopic clusters of GFP-labelled cells within the electroporated brains of postnatal P17 animals following Denr disruption. The incidence of heterotopic clusters of GFPlabelled cells within each mouse brain was variable between treatment, and we found clusters either comprising GFP⁺/CUX1⁻ cells, or a mixture of GFP⁺/CUX1⁻ cells together with GFP⁺/CUX1⁺ cells (C). Representative images of heterotopic clusters of cells identified in two independent brain samples electroporated with DENR P121L (D). In one brain, a cluster of cells with a mixture of $CUX1^+$ and $CUX1^-$ cells was evident, while another brain sample comprised a cluster of GFP+ cells which did not co-label with CUX1. (E) Sholl analysis demonstrates that while forced expression of DENR WT enhanced the dendritic complexity of layer II/III neurons within the P17 cortex compared to control (GFP only), DENR C37Y and DENR P121L were impaired in their capacity to promote dendritic complexity since their Sholl profiles lie under the profile plot for DENR WT. (F to G) Differences in the local dendritic complexity of DENR C37Y and DENR P121L treated neurons compared to control (GFP only) neurons. The dendritic complexity of DENR C37Y-treated neurons is significantly different within Sholl intersections 40-65µm from the soma, while the dendritic complexity of DENR P121L-treated neurons is significantly different within Sholl intersections 30-50µm from the soma. (H to I) Differences in the local dendritic complexity of DENR C37Y but not DENR P121L treated neurons when compared to DENR WT neurons. The dendritic complexity of DENR C37Y-treated neurons is significantly different within Sholl intersections 25-45 μ m from the soma (P < 0.05), while the complexity of DENR P121L-treated neurons is not significantly different to DENR WT neurons at this location (P = 0.153). (J and K) Analysis of dendritic spine shapes (filopodia, long thin, stubby, mushroom) between control, DENR C37Y and DENR P121L reveals no significant interaction between treatment for spine shapes on apical (2-Way ANOVA F(6,192=1.760, P=0.1092) and basal (2-Way ANOVA F(6,196=1.260, P=0.2775) dendrites. (L and M) The effects of mushroom-head spine volume and diameter following treatment with DENR C37Y or DENR P121L. Treatment with DENR P121L results in a significant decrease in the spine volume along apical dendrites (Control 0.3070±0.008899, DENR P121L 0.2565±0.01489, 1way ANOVA F(2,514)=3.993, P=0.0190, Bonferroni multiple comparison *p<0.05) as well as along basal dendrites (Control 0.3185±0.01339, DENR P121L 0.2675±0.01138, 1-way ANOVA F(2, 451)=5.980, P=0.0027, Bonferroni multiple comparison *p<0.05). There was no significant effect of DENR C37Y or DENR P121L on the diameters of mushroom-shaped dendritic spines from apical (2-Way ANOVA F(2,514)=0.6026, P=5.478) and basal (2-Way ANOVA F(2,451)=3.062, P=0.0478) dendrites. Graphs plot mean ± SEM. Scale bar = (D), 200µm; boxed area, 44 µm.

| Table S1. Summary of Clinical Data in DENR mutation cases | | | | | | | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| | Case 1 (Neale et al., 2012) | Case 2 | | | | | | |
| Genetic mutation | c.110G>A p.C37Y | c.362C>T p.P121L | | | | | | |
| Family history | No family history of ASD | Unrelated parents, first child, normal pregnancy and delivery | | | | | | |
| Developmental delay | Verbal IQ 60 | Language delay | | | | | | |
| Cognition | Performance IQ 63 Full scale IQ 67 | Poor comprehension, diagnosed Asperger's and depression | | | | | | |
| Behaviour | Autistic spectrum disorder | Asperger syndrome, depression | | | | | | |
| MRI Brain | | Bilateral periventricular nodular heterotopia | | | | | | |
| Other features | | Facial asymmetry, scoliosis, delayed walking (abnormally positioned feet) | | | | | | |



MRI images of Case 2, white arrows indicating paraventricular nodal heterotopia





| | Denr shRNA | | DENR (WT) | | DENR (C37Y) | | DENR (P121L) | |
|---------------------------------|------------|-----------|-----------|-------|-------------|-----------|--------------|-----------|
| | Apical | Basal | Apical | Basal | Apical | Basal | Apical | Basal |
| Spine Density | decreased | decreased | decreased | ns | decreased | decreased | decreased | decreased |
| Mushroom Spine Head Diameter | increased | increased | increased | ns | ns | ns | ns | ns |
| Mushroom Spine Head Volume | ns | ns | ns | ns | ns | ns | decreased | decreased |

LEGENDS TO SUPPLEMENTARY TABLES

Supplemental Table S1. Summary of clinical and gene sequencing data in human cases of neurological disorders associated with mutations to *DENR*. Structural MRI imaging reveals paraventricular nodal heterotopia, a neuronal migration disorder. Sequence traces for a patient and their parents demonstrating a *de novo* heterozygous c.362C>T mutation resulting in a p.P121L substitution. See Experimental Procedures for further details related to data collection.

Supplemental Table S2. Summary of changes detected in mushroom-shaped dendritic spines of layer II/III projection neurons within the P17 mouse cortex reported in this study (related to Figure 4 and Figure 6, as well as Supplemental Figures S4 and S6). Treatment with *Denr* shRNA or overexpression of DENR WT led to a significant increase in the diameter (denoted "d") of spines, while overexpression of DENR P121L led to a significant increase in the volume (denoted "V") of spine heads. In basal dendrites, treatment with *Denr* shRNA similarly led to a significant increase in spine diameter, while overexpression of DENR P121L led to a reduction in the volume of spine heads.

SUPPLEMENTAL PROCEDURES

Additional cloning of a mouse cDNA expression construct (muDenr*) refractory to shRNA-mediated silencing

A mouse Denr cDNA flanked by MfeI restriction sites and comprising silent mutations within the targeting sequence recognized by *Denr* shRNA1 was synthesized by a commercial provider (IDT Technologies, USA) such that the original target sequence 5'- CCAAGTTAGATGCGGATTA-3' was mutated to 5'-CAAAGTTGGACGCCGATTA 3' (underlined text represent modified nucleotide positions on Denr cDNA). The cDNA was cloned directionally into the EcoRI site of pCIG-F vector by conventional ligase-dependent cloning. The construct was verified by sequencing before an endolow midiprep was prepared for cell transfection experiments and *in utero* electroporation. *In utero* electroporation was peformed as described in Experimental Procedures. Immunostaining was performed using the following primary antibodies: rabbit anti-phosphorylated Histone-H3(ser10) (06-570, Merck Millipore, 1:1000), rabbit anti-Pax6 (PRB-278P, Covance, 1:500) and rabbit anti-Tbr2 (ab23345, Abcam, 1:500). Species-appropriate Alexa Fluor (Molecular Probes) secondary antibodies were used for immunofluorescence detection.

SUPPLEMENTAL REFERENCE

Consortium, F., the, R.P., Clst, Forrest, A.R., Kawaji, H., Rehli, M., Baillie, J.K., de Hoon, M.J., Haberle, V., Lassmann, T., et al. (2014). A promoter-level mammalian expression atlas. Nature 507, 462-470.