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Supplemental Information

The Microtubule Regulator NEK7 Coordinates the Wiring of Cortical Parvalbumin Interneurons

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SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

SUPPLEMENTAL FIGURES

(A and B) Single confocal images showing GAD65 (A, red) and VGlut1 (B, green) immunostaining during postnatal development in layer II/III of wild-type somatosensory cortex.

(C and D) GAD65 (C) and VGlut1 (D) bouton density ($n = 3$ mouse per age).

One-way ANOVA, Post hoc Bonferroni, * p < 0.05, ** p < 0.01. Data are represented as mean ± SEM. Scale bar represents 10 μm.

Figure S2. Quality control experiments for microarrays and gene ontology (GO). Related to Figure 1.

(A) Scatterplot showing the distribution of the different microarray condition replicates along the first two principal components.

(B) Boxplot showing the error of the median intensity values for each probe-set normalized to 1 (NUSE, Normalized Unscaled Standard Error).

(C) Microarray intensity levels of cell population specific markers [Interneurons: Gad1 (GAD67), Gad2 (GAD65), Sst and Syt2; pyramidal cells: Slc17a7 (VGlut1)] (A.U.: arbitrary units).

(D and E) Representative categories of the GO analysis. Ratio of genes from the filtered gene set belonging to the most representative categories of the cellular (D) and biological (E) component domain. Data are represented as mean \pm SEM.

Figure S3. *Nek7* **transcript expression levels along development. Related to Figure 1.**

(A) Fold change values from comparisons between the different experimental conditions using Microarray and qPCR analyses.

(B) *Nek7* mRNA levels measured by qPCR in FACs sorted neurons from *Nkx2-1Cre;RCE* (IN, n = 3 mice per age) and *NexCre;RCE* (Pyr, n = 3 mice per age) relative to 18S.

(C) *Nek7* mRNA levels normalized to 18S in whole cortices at different postnatal stages (n = 4 mouse per age). All data is normalized to the average of the higher age.

(D) Same as in C for different DIV ($n = 3$ cultures per age).

(E) Confocal images showing in situ hybridization for *Nek7* (red) and immunohistochemistry for GFP (green) in the somatosensory cortex of P30 *SSTCre;RCE* mice. Filled arrowheads: colocalization, open arrowheads: no colocalization.

(F) Percentage of SST+ (Green) among all *Nek7*-expressing cells at P10 and P30.

(G) Percentage of *Nek7* positive cells among all SST expressing neurons at P10 and P30.

For representative pictures of P10 SST and *Nek7* staining refer to figure 1D.

One-way ANOVA, Post hoc Bonferroni, *** $p < 0.001$, Data are represented as mean \pm SEM.

Figure S4. *Nek7* **seems to be expressed in most types of PV+ cells. Related to Figure 1.**

(A, B) Percentage of *Nek7* positive cells among PV expressing neurons across cortical layers in the somatosensory cortex of P30 wild-type mice. Layer II-III was divided in half to consider putative layer II and III.

(C) *Nek7 in situ* fluorescence intensity as a function of somatic area of PV+ cells.

(D) *Nek7 in situ* fluorescence as a function of PV fluorescence.

(E) Heatmap showing the expression levels of Nek7 in individual PV cells (lower row) from different genetic clusters (upper row). Row Z-score: standard deviation from the mean intensity values. (Data extracted from Tasic *et al.*, 2016). Data are represented as mean \pm SEM (A, B) or individual values for each cell (C, D).

Figure S5. NEK7 is enriched in the central domain of growth cones. Related to Figure 2.

(A, B) Confocal Z-projection frames of two examples of Nkx2-1Cre growth cones co-expressing NEK7 NeonGreen (pseudocolor) and mCherry (red).

(C) NEK7 NeonGreen fluorescence intensity normalized to mCherry fluorescence in different regions of the growth cone (Shaft: axonal shaft, C-dom: central domain, P-dom: peripheral domain).

Kruskal-Wallis test, pairwise comparisons, $** p < 0.01$. Data are represented as mean \pm SEM. Scale bar represents 2 μm.

Figure S6. *Nek7* **shRNA validation assays. Related to Figures 2, 3, 4, 6, 7.**

(A) *Nek7* mRNA levels in HEK293 cells transfected with plasmids containing Cre, and the Cre-dependent plasmids Flag Nek7 alone (black, $n = 5$ cultures) or together with control shRNA (grey, $n = 4$ cultures) or *Nek7* shRNA (red, $n = 5$ cultures). Levels are relative to the non-shRNA condition (black).

(B) Same experimental conditions than (A) but using the synonymously mutated form of *Nek7* (m*Nek7*) alone (black, n $=$ 5 cultures) or together with control shRNA (grey, n = 4 cultures) or *Nek7* shRNA (red, n = 3 cultures).

(C) *Nek7* mRNA levels in dissected cortices from P30 *Lhx6Cre* mice infected with an AAV containing control shRNA (n $= 3$ mice) or *Nek7* shRNA (n = 4 mice).

(D-G) Top panels, colorimetric in situ hybridization illustrating *Nek7* mRNA expression in P30 *Lhx6Cre* mice of non-injected hemispheres (D and F) and the contralateral hemispheres injected with AAV viruses expressing control shRNA (E) and *Nek7* shRNA (G). Bottom panels, contiguous coronal sections to the ones used in the top panels showing the area of infection labeled by mCherry (red). One-way ANOVA, Post hoc Bonferroni (A, B), Mann-Whitney test (C). * $p < 0.05$, ** $p < 0.01$, n.s. not significant.

(H) Percentage of mCherry+ somatic boutons (SYT2+) as a function of the percentage of PV+ cells infected in the area. (I) Percentage of mCherry+ expressing cells that co-express m*Nek7* (Flag+) during coinfection of both AAVs.

(J) Single confocal images showing Flag+NEK7 (green) and mCherry+ (red) immunostaining in the somatosensory cortex of P30 Lhx6Cre mice coinfected with an AAV expressing *Nek7* shRNA and m*Nek7*. Colocalizing cells (filled arrowheads), mCherry- NEK7+ (open arrowheads). Data are represented as mean \pm SEM. Scale bars represent $200 \mu m$ (D-G) and 50 μm (J).

Figure S7. NEK7 kinase activity regulates different aspects of interneuron axonal development. Related to Figures 2, 3, 4.

(A, B) Confocal Z-projection frames from *Nkx2-1Cre* growth cones expressing mCherry (red, before the time-lapse) and EB3-YFP (gray, time-lapse). The path of EB3-YFP comets is tracked with a red line.

(C, D) Confocal Z-projection frames from *Nkx2-1Cre* growth cones. The last frame in the sequence shows superimposed images of the frames $t = 0$ min (red), $t = 15$ min (green), $t = 30$ min (blue) and $t = 45$ min (white).

(E, F) Confocal Z-projections of *Nkx2-1Cre* interneurons expressing mCherry. The cells were automatically reconstructed and masked in black at 12 DIV.

(G) Average speed of EB3-comets comparing *Nek7* depleted cells $(A, n = 35$ growth cones) and *Nek7* KD $(B, n = 39)$ growth cones) from 3 independent cultures.

(H) Average of growth cone maximum turning angle from cells expressing *Nek*7 shRNA (C, $n = 59$ growth cones), and *Nek7* KD (D, $n = 75$ growth cones) from 3 independent cultures.

(I-J) Neurite length (I) and branching points (J) comparing *Nek7* shRNA (E, n = 45 cells) and *Nek7* KD (F, n = 43 cells) transfected neurons from 3 independent cultures.

One-way ANOVA (G), Kruskal-Wallis test, pairwise comparisons (H-J). *** p < 0.001, n.s. not significant. Note that we used the panels and data from controls showed in Figures 2, 3 and 4 for the statistical comparisons. *Nek7* KD: *Nek7* Kinase Dead. Data are represented as mean ± SEM.

Scale bars represent $2 \mu m(A, B)$, $5 \mu m(C, D)$ and $200 \mu m(E, F)$.

SUPPLEMENTAL TABLES

Table S1

Table S1. Differentially and specifically upregulated genes during GABAergic wiring. Related to Figure 1.

List of 133 genes upregulated during GABAergic wiring (IN P0 versus IN P10) and specifically expressed in interneurons (IN P10 versus Pyr P12). Pairwise comparisons were done using Significance Analysis of Microarrays (SAM) and genes with a false discovery rate (FDR) lower than 0.05 and a fold change higher than 2 were selected. The table reports: gene symbol, microarray probeset number, q-value (adjusted p-value), fold change for both comparisons, and specificity ratio for IN P10 (τ). Genes are sorted according to τ .

SUPPLEMENTAL EXPERIMENTAL PROCEDURES

Mice

Mice were maintained in a C57BL/6J background. *Nkx2-1Cre* (Sussel et al., 1999) and *NexCre* (Goebbels et al., 2006) mice were crossed with the Cre dependent reporter line R26R CAG-boosted EGFP (*RCE:LoxP*) (Miyoshi et al., 2010) for the genomic screening to label interneurons and pyramidal cells respectively. *Nek7 in vivo* loss of function experiments were carried out in *Lhx6Cre* mice (Fogarty et al., 2007)*,* which were always kept in heterozygosis. Heterozygous *Nkx2-1Cre* mice were used for the primary cortical cultures. Homozygous Sst-IRES-Cre mice (Taniguchi et al., 2011) were crossed with *RCE:loxP* for colocalization with *Nek7* transcript.

FACS, microarrays and qPCR

For the FACS experiments, mice were anesthetized with sodium pentobarbital and the somatosensory cortex, in *NexCre;RCE:LoxP*, and whole neocortex, in *Nkx2-1Cre;RCE:LoxP* (to increase cell yield)*,* were dissociated as described before (Catapano et al., 2001). Two to six mice were collected per run until having a minimum of 10^5 cells per microarray. The total number of cells per condition was a follows: for pyramidal cells, $NexCre, RCE$, 1.6·10⁶ and 5.7·10⁵ for P0 and P12, respectively; for interneurons, *Nkx2-1Cre;RCE*, 1.3 $\cdot 10^6$ and 6.9 $\cdot 10^5$ for P0 and P10, respectively. For RNA purity validation, microarray hybridization and bioinformatic analysis, RNA samples were sent to the genomics facility of "Centro de Investigación del Cancer" at University of Salamanca. Three replicates were done for all the conditions assayed. Briefly, 100-300 ng of total RNA were amplified using the WT Expression Kit (Ambion), labelled using the GeneChip WT Terminal Labeling Kit (Affymetrix) and hybridized to Mouse Gene 1.0 ST Array (Affymetrix).

Given the expression of *Nkx2-1* in a population of oligodendrocytes (Nery et al., 2001), we filtered our final list to remove genes specifically expressed in oligodendrocytes during early postnatal development (Cahoy et al., 2008). The final 133 genes were ranked according to the specificity ratio (τ) in IN P10. The 20 first genes were selected and scored according to both their specificity ratio and the total levels in IN P10. τ was calculated as described before (Kryuchkova-Mostacci and Robinson-Rechavi, 2017). Finally, gene lists were analyzed for possible known roles in the literature using Gene Ontology (Ashburner et al., 2000). To do this the R-package ClusterProfiler was used in R (Yu et al., 2012). A q-value cut off of 0.05 was applied in all the analysis carried out and the 15 most significant categories are shown.

RNA samples used in the quantitative PCR (qPCR) experiments were retronstranscribed using SuperScript IV according to manufacturer instructions (ThermoFisher Scientific). qPCR was carried out in triplicates using SYBR Green PCR Master Mix (Roche) on a LightCycler 96 Instrument (Roche). Normalized mRNA levels of *Nek7* relatively to those of 18S or mCherry were calculated using the number of cycles to reach a threshold signal (Cq) according to the $2^{-\Delta\Delta\tilde{C}q}$ equation. qPCR primer sequences were as follows: *Nek7* (5'-AGCCACAGAAGGCATTACGG-3', 5'-CTACCGGCACTCCATCCAAG-3'), 18S (5'- GTAACCCGTTGAACCCCATTCGT-3', 5'- GTGTGTACAAAGGGCAGGGACTTAA-3') and mCherry (5'-CATCCTGTCCCCTCAGTTCATG-3', 5'- CATCCTGTCCCCTCAGTTCATG-3').

DNA constructs, viral production and viral injections

The ssDNA oligonucleotides to generate the shRNAs were: *Nek7* shRNA (5'- CTAGGAGAGAACCGTTTGGAAATACCCTGACCCAGTATTTCCAAACGGTTCTCTCTTTTTG-3' and 5'- AATTCAAAAAGAGAGAACCGTTTGGAAATACTGGGTCAGGGTATTTCCAAACGGTTCTCT C-3'), gfp shRNA $(5'$ -CTAGGCCACAACGTCTATATCATGGCCTGACCCACCATGATATAGACGTTGTGGCTTTTTG-3' and 5'- AATTCAAAAAGCCACAACGTCTATATCATGGTGGGTCAGGCCATGATATAGACGTTGTGG C-3') and *lacZ* shRNA (5'- CTAGAAATCGCTGATTTGTGTAGTCCCTGACCCAGACTACACAAATCAGCGATTTTTTTTG-3' and 5'- AATTCAAAAAAAATCGCTGATTTGTGTAGTCTGGGTCAGGGACTACACAAATCAGCGATT

T-3').

NeonGreen was PCR amplified from a plasmid containing the gene (Allele biotechnology, Shaner et al., 2013), a Flag tag was added and it was subcloned in the C-terminus of m*Nek7* using *AscI* and *Sph1*. The kinase dead mutation was generated through targeted mutagenesis of m*Nek7* (K63M/K64M, (O'Regan and Fry, 2009).

We used the described constructs to generate AAVs (serotype rep2/cap8) as described previously (Favuzzi et al., 2017). Briefly, 80% confluent HEK293FT cells (ThermoFisher Scientific) were transfected with *pDIO-shRNA-mCherry* or m*Nek7* and AAV8 capside plasmid (pDP8.ape vector, PlasmidFactory) with polyethylenimine (PEI, SigmaAldrich) at a DNA:PEI ratio of 1:4. Viruses were harvested after three days, purified by ultracentrifugation in iodixanol gradients and filteredconcentrated using Amicon Ultra Centrifugal Filters 100 kDa (Millipore). Only AAV batches with a titer higher than 1×10^{12} viral genome copies/mL were used for *in vivo* experiments. For morphological reconstructions, we obtained isolated cells by injecting 1 mL of AAVs diluted 1:30, in PBS with FastGreen 0.5%, into the telencephalic lateral ventricle of E15.5 *Lhx6Cre* embryos. Pregnant females were deeply anesthetized with isoflurane (5% induction, 2% maintenance), the abdominal cavity was cut opened and the uterus exposed making the embryos accessible. After injection, the uterus was placed back in the abdominal cavity, the incision was sutured and buprenorphine 0.1 mg/Kg was used for analgesia. For the analysis of PV+ wiring in pyramidal cells, we increased the yield of infection by performing postnatal AAV stereotaxic injections in P3-P4 *Lhx6Cre mice*. After making a small incision in the skull (2.2 mm lateral and 2.6 mm anterior to interaural midpoint), two injections of 250 nL each containing these same viruses diluted 1:1 were infused at 50 nL/min using a Nanoinjector2010 (WPI).

Primary cultures and transfection

Cells were resuspended in supplemented Neurobasal A medium (Invitrogen) with 500 mM Glutamax-L, 2% v/v B-27 and 0.01 U/mL penicillin/streptomycin; and plated at a density of 100,000 cells/cm² on glass-bottom plates (MatTek corporation) previously coated with 0.5 mg/mL Poly-L-lysine (Sigma-Aldrich) overnight at 37ºC. Cultures at day *in vitro* 4 (4 DIV) were transfected with *Nek7* shRNA or *lacZ* shRNA using Lipofectamine 2000 (ThermoFisher Scientific) during 3 hours at a final total concentration of 0.5 µg/mL of DNA on the plate according to manufacturer's instructions. To assay microtubule dynamics, plasmids expressing EB3-YFP were co-transfected with the shRNA plasmids (ratio 1:3) using the same culture conditions as described above.

Rescue experiments were carried out by co-transfection of Cre-dependent *Nek7* shRNA together with m*Nek7* or *Nek7* KD at a ratio 1:1. To assay the effect of Nek7 in pyramidal cells, Cre-dependent constructs expressing m*Nek7* or an empty vector together with mCherry were co-transfected in *NexCre* primary cultures (ratio 1:1). Finally, NEK7 dynamics was visualized co-transfecting Cre-dependent plasmids reporting mCherry and *Nek7* NeonGreen (ratio 1:1).

Immunohistochemistry and immunocytochemistry

P21 or P30 mice were anesthetized with sodium pentobarbital and perfused transcardially with PBS followed by 4% paraformaldehyde (PFA) in PBS. Coronal slices of 40 um (or 100 um for the morphological reconstructions) were cut in a sliding microtome (Leica) for immunohistochemistry. Free-floating brain sections were blocked with 5% BSA, 0.3% Triton and 10% normal donkey serum during 2 hours at room temperature and incubated with primary antibodies at 4ºC in 1% BSA, 0.3% triton and 5% normal donkey serum overnight (40 µm sections) or 2 days at room temperature (100 µm). The following day, sections were rinsed in PBS and incubated in the appropriated secondary antibodies for 2 hours (40 um sections) or 4 hours (100 um) at room temperature in the same solution as the primary antibodies. Finally, the slices were rinsed in PBS, incubated with DAPI and mounted in Mowiol/DABCO.

Fixed primary cultures were rinsed and permeabilized with 0.5% triton during 15 min. The plates were blocked in blocking solution (2% BSA and 2% normal donkey serum) during 1 hour and incubated with primary antibodies diluted in the same solution overnight. The following day they were rinsed in PBS, incubated with secondary antibodies for 1 hour, stained with DAPI and mounted with Mowiol/DABCO.

The following primary antibodies were used: rabbit anti-DsRed (1:500, Clontech 632496), mouse anti-Flag (1:500, Sigma F1804), goat anti-mCherry (1:500-1:1000, antibodies-online ABIN1440057), mouse anti-NeuN (1:500, Millipore MAB377), rabbit anti-PV (1:5000, Swant PV-25), chicken anti-PV (1:500, SySy 195 006), mouse anti-SYT2 (1:500, ZFIN ZDB-ATB-081002-25), chicken anti-GFP (Aves labs GFP-1020) and rat anti-SST (1:200, Chemicon MAB354). Secondary antibodies and Alexaconjugated streptavidin were purchased from Molecular Probes (#A-21206, #A-31572, #A-21202, #A-31571, #A-21241, #A-21121, #A-21432, #A-21208), Jackson (#711-165-152, #016-470-084, #703- 225-155) and Vector (#BA-9500).

Image acquisition and analysis

The number of mCherry+ SYT2+ boutons depends on the infection efficiency. Indeed, the proportion of SYT2+ mCherry+ boutons increased linearly with the number of PV+ infected (Fig S9A). For this reason, we normalized bouton percentages to the number of infected PV+ cells in the area (200 µm from the quantified pyramidal cell) (Fino et al., 2013).

To measure PV and NEK7 intensity levels in these *in situ* colocalizations, 12-bit images were acquired and fluorescence levels were measured with ImageJ. The Corrected fluorescence was calculated with the following formula:

Corrected fluo. = Integrated intensity- (Cell Area · Background mean fluo.)

NEK7 NeonGreen intensity levels *in vitro* were acquired in 8-bit and normalized with mCherry to correct for growth cone volume as described before (Myers et al., 2012).

For EB3 comets, Imaris spots were manually drawn on EB3-YFP comets in each frame and their tracks automatically quantified along time. For growth cone dynamics analysis, Imaris filaments were semiautomatically drawn in each frame and their tracks followed and quantified automatically along time. The turning angle was quantified as the angle formed between the growth cone center of mass and the underlying axon shaft. Neuronal morphology was automatically reconstructed by generating, first, an Imaris surface comprising the whole cell morphology, then producing a new masked channel containing exclusively the signal within this surface and, finally, automatically creating a filament with the signal coming from the masked channel.

For synaptic bouton quantification, Spots, putatively labeling PV synaptic terminals reported with SYT2 staining, were identified in the SYT2 channel (average diameter $0.5 \mu m$) and the Imaris XTension "Split spots into surface" was used to quantify the synaptic boutons (spots) within the neurites. For the analysis of somatic SYT2 boutons onto pyramidal cells, we used the mCherry surface, SYT2 boutons and a surface from NeuN channel. First the XTension "Spots close to surface" was used to filter the spots at 0.25 µm from the NeuN surfaces, *i.e.* the somatic boutons. Subsequently, somatic boutons coming from infected cells were identified using "Split spots into surface".

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