**Table S1.** Demographic characteristics in three different NTD cohorts.

Variable	China Cohort	US Cohort	ME Cohort	
Case #	100	74	69	
Region	Shanxi	Texas	Qatar	
Age	$20.7 \pm 4.7$ (weeks)	$7.5 \pm 5.4 \text{ (years)}$	7.23 (years)	
Gender:				
Male	60 (60%)	36 (48.6%)	28 (40.6%)	
Female	37 (37%)	38 (51.4%)	41 (59.4%)	
Unknown	3 (3%)	0	0	
AE	95 (95%)	0	0	
CRS	66 (66%)	0	0	
OEC	33 (33%)	0	0	
MM	1 (1%)	100%	100%	

**AE**, anencephaly; **CRS**, craniorachischisis; **OEC**, occipital encephalocele; **MM**, myelomeningocele.

**Table S2**. The numbers of carriers with damaging variants were compared between Han Chinese NTDs and controls. Only damaging variants in the human orthologs of 249 previously reported NTD-associated genes in mouse were counted here (gene list was extracted from https://ntdwiki.wikispaces.com).

Type	carriers (no./total no.)		P Value <sup>a</sup>	
	NTD patients	1 KGP		
LoF	7/100	13/208	1	
D-mis	56/100	141/208	0.39	
LoF+D-mis	60/100	146/208	0.48	

 $<sup>^{</sup>a}P$  values were estimated using  $\chi^{2}$  test.

 Table S3 Number of carriers of SLoFVs among NTDs and controls.

Race	Number of SLoFVs		P <sup>a</sup>	
China Cohort	Cases, $n = 100$	Controls (CHB&CHS), $n = 208$	- 7.84 × 10 <sup>-114</sup>	
	1500	1318	— /.84 × 10	
US Cohort	Cases, $n = 74$	Controls (CEU), $n = 99$	$-2.03 \times 10^{-39}$	
	834	547	— 2.03 × 10 ···	
ME Cohort	Cases, $n = 69$	Controls (1KGP), $n = 2504$	— 1.45 × 10 <sup>-9</sup>	
	516	14107	— 1.43 × 10 ·	
All NTDs	Cases, $n = 243$	Controls (1KGP), $n = 2504$	- 5.97 × 10 <sup>-237</sup>	
	2850	14107	== 3.97 × 10 = 7	

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup>P values were estimated using binomial test.

Table S4 SLoFV enrichment analysis in the pathways with most SLoFVs.

Pathway name	CDS length <sup>a</sup>	#NTD/Ctrl <sup>b</sup>	P <sub>value</sub> c	$P_{ m fdr}^{ d}$	$P_{\mathrm{bonf}}^{\mathrm{e}}$
Metabolic pathways	2048017	84/109	0.092	0.29	1
Olfactory transduction	523344	35/28	0.0046	0.059	1
Pathways in cancer	815210	25/19	0.011	0.089	1
PI3K-Akt signaling pathway	787584	24/23	0.064	0.212	1
Neuroactive ligand-receptor interaction	440236	22/21	0.075	0.246	1
Tight junction	385998	22/14	0.0052	0.059	1
Focal adhesion	649757	21/22	0.139	0.323	1
Vascular smooth muscle contraction	270444	20/9	0.0009	0.042	0.252
Huntington's disease	421947	20/23	0.238	0.496	1
cGMP-PKG signaling pathway	366986	19/9	0.0016	0.053	0.469
Oxytocin signaling pathway	356229	19/8	0.0008	0.042	0.232
cAMP signaling pathway	456229	18/7	0.0007	0.042	0.209
Inflammatory mediator regulation of TRP channels	212076	18/6	0.00031	0.03	0.091
Bile secretion	158019	18/10	0.0054	0.059	1

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup> Length of coding sequences in corresponding pathway.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>b</sup> Number of SLoFV in NTD cohorts (174 Chinese Han and US CEU) and control (307 Chinese Han and CEU genomes from the 1KGP).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>c</sup> *P* values were estimated using  $\chi^2$  test.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>d</sup> P values were adjusted with FDR method.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>e</sup> P values were adjusted with Bonferroni correction.