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Supplemental Information

From Pioneer to Repressor: Bimodal foxd3

Activity Dynamically Remodels Neural

Crest Regulatory Landscape In Vivo

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Figure S1. Single cell transcriptome and quality control (QC) analysis of foxd3-expressing cells from 5-6ss embryos. Related to Figure 1.

(A-B) Grouped bar plot indicating number of sequenced and uniquely mapped reads shows 93/94 single cell transcriptomes are of excellent quality, with a mean of 5.24 M mapped reads and ~4,000 expressed genes mapped per cell.

(C) Identification of 5,243 genes with significantly highly variable expression across single premigratory NCs. Cyan dots indicate genes with a biological coefficient of variation (CV) of >0.50 at a 10% false discovery rate, classified as highly variable; black dots indicate all other genes; red line marks the CV threshold of 0.50 (i.e. the expected position of genes with 50% biological CV).

(D) Principal component analysis (PCA) and T-distributed stochastic neighbor embedding (tSNE) plots all 5,243 or top 500 most divergent genes identifies a small cluster of NC cells.

(E) tSNE plots for selected key pluripotency genes illustrate that while they are expressed at 50% *foxd3+* epiboly stage cells, they are not expressed or are expressed only in a few 5-6ss single *foxd3+* cells, except for *vox* and *zic2b* genes.

(F) tSNE plots for selected key NC specifier genes illustrate that while they are expressed in a majority of 5- 6ss single *foxd3+* cells, they are absent or not abundant in 50% epiboly *foxd3+* cells.

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Epiboy Citrine1 Epiboly Citrine2 Epiboly Citrine-Cherry1 Epiboly Citrine-Cherry2 0.96 Epiboly Negatives1 0.96 0.97 0.94 0.97 Epiboly Negatives2 0.96 0.97 0.95 0.97 5-6ss Citrine1 0.84 0.81 0.85 0.78 0.79 0.80 1.00 5-6ss Citrine2 0.82 0.81 0.82 0.79 0.80 0.80 0.98 5-6ss Citine-Cherry1 0.82 0.80 0.84 0.76 0.77 0.78 0.99 0.97 5-6ss Citine-Cherry2 0.83 0.81 0.84 0.78 0.79 0.79 0.98 5-6ss Negatives1 0.89 0.89 0.87 0.87 0.93 0.93 0.84 0.86 0.83 0.85 5-6ss Negatives2 0.89 0.89 0.88 0.87 0.92 0.92 0.85 0.87 0.85 0.86 14ss Citrine1 0.78 0.78 0.7 / 0.7 / 0.81 0.81 0.83 0.86 0.83 0.84 0.89 0.90 14ss Citrine2 0.80 0.80 0.80 0.78 0.83 0.83 0.86 0.88 0.86 0.87 0.91 0.91 14ss Citrine-Cherry1 0.75 0.75 0.73 0.74 0.77 0.77 0.80 0.83 0.81 0.83 0.87 0.87 0.95 0.94 14ss Citrine-Cherry2 0.78 0.77 0.74 0.75 0.79 0.79 <mark>0.85</mark> 0.85 0.85 0.86 0.88 0.89 0.97 0.96 14ss Negatives1 0.81 0.79 0.80 0.76 0.81 0.81 0.81 0.87 0.87 0.87 0.87 0.92 0.93 0.92 0.92 0.89 0.92 14ss Negatives2 0.77 0.73 0.79 0.68 0.72 0.74 0.89 0.84 0.91 0.88 0.82 0.84 0.79 <mark>0.83</mark> 0.77 0.80 0.88 1.00 Epiboly Citrine2 Epiboly Negatives2 5-6ss Citrine2 5-6ss Citine-Cherry2 14ss Citrine-Cherry2 4ss Negatives2 Epiboy Citrine1 Epiboly Citrine2 Epiboly Citrine-Cherry1 Epiboly Citrine-Cherry2 Epiboly Citrine-Cherry2 Epiboly Negatives1 Epiboly Negatives2 5-6ss Citrine1 5-6ss Citrine2 5-6ss Citine-Cherry1 5-6ss Citine-Cherry2 5-6ss Negatives1 5-6ss Negatives2 5-6ss Negatives2 14ss Citrine1 14ss Citrine2 14ss Citrine2 14ss Citrine-Cherry1 14ss Citrine-Cherry2 14ss Negatives1 14ss Negatives2 Epiboy Citrine1 Epiboly Citrine-Cherry1 Epiboly Negatives1 5-6ss Citrine1 5-6ss Citine-Cherry1 5-6ss Negatives1 14ss Citrine1 14ss Citrine-Cherry1 14ss Negatives1

Figure S2. Biological replicate transcriptome comparisons confirm experimental reproducibility. Related to Figures 1 and 2.

(A, C, E) PCAs and Scatter plots **(B, D, F)** comparing *foxd3*-positive (Citrine), *foxd3*-negative and *foxd3* mutant (Citrine_Cherry) RNA-seq samples at 3 stages of development (75% epiboly, 5-6ss, 14ss).

(G) Matrix presenting the correlation coefficients to all possible pairwise comparisons of replicates/samples.

Figure S3. Transcriptomic characterisation of foxd3-citrine and foxd3-cherry mutant cells. Related to Figures 1, 2 and 3.

(A) An illustration of 5-6ss foxd3-mutant protein truncation derived from the *de novo* transcript Trinity assembly. This demonstrates that both foxd3-citrine and foxd3-cherry fusions generate a truncated foxd3 protein only coding for 93 out of 371 amino acids (truncated after 282 nucleotides of coding DNA sequence (CDS)) with no forkhead domain; and hence no protein dimerization or DNA binding is possible. All possible foxd3 transcript variations in the heterozygous foxd3-mutant fish carrying only a foxd3-citrine allele were: (1) foxd3 wt protein (2) truncated foxd3 after the 282nd nucleotide (3) misassembled trinity contigs that have incorrectly merged end of 93rd aa of foxd3 (chr6) with tubulin protein (chr23) due to the design of the FlipTrap cassette. All possible foxd3 transcript variations in the homozygous foxd3-mutant fish carrying foxd3-citrine and foxd3-cherry alleles were: (1) truncated foxd3 protein with Citrine & Alg6 (varying lengths) (2) truncated foxd3 with mCherry and Citrine (antisense) (3) the same misassembled trinity contigs as described before.

(B) The pie chart shows GO Molecular protein function distribution of the down-regulated genes in foxd3 mutants.

(C) Four-way Venn diagrams illustrating differentially expressed genes between both, genes enriched in foxd3-control (citrine - C) and homozygous foxd3-mutants (citrine, cherry - CC) over the negative cells, and depleted genes in foxd3-control (C) and homozygous foxd3-mutants (citrine, cherry - CC) over the negative cells at 75% epiboly, 5-6 somite stage (ss) and 14-16 ss embryos. Differential gene expression analysis was performed using DESeq2 v.1.18.1.

(D) Ranked scatter plot represents downregulated genes ranked from the lowest to the highest based on their differential expression fold change derived from the FPKM values in the 5-6ss foxd3-mutant vs control NC (labelled as blue dots). Pink dots represent the same set of genes (connected by dashed grey lines with blue dots) and their differential expression fold change in the 8ss foxd3-mutant vs control NC. Since we found that the defect in expression of some, but not all, NC specification factors that were affected in pre-migratory foxd3-mutant NC is lessened, this suggests a possible partial compensation of the NC specification factors as the neural crest cells start delaminating at 8ss.

Figure S4. Cluster analysis of differential chromatin accessibility from foxd3 mutant cells vs control. Related to Figure 4.

(A) Mean density maps of merged profiles and corresponding scatterplots of raw counts for all *k*-means clusters featuring putative regulatory non-promoter elements with differential accessibility (ATAC-seq signal levels) in *foxd3*-mutant (CC, Citrine/Cherry) and controls (C, Citrine) at 5-6ss. The clusters were computed by applying *k*-means clustering algorithm from the seqMINER platform. Linear enrichment clustering of normalised ATAC-seq datasets from *foxd3*-mutant and *foxd3*-control NC cells was computed genome-wide over the region covering \pm 1.5 kb from the centre of each ATAC-seq peak. Peak Calling the individual replicates and retaining only the peaks present in both replicates was used to generate sets of reference peaks. The datasets were normalised by pooling the replicates for each condition and downsampling the files to the same number of mapped reads. Clusters 1-4-8 (6,777-4,493-8,245 el.) contain lower signal element with prominent differences between mutant and controls (C $>\subset$ C), Pearson corr. R_q=0.11; $R_{\alpha}=0.16$; $R_{\alpha}=0.17$, clusters 5-67 (8,182-3,905-6,070 el.) comprise elements of equally low signal, but with comparable accessibility (C≈CC), $R_{\infty}=0.17$; $R_{\infty}=0.5$ and Cluster 3 (17,390 el.) features highly accessible regions with broad ATAC-seq peak distribution that showed intermediate signal decrease in mutant (C>CC), $R_{\rm cs} = 0.96$.

Bar plots depict functional annotation of *k*-clusters 1, 4 and 67 showing specific enrichment of zebrafish gene expression ontology terms linked to brain (Clusters 1 and 67) and NC development (Cluster 4). Clusters 2, 5 and 8 did not yield any significant terms. Statistical significance calculated by both binominal and hypergeometric tests (Bonferroni ***p < 0.01*). In particular, elements from *k*-cluster 4 elements that feature moderate accessibility and clear defect in the accessibility in the *foxd3*-mutants, are specifically enriched in the zebrafish gene expression ontology terms linked to all stages of NC development under study here (1- 4ss, 5-9ss and 10-13ss), as well as to the brain development. Interestingly, cluster 4 elements were also highly significantly associated to the Smad/TGFbeta signalling pathway (FDR<0.01) and assigned to genes that are normally downregulated in migrating NC and de-repressed in *foxd3*-mutant (*acvr2aa, bmp2b, bmp4, bmpr1a*/*b, bmpr2b, dand5, foxh1, smad2, smad3a*/*3b, smad6b, smurf1, tgfb3*; Bonferroni ***p<0.01*). Finally, association to molecules involved in negative regulation of neurogenesis, that were also de-repressed in *foxd3*-mutants by 14ss (*epha4a*, *musk*, *robo2*, *slit3*, *her3*, *her9*, *neurog1*, *notch3*; FDR ***p<0.01*), suggests that Cluster 4 elements could be acting in repression.

(B) Top Transcription Factor Binding Site (TFBS) motifs enriched in other *k*-means clusters of lower accessibility (Clusters 1-4-8 and 5-67). CTCF was the top enriched binding motif (p=1E-39) in. Elements from clusters 1-4-8 that display defective chromatin accessibility in *foxd3*-mutant cells were also enriched in NC motifs, in particular TFAP2a and Ets1, but not Sox10, whereas cluster 5-67 elements (no differential accessibility in foxd3 mutants) harboured a non-crest neural regulatory code (Cdx, Lhx, Hox). Thus the enhancer elements whose accessibility is dependent on foxd3 appear to display unifying features of a NC enhancer.

(C) Plots representing genes assigned to all putative regulatory elements, identified in *foxd3*-mutant (CC) and control (C) cells at 4 stages of development (Epi, 75% epiboly; HB, head reagion of the bud stage embryo 1-2ss; 5-6ss NC and sox10-expressing cells at 16ss) ranked by the number of associated elements.

Putative regulatory elements (all identified non-promoter ATAC-seq elements) identified in *foxd3*-mutant (CC) and control (C) NC were associated to the genes expressed at each corresponding stage and the assigned genes were ranked by the number of elements associated with them. Key developmental factors are most often regulated by multiple *cis*-regulatory elements, acting in concert to yield strong gene expression and defined tissue-specific patterns. Ranking plots show that a large proportion of expressed genes, considered as highly regulated loci, laid beyond the inflexion point on the ranking plot and was assigned a minimum of 3 regulatory elements. Interestingly, while the number of genes and the number of elements assigned per gene at epiboly stage did not differ, by 5-6ss we detected clear increase in expressed genes, elements and number of elements assigned per gene in control NC cells, suggesting that the defect of accessibility at distal cis-regulatory elements was clearly linked to the gene expression differences in *foxd3* mutant (CC) NC cells. Finally, by late NC differentiation stage, the number of regulated genes and associated elements increases overall.

5-9ss forbrain/midbrain neural rod

Figure S5. Cluster analysis of differential non-promoter H3K27 acetylation from foxd3 mutant cells vs control. Related to Figure 6.

(A,B) Complete heatmap **(A)** depicting *k*-means linear enrichment clustering of H3K27Ac signal across nonpromoter ATAC-seq peaks in foxd3-mutant and control NC at 5-6ss (*k*=10) and **(B)** associated mean density maps of merged profiles of all clusters are shown. Enrichment was computed genome-wide over the region covering ± 1.5 kb from the centre of each ATAC-seq peak, ATAC-seq reference set as described in Figure S4 was used. We identified clusters with increased H3K27Acetylation in the foxd3 mutant (C<CC, K27Ac_Clusters 4 and 8) and clusters with decreased K3K27Ac signal in foxd3 mutants (C>CC, K27AC-Clusters 5, 7, 9 and 10). **(C)** Bar plots depicting functional annotation of K27Ac_Clusters 4, 8, 7 and 10 depicting specific enrichment of zebrafish gene expression ontology terms obtained by GREAT tool are shown (Bonferroni ***p < 0.01*).

Spinal cord

Figure S6. Putative mechanisms of the foxd3 bimodality and potential co-interactors for NC gene regulation. Related to Figure 7.

(A) FACS graph portraying a number of foxd3-mCherry expressing cells and underlying fluorescence intensities of control (green) and foxd3 mRNA injected (pink) embryos. P1-P5 – compartments of different fluorescence levels from the lowest to the highest. The graph illustrates an overall cellular fluorescence increase upon foxd3 overexpression in zebrafish embryos.

(B,B') Bar plots showing gene ontology (GO) biological processes derived from GREAT analysis that are associated with the regulation of DNA-elements showing increased accessibility upon foxd3 overexpression. **(B)** These regulatory sequences were shown to be directly bound by foxd3 by our biotin ChIP-seq analysis (merged 1-4,6,8 k-mean subclusters (out of eight subclusters) showing similar enhanced accessibility signature that were clustered using all foxd3 possible foxd3 ChIP-seq peaks from our data sets). **(B')** These regulatory sequences belong to the core NC enhancer cluster 3.1 (subcluster 3.1_4 elements and merged comparable signature subclusters 3.1_5, 7, 9 (single GO term under the red line) showing enhanced accessibility; they were obtained by k-mean analysis (out of ten 3.1 subclusters)).

(C,D) Circle plots showing different significant non-combined transcription factor (TF) motif enrichment underlying the **(C)** 'early NC' foxd3 biotin ChIP-seq peaks and statistically significant 2-way combinations between these factors that are hypothesised to act together with foxd3 during its activator stage and **(D)** 'late NC' foxd3 biotin ChIP-seq peaks and statistically significant 2-way combinations between these factors that are hypothesised to act together or in competition with foxd3 during its repressive stage.

(E) Circle plot showing significant 2-way TF co-interactions on the regulatory elements that get directly decommissioned by foxd3. **(E')** Bar plot showing gene ontology (GO) biological terms significantly enriched (**p<0.01) to the nearest expressed genes of the same DNA regulatory elements that get directly compacted upon foxd3 binding by the 14ss.

(F) Nucleosomal occupancy tracks (NucleoATAC) showing nucleosome positions within the regulatory elements (promoters and enhancers) in foxd3 mutant (red) and control (green) cells.