

## Supplementary Materials for

### **GABARAPs dysfunction by autophagy deficiency in adolescent brain impairs GABA<sub>A</sub> receptor trafficking and social behavior**

Kelvin K. Hui, Noriko Takashima, Akiko Watanabe, Thomas E. Chater, Hiroshi Matsukawa, Yoko Nekooki-Machida, Per Nilsson, Ryo Endo, Yukiko Goda, Takaomi C. Saido, Takeo Yoshikawa, Motomasa Tanaka\*

\*Corresponding author. Email: motomasa.tanaka@riken.jp

Published 10 April 2019, *Sci. Adv.* **5**, eaau8237 (2019)  
DOI: 10.1126/sciadv.aau8237

#### **This PDF file includes:**

Fig. S1. *Atg7* deletion in forebrain GABAergic neurons by Dlx5-creERT2.

Fig. S2. GABARAPs mislocalized to p62<sup>+</sup> aggregates in affected neurons of Dlx5-creERT2 and CaMKII-cre *Atg7* cKO mice.

Fig. S3. Autophagy deficiency led to a reduction of surface GABA<sub>A</sub> receptors but no change in excitatory signaling.

Fig. S4. Reduction of GABA<sub>A</sub> receptors in cortical GABAergic interneurons due to compromised functions of GABARAPL2 by autophagy deficiency.

Fig. S5. Levels and localizations of BIG-2 and NSF were not affected by autophagy deficiency.

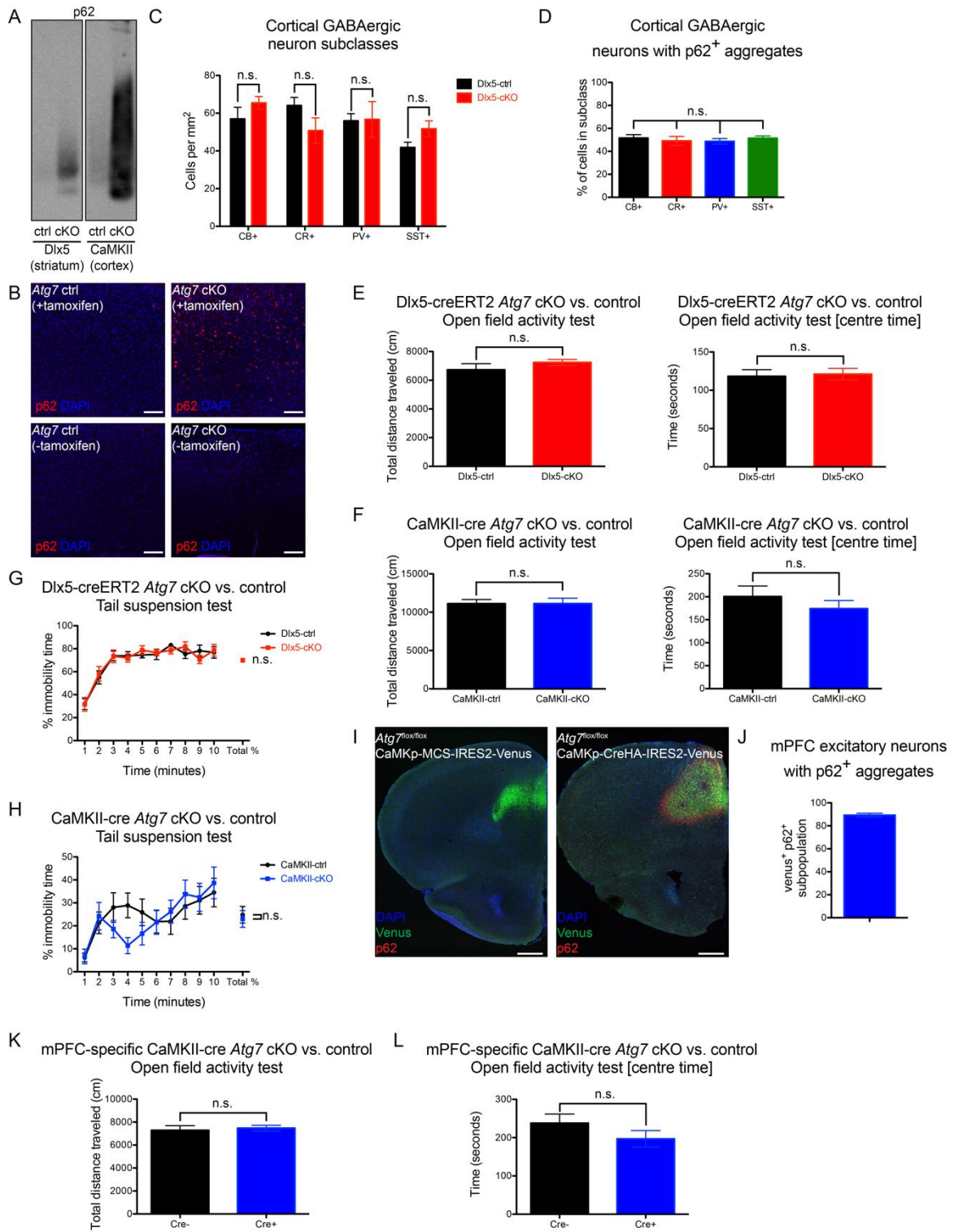
Fig. S6. GABA<sub>A</sub> receptors are not substantially localized to endosomal and lysosomal compartments in cortical GABAergic interneurons and are not altered by autophagy deficiency.

Fig. S7. Reduced surface GABA<sub>A</sub> receptor expression by manipulation of p62 levels.

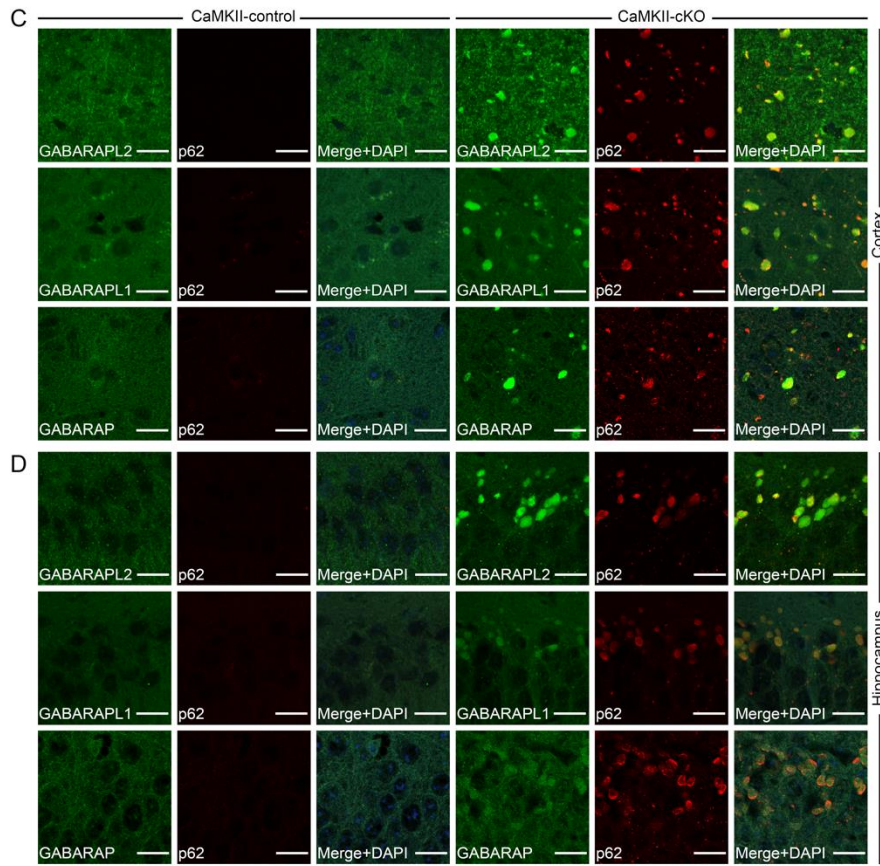
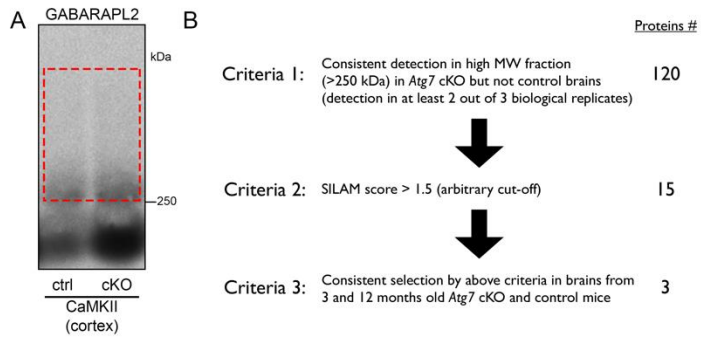
Table S1. shRNA sequences used in this study.

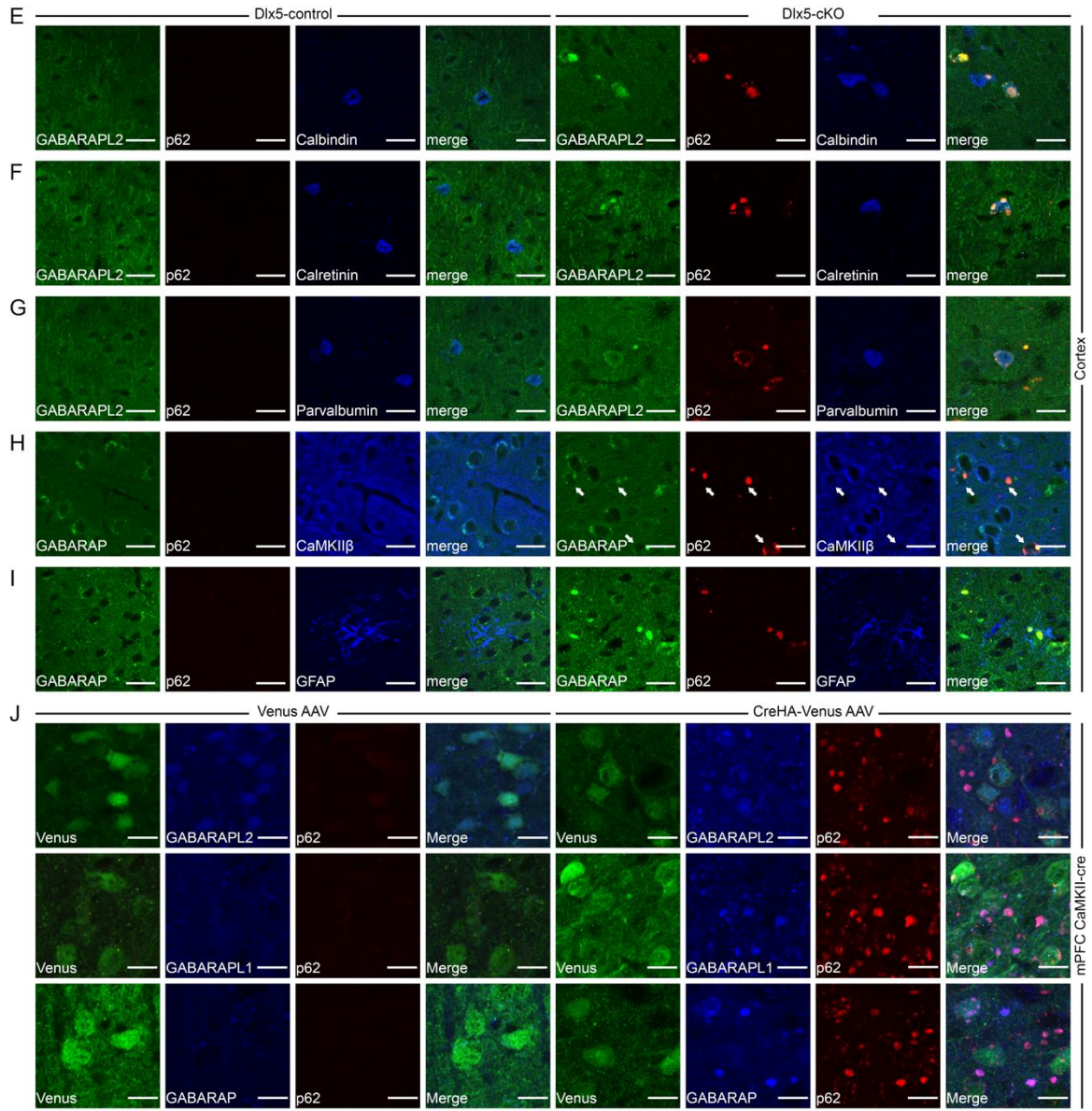
Table S2. Antibodies used in this study.

Table S3. Patient information for frozen postmortem human brain samples.



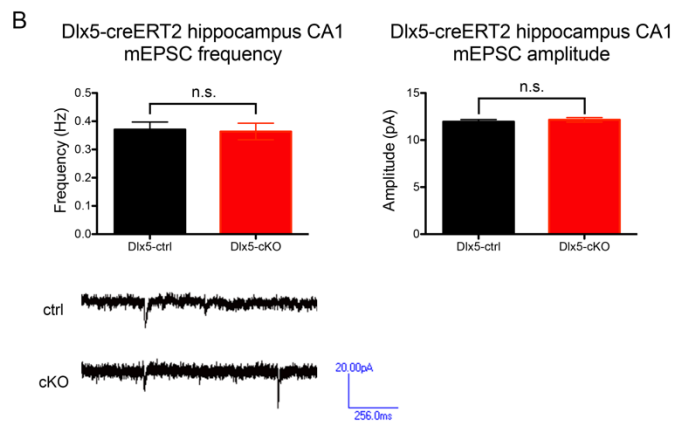
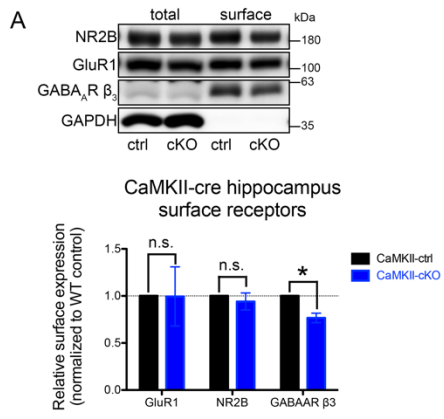
**Fig. S1. *Atg7* deletion in forebrain GABAergic neurons by *Dlx5*-creERT2.** (A) p62 accumulation resulted in the formation of high molecular species as detected by SDD-AGE. (B) p62<sup>+</sup> aggregate formation was observed only in tamoxifen-treated *Dlx5*-creERT2 *Atg7* cKO mice (cortex shown), indicating little or no non-induced Cre-mediated recombination to delete *Atg7*. (C) Cell counts of major cortical GABAergic interneuron subclasses did not show any significant differences between *Dlx5*-creERT2 *Atg7* cKO and control mice. *n* = 6 animals per genotype. (D) Cell counts of major subclasses of cortical GABAergic interneurons of *Dlx5*-creERT2 *Atg7* cKO mice showed that approximately half (49-52%) of each subpopulation had formed clear somal p62<sup>+</sup> aggregates. *n* = 4 animals per genotype. (E-F) No significant differences were observed in open field activity between *Dlx5*-creERT2 or CaMKII-cre *Atg7* cKO mice and littermate controls. *n* = 10 (*Dlx5*-control), *n* = 8 (*Dlx5*-cKO), *n* = 16 (CaMKII-control), *n* = 15 (CaMKII-cKO). (G-H) No significant changes were observed in tail suspension test for *Dlx5*-creERT2 or CaMKII-cre *Atg7* cKO mice. *n* = 10 (*Dlx5*-control), *n* = 8 (*Dlx5*-cKO), *n* = 16 (CaMKII-control), *n* = 16 (CaMKII-cKO). (I) Representative immunofluorescence images showing the infected mPFC excitatory neurons (Venus<sup>+</sup>) and p62<sup>+</sup> aggregate formation in cells also expressing Cre recombinase. (J) Cell counts of Venus<sup>+</sup> neurons showed that nearly all infected cells (90%) had accumulated and formed clear somal p62<sup>+</sup> aggregates. *n* = 4 animals per genotype. (K-L) *Atg7*<sup>fllox/fllox</sup> mice with mPFC-specific expression of Cre recombinase driven by CaMKII promoter showed no difference in movement and exploration compared to control mice. *n* = 7 animals per genotype. Data are presented as means ± SEM; n.s. indicates not statistically significant by unpaired, two-tailed Student's *t*-test (C, E, F, G, H, K, L) or one-way ANOVA (D). Scale bars: (B), 200 μm; (I), 500 μm.







**Fig. S2. GABARAPs mislocalized to p62<sup>+</sup> aggregates in affected neurons of *Dlx5-creERT2* and *CaMKII-cre Atg7* cKO mice.** (A) Detection of GABARAPL2 protein in high molecular weight fraction (>250 kDa) by SDD-AGE followed by immunoblotting. Indicated area closely corresponds to excised gel from which proteins were extracted for quantitative mass spectrometric analysis. (B) Schematic diagram of selection criteria applied and the number of selected proteins in the quantitative SDD-AGE/SILAM mass spectrometry experiment. (C-D) GABARAP family proteins accumulated and mislocalized to p62<sup>+</sup> aggregates in cortex and hippocampi of *CaMKII-cre Atg7* cKO mice. (E-I) Mislocalization of GABARAPL2 or GABARAP to p62<sup>+</sup> aggregates formed specifically in different cortical GABAergic interneuron subclasses of *Dlx5-creERT2 Atg7* cKO mice but not in *CaMKII<sup>+</sup>* cortical excitatory neurons or *GFAP<sup>+</sup>* astrocytes. (J) p62<sup>+</sup> aggregates formed specifically in mPFC excitatory neurons with *Atg7* deletion and sequestered GABARAPs. Scale bars: (C), (D), (E), (F), (G), (H), (I), and (J), 20  $\mu$ m.

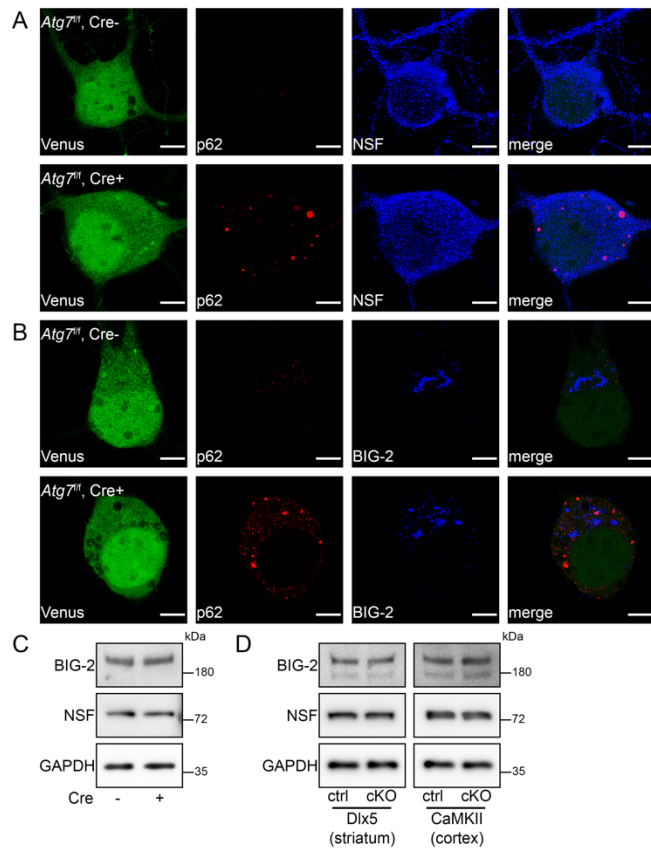


**Fig. S3. Autophagy deficiency led to a reduction of surface GABA<sub>A</sub> receptors but no change in excitatory signaling.** (A) A significant reduction in surface expression of GABA<sub>A</sub> receptors was observed in hippocampi of CaMKII-cre *Atg7* cKO mice.  $n = 8$  animals per genotype. (B) No differences were observed in both frequency (left) or amplitude (right) of miniature excitatory postsynaptic currents (mEPSC) recorded from CA1 pyramidal cells between *Dlx5*-creERT2 *Atg7* cKO and control hippocampi. Representative traces are shown on the bottom.  $n = 40$  cells recorded from 6 different animals (*Dlx5*-control) and 34 cells recorded from 5 different animals (*Dlx5*-cKO). Data are presented as means  $\pm$  SEM; \*  $P < 0.05$ , paired, two-tailed Student's *t*-test. n.s. indicates not statistically significant.

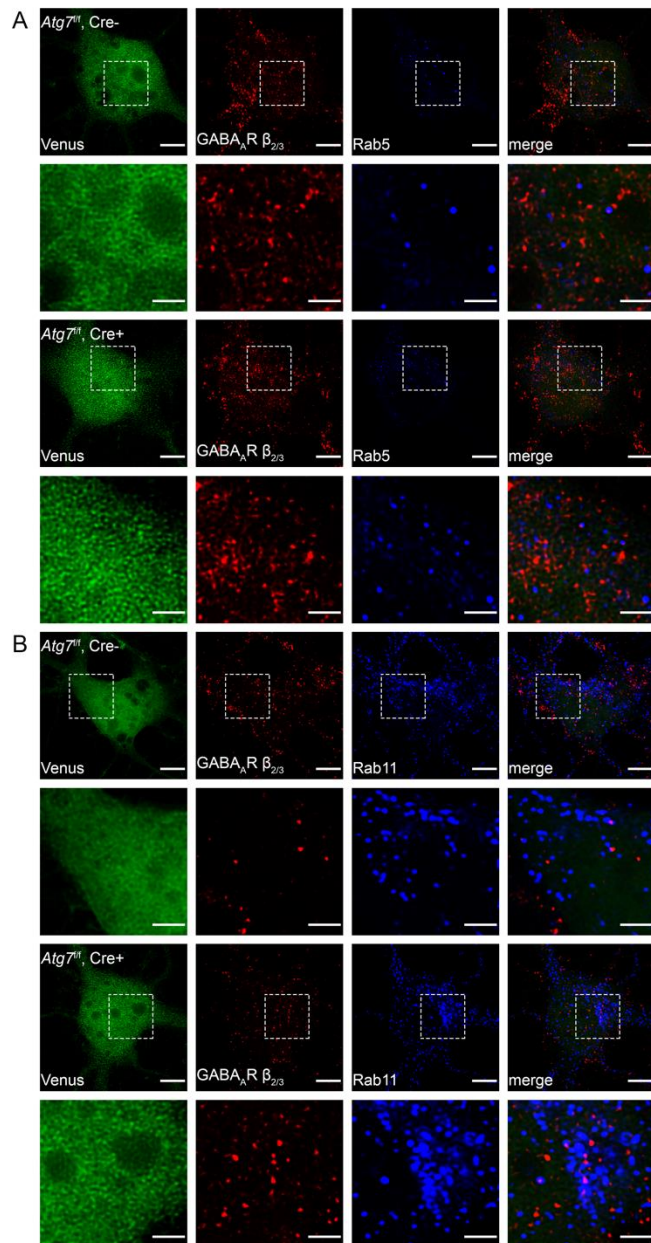


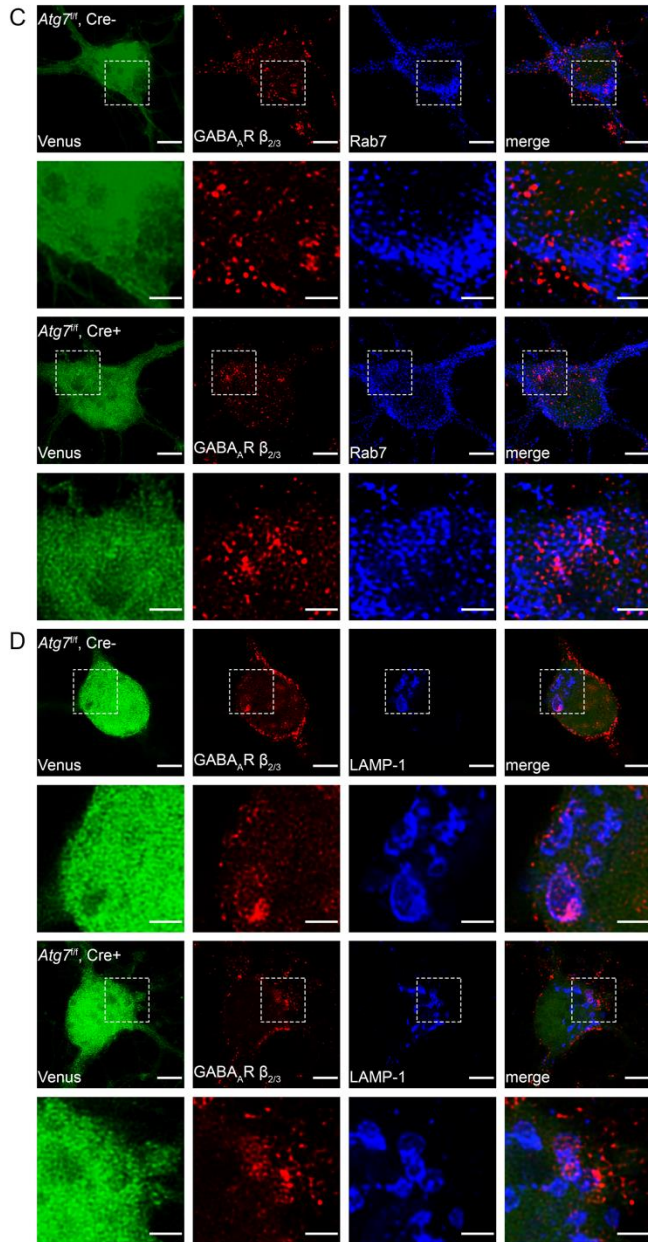


**Fig. S4. Reduction of GABA<sub>A</sub> receptors in cortical GABAergic interneurons due to compromised functions of GABARAPL2 by autophagy deficiency.** (A) Significant reductions of other GABA<sub>A</sub> receptor subunits were also observed in *Atg7* cKO cultured cortical GABAergic interneurons. (B) Verification of non-permeable condition for immunofluorescence analysis of surface GABA<sub>A</sub> receptors ( $\beta_{2/3}$  subunit) in WT cultured cortical excitatory neurons using CaMKII $\beta$  as an intracellular protein control. Note that CaMKII $\beta$ , a highly abundant intracellular protein, was not detected under the non-permeable condition. (C) The number of action potentials evoked over a range of different current injections was increased in *Atg7* cKO cultured cortical GABAergic interneurons ( $P = 0.0548$  by two-way ANOVA).  $n > 25$  cells per genotype from three distinct preparations of primary cultured neurons. (D) *Gabarapl2* knocked down by gene-specific shRNA in WT cultured cortical GABAergic interneurons. (E) GABARAPL2-gephyrin interaction was significantly reduced in the brains of CaMKII-creERT2 (cortex) *Atg7* cKO mice. Quantifications shown represent the amount of gephyrin co-immunoprecipitated normalized by total gephyrin and amount of GABARAPL2 immunoprecipitated from individual samples.  $n = 4$  independent experiments using tissue homogenates from distinct animals. (F) p62<sup>+</sup> aggregates formed in *Atg7* cKO cultured cortical GABAergic interneurons do not reside within the trans-golgi network as marked by TGN38. (G) Amino acid-level sequence alignment of LC3 and GABARAPs. Red lettering indicates region required for interacting with p62 and blue lettering indicates GABARAP fragment previously shown to interact with gephyrin. (H) Interaction between GABARAPL2 and p62 was disrupted by the removal of the first 8 amino acids (GABARAPL2  $\Delta$ N). (I) Overexpression of GABARAPL2  $\Delta$ N in *Atg7* cKO cultured cortical GABAergic interneurons and controls. Data are presented as means  $\pm$  SEM; \*  $P < 0.05$ , paired, two-tailed Student's *t*-test. Scale bars: (B), 25  $\mu$ m; (E), 5  $\mu$ m.



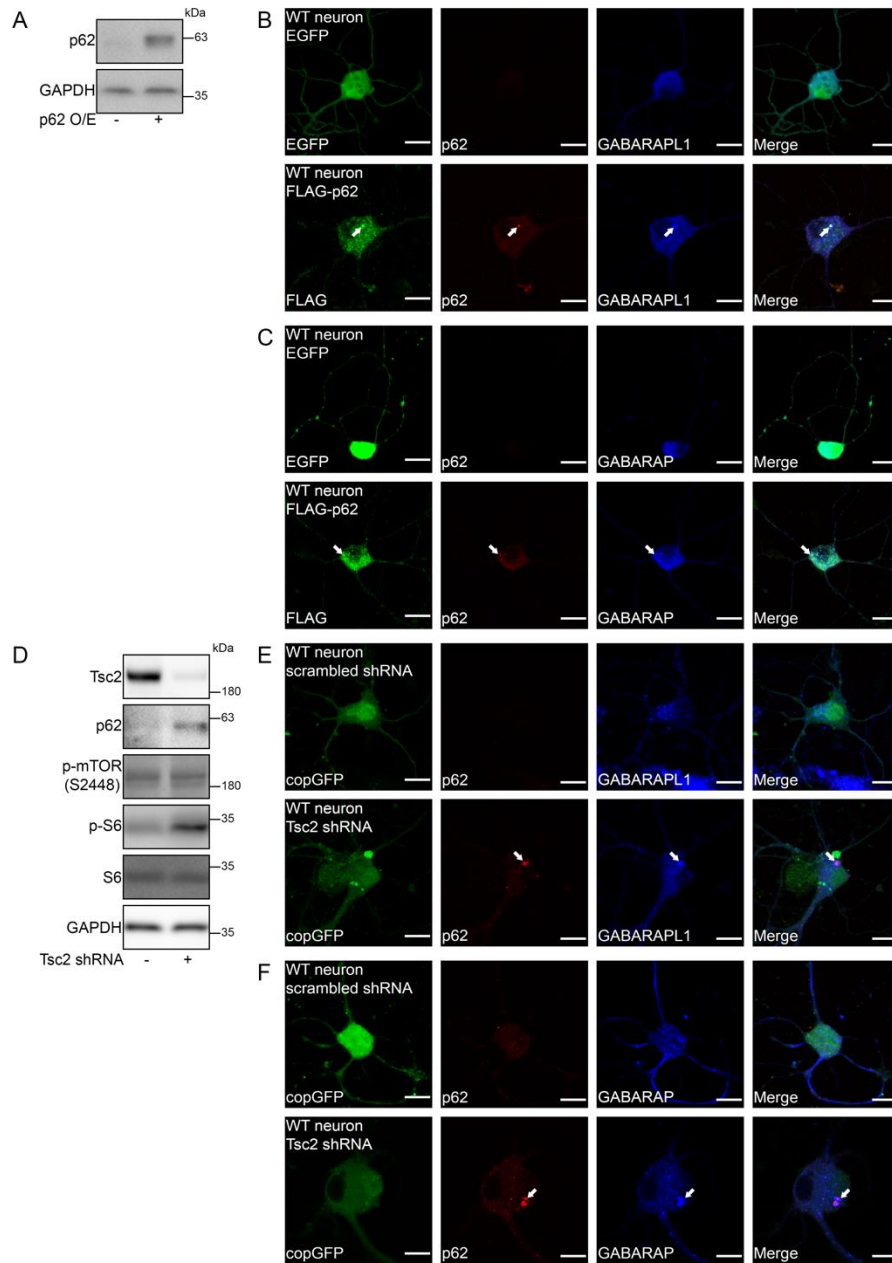
**Fig. S5. Levels and localizations of BIG-2 and NSF were not affected by autophagy deficiency.** (A-B) Immunofluorescence analysis revealed that BIG-2 and NSF did not mislocalize to p62<sup>+</sup> aggregates formed in *Atg7* cKO cultured cortical GABAergic interneurons. (C) BIG-2 and NSF did not accumulate in *Atg7* cKO cultured cortical GABAergic interneurons. (D) BIG-2 and NSF levels were not altered by autophagy deficiency in *Dlx5*-creERT2 and *CaMKII*-cre *Atg7* cKO mice. Scale bars: (A) and (B), 5  $\mu$ m; insets, 2  $\mu$ m.





**Fig. S6. GABA<sub>A</sub> receptors are not substantially localized to endosomal and lysosomal compartments in cortical GABAergic interneurons and are not altered by autophagy deficiency.** (A) Immunofluorescence images showing that few GABA<sub>A</sub> receptors (<1%) were localized to early endosomes (Rab5<sup>+</sup>) in *Atg7* cKO cultured cortical GABAergic interneurons and controls. (B) Immunofluorescence images showing that few GABA<sub>A</sub> receptors (<1%) were localized to recycling endosomes (Rab11<sup>+</sup>) in *Atg7* cKO cultured cortical GABAergic interneurons and controls. (C) Few GABA<sub>A</sub> receptors (<5 %) were observed by immunofluorescence to be localized in late endosomes (Rab7<sup>+</sup>) in *Atg7* cKO cultured cortical GABAergic interneurons and controls. (D) Few GABA<sub>A</sub> receptors (<5 %) were observed by immunofluorescence to be localized in LAMP-1<sup>+</sup> lysosomes in *Atg7* cKO cultured cortical GABAergic interneurons and controls. Scale bars: (A), (B), (C), and (D), 5 μm; insets, 2 μm.





**Fig. S7. Reduced surface GABA<sub>A</sub> receptor expression by manipulation of p62 levels.** (A) p62 overexpression in WT cultured cortical GABAergic interneurons. (B-C) p62<sup>+</sup> aggregates formed in WT cultured cortical GABAergic interneurons due to overexpression caused mislocalization of GABARAPL1 and GABARAP, similar to GABARAPL2 shown in Fig. 5A. (D) *Tsc2* knockdown in WT cultured cortical excitatory neurons led to mTOR hyperactivation as indicated by increased phosphorylation of ribosomal protein S6 and subsequent p62 accumulation due to autophagy suppression by enhanced mTOR signalling. S2448 phosphorylation of mTOR was unchanged, consistent with allosteric activation of mTOR via Tsc1/2-Rheb signalling, rather than phosphorylation via the PI3K-AKT-S6K1 pathway. (E-F) p62 accumulation and aggregate formation was observed due to autophagy suppression by hyperactivated mTOR in WT cultured cortical excitatory neurons with *Tsc2* knockdown, and in turn sequestered GABARAPL1 and GABARAP, in addition to GABARAPL2 shown in Fig. 5D. Scale bars: (B), (C), (E), and (F), 15 μm.

**Table S1. shRNA sequences used in this study.**

<b>Gene</b>	<b>Sequence</b>
<i>Gabarapl2</i>	Targeted: ATGAAGATGGATTCTTGTATG Scrambled: GGATTTATGACGTGATATGAT
<i>Sqstm1</i> (p62)	Targeted: CCGCATCTACATTAAAGAGAA Scrambled: GACCCGACATAATTGCATAAA
<i>Tsc2</i>	Targeted: GGTGAAGAGAGCCGTATCACA Scrambled: GGCGAATGGGCTCGAATACAA

**Table S2. Antibodies used in this study.**

<b>Antigen</b>	<b>Source</b>	<b>Catalogue number</b>	<b>Application details</b>
p62	Progen Biotechnik	GP62-C	IB 1:2000 IF 1:4000
Atg7	Cell Signaling Technologies	2631	IB 1:2000
LC3	Novus Biologicals	NB100-2331	IB 1:1000
GAPDH	Santa Cruz Biotechnology, Inc.	sc-32233	IB 1:10000
Tsc2	Cell Signaling Technologies	4308	IB 1:2000 IF 1:200
GABARAP	Santa Cruz Biotechnology, Inc.	sc-377300	IB 1:500 IF 1:100
GABARAPL1	Proteintech	11010-1-AP	IB 1: 1000 IF 1:300
GABARAPL2	Proteintech	18724-1-AP	IB 1:1000 IF 1:300
NR2B	NeuroMab	75-097	IB 1:2000
GluR1	EMD Millipore Co.	AB1504	IB 1:1000
GluR1	NeuroMab	75-327	IB 1:1000
GABA <sub>A</sub> receptor $\alpha_1$	NeuroMab	75-136	IB 1:1000
GABA <sub>A</sub> receptor $\beta_3$	NeuroMab	75-149	IB 1:1000
GABA <sub>A</sub> receptor $\beta_{2/3}$	EMD Millipore Co.	05-474	IB 1:1000 IF 1:200
GABA <sub>A</sub> receptor $\gamma_2$	NeuroMab	75-442	IB 1:1000
gephyrin	Synaptic Systems	147-111	IB 1:4000 IF 1:600
GAD67	EMD Millipore Co.	MAB5406	IB 1:1000 IF 1:4000
Calbindin	Sigma-Aldrich Co.	C9848	IB 1:1000 IF 1:200
Calretinin	EMD Millipore Co.	MAB1568	IB 1:1000 IF 1:100

Parvalbumin	Swant	235	IB 1:1000 IF 1:400
Somatostatin	EMD Millipore Co.	AB5494	IB 1:1000 IF 1:200
CaMKII- $\beta$	abcam	ab34703	IF 1:200
GFAP	Dako	Z0334	IF: 800
phospho-mTOR (S2448)	EMD Millipore Co.	09-213SP	IB 1:1000
S6	Cell Signaling Technologies	2217	IB 1:1000
phospho-S6	Cell Signaling Technologies	4858	IB 1:2000
Rab5	Cell Signaling Technologies	3547	IF 1:200
Rab7	Cell Signaling Technologies	9367	IF 1:200
Rab11	Cell Signaling Technologies	5589	IF 1:200
LAMP-1	Developmental Studies Hybridoma Bank	1D4B	IF 5 $\mu$ g/mL
TGN38	Santa Cruz Biotechnology, Inc.	sc-271624	IF 1:100
BIG-2	Atlas Antibodies	HPA026078	IB 1:250 IF 1:50
NSF	Synaptic Systems	123-002	IB 1:1000 IF 1:200

**Table S3. Patient information for frozen postmortem human brain samples.**

#	A=Autism C=Control	Age	Ethnicity	Sex	PMI Group (hours)	RIN
1407	C	9y46d	African American	female	18 - 23	
1182	A	9y354d	African American	female	24 - 29	3.7
1846	C	20y221d	Caucasian	female	6 - 11	
1638	A	20y277d	Caucasian	female	> 48	6.4
4337	C	8y90d	African American	male	12- 17	8.4
4721	A	8y304d	African American	male	12 - 17	6.1
5408	C	6y309d	African American	male	12- 17	7.6
4849	A	7y171d	African American	male	18 - 23	6.7
5163	C	14y315d	Caucasian	male	12- 17	7
4899	A	14y126d	Caucasian	male	6 - 11	6.5
1376	C	37y140d	African American	male	12- 17	
5027	A	37y353d	African American	male	24 - 29	6.8
4590	C	20y179d	Caucasian	male	18 - 23	
4999	A	20y274d	Caucasian	male	12- 17	7.5
4781	C	45y364d	Caucasian	male	12- 17	7.4
5115	A	46y135d	Caucasian	male	24 - 29	7.3
5391	C	8y286d	Caucasian	male	12- 17	6.9
5144	A	7y55d	Caucasian	male	0 - 5	7.7
5342	C	22y355d	African American	male	12- 17	8.5
5176	A	22y199d	African American	male	18 - 23	6.8
5168	C	15y361d	Caucasian	female	6 - 11	3.9
5278	A	15y324d	Caucasian	female	12- 17	6.9
5334	C	12y249d	unknown	male	12- 17	2.4
4334	A	11y17d	unknown	male	24 - 29	7.1
5079	C	33y64d	Caucasian	male	12- 17	7.4
5297	A	33y83d	Caucasian	male	> 48	6.4
4848	C	16y271d	Caucasian	male	12- 17	
5302	A	16y119d	Caucasian	male	18 - 23	3.5
4669	C	16y125d	Caucasian	male	12- 17	
5403	A	16y266d	Caucasian	male	30 - 35	5.5
1029	C	29y300d	unknown	male	12- 17	
M3663M	A	27y109d	unknown	male	18 - 23	6.8

1612	C	19y0d	Caucasian	female	24 - 29	
5419	A	19y350d	Caucasian	female	18 - 23	8.4
1714	C	12y164d	African American	male	18 - 23	
5565	A	12y89d	African American	male	18 - 23	8.3
1347	C	19y76d	Caucasian	female	12- 17	
5561	A	19y218d	Caucasian	female	30 - 35	3.2
4599	C	23y320d	African American	male	18 - 23	
5574	A	23y252d	African American	male	12- 17	3.1
4670	C	4y237d	Caucasian	male	12 - 17	7.7
5308	A	4y182d	Caucasian	male	18 - 23	6
1578	C	53y112d	Caucasian	male	12- 17	8.4
5340	A	53y177d	Caucasian	male	24 - 29	7.8