

The quality of the reads were examined using fastqc/0.11.2 (<http://www.bioinformatics.babraham.ac.uk/projects/fastqc>), the resulting reports were merged using multiqc/0.9 [1]. The reads were quality filtered using prinseq/0.20.3 [2]. The quality filtered reads were mapped towards the rat reference genome (rn5) with STAR/2.5.2b [3]. HTseq/0.6.1p [4] was used for quantifying the amount of reads mapped towards the genes.

Further analysis was performed using the R statistical programming language. Differential expression analysis was performed in DESeq2 [5]. The data was normalized using sizefactors. A generalized linear model was fitted to the normalized data. Wald statistics was used as the statistical test. The p-values were adjusted for multiple testing with the Benjamini-Hochberg procedure.

Principal component analysis was performed using DESeq2-normalized gene expression counts data. Volcano plots were generate using the R package EnhancedVolcano [6].

Differentially expressed transcripts with absolute fold-change ≥ 1.3 and adjusted p-value < 0.05 were selected for pathway enrichment analysis using Reactome and KEGG databases via the R packages ReactomePA and clusterProfiler [7,8]. Reactome pathway enrichment results are presented on dotplots ranking pathways by statistical significance, number of pathway-specific transcripts changed, and gene ratio. Enriched Reactome pathways were compared between SHAM vs fa/+ and RYGB vs SHAM differentially expressed genes using clusterProfiler. KEGG pathways enriched in our dataset were visualised using pathview [9]. Upstream regulator analysis was performed using Ingenuity Pathway Analysis software. Rat transcript IDs were converted to their human orthologs to estimate the abundance of renal cortical immune and stromal cell populations using MCPcounter [10].

Differentially expressed transcripts (absolute fold-change ≥ 1.3 , adjusted p-value < 0.05) between study groups were visualized on Venn diagrams. Transcripts which changed from health to disease (SHAM vs fa/+) and again with RYGB surgery (RYGB vs SHAM) were selected. A publicly available list of differentially expressed genes (absolute fold-change ≥ 1.5 , adjusted p-value < 0.05) in glomeruli of people with DKD versus healthy controls (the Woroniecka human DKD glomerular microarray dataset) were converted to their rat orthologs and intersected with genes overlapping between SHAM vs fa/+ and RYGB vs SHAM comparisons [11]. Expression of these genes in our dataset was plotted using heatmap [12]. The relationship between gene expression and glomerular structure was interrogated using Pearson correlations by creating a correlation matrix of DESeq2-normalized gene expression counts and numerical data from histology/TEM. Pearson r values were plotted using corrplot [13].

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