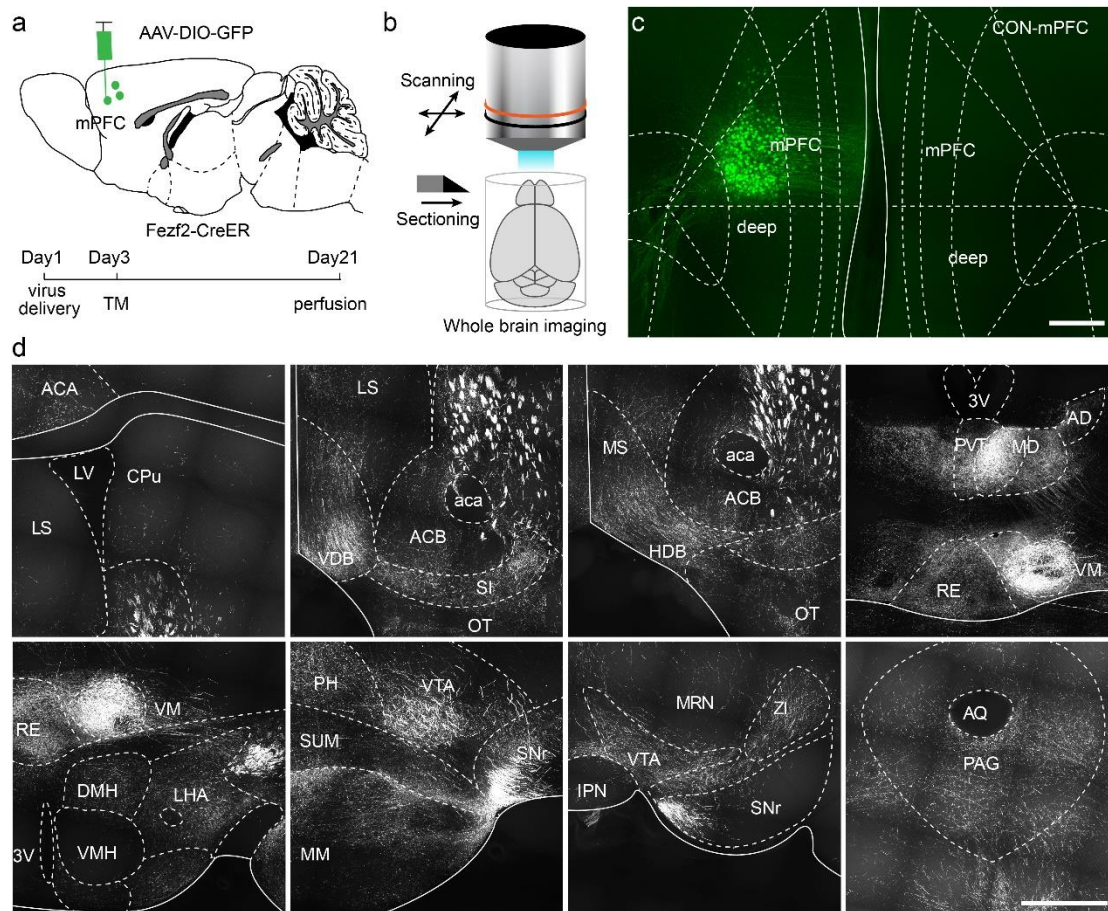
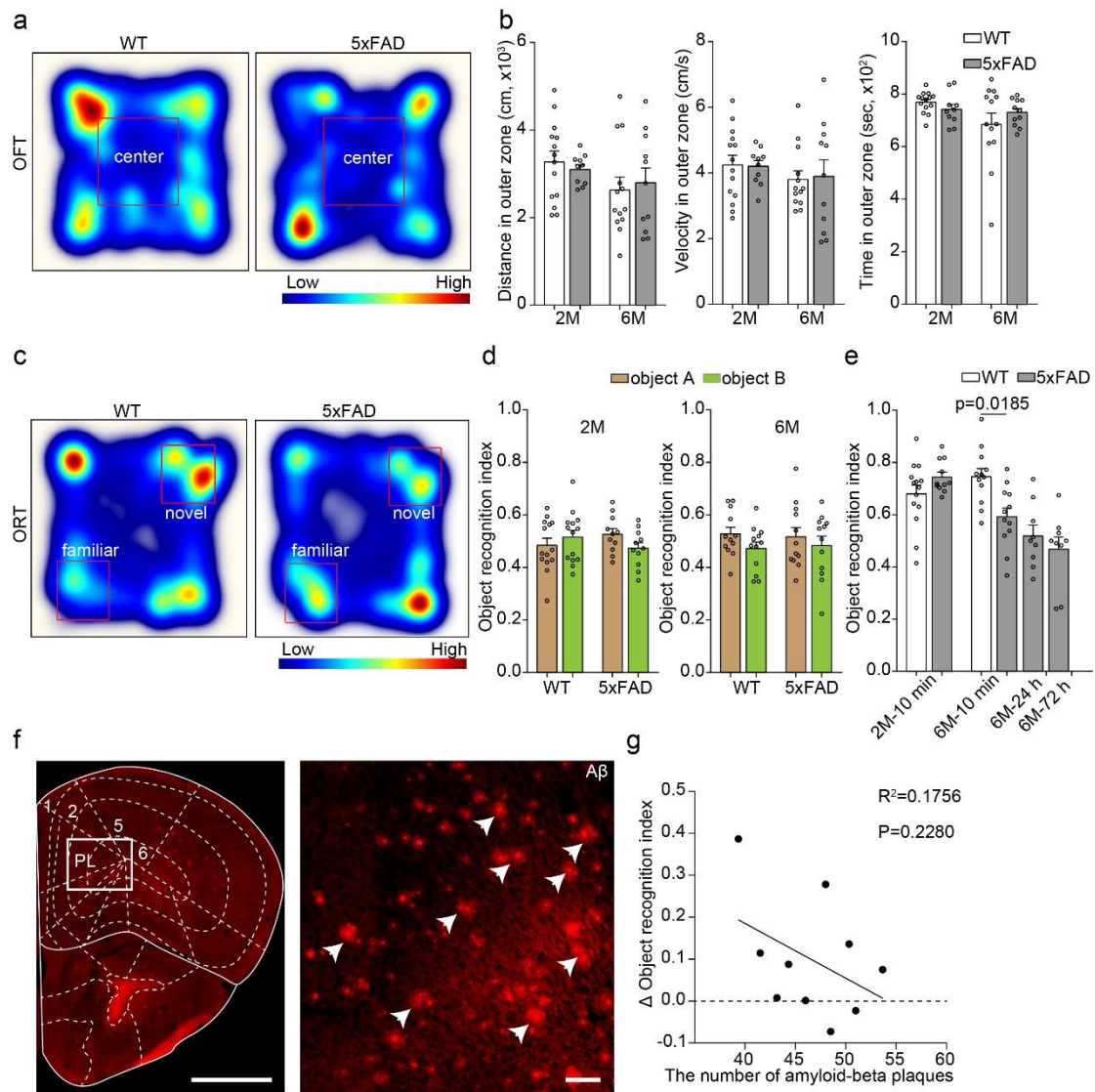


1 Supplementary materials



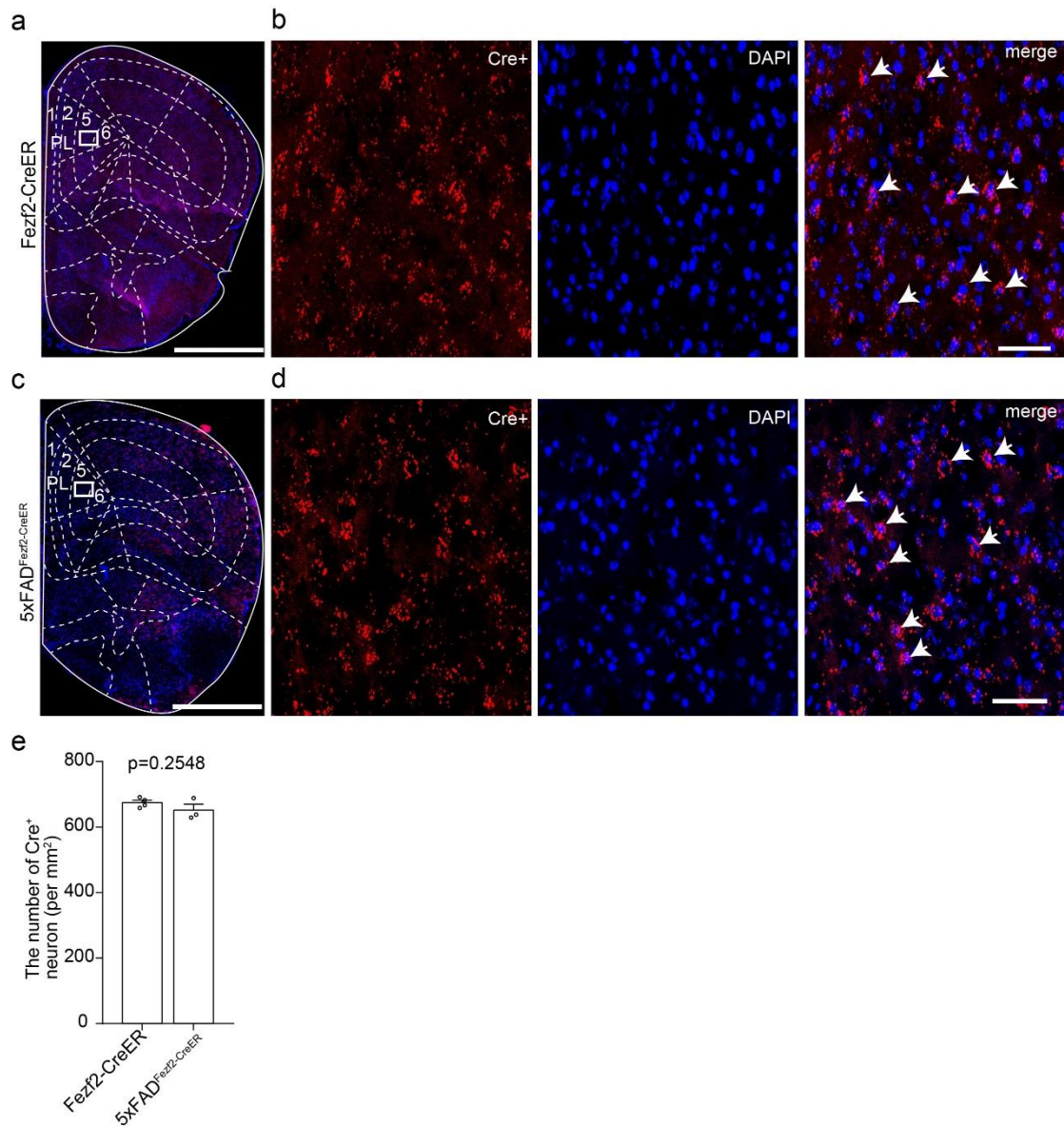
2
3 Supplementary figure 1 The output of extratelencephalic projection neurons in the mPFC,
4 related to Fig 1. a. Labeling the Fezf2 positive extratelencephalic projection neurons in mPFC
5 with AAV virus expressing GFP. b. The whole brain imaging process to acquire the output of
6 Fezf2 positive neurons in mPFC. c. The virus injection site at mPFC. The infected neurons were
7 mainly found in deep layers of mPFC, indicating the specificity of the virus labeling. d. The
8 axon terminals of Fezf2 positive neurons in mPFC in multiple subcortical areas. Scale bar in c
9 is 200 μ m. Scale bar in d is 500 μ m. TM, tamoxifen; mPFC, medial prefrontal cortex; ACA,
10 anterior cingulate area; LV, lateral ventricle; LS, lateral septum; CPu, caudate putamen; ACB,
11 nucleus accumbens; VDB, vertical diagonal band; SI, substantia innominata; OT, olfactory
12 tubercle; MS, medial septum; aca, anterior commissure, anterior part; 3V, third ventricle; PVT,
13 paraventricular thalamic nucleus; MD, mediodorsal thalamic nucleus; AD, anterodorsal
14 thalamic nucleus; RE, reuniens thalamic nucleus; VM, ventromedial thalamic nucleus; DMH,
15 dorsomedial hypothalamic nucleus; VMH, ventromedial hypothalamic nucleus; LHA, lateral
16 hypothalamic area; PH, posterior hypothalamic area; SUM, supramammillary nucleus; VTA, ventral
17 tegmental area; SNr, substantia nigra, reticular part; MM, medial mammillary nucleus; IPN,
18 interpeduncular nucleus; ZI, zona incerta; MRN, midbrain reticular nucleus; PAG, periaqueductal
19 gray; AQ, aqueduct.



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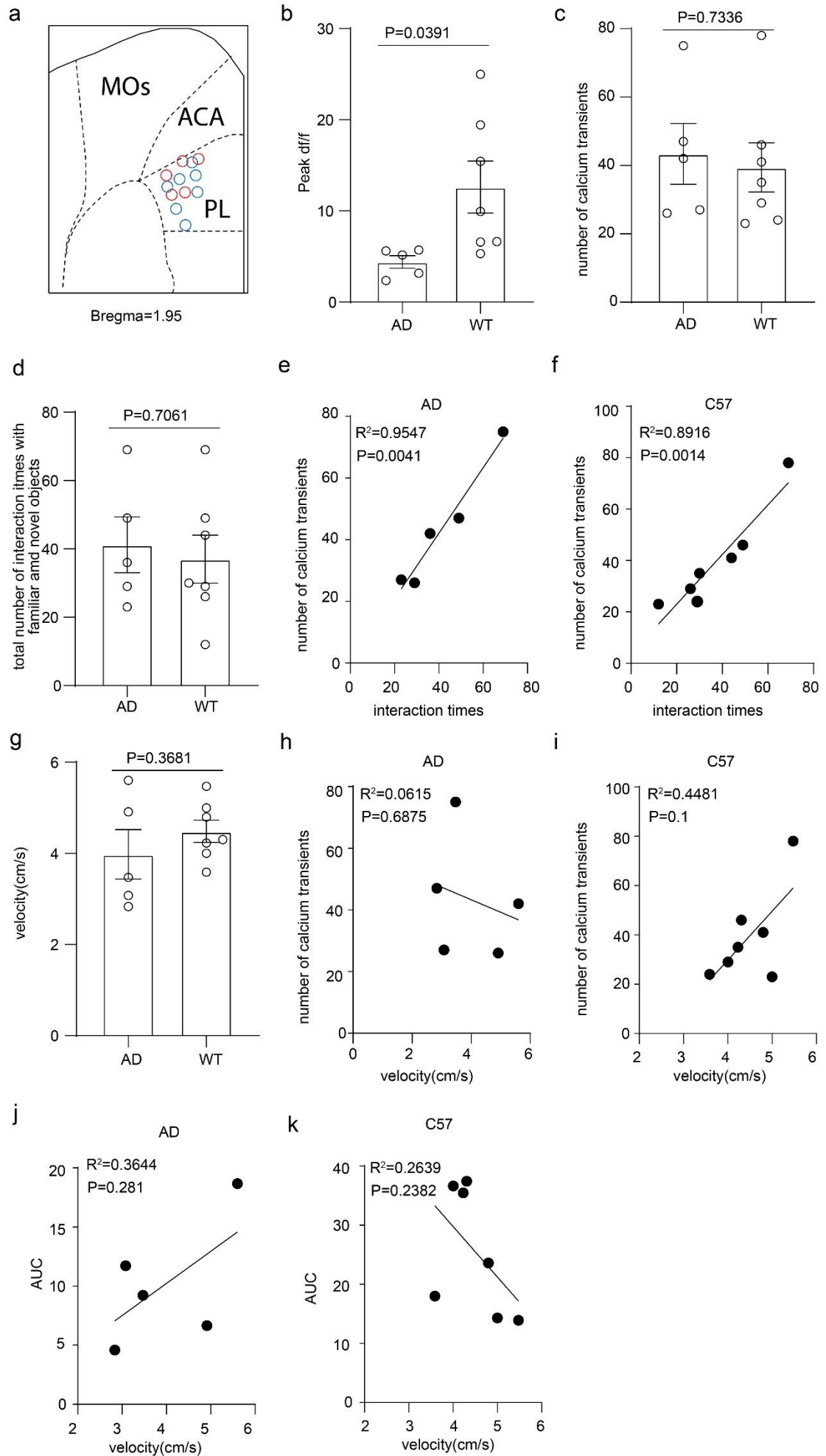
21 Supplementary figure 2. Recognition memory was impaired in AD mice, related to Fig 1. a. the
 22 locomotor activity was assessed in an open-field test. Heat-map plots showed the time that mice
 23 spent in outer zone during the test. Red = more time, blue = less time. b. there was no statistical
 24 difference in total distance traveled, time spent and velocity for 5×FAD compared to their wild-
 25 type littermates at 2 months and 6 months of age in outer of the arena. (2M, n = 14 animals for
 26 WT, n = 10 animals for AD; 6M, n = 13 animals for WT, n = 11 animals for AD). c. Heat-map
 27 plots showed object recognition memory measures from the object recognition test. Red = more
 28 time, blue = less time. d. There was no statistical difference in time spent to explore one of the
 29 objects during the training session for 5×FAD compared to their wild-type littermates at 2
 30 months and 6 months of age, respectively. (2M, n = 14 animals for WT, n = 11 animals for AD;
 31 6M, n = 12 animals for WT, n = 12 animals for AD) e. During the test session, the 5×FAD mice
 32 significantly spent less time exploring the novel object compared with the wild-type littermates
 33 at 6 months of age. With longer delay time, the 5×FAD animals showed worse performance
 34 during the object recognition test. (one-way repeated-measures (RM) ANOVA with Tukey's
 35 post hoc test, 2M, n = 14 animals for WT, n = 11 animals for AD; 6M, 10min delay, n = 12
 36 animals for WT, n = 12 animals for AD; 6M, 24h and 72h delay, n=9 animals for AD). f.

37 Representative images showed the A β plaques accumulation in the mPFC. g. The correlation
38 between delta recognition index and the density of A β plaques in the mPFC of 5 \times FAD mice at
39 6 months of age. n=10 animals. Linear regression analysis. Scale bar in the f(left) is 1mm;
40 scale bar in the f(right) is 100 μ m. All data are listed as the Mean \pm SEM.
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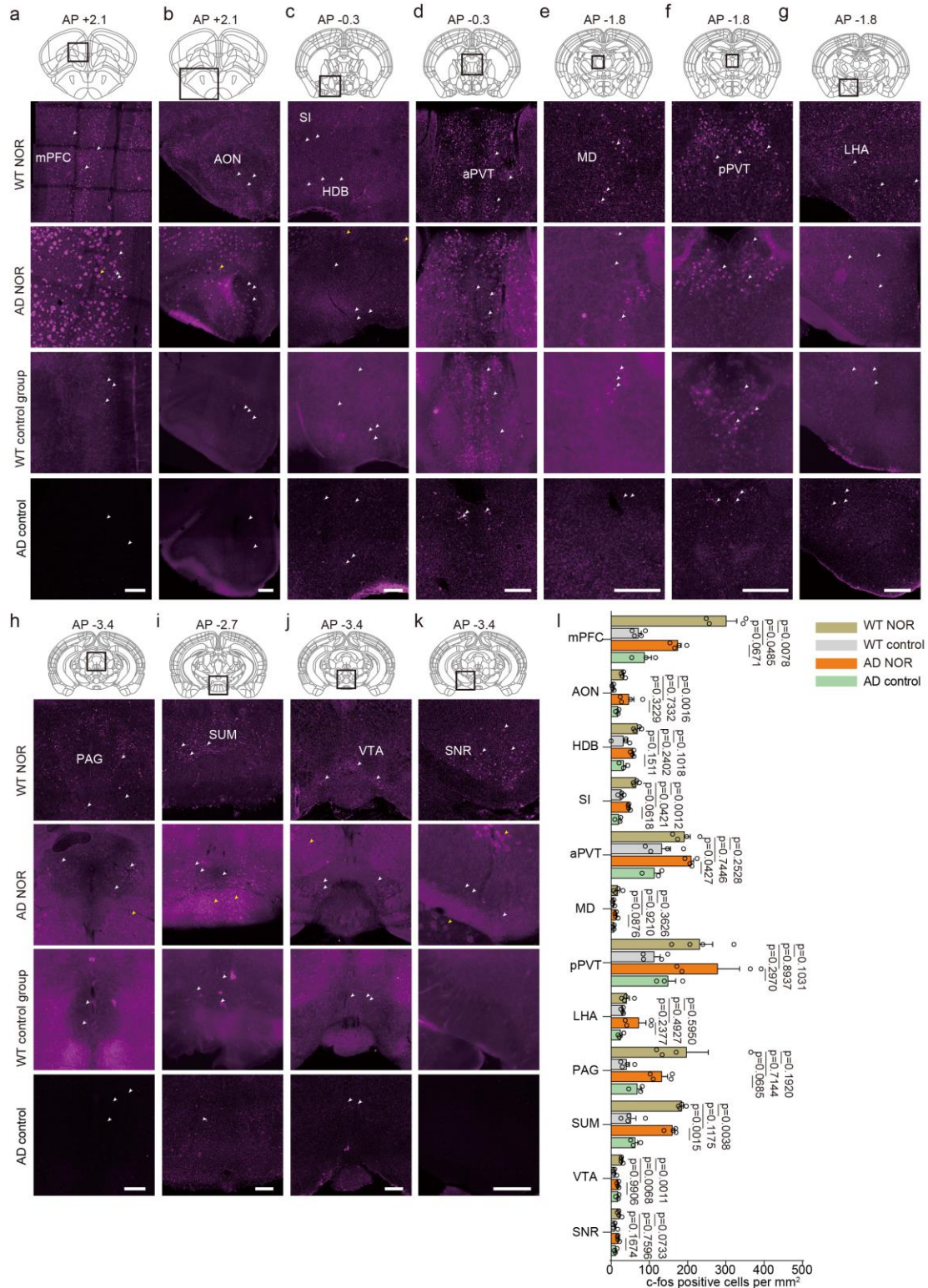


43

44 Supplementary figure 3 Crossing the 5×FAD animals with Fezf2-CreER animals did not alter
 45 the number of Cre positive cells in the mPFC. a-d. Fluorescent in situ hybridization against Cre
 46 showed the Cre expression in the mPFC of Fezf2-CreER animals and the 5×FAD_{Fezf2-CreER}
 47 hybrid animals. e. Quantification of Cre positive cells in the mPFC of Fezf2-CreER animals
 48 and the 5×FAD_{Fezf2-CreER} hybrid animals. Fezf2-CreER, n=4 animals; 5×FAD_{Fezf2-CreER}, n=3
 49 animals, two-tailed unpaired t test. Scale bars in the a and c are 1mm; scale bars in the b and d
 50 are 100 μm. All data are listed as the Mean ± SEM.



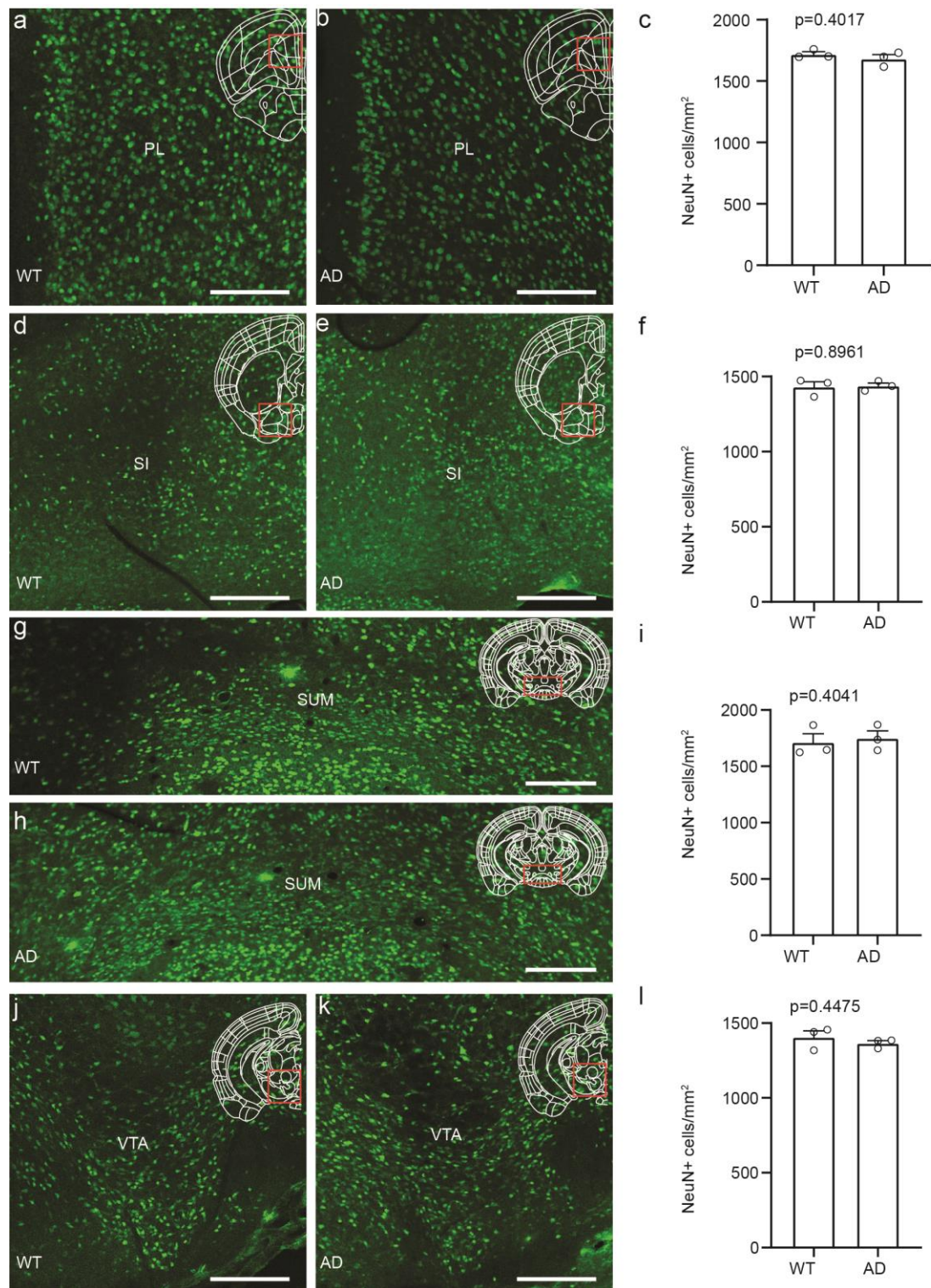
52 Supplementary figure 4 The properties of the fiber photometry data from the ET neurons of
53 Fezf2-CreER animals and the AD_{Fezf2-CreER} animals. a. Schematics showing the placement of optic
54 fibers in Fig 1. The red circles represent the placement of optic fibers in the PL of AD_{Fezf2-CreER}
55 mice. The blue circles represent the placement of optic fibers in the PL of Fezf2-CreER mice.
56 b. The quantification of peak $\Delta F/F$ of average plots of calcium response from different animals.
57 c. The quantification of the number of calcium transients during the photometry recording of
58 different animals. d. The total number of interaction times with familiar and novel objects of
59 the animals during the object recognition test. e, f. The correlation between object interaction
60 times and the number of calcium transients in Fezf2-CreER animals and the AD_{Fezf2-CreER}
61 animals. g. The average velocity of the animals in object recognition test. h, i. The correlation between
62 velocity and the number of calcium transients in Fezf2-CreER animals and the AD_{Fezf2-CreER}
63 animals. j, k. The correlation between velocity and the AUC in Fezf2-CreER animals and the
64 AD_{Fezf2-CreER} animals. Two-tailed unpaired t test, Fezf2-CreER, n=7 animals. AD_{Fezf2-CreER} animals, n=5
65 animals. MOs, secondary motor area; ACA, anterior cingulate area; PL, prelimbic area.
66 All data are listed as the Mean \pm SEM.
67
68



69

70 Supplementary figure 5 The altered neuronal activity activated by object exploration in
 71 downstream brain areas of extralencephalic projection neurons in the mPFC of 5×FAD mice,
 72 related to Fig 1. a-k. Example c-fos immunostaining in downstream brain areas of
 73 extralencephalic projection neurons in the mPFC of wild type mice or 5×FAD mice before
 74 and after object exploration. l. Counts of c-fos+ cells in different brain areas after object
 75 exploration. Two-way repeated-measures (RM) ANOVA with Tukey's post hoc test, n = 4

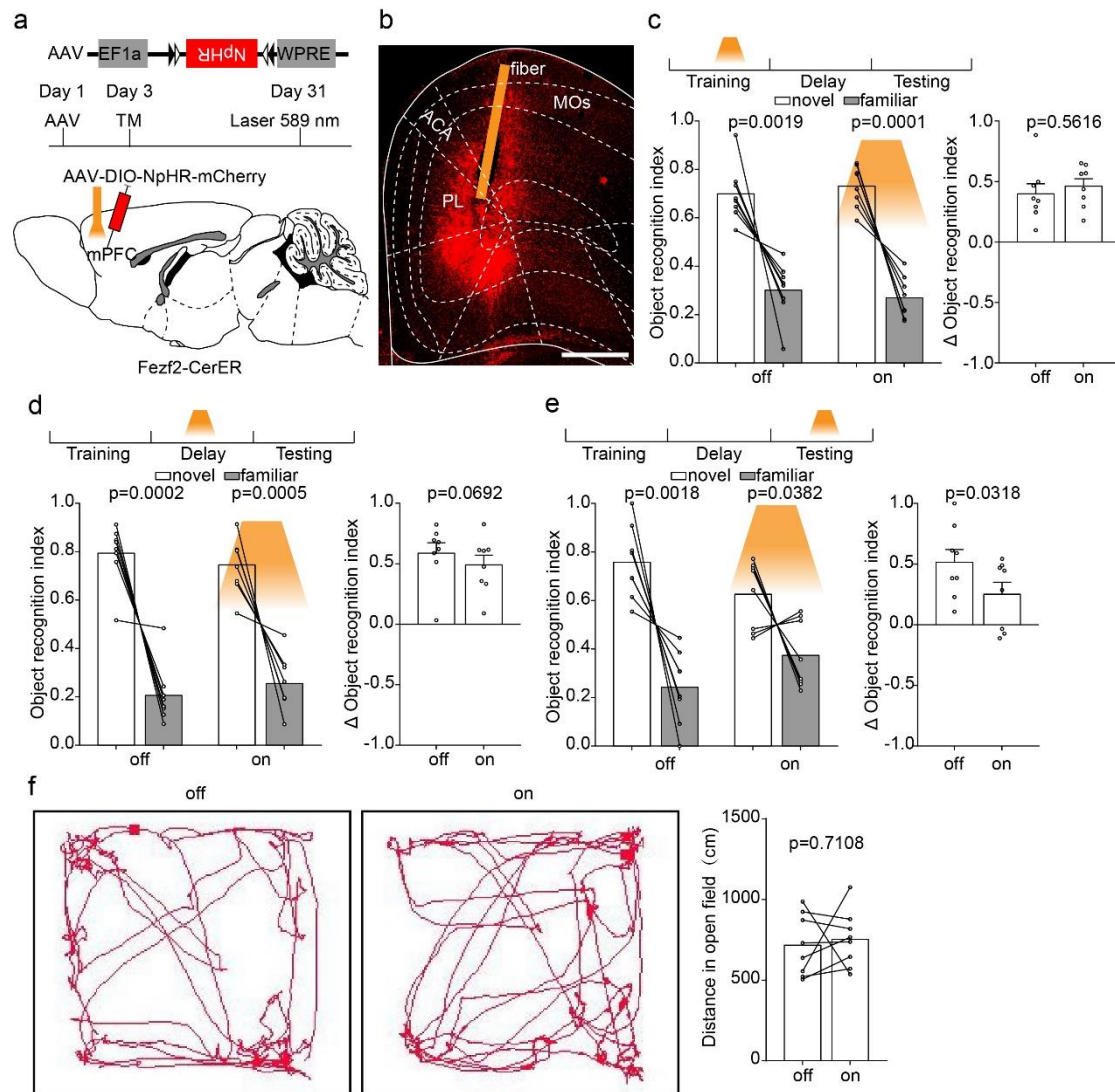
76 animals for WT object recognition test group, WT control group and AD object recognition test
77 group. n=3 animals for AD control group. Scale bars in a-k are 100 μ m. mPFC, medial
78 prefrontal cortex; AON, anterior olfactory nucleus; HDB, horizontal diagonal band; SI,
79 substantia innominata; aPVT, anterior paraventricular thalamic nucleus; MD, mediodorsal
80 thalamic nucleus; pPVT, posterior paraventricular thalamic nucleus; LHA, lateral hypothalamic
81 area; PAG, periaqueductal gray; SUM, supramammillary nucleus; VTA, ventral tegmental area;
82 SNR, substantia nigra, reticular part. All data are listed as the Mean \pm SEM.
83



84

85 Supplementary figure 6 The NeuN density in the mPFC, SI, SUM AND VTA of WT animals
 86 and 5×FAD animals. a-c. The NeuN density showed no difference in the mPFC between WT
 87 animals and 5×FAD animals. d-f. The NeuN density showed no difference in the SI between
 88 WT animals and 5×FAD animals. g-i. The NeuN density showed no difference in the SUM
 89 between WT animals and 5×FAD animals. j-l. The NeuN density showed no difference in the
 90 VTA between WT animals and 5×FAD animals. Two-tailed unpaired t test, n=3 animals. Scale

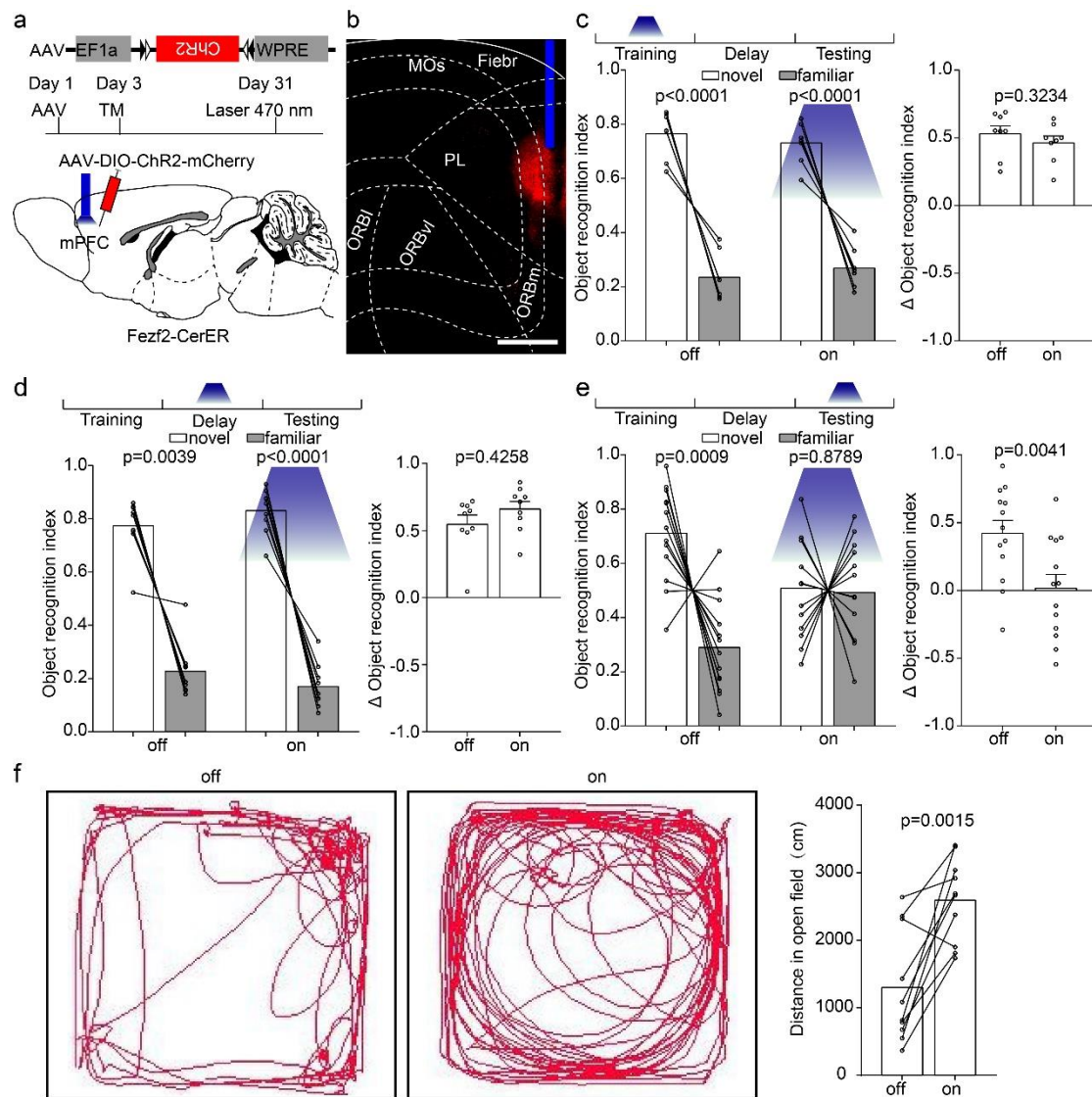
91 bars are 200 μm . mPFC, medial prefrontal cortex; SI, substantia innominata; SUM,
92 supramammillary nucleus; VTA, ventral tegmental area. All data are listed as the Mean \pm SEM.



93

94 Supplementary figure 7 Inhibition of extralencephalic projection neurons in the mPFC of wild
 95 type mice in specific phase disrupted object recognition memory expression, related to Fig 2.
 96 a. The experimental strategy of inhibition of extralencephalic projection neurons in the mPFC.
 97 The Cre dependent AAV expressing NpHR was injected into the mPFC of Fezf2-CreER mice.
 98 Three days after the virus injection, tamoxifen (200mg/kg) was injected intraperitoneally to
 99 activate the expression of NpHR. 3-4 weeks after the virus injection, the behavior tests were
 100 performed. b. An example of position of optical fiber for inhibition of the extralencephalic
 101 projection neurons in the mPFC. c. Statistical plots showed that the Fezf2-CreER mice tended
 102 to explore the novel object under two conditions (with or without light stimulation during
 103 training session, two-tailed paired t test). The delta object cognition index showed no difference
 104 under two conditions (two-tailed paired t test). n = 8 animals. d. Statistical plots showed that
 105 the Fezf2-CreER mice tended to explore the novel object under two conditions (with or without
 106 light stimulation during delay session, two-tailed paired t test). The delta object cognition
 107 index showed no difference under two conditions (two-tailed paired t test). n = 8 animals. e. Statistical
 108 plots showed that during the test session, the Fezf2-CreER mice that received light stimulation
 109 significantly spent less time exploring the novel object compared to the sessions without light

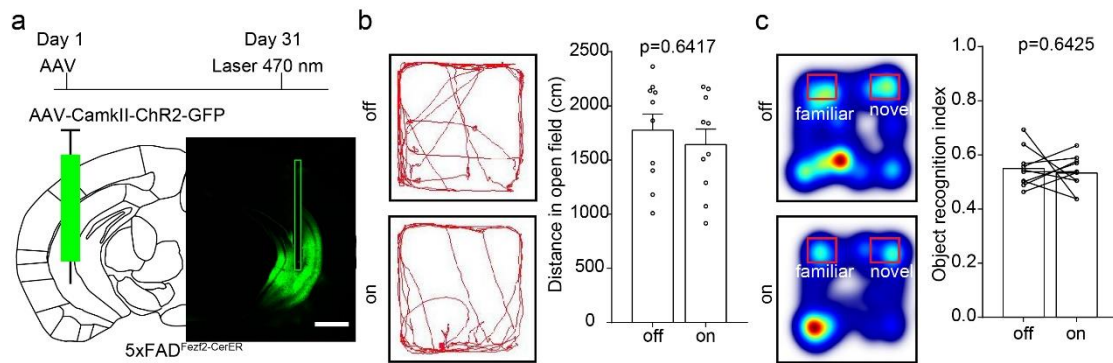
110 stimulation at 6 months of age, two-tailed paired t test. The animals which received light
111 stimulation during test session showed decreased delta object recognition index, two-tailed
112 paired t test, n = 8 animals. f. Inhibition of extratelencephalic projection neurons in the mPFC
113 did not affect the locomotion of the animals. f(left), the representative traces of the animals
114 during the open field test with or without light inhibition. f(right), the quantification of the
115 traveling distance of the animals with or without light inhibition. two-tailed paired t test, n=8
116 animals. Scale bar in b is 500 μ m. TM, tamoxifen; MOs, secondary motor area; ACA, anterior
117 cingulate area; PL, prelimbic area. All data are listed as the Mean \pm SEM.



118

119 Supplementary figure 8 Activation of extratelencephalic projection neurons in the mPFC of
 120 Fezf2-CreER mice in specific phase disrupted object recognition memory expression, related
 121 to Fig 2. a. The experimental strategy of activation of extratelencephalic projection neurons in
 122 the mPFC. The Cre dependent AAV expressing ChR2 was injected into the mPFC of Fezf2-
 123 CreER mice. Three days after the virus injection, tamoxifen (200mg/kg) was injected
 124 intraperitoneally to activate the expression of ChR2. 3-4 weeks after the virus injection, the
 125 behavior tests were performed. b. An example of position of optical fiber for activation of the
 126 extratelencephalic projection neurons in the mPFC. c. Statistical plots showed that the Fezf2-
 127 CreER mice tended to explore the novel object under two conditions (with or without light
 128 stimulation during training session, two-tailed paired t test, off, $p=0.000041$; on, $p=0.000041$).
 129 The delta object cognition index showed no difference under two conditions. two-tailed paired
 130 t test, $n = 8$ animals. d. Statistical plots showed that the Fezf2-CreER mice tended to explore
 131 the novel object under two conditions (with or without light stimulation during delay session,
 132 left, two-tailed Wilcoxon matched-pairs signed rank test; right, two-tailed paired t test,
 133 $p=2.38 \times 10^{-6}$). The delta object cognition index showed no difference under two conditions.
 134 two-tailed Wilcoxon matched-pairs signed rank test, $n = 9$ animals. e. Statistical plots showed

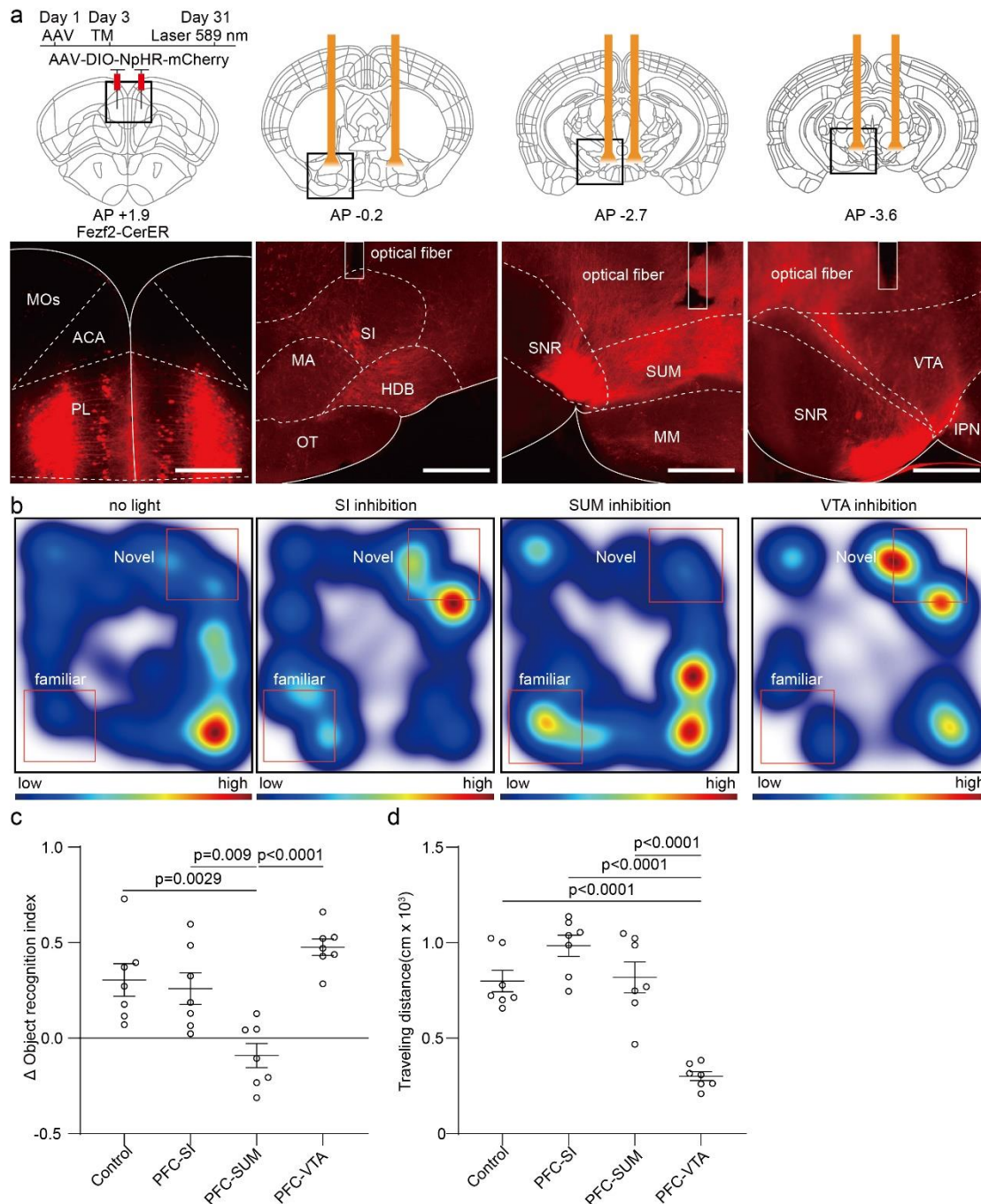
135 that during the test session, the *Fezf2-CreER* mice that received light stimulation significantly
136 spent less time exploring the novel object compared to the sessions without light stimulation at
137 6 months of age (two-tailed paired t test). The animals which received light stimulation during
138 test session showed decreased delta object recognition index, two-tailed paired t test, $n = 13$
139 animals. f. Activation of extratelencephalic projection neurons in the mPFC increased the
140 locomotion of the animals. f(left), the representative traces of the animals during the open field
141 test with or without light activation. f(right), the quantification of the traveling distance of the
142 animals with or without light activation. two-tailed paired t test, $n=10$ animals. Scale bar in b
143 is 500 μm . MOs, secondary motor area; PL, prelimbic area; ORBm, medial orbital cortex;
144 ORBvl, ventrolateral orbital cortex; ORBl, lateral orbital cortex. All data are listed as the Mean
145 \pm SEM.
146



148

149 Supplementary figure 9 Activation of ventral hippocampus of 5×FAD mice did not improve the
 150 expression of object recognition memory. a. The experiment procedure. The AAV virus
 151 expressing ChR2 under the control of camkii promotor was bilaterally injected into the ventral
 152 hippocampus of 5×FAD mice. The behavior test was conducted 1 month after the surgery.
 153 b(left), the representative traces of the animals during the open field test with or without light
 154 activation. b(right), the quantification of the traveling distance of the animals with or without
 155 light activation. two-tailed paired t test, n=10 animals. c(left), Heat-map plots showed object
 156 recognition memory measures from the object recognition test. Red = more time, blue = less
 157 time. c(right), quantification of the object recognition index towards novel object with or
 158 without light activation. Activation of ventral hippocampus of 5×FAD mice did not increase the
 159 exploration time towards novel object. two-tailed paired t test, n=10 animals. Scale bar in a is
 160 1mm. All data are listed as the Mean ± SEM.

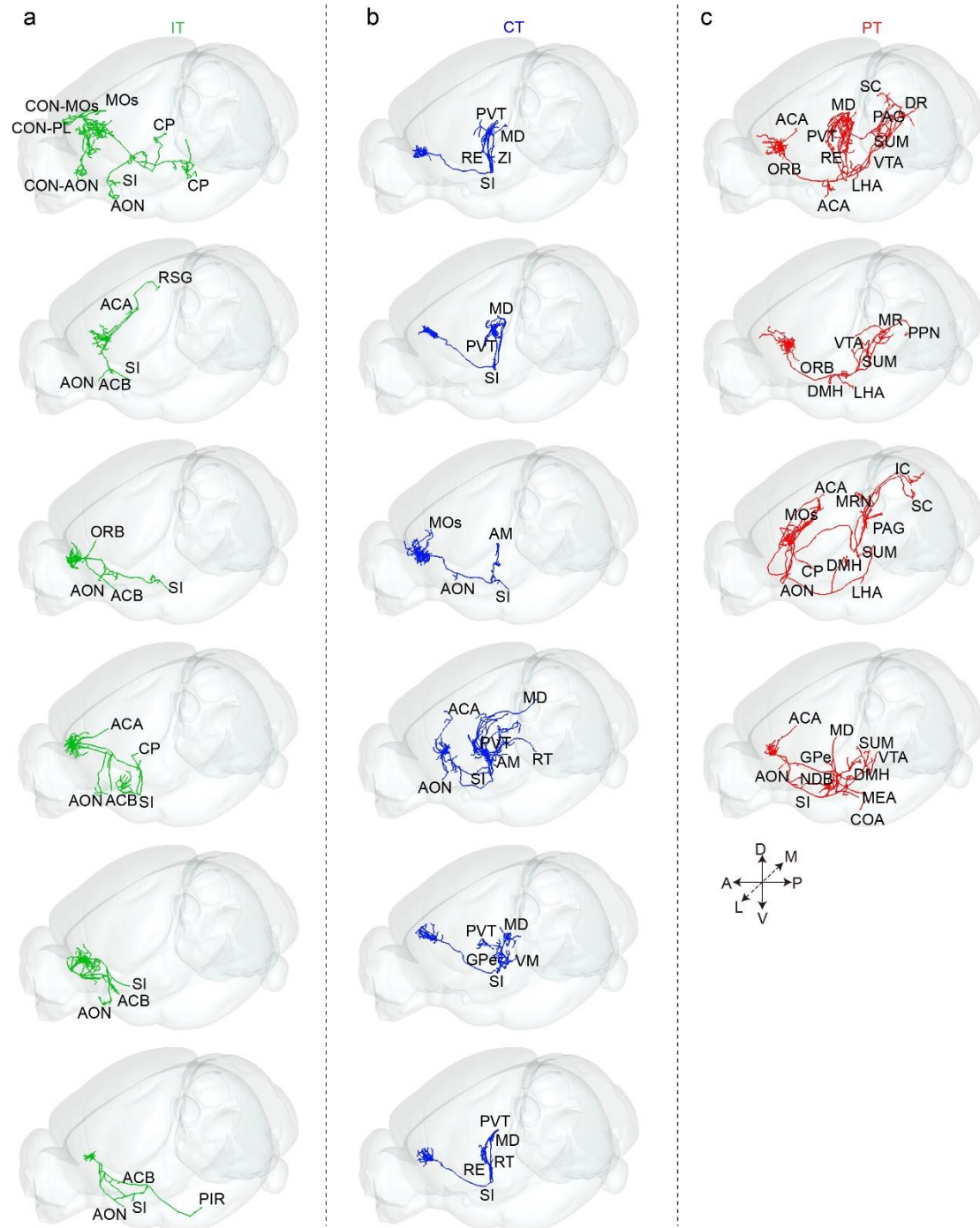
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162

163 Supplementary figure 10 Inhibition of specific axon terminals of extratelencephalic projection
 164 neurons in the mPFC of Fezf2-CreER mice disrupted the object recognition memory, related to
 165 Fig 3. a. The experimental strategy of terminal inhibition of extratelencephalic projection
 166 neurons in the mPFC. The Cre dependent AAV expressing NpHR was injected into the mPFC
 167 of Fezf2-CreER mice. The optical fibers were implanted in SI, SUM or VTA bilaterally to
 168 inhibit the axon terminals in these brain areas. Three days after the virus injection, tamoxifen
 169 (200 mg/kg) was injected intraperitoneally to activate the expression of NpHR. 3-4 weeks
 170 after the virus injection, the behavior tests were performed. The virus injection site and the
 171 positions of the optical fiber were shown below. b. Heat-map plots showed object recognition
 172 memory measures from the object recognition test under different experimental conditions (no light

173 stimulation; inhibition of axon terminals in SI; inhibition of axon terminals in SUM; inhibition
174 of axon terminals in VTA.) Red = more time, blue = less time. c. Statistical plots showed the
175 delta object recognition index under different conditions. One-way repeated-measures (RM)
176 ANOVA with Tukey's post hoc test, PFC-SUM vs PFC-VTA, $p= 0.00004$. $n = 7$ animals. d.
177 Statistical plots showed the traveling distance during the test session under different conditions.
178 $n = 7$ animals. One-way repeated-measures (RM) ANOVA with Tukey's post hoc test, control
179 vs PFC-VTA, $p= 0.000015$; PFC-SI vs PFC-VTA, $p= 0.00000008043$; PFC-SUM vs PFC-VTA,
180 $p= 0.00000835702$. Scale bars in a is $500 \mu\text{m}$. MOs, secondary motor area; ACA, anterior
181 cingulate area; PL, prelimbic area; SI, substantia innominata; MA, magnocellular nucleus;
182 HDB, horizontal diagonal band; OT, olfactory tubercle; SNR, substantia nigra, reticular part;
183 SUM, supramammillary nucleus; MM, medial mammillary nucleus; VTA, ventral tegmental
184 area; IPN, interpeduncular nucleus. All data are listed as the Mean \pm SEM.
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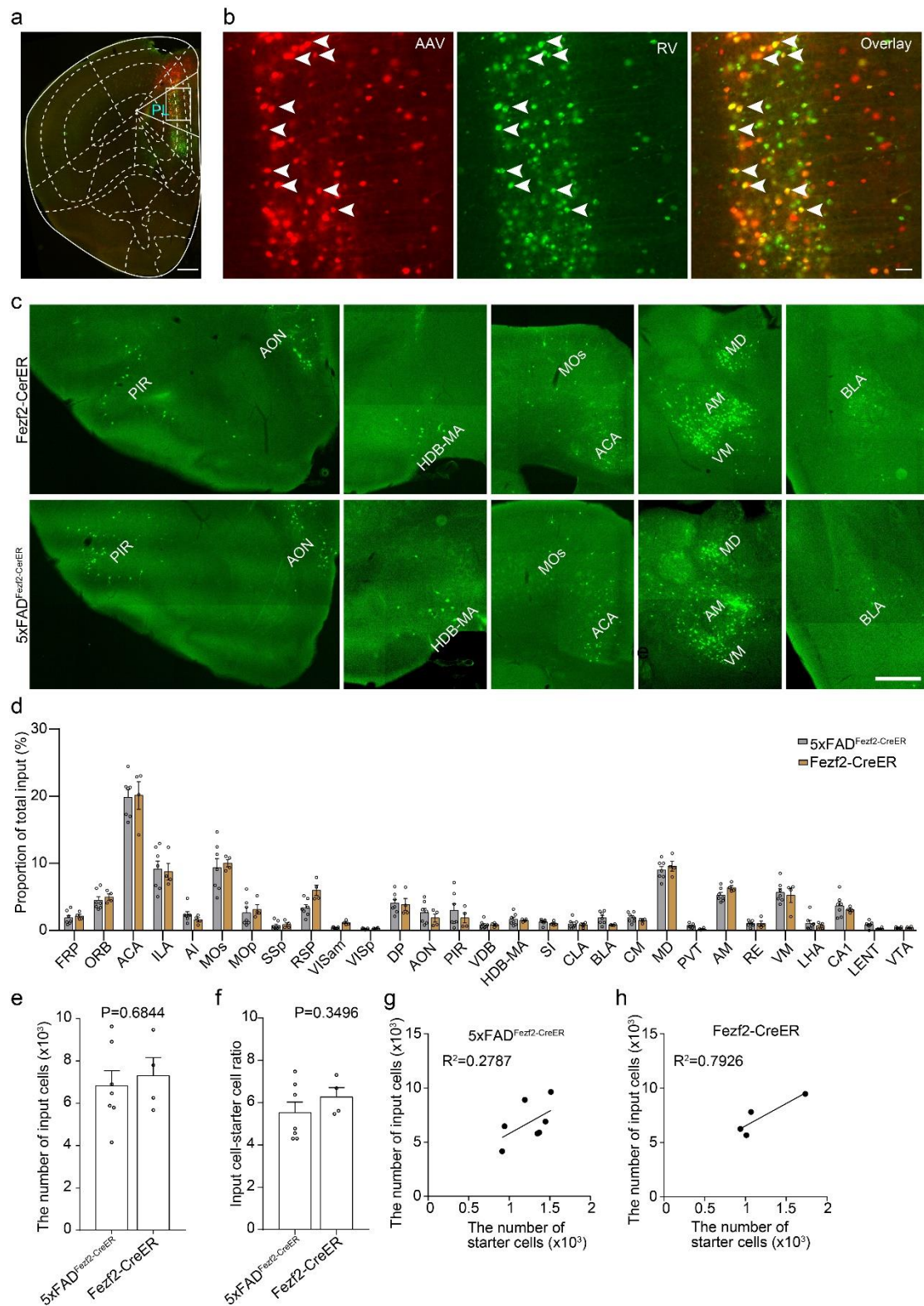


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187 Supplementary figure 11 The morphology of three types of reconstructed extratelencephalic
 188 projection neurons in the mPFC, related to Fig 4. a-c. The CT neurons were shown in blue. The
 189 IT neurons were shown in green. The PT neurons were shown in red. MOs, secondary motor
 190 area; AON, anterior olfactory nucleus; CP, caudate putamen; SI, substantia innominata. ACB,
 191 nucleus accumbens; ACA, anterior cingulate area; RSG, retrosplenial granular cortex; ORB,
 192 orbital cortex; PIR, piriform cortex; PVT, paraventricular thalamic nucleus; MD, mediodorsal
 193 thalamic nucleus; RT, reticular thalamic nucleus; RE, reuniens thalamic nucleus; VM,
 194 ventromedial thalamic nucleus; GPe, globus pallidus, external part; AM, anteromedial thalamic
 195 nucleus; LHA, lateral hypothalamic area; VTA, ventral tegmental area; SUM, supramammillary

196 nucleus; PAG, periaqueductal gray; DR, dorsal raphe nucleus; SC, superior colliculus; MR,
197 median raphe nucleus; IC, inferior colliculus; PPN, pedunculopontine tegmental nucleus; DMH,
198 dorsomedial hypothalamic nucleus; MEA, medial amygdala; COA, cortical amygdala area;
199 NDB, diagonal band; MRN, midbrain reticular nucleus. A, anterior; D, dorsal; L, lateral; M,
200 medial; P, posterior; V, ventral.
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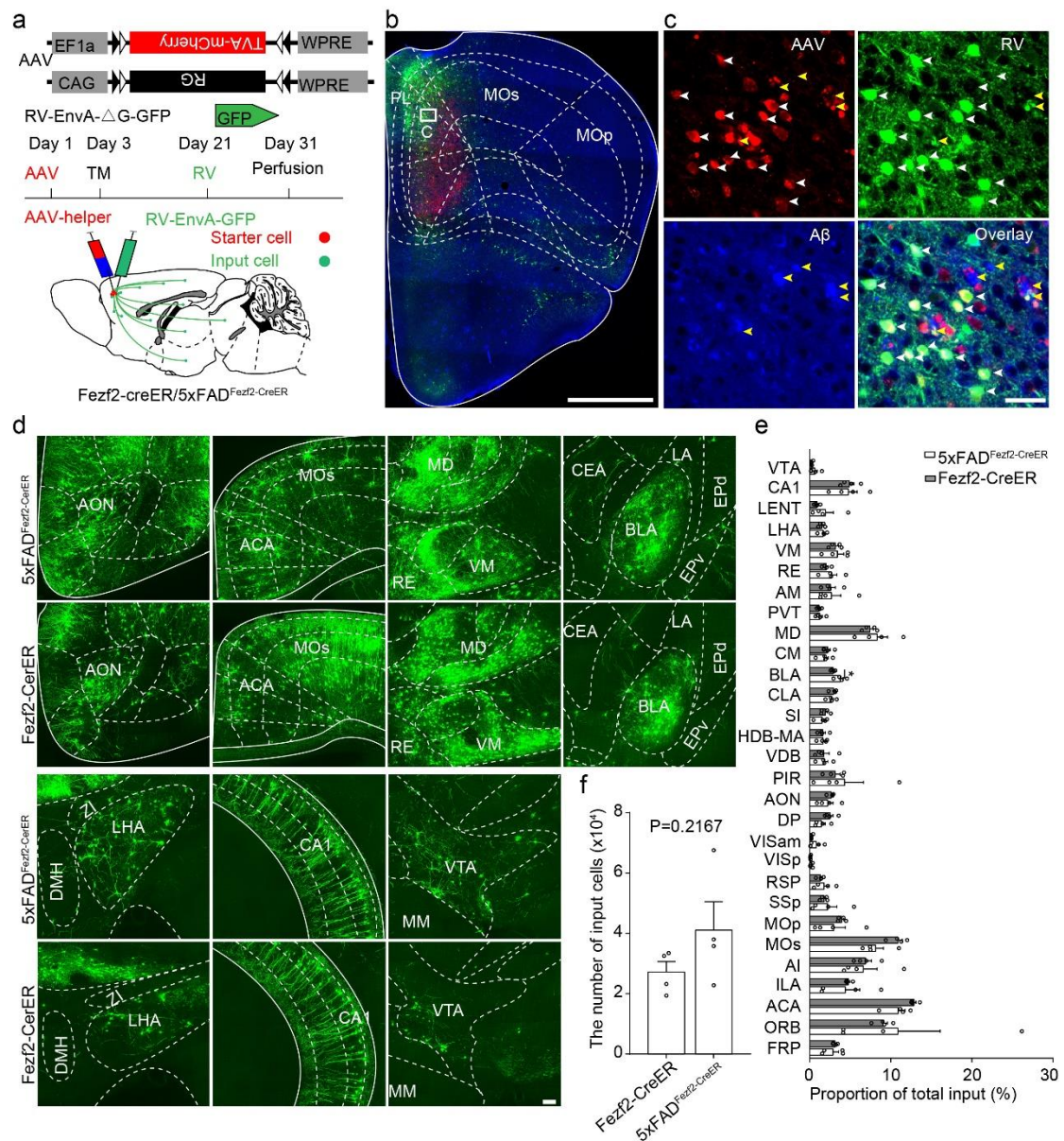
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205 Supplementary figure 12 The whole brain input to extratelencephalic projection neurons in the
 206 mPFC of Fezf2-CreER mice and 5×FAD mice at 2 months of age, related to Fig 5. a, b.
 207 Representative injection sites showed there was strong helper (red) and rabies (green) virus

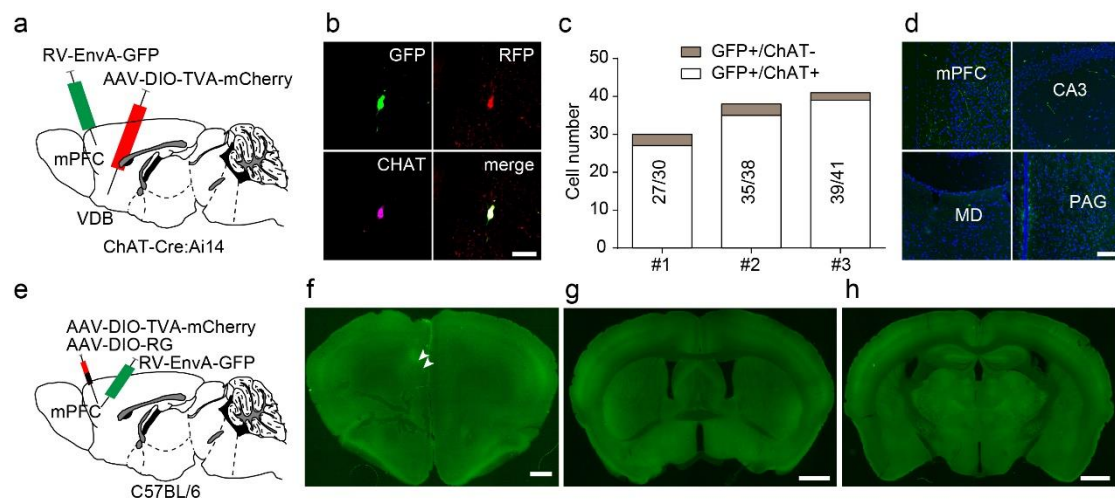
208 expression in the PL. Scale bar: a, 1 mm; b, 100 μ m. c. Afferent neurons in different brain areas
209 that established synapses on ET neurons in the mPFC. Scale bar is 1 mm. d. Proportion of whole
210 brain long range inputs to ET neurons in the prefrontal cortex. AD, n=7 animals; WT, n=4
211 animals. e. Quantification of the total number of the whole brain afferent neurons. AD, n=7
212 animals; WT, n=4 animals. Two-tailed unpaired t test. f. The input neuron-starter cell ratio in
213 both WT group and the AD group, AD, n=7 animals; WT, n=4 animals. Two-tailed unpaired t
214 test. g, h. The correlation between the number of input neurons and the starter cells in both WT
215 group and the AD group. PL, prelimbic area; PIR, piriform cortex; AON, anterior
216 olfactory nucleus; HDB, horizontal diagonal band; MA, magnocellular nucleus; MOs,
217 secondary motor area; ACA, anterior cingulate area; MD, mediodorsal thalamic nucleus;
218 AM, anteromedial thalamic nucleus; VM, ventromedial thalamic nucleus; BLA,
219 basolateral amygdala; FRP, frontal association cortex; ORB, orbital cortex; ILA,
220 infralimbic area; AI, agranular insular cortex; MOp, primary motor area; SSp, primary
221 somatosensory area; RSP, retrosplenial granular cortex; VISam, anteromedial visual
222 area; VISp, primary visual area; DP, dorsal peduncular cortex; VDB, vertical diagonal
223 band; SI, substantia innominata; CLA, claustrum; CM, central medial thalamic nucleus;
224 PVT, paraventricular thalamic nucleus; RE, reuniens thalamic nucleus; LHA, lateral
225 hypothalamic area; LENT, lateral entorhinal cortex; VTA, ventral tegmental area. All
226 data are listed as the Mean \pm SEM.
227



229

230 Supplementary figure 13 The whole brain input to extratelencephalic projection neurons in the
 231 mPFC of Fezf2-CreER mice and 5×FAD mice at 6 months of age, related to Fig 5. a. AAV
 232 helper viruses (AAV-EF1a-DIO-TVA-mCherry and AAV-CAG-DIO-RG) was injected into the
 233 PL of AD_{Fezf2-CreER} or Fezf2-CreER mice at 5 months of age and the Cre recombination was
 234 induced with tamoxifen (200 mg/kg) three days after the virus injection. The injection of RV-
 235 EnvA-ΔG-GFP was performed 3 weeks after AAV injection. b. Representative injection sites
 236 showed there was strong helper (red) and rabies (green) virus expression in the PL. Scale bar:
 237 500 μm. c. Enlarged image boxed in b illustrated some starter neurons and input neurons at the
 238 injection site. Scale bar: 50 μm. d. Whole brain datasets acquired by fMOST illustrated neurons
 239 in different brain areas that established synapses on ET neurons in the mPFC. Scale bar: 50 μm.
 240 e. Proportion of whole brain long range inputs to ET neurons in the prefrontal cortex. f. The
 241 total number of input neurons in both AD_{Fezf2-CreER} group and Fezf2-CreER group. two-tailed
 242 unpaired t test, n = 4 animals for each group. For abbreviation, please see Supplementary figure

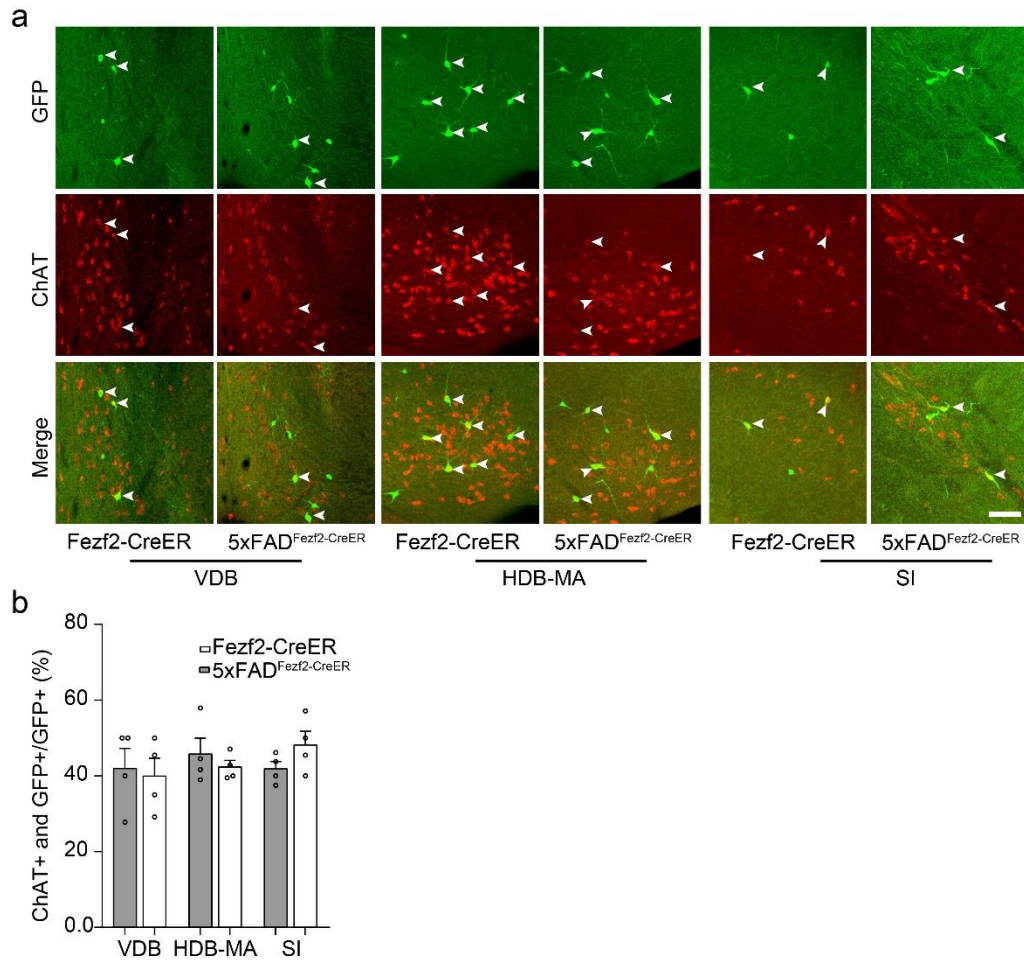
243 12. CEA, central amygdala; DMH, dorsomedial hypothalamic nucleus. All data are listed as the
244 Mean \pm SEM.
245



247

248 Supplementary figure 14 The specificity of helper virus for RV tracing, related to Fig5. a. AAV-
 249 DIO-TVA-mCherry was injected into the VDB of ChAT-Cre mice and the rabies virus coated
 250 with EnvA was injected into the mPFC to label the cholinergic neurons in the VDB that project
 251 to mPFC. b. Immunofluorescence staining against choline acetyltransferase to validate the
 252 specificity of the helper virus. c. Quantification analysis of the GFP labeled neurons that are
 253 cholinergic. d. The collateral projections of the cholinergic neurons in the VDB that project to
 254 mPFC. e. The Cre dependent helper virus that express TVA and RG was injected into the mPFC
 255 of C57BL/6 mice brain to test the specificity of helper virus. RV was injected into the same site
 256 three weeks after the AAV injection. f. The RV labeled neurons at the injection site. g, h. No
 257 long-range input neuron was labeled in C57BL/6 mice brain. mPFC, medial prefrontal cortex;
 258 MD, mediodorsal thalamic nucleus; PAG, periaqueductal gray. Scale bars in b and d are 50 μ m.
 259 Scale bars in f, g and h are 1 mm.

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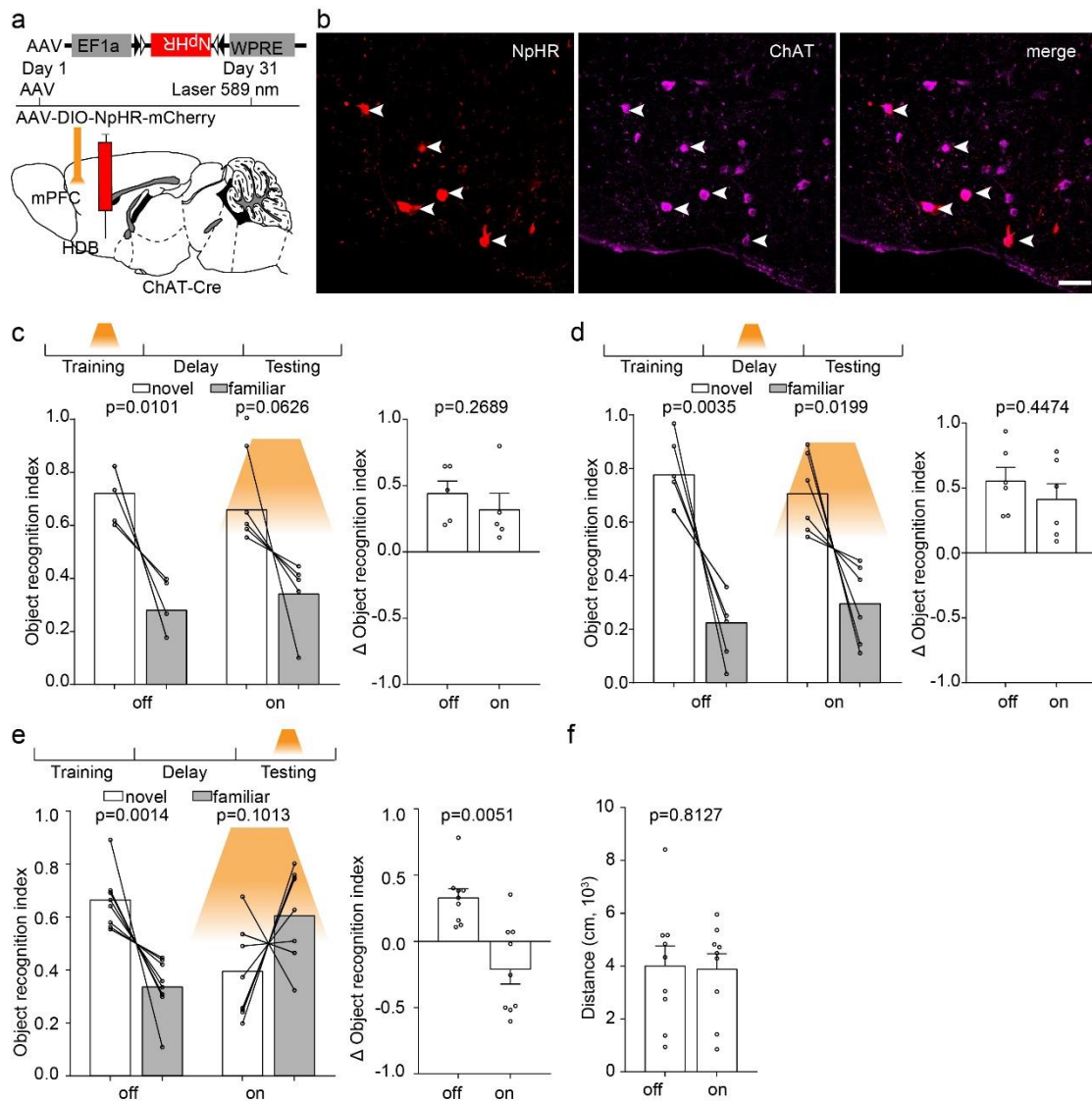


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262 Supplementary figure 15 Cholinergic inputs from basal forebrain to extratelencephalic
 263 projection neurons in the mPFC of 5×FAD mice at 2 months of age. a. Immunostaining against
 264 ChAT (red) to validate that some of the rabies labeled input neurons (green) from VDB, HDB-
 265 MA and SI to extratelencephalic projection neurons in the mPFC are cholinergic neurons. Scale
 266 bar: 50 μm. b. Comparison of ChAT positive RV labeled neurons between AD_{Fezf2-CreER} and
 267 Fezf2-CreER mice in VDB, HDB-MA and SI brain area (n = 4 for AD, n = 4 for WT). VDB,
 268 vertical diagonal band; HDB, horizontal diagonal band; MA, magnocellular nucleus; SI,
 269 substantia innominata. All error bars represent Mean ± SEM.

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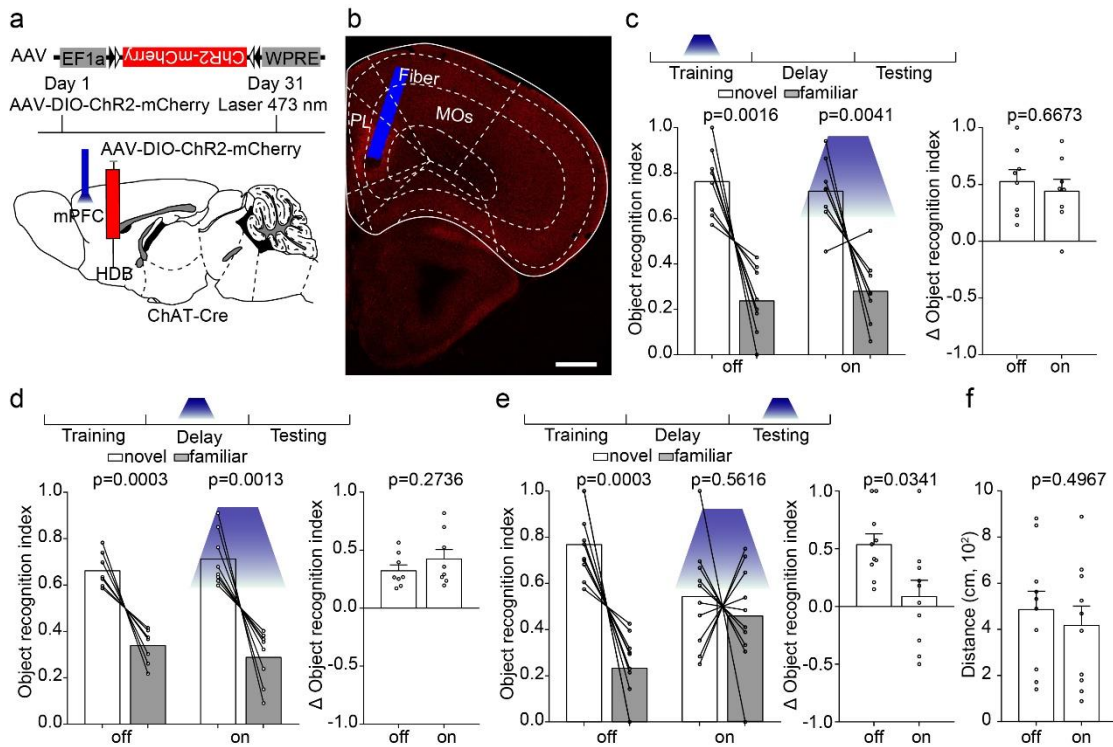
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273 Supplementary figure 16 Inhibition of cholinergic terminals in the mPFC of ChAT-Cre mice in
 274 specific phase disrupted object recognition memory, related to Fig 7. a. The experimental
 275 strategy of inhibition of cholinergic terminals in the mPFC. The Cre dependent AAV expressing
 276 NpHR was injected into the HDB of ChAT-Cre mice. 3-4 weeks after the virus injection, the
 277 behavior tests were performed. b. Immunostaining against ChAT to validate the specificity of
 278 AAV expression. c. Statistical plots showed that the ChAT-Cre mice tended to explore the novel
 279 object under two conditions (with or without light stimulation during training session). The
 280 delta object cognition index showed no difference under two conditions. two-tailed paired t test,
 281 $n = 5$ animals. d. Statistical plots showed that the ChAT-Cre mice tended to explore the novel
 282 object under two conditions (with or without light stimulation during delay session). The delta
 283 object cognition index showed no difference under two conditions. two-tailed paired t test, $n =$
 284 6 animals. e. Statistical plots showed that during the test session, the ChAT-Cre mice that
 285 received light stimulation significantly spent less time exploring the novel object compared to
 286 the sessions without light stimulation at 6 months of age. The animals which received light
 287 stimulation during test session showed decreased delta object recognition index, two-tailed
 288 paired t test, $n = 9$ animals. f. The statistical plot showed the traveling distance of ChAT-Cre

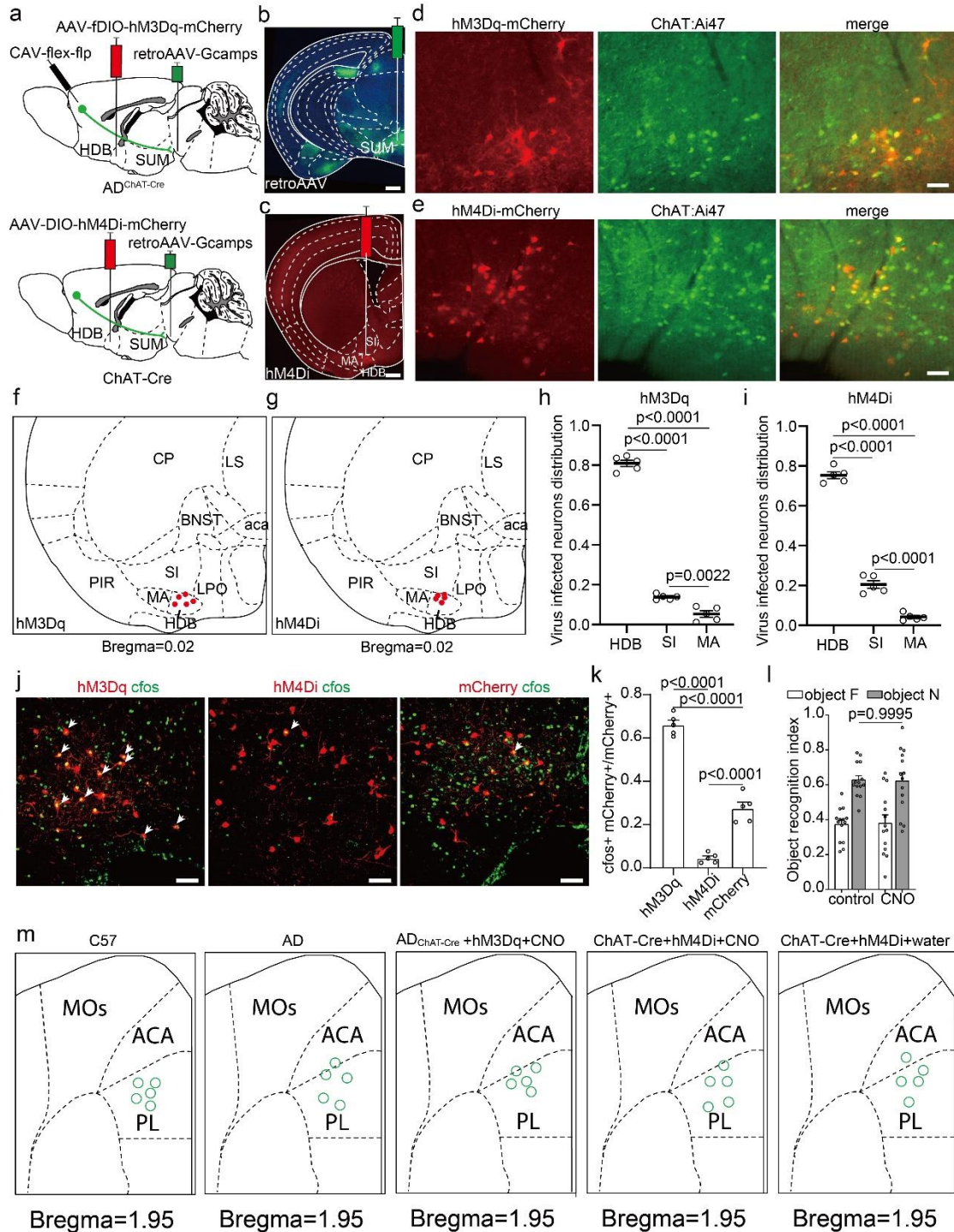
289 mice with or without light inhibition of the cholinergic terminals in mPFC. two-tailed paired t
290 test, n = 9 animals. Scale bar in b is 50 μ m. All data are listed as the Mean \pm SEM.
291



293

294 Supplementary figure 17 Activation of cholinergic terminals in the mPFC of ChAT-Cre mice in
 295 specific phase disrupted object recognition memory, related to Fig 7. a. The experimental
 296 strategy of activation of cholinergic terminals in the mPFC. The Cre dependent AAV expressing
 297 ChR2 was injected into the HDB of ChAT-Cre mice. 3-4 weeks after the virus injection, the
 298 behavior tests were performed. b. One example image showed the optical fiber position in the
 299 mPFC. c. Statistical plots showed that the ChAT-Cre mice tended to explore the novel object
 300 under two conditions (with or without light stimulation during training session). The delta
 301 object cognition index showed no difference under two conditions. two-tailed paired t test, n =
 302 8 animals. d. Statistical plots showed that the ChAT-Cre mice tended to explore the novel object
 303 under two conditions (with or without light stimulation during delay session). The delta object
 304 cognition index showed no difference under two conditions. two-tailed paired t test, n = 8
 305 animals. e. Statistical plots showed that during the test session, the ChAT-Cre mice that received
 306 light stimulation significantly spent less time exploring the novel object compared to the
 307 sessions without light stimulation at 6 months of age. The animals which received light
 308 stimulation during test session showed decreased delta object recognition index, two-tailed
 309 paired t test, n = 10 animals. f. The statistical plot showed the traveling distance of ChAT-Cre
 310 mice with or without light activation of the cholinergic terminals in mPFC. two-tailed paired t
 311 test, n=10 animals. Scale bar in b is 500 μm. PL, prelimbic area; MOs, secondary motor area.
 312 All data are listed as the Mean ± SEM.

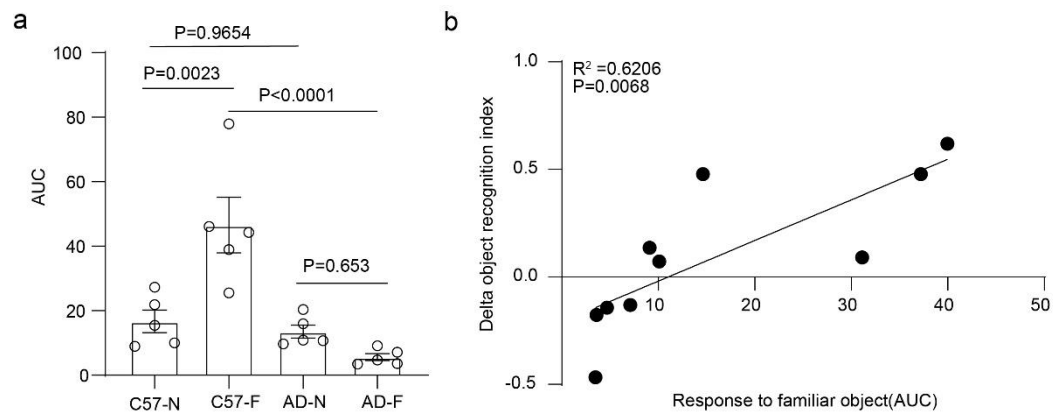
313



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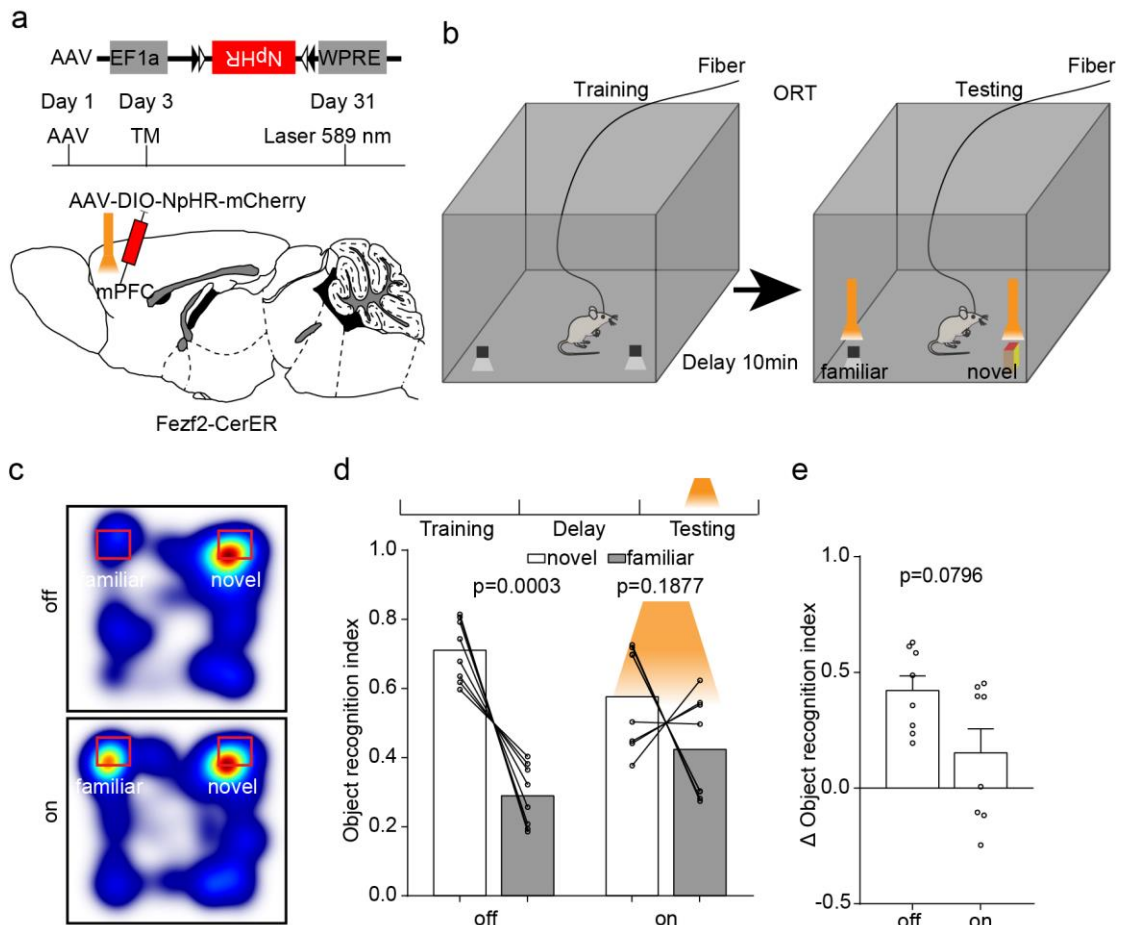
315 Supplementary figure 18 The specificity and functional validation of AAV expressing hM3Dq
 316 and hM4Di, related to Fig 8. a. The experimental strategy to activate or inhibit the mPFC
 317 projection cholinergic neurons and to record the activity of SUM projection neurons in the
 318 mPFC. For the hM3Dq activation, the flp dependent AAV virus expressing hM3Dq was injected
 319 into the HDB of AD^{ChAT-Cre} mice. Cre dependent CAV expressing flp was injected into the mPFC.
 320 The retroAAV expressing GCAMP6s was injected into the SUM to label the SUM projection
 321 neurons in mPFC for fiber photometry. For the Hm4Di inhibition, the Cre dependent AAV
 322 expressing hM4Di was injected into the HDB of ChAT-Cre mice. The retroAAV expressing

323 GCAMp6s was injected into the SUM to label the SUM projection neurons in mPFC for fiber
324 photometry. b. The image showed the retroAAV injection site in the SUM. c. The image showed
325 the virus injection site at the HDB. d. The validation of the specificity of the AAV that express
326 hM3Dq and mCherry. The fluorescence of mCherry was highly colocalized with the
327 endogenous expressed GFP. e. The validation of the specificity of the AAV that express hM4Di
328 and mCherry. The fluorescence of mCherry was highly colocalized with the endogenous
329 expressed GFP. f, g. The diagrams showed the injection site of different animals in the HDB. h,
330 i. Quantification of the virus infected neurons around the injection site. n = 5 animals for each
331 group. one-way repeated-measures (RM) ANOVA with Tukey's post hoc test. h. HDB vs SI,
332 $p=6.6\times 10^{-13}$; HDB vs MA, $p=2.8\times 10^{-13}$. i. HDB vs SI, $p=1.95\times 10^{-11}$; HDB vs MA, $p=1.09\times 10^{-12}$;
333 SI vs MA, $p=0.000022$. j. Example images showed the colocalization of c-fos and mCherry
334 in hM3Dq group, hM4Di group and control group after object interaction. k. Statistical plot
335 showed the percentage of colocalization of c-fos and mCherry in hM3Dq group, hM4Di group
336 and control group after object interaction. one-way repeated-measures (RM) ANOVA with
337 Tukey's post hoc test, hM3Dq vs. hM4Di, $p=3.7\times 10^{-10}$; hM3Dq vs. mCherry, $p=7.08\times 10^{-8}$,
338 hM4Di vs. mCherry, $p=0.000018$. n = 5 animals for each group. l. Comparison of the effect of
339 chronic administration of CNO alone on object recognition memory. One-way ANOVA
340 followed with Tukey's post hoc test, control group, n=14 animals; CNO group, n=14 animals.
341 m. Schematics showing the placement of optic fibers of fiber photometry experiments in Fig.
342 8. HDB, horizontal diagonal band; SUM, supramammillary nucleus; MA, magnocellular
343 nucleus; SI, substantia innominata. CP, caudate putamen; LS, lateral septum; aca, anterior
344 commissure, anterior part; BNST, bed nucleus of the stria terminalis; LPO, lateral preoptic area;
345 PIR, piriform cortex; MOs, secondary motor area; ACA, anterior cingulate area; PL, prelimbic
346 area. Scale bars in b and c are 500 μm . Scale bars in d, e and j are 50 μm . All data are listed as
347 the Mean \pm SEM.
348



350

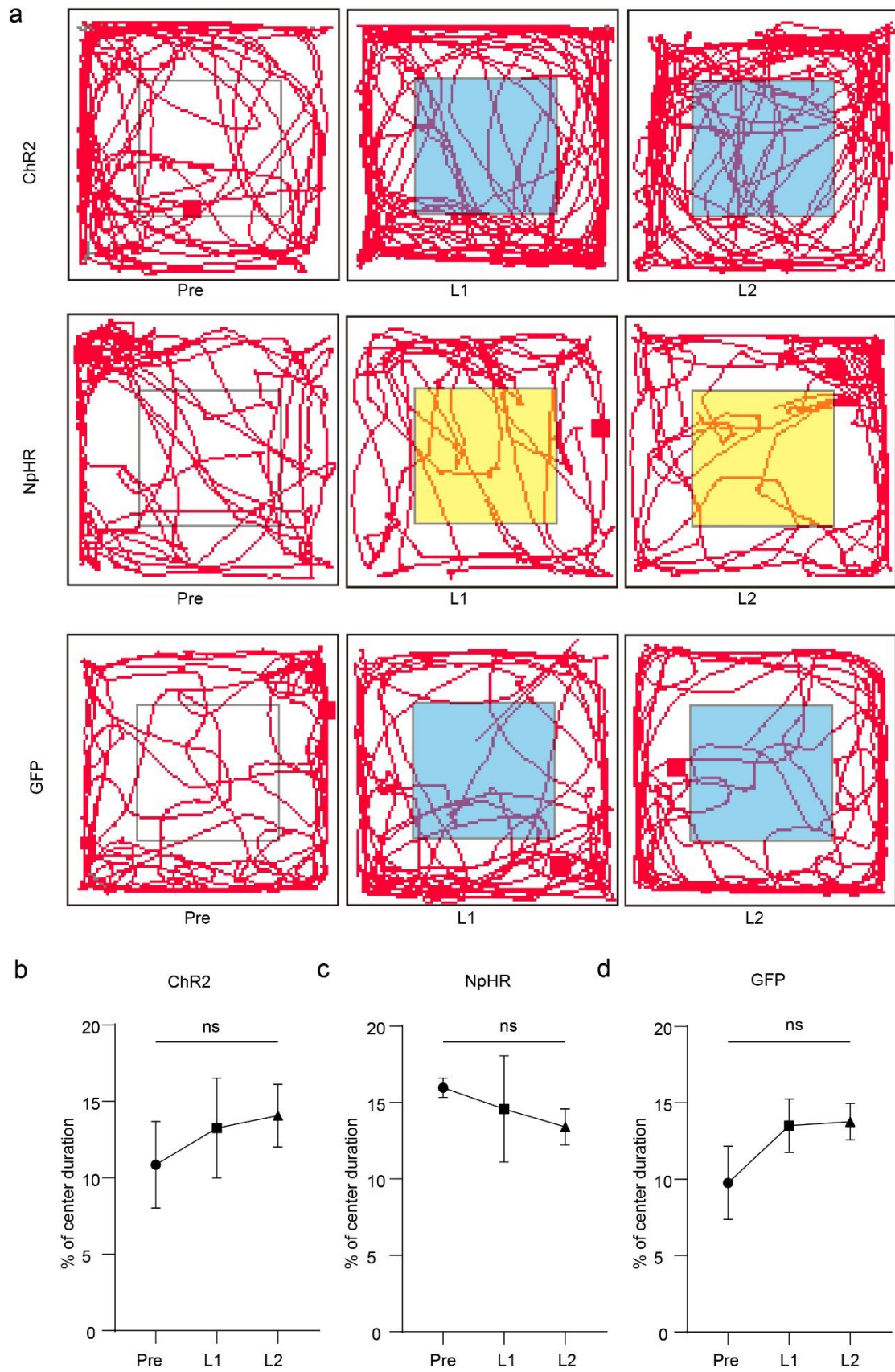
351 Supplementary fig. 19 The relationship between the object recognition and neuron response to
 352 familiar object. a. The ET neuron response in the mPFC of AD animals to familiar but not novel
 353 object was decreased compared to that of wild type animals. (one-way ANOVA followed by
 354 Tukey correction, C57-F vs AD-F, $p=0.0000919$. N, novel; F, familiar.). $n=5$ animals in each
 355 group. b. The correlation between the ET neuron response in the mPFC to familiar object and
 356 the delta object recognition index. (AD, $n=5$ animals, wild type, $n=5$ animals). Linear
 357 regression analysis. All data are listed as the Mean \pm SEM.



359

360 Supplementary figure 20 The effect of region-specific inhibition of extratelencephalic
 361 projection neurons in the mPFC during object recognition test. a and b. The experimental
 362 procedure to inhibit the extratelencephalic projection neurons in the mPFC and the object
 363 recognition test. c. Heat-map plots showed object recognition memory measures from the object
 364 recognition test. Red = more time, blue = less time. (upper, without light inhibition; lower, the
 365 light inhibition was delivered when animal entered the regions where the objects were located
 366 at). d, e. Quantification of the object recognition index and the delta object recognition index
 367 of the tests with or without light inhibition. n=8 animals, two-tailed paired t test was used. All
 368 data are listed as the Mean ± SEM.

369



370

371 Supplementary figure 21 Optogenetic manipulation of extratelencephalic projection (ET)
 372 neurons in the mPFC did not induce robust conditional place preference or aversion. a.

373 Representative iClass tracks recorded during the iClass test paired with blue light activation or
374 yellow light inhibition in the center of the arena. b. Statistical plot showed that activation of ET
375 neurons in the mPFC during iClass test did not alter the proportion of time that the test mice
376 spent in the center of the area. n = 6 animals. c. Statistical plot showed that inhibition of ET
377 neurons in the mPFC during iClass test did not alter the proportion of time that the test mice
378 spent in the center of the area. n = 5 animals. d. Statistical plot showed that light stimulation of
379 ET neurons in the mPFC that expressed GFP did not alter the proportion of time that the test
380 mice spent in the center of the area. n = 6 animals. one-way repeated-measures (RM) ANOVA
381 with Tukey's post hoc test, all data are listed as the Mean \pm SEM.
382

383 **Supplementary table 1** Probe sequences used for Cre FISH (Highlighted in red).

384 Cre:

385 ATGTCCAATTTACTGACCGTACACCAAAATTTGCCTGCATTACCGGTCG
386 ATGCAACGAGTGATGAGGTTTCGCAAG²AACCTGATGGACATGTTTCAGGGAT
387 CGCCAGGCGTTTTCTGAGCATACTGGAAAATGCTTCTGTCCGTTTGCCGG
388 TCGTGGGCGGCATGGTGAAGTTGAATAACCGGAAATGGTTTCCC GCAGA
389 ACCTGAAGATGTTTCGCGA⁴TTATCTTCTATATCTTCAGGCGCGCGGTCTGGC
390 AGTAAAACTATCCAGCAACATTTGGGCCAGCTAAACATGCTTCATCGTCG
391 GTCCGGGCTGCCACGACCAAGTGACAGCAATGCTGTTTCACTGGTTATGCG
392 GCGGATCCGAAAAGAAAACGTTGATGCCGGTGAACGTGAAAACAGGCTC
393 TAGCGTTCGA¹ACGCACTGATTTTCGACCAGGTTTCGTTCACTCATGGAAAATA
394 GCGATCGCTGCCAGGATATACGTAATCTGGCATTCTGGGGATTGC⁶TTATAA
395 CACCCTGTTACGTATAGCCGAAATTGCCAGGATCAGGGTTAAAGATATCTCA
396 CGTACTGACGGTGGGAGAATGTTAATCCATATTGGCAGAACGAAAACGCTG
397 GTTAGCACCGCAGGTGTAGAG³AAGGCACTTAGCCTGGGGGTAAC TAAACT
398 GGTCGAGCGATGGATTTCCGTCTCTGGTGTAGCTGATGATCCG⁵AATAACTA
399 CCTGTTTTGCCGGGTCAGAAAAAATGGTGTGCGCGCCATCTGCCACCAG
400 CCAGCTATCAACTCGCGCCCTGGAAGGGATTTTTGAAGCAACTCATCGATT
401 GATTTACGGCGCTAAGGATGACTCTGGTCAGAGATACCTGGCCTGGTCTGG
402 ACACAGTGCCCGTGTCTGGAGCCGCGCGAGATATGGCCCGCGCTGGAGTTT
403 CAATACCGGAGATCATGCAAGCTGGTGGCTGGACCAATGTAAATATTGTCAT
404 GAACTATATCCGTAACCTGGATAGTGAAACAGGGGCAATGGTGC GCCTGCT
405 GGAAGATGGCGATTAG

406

407