Supplementary Data

Neuronal hyperexcitability drives central and peripheral nervous system tumor progression in models of Neurofibromatosis-1

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Supplementary Figure 1. Characterization of the Arg1809Cys *Nf1-***mutant mouse strain**

A. Summary of litters of Arg1809Cys *Nf1* heterozygous mouse intercrosses.

B. Weights of male and female Arg1809Cys *Nf1*-mutant mice are similar to WT littermates at 1 month of age. n=4 for all groups.

Data are represented as means ± SEM. One-way ANOVA with Bonferroni post-test correction. p values were not significant (ns). Source data are provided as a Source Data file.

Supplementary Figure 2. Analysis of Arg1809Cys *Nf1-***mutant neuron signaling**

A. Immunocharacterization of retinal ganglion cells (RGCs; RPBML⁺, Brn3a⁺, TUJ-1⁺), hippocampal neurons (Glutamate Synthetase⁺, GAD65⁺, TUJ-1⁺) and dorsal root ganglia (DRG) neurons (peripherin⁺, Islet-1⁺, TUJ-1⁺). Scale bar, 100 µm. Immunostaining of primary neurons was repeated independently 4 times with similar results.

B. Midkine expression is increased in $Nf1^{+R681X}$ mutant RGCs relative to controls. Scale bar, 50 µm. Immunostaining of mouse retinae was repeated on a minimum of 3 independent animals per genotype with similar results.

C. Immunocharacterization of excitatory (Glutamate Synthetase⁺, NeuN⁺, TUJ-1⁺) and inhibitory (GABA⁺, GAD67⁺, TUJ-1⁺) hiPSC-derived CNS neurons. Scale bar, 100 µm. Immunostaining of hiPSC-derived neurons was repeated independently 3 times with similar results.

D. Midkine expression is increased in human CNS inhibitory (GABAergic) *NF1C383X*, *NF1R681X* and *NF1^{E2207X}*, but not in *NF1^{R1809C}*, mutant neurons relative to controls (CTL). n=3 for all groups, p=0.0002.

E. Representative summary of multi-electrode array recordings of WT, *Nf1*+/neo and *Nf1*+/1809 RGCs illustrating action potentials detected by each electrode over a period of 5 minutes.

F-H. Adam-10 (*Adam10*) transcript expression is increased in *Nf1*+/neo relative to WT and *Nf1*+/1809 optic nerves, retinae and RGCs. **F**, n=4 for all groups, $p=0.0010$; **G**, n=4 for all groups, $p=0.0161$; **H**, WT n=5, *Nf1*+/neo, *Nf1*+/1809 n=4, p=0.0007

I. *Nlgn3* transcript expression is similar in *Nf1*^{+/neo}, *Nf1*^{+/1809} and WT DRG neurons. n=4 for all groups.

J-K. Midkine *(Mdk)* (**J)** RNA and (**K**) protein expression are not increased in *Nf1-*mutant DRG neurons relative to WT controls. **J**, n=8 for all groups, p=0.007. **K**, WT n=8, $Nf1^{+/1809}$ n=4, p=0.0104.

L. Ccl4 expression is increased similarly in WT (n=4) and Arg1809Cys *Nf1-*mutant (n=3) hippocampal neurons following midkine treatment.

M. Ccl5 is similarly elevated in WT (n=3) and Arg1809Cys *Nf1-*mutant (n=3) hippocampal neurons following Ccl4 treatment.

N. *Hcn1-4* RNA expression is not different in *Nf1-*mutant RGC neurons relative to WT controls. n=4 for all groups.

O. *Adam10* transcript expression is unchanged in retinae of 12 week-old *Nf1+/neo* mice following *in vivo* lamotrigine (LTR; 200µM) treatment. n=5 for all groups.

P. *Mdk, Adam10*, and *Nlgn3* transcript expression in the optic nerves (O.N.) of 12-week-old *Nf1+/neo* mice following *in vivo* LTR treatment. n=5 for all groups, O.N. *Mdk* R.E.p=0.015.

Q-R. *Mdk, Adam10,* and *Nlgn3* transcript expression in (**Q**) retinae (*Mdk* R.E. p=0.0020) and (**R**) optic nerves (*Mdk* R.E. p=0.0109) of 12 week-old *Nf1*-OPG mice following *in vivo* LTR treatment. n=4 for all groups.

Data are represented as means ± SEM. (**D, F-N**) One-way ANOVA with (**D, F-K**) Dunnett's or (**N**) Bonferroni post-test correction (**O-R**) two-tailed paired t-test. p values are indicated within each panel. ns, not significant. Source data are provided as a Source Data file.

Supplementary Figure 3. *Nf1-***mutant hippocampal neuron midkine secretion is dependent on neuronal hyperexcitability**

A-B. Midkine (**A**) transcript (*Mdk)* and (**B**) protein expression are increased in hippocampal neurons from *Nf1*^{+/neo} mice (n=8; *Mdk* R.E. p=0.0008; Midkine p<0.0001) relative to WT controls (n=7) and *Nf1*^{+/1809} mice $(n=3)$.

C. Hippocampal neuron activity, as measured by action potential (AP) firing rates, is increased in *Nf1*+/neo (n=4; p=0.025) relative to WT (n=8) and $Nf1^{+/1809}$ (n=4) neurons.

D-G. (**D-E**) Tetrodotoxin (TTX; 1µM; **D**, n=4 for both groups, p=0.0221; **E**, n=5 for both groups, p=0.0002) and (**F-G**) lamotrigine (LTR; 200µM; **F,** vehicle n=3, LTR n=4, p=0.0491; **G,** n=6 for both groups, $p \le 0.001$) reduced (**D**) AP firing rates of and (**E**) midkine expression in *Nf1*^{+/neo} hippocampal neurons.

H. ZD-7288 (30 μ M) increases midkine secretion by *Nf1*^{+/neo} hippocampal neurons. n=3 for both groups, p=0.0046.

I. RAS activity is elevated in *Nf1+/neo* and *Nf1+/1809* hippocampal neurons relative to WT controls. n=5 for both groups, p<0.0001.

J. Hippocampal neuron midkine secretion is reduced following IN-1 treatment $(1\mu M)$. Vehicle n=12, IN-1 $n=7$, $p<0.0001$.

K. RAS activity is reduced in *Nf1+/neo* neurons following TTX and LTR treatment. n=6 for all groups, p<0.0001.

L. *Nf1^{+/neo}* hippocampal neuron AP firing rates are not reduced following IN-1 treatment. n=4 for both groups.

Data are represented as means \pm SEM, (A-C; I, K) One-way ANOVA with Dunnett's post-test correction or (**D-H**, **J, L**) unpaired two-tailed student's t-test. p values are indicated within each panel. ns, not significant. Source data are provided as a Source Data file.

Supplementary Figure 4. Genetic silencing of *Hcn1* **and** *Hcn2* **results in neuronal death.**

A-B. Representative phase-contrast images depicting (**A**) RGCs or (**B**) DRG neurons infected with scrambled control, sh*Hcn1*, sh*Hcn2*, or a combination of sh*Hcn1* and sh*Hcn2*. Silencing of *Hcn1/2* lead to neuronal death. Independently generated primary RGC and DRG neurons were infected 3 times with similar results.

C. 6-hour treatment with TTX induced RGC and DRG neuronal cell death. Independently generated primary RGC and DRG neurons were treated with TTX 3 times with similar results.

Scale bars, 100µm

Supplementary Figure 5. Human sh*NF1* **Schwann cell and sensory neuron analysis**

A. Human sh*NF1* Schwann cells are immunopositive for EGR2, S100β, OCT6 and SOX10 expression. Immunostaining of human Schwann cells was repeated independently 3 times with similar results. Scale bars, 50 μ m.

B-C. *NF1+/-* hiPSC-sensory neurons are immunopositive for (**B**) neurofilament, peripherin, BRN3A, ISL-1, and CALCA1 expression by western blot, as well as for (**C**) SMI32 and Tuj-1 by immunocytochemistry, but are immunonegative for Nestin and p75NTR expression. Scale bars, 50 µm. Immunostaining of hiPSCsensory neurons was repeated independently a minimum of 3 times with similar results.

D. sh*NF1* human Schwann cell proliferation following hiPSC-sensory neuron CM treatment. CTL sh#1 n=6, Arg1809Cys sh#1 n=5, ns, Cys383X sh#1 n=6, p<0.0001, Arg681X sh#1 n=6, p<0.0001. CTL sh#2 n=3, Arg1809Cys sh#2 n=3, ns, Cys383X sh#2 n=3, p<0.0001, Arg681X sh#2 n=3, p<0.0001. CTL sh#3 n=3, Arg1809Cys sh#3 n=3, ns, Cys383X sh#3 n=3, p<0.0001, Arg681X sh#3 n=3, p<0.0001.

Data are represented as means \pm SEM, 2-tailed paired t-tests or One-way ANOVA with Bonferroni posttest correction. p values are indicated within each panel. ns, not significant. Source data are provided as a Source Data file.

ns

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Supplementary Figure 6. COL1A2 is uniquely expressed by *NF1***-mutant peripheral nervous system neurons.**

A. The amplitudes of action potentials were similar in $Nf1^{+/100}$ (n=3) and $Nf1^{+/1809}$ (n=3) DRG neurons relative to WT controls (n=4). Right panels: representative traces of DRG neuron action potentials over 3 msec (gray). The averages of the DRG action potential traces are indicated in black.

B-C. (B) 2D gels of control (CTL), NFI^{R681X} (R681X) and NFI^{R1809C} (1809) human sensory neuron conditioned media and (**C**) annotation of increased (green) and decreased (red) proteins in CM of R681X (left) or R1809C (right) *NF1-*mutant relative to control sensory neurons.

D-H. COL2A1, lactotransferrin, C7, albumin and ANXA2 expression in independently-generated hiPSCsensory neuron CM were not uniquely elevated in NFI^{C383X} - and NFI^{R68IX} -mutant neurons relative to controls and *NF1R1809C*-mutant neurons. **D**, n=4 all groups. **E,** n=3 all groups, C383X p<0.0001. **F**, n=4 all groups. **G**, n=4 all groups, R681X p<00001. **H,** n=3 all groups, R681X p=0.0008.

I. Increased proliferation (%Ki67+ cells) of mouse *Nf1-/-* DRG-NSCs following treatment with human *NF1*^{R681X}-, but not CTL- and *NF1^{R1809C}*-mutant, hiPSC-sensory neuron CM. n=6 all groups, p<0.0001.

J. Col1a2 expression is increased in mouse *Nf1+/neo* DRG neurons, but not in mouse *Nf1+/neo* RGC neurons. n=3 all groups.

K-N Genetic inhibition of (**K-L**) human *COL1A2* or (**M-N**) mouse *Col1a2* with three independent short hairpin constructs reduces *COL1A2* and *Col1a2* (**K, M**) transcript and (**L, N**) protein expression relative to a control scrambled short hairpin (shCTL). **K,** n=3 all groups, p=0.0006. **L**, shCTL n=4, sh*COL1A2 #*1- 3 n=3; p<0.0001. **M,** n=3 all groups; *shCol1a2* #1 *p*=0.0337, *shCol1a2* #2 p=0.0143, *shCol1a2* #3 p=0.0246. **N,** n=4 all groups, p<0.0001.

O. *Hcn1-4* expression is not altered in *Nf1*-mutant DRG neurons relative to WT controls. n=4 all groups. **P**. RAS activity is increased in human *NF1^{R681X*}- and *NF1*^{R1809C}-mutant hiPSC-sensory neurons relative to controls. n=3 all groups, R681X p<0.0001, R1809C p=0.0001.

Q. COL1A2 is reduced in *NF1681X*-mutant hiPSC-sensory neurons following IN-1 treatment. n=5 both groups, p<0.0001.

Data are represented as means ± SEM, (**A**, **D-P**) One-way ANOVA with Dunnett's post-test correction or (**Q**) two-tailed paired t-test. p values are indicated within each panel. ns, not significant. Source data are provided as a Source Data file.

Supplementary Table 1. Antibodies used

WB, Western blot; IHC, immunohistochemistry; IF, immunofluorescence; ICC, immunocyctochemistry

Supplementary Table 2. Oligonucleotides used for quantitative real-time PCR

Supplementary Table 3. Available microarray datasets used for *COL1A2* **analysis.**

References

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