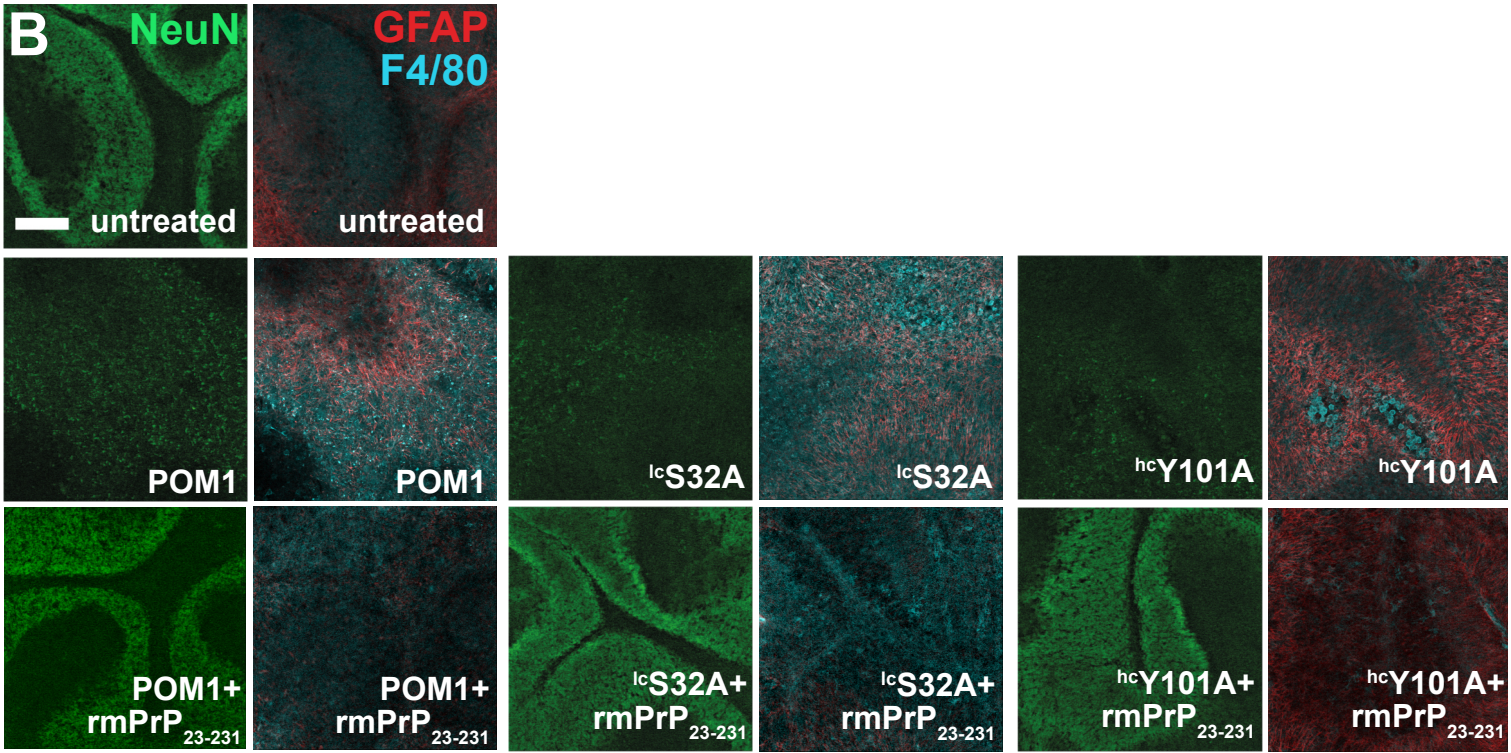
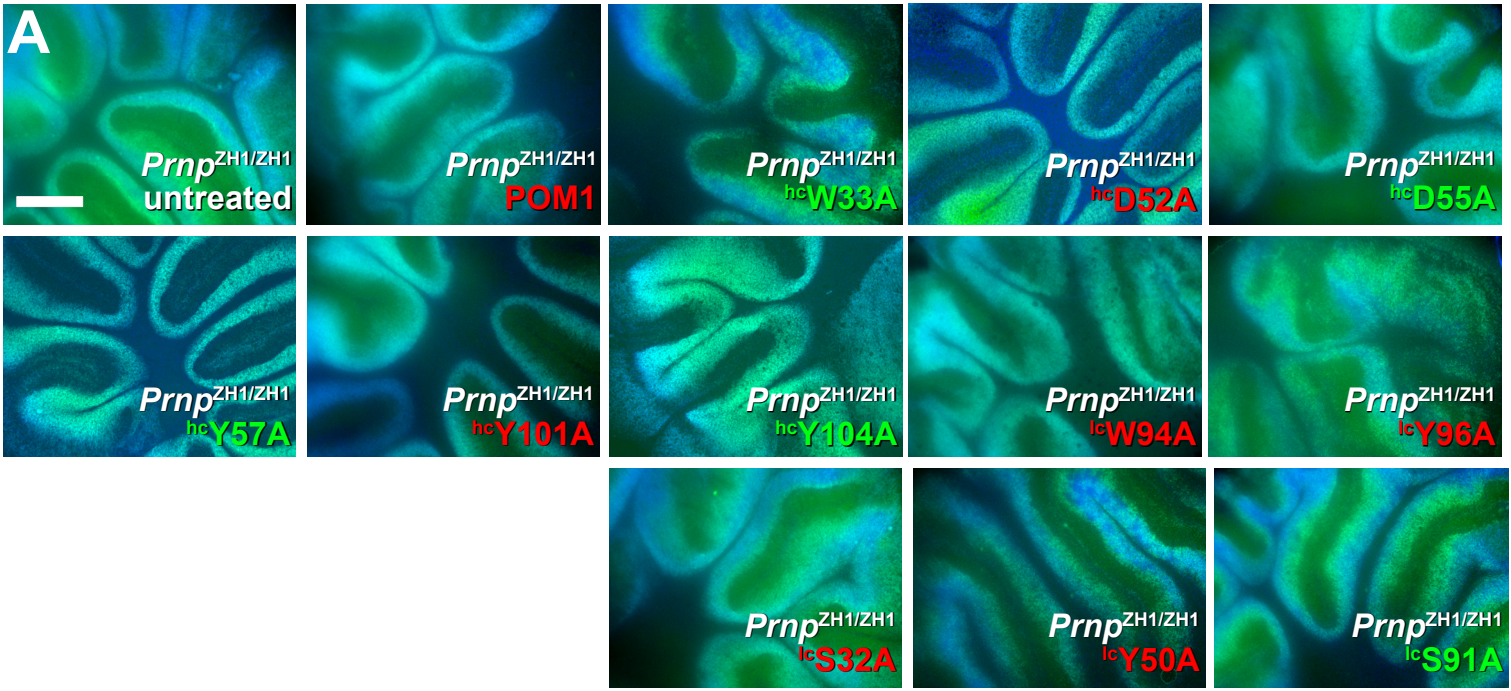

Supplementary information

A conformational switch controlling the toxicity of the prion protein

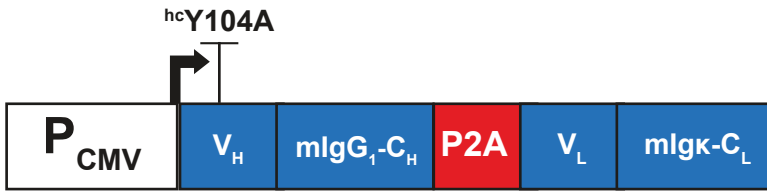
In the format provided by the authors and unedited

Supplementary Figure 1

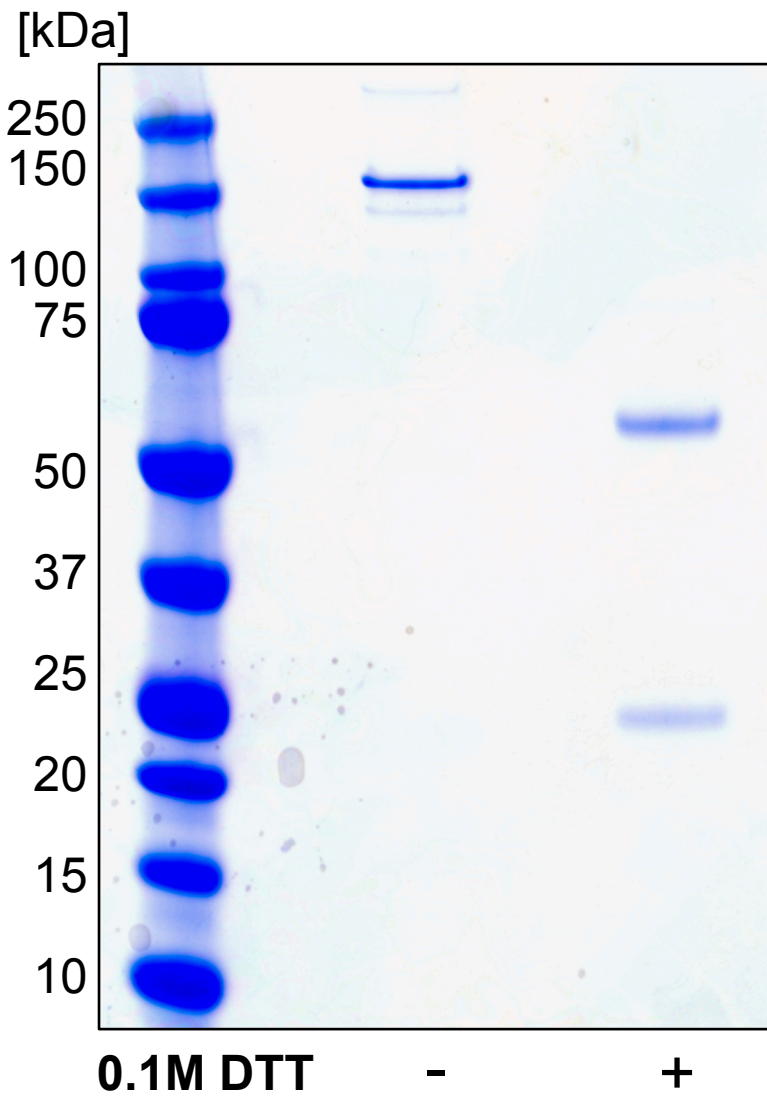


Supplementary Figure 2

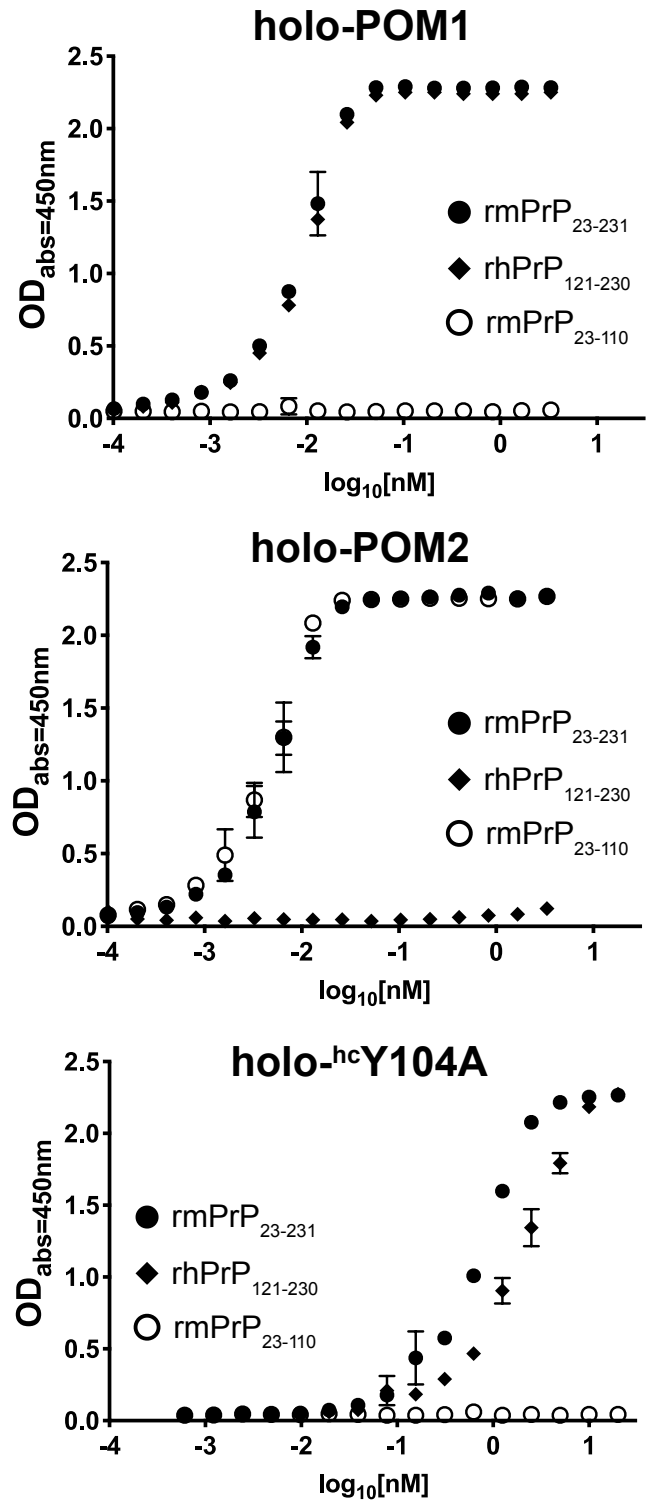
A



B



C



Supplementary Figure 1. (A) Representative fluorescent micrographs of *Prnp*^{ZH1/ZH1} COCS treated with pomologs and morphometric quantification. In all cases, neuronal viability is similar to that of controls, indicating that neither POM1 nor any of the pomologs exert a toxic effect onto PrP-deficient tissue. Innocuous / protective pomologs are colored green, toxic pomologs red. Scale bar = 500 μ m. Quantification of all biological replicates is given in Extended Data Figure 8a. **(B)** Immunofluorescent stainings of COCS with NeuN (neurons), GFAP (astrocytes) and F-4/80 (microglia and macrophages). The high-affinity toxic pomologs ^{lc}S32A and ^{hc}Y101A were administered to *tga20* COCS, either alone or after preincubation with equimolar amounts of soluble rmPrP₂₃₋₂₃₁. POM1, ^{lc}S32A and ^{lc}Y101A induced profound neuronal loss, astrogliosis and activation of microglia, which was completely prevented by pre-incubation with their cognate antigen. Scale bar = 200 μ m. Quantification of all biological replicates is given in Extended Data Figure 8c.

Supplementary Figure 2. (A) Schematic depiction of the vector for recombinant mammalian expression of holo-^{hc}Y104A. A bicistronic expression cassette encoding the variable domains of ^{hc}Y104A were grafted onto a murine IgG1 and Igk backbone driven by a cytomegalovirus promoter. A P2A self-cleaving site at the 3' end of the heavy-chain fragment results in co-translational cleavage of the polyprotein. **(B)** SDS-PAGE of purified holo-^{hc}Y104A in the presence and absence of 0.1M Dithiothreitol (DTT). **(C)** Indirect ELISA of holo-^{hc}Y104A and holo-POM1 showing (sub-) nanomolar affinity to full-length, recombinant mouse PrP (mPrP₂₃₋₂₃₀) and a globular domain fragment of recombinant human PrP (mPrP₁₂₁₋₂₃₁). As a control, holo-wtPOM2, which targets the flexible tail, bound to both rmPrP₂₃₋₂₃₁ and rmPrP₂₃₋₁₁₀, but not to rhPrP₁₂₁₋₂₃₀. Neither holo-^{hc}Y104A nor holo-POM1 bind to rmPrP₂₃₋₁₁₀. Nanomolar antibody concentrations are plotted in log₁₀ scales on the abscissa. Data points are given as means, bars indicate standard deviation.

Table 1A

Res N*	chain	$\Delta G(\text{complex})$	
32	L	0.44	P O M 1 r e s i d u e s
50	L	1.96	
91	L	2.09	
92	L	0.27	
93	L	0.28	
94	L	1.39	
96	L	0.35	
33	H	2.88	
52	H	2.47	
54	H	-0.02	
55	H	1.37	
57	H	1.76	
59	H	-0.01	
101	H	0.59	
103	H	-0.03	
104	H	4.91	
139	A	-0.01	P r P r e s i d u e s
146	A	-0.01	
138	A	0.11	
143	A	-0.21	
145	A	0.31	
141	A	0.39	
212	A	0.78	
140	A	0.93	
147	A	1.9	
144	A	3.44	
208	A	3.86	

Table 1B

	$k_a(1/\text{Ms})$	$k_d(1/\text{s})$	$K_D(\text{nM})$	
POM1	6.4×10^4	3.1×10^{-4}	4.8	
hcW33A	no binding	no binding	no binding	CDR_H1 loop
hcD52A	3.3×10^5	4.6×10^{-2}	103	CDR_H2 loop
hcD55A	1×10^5	3.7×10^{-2}	372	
hcY57A	7.7×10^4	3.1×10^{-2}	406	CDR_H3 loop
hcY101A	6.3×10^4	7.1×10^{-4}	11	
hcY104A	3.6×10^4	2.1×10^{-4}	8.8	
lcS32A	6.4×10^4	5.9×10^{-4}	10	CDR_L1 loop
lcY50A	5.7×10^4	8.2×10^{-3}	313	CDR_L2 loop
lcS91A	1.3×10^4	1.8×10^{-2}	1430	CDR_L3 loop
lcW94A	3.1×10^5	2.7×10^{-2}	201	
lcY96A	6.2×10^4	7.4×10^{-3}	123	

Numerical Source Data Suppl. Fig. 2C

holo-Y104A

$\log_{10}[\text{nM}]$	mPrP_{23-230}	$\text{mPrP}_{121-230}$	mPrP_{23-110}
1.301029996	2.268	2.265	2.277
1	2.254	2.253	2.164
0.698970004	2.218	2.214	1.743
0.397940009	2.087	2.068	1.251
0.096910013	1.598	1.599	0.842
-0.204119983	1.004	1.015	0.445
-0.505149978	0.585	0.566	0.254
-0.806179974	0.567	0.306	0.176
-1.10720997	0.184	0.172	0.281
-1.408239965	0.116	0.101	0.073
-1.709269961	0.076	0.072	0.059
-2.010299957	0.057	0.051	0.047
-2.311329952	0.052	0.041	0.047
-2.612359948	0.048	0.042	0.044
-2.913389944	0.042	0.041	0.042
-3.214419939	0.043	0.041	0.043

holo-POM2

$\log_{10}[\text{nM}]$	mPrP_{23-230}	$\text{mPrP}_{121-230}$	mPrP_{23-110}
0.522878745	2.273	2.27	0.125
0.22184875	2.26	2.252	0.078
-0.079181246	2.309	2.273	0.071
-0.380211242	2.276	2.277	0.054
-0.681241237	2.27	2.258	0.047
-0.982271233	2.256	2.253	0.042
-1.283301229	2.24	2.242	0.038
-1.584331224	2.2	2.192	0.045
-1.88536122	1.864	1.972	0.052
-2.186391216	1.213	1.375	0.054
-2.487421211	0.662	0.913	0.067
-2.788451207	0.345	0.364	0.038
-3.089481203	0.214	0.229	0.077
-3.390511198	0.126	0.138	0.042
-3.691541194	0.106	0.084	0.052
-3.99257119	0.064	0.069	0.095

holo-POM1

$\log_{10}[\text{nM}]$	mPrP_{23-230}	$\text{mPrP}_{121-230}$	mPrP_{23-110}
0.522878745	2.305	2.261	2.251
0.22184875	2.314	2.26	2.24
-0.079181246	2.313	2.252	2.24
-0.380211242	2.31	2.252	2.24
-0.681241237	2.311	2.251	2.251
-0.982271233	2.323	2.258	2.251
-1.283301229	2.319	2.247	2.231
-1.584331224	2.132	2.065	2.043
-1.88536122	1.638	1.328	1.373
-2.186391216	0.89	0.863	0.781
-2.487421211	0.507	0.497	0.451
-2.788451207	0.27	0.253	0.247
-3.089481203	0.181	0.177	0.182
-3.390511198	0.138	0.117	0.109
-3.691541194	0.122	0.077	0.082
-3.99257119	0.074	0.063	0.061