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2 **Centrosome Loss And Cell Proliferation Defects Underlie Developmental Failure In**  
3 **Haploid Zebrafish Larvae**

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36 **Abstract**

37 Haploid embryonic lethality is a common feature in vertebrates. However, the developmental  
38 defects and timing of lethality in haploid embryos differ between non-mammalian and  
39 mammalian species. Therefore, it remains unknown whether vertebrates share common  
40 principles of haploid intolerance. We investigated haploidy-linked defects at the cellular level  
41 in gynogenetic haploid zebrafish larvae that manifest characteristic morphogenetic  
42 abnormalities. Haploid larvae suffered severe mitotic arrest and irregular upregulation of p53,  
43 leading to unscheduled cell death. Either mitigation of mitotic arrest by spindle assembly  
44 checkpoint inactivation or depletion of p53 significantly improved organ growth in haploid  
45 larvae, indicating the critical contribution of these cellular defects to haploidy-linked  
46 morphogenetic defects. Moreover, haploid zebrafish larvae suffered frequent centrosome  
47 loss resulting in mitotic spindle monopolarization, a leading cause of mitotic instability in  
48 haploid mammalian cells (1, 2). Haploid larvae also suffered ciliopathy associated with  
49 severe centrosome loss. Based on our results, we propose the ploidy-linked alteration in  
50 centrosome number control as a common principle constraining the allowable ploidy state  
51 for normal development in vertebrates.

52

53 **Significance statement**

54 Haploid embryos possessing a single chromosome set are invariably lethal in vertebrates.  
55 Though haploid intolerance is attributed to imprinting misregulation in mammals, it remains  
56 unknown what limits the developmental capacity of haploid non-mammalian vertebrates free  
57 from the imprinting constraint. This study revealed the haploidy-linked mitotic misregulation  
58 and p53 upregulation as the leading cause of organ growth retardation in haploid zebrafish  
59 larvae. Accompanied by these defects, haploid larvae manifested drastic centrosome loss and  
60 mitotic spindle monopolarization, defects also limiting the proliferative capacity of haploid  
61 mammalian cells. These findings suggest the ploidy-linked alteration in centrosome number  
62 control as a common cell-intrinsic principle of haploid intolerance in vertebrates, providing  
63 an insight into an evolutionary constraint on allowable ploidy status in animal life cycles.

64

## 65 **Introduction**

66

67 Eukaryotic life cycles have evident diversity with flexibility in ploidy states of the somatic  
68 growth phase. For example, plants and fungi have both haplontic and diplontic life cycles,  
69 where multicellular development occurs in the haploid and diploid states, respectively (3). In  
70 animals, although some orders of invertebrates have haplodiplontic life cycles, all vertebrates  
71 are diplontic (3, 4). Haploid embryos generated through egg activation without the  
72 contribution of one parent's genome (e.g., parthenogenesis, gynogenesis, or androgenesis)  
73 are almost invariably lethal in vertebrates, showing that diploidy is required to complete  
74 embryonic development in the sub-phylum (5). In mammals, haploid embryonic lethality is  
75 mainly attributed to the misregulation of imprinted genes. Differential expression of parental  
76 alleles of imprinted genes disables the development of mammalian uniparental haploid  
77 embryos beyond implantation (6, 7). Additionally, mammalian haploid embryos suffer  
78 chromosomal instability and ploidy alterations due to chromosome missegregations even  
79 during pre-implantation stages (8-10).

80

81 On the other hand, non-mammalian vertebrates are devoid of parent-specific genomic  
82 imprinting and hence free from imprinting-associated developmental defects. Moreover, fish  
83 or amphibian haploid embryos develop until the late larval stages without drastic changes in  
84 the ploidy state, indicating that haploidy is stable in these species compared to mammals (11-  
85 14). However, despite the lack of the detrimental features of imprinting misregulation and

86 haploid instability, non-mammalian vertebrate haploid embryos manifest severe  
87 morphological defects with poor growth of organs such as the brain and eyes and succumb  
88 to lethality after hatching (12, 14-18). Forced diploidization of these haploid embryos by  
89 artificial induction of whole-genome duplication in the early cleavage stages resolves these  
90 developmental defects, suggesting that the haploid state per se, rather than loss of  
91 heterozygosity of deleterious recessive alleles, causes these defects (13, 19-21). Therefore,  
92 understanding how ploidy influences specific processes during organogenesis will provide  
93 fundamental insights into the relevance of the diploid state in vertebrate somatic development.

94

95 Non-mammalian vertebrates provide opportunities for investigating the influence of haploidy  
96 on organogenesis. For example, studies in fish or amphibians have revealed haploidy-linked  
97 defects in collective cell migration during gastrulation (22), water inflow control through  
98 ectoderm in gastrulae (23), and morphology and spatial arrangements of cells in the  
99 embryonic epidermis during post-gastrula stages (24, 25). However, the direct cause of poor  
100 organ growth in haploid embryos remains unknown, particularly at the level of intrinsic  
101 cellular control. Moreover, it remains undetermined whether non-mammalian and  
102 mammalian vertebrates share common principles of haploidy intolerance.

103

104 In this study, we investigated cellular defects in haploid zebrafish during the larval stages,  
105 when organ growth abnormality becomes evident (26). We found a drastic increase in  
106 unscheduled cell death associated with severe mitotic arrest and p53 upregulation in haploid

107 larvae. Mitigation of mitotic arrest or p53 upregulation significantly improved organ growth,  
108 indicating that haploidy-linked poor organ growth stems mainly from these cellular defects.  
109 Moreover, haploid zebrafish larvae suffered frequent centrosome loss resulting in monopolar  
110 mitotic spindles, a feature also observed in mammalian cells (1). Based on our results, we  
111 propose the ploidy-linked alteration in centrosome number control as a common cellular  
112 principle that constrains the allowable ploidy state for normal development in vertebrate  
113 organisms.

## 114 **Results**

### 115 **A drastic increase in unscheduled apoptosis in haploid larvae**

116 We investigated the developmental processes of haploid and diploid zebrafish larvae  
117 generated by *in vitro* fertilization using UV-irradiated and non-irradiated spermatozoa,  
118 respectively (Fig. S1). At 3.5 days post fertilization (dpf), by which most organs formed,  
119 haploid larvae manifested typical "haploid syndrome" defects, such as curled, short body axis  
120 and reduced brain and eye sizes compared with diploid counterparts (Fig. 1A and B) (14, 18,  
121 26, 27). The morphological defects of haploid syndrome occurred in varying phenotypic  
122 grades, with some larvae manifesting severe defects and others with milder defects within a  
123 clutch (Fig. 1A). Consistent with this, we observed a larger range in body and organ size  
124 distributions in haploid larval groups than in diploids (Fig. 1B). DNA content analysis using  
125 flow cytometry showed that the 1C and 2C populations (possessing one and two genome  
126 copies, respectively) predominated in the haploid larval groups at 3 and 5 dpf, confirming  
127 that haploid zebrafish larval cells retained the haploid state throughout the time duration (Fig.  
128 S1). This is in sharp contrast to haploid mammalian embryonic cells that quickly convert to  
129 diploids during early embryogenesis (9, 10).

130

131 To gain insights into haploidy-linked developmental defects at the cellular level, we  
132 investigated cell viability in 3 dpf haploid and diploid larvae by visualizing apoptosis using  
133 whole-mount immunostaining of active caspase-3. In diploid larvae, active caspase-3-  
134 positive cells were infrequent and found at specific sites, such as the optic tectum, mid-brain,

135 and the inner retinal layers (Fig. 2A, B, and S2), presumably reflecting programmed  
136 apoptosis underlying tissue organization (28). On the other hand, in haploid larvae, active  
137 caspase-3 positive cells were frequently detected throughout the whole body (Fig. 2A, B, and  
138 S2). We also observed clusters of apoptotic cells in the retinal periphery and brain ventricles  
139 in haploid larvae (Fig. 2A and S2, see also Fig. 2B). These results demonstrate that haploid  
140 larvae suffer unscheduled apoptosis throughout the body, potentially impairing organ growth  
141 and patterning during development.

142

### 143 **Irregular p53 upregulation limits organ growth in haploid larvae**

144 Since unscheduled apoptosis may underlie the developmental defects in haploid larvae, we  
145 next sought to determine the cause of the haploidy-linked unscheduled apoptosis. As a  
146 candidate apoptosis inducer, we investigated expression levels of p53 protein in haploid and  
147 diploid larvae at 3 dpf by immunoblotting (Fig. 3A). We found that the expression of full-  
148 length p53 was significantly higher in haploid larvae than in diploids (Fig. 3A and B). p53  
149 level in haploids was even higher than that in diploid larvae irradiated with UV, in which  
150 DNA damage-associated upregulation of p53 occurred (Fig. 3B).

151

152 To gain insights into the causality between unscheduled p53 upregulation and haploidy-  
153 linked defects, we suppressed p53 expression using a morpholino and tested its effects on  
154 cell viability in haploid larvae by detecting caspase-3-positive cells by immunostaining. p53-  
155 targeting morpholino substantially reduced the expression of both p53 full-length and shorter



156 isoforms (Fig. 3C and D). Immunostaining revealed that cleaved caspase-3-positive cells  
157 were less frequently observed in haploid p53 morphants than in control haploid larvae  
158 injected with a 4-base mismatch morpholino or uninjected haploid larvae (Fig. 3E, F, and  
159 S3A; see also Fig. 2). We also found that apoptotic cell clusters frequently observed in  
160 haploid larvae were absent in haploid p53 morphants (Fig. 3F and S3A). DNA content in  
161 haploid p53 morphants was equivalent to that in control haploids, demonstrating that the  
162 ploidy level did not change upon p53 suppression in haploid larvae (Fig. S3B). These results  
163 suggest that increased levels of p53 significantly contribute to enhanced apoptosis in haploid  
164 larvae.

165

166 We also tested the effect of p53 suppression on organ growth in haploid larvae (Fig. 3G).  
167 Suppression of p53 expression significantly increased body-axis length and brain width  
168 assessed at the mid-brain in haploid larvae (Fig. 3G and H). Analysis of organ size  
169 distribution also revealed that p53 suppression notably eliminated the population of haploid  
170 larvae that suffered particularly severe organ size reduction, suggesting efficient alleviation  
171 of the haploidy-linked poor organ growth (Fig. 3H). The above data indicate p53-induced  
172 apoptosis as a primary cause of haploidy-linked organ growth retardation.

173

174 **Haploidy-linked mitotic arrest compromises cell proliferation leading to organ growth**  
175 **defects in haploid larvae**

176 The finding of p53 upregulation in haploid larvae prompted us to further investigate  
177 haploidy-specific defects in cell proliferation. We conducted flow cytometry of haploid and  
178 diploid whole-larval cells stained with Hoechst and fluorescence-conjugated anti-phospho-  
179 histone H3 (pH3) antibody to mark DNA and mitotic chromosomes, respectively, at 1-3 dpf  
180 (Fig. 4A and B). In diploid larvae, the proportion of pH3-positive mitotic cells was 1.6 % at  
181 1 dpf, which decreased to 0.4% at 3 dpf (Fig. 4A and B), likely reflecting the transition from  
182 proliferative to postmitotic state in different cell lineages during larval stages (29, 30). On  
183 the other hand, the proportion of pH3-positive cells in haploid larvae was 1.6% at 1 dpf and  
184 remained 1.2% at 3 dpf (Fig. 4A and B). The mitotic index was significantly higher in haploid  
185 larvae than in diploids at 2-3 dpf (Fig. 4B). Additionally, whole-mount immunostaining  
186 showed an increase in pH3-positive cells in haploids at 3 dpf compared to diploids (Fig. 2A).

187

188 The increased mitotic index seen in 2-3 dpf haploid larvae could arise from defects in the  
189 temporal control of postmitotic transition in different tissues. Alternatively, delay or arrest in  
190 the progression of each mitotic event could also cause a net increase in the mitotic population.  
191 To specify the cause of the abnormal increase in the mitotic index in haploid larvae, we  
192 conducted live imaging and analyzed the mitotic progression of endothelial cells in 1.5-3 dpf  
193 haploid and diploid larvae stably expressing histone-H2B-mCherry (Tg(fli1:h2b-  
194 mCherry)/ncv31Tg) (31). In diploid larvae, almost all cells that entered mitosis (marked by  
195 nuclear envelope break down (NEBD)) completed chromosome alignment and segregation  
196 within 30 min after mitotic entry (Fig. 4C and D). On the other hand, 15% of haploid cells

197 spent > 60 minutes in the mitotic phase, revealing a severe mitotic delay in haploid larvae.  
198 Such mitotically delayed haploid cells often underwent mitotic death or mitotic slippage  
199 (exiting mitosis without proper chromosome segregation) (Fig. 4C and E). Mitotic  
200 progression was slower in haploid larvae than in diploids for the duration of assessment from  
201 1.5-3 dpf, with more frequent mitotic defects later in the observation (Fig. S4A, B, and D).  
202 We also observed severe chromosome misalignment in haploid cells delayed in mitosis (Fig.  
203 4C), suggesting that the increased mitotic index and mitotic delay seen in haploid larvae  
204 could be due to the activation of the spindle assembly checkpoint (SAC).

205

206 Next, we sought to resolve the haploidy-linked mitotic arrest by suppressing SAC using  
207 reversine, an inhibitor of Mps1 kinase required for SAC activation (32). In live imaging of  
208 histone-H2B-mCherry, 97% of reversine-treated haploid larval cells underwent chromosome  
209 segregation or exited mitosis within 30 min after NEBD (Fig. 5A, B, and S4C). Notably, cells  
210 in reversine-treated haploid larvae underwent mitotic death less frequently than those in non-  
211 treated haploids (Fig. 5C, see also Fig. 4E). Therefore, SAC inactivation resolved the severe  
212 mitotic delay and partially mitigated mitotic cell death in haploid larvae.

213

214 If the abnormal cell proliferation in haploid larvae indicated by the high mitotic index was  
215 due to mitotic delay from SAC activation, SAC inactivation could resolve it. We tested the  
216 effect of reversine treatment on the mitotic index in 3 dpf haploid larvae using flow cytometry  
217 (Fig. 5D and E). Reversine treatment significantly reduced the proportion of pH3-positive

218 cells in haploid larvae to levels equivalent to that in diploids (Fig. 5D and E, see also Fig. 4A  
219 and B). In immunostained haploid larvae, we also observed a reduction in pH3-positive cells  
220 across tissues upon reversine treatment (Fig. 5F). These results indicate that the abnormally  
221 high mitotic index is mainly due to the SAC-dependent mitotic arrest rather than defects in  
222 the developmental program of cell division control.

223

224 Based on the finding that SAC inactivation mitigated the abnormal cell proliferation in  
225 haploid larvae, we next tested the effect of reversine treatment on organ growth in haploid  
226 larvae. Reversine treatment significantly increased body axis length and eye size in haploid  
227 larvae compared to DMSO-treated control (Fig. 5G and H). These results indicate that the  
228 haploidy-linked mitotic stress with SAC activation is a primary constraint for organ growth  
229 in haploid larvae.

230

### 231 **Haploidy-linked centriole loss underlies mitotic defects in haploid larvae**

232 To understand the cause of SAC activation in haploid larvae, we next investigated mitotic  
233 spindle organization by immunostaining of centrin and  $\alpha$ -tubulin, which mark the centrioles  
234 and microtubules, respectively, in the eyes, brain, and surface epithelia in the head region of  
235 haploid and diploid larvae from 0.5 to 3 dpf (Fig. 6 and S5). In diploids, almost all mitotic  
236 cells possessed bipolar spindle with the normal number of 4 centrioles in all stages tested. At  
237 0.5 dpf, haploid embryonic cells also possessed bipolar spindle with 4 centrioles (Fig. 6A-C,  
238 and S5A-C). However, as development progressed, cells in haploid larvae had monopolar

239 spindles with reduced centriole number and severe chromosome misalignment. In the eyes,  
240 brain, skin, and olfactory organ of haploid larvae, 14.5% of mitotic cells had monopolar  
241 spindles at 1 dpf, which increased to 32.9% and 61.5% at 2 and 3 dpf, respectively (Fig. 6B).  
242 This increase in the cell population with monopolar spindles corresponded well with the  
243 stage-dependent increase in mitotic cells with reduced centriole number (Fig. 6C). The  
244 trajectory of centriole loss was organ-specific: centriole loss and spindle monopolarization  
245 started earlier in the eyes and brain than in the skin (Fig. S5A-D). However, the frequency of  
246 monopolar mitotic cells with centriole loss reached over 50% in all these organs by 3 dpf,  
247 revealing the general nature of the cellular defects in haploid larvae. These results  
248 demonstrate that the haploidy-linked centriole loss observed in cultured mammalian cells  
249 also occurs in haploid zebrafish larvae, causing severe mitotic dysregulation found to  
250 contribute to organ growth retardation (Fig. 5H).

251

## 252 **Haploid larvae suffer retinal ciliopathy**

253 In addition to their role in forming mitotic spindles, centrioles are also required to form cilia,  
254 and failure in this process causes a variety of ciliopathies (33-35). Therefore, we addressed  
255 the possibility that the haploidy-linked centriole loss damages cilia-dependent processes.  
256 Because retinal degeneration is a common ciliopathy condition (36, 37), we investigated  
257 retinal organization in 5 dpf haploid and diploid larvae by immunostaining of zpr-1 and  
258 acetylated- $\alpha$ -tubulin, which mark cone photoreceptors and cilia, respectively (34, 38). In  
259 diploids, the zpr-1-positive photoreceptors aligned in the apical-most layer of the retina and

260 contained cilia at the outer retinal segment (Fig. 7A and B). On the other hand, in haploids,  
261 the retinal layer was degenerated, with zpr-1-positive photoreceptors frequently mislocated  
262 away from the apical region of the eye (Fig. 7A). A substantial proportion of apical-most  
263 cells lacked acetylated- $\alpha$ -tubulin staining, indicating a severe impairment of ciliogenesis in  
264 haploids (Fig. 7B). Therefore, the haploidy-linked centriole loss likely causes multifaceted  
265 centriolar defects during development in haploid larvae through abnormal mitosis and  
266 ciliogenesis.

267

268 **Discussion**

269

270 We investigated the cause of developmental defects in haploid zebrafish larvae at the  
271 cellular level. Our results revealed that haploid larvae suffer frequent cell death caused by  
272 mitotic defects associated with centrosome loss and irregular p53 upregulation. Mitigation  
273 of mitotic delay or p53 upregulation significantly improved organ growth in haploid larvae,  
274 suggesting that these defects in cell proliferation control are primary causes of the  
275 haploidy-linked organ growth retardation in zebrafish. Our findings also demonstrate a  
276 striking commonality of the cellular cause of apparently diverse developmental defects  
277 among haploid larvae in mammalian and non-mammalian vertebrates.

278

279 Poor organ growth is a common feature of haploid embryos in non-mammalian vertebrates.  
280 During several rounds of early cleavage, cell size in haploid embryos is equivalent to but  
281 gradually becomes smaller than that in diploids as embryonic development proceeds (22,  
282 39). Therefore, haploid embryos have a higher demand for cell proliferation (i.e., need  
283 more cells) than diploids for achieving normal diploid-level organ size. Indeed, such  
284 compensatory cell number increase occurs in some cases, such as pronephric tubules and  
285 ducts in haploid newt larvae (40). However, this study found that haploid zebrafish larvae  
286 manifested frequent mitotic arrest across organs, likely blocking efficient cell proliferation  
287 during organogenesis. Moreover, resolution of mitotic arrest by SAC inactivation  
288 significantly improved organ growth in haploid larvae. Based on these results, we propose

289 that SAC-dependent mitotic arrest disables the compensatory cell number increase and  
290 causes severe organ growth retardation in haploid larvae. A limitation of the experimental  
291 approach using reversine is that SAC inactivation can resolve mitotic arrest and  
292 accompanying defects but not chromosome missegregation caused by premature mitotic  
293 exit without kinetochore-microtubule error correction (32), which may hinder the complete  
294 restoration of mitotic fidelity and organ growth in this condition.

295

296 We found that the haploidy-linked centrosome loss commences around 1 dpf,  
297 corresponding well to the timing of severe mitotic defects and organ growth defects  
298 observed in haploid larvae. Most haploid larval cells with less than 2 centrosomes formed a  
299 monopolar spindle, demonstrating that spindle bipolarization is inefficient upon centrosome  
300 loss in these cells. In mammalian cultured cells and embryos, centrosome loss causes  
301 chromosome missegregation and chronic mitotic delay resulting in gradual p53  
302 accumulation that eventually blocks cell proliferation or viability (41-44). Therefore, it is  
303 intriguing to speculate that the haploidy-linked p53 upregulation in zebrafish larvae stems  
304 from severe centrosome loss. Interestingly, haploid mammalian cultured cells also suffer  
305 centrosome loss and chronic p53 upregulation, limiting their proliferative capacity (1, 45).  
306 Therefore, centrosome loss and p53 upregulation are common cellular defects associated  
307 with the somatic haploid state in broad vertebrate species and are likely primary cellular  
308 causes of organ growth retardation observed in haploid non-mammalian embryos.

309



310 Since the centriole serves as a basal body for ciliogenesis in differentiated postmitotic cells,  
311 the drastic centrosome loss potentially damages cilia-associated processes during the  
312 pharyngula period. Indeed, we found severe disorganization of the outer retinal layer with a  
313 drastic cilia loss in photoreceptors (Fig. 7). As we found progressive centrosome loss in all  
314 organs tested, ciliary malfunctioning would potentially take place in broader types of  
315 organs and contribute to pleiotropic defects of the haploid syndrome. Intriguingly, a  
316 previous scanning electron microscopy study has revealed a substantial loss of ciliated cells  
317 on the surface epithelia in haploid amphibian embryos (25). Therefore, further investigation  
318 of the causes and consequences of haploidy-linked ciliary defects would be an important  
319 subject in future studies.

320

321 In contrast to the later organogenetic stages, haploid embryos at 0.5 dpf possessed a normal  
322 number of the centrosomes, suggesting that early haploid embryos are free of severe  
323 centrosome loss. This result demonstrates that centrioles provided by the UV-irradiated  
324 sperms are functional to fully support centriole duplication during early developmental  
325 stages, excluding the possibility that centrosome loss in later haploid larvae is merely a side  
326 effect of sperm UV irradiation for gynogenesis. The reason for the lack of centrosome loss  
327 in early haploid embryos is currently unknown. Our previous study in human cultured cells  
328 revealed that the delay or absence of scheduled centriole duplication licensing causes the  
329 haploidy-linked centrosome loss (1). The structure and dynamics of the centrosomes in  
330 early fish embryos are remarkably different from those in somatic cells (46), and such an

331 early stage-specific mode of centrosomal control may enable the error-free centrosomal  
332 duplication even in the haploid state.

333

334 For further investigating the causality between centrosome loss and haploid developmental  
335 defects, it would be ideal to have an experimental condition that restores intact centrosomal  
336 control in haploid larvae. Previously, we found that artificial re-coupling of the DNA  
337 replication cycle and centrosome duplication cycle by delaying the progression of DNA  
338 replication resolved chronic centrosome loss and mitotic defects in human haploid cultured  
339 cells (2). Though we tried to restore centrosome loss by treating aphidicolin in haploid  
340 larvae, severe toxicity of the compound on haploid larvae after 1 dpf precluded us from  
341 testing its effect on centrosome control. Genetic manipulation of centrosome duplication  
342 control in haploid larvae may provide an excellent opportunity to directly investigate the  
343 causality of centrosome loss in the haploid syndrome in future studies.

344

345 Developmental incompetence of haploid larvae is likely a crucial evolutionary constraint of  
346 the diplontic life cycle (47). Though parent-specific genome imprinting would serve as the  
347 primary mechanism for blocking the development of haploid embryos in mammals, it has  
348 been unknown what precludes haploid development in non-mammalian species. Based on  
349 our results, we propose that the ploidy-centrosome link, as a broadly conserved mechanism,  
350 limits the developmental capacity of haploid embryos in non-mammalian vertebrates. It is

351 an intriguing future perspective to address how the ploidy-centrosome link is preserved or

352 modulated in invertebrate animal species, especially those with a haplodiplontic life cycle.

353

354 **Material and Methods**

355

356 *Zebrafish strain and embryos*

357 Wild-type zebrafish were obtained from National BioResource Project Zebrafish Core

358 Institution (NZC, Japan) or a local aquarium shop (Homac, Japan). The *Tg(fli1:h2b-*

359 *mCherry)/ncv31Tg* line (31) was provided by NZC. Transgenic animal experiments in this

360 study were approved by the Committee on Genetic Recombination Experiment, Hokkaido

361 University. Fish were maintained at 28.5°C under a 14 h light and 10 h dark cycle. To

362 collect sperm for *in vitro* fertilization, whole testes from single male were dissected into 1

363 mL cold Hank's buffer (0.137 M NaCl, 5.4 mM KCl, 0.25 mM Na<sub>2</sub>HPO<sub>4</sub>, 0.44 mM

364 KH<sub>2</sub>PO<sub>4</sub>, 1.3 mM CaCl<sub>2</sub>, 1.0 mM MgSO<sub>4</sub> and 4.2 mM NaHCO<sub>3</sub>). For sperm DNA

365 inactivation, sperm solution was irradiated with 254 nm UV (LUV-6, AS ONE) at a

366 distance of 30 cm for 1 min with gentle pipetting every 30 seconds (s). For insemination,

367 we added 500 µL sperm solution to ~200 eggs extruded from females immobilized by

368 anesthesia (A5040, Sigma-Aldrich; 0.08% ethyl 3-aminobenzoate methanesulfonate salt,

369 pH 7.2). After 10 s, we added 500 mL Embryo medium (5 mM NaCl, 0.17 mM KCl, 0.33

370 mM CaCl<sub>2</sub>, 0.33 mM MgSO<sub>4</sub> and 10<sup>-5</sup>% Methylene Blue). After the chorion inflation,

371 embryos were grown in Embryo medium at 28.5°C until use.

372

373 To inhibit pigmentation, we treated embryos with 0.03 g/L N-phenylthiourea (P7629,

374 Sigma Aldrich) at 0.5 dpf. Dechoriation and de yolking were done manually in the cold

375 fish ringer's buffer without  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  (55 mM NaCl, 1.8 mM KCl, 12.5 mM  $\text{NaHCO}_3$ , pH 7.2).  
376 In the case of inducing p53 upregulation for checking the specificity of the anti-p53  
377 antibody, diploid larvae were irradiated with 254 nm UV at a distance of 10 cm for 3 min at  
378 66 hours post-fertilization (hpf). For SAC inactivation, larvae were treated with 5  $\mu\text{M}$   
379 reversine (10004412, Cayman Chemical) from the timepoints described elsewhere.  
380 Treatment with 0.5% DMSO was used as vehicle control for reversine treatment.

381

### 382 *Antibodies*

383 Antibodies were purchased from suppliers and used at the following dilutions: mouse  
384 monoclonal anti- $\alpha$ -tubulin (1:800 for Immunofluorescence staining (IF); YOL1/34; EMD  
385 Millipore); mouse monoclonal anti- $\beta$ -tubulin (1:1000 for Immunoblotting (IB); 10G10;  
386 Wako); mouse monoclonal anti-centrin (1:400 for IF; 20H5; Millipore); mouse monoclonal  
387 anti-zpr-1 (1:400 for IF; ab17445; Abcam); rabbit monoclonal anti-active caspase-3 (1:500  
388 for IF; C92-605; BD Pharmingen); rabbit polyclonal anti-p53 (1:1000 for IB; GTX128135;  
389 Gene Tex); Alexa Fluor 488-conjugated rabbit monoclonal anti-acetylated- $\alpha$ -tubulin (1:200  
390 for IF; D20G3; Cell Signaling Technology); Alexa Fluor 488-conjugated rabbit monoclonal  
391 anti-phospho-histone H3 (pH3) (1:200 for IF and 1:50 for flow cytometry; D2C8; Cell  
392 Signaling Technology); and fluorescence (Alexa Fluor 488, Alexa Fluor 594 or Alexa Fluor  
393 647) or horseradish peroxidase-conjugated secondaries (1:100 for IF and 1:1000 for IB;  
394 Abcam or Jackson ImmunoResearch Laboratories). Hoechst 33342 was purchased from  
395 Dojinjo (1 mg/mL solution; H342) and used at 1:100.

396

397 *Flow cytometry*

398 For isolating whole-larval cells, ~ 10 de yol ked embryos were suspended in cold trypsin  
399 mixture (27250-018, Gibco; 0.25% trypsin in 0.14 M NaCl, 5 mM KCl, 5 mM glucose, 7  
400 mM NaHCO<sub>3</sub>, 0.7 mM EDTA buffer, pH 7.2) for ~15 min on ice with continuous pipetting.  
401 For 2 dpf or older larvae, 8 mg/mL collagenase P (Roche) was added to the trypsin mixture  
402 for thorough digestion. The isolated cells were collected by centrifugation at 1,300 rpm for  
403 15 min at 4°C, fixed with 8% PFA in Dulbecco's phosphate-buffered saline (DPBS, Wako)  
404 for 5 min at 25°C, permeabilized by adding the equal amount of 0.5% Triton X-100 in  
405 DPBS supplemented with 100 mM glycine (DPBS-G), and collected by centrifugation as  
406 above for removing the fixative. For DNA content and mitotic index analyses, cells were  
407 stained with Hoechst 33342 and Alexa Fluor 488-conjugated anti-pH3, respectively, for 30  
408 min at 25°C, washed once with DPBS, and analyzed using a JSAN desktop cell sorter (Bay  
409 bioscience).

410

411 *Immunofluorescence staining*

412 For staining active caspase-3, pH3, zpr-1, or acetylated- $\alpha$ -tubulin, larvae were fixed with  
413 4% PFA in DPBS for at least 2 h at 25°C, followed by partial digestion with cold trypsin  
414 mixture for 3 min. For staining centrin and  $\alpha$ -tubulin, larvae were fixed with 100%  
415 methanol for 10 min at -20°C. Fixed larvae were manually de yol ked in 0.1% Triton X-100

416 in DPBS and permeabilized with 0.5% Triton X-100 in DPBS overnight at 4°C, followed  
417 by treatment with BSA blocking buffer (150 mM NaCl, 10 mM Tris-HCl, pH 7.5, 5%  
418 BSA, and 0.1% Tween 20) for >30 min at 4°C. Larvae were subsequently incubated with  
419 primary antibodies for >24 h at 4°C and with secondary antibodies overnight at 4°C.  
420 Following each antibody incubation, larvae were washed three times with 0.1% Triton X-  
421 100 in DPBS. Stained larvae were mounted in Fluoromount (K024, Diagnostic  
422 BioSystems). For retinal imaging, eyes were manually isolated from whole-mount stained  
423 larvae for mounting on slides for imaging.

424

#### 425 *Microscopy*

426 Immunostainings of active caspase-3, pH3, zpr-1, or acetylated- $\alpha$ -tubulin were observed on  
427 an A1Rsi microscope equipped with a 60 $\times$  1.4 NA Apochromatic oil immersion objective  
428 lens, a 100 $\times$  1.35 NA Plan-Apochromatic silicon oil immersion objective lens, an LU-N4S  
429 405/488/561/640 laser unit, and an A1-DUG detector unit with a large-image acquisition  
430 tool of NIS-Elements (Nikon). For live imaging of histone H2B-mCherry-expressing  
431 larvae, the larvae were embedded in agarose gel (5805A, Takara) in E3 buffer  
432 supplemented with anesthesia and N-phenylthiourea and observed using a TE2000  
433 microscope (Nikon) equipped with a Thermo Plate (TP-CHSQ-C, Tokai Hit; set at 30°C), a  
434 60 $\times$  1.4 NA Plan-Apochromatic oil immersion objective lens (Nikon), a CSU-X1 confocal  
435 unit (Yokogawa), and iXon3 electron multiplier-charge-coupled device camera (Andor).  
436 Immunostaining of centrin and  $\alpha$ -tubulin was observed on a C2si microscope equipped

437 with a 100× 1.49 NA Plan-Apochromatic oil immersion objective lens, an LU-N4  
438 405/488/561/640 laser unit, and a C2-DU3 detector unit (Nikon).

439

#### 440 *Immunoblotting*

441 Embryos were deyolked in cold-DPBS supplemented with cOmplete proteinase inhibitor  
442 cocktail (Roche, used at 2× concentration), extracted with RIPA buffer (50 mM Tris, 150  
443 mM NaCl, 1% NP-40, 0.5% Sodium Deoxycholate and 0.1% SDS) supplemented with 2×  
444 cOmplete and centrifuged at 15,000 rpm for 15 min at 4°C to obtain the supernatant.  
445 Proteins separated by SDS-PAGE were transferred to Immun-Blot PVDF membrane (Bio-  
446 Rad). Membranes were blocked with 0.3% skim milk in TTBS (50 mM Tris, 138 mM  
447 NaCl, 2.7 mM KCl, and 0.1% Tween 20) and incubated with primary antibodies overnight  
448 at 4°C or for 1 h at 25°C and with secondary antibodies overnight at 4°C or 30 min at 25°C.  
449 Each step was followed by 3 washes with TTBS. For signal detection, the ezWestLumi plus  
450 ECL Substrate (ATTO) and a LuminoGraph II chemiluminescent imaging system (ATTO)  
451 were used. Signal quantification was performed using the Gels tool of ImageJ/Fiji software  
452 (NIH).

453

#### 454 *Measurement of larval body size*

455 Larvae were anesthetized, mounted in 3% methylcellulose (M0387, Sigma), and observed  
456 under a BX51 transparent light microscope (Olympus) equipped with a 10× 0.25 NA



457 achromatic objective lens (Olympus) and a 20× 0.70 NA Plan-Apochromatic lens  
458 (Olympus). We measured the body length, brain width, and lateral eye area of larvae using  
459 the segmented line tool of ImageJ. Since haploid larvae were often three-dimensionally  
460 curled or bent, we measured lengths of body axes viewed from lateral and dorsal sides and  
461 used longer ones for statistical analyses. We realized that the severeness of the haploidy-  
462 linked morphological defects tended to differ among larvae from different female parents.  
463 Therefore, we used clutches of larvae obtained from the same female parents for  
464 comparative analyses of the experimental conditions.

465

#### 466 *Morpholino injection*

467 The morpholino used in this study were 5' -GCG CCA TTG CTT TGC AAG AAT TG- 3'  
468 (p53 antisense) and 5' -GCa CCA TcG CTT gGC AAG cAT TG- 3' (4 base-mismatch p53  
469 antisense) (48). One nL morpholino (dissolved in 0.2 M KCl with 0.05% phenol red at 3  
470 mg/mL) was microinjected into haploid embryos at the 1 or 2 cell stage using FemtoJet and  
471 InjectMan NI2 (Eppendorf).

472

#### 473 *Statistical analysis*

474 Analyses for significant differences between the two groups were conducted using a two-  
475 tailed Student's *t*-test in Excel (Microsoft). Multiple group analysis in Fig. 2B was  
476 conducted using one-way ANOVA with Tukey post-hoc test in R software (The R

477 Foundation). Statistical significance was set at  $p < 0.05$ .  $p$ -values are indicated in figures or

478 the corresponding figure legends.

479

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493

494 **Author Contributions**

495 Conceptualization, K.Y., and R.U.; Methodology, K.Y., D.S., T.Me., T.Mi., T.K., S.N., and  
496 R.U.; Investigation, K.Y., and D.S; Formal Analysis, K.Y.; Resources, K.Y., D.S., T.Me.,  
497 A.M., T.K., S.N., and R.U.; Writing – Original Draft, K.Y., and R.U.; Writing – Review &  
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499

500 **Figure legend**

501

502 **Figure 1. Morphological comparison between haploid and diploid larvae**

503 **(A)** Transparent microscopy of haploid or diploid larvae at 3.5 dpf. Broken line: body axis  
504 (left panels), brain width (middle panels), or lateral eye contour (right panels). Arrowheads:  
505 curling or bending of body axis. Arrows: Edema. **(B)** Quantification of body axis length,  
506 brain width, or lateral eye area of haploid or diploid larvae in A. Box plots and beeswarm  
507 plots of at least 17 larvae (at least 34 eyes) from three independent experiments (\*\* $p < 0.01$ ,  
508 two-tailed  $t$ -test).

509

510 **Figure 2. Haploid zebrafish larvae suffer irregularly increased apoptosis**

511 **(A)** Immunostaining of active caspase-3 and phospho-histone H3 (pH3) in whole-mount  
512 haploid or diploid larvae at 3 dpf. DNA was stained by DAPI. Z-projected images of confocal  
513 sections containing peripheral brain surface are shown. Broken lines indicate brain area. The  
514 arrowhead indicates clusters of apoptotic cells in the haploid larvae. **(B)** Classification of the  
515 level of apoptosis in haploid and diploid larvae. Seven haploid and 7 diploid larvae from two  
516 independent experiments were analyzed. All larvae observed in this experiment are shown in  
517 Fig. S2.

518

519 **Figure 3. p53 upregulation limits organ growth in haploid larvae**

520 (A, C) Immunoblotting of p53 in haploid, diploid, or UV-irradiated diploid larvae (A) or  
521 haploid larvae treated with control or p53 antisense morpholino (C) at 3 dpf. Arrows and  
522 open arrowheads indicate full-length and shorter p53 isoforms, respectively.  $\beta$ -tubulin was  
523 detected as a loading control. (B, D) Quantification of relative expression of p53 proteins in  
524 A (B) or C (D). Mean  $\pm$  standard error (SE) of three independent experiments ( $*p < 0.05$ ,  
525  $**p < 0.01$ , one-way ANOVA with Tukey post-hoc test in B, and two-tailed t-test in D). (E)  
526 Immunostaining of active caspase-3 in whole-mount haploid control or p53 morphant at 3  
527 dpf. DNA was stained by DAPI. Z-projected images of confocal sections containing  
528 peripheral brain surfaces are shown. Broken lines indicate brain area. The arrowhead  
529 indicates a cluster of apoptotic cells. (F) Classification of the level of apoptosis in haploid  
530 morphants. Six control morphants and 4 p53 morphants from two independent experiments  
531 were analyzed. All larvae observed in this experiment are shown in Fig. S3A. (G)  
532 Transparent microscopy of haploid control and p53 morphants at 3.5 dpf. Broken line: body  
533 axis (left panels), brain width (middle panels), and lateral eye contour (right panels). (H)  
534 Quantification of the body axis, brain width, and lateral eye area in G. Box plots and  
535 beeswarm plots of 29 larvae (58 eyes) from three independent experiments ( $**p < 0.01$ , two-  
536 tailed  $t$ -test).

537

#### 538 **Figure 4. Frequent mitotic delay and failures in haploid larvae**

539 (A) Flow cytometric analysis of DNA content (Hoechst signal) and mitotic proportion  
540 (marked by anti-pH3) in isolated haploid or diploid larval cells at 1, 2, or 3 dpf. Magenta

541 boxes indicate the pH3-positive mitotic populations. **(B)** Quantification of mitotic index in  
542 A. Mean  $\pm$  SE of at least three independent experiments (\*\* $p < 0.01$ , two-tailed  $t$ -test). **(C)**  
543 Live images of endothelial cells expressing histone H2B-mCherry in haploid or diploid  
544 larvae. Images were taken at a 7.5 min interval from 1.5 to 3 dpf. Asterisks indicate neighbor  
545 cells. **(D, E)** Distribution of mitotic length (time duration from NEBD to anaphase onset; D)  
546 or frequency of mitotic fates (E) in C. Data were sorted into separated graphs by mitotic fates  
547 (completion, mitotic death, or mitotic slippage) in E. At least 78 cells of 8 larvae from eight  
548 independent experiments were analyzed.

549

550 **Figure 5. SAC inactivation mitigates abnormal mitotic patterns and organ growth**  
551 **defects in haploid larvae**

552 **(A)** Live images of endothelial histone H2B-mCherry cells in haploid larvae treated with  
553 reversine approximately from 1.5 dpf. Images were taken at a 7.5 min interval from 1.5 to 3  
554 dpf. **(B, C)** Distribution of mitotic length (B) or frequency of mitotic fates (C) in A. Data  
555 were sorted into separated graphs by mitotic fates (completion, mitotic death, or mitotic  
556 slippage) in C. At least 75 cells of 6 larvae from six independent experiments were analyzed.  
557 **(D)** Flow cytometric analysis of DNA content (Hoechst signal) and mitotic proportion  
558 (marked by anti-pH3) in the cells isolated at 3 dpf from haploid larvae treated with DMSO  
559 or reversine from 0.5 to 3 dpf. Magenta boxes indicate the pH3-positive mitotic populations.  
560 **(E)** Quantification of mitotic index in D. Mean  $\pm$  SE of four independent experiments ( $*p <$   
561 0.05, two-tailed  $t$ -test). **(F)** Immunostaining of pH3 in haploid 3-dpf larvae treated with

562 DMSO or reversine from 1.5 to 3 dpf. Z-projected images of confocal sections containing  
563 peripheral brain surfaces are shown. Broken lines indicate brain area. **(G)** Transparent  
564 microscopy of haploid 3.5-dpf larvae treated with DMSO or reversine from 1.5 to 3.5 dpf.  
565 Broken line: body axis (left panels), brain width (middle panels), and lateral eye contour  
566 (right panels). **(H)** Measurement of the body axis, brain width, and lateral eye area in G. Box  
567 plots and beeswarm plots of 24 larvae (48 eyes) from three independent experiments (\*\* $p <$   
568 0.01, two-tailed  $t$ -test).

569

### 570 **Figure 6. Centrosome loss and spindle monopolarization in haploid larvae**

571 **(A)** Immunostaining of  $\alpha$ -tubulin and centrin in haploid and diploid larvae at 0.5, 1, 2, and 3  
572 dpf. Magenta boxes in left or middle panels indicate the enlarged regions of eyes (shown in  
573 middle panels) or mitotic cells (shown in right panels), respectively. Insets in the right panels  
574 show 3 $\times$  enlarged images of centrioles. **(B, C)** Spindle polarity and centrin foci number in  
575 mitotic cells in the whole-head region (including eyes, brain, skin epithelia, and olfactory  
576 organ) at different developmental stages. Mean  $\pm$  SE of at least 22 cells of at least 4 larvae  
577 from two independent experiments (asterisks indicate statistically significant differences  
578 from diploids at the corresponding time points; \* $p < 0.05$ , \*\* $p < 0.01$ , two-tailed  $t$ -test). Data  
579 points taken from the eyes, the brain, or skin epithelia are also shown separately in Fig. S5.

580

### 581 **Figure 7. Retina disorganization in haploid larvae**

582 **(A, B)** Immunostaining of zpr-1 and acetylated- $\alpha$ -tubulin in an eye of haploid or diploid  
583 larvae at 5 dpf. DNA was stained by DAPI. B shows an enlarged view of the outer retinal  
584 segment at the region indicated by arrowheads in A. Representative data of at least 9 eyes  
585 from two independent experiments.

586



587 **Supplemental figure 1. Generation of haploid and diploid larvae**

588 Experimental scheme of in vitro fertilization for generating haploid and diploid larvae (left)  
589 and flow cytometric DNA content analysis in Hoechst-stained larval cells (right; isolated  
590 from 3- or 5-dpf larvae). Representative data from two independent experiments are shown.

591

592 **Supplemental figure 2. Visualization of apoptotic cells in haploid and diploid larvae**

593 Immunostaining of active caspase-3 in whole-mount haploid and diploid larvae at 3 dpf. Z-  
594 projected images of confocal sections containing peripheral brain surface and inner brain area.  
595 We classified the severeness of apoptosis according to the degree of active caspase-3 staining.  
596 Arrowheads indicate clusters of apoptotic cells. Broken lines indicate brain area. All larvae  
597 analyzed in Fig. 2B are shown. The panel includes the larvae identical to those shown in Fig.  
598 2A (marked by asterisks) to indicate the categories of their apoptotic levels.

599

600 **Supplemental figure 3. Visualization of apoptotic cells in haploid control and p53**

601 **morphants**

602 **(A)** Immunostaining of active caspase-3 in haploid control and p53 morphants at 3 dpf. Z-  
603 projected images of confocal sections containing peripheral brain surface and inner brain area.  
604 Arrowheads indicate clusters of apoptotic cells. Broken lines indicate brain area. All larvae  
605 analyzed in Fig. 3F are shown. The panel includes the larvae identical to those shown in Fig.  
606 3E (marked by asterisks) to indicate the categories of their apoptotic levels. **(B)** Flow

607 cytometric DNA content analysis in Hoechst-stained larval cells isolated from haploid  
608 control and p53 morphant at 3 dpf. Representative data from two independent experiments  
609 are shown.

610

611 **Supplemental figure 4. Mitotic progression in haploid, diploid, or reversine-treated**  
612 **haploid larvae**

613 **(A-C)** Mitotic length plot against NEBD time point (dpf) in haploid or diploid larvae in Fig.  
614 4C (A, B) or the reversine-treated haploid larvae in Fig. 5A (C). At least 74 cells of 6 larvae  
615 from six independent experiments were analyzed. **(D)** The frequency of mitotic fates of  
616 haploid larval cells arrested at mitosis for > 60 min (shown as percentages in the total mitotic  
617 events analyzed in A; 91 haploid larval cells of 8 larvae from 8 independent experiments).  
618 Data were sorted by NEBD time point (dpf).

619

620 **Supplemental figure 5. Haploidy-linked centrosome loss in different organs**

621 **(A, B)** Immunostaining of centrin and  $\alpha$ -tubulin in haploid and diploid larvae. Representative  
622 data of skin (A) and brain (B) of haploid and diploid larvae at 0.5, 1, 2 and 3 dpf. Magenta  
623 boxes in left or middle panels indicate the enlarged regions of each organ (shown in middle  
624 panels) or mitotic cells (shown in right panels), respectively. Insets in the right panels show  
625 3 $\times$  enlarged images of centrioles. **(C, D)** Spindle polarity and centrin foci number in mitotic

626 cells in each organ at different developmental stages. At least 11 cells of 4 larvae from two

627 independent experiments were analyzed for each condition.

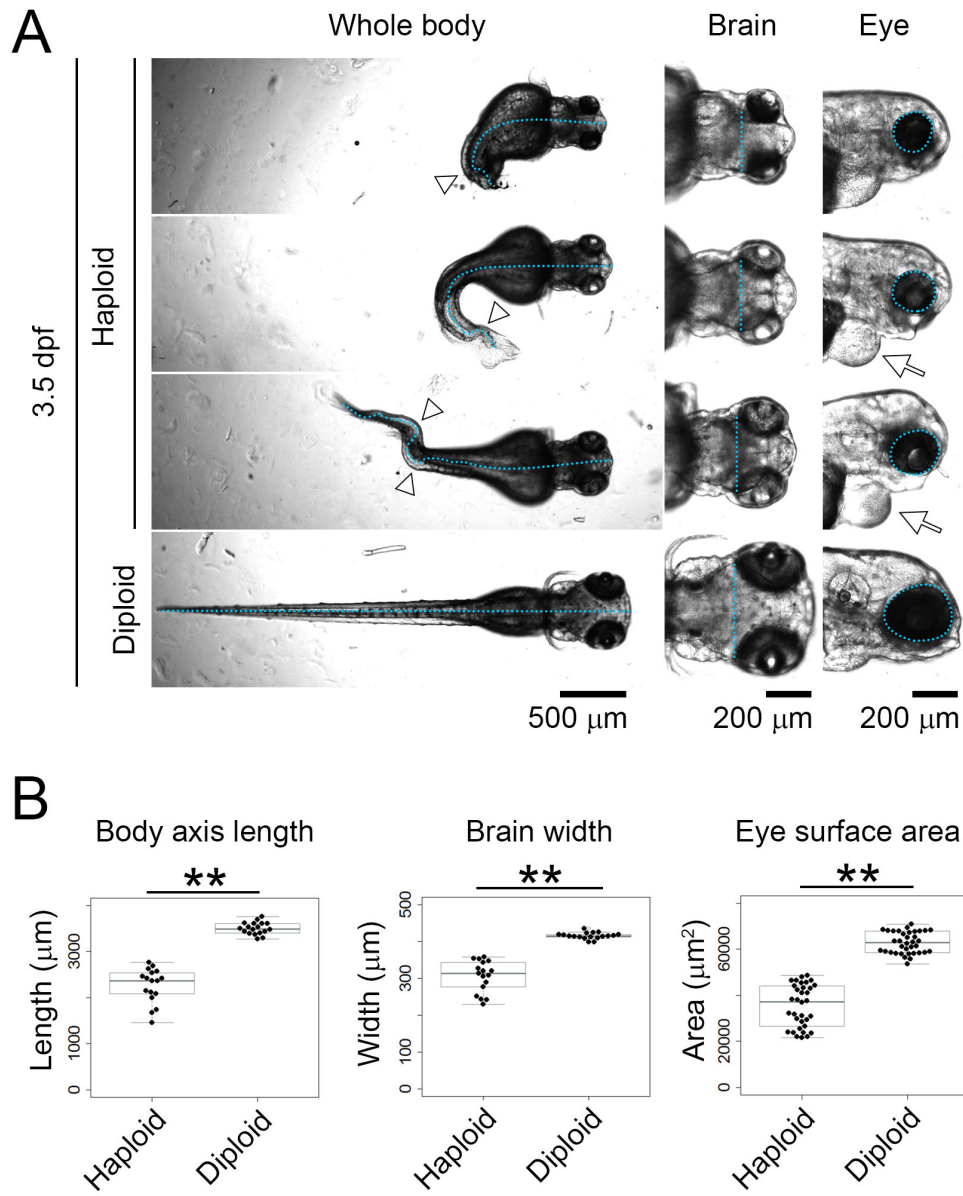
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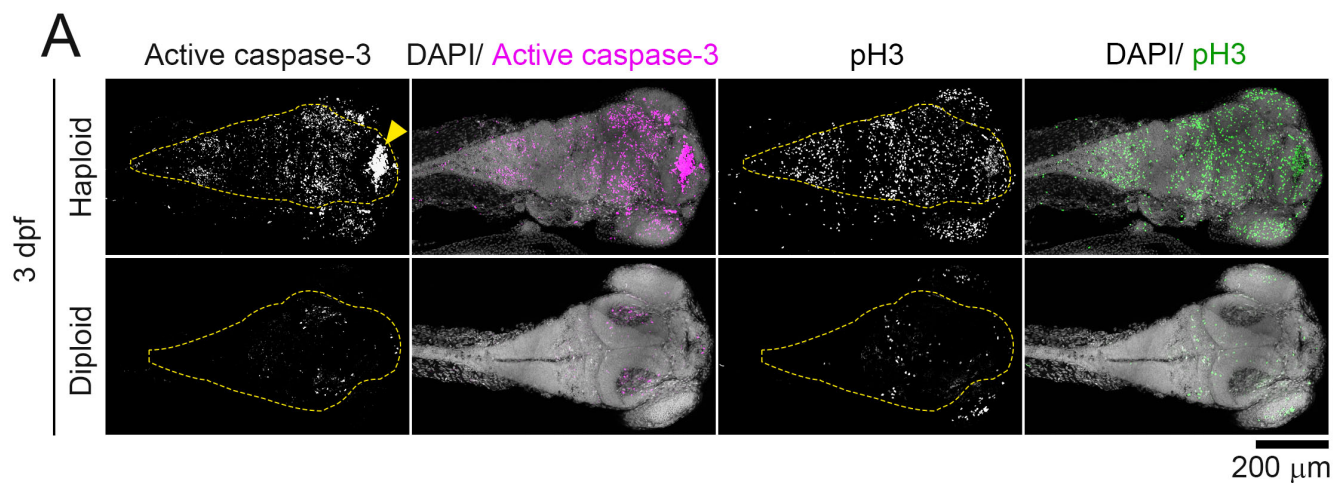
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# Figure 1



## Figure 2

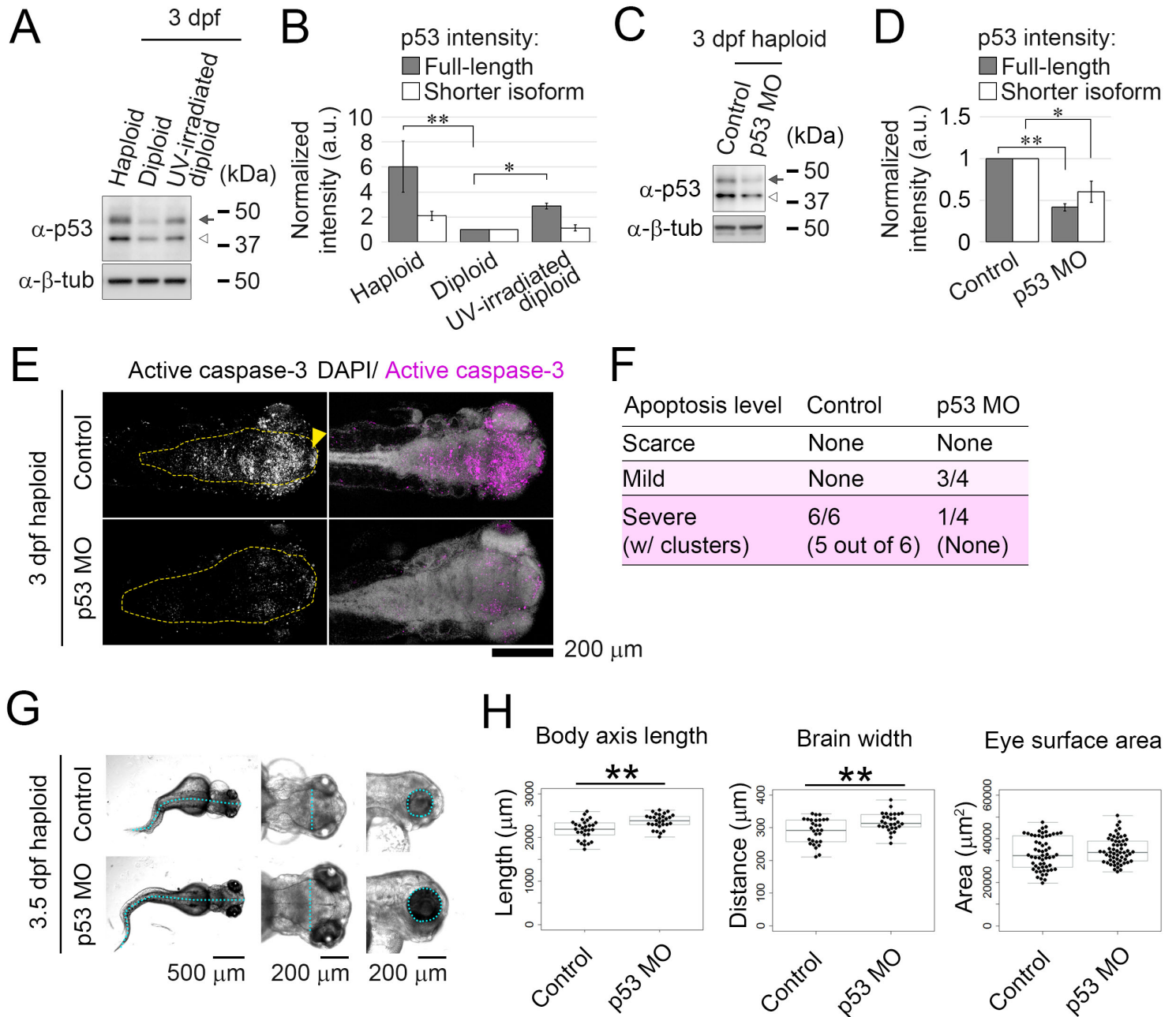


**B**

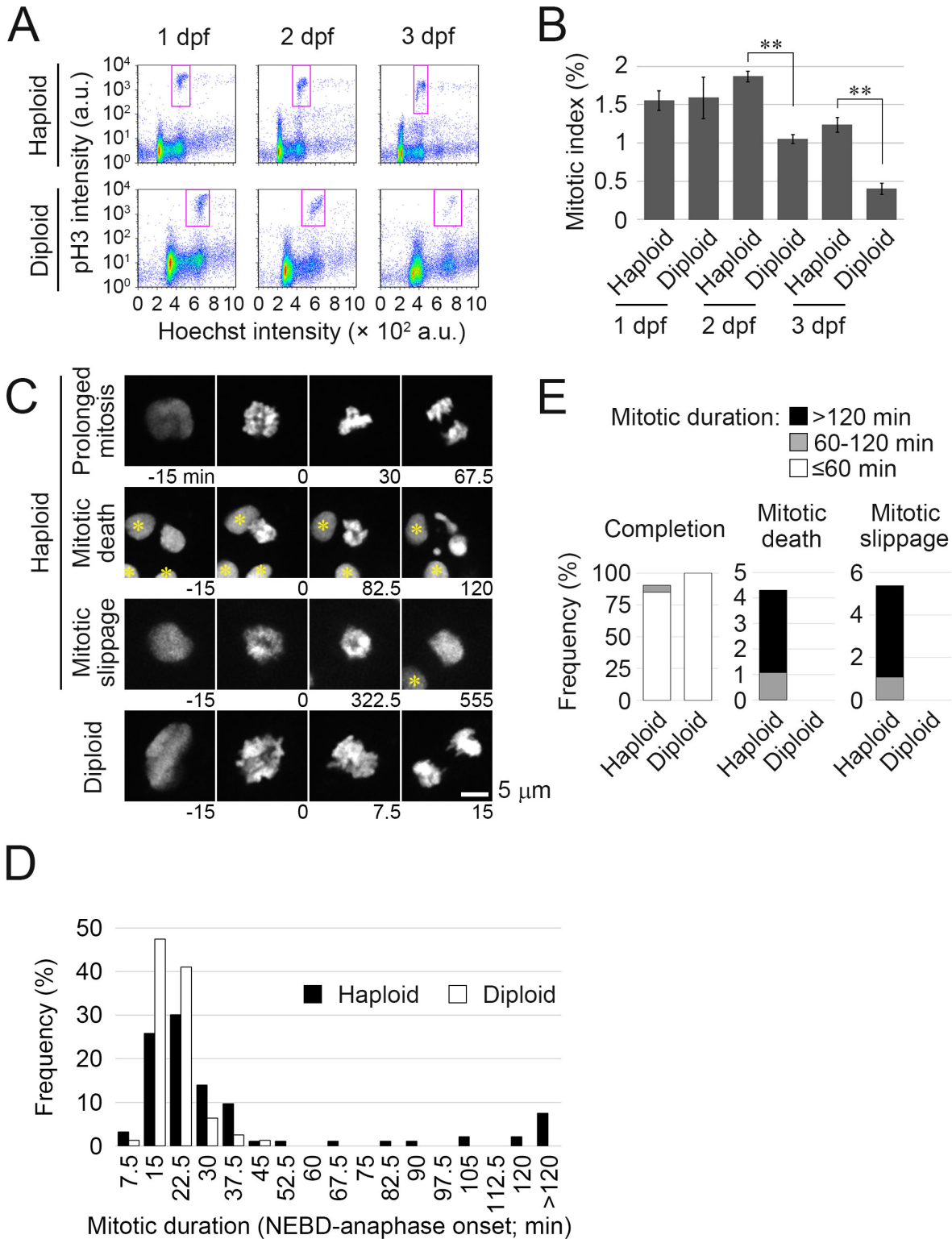
Apoptosis level	Haploid	Diploid
Scarce	None	2/7
Mild	2/7	5/7
Severe (w/ clusters)	5/7 (3 out of 5)	None (None)



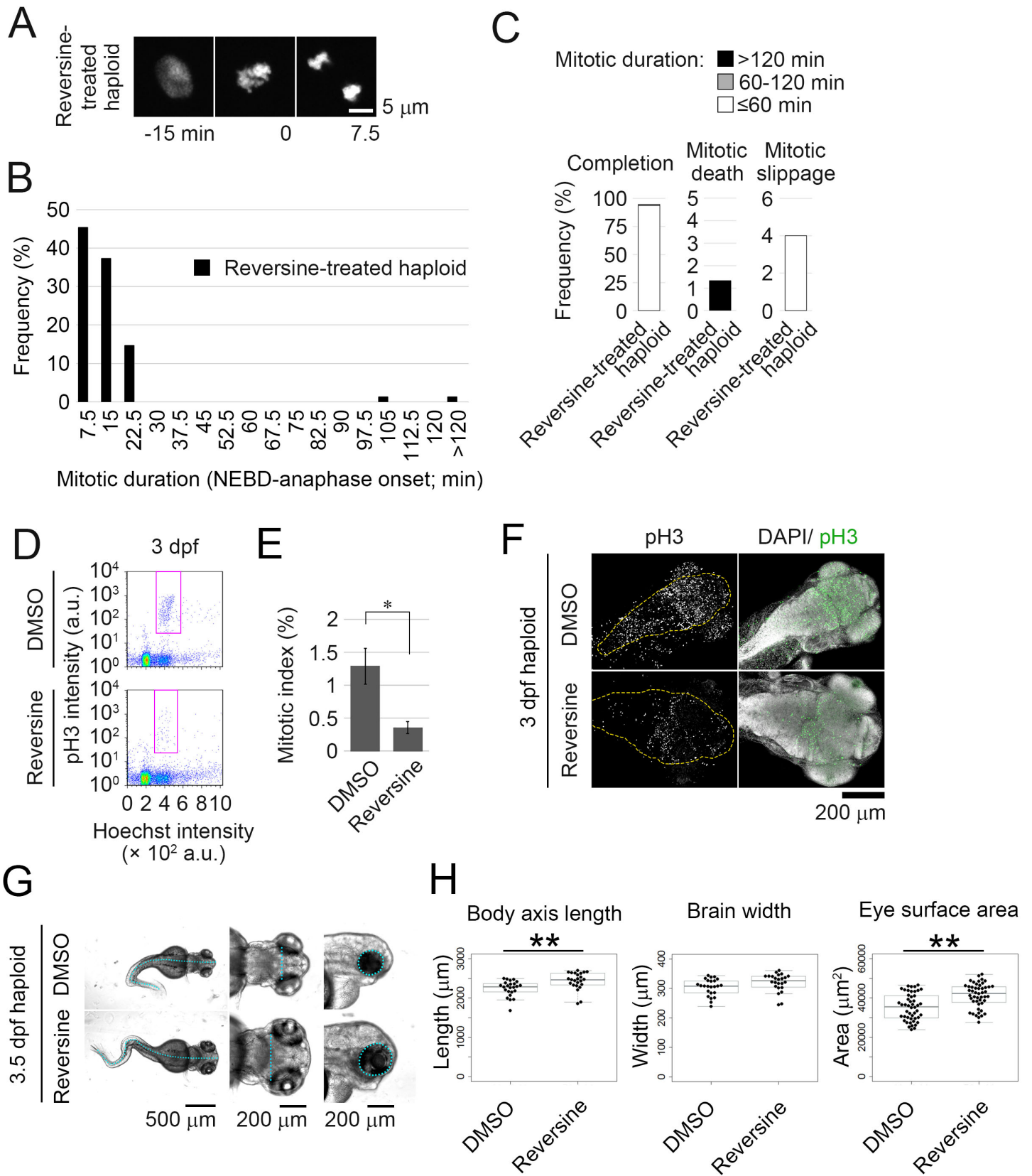
## Figure 3



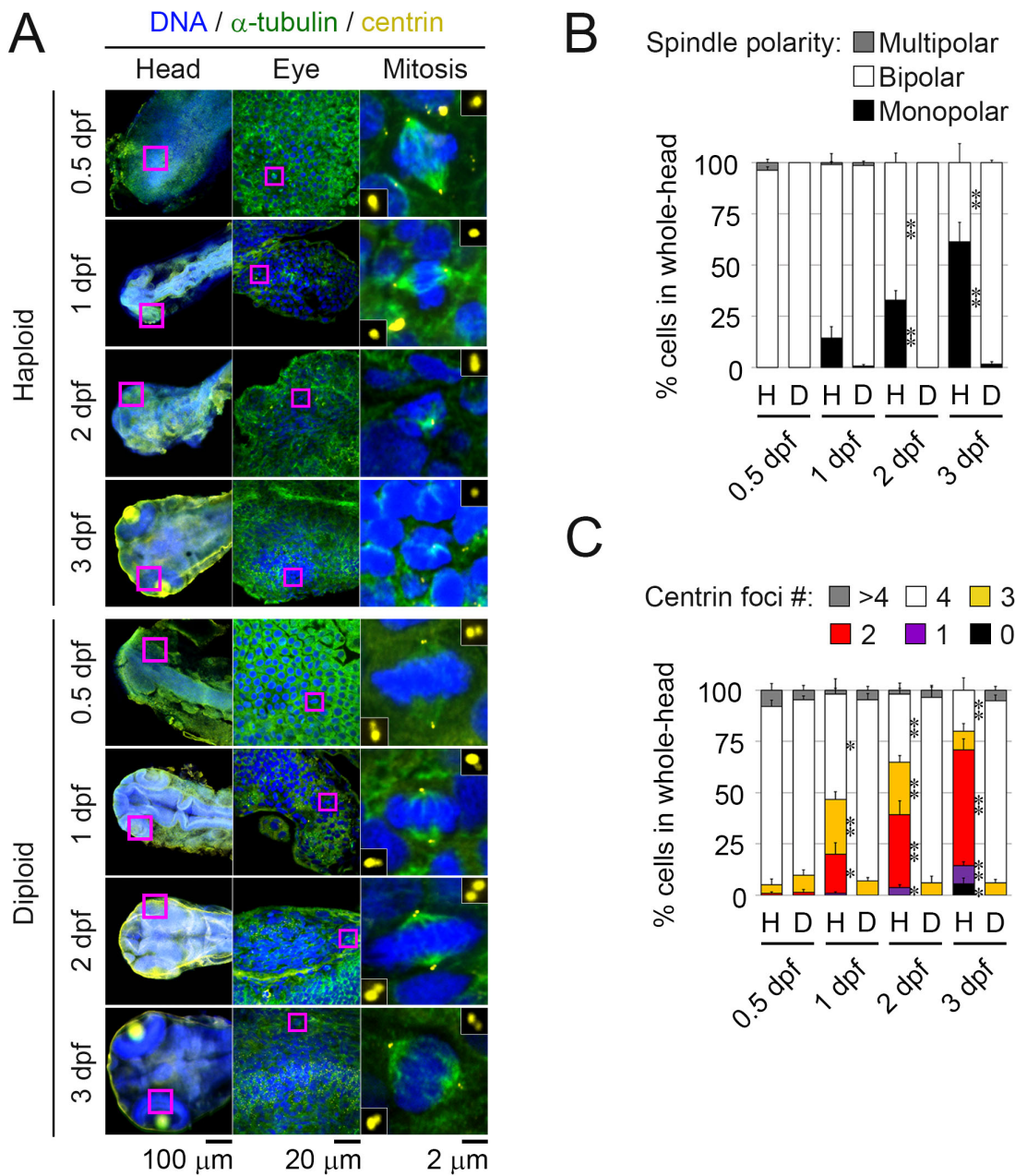
# Figure 4



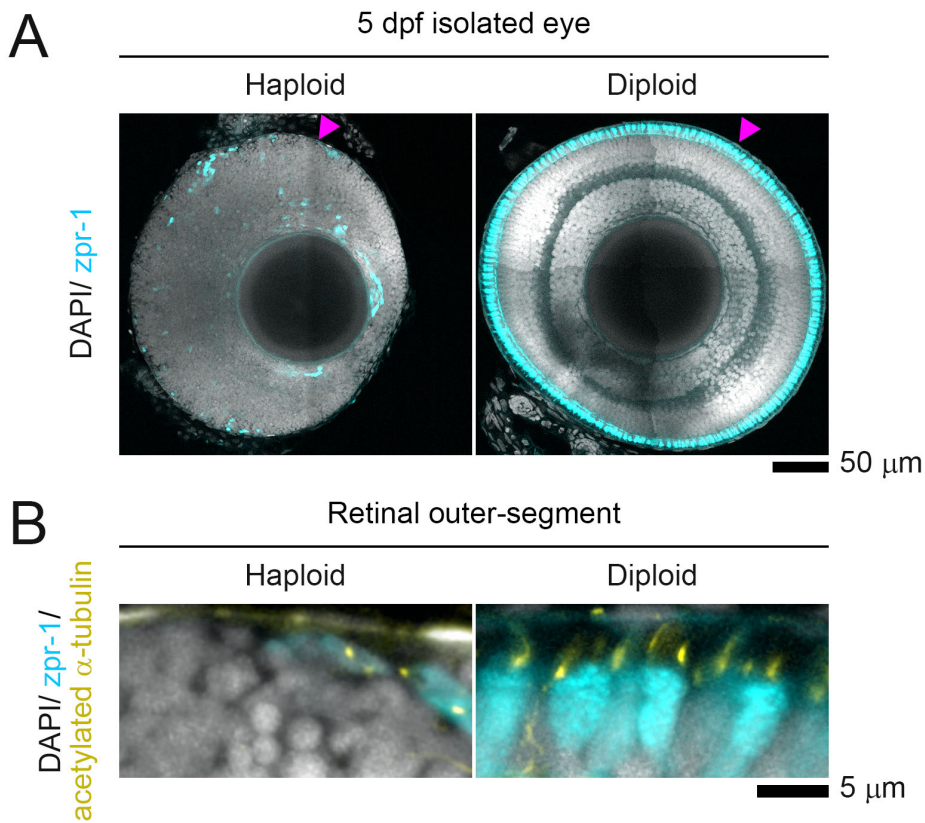
## Figure 5



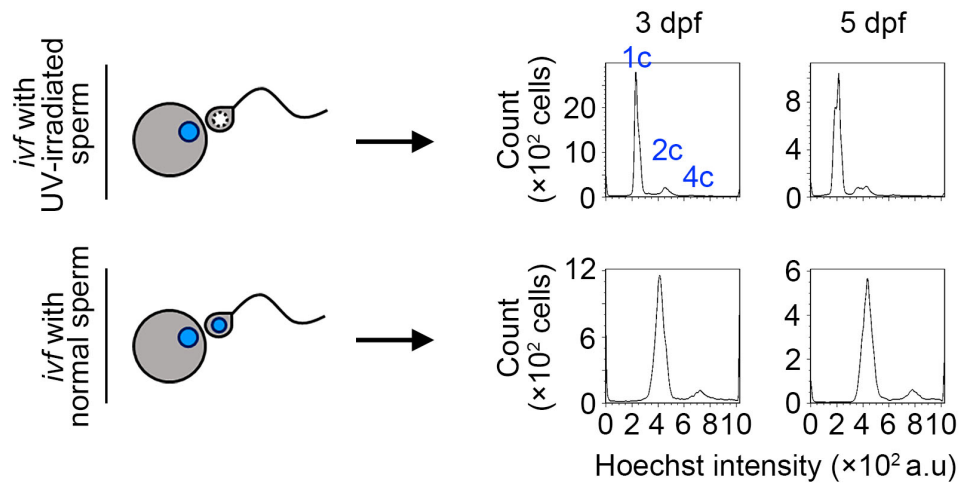
## Figure 6



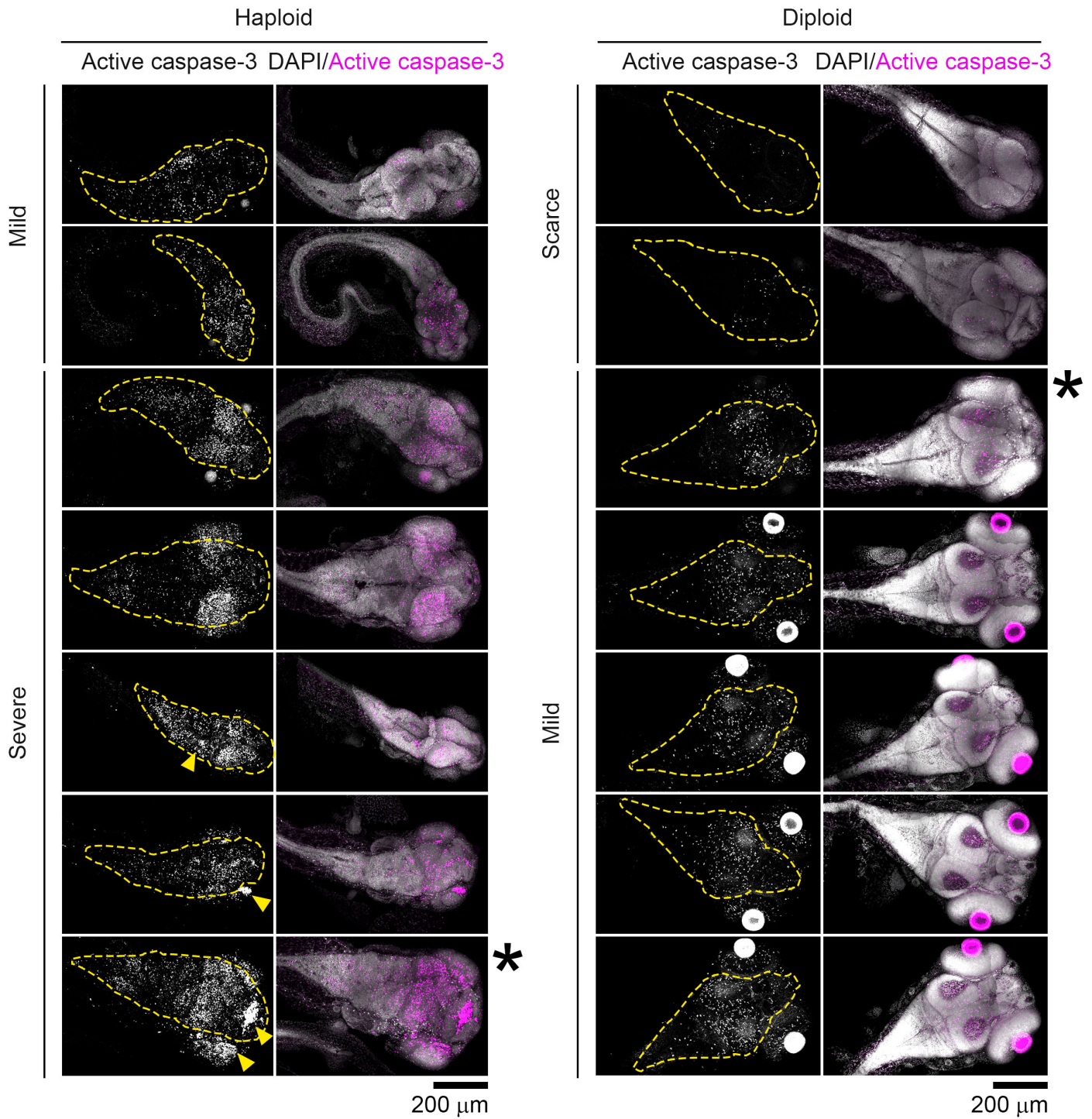
# Figure 7



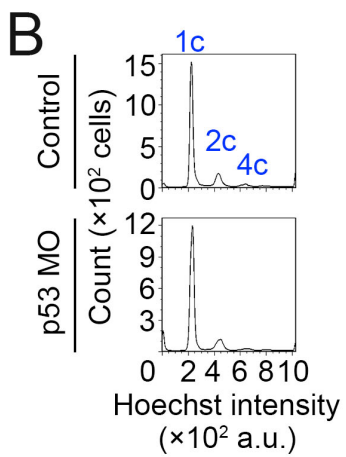
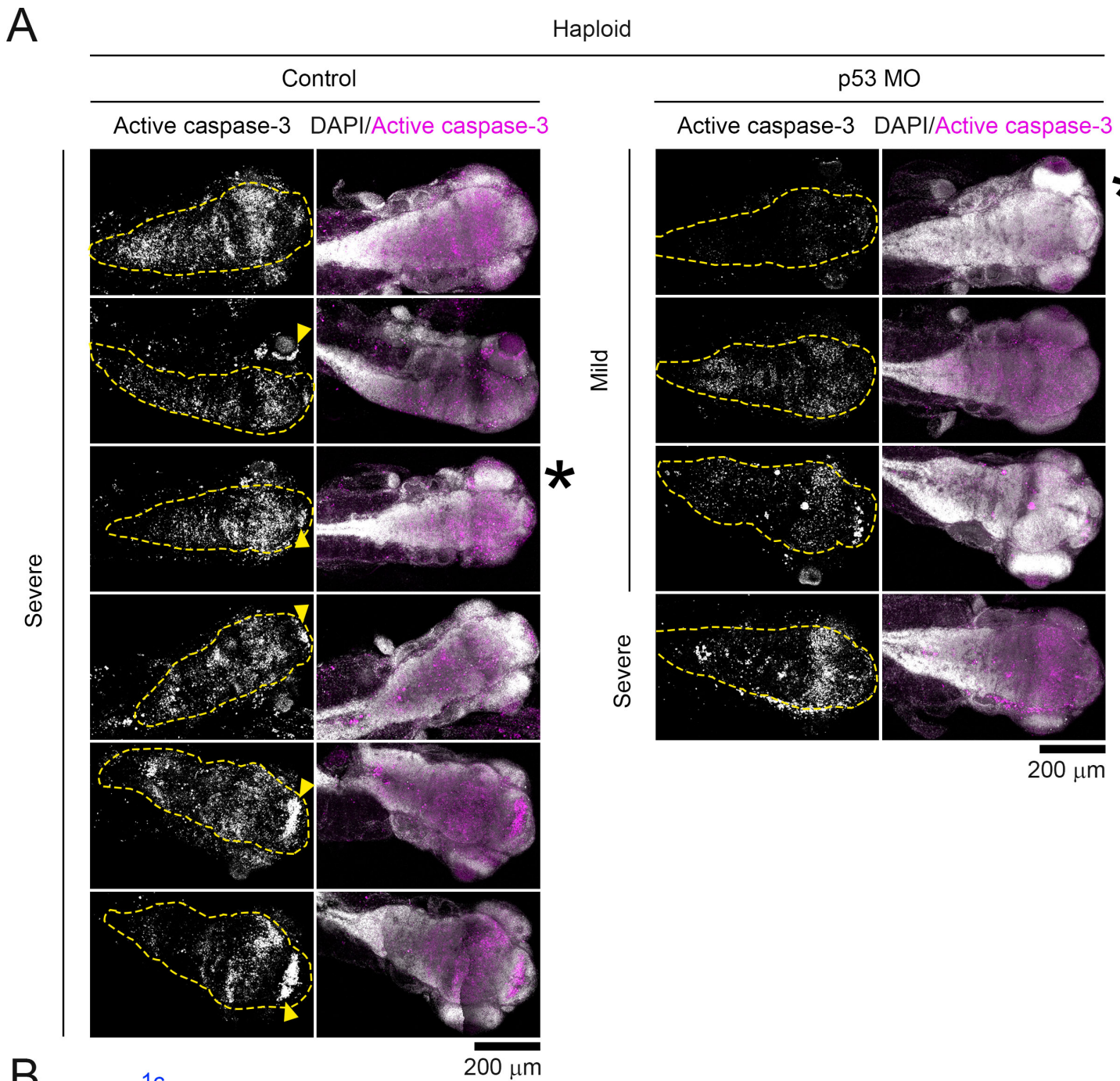
# Supplemental figure 1



## Supplemental figure 2

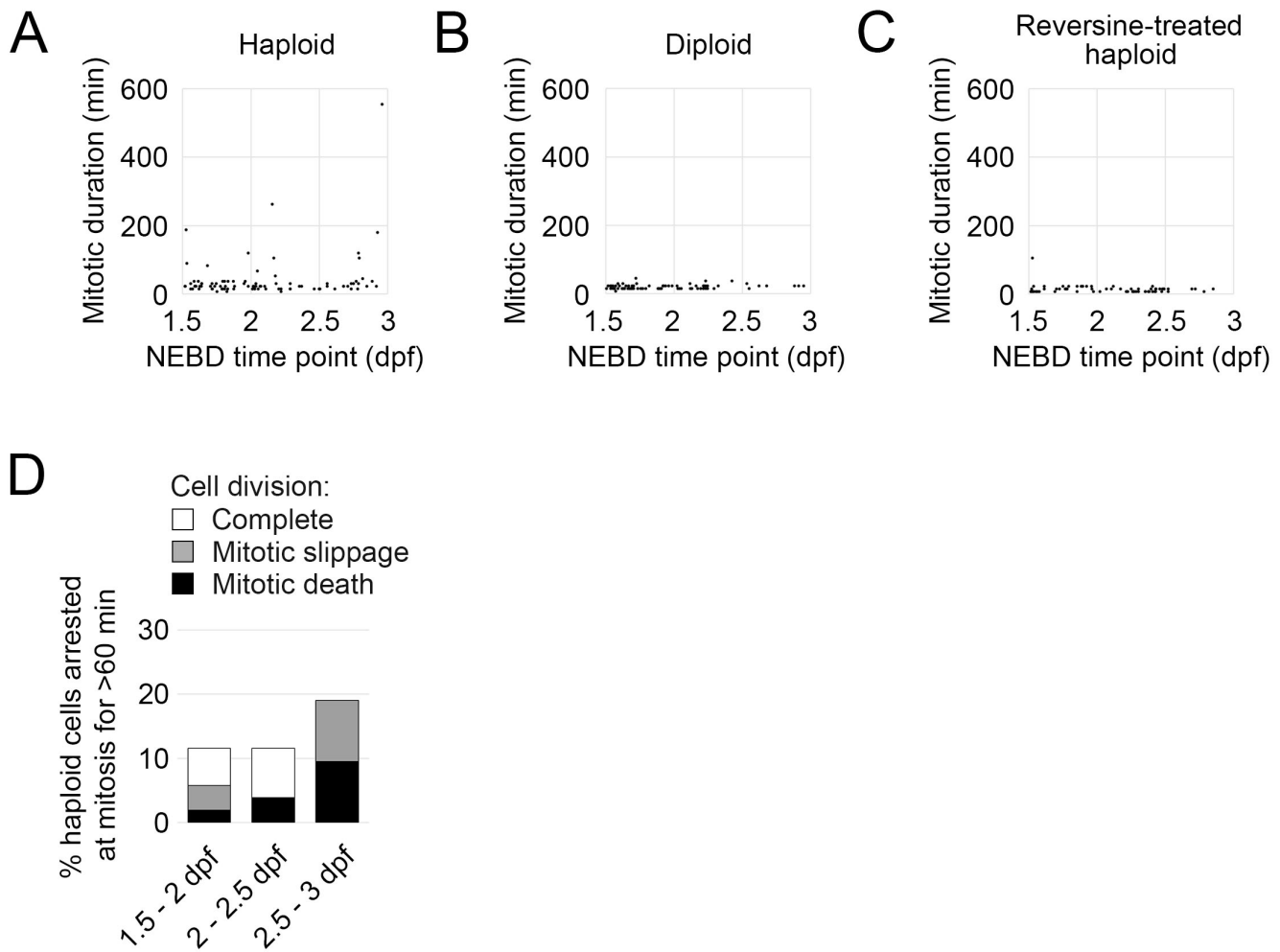


# Supplemental figure 3



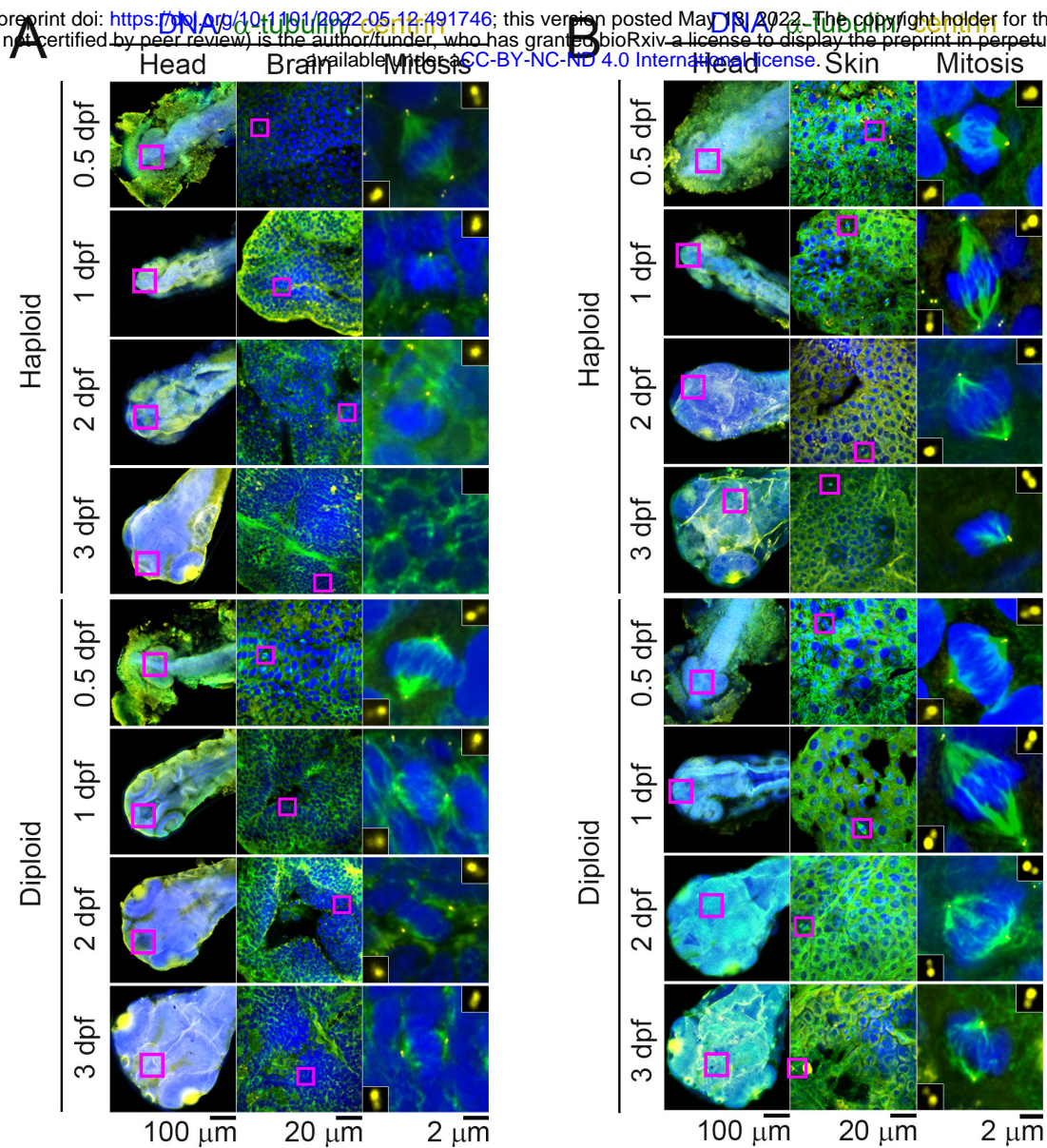


## Supplemental figure 4

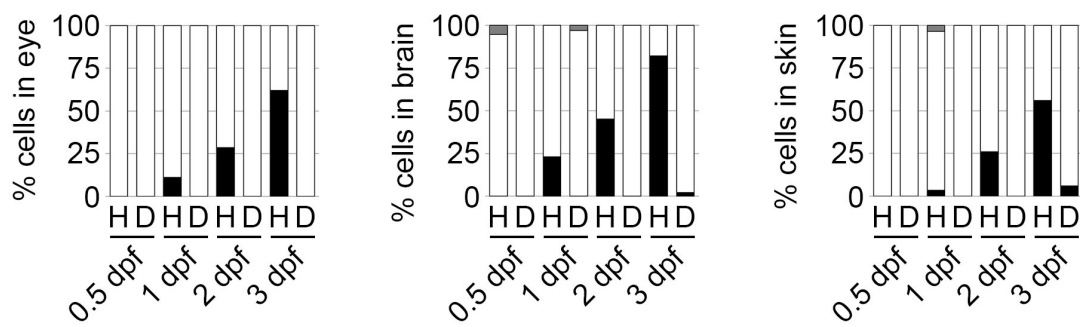


# Supplemental figure 5

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**C** Spindle polarity: ■ Multipolar □ Bipolar ■ Monopolar



**D** Centrin foci #: ■ >4 □ 4 ■ 3 ■ 2 ■ 1 ■ 0

