

1 **Title: Overexpression screen of chromosome 21 genes reveals modulators of**
2 **Sonic hedgehog signaling relevant to Down syndrome.**

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21 **Abstract:**

22 Dysregulation of Sonic hedgehog (SHH) signaling may contribute to multiple Down syndrome-
23 associated phenotypes, including cerebellar hypoplasia, congenital heart defects, craniofacial and
24 skeletal dysmorphologies, and Hirschsprung disease. Granule cell precursors isolated from the
25 developing cerebellum of Ts65Dn mice are less responsive to the mitogenic effects of SHH than
26 euploid cells, and a single postnatal dose of the SHH pathway agonist SAG rescues cerebellar
27 morphology and performance on learning and memory tasks in Ts65Dn mice. SAG treatment
28 also normalizes expression levels of *OLIG2* in neural progenitor cells derived from human
29 trisomy 21 iPSCs. However, despite evidence that activating SHH signaling can ameliorate some
30 Down syndrome-associated phenotypes, chromosome 21 does not encode any components of the
31 canonical SHH pathway. Here, we screened 163 chromosome 21 cDNAs in a series of SHH-
32 responsive cell lines to identify chromosome 21 genes that modulate SHH signaling. We
33 confirmed overexpression of trisomic candidate genes using RNA-seq in Ts65Dn and TcMAC21
34 cerebellum. Our study indicates that some chromosome 21 genes, including *DYRK1A*, upregulate
35 SHH signaling while others, such as *HMGNI* and *MISI8A*, inhibit SHH signaling.
36 Overexpression of genes involved in chromatin structure and mitosis, but not genes previously
37 implicated in ciliogenesis, regulate the SHH pathway. Our data suggest that cerebellar
38 hypoplasia and other phenotypes related to aberrant SHH signaling arise from the net effect of
39 trisomy for multiple chromosome 21 genes rather than the overexpression of a single trisomic
40 gene. Identifying which chromosome 21 genes modulate SHH signaling may suggest new
41 therapeutic avenues for ameliorating Down syndrome phenotypes.

42 **One Sentence Summary:** Multiple chromosome 21 genes modulate Sonic hedgehog signaling,
43 which is dysregulated in Down syndrome.

44 **Main Text:**

45 **INTRODUCTION**

46 Down syndrome is a genetically complex condition with trisomy for >200 protein-coding
47 genes contributing to an increased risk of more than 30 phenotypes (1-3). Although most Down
48 syndrome-associated phenotypes remain unexplained at the molecular level, dysregulation of the
49 Sonic hedgehog (SHH) signaling pathway may contribute to multiple Down syndrome
50 phenotypes, including cerebellar hypoplasia, hippocampal learning and memory deficits,
51 congenital heart defects, and more (4). Targeting the pleiotropic effects of aberrant SHH
52 signaling is an attractive therapeutic strategy because a single treatment could theoretically
53 rescue multiple phenotypes in individuals with Down syndrome. Given that there are currently
54 no FDA-approved drugs to treat intellectual disability in Down syndrome, understanding the
55 molecular mechanisms of SHH dysregulation during neurodevelopment is an aim with direct
56 clinical relevance.

57 Cerebellar hypoplasia is one of a handful of phenotypes that occur in every individual
58 with trisomy 21 and was the first Down syndrome-associated phenotype linked to abnormal SHH
59 signaling (5). As measured by MRI, adults with Down syndrome have a disproportionately small
60 cerebellum, even when adjusted for total brain volume (6). Ts65Dn mice, the most widely
61 studied mouse model of Down syndrome, show cerebellar hypoplasia and a reduced density of
62 cerebellar granule cell neurons; this reduced granule cell neuron density correctly predicted a
63 similar deficit in people with Down syndrome (7).

64 We traced this reduction in granule cell neuron density to a defect in proliferation of
65 granule cell precursors in early postnatal development (5). During normal development of the
66 cerebellum, SHH acts as a mitogen for granule cell precursors (8, 9). Trisomic granule cell

67 precursors isolated from postnatal day 6 (P6) Ts65Dn pups proliferate less in response to SHH
68 than euploid cells, resulting in a small and hypoplastic cerebellum (5). Neural crest cells
69 isolated from the first pharyngeal arch of Ts65Dn embryos exhibit a parallel deficit in response
70 to SHH, which acts as a mitogen for cells that will contribute to the mid and lower face (10).
71 These experiments suggest that trisomic cells possess an intrinsic deficit in response to SHH
72 signaling that is relevant to both cerebellar hypoplasia and craniofacial dysmorphology. SHH
73 signaling is also required for normal development of the heart and enteric nervous system,
74 supporting the hypothesis that abnormal signaling underlies increased risk of congenital heart
75 defects and Hirschsprung disease in individuals with Down syndrome (4).

76 Consistent with this hypothesis, a single treatment with the SHH pathway agonist SAG
77 on the day of birth rescues adult cerebellar morphology, performance on the Morris water maze,
78 and some aspects of hippocampal long-term potentiation in Ts65Dn mice (11). Similarly,
79 overexpression of a SHH transgene in the forebrain improves learning and memory in Ts65Dn
80 mice, whereas overexpression of this SHH transgene in cerebellar Purkinje cells increases
81 cerebellar volume but does not improve performance on learning and memory tasks (12).
82 Another recent study showed that increasing the concentration of SAG normalizes expression of
83 *OLIG2*, a chromosome 21 gene critical for oligodendrocyte development, in “brain-like” neural
84 progenitors derived from human trisomy 21 iPSCs (13). Although these findings suggest that
85 human trisomy 21 cells and mouse models of Down syndrome share a common defect in SHH
86 signaling, treating humans with SAG or other SHH agonists may have unintended consequences
87 on development. SHH signaling is a central developmental pathway involved in diverse
88 processes from axis formation in early embryos to maintenance of stem cell niches in adults (14).
89 Activating mutations in the SHH pathway are associated with medulloblastoma and basal cell

90 carcinoma (15-18). SAG treatment also causes dose-dependent changes in cranial shape and size,
91 which indicates that stimulation of SHH may have unwanted effects on skeletal development
92 (19).

93 Given these limitations, targeting the trisomic genes responsible for abnormal SHH
94 signaling may represent a better therapeutic strategy than activating the SHH pathway directly.
95 Chromosome 21 does not encode known components of the SHH signaling pathway, and
96 previous attempts to identify chromosome 21 genes involved in SHH signaling have focused on
97 a small subset of candidate genes. The DYRK1A protein kinase has been identified as a
98 modulator of SHH signaling, but returning *Dyrk1a* to disomy was not sufficient to rescue
99 cerebellar volume in Ts65Dn mice (20-22). Overexpression of pericentrin (*PCNT*) was reported
100 to disrupt ciliogenesis, which is required for canonical SHH signaling, but the mouse ortholog of
101 *PCNT* is not trisomic in many of the mouse models with cerebellar hypoplasia, indicating that
102 other trisomic genes are sufficient to cause this phenotype (23). Triplication of *APP* has also
103 been proposed to inhibit SHH signaling by upregulating *PTCH1* (24).

104 In contrast to these candidate-based approaches, we sought to identify the chromosome
105 21 genes underlying disruption of SHH signaling using first principles and synthesis of available
106 datasets. We propose that 1) Causal genes should be trisomic in mouse models with cerebellar
107 hypoplasia; 2) Variation in causal genes may be linked to SHH phenotypes outside of the context
108 of Down syndrome; 3) In the absence of genetic interactions, causal genes should inhibit SHH
109 signaling when overexpressed; and 4) Causal genes should be expressed in the relevant cell types
110 and misexpressed in trisomic cells. Here, we integrate data about cerebellar phenotypes collected
111 in mouse models of Down syndrome, Mendelian disorders, a series of in vitro cDNA screens,
112 and RNA-seq to show that the overexpression of multiple chromosome 21 genes modulates SHH

113 signaling. Our findings prioritize four chromosome 21 genes (*B3GALT5*, *ETS2*, *HMGNI*, and
114 *MISI8A*) that are trisomic in Ts65Dn mice, expressed in granule cell precursors, and inhibit
115 proliferation when overexpressed in primary granule cell precursors.

116 **RESULTS**

117 **Comparison of cerebellar phenotypes in Down syndrome mouse models**

118 If a single trisomic gene is sufficient to cause a specific phenotype, individuals with
119 trisomy for that gene will display the phenotype. In humans, this principle has been used to
120 attempt to identify regions associated with intellectual disability, congenital heart anomalies, and
121 other – mostly incompletely penetrant – aspects of the syndrome in rare individuals with partial
122 trisomy 21 (25, 26). However, regional brain volume measurements are not available for human
123 subjects with partial trisomy. We instead compared previously reported cerebellar volume or
124 midline cross-sectional area measurements among mouse models at dosage imbalance for
125 different subsets of chromosome 21 genes or their mouse orthologs (**Fig. 1A and table S1**).
126 Cerebellar volumes ranged from 78% of euploid in Ts1Cje mice to 116% in 152F7 mice.

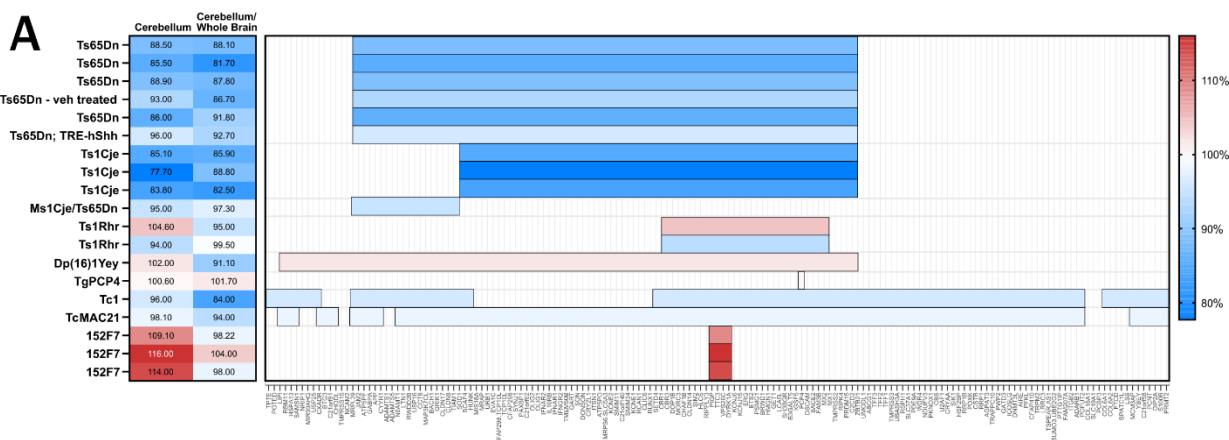
127 **Manual annotation of chromosome 21 genes related to SHH and ciliopathies**

128 Disruption of the SHH pathway causes a range of well-characterized phenotypes,
129 including holoprosencephaly, cerebellar hypoplasia, heart defects, skeletal abnormalities, and
130 cancers such as medulloblastoma and basal cell carcinoma. To further understand how
131 overexpression of chromosome 21 genes could affect SHH signaling, we manually annotated
132 chromosome 21 genes associated with hedgehog-related phenotypes through a literature search,
133 the Online Mendelian Inheritance in Man (OMIM) and Mouse Genome Informatics (MGI)
134 databases, and the ciliary/centrosome database Cildb v3.0 (**table S2**). Of the 44 chromosome 21

135 genes with associated relevant phenotypes in OMIM, four genes (*CFAP298*, *CFAP410*, *PCNT*,
136 and *RSPHI*) encode proteins involved in ciliogenesis. Mutations in an additional 12 genes
137 (*CSTB*, *DSCAM*, *JAM2*, *KCNJ6*, *OLIG1*, *OLIG2*, *PRDM15*, *PSMG1*, *SOD1*, *SON*, *TRAPPC10*,
138 and *WDR4*) are associated with cerebellar phenotypes or holoprosencephaly in humans or in
139 mouse models. Unsurprisingly, many chromosome 21 genes have been reported to act upstream
140 or downstream of SHH signaling in various cell types, including *ABCG1*, *ADARBI*, *APP*,
141 *DYRK1A*, *GABPA*, *OLIG1*, *OLIG2*, *RUNX1*, *SIM2*, *SOD1*, *TIAMI*, and *USP25*. For several
142 genes, multiple lines of evidence link their encoded proteins with SHH signaling or ciliogenesis.
143 For example, mutant *Trappc10* mice possess septal defects, holoprosencephaly, anophthalmia,
144 thymus hypoplasia, and cleft palate. The human *TRAPPC10* gene is located in a previously
145 identified “holoprosencephaly critical region,” and knockdown of *TRAPPC10* impairs cilia
146 formation in RPE cells (27, 28). Together, these annotations suggest that proteins encoded by
147 chromosome 21 genes are components of both motile and primary cilia and may modulate SHH
148 signaling through non-canonical pathways in diverse tissue types.

149 **Primary screen for chromosome 21 cDNAs that affect SHH signaling**

150 Although several chromosome 21 genes have previously been associated with SHH
151 signaling, most annotations derive from loss-of-function mutations rather than overexpression.
152 To identify genes whose overexpression is sufficient to modulate SHH signaling, we designed a
153 multilevel screen in zebrafish (29) and in four SHH-responsive cell types (**Fig. 2A**). We first
154 screened a library of 163 human chromosome 21 cDNAs selected for high homology to mouse
155 genes (**table S3**) in two well-established SHH-responsive cell lines: Shh-LIGHT2 cells, which
156 express firefly luciferase from the SHH-responsive promoter of Gli1 (Fluc; 8xGliBS-FL) and
157 renilla luciferase from a constitutive promoter (Rluc; pRL-TK, Promega), and SmoA1-LIGHT



158

159 **Fig. 1. Comparison of cerebellar phenotypes in Down syndrome mouse models. (A)**

160 Previously published cerebellar volume/cross-sectional area and cerebellar volume/cross-

161 sectional area normalized to whole brain are reported as a percent of euploid. Horizontal bars

162 represent the chromosome 21 or mouse orthologous regions that are trisomic in each model.

163 Color reflects the extent of cerebellar hypoplasia, where blue is most affected and red is least

164 affected. Several additional studies quantifying cerebellar hypoplasia are generally consistent

165 with these results but do not report cerebellar volume/cross-sectional area and cerebellar

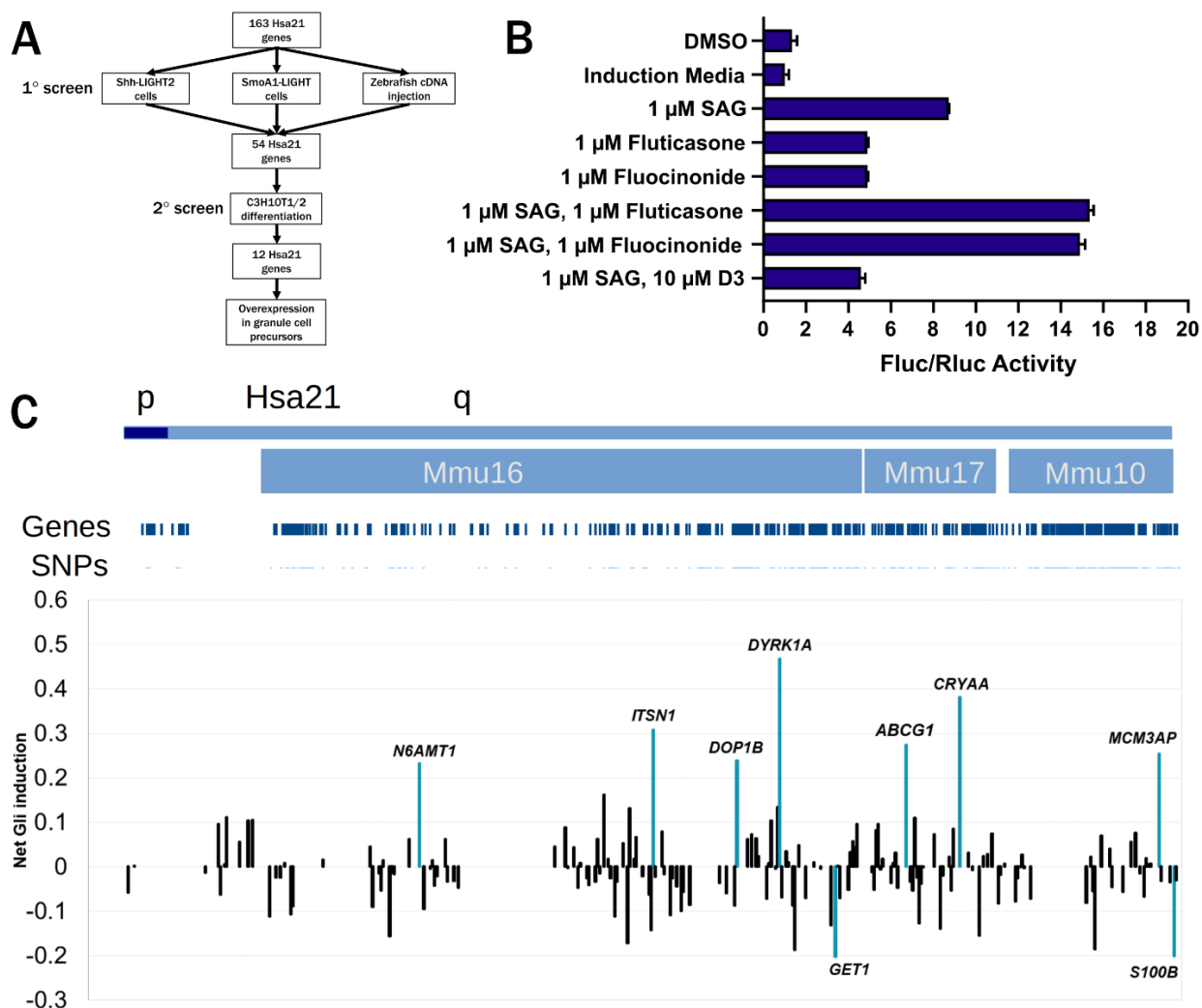
166 volume/cross-sectional area normalized to whole brain as a percent of euploid (21, 30, 31).

167

168 cells, which are based on Shh-LIGHT2 cells but also possess an oncogenic mutation in Smo
169 (W539L) that activates SHH signaling in the absence of pharmacological stimulation (15).

170 Shh-LIGHT2 cells responded robustly to the hedgehog agonists fluocinonide,
171 fluticasone, and SAG, whereas vitamin D3 inhibited SAG-induced reporter activity (**Fig. 2B**).
172 Transient overexpression of nine genes increased or decreased the ratio of Fluc to Rluc activity
173 by more than two standard deviations ($z \leq -2$ or $z \geq 2$) in Shh-LIGHT2 cells treated with SAG
174 (**table S4**). Overexpression of *ABCG1*, *CRYAA*, *DOP1B*, *DYRK1A*, *ITSN1*, *MCM3AP*, and
175 *N6AMT1* activated SHH signaling, whereas overexpression of *GET1* and *S100B* inhibited SHH
176 (**Fig. 2C**).

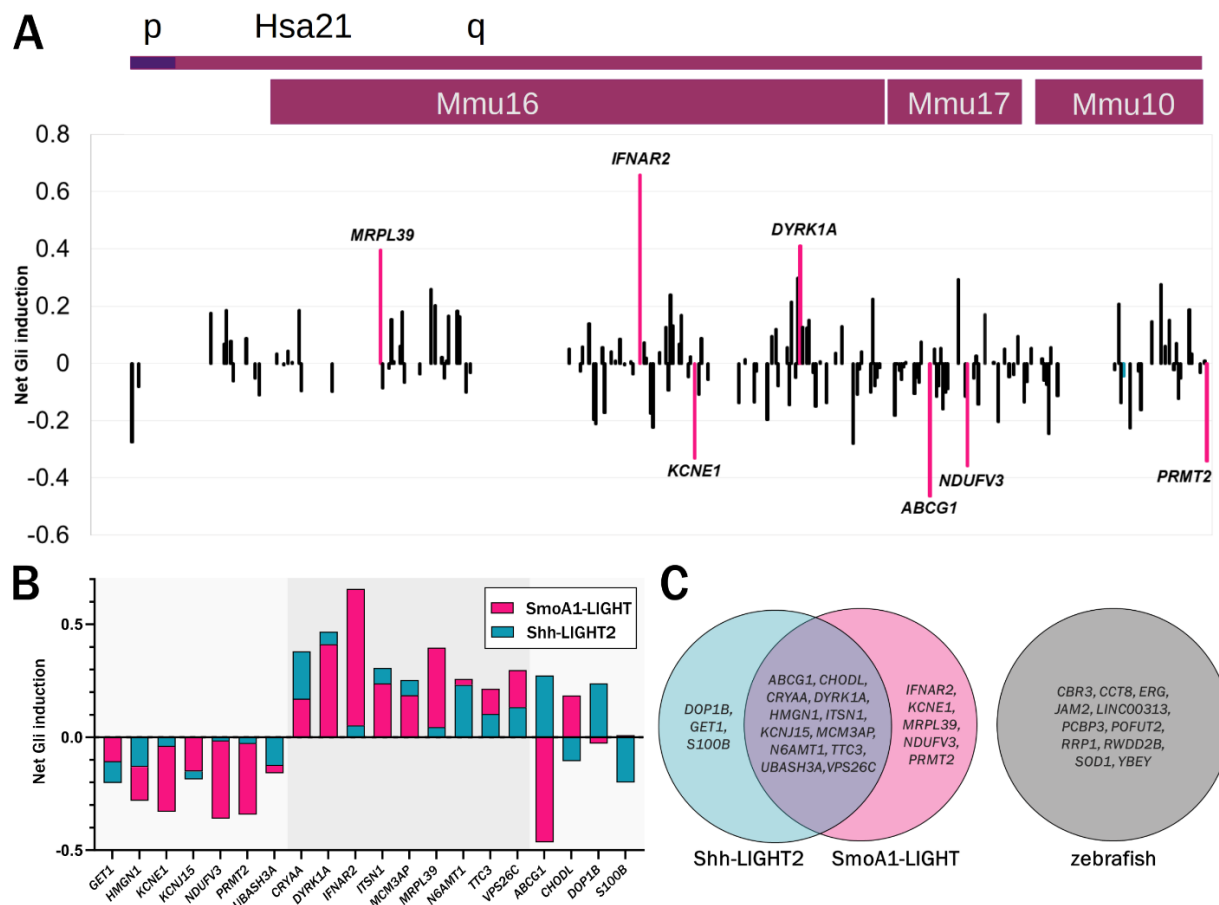
177 In SmoA1-LIGHT cells, overexpression of *DYRK1A*, *IFNAR2*, and *MRPL39* increased
178 SHH signaling by more than two standard deviations, and overexpression of *ABCG1*, *KCNE1*,
179 *NDUFV3*, and *PRMT2* inhibited SHH signaling (**Fig. 3A and table S5**). We also identified an
180 additional six genes that modulated SHH signaling by more than one standard deviation in both
181 screens: *CHODL*, *HMGNI*, *KCNJ15*, *TTC3*, *UBASH3A*, and *VPS26C*. Of the twenty total genes
182 identified in Shh-LIGHT2 or SmoA1-LIGHT screens, sixteen affected SHH signaling in the
183 same direction in both cell lines: overexpression of *GET1*, *HMGNI*, *KCNE1*, *KCNJ15*,
184 *NDUFV3*, *PRMT2*, and *UBASH3A* inhibited SHH signaling, overexpression of *CRYAA*,
185 *DYRK1A*, *IFNAR2*, *ITSN1*, *MCM3AP*, *MRPL39*, *N6AMT1*, *TTC3*, and *VSP26C* upregulated SHH
186 signaling, and *ABCG1*, *CHODL*, *DOP1B*, and *S100B* showed discordant directions of effect in
187 the two cell lines (**Fig. 3B**). We previously screened the chromosome 21 cDNA library in
188 developing zebrafish and identified eleven genes that caused gross morphological defects or
189 lethality when overexpressed; seven of these genes affected development of structures that are
190 substantially influenced by or dependent on SHH signaling (29). However, there was no overlap



191
 192 **Fig.2. Overexpression of chromosome 21 cDNAs in Shh-LIGHT2 cells. (A)** Screening
 193 strategy for chromosome 21 cDNAs in Shh-LIGHT2 and SmoA1-LIGHT cell lines, zebrafish
 194 embryos, C3H10T1/2 mesenchymal stem cell line, and primary granule cell precursors. **(B)**
 195 Fluc/Rluc activity in Shh-LIGHT2 cells exposed to SAG, the glucocorticoids fluocinonide and
 196 fluticasone, and vitamin D3 normalized to induction media control (n=2 independent
 197 experiments with 12 technical replicates per treatment). All graphs show mean ± SD unless
 198 otherwise noted. **(C)** Shh-LIGHT2 cells transfected with expression constructs for 163
 199 chromosome 21 cDNAs and treated with SAG to induce SHH signaling (≥ 8 technical replicates

200 per cDNA; see table S4 for wells per cDNA). Averaged Fluc/Rluc activity for each gene across
201 the Shh-LIGHT2 screen was scaled to 0 to show signal deflections from baseline. Values less
202 than zero represent loci that decrease SAG-induced activation of the SHH signaling pathway.
203 The net activity of the 8xGliBS reporter for each cDNA is plotted in chromosomal order
204 according to the sequence along the proximal-distal length of chromosome 21. Orthologous
205 regions on mouse chromosomes 16, 17, and 10 are provided for additional context. Labeled
206 cDNAs increased or decreased Fluc/Rluc activity by more than two SD.

207



208

209 **Fig.3. Overexpression of chromosome 21 cDNAs in SmoA1-LIGHT cells.** (A) SmoA1-
 210 LIGHT cells transfected with expression constructs for 163 chromosome 21 cDNAs (≥ 8
 211 technical replicates per cDNA; see table S5 for wells per cDNA). Averaged Fluc/Rluc activity
 212 for each gene across the SmoA1-LIGHT screen was scaled to 0 to show signal deflections from
 213 baseline. Labeled cDNAs increased or decreased Fluc/Rluc activity by more than two SD. (B)
 214 Comparison of net reporter induction after overexpression of twenty cDNAs identified in SmoA-
 215 LIGHT and Shh-LIGHT2 screens. Sixteen cDNAs have the same direction of effect in both
 216 screens, whereas four cDNAs have opposite directions of effect. (C) Comparison of cDNAs
 217 identified in two luciferase assays and a previous screen in developing zebrafish embryos (29).

218 between any of these eleven genes and the twenty genes prioritized by the luciferase assays (**Fig.**
219 **3C**).

220 We compared the results of our cDNA overexpression screens to four previously reported
221 genome-wide siRNA knockdown and CRISPR knockout screens in 3T3-derived cell lines
222 containing the 8xGliBS reporter (**fig. S1 and table S6**). Neither Shh-LIGHT2 nor SmoA1-
223 LIGHT screens showed a significant correlation with two siRNA screens in NIH-3T3-ShhFL
224 cells, which produce SHH endogenously (32). However, our Shh-LIGHT2 screen showed a
225 weak negative correlation with two CRISPR knockout screens in 3T3 cells treated with ShhN,
226 suggesting that knockout and overexpression of some chromosome 21 genes may have opposing
227 effects on SHH signaling (33, 34). Of the 31 candidate genes identified by our cDNA and
228 zebrafish screens, *DYRK1A*, *GET1*, *MCM3AP*, *PCBP3*, and *POFUT2* were identified in one or
229 more of the four knockdown/knockout screens.

230 **Secondary screen using a functional cell-based assay of osteoblast differentiation**

231 Based on our primary screen, we selected 54 chromosome 21 genes to further
232 characterize in a functional cell-based assay. The C3H10T1/2 mesenchymal stem cell line
233 undergoes SHH-dependent differentiation into osteoblasts and has been used to identify agonists
234 and antagonists of the SHH signaling pathway (35-37). We transfected C3H10T1/2 cells with
235 candidate cDNAs and quantified alkaline phosphatase activity, an early marker of osteoblast
236 differentiation. In the absence of SAG treatment, overexpression of *GLII* was sufficient to
237 induce osteoblast differentiation (**Fig. 4A**). Stimulation of osteoblast differentiation by 200 nM
238 SAG was inhibited by co-treatment with 2 μ M cyclopamine and by overexpression of the
239 heterotrimeric G-protein subunit G α S (*GNAS*), which inhibits SHH signaling via protein kinase
240 A (PKA) (33, 38). Overexpression of the previously identified regulator of SHH signaling

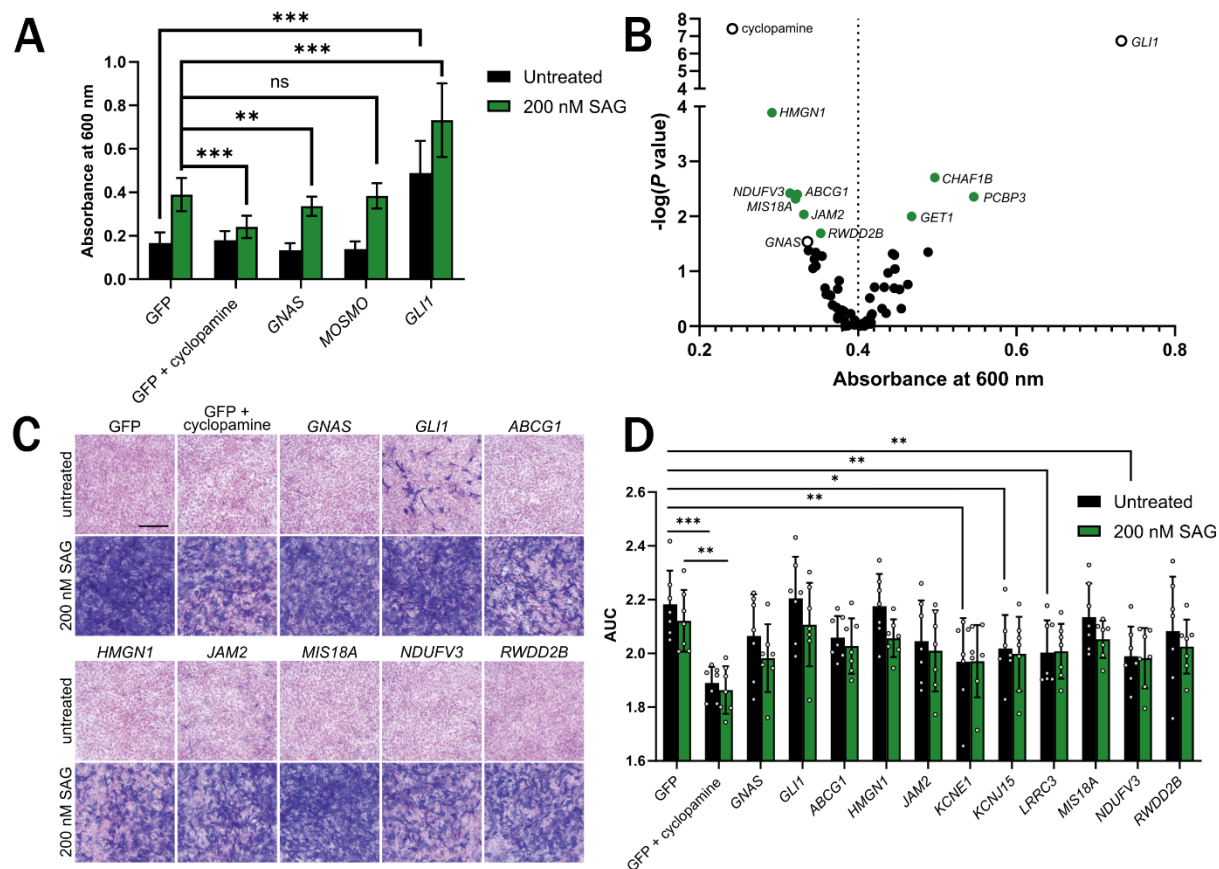
241 *MOSMO* had no effect on alkaline phosphatase activity, whereas overexpression of *GLII* further
242 induced osteoblast differentiation even in the presence of SAG (33).

243 In C3H10T1/2 cells treated with SAG, overexpression of six chromosome 21 cDNAs
244 (*ABCG1*, *HMGNI*, *JAM2*, *MISI8A*, *NDUFV3*, and *RWDD2B*) significantly reduced osteoblast
245 differentiation compared to control, indicating that overexpression of these cDNAs attenuated
246 SHH signaling (**Fig. 4B** and **fig. S2**). Overexpression of three chromosome 21 cDNAs
247 (*CHAF1B*, *GET1*, and *PCBP3*) significantly increased osteoblast differentiation compared to
248 control. Staining of cells for alkaline phosphatase activity in a subset of cDNAs confirmed
249 inhibition of osteoblast differentiation and suggested a possible reduction in cell density
250 following transfection of some cDNAs (**Fig. 4C**). Because reduced viability could affect
251 osteoblast differentiation independently of SHH signaling, we assessed cell viability at three time
252 points post-transfection using a MTT assay. Both cDNA ($f(12, 156)=5.327$, $P<0.0001$) and SAG
253 treatment ($f(1, 156) = 6.474$, $P=0.0119$) had a significant effect on viability, but the interaction
254 between these terms was not significant (**Fig. 4D** and **fig. S2**). In untreated cells, overexpression
255 of *KCNE1*, *KCNJ15*, *LRR3*, and *NDUFV3* and treatment with cyclopamine reduced cell
256 viability compared to control. In cells treated with SAG, only cyclopamine treatment
257 significantly affected viability.

258 **Expression of candidate genes in developing cerebellum**

259 To determine whether candidate genes are expressed in a SHH-responsive tissue relevant
260 to Down syndrome-associated cerebellar hypoplasia, we performed RNA-seq on P6 cerebellum
261 collected from Ts65Dn (n=4 trisomic and 4 euploid littermates) and TcMAC21 (n=4 trisomic
262 and 4 euploid littermates) pups. At this stage of development, the cerebellum is composed
263 primarily of proliferating granule cell precursors and differentiating granule cells (39, 40). We

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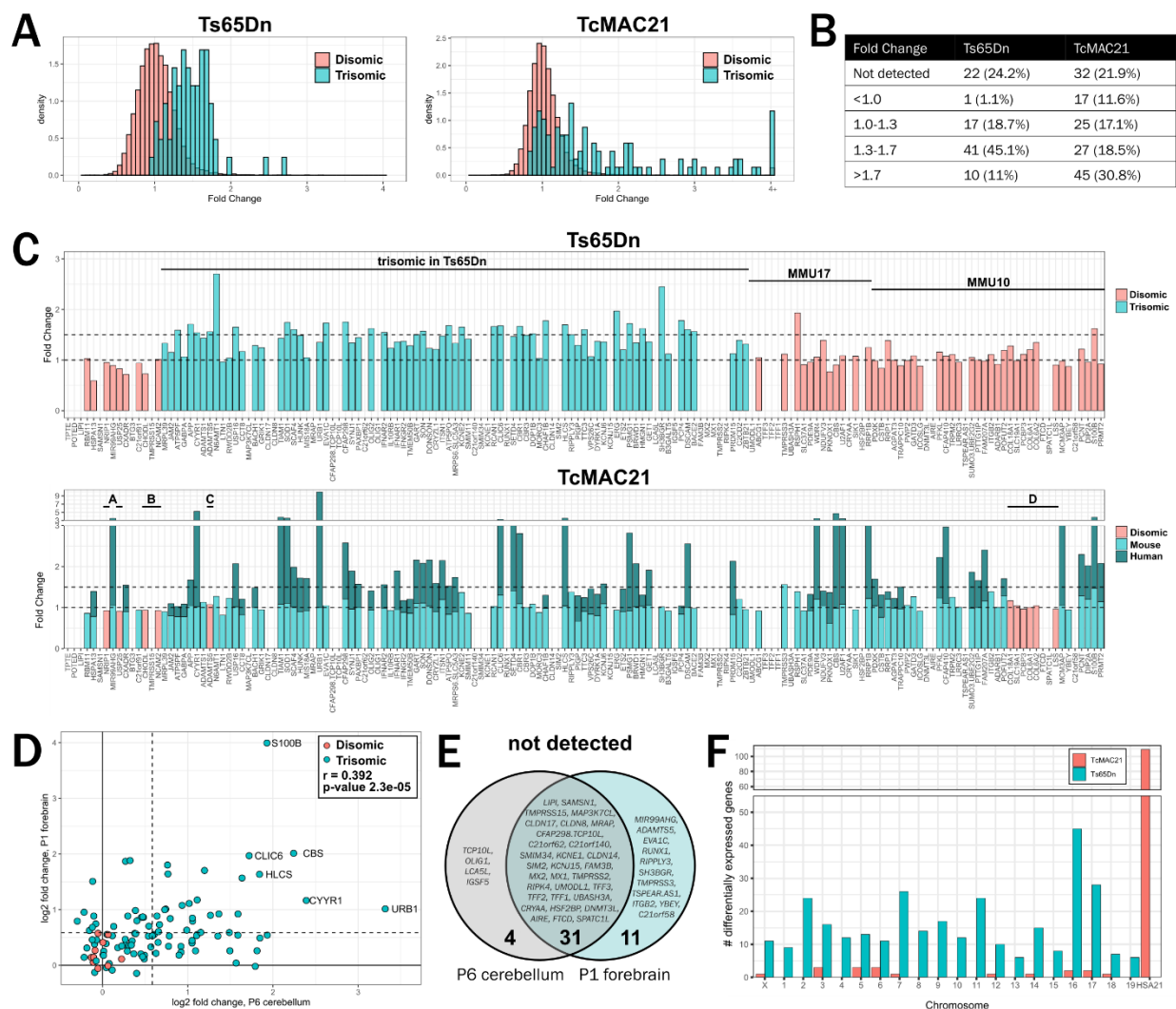
266 **Fig.4. Overexpression of chromosome 21 genes affects osteoblast differentiation of**
 267 **C3H10T1/2 cells. (A)** Overexpression of *GLI1* promotes osteoblast differentiation in the
 268 presence or absence of SAG, whereas treatment with cyclopamine or overexpression of *GNAS*
 269 inhibits SAG-induced osteoblast differentiation (n=20). ***P<0.001, **P<0.01, *P<0.05 (two-
 270 tailed unpaired Student's t-test). **(B)** Quantification of alkaline phosphatase activity in
 271 C3H10T1/2 cells transfected with chromosome 21 cDNAs and treated with SAG (n=20).
 272 Multiple comparisons were corrected for by controlling the false discovery rate; green circles
 273 denote cDNAs with q<0.1. Open circles denote controls (Kruskal-Wallis test followed by Dunn's
 274 post-hoc test). **(C)** Representative alkaline phosphatase staining in C3H10T1/2 cells transfected
 275 with chromosome 21 cDNAs and counterstained with nuclear fast red (n=3). Scale bar: 100 μ m.

276 **(D)** MTT viability assay in C3H10T1/2 cells transfected with chromosome 21 cDNAs (n=7). Y-
277 axis represents area under the curve (AUC) of cell viability 48, 72, and 96 hours after
278 transfection (two-way ANOVA followed by Fisher's LSD test). Differences reported as
279 statistically significant have $q < 0.05$.

280

281 previously found that granule cell precursors isolated from P6 Ts65Dn pups respond less to the
282 mitogenic effects of SHH than euploid cells, and by P6, cerebellar cross-sectional area is
283 significantly reduced in Ts65Dn (5). For TcMAC21 samples, length-normalized counts for
284 human chromosome 21 transcripts were added to counts for corresponding mouse orthologs and
285 compared to euploid counts. Trisomic genes were overexpressed by an average of 1.45 ± 0.29 in
286 Ts65Dn mice and 1.81 ± 1.18 in TcMAC21 mice compared to euploid (**Fig. 5A**). The majority of
287 trisomic genes with detectable expression in Ts65Dn mice had fold changes between 1.3 and 1.7,
288 whereas TcMAC21 samples had a higher proportion of trisomic genes with fold changes above
289 1.7 (**Fig. 5B**). Arranged by chromosomal position, expression patterns were consistent with the
290 previously reported breakpoint of the Ts65Dn 17¹⁶ chromosome and the four deletions reported
291 in the TcMAC21 HSA21q-MAC hybrid chromosome (**Fig. 5C**) (41, 42). Expression of human
292 chromosome 21 genes in TcMAC21 cerebellum was positively correlated with previously
293 published P1 forebrain expression levels ($r=0.39$, $P=2.3e-05$) (**Fig. 5D**), and 31 human genes
294 were not detected in TcMAC21 P1 forebrain or P6 cerebellum (**Fig. 5E**).

295 We also identified differential expression of disomic genes in both Ts65Dn and
296 TcMAC21 models (**Fig. 5F, fig. S3, table S7, and table S8**). Although expression levels in
297 Ts65Dn and TcMAC21 cerebella were positively correlated ($r=0.529$ and $P=2.2e-16$), only two
298 disomic genes, *Lrch4* and *Snhg11*, were significantly differentially expressed in both models
299 using a false discovery rate of 0.05 (**fig. S3**). Gene ontology and gene set enrichment analyses of
300 differentially expressed genes in Ts65Dn samples suggested changes in gene expression related
301 to nervous system development, higher mental function, and cholesterol biosynthesis (**fig. S4**
302 **and S5 and table S9**). Ts65Dn samples also showed reduced expression of mitotic and cell cycle
303 pathways and increased expression of genes related to protein translation initiation and



304

305 **Fig.5. Expression pattern of chromosome 21 genes and their mouse orthologs in Ts65Dn**

306 **and TcMAC21 cerebellum. (A)** Density histograms of disomic (salmon) and trisomic (teal) fold

307 changes in Ts65Dn and TcMAC21 cerebellum (n=4 Ts65Dn, 4 Ts65Dn euploid littermates, 4

308 TcMAC21, 4 TcMAC21 euploid littermates). Plot represents 13,807 detectable transcripts. **(B)**

309 Trisomic gene fold changes binned by expression levels. **(C)** Fold changes of chromosome 21

310 genes and their mouse orthologs arranged in chromosomal order from proximal to distal.

311 Chromosome 21 orthologs are located on mouse chromosome 16 (MMU16), MMU17, and

312 MMU10. For TcMAC21, teal represents the proportion of length-normalized reads contributed

313 by mouse copies and dark teal represents reads derived from the human chromosome. Four
314 previously reported deletions are labeled A through D. Five human genes that were detected in
315 TcMAC21 but have no expression of mouse orthologs for normalization (*POTED*, *BTG3*,
316 *RUNX1*, *C21orf58*, and *TSPEAR.ASI*) are excluded. **(D)** Scatterplot of chromosome 21 log₂ fold
317 changes in TcMAC21 P6 cerebellum and P1 forebrain (42). Pearson correlation coefficient
318 $r=0.392$ and $P=2.3e-05$. **(E)** Chromosome 21 transcripts not detected in P6 cerebellum, P1
319 forebrain, or both. **(F)** Chromosomal locations of differentially expressed genes in Ts65Dn and
320 TcMAC21 cerebellum. Trisomic genes are located on MMU16 and MMU17 in Ts65Dn mice
321 and HSA21 in TcMAC21 mice.
322

323 elongation (**fig. S5**). The trisomic chromatin modifiers and remodelers *Chaf1b*, *Hmgn1*, *Setd4*,
324 and *Brwd1* were significantly upregulated, and non-trisomic epigenetic regulators *Rps6ka5*,
325 *Rere*, *Brd4*, *Kdm7a*, and *Top2a* were dysregulated (**fig. S6**). Elements of the Polycomb
326 repressive complex (*Mbd6*, *Pcgf2*, and *Auts2*) and SWI/SNF complex (*Arid1a*, *Arid1b*, and
327 *Bicra*) were also upregulated.

328 **Synthesis of expression and SHH screen data to prioritize candidate genes**

329 We next integrated expression data with our primary and secondary SHH screen data.
330 Leading candidate genes should be expressed in developing cerebellum, trisomic in mouse
331 models with cerebellar hypoplasia, and consistently inhibit SHH across in vitro screens. Eighteen
332 genes were not detected in our RNA-seq data, had FPKM (fragments per kilobase of exon per
333 million mapped) values <1 in 13 human cerebellar samples ranging from 12 post-conception
334 weeks to 4 months (BrainSpan Atlas of the Developing Human Brain), and had TPM (transcripts
335 per million) <1 in mouse P2 and P11 granule cell precursor and granule cell populations (**Fig. 6A**
336 **and table S10**) (39, 43). Although these 18 genes may contribute to dysregulated SHH signaling
337 in other tissues, such as the heart or craniofacial skeleton, they appear as unlikely candidates for
338 cerebellar hypoplasia.

339 Synthesis of data from our primary luciferase screens and secondary C3H10T1/2 screen
340 also revealed candidate genes with the most consistent effects across cell lines (**Fig. 6B**). For
341 example, overexpression of *HMGNI* consistently inhibited SHH, whereas overexpression of
342 *DYRK1A* consistently activated SHH. Most cDNAs showed relatively consistent effects across
343 cell types, but some cDNAs, such as *ABCG1* and *GET1*, showed strong but discordant effects
344 across screens. We mapped candidate cDNAs to mouse models and identified a subset of six
345 genes that appear to inhibit SHH across screens and have mouse orthologs located on mouse

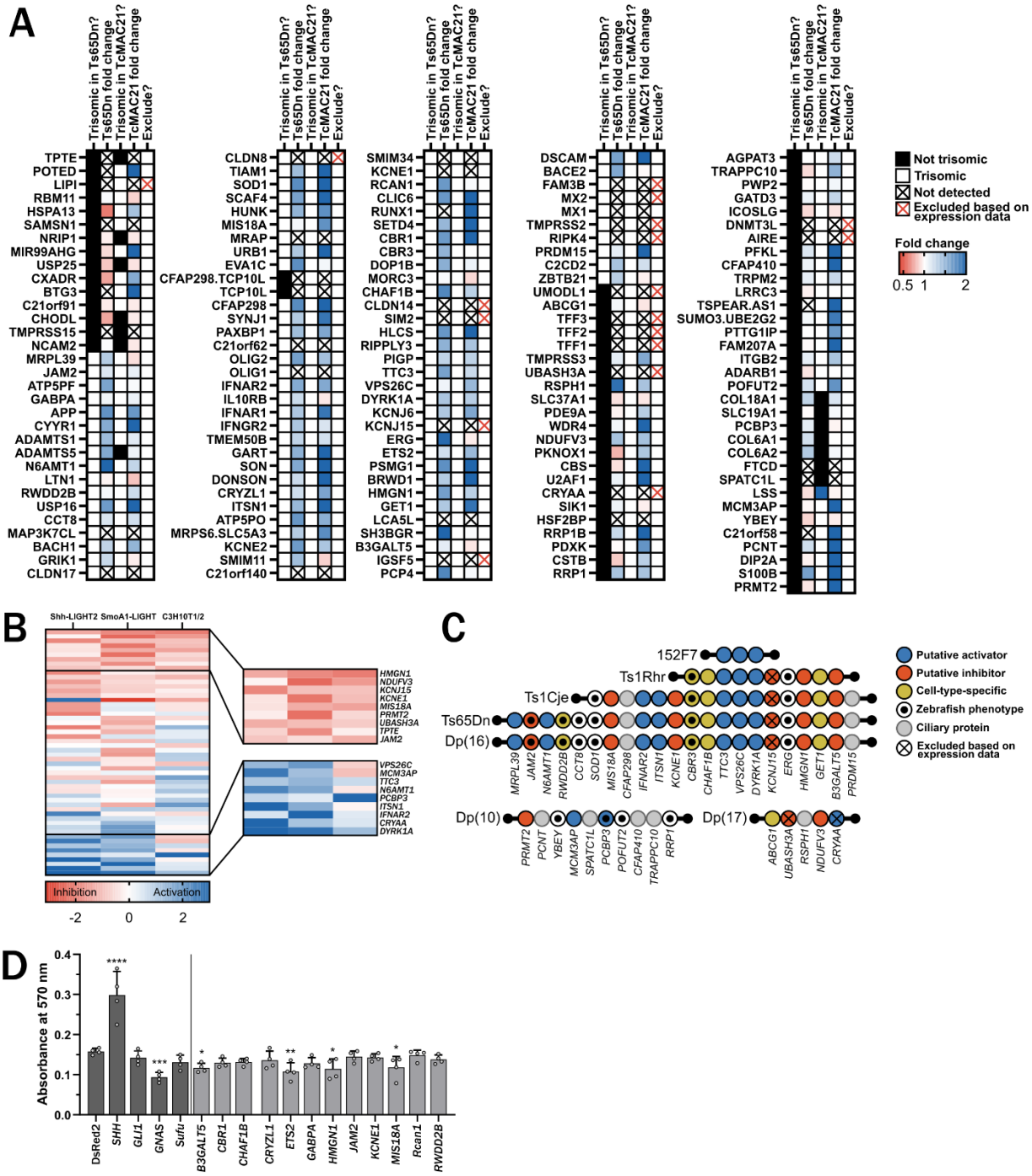
346 chromosome 16 (**Fig. 6C**). Putative activators of SHH that are trisomic in Ts65Dn mice
347 (*DYRK1A*, *IFNAR2*, *ITSN1*, *MRPL39*, *N6AMT1*, *TTC3*, and *VPS26C*) may provide compensatory
348 effects, while putative inhibitors of SHH with mouse orthologs on chromosomes 10 and 17
349 (*NDUFV3*, *PRMT2*, and *UBASH3A*) may inhibit SHH via a mechanism independent of
350 dysregulated SHH signaling in Ts65Dn cells.

351 **Overexpression of four candidate genes inhibits proliferation of primary granule cell**
352 **precursors**

353 To evaluate top candidate cDNAs in a context relevant to cerebellar hypoplasia, we
354 cloned 12 chromosome 21 cDNAs into lentiviral vectors, overexpressed them in primary euploid
355 granule cell precursors, and quantified proliferation via incorporation of EdU. As expected,
356 overexpression of *SHH* itself significantly increased proliferation, and overexpression of *GNAS*,
357 which has been identified as a tumor suppressor gene in the SHH subtype of medulloblastoma,
358 significantly inhibited proliferation (**Fig. 6D**) (44). Of the 12 chromosome 21 cDNAs,
359 overexpression of four (*B3GALT5*, *ETS2*, *HMGNI*, and *MISI8A*) significantly reduced
360 proliferation compared to overexpression of DsRed2. These results suggest that at least some of
361 the candidate cDNAs identified in the luciferase, zebrafish, and C3H10T1/2 screens also
362 modulate SHH signaling in the developing cells of the cerebellum.

363

364



365

366 **Fig.6. Prioritization of candidate cDNAs and overexpression in primary granule cell**

367 **precursors. (A) Summary of expression data in developing cerebellum. Black boxes indicate**

368 genes that are not trisomic in Ts65Dn and TcMAC21 mouse models, and white boxes indicate
369 genes that are trisomic in these models. Fold change is indicated by color with red signifying
370 decreased expression and blue signifying increased expression. Transcripts with black crosses
371 were not detected in our RNA-seq dataset, and transcripts with red crosses were excluded based
372 on our expression data, expression in the BrainSpan Atlas of the Developing Human Brain, and
373 single cell RNA-seq data from euploid mouse granule cell precursors and granule cells. **(B)**
374 Comparison of the effects of 54 chromosome 21 cDNAs in Shh-LIGHT2, SmoA1-LIGHT, and
375 C3H10T1/2 screens. cDNAs are sorted by average z-score with red signifying inhibition and
376 blue signifying activation of the SHH pathway. Inset shows top and bottom ranked cDNAs. **(C)**
377 Chromosomal locations of the mouse orthologs of candidate cDNAs in Down syndrome mouse
378 models. *LINC00313* (*C21ORF84*) and *TPTE* are not shown. *LINC00313*, which was identified in
379 the zebrafish screen, is a human-specific gene and not present in the listed mouse models. *TPTE*
380 is located on the short arm of human chromosome 21 and has a putative homolog on mouse
381 chromosome 8. **(D)** Lentiviral overexpression of candidate genes inhibits proliferation of granule
382 cell precursors treated with 6 nM SAG and pulsed with EdU for 24 hours (n=4). ****P <0.0001,
383 ***P<0.001, **P<0.01, *P<0.05 (one-way ANOVA followed by Fisher's LSD test). Differences
384 reported as statistically significant have q<0.05.

385

386 DISCUSSION

387 Our data provide novel insights into the complex genetic architecture of aberrant SHH
388 signaling in Down syndrome. We previously showed that a reduced mitogenic response to SHH
389 underlies cerebellar hypoplasia in Ts65Dn mice but lacked a clear understanding of which
390 trisomic genes contribute to this phenotype (5). In this study, we prioritized chromosome 21
391 genes that consistently modulate SHH signaling in a variety of cellular contexts and identified
392 four genes (*B3GALT5*, *ETS2*, *HMGNI*, and *MIS18A*) that impair the proliferation of cerebellar
393 granule cell precursors when individually overexpressed (**fig. S7**).

394 In contrast to previous hypothesis-driven approaches, our study provides quantitative data
395 about the individual effects of nearly all chromosome 21 protein-coding genes conserved
396 between human and mouse. While trisomy of any chromosome has the potential to impair
397 proliferation via aneuploidy stress, our data show that overexpression of specific chromosome 21
398 genes inhibits the proliferation of granule cell precursors (45). In fact, overexpression of 127 of
399 the 163 cDNAs had no effect in the luciferase, zebrafish, C3H10T1/2, or granule cell precursor
400 assays, indicating that cDNA overexpression does not have a non-specific effect on SHH
401 signaling and, barring genetic interactions, excludes these genes as candidates. Lack of effect in
402 our SHH screens does not eliminate them as contributors to a general destabilization of the
403 trisomic transcriptome, nor does it consider effects in the context of a transcriptome destabilized
404 by trisomy for individually benign trisomic genes.

405 Our results provide evidence for why Down syndrome mouse models present with
406 variable severities of cerebellar hypoplasia (**Fig. 1**). Ts65Dn mice and Ts1Cje mice possess a
407 similar reduction of cerebellar volume normalized to total brain volume (7, 11, 12, 46-49).
408 Ms1Cje/Ts65Dn mice do not show substantial cerebellar hypoplasia, although only three

409 trisomic animals were analyzed (46). Ts1Rhr mice show more subtle cerebellar hypoplasia than
410 Ts65Dn and Ts1Cje mice (47, 50). Comparing these four models suggests that at least one gene
411 in the region that is trisomic in both Ts1Cje and Ts65Dn mice but is not trisomic in Ts1Rhr mice
412 (*Sod1* to *Setd4* and *Ripk4* to *Zbtb21*) contributes to cerebellar hypoplasia. An additional gene or
413 genes may contribute to the mild cerebellar hypoplasia observed in Ts1Rhr mice (*Cbr1* to
414 *Fam243b*). 152F7 mice, which contain a YAC with *PIGP*, *TTC3*, *VPS26C*, and *DYRK1A*, show
415 increased cerebellar volume relative to control, suggesting that overexpression of this region
416 provides a compensatory effect (51). Although Tc1 mice also display cerebellar hypoplasia,
417 interpreting the genetic contributions to this phenotype is challenging due to mosaicism and
418 complex rearrangements in the Tc1 human chromosome (52, 53). Overexpression of *PCP4*,
419 Purkinje cell protein 4, does not affect cerebellar volume (54).

420 The results from our SHH screen are consistent with a model in which *B3galt5*, *Ets2*,
421 *Hmgn1*, and *Mis18a* contribute to the severe cerebellar hypoplasia observed in Ts65Dn and
422 Ts1Cje mice, *Hmgn1* and *Ets2* contribute to the milder hypoplasia in Ts1Rhr mice, and *Ttc3*,
423 *Vps26c*, and *Dyrk1a* provide a compensatory effect in Ts65Dn, Ts1Cje, Ts1Rhr, and 152F7
424 mice. Differences in gene content may also explain why relatively mild cerebellar hypoplasia
425 was reported in Dp(16)1Yey and in TcMAC21 mice, despite these models containing more
426 trisomic genes than either Ts65Dn or Ts1Cje (42, 55). For example, overexpression of
427 *MCM3AP*, a putative activator of SHH signaling and MMU10 ortholog, could provide a
428 compensatory effect in TcMAC21 cerebellum.

429 Interpreting the contributions of trisomic genes to cerebellar hypoplasia is further
430 complicated by differences in expression of trisomic genes between models. TcMAC21 and Tc1
431 models rely on appropriate function of human DNA regulatory elements in mouse cells, and

432 gene expression may differ between models with segmental duplications (e.g., Dp(16)1Yey and
433 Ts1Rhr) versus freely segregating chromosomes (Ts65Dn) (56). For example, we found that
434 *B3GALT5*, a putative inhibitor of SHH signaling, has a fold change of 0.92 in TcMAC21 despite
435 this model having two copies of mouse *B3galt5* and one copy of human *B3GALT5*. Moreover,
436 although our SHH screen and RNA-seq data support an oligogenic or polygenic explanation for
437 cerebellar hypoplasia in mouse models, testing this hypothesis by returning candidate genes to
438 disomy would be technically challenging due to difficult husbandry, relatively subtle
439 phenotypes, and high interindividual variability (57, 58).

440 The molecular mechanisms by which chromosome 21 genes inhibit SHH signaling merit
441 additional exploration. It is surprising that overexpression of several known ciliary genes
442 (*CFAP298*, *CFAP410*, *RSPHI*, *SPATC1L*, and *TRAPPC10*) had no effect in our luciferase
443 screens, consistent with a previous report that overexpression of *CFAP298*, *CFAP410*, and
444 *TRAPPC10* did not alter cilia formation (23). Instead, we identified a number of regulators of
445 mitosis and chromatin structure, including *CHAF1B*, *HMGNI*, *MCM3AP*, *MIS18A*, and
446 *N6AMT1*, two involved in endocytosis, *ITSNI* and *VPS26C*, and a cholesterol transporter,
447 *ABCG1*. These results suggest that rather than inhibiting the canonical SHH pathway directly,
448 overexpression of some chromosome 21 genes may affect cell state, epigenetic regulation, and
449 progression through the cell cycle. This hypothesis is supported by differential expression of
450 chromatin regulators in Ts65Dn cerebellum and gene set enrichment analysis showing reduced
451 expression of transcripts encoding mitotic proteins.

452 A promising candidate for disruption of normal chromatin structure is *HMGNI*, which
453 was overexpressed in Ts65Dn cerebellum and inhibited SHH signaling when overexpressed in
454 Shh-LIGHT2 and SmoA1-LIGHT cells, C3H10T1/2 cells, and primary granule cell precursors.

455 In our previous zebrafish screen, only nine of 120 embryos survived injection of 50 pg *HMGNI*
456 mRNA, and of the nine surviving embryos, four had missing melanocytes (29). However, this
457 finding was not reproduced in a secondary screen. In *Xenopus laevis*, injection of HMGNI
458 protein causes body axis curvature, cyclopia, and microcephaly, which are all phenotypes
459 associated with aberrant SHH signaling (59). *Hmgn1* is expressed in the pharyngeal arches of
460 *Xenopus* embryos, and knockdown of *Hmgn1* disrupts cranial neural crest streams, resulting in
461 hypoplastic craniofacial cartilage (60).

462 *HMGNI* encodes a non-histone chromosomal protein that competes for binding with
463 histone H1 (61). Binding of HMGNI reduces chromatin compaction and is associated with
464 lineage-specific regulatory elements (62). HMGNI expression levels are correlated with the
465 transition from proliferation to differentiation in stem cells, and in primary rat osteoblasts,
466 *Hmgn1* is preferentially expressed in proliferating cells with a decline in expression at the onset
467 of mineralization (63). Loss of *Hmgn1* and *Hmgn2* in mouse embryonic fibroblasts increases the
468 efficiency of reprogramming into iPSCs, suggesting that HMGN proteins help to stabilize cell
469 identity (62). In B cells, *HMGNI* overexpression results in a loss of H3K27me3, a gain of
470 H3K27ac, and a global increase in transcription (64, 65). HMGNs act upstream of *Olig1* and
471 *Olig2* during oligodendrocyte differentiation, indicating a possible interplay between SHH
472 signaling, *HMGNI*, and *OLIG1/2* during neurodevelopment (13, 66). Together, the known roles
473 of HMGNI suggest that HMGNI overexpression could disrupt the proliferation of granule cell
474 precursors by altering epigenetic marks, disrupting the balance of proliferation and
475 differentiation (e.g., precocious differentiation), or promoting differentiation along an alternative
476 cell state trajectory, such as differentiation into astrocytes (67).

477 Our screen focused on inhibitors of SHH activity, but several chromosome 21 cDNAs
478 consistently activated SHH signaling across cell types. Therapeutic interventions targeting
479 trisomic activators of SHH could worsen SHH-associated phenotypes in people with Down
480 syndrome. In particular, *DYRK1A* stimulated SHH signaling in our luciferase screens and was
481 previously reported to activate SHH by phosphorylating GLI1 and promoting its retention in the
482 nucleus (20, 68). Overexpression of *DYRK1A* was previously reported to induce osteoblast
483 differentiation of C3H10T1/2 cells (68), though this activation did not reach statistical
484 significance in our screen. *DYRK1A* is commonly proposed as a target for treating Down
485 syndrome-associated intellectual disability (69, 70), but we recommend monitoring potential
486 worsening of phenotypes in SHH-responsive tissues, such as the cerebellum, heart, and bone, in
487 preclinical studies of *DYRK1A* inhibitors (71-75).

488 Our screening paradigm made significant progress towards understanding how the
489 overexpression of chromosome 21 genes influences SHH signaling. However, no cell culture
490 methods can fully represent the complex effects of trisomy 21 on human development.
491 Individual overexpression of cDNAs cannot reproduce the effects of simultaneous
492 overexpression of chromosome 21 genes in the context of trisomy or detect genetic interactions
493 between sets of trisomic genes. Our library contains most conserved chromosome 21 protein-
494 coding genes but does not include several genes that may influence neurodevelopment, including
495 *PCNT* and *SON* (23, 76-78). Transient transfection likely causes supraphysiological
496 overexpression of cDNAs, and we did not comprehensively confirm expression of each cDNA,
497 leading to possible false negatives. Lastly, overexpression of some cDNAs may cause lethality
498 rather than inhibiting SHH directly. Overexpression of potassium channel subunits *KCNE1* and
499 *KCNJ15* and the mitochondrial subunit *NDUFV3* inhibited SHH but also affected viability in

500 C3H10T1/2 cells. Future work must confirm that candidate genes modulate SHH in vivo and at
501 expression levels mirroring the expected ~1.5-fold increase observed in trisomy.

502 Our study established *B3GALT5*, *ETS2*, *HMGNI*, and *MISI8A* as likely regulators of
503 proliferation in the developing cerebellum. However, despite completing three parallel screens
504 and a secondary screen, we lack a simplistic answer as to how trisomy 21 causes cerebellar
505 hypoplasia in people with Down syndrome. Much research has devoted itself to identifying “the”
506 chromosome 21 gene responsible for each Down syndrome-associated phenotype. Current
507 methods, such as mapping panels and returning trisomic genes to disomy in the context of
508 trisomy, are ill equipped to deal with complex genetic interactions and compensatory effects.
509 Our findings suggest that for developmental phenotypes like intellectual disability, determining
510 the individual effects of trisomic genes across the lifetime may require the development and
511 application of new techniques and the reframing of Down syndrome as a complex genetic
512 disorder.

513 **MATERIALS AND METHODS**

514 **Animals**

515 All procedures met the requirements of the National Institutes of Health Guide for the Care and
516 Use of Laboratory Animals and were approved by and carried out in compliance with the Johns
517 Hopkins University Animal Care and Use Committee. Founder B6EiC3H-a/A-Ts65Dn Stock
518 No. 001924 (Ts65Dn) mice were obtained from The Jackson Laboratory and maintained as an
519 advanced intercross on a C57BL/6J × C3H/HeJ genetic background. These mice represent the
520 original Davisson strain (79-81). TcMAC21 mice were generated as previously described and
521 maintained on a C57BL/6J (B6) × DBA/2J (D2) background (42). Ts65Dn mice were genotyped
522 by PCR and TcMAC21 mice were genotyped by GFP fluorescence. For RNA-seq, cerebella

523 from pairs of trisomic pups and euploid littermates were isolated from two (Ts65Dn) or three
524 (TcMAC21) litters. Euploid pups for granule cell precursors were C57BL/6J × C3H/HeJ, and
525 cerebella of both sexes were pooled within litters. All experiments were performed on postnatal
526 day 6 (P6).

527 **Plasmids**

528 Luciferase assays were carried out using the Hsa21 Gene Expression Set in the pCSDest2 vector
529 (<https://www.addgene.org/kits/reeves-hsa21-set/>). cDNAs for the C3H10T1/2 differentiation
530 assay were subcloned into the pcDNA™6.2/EmGFP-Bsd/V5-DEST vector (Invitrogen, V36620)
531 and included full length cDNAs for KCNE1, DOP1B, and Rcan1, which were truncated in our
532 original pCSDest2 cDNA library. cDNAs for lentiviral transduction were subcloned into the
533 plenti-CAG-gate-FLAG-IRES-GFP vector. The plenti-CAG-gate-FLAG-IRES-GFP vector was a
534 gift from William Kaelin (Addgene plasmid #107398; <http://n2t.net/addgene:107398>;
535 RRID:Addgene_107398) (82). To facilitate efficient subcloning, the vector's kanamycin
536 resistance gene was replaced with the ampicillin resistance gene from the pcDNA™6.2/EmGFP-
537 Bsd/V5-DEST vector by digesting both vectors with BspHI and ligating with T4 DNA ligase.
538 Unless otherwise noted, Hsa21 cDNAs were acquired from the Hsa21 Gene Expression Set as
539 previously described and subcloned using Gateway cloning (29). JAM2 was obtained from the
540 Hsa21 Gene Expression Set and subcloned using TOPO cloning. KCNE1 (ThermoFisher,
541 Ultimate ORF Clone IOH54610) and TRAPPC10 (ThermoFisher, Ultimate ORF Clone
542 IOH53207) in pENTR221 were obtained from Johns Hopkins University Hit Genomics Services.
543 mRcan1 (Dharmacon, Mammalian Gene Collection 4236038) in pCMV-SPORT6 was subcloned
544 using TOPO cloning. DOP1B (HsCD00431873) in pENTR223.1 was obtained from The
545 ORFeome Collaboration and subcloned using TOPO cloning.

546 pENTR-DsRed2 N1 (CMB1) was a gift from Eric Campeau (Addgene plasmid #22523;
547 <http://n2t.net/addgene:22523>; RRID:Addgene_22523). pDONR223_GLI1_WT was a gift from
548 Jesse Boehm & William Hahn & David Root (Addgene plasmid #82123;
549 <http://n2t.net/addgene:82123>; RRID:Addgene_82123) (83). pEGFPC3-mSufu was a gift from
550 Aimin Liu (Addgene plasmid #65431; <http://n2t.net/addgene:65431>; RRID:Addgene_65431) and
551 was subcloned using TOPO cloning (84). GNAS (HsCD00288799) in pENTR223 was obtained
552 from The ORFeome Collaboration and subcloned using TOPO cloning. SHH (HsCD00082632)
553 in pENTR223.1 was obtained from The ORFeome Collaboration. MOSMO (EX-H4481-M02) in
554 pReceiver-M02 was obtained from GeneCopoeia. pMD2.G was a gift from Didier Trono
555 (Addgene plasmid #12259; <http://n2t.net/addgene:12259>; RRID:Addgene_12259). psPAX2 was
556 a gift from Didier Trono (Addgene plasmid #12260; <http://n2t.net/addgene:12260>;
557 RRID:Addgene_12260). Plasmids for transfection were purified using endotoxin-free midiprep
558 kits.

559 **Cell culture**

560 Shh-LIGHT2 and SmoA1-LIGHT were gifts from Philip Beachy and colleagues and were
561 derived from the original stocks created by this group at Johns Hopkins University (15). Shh-
562 LIGHT2 and SmoA1-LIGHT cells were grown in Dulbecco's Modified Eagle's Medium
563 (DMEM; Gibco, 11965092) supplemented with 10% calf serum (Sigma, C8056 or N4637) and
564 1% penicillin-streptomycin (Quality Biological, 50-751-7267). Shh-LIGHT2 cultures were kept
565 under antibiotic selection with 400 µg/mL Geneticin (Gibco, 10131035) and 150 µg/mL Zeocin
566 (Invitrogen, R25001) and SmoA1-LIGHT cells were cultured with 400 µg/mL Geneticin and 100
567 µg/ml Hygromycin B (Corning, 30-240-CR). C3H10T1/2 cells (ATCC, CCL-226) were
568 maintained in DMEM supplemented with 10% fetal bovine serum (HyClone, SH30071.03), 2

569 mM L-Glutamine (Quality Biological, 118-084-721), and 1% penicillin-streptomycin. 293FT
570 cells (Invitrogen, R70007) were maintained in DMEM with 10% FBS, 0.1 mM MEM Non-
571 Essential Amino Acids (Gibco, 1114050), 6 mM L-glutamine, 1 mM MEM sodium pyruvate
572 (Sigma, S8636), and 1% penicillin-streptomycin with 500 ug/mL Geneticin. Primary granule cell
573 precursors were maintained in neurobasal medium (Gibco, 21103049) with 2 mM Glutamax
574 (Gibco, 35050061), 1% penicillin-streptomycin, 1 mM sodium pyruvate (Sigma, S8636), and 2%
575 B27 (Gibco, 12587010) with 6 nM SAG (Calbiochem, 566661).

576 **Luciferase reporter assays**

577 To quantify hedgehog pathway activity in Shh-LIGHT2, cells were removed from antibiotic and
578 seeded in 96-well plates at densities allowing them to reach confluence within four days. Two
579 days after seeding, cells were transfected with GFP (100 ng/well; 2-3 rows; 16-24 wells or
580 technical replicates) or one of five Hsa21 genes (100 ng/well; 1 row, 8 wells or technical
581 replicates per unique cDNA) using Lipofectamine 2000 (Invitrogen, 11668030) according to
582 manufacturer's instructions. On day four, media was refreshed with DMEM containing 0.5% calf
583 serum and 100 nM or 1 μ M SAG. After forty-eight hours, cells were lysed and Fluc/Rluc activity
584 was quantified using the Dual-Luciferase Reporter Assay System (Promega, E1910) and a 1450
585 MicroBeta Luminescence Counter (PerkinElmer). For the SmoA1-LIGHT screen, cells were
586 seeded in 96-well plates at densities that would allow them to reach confluence within two days.
587 One day after seeding, cells were transfected overnight with GFP or one of five Hsa21 genes and
588 then switched to 0.5% calf serum media for twenty-four hours before quantification of Fluc/Rluc
589 activity.

590 For both Shh-LIGHT2 and SmoA1-LIGHT screens, the Fluc/Rluc activity was normalized to the
591 median value of the 96-well plate (intra-plate median centering). This process: 1) takes into

592 account differences in the absolute intensity values between plates, 2) controls for unintended
593 spatial gradients within plates, such as those that occur along the periphery, and 3) buffers
594 against the presence of signaling outliers. Normalized values were then averaged for each Hsa21
595 cDNA or control gene. At minimum, all experiments were conducted with sets of 8 transfected
596 wells. Technical replicates were averaged and Z-scores were calculated for each cDNA (32).
597 For validation studies of Shh-LIGHT2, cells were cultured to confluency in 96-well plates then
598 treated with 1 uM SAG, 1 uM fluocinonide (Sigma SML0099), 1 uM fluticasone (Sigma,
599 F9428), or 10 uM vitamin D3 (Sigma, C9756) in DMEM containing 0.5% calf serum.

600 **C3H10T1/2 differentiation**

601 To quantify osteoblast differentiation following transfection of Hsa21 cDNAs, 5k C3H10T1/2
602 cells were seeded into each well of a 96-well plate. Twenty-four hours later, cells were
603 transfected with 100 ng plasmid DNA per well using Lipofectamine 3000 according to
604 manufacturer's instructions (Invitrogen, L3000008). The position of each cDNA was randomized
605 between experiments to minimize positional effects. Transfection efficiency was monitored in
606 live cells via GFP expression. Twenty-four hours after transfection, cells were treated with plain
607 media, 200 nM SAG, 2 uM cyclopamine (Calbiochem, 239806), or 200 nM SAG plus 2 uM
608 cyclopamine. Four days after treatment, cells were washed with PBS and lysed with 50 ul
609 passive lysis buffer (Promega, E194A) for 45 minutes. To quantify alkaline phosphatase activity,
610 200 ul alkaline phosphatase blue microwell substrate (Sigma, AB0100) was added to each well,
611 and the plate was incubated in the dark for 30 minutes. Color development was measured using a
612 SpectraMax 340 Microplate Reader (Molecular Devices) at 600 nm.
613 cDNAs were screened in two sets for a total of twenty independent replicates per chromosome
614 21 cDNA. Alkaline phosphatase activity was normalized to the median value of each plate. Cell

615 viability was assessed 48, 72, and 96 hours after transfection using the MTT Cell Proliferation
616 Assay kit (ATCC, 30-1010K) according to manufacturer's instructions.

617 To stain cells for alkaline phosphatase activity, cells were fixed with 10% neutral buffered
618 formalin (Sigma, HT501320) for one minute, permeabilized with 0.05% Tween-20 (Sigma,
619 P9416) in PBS, and labeled with BCIP/NBT alkaline phosphatase substrate (Sigma, B5655).
620 Cells were counterstained with nuclear fast red (Amresco, 1B1369) and dehydrated before
621 mounting.

622 **RNA-seq**

623 RNA-seq was performed essentially as previously described (42). Briefly, RNA from P6
624 cerebella was extracted and library preparation was conducted using the NEBNext® Poly(A)
625 mRNA Magnetic Isolation Module (E7490) and NEBNext® Ultra™ II RNA Library Prep Kit
626 for Illumina® (E7770). Library quality was assessed with an Agilent 2100 Bioanalyzer. Libraries
627 were sequenced by the Johns Hopkins Single Cell & Transcriptomics Core (NovaSeq SP run, 50
628 bp paired-end reads) for an average of ~54 million reads per sample.

629 Sequencing reads were mapped to the mouse genome mm39 modified by appending human
630 chromosome 21, using the alignment tool STAR v.2.4.2a (85). The aligned reads were assembled
631 with PsiCLASS v.1.0.2 (86) to create gene and transcript models. Unlike traditional transcript
632 assemblers that process each sample separately, PsiCLASS simultaneously analyzes all samples
633 in the experiment to produce a unified set of transcript annotations to use in the subsequent
634 differential analyses. Transcripts were then assigned to known reference genes from the NCBI
635 RefSeq databases (mouse release October 2020 and human release May 2021). Lastly, DESeq2
636 (87) was used to quantify the expression levels and determine the sets of differentially expressed
637 genes. Additional visualizations, including plots of principal coordinate analysis (PCA)

638 components, were visualized with custom R scripts. For comparison of human and mouse
639 orthologs in the TcMAC21 model, trisomic counts were first length normalized using the
640 formula $\text{len_norm_readcounts} = 50 \times \text{readcounts}/\text{genelen}$. Human and mouse counts for each
641 gene were then summed, and fold changes were reported as a ratio of TcMAC21 counts to
642 euploid. Gene ontology and gene set enrichment analyses were performed using the R packages
643 gprofiler2 v.0.2.1 (88), GSVA v.1.42.0 (89), GSEABase v.1.56.0, and clusterProfiler v.4.4.1
644 (90). Canonical pathways (reactome) gene set for gene set enrichment analysis was retrieved
645 using the msigdb R package v.7.4.1. Other R packages used to analyze and visualize RNA-seq
646 data include tidyverse v.1.3.1 (91), cowplot v.1.1.1, ggbreak v.0.0.9 (92), ggrepel v.0.9.1,
647 RColorBrewer v.1.1-2, gplots v.3.1.3, and enrichplot v.1.14.2 with scripts from
648 DIY.transcriptomics (93).

649 **Lentiviral production**

650 750k low-passage 293FT cells were seeded into each well of a 6-well plate coated with poly-L-
651 ornithine (Sigma, P2533). One day after seeding, cells were transfected with 640 ng pMD2.G,
652 975 ng psPAX, and 1275 ng lentiviral target plasmid using Lipofectamine 2000 and PLUS
653 reagent (Invitrogen, 11514015). Media was refreshed four hours after transfection. Supernatant
654 was collected 48 and 72 hours post transfection, filtered with a 0.45 um filter (Millex-HV,
655 SLHV013SL), and concentrated with Lenti-X Concentrator (Takara, 631231) according to
656 manufacturer's instructions. Physical titer was determined using the Lenti-X p24 Rapid Titer Kit
657 (Takara, 632200) and granule cell precursors were transduced at an estimated MOI of ~4.

658 **Granule cell precursor isolation**

659 Cerebella from P6 pups were dissected into ice-cold Hanks' Balanced Salt Solution (HBSS;
660 Gibco, 14170112) with 0.6% glucose, digested with papain (Worthington Papain Dissociation

661 System, LK003150), and triturated with a serum-coated pipette (94). Dissociated cells were
662 isolated from membrane fragments on an albumin-ovomucoid inhibitor discontinuous density
663 gradient. Granule cell precursors were further purified on a 35%/60% Percoll gradient (Sigma,
664 E0414). Viable cells were counted with a Countess II Automated Cell Counter (ThermoFisher,
665 A27978), and 100k cells were seeded into each well of a 96-well plate coated with poly-L-lysine
666 (Sigma, P4832).

667 **Granule cell precursor EdU incorporation assay**

668 Twenty-four hours after seeding, granule cell precursors were transduced with lentiviral
669 particles. Infection was monitored via expression of GFP from the IRES-GFP construct. One day
670 after transduction, media was refreshed with neurobasal media containing 6 nM SAG. Two days
671 after transduction, cells were treated with 15 μ M EdU for twenty-four hours. EdU incorporation
672 was quantified using the Click-iT™ EdU Proliferation Assay for Microplates kit (Invitrogen,
673 C10499) according to manufacturer's instructions.

674 **Statistical analysis**

675 Statistical analyses were performed using GraphPad Prism 9.1.2 or R version 4.1.3. For
676 luciferase screens, z-scores were calculated by comparing the Fluc/Rluc ratio for each cDNA to
677 the set of all screened cDNAs. For C3H10T1/2 alkaline phosphatase screen, non-parametric
678 Kruskal-Wallis test was followed by Dunn's post-hoc test comparing GFP control to all other
679 cDNAs. All other assays were analyzed with two-tailed unpaired Student's t-test, one-way
680 ANOVA, or two-way ANOVA as noted. P-values were corrected for multiple comparisons by
681 controlling the false discovery rate using the two-stage linear step-up procedure of Benjamini,
682 Krieger and Yekutieli.

683 **Supplementary Materials**

684 Fig. S1. Shh-LIGHT2 and SmoA1-LIGHT screens.

685 Fig. S2. C3H10T1/2 osteoblast differentiation and viability following transfection of
686 chromosome 21 cDNAs.

687 Fig. S3. Expression of disomic genes in Ts65Dn and TcMAC21 cerebellum.

688 Fig. S4. Unsupervised clustering of differentially expressed genes in Ts65D and TcMAC21
689 samples.

690 Fig. S5. Gene ontology and gene set enrichment analyses of differentially expressed genes in
691 Ts65Dn cerebellum.

692 Fig. S6. Differentially expressed genes in Ts65Dn cerebellum are implicated in human
693 neurodevelopmental disorders, mitosis, and chromatin remodeling.

694 Fig. S7. Summary of effects of *HMGNI*, *MIS18A*, *B3GALT5*, and *ETS2* on SHH pathway
695 activation.

696 Table S1. Cerebellar Volumes of Down Syndrome Models

697 Table S2. Manual Annotation of HSA21 Genes

698 Table S3. Plasmid Information

699 Table S4. Shh-LIGHT2 Screen

700 Table S5. SmoA1-LIGHT Screen

701 Table S6. Screen Comparisons

702 Table S7. Ts65Dn RNA-seq in P6 Cerebellum

703 Table S8. TcMAC21 RNA-seq in P6 Cerebellum

704 Table S9. Gene Set Enrichment Analysis in Ts65Dn Cerebellum

705 Table S10. Summary of Expression Data in Human and Mouse Cerebellum

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1121 Visualization: AJM, FXF

1122 Writing – original draft: AJM

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1127 (https://www.addgene.org/Roger_Reeves/). Raw sequence data are deposited in the Gene

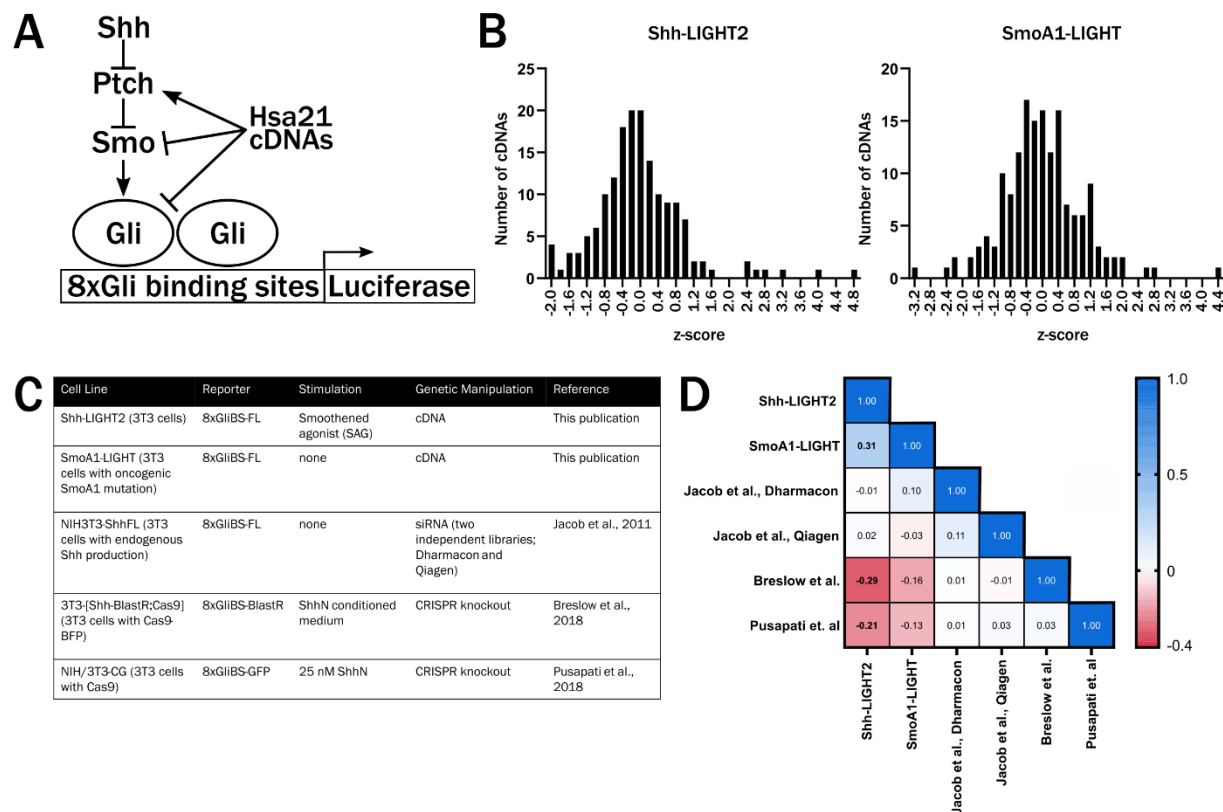
1128 Expression Omnibus, GEO accession number GSE202938. TcMAC21 mice are available from

1129 The Jackson Laboratory and require an agreement with RIKEN BRC and The National

1130 University Corporation Tottori University before shipping.

1131

1132 **Supplementary Figures**



1133

1134 **Fig.S1. Shh-LIGHT2 and SmoA1-LIGHT screens.** (A) Schematic of SHH signaling and

1135 8xGliBS-FL reporter. Sonic hedgehog binds to Patched and relieves inhibition of Smoothed,

1136 which acts as a transducer to activate signaling via the Gli transcription factors. Binding of Gli to

1137 the 8xGliBS-FL promotes transcription of luciferase. Overexpression of chromosome 21 genes

1138 may activate or inhibit SHH signaling at any level of the signaling pathway. (B) Distribution of

1139 z-scores in Shh-LIGHT2 and SmoA1-LIGHT cDNA overexpression screens. (C) Summary of

1140 previously reported siRNA knockdown and CRISPR knockout screens using the 8xGliBS

1141 reporter. (D) Correlation matrix showing Pearson correlation coefficient r between pairs of

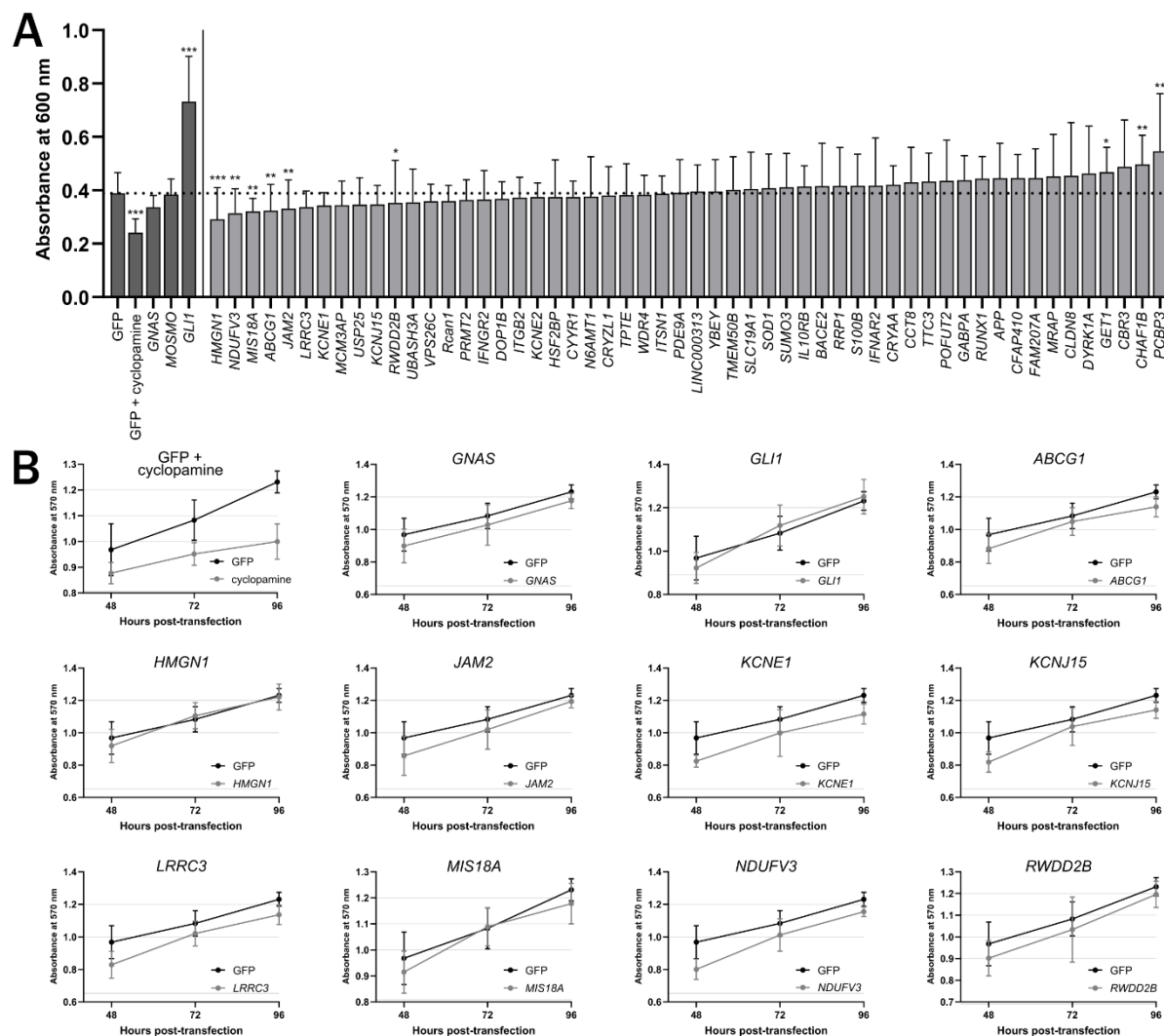
1142 screens for the 115 chromosome 21 genes and mouse orthologs with data across all screens.

1143 Bolded correlation coefficients have $P < 0.05$. The Shh-LIGHT2 and SmoA1-LIGHT cDNA

1144 screens are positively correlated, whereas Shh-LIGHT2 shows a negative correlation with two

1145 CRISPR knockout screens.

1146



1147

1148

1149 **Fig.S2. C3H10T1/2 osteoblast differentiation and viability following transfection of**

1150 **chromosome 21 cDNAs. (A)** Quantification of alkaline phosphatase activity following

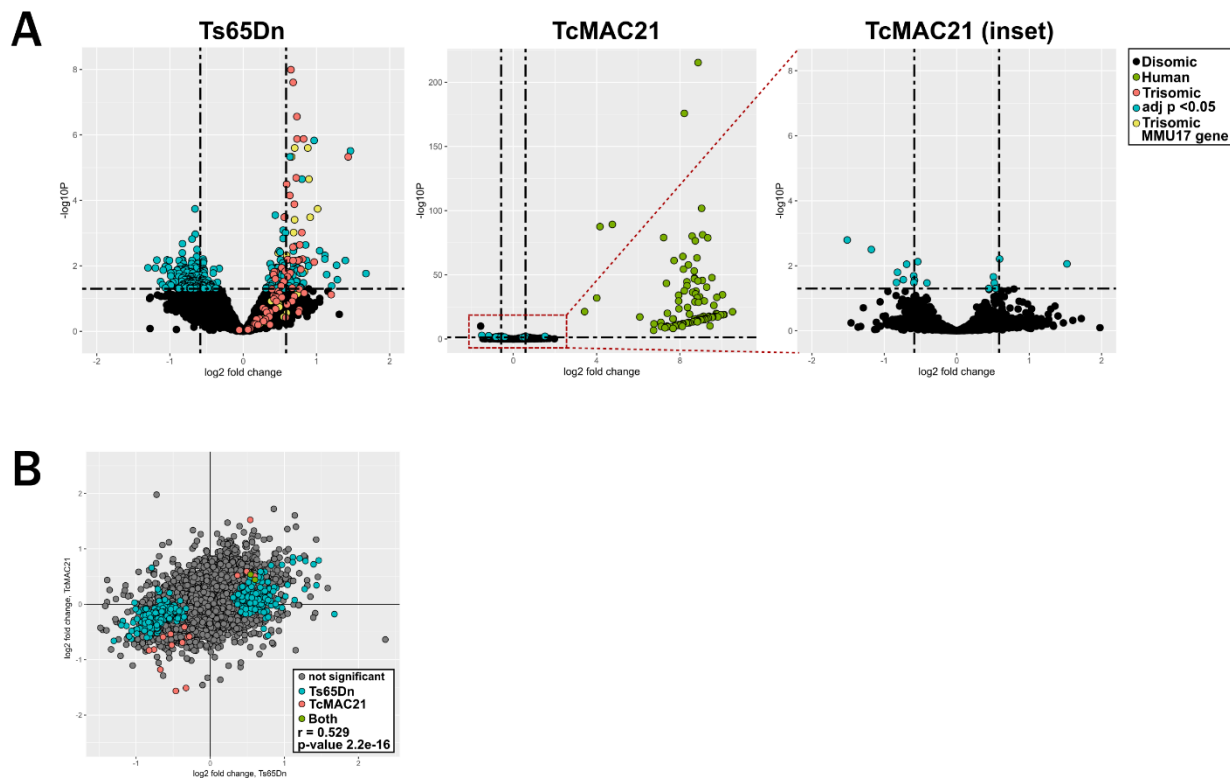
1151 transfection of chromosome 21 cDNAs and stimulation with SAG (n=20). All conditions were

1152 compared to GFP control. ***P<0.001, **P<0.01, *P<0.05 (Kruskal-Wallis test followed by

1153 Dunn's post-hoc test). **(B)** Quantification of viability of untreated C3H10T1/2 cells 48, 72, and

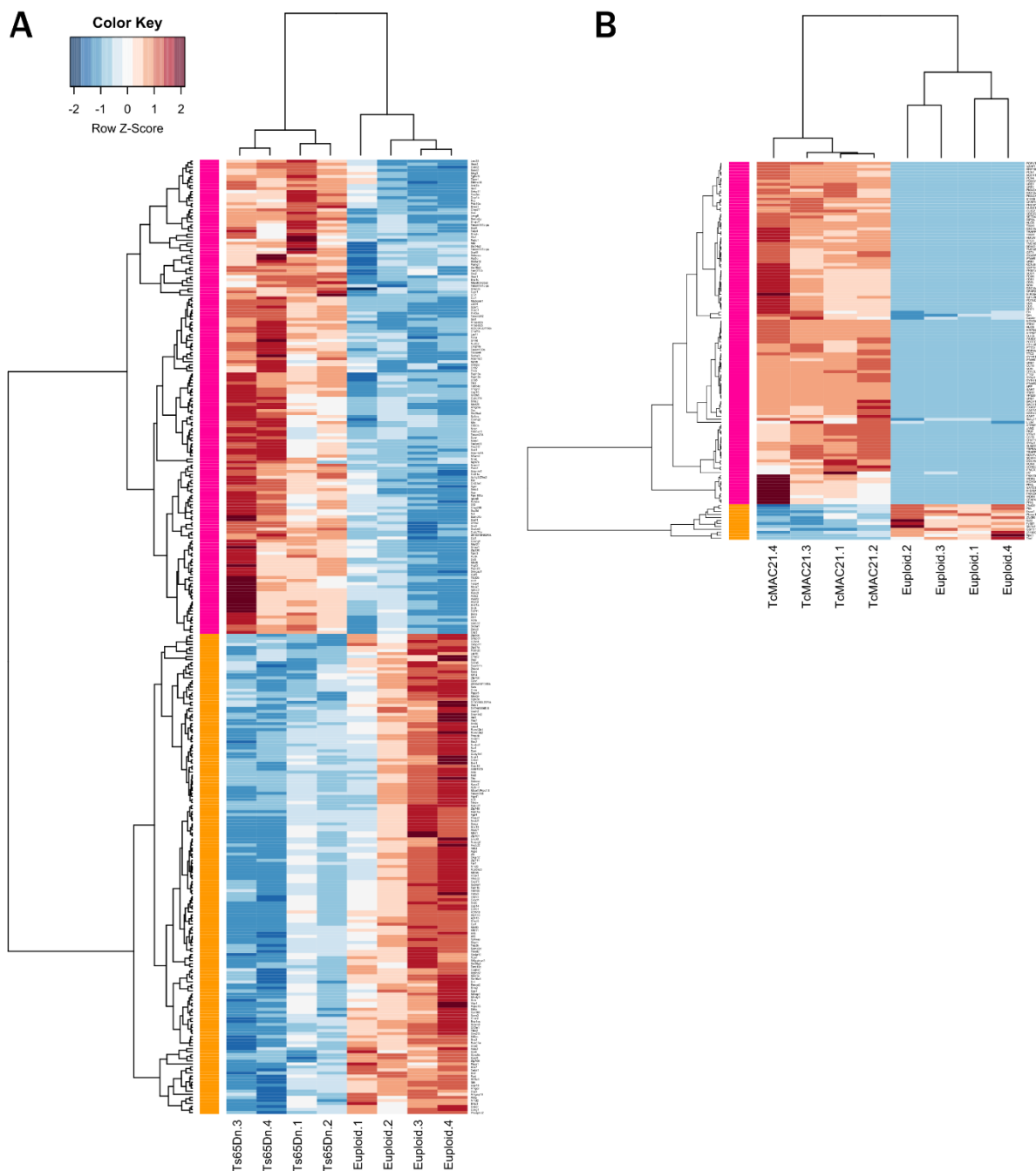
1154 96 hours post-transfection (n=7). In cells treated with SAG, only cyclophosphamide treatment affected

1155 viability (data not shown).



1156

1157 **Fig.S3. Expression of disomic genes in Ts65Dn and TcMAC21 cerebellum. (A)** Volcano
1158 plots showing \log_2 fold change and $-\log_{10}(P)$ value in Ts65Dn and TcMAC21 samples. Teal
1159 points represent disomic transcripts with adjusted $P < 0.05$, salmon points represent chromosome
1160 21 orthologs that are trisomic in Ts65Dn, yellow points represent non-chromosome 21 orthologs
1161 (MMU17) transcripts that are trisomic in Ts65Dn, and green points represent human transcripts
1162 in TcMAC21 samples. **(B)** Scatterplot showing \log_2 fold change of disomic transcripts in
1163 Ts65Dn and TcMAC21 samples. Teal points are significantly differentially expressed in Ts65Dn
1164 samples, salmon points are significantly differentially expressed in TcMAC21 samples, and
1165 green points are differentially expressed in both Ts65Dn and TcMAC21 samples. Pearson
1166 correlation coefficient $r=0.529$ and $P=2.2e-16$.



1167

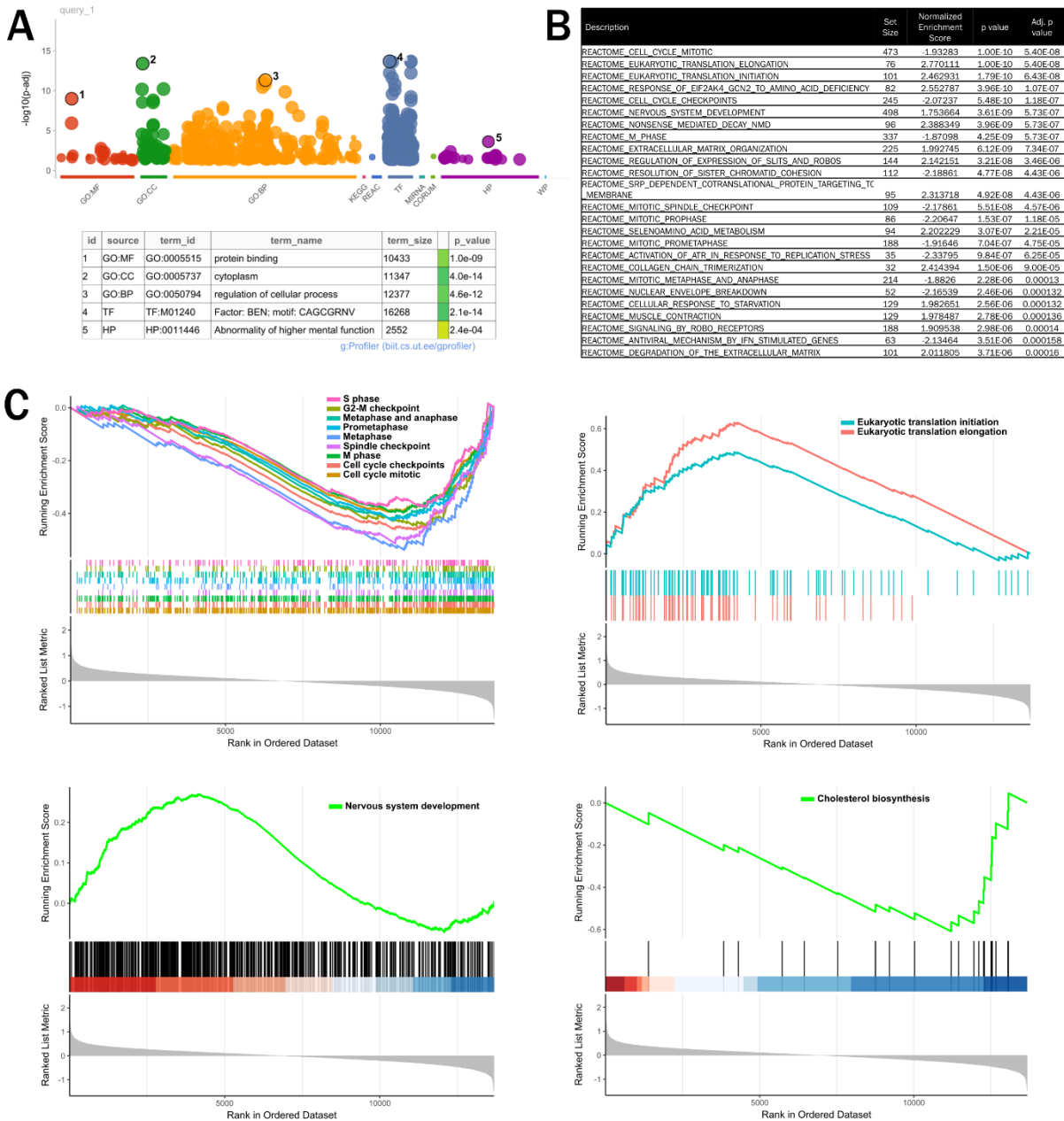
1168 **Fig.S4. Unsupervised clustering of differentially expressed genes in Ts65D and TcMAC21**

1169 **samples. (A)** Unsupervised clustering of 314 differentially expressed transcripts (rows) in 4

1170 Ts65Dn cerebella and 4 euploid littermates (columns). The orange module represents genes

1171 downregulated in Ts65Dn relative to control and the pink module represents genes upregulated

1172 in Ts65Dn. **(B)** Unsupervised clustering of 127 differentially expressed transcripts in 4
1173 TcMAC21 cerebella and 4 euploid littermates. 109/127 differentially expressed transcripts derive
1174 from the HSA21q-MAC hybrid chromosome.
1175



1176

1177 **Fig.S5. Gene ontology and gene set enrichment analyses of differentially expressed genes in**

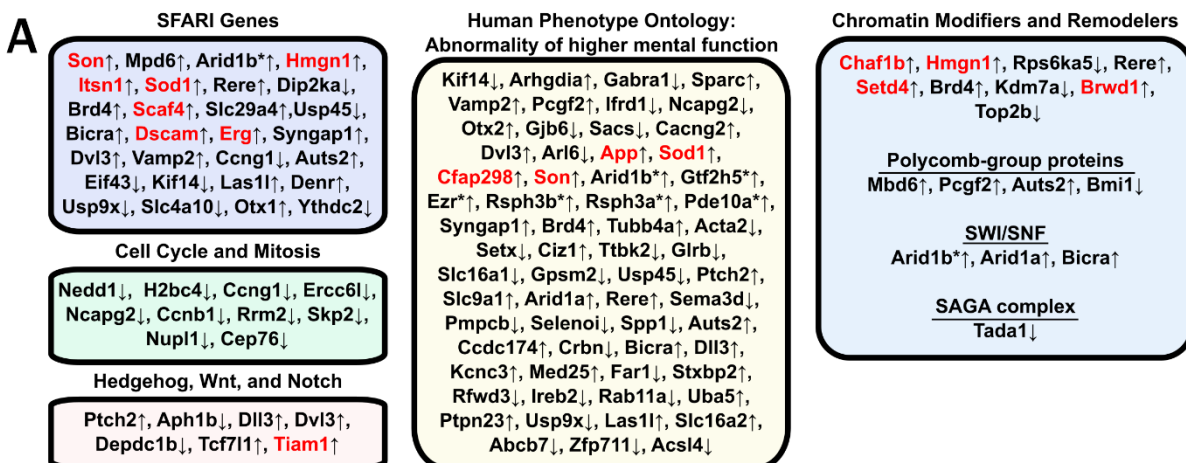
1178 **Ts65Dn cerebellum. (A) Manhattan plot showing top gene ontology terms identified in Ts65Dn**

1179 **cerebellum. Differentially expressed genes contributing to “abnormality of higher mental**

1180 **function” are listed in figure S6. (B) Top 25 pathways identified by gene set enrichment analysis**

1181 **in Ts65Dn samples. (C) Gene set enrichment analysis for pathways significantly enriched in**

1182 Ts65Dn samples (translation and nervous system development) and pathways enriched in control
1183 samples (mitotic/cell cycle and cholesterol biosynthesis).
1184



1185

1186 **Fig.S6. Differentially expressed genes in Ts65Dn cerebellum are implicated in human**

1187 **neurodevelopmental disorders, mitosis, and chromatin remodeling. (A)** Subset of

1188 differentially expressed genes ($q < 0.05$) identified in Ts65Dn grouped by cellular and disease

1189 processes. Up arrows signify genes that are upregulated in Ts65Dn samples, asterisks signify

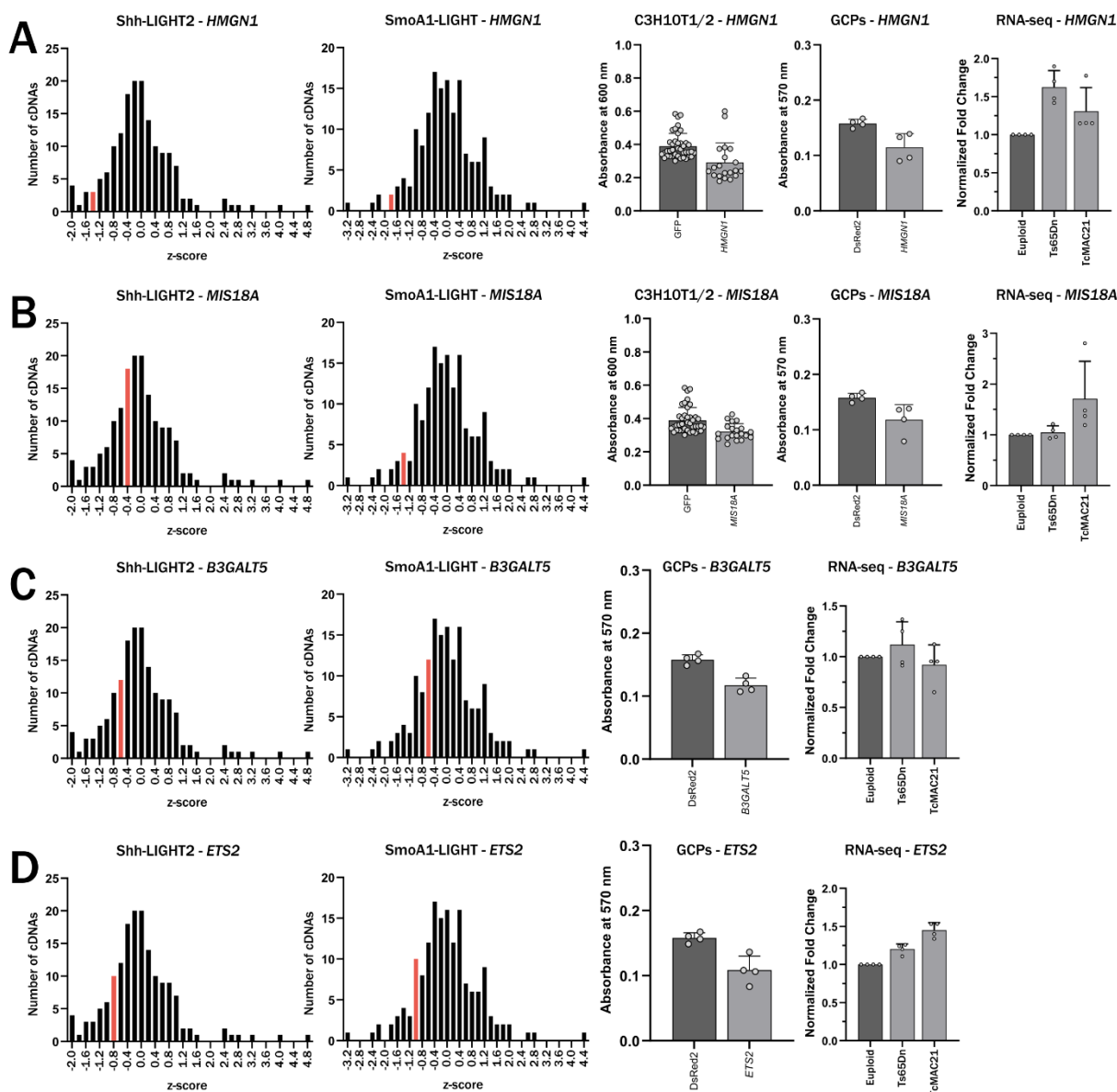
1190 genes that are trisomic in Ts65Dn mice but are not orthologs of chromosome 21 genes, and red

1191 signifies trisomic genes that are orthologs of chromosome 21 genes. Differentially expressed

1192 genes include 28 in the SFARI Gene database of autism susceptibility loci and others related to

1193 cell cycle/mitosis, key developmental pathways including SHH, and chromatin modifiers and

1194 remodelers.



1195

1196 **Fig.S7. Summary of effects of *HMGN1*, *MIS18A*, *B3GALT5*, and *ETS2* on SHH pathway**

1197 **activation. (A) Effect of *HMGN1* overexpression on luciferase activity in Shh-LIGHT2 and**

1198 **SmoA1-LIGHT cells, osteoblast differentiation in C3H10T1/2 cells, and proliferation in primary**

1199 **granule cell precursors. Bin containing *HMGN1* for Shh-LIGHT2 and SmoA1-LIGHT assays is**

1200 **highlighted in red. Overexpression of *HMGN1* or its mouse ortholog in Ts65Dn and TcMAC21**

1201 cerebellum graphed relative to euploid controls (n=4). Same for **(B)** *MIS18A*, **(C)** *B3GALT5*, and

1202 **(D)** *ETS2*.

1203