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Isogenic hiPSC models of Turner syndrome reveal shared roles of inactive X and Y in the

human cranial neural crest network

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SUMMARY

Modeling the developmental etiology of viable human aneuploidies can be challenging in

rodent models, where synteny with human chromosomes is affected, or primate-specific biology

is implicated. In humans, monosomy-X (45,X) causes Turner syndrome (TS), altering craniofacial,

skeletal, endocrine, and cardiovascular development, which remain largely unaffected in 39,X-

mice. We derived human 45,X and isogenic euploid induced pluripotent stem cells (hiPSCs) from

male and female mosaics to model how human monosomy-X may impact early embryonic

development. Because several neural crest (NC) derived cell types are hypothesized to underpin

craniofacial and cardiovascular changes in TS, we derived anterior neural crest from our hiPSCs

and performed a highly-powered and extensive differential expression study. Across all three

isogenic panels, 45,X neural crest cells (NCCs) show impaired acquisition of the PAX7/SOX10

double-positive NC state relative to euploid 46,XY controls. Monosomy-X NCCs also share

similarly disrupted expression of NC-specific genes relative to their isogenic euploid control

regardless of whether the latter carry an inactive X or Y. Gene-set enrichment analyses indicate

monosomy-X NCCs increase cholesterol biosynthesis genes while dampening ribosomal protein

and nuclear-encoded mitochondrial genes. These metabolic pathways are also over-represented

in gene modules that are preserved in monogenic conditions involving neurocristopathy.

Importantly, these gene modules are also significantly enriched in 28% of all TS-associated terms

of the human phenotype ontology, and point to specific sex-linked genes that are expressed from

two copies in euploid males and females alike, which may qualify as candidate haploinsufficient

drivers of TS phenotypes in NC-derived lineages. Our study demonstrates that isogenic hiPSC-

derived NCC panels representing monosomy-X can serve as a powerful model of early NC

development in TS, and provides euploid and X-monosomic transcriptomic datasets relevant to

exploration of TS and NC biology.

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INTRODUCTION

The absence of the second sex chromosome (monosomy-X) represents the only viable human monosomy in humans, resulting in Turner syndrome (TS, 1:2000 live births). Although fewer than 0.3% of conceptuses with monosomy-X (45,X karyotype) complete development [1,2], it is considered viable, because most sex-linked genes are expressed from a single copy in placental mammals: the Y lost most of its ancestral genes originally shared with the proto-X, except for dosage-sensitive regulators [3], while the X became subject to dosage-compensation in the form of X chromosome inactivation (XCI) in XX females [4]. However, many genes retained on the Y have a homologous X-linked copy that escapees XCI. In addition to these X/Y-pairs ("gametologs"), genes in the recombining pseudoautosomal region (PAR) shared by X and Y also escape XCI in XX females [4].

The compound haploinsufficiency of these gametolog and PAR genes is hypothesized to underpin both cardinal short stature and premature ovarian failure in persons with TS, alongside variably penetrant (40-80%) phenotypes [5], like lymphedema of hands and feet, neurocognitive changes, as well as renal and cardiac malformations. Joining skeletal and craniofacial changes, bicuspid aortic valve and aortic defects in TS implicate cell types derived from neural crest cells (NCCs). These transitory multipotent progenitors arise from the dorsal side of the closing neural tube and migrate ventrally to contribute to the developing face, skin, heart, adrenal glands, joints and peripheral nervous system [6]. Because all of these organ systems are variably impacted in subsets of TS patients [7], the neural crest is thought to be particularly vulnerable to monosomy-X.

Yet, direct experimental evidence for this hypothesis has been lacking. Because many murine orthologs of human PAR genes reside on autosomes [8,9], their gene dosage is maintained in X-monosomic mice, which consequently fail to model most TS phenotypes [10,11]. To address this problem, we derived and cytogenomically validated X-monosomic human induced pluripotent stem cells (hiPSCs) alongside isogenic euploid control lines from mosaic fibroblasts. We recently reported that such isogenic panels from three unrelated donors recapitulate a hypothesized impairment of trophoblast cell fates due to monosomy-X [12].

Here, we derive anterior NCCs from each of these hiPSC panels to assess the impact of human monosomy-X on the neural crest. We perform an in-depth transcriptomic and cellular analysis

comparing monosomy-X to their otherwise isogenic euploid controls, and find monosomy-X

hiPSCs give rise to significantly fewer PAX7/SOX10 double-positive NCCs compared to 46,XY

euploid controls. Differential expression reflecting monosomy-X is highly concordant across male

and female-derived panels, and jointly enriched in pathways associated with cholesterol

metabolism, NCC-relevant cell signaling and translation. Importantly, NCC gene modules that

reflect monosomy-X by weighted gene co-expression network analysis (WGCNA) are also

preserved in hiPSC-derived NCC models of monogenic conditions traditionally considered to

represent neurocristopathy.

RESULTS

Over half a century of detailed studies in the chick and other model systems have shed

light on the signaling pathways and intricate gene regulatory networks (GRNs) that govern the

specification and migration of NCCs [13,14]. These exquisite developmental studies have also

informed progressively intricate protocols for NCC derivation from embryonic stem cells and

hiPSCs that recapitulate terminal NCC fates as a function of their axial identity [15–17]. Due to our

interest in the anterior/craniofacial and vagal neural crest, which populate the developing face

and heart, we applied a highly robust method for NCC specification via moderate WNT and BMP

activation that is reported to enable reproducible derivation of anterior NCCs at ~ 70% efficiency

[17,18]. We applied this method to a total of 11 distinct hiPSC lines from all three of our

cytogenomically validated hiPSC panels [12], and quantified the dorsal neural tube marker PAX7

alongside the canonical neural crest marker SOX10, which jointly mark NCC specification.

Applying automated immunofluorescence quantification, we observe the expected rate of PAX7$^+$

SOX10$^+$ double-positive cells (60-70%) across all euploid lines, though female euploid lines with

somewhat reduced efficiency (-10%) relative to male euploid lines (Fig. 1A). While monosomy-X

hiPSCs can also differentiate to PAX7$^+$SOX10$^+$ NCCs, their overall efficiency is significantly reduced

by about half in both male-derived isogenic panels (Fig. 1B, male 1: p=0.002, male2: p=1.1x10^{-5},

Mann-Whitney U). Interestingly, female-derived monosomy-X NCCs arise at a similar same rate

as their euploid counterparts, rendering this isogenic comparison non-significant (p=0.3) but still

significantly reduced relative to male euploid controls (p≤1.3x10^{-3}). Specifically, we find the PAX7$^+$

rate is largely unaffected by monosomy-X across all three panels (Fig. S1), and whereas it is

SOX10$^+$ in male1 and male2-derived monosomy-X lines that is significantly reduced (male 1:

p=0.001, male2: p=9.8 x10^{-6}, Mann-Whitney U).

We next performed a deep and highly-powered RNA-seq study on a subset of these

samples, with a minimum of 4 replicates per cell line, grouped by a combination of donor and

karyotype ("condition") comprising 7-12 replicates each. This enables our analysis to assess

monosomy-X driven changes within each isogenic context (ie. donor). Indeed, each paired set of

monosomy-X and euploid controls segregate from each other along the first and second principal

components (Fig. 2A), while hierarchical clustering groups all male-derived monosomy-X samples

together (Fig. S2A). We next compared X-monosomic and euploid NCC expression levels of

marker gene sets identified in two prior human NCC differentiation studies [15,18], orthologs of

chick neural crest GRNs [19], and genes differentially expressed (DEGs) in the murine neural crest

[20], as well as from a 3D *in vitro* model of the folding human neural tube [21]. Indeed, gene sets from

these five studies were largely sufficient to segregate euploid and X-monosomic samples (Fig.

S2B), and DEGs identified in the human 3D neural tube model were the most highly expressed,

while early anterior neural crest (eANC), murine Hox-negative NC markers, and migratory NC

markers identified in the chick were roughly tied. We also confirmed the axial identity of our

NCCs by the uniformly low expression of posterior HOX genes (Fig. S2C). Assessing median-

normalized gene set levels, we observe significantly lower levels of early anterior neural crest

(eANC) and higher levels of late ANC (lANC) markers in euploid over X-monosomic lines in all

three isogenic panels (Fig. 2B), and respectively higher expression of NC over neuroectodermal

genes (NE) in male euploid over X-monosomic NCCs (Fig. S2D). Likewise, genes expressed in p75$^+$

hESC-derived NCCs are also significantly higher in euploid over X-monosomic hiPSC-derived NCCs,

which is also true for orthologs of GRNs identified in the migratory chick neural crest (Fig. 2C,D).

To delineate which groups of X/Y-linked genes may be haploinsufficient in NCCs, we

plotted PAR and gametolog pair genes alongside X-specific genes that escaped XCI in female

euploid NCCs, as reflected in allelic variant counts of the phased female X (Fig. S2E). Largely driven

by PAR genes, monosomy-X NCCs segregate from their isogenic euploid controls, which

expectedly split female 46,XX and male 46,XY samples. DEGs escaping XCI in euploid female NCCs

(lesser allele frequency, LAF≥0.1, binomial p≤0.05) included 7 PAR1 genes, 5 X-linked gametologs

and 16 previously-reported escapee genes, alongside 8 genes that may reflect novel NCC-specific

escapees or have reactivated in a subset of cells despite robust bulk expression of *XIST* (Fig. S2F).

We next correlated the PAX7$^+$ SOX10$^+$ fraction with the median expression of PAR, Pair, other

escapee genes and their total ("All") in each sample (Fig. 2E). Including the NCC marker gene sets

in this analysis, we observe that the PAX7$^+$ SOX10$^+$ fraction best correlates with levels of PAR and

Pair genes, which likewise correlate with the late ANC, p75$^+$ and chick migratory GRN sets.

Because NCC undergo an epithelial-to-mesenchymal transition that modulates cell cycle

progression [22,23], more mature NCC markers are expectedly anti-correlated with cell cycle and

earlier NCC markers. In sum, these data suggest monosomy-X hinders or delays the maturation

of early to late neural crest, in keeping with their reduction of SOX10$^+$ positive cells.

To determine whether global differential expression points to a common monosomy-X

signature across isogenic panels, we called and compared DEGs common to any two or all three

panels. Altogether, over 30% of all DEGs were shared in all pairwise comparisons (p = 1.1x10^{-13} ,

p = 1.2x10^{-21} and p = 3.7x10^{-137}, hypergeometric test), with the two male-derived monosomy-X

panels reflecting the most significant overlap (Fig. 3A). We also assessed the direction of gene

expression changes in these overlapping DEG sets, which perfectly segregate all monosomy-X

samples from their isogenic euploid controls. Indeed, DEGs shared by all three (p = 3.7x10^{-124},

sign test), as well as any two isogenic panels (p = 7.4x10^{-195}, 5.1x10^{-11}, 8.0x10^{-47}) change

concordantly in highly significant fashion (Fig. 3A). This level of overlap and concordant change

is remarkable given that monosomy-X samples ('mXO1/2' & 'fXO') were only assessed relative to

euploid controls in their own isogenic context.

To identify cellular pathways and developmental processes commonly impacted by the

lack of X or Y, we performed gene-set enrichment analysis (GSEA) for all three monosomy-X NCC

panels as ordered by their averaged Wald statistic ('ave.XO'). We also compared female-to-male

euploid ('fmE1/2'), as well karyotypically-identical male1-to-male2 monosomy-X ('m1m2O')

NCCs. Mirroring the global overlap of DEGs (Fig. 3A), significantly enriched gene-sets revealed a

highly concordant pattern across all three isogenic panels (Fig. 3B): across Wikipathway

(p.adj<0.02), KEGG and Hallmark (Fig. S3, Table S1) gene term collections, monosomy-X NCCs

upregulate genes associated with cell cycle, cholesterol and lipid biosynthesis, and down-
regulate genes linked to translation and oxidative phosphorylation. While the impact of
monosomy-X in the female NCC panel is generally milder than the two male panels, the
concordance in GSEA terms mirrors the highly significant overlap in DEGs, and both
hyperlipidemia and hypercholesteremia are seen in patients with TS [24]. Likewise, in the human
phenotype ontology (HPO), monosomy-X NCCs show dysregulated gene sets relating to
craniofacial, joint and cognitive development that are also frequently observed in patients with
Turner Syndrome (Table S1), including 'Down-slated palpebral fissures', 'joint hypermobility,
'hyperactivity' (all p.adj<0.0001). Indeed, the enrichment of HPO terms relating to Turner
Syndrome ("ORPHA881") in monosomy-X NCC vs. control comparisons is particularly striking (Fig.
3C), and recovers 28/114 (24.6%) of all HPO terms linked to TS (Table S1), none of which were
significant in any of the control comparisons. In sum, these GSEA results underscore that
differential expression in X-monosomic NCCs relative to euploid controls recovers gene terms of
known TS phenotypes that relate to the neural crest, as well as beyond, and implicates cellular
and developmental pathways impacted by monosomy-X.

We next performed weighted gene co-expression network analysis (WGCNA) to elucidate
the relationships between monosomy-X and altered pathways, and prioritize individual X/Y-
linked genes as potential dosage-sensitive drivers. This analysis assigned genes to 29 modules,
22 of which are driven by contrasting expression of euploid and X-monosomic expression, as
evidenced by a loss of module preservation in networks lacking euploid samples (Fig. S4A). Eight
modules (groupA: 1,6,7,13,19,20,26,27) are significantly correlated (R≥0.3, p≤0.05) with the
PAX7$^+$SOX10$^+$ rate, and six modules (groupB: 3,5,8,9,11,15) are significantly anti-correlated (R≤–
0.3, p≤0.05, Fig. 4A). Consistently, the PAX7$^+$SOX10$^+$ correlated groupA modules associate with
mature NCC markers, whereas PAX7$^+$SOX10$^+$ anti-correlated groupB modules reflect an earlier,
NE-biased cycling cell signature. The PAX7$^+$SOX10$^+$ positively correlated groupA was enriched in
translation and mitochondrial function terms, while the PAX7$^+$SOX10$^+$ anti-correlated groupB was
over-represented for cholesterol biosynthesis, cell cycle-related terms, and several signaling
pathways, including Notch, focal adhesion/PI3AKT/mTOR and TGFbeta signaling (Fig. 4A, S4B,
Table S2). To further contextualize the relationship between these modules and biological

processes, we turned to a semantic similarity map of significantly-enriched GO terms
(p.adjust≤0.01, hypergeometric distribution) in modules that also significantly co/anti-correlated
with the PAX7+SOX10+ rate (Fig. 4B, -/+ labeled modules). Terminal neural-crest related terms
("cranial facial parasympathetic nerve", "endocardial cushion", "anterior/posterior pattern
specification", "angiogenesis") were enriched in groupB modules, whereas metabolic functions
that connect cell cycle and splicing to translation and mitochondrial function were represented
by both group A&B modules. Overall, these enriched metabolic terms mirrored the GSEA results
(Fig. 3B,C, Table S1).

If metabolic processes reflected in these modules play important roles in neural crest
development, we would expect them to be detectable in tissues populated by the neural crest.
We tested this hypothesis in transcriptomes collected from the developing heart [25] and face [26,27],
spanning Carnegie stages 13-23. Both tissues ('CS_Heart' with 11/28 preserved modules, and
'CS_Face' with 12/28) show moderate to high module preservation (Z-score ≥ 5), 8 of which also
co/anti-correlate significantly with the PAX7+SOX10+ rate in our hiPSC-derived NCCs (Fig. 4A).
Likewise, we assessed module preservation in hiPSC-derived NCCs of monogenic conditions
considered canonical neurocristopathies: 15 modules were preserved in Waardenburg [28]
(*SOX10*), 12 in Pierre-Robin[29] (*SOX9*), and 11 each in Familial Dysautonomia[30] (*IKBKAP*) and
Bohring-Opitz[31] (*ASXL1*) syndromes, most of which also overlapped with each other. In contrast,
only respectively 6 and 4 modules were preserved in hiPSC-derived NCC models of Floating-
Harbor[32] (*SRCAP*) and Branchio-Oculofacial[33] (*TFAP2A*) syndromes, while no module met a Z-
score threshold of 5 standard deviations in a pancreatic tumor stroma control dataset. In sum,
our analysis indicates that monosomy-X sensitive modules that reflect metabolic disturbances
also co-vary in relevant tissues with developmental time and *in vitro* NCC models of several
neurocristopathies.

Interestingly, three groupA modules (13,20,27) were exclusively preserved in our hiPSC-
derived monosomy-X trophoblast model, and correlated with escapee levels (PAR, Pair &
'otherEsc'), as well as each other (Fig. 4A, S4C) [12], raising the question in which modules these
genes were over-represented. Indeed, module 20 was strongly enriched in PAR genes (Fig. S4D)
but lacked any other significant MSigDB or GO annotations (Table S2). Likewise, most gametolog

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pairs were dispersed across modules 4 & 20, or remained unassigned. One notable exception was

the only ribosomal protein to be encoded by two genes, as *RPS4X* was assigned to the translation-

enriched module 6, which was generally down-regulated in X-monosomic lines (Fig. 3B, Fig. 4A,

Table S1). Of note, *RPS4X* was also significantly reduced in male1-derived 45,X NCCs lacking

RPS4Y1 expression.

To prioritize candidate dosage-sensitive genes shared by X and Y, we squared their

correlation with the averaged expression of their respective modules and plotted this coefficient

(kME^2) over their individual correlation with the PAX7$^+$SOX10$^+$ rate (Fig. 4C). We also present

their percentile-ranked probability of haploinsufficiency (pHI % rank, from[34]) as a constraint

metric to reflect possible selection. Most of the highly pHI-ranked genes correlate poorly with

the PAX7$^+$SOX10$^+$ percentage, in contrast to most PAR genes, as well as Y-linked gametologs, that

correlate strongly but rank poorly in pHI [35], in the residual variation intolerance score (RVIS [36]),

or remain unranked (Y-linked gametologs). Yet, *ZBED1, SLC25A6, RPS4X* and *PLCXD1,* rank in the

top half of pHI or RVIS scores and correlate strongly with the PAX7$^+$SOX10$^+$ rate and their kME

(Fig. 4C). While homozygous loss-of-function mutations have revealed *PLCXD1* as dispensable in

humans [37], *ZBED1* was also the top candidate in our 45,X hiPSC-derived trophoblast analysis [12].

RPS4X was especially notable given that translation was over-represented in its assigned module

6, which was also enriched in the top3-scoring HPO terms associated with TS: 'Horseshoe kidney',

'Coarctation of the aorta' and 'Webbed neck' (Fig. 4D,E). Indeed, altogether 32/114 (28.1%) of all

TS-associated HPO terms were significantly enriched in 10 modules (p.adjust≤0.1,

hypergeometric distribution) (Fig. 4D/E, S4E), 9 of which were also preserved in monogenic

neurocristopathies (Fig. 4A).

DISCUSSION

Despite the relatively small number of genes shared by extant mammalian X & Y, only TS-

associated short stature has been linked conclusively to haploinsufficiency of one such gene to-

date, namely pseudoautosomal *SHOX* [38]. This example also highlights challenges in modeling TS

in rodents, as murine *SHOX* ortholog *Shox2* is autosomal [39] and thus remains unaffected in 39,X

mice, a pattern shared with all but two murine orthologs of human PAR1 genes [9]. Likewise, more

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pan-mammalian gametologs pairs were retained on both X&Y in humans than mice [3], with the

remaining murine gametologs appearing largely haplo-sufficient in mouse cardiovascular

development [10,11].

Given the craniofacial and cardiovascular phenotypes in TS, new models are thus needed

to understand how monosomy-X impacts development, specifically in cells and tissues derived

from the neural crest. Our study applies a well-established hiPSC to NCC differentiation model

[17,18] to demonstrate that monosomy-X significantly reduces NCC specification relative to euploid

controls (Fig. 1, S1), which is also reflected in expression of various NC marker sets across three

independent isogenic panels (Fig. 2, S2). Differential expression indicates monosomy-X alters

important metabolic pathways, specifically increasing cholesterol biosynthesis genes, while

reducing ribosomal protein and nuclear-encoded mitochondrial genes (Fig. 3, S3, Table S1). This

finding is consistent with recent reports revealing metabolic reprogramming to play a key role in

transitioning NCCs from proliferative to migratory and terminally differentiated states[40,41]. During

the epithelial-to-mesenchymal transition (EMT), NCCs increase both ribosome biosynthesis [40]

and aerobic glycolysis [41], but our 45,X NCC transcriptomes suggest these processes are

decoupled, as many ribosomal proteins are down- while glycolytic genes are up-regulated (Fig.

3, Table S1), at the expense of oxidative phosphorylation, which has also been linked to NCC

specification [42]. In addition, cholesterol biosynthesis genes are significantly upregulated in 45,X

NCCs, which while critical for modulating NCC signaling [43] may also alter their patterning [44], and

is independently consistent with hypercholesteremia seen in TS patients [5,24].

This link to TS phenotypes is also reflected in TS-associated HPO terms that were enriched

in GSEA (28/114) and WGCNA (32/114) results (Fig. 3,4). Indeed, three TS-associated HPO terms

were most significantly over-represented in module 6, which comprised of ribosomal proteins

and other translation factors that were down-regulated in 45,X NCCs. Interestingly, ribosomal

protein gene and gametolog *RPS4X* was also assigned to module 6, correlated with the

PAX7⁺SOX10⁺ rate, and ranks in the top half of pHI/RVIS scores among X-linked genes. Although

RPS4X is not implicated in cardinal TS phenotypes like short stature and gonadal dysgenesis [45,46],

the combined dosage *RPS4X* and *RPS4Y1* may play an important role neural crest-derived cell

types. To-date, escape of *RPS4X* from XCI has only been reported for primates [47], which have

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also maintained *RPS4Y* on the Y[3]. Our study therefore raises the question whether neural-crest

related TS phenotypes may be most penetrant in mammals that also maintained Y-linked *RPS4Y*,

which may be resolved in comparative cardiovascular studies of mammals with sufficiently viable

monosomy-X [9,48–50].

It is also plausible that the neural crest may be sensitive to the dosage of multiple PAR

genes and gametologs, which poses challenges to prioritizing candidate dosage-sensitive genes

by mutational constraint measures that are based on the frequency of loss-of-function variants

in the population. The GenTAC (Genetically Triggered Thoracic Aortic Aneurysms and Other

Cardiovascular Conditions) Registry reported that distal segmental Xp deletions minimally

encompassing PAR1 and 21 additional genes can be sufficient for bicuspid aortic valve and aortic

coarctation [51]. Interestingly, no such left-sided lesions were observed in 13 subjects non-mosaic

for 46,X,i(Xq) iso-chromosomes, pointing to increased Xq copy-number as a potential protective

factor when Xp dosage is lacking. Yet, as the iXq would be subject to XCI, such protective gene(s)

would also have to escape XCI. While this group of candidate protective genes is not necessarily

confined to gametologs, it should be noted that it only includes two such genes (*RPS4X, RBMX2)*

[52]. In sum, monosomy-X hiPSC-derived NCCs with otherwise isogenic euploid controls, described

herein provide a tractable model to resolve long-standing questions on the dosage contributions

of human PAR and gametolog pairs in neural crest-derived cell types that give rise to clinically-

relevant features of TS.

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FIGURE LEGENDS

Figure 1: Monosomy-X impact on neural crest differentiation relative to isogenic euploid controls. (A) Representative immunofluorescence (IF) images of hiPSC-derived pairs of monosomy-X alongside euploid control NCCs representing three donors (Male1/2 and Female) show PAX7 (green), SOX10 (red), nuclei (Hoechst33342) and merged channels (100 um scale bar). **(B)** CellProfiler quantification of all IF images from 4-7 rounds of differentiation across all cell lines. Brackets and p-value (Mann-Whitney U test) indicate groups of cell lines compared within each and across isogenic panels. Panels separate lines from each donor, symbols and colors denote karyotype and donor.

Figure 2: Reduction of neural crest marker expression in monosomy-X relative isogenic euploid controls. (A) Principal component analysis (PCA) plot segregates RNA-seq samples by the combination of donor and karyotype, denoted "condition", with % of variance indicated on axes. **(B)** Variance-stabilized counts (vst) of early and late anterior NC (e/lANC), retinoic acid-treated NC (raANC) and neuromesodermal progenitor (NMP) markers from [18] (vertical panels) were median-normalized and averaged over euploid and 45,X (EU & XO, respectively) NC samples for each (horizontal) donor panel. Significant differences in median expression denoted by Mann-Whitney P-value. **(C,D)** as in B) for respectively p75-/+ associated markers [15], and chick NC marker sets [19]. **(E)** Pearson correlation of the matching PAX7$^+$SOX10$^+$ percentage with averaged marker sets from B-D, alongside cycling markers [53], NC markers from a 3D folding human neural tube model [21], and averaged pseudo-autosomal, X/Y Pair, and other escapee genes (PAR/PAIR/oESC) across all RNA-seq samples. Pairwise correlations only shown where significant (p≤0.05, Fisher transformed Pearson R).

Figure 3: Concordant impact of monosomy-X on NCC transcriptomes across isogenic panels.
(A) *Left:* Venn diagram of differentially expressed genes (DEGs) in male1, male2 and female (mXO1, mXO2) monosomy-X NCCs. Significance of pairwise overlapping DEGs in bolded p-values (hypergeometric distribution). *Right:* Differential vst heatmaps for overlapping DEG sets from (A) as denoted by arrows. Ratio and p-value (sign-test) labels denote the number of DEGs with concordant direction ("Dir.") in the triple and all pairwise overlapping DEG sets, which is also visualized in the divergent (fXO, mXO1/2) annotation panels showing the Wald statistic (DESeq2) for each gene (row dendrogram not shown). Column dendrogram segregates samples by karyotype, irrespective of donor. **(B)** Gene set enrichment analysis (GSEA) results for the WikiPathway collection, ordered the quantile-normalized mean Wald statistic across all monosomy-X conditions (ave.XO). X axis denotes the log-scaled GSEA adjusted p-value, and colors the normalized enrichment score of up- (red) and down-(blue) regulated genes associated with a given term (bubble size depicts the corresponding number of genes). Results shown for all individual isogenic monosomy-X comparisons (fXO, mXO1/2), averaged (ave.XO/ave.mXO) Wald rankings and representative control comparisons (fmE1/2: female-to-male euploid, and m1m2O: male1/2 X-monosomic samples to each other). **(C)** GSEA results for the Human Phenotype Ontology (HPO) showing significantly (p.adjust≤0.1) enriched terms associated with Turner Syndrome (Orphanet ID: 881), ordered by the quantile-normalized mean Wald statistic of male1/2 monosomy-X (ave.mXO, otherwise as in B).

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Figure 4: Monosomy-X sensitive gene modules correlate in human development and hiPSC-
derived NCC models of monogenic neurocristopathy. (A) Color labels and assigned gene totals
for WGCNA modules (1-29) with corresponding: **(i)** Correlation matrix (Pearson R) of each
module eigengene (average module expression) to karyotype status (euploid, 45,X) and
PAX7$^+$SOX10$^+$ percentage, as well as averaged expression of marker gene sets (from Fig. 2), and
sex-linked genes (PAR, X/Y-pair, other escapees and "All" of these classes combined). Pearson R
plotted only for significant correlations (p≤0.05, Fisher transformation), with log-scaled adjusted
p-values printed to the nearest integer. **(ii)** Significantly-enriched (p.adjust≤0.1, hypergeometric
distribution) gene terms from the Hallmark and canonical pathways collections of the molecular
signatures database (MSigDB) pointing to metabolic and developmental processes. **(iii)**
Preservation statistics (integer-rounded Z-score) in transcriptomes of the developing human face
[26,27] (Carnegie stages CS13-17 & 22) and heart[25] (CS13-23), alongside hiPSC-derived NCC models
of monogenic neurocristopathy syndromes (Pierre-Robin/*SOX9* [29], Waardenburg/*SOX10* [28],
Familial Dysautonomia/*IKBKAP* [30], Bohring-Opitz/*ASXL1* [31], Floating-Harbor/*SRCAP* [32], and
Branchio-Oculofacial/*TFAP2A* [33]). Monosomy-X human iPSC-derived trophoblast-like cells (TBL [12])
and pancreatic tumor stroma (Stroma [54]) were included as positive and negative controls,
respectively. **(iv)** Wald (DESeq2) statistic averaged across genes within each module. **(B)**
Enrichment map of significantly enriched gene ontology terms (GO, p.adjust≤0.01,
hypergeometric distribution) as nodes. Genes shared between nodes (≥10%) are depicted as
edges, based on semantic pairwise-term similarity (Jaccard distance) that is used to cluster nodes
and summarize labels. Nodes are colored as pie charts by modules enriched for a given term, and
the fraction of genes from each module under that term. **(C)** Module eigengene correlations
(kME^2) for each sex-linked gene plotted over its correlation with the PAX7$^+$SOX10$^+$ percentage.
Colors denote assigned module, sizes indicate pHI rank percentile **(D)** Dotplot of HPO terms linked
to Turner syndrome that were significantly-enriched (p.adjust ≤0.1, hypergeometric distribution)
in a given module (x-axis, numeric module labels with gene totals in parentheses). Dot color and
size denote log-scaled adjusted p-value and ratio of term-associated genes over all genes in a
given module. **(E)** Heatplots of TS-associated HPO terms linked to TS and their genes enriched in
cluster 6. Colors denote average of DESeq2 quantile-normalized Wald statistic over all 45,X
conditions (*top*) or Pearson R correlation with the PAX7$^+$SOX10$^+$ rate.

409   **SUPPLEMENTARY FIGURE LEGENDS**
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Figure S1: PAX7 and SOX10 quantification in isogenic monosomy-X and euploid control NCC
differentiation panels. (A,B) Representative immunofluorescence (IF) images of hiPSC-derived
pairs of monosomy-X alongside euploid control NCCs (from male2 and female donors) show PAX7
(green), SOX10 (red), nuclei (Hoechst33342) and merged channels (100 um scale bar). **(C,D)**
CellProfiler IF quantification of all images from 4-7 rounds of differentiation across all cell lines.
Brackets and p-value (Mann-Whitney U test) indicate groups of cell lines compared within each
isogenic panel. Panels separate PAX7 and SOX10 percentages, as well as lines from each donor.
Symbols and colors denote karyotype and donor.
419
Figure S2: RNA-seq samples, marker expression and allele-specific analysis for sex-linked genes.
(A) Dendrogram of RNA-seq samples segregating by donor and karyotype. **(B)** NC-relevant marker
gene sets clustered by median expression across each set. Plot facetted by donor, with karyotype
indicated below dendrograms. **(C)** Expression levels (vst) of *HOXA* and *HOXB* cluster genes by
condition. **(D)** Vst counts of NC and neuro-ectodermal (NE) markers, distinguished in a human 3D
model of folding neural tube from [21], were median-normalized and averaged over euploid and
45,X (EU & XO, respectively) NC samples for each (horizontal) donor panel. Significant differences
in median expression denoted by Mann-Whitney P-value. **(E)** Heatmap of median-normalized vst
differential for PAR, X-pair, and other escapee genes, alongside their reported escapee status
[52,55,56]. Left-most barplot annotation panels show each gene's allelic ratio in female euploid XX
lines, and the three central barplot panels the log2FoldChange for differentially expressed gene
(DESeq2 p.adjust≤0.1) in the three isogenic comparisons (fXO, mXO1, and mXO2, or 0 if not
significant). **(F)** Expression levels (vst) of X-linked lncRNA genes *FIRRE, FTX, JPX* and *XIST* by
condition.
434
Figure S3: (A) Gene set enrichment analysis (GSEA) results for the Hallmark collection, ordered
the quantile-normalized mean Wald statistic across all monosomy-X conditions (ave.mXO). X axis
denotes the log-scaled GSEA adjusted p-value, and colors the normalized enrichment score of
up- (red) and down-(blue) regulated genes associated with a given term (bubble size depicts the
corresponding number of genes). Results shown for all individual isogenic monosomy-X
comparisons (fXO, mXO1/2), averaged (ave.XO/ave.mXO) Wald rankings and representative
control comparisons (fmE1/2: female-to-male euploid, and m1m2O: male1/2 X-monosomic
samples to each other). **(B)** GSEA results for the KEGG collection, otherwise as in A). **(C)** GSEA for
the DESCARTES single-cell atlas, otherwise as in A).

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Figure S4: WGCNA module preservation, eigengene correlation and term enrichments.
(A) Differential in Z-score preservation statistic after subtracting Z of a sample-size adjusted
network (15 samples) across all karyotypes from corresponding Z of a network composed entirely
of male-derived monosomy-X samples. Numeric labels and bar widths indicate module labels and
size (gene total), respectively. **(B)** Dotplot of Hallmark and KEGG terms that were significantly-
enriched (respectively, p.adjust≤0.05, hypergeometric distribution) in a given module (x-axis,
numeric module labels with gene totals in parentheses). Dot color and size denote log-scaled
adjusted p-value and ratio of term-associated genes over all genes in a given module. **(C)** Pearson
correlation matrix of all module eigengenes to each other and PAX7+SOX10+ percentage (denoted
by arrow). **(D)** Module eigengene correlations (kME, Pearson R) of sex-linked genes shared by X/Y
or escaping XCI, alongside their reported escapee status (from [52,55,56]), and X-chromosomal region
(PAR, non-PAR). Column annotations plot significantly enriched (log-scaled p-value, Fisher exact
test) classes of sex-linked and/or XCI-escaping genes by module. **(E)** Enrichment map of
significantly enriched HPO terms linked to TS (p.adjust≤0.1, hypergeometric distribution) as
individually labeled nodes with edges drawn for shared genes (≥2%). Nodes are colored as pie
charts by modules enriched for a given term, and the fraction of genes from each module under
that term.

470
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473 **Supplementary Tables:**
474
475 Table S1: Gene-set enrichment analysis (GSEA) results for all monosomy X-relevant comparisons
476 ("condition") across GO and selected MSigDB collections (Hallmark, canonical pathways, Human
477 Phenotype Ontology & cell-type signatures). Lists normalized enrichment score (NES) and
478 p.adjust for each comparison included for GSEA (ave.XO, ave.mXO, fXO, mXO1, mXO2, fmE1,
479 fmE2 & m1m2O).
480
481 Table S2: Over-representation analysis (ORA) results for all WGCNA modules across selected GO
482 and MSigDB collections (Hallmark, canonical pathways, Human Phenotype Ontology & cell-type
483 signatures). Lists: ID, Description, GeneRatio, BgRatio and p.adjust for each module.

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MATERIALS AND METHODS

Human iPSC culture

Euploid and X-monosomic hiPSC were derived from female and male donors, and characterized for pluripotency markers, as well as DNA methylation and X-chromosome inactivation in female euploid hiPSCs via continued *XIST* expression in RNA-seq as previously described [12,57]. Human iPSCs were cultured in feeder-free conditions on GelTrex-coated plates (ThermoFisher Scientific) in mTeSR-1 media (Stem Cell Technologies) in 5% CO_2 at 37°C. iPSCs were passaged with 0.5M EDTA at least weekly in small aggregates.

Neural Crest Cell Differentiation

Confluent wells of iPSCs cultured on Geltrex-coated plates in mTeSR-1 medium were singularized with Accutase (ThermoFisher Scientific) and plated on Geltrex coated plates at 4.5-6 $x10^4$ cells/cm^2 in DMEM/F-12, 1x N2 (recipe modified from Waisman Center Intellectual & Developmental Disabilities Research Center at University of Wisconsin-Madison: Insulin, 1.6 mg/mL; apo-Transferrin, 3.2 mg/mL; Putrescine, 0.5 mg/mL; Progesterone, 0.1 µg/mL; Sodium selenite, 0.16 µg/mL (all from MilliporeSigma)), 1% Glutamax, 1% Non-essential Amino Acids, 1 µM CHIR99021 (StemCell Technologies), 2 µM SB431542 (StemCell Technologies), 1 µM DMH1 (Tocris Bioscience), 20 ng/mL BMP4 (Peprotech), and 10 µM Y-27632 (Tocris Bioscience), for the first two days only. Media was changed daily until day 4 or 5 when the cells were harvested.

Immunocytochemistry

NCCs were fixed with 4% paraformaldehyde for 10 minutes at room temperature, washed with 0.1% Triton-X, permeabilized with 1% Triton-X, blocked with 5% normal goat serum/2% BSA/0.1% Triton-X for 1 hour and incubated with mouse monoclonal PAX7 antibody (abcam, 1:200) and rabbit monoclonal SOX10 antibody (Cell Signaling Technologies, 1:200) overnight at 4°C. The cells were then washed, incubated with AlexaFluor-555 Goat-anti-Mouse and AlexFluor-647 Goat-anti-Rabbit Secondary Antibodies (Thermo Fisher Scientific, 1:500) for 1 hour at room temperature. The cells were then washed, stained with Hoecsht-33342 diluted 1:10,000, and mounted with ProLong Gold Antifade Mountant (ThermoFisher Scientific. The number of PAX7- and SOX10-positive cells was imaged with an EVOS FL Auto system (ThermoFisher Scientific).

Cell Profiler analysis

The proportion of PAX7+ and SOX10+ cells was quantified by automated image analysis of Hoechst-, PAX7-, and SOX10-stained slides using CellProfiler version 4.2.4 [58]. Nuclei were first identified in the Hoechst channel, then the PAX7 and SOX10 channels were used to quantify the number of PAX7+/SOX10+ double-positive, either single-positive type, and double-negative cells per image. Illumination-corrected images were used for all channels, and nuclei outside the 10th to 90th percentile size range for each Hoechst image were excluded. For each biological replicate, the values from 3 fields of view were averaged to determine the percentage of single-positive, and PAX7$^+$SOX10$^+$ double-positive cells, with an average of ~1000 nuclei counted for each datapoint.

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RNA-seq analysis

RNA was extracted from NCCs using the PureLink RNA Mini Kit (ThermoFisher Scientific). Libraries were prepared at the UConn Center for Genome Innovation using the Illumina Strand mRNA Kit and 100bp paired-ends reads were sequenced to an average depth of 40 million reads/replicate on the NovaSeq (Illumina).

Read pairs were trimmed using fastp [59], aligned to the human reference genome (hg38) using hisat2 [60] for allele-specific analysis of phased variants using phaser [61], and quantified against GENCODE version (v36) using salmon [62]. For analysis of XCI and escapee, A and B allele counts from phASER were tabulated and calls made by binomial test (lesser allele fraction, LAF > 0.1, p ≤ 0.05) for all X-linked genes.

For differential expression using DESeq2 [63], salmon count tables were filtered for genes with sufficient expression. Surrogate variables were estimated using the sva package [64], and added to the DESeq2 design testing for condition and correcting for differentiation round. Gene-set enrichment analysis (GSEA) using clusterProfiler [65] was performed on all genes ranked by DESeq2's Wald statistic, as well as the average of the quantile-normalized Wald scores from the three euploid-45,X conditions (fXO, mXO1, mXO2) to ensure equal weighting.

Weighted gene co-expression network analysis (WGCNA) was performed on vst counts, using the WGCNA package [66], as a signed hybrid network using the biweight midcorrelation raised to a soft thresholding power of 12 (scale-free topology fit ≥ 0.85). Modules were correlated to PAX7⁺SOX10⁺ percentages and to averaged NCC lineage marker sets, which were median vst normalized to ensure equal weights across all sets. Module preservation analysis was performed against published RNA-seq datasets of the developing face [26,27], and heart [25], hiPSC-derived NCC models of Pierre-Robin [29], Waardenburg [28], Familial Dysautonomia [30], Bohring-Opitz [31], Floating-Harbor [32], and Branchio-Oculofacial [33] syndromes, as well as monosomy-X hiPSC-derived trophoblast-like cells [12] and pancreatic tumor stroma [54]. Overrepresentation analysis of gene terms across WGCNA modules was performed with clusterProfiler [65].

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Figure 1

Figure 2

Figure 3

Figure 4