Title: Modulation of RNA processing genes during sleep-dependent memory

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Keywords

Sleep, memory consolidation, translation, ribosomal RNA, mushroom body

Abstract

Memory consolidation in *Drosophila* can be sleep-dependent or sleep-independent, depending on the availability of food. The anterior posterior (ap) alpha′/beta′ (α′/β′) neurons of the mushroom body (MB) are required for sleep-dependent memory consolidation in flies fed after training. These neurons are also involved in the increase of sleep after training, suggesting a coupling of sleep and memory. To better understand the mechanisms underlying sleep and memory consolidation initiation, we analyzed the transcriptome of ap α′/β′ neurons one hour after appetitive memory conditioning. A small number of genes, enriched in RNA processing functions, were differentially expressed in flies fed after training relative to trained and starved flies or untrained flies. Knockdown of each of these differentially expressed genes in the ap α′/β′ neurons revealed notable sleep phenotypes for Polr1F and Regnase-1, both of which decrease in expression after conditioning. Knockdown of Polr1F, a regulator of ribosome RNA transcription, in adult flies promotes sleep and increases pre-ribosome RNA expression as well as overall translation, supporting a function for Polr1F downregulation in sleep-dependent memory. Conversely, while constitutive knockdown of Regnase-1, an mRNA decay protein localized to the ribosome, reduces sleep, adult specific knockdown suggests that effects of Regnase-1 on sleep are developmental in nature. We further tested the role of each gene in memory consolidation. Knockdown of Polr1F does not affect memory, which may be expected from its downregulation during

memory consolidation. Regnase-1 knockdown in ap α′/β′ neurons impairs all memory,

including short-term, implicating Regnase-1 in memory, but leaving open the question of

why it is downregulated during sleep-dependent memory. Overall, our findings

demonstrate that the expression of RNA processing genes is modulated during sleep-

dependent memory and, in the case of Polr1F, this modulation likely contributes to

increased sleep.

Background

Sleep is an optimized state for memory consolidation compared to wake (Rasch

and Born, 2013). Indeed, sleep is thought to reorganize and strengthen the neural

connections required for novel memory formation and long-term memory consolidation,

and sleep disruption leads to impaired memory consolidation (Roselli et al., 2021).

Beneficial effects of sleep on memory have also been attributed to post-learning

neuronal reactivation (Wagner et al., 2007; Dag et al., 2019).

We recently demonstrated that *Drosophila* switch between sleep-dependent and

sleep-independent memory consolidation based on food availability (Chouhan et al.,

2021). Flies that are fed after appetitive conditioning show sleep-dependent memory

consolidation, which is mediated by the anterior posterior (ap) α′/β′ neurons of the

mushroom body. On the other hand, flies starved after training display sleep-

independent memory mediated by medial (m) neurons of the α′/β′ lobes.

Neurotransmission from ap α′/β′ neurons in the first 4 hours after training in the fed flies

is not only required for long term memory but also increased sleep post-training. Indeed,

activation of ap α′/β′ neurons promotes baseline sleep, supporting the idea that post

training sleep is triggered by the same neurons that are required for sleep-dependent

memory consolidation. However, how sleep and memory consolidation are coordinated

in ap α′/β′ neurons in this time window is not understood.

Since both post-training sleep and memory consolidation occur rapidly within a

few hours after training, we investigated transient gene expression changes in the ap

α′/β′ neurons after training to elucidate the interplay of sleep and memory consolidation.

Here, we profiled the transcriptome of ap α′/β′ neurons 1 hour after flies were fed and

trained, as well as under control conditions in which flies were starved and trained or fed

and untrained. We knocked down the differentially expressed genes in trained and fed

flies and identified two RNA processing genes that affect sleep. Knockdown of one of

these, Polr1F, a regulator of ribosomal RNA synthesis, promotes sleep and translation,

both of which are required for consolidation of memory in trained and fed flies.

Knockdown of Polr1F does not affect memory, which is consistent with downregulation

of this gene during memory consolidation. Knockdown of Regnase-1, an mRNA decay

protein, reduces sleep and disrupts post-training sleep, and also impairs both short- and

long-term memory. While the relevance of Regnase-1 downregulation during sleep-

dependent memory is unclear, overall we propose that RNA processing is modulated

during sleep-dependent memory, likely to regulate sleep and memory.

Results

Transient transcriptome profiling of ap α′/β′ neurons after training

We previously demonstrated that flies fed after appetitive memory training exhibit

increased sleep and form sleep-dependent memory, which is mediated by ap α′/β′

neurons of the mushroom body (MB) α′/β' lobes (Chouhan et al., 2021). To address the

mechanisms that mediate increases in sleep and consolidation of memory in ap α′/β′

neurons, we assayed gene expression changes in ap α′/β′ neurons of flies fed after

training in an appetitive conditioning paradigm. We crossed ap α′/β′ neuron driver

R35B12-Gal4 (BDSC #49822) with *UAS-nGFP* (BDSC #4775) to label all ap α′/β′

neurons with nuclear GFP and collected 5-7 day old F1 progeny, which were subjected

to one of three different conditions: Trained-Fed, Trained-Starved, Untrained-Fed as

illustrated (**Figure 1A**). The trained-starved flies served as controls for sleep-dependent

changes, while flies that were fed but untrained served as controls for training-

dependent changes. After one-hour, 50 mixed sex (25 for each sex) fly brains from each

condition were dissected, and 500 GFP+ cells were sorted for bulk-RNA sequencing

using the protocol described by Hongjie Li et al (Li et al., 2017).

Our analysis of the bulk RNA-seq data revealed that most genes are not altered

in ap α′/β′ neurons after one hour, so there are no significant global changes observed

among the three conditions. The correlation matrix calculated using the top 75% genes

showed high similarity between samples, with most values exceeding 0.9 (**Figure 1 –**

source data). Nonetheless, we did observe a small subset of genes that were rapidly

responsive and differentially expressed between the groups (**Figure 1B**). Pathway

Principal Component Analysis (PathwayPCA) of these differentially expressed genes

(DEGs), a statistical method to identify key patterns in gene expression data by

reducing data dimensionality, showed that genes contributing to PC1, which accounted

for 35% of the variance, largely encode proteins involved in transcription and

biosynthesis, including RNA biosynthesis processes (**Figure 1 – supplemental figure**

1A) (Odom et al., 2020). This suggests that the training and feeding paradigm

influenced transcription and RNA biosynthetic processes. Meanwhile, gene ontology

analysis of these DEGs, performed using DAVID Bioinformatics

(https://david.ncifcrf.gov/home.jsp), revealed significant enrichment in processes such

as protein unfolding/refolding and the stress response (**Figure 1 – supplemental figure**

1B) (Sherman et al., 2022).

Of all the DEGs across the three groups, we focused on 59 DEGs that were

significantly different in TrainedStarved vs. TrainedFed and UntrainedFed vs.

TrainedFed; of these, 56 were downregulated and only three were upregulated in the

Trained-Fed condition compared to the control conditions (**Figure 1B, D, Figure 1 –**

source data). Gene ontology (GO) analysis of these 59 genes using FlyEnrichr

(https://maayanlab.cloud/FlyEnrichr/) indicated that they encode cellular components of

the 90S preribosome, Cajal body, DNA-directed RNA polymerase complex, nuclear

euchromatin, and condensed chromosome, consistent with the PCA enrichment (**Figure**

1C) (Chen et al., 2013). Our transcriptome results suggest that ribosome biosynthesis

and transcription are the initial changes in ap α′/β′ neurons of trained and fed flies.

Two genes expressed differentially in ap α′/β′ neurons of trained and fed flies

predominately affect sleep.

To investigate if any of the 59 DEGs identified in the ap α′/β′ neurons of trained

and fed flies affect baseline sleep, we knocked down each of the genes using UAS-

RNAi lines and screened for their potential effects on sleep. We used the ap α′/β′

neuron constitutive driver R35B12-Gal4 line to drive the RNAi constructs and compared

the sleep patterns of knockdown flies with those of R35B12-Gal4 and UAS-RNAi control

flies (**Figure 2A, B, Figure 2 – source data**). Using a cutoff of a 200 min change in

sleep relative to each control group, we identified two genes, Polr1F and Regnase-1,

that showed significant effects on baseline sleep. Knockdown of Polr1F, a component of

RNA polymerase I complex, led to an increase in sleep. Although Polr1F has not been

extensively studied in *Drosophila* (Marygold et al., 2020), its human ortholog hRPA43 is

part of the multi-subunit protein complex Pol I that regulates the transcription of

ribosomal RNA (Beckouët et al., 2011). Knockdown of Regnase-1, an RNA-binding

protein that binds to mRNA undergoing active translation and promotes mRNA decay

via its ribonuclease activity, in ap α′/β′ neurons resulted in a reduction of both nighttime

and daytime sleep (**Figure 2C-F**). Further analysis of sleep architecture revealed that

knockdown of Polr1F and Regnase-1 did not significantly impact the total activity of

flies, while knockdown of either Polr1F and Regnase-1 resulted in increased and

decreased average length of sleep episodes, respectively (**Figure 2 – supplemental**

figure1A-F).

Given that these two genes reduce expression rapidly in response to training

under fed conditions, we next used the inducible pan-neuronal GeneSwitch driver *nSyb-*

GeneSwitch (GS) to determine if restricting knockdown of these two genes to the adult

stage recapitulates changes in sleep and/or memory. RU486 (mifepristone) was added

146 to normal fly food and transgene expression is induced when flies are loaded into

147 *Drosophila* Activity Monitor (DAM) glass tubes (Robles-Murguia et al., 2019). We

148 crossed the *nSyb-GS* flies with Polr1F or Regnase-1 RNAi flies and transferred the

149 adult F1 progeny to RU486 tubes to induce expression of the RNAi 3-5 hours before

150 dusk, and continuously monitored sleep for 5 days. Knockdown of Polr1F resulted in

151 immediate inactivity and sleep (**Figure 3A-C**). However, with knockdown of Regnase-1,

152 immediate changes in sleep were not noted (**Figure 3 – supplemental figure 2A-C**).

153 This could be due to potential leakiness of the nSyb-GS, such that it reduced sleep

154 even without RU486 treatment, coupled with the fact that sleep before dusk is already

155 quite low, potentially hindering detection of further sleep reduction. We also analyzed

156 sleep for the next 3 consecutive days from day 3 to day 5 and found that constitutive

157 pan-neuronal Polr1F knockdown increased sleep while Regnase-1 knockdown seemed

158 to have no effect, again perhaps due to the leakiness of *nSyb-GS.* However, it is also

159 possible that Regnase-1 affects sleep during developmental stages or acts differently in

160 different brain areas (**Figure 3D, E; Figure 3 – supplemental figure 2D, E**). In general,

161 these results indicate that adult specific knockdown of Polr1F promotes sleep while

162 brain-wide adult-specific knockdown of Regnase-1 has limited effect on sleep.

163   To further assess the adult-specific sleep function of both genes in ap α′/β′

164 neurons, we coupled the R35B12-Gal4 driver to tubulin-Gal80^{ts}, which allows

165 temperature-dependent expression of Gal4, and crossed it with the UAS-Polr1F^{RNAi} and

166 UAS-Regnase-1^{RNAi} lines. We confirmed that Polr1F RNAi promotes both transient and

167 chronic sleep when flies were transferred from permissive to restrictive temperatures

168 during the adult stages (**Figure 3 – supplemental figure 1**). Conversely, Regnase-1

RNAi showed no effect on sleep in the adult stage, consistent with our nSyb-GS

experiments, suggesting that the Regnase-1 RNAi sleep effect is likely developmental

(**Figure 3 – supplemental figure 3**). We also analyzed the daily peak activity of the

flies to determine if either Polr1F RNAi or Regnase-1 RNAi affected activity. We found

that neither gene affected peak activity, suggesting that both genes influence sleep but

not activity (**Figure 3 -supplemental figure4**).

Knockdown of Regnase-1 affects memory and post-training sleep

We next evaluated the impact of Polr1F and Regnase-1 knockdown on memory

consolidation using our olfactory conditioning paradigm (**Figure 4A**). Starved flies were

subjected to training to associate an odor with a reward, and then post-training, they

were either kept on food vials for sleep-dependent memory consolidation or kept

starved to promote sleep-independent memory consolidation. Memory tests were

conducted 24 hours after training for starved flies, while fed flies were restarved for 42

hours before testing, as starvation is necessary for memory retrieval (Krashes and

Waddell, 2008). Efficacy of the RNAi line used above was verified by qPCR

experiments (**Figure 4 -supplemental figure 1A**). We observed that constitutive

knockdown of Polr1F in ap α′/β′ neurons did not affect sleep-dependent or sleep-

independent memory as memory performance was comparable to that of genetic

controls (**Figure 4B-C**). These results were consistent with the fact that Polr1F levels

typically decrease during memory consolidation. Monitoring of sleep from ZT8 to ZT12

after training at zeitgeber time (ZT) 6 showed that the post-training increase in sleep

was also not affected by Polr1F knockdown in ap α′/β′ neurons (**Figure 4E**), suggesting

that Polr1F does not have to be acutely downregulated for post-training sleep.

On the other hand, constitutive Regnase-1 knockdown in ap α′/β′ neurons

resulted in a significant decrease in long-term memory performance in both fed and

starved flies and eliminated the increase in post-training sleep (**Figure 4B-E**). These

findings suggested that Regnase-1 expression in ap α′/β′ neurons is necessary for both

sleep-dependent and sleep-independent memory consolidation. It is also possible that

disruption of Regnase-1 in ap α′/β′ neurons affects learning, short-term memory

formation, or appetitive memory retrieval (Aso et al., 2014; Shyu et al., 2019; Rutherford

et al., 2023). Indeed, short-term memory tests confirmed that Regnase-1 knockdown

flies performed significantly worse than control flies (**Figure 4F**). Given that the sleep

effect of Regnase-1 is developmental, it is possible that this is also the case for the

memory phenotype.

Regnase-1 overexpression had no effect on sleep (**Figure 4 -supplemental**

figure 1B) (Zhu et al., 2019), but knockdown by R26E01-Gal4 in the m α′/β′ neurons

also reduced sleep (data not shown), suggesting that Regnase-1 has a broader role that

is not restricted to sleep-dependent memory.

Knockdown of Polr1F promotes translation

Since Polr1F knockdown promotes sleep and a 22 amino acid peptide within

Polr1F inhibits ribosomal DNA transcription (Rothblum et al., 2014), we predicted that

Polr1F acted as a suppressor for ribosomal DNA transcription, and thus knockdown of

Polr1F would enhance the transcription and translation of ribosomal RNA and thereby

overall protein synthesis. As Regnase-1 is thought to promote decay of mRNAs

undergoing translation, its knockdown, or its downregulation following training, might

also be expected to promote translation, or at least the translation of its target mRNAs.

The role of protein synthesis in long-term memory consolidation is well-established

across organisms (Alberini and Kandel, 2015), and nascent rRNA synthesis was also

shown to be induced by training and required for memory consolidation in mouse (Allen

et al., 2018). We thus used real-time qPCR of total RNA extracted from vehicle control

and RU-treated fly brains to measure how precursor ribosomal RNA (Pre-rRNA) is

affected by knockdown of Polr1F. We found that the pre-rRNA level increased

significantly in the RU486 induction (RU+) group compared with vehicle control (RU-)

group for *nSyb-GS>polr1F RNAi* flies (**Figure 5A**), indicating Polr1F knockdown results

in higher levels of pre-rRNA, which is consistent with studies of Polr1F homologs in

yeast cells (Thuriaux et al., 1995; Rothblum et al., 2014).

The increasing ribosomal RNA should help translation and so we also used

incorporation of puromycin into newly synthesized peptides as an estimate of translation

after inducing pan-neuronal knockdown of Polr1F. We observed significantly higher

levels of anti-puromycin GFP fluorescence when Porl1F was knockdown pan-neuronally

(RU+) compared to the control (RU-) group (**Figure 5B**), indicating that Polr1F

suppresses translation, probably by suppressing ribosomal RNA transcription

(Rothblum et al., 2014). Thus, it may need to be downregulated after training to support

translation and memory. Given that knockdown of Porl1F enhances rRNA synthesis and

sleep, there is a question as to whether global alterations in rRNA synthesis impact

sleep. Feeding of an rRNA inhibitor (CX-5461) failed to produce rapid sleep phenotypes

in fed or starved flies (**Figure 5 – supplemental figure 1**), but this negative result

cannot be considered conclusive.

Using puromycin to address effects of Regnase-1 knockdown on translation

revealed an insignificant slight increase in translation (data not shown); given that

Regnase-1 may specifically affect pre-existing translationally active mRNA or may act

only on specific target mRNAs, its effects on de novo translation may not be obvious.

Discussion

The anterior-posterior (ap) α′/β′ neurons of the mushroom body make critical and privileged contributions to sleep-dependent memory consolidation and post-training sleep (Krashes et al., 2007; Chouhan et al., 2021), but the mechanisms for sleep-dependent memory in these neurons are not known. To address this gap, we conducted transcriptomic analysis of ap α′/β′ neurons from trained and fed flies to identify genes that change rapidly under conditions that drive sleep-dependent memory. Our transcriptome profiling of ap α′/β′ neurons suggests that genes regulating rRNA transcription and translation are altered in the context of sleep-dependent memory consolidation.

RNA processing genes mediate sleep-dependent memory consolidation and sleep.

Many of the 59 DEGs we identified are implicated in RNA processing. Of these, Polr1F and CG11920 affect ribosomal RNA processing, CG5654 is predicted to be part of the 90S pre-ribosome and involved in endonucleoytic cleavages (Herold et al., 2009), WDR79 encodes a small Cajal body specific RNA binding protein, Nup133 encodes a component of nuclear pore complex, Regnase-1 degrades mRNA, and CG18011, CG17568, Koko, CG11398 and Meics are all involved in RNA polymerase II-specific transcription (Di Giorgio et al., 2017; Rogg et al., 2022). The enrichment of RNA processing and translation genes is consistent with the notion that memory consolidation requires transcription and translation (Seibt and Frank, 2012; Alberini and

Kandel, 2015). More importantly, our findings here indicate that alterations of some of

RNA processing genes impact sleep as well.

Polr1F regulates ribosome RNA synthesis and sleep

Learning-induced changes in gene expression in memory-related neurons are

often critical for long-term memory formation (Cavallaro et al., 2002; Hoedjes et al.,

2015; Tadi et al., 2015). Our findings with Polr1F implicate changes in Pol I transcription

during sleep-dependent memory. Polr1F(Rpa43) is predicted to be part of the RNA

polymerase I complex and is involved in DNA-dependent RNA polymerase

activity/rDNA transcription in yeast, especially for the initiation of ribosomal RNA

(Beckouët et al., 2011; Marygold et al., 2020). As suggested by our data, Polr1F has an

inhibitory role in the RNA polymerase I complex, which is also consistent with the

aforementioned study that found a 22 amino acid peptide within Polr1F can inhibit rDNA

transcription (Rothblum et al., 2014). Based upon our finding that inducible knockdown

of Polr1F rapidly promotes translation, it is likely that the rapid and dramatic decline of

Polr1F after training in fed flies serves to increase *de novo* ribosome RNA synthesis.

This supports the report that ribosomal RNA is induced by learning and required for

memory consolidation in mice (Allen et al., 2018). While we do not know how

knockdown of Polr1F promotes sleep, an attractive possibility is that higher translation is

a result of elevated sleep. Sleep is thought to promote translation and its role in memory

consolidation in fed flies could be related to its effect on translation (Seibt and Frank,

2012; Chouhan et al., 2021). Alternatively, increased translation or rRNA synthesis

could promote sleep. However, translation is typically thought of as a consequence of

sleep rather than a cause (Zimmerman et al., 2006). Also, rRNA transcription rates

remain constant throughout the day in the liver (Sinturel et al., 2017), but it is still

possible that these rates vary in particular regions of the brain and affect sleep. The role

of rRNA synthesis in *Drosophila* learning and memory has barely been explored, but our

work, together with that of Allen et al. (2018), indicates that the well-known requirement

for *de novo* protein synthesis during long-term memory consolidation (Jarome and

Helmstetter, 2014) includes increased synthesis of ribosomal RNA and protein.

Novel neuronal role of Regnase-1 in sleep and memory

The role of RNA binding protein Regnase-1 in the innate immune response has

been extensively studied (Mino et al., 2015; Mao et al., 2017; Wei et al., 2019).

However, our study sheds light on a novel neuronal function of Regase-1 on sleep and

memory. Regnase-1 is an anti-inflammatory enzyme that inhibits mRNA translation

during acute inflammatory responses. It localizes to the ribosomes on the surface of the

endoplasmic reticulum (ER) and binds to translationally active mRNAs with specialized

stem-loop structures at the 3′UTR (Uehata et al., 2013; Mino et al., 2015). When

phosphorylated, Regnase-1 is released from the ER (Tanaka et al., 2019). Because

functional Regnase-1 binds and degrades its bound mRNA, Regnase-1 inactivation

leads to an increase of its target mRNA (Uehata et al., 2013). The target mRNAs of

Regnase-1 in immune cells encode proinflammatory cytokines, which can then be

expressed when Regnase-1 is inactivated. However, Regnase-1 has also been reported

to modulate cytokines and neuronal injury in the microglia in rats (Liu et al., 2016).

Regulation of Regnase-1 is usually rapid and transient, and its rapid response to

microenvironmental changes, different pathological states and stress is critical for

cellular adaption (Mao et al., 2017).

Our study reveals that the expression of Regnase-1 changes after training, and

constitutive downregulation of Regnase-1 in ap α′/β′ neurons reduces sleep and causes

deficits in learning and memory consolidation. Whether acute downregulation of

Regnase-1 is necessary for sleep-dependent memory remains unclear, but it could play

a role by promoting the translation of specific transcripts. For instance, post-training

downregulation of Regnase-1 could release mRNAs that are usually targeted for decay

but are critical for memory consolidation. Constitutive loss of Regnase-1 impairs sleep-

independent memory and short-term memory, although the mechanisms are not known.

We note that ap α′/β′ neurons have a role in several aspects of memory consolidation as

well as short-term appetitive memory retrieval. Interestingly, constitutive knockdown of

Regnase-1 also reduces sleep developmentally and prevents sleep increase after

training in adult. While these could be independent effects, it is also possible that loss of

Regnase-1 affects the development of the relevant MB neurons, thereby impacting all

behaviors regulated by these neurons.

Our study of local molecular changes in ap α′/β′ neurons after training suggests

that ribosomal RNA transcription and mRNA translation might work in concert during the

consolidation of sleep-dependent memory. How sleep is involved in this boosted protein

synthesis process is unclear, but we suggest that RNA processing changes induce

sleep, which promotes translation necessary for consolidation of long-term memory.

However, these processes need to be teased apart experimentally. Overall, our findings

demonstrate a role of RNA processing in sleep and memory, providing a foundation for

future exploration of the mechanisms involved.

Figure legends

Figure1. Differential gene expression after training in mushroom ap α′/β′ neurons.

(A) 5-7 day old mixed sex *wCS* flies were exposed to one of the following three

conditions: Trained-Fed, Trained-Starved and Untrained-Fed. Only Trained-Fed flies are

expected to increase sleep after treatment and thus form sleep-dependent memory

(Chouhan et al., 2021). Brain dissection, single cell suspension and cell sorting were

used to extract ap α′/β′ neurons in each of these three different conditions, and bulk-

sequencing of the sorted cells was conducted. (B) We sequenced four samples for each

condition and subjected them to differential gene analysis of pairwise comparison of the

three conditions. We found that 59 genes are significantly different in TrainedStarved

vs. TrainedFed and UntrainedFed vs. TrainedFed. (C) Gene ontology (GO) analysis of

these 59 genes using FlyEnrichr (https://maayanlab.cloud/FlyEnrichr/) revealed that

they encode cellular components of the 90S preribosome, Cajal body, DNA-directed

RNA polymerase complex, nuclear euchromatin, and condensed chromosome.(D)

Heatmap of the 59 DEGs including two genes labeled in red, CG13773 (Polr1F) and

Regnase-1, which affect sleep and are the focus of this study due to their impacts on

sleep. DEGs were identified by DESeq2 with the cutoff of FDR< 0.1 and fold

change >1.5. Heatmaps were plotted by using TPM values of genes for each sample;

data were log-transformed and scaled row-wise for visualization.

Figure 2. The sleep screen of differentially expressed genes identifies Polr1F and Regnase-1 as sleep-regulating genes. (A-B) Flies carrying the ap α′/β′ neuron driver R35B12-Gal4 were crossed with flies carrying UAS-RNAi constructs targeting DEGs identified from RNA-seq analysis. 5-7 days old female F1 progeny were loaded onto Trikinetics DAM monitors to measure their sleep in a 12-hour light: 12-hour dark (12:12 LD) cycle. Mean total sleep (A) and nighttime sleep (B) were calculated by Pysolo and

the difference between experimental flies and Gal4 and RNAi controls was calculated

separately for each independent experiment; average values comparing each

experimental to its Gal4 control (X-axis) and RNAi control (Y-axis) are shown in the

plots. Of all the lines screened, knockdown of Polr1F and Regnase-1 had strongest

effects on sleep, producing an increase and decrease in sleep respectively. (C-F) show

the representative sleep traces of $R35B12\text{-}Gal4{>}polr1F^{RNAi}$ flies and $R35B12\text{-}$

$Gal4{>}regnase1^{RNAi}$. N = 23-32 per genotype from two independent replicates combined

are shown in E and F respectively, and bar graphs show mean + SEM. p values for

each comparison were calculated using the Kruskal-Wallis test with Dunn's multiple

comparisons test. **$p<0.01$, ***$p<0.001$, ****$p<0.0001$.

Figure 3. Acute and chronic effects of pan-neuronal knockdown of Polr1F on sleep in adult flies. (A) Schematic representation of transient and chronic sleep measurements in *nSyb-GS>polr1f^RNAi* flies. (B) Representative sleep traces and transient activity plot of flies expressing Polr1F RNAi under the control of an inducible pan-neuronal driver (*nSyb-GS>polr1f RNAi*) with and without RU treatment. (C) Quantification of sleep during the first 3 hours (ZT 9-12) after F1 progeny flies were loaded into RU- or RU+ DAM tubes at ZT8-T9. Sleep was measured starting at ZT9. N

= 39-40 individual flies per replicate with data from three independent replicates

combined. The Mann-Whitney test was used to compare RU+ group and RU- groups.

(D) Representative average sleep traces of *nSyb-GS>polr1f RNAi* in the RU- and RU+

DAM tubes for three consecutive days. Chronic sleep effects of pan-neuronal

knockdown Polr1F were measured based on sleep data from day 3 to day 5. (E)

Quantification of average total sleep of *nSyb-GS>polr1f*^{RNAi} and controls in the DAM

tubes from (D). Unpaired t-test was used to compare between RU- and RU+ groups.

****$p < 0.0001$.

Figure 4. Regnase-1 expression is essential for sleep-dependent and sleep-independent memory. (A) Schematic representation of the memory test protocol. (B, C) Sleep-dependent and sleep-independent memory tests were conducted under fed and starved conditions, respectively. Knockdown of Regnase-1 significantly reduces long-term memory performance in both fed and starved flies. However, knockdown of Polr1F in ap α′/β′ neurons does not affect long-term memory performance. N≥6 biological replicates, each replicate containing 100-150 flies. (D, E) Fed UAS-regnase-1-RNAi/+ and R35B12/+ flies exhibit a significant increase in sleep after training, while *R35B12-Gal4>regnase-1 RNAi* flies fail to show a comparable increase in post-training sleep. The total sleep in the ZT8-ZT12 interval is shown in (E). Polr1F knockdown in ap α′/β′ neurons does not affect the post-training increase in sleep. N≥32. (F) Compared to R35B12-Gal4/+ and +/UAS-Regnase-1 RNAi flies, *R35B12-Gal4>reganse-1 RNAi* flies show a significant decrease in the performance index in short-term memory. N≥6 biological replicates, each containing 100-150 flies. ns=not significant, $p>0.05$, *$p<0.05$, **$p<0.01$, ***$p<0.001$, ****$p<0.0001$.

Figure 5. Knockdown of Polr1F results in high translation. (A) The *nSyb-GS>polr1f*

RNAi flies exhibit a significant increase in pre-rRNA levels. (B) The ex-vivo puromycin

immunostaining assay was used to measure translation in dissected whole brains. The

results show that knockdown of Polr1F using the pan-neuronal nSyb-GeneSwitch (GS)

system increases translation relative to control flies that were not treated with RU. The

normalized mean grayscales from the RU- and RU+ groups are compared using an

unpaired t-test. The analysis includes data from 8-11 flies per group, with results from

two independent replicates combined. Scale bar: 100 μm. (C) The schematic model

illustrates the major transcriptome features of ap α′/β′ neurons under trained and fed

conditions, revealed in this manuscript. Two RNA processing genes Polr1F and

416   Regnase-1 are prominently downregulated during memory consolidation in trained and

417   fed flies, respectively. Polr1F is involved in regulating ribosomal RNA synthesis, and its

418   decrease in levels in trained and fed flies promotes sleep and translation. In contrast,

419   Regnase-1 is localized in the ribosome and involved in mRNA decay, and its

420   downregulation causes deficits in sleep and memory.

Figure 1 – supplemental figure 1. (A) PathwayPCA plot of all the differentially

expressed genes (DEGs) across the three different conditions. The plot shows that

genes responsible for PC1, which accounted for 35% of variance, largely encode

proteins involved in transcription and biosynthesis, including RNA biosynthesis

processes. (B) Top5 significant Gene Ontology (GO) biological process terms of all

differentially expressed genes (DEGs) from three pairwise comparisons are shown. The

x-axis represents the -log10 of the P-value, and the numbers on the bars indicate the

count of genes identified for each GO term.

Figure 2 – supplemental figure 1. Effect of Polr1F and Regnase-1 knockdown on activity and sleep architecture. (A-B) Total activity of flies is not altered by knockdown of Polr1F and Regnase-1. One-way ANOVA was used to calculate the p-values for each comparison. (C-D) Knockdown of Polr1F significantly increases the nighttime average sleep episode (SE) length in R35B12-Gal4>polr1F RNAi flies, while knockdown of

Regnase-1 reduces it in R35B12-Gal4>regnase1 RNAi flies. The p-values for each

comparison were calculated using the Kruskal–Wallis test with Dunn′s multiple

comparisons test. (E-F) Knockdown of Polr1F significantly reduces the nighttime

average sleep episode (SE) number in R35B12-Gal4>polr1FRNAi flies, but it is not

significant compared to control groups in R35B12-Gal4>regnase1RNAi flies. The p-

values for each comparison were calculated using the Kruskal–Wallis test with Dunn′s

multiple comparisons test. ns = not significant, $p > 0.05$, $*p < 0.05$, $**p < 0.01$, $***p <$

0.001, $****p < 0.0001$.

Figure 3 – supplemental figure 1. Adult specific knockdown of Polr1F promotes sleep. (A) Representative sleep traces of adult flies expressing Polr1F RNAi under the control of R35B12-Gal4/Tubulin-gal80ts. At permissive temperature, Gal80ts inhibits Gal4 activation of UAS; however, upon switching to restrictive temperature, Gal80ts is

deactivated, leading to downstream activation of the UAS-regulated gene. (B) Sleep

patterns were quantified over four consecutive days, with flies under permissive

temperature on the first and last days and restrictive temperature on the second and

third days. (C) Sleep quantification during the initial 3-hour period (ZT 0-3) after light

onset for each day is shown. N = 46-48 individual flies per replicate with data from three

independent replicates combined. The Kruskal-Wallis test with Dunn's multiple

comparisons test was used to compare three groups. ns = not significant, $p > 0.05$, *$p <$

0.05, **$p < 0.01$, ***$p < 0.001$, ****$p < 0.0001$.

nSyb-GS>regnase-1 RNAi

Figure 3 – supplemental figure 2. Acute and chronic effects of pan-neuronal knockdown of Regnase-1 on sleep in adult flies. (A) Schematic representation of the protocol for transient and chronic sleep measurements in _nSyb-GS>regnase-1 RNAi_ flies. (B) Representative sleep traces plot of flies expressing Rengase-1 RNAi under the control of an inducible pan-neuronal driver (_nSyb-GS>regnase-1 RNAi_) with and without RU treatment (C) Quantification of sleep during the first 3 hours (ZT 9-12) after F1

progeny flies were loaded into RU- or RU+ DAM tubes at ZT8-T9. Sleep was measured

starting at ZT9. N = 22-24 individual flies per replicate with data from two independent

replicates combined. The Mann-Whitney test was used to compare RU+ group and RU-

groups. (D) Representative average sleep traces of *nSyb-GS>regnase-1 RNAi* in the

RU- and RU+ DAM tubes for three consecutive days. Chronic sleep effects of

knockdown of Regnase-1 were measured based on sleep data from day 3 to day 5. (E)

Quantification of average total sleep of *nSyb-GS>regnase-1 RNAi* and controls in the

DAM tubes from (D). Unpaired t-test was used to compare between RU- and RU+

group. ns = not significant.

Figure 3 – supplemental figure 3. Adult specific knockdown of Regnase-1 has no

effect on sleep. (A) Representative sleep traces of adult flies expressing Regnase-1

RNAi under the control of R35B12-Gal4/Tubulin-gal80ts. (B) Sleep was quantified over

four consecutive days, with flies under permissive temperature on the first and last days

and restrictive temperature on the second and third days. N = 46 individual flies per

replicate with data from three independent replicates combined. The Kruskal-Wallis test

with Dunn's multiple comparisons test was used to compare three groups. ns = not

significant, $p > 0.05$, *$p < 0.05$, **$p < 0.01$.

Figure 3 – supplemental figure 4. Adult specific knockdown of Polr1F or Regnase-1 has no effect on peak activity. (A) Maximal activity per minute for R35B12-Gal4; TubGal80ts>polr1F RNAi was quantified over four consecutive days, with flies under permissive temperature on the first and last days and restrictive temperature on the second and third days. (B) Maximal activity per minute for R35B12-Gal4; TubGal80ts>Regnase-1 RNAi was quantified. N = 40-48 individual flies per replicate with data from three independent replicates combined. The Kruskal-Wallis test with Dunn's multiple comparisons test was used to compare three groups. ns = not significant, p > 0.05, *****p < 0.0001.

Figure 4 – supplemental figure 1. Regnase-1 overexpression in the ap α′/β′

neurons does not affect sleep. (A) The efficacy of the RNAi used in the experiments

was verified by real-time quantitative PCR. The different RNAi lines were crossed with

nSyb-GS, and adult progeny were placed in either RU- or RU+ tubes overnight before

being dissected for qPCR. Welch's test was used for statistical analysis across all three

RNAi, with *$p<0.05$ indicating significance. (B) Representative sleep traces and

quantification of adult flies expressing Regnase-1 under the control of R35B12-Gal4.

Sleep data were averaged over three consecutive days, with N = 31-32 individual flies

per replicate, and combined data from two independent replicates were analyzed.

Figure 5 – supplemental figure 1. rRNA inhibitor (CX-5461) feeding does not affect sleep. Feeding of the ribosome RNA inhibitor CX-5461 at a concentration of 0.2mM does not affect sleep in fed or starved flies. Statistical analysis shows that there is no significant difference between CX-5461-fed and control flies. The sample size is N=32 per group from two independent replicates. ns, not significant).

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Conflict of interest statement

The authors declare no competing interests.

Acknowledgments

This work was supported by Howard Hughes Medical Institute (HHMI). We thank all members of the Sehgal lab for reagents, comments and support, especially rotation undergraduate Arielle Ketchum for help with molecular cloning. We thank Hongjie Li of Liqun Luo lab with technical assistance and protocol sharing from Stanford University. We thank Ryuya Fukunaga lab for kindly sharing with us the Regnase-1 overexpression line.

Author contributions

Conceptualization, Y.J.L., N.S.C. and A.S.; Methodology, Y.J.L., N.S.C., S.Z., S.B.N. and R.M. Software, Y.J.L; Validation, Y.J.L., N.S.C., S.Z., S.B.N., R.M., J.S., A.K. and Z.F.Y.; Formal analysis, Y.J.L., N.S.C. and R.M.; Investigation, Y.J.L. and N.S.C.; Resources, Y.J.L., N.S.C., S.Z., R.M., J.S., A.K. and Z.F.Y.; Data Curation, Y.J.L., N.S.C. and R.M.; Writing – Original Draft, Y.J.L. and N.S.C. Writing – Review & Editing, Y.J.L., N.S.C. and A.S. Visualization, Y.J.L., N.S.C. and R.M.; Supervision, Y.J.L., N.S.C. and A.S.; Project administration, A.S.; Funding acquisition, A.S.

Materials and Methods

Contact for reagent and resource sharing.

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Key resource table

See Appendix 1.

Fly stock and maintenance

All the stock information of the flies used in this project are listed in the key resource

table and flies were reared on the standard cornmeal vials or bottles at 25 °C with 12:12

hours light dark cycle in the preset incubator. The genetic background control used in

the paper is White-CantonS (wCS) unless specified.

Behavior measurement in *Drosophila*

We have used both single beam and updated multibeam *Drosophila* activity monitoring

(DAM) system from Trikinetics (https://trikinetics.com/) in our experiments. Briefly, 5-7

days old female flies were loaded into 60/90 mm glass locomotor tubes for behavior

tests, using DAM2/5H *Drosophila* activity monitors from Trikinetics. 1/15 infrared beams

bisect each tube, providing movement (position in multibeam) information of the fly

across the tube. Locomotor tubes are loaded with 2% agar with 5% sucrose as fly food

on one side, and yarn is put on the other side to restrain the behavior of flies inside the

glass tubes. For experiments with the inducible Gene Switch system, 0.5mM RU486

(mifepristone) was added to the fly food to activate the expression of the transgenes

under the control of UAS. Three constitutive days of data were used for sleep analysis

by Pysolo (https://www.pysolo.net/).

Appetitive conditioning

~100 4-7 day old mixed-sexes flies were starved for 12 hours in *Drosophila* bottles with

water -soaked filtered paper and then trained at 25°C and 70% relative humidity to

associate sucrose with odor A for 2 minutes, and then a blank with odor B for 2 minutes

with 30-second clean air in between. The odors used were 4-Methylcyclohexanol (MCH)

and 3-Octanol (OCT) in paraffin oil and the concentration for both MCH and OCT in oil

was 1:10. After conditioning, flies were moved back to normal fly food or starved for 1

hour and dissected for subsequent ap cell sorting and RNA-sequencing. For the short-

term memory test, flies were tested immediately after conditioning in the same wheel for

2 mins.

To assess post-training sleep, flies were introduced in glass tubes containing 2% agar

and 5% sucrose through an aspirator without anesthesia and loaded into the DAM

system after training. For long-term memory assessment, trained flies were either kept

on food vials for 24 h or were further starved. Starved flies were tested for memory 24 h

after training, while fed flies were re-starved for 42 h before memory tests. Memory was

tested by giving flies a choice between odor A and odor B for 2 min in a T-maze.

Performance index (PI) was calculated as the number of flies selecting CS^+ odor minus

the number of flies selecting CS^- odor divided by the total number of flies. Each PI is the

average of PIs from reciprocal experiments with two odors swapped to minimize non-

associative effects.

Cell isolation and sorting

Dissected brains are dissociated by following the protocol from (Li et al., 2017). Briefly,

brains are dissected in Schneider′s medium, and then are placed in a shaker and

dissociated in Papain solution, filtered through a 100 μm cell strainer, and re-suspended

in Schneider′s medium. 500 GFP+ cells from the same conditions were sorted into 96

well microplate with lysis buffer from Smart-seq2 HT kit and frozen. We dissected 50

brains for each group to ensure enough GFP+ cells. Cell sorting were conducted by

either BD FACSMelody or BD FACSAria (BD Biosciences), and dead cells were

excluded with 4′, 6-diamidino-2-phenylindole (DAPI). Doublets were excluded using and

forward scatter (FSC-H by FSC-W) and side scatter (SSC-H by SSC-W). Size of cells

was selected by FSC-A by FSC-A and validated for fly neurons using cells from flies

expressing nsyb-nGFP. Length of time from tissue harvest to cell collection

approximated 4 hours.

RNA-seq and data analysis

GFP+ cells were sorted and immediately frozen, then sent to Admera Health

(https://www.admerahealth.com/) for RNA extraction, RNA library construction, and

sequencing using the Smart-seq2 HT kit. To analyze the RNA-sequence data, we used

Hisat2 (http://daehwankimlab.github.io/hisat2/) to map the sequencing data FASTQ files

to the fly genome (BDSG6). The alignment results were then counted by LiBiNorm

(https://warwick.ac.uk/fac/sci/lifesci/research/libinorm/) using the GENCODE reference

genome. Raw count and TPM were used separately in further analysis. Raw count data

were analyzed by IDEP v0.95 to identify genes expressed differentially between three

conditions (Ge et al., 2018). We filtered out low-expressed genes using a cutoff of

CPM>0.5, at least detected in 3 independent samples, and treated missing values as

gene median. Regularized log transformation was used to transform raw count data for

clustering and PCA. Differentially expressed genes were identified using DESeq2 with

an FDR cutoff of 0.1 and minimum fold change of 2.

Puromycin assay and imaging

We developed a puromycin assay to measure the rate and localization of nascent

peptide synthesis in the fly brain, and similar method has been described in the fly

larvae (Deliu et al., 2017). Fly brains were dissected in Schneiders′ medium and

incubated with puromycin for 40 min *in vitro* to allow puromycin to incorporate into the

newly synthesized peptide. Subsequently, using an anti-puromycin antibody, standard

immunostaining protocols were applied to detect the number and position of newly

synthesized puromycin-tagged peptides (Aviner, 2020), which provided an estimate of

translation rate. The brains were then imaged with a 20X oil immersion confocal

microscope with a resolution of 1024*1024. The GFP intensity of the images was then

measured by Fiji software (ImageJ) and the average intensity of the samples was

analyzed for comparison.

RNA polymerase I inhibitor II, CX-5461 protocol

CX-5461 was mixed with 2% agar and 5% sucrose to make fly motor tubes at a final

concentration of 0.2 mM. Flies are loaded into these CX-5461 tubes or vehicle control

tubes 4 hours before light turns off and transient sleep changes are measured.

Quantitative Real-time PCR (qPCR)

10 flies′ brains from each group were dissected for RNA extraction using Qiagen's

RNeasy Plus Mini Kit. Total RNA was then reverse transcribed to cDNA by using

random hexamers and Superscript II from Invitrogen. qPCR was performed using

SYBR-green master mix and oligonucleotide information is provided in the Key

Resources table. Relative gene expression was analyzed using the ΔΔCt method.

Statistical Analysis

Fly sleep behavioral data extracted from Pysolo was analyzed by GraphPad Prism

(https://www.graphpad.com/). Data from different replicates were pooled directly and

first tested for normality using D'Agostino-Pearson and Shapiro-Wilk tests. For normally

distributed data, unpaired parametric Student's t-test is used for two-sample

experiments and one-way ANOVA with Turkey post hoc test for three-sample or more

experiments. Non-normally distributed data were analyzed using nonparametric tests,

the Mann-Whitney test for two-sample experiments and the Kruskal-Wallis test with

Dunn's multiple comparisons test for three or more samples experiments. For all

graphs, unless otherwise stated, data are presented as mean and standard error of the

mean (SEM) and statistical significance was accepted for p value < 0.05.

Data availability

Sequencing data is available at NCBI BioProject with accession number

PRJNA1132369. All other data for this study are included in the manuscript and

supporting files.

Supplemental information

Supplemental information includes 8 figures and 1 table.