Title: Disruption of Aldehyde Dehydrogenase 2 protects against bacterial infection

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37   One sentence summary: Aldehydes produced by host cells contribute to the control of bacterial
38   infections.
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Abstract: The *ALDH2*2* (rs671) allele is one of the most common genetic mutations in humans,
yet the positive evolutionary selective pressure to maintain this mutation is unknown, despite its
association with adverse health outcomes. ALDH2 is responsible for the detoxification of
metabolically produced aldehydes, including lipid-peroxidation end products derived from
inflammation. Here, we demonstrate that host-derived aldehydes 4-hydroxynonenal (4HNE),
malondialdehyde (MDA), and formaldehyde (FA), all of which are metabolized by ALDH2, are
directly toxic to the bacterial pathogens *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* and *Francisella tularensis*
at physiological levels. We find that *Aldh2* expression in macrophages is decreased upon
immune stimulation, and that bone marrow-derived macrophages from *Aldh2$^{-/-}$* mice contain
elevated aldehydes relative to wild-type mice. Macrophages deficient for *Aldh2* exhibited
enhanced control of *Francisella* infection. *Finally,* mice lacking *Aldh2* demonstrated increased
resistance to pulmonary infection by *M. tuberculosis*, including in a hypersusceptible model of
tuberculosis, and were also resistant to *Francisella* infection. We hypothesize that the absence
of ALDH2 contributes to the host's ability to control infection by pathogens such as *M.*
tuberculosis and *F. tularensis*, and that host-derived aldehydes act as antimicrobial factors
during intracellular bacterial infections.

Main Text: Loss-of-function mutations in aldehyde dehydrogenase 2 (*ALDH2*) are highly
prevalent, affecting up to 500 million individuals of East Asian descent (*1*). The most common
mutant allele, *ALDH2*2* (rs671), encodes an s E487K mutation that results in a dominant-
negative form of the enzyme (*2*). ALDH2 is notably required for converting acetaldehyde, a toxic
intermediate of ethanol metabolism, into acetate, but its primary function is to detoxify
metabolically produced aldehydes. Hetero- or homozygous carriers of *ALDH2*2* experience
adverse physiological effects upon consumption of alcohol due to an accumulation of
acetaldehyde (*3*). Even in the absence of alcohol consumption, loss of ALDH2 function is
associated with an increased risk of cancer, heart disease, and neurological disorders (*4, 5*).
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The selective pressure that has maintained *ALDH2*2* in the human population, despite its
detrimental effects on human health, remains unknown. The *ALDH2*2* allele was reported to be
associated with a decreased risk of active tuberculosis (TB) in a cohort of Korean men. This
correlation was hypothesized to be associated with decreased alcohol abuse, leading to a
healthier lifestyle (*6*). While alcoholism is a significant risk factor for TB (*7, 8*), we hypothesize
that loss of ALDH2 function enhances resistance to bacterial infection independent from lifestyle
choices. ALDH2 is responsible for the detoxification of many inflammation-induced aldehydes,
including 4-hydroxynonenol (4HNE) and malondialdehyde (MDA) (*9–12*). These aldehydes are
produced as end products of lipid peroxidation that occurs when macrophages and other innate
immune cells generate an oxidative burst to kill pathogens (*11, 13–15*). Additionally, ALDH2,
along with alcohol dehydrogenase 5 (ADH5), is vital for the metabolism of endogenous
formaldehyde (FA), which is produced via a wide range of cellular processes (*16, 17*). ALDH2 is
situated at a unique metabolic crossroads where it is responsible for the detoxification of
numerous reactive aldehydes with wide-ranging physiological effects, further underscoring its
importance for maintaining homeostasis during inflammation.
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Here we demonstrate that loss of ALDH2 function improves control of bacterial infections. We
found ALDH2-deficient macrophages produced higher levels of toxic aldehydes and were better
able to control *Francisella tularensis* growth. Mice lacking *Aldh2* had enhanced resistance to
both *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* and *F. tularensis.* Given that these bacteria were killed by
aldehydes normally detoxified by ALDH2, our data suggest that individuals with the *ALDH2*2*
allele are protected against bacterial infection through the production of microbicidal aldehydes.
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90   **ALDH2 rs671 is associated with lower pulmonary tuberculosis risk**
91   To examine the relationship between the *ALDH2*2* mutation (rs671) and TB, we performed a
92   candidate gene analysis. Genotype data of rs671 was available from a collection of 2,030

SNP	Dataset (case/control)	Test Allele	Other Allele	OR (95% CI)	P value
	PTB Vietnam (1598/1267)			0.835 (0.725, 0.962)	0.013
rs671	PTB Singapore (517/24,015)	A	G	0.890 (0.775, 1.022)	0.098
	PTB Meta-analysis			**0.863 (0.782, 0.952)**	**0.003**
rs671	TBM Vietnam (407/1138)	A	G	0.972 (0.7841, 1.204)	0.794

Figure 1. **ALDH2 expression is linked with human disease and immune activation.** A) A candidate gene analysis of the ALDH2 rs671 mutation in pulmonary TB (PTB) patients in Vietnam and Singapore and TB meningitis (TBM) patients in Vietnam. B) *Aldh2* expression in single cell populations of *M. tuberculosis* infected C57BL/6J (B6) mice. C) Normalized bulk RNA expression of B6 bone marrow-derived macrophages (BMDMs) stimulated with IFNγ and/or *M. tuberculosis* H37Rv (n = 3 independent experiments). *, *p* < 0.05, ***, *p* < 0.001, ****, *p* < 0.0001, Unpaired t-test

microbiologically confirmed TB patients and 1,263 population control subjects with primary
angle closure glaucoma, from Vietnam. Analysis was stratified by clinical phenotype, comparing
all TB cases, pulmonary TB (PTB), and TB meningitis (TBM) with ethnically matched population
controls (Fig. 1A). We observed a null significant association just above the significance
threshold between rs671 and all TB cases [odds ratio/OR (95%CI) = 0.875 (0.764, 1.000), P =
0.051]. After stratification by clinical phenotype, a significant association was observed between
PTB and controls [OR (95%CI) = 0.835 (0.725, 0.962), P = 0.013], but not for TBM (Fig. 1A).
PTB is the most common clinical manifestation of TB disease and leads to the principal mode of
transmission amongst humans. Subsequently, we replicated the association in the Singapore
Chinese Health Study (SCHS), which consists of 517 active PTB cases and 24,015 population
controls of Singaporean Chinese origin, and then performed a meta-analysis of the PTB
datasets from Vietnam and Singapore. The overall association between rs671 and PTB was
statistically significant [OR (95% CI) = 0.863 (0.782, 0.952), P=0.003, $P_{heterogeneity=0.531}$]. These
data, together with the previous published association study (6) support the hypothesis that the
ALDH2*2 rs671 mutation is associated with protection against PTB.
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Aldh2 expression in macrophages is downregulated upon inflammatory stimulation
To further examine the link between ALDH2 and *M. tuberculosis*, we examined *Aldh2*
expression in the lungs of *M. tuberculosis* infected C57BL/6J ("B6") mice using single cell RNA
sequencing (scRNAseq). *Aldh2* expression was observed in macrophage/monocytes
populations, dendritic cells, neutrophils, basophils, B cells, pulmonary epithelial and endothelial
cells, and fibroblasts (Fig. 1B). Other immune cell types, such as T cells, did not express *Aldh2*
(Fig. 1B). Due to the increased levels of *Aldh2* expression in the myeloid compartment, we next
sought to determine the effect of IFNγ, which is crucial for macrophage activation and control of
M. tuberculosis infection (18), on *Aldh2* expression. We infected bone marrow-derived
macrophages (BMDM) from B6 mice in the presence or absence of IFNγ for 24 hours. As
predicted from *in vivo* scRNAseq, *Aldh2* was expressed in unstimulated BMDMs (Fig. 1B-C).
Unexpectedly, we found that activation with IFNγ decreased expression of *Aldh2* in both
uninfected and *M. tuberculosis*-infected macrophages (Fig. 1C). These results suggest there is
a IFNγ induced program to decrease ALDH2 activity and expression during infection.
123
Aldehydes detoxified by ALDH2 kill *M. tuberculosis*
Based on the role of ALDH2 in detoxifying inflammation-associated aldehydes, we tested the
susceptibility of *M. tuberculosis* to 4HNE, MDA, and FA in axenic culture at physiologically
relevant levels. Both 4HNE and MDA can reach micromolar to millimolar intracellular
concentrations in inflamed tissues (10, 19, 20), and FA has been found to reach levels of up to
100 μM in the blood (21–23). *M. tuberculosis* was sensitive to 4HNE with ten-fold killing
observed at 50 μM after six days of exposure and greater than three orders of magnitude of
toxicity at 200 μM (Fig. 2A) relative to controls. Similarly, we found that MDA and FA both
significantly killed *M. tuberculosis* at 200 μM and 100 μM, respectively (Fig. 2B, 2C). Previous
work has reported that bacterial-derived aldehydes sensitize *M. tuberculosis* to nitric oxide (NO)
(24). NO production by macrophages is required for control of *M. tuberculosis* infection, and is
induced by IFNγ (25, 26). We observed that 4HNE and NO together had a synergistic effect
against *M. tuberculosis*, with apparent sterilization of the culture occurring at 200 μM 4HNE in

Figure 2. Aldehydes normally detoxified by ALDH2 kill *M. tuberculosis*. *M. tuberculosis* H37Rv killing after six days treatment with physiological levels of A) 4-hydroxynonenal (4HNE), B) malondialdehyde (MDA), or C) formaldehyde (FA), treated in the absence (black bars) or presence of nitric oxide (NO, 3 mM, light grey bars). Comparisons are against the 0 μM-treated condition (n = 2 independent experiments, representative experiment shown). *, $p < 0.05$, **, $p < 0.01$, ***, $p < 0.001$, ****, $p < 0.0001$, Unpaired t-test. Significance is measured comparing the aldehyde treatments against untreated in the no NO condition, the aldehyde treatments against untreated in the plus NO condition, and comparing the same aldehyde concentration +/- NO.

137 the presence of NO (Fig. 2A). Similarly, we observed that FA and NO synergized to induce
138 killing of *M. tuberculosis*, with sterilization of the culture occurring at 400 μM (Fig. 2C). The
139 presence of NO had less of an impact on treatment with MDA, although some synergy was
140 observed at 200 μM and 400 μM (Fig. 2B).
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Macrophages from *Aldh2*-deficient mice produce higher levels of aldehyde but do not
exhibit enhanced control of *M. tuberculosis* infection.
We next generated *Aldh2* mutant (*Aldh2*$^{-/-}$) mice using CRISPR-Cas9. Despite being an in-
frame deletion, the mutation (12 base pair deletion in exon 12 that encompasses the region
where rs671 is found in humans) appeared to be loss of function, as no ALDH2 protein was
detectable by immunoblotting (Fig. S1). We tested if immune activation increases aldehyde
production by wild-type (WT) macrophages and whether aldehyde production is further
enhanced by *Aldh2*-deficiency. Using Mito-RFAP-2, a mitochondrial-targeted ratiometric dye
that detects mitochondrial-localized FA with high sensitivity, we found WT macrophages
stimulated with IFNγ and PAM3CSK4, a TLR2 agonist, had increased aldehyde levels24 hours
after stimulation (Fig. 3A). This stimulation-induced enhancement of aldehyde production in
macrophages inversely correlates with *Aldh2* expression, as IFNγ stimulation decreased *Aldh2*
levels (Fig. 1C) and increased mitochondrial aldehyde levels (Fig. 3A). *Aldh2*$^{-/-}$ macrophages
produced significantly more aldehyde than the WT cells in the absence of immune stimulation
(Fig. 3A). However, a significant difference was not observed between stimulated and
unstimulated *Aldh2*$^{-/-}$ macrophages, suggesting that aldehyde levels in the *Aldh2*$^{-/-}$
macrophages could not be further increased by external stimulation.
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Figure 3. *Aldh2⁻/⁻* **mice demonstrate improved control of *M. tuberculosis in vivo*.** A) B6 and *Aldh2⁻/⁻* BMDM mitochondrial-associated formaldehyde levels after 24 hours stimulation with IFNγ and TLR2-agonist PAM3CSK4 *in vitro* (n = 3 independent experiments). B) CFU enumeration of B6 and *Aldh2⁻/⁻* BMDMs infected with *M. tuberculosis* LuxErd +/- IFNγ at an MOI: 1 (n = 2 independent experiments). Lung CFU enumeration of aerosol-infected *Aldh2⁻/⁻*, *Aldh2⁺/⁻*, and *Aldh2⁺/⁺* littermate mice with ≈ 25 CFU *M. tuberculosis* H37Rv C) 14 dpi (n = 2 independent experiments) or D) 28 dpi (n = 3 independent experiments). E) Lung CFU enumeration of aerosol-infected *Sp140⁻/⁻* and *Sp140⁻/⁻ Aldh2⁻/⁻* mice with ≈ 25 CFU *M. tuberculosis* Erdman 28 dpi (n = 3 independent experiments). *, $p < 0.05$, **, $p < 0.01$, ns = not significant. A and B, Unpaired t-test; C-E, Mann-Whitney test.

Subsequently, we tested whether ALDH2 deficiency enhances control of *M. tuberculosis* by
infected macrophages. WT and *Aldh2⁻/⁻* macrophages were infected with *M. tuberculosis* at a
multiplicity of infection of one bacillus per macrophage (MOI = 1) and bacterial replication was
monitored over four days. *M. tuberculosis* replication was identical in WT and *Aldh2⁻/⁻*
macrophages (Fig. 3B). We observed the expected restriction of *M. tuberculosis* growth after
IFNγ activation, but we did not observe significant differences between the WT and *Aldh2⁻/⁻*
BMDMs (Fig. 3B). Given that *in vitro* conditions do not recapitulate the extent of inflammation,
nor the full pathogenesis observed *in vivo*, we performed aerosol infections of *Aldh2⁻/⁻* mice to
determine the role of ALDH2 in a biologically relevant model of *M. tuberculosis.*
169
170 **Mice lacking *Aldh2* are protected against *M. tuberculosis* infection**
171 We infected *Aldh2⁻/⁻* mice *via* the aerosol route with a low-to-medium dose (~25 colony forming
172 units, CFU) of *M. tuberculosis*, and harvested their lungs for CFU enumeration at various time

Figure 4. *Aldh2$^{-/-}$* **mice are protected against *F. tularensis* LVS infection.** *F. tularensis* LVS killing after 2 hours of treatment with physiological levels of A) 4HNE, B) MDA, or C) FA (n = 2 independent experiments). D) CFU enumeration of B6 and *Aldh2$^{-/-}$* BMDMs infected with *F. tularensis* LVS +/- IFNγ at an MOI: 0.1 (n = 3 independent experiments, representative experiment shown). E) Lung CFU enumeration of B6 and *Aldh2$^{-/-}$* mice infected with ≈ 10^6 CFU *F. tularensis* LVS 5 dpi (n = 2 independent experiments). *, $p < 0.05$, **, $p < 0.01$, ****, $p < 0.0001$, ns = not significant. A-D, Unpaired t-test; E, Mann-Whitney test.

points. At 14 days post infection (dpi), we observed no difference in the ability of *Aldh2$^{-/-}$* mice to
control pulmonary infection when compared with littermate controls (Fig. 3C). However, at 28
dpi, we observed a significant difference between *Aldh2$^{-/-}$* mice and the WT mice, wherein
Aldh2$^{-/-}$ mice had significantly lower bacterial burdens (Fig. 3D). The adaptive immune response
is typically observed after 14 dpi in mice, where increased IFNγ signaling results from T cell
migration to the site of infection; this result suggests that sustained T cell-mediated IFNγ
signaling could contribute to the improved control observed by the *Aldh2$^{-/-}$* mice at 28 dpi by
increasing local aldehyde production.
181
B6 mice are relatively resistant to infection with *M. tuberculosis* (*27, 28*). We hypothesized that
the protective effect of ALDH2 could be more dramatic in the context of a susceptible strain in
which a loss of bacterial control correlates with destructive inflammatory responses in the lung,
as well as in a setting of increased aldehyde load (Fig. S2). To test this hypothesis, we
generated *Aldh2$^{-/-}$* mice on the background of *Sp140* deficiency. *Sp140$^{-/-}$* mice have type I IFN-
driven susceptibility to disease and severe bacterial burden during *M. tuberculosis* infection
(*29*). We infected *Aldh2$^{-/-}$ Sp140$^{-/-}$* and parental *Sp140$^{-/-}$* mice with *M. tuberculosis*. Both

genotypes had increased overall lung CFU relative to $Aldh2^{-/-}$ and WT mice due to the known
susceptibility of the $Sp140^{-/-}$ background (Fig. 3E). Similar to the wild-type B6 model, we
observed significantly fewer CFU in the $Aldh2^{-/-}Sp140^{-/-}$ mice when compared to parental
$Sp140^{-/-}$ animals at 28 dpi (Fig. 3E). Thus, even in the presence of a host-detrimental
inflammatory type I IFN response, disruption of $Aldh2$ had a protective effect against $M.$
$tuberculosis$ infection.
195
$Aldh2^{-/-}$ mice are protected against *Francisella* infection
It is established that other bacterial species are susceptible to metabolic aldehydes, and that
bacteria have various aldehyde-detoxification pathways to protect against aldehyde exposure (*30,*
31). Previous work demonstrated variable susceptibility of numerous pathogens to 4HNE *in vitro*
(*30*). While *Listeria monocytogenes* is relatively resistant to 4HNE, *Francisella novicida* is highly
susceptible. Similarly, we observed that the live vaccine strain (LVS) of *Francisella tularensis* was
more susceptible to aldehydes, including 4HNE, MDA, and FA, than *M. tuberculosis* (Fig. 4A-C).
F. tularensis LVS was sensitive to 4HNE with almost three orders of magnitude of bacterial killing
at 50 µM, and significant killing was also observed at 25 µM FA and 50 µM MDA (Fig. 4A-C). Due
to the sensitivity of *F. tularensis* LVS to aldehydes known to be detoxified by ALDH2, we tested
LVS growth in WT and $Aldh2^{-/-}$ macrophages. We observed restriction of LVS growth in IFNγ-
activated BMDMs, and significantly fewer CFU in the IFNγ-activated $Aldh2^{-/-}$ macrophages when
compared to the WT macrophages (Fig. 4D), supporting a cell-intrinsic role for aldehydes on
pathogen control. Consistent with this observation and our data with *M. tuberculosis*, we found
significantly fewer CFU in the lungs of $Aldh2^{-/-}$ mice when compared to WT mice infected with *F.*
tularensis LVS (Fig. 4E). Overall, these results support our hypothesis that increased levels of
inflammation-induced aldehydes are protective during infection by intracellular pathogens.
213
Discussion
Lipid peroxidation end products metabolized by ALDH2, such as 4HNE and MDA, have been
implicated in serious health disorders, and are typically produced as a result of reactive
oxidative bursts interacting with intracellular lipid membranes and other inflammatory processes.
Despite the role of ALDH2 as a detoxification enzyme for inflammation-induced byproducts, we
found that during inflammation, ALDH2 expression is counterintuitively decreased, leading to
increased accumulation of aldehyde. We have demonstrated that 4HNE, MDA, and FA, are
directly toxic to *M. tuberculosis* and *F. tularensis* LVS *in vitro* and work synergistically with other
antimicrobial factors (e.g., NO) against *M. tuberculosis*. However, accumulation of 4HNE and
MDA above homeostatic levels can also induce mitochondrial cell death pathways, such as
apoptosis, which has been shown to be advantageous for clearance of *M. tuberculosis* infection
(*32–34*); therefore, it is possible that the accumulation of these aldehydes may indirectly lead to
M. tuberculosis-killing through intrinsic apoptosis. Future studies will focus on the elucidation of
the mechanism of aldehyde-mediated killing, as well as the identification and characterization of
the pathway responsible for the generation of these aldehydes during inflammation.
229
In vivo, the lack of host ALDH2 provides host-mediated protection against infection, indicating
that these aldehydes are likely part of the host armory of antimicrobial factors working in tandem
to fight infection by intracellular pathogens. The *ALDH2*2* allele is predicted to have evolved

about 3,000 years ago (*35*) and is predominantly found in individuals of east Asian descent;
interestingly, the evolution of lineage 2 (also known as the W/Beijing lineage) of *M. tuberculosis*
arose between 2,000 – 7,000 years ago (*35, 36*), and this lineage is more frequent in East Asia.
Together with previous data (*6*), we have found a positive association between individuals
harboring the rs671 A allele (*ALDH2*2* allele) and PTB, suggesting that there may have been
evolutionary pressure selecting for this allele in environments where TB transmission is
prevalent. Lineage 2 strains are known to have increased transmissibility, be hypervirulent, and
possess increased drug resistance, in addition to having a higher mutation rate (*37–40*); this
propensity may also facilitate its survival against antimicrobial stresses, such as toxic
aldehydes. Further research is needed to examine the evolutionary interplay between *ALDH2*2*
and lineage 2 strains and to probe for select mutations that confer resistance to aldehyde stress
or other cell death-associated antimicrobial stresses. However, this resistance to infection is not
limited to *M. tuberculosis*, as we observed an even greater protective effect in *Aldh2*$^{-/-}$ mice
against infection by *F. tularensis* LVS. Therefore, we propose that the *ALDH2*2* allele may have
evolved to be broadly protective against a wide range of bacterial infections, including those
brought on by highly evolved human pathogens (e.g., *M. tuberculosis*)(*41, 42*) and less evolved
pathogens (e.g., *F. tularensis*). The protective association between *ALDH2*2* and PTB may in
fact be the result of a positive selective pressure to maintain the *ALDH2*2* allele in response to
bacterial infection generally. While ALDH2 plays an important role in the detoxification of
metabolic aldehydes, we demonstrate that its absence provides a host-protective role against
infection. This could be an example of balancing selection, of which sickle cell anemia and
malaria in Africa is a classic example (*43–45*). We speculate that the advantage afforded by
*ALDH2*2* to enhance response to bacterial infection could contribute to the maintenance of this
mutation in the East Asian population despite its detrimental effects on human health (*4, 5*).

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Therapeutics and X-biotix Therapeutics. **Data and materials availability:** all data is available in
the manuscript with the exception of the scRNAseq data which has been deposited in GEO.
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550   **List of Supplementary Materials**

551   Materials and Methods

552   Figs. S1 and S2

Materials and Methods

Ethics Statement:

All procedures involving the use of mice were approved by the University of California (UC) Berkeley, Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (Protocol #2015-09-7979-1). All protocols conform to federal regulations, the National Research Council Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals, and the Public Health Service Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals. All experiments handling *M. tuberculosis* were conducted in Biosafety Level 3 facilities in accordance with Environmental Health and Safety guidelines, and all experiments handling *F. tularensis* LVS were conducted in Biosafety Level 2 facilities. All study protocols for PTB and TBM human studies were approved by the Institutional Review Boards of Pham Ngoc Thach Hospital for TB and Lung Disease and The Hospital for Tropical Diseases Ho Chi Minh City (HCMC), Vietnam, HCMC Health Services, Vietnam and the Oxford Tropical Research Ethics Committee, UK. Approval for the genetics study was also granted from the Health Sciences Human Ethics Sub-Committee at the University of Melbourne, Australia (ID: 1340458). Written informed consent was obtained from all participants. All studies in SCHS were approved by the Institutional Review Board at National University of Singapore, and written informed consent was obtained from all participants.

Mice:

C57BL/6J (#000664) mice were obtained from The Jackson Laboratory (Bar Harbor, ME) and bred in-house. $Sp140^{-/-}$ mice were generated previously (*29*) and bred in-house. $Aldh2^{-/-}$ mice were generated in the process of recapitulating the human *ALDH2*2* mutation in $Sp140^{-/-}$ mice. $Aldh2*2\ Sp140^{-/-}$ mice were generated by pronuclear injection of Cas9 mRNA, sgRNA, and a 154 nucleotide ultramer oligo (IDT Inc., Coralville, IA) containing 77 and 39 nucleotide homology arms and encoding the *Aldh2*2* mutation as well as synonymous mutations that disrupt sgRNA binding, as previously described (*46*). Founder mice were genotyped for *Aldh2*2* mutations by PCR using the forward primer 5' GGAGAGGTGTGCTGTGTT 3' and the reverse primer 5' GGGATCTGTATTCCGTGGC 3' and then sequencing using the same forward primer. Founders carrying the *Aldh2*2* mutation or deletions in *Aldh2* (i.e., $Aldh2^{-/-}$) were bred one generation to $Sp140^{-/-}$ mice to separate modified *Aldh2* haplotypes. Resulting pups with matched *Aldh2* haplotypes were interbred to generate homozygous lines that were maintained in-house.

Bacterial Culture:

Frozen stocks of low passage *M. tuberculosis* H37Rv, *M. tuberculosis* Erdman, and *M. tuberculosis* Lux-Erdman (a reporter strain that constitutively expresses the bacterial luciferase encoding luxCDABE operon, gift from Cox Laboratory at UC Berkeley) were grown to logarithmic phase over 4-5 days at 37°C in Middlebrook 7H9 media with 10% albumin-dextrose-saline, 0.5% glycerol, and 0.05% Tween-80 ("7H9c"). For preparation of aerosol stocks of *M. tuberculosis* H37Rv and Erdman, logarithmic phase cultures were centrifuged at 3,500 rpm for 5 min., resuspended in 1X phosphate-buffered saline (PBS), and sonicated thrice for 30 sec. each at 90% power. Cultures were then centrifuged at 700 rpm for 5 min to pellet large clumps, the supernatant was collected, and then centrifuged again at 700 rpm for 5 min. The supernatant was then collected and the OD600 was measured to determine bacterial concentration, and then aliquoted and frozen at -80°C until use. Frozen stocks of *Francisella tularensis* live vaccine

strain (LVS) (generously gifted by Dr. Karen Elkins, FDA) was cultured in Muller Hinton Broth
containing 1.25 mM $CaCl_2$, 2.2 mM $MgCl_2$, 0.1% glucose, 0.025% ferric pyrophosphate, and 2%
Isovitalex (#211875, Becton Dickinson, Franklin Lakes, NJ) to early log phase (OD600 ≈ 0.25)
overnight for use in experiments. For preparation of injection stocks of *F. tularensis* LVS, frozen
stocks were thawed at room temperature and then diluted in sterile 1X PBS to the desired
concentration.
604
In Vitro Macrophage Isolation and Culture:
Bone-marrow was obtained from $Aldh2^{-/-}$, $Aldh2^{-/-}Sp140^{-/-}$, $Sp140^{-/-}$, and C57BL/6J (B6) mice
and cultured in DMEM (#11960-044, Thermo Fischer Scientific, Waltham, MA) containing 10%
FBS, 2 mM L-glutamine, and 10% supernatant from 3T3-M-CSF cells (BMDM media) for 6 days
with media supplementation on day 3 to generate bone marrow-derived macrophages
(BMDMs). BMDMs were then harvested and frozen in liquid nitrogen in 40% FBS, 10% DMSO,
and 50% BMDM media until use.
612
In Vitro Macrophage Stimulation:
BMDMs were plated in 96-well plates at $5x10^4$ cells/well and allowed to adhere for 48 hours
prior to analysis. 24 hours prior to analysis, BMDMs were stimulated with IFNγ (≈ 30 ng/mL) and
PAM3CSK4 (50 ng/mL). BMDM aldehyde levels were quantified using Mito-RFAP-2, a
mitochondrial-target version of ratiometric formaldehyde dye RFAP-2 (*47*, *48*). Briefly, Mito-
RFAP-2 was dissolved in DMSO to a concentration of 10 mM and diluted to 10 µM in Hank's
Balanced Salt Solution (HBSS); the probe was then added to the BMDMs for 30 min. at
37°C/5% CO_2. BMDMs were then rinsed once with HBSS to remove the probe and allowed to
incubate in BMDM media for 60 min. at 37°C/5% CO_2. The cells were then analyzed by
fluorescent excitation at 405 nm and 488 nm and emission at 510 nm. Fluorescence was
measured using a SpectraMax M3 plate reader (Molecular Devices, San Jose, CA) and
reported as the ratiometric value of emission at 405 nm and 488 nm excitations.
625
In Vitro Macrophage Infections:
For infection with *M. tuberculosis*, BMDMs were plated in 96-well plates at $5x10^4$ cells/well and
allowed to adhere for 48 hours prior to infection. 24 hours prior to infection, media was changed
and BMDMs were stimulated with IFNγ (≈ 30 ng/mL) for IFNγ+ conditions. 5 days prior to
infection, a frozen stock of *M. tuberculosis* Lux-Erd was thawed and cultured in 7H9 at 37°C to
log phase (OD600 = 0.2 – 1.0). *M. tuberculosis* was centrifuged at 3500 rpm for 5 min. and
washed twice in PBS, centrifuged at 500 rpm for 5 min. to pellet clumps, and then sonicated at
90% power (twice, 30 sec. each). After sonication, cultures were diluted in DMEM + 5% horse
serum + 5% FBS and added to the BMDMs at a multiplicity of infection (MOI) of 1, followed by
spinfection at 1200 rpm for 10 min. Supernatant was then removed and the infected BMDMs
were washed twice with 1X PBS before the appropriate media was added and the cells were
incubated at 37°C/5% CO_2 until the first time point. CFU were enumerated at the indicated time
points by washing infected cells twice with PBS, lysing in sterile-filtered deionized water with
0.5% Triton X-100 for 10 min. at 37°C/5% CO_2, and performing serial dilutions in 1X PBS
containing 0.05% Tween 80 before aliquoting dilutions onto Middlebrook 7H10 plates
supplemented with 0.5% glycerol and 10% OADC (Middlebrook) and incubated for 21 days at

37°C. CFU is normalized to inoculum dose, calculated by plating t = 0 CFU immediately after

spinfection. For infection with *F. tularensis* LVS, BMDMs were prepared as described above.

BMDMs were plated in a 24-well plate at 3×10^5 cells/well and allowed to adhere for 48 hours

prior to infection. 24 hours prior to infection, media was changed and BMDMs were stimulated

with IFNγ (≈ 30 ng/mL) for IFNγ+ conditions. To infect the BMDMs, *F. tularensis* LVS stocks

were thawed, resuspended in BMDM media, and added to the BMDMs at an MOI = 0.1 and

allowed to phagocytose for 2 hours at 37°C/5% CO_2. After phagocytosis, infected BMDMs were

washed thrice with 1X PBS and then supplemented with normal media until predetermined time

points. To enumerate CFU/well, BMDMs were rinsed once with 1X PBS, lysed with sterile-

filtered deionized water for 10 min., and then serial dilutions were plated on Mueller Hinton

plates containing 85 mM NaCl, 1% (w/v) proteose peptone/tryptone, 8% (w/v) bacto-agar, 0.1%

glucose, 0.025% ferric pyrophosphate, 2% Isovitalex, and 2.5% bovine serum for 3 days at

37°C/5% CO_2 until CFU were counted.

Immunoblotting:

BMDMs were prepared as previously described and plated in a 24-well plate at 3×10^5 cells/well,

and infected with *M. tuberculosis* H37Rv according to the previously described protocol. 24

hours post infection, BMDMs were rinsed with 1X PBS and lysed with Laemmli Buffer

(#1610737EDU, Bio Rad, Hercules, CA). Samples were heat inactivated/sterilized at 100°C for

20 min. prior to removal from the BSL3 facility. Protein lysates were prepared by heating in 1X

SDS for 5 min. at 100°C and then analyzed by SDS-PAGE using 4-20% Criterion TGX Precast

Protein Gel (#5678094, Bio Rad), rabbit monoclonal antibody (EPR4494) against ALDH2

(#ab133306, Abcam, Cambridge, MA), and an anti-rabbit HRP-conjugated secondary antibody.

Blots were developed with Western Lightning Plus-ECL enhanced chemiluminescence

substrate (#NEL103001EA, PerkinElmer, Waltham, MA) and a ChemiDoc MP/475D Imaging

System (Bio Rad).

Single Cell RNAseq:

Single cell RNA sequencing results were extracted from a previously published dataset (*49*) on

M. tuberculosis-infected B6 mice. For bulk RNAseq, BMDMs were prepared as previously

described and plated in a 24-well plate at 3×10^5 cells/well, and infected with *M. tuberculosis*

H37Rv according to the previously described protocol. 24 hours post infection, BMDMs media

was removed and cells were lysed with TRIzol Reagent (#15596018, Thermo Fisher Scientific).

RNA was extraction was performed by adding chloroform and centrifuging samples to make a

biphasic mixture containing RNA in an aqueous phase. The RNA-containing phase was then

collected and cleaned up using a RNeasy Mini Kit (#74104, Qiagen, Hilden, Germany) with on-

column DNase digestion according to the manufacturer's protocol. The isolated RNA was then

quantified and analyzed by a Qubit Quantitation Platform and an Agilent 2100 Bioanalyzer,

respectively, at the Functional Genomics Laboratory of the California Institute for Quantitative

Biosciences (UC Berkeley), and then submitted to GeneWiz/Azenta Life Sciences (South

Plainfield, NJ) for library preparation and sequencing. Each sample was dual-indexed using

NEBNext multiplex oligomers and then quantity and quality were assessed with a Qubit Broad

Range Kit and bioanalyzer, respectively. All samples had a RIN > 9.8 and 100 ng of total RNA

was used in library preparation. Samples were then prepared for sequencing using a NEBNext

Ultra II RNA-seq with Poly-A selection kit, and sequenced on a NovaSeq 6000 S4 (partial lane),
with a sequencing depth of 29 million paired-end reads per sample. Illumina sequencing data
files were pre-processed with HTStream (v. 1.3.0) to remove PCR duplicates, trim adapters,
polyA tails, and N characters, and to remove low quality 3' and 5' bases (*50*), and were checked
for quality with FastQC (v. 0.11.7). Sequences were aligned to the mouse primary assembly
GRCm39 from GENCODE (*51*) and gene counts were generated using STAR (v.
2.7.10b_alpha_230301 (*52*)). RNAseq data is submitted
693
Aldehyde susceptibility assays:
M. tuberculosis H37Rv was cultured as described above. To test susceptibility to various
aldehydes, cultures were grown to an optical density at 580 nm (OD_{580}) of 0.8-1.0. Bacteria
were collected by centrifugation at 3,200 *g* and resuspended in 7H9c acidified to pH 5.5 with 1N
HCl and clumped cells were removed with a slow-speed spin at 150 *g*. The supernatant was
diluted to an OD_{580} of 0.08. 200 µl of bacteria was added to wells of a 96-well plate; for each
condition tested, three wells were prepared. Two µL of 1:100 aldehyde stock solutions were
added to each well to obtain the final concentrations indicated in the Figure 2 (A-C). Aldehydes
were purchased from the following: 4-hydroxynonenal (4HNE) (# 32100, Cayman Chemical,
Ann Arbor, MI), malondialdehyde (MDA) (#63287, Millipore Sigma, Burlington, MA), and
formaldehyde (FA) (#15710, Electron Microscopy Sciences, Hatfield, PA) (16%
paraformaldehyde solution, stored in aliquots at -20°C). To generate nitric oxide (NO), sodium
nitrite was added to a final concentration of 3 mM. To test the susceptibility of *F. tularensis* LVS
to various aldehydes, we followed a previously described protocol (*30*). Briefly, *F. tularensis*
LVS was plated on Mueller Hinton plates for 3 days at 37°C/5% CO_2. Multiple colonies colony
were then scraped and used to inoculate a liquid culture (to ensure diversity of the culture) that
was maintained at 37°C/180 rpm for 12-14 hours. The culture was then washed twice in 1X PBS
and resuspended at an OD600 = 0.01 in 1X PBS and aliquoted into a 96-well plate containing
various concentrations of 4HNE (#32100, Cayman Chemical Company), MDA (#63287,
Millipore Sigma), or FA (#F1635, Millipore Sigma) and incubated for 2 hours at 37°C/5% CO_2.
After incubation, CFU/well was enumerated for each condition by plating serial dilutions of the
culture on Mueller Hinton plates and incubating at 37°C/5% CO_2 for 3 days.
716
In Vivo Pathogen Challenge:
Mice were infected with *M. tuberculosis* H37Rv (*Aldh2*[−/−] and B6 mice), or *M. tuberculosis*
Erdman (*Aldh2*[−/−] and *Aldh2*[−/−] *Sp140*[−/−] mice) *via* the aerosol route. Aerosol infection was
performed using a nebulizer and full-body inhalation exposure system (Glas-Col, Terre Haute,
IN). Previously prepared aerosol stocks were thawed and 9 mL of culture diluted into sterile-
filtered deionized water was loaded into the nebulizer calibrated to deliver ~25 CFU/mouse, as
measured by CFU in the lungs 1 day following infection (data not shown). At predetermined time
points, mice were euthanized and the lungs were mechanically homogenized in 1X PBS
containing 0.05% Tween 80 and serial dilutions were plated on 7H10 plates and incubated for
21 days at 37°C until CFU were counted. For mice infected with *F. tularensis* LVS, injection
stocks were prepared as previously described and ~10^6 CFU were administered intradermally
into the rump of the mouse, as measured by plating serial dilutions of the inoculum on Mueller
Hinton plates (data not shown). At 5 dpi, mice were euthanized and the lungs were

mechanically homogenized in 1X PBS and serial dilutions were plated on Mueller Hinton plates
and incubated for 3 days at 37°C/5% CO_2 until CFU were counted.

Candidate Gene Analysis Study:
Study subjects from the Vietnam human genetics collection have been described in detail
previously (*53*). The TB participants were recruited at several clinical sites in Ho Chi Minh City,
Vietnam as part of larger clinical studies with strictly defined clinical phenotypes (*54–56*). The
Vietnamese population controls are otherwise healthy adults with primary angle closure
glaucoma who have been previously described (*57*). DNA from all participants were genome
wide genotyped on the Illumina Omni Express array v1.0 and standard quality control measures
and pipelines were applied as described previously (*57, 58*). In order to examine the association
between rs671 and TB, we extracted genotypes for rs671 from the genotyping data generated
for the genome-wide association study (GWAS). Logistic regression was applied with
adjustment for the first three principal components (PCs) to control any potential population
structure. The analysis was done for all TB cases first. Similar analysis was repeated for clinical
phenotypes. All analyses were carried out using Plink 1.9 (www.cog-
genomics.org/plink/1.9/)(*59*).

SCHS is a long-term prospective population-based cohort study focused on genetic and
environmental determinants of cancer and other diseases in Singapore (*60*). From April 1993 to
December 1998, the study recruited 63,257 participants of Singaporean Chinese descent,
hailing from the Hokkien and Cantonese dialect groups. Starting from April 1994, a random
subset of 3% of participants were invited to contribute blood/buccal cell and spot urine samples.
In January 2001, the collection of biospecimens was expanded to include all enrolled
participants who provided consent and approximately half of all study participants donated blood
or buccal samples for genetic studies. A total of 27,308 samples were whole genome genotyped
using the Illumina Global Screening Array (GSA). Comprehensive information regarding
genotyping and QC protocols has been previously published (*61, 62*). Genotype data for rs671
was extracted from the GSA array data for subsequent statistical analysis. Additional 2,003
independent subjects from the SCHS CAD-nested case-control study were genotyped on the
Illumina HumanOmniZhonghua Bead Chip. GWAS genotyping and QC procedures for this
dataset has been extensively described (*63–65*). Genotype data for rs671 after 1000 Genomes
imputation procedures were extracted from the SCHS CAD dataset for statistical analysis.
Active TB cases in the SCHS were identified through linkage of the cohort database with the
National TB Notification Registry until 31 December 2016 (*66*). The association between rs671
and active PTB status was assessed via logistic regression with adjustment for age and gender.
Subsequently, fixed-effect inverse-variance weighted (IVW) method was employed for meta-
analysis of the results from Vietnam and Singapore. Cochran's Q ($P_{Het} < 0.05$) were evaluated
as an indication of heterogeneity. All analysis was conducted using Stata/SE15.1.

Statistical Analysis:
Data are presented as mean values and error bars represent standard deviation. The number of
samples, experimental replicates, and statistical tests are described in the legend of each figure.
Statistical analyses were performed using GraphPad Prism 9 (GraphPad, La Jolla, CA) and a *p*
< 0.05 was considered significant.

A

	B6				ALDH2			
IFNγ	-	+	-	+	-	+	-	+
Mtb	-	-	+	+	-	-	+	+

ALDH2 — 56 kDa

GAPDH — 36 kDa

B

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            494     496     498     500     502     504     506     508
        Gly Arg Glu Leu Gly Glu Tyr  Gly Leu Gln Ala  Tyr Thr Glu Val Lys Thr
WT      GGCAGGGAGCTGGGCGAGTATGGCCTGCAGGCGTACACAGAAGTGAAGACGGTACGTACACAGCCTTCAGACTCC
                guide RNA 1 (complement)          guide RNA 2 (complement)   PAM

Aldh2*2 GGCAGGGAGCTGGGCGAGTATGGACTGCAGGCGTACACAAAAGTGAAGACGATACGTACACAGCCTTCAGACTCC
        Gly Arg Glu Leu Gly Glu Tyr  Gly Leu Gln Ala  Tyr Thr Lys Val Lys Thr

WT      GGCAGGGAGCTGGGCGAGTATGGCCTGCAGGCGTACACAGAAGTGAAGACGGTACGTACACAGCCTTCAGACTCC

Aldh2⁻/⁻ GGCAGGGAGCTGGGCGAGTATGGACTGCAGGCGTACACGGTACGTACACAGCCTTCAGACTCC
         Gly Arg Glu Leu Gly Glu Tyr  Gly Leu Gln Ala  Tyr Thr
```

Figure S1. Genetic knock out of *Aldh2* inhibits ALDH2 production. A) Immunoblot of WT
and *Aldh2⁻/⁻* BMDM cell lysates stained with αALDH2 (56 kDa) and αGAPDH (36 kDa, control).
B) CRISPR targeting strategy of *Aldh2*2* mice, resulting in mutants containing three adenine
point mutations (first and third adenines disrupt sgRNA binding, while second adenine is the
human mutation) (*Aldh2*2* mice) and mice containing a 12 bp (4 amino acid) in-frame deletion
(*Aldh2⁻/⁻* mice).

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789
790 **Figure S2. *Sp140$^{-/-}$Aldh2$^{-/-}$* demonstrate increased mitochondrial aldehyde levels.** A) WT,
791 *Aldh2$^{-/-}$*, and *Sp140$^{-/-}$Aldh2$^{-/-}$* BMDM mitochondrial-associated formaldehyde levels after 24
792 hours stimulation with IFNγ and TLR2-agonist PAM3CSK4 *in vitro* (n = 3 independent
793 experiments, B6 and *Aldh2$^{-/-}$* results are same as reported in Fig. 3A). *, $p < 0.05$, **, $p < 0.01$,
794 ***, $p < 0.001$, Unpaired t-test.
795
796