Caveolin-1 Autonomously Regulates Hippocampal Neurogenesis Via Mitochondrial Dynamics

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Summary

The mechanisms underlying adult hippocampal neurogenesis (AHN) are not fully understood. AHN plays instrumental roles in learning and memory. Understanding the signals that regulate AHN has implications for brain function and therapy. Here we show that Caveolin-1 (Cav-1), a protein that is highly enriched in endothelial cells and the principal component of caveolae, autonomously regulates AHN. Conditional deletion of Cav-1 in adult neural progenitor cells (nestin +) led to increased neurogenesis and enhanced performance of mice in contextual discrimination. Proteomic analysis revealed that Cav-1 plays a role in mitochondrial pathways in neural progenitor cells. Importantly, Cav-1 was localized to the mitochondria in neural progenitor cells and modulated mitochondrial fission-fusion, a critical process in neurogenesis. These results suggest that Cav-1 is a novel regulator of AHN and underscore the impact of AHN on cognition.

Introduction

The dentate gyrus (DG) of the adult hippocampus is a dynamic brain region where newly born granule neurons are generated throughout life via the process of adult hippocampus neurogenesis (AHN). Radial glia-like neural stem cells (NSC) and neural progenitor cells (NPCs, together referred to NSPC) reside in the subgranular zone of the DG and undergo proliferation and differentiation to produce new granule neurons [1]. New neurons integrate into hippocampal circuitry and function in context-dependent spatial learning and memory behavioral tasks [2-5]. Neurogenesis declines with age and aging. In mice, significant reductions in NSPC proliferation and newborn neuron generation were documented as early as 5 to 6 months of age [6-8]. Increasing evidence shows that in both humans and rodent models, adult hippocampal neurogenesis is impaired in several brain diseases and disorders including Alzheimer's Disease (AD) [9-12]. In human studies, it has been shown that a reduction in the levels of neuroblasts in the DG associates with worsen cognitive performance in patients diagnosed with mild cognitive impairments or AD compared to healthy aging controls [11]. Interesting, augmentation of hippocampal neurogenesis through either genetic and pharmacologic modulation, environmental enrichment, or voluntary physical activity has been shown to restore hippocampal memory deficits in AD mouse models [13-15]. Despite numerous studies identifying intrinsic and extrinsic cellular modulators of hippocampal neurogenesis [16-20], the mechanisms underlying maintenance of NSPC and neurogenesis-dependent memory function are still not fully understood.

Caveolin-1 (Cav-1) is a 21-24 kDa scaffolding and signaling protein that belongs to the caveolin gene family[21]. Cav-1 generates and maintains caveolae, distinct flask shape invaginations on the plasma membrane, which govern various cellular functions including endocytosis [22,23]. Cav-1 protein expression is found to be highly abundant in the brain

vasculature [24,25] and is essential for blood brain barrier integrity and neurovascular coupling [26-29].

Previously, we showed that Cav-1 protein expression is depleted in the hippocampus of a Type

II diabetes mouse model and that rescue of Cav-1 protein expression improved hippocampal

memory performance [30]. Global Cav-1 knockout (gCav-1 KO) mice exhibit a wide range of

neurological deficits including impairments in cholinergic function and hippocampal plasticity

compared to wildtype (WT) controls [31-33]. Moreover, Cav-1 overexpression in hippocampal

primary neurons and brain tissue show that Cav-1 promotes dendritic growth and arborization

through the enhancement of lipid raft formation and localization of synaptic receptors to lipid

rafts on the plasma membrane [34,35]. Few studies exist examining Cav-1 in neurogenic cell types.

It has been reported that in the developing cortex, Cav-1 expression is essential for

internalization of cell adhesion proteins that regulate proper migration and dendritic pruning in

immature neurons [36]. Additionally in early stages of neuronal differentiation from NPCs derived

from human iPSCs, Cav-1 phosphorylation at its tyrosine 14 site is needed for axonal growth [37].

However, a role for Cav-1 in AHN has never been described.

Here, we show that Cav-1 is expressed in hippocampal NSPC. Cell - specific deletion of

Cav-1 in AHN in mice, resulted in significant reductions in NSC proliferation, increased neuronal

differentiation and enhanced performance of mice in the AHN - dependent contextual

discrimination behavior task.   Proteomic analysis revealed that Cav-1 regulates AHN via

mitochondria-related protein pathways. Importantly, we observed that Cav-1 localizes to the

mitochondria in NSPCs and regulates their fission-fusion dynamics, critical for neuronal

differentiation. This study determines that Cav-1 is a novel regulator of AHN and a new

therapeutic target for age-related cognitive decline disorders.

Results

Cav-1 expression in adult hippocampal neural stem cells

We first examined the expression of Cav-1 in hippocampal NSPC by isolating them from adult wild type (WT) mice. We confirmed Cav-1 protein expression by immunostaining (**Figure 1A**). Interestingly, we found that Cav-1 has heterogenous expression in Nestin+ NSPC cells with Cav-1 immunoreactivity characterized by fluorescent puncta distributed throughout the cytoplasm. We show a significant correlation between expression levels of Cav-1 and Nestin where NSPC with elevated Cav-1 expression associate with cells displaying higher levels of Nestin expression and area of Nestin per cell **(Figure 1B-C).** Nestin expression is typically high in actively proliferating NSPC and downregulated as cells exit the cell cycle during differentiation [38,39]. To further investigate the role of Cav-1 in AHN, we generated a NSPC - specific inducible Cav-1 knockout model, where we bred a Cav-1 floxed mice (Cav-1[fl/fl]) [40,41] with a tamoxifen inducible Cre recombinase driven by a Nestin promoter (NestinCre[ERT2/+]) [2,13] (**Figure 1D)**. NestinCre[ERT2/+];Cav-1[fl/fl] mice were injected at 4-5 weeks of age with either tamoxifen (TAM) to conditionally delete Cav-1 from NSPCs (iNSC Cav-1 KO) or with corn oil (Corn) to generate control mice (iNSC Cav-1 WT). We confirmed Cav-1 recombination in hippocampal NSPC isolated from iNSC Cav-1 KO and iNSC Cav-1 WT mice by quantitative real-time PCR (qPCR) and immunoblotting **(Figure 1E-G).** We found that isolated hippocampal NSPC from iNSC Cav-1 WT mice had similar Cav-1 expression pattern as WT NSPC with Cav-1 displaying fluorescent puncta **(Figure 1H)**. Ultrastructural transmission electron microscopy was used to determine if Cav-1 expression in NSPC correlated with the presence of caveolae. Flask-shaped invaginations and vesicles resembling caveolae were identified in the iNSC Cav-1 WT NSPC, whereas larger (>150 nm) electron dense vesicles resembling clathrin-coated vesicles were predominantly found in the iNSC Cav-1 KO NSPC **(Figure 1I).** Together, this indicates that Cav-1 is expressed in adult hippocampal NSPCs and correlated with the presence of caveolae, and that tamoxifen-induced recombination leads to a complete deletion of Cav-1 in iNSC Cav-1 KO mice.

Deletion of Cav-1 in NSC leads to reduced NSC proliferation in adult hippocampal neurogenesis

Next, we asked whether the deletion of Cav-1 in NSCs would affect their proliferation. NSCs were identified by the co-expression of glial fibrillary acidic protein (GFAP) and Nestin in the subgranular layer (SGL) of the DG. In contrast to quiescent, proliferating NSCs also expressed the mitosis-linked minichromosome maintenance complex component 2 (MCM2). Quantitative stereology at 3 months **(Figure 2A**, 60 dpi of Tam**)** of age revealed no significant difference in the total NSC population (GFAP$^+$Nestin$^+$) and the quiescent NSC sub-population (GFAP$^+$Nestin$^+$MCM2$^-$) between iNSC Cav-1 KO vs iNSC Cav-1 WT mice **(Figure 2B-D)**. However, a significant reduction in the number of proliferating NSC (GFAP$^+$Nestin$^+$MCM2$^+$) was observed in the iNSC Cav-1 KO mice **(Figure 2E)**. Similarly at 6 months of age, no differences in the total NSC population (GFAP$^+$Nestin$^+$) and quiescent sub-population (GFAP$^+$Nestin$^+$MCM2$^-$) was observed, yet the number of proliferating NSC (GFAP$^+$Nestin$^+$MCM2$^+$) was significantly reduced in the iNSC Cav-1 KO mice compared to iNSC Cav-1 WT controls (**Figure 2F-I)**. In support of these results, neurosphere cultures isolated from the iNSC Cav-1 KO mice showed reduction in clone formation, clone diameter and cell number compared to iNSC Cav-1 WT mice (**Figure 2J-M**). In addition, we examined the level of proliferation of neurosphere cultures derived from iNSC Cav-1 WT and iNSC Cav-1 KO NSPC using 1 hr pulse with EdU (5-ethynyl-2'-deoxyuridine). We found that the number of EdU+ cells was significantly lower in iNSC Cav-1 KO NSPC compared to iNSC Cav-1 WT NSPC **(Figure 2N-O).** Interestingly, we observed that EdU fluorescence intensity, previously shown to correlate with length of S-phase [42], was significantly higher in EdU+ cells in iNSC Cav-1 KO **(Figure 2P),** suggesting that Cav-1 may regulate cell cycle kinetics. Taken together, these findings show that Cav-1 deletion affects the extent of proliferation of hippocampal NSC in the DG.

iNSC Cav-1 KO mice display increased differentiation of hippocampal NSPC

Given that reduced proliferation of NSPC can influence levels of neurogenesis, we sought to determine whether Cav-1 deletion in NSPC leads to alterations in the formation of new granule neurons in the adult DG. At 3-months of age, the iNSC Cav-1 KO and iNSC Cav-1 WT mice showed no significant changes in the number of neuroblasts or immature neurons in the DG (**Figure S1).** However, at 6 months of age the iNSC Cav-1 KO mice exhibited a significant increase in total number of DCX$^+$ NPCs, neuroblasts (DCX+NeuN-) and immature neurons (DCX+NeuN+) compared to iNSC Cav-1 WT mice (**Figure 3A-D**). The effect of Cav-1 deletion on differentiation was also examined in hippocampal neurosphere cultures isolated from iNSC Cav-1 WT and iNSC Cav-1 KO mice as similarly described[43,44] (**Figure 3E**). Interestingly, *Cav-1* transcript and protein expression were significantly decreased as iNSC Cav-1 WT NSPC underwent differentiation for 5-7 days **(Figure 3F, I, J).** The progression of differentiation was validated by reduced expression of nestin and Sox2 (**Figure 3G,I,K)** and increased expression of Map2 and β-III-tubulin (**Figure 3H,I,L**)**.** In support of the observations in brain sections, the expression of Map2 and β-III-tubulin was significantly higher in differentiating NSPC iNSC Cav-1 KO, compared to WT (**Figure 3H,I,L**) **.**

We next investigated whether Cav-1 deletion in NSPCs altered the early stages of differentiation leading to the increase in immature granule neurons we observed in iNSC Cav-1 KO mice. We utilized a 5-bromo-2'-deoxyuridine (BrdU) pulse labeling paradigm where mice received a daily BrdU injection for 12-days and sacrificed 24 hr after the last injection (**Figure 4A**). A trending reduction (p = 0.05) in the total level of BrdU positive cells in the DG was observed in the iNSC Cav-1 KO mice compared to the iNSC Cav-1 WT mice (**Figure 4B,C**). Consistent with our proliferation analysis, BrdU$^+$ NSCs (GFAP$^+$Sox2$^+$) were significantly decreased in the iNSC Cav-1 KO mice compared to iNSC Cav-1 WT (**Figure 4D,E**). A trending decrease (p=0.07) in the total number of BrdU$^+$ NPCs (GFAP$^-$Sox2$^+$) was also observed in the

iNSC Cav-1 KO compared to iNSC Cav-1 WT mice (**Figure 4F**). Notably, a significant increase

in the ratio of BrdU retaining non-NSPCs (BrdU+GFAP⁻Sox2⁻) to total levels of BrdU was

observed in the iNSC Cav-1 KO mice (**Figure 4G**). To examine if this enhanced proliferation is

of neuroblasts, we examined co-expression of BrdU, DCX and NeuN (Figure 3H). There was no

change in the number of BrdU+DCX$^+$NeuN- NPC/neuroblasts (**Figure 4I**). Yet, the number of

BrdU$^+$DCX$^+$NeuN$^+$ immature neurons was significantly increased in the iNSC Cav-1 KO mice

compared to iNSC Cav-1 WT (**Figure 4J-K**). Taken together, this data confirms that Cav-1 is a

negative regulator of neuron differentiation and Cav-1 loss drives adult hippocampal

neurogenesis.

Conditional deletion of Cav-1 in NSC improves context discrimination learning and

memory

Hippocampal neurogenesis is essential for the discrimination of similar contexts (pattern

separation), where newborn granule neurons (4-6 weeks post-mitotic) become selectively

activated during memory formation[2,45,46]. To test whether the increase in immature neurons in

the iNSC Cav-1 KO mice results in improved learning and memory, iNSC Cav-1 KO and iNSC

Cav-1 WT mice underwent a modified fear conditioning test[47] **(Figure 5A).** Both iNSC Cav-1 KO

and iNSC Cav-1 WT mice displayed higher freezing levels in Context A (Cxt A) compared to

Context B (Cxt B) at 30 mins post-shock **(Figure 5B).** No difference in the discrimination index

between each group was observed at 30 mins post-shock on Day 2 **(Figure 5C)**. Interestingly,

the iNSC Cav-1 KO mice had a significantly higher level of freezing in Cxt A compared to Cxt B

at 24 hr post-shock whereas the iNSC Cav-1 WT mice exhibited the equal amount of freezing in

both Cxt A and Cxt B **(Figure 5D)**. Analysis of the discrimination index revealed a trending

increase in the iNSC Cav-1 KO mice compared to iNSC Cav-1 WT mice **(Figure 5E),**

suggesting that enhanced generation of newborn neurons in the iNSC Cav-1 KO mice improved

neurogenesis-dependent learning and memory.

We then examined whether the iNSC Cav-1 KO mice displayed enhanced context

generalization compared to the iNSC Cav-1 WT mice 24 hr post-shock. Studies show that

significant alterations in context geometry are sufficient to induce generalization behavior[48,49]

and that newborn granule neurons in the hippocampus are found to maintain generalization

behavior[50]. iNSC Cav-1 KO and iNSC Cav-1 WT mice underwent the same context

discrimination paradigm at 6 months of age except Cxt B was exchanged for Context C (Cxt C)

in which the geometry had been changed from a square to a circle and the floor covered with a

plastic sheet **(Figure 5F).** Interestingly on Day 2, iNSC Cav-1 WT mice were unable to

discriminate Cxt A from Cxt C 30 min post-shock whereas iNSC Cav-1 KO mice had a

significantly higher level of freezing in Cxt A compared to Cxt C with a trending significant

discrimination index **(Figure 5G-H)**. On Day 3, both groups of mice were able to equally

discriminate Cxt A from Cxt C 24 hr post-shock with no difference in the discrimination ratio

(Figure 5I-J). No differences in level of anxiety-like behavior **(Figure S2A-D)** nor performance

in the spatial novel object location (NOL) task (**Figure S2E-G**) were observed between the iNSC

Cav-1 KO and iNSC Cav-1 WT mice. These findings suggest that Cav-1 deletion in NSPCs

results in an increase in the number of immature neurons, which in turn, leads to improved

neurogenesis-dependent context discrimination.

Proteomic analysis indicates that Cav-1 regulates mitochondrial and cellular metabolism

pathways in hippocampal NSPCs

Building on our findings that Cav-1 deletion in NSPCs enhances hippocampal

neurogenesis, we hypothesized that Cav-1 regulates pathways involved cell cycle and

differentiation in NSPCs. We used quantitative proteomics to assess the molecular mechanisms

by which Cav-1 regulates neurogenesis **(Figure 6A).** A total of 4730 proteins were identified in

the iNSC Cav-1 KO and iNSC Cav-1 WT NSPC with 326 proteins identified as differentially

expressed (DEP) **(Figure 6B, Table S1, ANOVA, $p < 0.05$**). Of the 326 DEPs, 228 proteins

were downregulated, and 98 proteins were upregulated in the iNSC Cav-1 KO NSPCs

compared to WT NSPCs. Next, we performed functional enrichment analysis of DEPs using

Ingenuity Pathway Analysis (IPA) and Gene Ontology (GO) pathway and cluster mapping.

Interestingly, the top 4 significantly altered IPA pathways included Mitochondrial Dysfunction,

TCA Cycle II (Eukaryotic), Superpathway of Cholesterol Biosynthesis, and Oxidative

Phosphorylation **(Figure 6C, Table S2).** GO analysis revealed significantly altered pathways

related to the ATP biosynthesis, electron transport chain (ETC), mitochondria and ribosome

subunits and lipid oxidation **(Figure 6D, Table S3)**.

To further investigate the role of Cav-1 in regulating mitochondria proteins, we compared

the DEPs to the MitoCarta3.0 gene dataset[51]. Mitocarta3.0 is a curated inventory based on

genomic data, mass spectrometry, and microcopy data of 1140 mouse genes localized to

mitochondria. We identified 84 of the 326 DEPs (24% of total DEP) in the MitoCarta 3.0 gene

dataset **(Figure 6E).** We found that proteins involved in mitochondrial DNA (mtDNA)

maintenance, mitochondrial RNA (mtRNA) and translation pathways were downregulated in the

iNSC Cav-1 KO NSPCs compared to Cav-1 WT (**Figure 6F,G, Table S4**). Similarly, proteins

involved in mitochondria protein import, sorting and homeostasis, and signaling and molecule

transport were downregulated in the iNSC Cav-1 KO compared to iNSC Cav-1 WT NSPC

(Figure 6E,F, Table S4). Several DEPs categorized in metabolism pathways including

glycolysis, TCA, OXPHOS, carbohydrate, lipid, nucleotide, amino acid, vitamin, and metal

metabolism pathways were also downregulated in the iNSC Cav-1 KO NSPCs compared to

iNSC Cav-1 WT NSPCs **(Figure 6F,G, Table S4)**. Noticeably, we found that mitochondrial

dynamics and surveillance associated proteins including Metaxin-2 (MTX2) and Voltage-

dependent Anion-selective Channel (Vdac1) were downregulated, whereas Mitochondrial Rho

GTPase 2 (Rhot2, also called Miro2) was significantly enriched in the iNSC Cav-1 KO NSPCs

compared to iNSC Cav-1 WT NSPCs (**Figure 6E,G, Table S4**). Miro2 interacts with mitofusion-

2 (Mfn-2) to coordinate fission/fusion events[52] and in neurons, Miro2 is required for retrograde

trafficking of mitochondria[53,54]. Taken together, our proteomic findings show that Cav-1 may play

a role in pathways involved in mitochondria homeostasis, metabolism, and dynamics in

hippocampal NSPC.

Next, to validate the proteomics data and establish the specific signals regulated by Cav-

1, we examined the expression of glycolytic and TCA cycle proteins including lactate

dehydrogenate (LDHA), hexokinase 2 (HK2), pyruvate dehydrogenase (PDH), and aconitase 2

(ACO2) in hippocampal NSPC isolated from iNSC Cav-1 KO and iNSC Cav-1 WT mice using

Western blot analysis. Expression levels of LDHA, HK2, PDH were comparable in NSPCs

isolated from iNSC Cav-1 KO compared to iNSC Cav-1 WT mice **(Figure S3A-F)**. However,

expression of ACO2 was significantly decreased in hippocampal NSPC lacking Cav-1

expression. Next, we examined oxidative phosphorylation in NSPC extracts using a total

OXPHOS antibody cocktail that detects proteins in Complex I (CI-NDUF8a), Complex II (CII-

SDHB), Complex III (CIII-UQCR2), Complex IV (CIV-MTCO) and Complex V (CV-ATP5a)

(Figure S3G). iNSC Cav-1 KO NSPCs showed significant reductions in CIII-UQCR2 and CIV-

MTCO1 compared to iNSC Cav-1 WT NSPCs (**Figure S3H)**. No significant changes in CII-

SDHB were found, however, a trending upregulation ($p = 0.05$) of CV-ATP5a expression was

detected in iNSC Cav-1 KO NSPCs compared to iNSC Cav-1 WT NSPCs (**Figure S3I-K**).

Interestingly, expression of CI-NDUF8a was not detected in NSPCs isolated from either iNSC

Cav-1 KO or iNSC Cav-1 WT mice. Furthermore, using the Agilent Seahorse Real-Time ATP

Rate Assay we measured changes in glycolysis and mitochondrial (oxidative phosphorylation)

ATP production (**Figure S3L-M**). Extracellular acidification (ECAR) and basal oxygen

consumption rate (OCR) **(Figure S3L-O),** as well as glycolysis and mitochondrial ATP

production **(Figure S3M)** were comparable in iNSC Cav-1 KO and iNSC Cav-1 WT NSPCs.

Next, we examined the expression of mitochondrial dynamics and surveillance including Drp-1,

the primary regulator of fission, and mfn-2, a main regulator of fusion in the iNSC Cav-1 KO and

iNSC Cav-1 WT NSPCs via immunoblotting (**Figure S4A-D**).   We observed a significant

increase the in Drp-1 expression, yet no alterations in Mfn-2 expression in the iNSC Cav-1 KO

NSPCs compared to WT (**Figure S4C,D**). Expression levels of Miro2 and VDAC1 were also

assessed as these proteins function in mitochondria calcium signaling and trafficking, which are

necessary for mitochondria homeostasis and balanced fission and fusion[55]. A trending increase

was observed in Miro2 expression in the iNSC Cav-1 KO cells where no differences in VDAC

expression was found (**Figure S4E,F**). Together this data suggests that Cav-1 is a critical

regulator of proteins involved in mitochondrial fission/fusion dynamics in hippocampal NSPCs.

Cav-1 regulates mitochondrial morphology in hippocampal NSPC

In hippocampal neurogenesis, changes in mitochondrial morphology and dynamics have been

found to govern self-renewal and cell fate[56]. To begin investigating the role of Cav-1 in

mitochondrial morphology and dynamics in NSPCs, we first examined the co-localization of

Cav-1 to mitochondria. Caveolae and caveolin-1 were previously shown to localize to the outer

membrane of mitochondria[57,58]. We show that Cav-1 co-localizes with Mitochondrial import

receptor subunit TOM20 homolog (Tom-20), a translocase located on the mitochondrial outer

membrane mitochondria, in WT hippocampal NSPCs by utilizing 3D confocal microcopy (**Figure**

7A). The average Mander's Correlation Coefficient between Cav-1 and Tom-20 was 0.2513

implying that ~25% of the Cav-1 fluorescence signal overlaps with Tom-20 **(Figure 7A).** In light

of this result, we examined Cav-1 protein expression in isolated mitochondrial membranes from

WT hippocampal NSPCs **(Figure 7B).** The majority of Cav-1 expression was observed in the

mitochondrial fraction **(Figure 7B).** Interestingly, the majority of Drp-1 was found in the cytosolic

rather than the mitochondrial fraction **(Figure 7B).** The mitochondrial and cytosol enriched

fractions were confirmed by Tom-20 and Drp-1. Drp-1 and Mfn-2 are recruited to the outer

membrane of the mitochondria to induce morphological changes and movement by alteration of

fission-fusion events through contact sites between mitochondria, the endoplasmic reticulum,

and the cytoplasm[59]. Taken together with the observation that total levels of Drp-1 were

increased in protein lysates of iNSC Cav-1KO compared to WT (**Figure S4**), we asked whether

Drp-1 and Mfn-2 have altered recruitment to the mitochondria in hippocampal NSPCs lacking

Cav-1 expression. Mitochondria and cytosol enriched fractions were isolated from iNSC Cav-1

KO and iNSC Cav-1 WT NSPCs (**Figure 7C**). iNSC Cav-1 KO NSPCs had elevated Drp-1

expression in the cytosol fraction and reduced Drp-1 expression in the mitochondrial faction

compared to WT (**Figure 7D,E**). In contrast, iNSC Cav-1 KO cells had reduced Mfn-2

expression in the cytosol fraction and elevated expression in the mitochondria faction compared

to WT **(Figure 7B-E**). In light of these results, we examined whether Cav-1 deletion in

hippocampal NSPCs alters mitochondrial morphology by ultrastructural electron microscopy.

We show that the number of mitochondria per cell imaged was significantly reduced in the iNSC

Cav-1 KO NSPC compared to iNSC Cav-1 WT NSPC yet, the mitochondrial area and perimeter

was significantly increased in the iNSC Cav-1 KO NSPCs (**Figure 7F, S5A-C**). A reduction in a

circularity was also observed in the iNSC Cav-1 KO NSPCs (**Figure S5D),** which is indicative of

elliptical shape compared to the iNSC Cav-1 WT NSPC. To further build on our findings, live cell

imaging with the fluorescent dye tetramethyl rhodamine methylester (TMRM) was utilized to

observe mitochondrial morphology, membrane potential and velocity in live NSPCs **(Figure 7G**).

Similar to our ultrastructural findings, mitochondria in iNSC Cav-1 KO NSPC exhibited a

significant increase in area **(Figure 7H)**, perimeter per cell **(Figure 7I)** and elliptical shape

(Figure 7J) compared to the iNSC Cav-1 WT NSPCs**.** Further, mitochondria in the iNSC Cav-1

KO NSPC had an increase in branch length compared to WT NSPCs (**Figure 7K).** iNSC Cav-1

KO NSPCs exhibited higher levels of TMRM fluorescence intensity suggesting a higher,

hyperpolarized, mitochondrial membrane potential compared to WT NSPCs (**Figure 7L**). Time-

lapse imaging of mitochondria was analyzed using the Trackmate plugin in ImageJ[60] (**Figure**

7M, Video S1, Video S2). Mitochondria in the iNSC Cav-1 KO NSPC had a significant increase

in velocity and total distance traveled compared to iNSC Cav-1 WT NSPCs **(Figure 7N,O**).

Taken together with previous reports that mitochondrial fusion takes place during neuronal

differentiation [61], our results suggest that the deletion of Cav-1 in NSPCs facilitates neuronal

differentiation by inducing mitochondrial fusion.

Discussion

This study revealed several significant observations. First, we observed that Cav-1 is

expressed in hippocampal NSPCs. Levels of Cav-1 correlated with nestin expression and were

downregulated upon neuronal differentiation. Second, we showed evidence that Cav-1 has a

cell-autonomous role in regulating NSPC differentiation in the adult DG. Cav-1 deletion in

NSPCs resulted in reduced number of proliferating NSPCs and enhanced number of

neuroblasts and immature neurons in the DG, which is suggestive that Cav-1 expression in

NSPCs negatively regulates differentiation. This finding was further supported by increased

expression of Map2 and β-III-tubulin in differentiating iNSC Cav-1 KO NSPCs compared to WT.

The increase in number of immature neurons was manifested as improved context

discrimination performance. Third, we showed that Cav-1 regulates mitochondrial protein

networks in NSPCs. Additionally, we observed that deletion of Cav-1 in NSPCs resulted in

elongated mitochondria, suggesting enhanced fusion, as well as increased mitochondria

velocity and distance traveled. In support of enhanced fusion, we observe that deletion of Cav-1

led to increased Mfn-2 in mitochondria isolated from NSPCs. Our results suggest that Cav-1

plays a role in the recruitment of Drp-1 and Mfn-2 to the mitochondria, providing evidence that

Cav-1 may be a key determinate of mitochondrial dynamics in hippocampal NSPCs.

The balance of quiescence, proliferation, and differentiation of NSCs is essential for the

maintenance of hippocampal neurogenesis. NSCs integrate a variety of extrinsic and intrinsic

signals to determine cell fate and lineage[62]. Cav-1 is enriched in endothelial cells, and thus, may

have a non-cell autonomous role in regulation of hippocampal neurogenesis. Our studies show

that Cav-1 acts as an intrinsic signal regulating the differentiation of NSPCs in the DG. The

transition of NSC from quiescence to proliferation (activation) or vice versa, is closely linked to

the G_0-G_1-S checkpoints of the cell cycle[63]. In fibroblasts, studies show that expression of Cav-1

induces arrest at the G_0-G_1 phase and inhibits proliferation through p53/p21-dependent

signaling[64]. In contrast, cancer studies reveal that Cav-1 depletion causes G_0-G_1 cell cycle arrest

and impaired proliferation[65]. Cav-1 function in hematopoietic stem cells also regulates cell cycle

progression at the G_2-M phase and deletion impairs quiescence and differentiation[66]. Our

observations showed that the deletion of Cav-1 resulted in reduced number of BrdU+ NSPCs,

while it increased the number of BrdU+ immature neurons. This could be the result of a few

mechanisms, including an elongated S phase or reduced division events per cell. Our *in vitro*

studies showing a reduction in the number of EdU positive cells, but a higher signal intensity in

iNSC Cav-1KO support these options. In addition, the increase in BrdU+ committed cells may

suggest a faster exit from the cell cycle. Our studies show that the quiescent NSC pool is

preserved in the iNSC Cav-1 KO mouse at 6 months of age. While Cav-1 deletion causes a

decrease in the number of proliferating NSCs, the total number of NSCs is comparable between

the iNSC Cav-1 KO or WT. This phenotype has also been documented in studies ablating

BMPRII receptors in NSC where the rate of immature neuron generation is increased but no

alterations in the NSC pool were observed[67]. That said, we cannot exclude the possibility that

with time the NSC pool becomes exhausted. Additional studies are warranted to examine the

effect of Cav-1 deletion in NSC on cell cycle progression as well as the transition between

quiescent to proliferative NSCs.

Augmentation of neurogenesis improves context discrimination[2]. Thus, we examined

whether the increase in number of immature neurons in iNSC Cav-1 KO mice improved learning

and memory. We observed that the iNSC Cav-1 KO mice exhibit enhanced discrimination when

contexts are similar but preformed equally to WT mice in spatial recognition memory and

context generalization. These results support the notion that increased neurogenesis improves

neurogenesis-dependent contextual discrimination[68].

Recent studies suggest that changes in mitochondrial morphology impact stem cell

identity and cell fate, and that mitochondrial fusion drives neuronal differentiation [56,61,69]. NSC in

the adult DG exhibit fragmented and globular mitochondria that become more elongated as cells

progress into committed NPCs and immature neurons[70]. *In vivo* and *in vitro* studies show that

when NSPC differentiate into neurons a metabolic switch occurs from glycolysis to

OXPHOS[70,71]. Fragmented morphology is often exhibited when cells utilize glycolysis for ATP

generation whereas elongated mitochondria signify OXPHOS dependence and the electron

transport chain[69]. We observed that NSPC lacking Cav-1 have elongated mitochondria and

increased mitochondria membrane potential compared to controls which is suggestive of a

neuronal phenotype. However, our findings did not show a robust downregulation of glycolytic

proteins LDHA and HK2 or upregulation of OXPHOS proteins. This result could be the result of

the asynchronous nature of cultures grown in proliferative media lacking factors for bulk

neuronal induction. Future experiments should address mitochondria morphology, glycolysis

rate and ATP rate in both NSPC lacking Cav-1 and WT under differentiation conditions.

Additionally, less is known about the metabolic profile and mitochondrial dynamics of quiescent

or non-dividing NSPCs. Protocols inducing quiescence in primary hippocampal NSPCs have

been developed[72] warranting the evaluation of Cav-1 in the regulation of metabolism and

morphology in various stages of cell fate. Intriguingly, elongation of mitochondria observed in

iNSC Cav-1KO NSPCs coincided with upregulated translocation of Mfn-2 to the mitochondria,

while the majority of Drp-1 that facilitates fission was found in the cytosol. Taken together, this

suggests that loss of Cav-1 in NSPCs facilitates mitochondrial fusion. Our results are in

agreement with another study that shows that downregulation of Cav-1 inhibits Drp-1 function

by increasing phosphorylation at Ser637 and thus, promoting mitochondrial fusion[73]. We

observed that Drp-1 was significantly upregulated in the cytosol of iNSC Cav-1 KO NSPC yet no

changes in Drp-1 mitochondrial localization were observed compared to control NSPCs.

Upregulation of Drp-1 expression has been observed during neuronal differentiation[74] but it is

undetermined if this is a result of Cav-1 downregulation or if this alteration impairs Drp-1

function to regulate mitochondrial morphology. A recent study shows that Cav-1 is a negative

regulator of mitochondria endoplasmic reticulum remodeling leading to interference of Drp1

phosphorylation and cellular distribution[75]. It is unknown whether Cav-1 deletion in hippocampal

NSPCs alters phosphorylation dependent activation or inhibition of Drp-1 or interactions with

other fission/fusion related proteins such as mitochondrial fission factor (Mff) or mitochondrial

fission protein 1 (Fis1). Future studies should examine these proteins in iNSC Cav-1 KO and

iNSC Cav-1 WT NSPCs as well as determine whether rescue of Cav-1 restores Drp-1 signaling

and balance of mitochondria dynamics.

In conclusion, this study shows that Cav-1 is a novel autonomous regulator of adult

hippocampal neurogenesis that resides in the outer membrane of mitochondria where it

regulates morphology and dynamics.

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445   Author Contributions

TKLS performed the experiments, analyzed the data and wrote the manuscript. LA, EQ,

YI, KO, EQ, JM and WL assisted with data collection and analysis. AS and JB assisted with the

design of the studies and generation of the mouse models used. RDM and SMC assisted with

the data analysis, interpretation, and revision of the manuscript. OL supervised the project,

assisted with the data analysis, interpretation and revised the manuscript.   All authors

contributed to the review of the manuscript.

453   Declarations of Interests

454   The authors declare no conflict of interests.

456   Figure Titles and Legends

457   Figure 1. Characterization of Cav-1 expression in adult hippocampal NSPC.

(A) Expression of Cav-1 in WT hippocampal NSPC shown by confocal imaging of Cav-1

(green), Nestin (red), and DAPI (blue). Scale bar, 20 µm.

(B-C) Correlation plot of Cav-1 fluorescence intensity per cell by nestin signal intensity per cell

(B) and nestin area per cell (C). Each dot represents the fluorescence intensity of an individual

cell analyzed from WT mice (n=26 cells).

(D) Schematic of NestinCre$^{ERT2/+}$;Cav-1$^{fl/fl}$ mice, where mice were injected at 4-5 weeks of age

with either corn oil (Corn) or tamoxifen (TAM) for 5 consecutive days to generate control mice

(iNSC Cav-1 WT) and Cav-1 knockout mice (iNSC Cav-1 KO), respectively.

(E) RT-qPCR quantification of Cav-1 transcript expression from NSPC isolated from the iNSC

Cav-1 KO and iNSC Cav-1 WT mice.

(F-G) Cav-1 immunoblot and quantification normalized to β-actin of protein lysate from NSPC

isolated from the iNSC Cav-1 KO and iNSC Cav-1 WT mice.

(H) Immunocytochemistry of Cav-1 and confocal imaging of Cav-1 (green) and DAPI (blue) in

hippocampal NSPC isolated from iNSC Cav-1 WT and iNSC Cav-1 KO mice shown. Scale bar,

20 μm.

(I) Ultrastructural electron micrographs of caveolae and clathrin coated vesicles in hippocampal

NSPC isolated from iNSC Cav-1 WT and iNSC Cav-1 KO mice. Solid green arrowhead indicate

caveolae. Open green arrowhead indicate clathrin coated vesicle. Scale bar, 200 nm.

Data represented as mean $\pm$ SEM. Data analyzed by Spearman Correlation Analysis (B-C) **p

< 0.01 and unpaired two-tailed Student's t-test (D-G). **p < 0.01, ****p < 0.0001.

Figure 2. iNSC Cav-1 KO mice have reduced levels of proliferating NSC in the dentate

gyrus.

(A) Strategy to quantify NSC populations in dentate gyrus (DG) of iNSC Cav-1 WT and iNSC

Cav-1 KO mice at 3 and 6 months of age.

(B) Representative confocal images of GFAP (white), Nestin (red), MCM2 (green) and DAPI

(blue) markers in the DG of iNSC Cav-1 WT and iNSC Cav-1 KO mice at 3 months of age.

Yellow arrowheads indicate GFAP$^+$Nestin$^+$MCM2$^+$ cells. Scale bar, 25 μm.

(C-E) Quantification of total NSC (GFAP$^+$Nestin$^+$), quiescent NSC (GFAP$^+$Nestin$^+$MCM2$^-$) and

proliferating NSC (GFAP$^+$Nestin$^+$MCM2$^+$) in the DG of iNSC Cav-1 WT and iNSC Cav-1 KO

mice at 3 months of age. n=5 mice per group.

(F) Representative confocal images of GFAP (white), Nestin (red), MCM2 (green) and DAPI

(blue) positive cells in the DG of iNSC Cav-1 WT and iNSC Cav-1 KO mice at 3 months of age.

Yellow arrowheads indicate GFAP$^+$Nestin$^+$MCM2$^+$ cells. Scale bar, 25 μm.

(G-I) Quantification of total NSC (GFAP$^+$Nestin$^+$), quiescent NSC (GFAP$^+$Nestin$^+$MCM2$^-$) and

proliferating NSC (GFAP$^+$Nestin$^+$MCM2$^+$) in the DG of iNSC Cav-1 WT and iNSC Cav-1 KO

mice at 6 months of age. n=5 mice per group.

(J-M) Clonogenic proliferation assay in NSPC isolated from iNSC Cav-1 WT and iNSC Cav-1

KO mice. The number of clones (neurospheres) (L), average clone diameter (M) and number of

cells after dissociation of clones (N) on day 5 of the assay were quantified per well. Scale bar,

100 µm.

(N-P) EdU uptake assay in NSPC isolated from iNSC Cav-1 WT and iNSC Cav-1 KO mice. (O)

Quantification of the percentage of EdU+ cells to the total DAPI between NSPC isolated from

iNSC Cav-1 WT and iNSC Cav-1 KO mice. (P) EdU fluorescence intensity per DAPI nuclei

between NSPC isolated from iNSC Cav-1 WT and iNSC Cav-1 KO mice. Scale bar, 20 µm.

Data represented as mean ± SEM. Data analyzed by unpaired two-tailed Student's t-test. ns p>

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

Figure 3. Cav-1 regulates differentiation of hippocampal NSPCs.

(A) Confocal images of DCX and NeuN immunostaining in the DG of iNSC Cav-1 WT and iNSC

Cav-1 KO mice at 6 months of age. Scale bar, 25 µm.

(B-D) Quantification of NPCs and neuroblasts (DCX$^+$NeuN$^-$) and immature neurons

(DCX+NeuN+) and total DCX expressing cells in the DG of iNSC Cav-1 WT and iNSC Cav-1

KO mice. n=4 mice per group.

(E) Schematic representation of the protocol used for neural differentiation of primary

hippocampal NSPCs.

(F-H) Quantification of Cav-1, Nestin, and MAP2 transcript expression by RT-qPCR between

iNSC Cav-1 WT and iNSC Cav-1 KO NSPCs undergoing differentiation for 5 days. Expression

level normalized to d0 of iNSC Cav-1 WT NSPC (n=3 replicates).

(I) Immunoblot of Cav-1, Sox2 and β-III-Tubulin in NSPC isolated from iNSC Cav-1 KO and

iNSC Cav-1 WT mice undergoing differentiation for 7 days.

(J-L) Quantification of Cav-1, Sox2 and β-III-Tubulin normalized to GAPDH expression and then

normalized to d0 iNSC Cav-1 WT NSPC (n=3 replicates).

Data represented as mean ± SEM. Data analyzed by unpaired two-tailed Student's t-test (B-D)

and two-way ANOVA with Tukey multiple comparisons correction (F-G and J-L). ns $p > 0.05$, *p

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

Figure 4. Deletion of Cav-1 in NSC causes premature differentiation of newborn neurons

in the dentate gyrus.

(A) 5-bromo-2'-deoxyuridine (BrdU) pulse strategy to quantify changes in NSC fate and

differentiation in DG of iNSC Cav-1 WT and iNSC Cav-1 KO mice at 6 months of age. Mice

were injected daily for 12 consecutive days and sacrificed 24 hr after the last injection.

(B-C) Confocal images of BrdU immunostaining and quantification total number of BrdU$^+$ cells in

the DG of 6-month-old iNSC Cav-1 KO and iNSC Cav-1 WT mice. Scale bar, 25 μm. n=4 mice

per group.

(D) Representative confocal images of BrdU (red), Sox2 (white), GFAP (green) and DAPI (blue)

markers in the DG of iNSC Cav-1 WT and iNSC Cav-1 KO mice at 6 months of age. Solid

yellow arrowheads indicate BrdU$^+$GFAP$^+$Sox2$^+$ cells. Outlined yellow arrowheads indicate

BrdU$^+$GFAP$^-$Sox2$^-$ cells. Scale bar, 25 μm.

(E-G) Quantification of total BrdU$^+$ NSCs (GFAP$^+$Sox2$^+$), BrdU$^+$ NPCs (GFAP$^+$Sox2$^-$) and

percentage of BrdU$^+$ cell phenotypes normalized to total number of BrdU $^+$ cells in the DG of

iNSC Cav-1 WT and iNSC Cav-1 KO mice. n=4 mice per group.

(H) Representative confocal images of BrdU (white), DCX (Green), NeuN (red) and DAPI (blue)

markers in the DG of iNSC Cav-1 WT and iNSC Cav-1 KO mice at 6 months of age. Outlined

yellow arrowheads indicate BrdU$^+$DCX$^+$NeuN$^+$ cells. Scale bar, 25 μm.

(I-K) Quantification of BrdU$^+$ DCX expressing NPCs and neuroblasts (DCX$^+$NeuN$^-$), immature

neurons (DCX+NeuN+), and percentage of BrdU$^+$ immature neurons (DCX+NeuN+) normalized

to total number of BrdU + cells in the DG of iNSC Cav-1 WT and iNSC Cav-1 KO mice. n=4 mice

per group.

Data represented as mean ± SEM. Data analyzed by unpaired two-tailed Student's t-test,

except (G) which was analyzed by two-way ANOVA with Tukey multiple comparisons

correction. ns $p > 0.05$, *$p < 0.05$, and **$p < 0.01$.

Figure 5. iNSC Cav-1 KO mice display enhanced contextual discrimination learning and

memory.

(A) Schematic of contextual fear discrimination paradigm between Context A and B. See

Materials and methods for details.

(B-C) Quantification of percent freeze (30 min post-shock) and discrimination index in context A

and B on Day 2 between the NSC Cav-1 WT and iNSC Cav-1 KO mice. n=12 per genotype.

(D-E) Quantification of percent freeze (24 hr post-shock) and discrimination index in context A

and B on Day 3 between the NSC Cav-1 WT and iNSC Cav-1 KO mice. n=12 per genotype.

(F) Schematic of contextual fear generalization paradigm between Context A and C. See

Materials and methods for details.

(G-H) Quantification of percent freeze (30 min post-shock) and discrimination index in context A

and C on Day 2 between the NSC Cav-1 WT and iNSC Cav-1 KO mice. n=12 iNSC Cav-1 WT

and n=8 iNSC Cav-1 KO.

(H-I) Quantification of percent freeze (24 hr post-shock) and discrimination index in context A

and C on Day 3 between the NSC Cav-1 WT and iNSC Cav-1 KO mice. n=12 iNSC Cav-1 WT

and n=8 iNSC Cav-1 KO.

Data represented as mean ± SEM. Data analyzed in by two-way ANOVA with Tukey's multiple

comparisons correction expect for data in C,E,H,J which was analyzed by unpaired two-tailed

Student's t-test. ns $p > 0.05$, $*p < 0.05$, $**p < 0.01$ and $***p < 0.001$.

Figure 6. Expression of mitochondria and metabolism related proteins are altered in

hippocampal NSPCs lacking Cav-1.

(A) Schematic of proteomic workflow for hippocampal NSPCs isolated from iNSC Cav-1 KO

and iNSC Cav-1 WT mice. See Materials and methods for details.

(B) Volcano plot of proteins identified in iNSC Cav-1 KO vs iNSC Cav-1 WT cells. Significantly

upregulated proteins in red and significantly downregulated proteins in blue. Data represented

as Log_2FoldChange (FC) of mean abundance of proteins normalized to iNSC Cav-1 WT (n=3

iNSC Cav-1 KO and n=3 iNSC Cav-1 WT). DEP determined by a one-way ANOVA with a p-

value of < 0.05.

(C) Bar chart showing the top 10 Ingenuity Pathway Analysis (IPA) altered pathways in the

iNSC Cav-1 KO compared to iNSC Cav-1 WT hippocampal NSPCs (ANOVA, $p < 0.05$).

(D) Cytoscape cluster mapping of altered GO pathways in hippocampal NSPCs isolated from

iNSC Cav-1 KO and iNSC Cav-1 WT mice. Analysis based on Log_2FC ratio of DEPs with a

significant cut off value of $p < 0.05$.

(E) Weighted Venn diagram depicting overlap of DEP with genes encoding proteins localizing to

mitochondria based on Mitocarta 3.0 curation[51].

(F) Volcano plot and (G) Table of Mitocarta 3.0[51] proteins identified in iNSC Cav-1 KO vs iNSC

Cav-1 WT cells. Metabolism related protein in orange; Protein Import, Sorting & Homeostasis in

green; Signaling and Molecule Transport in blue, Mitochondria Central Dogma in purple; and

Mitochondria Dynamics and Surveillance in pink.

Figure 7. Cav-1 regulates mitochondrial morphology and dynamics in hippocampal

NSPC.

(A) Representative confocal image of Caveolin-1 (Cav-1, Green), Mitochondrial import receptor

subunit TOM20 homolog (Tom-20, green) and DAPI (blue) immunostaining in WT hippocampal

NSPCs. Scale bar 10 µm. Mander's Correlation Coefficient of co-localization of Cav-1 with Tom-

20 determined with ImageJ.

(B) Immunoblot of Cav-1, Dynamin-related protein 1 (Drp-1) and Tom-20 in total cell lysate,

cytosol fraction and mitochondrial enriched fraction of WT hippocampal NSPCs. Data

represented as mean ± SEM.

(C) Immunoblot of Drp-1, mitofusion-2 (Mfn-2) and Tom-20 in total cell lysate (TC), cytosol

fraction (Cyto) and mitochondrial enriched fraction (Mito) of iNSC Cav-1 WT and iNSC Cav-1

KO hippocampal NSPCs.

(D) Normalization of iNSC Cav-1 KO Drp-1 and Mfn-2 in cytosol enriched fraction to iNSC Cav-1

WT expression.

(E) Normalization of iNSC Cav-1 KO Drp-1 and Mfn-2 expression in mitochondrial enriched

fraction to iNSC Cav-1 WT expression. Data representative of n=1 T-75 flask of NSPC per

genotype.

(F) Representative transmission electron microscopy (TEM) images of NSPCs isolated from

iNSC Cav-1 KO and iNSC Cav-1 WT mice. Mitochondria are shaded in green; scale bar = 1 µm

with zoomed image scale bar = 500 nm.

(G) Representative live-cell images of TMRM staining in NSPCs isolated from iNSC Cav-1 KO

and iNSC Cav-1 WT mice. NSPCs were incubated with 50 nM TMRM for 30 min followed by

confocal microcopy visualization. Mitochondria were skeletonized in ImageJ. Scale bar, 10 µm.

(H-J) Quantification of mitochondria area per cell, mitochondria perimeter per cell, and circularity

per cell in iNSC Cav-1 WT and iNSC Cav-1 KO NSCPs. N=25 cells per group.

(K) Quantification of skeletonized mitochondria branch length per mitochondria in iNSC Cav-1

WT and iNSC Cav-1 KO NSCPs. N=25 cells per group.

(L) Quantification of TMRM fluorescence in iNSC Cav-1 WT and iNSC Cav-1 KO NSPC. N=25

cells per group.

(M) Representative images of mitochondria trafficking per minute using Trackmate[60] in iNSC

Cav-1 WT and iNSC Cav-1 KO NSPCs. Scale bar 10 μm.

(N) Quantification of mitochondria velocity. n=10 cells per genotype with n=948 particles

(mitochondria) for iNSC Cav-1 WT and n=1259 particles (mitochondria) for iNSC Cav-1 KO

analyzed.

(O) Quantification of mitochondria total distanced traveled. n=10 cells per genotype with n=948

particles (mitochondria) for iNSC Cav-1 WT and n=1259 particles (mitochondria) for iNSC Cav-1

KO analyzed.

Data represented as mean ± SEM. Data analyzed in by unpaired two-tailed Student's t-test

except in (N,O) was analyzed by two-way ANOVA with Tukey's multiple comparisons correction.

ns $p > 0.05$, *$p < 0.05$, **$p < 0.01$, ***$p < 0.001$ and ****$p < 0.0001$.

Methods

Mouse Models

All mouse experiments were approved by the University of Illinois at Chicago Institutional

Animal Care and Use Committee. Mice were housed on a 12-hour light/dark cycle and provided

food and water ad libitum. C57Bl/6J wildtype (WT) and global Cav-1 knockout (gCav-1 KO)

used in experiments were from Jackson Laboratories (Strain #:000664 and Strain #: 007083,

respectively). Inducible NSPC specific-Cav-1 knockout mice (NestinCre[ERT2/+];Cav-1[fl/fl]) were

generated by crossing NestinCre[ERT2/+] mice [2,13] with Cav-1[fl/fl] mice [40,41]. The NestinCre[ERT2/+]

transgene was maintained as hemizygous and the Cav-1[fl/fl] homozygous. Male mice were used

in experiments unless otherwise stated in text.

Tamoxifen Injections

Tamoxifen (TAM, Sigma-Aldrich) was dissolved in corn oil (Sigma-Aldrich) at 20 mg/mL at 37°C and then stored at 4°C for 5 days. To induce recombination, 4–5-week-old mice were intraperitoneally injected at a dose of 130 mg/kg TAM or equal volume of corn oil once a day for 5 consecutive days.

NSPC Isolation and Culture

Primary hippocampal NSPCs were isolated from 6–8-week-old mice similarly as described [43,76]. Hippocampi were dissected in ice-cold HBSS and pooled from 4-6 mice. Hippocampi were transferred to a tissue culture hood, minced using a sterile scalpel until no visible pieces remained (3-5 mins) and transferred to 3-5 mL of warm culture media (DMEM/F-12 with 20 mM KCl, 2 μg/mL heparin, 1% penicillin–streptomycin, 20% B27 supplement, 10% N2 supplement). Tissue was spun at 200g for 2 mins and dissociated with 0.1% Trypsin-EDTA (diluted in DMEM/F12) at 37°C for 10 mins. After incubation, tissue was triturated 5 times with a P1000 pipette. Next, 3 mL of trypsin-inhibitor (0.139 mg/mL and 1U/mL DNase I in HBSS-/-) was added, triturated with a P1000 pipette 5 times and centrifuged at 300g for 5 mins. The cell pellet was singly resuspended in 1 mL of culture media by pipetting an additional 25 times with a P1000 pipette followed by filtration through a 40 μm cell strainer and filter washed with 15-20 mL of culture media. Cells were centrifuged 300g for 5 mins and resuspended in 1 mL of culture media plus growth factors (20 ng/mL EGF and 10 ng/mL bFGF) by pipetting 10 times with a P1000 pipette. Cells were plated in a 24-well plate (1 well per mouse) containing 2 mL of culture media plus growth factors. Half media changes were preformed every 48 hrs for 7-10 days with growth factors added to culture media immediately prior to use.

After the first 7-10 days, cells were collected and centrifuged 300g for 5 mins. The cell

pellet was singly dissociated by pipetting 20 times with a P1000 pipette in 1 mL of culture media

containing growth factors. The cell suspension was filtered through a 40 µm cell strainer and

filter washed with 15-20 mL of culture media. Cells were centrifuged 300g for 5 mins,

resuspended in 1 mL of culture media plus growth factors and plated in 2-3 wells of 6-well plate

containing 3 mL of culture media plus growth factors per well. Half media changes were

preformed every 48 hrs until ~100 µm in diameter neurospheres are formed (7-10 days). All

experiments were performed using NSPCs between passage numbers 3 to 8, where

neurospheres were dissociated using Accutase (StemCell Technologies) at 37°C for 7 mins

followed by the addition of 5 mL culture media and centrifuged 300g for 5 mins. Cells were

counted and plated at 10,000 cells/cm^2 for floating neurosphere cultures. For experiments

requiring monolayers, singly dissociated NSPCs were grown on poly-L-orthinine/laminin

(PLO/laminin) coated plastic dishes or acid washed coverslips. Briefly, plastic dishes and

coverslips were incubated at 37°C with 15 µg/mL PLO diluted in 1X PBS for 24-48 hr, washed

with 1X PBS and incubated at 37°C with 10 µg/mL laminin in 1X PBS for 24 hr. PLO/laminin

coated dishes or coverslips were washed 1 time with 1X PBS prior to plating of cells.

BrdU and EdU Labeling

For the 12-day *in vivo* experiments, 5-bromo-2'-deoxyuridine (BrdU, Sigma) was

prepared fresh daily by dissolving BrdU at 20 mg/mL in 1X PBS at 37°C and then sterile filtered

via 0.22µm syringe filter. Mice were intraperitoneally injected at a dose of 100 mg/kg once daily

for 12 consecutive days and tissue collected 24 hr after the last injection. Mice were sacrificed

and tissue collected 4 weeks after the last injection. For *in vitro* BrdU and EdU experiments,

NSPCs were seeded on PLO/laminin coated coverslips at a density of 50,000 cells/cm^2 and

incubated overnight in culture media containing growth factors. A 5 mM EdU stock was

prepared in DMSO and stored at -20°C until use. EdU stock solutions were diluted to 5 µM in

culture media, sterile filtered via 0. 22µm syringe filter and growth factors added immediately

prior to the start of the experiment.

Clonogenic Proliferation Assay

Hippocampal NSPCs were singly dissociated and plated as floating cultures in 96-well

plates at 1000 cells per well. Cells were grown in culture media containing growth factors (20

ng/mL EGF and 10 ng/mL bFGF) and growth factors were added to media every 48 hr. On day

6, cultures were imaged using a Keyence BZ-X800 followed by dissociation with Accutase to

count the number of cells per well. The number and diameter of neurospheres (clones) per well

was quantified using ImageJ.

Differentiation Assay

Hippocampal NSPCs were seeded on PLO/laminin coated plastic dishes or coverslips at

a density of 50,000 cells/cm^2. Cells were grown in culture media containing growth factors (20

ng/mL EGF and 10 ng/mL bFGF) overnight (8-12 hours). Media was then changed to

differentiation media consisting of culture media (DMEM/F-12 with 20 mM KCl, 2 µg/mL heparin,

1% penicillin–streptomycin, 20% B27 supplement, 10% N2 supplement) with 1 µM retinoic acid

(Sigma) and 5 µM forskolin (Sigma). Half of the media was changed every 48-72 hours. Cells

were fixed or collected after 3 or 7 days of differentiation.

Immunohistochemistry and Immunocytochemistry

Mice were transcardially perfused with ice cold PBS followed by 4% PFA in 1X PBS.

Brains were post-fixed for 24 hr in 4% PFA followed by immersion in 10% sucrose in 1X PBS for

24 hr, 20% sucrose in 1X PBS for 24 hr and 30% sucrose 1X PBS for 24 hr. Brains were

sectioned at 40 µm using a sliding microtome and floating coronal sections were stored in

cryoprotectant consisting of glycerol (20% v/v) and ethylene glycol (24% v/v) in 1X PBS at -

20°C. Sections were washed with 1X PBS, incubated with 1% sodium borohydride in 1X PBS

for 10 mins at RT and washed 3 times with 1X PBS for 10 min per wash. For antibodies

requiring heat induced antigen retrieval, sections were incubated in 10 mM sodium citrate buffer

containing 0.05% Tween 20, pH 6.0 at 99°C for 15 mins in a vegetable steamer. For BrdU

immunodection, sections were washed with 1X PBS, treated in pre-warmed 1N HCl for 40 min

at 37°C followed by incubation with 0.1 M sodium borate buffer pH 8.5 for 10 min at RT.

Following, antigen retrieval or HCl pre-treatment, sections were washed 3 times with 1X PBS for

10 min per wash. Sections were blocked in 1X PBS containing 0.3 M Glycine, 0.2% Triton X-

100 and 5% normal donkey serum (NDS) for 1 hr at RT. After blocking, sections were incubated

with primary antibodies diluted in block solution for 48 hr at 4°C. After primary incubation,

sections were washed 3 times in PBS containing 0.1% Tween-20 (PBST) for 15 mins per wash.

Sections were incubated with secondary antibodies diluted in block solution for 1.5-2 hr at RT.

Sections were washed 3 times in PBST for 15 mins per wash, counterstained with DAPI, and

mounted on Superfrost Plus slides (ThermoFisher) with Prolong Gold Antifade Mountant

(Invitrogen).

For immunocytochemistry (ICC), culture media was removed, coverslips containing cells

were washed two times with 1X PBS and fixed in 4% PFA in 1X PBS for 20 min at RT. Cells

were washed two times with 1X PBS and blocked in 1X PBS containing 0.3 M Glycine, 0.2%

Triton X-100 and 5% NDS for 30 minutes at RT. For EdU detection, cells were processed

according to the Click-iT EdU Cell Proliferation Kit (Invitrogen) instructions prior to blocking step.

For BrdU immunodection, cells were treated in pre-warmed 1N HCl for 40 min at 37°C followed

by incubation with 0.1 M sodium borate buffer pH 8.5 for 10 min at RT prior to blocking step.

Primary antibodies were diluted in blocking solution and incubated 24 hr at 4°C. After primary

incubation, cells were washed 3 times in PBST for 5 mins per wash and incubated with

secondary antibodies diluted in blocking solution for 45 min at RT. Cells were then washed 3

times in PBST for 5 mins per wash, counterstained with DAPI and mounted with Prolong Gold

Antifade Mountant (Invitrogen). All antibodies used in experiments are listed in Key Resource

Table. Images were acquired at 40x or 63x magnification using confocal microscopy (Zeiss LSM

710).

Transmission Electron Microscopy

Cells were washed 3 times with 1X PBS and centrifuged at 300g for 5 min to form

pellets. Cell pellets were fixed in 1.6% glutaraldehyde in 100 mM sodium phosphate, pH 7.4 for

1 hr at room temperature as similarly described[77]. Samples were post-fixed with 1% osmium

tetroxide for 1 hr and dehydrated using an ascending series of ethanol (through 100% absolute).

Sample were then embedded in LX112 epoxy resin and polymerized at 60°C for 3

days. Ultrathin sections (~75 nm) were collected onto copper grids and stained with uranyl

acetate and lead citrate, respectively. Specimens were examined using a JEOL JEM-1400F

transmission electron microscope at 80 kV. Micrographs were acquired using an AMT Side-

Mount Nano Sprint Model 1200S-B and Biosprint 12M-B cameras, loaded with AMT Imaging

software V.7.0.1.

RNA Isolation

To isolate RNA, cells were washed 2 times with 1X PBS and RNA was isolated using a

RNAeasy Plus Mini Kit (Qiagen).

Quantitative Real-Time PCR

Quantitative real-time PCR (qRT-PCR) was used to measure RNA with Luna Universal

One-Step RT-qPCR Kit (New England Biolabs) via CFX Connect Real-Time PCR Detection

System (Bio-Rad). Target gene expression was normalized to gene expression of GAPDH or β-

Actin.

Western blotting

Cells were washed 3 times with 1X PBS and lysed on ice for 10 mins in RIPA buffer

containing protease and phosphatase inhibitor cocktails (ThermoFisher). Lysed samples were

sonicated on ice at 20% power 3 times for 15 s with 5 s rest between sonication. Samples were

centrifuges at 10,000g for 15 mins to remove insoluble material and cellular debris. The

supernatant was collected and protein concentration determined by BCA Protein Assay Kit

(ThermoFisher). Samples were prepared in sample buffer consisting of NuPAGE LDS Sample

Buffer and NuPAGE reducing agent followed by boiling for 5 mins at 95°C. Protein were

separated on Bolt Bis-Tris Plus SDS-PAGE gels (Invitrogen) with MES SDS running buffer

(Invitorgen) and transferred to 0.2 µm nitrocellulose membranes via the iBlot 2 Dry Blotting

System (Invitrogen) Membranes were blocked for 1 hr at RT in 5% non-fat dry milk (milk) diluted

in TBS containing 0.1% Tween-20 (TBST). Primary antibodies were diluted in 5% milk in TBST

and membranes incubated overnight at 4°C. Membranes were washed 3 times for 15 mins per

wash with TBST followed by incubation with HRP conjugated secondary antibodies diluted in

5% milk in TBST for 2 hr at RT. Membranes were washed 3 times for 15 mins per wash and

developed with ECL Super Signal Kit via Kodak RP X-OMAT developer or Azure Biosystems

300q Image Western Blot Imaging System. Band intensities were quantified in Fiji (NIH) from

scanned images and total protein expression was normalized to GAPDH or β-Actin protein

expression.

Cell Quantification

For *in vivo* experiments, every sixth section of brain tissue was quantified using

unbiased stereology (StereoInvestigator, MBF Biosciences). Under the optical fractionator

workflow, contours of the DG were traced under 10x magnification and cells counted under 63x

magnification. A 120 µm x 120 µm counting frame with a 2 µm guard zone on both sides of the

section and a counting grid size determined by sampling 35% or 50% of the contour was used.

The volume of DG ($µm^3$) was determined by multiplying the area of contour by the measured

mounted thickness of the section. Total cell counts were normalized to volume of DG ($µm^3$)

counted per mouse. Alternatively for DCX and NeuN cell quantification, 30 µm z-stacks of the

DG were acquired at 25x magnification using confocal microscopy (Zeiss LSM 710) and positive

cells counted from maximum projection images in Fiji (NIH). For in vitro experiments, 10 µm z-

stacks were acquired at 40x or 63x magnification using confocal microscopy (Zeiss LSM 710)

and positive cells counted from maximum projection images in Fiji (NIH).

Behavior Tests

All mice were handled 3-5 days for 2 min per mouse per day prior to the start of behavior

testing.

Elevated Plus Maze

The elevated plus maze (EPM) test was used to examine anxiety-like behavior. The

EPM apparatus consisted of two open arms without walls and two closed arms with opaque

walls. Mice were placed at the center of the apparatus facing an open arm and allowed to freely

explore for 5 mins. The EPM apparatus was cleaned with 70% ethanol between mice. Video

recordings were analyzed by Ethovision XT v16 software (Noldus) and the time spent in the

open and closed arms as well as frequency of entries into the arms was calculated.

Novel Object Location

The novel object location (NOL) test was used to examine spatial learning and memory

behavior as similarly described in X. A 38 cm x 51 cm x 30 cm opaque white plastic chamber

box with one short end containing a black circle wall print and the other short end containing a

black vertical line wall print was utilized. On day 1 of the test, mice were habituated in the empty

box for 10 mins followed by placement of 2 identical objects equal distance a part on the short

end of the box containing the black circle wall print for 10 mins. Objects were removed for 5 min

and then replaced in same locations for another 10 min session. Mice were placed back in

home cages for 24 hrs. On day 2, mice were habituated in the empty box for 10 mins and tested

by placing one of the objects in a novel location diagonally to the other one along the short end

of the box with black vertical line wall print. Mice were allowed to explore the objects for 5 mins.

Video was captured for every trial and exploration time with each object was manually scored

blinded. Chambers were cleaned with 70% ethanol between mice. The discrimination index (DI)

was calculated as $DI = (T_N - T_o)/(T_n + T_o)$, where T_N is the exploration time with the object in the

new location and T_o the exploration time with the object in the old location.

Contextual Fear Discrimination

This contextual fear discrimination test was conducted similarly as described[47]. All

contexts consisted of 17.8 cm x 17.8 cm x 30.5 cm chamber housed in a sound isolation cubicle

(Coulbourn Instruments). Context A consisted of two translucent plexiglass walls, two walls

comprised of alternating black and white metal tiles and a stainless-steel rod floor. Context A

also had a 28V exhaust fan. Context B had no fan and consisted of two walls comprised of

alternating black and white metal tiles, two walls of black vertical line print and a stainless-steel

rod floor. To test fear generalization, Context B was exchanged with Context C that had no fan,

a circular wall insert made of up of a black and white plastic sheet and a black plastic floor

covering. On day 1 of the test, mice were exposed to Context A for 10 mins. On day 2, mice

were placed in Context A, received a 2s foot shock (0.7mA) immediately upon entry and

remained in Context A for an additional 28s (a total of 30s in Context A). Thirty mins later, mice

were placed back in Context A for a 3 min exposure trial followed by placement in Context B for

3 min exposure trial. On day 3 (24 hr post-shock), mice were placed in Context A for 3 mins or

Context B for 3 mins in a counter-balanced order. For a less difficult discrimination test, mice

followed the same sequence as stated but were placed in Context C instead of Context B on

day 2 and 3. FreezeFrame software (Actimetrics) was used for video recording and analysis of

freezing behavior in each context. Chamber walls and floor were cleaned with 70% ethanol

between mice. The discrimination index (DI) was calculated as $DI = (F_A-F_x)/(F_A+F_x)$, where F_A is

the percentage of freezing in Context A and F_x is the percentage of freezing in either Context B

or Context C.

Nano-LC-MS/MS analysis

Cells were isolated as described in Section 2.2.4 and washed 3 times in 1X PBS prior to

freezing in liquid nitrogen. Cell pellets were lysed in 10% sodium dodecyl sulfate (SDS)

containing 100 mM triethylammonium bicarbonate (TEAB) with Pierce protease inhibitor

(ThermoFisher Scientific) supplemented, sonicated, and centrifuged at 14,000 rpm for 10

minutes. Protein supernatant was collected and quantified using a BCA Protein Assay Kit

(ThermoFisher). 100 ug of protein per sample was processed, trypsin digested in S-Trap

microcolumns (Protifi), and peptides labeled according to the TMT10plex Isobaric Label

Reagent Set (ThermoFisher) manufacture instructions. 100 fmol green fluorescent protein

(GFP) per μg of protein was spiked in each sample before digestion. Each individual isobaric

labeled sample was combined, lyophilized, and resuspended in 10 mM ammonium hydroxide

prior to fractionation by high pH reversed-phase liquid chromatography. 60 fractions were

collected and further concatenated into 20 fractions by combining 3 fractions for every 20

fractions apart[78]. All fractions were dried down completely then resuspended in 0.1% formic

acid. Peptide chromatographic separations and mass detection occurred with an Agilent 1260

nano/capillary HPLC system (Agilent Technologies) coupled to an Q-Exactive Orbitrap mass

spectrometer (MS, ThermoFisher Scientific). Peptides were loaded onto an Acclaim PepMap

100 trap column (75 μm × 2 cm nanoViper, C18, 3 μm 100 Å, ThermoFisher Scientific) at flow

rate of 2 μL/min. Peptides were further separated using a Zorbax 300SB-C18 column

(0.075×150 mm, 3.5 μm 300 Å) (Agilent Technologies) at a flow rate of 0.25 μL/min, and eluted

using a 5-30% mobile phase B gradient consisting of 0.1% formic acid in acetonitrile over 90

minutes. Data was collected in the data-dependent acquisition (DDA) mode at a mass resolution

of 70,000 and scan range 375-2000 m/z. Automatic gain control (AGC) target was set at 1×10^6

for a maximum injection time (IT) of 100 ms. The top 10 most abundant precursors (charge

state between 2 and 5) were selected for MS/MS analysis. MS/MS spectra were acquired at a

resolution of 35,000, AGC target at 1×10^6, and maximum IT of 50 ms. All raw mass

spectrometry data is publicly available on MassIVE with project ID MSV000090289

(ftp://massive.ucsd.edu/MSV000090289/).

The raw MS/MS data for each sample was searched against the curated SwissProt *Mus*

musculus database in Proteome Discoverer software (v2.3.0.523, ThermoFisher Scientific),

where trypsin was selected as the protease with 2 or less missed cleavage sites, precursor and

fragment mass error tolerances set to 10 ppm and ± 0.02 Da, and only peptide precursors of +2,

+3, +4 were analyzed. Peptide variable modifications allowed during the search were: oxidation

((+15.995 Da; M), TMT6 (+229.163 Da; S, T), and acetylation (+42.011 Da; N-terminus),

whereas carbamidomethyl (+57.021 Da; C) and TMT (+229.163 Da; any N-terminus) were set

as static modifications. Samples were grouped as iNSC Cav-1 KO (n=3) and iNSC Cav-1 WT

(n=3). Protein identifications were accepted if they contained at least 2 unique peptides and

abundances normalized to total peptide abundance. Differentially expressed proteins (DEP) for

the iNSC Cav-1 KO NSPCs relative to the iNSC Cav-1 WT NSPCs were determined by applying

ANOVA with a p-value of < 0.05.

Protein pathway and mitochondria protein analysis

Protein pathway analysis was conducted on DEP using Ingenuity Pathway Analysis

(IPA, Qiagen) and Gene Ontology (GO) enrichment analysis[77,79] using g:Profiler[80]

(ve107_eg54_p17_bf42210). Functional enrichment maps were constructed in Cytoscape[81] with

EnrichmentMap pipeline collection applications[82]. Mitochondria pathways and functional groups

were determined by manual curation using the MitoCarta 3.0 dataset[51].

Mitochondria Isolation

Cells were washed 3 times with 1X PBS and mitochondria were isolated according to the

manufacturer instructions using the Mitochondria Isolation Kit (ThermoFisher). Briefly, cells were

pelleted by centrifugation at 300g for 5 mins at 4°C. Reagent A containing protease and

phosphatase inhibitor cocktails (ThermoFisher) was added to the cell pellet and placed on ice

for 2 mins. Cells were then lysed by 100 strokes using a Dounce tissue homogenizer. Following

the addition of Reagent C, the lysate was centrifuged at 700g for 10 mins at 4°C. The

supernatant was then collected and centrifuged at 3000g for 15 min at 4°C to pellet

mitochondria from the cytosol. The cytosol containing supernatant was collected and the

mitochondria enriched pellet was washed with Reagent C and then centrifuged for 12000g for 5

mins at 4°C. The mitochondria enriched pellet was lysed in 1% CHAPS in TBS and processed

for BCA protein estimation and western blotting as described.

TMRM Live Cell Imaging

Tetramethylrhodamine, methyl ester (TMRM) live cell imaging was conducted similarly

as described[83]. Singly dissociated NSPCs were grown on PLO/laminin coated 35mm glass

bottom live cell imaging dishes at a density of 50,000 cells/well. 24 hrs after plating, media was

replaced with proliferation media containing 50 nM TMRM. Cells were incubated with TMRM for

30 mins at 37°C. Immediately prior to imaging, cells were washed 2 times with PBS followed by

replacement of proliferation media lacking phenol red. 2D images were captured with a 63X

objective using a Zeiss LSM880 META confocal microscope with heated stage and a DPSS

561-10 laser set at 0.1% laser power with GaAsP detection. For quantification of mitochondria

morphology, images were analyzed with ImageJ as described[84]. For 2D time lapse videos,

images were captured with 3x digital zoom for 120 s at frame rate of 3 Hz. Mitochondria velocity

and total distance traveled were measured using the Trackmate[60] plugin in ImageJ.

Statistics

In all graphs, data is shown as mean ± SEM. Prism (Graphpad) was used for statistical

analysis with tests indicated in figure legends. The following was used for p values: ns > 0.05,

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

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A NestinCre^ERT2/+;Cav-1^fl/fl — TAM/Corn — 12 d BrdU — Analysis; 0 — 1 — 6 (mo)

B iNSC Cav-1 WT | iNSC Cav-1 KO — BrdU DAPI

C Total BrdU — Total BrdU/mm³ of DG — iNSC Cav-1 WT, iNSC Cav-1 KO — p = 0.05

D BrdU Sox2 GFAP DAPI — iNSC Cav-1 WT, iNSC Cav-1 KO

E BrdU⁺ NSCs — BrdU⁺GFAP⁺Sox2⁺/mm³ of DG — iNSC Cav-1 WT, iNSC Cav-1 KO — **

F BrdU⁺ NPCs — BrdU⁺GFAP⁻Sox2⁺/mm³ of DG — iNSC Cav-1 WT, iNSC Cav-1 KO — p = 0.07

G iNSC Cav-1 WT, iNSC Cav-1 KO — % BrdU⁺/Total BrdU — Astrocytes (GFAP⁺Sox2⁻) ns, NSCs (GFAP⁺Sox2⁺) p = 0.05, NPCs (GFAP⁻Sox2⁺) ns, GFAP⁻Sox2⁻ **

H BrdU DCX NeuN DAPI — iNSC Cav-1 WT, iNSC Cav-1 KO

I BrdU⁺ NPCs & Neuroblasts — BrdU⁺DCX⁺NeuN/mm³ of DG — iNSC Cav-1 WT, iNSC Cav-1 KO — ns

J BrdU⁺ Immature Neurons — BrdU⁺DCX⁺NeuN⁺/mm³ of DG — iNSC Cav-1 WT, iNSC Cav-1 KO — *

K BrdU⁺ Immature Neurons — %BrdU⁺DCX⁺NeuN⁺/Total BrdU — iNSC Cav-1 WT, iNSC Cav-1 KO — *