Modeling Hereditary Diffuse Leukoencephalopathy with Axonal Spheroids using microglia-sufficient brain organoids

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Abstract

Hereditary diffuse leukoencephalopathy with axonal spheroids (HDLS) is a rare, fatal,

adult-onset neurodegenerative disease that is most often caused by mutations affecting the

Colony Stimulating factor-1 Receptor (CSF-1R). To understand how CSF-1R-mutation

affects human microglia – the specialized brain-resident macrophages of the central

nervous system – and the downstream consequences for neuronal cells, we used a

macrophage and forebrain organoid co-culture system based on induced pluripotent stem

cells generated from two patients with HDLS, with *CSF-1R* gene-corrected isogenic

organoids as controls. Macrophages derived from iPSC (iMacs) of patients exhibited a

metabolic shift towards the glycolytic pathway and reduced CSF-1 sensitivity, which was

associated with higher levels of IL-1β production and an activated inflammatory

phenotype. Single-cell RNA sequencing revealed that iMacs adopt a reactive state that

leads to impaired regulation of neuronal cell populations in organoid cultures, thereby

identifying microglial dysregulation and specifically IL-1β production as key contributors

to the degenerative neuro-environment in HDLS.

Key words:

HDLS, CSF-1R, neurodegenerative disease, iPSC-induced primitive macrophages, iMac,

forebrain organoid, co-culture, IL-1beta

Introduction

Hereditary diffused leukoencephalopathy with axonal spheroids (HDLS) – also known as adult-onset leukodystrophy with axonal spheroids and pigmented glia (ALSP), is a rare, inherited, autosomal dominant, neurodegenerative disease that is characterized by patchy axonal swellings (spheroids) and demyelination that result in the alteration of the white matter of the brain (1). Although detailed epidemiological data are lacking, in 2021, it was estimated that approximately a quarter of a million people globally are affected by the condition (2); yet our understanding of the pathogenesis of the disease is limited, and there is no cure or even effective treatment.

For more than a decade, we have known that HDLS is caused by mutations affecting the colony-stimulating factor-1 receptor (CSF-1R) (3) which most often occur in the tyrosine kinase domain (TKD) (4), and lead to reduced auto-phosphorylation in response to CSF-1, which results in impaired downstream signaling (4, 5). These mutations most profoundly affect microglia (6), the specialized brain-resident macrophages that play critical roles in brain development and homeostasis (7, 8) as well as in a wide range of neuroinflammatory and neurodegenerative diseases (9). Patients with HDLS have few, small, microglia that are distributed abnormally within the neocortex and that express low levels of the homeostatic marker P2RY12 and high levels of the inflammatory marker CD68, compared to healthy controls (10-12).

Studies aiming to understand the pathophysiology of HDLS have used various approaches.

Rodent models have been generated, but do not faithfully recapitulate the disease

phenotype in humans: the earliest haplo-insufficient $Csf\text{-}1r^{+/-}$ mice model exhibited

microgliosis within brain regions (13), but this was not recapitulated in a later Csf-1r

knockout rat model (14); while a subsequent orthologous mouse model has phenocopied

the reduced microglia density seen in patients with HDLS but does not exhibit brain

pathology (15). A zebrafish model of HDLS similarly saw reduced microglia during brain

development (16), but does not offer the opportunity to study pathology associated with

adult-onset neurodegenerative diseases (17). To overcome these species-specific

limitations, in this study we generated human induced pluripotent stem cell (iPSC) -

derived macrophages from patients with HDLS and used them to create microglia-

sufficient autologous brain organoids (18) in which we characterized the effects of

naturally occurring *CSF-1R* mutation on microglial function. By comparing iPSC-derived

macrophages to genetically corrected macrophages from the same patients, we uncovered

evidence of significant transcriptional and metabolic reprogramming that was associated

with profound changes to neuronal regulation by these cells, indicative of the likely

mechanistic links between microglial dysfunction and HDLS.

RESULTS

Generation and characterization of iPSC lines from patients with HDLS

We first isolated dermal fibroblasts from skin biopsies taken from two patients with HDLS

and confirmed mutations in the TDK region of the *CSF-1R* gene (HD1, HD2; clinical

characteristics shown in Supplemental Table 1) then cultured them for approximately four

weeks before reprogramming into induced pluripotent stem cells (iPSCs) (**Fig 1A**). Four

to five weeks post-transfection, we observed iPSC-like colonies emerging (**Supp Fig 1B**),

and 7-10 days later, we selected those clones that were proliferating and displayed typical

iPSC morphology (**Fig 1C**). We confirmed successful reprogramming by visualization of

pluripotency markers including SOX2 and OCT4 (nuclear markers), and TRA-1-60 and

SSEA-4 (intracellular marker), by immunofluorescence (**Fig 1D**). We also confirmed that

these clones had normal karyotype (**Fig 1E**) and termed them Mut HD1 and Mut HD2.

One clone per cell line was used for further analysis. We then generated isogenic from

Mut HD1 and Mut HD2 iPSC cell lines which we termed IsoHD1 and IsoHD2

respectively, as controls (see Methods). Clones that were karyotypically normal were used

for downstream experiments alongside their mutant counterparts (**Fig 1B**), with no off-

target events identified (**Supp Fig 1C**). Collectively, HDLS iPSC and their corresponding

isogenic iPSC controls were successfully generated from two patients with HDLS (HD1

and HD2).

Generation and characterization of patient iPSC-derived macrophages

We next sought to differentiate primitive microglia-like macrophages from patient-derived

iPSC cell lines (iMacs) using our serum-free protocol that faithfully recapitulates the

generation of *in vivo* microglial progenitor cells (19). Briefly, iPSCs were initially

inducted towards the mesodermal lineage before being differentiated into hemangioblast-

like cells with the potential to differentiate into both endothelial and hematopoietic

progenitors - the latter emerging as free-floating cells as early as day six after seeding -

which we collected and then terminally differentiated into iMacs by the addition of CSF-1

(**Fig 2A**). Although HDLS mutation downregulates the sensitivity of CSF-1R to its ligand

(5), we were able to successfully generate iMacs using this protocol: the yield of iMacs

from iPSC varied between cultures (**Fig 2B**), but flow cytometry confirmed their

consistent macrophage-like phenotype, with abundant expression of CD45 and CD14 (**Fig**

2C), and Giemsa staining showed that iMacs exhibited comparable morphology between

donors (**Fig 2D**). Functionally, all iMac cultures were equally able to take up PE-labelled

beads that were detectable within their cell bodies (**Fig 2D**); flow cytometry confirmed

that the level of actin-dependent phagocytosis of pHrodo beads was comparable among

CD45-expressing cells from all cultures (**Fig 2E**). Collectively, these data show that iMacs

generated from HDLS donor-derived iPSC adopted the typical morphology, phenotype

and functions associated with macrophages.

The mutations associated with HDLS downregulate the sensitivity of CSF-1R to its ligand

CSF-1, but to different extents depending on the mutation site (5). We therefore compared

the survival of our mutant and isogenic cells lines from both patients during culture with

CSF-1. As expected, even with high concentrations of CSF-1, relatively few mutant cells

survived across seven days of culture; by contrast, even low CSF-1 levels allowed

significantly more isogenic cells to survive (**Fig 2F**)**.**

In summary, we generated iMacs from iPSC of patients with HDLS and their respective

isogenic controls that exhibit typical macrophage morphology, phenotype, and phagocytic

capabilities.

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Mutant and isogenic control iMacs have distinct gene expression profiles

Although iMacs derived from patients with HDLS exhibited core macrophage features, we

wanted to more fully understand the impact of *CSF-1R* mutation on these cells. We first

characterized their gene expression profile using bulk RNA-seq and compared it to that of

their respective *CSF-1R*-restored isogenic iMac cultures.

Principal component analysis (PCA) showed that patterns of gene expression differed

markedly between mutant and isogenic iMacs. Among cell cultures from HD1, mutant

iMacs exhibited patterns of gene expression consistent with a more reactive state

compared to isogenic *CSF-1R*-restored HD1: HD1 Mut had higher expression of genes

involved in pathways related to proliferation (IGF2, MYBL2, STAT1, INCEP, TGFA) and

the defense response to virus (IFI27, IFI44L, STAT1, MX1, IFIT3); while Iso HD1 iMacs

expressed high levels of genes involved in chemokine-related responses and signaling

pathways (CXCL2, ADAM8, CCL31L, CCL5,), as well as leukocyte migration and

chemotaxis (CXCL3, CCL13, CCL2, E5AR1, C3AR1) (**Fig 3A-C**). We observed a similar

transcriptomic profile in HD2-derived iMacs: HD2 Mut showed up-regulated gene

expression for the defensive response to virus, while isogenic HD2 iMacs exhibited high

expression levels of genes involved in leukocyte migration and chemotaxis (**Fig 3D-F**).

These data are in line with previous reports suggesting that macrophages from patients

with HDLS adopt an inflammatory phenotype with increased expression of the

immunoreactive markers CD68 and CD163 (10, 12). Additionally, an upregulation of the

immature myeloid cell marker MPO (20), and a reduced expression of mature macrophage

marker MARCO (21) was observed within mutant iMac of both cell lines. Taken together,

iMac cultures derived from patients with HDLS exhibited transcriptomic profiles

consistent with upregulated inflammatory gene expression as a result of impeded CSF-1R

function.

Mutant and isogenic control iMacs have distinct metabolic profiles

Studies have shown that activated macrophages often undergo metabolic reprogramming

to fulfil the energetic needs of demanding biochemical processes (22, 23); alongside, we

know that energy metabolism, as well as metabolic cell features, plays an important role in

mediating macrophage function and plasticity (24). Therefore, we next compared the

cellular metabolic profiles of patient-derived *CSF-1R* mutant and isogenic *CSF-1R*-

restored iMacs.

We first assessed glycolysis by measuring the extracellular acidification rate (ECAR) in

the presence of specific modulators (glucose, oligomycin, 2-deoxy-glucose) that were

added sequentially to the cell cultures to reveal various aspects of the metabolic pathway

(see Methods): this showed that *CSF-1R*-mutant iMacs from both HD1 and HD2 had a

significant overall increase in glycolytic function (**Fig 3G and 3O**). Although the

magnitude of the difference between iMac HD1 and HD2 and their respective *CSF-1R*-

restored counterparts varied, in both cases, *CSF-1R* mutation was associated with

significantly increased glycolytic capacity and glycolytic reserve.

Next, we determined the functional metabolic profile of mitochondrial respiration by

measuring real-time changes in the extracellular oxygen consumption rate (OCR) during

sequential treatment of cells with oligomycin, carbonyl cynide p-

trifluoromethoxyphenylhydrazone (FCCP) and a combination of rotenone and antimycin

A. As before, although the magnitude of effect was less for cells from HD1, both sets of

iMacs showed a similar trend towards higher OCR values, and greater capacity for basal

respiration, ATP production, and maximal respiratory capacity in the presence of mutated

CSF-1R in the case of HD2 Mut cells, these differences achieved statistical significance

across all three bioenergetic parameters.

Taken together, these results indicate that the absence of fully functional CSF-1R in cells

from HD1 and HD2 is associated with an upregulated glycolytic metabolic profile, which

is cells from HD2 is clearly accompanied by a higher mitochondrial oxidative

phosphorylation rate. This suggests that macrophages from patients with HDLS have an

altered metabolic profile that correlates with their higher activation status and could

contribute to disease pathology.

HDLS iMacs upregulate IL-1β when exposed to apoptotic neuronal cells

Our data suggest that mutant iMacs have dysregulated transcriptomic and metabolic

profiles, suggestive of an active inflammatory state. To better understand how this would

be expressed in the context of their functions in the brain, we mimicked a need for

apoptotic cell clearance by incubating iMacs from patients with HDLS with UV-irradiated

neuronal SH-SY5Y cells (**Supp Fig 2A**). Both iMac lines (*CSF-1R* mutant and isogenic)

from both patients effectively phagocytosed apoptotic but not control, non-UV-irradiated,

SH-SY5Y cells, in an actin-dependent manner (**Supp Fig 2B**).

We then measured the expression of genes encoding pro- (IFN-g, TNF-α, IL-1β, IL-6, IL-

18) and anti- (IL-10, IL-12, TGF-β) inflammatory cytokines following incubation of

iMacs with UV-irradiated or non-irradiated SH-SY5Y cells, or without any SH-SY5Y

cells, for eight hours. We observed a significant and specific increase in IL-1β

transcription in *CSF-1R* mutated iMacs from both HD1 and HD2 when exposed to

apoptotic cells, compared with their isogenic counterparts. Among the anti-inflammatory

cytokines, Mut HD2 cells exhibited significantly increased transcription of the gene

encoding TGF-β when cocultured with UV-treated cells, alongside high baseline levels of

IL-12 and TGF-β in control cultures compared to isogenic HD2 iMacs. Interestingly, all

CSF-1R mutant iMac groups had higher levels of transcription of most pro-inflammatory

cytokines at baseline, consistent with their activated/reactive transcriptional profile, than

did their *CSF-1R*-restored counterparts (**Fig 4A-B**).

Collectively, all iMacs exhibited the ability to specifically phagocytose apoptotic cells, but

in the absence of a fully functional CSF-1R, this led to high levels of IL-1β transcription,

which reflected a general propensity towards the transcription of pro-inflammatory

cytokine genes, even in the absence of overt stimulation. Importantly, restoration of *CSF-*

1R via gene editing was sufficient to reverse this inflammatory phenotype.

iMacs differentiate into microglia-like cells (iMicro) in a coculture with forebrain organoid

During HDLS, patients typically exhibit degeneration of the frontal lobes of the brain, which contributes to the deficit and decline in cognitive ability, changes to personality and behavior, and dysfunctional motor, social, and language skills (25, 26). Therefore, we next generated iPSC-derived forebrain organoids including autologous iMacs from patients with HDLS to better understand their potential role in the brain.

To better understand how diseased or non-diseased macrophages affect the developing brain, we first generated forebrain organoids from the isogenic cell line variant of the respective donor's iPSC (see Methods). After 31 days, organoids were harvested (**Supp Fig 3A**) and co-cultured for seven days with isogenic or mutant iMacs that had been generated in parallel (**Fig 5A**). At this point, each organoid was removed from its coculture and cultured individually for 16 more days (**Fig 5B**).

We then applied 3D imaging of forebrain organoids to assess their morphology and the distribution/differentiation of the iMacs. This showed that iMacs expressing the microglial marker IBA-1, were mostly located on the surface of the organoids (**Fig 5C**). We also labelled organoids for NESTIN (a neuronal cell marker) and SOX2 (expressed by neuronal progenitor cells (NPCs). In all of the organoids, neural epithelial rosettes were present, consisting mostly of SOX2$^+$ NPCs (**Supp Fig 3B**); these structures indicate favorable organoid growth as they demonstrate proper lineage progression leading to forebrain region identity (27) Importantly, organoids to which we did not add iMacs did

not contain any IBA-1^{+} cells (**Supp Fig 3C**); this was as expected from our previous work

(18), but was in contrast to previous studies that reported innately-derived microglia in

mesodermal-lineage-containing cerebral organoids (27, 28).

Next, we characterized the different cell populations within organoids after 23 days of

coculture and compared iMacs before and after co-culture. After organoid dissociation,

cells were labelled with antibodies to differentiate neurons (CD45^{-}/CD184^{-}/CD44^{-}

/CD15^{lo}/CD24^{+}), NPCs (CD45^{-}/CD184^{+}/CD271^{-}/CD44^{-}/CD24^{+}) and iMacs (CD45^{+})

before undergoing sorting (**Fig 5D**) followed by bulk-RNA sequencing. During the course

of the work, sufficient iMicro numbers for downstream analysis were only generated from

coculture with mutant iMacs for HD1 and isogenic iMacs for HD2 respectively. Compared

to Day 31 non-co-cultured iMacs, HD1 iMacs after co-culture had profoundly altered their

gene expression (**Fig 5E**), with the upregulated DEGs showing an increase in various

pathways that are characteristic of microglial functions in the brain such as central nervous

system and brain development (CNTN1, ZIC2, EFNA2, GLI3), synapse organization,

synapse and neuron organization and development (SLC1A1, DGKB, TRIM67), as well

as neurogenesis (CHD11, ADCYAP1) (**Fig 5F-G**).

Likewise, for HD2 iMacs, PCA also suggested that their patterns of gene expression were

markedly different between cocultured and non-cocultured populations (**Fig 5H**), while

GO analysis of the upregulated DEGs revealed an increase in various pathways linked

with typical microglial functions in the brain such as glial cell differentiation and

gliogenesis (CLU, MDK, CXCR4, RELN, TMEM98, TUBA1A), axonal development

(UCHL1, MAP1B, CRABP2, TUBB2B, LGI1) as well as forebrain development

(TUBB2B, MDK, CXCR4, RELN, LHX2) (**Fig 5I-J**). This shows that iMacs undergoing

coculture with forebrain organoids have differentiated to a certain extent, into microglia-

like cells.

Co-culture results in impaired regulation of neurons within organoids

Microglia not only act as sentinel cells, but are also important contributors to

neuroplasticity and neurogenesis in the developing brain that ultimately help shape the

brain circuitry (29). Part of this role requires microglia to regulate the population of NPCs

and neurons during the unrestrained, highly proliferative phase of early brain development

(30, 31); therefore, we next asked whether the microglia-like cells from our iMac-

forebrain organoids were also capable of regulating neurogenesis *in vitro*.

As such, we sought to compare the size of the organoids, as well as the individual major

cell population in each organoid, for both variants between isogenic organoids that did not

undergo co-culture, and those that underwent 23 days of co-culture by comparing their

area before and after co-culture. Co-culture of HD1 saw a slight reduction in the organoid

size among both co-culture parameters before and after co-culture. However, comparison

of the organoid size on coculture Day 23 only, saw the isogenic control parameter as the

only group that had a reduction in organoid size when compared to the organoid-only

control (**Fig 6A**). On the contrary, HD2 displayed no significance in organoid size

reduction even after co-culture (**Fig 6B**).

Subsequently, these co-cultured organoids were dissociated, stained, sorted and quantified

for the respective cell populations. Co-culture of IsoHD1 organoid with IsoHD1 iMac saw

a significant reduction in the neuronal population when compared to control organoids that

did not underwent co-culture. Conversely, coculture with mutant HD1 iMac saw a smaller

degree of neurons reduction but was not significant (**Fig 6C**). Next, co-culture of IsoHD2

organoid with IsoHD2 iMac saw a slight reduction in neuronal population that was not

statistically significant, while the co-culture with mutant HD2 iMac saw no difference

when compared with control organoids (**Fig 6D**). Interestingly, we did not detect any

change in the NPC population for either HD1 or HD2 after co-culture, likely because their

numbers were relatively low to begin with due to the cellular composition of the forebrain

organoid. Similarly, the iMac population was also small in all co-cultures. Transcriptomic

analysis of the neurons of HD2 co-culture saw the mutant iMac co-culture having

upregulated expression of genes associated with mitochondrial respiration (BCS1L,

MRPL18, TSFM, MRPL11, MRPS30) but this phenomenon was not present in the

isogenic iMac co-culture (**Fig 6E**). Conversely, transcriptomic analysis of the NPCs of

HD2 co-culture saw the isogenic iMac co-culture having upregulated expression of genes

associated with mitochondrial respiration (**Fig 6F**). Taken together, our model suggests

that HDLS mutation affects neuronal population in a microglia-dependent manner and that

this phenomenon is variable and mutation-dependent.

DISCUSSION

HDLS is an incurable neurodegenerative disease that begins in adulthood, progresses rapidly and has a grim prognosis. Efforts to elucidate the functional or dysfunctional aspects of the causative mutations in the *CSF-1R* gene have been hampered by the lack of an accurate disease model that recapitulates the human pathology: although rodent and zebrafish models have been generated and imparted valuable insights towards HDLS (13-16), discrepancies and limitations in each case have led to incomplete recapitulation of the disease's pathology, specifically in microglia numbers within brain regions and the effects on respective cognitive and sensorimotor tests. Additionally, a model looking into immune-neuronal crosstalk to better understand a neurodegenerative disorder that is primarily associated with microgliopathy, is important to advance the field. Here, we first generated iPSC lines from two patients with HDLS and then used CRISPR/Cas9 technology to reinstate a fully functional *CSF-1R* gene into some of the lines. While the generation of an HDLS donor-derived iPSC cell line has been reported (32), no other *in vitro* studies have yet reverted the causative mutation to wild type; a necessary step to understanding the direct impacts of diminished/absent CSF-1R signaling.

We then generated and characterized iMacs - precursors of microglia - from these lines, which exhibited typical morphology, phenotype and phagocytic capacity that were not obviously affected by *CSF-1R* mutation. Although we were able to generate phenotypically and functionally similar iMac across these lines for example for phagocytic capability, iMac yield varied greatly between the cell lines with a 50% lower yield for Mut

HD1 compared to IsoHD1 and, conversely, a higher yield for Mut HD2 200% compared to

IsoHD2. This fundamental difference could be attributed to their respective mutations: the

nonsense mutation identified in HD2 could not only more profoundly affect receptor

signaling, but might also be a major factor during the course of gene editing leading to

incomplete reversion to wild type at the epigenetic level, which we speculate was not the

case for IsoHD1. Additionally, this observation could also be attributable to a reduced

CSF-1 sensitivity in HD2 Mut iMacs as compared to HD1 Mut iMacs and we speculate

that this would potentially give rise to the generation and subsequent maintenance of

immature iMacs that lacks maturation even after terminally differentiated into tissue-

resident macrophages.

Functionally, while phagocytosis of *E.Coli* beads was similar across lines, the baseline

cytokine production as well as after phagocytosis of apoptotic neuronal cell line was

different with an increase of IL-1β secretion in both mutant HD1 and HD2, compared to

isogenic HD1 and HD2 iMacs. In the case of phagocytosis of apoptotic cells, this was not

due to a difference in phagocytic activity as all cells were able to phagocytose apoptotic

cells at a similar level. Importantly, higher levels of baseline pro- and anti-inflammatory

cytokine production in the control group without apoptotic cells were observed within

HD1 mutant, and both HD1 and HD2 mutant iMacs respectively. This suggest that mutant

iMacs are innately in a more reactive or activated state when compared to isogenic iMacs

and could reflect the reactive phenotype of HDLS-associated microglia and macrophage

identified *in vivo* (10, 12). Conversely, isogenic iMacs seems to adopt less of the reactive

phenotype with the reverted mutation as identified with an overall lesser cytokine

production level. Importantly, such reactive phenotype was also highlighted by our

transcriptomic and metabolic profiling with upregulated pathways involving pro-

inflammatory cytokines and preferential utilization of the glycolytic pathways in the

mutant groups, a feature of macrophage activation (33, 34), respectively.

We subsequently incorporated donor-specific and their isogenic controls into a co-culture

system using 3D forebrain organoids and iPSC-derived macrophages to better study

HDLS. Isogenic and mutant iMacs co-cultured separately with their respective isogenic

forebrain organoid differentiate into microglia-like cells with 23 days of coculture as

shown by the expression of the microglial marker IBA-1, their ramified morphology as

well as their transcriptomic profiles with up-regulation of genes associated with biological

pathways that are typical of microglia functions such as neurodevelopment,

neurodifferentiation, neurogenesis and brain development.

Subsequently, we analyzed the size of the organoids before and after co-culture as we

recently showed that addition of iMac modulated NPC differentiation, limiting their

proliferation and promoting axonogenesis, resulting in a reduction of co-culture organoid

size (18). Here, while we noticed a significant decreased in the size of isogenic HD1

forebrains co-cultured with isogenic HD1 iMac compared to isogenic HD1 organoids, we

did not measure any significant change in organoid size in the isogenic HD1 organoids co-

cultured with mutant HD1 iMacs. This suggested that the crosstalk between iMicro and

NPC is dysregulated in the context of the HD1 mutation. Since we showed that such size

reduction is mediated by cholesterol transfer from iMicro to NPC, further work will be

required to characterize cholesterol metabolism of HD iMac.

While we did not observe major changes in cell type composition in these cocultures,

transcriptomic analysis of neuronal and NPC population after co-culture showed an

increase in mitochondrial respiratory pathways associated genes in the mutant HD2 iMac

co-culture neuron and isogenic HD2 iMac co-culture NPCs population respectively. This

suggests increased metabolic rates in these respective populations that are contributed to

by the different variants of iMac during co-culture, and show that mutated iMicro can

change the states of non-mutated isogenic organoid cells. A parallel process *in vivo* would

likely have profound long-term consequences for brain development and homeostasis.

Altogether, we propose that CSF-1R mutation in HDLS may cause subtle yet impactful

disruptions to microglia homeostasis due to abnormal metabolic functions in the

developing fetal brain, that subsequently compound and result in aberrant microglia

functions during adulthood. This could also be mediated by upregulated pro-inflammatory

cytokine production such as IL-1β at a basal level or upon clearing of cellular debris

during development and adulthood homeostasis. IL-1β is of particular interest as

numerous studies reported the role of IL-1β in neuroinflammation and neurodegeneration

especially within the field of Alzheimer's disease: for example, postmortem brain sample

analysis revealed elevated levels of Il-1β production, including around amyloid beta

plaques; all suggestive of pathology-associated inflammation (35-37). Hence, we

speculate that in CSF-1R$^{+/-}$ mutant microglia, which already have a predisposition towards

increased secretion of IL-1β, are constantly being activated by IL-1β, either autocrine or

paracrine, creating a dysfunctional neuro-environment that contributes to HDLS pathology.

As such, experimental models looking to block or reduce IL-1β levels in the brain using

the human mAb, canakinumab, targeting the proinflammatory cytokine IL-1β (38, 39),

during both health and disease could be a potential target for therapy and may help to

ameliorate HDLS pathology.

While no model perfectly recapitulates the full complexity of a disease, the application of

iPSC-derived organoid co-culture approaches to primary patient-derived cells offers a

valuable way to study the disease mechanisms of this rare pathology using human cells.

Future studies employing microglia-sufficient patient-derived brain organoids have the

potential to shed much-needed light into the pathogenesis of HDLS and other

neurodegenerative diseases.

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Supp Table 1: Demographics of HDLS patients

HD #	Sex	Age	Mutation
1	M	42	Exon 18; c.2381T>C (Ile794Thr)
2	F	32	Exon 15; c.2026C>T (p.Arg676Ter)

557 **Supp Table 2: Primer list used for qPCR**

Name	Forward Primer	Reverse Primer
Human IFN-g	TCGGTAACTGACTTGAATGTCCA	TCGCTTCCCTGTTTTAGCTGC
Human TNF-α	CCTCTCTCTAATCAGCCCTCTG	GAGGACCTGGGAGTAGATGAG
Human IL-1β	ATGATGGCTTATTACAGTGGCAA	GTCGGAGATTCGTAGCTGGA
Human IL-18	TCTTCATTGACCAAGGAAATCGG	TCCGGGGTGCATTATCTCTAC
Human IL-10	GACTTTAAGGGTTACCTGGGTTG	TCACATGCGCCTTGATGTCTG
Human TGF-β	GGCCAGATCCTGTCCAAGC	GTGGGTTTCCACCATTAGCAC
Human IL-6	ACTCACCTCTTCAGAACGAATTG	CCATCTTTGGAAGGTTCAGGTTG
Human IL-12b	ACCCTGACCATCCAAGTCAAA	TTGGCCTCGCATCTTAGAAAG
HPRT1	TGACCAGTCAACAGGGGAC	TGCCTGACCAAGGAAAGC
Mouse IFN-g	GCCACGGCACAGTCATTGA	TGCTGATGGCCTGATTGTCTT
Mouse TNF-α	CAGGCGGTGCCTATGTCTC	CGATCACCCCGAAGTTCAGTAG
Mouse IL-1β	GAAATGCCACCTTTTGACAGTG	TGGATGCTCTCATCAGGACAG
Mouse IL-18	GTGAACCCCAGACCAGACTG	CCTGGAACACGTTTCTGAAAGA
Mouse IL-10	CTTACTGACTGGCATGAGGATCA	GCAGCTCTAGGAGCATGTGG
Mouse TGF-β	CCACCTGCAAGACCATCGAC	CTGGCGAGCCTTAGTTTGGAC
Mouse IL-6	CTGCAAGAGACTTCCATCCAG	AGTGGTATAGACAGGTCTGTTGG
Mouse IL-12b	GTCCTCAGAAGCTAACCATCTCC	CCAGAGCCTATGACTCCATGTC
GAPDH	AGGTCGGTGTGAACGGATTTG	GGGGTCGTTGATGGCAACA

Supp Table 3: List of Reagents

Reagent	Source	Identifier
Dulbecco's Modified Eagle Medium (DMEM)	Corning	Cat # 10-014-CV
Fetal Bovine Serum	Gibco	Cat # 26140079
Penicillin/Streptomycin	Gibco	Cat # 15140122
Antibiotic-Antimycotic	Gibco	Cat # 15240062
Phosphate buffered saline	Corning	Cat # 21-040-CV
TeSR-E7	Stemcell	Cat # 5914
Epi5 Episomal reprogramming kit	Invitrogen	Cat # A15960
mTeSR-1	Stemcell	Cat # 85850
Matrigel	Corning	Cat # 354234
TrueCut Cas9 Protein V2	Thermofisher	Cat # A36498
CloneR	Stemcell	Cat # 05888
Rock inhibitor; Y-27632 (Dihydrochloride)	Stemcell	Cat # 72302
Human stem cell nucleofector starter kit	Lonza	Cat # VPH-5002
Human dermal fibroblast nucleofector kit	Lonza	Cat # VPD-1001
PSC 4-Marker Immunocytochemistry Kit	Thermofisher	Cat # A24881
StemPro-34 SFM	Gibco	Cat # 10639011
IMDM (Iscove's Modified Dulbecco's Medium)	Gibco	Cat # 1980030
Ham's F-12 Nutrient Mix	Gibco	Cat # 11765054
DMEM/F-12	Gibco	Cat # 11320033
L-glutamine	Gibco	Cat # 25030081
Ascorbic acid	Sigma	Cat # A4544
MTG (1-Thioglycerol)	Sigma	Cat # M6145
Human Transferrin	Roche	Cat # 10-652-202-001
CHIR99021	Sigma	Cat # SML1046-5MG
Recombinant Human BMP-4	Peprotech	Cat # 120-05
Recombinant Human VEGF	Peprotech	Cat # 100-20
Recombinant Human FGF-basic	Peprotech	Cat # 100-18B
Recombinant Human DKK-1	Peprotech	Cat # 120-30

Recombinant Human SCF (c-kit)	Peprotech	Cat # 300-07
Recombinant Human IL-3	R&D Systems	Cat # 203-IL
Recombinant Human IL-6	R&D Systems	Cat # 206-IL
Recombinant Human M-CSF	Peprotech	Cat # 300-25
N-2 Supplement (100X)	Gibco	Cat # 17502048
B27 Supplement (50X)	Gibco	Cat # 17504044
Bovine serum albumin	Yeasen	Cat # 36101ES76
KnockOut Serum Replacement	Gibco	Cat # 10828028
GlutaMAX Supplement	Gibco	Cat # 35050061
MEM Non-Essential Amino Acids Solution (100X)	Gibco	Cat # 11140050
2-Mercaptoethanol	Gibco	Cat # 21985023
Dorsomorphine	Sigma	Cat # P5499
A-83	Sigma	Cat # SML0788-5MG
SB-431542	Sigma	Cat # S4317-5MG
Human insulin	Absin	Cat # abs42225219
Triton X 100	MERCK	Cat # X100
RapiClear	SUNJin Lab	Cat # RC147001
SMART-Seq HT kit	Takara	Cat # 634437
TRIzol Reagent	Invitrogen	Cat # 15596018
VAHTS DNA Clean beads	Vazyme	Cat # N411-01-AA
Qubit dsDNA HS Assay Kit	Invitrogen	Cat # Q33231
TruePrep DNA library prep kit V2 for illumina	Vazyme	Cat # TD502-02
MTT test	Absin	Cat # abs50010-500T
Wright-Giemsa staining kit	BASO	Cat # BA-4017
pHrodo Red *E.coli* bioparticles conjugate	Invitrogen	Cat # P35361
PrimeScript RT Reagent Perfect Real Time kit	Takara	Cat # RR037B
ChamQ SYBR® Color qPCR Master Mix Low ROX Premixed	Vazyme	Cat # Q431-02
Paraformaldehyde	Yuanye Bio	Cat # r20497
TrypLE Express	Gibco	Cat # 12604013

ReLeSR	Stemcell	Cat # 100-0483
Accutase	Stemcell	Cat # 07920
GlycoBlue Coprecipitant	Thermofisher	Cat # AM9515
BD IMag™ Anti-CD11b Magnetic Particles - DM	BD Biosciences	Cat # 558013
Percoll	Cytiva	Cat # 17089101
IC Fixation Buffer	Invitrogen	Cat # 00-8222-49
Permeabilization Buffer 10X	Invitrogen	Cat # 00-8333-56
DAPI	ThermoFisher	Cat # D1306

Supp Table 4: Cell culture medium

Medium	Composition
Human dermal fibroblast medium	DMEM supplemented with 10% FBS, 1% Antimycotics/Antibiotics
StemPro-34 SFM Medium	Stempro-34 SFM, supplemented with 200 ug/mL Human Transferrin, 2 mM Glutamic Acid, 1x Pen/Strep (P/S), 0.5 mM Ascorbic Acid and 0.45 mM MTG.
Serum-Free Differentiation Medium (SF-Diff)	75% IMDM with Glutamax, 25% F12, 1x N2 supplement, 1x B27 Supplement, 0.05% BSA and 1x Pen/Strep.
Forebrain organoid first medium (F1M)	DMEM/F12 supplemented with 20% Knockout serum, 1x GlutaMax, 1x MEM-NEAA, 1x 2-Mercaptoethanol, 1x Pen/strep, Dorsomorphine 2 uM, A-83 2 uM
Forebrain organoid second medium (F2M)	DMEM/F12 supplemented with 1x N2 supplement, 1x GlutaMax, 1x MEM-NEAA, 1x Pen/Strep, CHIR-99021 1 uM, SB-431542 1 uM
Forebrain organoid third medium (F3M)	DMEM/F12 supplemented with 1x N2 supplement, 1x B27 supplement, 1x GlutaMax, 1x MEM-NEAA, 1x 2-Mercaptoethanol, 1x Pen/Strep, Insulin 2.5 ug/ml

Supp Table 5: Antibody list

Antibody	Source	Identifier
Rabbit anti-SOX2	Abcam	Cat # Ab97959
Goat anti IBA-1	Abcam	Cat # Ab5076
Mouse anti-NESTIN	Merck	Cat # MAB5326
Mouse anti-CD15 (SSEA-1)	Biolegend	Cat # 323033
Mouse anti-CD24	BDBioscience	Cat # 561646
Mouse anti-CD44	Biolegend	Cat # 338805
Mouse anti-CXCR4 (CD184)	Biolegend	Cat # 306515
Mouse anti-CD271	BDBioscience	Cat # 743358
Alexa-Fluor ® 488-conjugated Goat anti-mouse	Abcam	Cat # Ab150135
Alexa-Fluor ® 594-conjugated Goat anti-rabbit	Abcam	Cat # Ab150080
Alexa-Fluor ® 647-conjugated Donkey anti-goat	Abcam	Cat # Ab150135
CFSE		
Annexin V - PE	BD Pharmingen	Cat # 559763
Rabbit anti-OCT4	Invitrogen	Cat # A24867
Mouse anti-SSEA4	Invitrogen	Cat # A24866
Rat anti-SOX2	Invitrogen	Cat # A24759
Mouse anti-TRA-1-60	Invitrogen	Cat # A24868
Alexa Fluor™ 594 donkey anti-rabbit	Invitrogen	Cat # A24870
Alexa Fluor™ 488 goat anti-mouse IgG3	Invitrogen	Cat # A24877
Alexa Fluor™ 488 donkey anti-rat	Invitrogen	Cat # A24876
Alexa Fluor™ 594 goat anti-mouse IgM	Invitrogen	Cat # A24872
Anti-mouse CD115 BV605 (AFS98)	Biolegend	Cat # 135517
Anti-mouse Ly6G BV711 (1A8)	Biolegend	Cat # 127643
Anti-mouse Siglec F Alexa Fluor 647 (E50-2440)	BD	Cat # 562680
Anti-mouse CD11b BV650	Biolegend	Cat # 139309
Anti-mouse CD172a PerCP-eFluor® 710 (P84)	Biolegend	Cat # 46-1721-82
Anti-mouse Ly6C BV785 (HK1.4)	Biolegend	Cat # 128041
Anti-mouse CD45 BUV395 (30-F11)	BD	Cat # 565967

Figure and supplementary figure legends

Figure 1: Generation and characterization of iPSC lines from patients with HDLS

A) Schematic representation of the generation of patient-derived induced pluripotent stem cells (iPSC) from dermal fibroblasts, and the subsequent generation of isogenic controls via gene editing with CRISPR/Cas9. B) Sequencing of the genomic CSF-1R locus in donor-derived iPSC displaying mutant allele or genetically edited allele in isogenic control cell lines. C) Phase-contrast microscopy of mature reprogrammed iPSC colonies displaying typical hESC morphology. Images were acquired with a standard microscope (Nikon) with a 10 × objective. Scale bar represents 250 µM. D) Immunofluorescence imaging of Mut HD1 iPSC colonies for the pluripotency markers SOX2, OCT4, TRA-1-60 and SSEA-4. Scale bar represents 150 µM and 100 µM for left and right panel respectively. E) Cytogenetic analysis of IsoHD1 (left) and IsoHD2 (right) iPSC clone showing a normal karyotype.

Supp. Figure 1
A) Human dermal fibroblast outgrowth from skin biopsies after three weeks of culture. Images were acquired with a standard microscope (Nikon) with 10 x (left panel) and 20 x (right panel) objective respectively. Scale bar represents 200 µM. B) Phase-contrast microscopy (20 x) of emerging immature iPSC clones after reprogramming. Scale bar represents 200 µM. C) Sequencing of genomic CSF-1R locus displaying off-target events (OTE) analysis for IsoHD1 and IsoHD2 iPSC cell lines.

Figure 2: Generation and characterization of patient iPSC-derived macrophages

A) Schematic representation of the derivation of primitive macrophages from donor-derived iPSC. B) iMacrophage (iMac) yields across all cell line variants. C) Flow cytometry analysis of iPSC and iMac expression of macrophage surface markers CD45 and CD14. D) Morphology of iMacs visualized by Giemsa staining (left panel), and confocal imaging (middle panel); and internalization of PE-conjugated beads visualized by confocal imaging. Scale bar represents 30 µM. E) Uptake of pHrodo-labeled beads by iMacs in the presence and absence of cytochalasin D (Cyto D). F) Cell viability of iMacs used to determine CSF-1 sensitivity via an MTT assay, after incubating with varying concentrations of CSF-1 for seven days. Data are presented as mean ±SEM.

Figure 3: Mutant and isogenic control iMacs have distinct gene expression profiles

A and D) PCA analysis, B and E) volcano plots and C and F) GO analysis, of mutant and

isogenic iMacs derived from HD1 and HD2 differentially expressed genes (DEGs) respectively. Representative curve of ECAR (G, O) and their respective quantified data (H-J, P-R) are shown. Representative curve of OCR (K, S) and their respective quantified data (L-N, T-V) are shown. Real-time assessment of bioenergetic profile between mutant and isogenic HD1 iMacs, measured using extracellular flux assay and a mitochondrial stress test. The following glycolytic parameters were calculated based on ECAR: B) glycolysis, C) glycolytic capacity, D) glycolytic reserve. Data shown as means + SEM, n=9. The following parameters were calculated based on OCR: F) basal, G) ATP production and H) maximal respiration. 2-DG = 2-deoxy-glucose, FCCP = carbonyl cyanide 4-trifluoromethoxy-phenylhydrazone. (n=3) Data are presented as mean ± SEM.

Figure 4: Cytokine profiling of iMacs saw upregulated levels of IL-1β when probed with apoptotic neuronal cells

(A-B) Levels of transcription of pro- and anti-inflammatory cytokine genes (IFNg, TNFa, IL-1b, IL-6, IL-18, IL-10, IL-12 and TGFb) quantified by qPCR. (+uv depicts UV-treated, -uv depicts non-UV treated). n=3 per cell line. Data are presented as mean ±SEM.

Supp. Figure 2

A) CFSE-labeled SH-SY5Y cells were either UV-treated (red) or untreated (blue) then after 24 hours were incubated with Annexin V/PE to determine the induction of apoptosis. Annexin V labeling was measured by flow cytometry (top panel) and visualized by fluorescence microscopy (bottom panel). B) Percentage of CD45$^+$ cells in iMac cultures from HD1 (top row) and HD2 (bottom row) that took up apoptotic SH-SY5Y cells, with cytochalasin D used as a negative control. Data are presented as mean ±SEM. Scale bar represents 30 µM.

Figure 5: iMacs differentiate into microglia-like cells in coculture with forebrain organoids

A) Schematic diagram of co-culture between Day 31 iMacs and forebrain organoid. B) Forebrain organoids depicted before, during and after co-culture with iMacs. Day 31 isogenic forebrain organoids derived from the respective donor iPSC cell line were cocultured with the same isogenic- and mutant-cell-line- derived Day 31 iMacs. 30,000 iMacs were cocultured with each respective organoid derived from HD1 and HD2. Figure shows matured organoids before and after the addition of iMacs during coculture. C) Three-dimensional visualization of co-cultured brain organoids after 23 days. Neurons were labeled for NESTIN and NPCs for SOX2. Microglia-like cells (IBA-1+) were

visualized on the surface of organoids. D) Flow cytometry analysis of neurons, NPCs, and macrophage populations within forebrain organoids after 23 days of coculture. E-F) Donor-derived iMacs in forebrain co-cultures undergo distinct changes in gene expression as observed in PCA analysis (E and H), volcano plots (F and I) and GO analysis (G and J) in both HD1 and HD2 variants. Scale bar represents 200 µM.

Supp. Figure 3

A) Progression of forebrain organoid development across 31 days. Cells were initially seeded singly before the formation of embryoid bodies (EB) was observed after 2-3 days. Healthy EBs grew and matured, as seen by the formation of distinct neural epithelium in the organoids between Days 12 and 31. Images were acquired with a standard microscope (Nikon) with a 10 × objective. Scale bar represents 200 µM. B) Immunofluorescence imaging of neuroepithelial rosette (red, SOX2+) in Day 13 organoid. Developmental cues further supported the formation and expansion of the organoid to develop neuroepithelial tubes or rosettes, which contain predominantly neural stem cells (NPCs) that mimic the developing embryonic human cerebral cortex. C) Immunocytochemical analysis of microglia-like cells (Iba1) after 23 days of co-culture with organoids. Scale bars represent 50 µM for low magnification and 10 µM for high magnification. D) Three-dimensional visualization of non-co-cultured brain organoids (Day 23). Neurons were labeled for NESTIN (green, cytoplasm) while the NPCs were labeled for SOX2 (red, cytoplasm). Microglia-like cells (IBA1+, white) were not identified, indicating the lack of formation of innately developing microglia. Scale bar represents 200 µM.

Figure 6: Co-culture results in impaired regulation of neurons within organoids

Size of A) HD1 and B) HD2 organoids measured before and after co-culture with mutant and isogenic iMacs in both HD1 and HD2 variants. The effects of co-culture on neuronal populations in C) HD1 and D) HD2 organoids after 23 days. Transcriptomic analysis of co-cultured E) neurons and F) NPCs from HD2 organoids after 23 days. Data are presented as mean ±SEM.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Preparation of human dermal fibroblasts from donor biopsies

Samples from patients with HDLS were collected via skin punch and placed in biopsy

medium [Gibco DMEM Glutamax supplemented with 1% 100x Antibiotics/Antimycotics

(Gibco AB/AM) and 10% Fetal Bovine Serum (Gibco, FBS)] for transport to the

laboratory. Immediately on arrival, biopsies were placed in 75% ethanol for 30 sec then

washed three times with DMEM Glutamax supplemented with 1% AB/AM; attached

adipose tissue was removed using sterile scissors before biopsies were cut into small

$1mm^2$ cubes and placed dermis-side down onto a 6-well plate then left to dry slightly for

20 min to facilitate adhesion. Biopsy culture medium was then added and plates incubated

overnight at 37°C, 5% carbon dioxide in air; 48 hrs later, the medium was changed then

biopsies cultured for a further 10-14 days during which fibroblast outgrowth was observed.

At around 90% confluency, fibroblasts were detached from the plates using 0.05%

Trypsin/EDTA and passaged. Biopsies were re-plated up to three times for further

fibroblast propagation.

Reprogramming of human dermal fibroblasts into induced pluripotent stem cells

Individual donor's fibroblasts were reprogrammed into induced pluripotent stem cells

(iPSC) using the Epi5 Episomal reprogramming kit (Invitrogen), and the Human dermal

fibroblast nucleofector kit (Lonza) on a Lonza Nucleofector 2B device. Briefly, fibroblast

cultures at approximately 90% confluency were detached from their plates using 0.025%

Trypsin/EDTA then collected by centrifugation at 350 g for 5 min at room temperature.

Cell pellets were resuspended in 100 µl of nucleofector solution at room temperature then

counted: 200,000 cells were used per transfection with 1 µl of each of the episomal

vectors, using program U-023. Transfected cells were subsequently plated onto Matrigel-

coated (Stemcell) 6-well plates with 2 ml of pre-warmed fibroblast medium (DMEM

supplemented with 10% FBS & 1% AB/AM) and incubated for two days. The medium

was then replaced with 2 ml of TeSR-E7 medium, which was changed every two days for

25-35 days until early iPSC clones emerged.

Isolating iPSC colonies

Between days 25 and 35, colonies resembling human embryonic stem cell colonies

emerged, were collected using a sterile needle under a stereomicroscope, mechanically

fragmented, and added to 24-well plates pre-coated with Matrigel and containing 500 µl of

mTeSR-1. The colonies were cultured for 24 hr then underwent medium change with fresh

mTeSR-1 for 7-10 days until 80% confluent.

Culture and maintenance of iPSC cell lines

To passage, 500 ul of ReleSR were added into each well and incubated in 37°C for 3 min

before tapping the plate firmly on all sides to dislodge the iPSC colonies. Subsequently,

the iPSC fragments were transferred into 12-well plates and again cultured until

approximately 80% confluent, before passaging into 6-well plates, all while maintaining in

mTeSR-1 with daily medium change. Mature iPSC colonies were identified by their

characteristic phenotype: clear distinct borders, high nuclei-to-cytoplasm ratio, and raised,

refractive, three-dimensional-like colonies.

Characterization of induced pluripotent stem cell colonies

Characterization of iPSC colonies was achieved using the PSC 4-Marker
Immunocytochemistry Kit (Gibco). Briefly, spent mTeSR-1 medium was aspirated from
the cells before adding 200 µl of fixative solution per well and incubating for 15 min at
room temperature, which was then replaced by 200 µl of permeabilization solution for 15
min, then by 200 µl of blocking solution for 30 min. Subsequently, 2 µl of antibodies
recognizing SSEA4 and OCT4 were added directly to the blocking solution and incubated
for three hrs before washing three times with wash buffer (1x DPBS). Secondary
antibodies were added at 0.8 µl per well and incubated for one hr at room temperature
before washing three more times. During the last wash, one drop of NucBlue Fixed Cell
Stain (DAPI) was added into the wash buffer and incubated for 5 min. Cells were either
imaged immediately or stored at 4°C in the dark, for up to one month before analysis.

Karyotyping iPSC colonies

781 Mature iPSC colonies were pre-treated with 0.1 µg/ml of colcemid for 3 hr in the
782 incubator before dissociation into single cells for imaging. Subsequently, cells were fixed
783 with 4% PFA and sent for karyotype analysis at Zhen He Biotech, Shanghai.

Microscopy

786 Cell morphology observations were regularly performed using an Olympus CKX41
787 inverted microscope. Bright field and phase contrast images were taken using a Nikon
788 Eclipse TS2 inverted microscope equipped with a Digital Sight camera. Images were
789 processed using the proprietary software ImageView.

Differentiation of iPSC into primitive-like macrophages (iMacs)

Patient-derived iMacs were generated as previously described (1). Briefly, iPSCs were cultured in Stempro34 medium, supplemented with L-glutamine (100x) , ascorbic acid (5mg/ml), 1-Thioglycerol (26ul/2ml), Transferrin (200x) and Pen/Strep (1%), with the addition of CHIR99021 (2 μM), VEGF (50 ng/mL) and BMP4 (5 ng/mL) from days 0-2 to induce mesodermal lineage commitment; hemangioblast-like cell formation was then induced by culture in the presence of BMP4 (5 ng/mL), VEGF (50 ng/mL) and bFGF (20 ng/mL) on day 2 and only VEGF (15 ng/mL) and bFGF (5 ng/mL) on day four. From day 6-10, hemangioblasts were further committed to the generation of hematopoietic cells by the addition of DKK-1 (30 ng/mL), VEGF (10 ng/mL), bFGF (10 ng/mL), IL-6 (10 ng/mL), IL-3 (20 ng/mL) and SCF (50 ng/mL). To further promote the maturation of hematopoietic cells and CSF-1R expression, on days 12 and 14, medium was supplemented with SCF (50 ng/ml), bFGF (10 ng/ml), IL-6 (10 ng/ml) and IL-3 (20 ng/ml). From day 16 to day 31, the medium was switched to SF-Diff consisting of IMDM (75%) and F12 (25%) with the addition of N2 (100x), B27 (50x), 0.05% BSA, 1% Pen/Strep, supplemented with 50 ng/ml of CSF-1 to terminally differentiate the primitive cells to iMacs. Full medium changes were carried out every two days from days 0-14 and every three days from days 16-31. Free-floating cells were observed from as early as day six of culture and were collected and re-seeded back into individual wells during medium changes. Additionally, iMacs were initially cultured in a hypoxia incubator (5% O_2, 5% CO_2) from day 0–8 before moving into a normoxic incubator until day 31, when the cells were used for experiments. iMac identity was confirmed by flow cytometry with labeling for the macrophage markers CD45 and CD14.

Generation of forebrain organoids

Forebrain organoid generation was adapted from Qian *et al.*, (2), which described a guided differentiation method that requires various cytokines and growth factors to be added at different differentiation stages, as follows.

Stage 1 (days 0-4: embryoid body formation)

iPSC on 6-well plate at approximately 80% confluency were dissociated into single cells using Accutase (Stemcell) before counting and seeding at 50,000 cells per well into an ultra-low attachment (ULA) 96-well plate with 150 µl of forebrain first medium (F1M: DMEM/F12, 20% KOSR, 1x GlutaMax, 1x MEM-NEAA, 1x 2-Mercaptoethanol, Pen/strep, Dorsomorphine 2 µM, A-83 2 µM) and 20 µM of ROCK Inhibitor (Stemcell). Plates were incubated at 37°C and 5% CO_2 for 24 hrs (day -1). On day zero, medium was refreshed with the addition of 2 uM Dorsomorphin (Sigma) and 2 uM A83-01 (Sigma). Half medium changes were then performed on days two and four with the exclusion of ROCK inhibitor: small embryoid bodies (EB) were observed at this point.

Stage 2 (days 5–13: neuro-ectodermal induction)

On day five, one EB was transferred into each well of a ULA 24-well plate with 500 µl of Forebrain second medium (F2M: DMEM/F12, 1x N2 supplement, 1x GlutaMax, 1x MEM-NEAA, Pen/Strep, CHIR-99021 1 µM, SB-431542 1 µM). On day seven, healthy EB displaying a smooth and round surface were embedded individually into 20 µl of Matrigel, according to the method of Lancaster *et al.*, (3). Once the Matrigel had fully polymerized, eight embedded EBs were transferred into a 10 cm petri dish with 10 ml of F2M before incubating at 37°C with half medium changes every two days until day 13. At this point, cluster(s) of neuroepithelium buds were present in individual organoids, evident as neural tube-like structure without extending cell processes.

Stage 3 (days 14–31: maturation)

On day 14, Matrigel-embedded organoids were collected and replated, with the attached Matrigel removed by repeated pipetting, before being transferred into a clean 10 cm petri dish with eight ml of Forebrain third medium (F3M: DMEM/F12, 1x N2 supplement, 1x B27 supplement, 1x GlutaMax, 1x MEM-NEAA, 1x 2-Mercaptoethanol, Pen/Strep, Insulin 2.5 ug/ml). Dishes were incubated at 37°C on an orbital shaker at 80 rpm, with half F3M changes every three days until organoids were used for analysis/experiments.

Generation of isogenic clones using CRISPR/CAS9

sgRNAs were designed using the CRISPR design tool www.crispor.tefor.net and selected based on highest efficiencies as well as off-target scores and synthesized by GENESCRIPT with scaffold. ssDNA template was designed with 40bp of homologous nucleotides flanking both arms of the point of mutation, inclusive of silent mutations on, and adjacent to, the PAM region, and synthesized by Sangor Shanghai. Genome editing via homology-directed repair from the CRISPR/Cas9 system in combination with a ssDNA was used to guide the single nucleotide correction of the HDLS point mutation, according to donor's Sanger sequencing reports on Exon 15 (Donor #2) and 18 (Donor #1) of CSF-1R by homologous recombination.

The ribonucleoprotein (RNP) complex consisting of Cas9 protein and sgRNA was assembled using the Trucut V2 (Invitrogen) and Amaxa Human Stell Cell Nucleofector Starter Kit (VPH-5002). The RNP complex was subsequently transfected into dissociated iPSCs by electroporation with Lonza Nucleofector 2B using the Amaxa Human Stem Cell Nucleofector Starter Kit (Lonza) according to manufacturer's manual. After

electroporation, the cells were immediately plated onto Matrigel-coated 6-well plates

containing mTeSR1 medium supplemented with 10 µM ROCK inhibitor (Stemcell) and

CloneR (Stemcell) at various seeding densities to facilitate the harvesting of clones. After

48 hrs, medium was refreshed with the removal of ROCK inhibitor; subsequently, medium

was refreshed daily with the removal of both ROCK inhibitor and CloneR until clones

were mature enough for manual picking. Individual clones were manually harvested and

plated onto Matrigel-coated 24-well plates with mTesr-1 medium and 10 µM of ROCK

inhibitor.

GuideRNA and ssDNA template used for targeting HDLS#1:

1) gRNA = TGGTCATGTGGCCAAGACTG

2) ssDNA=
GCGCGTAACGTGCTGTTGACCAATGGTCATGTAGCTAAAATCGGGGACT
TCGGGCTGGCTAGGGACATCATGAATGACTC
(Green nucleotide denotes a silent mutation)

GuideRNA and ssDNA template used for targeting HDLS#2:

1) gRNA = GCTCAACTTTCTGTGAAGGA

2) ssDNA=
CACGGAGTACTGTTGCTATGGCGACCTGCTCAATTTCCTTCGAAGAAAA
GCTGAAGCCATGCTGGGACCCAGCCTGAGCC
(Green nucleotide denotes a silent mutation)
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887

Clones were screened for SNP editing using the ICE SYNTHEGO tool

(https://ice.synthego.com) and off-target events (OTE) screened for using CRISP-ID

software (http://crispid.gbiomed.kuleuven.be).

Co-culture of forebrain organoids and iMacs to generate iMicroglia

Co-culturing iMacs (primitive macrophages) with organoids enables the iMacs to be in a

neurogenic niche environment where they would subsequently differentiate into iPSC-

derived microglia (iMicro). Thirty thousand day 31 iMacs (mutant or Isogenic controls)

were resuspended in F3M before adding onto their isogenic organoid in each well of an

ULA 96-well plate. Cocultures were incubated for seven days with daily half F3M change

supplemented with CSF-1 (100 ng/ml). On day eight, each organoid was transferred to an

individual well of a ULA 24-well plate and supplemented with 1 ml of F3M and CSF-1

(100 ng/ml); half F3M change was performed every three days until analysis.

903
Clearing of forebrain organoids for 3D-imaging

Organoids were first fixed in 4% paraformaldehyde for 30 min at room temperature

followed by washing twice in PBS then incubating in PBS overnight at 4°C. The next day,

PBS was replaced with a permeabilization buffer (2% Triton X-100 in PBS solution) and

organoids were incubated on an orbital shaker at room temperature for 72 hrs. At the end

of permeabilization, organoids were incubated in blocking buffer (5% normal donkey

serum, 5% normal goat serum, 1% Fetal Bovine Serum, 1% Triton X-100 in PBS solution)

at 4°C overnight. Organoids were then incubated with primary antibodies at 1:200 in

antibody dilution buffer (1% bovine serum albumin, 0.2% Triton X-100 in PBS solution)

at 4°C for 72 hrs. Primary antibodies specific for the following markers were used:

NESTIN (MERCK), SOX2 (Abcam), and IBA-1 (Abcam). Organoids were washed in

washing buffer (1x PBS solution) on an orbital shaker at room temperature for one hr

before being kept in 1x PBS solution at 4°C overnight. The organoids were subsequently

incubated with the following secondary antibodies at 1:200 in antibody dilution buffer, at

4°C for 48 hrs: goat anti-mouse Alexa Fluor 488 (Biolegend), goat anti-rabbit Alexa Fluor

594 (Abcam), and donkey anti-goat Alexa Fluor 647 (Abcam). The organoids were then washed with wash buffer for one hr on an orbital shaker at room temperature then kept in PBS at 4°C overnight before counterstaining with the nuclear marker DAPI on an orbital shaker at room temperature for two hrs. Organoids were then washed twice in washing buffer on an orbital shaker at room temperature for one hr, then again kept overnight at 4°C in 1x PBS. The following day, organoids were transferred individually to confocal-imaging-compatible glass-bottomed containers and 20 µl of RapiClear (SUNJin Lab) solution was added onto each organoid and left until they were cleared (usually 24 hrs depending on the size of the organoid). Whole organoids were imaged using a FV3000 confocal microscope with 20× objective lens (Olympus, Japan) and analyzed using iMaris software (BITPLANE).

Measurement of area of organoid

Area of organoids were measured using ImageJ software. Briefly, the "freehand selection" tool was used to trace the circumference of each individual organoid. The average of three measurements was used as the final readout.

Dissociation of forebrain organoids

Organoids were collected individually using 200 µl pipette with a cut pipette tip and incubated in 500 µl of Accutase at 37°C with gentle pipetting after 10 min, then allowed to fully dissociate for another 5-15 min at 37°C as needed. After again pipetting, cells were suspended in 1 ml of MACS buffer and collected by centrifugation at ~~1350 rpm~~ 350 g at RT for 5 min. Cells were then used in experiments.

Flow cytometry

Cells were prepared for labeling by first washing in FACS buffer, then resuspending cells in 70 µl of Fc-block (1:200) and incubating for 20 min at 4°C. Subsequently, the primary

antibody cocktails were added into the cells at a 1:200 dilution before being vortexed and

incubated for 30 min at 4°C. For samples that required secondary antibody labeling, after

incubation with primary antibodies the cells were washed with FACS buffer before

secondary antibodies (1:500) were added and incubated for 25 min at 4°C. After a further

wash in FACS buffer, DAPI was added then cells were analysed using the BD Symphony

X-50.

Cell sorting of cocultured organoids

Cells were isolated into sorting solution (SMART-Seq HT kit. 10X lysis buffer, RNase

inhibitor, 3' SMART-Seq CDS Primer II A, nuclease-free water) using the BD Aria III cell

sorter. After sorting, cell-containing tubes were briefly spun down and immediately placed

in liquid nitrogen for snap freezing. Lysates were stored at -80°C.

958
RNA extraction of samples

RNA extraction was performed using Trizol according to the manufacturer's instructions.

Briefly, 500 µl of Trizol was added to each sample before the addition of 100 µl of

chlorofoam to each sample and mixed thrice (15 sec per succession) before incubating at

room temperature for 5 min. Samples were then centrifuged at 20,000g, 20 min, 4°C

before the organic solvent was transferred into new eppendorf tubes. One µl of GlycoBlue

co-precipitate (Invitrogen) was added to each sample and mixed well before the addition

of 250 µl of isoproponol. Samples were mixed well before incubating at -80°C for at least

one hr. Thawed samples were subsequently centrifuged at 12,000g, 4°C for 15 min before

decanting supernatant, washing again with ice-cold 75% ethanol and centrifuging at 7500g,

4°C for 5 min. Samples were left to air dry for approximately 5 min after decanting of

supernatant, before the RNA pellet was resuspended in 10 µl of DPEC water and stored at

-80°C.

cDNA library construction for RNA-sequencing

RNA samples from the previous step were first converted to complementary DNA (cDNA)

using the Takara HT kit according to the manufacturer's instruction. Briefly, 5 µl of

purified total RNA was added to 1 µl of 10X reaction buffer consisting of 10X lysis buffer

and RNase inhibitor; 1 µl of 3' SMART-seq primer II A was added and mixed well by

vortexing before incubating the samples at 72°C for 3 min. Samples were then

immediately placed on ice for 2 min. A one-step master mix consisting of 0.7 µl of

nuclease-free water, 8 µl of one-step buffer, 1 µl of SMART-Seq HT oligonucletide, 0.5 µl

RNase inhibitor, 0.3 µl SeqAmp DNA polymerase, and 2 µl of SMARTscribe reverse

transcriptase was subsequently added to each sample and mixed well. The following

program was used to run the PCR protocol:

42°C		90 min
95°C		1 min
	98°C	10 sec
18 cycles:	65°C	30 sec
	68°C	3 min
72°C		10 min
4°C		Forever

The resulting cDNA product was purified using the Vazyme VAHTS DNA Clean beads.

Briefly, 20 µl of beads were added to each cDNA product, mixed well and incubated for 5

min at RT before placing samples on a magnectic stand for 2 min. The supernatant was

discarded and cDNA was washed twice with cold 80% ethanol before being air-dried for 3

min. Purified cDNA was subsequently eluted from the magnetic beads with 15 µl of

DPEC water. The concentration of cDNA was measured with the Qubit dsDNA HS Assay

Kit (Invitrogen) using the Qubit 4 fluorometer.

cDNA library construction was performed using the Vazyme TruePrep DNA library prep

kit V2 for illumina according to the manufacturer's instructions. Briefly, the purified

cDNA obtained from the previous step was diluted to a final concentration of 1ng/µl with

sterile water. Next, 7.5 µl of Mix A (2 µl 5x TTBL, 2.5 µl TTE Mix V5, 3 µl DPEC water)

was added to 2.5 µl of diluted cDNA and run using the Nextera-1 program at 55°C for 10

min.

TSS was immediately added to each sample and left to incubate at RT for 5 min before 7.5

µl of Mix B (2 ul DPEC water, 5 µl 5x TAB, 0.5 µl TAE) was added to each sample. 2.5

µl of N5 and N7 primer was added and mixed well before running on the Nextera-2

program:

72°C		3 min
98°C		3 min
	98°C	15 sec
13 cycles:	60°C	30 sec
	72°C	3 min
72°C		5 min
4°C		Forever

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1005   Subsequently, samples were purified using the vazyme beads and cDNA was eluted with

1006   20 µl of DPEC water before measuring the concentration.

1007
For pooling of cDNA libraries, 40 ng of each sample was added to a final volume of 40 µl,

adjusted with DPEC water, and incubated with 22.6 µl of Vazyme clean beads at RT for 5

min before magnectic separation. The entire volumn of supernatant was transferred to a

fresh PCR tube to which was added 6.4 µl of Vazyme clean beads. The contents were

mixed well and incubated at RT for 5 min before separation: subsequently, the supernatant

was discarded and bead-bound-cDNA was washed twice with 80% ethanol before being

air dried for 3 min. Purified pooled cDNA samples were eluted with 20 µl of DPEC water

and tested for concentration.

1016

1017 **Bulk RNA Analysis**
1018

1019 The clean paired-ends reads were aligned to the GRCh38.96 human genome reference

1020 using kallisto (version 0.46.1) with parameters "–bootstrap-samples=100". The transcript-

1021 level estimated counts belonging to the same gene were then aggregated into the matrix of

1022 gene-level counts (TPM) implemented in the R package tximport (version 1.14.2).

1023

Pairwise comparison across RNA-seq data was performed to get differentially expressed

genes between each two types of cells, using the linear model and the empirical Bayes

method implemented in R limma package (version 3.42.2), with significance thresholds

for p-value<0.05 and log2(fold change)≥0.5 (Figure 3) or 1.5 (Figure 5). The differentially

expressed genes identified with top log2(fold change) were selected to perform the PCA

analysis in R using prcomp function. Additionally, the clusterProfiler package (version

4.10.0) was employed for pathway enrichment analysis via the compareCluster function

and "enrichGO" method, targeting "ALL" GO ontologies.

1032
Metabolic function using Seahorse analysis

The bioenergetic profile of iMacs was assessed by determining the oxygen consumption

rate (OCR) and the extracellular acidification rate (ECAR) using an XF-96 Flux Analyzer

(Seahorse Bioscience). Sensor cartridges (Agilent Technologies) were hydrated in XF

Calibrant (Agilent Technologies) at 37°C overnight, devoid of carbon dioxide, following

the manufacturer's instructions. Cells were resuspended in either OCR XF base medium

supplemented with 10 mM glucose, 2 mM L-glutamine and 1mM sodium pyruvate, or

ECR XF base medium supplemented with 2 mM L-glutamine, before being seeded at

40,000 cells/50 µl/well into XF96 culture plates. Cells were pelleted by centrifugation at

200g for 1 min then resuspended in either 125 µl of OCR or ECR medium per well and

incubated at 37°C in a CO_2-free incubator for 45 min before loading into the Seahorse

analyzer. Cells were sequentially treated with 25 µl injections of specific bioenergtic

modulators that were added to the wells prior to loading, to test for different paramters of

mitochondrial and glycolytic functions. ECR analysis was probed with 10 mM glucose to

stimulate glycolysis, followed by the addition of 2µM oligomycin to block ATP synthase

and 50 mM 2-deoxy-glucose (2DG) to shut down the function of glycolysis. Conversely,

OCR analysis was probed with 2 µM oligomycin, 1 µM FCCP (carbonyl cyanide-4-

(trifluoromethoxy) phenylhydrazone) to stimulate maximal mitochondrial oxygen

consumption and 0.5 µM rotenone plus antimycin A to asses OXPHOX parameters from

the OCR levels. Mitochondrial and glycolytic parameters were calculated as

recommended by the instrument manufacturer (Agilent Technologies).

1054
MTT Test

On the day before testing, 25,000 iMacs were seeded into each well of a 96-well flat-

bottom plate. The next morning, 20 µl of MTT solvent (10% of total volume) was added

to each well and incubated at 37°C for 3.5 hrs before being decanted. Next, 200 µl of

MTT formazan solvent was added to each well before being placed onto a shaker for

15min in the dark, then incubated RT for an additional 30 min in the dark. Measurements

were read by a spectrophotometer at OD570 and OD690.

1062

Cytospin assay

iMacs were first trypsinized using TryPLE express before being counted using the

Countess II. Approximately 50,000 cells were resuspended in 150 µl of PBS before being

transferred to a cytocentrifuge cytofunnel paired with a glass slide, and centrifuged for 5

min at 800rpm 200 g, air dried for 30 min before sealing with mounting medium. Images

were acquired with an Olympus BX53 light microscope equipped with a 100x oil

immersion objective lens.

1070

Giemsa staining

Adequately air-dried slides were placed in a staining tray and flooded with 1ml per slide

of Solution A of the Wright-Giemsa staining kit (BASO) for 1 min. Subsequently, 500 µl

of Solution B was added to each slide and agitated for 5 min. Slides were then rinsed in

distilled water for 5 min before being air-dried for 30 min then sealed in synthesis resin.

Images were acquired with the Olympus BX53 light microscope paired with a 100X oil

immersion objective lens.

1078

Neuronal cell line SH-5YSY apoptosis induction

SH-5YSY cells were kindly provided by the lab of Xu Tien le from the Shanghai Institute

of Immunology. SH-SY5Y cell monolayers in sterile PBS were exposed to UV-radiation

for 30 min before collection of cells into serum-free medium (DMEM + 1% P/S) and

incubation at 37°C overnight to induce apoptosis. The following day, cells were

centrifuged at 350 g, RT for 3 min before staining with Annexin V (BD Pharmingen PE

Annexin V apoptosis detection kit) for 20 min at RT in the dark, before being analyzed by

flow cytometry.

1087

Phagocytic assay with conjugated *E. coli* beads

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First, pHrodo Red *E. coli*-conjugated bioparticles (Invitrogen) were reconstituted to a

working concentration of 1 mg/ml with sterile water before adding to iMacs in complete

medium at 1:10 final concentration. After incubation at 37°C for 45 min, cells were

washed twice with PBS before collection for flow cytometry analysis.

RNA extraction and real-time quantitative PCR (qPCR)

Total RNA was extracted from each group with TRIzol Reagent (Invitrogen). The cDNA

was obtained by using the PrimeScript RT Reagent Perfect Real Time kit (Takara, Japan).

Briefly, 500 ng of RNA for each sample was amplified as a template, in 10 µl of reaction

mixture (2 µl 5X PrimeScript buffer, 0.5 µl PrimeScript RT Enzyme Mix I, 0.5 µl Oligo

dT Primer, 0.5 µl random 6-mers, RNA product, RNase-free water). This mixture was then

incubated at 37°C for 15 min and subsequently at 85°C for 5 sec to obtain cDNA. qPCR

was performed in a ViiA 7 Real-time PCR system (Applied Biosystems) with ChamQ

SYBR® Color qPCR Master Mix Low ROX Premixed (Vazyme).

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1103 **Statistical anslysis**
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Statistical tests were performed using GraphPad Prism 8.0.1 (GraphPad Software, La Jolla,

CA, USA; www.graphpad.com). All experiments were performed in triplicate and data

analysis was performed using unpaired Student's t-tests. All data represent the

mean ± standard error of mean (SEM). Statistical significance was assigned as: $p < 0.05$

was considered significant: *$p < 0.05$; **$p < 0.01$; ***$p < 0.001$. $p > 0.05$ was considered

nonsignificant (n.s.).

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MATERIALS AND METHODS REFERENCES

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Figure 1

Supp Fig 1

A

B

C

Figure 2

Figure 3

Figure 4

Supp Fig 2

A

B

Figure 5

Supp Fig 3

Figure 6