Fat body-derived cytokine Upd2 controls disciplined migration of tracheal stem cells in *Drosophila*

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Abstract

Coordinated activation and directional migration of adult stem cells are essential for

maintaining tissue homeostasis. *Drosophila* tracheal progenitors are adult stem cells

that migrate posteriorly along the dorsal trunk to replenish degenerating branches that

disperse the FGF mitogen. However, it is currently unknown how the overall

anterior-to-posterior directionality of such migration is controlled. Here we show that

individual progenitor cells migrate together in a concerted, disciplined manner, a

behavior that is dependent on the neighboring fat body. We identify the fat body-

derived cytokine, Upd2, in targeting and inducing JAK/STAT signaling in tracheal

progenitors to maintain their directional migration. Perturbation of either Upd2

production in fat body or JAK/STAT signaling in trachea causes aberrant bidirectional

migration of tracheal progenitors. We show that JAK/STAT signaling promotes the

expression of genes involved in planar cell polarity leading to asymmetric localization

of Fat in progenitor cells. We provide evidence that Upd2 transport requires Rab5-

and Rab7-mediated endocytic sorting and Lbm-dependent vesicle trafficking. Our

study thus uncovers an inter-organ communication in the control of disciplined

migration of tracheal progenitor cells, a process that requires vesicular trafficking of

fat body-derived cytokine Upd2 and JAK/STAT signaling-mediated activation of PCP

genes.

Introduction

Adult stem cells are multipotent cell populations which inhabit their niche but mobilize to initiate tissue reconstruction during organismal growth and regeneration. An intriguing feature of stem cells is their capability of migrating in a disciplined directionality towards locations undergoing reconstruction (L. Li & Clevers, 2010). Such a highly disciplined movement is critical for maintaining tissue homeostasis and is influenced by various niche-intrinsic signals and external stimuli, and its aberrancy causes diseases such as hypertrophy (Zhou et al., 2024). The damaged tissue or distant organs that elicit systemic signals promote the migration of adult stem cells (Jones & Wagers, 2008). In addition, interactions with other cell types, soluble factors (e.g. cytokines, growth factors, and hormones) and tissue stiffness collectively bolster the mobilization of stem cells (Fuchs & Blau, 2020). Despite growing appreciation of adult stem cells as a primary source for tissue regeneration, the mechanism governing directional stem cell migration remains yet to be elucidated.

Drosophila tracheal progenitors are a population of adult stem cells that rebuild the degenerating trachea during metamorphosis. The progenitor cells reside in Tr4 and Tr5 metameres and start to move along the tracheal branch towards sites of regeneration (Pitsouli & Perrimon, 2010). Movement of these progenitor cells follows a stereotypical anterior-to-posterior axis (Figure 1A), thus representing a suitable system to investigate mechanisms controlling the directionality of stem cell migration. The activation of tracheal progenitors is stimulated by the morphogen Branchless (Bnl), fly homolog of fibroblast growth factor (FGF) (F. Chen & Krasnow, 2014), and the insulin hormone (Y. Li et al., 2022). Intercellular communication and synergy between organs also contribute to the branching morphogenesis (Perochon et al., 2021; Schottenfeld, Song, & Ghabrial, 2010; Tamamouna et al., 2021). The functional role of the interactions between trachea and other organs in modulating tracheal progenitor behavior has been largely unknown.

Drosophila fat body is the functional analog of mammalian adipose tissue and the major organ sensing various hormonal and nutritional signals to orchestrate systemic growth, metabolism and stem cell maintenance (Sriskanthadevan-Pirahas et al., 2022).

Fat body produces regulatory molecules known as fat body signals (FBSs), which
remotely affect the activity of other organs (Ingaramo, Sanchez, Perrimon, &
Dekanty, 2020; Zheng, Yang, & Xi, 2016). For instance, the fat body-to-brain signals
modulate insulin-like peptides production (Rajan & Perrimon, 2012), visual attention
and sleep behavior (Ertekin, Kirszenblat, Faville, & van Swinderen, 2020).
The *Drosophila* family of interleukin-6 (IL-6)-like cytokines consist of Unpaired
(Upd, also called Outstretched), Upd2 and Upd3, and serve as mediators of systemic
signaling. Whereas Upd1 and Upd3 derive from fly brain and plasmatocytes (Beshel,
Dubnau, & Zhong, 2017; Woodcock et al., 2015), Upd2 is primarily produced by the
fat body (Rajan, Housden, Wirtz-Peitz, Holderbaum, & Perrimon, 2017), although
muscle-derived Upd2 is also reported (X. Zhao & Karpac, 2017). The Upd proteins
act as ligands which bind to a common GP130-like receptor, Domeless (Dome) on
target cells (Agaisse, Petersen, Boutros, Mathey-Prevot, & Perrimon, 2003; H. W.
Chen et al., 2002). Upon association of ligands, the Dome receptors dimerize and
recruit the non-receptor tyrosine kinase JAKs leading to their subsequent
transactivation via phosphorylation. The transactivated JAKs then phosphorylate the
tyrosine residues of their substrates, including the bound receptors and cytosolic
STATs. The phosphorylation of STATs promotes their dimerization and nuclear
translocation to activate transcriptional program (Darnell, 1997). JAK/STAT signaling
requires the IL-6 cytokines (Heinrich et al., 2003), and is implicated in numerous
cellular events including cell proliferation, differentiation, migration and apoptosis
(O'Shea, Gadina, & Schreiber, 2002).
Here, we investigate molecular basis underlying directional stem cell migration using
the *Drosophila* tracheal progenitors as a model. Our results identify a cytokine-
mediated inter-organ communication between fat body and the progenitor cells that is
necessary for their disciplined, directional migration. The directional migration of the
progenitors relies on JAK/STAT signaling and its downstream targets of planar cell
polarity (PCP) components. Importantly, the Upd2 cytokines derived from fat body
are transported through vesicular trafficking to induce JAK/STAT signaling in tracheal
progenitors. Our study reveals that tracheal progenitors establish migratory

110   directionality as they exit their niches and that the disciplined migration of the

111   progenitors depends on an inter-organ signaling originating from the fat body.

Results

<u>Dependence of tracheal progenitors on fat body</u>

The fly tracheal progenitors are activated and move posteriorly along the dorsal trunk (DT) at the onset of pupariation (Figure 1A). We set out to delve into the underlying mechanisms of directional progenitor cell movement and tentatively surveyed organs that may coordinate this process. In *Drosophila*, fat body resides anatomically in proximity with trachea (Figure 1B, C; Video 1) and is the principal reservoir for energy consumption. To determine whether the integrity of fat body is required for tracheal progenitors, we perturbed larval or pupal fat body by expressing pro-apoptotic cell death genes, *hid* and *reaper* (*rpr*), under the control of a fat body-specific driver, *lsp2*-Gal4. Expression of *hid* and *rpr* in L3 stage impaired fat body integrity and adipocyte abundance, and generated slender larvae and pupae (Figure 1-figure supplement 1A-D). In these animals, the tracheal progenitors exhibited a sign of undisciplined migration and tended to move bidirectionally (Figure 1D-F), although their migration rate and proliferation remained unchanged (Figure 1-figure supplement 1E-H). The undisciplined bidirectional migration behavior of tracheal progenitors in fat body-defective animals is in stark contrast to control animals where the progenitors migrated unambiguously towards posterior (Figure 1D-D'' and Video 2). To gain a quantitative view of progenitor cell migration, we traced the movement of individual cells by time-lapse confocal imaging. At 2hr APF, tracheal progenitors from fat body deficit animals displayed a symmetrical distribution relative to the junction between dorsal trunk (DT) and transverse connective (TC), compared with an L-shape localization of niche-associated and migratory progenitors established by a posterior movement in control (Figure 1G-H'). Gauging the vector denoting the movement of each progenitor (Figure 1I-I') revealed that the traces of individual progenitors in fat body-depleted animals exhibited a fan-shaped pattern (Figure 1J-J'). Owing to this undisciplined movement, entropy of the system was notably elevated upon increased inconsistency of migration vectors (Figure 1K). The bidirectional migratory progenitors displayed longer territory as assessed by binarized direction (Figure 1L). Collectively, these results suggest that fat body has an integral role in

maintaining the discipline of tracheal progenitor movement.

<u>Upd2-JAK/STAT signaling between fat body and trachea</u>

Since fat body impacts the behavior of tracheal progenitors, we next attempted to

investigate the signal between these two interdependent organs. For this purpose, we

first performed RNA sequencing (RNA-seq) analysis of tracheal progenitors from

aforementioned fat body defective flies. The results revealed a dramatical alteration of

transcriptional program in tracheal progenitors upon the perturbation of fat body

(Figure 2-figure supplement 1A, B). Interestingly, the functional cluster of 'cytokine

activity' showed prominent enrichment in the differentially expressed genes (DEGs)

in progenitors from *lsp2>rpr.hid* pupae (Figure 2A). This raised the possibility that

certain cytokine-responsive signaling was induced in tracheal progenitors and the

signaling was compromised by impairment of fat body. Therefore, we proceeded to

analyze the expression of genes responsive to cytokine signaling. Analyzing the

RNA-seq data revealed that the cytokine-dependent JAK/STAT and Dpp signaling

were notably up-regulated upon the activation of progenitors (Figure 2B).

Importantly, fat body depletion led to suppression of target genes of JAK/STAT, PI3K

and Dpp signaling in tracheal progenitors, suggesting their dependence on the

function of fat body (Figure 2C).

To evaluate the roles of these cytokines and signaling proteins, we perturbed their

expression in fat body by the expression of RNAi constructs. Knockdown of various

cytokines specifically in fat body did not affect the direction of tracheal progenitor

migration (Figure 2-figure supplement 1C-J), except for *upd2*, whose depletion

phenocopied fat body ablation-induced bidirectional movement of tracheal

progenitors (Figure 2D-F and Video 3). These results suggest a role of fat body-

produced Upd2 in remotely regulating the tracheal progenitors.

Then, we performed surface proteome *in vivo* (J. Li et al., 2020) to investigate the

spectrum of molecules received by trachea (Figure 2-figure supplement 2). The

trachea-associated proteins were biotinylated through a reaction mediated by a

membrane-tethered horse radish peroxidase (HRP-CD2) (Figure 2-figure supplement

2A-D). Of the 1684 streptavidin-precipitated proteins captured by mass spectrometry

(Figure 2G), a functional cluster enriched for receptor signaling via JAK/STAT was

identified (Figure 2H). The JAK/STAT pathway is one of the principal cellular

signaling that responds to Upd2 ligand (Hombria, Brown, Hader, & Zeidler, 2005).

Drosophila JAK/STAT signaling is well-conserved (Arbouzova & Zeidler, 2006;

Zeidler, Bach, & Perrimon, 2000) and comprises a single JAK (Hopscotch, Hop) and

one STAT (Stat92E), in contrast to a handful of homologues (four JAK and seven

STAT genes) found in mammals. Domeless (Dome), the receptor for JAK/STAT

pathway, exhibited pronounced expression in the tracheal progenitors (Figure 2-figure

supplement 2E). To test if these Dome receptors actively interact with their ligands,

we adapted a technique to monitor ligand-receptor interaction *in vivo* (Michel, Raabe,

Kupinski, Perez-Palencia, & Bokel, 2011) and constructed a Dome variant (DIPF)

which only fluoresces in the ligand-binding and phosphorylated state (Figure 2I).

When expressed in the tracheal system, DIPF displayed robust fluorescent signal in

the tracheal progenitors (Figure 2J). These data suggest that receptor signaling of

JAK/STAT is active in the tracheal progenitors.

To analyze the functional importance of JAK/STAT signaling in tracheal progenitors,

we perturbed the principal components of this signaling, namely the receptor Dome,

signal transducer Hop or the downstream transcription factor Stat92E, by *btl*-Gal4-

driven expression of RNAi constructs. Under these conditions in which JAK/STAT

pathway is compromised, the tracheal progenitors aberrantly migrated anteriorly,

which is reminiscent of *upd2* loss-of-function in the fat body (Figure 3A-E and Video

4). In agreement with genetic perturbation of JAK/STAT signaling, pharmacological

inhibition of JAK by a small-molecule inhibitor, Tofacitinib (Palmroth et al., 2021),

also triggered bidirectional movement of tracheal progenitors (Figure 3F-H).

Concurrently, the activity of JAK/STAT pathway, as assessed by the Stat92E-GFP

reporter (Bach et al., 2007), was substantially impaired when components of the

pathway were depleted (Figure 3I-L, Q). Analysis of *upd*-Gal4 activity and the

transcription of *upd2* in various tissues indicates that Upd2 was primarily produced in

fat body and gut of the larvae (Figure 2-figure supplement 2F-H). To determine

whether the tracheal JAK/STAT signaling depends on fat body-derived Upd2, we

depleted Upd2 in fat body and observed that Stat92E-GFP signal in tracheal

progenitors was severely decreased, suggesting that JAK/STAT signaling in the

trachea requires fat body-produced Upd2 (Figure 3M-N, Q). Consistently, inhibition

of JAK/STAT signaling using Tofacitinib reduced the expression of Stat92E-GFP

(Figure 3O-Q). Taken together, these observations suggest that Upd2-responsive

JAK/STAT signaling in the trachea is essential for the disciplined migration of

progenitors.

<u>Genes regulated by JAK/STAT signaling in the trachea</u>

To gain a comprehensive understanding of the molecular details underlying the

discipline of tracheal progenitor migration, we conducted genomic chromatin

immunoprecipitation (ChIP-seq) to identify loci bound by Stat92E which functions as

the transcription factor of JAK/STAT pathway. This revealed a total of 21312 Stat92E

binding peaks, ~95.7% of which located within 2 kb of transcription start sites (TSSs)

of annotated genes (Figure 4-figure supplement 1A). In particular, 86% of the peaks

(18328 peaks) were enriched either in promoter regions or within gene bodies, and

66.1% of the peaks (13490 peaks) resided near the 5′ ends of annotated genes, namely

in the promoter regions, first exons and first introns (Figure 4-figure supplement 1B,

C). GO analysis of putative target genes of Stat92E identified one cluster associated

with establishment of planar polarity (Figure 4A). In line with this, the functional

class associated with establishment of planar polarity was also abundantly represented

among the differentially expressed genes (DEGs) upon the activation of tracheal

progenitors in larval-pupal transition (Figure 4B). Notably, Stat92E binding was

detected in the promoters and intronic regions of genes functioning in distal-to-

proximal signaling (Cho & Irvine, 2004), such as *dachsous* (*ds*), *four-jointed* (*fj*), *fz*,

stan, *Vang* and *fat2* (Figure 4C). Additionally, Stat92E occupied in the promoter

regions of *crb* and *yurt,* two genes involved in apical-basal polarity and tracheal tube

growth (Laprise et al., 2006; Schottenfeld-Roames & Ghabrial, 2012; Schottenfeld-

Roames, Rosa, & Ghabrial, 2014) (Figure 4-figure supplement 1D). The enrichment

of Stat92E in the promoters and/or regulatory regions of these putative targets was

confirmed by ChIP-qPCR (Figure 4-figure supplement 1E).

To further validate these putative Stat92E targets and investigate their dependence on

JAK/STAT signaling, we analyzed their expression from several fosmid transgenes

which have a GFP tag fused to *ds*, *fj* or *ft* and express at endogenous levels. Ds and Fj

were abundant in the progenitor cells, but were vastly reduced upon depletion of

dome, *hop* or *stat92E*, suggesting that they are regulated by JAK/STAT pathway

(Figure 4D-M). Furthermore, it is reported that the function of Ft is influenced by

cell-autonomous increase of Ds level and its protein level is enhanced by Ds reduction

(Ambegaonkar, Pan, Mani, Feng, & Irvine, 2012; Matakatsu & Blair, 2004), which is

also evidenced by our analysis using *dsRNAi* and *UAS-ds* in the tracheal progenitors

(Figure 4-figure supplement 2). In accordance with this notion, the level of Ft, as

assayed by the Ft-GFP reporter, was elevated by the reduction of JAK/STAT signaling

(Figure 4N-R). We also analyzed GFP-tagged fosmid transgenes of *fat2, crb* and *yurt*

and found that they were discernably reduced upon impairment of JAK/STAT

signaling, suggesting that they are also regulated by JAK/STAT pathway (Figure 4-

figure supplement 1F-T). Additionally, the transcription of *ds*, *fj*, *ft*, *fat2*, *crb*, and *yurt*

was compromised by expression of *stat92ERNAi* (Figure 4-figure supplement 1U). In

sum, these results suggest that JAK/STAT promotes components involved in the

establishment of polarity in tracheal cells.

The roles of JAK/STAT targets in the disciplined migration

To evaluate the functional roles of the polarity proteins in tracheal progenitor

migration, we perturbed their expression in the tracheal progenitors by expressing

RNAi against *ds*, *ft* or *fj*, which were identified by ChIP-seq as the targets of

JAK/STAT. In these flies, tracheal progenitors exhibited bidirectional movement,

which is reminiscent of the impairment of JAK/STAT signaling (Figure 5A-E and

Video 5). Similar observations were obtained by over-expression of *ft* or *ds* in the

trachea (Figure 5-figure supplement 1A-D), consistent with previous reports that both

loss- and gain-of-function of PCP components disrupt the planar cell polarity (Adler,

Taylor, & Charlton, 2000; Tree et al., 2002; Vinson & Adler, 1987). The disciplined

migration of tracheal progenitors was also impaired by the expression of *fat2RNAi*,

crbRNAi, *yurtRNAi* or *scbRNAi* (Figure 5-figure supplement 1E-I).

Migratory cells generate protrusions at the leading edge to initiate movement (Cetera

et al., 2014). The normal posteriorly migrating tracheal progenitors extend protrusions

towards the migratory directions (Figure 5-figure supplement 2A), but in the

bidirectionally moving progenitors in which Upd2 in fat body was perturbed,

extensive filopodia were projected from both the anterior and posterior fronts (Figure

5-figure supplement 2B, C), indicating that the aberrantly anteriorly moving

progenitors may adopt the identity as those moving posteriorly. Bidirectionally

migrating progenitors induced by perturbation of JAK/STAT signaling did not alter

the expression of the tracheal inducer, *branchless* (*bnl*) (Figure 5-figure supplement

2D, E). Further analysis revealed that the progenitors exhibited elevated levels of Ft at

the leading edge where they attached to dorsal trunk (DT) (Figure 5F-G).

Accordingly, progenitors that underwent bidirectional movement exhibited

pronounced abundance of Ft at both the anterior and posterior frontal edges (Figure

5H-J). To further evaluate the functional roles of Ft-Ds-Fj module in disciplined

migration, we utilized the high-mobility carcinoma cells, SKOV-3, and found that

perturbation of Fj that phosphorylates the extracellular cadherin domains of both Ft

and Ds and modifies their heterophilic binding (Thomas & Strutt, 2012), Ft or Ds

concurrently displayed compromised directionality and reduced consistency of

movement in a two-dimensional culture (Figure 5K-M and Figure 5-figure

supplement 3). Together with the results in previous sections, these observations

suggest that the activated tracheal progenitors establish a disciplined migration

through the asymmetrical distribution of polarity proteins which is directed by an

Upd2-JAK/STAT signaling stemming from the remote organ of fat body.

Upd2 in the fat body-produced vesicle

Besides the JAK/STAT signaling, another functional class enriched for vesicle-

mediated transport was prominent from our surface proteome analysis of the trachea

(Figure 2H). A series of components that function in vesicle trafficking were

identified. It has been reported that IL-6 cytokines tend to be encapsulated in

secretory vesicles (Kandere-Grzybowska et al., 2003; Verboogen, Ter Beest,

Honigmann, & van den Bogaart, 2018). To visualize Upd2 production and investigate

its transportation kinetics, an upd2-mCherry transgene was developed and expressed

under the control of *lsp2*-Gal4, which enabled tracking the dynamics of Upd2 in fat

body (Figure 6A). In agreement with Upd2 being transported through vesicles,

administration of L3 larvae with Brefeldin A (BFA), which pharmacologically inhibits

vesicle formation and transport, sequestered Upd2 proteins in fat body (Figure 6B, C).

To track the destination of the Upd2-containing vesicles, we examined mCherry

signals in adjacent tissues and detected considerable amount of Upd2 puncta in the

tracheal progenitors (Figure 6D). BFA treatment reduced Upd2-mCherry puncta in the

tracheal progenitors, suggesting that tracheal progenitors receive vesicular Upd2 from

the fat body (Figure 6E, F). Perturbation of Grasp65, a Golgi reassembly stacking

protein previously implicated in Upd2 secretion (Rajan et al., 2017), also led to

sequestration of Upd2-containing vesicles in fat body (Figure 6G, H, J). The vesicle

formation, function and extracellular movement are dependent on the tetraspanin

superfamily proteins (Andreu & Yanez-Mo, 2014). We surveyed all the tetraspanin

orthologs in fly for potential roles in Upd2 vesicle formation and transport. When

expressing *lbmRNAi* in fat body, Upd2-containing vesicles were vastly increased

(Figure 6I, J). Meanwhile, perturbation of vesicle secretion or transport by expressing

grasp65RNAi or *lbmRNAi* in fat body eliminated the presence of fat body-origin Upd2

in the trachea, suggesting that fat body-produced Upd2-containing vesicles function

cell non-autonomously and contribute to other tissues/organs (Figure 6K-N). It should

be noted that knockdown of *upd2* in the trachea did not alter the discipline of tracheal

progenitor migration (Figure 2-figure supplement 1K-M). Collectively, these results

suggest that fat body-produced Upd2 undergoes vesicle-mediated trafficking.

<u>The vesicular transport in JAK/STAT signaling</u>

The results in previous section suggest that the ligand of JAK/STAT signaling is

transported in a manner that depends on vesicle trafficking. To validate the role of fat

body-produced vesicles in inter-organ signaling, we used genetic and pharmacological

tools to perturb different processes of vesicle trafficking in fat body and monitored

JAK/STAT signaling in the tracheal progenitors. Expression of *grasp65RNAi* in fat

body reduced the activity of JAK/STAT signaling in the trachea, as assessed by the

Stat92E-GFP reporter (Figure 7A, B). Similarly, RNAi targeting expression of *lbm* in

fat body vanished JAK/STAT signal transduction in the trachea (Figure 7C). Rab

GTPases coordinate vesicle trafficking and production (Stenmark, 2009) and have

been shown to play pivotal roles in the regulation of intracellular trafficking of FGFR

and EGFR (Letizia, Espinas, Giannios, & Llimargas, 2023; Olivares-Castineira &

Llimargas, 2017), and were identified in the surface proteome analysis. Consistently,

knockdown of *rab5* or *rab7* in fat body reduced the activity of JAK/STAT signaling in

the progenitor cells (Figure 7D-F). Corroborating the genetic manipulations, BFA

treatment that impeded vesicular transport also resulted in impairment of JAK/STAT

signaling in trachea (Figure 7G-I). Taking advantage of the aforementioned DIPF

reporter to assess the response of receiving cells to ligands, we found that the

fluorescent signal of DIPF was compromised upon the presence of BFA, but was

unaffected by inhibitors that target the downstream JAK protein (Figure 7J-M),

suggesting that signaling ligands are less abundant in the recipient progenitor cells

and that the vesicle-mediated transport of ligands is essential for JAK/STAT signaling.

Phenotypically, the tracheal progenitors exhibited bidirectional migration in BFA-

treated flies, which phenocopies JAK/STAT loss-of-function (Figure 7N-P). In

concord with this observation, depletion of *grasp65* or *lbm* also led to bidirectional

movement (Figure 7Q-S'', and Video 6). Similar observations were made in tracheal

progenitors with either *rab5* or *rab7* knockdown (Figure 7T-V), whereas perturbation

of neither *rab2* nor *rab3* affected the disciplined progenitor migration (Figure 7-figure

supplement 1A-F). Taken together, these results suggest that JAK/STAT signaling in

the trachea is dependent on the vesicle-mediated transport of its ligands from fat body.

The interaction between Upd2 and endocytic machinery

Our results described thus far suggest that Upd2 emanating from fat body signals to

JAK/STAT signaling in the trachea. To further explore the molecular basis underlying

the vesicular transport of Upd2, we monitored Rab5-GFP and Rab7-GFP in fat body,

which mark early and late endosomes, respectively (Vonderheit & Helenius, 2005).

The fat body-produced Upd2 appeared vesicular (Figure 8A) and both Rab5 and Rab7

were found adjacent to the Upd2-harboring vesicles, suggesting that both Rab

GTPases function in the transport of Upd2 (Figure 8A'-B"). In contrast, Rab3

exhibited non-overlapping distribution with Upd2 (Figure 7-figure supplement 1G-

G"). Furthermore, we observed that Grasp65 was in close proximity to Upd2-

containing vesicles, indicating its integral roles in these vesicles (Figure 8C-C"). In

addition, Upd2 was observed to colocalize with the tetraspanin, Lbm (Figure 8D-D").

At higher resolution, Upd2 and Lbm showed close association in a supramolecular

configuration (Figure 8D"'and 8D""), corroborating its role in the transport of Upd2.

To determine if Upd2 interacts with the coordinators of vesicle trafficking, we

employed the Duolink in situ proximity ligation assay (PLA) which revealed strong

interactions between Upd2 and Rabs, such as Rab5 and Rab7 (Figure 8E-H), as well

as Lbm (Fig 8I, J). The interaction was further validated by the revelation that Upd2

co-immunoprecipitated with Rab5 and Rab7 (Figure 8K, L). The presence of Upd2 in

Lbm-containing vesicles was also evidenced in S2 cells (Figure 8-figure supplement

1A-C") and co-IP experiment showed that Lbm physically associated with Upd2 in

both fat body and S2 cells (Figure 8M and Figure 8-figure supplement 1D). To further

understand the biogenesis of Lbm-containing vesicles that transport Upd2, we

generated an Lbm chimera tagged with a pH-sensitive GFP variant, pHluorin

(Yoshihara, Adolfsen, Galle, & Littleton, 2005). PHluorin fluorescence is squelched at

the low pH domain such as in intravesicular compartments, but becomes detectable

when exposed to the extracellular environment, thus enabling detection of exocytosis

and endocytosis. Fat body expressing Lbm-pHluorin produced GFP puncta at the

plasma membrane (Figure 8N), and the GFP signal was also detected in the trachea,

suggesting the reception and internalization of Lbm-containing vesicles by tracheal

cells (Figure 8O). However, the GFP fluorescence in both fat body and trachea was

dramatically decreased by BFA treatment, suggesting that Lbm-containing vesicles

are diminished (Figure 8-figure supplement 1E-H). Accordingly, the signals of Lbm-

pHluorin in both fat body and responding tracheoblasts were apparently compromised

when Rab5 or Rab7 was perturbed (Figure 8P-S), suggesting that the biogenesis and

production of Lbm-containing vesicles depend on Rab-mediated vesicle trafficking.

Taken together, these results suggest that fat body-derived Upd2 interacts with Rab-

mediated endocytic trafficking system to control the disciplined movement of tracheal

progenitors.

Discussion

Resident stem cells and progenitors are mobilized to regenerate damaged or degenerated tissue. Despite the large distance between the niche where stem cells interact with their microenvironments and the destination for reconstruction, their commitment to a stereotyped track implicates sophisticated mechanism that controls disciplined migration as stem cells are activated and move out of the niche. While primary inducers expressed by damaged tissues are in play to coordinate the newly generated architecture with the degenerated counterpart (F. Chen & Krasnow, 2014), the present study elucidates an integral role of Upd2-JAK-STAT pathway in regulating the expression of polarity-related genes and maintaining the disciplined migration of tracheal progenitors (Figure 8T). The transport of Upd2 from fat body to trachea suggests intensive inter-organ communication during the migration of tracheal progenitors.

Several possibilities could account for the JAK/STAT-dependent polarity. The signaling components of JAK/STAT pathway could exhibit polarized localization (Sotillos, Diaz-Meco, Moscat, & Castelli-Gair Hombria, 2008). Alternatively, this signaling may activate genes controlling cell polarity and adhesion (Mallart et al., 2024; Tsurumi et al., 2011). Functional interplay between JAK/STAT signaling and cell polarity has been observed in various contexts (Chatterjee et al., 2023; Zeidler, Perrimon, & Strutt, 1999). Our results support a role of JAK/STAT signaling in promoting expression of genes with established roles in planar polarity, which may hallmark the route for the migration of the tracheal progenitor cells. Epithelial cells exhibit two aspects of polarity: apical-basal polarity and planar cell polarity (PCP). The latter refers to the collective alignment of cell polarity within the plane of an epithelial sheet (Zallen, 2007). Molecularly, PCP is generated by the asymmetry of a group of proteins (PCP proteins) that mediate communication between neighboring cells (Barlan, Cetera, & Horne-Badovinac, 2017; Matis & Axelrod, 2013; Williams, Donoughe, Munro, & Horne-Badovinac, 2022). In *Drosophila*, the components of PCP are considered to group functionally into two core modules. The seven-pass transmembrane protein Frizzled (Fz), the cytosolic proteins Dishevelled (Dsh), Diego

(Dgo), the four-pass transmembrane protein Strabismus (Stbm, also known as Van

Gogh (Vang)) and the cytosolic protein Prickle (Pk) belong to the first module. The

second module consists of Fat (Ft; also known as cadherin-related tumor suppressor),

Dachsous (Ds), Four-jointed (Fj) and Atro (a transcription repressor) (Peng &

Axelrod, 2012). Intensive functional interplay occurs between these two modules

(Ayukawa et al., 2014). Aberrant activity of the core PCP proteins leads to

misoriented hairs and complex swirling patterns (D. Ma, Yang, McNeill, Simon, &

Axelrod, 2003; Wong & Adler, 1993). In addition to arrangement of epithelial

appendages, PCP pathway is also required for collective and directed cell movements

(Munoz-Soriano, Belacortu, & Paricio, 2012). The migratory cell cohort is polarized

into 'pioneer' cells that lead the trailing followers (Vitorino & Meyer, 2008).

Our data indicate that expression of Ds, Fj, Fz, Stan and Fat2, core components or

regulators of PCP, depends on JAK/STAT pathway. The interaction between atypical

cadherin Fat (Ft) and its ligand, Dachsous (Ds) directs core protein asymmetry (Strutt

& Strutt, 2021; Yang, Axelrod, & Simon, 2002). Phenotypically, aberrancy of PCP

protein abundance, either excessive core protein or deficit in expression gradients,

gives rise to similar morphological abnormality (Adler et al., 2000; Casal, Struhl, &

Lawrence, 2002; Taylor, Abramova, Charlton, & Adler, 1998; Tree et al., 2002).

Consistent with this notion, gain-of-function of Fj or Ds phenocopies that of

perturbation of PCP proteins. JAK/STAT signaling promotes the expression of Ds, but

reduces Ft expression (Figure 4). Thereby, perturbation of JAK/STAT signaling

disrupts the Ds-Ft system.

A precedent for JAK/STAT signaling in directional cell movement is border cell

migration from anterior to posterior compartment during *Drosophila* oogenesis.

Migration of the border cells is guided by a gradient of PDGF and VEGF chemokines

(Duchek, Somogyi, Jekely, Beccari, & Rorth, 2001). Loss of either *hop* (encoding

JAK) or *stat* in the border cells impinges their recruitment into the cluster and

subsequent migration (Silver, Geisbrecht, & Montell, 2005). Our results suggest that

JAK/STAT signaling does not serve as a guidance cue for tracheal progenitors, but

rather directs the directionality of cell movement. The downstream PCP components

may contribute to either polarity of progenitors or cell-cell interactions between the

progenitors and tracheal cells that they track along. It remains unknown how

individual progenitor cells perceive directional information and convert it into group

choreography.

We identified the fly fat body as the major source for the JAK/STAT signaling ligand,

Upd2 production. Fat body is functionally equivalent to the mammalian liver which

stores proteins, lipids and sugars and functions as an energy reservoir (S. Li, Yu, &

Feng, 2019). It supplies proteins and/or hormones that are utilized by other organs,

and thereby serves as an interchange center to disperse systemic hormonal and

nutritional signals. For instance, it generates collagen IV to decorate imaginal discs

and produces xanthine dehydrogenase for eye pigmentation (Pastor-Pareja & Xu,

2011; Reaume, Clark, & Chovnick, 1989). The transport between fat body and trachea

has been reported on a secreted chitin deacetylase, Serpentine (Serp), which is

expressed by fat body and contributes to tracheal morphogenesis (Dong, Miao, &

Hayashi, 2014). Our results reveal that fat body also signals to regulate the disciplined

migration of tracheal progenitors through the dispersion of Upd2 cytokines. These

studies collectively suggest that fat body orchestrates systemic tissue growth and

patterning and that metabolic regulation is critical for adult stem cells.

Proteins that are locally produced can execute systemic function in distant organs. A

possible route of transport is through the hemolymph or bloodstream and taken up by

the target tissues. The signaling proteins such as cytokines can be packaged in

extracellular vesicles with various dimensions (Buzas, 2023; Javeed et al., 2021). A

precedent of vesicular transport of signaling molecules is reported in migrasomes

whose diameter exceeds 500 nm (Jiang et al., 2019).

These extracellular vesicles mediate cell-to-cell communication (Colombo, Raposo, &

Thery, 2014), perhaps at a distance (Hood, San, & Wickline, 2011) and even traverse

between organs (Corrigan et al., 2014). The vesicular Upd2 is able to signal at

recipient cells, suggesting that the activity of Upd2 is preserved in the vesicle, and it

is released upon vesicle fusion. Compared with conventional extracellular vesicles

such as exosomes, the Upd2-containing vesicles possess larger dimension. Its

production and trafficking depend on GRASP-mediated unconventional secretion and

interaction with Lbm. Lbm belongs to the tetraspanin protein family that contains four

transmembrane domains. The mammalian homologs of tetraspanins, CD9, CD63,

CD81 or CD37 are principal constituents of extracellular vesicles. The Lbm-

containing vesicles are regulated by GRASP-mediated secretion and are sensitive to

pharmacological inhibition of EV transport.

It has been proposed that tetraspanins facilitate regeneration and wound healing in

cultural cells and single-cell plasma membrane. Tetraspanin-enriched macrodomains

are assembled into a ring-like structure (Huang, Zhang, Wang, & Yu, 2022), which is

recruited to large membrane wounds and promotes membrane repair (Wang et al.,

2022). The present study adds another dimension to the roles of tetraspanin proteins in

tissue regeneration which can be ascribed to transport of signaling proteins and

modulation of stem cells.

Materials and methods

Key Resources Table

REAGENT or RESOURCE	SOURCE	IDENTIFIER
Antibodies		
Rabbit anti-GFP (1:400)	Invitrogen	#A11122
Mouse anti-GFP (1:1000)	Abclonal	#AE012
Mouse anti-mCherry (1:1000)	Abclonal	#AE002
Rabbit anti-tubulin (1:5000)	Baoke	#BK7010
Phalloidin Alexa Fluor 640 (1:50)	Biotum	#00050
HRP-conjugated Streptavidin (1:5000)	Proteintech	#SA00001-0
Alexa Fluor 488 (1:200)	Abclonal	#AS053
Alexa Fluor 555 (1:200)	Abclonal	#AS007
DAPI	VECTASHIELD	#H1200
Reagents		
Halocarbon oil 700	Sigma	#H8898
RNeasy Micro Kit	QIAGEN	#74004
SMART-Seq v4 Ultra low input RNA Kit	Takara	#634889
AMPure XP	Beckman Coulter	#A63882
TruePrep DNA Library Prep Kit V2	Vazyme	#TD501
Anti-FLAG M2 Magnetic Beads	Millipore	#8823
BXXP	APEXBIO	#A8012
Experimental models: Organisms/strains		
D. melanogaster:*UAS-upd2RNAi*	Tsinghua Stock Center	THU1331
D. melanogaster:*UAS-domeRNAi*	Tsinghua Stock Center	THU0574
D. melanogaster:*UAS-hopRNAi*	Tsinghua Stock Center	THU5762
D. melanogaster:*UAS-stat92ERNAi*	Tsinghua Stock Center	THU0573
D. melanogaster:*UAS-lbmRNAi*	Tsinghua Stock Center	THU2602
D. melanogaster:*UAS-grasp65RNAi*	Tsinghua Stock Center	TH04282.N
D. melanogaster:*UAS-rab5RNAi*	Tsinghua Stock Center	TH02192.N
D. melanogaster:*UAS-rab7RNAi*	Tsinghua Stock Center	TH02539.N
D. melanogaster:*UAS-fjRNAi*	Tsinghua Stock Center	THU201500988.S
D. melanogaster:*UAS-fat2RNAi*	Tsinghua Stock Center	THU4120
D. melanogaster:*UAS-yurtRNAi*	Tsinghua Stock Center	THU1740
D. melanogaster:*UAS-crbRNAi*	Tsinghua Stock Center	THU2783
D. melanogaster:*UAS-scbRNAi*	Tsinghua Stock Center	THU3905
D. melanogaster:*10XStat92E-GFP*	Tsinghua Stock Center	THJ0273
D. melanogaster:*Stat92E-GFP*	BDSC	#38670
D. melanogaster:*UAS-grasp65-GFP*	BDSC	#8507
D. melanogaster:*Ds::GFP*	BDSC	#59425
D. melanogaster:*Yurt::GFP*	VDRC	#318067
D. melanogaster:*Crb::GFP*	VDRC	#318384
D. melanogaster:*Ft::GFP*	VDRC	#318477
D. melanogaster:*Fj::GFP*	VDRC	#318457
D. melanogaster:*UAS-dsRNAi*	VDRC	#36219
D. melanogaster:*UAS-ftRNAi*	VDRC	#9396
D. melanogaster:*UAS-ft*	From Dr. Xianjue Ma	N/A
D. melanogaster:*UAS-ds*	From Dr. Xing Wang	N/A
D. melanogaster:*UAS-fat2-GFP*	From Dr. Shunfan Wu	N/A
D. melanogaster:*UAS-GFP-Rab7*	From Dr. Xiaohang Yang	N/A
D. melanogaster:*UAS-GFP-Rab5*	From Dr. Xiaohang Yang	N/A

Oligonucleotides		
Primer α-tubulin84b Forward:CACACCACCCTGGAGCATTC	This paper	N/A
Primer α-tubulin84b Reverse:CCAATCAGACGGTTCAGGTTG	This paper	N/A
Primer upd2 Forward:TCAATCCGTATCGCGGTCTG	This paper	N/A
Primer upd2 Reverse:AGAAGAGTCGCAGGTTGTGG	This paper	N/A
Primer ds Forward:ACAACCGAACTCGAACCGAA	This paper	N/A
Primer ds Reverse:AGTAGCATCACACACAAGTGA	This paper	N/A
Primer ft Forward:CTGGATCGAGAGCAGCAGAG	This paper	N/A
Primer ft Reverse:GACGGTAAATTCTCGCGCAC	This paper	N/A
Primer fj Forward:ATTACTCAAGCGGTTGGGGG	This paper	N/A
Primer fj Reverse:CGGTTCCTGTTCCTGTCTCC	This paper	N/A
Primer fat2 Forward:TATCTGCGCCCATACGCATT	This paper	N/A
Primer fat2 Reverse:TCTCATCGGCCTTGCTTTGT	This paper	N/A
Primer yurt Forward:GGTCAGCTCAGGGTGACTATC	This paper	N/A
Primer yurt Reverse:ATTGGTAAGCTTGGCGTTGC	This paper	N/A
Primer crb Forward:CAGCAGTGTTTGAACGGTGG	This paper	N/A
Primer crb Reverse:AGGCAGTGACCAATGGGG	This paper	N/A
Software and algorithms		
Fiji / ImageJ	NIH	RRID:SCR_002285
GraphPad Prism 8.0	GraphPad Software	https://www.graphpad.com/scientific-software/prism/
Zen 3.1	Zeiss	https://www.zeiss.com.cn/corporate/home.html
PCA-flow	Bradski, G.[79]	https://www.drdobbs.com/open-source/the-opencv-library
Deposited data		
Raw and processing Data	This paper	GSE256177 https://www.iprox.cn/page/PSV023.html;?url=170832392127ZyfC qvupguyijvyndyf

Fly lines and husbandry

All flies were reared on normal cornmeal and agar medium at 25°C unless noted. UAS-upd2RNAi (THU1331), UAS-domeRNAi (THU0574), UAS-hopRNAi (THU5762), UAS-stat92ERNAi (THU0573), UAS-lbmRNAi (THU2602), UAS-grasp65RNAi (TH04282.N), UAS-rab5RNAi (TH02192.N), UAS-rab7RNAi (TH02539.N), UAS-fjRNAi (THU201500988.S), UAS-fat2RNAi (THU4120), UAS-yurtRNAi (THU1740), UAS-crbRNAi (THU2783) and UAS-scbRNAi (THU3905) were ordered from Tsinghua Stock Center. Stat92E-GFP (BSDC#38670), UAS-grasp65-GFP (BSDC#8507), Ds::GFP (BSDC#59425) were from Bloomington Drosophila Stock Center. Yurt::GFP (v318067), Crb::GFP (v318384), Ft::GFP (v318477), Fj::GFP (v318457), UAS-dsRNAi (v36219), and UAS-ftRNAi (v9396) were obtained from VDRC. UAS-ft was kindly provided by Dr. Xianjue Ma, UAS-ds was kindly provided by Dr. Xing Wang and UAS-fat2-GFP was from Dr. Shunfan Wu. UAS-GFP-rab5 and UAS-GFP-rab7 were kindly provided by Dr. Xiaohang Yang.

Plasmid construction and transgenic flies

To generate UAS-upd2-mCherry and UAS-lbm-GFP transgenic flies, the coding sequence of upd2 or lbm was PCR amplified from a fly cDNA library and cloned into a pUAST vector with C-terminal mCherry or GFP.

The DIPF reporter was generated by first fusing cpYFP and *Drosophila* FKBP12 and subsequently ligating to the dome cDNA via a GTG linker. The above product was then cloned into a pUAST vector and verified by DNA sequencing, and injected into y[1] M{vasint.Dm}ZH-2A w[*]; P{CaryP}attP2 recipient flies or *w1118* following standard *Drosophila* transformation injection procedures (Core Facility of Drosophila Resource and Technology, SIBCB, CAS).

Cell culture and transfection

S2 cells were grown in Schneider Drosophila Medium (Gibco, #21720024)

529   supplemented with 10% (v/v) Fetal Bovine Serum (FBS, Gibco) and 1% (v/v)

530   Penicillin Streptomycin (Pen/Strep, Life Technologies) at 28°C with 0.2% CO_2.

531   Transfection was conducted with 5 μg plasmids (act-GAL4, UAS-lbm-GFP, UAS-

532   upd2-mCherry) using Effectene Transfection Reagent (QIAGEN, #301425).

Quantitative reverse transcription PCR

Larval or pupal trachea were dissected in cold PBS, and then transferred to RNA

extraction reagent (AG21101). Next, reverse transcription was performed using qPCR

RT Mix with gDNA Remover reagent (AG11706). qPCR was performed using the

Universal SYBR Select Master Mix (AG11701) with a Bio-Rad system. The

foldchange of target gene expression was normalized to that of α-tubulin. The primers

are listed in Key Resources Table.

Western Blotting and Co-immunoprecipitation

Total protein was extracted from cells or tissues by RIPA buffer supplemented with a

protease inhibitor cocktail (Merck, #11836170001) and phenylmethanesulfonyl

fluoride (Beyotime, #ST507), separated by 10% SDS-PAGE gels and transferred to

PVDF membrane (Millipore, #IPVH00010). Blots were detected with an ECL

Western Blotting detection system (Bio-Rad). For co-immunoprecipitation, lysates of

larval fat body or transfected S2 cells were incubated overnight at 4°C with protein A

Magnetic beads (Thermo Scientific, #2736141) pre-coated with GFP antibody

(Invitrogen, #A11122). Immunoprecipitates were eluted in SDS-containing loading

buffer for subsequent immunoblotting analysis. Antibodies for immunoblotting

include: α-tubulin (Baoke, #BK7010), α-HRP-conjugated Streptavidin (Proteintech,

#SA00001-0), α-GFP (Abclonal, #AE012, 1:1000); α-mCherry (Abclonal, #AE002,

1:1000).

Proximity Ligation Assay

Proximity ligation assay (PLA) was carried out with Duolink® In Situ Detection

Reagents Far Red (Sigma Aldrich, #DUO92013) according to manufacturer's

instructions, using the probes anti-rabbit PLUS (Sigma Aldrich, #DUO92002) and

anti-mouse MINUS (Sigma Aldrich, #DUO92004). Briefly, larval fat body was

dissected and fixed in 4% formaldehyde. After permeabilization, the samples were

incubated with primary antibodies overnight at 4°C. Then, the samples were washed

with PLA buffer A, hybridized with PLA probes, ligated, and amplified. Samples were

washed twice with PLA buffer B (Sigma Aldrich, #DUO82049) and fluorescence

images were taken with an LSM Zeiss 900 inverted confocal laser scanner

microscope.

Immunofluorescence

Trachea from white pupae (0hr APF) were dissected in PBS and fixed with 4%

formaldehyde for 25 min at room temperature. After washes, trachea samples were

permeabilized with 1% TritonX-100 in PBS, and then blocked in 10% goat serum.

Incubation with primary antibody (GFP, 1:400; lacZ, 1:40) was performed at 4°C with

gentle rotation for overnight. Then, the samples were incubated with secondary

antibodies conjugated to Alexa Fluor 488 or 555 (1:200) and Phalloidin (1:50) for 2

hrs. After washing, samples were mounted in antifade mounting medium with DAPI

(VECTASHIELD) and imaged under an LSM Zeiss 900 inverted confocal laser

scanner microscope.

Live imaging of pupal trachea stem cells

White pupae (0hr APF) were briefly washed in double distilled water and mounted in

halocarbon oil 700 (Sigma, #H8898). The pupae were positioned with forceps to bring

a single dorsal trunk of the trachea up for optimal imaging of Tr4 and Tr5 metameres.

Then, pupae were immobilized by a 22x30 mm No.1.5 high precision coverslip

spaced by vacuum grease. Time-lapse images were captured by an LSM Zeiss 900

inverted confocal laser scanner microscope.

RNA sequencing of tracheal progenitors

Total RNA was isolated from the Tr4 and Tr5 metamere progenitors dissected from

1hr APF pupae using RNeasy Micro Kit (QIAGEN, #74004). SMART-Seq v4 Ultra low input RNA Kit (Takara, #634889) was used for first-strand and second-strand cDNA synthesis and double-stranded cDNA end repair. Double-stranded cDNAs were cleaned using AMPure XP (Beckman Coulter, #A63882). Then cDNAs were subjected to tagmentation and ligation to adaptors to generate the sequencing libraries using TruePrep DNA Library Prep Kit V2 for Illumina kit (Vazyme, #TD501). The quality and concentration of the libraries were assessed using the Agilent High Sensitivity DNA Kit and Bioanalyzer 2100 (Agilent Technologies) and submitted to 150 bp paired-end high throughput sequencing using Hiseq4000 (Illumina).

Analysis of RNA-seq data was performed using a computer system equipped with multiple processors. Clean reads were mapped to the *Drosophila* genome sequence using Hisat2 with default parameters. Successfully mapped reads were counted using FeatureCounts. Differential gene expression analysis was performed using the DESeq2 package. Adjusted *p*-value < 0.05 was used as the threshold to identify the differentially expressed genes. Gene ontology and KEGG pathway enrichment analyses for the differentially expressed genes were conducted using the Database for Annotation, Visualization and Integrated Discovery (DAVID).

Chromatin Immunoprecipitation

Third instar larval trachea from Stat92E-Flag (BDSC, #38670) were fixed in 1% formaldehyde. The fixation reaction was terminated by adding glycine (125 mM). Trachea were washed and resuspended in lysis buffer, and sonicated to generate 200-600 bp DNA fragments. Procedures of immunoprecipitation and ChIP sequencing library construction were as previously described (Y. Li et al., 2022). Anti-FLAG M2 Magnetic Beads (Millipore, #8823) were used for enriched DNA binding to transcription factor Stat92E.

Immunoprecipitated DNA was subjected to next-generation sequencing using the Epicenter Nextera DNA Sample Preparation Kit or to real-time PCR. Library construction was performed using the High Molecular Weight tagmentation buffer

(source), and tagmented DNA was linearly amplified by PCR. The libraries were then

sequenced on a Novaseq according to manufacturer's standard protocols. The

sequences were processed using *Fastqc* and low-quality bases and adaptor

contamination were trimmed by *cutadapt*. Filtered reads were mapped to *Drosophila*

genome using *BWA mem* algorithm. Peaks were called using macs2 *callpeak* (Q. Zhao

et al., 2019) and plotted using pyGenomeTracks. GO analysis of biological processes

was conducted by DAVID.

Cell-surface proteomics of fly trachea

Trachea from white pupae were dissected in pre-cooled Schneider Medium (Gibco)

and collected in 1.5 mL low-binding tube (Axygen) containing 500 μL Schneider

Medium. The samples were washed with 500 μL fresh medium and incubated with

100 μM BXXP (APEXBIO, #A8012) for 1 hr on ice with occasional pipetting.

Labeling reaction was initiated by adding 1 mM (0.03%) H_2O_2 to the sample-

containing medium and proceeded for 7 minutes at room temperature. The reaction

was immediately quenched by five thorough washes with PBS containing 10 mM

sodium ascorbate (Aladdin, #S105024) and 5 mM Trolox (APEXBIO, #C3183). For

biochemical characterization or proteomic sample preparation, the quenching solution

was drained, and the trachea in minimal residual quenching solution were quickly

frozen in liquid nitrogen and stored at 80°C. LC-MS/MS analysis was performed

using a Q Exactive HF-X instrument (Thermo Fisher) coupled with Easy-nLC 1200

system. The acquired MS raw data were processed using MaxQuant version 2.0.1.0

(Max Planck Institute of Biochemistry, Germany). Label-free quantification (LFQ)

was set with a default parameter and iBAQ was selected.

Optic Flow Analysis

<u>Motion Correlation</u>

Time-lapse images of trachea progenitor cells were captured every 5 minutes over a

total duration of 2 hrs using an LSM Zeiss 900 microscope. The movies and images

were subjected to a three-step motion collection using ImageJ (Schneider, Rasband, &

Eliceiri, 2012) as follows:

(1) Images were transformed to grey scale.

(2) Automated stabilization was performed on grey images by image stabilizer.

(3) The feature points were mapped and affine transformation was applied using big

warp (Bogovic, Hanslovsky, Wong, & Saalfeld, 2015).

Optical flow

Optical flow represents the pattern of motion of pixels in a sequence of images.

Between two consecutive frames $I(x, y, t)$ and $I(x, y, t + \Delta t)$, the optical flow vector

$\mathbf{v} = (v_x, v_y)$ represents the motion of pixels during this time. The optical flow

constraint equation is shown below:

$$I_x v_x + I_y v_y + I_t = 0$$

We adopted the PCA-flow algorithm (Bradski, 2000) in openCV library

(cv::optflow::OpticalFlowPCAFlow) in which the sparse optical flow vectors within

each small region of the image sequence are calculated before training optical flow

fields via principal component analysis (PCA) (Wulff & Black, 2015). The vectors

were assembled to generate a smooth vector field of optic flow using the learning

linear models of flow. The PCA-flow was validated for the efficiency and robustness.

Variance in 1D axis

We developed a robust estimator to evaluate the variance of optic flow projection

along the 1D migration axis between samples. The vector length is normalized by a

frame-specific normalization factor κ to fit with scale of optic flow computed among

different frames.

$$\kappa = Q_{0.9}\{||v||_2 \mid v \in vectorfield\}$$

where Q is the quantile function. The variance is computed as

$\text{Var}(\{||v||_2 > Q_{0.2} \mid v \in vectorfield\})$ and scaled to 0-1 by $\text{Var}(x)/(\text{Var}(x) +$

$\text{Var}(y))$.

<u>Random Variable</u>

The direction of optic flow in each volume was assigned to 'left' or 'right'. Then the

distribution of the binarized directions is modeled as a Bernoulli random variable

X ~ Bernoulli(p) with PMF

$$P(X = x) = \begin{cases} p & \text{if } x = 1, \\ 1 - p & \text{if } x = 0. \end{cases}$$

667 <u>Binary Entropy</u>

668 The entropy for Bernoulli random variable X ~ Bernoulli(p) is defined as

$$H_{binary}(X) = -p\log(p) - (1 - p)\log(1 - p)$$

669 The entropy evaluates the information contained in the random variable (also called

670 uncertainty). In this case, when $p = 0.5$, it reaches the maxima 1; if the variable is

671 determinate (i.e. p=0 or 1), the entropy is zero. More directed cell migration leads to a

672 lower entropy in optic flow since the certainty is high for the migration direction. We

673 estimated p by computing ratio of left and right direction

$$p = \frac{\#left}{\#left + \#right}$$

Image and statistical analysis

Confocal z-stack images were analyzed to extract information of fluorescent intensity

and number of particles using ImageJ. All statistical analysis was conducted using

GraphPad Prism 8.0. Mean and standard error of the mean (SEM) were shown.

Unpaired t-tests with Benjamin's correction were used to evaluate statistical

significance between groups.

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Author contributions

Conceptualization: H.H., P.Z.D.; Methodology: B.Y., P.Z.D., T.F.L., T.Y.G; Investigation: P.Z.D., Y.L., Y.Y.W., Q.Z., T.F.L., H.G.W; Supervision: J.M., H.H., H.G.W, B.Y.; Writing: J.M., H.H., P.Z.D, H.G.W.

Declaration of interests

The authors declare no competing interests.

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Data availability

The mass spectrometry proteomics data have been deposited to the ProteomeXchange

Consortium (https://www.iprox.cn/page/PSV023.html;?url=1708323921277ZyfC) via

the iProX partner repository (J. Ma et al., 2019) with accession number gfnR. The

RNA-Seq data generated and analyzed in this study have been deposited in the NCBI

database under accession number GSE256177 with token code: clyfasuctboflat. The

SMART-Seq data (L3, 0hr APF and 2hr APF) analyzed in this study have been

deposited in the NCBI database under accession number GSE184856

[https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/geo/query/acc.cgi?acc=GSE184856]. The ChIP-Seq

data generated and analyzed in this study have been deposited in the NCBI database

under accession code 256176 with token: qvupguyijvyndyf.

Figure legends

Figure 1 Fat body affects disciplined migration of tracheal progenitors. (A)

Schematic cartoon showing the migration of tracheal progenitors (red) and

degenerative tracheal branches (dashed grey lines) in pupae. Fat body is shown in

beige. Arrows denote anterior-posterior (A-P) axis. (B, C) Frontal section (B) and

sagittal view (C) showing the relative position of fat body and tracheal progenitors.

(D-J') Migration of tracheal progenitors in control and fat body perturbation flies. (D-

D") Migration of tracheal progenitors (red) upward from transverse connective (blue

dashed lines) and along the dorsal trunk (white dotted lines) at 0hr APF (D), 1hr APF

(D'), and 3hr APF (D"). (E-E") Bidirectional movement of tracheal progenitors in fat

body-depleted (*lsp2>rpr.hid*) flies. 0hr APF (E), 1hr APF (E'), 3hr APF (E"). Arrows

point to anterior movement of tracheal progenitors. (F) Bar graph showing the

migration distance of tracheal progenitors. Error bars represent SEM. (G-G') The

distribution of progenitors at 2hr APF. (H-H") The distribution of progenitors in fat

body-depleted flies at 2hr APF. (I-J') Computer simulation depicting trajectories of

progenitor migration. (I, J) Confocal images of tracheal progenitors. (I', J') Vectors of

progenitor migration. (K) Bar graph plots the binary entropy that represents the

disorderedness of migration direction of tracheal progenitors. (L) The Bernoulli

random variable X showing optic flow distribution of the binarized directions in each

group. * indicates $p < 0.05$, ** indicates $p < 0.01$, *** indicates $p < 0.001$, and ns

indicates not significant. Scale bar: 100 μm (B, C), 200 μm (D-E"). Genotypes: (B,

C) *UAS-mCD8-GFP/+; lsp2-Gal4,P[B123]-RFP-moe/+*; (D-D", G, G')

Gal80^{ts}/+;lsp2-Gal4,P[B123]-RFP-moe/+ ; (E-E", H, H') *UAS-rpr-*

hid/+;Gal80^{ts}/+;lsp2-Gal4,P[B123]-RFP-moe/+.

Figure 2 Dependence of tracheal progenitors on cytokines from fat body. (A) Top

functional clusters among the differentially expressed genes of progenitors between

control and fat body-depleted pupae. (B) Heatmap depicting expression levels of

principal target genes of signaling pathways in L3 larvae, 0hr APF pupae and 2hr APF

pupae. (C) Heatmap showing the differential expression of target genes of signaling

pathways between control and fat body-depleted pupae. (D-D'') Migration of tracheal

progenitors along the dorsal trunk at 0hr APF (D), 1hr APF (D'), and 3hr APF (D'').

The white dashed line shows transverse connective. (E-E''). Migration of tracheal

progenitors in *upd2RNAi* flies. (F) Bar graph plots the migration distance of tracheal

progenitors. Error bars represent SEM. (G) Volcano plot showing surface proteomics

of tracheal epithelium (up-regulated genes with ten-fold or higher changes in red;

down-regulated genes with ten-fold or higher changes in blue). (H) Top functional

classes among the surface proteomics of trachea. (I) Schematic diagram depicting the

working principle of the DIPF reporter. (J) The expression of DIPF reporter in

tracheal progenitors. The progenitors are outlined by dashed lines. * indicates $p <$

0.05, ** indicates $p < 0.01$, *** indicates $p < 0.001$, and ns indicates not significant.

Scale bar: 200 μm (D-E''), 50 μm (J). Genotypes: (D-D'') *lsp2-Gal4,P[B123]-RFP-*

moe/+; (E-E'') *lsp2-Gal4,P[B123]-RFP-moe/UAS-upd2RNAi*; (J) *btl-Gal4/UAS-*

DIPF.

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Figure 3 JAK/STAT pathway is required for the discipline of tracheal progenitor

migration. (A-D'') Migration of tracheal progenitors along the dorsal trunk at 0hr

APF, 1hr APF and 3hr APF. The white dashed line shows transverse connective. The

progenitors of control (A-A''), *domeRNAi* (B-B''), *hopRNAi* (C-C''), and

stat92ERNAi (D-D'') flies. (E) Bar graph showing migration distance of progenitors.

Error bars represent SEM. (F-G'') JAK inhibition causes bidirectional movement of

progenitors. Migration of tracheal progenitors in the absence (DMSO-fed) (F-F'') or

in the presence of Tofacinib (JAK inhibitor) (G-G''). (H) Bar graph showing the

distance of anterior movement. Error bars represent SEM. (I-L) The expression of

Stat92E-GFP in tracheal progenitors of control (I), *domeRNAi* (J), *hopRNAi* (K) and

stat92ERNAi (L) flies. The progenitors are outlined by dashed lines. (M, N) The

expression of Stat92E-GFP in tracheal progenitors of control (M) or *upd2RNAi* flies

(N). (O, P) The expression of Stat92E-GFP in tracheal progenitors of DMSO-fed

(control, O) or Tofacinib-treated (P) flies. Dashed lines outline tracheal progenitors.

(Q) Bar graph plots relative signals of Stat92E-GFP reporter. Error bars represent

SEM. * indicates $p < 0.05$, ** indicates $p < 0.01$, *** indicates $p < 0.001$, and ns

indicates not significant. Scale bar: 200 μm (A-D", F-G"), 50 μm (I-P). Genotypes:

(A-A", F-G") *btl-Gal4/+;P[B123]-RFP-moe/+*; (B-B") *btl-Gal4/+;P[B123]-RFP-*

moe/UAS-domeRNAi; (C-C") *btl-Gal4/+;P[B123]-RFP-moe/UAS-hopRNAi*; (D-D")

btl-Gal4/+;P[B123]-RFP-moe/UAS-stat92ERNAi; (I) *btl-Gal4,Stat92E-GFP/+*; (J)

btl-Gal4,Stat92E-GFP/+;UAS-domeRNAi/+; (K) *btl-Gal4,Stat92E-GFP/+;UAS-*

hopRNAi/+; (L) *btl-Gal4,Stat92E-GFP/+;UAS-Stat92ERNAi/+*; (M, O, P) *Stat92E-*

GFP/+; lsp2-Gal4/+; (N) *Stat92E-GFP/+;lsp2-Gal4/UAS-upd2RNAi*.

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Figure 4 Identification of gene targets of Stat92E in *Drosophila* tracheal

progenitors. (A) Bubble plot represents the top functional clusters among gene

targets. The establishment of planar polarity denoted in red solid box is identified with

high enrichment score. (B) Top functional classes among the differentially expressed

genes in larval-pupal transition. (C) ChIP-seq peaks at loci regulated by Stat92E.

Scale bar: 20kb (*ds*, *fz*, *stan*), 5kb (*fat2*, *vg*), 1kb (*fj*). (D-H) Validation of gene targets

of Stat92E ChIP-seq. (D-G) The expression of Ds-GFP in the tracheal progenitors of

control (D), *domeRNAi* (E), *hopRNAi* (F) and *stat92ERNAi* (G). The progenitors are

outlined by dashed lines. (H) The bar graphs plot the relative level of Ds. Error bars

represent SEM. (I-M) The expression of Fj in tracheal progenitors. The expression of

Fj-GFP in the tracheal progenitors of control (I), *domeRNAi* (J), *hopRNAi* (K) and

stat92ERNAi (L). Dashed lines outline tracheal progenitors. (M) The bar graphs plot

the relative level of Fj. Error bars represent SEM. (N-R) The level of Ft-GFP in the

tracheal progenitors of control (N), *domeRNAi* (O), *hopRNAi* (P) and *stat92ERNAi*

(Q). (R) The bar graphs plot the relative level of Ft. Error bars represent SEM. Scale

bar: 50 μm (D-G, I-L, N-Q). Genotypes: (D) *btl-Gal4,Ds-GFP/+*; (E) *btl-Gal4,Ds-*

GFP/+;UAS-domeRNAi/+; (F) *btl-Gal4,Ds-GFP/+;UAS-hopRNAi/+*; (G) *btl-*

Gal4,Ds-GFP/+;UAS-stat92ERNAi/+; (I) *btl-Gal4,Fj-GFP/+*; (J) *btl-Gal4,Fj-*

GFP/+;UAS-domeRNAi/+; (K) *btl-Gal4,Fj-GFP/+;UAS-hopRNAi/+*; (L) *btl-*

Gal4,Fj-GFP/+;UAS-stat92ERNAi/+; (N) *btl-Gal4/+;Ft-GFP/+*; (O) *btl-Gal4/+;Ft-*

GFP/UAS-domeRNAi; (P) *btl-Gal4/+;Ft-GFP/UAS-hopRNAi*; (Q) *btl-Gal4/+;Ft-*

GFP/UAS-stat92ERNAi.

1054

Figure 5 Disciplined migration requires planar cell polarity system. (A-E)

Migration of tracheal progenitors. The migration of progenitors in control (A-A"),

dsRNAi (B-B"), *ftRNAi* (C-C") and *fjRNAi* (D-D") flies. (E) Bar graph plots the

migration distance of anterior movement. (F-I) Level of Ft in tracheal progenitors of

control (F, G) and *stat92ERNAi* (H-J) flies. The images show progenitors at 1hr APF

(H, H') and 2hr APF (I, I'). Ft-GFP (green) (F, H, I), phalloidin (magenta), Hoechst

(blue), and merged images (F', H', I'). (G, J) Profile plots showing the level of Ft-

GFP in control (G) and *stat92ERNAi* (J) flies. The levels of Ft were measured along

the dotted lines in F' or I'. Anterior (A) and posterior (P). (K) Representative traces

plot the migration distance relative to the origin. (K') Rose plot depicting the direction

of cell movement. (L) Representative traces showing the movement of individual *fj*-

KO cells relative to their origin. (L') Rose plot depicting the movement direction of *fj*-

KO cells. (M) Scatter plots represent the ratio (*d/D*) of straight-line length

displacement (*d*) relative to the length of the migration track (*D*) of individual cell.

Error bars represent SEM. * indicates $p < 0.05$, ** indicates $p < 0.01$, *** indicates p

< 0.001, and ns indicates not significant. Scale bar: 200 μm (A-D"), 50 μm (F, F'),

100 μm (H-I'). Genotypes: (A-A") *btl-Gal4/+;P[B123]-RFP-moe/+*; (B-B") *btl-*

Gal4/UAS-dsRNAi;P[B123]-RFP-moe/+; (C-C") *btl-Gal4/+;P[B123]-RFP-*

moe/UAS-ftRNAi; (D-D") *btl-Gal4/UAS-fjRNAi;P[B123]-RFP-moe/+*; (F, F') *btl-*

Gal4/+;Ft-GFP/+; (H, H', I, I') *btl-Gal4/+;Ft-GFP/UAS-stat92ERNAi.*

1075

Figure 6 The production and transport of Upd2 from fat body. (A, B) Upd2-

mCherry-containing vesicles in fat body of control (DMSO-fed, A) and BFA-treated

L3 larvae (B). (C) Bar graph plots the abundance of Upd2-mCherry-containing

vesicles in fat body. Error bars represent SEM. (D, E) The confocal image showing

the Upd2-containing vesicles in progenitors of DMSO-fed control (D) and BFA-

treated flies (E). (F) Bar graph plots the abundance of Upd2-mCherry-containing

vesicles in progenitors. (G) Upd2-mCherry containing vesicles (red) in fat body. (H, I)

Upd2 accumulation in fat body was increased in the presence of *grasp65RNAi* (H)

and *lbmRNAi* (I). (J) Bar graph plots the abundance of Upd2-mCherry-containing

vesicles. Error bars represent SEM. (K-M) The Upd2 vesicles (red) in tracheal

progenitors (DAPI) in control (K), *grasp65RNAi* (L) and *lbmRNAi* (M) flies. Dashed

lines outline tracheal progenitors. (N) Bar graph plots the abundance of Upd2-

mCherry-containing vesicles in progenitors. Error bars represent SEM. * indicates $p <$

0.05, ** indicates $p < 0.01$, *** indicates $p < 0.001$, and ns indicates not significant.

Scale bar: 20 μm (A, B, G-I), 50 μm (D, E, K-M). Genotypes: (A-G, K) *UAS-upd2-*

mCherry/+;lsp2-Gal4/+; (H, L) *UAS-upd2-mCherry/UAS-grasp65RNAi;lsp2-Gal4/+*;

(I, M) *UAS-upd2-mCherry/+;lsp2-Gal4/UAS-lbmRNAi*.

1093

Figure 7 The dependence of tracheal progenitors on vesicle trafficking. (A-E)

The expression of Stat92E-GFP in tracheal progenitors of control (A), *grasp65RNAi*

(B), *lbmRNAi* (C), *rab5RNAi* (D) and *rab7RNAi* (E) flies. The progenitors are

outlined by dashed lines. (F) Bar graph plots the relative expression of Stat92E-GFP.

Error bars represent SEM. (G, H) The expression of Stat92E-GFP in tracheal

progenitors in DMSO-fed (G) and BFA-treated (H) flies. (I) Bar graph plots the

relative expression of Stat92E-GFP. Error bars represent SEM. (J) The signal of DIPF

reporter in tracheal progenitors. (K) The effects of Tofacinib (JAK inhibitor) on DIPF

reporter in progenitors. (L) The effects of Brefeldin A on DIPF reporter in progenitors.

Dashed lines outline tracheal progenitors. (M) Bar graphs showing the signal of DIPF

reporter. Error bars represent SEM. (N-O'') Migration of tracheal progenitors in

DMSO-fed flies (N-N'') and BFA-treated flies (O-O''). (P) Bar graph plots migration

distance of anterior movement. Error bars represent SEM. (Q-U'') Migration of

tracheal progenitors at 0hr APF (Q), 1hr APF (Q'), 3hr APF (Q''). The confocal

images showing the tracheal progenitors in control (Q-Q''), *grasp65RNAi* (R-R''),

lbmRNAi (S-S''), *rab5RNAi* (T-T'') and *rab7RNAi* (U-U'') flies. (V) Bar graph plots

the migration distance of anterior movement. Error bars represent SEM. * indicates p

< 0.05, ** indicates $p < 0.01$, *** indicates $p < 0.001$, and ns indicates not significant.

Scale bar: 50 μm (A-E, G, H, J-L), 200 μm (N-O", Q-U"). Genotypes: (A, G, H)

lsp2-Gal4,Stat92E-GFP/+; (B) *UAS-grasp65RNAi/+;lsp2-Gal4,Stat92E-GFP/+*; (C)

lsp2-Gal4,Stat92E-GFP/UAS-lbmRNAi; (D) *UAS-rab5RNAi/+;lsp2-Gal4,Stat92E-*

GFP/+; (E) *UAS-rab7RNAi/+;lsp2-Gal4,Stat92E-GFP/+*; (J-L) *btl-Gal4/UAS-DIPF*;

(N-Q") *lsp2-Gal4,P[B123]-RFP-moe/+*; (R-R") *lsp2-Gal4,P[B123]-RFP-moe/UAS-*

grasp65RNAi; (S-S") *lsp2-Gal4,P[B123]-RFP-moe/+;UAS-lbmRNAi/+*; (T-T")

UAS-rab5RNAi/+;lsp2-Gal4,P[B123]-RFP-moe/+; (U-U") *UAS-rab7RNAi/+;lsp2-*

Gal4,P[B123]-RFP-moe/+.

1120

Figure 8 The roles of endocytic trafficking system in the transport of Upd2. (A-

D''') The confocal images showing the colocalization between Upd2 (red) (A, B, C,

D) and Rab5 (GFP) (A'), Rab7 (GFP) (B'), Grasp65 (GFP) (C') or Lbm (GFP). (A",

B", C", D") Merged images. (D''') 3D high-magnification view of the boxed inset in

D". (D'''') The Pearson's correlation coefficient depicting colocalization between

Lbm and Upd2 in fat body cells. (E-J) The PLA (Proximity Ligation Assay) assay

showing the interaction between Upd2 and Rab5 (E, F), Rab7 (G, H) or Lbm (I, J).

(K-M) Co-immunoprecipitation assay showing physical interaction between Upd2

and Rab5 (K), Rab7 (L) or Lbm (M) in larval fat body. (N-T) The expression of Lbm-

pHluorin in larval fat body and progenitors of control (N, O), *rab5RNAi* (P, Q) and

rab7RNAi (R, S) flies. Dashed lines outline tracheal progenitors. Arrowheads point to

Lbm-pHluorin puncta. (T) Schematic diagram depicting Upd2-operated disciplined

migration of tracheal progenitors. Scale bar: 5 μm (A-D", E-J), 10 μm (N, P, R), 20

μm (O, Q, S). Genotypes: (A-A", E, F) *UAS-upd2-mCherry/+;lsp2-Gal4/UAS-GFP-*

rab5; (B-B", G, H) *UAS-upd2-mCherry/+;lsp2-Gal4/UAS-GFP-rab7*; (C-C") *UAS-*

upd2-mCherry/UAS-grasp65-GFP;lsp2-Gal4/+; (D-D'''', I-L) *UAS-upd2-*

mCherry/UAS-lbm-GFP;lsp2-Gal4/+; (N, O) *UAS-lbm-pHluorin/+;lsp2-Gal4/+*; (P,

Q) *UAS-lbm-pHluorin/UAS-rab5RNAi;lsp2-Gal4/+*; (R, S) *UAS-lbm-pHluorin/UAS-*

rab7RNAi;lsp2-Gal4/+.

1140

Figure 1-figure supplement 1 Genetic perturbation of fat body by expression of

pro-apoptotic genes, *rpr* and *hid*. Confocal images of larval fat body in control (A)

and *lsp2>rpr.hid* (B) animals. Microscopic pictures of control (C) and *lsp2>rpr.hid*

larvae (D). (E) Scatter plot showing migration velocity of tracheal progenitors in

control and *lsp2>rpr.hid* animals. (F, G) The incorporation of EdU in the tracheal

progenitors of control (F) and *lsp2>rpr.hid* animals (G). (H) Bar graph depicting the

number of EdU incorporation. Scale bar: 100 μm (A, B), 20 μm (C, D), 50 μm (F, G).

Genotypes: (A, C, F) *lsp2-Gal4,P[B123]-RFP-moe/+*; (B, D) *UAS-rpr.hid/+;lsp2-*

Gal4,P[B123]-RFP-moe/+; (G) *UAS-rpr.hid/+;Gal80^{ts}/+;lsp2-Gal4,P[B123]-RFP-*

moe/+.

1151

Figure 2-figure supplement 1 Identification of genes that contribute to

progenitors migration. (A) Differentially expressed genes in tracheal progenitors of

lsp2>rpr.hid pupa compared with control. (B) Volcano plot of RNA-seq showing

differentially regulated genes with 2-fold or higher changes (up-regulated genes in

red; down-regulated genes in blue) in *lsp2>rpr.hid* compared with control. (C-I") The

migration of progenitors at 0hr APF, 1hr APF, or 3hr APF in control (C-C") and

upd1RNAi (D-D"), *upd3RNAi* (E-E"), *pvf1RNAi* (F-F"), *pvf2RNAi* (G-G"), *pvf3RNAi*

(H-H"), and *hhRNAi* (I-I"). (J) Bar graph represents the migration distance of anterior

movement. Error bars represent SEM. (K) The migration of progenitors in control (K-

K") and *btl>upd2RNAi* (L-L"). (M) Bar graph plots the migration distance of anterior

movement. Error bars represent SEM. * indicates $p < 0.05$, ** indicates $p < 0.01$, ***

indicates $p < 0.001$, and ns indicates not significant. Scale bar: 200 μm (C-I", K-L").

Genotypes: (C-C") *lsp2-Gal4,P[B123]-RFP-moe/+*; (D-D") *lsp2-Gal4,P[B123]-*

RFP-moe/UAS-upd1RNAi; (E-E") *lsp2-Gal4,P[B123]-RFP-moe/UAS-upd3RNAi*; (F-*

F") *lsp2-Gal4,P[B123]-RFP-moe/UAS-pvf1RNAi*; (G-G") *lsp2-Gal4,P[B123]-RFP-*

moe/UAS-pvf2RNAi; (H-H") *lsp2-Gal4,P[B123]-RFP-moe/UAS-pvf3RNAi*; (I-I")

lsp2-Gal4,P[B123]-RFP-moe/UAS-hhRNAi; (K-K") *btl-Gal4/+;P[B123]-RFP-*

moe/+; (L-L") *btl-Gal4/+;P[B123]-RFP-moe/UAS-upd2RNAi*.

1170

Figure 2-figure supplement 2 Surface proteomics of *Drosophila* trachea. (A-C)

Representative confocal images showing the trachea of *btl>CD2-HRP* flies after

oxidation reaction in the presence of both BXXP and H_2O_2 (A), BXXP only (B), or

H_2O_2 only (C). (D) The western blot showing the biotinylated proteins labeled by an

HRP-catalyzed reaction with both BXXP and H_2O_2. (E) The confocal image showing

the trachea of *dome>GFP* flies. The expression domain of *dome* is visualized by

dome-Gal4-controlled GFP expression. The progenitors labeled by a progenitor-

specific enhancer, P[B123]-RFP-moe are outlined by dashed lines. The overlapping

expression of GFP and P[B123]-RFP-moe. (F-H) The expression of Upd2 cytokines

in various tissues. (F, G) The expression of *upd>GFP* in trachea (F) and fat body (G).

It was obvious in fat body, but barely detectable in trachea. The tracheal progenitors

were outlined by dashed lines. (H) Heatmap showing the relative level of *upd2*

expression in different tissue. mRNA levels of upd2 were quantitatively measured by

qRT-PCR. Scale bar: 50 μm (E, F), 100 μm (G). Genotypes: (A-C) *btl-Gal4/UAS-*

CD2-HRP; (E) *dome-Gal4/+;UAS-GFP/P[B123]-RFP-moe*; (F, G) *upd-Gal4/UAS-*

GFP.

1187

Figure 4-figure supplement 1 Annotation and analysis of genomic occupancy of

Stat92E. (A-C) Pie chart (A, B) and histogram (C) depicting the distribution of ChIP-

seq peaks relative to the nearby annotated genes. (D) Peaks of Stat92E association in

the promotor regions of *yurt* and *crb*. Scale bar: 2kb for *yurt*, 5kb for *crb*. (E) Relative

enrichment of JAK/STAT target genes analyzed by ChIP-qPCR. (F-I) The expression

of Fat2-GFP in the tracheal progenitors of control (F), *domeRNAi* (G), *hopRNAi* (H)

and *stat92ERNAi* (I). The progenitors are outlined by dashed lines. (J) The bar graphs

plot the relative level of Fat2. Error bars represent SEM. (K-N) The expression of Yurt

in tracheal progenitors. The expression of Yurt-GFP in the tracheal progenitors of

control (K), *domeRNAi* (L), *hopRNAi* (M) and *stat92ERNAi* (N). The progenitors are

outlined by dashed lines. (O) The bar graphs plot the relative level of Yurt. Error bars

represent SEM. (P-S) The expression of Crb-GFP in the tracheal progenitors of

control (P), *domeRNAi* (Q), *hopRNAi* (R) and *stat92ERNAi* (S). The progenitors are

outlined by dashed lines. (T) The bar graphs plot the relative level of Crb. Error bars

represent SEM. (U) The expression of JAK/STAT targets in the trachea of

stat92ERNAi flies. Quantitative RT-PCR was performed in triplets to analyze the

mRNA level. The expression levels in *stat92ERNAi* larvae were presented relative to

Gal4 control. * indicates $p < 0.05$, ** indicates $p < 0.01$, *** indicates $p < 0.001$, and

ns indicates not significant. Scale bar: 50 μm (F-I, K-N, P-S). Genotypes: (F) *btl-*

Gal4,Fat2-GFP/+; (G) *btl-Gal4,Fat2-GFP/+;UAS-domeRNAi/+*; (H) *btl-Gal4,Fat2-*

GFP/+;UAS-hopRNAi/+; (I) *btl-Gal4,Fat2-GFP/+;UAS-stat92ERNAi/+*; (J) *btl-*

Gal4/+;Yurt-GFP/+; (K) *btl-Gal4/+;Yurt-GFP/UAS-domeRNAi*; (L) *btl-Gal4/+;Yurt-*

GFP/UAS-hopRNAi; (M) *btl-Gal4/+;Yurt-GFP/UAS-stat92ERNAi*; (P) *btl-*

Gal4/+;Crb-GFP/+; (Q) *btl-Gal4/+;Crb-GFP/UAS-domeRNAi*; (R) *btl-Gal4/+;Crb-*

GFP/UAS-hopRNAi; (S) *btl-Gal4/+;Crb-GFP/UAS-stat92ERNAi*.

1213

1214 **Figure 4-figure supplement 2 Ds alters the level of Ft.** (A-C) The level of Ft-GFP

1215 in control (A), UAS-ds (B), and dsRNAi (C) flies. (D) Bar graph represents the signal

1216 of Ft-GFP. Error bars represent SEM. ****indicates $p < 0.0001$. Scale bar: 50 μm (A-

1217 C). Genotypes: (A) *btl-Gal4/+;Ft-GFP/+*; (B) *btl-Gal4/+;Ft-GFP/UAS-ds*; (C) *btl-*

1218 *Gal4/+;Ft-GFP/UAS-dsRNAi*.

1219

Figure 5-figure supplement 1   Apico-basal polarity proteins contribute to the

migration polarity of progenitors. (A-H'') The migration of progenitors at 0hr APF

(A), 1hr APF (A'), 3hr APF (A'') in control (A-A''), *UAS-ds* (B-B''), *UAS-ft* (C-C''),

fat2RNAi (E-E''), *crbRNAi* (F-F''), *yurtRNAi* (G-G'') and *scbRNAi* (H-H''). (D, I) Bar

graph plots the migration distance of anterior movement. Error bars represent SEM. *

indicates $p < 0.05$, ** indicates $p < 0.01$, *** indicates $p < 0.001$, and ns indicates not

significant. Scale bar: 200 μm (A-C'', E-H''). Genotypes: (A-A'') *btl-*

Gal4/+;P[B123]-RFP-moe/+; (B-B'') *btl-Gal4/+;P[B123]/UAS-ds*; (C-C'') *btl-*

Gal4/UAS-ft;P[B123]/+; (E-E'') *btl-Gal4/+;P[B123]-RFP-moe/UAS-fat2RNAi*; (F-

F'') *btl-Gal4/+;P[B123]-RFP-moe/UAS-crbRNAi*; (G-G'') *btl-Gal4/+;P[B123]-RFP-*

moe/UAS-yurtRNAi; (H-H'') *btl-Gal4/+;P[B123]-RFP-moe/UAS-scbRNAi*.

1231

Figure 5-figure supplement 2 Protrusions extending from the leading edge of

progenitors. (A, B) The confocal image showing the filopodia at the leading edge of

migrating tracheal progenitors in control (A) and *upd2RNAi* flies (B). Arrows denote

anterior-posterior (A-P) axis. Dashed lines indicate dorsal trunk. (C) Bar graph

depicting the number of filopodia extending from leading edge. (D, E) Expression of

bnl-lacZ in the trachea of control (D) and *stat92ERNAi* (E) flies. Scale bar: 100 μm

(A, B), 500 μm (D, E). Genotypes: (A) *lsp2-Gal4,P[B123]-RFP-moe/+*; (B) *lsp2-*

Gal4,P[B123]-RFP-moe/UAS-upd2RNAi.

1240

Figure 5-figure supplement 3 The dependence of migration directionality on

Ft/Ds system. (A) Representative traces plot the migration distance relative to the

origin. (B) Rose plot depicting the direction of cell movement. (C) Representative

traces showing the movement of individual *dsRNAi* cells relative to their origin. (D)

Rose plot depicting the movement direction of *dsRNAi* cells. (E) Representative traces

showing the movement of individual *ftRNAi* cells relative to their origin. (F) Rose plot

depicting the movement direction of *ftRNAi* cells. (G) Scatter plots represent the ratio

(*d/D*) of straight-line length displacement (*d*) relative to the length of the migration

track (*D*) of individual cell.

1250

Figure 7-figure supplement 1 The roles of Rabs in transport of Upd2. (A-F")

Migration of tracheal progenitors. The migration of progenitors at 0hr APF, 1hr APF,

3hr APF in control (A-A"), *rab2RNAi* (B-B"), *rab3RNAi* (C-C"), *rab5RNAi* (D-D")

and *rab7RNAi* (E-E"). (F) Bar graph plots the migration distance of anterior

movement. Error bars represent SEM. (G-G") The confocal images showing the

colocalization between Upd2 (red) (G) and Rab3 (GFP) (G'). (G") Merged images. *

indicates $p < 0.05$, ** indicates $p < 0.01$, *** indicates $p < 0.001$, and ns indicates not

significant. Scale bar: 200 μm (A-E"), 5 μm (G-G"). Genotypes: (A-A") *lsp2-*

Gal4,P[B123]-RFP-moe/+; (B-B") *lsp2-Gal4,P[B123]-RFP-moe/UAS-rab2RNAi*;

(C-C") *lsp2-Gal4,P[B123]-RFP-moe/UAS-rab3RNAi*; (D-D") *lsp2-Gal4,P[B123]-*

RFP-moe/UAS-rab5RNAi; (E-E") *lsp2-Gal4,P[B123]-RFP-moe/UAS-rab7RNAi*; (G-*

G") *UAS-upd2-mCherry/UAS-rab3-YFP;lsp2-Gal4/+.*

1263

Figure 8-figure supplement 1 Vesicular transport of Upd2. (A-C") Co-

localization and interaction between Lbm and Upd2. Co-transfection of act-Gal4,

UAS-lbm-GFP (A) and UAS-upd2-mCherry (A') in S2 cells. (A") Merged image. (B-

C") Confocal images showing that Lbm co-localizes with Upd2 in vesicles along the

protrusions of S2 cell. (D) Co-immunoprecipitation assay showing the interaction

between Lbm and Upd2 in S2 cells. (E) Expression of Lbm-pHluorin in larval fat

body, surface view of Lbm-pHluorin. (F) The confocal image showing the expression

Lbm-pHluorin in tracheal progenitors. (G-H) The expression of Lbm-pHluorin in fat

body (G-G') and trachea (H) of BFA-treated flies. The tracheal progenitors were

outlined by dashed lines. Scale bar: 10 μm (A-A", E, G, G'), 20 μm (F, H).

Genotypes: (E-H) *UAS-lbm-pHluorin/+;lsp2-Gal4/+.*

1275

1276 **Video 1 3D-view of confocal image stacks of tracheal progenitors and fat body.**

1277 Scale bar: 100 μm. Genotypes: *UAS-mCD8-GFP/+;lsp2-Gal4,P[B123]-RFP-moe/+.*

1278

1279 **Video 2 The movement of tracheal progenitors in control and *rpr.hid* flies.** Scale

1280 bar: 100 μm. Genotypes: *Gal80^{ts}/+;lsp2-Gal4,P[B123]-RFP-moe/+* (control) and

1281 *UAS-rpr-hid/+;Gal80^{ts}/+;lsp2-Gal4,P[B123]-RFP-moe/+.*

1282

1283 **Video 3 The movement of tracheal progenitors in control and *upd2RNAi* flies.**

1284 Scale bar: 100 μm. Genotypes: *lsp2-Gal4,P[B123]-RFP-moe/+* (control) and *lsp2-*

1285 *Gal4,P[B123]-RFP-moe/UAS-upd2RNAi.*

1286

1287 **Video 4 The movement of tracheal progenitors in control and JAK/STAT**

1288 **pathway-perturbed flies.** Scale bar: 100 μm. Genotypes: *btl-Gal4/+;P[B123]-RFP-*

1289 *moe/+* (control), *btl-Gal4/+;P[B123]-RFP-moe/UAS-domeRNAi, btl-*

1290 *Gal4/+;P[B123]-RFP-moe/UAS-hopRNAi* and *btl-Gal4/+;P[B123]-RFP-moe/UAS-*

1291 *stat92ERNAi.*

1292

1293   **Video 5 The movement of tracheal progenitors in control and PCP component**

1294   **aberrant flies.** Scale bar: 100 μm. Genotypes: *btl-Gal4/+;P[B123]-RFP-*

1295   *moe/+*(control), *btl-Gal4/UAS-dsRNAi;P[B123]-RFP-moe/+* and *btl-*

1296   *Gal4/+;P[B123]-RFP-moe/UAS-ftRNAi.*

1297

1298   **Video 6 The movement of tracheal progenitors in control and *lbmRNAi* flies.**

1299   Scale bar: 100 μm. Genotypes: *lsp2-Gal4,P[B123]-RFP-moe/+* (control) and *lsp2-*

1300   *Gal4,P[B123]-RFP-moe/+;UAS-lbmRNAi/+.*

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Figure 1

Figure 2

Figure 3

Figure 4

Figure 5

Figure 6

Figure 7

Figure 8