

1 **Title: Positional information specifies the site of organ regeneration and not tissue maintenance**  
2 **in planarians**

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15 **Competing interests statement:**

16 The authors declare no competing interests

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31 **One Sentence Summary: Homeostatic tissue maintenance can occur independent of precise**  
32 **positional information in planarians.**

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35 **Abstract:**

36 Most animals undergo homeostatic tissue maintenance, yet those capable of robust regeneration in  
37 adulthood use mechanisms significantly overlapping with homeostasis. Here we show in planarians that  
38 modulations to body-wide patterning systems shift the target site for eye regeneration while still enabling  
39 homeostasis of eyes outside this region. The uncoupling of homeostasis and regeneration, which can  
40 occur during normal positional rescaling after axis truncation, is not due to altered injury signaling or stem  
41 cell activity, nor specific to eye tissue. Rather, pre-existing tissues, which are misaligned with patterning  
42 factor expression domains, compete with properly located organs for incorporation of migratory  
43 progenitors. These observations suggest that patterning factors determine sites of organ regeneration but  
44 do not solely determine the location of tissue homeostasis. These properties provide candidate  
45 explanations for how regeneration integrates pre-existing tissues and how regenerative abilities could be  
46 lost in evolution or development without eliminating long-term tissue maintenance and repair.

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61 **Introduction:**

62 Regenerative ability in adulthood is widespread but unevenly distributed across the animal kingdom, with  
63 some species displaying high regenerative capacity while other representatives of the same phyla display  
64 a more limited capability. By contrast, the ability to maintain tissue integrity and functionality via  
65 homeostatic maintenance throughout adulthood is more common (Poss 2010). Regeneration is initiated  
66 by injury, and so it involves unique inputs beyond those needed for tissue maintenance and growth, such  
67 as wound healing, injury-induced activation of proliferation, tissue re-patterning, and the integration of  
68 new and old tissues. However, beyond initial responses to injury, the processes to produce new adult  
69 tissue through homeostatic maintenance or regeneration appear to occur through substantially similar  
70 mechanisms involving the shared use of tissue progenitors and stem cells for the formation of new  
71 differentiated cells. Organisms with strong regenerative ability in many cases also undergo abundant  
72 homeostatic maintenance in the absence of injury, making them ideal systems to interrogate the  
73 requirements for these processes (Newmark and Sanchez Alvarado 2000; Elliott and Sanchez Alvarado  
74 2013; Maden et al. 2013; Srivastava et al. 2014; Rodrigo Albors et al. 2015; Schaible et al. 2015; Bodnar  
75 and Coffman 2016). Indeed, functional studies of gene function in highly regenerative organisms,  
76 including planarians and zebrafish, indicate that a large majority of factors required for regeneration are  
77 also required for tissue maintenance in uninjured animals (Reddien et al. 2005; Whitehead et al. 2005;  
78 Wills et al. 2008).

79 Despite the similarity between regeneration and growth programs, most animals exhibit an age-  
80 dependent reduction in the ability for *de novo* tissue formation without a coinciding loss of proliferative  
81 growth or tissue maintenance. Examples of this phenomenon can be found across most metazoan phyla,  
82 including *Xenopus* limbs (Dent 1962; Slack et al. 2004), the distal tips of mammalian digits (Borgens  
83 1982; Reginelli et al. 1995; Lehoczky et al. 2011), *Drosophila* imaginal discs (Harris et al. 2016), and  
84 mouse myocardial tissue (Drenckhahn et al. 2008; Porrello et al. 2011). Therefore, the mechanisms  
85 accounting for age-associated loss of regenerative capacity are unlikely to derive from generic reductions  
86 in cell proliferation or differentiation. An alternative cause of regeneration attenuation could be

87 developmental loss of embryonic axis patterning systems, which can provide robust positional and  
88 scaling information early in embryogenesis (Reversade and De Robertis 2005) but are generally not  
89 sustained into adulthood in organisms with low regenerative ability in maturity.

90 Adult freshwater planarians, which have a nearly unlimited ability to undergo regeneration and  
91 tissue replacement through homeostasis, use constitutive positional information as an essential upstream  
92 regulator of regeneration (Elliott and Sanchez Alvarado 2013). These animals continually express  
93 patterning molecules that demarcate the main body axes and are used for regional identity determination  
94 through regeneration: Wnt and FGFR signaling for the anteroposterior (AP) axis (Gurley et al. 2008;  
95 Petersen and Reddien 2008; Petersen and Reddien 2009; Gurley et al. 2010; Petersen and Reddien  
96 2011; Hill and Petersen 2015; Lander and Petersen 2016; Scimone et al. 2016), BMP signaling for the  
97 dorsoventral (DV) axis (Molina et al. 2007; Reddien et al. 2007; Gavino and Reddien 2011; Molina et al.  
98 2011), and Slit/Wnt5 signaling for the mediolateral (ML) axis (Cebria et al. 2007; Gurley et al. 2010).  
99 Genes from these pathways are expressed mainly within cells of the body-wall musculature (Witchley et  
100 al. 2013) and are regionally restricted (Lander and Petersen 2016; Scimone et al. 2016) to mark  
101 territories across each axis. Although some patterning factors are induced by injury and function early in  
102 regeneration (Petersen and Reddien 2009; Gurley et al. 2010; Petersen and Reddien 2011; Wenemoser  
103 et al. 2012; Roberts-Galbraith and Newmark 2013; Wurtzel et al. 2015), the majority are expressed in  
104 specific axial territories in uninjured animals and shift their expression domain during the regeneration  
105 process to restore missing body regions (Petersen and Reddien 2009; Gurley et al. 2010; Lander and  
106 Petersen 2016; Scimone et al. 2016). Perturbations to these factors can result in tissue duplications or  
107 alterations to regional proportionality, either in regenerating animals (Bartscherer et al. 2006; Owen et al.  
108 2015; Lander and Petersen 2016; Scimone et al. 2016) or in animals undergoing RNAi inhibition over a  
109 period of prolonged tissue homeostasis in the absence of injury (Hill and Petersen 2015; Reuter et al.  
110 2015; Lander and Petersen 2016; Stuckemann et al. 2017). For example, RNAi of the Wnt inhibitor  
111 *notum* produces ectopic eyes anteriorly in the head (Hill and Petersen 2015), RNAi of the Wnt gene  
112 *wnt11-6/wntA* and the Wnt receptor *fzd5/8-4* produces ectopic eyes posteriorly in the head (Scimone et



113 al. 2016), and RNAi of the Wnt gene *wntP-2/wnt11-5* and the Wnt co-receptor *ptk7* produces ectopic  
114 pharynges within the tail (Lander and Petersen 2016; Scimone et al. 2016). Some dynamic expression  
115 changes of positional control genes can occur in animals depleted of stem cells, for example, expression  
116 of *wntP-2* and *ptk7* in regenerating head fragments, suggesting that at least some patterning information  
117 is not dependent on the ability to produce of missing tissues (Petersen and Reddien 2009; Gurley et al.  
118 2010; Lander and Petersen 2016). Therefore, patterning factors are influential in regulating axis  
119 composition both in regeneration and in homeostatic maintenance in the absence of injury.

120 All mature tissues in planarians derive from a body-wide pool of adult pluripotent stem cells of the  
121 neoblast population (Wagner et al. 2011; Guedelhofer and Sanchez Alvarado 2012). Therefore, a  
122 compelling model to account for the robustness of both pattern restoration through regeneration and  
123 pattern maintenance through perpetual homeostasis is the use of positional cues to precisely control the  
124 differentiation and targeting of planarian neoblast stem cells for tissue production at correct locations  
125 (Reddien 2011). Indeed, for the D/V axis, BMP signaling can either directly or indirectly influence the  
126 specification of neoblasts into dorsal or ventral epidermal progenitors (Wurtzel et al. 2017), and BMP  
127 signaling is necessary to maintain D/V axis asymmetry both in regeneration and through homeostasis  
128 (Molina et al. 2007; Reddien et al. 2007; Gavino and Reddien 2011; Molina et al. 2011). Likewise, Wnt  
129 signaling along the A/P axis can regulate neoblast specification in both contexts as well (Hill and  
130 Petersen 2015; Reuter et al. 2015; Lander and Petersen 2016). One expectation of this model is that the  
131 sites of organ regeneration and organ homeostasis should be identical along the body axis even if  
132 patterning information is experimentally modified.

133 We investigated this model by examining the regenerative and homeostatic properties of tissue  
134 duplication phenotypes generated by pattern disruption through RNAi treatment. We focused our analysis  
135 on regeneration and maintenance of the planarian eye, a simple, well characterized, and regionally  
136 restricted organ that can be specifically removed and easily studied. Using RNAi of Wnt signaling  
137 components and surgical strategies to shift head patterning information either to the anterior or posterior,  
138 our analyses indicate that sites of organ homeostasis do not always coincide with sites of organ

139 regeneration. These results suggest that patterning molecules have a primary function to control the  
140 location of regeneration and that mature tissue can undergo growth and tissue homeostasis through  
141 progenitor acquisition independent of more precise positional cues. Collectively, these properties could  
142 account for the integration of new and pre-existing tissues during regeneration and suggest potential  
143 mechanistic differences between tissue regeneration and tissue homeostasis.

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#### 145 **Results:**

146 To investigate the regenerative competency and homeostatic stability of duplicated tissue structures, we  
147 first sought to establish a reliable method for the production of duplicated organs in planarians. NOTUM  
148 is a evolutionarily conserved secreted Wnt inhibitor that deacylates Wnt ligands to prohibit binding  
149 Frizzled receptors (Kakugawa et al. 2015; Zhang et al. 2015). In planarians, *notum* is an integral  
150 regulator of anterior identity and pattern (Petersen and Reddien 2011; Hill and Petersen 2015).  
151 *notum*(RNAi) head fragments and uninjured animals undergo anterior shifts to axial identity to produce a  
152 set of anterior eyes located anterior to the original, pre-existing eyes (Figure 1A). Both the ectopic and  
153 pre-existing eyes contain a normal distribution of cell types (photoreceptor neurons expressing *opsin*, and  
154 pigment cups expressing *tyrosinase*) and enervate the brain, as seen by detecting their neuronal  
155 processes with anti-ARRESTIN staining (Figure 1B-C). Additionally, we tested the functionality of both  
156 sets of eyes in light avoidance assays that measure travel time away from a light source through an  
157 illuminated arena. Negative phototaxis still occurred in animals with only pre-existing eyes or only ectopic  
158 eyes. Light avoidance behavior was eliminated only when all eyes were removed, indicating the  
159 functionality of both the ectopic and pre-existing eyes to detect light (Fig 1—figure supplement 1A-E).

160 We next examined the regenerative properties of pre-existing versus supernumerary eyes  
161 generated by *notum* RNAi. Resection of normal planarian eyes results in eye regeneration over  
162 approximately 2 weeks (Deochand et al. 2016; LoCasio et al. 2017). In *notum*(RNAi) animals, resection  
163 of newly formed supernumerary eyes consistently resulted in regeneration of new eyes in the same  
164 position. However, in nearly all cases, no regeneration occurred following removal of a pre-existing eye

165 (Figure 1D, Figure 1—figure supplement 2A-B). We were able to generate *notum(RNAi)* animals with  
166 three sets of eyes either at a low frequency from either prolonged homeostatic inhibition of *notum* or by  
167 tail removal of 4-eyed *notum(RNAi)* animals (Figure 1—figure supplement 3A-B). In all cases, only the  
168 most anterior eyes of such animals could regenerate after removal (Figure 1—figure supplement 3C).  
169 Additionally, removal of all three eyes from one side of the animal similarly resulted in regeneration of  
170 only the most anterior eye, suggesting that failure of posterior eye regeneration is not due to the  
171 presence of an anterior eye. Together these results indicate that pattern alteration by *notum* inhibition  
172 likely shifts a zone of competence for eye regeneration toward the anterior of the animal.

173         Based on current models of positional control in planarian regeneration, we anticipated that non-  
174 regenerative, pre-existing eyes in *notum(RNAi)* animals would eventually disappear through failed  
175 homeostasis. To examine this possibility, we monitored individual 4-eyed *notum(RNAi)* animals over an  
176 extended time (over 200 days), representing more than 3 times the approximate length of complete eye  
177 turnover (~60 days; (Lapan and Reddien 2012)). Both the regenerative ectopic eyes and the non-  
178 regenerative pre-existing eyes persisted throughout the entire 200-day experiment (Figure 2A). The  
179 longevity of non-regenerative eyes suggested these organs could be homeostatically maintained despite  
180 their loss of regenerative ability.

181         To test whether non-regenerative eyes are actively maintained through stem cell activity or are  
182 instead retained as static tissue devoid of both cell gains and losses, we examined the functional  
183 requirement of eye cell differentiation for their persistence. Four-eyed *notum(RNAi)* animals were  
184 subjected to 60 days of RNAi inhibition of *ovo*, a transcription factor that serves as a master regulator of  
185 planarian eye differentiation from neoblasts (Lapan and Reddien 2012). Both the *notum(RNAi)*  
186 regenerative eyes and non-regenerative eyes disappeared with similar kinetics during *ovo* RNAi  
187 treatment, suggesting that pre-existing eyes are actively maintained through homeostasis (Figure 2B).  
188 To confirm these predictions, we used BrdU labeling to detect the differentiation of new eye cells. Within  
189 the eye lineage, proliferative neoblasts give rise to non-dividing eye progenitors that then terminally  
190 differentiate into mature eye cells (Lapan and Reddien 2011; Lapan and Reddien 2012). Therefore, the

191 incorporation of BrdU into eye tissues allows detection of recently differentiated cells in the growing eye.  
192 We found similar numbers of BrdU+ mature eye cells (*opsin+*) within both the regenerative and non-  
193 regenerative *notum(RNAi)* eyes 7 and 14 days after BrdU pulsing (Figure 2C, Figure 2—figure  
194 supplement 1), indicating that both regenerative and non-regenerative eyes are maintained by stem cell  
195 activity. BrdU incorporation was lower in each of the *notum(RNAi)* eyes compared to control eyes, but the  
196 total number of BrdU+ eye cells was not altered by *notum* RNAi, suggesting that in such animals  
197 differentiating eye cells are partitioned across multiple eyes. Furthermore, we observed that both  
198 regenerative and non-regenerative eyes in *notum(RNAi)* animals undergo significant size increases in  
199 response to animal feeding (Figure 2—figure supplement 2). Together, these results indicate that pattern  
200 alteration through inhibition of *notum* shifted the location of regeneration but not the location of eye tissue  
201 maintenance.

202 We next tested whether the region of the pre-existing eye might be deficient in expression of  
203 wound-induced genes, which would provide a candidate explanation for why these organs cannot  
204 regenerate. Expression of the early wound-induced factors *jun-1* and *fos-1* as well as the late factor *gpc-*  
205 *1* appeared normal after resection of either anterior or posterior *notum(RNAi)* eyes (Figure 2—figure  
206 supplement 3). Therefore, the inability of pre-existing posterior eyes to regenerate following resection is  
207 not likely due to a failure in injury responsiveness.

208 An alternative explanation for the inability of pre-existing *notum(RNAi)* eye to regenerate could be  
209 positional discrepancies with respect to the rest of the body. We next examined the position of the  
210 regenerative and non-regenerative *notum(RNAi)* eyes with respect to anteriorly expressed positional  
211 control genes (PCGs) and the brain. In 4-eyed *notum(RNAi)* animals, pre-existing eyes were located far  
212 from the anteriorly expressed *sFRP-1* and within the pre-pharyngeal region of *ndl-3* expression, distinct  
213 from the location of normal eyes (Figure 3A). Consistent with these findings, non-regenerative  
214 *notum(RNAi)* eyes were located much more posterior than control eyes with respect to the primary body  
215 axis (Figure 3B). However, *notum(RNAi)* regenerative eyes were located somewhat more anteriorly with  
216 respect to the body axis compared to control eyes. *notum* RNAi can affect multiple aspects of patterning

217 within the animal anterior (Petersen and Reddien 2011; Hill and Petersen 2015), so we hypothesized that  
218 if *notum* RNAi shifted the site of eye regeneration more anterior, then this site may be well positioned  
219 with respect to other anterior tissue such as the brain. Consistent with this hypothesis, non-regenerative  
220 eyes were considerably displaced with respect to *cintillo*+ chemosensory neurons of the head (Figure  
221 3C). Using Hoechst staining to demarcate the cephalic ganglia, we found that eyes typically formed at a  
222 particular location along the anterior-posterior axis of the brain (Figure 3D), consistent with previous  
223 reports in other planarian species (Agata et al. 1998). Intriguingly, while *notum*(RNAi) non-regenerative  
224 eyes were located at a more posterior position with respect to the brain, regenerative eyes in  
225 *noutum*(RNAi) animals were located at the same relative position as control eyes. Therefore, the site of  
226 regeneration correlates with a particular relative location with respect to other anterior tissues, either  
227 because of a role for the brain in eye positioning or because the eye and brain are both subject to  
228 independent control by an upstream process. *notum* itself is expressed within an anterior domain of the  
229 brain in *chat*+ neurons and also at the anterior pole within the body-wall musculature and both brain size  
230 and ectopic eye phenotypes from *notum* RNAi are suppressed by RNAi of *wnt11-6* (Hill and Petersen  
231 2015), which is consistent with either possibility. These observations suggest that *notum* inhibition shifted  
232 the locations of multiple tissues within the anterior, including the target site for eye regeneration, leaving  
233 behind mispositioned pre-existing eyes at a location outside of this region.

234         If positional control genes such as *notum* regulate the proportionality of many regional tissues,  
235 what mechanism explains the ability of non-regenerative eyes to undergo homeostatic maintenance? We  
236 considered two possible explanations for this phenomenon, either that mature eyes have an ability to  
237 induce their own progenitors in order to sustain themselves through homeostasis, or that eyes can  
238 acquire nearby eye progenitors regardless of the site of eye regeneration. Normal eye homeostasis  
239 involves migration of eye progenitors that specify from neoblasts within the anterior of the animal at a  
240 distance from the differentiated eye (Lapan and Reddien 2011; Lapan and Reddien 2012). In principle,  
241 these progenitors could migrate to incorporate into either the anterior or posterior eyes of *notum*(RNAi)  
242 animals. To test this, we first examined the numbers and distribution of *ovo*+ eye progenitors in 4-eyed

243 *notum(RNAi)* animals. *notum* inhibition did not increase the number of eye progenitors per animal, and  
244 progenitors could be detected in the vicinity of both the regenerative and non-regenerative eyes (Figure  
245 4A). We scored the position of eye progenitors across several animals and examined their distribution by  
246 normalizing their position to the axis defined by the head tip to the pharynx. *notum* RNAi appeared to  
247 cause a slight anterior shift to the domain of eye cell specification but that did not substantially change  
248 the abundance of eye progenitors near either the anterior or posterior eyes (Figure 4A). Therefore, both  
249 anterior and posterior eyes would likely have similar access to eye progenitors, consistent with the  
250 observation that the rate of BrdU incorporation into each *notum(RNAi)* eye is similar (Figure 2C).  
251 Furthermore, we found that nearby tissue removal, which is known to induce additional eye progenitors  
252 (LoCascio et al. 2017), did not enable regeneration of posterior *notum(RNAi)* eyes (Figure 4—figure  
253 supplement 1). Together these observations suggest that inability to regenerate is not due to a lack of  
254 access to nearby eye progenitor cells and that homeostatic maintenance of nonregenerative eyes can  
255 likely be homeostatically maintained by passively acquiring migratory eye progenitors.

256         The lack of increased numbers of eye progenitors or increased total BrdU eye cell labeling in 4-  
257 eyed *notum(RNAi)* animals argues against a mechanism in which differentiated eye tissue can induce  
258 eye progenitor cells. By contrast, a mechanism in which mature eyes incorporate progenitors without  
259 affecting specification predicts that non-regenerative eyes should compete with regenerative eyes for  
260 acquisition of a limited pool of eye progenitors. Consistent with this model, we found that despite  
261 generating additional eyes, *notum* inhibition did not alter total numbers of eye cells, but rather resulted  
262 reduced numbers of cells per eye (Figure 4B), likely due to a reallocation of the eye progenitor cell pool  
263 across an increased number of organs. To further test this model, we resected a posterior eye from 4-  
264 eyed *notum(RNAi)* animals, then counted numbers of eye cells from the ipsilateral anterior eye, using the  
265 contralateral anterior eye as an internal control. After 16 days of recovery, the posterior eye did not  
266 regenerate, as seen previously, but the anterior eye on the side of injury grew substantially larger than its  
267 contralateral counterpart (Figure 4C, top). Likewise, when we resected an anterior eye, the ipsilateral  
268 posterior eye enlarged compared to its contralateral counterpart (Figure 4C, bottom), through the size of

269 this effect was smaller, likely due to the ability for the anterior eye to regenerate. We confirmed prior  
270 observations that removal of an eye does not substantially alter the number of *ovo+* eye progenitors on  
271 injured versus uninjured sides of the body (LoCascio et al. 2017), both in control and *notum(RNAi)*  
272 animals (Figure 4—figure supplement 2). We interpret these experiments to mean that eyes can compete  
273 with each other for acquisition of a limited pool of migratory eye progenitor cells. Together, these  
274 observations suggest that mature eyes can incorporate migratory progenitors independent of the site of  
275 eye regeneration.

276 The ability for patterning alteration to uncouple the sites of regeneration and homeostasis could  
277 be a phenomenon either specific to *notum* inhibition, a property specific to eyes, or alternatively reflect a  
278 fundamental difference in the mechanisms of organ regeneration and homeostatic maintenance. To  
279 examine the generality of these observations, we performed similar experiments in animals after  
280 inhibition of *wnt11-6/wntA* and *fzd5/8-4* (Figure 5A), which act oppositely to *notum* to restrict head  
281 identity. *wnt11-6(RNAi);fzd5/8-4(RNAi)* animals form supernumerary eyes posterior to their set of pre-  
282 existing anterior eyes (Figure 5—figure supplement 1A-B). In these animals, ectopic posterior eyes  
283 regenerated after resection (7/10 animals), whereas pre-existing anterior eyes did not (11/11 animals),  
284 indicating that the treatment shifted the site of regeneration posteriorly (Fig 5A). Like *notum(RNAi)*  
285 animals, both the pre-existing and supernumerary eyes of *wnt11-6(RNAi);fzd5/8-4(RNAi)* animals  
286 persisted for extended periods of time (Figure 5—figure supplement 2A) and were able to incorporate  
287 BrdU+ cells through new differentiation (Figure 5—figure supplement 2B). These experiments verify that  
288 homeostasis can occur independent of the site of regeneration in a context other than *notum* inhibition.

289 To examine whether the phenomenon of shifting the site of regeneration is specific only to eyes,  
290 we focused on the pharynx, a regionalized tissue of the trunk that can be specifically removed and  
291 regenerate (Adler et al. 2014). *wntP-2*, *ndl-3*, or *ptk7* RNAi causes a posterior duplication of the pharynx,  
292 leaving behind a pre-existing anterior pharynx (Sureda-Gomez et al. 2015; Lander and Petersen 2016;  
293 Scimone et al. 2016). In previous studies, it has been shown that the use of sodium azide to cause  
294 specific removal of both pharynges from *wntP-2(RNAi);ptk7(RNAi)* animals allowed for the regeneration



295 of both organs (Lander and Petersen 2016). However, this amputation method likely leaves behind  
296 pharynx-associated tissue such as the pharyngeal cavity and the surrounding bifurcated intestine (Adler  
297 et al. 2014), which could play a role in the determination of the site of pharynx regeneration. We  
298 reasoned that a broader amputation that removes this surrounding tissue would be a stronger test of the  
299 regenerative competence of these duplicated tissues. We generated animals with 2 pharynges after dual  
300 inhibition of *wntP-2* and *ptk7*, then performed amputations that removed either the anterior or posterior  
301 pharynx and their surrounding tissues. The ectopic posterior pharynx had almost normal capacity for  
302 regeneration while the anterior pre-existing pharynx displayed strongly diminished regenerative ability,  
303 suggesting that *wntP-2(RNAi);ptk7(RNAi)* animals undergo a posterior shift to the site of trunk tissue  
304 regeneration (Figure 5B). Despite this alteration, uninjured *wntP-2(RNAi);ptk7(RNAi)* animals acquired  
305 BrdU within both pharynges after a 14-day pulse, indicating that pharynges with high or low regenerative  
306 ability both incorporate new cells homeostatically (Figure 5—figure supplement 2C). We conclude that  
307 modification of trunk patterning can alter the target site for pharynx regeneration away from the pre-  
308 existing pharynx without eliminating its ability to undergo homeostatic maintenance.

309 We additionally tested whether *nou darake* (*ndk*) RNAi, which produces ectopic brain tissue and  
310 ectopic eyes posteriorly into the prepharyngeal region, would similarly modify the site of eye regeneration  
311 (Figure 5—figure supplement 3) (Cebria et al. 2002). Intriguingly, these animals displayed an unaltered  
312 site of eye regeneration, with pre-existing anterior eyes succeeding at regeneration while ectopic eyes  
313 failed to regenerate. These observations point to a distinction between the activities of *Wnt11-6/WntA*  
314 (Kobayashi et al. 2007) and *nou darake*, an FGFR1 factor, and indicate that modification of the planarian  
315 AP axis content by RNAi does not necessarily alter the site of organ regeneration. Furthermore, these  
316 results suggest a specificity of Wnt factors in controlling the target location of organ regeneration along  
317 the primary body axis.

318 Finally, we tested whether the uncoupling of the site of eye regeneration and maintenance only  
319 occurs artificially after experimental gene perturbation or could occur as part of the normal regenerative  
320 process. Planarians undergo a natural process of patterning alteration after amputation, in which



321 positional control gene expression domains become altered in order to replace regional identities lost to  
322 injury as well as accommodate new reduced body proportions (Petersen and Reddien 2009; Gurley et al.  
323 2010). Notably, the tissue remodeling process typically does not appear to produce intermediate states in  
324 which new well-positioned tissues are formed prior to the elimination of improperly positioned ones.  
325 However, spontaneous appearance of ectopic eyes has been reported at low frequencies, indicating  
326 errors can occur in this process (Sakai et al. 2000). To specifically test robustness of pattern control  
327 through remodeling, we performed a series of amputations along the primary body axis of the animal that  
328 would require an increasing amount of tissue remodeling. Our results confirmed that regenerating head  
329 fragments typically undergo remodeling through regeneration without producing a second set of eyes  
330 (Figure 6A). However, animals that underwent particularly severe truncations to the body axis  
331 occasionally produced supernumerary eyes during regeneration (Figure 6A). These results suggest that  
332 severe axis rescaling can naturally shift the putative site of eye regeneration to a location distinct from the  
333 pre-existing organ.

334 This observation suggested that tissue remodeling might normally involve the ability for pre-  
335 existing eyes to absorb progenitors while they are mispositioned. We hypothesized that this model would  
336 suggest that the site of eye regeneration might become distinct from the position of the pre-existing eyes  
337 during this type of regeneration. To test this, we examined the consequences of axis rescaling on the site  
338 of eye regeneration by resecting eyes from amputated head fragments in a timeseries after amputation.  
339 We fixed and stained these animals after 12 days of eye regeneration, and determined the relative  
340 location of the newly regenerated eye (*opsin+* and *tyrosinase+* cells), using the location of the midline  
341 (marked by *slit* expression) and the uninjured contralateral eye as a reference. Surprisingly, resection at  
342 early times in remodeling (days 2 and 4) resulted in eye regeneration at an anteriorly displaced position  
343 (Figure 6B), and these times correlate approximately with a time of dynamic alterations to patterning  
344 gene expression of *zic-1*, *wnt2-1*, *ndl-2*, *ndl-3* and *wnP-2* (Figure 6—figure supplement 1) (Petersen and  
345 Reddien 2008; Petersen and Reddien 2009; Gurley et al. 2010; Vasquez-Doorman and Petersen 2014;  
346 Vogg et al. 2014; Lander and Petersen 2016; Scimone et al. 2016). Regeneration at an anterior position

347 was dependent on complete eye removal rather than injury itself because partial resection of an eye  
348 during remodeling did not result in eye regeneration at a displaced location (Figure 6C).

349 This displacement to the site of eye regeneration eventually decayed as head fragment  
350 regeneration proceeded (Figure 6B), so we hypothesized that tissue remodeling might eventually realign  
351 these tissues with the target location of regeneration. To test this hypothesis, we measured the position  
352 of uninjured, pre-existing eyes versus resected, regenerating eyes with respect to the A/P axis of the  
353 brain in head fragments undergoing tissue remodeling through whole-body regeneration. Pre-existing  
354 eyes indeed gradually regained their proper position at a more anterior location with respect to the brain  
355 over several weeks of tissue remodeling (Figure 6D, gray). By contrast, eye removal during this process  
356 caused regeneration of a new eye located at the appropriate final position with respect to the brain  
357 (Figure 6D, red). Collectively, these results suggest that pre-existing tissue exerts an effect on the  
358 location of stem cell differentiation during normal tissue remodeling and can actually slow the processes  
359 by which regeneration restores proportionality, thus ensuring the maintenance of form during this  
360 transformation.

361

## 362 **Discussion**

363 Our observations indicate that the location of regeneration can be altered by experimental  
364 perturbation of patterning factors or during the normal process of positional information rescaling after  
365 severe amputation (Figure 7A-B). Both the eyes and the pharynx use progenitors that must migrate  
366 distantly from the position where they are specified to their final differentiated location (Lapan and  
367 Reddien 2011; Lapan and Reddien 2012; Adler et al. 2014), indicating that these adult organs either can  
368 absorb progenitors that happen to encounter them or, more likely, use active trophic mechanisms for  
369 acquiring them. Our data argue that once an organ is formed, it can acquire progenitors to  
370 homeostatically maintain itself for long periods of time, perhaps indefinitely, even if it is not correctly  
371 placed with respect to patterning gene expression domains. These observations help to reconcile the fact  
372 that planarians generally regenerate perfectly, but that it is possible to recover rare variants with

373 “mistakes” in the process of asexual reproduction, including disorganized supernumerary eyes that are  
374 incapable of regeneration (Sakai et al. 2000). Given the requirement for progenitors in organ  
375 maintenance and the inability for mature eyes to produce their own progenitors, we suggest that  
376 homeostatic eye maintenance is likely only possible within the domain occupied by *ovo+* progenitors.  
377 These interpretations suggest that patterning factors have an important role in precisely specifying the  
378 site for initiation of organ formation through regeneration but do not necessarily specify the sites of  
379 growth. We suggest that the maintenance of form in the absence of injury therefore likely involves both  
380 the use of positional control genes and the ability of existing tissues to acquire nearby progenitors for  
381 maintenance.

382         Given the ability for positional control genes to shift their domains according to the size of the new  
383 axis, a hypothetical mechanism for the restoration of form through tissue remodeling could have been  
384 new production of tissues in proper locations, followed by slow decay of old tissues in incorrect positions.  
385 However, this has generally not been observed for tissue remodeling in planarians (Reddien and  
386 Sanchez Alvarado 2004). Instead, severe truncations that require extensive remodeling generally cause  
387 a slow transformation toward normal form without intermediates involving duplicated tissue (Morgan  
388 1898). The discovery that mispositioned organs can be homeostatically maintained provides a candidate  
389 model to help explain the process of tissue remodeling (sometimes called morphallaxis in planarians)  
390 (Morgan 1898). Early after severe axis truncations, patterning genes dynamically shift in order to restore  
391 positional information across the body axis. New domains of progenitor specification may be defined and  
392 perhaps be mostly restored in short timescales, but pre-existing progenitors and mature tissues remain.  
393 Waves of injury-induced cell death likely accelerate the turnover of pre-existing tissues (Pellettieri et al.  
394 2010), but do not appear to fully eliminate them. The ability for mispositioned organs such as eyes and  
395 pharynx to acquire progenitors, combined with the relatively slow turnover of adult organs, would then  
396 result in a gradual realignment of the positional system with respect to mature tissue. A similar process  
397 could occur in remodeling of other tissues, such as the planarian brain, or through alternate mechanisms

398 that await discovery. The maintenance of mature tissues even when in potential conflict with the  
399 positional system could play a vital role in proper integration of new and old tissue.

400         Adult regenerative abilities are widespread but unevenly distributed across animal species, so an  
401 enduring question has been how these capabilities are lost or gained through evolution and organismal  
402 development. While many strongly regenerative species also maintain their tissues through ongoing  
403 tissue homeostasis, many other species maintain their tissues homeostatically without possessing strong  
404 regenerative ability as adults (Poss 2010). The alteration of patterning information can be sufficient to  
405 trigger the formation of a new axis or to enhance regenerative ability in flatworm species that are  
406 refractory at head regeneration (Liu et al. 2013; Sikes and Newmark 2013; Umesono et al. 2013),  
407 suggesting constitutive patterning information is vital for regeneration. Our discovery that regeneration  
408 and homeostasis can be uncoupled in a highly regenerative organism suggests a potential model for how  
409 adult regenerative ability could be lost in development or evolution. Growth and homeostatic  
410 maintenance of tissues derived from nearby progenitors would not necessarily require ongoing patterning  
411 information after axis regionalization is defined in early development. After the completion of patterning,  
412 the signaling states that enable positional gene expression could therefore be lost without sacrificing the  
413 ability for tissues to grow, be maintained, or perhaps even heal simple wounds. Whole body regeneration  
414 could have been an ancient property, as it is shared among representatives of Radiata, planarians, and  
415 acoel flatworms, with increasing evidence for common and conserved specific regulatory programs within  
416 these groups (Srivastava et al. 2014; Raz et al. 2017). Notably, these species retain patterning  
417 information constitutively during adulthood (Reddien et al. 2007; Gurley et al. 2008; Petersen and  
418 Reddien 2008; Lengfeld et al. 2009; Srivastava et al. 2014; Raz et al. 2017), while other non-regenerative  
419 species still capable of substantial post-embryonic growth and tissue maintenance are not thought to  
420 maintain axis organization programs after embryogenesis. The loss of patterning information in adulthood  
421 therefore could account for losses of regenerative ability without the elimination of proliferation and  
422 growth.

423

424 **Figure Legends**

425 **Figure 1. *notum* RNAi shifts the site of eye regeneration anteriorly**

426 (A) Animals were treated with *notum* or control dsRNA every 2-3 days for (top) 40 days in the absence of  
427 injury or (bottom) for four times over 9 days followed by decapitation and 28 days of head regeneration  
428 as indicated. *notum*(RNAi) animals produced an anterior set of eyes (129/143 *notum*(RNAi) homeostasis  
429 animals and 187/200 *notum*(RNAi) regenerating head fragments, yellow arrowheads) and retained a pre-  
430 existing set of eyes (white arrowheads). (B) FISH to detect expression of opsin and tyrosinase. (C) anti-  
431 ARRESTIN immunostaining to detect photoreceptor neuron axons. (D) Surgical removal of eyes in  
432 control and *notum*(RNAi) animals generated by homeostatic RNAi treatment as in (A), showing  
433 individuals at 1 day after surgery to confirm successful removal (white arrowheads) and 14 days to  
434 assess regeneration. In *notum*(RNAi) animals, 40/40 anterior supernumerary eyes regenerated after  
435 removal (yellow arrowheads) and 37/38 posterior pre-existing eyes failed to regenerate (red arrowheads).  
436 Right, FISH of ovo confirms lack of eye cells produced in the region of the resected *notum*(RNAi)  
437 posterior eyes. Scale bars, 300 microns.

438  
439 **Figure 2. Both regenerative and non-regenerative eyes are homeostatically maintained**

440 (A) Control and *notum*(RNAi) animals were fed dsRNA food every three days for 35 days then starved  
441 and individually tracked for 200 days and imaged every 30-40 days to monitor stability of the duplicated  
442 eyes. (B) Left, cartoon of eye differentiation showing production of photoreceptor neurons (PRN) and  
443 pigment cup cells (PC) from *ovo*+ progenitors. Two-eyed control and four-eyed *notum*(RNAi) animals  
444 were generated by 35 days of dsRNA feeding were then treated with control or *ovo* dsRNA for 60 days  
445 by feeding. *ovo* inhibition caused loss of both the ectopic and pre-existing eyes of *notum*(RNAi) animals  
446 (12/12 sets of eyes). (C) Two-eyed control and four-eyed *notum*(RNAi) animals were injected with BrdU  
447 following 35 days of RNAi feeding, fixed 14 days later and stained by FISH for opsin (magenta),  
448 tyrosinase (cyan) and immunostained with anti-BrdU (gray). The head regions of BrdU-labeled  
449 *notum*(RNAi) animals had BrdU+ cells in the anterior eyes (11/12 animals) and the posterior eyes (12/12

450 animals), a similar frequency as control animal eyes (14/14 animals). C (bottom), quantification of  
451 BrdU+opsin+ cells after 7 or 14 days of BrdU pulsing measured per eye (left) or across all eyes (right) for  
452 each condition. p-values from 2-tailed t-tests, \*\*p<0.01. Cartoons depict location of eyes imaged with  
453 insets showing single and multichannel enlarged images of BrdU+ eye cells.

454

455 **Figure 3. Non-regenerative eyes are mispositioned with respect to positional control genes and**  
456 **the brain.**

457 (A) WISH to detect expression of *sFRP-1* and *ndl-3* in control and *notum(RNAi)* regenerating head  
458 fragments, marking regenerative eyes (green arrows) and non-regenerative eyes (blue arrows). Posterior  
459 eyes in *notum(RNAi)* animals were located more distantly from the *sFRP-1* domain (3/3 animals) and  
460 within the *ndl-3* expression domain (6/6 animals), whereas eyes from control animals were located  
461 outside of the *ndl-3* domain (5/5 animals). (B) Measurement of control and *notum(RNAi)* eyes with  
462 respect to the body from fixed stained animals prepared as in (A). In *notum(RNAi)* animals, the  
463 supernumerary eyes are positioned more anterior and the pre-existing eyes are positioned more  
464 posterior than eyes from control animals. (C-D) Testing the position of eyes with respect to the brain. (C)  
465 Animals were prepared as in (A) and stained with a *cintillo* riboprobe labeling chemosensory neurons  
466 within a lateral territory of the head. The *notum(RNAi)* posterior eyes are located too far posterior with  
467 respect to the *cintillo* cell domain. (D) Measurement of the location of regenerative and non-regenerative  
468 eyes with respect to the brain, as visualized by FISH to detect tyrosinase and Hoechst staining that  
469 outlines the planarian cephalic ganglia. Right, quantifications of relative eye:brain position as determined  
470 by normalizing to the length of the brain as indicated with respect to the brain's axis. Non-regenerative  
471 eyes from *notum(RNAi)* animals (blue) have a more posterior location than eyes from control animals  
472 (red) or regenerative eyes from *notum(RNAi)* animals (green). \*\*\*, p-value < 0.001 by 2-tailed t-test. n.s.,  
473 p > 0.05 by 2-tailed t-test.

474

475

476 **Figure 4. Non-regenerative eyes and regenerative eyes compete for progenitor acquisition**

477 (A) FISH to detect *ovo*+ progenitor cells located in the anterior animal region (middle panel, arrows) of  
478 control and *notum(RNAi)* animals. Left plots, *ovo*+ progenitor cell numbers were not significantly altered  
479 in 4-eyed *notum(RNAi)* animals. Right plots, histograms quantifying distribution of *ovo*+ eye cells showing  
480 regions anterior to the pharynx, with position normalized to the locations of the head tip and the pharynx.  
481 *notum* inhibition produced a slight anterior shift to the distribution of *ovo*+ cells, but they are present in a  
482 region that includes the posterior non-regenerative eyes. (B) FISH with *opsin* and *tyrosinase* riboprobes  
483 to detect numbers of eye cells from 4-eyed *notum(RNAi)* animals and 2-eyed control animals (bars, 25  
484 microns). Hoechst counterstaining was used to count numbers of eye cells plotted below as total eye cell  
485 numbers per animal and cells per eye. *notum* RNAi did not significantly change total eye cell numbers,  
486 and reduced the number of cells per eye. Significance determined by 2-tailed t-test, \*\*\*  $p < 0.001$ . (C)  
487 Four-eyed *notum(RNAi)* animals were generated by dsRNA feeding over 40 days prior to removal of  
488 either a posterior (top) or anterior (bottom) eye on one side of the animal (R,right), leaving both eyes on  
489 the left side (L) unaffected. After 16 days of recovery, animals were fixed and stained with a combination  
490 of riboprobes for *opsin* and *tyrosinase* (green), and eye cells were quantified by counting Hoechst-  
491 positive nuclei from *opsin/tyrosinase*+ cells throughout the D/V eye axis. Right, quantifications of left and  
492 right eyes from several individuals are shown and connected by dotted lines. Top, removal of a posterior  
493 eye caused the ipsilateral anterior eye (orange) to become enlarged compared to the contralateral  
494 anterior eye (green). Bottom, removal of an anterior eye caused the ipsilateral posterior eye (orange) to  
495 become enlarged compared to the contralateral posterior eye (green). Significance was measured by 2-  
496 tailed paired sample t-tests.

497

498 **Figure 5. Modulation of other patterning factors alters the sites of eye or pharynx regeneration**

499 (A) Simultaneous inhibition of *wnt11-6* and *fzd5/8-4* resulted in the formation of ectopic eyes posterior to  
500 the original eyes. Removal of the supernumerary, posterior eyes resulted in regeneration (7/10 animals)  
501 whereas removal of the original, anterior eyes did not result in regeneration (11/11 animals),  $p = 0.001$  by



502 Fisher's exact test. (B) *wntP-2(RNAi);ptk7(RNAi)* animals form a supernumerary posterior pharynx while  
503 retaining a pre-existing central pharynx. Cartoons denote amputations used to test regenerative ability of  
504 pre-existing or supernumerary pharynges from control or *wntP-2(RNAi);ptk7(RNAi)* animals. *wntP-*  
505 *2(RNAi);ptk7(RNAi)* animals were prepared by dsRNA feeding for 3 weeks, then amputated using  
506 repeated punctures centrally in a box shape around the target pharynx. Regeneration of the *wntP-*  
507 *2(RNAi);ptk7(RNAi)* supernumerary posterior pharynx occurred at frequencies close to those of control  
508 animal pharynges, but regeneration ability of the *wntP-2(RNAi);ptk7(RNAi)* pre-existing anterior pharynx  
509 was markedly reduced ( $p=0.03$  by Fisher's exact test).

510

511 **Figure 6. Tissue remodeling normally shifts the site of eye regeneration away from pre-existing**  
512 **eyes.**

513 (A) Large animals were decapitated in a series of AP positions denoted by approximate percentage of  
514 anterior tissue remaining. Such fragments regenerate into small animals that ultimately regain  
515 proportionality, and the majority of fragments had a single set of eyes throughout this tissue remodeling  
516 process (65/68 animals). However, fragments resulting from far-anterior amputations occasionally formed  
517 an ectopic set of photoreceptors during regeneration (3/20 animals). (B) Large animals were decapitated  
518 to remove ~80% of the posterior and one of the eyes within the regenerating head fragments was  
519 resected in a timeseries. Animals were fixed 12 days after eye resection and stained with an ovo  
520 riboprobe to mark the site of eye regeneration, using midline expression of slit and the A/P position of the  
521 contralateral uninjured eye as a reference (dotted lines). Right, displacement from the reference position  
522 was modified by the time of eye resection as head fragments underwent remodeling. Maximal  
523 displacement from the location of the pre-existing eye occurred when resecting eyes from d4  
524 regenerating head fragments. (C) Tests to determine whether eye damage or eye removal is necessary  
525 for revealing the altered location of regeneration. One eye from d4 regenerating head fragments was  
526 either fully removed (left) as in (B), or only damaged to partially resect it (right). Top panels show live  
527 animals 1 day after surgery indicating successful removal versus damage to the right eye. Bottom panels



528 show animals fixed 12 days after eye removal or damage stained and quantified for eye displacement as  
529 in (C). Only complete eye removal caused eye regeneration at an anteriorly shifted site. (D). The  
530 position of eyes from animals treated as in (B) were measured with respect to the A/P brain axis as  
531 determined by Hoechst and *ovo* staining. Images are projections of optical sections taken from a mid-  
532 ventral position to highlight the cephalic ganglia and dorsal positions to highlight the location of the eye.  
533 The eye:brain ratio was calculated as in Figure 3D by measuring the eye's distance to the posterior edge  
534 of the cephalic ganglia and normalizing to the length of the brain, with uninjured animals used to  
535 determine average eye:brain ratio at ideal proportions (solid line with dotted lines indicating standard  
536 error). Uninjured eyes successively regain proper position with respect to the brain axis as remodeling  
537 and regeneration proceed. Eye removal during this process results in eye regeneration at a more  
538 anteriorly displaced location that corresponds with the proper position with respect to the brain. Scale  
539 bars, 300 microns.

540

541 **Figure 7. Pattern alteration uncouples the sites of regeneration and homeostasis.**

542 (A) Model showing shifts to the anteroposterior target site of eye regeneration (yellow box) in animals  
543 undergoing *notum* RNAi or *wnt11-6* and *fzd5/8-4* RNAi. Eye progenitors (purple dots) are present in a  
544 broader anterior domain and can renew pre-existing eyes left behind by the pattern alteration. (B) Shifts  
545 to the location of eye regeneration during the remodeling of head fragments (top series). Eye removal  
546 during this process results in eye regeneration at the target location for proportion re-establishment  
547 (bottom series)

548

549 **Figure 1—figure supplement 1. Regenerative and non-regenerative eyes both mediate negative**  
550 **phototaxis.**

551 (A) Phototaxis behavior was measured by measuring the time of transit across an arena illuminated from  
552 one side. (B) Illustration of outcomes in the assay. (C) Control and *notum*(RNAi) animals were examined  
553 in phototaxis assays after no treatment, removal of all eyes or removal of only either the supernumerary

554 or pre-existing eyes. (D) Time of transit data for animals after surgeries. Only removal of all eyes in  
555 either control or *notum*(RNAi) animals resulted in lack of negative phototaxis. (E) Quantification of data in  
556 D showing average time from the timeseries spent in the blue quadrant (greater than 100 mm from the  
557 illuminated side). \*\*  $p < 0.01$  by 2-tailed t-test; n.s. denotes  $p > 0.05$  from the same test.

558

559 **Figure 1—figure supplement 2. Additional controls for structure and regenerative ability of eyes**  
560 **from *notum*(RNAi) animals**

561 (A) Homeostasis *notum*(RNAi) animals were generated by dsRNA feeding for 40 days followed by  
562 surgeries as indicated by cartoons. Removal of both a supernumerary anterior eye and a posterior pre-  
563 existing eye resulted in regeneration only of an eye at the anterior eye position. Likewise, removal of all  
564 4 eyes from such animals resulted in eye regeneration at the anterior position. (B) 4-eyed *notum*(RNAi)  
565 animals were generated by allowing decapitated head fragments to regenerate for 28 days, then tested  
566 for eye regeneration behavior. In such animals, the pre-existing eyes fail to regenerate whereas  
567 supernumerary eyes have regenerative ability.

568

569 **Figure 1—figure supplement 3. Prolonged *notum* RNAi and surgical strategies can create**  
570 **additional sets of ectopic eyes that track with regenerative ability**

571 (A) At a low frequency, *notum*(RNAi) homeostasis animals form an additional set of ectopic eyes (8/111)  
572 animals at 70d RNAi to generate 6-eyed animals. (B) Alternatively, 6-eyed animals can be produced at  
573 higher frequency by decapitating 4-eyed *notum*(RNAi) animals generated by homeostatic inhibition. (C)  
574 Experiments to test regenerative ability of the three sets of eyes from 6-eyed *notum*(RNAi) animals. Only  
575 the anterior-most set of eyes can regenerate (top panels vs. middle panels). Removal of a set of three  
576 eyes from the same side of these worms results in regeneration only of the anterior-most set of eyes.

577

578 **Figure 2—figure supplement 1. Quantification of BrdU-labeling in *notum*(RNAi) animals**

579 Maximum projections of eye cells labeled with *opsin* and fixed 14 days after BrdU pulsing and quantified  
580 in Figure 2C, with double and single channel images indicated along with *BrdU+opsin+* cells (yellow  
581 arrows). Anterior, top. Bars, 25 microns.

582

583 **Figure 2—figure supplement 2. Regenerative and non-regenerative eye sizes respond to growth.**

584 4-eyed *notum(RNAi)* animals were generated by dsRNA treatment followed by 28 days of head fragment  
585 regeneration, imaged (0d) fed dsRNA for 24 days, re-imaged, and the area size of the eye pigment cups  
586 measured in microns<sup>2</sup>.

587

588

589 **Figure 2—figure supplement 3. Injury-induced gene expression can occur near non-regenerative**  
590 **eyes**

591 Control RNAi and 4-eyed *notum(RNAi)* animals were prepared by homeostatic inhibition for 40 days,  
592 resected to remove either normal, anterior or posterior eyes as shown, then fixed at 0h or 6h and stained  
593 for expression of *jun-1*, *fos-1*, and *gpc-1*. Injury-induced gene expression was similar between control  
594 and *notum(RNAi)* animals and between removal of either anterior or posterior eyes.

595

596 **Figure 4—figure supplement 1. Effect of nearby tissue removal on posterior eye regeneration**  
597 **ability in *notum(RNAi)* animals**

598 Four-eyed *notum(RNAi)* regenerating head fragments obtained 28 days after decapitation were  
599 subjected to posterior eye resection with (bottom) or without (top) removal of a wedge of tissue posterior  
600 to the eyes. In all cases, animals did not regenerate the resected posterior eye by 14 days after surgery.

601

602 **Figure 4—figure supplement 2. Measurement of *ovo+* cell numbers after injury in control and**  
603 ***notum(RNAi)* animals**

604 Top, images of animals stained for *ovo* expression by FISH fixed 4 days after eye removal from control

605 and *notum(RNAi)* animals as shown in cartoons. The anterior half of each animal was imaged and *ovo+*  
606 cells manually scored from maximum projection images, scoring eye progenitors as *ovo+* cells not  
607 residing within the mature eyes. Bottom left, quantification of overall numbers of *ovo+* cells animals after  
608 each treatment. *notum* RNAi and either anterior or posterior eye removal did not substantially later  
609 numbers of *ovo+* cells ( $p>0.05$ , 2-tailed t-tests). Bottom right, quantification of *ovo+* cells based on  
610 localization on the uninjured (left) or injured (right) side of each animal. There was not a difference in  
611 number of *ovo+* cells between uninjured and injured sides across all treatments (2-tailed paired t-tests).

612

613 **Figure 5—figure supplement 1. Additional staining and verification of the ectopic posterior eye**  
614 **phenotype of *wnt11-6(RNAi);fzd5/8-RNAi(RNAi)* animals.**

615 (A) Live images of *wnt11-6(RNAi);fzd5/8-RNAi(RNAi)* animals after 35 days of RNAi feeding. (B) Images  
616 of control and *wnt11-6(RNAi);fzd5/8-RNAi(RNAi)* animals staining for ARRESTIN protein and *eye53-1*  
617 and *eye53-2* probes.

618

619

620 **Figure 5—figure supplement 2. Tests to determine the homeostatic potential of supernumerary**  
621 **eyes and pharynges formed by RNAi of Wnt pathway components.**

622 (A) *wnt11-6(RNAi);fzd5/8-4(RNAi)* animals with ectopic eyes were generated by dsRNA feeding for 40  
623 days and animals were tracked for a subsequent 100 days after feeding. 3/4 animals maintained two sets  
624 of eyes during this time and 1/4 animals maintained 3 eyes during this time. (B) Four-eyed *wnt11-*  
625 *6(RNAi);fzd5/8-4(RNAi)* animals were generated as in (B), injected with BrdU then fixed and stained 7  
626 days later with *opsin* and *tyrosinase* riboprobes and anti-BrdU antibody. *notum(RNAi)* animals labeled  
627 with BrdU had BrdU+ cells in both the supernumerary posterior and pre-existing anterior eyes (5/5  
628 animals), similar to control individuals (5/5 animals). (C) Tests using BrdU to determine homeostatic  
629 maintenance ability of new and pre-existing pharynx in *wntP-2(RNAi);ptk7(RNAi)* animals prepared as in  
630 Figure 5C then pulsed with BrdU prior to fixing and staining 7 days later with anti-BrdU antibody and

631 laminin riboprobe that labels pharyngeal tissue. Both pharynges acquired BrdU+ cells during the pulse  
632 (9/9 animals). Bars, 100 microns

633

634

635 **Figure 5—figure supplement 3. Tests to determine the regenerative potential of eyes in *ndk(RNAi)***  
636 **animals**

637 Animals were fed *ndk* dsRNA 6 times over 2 weeks then decapitated and regenerating head fragments  
638 scored 21 days later for ectopic eyes (15/31 animals). Animals displaying this phenotype were selected  
639 for eye resection to remove either an original anterior eye or a supernumerary posterior eye. Removal of  
640 the anterior eye resulted in regeneration (5/5 animals), while regeneration was not observed after  
641 removal of posterior eyes (7/7) as scored 14 and 21 days later.

642

643 **Figure 6—figure supplement 1. Expression of positional control genes is modified early during**  
644 **remodeling.**

645 WISH to detect expression of five different positional control genes in a timeseries during the  
646 regeneration of head fragments (*zic-1*, *wnt2-1*, *ndl-2*, *ndl-3* and *wntP-2*). At d4 of regeneration, positional  
647 control gene expression domains have altered but not yet acquired their final distributions. For example,  
648 *zic-1* expression appears overly reduced compared to 12 days of regeneration, and *wnt2-1*, *ndl-2*, and  
649 *ndl-3* expression occupies too much of the axis, and the *wntP-2* expression axis has not yet resolved.  
650 These observations suggest that early in regeneration, positional control genes are mispositioned with  
651 respect to pre-existing tissues. All images representative of at least n=4 animals per timepoint and  
652 condition. Bars, 300 microns.

653

654

655 **Materials and Methods**

656 *Planarian culture*

657 Asexual *Schmidtea mediterranea* animals (CIW4 strain) were maintained in 1x Montjuic salts  
658 between 18-20°C. Animals were fed a puree of beef liver and starved for at least one week prior to the  
659 start of any experiment.

660

#### 661 *Whole-mount in situ hybridization (WISH)*

662 Animals were fixed and bleached as described previously (Pearson et al. 2009). Riboprobes  
663 (digoxigenin- or fluorescein-labeled) were synthesized by in vitro transcription (Pearson et al. 2009; King  
664 and Newmark 2013). Antibodies were used in MABT/5% horse serum/5% Western Blocking Reagent  
665 (Roche) for FISH (anti-DIG-POD 1:2000 (Roche), anti-FL-POD 1:1000 (Roche)) or NBT/BCIP WISH  
666 (anti-DIG-AP 1:4000 (Roche)) (King and Newmark 2013). For multiplex FISH, peroxidase conjugated  
667 enzyme activity was quenched between tyramide reactions by formaldehyde (4% in 1x phosphate  
668 buffered saline with 0.1% TritonX100 (PBSTx)) or sodium azide treatment (100 mM in 1xPBSTx) for at  
669 least 45 minutes at room temperature. Nuclear counterstaining was performed using Hoechst 33342  
670 (Invitrogen, 1:1000 in 1xPBSTx).

671

#### 672 *RNAi*

673 RNAi by feeding was performed using either *E. coli* HT115 cultures expressing dsRNA from cDNA  
674 cloned into pPR244 (Gurley et al. 2008) or in vitro transcribed dsRNA (Rouhana et al. 2013) mixed  
675 directly into 70-80% liver paste. For head remodeling experiments, animals were fed RNAi food 4 times  
676 over 9 days and surgeries were performed on the same day as the final feeding. For long-term feeding  
677 experiments, animals were fed RNAi bacterial food every 2-3 days for the length of experiment indicated.  
678 RNAi vectors or dsRNA to inhibit *notum*, *wnt11-6*, *fzd5/8-4*, *wntP-2* and *ptk7* were described and  
679 validated previously (Petersen and Reddien 2011; Hill and Petersen 2015; Lander and Petersen 2016)

680 .

#### 681 *Whole-mount Immunostaining and BrdU Experiments*

682 Fixations were performed by treatment with 5% N-acetyl-cysteine (NAC) in 1x phosphate buffered saline  
683 (PBS) for 5 minutes, 4% formaldehyde/1xPBSTx for 15 minutes, and bleaching overnight in 6% hydrogen  
684 peroxide in methanol on light box. Animals were blocked 6 hours in 1xPBS/0.3% TritonX-100 + 0.25%  
685 bovine serum albumin (PBSTB) at room temperature. Fixed samples were allowed to incubate with  
686 primary and secondary antibodies overnight (~16 hours) at room temperature with mild agitation.  
687 ARRESTIN labeling was performed using a mouse monoclonal antibody (clone VC-1, kindly provided by  
688 R. Zayas) at 1:10,000 in PBSTB followed by incubation with anti-mouse HRP conjugated antibody  
689 (Invitrogen, 1:200 in 1xPBSTB) and tyramide amplification (Invitrogen Alexa568-TSA Kit, tyramide at final  
690 concentration of 1:150).

691 For BrdU labeling, two-eyed control and four-eyed *notum(RNAi)* animals were produced by 35  
692 days of dsRNA feeding and injected with BrdU solution (5mg/mL in water, Sigma 16880/B5002). Animals  
693 were fixed as described above 14 days after injection of BrdU. Animals were rehydrated and bleached in  
694 6% hydrogen peroxide in PBSTx for 3-4 hours on a light box (Thi-Kim Vu et al., 2015). FISH was  
695 performed as described above with all HRP inactivations carried out using formaldehyde (4% in 1xPBSTx  
696 for at least 45 minutes). Following FISH protocol, acid hydrolyzation was performed in 2N HCl for 45  
697 minutes, samples were washed with 1xPBS (twice) then 1xPBSTx (four times), and blocked in PBSTB for  
698 6 hours at room temperature. Primary antibody incubation was performed using rat anti-BrdU antibody  
699 (1:1000 in PBSTB, Abcam 6326) overnight at room temperature, followed by 6x washes in PBSTB, and  
700 overnight incubation in anti-rat HRP secondary antibody (1:1000, Jackson ImmunoResearch 112-036-  
701 072). Tyramide development was performed at room temperature for 1 hour (Invitrogen Alexa568-TSA  
702 Kit, tyramide at final concentration of 1:150).

703

#### 704 *Organ Specific Regeneration Assays*

705 Worms were immobilized on a small piece of wet filter paper chilled by an aluminum block in ice. Both  
706 eyes and pharynx were resected using a hypodermic needle. For eye removal, care was taken to avoid  
707 penetrating completely through the dorsal-ventral axis of the animal. Animals were tracked individually to

708 more accurately monitor photoreceptor regeneration. All animals were imaged one day before eye  
709 removal to establish the exact phenotype displayed, one day after eye removal to confirm removal of  
710 photoreceptor tissue, and 14 days after surgery to determine regenerative outcome. For resection of the  
711 pharynx, hypodermic needle was used to cut through the DV axis of the animal around pharynx and  
712 remove entire body region containing the organ and associated tissue from the middle of the animal.  
713 Animals were imaged both before and after pharynx removal. Pharynx regeneration was scored by in situ  
714 hybridization for the organ specific marker *laminin* (Adler et al. 2014).

715

### 716 *Light Avoidance Assay*

717 Two-eyed and four-eyed animals were created through 40 days of control and *notum* dsRNA food  
718 respectively. Animals were given the surgeries indicated by representative images in panel C of Figure 1  
719 – Supplemental Figure 1 and light avoidance was tested the following day. To test light avoidance,  
720 animals taken into a dark worm and placed a 128 mm dish across which a field of light was cast from one  
721 end (Schematic of experimental setup shown in Figure 1 – Supplemental Figure 1, panel A). Animals  
722 were placed approximately 32 mm from the end of the dish closest to the light source (red circle in Figure  
723 1 – Supplemental Figure 1, panel A). Animals were then observed as they moved throughout the dish for  
724 5 minutes, recording their relative distance from the light source by regional location within the dish every  
725 30 seconds. Multiple worms were tested for each experimental condition shown (exact numbers shown  
726 on Figure 1 – Supplemental Figure 1, panel D) and each worm was tested twice. Decapitated worms  
727 were used as an additional control and showed no response to light when placed in the dish. Any animals  
728 that begin to defecate during a trial or showed a scrunched phenotype (indicative of future defecation)  
729 were removed from the experiment. Final paths were determined as the average location of all worms of  
730 a given condition at that time point.

731

### 732 *Imaging*



733 Imaging was performed with a Leica M210F dissecting scope with a Leica DFC295 camera, a  
734 Leica DM5500B compound microscope with optical sectioning by Optigrid structured illumination, Leica  
735 SP5 or Leica TCS SPE confocal compound microscopes. Fluorescent images collected by compound  
736 microscopy are maximum projections of a z-stack and adjusted for brightness and contrast using ImageJ  
737 or Adobe Photoshop.

738

### 739 *Relative Location, Displacement and Area measurements*

740 Animal and brain lengths were measured with ImageJ as visualized with Hoechst. For brain  
741 length, one lobe from each animal was measured from the most posterior brain branch to the most  
742 anterior brain. In Figures 3D and 6D, relative eye position with respect to the animal or brain was  
743 measured as the distance from the center of the photoreceptor as visualized by FISH for tyrosinase to  
744 the anterior animal pole or anterior most brain branch divided by total animal or brain length respectively.  
745 Eye displacement in Figure 6B-C was determined by the absolute difference between AP locations of  
746 individual eyes on the same animal after fixation and staining for eye cell markers (*opsin* and/or  
747 *tyrosinase*) as well as midline markers (*slit*). In Figure 2—supplemental figure 2, pigment cup area was  
748 measured from live images of planarian with heads fully extended using ImageJ. Changes in individual  
749 pigment cup area were measured as the area of a pigment cup following 24 days of feeding or starvation  
750 divided by the area of that same pigment cup at day 0. Samples from similar fragments and time points  
751 were averaged and significant differences determined by two-tailed Student's t-tests.

752

753

754

### 755 *Cell Counting*

756 For Figure 4A, *ovo+* progenitor cells were identified as *ovo+* cells on the dorsal side apart from  
757 the mature eyes. Images were rotated to a common y-axis beginning at the head tip and cells were  
758 counted by manual scoring of maximum projection images in ImageJ and acquiring x-y coordinates of

759 each scored cell. Head-tail distributions of *ovo*+ cells were computed by normalizing A/P positions of the  
760 cells to the axis from a 0 to 1 range defined by the head tip to the anterior end of the pharynx as defined  
761 by Hoechst staining, then distributions determined by binning and averaging measurements from 3  
762 animals for each condition. Quantification from individual animals shown as data points and potential  
763 significance was determined by two-tailed t-tests. In Figure 4B-C, eye cells were counted by imaging  
764 whole eyes through confocal microscopy at 63x with 0.75-micron slices and manually enumerating  
765 numbers of Hoechst+ nuclei of the eye surrounded by *opsin/tyrosinase* or *ovo* FISH signal. Nuclei were  
766 manually marked within the stack and neighboring planes examined to prevent over-counting. 2-tailed  
767 paired t-tests were used to determine significance between eye cell number between injured and  
768 uninjured body sides for a series of individual animals. Cell counting experiments were performed by  
769 blind scoring.

770

#### 771 BrdU Colocalization Analysis

772 Cells showing colocalization of BrdU with markers of differentiated photoreceptor cells *opsin* or  
773 *tyrosinase* were identified manually using ImageJ from 40x magnification z-stack confocal images (0.75  
774 micron thick slices) taken on a TCS Leica SPE confocal microscope.

775

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778 lab for discussions.

779

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#### 781 References

782

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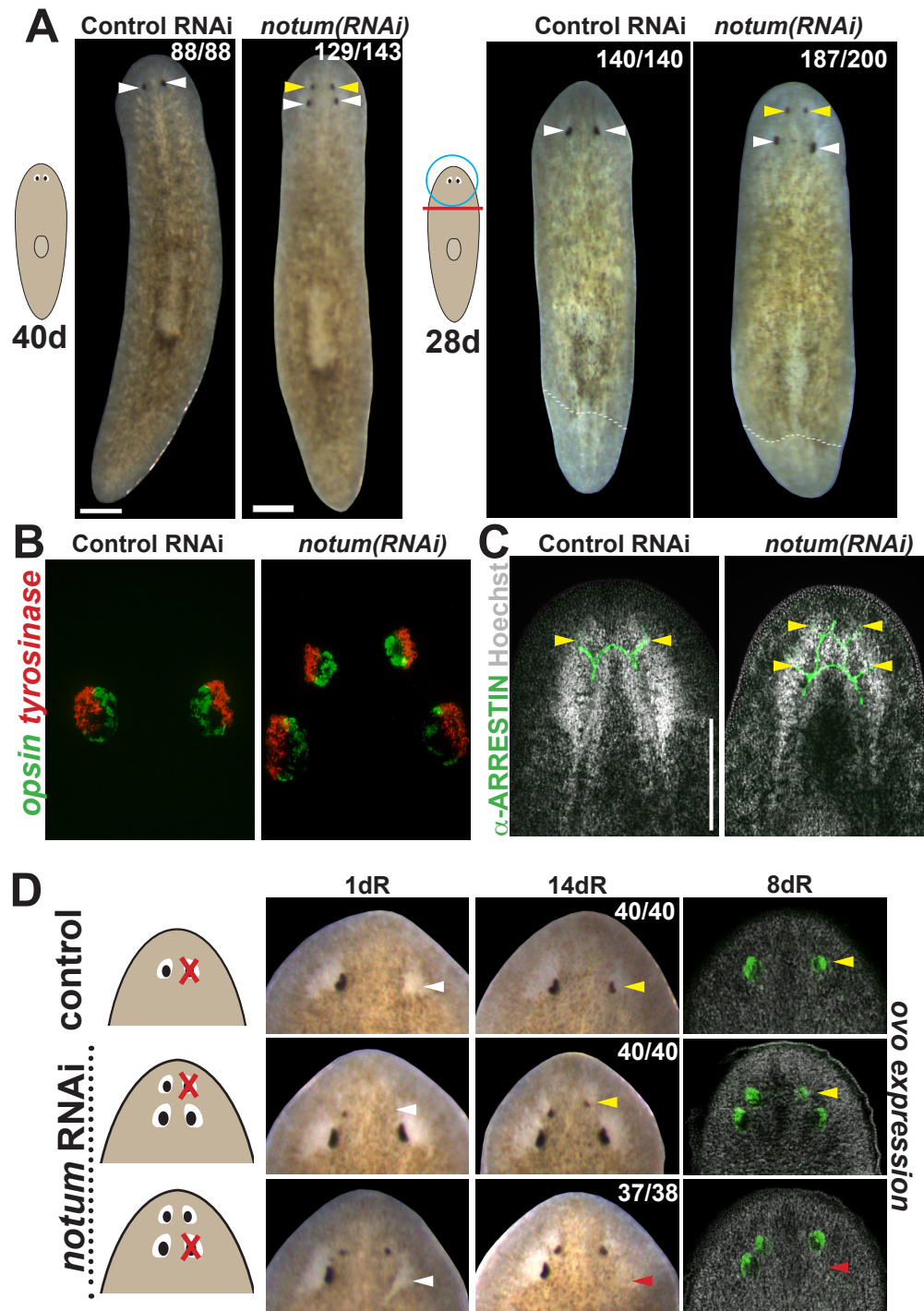
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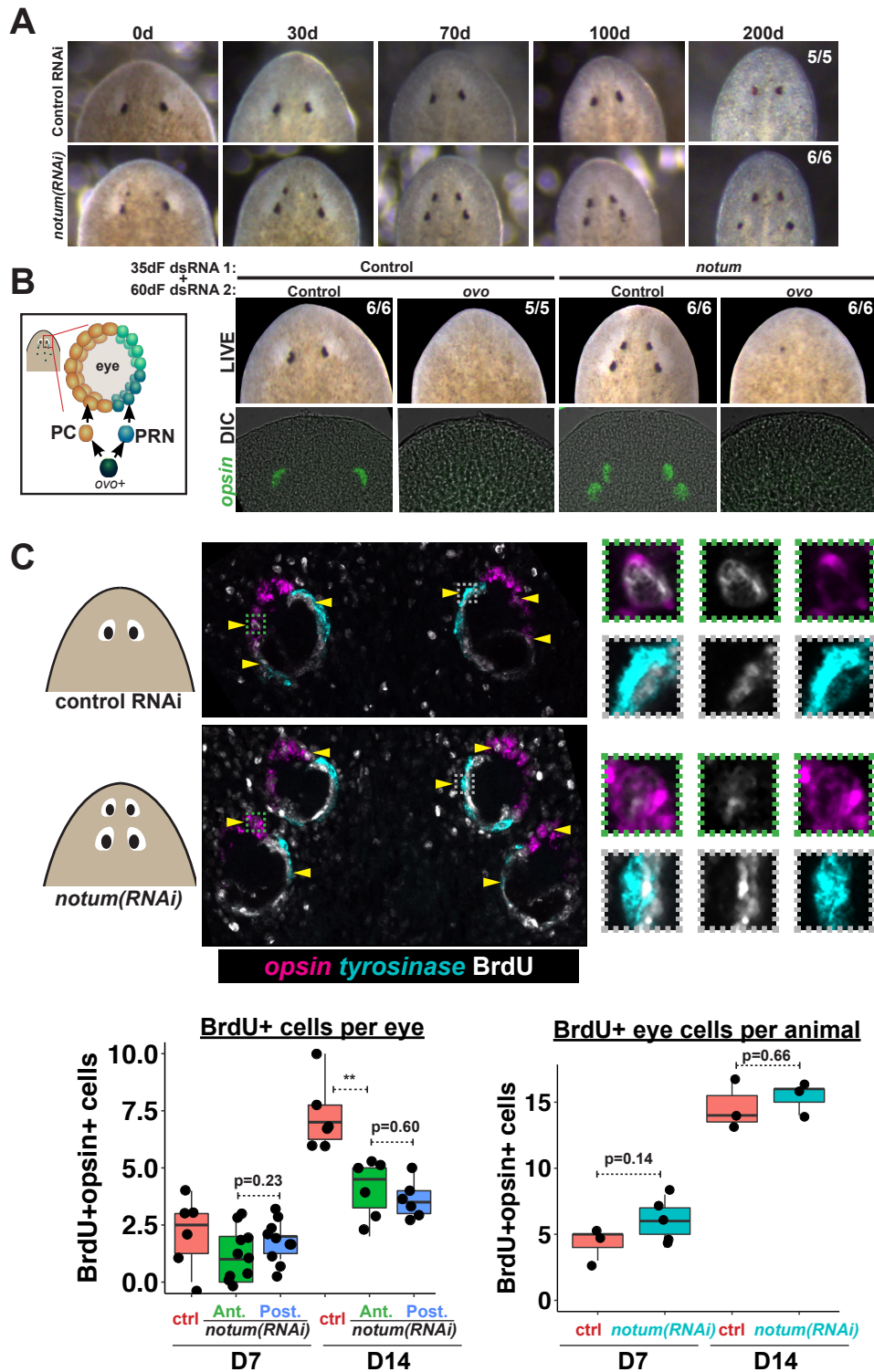
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937





**Figure 1. *notum* RNAi shifts the site of eye regeneration anteriorly**

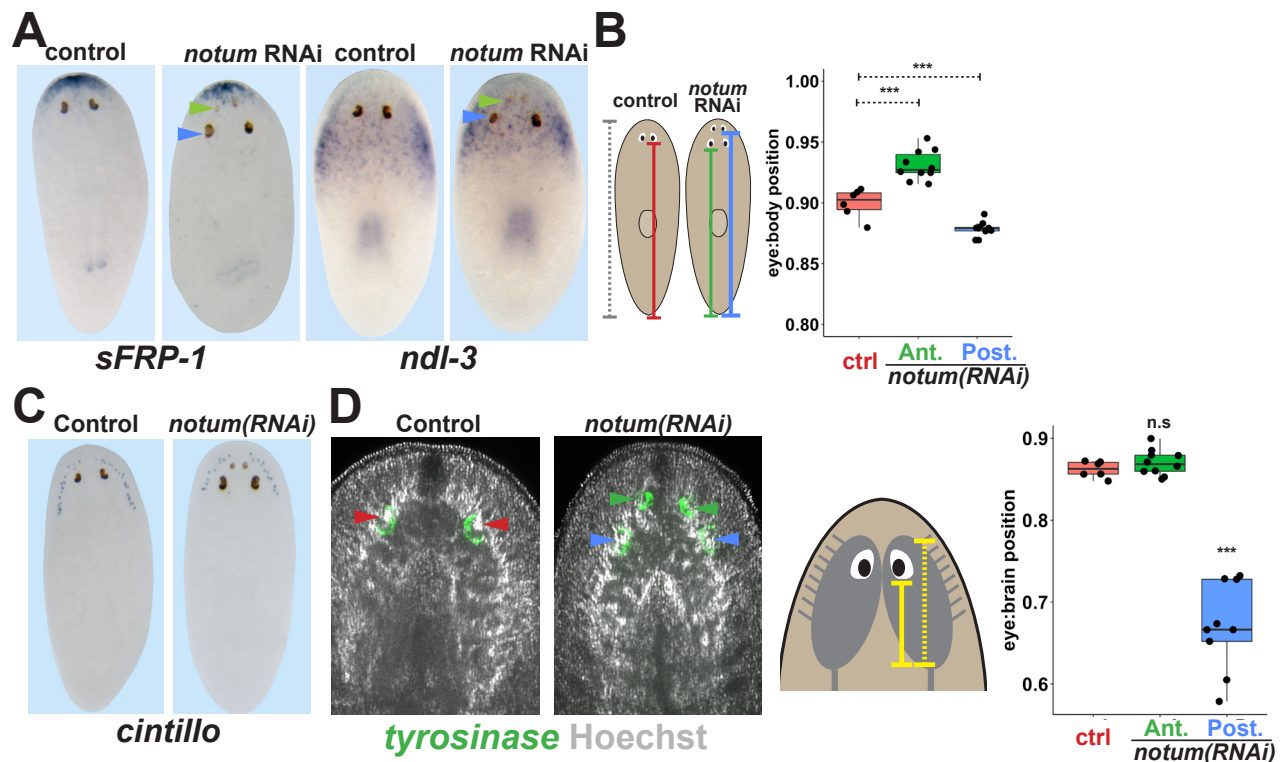
(A) Animals were treated with *notum* or control dsRNA every 2-3 days for (top) 40 days in the absence of injury or (bottom) for four times over 9 days followed by decapitation and 28 days of head regeneration as indicated. *notum(RNAi)* animals produced an anterior set of eyes (129/143 *notum(RNAi)* homeostasis animals and 187/200 *notum(RNAi)* regenerating head fragments, yellow arrowheads) and retained a pre-existing set of eyes (white arrowheads). (B) FISH to detect expression of opsin and tyrosinase. (C) anti-ARRESTIN immunostaining to detect photoreceptor neuron axons. (D) Surgical removal of eyes in control and *notum(RNAi)* animals generated by homeostatic RNAi treatment as in (A), showing individuals at 1 day after surgery to confirm successful removal (white arrowheads) and 14 days to assess regeneration. In *notum(RNAi)* animals, 40/40 anterior supernumerary eyes regenerated after removal (yellow arrowheads) and 37/38 posterior pre-existing eyes failed to regenerate (red arrowheads). Right, FISH of ovo confirms lack of eye cells produced in the region of the resected *notum(RNAi)* posterior eyes. Scale bars, 300 microns.



**Figure 2. Both regenerative and non-regenerative eyes are homeostatically maintained**

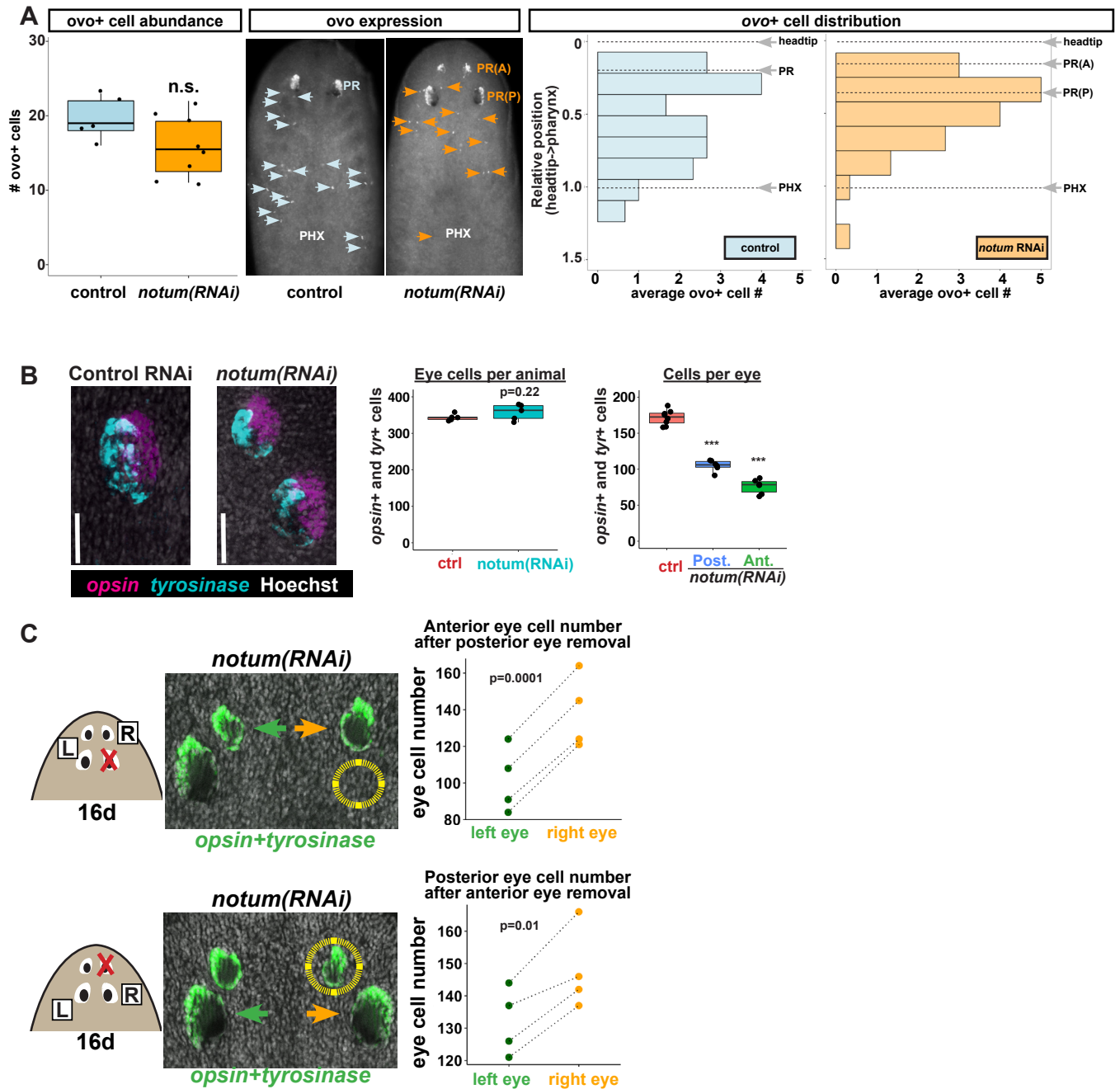
(A) Control and *notum(RNAi)* animals were fed dsRNA food every three days for 35 days then starved and individually tracked for 200 days and imaged every 30-40 days to monitor stability of the duplicated eyes. (B) Left, cartoon of eye differentiation showing production of photoreceptor neurons (PRN) and pigment cup cells (PC) from *ovo+* progenitors. Two-eyed control and four-eyed *notum(RNAi)* animals were generated by 35 days of dsRNA feeding were then treated with control or *ovo* dsRNA for 60 days by feeding. *ovo* inhibition caused loss of both the ectopic and pre-existing eyes of *notum(RNAi)* animals (12/12 sets of eyes). (C) Two-eyed control and four-eyed *notum(RNAi)* animals were injected with BrdU following 35 days of RNAi feeding, fixed 14 days later and stained by FISH for opsin (magenta), tyrosinase (cyan) and immunostained with anti-BrdU (gray). The head regions of BrdU-labeled *notum(RNAi)* animals had BrdU+ cells in the anterior eyes (11/12 animals) and the posterior eyes (12/12 animals), a similar frequency as control animal eyes (14/14 animals). C (bottom), quantification of BrdU+opsin+ cells after 7 or 14 days of BrdU pulsing measured per eye (left) or across all eyes (right) for each condition. p-values from 2-tailed t-tests, \*\*p<0.01. Cartoons depict location of eyes imaged with insets showing single and multichannel enlarged images of BrdU+ eye cells.





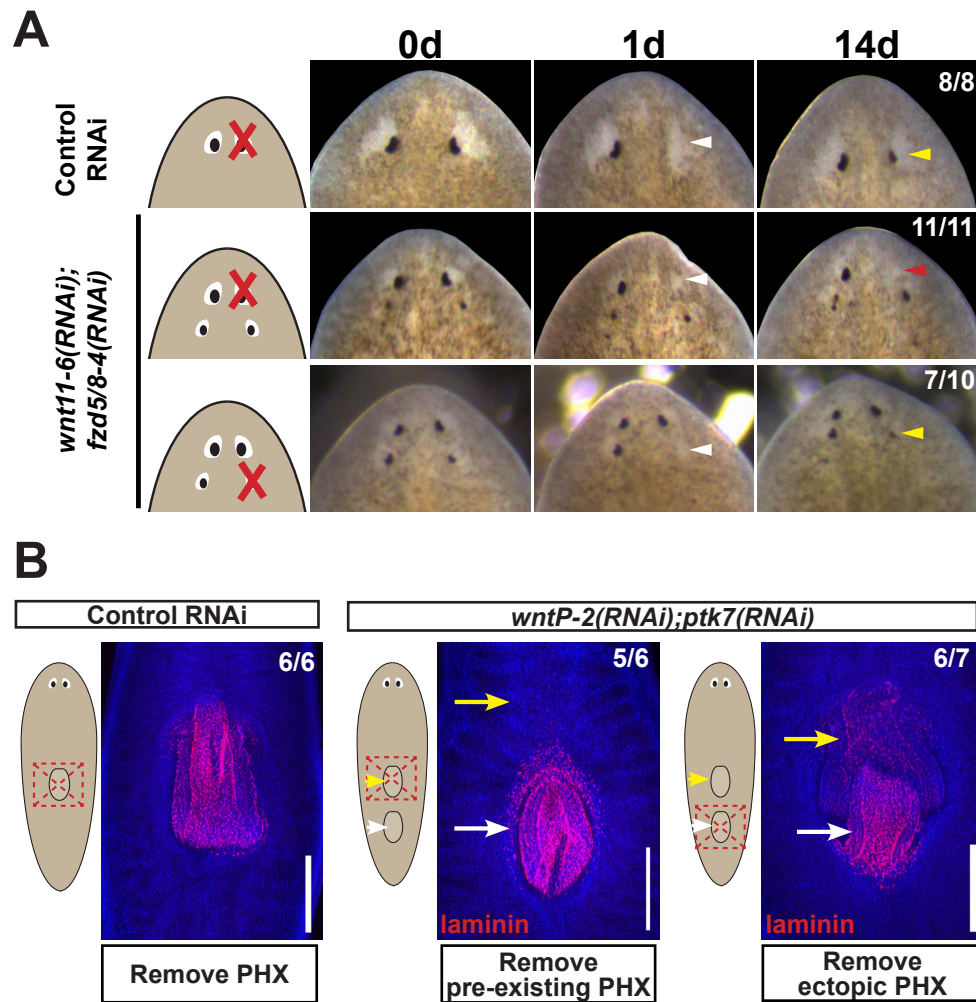
**Figure 3. Non-regenerative eyes are mispositioned with respect to positional control genes and the brain.**

(A) WISH to detect expression of *sFRP-1* and *ndl-3* in control and *notum*(RNAi) regenerating head fragments, marking regenerative eyes (green arrows) and non-regenerative eyes (blue arrows). Posterior eyes in *notum*(RNAi) animals were located more distantly from the *sFRP-1* domain (3/3 animals) and within the *ndl-3* expression domain (6/6 animals), whereas eyes from control animals were located outside of the *ndl-3* domain (5/5 animals). (B) Measurement of control and *notum*(RNAi) eyes with respect to the body from fixed stained animals prepared as in (A). In *notum*(RNAi) animals, the supernumerary eyes are positioned more anterior and the pre-existing eyes are positioned more posterior than eyes from control animals. (C-D) Testing the position of eyes with respect to the brain. (C) Animals were prepared as in (A) and stained with a *cintillo* riboprobe labeling chemosensory neurons within a lateral territory of the head. The *notum*(RNAi) posterior eyes are located too far posterior with respect to the *cintillo* cell domain. (D) Measurement of the location of regenerative and non-regenerative eyes with respect to the brain, as visualized by FISH to detect tyrosinase and Hoechst staining that outlines the planarian cephalic ganglia. Right, quantifications of relative eye:brain position as determined by normalizing to the length of the brain as indicated with respect to the brain's axis. Non-regenerative eyes from *notum*(RNAi) animals (blue) have a more posterior location than eyes from control animals (red) or regenerative eyes from *notum*(RNAi) animals (green). \*\*\*, pvalue < 0.001 by 2-tailed t-test. n.s., p>0.05 by 2-tailed t-test.



**Figure 4. Non-regenerative eyes and regenerative eyes compete for progenitor acquisition**

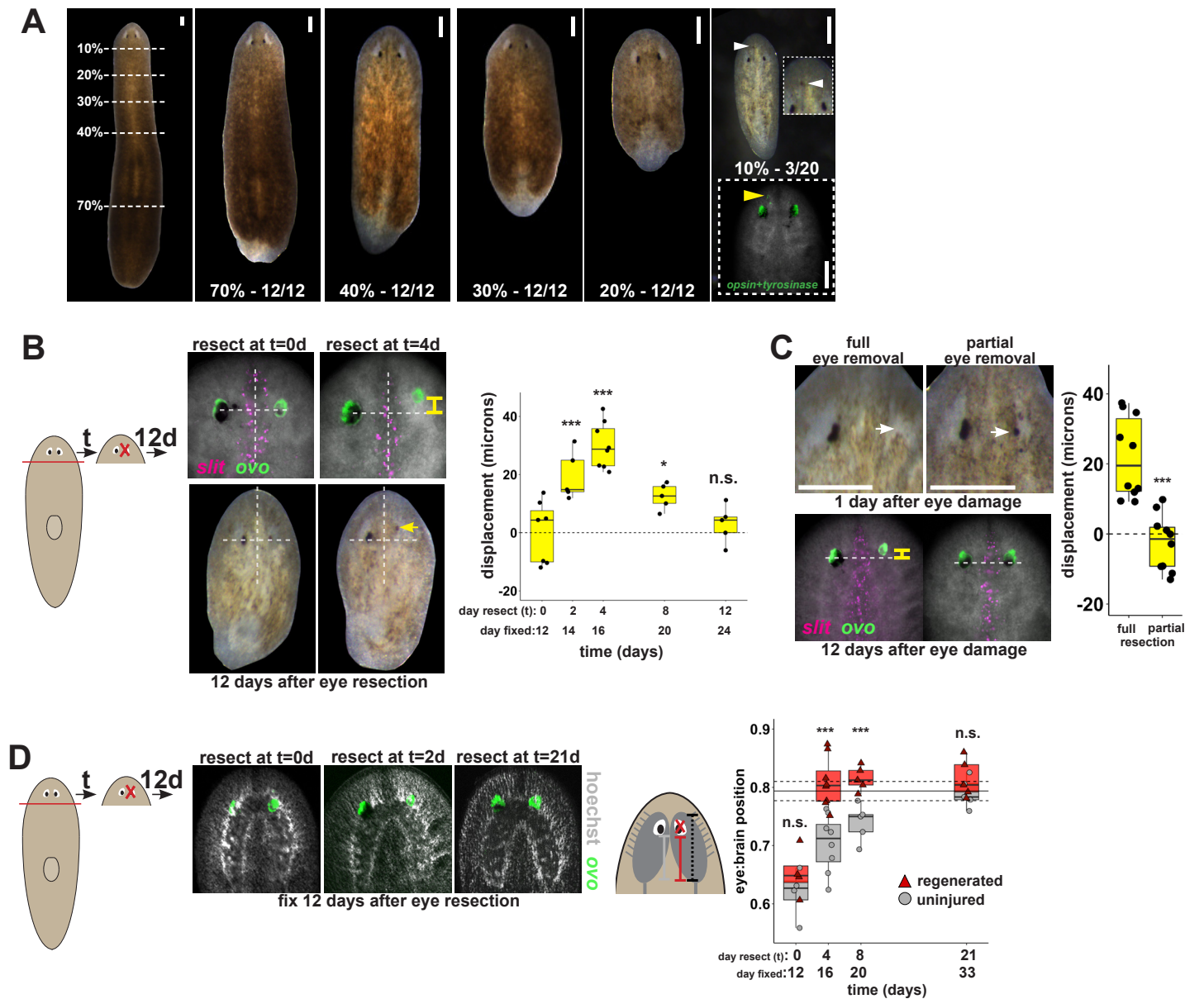
(A) FISH to detect *ovo*+ progenitor cells located in the anterior animal region (middle panel, arrows) of control and *notum(RNAi)* animals. Left plots, *ovo*+ progenitor cell numbers were not significantly altered in 4-eyed *notum(RNAi)* animals. Right plots, histograms quantifying distribution of *ovo*+ eye cells showing regions anterior to the pharynx, with position normalized to the locations of the head tip and the pharynx. *notum* inhibition produced a slight anterior shift to the distribution of *ovo*+ cells, but they are present in a region that includes the posterior non-regenerative eyes. (B) FISH to detect expression of *opsin* and *tyrosinase* eye cells from 4-eyed *notum(RNAi)* animals and 2-eyed control animals. Hoechst counterstaining was used to count numbers of eye cells plotted below as total eye cell numbers per animal and cells per eye. *notum* RNAi did not significantly change total eye cell numbers, and reduced the number of cells per eye. Significance determined by 2-tailed t-test, \*\*\*  $p < 0.001$  (C) Four-eyed *notum(RNAi)* animals were generated by dsRNA feeding over 40 days prior to removal of either a posterior (top) or anterior (bottom) eye on one side of the animal (R, right), leaving both eyes on the left side (L) unaffected. After 16 days of recovery, animals were fixed and stained with a combination of riboprobes for *opsin* and *tyrosinase* (green), and eye cells were quantified by counting Hoechst-positive nuclei from *opsin/tyrosinase*+ cells throughout the D/V eye axis. Right, quantifications of left and right eyes from several individuals are shown and connected by dotted lines. Top, removal of a posterior eye caused the ipsilateral anterior eye (orange) to become enlarged compared to the contralateral anterior eye (green). Bottom, removal of an anterior eye caused the ipsilateral posterior eye (orange) to become enlarged compared to the contralateral posterior eye (green). Significance was measured by 2-tailed paired sample t-tests.



**Figure 5. Modulation of other patterning factors alters the sites of eye or pharynx regeneration**

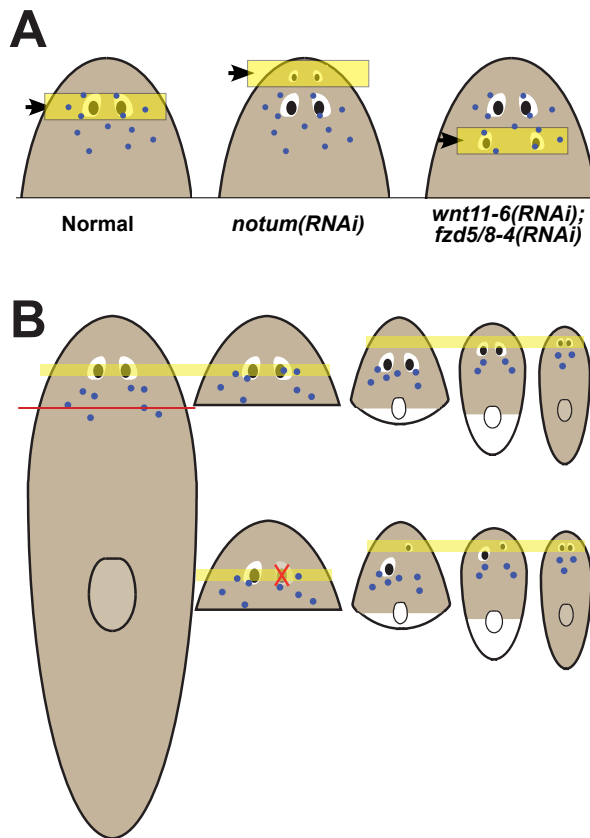
(A) Simultaneous inhibition of *wnt11-6* and *fzd5/8-4* resulted in the formation of ectopic eyes posterior to the original eyes. Removal of the supernumerary, posterior eyes resulted in regeneration (7/10 animals) whereas removal of the original, anterior eyes did not result in regeneration (11/11 animals),  $p=0.001$  by Fisher's exact test. (B) *wntP-2(RNAi);ptk7(RNAi)* animals form a supernumerary posterior pharynx while retaining a pre-existing central pharynx. Cartoons denote amputations used to test regenerative ability of pre-existing or supernumerary pharynges from control or *wntP-2(RNAi);ptk7(RNAi)* animals. *wntP-2(RNAi);ptk7(RNAi)* animals were prepared by dsRNA feeding for 3 weeks, then amputated using repeated punctures centrally in a box shape around the target pharynx. Regeneration of the *wntP-2(RNAi);ptk7(RNAi)* supernumerary posterior pharynx occurred at frequencies close to those of control animal pharynges, but regeneration ability of the *wntP-2(RNAi);ptk7(RNAi)* pre-existing anterior pharynx was markedly reduced ( $p=0.03$  by Fisher's exact test).





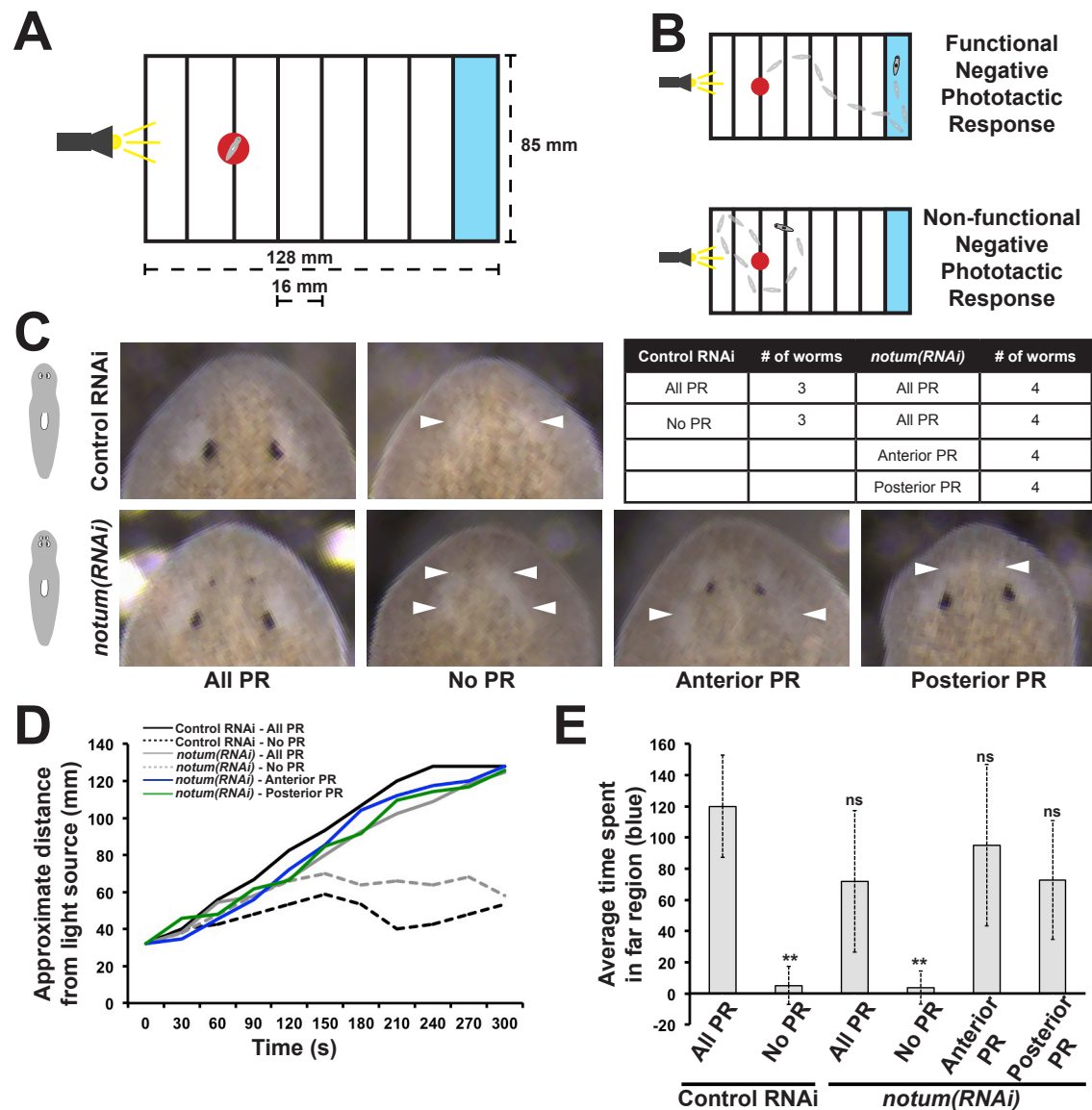
**Figure 6. Tissue remodeling normally shifts the site of eye regeneration away from pre-existing eyes.**

(A) Large animals were decapitated in a series of AP positions denoted by approximate percentage of anterior tissue remaining. Such fragments regenerate into small animals that ultimately regain proportionality, and the majority of fragments had a single set of eyes throughout this tissue remodeling process (65/68 animals). However, fragments resulting from far-anterior amputations occasionally formed an ectopic set of photoreceptors during regeneration (3/20 animals). (B) Large animals were decapitated to remove ~80% of the posterior and one of the eyes within the regenerating head fragments was resected in a timeseries. Animals were fixed 12 days after eye resection and stained with an ovo riboprobe to mark the site of eye regeneration, using midline expression of slit and the A/P position of the contralateral uninjured eye as a reference (dotted lines). Right, displacement from the reference position was modified by the time of eye resection as head fragments underwent remodeling. Maximal displacement from the location of the pre-existing eye occurred when resecting eyes from d4 regenerating head fragments. (C) Tests to determine whether eye damage or eye removal is necessary for revealing the altered location of regeneration. One eye from d4 regenerating head fragments was either fully removed (left) as in (B), or only damaged to partially resect it (right). Top panels show live animals 1 day after surgery indicating successful removal versus damage to the right eye. Bottom panels show animals fixed 12 days after eye removal or damage stained and quantified for eye displacement as in (C). Only complete eye removal caused eye regeneration at an anteriorly shifted site. (D) The position of eyes from animals treated as in (B) were measured with respect to the A/P brain axis as determined by Hoechst and ovo staining. Images are projections of optical sections taken from a mid-ventral position to highlight the cephalic ganglia and dorsal positions to highlight the location of the eye. The eye:brain ratio was calculated as in Figure 3D by measuring the eye's distance to the posterior edge of the cephalic ganglia and normalizing to the length of the brain, with uninjured animals used to determine average eye:brain ratio at ideal proportions (solid line with dotted lines indicating standard error). Uninjured eyes successively regain proper position with respect to the brain axis as remodeling and regeneration proceed. Eye removal during this process results in eye regeneration at a more anteriorly displaced location that corresponds with the proper position with respect to the brain. Scale bars, 300 microns.



**Figure 7. Pattern alteration uncouples the sites of regeneration and homeostasis.**

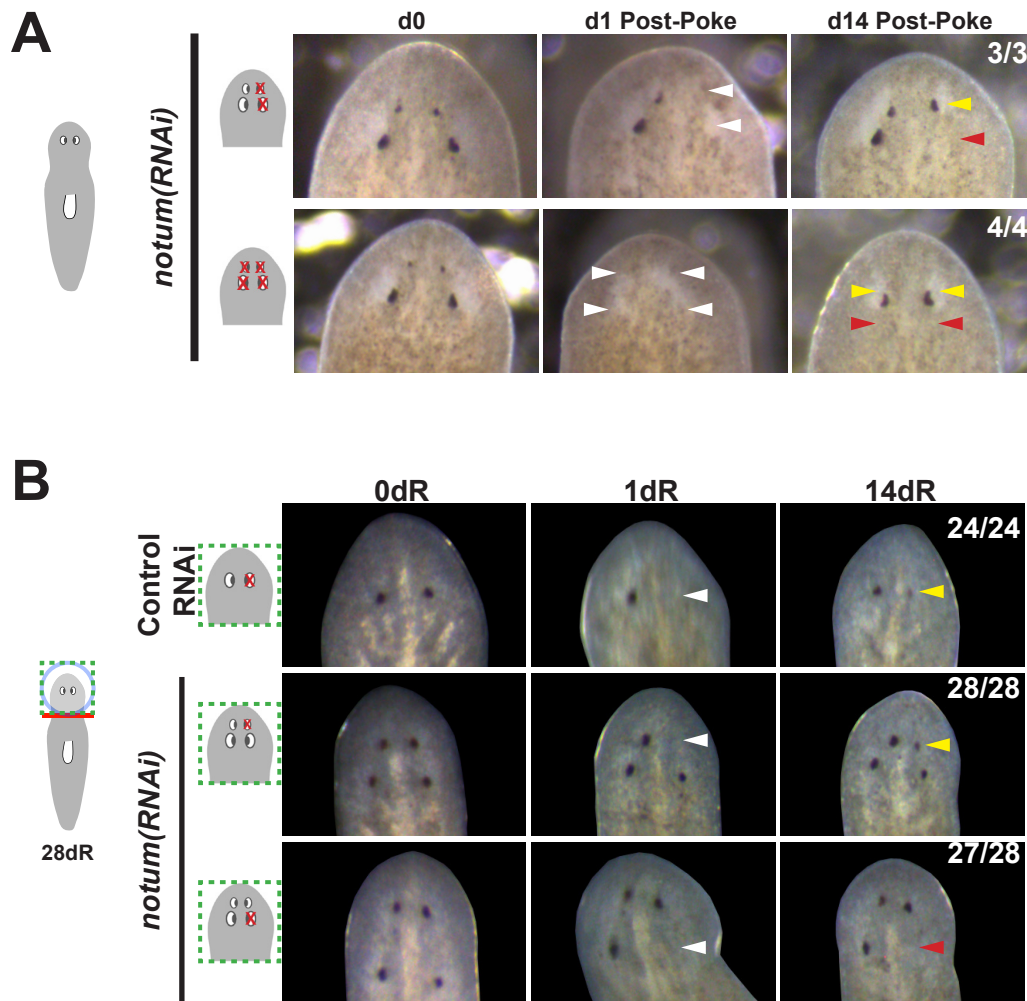
(A) Model showing shifts to the anteroposterior target site of eye regeneration (yellow box) in animals undergoing *notum* RNAi or *wnt11-6* and *fzd5/8-4* RNAi. Eye progenitors (purple dots) are present in a broader anterior domain and can renew pre-existing eyes left behind by the pattern alteration. (B) Shifts to the location of eye regeneration during the remodeling of head fragments (top series). Eye removal during this process results in eye regeneration at the target location for proportion re-establishment (bottom series)



**Figure 1—figure supplement 1. Regenerative and non-regenerative eyes both mediate negative phototaxis.**

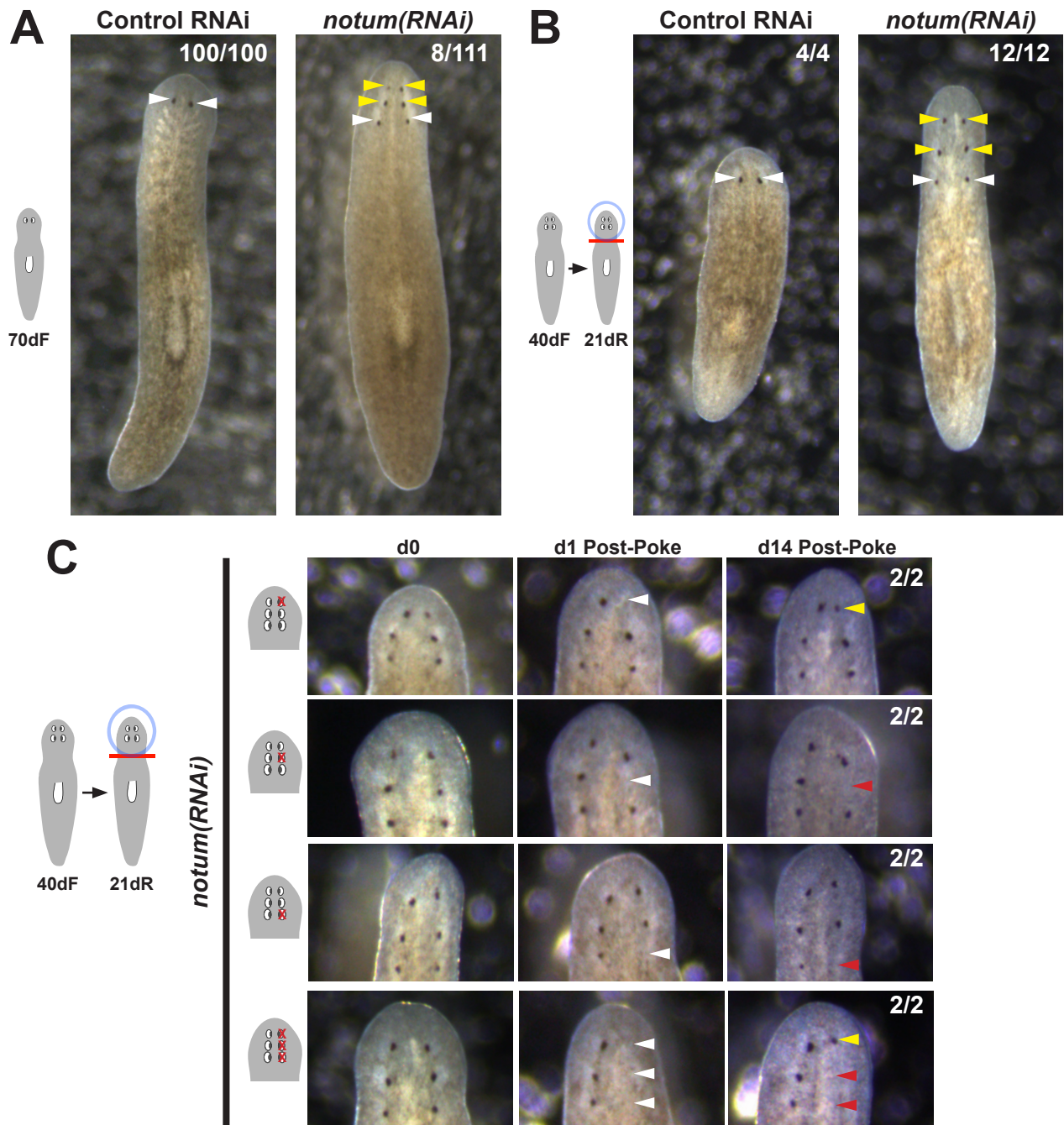
(A) Phototaxis behavior was measured by measuring the time of transit across an arena illuminated from one side. (B) Illustration of outcomes in the assay. (C) Control and *notum*(RNAi) animals were examined in phototaxis assays after no treatment, removal of all eyes or removal of only either the supernumerary or pre-existing eyes. (D) Time of transit data for animals after surgeries. Only removal of all eyes in either control or *notum*(RNAi) animals resulted in lack of negative phototaxis. (E) Quantification of data in D showing average time from the timeseries spent in the blue quadrant (greater than 100 mm from the illuminated side). \*\*  $p < 0.01$  by 2-tailed t-test; n.s. denotes  $p > 0.05$  from the same test.





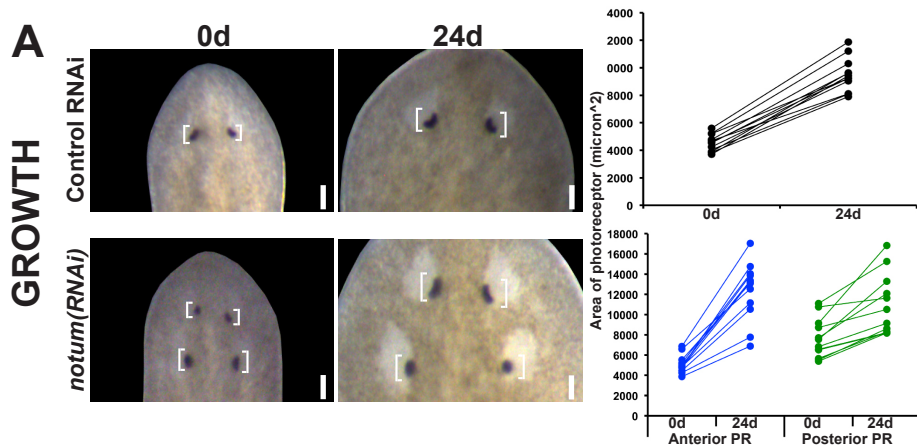
**Figure 1—figure supplement 2. Additional controls for structure and regenerative ability of eyes from *notum(RNAi)* animals**

(A) Homeostasis *notum(RNAi)* animals were generated by dsRNA feeding for 40 days followed by surgeries as indicated by cartoons. Removal of both a supernumerary anterior eye and a posterior pre-existing eye resulted in regeneration only of an eye at the anterior eye position. Likewise, removal of all 4 eyes from such animals resulted in eye regeneration at the anterior position. (B) 4-eyed *notum(RNAi)* animals were generated by allowing decapitated head fragments to regenerate for 28 days, then tested for eye regeneration behavior. In such animals, the pre-existing eyes fail to regenerate whereas supernumerary eyes have regenerative ability.



**Figure 1—figure supplement 3. Prolonged *notum* RNAi and surgical strategies can create additional sets of ectopic eyes that track with regenerative ability**

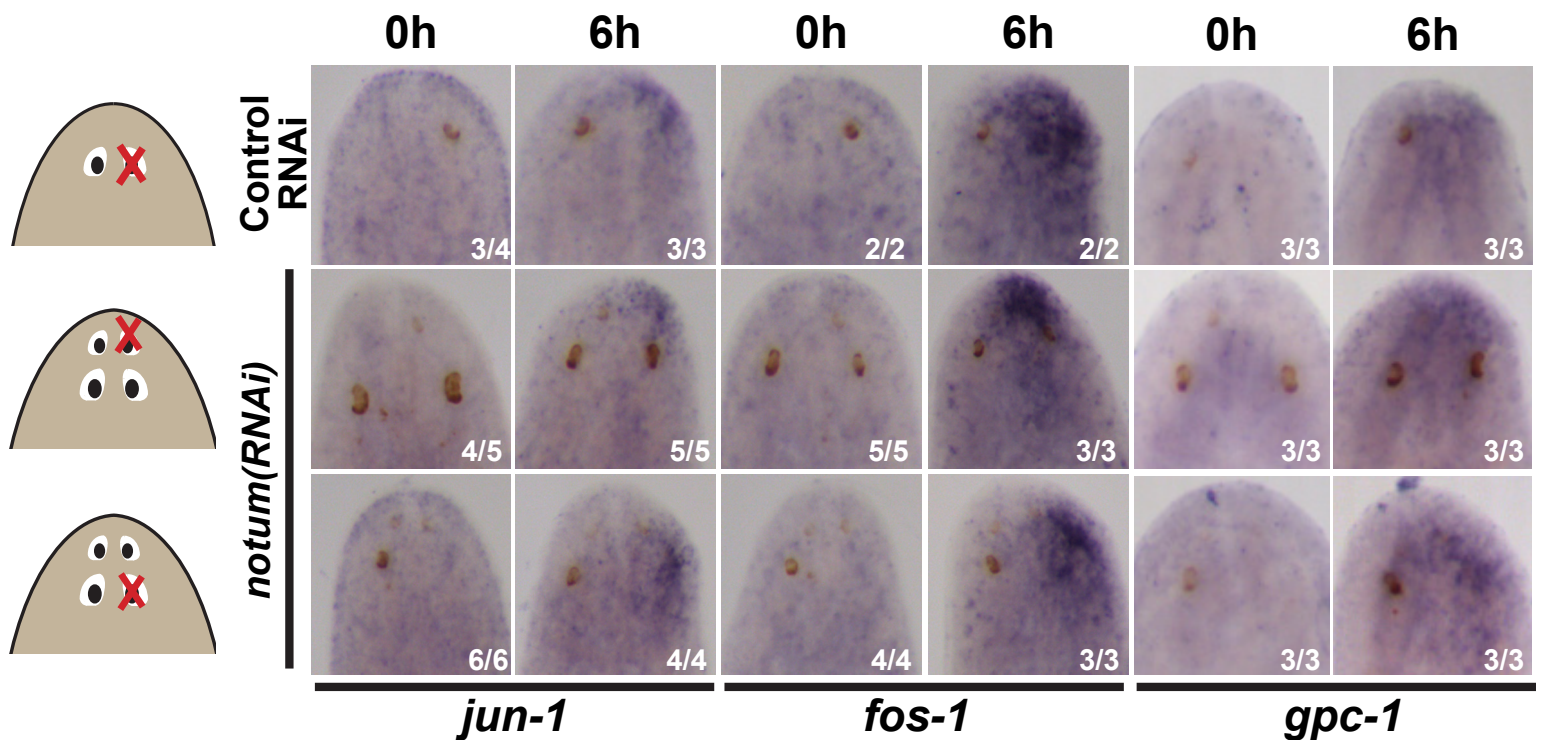
(A) At a low frequency, *notum(RNAi)* homeostasis animals form an additional set of ectopic eyes (8/111) animals at 70d RNAi to generate 6-eyed animals. (B) Alternatively, 6-eyed animals can be produced at higher frequency by decapitating 4-eyed *notum(RNAi)* animals generated by homeostatic inhibition. (C) Experiments to test regenerative ability of the three sets of eyes from 6-eyed *notum(RNAi)* animals. Only the anterior-most set of eyes can regenerate (top panels vs. middle panels). Removal of a set of three eyes from the same side of these worms results in regeneration only of the anterior-most set of eyes.



**Figure 2—figure supplement 2. Regenerative and non-regenerative eye sizes respond to growth.**

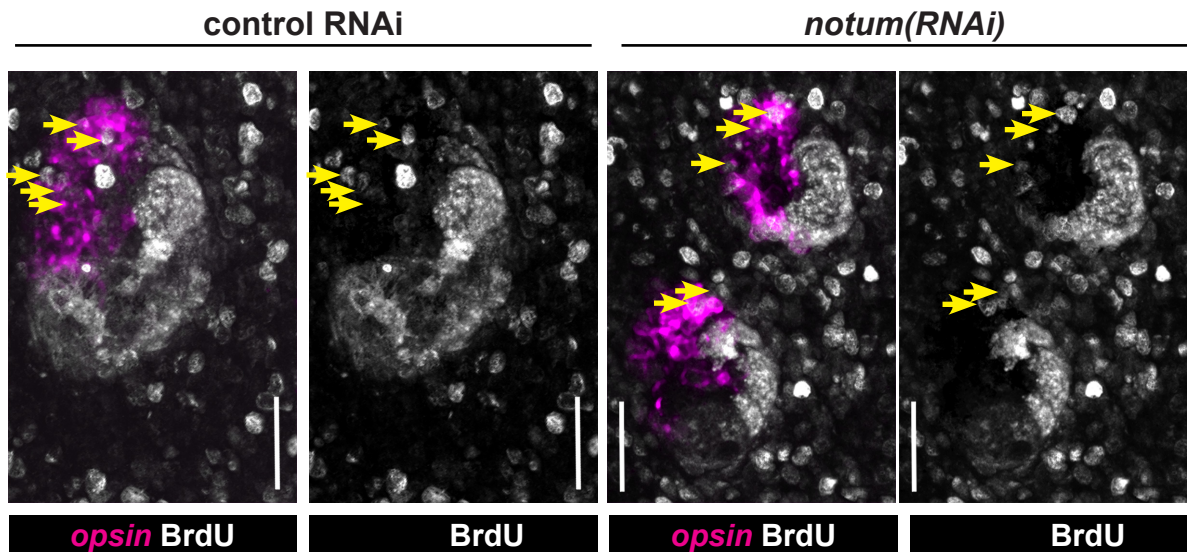
4-eyed *notum(RNAi)* animals were generated by dsRNA treatment followed by 28 days of head fragment regeneration, imaged (0d) fed dsRNA for 24 days, re-imaged, and the area size of the eye pigment cups measured in microns<sup>2</sup>.



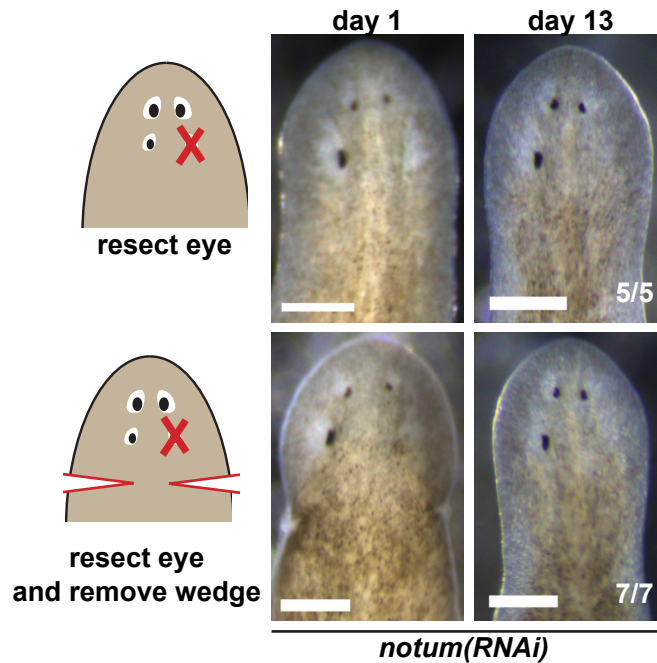


**Figure 2—figure supplement 3. Injury-induced gene expression can occur near non-regenerative eyes**

Control RNAi and 4-eyed *notum(RNAi)* animals were prepared by homeostatic inhibition for 40 days, resected to remove either normal, anterior or posterior eyes as shown, then fixed at 0h or 6h and stained for expression of *jun-1*, *fos-1*, and *gpc-1*. Injury-induced gene expression was similar between control and *notum(RNAi)* animals between removal of either anterior or posterior eyes.



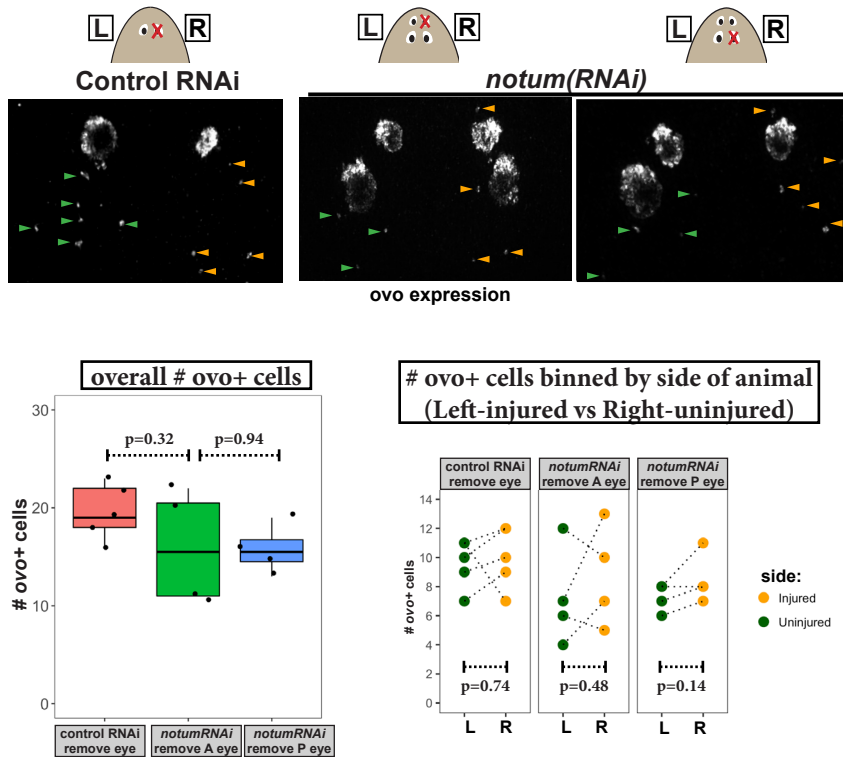
**Figure 2—figure supplement 1. Quantification of BrdU-labeling in *notum(RNAi)* animals**  
Maximum projections of eye cells labeled with *opsin* and fixed 14 days after BrdU pulsing and quantified in Figure 2C, with double and single channel images indicated along with *BrdU+opsin+* cells (yellow arrows). Anterior, top. Bars, 25 microns.



**Figure 4—figure supplement 1. Effect of nearby tissue removal on posterior eye regeneration ability in *notum(RNAi)* animals**

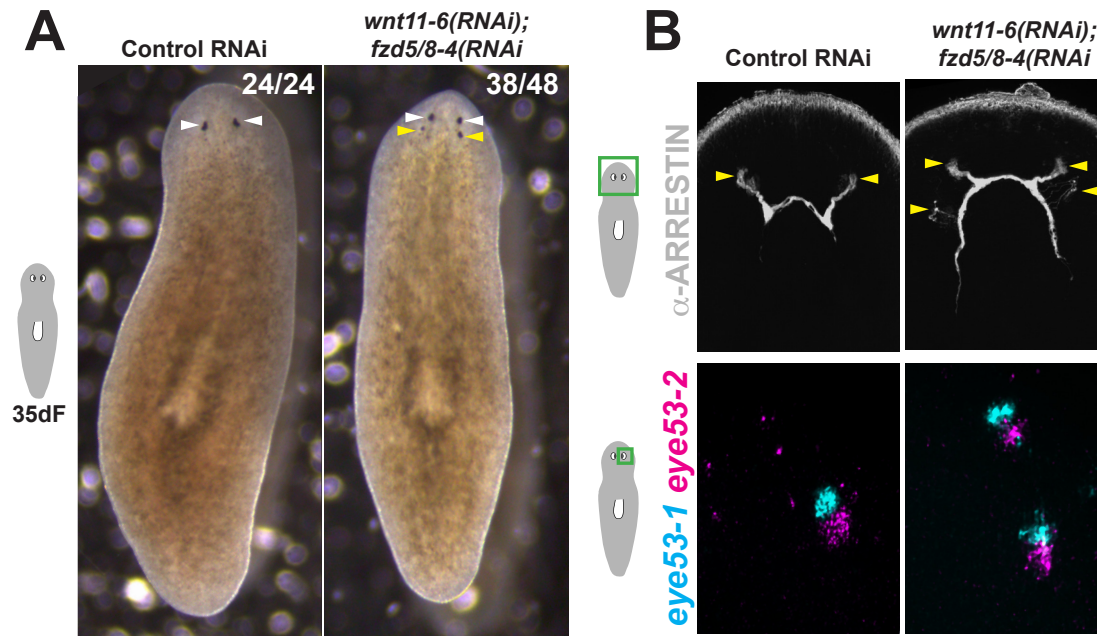
Four-eyed *notum(RNAi)* regenerating head fragments obtained 28 days after decapitation were subjected to posterior eye resection with (bottom) or without (top) removal of a wedge of tissue posterior to the eyes. In all cases, animals did not regenerate the resected posterior eye by 14 days after surgery.





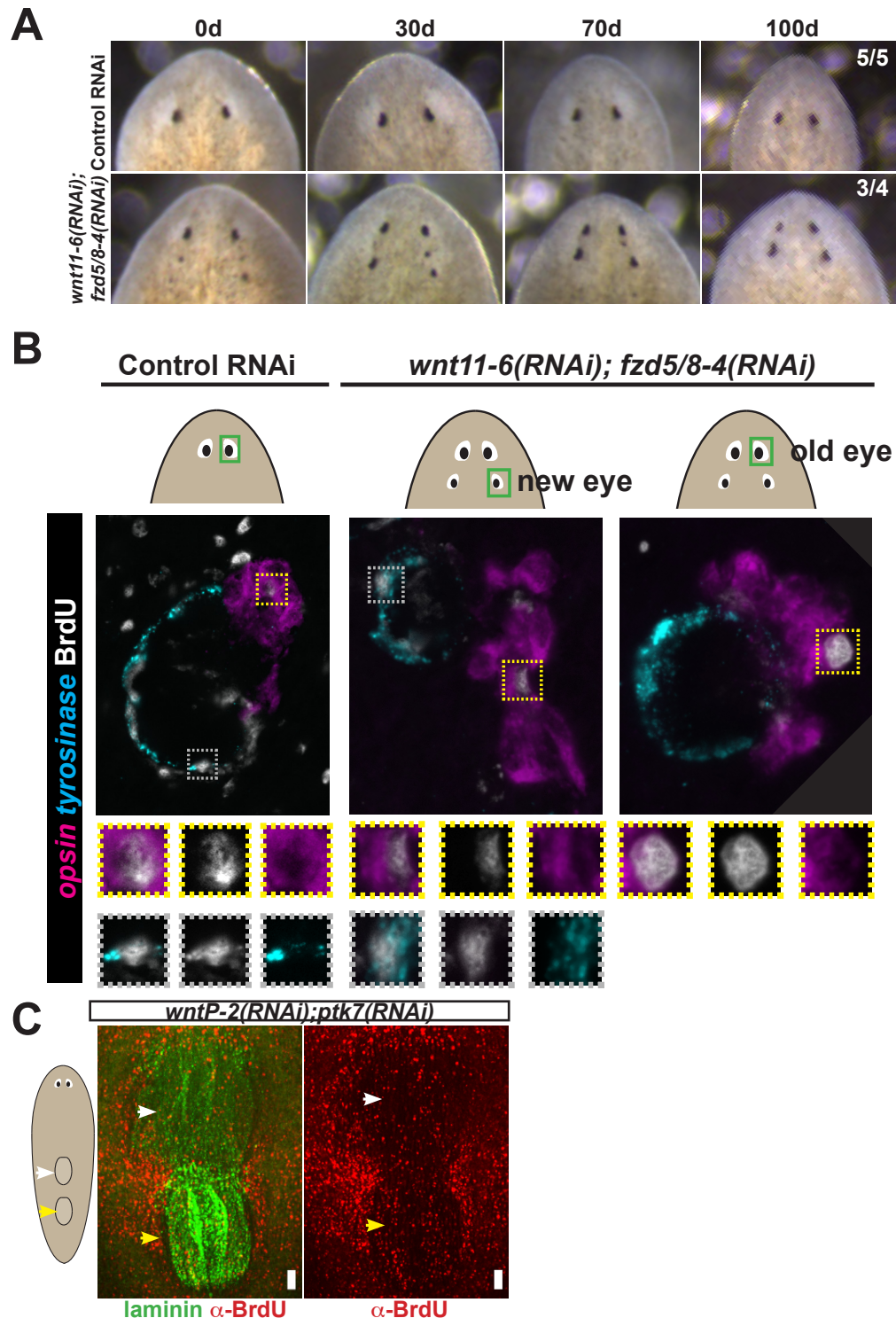
### Figure 4—figure supplement 2. Measurement of *ovo*+ cell numbers after injury in control and *notum*(RNAi) animals

Left, images of animals stained for *ovo* expression by FISH fixed 4 days after eye removal from control and *notum*(RNAi) animals as shown in cartoons. The anterior half of each animal was imaged and *ovo*+ cells manually scored from maximum projection images, scoring eye progenitors as *ovo*+ cells not residing within the mature eyes. Bottom left, quantification of overall numbers of *ovo*+ cells animals after each treatment. *notum* RNAi and either anterior or posterior eye removal did not substantially later numbers of *ovo*+ cells ( $p > 0.05$ , 2-tailed t-tests). Bottom right, quantification of *ovo*+ cells based on localization on the uninjured (left) or injured (right) side of each animal. There was not a difference in number of *ovo*+ cells between uninjured and injured sides across all treatments (2-tailed paired t-tests).



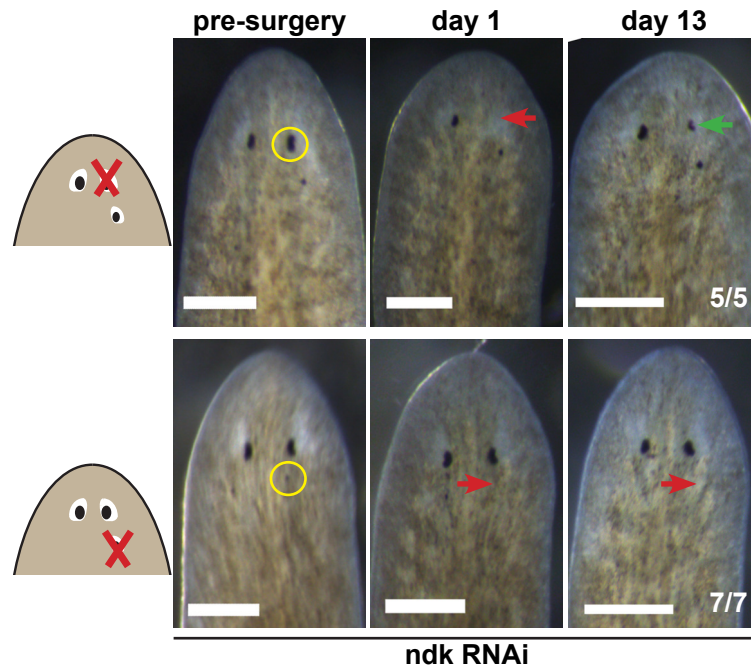
**Figure 5—figure supplement 1. Additional staining and verification of the ectopic posterior eye phenotype of *wnt11-6(RNAi);fzd5/8-RNAi(RNAi)* animals.**

(A) Live images of *wnt11-6(RNAi);fzd5/8-RNAi(RNAi)* animals after 35 days of RNAi feeding.  
(B) Images of control and *wnt11-6(RNAi);fzd5/8-RNAi(RNAi)* animals staining for ARRESTIN protein and *eye53-1* and *eye53-2* probes.



**Figure 5—figure supplement 2. Tests to determine the homeostatic potential of supernumerary eyes and pharynges formed by RNAi of Wnt pathway components.**

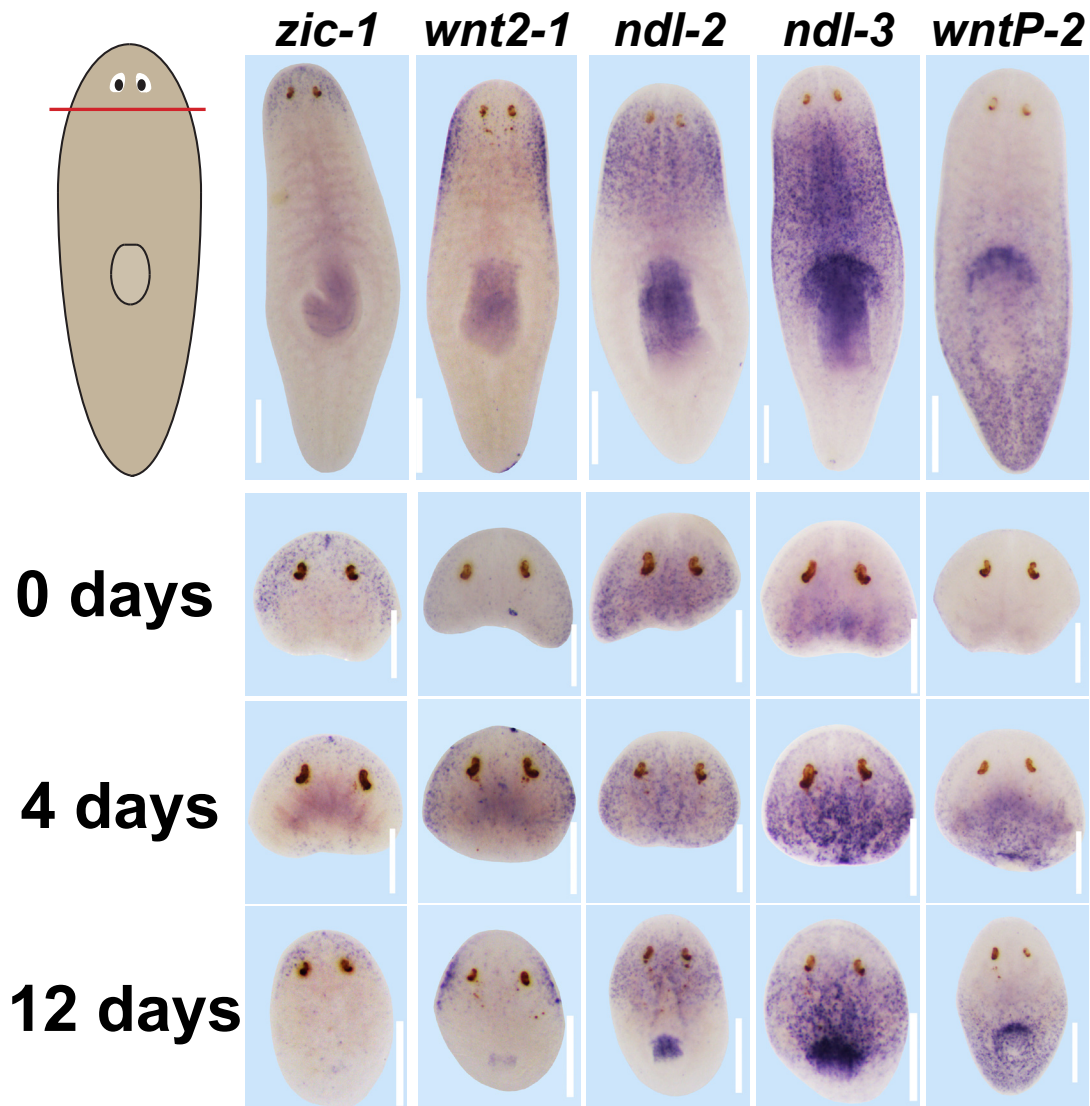
(A) *wnt11-6(RNAi);fzd5/8-4(RNAi)* animals with ectopic eyes were generated by dsRNA feeding for 40 days and animals were tracked for a subsequent 100 days after feeding. 3/4 animals maintained two sets of eyes during this time and 1/4 animals maintained 3 eyes during this time. (B) Four-eyed *wnt11-6(RNAi);fzd5/8-4(RNAi)* animals were generated as in (B), injected with BrdU then fixed and stained 7 days later with *opsin* and *tyrosinase* riboprobes and anti-BrdU antibody. *notum(RNAi)* animals labeled with BrdU had BrdU+ cells in both the supernumerary posterior and pre-existing anterior eyes (5/5 animals), similar to control individuals (5/5 animals). (C) Tests using BrdU to determine homeostatic maintenance ability of new and pre-existing pharynx in *wntP-2(RNAi);ptk7(RNAi)* animals prepared as in Figure 5C then pulsed with BrdU prior to fixing and staining 7 days later with anti-BrdU antibody and laminin riboprobe that labels pharyngeal tissue. Both pharynges acquired BrdU+ cells during the pulse (9/9 animals). Bars, 100 microns



**Figure 5—figure supplement 3. Tests to determine the regenerative potential of eyes in *ndk(RNAi)* animals**

Animals were fed *ndk* dsRNA 6 times over 2 weeks then decapitated and regenerating head fragments scored 21 days later for ectopic eyes (15/31). Animals displaying this phenotype were selected for eye resection to remove either an original anterior eye or a supernumerary posterior eye. Removal of the anterior eye resulted in regeneration (5/5 animals), while regeneration was not observed after removal of posterior eyes (7/7).





**Figure 6—figure supplement 1. Expression of positional control genes is modified early during remodeling.**

WISH to detect expression of five different positional control genes in a timeseries during the regeneration of head fragments (*zic-1*, *wnt2-1*, *ndl-2*, *ndl-3* and *wntP-2*). At d4 of regeneration, positional control gene expression domains have altered but not yet acquired their final distributions. For example, *zic-1* expression appears overly reduced compared to 12 days of regeneration, and *wnt2-1*, *ndl-2*, and *ndl-3* expression occupies too much of the axis, and the *wntP-2* expression axis has not yet resolved. These observations suggest that early in regeneration, positional control genes are mispositioned with respect to pre-existing tissues. All images representative of at least n=4 animals per timepoint and condition. Bars, 300 microns.