

Oncogenic effects of germline mutations in lysosomal storage disease genes

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1 **Abstract**

2 Clinical observations have indicated that patients with Gaucher disease or Fabry disease are at
3 increased risk of cancer. However, a systematic evaluation of the oncogenic effects of causal
4 mutations of lysosomal storage diseases (LSDs) has been lacking. Here we report a
5 comprehensive association analysis between potentially pathogenic germline mutations in LSD
6 genes and cancer interrogating genomic (or exomic) variant datasets derived from the Pan-Cancer
7 Analysis of Whole Genomes project (case cohort), the 1000 Genomes project (primary control
8 cohort), and the Exome Aggregation Consortium that does not include The Cancer Genome Atlas
9 subset (validation control cohort). We show that potentially pathogenic variants (PPVs) in 42 LSD
10 genes are significantly enriched in cancer patients in a histology-dependent manner, cancer risk is
11 higher in individuals with a greater number of PPVs, and cancer develops earlier in PPV carriers.
12 Analysis of tumor genomic and transcriptomic data from the pancreatic adenocarcinoma cohort
13 revealed potential mechanisms that might be involved in the oncogenic contribution of PPVs. Our
14 findings extend the mechanistic understanding of inherited cancer susceptibility and highlight the
15 promise of harnessing available therapeutic strategies to restore lysosomal function for
16 personalized cancer prevention.

1 **Introduction**

2 Lysosomal storage diseases (LSDs) comprise more than 50 disorders caused by inborn errors
3 of metabolism, which involve the impaired function of endosome-lysosome proteins.¹ In LSDs,
4 defects in genes encoding lysosomal hydrolases, transporters, and enzymatic activators result in
5 macromolecule accumulation in the late endocytic system.² The disruption of lysosomal
6 homeostasis is linked to increased endoplasmic reticulum and oxidative stress, which not only is a
7 common mediator of apoptosis in LSDs but also can induce oncogenic cellular phenotype and
8 promote the development of malignancy.^{3,4}

9 Typical LSD patients have severely impaired organ functions and short life expectancy.
10 However, a considerable number of undiagnosed LSD patients have mildly impaired lysosomal
11 function and survive into adulthood.¹ These patients are often diagnosed after they develop
12 secondary diseases such as Parkinsonism that is attributable to insidious LSDs.⁵ Clinical
13 observations have shown that patients with Gaucher disease or Fabry disease are at increased
14 risk of cancer,^{6,7} indicating that dysregulated lysosomal metabolism may contribute to
15 carcinogenesis. However, the precise relationship between lysosomal dysfunction and cancer
16 remains unclear; this uncertainty can be attributed in part to the diverse and nonspecific
17 phenotypes of LSDs and the resulting difficulty in recognizing patients with mild symptoms. The
18 extensive allelic heterogeneity and the complex genotype-phenotype relationships make the
19 diagnosis more challenging.⁸ Furthermore, growing evidence suggests that single allelic loss is
20 functionally significant, even though the impact may not be sufficient to develop overt disease.⁹
21 Considering the above along with the recessive inheritance nature of most LSDs, we hypothesized
22 that there would be a large number of undetected carriers of causal mutations of LSDs with mild
23 functional impairment, and these carriers would be at increased risk of cancer.

24 Here we report the results of a comprehensive association analysis between germline mutations
25 in LSD-related genes and cancer using data from global sequencing projects. We show that
26 carriers of potentially pathogenic variants (PPVs) in 42 LSD genes are at increased risk of cancer,

1 cancer risk is higher in individuals with a greater number of PPVs, cancer develops earlier in PPV
2 carriers, and transcriptional misregulation of cancer-promoting signaling pathways might underlie
3 the oncogenic contribution of PPVs. We aimed to elucidate the PPV-cancer association in a
4 histology-specific manner. Potential carcinogenic mechanisms were investigated using tumor
5 genomic and transcriptomic data with a focus on the pancreatic adenocarcinoma.

7 **Results**

8 ***Characteristics of study cohorts***

9 We used matched tumor-normal pair whole genome and tumor whole transcriptome sequence
10 data and clinical and histological annotation of 2,567 cancer patients (Pan-Cancer cohort) from the
11 International Cancer Genome Consortium (ICGC)/The Cancer Genome Atlas (TCGA) Pan-Cancer
12 Analysis of Whole Genomes (PCAWG) project.¹⁰ As controls, we used publicly available variant
13 call sets from two global sequencing projects of individuals without known cancer histories. The
14 first control dataset comprised 2,504 genomes from the 1000 Genomes project phase 3 (1000
15 Genomes cohort).¹¹ The second dataset included exomes of 53,105 unrelated individuals from a
16 subset of the Exome Aggregation Consortium release 1.0 that did not include TCGA subset (ExAC
17 cohort).¹²

18 The Pan-Cancer cohort consisted of four populations and 38 histological types of pediatric or
19 adult cancer (Figs. 1a and 1c and Supplementary Table 1). The median age at diagnosis was 60
20 years (range, 1 to 90). A majority of the patients were Europeans or Americans in most cancer
21 types. The 1000 Genomes cohort comprised five populations (Fig. 1b);¹¹ we combined the
22 European and American populations for comparison with the Pan-Cancer cohort. The ExAC cohort
23 included seven populations, among which the Americans and Non-Finnish Europeans together
24 accounted for more than 60% of the entire cohort.¹²

26 ***PPV prevalence in the Pan-Cancer and 1000 Genomes cohorts***

1 Through an extensive literature review, we identified 42 LSD genes (Table 1).^{1,8,13-15} Based on
2 the GRCh37/hg19 genomic coordinates, 7,187 germline single nucleotide variants (SNVs) and
3 small insertions and deletions (indels) were identified in protein-coding regions, essential splice
4 junctions, and 5' and 3' untranslated regions (UTRs) in the aggregate variant call set of the Pan-
5 Cancer and 1000 Genomes cohorts (Supplementary Fig. 1). Of those, 4,019 (55.9%) were
6 singletons (variants found in only one individual), and 3' UTR variants accounted for the largest
7 proportion (37.7%).

8 We selected PPVs based on three different measures to determine their pathogenicity: (1)
9 predicted mutational effects on the sequence and expression of transcripts and proteins, (2)
10 clinical and experimental evidence obtained from the curated variant databases such as ClinVar,
11 Human Gene Mutation Database (HGMD), and locus-specific mutation databases (LSMDs) and
12 the medical literature, and (3) *in silico* prediction of mutational effects on protein function
13 (Methods). Assuming that variants with a population allele frequency (AF) of $\geq 0.5\%$ are extremely
14 unlikely to cause LSDs, we excluded variants with an average AF between the Pan-Cancer and
15 1000 Genomes cohorts higher than this threshold during the PPV selection process. Using an
16 automated algorithm-based approach, a total of 432 PPVs were selected in 41 genes; no PPV
17 was identified in *LAMP2* (Supplementary Fig. 2a and Supplementary Table 2). The selected PPVs
18 were grouped into three tiers with partial overlaps, each tier corresponding to each of the three
19 selection criteria (Fig. 1d).

20 Overall, PPV prevalence was 20.7% in the Pan-Cancer cohort, which was significantly higher
21 than the 13.5% PPV prevalence of the 1000 Genomes cohort (odds ratio, 1.67; 95% confidence
22 interval, 1.44–1.94; $P=8.7 \times 10^{-12}$; Fig. 2a). This association remained significant after adjustment
23 for population structure (odds ratio, 1.44; 95% confidence interval, 1.22–1.71; $P=2.4 \times 10^{-5}$). The
24 odds ratio for cancer risk was higher in individuals with a greater number of PPVs ($P=7.3 \times 10^{-12}$),
25 and this tendency was broadly consistent when the analysis was restricted to individual tiers,
26 although some tier-specific results did not reach statistical significance (Fig. 2a). For comparison,

1 we examined the prevalence of rare synonymous variants (RSVs) with an average AF between
2 the Pan-Cancer and 1000 Genomes cohorts of <0.5% and found no difference between the two
3 cohorts after adjustment for population structure, indicating that the enrichment of PPVs in the
4 Pan-Cancer cohort was not likely due to batch effects (Fig. 2b). The gene-specific prevalence of
5 PPVs and RSVs in the Pan-Cancer and 1000 Genomes cohorts is shown in Supplementary Figs.
6 2b and 2c, respectively. The results demonstrated that PPVs were relatively more abundant in the
7 Pan-Cancer cohort versus the 1000 Genomes cohort with respect to the abundance of RSVs, for
8 33 of 42 genes (78.6%; exact binomial test $P < 0.001$).

9 10 ***Association of PPVs with specific cancer types***

11 Among the 30 major histological types of cancer (>15 individuals per cancer type), the PPV
12 prevalence ranged from 8.8% to 48.6%, with significantly higher values in seven histological types
13 of cancer than in the 1000 Genomes cohort (Supplementary Fig. 3a). Results of tier-based
14 analyses were broadly consistent (Supplementary Figs. S3b–d). In contrast, RSV prevalence
15 showed much less variation across cohorts and was higher in the 1000 Genomes cohort than in
16 any cancer cohort (Supplementary Fig. 3e), reflecting the more heterogeneous nature of ancestry
17 (Fig. 1b) and the resulting higher genetic polymorphism in the 1000 Genomes cohort. Analysis
18 using the optimal sequence kernel association test (SKAT-O) method, adjusted for population
19 structure (Methods), unveiled 37 significantly associated cancer-gene pairs and four genes (*GBA*,
20 *SGSH*, *HEXA*, and *CLN3*) with a pan-cancer association (Fig. 2c and Supplementary Fig. 2b and
21 Supplementary Table 3). Overall, 19 cancer types were significantly enriched for PPVs in at least
22 one LSD gene, and PPVs in 18 genes were associated with at least one cancer type. We
23 observed no evidence of systematic inflation of test statistics (Fig. 2d).

24 25 ***PPV prevalence in the Pan-Cancer and ExAC cohorts***

26 We sought to validate the findings of the SKAT-O analysis using the ExAC cohort as an

1 independent control. For this purpose, we focused on (1) eight cancer cohorts that showed
2 significantly higher PPV prevalence than the 1000 Genomes cohort (Supplementary Fig. 3a) and
3 (2) ten PPV groups that were significantly enriched in the Pan-Cancer cohort or three or more
4 histological cancer subgroups compared to the 1000 Genomes cohort (Fig. 2c and Supplementary
5 Fig. 2b). As shown in Supplementary Fig. 4a, PPV prevalence was higher in all tested cancer
6 cohorts than in the ExAC cohort, and the association was significant for the Pan-Cancer,
7 pancreatic adenocarcinoma, medulloblastoma, pancreatic neuroendocrine carcinoma, and
8 osteosarcoma cohorts. In addition, all tested PPV groups except *GBA* were more prevalent in the
9 Pan-Cancer cohort than in the ExAC cohort, and six were significantly enriched in cancer patients
10 (Supplementary Fig. 4b).

12 ***Variant-specific enrichment of PPVs in cancer patients***

13 Although our cohorts were underpowered for detection of variant-specific cancer association for
14 such rare variants as PPVs, some results deserve attention. Among all 432 PPVs identified in the
15 Pan-Cancer and 1000 Genomes cohorts (Fig. 1d), a splicing variant in *NPC2*, rs140130028
16 (ENST00000434013:c.441+1G>A), was most strongly associated with various histological types of
17 cancer including medulloblastoma ($P=0.008$), ovarian adenocarcinoma ($P=0.022$), cutaneous
18 melanoma ($P=0.003$), and lung squamous cell carcinoma ($P=0.019$; Supplementary Fig. 5).
19 Inactivating mutations of *NPC2* cause Niemann-Pick type C disease, which typically presents as
20 progressive neurological abnormalities. The relationship between the Niemann-Pick type C
21 disease and medulloblastoma was implied by a structural homology of NPC1 with Patched
22 transmembrane protein, a tumor suppressor that is regulated by Hedgehog signaling and involved
23 in the development of medulloblastoma when inactivated by loss-of-function mutations.^{16,17}
24 Vismodegib, a downstream Hedgehog signaling inhibitor, showed promising antitumor activity in
25 animal models, leading to evaluation of this agent in clinical trials for the treatment of
26 medulloblastoma.^{18,19} Nonetheless, no study to date has provided direct evidence linking

1 medulloblastoma to mutations causing Niemann-Pick type C disease. Results of our study,
2 therefore, provide the first genetic evidence of the tumorigenic potential of inactivating *NPC2*
3 mutations.

4 Another example, rs145834006—a 3' UTR variant in *IDS* that was significantly associated with
5 downregulated gene transcription ($P=1\times 10^{-5}$; false discovery rate [FDR] = 0.07; Supplementary
6 Fig. 6)—showed a strong association with non-Hodgkin B-cell lymphoma ($P=2.2\times 10^{-4}$). This
7 finding was in accordance with the significant SKAT-O association between *IDS* PPVs and non-
8 Hodgkin B-cell lymphoma ($P=0.005$; FDR=0.068; Fig. 2c). The relatively high *IDS* expression in
9 lymphoid tissue implies an essential role of the protein encoded by this gene in lymphoid organ
10 function (Supplementary Fig. 7). Collectively, our results generate a plausible hypothesis of the
11 lymphomagenic property of *IDS* loss-of-function mutations that warrants confirmation in larger
12 lymphoma cohorts and functional studies.

14 **Age at diagnosis of cancer according to PPV carrier status**

15 The age at diagnosis of cancer across 28 major clinical cancer cohorts (corresponding to 30
16 major histological types that included 15 or more patients; information on age at diagnosis was not
17 available for patients with osteosarcoma; patients with pilocytic astrocytoma and
18 oligodendroglioma were combined into a single clinical cohort; see Methods) is shown in Fig. 3a.
19 To examine whether cancer occurred earlier in PPV carriers than in wild-type individuals, we first
20 compared the age at diagnosis according to PPV carrier status in the Pan-Cancer cohort and in
21 six clinical cancer subgroups that showed significant SKAT-O association with PPVs (Fig. 3b). The
22 median age at diagnosis of cancer was numerically lower in PPV carriers in all evaluated cohorts,
23 and the difference was significant in the following cohorts: Pan-Cancer (median age, 59 versus 61
24 years; $P=0.002$), pancreatic adenocarcinoma (median age, 61 versus 68.5 years; $P<0.001$), and
25 chronic myeloid disorder (median age, 45.5 versus 58.5 years; $P=0.044$). We next compared the
26 age at diagnosis of cancer between carriers and non-carriers of PPVs that belonged to each PPV

1 group that was significantly enriched in the Pan-Cancer cohort or three or more cancer types
2 compared to the 1000 Genomes cohort—same criteria were used for the validation of SKAT-O
3 results with the ExAC cohort as an independent control, as described above—among the Pan-
4 Cancer cohort. As shown in Fig. 3c, carriers of PPVs that belonged to tier 1, tier 3, *HGSNAT*,
5 *CLN3*, and *NPC2* had a significantly earlier onset of cancer compared to wild-type individuals.
6 Moreover, the PPV load (number of PPVs per individual) showed a consistent negative linear
7 correlation with age at diagnosis of cancer across all histological types and PPV groups evaluated,
8 and the correlation was significant in the Pan-Cancer and pancreatic adenocarcinoma cohorts
9 (Figs. 3d and 3e). Exploratory analysis across all cancer types and genes revealed earlier cancer
10 onset in PPV carriers for five additional cancer-gene pairs (Fig. 3f), three of which (pancreatic
11 adenocarcinoma-*MAN2B1*, cutaneous melanoma-*NPC2*, and chronic myeloid disorder-*SGSH*)
12 were in concordance with the SKAT-O results (Fig. 2c).

14 ***Differential somatic mutation and gene expression patterns of pancreatic adenocarcinoma*** 15 ***from PPV carriers***

16 We sought to determine whether differentiating patterns of somatic mutations and gene
17 expression underlie the oncogenic processes triggered by PPVs in pancreatic adenocarcinoma,
18 for which both the SKAT-O analysis and comparison of age at diagnosis of cancer according to
19 PPV carrier status produced consistent results (Figs. 2c, 3b, 3d, and 3f and Supplementary Figs.
20 3a–d and 4). We first compared the somatic mutational landscape between tumors from PPV
21 carriers (n=55) and non-carriers (n=177). The 50 most frequently mutated genes in each group are
22 shown in Supplementary Fig. 8. The five top-ranked genes were common in both groups (*KRAS*,
23 *TP53*, *SMAD4*, *CDKN2A*, and *TTN*), and the first four of these were in agreement with previous
24 genome sequencing studies of pancreatic adenocarcinoma.^{20,21} Non-silent mutation burden was
25 similar between groups (mean 57.1 versus 56.3 mutations per tumor for PPV-associated versus
26 PPV-unrelated cases, respectively; P=0.9). Mutational signature also did not differ according to the

1 PPV carrier status ($P \geq 0.05$ for all signatures; Supplementary Fig. 9).

2 Differentially expressed gene (DEG) analysis of pancreatic adenocarcinoma samples with
3 available RNA-Seq data ($n=55$; 8 from carriers and 47 from non-carriers of PPVs) revealed 287
4 gene upregulations and 221 downregulations in tumors from PPV carriers compared to those from
5 wild-type individuals (Figs. 4a–d and Supplementary Table 4). Pathway-based analysis with the
6 generally applicable gene set enrichment (GAGE) method identified 63 pathways significantly
7 altered by PPV carrier status (Fig. 4e and Supplementary Fig. 10). Remarkably, these pathways
8 included at least six among 13 core signaling pathways that have been shown to be recurrently
9 perturbed in pancreatic cancer: Ras signaling, Wnt signaling, axon guidance, cell cycle regulation,
10 focal adhesion, cell adhesion, and ECM-receptor interaction pathways.^{21,22} In addition, our data
11 suggested that deleterious mutations in LSD genes can provoke perturbations in
12 neurodegenerative disease pathways involved in the development of Parkinson disease,
13 Alzheimer disease, and Huntington disease, all of which have been reported to occur frequently in
14 LSD patients.¹ The glycerophospholipid metabolism pathway was also identified, indicating that
15 altered gene expression and nonsense-mediated decay might have contributed to lysosomal
16 dysfunction in PPV carriers.

18 **Supportive data**

19 Additional data including the pathogenic variant detection capability of the tier 3 PPV selection
20 criterion, PPV-to-synonymous variant prevalence ratios, and population-specific prevalence of
21 PPVs in *SGSH* are provided in Supplementary Information.

23 **Discussion**

24 In the present study, we showed that potentially pathogenic germline mutations in LSD genes,
25 identified based on three different pathogenicity criteria, were significantly enriched in cancer
26 patients across a wide range of histological types. Our aggregate rare-variant association analysis

1 approach enabled detection of rare variant enrichment both in the Pan-Cancer cohort and in a
2 histology-dependent manner, which would have been undetectable by using conventional variant-
3 wise association analysis methods. Analysis by subgrouping of PPVs into three tiers based on
4 different selection criteria, validation with an independent control cohort, and comparison of the
5 results with those obtained from synonymous variants with matched AF showed broadly consistent
6 results, corroborating the findings of our study. The genetic association was further supported by
7 the significant difference in age at diagnosis of cancer observed in carriers versus non-carriers of
8 PPVs in the Pan-Cancer cohort as well as at least two clinical subgroups of cancer patients.

9 The lysosome is involved in a variety of cellular functions other than biomolecule catabolism,
10 such as intracellular signaling, nutrient sensing, cellular growth regulation, plasma membrane
11 repair, and phagocytosis.¹⁵ The diverse roles of lysosomes underlie the complex and
12 heterogeneous phenotypes of LSDs which can involve almost any organ.¹ It has long been evident
13 that patients with Gaucher disease are at markedly increased risk of malignancy, especially
14 multiple myeloma with the risk estimated at approximately 50-fold.²³ However, despite the largely
15 shared pathogenesis, the relationship between most other LSDs and cancer has been largely
16 unexplored because of the rarity and phenotypic heterogeneity of each LSD. The wide spectrum of
17 tumor histologies and LSD genes covered in our study enabled elucidation of numerous cancer-
18 gene pairwise associations most of which had previously been unknown.

19 From the SKAT-O analyses, we identified four genes that showed a significant pan-cancer
20 association; among those, *SGSH* and *CLN3* were strongly associated with five and four cancer
21 types, respectively. *SGSH* encodes sulfamidase, a lysosomal hydrolase that degrades heparan
22 sulfate. Deficiency of sulfamidase leads to Sanfilippo syndrome A (mucopolysaccharidosis IIIA),
23 which is characterized by progressive mental and behavioral deterioration that typically presents in
24 childhood. However, an adult-onset disease that presents primarily with visceral manifestations
25 without neurological abnormality has also been reported.²⁴ A recent *in vivo* study suggested a
26 crucial role of oxidative stress in the pathobiology of Sanfilippo syndrome A.²⁵ Since the oxidative

1 stress is a key mediator of cancer cell growth, invasiveness, and angiogenesis,⁴ inherited *SGSH*
2 mutations may contribute to an elevated cancer risk via persistent cellular exposure to oxidative
3 stress, a plausible hypothesis that should be confirmed in future functional studies.

4 CLN3 is a late endosomal and lysosomal transmembrane protein, and its defect causes classic
5 juvenile neuronal ceroid lipofuscinosis (CLN3 disease). In CLN3 disease, impaired trafficking of
6 galactosylceramide to the plasma membrane promotes the generation of proapoptotic ceramide
7 and subsequent activation of caspases, which in turn accelerates apoptosis.¹⁴ In line with its
8 control over apoptosis, CLN3 also regulates cancer cell growth, and its therapeutic implication has
9 been suggested.²⁶ Therefore, results of our study warrant future investigation of this protein as a
10 therapeutic target for the treatment of various types of cancer.

11 Almost 5 to 10 percent of pancreatic cancer patients are diagnosed before the age of 50.²⁷ For
12 these patients, positive family history is a strong risk factor, indicating the presence of inherited
13 risk variants.²⁸ Indeed, many pancreatic cancer-predisposing mutations have been identified in
14 genes involved in the genome maintenance and double-strand DNA break repair (e.g., *BRCA1/2*
15 and *PALB2*). However, in a majority of the early-onset pancreatic cancer patients, the genetic
16 cause remains unclear.²⁹ In our histology-specific analysis, patients with pancreatic
17 adenocarcinoma showed a strong association with PPVs in several LSD genes and had a
18 significantly earlier onset of cancer, motivating us to evaluate differential patterns of somatic
19 mutations and gene expression in this histological subset. The DEG analysis revealed many
20 genes up- or downregulated in PPV carriers, and GAGE analysis provided novel insights into the
21 biological processes that might be involved in pancreatic carcinogenesis in these patients.
22 Remarkably, many of the altered pathways identified in the GAGE analysis were previously
23 implicated in pancreatic cancer development in transcriptome and exome sequencing studies.^{21,22}
24 The somatic mutation burden and signatures, in contrast, were comparable between the carriers
25 and non-carriers of PPVs. Overall, the results of our study suggest that transcriptional
26 misregulation is a key mediator of pancreatic carcinogenesis triggered by PPVs.

1 Decades of research on tumor suppressor genes involved in hereditary cancer predisposition
2 syndromes have proposed a continuum model of tumor suppression, emphasizing the crucial
3 impact of a subtle change in expression of tumor suppressor genes.³⁰ Given the rarity of individual
4 PPVs, almost all PPV carriers observed in our study were heterozygous. Therefore, the dosage
5 effect model may be useful in explaining the mechanisms involved in oncogenic contributions of
6 LSD gene mutations, which has already been implied by results of a previous study.⁹

7 Several limitations of this study require careful acknowledgment. As we did not process the raw
8 sequence data but used variant call sets produced by independent research consortiums, the
9 possibility of batch effects cannot be excluded, even considering the similarity in pipelines used to
10 generate each dataset.¹⁰⁻¹² Second, although the ExAC cohort served as a large-scale validation
11 control set, we could not adjust for the population structure in association analysis using this
12 cohort because the individual-level genotype data were not accessible. The ExAC cohort has a
13 similar population composition to the Pan-Cancer cohort, with almost 70% of the entire cohort
14 comprised of Americans and Europeans,¹² but this similarity does not remove the need for
15 population correction. Third, an independent cancer cohort that is sufficiently powered for
16 analyzing such rare variants as PPVs was not available for external validation. The PCAWG
17 project currently represents the largest cancer genome analysis effort harmonizing data from
18 different sources into a single, contemporary state-of-the-art pipeline. Therefore, validation of our
19 findings in an external cancer patient cohort will be possible only with additional cancer patient
20 genomes sequenced and harmonized with the existing database in the future. Finally,
21 hematological malignancies such as myeloma, the most widely known LSD-associated cancer,
22 were poorly represented in the Pan-Cancer cohort, and the numbers of patients with individual
23 cancer types were not sufficiently large to draw reliable histology-specific conclusions.

24 From a therapeutic perspective, LSD genes are attractive targets because of the mechanistically
25 intuitive nature of the enzyme replacement and substrate reduction therapies. The enzyme
26 replacement therapy has already been approved for at least seven types of LSD.³¹ Other

1 promising approaches include pharmacological chaperones, gene therapy, and compounds that
2 'read through' the early stop codon introduced by nonsense mutations.³¹ Although it is unclear
3 whether preemptive treatment can prevent or delay long-term complications of LSDs such as
4 cancer, our findings make it promising to harness these sophisticated LSD therapies for preventing
5 cancer in carriers of inactivating germline mutations in LSD genes.

6 In conclusion, the present study provides a comprehensive landscape of association between
7 potentially pathogenic germline mutations in LSD genes and cancer. Investigating the crosstalk
8 between treatable metabolic diseases and cancer is crucial since it can build the basis for
9 precision cancer prevention. Diverse and increasingly sophisticated therapeutic options to restore
10 lysosomal functions are currently available or being developed. Future clinical trials of these
11 agents guided by individuals' mutation profiles may pave a new path toward personalized cancer
12 prevention and treatment.

13 14 **Methods**

15 ***Data sources***

16 We downloaded germline and somatic (tumor) variant datasets for SNVs and indels of the Pan-
17 Cancer cohort as variant call format (VCF) and mutation annotation format (MAF) files,
18 respectively, from the sftp server of the PCAWG project (<sftp://dcccftp.nci.nih.gov/pancan/>). The
19 germline variant call sets encompassed all 2,834 PCAWG donors and were produced using the
20 DKFZ/EMBL pipeline. The tumor somatic MAF file contained data of 2,583 whitelist samples (only
21 one representative tumor from each multi-tumor donor) and were generated by the PCAWG
22 consensus strategy consolidating outputs from the Sanger, Broad, DKFZ/EMBL, and MuSE
23 pipelines for SNVs and from the SMuFin, DKFZ, Sanger, and Snowman pipelines for indels. Pass-
24 only variants were used for the analysis. We downloaded tumor RNA-Seq data as both raw and
25 normalized read count matrices of protein-coding genes via Synapse
26 (<https://www.synapse.org/#!Synapse:syn3104297>). Read alignment was carried out using

1 TopHat2, counted using the htseq-count script from the HTSeq framework version 0.6.1p1 against
2 the reference General Transfer Format of GENCODE release 19, and normalized using the
3 FPKM-UQ normalization technique.³² We downloaded the clinical and histological annotation
4 sheets from the PCAWG wiki page (<https://wiki.oicr.on.ca/pages/>) both in version 9 (generated on
5 November 22, 2016 and August 21, 2017, respectively).

6 As the primary control cohort, we downloaded the individual-level genotype data of SNVs and
7 indels for 2,504 individuals from the 1000 Genomes project phase 3 (1000 Genomes cohort) as
8 VCF files (<ftp://ftp.1000genomes.ebi.ac.uk/vol1/ftp/phase3>).¹¹ In addition, population-level AF data
9 of SNVs and indels for 53,105 unrelated individuals from the ExAC release 1.0 (ExAC cohort),
10 excluding TCGA subset, were downloaded for use as an independent validation control
11 (ftp://ftp.broadinstitute.org/pub/ExAC_release/release1).¹²

13 ***Quality assessment and control***

14 Quality assessment of all PCAWG sequence data was carried out according to three-level
15 criteria (library, sample, and donor levels) to determine whether to include each donor and RNA-
16 Seq aliquot in the study or not. This multi-level quality control process was necessary since
17 individual donors could have multiple samples, and individual samples could have multiple
18 libraries. As a rule, a sample was blacklisted if all of its libraries were of low quality, and
19 whitelisted if all of its libraries were of high quality. Similarly, a donor was blacklisted if all
20 associated samples were blacklisted, and whitelisted if all associated samples were whitelisted.
21 Samples and donors that were neither blacklisted nor whitelisted were graylisted. Only
22 whitelisted individuals and samples were included in the present study (2,583 tumor-normal pair
23 genomes and 1,094 RNA-Seq samples). Quality control criteria for each level of assessment are
24 detailed in the PCAWG marker paper.¹⁰

26 ***Consolidation of the Pan-Cancer cohort***

1 The original PCAWG project covered 2,834 individuals encompassing 40 major cancer types as
2 part of the ICGC, which included 76 projects and 21 primary organ sites.¹⁰ Among those, we
3 prioritized 2,583 whitelisted patients who satisfied the multi-level quality control criteria described
4 above. Sixteen patients with a histological diagnosis indicating a benign bone neoplasm, such as
5 chondroblastoma, chondromyxoid fibroma, osteofibrous dysplasia, and osteoblastoma, were
6 excluded, leaving 2,567 patients in the final Pan-Cancer cohort. Nine patients who had multiple
7 tumor specimens were associated with more than one histological diagnosis: eight patients with
8 both myeloproliferative neoplasm and acute myeloid leukemia and one patient with both
9 hepatocellular carcinoma and cholangiocarcinoma. For consistency in the histology-specific
10 analysis, the first eight patients were classified as acute myeloid leukemia and the ninth patient as
11 cholangiocarcinoma. To analyze the age at diagnosis of cancer, we combined multiple histological
12 cohorts that shared similar clinicopathologic characteristics into a single clinical cohort (e.g., breast
13 invasive ductal, lobular, and micropapillary carcinomas were classified as breast cancer [BRCA],
14 and myeloproliferative neoplasm and myelodysplastic syndrome as chronic myeloid disorder
15 [CMDI]; see Supplementary Table 1). Among the 2,567 patients, only 1,075 had whitelisted tumor
16 RNA-Seq data. Since 19 patients contributed more than one tumor specimen, RNA-Seq data were
17 available for 1,094 tumors.

18 19 ***Gene selection and variant interpretation***

20 Of the genes involved in lysosomal functions that include substrate hydrolysis, post-translational
21 modification of hydrolases, intracellular trafficking, and enzymatic activation, we selected 42 genes
22 that were previously implicated in the development of LSD via comprehensive literature
23 review.^{1,8,13-15} The genomic loci of the selected genes based on the GRCh37/hg19 human
24 reference genome assembly were screened for all germline SNVs and indels in each normal VCF
25 file. Variants were identified based on the GENCODE release 19 gene model
26 (<https://www.encodegenes.org/releases/19.html>). We carried out functional annotation using both

1 ANNOVAR and Variant Effect Predictor version 85 and cross-checked and manually curated the
2 outputs to achieve the most appropriate characterization of each identified variant.^{33,34} From this
3 point, our analysis focused on variants within protein-coding regions, splice donor and acceptor
4 sites within two base pairs to the intron side from the exon-intron junctions (GT-AG conserved
5 sequence), and 5' and 3' UTRs. Variants were classified into ten non-overlapping categories
6 according to the predicted consequence type on transcripts or proteins: missense, start-loss, stop-
7 gain, stop-loss, synonymous, frameshift indel, non-frameshift indel, splicing, and 5' and 3' UTR
8 variants. When a variant was associated with more than one consequence type depending on
9 transcript isoforms, it was classified into the most functionally disruptive category (e.g., protein-
10 truncating rather than missense, and missense rather than UTR or synonymous). For example,
11 rs373496399 (NC_000017.10:g.78184457G>A) could be either a missense or 3' UTR variant
12 depending on the transcript isoform and was classified as missense. By this way, each variant
13 belonged to a unique functional class that was used for subsequent analysis. *In silico* prediction of
14 the mutational effect on protein function was carried out by using 19 distinct computational
15 algorithms with the use of dbNSFP version 3.3 (Supplementary Fig. 11).³⁵⁻⁵²

17 ***PPV selection***

18 The prevalence of individual LSDs ranges from one per tens of thousands to one in millions of
19 live births, and considerable allelic heterogeneity exists.⁵³⁻⁵⁵ Therefore, a single variant with a
20 population AF $\geq 0.5\%$ is extremely unlikely to be causative, even considering the possibility of
21 underdiagnosis. A recent analysis of the prevalence of known Mendelian disease variants using
22 $>60,000$ exomes sequenced suggested that a substantial proportion of variants with AF $>1\%$ were,
23 in fact, benign or functionally neutral, highlighting the importance of filtering PPVs based on their
24 frequency in a sufficiently large reference population.¹² On this theoretical basis and our data
25 showing that deleterious variants were rare, mostly with an AF of $<0.5\%$ (Supplementary Fig. 12),
26 we excluded variants with an average AF between the Pan-Cancer and 1000 Genomes cohorts of

1 $\geq 0.5\%$ during the PPV selection process.

2 We examined the curated databases ClinVar, HGMD, and LSMDs and extensively reviewed the
3 medical literature to identify LSD-causing mutations (Supplementary Table 5). We initially
4 classified variants into five non-overlapping categories, as proposed by the American College of
5 Medical Genetics and Genomics (ACMG) and Association for Molecular Pathology (AMP) based
6 on the curated clinical significance information in ClinVar.⁵⁶ In case of variants that belonged to
7 more than one pathogenicity category, priority was assigned to the category associated with
8 stronger evidence, hence 'benign' rather than 'likely benign,' and 'pathogenic' rather than 'likely
9 pathogenic.' When interpretations indicating both pathogenic ('pathogenic' or 'likely pathogenic')
10 and benign ('benign' or 'likely benign') directions of effect coexisted for a single variant, or no
11 pathogenicity interpretation was provided in standard terminology, data in HGMD and LSMDs
12 along with supporting evidence obtained from direct literature survey were reviewed to determine
13 the most relevant functional category of the variant according to the ACMG and AMP guideline.

14 As the role of microRNA in carcinogenesis has been spotlighted in recent years,^{57,58} researchers
15 have identified many SNVs in 3' UTR microRNA-binding sites that were involved in the increased
16 or decreased cancer risk via altered expression of gene products.⁵⁹⁻⁶³ Although much less
17 identified, 5' UTRs also contain binding motifs for microRNAs, and their sequence variation affects
18 messenger RNA (mRNA) stability.^{64,65} Since UTR variants can create or destroy a microRNA-
19 binding motif that regulates gene expression and mRNA degradation, the biological consequence
20 of UTR variants can be reflected in the change in transcript abundance in relevant tissues.^{66,67}
21 Therefore, we analyzed RNA-Seq read count data to identify UTR variants associated with
22 significantly decreased expression of the corresponding genes. Among the 3,192 unique UTR
23 variants with mean AF $< 0.5\%$ between the Pan-Cancer and 1000 Genomes cohorts, 795 and
24 2,397 were present in 5' and 3' UTRs, respectively. We compared the tissue mRNA abundance
25 after variance-stabilizing transformation of read counts between UTR variant carriers and non-
26 carriers for each gene, using linear regression.⁶⁸ Because the expression level of each LSD gene

1 varied considerably across cancer types (e.g., *IDS* shown in Supplementary Fig. 7), the regression
2 model was adjusted for cancer histology. As a result, only one 3' UTR variant in *IDS*, rs145834006
3 (ENST00000340855:c.*3950A>G), reached statistical significance at the 0.1 FDR threshold
4 (Supplementary Fig. 6).

5 After inspecting all information obtained from the above processes, we selected PPVs that were
6 highly likely to cause LSD by using three positive selection criteria (Fig. 1d). Tier 1 included all
7 frameshift indels, start-loss variants, stop-gain variants, splicing variants, and a UTR variant
8 associated with significant downregulation of the corresponding gene (rs145834006). Thus, most
9 of these variants were loss-of-function in principle. Tier 2 included variants classified as
10 'pathogenic' or 'likely pathogenic' based on the information obtained from ClinVar and relevant
11 medical literature, disease-causing mutations in HGMD (designated as 'DM' in the database), and
12 pathogenic mutations ascertained via LSMDs. Of the variants without curated pathogenicity
13 information in both ClinVar and HGMD (i.e., with unknown clinical significance), those predicted to
14 be functionally deleterious by all of the 19 separate *in silico* prediction tools were classified into tier
15 3. The score threshold of each tool for classifying a variant as deleterious or benign was set at the
16 provided default when available, or the median of all evaluated variants otherwise. Because some
17 variants (especially those in the noncoding regions and indels) were not successfully annotated by
18 all of the 19 tools, only available scores were used in such cases.

20 ***PPV-cancer association analysis using the Pan-Cancer and 1000 Genomes cohorts***

21 Because our cohorts were underpowered to detect variant-specific associations for such rare
22 variants as PPVs, we performed tier- and gene-based aggregate association analysis using the
23 SKAT-O method with an optimal ρ parameter chosen from a grid of eight points (0, 0.1², 0.2², 0.3²,
24 0.4², 0.5², 0.5, 1), which could be interpreted as a pairwise correlation among the genetic effect
25 coefficients.⁶⁹ The SKAT-O method is robust against the co-existence of pathogenic and benign
26 variants and is thus suitable when no uniform assumption can be made for the genetic effects of

1 variants as in the present study. To examine if the difference in variant calling pipelines used in the
2 PCAWG project and the 1000 Genomes project (batch effects) affected our results, we compared
3 the PPV-to-synonymous variant prevalence ratios between cancer cohorts and the 1000 Genomes
4 cohort using weighted logistic regression. For an exploratory purpose, we also assessed the
5 variant-specific association of PPVs with each type of cancer using logistic regression assuming a
6 multiplicative risk model. All association analyses were adjusted for population structure using the
7 method described below.

9 ***Population structure adjustment***

10 For adjustment of population structure, we carried out a principal component analysis using the
11 individual-level genotype data of tag single nucleotide polymorphisms (tag-SNPs) of the Pan-
12 Cancer and 1000 Genomes cohorts. We first downloaded a list of 1,555,886 candidate tag-SNPs
13 from the phase 3 HapMap ftp server (ftp://ftp.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/hapmap/phase_3/). We converted
14 the genomic coordinates of these SNPs into the GRCh37/hg19 framework using the Batch
15 Coordinate Conversion (liftOver) tool (<https://genome.ucsc.edu/cgi-bin/hgLiftOver>). VCF files from
16 both Pan-Cancer and 1000 Genomes cohorts were merged using the Genome Analysis Toolkit to
17 calculate broad AFs.⁷⁰ We used the VCFtools version 1.13 to extract candidate tag-SNPs with AF
18 $\geq 5\%$ and $\leq 50\%$ from the merged VCF, leaving 16,304 SNPs in the aggregate genotype matrix.⁷¹
19 Among those, we prioritized the population-stratifying tag-SNPs using the PLINK pruning
20 method.⁷² During this process, we used a recursive sliding-window procedure to exclude SNPs
21 with a variance inflation factor >5 within a sliding window of 50 SNPs, shifting the window forward
22 by 5 SNPs at each step. As a result, we reduced the linkage disequilibrium panels containing
23 multiple correlated SNPs to 10,494 representative tag-SNPs, which were used in the subsequent
24 principal component analysis.

25 A total of 5,071 principal components (PCs) were obtained by performing principal component
26 analysis against the combined genotype data for the 10,494 tag-SNPs of the Pan-Cancer and

1 1000 Genomes cohorts. We calculated the correlations of each PC with the binary phenotype
2 (cancer versus normal) and PPV load. Predictably, PC1 and PC2 collectively accounted for more
3 than 11% of the total variance and only these two were significantly correlated with both the binary
4 phenotype and PPV load at the 0.1 FDR threshold (Supplementary Fig. 13a). The remaining 5,069
5 PCs each accounted for less than 1% of the variance and were correlated with either the
6 phenotype or the PPV load or neither, suggesting that only the two top-ranked PCs were potential
7 confounders of the association between PPVs and cancer (Supplementary Figs. 13b–g).
8 Therefore, we included PC1 and PC2 as covariates in the subsequent association analyses. To
9 examine the possibility of systematic inflation of test statistics, we calculated a group-based
10 inflation factor (λ) from the histology-specific SKAT-O results using a previously described method
11 (Fig. 2d).⁷³

13 ***RNA-Seq data analysis***

14 We filtered out genes with zero read counts across all tumors from the read count matrices to
15 improve the computational speed. Since the data were generated on the framework of Ensembl
16 gene classification, we converted the Ensembl gene ID to Entrez gene ID using Pathview.⁷⁴ When
17 multiple Ensembl IDs matched to a single Entrez ID, those with the largest variance across all
18 samples were selected while the others were removed from the count matrix. We investigated the
19 differential gene expression patterns between tumors from PPV carriers and non-carriers using
20 DESeq2, after applying the shrinkage estimation of log fold changes and dispersions to improve
21 the stability of the estimates (Fig. 4a).⁷⁵ Before estimating FDRs for DEG results, we performed
22 independent filtering of low-count genes using Genefilter to improve statistical power.⁷⁶

23 Before the GAGE analysis, we performed variance-stabilizing transformation of raw read counts
24 to achieve homoscedasticity of the count matrix and decrease the influence of genes with an
25 excessively large variation in expression level across samples. The GAGE analysis was based on
26 group-on-group comparisons, which could be controlled by the ‘compare’ argument supported by

1 the 'gage' function of the Bioconductor package 'gage.' We simultaneously tested for the
2 upregulation and downregulation of gene components constituting each Kyoto Encyclopedia of
3 Genes and Genomes (KEGG) pathway in tumors from PPV carriers compared to those from non-
4 carriers.

6 ***Validation analysis using the ExAC cohort as an independent control***

7 Because the ExAC dataset covered only exonic regions consisting of the GENCODE release 19
8 coding regions and their flanking 50 base pairs,¹² we restricted our analysis to coding regions
9 covered in more than half of the ExAC samples (median coverage depth ≥ 1) in the validation
10 analysis. Coverage depth for the ExAC sequence data was downloaded from the ftp site
11 (ftp://ftp.broadinstitute.org/pub/ExAC_release/release1/coverage). We then selected PPVs from
12 the aggregate variant call set of the Pan-Cancer and ExAC cohorts using the same criteria used in
13 the primary analysis of the Pan-Cancer and 1000 Genomes cohorts (Fig. 1d). As a result, we
14 identified 1,267 PPVs: 942 in tier 1 and 475 in tier 2 with 150 overlaps between the two tiers. No
15 tier 3 PPV was identified because the pathogenicity score thresholds used for classifying each
16 variant as deleterious or neutral were set at stricter values than in the primary analysis for some of
17 the 19 *in silico* prediction tools. The changes in thresholds were owing to the algorithmic decision
18 to set the thresholds at medians of the scores derived from all evaluated variants identified in the
19 Pan-Cancer and ExAC cohorts, which differed from the median values of variants identified in the
20 Pan-Cancer and 1000 Genomes cohorts.

21 Although we excluded TCGA subset from the ExAC cohort to avoid contamination of the control
22 with cancer patients, a large portion of the ExAC cohort was comprised of individuals with
23 diseases that might be associated with LSD-causing mutations (e.g., schizophrenia and bipolar
24 disorder).¹² Furthermore, population structure adjustment was infeasible for this cohort because
25 the individual-level genotype data were not accessible at the time we conducted this study. As
26 shown in Supplementary Fig. 14, the mean PPV frequency varied considerably across populations

1 in the ExAC cohort, and correlations between the PPV frequencies of different populations were
2 relatively low for the East Asian and African populations. Therefore, results from association
3 analyses using this cohort as control might be confounded by the population structure difference
4 and should be interpreted with caution.

6 **Statistical analysis**

7 A two-step approach was employed to examine the association between PPVs and cancer. In
8 the first step, the Pan-Cancer and 1000 Genomes cohorts were analyzed with the SKAT-O method
9 for the aggregate rare-variant association and Fisher's exact tests and logistic regressions for
10 direct comparison of mutation prevalence.⁶⁹ The Cochran-Armitage trend test was used to
11 evaluate the association between cancer risk and PPV load. We adjusted for population structure
12 using principal component analysis on 10,494 tag-SNPs, as described above (Supplementary Fig.
13 13). In the second step, we used the ExAC cohort as an independent control and performed Fisher's
14 exact tests to validate the preceding results. Age at diagnosis of cancer was compared using
15 Wilcoxon rank sum tests and linear regression. We performed DEG and gene set analyses using
16 the DESeq2 Bioconductor package and the GAGE method based on the framework of KEGG
17 pathways, respectively.^{75,77,78}

18 Correction for multiple testing was conducted using the FDR estimation procedure, and the tail
19 area-based FDR (also referred to as q -value) was reported.⁷⁹ All tests were two-tailed unless
20 otherwise specified. We considered $FDR < 0.1$ and $P < 0.05$ (when not adjusted for multiple testing)
21 significant. Statistical analysis was performed using R software, version 3.5.0 (R Foundation for
22 Statistical Computing, Vienna, Austria), with packages of Bioconductor version 3.7.

24 **Data availability**

25 The data that support the findings of this study are available publicly or with proper authorization.
26 The germline and somatic (tumor) variant call sets and the RNA-Seq read count matrices derived

1 from the PCAWG project are available for general research use under the data access policies of
2 the ICGC and TCGA projects. In order to gain authorized access to the controlled-tier elements of
3 the data, researchers will need to apply to the TCGA Data Access Committee via dbGAP
4 (<https://dbgap.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/aa/wga.cgi?page=login>) for the TCGA portion and to the ICGC
5 Data Access Compliance Office (DACO) at <http://icgc.org/daco> for the remainder. Clinical and
6 pathological data of individual donors and specimens are in an open tier and are accessible
7 through the ICGC Data Portal at <https://dcc.icgc.org/releases/PCAWG>. For researchers who
8 obtained authorization from the ICGC DACO, detailed instructions on data download are available
9 at <http://docs.icgc.org/pcawg/data/>. Variant call sets derived from the 1000 Genomes project
10 phase 3 and the ExAC release 1.0 are publicly available at the individual level and the population
11 level, respectively, from the sources described in the Methods.

13 **Acknowledgments**

14 The members of the PCAWG steering committee (Peter J. Campbell, Gad A. Getz, Joshua M.
15 Stuart, Jan O. Korbel, and Lincoln D. Stein) have reviewed and approved the submission of the
16 manuscript as a companion paper from the PCAWG Germline Cancer Genome Working Group of
17 the ICGC/TCGA Pan-Cancer Analysis of Whole Genomes Network. This study was supported by
18 the Korean Cancer Foundation (K20170519); Korea Health Technology R&D Project through the
19 Korea Health Industry Development Institute, funded by the Ministry of Health & Welfare, Republic
20 of Korea (HI14C0072 and HI14C2399); National Research Foundation through contract N-16-NM-
21 CR01-S01; and the Program of Construction and Operation for Large-scale Science Data Center
22 (K-16-L01-C06-S01).

24 **Author Contributions**

25 J.S. and Y.K. conceptualized and designed the study. D.K. downloaded, merged, and
26 preprocessed the variant call sets into an analyzable structure. J.S. and D.K. performed variant

1 annotation, examination and manual curation, and final classification of the variants. J.S.
2 performed the statistical analysis. J.S. and D.K. wrote the draft of the manuscript. M.C. and Y.K.
3 provided critical input on data analysis. S.S.Y. held the authorized access to the PCAWG project
4 data as a member of the Cancer Genome Project leadership at ICGC. J.O.K., as a member of the
5 PCAWG scientific steering committee, co-chaired the germline working group and provided
6 guidance to this study. Y.K. and S.S.Y. supervised the overall study and were responsible for the
7 final approval of the manuscript. All authors contributed to the interpretation of results and vouch
8 for the accuracy and integrity of the overall content.

9 10 **Competing interests**

11 The authors declare that they have no competing interest relevant to this article.
12

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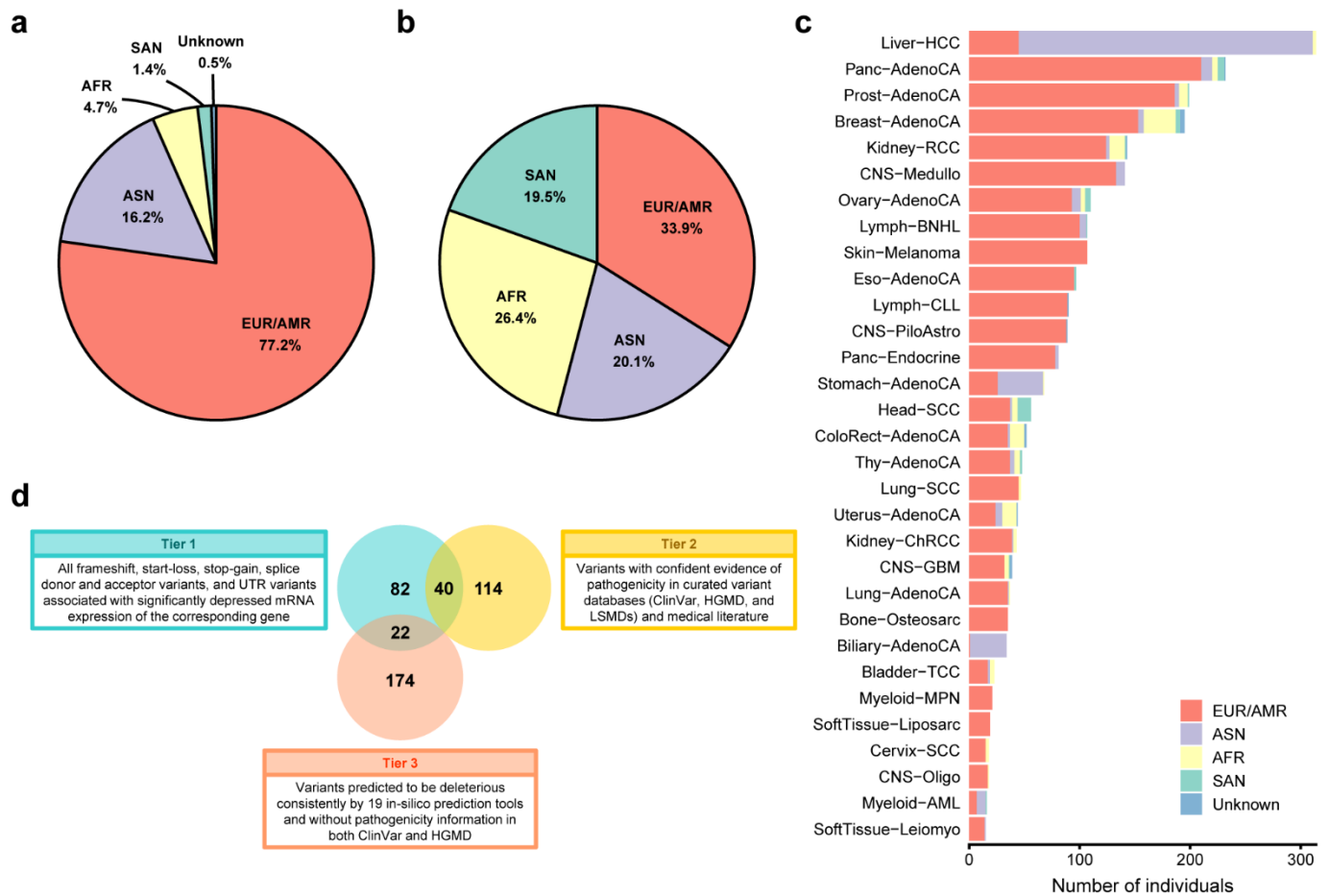


Fig. 1. Populations of the Pan-Cancer and 1000 Genomes cohorts and PPV selection

criteria. a,b, Populations comprising the Pan-Cancer cohort (**a**) and the 1000 Genomes cohort

(**b**). **c,** Populations comprising each cancer type of the Pan-Cancer cohort (see Supplementary

Table 1 for abbreviations of histological subgroups). EUR, European; AMR, American; ASN, East

Asian; AFR, African; SAN, South Asian. **d,** Venn diagram of PPVs identified in the Pan-Cancer and

1000 Genomes cohorts grouped into three tiers.

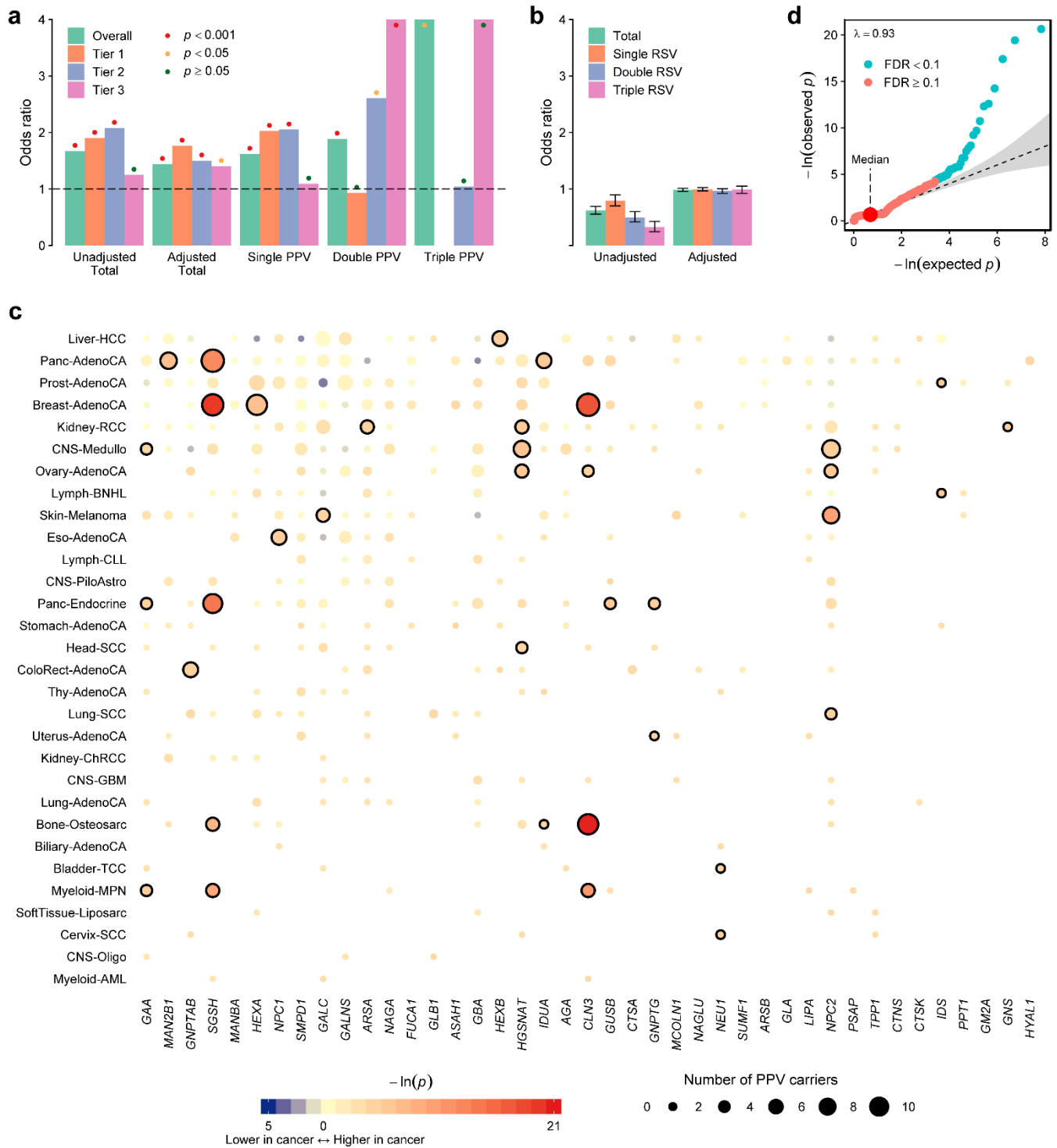


Fig. 2. Enrichment of PPVs in cancer patients. **a**, Odds ratios for the prevalence of total PPVs (with or without population adjustment) or PPVs belonging to each of three tiers in the Pan-Cancer versus 1000 Genomes cohorts. Odds ratios for the prevalence of single, double, and triple PPV carriers (individuals carrying one, two, or three PPVs, respectively) are also presented without population adjustment. Odds ratios for double and triple carriers of tier 3 PPVs and triple carriers

of total PPVs are 7.54, infinite, and 7.4, respectively, with the corresponding bars cut off at the top edge of the plot. **b**, Odds ratios for the prevalence of RSVs analyzed in the same manner as for PPVs. Error bars indicate 95% confidence intervals. **c**, SKAT-O association between 30 major histological types of cancer (>15 patients per type) and PPVs in each LSD gene. The area of each dot is proportional to the number of PPV carriers for the corresponding cohort-gene pair. Significantly associated cohort-gene pairs at the 0.1 FDR threshold are encircled by bold rings. Cohorts are shown in descending order according to the number of patients they include (top to bottom), and genes are shown in descending order according to the number of unique PPVs they contain (left to right). Abbreviations of histological diagnoses are defined in Supplementary Table 1. **d**, Quantile-quantile plot of P-values derived from SKAT-O analyses. A group-based inflation factor (λ) is displayed at the top left-hand corner (Methods). Gray shading indicates the 95% confidence interval. Each dot in this plot corresponds to each dot shown in **c**.

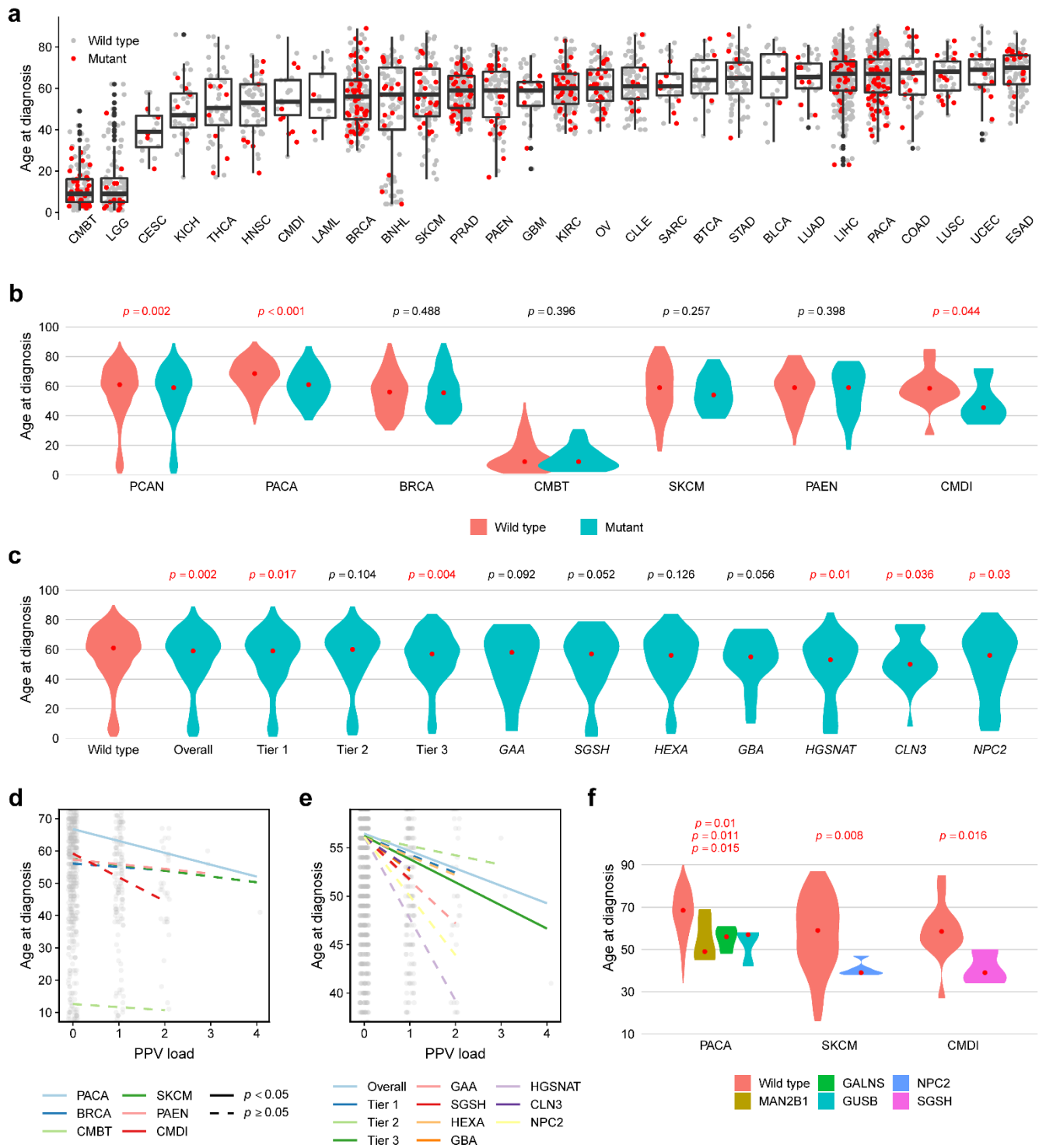


Fig. 3. Age at diagnosis of cancer. **a**, Age at diagnosis of cancer across 28 major clinical cancer cohorts. Patients are represented by red (PPV carrier) or gray (non-carrier) dots. Boxes encompass the 25th through 75th percentiles, the horizontal bar represents the median, and the upper and lower whiskers extend from the upper and lower hinges to the largest and smallest values no further than $1.5 \times$ interquartile range from the hinges, respectively. Data beyond the end

of whiskers are plotted individually. **b**, Age at diagnosis of cancer in carriers and non-carriers of PPVs in the Pan-Cancer cohort and six clinical cancer subgroups that showed significant SKAT-O association with PPVs. **c**, Age at diagnosis of cancer according to the carrier status of 11 PPV groups significantly associated with the Pan-Cancer cohort or more than two histological cancer subgroups in the SKAT-O analysis. **d,e**, Linear correlations between the PPV load and age at diagnosis of cancer in six clinical cancer subgroups shown in **b** (**d**) and in the Pan-Cancer cohort for each of 11 PPV groups shown in **c** (**e**). In **d** and **e**, each dot represents a single patient. Simple linear regression was performed for each cohort in **d**, and linear regression adjusted for cancer histology was performed for each group of PPVs in **e** to draw the regression line and test for statistical significance. As plots in **d** and **e** are magnified to clearly distinguish between regression lines, not all patient dots are included within the plotted area. **f**, All cancer-gene pairs in which age at diagnosis of cancer differs significantly according to the PPV carrier status. In **b**, **c**, and **f**, P-values derived from one-sided Wilcoxon rank sum tests are shown above each violin plot. The vertically aligned P-values from top to bottom for PACA in **f** correspond to the three genes displayed from left to right, respectively. The red dot in each violin plot represents the median. See Supplementary Table 1 for abbreviations of clinical cancer cohorts.

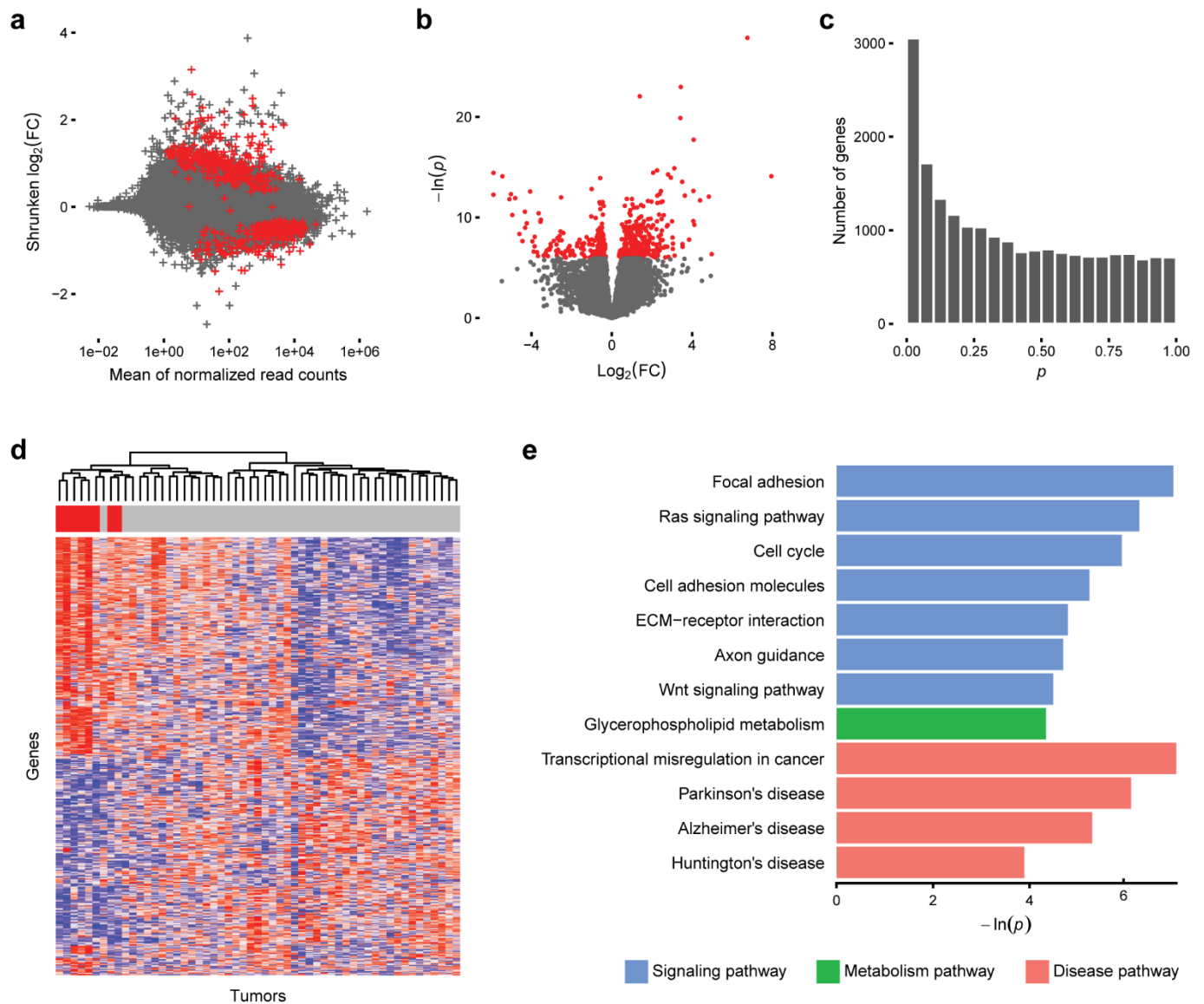


Fig. 4. Differentially expressed genes and pathways in pancreatic adenocarcinoma from PPV carriers versus non-carriers. **a–c**, DEG analysis reveals 287 gene upregulations and 221 downregulations in PPV-associated pancreatic adenocarcinoma. In **a** and **b**, genes with $\text{FDR} < 0.1$ are shown in red. FC, fold change. In **c**, the histogram of P-values shows a peak frequency below 0.05, demonstrating the existence of up- or downregulated genes. **d**, Heatmap showing the relative expression of genes significantly up- or downregulated at the 0.1 FDR threshold in tumors from PPV carriers versus non-carriers, labeled with red and gray bars under the dendrogram, respectively. We ranked the samples according to the FPKM-UQ-normalized read counts for each gene and used the rank numbers for color mapping in order to standardize the visual contrast across genes. Samples are ordered as columns by hierarchical clustering based on the Euclidean

distance and complete linkage. Genes are ordered as rows in the same manner (dendrogram not shown). High and low relative expression is indicated by progressively more saturated red and blue colors, respectively. **e**, KEGG pathways that are significantly altered in tumors from PPV carriers compared to those from non-carriers. Only pathways of particular interest discussed in the text are shown. All pathways with FDR <0.1 are shown in Supplementary Fig. 14. ECM, extracellular matrix.

Table 1. Lysosomal storage disease genes included in this study.

HGNC Symbol	Chromosome	Associated Lysosomal Storage Disease	Inheritance*
<i>AGA</i>	4	Aspartylglycosaminuria	Autosomal recessive
<i>ARSA</i>	22	Metachromatic leukodystrophy	Autosomal recessive
<i>ARSB</i>	5	Mucopolysaccharidosis VI (Maroteaux–Lamy syndrome)	Autosomal recessive
<i>ASAH1</i>	8	Farber lipogranulomatosis	Autosomal recessive
<i>CLN3</i>	16	Neuronal ceroid lipofuscinosis (NCL) 3 (juvenile NCL or Batten disease)	Autosomal recessive
<i>CTNS</i>	17	Cystinosis	Autosomal recessive
<i>CTSA</i>	20	Galactosialidosis	Autosomal recessive
<i>CTSK</i>	1	Pycnodysostosis	Autosomal recessive
<i>FUCA1</i>	1	Fucosidosis	Autosomal recessive
<i>GAA</i>	17	Glycogen storage disease type II (Pompe disease)	Autosomal recessive
<i>GALC</i>	14	Globoid cell leukodystrophy (Krabbe disease)	Autosomal recessive
<i>GALNS</i>	16	Mucopolysaccharidosis IVA (Morquio A syndrome)	Autosomal recessive
<i>GBA</i>	1	Gaucher disease	Autosomal recessive
<i>GLA</i>	X	Fabry disease	X-linked recessive
<i>GLB1</i>	3	Mucopolysaccharidosis IVB (GM1 gangliosidosis and Morquio B syndrome)	Autosomal recessive
<i>GM2A</i>	5	GM2-gangliosidosis type AB	Autosomal recessive
<i>GNPTAB</i>	12	Mucopolipidosis II (I-cell disease) Mucopolipidosis IIIA (pseudo-Hurler polydystrophy)	Autosomal recessive
<i>GNPTG</i>	16	Mucopolipidosis IIIC (mucopolipidosis III gamma)	Autosomal recessive
<i>GNS</i>	12	Mucopolysaccharidosis IIID (Sanfilippo syndrome D)	Autosomal recessive
<i>GUSB</i>	7	Mucopolysaccharidosis VII (Sly syndrome)	Autosomal recessive
<i>HEXA</i>	15	GM2 gangliosidosis type I (Tay-Sachs disease)	Autosomal recessive
<i>HEXB</i>	5	GM2 gangliosidosis type 2 (Sandhoff disease)	Autosomal recessive
<i>HGSNAT</i>	8	Mucopolysaccharidosis IIIC (Sanfilippo syndrome C)	Autosomal recessive
<i>HYAL1</i>	3	Mucopolysaccharidosis IX	Autosomal recessive
<i>IDS</i>	X	Mucopolysaccharidosis II (Hunter syndrome)	X-linked recessive
<i>IDUA</i>	4	Mucopolysaccharidosis I (Hurler, Scheie, and Hurler/Scheie syndromes)	Autosomal recessive
<i>LAMP2</i>	X	Danon disease	X-linked dominant
<i>LIPA</i>	10	Wolman disease Cholesteryl ester storage disease	Autosomal recessive
<i>MAN2B1</i>	19	α -Mannosidosis	Autosomal recessive
<i>MANBA</i>	4	β -Mannosidosis	Autosomal recessive
<i>MCOLN1</i>	19	Mucopolipidosis IV	Autosomal recessive
<i>NAGA</i>	22	Schindler disease types I and II (Kanzaki disease)	Autosomal recessive
<i>NAGLU</i>	17	Mucopolysaccharidosis IIIB (Sanfilippo syndrome B)	Autosomal recessive

<i>NEU1</i>	6	Sialidosis	Autosomal recessive
<i>NPC1</i>	18	Niemann–Pick type C disease	Autosomal recessive
<i>NPC2</i>	14	Niemann–Pick type C disease	Autosomal recessive
<i>PPT1</i>	1	Neuronal ceroid lipofuscinosis 1 (infantile NCL)	Autosomal recessive
<i>PSAP</i>	10	Gaucher disease Metachromatic leukodystrophy	Autosomal recessive
<i>SGSH</i>	17	Mucopolysaccharidosis IIIA (Sanfilippo syndrome A)	Autosomal recessive
<i>SMPD1</i>	11	Niemann–Pick disease type A and B	Autosomal recessive
<i>SUMF1</i>	3	Multiple sulfatase deficiency	Autosomal recessive
<i>TPP1</i>	11	Neuronal ceroid lipofuscinosis 2 (Classic late-infantile NCL)	Autosomal recessive

*Inheritance patterns based on the information provided in the Online Mendelian Inheritance in Man database (<https://www.omim.org/>).

HGNC, HUGO Gene Nomenclature Committee.