Interferon-stimulated genes in zebrafish and human define an ancient arsenal of antiviral immunity

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Running title:

Comparing ISG repertoires of zebrafish and human

Abstract

The evolution of the interferon (IFN) system, the major innate antiviral mechanism of vertebrates, remains poorly understood. According to the detection of type I IFN genes in cartilaginous fish genomes, the system appeared 500My ago. However, the IFN system integrates many other components, most of which are encoded by IFN-stimulated genes (ISGs). To shed light on its evolution, we have used deep RNA sequencing to generate a comprehensive list of ISGs of zebrafish, taking advantage of the high quality genome annotation in this species. We analyzed larvae after inoculation of recombinant zebrafish type I IFN, or infection with chikungunya virus, a potent IFN inducer. We identified more than 400 zebrafish ISGs, defined as being either directly induced by IFN or induced by the virus in an IFN receptor-dependent manner. Their human orthologues were highly enriched in ISGs, particularly for highly-inducible genes. We identified 72 orthology groups containing ISGs in both zebrafish and human, revealing a core ancestral ISG repertoire, which includes most of the known signaling components of the IFN system. Many downstream effectors were also already present 450 My ago in the common ancestor of tetrapods and bony fish, and diversified as multi-gene families independently in the two lineages. A large proportion of the ISG repertoire is lineage-specific; around 40% of protein-coding zebrafish ISGs had no human orthologue. We identified 14 fish-specific gene families containing multiple ISGs, including finTRIMs. This work illuminates the evolution of the IFN system and provides a rich resource to explore new antiviral mechanisms.

Key points

• We established an exhaustive list of larval zebrafish ISGs.

• Orthologous ISGs in fish and human identify a large ancestral ISG repertoire.

Introduction

All living organisms are targeted by viruses, and evolution has given rise to various antiviral strategies. Vertebrates possess many unique immune features, including their principal innate antiviral system based on signaling by type I interferons (IFNs). Type I IFNs induce the expression of hundreds of proteins encoded by ISGs (IFN-stimulated genes), making cells refractory to viral infection (1). The origin of the IFN system, which seems to have replaced the RNA interference antiviral system still used by plants and most invertebrates (2, 3), is shrouded in mystery. Cartilaginous fish are the most basal clade with genomes containing recognizable type I IFN genes (4, 5), suggesting that this system appeared about 500My ago with jawed vertebrates. The IFN system integrates many components, most of which are encoded by ISGs, which can be traced back in genomes from distant clades. However, finding the orthologue(s) of a human ISG in another taxon does not imply that this gene is part of its IFN system. To understand the evolution of antiviral immunity, it is therefore desirable to establish how the repertoire of ISGs changed from early to modern vertebrates. This can be inferred by comparing the ISGs of current living representatives of distant vertebrate taxa.

Bony fishes (hereafter simply called "fish") diverged from the tetrapod lineage about 450My ago, and, since viral infections are a major problem in aquaculture, their IFN system has been the subject of many studies, as reviewed in (6–9). Teleost fish possess several subgroups of type I IFNs (but no type III genes), with strong variation in gene numbers among fish taxa (8). The zebrafish possess four type I IFN genes, named *ifnphi1-4*; only *ifnphi1* and *ifnphi3* are active at the larval stage (10). Their receptors have been identified (10). Even before fish IFNs were known, the first fish ISGs were identified by homology

cloning from cells stimulated by poly-I:C (11) or by differential transcript analysis of cells

infected by viruses (12, 13). Because many virus-induced genes (*vig*) were homologous to

well-known mammalian ISGs, they were hypothesized to be IFN-inducible, which was often

confirmed by later studies, as in the case of *vig-1*, the *rsad2/viperin* orthologue (12, 14).

Similarly, upon cloning of fish IFNs, induction of *Mx* (11) was used as a readout for their

activity (15–17), confirming it was an ISG. The list of fish homologues of known ISGs rapidly

grew with the release of new fish genomes and EST collections, allowing the development of

micro-arrays to study fish response to virus or recombinant type I IFNs (18, 19). Candidate

gene approaches were also developed, testing orthologues of known mammalian ISGs in

qRT-PCR assays in multiple fish infection models (14, 20, 21). In parallel, approaches without

a priori identified fish ISGs that had no orthologue in mammals, although they belonged to

gene families involved in antiviral immunity. A large set of tripartite-motif protein-encoding

genes, called *fintrims* (*ftr*), distantly related to *trim25* was identified in rainbow trout cells as

a induced by virus infection (13) and later shown to form multigene families in teleosts,

particularly extensive in zebrafish (22). Similarly, a family of IFN induced ADP-

ribosyltransferases named *Gig2* was identified in crucian carp cells treated with UV-

inactivated GCHV (grass carp hemorrhage virus) (23, 24). Some ISG were restricted to

particular fish groups such as the non-coding RNA *vig2* that is found only in salmonids (25).

We previously established a list of zebrafish candidate ISGs using microarray analysis (26).

For this, we compared the response to a poor IFN inducer, IHNV (infectious hematopoietic

necrosis virus) (27) and a strong IFN inducer, CHIKV (chikungunya virus) (28). However, the

array did not include the full complement of zebrafish genes, and the study identified virus-

induced genes which were not necessarily ISGs. Here, to directly identify ISGs, we analyze

the transcriptional response of zebrafish larvae injected with recombinant type I IFN. We

rely on deep RNA sequencing, which is intrinsically quasi-exhaustive. Our approach is

therefore limited mainly by the quality of genome assembly and annotation, which is

excellent for the zebrafish (29). We complemented this analysis with a study of the response

to CHIKV and its dependence to expression of the zebrafish IFN receptor chains *crfb1* and

crfb2 (10). We thus established a comprehensive list of ISGs of zebrafish larvae, and

performed a detailed comparison with the human ISG repertoire. Our comparative analysis

was facilitated by a compilation of human ISGs made to perform a systematic screen (30),

and by the specialized database Interferome (31). We identify about 70 orthology groups

that include ISG in both species and thus approximate the ISG repertoire of the common

ancestor of all Osteichthyes. As ISGs typically evolve fast, with frequent duplications and

gene loss, we also identify many families of fish-specific ISGs, which represent a rich

resource for seeking new antiviral mechanisms. Our study provides a broad overview of the

evolutionary patterns of genes belonging to the type I IFN pathway, and identifies gene

modules induced by a viral infection independently of IFN.

Materials and methods

Zebrafish husbandry

Wild-type AB zebrafish, initially obtained from the Zebrafish International Resource Center (Eugene, OR, USA), were raised in the Institut Pasteur facility. Animal experiments were performed according to European Union guidelines for handling of laboratory animals (http://ec.europa.eu/environment/chemicals/lab_animals/home_en.htm) and were approved by the Institut Pasteur Animal Care and Use Committee. Eggs were obtained by marble-induced spawning, cleaned by treatment with 0.003% bleach for 5 minutes, and then kept in Petri dishes containing Volvic source water at 28°C. All timings in the text refer to the developmental stage at the reference temperature of 28.5°C. At 3 dpf (days post fertilization), shortly before injections, larvae that had not hatched spontaneously were manually dechorionated. Larvae were anesthetized with 200 µg/ml tricaine (A5040, Sigma-Aldrich) during the injection procedure.

Interferon and virus inoculation

Recombinant zebrafish IFNφ1 (10), kindly provided by Rune Hartmann (University of Aarhus, Denmark), was inoculated by intravenous (IV) injection in the caudal cardinal vein. One nanoliter of 1mg/ml IFNφ1, or as a control, bovine serum albumin (BSA, New England Biolabs) in PBS1x/10% glycerol was injected. CHIKV infections were performed as described (26, 28). Briefly, ~200PFU of CHIKV115 was injected IV in a volume of 1 nl at 3dpf.

Interferon receptor knock-down

Morpholino antisense oligonucleotides (Gene Tools) were injected at the one to two cells

stage as described (32). Two ng of *crfb1* splice morpholino

(CGCCAAGATCATACCTGTAAAGTAA) was injected together with 2ng of *crfb2* splice

morpholino (CTATGAATCCTCACCTAGGGTAAAC), knocking down all type I IFN receptors (10).

Control morphants were injected with 4 ng of control morpholino

(GAAAGCATGGCATCTGGATCATCGA) with no known target.

RNA extraction

For RNAseq analysis, total RNA was extracted from replicate pools of 10 injected larvae (at 6

hours post injection for IFNφ1 treatment, or 24 hours post injection for CHIKV infections),

using TRIzol (Invitrogen), following the manufacturer's protocol. The integrity of the RNA

was confirmed by laboratory-on-chip analysis using the 2100 Bioanalyzer (Agilent

Technologies), using only samples with an RNA integrity number of at least 8.

Illumina sequencing

Libraries were built using a Truseq mRNA-Seq Library Preparation Kit (Illumina, USA),

according to the manufacturer's recommendations. Quality control was performed on an

Agilent Bioanalyzer. Sequencing was performed on a HiSeq 2500 system (Illumina, USA) and

produced 65-base single-end reads.

Mapping reads and gene expression counts

Sequences were trimmed using cutadapt (v1.8.3). The reads quality was checked with

FastQC. Reads were then spliced-aligned to the zebrafish genome (GRCz10, Ensembl release

88) using TopHat2 (v2.0.14). The average number of mapped read per sample was

16.500.000. Only fragments mapping coherently and unambiguously to genes have been

considered for gene counts. Gene counts have been assigned using featureCounts v1.5.2

(Liao, 2014).

Identification of differentially expressed genes (DEG)

Differentially expressed nuclear genes between larvae treated with IFNφ1 and

controls, between larvae infected by CHIKV and controls, or between crfb1+2 and control

morphants all infected by CHIKV, were identified. DEG were identified using DESeq 1.18.0

(BioConductor) (Love et al., 2014) and R: 3–1-2 (R core team, 2017). Briefly, raw counts of

genes were subjected to a minimal pre-filtering step: genes for which the count sum, per

group of samples, was equal or higher than 10, in at least one group, were kept. Raw counts

were normalized for library size and normalized data were fitted using a negative binomial

general linear model. Data were adjusted for multiple testing using the Benjamini-Hochberg

procedure (adjusted p value). Genes with an adjusted p value less than 0.01 and an absolute

Fold Change (FC) > 2 or FC < 0.5 were considered as DEGs.

Sequence data were registered in the BioProject ncbi database

(https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/bioproject) with the SRA accession number: PRJNA531581.

Identification of human orthologues and ISGs

Orthology analysis was primarily based on data from the Ensembl database

(www.ensembl.org), the zfin database (zfin.org), and the literature, notably our previous

analysis of zebrafish orthologues of human ISGs (26). Data were systematically curated

manually, and conflicts resolved using a combination of literature search, synteny analysis,

and sequence homology analysis (two-way protein BLAST). When human genes were

present on the list compiled by Schoggins *et al.* (30), they were labelled as ISGs. If absent

from the list, gene names were further queried on the Interferome website

(http://www.interferome.org/interferome/search/showSearch.jspx) which compiles the

results of many transcriptomic studies on human and mouse samples after IFN stimulation

(31). We postulated that human genes present in Interferome could be considered as ISG

when being significantly induced at least 2-fold with a stimulation for no more 12 hours by

type I IFN in at least 4 datasets.

qRTPCR

RNA was extracted from individual larvae using RNeasy® Mini Kit (Qiagen). cDNA was

obtained using M-MLV H- reverse-transcriptase (Promega) with a dT17 primer. Quantitative

PCR was then performed on an ABI7300 thermocycler (Applied Biosystems) using Takyon™

ROX SYBR© 2x MasterMix (Eurogentec) in a final volume of 25 µl. The following pairs of

primers were used: *ef1a* (housekeeping gene used for normalization): 5'-

GCTGATCGTTGGAGTCAACA-3' and 5'-ACAGACTTGACCTCAGTGGT-3'; *mxa*: 5'-

GACCGTCTCTGATGTGGTTA-3' and 5'-GCATGCTTTAGACTCTGGCT-3'; *ddx58*: 5'-

ACGCCGGAGAAAGAATTTTTC-3' and 5'-TCGACAGACTCTCGATGTTG-3'; *aqp9a*: 5'-

CTGTACTACGACGCCTTCAT -3' and 5'-GAGAATACAGAGCACCAGCA -3'.

Results

RNAseq analysis of IFNφ1-regulated genes

To make an inventory of zebrafish ISGs, we first injected 3dpf larvae with recombinant zebrafish IFNφ1, the first type I IFN to be identified in zebrafish, or BSA as a negative control. Based on preliminary kinetic experiments, we chose 6 hours post injection as the early plateau phase of ISG expression (Figure S1A). RNA was extracted from multiple pools of ten larvae and subjected to deep sequencing using an Illumina-based platform sequencing. Reads were mapped to zebrafish genome (zv10), and the differential analysis performed using the DESeq package.

Choosing as cutoff values adjusted *p* values <5% and fold-change (FC) >2, we identified 360 IFNφ1 up-regulated genes (which are ISGs, by definition) and 75 down-regulated genes (Table S1). As expected, genes with high basal expression levels tended to display lower fold-change (Figure 1A). The top IFNφ1-upregulated genes (with FC >100) comprised many well-known ISGs, many previously used as IFN signature genes in zebrafish, including several *mx* genes, *rsad2, cmpk2*, several *ifit* genes, the ubiquitin-like *isg15*, the helicase *dhx58* (aka *lgp2*), the kinase *pkz*, the transcription factor *stat1b*, and the chemokine *ccl19a.2* (Figure 1B). To our surprise, *ddx58* (encoding RIG-I), a well-known and conserved ISG (33), was not found in that list. In fact, the gene model is missing on the zebrafish reference genome, with only fragments of the sequence present in the assembly. Therefore, we performed qRT-PCR for *ddx58* and confirmed that it is induced by IFNφ1 (Figure S1B). We searched the list of zebrafish orthologues of human ISGs (26) for more genes not annotated on the reference genome and found only one besides *ddx58*: *aqp9a*. By qRT-PCR, this gene

appeared to be moderately (0.75 fold) downregulated by IFNφ1 (Figure S1B), and thus was

not an ISG.

Among the 360 zebrafish ISGs identified by RNAseq, 23 corresponded to non-coding

ISGs or transposons with no clear homologues in mammals, and were excluded from further

phylogenetic analyses.

Gene ontology (GO) analysis was performed using David and Gorilla, and showed, as

expected, that IFNφ1 upregulated genes were strongly enriched in genes linked to "antiviral

response", "type I interferon pathway" and "antigen processing and presentation" (not

shown). Similarly, enrichment analyses identified KEGG pathways for Influenza, Measles and

Herpes simplex infection as well as RIG-I signaling and cytosolic DNA sensing pathways. The

list of downregulated genes was not found associated with any particularly notable function

in these analyses.

Human orthologues of zebrafish ISGs are enriched in ISGs

We then searched for the human orthologues of the 337 identified protein-coding

zebrafish ISGs (Table S2). All types of orthology relationships between zebrafish and human

were observed, from none to "many-to-many". One-to-one orthology was found for 77

genes (Figure 1C). We identified one or several human orthologues for 200 zebrafish ISGs.

This proportion (200/337, 59%) is significantly lower than the 71% reported for the whole

genome (29) (Fisher's exact test, $p < 0.0001$).

We then searched which of these human genes were themselves ISGs. We found 61

ISGs present in the list of 446 human ISGs compiled by Schoggins et al. (30); by querying the

Interferome database (31), we identified 11 additional human ISGs (Table S2). In total, 97

zebrafish IFNφ1-inducible genes were orthologous to at least one human ISGs (Figure 1C). In

addition, we identified a handful of genes that were not true orthologues, but shared

ancestry with a human ISG at the vertebrate level, such as MHC class I genes (see comments

on Table S2).

As expected, human orthologues of zebrafish ISGs were strongly enriched in ISGs:

while there are 446 human ISGs out of 20454 genes in the genome (i.e., 2%), we found 72

ISGs among the 196 human orthologues to zebrafish ISGs (i.e., 37%) (Fisher's exact test, *p<*

0.0001). Interestingly, FC values of zebrafish ISGs were higher when they were orthologous

to a human ISG than when their orthologues were not ISGs (red vs blue on Figure 1C-D),

while FCs of zebrafish ISGs without human orthologues (grey on Figure 1C-D) were

intermediate (mean values, 127.7, 10.6 and 46.9, respectively; all groups significantly

different from each other, p<0.001, Kruskal-Wallis test). Thus, inducibility by type I IFNs is

often evolutionary conserved, making it possible to infer an ancestral set of ISGs.

Fish-specific ISG genes and families

Consistent with the expected high rate of duplication and divergence of ISGs, a

significant proportion of zebrafish IFNφ1-up-regulated protein-coding genes had no

identifiable orthologue in the human genome (137/337; 41%). Interestingly, but not unlike

genes with human orthologues, many of these genes belonged to multigenic families. We

show on Figure 2 the fish-specific gene families that contain several zebrafish ISGs, with

domains identified by the SMART tool (34).

The genes listed on Figure 2 included more than 20 *fintrim (ftr)* genes, a family

identified first as virus-inducible genes in rainbow trout (13), highly diversified in zebrafish,

and hypothesized to antagonize retroviruses (22). Of note, besides finTRIM, there are two

other large TRIM gene expansions in zebrafish, each with a single human orthologue of

unknown function (35). The *btr* (bloodthirsty-like TRIMs), related to human TRIM39, include

several ISGs. By contrast, no member of the TRIM35-like family was upregulated by IFNφ1.

Another family had been described as virus-inducible in fish: *gig2* (GCRV-induced

gene 2) genes (23). *gig2* genes are distantly related to the PARP family (24), which include

several ISGs in humans and zebrafish. The zebrafish *gig2p* and *gig2o* genes are induced by

IFNφ1.

To our knowledge, the genes in the remaining fish-specific families had not previously

been described to be interferon- or virus-inducible. These families are diverse, encoding

proteins expected to be membrane receptors, and presumably secreted, nuclear, or

cytosolic proteins (Figure 2).

Eight members of the very large NLR family were ISGs. These genes belong to groups

1, 2, 3 and 4 as defined in (36), and two of them belong to a fish specific subset defined by

the presence of a C-terminal B30.2 (or PRY-SPRY) domain (37, 38), which is most similar to

the corresponding domain of finTRIM genes (22). The specific function(s) of zebrafish NLR

genes remain poorly understood, but this highly expanded family may be central for

inflammatory mechanisms.

Additionally, 3 ISGs corresponded to membrane proteins with two immunoglobulin

(Ig) domains and a transmembrane region but not ITAM or ITIM (immunoreceptor tyrosine-

based activating/inhibiting motif). These genes belong to a very large family with 140

members, which we propose to name f2Ig (fish genes with two Ig domains).

RNAseq analysis of CHIKV-induced genes

Experimental infection of zebrafish larvae with chikungunya virus (CHIKV) induces a

strong type I IFN response (28). Our previous microarray-based analysis indicated that the

response to CHIKV was dominated by ISGs (26). However, to allow comparison with another

virus with slower IFN induction kinetics, this analysis had been performed at 48 hours post

infection (hpi), while the peak of the IFN and ISG response, as determined by qRT-PCR, is at

24 hpi (26). Therefore, we re-analyzed here the transcriptome of CHIKV-infected larvae at

24 hpi using deep RNA sequencing. Choosing the same cutoff values as for the IFNφ1

analysis, we identified 466 CHIKV up-regulated genes and 26 down-regulated genes (Table

S3). Hundreds of new CHIKV-inducible genes were identified, either because they were

absent from the microarray, or because their induction were below the cutoff of the first

analysis. Among the genes significantly upregulated in the microarray study, all those with a

human ISG orthologue were also upregulated in this new dataset, and, as expected, typically

much more (Figure S2).

About half of genes induced by IFNφ1 were also induced by the viral infection

(181/360 Figure 3A; Table S3, yellow), including almost all (84 out of 97) genes orthologous

to a human ISG, such as *mxa, b* and *e, stat1a* and *b; stat2; rasd2, isg15*, etc. There was a

clear correlation of the FC values for genes induced by both IFNφ1 and CHIKV (Figure 3B).

However, almost two thirds of the genes induced by CHIKV infection were not significantly

modulated by IFNφ1 (285/466; Figure 3A). We then asked whether this CHIKV-specific

response could correspond essentially to genes for which there was weak induction by

recombinant IFNφ1, below our arbitrary cutoff. We therefore extracted from this list genes

induced by IFNφ1 with FC>1.5 and with an adjusted *p* value<20%, and we found 66 genes

matching these conditions (Table S3, green): 21 genes without annotation and 45 annotated

genes, many of which were notoriously linked to the type I IFN system. These genes notably

comprised *crfb1*, encoding a type I IFN receptor subunit, and two other cytokine receptors

il10Ra and *il13Ra*; four chemokines (*ccl34, cxcl11.6, cxc18b* and *cxc20*); ten additional *fintrim*

and 3 other members of the *gig2* family; and two *irf* transcription factors (2 and 10). It also

includes the metalloreductase *steap3*, whose mammalian orthologue is not an ISG, but

regulates type I IFN response, CXCL10 induction and iron homeostasis in mouse

macrophages (39).

Besides this intermediate gene set, a conservative list of 219 genes seems to be up-

regulated only by the virus (FC>2 and adjusted *p* value <5%), independently of IFNφ1 (FC<1.5

or adjusted *p* value >20%) (Table S3, blue; Figure 3C). This list contains 105 genes without

annotation, but also several functional modules providing interesting insights on the virus-

host interactions. Functional analysis using DAVID identified 6 enriched KEGG pathways,

namely Cytokine-cytokine receptor interaction, Cytosolic DNA-sensing, Toll-like receptor

signaling, RIG-I-like receptor signaling, Proteasome, Herpes simplex infection.

Importantly, type I IFNs were induced by the infection. Consistent with our previous report

with another virus (10), *ifnphi1* and *ifnphi3* were clearly dominant at this larval stage, with

58±3 and 47±11 reads respectively, compared with 9±4 reads for *ifnphi2*, and none detected

for *ifnphi4*. Two pro-inflammatory cytokines *il1b* and *tnfb* were also upregulated. Among

typical sensors, *tlr3, mb21d1* (encoding cGAS) and its downstream adaptor *tmem173*

(encoding STING), and several kinases of the IFN signaling pathways (*ripk1, tbk1*) were

present. Seven proteasome subunits are induced by the virus, suggesting activation of

protein degradation and Ag presentation pathways. The complement pathway also stands

out as an important module upregulated by CHIKV infection: twelve complement

component genes (*c1, c2*, several *c3, c7; c9; cfB; cfhl-1,-3* and *-5*) were induced by CHIKV,

suggesting that it is an important defense triggered in a Type I IFN independent manner.

Additionally, this response comprises 3 metalloaminopeptidases (*anpepb, erap1b* and *2*); the

myeloid markers *ncf1, mpx* and *marco*; 2 guanylate binding proteins (*gbp1* and *2*) that have

well known orthologues in human; the transcription factors *atf3* and *irf1b*, and with a high

level of expression, the enzyme *rnasel3* (an orthologue of human RNASE4, not of RNASEL, an

ISG with no fish counterpart). Nine *fintrim* and 3 *btr* can also be noted, underscoring the

importance of these TRIM with PRY/SPRY domains in virus host interactions altogether.

Thus, CHIKV induces a typical IFN-stimulated response of high magnitude, but also a broader

and less overt inflammatory response.

IFN receptor dependence of the response to CHIKV

To test the IFN-dependence of the response to CHIKV, we used morpholinos to knock down

in zebrafish larvae *crfb1* and *crfb2* which encode specific chains of the two types of type I IFN

receptors of zebrafish (10). We previously showed that such IFNR morphant larvae are

hypersusceptible to CHIKV infection, dying 2 to 3 days after virus injection (28). We analyzed

by deep RNAseq their transcriptional response to CHIKV at 24 hours post-inoculation, and

compared it to that of control morphant larvae. Choosing as cutoff values adjusted *p* values

<5% and a ratio between IFN-R morphants and controls >2, we identified 187 genes for

which induction was dampened by IFNR knockdown, and 10 genes that were upregulated in

morphants (Table S4). Among CHIKV-induced genes (Table S3), 181 were IFNR-dependent,

representing a significant fraction (181/466; 39%) (Figure 3A). Predictably, the list of genes

upregulated by CHIKV in a IFNR-dependent manner largely - but not fully - overlapped with

the gene set induced by recombinant IFNφ1 (129/181; 71%, see Figure 3A). This approach

led us to classify 52 new zebrafish genes as ISGs, being induced by CHIKV in an IFNR-

dependent manner, even if they were not significantly induced by recombinant IFNφ1. As

previously, we searched the human orthologues of these additional ISGs (Table S2, bottom),

identifying a few more human ISGs in this list, such as cGAS, NLRC5 or IFI35.

Together, our results provide a near-exhaustive list of zebrafish ISGs at the larval stage,

identified by two independent approaches, and a useful reference for future studies.

Ancestral ISGs

Assuming that the common ancestor of genes that are IFN-inducible in both human and

zebrafish was itself an ISG in their last common ancestor ~450 My ago, we can define a list of

ancestral ISGs. We identified 66 orthology groups that included an ISG on both the human

and the zebrafish sides (Table I, Table S5). A few more ancestral ISGs were also defined by

pairs of ISGs with orthology relationships at the early vertebrate or gnathostome level –

meaning that the zebrafish gene is not directly orthologous to a human ISG, but is

paralogous (with an ancestral taxonomy level labelled in Ensembl as "vertebrates" or "jawed

vertebrates") to another gene itself orthologous to a human ISG. In total, our list includes 72

ancestral genes (Table I, Figure 4A).

Based on our orthology analysis, we propose new, more explicit names for many of the

zebrafish ISGs with known human orthologues (in red on Table S5). This ancestral ISG core

includes most ISGs with known functions. The IFN system of 450My ago seems fairly similar

to the present one, particularly in its signaling components (Figure 4). Many ancestral genes

have been duplicated independently in one or both lineages (Table S5), in addition to

multiple ISGs apparently gained by either group (Figure 5).

IFN-downregulated genes

Two of the most strongly IFNφ1-downregulated genes (Table S1, bottom) were orthologous

to human genes downregulated by type I IFNs, according to the Interferome database: *plin1*

(perilipin 1) and *acox1* (palmytoil acyl-CoA oxidase 1). This suggests that downregulation of

fatty acid oxidation pathway is an ancient feature of the IFN system.

Many IFNφ1-downregulated genes were orthologous to a human gene in a 1-to-2 manner,

with the two zebrafish paralogues having arisen during the teleost specific whole genome

duplication (ohnologues). Systematically, only one of the two paralogues was

downregulated.

Remarkably, no gene was downregulated by both IFNφ1 injection and CHIKV infection

(Figure 3b, Table S3).

Discussion

The zebrafish has become an important model to study host-pathogen interactions, particularly at its early life stages which are the most prone to live imaging and genetically tractable. Although its antiviral interferon genes and receptors are now well identified, knowledge of IFN-induced genes, or ISGs, was only partial. In this work, we used deep sequencing to characterize the transcriptomic response of the 3dpf zebrafish larva to recombinant IFNφ1, the first type I IFN identified in zebrafish and the most highly inducible one. We analyzed in parallel the response to an alphavirus inducing a strong type I IFN induction, ant the impact of IFN receptor knock-down on this response. From these different datasets, we established a comprehensive list of zebrafish ISGs. This list was compared to the human ISG repertoire, and a phylogenetic analysis was performed to approach the ancestral ISG repertoire of early vertebrates.

1. New insights and limitations of the work

A number of studies have identified genes induced by IFN or viral infections in fish (reviewed in (7)). However, very few global descriptions after treatment with recombinant type I IFN have been reported, using micro-arrays (19). Micro-array analyses are limited by probe choice, and are typically biased towards genes with known human homologues. RNAseq, by contrast, is mainly limited by the genome annotation quality and by the analysis method, and can be reanalyzed; this approach is thus more complete. Since the early zebrafish larva constitutes a reference model for investigating innate immune response, drug screening as well as for modelling diseases, we undertook a comprehensive description of the repertoire of ISG up-regulated at this developmental stage. Importantly, we previously reported a clear

transcriptional response of zebrafish embryos to IFNφ1 as early as 24 hpf (Levraud et al.

2007); the responsiveness to type I IFNs is thus already well established at 3 dpf. We are

aware that cells present in adult but not yet in larvae, notably those of the adaptive immune

system such as lymphocytes and dendritic cells may express additional ISGs, which should be

assessed in further work.

There are two groups of type I IFNs in teleost fish (40) with two different receptors (10). This

study only addresses the ISG repertoire induced by IFNφ1 (a group 1 IFN) and it is possible

that group 2 IFNs (IFNφ2 and IFNφ3) induce a different ISG subset. Determining this will

require more studies; however, since CHIKV induces both IFNφ1 and IFNφ3 while *crfb1&2*

morpholinos target receptors for both type I IFN groups, IFNφ3-only induced ISGs should

therefore be found among CHIKV-induced, IFNR-dependent, but non IFNφ1-induced genes.

Such genes (listed on Table S2, bottom) constituted about 30% of genes for which induction

by CHIKV was impacted in morphants – and only about 15% if one also excludes genes for

which induction by IFNφ1 is almost significant (Figure 3A and C). A previous report by López-

Muñoz *et al* suggests differences in ISG induction, notably in kinetics, by different IFNφs (20).

2. Comparative and phylogenetic analysis of zebrafish ISGs

Our comparative and phylogenetic approach led to a tentative reconstruction of the

ISG repertoire of the last common ancestor of teleosts and tetrapods (LCATT) that lived

~450My ago and probably resembled the fossil osteichtyan *Ligulalepis* (41). To do so, we

looked for human (co-)orthologue(s) of all zebrafish ISGs identified in our analysis. Based on

available data compilations (30, 31), we then determined which one(s) of these human

orthologues were themselves induced by type I IFN. In such cases, we considered that they

most likely originated from an "ancestral" ISG, present in the LCATT. It is generally believed

that the type I IFN system emerged during the early evolution of jawed vertebrates, since

Chondrichtyans (rays, sharks and chimeras) but not Agnathans (lampreys and hagfish)

possess typical type I IFN genes (4, 42). Hence, it is important to note that the IFN system

had already evolved, expanded and standardized for more than 50My before our last

common ancestor with zebrafish.

Approximately half of what we defined as ancestral ISGs are represented by 1-to-1

orthologues in zebrafish and human (Table S5, top rows) – a situation of practical interest, as

the likelihood of conservation of gene function is highest in this case. These are either

isolated genes (e.g. *RSAD2*, *ISG15* or *cGAS*), or members of "old" families already stabilized in

the LCATT (e.g., *IRF7* and *IRF9*) (26). The situation is relatively similar for a few ancestral

genes such as *STAT1* or *SOCS1*, with one human orthologue and two zebrafish co-

orthologues that arose during the teleost-specific whole genome duplication and were

retained. In contrast, many other "young" families have clearly been subjected to further

duplication during later evolution of fish or tetrapods, leading to orthology groups

containing multiple ISG both in zebrafish and human, the most spectacular examples being

the *ISG12*, *IFIT* and *IFI44* families.

The frequency of orthology with a human gene is lower for ISGs (59%) than for the entire

genome (71%). This is probably a consequence of the stronger evolutionary pressure of

genes involved in the arms race with pathogens, as postulated by the Red Queen hypothesis

(43). Similar mechanisms also explain the frequent and extensive gene duplications, as well

as gene losses if some virus disappears, removing the corresponding selective pressure on a

given ISG. Possibly, a greater diversity of aquatic viruses could further favor ISG retention

and divergence after duplication, but few direct evidences are available.

In addition to the ancestral genes with true zebrafish and human orthologues, we added to

this list a few genes with a more complex history, with a human and zebrafish ISGs that

shared an ancestor at the basal vertebrate level (Table I and Table S5, bottom). These

ancestral genes must have been duplicated in the LCATT genome; the teleost and tetrapod

lineages then retained distinct paralogues. This comprises some genes whose evolutionary

history is extremely difficult to trace due to multiple copies and extensive polymorphism,

such as MHC class I genes. Here, only *mhc1zba* was found to be a zebrafish ISG, but this does

not necessarily imply that other zebrafish MHC class I genes are not ISGs, as they may have

been missed due to mapping issues; the strain we used (AB) is not the same as the one of

the reference genome (Tü), and strain-specific divergences are considerable between strains

for MHC class I, with deep evolutionary roots (44). Importantly, we did not define ancestral

ISGs for zebrafish-human ISG pairs that appeared to be related at first glance, but, upon

further analysis, were too distant; for example, zebrafish *vamp5* and human *VAMP8* are

both ISGs, but share their last common ancestor at the Opistokontha level, before the split

of fungi and animals, very long before the emergence of IFNs.

Nevertheless, the type I IFN system also includes very old genes that were already present in

basal metazoans. The RNAseL/OAS module is a good example of such cases, being found

across metazoans from mammals to sponges (45) - but lost in the fish branch. Another

striking example is the cGAS-STING module recently identified in cnidaria (46). The

implication of these genes in the antiviral immunity of basal branches of animals is unknown

but certainly worth investigating. The main models for invertebrate immunity are flies and

mosquitoes but they largely rely on RNAi mechanisms to contain viruses (3). Central

signaling modules of the vertebrate IFN system such as TLR/NFκB and JAK/STAT, are also

present in insects and in more distant metazoans, but they induce different set of genes with

other functions (47).

Additionally, a few important genes do not meet our criteria for "ancestral" ISG because

they are not typically inducible either in zebrafish or in human (Figure 5). For example, *irf3* is

an ISG in fish but not in human, while it is the reverse for *JAK2*. Hence, our list of ancestral

ISG is likely not complete, but it provides a core repertoire pointing to most fundamental

factors of the vertebrate innate antiviral arsenal.

A relatively large number of ISGs have no orthologue in the other lineage, such as human

APOBEC3, RNASEL, OAS, AIM2 (Figure 5). Similarly, many fish-specific ISG likely have been

co-opted by the IFN pathway during fish evolution. In this case, they do not have clear

orthologues in human and other tetrapods (as for finTRIMs and nlr-B30.2), or their

orthologue(s) have no link with the type I IFN system. The finTRIM family contains the

largest number of zebrafish ISGs of any family, ancestral or not. Interestingly, ISGs are found

only among the recently diversified, species-specific finTRIMs; the most basal members

(*ftr82-84*), well-conserved among fish, were not found here to be induced by IFNφ1 or by

CHIKV, consistent with previous studies (48). Nevertheless, *ftr83* appears to mediate

protection especially in the gill region by stimulating local *ifnphi1* expression (49). The

diversity and evolution under positive selection of the IFN-inducible finTRIMs evoke viral

recognition (22), yet their functions remain unclear.

The co-optation of new genes in the ISG repertoire may be operated quickly and in a group-

specific manner, by introduction of sequence motifs in the regulatory sequences, for

example via retroviral insertion (50, 51). However, we cannot exclude that these branch-

specific ISGs are in fact ancestral, but lost in one of the two lineages; this is the case for *Gig2*

genes, which are present in the Coelacanth genome as well as in fish, and thus were lost in

tetrapods. Thus, our repertoire of ancestral ISGs is underestimated because we cannot

include the lineage-specific losses.

Do ancestral ISGs identified here define a minimal but complete set of response elements

from recognition to elimination of invading viruses? Probably not, as this ancestral core

group of ISGs was backed up by more ISGs is any species, including the LCATT. For example,

the absence of the well-known OAS/RNAseL module genes in fish (and therefore in our list of

conserved ancestral ISGs) is puzzling, and one could predict that other fish genes have taken

over similar functions. Similarly, APOBEC3 genes are absent in fish, and maybe their RNA-

editing mechanisms are mediated by other genes, possibly by ADAR1.

Ancestral ISGs encode very diverse proteins in localization and function (Figure 4). We

provide an extended discussion of their classification below.

4. Characterization of the IFN independent response to CHIKV infection

Knowing the repertoire of ISG also offers the possibility to identify genes that are induced by

viral infection independently of the type I IFN pathway. While a subset of ISGs can be

induced via IFN-dependent and -independent pathways in human and fish - for example

rsad2 (12). Thus, IRF3 dependent, type I IFN independent induction of many ISG by particular

viruses has been described (52).

However, about half of the genes upregulated by CHIKV were not induced by IFNφ1

injection, and most were not affected by IFNR knockdown. Notably, three gene sets stand

out in this list: (1) components of the complement cascade, that are known to play a role in

antiviral defense; (2) cytokines including some CC and CXC chemokines as well as the type I

IFN themselves, which do not appear to be strongly auto/cross inducible and (3) many *btr*

and *ftr* TRIM E3 ligases as well as multiple proteasome components. Interestingly too, *irf1b*,

the zebrafish orthologue of IRF1 (a human ISG), is CHIKV-inducible, but not in a IFNR-

dependent manner – consistent with previous work (26) - and was not induced by IFNφ1.

Many other genes of unknown function also share the same induction pattern, and would

certainly be worth investigating. A strong redundancy of antiviral pathways has certainly

been selected during evolution, since viruses have developed multiple strategies of immune

subversion.

Contrary to what was observed with upregulated genes, there was no overlap between gene

sets downregulated by IFNφ1 and by CHIKV. This remarkable difference could be due to the

alternative inflammatory response induced by the virus besides type I IFNs, or to kinetic

differences.

5. Classification of ancestral ISGs

The ancestral ISG presented in Table I can be classified based on molecular functions:

sensors, transcription factors and other signal transduction factors, secreted factors,

enzymes including ubiquitination factors, and membrane receptors, which we discuss below.

The antiviral mechanisms described in human or in other mammalian systems also provide

hints about the likely conserved mode of action of these factors.

Transcription factors.

Many members of the list appear to have DNA binding capacity and may be classified as

transcription factors.

* Three IRF (3, 7, 9) and two STAT(1, 2) constitute fundamental components of the type I

pathway signaling, and were already present in the LCA of fish and mammals.

* BATF2 is a member of the AP-1/ATF family transcription factors that controls the

differentiation of immune cells and play key regulatory roles in immune responses. BATF2

promotes TLR7-induced Th1 responses (53).

* SP100 is a tumor suppressor and a major constituent of the PML bodies controlling

transcription and/or chromatin conformation.

* HELZ2 is a helicase that acts as a transcriptional coactivator for a number of nuclear

receptors, including AHR, a nuclear receptor regulating lipid metabolism and the

susceptibility to dengue virus (54).

* transcription coactivators. PARPs can act as transcriptional co-activators and potentiate

induction of many ISG (55). The multiple *ifi44* zebrafish genes counts 7 ISG among 19

members, but their two human co-orthologues are induced by type I IFN. Located in the

nucleus, IFI44 binds and blocks the HIV1 LTR promoter (56). However, the numerous

zebrafish *ifi44* probably have sub-functionalized, and mediate multiple antiviral mechanisms.

Sensors and related genes.

The helicases RIG-I, LPGP2 and IFIH1 (aka MDA5) stand as primary ISGs encoding viral

sensors. Besides, as a cytoplasmic helicase HELZ2 might also play a sensor role. In keeping

with this, TREX proteins have a 3'-to-5' DNA exonuclease activity that is important to block

the sting-dependent initiation of IFN responses by DNA fragments from endogenous

retroviruses and elements (57).

Enzymes.

Besides transcription factors, enzymes are the most important category of ancestral ISG.

They may play a role in signaling or have a direct antiviral activity.

* Poly-ADP-ribose polymerase (PARP) are involved in many cellular processes, from

regulation of chromatin conformation to transcription control, and several PARP also are

induced by infection and inflammation. PARP are represented by *parp9*, *parp*12 and *parp*14

among ancestral ISG. Strikingly, these three PARP are part of a nuclear complex, with the E3

ubiquitin ligase encoded by *dtx3l* that is also an ancestral ISG that promoting RNA Pol II

recruitment at IRF3-dependent promoters (55). Our data showing that key components of

this complex are part of the essential type I IFN system underscore its importance in the core

antiviral response. Besides, other activities of PARP may be involved in antiviral mechanisms;

for example PARP12 mediates ADP-ribosylation of Zika virus NS1 and NS3, leading to their

degradation by the proteasome (58). The ADP-ribo-hydrolase encoded by the Chikungunya

virus, that is required for its virulence, is another hint of the central importance of these

enzymes in antiviral defense (59).

* Several E3 Ubiquitin ligases were found among ancestral ISG, including *trim25, usp18,*

rnf114, dtx3l. The mechanisms through which they exert antiviral activity or regulate the

response are not fully resolved. The critical role of *trim25* in RIGI activation, and its capacity

of ISGylation (60) have been well documented in fish and mammals. *isg15*, an ubiquitin like

protein, is also an ancestral ISG playing a central role in the type I IFN pathway in fish and

mammals (7, 60) via multiple mechanisms.

* The pro-apoptotic caspase *casp7* possess type I IFN induced orthologues in zebrafish and

human. Interestingly, ancestral ISG also comprise *pmaip1* that promotes caspase activation

and apoptosis via modifications of the mitochondrial membrane, and *xiaf1*, a negative

regulator of members of inhibitor of apoptosis proteins. Taken together, these observations

indicate that the ancestral type I IFN system comprised a pro-apoptotic module.

* The pro-inflammatory caspase *casp1*, is also an ancestral ISG, as is *pycard* which encodes

ASC, the major scaffold protein of the canonical inflammasome. Induction of the

inflammasome is thus an ancestral property of the IFN response. Many upstream sensors of

the inflammasome are IFN-inducible, but they are generally divergent in the two lineages,

nlrc5 being the only ancestral ISG.

* *Rsad2* (aka *viperin*) is an enzyme with a direct antiviral function, that catalyzes the

conversion of CTP to a completely new ribonucleoside, the 3'-deoxy-3',4'-didehydro-CTP

(ddhCTP) acting as a terminator of RNA synthesis (61). Interestingly, both ancestral ISG *rsad2*

and the nucleotide modifier *cpmk2* are located very close to each other in the genome in

fish as well as in mammals; likely forming a conserved functional antiviral unit.

* Adenosine deaminases acting on double-stranded RNA (ADARs) deaminate adenosine to

produce inosine in double-stranded RNA structures, regulating the inflammation induced by

such molecules (62). Accordingly, loss of function of *adar* in zebrafish larvae leads to brain

inflammation in a model of Aicardi-Goutières syndrome, suggesting a key regulatory role of

this gene during type I IFN response (63).

* Protein Kinase R (PKR, encoded by *eif2ak2*) is activated by dsRNA (and thus could have

been listed above as a sensor), leading phosphorylation of EIF2α, and to inhibition of protein

synthesis and viral replication. Many viruses encode PKR inhibitors of this cornerstone

antiviral factor that also affects transcription factors like IRF1, STATs, and NF-kappaB and

upregulates many genes including *β2microglobulin* and *isg15* (64). Interestingly, the other

ancestral ISG *epsti1* can activate PKR promoters and induce PKR-dependent genes in human

(65), questioning whether *pkr* and *epsti1* may have been functionally coupled from the

LCATT. Fish possess a lineage specific paralogue of PKR called PKZ, which detects Z-DNA (66).

Secreted factors.

* In humans and mice, ccl19 is implicated in lymphocyte migration and is important to

define compartments within lymphoid tissues. In rainbow trout, one of the six ccl19

paralogues present in the genome participate to antiviral immunity though promotion of

mucosal and central CD8+ T cell response (67).

* Some of the fish homologues of murine and human IFN inducible CXC chemokines – ie,

CXCL9-11, which bind CXCR3, a receptor expressed by various leukocyte, including some T

cells, macrophages, and dendritic cell subsets – are also up-regulated by IFNφ in zebrafish

larvae. These genes have been largely expanded in fish, and two lineages of CXCL11 have

been recently distinguished, both closely related to the mammalian CXCL9-11 (68, 69). The

up-regulated *cxcl11.3* (aka *cxc66* or *cxcl11ac*) identified in this work belongs to the lineage

1. The zebrafish has three *cxcr3* paralogues, and receptor-ligand binding, tested for three

other zebrafish cxcl11 ligands, does not follow ligand lineage (70), so the receptor(s) of this

ISG remains to be identified experimentally.

* Another soluble factor up-regulated by type I IFN and viral infection in fish is galectin9 (this

work, and (13)). In mammals, Galectin9 is involved in multiple mechanisms of antiviral

immunity. For example, it is a potent factor against HCMV because it blocks the entry of the

virus in target cells (71). Galectin9 can also regulates HIV transcription, and induces the

expression of the deaminase APOBEC3G, a potent antiviral factor (72). Besides, the galectin-

9 receptor TIM3 is implicated in the control of Th1 cells (73).

Membrane proteins

* While zebrafish and human *mhc class I* are not direct orthologues, *mhc class I* genes are in

the list, with *β2microglobulin* and the peptide transporters *tap-1* and *tap-2*, as well as

homologues of TAPBP and proteasome subunits, indicating that this pathway is a

fundamental component of the type I IFN system.

* Other important membrane proteins in the list are tetraspanins of the CD9 family, that

regulate degranulation of myeloid subsets and secretion of cytokines, hence constitute key

players in inflammation (74).

* Zebrafish possess eight *isg12* genes located in tandem, of which six were highly inducible

by IFNφ1 and by CHIKV. Their human ISG orthologues IFI6 and IFI27 (aka ISG12A) are internal

membrane proteins stabilizing ER membrane and preventing the formation of flavivirus-

induced ER membrane invaginations (75) or destabilize mitochondrial membrane and

promote apoptosis (76). In fact, IFI27 can also recruit a E3 ubiquitin ligase and targets HCV

NS5 protein to degradation (77), illustrating the potential diversity of antiviral mechanisms

mediated by members of this family.

*APOL1 affects endocytosis and promotes an expansion of the lysosomal compartment,

favoring for example the degradation of the HIV-1 protein Vif (78).

ISG with unknown functions or unknown antiviral mechanisms

Even in human and mice, the basis of antiviral activity of certain ISGs remains completely

unknown. For example, the effects of PHF11, RNF114, or SAMD9 are elusive. In the latter, a

DNA/RNA-binding AlbA, a NTPase, and a OB domain with predicted RNA-binding properties

suggest a link with nucleic acid metabolism or sensing (79). These very old ISG with

counterparts found across Metazoa and even in procaryotes, are key restriction factors of

poxviruses (80).

6. Conclusions

Antiviral genes are well known to evolve very fast, as postulated by the Red Queen

hypothesis, under strong pressure from pathogens. This is indeed illustrated by the large

number of ISGs that are either fish- or mammal-specific. Nevertheless, our data define a

surprisingly stable set of core ISGs, that were apparently co-opted into the new IFN system

of early vertebrates about 500My ago, and have been maintained for the last 450My both in

fish and tetrapods. The full list of zebrafish ISG provides a powerful reference to characterize

the subtle interactions between viruses and the host response, including redundancy of

immune pathways and viral subversion mechanisms. It also constitutes a valuable resource

for the study of autoinflammatory disease using the emerging zebrafish model.

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Figure legends

Figure 1. Zebrafish larva transcriptional response to type I IFN (A) Fold change (FC)/basal

expression representation with all genes detected in the analysis. Basal expression was the

average of read numbers mapped onto a given gene in control (BSA-injected) larvae. FC is

the ratio of reads numbers in IFNφ1-injected larvae divided by basal expression. pVal

corresponds to adjusted p-Value. (B) FC/basal expression representation, limited to ISGs

identified in IFNφ1-injected larvae (e.g. red dots in panel A); key genes commented in the

text are indicated with gene families identified by different colors/symbols. (C) FC/basal

expression representation for zebrafish ISGs represented according to the type of orthology

with human genes, and if human orthologues include at least one human ISG. 1-to-1: single

zebrafish gene orthologous to single human gene. Other: other orthology relationships

between zebrafish and human genes (many-to-many, 1-to-many, many-to-1). Vertebrate:

zebrafish gene sharing a common ancestor with a human ISG at the basal or jawed

vertebrate level, but not orthologous. No orthologue: no orthology relationship with a

human gene, and no known common ancestor with human ISG at vertebrate level. Non-ISG:

orthologous human gene(s) do not include any ISG. (D) Fold change distribution for zebrafish

ISG with different types of orthology relationship to human genes, using the same color code

as in C but pooling genes with single and multiple human orthologues. Zebrafish ISGs with a

human ISG within a vertebrate-level orthology groupes were not included in this analysis.

Figure 2. Main families of fish-specific ISG and their domain organisation. Each panel show

the typical domain organization of a family of fish-specific ISGs (e.g., with no human

orthologue), as determined by SMART analysis (http://smart.embl-heidelberg.de/). The

accession numbers of IFNφ1-induced genes (FC>2, pVal<5%) and the fraction they represent

within the family are indicated. Vertical lines represent exon boudaries. Besides named

domains, boxes represent coiled-coil regions (grey), low complexity regsions (striped),

transmembrane domains (black), and leader peptides (white).

Figure 3. Comparison of ISG repertoires identified by IFNφ1 induction and by CHIKV

infection. (A) Venn analysis of genes up- or down-regulated in zebrafish larva by IFNφ1

treatment (IFNφ1), CHIKV infection (ChikV), and CHIKV infection in the context of type I IFN

receptor knock-down ("MoCrfb"). ISG are identified either by their responsiveness to IFNφ1

or by a CHIKV induction abolished in crfb1+2 morphants (venn diagram at the top). Genes

induced by CHIKV infection in an IFNφ1 independent way are analysed in the Venn diagram

at the bottom of the panel. (B) FC/FC representation of transcriptome response to IFNφ1

and CHIKV. Color code identifies genes significantly induced by IFNφ1 and/or CHIKV, and

genes which are significantly induced in one condition (FC>2, adj p val< 0.05) while almost

significantly induced in the other ("quasi Sig"; thresholds FC>1.5 and/or adj p value < 0.2).

(C) Venn analysis of genes significantly induced by IFNφ1 and/or CHIKV. Gene subsets

corresponding to genes induced quasi-significantly is represented within dotted lines.

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1013   **Figure 4. Graphic overview of the ancestral ISG repertoire**, organized by functional

1014   modules.

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1016   **Figure 5. Evolution of the ISG repertoire** since the LCATT (last common ancestor of

1017   Tetrapods and Teleosts). Genes names are given as examples, with no attempt to be

1018   exhaustive.

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Table 1. Orthology groups defining ancestral ISGs

ancestral gene	zebrafish	human
OSTEICHTYAN-LEVEL ORTHOLOGUES		
ADAR	adar	ADAR
AHNAK	ahnak	AHNAK
APOL	apol	APOL1, 2, 3, 6
B2M	b2m,b2ml	B2M
BATF2	batf2	BATF2
CASP1	caspb	CASP1, CASP4
CASP7	casp7	CASP7
CCL19	ccl19a.1, a.2	CCL19
CD40	cd40	CD40
cGAS	cgas	CGAS
CMPK2	cmpk2	CMPK2
CXCL11	cxcl11.3	CXCL11
DDX58 (RIGI)	ddx58	DDX58
DHX58 (LGP2)	dhx58	DHX58
DTX3L	dtx3lb1,2,3	DTX3L
EPSTI1	epsti1	EPSTI1
FAM111	fam111.1	FAM111A
FAS	fas	FAS
FPR	fpr	FPR2
GIMAP	gimapb1	GIMAP2
HELZ2	helz2a,b	HELZ2
HERC5/6	herc56.1, 2, 3, 4	HERC5, HERC6
IFI35	ifi35	IFI35
IFI44	ifi44a1, a5, c2, d, f3-6, g	IFI44, IFI44L
IFIH1 (MDA-5)	ifih1	IFIH1
IFIT	ifit8-12, 14-16	IFIT1-3, 5
IL4i1	il4i1	IL4I1
IRF7	irf7	IRF7
IRF9	irf9	IRF9
ISG12	isg12.1-4, 6-7	IFI6, IFI27
ISG15	isg15	ISG15
LGALS9	lgals9l1, 3	LGALS9, 9C
MOV10	mov10a, b.1, b.2	MOV10
MX	mxa, b, c, e	MX1, MX2
NAMPT	nampta, namptb	NAMPT
NCOA7	ncoa7a	NCOA7
NLRC5	nlrc5	NLRC5
OGFR	ogfrl1,2	OGFR
PARP12	parp12a,b	PARP12
PARP14	parp14a,c	PARP14
PARP9	parp9	PARP9
PHF11	phf11	PHF11
PKR	pkz, eif2ak2	EIF2AK2
PMAIP1	pmaip1	PMAIP1
PSMB8	psmb8a	PSMB8
PTMA	ptmaa	PTMA
PYCARD (ASC)	pycard	PYCARD
RARRES3	rarres3	RARRES3
RNF114	rfn114	RNF114
RNF213	rnf213a,b	RNF213
RSAD2	rsad2	RSAD2
SOCS1	socs1a,b	SOCS1
SP100	sp100.1, sp100.3, sp100.4	SP100, 110, 140, 140L
STAT1	stat1a,b	STAT1
STAT2	stat2	STAT2
TAP1	tap1	TAP1
TAP2	tap2a,t	TAP2
TDRD7	tdrd7b	TDRD7
TMEM173 (STING)	tmem173	TMEM173
TRAFD1	trafd1	TRAFD1
TREX	trex3	TREX1
TRIM25	trim25	TRIM25
UBA7	uba7	UBA7
USP18	usp18	USP18
XAF1	xaf1	XAF1
ZNFX1	znfx1	ZNFX1
VERTEBRATE-LEVEL ORTHOLOGUES		
CD9	cd9r	CD9
CDKN1	cdkn1d	CDKN1A
GJ	cx30.3	GJA4
MHC class I	mhc1zba	HLA-A, -B, -C
SAMD9	samd9r	SAMD9
TABPB	tapbpr1, tapbpr2	TAPBP

Orthology groups that include ISGs in both zebrafish and human, and therefore define an ancestral ISG in their common ancestor. Orthologous genes are produced by speciation (orthogenesis), by opposition to paralogous genes produced by duplication. Thus, an osteichtyan-level orthology group includes human and zebrafish genes with a direct ancestor in the LCATT. Vertebrate level orthologues share this ancestral gene at the basal or jawed vertebrate level. This is a condensed version of Table S5, which also includes non-IFN inducible genes which belong to the osteichtyan-level orthology groups, and provides Ensembl Gene IDs. In red, our gene re-naming proposals.

Figure 2. Domain organisation and main families of fish-specific ISG

LCATT

Conserved ISG

Ancestral ISG maintained in teleosts as

single copy:
rsad2, trim25, isg15, apol

or multiple paralogues:

ifi44, mx, isg2, herc5/6, sp100

Ancestral ISG maintained in tetrapods as

single copy:
RSAD2, TRIM25, ISG15

or multiple paralogues:

APOL, SP100, MX

Loss and gain of
ISG in fish or tetrapods

Genes present in teleosts and tetrapods but IFN-inducible only in teleosts

ctla4	*dram1*
il4r	*irf3*
nuggc	*rel, relb*
btr	*vamp8*
steap3	*casp3*

Loss or gain
of inducibility

Old genes present in teleosts and tetrapods but IFN-inducible only in tetrapods

GZMB	*GPX2*
IFNGR1	*IRF1*
JAK2	*JUNB*
MyD88	*OPTN*
SMAD3	*IFI30*

ISG present in teleosts, not in tetrapods

gig2
fintrim
fish specific nlr
fish 2-Ig domains
phospholipases
pkz

Gene loss or gene
gain either in fish or
in tetrapods

ISG present in tetrapods, not in teleosts

OAS	*DDX60*
APOBEC3	*IFNLR1*
CLEC4	*IL15 & IL15RA*
RNAseL	*ISG2*
IDO1	*AIM2/IFI16*
BST2	*TRIM5, 19, 21, 22*