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3   **TET1-DNA Hydroxymethylation Mediated Oligodendrocyte Homeostasis is**
4   **Required for CNS Myelination and Remyelination**
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Abstract

Ten-eleven translocation (TET) proteins, encoding dioxygenase for DNA hydroxymethylation, are important players in nervous system development and diseases. However, their role in oligodendrocyte homeostasis, myelination and remyelination remains elusive. Here, we detected a genome-wide and locus-specific DNA hydroxymethylation landscape shift during oligodendrocyte-progenitor (OPC) differentiation. Ablation of *Tet1*, but not *Tet3*, results in stage-dependent defects in oligodendrocyte development and myelination in the brain. The mice lacking *Tet1* in the oligodendrocyte lineage develop schizophrenia-like behaviors. We further show that TET1 is also required for proper remyelination after demyelination injury in the adult mice. Transcriptomic and DNA hydroxymethylation profiling revealed a critical TET1-regulated epigenetic program for oligodendrocyte differentiation and identified a set of TET1-5hmC target genes associated with myelination, cell division, and calcium transport. *Tet1*-deficient OPCs exhibited reduced calcium activity in response to stimulus in culture. Moreover, deletion of a TET1-5hmC target gene, *Itpr2*, an oligodendrocyte-enriched intracellular calcium-release channel, significantly impaired the onset of oligodendrocyte differentiation. Together, our results suggest that stage-specific TET1-mediated epigenetic programming and oligodendrocyte homeostasis is required for proper myelination and repair.

Keywords: DNA hydroxymethylation, TET dioxygenases, epigenetics, oligodendrocyte, differentiation, calcium transport, type 2 IP$_3$ receptor

Introduction

Myelination by oligodendrocytes (OLs) enables saltatory conduction of action potentials and provides long-term trophic support for axons, maintaining integrity throughout the central nervous system (CNS) [1]. The formation of mature myelinating OLs is a complex process that is tightly coordinated spatially and temporally by genetic and epigenetic events [2, 3]. Epigenetic regulation by DNA methylation, histone modification, and chromatin remodeling is critical for multiple aspects of OL development, function, and regeneration [4-6]. For instance, proper maintenance of genomic 5-methyl cytosine (5mC) is essential for normal development, homeostasis, and function of mammalian cells [7, 8]. Genetic ablation of *Dnmt1*, which encodes the DNA methyltransferase that maintains DNA methylation after replication, results in impaired OL precursor cell (OPC) expansion and differentiation during early development [9].

The modified nucleotide 5-hydroxymethylcytosine (5hmC) has been shown to be an intermediate product generated during cytosine demethylation [10, 11]. DNA demethylation, like methylation, is a highly regulated process. DNA demethylation is mediated by the Ten-Eleven Translocation (TET) family of dioxygenases. The TET enzymes oxidize 5mC into 5hmC to initiate the DNA demethylation process [11, 12]. Dynamic regulation of cytosine methylation or demethylation has been established as common epigenetic modification regulating various processes from development to diseases in a cell-type and context-dependent manner [13-15]. TET enzymes are present in OL lineage cells [16], and here we interrogated how DNA demethylation contributes to OL lineage development, myelination, and remyelination after injury.

In this study, we demonstrate that there is a genome-wide shift in 5hmC landscape during OL specification and identify an age-dependent function of TET1 in OL lineage development and homeostasis. The mice with *Tet1* deletion in OL lineage develop schizophrenia-like behaviors. In addition, we show that TET1-regulated epigenetic program is required for efficient remyelination as depletion of *Tet1* in OPCs impairs myelin recovery after demyelinating injury in adult animals. Moreover, *Tet1* depletion resulted in genome-wide alterations in 5hmC and transcriptomic profiles that are associated with OPC differentiation and myelination, as well as calcium transport. Ablation of Itpr2, one of the TET1-5hmC targets that responsible for calcium release from endoplasmic reticulum in the OL lineage significantly impairs oligodendrocyte differentiation. These data suggest that TET1 and DNA hydroxymethylation mediated transcriptional and epigenetic programming regulate oligodendrocyte homeostasis and are required for proper myelination and animal behaviors.

Results

Dynamic DNA hydroxymethylation landscape during OL lineage differentiation

To investigate the 5hmC landscape during the OL lineage transition, we carried out antibody-

based 5hmC immunoprecipitation combined with Illumina sequencing (hMeDIP-seq) [17, 18] and

analyzed 5hmC distribution across the genome. We compared the 5hmC distribution within OPCs

to that in neural progenitor cells (NPCs) [19] and identified 1237 genes that were specifically

hydroxymethylated in the promoter or transcription start site (TSS) regions of OPCs but not NPCs

(Fig. 1a). Gene ontology analysis revealed that these genes involved in OPC differentiation are

highly associated with terms such as cell projection organization, fatty acid transport, and

regulation of cytosolic calcium ion concentration and with signaling pathways that are essential

for OL development such as the G-protein coupled receptor pathway [20, 21] (Fig. 1b). Similarly,

gene set enrichment analysis (GSEA) for 5hmC peaks in the gene body regions indicated that

genes associated with bipotent progenitor, oligodendrocyte progenitor and postmitotic

oligodendrocyte were enriched in OPCs (Fig. 1c), while pluripotent stem cell associated genes

were enriched in NPCs (Fig. 1c). Comparison with a neural cell-type transcriptome dataset [22]

(Supplementary Fig. 1) showed that the 5hmC signals were higher in OPCs than NPCs, in gene

loci of OPC-associated genes, e.g. *Cspg4* (chondroitin sulfate proteoglycan 4) (Fig. 1d),

immature OL-associated genes, e.g. *Tmem141* (transmembrane protein 141) (Fig. 1e) and

mature OL-associated genes, e.g. *Mag* (myelin-associated glycoprotein) (Fig. 1f). In contrast, the

genes with 5hmC peaks enriched in NPCs were associated with negative regulation of OL

differentiation, such as *Id2 and Zfp28* (Fig. 1g). These data suggested a unique distribution

pattern of genomic 5hmCs in the gene loci associated with OL lineage progression during the

transition from NPCs to OPCs.

Deletion of *Tet1* in OL lineage causes myelination deficits at early postnatal stages

TET1-3 enzymes are present in OL lineage cells [16]. As TET2 had no detectable effects in OL

lineage development [23], we assessed the functions of TET1 and TET3 in OL development. We

crossed *Tet1*[f/f] mice [24] and *Tet3*[f/f] mice [18] with the *Olig1-Cre* line [25] to knockout the catalytic

domains of these TET enzymes early in OL lineage development (Fig. 2a and Supplementary

Fig. 2a). The resulting *Tet1*[flox/flox];*Olig1*Cre[+/-] (*Tet1* cKO) and *Tet3*[flox/flox];*Olig1*Cre[+/-] (*Tet3* cKO) mice

were born at Mendelian ratios and appeared normal at birth. We did not detect significant

differences in either the number of CC1[+] mature OLs or myelin protein expression between

heterozygous *Tet1* floxed mice (*Tet1*[flox/+];*Olig1*Cre[+/-]), *Cre* control (*Tet1*[+/+];*Olig1*Cre[+/-]), or wild-type

mice (Supplementary Fig. 3a-b). Therefore, heterozygous littermates were used as controls. To

assess Cre-mediated *Tet1* depletion, we quantified TET1 expression in OPCs from *Tet1* cKO and

control mice at P4. Immunostaining revealed that expression of TET1 in the corpus callosum was

significantly lower in *Tet1* cKO than control mice (Fig. 2b-c). TET1 levels were also decreased in

purified OPCs from *Tet1* cKO mice than from control mice assayed by quantitative real-time PCR

(Supplementary Fig. 3c).

To investigate the effects of TET1 on OL development in the brain, we examined the
expression of Sox10 (an OL lineage marker) and mature OL markers CC1 and MBP. The number
of CC1$^+$ mature OLs was significantly reduced in juvenile *Tet1* cKO mice compared to controls
(Fig. 2d-e), but this difference was not observed in P60 adults (Fig. 2e, Supplementary Fig. 4a).
Expression of MBP was also substantially decreased in both cortex (gray matter) and corpus
callosum (white matter) in *Tet1* cKO mice compared to controls at P16 (Fig. 2f), but the levels
were similar in adult animals (Supplementary Fig. 4a). These observations indicate that *Tet1* loss
causes a delay in OL maturation. Similar experiments in the *Tet3* cKO animals did not show any
significant differences between mutants and controls (Supplementary Fig. 2). Therefore, we
focused on examining the processes underlying the observed myelination defects in *Tet1* cKO
mice.

In addition, electron microscopy (EM) revealed that the number of myelinated axons was
significantly reduced in *Tet1* mutants compared to controls at both P14 optic nerves and P27
corpus callosum (Fig. 2g-h, j). Moreover, those myelinated axons in *Tet1* cKO mice were
characterized by higher G ratios and thinner myelin sheaths than those of control mice (Fig. 2i,
k). However, the myelin ultrastructure defects were not observed in P60 adult *Tet1* cKO animals
(Supplementary Fig. 4b-d). Together, these results suggest a stage-dependent function of TET1
in CNS myelination.

To evaluate the neurological significance of hypomyelination in *Tet1* cKO mice, we analyzed
stimulus-evoked compound action potential (CAP) in optic nerves as previously described [26, 27].
Suction electrodes back filled with artificial cerebrospinal fluid were used for stimulation and
recording. In *Tet1* mutants, both the peak amplitudes and the CAP areas, which are indexes of
excited myelinated axon numbers and nerve function [26, 27], were significantly lower than controls
under all stimulating currents tested (Fig. 2l-n). This observation indicates that hypomyelination
impairs action potential transduction in *Tet1* cKO mice.

Loss of TET1 function in OLs induces schizophrenia relevant behaviors in the animal
Multiple studies have associate TET-5hmC with psychiatric and cognitive disorders [28-30],
and multivariable logistic regression showed that ErbB4, BDNF and TET1 were independent
predictors for schizophrenia [31]. To gain insight into the physiological function of TET1 in animal
behaviors, *Tet1* cKO mice were subjected to behavior tests relevant to schizophrenia. *Tet1* cKO
mice did not exhibit differences in weight and whisker number in comparison with control
littermates.

First, we investigated the performance of juvenile *Tet1* mutant in Prepulse Inhibition (PPI) of
startle, which is a common test of sensorimotor gating ability for schizophrenia patients [32].
Reduced PPI ability due to an exaggerated acoustic startle reflex (ASR) is thought to contribute

to schizophrenic conditions. We found that the input/output function and the startle response were
comparable between control and *Tet1* mutant mice (Supplementary Fig. 5a), indicating the
normal hearing and motor abilities (i/o function) in *Tet1* cKO mice. However, when using a
combination of auditory-evoked startle (120dB) and three levels of prepulse (70, 76 and 82 dB)
to compare ARS, we observed that PPI was significantly attenuated in *Tet1* cKO mice in
comparison with control animals (Supplementary Fig. 5b), suggesting the impaired sensorimotor
gating ability in *Tet1* mutant.

Since working memory deficits are characteristic features in schizophrenia, *Tet1* cKO mice and
control littermates were evaluated for their performance in Morris water maze to assess their
working memory. Five-day acquisition trials exhibited similar swim paths, swim velocity and
escape latency to the platform between control and *Tet1* cKO groups (Supplementary Fig. 5c-e),
which indicates that *Tet1* mutants had normal swimming and learning abilities. However, in the
sixth-day probe trial, the escape latency was significantly higher in *Tet1* cKO mice than in control
mice (Supplementary Fig. 5f), and the number of crossing the position was greatly reduced in
mutant mice (Supplementary Fig. 5g). Additionally, in contrast to controls, the *Tet1*cKO mice
showed no preference for the target quadrant over other three quadrants, (Supplementary Fig.
5h-i). These observations suggest that *Tet1* cKO mice exhibit impaired PPI and working memory,
resulting in schizophrenia-like behaviors.

Ablation of *Tet1* results in defects in OPC cell-cycle progression
Concomitant with the myelin deficiency, we observed a marked reduction of Olig2$^+$ cells from
embryonic stage E15.5 and at P1 in *Tet1* cKO cortex relative to controls (Fig. 3a-b). Moreover,
the number of PDGFRα$^+$ cells in the mutant cortex was significantly reduced at E15.5 and P1
(Fig. 3a, c), suggesting a downsized OPC pool.

To determine the underlying defects that led to the observed reduction in the OPC and OL
population in juvenile *Tet1* mutants, we first tested the possibility that OPCs are more likely to
undergo apoptosis in the mutant with the TUNEL assay. Brain sections from E14.5, E17.5 and
P1 mice revealed no distinguishable changes in the number of apoptotic cells among Olig2$^+$ OL
lineage cells between *Tet1* cKO animals and control littermates (Supplementary Fig. 6a-b).
Next, we performed BrdU incorporation assay to examine the proliferation of OPCs. At P1, mice
were dosed with BrdU and sacrificed 2 hours later. Compared to controls, intriguingly, the
percentage of BrdU$^+$ cells in Olig2$^+$ OL lineage cells showed a significant increase in *Tet1* cKO
cortex (Fig. 3d-e). The reduction of OPC numbers in *Tet1* cKO mice thus promote us to
investigate if there is a cell-cycle defect in *Tet1*-deficient OPCs. We performed flow cytometry for
purified OPCs in which DNA was stained with propidium iodide. Significant increases in the
percentages of cells in S phase (23.4 ± 0.85%) and G2/M phase (13.39 ± 1.01%) were observed

in OPCs from *Tet1* mutants compared to the controls (9.02 ± 0.99% for S phase and 8.29 ± 0.62% for G2/M phase) (Fig. 3f-g). Moreover, there was a concomitant reduction in the number of cells in G1 phase in *Tet1* mutants compared to the controls (Fig. 3f-g). These results suggest that the proliferation of OPCs from *Tet1* cKO brains is blocked at the transition from G2/M to G1 phase, which likely leads to the observed reduction in OPC numbers in *Tet1* cKO mice.

To determine if defects in OL differentiation caused by TET1 deletion are cell-autonomous, we isolated primary OPCs from the neonatal cortices of control and *Tet1* cKO pups, and then treated them with T3 to promote differentiation. Immunostaining results showed that the number of CNP$^+$ cells and MBP$^+$ cells in *Tet1* deficient OPCs were significantly decreased when compared with control OPCs at Day 3 and Day 5 (Fig. 3h-i), suggesting that *Tet1*-depleted OPCs are intrinsically reduced in their differentiation capacity.

In addition, we noted that *Tet1* deletion did not substantially alter the number of other neural cell types in the brain. Western blot and immunostaining with antibodies against DCX, a marker for newly generated neurons; NeuN, a mature neuron marker; and ALDHL1, an astrocyte marker, revealed comparable neuron and astrocyte pools between controls and *Tet1* mutants (Supplementary Fig. 6c-g). Taken together, our data suggest that the abnormal cell-cycle progression of OPCs and delayed OPC differentiation contribute to the reduced OL numbers and hypomyelination in juvenile *Tet1*-deficient mice.

TET1 regulates the transition from OPCs to OLs

Since the impaired myelination in *Tet1* cKO mice may result from the downsized OPC pool, to further confirm the role of TET1 in OL differentiation after birth, we bred *Tet1*$^{flox/flox}$ mice with *NG2-CreER^T* line [33], an OPC-specific tamoxifen-inducible Cre line to generate *NG2-CreER^T:Tet1*$^{flox/flox}$ (*Tet1* OPC-iKO) animals. The *Tet1* OPC-iKO mice were treated daily with tamoxifen from P2 through P5 to induce *Tet1* deletion (Fig. 4a) and double immunostaining confirmed TET1 loss in Sox10$^+$ cells (Fig. 4b-c). Heterozygous littermates (*NG2-CreER^T:Tet1*$^{flox/+}$) were served as controls. In P7 corpus callosum, more PDGFRα$^+$/Ki67$^+$ cells and less MBP$^+$ cells were observed in *Tet1* OPC-iKO mice (Fig. 4d-g). Moreover, a reduction in CC1$^+$ OLs and MBP intensity was observed in corpus callosum from P14 *Tet1* OPC-iKO mice (Fig. 4h-i). These results indicate that TET1 is required for the transition from OPCs to OLs.

Efficient remyelination requires TET1 function

Given the critical role of TET1 in early oligodendrocyte development, we reasoned that TET1 should also be required in the adult brain for remyelination after injury that results in demyelination. We induced demyelinated lesions in the corpus callosum via stereotaxic guided lysolecithin (LPC) injections (Fig. 5a). LPC induces rapid myelin breakdown followed by myelin

regeneration through an OPC recruitment phase at 7 days post-lesion (7 dpl) induction and a remyelination phase at 14 dpl. TET1$^+$ cell numbers were increased substantially in the lesion site at 7 dpl relative to controls injected with vehicle (Fig. 5b-c). In particular, the expression levels of TET1 in Olig2$^+$ cells were higher after LPC treatment (Fig. 5b-c).

To evaluate the role of TET1 in remyelination, we used *NG2-CreER*^{T}:*Tet1*$^{flox/flox}$ (*Tet1* OPC-iKO) animals mentioned above. To induce recombination in adult mice, 8-week-old *Tet1* OPC-iKO mice were injected daily with tamoxifen for 8 days, starting 3 days prior to LPC injection in the corpus callosum (Fig. 5d). Brains were harvested at 7, 14 and 21 dpl from *Tet1* OPC-iKO mice and heterozygous controls. To determine the extent of remyelination, we examined the expression of OPC markers and myelin-related genes. Loss of *Tet1* did not appear to impair the recruitment of PDGFRα$^+$ OPCs, and the numbers of OPCs in the lesions were comparable between control and *Tet1* OPC-iKO mice during the recruitment phase at dpl 7 (Fig. 5e, f). In contrast, there were significantly fewer GST-pi$^+$ differentiating OLs in the lesion site during the remyelination phase at dpl 14 and dpl 21 in *Tet1* OPC-iKO mice relative to controls (Fig. 5e, g). Consistent with a reduction in the number of differentiating OLs, MBP was also reduced in *Tet1*-iKO lesions compared to those of controls at dpl 21 (Fig. 5h). Notably, far fewer remyelinated axons were detected in the lesions of *Tet1*-iKO mice than controls at dpl 28 (Fig. 5i-j). Furthermore, the thicknesses of newly generated myelin sheaths around axons were significantly reduced in *Tet1*-iKO mutants (Fig. 5k). These observations indicate that TET1 is required for the proper remyelination in the context of white matter injury.

Transcriptome alterations and a genome-wide decrease of 5hmC in *Tet1*-ablated OPCs

To investigate the molecular underpinnings of the observed defects in early oligodendrocyte development, we compared the RNA transcriptomes of OPCs cultured from control and *Tet1* cKO neonates. There were approximately 1880 genes downregulated and 881 genes upregulated in *Tet1* mutants compared with controls (FDR<0.05, Log$_2$>1 or <-1) (Supplementary Table 1), suggesting that the predominant effect of *Tet1* loss was transcriptional repression. As indicated by gene set enrichment analysis (GSEA), among the top downregulated TET1 targets were those pertinent to cell division, extracellular matrix and oligodendrocyte differentiation (Fig. 6a-d), which are in consistent with the abnormal cell cycle and deficient myelin formation in *Tet1* mutants. In contrast, gene ontology terms associated with the mitochondria gene module and immune-related functions were upregulated in *Tet1* cKO OPCs (Fig. 6a-b, e-f). Quantitative PCR confirmed representative gene expression changes associated with these gene set enrichments in the RNA-seq data (Fig. 6g-i). Specifically, OL differentiation and myelination-associated genes *Mbp*, *Plp1*, *Myrf*, *Enpp2*, *Cnp*, *Cldn11*, *Ugt8a*, *Kif11*, and *Bcas1* were markedly downregulated in *Tet1* deficient OPCs (Fig. 6g) as were genes involved in cell-cycle regulation (Fig. 6h). The

transcriptome landscape alterations in *Tet1* cKO OPCs were in line with the observations that *Tet1* depletion led to cell-cycle progression defects and hypomyelination phenotypes.

Since TET1 mediates DNA hydroxymethylation/demethylation, we next tested the level of 5hmC in oligodendrocytes from *Tet1* mutants. In P27 brain sections, immunostaining of 5hmC simultaneously with the OL marker CC1 revealed a striking reduction in 5hmC intensity in oligodendrocytes (Fig. 7a-b), which strongly suggested that 5hmC is involved in TET1-mediated regulation of OL differentiation. To further compare the genome-wide 5hmC distributions, we performed hMeDIP-seq in OPC cultures from controls and *Tet1* mutants. *Tet1* cKO OPCs showed a dramatic reduction in 5hmC peak signals compared to controls (Supplementary Fig. 7a). In both groups, most 5hmC peaks resided in intergenic regions; less than 40% of peaks were within gene bodies of annotated RefSeq genes (Supplementary Fig. 7b). This is different from the distribution pattern in mouse embryonic stem cells [18] and neurons [34]. After plotting the distribution of 5hmC peaks over RefSeq genes, we found that 5hmC was reduced near the transcription start sites (TSSs) and transcription terminal sites (TTSs) in control OPCs and that *Tet1* depletion caused reductions of 5hmC, especially in intragenic regions, promoter regions, and TTS regions (Fig. 7c and Supplementary Fig. 7b). Heatmap clustering of the 5hmC peak distributions 5-kb upstream and downstream of TSSs revealed five groups; levels of 5hmC signals were lower in all five groups in *Tet1* cKO samples than in the control samples (Fig. 7d). Further analysis showed that most differentially hydroxymethylated regions also had low CpG density of less than 1 CpG per 100 bp (Supplementary Fig. 7c).

We next examined the effects of hydroxymethylation on gene expression. By integrating RNA-seq data with hMeDIP-seq data, we observed that among the genes that had lower hydroxymethylation in gene body regions in the *Tet1* cKO mice than in controls, 12.83% had expression downregulated (1026 of 7998) and 4.89% had expression upregulated (391 of 7998) (Supplementary Fig. 7d). The percentages were comparable in promoter regions that were differentially hydroxymethylated with 13.46% of genes downregulated and 6.42% upregulated genes (Supplementary Fig. 7e). These observations indicate that DNA hydroxymethylation is positively correlated with gene expression.

Among the genes that showed both downregulated mRNA expression and decreased gene body 5hmC levels in *Tet1* cKO mice, gene ontology analysis revealed that a majority of them are associated with oligodendrocyte differentiation, cell proliferation and extracellular matrix (Fig. 7e-f). For example, *Mbp*, *Mobp*, and *Cnp* are myelin-related genes; *Tcf7L2*, *Myrf*, and *Enpp2/6* are involved in the regulation of OL differentiation in a stage-specific manner within different transcriptional circuitries [35, 36]. Snapshots of 5hmC profiles of representative myelination genes and cell division genes showed reduced 5hmC levels in *Tet1* cKO group (Fig. 7g and Supplementary Fig. 7f). Together, these results are highly in consistent with the hypomyelination

phenotypes in *Tet1* cKO mice and indicate the significance of TET1-5hmC mechanisms in OL homeostasis.

Impaired calcium transport leads to differentiation defects in OPC cultures from *Tet1* cKO mice

When searching for TET1-5hmC regulated factors that may involve in OL development and homeostasis, we noticed that there was a cluster of calcium transporter genes among the downregulated and hypohydroxymethylated genes in *Tet1* cKO group (Fig.6a-b and Fig. 7e-f, h-i). The decrease in expression of these genes in *Tet1* cKO mice was confirmed by qRT-PCR assays (Fig. 7j). CACNA1a, CACNA1c, CACNA2d1, CACNB4, and CACNG5 are plasma membrane voltage-operated Ca^{2+} channels (VOCCs) that are expressed in OPCs and contribute to calcium dynamics in these cells [22, 37]. In particular, calcium influx mediated by CACNA1c, also known as $Ca_v1.2$, is required for oligodendrocyte differentiation [38, 39]. Another target gene *Itpr2*, which encodes a type 2 IP_3 receptor, localized to the endoplasmic reticulum (ER) and expressed exclusively in postmitotic OLs [40, 41], also had decreased mRNA expression in OPCs from *Tet1* cKO mice compared to controls (Fig. 7j). These data indicate that TET1-5hmC targets calcium transport genes and may regulate calcium dynamics in oligodendrocytes.

To evaluate the intracellular Ca^{2+} concentration ($[Ca^{2+}]_i$) fluctuation in OPC culture, a Fluo4-based Ca^{2+}-imaging approach was employed. ATP can mobilize Ca^{2+} from ER stores or trigger Ca^{2+} influx across the plasma membrane [42, 43]. To first determine the intracellular calcium release, we used calcium free aCSF to load Fluo-4. In OPC cultures, application of ATP induced a transient increase of $[Ca^{2+}]_i$ in both control and *Tet1* cKO groups (Fig. 8a-b, Supplementary Movie 1 and 2). The amplitude of ATP-induced calcium rise was significantly higher in control OPCs than in *Tet1* mutant OPCs (Fig. 8c), and the kinetics of onset were slower in mutant OPCs as well (Fig. 8d). These results indicate a deficit of intracellular calcium mobilization in *Tet1* depleted OPCs. To further examine the extracellular calcium influx in *Tet1* cKO OPCs, we used Bay K 8644, a L-type calcium channel (L-VOCC) agonist [44], to induce synchronous calcium transient in OPCs, which can be blocked by the specific L-VOCC inhibitor verapamil (Supplementary Fig. 8a). In the mutant OPCs, $[Ca^{2+}]_i$ increase was of lower amplitude and the kinetics of onset were slower (Supplementary Fig. 8b-c), suggesting the attenuated function of membrane calcium channel in *Tet1* ablated OPCs.

To investigate the consequences of impaired calcium rise in *Tet1*-deficient OPCs, we examined cell differentiation after activating calcium signaling. Consistent with the results of high K^+ application [39], three consecutive pulses (5 min/each) daily with 10 µM calcium channel agonist Bay K 8644 significantly promoted differentiation of OPCs and restored the differentiation defects in *Tet1* deficient OPCs as determined by qRT-PCR analysis of myelin genes and MBP$^+$ OL

formation (Supplementary Fig. 8d-f). These data indicate that TET1-modulated $[Ca^{2+}]_i$ rise play

important roles in the OL differentiation process.

Ablation Itpr2, modulator for calcium release from endoplasmic reticulum, inhibits OL

differentiation

To further distinguish calcium signaling as TET1-5hmC target during OL differentiation, or the

results of impaired differentiation in *Tet1* cKO mice, we then tested the function of Itpr2, one of

TET1-5hmC target calcium transport genes, in myelination. As modulator for calcium release

from ER, Itpr2 showed highest expression in postmitotic newly formed oligodendrocytes (OL-

1DIV, PDGFRα⁻/CNPase⁺) (Fig.8e) as reported previously [40, 41]. In *vitro* studies with RNAi

methods revealed that transfection of siRNA against Itpr2 in normal OL cultures significantly

reduced the expression of myelin genes and impairs OL differentiation (Fig. 8f-h, Supplementary

Fig.8g-h).

Investigation with *Itpr2* conditional knockout mice also confirmed the function of Itpr2 in OL

development. *Itpr2*^flox/flox;*Olig1*Cre⁺/⁻ (*Itpr2* cKO) mice were born at Mendelian ratios and appeared

normal at birth. To assess Cre-mediated *Itpr2* depletion, we quantified Itpr2 expression in Olig2⁺

cells from *Itpr2* cKO and control mice at P14. Immunostaining revealed that expression of Itpr2

in the corpus callosum was significantly lower in *Itpr2* cKO than in control mice (Fig. 8i-j).

Examination the expression of stage specific OL lineage markers, PDGFRα and CC1, revealed

that more PDGFRα⁺ OPCs were observed in P7 and P14 *Itpr2* mutant brain (Fig. 8k-l); however,

the percentage of CC1⁺ mature OLs among Olig2⁺ cells was significantly reduced in *Itpr2* cKO

mice compared to controls during development (Fig. 8k, m). Myelin protein expression was also

substantially decreased in *Itpr2* cKO mice compared to controls at P31 (Fig. 8n). Electron

microscopy of P16 optic nerves revealed that the number of myelinated axons was significantly

reduced in *Itpr2* mutants (Fig. 8o-p), and the G ratio was higher in mutant (Fig. 8q). These results

suggest that as one of the target genes of TET1-5hmC, Itpr2 accumulates after cell cycle

withdrawal and is involved in the initiation of oligodendrocytes differentiation, probably by

effectively releasing calcium from ER.

Discussion

TET1 functions stage-specifically in OL development and remyelination

Methylation of cytosine on CpG islands in the genome enables stable but reversible transcription

repression and is critical for mammalian development [7, 8]. Defects in the regulation of DNA

methylation are associated with various neurological diseases [45, 46]. TET enzymes catalyze the

first step of DNA demethylation by oxidizing 5mC into 5hmC [10-12]. Strikingly, we detected a

genome-wide change in the DNA demethylation landscape marked by 5hmC during OPC

differentiation from neural progenitor cells, suggesting a role of TET-mediated DNA demethylation in regulation of OL lineage progression.

We found that TET1, but not TET3, is critical for OPC proliferation, differentiation, and myelination during early animal development, suggesting a unique function of TET1 in oligodendrogenesis and subsequent myelinogenesis. Despite early developmental defects, we noticed that the developmental myelin deficiencies recovered in adult *Tet1* cKO mice, which might be due to the expansion of OL numbers that escaped from Cre-mediated *Tet1* depletion. The remyelination capacity after injury was compromised in adult *Tet1* OPC-iKO brains, suggesting that TET1 is also critical for the myelin regeneration process.

Although OL differentiation defects were not due to increased apoptosis in the *Tet1* cKO mutant brain, we found that OPC cell cycle progression was impaired in the developing brain of *Tet1* cKO animals. TET1 has been implicated in regulation of cell-cycle progression. For instance, TET1 is critical to the stability of cyclin B1 and acts as a facilitator of mitotic cell-cycle progression [47, 48]. In line with these studies, we showed that *Ccng2*, *Cdca3, Ccna2*, *Ccnb2*, and *Cdc25b*, which encode factors involved in cell-cycle regulation [49-53] were 5hmC enriched genes in OPCs and were down-regulated in *Tet1* cKO OPCs, suggesting that TET1 is also critical for cell-cycle progression in OPCs.

TET1-5hmC functions in psychological disorders
TET-5hmC association with psychiatric and cognitive disorders has gained increasing recognition in recent years [28-30]. A cohort of new autosomal recessive genes for intellectual disability, including the missense mutations in TET1, has been identified [54]. TET1 together with other factors such as ErbB4, BDNF was identified as independent predictors of schizophrenia, and serves a high risk gene for schizophrenia [31]. We find that mice with *Tet1* cKO in the oligodendrocyte lineage exhibit impaired PPI and working memory deficits, the key behavior phenotypes related to schizophrenia. Thus, our studies demonstrate a crucial function of TET1-mediated epigenetic modifications in oligodendrocytes for schizophrenia and related brain disorders.

Locus-specific alterations of DNA hydroxymethylation in OPCs of *Tet1* mutants
Levels of 5hmC are variable in the promoter and gene body regions [55] and impact gene expression in a cell type-dependent manner [18, 56, 57]. Our comparison of differentially hydroxymethylated genes with transcriptome profiles indicated that 5hmC signals in gene bodies are more significantly associated with gene expression changes than those in promoter regions in OPCs. This suggests that 5hmC modification by TET1 regulates locus-specific gene expression programs necessary for OPC differentiation. 5hmC may regulate gene expression through associations with various regulatory elements [15, 58], including histone modification and

chromatin configuration. For example, in ESCs, 5hmC accumulates in "bivalent domains" in promoters or enhancers that are decorated with both activating (H3K4me3) and repressing (H3K27me3) histone marks [59, 60]. How 5hmCs cooperate with other epigenetic regulators for OPC differentiation remains to be determined.

Intriguingly, ablation of *Tet1* led to upregulation of a set of genes in OPCs, indicating that TET1-mediated 5hmC deposition may also function as a transcriptional repressor. Consistent with our data, inhibition of *Tet1* expression increased expression of a set of genes in ESCs [61, 62]. TET1-mediated repression might involve recruitment of the MBD3/NuRD repressor complex, which was shown to co-localize with TET1 in ESCs [63]. TET1 may also coordinate with Sin3A co-repressor complex, which has a similar binding profile to TET1 and is required for a subset of TET1-repressed target genes [61, 64]. A recent study indicates that TET1-mediated transcriptional repression could channel through JMJD8 demethylase transcriptional repressor and is independent of TET1 catalytic activity during epiblast differentiation [65]. The mechanisms of locus-specific transcriptional regulation by TET1 during OL development remain to be further defined.

TET1-5hmC regulates calcium transport to control proper oligodendrocyte differentiation

Calcium signaling is important for OPC migration, differentiation, and initiation of myelin formation [66-69]. For instance, blocking of voltage-gated Ca^{2+} entry in OPCs inhibits their maturation and myelin formation ability [39]. Similarly, an increase of the resting $[Ca^{2+}]_i$ through membrane depolarization facilitates MBP synthesis in OPCs [67]. We found that *Tet1* deletion led to the downregulation of multiple calcium transporter genes in OPCs, which mediated the impaired intracellular store release and extracellular influx in response to stimulus. Moreover, treatment with a calcium channel agonist reversed the differentiation defects in *Tet1*-deficient OPCs, thus indicating the significance of TET1-5hmC regulated calcium transport in OLs.

We find that Itpr2, an intracellular calcium channel that exclusively expressed in postmitotic OLs [40, 41], is one of TET1-5hmC targets. Expression of Itpr2 is upregulated during a motor learning task [41], indicating the participation of Itpr2$^+$ OLs in myelin plasticity. We find that deletion of *Itpr2* in the OL lineage greatly reduces OPC differentiation, suggesting that Itpr2 is critical for an initiation for myelination. Thus, TET1 mediated 5hmC modification, or DNA hydroxymethylation, can modulate the process of oligogenesis and myelinogenesis through at least two critical processes, by fine-tuning cell cycle progression for OPC proliferation and by regulating oligodendrocyte hemostasis e.g., Itpr2-mediated calcium transport, for OL myelination.

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1 **Materials and Methods**
2
Animals, immunohistochemistry and electron microscopy
All animal experiment protocols were approved by the Animal Care and Use Committee of the
Fourth Military Medical University and were conducted in accordance with the guidelines for the
care and use of laboratory animals. *Tet1 flox/flox* mice [24] and *Tet3 flox/flox* mice [18] were crossed with
heterozygous *Olig1*-Cre mice [25, 70] to generate *Tet1*flox/+;*Olig1*Cre+/- mice and *Tet3*flox/+;*Olig1*Cre+/-
mice, which were then bred with *Tet1*flox/flox mice or *Tet3*flox/flox to produce *Tet1* cKO
(*Tet1*flox/flox;*Olig1*Cre+/-) or *Tet3* cKO (*Tet3*flox/flox;*Olig1*Cre+/-) offspring, respectively. *NG2CreER^T*
mice [33] were from Jackson lab. *Itpr2 flox/flox* line [71] was provided by the RIKEN BRC (RBRC10293)
through the National Bio-Resource Project of the MEXT/AMED, Japan. It was crossed with
heterozygous *Olig1*-Cre mice to generated *Itpr2* cKO (*Itpr2 flox/flox*;*Olig1*Cre+/-) as stated above.
For immunohistochemistry, cryosections (14μm) of brains or spinal cords were short-fixed 30
min in 4% paraformaldehyde and processed for antigen retrieval. Sections were treated with
10mM sodium citrate (pH6.0) at ~90°C for 10min in a microwave and cooled down in room
temperature. Then sections were washed three times in PBS, blocked in 3% BSA with 0.03%
Triton X-100 (blocking buffer) for 1 hour (hr) at RT, and incubated with primary antibodies in
blocking buffer overnight at RT. Next day, sections were washed three times in PBS, incubated
with secondary antibodies at RT for 2 hr, and then counter stained with DAPI for 5min. Finally,
sections were washed three times in PBS and mounted. Images were taken on Olympus FV1200
Confocal microscope. We used antibodies against Olig2 (Millipore, AB9610), Sox10 (Santa Cruz,
17342), TET1 [16], PDGFRα (Abcam, ab61219), CC1 (Oncogene Research, OP80), MBP (Abcam,
ab7349), 5hmC (Active motif, 39769), ALDHL1 (Proteintech, 17390-1-AP), CNPase (Sigma,
C5922), Ki67 (Abcam, ab16667), GFAP (Millipore, mAB360), GST-pi (Abcam, ab53943), DCX
(Millipore, ab2253), Itpr2 (Millipore, AB3000).
For BrdU pulse labeling, animals were injected intraperitoneally with 100 mg BrdU/kg body
weight 2 hr prior to sacrifice. For the staining of BrdU, as well as 5hmC, before permeabilization,
sections were subjected to DNA denaturation with 2N hydrochloric acid at 37 °C for 20 min and
then neutralized with 0.1 M sodium borate at pH 8.5 for 2X 10 min. The G3G4 monoclonal
antibody (anti BrdUrd) was obtained from the Developmental Studies Hybridoma Bank developed
under the auspices of the NICHD and maintained by The University of Iowa.
For TUNEL/Olig2 double staining, Olig2 immunostaining were applied after DeadEnd™
Fluorometric TUNEL System kit (Promega, G2350) to reveal TUNEL positive cells in OL lineage.
For electron microscopy, tissues were dissected and fixed in 2% glutaraldehyde and 4%
paraformaldehyde in 0.1 M cacodylate buffer (pH 7.2) for 24 hr and processed as previously
described [72]. Ultrathin sections were examined under the JEM-1230 electron microscope (JEOL
LTD, Tokyo, Japan) equipped with CCD camera and its application software (832 SC1000, Gatan,
Warrendale, PA).
39
Western blot assay
Immunoblotting were performed as described previously by our lab [16]. We used antibodies
against Olig2 (Millipore MABN50), MBP (Abcam, ab7349), NeuN (Abcam, ab7349), ALDHL1
(Proteintech, 17390-1-AP), DCX (Proteintech, 13925-1-AP), β-actin (GuanXingYu, P1001) and
Tubulin (Abbkine, A01030). The band intensity was calculated with Tanon5200 imager,
normalized to β-actin or Tubulin level expressed as relative fold change against control.
46
RNA Extraction and qRT-PCR
Total RNAs were purified from tissues or cell cultures using TRIzol reagent according to the
manufacturer's instruction (Invitrogen). For qRT-PCR, RNA was transcribed to cDNA with the
PrimeScript™ RT reagent Kit (Perfect Real Time, Takara) and reactions were performed with
SYBR® Premix Ex Taq™ (Takara) in CFX96 Touch Real-Time PCR Detection System (Bio-Rad).
Relative gene expression was normalized to internal control β-actin. Primer sequences for
SybrGreen probes of target genes are listed below.

Gene	Forward	Reverse
Ccna2	TGGATGGCAGTTTTGAATCACC	CCCTAAGGTACGTGTGAATGTC
Ccnb2	GCCAAGAGCCATGTGACTATC	CAGAGCTGGTACTTTGGTGTTC
Ccnf	AGAGACTGAATACGGGTTCTGA	TCCCAAGCAGTGTAGTATGGAA
Ccng2	AGGGGTTCAGCTTTTCGGATT	AGTGTTATCATTCTCCGGGGTAG
Cdc25b	TCCGATCCTTACCAGTGAGG	GGGCAGAGCTGGAATGAGG
Cdc25c	GGCAAACCTAAGCATTCTGTCG	CCAGAGGTCCAGATGAATCCA
Cdca3	CTGAGCGAAGTATTGGAGACAG	CTGCGGATTGTTTGGCTTCC
Cdk19	GGTCAAGCCTGACAGCAAAGT	TTCCTGGAAGTAAGGGTCCTG
Cldn11	ATGGTAGCCACTTGCCTTCAG	AGTTCGTCCATTTTTCGGCAG
Enpp2	TTTGCACTATGCCAACAATCGG	GGAGGCACTTTAGTCCTGTACTT
Kif11	GGCTGGTATAATTCCACGCAC	CCGGGGATCATCAAACATCTG
Mbp	GCAGCCAGCACCACTCTTGA	CAGCCGAGGTCCCATTGTTC
Myrf	CCTGTGTCCGTGGTACTGTG	TCACACAGGCGGTAGAAGTG
Cnp	TTTACCCGCAAAAGCCACACA	CACCGTGTCCTCATCTTGAAG
Ugt8a	ACTCCATATTTCATGCTCCTGTG	AGGCCGATGCTAGTGTCTTGA
Plp1	CCAGAATGTATGGTGTTCTCCC	GGCCCATGAGTTTAAGGACG
Bcas1	AGAAGCGAAAGGCTCGGAAG	AGGGACAGAATAACTCAGAGTGT
Tet1	CATTCTCACAAGGACATTCACAACA	AGTAAAACGTAGTCGCCTCTTCCTG
β-actin	GGCTGTATTCCCCTCCATCG	CCAGTTGGTAACAATGCCATGT
Ccl22	AGGTCCCTATGGTGCCAATGT	CGGCAGGATTTTGAGGTCCA
Ccl2	TCAAACTGAAGCTCGCACTCT	GGGGCATTGATTGCATCTGG
Ccr2	ATCCACGGCATACTATCAACATC	CAAGGCTCACCATCATCGTAG
Cx3cr1	GAGTATGACGATTCTGCTGAGG	CAGACCGAACGTGAAGACGAG
Itpr2	CCTCGCCTACCACATCACC	TCACCACTCTCACTATGTCGT
Cacna1a	CACCGAGTTTGGGAATAACTTCA	ATTGTGCTCCGTGATTTGGAA
Cacna1c	ATTGTGCTCCGTGATTTGGAA	ACTGACGGTAGAGATGGTTGC
Cacna2d1	GTCACACTGGATTTTCTCGATGC	GGGTTTCTGAATATCTGGCCTGA
Cacnb4	TACCTGCATGGAGTTGAAGACT	TTCGCTCTCTCAAGCTGGATA
Cacng5	ACCTGGAAGAAGGCATAATCCT	CTATGGTAAAACAGCGTCCTCG
Atp2b1	AGATGGAGCTATTGAGAATCGCA	CCCTGTAACACGGATTTTTCCTT
Atp2c1	GCAGGCAGAAGAAGCACCAA	CCTAGTAACCAGCCAACCAAC

| Slc8a1 | CTTCCCTGTTTGTGCTCCTGT | AGAAGCCCTTTATGTGGCAGTA |

Culture of OL precursor cells, immunocytochemistry and ELISA assay

Mouse OPCs were isolated from P6 cortices of mice by immunopanning with antibodies against Ran-2, GalC and O4 sequentially as previously described [73]. Briefly, cerebral hemispheres were diced and digested with papain at 37°C. Following gentle trituration, cells were resuspended in a panning buffer containing insulin (5 µg/ml) and then incubated at room temperature sequentially on three immunopanning dishes: Ran-2, anti-GalC, and O4. O4$^+$GalC$^-$ OPCs were released from the final panning dish with trypsin (Sigma).

For immunocytochemistry, cell cultures were fixed in 4% PFA. After TritonX-100 permeabilization for 15 min, samples were incubated with primary antibody for 1 h at room temperature followed by fluorescent secondary antibody for another hour. Cells were then counter-stained with DAPI and visualized with Confocal microscope. Experiments were replicated using cells from three different primary cultures.

Flow cytometric analysis of cell cycle with propidium iodide DNA staining

PI staining for flow cytometry was performed according to the user manual of DNA Content Quantitation Assay (Cell Cycle) from Solarbio (#CA1510). Briefly, OPCs from control or *Tet1* cKO mice were harvested, washed in PBS and fixed in cold 70% ethanol for 30 min at 4°C. After wash twice in PBS, cells were treated with RNase and then stained with PI. With guava easyCyte6HT (Millipore), the forward scatter (FS) and side scatter (SS) were measured to identify single cells. For analysis, ModFit LT software was used make the PI histogram plot. Experiments were replicated three times.

Lysolecithin-induced demyelinating injury

Lysolecithin-induced demyelination was carried out in the corpus callosum of 8-week-old mice. Anesthesia was induced and maintained by peritoneal injection of a mixture of ketamine (90 mg/kg) and xylazine (10 mg/kg). The skull was exposed, and a hole was cut into the cranium. Focal demyelinating lesions were induced by stereotaxic injection of 0.8 µl 1%lysolecithin solution (L-a-lysophosphatidylcholine, Sigma L4129) into the corpus callosum at coordinates: 0.8 mm lateral, 0.8 mm rostral to bregma, 1.2mm deep to brain surface) using a glass-capillary connected to a 10 µl Hamilton syringe. Animals were left to recover in a warm chamber before being returned into their housing cages. LPC-induced injuries were conducted in a genotype-blinded manner.

Electrophysiology

Analyzing the compound action potential was performed according to previous protocols [27, 74]. *Tet1* cKO and control littermates were killed by cervical dislocation and then decapitated. Optic nerves were dissected free and cut between the orbit and the optic chiasm in the standard artificial cerebrospinal fluid (aCSF) containing (in mM): NaCl 126, KCl 3.0, CaCl$_2$ 2.0, MgCl$_2$ 2.0, NaH$_2$PO4 1.2, NaHCO$_3$ 26 and glucose 10 at 37℃. Following dissection, optic nerves were equilibrated in aCSF for at least 30 min with constant aeration (95% O$_2$/5% CO$_2$). Then the nerve was gently placed in a customized perfusion chamber, maintained at 37℃ and perfused with aCSF at 2-3ml/min speed. Suction electrodes back-filled with aCSF were used for stimulation and recording. One electrode was attached to the rostral end of the nerve for stimulation and the second suction electrode was attached to the caudal end of the nerve to record the CAP, thus all recordings were orthodromic. Stimulus pulse strength (100µs duration, SS-201J Isolator constant current output with SEN-7203 stimulator, Nihon Kohden, Japan) was adjusted to evoke the maximum CAP possible and then increased another 25% (i.e. supramaximal stimulation). During an experiment, the supra maximal CAP was elicited every 10s and repeat 10 times. The signal was amplified 100×AC membrane potential (100mV/mV) by a Multiclamp700B amplifier, filtered at 10 kHz and acquired at 10 kHz (Digidata 1322A, Molecular Devices, USA). The average CAP amplitude and area were measured in Clampfit 10.0 software (Molecular Devices, USA) offline and performed blind to genotype. Image drawing and statistical analysis were performed in

1 GraphPad Prism 6.
2
Behavior test
Startle response/prepulse inhibition tests
A startle reflex measurement system was used to measure startle response and prepulse
inhibition. Throughout the session, the startle system delivered a constant background white
noise of 68 dB. The startle response was recorded for 300 ms (measuring the response every 1
ms) with the onset of stimulus and a startle response was defined as the peak response during
the 300 ms period.
Acoustic startle began by placing a mouse in the undisturbed chamber for 5 min. The test consists
ten 20-ms bursts of white noise varied in level from 65-125 dB sound stimuli in steps of 5dB, plus
ten no-stimulus trials. The order of these stimuli was randomized, and the duration of inter-trial
intervals was 15 s. The prepulse inhibition test session began with a 5 min acclimation period
followed by three consecutive blocks of test trials. Block 1 and 3 consisted of six startle stimulus-
alone trials. Block 2 contained 10 startle stimulus-alone trials, 10 prepulse + startle trials per
prepulse intensity, and 10 no-stimulus trials. Three combinations of prepulse and startle stimuli
(70-120, 76-120 and 82-120 dB) were employed. Trials were presented in a pseudo-random
order, ensuring that each trial was presented 10 times and that no two consecutive trials were
identical. Inter-trial intervals ranged from 30 to 45 s. Basal startle amplitude was determined as
the mean amplitude of the 10 startle stimulus-alone trials. PPI was calculated according to the
formula: $100 \times [1-(PPx/P120)]$ %, in which PPx means the 10 PPI trials (PP70, PP76 or PP82
and P120 was the basal startle amplitude).
23
Morris Water Maze:
The Morris water maze was conducted as described [75] with minor modifications. A white plastic
tank 120 cm in diameter was kept in a fixed position and filled with 22°C water, which was made
opaque with milk. A 10 cm platform was submerged 1cm below the surface of opaque water and
located in the center of one of the four virtually divided quadrants. All animal activities were
automatically recorded and measured by a video-based Morris water maze tracking system. The
swim training consisted of 5 days of trials, during each day mice were released from four random
locations around the edge of the tank with an inter-trial interval of about 30 min and they were
allowed to freely swim for a maximum of 60 sec or guided to the platform. Afterwards, mice were
allowed to stay on the platform for 15 sec. A probe trial was performed 24 h after the last day of
training. During the probe trial, mice were allowed to swim in the pool without the escape platform
for 60 s. The performance was expressed as the percentage of time spent in each quadrant of
the MWM and swim distance in the target quadrant, which were automatically recorded.
Moreover, the latency to reach the platform position (using 10 cm diameter) and the number of
crossings through the position were manually recorded.
39
RNA-Seq and Data Analysis
RNA-seq assays were performed by RiboBio Co., Ltd. (Guangzhou, China). Briefly, libraries were
prepared using Illumina RNA-Seq Preparation Kit (TruSeq RNA Sample Prep Kit) and sequenced
by HiSeq 3000 sequencer. RNA-seq reads were mapped using TopHat with settings of "read
mismatches=2" and "read gap length=2" (http://ccb.jhu.edu/software/tophat/ index.shtml). TopHat
output data were then analyzed by DEGseq to compare the changes of gene expression between
Tet1 cKO and control, based on the calculate RPKM values for known transcripts in mouse
genome reference. Heatmap of gene differential expression was generated using R Package
(http://www.r-project.org).
49
50 **hMeDIP-Sequencing analysis**
51 hMeDIP Sequencing service was provided by KangChen Biotech (Shanghai, China). hMeDIP-
52 Sequencing library preparation was performed according to a previous study[76] with minor
53 modifications. Genomic DNA was sonicated to ~200-800bp with a Bioruptor sonicator
54 (Diagenode). 800 ng of sonicated DNA was end-repaired, A-tailed, and ligated to single-end

adapters following the standard Illumina genomic DNA protocol (FC-102-1002, Illumina). After agarose size-selection to remove unligated adapters, the adaptor-ligated DNA was used for immunoprecipitation (IP) with a mouse monoclonal anti-5-hydroxymethylcytosine antibody (Diagenode, C15200200). For this, DNA was heat-denatured at 94°C for 10 min, rapidly cooled on ice, and immunoprecipitated with 1 µL primary antibody overnight at 4°C with rocking agitation in 400 µL IP buffer (0.5% BSA in PBS). To recover the immunoprecipitated DNA fragments, 20 µL of magnetic beads were added and incubated for an additional 2 hours at 4°C with agitation. After IP, a total of five washes were performed with ice-cold IP buffer. Washed beads were resuspended in TE buffer with 0.25% SDS and 0.25 mg/mL proteinase K for 2 hours at 65°C and then allowed to cool down to room temperature. DNA was then purified using Qiagen MinElute columns and eluted in 16 µL EB (Qiagen). 14 cycles of PCR were performed on 5 µL of the immunoprecipitated DNA using the single-end Illumina PCR primers. The resulting products were purified with Qiagen MinElute columns, after which a final size selection (300-1,000 bp) was performed by electrophoresis in 2% agarose. Libraries were quality controlled by Agilent 2100 Bioanalyzer.

For sequencing, the library was denatured with 0.1 M NaOH to generate single-stranded DNA molecules and loaded onto channels of the flow cell at 8 pM concentration, amplified in situ using TruSeq Rapid SRCluster Kit (GD-402-4001, Illumina). Sequencing was carried out by running 150 cycles on Illumina HiSeq 2500 using TruSeq Rapid SBS Kit (FC-402-4001, Illumina) according to the manufacturer's instructions.

After sequencing images generated, the stages of image analysis and base calling were performed using Off-Line Base caller software (OLB V1.8). After passing Solexa CHASTITY quality filter, the clean reads were aligned to Mus_musculus genome (UCSC mm10) using BOWTIE software (V2.1.0). Aligned reads were used for peak calling, both mRNA and LncRNA associated hMeDIP enriched regions (peaks) with statistically significant were identified for each sample, using a q-value threshold of 10^{-4} by MACS v2. Both mRNA and LncRNA associated hMeDIP enriched regions (peaks) were annotated by the nearest gene using the newest UCSC RefSeq database. Differentially hydroxymethylated regions (DhMRs) between two groups with statistically significant were identified by diffReps (Cut-off: $\log_2 FC=1.0$, p-value=10^{-4}). DhMRs were annotated by the nearest gene using the UCSC RefSeq and database of multiple databases integration.

$[Ca^{2+}]_i$ imaging

Fluo4 was used to measure $[Ca^{2+}]i$ changes. To load cells with Ca^{2+} probe, cultures were incubated in standard artificial cerebrospinal fluid (aCSF) containing (in mM): NaCl 125, KCl 3.0, $CaCl_2$ 2.0, $MgCl_2$ 2.0, NaH_2PO_4 1.25, $NaHCO_3$ 26 and glucose 20, or calcium free aCSF (NaCl 125, KCl 3.0, MgCl2 2.0, MgSO4 2.0, NaH2PO4 1.25, NaHCO3 26, glucose 20, HEPES 10 and EGTA 10 (pH 7.4)), supplemented with 0.03% Pluronic F-127 and 0.6µM cell-permeable form of indicator (Fluo4-AM, Invitrogen) for 20 min at 37℃. After loading, cells were transferred into recording chamber on the stage of Olympus FV1000 confocal inverted microscope equipped with phase contrast optics. Measurements started after at least 15 min storage in aCSF to ensure deesterification of indicators. Fluo4 was excited with 488 nm laser and emitted light was collected at 515 nm. A series of sections were collected every 500 ms, at 500 ms intervals, for 180 s in total. Pharmacological agents were directly added in aCSF: ATP (Sigma, 100µM) or Bay K 8644 (10 µM), 30s after the first image was taken. The images were analyzed using the Olympus FV10-ASW 4.1 software. Cell bodies were selected as regions of interest (ROI) and normalized changes of Fluo4 fluorescence intensities were calculated as $\Delta F/F=(F-F0)/F0$ (F, fluorescence intensity; $F0$, baseline intensity). Data were expressed as Mean ± Standard Deviation (SD), 'N' represents the number of responding cells. Experiments were performed 3 times from different cultures and the results were pooled together for analysis. N>100 in ATP treatment group and N>70 in Bay K 8644 group.

Duplex siRNA transfection

For in vitro *Itpr2* knockdown, purified OPCs were transfected with 50 nM duplex siRNA against

Itpr2 (sense, 5' GGUACCAGCUAAACCUCUUTT 3'; anti-sense, 5' AAGAGGUUUAGCUGGUAC CTT 3') or control nontargeting siRNA (Genepharma, Shanghai) using Lipofectamine RNAiMAX (Invitrogen). Six hours after transfection, the cultures were changed to differentiation medium. Two or four days later, cultures were harvested for qRT-PCR assay or immunocytochemistry as indicated.

Statistical analysis

Numerical values were analyzed using Mean ± SEM and are presented as bar graphs. Group meet normal distribution and homogeneity of variance were compared using Two-tailed unpaired *t*-test. Group with normal distribution but do not meet homogeneity of variance were compared using Two-tailed unpaired separate variance estimation *t*-test. Group do not meet normal distribution were compared using Mann-Whitney U test. Two factors do not meet normal distribution or homogeneity of variance using Friedman M test. RMANOVA with repeated measures were applied to the data when appropriate with SPSS22.0. Significance is denoted as *$p<0.05$, **$p<0.01$ or ***$p<0.001$ in the figures.

Data availability

The transcriptome and DNA hydroxymethylation profiling dataset have been deposited in the Gene Expression Omnibus database (GSE122838).

Figure legends

Fig. 1 Dynamic 5hmC expression pattern during OPC specification
(a) Venn diagram of hydroxymethylated genes in NPCs and OPCs.
(b) Gene ontology analysis of genes with OPC-specific 5hmC peaks in promoter or TSS regions.
(c) GSEA plots of gene terms involved in "bipotent progenitor", "oligodendrocyte progenitor", "postmitotic oligodendrocyte" and "pluripotent stem cells" for genes with 5hmC peaks in gene body region from NPCs and OPCs.
(d) Snapshots of 5hmC profiles of representative OPC-associated genes, *Cspg4* and *Slc22a3*, in NPCs and OPCs.
(e) Snapshots of 5hmC profiles of representative immature oligodendrocyte (iOL)-associated genes, *Tmem141* and *Kndc1*, in NPCs and OPCs.
(f) Snapshots of 5hmC profiles of representative mature oligodendrocyte (mOL)-associated genes, *Mag* and *Elovl7*, in NPCs and OPCs.
(g) Snapshots of 5hmC profiles of representative negative regulators of oligodendrocyte differentiation, *Id2* and *Zfp28* in NPCs and OPCs.

Fig. 2 TET1 is required for OL differentiation and myelination
(a) Schematic diagram of Cre-mediated excision of floxed *Tet1* exons encoding the critical catalytic domain for dioxygenase activity (modified from Zhang et al., 2013).
(b) Representative immunostaining for TET1 expression in P4 corpus collosum from control and *Tet1* cKO mice. Upper images show TET1 (green), Sox10 (red), and DAPI (blue) staining. Lower images show only TET1. Arrows indicate Sox10$^+$ cells. Scale bar, 20 µm.
(c) Percentage of TET1$^+$ cells among Sox10$^+$ oligodendrocytes in P4 corpus collosum of control and *Tet1* cKO mice. Data are Means ± SEM (n=4 animals each group). ***, $p<0.001$, Student's *t* test.
(d) Representative images of CC1 and Sox10 immunostaining in the corpus callosum of control and *Tet1* cKO mice at P8. Scale bar, 50 µm.
(e) Quantification of CC1$^+$ cells in P8, P21, and P27 and P60 control and *Tet1* cKO corpus collosum (n=4 animals each group). *, $p<0.05$, **, $p<0.01$, compared to control, Student's *t* test.
(f) Representative images of MBP immunostaining in *Tet1* cKO and control mice cortex (upper images) and corpus collosum (lower images) at P16. Scale bar, 100 µm.
(g) Representative electron micrographs of optic nerve at P14 and corpus callosum at P27 from control and *Tet1* cKO mice. Scale bar, 0.5 µm in P14 and 2 µm in P27.
(h) Quantification the number of myelinated axons in defined areas from optic nerve of control and *Tet1* cKO mice. Data are Means ± SEM (n=6 slides from 3 animals per group). ***, $p<0.001$ compared to control, Student's *t* test.
(i) G ratios versus axonal perimeters for P14 optic nerve in control and *Tet1* cKO mice. $p<0.001$, Friedman M test (> 150 myelinating axon counts/animal from 3 animals/genotype).
(j) Quantification the number of myelinated axons in defined areas from corpus callosum of control and *Tet1* cKO mice. Data are Means ± SEM (n=6 slides from 3 animals per group). ***, $p<0.001$ compared to control, Student's *t* test.
(k) G ratios versus axonal perimeters for P27 corpus callosum in control and *Tet1* cKO mice. $p=0.002$, Student's *t* test (> 120 myelinating axon counts/animal from 3 animals/genotype).
(l) Representative CAP series from optic nerves of control and *Tet1* cKO mice elicited by square voltage pulses of varied amplitudes.
(m) Evoked CAP amplitudes of the 2nd peak (maximal) from control and *Tet1* cKO mice plotted versus stimulus intensities. Data are Means ± SEM (n=9 nerves per group). **, $p<0.01$ compared to control by Student's *t* test.
(n) Total CAP area vs. stimulus intensities in controls and *Tet1* cKO mice at all stimulus intensities compared. Data are Means ± SEM (n=9 nerves per group). **, $p<0.01$ compared to control by Student's *t* test.

Fig. 3 Proliferation and cell-cycle progression are defective in OPCs from *Tet1* cKO mice

(a) Representative images of Olig2 staining for E15.5 and Sox10/ PDGFRα staining for P1 control and *Tet1* cKO cortexes. Scale bar, 100 µm.

(b) Quantification of Olig2$^+$ cells in cortexes from E15.5 and P1 controls and *Tet1* cKO mice. Data are Means ± SEM (n=4 animals per group). *, $p<0.05$ compared to control, Mann-Whitney U test，*** $p<0.001$ compared to control, Student's *t* test.

(c) Quantification of PDGFRα$^+$ cells in cortexes from E15.5, P1, P6, P14, and P60 controls and *Tet1* cKO mice. Data are Means ± SEM (n=3 animals per group) *, $p<0.05$ compared to control, Student's *t* test.

(d) Representative images of P1 control and *Tet1* cKO cortexes immunostained for BrdU and Olig2. Scale bar, 100 µm.

(e) Quantification of BrdU$^+$ cells within Olig2$^+$ OPC population in control and *Tet1* cKO brains. Data are Means ± SEM (n=3 animals per group). *, $p<0.05$ compared to control, Student's *t* test.

(f) Representative flow cytometry traces of propidium iodide-stained OPCs from control and *Tet1* cKO mice.

(g) Quantification the percentage of OPCs from control and *Tet1* cKO mice in each phase of the cell cycle. Data are Means ± SEM (n=3~4 independent cultures per group). **, $p<0.01$ compared to control, Mann-Whitney U test.

(h) Representative images of immunostaining of CNPase and MBP at 3 days *in vitro* (3DIV) and 5 DIV after induction of differentiation in control and *Tet1* cKO cultures. Scale bar, 50 µm.

(i) Density of CNPase$^+$ and/or MBP$^+$ cells in cultures from control or *Tet1 cKO* mice. Data are Means ± SEM (n=4 of independent experiments each group). ***, $p<0.001$, Student's *t* test.

Fig 4. OPC differentiation is impaired in *Tet1* OPC-iKO mice

(a) Diagram showing TAM administration to induce the Cre recombination in *Tet1* OPC-iKO (*NG2-CreER*^{T}: *Tet1*$^{flox/flox}$) mice.

(b) Representative images of P7 control and *Tet1*-iKO mice corpus collosum stained for TET1 and Sox10. Arrows indicate Sox10$^+$ cells that show reduced levels of TET1 in *Tet1*-iKO image. Scale bar, 20 µm.

(c) Percentages of TET1$^+$ cells among Sox10$^+$ oligodendrocytes in P7 corpus collosum. Data are Means ± SEM (n=4 animals per group). **, $p<0.01$ compared to control by Student's *t* test.

(d) Representative images of control and *Tet1* OPC-iKO P7 corpus callosum stained for PDGFRα/Ki67 or MBP. Scale bar, 100 µm.

(e-g) Quantification the density of PDGFRα$^+$ cells (e), the percentage of Ki67$^+$ cells among PDGFRα$^+$ cells (f) and the density of MBP$^+$ cells at P7 (g). * $p<0.05$, compared to control by Student's *t* test (n=3 animals per group).

(h) Representative images of control and *Tet1* OPC-iKO P14 corpus callosum stained for CC1/Sox10 and MBP. Scale bar, 100 µm.

(i) Quantification the density of CC1$^+$ cells at P14. *** $p<0.001$ compared to control by Student's *t* test (n=3 animals per group).

Fig. 5 Impaired CNS remyelination in *Tet1* OPC-iKO mice

(a) Diagram of brain showing the LPC injection site.

(b) Representative images of TET1 immunostaining in corpus callosum of non-lesion vehicle injection region and LPC-induced lesion region of wild-type mouse at dpl 7. Arrows indicate TET1$^+$/Olig2$^+$ cells. Scale bar, 50 µm.

(c) Quantification of TET1$^+$ cell density and the percentages of TET1$^+$ and Olig2$^+$ cells in LPC lesion sites at dpl 7. Data are presented as Means ± SEM (n=3~4 animals per group). * $p<0.05$, ***, $p<0.001$, Student's *t* test.

(d) Diagram showing TAM administration and LPC injection schedule in *NG2CreER*^{T};*Tet1*$^{flox/flox}$ mice.

(e) Representative images of lesion regions from control and *Tet1*-iKO mutants at dpl 7 and dpl 14. Samples were immunolabeled for PDGFRα and GST-pi, respectively. Dashed line indicates the border of lesion site. Scale bars, 100 µm.

(f) Quantification of PDGFRα$^+$ OPCs in LPC lesion sites at dpl 7. Data are Means ± SEM (n=3

animals each group). $p = 0.848$, Student's t test.
(g) Quantification of GST-pi$^+$ OLs in LPC lesion sites at dpl 14 and 21. Data are Means ± SEM
(n=4 animals each group). * $p<0.05$, ***$p<0.001$, Student's t test.
(h) Contralateral side and LPC lesion regions from control and *Tet1*-iKO corpus callosum at dpl
21. Samples were immunostained for MBP. Scale bar, 200 μm.
(i) Representative images of electron micrographs of lesion regions from control and *Tet1*-iKO
mutants at 28 dpl. Scar bar, 0.5 μm.
(j) The number of myelinated axons in lesion regions from control and *Tet1*-iKO mutants at 28
dpl. Data are Means ± SEM (n=4 slides from 3 animals per group). ***, $p<0.001$ compared to
control, Student's t test.
(k) G ratios versus axonal perimeters in lesion regions from control and *Tet1*-iKO mutants at 28
dpl. $p<0.001$ compared to control, Student's t test (> 130 myelinating axon counts/animal from 3
animals/genotype).
14
Fig. 6 Lack of *Tet1* alters the transcriptome profiles in OPCs
(a) Heatmap of RNA-seq data from purified OPCs shows categories of differentially expressed
genes between control and *Tet1* cKO mice. Each genotype was repeated once.
(b) GSEA analysis of the most differentially regulated genes in OPC cultures from *Tet1* mutant
and control mice.
(c-f) GSEA plots of genes involved in oligodendrocyte differentiation (c), cell division (d),
mitochondria genes (e) and chemokine signaling pathway genes (f) in control and *Tet1* mutant
OPCs.
(g-i) Quantitative real-time PCR of oligodendrocyte differentiation genes (g), genes involved in
cell division and G2/M cell cycle regulation (h), and chemokine genes (i) in control and *Tet1*
mutant OPCs. Data are means ± SEM of transcript levels relative to control after normalization
from three independent experiments each performed in triplicate. * $p<0.05$, ** $p<0.01$, ***
$p<0.001$, compared to control, Student's t test.
28
Fig. 7 DNA hydroxymethylation of genes and transcript levels are correlated in
oligodendrocytes from *Tet1* cKO mice
(a) Representative images of 5hmC and CC1$^+$ immunostaining in the corpus callosum of P27
control and *Tet1* cKO mice. Attenuated level of 5hmC in CC1$^+$ cells in *Tet1* mutant is indicated by
arrows. Scale bar, 50 μm.
(b) Quantification the fluorescence intensity of 5hmC staining in CC1$^+$ cells from control and *Tet1*
cKO brains. Data are Means ± SEM (n=4 animals per group) ***, $p<0.001$ compared to control,
Student's t test.
(c) Normalized 5hmC tag density distribution from *Tet1* cKO and control OPCs.
(d) Heatmap of 5hmC signal from ±5 kb of TSS at all annotated genes in control and *Tet1* cKO
OPCs.
(e) Quadrant plot of differentially hydroxymethylated peaks at gene bodies and differentially
expressed genes (*Tet1* cKO versus Control, $p<0.05$). The x axis is Log$_2$ fold change of transcript
level, and the y axis is the difference in DNA hydroxymethylation. Dashed lines indicate 2-fold
difference. Genes indicated are involved in the OL differentiation, cell division and calcium
transporter.
(f) Gene ontology analysis for downregulated and hypo-hydroxymethylated gene groups in *Tet1*
ablated OPCs.
(g-h) 5hmC enriched genes involved in myelination (g) and calcium transport (h) from control
(blue) and *Tet1* cKO (orange) OPCs.
(i) GSEA plots of genes involved in calcium ion transmembrane transporter activity in control and
Tet1 mutant OPCs.
(j) Quantitative real-time PCR of genes involved in calcium ion transmembrane transporter
activity in control and *Tet1* cKO OPCs. Data are Means ± SEM of transcript levels relative to
control after normalization from three independent experiments each performed in triplicate. **
$p<0.01$, *** $p<0.001$, compared to control, Student's t test.

Fig. 8 Impaired calcium transport in *Tet1* cKO OPCs and depletion of Itpr2, a TET1-5hmC target gene, inhibits developmental myelination

(a) Representative serial images obtained after addition of 100 μM ATP to OPCs from control or *Tet1* cKO mice.

(b) Representative traces of Fluo4 intensity in OPCs from control and *Tet1* cKO mice following application of ATP.

(c) Amplitude changes (ΔF/F) after ATP treatment of control and *Tet1* cKO OPCs. Data are Means ± SD (n=104-105 cells from three independent cultures). ***, $p<0.001$, Student's t test.

(d) The average rise in slope of Fluo4 intensity after ATP addition in control and *Tet1* cKO OPCs. Data are Means ± SD (n=104-105 cells from three independent cultures). ***, $p<0.001$, Student's t test.

(e) Representative images of Itpr2 immunostaining during OPC differentiation *in vitro*. Arrows indicate the highest level of Itpr2 in newly formed CNPase+ oligodendrocytes from 1DIV differentiation cultures, which is not appear in other stages. Scale bar, 10 μm.

(f) Quantitative real-time PCR identified the efficiency of siRNA-*Itpr2* duplex in reducing the mRNA level of *Itpr2* in normal OPCs and in repressing the expression of two myelin genes, *Mbp* and *Plp*, in differentiating OLs, respectively. Transfection with non-targeting duplex was used as negative control (NC). Data are Means ± SEM (n=3 transfections). ** $p<0.01$, *** $p<0.001$, Student's t test.

(g) Immunostaining for MBP/Olig2 in OL cultures after transfected with siRNA-*Itpr2* duplex for 4 days. Scale bar, 100μm.

(h) Quantification the percentage of MBP+ cells among Olig2+ cells after siRNA transfection. Note the significant decrease of differentiated cells in siRNA-*Itpr2* transfected group. Data are Means ± SEM (n=3 transfections). * $p<0.05$, Student's t test.

(i) Representative double immunostaining for Itpr2 and Olig2 in P14 corpus collosum from control and *Itpr2* cKO mice. Scale bar, 50 μm.

(j) Percentage of Itpr2+ cells among Olig2+ OLs in P14 corpus collosum of control and *Itpr2* cKO mice. Data are Means ± SEM (n=4 animals each group). ***, $p<0.001$, Student's t test.

(k) Immunostaining for OPC marker PDGFRα and double immunostaining for OL lineage marker Olig2 and mature OL marker CC1 in corpus collosum from P14 *Itpr2* cKO mice. Scale bar, 50 μm.

(l) Quantification the percentage of PDGFRα+ cells in P7 and P14 mice revealed significant reduction in *Itpr2* cKO mice. Data are Means ± SEM (n=4 animals per group). ** $p<0.01$, Student's t test.

(m) Quantification the percentage of CC1+ cells among Olig2+ cells from P7 to P31 mice revealed significant reduction in *Itpr2* cKO mice. Data are Means ± SEM (n=4 animals in control group and 3 animals in mutant). * $p<0.05$, Mann-Whitney U test, ** $p<0.01$, *** $p<0.001$, Student's t test.

(n) Representative images for MBP staining in corpus collosum from P31 *Itpr2* cKO mice. Scale bar, 50 μm.

(o) Representative electron micrographs of optic nerves from P16 control and *Itpr2* cKO mice. Scale bar, 1 μm.

(p) Quantification the number of myelinated axons in defined areas from optic nerves of control and *Itpr2* cKO mice. Data are Means ± SEM (n=8 slides from 3 animals per group). *** $p<0.001$ compared to control, Student's t test.

(q) G ratios versus axonal perimeters for control and *Itpr2* cKO mice reveal significant difference. $p<0.001$, compared to control, Friedman M test (> 110 myelinating axon counts/animal from 3 animals/genotype).

Figure 1

Figure 2

Figure 3

Figure 4

Figure 5

Figure 6

Figure 7

Figure 8