

Transcriptional-Regulatory Convergence Across Functional MDD Risk Variants Identified by Massively Parallel Reporter Assays

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Manuscript Source: <https://www.biorxiv.org/content/10.1101/2021.03.05.434177v1>

Manuscript Authors: Bernard Mulvey & Joseph D. Dougherty

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- Depending on the source of the input text, the Sentence Audit may contain occasional html artefacts that are parsed as sentences (E.g. "Download figure. Open in new tab").
- Always consult the original research paper as the true reference source for the text.

Contact Information:

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All queries, feedback or suggestions are also very welcome.

Research Paper Sections:

The sections of the research paper input text parsed in this audit.

[illegible]

Title **Transcriptional-Regulatory Convergence Across Functional
MDD Risk Variants Identified by Massively Parallel Reporter
Assays**

S1 [001] ABSTRACT

S1 [002] Family and population studies indicate clear heritability of major depressive disorder (MDD), though its underlying biology remains unclear.

Family ...
... and population studies indicate clear heritability ...
... of major depressive disorder ...
... (MDD), ...
... though its underlying biology remains unclear.

S1 [003] The majority of single-nucleotide polymorphism (SNP) linkage blocks associated with MDD by genome-wide association studies (GWASes) are believed to alter transcriptional regulators (e.g., enhancers, promoters), based on enrichment of marks correlated with these functions.

The majority ...
... of single-nucleotide polymorphism ...
... (SNP) ...
... linkage blocks associated ...
... with MDD ...
... by genome-wide association studies ...
... (GWASes) ...
... are believed ...
... to alter transcriptional regulators ...
... (e.g., enhancers, ...
... promoters), ...
... based ...
... on enrichment ...
... of marks correlated ...
... with these functions.

S1 [004] A key to understanding MDD pathophysiology will be elucidation of which SNPs are functional and how such functional variants biologically converge to elicit the disease.

A key ...
... to understanding MDD pathophysiology will be elucidation ...
... of which SNPs are functional ...
... and how ...
... such functional variants biologically converge ...
... to elicit the disease.

S1 [005] Furthermore, retinoids can elicit MDD in patients, and promote depressive behaviors in rodent models, acting via a regulatory system of retinoid receptor transcription factors (TFs).

Furthermore, ...
... retinoids can elicit MDD ...
... in patients, ...
... and promote depressive behaviors ...
... in rodent models, ...
... acting ...
... via a regulatory system ...
... of retinoid receptor transcription factors ...
... (TFs).

S1 [006] We therefore sought to simultaneously identify functional genetic variants and assess retinoid pathway regulation of MDD risk loci.

We therefore sought ...
... to simultaneously identify functional genetic variants ...
... and assess retinoid pathway regulation ...
... of MDD risk loci.

S1 [007] Using Massively Parallel Reporter Assays (MPRAs), we functionally screened over 1 000 SNPs prioritized from 39 neuropsychiatric trait/disease GWAS loci, with SNPs selected based on overlap with predicted regulatory features—including expression quantitative trait loci (eQTL) and histone marks—from human brains and cell cultures.

Using Massively Parallel Reporter Assays ...
... (MPRAs), ...
... we functionally screened ...
... over 1 000 SNPs prioritized ...
... from 39 neuropsychiatric trait/disease GWAS loci, ...
... with SNPs selected based ...
... on overlap ...
... with predicted regulatory features—including expression quantitative trait loci ...
... (eQTL) ...
... and histone marks—from human brains ...
... and cell cultures.

S1 [008] We identified >100 SNPs with allelic effects on expression in a retinoid-responsive model system.

We identified >100 SNPs ...
... with allelic effects ...
... on expression ...
... in a retinoid-responsive model system.

S1 [009] Further, functional SNPs were enriched for binding sequences of retinoic acid-receptive transcription factors (TFs); with additional allelic differences unmasked by treatment with all-trans retinoic acid (ATRA).

Further, ...
... functional SNPs were enriched ...
... for binding sequences ...
... of retinoic acid-receptive transcription factors ...
... (TFs); ...
... with additional allelic differences unmasked ...
... by treatment ...

... with all-trans retinoic acid ...
... (ATRA).

S1 [010] Finally, motifs overrepresented across functional SNPs corresponded to TFs highly specific to serotonergic neurons, suggesting an in vivo site of action.

Finally, ...
... motifs overrepresented ...
... across functional SNPs corresponded ...
... to TFs highly specific ...
... to serotonergic neurons, ...
... suggesting an in vivo site ...
... of action.

S1 [011] Our application of MPRA to screen MDD-associated SNPs suggests a shared transcriptional regulatory program across loci, a subset of which are unmasked by retinoids.

Our application ...
... of MPRA ...
... to screen MDD-associated SNPs suggests a shared transcriptional regulatory program ...
... across loci, ...
... a subset ...
... of which are unmasked ...
... by retinoids.

S2 [012] INTRODUCTION

S2 [013] Major depressive disorder (MDD) is a common but debilitating psychiatric disorder affecting hundreds of millions worldwide¹, exacting substantial tolls on both individuals² and societies³.

Major depressive disorder ...
... (MDD) ...
... is a common ...
... but debilitating psychiatric disorder affecting hundreds ...
... of millions worldwide¹, ...
... exacting substantial tolls ...
... on both individuals² ...
... and societies³.

S2 [014] Despite the global burden of MDD, nearly half of patients do not clinically respond to treatment⁴, in part due to limited understanding of its biological underpinnings.

Despite the global burden ...
... of MDD, ...
... nearly half ...
... of patients do not clinically respond ...
... to treatment⁴, ...
... in part ...
... due to limited understanding ...

... of its biological underpinnings.

S2 [015] Family studies have demonstrated that MDD risk is at least 30% heritable^{5,6}.

Family studies have demonstrated ...
... that MDD risk is ...
... at least 30% heritable^{5,6}.

S2 [016] More recently, genome-wide association studies (GWASes) have demonstrated similar estimates for severe MDD⁷, and have helped narrow in on associated single nucleotide polymorphisms (SNPs)^{8–12}, a tantalizing entry point for understanding the biology of MDD.

More recently, ...
... genome-wide association studies ...
... (GWASes) ...
... have demonstrated similar estimates ...
... for severe MDD⁷, ...
... and have helped narrow ...
... in ...
... on associated single nucleotide polymorphisms ...
... (SNPs)^{8–12}, ...
... a tantalizing entry point ...
... for understanding the biology ...
... of MDD.

S2 [017] However, GWAS studies do not identify causal variants, but rather implicate wider co-inherited regions consisting of many SNPs in linkage disequilibrium (LD).

However, ...
... GWAS studies do not identify causal variants, ...
... but rather implicate wider co-inherited regions consisting ...
... of many SNPs ...
... in linkage disequilibrium ...
... (LD).

S2 [018] Most disease-associated SNPs are found outside of protein-coding sequences suggesting probable roles in transcriptional regulation (TR)^{13–16}.

Most disease-associated SNPs are found outside ...
... of protein-coding sequences suggesting probable roles ...
... in transcriptional regulation ...
... (TR)^{13–16}.

S2 [019] However, this leaves unresolved issues of identifying which linked SNPs have functional allelic impacts on TR, and how these act together across loci to result in disease.

However, ...
... this leaves unresolved issues ...
... of identifying ...
... which linked SNPs have functional allelic impacts ...
... on TR, ...
... and how these act together ...
... across loci ...
... to result ...

End of Sample Audit

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