

Gene symbol	Gene ID	Gene name
hh	FBgn0004644	hedgehog
ptc	FBgn0003892	patched
smo	FBgn0003444	smoothened
ci	FBgn0004859	cubitus interruptus
Pka-C2	FBgn0000274	Protein kinase, cAMP-dependent, catalytic subunit 2
wg	FBgn0284084	wingless
fz	FBgn0001085	frizzled
dsh	FBgn0000499	dishevelled
pan	FBgn0085432	pangolin
arm	FBgn0000117	armadillo
en	FBgn0000577	engrailed
Egfr	FBgn0003731	Epidermal growth factor receptor
spi	FBgn0005672	spitz
aos	FBgn0004569	argos
rl	FBgn0003256	rolled

pnt	FBgn0003118	pointed
aop	FBgn0000097	anterior open
gro	FBgn0001139	groucho
ind	FBgn0025776	intermediate neuroblasts defective
vnd	FBgn0261930	ventral nervous system defective
msh	FBgn0000492	muscle segment homeobox, Drop

Node	Boolean functions
Fz	Wg_external
Arm	Fz
Pan	Arm
En	Pan
Hh	En & !Ci_Rep
Ptc	!Hh_external
Smo	!Ptc
Ci_Act	Smo & !En
Pka	!Smo
Ci_Rep	Pka & !En
Wg	Ci_Act & !Ci_Rep
Egfr	Spi & !Aos
Rl	Egfr
Pnt	RI
Aop	!R1
pGro	Rl pGro
Gro	!pGro
Ind	!Vnd & !Gro

Vnd	Pnt & !Ind
Msh	!Vnd & !Ind
Glial Cell Fate	Msh & (Wg En)
Neural Cell Fate	(Vnd Ind Msh) & (Wg En)

1. Fz = Wg external

The Wg signal is transduced across the membrane involving Frizzled proteins (such as Fz and DFz2) in the adjacent receiving cells¹.

2. Arm = Fz

Wg binding to Fz and Arrow brings them together, thereby recruiting Dsh to the membrane. When the destruction complex is inactivated by receptor/Dsh activity, Arm/beta-catenin translocates to the nucleus where it binds the N-terminus of Tcf (also known as dTCF or Pan), displacing the Groucho co-repressor and recruiting activators to drive target gene expression. The recruitment of Dsh to the membrane is not included in our model. We considered the main event that Wg binding to Fz activates Arm translocation to the nucleus where it binds to the N-terminus of Pan, thereby recruiting activators to drive target gene expression. Wg protein that is transcribed and secreted from an anterior row of cells maintains the expression of a transcription factor, engrailed (en), in adjoining, posterior cells ^{2,3}.

3. Pan = Arm

Please refer to the reaction 2 for the explanation of the Boolean update rule of Pan.

4. En = Pan

Please refer to the reaction 2 for the explanation of the Boolean update rule of En.

5. Hh = En & !Ci rep

One of the functions of En is to maintain hh expression. Ci_rep, a 75 kD transcriptional repressor moves to the nucleus and represses hh^1 .

6. Ptc = !Hh external

Secreted Hh interacts with its receptor Ptc, thus relieving the repression of Ptc on Smo^{1,4}.

7. Smo = !Ptc

Please refer to the reaction 6 for the explanation of the Boolean update rule of Smo.

8. Ci act = Smo & ! En

Ci is a cytoplasmic protein with no known function in this from. It can be cleaved to generate Ci^R, a 75 kD transcriptional repressor (henceforth Ci_rep) or full-length Ci, a 155 kD transcriptional activator (Ci_act). Smo is freed of the inhibitory effects of Ptc, Smo signals through unknown mechanisms to the Fu/Cos2/Ci complex, causing hyperphosphorylation of Fu and Cos2. This results in the complex to loosen its hold on microtubules and leads to the stabilization of Ci_act. Stabilized Ci_act can then travel to the nucleus and functions as a transcriptional activator, upregulating transcription of Hh target genes^{5,6}.

9. Pka = ! Smo

In the absence of Hh ligand, repression of Smo allows Drosophila Protein Kinase A (PKA) phosphorylation of Ci on several sites and these phosphorylation events are required for the cleavage of Ci into Ci rep ⁷.

10. Ci rep = Pka & ! En

Pka phosphorylates Ci on several sites and these phosphorylation events are required for the cleavage of Ci into Ci_rep. Ci is repressed by En. Since the exact mechanism leading to generation of the different froms of Ci is not fully known, these reactions were omitted from the model. Ci repression by En was introduced into the model via two inhibitory edges to the both forms of Ci ^{5,6}.

11. Wg = Ci act & ! Ci rep

Ci_rep represses wg, ptc and hh transcription whereas Ci_act induces transcription of ptc and wg^{5,6}.

12. Egfr = Spi & !Aos

Spi encodes ligand that activate Egfr. Aos functions as an inhibitor of the signaling triggered by Egfr^{8,9}.

13. Rl = Egfr

Rl encodes the mitogen activated protein (MAP) kinase, core component of the RAS/MAPK pathway. Egfr activation induces RAS/MAPK pathway. Cells with a loss of function in Rl produce the same cell-death phenotype as seen in an EGF loss of function¹⁰.

14. Pnt = Rl

Activated Rl phosphorylates and activates transcription factors such as Pnt^{10,11}.

15. $pGro = Rl \mid pGro$

Gro is phosphorylated by MAPK. Modification of Gro downregulates its repressor activity, causing derepression of pathway target genes. MAPK is no longer active after RTK signaling has been turned off, yet Gro remains stably phosphorylated and its activity attenuated, allowing for sustained RTK target gene expression. Phosphorylated Groucho is a nuclear and stable protein. This was captured in our model via self-loop of pGro and Gro inhibition¹².

16. Gro = ! pGro

Please refer to the reaction 15 for the explanation of the Boolean update rule of Gro.

17. Ind = ! Vnd & ! Gro

Vnd represses ind and msh in the ventral neuroectoderm, and ind represses msh in the intermediate neuroectoderm. Gro is a nuclear repressor and represses ind transcription^{13–15}.

18. Vnd = Pnt & !Ind

EGF signaling and Pnt either directly or indirectly maintain the expression of several genes in the neurogenic ectoderm including Ind and Vnd, which encode regulatory proteins that pattern the future ventral nerve cord. EGF signaling maintains expression of Pnt transcription factor, which, in turn, sustains the expression of Vnd (previously activated by Dorsal and Twi), Rho, and Vn¹³⁻¹⁵.

19. Msh = !Vnd & !Ind

Please refer to the reaction 18 for the explanation of the Boolean update rule of Msh.

20. Glial cell fate = $Msh & (Wg \mid En)$

Boolean functions were driven based on the information on morphologies of the NBs observed in vivo around late stage 11¹⁶. Gene expression along the anterior-posterior axis (e.g., wg, wingless; en, engrailed) and the dorso-ventral axis (vnd, ventral nervous system defective; ind, intermediate neuroblasts defective; msh, muscle segment homeobox) subdivide the ventral neuroectoderm into a grid-like Cartesian coordinate system. This system provides positional information, which specifies the identities of proneural clusters. Each proneural cluster gives rise to one specific NB. For example, NB6-4 delaminates from a proneural cluster that expresses msh and en. NB4-6 gives rise to glial cells exclusively^{17–19}.

21. Neural cell fate = (Vnd | Ind | Msh) & (Wg | En)

Please refer to the reaction 20 for the explanation of the Boolean update rule of neural cell fate.

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