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Highlights

Augmented LFP activity and sex-specific differences in 16pdel neurons

16pdel neuronal lipidome indicated altered ceramide related species

FAM57B is a ceramide synthase modulator essential for lipid regulation in the brain

FAM57B functions in synaptogenesis, synapse architecture, and composition

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16pdel lipid changes in iPSC-derived neurons and function of FAM57B in lipid metabolism and synaptogenesis

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SUMMARY

The complex 16p11.2 deletion syndrome (16pdel) is accompanied by neurological disorders, including epilepsy, autism spectrum disorder, and intellectual disability. We demonstrated that 16pdel iPSC differentiated neurons from affected people show augmented local field potential activity and altered ceramide-related lipid species relative to unaffected. *FAM57B*, a poorly characterized gene in the 16p11.2 interval, has emerged as a candidate tied to symptomatology. We found that FAM57B modulates ceramide synthase (CerS) activity, but is not a CerS per se. In *FAM57B* mutant human neuronal cells and zebrafish brain, composition and levels of sphingolipids and glycerolipids associated with cellular membranes are disrupted. Consistently, we observed aberrant plasma membrane architecture and synaptic protein mislocalization, which were accompanied by depressed brain and behavioral activity. Together, these results suggest that haploinsufficiency of *FAM57B* contributes to changes in neuronal activity and function in 16pdel syndrome through a crucial role for the gene in lipid metabolism.

INTRODUCTION

16p11.2 deletion (16pdel) syndrome, a severe and prevalent neurodevelopmental disorder, is a copy number variant with deletion of ~600 kb from chromosome 16, encompassing 25 core protein-coding genes. This haploinsufficiency syndrome is estimated to affect ~1 in 2500 worldwide and is tightly associated with autism spectrum disorder (ASD), language and intellectual disability, seizures, attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder, macrocephaly, hypotonia, and obesity (D'Angelo et al., 2016; Hanson et al., 2015; Zufferey et al., 2012; Egolf et al., 2019; Maillard et al., 2015). Strong indications of synaptic defects are associated with 16pdel symptoms, particularly epilepsy (Fetit et al., 2020; Kleinendorst et al., 2020) and ASD (Fetit et al., 2020; Kim et al., 2020; Maillard et al., 2015; Ouellette et al., 2020; Sebat et al., 2007; Pinto et al., 2010; Zufferey et al., 2012), as well as links to metabolic defects (Hoytema van Konijnenburg et al., 2020).

Previously, analysis in the zebrafish model suggested that *FAM57B* is a pivotal hub gene in the 16p11.2 interval that encodes a protein proposed to be a ceramide synthase (Yamashita-Sugahara et al., 2013). Using a pairwise partial loss of function screen for zebrafish embryonic brain morphology, we found that *fam57b* interacted with numerous other 16p11.2 interval genes, suggesting haploinsufficiency of *FAM57B* is critical in 16pdel syndrome etiology (McCammon et al., 2017). FAM57B (family with sequence similarity 57, member B) is a Tram-Lag-CLN8 (TLC) family member, containing a domain of roughly 200 amino acids found in several other proteins, including ceramide synthases (CerS, the Lag of TLC) (Pewzner-Jung et al., 2006). Ceramides are sphingolipids (SLs) which are key membrane components and also act as signaling molecules to modulate proliferation, apoptosis, inflammation, cell-cycle arrest and ER stress (Grosch et al., 2012). In humans, mutations in some of the 6 known CerS are associated with autism, epilepsy, and intellectual disability (Vanni et al., 2014; Egawa et al., 2015; Ranta et al., 1999). In this study, to further assess the predicted connection with 16pdel syndrome, we examined FAM57B function through a multidisciplinary approach, across human cells and the zebrafish system.

RESULTS

Augmented network activity in 16pdel neuron cultures

Based on previous data, we hypothesized that 16pdel neurons would show an altered lipid profile due to contributions of *FAM57B* and possibly other 16pdel genes with predicted roles in metabolism



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Figure 1. Augmented local field potential activity in 16pdel syndrome differentiated neuronal culture

(A) Local Field Potential (LFP) summary analyzed by log2 fold change between control and 16pdel patient differentiated neurons. MEA activity was recorded over 30 min starting in media, followed by physiological and high potassium chloride (KCI) solution. Data was summarized and pooled from 3 experiments. Control n = 9 (media), n = 17 (Physiological Solution), n = 13 (High KCI Solution). 16pdel n = 35 (media), n = 76 (Physiological Solution), n = 35 (High KCI Solution). Violin plot group analysis: Control - 16pdel two-way ANOVA. * $p \le 0.05$. Technical experimental replicates n = 3.

(B) Increased sex specific activity in female 16pdel probands drives overall increased LFPs, compared to unaffected controls. Media unaffected neurons (Control) male (δ) n = 3, Control female (P) n = 6,16pdel neurons (Proband) δ n = 21, Proband P n = 14, Physiological Solution Control δ n = 7, Control P n = 10, Proband δ n = 38, Proband P n = 38, High KCl Solution Control δ n = 6, Control P n = 7, Proband δ n = 18, Proband P n = 17. Violin plot analysis: male versus female ttest. ****p \leq 0.0001.

(C) Increased sex specific female electrogenic burst frequency analyzed by log2 fold change between 16pdel male and female Media σ n = 21, ρ n = 14, Physiological Solution σ n = 38, ρ n = 38, High KCl Solution σ = 18, ρ n = 17. Violin plot analysis: male versus female ttest. *p \leq 0.05. Technical experimental replicates n = 3.

(McCammon et al., 2017). To test this, we prepared neurons from 16pdel carrier-induced–pluripotent stem cells (iPSC), part of the Simons VIP Consortium, and unaffected control iPSC in culture (Simons Vip, 2012) (Table S1). Neural progenitor cells were differentiated into cortical neurons, since the cortex has consistently shown anatomical differences in 16pdel affected individuals (Martin-Brevet et al., 2018; Maillard et al., 2015; Hinkley et al., 2019; Lin et al., 2015; Qureshi et al., 2014; Blackmon et al., 2018). After one month in culture, immunocytochemistry (ICC) indicated mature neurons by the presence of vesicular glutamate 1 and 2 receptors (VGlut1/2) (Figures S1A and S1B), the synaptic markers PSD95 (Figure S1B) and Synaptotagmin-1 (Syt1). Cultures of control and 16pdel (proband) differentiated neurons showed similar percentages of mature neurons by these criteria. Quantitative analysis was performed to determine equivalent maturation between control and 16pdel differentiated neurons. Production of synaptic proteins was measured by colocalization analysis, indicating neuronal somas that were Synaptotagmin-1 positive additionally colocalized with PSD-95 (Table S2).

To further characterize these neurons, we probed network electrical activity by multi-electrode array (MEA). Spontaneous activity of differentiated neurons was measured over 30 min; first in culture media, followed by physiological solution, and finally in high potassium chloride solution. Comparing grouped genotypes, we recorded an increased frequency of local field potentials (LFPs) in 16pdel proband neuron cultures relative to controls, indicating 16pdel neurons display heightened spontaneous and evoked activity compared to unaffected control (Figure 1A). Examining individual patient cell lines, we observed relatively similar MEA activity in controls (black), and increased electrical activity in 16pdel neuron cultures (gray) (Figure S2A). Interestingly, female 16pdel neuron cultures showed statistically increased LFP frequency compared to male 16pdel neuron cultures when measured in media and high KCl solution (Figure 1B). Sex differences were also observed in LFP firing and bursting properties, with increased burst frequency of female 16pdel neurons compared to male in media (Figure 1C). While behavioral deficits have been widely observed among male mouse 16pdel models, a recent report found stress-related sex differences in a female 16p11.2 deletion mouse model. Thus, Giovanniello et al. discovered an increase in activity in central amygdala neurons projecting to the globus pallidus in female, but not male, 16pdel model mice (Giovanniello et al., 2021). Our data consistently suggest sex-specific differences between the activity of 16pdel and control neurons. These findings expand previous observations that demonstrated larger cell size and deficits in synaptic density in 16pdel neurons compared to control (Deshpande et al., 2017).

Significant lipid class and individual species changes indicate complexity of 16pdel syndrome

Using differentiated 16pdel and control neurons, we compared their lipid cohorts using untargeted lipidomics (Table S1- iPSC Neuron Lipidomics). Consistent with predictions, many significant changes were observed in total lipid classes between 16pdel and control neurons (Figure 2A). Levels of SLs (ceramide iScience

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Figure 2. Significant lipid changes between control and 16pdel differentiated neurons

(A) Total log2 fold change from normalized peak area of lipid class analysis from untargeted lipidomics. Bolded and colored indicate statistically significant changes by T test, $p \leq 0.05$ –0.0001. AcCa acyl carnitine, AEA N-arachidonoylethanolamine, Cer ceramide, ChE cholesterol ester, Co coenzyme, DG diacylglycerol, Hex1Cer hexosylceramide, LPC lysophosphatiylcholine, LPE lysophosphatiylethanolamine, LPG lysophosphatiylglycerol, MG monoacylglycerol, PA phosphatidic acid, PC phosphatidylcholine, PE phosphatidylethanolamine, PG phosphatidylglycerol, PI phosphatidylinositol, PS phosphatidylserine, SM sphingomyelin, SPH sphingosine, TG triacylglycerol.

(B) Total lipid composition analysis from untargeted lipidomics between control and 16pdel neuron. Chain Length: Small 1–5, Medium 6–12, Long 13–21, Very Long 22+, and Unresolved.

(C–F) Selected analysis of lipid species from untargeted lipidomics classes. Lipid Class specified for each histogram (c - phosphatidylethanolamine, (D) ceramide, (E) monoacylglycerol, (F) triacylglycerol) normalized peak area between control (gray) and 16pdel (orange). Statistical analysis by two-Way ANOVA, *p $\leq 0.05 * p \leq 0.01, ***p \leq 0.001, ****p \leq 0.001$. Control n = 10, 16pdel n= 69, error bars represent SEM. TG and PE long and very long chain species not shown as no significant differences were found by ANOVA. Technical experimental replicates n = 3.

(Cer) and sphingomyelin (SM)) and glycerolipids (GL) (lysophosphatidylethanolamine (LPE), phosphatidylethanolamine (PE), monoacylglycerol (MG)) were significantly decreased, while GL (triacylglycerol (TG)) levels were significantly increased. Analyzing the lipid composition, we found similar levels of unsaturated and saturated species between 16pdel and control neurons, but differences in saturation of acyl carnitine (AcCa) (unsaturated control 33.78% versus 16pdel 55.16%, and saturated control 66.22% and 16pdel 44.84%) and TG (unsaturated control 71.15% versus 16pdel 80.28%, and saturated control 28.85% and 16pdel 19.72%) (Figure 2B). Polyunsaturated fatty acids (PUFAs) are important in the brain where they are essential for signaling and membrane structure (Bazinet and Laye, 2014). Chain length analysis indicated large differences in lysophosphatidylglycerol (LPG) (long chain control 85.76% versus 16pdel 75.55%) and phosphatidylglycerol (PG) (long chain control 71.78% versus 16pdel 51.88%). While having a similar ratio of long and very long chain PE species (Figure 2B), analysis of individual lipid species demonstrated significantly decreased levels of several PE(18:22) species in 16pdel neurons relative to control (Figure 2C). Additionally, decreased Cer(18) species were observed in 16pdel (Figure 2D). Comparing MG and





TG, MG(18:0) decreased while many TG(18:1,18:2,18:3) increased (Figures 2E and 2F). Together, this analysis identifies differences in metabolism of ceramides and GLs in 16pdel neurons that are critical for function of the ER, mitochondria, and plasma membrane (Flis and Daum, 2013). The shift in saturation and tail length of GLs between 16pdel and control neurons suggests a dysfunctional neuronal membrane.

FAM57B functions as a ceramide synthase modulator

We considered that the extensive lipid differences between 16pdel and control neurons may partly result from FAM57B activity. The function of this protein is not clear, although a single report suggests that FAM57B has ceramide synthase activity (Yamashita-Sugahara et al., 2013). However, sequence analysis indicates that while FAM57B is part of the TLC protein family, including ceramide synthases (CerS), FAM57B has little sequence similarity to CerS, even in the TLC domain (Figure S3). To assess whether FAM57B is a bone fide CerS, it was expressed in CerS2^{-/-} (KO) HEK293T cells, which lack endogenous CerS2 activity (Tidhar et al., 2012) (Figure 3A). No CerS2 activity was detected in CerS2 KO cells upon transfection of FAM57B alone. However, co-transfection of FAM57B with CerS2 resulted in a significant increase in CerS2 activity compared to transfection of CerS2 alone (Figure 3A), suggesting that FAM57B might modulate CerS2 activity. There are six CerS isoforms in mammals, where each uses a restricted subset of acyl CoAs of defined chain length for ceramide synthesis (Levy and Futerman, 2010). To assess whether FAM57B can modulate other members of the mammalian CerS family, we expressed CerS5 and CerS6 with or without co-transfection of FAM57B in wildtype HEK293T cells. Upon co-transfection of CerS2 with FAM57B in wildtype HEK293T cells, levels of CerS2 activity and expression were significantly increased compared to CerS2 alone (Figure 3B). While co-transfection of FAM57B with CerS5 did not alter expression nor activity of this CerS (Figure 3C), an opposite trend was seen upon co-transfection of FAM57B with CerS6, whose activity decreased upon co-transfection with FAM57B (Figure 3C). These results suggest that FAM57B affect protein levels and activity of certain CerS isoforms, and may do so by an indirect mechanism, dependent on interaction of the two proteins. This hypothesis was confirmed by immunoprecipitation, in which Flag-tagged FAM57B was able to interact with all three HA-tagged CerS isoforms (Figure 3D). These data newly implicate FAM57B as a modulator of CerS, but refute a previous report that this protein functions as a CerS (Yamashita-Sugahara et al., 2013).

FAM57B modulates lipid cohorts and synaptic proteins in human cells

The intriguing functional differences between 16pdel and control neurons raise the question of whether *FAM57B* haploinsufficiency contributes to these differences. To address this, we used the human neuroblastoma line SH-SY5Y to create knockout (*FAM57B KO*) and *FAM57B* heterozygote (*FAM57B HET*) lines, using CRISPR-Cas9 editing. SH-SY5Y cells have proven useful for studying neuronal properties and function (Kovalevich, 2013). After confirmation of CRISPR induced genome editing by next generation sequencing, FAM57B protein depletion was confirmed by western analysis (Figure S4). For our studies, SH-SY5Y cells were differentiated into neurons after incubation in media containing retinoic acid. Overall, total lipid classes showed significant differences between *FAM57B KO* and WT (wildtype), specifically, increased ChE and MG (Figure 4A, Table S2- SH-SY5Y Lipidomics). Comparing *FAM57B HET* to WT, we observed increased LPC (Figure 4B). Additionally, relative to *FAM57B HET*, we found HexCer and PG significantly decreased while ChE increased in *FAM57B KO* cells (Figure 4C).

Notably, lipid class differences observed between FAM57B KO, FAM57B HET and WT were similarly altered in 16pdel patient neurons compared to controls (Figure 2A). This, in both FAM57B KO and FAM57B HET relative to WT, we observed increased abundance of PE(18:0,18:1,22:4,22:5) (Figure 4D), Cer(d18:1) (Figure 4E), MG(18:0) (Figure 4F), and with decreased abundance of TG(16:0,16:1,18:0,18:1,18:2,22:6) (Figure 4G). These differences are similar to those seen in 16pdel relative to control neurons (Figures 2C–2F). In FAM57B KO relative to WT, there was increased abundance of MG and decreased abundance TG (Figures 4F and 4G), as for 16pdel neurons compared to control (Figures 2A, 2E, and 2F). The alterations in lipid cohorts between FAM57B KO and FAM57B HET human neurons is similar to lipid changes in 16pdel neurons compared to control, and consistent with a role for FAM57B in dosage-sensitive lipid regulation. The similarities in lipid cohort alterations between FAM57B KO compared to FAM57B HET in SH-SY5Y human neurons and 16pdel neurons, is consistent with a role for FAM57B in dosage-sensitive, lipid regulation, including tight regulation of HexCer (Figure 4C).

To understand the consequence of FAM57B loss of function on neuronal maturation and function, we probed synaptic composition. Synaptosomes, comprising the pre- and postsynaptic membranes and







Figure 3. FAM57B interacts with CerS but does not have CerS activity

(A) CerS2 activity assayed using C24:1-CoA in CerS2 KO HEK293T cells. Statistical analysis by ttest *p \leq 0.05, **p \leq 0.01, error bars SEM. Technical experimental replicates n = 3.

(B) (Upper) Western blot analysis of total human FAM57B-Flag and CerS2-HA after transfection in HEK293T cells. Proteins were prepared from HEK293T cells overexpressing the indicated constructs. Anti-HA and anti-Flag are indicated. (Lower) CerS2 activity assayed using C24:1-CoA in HEK293T cells. GAPDH was used as a loading control. Statistical analysis by ttest * $p \le 0.05$, ** $p \le 0.01$, error bars SEM. Technical experimental replicates n = 3.

(C) (Upper) Western blot analysis of total human FAM57B-Flag, CerS5-HA and CerS6-HA after transfection in HEK293T cells. Proteins were prepared from cells overexpressing the indicated constructs. Anti-HA and anti-Flag are indicated. (Lower) CerS5 and CerS6 activity was assayed using C16:0-CoA in HEK293T cells. Anti-HA and anti-Flag are indicated. GAPDH was used as a loading control. Technical experimental replicates n = 4.

(D) Total cell lysates were prepared from the co-transfected cells with FAM57B-Flag and CerS2, 5 or 6-HA constructs and solubilized with 1% NP-40. Total lysates (input) or proteins immuno-precipitated with anti-Flag M2 agarose (IP) were subjected to immunoblotting with anti-HA or anti-Flag antibodies. GAPDH was used as a loading control. Technical experimental replicates n = 3.

postsynaptic density, were isolated from unfixed cells and processed by MS/MS (Table S3- SH-SY5Y Synaptosome MSMS). Synaptosomes from *FAM57B KO* cells showed significantly decreased abundance of over 100 proteins relative to WT (Figure 5A). In contrast, *FAM57B HET* showed no statistically significant changes in synaptosome protein composition relative to WT (Figure 5B), with the exception of dopamine beta-hydroxylase (DBH). Among the top 20 significantly decreased proteins in the *FAM57B KO* synaptosomes were those associated with protein trafficking, localization and stabilization (Figures 5C and 5D). Additionally, we observed an overall decrease in levels of hallmark synaptic proteins in *FAM57B KO* compared to *FAM57B HET* or WT (Figure 5E). These decreases included α-internexin INA, small GTPase vesicle recycling RAB11B, SNARE protein syntaxin STXBP1 and scaffolding protein YWHAZ. INA is a



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Figure 4. Significant lipid changes in sphingolipids and glycerolipids between WT and FAM57B mutant human differentiated SH-SY5Y neuronal cells

(A–C) Total log2 fold change from normalized peak area of lipid class analysis from untargeted lipidomics. (A) *FAM57B KO–* WT, (B) *FAM57B HET–* WT, (C) *FAM57B KO–FAM57B HET.* Bolded and colored indicate statistically significant changes by ttest, $p \le 0.05-0.0001$. AcCa acyl carnitine, Cer ceramide, ChE cholesterol ester, CL cardiolipin, Co coenzyme, DG diacylglycerol, HexCerHexosylceramide, LPC lysophosphatiylcholine, LPE lysophosphatiylethanolamine, MG monoacylglycerol, PC phosphatidylcholine, PE phosphatidylethanolamine, PG phosphatidylglycerol, PI phosphatidylinositol, PS phosphatidylserine, SM sphingomyelin, TG triacylglycerol. Technical experimental replicates n = 3. (D–G) Selected analysis of lipid species from untargeted lipidomics classes. Lipid Class specified for each histogram, normalized peak area between WT (black) *FAM57B HET* (orange) and *FAM57B KO* (blue). Statistical analysis by two-Way ANOVA, *p $\le 0.05 * *p \le 0.01$, ****p ≤ 0.0001 . Color of asterisks indicate comparison between WT – HET (orange), WT – KO (blue), HET – KO (black). WT n = 3, *FAM57B HET* n= 3, *FAM57B KO* n = 3, error bars represent SEM. Experiment repeated twice; analysis was similar between two separate runs.

neurofilament subunit protein important for neuronal cytoskeletal assembly and synaptogenesis localized to the post-synaptic terminal (Yuan and Nixon, 2016).

Separately, synaptosomes were isolated from differentiated SH-SY5Y cells and processed for lipidomic analysis (Table S4- SH-SY5Y Synaptosome Lipidomics). Comparing lipids localized to the pre- and post-synaptic terminals between *FAM57B KO* to WT neurons, significant changes in lipid abundances were observed, notably in hexosylceramide (HexCer) and monoacylglycerol (MG) (Figure 5F). Relative to WT, Hex2Cer and MG abundances increased, while Hex1Cer and phosphatidic acid (PA) abundances decreased. No statistically significant changes in lipid group abundances were observed between *FAM57B HET* relative to WT or *FAM57B KO*. These results suggest altered lipid composition, due to loss of *FAM57B* function at developing synapses impacts localization and/or trafficking of synaptic proteins in *FAM57B*, there are significant changes in lipid composition and regional synaptic protein abundance. The data are consistent with the suggestion that a deficit in FAM57B function partly contributes to 16pdel neuronal anomalies relative to control. The smaller changes observed in *FAM57B HET* relative to *FAM57B KO* suggests that other 16pdel genes contribute to phenotypes in the haploinsufficient syndrome.

FAM57B is essential for sphingolipid (SL) and glycerolipid (GL) homeostasis in the developing brain

16pdel alters brain structure and function, including neuroanatomical abnormalities and increased risk of psychiatric and other brain disorders (Niarchou et al., 2019; Owen et al., 2018). To understand how FAM57B

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Figure 5. FAM57B knockout human neurons indicate altered synaptic composition

(A and B) Isolated synaptosome protein abundance changes between (A) FAM57B KO relative to WT and (B) FAM57B HET relative to WT (Log2 Fold). Labeled and colored indicating increased (purple) or decreased (green) abundance. Only the top 20 proteins of statistical significance were labeled in A and analyzed in C-E. WT n = 8, HET n = 10, KO n = 7. Technical experimental replicates n = 3.

(C–E) Gene ontology analysis of statistically significant synaptosome isolated proteins (E) in FAM57B KO relative to WT. (E) gene ontology pie graphs of top 20 decreased protein groups of cellular components, molecular function, protein classes, biological processes and pathways.(F) gene ontology figure legend.

(G) Analysis of synaptic markers from isolated synaptosomes between all 3 genotypes. Bolded are significantly decreased protein abundance of synaptic structural and maturation proteins, and vesicle regulation machinery. INA – WT - HET & WT - KO, RAB11B – HET - KO, STXBP1 – WT - HET & WT - KO, YWHAZ – WT - HET & WT - KO. two-Way ANOVA, $p \le 0.05-0.0001$.

(F) Isolated synaptosome lipid abundance between FAM57B KO relative to WT. Bolded text and color (purple increased and green decreased) indicates statistically significant changes by ttest, $p \le 0.05-0.01$. n = 6 per genotype, technical experimental replicates n = 2. No statistically significant differences observed when comparing FAM57B HET to WT, nor FAM57B KO to FAM57B HET.

contributes to brain development, we analyzed zebrafish, *Danio rerio*, a powerful system for analysis of neural development and neurodevelopmental disorders (Kalueff et al., 2014; Stewart et al., 2014; Xi et al., 2011; McCammon and Sive, 2015). The zebrafish genome includes two copies of the *fam57b* gene, *fam57ba* and *fam57bb*. We used CRISPR to build double (null) mutants, *fam57ba^{-/-}*; *fam57bb^{-/-}* (*fam57b mut*), and heterozygotes *fam57b^{+/-}*; *fam57bb^{+/-}* (*fam57b het*), to assess dosage effects of FAM57B.

To determine whether *fam57b* regulates lipid metabolites, we performed untargeted lipid profiling on *fam57b mut* and *fam57b* het zebrafish brain tissue at 7 days post-fertilization (7 dpf), an optimal timepoint for molecular and behavioral studies of a developing yet complex brain (Table S5- Zebrafish Larvae Brain Lipidomics) (Tom-asello and Sive, 2020). Striking differences in SL and GL lipid abundances were present in *fam57b mut* and *fam57b* het compared to wildtype (AB) zebrafish brain (Figures 6A and 6B). By lipid class, there was a significant







Figure 6. Significant lipid changes in ceramides and glycerols between AB and fam57b mut brain tissue

(A) Total log2 fold change from normalized peak area of lipid class analysis from untargeted lipidomics. Bolded and colored indicate statistically significant changes by ttest, $p \le 0.05-0.0001$. AcCa acyl carnitine, Cer ceramide, ChE cholesterol ester, CL cardiolipin, Co coenzyme, DG diacylglycerol, HexCerHexosylceramide, LPC lysophosphatiylcholine, LPE lysophosphatiylethanolamine, MG monoacylglycerol, PC phosphatidylcholine, PE phosphatidylethanolamine, PG phosphatidylglycerol, PI phosphatidylinositol, PS phosphatidylserine, SM sphingomyelin, TG triacylglycerol. Technical experimental replicates n = 3.

(B-H) Selected analysis of lipid species from untargeted lipidomics classes. Lipid Class specified for each histogram, normalized peak area between AB (gray) and fam57b mut (green). Statistical analysis by two-Way ANOVA, *p ≤ 0.05 **p ≤ 0.01 , ****p ≤ 0.001 , ****p ≤ 0.0001 . AB n = 3, fam57b mut n= 3, error bars represent SEM. Experiment repeated twice, analysis was similar between two separate runs. Individual MG species between fam57b het to AB n.s. Not shown for space: two-Way ANOVA analysis of TG. Increase in TG (16:0_16:0_16:1) in fam57b het compared to AB (p ≤ 0.01).

increase in Cer, LPE, MG and SM along with phosphatidylinositol (PI) and cardiolipin (CL) and decreased PS in *fam57b mut* compared to AB (Figure 6A). A similar trend to *fam57b mut*, with increased hexosylceramide (HexCer) and decreased PS lipid classes, were defined in *fam57b het* brains compared to AB control. An overlap in lipid differences were observed between *fam57b mut* brains and FAM57B KO human neurons, with increased abundance of MG class, and Cer(d18:1) and MG(18:0) species (Figures 4A, 4D, 4E, 6A, 6D, and 6E). Many PE species similarly increased, PE(18:0,18:1,20:4), comparing *fam57b mut* and *FAM57B KO* to controls. An important finding across all systems compared, including 16pdel syndrome patient neurons, heterozygous and mutant *FAM57B* cells and larvae brains, is a change in ether-linked PE (Figures 2C, 4D, 6C, and 6G). Ether GLs differ in phase-transition temperature from gel to liquid crystalline and from lamellar to hexagonal phases, and are









Figure 7. Loss of fam57b results in altered plasma membrane architecture early in development and decreased localization of Synaptotagmin family at the synapse later in development

(A) Schematic of Cholera toxin-B-488 (CT-B) injection into hindbrain ventricle of embryo and flat-mounted midbrain region for imaging at 24 hpf. (B) Representative embryo midbrain imaging and guantification of CT-B labeling of AB compared to fam57b mut. Punctate CT-B labeling (arrows), actin marker phalloidin indicates labeling of CT-B at the plasma membrane, merged with DAPI. Quantification of puncta between WT (gray) and fam57b mut (green) CT-B (p ≤ 0.05) ttest. Scale bar = 5 μm. AB n = 16, fam57b mut n = 18. Error bars SEM, statistical analysis by ttest *p ≤ 0.05. Technical experimental replicates n = 4.

(C) Representative embryo midbrain imaging and quantification of Duramycin-488 labeling of AB compared to fam57b mut. Punctate Duramycin labeling (arrows), actin marker phalloidin indicates labeling of Duramycin at the plasma membrane, merged with DAPI. Quantification of puncta between WT (gray)





Figure 7. Continued

and fam57b mut (green) Duramycin PE staining ($p \le 0.05$) ttest. Scale bar = 5 μ m. AB n = 8, fam57b mut n = 8. Error bars SEM, statistical analysis by ttest * $p \le 0.05$. Technical experimental replicates n = 3.

(D) Schematic of membrane protein labeling biotinylation assay and processing for MS/MS in 7 dpf larvae brains.

(E) Larvae brain total plasma membrane protein abundance changes between fam57b mut relative to AB (Log2 Fold). Statistically significant p \leq 0.05–0.0001 proteins labeled, indicating increased (purple) or decreased (green) abundance. Lowest abundance membrane protein Synaptotagmin-1a (red box). n = 3 per genotype.

(F) Representative slice of 7 dpf whole larva brain mount with Sytaptotagmin-1a (green), GAD65/67 (red) and Beta-actin (magenta). z stack composite image merged with DAPI. Forebrain and midbrain areas of diffused Syt-1 localization (white arrows). Anatomical differences noted throughout brain, including (1) optic tectum and (2) corpus cerebelli (red arrows). Scale bar = 10 μ m. Technical experimental replicates n = 2.

(G) Representative 7 dpf whole brain Western blot indicate no significant change in total Syt-1a protein levels between *fam57b mut* relative to AB. Zebrafish larvae brains pooled (20 per genotype). Syt-1a protein abundance normalized to Beta-Actin loading control, repeated twice.

(H) Larvae brain total isolated synaptosome protein abundance changes between *fam57b mut* relative to AB (Log2 Fold). Statistically significant $p \le 0.05-0.0001$ proteins labeled, indicating increased (purple) or decreased (green) abundance. Low abundance Synaptotagmin-2a like protein (red box). n = 7 per genotype. Technical experimental replicates n = 2.

(I and J) Gene ontology analysis of statistically significant larvae synaptosome isolated proteins (H) in *fam57b mut* relative to AB. (I) Gene ontology pie graphs of increased and decreased protein groups of cellular components, molecular function, protein classes, biological processes and pathways. (J) Gene ontology figure legend.

(K) Analysis of Synaptotagmin family members from larvae isolated synaptosomes. Significantly decreased protein abundance of Syt1a and Syt2a by two-Way ANOVA, ** $p \le 0.01$, **** $p \le 0.0001$.

(L) Analysis of Synaptotagmin family members from differentiated SH-SY5Y isolated synaptosomes between all 3 genotypes. Significantly decreased protein abundance of elongated ESYT1 by two-Way ANOVA, *p \leq 0.05, **p \leq 0.01. Error bars SEM.

(M) Analysis of synaptic markers from larvae isolated synaptosomes. Significantly decreased protein abundance (bolded) of vesicle regulation machinery and glutamate receptor activity by two-Way ANOVA, ** $p \le 0.01$, **** $p \le 0.001$.

proposed to regulate properties of neuronal membranes (Paltauf, 1994; Lohner, 1996). In addition to PE, ceramides were altered in *fam57b mut* and *fam57b het* brain tissue compared to AB (Figures 4D and 4H). Lipidomics resolved predominantly Cer(d18:1) species in zebrafish brains, which agrees with previously published ceramide composition at 7 dpf (Zhang et al., 2019). These findings suggest a key role for Fam57b in SL and GL regulation during brain development.

These data demonstrate that *fam57b* is crucial for regulation of SL and GL classes in the larval zebrafish brain, and that there is a gene dosage-dependent effect. The data in zebrafish brain are quite similar to changes seen in human neurons after FAM57B knockout (Figure 4). These changes affect comparable lipid groups to those altered in 16pdel neurons relative to control, although they are not the same. For example, LPE significantly decreased in the 16pdel neurons (Figure 2A), while the class remained unchanged or significantly increased in the *fam57b* het and null SH-SY5Y cells (Figure 4A–4C) and zebrafish brain (Figures 6A and 6B), suggesting additional genes regulate 16pdel lipid metabolites or that these result from other differences between the tissue being compared.

Changes in plasma membrane and associated proteins in fam57b mut and fam57b het brains

Ceramide, hexosylceramide and GL species are integral to membrane composition, are differentially distributed across inner and outer leaflets of the plasma membrane and contribute to lipid rafts (Kraft, 2016). Given the changes in these lipids observed in *fam57b mut* brains, we predicted that plasma membrane structure would also be altered. To assess lipid raft organization, fluorophore-conjugated Cholera Toxin subunit B (CT-B), which binds ganglioside GM1 found in lipid rafts (Fishman et al., 1978), was injected into the hindbrain ventricle of *fam57b mut* and AB zebrafish embryos at 24 h after fertilization (hpf), when ventricles are accessible for injection (Worstell et al., 2016) (Figure 7A). Embryos fixed after 1-h incubation demonstrated a significant increase in punctate GM1 labeling in neural progenitor cells of *fam57b mut* brains compared to AB (Figure 7B). To assess changes in glycerophospholipid species in plasma membranes, we stained with Duramycin, a label for membrane PE (Marconescu and Thorpe, 2008). Mutant progenitors showed statistically increased punctate PE staining, indicating altered PE localization that could impact membrane architecture (Figure 7C). The Duramycin puncta may indicate exosomes or extracellular vesicles containing PE (Beer et al., 2018). At 24 hpf, we did not observe changes in cell proliferation or cell death between *fam57b mut* and AB (Figure S5). The data suggest that there is alteration in the plasma membrane of *fam57b mut* brains relative to AB.

The changes in membranes of neural progenitor cells suggested that membrane protein localization may also be altered. We therefore examined localization of membrane by biotinylation analysis. Freshly



dissected larval brains from *fam57b mut* or AB at 7 dpf were incubated with membrane impermeable biotin. Surface proteins were affinity-purified and quantified by MS/MS (Figure 7D, Table S6- Zebrafish Larvae Brain Biotinylation MSMS). MS/MS analysis indicated that membrane-associated protein cohorts were similar between *fam57b mut* and AB brains (Figure 7E), however, a small group of proteins showed altered abundance. In *fam57b mut* brains, the protein whose levels most significantly decreased (2-fold) relative to AB was Synaptotagmin-1a (Syt1) (Figure 7E). Syt1a, homologous to human SYT1, is a vesicle membrane protein that acts as a calcium sensor and regulates synaptic and endocrine vesicle exocytosis (Fernandez et al., 2001; Sorensen et al., 2003; Xu et al., 2007; Gustavsson and Han, 2009; Schonn et al., 2008). Syt1 protein domains interact with the lipid bilayer, including GL PS that are altered in *fam57b mut* and *fam57b het* (Figures 5A and 5B). Mammalian Syt1 can modify PS, and is able to alter curvature strain on the membrane (Lai et al., 2011).

To investigate the decreased membrane abundance of Syt1 in the biotinylation assay, we performed immunostaining on 7 dpf larvae brains (Figure 7F). Whole larval brains were cleared and tertiary structure was protected using SHIELD protocols. Slice imaging of dorsal brain view showed that Syt1 protein was largely confined to projections of neurons throughout the AB brain, both GABAergic (GAD65/67) and non-GABAergic, while *fam57b mut* brains showed ectopic expression throughout the brain (Figure 7F). By Western blot, we found no change in total brain Syt1 between *fam57b mut* and AB, suggesting that immunostaining demonstrates Syt1a mislocalization (Figures 7G and S6). Imaging also revealed anatomical changes in the larval *fam57b mut* brain, including tectum and corpus cerebelli (Figure 7F).

Together, these results indicate that in the brain, relative to wildtype, *fam57b mut* animals show changes in lipids, membrane structure and membrane protein association, including the synaptic regulator Syt1 and others functioning at synapses. The data indicate that *fam57b* is required for membrane structure and neuronal architecture.

Pre- and post-synaptic proteins depleted after loss of FAM57B

To examine the implications of Syt1 mis-localization on synaptic composition, we isolated synaptosomes from freshly dissected and unfixed brains of *fam57b mut* or AB larvae (Table S7- Zebrafish Larvae Brain Synaptosome MSMS). Proteomic profiling indicated a group of proteins whose representation significantly increased, and another larger group whose representation significantly decreased in *fam57b mut* compared to AB (Figure 7H). Interestingly, we observed a decrease of the Synaptotagmin family member Syt2a-like protein, similar to human SYT2, with analogous function to SYT1. Gene ontology (GO-Slim and Panther Protein Class ontology) defined synaptic protein groups found only in the decreased synaptosome protein group (Figures 7I and 7J). Annotations in the decreased group included synapse and synapse part components, cytoskeletal and membrane traffic proteins, biological adhesion, development and signaling, and numerous implicated pathways including synaptic vesicle trafficking. These results indicate that synaptic protein levels were significantly altered in synaptosomes from *fam57b mut* larval brain synapses relative to AB.

We separately examined levels of synaptotagmin family members in brain synaptosome profiles and found decreased Syt1 and Syt2a protein levels in fam57b mut compared to AB synaptosomes (Figure 7K). This interesting association between FAM57B regulation and Synaptotagmin expression (Figures 7E, 7F, and 7H) led us to analyze further human SH-SY5Y isolated synaptosomes. We found a significant decrease in elongated SYT1 (ESYT1) in FAM57B KO compared to FAM57B HET and WT (Figure 7I), a calcium activated synaptic protein found to bind GLs (Yu et al., 2016). We then characterized hallmark proteins that function at the synapse from brain synaptosomes, including synaptic vesicle fusion and tethering proteins. Bayés et al. previously examined complexity of the adult zebrafish synapse proteome relative to adult mouse synapse proteome (Bayes et al., 2017). As expected, not all synaptic proteins were detected at this immature stage of zebrafish development compared to the adult brain. Enrichment of synaptic vesicle proteins including Syntaxins, Slc neurotransmitter transporters, SNAPs, Stx/Vps, Synaptotagmins and membrane budding proteins including Dynamins and Rabs verify synaptosome isolation and give new data regarding neuronal maturation in the zebrafish larval brain (Figure 7J). Comparison of synaptic protein profiles between genotypes demonstrated decreased vesicle fusion and transport protein Nsfa, ligand-gated ion channel Si:ch211-251b21.1, and SNARE complex proteins Snphb, Stx1b, Stxbp1a and Vamp3 (Figure 7J). Together, these data show that synaptic proteins essential for vesicle docking, exo- and endocytosis, including Synaptotagmin family members, are diminished in synaptosomes isolated from fam57b mut brains relative to AB, suggesting Fam57b is essential for synapse integrity.





Figure 8. Decreased spontaneous brain activity and diminished behavioral response after stimuli presentation in fam57b mutants

(A and B) Local field potential (LFP) recordings in unanesthetized live larvae at 7 dpf. Brain localized LFP recordings were pooled for each larva. (A) Decreased average number, mean rate and inter-LFP interval (ILI) coefficient of variation of LFP in fam57b mut compared to AB (orange). No electrographic burst activity was identified in fam57b mut at standard 5 LFPs/100 ms. Decreased electrographic burst parameters, including duration, number of LFPs per burst, frequency and percentage at 3 LFPs/200ms (blue). (B) Decreased average electrographic burst network activity and frequency, defined as a minimum or 3 electrographic bursts between 2 electrodes simultaneously, in fam57b mut compared to AB (gray). AB n = 21, fam57b mut n = 24 over 6 experiments. Statistical significance by unpaired ttest, *p \leq 0.05, **p \leq 0.01,***p \leq 0.001,****p \leq 0.0001. Technical experimental replicates n = 7. (C) Representative LFP waveform in brain region, indicating smaller relative waveform in fam57b mut compared to AB.

(D) Representative LFP raster plot over experimental time frame, indicating less overall activity in fam57b mut compared to AB.

(E) Representative image of 7 dpf immersed in cooled agarose in contact with electrodes on 12-well CytoView MEA plate.

(F) Startle response behavioral assay. Light source was removed for 5 s at 10 min intervals. Mean distance reported from tracked movement during 70 min assay. Decreased light startle response identified in fam57b mut compared to AB. Statistical analysis of each startle response by ttest ** $p \le 0.01$, *** $p \le 0.01$, 0.001, ****p \leq 0.0001. Error bars SEM. No overall significant change in movement outside of the startle identified. AB n = 125, fam57b mut n = 33 over 5 experiments

(G) Seizure response behavioral assay. Normalized (baseline recording subtracted) mean distance from tracked movement after absence or presence of pentylenetetrazol (PTZ) 0.5 mM and 5 mM. Significantly increased seizure-induced movement observed at 5mM in AB, while increased movement observed at 0.5 and 5 mM PTZ in fam57b mut. Diminished overall seizure-induced movement at 5 mM in fam57b mut compared to AB. Relative fold change compared to absence of PTZ indicated below histogram. Statistical analysis of each condition by ttest *p \leq 0.05, ***p \leq 0.001, ****p \leq 0.001. Error bars SEM. AB n = 166 (0 mM), 92 (0.5 mM), 150 (5 mM), fam57b mut n = 91 (0 mM), 70 (0.5 mM), 56 (5mM) over 6 experiments.

(H) Model proposing role of Fam57b activity in the brain. Loss of function in fam57b mutants indicates significant changes in plasma membrane lipid groups alter architecture of plasma membrane early the developing brain. Architectural changes indicated by increased lipid raft abundance and aggregation. Altered plasma membrane homeostasis results in mis-localization of synaptic proteins, including synaptotagmins, after maturation. Decreased spontaneous brain and network activity suggests diminished synaptic function and developed circuits. As evidence has suggested spontaneous network activity shapes synaptic development, this cycles back to declined neuronal maturation and circuitry. Molecular changes to synaptic function and decreased spontaneous brain activity translate to altered behavioral response after stimuli presentation.

Depressed spontaneous electrical activity and response to stimuli in fam57b mutants

To understand how changes in *fam57b* gene dosage impact neuronal activity, we tested brain activity by electrophysiological analysis. We previously described a noninvasive electrophysiology technique that can be used in live larvae to measure spontaneous activity in the brain and spinal cord (Tomasello and Sive, 2020). Using a multi-electrode array (MEA), we measured local field potential (LFP) parameters and relative coordinated (network) activity in the brain of 7 dpf larvae (Figures 8A-8C). Larva were individually immersed in pre-cooled 1.5% low-melt agarose in E3 solution and mounted in a 64-electrode containing well. We measured spontaneous brain activity over a 10-min period, comparing fam57b mut to AB controls. Only electrodes in contact with the larval head were analyzed, \sim 6 to 8 electrodes, whose signal was pooled. fam57b mut larvae had slightly smaller heads than AB at 7 dpf (Figure S7, Table S8- Zebrafish Larvae Head and Body Measurements), however these changes do not impact electrophysiological studies. Overall, fam57b mut spontaneous brain activity was severely diminished relative to ABs. This included significant decrease in number of LFPs, mean LFP rate, and



inter-LFP-interval coefficient of variation measurements, indicating decreased spontaneous brain activity with reduced kinetics (Figure 8A). However, the decreased coefficient of variation in the fam57b mut suggests LFP interval distributions are detected at a more regular rate. Measuring electrographic bursts, at least 5 LFPs per 100 ms, we were unable to detect any burst activity under these settings in the fam57b mut, while bursts were detected in ABs. To increase sensitivity for detection of burst activity, we lowered the detection parameters to at least 3 LFPs per 200 ms (right column), and found decreased electrographic burst duration, number of LFPs per burst, burst frequency and percentage in fam57b mut relative to AB (Figure 8A). In addition, we examined relative network activity, as defined by at least 3 LFPs detected simultaneously between a minimum of two electrodes. Relative network activity was also significantly decreased in fam57b mut compared to AB. Synchrony index of bursts did not change between the two genotypes, indicating coordination of network activity did not differ. While LFP waveforms could not be quantified due to small distance variations when mounting individual larva, we observed smaller relative waveforms in fam57b mut compared to AB (Figure 8C), consistent with overall decreased brain activity in fam57b mut larvae. A representative raster plot of LFP activity in the head region over the 10-min recording period illustrates the relative decrease in LFP propagation, burst and network detection measured (Figure 8D). A representative image of a mounted larva immersed in agarose on a 12-well 64 electrode plate is shown in Figure 8E. These data demonstrate severely diminished spontaneous brain activity in fam57b mut relative to AB wildtype larvae, and highlight a role for Fam57b in regulating brain function.

After identifying significantly diminished spontaneous brain activity in *fam57b mut* larvae, we examined correlations with behavioral activity. We first tested light-responsive sensorimotor startle behavior (Table S9- Zebrafish Larvae Light Startle Response Data). Startle response, as indicated by distance traveled, was measured over a 70-min timeframe with light extinguished every 10 min for 5 s (Tomasello and Sive, 2020). The startle response window was in total 30 s, including the stimulus. We found a considerable decrease in response to each light stimulus in *fam57b mut* compared to AB (Figure 8F). However, movement measured previous to startle (first 10 min) and relative habituation after startle cue did not overall differ between the genotypes, indicating there is no alteration in movement outside of the light stimulus, and no visual deficit in *fam57b mut* larvae.

To examine brain specific activity, we investigated seizure susceptibility (Table S10- Zebrafish Larvae Seizure Assay Data). Seizures are prevalent in individuals affected with 16pdel syndrome, and may result from processes involving several neurotransmitter systems, including glutamatergic, cholinergic and GABAergic (Mefford et al., 2011). To measure seizure propensity, larvae were immersed in pentylenetetrazol (PTZ), a GABAA antagonist, well characterized for use in zebrafish (Baraban et al., 2005). After a 10-min baseline movement recording, two different concentrations of PTZ, or E3 media only control, were applied to the individual well of each larva and recorded over 10 min. There was no significant change in normalized movement, compared to baseline recording, in the absence of stimulus after addition of E3 (0 mM PTZ) control between the fam57b mut and AB (Figure 8G). Increasing the PTZ dose increased normalized distance traveled for both genotypes, but the increase was not significant for AB between 0 and 0.5 mM PTZ as observed in fam57b mut. At 5 mM, we observed significantly less distance traveled in the fam57b mut compared to AB. However, the relative fold change between 0 and 5 mM was much higher in the fam57b mut (roughly 32-fold) compared to AB (roughly 11-fold). To understand the contribution of Fam57ba and Fam57bb to the seizure phenotype, we incrossed $fam57ba^{+/-}$; $fam57bb^{+/-}$ animals and measured seizure propensity in resulting genotypes (Figure S8). We found no statistical differences in baseline movement between AB control compared to fam57ba-'+; fam57bb-'+, fam57bb-'+; fam57bb-'+ nor fam57ba^{-/+};fam57bb^{+/+}. The data are consistent with increased movement after addition of 5 mM PTZ in fam57ba^{-/-};fam57bb^{+/+} 7 dpf larvae compared to AB control (McCammon et al., 2017). The enhanced PTZ-responsiveness of fam57b mut relative to WT suggests that Fam57ba and Fam57bb function in GABA-mediated signaling with synergistic effects after the loss of Fam57bb in combination with Fam57ba. These analyses indicate neuronal specific changes after loss of fam57b mut, however, FAM57B is also expressed in muscle. We assessed neuromuscular junction contribution by immunostaining, but did not observe differences between fam57b mut and AB (Figure S9). Together, altered brain activity, response to multiple stimuli including GABAA antagonist, and gross anatomical differences including the corpus cerebelli (Figure 7F), suggest changes to GABAergic network activity in the developing fam57b mut brain.

In sum, there are significant behavioral changes in zebrafish larvae after *fam57b* loss of function. *fam57b mut* larvae move similarly to AB over time without a stimulus. However, with a stimulus, either dark or





PTZ application, there is altered behavioral responsiveness relative to AB. These findings are consistent with changes in brain activity in *fam57b mut* relative to AB controls.

DISCUSSION

This study has uncovered alterations of lipid metabolism in iPSC differentiated cortical neurons derived from people affected with 16pdel syndrome, relative to unaffected. These 16pdel neurons display increased excitability relative to controls and show a sex-linked difference. Among the set of twenty-five 16pdel genes, FAM57B is a key candidate gene linked to symptomatology, and implicated in lipid metabolism. Consistently, we find changes in 16pdel neuronal lipids, as well as those in FAM57B mutants in a human neuronal cell line and zebrafish model. In FAM57B mutants, lipid alterations occur concomitantly with alterations in membrane architecture, synapse lipid composition synapse-associated proteins, and in zebrafish, altered brain activity and behavior. Specifically, we identified altered abundance of the monoacyglyerol (MG) group in all experimental conditions, including 16p11.2 deletion neurons and SH-SY5Y FAM57B KO intact neurons and isolated synaptosomes (Figures 2A, 4A, 5F, and 6A). We do not know how these outcomes are linked, but it is plausible that FAM57B acts through sphingolipid (SL) and glycerolipid (GL) regulation as the starting point for a cascade of effects after loss of function. Dysregulated lipid metabolism has a multifaceted effect on neurons, for example, increased lipid energy consumption escalates oxidative stress, promoting inflammation, mitochondrial and metabolic dysfunction and excitotoxicity (Tracey et al., 2018). The saturation and length of individual lipids affects their intracellular localization, impacting the cytoskeleton and lipid raft composition, so disrupting signaling processes that regulate neurotransmitter synthesis and release, cytoskeletal integrity, myelination, and intracellular transport (Pike, 2003; Tracey et al., 2018). Abnormal cholesterol metabolism has been observed in patients with Asperger syndrome and other ASDs, suggesting a correlation between lipid raft formation and ASD (Dziobek et al., 2007; Tierney et al., 2006).

In contrast to a previous report (Yamashita-Sugahara et al., 2013), we find that FAM57B is not a ceramide synthase (CerS) but rather is a modulator of CerS activity, supporting a functional interaction between FAM57B with CerS2 and CerS6. Lipidomic profiling uncovered altered SLs and GLs integral to the lipid membrane in *FAM57B* mutants of both zebrafish brain and a human neuronal cell line, also indicating consistent activity of this gene across species. Comparing these mutants with 16pdel iPSC differentiated patient neurons we identified a consistent change in ether-linked phosphatidylethanolamine (PE) species, supporting a role for *FAM57* in the altered 16pdel lipidome relative to unaffected. However, some lipid groups altered in mutant human neuronal cells, zebrafish brain and 16pdel neurons relative to controls do not overlap, suggesting additional genes regulate 16pdel lipid metabolites or that these result from other differences between tissues being compared. Beyond *FAM57B*, multiple genes in the 16p11.2 interval encode enzymes with predicted roles in metabolic processing or interconversion including *ALDOA*, *CDIPT*, *GDPD3*, *BOLA2*, *SULT1A3*, *SULT1A4*, and YPEL3 (Giannuzzi et al., 2019; Arbogast et al., 2016). Together with FAM57B activity, this set of genes may function to modulate lipid metabolism.

Early in brain development, *fam57b* mutants displayed altered plasma membrane architecture, while in more mature neurons synaptic proteins were present at significantly diminished levels in synaptosomes prepared from mutants relative to controls. One important affected protein in zebrafish brain was Syt1a, a member of the Synaptotagmin family and calcium sensor SNARE binding complex protein that contributes to synchronous synaptic vesicle release (Li et al., 2017). Baker-Gordon Syndrome, a SYT1-associated neurodevelopmental disorder, maps to an autosomal dominant heterozygous mutation of *SYT1* that is associated with reduced neurotransmitter release (Baker et al., 2018). This association supports our previous findings of a genetic interaction between *fam57ba* and *doc2a*, another 16p11.2 interval gene, encoding a calcium sensor SNARE binding complex protein for spontaneous vesicle release, where double heterozygotes showed hyperactivity and increased seizure propensity (McCammon et al., 2017). In further connections, ESYT1 is a related Synaptotagmin family member whose synaptic levels were diminished in human neuronal cell lines, that may play a role in cellular transport of PC, PE, PI, and translocates to sites of contact between the presynaptic ER and the cell membrane in response to increased cytosolic calcium levels (Yu et al., 2016). Neurotransmission is decreased in *Esyt D. melanogaster* mutants, with a proposed role in synapse extension, highlighting the essential homeostasis of lipids at the synapse (Kikuma et al., 2017).

Diminished spontaneous brain activity and altered behavioral response after stimulation seen in *fam57b* zebrafish mutants is consistent with alteration of brain synaptic composition. These studies suggest



Fam57b is essential early in development of the brain, and loss of *fam57b* leads to linked events starting with changes in plasma membrane architecture followed by disturbance in protein organization at the membrane and detriments to basic neuronal function that impacts brain activity and behavior. Together, we propose a model whereby Fam57b functions to maintain normal plasma membrane physiology, necessary for proper formation and function of neurons (Figure 8H).

In a recent study that analyzed the largest ASD-associated exome sequence to date (Satterstrom et al., 2019), 102 high risk genes were identified as tightly associated with ASD. In the analysis, a rare G:A mutation was discovered in *FAM57B*, located in the 5'UTR of one *FAM57B* transcript isoform, and residing in the promoter/enhancer region of the five other *FAM57B* isoforms. This synonymous mutation is predicted to create binding sites for several transcription factors and may impact enhancer activity in neurons, affecting gene expression (prediction with information from dbSNP, JASPAR, GTEx). The association of a single gene *FAM57B* mutation with ASD outside of the complex CNV 16pdel gene cohort, encourages further evaluation of *FAM57B* in brain development and function.

Correlating the multitude of symptoms to specific genes associated with a multigenic copy number variant region is extremely challenging. Variation in clinical phenotypes of 16p11.2 deletion syndrome patients further indicates the need to understand the biology of this CNV (Fetit et al., 2020). Previously, we identified gene interactions among the 16p11.2 interval (McCammon et al., 2017) that do not converge on functional networks predicted by ASD geneset enrichment analysis by Pinto et al. (Pinto et al., 2010), suggesting indirect mechanisms of genetic interaction. We investigated the interaction between doc2a, encoding for a synaptic vesicle-associated calcium-binding protein, and fam57ba. Haploinsufficiency of this genetic interaction identified both a body and central nervous system phenotype, including seizure activity. No evidence for physical interactions between proteins encoded by 16p11.2 genes has been found (Lin et al., 2015). Along with DOC2A, several genes within the interval are candidate contributors to neurodevelopment and neuropsychiatric phenotypes, including KCTD13, SEZ6L2, KIF22, MVP, TAOK2 and QPRT. In a functional screen, we defined genetic interaction between fam57ba, kctd13, sez6l2 and kif22 (McCammon et al., 2017). KCTD13 encodes a ubiquitin ligase adaptor with cognitive defects identified in mice heterozygous for the gene (Chen et al., 2009; Golzio et al., 2012; Martin Lorenzo et al., 2021). KIF22 is a kinesin-like protein necessary for embryonic chromosome segregation and axonal branching patterns (Park et al., 2016; Antonio et al., 2000; Ohsugi et al., 2008). SEZ6L2 has been connected to seizure activity and modulates neurite outgrowth (Boonen et al., 2016). MVP can function as a regulator of the homeostatic component of experience-dependent behavior (Ip et al., 2018). TAOK2 encodes a serine/threonine kinase that can play a role in dendrite formation (de Anda et al., 2012). QPRT encodes quinolinate phosphoribosyltransferase that catabolizes quinolinic acid, whose elevation has been linked to epilepsy and has also showed regulation by ASD candidate genes (Chiocchetti et al., 2016; Haslinger et al., 2018). The strong genetic interaction between FAM57B and most of the above-described genes highlights the connection between lipid regulation and brain development or maturation. Although FAM57B haploinsufficiency alone cannot account for the multitude of disrupted biochemical and cellular properties in 16pdel affected neurons, disrupted lipid metabolism is tightly correlated to 16pdel syndrome. The insight into lipid alterations and a potential role for FAM57B in mediating these changes, gives a new view of mechanisms underlying 16pdel syndrome, and holds promise for new therapeutic directions.

Limitations of the study

In the large 16p11.2 copy number variant interval, haploinsufficient symptoms do not resolve to a single causal gene. *FAM57B* interacts genetically with many other 16p11.2 interval genes and is a strong candidate for contribution to symptomatology. We studied the poorly defined function of FAM57B to understand its role in lipid regulation and function in the brain. *FAM57B* mutant neuronal lines do not recapitulate all phenotypes associated with 16p11.2 deletion syndrome neurons. For instance, the *FAM57B* heterozygote SH-SY5Y differentiated neurons and zebrafish brains do not show exactly the same lipid profiles as neurons derived from 16p11.2 deletion iPSC, although there is overlap. Since 16pdel syndrome results from changes in gene dosage through haploinsufficiency, rescue of FAM57B levels must be precise to match endogenous levels to avoid spurious gene dosage effects. However, in the 16p11.2 chromosomal deletion, the *FAM57B* promoter and enhancer regions are also deleted; it is not an easy task to rescue FAM57B expression to endogenous levels. The nature of the copy number variant phenotype indicates that exogenous expression to rescue FAM57B could result in outcomes





modulated by dosage, and that the entire gene with its regulatory regions would have to be used for rescue. The *FAM57B* regulatory regions have not been mapped and so are not available for rescue constructs.

STAR*METHODS

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SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

Supplemental information can be found online at https://doi.org/10.1016/j.isci.2021.103551.

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AUTHOR CONTRIBUTIONS

DLT and HS designed the study, interpreted results and wrote the manuscript. AHF helped conceive, supervise, interpret and write the CerS study (Figure 3). JK and YK performed the experiments in Figure 3. JMM created the *fam57b mutant* zebrafish line. MM and RJ instructed on stem cell culture work and provided unaffected control iPSC (originally from Coriell Institute Biobank). DLT performed all other studies.

DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

The authors declared no potential conflicts of interest with respect to the research, authorship, and/or publication of this article.

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STAR*METHODS

KEY RESOURCES TABLE

REAGENT or RESOURCE	SOURCE	IDENTIFIER
Antibodies		
Synaptotagmin-1	Lifespan Bioscience	LS-B12889
GAD65 + 67	Abcam	ab11070; RRID:AB_297722
Beta-Actin	Proteintech	60008-1; RRID:AB_2289225
DAPI	Life Technologies	D1306; RRID:AB_2629482
555-Phalloidin	Invitrogen	A34055
488 anti-goat	Jackson	805-545-180; RRID:AB_2340883
488 anti-mouse	Jackson	715-545-151; RRID:AB_2341099
594 anti-mouse	Jackson	715-585-150; RRID:AB_2340854
594 anti-rabbit	Jackson	711-585-152; RRID:AB_2340621
anti-mouse 680	Jackson	715-625-150; RRID:AB_2340868
anti-rabbit 680	Jackson	711-625-152; RRID:AB_2340627
VGlut1/2	Synaptic Systems	135503; RRID:AB_2285905
PSD95	Abcam	ab18258; RRID:AB_444362
Ac-Tubulin	Abcam	ab179513
Prolong Gold Antifade with DAPI	LifeTech	P36935
НА	Abcam	ab18181; RRID:AB_444303
FLAG	Abcam	ab1162; RRID:AB_298215
GAPDH	Abcam	ab8245; RRID:AB_2107448
Li-Cor 800CW Rabbit	Li-Cor	92632211; RRID:AB_621843
Li-Cor 680RD Mouse	Li-Cor	92668070; RRID:AB_10956588
Chemicals, peptides, and recombinant proteins		
Matrigel	Corning	CB-40234A
mTeSR+	STEMCELL Tech	85850
Y27632	STEMCELL Tech	72302
ReLeSR	STEMCELL Tech	05872
Accutase	STEMCELL Tech	07922
DMEM/F12/HEPES	Thermo	12400024
Neurobasal	Thermo	21103049
N2	Gibco	17502048
Gem21	GeminiBio	400-160
MEM NEAA	Thermo	11140050
GlutaMAX	Gibco	35050061
Gem21 - Vit A	GeminiBio	400161
Beta-Mercaptoethanol	Sigma	M3148
FGF	Peprotech	100-18B
BDNF	Peprotech	450-02
GDNF	Peprotech	450-10
Dorsomorphin	Tocis	3093
Poly-D-Lysine	Thermo	A3890401
Laminin	Sigma	L2020

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REAGENT or RESOURCE	SOURCE	IDENTIFIER
EMEM	ATCC	30-2003
F12	ATCC	30-2006
FBS	Sigma	12306C
All-trans-RA	Sigma	R2625
DMEM	Corning	MT15017CV
Polyethylenimine	Sigma	08719
Protease Inhibitor Cocktail	Sigma	200-664-3
NBD-spinganine	Avanti Polar	810206P
BSA -FA	Sigma	10775835001
16.1 Coenzyme A	Avanti Polar	870743
24.1 Coenzyme 1	Avanti Polar	870725
CT-B	Invitrogen	C34775
Duramycin-Cy3	Molecular Targeting	D-1006
SHIELD	LifeCanvas Tech	https://lifecanvastech.com/products/shield
PFA	EMS	50-970-495
RIPA	Thermo	89900
SYN-Per	Thermo	87793
Critical commercial assays		
Pierce Cell Surface Protein Isolation Kit	Thermo	89881
Deposited data		
Lipidomics	This Paper	Supplemental Excel
Biotinylation Proteomics	This Paper	Supplemental Excel
Synaptosome Proteomics	This Paper	Supplemental Excel
Experimental models: Cell lines		
	ATCC	CRL-2266
HEK293T	ATCC	CRL-3216
IPSC 16pdel 1453	Simons VIP	SV0001453
IPSC 16pdel 1455	Simons VIP	SV0001455
IPSC 16pdel 1459	Simons VIP	SV0001459
IPSC 16pdel 1473	Simons VIP	SV0001473
IPSC 16pdel 1481	Simons VIP	SV0001481
IPSC 16pdel 1495	Simons VIP	SV0001495
IPSC 16pdel 3104	Simons VIP	SS0013104
IPSC CTR 599	Corriell Institute Biobank	AG07599
IPSC CTR 675	Corriell Institute Biobank	AG07657
Experimental models: Organisms/strains		
fam57ba ^{-/-} ;fam57bb ^{-/-} Zebrafish	This Paper	
FAM57B HET SH-SY5Y	This Paper	
FAM57B KO SH-SY5Y	This Paper	
FAM57B AAVS1 SH-SY5Y	This Paper	
Oligonucleotides		
fam57bb 5' to 3'	This Paper	
TAGGTGATGTCCTGGCAGGAAG		
fam57bb 3' to 5'	This Paper	
AAACCTTCCTGCCAGGACATCA		

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REAGENT or RESOURCE	SOURCE	IDENTIFIER
sgFAM57B1 5' to 3' -	This Paper	
GGTGCTCCACCATGCCGCCA		
sgFAM57B2 5' to 3' -	This Paper	
GGGCACAGCAAATTGCGTGT		
sgAAVS1 5' to 3' -	This Paper	
CACCGGGGCCACTAGGGACAGGAT		
Recombinant DNA		
FAM57B-Flag	This Paper	
CerS2-HA	This Paper	
CerS5-HA	This Paper	
CerS6-HA	This Paper	
Software and algorithms		
AxIS and Neural Metric Tool	Axion Biosystems	Axionbiosystems.com
FIJI ImageJ	ImageJ	lmagej.net
GO SLIM analysis	PANTHER	pantherdb.org
LipidSearch	Thermo Scientific	IQLAAEGABSFAPCMBFK
Mascot	Matrix Science	Matrixscience.com
Scaffold Q+S	Proteome Software	Proteomesoftware.com
PEAKS Studio 8.5	Bioinformatics Solutions Inc.	Bioinfor.com
EthoVision XT	Noldus	Noldus.com

RESOURCE AVAILABILITY

Lead contact

Further information and requests for resources and reagents should be directed to and will be fulfilled by the lead contact, Hazel Sive (h.sive@northeastern.edu).

Materials availability

pcDNA3.1 FAM57B and CerS constructs, SH-SY5Y FAM57B HET and FAM57B KO, and Zebrafish lines fam57ba^{+/-};fam57bb^{+/-} and fam57ba^{-/-};fam57bb^{-/-} created in this manuscript are available upon request from lead contact.

Data availability

- The authors declare that all data supporting the findings of this study are available within the article and its supplementary information.
- Raw data, including proteomics and lipidomics results, are available in the Supplemental Excel spreadsheet. Additional data can be requested from lead contact.
- Any additional information required to reanalyze the data reported in this paper is available from the lead contact upon request.

EXPERIMENTAL MODEL AND SUBJECT DETAILS

Animal model

Adult zebrafish of the wildtype AB strain were maintained at 28°C on 12h/12h light/dark cycle. Embryos were obtained from natural spawning and staged as previously described by Kimmel et al. (1995). Due to the polygenic nature of sex determination and timing of gonadal development in zebrafish, we are unable to determine the sexes of the embryos and larvae for our assays. However, because our assays utilized large numbers of embryos and larvae, both sexes should be adequately represented. Embryos were obtained from separate crosses of *fam57b mut* mutant fish. *fam57b het* fish were generated by crossing





fam57b mut to AB fish. The MIT Committee on Animal Care approved animal experimentation under protocol 0417-036-20. The Whitehead Institute Biosafety Committee approved of all materials under protocol HS001. All experiments conform to the relevant regulatory standards.

fam57ba^{-/-} mutants were injected with *fam57bb* targeted sgRNA at 1 - 4 cell stage, previously described in McCammon et al. CRISPR/Cas9 induced mutation resulted in 17 bp deletion and early stop codon. Experiments were performed after 4 generations of crosses with AB controls.

fam57bb 5' to 3' TAGGTGATGTCCTGGCAGGAAG

fam57bb 3' to 5' AAACCTTCCTGCCAGGACATCA.

For genotyping, PCR amplified region of in/del. PCR was digested with Earl restriction enzyme, with homozygous mutation detected by loss of Earl restriction site. *fam57b mut* line was outcrossed with AB periodically to avoid chromosomal abnormalities.

Generation and characterization of iPSC lines

Unaffected control male and female iPSC lines, 599 and 657, were a generous gift from Rudolf Jaenisch, originally obtained as fibroblasts from Coriell Institute Biobank. iPSC of 16p11.2 deletion carriers were obtained from Simons Variation in Individuals Project (Table S1) (Simons Vip, 2012). Cell line corresponds to subjects with abbreviated ID from RUCDR. Acquisition of lines was in consideration of potential sex differences in 16pdel syndrome. All iPSCs were tested for negative mycoplasma and normal karyotype. Cytogenetic analysis was performed on twenty G-banded metaphase cells at Cell Line Genetics. All experiments involving cells from human donors were performed in compliance with established IRB protocols at the Whitehead Institute. The Whitehead Institute for Biomedical Research and MIT Biosafety Committees approved safety considerations around the experiments performed.

iPSCs - Cells were cultured on plates coated with Matrigel (Corning #CB-40234A) in mTeSR+ media (STEMCELL Technologies #85850) with pen/strep. Y27632 (STEMCELL Tech #72302) was added to cells prior to passaging (single colonies), then passaged with ReLeSR or Accutase for single colonies (STEMCELL Technologies #05872 and #07922). Cells were maintained at 37°C with 5% O₂.

Generation of Cortical Neurons - iPSCs were differentiated into neural progenitor cells (NPCs) by FGF exchange. FGF was slowly removed by exchanging mTeSR+ with -FGF media (DMEM/F12/HEPES (Thermo Fisher Scientific #12400024), Neurobasal (Thermo Fisher Scientific #21103049), N2 (Gibco #17502048), Gem21 (GeminiBio #400-160) MEM non-essential amino acids (NEAA) (Thermo Fisher Scientific #11140050), GlutaMAX (Gibco #35050061), pen/strep, D(+) Glucose and NaCl) every day over 2–3 weeks. When rosettes were present, media was exchanged with +FGF media (DMEM/F12/HEPES, Neurobasal, N2, Gem21 - Vitamin A (GeminiBio #400161), MEM NEAA, GlutaMAX, pen/strep, Beta-Mercaptoethanol (Sigma-Aldrich #M3148) and 4 ng/mL FGF (Peprotech #100-18B)) plus 2.5 μ M/mL dorsomorphin (Tocris #3093). Cells were incubated with Y27632 before passaging with Accutase, expanded and passaged at least three times until homogeneous NPC culture. NPCs were passaged on poly-D-lysine (Thermo Fisher Scientific #A3890401) and laminin (Sigma-Aldrich #L2020) coated plates for cortical neuron differentiation. NPCs media was exchanged with Neuronal Differentiation media (Neurobasal, GlutaMAX, NEAA, D(+) Glucose, Gem21, Culture One (Gibco #A3320201), 5 μ g/mL BDNF and GDNF (Peprotech #450-02 & #450-10), pen/strep) for 1 month, changing media every 2–3 days. Cells were maintained at 37°C under normoxic conditions.

Generation and characterization of SH-SY5Y neuroblastoma cell line

SH-SY5Y cells, originally from ATCC, were a kind gift from David Bartel, Whitehead Institute for Biomedical Research. Cells were maintained in EMEM (ATCC # 30-2003), F12 (ATCC # 30-2006) media supplemented with fetal bovine serum (FBS Sigma-Aldrich #12306C) and pen/strep in a 37°C incubator with 5% CO₂. Differentiation of cells to neuronal model were induced with media containing Neurobasal, Gem21, Gluta-MAX, All-trans-retinoic acid (Sigma-Aldrich # R2625) and pen/strep, for 4 days in dark to prevent retinoic acid degradation from light exposure (Kovalevich, 2013).





CRISPR sgRNA designs were identified from Target Guide Sequence Cloning Protocol, Zhang lab, with sequence overlapping the TLC domain of FAM57B (Cong et al., 2013). 10 targeted guides to FAM57B sequence were individually transformed in pLC OPTI-Stuffer plasmid, a kind gift from David Sabatini, Whitehead Institute, and lentivirus was grown in HEK293T cells. Generation of CRISPR/Cas9 induced mutations via lentiviral transduction was performed according to Wang et al. protocols (Wang et al., 2014; Wiles et al., 2015). After puromycin selection, cells were gently triturated and diluted to approximate 1 cell per well in 96-well plate. Wildtype cells were simultaneously single cell diluted and sorted to serve as additional control for experiments. Incorporation of mutation was determined by Next Generation Sequencing.

FAM57B Homozygote deletion (KO)

sgFAM57B1 5'to 3' - GGTGCTCCACCATGCCGCCA.

Mutation resulted in frameshift with 111 and 121 bp deletion on either strand, resulting in early stop codon.

FAM57B Heterozygote deletion (HET)

sgFAM57B2 5' to 3' - GGGCACAGCAAATTGCGTGT.

Mutation resulted in frameshift with 20 bp deletion on one strand, resulting in early stop codon.

Adeno-Associated Virus Integration Site 1 (AAVS1) targeted control

sgAAVS1 5' to 3' - CACCGGGGCCACTAGGGACAGGAT.

Mutation resulted in frameshift and 51 bp and 1 bp deletion on either stand, resulting in early stop codon. The AAVS1 served as a control for all SH-SY5Y experiments. WT was compared to AAVS1 to determine confidence of statistical significance when compared to *FAM57B HET* and *KO*.

METHOD DETAILS

HEK293 cell culture and co-immunoprecipitation

HEK293T cells were cultured in Dulbecco's modified Eagle's medium (Corning # MT15017CV) supplemented with 10% fetal bovine serum, 100 IU/ml penicillin, 100 μ g/ml streptomycin, and 110 μ g/ml sodium pyruvate. Transfections were performed with the polyethylenimine reagent (Sigma-Aldrich # 08719) using 8 μ g of plasmid per 10 cm culture dish for 36–48 h; medium was exchanged after 6 h. pcDNA3.1 was used as a control. DYKDDDDK (Flag)-tagged human FAM57B plasmid (sequence sent to Genscript and available upon request). Hemagglutinin (HA)-tagged human CerS plasmids were generated as described (Laviad et al., 2012).

Co-immunoprecipitation was performed using cells transfected with a variety of plasmids in pcDNA3.1-C-DYK or pcDNA3.1-C-HA (sequences sent to Genscript and available upon request). HA-tagged CerSs were used to confirm non-specific binding to Flag affinity resins. Cells were washed twice with cold PBS and lysed in lysis buffer (20 mM Tris (pH 7.4), 150 mM NaCl, 1 mM EDTA, 1% NP-40, 5% glycerol and protease inhibitor (Sigma-Aldrich #200-664-3)). Lysates were incubated on ice for 10-15 min. Protein was determined using the BCA reagent. FLAG-tagged human FAM57B, using an anti-FLAG affinity resin (Genscript #L00432). Lysates were incubated with 40 μ l of beads overnight at 4°C with rotation. The resin was washed three times in 1 ml of lysis buffer at 4°C with rotation. Proteins were eluted using 4X SDS sample buffer (BioRad #161-0747). Eluted proteins were analyzed by Western blotting for detection of HA-tagged interacting proteins.

Ceramide synthase assays

Cell homogenates were prepared in 20 mM HEPES-KOH, pH 7.2, 25 mM KCl, 250 mM sucrose, and 2 mM MgCl2 containing a protease inhibitor mixture. Protein was determined using the BCA reagent (Thermo Fisher Scientific). Samples were incubated with 15 µM NBD-sphinganine (Avanti Polar Lipids # 810206P), 20 µM defatted BSA (Sigma-Aldrich #10775835001), and 50 µM 16- or 24-fatty acyl-CoA (Avanti Polar Lipids 870743 & 870725) in a 20 µl reaction volume. CerS (40 µg protein, 25 min reaction time) was assayed using C24.1-CoA and Cer5/6 (5 µg protein, 5 min reaction time) assayed using C16-CoA. Reactions were





terminated by chloroform/methanol (1:2, v/v) and lipids extracted. Lipids were dried under N2, resuspended in chloroform/methanol (9:1, v/v), and separated by thin layer chromatography using chloroform/methanol, 2M NH4OH (40:10:1, v/v/v) as the developing solvent. NBD-labeled lipids were visualized using an Amersham Typhoon5 imager and quantified by ImageQuantTL (GE Healthcare, Chalfont St Giles, UK). All solvents were of analytical grade and were purchased from Bio-Lab (Jerusalem, Israel).

Sample collection for lipidomics

iPSC Differentiated Neurons - 2 x 10⁶ NPCs were plated in a 6-well plate, at least 3 wells per genotype. Differentiation to cortical neurons was performed as stated above. Cells were washed with phosphate buffered saline solution (PBS). Cells were scraped in LC grade methanol and homogenized in Eppendorf tube containing water and LC grade chloroform with pestle mixer, followed by vortexing for 10 min at 4°C. Lipids were separated by centrifuging top speed at 4°C. This was repeated three times with all samples run together in positive ion mode for lipidomic analysis. Raw data are provided in the Supplemental Excel spreadsheet.

Differentiated SH-SY5Y Cells - 1×10^{6} cells were plated per well in a 6-well plate, 3 wells per genotype. SH cells were differentiated over 4 days in media containing retinoic acid. Cells were washed with PBS. Cells were scraped in LC grade methanol and homogenized in Eppendorf tube containing water and LC grade chloroform with pestle mixer, followed by vortexing for 10 min at 4°C. Lipids were separated by centrifuging top speed at 4°C. This was repeated twice with all samples run together. Raw data are provided in the Supplemental Excel spreadsheet.

Zebrafish - At 7 dpf, larvae were deeply anesthetized with tricaine. Brains with surrounding epidermal layer were dissected and flash frozen on dry ice. Collections were pooled at 20 brains per sample. Brains were homogenized in an Eppendorf tube with a pestle mixer in LC grade methanol, LC grade chloroform and water, followed by vortexing for 10 min at 4°C. Lipids were separated by centrifuging top speed at 4°C. Brains were collected and stored in -80° C over many dissections to acquire adequate tissue for analysis. This was repeated twice per genotype, with the *fam57b mut* and AB cohort run at different times (different normalization) while the *fam57b het* and AB cohort were run at the same time. Raw data are provided in the Supplemental Excel spreadsheet.

Untargeted lipidomics

Lipids were separated on an Ascentis Express C18 2.1 x 150 mm 2.7 um column (Sigma-Aldrich) connected to a Vanquish Horizon UPLC system and an ID-X Tribrid mass spectrometer (Thermo Fisher Scientific) equipped with a heated electrospray ionization (HESI) probe. External mass calibration was performed using the standard calibration mixture every seven days. Dried lipid extracts were reconstituted in 50 uL 65:30:5 acetonitrile: isopropanol: water (v/v/v). Typically, 2 uL of sample were injected onto the column, with separate injections for positive and negative ionization modes. Mobile phase A in the chromatographic method consisted of 60:40 water: acetonitrile with 10 mM ammonium formate and 0.1% formic acid, and mobile phase B consisted of 90:10 isopropanol: acetonitrile, with 10 mM ammonium formate and 0.1% formic acid. The chromatographic gradient was adapted from Hu et al. (2008) and Bird et al. (2011). Briefly, the elution was performed with a gradient of 40 min; during 0-1.5 min isocratic elution with 32% B; from 1.5 to 4 min increase to 45% B, from 4 to 5 min increase to 52% B, from 5 to 8 min to 58% B, from 8 to 11 min to 66% B, from 11 to 14 min to 70% B, from 14 to 18 min to 75% B, from 18 to 21 min to 97% B, during 21 to 35 min 97% B is maintained; from 35-35.1 min solvent B was decreased to 32% and then maintained for another 4.9 min for column re-equilibration. The flow rate was set to 0.260 mL/min. The column oven and autosampler were held at 55°C and 15°C, respectively. The mass spectrometer parameters were as follows: The spray voltage was set to 3.25 kV in positive mode and 3.0 kV in negative mode, and the heated capillary and the HESI were held at 300°C and 375°C, respectively. The Slens RF level was set to 45, and the sheath and auxiliary gas were set to 40 and 10 units, respectively. These conditions were held constant for both positive and negative ionization mode acquisitions. The mass spectrometer was operated in full-scan-ddMS/MS mode with an Orbitrap resolution of 120,000 (MS1) and 30,000 (MS/MS). Internal calibration using Easy IC was enabled. Quadrupole isolation was enabled, the AGC target was 1×10^5 , the maximum injection time was 50 msec, and the scan range was m/z = 200-2000. For data-dependent MS/MS, the cycle time as 1.5 sec, the isolation window was 1, and an intensity threshold of 1×10^3 was used. HCD fragmentation was achieved using a step-wise collision energy of 15, 25, and 35 units, and detected in the Orbitrap with an AGC target of $5x10^4$ and a maximum injection time of





54 msec. Isotopic exclusion was on, a dynamic exclusion window of 2.5 sec was used, and an exclusion list was generated using a solvent bank.

High-throughput annotation and relative quantification of lipids was performed using LipidSearch v4.2.21 (Thermo Fisher Scientific/ Mitsui Knowledge Industries) using the HCD database (Taguchi and Ishikawa, 2010; Yamada et al., 2013). LipidSearch matches MS/MS data in the experimental data with spectral data in the HCD database. Precursor ion tolerance was set to 5 ppm, product ion tolerance was set to 10 ppm. LipidSearch nomenclature uses underscores to separate the fatty acyl chains to indicate the lack of sn positional information. In cases where there is insufficient MS/MS data to identify all acyl chains, only the sum of the chains is displayed. Following the peak search, positive and negative mode data were aligned together where possible and raw peak areas for all annotated lipids were exported to Microsoft Excel and filtered according to the following predetermined quality control criteria: Rej ("Reject" parameter calculated by LipidSearch) equal to 0; PQ ("Peak Quality" parameter calculated by LipidSearch software) greater than 0.75; CV (standard deviation/ mean peak area across triplicate injections of a represented (pooled) biological sample) below 0.4; R (linear correlation across a three-point dilution series of the representative (pooled) biological sample) greater than 0.9. Typically, ~70% of annotated lipids passed all four quality control criteria. Redundant lipid ions (those with identical retention times and multiple adducts) were removed such that only one lipid ion per species/ per unique retention time is reported in merged alignments. For data where positive and negative mode data were aligned separately some redundancies may still exist. Raw peak areas of the filtered lipids were normalized to total lipid signal (positive or negative ionization mode) in each sample to control for sample loading. Data presented are shown as Log₂FC compared to wildtype/control samples. Statistics were performed in Prism, with each run analyzed separately.

Zebrafish brain staining and imaging

For 24 h after fertilization staining, embryos were deeply anesthetized in tricaine after being dechorionated. Embryos were places into wells in 1% Agarose dishes. 1 ng Cholera Toxin subunit B (CT-B) (Recombinant Alexa Fluor 488 conjugate, Invitrogen #C34775) was injected into the hindbrain ventricle (Gutzman and Sive, 2010). Embryos were washed with E3 and incubated for 1 h to allow CT-B binding. Embryos were then fixed in fresh 4% PFA in phosphate buffered solution (PBS) overnight at 4°C. Embryos were washed in PBS + Tween-20 (PBT) and incubated with 555-Phalloidin (Invitrogen #A34055) for 1 h. Alternatively, embryos were incubated with Duramycin-Cy3 conjugate (Molecular Targeting Technologies #D-1006) PE stain for 45 min. Embryos were washed in PBT and mounted in DAPI Antifade (Thermo Fisher Scientific #P36931) overnight. Imaging was performed on an inverted Zeiss LSM700 Laser Scanning Confocal and processed on Fiji (ImageJ). CT-B and Duramycin images were processed on ImageJ to measure relative puncta from staining. Particles were measured after drawing a size circle in each hemisphere comparing AB to fam57b mut embryos. Threshold was set to intermodes to assume for bimodal histogram, particle size set between 0 – 2 μ m².

For 7 dpf larvae, the following protocol was adapted from the mouse protocol provided by LifeCanvas Technologies (SHIELD kit, LifeCanvas Technologies). At 7 dpf, zebrafish were collected into Eppendorf tubes, 25 zebrafish per tube and anesthetized on ice briefly. Embryo buffer E3 was removed and replaced with 1 mL SHIELD Perfusion Solution with diluted 4% paraformaldehyde (PFA) (Electron Microscopy Sciences # 50-980-495), shaking overnight at 4°C. Whole zebrafish brains were dissected the next day and placed into tubes with fresh SHIELD Perfusion Solution, shaking overnight at 4°C. Tissue was placed into 1 mL SHIELD OFF solution, shaking overnight at 4°C. Tissue was transferred into SHIELD ON Buffer, shaking overnight at 37°C in MaxQ 4450 (ThermoFisher Scientific). Tissue was then cleared with 1 mL passive clearing protocol using SDS Clearing Solution, shaking for 5 days at 45°C. Clearing solution was washed off with 1 mL PBS + 1% Triton-X (PBT) with 0.02% Sodium Azide 3 times over 24 hours shaking at 37°C. Tissue was blocked in 1 mL PBT + 1% BSA for 2 h shaking at room temperature, then incubated in primary antibody shaking overnight at 4°C. Antibodies: 1:100 Synaptotagmin-1 (Lifespan Bioscience # LS-B12889), GAD65 + GAD67 (Abcam #ab11070), Beta-Actin (Proteintech 60008-1) and 1:500 DAPI (Life Technologies # D1306), in 0.5 mL PBT + 1% BSA. Primary antibody was washed off 3 times in PBT and incubated in secondary antibody shaking overnight at 4°C (1:500 488- 555- 680-conjugated antibodies (Jackson ImmunoResearch, 488 anti-goat #805-545-180, 488 anti-mouse #715-545-151, 594 anti-mouse #715-585-150, 594 anti-rabbit #711-585-152, anti-mouse 680 #715-625-150, anti-rabbit 680 #711-625-152) in PBT + 1% BSA). Secondary was washed off 3 times in PBT, then 1 mL EasyIndex was added to tissue, shaking





overnight at room temperature. Whole brains were mounted in fresh EasyIndex on slides, placing coverslip with vacuum grease. Imaging was performed on an inverted Zeiss LSM700 Laser Scanning Confocal and processed on Fiji (ImageJ).

PH3 staining

At 24 hpf, fam57b mut and AB embryos were dechorionated and fixed overnight at 4°C in paraformaldehyde. Embryos were washed with phosphate buffered saline with Tween-20 (PBT) and yolk sac was removed. Embryos were incubated with 10% H_2O_2 for 1.5 h, then washed in PBT. Embryos were blocked in PBT with bovine serum albumin at room temp for 4 h, then incubated with α -PH3 antibody (1:1000, Upstate Biotechnology #06-570) overnight at room temp. Embryos were washed with PBT and incubated with secondary antibody (1:500 goat α -rabbit IgG HRP, Invitrogen #31460) in PBT overnight at room temp. Embryos were washed in PBT and flat mounted on glass slide with propidium iodide in glycerol. Imaging was performed on a confocal microscope.

TUNEL staining

Embryos were collected, fixed and processed as PH3 staining. Embryos were then dehydrated then rehydrated interchanging ethanol and PBT. Proteinase K (Invitrogen # EO0491) was incubated in PBT on neutator, then rinsed in PBT. TdT labeling was followed per manufacturer's instructions, ApopTag kit (Chemicon # S7101). α -DIG (1:100, Thermo Fisher Scientific #700772) was used to detect the DIG labeled ends. Embryos were washed in PBT and flat mounted on glass slide with propidium iodide in glycerol. Imaging was performed on a confocal microscope.

Immunocytochemistry

Patient derived neurons were washed with PBS and fixed in fresh 4% paraformaldehyde in PBS overnight rocking at 4°C. Cells were washed with PBT and blocked in PBT + BSA for 1 h at room temperature. Primary antibody was added to PBT overnight rocking at 4°C. Antibodies: 1:100 Syt-1, Vesicular Glutamate 1 and 2 (VGlut1/2, Synaptic Systems #135503) or Postsynaptic Density 95 (PSD95, Abcam #ab18258), Acetylated-Tubulin (Ac-Tubulin, Abcam #ab179513). Primary antibody was washed off three times in PBT and incubated in secondary antibody shaking overnight at 4°C (1:500 488- 555- 680- (Jackson ImmunoResearch, see above) in PBT + BSA). Secondary was washed off three times in PBT, rocking for 2 h at room temperature. Cells were washed three times in PBT and mounted on slides with DAPI (Prolong Gold Antifade with DAPI (Life Technologies #P36935). Imaging was performed on an inverted Zeiss LSM700 Laser Scanning Confocal and processed on Fiji (ImageJ).

SH-SY5Y cells were plated on coverslips and differentiated over 4 days with retinoic acid medium. The same imaging protocol was performed as above. Antibody: 1:200 Beta-Actin.

Western blot

HEK293T studies - Proteins were separated by SDS-PAGE and transferred to nitrocellulose membranes. HA-tagged constructs were identified using antibodies against HA or Flag peptides (1:5,000, Abcam #ab18181, #ab1162), and goat anti-rabbit or mouse horseradish peroxidase (1:10,000, #323-001-021, #223-005-024) were used as secondary antibodies (Jackson). Equal loading was confirmed using a mouse anti-GAPDH (Abcam #ab8245). Detection was performed using the ECL detection system.

Larvae brain tissue (25 larvae brains pooled per sample) or differentiated SH-SY5Y cells (1 x 10⁶ cells per sample) were washed with PBS then lysed in RIPA buffer (Thermo Fisher Scientific #89900) with protease inhibitor cocktail with a pestle homogenizer. Tissue/cells were rotate at 4°C for 30 min, then spun full speed 10 min. The supernatant was removed containing proteins, with denature in Laemmli buffer for 1 hr at RT. Protein was separated on 10-40% gel and transferred PVDF by wet transfer. Membranes were blocked in 5% dry milk in TBS + Tween 20. Primary antibody was incubated overnight. Same antibodies were used for immunofluorescence and western analysis. Antibodies: Syt-1, Beta-Actin, GAPDH), FAM57B (Proteintech 20760-1-AP). Secondary antibodies 1:2000 IRDye (Li-Cor 800CW Rabbit #92632211, 680RD Mouse #92668070) were incubated for 1 h at room temperature. Blots were imaged and quantified on a Li-Cor Odyssey.





Biotinylation and MS/MS

At 7 dpf, larvae were deeply anesthetized with tricaine. Larvae were dissected in PBS with protease inhibitor cocktail on ice, pooling 20 brains per genotype per sample. Assay was performed according to protocol utilizing Pierce Cell Surface Protein Isolation Kit (Thermo Fisher Scientific #89881) with the following modifications. 1 vial of biotin was resuspended in 2 mL PBS and fresh brains were incubated with 1 mL biotin/ PBS solution rotating for 45 min at 4°C. Elution of biotin-bound proteins in water + DTT was performed for 1 h at room temperature. Eluates were reduced, alkylated and digested with trypsin at 37°C overnight. This solution was subjected to solid phase extraction to concentrate the peptides and remove unwanted reagents. Solution was injected onto a Waters nanoAcquity HPLC equipped with a self-packed Aeris 3.6 µm C18 analytical column 0.075 mm by 20 cm, (Phenomenex). Peptides were eluted using standard reverse-phase gradients. The effluent from the column was analyzed using a Thermo Orbitrap Elite mass spectrometer (nanospray configuration) operated in a data dependent manner for 54 min. The resulting fragmentation spectra were correlated against the known database using Mascot (Matrix Science). Scaffold Q+S (Proteome Software) was used to provide consensus reports for the identified proteins. PEAKS Studio 8.5 was used for data analysis as a supplement to Mascot. Raw data are provided in the Supplemental Excel spreadsheet.

Synaptosome isolation

7 dpf zebrafish larvae were anesthetized in Tricaine with larvae buffer E3. Whole brains were dissected from the larvae and placed into a 1.5 mL Eppendorf tube on ice, pooling 20 brains per genotype. The tissue was centrifuged at top speed and excess liquid was removed. 200 μ l of SYN-Per Reagent (Thermo Fisher Scientific #87793) plus protease cocktail inhibitor was added to the Eppendorf on ice. With a pestle, the brains were homogenized with 10 strokes and the tube was gently turned 3 times to dissociate cells. The tissue was centrifuged at 1200 x G for 10 min at 4°C. The supernatant was collected and added to a new Eppendorf tube. The sample was centrifuged at 15,000 x G for 20 min at 4°C. The supernatant was removed and the pellet was gently resuspended in 100 μ l of SYN-Per Reagent plus protease cocktail inhibitor. The samples were flash frozen and processed for tandem mass spectrometry (MS/MS) after reducing alkylating and digesting with trypsin as indicated above.

SH-SY5Y cells were plated at 1 x 10^6 per well in 6-well plates, with 1 well per independent sample for all genotypes. After 4 days differentiation, cells were washed with PBS plus protease inhibitor cocktail. Cells were scraped in the same solution and centrifuges in a 1.5 mL Eppendorf tube at top speed for 30 s at 4°C. The wash was removed and the same protocol was used as for larval brain synaptosome isolation. After samples were flash frozen, they were then processed for MS/MS or LC/MS analysis. Raw data are provided in the Supplemental Excel spreadsheet.

Electrophysiology

iPSC Differentiated Neurons - 1 x 10⁴ NPCs were plated and matured over 1 month in a PDL and Laminin coated 48-well CytoView plate (Axion Biosystems # M768-tMEA-48B). Recordings of spontaneous activity were taken over 10-min periods on the Maestro system (Axion Biosystems). AxIS software compiled the data collected from recordings. Data were collected for LFPs (firing frequency in Hz), electrographic burst events (minimum 5 LFPs/100 ms) and relative network activity (minimum 3 LFPs detected simultaneously between a minimum of two electrodes). LFP detection was filtered at 6 × standard deviation to remove potential artifacts. The external physiological solution contained (in mM) 128 NaCl, 5 KCl, 2 CaCl₂, 1 MgCl₂, 25 HEPES and 30 glucose, pH 7.3, Osmolarity 315 - 325. The High KCl solution contained (in mM) 63 NaCl, 70 KCl, 2 CaCl₂, 1 MgCl₂, 25 HEPES and 30 glucose, pH 7.3, Osmolarity 315 - 325.

Live larvae MEA recordings were performed as detailed in Tomasello and Sive (2020) (Tomasello and Sive, 2020). For these recordings, larva was immersed in low-melt agarose in 12-well 64 electrode Cytoview plates (Axion Biosystems (discontinued, recommend 6-well plate)). LFP activity was recorded for 10 min, noting the electrodes in contact with larva head region. Larvae were immediately sacrificed after recordings. Data was processed with AxIS and Axion Neural Metric Tool (Axion Biosystems).

Larval behavior

At 7 dpf, dishes containing larvae were moved to the bench to allow acclimation to RT. For experimentation, only larvae with an inflated swim bladder and no other morphology phenotypes, such as a crooked tail,





were selected. With a cut 200 μ l tip, larvae were individually pipetted into 96-well plates with 200 μ l E3 media and moved to the Noldus DanioVision for 10 min habituation period. The larvae were exposed to a testing period of 70 min, with light (at 10%) extinguished for 5 s at 10-min intervals. Point tracking collected distance and velocity traveled. Distance moved was calculated using the Ethovision XT 11 software from Noldus. Raw data are provided in the Supplemental Excel spreadsheet.

The same method is performed as above up to habituation. Baseline activity was then recorded for 10 min, followed by exchange of 100 μ l E3 from each well with 100 μ l of varying concentrations of PTZ to test a range of doses. Plates were immediately placed back on the DanioVision system for another 10 min recording. Point tracking collected distance and velocity traveled. Distance moved was calculated using the Ethovision XT 11 software from Noldus, normalizing to habituation time. Raw data are provided in the Supplemental Excel spreadsheet.

Neuromuscular junction staining

Larvae were fixed in 4% PFA. Alpha-Bungarotoxin Alexa Fluor 488 conjugate (Invitrogen B13422) was used at 1:500, znp1 (anti-SYT2, Abcam ab154035) monoclonal antibody was used at 1:200, with secondary antibody 594 anti-mouse (Jackson #715-585-150) incubated at 1:500.

Larval head measurements

Larvae were deeply anesthetized in Tricaine and immersed in methylcellulose for Brightfield imaging on a Leica microscope. Larvae were oriented for dorsal measurements of dorsal head length, hindbrain head length, inter-eye width and forebrain head length, and oriented for lateral measurements of head height, lateral head length, eye width, eye height and lateral length. Schematic of measurements can be found in McCammon et al., (2017). Raw data and conversion measurements are provided in the Supplemental Excel spreadsheet.

QUANTIFICATION AND STATISTICAL ANALYSIS

With the exception of proteomic analysis in Figures 5C, 5D, 7E, and 7H, all statistical analysis was performed in Prism. Statistical test is denoted in the figure legend corresponding to the appropriate figure. Error bars represent standard error of the mean. Asterisks are defined in each relevant figure legend. On the lipidomic analysis of individual species, to correct p-values we had utilized Sidak's multiple comparisons post hoc test rather than FDR. Note, we tried FDR for multiple hypothesis correction, and that method produced similar results. GO SLIM analysis was performed with PANTHER Classification System (www. pantherdb.org) that combines genomes, gene function classifications, pathways and statistical analysis tools to enable biologists to analyze large-scale genome-wide experimental data (Mi et al., 2019). For the Proteomics analysis, the peptide intensities of biological samples were analyzed with MSstats, an R package for statistical analysis, using the options FDR=0.05 or 0.01, 'removeProtein_with1Feature=TRUE' and 'fewMeasurements="remove"'. The labeled genes indicate lowest p-values. For post hoc colocalization analysis of iPSC differentiated neurons (Supplemental Table 2), individual cell somas were outlined by freehand in FIJI, followed by Coloc 2 colocalization analysis between Synaptotagmin-1 (Channel 1) and PSD-95 (Channel 2). Neurons were isolated between 3 images per genotype of representative images from Figure S1. Similar statistics are indicated between control 16pdel neurons.