

A fine-tuned vector-parasite dialogue in tsetse's cardia determines peritrophic matrix integrity and trypanosome transmission success

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33 **Abstract**

34 Arthropod vectors have multiple physical and immunological barriers that impede the
35 development and transmission of parasites to new vertebrate hosts. These barriers include the
36 peritrophic matrix (PM), a chitinous barrier that separates the blood bolus from the midgut
37 epithelia and in turn, modulates vector-microbiota interactions. In tsetse flies, a sleeve-like PM is
38 continuously produced by the cardia organ located at the fore- and midgut junction. African
39 trypanosomes, *Trypanosoma brucei*, must bypass the PM twice; first to colonize the midgut and
40 secondly to reach the salivary glands (SG), to complete their transmission cycle in tsetse.
41 However, not all flies with midgut infections develop mammalian transmissible SG infections -
42 the reasons for which are unclear. Here, we used transcriptomics, microscopy and functional
43 genomics analyses to understand the factors that regulate parasite migration from midgut to SG.
44 In flies with midgut infections only, parasites fail to cross the PM as they are eliminated from the
45 cardia by reactive oxygen intermediates (ROIs) - albeit at the expense of collateral cytotoxic
46 damage to the cardia. In flies with midgut and SG infections, expression of genes encoding
47 components of the PM is reduced in the cardia, and structural integrity of the PM barrier is
48 compromised. Under these circumstances trypanosomes traverse through the newly secreted and
49 compromised PM. The process of PM attrition that enables the parasites to re-enter into the
50 midgut lumen is apparently mediated by components of the parasites residing in the cardia. Thus,
51 a fine-tuned dialogue between tsetse and trypanosomes at the cardia determines the outcome of
52 PM integrity and trypanosome transmission success.

53

54 **Author summary**

55 Insects are responsible for transmission of parasites that cause deadly diseases in humans and
56 animals. Understanding the key factors that enhance or interfere with parasite transmission
57 processes can result in new control strategies. Here, we report that a proportion of tsetse flies with
58 African trypanosome infections in their midgut can prevent parasites from migrating to the
59 salivary glands, albeit at the expense of collateral damage. In a subset of flies with gut
60 infections, the parasites manipulate the integrity of a midgut barrier, called the peritrophic matrix,
61 and reach the salivary glands for transmission to the next mammal. Either targeting parasite
62 manipulative processes or enhancing peritrophic matrix integrity could reduce parasite
63 transmission.

64 **Introduction**

65 Insects are essential vectors for the transmission of microbes that cause devastating diseases in
66 humans and livestock. Many of these diseases lack effective vaccines and drugs for control in
67 mammalian hosts. Hence, reduction of insect populations, as well as approaches that reduce the
68 transmission efficiency of pathogens by insect vectors, are explored for disease control. Tsetse
69 flies transmit African trypanosomes, which are the causative agents of human and animal African
70 trypanosomiases. These diseases can be fatal if left untreated and inflict significant socio-
71 economic hardship across a wide swath of sub-Saharan Africa [1, 2]. The phenomenon of
72 antigenic variation the parasite displays in its mammalian host has prevented the development of
73 vaccines, and easily administered and affordable drugs are unavailable. However, tsetse
74 population reduction can significantly curb disease, especially during times of endemicity [3, 4].
75 In addition, strategies that reduce parasite transmission efficiency by the tsetse vector can prevent
76 disease emergence. A more complete understanding of parasite-vector dynamics is essential for
77 the development of such control methods.

78 For transmission to new vertebrate hosts, vector-borne parasites have to first successfully
79 colonize their respective vectors. This requires that parasites circumvent several physical and
80 immune barriers as they progress through their development in the vector. One prominent barrier
81 they face in the midgut is the peritrophic matrix (PM), which is a chitinous, proteinaceous
82 structure that separates the epithelia from the blood meal [5-7]. In Anopheline mosquitoes the
83 presence of the PM benefits the vector by regulating the commensal gut microbiota and
84 preventing pathogens from invading the hemocoel [8]. In tsetse and sand flies, the PM plays a
85 crucial role as an infection barrier by blocking parasite development and colonization [9, 10]. The
86 presence of the PM can also be exploited by microbes to promote their survival in the gut lumen.
87 The agent of Lyme disease, *Borrelia burgdorferi*, binds to the tick vector's gut and exploits the
88 PM for protection from the harmful effects of blood-filled gut lumen [11]. Unlike vectors that
89 produce a type I PM in response to blood feeding, tsetse's sleeve-like type II PM is constitutively
90 produced by the cardia organ, which is located at the junction of the fore- and midgut. Upon
91 entering the gut lumen, long-slender bloodstream form (BSF) trypanosomes (*Trypanosoma*
92 *brucei*) are lysed while short-slender BSFs differentiate to midgut-adapted procyclic forms (PCF)
93 [12]. During these lysis and differentiation processes, BSF parasites shed their dense coat
94 composed of Variant Surface Glycoproteins (VSGs) into the midgut environment [12]. These

95 molecules are then internalized by cells in the cardia, where they transiently inhibit the
96 production of a structurally robust PM. This process promotes infection establishment by
97 enabling trypanosomes to traverse the PM barrier and invade the midgut ectoperitrophic space
98 (ES) [9]. After entering the ES, trypanosomes face strong epithelial immune responses, which
99 hinder parasite gut colonization success. Detection of PCF parasites in the ES induces the
100 production of trypanocidal antimicrobial peptides [13, 14], reactive oxygen intermediates (ROIs)
101 [15], PGRP-LB [16] and tsetse-EP protein [17]. A combination of these immune effectors
102 eliminate trypanosomes from the majority of flies, leaving only a small percentage of flies
103 infected with PCF parasites in their midgut. The PCF parasites move to tsetse's cardia where they
104 differentiate into long and short epimastigote forms. These cells then cross the PM for the second
105 time to enter back into the fly's gut lumen and migrate through the foregut into the salivary
106 glands (SG) for further differentiation into mammalian infective metacyclic forms [18, 19].
107 Interestingly, the SG infection process, which is necessary for disease transmission, succeeds in
108 only a subset of flies with midgut infections [20]. Even though midgut trypanosomes fail to
109 colonize tsetse's SG in a subset of flies, parasites persist in the midgut for the remainder of the
110 fly's adult life. The physiological barriers that prevent SG colonization in the subset of midgut-
111 only infected flies remain unknown.

112 In this study, we investigated the molecular and cellular mechanisms that prevent
113 parasites from colonizing the SG in a subset of flies with successful midgut infections. Our
114 results show a robust host oxidative stress response reduces parasite survival in the cardia. While
115 preventing parasites from further development, this immune response is costly for tsetse's cellular
116 integrity and results in extensive damage to cardia tissues. In contrast, less cellular damage is
117 observed in the cardia of flies with midgut parasites that give rise to SG infections. Our results
118 indicate that the ability of the parasites to successfully bypass the PM barrier in the cardia is
119 essential for the establishment of SG infections. We discuss the molecular interactions that
120 regulate this complex and dynamic vector-parasite relationship in the cardia organ, an essential
121 regulator of disease transmission.

122

123 **Results and Discussion**

124 **Trypanosome infection dynamics in tsetse**

125 Tsetse display strong resistance to infection with trypanosomes. By 3-6 days post acquisition
126 (dpa), parasites that have entered into the ES of the midgut are eliminated by induced vector
127 immune responses from the majority of flies. When newly emerged *Glossina morsitans* adults
128 (termed teneral) are provided with an infectious bloodmeal in their first feeding, midgut infection
129 success is typically around 30-40% [21, 22]. However, in mature adults that have had at least one
130 prior normal bloodmeal, the infection rate is lower, with only 1-5% of flies housing midgut
131 infections [23, 24]. PCF parasites in susceptible flies replicate in the ES and move forward to the
132 cardia where they differentiate into long and short epimastigote forms. About 6-10 dpa, parasites
133 in the cardia re-enter the gut lumen and migrate through the foregut into the SG, where they
134 differentiate to mammalian infective metacyclic forms within 20-30 days [18, 19].

135 To generate a suitable sample size of infected flies for down-stream experiments, we provided
136 three groups of teneral *G. m. morsitans* adult females independent blood meals containing BSF
137 trypanosomes (*Trypanosoma brucei brucei* RUMP 503) and obtained midgut infection rates of
138 about 30% when microscopically analyzed 40 dpa (Fig 1A). When we analyzed the SG infection
139 status of these gut infected flies, we detected SG infections in about 65% of individuals (Fig 1B).
140 We chose the 40-day time point to accurately score midgut and SG infections, as in our
141 experimental system and insectary environment SG infection status becomes accurately verifiable
142 by microscopy at 30 dpa at the earliest. Hence, two forms of fly infections exist: non-permissive
143 infections where parasites are restricted exclusively to the gut (hereafter designated ‘inf+/-’), and
144 permissive infections where parasites are present in the gut and SGs (hereafter designated
145 ‘inf+/+’) (Fig 1C).

146 We next investigated whether parasites residing in the non-permissive (inf+/-) gut infections
147 suffer a developmental bottleneck that result in the selection of trypanosomes that are incapable
148 of progressing towards metacyclic infections in the SG. We challenged two groups of teneral
149 adults *per os* with *Trypanosoma brucei brucei* obtained from midguts of either inf+/+ or inf+/-
150 flies. We observed a similar proportion of inf+/+ and inf+/- phenotypes regardless of the parasite
151 population (inf+/+ or inf+/-) provided for the initial infection (Fig 1D). This indicates that
152 trypanosomes in the inf+/- gut population are still developmentally competent, and can complete

153 their cyclic development to SG metacyclics. Thus, we hypothesized that the cardia physiological
154 environment may determine the developmental course of trypanosome infection dynamics.
155 Our prior studies on the role of the PM during the initial parasite colonization event showed that
156 release of VSG from the ingested BSF parasites as they differentiate to PCF cells interferes with
157 gene expression in the cardia resulting in loss of PM integrity early in the infection process. We
158 thus checked to ensure that parasite re-entry into the gut lumen 6-10 dpa was not due to the
159 residual effect of BSF-shed VSG on PM integrity. To do so we analyzed the expression of PM-
160 associated genes (*pro1*, *pro2* and *pro3*) in cardia three and six days after supplementing flies with
161 a bloodmeal containing purified VSG. Our results show that expression of the PM associated
162 genes is significantly reduced at the day-three time point, but that their expression fully recovers
163 by the day-six time point. These findings indicate that parasite re-entry into the gut lumen in the
164 cardia is unlikely affected by loss of PM integrity that results from the initial VSG effects (Fig
165 1E).

166

167 **Parasites bypass the PM and enter into the gut lumen in permissive (inf+/+) cardia**

168 To investigate the molecular aspects of the infection barriers preventing SG colonization that
169 subsequently limit parasite transmission in the inf+/- group, we used the infection scheme
170 described above and pooled infected cardia into inf+/- and inf+/+ groups ($n=3$ independent
171 biological replicates per group, with ten cardia per replicate). For comparison, we similarly
172 obtained dissected cardia from age-matched normal controls (called non-inf; $n=3$ independent
173 biological replicates per group, with ten cardia per replicate). We next applied high-throughput
174 RNA-sequencing (RNA-seq) to profile gene expression in the three groups of cardia. We
175 obtained on average $> 23M$ reads for each of the nine libraries, with 77.8% (non-inf), 75.4%
176 (inf+/-) and 64.5% (inf+/+) of the total reads mapping to *Glossina morsitans morsitans*
177 transcriptome (S1 Fig). The trypanosome reads corresponded to about 3.5% in non-permissive
178 (inf+/-) dataset and about 11.9% in the permissive (inf+/+) dataset (Fig 2A). To estimate relative
179 parasite densities in the two cardia infection states, we measured the expression of the
180 trypanosome housekeeping gene *gapdh* in inf+/- and inf+/+ cardia by quantitative real time PCR
181 (qRT-PCR) and normalized the values using tsetse *gapdh*. We noted significantly higher parasite
182 gene expression values in the inf+/+ cardia compared to the inf+/- cardia samples (Student *t*-test,
183 $p= 0.0028$; Fig 2B). We also confirmed that inf+/+ cardia had higher parasite density by

184 microscopically counting trypanosome numbers in the dissected cardia organs using a
185 hemocytometer (S2 Fig). Thus, the difference in the representative parasite transcriptome reads in
186 the two infected groups of cardia is due to an increase in the number of trypanosomes residing in
187 the inf+/+ cardia rather than an increase in parasite transcriptional activity. Interestingly, we
188 noted no difference in the number of trypanosomes present in inf+/- and inf+/+ midguts (S2 Fig).
189 Hence, it appears that parasite density either decreases in the cardia, or fewer parasites colonize
190 the organ despite the fact that inf+/- and inf+/+ flies maintain similar parasite densities in their
191 midguts.

192 To detect the presence of parasites in the foregut, and to understand the different parasite
193 developmental stages that could be present in the inf+/- and inf+/+ cardia , we investigated
194 parasites by microscopy from these tissues at 40 dpa. We did not observe parasites in the foregut
195 of inf+/- infections, confirming that they are are restricted from further development in the cardia
196 in this group of flies. In the inf+/+ state however, we noted presence of many parasites in the
197 foregut in all examined flies. We also looked at the relative presence of the different parasite
198 developmental forms (short and long-epimastigote and trypomastigotes) populating the two
199 different cardia phenotypes by examining parasite morphology and the localization of the nucleus
200 and kinetoplast, as previously described [18, 19]. We observed that the majority of the parasites
201 present in both cardia infection states on day 40 were trypomastigotes with fewer epimastigotes,
202 and that no significant differences between the two cardia infection states was noted (S1 Dataset).

203 Tsetse's cardia is composed of several different cell-types with potentially varying
204 functions (schematically shown in Fig 2C; S3 Fig) [25-29]. These include an invagination of cells
205 originating from the foregut, which are enclosed within an annular pad of columnar epithelial
206 cells originating from the midgut. The cells occupying this pad secrete vacuoles that deliver
207 components of the PM [27, 29]. The cardia organ is surrounded by muscles that form a sphincter
208 around the foregut, which likely regulates blood flow during the feeding process. Additionally,
209 large lipid-containing cells are localized under a layer of muscle below the sphincter. The
210 function of these cells remains unclear. Microscopy analysis of infected cardia supported our
211 previous molecular findings, as we observed fewer parasites in the cardia of inf+/- (Fig 2D; Fig
212 2E) when compared to inf+/+ flies (Fig 2F; Fig 2G). Parasites from the inf+/- cardia were
213 restricted to the ES, whereas parasites were observed in both the ES and the lumen of inf+/+
214 cardia. Hence, the parasite populations resident in inf+/+ cardia had translocated from ES to the

215 lumen, while parasites in inf+/- cardia failed to bypass the PM barrier. These data suggest that the
216 cardia physiological environment may influence the parasite infection phenotype and
217 transmission potential.

218

219 **PM is compromised in permissive (inf+/+) cardia but not in non-permissive (inf+/-) cardia**

220 For successful transmission to the next mammalian host, trypanosomes that reside in the ES of the
221 midgut must traverse the PM barrier a second time to re-enter into the gut lumen, move forward
222 through the foregut and mouthparts and colonize the SGs. Traversing the PM a second time is
223 thought to occur near the cardia region [25, 29-31] due to newly synthesized PM likely providing
224 a less robust barrier than in the midgut region. We investigated whether the functional integrity of
225 the PM in the two different infection states varied in the cardia organ. We mined the non-inf
226 cardia transcriptome dataset (S2 Dataset) and identified 14 transcripts associated with PM
227 structure and function [6, 9, 32], which cumulatively accounted for 35.7% of the total number of
228 reads based on CPM value (Fig 3A). The same set of genes represented 26.5% and 34.5% of the
229 inf+/+ and inf+/- transcriptome data sets, respectively (Fig 3A). Thus, PM-associated transcripts
230 are less abundant in the inf+/+ cardia relative to inf+/- and control cardia. We next evaluated the
231 expression profile of PM-associated transcripts and identified those that are differentially
232 expressed (DE) with a fold-change of ≥ 1.5 in at least one infection state compared to the control
233 (non-inf) (Fig 3B). We observed a significant reduction in cardia transcripts encoding the major
234 PM-associated proventriculin genes (*pro2*, *pro3*) in the cardia inf+/+, but not the cardia inf+/-
235 dataset. Both Pro2 and Pro3 are proteinaceous components of the PM [6]. Interestingly, the
236 expression of *chitinase* was induced in both inf+/- and inf+/+ datasets. Because Chitinase activity
237 can degrade the chitin backbone of the PM, increased levels of its expression would enhance the
238 ability of the parasites to bypass this barrier. Overall, the inf+/+ cardia expression profile we
239 observed here is similar to the profile noted in the cardia 72 hours post BSF parasite acquisition
240 early in the infection process [9]. Results from that study demonstrated that reduced expression of
241 genes that encode prominent PM associated proteins compromised PM integrity, thus increasing
242 the midgut parasite infection prevalence [9]. Loss of PM integrity in the inf+/+ state could
243 similarly enhance the ability of parasites to traverse the PM to re-enter the gut lumen and invade
244 the SGs.

245

246 **Reduction of PM integrity increases the prevalence of SG infections (inf+/+)**

247 We hypothesized that PM integrity is a prominent factor in the ability of trypanosomes to traverse
248 the barrier in the cardia and continue their migration to the SGs. We addressed this hypothesis by
249 experimentally compromising the structural integrity of the PM in flies that harbored established
250 gut parasite infections. We modified a dsRNA feeding procedure that targets tsetse *chitin*
251 *synthase* (dsRNA-*cs*), which effectively inhibits the production of a structurally robust PM [7].
252 We challenged flies with BSF trypanosomes as teneral adults and then administered blood meals
253 containing dsRNA-*cs* on day 6, 8 and 10 post parasite acquisition. This is the time interval when
254 we expect the parasites colonizing the ES of the midgut to bypass the PM barrier in the cardia to
255 re-enter into the lumen [19, 33, 34]. Control groups similarly received dsRNA targeting green
256 fluorescent protein (dsRNA-*gfp*). Decreased expression of *chitin synthase* in the experimental
257 dsRNA-*cs* group relative to the control dsRNA-*gfp* group was confirmed by qPCR analysis (S4
258 Fig). Twenty days post dsRNA treatment, midguts and SGs were microscopically dissected and
259 the SG infection status scored. We detected SG infections in 68% of dsRNA-*cs* treatment group
260 compared to 47% in dsRNA-*gfp* control group (Fig 3C). Thus, the PM compromised group of
261 flies showed a significant increase in inf+/+ phenotype relative to the control group (GLM, Wald-
262 test, $p=0.0154$). These findings suggest that compromising the PM structure later in the infection
263 process increases the proportion of gut infected flies that give rise to mature SG infections
264 (inf+/+). Thus, tsetse's PM acts as a barrier for parasite translocation from the ES to the lumen of
265 the midgut, an essential step for successful SG colonization.

266

267 **Permissive (inf+/+) cardia extracts compromise PM integrity**

268 We sought to determine if components of inf+/+ parasites infecting the cardia could manipulate
269 cardia physiology to bypass the PM. For this, we used a modified version of a host microbial
270 survival assay that was successfully used to evaluate PM structural integrity [7, 9, 35]. In this
271 assay, tsetse with an intact PM fail to immunologically detect the presence of the
272 entomopathogenic *Serratia marcescens* in the gut lumen. The bacteria thus proliferate
273 uncontrolled in this environment, translocate into the hemocoel and kill the fly [7]. Conversely,
274 when PM structure is compromised, the fly's immune system can detect the presence of *Serratia*
275 early during the infection process and express robust antimicrobial immunity that limits pathogen
276 replication and increases host survival [7]. We provided mature adults blood meals supplemented

277 with both entomopathogenic *Serratia* and heat-treated inf+/+ cardia extracts, while two age-
278 matched control groups received either both *Serratia* and cardia extracts prepared from flies that
279 had cleared their midgut infections (designated rec-/- for "recovered") or only *Serratia* (control).
280 We found that survival of flies that received inf+/+ extracts was significantly higher than either of
281 the two control groups (Fig 3D). These findings suggest that cardia inf+/+ extracts contain
282 molecule(s) that negatively influence tsetse's PM integrity, thereby enabling these flies to more
283 rapidly detect *Serratia* and express heightened immune responses to overcome this pathogen. Our
284 transcriptional investigation indicated that PM associated gene expression decreased in the inf+/+
285 state but not in the inf+/- state (Fig 3B). In the survival assay we described above, we fed flies
286 with cardia extracts from inf+/- containing heat-killed parasites at an equivalent quantity as the
287 one used in the inf+/+ state. When supplemented with the cardia+/- extracts, the survival of flies
288 was decreased to the same level as the two controls, suggesting that extract from cardia inf+/- did
289 not compromise PM integrity (Fig 3D). Collectively, these findings confirm that the parasites in
290 cardia inf+/- differ in their ability to interfere with PM integrity when compared with those in the
291 cardia inf+/+ state. This suggests that parasites in inf+/+ cardia display a different molecular
292 dialogue with tsetse vector tissues.

293

294 **Only parasites from cardia inf+/+ bypass the PM barrier**

295 To understand the cardia-trypanosome interactions, we investigated the parasite populations in
296 the inf+/+ state by transmission electron microscopy (TEM) analysis. We observed that
297 trypanosomes aggregate in the annular cleft formed between the foregut and the midgut parts of
298 the cardia where PM components are synthesized (Fig 4A; S5 Fig). Tsetse's PM is composed of
299 three layers; a thin layer that is electron-dense when observed with TEM, a thick layer that is
300 electron-lucent when observed with TEM and a third layer that is not distinguishable when
301 observed with TEM [36]. The newly synthesized PM in the annular cleft is formed by secretions
302 from the annular pad of epithelial cells [27, 29], hence lacking the typical electron-dense and
303 electron-lucent layers observed in the fully formed PM in the midgut (Fig 4B; Fig 4C). From the
304 six inf+/+ cardia analyzed by TEM, we observed trypanosomes embedded in the newly secreted
305 PM as well as present in the lumen. In fact, we had shown above that the expression of putative
306 PM-components decreased in cardia inf+/+ (Fig 3B), and the structural integrity of the PM is
307 compromised based on the *Serratia* detection assay (Fig 3D). Thus, the structurally weakened

308 PM could enable the trypanosomes to bypass this barrier in inf+/+ flies. Our EM observations (all
309 six inf+/+ cardia) also showed that parasites assemble into compact masses (similar to the
310 previously reported "cyst-like" bodies [33]) in between the layers of the PM (Fig 4C; S6 Fig). In
311 three of the six infected inf+/+ cardia analyzed, we noted that the electron-dense layer of the PM
312 restricting a cyst-like body appeared disrupted, which could enable the entrapped parasites to
313 escape the barrier (S7 Fig).

314 The parasite aggregates we observed in the cardia near the site of PM secretion could
315 represent a social behavior that influences cardia-trypanosome interactions and ultimately
316 parasite transmission success. *In vitro*, trypanosomes are capable of displaying a similar social
317 behavior termed 'social motility' (SoMo) [37]. In this situation early-stage PCF parasites (similar
318 to the forms that colonize the fly midgut) cluster and migrate together on semi-agar plates [38]. In
319 the tsetse vector, phases where trypanosomes group in clusters and move in synchrony have been
320 observed during the infection process independent of the developmental stage of the parasite [34].
321 Furthermore, parasites co-localize in the cardia near the cells that produce the PM [34], similar to
322 our EM observations. By forming aggregates, trypanosomes could enhance their ability to resist
323 adverse host immune responses and/or escape the ES by crossing through the newly secreted
324 layers of the PM. In addition, the parasites can also actively compromise the PM integrity at this
325 site, as suggested by the PM integrity assay (Fig 3D), but the parasite components that interfere
326 with host functions as such remain to be determined. We also observed extracellular vesicles
327 associated with trypanosomes in TEM images, which could potentially carry molecules that
328 interact with host cells or PM structure (Fig 4).

329 To understand the parasite-PM interactions in the cardia inf+/- state, we similarly
330 investigated the parasite populations residing in the cardia inf+/- samples by TEM analysis. We
331 observed that parasites in cardia inf+/- are not present in the lumen and are thus unable to escape
332 the ES where the newly synthesized PM is secreted (Fig 5). We noted that high densities of
333 parasites are either lining along the PM secreting cells (Fig 5A; Fig 5B) or are embedded in the
334 PM secretions (Fig 5C; Fig 5D). Trypanosomes observed in this region also presented multiple
335 vacuolation and nuclear condensation, which are indicative of cell death processes in these
336 parasites. Contrary to the cardia inf+/+ transcriptome data, the expression of the majority of PM-
337 associated genes in cardia inf+/- are not significantly decreased (Fig 3B). Moreover, the *Serratia*
338 assay we applied by co-feeding flies cardia inf+/- extracts indicated no compromise of PM

339 integrity as these group of flies did not survive the bacterial infection (Fig 3D). Thus, it appears
340 that parasites in the cardia inf+/- are restricted by the PM to remain in the ES even at its point of
341 secretion. Also, while cyst-like bodies were frequent in the cardia inf+/+, only a few cyst-like
342 bodies could be observed in cardia inf+/. Finally, the presence of many physiologically unfit
343 trypanosomes indicates that the inf+/- state represents a hostile environment for the parasite,
344 restricting its survival and transmission (Fig 5C; Fig 5D) .

345

346 **The cardia from non-permissive infections (inf+/-) is dysfunctional at the cellular level**

347 To understand the factors that can successfully inhibit parasite survival in the cardia inf+/-, we
348 examined the inf+/- and inf+/+ cardia datasets relative to the control non-inf state for differential
349 vector responses. We found that 25% (2093) of the total transcripts identified were differentially
350 expressed (DE). Of the DE transcripts, 31% (646) were shared between the two cardia infection
351 phenotypes, while 36% (756) and 33% (691) were unique to the inf+/- and inf+/+ infection
352 phenotype, respectively (S8 Fig). Of the shared DE transcripts, 89% (576) were similarly
353 regulated between the inf+/+ and inf+/- states while 11% (70) were uniquely regulated in the two
354 infection states. For putative functional significance, we selected transcripts presenting a fold-
355 change of ≥ 2 between any comparison and a mean CPM value of ≥ 50 in at least one of the three
356 cardia states. We identified 576 transcripts that were modified in the presence of trypanosomes
357 independent of the cardia infection phenotype, hence representing the core response of the cardia
358 against the parasite infection (S8 Fig). Among these core responses were three antimicrobial
359 peptide (AMP) encoding genes, including two *cecropins* with fold-changes of >200
360 (GMOY011562) and >280 (GMOY011563), and *attacin D*, with a fold change of >27 .
361 Production of AMPs by midgut epithelia is among the major anti-trypanocidal responses, and the
362 fact that both cardia inf+/+ and cardia inf+/- expressed these genes at the same level indicates that
363 the ability of inf+/- flies to restrict trypanosomes in the ES is unlikely driven by an AMP-related
364 immune response. We next investigated DE transcripts unique to the two infection phenotypes
365 (S8 Fig). Two putative immunity products, Immune responsive product FB49 and *serpin 1*, were
366 expressed 223 and 74 times higher, respectively, in inf+/+ compared to inf+/+ cardia. Both of
367 these products are induced upon microbial challenge in the tsetse [13, 39]. Additionally, *ferritin*
368 transcript abundance was >2 times higher in inf+/+ compared to inf+/+ cardia. In the subset of
369 transcripts specifically more abundant in the cardia inf+/-, we noted two transcripts encoding

370 proteins involved in the circadian clock, Takeout and Circadian clock-controlled protein, which
371 were 600 and 2 times more abundant relative to cardia non-inf, respectively. Also, transcripts
372 encoding Kazal-type 1 protein, a protease inhibitor, and Lysozyme were more abundant in cardia
373 inf+-. Given that no single immune-related gene product could explain the cardia inf+/- ability to
374 restrict trypanosomes in the ES, we chose to further evaluate the cardia cellular physiology under
375 the inf+/+ and inf+/- infection states.

376 To obtain a global snapshot of cardia functions that could influence parasite infection outcomes,
377 the DE cardia transcripts between control (non-inf) and either cardia inf+/- or cardia inf+/+
378 datasets were subjected to Gene Ontology (GO) analysis (using Blast2GO) (S3 Dataset). We
379 noted 88 GO terms that were significantly down-regulated preferentially in the inf+/- state, while
380 only 15 GO terms were significantly down-regulated in the inf+/+ state. The 88 GO terms
381 detected in the inf+/- dataset included 5, 11 and 67 terms associated with mitochondria, muscles
382 and energy metabolism, respectively.

383 To understand the physiological implications of the inf+/- infection phenotype in the
384 cardia, we investigated the transcriptional response of the organ as well as the ultrastructural
385 integrity of the mitochondria and muscle tissue. Gene expression patterns indicate that
386 mitochondrial functions are significantly down-regulated in the inf+/- cardia relative to the inf+/+
387 state (Fig 6A). More specifically, the putative proteins associated with energy metabolism,
388 including the cytochrome c complex, the NADH-ubiquinone oxidoreductase and the ATP-
389 synthase that function at the organelle's inner membrane, were very reduced. Loss of
390 mitochondrial integrity was further demonstrated by microscopic analysis of cardia muscle cells
391 (Fig 6B-D; S9 Fig) and fat-containing cells (Fig 6E-G). In the cardia inf+/- phenotype, TEM
392 observations showed mitochondrial degradation around myofibrils associated with muscle cells
393 (Fig 6C), while few such patterns were noted in the control cardia (Fig 6B) and cardia inf+/+ (Fig
394 6D). The mitochondria within the lipid containing cells of both inf+/- and inf+/+ presented a
395 disruption in the organization of their cristae, suggesting a disruption of the inner membrane (Fig
396 6F-G), in support of transcriptomic level findings (Fig 6A).

397 In addition to putative mitochondrial proteins, we found that the expression of genes
398 encoding structural proteins responsible for muscle contraction, such as myosin and troponin, is
399 also significantly reduced upon infection, particularly in the cardia inf+/- state (Fig 7A). Electron
400 microscopy analysis also revealed a disorganization of the Z band of sarcomeres in muscle tissue

401 surrounding the midgut epithelia in inf+/- cardia, but not in the control and inf+/+ cardia (Fig 7B-
402 D). Extensive loss of muscle integrity was noted along the midgut epithelia in the inf+/- state. In
403 addition, dilatation of the sarcoplasmic reticulum, muscle mitochondria swelling and vacuolation
404 were observed, suggesting compromised muscle functions associated with this infection
405 phenotype (S9 Fig). The detrimental effects of trypanosome infection on cardia structure and
406 function are more apparent in the inf+/- compared to inf+/+ state, despite the higher number of
407 parasites present during the latter phenotype.

408

409 **Oxidative stress restricts parasite infections in cardia inf+/-**

410 Mitochondria produce reactive oxygen intermediates (ROIs) [40], which in excess can damage
411 the organelle and surrounding cellular structures [41, 42]. The structural damage we observed in
412 mitochondria, muscle tissue and fat cells of inf+/- cardia is symptomatic of oxidative stress [43].
413 Additionally, our TEM observations demonstrate that parasites in inf+/- cardia exhibit cell-death
414 patterns such as vacuolation and swelling (Fig 8A; Fig 8B), while parasites in inf+/+ cardia
415 appear structurally intact (Fig 2F; Fig 4). Because ROIs modulates trypanosome infection
416 outcomes in tsetse [15, 44], we hypothesized that ROIs may be responsible for controlling
417 trypanosomes in inf+/- cardia and for producing an oxidative environment that concurrently
418 results in tissue damage. We observed a significant increase of peroxide concentrations in both
419 inf+/- (406nM; TukeyHSD posthoc test, $p<0.0001$) and inf+/+ (167nM; TukeyHSD posthoc test,
420 $p=0.0008$) cardia relative to the control cardia (19 nM), with peroxide levels significantly higher
421 in the inf+/- state (TukeyHSD posthoc test, $p<0.0001$) (Fig 8C). When we experimentally
422 decreased oxidative stress levels in infected flies by supplementing their blood meal with the anti-
423 oxidant cysteine (10 μ M) (Fig 8D), 85% of midgut infected flies developed SG infections, while
424 only 45% of midgut infected flies had SG infections in the absence of the antioxidant (GLM,
425 Wald-test $p<0.001$). Our results indicate that the significantly higher levels of ROIs produced in
426 the inf+/- cardia may restrict parasite infections at this crucial junction, while lower levels of
427 ROIs present in the inf+/+ cardia may regulate the parasite density without impeding infection
428 maintenance.

429 Homeostasis of redox balance is one of the most critical factors affecting host survival
430 during continuous host-microbe interaction in the gastrointestinal tract [45]. In the mosquito
431 *Anopheles gambiae*, increased mortality is observed when ROIs are produced in response to

432 *Plasmodium berghei* infections [46]. A similar trade-off expressed in the inf+/- cardia may
433 restrict parasite infections while causing collateral damage to essential physiologies. Conversely,
434 strong anti-parasite responses that compromise essential physiologies are absent in the cardia of
435 the inf+/+ group, thus allowing the parasites to continue their journey to colonize the SG and
436 successfully transmit to a new host. Additionally, flies with SG parasite infections also suffer
437 from longer feeding times due to suppressed anti-coagulation activity in the SG, which may
438 further help with parasite transmission in this group of flies [47].

439

440 Conclusion

441 Trypanosome transmission by tsetse reflects a tug-of-war that begins with parasite colonization of
442 the midgut and ends when parasites are transmitted to the next vertebrate via saliva. Initially
443 during the infection process, BSF trypanosome products manipulate tsetse vector physiology to
444 bypass the gut PM to colonize the midgut ES [9]. Our results show that to successfully colonize
445 the SG, trypanosomes may again manipulate tsetse physiology to escape the midgut ES for access
446 to the foregut, and subsequently to the SG. To re-enter the lumen, it is hypothesized that
447 trypanosomes cross the PM in the cardia where newly synthesized PM is less structurally
448 organized and hence can provide an easy bypass [25, 29-31]. Here, we provide evidence in
449 support of this hypothesis by showing that in flies where trypanosomes successfully colonize the
450 SG, the parasites are accumulating in the region where the PM is newly secreted, and are
451 observed both embedded in the PM secretions and free in the lumen (summarized in Fig 9). To
452 facilitate their passage, components of trypanosomes in the cardia can apparently manipulate PM
453 integrity by influencing the expression of PM-associated genes through molecular interference,
454 the mechanisms of which remain to be studied. Alternatively, trypanosome-produced molecules
455 may directly reduce the integrity of the PM as a barrier.

456 The presence of trypanosomes in the cardia triggers immune responses which include the
457 production of ROIs. In flies where midgut infections fail to reach the SG (inf+/-), increased levels
458 of peroxide produced in the cardia may restrict parasite survival and prevent them from further
459 development in the fly. Given that the inf+/- phenotype is costly and leads to collateral damage in
460 the cardia tissues of infected flies, it is possible that flies may be able to sustain this phenotype
461 under laboratory conditions where resources are abundant for a minimal effort. It remains to be
462 seen if the inf+/- phenotype could sustain in natural populations in the field. Because in field

463 infection surveillance studies estimating the time of initial parasite infection acquisition is not
464 possible, concluding the cardia infection status in natural populations is difficult. It may however
465 be possible to initiate parasite infection experiments using field-caught teneral flies to partially
466 evaluate the potential colony-bias that could arise under insectary conditions using fly lines that
467 have been kept in captivity for many years.

468 Trypanosome colonization of tsetse's SG could represent a trade-off where vector
469 tolerance to parasites leads to minimal self-inflicted collateral damage. Interestingly, different
470 tsetse species may have evolved varying strategies to defend against parasitism. For instance,
471 under similar laboratory conditions and using the same parasite strain for infection, *Glossina*
472 *pallidipes* heavily defends against the initial infection, as the occurrence of the inf+- phenotype
473 in this species is rare despite similar resistance to SG transmission [48]. On the other hand, the
474 closely related species *G. morsitans*, which we investigate here, has developed a different
475 strategy to combat against parasite transmission [48]. *Glossina morsitans* presents a less efficient
476 defense against the initial parasite infection in the midgut compared to *G. pallidipes*, but can
477 similarly control the parasite transmission by restricting SG infections in midgut infected flies.
478 Investigating the causes leading to this drift in strategies could lead to the development of new
479 control strategies based on enhancing the immune defenses of the vector against parasites. Our
480 work highlights the central role tsetse's PM plays in parasite-vector interactions and infection
481 outcome. This work opens up the possibility for exploiting this matrix as a target for vector
482 control strategies to enhance its barrier function to block parasite transmission.

483 **Methods**

484 **Ethical consideration**

485 This work was carried out in strict accordance with the recommendations in the Office of
486 Laboratory Animal Welfare at the National Institutes of Health and the Yale University Institu-
487 tional Animal Care and Use Committee. The experimental protocol was reviewed and approved
488 by the Yale University Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (Protocol 2014-07266
489 renewed on May 2017).

490

491 **Biological material**

492 *Glossina morsitans morsitans* were maintained in Yale's insectary at 24°C with 50-55% relative
493 humidity. All flies received defibrinated bovine blood (Hemostat Laboratories) every 48 hours
494 through an artificial membrane feeding system. Only female flies were used in this study.

495 Bloodstream form *Trypanosoma brucei brucei* (RUMP 503) were expanded in rats.

496 Flies were infected by supplementing the first blood meal of newly eclosed flies (teneral) with
497 5×10^6 parasites /ml. Where mentioned, cysteine (10 μ M) was added to the infective blood meal to
498 increase the infection prevalence [15].

499 For survival assays, *Serratia marcescens* strain Db11 was grown overnight in LB medium. Prior
500 to supplementation with *Serratia*, the blood was inactivated by heat treatment at 56°C for 1 hour
501 as described in [7].

502

503 **mRNA Library Constructions and Sequencing**

504 At day 40 post parasite challenge, all flies were dissected 48 hours after their last blood meal, and
505 midgut and salivary glands (SG) were microscopically examined for infection status. Flies were
506 classified as inf+/+ when infection was positive in both the midgut and the SG, as inf+/- when
507 infection was positive in the midgut but negative in the SG. Cardia from inf+/+ and inf+/- flies
508 were dissected and immediately placed in ice-cold TRIzol (Invitrogen). For each infected group,
509 inf+/+ and inf+/-, 10 cardia were pooled into one biological replicate and three independent
510 biological replicates were obtained and stored at -80°C prior to RNA extraction. Similarly, three
511 independent biological replicates containing 10 cardia from age-matched flies that had only
512 received normal blood meals (non-inf) were prepared. Total RNA was extracted from the nine
513 biological replicates using the Direct-zol RNA Minipreps kit (Zymo Research) following the

514 manufacturer instructions, then subjected to DNase treatment using the Ambion TURBO DNA-
515 free kit AM1907 (Thermo Fisher Scientific). RNA quality was analyzed using the Agilent 2100
516 Bioanalyzer RNA Nano chip. mRNA libraries were prepared using the NEBNext Ultra RNA
517 Library Prep Kit for Illumina (New England BioLabs) following the manufacturer
518 recommendations. The nine libraries were sequenced (single-end) at the Yale Center for Genome
519 Analysis (YCGA) using the HiSeq2500 system (Illumina). Read files have been deposited in the
520 NCBI BioProject database (ID# PRJNA358388).

521

522 **RNA-seq data processing**

523 Using CLC Genomics Workbench 8 (Qiagen), transcriptome reads were first trimmed and filtered
524 to remove ambiguous nucleotides and low-quality sequences. The remaining reads were mapped
525 to *Glossina morsitans morsitans* reference transcriptome GmorY1.5 (VectorBase.org). Reads
526 aligning uniquely to *Glossina* transcripts were used to calculate differential gene expression using
527 EdgeR package in R software [49].

528 Significance was determined using EdgeR exact test for the negative binomial distribution,
529 corrected with a False Discovery Rate (FDR) at P<0.05.

530 Identified genes were functionally annotated by BlastX, with an E-value cut-off of $1e^{-10}$ and bit
531 score of 200, and peptide data available from *D. melanogaster* database (FlyBase.org). Blast2GO
532 was utilized to identify specific gene ontology (GO) terms that were enriched between treatments
533 based on a Fisher's Exact Test [50].

534

535 **Transmission electron microscopy**

536 Cardia tissues from three non-inf, five inf+/- and six inf+/+ 40 day-old flies were dissected in 4%
537 paraformaldehyde (PFA) and placed in 2.5% gluteraldehyde and 2% PFA in 0.1M sodium
538 cacodylate buffer pH7.4 for 1 hour. Observed infected cardia were obtained from two different
539 groups of flies independently infected with trypanosomes ($n_1=3$ and $n_2=2$ for inf+/-; $n_1=3$ and
540 $n_2=3$ for inf+/+). Tissues were processed at the Yale Center for Cellular and Molecular Imaging
541 (CCMI). Tissues were fixed in 1% osmium tetroxide, rinsed in 0.1M sodium cacodylate buffer
542 and blocked and stained in 2% aqueous uranyl acetate for 1 hour. Subsequently, tissues were
543 rinsed and dehydrated in a series in ethanol followed by embedment in resin infiltration Embed
544 812 (Electron Microscopy Sciences) and then stored overnight at 60°C. Hardened blocks were cut

545 in sections at 60nm thickness using a Leica UltraCut UC7. The resulting sections were collected
546 on formvar/carbon coated grids and contrast-stained in 2% uranyl acetate and lead citrate. Five
547 grids including two sections prepared from each different insects were observed using a FEI
548 Tecnai Biotwin transmission electron microscope at 80Kv. Images were taken using a Morada
549 CCD camera piloted with the iTEM (Olympus) software. Contrasts of the pictures were adjusted
550 using Photoshop CC 2018 (Adobe).

551

552 **Quantification of trypanosomes**

553 At day 40 post parasite challenge, flies were dissected 72 hours after their last blood meal, and
554 midgut and salivary glands (SG) were microscopically examined for infection status. Cardia were
555 dissected, pooled by 5 in ice-cold TRIzol (Invitrogen) in function of their infection status (inf+/+
556 or inf+/-), and then flash-frozen in liquid nitrogen. RNA was extracted using the Direct-zol RNA
557 MiniPrep (Zymo Research) following the manufacturer instructions, then subjected to DNase
558 treatment using the Ambion TURBO DNA-free kit AM1907 (Thermo Fisher Scientific). 100ng
559 of RNA was utilized to prepare cDNA using the iScript cDNA synthesis kit (Bio-Rad) following
560 the manufacturer instructions. qPCR analysis was performed using SYBR Green supermix (Bio-
561 Rad) and a Bio-Rad C1000 thermal cycler. Quantitative measurements were performed in
562 duplicate for all samples. We used ATTACACGCTTGTTGACCC (forward) and
563 GCATCCCGTCATTCTAA (reverse) as primers to amplify trypanosome *gapdh*. We used
564 CTGATTCGTTGGTGATACT (forward) and CCAAATTCGTTGTCGTACCA (reverse) as
565 primers to amplify tsetse *gapdh*. Relative density of parasite was inferred by normalizing
566 trypanosome *gapdh* expression by tsetse *gapdh* expression. Statistical comparison of relative
567 densities was performed on Prism 7 (GraphPad software) using a Student t-test.

568 Direct counting of parasites was operated by dissecting the cardia and the whole remaining
569 midgut from flies prepared similarly than above. Individual tissues were homogenized in PSG
570 buffer (8 replicates for each tissue). Homogenate was then fixed in an equal volume of 4% PFA
571 for 30 min. The solution was then centrifuged 15 min at 110g, the supernatant was discarded and
572 the pellets containing the trypanosomes from cardia and midguts were suspended in 100µl and
573 2,500µl PSG buffer, respectively. Trypanosomes from the total solution were counted using a
574 hemocytometer. Statistical comparison of numbers was performed on Prism 7 (GraphPad
575 software) using a Mann-Whitney rank test.

576

577

578 **Midgut-associated procyclic trypanosome re-infection.**

579 At day 40 post parasite challenge, flies were dissected 72 hours after their last blood meal, and
580 midgut and salivary glands (SG) were microscopically examined for infection status. Around 40
581 inf^{+/} and inf⁺⁻ were independently pooled together, and then roughly homogenized in 500 μ l of
582 PSG buffer (PBS+2% glucose). Each homogenate was centrifuged 10 min at 30g to precipitate
583 midgut debris, and then each supernatant containing parasites was transferred to a new tube to be
584 centrifuged 15 min at 110g to precipitate the parasites. Supernatants were then discarded and each
585 pellet containing midgut procyclic trypanosomes either from inf^{+/} or inf⁺⁻ flies was suspended
586 in 500 μ l PSG. Parasites were counted using a hemocytometer.

587 Newly emerged adult females were provided a blood diet including 10 μ M Cysteine and
588 supplemented with 5×10^6 of procyclic trypanosomes from either inf^{+/} or inf⁺⁻ flies prepared as
589 described above. All flies were subsequently maintained on normal blood thereafter every 48 h.
590 Four independent experiments were done for each type of trypanosomes. Midgut and salivary
591 gland infections in each group were scored microscopically two weeks later. Precise sample sizes
592 and count data are indicated in S1 Dataset.

593 Statistical analysis was carried out using the R software for macOS (version 3.3.2). A generalized
594 linear model (GLM) was generated using binomial distribution with a logit transformation of the
595 data. The binary infection status (inf^{+/} or inf⁺⁻) was analyzed as a function of the origin of the
596 procyclic trypanosomes (inf^{+/} or inf⁺⁻) and the experiment it belongs to. The best statistical
597 model was searched using a backward stepwise procedure from full additive model (*i.e.* parasite
598 origin+experiment#) testing the main effect of each categorical explanatory factor. Using the
599 retained model, we performed a Wald test on the individual regression parameters to test their
600 statistical difference. Precise statistical results are indicated in S1 Dataset.

601

602 **Microscopic assessment of trypanosome developmental forms**

603 Cardia from inf^{+/} and inf⁺⁻ flies were dissected 40 dpa. Ten organs were pooled and gently
604 homogenized in 100 μ L PBS and parasite numbers were evaluated using a hemocytometer. As
605 cardia inf⁺⁻ contain less trypanosomes than cardia inf^{+/}, homogenates from cardia inf^{+/} were
606 diluted to the density of parasites present in cardia inf⁺⁻. Equal numbers of parasites were then

607 fixed in 2% Paraformaldehyde (PFA) PBS by adding an equal volume of 4% PFA PBS to the
608 cardia inf+/+ and inf+/- homogenates. Parasites were then centrifuged for 10min at 500g and the
609 resulting pellet was resuspended and washed in PBS. Samples were then centrifuged for 10min at
610 500g and the resulting pellet was resuspended in 200 μ L distilled water. 50 μ L of parasite-
611 containing solution was deposited on poly-lysine coated slides and air dried. Slides were
612 permeabilized for 10min in 0.1% Triton X-100 PBS, and then washed in PBS 5min and in
613 distilled water 5min. Fluorescent DNA staining was then applied by covering the slides with a
614 solution of DAPI in distilled water (1 μ g/mL) for 20 min in the dark. Slides were subsequently
615 washed in distilled water two times for 5 min before being air dried in the dark. Microscopic
616 observations were realized using a Zeiss AxioVision microscope (Zeiss). Detailed counts are
617 indicated in S1 Dataset.

618

619 **VSG impact on PM-gene expression**

620 Soluble VSG (sVSG) was prepared as described in [9]. Eight-day old adult flies received a blood
621 meal containing purified sVSG (1 μ g/ml), or bovine serum albumin (BSA) (1 μ g/ml) as a control.
622 To assess the effect of sVSG on gene expression at three days, cardia organs
623 were microscopically dissected at 72h post treatment. To assess the effect of sVSG on gene
624 expression at six days, remaining flies that were not dissected at three days were given a second
625 normal blood meal, and the cardia organs were microscopically dissected at 72h post second
626 feeding. Five biological replicates for each treatment and each time point were generated. Five
627 dissected cardia were pooled for each replicate and their RNA was extracted. 100ng RNA was
628 used to generate cDNA. Quantitative real-time PCR (qRT-PCR) was used to evaluate the
629 expression of the PM-associated genes *proventriculin-1*, -2 and -3 as described in [9].
630 Normalization was performed to the internal control of *gadph* mRNA for each sample. Pairwise
631 comparisons for each time point of the genes relative expression between sVSG and BSA treated
632 flies was carried out with the Prism 7 software (GraphPad software) using a Student *t*-test.
633 Precise statistical results are indicated in S1 Dataset.

634

635 **RNAi-mediated knockdown of PM-associated gene expression**

636 *Green fluorescent protein (gfp)* and *chitin synthase (cs)* gene specific dsRNAs were prepared as
637 described in [7]. Newly emerged adult females were provided with a trypanosome supplemented

638 blood diet that also included 10 μ M Cysteine. All flies were subsequently maintained on normal
639 blood thereafter every 48 h. After 6 days (at the 3rd blood meal), flies were divided into two
640 treatment groups: first group received dsRNA-*cs* and the second group control dsRNA-*gfp*. The
641 dsRNAs were administered to each group in 3 consecutive blood meals containing 3mg
642 dsRNA/20 μ l blood (the approximate volume a tsetse fly imbibes each time it feeds). Four
643 independent experiments using the same pool of dsRNA were generated for each treatment.
644 Midgut and salivary gland infections in each group were scored microscopically three weeks
645 later. Precise sample sizes and count data are indicated in S1 Dataset. Statistical analysis on the
646 infection outcomes following the antioxidant feeding was carried out using the R software for
647 macOS (version 3.3.2). A generalized linear model (GLM) was generated using binomial
648 distribution with a logit transformation of the data. The binary infection status (inf++ or inf+-)
649 was analyzed as a function of the dsRNA treatment (dsRNA-*gfp* or dsRNA-*cs*) and the
650 experiment it belongs to. The best statistical model was searched using a backward stepwise
651 procedure from full additive model (*i.e.* dsRNA treatment+experiment#) testing the main effect
652 of each categorical explanatory factors. Using the retained model, we performed a Wald test on
653 the individual regression parameters to test their statistical difference. Precise statistical results
654 are indicated in S1 Dataset.

655 Quantitative real-time PCR (qRT-PCR) was used to validate the effectiveness of our RNAi
656 procedure as described in [7]. For each treatment of each experiment, we dissected the cardia of
657 five randomly selected flies 72h after their third dsRNA-supplemented blood meal. The five
658 dissected cardia were pooled together and their RNA was extracted. 100ng RNA was used to
659 generate cDNA. RNA extractions from experiment #3 failed, but as the same dsRNA pools were
660 used for all experiments and considering the consistency of the knockdown we observed, we
661 decided to maintain experiment #3 in our counting results.

662

663 ***Serratia* infection assay to assess peritrophic matrix integrity**

664 To assess the PM integrity, we applied a host survival assay following *per os* treatment of each
665 group with *Serratia marcescens* as described in [7, 9]. We provided to three groups of 8 day-old
666 flies (in their 4th blood meal) either cardia extracts obtained from challenged flies that cleared the
667 trypanosomes and are subsequently recovered from initial infection (rec-/-), or a cardia extract

668 from inf+/- flies, or a cardia extract from inf+/+ flies. We included a fourth group of 8-day old
669 flies that received an untreated blood meal.

670 Cardia extract was obtained by dissecting, in PBS, the cardia from 40 days-old infected as
671 described above. Approximately fifty cardia from either rec-/-, inf+/- or inf+/+ flies were pooled
672 together, and then gently homogenized. Parasites were counted from the homogenates of inf+/-
673 and inf+/+ using a hemocytometer. The three cardia homogenates were then heated at 100°C for
674 10 minutes. inf+/- and inf+/+ extracts were provided to reach a concentration of 5×10^5 parasites
675 per ml of blood. As inf+/- cardia contain fewer parasites than inf+/+ cardia, the volume of the
676 inf+/+ extract provided was adjusted by dilution in PSG buffer to be equal to inf+/- volume. Rec-
677 /- extract was provided at an equal volume than infected extracts to ensure the presence of a
678 similar quantity of extract molecules coming from the cardia in these groups. 48 hours after the
679 flies received blood meal supplemented with the different extracts, all flies were provided a blood
680 meal supplemented with 1,000 CFU/ml of *S. marcescens* strain Db11. Thereafter, flies were
681 maintained on normal blood every other day, while their mortality was recorded every day for 30
682 days. Precise counting data are indicated in S1 Dataset.

683 Statistical analysis was carried out using the R software for macOS (version 3.3.2). We used an
684 accelerated failure time model (Weibull distribution) where survival was analyzed as a function
685 of the extract received (survreg() function of "survival" package). Pairwise tests were generated
686 using Tukey contrasts on the survival model (glht() function of "multcomp" package). Precise
687 statistical results are indicated in S1 Dataset.

688

689 **Antioxidant feeding**

690 Newly emerged adult females were provided with a trypanosome-supplemented blood diet that
691 also included 10 μ M Cysteine. All flies were subsequently maintained on normal blood thereafter
692 every 48 h. After 10 days (at the 5th blood meal), flies were divided into two treatment groups:
693 first group received the anti-oxidant Cysteine (10 μ M) and the second group was fed normally as
694 a control. Cysteine was administered each blood meal until dissection. Four independent
695 experiments were done for each treatment. Midgut and salivary gland infections in each group
696 were scored microscopically three weeks later. Precise sample sizes and count data are indicated
697 in S1 Dataset.

698 Statistical analysis was carried out using the R software for macOS (version 3.3.2). A generalized
699 linear model (GLM) was generated using binomial distribution with a logit transformation of the
700 data. The binary infection status (inf+/+ or inf+/-) was analyzed as a function of the treatment
701 (control or cysteine) and the experiment it belongs to. The best statistical model was searched
702 using a backward stepwise procedure from full additive model (*i.e.* antioxidant
703 treatment+experiment#) testing the main effect of each categorical explanatory factors. Using the
704 retained model, we performed a Wald test on the individual regression parameters to test their
705 statistical difference. Precise statistical results are indicated in S1 Dataset.

706

707 **Quantification of reactive oxygen species (ROS) in cardia tissues**

708 ROS were quantified using the Amplex Red Hydrogen Peroxide/Peroxidase Assay Kit
709 (ThermoFisher Scientific), following the manufacturer recommendations. 40 days post parasite
710 challenge, flies were dissected 72 hours after their last blood meal, and midgut and salivary
711 glands (SG) were microscopically examined for infection status. For each infection phenotype
712 (*i.e.* inf+/+ or inf+/-), 3 replicates containing each 10 cardia tissues pooled and homogenized in
713 80 μ l of ice-cold Amplex Red Kit 1X Reaction Buffer were generated. Three replicates of age-
714 matched non-infected cardia tissues were conceived in the same manner. 50 μ l of assay reaction
715 mix was added to 50 μ l of the supernatant of each samples, and then incubated 60 minutes at RT.
716 Fluorescence units were determined using a BioTek Synergy HT plate reader (530nm excitation;
717 590nm emission). Peroxide concentrations were determined using the BioTek Gen5 software
718 calculation inferred from a standard curve (precise results are indicated in S1 Dataset). Statistical
719 analysis was performed on Prism 7 (GraphPad software) using a one-way ANOVA where ROS
720 concentration was analyzed as a function of the infection status. Pairwise comparisons were
721 carried out using a TukeyHSD posthoc test.

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727

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907

908 **Figure captions**

909 **Fig 1. Dynamics of parasite infection in tsetse flies.**

910 **(A and B)** Midgut (MG) and salivary gland (SG) organs were dissected from 40-day old female
911 flies subjected to a single parasite challenge as newly eclosed adults. (A) Percentage of flies
912 harboring MG infections, and (B) percentage of MG infected flies that also presented SG
913 infections. The numbers in each circle represent the three independent biological replicates. The
914 black bars represent the mean of the three biological replicates (detailed numbers of flies used for
915 the three biological replicates in S1 Dataset). **(C)** Schematic depiction of trypanosome
916 localization in tsetse fly tissues. In the non-permissive flies (inf+/- state, shown in the upper
917 scheme) only the midgut, including the cardia, is colonized by parasites, which reside in the ES
918 (purple). In permissive flies (inf+/+ state, shown the lower scheme), parasites infect the fly's and
919 SGs (violet). **(D)** Percentage of permissive infections (inf+/+) following challenge at teneral stage
920 with parasites obtained from the midgut of either inf+/- or inf+/+ individuals. Four independent
921 experiments were performed for each treatment with 64 infected flies observed in total for each
922 treatment. The black bar represents the mean of the four experiments. SG infection is independent
923 of the initial inf+/- or inf+/+ status of the parasite used for fly infection (GLM, $p=1$, detailed
924 model in S1 Dataset). **(E)** Expression of PM-associated genes *proventriculin-1, 2 and 3* (*pro1, 2,*
925 *3*) relative to the housekeeping gene *gapdh*, three and six days after flies received a blood meal
926 supplemented with 1 μ g/mL of either BSA (control, light grey) or trypanosome-derived soluble
927 variant surface glycoprotein (sVSG; dark grey). Each bar represents the average (\pm SEM) of five
928 biological replicates. For each time point of each gene, a Student *t*-test was used to determine
929 significant differences (* $p<0.05$; ** $p<0.01$; *** $p<0.001$).
930

931 **Fig 2. Trypanosome infection establishment process**

932 **(A)** Percentage of RNAseq reads, relative to the total, that mapped to the parasite reference
933 geneset from the three independent biological replicates. Inf+/- cardia is depicted in red circles
934 and inf+/+ in blue circles. The numbers in circles represent the three biological replicates. The
935 black bars indicate the mean of the three replicates (detailed numbers of flies used for the three
936 biological replicates in S1 Dataset). **(B)** Abundance of trypanosome *gapdh* relative to tsetse
937 *gapdh* determined from inf+/- cardia (shown by red circles) and inf+/+ cardia (shown by blue
938 circles). The black bars indicate the mean of the replicates. The increase in relative abundance

939 indicates an increase in parasite numbers in the inf+/+ cardia (Student *t*-test, $p= 0.0028$). **(C)**
940 Schematic representation of the cardia organ based on microscopic observations. The cardia is
941 composed of cells originating from the foregut (light orange) and midgut (light blue) at the
942 junction of the foregut and midgut. Specialized midgut cells organized as an annular pad around
943 the invaginated foregut secretes the PM (green) in the annular cleft formed between the foregut
944 and midgut. Sphincter muscles that form a ring above the PM secreting cells, as well as the thin
945 layer of muscle that surrounds large lipid-containing cells (shown in yellow), are indicated. The
946 schematic indicates the upper and lower points where cardia were dissected for all experiments.
947 In this schematic, the crop duct connecting the foregut prior to its invagination in the cardia is not
948 presented. **(D-G)** Representative TEM micrographs showing cardia from inf+/- (D-E) and inf+/+
949 (F-G) individuals. (E) and (G) are magnified micrographs of the black and white boxes in (D) and
950 (F), respectively. Cardia from six and five individuals from inf+/+ and inf+/- flies were imaged,
951 respectively. MG: midgut; FG: foregut; ES: ectoperitrophic space; TR: trypanosomes; PM:
952 peritrophic matrix; LU: lumen; mv: microvilli; sm: subcellular microtubules.
953

954 **Fig 3. Parasite infection effects on PM synthesis in cardia inf+/+ and inf+/-**

955 **(A)** Percentage of transcripts that encode PM-associated proteins, relative to the total number of
956 transcripts in each transcriptome. **(B)** Differential expression of PM-associated transcripts in
957 cardia of flies that house inf+/+ (blue circles) and inf+/- (red circles) infections. Each dot
958 represents the fold-change in expression of one transcript relative to the non-infected control. The
959 grey area delineates fold-changes that are <1.5 , and thus not statistically different from the
960 control cardia ($p> 0.05$ after FDR correction). For each data point, the *Glossina* gene ID and
961 function, based on BlastX annotation, is depicted on the x-axis. **(C)** SG infection prevalence in
962 control (dsRNA-*gfp*, dsGFP) and treatment (PM compromised; dsRNA-*chitin synthase*, dsCS)
963 flies. The circles depict the percentage of flies that harbor both gut and SG infections. A total of
964 four independent experiments were set-up for each group. The black bars indicate the mean of the
965 four experiments. A total number of 66 and 63 infected flies were observed in the dsGFP and
966 dsCS treatments, respectively. The dsCS treatment significantly increases trypanosome infection
967 prevalence in tsetse's salivary glands (GLM, Wald-test $p=0.01408$). Detailed counts and a
968 complete statistical model are indicated in S1 Dataset. **(D)** Effect of cardia inf+/- and inf+/+
969 extracts on PM integrity. Survival of flies was monitored daily after *per os* treatment of 8 day-old

970 flies with cardia extracts followed by *per os* treatment with *Serratia marcescens* 72 hours later.
971 The Kaplan-Meyer curves show fly survival over time: cardia inf+/- (red), cardia inf+/+ (blue), or
972 cardia from flies that recovered from infection (rec-/-, green) and cardia non-inf (black).
973 Statistical analysis was performed using a full regression model followed by a pairwise test
974 (details in S1 Dataset). Different letters next to fly group designations in the figure legend
975 represent significantly different curves ($p < 0.05$).

976

977 **Fig 4. Trypanosome-PM interactions in cardia from inf+/+ tsetse**

978 (A-D) Ultrastructure of PM secreting cells in the cardia from inf+/+ flies. (A) Trypanosomes are
979 observed in mass in the lumen. (B-C) Magnified micrographs of the black boxes shown in (A).
980 (B) Trypanosomes are observed embedded in the secreted matrix (blue arrowheads). (C) In this
981 niche parasites are observed in cyst-like bodies (purple arrowhead), and can also be observed out
982 of the PM secretions (yellow arrowheads). Parasite secreted extracellular vesicles are observed
983 (pink arrowheads). Micrographs in this image represent one of six biological replicates analyzed.
984 MG: midgut; FG: foregut; TR: trypanosomes; MS: muscles; PM: peritrophic matrix; PM sc: PM
985 secreting cells; mv: microvilli.

986

987 **Fig 5. Trypanosome-PM interactions in cardia from inf+/- tsetse**

988 (A-D) Ultrastructure of cardia inf+/- near the PM secreting cells. (B) is a magnification of the
989 black frame in (A) showing the PM (blue arrowhead). (C) and (D) two independent cardia organs
990 showing the same region near PM secreting cells. Trypanosomes are observed packed within the
991 ES near the location of PM secretion. At this point, several trypanosomes observed present
992 vacuolation and nuclear condensation (orange arrowheads) indicative of cell death. Micrographs
993 in this image represent three of five biological replicates analyzed. MG: midgut; FG: foregut; TR:
994 trypanosomes; PM: peritrophic matrix; PM sc: PM secreting cells; mv: microvilli.

995

996 **Fig 6. Mitochondrial integrity in cardia from inf+/+ and inf+/- tsetse**

997 (A) Effect of infection on mitochondria related gene expression. Heatmap generated from the
998 fold-changes between control and either inf+/- or inf+/+ cardia. The * denote the level of
999 significance associated with the DE of specific transcripts (* $p < 0.05$; ** $p < 0.01$; *** $p < 0.001$;
1000 **** $p < 0.0001$). (B-D) Ultrastructure of the sphincter myofibrils in control non-inf (B), inf+/- (C)

1001 and inf+/+ (D) cardia. White arrows show the mitochondria, red arrowheads show patterns of
1002 mitochondria degradation, and yellow arrows show dilatation of sarcoplasmic reticulum. (E-G)
1003 Ultrastructure of giant lipid-containing cells in control non-inf (E), inf+/- (F) and inf+/+ (G)
1004 cardia. In both infection phenotypes, mitochondria cristae appear disorganized compared to
1005 control. Micrographs in this image represent one of three, five and six of biological replicates
1006 from cardia non-inf, inf+/- and inf+/+, respectively. White arrows show the mitochondria. Ld,
1007 lipid droplets; Nu, nucleus.

1008

1009 **Fig 7. Muscle structural integrity in cardia from inf+/+ and inf+/-**

1010 (A) Effect of infection on cardia muscle related gene expression. Heatmap generated from the
1011 fold-changes between control and either inf+/- or inf+/+ cardia. The * denote the level of
1012 significance associated with the DE of specific transcripts (* $p<0.05$; ** $p<0.01$; *** $p<0.001$;
1013 **** $p<0.0001$). (B-D) Ultrastructure of a sarcomere from muscles surrounding non-inf (B),
1014 inf+/- (C) and inf+/+ (D) cardia. The red arrowhead indicates the Z band structure associated with
1015 sarcomeres. Micrographs in this image represent one of three, five and six of biological replicates
1016 from cardia non-inf, inf+/- and inf+/+, respectively.

1017

1018 **Fig 8. Influence of oxidative stress on infection status**

1019 (A-B) Electron microscopy observations of trypanosomes presenting cell-death swelling within
1020 the ES of cardia from inf+/- flies. Micrographs in this image represent two of five of biological
1021 replicates. FG: foregut; TR: trypanosomes; PM: peritrophic matrix; LU: lumen. (C) Comparison
1022 of peroxide levels in cardia from non-infected (white circles), inf+/- (red circles) and inf+/+ (blue
1023 circles) flies 72 hours after a blood meal. Each dot represents an independent quantification of 10
1024 pooled cardia. The black bars indicate the mean of the 3 replicates. Statistical analysis was
1025 conducted using a one-way ANOVA followed by a TukeyHSD posthoc test for pairwise
1026 comparisons. Statistical significance is represented by letters above each condition, with different
1027 letters indicating distinct statistical groups ($p<0.05$). (D) SG infection prevalence in normal and
1028 anti-oxidant (cysteine) treated flies. The circles depict the percentage of flies that harbor both gut
1029 and SG infections in the cysteine treated (10 μ M) and control groups. A total of 4 independent
1030 groups were set-up for each treatment (91 and 89 infected flies were observed in the control and
1031 cysteine treatment groups, respectively). The black bars indicate the mean of the 4 experiments.

1032 Cysteine treatment significantly increases trypanosome infection prevalence in tsetse's salivary
1033 glands (GLM, Wald-test $p < 0.001$). Detailed counting data and complete statistical model are
1034 indicated in S1 Dataset.

1035

1036 **Fig 9. Model illustrating permissive (inf+/+) and non-permissive (inf+/-) infection
1037 phenotypes in tsetse's cardia.**

1038 African trypanosomes must pass through the tsetse vector in order to complete their lifecycle and
1039 infect a new vertebrate host. Following successful infection of tsetse's midgut, *Trypanosoma*
1040 *brucei* parasites either remain trapped indefinitely in this environment (non-permissive infection,
1041 inf +/-) or migrate to the fly's SG where they subsequently transmit to a vertebrate host
1042 (permissive infection, inf +/+/). For a inf+/+ infection to occur, trypanosomes must successfully
1043 circumvent several immunological barriers, including the cardia-synthesized PM. In this
1044 situation, parasites that have accumulated in the ES (1) of the cardia traverse the structurally
1045 compromised PM at its site of synthesis (where the matrix is most diffuse and fragile) (2) (Fig 4;
1046 S5 Fig). The cyst-like bodies of parasites are observed within layers of the PM (S6 Fig), at which
1047 point they may force their way out by breaking through the structure's electron-dense layer (S7
1048 Fig). Otherwise they may stay enclosed within and move along the gut with the continuously
1049 generated PM (3) [33]. Parasites that have successfully translocated to the cardia lumen then
1050 migrate to the foregut and salivary glands (4). In an effort to facilitate their passage of the PM,
1051 trypanosomes may interfere with PM synthesis by secreting modulatory molecules (Fig 3D; Fig
1052 4B) that are taken up by PM synthesizing cells (5). These molecules may subsequently inhibit
1053 expression of genes that encode proteinaceous components (Pro1, Pro3, etc) of the matrix (Fig
1054 3B) and trypanocidal reactive oxygen intermediates (ROIs). In non-permissive infections, a
1055 relatively small number of parasites reach tsetse's cardia (Fig 2A; Fig 2B; S2 Fig), but they appear
1056 damaged or dead (6) (Fig 8A; Fig 8B). The inability for the parasite to sustain in the inf +/- cardia
1057 environment is likely caused by a relatively high concentration of ROIs in this environment (Fig
1058 8C). ROI-mediated regulation of the parasite population comes with collateral damage to cardia
1059 tissues (Fig 6), especially the muscles lining the outer border of the organ, which present
1060 sarcoplasmic dilatation and mitochondrial vacuolation and swelling (7) (Fig 7; S9 Fig). In the inf
1061 +/- cardia, PM synthesis is not affected (Fig 3B), probably due to the absence of trypanosome-
1062 derived molecules interfering with the PM production (Fig 3D). Ability to restrict parasites in the

1063 cardia prohibits the trypanosomes from translocating to the cardia lumen for subsequent
1064 transmission (8).
1065

1066 **Supporting Information**

1067 **S1 Fig. Overview of cardia transcriptomes.** **(A)** Number of RNA-seq reads in each of three
1068 biological replicates from Non-inf, Inf +/- and Inf +/+ cardia. **(B)** Proportion of total trimmed
1069 reads that map to *Glossina morsitans morsitans* or *Trypanosoma brucei brucei* 927. **(C)** Percent
1070 relative abundance of mapped *Glossina morsitans morsitans* transcripts.

1071

1072 **S2 Fig. Parasite quantity in midgut and cardia.** **(A)** Number of parasites in the cardia of Inf+/-
1073 (red) and Inf+/* (blue) flies. **(B)** Number of parasites in the midgut of Inf+/- (red) and Inf+/*
1074 (blue) flies. The black bar represents the mean of the replicates for each treatment. Midgut and
1075 cardia were dissected from eight 40 days-old females. Parasites were counted using a
1076 hemocytometer. Statistical analyses were carried out using the non-parametrical Mann-Whitney
1077 rank test.

1078

1079 **S3 Fig. Ultrastructure of the cardia.** **(A)** Transversal section of a non-infected cardia. Two
1080 pictures of the same cardia were merged to produce a larger picture. B, C, D, E and F are
1081 magnified micrographs of cardia tissues. **(B)** Midgut tissue delimiting the outer part of the cardia.
1082 **(C)** Foregut tissue invagination within cardia, corresponding to the stomodeal valve in other
1083 insects. **(D)** Myofibrils assembled to form the sphincter surrounding the foregut opening in the
1084 cardia. **(E)** Lipid-containing cells, immediately adjacent to foregut tissue, covered by a thin layer
1085 of muscle. **(F)** Foregut tube coming out of the cardia. LU: Lumen; MG: Midgut; PM sc: PM
1086 secreting cells; FG: Foregut; MU: muscle; LC: Lipid-containing cells; mv: microvilli; ES:
1087 Ecotperitrophic space.

1088

1089 **S4 Fig. Expression of chitin synthase after RNAi treatment.** Expression of *chitin synthase*
1090 relative to constitutively expressed β -tubulin after treatment with dsRNA-*gfp* (control; white
1091 circles) and dsRNA-*chitin synthase* (dsCS; grey circles). *chitin synthase* expression is
1092 significantly decreased after RNAi knockdown (Student *t*-test, $p=0.011$).

1093

1094 **S5 Fig. Ultrastructure of trypanosomes in cardia inf+/*.** Right panels present accumulation of
1095 parasites next to the PM secreting cells in the cardia. Left panels present trypanosomes next to
1096 mature PM. Micrographs in this image represent four of six biological replicates. Right and left

1097 panels are paired to correspond to a same individual. Blue arrowheads: newly secreted PM; red
1098 arrowhead: PM electron-dense layer; green arrowhead: PM electron-lucent layer; MG: midgut;
1099 PM sc: PM secreting cells; mv: microvilli; TR: trypanosomes; LU: lumen; FG: foregut; MU:
1100 muscle.

1101

1102 **S6 Fig. Ultrastructure of cardia from inf^{+/+} tsetse, showing trypanosomes inbetween layers**
1103 **of the PM.** (A) Ultrastructure of the cardia in the region where the PM is secreted. Trypanosomes
1104 are observed either trapped inbetween the electron-dense layer of the PM (red arrowhead) and
1105 newly synthesized PM secretions (blue arrowheads), or free in the lumen and close to the foregut
1106 (yellow arrowhead). (B) is a magnified micrograph of the black frame in (A). (C) Ultrastructure
1107 of the region below the annular cleft where the PM is secreted. Trypanosomes are observed in the
1108 ES, in the lumen and trapped in the PM as cyst-like bodies (purple arrowheads). (D) Magnified
1109 micrograph of the white frame in (A). A cyst-like body (purple arrowhead) is entrapped
1110 inbetween the electron-dense (red arrowhead) and electron-lucent layers of the PM (green
1111 arrowhead). The ultrastructure presented in micrographs (A) and (C-D) originated from 2
1112 different inf^{+/+} cardia. Micrographs in this image represent 2 two of six of biological replicates
1113 from cardia inf^{+/+}. MG: midgut; PM sc: PM secreting cells; mv: microvilli; TR: trypanosomes;
1114 LU: lumen; FG: foregut; MU: muscle; ES: ectoperitrophic space.

1115

1116 **S7 Fig. Ultrastructure of cardia and PM from non-inf and inf^{+/+} tsetse.** (A) PM
1117 ultrastructure in cardia of non-inf tsetse. The electron-dense (red arrowhead) and electron-lucent
1118 (green arrowhead) layers of a mature PM are intact in these flies (B-D) Close-up images of
1119 disrupted electron-dense layer of the PMs. Cyst-like bodies (purple arrowheads) are observed
1120 inbetween the two layers of the PM. Micrographs in this image represent one and three of three
1121 and six of biological replicates from cardia non-inf and inf^{+/+}, respectively. PM: peritrophic
1122 matrix; MG: midgut; mv: microvilli; TR: trypanosomes; LU: lumen; ES: ectoperitrophic space.

1123

1124 **S8 Fig. Differentially expressed (DE) transcripts in parasitized cardia.** (A) A total of 2,093
1125 transcripts were DE in inf^{+/−} and inf^{+/+} cardia relative to uninfected (non-inf) controls. In inf^{+/−}
1126 cardia (red), 429 and 327 transcripts were up and downregulated, respectively. In inf^{+/+} cardia
1127 (blue), 278 and 413 transcripts were up and downregulated, respectively. Of the DE transcripts

1128 shared by both infection phenotypes (646), 576 are similarly regulated, while 70 show DE in
1129 inf+/- versus inf+/+ phenotypes. **(B-C)** Transcripts are plotted as a function of their fold-changes
1130 (Log2 scale) obtained by comparison between control non-inf transcriptome and either inf+/+ (y-
1131 axis) or inf+/- (x-axis) transcriptome. The size of the circle indicates the expression value (CPM)
1132 in the control non-inf cardia. The genes presented have been annotated with their genome ID
1133 number and their best BLASTx annotation. Panel B shows similarly regulated transcripts in both
1134 cardia infection phenotypes. Panel C shows differentially regulated transcripts between the two
1135 cardia infection phenotypes. In panel C, DE transcripts expressed exclusively in inf+/+ compared
1136 to non-inf are shown in blue, DE transcripts expressed exclusively in inf+/- compared to non-inf
1137 are shown in red, and DE transcripts expressed in both inf+/+ and inf+/- compared to non-inf are
1138 shown in green.

1139

1140 **S9 Fig. Ultrastructure of muscles and mitochondria in cardia from inf+/- tsetse. (A)**
1141 Transversal section of muscle tissues (MU) composing the sphincter. **(B-D)** Longitudinal section
1142 of muscles (MU) layering the midgut tissues. Micrographs in this image represent three of five of
1143 biological replicates from cardia inf+-. Black arrowheads: healthy mitochondria; red arrowheads:
1144 vacuolation of mitochondria; yellow arrow: sarcoplasmic dilatation; green arrowheads: swelling
1145 mitochondria; MG: midgut.

1146

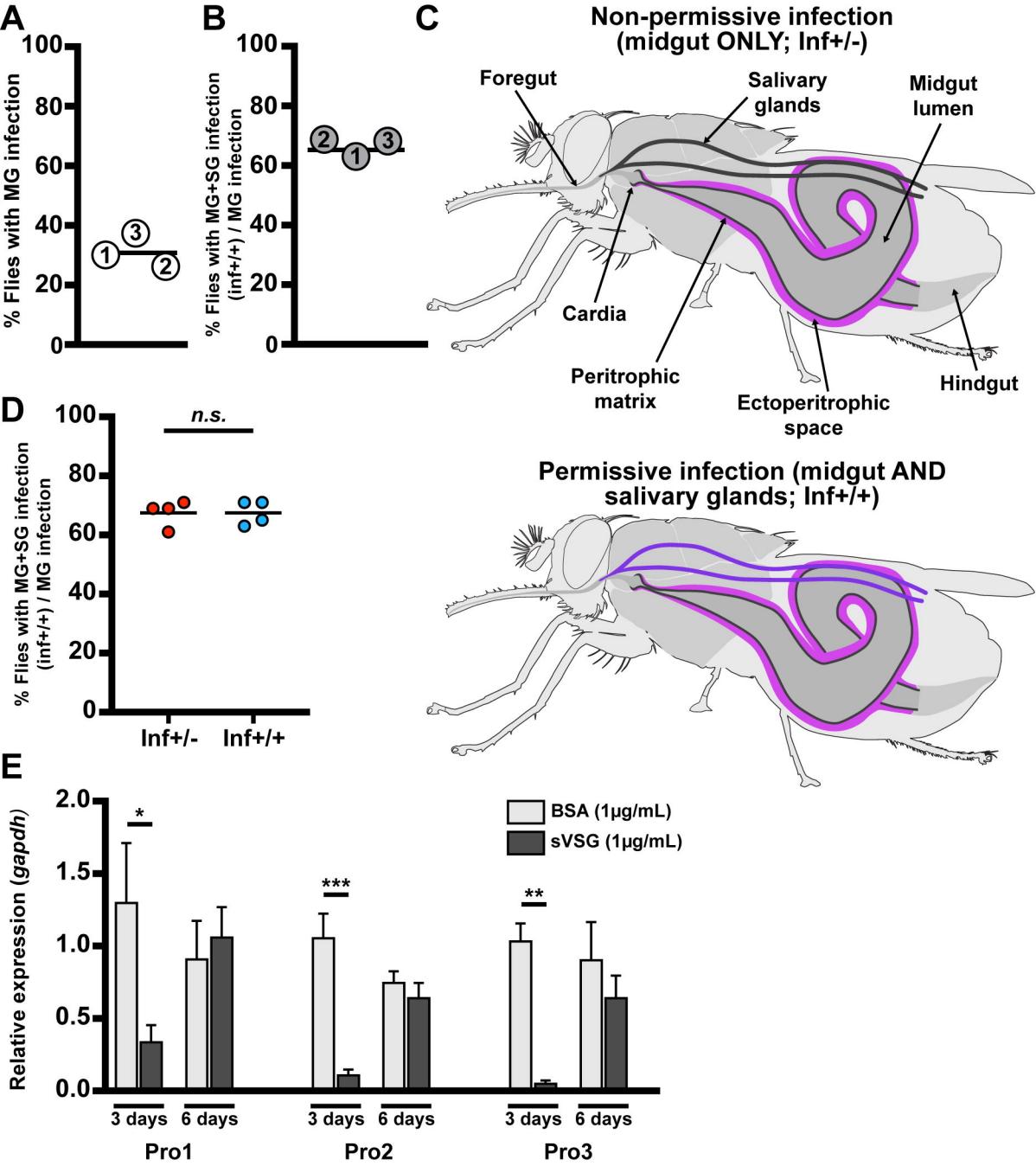
1147 **S1 Dataset. Detailed results and statistics for infection experiments and oxidative stress**
1148 **quantification.**

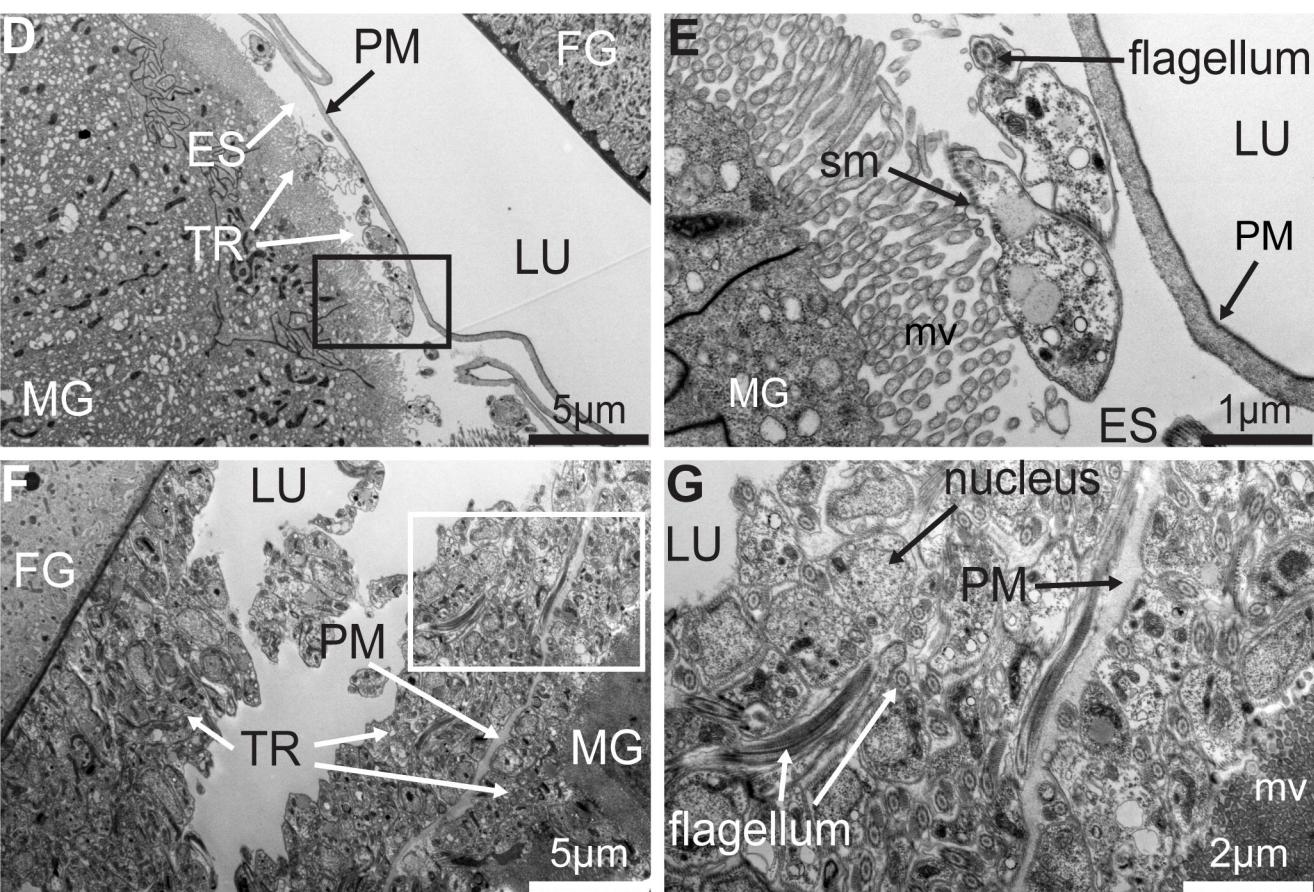
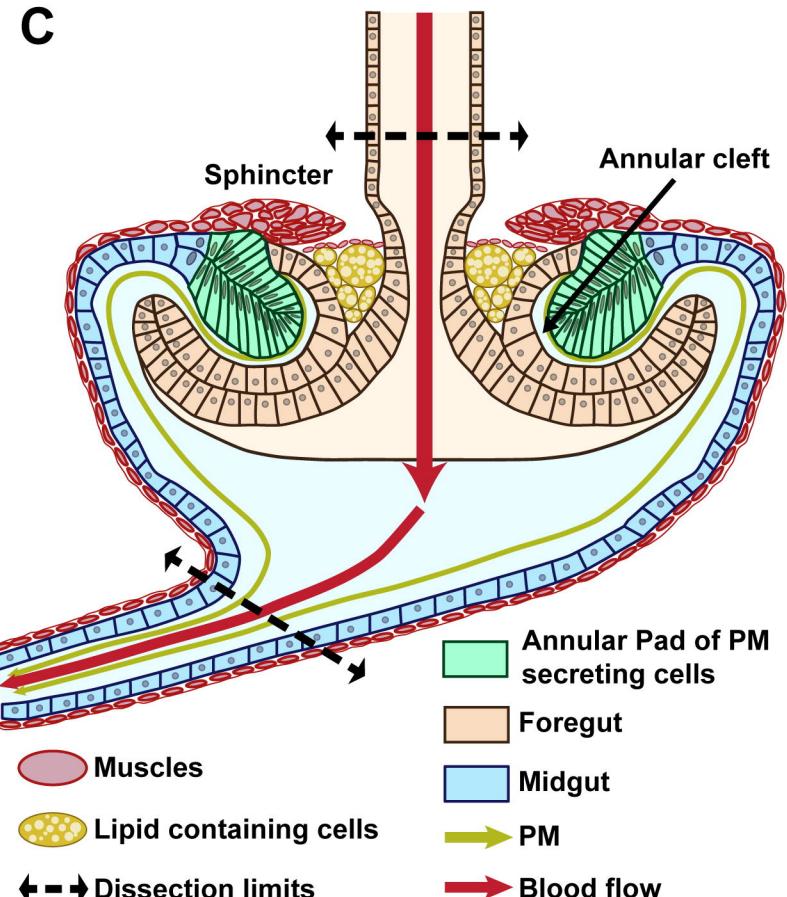
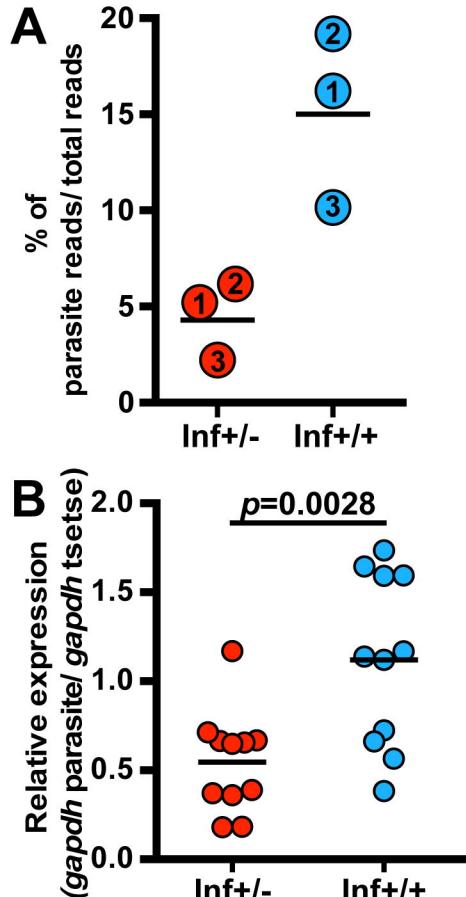
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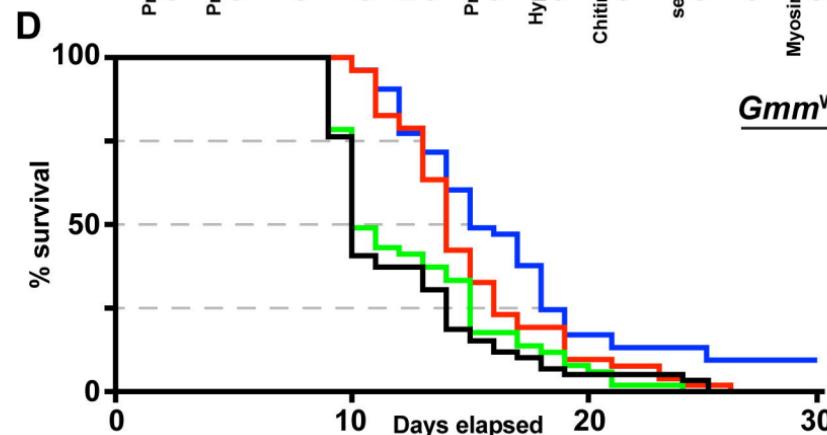
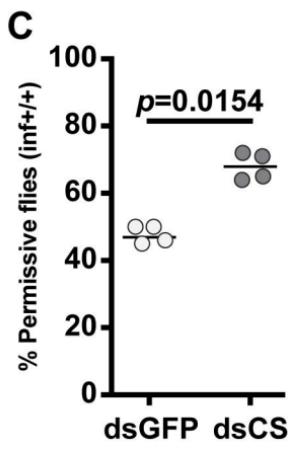
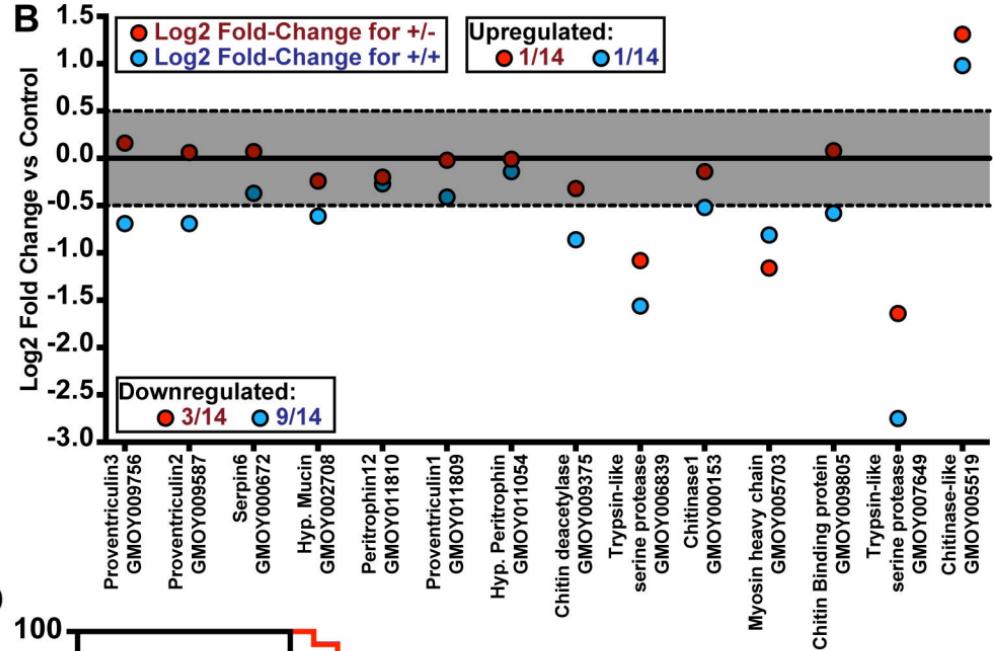
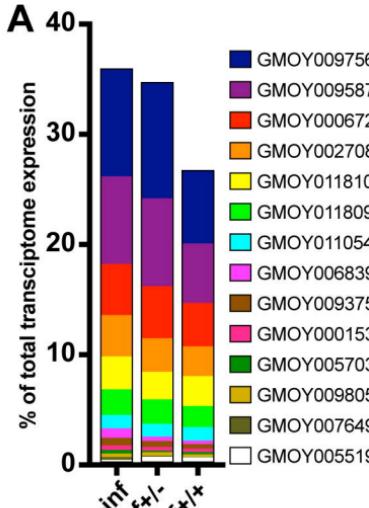
1150 **S2 Dataset. Detailed results and analyses fo each transcriptome.**

1151

1152 **S3 Dataset. GO terms analysis results.**

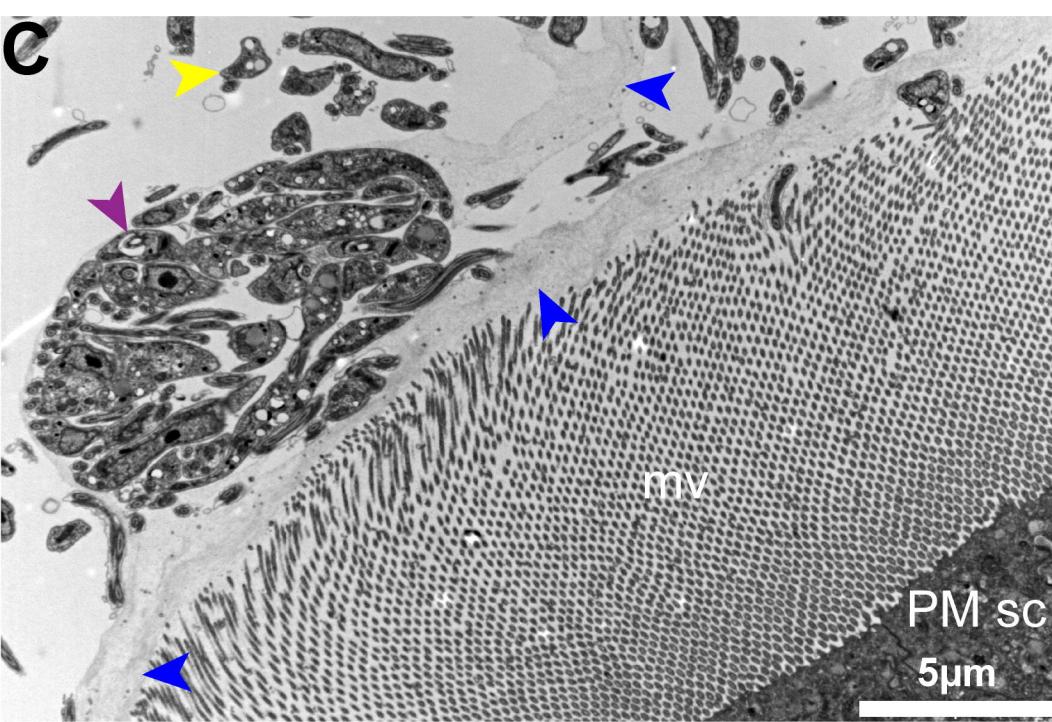
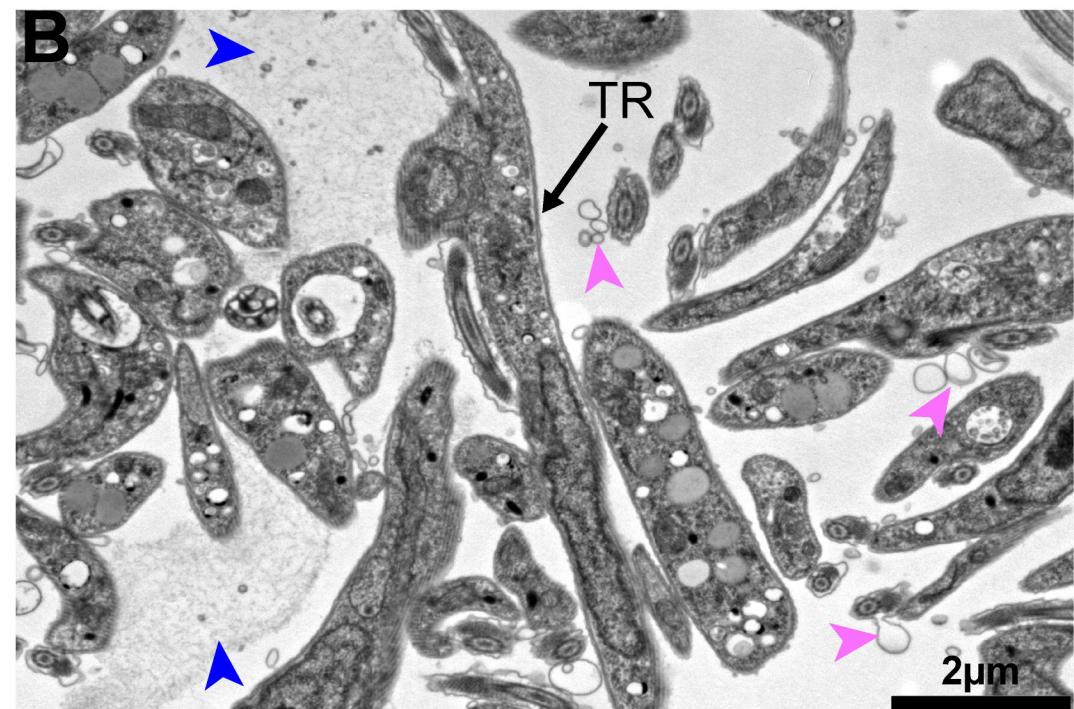
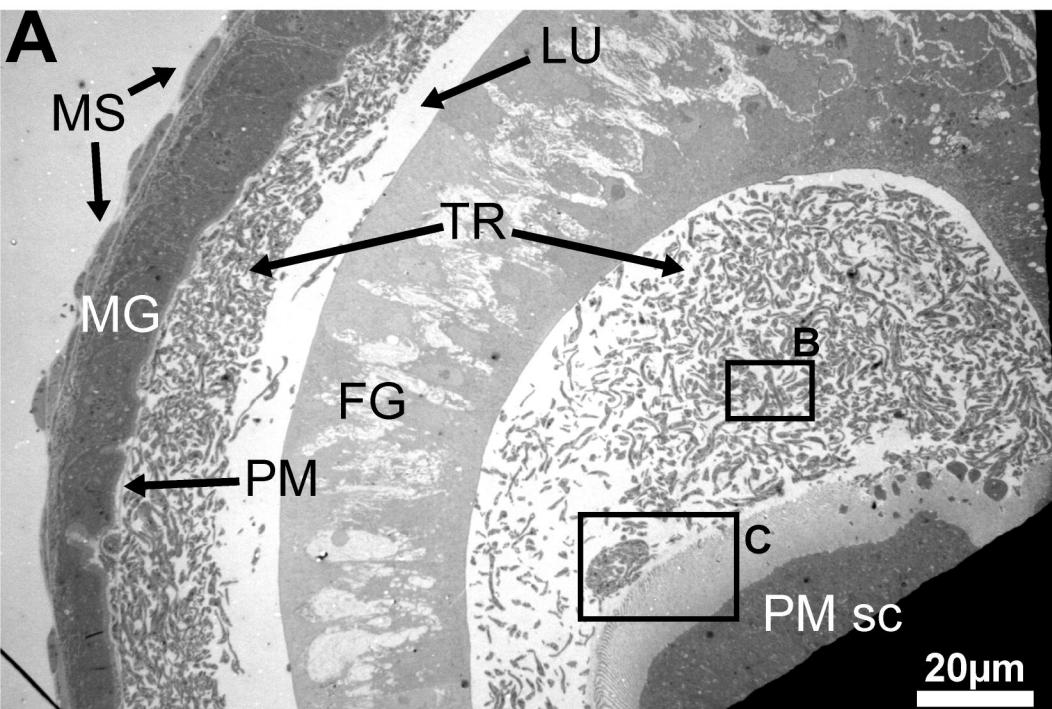


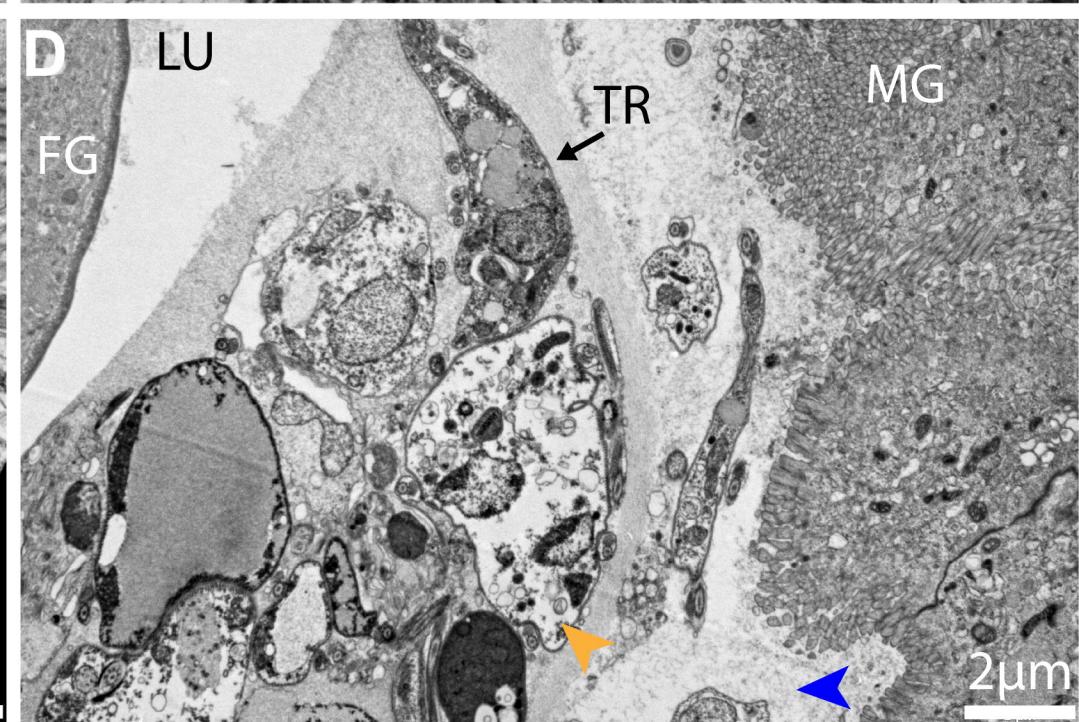
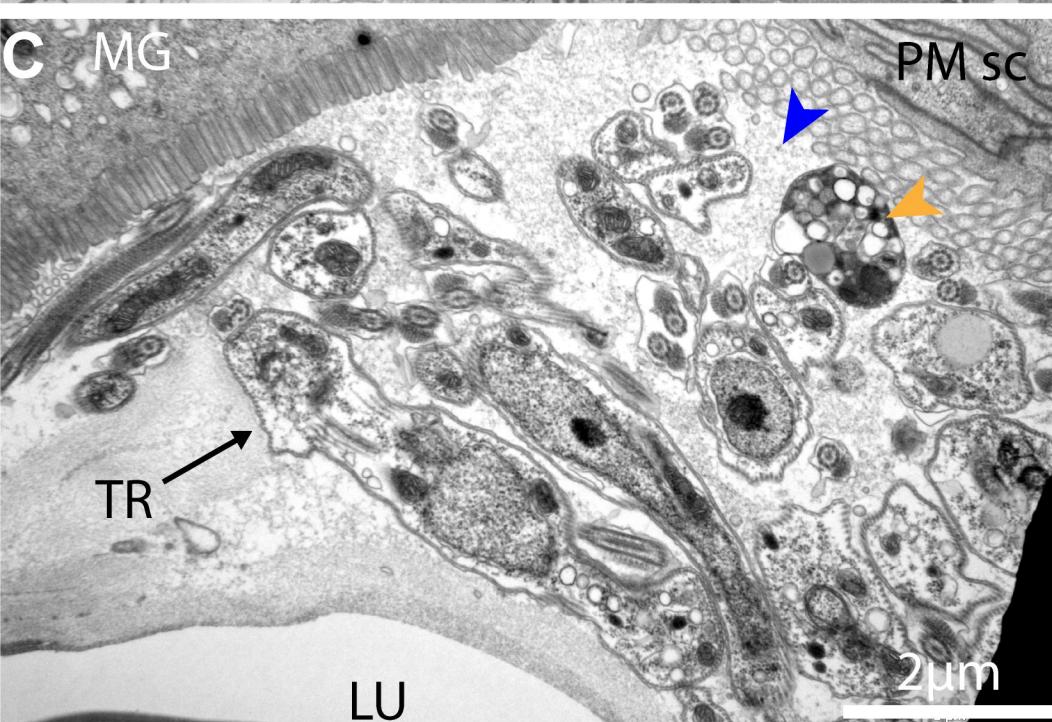
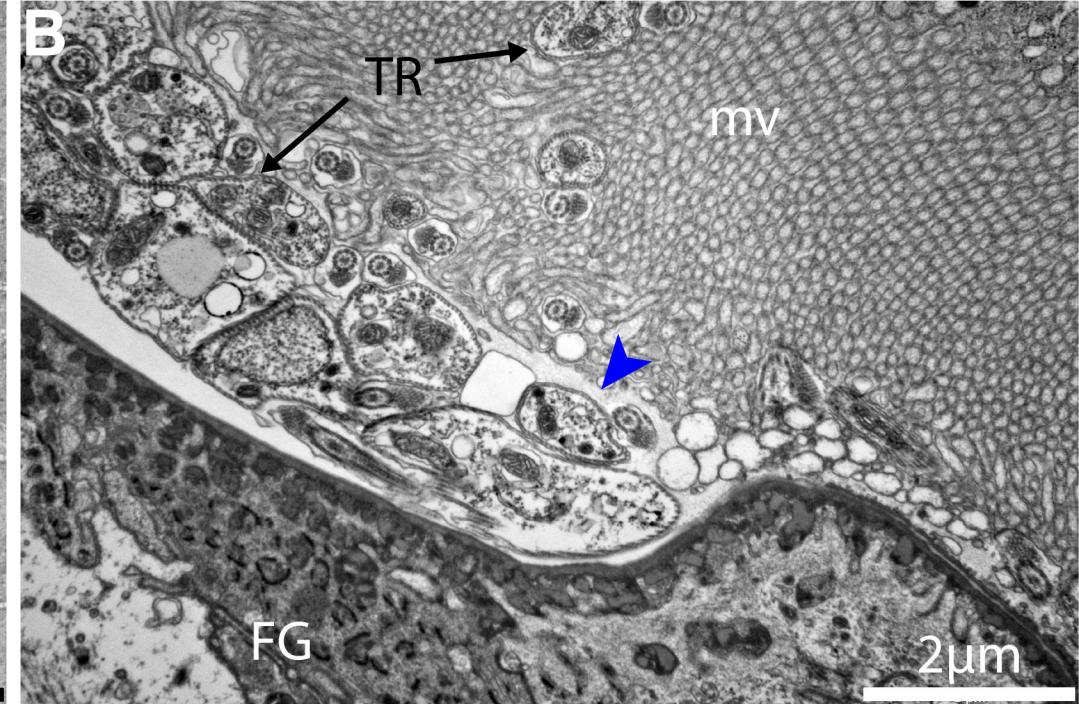
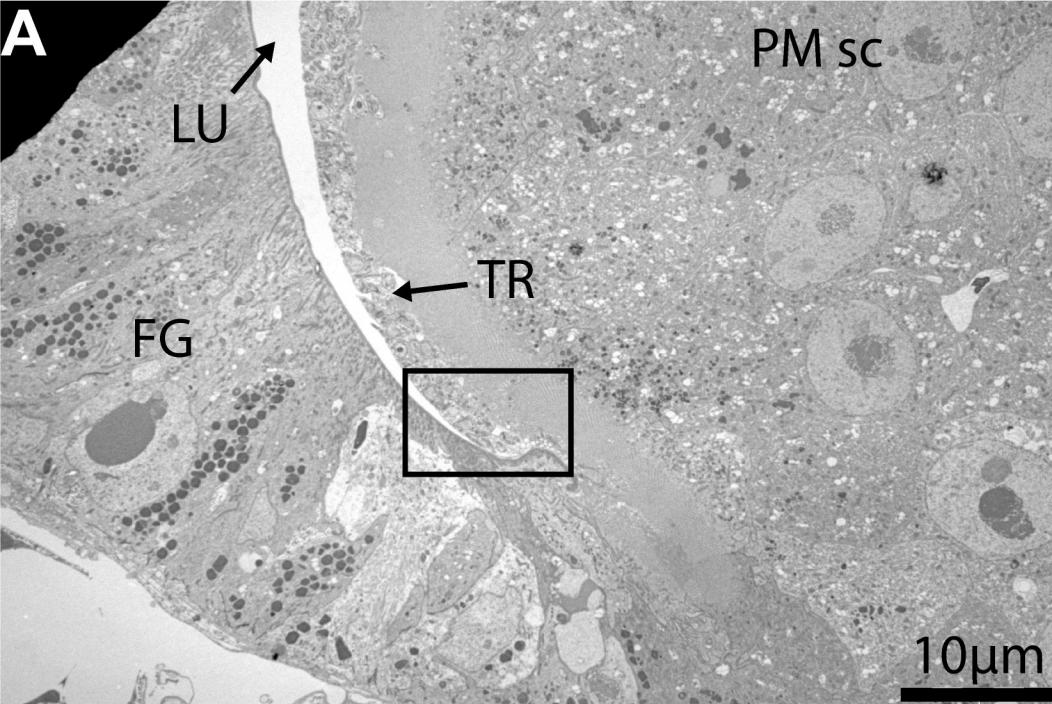


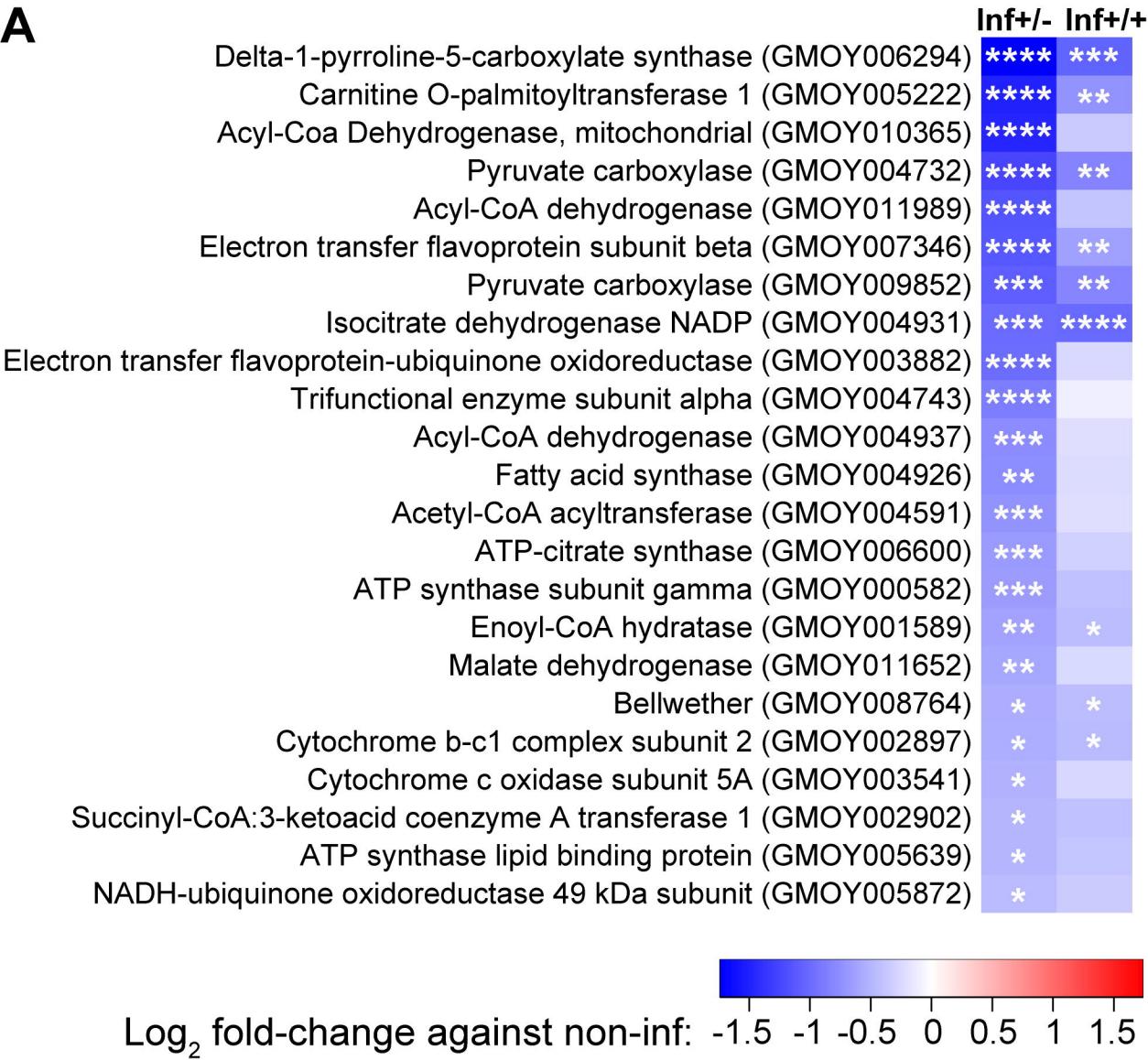
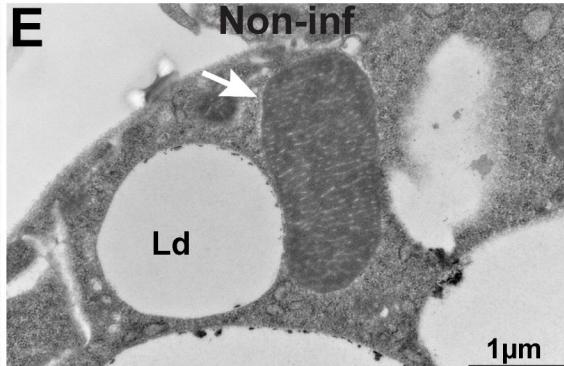
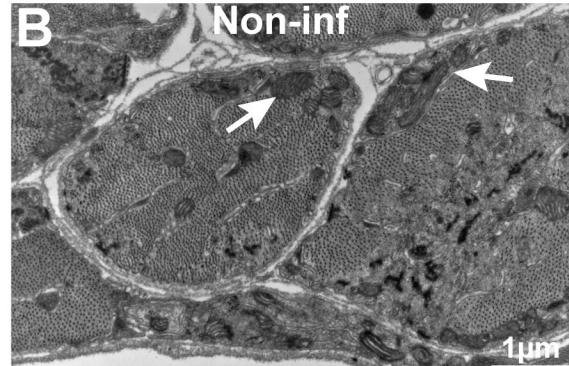
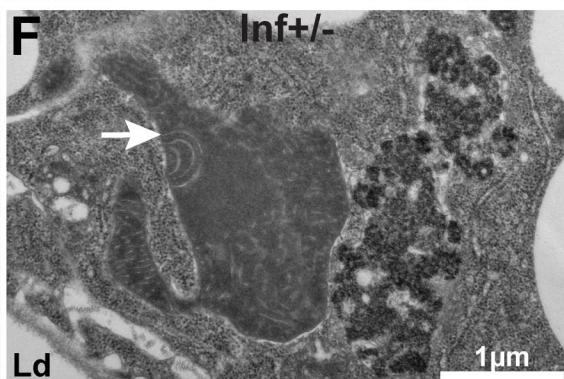
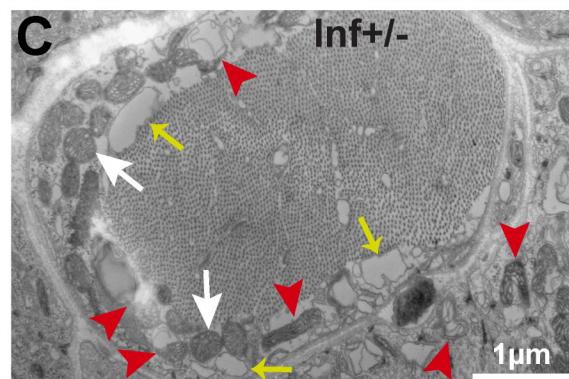
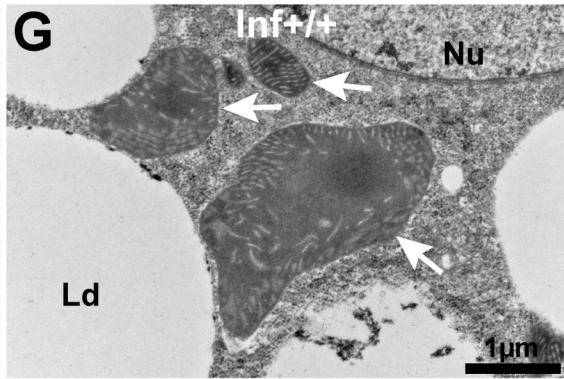
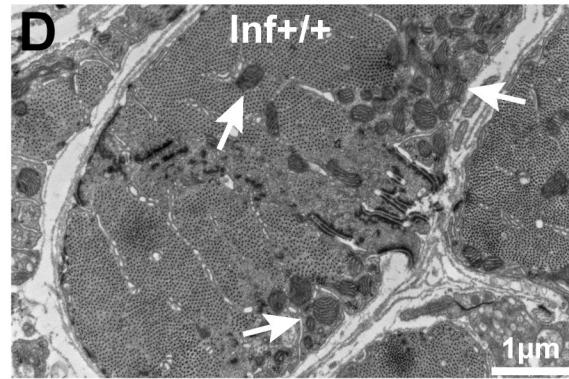


Gmm^{WT}+Serratia

— Control^a
— Rec-/-^a
— Inf+/-^a
— Inf+/*^b





A**Inf^{-/-} Inf^{+/+}****B Non-inf****C Inf^{-/-}****D Inf^{+/+}**Log₂ fold-change against non-inf: -1.5 -1 -0.5 0 0.5 1 1.5

A

Paramyosin (GMOY002377)

Myosin regulatory light chain 2 (GMOY011554)

Myosin light chain alkali (GMOY005682)

Muscle LIM protein (GMOY009237)

Muscle-specific protein 20 (GMOY010913)

Skeletal muscle troponin T (GMOY010298)

Troponin I (GMOY007746)

Tropomyosin-like (GMOY003929)

Inf+/- Inf++

**

*

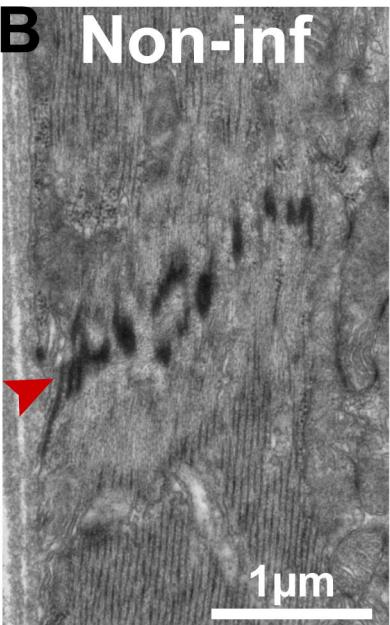
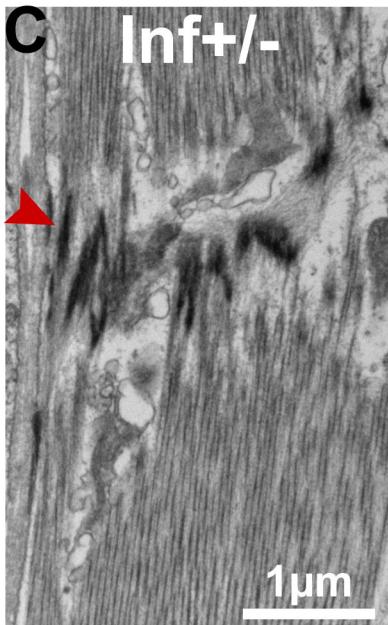
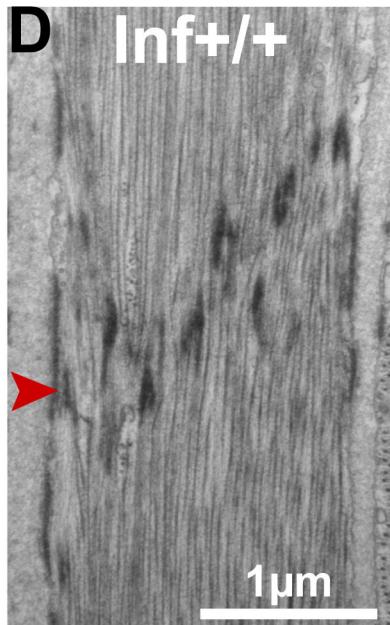
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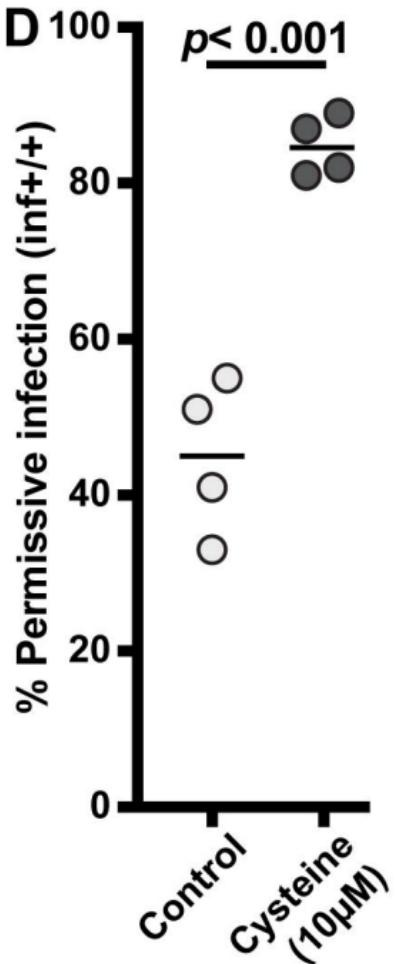
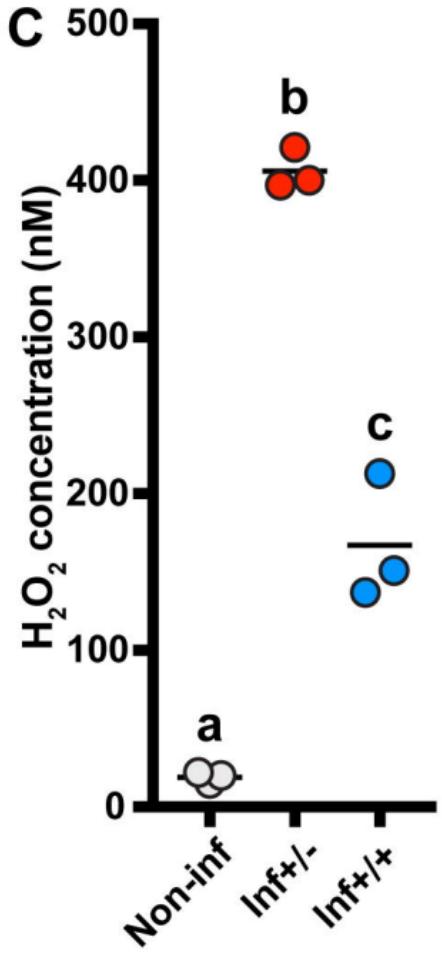
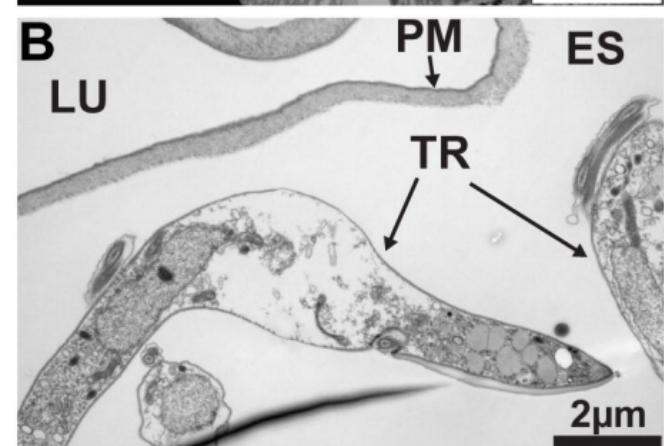
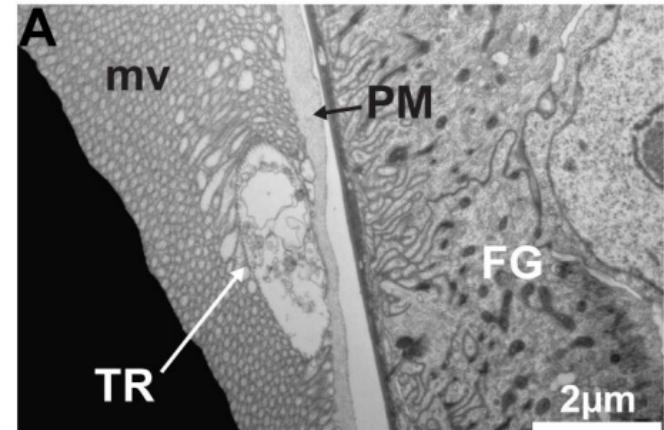
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**

Log₂ fold-change

against non-inf: -1.5 -1 -0.5 0 0.5 1 1.5

B Non-inf**C Inf+/-****D Inf++**



Permissive infection (inf+/+)

Non-Permissive infection (inf+/-)

