

***Drosophila* models of pathogenic copy-number variant genes show global and non-neuronal defects during development**

Short title: Non-neuronal defects of fly homologs of CNV genes

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ABSTRACT

While rare pathogenic copy-number variants (CNVs) are associated with both neuronal and non-neuronal phenotypes, functional studies evaluating these regions have focused on the molecular basis of neuronal defects. We report a systematic functional analysis of non-neuronal defects for homologs of 59 genes within ten CNVs and 20 neurodevelopmental genes in *Drosophila*. Using wing-specific knockdown of 136 RNA interference lines, we identified qualitative and quantitative phenotypes in 72/79 homologs, including six lines with lethality and 21 lines with severe wing defects. Assessment of 66 lines for tissue-specific effects showed no correlation between the severity of wing and eye-specific defects. We observed disruptions in cell proliferation and apoptosis in larval wing discs for 23/27 homologs, and altered Wnt, Hedgehog and Notch signaling for 9/14 homologs, including *AATF/Aatf*, *PPP4C/Pp4-19C*, and *KIF11/Klp61F*. These findings were further validated with differences in human tissue-specific expression and network connectivity of CNV genes. Our findings suggest that multiple genes within each CNV differentially affect both global and tissue-specific developmental processes within conserved pathways, and that their roles are not restricted to neuronal functions.

INTRODUCTION

Rare copy-number variants (CNV), or deletions and duplications in the genome, are associated with neurodevelopmental disorders such as autism, intellectual disability (ID), and schizophrenia [1,2]. While dosage alteration of CNV regions contribute predominantly to defects in nervous system development, several CNV-associated disorders also lead to early developmental features involving other organ systems [3,4], including cardiac defects [5,6], kidney malformations[7], craniofacial features [3], and skeletal abnormalities [8]. For example, the 1q21.1 deletion causes variable expression of multiple neuronal and non-neuronal phenotypes, including developmental delay, autism, and schizophrenia as well as craniofacial features, cataracts, cardiac defects, and skeletal abnormalities [9–11]. Additionally, while the 7q11.23 deletion associated with Williams-Beuren syndrome (WBS) causes neuropsychiatric and behavioral features, other non-neuronal phenotypes, including supravalvular aortic stenosis, auditory defects, hypertension, diabetes mellitus, and musculoskeletal and connective tissue anomalies, are also observed among the deletion carriers [12].

Despite the notable prevalence of non-neuronal phenotypes in CNV carriers, functional studies of CNV genes have primarily focused on detailed assessments of neuronal and behavioral phenotypes in model systems. For example, mouse models for the 16p11.2 deletion exhibited post-natal lethality, reduced brain size and neural progenitor cell count, motor and habituation defects, synaptic defects, and behavioral defects [13–15]. Similarly, mouse models for the 3q29 deletion showed decreased weight and brain size, increased locomotor activity and startle response, and decreased spatial learning and memory [16,17]. However, fewer studies have focused on detailed evaluation of non-neuronal phenotypes in functional models of CNV disorders. For example, Arbogast and colleagues evaluated obesity and metabolic changes in

16p11.2 deletion mice, which showed reduced weight and impaired adipogenesis [18]. While Haller and colleagues showed that mice with knockdown of *MAZ*, a gene within the 16p11.2 deletion region, contribute to the genitourinary defects observed in individuals with the deletion [19], mouse studies on other homologs of 16p11.2 genes, including *TAOK2*, *KCTD13*, and *MAPK3*, have only focused on assessing neuronal defects [20–24]. Furthermore, Dickinson and colleagues reported a high-throughput analysis of essential genes in mice and identified both neuronal and non-neuronal phenotypes for individual gene knockouts, including more than 400 genes that lead to lethality [25]. While these efforts aided in implicating novel genes with human disease, our understanding of how genes associated with neurodevelopmental disorders contribute towards non-neuronal phenotypes is still limited. Therefore, a large-scale analysis of non-neuronal phenotypes is necessary to identify specific candidate genes within CNV regions and associated biological mechanisms that contribute towards these phenotypes.

Drosophila melanogaster is an excellent model system to evaluate homologs of neurodevelopmental genes, as many developmental processes and signaling pathways are conserved between humans and flies [26]. In fact, over 75% of human disease genes have homologs in *Drosophila*, including many genes involved in cellular signaling processes [27,28]. We recently examined the contributions of individual *Drosophila* homologs of 28 genes within the 16p11.2 and 3q29 deletion regions towards specific neurodevelopmental phenotypes, including rough eye phenotypes and defects in climbing ability, axon targeting, neuromuscular junction, and dendritic arborization [29,30]. While these findings implicated multiple genes within each CNV region towards conserved cellular processes in neuronal tissues, the conserved role of these genes in non-neuronal tissues is not well understood. The *Drosophila* wing is an effective model system to evaluate such developmental defects, as key components of conserved

signaling pathways, such as Notch, epidermal growth factor receptor (EGFR), Hedgehog, and Wnt pathways, were identified using fly wing models [31–37]. Although fly wing phenotypes cannot be directly translated to human phenotypes, defects observed in fly wings can be used to assess how homologs of human disease genes alter conserved cellular and developmental mechanisms. For example, Wu and colleagues showed that overexpression of the *Drosophila* homolog for *UBE3A*, associated with Angelman syndrome, leads to abnormal wing and eye morphology defects [38]. Furthermore, *Drosophila* mutant screens for developmental phenotypes, including wing defects, were used to identify conserved genes for several human genetic diseases, including Charcot-Marie-Tooth disease and syndromic microcephaly [39]. Kochinke and colleagues also recently performed a large-scale screening of ID-associated genes, and found an enrichment of wing trichome density and missing vein phenotypes in ID genes compared to control gene sets [40]. Hence, the fly wing provides a model system that is ideal for evaluating the contributions of individual homologs of CNV genes towards cellular and developmental defects.

In this study, we tested tissue-specific and cellular phenotypes of 79 fly homologs of human genes within ten pathogenic CNV regions and genes associated with neurodevelopmental disorders. Particularly, we used the adult fly wing to evaluate phenotypes in a non-neuronal tissue, and observed a wide range of robust qualitative and quantitative wing phenotypes among the 136 RNA interference (RNAi) lines tested in our study, including size defects, ectopic and missing veins, severe wrinkling, and lethality. Further analysis of cellular phenotypes revealed disruptions in conserved developmental processes in the larval imaginal wing disc, including altered levels of cell proliferation and apoptosis as well as altered expression patterns in the Wnt, Hedgehog, and Notch signaling pathways. However, we found no correlation in the severity of

106 phenotypes observed with wing and eye-specific knockdown. Our findings were further
107 supported by differences in expression patterns and network connectivity of human CNV genes
108 across different tissues. Our analysis emphasizes the importance of multiple genes within each
109 CNV region towards both global and tissue-specific developmental processes.

RESULTS

Knockdown of fly homologs of CNV genes contribute to a range of wing defects

Using an RNAi based analysis driven by the *bx^{MS1096}-GAL4* wing-specific driver, we tested a total of 136 RNAi lines for 59 homologs of genes within pathogenic CNV regions (chromosomal locations 1q21.1, 3q29, 7q11.23, 15q11.2, 15q13.3, 16p11.2, distal 16p11.2, 16p12.1, 16p13.11, and 17q12) and 20 homologs of genes associated with neurodevelopmental disorders (**Supp. Data 1**). Fly homologs of these genes were identified using the DIOPT orthology prediction tool [41]. We list both the human gene name and the fly gene name for each tested gene as *HUMAN GENE/Fly gene* (i.e. *KCTD13/CG10465*) as well as the human CNV region for context at first instance. We scored 20-25 adult wings for five distinct wing phenotypes in each non-lethal RNAi line, including wrinkled wing, discoloration, ectopic veins, missing veins, and bristle planar polarity phenotypes (**Fig. 1A; Supp. Data 2**). We first categorized each wing phenotype based on their severity and performed k-means clustering analysis to categorize each RNAi line by their overall phenotype severity (**Fig. 1B-C**). We observed four clusters of RNAi lines: 75 lines with no observable qualitative phenotypes (55.2%), 24 lines with mild phenotypes (17.7%), 10 lines with moderate phenotypes (7.4%), 21 lines with severe phenotypes (15.4%), and 6 lines with lethal phenotypes (4.4%), including *ACACA/ACC* within 17q12, *DLG1/dlg1* within 3q29, and *STX1A/Syx1A* within 7q11.23 (**Fig. 1B-D; Supp. Data 2**). We observed severe wrinkled wing phenotypes for 13/79 fly homologs, including *PPP4C/Pp4-19C* within 16p11.2, *ATXN2L/Atx2* within distal 16p11.2, *AATF/Aatf* within 17q12, and *MFI2/Tsf2* within 3q29 (**Fig. 2A-B, Supp. Data 3**). Interestingly, seven out of ten CNV regions contained at least one homolog that showed lethality or severe wing phenotypes, and five CNV regions (3q29, 16p11.2, distal 16p11.2, 16p12.1, and 17q12) had multiple homologs showing lethality or severe wing

phenotypes (**Fig. 2A, Supp. Data 3**). For example, RNAi lines for both *UQCRC2/UQCR-C2* and *POLR3E/Sin* within 16p12.1 showed lethality. Within the 3q29 region, *NCBP2/Cbp20* and *MFI2/Tsf2* showed severe phenotypes while *DLG1/dlg1* showed lethality. In contrast, 12/20 known neurodevelopmental genes showed no observable wing phenotypes, suggesting that these genes could be responsible for neuronal-specific phenotypes (**Fig. 2B, Supp. Data 3**). We note that 18/79 fly homologs showed discordant phenotypes between two or more RNAi lines for the same gene, which could be due to differences in expression of the RNAi construct among these lines (**Supp. Data 3**).

Certain qualitative phenotypes exhibited higher frequency in males compared to females. For example, discoloration (87 lines in males compared to 56 lines in females; $p=1.315 \times 10^{-4}$, two-tailed Fisher's exact test) and missing vein phenotypes (92 lines in males compared to 29 lines in females; $p=2.848 \times 10^{-16}$, two-tailed Fisher's exact test) at any degree of severity were more commonly observed in males than females (**Supp. Data 2**). In particular, 25/92 lines in males (compared to 1/29 in females) showed a total loss of the anterior crossvein (ACV) (**Supp. Data 2**). We further identified 17 RNAi lines that were lethal in males with wing-specific knockdown of fly homologs. While higher frequencies of wing phenotypes in males could be due to a sex-specific bias of developmental phenotypes, the increased severity we observed in males is most likely due to a stronger RNAi knockdown caused by an X-linked dosage compensation, as the *bx^{MS1096}-GAL4* driver is inserted on the fly X chromosome [42,43].

Next, we measured the total adult wing area and the lengths of six veins (longitudinal L2, L3, L4, L5, ACV, and posterior crossvein or PCV) in the adult wing for each of the tested RNAi lines that did not show lethality (or severe wrinkled phenotypes for vein length measurements) (**Fig. 3A**). Overall, we identified significant wing measurement changes for 89 RNAi lines

compared to controls, which included lines that did not have an observable qualitative wing phenotype (**Fig. 1D**). A summary of L3 vein lengths is presented in **Fig. 3B**, and the measurements for the remaining five veins are presented in **Supp. Figure 1** and **Supp. Data. 2**. We found that 33/61 of the homologs (54%) showed significant changes in L3 vein length, including 20 homologs with longer vein lengths and 13 homologs with shorter vein lengths (**Supp. Data 3**). Additionally, 41/74 of the fly homologs (55%) showed changes in wing area (**Supp. Data 3**), including 36 homologs which showed smaller wing areas and five homologs showed larger wing areas compared to controls (**Supp. Data 3**). For example, both homologs of genes within 1q21.1 region, *BCL9/lgs* and *FMO5/Fmo-2*, showed decreased wing area and vein length, potentially mirroring the reduced body length phenotype observed in mouse models of the deletion [44] (**Fig. 3B-C**). In addition, *PAK2/Pak* within 3q29, *TBX1/org-1* within 22q11.2, autism-associated *CHD8/kis*, and microcephaly-associated *ASPM/asp* also showed smaller wing areas and vein lengths (**Fig. 3B-C**). In contrast, *TRPM1/Trpm* within 15q13.3 and the cell proliferation gene *PTEN/Pten* [45] both showed larger wing areas and vein lengths (**Fig. 3B-C**). Furthermore, we identified eight homologs that showed no qualitative wing phenotypes but had significant changes in wing areas and vein lengths (**Supp. Data 3**), including *CCDC101/Sgf29* in distal 16p11.2, *FMO5/Fmo-2*, *TRPM1/Trpm*, *DHRS11/CG9150* in 17q12, and *NSUN5/Nsun5* in 7q11.23 (**Fig. 3B-C; Supp. Data 3**). These results indicate that homologs of certain CNV genes may influence variations in size without causing adverse wing phenotypes, and may be specifically implicated towards cellular growth mechanisms.

Homologs of CNV genes show global and tissue-specific effects during development

We previously showed that many of the same fly homologs of CNV genes that showed wing defects in the current study also contributed towards neuronal phenotypes in the fly eye [29,30], suggesting a role for these genes in global development. We therefore performed ubiquitous and eye-specific knockdown of fly homologs to assess tissue-specific effects in comparison to the wing phenotypes. First, we used the *da-GAL4* driver at 25°C to drive ubiquitous knockdown of RNAi lines for 31 homologs of CNV genes, including 19 that were previously published [29,30], and observed complete or partial lethality at larval and pupal stages with knockdown of 10/31 homologs (32.3%) (**Fig. 4A**). Lethal phenotypes have also been documented for 43/130 knockout mouse models of individual CNV genes as well as for the entire deletion (**Supp. Data 4**). For example, mouse models heterozygous for the 16p11.2 deletion showed partial neonatal lethality, while knockout mouse models of four individual genes within the 16p11.2 region, including *Ppp4C*^{-/-} and *Kif22*^{-/-}, showed embryonic lethality [13,46,47]. In our study, the *DLG1/dlg1* line that showed lethality with wing-specific knockdown also exhibited larval lethality with ubiquitous knockdown, indicating its role in global development (**Fig. 4A**). In addition, six homologs that showed severe wing phenotypes also showed larval or pupal lethality with ubiquitous knockdown, including *ALDOA/Ald* and *PPP4C/Pp4-19C* within 16p11.2 and *ATXN2L/Atx2* and *TUFM/mEFTu1* within distal 16p11.2 (**Fig. 4A**). The remaining homologs that showed lethality with ubiquitous knockdown showed at least a mild qualitative or quantitative wing phenotype.

We next compared the phenotypes observed with wing-specific knockdown of fly homologs to their corresponding eye-specific knockdowns to evaluate tissue-specific effects. To quantitatively assess the phenotypic severity of cellular defects with eye-specific knockdown of

fly homologs, we developed a tool called *Flynotyper* [48] that determines the degree of disorganization among the ommatidia in the adult eye. We analyzed phenotypic scores obtained from *Flynotyper* for 66 RNAi lines of 45 fly homologs, including from previously-published datasets [29,30,48]. We found that 37/45 homologs (82.2%) exhibited both eye and wing-specific defects (**Fig. 4B, Supp. Fig. 2, Supp. Data 5**). Two homologs with significant eye phenotypes did not show any wing phenotypes, including *SPNS1/spin* within distal 16p11.2 and microcephaly-associated *SLC25A19/Tpc1* [49], while five homologs only showed wing-specific phenotypes, including *CDIPT/Pis* and *YPEL3/CG15309* within 16p11.2, *FBXO45/Fsn* and *OSTalpha/CG6836* within 3q29, and *UQCRC2/UQCR-C2* (**Fig. 4B, Supp. Fig. 2**). In particular, *UQCRC2/UQCR-C2* showed lethality with wing-specific knockdown, suggesting potential tissue-specific effects of this gene in non-neuronal cells (**Fig. 4B**). While most homologs contributed towards both eye and wing-specific phenotypes, we observed a wide range of severity in eye phenotypes that did not correlate with the severity of quantitative or qualitative wing phenotypes (**Fig. 4C**). For example, *TUFM/mEFTu1* showed a severe wing phenotype but only a mild increase in eye phenotypic score, while *SH2B1/Lnk*, also within the distal 16p11.2 region, showed severe rough eye phenotypes but only a mild increase in wing size (**Fig. 4D**). Similarly, *BCL9/lgs* also showed opposing tissue-specific effects with mild qualitative wing phenotype and severe eye phenotype, suggesting that the role of these homologs towards development differs across tissue types.

CNV genes show variable expression across different tissues in flies and humans

To assess how expression levels of CNV genes vary across different tissues, we first examined the expression patterns of fly homologs in larval and adult tissues using the FlyAtlas Anatomical

Microarray dataset [50]. We found that 76/77 homologs with available data were expressed in at least one larval and adult tissue (**Supp. Fig. 3, Supp. Data 6**). In general, we did not observe a correlation between wing phenotype severity and expression patterns of homologs in larval or adult tissues (**Fig. 5A**). For example, 58/77 homologs (75.3%) showed ubiquitous larval expression, including both fly homologs that showed no qualitative wing phenotypes, such as *KCTD13/CG10465* within 16p11.2 and *FBXO45/Fsn*, and those with severe wing phenotypes, such as *PPP4C/Pp4-19C* and *NCBP2/Cbp20* (**Fig. 5A, Supp. Fig. 3**). Furthermore, 30/39 homologs (76.9%) that showed eye phenotypes also had ubiquitous larval expression, providing further support to the observation that genes causing neuronal phenotypes may also contribute to developmental phenotypes in other tissues (**Supp. Data 5**). Of note, 9/77 homologs (11.7%) did not have any expression in the larval central nervous system, including *FMO5/Fmo-2*, *BDHI/CG8888* within 3q29, and *TBX6/Doc2* within 16p11.2 (**Fig. 5A, Supp. Fig. 3**). However, we observed wing phenotypes for 8/9 of these homologs, suggesting that they may contribute to tissue-specific phenotypes outside of the nervous system. Except for the epilepsy-associated *SCN1A/para* [51], which was exclusively expressed in both the larval central nervous system (CNS) and adult brain tissues, other tested neurodevelopmental genes were also expressed in non-neuronal tissues (**Fig. 5A**).

We further used the GTEx Consortium dataset [52] to examine tissue-specific expression of 150 human CNV and known neurodevelopmental genes across six tissues including brain, heart, kidney, lung, liver, and muscle. We found 121 genes that were expressed in at least one adult tissue, including 49 genes (32.7%) that showed ubiquitous expression across all six tissues (**Supp. Data 6**). Of the 112 genes expressed in non-neuronal tissues, 34 did not have any neuronal expression, including *TBX1*, *FMO5* and *GJA5* within 1q21.1, and *ATP2A1* within distal

16p11.2 (**Fig. 5B, Supp. Data 6**). *FMO5* and *TBX1* also showed non-neuronal expression in *Drosophila* tissues, suggesting that their tissue-specific expression is highly conserved (**Fig. 5A**). Other genes showing ubiquitous expression also had preferentially high expression for specific non-neuronal tissues, including *ALDOA* and *UQCRC2* for muscle and heart (**Fig. 5B**). In contrast, we found nine genes that were expressed only in the adult brain, including *FAM57B* and *DOC2A* within 16p11.2, as well as *SCN1A*, which showed similar CNS-only expression in *Drosophila* tissues (**Fig. 5B, Supp. Data 6**).

Knockdown of fly homologs of CNV genes lead to disruption of cellular processes

The disruption of basic cellular processes in neuronal cells, such as cell proliferation and apoptosis, have been implicated in neurodevelopmental disorders [53–55]. We previously identified defects in cell proliferation among photoreceptors neurons in larval eye discs with knockdown of 16p11.2 homologs, as well as increased apoptosis with knockdown of a subset of 3q29 homologs [29,30]. Here, we explored how these basic cellular processes are altered in non-neuronal cells, specifically in the developing wing disc, with knockdown of homologs of CNV genes. We targeted 27 fly homologs that showed a range of adult wing phenotypes for changes in cell proliferation and apoptosis, using anti-phospho-Histone H3 Ser10 (pH3) and anti-*Drosophila* caspase-1 (*dcp1*), respectively, in the third instar larval wing discs. We identified 23/27 homologs that showed significant increases in apoptotic cells compared to controls, including seven homologs, such as *PPP4C/Pp4-19C*, *ATXN2L/Atx2*, and *AATF/Aatf*, which showed *dcp1* staining across the entire larval wing pouch (**Fig. 6A-B, Supp. Figs. 4-5, Supp. Data 7**). In addition, 16/27 genes showed decreased levels of proliferation, including eight homologs which also showed apoptosis defects, such as *CYFIP1/Sra-1* within 15q11.2,

SH2B1/Lnk, and the microcephaly gene *KIF11/Klp61F* (**Fig. 6A and 6C, Supp. Figs. 4-5, Supp. Data 7**). All six of the tested homologs with severe adult wing phenotypes showed both increased apoptosis and decreased proliferation (**Supp. Data 7**). Similarly, 3/4 homologs of genes showing lethality with wing-specific knockdown also showed defects in apoptosis or proliferation, with the exception of *ACACA/ACC* (**Supp. Figure 4, Supp. Data 7**). As *bx^{MS1096}*-*GAL4* is located on the X-chromosome, we expected to see more severe defects in males compared with females with knockdown of homologs due to the X-linked dosage compensation [42,43]. However, knockdown of 3/11 tested homologs with sex-specific differences in adult wing phenotypes, including *BCL9/lgs*, *CYFIP1/Sra-1*, and *DNAJC30/CG11035* within 7q11.23, showed significantly decreased levels of cell proliferation in females but no change for males compared to their respective controls, suggesting a sex-specific effect of these genes for cell proliferation (**Supp. Fig. 5, Supp. Data 7**). Overall, our results suggest that cell proliferation and apoptosis are disrupted by reduced expression of homologs of CNV genes in both neuronal and non-neuronal tissues.

Knockdown of homologs of CNV genes disrupt conserved signaling pathways

Several conserved signaling pathways that are active in a spatial and temporal manner in the larval wing disc, such as Wnt, Hedgehog, BMP, and Notch signaling, regulate the anterior-posterior (A/P) and dorsal-ventral (D/V) boundaries to determine accurate morphology and vein patterning in the adult wing [36,37,56–58]. For example, Wnt and Notch signaling pathways both act along the D/V boundary to determine cell fate [59,60], while Hedgehog signaling is dependent upon expression of both engrailed in the posterior compartment and patched along the A/P border [61,62]. Furthermore, O’Roak and colleagues showed that genes identified from *de*

novo mutations in patients with autism are linked to β -catenin/Wnt pathway [63]. In addition, familial loss-of-function mutations in the human hedgehog signaling pathway gene *PTCH1* are implicated in basal cell nevus syndrome, leading to basal cell carcinoma [64,65].

Based on adult wing phenotypes and disruptions to cellular processes, we next tested whether knockdown of 14 fly homologs disrupt conserved signaling pathways in the third instar larval wing disc (**Supp. Data 7**). In particular, we evaluated the role of Wnt, Hedgehog, and Notch signaling pathways by testing the expression patterns of four key proteins within these pathways, including wingless (Wnt), patched (Hedgehog), engrailed (Hedgehog), and delta (Notch). We found that 9/14 homologs, including 8/10 homologs showing severe wing phenotypes or lethality, exhibited disruptions in at least one signaling pathway. For example, five homologs with severe or lethal phenotypes showed disruptions of all four signaling pathways, including *AATF/Aatf*, *NCBP2/Cbp20*, *POLR3E/Sin*, *PPP4C/Pp4-19C*, and *KIF11/Klp61F* (**Fig. 7, Supp. Data 7**). Our observations are in concordance with previous findings by Swarup and colleagues, who showed that *PPP4C/Pp4-19C* is a candidate regulator of Wnt and Notch signaling pathways in *Drosophila* larval wing discs [66]. Furthermore, two genes from the 3q29 region, *DLG1/dlg1* and *MFI2/Tsf2*, showed altered expression patterns for delta and patched but not for engrailed, indicating that they selectively interact with the Hedgehog as well as Notch signaling pathway (**Supp. Fig. 6**). In fact, Six and colleagues showed that Dlg1 directly binds to the PDZ-binding domain of Delta1 [67]. In contrast, *ACACA/ACC* and *UQCRC2/UQCR-C2* showed no changes in expression patterns for any of the four signaling proteins tested, suggesting that the observed lethality could be due to other cellular mechanisms (**Supp. Fig. 6**). We conclude that several homologs disrupt the expression of key proteins in signaling pathways

in the developing larval wing discs, potentially accounting for the developmental defects observed in the adult wings.

Connectivity patterns of CNV genes vary across human tissue-specific networks

We examined patterns of connectivity for the nine candidate genes, based on the disruptions of signaling pathways identified in the developing *Drosophila* wing discs, within the context of human brain, heart, and kidney-specific gene interaction networks [68]. These tissue-specific networks were constructed using Bayesian classifier-generated probabilities for pairwise genetic interactions based on co-expression data [68]. We calculated the lengths of the shortest paths between each candidate gene and 267 Wnt, Notch, and Hedgehog pathway genes in each network as a proxy for connectivity (**Supp. Data 8**). In all three networks, each of the candidate genes were connected to a majority of the tested signaling pathway genes (**Fig. 8A, Supp. Fig. 7**). Interestingly, we observed a higher connectivity (i.e. shorter path distances) between candidate genes and Wnt and Hedgehog pathway genes in the brain-specific network compared to the heart and kidney-specific networks (**Fig. 8B**). We further identified enrichments for genes involved in specific biological processes among the connector genes that were located in the shortest paths within neuronal and non-neuronal tissue-specific networks (**Fig. 8C, Supp. Data 8**). For example, axon-dendrite transport, dopaminergic signaling, and signal transduction functions were enriched among connector genes only for the brain-specific network, while organelle organization and protein ubiquitination were enriched among connector genes only for kidney and heart networks (**Fig. 8C**). However, several core biological processes, such as cell cycle, protein metabolism, transcriptional regulation, and RNA processing/splicing, were enriched among connector genes within all three tissue-specific networks (**Fig. 8C**). Our analysis

339 highlights that human CNV genes potentially interact with developmental signaling pathways in
340 a ubiquitous manner, but may affect different biological processes in neuronal and non-neuronal
341 tissues.

DISCUSSION

We used the *Drosophila* wing as a model to assess how homologs of key CNV genes contribute towards non-neuronal phenotypes. We tested fly homologs of 79 genes and identified multiple homologs within each CNV region that exhibited strong phenotypes indicative of developmental disruptions. Several themes have emerged from our study highlighting the importance of fly homologs of CNV genes towards both global and tissue-specific phenotypes.

First, we found that fly homologs of CNV genes contribute towards developmental phenotypes through ubiquitous roles in neuronal and non-neuronal tissues. Although we did not study models for the entire CNV, nearly all individual fly homologs of CNV genes contribute to wing-specific developmental defects. It is likely that these genes may also contribute to additional phenotypes in other tissues that we did not assess. In fact, a subset of these homologs also showed early lethality with ubiquitous knockdown in addition to severe or lethal wing-specific phenotypes. However, we found no correlation between the severity of the eye and wing phenotypes, suggesting tissue-specific effects of these homologs towards developmental defects. In contrast, fly homologs of known neurodevelopmental genes generally showed milder wing phenotypes compared with eye phenotypes, indicating a more neuronal role for these genes. While our study only examined a subset of CNV genes with *Drosophila* homologs, phenotypic data from knockout mouse models also support a global developmental role for individual CNV genes. In fact, 44/130 knockout models of CNV genes within the Mouse Genome Informatics (MGI) database [69] exhibited non-neuronal phenotypes, including 20 homologs of CNV genes that showed both neuronal and non-neuronal phenotypes (**Supp. Data 4**). For example, knockout mouse models of *Dlg1*^{-/-} show defects in dendritic growth and branching in the developing nervous system, in addition to craniofacial features and multiple kidney and urinary tract defects

[70–73]. Furthermore, Chapman and colleagues showed that knockout of *Tbx6*^{-/-} caused defects in mesodermal and neuronal differentiation early in development, leading to abnormal vascular, tail bud, and neural tube morphology [74]. These observations further support our findings that most fly homologs of CNV genes have a global role in development that could account for the observed non-neuronal defects.

Second, based on tissue-specific phenotypes, we identified fly homologs of CNV genes that are key regulators of conserved cellular processes important for development. For example, 9/10 homologs with severe or lethal adult wing phenotypes also exhibited defects in cell proliferation and apoptosis during development. In fact, we found concordance between cellular processes affected by wing and eye-specific knockdown of homologs of genes within 16p11.2 and 3q29 regions, including decreased proliferation for *MAPK3/rl* and increased apoptosis for *NCBP2/Cbp20* and *DLG1/dlg1* [29,30]. While eye-specific knockdown of *BDHI/CG8888* showed decreased cell proliferation in larval eye discs [30], we found increased cell proliferation with wing-specific knockdown, suggesting a tissue-specific effect for this gene. Notably, at least one fly homolog per CNV region showed defects in cell proliferation or apoptosis, suggesting these cellular processes are important for development in both neuronal and non-neuronal tissues. For example, *ATXN2L/Atx2*, *SH2B1/Lnk*, and *CCDC101/Sgf29* each showed decreased proliferation and increased apoptosis, suggesting a potential shared cellular mechanism for several genes within the distal 16p11.2 deletion. Furthermore, a subset of these genes also disrupted multiple signaling pathways, indicating a potential role for these homologs as key regulators of developmental processes. We specifically identified five homologs whose knockdown caused disruptions of Wnt, Notch, and hedgehog signaling pathways. Each of these genes have important roles in cell cycle regulation, apoptosis, transcription, or RNA processing,

based on Gene Ontology annotations [75,76]. In fact, we found that the RNA transport protein *NCBP2/Cbp20* [77], which we recently identified as a key modifier gene for the 3q29 deletion [30], interfaced with all three signaling pathways. Furthermore, *AATF* disrupts apoptosis and promotes cell cycle progression through displacement of HDAC1 [78–80], while *PPP4C* promotes spindle organization at the centromeres during mitosis [81]. While we only evaluated the role of these genes towards development in a single fly tissue, our additional analysis of human gene interaction networks showed strong connectivity between the CNV genes and signaling pathways in multiple neuronal and non-neuronal human tissues. In fact, cell cycle genes were enriched among the connector genes in all three tissue-specific networks, further emphasizing the role of cell cycle processes towards developmental phenotypes. Notably, we also observed certain biological processes enriched among connector genes that were specific to neuronal or non-neuronal tissues, indicating that genes within CNV regions may affect different biological processes in a tissue-specific manner.

Overall, we show that fly homologs of most CNV genes contribute towards global developmental phenotypes, although exactly how they contribute toward such phenotypes varies between neuronal and non-neuronal tissues. Previous functional studies for CNV disorders have focused primarily on identifying candidate genes for the observed neuronal phenotypes. In this study, we identified several homologs of CNV genes that are responsible for non-neuronal defects, as well as novel associations between these homologs and conserved biological processes and pathways. We therefore propose that multiple genes within each CNV region differentially disrupt conserved cellular pathways and biological processes in neuronal versus non-neuronal tissues during development (**Fig. 9**). These results are in line with a multigenic model for CNV disorders, as opposed to models where individual causative genes are

responsible for specific phenotypes [29,30,82]. Our study further exemplifies the utility of evaluating non-neuronal phenotypes in addition to neuronal phenotypes in functional models of individual genes and CNV regions associated with developmental disorders, including future studies in mammalian or cellular model systems. Further studies exploring how CNV genes interact with each other and with other developmental pathways could more fully explain the conserved mechanisms underlying global developmental defects and identify potential therapeutic targets for these disorders.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Fly stocks and genetics

We tested 59 *Drosophila* homologs for 130 human genes that span across 10 pathogenic CNV regions associated with neurodevelopmental disorders (1q21.1, 3q29, 7q11.23, 15q11.2, 15q13.3, 16p11.2, distal 16p11.2, 16p12.1, 16p13.11, and 17q12) [83] (**Supp. Data 1**). In addition, we evaluated fly homologs of 20 human genes known to be involved in neurodevelopmental disorders [48,84] (**Supp. Data 1**). These include genes involved in beta-catenin signaling pathway (5 genes), core genes implicated in neurodevelopmental disorders (8 genes), and genes associated with microcephaly (7 genes) [85]. We used the DRSC Integrative Ortholog Prediction Tool (DIOPT, v.7.1) to identify the fly homologs for each human gene [41] (**Supp. Data 1**).

To knockdown individual genes in specific tissues, we used RNA interference (RNAi) and the *UAS-GAL4* system (**Fig. 1A**), a well-established tool that allows for tissue-specific expression of a gene of interest [86]. RNAi lines were obtained from Vienna *Drosophila* Resource Center (VDRC) that include both GD and KK lines. We tested a total of 136 lines in our final data analysis (**Supp. Data 9**), after eliminating KK lines with additional insertion that drives the overexpression of the Tiptop (*tio*) transcription factor [87,88]. A complete list of stock numbers and full genotypes for all RNAi lines used in this study is presented in **Supp. Data 9**. We used the *bx^{MS1096}-GAL4/FM7c;;UAS-Dicer2/TM6B* driver for wing-specific knockdown and *w¹¹¹⁸;GMR-GAL4;UAS-Dicer2* driver (Claire Thomas, Penn State University) for eye-specific knockdown of RNAi lines. Ubiquitous knockdown experiments were performed using the *w;da-GAL4;+* driver (Scott Selleck, Penn State University). For all experiments, we used appropriate GD (*w¹¹¹⁸*, VDRC# 60000) or KK (*y,w¹¹¹⁸; P{attP,y⁺,w³}*, VDRC# 60100) lines as controls to compare against lines with knockdown of individual homologs. All fly lines were reared on

standard yeast *Drosophila* medium at room temperature. All crosses were set and maintained at 25°C, except for the eye knockdown experiments which were maintained at 30°C.

Phenotypic analysis of adult wing images

Adult progeny were isolated from crosses between RNAi lines and *bx^{MS1096}-GAL4* driver shortly after eclosion, and kept at 25°C until day 2-5 (**Fig. 1A**). At that point, the progeny were frozen at -80°C, and were then moved to -20°C prior to imaging and storage. Approximately 20-25 progeny, both male and female, were collected for each RNAi line tested. The adult wings were plucked from frozen flies and mounted on a glass slide. The slides were covered with a coverslip and sealed using clear nail polish. Adult wing images were captured using a Zeiss Discovery V20 stereoscope (Zeiss, Thornwood, NY, USA), with a ProgRes Speed XT Core 3 camera and CapturePro v.2.8.8 software (Jenoptik AG, Jena, Germany) at 40X magnification.

For each non-lethal RNAi line, we scored the adult wing images for five qualitative phenotypes, including wrinkled wing, discoloration, missing veins, ectopic veins, and bristle planar polarity defects, on a scale of 1 (no phenotype) to 5 (lethal) (**Fig. 2C**). Lines showing severely wrinkled wings or lethality were scored as 4 (severe) or 5 (lethal) for all five phenotypes. We calculated the frequency of each phenotypic score (i.e. mild bristle polarity, moderate discoloration) across all of the wing images for each line (**Fig. 2A-B**), and then performed k-means clustering of these values to generate five clusters for overall wing phenotypes (**Fig. 1C**). For quantitative analysis of wing phenotypes, we used the Fiji ImageJ software [89] to calculate the wing area using the Measure Area tool, and calculated the lengths of longitudinal veins L2, L3, L4, and L5 as well as the anterior and posterior crossveins (ACV and PCV), by tracing individual veins using the Segmented Line tool (**Fig. 3A, Supp. Data 2**).

We determined discordant homologs when RNAi lines for the same homologs showed inconsistent wing phenotypes. For each homolog with multiple RNAi lines, we checked discordance among RNAi lines for no phenotype versus any qualitative or quantitative phenotypes, followed by discordance for small or large wing measurement phenotypes (**Supp. Data 3**).

Phenotypic analysis of adult eye images

We crossed RNAi lines with *GMR-GAL4* to achieve eye-specific knockdown of homologs of CNV and known neurodevelopmental genes. Adult 2-3-day old female progenies from the crosses were collected, immobilized by freezing at -80°C, and then moved to -20°C prior to imaging and storage. Flies were mounted on Blu-tac (Bostik Inc, Wauwatosa, WI, USA) and imaged using an Olympus BX53 compound microscope with LMPLan N 20X air objective using a DP73 c-mount camera at 0.5X magnification (Olympus Corporation, Tokyo, Japan). CellSens Dimension software (Olympus Corporation, Tokyo, Japan) was used to capture the eye images, which were then stacked using the Zerene Stacker software (Zerene Systems LLC, Richland, WA, USA). All eye images presented in this study are maximum projections of 20 consecutive optical z-sections, at a z-step size of 12.1µm. Finally, we used our computational method called *Flynotyper* (<https://flynotyper.sourceforge.net>) to quantify the degree of rough eye phenotypes present due to knockdown of homologs of CNV or neurodevelopmental genes [48]. *Flynotyper* scores for homologs of 16p11.2 and 3q29, as well as select core neurodevelopmental genes, were derived from our previous studies [29,30,48].

Immunohistochemistry

Wing imaginal discs from third instar larvae were dissected in 1X PBS. The tissues were fixed using 4% paraformaldehyde and blocked using 1% bovine serum albumin (BSA). The wing discs were incubated with primary antibodies using appropriate dilutions overnight at 4°C. We used the following primary antibodies: mouse monoclonal anti-pHistone3 (S10) (1:100 dilutions, Cell Signaling 9706L), rabbit polyclonal anti-cleaved *Drosophila* Dcp1 (Asp216) (1:100 dilutions, Cell Signaling 9578S), mouse monoclonal anti-Wingless (1:200 dilutions, DSHB, 4D4), mouse monoclonal anti-Patched (1:50 dilutions, DSHB, *Drosophila* Ptc/APA1), mouse monoclonal anti-Engrailed (1:50 dilutions, DSHB, 4D9), and mouse monoclonal anti-Delta (1:50 dilutions, DSHB, C594.9B). Following incubation with primary antibodies, the wing discs were washed and incubated with secondary antibodies at 1:200 dilution for two hours at room temperature. We used the following secondary antibodies: Alexa Fluor 647 dye goat anti-mouse (A21235, Molecular Probes by Invitrogen/Life Technologies), Alexa Fluor 568 dye goat anti-rabbit (A11036, Molecular Probes by Invitrogen/Life Technologies), and Alexa Fluor 568 dye goat anti-mouse (A11031, Molecular Probes by Invitrogen/Life Technologies). All washes and antibody dilutions were made using 0.3% PBS with Triton-X.

Third instar larvae wing imaginal discs were mounted in Prolong Gold antifade reagent with DAPI (Thermo Fisher Scientific, P36930) for imaging using an Olympus Fluoview FV1000 laser scanning confocal microscope (Olympus America, Lake Success, NY). Images were acquired using FV10-ASW 2.1 software (Olympus, Waltham, MA, USA). Composite z-stack images were analyzed using the Fiji ImageJ software [89]. To calculate the number of pH3 positive cells within the wing pouch area of the wing discs, we used the AnalyzeParticles function in ImageJ, while manual counting was used to quantify Dcp1 positive cells. We note

that cell proliferation and apoptosis staining for *NCBP2/Cbp20*, *DLG1/dlg1*, *BDH1/CG8888*, and *FBXO45/Fsn* were previously published[30].

Statistical analysis

Significance for the wing area and vein length measurements, cell counts for proliferation and apoptosis, and *Flynotyper* scores were compared to appropriate GD or KK controls using one-tailed or two-tailed Mann-Whitney tests. P-values for each set of experiments were corrected for multiple testing using Benjamini-Hochberg correction. All statistical and clustering analysis was performed using R v.3.6.1 (R Center for Statistical Computing, Vienna, Austria). Details for the statistical tests performed for each dataset are provided in **Supp. Data 10**.

Expression data analysis

We obtained tissue-specific expression data for fly homologs of CNV genes from the FlyAtlas Anatomical Microarray dataset [50]. Raw FPKM (fragments per kilobase of transcript per million reads) expression values for each tissue were categorized as follows: <10, no expression; 10-100, low expression; 100-500, moderate expression; 500-1000, high expression; and >1000, very high expression (**Supp. Data 6**). The median expression among midgut, hindgut, Malpighian tube, and (for adult only) crop tissues was used to represent the overall gut expression. We similarly obtained human tissue-specific expression data for CNV genes from the GTEx Consortium v.1.2 RNA-Seq datasets [52]. Median TPM (transcripts per million reads) expression values for each tissue were categorized as follows: <3, no expression; 3-10, low expression; 10-25, moderate expression; 25-100, high expression; and >100, very high expression (**Supp. Data 6**). The median expression among all brain and heart sub-tissues was

used to represent brain and heart expression, while the median expression among all colon, esophagus, small intestine, and stomach sub-tissues was used to represent digestive tract expression. Preferential gene expression for a particular tissue within the GTEx dataset was determined if the expression values for that tissue were greater than the third quartile of all tissue expression values for that gene, plus 1.5 times the interquartile range. Venn diagrams were generated using the Venny webtool (<http://bioinfogp.cnb.csic.es/tools/venny>) (Supp. Fig. 3).

Network analysis

We obtained human tissue-specific gene interaction networks for brain, heart, and kidney tissues from the GIANT network database [68] within HumanBase (<https://hb.flatironinstitute.org>). These networks were built by training a Bayesian classifier based on tissue-specific gene co-expression datasets, which then assigned a posterior probability for interactions between each pair of genes within the genome for a particular tissue. We downloaded the “Top edge” version of each tissue-specific network, and extracted all gene pairs with posterior probabilities >0.2 to create sub-networks containing the top ~0.5% tissue-specific interactions. Next, we identified the shortest paths in each sub-network between human CNV genes whose fly homologs disrupted signaling pathways in the larval wing disc and human genes within each disrupted pathway, using the inverse of the posterior probability as weights for each edge in the network. Gene sets from the human Notch (KEGG:map04330), Wnt (KEGG:map04310) and Hedgehog pathways (KEGG:map04340) were curated from the Kyoto Encyclopedia of Genes and Genomes (KEGG) pathway database [90]. Using the NetworkX Python package [91], we calculated the shortest distance between each CNV gene and pathway gene, and identified connecting genes that were within each of the shortest paths for the three tissue-specific networks. We further tested for

557 enrichment of Gene Ontology (GO) terms (PantherDB GO-Slim) among the connector genes
 558 using the PantherDB Gene List Analysis tool [92]. Lists of the shortest paths and connector
 559 genes in each tissue-specific network, as well as enriched GO terms for sets of connector genes,
 560 are provided in **Supp. Data 8**. Gene networks were visualized using Cytoscape v.3.7.2 [93]
 561 using an edge-weighted spring embedded layout.
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DATA AVAILABILITY

All data supporting the findings of this study are available within the paper and its supplementary information files.

CODE AVAILABILITY

All source code for data analysis in this manuscript, including scripts for k-means clustering of fly phenotypes and network connectivity of CNV and developmental pathway genes, are available on the Girirajan lab GitHub page at https://github.com/girirajanlab/CNV_wing_project.

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CONTRIBUTIONS

T.Y., M.J., S.Y., and S.G. designed the study. T.Y., S.Y., L.P., S.K., D.J.G., A.S., Y.M., J.I., and Z.C.L. performed the functional experiments. T.Y. and M.J. performed the expression and network experiments. T.Y., M.J., and S.G. analyzed the data and wrote the manuscript with input from all authors.

COMPETING OF INTERESTS

The authors declare that they have no competing interests.

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FIGURE LEGENDS

Figure 1. Targeted analysis to identify global developmental phenotypes with knockdown

of homologs of CNV genes. (A) Strategy for identifying non-neuronal phenotypes and

underlying cellular mechanisms for homologs of CNV and known neurodevelopmental genes

using the fly wing as a model system. We evaluated 59 *Drosophila* homologs of genes within 10

CNV regions and 20 known neurodevelopmental genes (79 total homologs). Using the *UAS-*

GAL4 system with wing-specific *bx^{MS1096}* driver, we knocked down 136 individual RNAi lines

for the CNV and neurodevelopmental homologs, and evaluated qualitative and quantitative

phenotypes. We next clustered RNAi lines based on severity of qualitative phenotypes, and

compared adult wing phenotypes to phenotypes observed with ubiquitous and eye-specific

knockdown of homologs. Furthermore, we evaluated underlying cellular mechanisms for the

observed wing-specific phenotypes, and examined the connectivity patterns of candidate

homologs for developmental phenotypes in multiple human tissue-specific networks. (B)

Representative brightfield images of adult wing phenotype severity observed with knockdown of

homologs of CNV genes, based on clustering analysis, are shown. (C) Heatmap with k-means

clustering of qualitative phenotypes in adult female wings across 136 RNAi lines is shown. The

color of each cell represents the frequency of individual fly wings (n=20-25 adult wings) for

each RNAi line (x-axis) that show a specific severity (no phenotype, mild, moderate, severe,

lethal) for the five qualitative phenotypes assessed (y-axis; wrinkled wings, ectopic veins,

missing veins, discoloration, bristle planar polarity), as detailed in **Supp. Data 2**. Based on these

data, we identified clusters for no phenotype (n=75 lines), mild (n=24 lines), moderate (n=10

lines), severe (n=21 lines), and lethal (n=6 lines). (D) Summary table of qualitative and

quantitative adult wing phenotypes for all tested RNAi lines of homologs of CNV and

neurodevelopmental genes. Quantitative phenotype totals do not include lethal RNAi lines for both area and vein length. In addition, L3 vein length totals do not include severe RNAi lines.

Figure 2. Qualitative adult wing phenotypes of *Drosophila* homologs of CNV and neurodevelopmental genes. Heatmaps representing the five qualitative adult wing phenotypes for all 136 RNAi lines, with (A) all 59 tested homologs for 10 CNV regions and (B) 20 homologs for neurodevelopmental genes (β -catenin, core neurodevelopmental genes, and microcephaly genes), are shown. The color of each cell represents the frequency of each of the five qualitative phenotypes by severity (wrinkled wings, WR; ectopic veins, EV; missing veins, MV; discoloration, DC; bristle planar polarity, BP), ranging from no phenotype to lethal. (C) Representative brightfield images of adult fly wings (scale bar = 500 μ m) with wing-specific knockdown of homologs of CNV and neurodevelopmental genes showing the five assessed qualitative phenotypes, including discoloration, wrinkled wings, bristle polarity, ectopic veins, and missing veins are shown. The panels in the *bx^{MS1096}-GAL4* control and *C6836^{KK112485}* images highlight bristle planar polarity phenotypes for the representative images. Black arrowheads highlight ectopic veins and white arrowheads highlight missing veins. Genotypes for the images are: *w¹¹¹⁸/bx^{MS1096}-GAL4;+; UAS-Dicer2/+*, *w¹¹¹⁸/bx^{MS1096}-GAL4;UAS-Rph^{GD7330} RNAi/+;UAS-Dicer2/+*, *w¹¹¹⁸/bx^{MS1096}-GAL4;UAS-CG15528^{KK107736} RNAi/+; UAS-Dicer2/+*, *w¹¹¹⁸/bx^{MS1096}-GAL4;UAS-CG6836^{KK112485} RNAi/+; UAS-Dicer2/+*, *w¹¹¹⁸/bx^{MS1096}-GAL4;+;UAS-CG14182^{GD2738} RNAi/UAS-Dicer2*, and *w¹¹¹⁸/bx^{MS1096}-GAL4;UAS-kis^{KK100890} RNAi/+; UAS-Dicer2/+*.

Figure 3. Quantitative adult wing phenotypes of *Drosophila* homologs of CNV and neurodevelopmental genes. (A) Representative brightfield images of adult fly wings (scale bar = 500µm) with wing-specific knockdown of homologs of CNV and neurodevelopmental genes with size defects are shown. The *bx^{MS1096}-GAL4* control image highlights the six veins, including longitudinal veins L2, L3, L4, and L5 as well as the anterior and posterior crossveins (ACV and PCV), that were measured for quantitative analysis. The dotted line in the control image represents the total wing area calculated for each RNAi line. Genotypes for the images are: *w¹¹¹⁸/bx^{MS1096}-GAL4;+; UAS-Dicer2/+*, *w¹¹¹⁸/bx^{MS1096}-GAL4;UAS-Fmo-2^{KK109203} RNAi/+; UAS-Dicer2/+*, and *w¹¹¹⁸/bx^{MS1096}-GAL4;+;UAS-Trpm^{GD4541} RNAi/UAS-Dicer2*. (B) Boxplot of L3 vein lengths for knockdown of select homologs in adult fly wings (n = 9-91, *p < 0.05, two-tailed Mann–Whitney test with Benjamini-Hochberg correction). Vein measurements for all other longitudinal veins and crossveins (ACV and PCV) for these lines are represented in **Supp Fig. 2**. (C) Boxplot of wing areas for knockdown of select homologs in adult fly wings (n = 9-91, *p < 0.05, two-tailed Mann–Whitney test with Benjamini-Hochberg correction). All boxplots indicate median (center line), 25th and 75th percentiles (bounds of box), and minimum and maximum (whiskers), with red dotted lines representing the control median.

Figure 4. Comparison of wing-specific, eye-specific, and ubiquitous knockdown of homologs of CNV and known neurodevelopmental genes. (A) Heatmap with the penetrance of phenotypes with ubiquitous knockdown (*da-GAL4*) of select homologs of CNV genes, compared to their adult wing-specific (*bx^{MS1096}-GAL4*) phenotypic severity is shown. (B) Boxplots of *Flyntyper*-derived phenotypic scores for adult eyes with eye-specific knockdown (*GMR-GAL4*) of select homologs of CNV and neurodevelopmental genes, normalized as fold-

change (FC) to control values ($n = 7-40$, $*p < 0.05$, one-tailed Mann-Whitney test with Benjamini-Hochberg correction). The boxplots are arranged by severity of adult wing phenotypes observed for each RNAi line, while the *Flynotyper* phenotypic scores are categorized into four severity categories: no change (0–1.1 FC), mild (1.1–1.5 FC), moderate (1.5–2.0 FC), and severe (>2.0 FC). (C) Boxplot showing the average eye phenotypic scores for 66 RNAi lines of select homologs of CNV and neurodevelopmental genes, normalized as fold-change (FC) to control values, by wing phenotypic category ($n=4-30$ RNAi lines per group). We did not observe any significant changes in eye phenotype severity across the five wing phenotypic categories (Kruskal-Wallis rank sum test, $p=0.567$, $df = 5$, $\chi^2 = 3.881$). Examples of average eye phenotypic scores for RNAi lines with no phenotype (*para*^{GD3392-1}), mild (*rl*^{KK115768}), and lethal (*dlg1*^{GD4689}) wing phenotype severity are highlighted in the graph. All boxplots indicate median (center line), 25th and 75th percentiles (bounds of box), and minimum and maximum (whiskers), with red dotted lines representing the control median. (D) Representative brightfield adult eye (scale bar = 100 μ m) and adult wing (scale bar = 500 μ m) images with tissue-specific knockdown of homologs of CNV genes are shown. Genotypes for the eye images are: *w*¹¹¹⁸; *GMR-GAL4*/+; *UAS-Dicer2*/+, *w*¹¹¹⁸; *GMR-GAL4/UAS-Lnk*^{KK105731} RNAi; *UAS-Dicer2*/+, *w*¹¹¹⁸; *GMR-GAL4/UAS-mEFTu1*^{GD16961} RNAi; *UAS-Dicer2*/+. Genotypes for the wing images are: *w*¹¹¹⁸/*bx*^{MS1096}-*GAL4*/+; *UAS-Dicer2*/+, *w*¹¹¹⁸/*bx*^{MS1096}-*GAL4*; *UAS-Lnk*^{KK105731} RNAi/+; *UAS-Dicer2*/+, and *w*¹¹¹⁸/*bx*^{MS1096}-*GAL4*; *UAS-mEFTu1*^{GD16961} RNAi/+; *UAS-Dicer2*/+.

Figure 5. Expression patterns of *Drosophila* homologs and human CNV and neurodevelopmental genes across multiple tissues. (A) Heatmap with expression of fly homologs of select CNV and neurodevelopmental genes in multiple *Drosophila* larval and adult

tissues, derived from the FlyAtlas Anatomical Microarray dataset, compared with adult wing phenotype severity, is shown. Expression values are grouped into no expression (<10 fragments per kilobase of transcript per million reads, or FPKM), low (10–100 FPKM), moderate (100–500 FPKM), high (500–1000 FPKM), and very high (>1000 FPKM) expression categories. **(B)** Heatmap with expression of select human CNV and neurodevelopmental genes in multiple adult tissues, derived from the Genotype-Tissue Expression (GTEx) dataset v.1.2, is shown. Expression values are grouped into no expression (<3 transcripts per million reads, or TPM), low (3–10 TPM), moderate (10–25 TPM), high (25–100 TPM), and very high (>100 TPM) expression categories. X symbols denote preferential expression in a particular tissue (see Methods). Expression data for all CNV and neurodevelopmental genes are provided in **Supp. Data 6**.

Figure 6. *Drosophila* homologs of CNV and neurodevelopmental genes show altered levels of apoptosis and proliferation. (A) Larval imaginal wing discs (scale bar = 50 μ m) stained with nuclear marker DAPI, apoptosis marker dcp1, and cell proliferation marker pH3 illustrate altered levels of apoptosis and cell proliferation due to wing-specific knockdown of select fly homologs of CNV genes. We quantified the number of stained cells within the wing pouch of the wing disc (white box), which becomes the adult wing. Additional representative images of select homologs are presented in **Supp Fig. 5**. Genotypes for the wing images are: $w^{1118}/bx^{MS1096}-GAL4/+; UAS-Dicer2/+$, $w^{1118}/bx^{MS1096}-GAL4/+; UAS-Aatf^{GD7229} RNAi/UAS-Dicer2$, $w^{1118}/bx^{MS1096}-GAL4/UAS-Pp4-19C^{GD9561}/+; UAS-Dicer2/+$, $w^{1118}/bx^{MS1096}-GAL4/+; UAS-Atx2^{GD11562} RNAi/UAS-Dicer2$, and $w^{1118}/bx^{MS1096}-GAL4/+; UAS-Sin^{GD7027} RNAi/UAS-Dicer2$. **(B)** Box plot of dcp1-positive cells in larval wing discs with knockdown of select fly homologs of CNV and

neurodevelopmental genes, normalized to controls ($n = 7-18$, $*p < 0.05$, two-tailed Mann–Whitney test with Benjamini-Hochberg correction). We note that several RNAi lines showed severe dcp1 staining across the entire wing disc and could not be quantified. The number of dcp1 positive cells were calculated manually. (C) Box plot of pH3-positive cells in the larval wing discs with knockdown of select fly homologs of CNV and neurodevelopmental genes, normalized to controls ($n = 6-18$, $*p < 0.05$, two-tailed Mann–Whitney test with Benjamini-Hochberg correction). The number of pH3 positive cells were calculated using the AnalyzeParticles function in ImageJ. All boxplots indicate median (center line), 25th and 75th percentiles (bounds of box), and minimum and maximum (whiskers), with red dotted lines representing the control median.

Figure 7. Candidate *Drosophila* homologs of genes within CNV regions interact with conserved signaling pathways. Larval imaginal wing discs (scale bar = 50 μ m) stained with (A) wingless, (B) patched, (C) engrailed, and (D) delta illustrate disrupted expression patterns for proteins located within the Wnt (wingless), Hedgehog (patched and engrailed), and Notch (delta) signaling pathways due to wing-specific knockdown of select fly homologs of CNV and neurodevelopmental genes. Dotted yellow boxes represent expected expression patterns for signaling proteins in bx^{MS1096} -GAL4 control images. White arrowheads and dotted white boxes highlight disruptions in expression patterns of signaling proteins with knockdown of CNV or neurodevelopmental genes. Additional representative images of select homologs are presented in

Supp Fig. 7. Genotypes for the wing images are: w^{1118}/bx^{MS1096} -GAL4;+; UAS-Dicer2/+; w^{1118}/bx^{MS1096} -GAL4;UAS-Pp4-19C^{GD9561}/+; UAS-Dicer2/+, w^{1118}/bx^{MS1096} -GAL4;UAS-Cbp20^{KK109448}/+; UAS-Dicer2/+, w^{1118}/bx^{MS1096} -GAL4;+; UAS-Sin^{GD7027} RNAi/UAS-Dicer2,

996 *w¹¹¹⁸/bx^{MS1096}-GAL4;+; UAS-Aatf^{GD7229} RNAi/UAS-Dicer2*, and *w¹¹¹⁸/bx^{MS1096}-GAL4;UAS-*
 997 *Klp61F^{GD14149}/+; UAS-Dicer2/+*.

998

999 **Figure 8. Connectivity of human CNV genes with conserved signaling pathway genes in**
 1000 **human tissue-specific networks. (A)** Representative diagrams of eight human CNV and
 1001 neurodevelopmental genes whose fly homologs disrupt the Notch signaling pathway and 57
 1002 human Notch signaling genes within kidney, heart, and brain-specific gene interaction networks
 1003 are shown. Yellow nodes represent CNV and neurodevelopmental genes, pink nodes represent
 1004 Notch signaling pathway genes, and green nodes represent connector genes within the shortest
 1005 paths between CNV and Notch pathway genes. **(B)** Violin plots showing the average
 1006 connectivity (i.e. inverse of shortest path lengths) of CNV genes to genes in Hedgehog, Notch,
 1007 and Wnt signaling pathways across the tested tissue-specific networks (n=322–810 pairwise
 1008 interactions, *p < 0.05, two-tailed Welch's t-test with Benjamini-Hochberg correction). **(C)**
 1009 Table showing enriched clusters of Gene Ontology (GO) Biological Process terms for connector
 1010 genes observed for each signaling pathway in the three tested tissue-specific networks,
 1011 categorized by enrichments in ubiquitous, neuronal, and non-neuronal tissues (p<0.05, Fisher's
 1012 Exact test with Benjamini-Hochberg correction).

1013

1014 **Figure 9. A multigenic model for neuronal and non-neuronal phenotypes associated with**
 1015 **pathogenic CNVs.** Schematic of a multigenic model for neuronal and non-neuronal phenotypes
 1016 associated with pathogenic CNVs. While a subset of genes within CNV regions contribute
 1017 towards tissue-specific phenotypes, a majority of genes contribute towards both neuronal and

1018 non-neuronal phenotypes through disruption of developmental signaling pathways and global
1019 biological processes.

SUPPLEMENTARY LEGENDS

Supplementary Figure 1. Quantitative vein length phenotypes for select *Drosophila*

homologs of CNV and neurodevelopmental genes. Boxplots of longitudinal veins (A) L2, (B) L4, (C) L5, and (D) anterior crossvein (ACV) and (E) posterior crossvein (PCV) lengths for knockdown of select homologs in adult fly wings (n = 9-91, *p < 0.05, two-tailed Mann-Whitney test with Benjamini-Hochberg correction). All boxplots indicate median (center line), 25th and 75th percentiles (bounds of box), and minimum and maximum (whiskers), with red dotted lines representing the control median.

Supplementary Figure 2. Comparisons of eye-specific and wing-specific knockdowns for select *Drosophila* homologs of CNV and neurodevelopmental genes. Boxplots of *Flyntyper*-derived phenotypic scores for 66 tested adult eyes with eye-specific knockdown (*GMR-GAL4*) of select homologs of CNV and neurodevelopmental genes, normalized as fold-change (FC) to control values (n = 1-40, *p < 0.05, one-tailed Mann-Whitney test with Benjamini-Hochberg correction). RNAi lines that do not show any observable qualitative adult wing phenotypes, including lines that show wing measurement phenotypes, are represented in (A), and RNAi lines with observable mild to lethal qualitative wing phenotypes are represented in (B). All boxplots indicate median (center line), 25th and 75th percentiles (bounds of box), and minimum and maximum (whiskers), with red dotted lines representing the control median.

Supplementary Figure 3. Expression of *Drosophila* homologs of CNV and neurodevelopmental genes in larval and adult tissues. Venn diagrams representing the number of 76/77 tested fly homologs for CNV and neurodevelopmental genes expressed (>10

fragments per kilobase of transcript per million reads, or FPKM) in **(A)** larval (central nervous system or CNS, gut, trachea, and fat body) and **(B)** adult tissues (brain, gut, heart and fat body), are shown.

Supplementary Figure 4. Additional *Drosophila* homologs of CNV and neurodevelopmental genes show altered levels of cell proliferation and apoptosis. Larval imaginal wing discs

(scale bar = 50 μ m) stained with nuclear marker DAPI, apoptosis marker dcp1, and cell proliferation marker pH3 illustrate altered levels of cell proliferation and apoptosis due to wing-specific knockdown of select fly homologs of CNV genes. We examined changes in the number of stained cells within the wing pouch of the wing disc (white box), which becomes the adult wing. Genotypes for the wing images are: $w^{1118}/bx^{MS1096}-GAL4/+; UAS-Dicer2/+$, $w^{1118}/bx^{MS1096}-GAL4/+; UAS-Cbp20^{KK109448}/+; UAS-Dicer2/+$, $w^{1118}/bx^{MS1096}-GAL4/+; UAS-dlg1^{GD4689}RNAi/UAS-Dicer2$, $w^{1118}/bx^{MS1096}-GAL4/+; UAS-CG8888^{GD3777}/+; UAS-Dicer2/+$, $w^{1118}/bx^{MS1096}-GAL4/+; UAS-UQCR-C2^{GD11238}RNAi/UAS-Dicer2$, $w^{1118}/bx^{MS1096}-GAL4/+; UAS-ACC^{GD3482}RNAi/UAS-Dicer2$, $w^{1118}/bx^{MS1096}-GAL4/+; UAS-Klp61F^{GD14149}/+; UAS-Dicer2/+$, and $w^{1118}/bx^{MS1096}-GAL4/+; UAS-Rph^{GD7330}RNAi/+; UAS-Dicer2/+$.

Supplementary Figure 5. Select female and male *Drosophila* homologs of CNV and neurodevelopmental genes show altered levels of cell proliferation and apoptosis. (A) Larval

imaginal wing discs (scale bar = 50 μ m) stained with nuclear marker DAPI, apoptosis marker dcp1, and cell proliferation marker pH3 illustrate altered levels of cell proliferation and apoptosis due to wing-specific knockdown of select fly homologs of CNV genes in females and males. We examined changes in the number of stained cells within the wing pouch of the wing disc (white

box), which becomes the adult wing. Genotypes for the wing images are: $w^{1118}/bx^{MS1096}-GAL4/+;$
 $UAS-Dicer2/+;$ $w^{1118}/bx^{MS1096}-GAL4/+;$ $UAS-lgs^{GD1241}/UAS-Dicer2;$ $w^{1118}/bx^{MS1096}-GAL4/+;$
 $UAS-Sra-1^{GD11477}/UAS-Dicer2;$ and $w^{1118}/bx^{MS1096}-GAL4;UAS-CG11035^{KK101201} RNAi+;$ $UAS-$
 $Dicer2/+.$ **(B)** Box plot of dcp1-positive cells in larval wing discs with knockdown of select fly
homologs of CNV and neurodevelopmental genes, normalized to controls ($n = 9-13$, $*p < 0.05$,
two-tailed Mann–Whitney test with Benjamini-Hochberg correction). The number of dcp1
positive cells were calculated manually. **(C)** Box plot of pH3-positive cells in the larval wing
discs with knockdown of select fly homologs of CNV and neurodevelopmental genes,
normalized to controls ($n = 9-13$, $*p < 0.05$, two-tailed Mann–Whitney test with Benjamini-
Hochberg correction). The number of pH3 positive cells were calculated using the
AnalyzeParticles function in ImageJ. All boxplots indicate median (center line), 25th and 75th
percentiles (bounds of box), and minimum and maximum (whiskers), with red dotted lines
representing the control median.

Supplementary Figure 6. Additional *Drosophila* homologs of genes within CNV regions
interact with conserved signaling pathways to induce developmental phenotypes. Larval
imaginal wing discs (scale bar = 50 μ m) stained with **(A)** wingless, **(B)** patched, **(C)** engrailed,
and **(D)** delta illustrate disrupted expression patterns for proteins located within the Wnt
(wingless), Hedgehog (patched and engrailed), and Notch (delta) signaling pathways due to
wing-specific knockdown of additional fly homologs of CNV and neurodevelopmental genes.
Dotted yellow boxes represent expected expression patterns for signaling proteins in $bx^{MS1096}-$
 $GAL4$ control images. White arrowheads and dotted white boxes highlight disruptions in
expression patterns of signaling proteins with knockdown of CNV or neurodevelopmental genes.

1089 Genotypes for the wing images are: $w^{1118}/bx^{MS1096}-GAL4;+; UAS-Dicer2/+$, $w^{1118}/bx^{MS1096}-$
 1090 $GAL4;+; UAS-dlg1^{GD4689} RNAi/UAS-Dicer2$, $w^{1118}/bx^{MS1096}-GAL4;+; UAS-Tsf2^{GD2442}$
 1091 $RNAi/UAS-Dicer2$, $w^{1118}/bx^{MS1096}-GAL4;+; UAS-Atx2^{GD11562} RNAi/UAS-Dicer2$, $w^{1118}/bx^{MS1096}-$
 1092 $GAL4;+; UAS-UQCR-C2^{GD11238} RNAi/UAS-Dicer2$, $w^{1118}/bx^{MS1096}-GAL4;+; UAS-nudE^{GD15226}$
 1093 $RNAi/UAS-Dicer2$, and $w^{1118}/bx^{MS1096}-GAL4;+; UAS-ACC^{GD3482} RNAi/UAS-Dicer2$.

1094
 1095 **Supplementary Figure 7. Tissue-specific network diagrams showing connectivity of human**
 1096 **CNV genes with conserved signaling pathway genes.** Representative network diagrams of nine
 1097 human CNV and neurodevelopmental genes whose fly homologs disrupt the (A) Wnt and (B)
 1098 Hedgehog signaling pathway and 162 human Wnt and 46 human Hedgehog signaling genes
 1099 within kidney, heart, and brain-specific gene interaction networks are shown. Yellow nodes
 1100 represent CNV and neurodevelopmental genes, pink nodes represent Notch signaling pathway
 1101 genes, and green nodes represent connector genes within the shortest paths between CNV and
 1102 Notch pathway genes.

1103
 1104 **Supplementary Data 1 (Excel file).** *Drosophila* homologs of human CNV and
 1105 neurodevelopmental genes as determined using DIOPT v.7.1.

1106
 1107 **Supplementary Data 2 (Excel file).** Qualitative and quantitative adult wing phenotypic data for
 1108 *Drosophila* homologs of human CNV and neurodevelopmental genes. This file shows the raw
 1109 frequencies of severity for the five qualitative wing phenotypes and average areas and vein
 1110 lengths for all 136 female and male tested RNAi lines. In addition, this file also includes k-means
 1111 clustering analysis for the female RNAi lines.

1112

1113 **Supplementary Data 3 (Excel file).** Summary of adult wing qualitative and quantitative

1114 phenotypes by *Drosophila* homologs. This file summarizes qualitative k-means clustering and

1115 longitudinal L3 vein length and wing area changes for all 136 RNAi lines by fly homologs. We

1116 define discordant homologs when RNAi lines for the same homologs showed inconsistent wing

1117 phenotypes. For each homolog with multiple RNAi lines, we checked discordance among RNAi

1118 lines for no phenotype versus any qualitative or quantitative phenotypes, followed by

1119 discordance for small or large quantitative phenotypes.

1120

1121 **Supplementary Data 4 (Excel file).** Phenotypes of mouse knockdown models for homologs of

1122 CNV genes. This file lists lethality and neuronal and non-neuronal phenotypes, categorized using

1123 top-level Mammalian Phenotype Ontology terms, for knockdown models of 130 mouse

1124 homologs of CNV genes derived from the Mouse Genome Informatics (MGI) database.

1125

1126 **Supplementary Data 5 (Excel file).** Summary of eye-specific and wing-specific phenotypes for

1127 fly homologs. This file summarizes eye-specific and wing-specific phenotypes by severity

1128 category for 66 RNAi lines by fly homologs of CNV and neurodevelopmental genes. Eye

1129 phenotype severity is defined by *Flyntyper* phenotypic scores with fold-change (FC)

1130 normalization to control as follows: no change (0–1.1 FC), mild (1.1–1.5 FC), moderate (1.5–2.0

1131 FC), and severe (>2.0 FC). Wing phenotype severity is defined by k-means clustering for

1132 qualitative phenotypes and quantitative size changes as listed in **Supp. Data 3**.

1133

Supplementary Data 6 (Excel file). Tissue-specific expression of *Drosophila* homologs and human CNV and neurodevelopmental genes. This file lists expression values across multiple fly and human tissues for all 79 *Drosophila* homologs and 150 human genes. Fly expression data (fragments per kilobase of transcript per million reads, or FPKM) was derived from the FlyAtlas Anatomical Microarray dataset, and human expression data (transcripts per million reads, or TPM) was derived from the Genotype-Tissue Expression (GTEx) dataset v.1.2.

Supplementary Data 7 (Excel file). Summary of immunostaining of the larval imaginal wing discs. This file summarizes changes in apoptosis (27 homologs), cell proliferation (27 homologs), and Wnt, Hedgehog, and Notch signaling pathway proteins (14 homologs), along with qualitative and quantitative adult wing phenotypes (as listed in **Supp. Data 2.**), for female and male fly homologs.

Supplementary Data 8 (Excel file). Tissue-specific network connectivity for candidate CNV genes and signaling pathway genes. This file lists the shortest path lengths between nine candidate CNV genes and 265 genes within Wnt, Hedgehog, and Notch signaling pathways for heart, kidney, and brain-specific gene interaction networks, along with the connector genes that are within the shortest paths. Enriched Gene Ontology (GO) Biological Process, Cellular Component, and Molecular Function terms for sets of connector genes for each signaling pathway in each tissue-specific networks are also represented.

Supplementary Data 9 (Excel file). List of *Drosophila* stocks used for experiments, including stock numbers and genotypes.

1157

1158 **Supplementary Data 10 (Excel file).** Statistics for all experimental data. This file shows all
 1159 statistical information (sample size, mean/median/standard deviation of datasets, test statistics, p-
 1160 values, degrees of freedom, confidence intervals, and Benjamini-Hochberg FDR corrections) for
 1161 all data. Statistical information for Kruskal-Wallis test includes factors, degrees of freedom, test
 1162 statistics, and post-hoc pairwise Wilcoxon tests with Benjamini-Hochberg correction.

A Experimental strategy



Fly homologs	RNAi lines	Qualitative phenotypes					Quantitative phenotypes	
		No pheno.	Mild	Moderate	Severe	Lethal	Wing area	L3 vein length
CNV genes (15q11.2, 15q13.3, 16p11.2, Distal 16p11.2, 16p12.1, 16p13.11, 17q12, 1q21.1, 3q29, 7q11.23)	95	45	21	7	16	6	65	53
Known neurodevelopmental genes (β -catenin, core genes, microcephaly)	41	30	3	3	5	0	24	21
Total	136	75	24	10	21	6	89	74

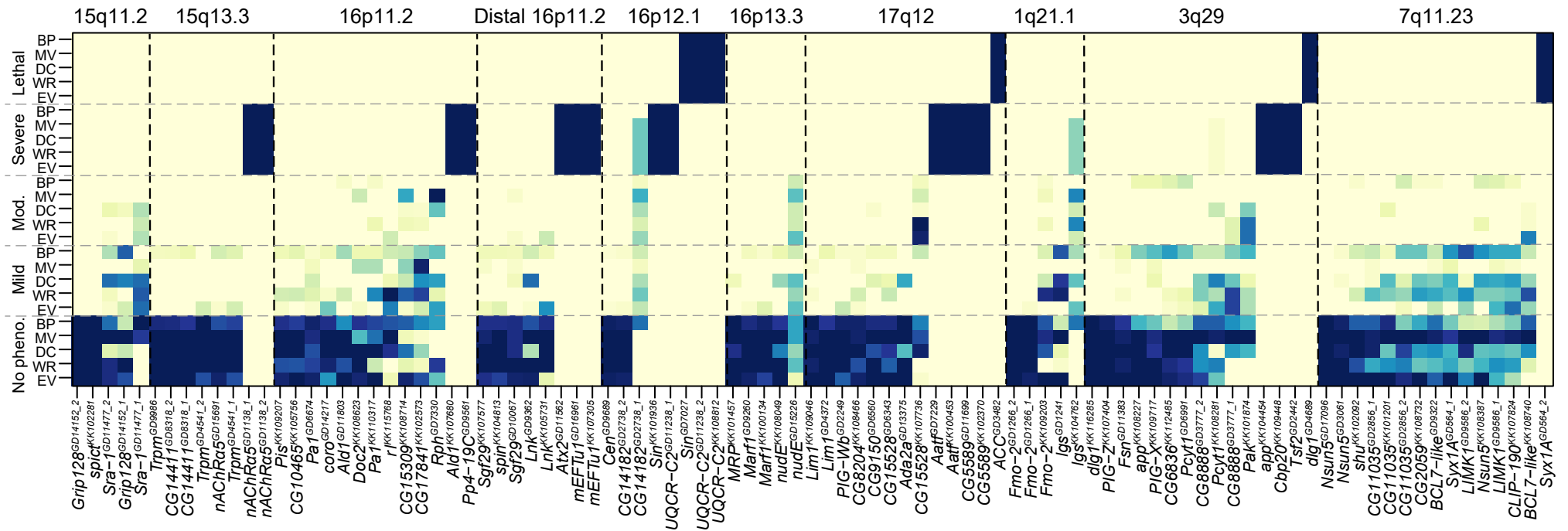
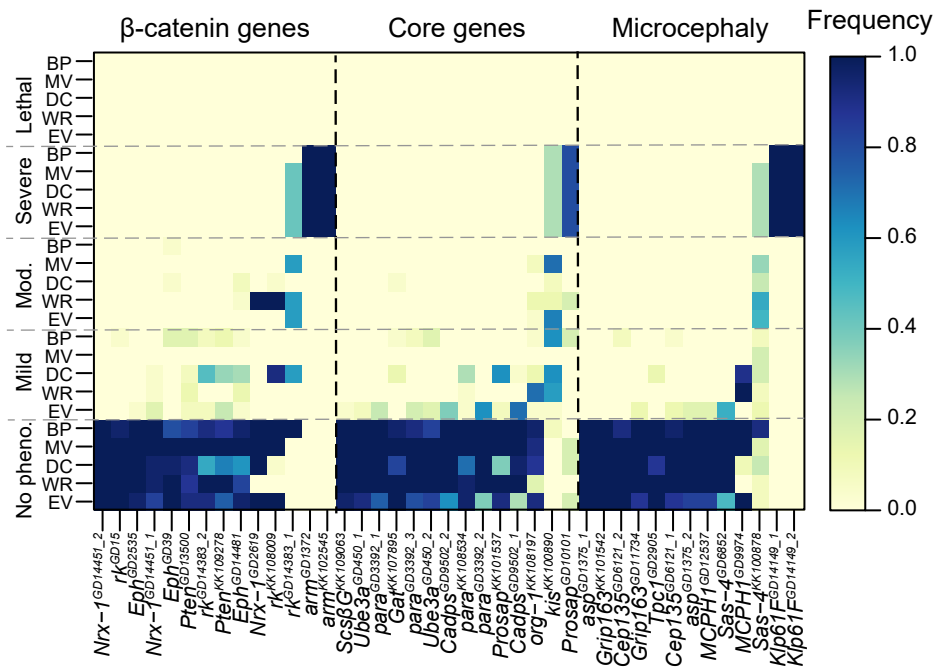
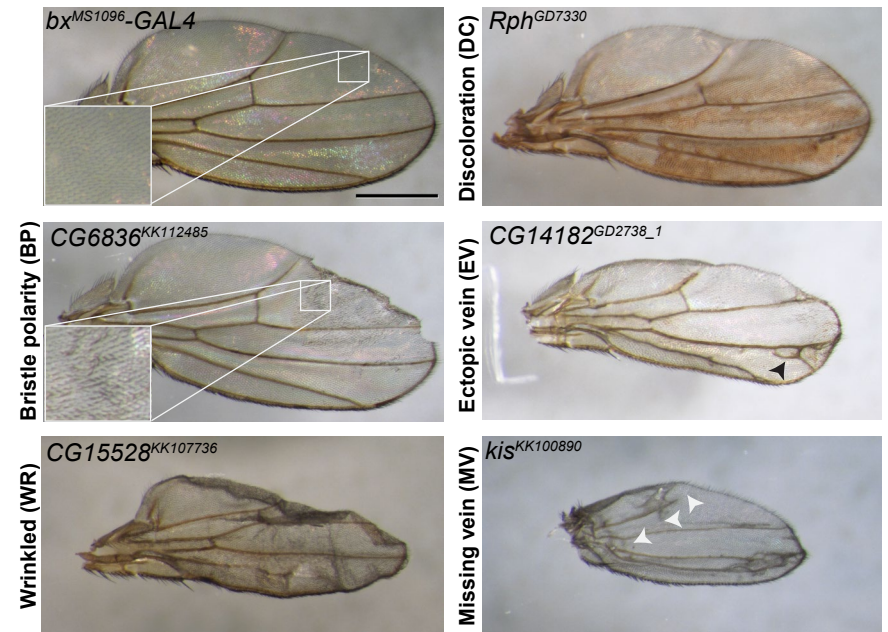
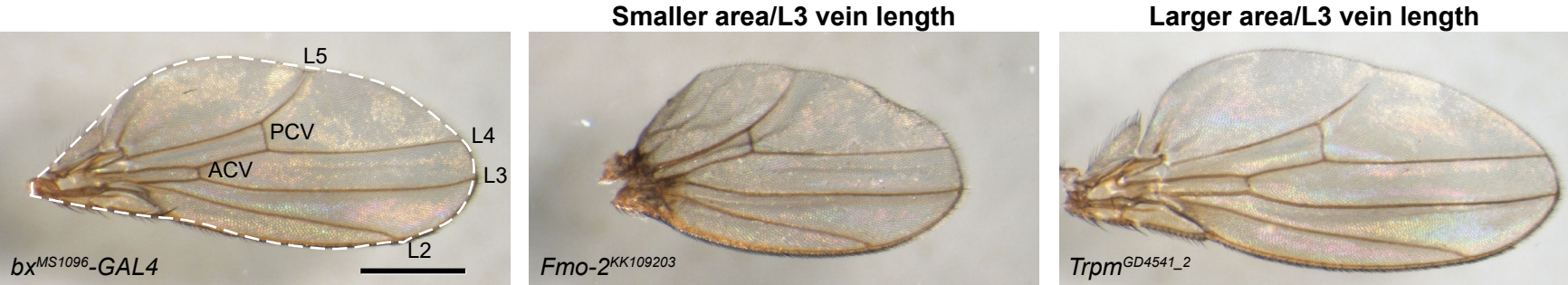
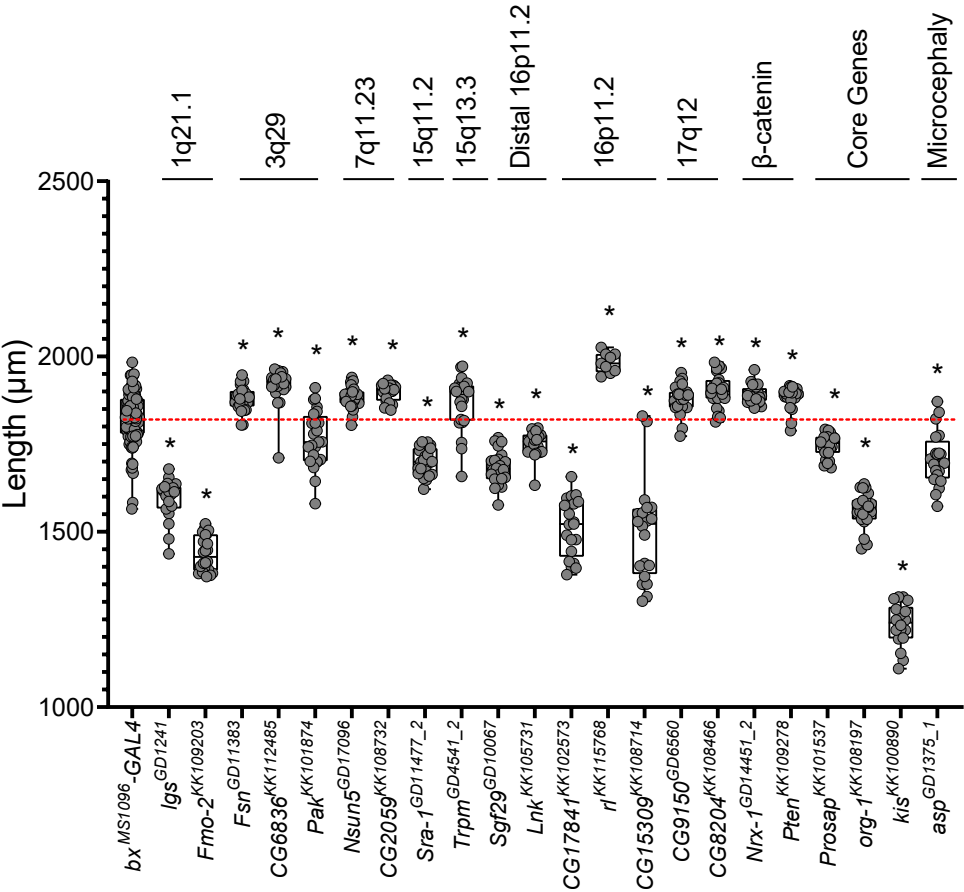
Figure 2**A****Qualitative wing phenotypes of homologs of CNV genes****B****Qualitative wing phenotypes of homologs of neurodevelopmental genes****C****Representative qualitative phenotypes in the adult wing**

Figure 3

A Representative quantitative phenotypes in the adult wing



B L3 vein lengths for select homologs



C Wing area for select homologs

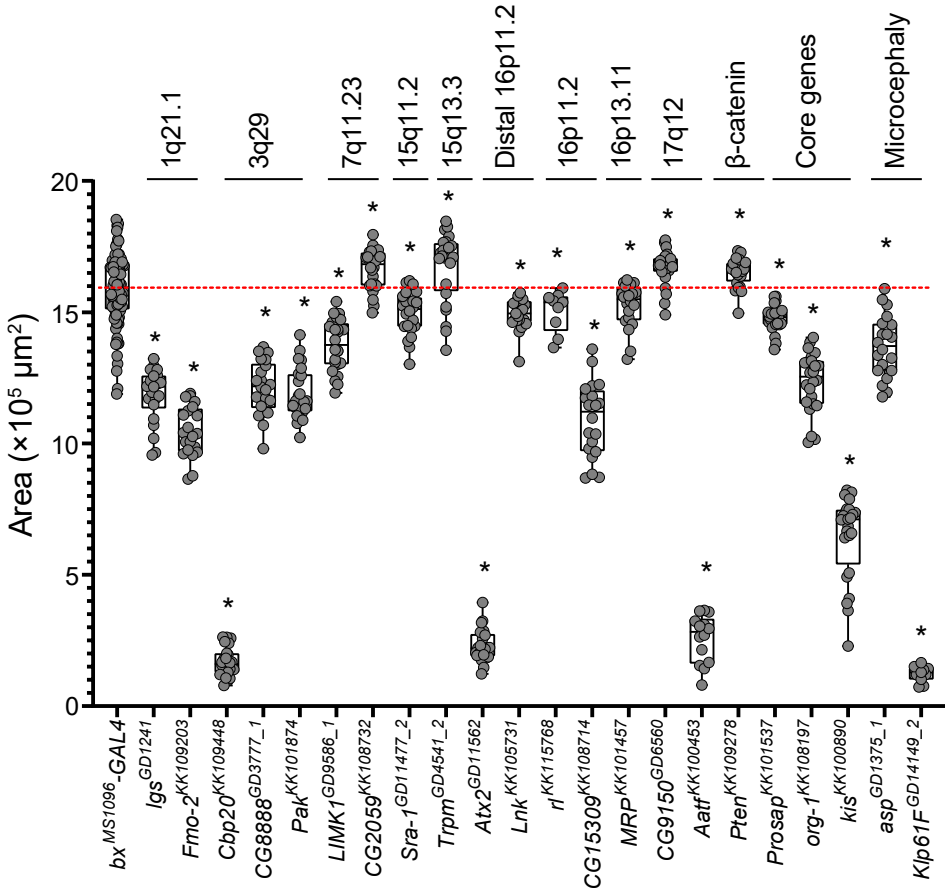
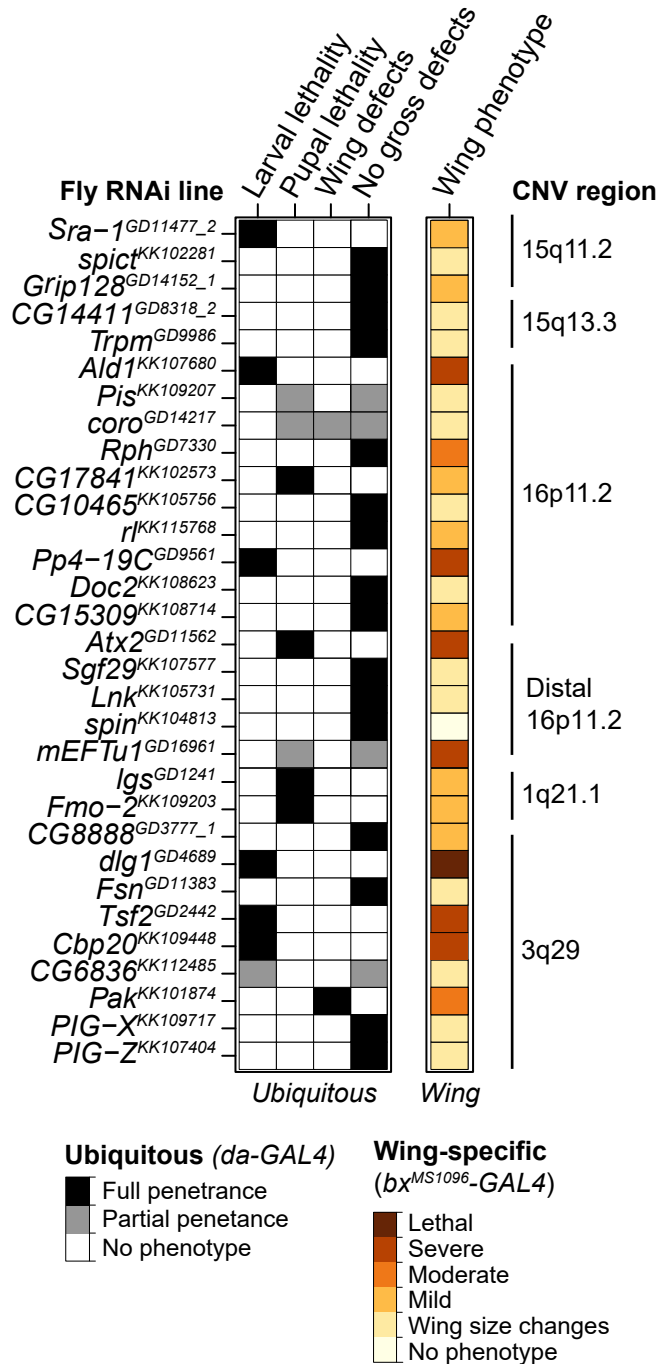
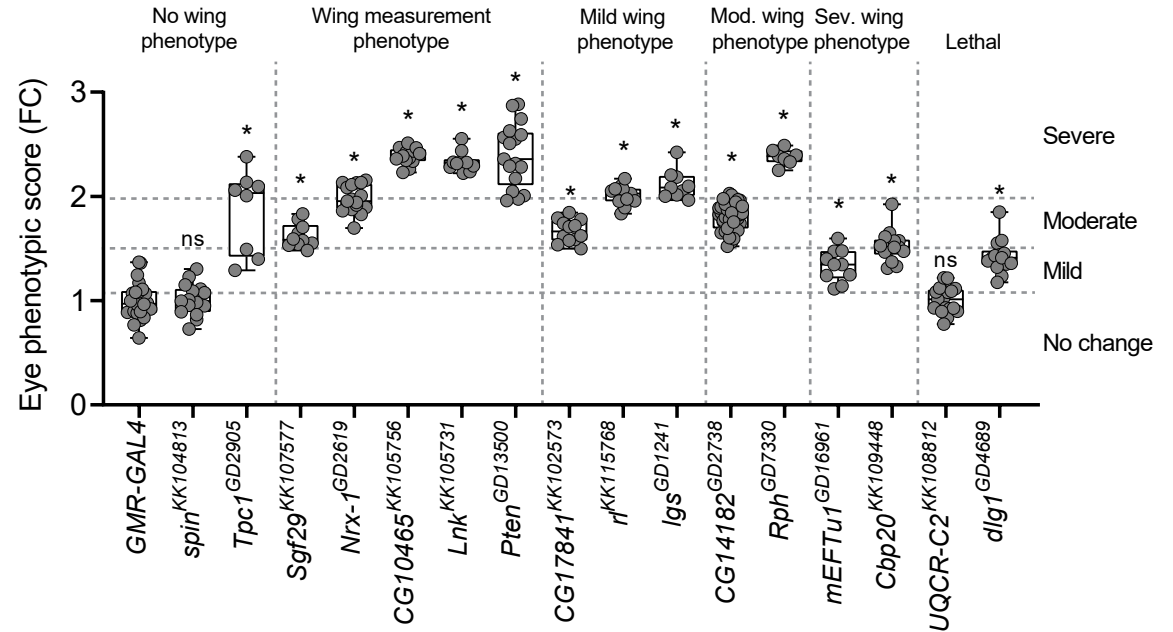


Figure 4

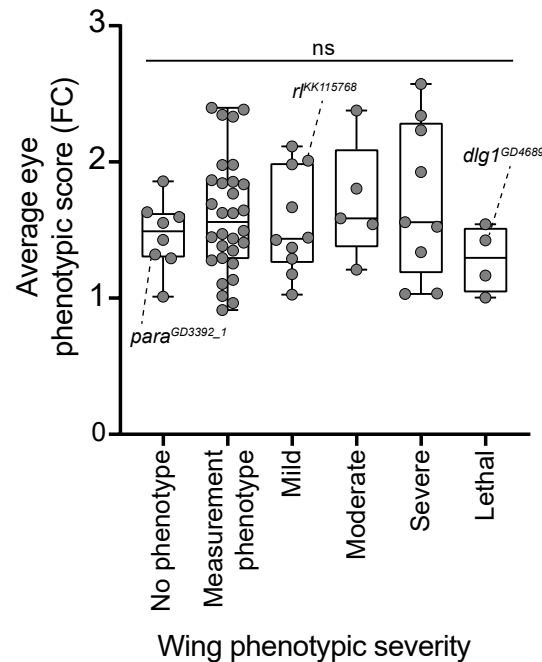
A Ubiquitous knockdown



B Eye versus wing phenotypes



C Severity of eye versus wing phenotype



D Representative eye and wing images

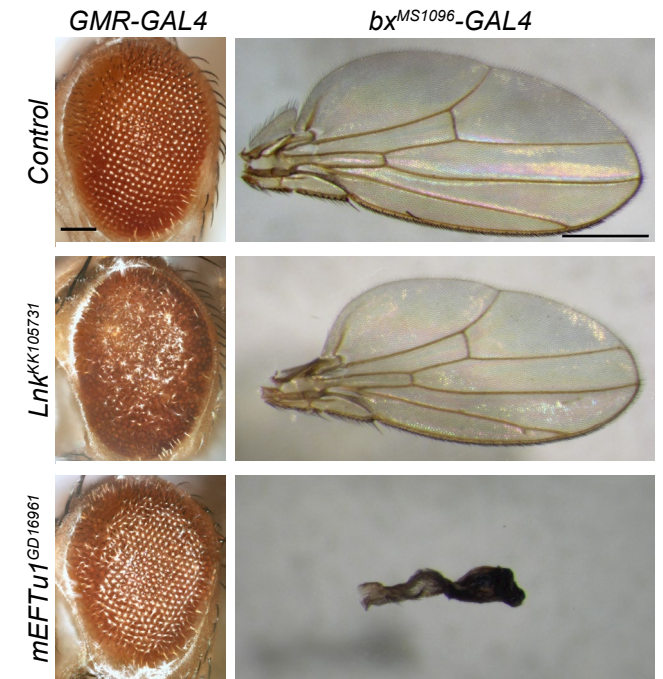
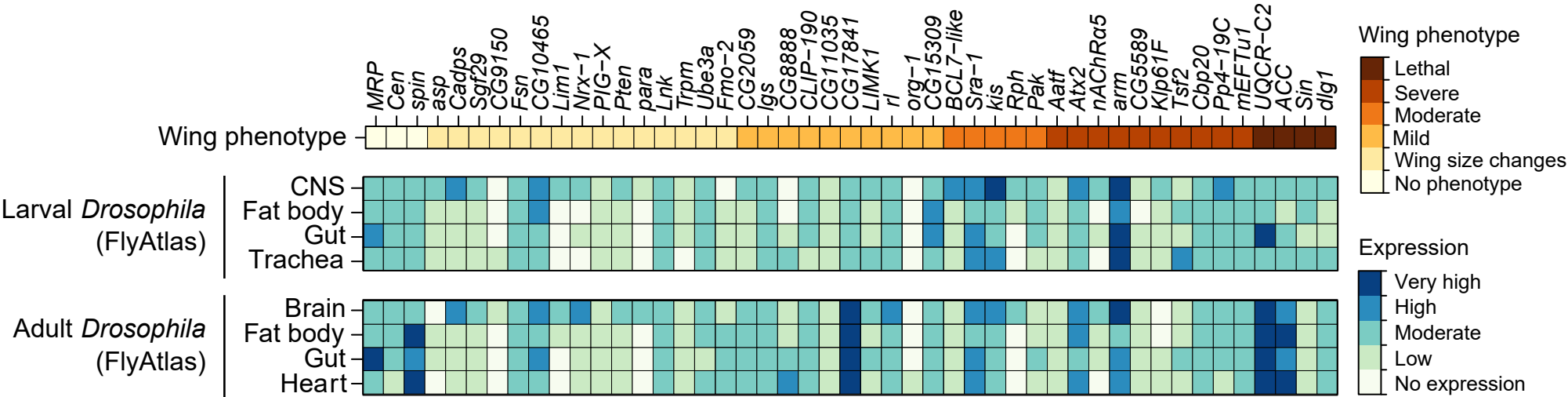


Figure 5

A Expression patterns of fly homologs of CNV genes across multiple fly tissues



B Expression patterns of CNV genes across multiple human tissues

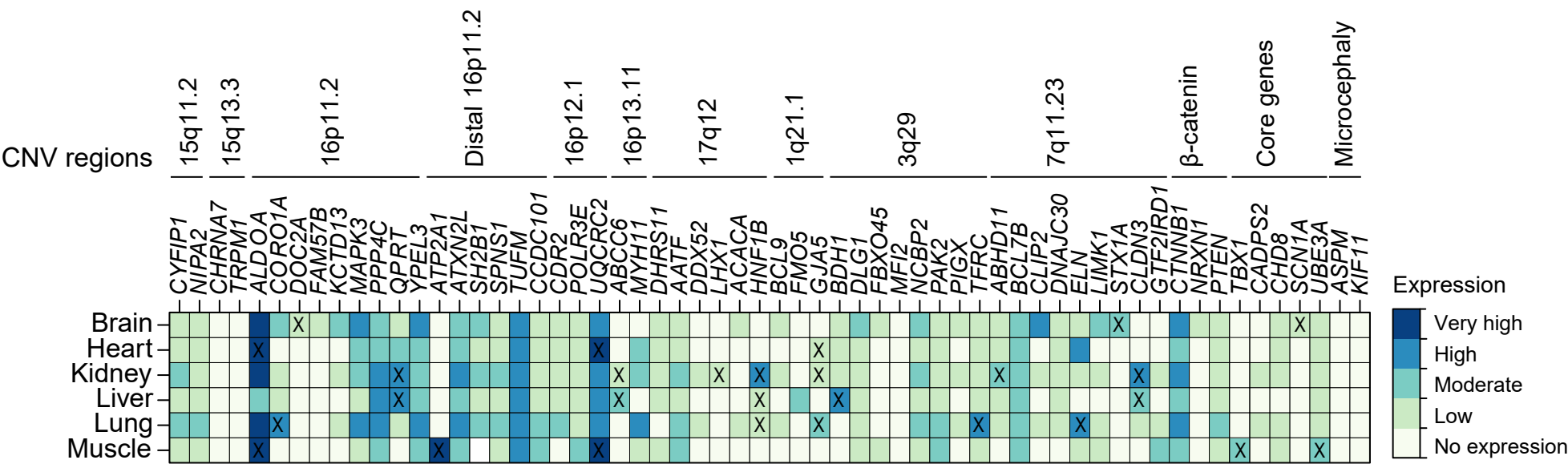


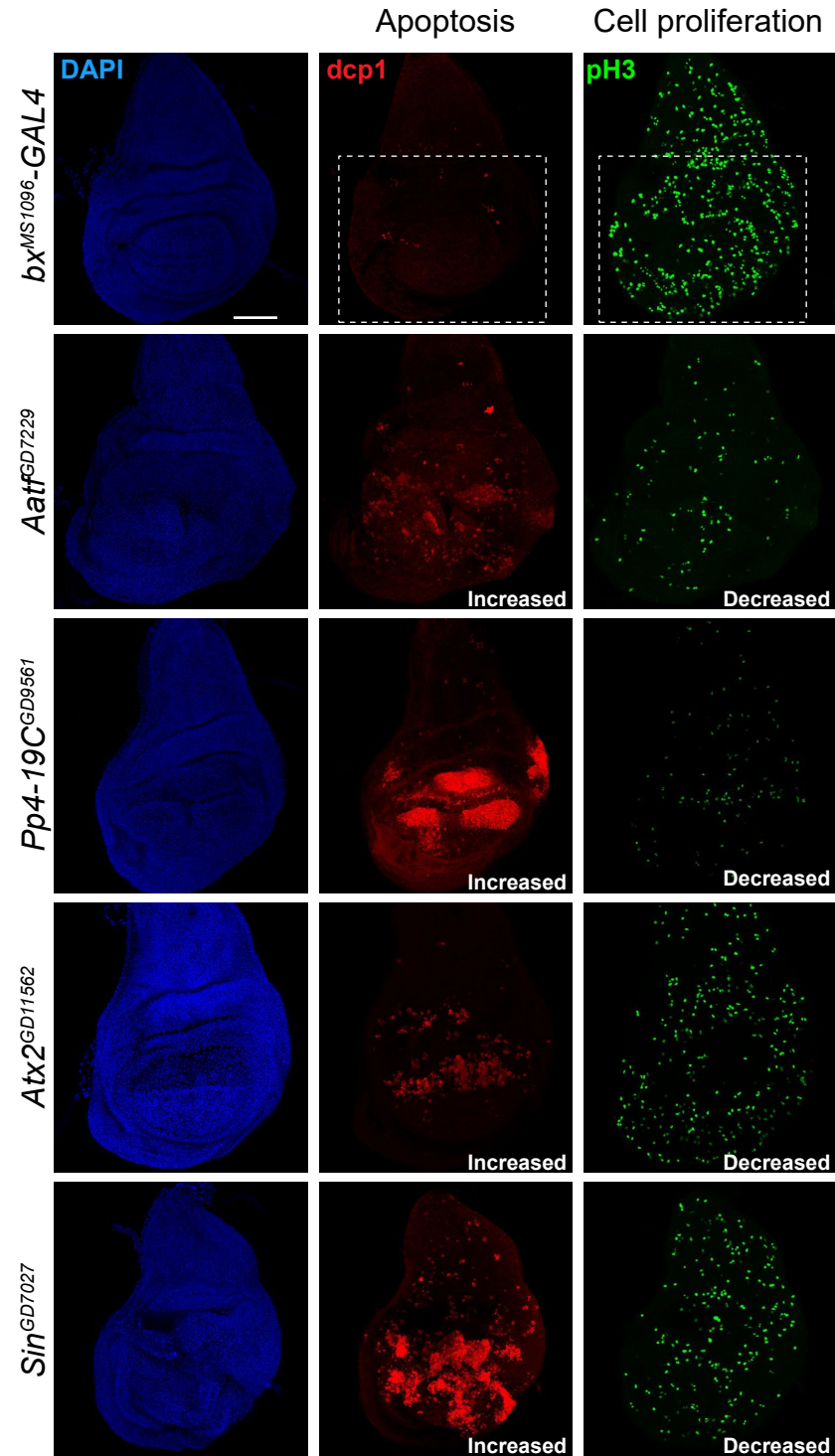
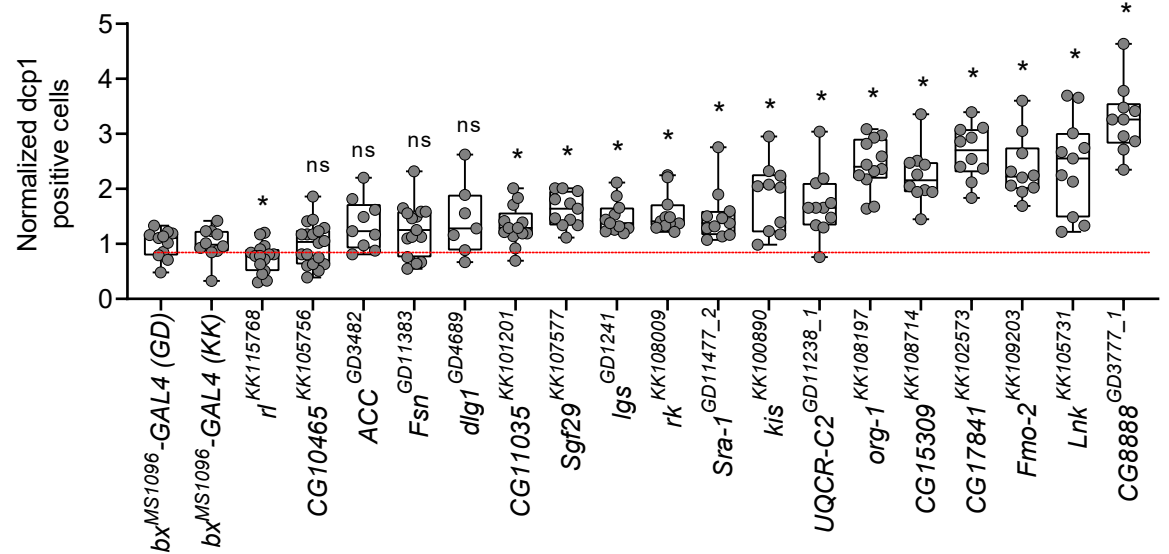
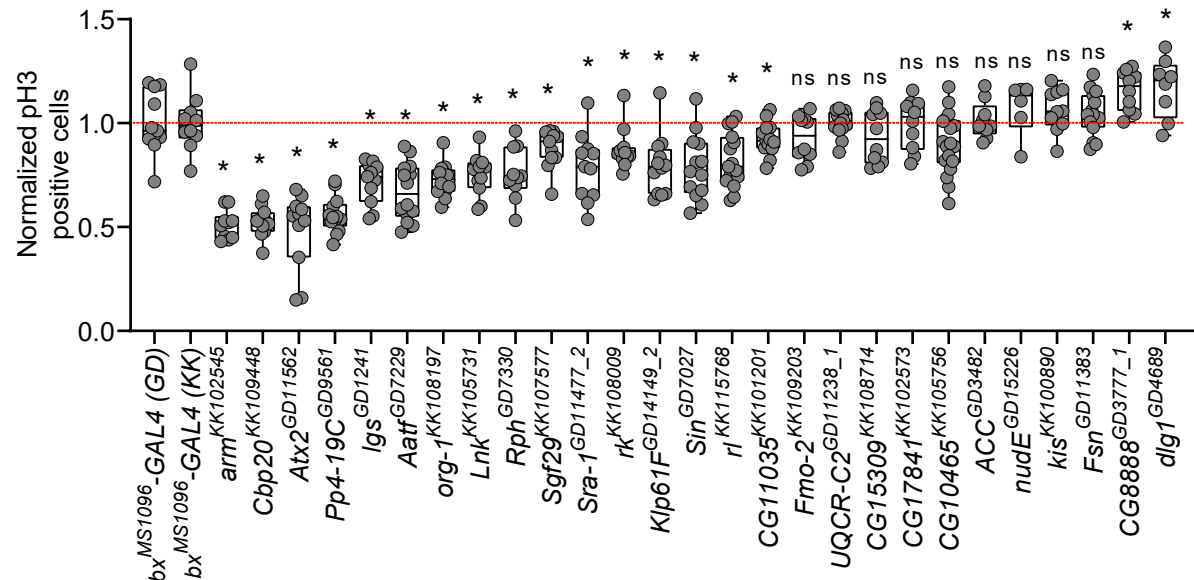
Figure 6**A Cellular processes in larval wing discs****B Quantification of apoptotic cells****C Quantification of proliferating cells**

Figure 7

Disruption of signaling pathways in larval wing discs

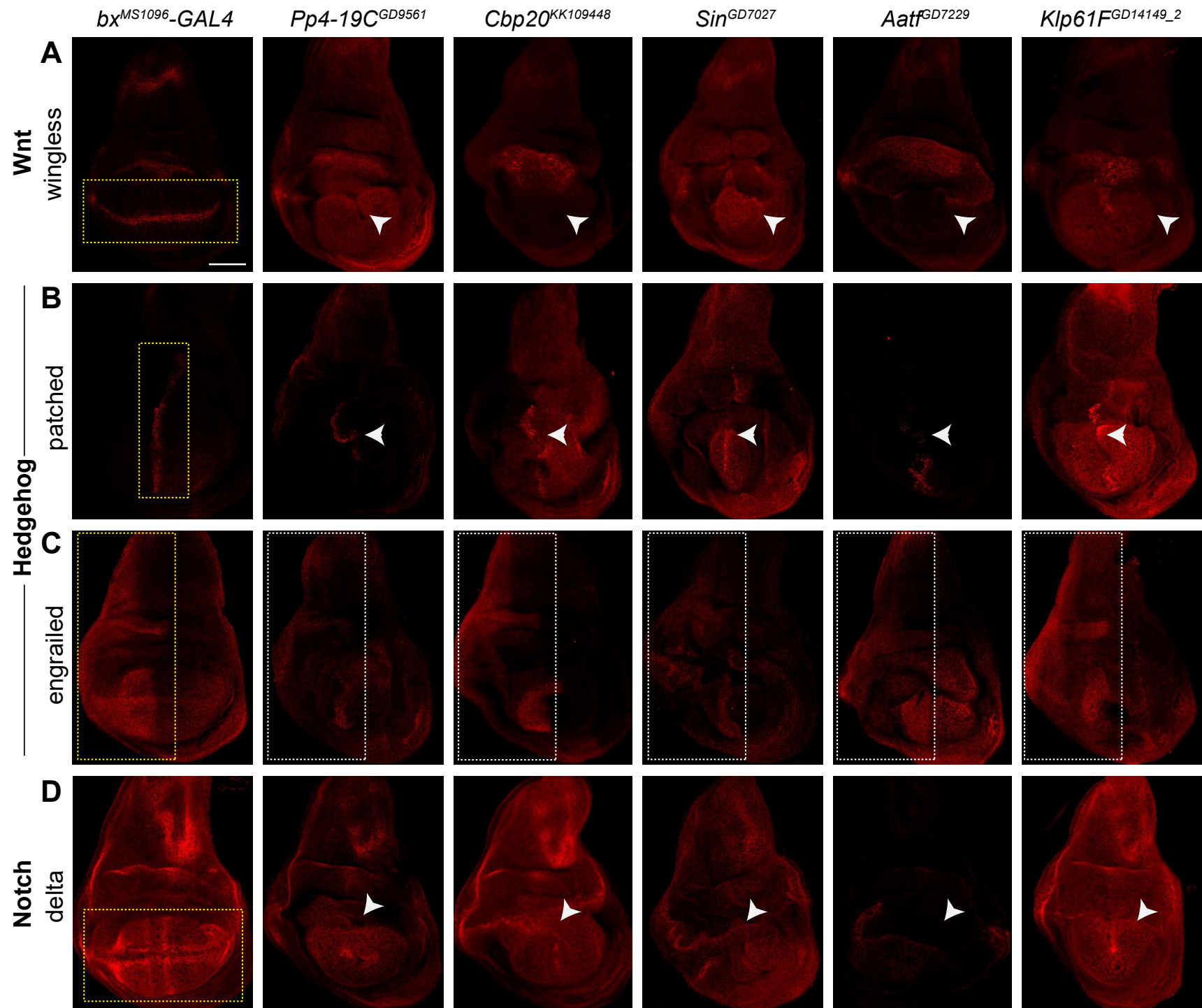
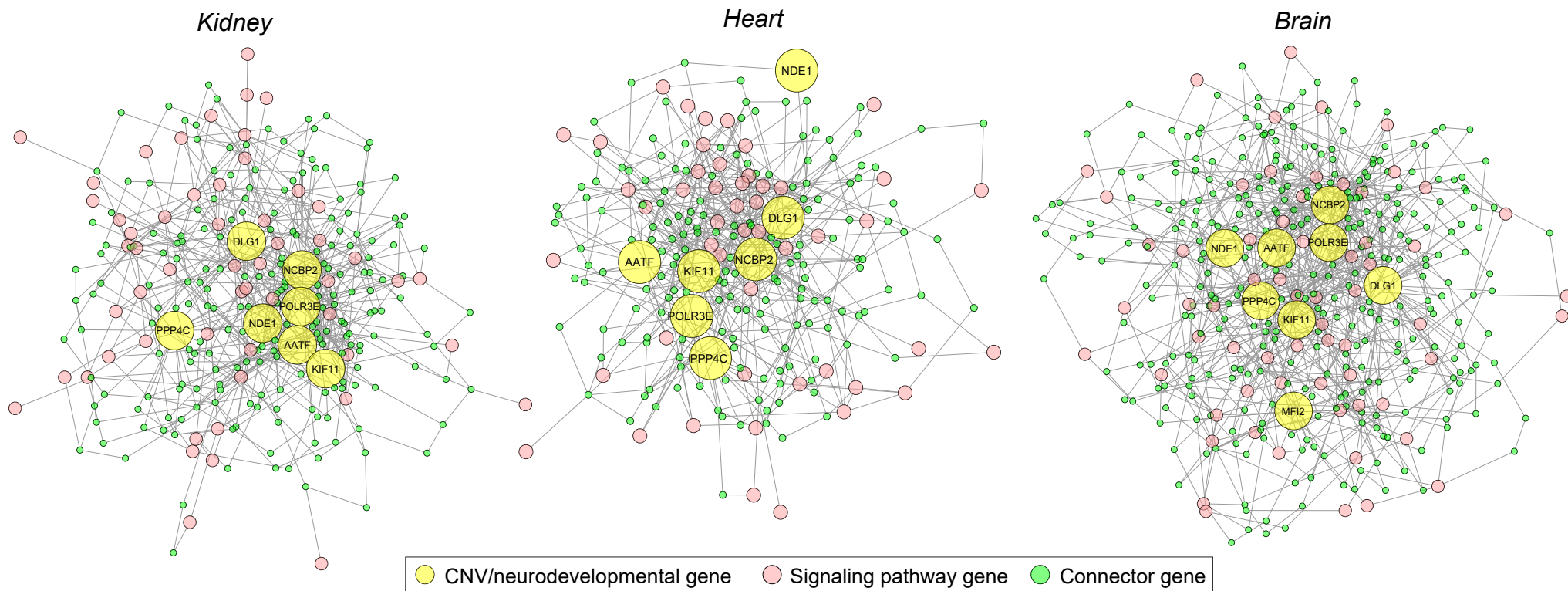
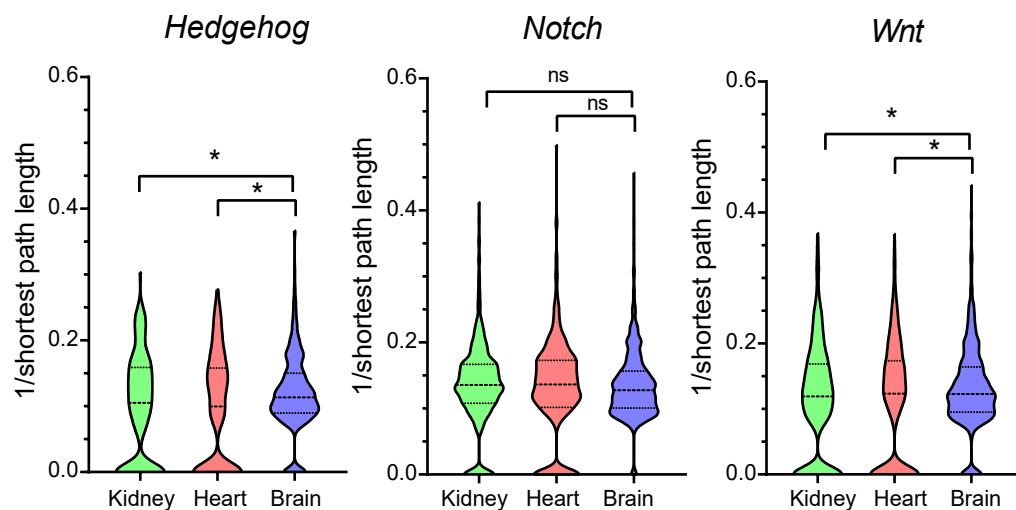


Figure 8

A Human CNV genes interact with Notch signaling pathway genes in multiple tissues



B Average connectivity of CNV genes to genes in signaling pathways



C GO term enrichment for connector genes in tissue-specific networks

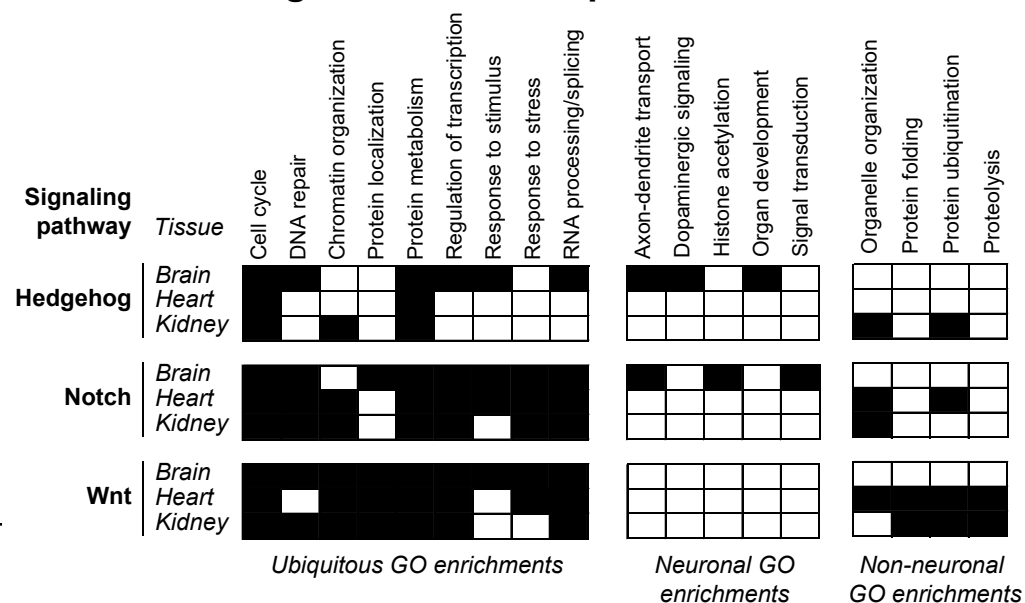
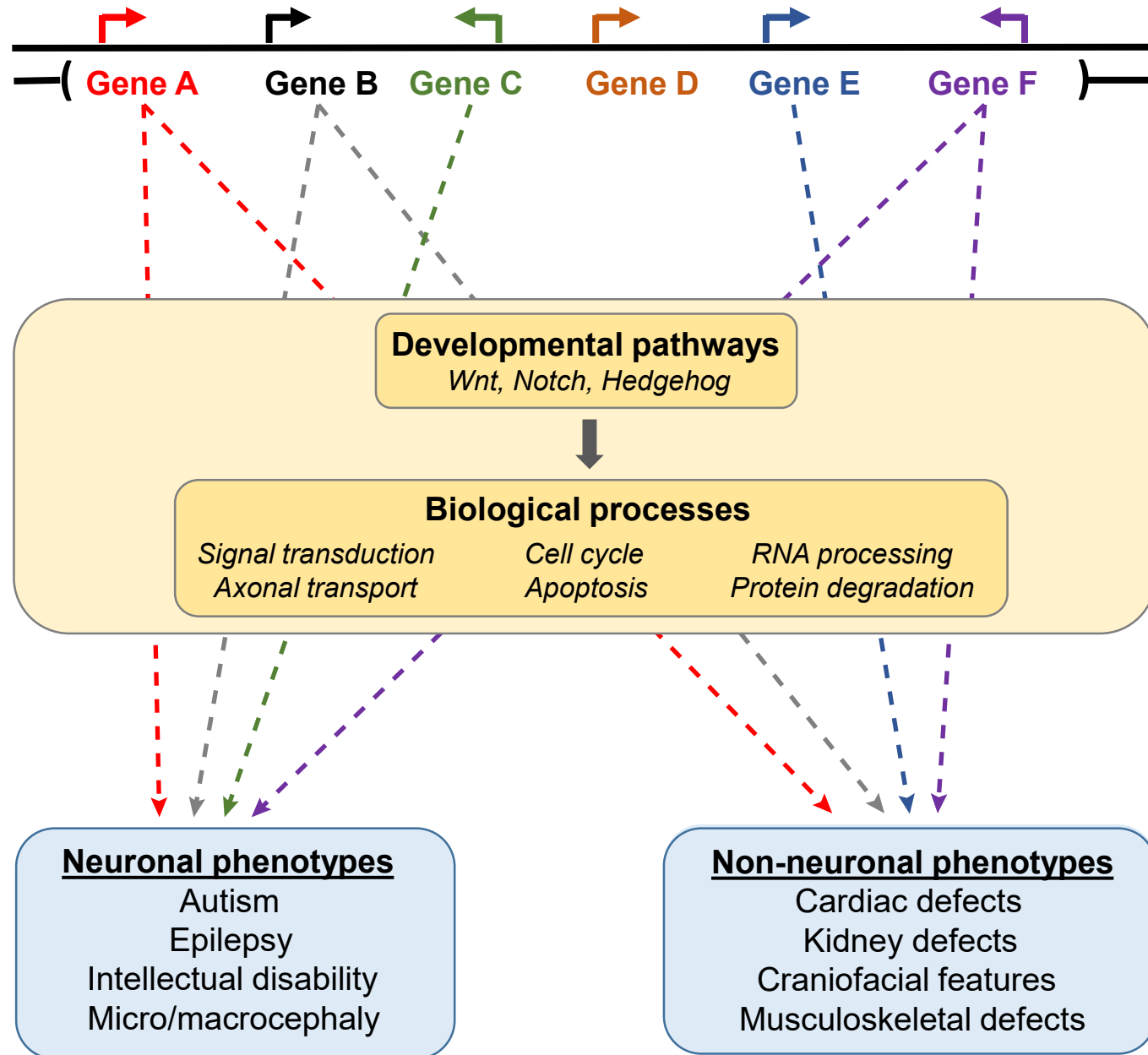
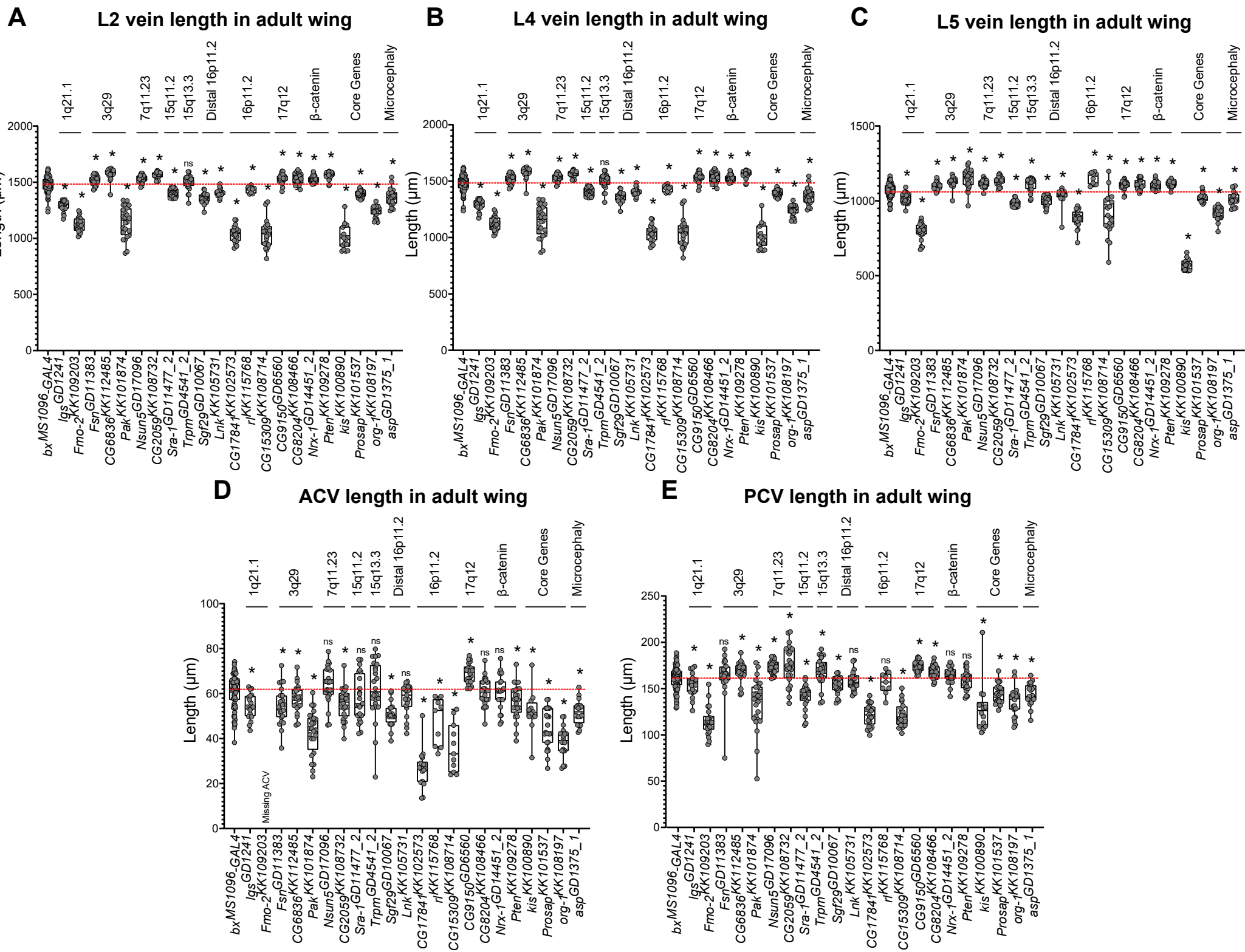


Figure 9

CNV region

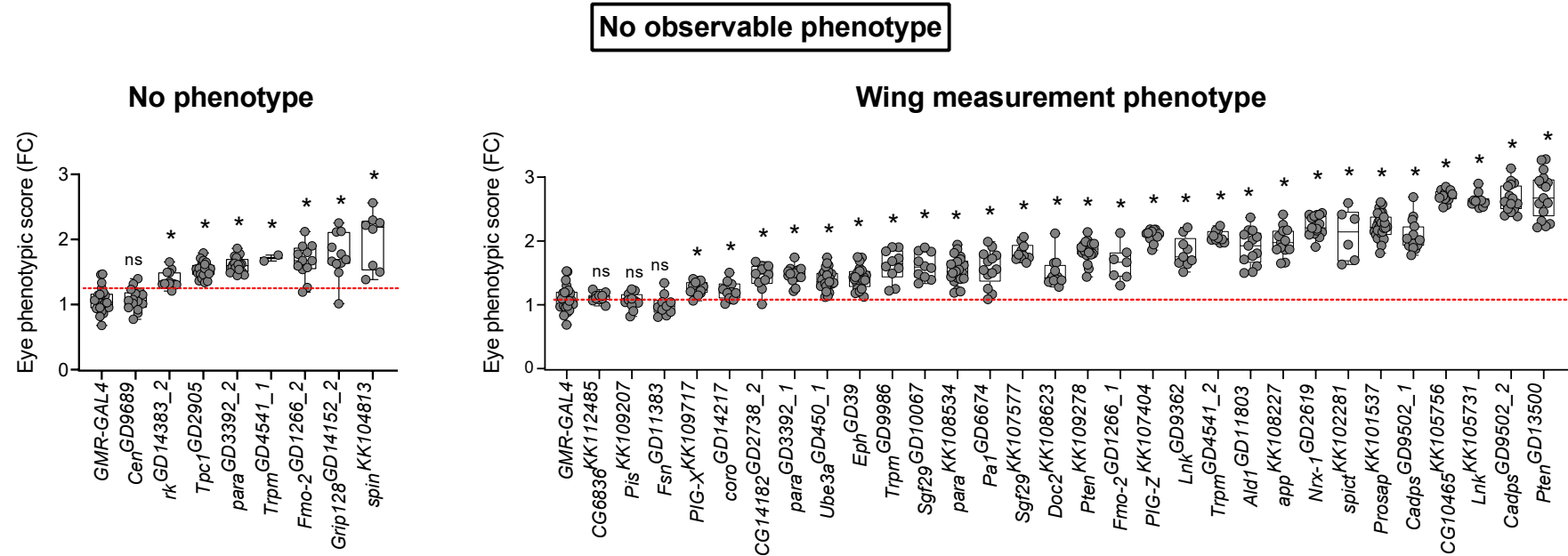


Supp. Figure 1

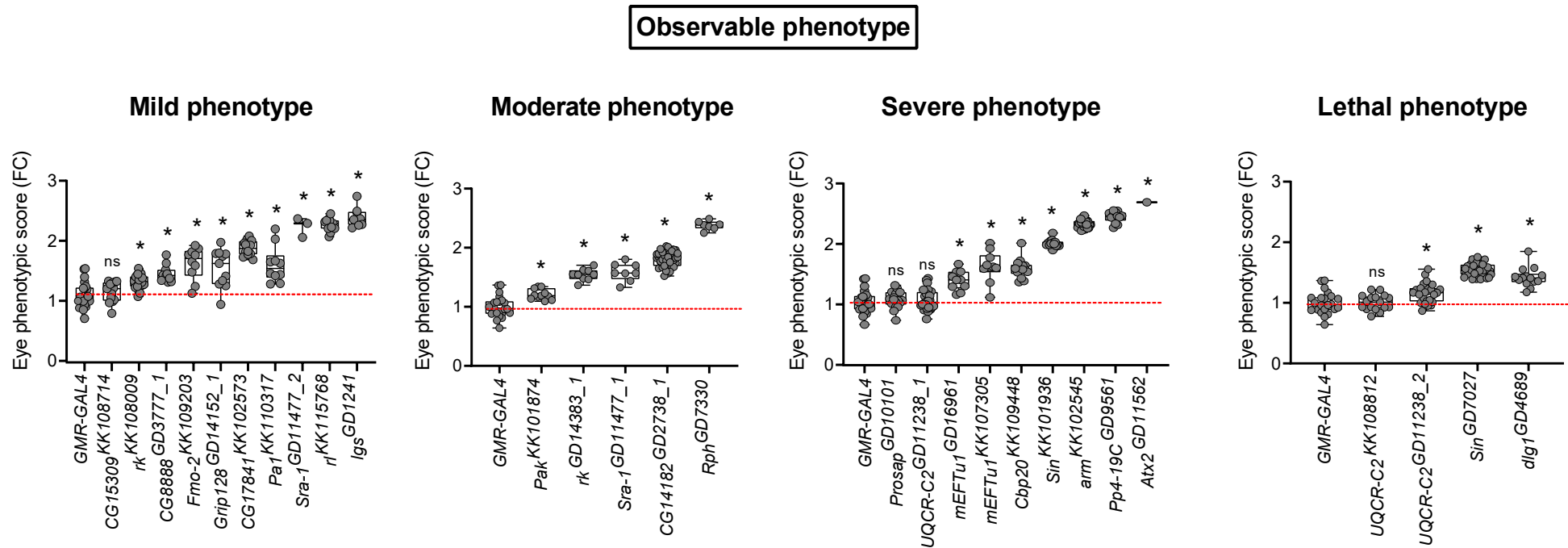


Supp. Figure 2

A

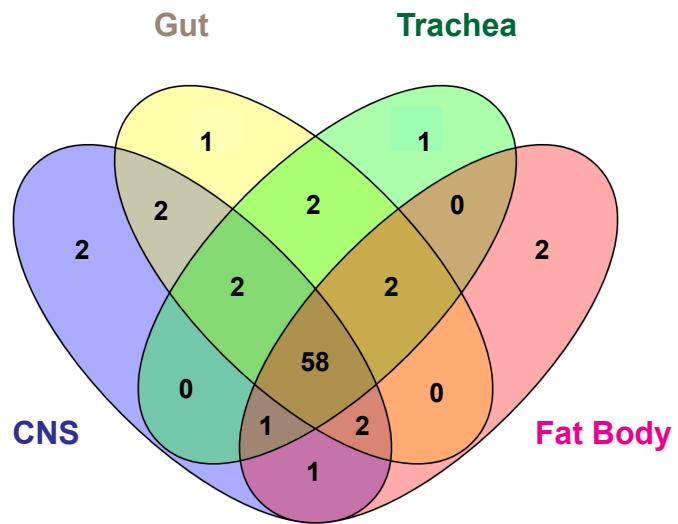


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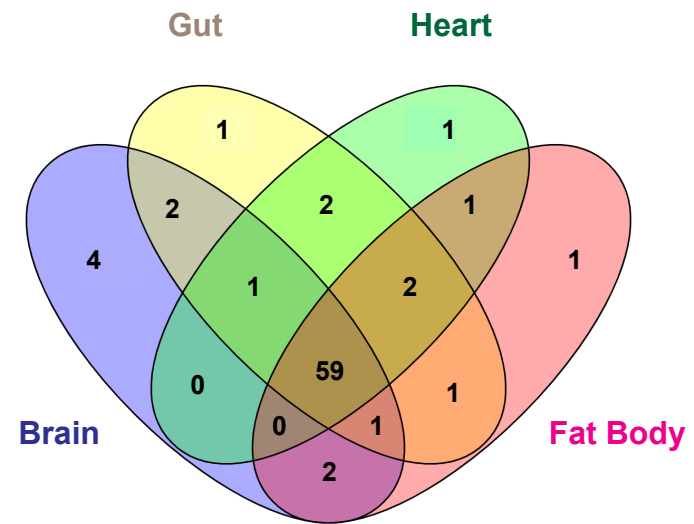


Supp. Figure 3

A Larval *Drosophila* expression

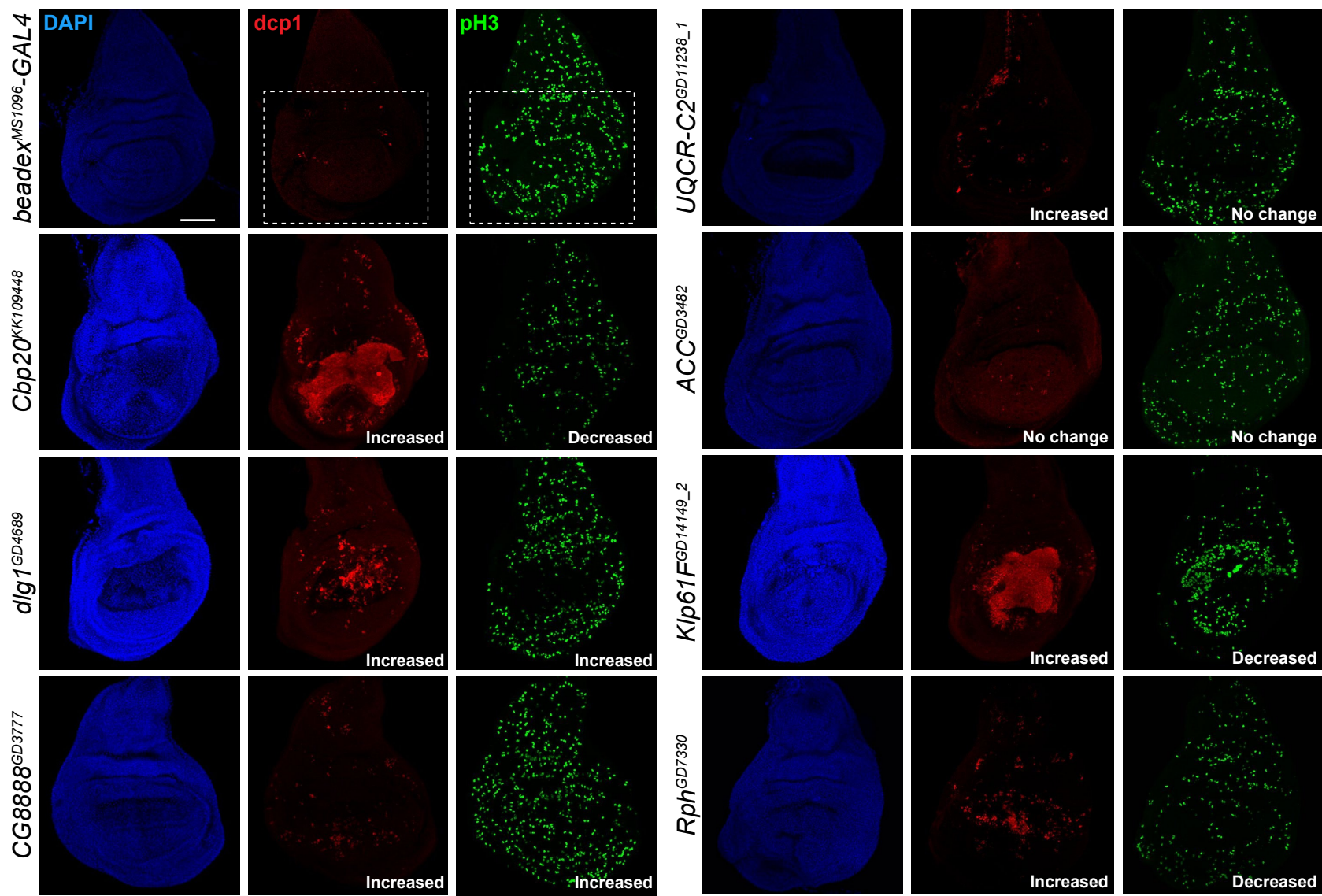


B Adult *Drosophila* expression



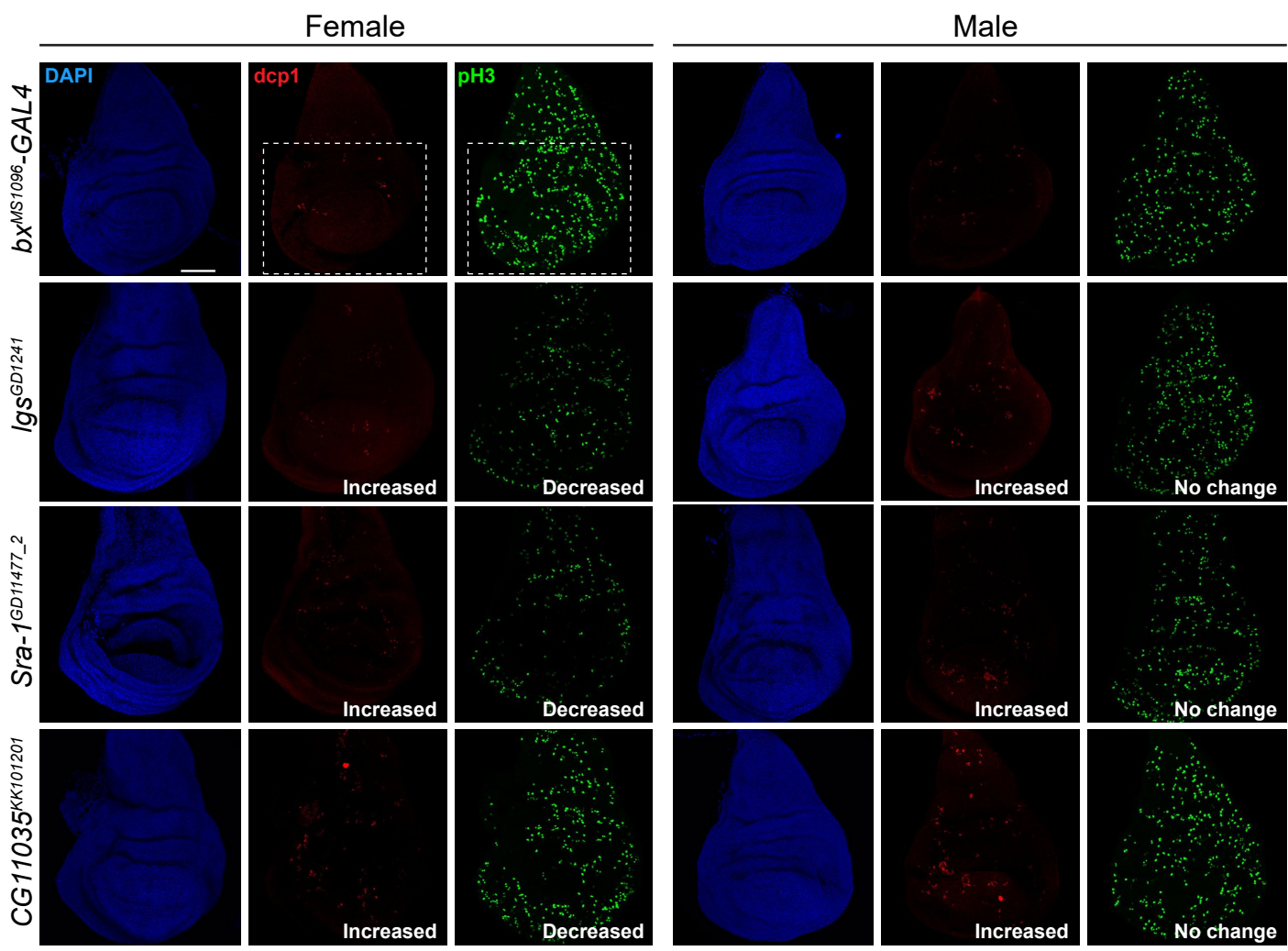
Supp. Figure 4

Cellular processes in larval wing discs

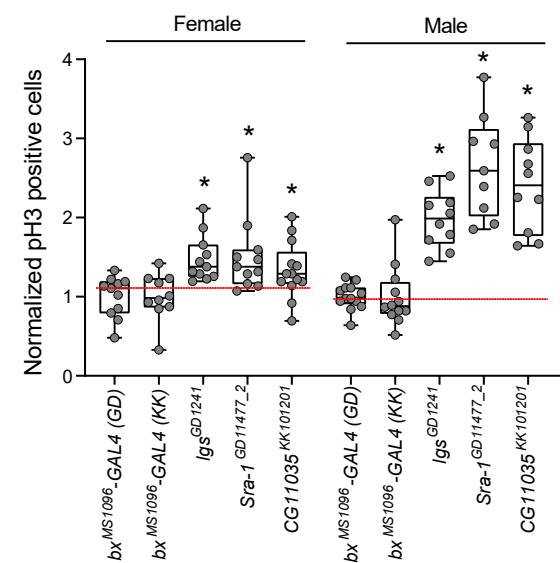


Supp. Figure 5

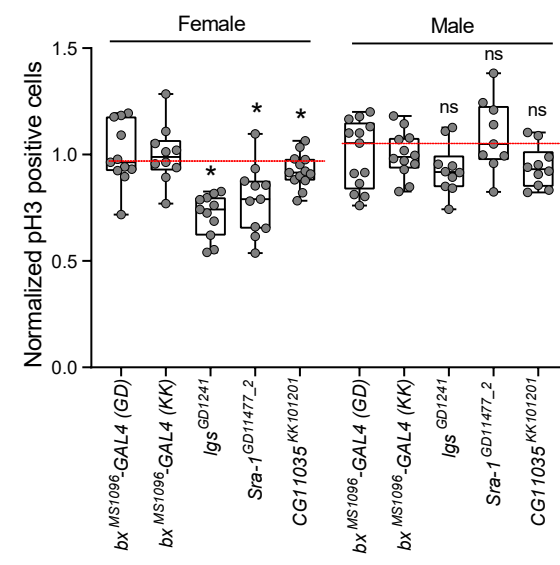
A Cellular processes in female and male larval wing discs



B Apoptosis in larval wing discs

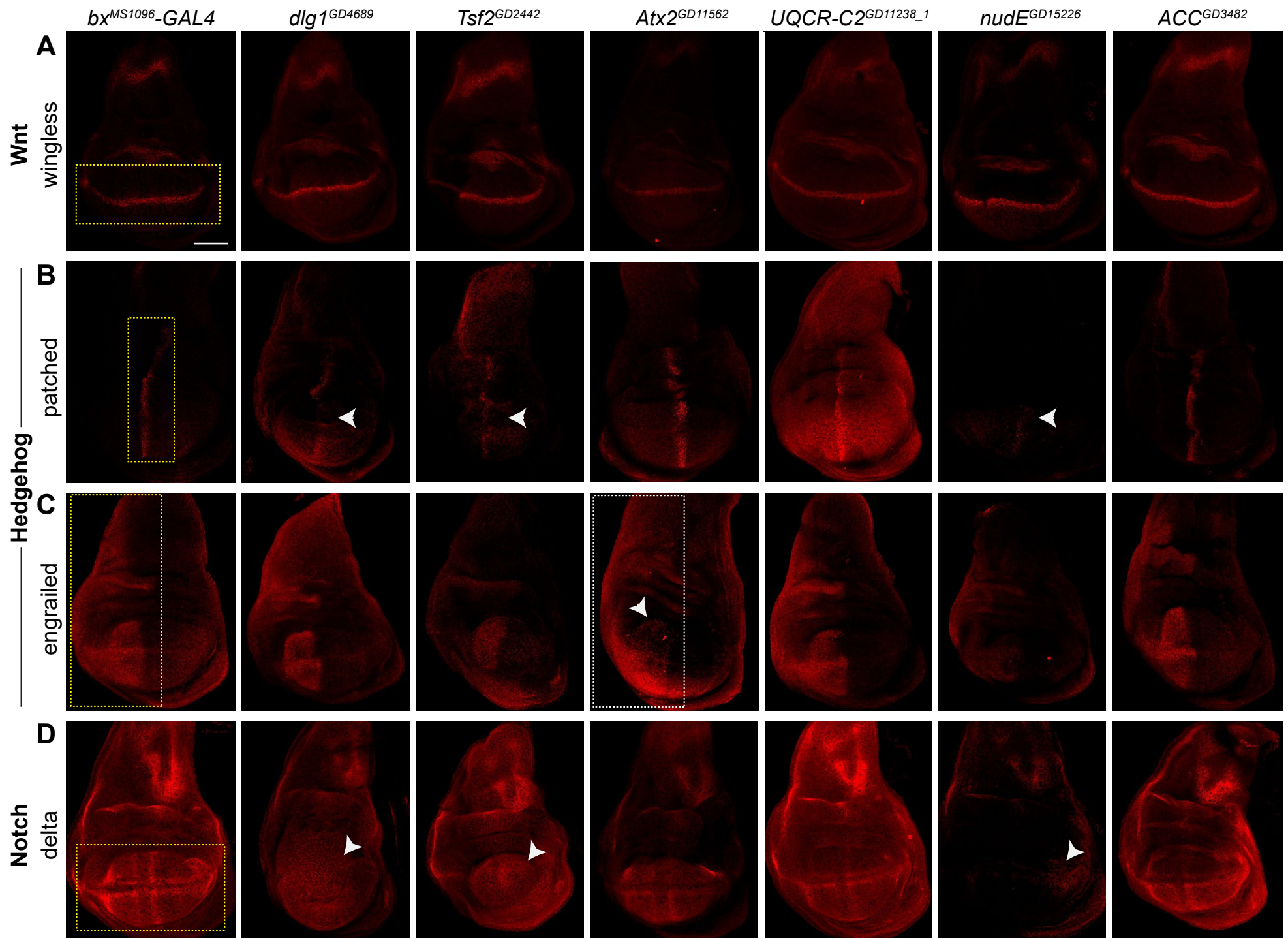


C Cell proliferation in larval wing discs

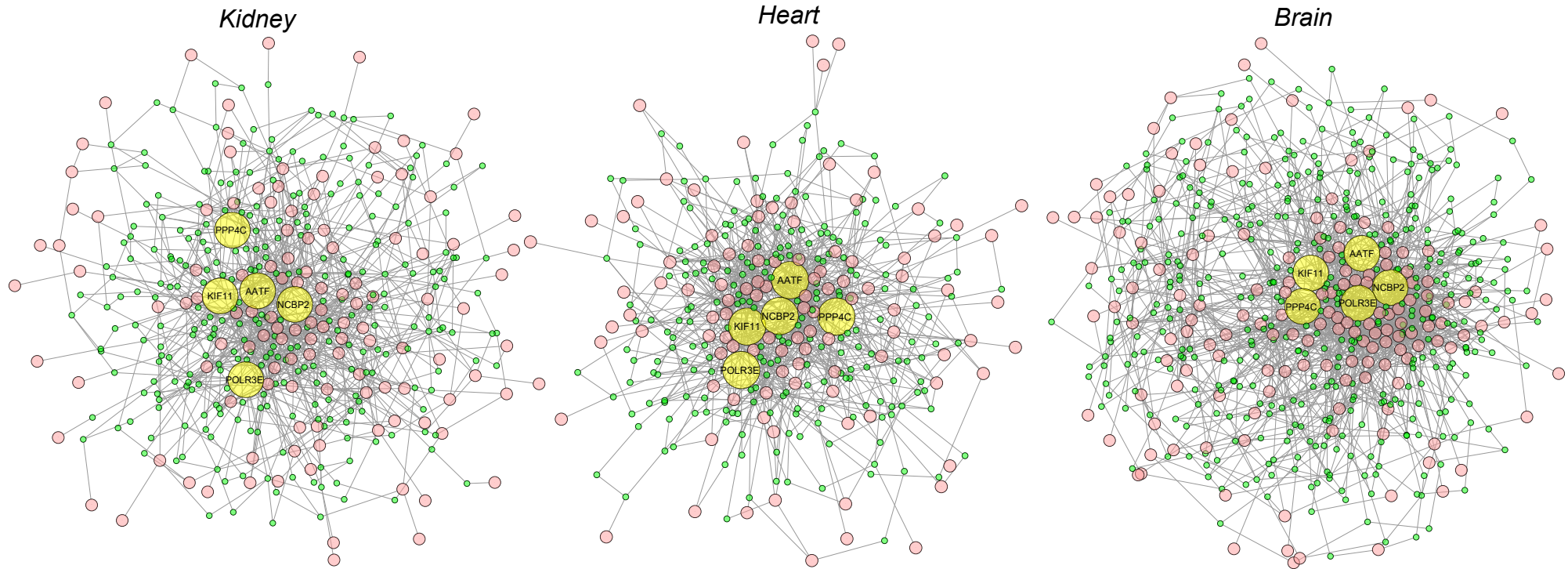


Supp. Figure 6

Disruption of signaling pathways in larval wing discs



A Human CNV genes interact with Wnt signaling pathway genes in multiple tissues



B Human CNV genes interact with Hedgehog signaling pathway genes in multiple tissues

