Supplementary Information

Genome-wide suppressor screen identifies USP35/USP38 as therapeutic candidates for ciliopathies

I-Chun Tsai¹, Kevin A. Adams¹, Joyce A. Tzeng¹, Omar Shennib, Perciliz L. Tan^{1, 2} and Nicholas Katsanis^{1, 3, 4, *}

¹Center for Human Disease Modeling, Duke University School of Medicine, Durham, NC 27701

²Rescindo Therapeutics, Durham, NC 27701

³Stanley Manne Children's Research Institute, Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago, Chicago, IL 60611, USA

⁴Departments of Pediatrics and Cellular and Molecular Biology, Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine, Chicago, IL 60611, USA

*Correspondence: Nicholas Katsanis, Ph.D

Stanley Manne Children's Research Institute, Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago 225 E. Chicago Avenue, BOX 205, Chicago, IL 60611 Phone: +1 (312) 503-7263 e-mail: <u>nkatsanis@luriechildrens.org</u>



Supplementary Figure 1 Generation and validation of the hTert-RPE1_WntRep_shRNA-BBS4 cell line used for RNAi screen. (A) hTert-RPE1 cell line was transfected with Wnt Reporter plasmid and selected with Geneticin (500 μg/ml) 48 hours post transfection. Eight cell colonies were picked and treated with Control- or Wnt3a-conditioned medium (CM), followed by luciferase assay. Graph represents the fold increase in comparison to Control-CM treatment and error bar indicates the standard deviation of triplicates. Clone 4 were selected for the further generation of BBS4-depleted cell line. (B) hTert-RPE1_WntRep cell were transduced with LKO-cont (SHC002) or LKO-BBS4 lentivirus, followed by puromycin selection (5 μg/ml). Three of control and six of BBS4-depleted cell clones were picked and subjected to Western blot for assessing the suppression of BBS4. HSP90 served as loading control. (C) LKO-control clone 1 and LKO-BBS4 clones 1, 2, 4 and 5 (clone 3 and 6 were dropped due to low viability) from (B) were subjected to Luciferase assay after 8 hours of conditioned media treatment. Graph represents the fold increase in comparison to Control-CM treatment of LKO-cont line and error bar indicates the standard deviation of triplicates. LKO-BBS4 clone 4 were selected for further RNAi screening.



Supplementary Figure 2 Suppression of BBS4 enhances the expression of AXIN2. hTert RPE cells which stably express shRNA targeting *BBS4* or non-silencing control were incubated with Wnt3a-conditioned media for 4 hours. The cells were then harvested followed by *AXIN2* qPCR. Compared to the shRNA-control without Wnt3a stimulation, the mean relative expression level of *AXIN2* from triplicated experiments is presented in the graph. Error bar: standard error of mean. Asterisk denotes the significance of *AXIN2* expression (*: p< 0.05; **: p< 0.001; 2-tailed t test).



Supplementary Figure 3 Morpholino knock-down efficiency. Zebrafish embryos at 1-4 cell stage were injected with the morpholinos targeted to the genes indicated in the figure. 30 hours post of injection, 15 embryos were collected and subjected to RT-PCR for the expression of targeted genes. RT-PCR for β -actin were served as loading control. RT: Reverse Transcriptase.



Supplementary Figure 4 Assessment of the CE rescue by suppression of 13 candidate genes. (A) zebrafish embryos were injected with *bbs4*-morpholino (*bbs4*-MO) plus either standard control morpholino (std) or the MO targeting to *zic1*, *ptma*, *engase*, *dtx1*, *tex36*, *tdrd12*, *pitpnm2*, *c14orf166*, *entpd6* and *enpp7*. Depletion of bbs4 results in CE defects, including wider anterior-posterior body gap, somite (Class I) and loss of eyes (Class II) (\$\$\$: p< 0.001 in comparison to control embryos). Co-injection of *zic1*-MO, *ptma*-MO, *engase*-MO, *dtx1*-MO, *tex36*-MO, *tdrd12*-MO, *c14orf166*-MO and *entpd6*-MO in *bbs4* morphants reduces the percentage of both Class I and Class II embryos. (**: p< 0.01; ***: p< 0.001 in comparison to *bbs4* morphant coinjected with std-MO, Chi-square). Co-injection of *enpp7*-MO increases the percentage of both Class I and Class II embryos ignificantly. (###: p< 0.001 in comparison to *bbs4* morphant co-injected with std-MO). (B) Classification of the embryos with CE defects. CE-deficient embryos exhibit wider anterior-posterior body gap, somite (Class I) and delayed eye development (Class II). (C) *bbs4* morphants were co-injected with gRNA/Cas9 of *drd5* or *pcf11*. Co-injection of *drd5*-gRNA/Cas9 in *bbs4* morphant ameliorates the CE defects (***: p< 0.001, Chi-square).



Supplementary Figure 5 Relationship between human USP35, USP38 and zebrafish usp38. (A) Protein sequence alignment of the catalytic domain of human (h) USP35, USP38 and zebrafish (z) usp38. hUSP35 shares 49% identity with hUSP38; hUSP35 shares 53% identity with zUSP38; hUSP38 share 59% identity with zUSP38. (B) (C) (D) *BBS4*-depleted hTertRPE cells were transfected with either control-siRNA or siRNA targeting to *USP35/USP38*. Cells were then treated with Wnt-3a conditioned media and harvested for (B) USP35 qPCR, (C) USP38 qPCR and (D) *AXIN2*-qPCR. Both siRNA-USP35 and siRNA-USP38 can significantly suppress the expression of *USP35* and *USP38*. While knockdown of either *USP35* or *USP38* reduced the activation of Wnt/ β -cat signaling, *USP35* suppression is more efficient than *USP38* suppression. Maximal reduction of Wnt/ β -cat signaling can be achieved by knockdown of both *USP35* and *USP38*. (**: p< 0.01; ****: p< 0.001; ****: p< 0.001, 2-tailed t test).

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F0-04.GGAGCAGTGCCAGGCCTTGTACCATCTCACCACC----TTATTCTCCAGGGTGAAGATGTTTTTCAGCGTCAGAT F0-05.GGAGCAGTGCCAGGCCTTGTACCATCTCACCACCCCGGCCTTATTCTCCAGGGTGAAGATGTTTTTCAGCGTCAGAT F0-06.GGAGCAGTGCCAGGCCTTGTACCATCTCACCA----CCTTATTCTCCAGGGTGAAGATGTTTTTCAGCGTCAGAT F0-07.GGAGCAGTGCCAGGCCTTGTACCATCTCACC-----TTATTCTCCCAGGGTGAAGATGTTTTTCAGCGTCAGAT Supplementary Figure 6 Validation of genome editing efficiency in bbs4-CRISPR F0s and usp38-**CRISPR F0s.** (A) Schematic representation of the zebrafish *bbs4* transcript. yellow boxes: exons; blue box: gRNA targeted site; orange arrowheads: primers for amplifying the potential mutation region. (B) Polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis (20% PAGE) of control and 13 bbs4-CRISPR F0 embryos shows the presence of heteroduplexes, indicating targeting events in CRISPR F0s. The PCR products of the embryos annotated with an asterisk (*) were then cloned into pCR4 for Sanger sequencing. (C) Representative Sanger sequencing results for an un-injected control embryo and 7 randomly selected clones of F0 embryo (*) injected with bbs4 gRNA/Cas9 show insertion and or deletion events in the target region. The protospacer adjacent motif (PAM) sequence for gRNA is shown with a pink box and gRNA target region is shown within the blue box. (D) Schematic representation of the zebrafish usp38 transcript. Red boxes: exons; blue box: gRNA targeted site; orange arrowheads: primers for amplifying the potential mutation region. (E) Polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis (20% PAGE) of control and 12 usp38-CRISPR F0 embryos shows the presence of heteroduplexes, indicating targeting events in CRISPR F0s. The PCR products of the embryo annotated with an asterisk (*) were then cloned into pCR4 for Sanger sequencing. (F) Representative Sanger sequencing results for an un-injected control embryo and 9 randomly selected clones of F0 embryo (*) injected with usp38 gRNA/Cas9 show insertion and or deletion events in the target region. The protospacer adjacent motif (PAM) sequence for gRNA is shown in pink box and gRNA target region is shown in blue box.



Supplementary Figure 7 Specificity of bbs4- and usp38-CRISPR. (A) 1-cell stage embryos were injected bbs4-gRNA/Cas9 with or without human BBS4 mRNA. The embryos were then scored for CE phenotype at 8-10 somite stage. While bbs4-gRNA/Cas9 leads to CE defects, co-injection of human BBS4 mRNA rescues the CE defect caused by bbs4 depletion. ****: p< 0.0001 (Chi-square). (B) 1-cell stage embryos were injected usp38-gRNA/Cas9 with or without human USP35 mRNA. The embryos were then scored for CE phenotype at 8-10 somite stage. While usp38-gRNA/Cas9 leads to CE defects, co-injection of human USP35 mRNA rescues the CE defect caused by USP38 depletion. **: p< 0.001, *: p< 0.05 (Chi-square).



Supplementary Figure 8 Depletion of *usp38* rescues the CE defects in *bbs4*-CRISPR F0 embryos. Similar to *bbs4* morphants, *bbs4* F0 mutant embryos also display deficient CE development. Co-injection of *usp38*-gRNA/Cas9 can rescue this defect. *: p< 0.05, ****: p< 0.0001 (Chi-square).



Supplementary Figure 9 shRNA-mediated BBS4 and USP35 suppression in HEK293 cells. (A) HEK293 cells were transfected with shRNA-cont or shRNA-*BBS4* constructs. 72 hours post transfection, the cells were harvested followed by BBS4 qRT-PCR. p< 0.001 (2-tailed t test) (B) HEK293 cells were transfected with shRNA-cont or shRNA-*USP35* constructs. 72 hours post transfection, the cells were harvested followed by USP35 qRT-PCR. **: p< 0.001 (2-tailed t test).



Supplementary Figure 10 USP35 suppression ameliorate the hyperactivation of HH signaling caused by depletion of *BBS4*. hTert RPE cells which stably express shRNA targeting *BBS4* or non-silencing control were transfected with siRNA-control or siRNA-USP35. 72 hours post transfection, the cells were harvested followed by (A) USP35 qRT-PCR, (B) *PTCH1* qRT-PCR and (C) *BCL2* qRT-PCR. Compared to the shRNA-control, the mean relative expression level of *PTCH1* and *BCL2* from triplicated experiments is presented in the graph. Error bar: standard error of mean. Asterisk denotes the significance of *PTCH1* and *BCL2* expression (*: p < 0.05; **: p < 0.001, ****: p < 0.0001 and NS: non-significant; 2-tailed t test).



Supplementary Figure 11 Knockdown of *usp14* does not lead to the amelioration of the defects seen in *bbs4* morphants. (A) Co-injection of *usp14*-MO does not rescue the CE defects seen in *bbs4* morphants. ****: p< 0.0001; NS: non-significant. (Chi-square). (B) Unlike *usp38* suppression, knockdown of *usp14* does not rescue the atrophy and convolution deficit seen in *bbs4* morphants. *: p< 0.05; ##: p< 0.01 but worse CE defect. (Chi-square). (C) Representative images of *bbs4* morphant and *bbs4/usp14* morphant. (D) Treatment of IU1 (1 μ M) does not ameliorate the CE defects in *bbs4* morphant.



Supplementary Figure 12 Suppression of *usp38* rescues the CE defects in *ift88* morphant. Similar to *bbs4* morphants, *ift88* morphant also display deficient CE development. Co-injection of *usp38*-morpholino can rescue this defect. *: p< 0.05, ****: p< 0.0001. (Chi-square).

Gene Symbol	Full Name	Physiological Roles	References
DTX1	deltex E3 ubiquitin ligase 1	 Notch signaling Transcriptional factor 	(1, 2)
PITPNM2	phosphatidylinositol transfer protein, membrane-associated 2	Membrane-associated phosphatidylinositol transfer domain- containing protein that shares homology with the Drosophila retinal degeneration B (rdgB) protein	(3)
RHOXF1	Rhox homeobox family, member 1	Likely a transcription factor that may play a role in reproduction	(4)
DRD5	dopamine receptor D5	This gene encodes the D5 subtype of the dopamine receptor, which is a G-protein coupled receptor and stimulates adenylyl cyclase.	(5)
ENTPD6	ectonucleoside triphosphate diphosphohydrolase 6 (putative function)	mediate catabolism of extracellular nucleotides	(6)
C14orf166B (LRRC74A)	leucine rich repeat containing 74A	not clear	
PCF11	PCF11 cleavage and polyadenylation factor subunit	 Pol II transcription termination degradation of the 3' product of polyA site cleavage 	(7, 8)
TEX36	testis expressed 36	not clear	
ZIC1	Zic family member 1	 C2H2-type zinc finger protein Transcriptional factor 	(9)
PTMA	prothymosin, alpha	 Oncoprotein Regulate apoptosis 	(10, 11)
ENGASE	endo-beta-N- acetylglucosaminidase	Catalyzes the hydrolysis of peptides and proteins with mannose modifications	(12)
ENPP7	ectonucleotide pyrophosphatase/phosphodies terase 7	 Converts sphingomyelin to ceramide and phosphocholine Protect the intestinal mucosa from inflammation and tumorigenesis 	(13, 14)
TDRD12	tudor domain containing 12	Essential for piRNA biogenesis and transposon silencing (24067652)	(15)
USP35	ubiquitin specific peptidase 35	 Catalyze the removal of ubiquitin from other proteins Regulate PARK2-mediated mitophagy Regulate cell cycle progression 	(16, 17)

Supplementary Table 1 Background of the validated hits of Genome-wide siRNA screening.

USP Genes	Z-score (Plate A)	Z-score (Plate B)	p-value
USP1	1.33760963	-0.4820841	0.533
USP2	10.66938818	-5.070544895	0.523
USP3	4.679920856	2.554573449	0.853
USP4	-2.290356334	0.042842651	0.270
USP5	12.80878333	3.515914152	0.967
USP6	3.946325591	-0.691606989	0.798
USP7	-3.68335684	-4.65143579	0.025
USP8	-3.248171881	-3.734303129	0.046
USP9X	19.91255687	-1.050123802	0.936
USP9Y	-2.70683676	-3.167713816	0.083
USP10	2 471217499	3 685649796	0 736
USP11	-1 547728841	2 072648801	0 545
USP12	6 239118983	4 216985548	0.897
USP13	0.604915299	-0.870610858	0.544
USP14	-2 192564453	0.856050536	0.415
USP15	-2 749048088	16 41464922	0.737
USP16	18 40737356	-2 469127551	0.844
	0.976633913	-5 711985388	0.044
	-2 / 300/ 3505	2 125504442	0.104
	-1 0/8583607	-2 408568463	0.000
	-2 87066469	36 96059398	0.243
	-1 532362871	-3 28695565	0.713
	1 200050562	-3.200933003	0.193
	2 578753762	4.949977437	0.771
	2.070700702	10 73151554	0.743
	0.261202287	10.73131334	0.077
	2 100790797	1 280550456	0.940
	-3.100709707	-1.309330430	0.100
	4.0004600	1.237332422	0.526
	9.440091020	-4.090432005	0.299
	-3.040434023	-3.450217625	0.111
	-2.930211903	-4.029404933	0.000
	-2.274049531	-2.757646045	0.120
03733	-0.00219397	-0.959265661	0.454
	-0.478202883	-4.2320090	0.370
05P35	-3.330294904	-7.793320703	0.040
05P30	-3.209020347	0.20404334	0.341
	12.73075312	10.05150300 E 740047074	0.970
	-2.054058659	-5.710017074	0.141
	1.0000102	12 2070046	0.300
	4.102019220	13.2079016	0.91/
	-1.082098421	12.2331///3	0.834
	-U.4903/9532	-0.219526835	0.321
	-1.478149443	-1.752396596	0.199
	-3.900003354	-3.34300/845	0.048
	-4.001920920	0.501910585	0.070
	0.91801109	0.508821842	0.505
	-1.000393824	2.942129391	0.597
	-0.009890215	-3.213993901	0.332
	5.028920654	5.020313774	0.738
	29.74047116	1.001561841	0.924
	10.95921/81	-3.88994/19	0.595
	-5./1135241	-4.240053701	0.185
USP53	3.944671103	2.506637632	0.728

Supplementary Table 2 Genome-wide siRNA screening results of known USP genes.

Name	Sequence (5'- 3')
hAxin2_F	AGGTTCTGGCTATGTCTTTGC
hAxin2_R	TCTGGAGCTGTTTCTTACTGC
hUSP35_F	ATCTGTCAGCAACGTCACC
hUSP35_R	CCTTCATCCTCATCCTTGTCTTC
hUSP38_F	CGACTTTGGTTTCCTCTTGTG
hUSP38_R	CTTCTCTTCACTGGGCTTAGG
hBCL2_F	GTGGATGACTGAGTACCTGAAC
hBCL2_R	CCTGCAGCTTTGTTTCATGG
hPTCH1_F	GGCCCTTGTTTTGAATGGTG
hPTCH1_R	TTGAGTGGAGTTCTGTGCG
zUSP38_F	ACCTCTACGACAGCATTCTTG
zUSP38_R	CTGTTTCTGATTTGCCTGTGATC

Supplementary Table 3 qRT-PCR primer sequence. h: human; z: zebrafish.

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