

1 **TCF12 controls oligodendroglial cell proliferation and regulates signaling**
2 **pathways conserved in gliomas**

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5 **Running title:** TCF12 function in oligodendroglial cells and in gliomas

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41 **Abstract**

42 Diffuse gliomas are primary brain tumors originating from the transformation of glial
43 cells. In particular, oligodendrocyte precursor cells constitute the major tumor-
44 amplifying population in the gliomagenic process. We previously identified the *TCF12*
45 gene, encoding a transcription factor of the E protein family, as being recurrently
46 mutated in oligodendrogliomas. In this study, we sought to understand the function of
47 TCF12 in oligodendroglial cells, the glioma lineage of origin. We first describe TCF12
48 mRNA and protein expression pattern in oligodendroglial development in the mouse
49 brain. Second, by TCF12 genome wide chromatin profiling in oligodendroglial cells, we
50 show that TCF12 binds active promoters of genes involved in proliferation,
51 translation/ribosomes, and pathways involved in oligodendrocyte development and
52 cancer. Finally, we perform OPC-specific *Tcf12* inactivation *in vivo* and demonstrate
53 by immunofluorescence and transcriptomic analyses that TCF12 is transiently required
54 for OPC proliferation but dispensable for oligodendrocyte differentiation. We further
55 show that *Tcf12* inactivation results in deregulation of biological processes that are
56 also altered in oligodendrogliomas. Together, our data suggest that TCF12 directly
57 regulates transcriptional programs in oligodendroglia development that are relevant in
58 a glioma context.

59

60 **Keywords:** TCF12/HEB, oligodendrocyte, glioma, proliferation, chromatin
61 immunoprecipitation, transcriptomics, mouse model

62

63 **Main Text**

64 **Introduction**

65 Diffuse gliomas are the most prevalent malignant primary brain tumors in adults
66 (Ostrom et al., 2017). Gliomas are classified according to their histological and
67 genomic features, including the presence of mutations in isocitrate dehydrogenase
68 genes (mostly in *IDH1*) and the status of the loss of the chromosomal arms 1p and 19q
69 (termed as *1p/19q* co-deletion) (Louis et al., 2016). The three main glioma entities are
70 oligodendrogliomas (*IDH* mutated, *1p/19q* co-deleted), astrocytomas (*IDH* mutated,
71 *1p/19q* intact) and glioblastomas (also termed GBM, *IDH* wild type, *1p/19q* intact), with
72 the latter being most aggressive.

73 Gliomas contain cells with features of glial cells and neural stem/progenitor cells
74 (NSC/NPCs) that are endowed with proliferative capacity (Bielle et al., 2017; Neftel et
75 al., 2019; Tirosh et al., 2016). Furthermore, mounting evidence from genetically
76 engineered mouse models indicate that cells with characteristics of NSC/NPCs, or
77 oligodendrocyte precursor cells (OPCs) are potential cells of origin and responsible for
78 tumor amplification in gliomas (Alcantara Llaguno et al., 2009; C. Liu et al., 2011;
79 Persson et al., 2010; Weng et al., 2019). Thus, deciphering how alterations found in
80 gliomas impact oligodendroglial lineage cells is critical to understand the cellular and
81 molecular mechanisms underlying tumor development and progression.

82 In the forebrain, OPCs are generated from NSC/NPCs at both embryonic and
83 postnatal stages, and after proliferating and populating the brain, they start to
84 differentiate into myelin-producing oligodendrocytes (OLs) around the second week
85 after birth (Kessar et al., 2006; Shen et al., 2021). Recent studies have described
86 oligodendroglial differentiation as a continuum, starting from OPCs, followed
87 sequentially by committed oligodendrocyte progenitors (COPs), newly formed OLs
88 (NFOLs), myelin forming OLs (MFOLs) and finally by several populations of mature,
89 axon ensheathing, OLs (MOLs) (Marques et al., 2016, 2018). OPCs constitute the
90 major proliferating cell type the adult central nervous system (CNS), acting as source
91 for differentiated OLs while maintaining the pool of cells available for differentiation
92 (Dawson et al., 2003). OPC proliferation and differentiation properties are subjected to
93 a strict, finely tuned regulation by a complex network of signaling, transcription and
94 epigenetic factors (reviewed in (Parras et al., 2020; Sock & Wegner, 2019).

95 Transcription factor 12 (*TCF12*, also called *HTF4* or *HEB*) is a member the E
96 protein family, a subclass of the basic helix-loop-helix (bHLH) protein family that
97 includes TCF3 (E2A) and TCF4 (E2-2) (Massari & Murre, 2000). Functionally, TCF12
98 has been reported to regulate the differentiation of lymphocytes (Emmanuel et al.,
99 2018; Jones-Mason et al., 2012; Wojciechowski et al., 2007), the formation of germ
100 layers from embryonic stem cells (Li et al., 2017; Yi et al., 2020; Yoon et al., 2015),
101 osteoblast differentiation (Yi et al., 2017) and cranial suture development (Sharma et
102 al., 2013). In the CNS, TCF12 is implicated in the development of midbrain
103 dopaminergic neurons (Mesman & Smidt, 2017) but its roles in the oligodendroglial
104 lineage are not known. Early studies had demonstrated that *TCF12* is expressed in
105 oligodendrogliomas and astrocytomas (Riemenschneider et al., 2004). Furthermore,
106 we and others previously reported that *TCF12* is mutated in oligodendrogliomas
107 (Labreche et al., 2015; Aihara et al., 2017; Suzuki et al., 2015). In particular we found
108 that *TCF12* mutations resulted in reduced transcriptional activity and were associated
109 with aggressive tumor features (Labreche et al., 2015). However, how *TCF12*
110 mutations functionally impact the development of glioma cells of origin are not
111 understood.

112 In this study, we explored the functions of TCF12 in oligodendroglia and gliomas,
113 using chromatin binding profiling, transcriptomic and genomic analyses as well as
114 genetic mouse models of *Tcf12* conditional deletion. We report that TCF12 positively
115 regulates OPC proliferation *in vivo* and further suggest putative implications that can
116 be conserved in a glioma context.

117

118 **Methods**

119 **Mice**

120 Mice were housed, bred and treated in an authorized facility (agreement number
121 A751319). All protocols and procedures involving mice were ethically reviewed and
122 approved by the local ethics committee and the French Ministry of Research and
123 Higher Education (approval number APAFIS#20939-2020052811427837). Swiss

124 (RjOrl:SWISS) mice were obtained from Janvier Laboratories (France). *Tcf12^{flox}* mice
125 (*Tcf12^{tm3Zhu} Tcf3^{tm4Zhu}/J*; (Wojciechowski et al., 2007)) were obtained from Jackson
126 Laboratory and maintained as heterozygotes (*Tcf12^{flox/wt}*) by crossing them with
127 C57BL/6J mice (Janvier Laboratories). These mice were bred to *PDGFR α ::CreER^T*
128 (Kang et al., 2010) and *Rosa26^{LSL-YFP}* (Srinivas et al., 2001) to generate
129 *PDGFR α ::CreER^{T/wt}*; *Rosa26^{LSL-YFP/LSL-YFP}*; *Tcf12^{flox/wt}* males that were subsequently
130 bred with *Tcf12^{flox/wt}* females. Both male and female animals were used for the
131 experiments. Genotyping was performed using standard protocols (sequences of
132 genotyping primers are available upon request). To induce Cre-mediated DNA
133 recombination, *PDGFR α ::CreER^T;Rosa26^{LSL-YFP};Tcf12^{flox}* mice were injected
134 subcutaneously with 100 μ g/g of tamoxifen (T5648, Sigma; dissolved in corn oil; stock
135 concentration of 20mg/mL) at P13, once a day for three consecutive days.

136

137 Immunofluorescence on frozen sections

138 Mice were sedated by xylazine (Rompun, 10-15mg/kg) and euthanized by
139 intraperitoneal injection of sodium pentobarbital (Euthasol, 140mg /Kg). Mice were
140 intracardially perfused with NaCl 0.9% followed by PFA 2% (Electron Microscopy
141 Sciences 15713, diluted in PBS). Brains were post-fixed in PFA 2% and cryoprotected
142 in 20% sucrose overnight at 4°C. The following day, brains were embedded in OCT
143 (16-004004, Tissue-Tek), frozen in dry-ice-chilled isopentane and stored at -80 °C.
144 Fourteen-micron cryosections were obtained using a cryostat (Leica). Cryosections
145 were air-dried at room temperature (RT) and then incubated with blocking solution,
146 containing 10% normal goat serum (NGS) in 0.3 % Triton X-100 (Sigma) in PBS (PBS-
147 Triton 0.3%), for 1 hour at RT. Subsequently, sections were incubated with the primary
148 antibodies either at 4°C overnight or at RT for 2 hours. After three washes with PBS,
149 sections were incubated with fluorophore-labeled secondary antibodies for 1 hour at
150 RT. Both primary and secondary antibodies were diluted in blocking solution (10%
151 NGS in 0.3 % PBS-Triton). After three washes with PBS, sections were incubated in
152 DAPI solution (300nM, Invitrogen D3571) for nuclear counterstaining, for 10 minutes
153 at RT, and mounted using Fluoromount™ Aqueous Mounting Medium (Sigma-Aldrich).
154 Slides were kept at 4°C until image acquisition. Immunofluorescent staining of fixed
155 cells was performed as described above, except that a solution of 0.05 % Tween 20
156 (P2287 Merck) in PBS was used instead of 0.3 % Triton - PBS. The references of
157 primary and secondary antibodies are given in Supplementary Information.

158

159 Image acquisition and quantification

160 Images were captured using either a Leica Sp8x Confocal Microscope or a Zeiss wide-
161 field fluorescent microscope (equipped with an Apotome system). Image processing
162 and analysis was performed on ZEN 2.0 blue edition software (Zeiss) or Fiji (Schindelin
163 et al., 2012). Images were generated as maximum intensity projections (MIPs) of the
164 entire imaging depth. Cell counting was done with Fiji's Cell Counter plugin on MIPs.

165

166 Magnetic Activated Cell Sorting (MACSorting) of oligodendroglial cells

167 Mice (P12-P16) were euthanized with CO₂ followed by immediate decapitation. Brains
168 were rinsed in cold PBS and the dorsal region containing the cortex and corpus
169 callosum was harvested. Dissociation was performed using the gentleMACS Octo
170 Dissociator with Heaters (program 37C _NTDK _1, Miltenyi Biotec) with the
171 appropriate tubes (gentleMACS C Tubes, 130-093-237, Miltenyi Biotec) and an
172 enzymatic mix composed of 0.46 mg/mL papain (WOLS03126, Worthington), 0.1
173 mg/mL DNase (WOLS02139, Worthington) and 0.124 mg/mL L-cysteine (C7880,
174 Sigma) and HBSS 1X supplied with Ca²⁺ and Mg²⁺. Upon dissociation, the suspension
175 was filtered (130-110-916, Miltenyi Biotec), the cells were further resuspended in 5
176 volumes of cold HBSS and centrifuged at 300g for 10 minutes at 4°C. Additionally, a
177 debris removal step was performed using a Debris Removal Solution (130-109-398,
178 Miltenyi Biotec). Subsequently, cells were incubated with anti-O4 Microbeads (130-
179 094-543, Miltenyi Biotec) and magnetic separation was done using Multi-24 Column
180 Blocks and the MultiMACS Cell24 Separator Plus (130-095-692 and 130-098-637,
181 Miltenyi Biotec). O4⁺ cells were collected in BSA 0.5 % in PBS solution and counted.
182 To characterize the sorted cell population, part of cell suspension was plated poly-
183 ornithine coated (P4957, Sigma) and cultured for 2 hours before 4% PFA fixation as
184 described in (Marie et al., 2018).

185

186 Chromatin immunoprecipitation followed by sequencing (ChIP-Seq)

187 We used NPCs (cultures established from wild type Swiss neonatal mice) or acutely
188 isolated O4⁺ MACSorted cells (harvested from P11-P12 wild type Swiss mice). We
189 used 4.10⁶ cells for immunoprecipitation with TCF12 antibody and 10⁶ cells for
190 immunoprecipitation with each histone (H3K27Ac, H3K4me3, H3K27me3) antibody.
191 Cells were fixed in PFA 1% for 10 minutes at RT. Fixation was quenched with 125 mM
192 glycine (G8898, Sigma) for 5 minutes and cells were washed in cold PBS supplied with
193 protease inhibitor cocktail (11873580001, Roche). Cells were stored as dry cell pellet
194 at -80°C until further processed. The next steps were performed using iDeal ChIP-Seq
195 kit for Transcription Factors (C01010055, Diagenode). Briefly, cells were lysed, and
196 chromatin was sheared using a Bioruptor Pico sonicator (10 sonication cycles 30" ON/
197 30" OFF, Diagenode). Sheared chromatin was incubated under constant rotation at
198 4°C O/N with Protein A-coated magnetic beads, coupled with rabbit anti-TCF12
199 antibody (5 µg, SAB3500566, Sigma). Elution, cross-link reversal and DNA purification
200 steps were performed according to the manufacturer's protocol (Diagenode). Input
201 (non-immunoprecipitated sheared chromatin) was used as control. Protocols for
202 H3K27Ac, H3K4me3, H3K27me3, are described elsewhere (C Marie and C Parras,
203 unpublished data). The ChIP-Seq libraries were prepared using TruSeq ChIP library
204 preparation kit (ILLUMINA) and sequenced with a Nextseq 500 platform (ILLUMINA,
205 57 10⁶ of 75 bp pair-end reads per sample). Sequenced datasets were processed with
206 the Galaxy suite (<https://usegalaxy.org/>). Reads were trimmed using Cutadapt and
207 Trimmomatic. Data was aligned to the mouse mm10 genome, using Bowtie2. PCR-
208 derived duplicates were removed using PICARD MarkDuplicates and blacklisted
209 regions were removed with blacklist. Bigwig coverage files were generated with
210 bamCoverage and peak calling was performed using MACS (Model-based Analysis of

211 ChIP-Seq) with options: --keep-dup 1, --narrow, --nomodel and filtered according to
212 the following criteria: (i) length \geq 100bp and (ii) p-value \leq 5%. The Input for each
213 individual experiment was used as control. Representation of the data was done using
214 IGV browser (<https://software.broadinstitute.org/software/igv/> , (Robinson et al.,
215 2011)). Overlapping, region annotation and correlations were done using Genomatix
216 (www.genomatix.de). Gene set enrichment analyses were done using Enrichr
217 (<https://maayanlab.cloud/Enrichr/>),(Chen et al., 2013)). “Promoters” correspond to
218 regions 1000bp upstream of transcription start site (TSS) and 10bp downstream of
219 TSS (Genomatix). “Enhancers” correspond to the regions associated with the
220 presence of histone marks outside promoters.

221 RNA extraction, RT-qPCR and sequencing

222 mRNAs of O4⁺ MACSorted cells were extracted using the Macherey-Nagel NucleoSpin
223 RNA XS kit (740902.50, Macherey-Nagel) and quantified with Nanodrop
224 spectrophotometer. RNAs were reverse transcribed to cDNA using the Maxima 1str
225 cDNA Synth Kit (K1642, LifeTechnologies). Quantitative PCR was performed using
226 LightCycler 480 SYBR Green I Master Mix (4707516001, Roche) on a LightCycler®
227 96 thermocycler. Samples were run in replicates (duplicates or triplicates). Primers
228 details are listed in the Supplementary Information. *Gapdh* and *Tbp* genes were used
229 for normalization. Analyses were performed using the delta-delta Cq method.

230 For RNA sequencing, RNA-Seq libraries were prepared using the NEBNext Ultra II
231 Directional RNA Library Prep Kit (NEB) and sequenced with the Novaseq 6000
232 platform (ILLUMINA, 32*10⁶ 100bp pair-end reads per sample). Quality of raw data
233 was evaluated with FastQC. Poor quality sequences were trimmed or removed with
234 fastp tool, with default parameters, to retain only good quality paired reads. Illumina
235 DRAGEN bio-IT Plateform (v3.6.3) was used for mapping on mm10 reference genome
236 and quantification with gencode vM25 annotation gtf file. Library orientation, library
237 composition and coverage along transcripts were checked with Picard tools.
238 Subsequent analyses were conducted with R software. Data were normalized with
239 edgeR (v3.28.0) bioconductor packages, prior to differential analysis with glm
240 framework likelihood ratio test from edgeR package workflow. Multiple hypothesis
241 adjusted p-values were calculated with the Benjamini-Hochberg procedure to control
242 False Discovery Rate (FDR). Finally, enrichment analysis was conducted with
243 clusterProfiler R package (v3.14.3) using Gene Set Enrichment Analysis (GSEA), on
244 hand curated collections and on collections of the MSigDB. For the differential
245 expression analyses, low expressed genes were filtered, sex was used as covariable
246 and the cut-offs applied were: FDR < 0.05 and log2FC > 0.5.

247 Statistical analysis

248 Data were plotted and analyzed using MS Excel, GraphPad Prism 8 or R Studio,
249 unless otherwise specified. In bar graphs, data are presented as mean + standard
250 error of the mean (SEM). Points indicate independent biological samples (n) of the
251 same genotype. Statistical tests used are specified in the figure legends.

252

253 Results

254

255 *TCF12* is altered in gliomas

256 To extend previous studies and obtain a broad view of the type and distribution of
257 *TCF12* alterations in gliomas, we queried the “Lower Grade Glioma” (LGG, grades II-
258 III) and “Glioblastoma Multiforme” (GBM, grade IV) data sets of the TCGA PanCancer
259 Atlas (containing data for 514 and 592 tumors respectively). By interrogating those
260 datasets for mutations and copy number alterations, we found that *TCF12* alterations
261 are present in all glioma types (Supplementary Figure 1A). *TCF12* is altered in
262 approximately 27% and 18% of the GBM and LGG respectively (Figure 1A). In both
263 tumor types, 70-80% of *TCF12* alterations correspond to heterozygous losses (Figure
264 1B). We next compared the occurrence of *TCF12* alterations with other common
265 glioma alterations. We found that *TCF12* alterations co-occur with the most common
266 glioma alterations (*TP53*, *PTEN*, *NF1*, *EGFR*, *CDKN2A*) but do not co-occur
267 significantly with *IDH1* or *CIC* alterations (Supplementary Figure 1A and 1B;
268 Supplementary Table 1), further indicating that *TCF12* alterations are not specific to a
269 glioma type. We next analyzed whether *TCF12* alterations were associated with
270 patient clinical outcome. We did not detect an association between *TCF12* alterations
271 and patient overall survival (Figure 1C and 1D). However, when considering *TCF12*
272 high and low expression levels (Supplementary Table 2), we noted that patients with
273 higher *TCF12* expression had a better survival compared to *TCF12*-low patients, both
274 in GBM and LGG (Figure 1E and 1F), in line with a recently published study (Noorani
275 et al., 2020). Together, these data suggest a broad and tumor suppressive function for
276 *TCF12* in gliomas.

277

278 *TCF12* is expressed in oligodendroglial cells

279 Given that cells with features of OPCs constitute a major tumor driving population in
280 gliomas (C. Liu et al., 2011; Weng et al., 2019), we thus explored *TCF12* function in
281 these cells. In order to characterize *Tcf12* expression across the oligodendrocyte
282 lineage, we first interrogated a bulk RNA-Seq transcriptome database of mouse and
283 human cerebral cortex cell types (Zhang et al 2014), finding that *Tcf12* is expressed in
284 neurons, astrocytes and in oligodendroglial cells in the mouse and human brain, with
285 higher expression levels in oligodendroglia (Figure 2A). We next processed and
286 integrated single cell transcriptomic datasets of embryonic and postnatal mouse
287 oligodendroglial lineage cells (Marques et al., 2016; 2018) to further explore *Tcf12*
288 expression across the oligodendrocyte (OL) lineage (Supplementary Figure 2A and
289 2B). Analysis of this data revealed *Tcf12* expression in NSCs, NPCs, and OL lineage
290 cells, with *Tcf12* expression being higher in early progenitor cells and differentiating
291 OLs, compared to mature OLs (Figure 2B,C). Given the functional compensation
292 among E-proteins suggested in neuroglial and other lineages (Ravanpay & Olson,
293 2008; Wedel et al., 2020; Zhuang et al., 1998), we also analyzed the expression of
294 *Tcf3* and *Tcf4* in OL lineage cells. While *Tcf3* was expressed in few cells and at quite
295 low levels, *Tcf4* was expressed in a higher percentage of NSCs, NPCs, and
296 oligodendroglia than *Tcf12*, with a peak of expression in NPCs and OPCs

297 (Supplementary 2C). Finally, we validated the presence of TCF12 protein in
298 oligodendroglial cells in wild type mice by performing immunofluorescence of TCF12
299 along with PDGFRa (identifying OPCs), and the combination of CC1 and OLIG1
300 (identifying OLs, Figure 2D). We show that TCF12 protein is present in OPCs and
301 differentiating OLs in the mouse corpus callosum, at postnatal and adult stages (Figure
302 2E-F).

303

304 **TCF12 primarily occupies active promoter regions in oligodendroglial cells**

305 To explore the potential roles mediated by TCF12 in the oligodendrocyte lineage, we
306 next sought to identify putative TCF12 gene targets and pathways in oligodendroglial
307 cells, by generating the chromatin binding profiles of TCF12 in NSC/NPCs and
308 oligodendroglia. To do so, we first performed magnetic-activated cell sorting (MACS)
309 using O4 antibodies (recognizing OPCs/OLs, (Dincman et al., 2012) to purify
310 oligodendroglial cells from wild type postnatal day 12 (P12) mice, obtaining a
311 population composed of ~30% OPCs and ~60% OLs (thereafter termed “OPCs/OLs”,
312 Supplementary Figure 3A-B). To assess cell type-specific and overlapping targets for
313 TCF12, we also prepared neurosphere cultures of neural progenitor cells (thereafter
314 termed “NPCs”, Supplementary Figure 3A). We then performed chromatin
315 immunoprecipitation followed by DNA sequencing (ChIP-Seq) using
316 antibodies directed against TCF12 and histone marks defining status of regulatory
317 elements as active, poised and repressed. Elements harboring H3K27Ac/H3K4me3
318 were considered as active, H3K4me3 alone as poised, and H3K27me3 as repressed
319 (Rada-Iglesias et al., 2011). Peak calling identified 18405 TCF12 binding sites in NPCs
320 and 28654 in OPCs/OLs that were associated with 6947 and 15670 genes,
321 respectively (Figure 3A, Supplementary Table 3). Only 3032 genes were shared
322 between OPCs/OLs and NPCs, suggesting that TCF12 binding is cell type specific
323 (Figure 3A). Analysis of the distribution of TCF12 binding sites over genomic regions
324 (promoters, exons, introns, and intragenic regions) indicated that TCF12 binding in
325 OPCs/OLs was particularly enriched in promoters, representing 42% of bound regions,
326 compared to only 7% in NPCs (Figure 3B). Visualizing the genomic distribution of
327 TCF12 binding sites further revealed a strong enrichment of TCF12 binding in the
328 proximity of promoters in OPCs/OLs but not in NPCs, whereas TCF12 bound the
329 vicinity of enhancers, defined as regions harboring a histone mark located away from
330 a transcription start site, in both NPCs and OPCs/OLs (Figure 3C). We then
331 characterized whether the regulatory regions bound by TCF12 were active, poised or
332 repressed and found that promoter regions bound by TCF12 were mainly active both
333 in OPCs/OLs and NPCs (52% active, 12% poised, and 6% repressed in OPCs/OLs,
334 and 63% active, 23% poised, and 5% repressed in NPCs), while enhancer regions
335 bound by TCF12 binding corresponded mostly to poised enhancers (52% in
336 OPCs/OLs and 69% in NPCs) (Figure 3D and Supplementary Figure 3C,
337 Supplementary Table 3). Altogether, our findings of TCF12 occupancy in gene
338 regulatory regions enriched in active or poised chromatin marks in both OPCs/OLs and
339 NPCs, suggest that it directly activates gene expression in both cell types. Notably, the
340 promoters of genes known as markers of OPCs (*Pdgfra*) and OLs (*Itpr2*, *Mbp*), as well

341 as proliferation markers (*Mki67*, *Cdkn1a*), were bound by TCF12 in OPCs/OLs and
342 displayed active histone marks (Figure 3E). Finally, we performed enrichment analysis
343 of the genes associated with TCF12 binding at active promoters in OPCs/OLs. This
344 analysis revealed enrichment of pathways related to proliferation,
345 translation/ribosomes, proteasome, and signaling pathways involved in
346 oligodendrocyte development and cancer (such as MYC, TGF β , PI3K/AKT/mTOR,
347 WNT-beta catenin, p53, Notch) (Figure 3F; Supplementary Figure 3D; Supplementary
348 Table 4). Therefore, all together, these data suggest that TCF12 regulates
349 oligodendrocyte development, by positively regulating gene expression.

350

351 TCF12 inactivation in OPCs *in vivo* leads to proliferation defects

352 To further characterize the roles of TCF12 in oligodendrocyte lineage, we generated
353 an inducible *Tcf12* knockout mouse model. To do so, we combined a *Tcf12*^{fllox} mice
354 having loxP sites flanking the exons encoding the bHLH domain (Mesman & Smidt,
355 2017; Wojciechowski et al., 2007), with mice carrying *Pdgfra::CreER*^T driver (Kang et
356 al., 2010) and *YFP* inducible reporter (Srinivas et al., 2001). Thus, in this
357 *Pdgfra::CreER*^T;*Rosa26*^{LSL-YFP};*Tcf12*^{fllox} model, TCF12 inactivation can be induced
358 specifically in OPCs upon tamoxifen-dependent Cre-mediated recombination and the
359 cell fates of *Tcf12*-mutant cells can be traced by the YFP reporter. In this model, we
360 compared mutant heterozygous (*Tcf12*^{het}) and homozygous (*Tcf12*^{hom}) animals with
361 intact *Tcf12* (*Tcf12*^{ctrl}) littermates (Supplementary Figure 4A-B). As a first step, we
362 administrated tamoxifen at P13, at the peak of oligodendrocyte differentiation in the
363 corpus callosum, and performed our analysis at P16 to focus on the immediate effects
364 following *Tcf12* inactivation (Figure 4A). We first validated the efficacy of Cre-mediated
365 recombination of the *Tcf12*^{fllox} allele by quantifying mutated *Tcf12* transcripts by RT-
366 qPCR on OPCs/OLs purified by O4⁺ magnetic sorting from P16 cortices. We observed
367 a 25% to 50% decrease in *Tcf12* transcript levels in *Tcf12*^{het} and *Tcf12*^{hom} animals
368 respectively, compared to *Tcf12*^{ctrl} (Supplementary Figure 4D), which is consistent with
369 ~60% of O4⁺ cells being recombined (YFP⁺) at the time of analysis (Supplementary
370 Figure 4E). We next asked whether *Tcf12* inactivation affected OPC proliferation and
371 differentiation properties by performing combined immunostaining with antibodies
372 against GFP to detect the recombined (YFP⁺) cells, PDGFR α /Ki67 to label OPCs and
373 their proliferative status, and CC1/OLIG1 to label different OL stages (Figure 4B, C).
374 Remarkably, while the density of recombined OPCs (PDGFR α ⁺GFP⁺/mm²) (Figure 4D)
375 and the fraction of recombined OPCs (PDGFR α ⁺GFP⁺/PDGFR α ⁺ and PDGFR α ⁺GFP⁺/
376 GFP⁺) (Figure 4E,F) remained unchanged in the corpus callosum across the different
377 genotypes, the fraction of proliferating OPCs was reduced by two-fold in *Tcf12*^{hom}
378 animals (28.2% \pm 3.94% in *Tcf12*^{ctrl}, 25.3% \pm 3.31% in *Tcf12*^{het}, and 13.6% \pm 2.42% in
379 *Tcf12*^{hom}, Figure 4G). This result parallels our ChIP-Seq analysis, which indicated a
380 positive regulation of proliferation by TCF12. We then analyzed different stages of
381 differentiating OLs identified by their differential expression of CC1 and OLIG1 (Marie
382 et al., 2018; Nakatani et al., 2013). We did not detect any difference among genotypes
383 in the proportions of recombined cells being early (CC1⁺OLIG1⁺GFP⁺ cells) and
384 intermediate/late differentiating OLs (CC1⁺OLIG1⁺GFP⁺ cells), although we noted a

385 trend towards more mature oligodendrocytes in *Tcf12^{hom}* mice (Figure 4H-I). Together,
386 our data suggest that TCF12 is a positive regulator of OPC proliferation and likely
387 dispensable in OL differentiation.

388 To address whether changes in OPC proliferation and differentiation persist following
389 *Tcf12* inactivation, we induced *Pdgfra::CreERT;Rosa^{LSL-YFP};Tcf12^{fllox}* mice as
390 previously at P13 and harvested them ten days later (P23; Supplementary Figure 4F-
391 N). We noticed that the densities of recombined cells (PDGFRa+GFP+/mm²) were
392 similar among genotypes (Supplementary Figure 4I). In addition, OPC proliferation did
393 not change between genotypes, nor differentiating oligodendrocytes (Supplementary
394 Figure 4J-N). These results suggest that TCF12 is, in the long term, dispensable for
395 proper OPC proliferation and differentiation.

396

397 [Transcriptomic analyses of *Tcf12*-deficient oligodendroglial cells highlight](#)
398 [differentiation defects and deregulation of cancer related pathways](#)

399 To gain insights into the molecular mechanisms altered upon *Tcf12* inactivation, we
400 performed a transcriptomic analysis. We purified OPCs/OLs (O4⁺ cells) at P16 from
401 control and mutant mice three days after tamoxifen induction and performed RNA
402 sequencing (Figure 5A). Using stringent criteria of statistical analysis (FDR <0.05,
403 log₂FC >0.5), we detected few differentially expressed genes (Supplementary Table
404 5). We thus analyzed the data by the method of gene set enrichment analysis
405 (GSEA). To this goal, we first performed GSEA using a hand-curated collection of
406 oligodendroglial gene sets derived from publications (Marques et al., 2016, 2018;
407 Weng et al., 2019; Zhang et al., 2014) (collection provided in Supplementary Table 6).
408 In line with our observations from immunofluorescence analysis, we observed a
409 downregulation of gene sets related to OPCs and their proliferation in mutant animals
410 compared to controls (Figure 5B and Supplementary Table 7). Moreover, we noted a
411 positive enrichment of gene sets related to more differentiated oligodendrocytes in
412 mutant compared to control animals (Figure 5B and Supplementary Table 7).
413 Interestingly, enrichment analysis comparing *Tcf12^{Het}* vs *Tcf12^{ctrl}* cells revealed similar
414 defects in proliferation and differentiation, although we were not able to detect these
415 changes with the immunofluorescence approach (Supplementary Figure 5A).

416 To establish a broader view of the data beyond the oligodendrocyte signatures, we
417 carried out GSEA using the highly curated HALLMARK collection from the molecular
418 signature database (MSigDB) (Liberzon et al., 2015). In agreement with the previous
419 analysis, comparison between *Tcf12^{hom}* and controls also revealed a negative
420 enrichment of cell cycle processes (E2F targets, mitotic spindle, G2M checkpoint),
421 together with epithelial-mesenchymal transition (EMT) gene sets, and a positive
422 enrichment of pathways related to metabolism (oxidative phosphorylation, fatty acid,
423 adipogenesis, and reactive oxygen species) and MYC target genes (Figure 5C).
424 Parallel analysis of *Tcf12^{het}* compared to controls showed no enrichment in cell cycle
425 processes, but upregulation of processes related to cholesterol homeostasis, and
426 downregulation of immune signatures (inflammatory and interferon responses), EMT
427 and NOTCH signaling (Supplementary Figure 5B). Querying additional collections
428 from the molecular signature database (REACTOME, KEGG,

429 GO_Biological_Process), we observed that *Tcf12* inactivation was also associated
430 with negative regulation of developmental pathways (such as NOTCH, BMP) and
431 pathways related to cancer (such as cell cycle, extracellular matrix, ribosome, TP53,
432 (Supplementary Figure 5C). Interestingly, the absence of functional TCF12 induced a
433 deregulation of ribosome biogenesis and translation-related pathways (Figure 5D,
434 Supplementary Figure 5C) which are a strictly tuned in a multi-staged process
435 controlling diverse cellular responses, such as cell proliferation and growth (Hetman &
436 Slomnicki, 2019).

437

438 Conservation of TCF12 regulated pathways in human gliomas

439 To determine how TCF12-dependent pathways may be relevant in gliomas, we took
440 advantage of our previously published cohort of *TCF12*-mutated oligodendrogliomas
441 (Labreche et al., 2015). We re-analyzed the transcriptomics data, comparing samples
442 with *TCF12* alterations (mutations and/or loss of heterozygosity and/or copy number
443 loss of heterozygosity without loss of heterozygosity; n=20) to non-altered (non-
444 mutated and normal *TCF12* genomic status; n=35) samples (Supplementary Table 8).
445 We performed gene set enrichment analysis using the HALLMARK collection from the
446 molecular signature database. Interestingly, this analysis showed positive enrichment
447 of pathways related to MYC, oxidative phosphorylation, cell cycle (E2F targets) in
448 *TCF12*-altered tumors, similar to our analysis of *Tcf12*-inactivated cells (Figure 5E). In
449 addition, EMT and immune response signatures were negatively enriched in *TCF12*-
450 altered tumors. We also interrogated the REACTOME collection and found that
451 pathways related to translation and regulation of p53 activity were positively enriched
452 in *TCF12*-altered tumors (Figure 5F). These data indicate that the TCF12-regulated
453 processes that we identified from our molecular analyses of mouse oligodendroglial
454 cells are conserved in a glioma setting.

455 Discussion

456 Oligodendrocyte precursor cells (OPCs) have been proposed to be the cells of origin
457 for gliomas and responsible for tumor expansion (C. Liu et al., 2011; Persson et al.,
458 2010; Sugiarto et al., 2011; Weng et al., 2019), although mutations may arise as early
459 as the neural stem cell stage (J. H. Lee et al., 2018; C. Liu et al., 2011). Understanding
460 how genes altered in gliomas impact the lineage of origin can provide insights into their
461 implication in gliomas, as these functions may be conserved in a tumor context. In this
462 study, we aimed to explore the roles of TCF12 in the oligodendroglial lineage and in
463 gliomagenesis. Although TCF12, similar to other members of the E protein family
464 (TCF3, TCF4), is a ubiquitously expressed protein, its function remains poorly
465 characterized in cell-specific contexts. *Tcf12* was reported to be expressed in spinal
466 cord oligodendroglial cells and oligodendroglial cultures (Fu et al., 2009; Sussman et
467 al., 2002; Wedel et al., 2020). Here, querying resources of bulk and single cell
468 transcriptomic data sets from embryonic and postnatal mouse brain (Marques et al.,
469 2016, 2018; Zhang et al., 2014), we find that *Tcf12* is expressed throughout
470 oligodendrocyte lineage development, with higher transcript levels in progenitor and

471 cells at early stages of differentiation. By immunofluorescence, we demonstrate a
472 similar pattern of TCF12 protein in postnatal and adult oligodendroglia, with TCF12
473 levels peaking in OPC and differentiating oligodendrocytes.

474 We report the first analysis of TCF12 genome wide binding sites in
475 oligodendroglial cells acutely isolated from the postnatal cerebral cortex. TCF12
476 binding sites were enriched in promoter regions compared to other genomic regions,
477 and associated with active histone marks, suggesting that TCF12 acts as a
478 transcriptional activator in oligodendrocyte lineage cells. The key regulators of
479 oligodendrocyte development ASCL1 and OLIG2 are known to dimerize with E-
480 proteins to control gene expression. TCF12 binding sites partially overlap with those
481 of ASCL1 and OLIG2 (C Marie and C Parras, unpublished data) suggesting interaction
482 between TCF12 and these proteins in transcriptional regulation of oligodendroglial
483 cells. Interestingly, a recent study pointed to a preferential interaction of TCF12 with
484 OLIG1 in HEK cells (Wedel et al., 2020). Future studies will be needed to determine
485 the contribution of the different TCF12 heterodimers in the regulation of OPC
486 proliferation and differentiation.

487 We further show that specific inactivation of *Tcf12* in postnatal OPCs result in
488 a significant decrease in the proportion of proliferating OPCs without impacting the
489 proportions of OPCs and oligodendrocytes. This result indicates that TCF12 controls
490 OPC proliferation, as suggested by our ChIP-Seq data and in agreement with our
491 observations of high *Tcf12* expression in neural stem and progenitors of the mouse
492 brain. Transcriptomic analyses of *Tcf12* deficient cells offered a higher resolution of
493 altered processes and further pointed out differentiation defects, that we were unable
494 to detect from our immunohistochemical analysis, although we noted a trend towards
495 more mature oligodendrocytes in *Tcf12*-deficient mice. Enrichment of oligodendrocyte
496 signatures in *Tcf12*-deficient cells may reflect the consequences of decreased OPC
497 proliferation. Our data thus suggest that in the oligodendroglial lineage, TCF12 may
498 primarily act on proliferation, rather than differentiation. This is in agreement with a
499 recent study showing that ectopic TCF12 does not affect oligodendrocyte
500 differentiation of brain organotypic slices (Wedel et al., 2020). However, our finding of
501 TCF12 binding to the promoters of oligodendrocyte genes implies a possible and
502 subtle implication of TCF12 in the control of differentiation. We noted that the effects
503 of *Tcf12* inactivation on proliferation are transient. Given that all three E-protein genes
504 (*Tcf12*, *Tcf3*, *Tcf4*) are expressed in developing oligodendrocytes, it is possible that
505 TCF3 and TCF4 may compensate for TCF12 deficiency, as shown for *Tcf12*^{-/-} mouse
506 cerebella that display upregulation of *Tcf4* transcripts (Ravanpay & Olson, 2008).
507 Although we did not detect an upregulation in *Tcf3* and *Tcf4* transcripts in *Tcf12*-
508 deficient OPCs three days post inactivation (Supplementary Table 5), we cannot
509 exclude that a compensation takes place later on, given the strong levels of *Tcf4*
510 transcripts present in OPCs.

511 Transcriptomic analysis of both *Tcf12*-deficient oligodendroglia (this study) and
512 TCF12-mutated gliomas (Labreche et al., 2015) revealed few significantly differentially
513 expressed genes in the context of TCF12 inactivation compared to wild type TCF12.
514 This result is intriguing given that we find TCF12 binds over 15,000 genes in the

515 genome of oligodendroglial cells and therefore one might expect substantial
516 deregulation of gene expression in the absence of functional TCF12. However, the
517 apparent lack of gene expression differences may in fact highlight the diversity of
518 processes directly controlled by TCF12, as many of them may interact and regulate
519 each other, leading to an overall normalization of gene expression.

520 Interestingly, our ChIP-Seq and RNA-Seq data suggest a control by TCF12 of
521 several processes involved in cancer, many of which are also perturbed in TCF12
522 altered oligodendrogliomas. For example, we observed a negative enrichment of terms
523 related to the extracellular matrix and epithelial-mesenchymal transition (EMT) in
524 *Tcf12*-deficient OPCs and in *TCF12*-altered oligodendrogliomas. Accordingly, TCF12
525 was shown to repress E-cadherin expression, and its expression has been correlated
526 with increased invasion, migration, and metastasis in several cancers (He et al., 2016;
527 C.-C. Lee et al., 2011; Luo et al., 2020), including GBM (Zhu et al., 2021). An important
528 difference we noted between our mouse model and *TCF12*-altered
529 oligodendrogliomas is that while proliferation is decreased in *Tcf12*-deficient OPCs,
530 loss of *TCF12* is associated with increased proliferation in human oligodendrogliomas.
531 We previously showed that *TCF12* mutations in oligodendrogliomas were associated
532 with more aggressive tumor features (Labreche et al., 2015), indicative of a tumor-
533 suppressive function for TCF12. In line with these findings, TCF12 was recently
534 identified as a master regulator of the differentiated, rather than stem-like, state in
535 glioblastomas (Castellan et al., 2021). In contrast, a previous study showed that *TCF12*
536 silencing decreased proliferation and invasion in glioma cell lines (Godoy et al., 2016).
537 All these data suggest that mechanisms induced by the mutational and cellular
538 contexts in gliomas may interfere with TCF12-mediated regulation of proliferation.

539 Importantly, our study implies novel roles for TCF12 in the control of ribosome
540 biogenesis and translation. TCF12 has been shown to bind the bHLH transcription
541 factor MYC in rat fibroblasts (Agrawal et al., 2010). MYC directly controls ribosome
542 biogenesis and translation, by inducing the transcription of ribosomal RNA, ribosomal
543 proteins and genes involved in the maturation of ribosomal RNAs (Piazzi et al., 2019).
544 Perturbation of the ribosome biogenesis process has been shown to activate p53
545 (Piazzi et al., 2019). Interestingly, processes related to MYC, TP53 and
546 ribosome/translation were enriched in both *Tcf12*-deficient oligodendroglial cells and
547 *TCF12*-altered oligodendrogliomas. In addition, we detected binding of TCF12 on
548 promoters of *Myc*, *Mycn* and genes involved in ribosome biogenesis (such as *Rpl5*,
549 *Ruvbl2*, *Fbl*) in oligodendroglial cells. Our study is the first to suggest a link between
550 TCF12 and ribosome biogenesis. Of note, interactions between E-proteins and
551 ribosome biogenesis were previously reported: TCF4 is detected in the nucleolus,
552 where ribosome biogenesis occurs, and loss of function mutants inhibit protein
553 synthesis in rat hippocampal neurons (Slomnicki et al., 2016). Moreover, TCF4
554 overexpression represses MYC target genes in a leukemic cell line (N. Liu et al., 2019).
555 In conclusion, our study suggests that TCF12 directly regulates many signaling
556 pathways in oligodendroglia development that are relevant in a glioma context.

557

558 Author contributions

559 SA and EH conceptualized the study. SA, CM, CP and EH designed experiments and
560 analyzed data. SA and CM performed experiments. BG, JG and CP analyzed
561 transcriptomic data generated in this paper and from public databases. MS, CP and
562 EH obtained funding. EH supervised the study. SA, CP and EH wrote the manuscript.
563 All authors revised the manuscript.
564

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805

806 Data Availability Statement

807 ChIPseq and RNAseq data generated in this study are available through the Gene
808 Expression Omnibus (*data will be deposited upon acceptance of the manuscript*). The
809 data that support the findings of this study are available from the corresponding author
810 upon reasonable request.

811 Figure Legends

812 [Figure 1: TCF12 is altered in gliomas.](#)

813 **A.** Bar graph showing the percentage of *TCF12* altered samples in the glioblastoma
814 (GBM, 592 samples) and lower grade glioma (LGG, 514 samples) cohorts from The
815 Cancer Genome Atlas (TCGA). **B.** Pie charts illustrating the types of alterations in
816 *TCF12* altered gliomas of Figure 1A. **C-D.** Kaplan-Meier survival curves of TCGA
817 LGGs (n=77 altered, n=418 non altered, C) and GBMs (n=95 altered, n=263 non
818 altered, D) comparing *TCF12* altered vs non altered groups. **E-F.** Kaplan-Meier survival
819 curves of TCGA LGGs (n=154 high, n=359 low, E) and GBMs (n=46 high, n=106 low,
820 E) comparing high or low *TCF12* mRNA expression.

821

822 [Supplementary Figure 1 \(related to Figure 1\)](#)

823 **A.** OncoPrint showing *TCF12* alterations along with other genes commonly altered in
824 gliomas (TCGA GBM/LGG cohort). Each column represents one sample. Only the
825 *TCF12* altered samples (210/1106) are displayed. The cumulative frequency of
826 alterations of each gene observed in the total number of patient samples is indicated.
827 **B.** Chart summarizing the estimated co-occurrence of *TCF12* alterations with genes
828 commonly altered in gliomas (from Supplementary Figure 1A). Statistical significance
829 was determined with Fisher’s exact test. Analysis was performed using the “Mutual
830 Exclusivity” tool by “cbioportal”.

831

832 [Figure 2: TCF12 is expressed in oligodendroglial cells](#)

833 **A.** Bar graphs showing the expression of *TCF12* mRNA in astrocytes, neurons and
834 oligodendroglial cells in mouse (top) and human (bottom) brain (data extracted from
835 <https://www.brainrnaseq.org/>) **B.** Reconstructed UMAP representation illustrating
836 *Tcf12* expression across oligodendroglia differentiation (direction of differentiation
837 indicated by the arrow, yellow = low expression and dark blue = high expression,
838 related to Supplementary Figure 2 A-B). **C.** Dot plot showing mean *Tcf12* expression
839 and the percentage of *Tcf12*-expressing cells in each cluster shown in Supplementary
840 Figure 2B. **D.** Schematic representation of the expression of selected OPC and OL
841 markers (according to (Nakatani et al., 2013)). **E-F.** Immunostaining of TCF12 with
842 PDGFRa (OPCs, E) or CC1 and OLIG1 (OLs, F) in the corpus callosum of postnatal
843 (P15) and adult (P60) wild type mice. Scale bars, 20µm. Insets represent 60%
844 magnifications of the cells highlighted dash-lined squares. OPCs = oligodendrocyte
845 precursor cells, OLs = oligodendrocytes.

846

847 [Supplementary Figure 2 \(related to Figure 2\)](#)

848 **A.** UMAP representing the compilation of the two single cell RNA-Seq data sets by
849 Marques *et al* 2016 & 2018. **B.** UMAP with colored dots representing the 9 stages of
850 differentiation (simplified clusters), from neural stem cells to mature myelinating
851 oligodendrocytes. **C.** Dot plot summarizing the average mRNA expression of the three
852 E proteins (*Tcf12*, *Tcf3* and *Tcf4*) and the percentage of expressing cells in each one
853 of the clusters of the Supplementary Figure 2B.

854

855 [Figure 3: TCF12 mainly occupies active promoter regions in oligodendroglial cells](#)

856 **A.** Venn diagrams illustrating the overlap of TCF12 bound sites and genes in NPCs
857 and OPCs/OLs. **B.** Graphs depicting the annotation of TCF12 bound sites in NPCs
858 (middle) and OPCs/OLs (right) with genomic regions compared to the region
859 representation in the genome (left). **C.** Graphs showing the number of correlations of
860 TCF12 peaks in NPCs (purple line) and OPCs/OLs (blue line) compared the central
861 position of promoter (left) and enhancer (right) regions. **D.** Pie charts showing the
862 distribution of TCF12 bound sites in promoter (left) and enhancer (right) regions in
863 OPCs/OLs in association with epigenetic marks: H3K4me3 and H3K27Ac = active,
864 H3K4me = poised, H3K27me3= repressed, NA=no epigenetic mark. **E.** Representative
865 ChIP-Seq tracks for TCF12, input control and active epigenetic marks (H3K4me3 and
866 H3K27Ac) in *Pdgfra*, *Itpr2*, *Mbp*, *Ki67* and *Cdkn1a* in promoter regions in OPCs/OLs.
867 **F.** Bar plots showing significantly enriched terms and pathways in the TCF12 bound
868 genes with active promoters in OPCs/OLs (6596 genes). For the
869 “MSigDB_Hallmark_2020” library, the top 15 most significant gene sets are displayed.
870 For the “GO_Biological_Process_2021” library, 15 among the top 50 most significant
871 gene sets are displayed.

872

873 [Supplementary Figure 3 \(related to Figure 3\)](#)

874 **A.** Scheme illustrating the experimental strategy for the ChIP-Seq experiments. **B.**
875 Quantification of PDGFRa+ and CNP+ cells (as percentage of the total cells) of the

876 immunofluorescence immunocytochemistry of cells that were plated directly after the
877 MACSorting and kept in culture for 2 hours. PDGFRa+ cells are OPCs. CNP+ cells are
878 mostly OLs (with some OPCs expressing CNP). Data are presented as mean + SEM.
879 Individual points correspond to individual animals (n=6 wild type mice). **C.** Pie charts
880 showing the distribution of TCF12-bound sites between promoter (left) and enhancer
881 (right) regions in NPCs and in association with epigenetic marks (H3K4me3 and
882 H3K27Ac = active, H3K4me = poised, H3K27me3= repressed; NA= no epigenetic
883 mark). **E.** Selected ChIP-Seq tracks for TCF12, input control and epigenetic marks in
884 promoter regions of *Mycn*, *Myc*, *Rpl5*, *Ruvbl2*, *Fbl* in OPCs/OLs.

885

886 **Figure 4: TCF12 inactivation in OPCs in vivo results in proliferation defects**

887 **A.** Schematic representation of the experimental procedure and timeline. **B-C.**
888 Immunostaining of YFP (recognized by an anti-GFP antibody), with PDGFRa and Ki67
889 (B) or CC1 and OLIG1 (C) in the corpus callosum of tamoxifen induced *Tcf12^{ctrl}* and
890 *Tcf12^{hom}* pups at P16. Scale bars, 20µm. In B, open arrowheads show recombined
891 proliferating OPCs (PDGFRa+ Ki67+ GFP+) and white arrowheads show non
892 proliferating recombined OPCs (PDGFRa+ Ki67- GFP+). In C, white arrows show
893 recombined early OLs (CC1+ OLIG1- GFP+) and white arrowheads show recombined
894 OPCs (CC1- OLIG1+ GFP+). **D-I** Quantification of the different populations within the
895 recombined cells (GFP+) in P16 *Tcf12^{ctrl}*, *Tcf12^{het}* and *Tcf12^{hom}* tamoxifen induced
896 pups. Individual points represent individual animals (n=6 *Tcf12^{ctrl}*, n=6 *Tcf12^{het}* and n=5
897 *Tcf12^{hom}*). Data are presented as mean + SEM. Statistical differences were evaluated
898 with one-way ANOVA and p-values (when differences are significant) are given on the
899 graphs.

900

901 **Supplementary Figure 4 (related to Figure 4)**

902 **A.** Illustration of the genetics of the mouse lines used to create the *Pdgfra-CreERT^T*;
903 *Rosa26^{LSL-YFP}*; *Tcf12^{flox}* mice. **B.** Genetics of the animals used for the experiments. **C.**
904 Experimental procedure for the validation of the mouse model. **D.** RT-qPCR analysis
905 of *Tcf12* expression in O4+ MACSorted cells from P16 *Tcf12^{ctrl}*, *Tcf12^{het}* and *Tcf12^{hom}*
906 induced pups. Individual points correspond to individual animals (n=3 *Tcf12^{ctrl}*, n=3
907 *Tcf12^{het}* and n=4 *Tcf12^{hom}*). Data are presented as mean + SEM. Individual points
908 represent individual animals. Statistical differences were evaluated with one-way
909 ANOVA and p-values are given on the graphs. **E.** Quantification of GFP+, PDGFRa+
910 and OLIG2+ cells plated directly after the MACSorting and kept in culture for 2 hours.
911 GFP+ cells are considered as recombined cells. PDGFRa+ cells are OPCs. OLIG2+
912 cells correspond to OPCs and OLs. Data are presented as mean + SEM. Individual
913 points correspond to individual animals (n=4 *Tcf12^{ctrl}*, n=3 *Tcf12^{het}* and n=3 *Tcf12^{hom}*).
914 Differences were analyzed with two-way (% total cells) or one-way (% recombined
915 cells) ANOVA. No statistically significant differences were noted. **F.** Schematic
916 representation of the experimental procedure and timeline for the P23 timepoint. **G-H.**
917 Immunostaining of YFP (recognized by an anti-GFP antibody), with PDGFRa and Ki67
918 (B) or CC1 and OLIG1 (C) in the corpus callosum of tamoxifen induced *Tcf12^{ctrl}* and
919 *Tcf12^{hom}* pups (P23). Scale bars, 20µm. B: open arrowheads show recombined

920 proliferating OPCs (PDGFRa+ Ki67+ GFP+) and white arrowheads show non
921 proliferating recombined OPCs (PDGFRa+ Ki67- GFP+). C: white arrows show
922 recombined OLs (CC1+ OLIG1+ GFP+) and white arrowheads show recombined
923 OPCs (CC1- OLIG1+ GFP+). **I-N.** Quantification of the different populations within the
924 recombined cells (GFP+) in P23 *Tcf12^{ctrl}*, *Tcf12^{het}* and *Tcf12^{hom}* tamoxifen induced
925 pups. Data are presented as mean + SEM. Individual points represent individual
926 animals (animals quantified I-K: n=5 *Tcf12^{ctrl}*, n=5 *Tcf12^{het}* and n=4 *Tcf12^{hom}*, animals
927 quantified L-N: n=4 *Tcf12^{ctrl}*, n=4 *Tcf12^{het}* and n=4 *Tcf12^{hom}*). Statistical differences
928 were evaluated with one-way ANOVA. No statistically significant differences were
929 noted.

930

931 [Figure 5: Transcriptomic analyses of *Tcf12* inactivated cells highlight defects in OPC](#)
932 [proliferation, differentiation, and cancer-related pathways that are conserved in human](#)
933 [gliomas.](#)

934 **A.** Scheme illustrating the experimental strategy for the RNA-Seq experiments. **B-C.**
935 Gene Set Enrichment Analysis (GSEA) of *Tcf12^{hom}* vs *Tcf12^{ctrl}* O4+ cells (OPCs/OLs)
936 using curated oligodendroglial signatures (B) and MSigDB HALLMARKS gene sets
937 (C). **D.** GSEA plots of selected gene sets of KEGG, HALLMARKS and REACTOME
938 collections, comparing *Tcf12^{hom}* vs *Tcf12^{ctrl}* animals. **E.** Gene Set Enrichment Analysis
939 (GSEA) of oligodendrogliomas altered for *TCF12* (*TCF12^{ALTERED}* hODG, n=20)
940 compared to non-altered oligodendrogliomas (*TCF12^{WT}* hODG, n=35) showing all
941 significantly enriched gene sets of HALLMARK MSigDB collection. **F.** GSEA plots of
942 selected gene sets for the REACTOME collection comparing *TCF12^{ALTERED}* vs
943 *TCF12^{WT}* hODG.

944

945 [Supplementary Figure 5 \(related to Figure 5\)](#)

946 **A-B.** Gene Set Enrichment Analysis (GSEA) of *Tcf12^{het}* vs *Tcf12^{ctrl}* O4+ cells
947 (OPCs/OLs) using curated oligodendroglial signatures (A) and MSigDB HALLMARKS
948 gene sets (B). **C.** Bar plots of GSEA normalized enrichment score (NES) of selected
949 gene sets (positively and negatively enriched) from the GO_Biological_Process,
950 KEGG and REACTOME collections of the MSigDB, comparing *Tcf12^{hom}* vs *Tcf12^{ctrl}*
951 animals. Adjusted p-values are given on the corresponding bars.

Figure 1

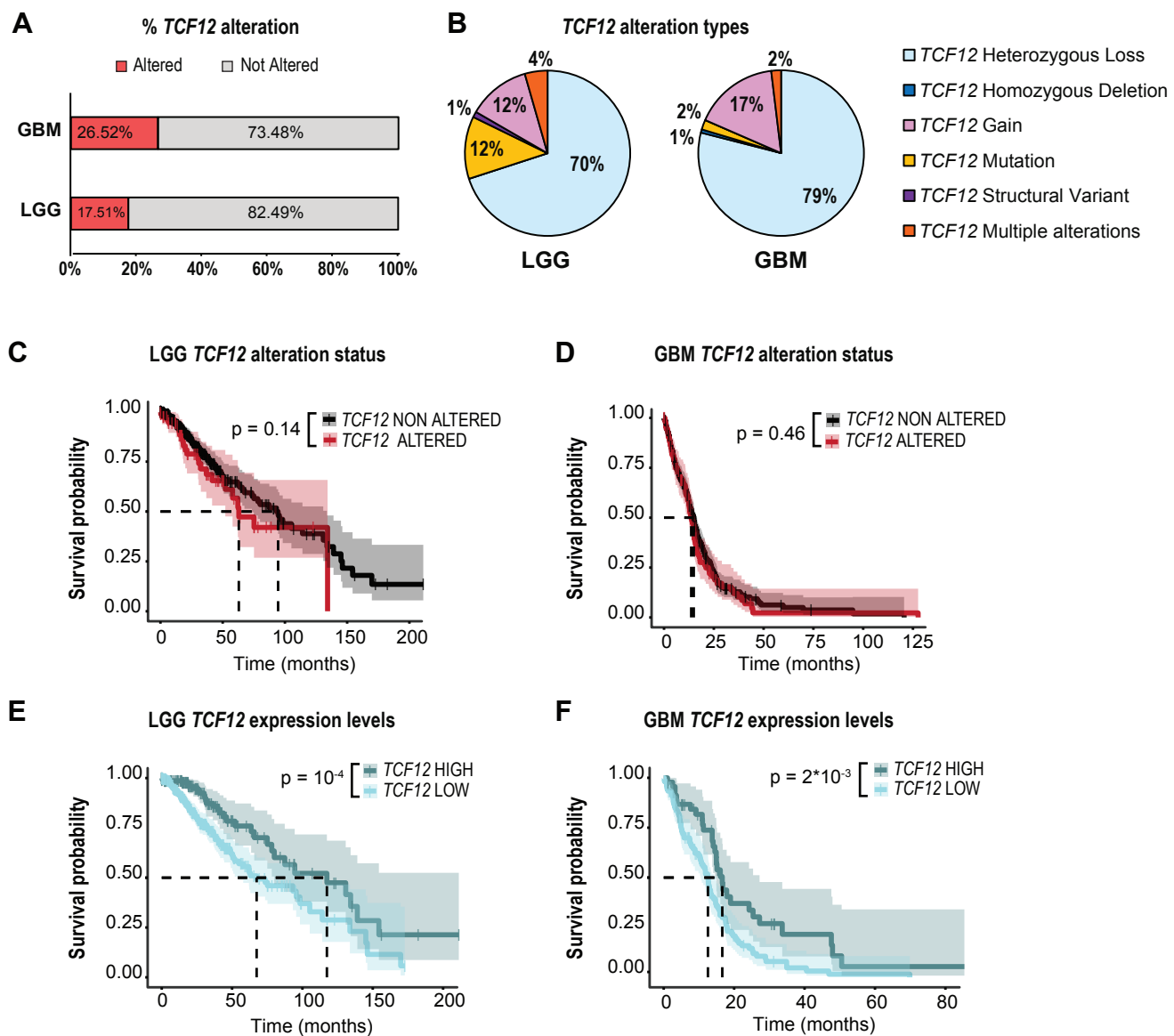
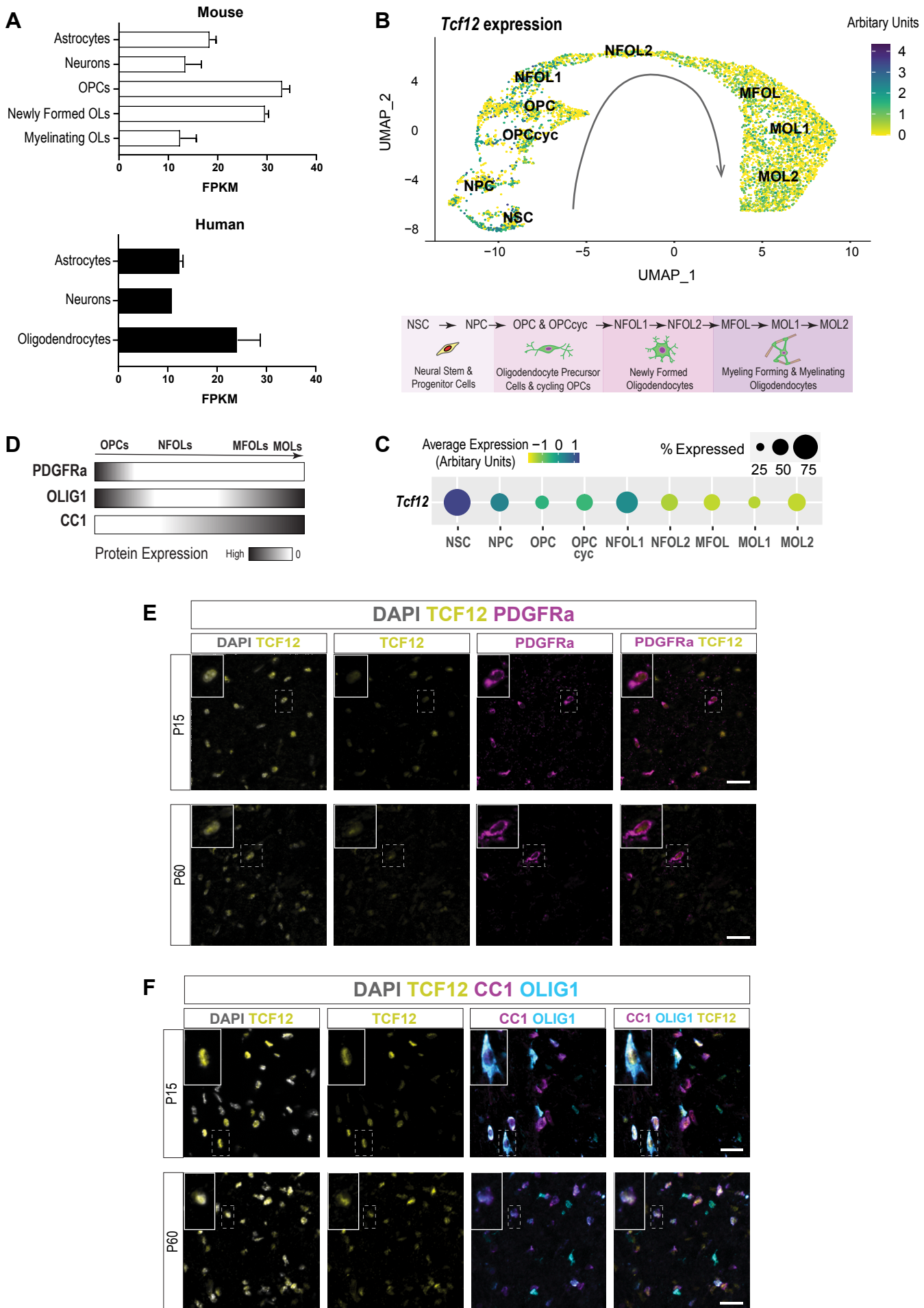


Figure 2



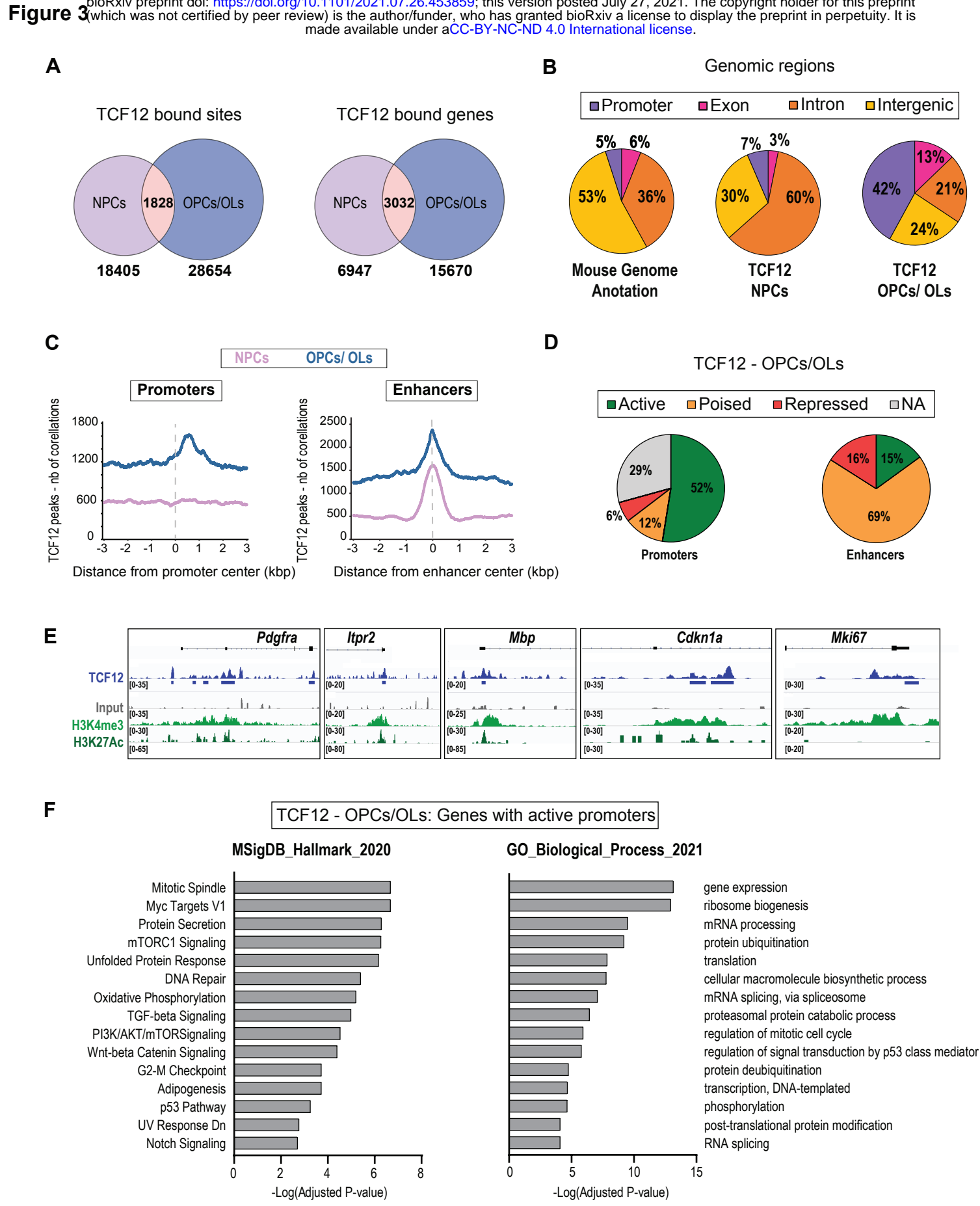


Figure 4

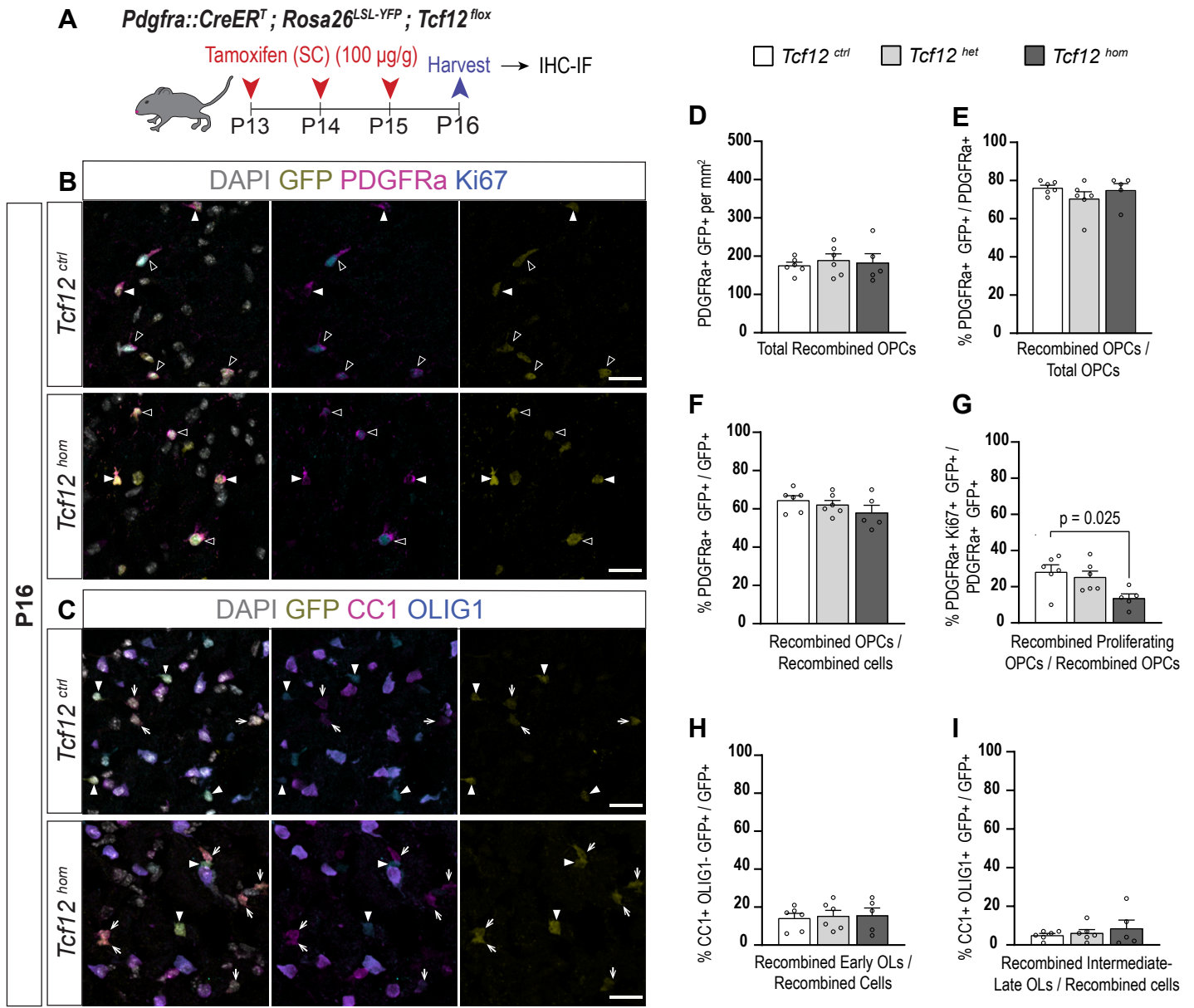
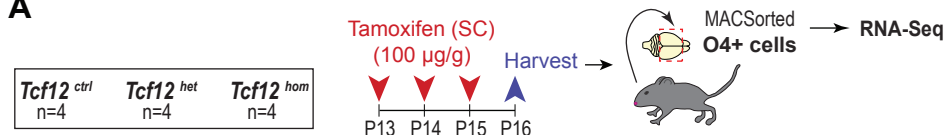
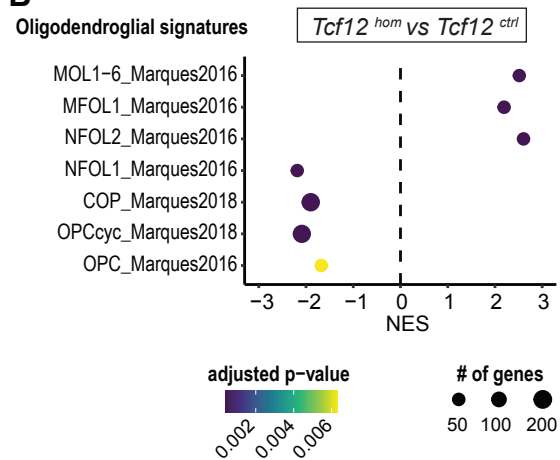


Figure 5

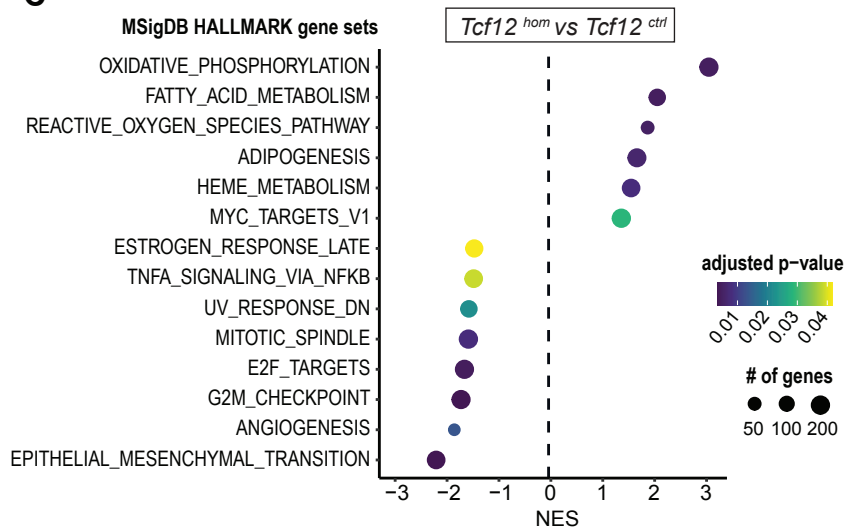
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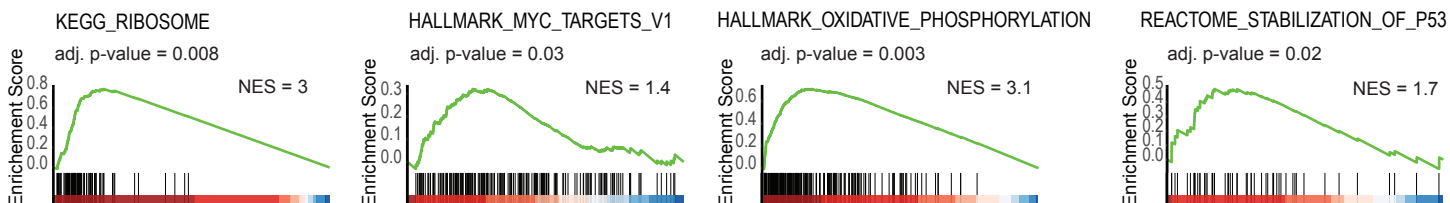
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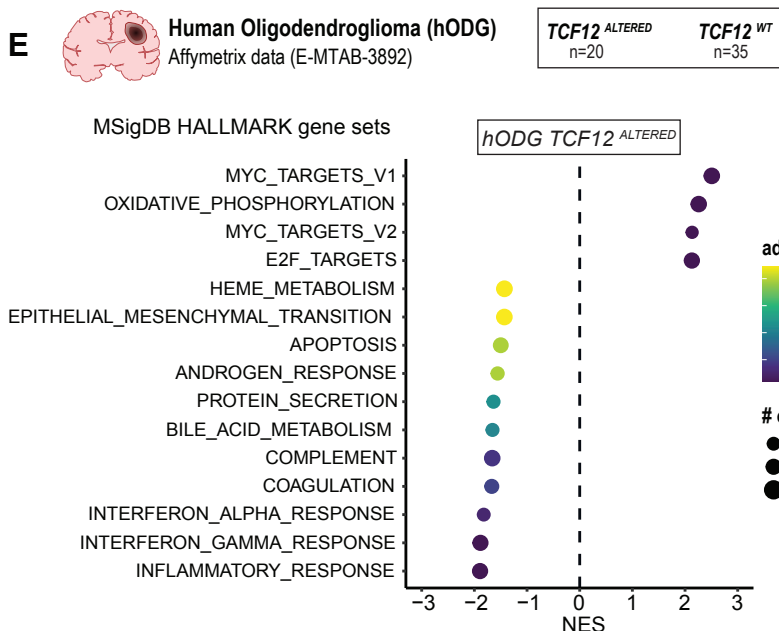
C



D *Tcf12^{hom} vs Tcf12^{ctrl}*



E



F *hODG TCF12^{ALTERED} vs hODG TCF12^{WT}*

