

Reporting Summary

Nature Portfolio wishes to improve the reproducibility of the work that we publish. This form provides structure for consistency and transparency in reporting. For further information on Nature Portfolio policies, see our [Editorial Policies](#) and the [Editorial Policy Checklist](#).

Please do not complete any field with "not applicable" or n/a. Refer to the help text for what text to use if an item is not relevant to your study.

For final submission: please carefully check your responses for accuracy; you will not be able to make changes later.

Statistics

For all statistical analyses, confirm that the following items are present in the figure legend, table legend, main text, or Methods section.

- | n/a | Confirmed |
|----------------------------------|---|
| <input checked="" type="radio"/> | <input checked="" type="radio"/> The exact sample size (n) for each experimental group/condition, given as a discrete number and unit of measurement |
| <input checked="" type="radio"/> | <input checked="" type="radio"/> A statement on whether measurements were taken from distinct samples or whether the same sample was measured repeatedly |
| <input checked="" type="radio"/> | <input checked="" type="radio"/> The statistical test(s) used AND whether they are one- or two-sided
<i>Only common tests should be described solely by name; describe more complex techniques in the Methods section.</i> |
| <input checked="" type="radio"/> | <input checked="" type="radio"/> A description of all covariates tested |
| <input checked="" type="radio"/> | <input checked="" type="radio"/> A description of any assumptions or corrections, such as tests of normality and adjustment for multiple comparisons |
| <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| <input checked="" type="radio"/> | <input checked="" type="radio"/> A full description of the statistical parameters including central tendency (e.g. means) or other basic estimates (e.g. regression coefficient) AND variation (e.g. standard deviation) or associated estimates of uncertainty (e.g. confidence intervals) |
| <input checked="" type="radio"/> | <input checked="" type="radio"/> For null hypothesis testing, the test statistic (e.g. F , t , r) with confidence intervals, effect sizes, degrees of freedom and P value noted
<i>Give P values as exact values whenever suitable.</i> |
| <input checked="" type="radio"/> | <input checked="" type="radio"/> For Bayesian analysis, information on the choice of priors and Markov chain Monte Carlo settings |
| <input checked="" type="radio"/> | <input checked="" type="radio"/> For hierarchical and complex designs, identification of the appropriate level for tests and full reporting of outcomes |
| <input checked="" type="radio"/> | <input checked="" type="radio"/> Estimates of effect sizes (e.g. Cohen's d , Pearson's r), indicating how they were calculated |

Our web collection on [statistics for biologists](#) contains articles on many of the points above.

Software and code

Policy information about [availability of computer code](#)

Data collection	Structural modeling was performed using VIPERdb v3.0, AlphaFold v2.0, and Chimera v1.16.
Data analysis	Graphs and statistical analyses were generated using Prism software 9.3.1 (GraphPad)

For manuscripts utilizing custom algorithms or software that are central to the research but not yet described in published literature, software must be made available to editors and reviewers. We strongly encourage code deposition in a community repository (e.g. GitHub). See the Nature Portfolio [guidelines for submitting code & software](#) for further information.

Data

Policy information about [availability of data](#)

All manuscripts must include a [data availability statement](#). This statement should provide the following information, where applicable:

- Accession codes, unique identifiers, or web links for publicly available datasets
- A description of any restrictions on data availability
- For clinical datasets or third party data, please ensure that the statement adheres to our [policy](#)

The example data generated for the protocol has not been previously published, however, the protocol has previously been used to produce similar results shown in references [12-14]. All data associated with the figures of this study are included in this manuscript. Source data files for Figures 5, 6, 7, and 9 have been provided. Any additional data to support these findings can be made available upon reasonable request to the corresponding author. Requests for materials should be made to AA at aravind.asokan@duke.edu.

Human research participants

Policy information about [studies involving human research participants](#) and [Sex and Gender in Research](#).

Reporting on sex and gender	N/A
Population characteristics	N/A
Recruitment	N/A
Ethics oversight	N/A

Note that full information on the approval of the study protocol must also be provided in the manuscript.

Field-specific reporting

Please select the one below that is the best fit for your research. If you are not sure, read the appropriate sections before making your selection.

- ☒ Life sciences
- ☐ Behavioural & social sciences
- ☐ Ecological, evolutionary & environmental sciences

Life sciences study design

All studies must disclose on these points even when the disclosure is negative.

Sample size	Biological replicates (N=3-6 where applicable) and technical replicates (N=2) were chosen in order to generate means and standard error means
Data exclusions	No data were excluded from analyses.
Replication	To confirm reproducibility for all data presented, each experiment and each assay was performed at least two times with no issues of
Randomization	Mice and pigs were randomly assigned to treatment groups prior to injection.
Blinding	Blinding was not possible for studies because the individual experiments were conducted and analyzed by a sole operator in our laboratory.

Behavioural & social sciences study design

All studies must disclose on these points even when the disclosure is negative.

Study description	
Research sample	
Sampling strategy	
Data collection	
Timing	
Data exclusions	
Non-participation	
Randomization	

Ecological, evolutionary & environmental sciences study design

All studies must disclose on these points even when the disclosure is negative.

Study description	
Research sample	
Sampling strategy	
Data collection	
Timing and spatial scale	

Data exclusions	
Reproducibility	
Randomization	
Blinding	

Did the study involve field work? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Field work, collection and transport

Field conditions	
Location	
Access & import/export	
Disturbance	

Reporting for specific materials, systems and methods

We require information from authors about some types of materials, experimental systems and methods used in many studies. Here, indicate whether each material, system or method listed is relevant to your study. If you are not sure if a list item applies to your research, read the appropriate section before selecting a response.

Materials & experimental systems	Methods
<div><div>n/a</div><div>Involved in the study</div><div><div><input checked="" type="radio"/></div>Antibodies</div><div><div><input checked="" type="radio"/></div>Eukaryotic cell lines</div><div><div><input checked="" type="radio"/></div>Palaeontology and archaeology</div><div><div><input checked="" type="radio"/></div>Animals and other organisms</div><div><div><input checked="" type="radio"/></div>Clinical data</div><div><div><input checked="" type="radio"/></div>Dual use research of concern</div></div>	<div><div>n/a</div><div>Involved in the study</div><div><div><input checked="" type="radio"/></div>ChIP-seq</div><div><div><input checked="" type="radio"/></div>Flow cytometry</div><div><div><input checked="" type="radio"/></div>MRI-based neuroimaging</div></div>

Antibodies

Antibodies used	Anti-rabbit eGFP (1:500; Abcam, ab183735; https://scicrunch.org/resolver/RRID:AB_2924655), anti-chicken GFAP (1:500; AvesLabs,
Validation	rabbit polyclonal anti-NeuN antibody, 1:500, EPR12763, Abcam- https://www.abcam.com/neun-antibody-epr12763-neuronal-marker-

Eukaryotic cell lines

Policy information about [cell lines](#) and [Sex and Gender in Research](#)

Cell line source(s)	Adherent HEK293s are from UNC Vector Core and suspension HEK293s are derived from our laboratory at Duke University.
Authentication	HEK293 cells were not authenticated.
Mycoplasma contamination	HEK293s cells tested negative for mycoplasma contamination.
Commonly misidentified lines (See ICLAC register)	No commonly misidentified cell lines were used in this study.

Palaeontology and Archaeology

Specimen provenance	
Specimen deposition	
Dating methods	

☐ Tick this box to confirm that the raw and calibrated dates are available in the paper or in Supplementary Information.

Ethics oversight	
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Note that full information on the approval of the study protocol must also be provided in the manuscript.

Animals and other research organisms

Policy information about [studies involving animals](#); ARRIVE [guidelines](#) recommended for reporting animal research, and [Sex and Gender in Research](#)

Laboratory animals	All mouse (mus musculus) IV dosing studies occurred in adult male and female mice aged 8-10 weeks at time of dosing. Strains used
Wild animals	Study did not include wild animals.
Reporting on sex	Male and female mice were used in these studies. Only male pigs were used due to availability.
Field-collected samples	Study did not include samples collected from the field.
Ethics oversight	All mouse and pig protocols were approved by the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) at Duke University (mouse;

Note that full information on the approval of the study protocol must also be provided in the manuscript.

Clinical data

Policy information about [clinical studies](#)

All manuscripts should comply with the ICMJE [guidelines for publication of clinical research](#) and a completed [CONSORT checklist](#) must be included with all submissions.

Clinical trial registration	
Study protocol	
Data collection	
Outcomes	

Dual use research of concern

Policy information about [dual use research of concern](#)

Hazards

Could the accidental, deliberate or reckless misuse of agents or technologies generated in the work, or the application of information presented in the manuscript, pose a threat to:

No	Yes
<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Public health
<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/> National security
<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Crops and/or livestock
<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Ecosystems
<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Any other significant area

Experiments of concern

Does the work involve any of these experiments of concern:

No	Yes
<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Demonstrate how to render a vaccine ineffective
<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Confer resistance to therapeutically useful antibiotics or antiviral agents
<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Enhance the virulence of a pathogen or render a nonpathogen virulent
<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Increase transmissibility of a pathogen
<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Alter the host range of a pathogen
<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Enable evasion of diagnostic/detection modalities
<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Enable the weaponization of a biological agent or toxin
<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Any other potentially harmful combination of experiments and agents

ChIP-seq

Data deposition

- ☐ Confirm that both raw and final processed data have been deposited in a public database such as [GEO](#).
- ☐ Confirm that you have deposited or provided access to graph files (e.g. BED files) for the called peaks.

Data access links	
<i>May remain private before publication</i>	

Files in database submission

Genome browser session
(e.g. [UCSC](#))

Methodology

Replicates

Sequencing depth

Antibodies

Peak calling parameters

Data quality

Software

Flow Cytometry

Plots

Confirm that:

☐The axis labels state the marker and fluorochrome used (e.g. CD4-FITC).

☐The axis scales are clearly visible. Include numbers along axes only for bottom left plot of group (a 'group' is an analysis of identical markers).

☐All plots are contour plots with outliers or pseudocolor plots.

☐A numerical value for number of cells or percentage (with statistics) is provided.

Methodology

Sample preparation

Instrument

Software

Cell population abundance

Gating strategy

☐Tick this box to confirm that a figure exemplifying the gating strategy is provided in the Supplementary Information.

Magnetic resonance imaging

Experimental design

Design type

Design specifications

Behavioral performance measures

Acquisition

Imaging type(s)

Field strength

Sequence & imaging parameters

Area of acquisition

Diffusion MRI

☒Used

☐Not used

Preprocessing

Preprocessing software

Normalization

Normalization template

Noise and artifact removal

Volume censoring

Statistical modeling & inference

Model type and settings

Effect(s) tested

Specify type of analysis:

☐ Whole brain ☐ ROI-based ☐ Both

Statistic type for inference
(See [Eklund et al. 2016](#))

Correction

Models & analysis

n/a Involved in the study

☐ Functional and/or effective connectivity

☐ Graph analysis

☐ Multivariate modeling or predictive analysis

Functional and/or effective connectivitv

Graph analysis

Multivariate modeling and predictive analysis



