Bi-allelic ACBD6 variants lead to a neurodevelopmental

syndrome with progressive and complex movement

3	disorders

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1 Abstract

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The acyl-CoA-binding domain-containing protein 6 (ACBD6) is ubiquitously expressed, plays a role in the acylation of lipids and proteins, and regulates the N-myristoylation of proteins via Nmyristoyltransferase enzymes (NMTs). However, its precise function in cells is still unclear, as is the consequence of ACBD6 defects on human pathophysiology. Utilizing exome sequencing and extensive international data sharing efforts, we identified 45 affected individuals from 28 unrelated families (consanguinity 93%) with bi-allelic pathogenic, predominantly loss-offunction (18/20) variants in ACBD6. We generated zebrafish and Xenopus tropicalis acbd6 knockouts by CRISPR/Cas9 and characterized the role of ACBD6 on protein N-myristoylation with YnMyr chemical proteomics in the model organisms and human cells, with the latter also being subjected further to ACBD6 peroxisomal localization studies. The affected individuals (23) males and 22 females), with ages ranging from 1 to 50 years old, typically present with a complex and progressive disease involving moderate-to-severe global developmental delay/intellectual disability (100%) with significant expressive language impairment (98%), movement disorders (97%), facial dysmorphism (95%), and mild cerebellar ataxia (85%) associated with gait impairment (94%), limb spasticity/hypertonia (76%), oculomotor (71%) and behavioural abnormalities (65%), overweight (59%), microcephaly (39%) and epilepsy (33%). The most conspicuous and common movement disorder was dystonia (94%), frequently leading to early-onset progressive postural deformities (97%), limb dystonia (55%), and cervical dystonia (31%). A jerky tremor in the upper limbs (63%), a mild head tremor (59%), parkinsonism/hypokinesia developing with advancing age (32%), and simple motor and vocal tics were among other frequent movement disorders. Midline brain malformations including corpus callosum abnormalities (70%), hypoplasia/agenesis of the anterior commissure (66%), short midbrain and small inferior cerebellar vermis (38% each), as well as hypertrophy of the clava (24%) were common neuroimaging findings. acbd6-deficient zebrafish and Xenopus models effectively recapitulated many clinical phenotypes reported in patients including movement disorders, progressive neuromotor impairment, seizures, microcephaly, craniofacial dysmorphism, and midbrain defects accompanied by developmental delay with increased mortality over time. Unlike ACBD5, ACBD6 did not show a peroxisomal localisation and ACBD6-deficiency was not associated with altered peroxisomal parameters in patient

- 1 fibroblasts. Significant differences in YnMyr-labelling were observed for 68 co- and 18 post-
- 2 translationally N-myristoylated proteins in patient-derived fibroblasts. N-Myristoylation was
- 3 similarly affected in acbd6-deficient zebrafish and Xenopus tropicalis models, including Fus,
- 4 Marcks, and Chchd-related proteins implicated in neurological diseases. The present study
- 5 provides evidence that bi-allelic pathogenic variants in ACBD6 lead to a distinct
- 6 neurodevelopmental syndrome accompanied by complex and progressive cognitive and
- 7 movement disorders.

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- 8 **Running title**: *ACBD6*-related disease
- 9
- 10 **Keywords:** *ACBD6*; neurodegeneration; dystonia; ataxia; parkinsonism; *N*-myristoylation
- 11 **Abbreviations:** ACBDs=Acyl-CoA binding domain containing proteins; LCACoA=long-chain
- fatty acyl-CoA esters; ACBD6=Acyl-CoA-binding domain-containing protein 6; ACBD5=Acyl-
- 13 CoA-binding domain-containing protein 5; ACB=Acyl-CoA binding; ANK=ankyrin repeat
- domain; dpf=days post-fertilization; hpf=hours post-fertilization; NMT=N-myristoyltransferase;
- 15 Myr-CoA=myristoyl co-enzyme A; LOF=loss-of-function; PTZ=pentylenetetrazole; VSR=visual
- startle response; WES=whole exome sequencing; WISH=whole-mount in situ hybridization;
- 17 YnMyr=myristic acid alkyne; CRISPR =Clustered Regularly Interspaced Short Palindromic
- 18 Repeats GDD=global developmental delay; ID=intellectual disability

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Introduction

- 21 Acyl-CoA-binding domain-containing proteins (ACBDs) are a large multigene family of
- 22 intracellular lipid-binding proteins, and in mammals, they include ACBD1-7. These proteins
- 23 specifically bind long-chain fatty acyl-CoA esters (LCACoA) and control their intracellular
- 24 concentration.^{1,2} Various cellular functions have been ascribed to this protein family, ranging
- 25 from lipid homeostasis, organelle formation, apoptotic responses, intracellular vesicle
- trafficking, as well as tethering between the peroxisome and endoplasmic reticulum.² ACBDs
- 27 have been suggested to play a crucial role in brain development, via their strong proliferative

- 1 effects on the neural stem and progenitor cells.³ To date, defects in only two members of ACBDs
- 2 have been associated with Mendelian disorders in humans. ACBD5 deficiency has been reported
- 3 to cause a combination of retinal dystrophy with leukodystrophy and defects in peroxisomal very
- 4 long-chain fatty acid metabolism in four families. 4-7 ACBD6 has been suggested as a candidate
- 5 gene for intellectual disability (ID) in two large-cohort gene discovery studies reporting limited
- 6 phenotypic data^{8,9} and in a case report describing 2 siblings with neurodevelopmental disorder,
- 7 obesity, pancytopenia, diabetes mellitus, cirrhosis, and renal failure but with a limited
- 8 neurological phenotype.¹⁰
- 9 The ACBD6 protein has two domains: the N-terminal Acyl-CoA-binding (ACB) and the
- specialized C-terminal ankyrin repeat (ANK) domain. This protein is detected in the cytosol and
- 11 nuclei of cells and modulates the acylation of lipids and proteins. 11 It has also been suggested
- that ACBD6 is associated with N-myristoyltransferase enzymes (NMTs) in human cells by
- 13 ligand binding and protein interaction, although direct evidence for this in cells is lacking. 12 In
- humans, NMT1 and NMT2 enzymatically catalyze the *N*-myristoylation of substrate proteins by
- transferring the myristate from myristoyl coenzyme A (Myr-CoA) onto the N-terminal glycine of
- 16 nascent proteins (co-translationally, at the ribosome) or to internal glycines uncovered by
- 17 protease cleavages during apoptosis (post-translationally).¹³ The global N-myristoylated
- proteome consists of more than 200 co- and post-translationally N-myristoylated proteins in
- humans, 14,15 and N-myristoylation is important for the association of substrates with membranes
- and their interaction with other proteins. 16
- 21 Here, we describe 45 affected individuals from 28 unrelated families with 18 bi-allelic predicted
- 22 loss-of-function (LOF), 1 missense, and 1 in-frame insertion variants in ACBD6 presenting a
- 23 new and distinct neurodevelopmental syndrome with a complex and progressive movement
- 24 disorder phenotype. We performed functional studies in zebrafish and *Xenopus tropicalis* (X.
- 25 tropicalis) knockouts generated by CRISPR/Cas9 that recapitulate many clinical features
- reported in patients. We ruled out a major role for ACBD6 in peroxisomes and investigated the
- 27 deregulation of co- and post-translationally N-myristoylated proteins in ACBD6 deficient human,
- 28 zebrafish, and *X. tropicalis* cells, given its putative role in modulating NMT activity.

Materials and methods

2 Patient identification and deep phenotyping

By using the GeneMatcher platform,¹⁷ extensive international data sharing, and screening the variant databases of several research and diagnostic laboratories worldwide, we identified 27 families with bi-allelic variants in *ACBD6*. Follow-up details were obtained in the family reported by Yeetong *et al.* (2023).¹⁰ For a comprehensive phenotypic characterization of the affected individuals, we obtained clinical details, including neurological examination, via a universally-adopted proforma (Supplementary Table 1). Where possible, video recordings and facial photographs of the affected individuals along with their brain MRIs were made available for review by a movement disorders specialist (K.B.), dysmorphologist (M.S.), and neuroradiologist (M.Sev.), respectively. Parents and legal guardians of all affected individuals consented to the publication of clinical and genetic information, including video and photographs, according to the Declaration of Helsinki, and the study was approved by the respective local Ethics Committees.

Genetic analysis

Using genomic DNA from whole blood samples of the probands from the 28 unrelated families, whole-exome sequencing (WES) was performed at 10 different centres worldwide with methods specified in Supplementary Table 1. WES data analysis and variant filtering and prioritization were performed using in-house implemented pipelines at different centres (Supplementary Table 1 for methods). Genotyping and homozygosity mapping were done in families 1, 3, 5, 7, and 21 according to standard procedures using the Automap software (https://automap.iob.ch/). Sanger sequencing was performed to confirm co-segregation in all available family members. mRNA expression analysis for *ACBD6* was performed by relative real-time PCR (Supplementary Method 1). RNA studies to assay the effect of the splice acceptor site variants were performed as previously described (Supplementary Methods 2).

1 Functional studies in Zebrafish

- 2 Zebrafish (Danio rerio) were raised and maintained under standard conditions in an AALAC
- 3 accredited facility at the Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation (OMRF). All experiments
- 4 were performed as per protocol 22-18 approved by the Institutional Animal Care Committee of
- 5 OMRF (IACUC). Wild-type zebrafish strain (*NHGRI-1*)²⁰ or transgenic lines as described were
- 6 used for all experiments. Detailed experimental procedures are described in Supplementary
- 7 Method 3.

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Functional studies in Xenopus tropicalis

- 10 *X. tropicalis* was used to test the gene-disease link for *ACBD6* further in a second animal model.
- 11 The details of *X. tropicalis* care, generating F0 *acbd6* crispant animals, and phenotypic analysis
- of F0 acbd6 crispant animals are provided in Supplementary Methods 4. All procedures were
- conducted in accordance with the Home Office Code of Practice, under PP4353452 with
- approval from the University of Portsmouth's Animal Welfare and Ethical Review Body.

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Cell culture

- Human fibroblasts were obtained from skin biopsies of two unrelated affected individuals, F1:S1
- and F2:S1 with a single base change in ACBD6 affecting the splice acceptor site in intron 5 and a
- 19 frameshift variant c.82dupG; p.(Val28GlyfsTer6), respectively. A control cell line from the
- 20 unaffected sibling from F1 (a homozygous wild-type sibling) was established (control 1). Wild-
- 21 type human control (C109) skin fibroblasts were provided by H. Waterham (control 2). COS-7
- 22 cells were cultured to perform immunofluorescence and microscopy analysis of ACBD6
- 23 localization (Supplementary Methods 5).

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1 Analysis of peroxisomal VLCFA β-oxidation parameters

- 2 A D3-C22:0 loading test was performed by loading cells for 3 days with 30 µM deuterated (D3)
- 3 C22:0 followed by fatty acid analysis with tandem mass spectrometry, essentially as previously
- 4 described.²¹

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6 YnMyr chemical proteomics, whole proteome analysis, and meta-

7 analyses

- 8 Wild-type and ACBD6 deficient human fibroblasts, zebrafish, and X. tropicalis embryos were
- 9 metabolically labelled in the presence or absence of YnMyr, followed by unbiased whole
- 10 proteome analysis or chemical proteomics after YnMyr-enrichment to identify and quantify
- proteins N-myristoylated with YnMyr. Sample preparation, processing, and data analyses were
- performed as described previously, including the calculation of FDR adjusted P-values.^{22,23}
- 13 Meta-analysis for pathway- and disease-enrichment analysis were performed in Metacore
- 14 (Clarivate). Detailed experimental procedures are described in Supplementary Methods 6.

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16 Acbd6 expression studies in mouse brain

- 17 Gene expression in the adult mouse brain was performed and visualized as described in
- Supplementary Method 7.

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Results

- 21 Using WES and homozygosity mapping, we identified 20 homozygous variants in ACBD6
- 22 across 28 unrelated families. Variants were subjected to familial segregation testing (Fig. 1A)
- and assessed using *in silico* analysis tools and genomic databases (Table 1 and Supplementary
- Tables 1 and 2). All variants are listed using the canonical transcript NM 032360.4 (Fig. 1B).
- 25 Family 1 showed a splice variant (c.574-2A>G) which has been shown to result in cryptic splice
- activation after 5 nucleotides in exon 6 (r.574_578del, p.(Arg193SerfsTer7) (Fig. 1C,

Supplementary Fig. 1)). Families 12 (c.694+1G>A) and 13 (c.664-2A>G) each harboured novel 1 splice variants that resulted in skipping of exon 7, leading to a frameshift and premature 2 termination (r.664 694del, p.(Asp222ProfsTer10). The (c.694+1G>A) variant showed additional 3 4 evidence of activation of a cryptic splice donor site, also causing a frameshift and premature termination (r.694_694+1ins23, p.(Ala232AspfsTer8) (Fig. 1C, Supplementary Figure 2). 5 6 Families 7 and 27, 8, 14, and 28 carried homozygous frameshift variants including c.474delA, p.(Asp159ThrfsTer16) (Families 7 and 27 shared this ACBD6 variant); c.285delA, 7 8 p.(Lys95AsnfsTer23); c.719_723delTTGTA, p.(Ile240ArgfsTer9); and c.360dupA, p.(Leu121ThrfsTer27), respectively. Families 2 and 21 shared the same homozygous frameshift 9 ACBD6 c.82dupG, p.(Val28GlyfsTer6) variant, as is the case with families 3, 16, and 17, who 10 harboured the same homozygous frameshift ACBD6 c.484 488delATATT, p.(Ile162Ter) variant. 11 Families 4, 9, 11, 18, 20, 22, and 26 carried homozygous nonsense variants including c.760C>T, 12 p.(Arg254Ter); c.594G>A, p.(Trp198Ter); c.539C>A, p.(Ser180Ter); c.217A>T, p.(Lys73Ter); 13 c.160C>T, p.(Gln54Ter); c.280 C>T, p.(Gln94Ter); and c.216C>A, p.(Tyr72Ter), respectively. 14 Families 5 and 15 shared the same homozygous nonsense ACBD6 c.187G>T, p.(Glu63Ter) 15 variant. Likewise, families 20 and 25 shared the same homozygous nonsense ACBD6 c.160C>T, 16 17 p.(Gln54Ter) variant. Families 23 and 24 each harboured a large deletion variant (c.664-18556_694+8366del, p.(?)) which spans 26,953bp of the *ACBD6* sequence and includes the 18 complete deletion of exon 7. The affected individuals in family 6 carried an in-frame duplication 19 variant c.654_656dupTAA, p.(Asn219dup) in exon 6. Families 10 and 19 harboured the same 20 homozygous predicted-deleterious missense ACBD6 variant c.602A>G, p.(Asp201Gly) in exon 21 6 (Fig. 1D). All variants were ultra-rare or absent in ~1.8 million alleles inspected through a 22 number of large genetic variant databases listed in Supplementary Table 2. A detailed description 23 of the variants is provided in Supplementary Tables 1 and 2. 24

Clinical delineation of ACBD6-related disease

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The cohort includes 23 male and 22 female affected individuals whose current ages widely range between 1 and 50 years. While almost half of the individuals (21/45) were <10 years old (the 1st age group), 11/45 (25%) individuals were between the ages of 10-19 years (the 2^{nd} age group), and 13/45 (29%) affected individuals were \geq 20 years old (the 3^{rd} age group) at the most recent

- 1 review. Two siblings from Family 28 died at the ages of 31 and 30 due to stage 5 chronic renal
- 2 disease and aspiration, respectively. Almost all affected individuals are from consanguineous
- 3 unions with diverse ethnic backgrounds populating South and Central Asia, the greater Middle
- 4 East, Europe, and North and South America. Table 1 and Fig. 2A-D provide a summary of the
- 5 core phenotypic features of 45 affected individuals from 28 unrelated families with bi-allelic
- 6 ACBD6 variants. A detailed phenotypic description is provided in Supplementary Table 1 and
- 7 Supplementary case reports. Video recordings are available from 16 families (Supplementary
- 8 videos 1-16).
- 9 Prenatal history was mostly unremarkable in the cohort and most of the affected individuals
- reached normal gestational age. Head circumference at birth was $\leq 3^{\text{nd}}$ percentile in 7/21 (33%)
- affected individuals. Head circumference on the latest available review was \leq the 2nd percentile
- in 12/31 (39%) individuals and height was mostly below the age-adjusted average in the cohort
- 13 (18/32, 56%). Current weight was > the 50th percentile in 20/34 (59%) affected individuals. All
- 14 patients manifested a moderate-to-severe global developmental delay (GDD) involving all
- domains but predominantly affecting cognitive function and the acquisition of independent
- walking and expressive language. While 10 patients had failed to acquire independent
- ambulation by a mean age of 9.4 ± 5.0 years (age range 4-20), the mean age of independent
- walking for the rest of the cohort was 3.7 ± 1.7 years (age range 1.5-8).
- 19 Upon the latest available follow-up, moderate-to-severe GDD/ID (45/45, 100%) with significant
- 20 expressive language impairment (40/41, 98% from non-verbal to a few words), movement
- disorders (33/34, 97%), facial dysmorphism (38/40, 95%), and mild cerebellar ataxia (35/41,
- 22 85%) associated with limb spasticity/hypertonia (31/41, 76%) and gait abnormalities (33/35,
- 23 94%) were among the cardinal clinical features observed in the *ACBD6* cohort (Fig. 2C).
- 24 The most conspicuous and common movement disorder present in all the 3 age groups was
- 25 dystonia (30/32, 94%). This was frequently truncal dystonia leading to abnormal thoracic and/or
- thoracolumbar spinal flexion (camptocormia) (30/31, 97%) and mild-to-moderate lateral flexion
- of the trunk (Pisa syndrome, 22/32, 69%). Although the stooping of the body and its lateral
- flexion were equally common in the 2^{nd} (9/9 and 8/9, respectively) and the 3^{rd} (10/10 and 10/10,
- respectively) age groups, and were frequent in the 1st age group (10/12 and 4/12, respectively),
- 30 the severity of truncal dystonia suggested an age-dependent progression (Fig. 2B). Additionally,

- some affected individuals developed mild upper limb action-induced dystonia (6/15, 40%), lower
- 2 limb dystonia (12/22, 55%), and cervical dystonia (8/26, 31%).
- 3 Another common hyperkinetic movement disorder in the cohort was a tremor. The upper limb
- 4 jerky tremor at rest and/or intention tremor was present in 22/35 (63%) affected individuals and
- 5 16/27 (59%) individuals had a mild head tremor. Dystonic head tremor, jerky tremor involving
- 6 all limbs, and negative myoclonus were also seen in a small number of patients. With advancing
- 7 age, parkinsonism/hypokinesia developed in 10/31 (32%) individuals, 6 of whom were over the
- 8 age of 20 years, and 4 cases were between ages 10-20 years. A trial of levodopa was done in
- 9 only 2 affected individuals with a minimal response. No other antiparkinsonian or anti dystonic
- 10 medication has been tried in the cohort. Additionally, subtle perioral muscle twitching and
- 11 stereotypic mouth dyskinesia were observed in the available video recordings of younger
- 12 affected individuals. Remarkably, simple motor and vocal tics and tic-like vocalizations were
- detected in the video recordings of 7 young and adult cases (Supplementary Videos). Regarding
- eye movements, limited upgaze (12/26, 46%), impaired saccades (9/19, 47%), and strabismus
- 15 (8/20, 40%) were frequent oculomotor abnormalities.
- Lower limb spasticity, ascertained in 27/35 (77%) affected individuals, in combination with
- 17 cerebellar ataxia led to gait abnormalities described as a spastic-ataxic gait in 14 patients, and
- 18 clumsy/slow/broad-based or unstable gait in 17 individuals. Upper limb ataxia and spasticity
- were confirmed in 13 and 9 affected individuals, respectively. Tendon release surgery was done
- 20 in 3 cohort members due to lower limb spasticity. Lower limb hypotonia was detected in single
- 21 isolated cases.
- A deterioration in motor and cognitive abilities was reported in 28/28 (100%) affected
- 23 individuals suggesting a progressive disease course and underlying neurodegeneration. The
- oldest member of the cohort, currently aged 50 years, has lost his ability to walk independently
- and currently uses a wheelchair.
- 26 Complex partial, myoclonic, atonic, and generalized tonic-clonic seizures were reported in 13/39
- 27 (33%) patients with the seizure debut from neonatal age to 35 years old. Seizures were often
- 28 controlled with a combination of antiepileptic medications.
- 29 Younger affected individuals were reported to have hand stereotypies, and hyperactivity was
- present in 9/21 (43%) patients. Signs of premature aging were seen in 9/38 (24%) individuals

- 1 from five families. Forty-six percent of patients had autistic features (13/28), temper tantrums
- 2 16/36 (44%), and aggressive behaviour (13/37, 35%) with a tendency to self-injury (6/34, 18%)
- 3 were reported. Sleep disturbances (15/33, 45%) were common, and urinary incontinence was
- 4 present in 15/24 (63%) individuals aged between 3-20 years.
- 5 Facial photographs were available from 32 affected individuals from 19 families (Fig. 2A). The
- 6 analysis of 19 children revealed the most frequent dysmorphic features including full nasal tip
- 7 (16/19), broad chin (14/19), bi-frontal/bi-temporal narrowing (12/19), hypertelorism (11/19), up-
- 8 slanting palpebral fissures (9/19), and depressed nasal bridge (9/19). Assessment of 13 adult
- 9 photos showed frequent signs such as a broad chin (11/13), full nasal tip (8/13), small mouth
- 10 (7/13), high nasal ridge (5/13), thin upper lip (5/13) and full lower lip (5/13) (more details in
- 11 Supplementary Tables 3 and 4).
- 12 Brain MRI scans were available for neuroradiological review in 29/45 subjects. The corpus
- callosum was abnormal in 20/29 subjects (70%): partial or complete callosal agenesis was
- observed in 7 individuals, while callosal hypoplasia with prevalent involvement of the posterior
- sections was noted in the remaining 13 individuals. In 19/29 patients (66%), there was marked
- 16 hypoplasia/agenesis of the anterior commissure. Short midbrain and small inferior cerebellar
- vermis were each detected in 11/29 affected individuals (38%). Mild to moderate reduction of
- periventricular white matter with consequent ventriculomegaly was observed in 10/29 patients
- 19 (34%). In 7/29 (24%) individuals, incomplete hippocampal inversion was found. Finally, mild
- 20 hypertrophy of the Clava was noted in 5/21 (24%) individuals (Fig. 2D). Only 4/29 patients
- 21 (14%) had normal neuroimaging findings.

Acbd6 expression studies in mouse brain

- 24 Acbd6 is expressed in nearly all regions of the adult mouse brain profiled by single-cell RNA
- sequencing (Supplementary Fig. 3).

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1 Characterization of ACBD6 LOF using CRISPR/Cas9-mediated

2 zebrafish mutant and F₀ knockout models

Zebrafish Acbd6 protein is highly conserved across species and displayed similar tissue-specific 3 expressions with humans (Supplementary Fig. 4). To examine the spatiotemporal expression 4 pattern, we performed whole-mount in situ hybridization (WISH) analysis and results revealed 5 that the acbd6 mRNA was broadly expressed at 24 hours post-fertilization (hpf) and had elevated 6 expression levels in the central nervous system, developing eyes, otic vesicle, and trunk muscles 7 (Fig. 3A). Using CRISPR/Cas9 technology, we generated a genetic mutant of acbd6, and 8 9 through RT-qPCR analysis, verified a significant notable decrease in acbd6 mRNA expression in homozygous mutants (Supplementary Fig. 5A). During early embryonic developmental stages, 10 11 we did not observe any visible morphological abnormalities in homozygous mutants. However, at the 6 days post-fertilization (dpf) stage, homozygous mutants (-/-) demonstrated a minor 12 reduction in eye size (\sim 3%, indicated by the red line in Fig. 3B) compared to wild-type (+/+) or 13 heterozygous (+/-) animals (Fig. 3C). There was no significant change in head size (indicated by 14 the blue line in Fig. 3B) (Fig. 3D). The visual startle response (VSR) analysis²⁵ indicated that 15 reduced eye size impacts the visual function in acbd6 -/- mutants (Fig. 3E). Furthermore, we 16 performed locomotion behaviour tests on mutants at 6 and 12 dpf in 10-minute intervals of light-17 dark cycles (Fig. 3F-K and Supplementary Fig. 5-7, and detailed descriptions in Supplementary 18 19 Result 3). In general, acbd6-/- mutants exhibited a gradual decline in locomotor activity in dark periods (Fig. 3F, G, I, J and Supplementary Fig. 7A, B, D, E) and an exaggerated response as 20 21 soon as lights are turned off at 6 dpf (Figs. 3F, H, Supplementary Fig. 5C-D and Supplementary Fig. 7A, C), suggesting a hypertonia-like or spasticity behaviour. 26 As the larvae developed 22 further at 12 dpf, the acbd6-/- mutants showed an increase in distance moved after light on and 23 24 multiple locomotor bursts (Fig. 3I, K, Supplementary Fig. 6C and Supplementary Fig. 7D, F), indicating light-induced seizure-like behaviour.²⁷ The mutants also demonstrated increased 25 mortality and severe developmental delay, with an overall reduction in brain size and disrupted 26 27 muscular phenotype (Fig. 3L, M). Histological analysis showed a reduction in brain size (Fig. 3N-W), particularly in regions such as the telencephalon, optic tectum, cerebellum, and retina 28 (Fig. 3O-Q, Fig. 3R-T, Fig. 3U-W, Supplementary Fig. 8A-C). Furthermore, skeletal muscle 29 30 fibres in acbd6-/- mutants displayed a disrupted phenotype, characterized by shortened and

- scattered fibres and gaps (Supplementary Fig. 8D-F). Interestingly, adult acbd6 -/- mutant
- 2 survivors (Supplementary Fig. 9 and Supplementary video 17, 18) exhibited behavior resembling
- 3 that of individuals with an autism spectrum disorder.²⁸
- To verify the specificity of the *acbd6* mutant phenotype, we utilized the F_0 knockout (also known 4 5 as F₀ crispant, or simply F₀) method to induce bi-allelic mutations and observed similar 6 morphological and molecular phenotypes in homozygous mutants and F_0 (Fig. 4A-D). We 7 discovered that F₀ also exhibited several phenotypes previously reported in affected individuals, 8 such as hypertelorism (Fig. 4E) and facial dysmorphism (broader chin; and wider lower jaw, 9 Supplementary Fig. 10A-H). These phenotypes were restored upon co-injection of wild-type human mRNA, confirming the specificity of the phenotype. We also introduced the LOF 10 p.(Glu63Ter) and missense variants p.(Asp201Gly) into acbd6 cDNA and observed impaired 11 protein function and failure to rescue the eye size phenotype (Fig. 4F) in F₀ knockouts. We 12 further investigated acbd6 F₀ behaviour in light-dark cycles at 6- and 12-dpf and observed that 13 acbd6 F₀ exhibited lower locomotor activity during dark periods (Fig. 4G, H) and an exaggerated 14 response after lights off, like homozygous mutants (Fig. 4G, I, and Supplementary Fig. 11A, B). 15 Additionally, acbd6 F₀ exhibited light-induced seizure-like behaviour (red arrows in Fig. 4G and 16 17 Supplementary Fig. 11C, D). By 12 dpf, acbd6 F₀ demonstrated reduced locomotor activity in both light and dark periods (Supplementary Fig. 12A, B). These results suggest that acbd6 F₀ 18 larvae exhibit more severe abnormal locomotor behaviours than homozygous mutants. We 19 hypothesized that the loss of acbd6 might increase susceptibility to chemical-induced seizures, as 20 observed in acbd6-/- mutants showing seizure-like behaviour.^{29,30} To test this hypothesis, we 21 22 exposed acbd6 F₀ and control larvae to different doses of the anticonvulsant drug, pentylenetetrazole (PTZ), and discovered that acbd6 F₀ larvae exhibited hyperexcited behaviour 23 24 at higher doses (Fig. 4J). This suggests that downregulation of acbd6 may contribute to the onset of epilepsy-like seizures. We examined the impact of acbd6 F₀ on neuronal and skeletal muscle 25 26 development and discovered excessive axonal arborizations (Fig. 4K-N and Supplementary Fig. 13) and progressive degeneration of muscle fibres in acbd6 F_0 larvae (Fig. 4O-T and 27 Supplementary Fig. 14). We also observed an increase in myelin basic protein a (mbpa) 28 expression in both acbd6 F₀ and homozygous mutant (Supplementary Fig. 15A, B), which may 29 30 explain the abnormal axonal development phenotype. A detailed description of our results can be found in the Supplementary Results 2. In summary, our zebrafish model replicated many of the 31

- 1 clinical features seen in individuals with bi-allelic variants in ACBD6, highlighting how these
- 2 variants may contribute to the progressive disease course. Our extensive analysis of both mutant
- and F₀ in *acbd6* provides insight into the underlying mechanisms of the disease observed in
- 4 affected individuals.

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Xenopus ACBD6 F₀ knockout models

7 X. tropicalis and humans have the same acbd6 gene structures (Fig. 5A) and share 66% amino

8 acid identity (Supplementary Fig. 16A). Crispant F₀ tadpoles were produced by injection of two

9 non-overlapping sgRNAs targeting exon 1 of *acbd6* (Supplementary Fig. 16B). The effects were

specific, since both sgRNAs produced the same phenotype and when embryos with a SNP in the

11 PAM for one sgRNA were used, the embryos developed normally (Supplementary Fig. 17A, 3rd

upper panel from the left). ICE analysis³¹ of target amplicon sequences (Supplementary Fig.

13 16C) showed that at the gastrula stage, 74% of alleles in the embryos had indels, and that 63.5%

had a frameshift from a predominant 8bp deletion (sgRNA 68). For sgRNA71 the average was a

15 53.6% KO from a mix of indels. The range of phenotypes at later stages was due to distinct

levels of frameshift mutations among the groups (Supplementary Fig. 16D).

17 The first notable phenotype was gastrulation failure due to reduced cell movements (Fig. 5B and

Supplementary Fig. 17A). This limits the analysis of phenotypes at later stages since the

surviving embryos have been selected to have significantly greater mosaicism than normally

20 produced in this type of experiment. At swimming tadpole stages more than half of the crispants

21 had obvious craniofacial abnormalities (n = 36; Fig. 5C, Supplementary Fig. 17D, and Fig.17E)

and head measurement showed a decrease in the average area from $2.07 + -0.36 \text{ mm}^2$ in controls

to $1.52 + -0.27 \text{ mm}^2$ in crispants (t(34)=5.183, p<0.001; Fig. 5D). This was not a result of a

24 defect in the structure of the head cartilage, although when *in situ* it did appear constrained by

the overall head structure (compare Fig. 5E (control) and F (crispant)). The cartilage components

were nonetheless present and morphologically normal upon dissection; however, the overall

cartilage size was smaller than controls consistent with the observed microcephaly. To detect

subtler changes in head structure, we compared control and crispant tadpoles by MicroCT (Fig.

29 5G). Three things were apparent in the three embryos selected at random from the crispant

group: first, the eyes (yellow arrows) were abnormal and displaced (e.g. the dorsal and frontal

views in the right-hand panel) and in one case there was anophthalmia, the latter was rare because it was not detected in the bright field images. Second, a muscle in the face was poorly developed or absent (red arrows). From comparison with *X. laevis* staining,³² we tentatively identified this as the geniohyoidius, although the muscle seems more distant from the midline in *X. tropicalis* than in *X. laevis*. The brain also has obvious structural abnormalities which are most pronounced in the midbrain (blue arrows). Comparing the movement of control and *acbd6* crispant tadpoles showed that the crispants move less over a 10-minute period (average 2.37 mm/s for controls and 1.01 mm/s for crispants, n = 50). The difference was statistically significant (t(78)=4.9, p=<0.001) (Fig. 5H) (Supplementary videos 19-22). After the deaths at gastrulation, crispants and control embryos survived similarly until the feeding stage (Fig. 5I).

Loss of ACBD6 does not impact peroxisome function

Several members of the ACBD family have been linked to peroxisome function.² Furthermore, peroxisomal dysfunction is linked to developmental defects and neurological abnormalities.³³ To investigate if peroxisomal parameters were altered in *ACBD6* deficiency, patient (from F1:S1 and F2:S1) and control (F1:II-2 unaffected sibling; wild type C109) fibroblasts were processed for immunofluorescence using antibodies against the peroxisomal membrane marker PEX14 and catalase, a peroxisomal matrix protein (Fig. 6 A, B). No alterations in peroxisome protein import, morphology, distribution, or number were observed when compared to control fibroblasts (Fig. 6 A, B). In addition, expression of a Myc-ACBD6 construct in COS-7 cells confirmed a cytoplasmic and nuclear localisation of Myc-ACBD6,³⁴ but did not provide evidence for a peroxisomal localisation under standard culture conditions (Fig. 6C). In addition, fatty acid analysis after a D3-C22:0 loading test in cultured fibroblasts did not reveal any abnormalities of peroxisomal VLCFA β-oxidation (Supplementary Table 5) as observed in *ACBD5* deficiency.^{5,33} Detailed results are described in Supplementary Results 3.

1 Investigation of the effect of ACBD6 deficiency on N-myristoylation

2 in patient-derived fibroblasts

3 We employed a chemical proteomic approach to identify and quantify N-myristoylated proteins, by combining metabolic labelling of living cells with YnMyr, ¹⁴ an alkyne-containing myristic 4 acid analogue, and Click chemistry-enabled enrichment of YnMyr-labelled proteins, coupled to 5 mass spectrometry proteomics analysis.²² Chemical proteomics revealed 68 known co-6 translationally, and 18 post-translationally N-myristoylated proteins expressed in the fibroblasts 7 derived from F1:S3 and his healthy sibling (Supplementary Fig. 18A, B, respectively). As 8 expected, the incorporation of YnMyr was markedly reduced by treatment with 100 nM IMP-9 1088, a selective and highly potent NMT inhibitor, ^{23,35} in both the fibroblasts of the healthy 10 control and the patient, confirming the specificity of labelling (Supplementary Fig. 18C, D, 11 respectively). Proteins co- and post-translationally N-myristoylated with YnMyr were detected in 12 significantly higher abundance in the patient-derived fibroblasts compared to the healthy sibling 13 (Supplementary Fig. 18E), suggesting ACBD6 deficiency provokes increased incorporation of 14 YnMyr, potentially through increased N-myristoylation or upregulation of lipid salvage 15 pathways leading to increased YnMyr import (Fig. 6D). We hypothesise this may be caused by 16 the differential interplay of the two N-myristoyltransferases (NMT1 and NMT2) with ACBD6 17 for various substrates. Although fibroblasts from only one affected individual and a healthy 18 19 sibling were compared, the apparent differential N-myristoylation warrants more detailed investigations of the role of ACBD6 in N-myristoylation in cell types involved in the described 20 human clinical phenotypes. 21

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Proteomics analyses of developing wild-type and acbd6 crispant

24 **zebrafish**

- To shed light on the potential role of *acbd6* on *N*-myristoylation during zebrafish development, we employed metabolic labelling with YnMyr and chemical proteomics at different stages of
- 27 development. At 72 and 120 hpf, both wild-type and acbd6 crispant zebrafish express >32
- 28 significantly enriched proteins, for each of which the human orthologue is a validated co-
- 29 translationally N-myristoylated substrate (Supplementary Figs. 19A-D). In addition, significantly

enriched proteins also included >48 proteins with N-terminal glycine, thereby potentially N-1 2 myristoylated, but where unequivocal evidence of N-myristoylation is currently lacking the 3 human orthologue, or where the human orthologue does not possess an N-terminal glycine. At 72 4 hpf, an increased abundance of YnMyr-labelled proteins is observed in the acbd6 crispant, 5 including Marcks and Chchd-related proteins, known to be co-translationally N-myristoylated in humans (Fig. 7A). Of note, zebrafish express duplications of multiple proteins, including the 6 aforementioned Marcks and Chchd-related proteins (Fig. 7A). Conversely, enrichment of several 7 8 zebrafish proteins with N-terminal glycine in zebrafish but not found with a N-terminal glycine in humans was significantly reduced in acbd6 crispants, including Sfpq, associated with brain 9 development, CNS neuron axonogenesis and midbrain-hindbrain boundary initiation (Fig. 7A). 10 Similar increases in Marcks and Chchd-related proteins are observed in the acbd6 crispants at 11 120 hpf, whereas Fus and Fusl are further decreased (Fig. 7B). 12 We next performed a whole proteomics analysis comparing wild-type and acbd6 crispant at 72 13 and 120 hpf (Supplementary Figs. 19E, F, respectively). In contrast to the significant increase of 14 YnMyr labelling observed in acbd6 crispants (Figure 7A, B), the abundance of N-myristoylated 15 proteins such as Marcks and Chchd-related proteins is not significantly increased at the whole 16 17 proteome level at 72 and 120 hpf, further indicating the role of acbd6 on the process of N-18 myristoylation in zebrafish. Meta-analysis of up-regulated proteins in acbd6 crispants revealed a significant involvement of translation- and metabolism-related pathways (Supplementary Fig. 19 20A), and significant enrichments in disease networks including frontotemporal dementia and 20 delayed speech and language development (Supplementary Fig. 20B). Down-regulated proteins 21 22 are significantly involved in pathways related to nervous system development, as well as neurodegeneration (Fig. 7C). Enriched disease-related networks include dystonia muscle 23 spasticity and movement disorders, a striking similarity with the observations in affected 24 25 individuals (Supplementary Fig. 20C). At 120 hpf, a meta-analysis of the whole proteome data 26 reveals similar enrichments (Supplementary Fig. 20D-G). Notably, upregulated proteins enrich in translation- and metabolism-related pathways, whereas downregulated proteins further enrich 27 in pathways of neurological development and disease, including spasticity (Supplementary Fig. 28 29 20G).

1 Proteomics analyses of developing wild-type and acbd6 crispant X.

2 tropicalis

- 3 Similar to the chemical proteomics analyses in zebrafish, we used YnMyr labelling to identify N-
- 4 myristoylated substrates and the pathways affected by the loss of *acbd6* in developing *Xenopus*.
- 5 Here, wild-type, crispant 68 or crispant 71 *X. tropicalis* were metabolically labelled from 1 hpf to
- 6 18 hpf, due to the previously reported growth arrest. Chemical proteomics of YnMyr labelling
- 7 revealed >10 X. tropicalis proteins the human orthologues of which are known to be co-
- 8 translationally N-myristoylated, including a duplication of Marcks, as well as X. tropicalis
- 9 proteins which share the N-terminal glycine with their orthologue in humans (Supplementary
- Fig. 21A-C). Comparing wild-type with *acbd6* crispant 68 and 71 (Figs. 7D and E, respectively)
- 11 reveals a marked depletion of YnMyr-labelled proteins in the crispants, including all identified
- 12 X. tropicalis proteins with co-translationally N-myristoylated human orthologues. Both crispants
- 13 reveal prominent and significant reductions in proteins including Marcks, Ppm1b, Ppm1g. Whole
- proteome analysis revealed Marcks and Fus are markedly reduced in *acbd6* crispant 68, while
- 15 Ppm1a is slightly increased, and in acbd6 crispant 71, both Marcks and Ppm1b are reduced
- 16 (Supplementary Figs 21D, E). Meta-analysis (Supplementary Fig. 22) revealed upregulated
- proteins in crispants 68 and 71 are significantly affected in pathways of translation and
- metabolism, and notably, the 'Parkinson-disease'-specific disease network was significantly
- 19 enriched (Fig. 7F).

20 Discussion

21 A neurodevelopmental syndrome with progressive movement

22 disorders characterizes ACBD6-related disease

- 23 Despite their predicted roles in cellular lipid metabolism, the functions of many of the ACBDs
- still remain unclear, as is the consequence of ACBD protein defects on human pathophysiology.
- In this study, we identified novel and ultra-rare bi-allelic predicted LOF variants in ACBD6 as
- 26 the disease cause in 45 previously undiagnosed individuals from 28 unrelated families. A wide
- age range of the cohort members (1-50 years) delineated the age-related clinical spectrum and
- 28 the natural history of the ACBD6-related disease. The disease had an invariably early-onset and

inevitably progressive course with significant motor and cognitive deterioration upon reaching 1 2 adulthood, a course suggestive of underlying neurodegeneration. The phenotype is complex 3 involving the constellation of extrapyramidal, pyramidal, and cerebellar ataxia symptoms 4 associated with GDD/ID, microcephaly, and variable epilepsy. Impaired expressive language, 5 delayed gait acquisition, and early-onset stooped posture with lateral trunk flexion (Pisa syndrome) were among the important pathognomonic features. Additionally, tics and tic-like 6 vocalizations seen in 6 affected individuals are peculiar features associated with several 7 8 neurological disorders, particularly with chorea-acanthocytosis.³⁶ Whilst the present cohort of patients with ACBD6-related disease did have facial dysmorphism, it did not suggest a 9 recognizable facial "gestalt". The most common dysmorphic feature in the cohort was a broad 10 chin. Of note, most of the patients had hypoplasia/agenesis of the corpus callosum and anterior 11 commissure, suggesting a potential role for ACBD6 in axonal pathfinding and corpus callosum 12 development. Interestingly, claval hypertrophy observed in the present cohort is a well-13 documented neuroradiological sign of PLA2G6-associated neurodegeneration.³⁷ 14 Defects in numerous genes and pathways are known to present with the constellation of 15 symptoms observed in ACBD6-related disease, particularly, with various combinations of 16 dystonia, parkinsonism, ataxia, and spasticity.³⁸⁻⁴¹ Their clinical phenotypes are typically 17 classified according to the predominating symptom; however, a later approach tends to define 18 this with a spectrum of genetic dystonia-ataxia, parkinsonism-dystonia/ataxia, and ataxia-19 spasticity syndromes. 38-41 Thus, several forms of complicated hereditary spastic paraplegia, 20 spastic ataxia, and young-onset dystonia-parkinsonism syndromes may overlap with ACBD6 21 22 phenotypes. A suggested differential diagnosis with the disease pathways involved is given in Supplementary Table 7. 23 It has been suggested that neurodevelopmental abnormalities and neurodegeneration could share 24 25 several molecular and cellular mechanisms. For instance, proteins, such as A\(\beta\), MAPT/tau, Rac1, Progranulin, Huntingtin, PINK, and Parkin, frequently implicated in Alzheimer's disease, 26 Parkinson's disease, and Huntington's diseases are important for nervous system development.⁴² 27 A wide range of multisystem genetic disorders could present with a biphasic course where 28 complex neurological phenotype gradually evolves on the background of a pre-existing 29 neurodevelopmental disorder. 43,44 Therefore, we propose a likely clinical continuum associated

- 1 with ACBD6-related disease, characterized by a combination of neurodevelopmental
- 2 abnormalities and neurodegeneration.

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4 Zebrafish acbd6 knockouts recapitulate many features observed in

affected individuals

In recent years, the zebrafish has gained significance as an animal model for investigating neurodevelopmental disorders, owing to its high physiological similarity to humans and its responsiveness to genetic and pharmacological interventions. 45,46 The acyl-CoA binding domain of human and zebrafish ACBD6 share significant identity and similarity in the ankyrin-repeat motif and acyl-CoA binding domain, with 80% identity and 95.4% similarity in the former and 69.2% identity and 78.2% similarity in the latter. Zebrafish models for ACBD proteins do not currently exist; however, by generating acbd6 knockouts in zebrafish, we observed similar phenotypes to those of affected individuals, such as movement disorders, seizures, and facial dysmorphology. Our findings suggest that acbd6 is critical for animal development, as the loss of this protein results in severe global developmental delay and increased mortality over time, as evidenced by stunted growth and severe brain development impairment by 30 dpf. Moreover, we observed motor neuron over-branching during development and progressive muscle loss, suggesting a combination of muscle and neuronal degeneration leading to movement abnormalities. Furthermore, the knockout zebrafish demonstrated increased locomotor behaviour in the dark, potentially indicating seizure or anxiety-like behaviour, similar to that seen in affected patients. In summary, the Acbd6 zebrafish models offer a promising tool for gaining deeper mechanistic insights into the role of acbd6 and for screening potential therapeutic interventions, as zebrafish are ideal for high-throughput in vivo drug screening. As such, the acbd6 model represents a valuable resource for drug discovery research.

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1 X. tropicalis acbd6 knockouts have gastrulation failure, brain

2 defects, and reduced locomotion

- 3 X. tropicalis is a diploid clawed frog with a genome that contains over 80% of identified human
- 4 disease genes and importantly is syntenic with over two-thirds of the human genome.⁴⁷ Features
- 5 of this animal include rapid external development and a transparent tadpole. A deep
- 6 understanding of *Xenopus* biology throughout the last 70 years, ⁴⁸ combined with ease of genetic
- 7 manipulation⁴⁹, makes it powerful for modeling disease genes^{50,51} and understanding genetic
- 8 disease mechanisms. 52-55
- 9 In the present study, the inactivation of acbd6 in X. tropicalis caused severe cell movement
- 10 failures during gastrulation. Marcks requires N-myristoylation to act in early development⁵⁶ and
- is required for normal cell movement during gastrulation in frog.⁵⁷ It is interesting to speculate
- that the loss of *acbd6* may cause gastrulation defects due to a loss of Marcks *N*-myristoylation;
- an aspect that requires future work. Due to embryo deaths at gastrula stages, a caveat for the
- 14 interpretation of the subsequent phenotype analysis is the unusually high mosaicism of these
- crispant tadpoles. Despite this, there were clear phenotypic differences between the control and
- 16 crispant tadpoles. In some cases, the change predominated in one-half of the tadpole due to
- 17 mosaicism (on the L-R axis, see for example Fig. 5G second image from the left). These
- differences included microcephaly, reduced movement, eye abnormalities, and brain structure
- differences, data that strengthen the link between ACBD6 variants and the pathology observed in
- 20 the patient cohort.

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ACBD5 and ACBD6 have different cellular localizations but both

genes exhibit a neurodegenerative phenotype

- 24 ACBD5 is a peroxisomal membrane protein. Although current knowledge of the phenotype
- associated with ACBD5 defects is limited to only four reported families, 4-7 similar to ACBD6,
- 26 individuals with defective ACBD5 seem to exhibit a neurodegenerative disease, albeit with a
- 27 different range of associated symptoms. Our study on peroxisome morphology and function with
- 28 ACBD6 deficient and control fibroblasts did not reveal significant alterations as has been

- demonstrated in ACBD5 deficiency. Furthermore, Myc-ACBD6 did not localize to peroxisomes
- 2 when expressed in COS-7 cells.

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4 ACBD6 deficiency alters myristate probe YnMyr incorporation into

5 substrates of NMT

6 Our chemical proteomics analysis comparing N-myristoylated proteins in fibroblasts, derived

7 from a patient and their healthy sibling, revealed significant differences in YnMyr-labelled

8 proteins. YnMyr incorporation was significantly higher in the ACBD6-deficient patient

9 fibroblasts, spanning 68 known co- and 18 post-translationally N-myristoylated proteins.

10 Interestingly, an apparent differential variation of YnMyr incorporation in the identified NMT

substrates between healthy and patient fibroblasts was also observed. Our investigation in

12 ACBD6 deficient fibroblasts might indicate its role in N-myristoylation of a subset of NMT

substrates, but further studies are required to investigate this putative role of ACBD6.

Furthermore, to study the effect of ACBD6 deficiency on *N*-myristoylation, future analyses will

need to focus on cell types likely directly impacting the pathways involved in e.g. neurological

16 development.

Both the zebrafish and *X. tropicalis* model systems recapitulate many of the identified human

18 phenotypes, including movement disorders, seizures, facial dysmorphology, and developmental

defects. This evidence for notable evolutionary conservation of ACBD6 function across

mammals, amphibia, and teleosts emphasizes the power of multiple, non-mammalian models as

a method for rapid and cost-effective human gene analysis. Through our chemical proteomics

analysis, coupled with whole proteome and meta-analysis, we identified that acbd6-deficiency in

developing zebrafish embryos results in a prominent increase in metabolic labelling of known

24 co- and post-translationally *N*-myristoylated proteins with YnMyr, suggesting *N*-myristoylation

is dependent on a direct or indirect interaction between *acbd6* and the *N*-myristoyltransferases.

26 Meta-analysis furthermore revealed that *acbd6* deficiency provokes an overall increase of

27 proteins N-myristoylated with YnMyr, with a subset involved in the development of the eye,

neuron and muscle, being reduced. Overall, this suggests that ACBD6 is involved in the N-

myristoylation of a subset of N-myristoyltransferase substrates that require modification, and

might indicate activation of a rescue mechanism in response to loss of ACBD6. Concomitantly, 1 2 potentially compromised myristic acid-CoA binding and shuttling to N-myristoyltransferases in 3 ACBD6-deficient cells may upregulate salvage pathways to increase cellular myristate 4 concentration. For example, acyl-CoA synthases can activate exogenous lipids directly, 5 potentially bypassing or compensating loss of ACBD6. In this case, YnMyr-CoA could more 6 effectively compete with endogenous myristic acid-CoA for protein N-myristoylation than in 7 healthy subjects, leading to the observed enhanced YnMyr labelling, suggesting exogenous 8 myristic acid supplementation through dietary supplementation might have the potential to reduce the burden of ACBD6 deficiency. The determined differences in protein N-myristoylation 9 between the skin fibroblasts derived from a single patient and unaffected sibling align with the 10 YnMyr chemical proteomics findings from our zebrafish study. Consequently, the YnMyr 11 chemical proteomics data of the human patient and unaffected fibroblast serves only as 12 qualitative confirmatory evidence of the zebrafish study. For this purpose, we did not seek 13 further replication of these findings across multiple patient cell lines. 14 In contrast to ACBD6 deficient human fibroblasts and zebrafish crispants, the acbd6 X. tropicalis 15 crispants show a prominent and significant reduction of YnMyr labelling, including proteins 16 such as Marcks, Chchd, Ppm1b, Ppm1g, and Fus, which are significantly involved in 17 18 development. Meta-analysis indicates the upregulation of neurological and sight-related disease networks upon acbd6 loss. The significant effect of acbd6 loss on X. tropicalis development at 19 the gastrula stage precludes a clear interpretation of the effect of acbd6 knockout on N-20 myristoylation due to the presence of confounding changes in other processes during the period 21 22 of metabolic labelling. The clearly non-viable state of the X. tropicalis embryos likely leads to defects in lipid metabolism, protein translation and related processes over this period which go 23 beyond the direct impact of acbd6 on cells. 24 25 In summary, we have shown that bi-allelic pathogenic variants in ACBD6 are associated with a new and distinct neurodevelopmental disease with a complex and progressive dystonia-26 parkinsonism-ataxia phenotype. Zebrafish and X. tropicalis crispants recapitulate the main 27 clinical features of the cohort with affected pathways underlying translation, metabolism, 28 29 neurological development, and neurological diseases. Further studies are warranted to delineate the clinical phenotype and understand the pathomorphological presentation and molecular 30 mechanisms of the ACBD6-related disease. This includes elucidating the molecular interplay 31

- 1 between ACBD6 and N-myristoyltransferases involved in the co- and post-translational
- 2 modification of nascent protein chains, how ACBD6 affects lipid metabolism and the
- 3 identification of treatments of ACBD6 deficiency.

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Data availability

- 6 The data that support the findings of this study are available from the corresponding author, upon
- 7 reasonable request. The mass spectrometry proteomics data have been deposited to the
- 8 ProteomeXchange Consortium via the PRIDE²⁴ partner repository with the dataset identifiers
- 9 PXD024957 (YnMyr chemical proteomics in human cells), PXD043676 (YnMyr chemical
- 10 proteomics in zebrafish), PXD043679 (zebrafish whole proteome), PXD043677 (YnMyr
- chemical proteomics in X. tropicalis) and PXD043680 (X. tropicalis whole proteome).

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Competing interests

- 16 E.W.T. is a director and shareholder of Myricx Pharma Ltd, and an inventor on a patent
- application describing NMT inhibitors including IMP-1088 (Bell, AS; Tate, EW; Leatherbarrow,
- 18 RJ; Hutton, JA; Brannigan, JA, "Compounds and their use as inhibitors of N-myristoyl
- transferase", PCT In Appl (2017) WO 2017001812). E.A.N. is an employee of GeneDx, LLC.
- 20 J.R.L. holds stock in 23andMe and is a consultant for Genome International. Y.J. is an employee
- 21 of Novo Nordisk.

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Supplementary material

24 Supplementary material is available at *Brain* online.

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1 Figure legends

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Figure 1 Family pedigrees, schematic variants' representation, conserved regions of substitution variants in ACBD6, and splicing effects. (A) Pedigrees and segregation results for the 28 unrelated families. Double lines between individuals represent consanguinity. The 45 affected individuals recruited for the study are shaded and indicated with their respective subject (S) number (S1, S2 or S3). The segregation data for all individuals tested via Sanger sequencing is shown with the presence of the ACBD6 variant (red) and/or the reference allele (black), two red/black texts indicate a homozygous state, and one red + one black text indicates a heterozygous state. The genotyping is based on the coding DNA sequence. WT refers to wild type, DEL refers to deletion and DUP refers to duplication. (B) Schematic representation of the gene and protein positions of detected variants in ACBD6. ACBD6 is located on chromosome 1 at cytogenetic position q25.2q25.3 (upper panel). The middle panel shows the genetic variants mapped to the NM_032360.4 transcript of ACBD6. The lower panel shows ACBD6 variants mapped on the protein level. Three variants including p.(Gly22fs), p.(Leu121ThrfsTer27), and a 30kb deletion in the C-terminus have been reported previously.^{6, 7,10} Recurrent variants are lebelled by family codes. (C) Splicing schematic for the c.574-2A>G variant in ACBD6 showing cryptic acceptor splice site activation in exon 6 (upper panel). The c.664-2A>G (middle panel) and c.694+1G>A (lower panel) variants affect splicing of exon 7 both show exon skipping. Additionally, the c.694+1G>A variant activates a cryptic donor splice site. (D) Interspecies alignment performed with Clustal Omega showing the complete conservation down to invertebrates of the amino acid residues affected by a missense variant leading to an amino acid substitution p.(Asp201Gly) and an in-frame duplication p.(Asn219dup).

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Figure 2 Clinical features of the affected individuals with bi-allelic *ACBD6* variants. (A) i-xiii: Representative photographs demonstrating facial features of the affected individuals in adulthood. F1:S1 (i), F1:S2 (ii), F1:S3 (iii), F3:S2 (iv), F3:S1 (v), F6:S1 (vi), F7:S2 (vii), F7:S1 (viii), F11:S1 (ix), F17:S1 (x), F17:S2 (xi), F20:S1 (xii), F16:S1 (xiii). xiv-xxxi: Representative photographs demonstrating facial features of the affected individuals in childhood. F3:S2 (xiv) at 5 years old, F3:S1 (xv) at 12 years old, F6:S2 (xvi), F8:S1 (xvii), F8:S2 (xviii), F10:S1 (xix), F10:S2 (xx), and F11:S1 (xxi) at younger age, F13:S1 (xxii), F14:S1 (xxiii), F15:S1 (xxiv),

F16:S1 (xxv) at 2 years old, F16:S1(xxvi) at 4 years old, F19:S1 (xxvii), F19:S2 (xxviii), F20:S2 1 2 (xxix), F12:S1 (xxx), F12:S2 (xxxi). The most frequently seen facial dysmorphologies in adults 3 are high nasal ridge, full nasal tip, small mouth, thin upper lip, and broad chin. The most 4 frequently seen facial dysmorphologies in children are bi-frontal/bi-temporal narrowing, arched eyebrows, hypertelorism, up-slanting palpebral fissures, depressed nasal bridge, full nasal tip, 5 thin upper lip, full lower lip, and broad chin. (B) Representative photographs demonstrating 6 7 postural abnormalities seen in the affected individuals. A stooped body posture and lateral 8 flexion of the trunk can be seen in the individuals including F1:S1 (i), F1:S2 (ii), F1:S3 (iii), F3:S1 (iv), F3:S2 (v), F6:S1 (vi), F6:S2 (vii), and F8:S2 (viii), F13:S1 (ix). (C) Bar graph 9 summarizing proportions of various clinical findings in the ACBD6 cohort. Blue – affected, 10 orange – unaffected, grey – not ascertained/not applicable. GDD, Global developmental delay. 11 ID, Intellectual disability. (D) Representative neuroimaging features of the affected individuals. 12 Brain MRI, midline sagittal images of the affected individuals F1:S1 (i), F1:S2 (ii), F5:S1(iii), 13 F56:S2 (iv), F7:S1 (v), F7:S2 (vi), F10:S1 (vii), F10:S2 (viii), F11:S1 (ix), F13:S1 (x), F14:S1 14 (xi), and F19:S1 (xii). Most of the affected individuals have corpus callosum agenesis or 15 hypoplasia with prevalent involvement of the posterior sections (empty arrows), variably 16 associated with short midbrain (thin arrows) and small inferior cerebellar vermis (arrowheads). 17 In addition, mild hypertrophy of the clava was noted in some subjects (dotted arrows). Note that 18 the anterior commissure was markedly hypoplastic or absent in all affected individuals. 19

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Figure 3 CRISPR/Cas9 mutation of zebrafish *acbd6* causes smaller eyes, impaired vision, abnormal locomotion, developmental delay, and increased mortality. (A) Whole-mount *in situ* hybridization for detecting *acbd6* mRNA expression pattern in zebrafish embryo at 24 hpf. Forebrain (fb), midbrain (mb), midbrain and hindbrain boundary (MHB), hindbrain (hb), otic vesicle (ov). Dorsal view, anterior to the left. (B) Representative images of wild-type (acbd6+/+), heterozygous (acbd6+/-) and homozygous (acbd6-/-) mutant larva at 6 dpf. Head size and eye size are indicated by blue and red lines, respectively. Anterior to the left and dorsal to the top. Scale bar = 200 μ m. (C, D) Quantification of eye and head size as indicated in Fig. 3B. +/+ (n = 26 larvae), +/- (n = 114 larvae) and -/- (n = 47 larvae). Each symbol represents one larva. Values are calculated as a percentage of the mean value of +/+ larvae. Error bars = mean \pm

standard deviation (SD). (E) The result of VSR analysis performed on +/+ (n = 43 larvae), +/- (n 1 = 99 larvae), and -/- (n = 48 larvae) zebrafish larvae at 6 dpf. Each symbol represents one larva. 2 3 The number of responses for 5 stimuli of each larva is calculated as a percentage of responses. Error bars = mean \pm standard error of the mean (SEM). (F) Locomotor activities of zebrafish 4 larvae in light and dark periods at 6 dpf. \pm (n = 42 larvae), \pm (n = 99 larvae), and \pm (n = 48 5 larvae) zebrafish larvae were habituated in the dark for 30 minutes, followed by three cycles of 6 10-minute time bins of light and dark periods. Error bars = mean \pm SEM. The dark period (D) 7 8 and light period (L) are labelled. Black arrows indicate the increased movement of homozygous mutants at the first minute in the dark. (G) Average cumulative distance traveled of each larva 9 from three cycles of either light or dark periods in Fig. 3F. Error bars = mean \pm SD. (H) Average 10 cumulative distance traveled of each larva during the first minute of the dark period across three 11 cycles as indicated by black arrows in Fig. 3F. Error bars = mean \pm SD. (I) Locomotor activities 12 of zebrafish larvae in light and dark conditions at 12 dpf. +/+ (n = 39 larvae), +/- (n = 71 larvae) 13 and -/- (n = 29 larvae). Error bars = mean \pm SEM. Red arrow indicates increased movement of 14 homozygous mutants at the first minute after light on. Red arrowhead indicates increased 15 movement of homozygous mutants at the second minute after light on. (J) Average cumulative 16 17 distance traveled by each larva during three cycles of either light or dark periods in Fig. 3I. Error bars = mean \pm SD. (K) Average cumulative distance traveled by each larva during the first cycle 18 of the first minute of the light period as indicated by red arrow in Fig. 3I. Error bars = mean \pm 19 SD. (L) Genotyping results of zebrafish at 6 dpf (n = 191 larvae), 12 dpf (n = 196 larvae) and 30 20 dpf (n = 118 juveniles) stages from acbd6+/- intercross. (M) Representative images of 21 morphological phenotype from acbd6+/+, acbd6+/- and acbd6-/- at 30 dpf. Anterior to the left 22 and dorsal to the top. (N) Sagittal section of acbd6+/+ brain at 30 dpf. Anterior to the left and 23 dorsal to the top. Olfactory bulb (Ob), periventricular gray zone of optic tectum (PGZ), medulla 24 oblongata (MO). (O-W) Representative images of transverse sections of telencephalon (O-Q), 25 optic tectum (R-T) and cerebellum (U-W) from acbd6+/+, acbd6+/- and acbd6-/- juvenile as 26 indicated in Fig. 3N. In (C, D), one-way ANOVA with Tukey's multiple comparisons test. In (E, 27 G, H, J, K), one-way ANOVA with Dunnett's T3 multiple comparisons test. ns, not significant p 28 29 ≥ 0.05 , *p < 0.05, **p < 0.01, ***p < 0.001 and ****p < 0.0001.

Figure 4 Zebrafish acbd6 F₀ knockouts exhibit increased susceptibility to chemical-induced 1 seizures, excessive motor neuron branching, and skeletal muscle degeneration. (A) 2 3 Representative images of uninjected control and acbd6 F₀ larvae at 6 dpf. Left column, ventral 4 view, anterior to the left. Right column, dorsal view, anterior to the left. Blue line indicates head 5 size, magenta line indicates eye size, and cyan line indicates eye distance. Scale bar = 0.2 mm. (\mathbf{B}, \mathbf{C}) Quantification of the head and eye size (n = 30 larvae for each group) of uninjected 6 7 control (uninj.), $acbd6 F_0$ knockout (F_0), F_0 + zebrafish wild-type acbd6 mRNA (+acbd6), and F_0 8 + human wild-type ACBD6 mRNA (+ACBD6) as indicate in Fig. 4B. (D) The VSR analysis after mRNA rescue at 6 dpf. n = 36 larvae for each group. Each symbol represents one larva. The 9 10 number of responses to 5 stimuli of each larva was calculated as a percentage of responses. Error bars = mean \pm SEM. (E) Quantification of the eyes distance (n = 20 larvae for each group) as 11 indicate in Fig. 4B. (F) Quantification of the eye size of F₀ knockout rescued with mRNA of 12 human p.Glu63Ter (+E63*) or p.Asp201Gly (+D201G) variant. n = 25 larvae for each group. 13 (G) Locomotor activities of zebrafish larvae in light and dark conditions at 6 dpf. n = 64 larvae 14 for each group. The larvae were habituated in the dark for 30 minutes, followed by three cycles 15 of 10-minute periods of light and dark. Error bars represent the mean \pm SEM. Dark period (D), 16 light period (L). Red arrows indicating increased movement of F₀ one minute after light on, and 17 black arrows indicate increased movement one minute after light off. (H) Average cumulative 18 distance traveled by each larva during three cycles of either light or dark periods in Fig. 4G. 19 Error bars = mean \pm SD. (I) The average cumulative distance traveled by each larva during the 20 first minute of the dark period was measured over three cycles, as shown by the black arrow in 21 Fig. 4G. Error bars represent the mean \pm SD. (J) The average cumulative distance traveled by the 22 23 larvae was measured for each group after being treated with different doses of pentylenetetrazole (PTZ) at 5 dpf. n = 16 larvae for each group. (K-N) Confocal images of 24 Tg(mnx1:GFP;olig2:DsRed) larva at 12 dpf are shown, with transgenic larvae injected with 25 slc45a2 sgRNA used as a control and those injected with acbd6 + slc45a2 sgRNAs shown as 26 acbd6 F₀. (L' and N') Enlarged images from white boxes are shown in L' and N', with red 27 asterisks indicating autofluorescence from remaining pigment cells. GFP and DsRed are 28 29 displayed in cyan and magenta, respectively, with magenta arrowheads indicating excess axonal arborizations. The images are presented in a lateral view, with anterior to the left and dorsal to 30 31 the top. Additional motor neuron phenotypes at 6 and 12 dpf can be found in Supplementary Fig.

13. (O-T) Confocal images of stained skeletal muscle fibers with phalloidin are presented, 1 2 including images from slc45a2 sgRNA-injected control (O-Q) and acbd6 + slc45a2 sgRNAs-3 injected (R-S) larvae at 12 dpf. Orthogonal views generated from (P and S) using the Orthogonal 4 views tool in ImageJ are also displayed. Degenerated muscles are indicated by (#), while white arrowheads and a white arrow indicate Z-discs and the thickness of the myotube, respectively. 5 6 Supplementary Fig. 14 provides additional muscle phenotypes at 6 and 12 dpf. In (B-D and F), one-way ANOVA with Tukey's multiple comparisons test. In (E and H-J), one-way ANOVA 7 with Dunnett's T3 multiple comparisons test. ns, not significant $p \ge 0.05$, *p < 0.05, **p < 0.01, 8 ***p < 0.001 and ****p < 0.0001. 9

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Figure 5 acbd6 X. tropicalis crispants have gastrulation, movement, craniofacial, brain and eye defects together with microcephaly. (A) The gene structure of human (ACBD6) and X .tropicalis (acbd6) reveals 8 exons. (B) Gastrulation defects, including failure of blastopore closure and anterior posterior defects, were observed in F₀ X. tropicalis embryos injected with two different CRISPR/Cas9 constructs (sgRNA-68 and sgRNA-71) disrupting exon 1 of acbd6. (C) Those animals surviving to free-feeding stages presented with microcephaly, craniofacial dysmorphism and eye abnormalities. (D) The differences in head size between the uninjected control (2.07 +/- 0.36mm) and acbd6 crispant tadpoles (1.52 +/- 0.27mm, sgRNA-68) were found to be significant, t(34)=5.183, p<0.001. (E-F) Alcian Blue staining marking the cartilaginous structures in the head and neck show equivalent structures between control (E) and acbd6 crispant tadpoles (F) revealing no gross morphological abnormalities. (G) Detailed structural analysis in higher resolution MicroCT imaging (1% phosphotungstic acid contrast stain) revealed significant structural abnormalities in the facial musculature (Red arrows, G), abnormalities of the eye (microphthalmia, anophthalmia – Yellow arrows, G) and structural abnormalities in the brain most pronounced in the midbrain regions (Blue arrow, G). (H) Locomotion analysis at NF44/45 revealed that crispants moved significantly less than control tadpoles. (I) The Kaplan-Meier survival analysis of 65 control and crispant tadpoles shows two periods of crispant-specific decline, the first at gastrula stages (day 0-1) and the second with post-feeding (day 8, NF stage 47).

Figure 6 Morphological characteristics of peroxisomes in ACBD6-deficient patient cells are not altered and chemical proteomic profiling of N-myristoylation in human fibroblasts. (A) Patient fibroblasts and controls were processed for immunofluorescence microscopy using antibodies against the peroxisomal membrane marker PEX14, the matrix marker catalase, or mitochondrial ATP synthetase B (ATPB). Peroxisomal localisation of PEX14 and catalase indicate that peroxisomal membrane and PTS1-dependent matrix import are normal. Note that the morphology of mitochondria, which are elongated in fibroblasts, was also not altered when compared to controls. (B) Quantification of peroxisome number based on immunofluorescence images (see A for representative images) (n = 29-36 cells). Data are from three independent experiments. ns, not significant; Kruskal-Wallis ANOVA test with Dunn's multiple comparisons. (C) COS-7 cells were transfected with plasmids encoding Myc-ACBD5 or Myc-ACBD6 and processed for immunofluorescence microscopy using antibodies against Myc and PEX14. Note that Myc-ACBD5 localises to peroxisomes, whereas Myc-ACBD6 localises to the nucleus and the cytoplasm in COS-7 cells. Scale bars, 10 µm. (D) Ranked plot of YnMyr-labelled, known co- and post-translationally N-myristoylated proteins, as identified in (Supplementary Figure 18E). Position on the left equals lower abundance in ACBD6 deficient fibroblasts, position on the right equals higher abundance in ACBD6 deficient fibroblasts.

Figure 7 Chemical and whole proteome analysis of *acbd6* wild-type and crispant zebrafish and *X. tropicalis* model systems. (A) Volcano plot comparing YnMyr labelling of proteins in wild-type and *acbd6* crispant zebrafish at 72 hpf. Horizontal dotted line: significance threshold (p-value = 0.05). FC: fold-change. Position on the left equals reduced in crispant, position on the right equals increased in crispant. (B) Comparing YnMyr labelling of proteins in wild-type and *acbd6* crispant zebrafish at 120 hpf. Further description as in (A). (C) Top-20 of biological processes most significantly enriched in proteins down-regulated in *acbd6* crispant zebrafish at 72 hpf. The most significantly enriched process at the top. Colour indicates Q-value as secondary significance indicator. Size of circles indicates a number of proteins enriched in the depicted process. Dr: Danio rerio. Hs: Homo sapiens. (D) Volcano plot comparing YnMyr labelling of proteins in wild-type and *acbd6* crispant 68 *X. tropicalis*. Horizontal dotted line: significance threshold (p-value = 0.05). FC: fold-change. Position on the left equals reduced in crispant, position on the right equals increased in crispant. (E) Comparing YnMyr labelling of proteins in

1 wild-type and acbd6 crispant 71 X. tropicalis. Further description as in (D). (F) Top-20 of

2 biological processes most significantly enriched in proteins up-regulated in *acbd6* crispant 68 *X*.

tropicalis. Most significantly enriched processes are at the top. Colour indicates Q-value as

secondary significance indicator. Size of circles indicates a number of proteins enriched in the

5 depicted process. Xt: Xenopus tropicalis. Hs: Homo sapiens.

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1	Table I	Main	clinic	al fea	tures	of th	e affec	ted in	dividu	als w	ith ho	mozy	gous	ACBD	6 va	riants	

Family ID	Main I	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	ais w	10	II	/gous	13	14	I5	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
N of affected	3	ı	2	I	2	2	2	2	I	2	I	2	K	T	Ī	I	2	Ι	2	2	I	2	2	I	I	2	2	2
GDD/ID	3+	+	2+	+	2+	2+	2+	2+	+	2+	+	2+	+	+	+	+	2+	+	2+	2+	+	2+	2+	+	+	2+	2+	2+
Progressive disease course	3+	Х	2+	Х	2+	2+	2+	2+	Х	2+	+	2X	+	y	+	X	2+	X	2X	2X	+	2X	2+	+	Х	2X	2+	2+
Microcephaly	+		2-	+	2-	1+	1+	2+	Х	2-		2-	+	-	-	+	2X	-	2+	2X	-	2X	2-	+	Х	2X	1+	2X
Short stature	3-	+	+	X	2-	2+	2+	2+	-	2-	+	2-	+	+	-	Х	2X	X	2-	2+	+	2X	I-= IX	+	Х	2X	2X	2X
Facial dysmorphism	3+	+	2+	Х	2+	2+	2+	2+	+	2+	+	2+	+	+	+	+	2+	Х	2+	2+	+	2X	2-	+	Х	2X	2+	2+
Oculomotor abnormalities	3X	Х	2+		2+	2+	2X	I+	Х	2+	1	2+	+	-	+	+	2X	+	2-	1+	+	2X	2-	Х	Х	2X	2+	2X
Cerebellar ataxia	3+	+	+	+	2+	2+	2+	2+	1	2+	+	2+	+	+	+	+	2+	Х	2+	2+	-	2X	2-	-	Х	2+	2+	2+
Limb spasticity/hyperto nia	3+	+	2+	+	2+	1+	2+	2+	-)	2+	-	2-	+/-	+	+/-	+	2+	X	2+	2-	-	2X	+= -	-	X	2+	2+	2+
Gait abnormalities	+	+	2+	+	2+	2+	2+	2+	-	2+	+	2+	+	Х	+	+	2+	+	2+	2X p	X	2X	+= X	Х	Х	2+	2+	2+
No independent gait	+	+	2-	Х	2-	2-	2-	2-	-	1+	-	2-	-	+	-	-	I+	-	2+	2+	+	2X	I-= IX	+	+	2X	2-	2-
Hypokinesia/Parki nsonism	3+	Χ	I+	X	2-	2+	2X	2-	Х	2X	Х	2-	-	-	-	+	+	Х	2-	2-	-	2X	2-	-	Х	2X	1+	+
Truncal/limb dystonia	3+	Х	2+	X	2+	2+	2X	2+	Х	2+	+	+ = -	+	+	+	+	2+	X	2+	2+	+	2X	2X	-	Х	2X	2+	2+
Upper limb/head tremor	3X	+	2+)	2+	2+	2-	2-	-	2+	+	2-	+	+	+	+	2+	+	2+	2-	-	2X	2-	-	Х	2X	2+	2X
Tics and TLV	1+	Х	71+	Х	2X	2X	2X	2+	Х	2-	-	2X	+	Х	Χ	Х	2X	-	2X	l+	-	2X	2-	-	Х	2X	+	2X
Postural instability	2+	X	2-	Х	2+	2X	2X	2+	Х	2+	+	2-	+	+	+	+	2X	Х	2X	2X	Х	2X	I-= IX	Х	Х	2X	2+	2+
Epileptic seizures	2+	+	2-	+	2+	2-	2-	2-	+	2-	-	2-	+	-	-	+	2X	-	2-	2-	+	2X	+= -	-	+	2X	2-	2-
Behavioural problem	3+	-	2-	-	2+	2+	2+	2-	-	2+	-	2-	+	+	+	+	2X	Х	2+	2+	-	2X	+= -	-	Х	2X	2+	2+
Premature aging	3+	-	2-	-	2-	+	+	2-	-	2-	-	2-	-	-	-	-	2+	-	2-	2-	-	2X	2-	-	Х	2X	2-	2+
Reduction of PWM	2+ª	Х	+	Х	+	+	+	- ^a	Х	2+	-	2X	+	-	-	Х	2X	X	2-	2-	X	2X	2X	Х	Х	2X	2-	2X
CC hypoplasia/agenesi s	2+ ^a	+	+	X	+	+	2+	- ^a	Х	2+	+	2X	-	+	-	+	2+	X	2+	2-	+	2X	2X	Х	Х	2X	2+	2X
AC Hypoplasia/agenesi	2+ª	Х	2-	Х	2+	2+	2+	+ ^a	Х	2+	+	2X	+	+	+	Х	2X	Х	2+	2-	X	2X	2X	Х	Х	2X	2+	2X
Short midbrain	2+ ^a	Х	2-	Х	+	2+	+	+a	Х	2+	+	2X	-	+	-	Х	2X	Х	2-	2-	Х	Х	2X	Х	Х	2X	2-	2X

ICV hypoplasia	2+a	Х	2-	Х	+	2+	+	+a	Х	+	-	2X	+	+	X	2X	Х	2-	2-	+	2X	2X	Х	X	2X	2-	2X
Hypertrophy of the clava	2- ^a	X	2-	Х	2-	+	-	- ^a	X	2-	-	2X	+	+	X	2X	X	2+	2-	Х	2X	2X	X	X	2X	2-	2X

-= negative for the feature of interest; += positive for the feature of interest; +/- = mild hypertonia; AC = anterior commissure; CC = corpus callosum; F = family; GDD = global developmental delay; ICV = hypoplasia of the inferior cerebellar vermis; ID = intellectual disability; N = number; PWM = periventricular white matter; TLV = tic like vocalizations; X = not available/not applicable. The numbers preceding the symbols "+" = "-" = and "X" indicate the number of siblings who are positive, negative or don't have data on the feature of interest in families with multiple affected. Brain MRI scans are not available from another affected sibling.

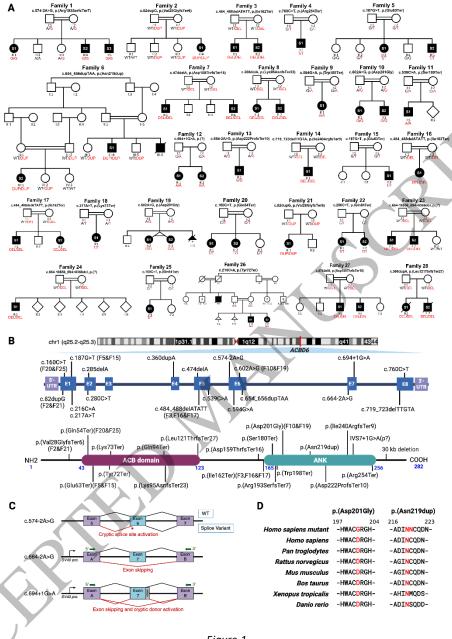


Figure 1 246x336 mm (x DPI)

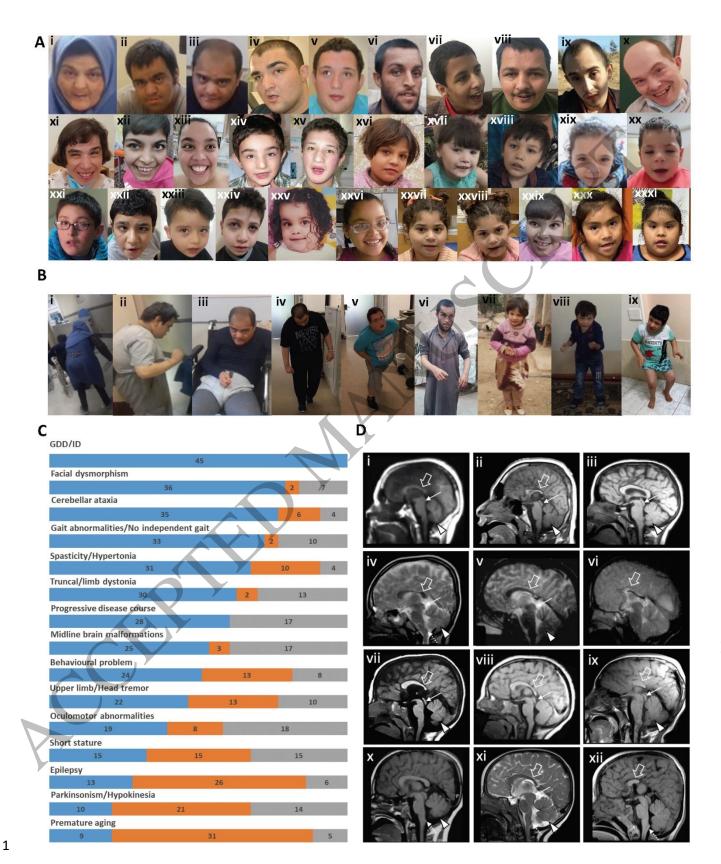


Figure 2 185x230 mm (x DPI)

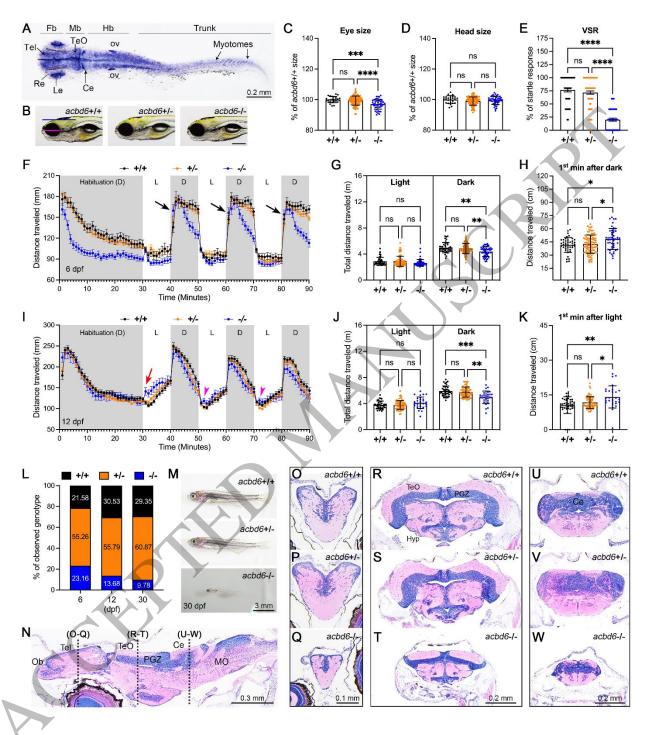
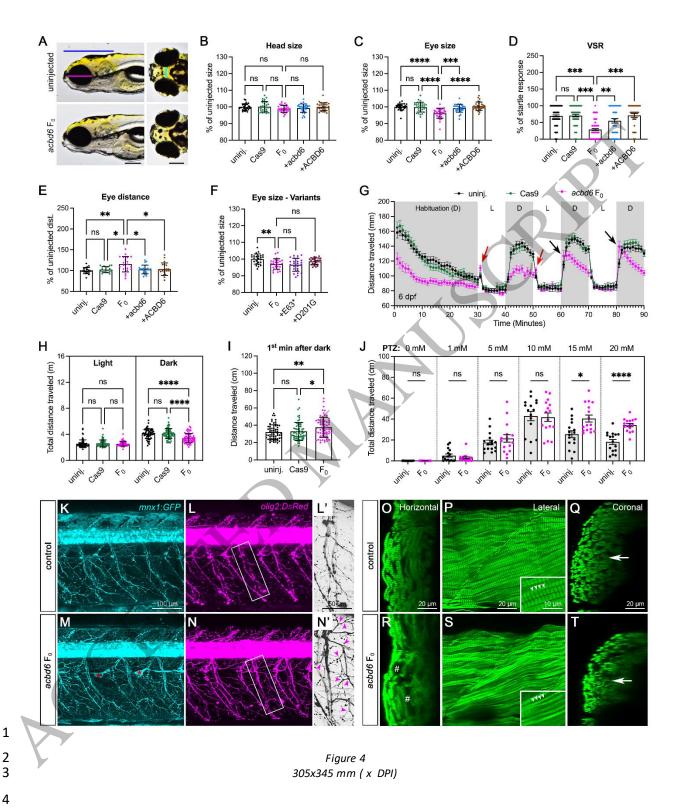


Figure 3 305x344 mm (x DPI)



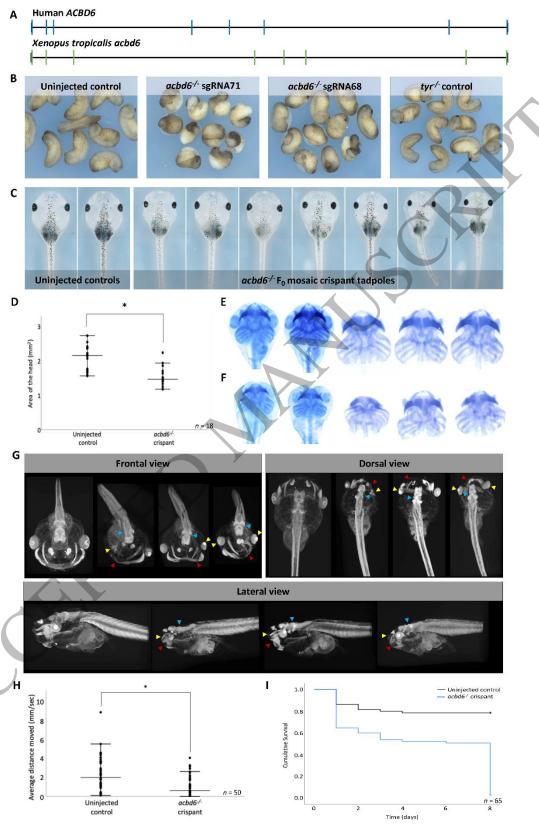
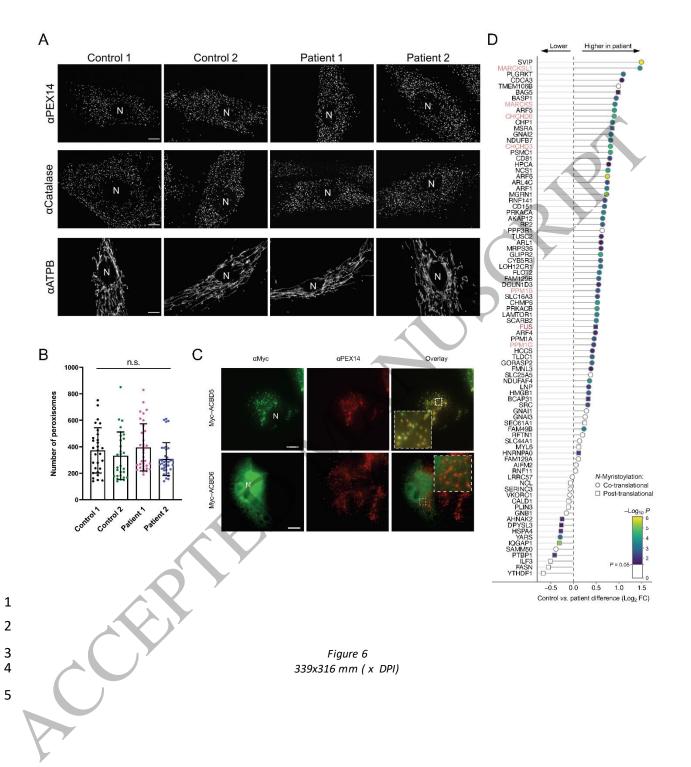


Figure 5 176x275 mm (x DPI)

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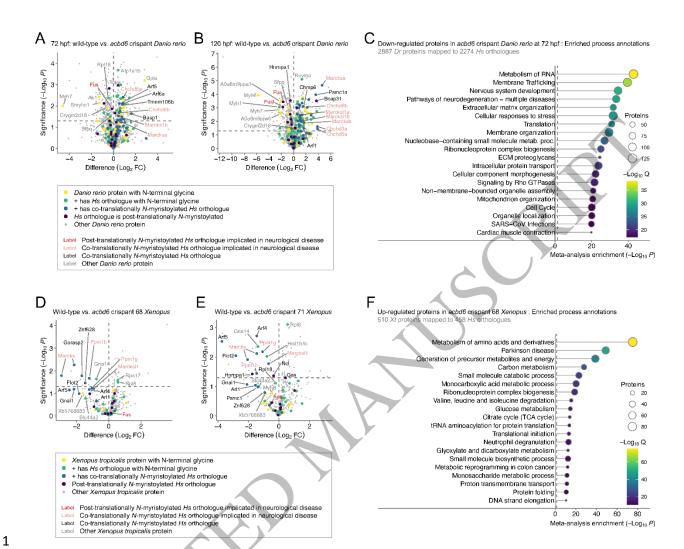


Figure 7 339x283 mm (x DPI)