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3 **Fenton reaction-induced renal carcinogenesis in *Mutyh*-deficient mice**
4 **exhibits less chromosomal aberrations than the rat model**

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6 Guang Hua Li,¹ Shinya Akatsuka,¹ Shan Hwu Chew,¹ Li Jiang,¹ Takahiro Nishiyama,²
7 Akihiko Sakamoto,^{2*} Takashi Takahashi,³ Mitsuru Futakuchi,⁴ Hiromu Suzuki,⁵
8 Kunihiro Sakumi,⁶ Yusaku Nakabeppu⁶ and Shinya Toyokuni^{1,7}

9

10 ¹ Department of Pathology and Biological Responses, Nagoya University Graduate
11 School of Medicine, Nagoya 466-8550, Japan

12 ² Department of Hematology and Oncology, Nagoya University Graduate School of
13 Medicine, Nagoya 466-8550, Japan

14 ³ Department of Molecular Carcinogenesis, Nagoya University Graduate School of
15 Medicine, Nagoya 466-8550, Japan

16 ⁴ Department of Molecular Toxicology, Nagoya City University Graduate School of
17 Medical Sciences, Nagoya 467-8601, Japan

18 ⁵ Department of Molecular Biology, Sapporo Medical University School of Medicine,
19 Sapporo 060-8556, Japan

20 ⁶ Division of Neurofunctional Genomics, Department of Immunobiology and
21 Neuroscience, Medical Institute of Bioregulation, Kyushu University, Fukuoka 812-
22 8582, Japan

23 ⁷ Sydney Medical School, The University of Sydney, NSW, Australia

24 * Present address: Department of Mechanism of Aging, National Center for Geriatrics
25 and Gerontology, Obu 474-8511, Japan

26

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32 **All correspondence to:**

33 Shinya Toyokuni, M.D., Ph.D., Department of Pathology and Biological Responses,

34 Nagoya University Graduate School of Medicine, 65 Tsurumai-cho, Showa-ku,

35 Nagoya, Aichi 466-8550, Japan. Tel: +81 52 744 2086; Fax: +81 52 744 2091; Email:

36 toyokuni@med.nagoya-u.ac.jp

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38

39 **Abbreviations:**

40 aCGH, array-based comparative genome hybridization

41 Fe-NTA, ferric nitrilotriacetate

42 ip, intraperitoneally

43 PBS, phosphate-buffered saline

44 RCC, renal cell carcinoma

45

46 **Abstract**

47

48 Oxidative stress including iron excess has been associated with carcinogenesis. The
49 level of 8-oxoguanine, a major oxidatively modified base in DNA, is maintained very
50 low by three distinct enzymes, encoded by *OGG1*, *MUTYH* and *MTH1*. Germline
51 biallelic inactivation of *MUTYH* represents a familial cancer syndrome called *MUTYH*-
52 associated polyposis. Here, we used *Mutyh*-deficient mice to evaluate renal
53 carcinogenesis induced by ferric nitrilotriacetate (Fe-NTA). Although the *C57BL/6*
54 background is cancer-resistant, a repeated intraperitoneal administration of Fe-NTA
55 induced a high incidence of renal cell carcinoma (RCC; 26.7%) in *Mutyh*-deficient mice
56 in comparison to wild-type mice (7.1%). Fe-NTA treatment also induced renal
57 malignant lymphoma, which did not occur without the Fe-NTA treatment in both the
58 genotypes. Renal tumor-free survival after Fe-NTA treatment was marginally
59 different ($P=0.157$) between the two genotypes. Array-based comparative genome
60 hybridization analyses revealed, in RCC, the loss of heterozygosity in chromosomes 4
61 and 12 without *p16^{INK4A}* inactivation; these results were confirmed by a methylation
62 analysis and showed no significant difference between the genotypes. Lymphomas
63 showed a preference for genomic amplifications. *Dlk1* inactivation by promoter
64 methylation may be involved in carcinogenesis in both tumors. Fe-NTA-induced
65 murine RCCs revealed significantly less genomic aberrations than those in rats,
66 demonstrating a marked species difference.

67 (199 words)

68

69 **Key words:** oxidative stress, Fe-NTA, *Mutyh* deficient mice, renal cell carcinoma,
70 lymphoma

71 Introduction

72

73 Oxidative stress is caused by a variety of chemical, physical and biological agents and
74 is associated with carcinogenesis.^{1,2} Iron excess may cause Fenton reaction-induced
75 oxidative stress, and this is recognized as one of the causes of carcinogenesis³⁻⁵ based
76 on human epidemiological data, such as in genetic hemochromatosis (hepatocellular
77 carcinoma),⁶ endometriosis (ovarian cancer),^{7,8} viral hepatitis C (hepatocellular
78 carcinoma)^{9,10} and asbestos-induced malignant mesothelioma.^{11,12}

79 We established an iron-induced renal carcinogenesis model in wild-type rats and
80 mice using a repeated intraperitoneal administration of a redox-active iron chelate,
81 ferric nitrilotriacetate (Fe-NTA).¹³⁻¹⁵ Renal cell carcinoma (RCC), induced by Fe-NTA
82 in wild-type rats, reveals prominent chromosomal aberrations, and these patterns are
83 extremely similar to those observed in human counterparts.¹⁶ In addition, this model
84 provides a reproducible acute model of oxidative renal proximal tubular damage,¹⁷⁻¹⁹
85 where numerous oxidative stress markers are significantly increased in the kidney 3 h
86 after a single administration of Fe-NTA, including 8-oxoguanine (8-oxoG)²⁰ and 4-
87 hydroxy-2-nonenal.^{15,21,22}

88 The base 8-oxoG, a modified base in nucleotides after oxidative reactions, is most
89 abundant as an oxidatively modified DNA base in the genome, but it may cause a G
90 to T transversion-type mutation when it is present at DNA replication; therefore, it
91 represents a premutagenic lesion.²³ The base 8-oxoG is present in the nuclear
92 genome of cells at a level of ~1 in 10⁶ guanines in non-pathologic conditions, which is
93 equilibrated both by the increase in 8-oxoG by the persistent generation of reactive
94 oxygen species (ROS) and by its decrease by repair via two distinct enzymes encoded
95 by *OGG1* or *MUTYH* and sanitization of nucleotide pool by *MTH1*.²⁴ The germline
96 biallelic inactivation of *MUTYH* represents a familial cancer syndrome called MUTYH-

97 associated polyposis in humans.^{25,26}

98 We are aware, from our previous experiments, that the *C57BL/6* background is
99 resistant to carcinogenesis,^{14,27} including that by Fe-NTA (unpublished data, H Ohara
100 and S Toyokuni), whereas various strains of rats examined were all sensitive (~90%
101 incidence in Wistar/Fischer-344/Brown-Norway strains).^{28,29} *Mutyh*-deficient mice of
102 the *C57BL/6* background show a higher incidence of spontaneous or carcinogen-
103 induced carcinogenesis in comparison to their wild-type counterparts.³⁰ Here, we
104 used *Mutyh*-deficient mice to evaluate the difference in renal carcinogenesis induced
105 by Fe-NTA between rats and mice. Unexpectedly, we found a marked species
106 difference in the genomic alteration of Fe-NTA-induced RCC.

107

108

109 **Materials and Methods**

110

111 **Materials**

112 Ferric nitrate enneahydrate and nitrilotriacetic acid (NTA) disodium salt were from
113 Wako (Osaka, Japan) and were dissolved in deionized water to make 300 mM and 600
114 mM solutions, respectively. The Fe-NTA solution was prepared immediately before
115 use by mixing these at a volume ratio of 1:2 (molar ratio 1:4) and adjusting the pH to
116 7.4 with sodium carbonate as described.²¹ The rabbit monoclonal antibody against
117 Ki67 was from Abcam (ab16667; Cambridge, UK), and the mouse monoclonal antibody
118 against 8-hydroxy-2'-deoxyguanosine (8-OHdG; also as 8-oxoG) was from Nikken Seil
119 (Fukuroi, Japan). A rat monoclonal antibody (RA3-6B2) for immunohistochemistry,
120 recognizing mouse B220 (CD45R) as a B-cell marker, was from BD Pharmingen (San
121 Diego, CA). A rabbit polyclonal antibody for immunohistochemistry, recognizing the
122 CD3 ϵ chain as a T-cell marker, was from Abcam (ab5690). A rat monoclonal antibody

123 (30-F11, PerCP) for FACS analyses, recognizing mouse CD45 as a pan-leukocyte
124 marker, was from BioLegend (San Diego, CA). A rat monoclonal antibody (eBio1D3,
125 PE) for FACS analyses, recognizing mouse CD19 as a B-cell marker, was from
126 eBioscience (San Diego, CA). An Armenian hamster monoclonal antibody (145-2C11,
127 APC-eFluor) for FACS analyses, recognizing the mouse CD3 ϵ chain as a T-cell marker,
128 was from eBioscience.

129

130 **Genotyping the *Mutyh*^{+/-} mice and animal experiments**

131 *Mutyh*^{+/-} mice with a *C57BL/6* background were generated as described previously.³⁰
132 All the mice used for the experiments were obtained by crossing heterologous *Mutyh*^{+/-}
133 mice. The primer pairs used to detect the wild-type and mutant alleles were as
134 follows: 5'-CCTGGTGCAAAGGCCTGA-3' (forward) and 5'-
135 GCAGTAGACACAGCTGCAT-3' (reverse) primers for the wild-type allele, and 5'-
136 CTACGCATCGGTAATGAAGG-3' as the forward *neo* primer and the same reverse
137 primer for the mutated allele. All the animals were maintained in an air-conditioned
138 specific pathogen-free room with a time-controlled lighting system. The Animal
139 Experiment Committee of Nagoya University Graduate School of Medicine approved
140 all the protocols. Only male mice were used for its higher sensitivity to Fe-NTA.¹⁹

141

142 **Protocol for Fe-NTA-induced renal carcinogenesis in mice**

143 There were four groups of 20 male mice at the start of carcinogenesis study: *Mutyh*^{+/+}
144 and Fe-NTA treatment; *Mutyh*^{-/-} and Fe-NTA treatment; *Mutyh*^{+/+} with no treatment;
145 and *Mutyh*^{-/-} with no treatment. We used 8 to 9-week-old male mice that each
146 weighed 22-24 g. Fe-NTA was injected intraperitoneally (ip) at a dose of 3 mg iron/kg
147 five times a week for the first week, which was thereafter increased to 5 mg iron/kg 5

148 times a week during the next 11 weeks. The mice were euthanized when they
149 appeared ill or showed >5% weight reduction in a week. Finally, at ~120 weeks, the
150 final effective numbers of mice in each group were 14, 15, 16 and 19, respectively,
151 accounting for the reduction of early accidental death. A complete autopsy was
152 performed, and the tissue samples were either fixed with 10% PBS-buffered formalin
153 for routine pathological examination, frozen at -80°C until use for other analyses, or
154 were directly filtered through cell strainer for primary culture, followed by FACS
155 analyses.

156

157 **Fe-NTA-induced renal subacute toxicity protocol in mice**

158 For the subacute experiments, 11 male *Mutyh*^{+/+} and 12 male *Mutyh*^{-/-} mice were used.
159 The Fe-NTA treatment was as follows: 3, 0, 3, 3, 3, 5, 5 and 5 mg iron/kg ip
160 administration was performed at ~ 10 am of each day. The mice were euthanized 48
161 h after the final administration of Fe-NTA. The kidneys were immediately dissected
162 and fixed with 10% PBS-buffered formalin for routine pathological examination or
163 immunohistochemistry.

164

165 **Histological and immunohistochemical analyses**

166 These analyses were performed as described³¹ except for the use of BOND MAX/III
167 (Leica, Wetzlar, Germany). The quantitative analyses were performed both for the
168 areas and the integrated density as described,³¹ except that ImageJ was used
169 (<https://imagej.nih.gov/ij/>) as the software.

170

171 **FACS analyses of malignant lymphoma cells**

172 The obtained nodule of malignant lymphoma was filtered through a Falcon cell
173 strainer (Ref#352350, 70 μm ; Corning; Corning, NY) into RPMI medium with 10% fetal
174 bovine serum, which was cultured on a feeder layer of BLS4 as described.³²⁻³⁵ After
175 8-10 passages, the floating lymphoma cells were used for the FACS analyses as
176 described.³⁶

177

178 **Array-based CGH (aCGH) analysis**

179 We used the DNeasy Blood and Tissue Kit (QIAGEN GmbH, Hilden, Germany) to
180 extract the genomic DNA, and the Quant-iT dsDNA BR Assay Kit (Life Technologies,
181 Carlsbad, CA) was used to quantify the DNA. aCGH was performed with a Mouse
182 Genome CGH Microarray 4x180K (4839A; Agilent Technologies, Santa Clara, CA)
183 according to the Agilent Oligonucleotide aCGH for Genomic DNA Analysis Protocol,
184 version 7.1. Genomic DNA from a normal wild-type mouse kidney was labeled with
185 Cy3 as the reference. Selected tumor samples, including 4 RCCs and 8 lymphomas,
186 were labeled with Cy5. The Agilent Genomic Workbench Standard Edition (version
187 5.0) was used to analyze the results.

188

189 **Methylation analysis by bisulfite pyrosequencing**

190 The analysis was carried out as described previously.³⁷ Genomic DNA (1 μg) was
191 modified with sodium bisulfite using the EpiTect Bisulfite Kit (Qiagen), and after
192 which, target segments in the genome were amplified with specific PCR primer pairs
193 (**Table S1**) with 5' end of reverse primer modified with biotin. Pyrosequencing was
194 then performed using a PSQ96 system with a PyroGold reagent Kit (Qiagen). For the
195 pyrosequencing, the biotinylated PCR product was purified, made single-stranded
196 and used as a template in a pyrosequencing reaction run according to the

197 manufacturer's instructions. We used multiple sequencing primers for some of the
198 PCR products to analyze different CpG sites (**Table S1**). The results of the bisulfite
199 pyrosequencing were analyzed using Q-CpG software (Qiagen).

200

201 **Mutational analysis of *Cdkn2a* gene**

202 Genome DNA of 4 RCCs was subjected to PCR amplification for mutation analyses.
203 All the 4 exons in *Cdkn2a* gene were amplified, using primers shown in **Table S2**.
204 Direct DNA sequencing was performed, using Applied Biosystems 3100 Genetic
205 Analyzer.

206

207 **Comparison of the chromosomal alterations in Fe-NTA-induced RCC between** 208 **mice and rats**

209 To compare the extent of the chromosomal alterations in RCC between mice and rats,
210 we calculated the percentage of chromosomal sites with a copy number aberration
211 among all the sites in the whole genome as a quantitative measure. The copy number
212 aberration frequency was calculated from the results of each aCGH analysis according
213 to the following procedure: 1) compute a moving average of the signal log₂ ratios for
214 the CGH microarray probes distributed within 500 kbp from each point at every 100
215 kb along the chromosomes; 2) plot values of the moving averages of the signal log₂
216 ratios from the whole genome as a histogram, and determine the thresholds on both
217 sides, beyond which, the copy number aberration can be called via a visual evaluation
218 of the histogram for each aCGH result; and 3) calculate the fraction of the chromosomal
219 sites at which the copy number aberration was called according to the above defined
220 thresholds.

221 We used the aCGH data from Fe-NTA-induced rat RCCs we previously published

222 (GEO accession: GSE36101) to compare with the mouse data in the present study.
223 Although the rat data includes the results from 13 primary tumors, the data from 2
224 primary tumors were omitted here because the background noise levels were too high.
225 **Fig. S1** shows the histograms for the aCGH data used for this comparison analysis.
226 The copy number aberration frequency is equivalent to a fraction of the genomic sites,
227 which corresponds to red bars in the histogram for each aCGH result (**Fig. S1**).

228

229 **Statistical Analysis**

230 The Kaplan–Meier analysis and other statistical analyses were performed using
231 GraphPad Prism software (GraphPad Software Inc., San Diego, CA). *P*-values for the
232 Kaplan–Meier analysis were calculated by the log-rank test. Other analyses were
233 assessed by the unpaired *t*-test, modified for unequal variances when necessary, and
234 a Fisher's exact test. *P* < 0.05 was considered statistically significant.

235

236

237 **Results**

238

239 **Subacute study on Fe-NTA-induced renal carcinogenesis exhibits more oxidative 240 stress with increased proliferation in the proximal tubular cells of *Mutyh*^{-/-} mice**

241 We performed a subacute analysis on both the genotypes to evaluate the difference at
242 an early stage of Fe-NTA-induced renal carcinogenesis. We observed renal proximal
243 tubular degeneration in the kidney of the Fe-NTA-treated mice, which was not
244 observed in the control mice (**Fig. 1a-d**). A histopathological analysis, after the Fe-
245 NTA treatment, revealed simultaneous regenerative changes, such as nuclear
246 enlargement in the renal proximal tubular cells with lymphocyte infiltration, which

247 was more prominent in the *Mutyh*^{-/-} mice in comparison to the *Mutyh*^{+/+} mice (**Fig. 1b**
248 **and d**). Immunostaining with 8-OHdG (also as 8-oxoG), after the Fe-NTA treatment,
249 showed stronger nuclear staining in the renal proximal tubular cells of the *Mutyh*^{-/-}
250 mice compared to those of the *Mutyh*^{+/+} mice (**Fig. 1e-h and m**) and a higher Ki-67 index
251 in the *Mutyh*^{-/-} mice (**Fig. 1i-l and n**).

252

253 **Tumor-free survival after Fe-NTA-induced renal carcinogenesis was marginally**
254 **reduced in the *Mutyh*^{-/-} mice**

255 **Fig. 2a-d** displays the Kaplan-Meier curve of the renal tumor-free survival in each
256 group. There was only a marginal difference in the survival of both the genotypes in
257 the Fe-NTA-treated groups, whereas there was no difference in both the genotypes in
258 the control groups. The difference in renal tumor-free survival between the Fe-NTA
259 treatment and the untreated control was greater in the *Mutyh*^{-/-} mice. We observed 4
260 cases of RCC in the *Mutyh*^{-/-} mice in comparison to only 1 case in the *Mutyh*^{+/+} mice
261 (**Table 1 and Fig. 2e-h**). Notably, we also observed non-Hodgkin's malignant
262 lymphoma developing in the kidney in 1 case of the *Mutyh*^{-/-} mice and 2 cases in the
263 *Mutyh*^{+/+} mice (**Table 1 and Fig. 3a**). All the tumors are numbered and described more
264 in detail in **Table S3**.

265

266 **aCGH analysis of RCC**

267 A histopathological analysis of the RCC revealed proliferation of atypical tubular cells
268 in papillary, glandular or solid patterns. The carcinoma cells were basophilic, and
269 clear cells were not observed (**Fig. 2g and h**). We then performed an aCGH analysis
270 of these RCC samples. One was of a microscopic size, which was thus excluded from
271 the analysis. In the 4 samples, we observed wide areas of common hemizygous loss
272 in chromosome 4 (including the *p16/p15* tumor suppressor loci) and chromosome 12

273 (GEO accession: GSE99535). Chromosomes 4 and 12 in the mice corresponded to
274 chromosomes 5 and 6 in the rats, respectively.³⁸ Hemizygous losses of those
275 chromosomes were also observed at a high frequency in our previous study, using a
276 Fe-NTA-induced rat RCC model¹⁶. There was no obvious difference in the pattern of
277 chromosomal copy number changes between the *Mutylh*^{-/-} and the *Mutylh*^{+/+} mice (**Fig.**
278 **2i**).

279

280 **aCGH analysis of malignant lymphoma**

281 Since, for the first time, we observed lymphoma in the kidneys of the Fe-NTA-treated
282 mice (**Fig. 3a**), we performed an immunohistochemical staining and FACS analysis for
283 confirmation. We observed destruction of the normal lymph node structure and
284 replacement by a diffuse proliferation of atypical lymphocytes (**Fig. 3b and c**),
285 revealing CD3 (T-cell marker) negativity and CD45R (B220; B-cell marker) positivity
286 (**Fig. 3d and e**). We cultured the lymphoma cells with feeder cells, and performed a
287 FACS analysis. We found that these cells were positive for CD45 and CD19 but
288 negative for CD3, confirming that the lymphomas were B-cell type (**Fig. 3f and g**). We
289 also performed an aCGH analysis on the lymphomas (GEO accession: GSE99535).
290 However, in contrast to RCC, we did not detect hemizygous losses of chromosomes 4
291 and 12 in the lymphomas, but we detected more amplifications and less deletions at
292 other chromosomal loci. We did not see a difference in the chromosomal alterations
293 between the two genotypes (**Fig. 3h and i**).

294

295 ***Dlk1* loci are methylated in the RCC**

296 We conducted methylation analyses of the promoter regions of 13 selected tumor
297 suppressor genes, which are reported as methylated in human RCC or lymphoma.
298 The results showed that more tumor suppressor genes were methylated in the

299 promoter regions in the lymphomas compared to RCCs (**Table 2**). For RCC,
300 methylation was observed only at the *Dlk1* locus on chromosome 12, which commonly
301 exhibited a hemizygous loss (**Fig. 2i**). These methylations were not detected in any
302 of the normal renal samples that were also analyzed as the reference.

303

304 **No mutations in the *Cdkn2a* alleles of RCC**

305 Direct sequencing analysis revealed no base-pair substitutions, insertions or deletions
306 within the coding sequences in the *Cdkn2a* alleles in the 4 RCCs, implying that the
307 RCCs can express *p16^{INK4A}* and *p19^{ARF}* proteins with the original amino acids sequences.

308

309 **Different predisposition to chromosomal alterations during renal carcinogenesis** 310 **between mice and rats**

311 We evaluated the predisposition of murine RCC to chromosomal changes.
312 Essentially, we compared the present murine data with previously obtained rat RCC
313 data (GEO accession: GSE36101), which were based on the copy number aberration
314 frequency calculated from the distributions of the signal log₂ ratios in each aCGH
315 result. Overall, the copy number aberrations were less frequent in murine RCCs than
316 in rat RCCs (**Table 3 and Fig. S2**). The total frequency of copy number aberration was
317 significantly lower among murine RCCs than among rat RCCs (21.95% vs. 30.35%; $P <$
318 0.001, Fisher's exact test). In addition, the ratio of amplification to deletion in total was
319 significantly lower among murine RCCs than among rat RCCs ($P <$ 0.001, Fisher's exact
320 test).

321

322

323 **Discussion**

324

325 We obtained a higher incidence of Fe-NTA-induced RCC in the *Mutyh*-deficient mice
326 in comparison to the wild-type counterparts in a carcinogenesis study of > 2 y. This
327 confirms a role of MUTYH in preventing oxidative stress-induced carcinogenesis,³⁰
328 despite the relatively small study. The renal tumor-free survival results were
329 statistically marginal (P=0.1571), which was presumably due to the size of each group
330 and might be improved in a larger study in the future. The data in the subacute phase
331 was consistent with the final carcinogenesis results in that 8-oxoG and the mitotic
332 index by Ki67 were significantly higher in the *Mutyh*-deficient mice. The histology of
333 RCC was similar to those in rats²⁸ or *A/J* mice,¹⁴ as we previously reported, and
334 consisted of adenocarcinoma originating from renal tubular cells.

335 We also performed aCGH analyses on Fe-NTA-induced RCC, for the first time, in
336 mice. However, because one of the RCC cases was cystic and too small (<1 mm), we
337 analyzed only 4 samples. We noted a spiky homozygously deleted region in
338 chromosome 4 in all the *Mutyh*-deficient mice analyzed (**Fig. 2i and 3h**), which
339 corresponds to ~2 Mb region ~3 Mb away from *Mutyh* locus toward the centromere
340 (**Fig. S3**). The region is actually located within the residual block from the genome of
341 CCE cell line, the embryonic stem cell used for the homologous recombination
342 (Nakabeppu, Y. and Sakumi, K., unpublished data). There was no major distinction
343 in the aCGH results of RCC between the two genotypes, and basically, deletions were
344 observed with a common region of hemiallelic loss in chromosomes 4 and 12 but with
345 no common amplifications. Surprisingly, we found no homozygous deletion of
346 *p16^{INK4A}/p15^{INK4B}*, which we previously hypothesized to be specific for iron-induced
347 carcinogenesis, based on the data of rats and humans.^{16, 39, 40} Furthermore, the
348 remaining allele of *p16^{INK4A}/p19^{ARF}* was not inactivated in the RCCs with additional
349 epigenetic and mutation analyses. In Fe-NTA-induced RCCs in rats, we observed
350 numerous genomic locations of amplifications, and among which, a *c-Met*

351 amplification was the most common ¹⁶. These results, using the same model in
352 different species, suggest that murine carcinogenesis is different from those in rats and
353 is much farther from those in humans.

354 In addition, we compared the frequency of the chromosomal aberrations in Fe-
355 NTA-induced RCC between mice and rats. The chromosomal aberrations in murine
356 RCC were significantly less than those in rat RCC. This may suggest that mice obtain
357 cancer in fewer steps than rats. In this sense, the rat model may be more similar to
358 human counterparts that occur sporadically. The mice model appears to be more
359 similar to those of familial cancer syndromes or childhood cancers. Although the
360 precise interpretation is difficult at the present time, possible hypotheses are as follows.
361 It is easier for murine cells to put the proliferation-switch on, whereas proliferation is
362 more rigorously regulated in rats; namely, in two-thirds of rat RCC cases induced by
363 Fe-NTA, *p16^{INK4A}/p15^{INK4B}* is inactivated either by a homozygous deletion or a
364 heterozygous deletion/methylation, ^{16,29} which indicates the loss of both brakes for the
365 cell cycle and apoptotic pathways through TP53. We are aware that murine RCC is
366 at a lower-grade malignancy in that we observed neither metastasis nor peritoneal
367 invasion, whereas pulmonary metastases are quite common (~50%) in rat RCC. ²⁸
368 Another possibility is that physical strength of the connective tissue in mice is much
369 lower, which may allow for the proliferation of low-grade malignant cells. These
370 considerations are probably associated with species evolution and senescence, and
371 thus, further studies are warranted. At the same time, we are warned by the results
372 that murine carcinogenesis might be very different from those of humans; however,
373 most of the current genetically engineered animals are mice. In this sense, studies on
374 genetically engineered rats should be promoted.

375 We observed, for the first time, malignant lymphoma of the kidney after Fe-NTA
376 treatment in both the genotypes but none in the mice without Fe-NTA treatment. A

377 repeated Fenton reaction causes chronic inflammation in the renal cortex. Thus, the
378 occurrence of malignant B-cell type lymphoma might be similar to human
379 inflammation-associated lymphomas, such as *Helicobacter pylori*-associated gastric
380 lymphoma⁴¹ or pyothorax-associated lymphoma.⁴² In contrast to murine RCC,
381 lymphomas of both the genotypes revealed both amplifications and a hemiallelic loss.

382 Finally, we performed analyses of the methylation of the CpG islands in selected
383 genes and found that *Dlk1* is a good candidate for a target tumor suppressor gene,
384 which is suggested also in human RCC.⁴³ Of note, the inactivation of *Dlk1* was
385 observed not only in RCC but also in all the lymphomas examined.

386 In conclusion, we obtained a high incidence of murine RCC by repeated ip
387 administration of Fe-NTA even in the cancer-resistant *C57BL/6* background²⁷ when
388 *Mutyh*-deficient mice were used. However, the chromosomal aberrations in RCC
389 were much less than those in rats. The results not only confirm the role of *Mutyh* in
390 preventing Fenton reaction-induced carcinogenesis but also suggest that a murine
391 carcinogenesis model might be more distant from human counterparts than we
392 believed.

393

394

395

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404

405

406 **Disclosure Statement**

407 The authors have no conflict of interest.

408

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410

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- 530
- 531

532 **Figure legends**

533

534 **Figure 1 More oxidative stress in the kidney after a repeated intraperitoneal**
535 **administration of Fe-NTA in *Mutyh*^{-/-} mice than wild-type mice in a subacute study.**

536 **(a-d)** Histology with immunohistochemical analysis of **(e-h)** 8-oxoG (8-OHdG) and **(i-**
537 **l)** Ki-67. Fe-NTA treatment confers degenerative and regenerative renal proximal
538 tubular cells simultaneously with increased nuclear staining of 8-oxoG and Ki-67,
539 which is aggravated in *Mutyh*^{-/-} mice (bar=100 μm). Quantitation of the
540 immunostained areas for **(m)** 8-oxoG and **(n)** Ki-67 (means ± SEM). Refer to the text
541 for the details. ****P* < 0.001. a.u., arbitrary unit

542

543 **Figure 2 Marginal shortening of renal tumor-free survival during Fe-NTA-induced**
544 **renal carcinogenesis in *Mutyh*^{-/-} mice with milder genetic alterations in RCCs by**

545 **aCGH in both the genotypes than in rats. (a-d)** Kaplan-Meier renal tumor-free
546 survival curves. The tumors formed in the kidneys were counted here. Upper left,
547 comparison among the Fe-NTA-treated mice (*Mutyh*^{-/-} vs wild-type); lower left,
548 comparison among the untreated mice (*Mutyh*^{-/-} vs wild-type); upper right,
549 comparison among the *Mutyh*^{-/-} mice (Fe-NTA treatment vs untreated); lower right,
550 comparison among the wild-type mice (Fe-NTA treatment vs untreated). Fisher's
551 exact tests were used to compare the renal tumor incidences between the two groups
552 at 120 weeks. **(e-h)** Fe-NTA-induced RCC in mice with hematoxylin & eosin staining;
553 arrows, indicating macroscopic view of RCC; atypical tubular cells are proliferating
554 with a tubular or solid structure (bar=100 μm). **(i)** aCGH analysis of four murine RCC.
555 The number below corresponds to each chromosome. A hemiallelic loss in
556 chromosomes 4 and 12 was in common. A homozygous deletion in chromosome 4 of
557 the *Mutyh*^{-/-} mice was induced during the gene knockout process and not the

558 homozygous deletion of *p16* tumor suppressor gene. Rare gain/amplification and
559 milder chromosomal aberrations in comparison to rat Fe-NTA-induced RCC. Refer
560 to the text for details.

561

562 **Figure 3 Malignant lymphomas in the kidney of Fe-NTA-treated mice of both the**
563 **genotypes are B-cell type and reveal various chromosomal aberrations. (a-e)**

564 Macroscopic view of renal malignant lymphoma (**a, arrow**) after a Fe-NTA renal
565 carcinogenesis protocol with histology after hematoxylin & eosin staining and

566 immunohistochemistry for CD3 and B220/CD45R, with the diagnosis of non-Hodgkin

567 B-cell lymphoma (bar=100 μm in **b** and 25 μm in **c-e**). (**f and g**) FACS analysis of renal

568 malignant lymphoma NO. 1114 confirmed the immunohistochemical data. (**h**)

569 aCGH analysis of 5 malignant lymphomas in the wild type genotype (+/+), 3 under the

570 Fe-NTA treatment and 2 under the untreated condition. (**i**) aCGH analysis of 3

571 malignant lymphomas in the *Mutylh*^{-/-} mice (-/-), 2 under the Fe-NTA treatment and 1

572 under the untreated condition. Refer to the text for details.

573

574

575 **List of Supplementary Materials**

576

577

578 **Table S1.** Primer sequences for pyrosequencing methylayion analysis.

579

580 **Table S2.** Sequences of PCR primers used to amplify genomic regions including
581 exonic portions of Cdkn2a.

582

583 **Table S3.** Macroscopic details of each tumor.

584

585

586 **Figure S1.** Histograms of the moving averages of the signal log₂ ratios for all the
587 array-CGH data used for the inter-species comparison.

588

589 **Figure S2.** Bar charts of the frequencies of the genomic sites with a normal or
590 aberrated copy number in each array-CGH profile of murine and rat RCC.

591

592 **Figure S3.** Plot of signal log₂ ratio along chromosome 4 for one representative aCGH
593 result from an RCC sample in a *Mutyh*^{-/-} mouse (NO. 1080).

594

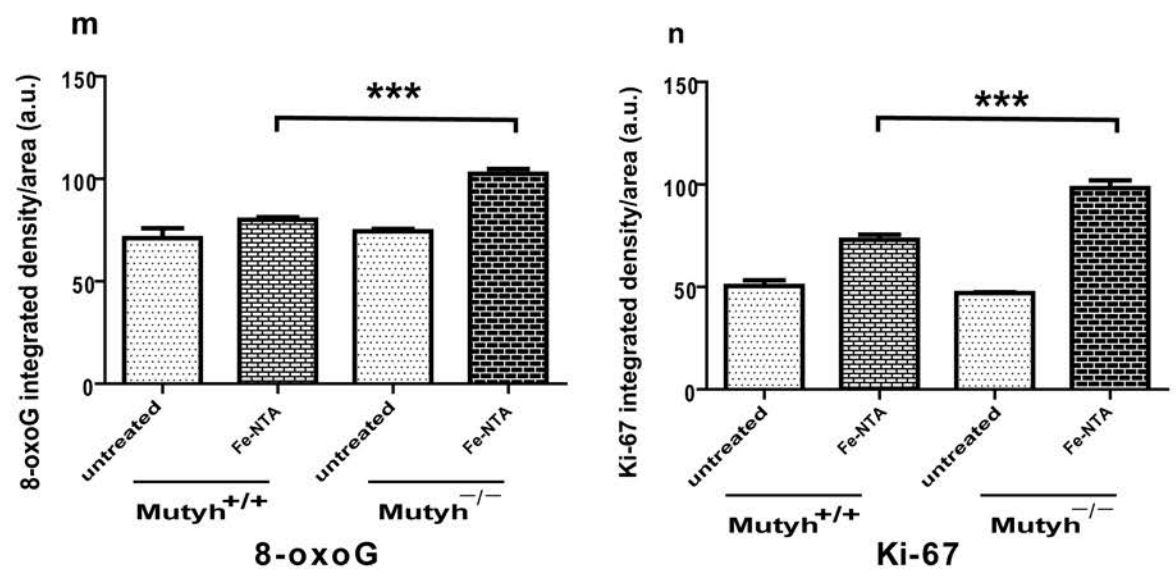
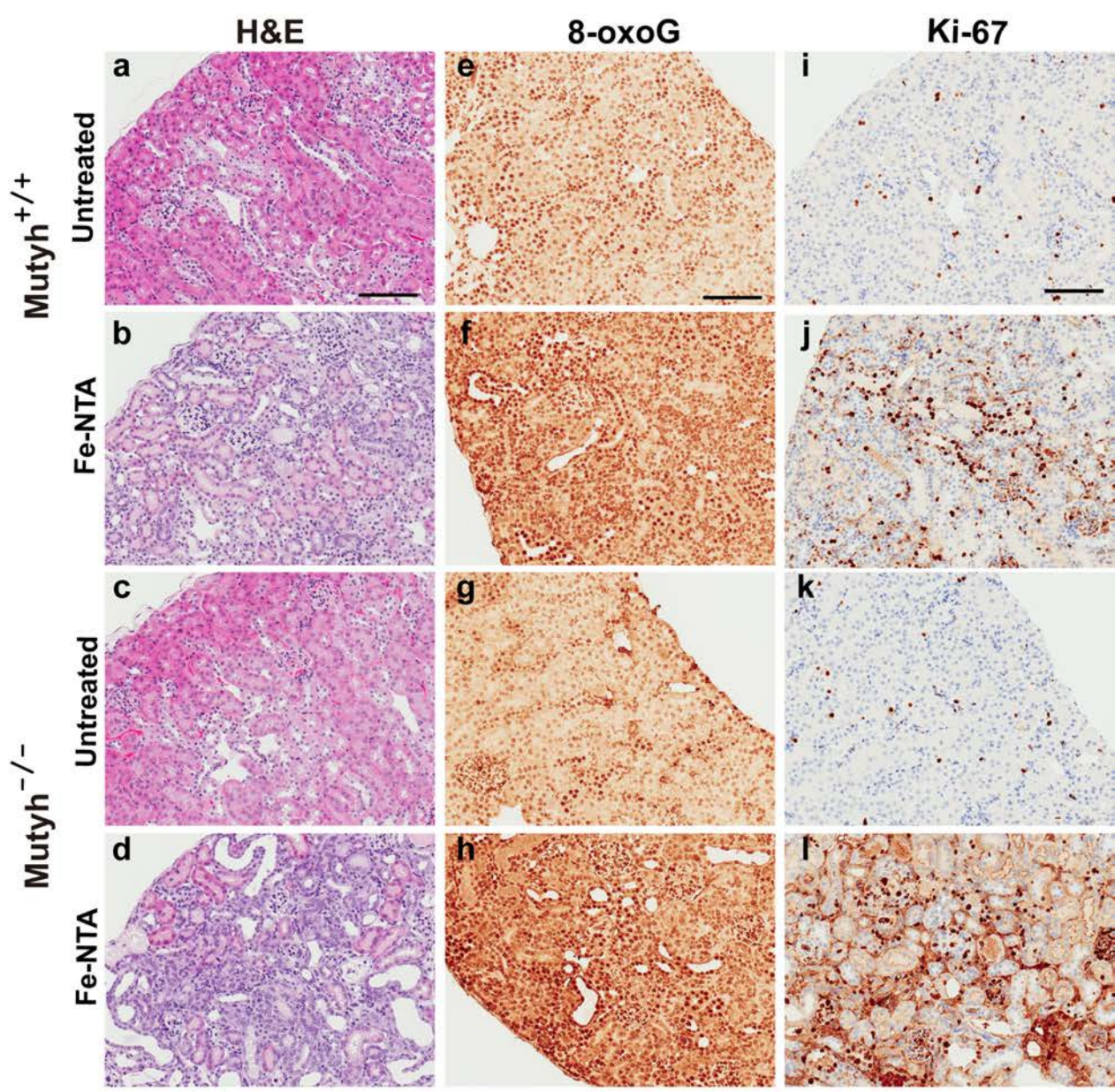


Figure 1

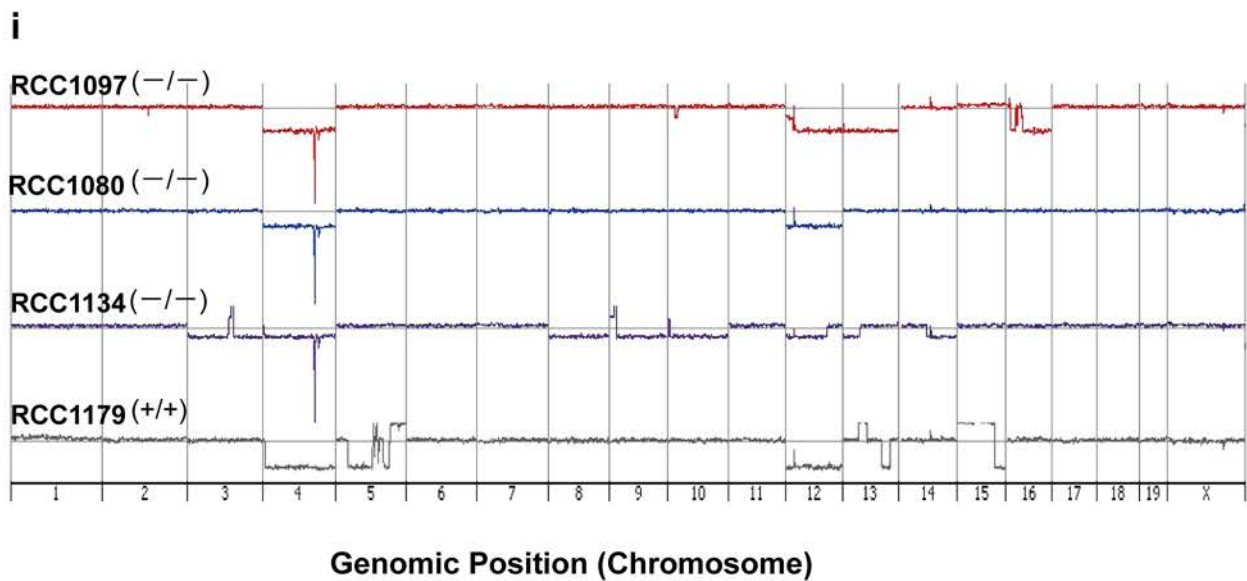
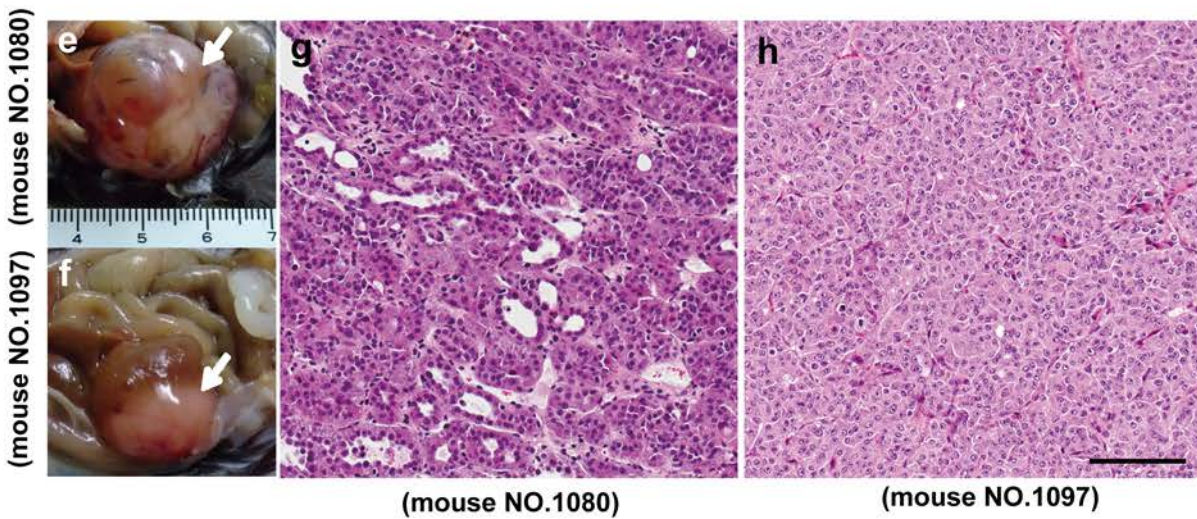
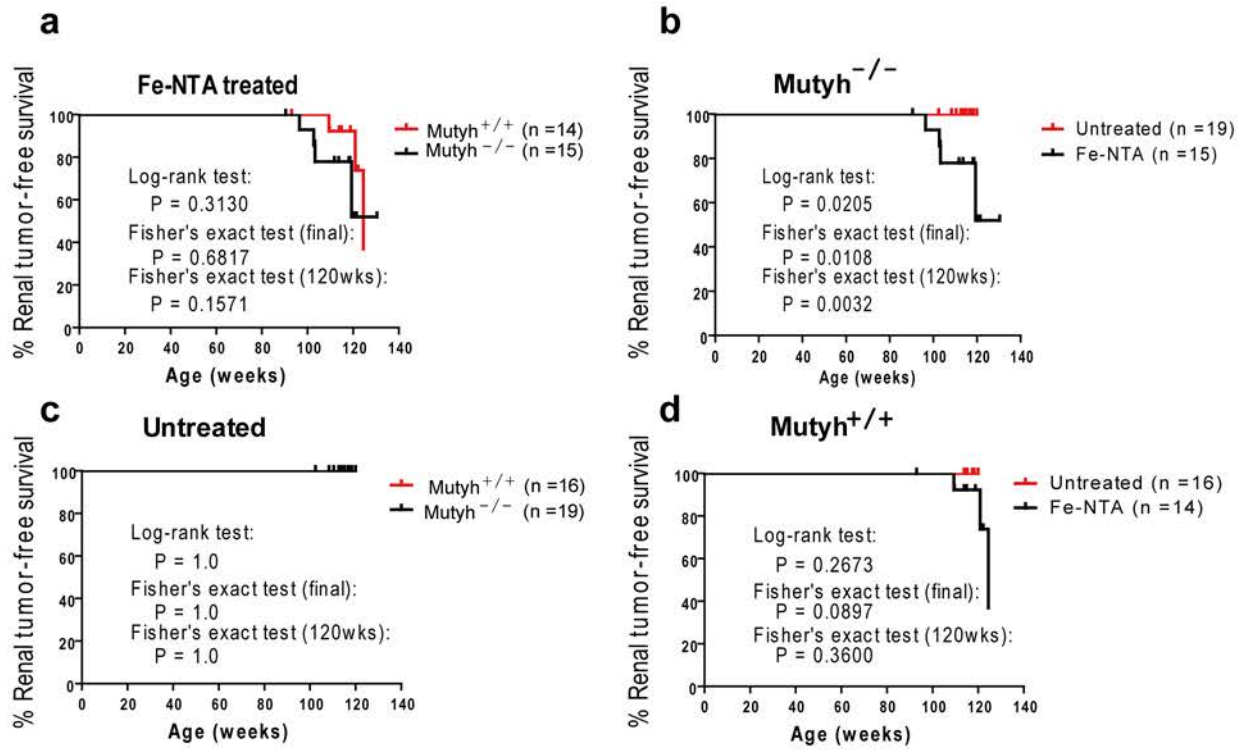


Figure 2

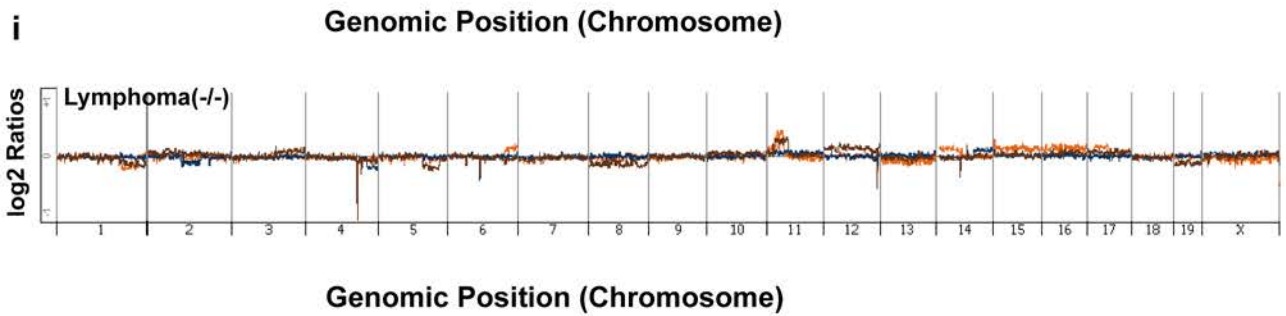
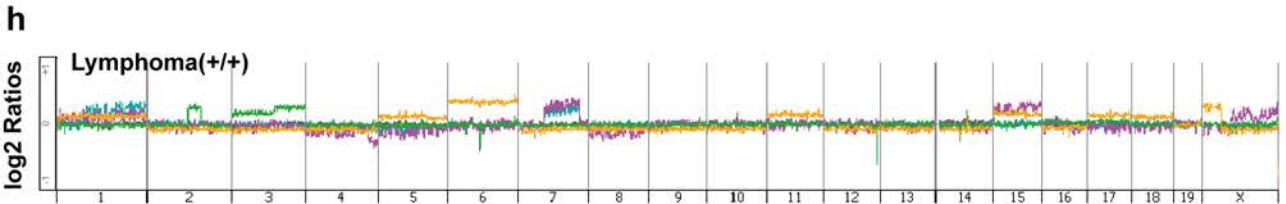
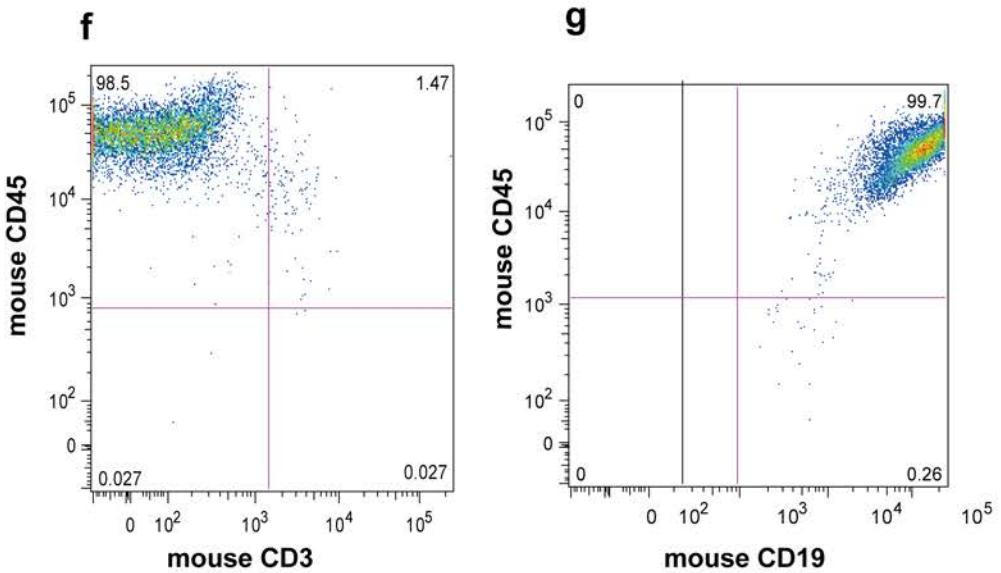
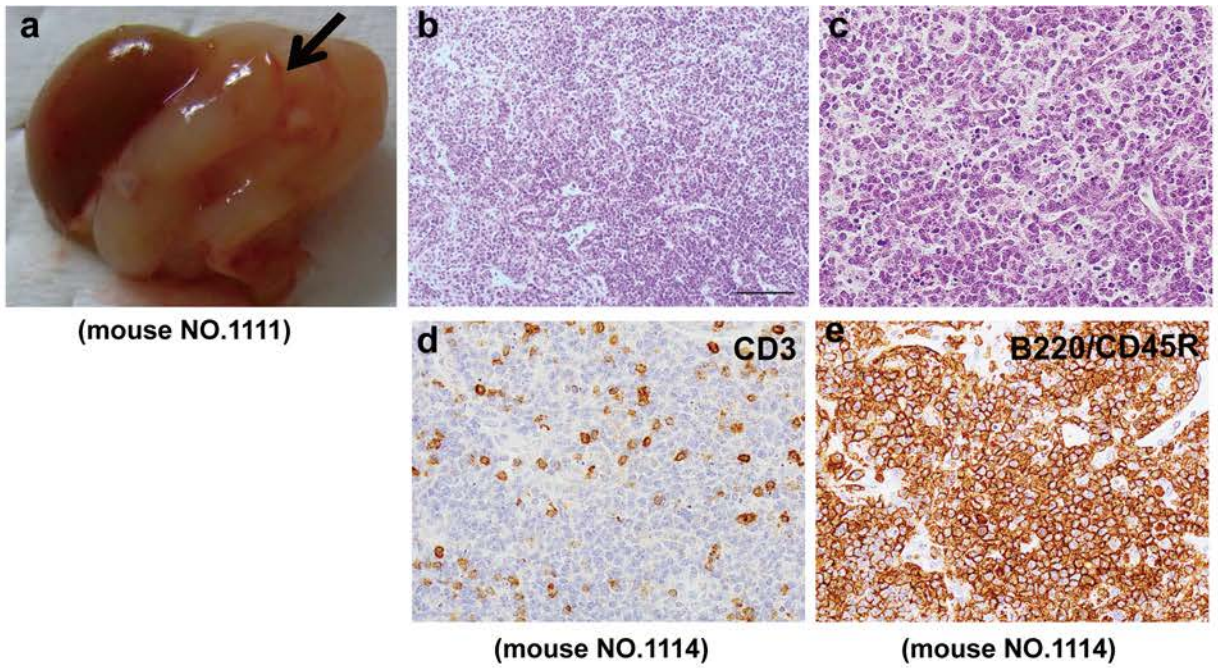


Figure 3

Table 1 Summary of tumor incidence

Organ/Genotype	Fe-NTA treatment		Untreated control	
	<i>Mutyh(+/+)</i>	<i>Mutyh(-/-)</i>	<i>Mutyh(+/+)</i>	<i>Mutyh(-/-)</i>
Kidney				
Renal cell carcinoma	1	4	0	0
Malignant lymphoma	2	1	0	0
Liver				
Hepatocellular carcinoma	0	0	1	0
Malignant lymphoma	1	1	0	1
Intestine				
Adenocarcinoma	0	0	1	1
Malignant lymphoma	2	3	0	2
Other organs				
Malignant lymphoma	1	1	2	2
Total number of tumors	7 in 4 mice (28.6%)	10 in 7 mice (46.7%)	4 in 4 mice (25.0%)	6 in 5 mice (26.3%)
Number of valid mice	14	15	16	19

Fe-NTA, ferric nitrilotriacetate. Refer to **Table S3** and text for details.

Table 2 Methylation of CpG island region in selected putative tumor suppressor genes

Symbol	Locus	Full name	RCC <i>Mutylh(-/-)</i>	RCC <i>Mutylh(+/+)</i>	Malignant lymphoma <i>Mutylh(-/-)</i> Fe-NTA treatment	Malignant lymphoma <i>Mutylh(+/+)</i> Fe-NTA treatment	Malignant lymphoma <i>Mutylh(-/-)</i> Untreated control	Malignant lymphoma <i>Mutylh(+/+)</i> Untreated control
<i>Cdkn2a</i>	4 C3-C6	Cyclin-dependent kinase inhibitor 2A	0/3	0/1	1/2	1/3	0/1	1/2
<i>Trp73</i>	4 E2	Transformation related protein 73	0/3	0/1	0/2	0/3	0/1	0/2
<i>Vhl</i>	6 E3	von Hippel-Lindau tumor suppressor	0/3	0/1	0/2	0/3	0/1	0/2
<i>Mgmt</i>	7 F4	O-6-Methylguanine-DNA methyltransferase	0/3	0/1	2/2	3/3	1/1	1/2
<i>Cdh1</i>	8 D	Cadherin 1	0/3	0/1	2/2	3/3	1/1	2/2
<i>Rbp1</i>	9 E3	Retinol binding protein 1	0/3	0/1	2/2	3/3	1/1	2/2
<i>Rassf1</i>	9 F1	Ras association (RalGDS/AF-6) domain family member 1	0/3	0/1	1/2	0/3	0/1	2/2
<i>Mlh1</i>	9 F3	MutL homolog 1 (E. coli)	0/3	0/1	0/2	0/3	0/1	0/2
<i>Timp3</i>	10 C1-D1	Tissue inhibitor of metalloproteinase 3	0/3	0/1	2/2	3/3	1/1	2/2
<i>Dlk1</i>	12 E-F1	Delta-like 1 homolog (Drosophila)	2/3	1/1	2/2	3/3	1/1	2/2
<i>Dapk1</i>	13 B2	Death associated protein kinase 1	0/3	0/1	2/2	3/3	1/1	1/2
<i>Rarb</i>	14 A1-A3	Retinoic acid receptor, beta	0/3	0/1	2/2	3/3	1/1	2/2
<i>Gstp1</i>	19 A	Glutathione S-transferase pi 1	0/3	0/1	0/2	0/3	0/1	0/2

RCC, renal cell carcinoma; Fe-NTA, ferric nitrilotriacetate.

Table 3 Analysis of genomic loci for chromosomal copy number aberration (deletion or amplification) in murine and rat RCCs induced by Fe-NTA

Tumor	Number of normal loci	Number of deleted loci	Number of amplified loci	Frequency of copy number aberration (%)
Murine RCC (total 23935 sites)				
KO_1080	21250	2674	11	11.22
KO_1134	15314	8376	245	36.02
KO_1097	19242	4679	14	19.61
WT_1179	18916	3697	1322	20.97
Mean	18680.5	4856.5	398	21.95
Rat RCC (total 25503 sites)				
FB7-1	19884	5509	110	22.03
FB32-4	19836	4551	1116	22.22
FB7-7	19702	3717	2084	22.75
FB59-1	15654	9844	5	38.62
FB14-3	16244	7643	1616	36.31
BF51-1	14756	9203	1544	42.14
FB14-6	18628	5087	1788	26.96
FB21-2	18523	5961	1019	27.37
FB45-4	15917	9393	193	37.59
FB30-5	18021	6610	872	29.34
BF57-5	18216	5846	1441	28.57
Mean	17761.9	6669.5	1071.6	30.35

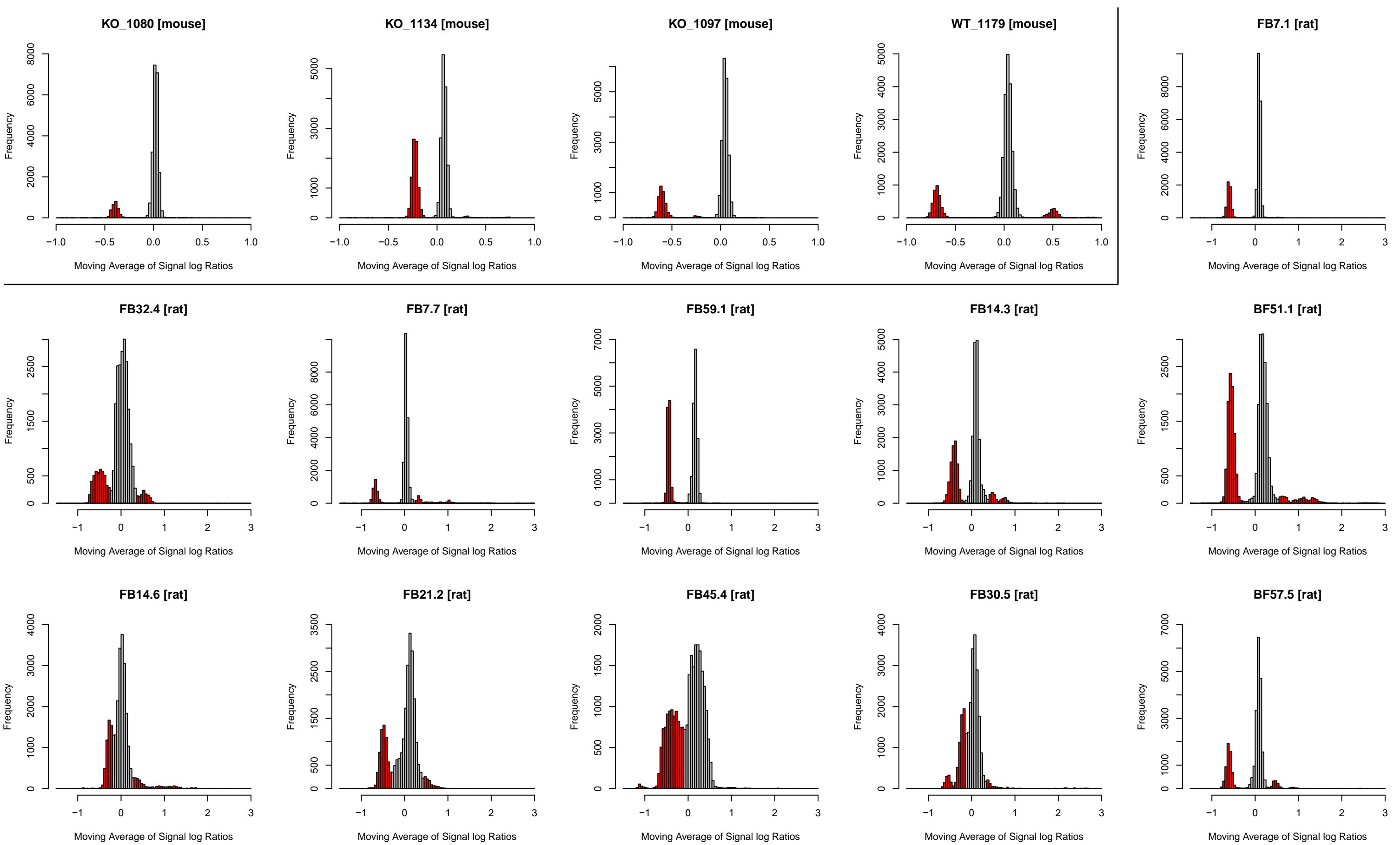
Fe-NTA, ferric nitrilotriacetate; RCC, renal cell carcinoma. Refer to text for details.

Legends for Supplementary Figures

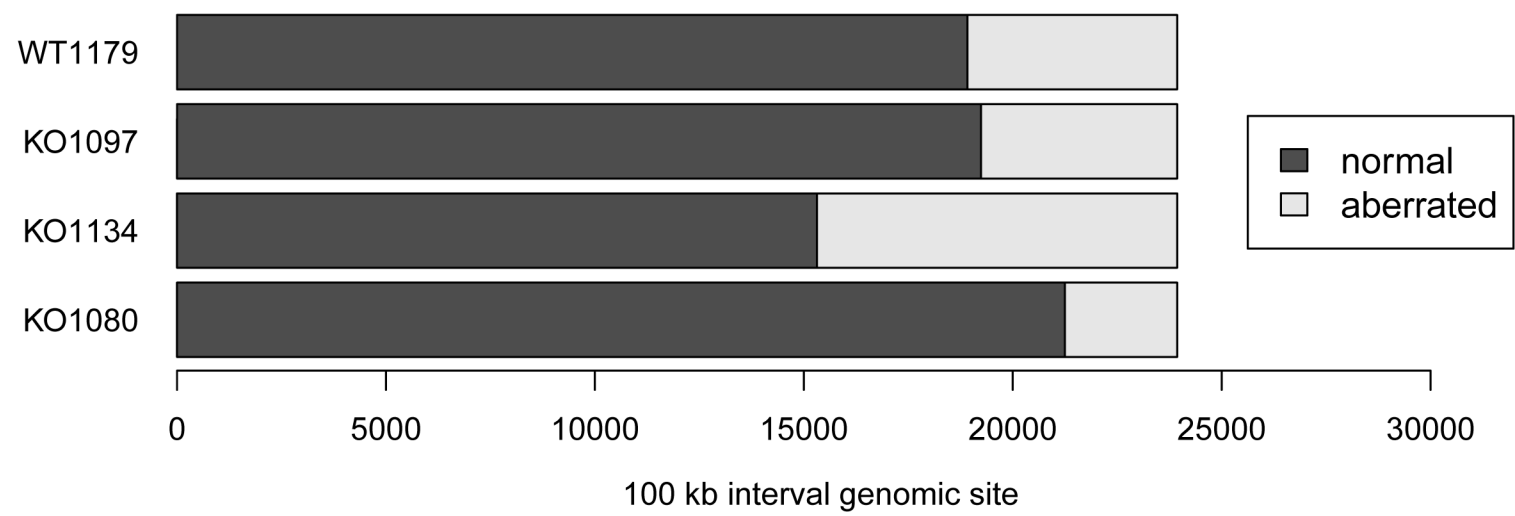
Figure S1. Histograms of the moving averages of the signal log₂ ratios for all the array-CGH data used for the inter-species comparison. The red bars indicate the subpopulation corresponding to the genetic sites called aberration.

Figure S2. Bar charts of the frequencies of the genomic sites with a normal or aberrated copy number in each array-CGH profile of murine and rat RCCs. The sum of the frequencies of both conditions corresponds to the total number of genomic sites divided in intervals of 100 kb for each species. For genomic sites with an aberrated copy number, the frequencies of chromosomal deletion or amplification are counted separately.

Figure S3. Plot of signal log₂ ratio along chromosome 4 for one representative aCGH result from an RCC sample in a *Mutyh*^{-/-} mouse (#1080). The signal log₂ ratio values for 10,248 probes from the mouse chromosome 4 sequence are plotted. Values smaller than -2.0 are plotted as green dots. Other values are plotted as black dots.



Mouse RCCs



Rat RCCs

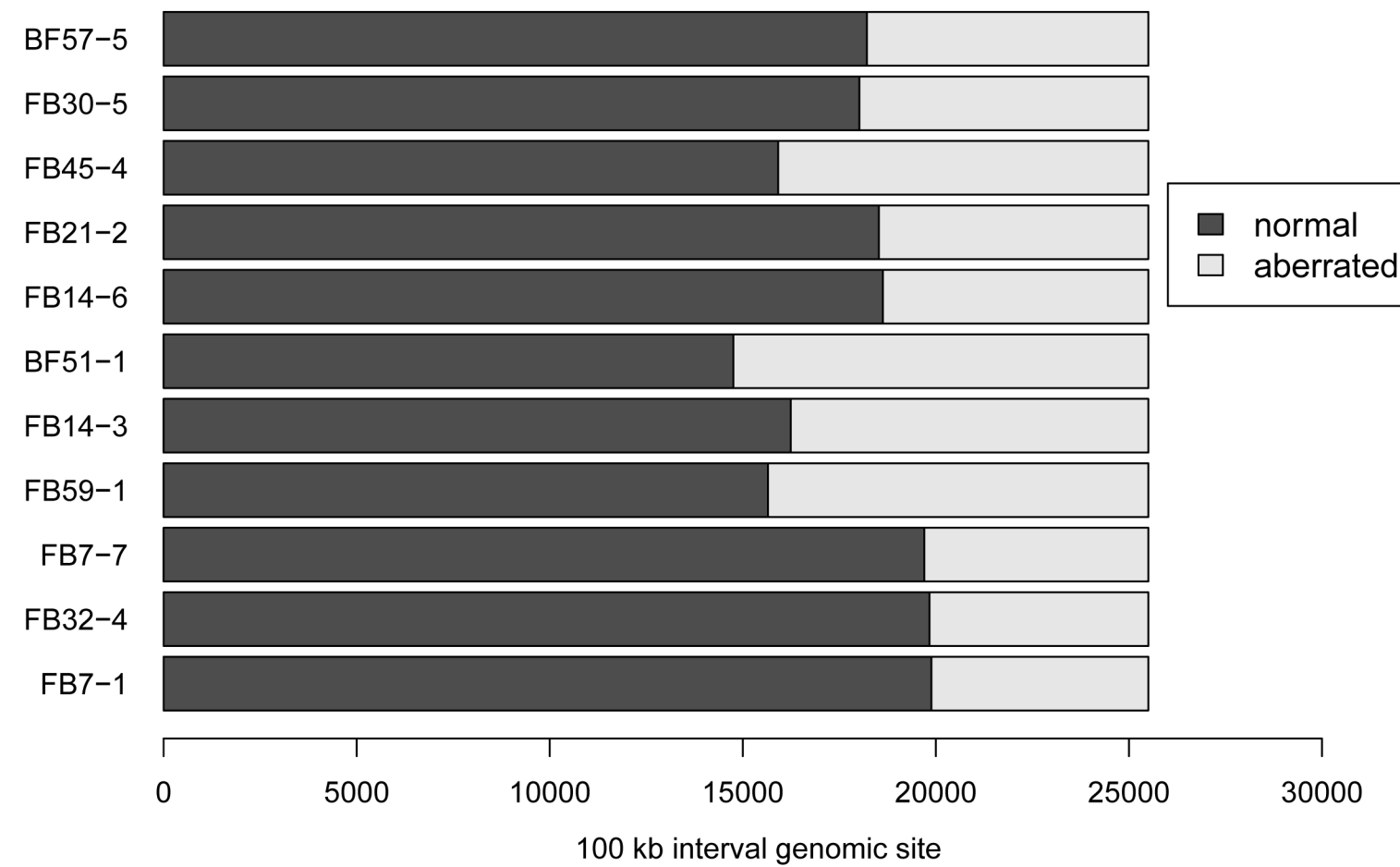
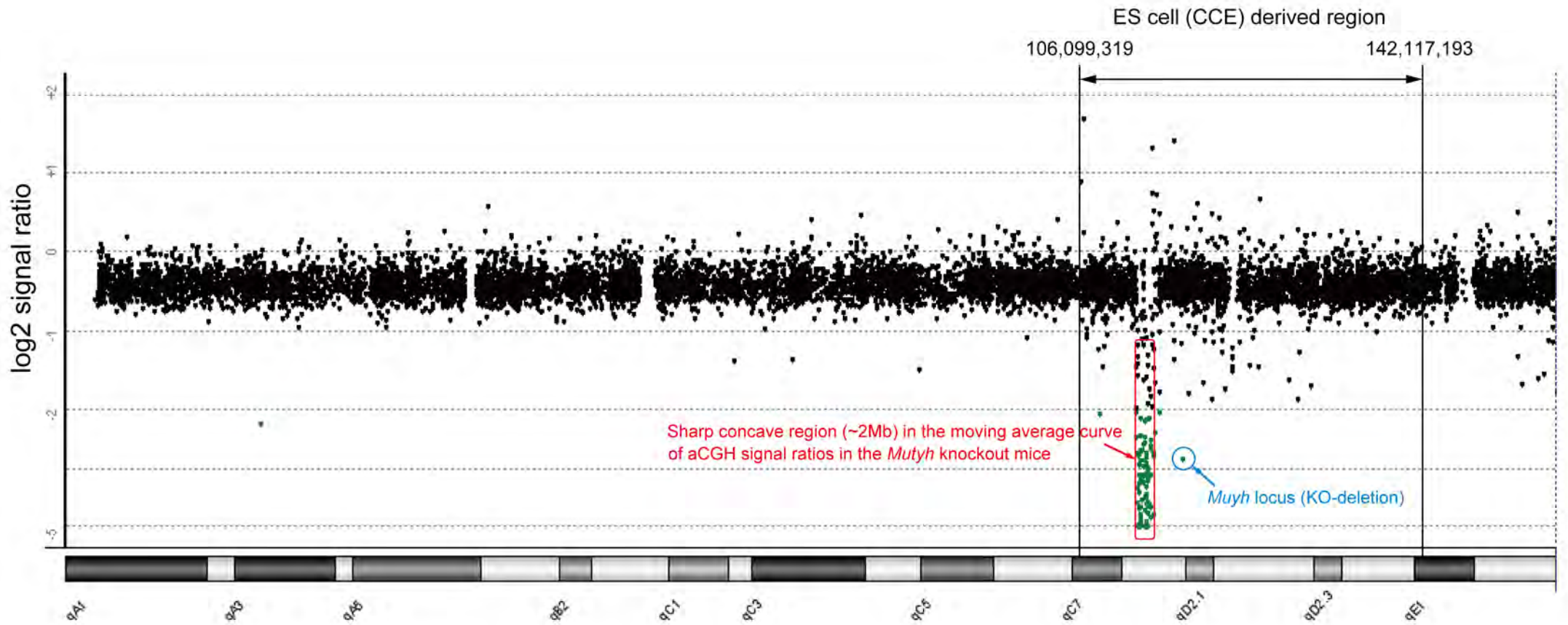


Figure S2



Mouse Chromosome 4
(whole length = 156,508,116 bp)

Figure S3