(Supplementary data)

Histone deacetylase (Rpd3) regulates *Drosophila* early brain development via regulation of Tailless

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Running title: Rpd3 and Tailless in brain development

Figure S1. Higher-resolution frontal Z-projections showing the changes in the expression of Tailless and Fas2 in the third instar larval brain.

A. The Z-projections of frontal sections of the late third instar larval brains of the wild-type as well as *Rpd3* heteroallelic mutants were captured using a confocal microscope at 40x magnification. They were immunostained with the Tailless antibody (shown in red) and visualized under higher magnifications. Tailless in the wild-type (*CS*) larval brains localize in the central brain, the Outer Proliferation Centers (OPCs) and the IPCs. In the *Rpd3* heteroallelic mutant larval brain, the expression of Tailless is significantly reduced in the neuropils, particularly in the OPCs and the IPCs. Scale bar, 20 μ m.

B. When *Rpd3* heteroallelic larval mutant brains were dissected and immunostained using the Fas2 antibody (shown in red), Z-projections stacked together, there was a reduction in the expression of Fas2 in the mutant brain compared to the wild-type (*CS*). The structures of the various lobes of the mushroom body were also altered in the heteroallelic *Rpd3* larval mutant brains, with reduced expression in the calyx, β , β' , α , α' and γ lobes. VCX, Ventral calyx; CX, Calyx. Scale bar, 20µm.



Figure S2. The variation in the expression of Tailless and Fas2 in the interacting genotypes larval brains of the polycomb protein interacting partners of Rpd3: The age-synchronized third instar larval brains of the wild-type (*CS*) and the interacting genotype combinations of *Rpd3* and the polycomb protein mutants, *Pc* and *ph* were immunostained with Tailless and Fas2.

A and B. The late third instar larval brains of the individual mutants for Pc and ph as well as the interacting genotypes with Rpd3, were dissected and immunostained with the Tailless antibody (Tll in red). The images are all Z-projections stacked together. Compared to the wild type (*CS*), there was a decrease in the expression of Tailless in the interacting genotypes for RpdN/Rpd3(15-1), Pc/+ relative to the individual mutant, Pc/+.

C and **D**. The Z-projections of the late third instar larval brains of the individual mutants for Pc and ph as well as the interacting genotypes with Rpd3 that were dissected and immunostained with Fas2 antibody (in red). An increase in the expression of Fas2 was seen in the interacting genotypes RpdN/Rpd3(15-1), Pc/+ compared to the individual mutant, Pc/+. Scale bar, 100µm.



Figure S3. Morphology, size, and shape of same-aged synchronized embryos of *Rpd3* heteroallelic mutants.

The age-synchronized embryos of *Rpd3* heteroallelic mutant combination were compared to wild-type (*CS*). The images of each set of embryos (n = 3) were captured at 10x magnification using a confocal microscope and are Z-projections. The genotypes of each combination were marked at the top of the panel.



Genotype	Embryo width	Embryo	Embryos volume
	(mm)	length	(mm ³)x (10 ⁻³)
		(mm)	
CS (wild-type)	0.21±0.001	0.57±0.0029	8.65±0.137
<i>Rpd3N/Rpd3(15-1)</i>	0.15±0.001	0.54±0.0026	5.45±0.111*

Table 1. The widths, lengths, and volume of the *Rpd3* mutant embryos of *Drosophila* melanogaster.

Figure S4. Alteration in the cuticular structure of the larva and changes in pattern, distribution, and shape of the denticles.

The ventral epidermal surface of the *Rpd3* heteroallelic combination of larvae was imaged under a scanning electron microscope (SEM) at 27x magnification and compared to that of wild-type (*CS*). The genotypes have been mentioned on top of the panel and underneath each of them, an image was taken at 150x magnification indicating a band of denticles that have been provided for comparison. (Scale bar, 2.0mm for 27x and 400 μ m for 150x)

