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**Trisomy 21 consistently activates the interferon response**

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24 **ABSTRACT**

25 Although it is clear that trisomy 21 causes Down syndrome, the molecular events acting  
26 downstream of the trisomy remain ill defined. Using complementary genomics analyses, we  
27 identified the interferon pathway as the major signaling cascade consistently activated by  
28 trisomy 21 in human cells. Transcriptome analysis revealed that trisomy 21 activates the  
29 interferon transcriptional response in fibroblast and lymphoblastoid cell lines, as well as  
30 circulating monocytes and T cells. Trisomy 21 cells show increased induction of interferon-  
31 stimulated genes and decreased expression of ribosomal proteins and translation factors. An  
32 shRNA screen determined that the interferon-activated kinases JAK1 and TYK2 suppress  
33 proliferation of trisomy 21 fibroblasts, and this defect is rescued by pharmacological JAK  
34 inhibition. Therefore, we propose that interferon activation, likely via increased gene dosage of  
35 the four interferon receptors encoded on chromosome 21, contributes to many of the clinical  
36 impacts of trisomy 21, and that interferon antagonists could have therapeutic benefits.

## 37 INTRODUCTION

38 Trisomy 21 (T21) is the most common chromosomal abnormality in the human  
39 population, occurring in approximately 1 in 700 live births (Alexander et al. 2016). The extra  
40 copy of chromosome 21 (chr21) impacts human development in diverse ways across every  
41 major organ system, causing the condition known as Down syndrome (DS). One of the most  
42 intriguing aspects of T21 is that it causes an altered disease spectrum in the population with DS,  
43 protecting these individuals from some diseases (e.g. solid tumors, hypertension), while strongly  
44 predisposing them to others (e.g. Alzheimer's disease, leukemia, autoimmune disorders)  
45 (Alexander et al. 2016; Sobey et al. 2015; Bratman et al. 2014; Roberts and Izraeli 2014; Anwar,  
46 Walker, and Frier 1998; Malinge et al. 2013; Hasle et al. 2016). Despite many years of study,  
47 the molecular, cellular, and physiological mechanisms driving both the protective and  
48 deleterious effects of T21 are poorly understood. A few chr21-encoded genes have been  
49 implicated in the development of specific comorbidities, such as *APP* in Alzheimer's disease  
50 (Wiseman et al. 2015), and *DYRK1A* and *ERG* in hematopoietic malignancies (Stankiewicz and  
51 Crispino 2013; Malinge et al. 2012). Therefore, research in this area could inform a wide range  
52 of medical conditions affecting not only those with DS, but also the typical population.

53 The clinical manifestation of DS is highly variable among affected individuals, with  
54 various comorbidities appearing in a seemingly random fashion, suggesting the presence of  
55 strong modifiers, genetic or otherwise, of the deleterious effects of T21. Even conserved  
56 features, such as cognitive impairment, display wide quantitative variation (de Sola et al. 2015).  
57 Collectively, our understanding of the mechanisms driving such inter-individual variation in the  
58 population with DS is minimal. More specifically, it is unclear what gene expression changes are  
59 consistently caused by T21, versus those that are context-dependent. Integrated analyses of a  
60 large body of studies have indicated that the changes in gene expression caused by T21 involve  
61 various signaling pathways (Scarpato et al. 2014), however, these studies vary widely in cell  
62 type, number of samples, and even analysis platform, among other variables (Volk et al. 2013;

63 Costa et al. 2011). More recently, gene expression analysis of cells derived from discordant  
64 monozygotic twins, only one of which was affected by T21, concluded that global gene  
65 expression changes in T21 cells are driven by differences in chromatin topology, whereby  
66 affected genes are clustered into large chromosomal domains of activation or repression  
67 (Letourneau et al. 2014). However, independent re-analysis of these data has challenged this  
68 conclusion (Do, Mobley, and Singhal 2015). Therefore, there remains a clear need to identify  
69 the consistent gene expression changes caused by T21 and to characterize how these  
70 programs are modified across cell types, tissue types, genetic backgrounds, and developmental  
71 stages.

72 In order to identify *consistent* signaling pathways modulated by T21, defined as those  
73 that withstand the effects of inter-individual variation, we employed two complementary  
74 genomics approaches, transcriptome analysis and shRNA loss-of-function screening, in both  
75 panels of cell lines and primary cell types from individuals of diverse genetic background,  
76 gender, and age, with and without T21. Our RNA-seq transcriptome analysis identified  
77 *consistent* gene expression signatures associated with T21 in all cell types examined.  
78 Interestingly, the fraction of this gene expression signature that is not encoded on chr21 is  
79 dominated by the interferon (IFN) transcriptional response, an observation that is reproducible in  
80 skin fibroblasts, B cell-derived lymphoblastoid cell lines, as well as primary monocytes and T  
81 cells. In parallel, we performed a kinome-focused shRNA screen that identified the IFN-  
82 activated kinases JAK1 and TYK2 as strong negative regulators of T21 cell proliferation in  
83 fibroblasts. Importantly, pharmacological inhibition of JAK kinases improves T21 cell viability.  
84 Taken together, our results identify the IFN pathway as a *consistent* signaling pathway activated  
85 by T21, which could merely be a result of increased gene dosage of four IFN receptor subunits  
86 encoded on chr21. We hypothesize that IFN activation could contribute to many of the effects of  
87 T21, including increased risk of leukemia and autoimmune disorders, as well as many

88 developmental abnormalities also observed in interferonopathies (Yao et al. 2010; Zitvogel et al.  
89 2015; Crow and Manel 2015; McGlasson et al. 2015).

90

## 91 **RESULTS**

### 92 **Trisomy 21 causes consistent genome-wide changes in gene expression.**

93 In order to investigate *consistent* gene expression signatures associated with T21, we  
94 performed RNA-seq on a panel of 12 age- and gender-matched human fibroblasts from euploid  
95 (disomic, D21) and T21 individuals (Figure 1 – figure supplement 1A-C). T21 was confirmed by  
96 PCR analysis of the chr21-encoded *RCAN1* gene (Figure 1 – figure supplement 1D). We  
97 included samples from different genetic backgrounds, ages, and genders, in order to avoid  
98 identifying differences that are specific to a particular pair of isogenic or genetically related cell  
99 lines and which would not withstand the effects of inter-individual variation. To illustrate this  
100 point, comparison of one pair of disomic male individuals of similar age yielded thousands of  
101 differentially expressed genes (DEGs), with similar numbers of upregulated and downregulated  
102 DEGs (Figure 1A-B, Male 1 vs. Male 2). However, when the 12 samples are divided into two  
103 groups with roughly balanced age, gender, and T21 status, very few consistent changes were  
104 identified, thus demonstrating the impact of inter-individual variation within our sample set  
105 (Figure 1A-B, Figure 1 –figure supplement 1C, Group 1 vs. Group 2). In contrast, comparison of  
106 all T21 versus all D21 cells identified 662 consistent DEGs, with a disproportionate number of  
107 these upregulated in T21 cells (471 of 662, Figure 1A, T21 vs. D21, Supplementary file 1A). We  
108 also observed an uncharacteristic spike of DEGs at ~1.5-fold overexpression in T21 cells on a  
109 volcano plot, consistent with many chr21 genes being overexpressed solely due to increased  
110 gene dosage (Figure 1B). For comparison purposes, we also analyzed samples by gender  
111 which expectedly yielded DEGs encoded on chrX (e.g. *XIST*) and chrY (Figure 1 A-B; Female  
112 vs. Male). Gender causes fewer significant changes than T21, with roughly equal numbers of  
113 upregulated and downregulated genes. Taken together, these data indicate that T21 produces

114 consistent changes in a gene expression signature that withstands differences in genetic  
115 background, age, gender, and site of biopsy. Of note, when we performed RNA-seq analysis  
116 using increasing numbers of T21 vs. D21 pairs, the fraction of chr21-encoded DEGs increased  
117 steadily with sample size, accounting for ~12% of the core gene expression signature in the 12  
118 cell line panel. However, 88% of DEGs are located on other chromosomes, indicating the  
119 existence of conserved mechanisms driving these genome-wide changes in gene expression  
120 (Figure 1 – figure supplement 1E).

121         A recent report concluded that changes in gene expression caused by T21 between a  
122 single pair of discordant monozygotic twins were due to dysregulation of chromosomal domains  
123 (Letourneau et al. 2014). Thus, we next asked where the ~88% of core DEGs not encoded on  
124 chr21 are located across the genome. This exercise revealed broad distribution across all  
125 chromosomes, with no obvious contiguous domains of up- or downregulation (see Figure 1 –  
126 figure supplement 2A for a whole genome Manhattan plot, and Figure 1 – figure supplement 3  
127 for individual chromosomes). In fact, mere visual analysis of DEGs from the individual  
128 chromosomes previously claimed by Letourneau et al. to harbor large dysregulated domains  
129 (e.g. chr3, chr11, chr19) did not reveal such domains in our dataset, showing instead obvious  
130 regions of overlapping activation and repression (shaded gray boxes in Figure 1C). Thus, our  
131 analysis is more consistent with the report that re-analyzed the data in Letourneau et al. and  
132 questioned the existence of these chromosomal domains (Do, Mobley, and Singhal 2015). In  
133 fact, the only region of the genome at which there was clear contiguous upregulation of DEGs  
134 was chr21 itself (Figure 1C, Figure 1 – figure supplements 2A and 3).

135         In order to characterize the mechanism driving the consistent changes caused by T21,  
136 we examined the regulatory differences between DEGs encoded on chr21 and those not  
137 encoded on chr21. Several lines of evidence indicate that, while chr21 DEGs are regulated  
138 mostly by increased gene dosage, non-chr21 DEGs may be driven by specific pathways that  
139 are subject to signal amplification, with a bias toward upregulation, and greatly affected by inter-

140 individual variation. First, violin plots display the relatively small number of chr21 DEGs,  
141 showing mostly upregulation clustered around 1.5 fold, versus a much larger number of non-  
142 chr21 DEGs, showing both up- and downregulation with no obvious clustering of fold changes  
143 (Figure 1D, Figure 1 – figure supplement 2B). Second, the obvious effect of gene dosage on the  
144 expression of chr21 DEGs is apparent in the violin plots and heatmaps (Figure 1D, E), where  
145 the median fold change centers around 1.5 fold (e.g. *APP*, *ETS2*), while a few genes show  
146 greater induction (e.g. *MX1*, *MX2*). In fact, chr21 genes exhibit more than an 80% probability of  
147 a ~1.5-fold change as calculated by kernel density estimation analysis (Figure 1F). Third, the  
148 bias toward upregulation among non-chr21 DEGs is evident in the violin plots, heatmaps, and  
149 density estimation analysis (Figure 1D-F), where a larger fraction of these genes are  
150 upregulated. Finally, we measured the inter-individual variation of chr21 DEGs versus non-  
151 chr21 DEGs by calculating the standard deviation for each DEG across each age- and gender-  
152 matched pair of fibroblasts. As shown in Figure 1G, the median standard deviation for chr21  
153 DEGs is much smaller than for all DEGs.

154         Altogether, these results suggest the existence of consistent signaling pathways  
155 activated by increased dosage of chr21 genes, which in turn cause global changes in gene  
156 expression, with a bias toward upregulation and displaying strong inter-individual variation.

157

### 158 **Trisomy 21 leads to constitutive activation of the interferon transcriptional response.**

159         Next, we subjected T21 DEGs to upstream regulator analysis using Ingenuity Pathway  
160 Analysis (IPA) to identify putative factors contributing to consistent changes in gene expression.  
161 This analysis tool includes both a hypergeometric test for overlapping sets of genes and a  
162 directional component to predict activation or inactivation of factors that control gene expression  
163 (e.g. transcription factors, protein kinases) (Krämer et al. 2014). We confirmed the effectiveness  
164 of this tool using published RNA expression datasets from our lab for cells treated with an  
165 inhibitor of the p53-MDM2 interaction, hypoxia, and serum stimulation (Sullivan et al. 2012;

166 Donner et al. 2010; Galbraith et al. 2013). IPA effectively identified p53, the Hypoxia Inducible  
167 Factor 1A (HIF1A), and growth factor receptors and downstream kinases (PDGF, ERK) as the  
168 top upstream regulators in each scenario, respectively (Figure 2 – figure supplement 1A).  
169 Strikingly, the top 13 upstream regulators predicted to be activated in T21 cells are all IFN-  
170 related factors, including IFN ligands (e.g. IFNA2, IFNB, IFNG) and IFN-activated transcription  
171 factors (e.g. IRF3, IRF5, IRF7, STAT1) (Figure 2A). Importantly, most of these signals are  
172 derived from non-chr21 DEGs, and would be missed by analyses focused specifically on chr21-  
173 encoded genes (Figure 2A). This analysis also identified two known repressors of IFN signaling,  
174 MAPK1 and TRIM24, as upstream regulators inactivated in T21 cells, consistent with activation  
175 of the IFN pathway (Huang et al. 2008; Tisserand et al. 2011). As an example of how the RNA-  
176 seq data supports the upstream regulator prediction by IPA, Figure 2B shows the gene network  
177 centered on the ligand IFNA2 as a potential driver of consistent gene expression changes.  
178 Strong activation of the IFN pathway was also predicted using a different tool, the Pathway  
179 Commons Analysis in WebGestalt (Zhang, Kirov, and Snoddy 2005; J. Wang et al. 2013;  
180 Cerami et al. 2011), where 4 of the top 15 pathways identified were IFN-related (Figure 2 –  
181 figure supplement 1B).

182 Notably, activation of IFN signaling in T21 cells could be explained by the fact that four  
183 of the six IFN receptors, *IFNAR1*, *IFNAR2*, *IFNGR2*, and *IL10RB*, (representing each IFN class,  
184 Type-I, -II, and -III), are chr21-encoded DEGs (Figure 2C, D). Using a combination of IPA  
185 upstream regulator predictions and our RNA-seq data, we clearly identified the canonical IFN  
186 pathways –from ligands through receptors and kinases and down to transcription factors and  
187 IFN-stimulated genes (ISGs)– as activated in T21 cells (Figure 2C). Whereas IFN receptors are  
188 upregulated ~1.5 fold with relatively low levels of inter-individual variation, as expected for  
189 increased gene dosage in T21 cells, the downstream ISGs exhibit larger fold changes, greater  
190 variation between samples, and tend to have low expression levels in D21 cells, in accord with  
191 activation of IFN only of T21 cells (Figure 2D). We confirmed the elevated basal expression of

192 three of the IFN receptors (IFNAR1, IFNGR2, and ILR10RB), enhanced basal phosphorylation  
193 of STAT1, as well as increased basal expression of several ISGs at the protein level in T21  
194 cells, with noticeable inter-individual variation (Shuai et al. 1994; Waddell et al. 2010; Schoggins  
195 et al. 2011) (Figure 2E).

196 We next analyzed protein lysates from the 12 fibroblast lines using SOMAScan  
197 technology, which employs DNA aptamers to monitor epitope abundance (Gold et al. 2012;  
198 Mehan et al. 2014; Hathout et al. 2015). This assay confirmed elevated protein levels for many  
199 of the IFN-related genes found to be induced at the mRNA level in the RNA-seq experiment  
200 (Figure 2F). Finally, we examined the fraction of our upregulated DEGs linked to IFN signaling  
201 using IPA, Pathway Commons, and a list of 387 validated ISGs curated by Schoggins and  
202 colleagues (Schoggins et al. 2011). Our analysis revealed that 21% (101/471) of DEGs  
203 upregulated in T21 cells are linked to IFN signaling, with contributions from both chr21 (17%,  
204 14/81) and non-chr21 (22%, 87/390) DEGs, pointing to IFN activation as a potential mechanism  
205 for the larger number of upregulated versus downregulated DEGs (Figure 2 - figure supplement  
206 1C). Altogether, these results indicate that the IFN pathway is consistently induced by trisomy  
207 21 in fibroblasts, and that the IFN transcriptional response accounts for a considerable fraction  
208 of the transcriptome changes caused by trisomy 21 across the genome.

209

### 210 **Trisomy 21 cells display stronger induction of ISGs upon stimulation with IFN ligands** 211 **than euploid cells.**

212 We next investigated whether T21 cells produce a stronger response to specific IFN  
213 ligands than their D21 counterparts. To test this, we treated three pairs of fibroblasts –roughly  
214 matched by age and gender– with various doses of the Type I ligands IFN $\alpha$  or  $\beta$ , or with the  
215 Type II ligand IFN $\gamma$ , and monitored expression of key ISGs via western blot. We also monitored  
216 phosphorylation of STAT1. Overall, these efforts revealed that trisomy 21 cells show stronger

217 induction of ISGs upon treatment with all three ligands, albeit with variation across specific cell  
218 lines and ligands (Figure 3). For example, stimulation with IFN $\alpha$  led to stronger induction in the  
219 T21 cell line for MX1 in pairs 1 and 2, stronger induction of IDO1 in pairs 1 and 3, and stronger  
220 induction of ISG15 in pairs 1 and 2 (Figure 3A). Similar results were observed for the other Type  
221 I ligand, IFN $\beta$ . However, ligand-specific differences were also observed. For example, IDO1 was  
222 more strongly induced by IFN $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  in the T21 cell line in pair 1, but this was not the case  
223 when using IFN $\gamma$  (Figure 3A-C). Thus, these results confirm the notion of strong inter-individual  
224 variation in the downstream signaling effects of T21. Of note, all three IFN ligands consistently  
225 induced STAT1 phosphorylation (pSTAT1) both in D21 and T21 cells, but the levels of pSTAT1  
226 did not correlate precisely with the expression levels of the various ISGs. For example, the  
227 obviously different levels of ISG15 in pair 2 upon treatment with the three ligands do not  
228 correlate with dissimilar levels of pSTAT1 (Figure 3A-C). This suggests that STAT1  
229 phosphorylation is not a robust predictor of ISG expression, which is ultimately defined by the  
230 orchestrated action of multiple IFN-activated transcription factors.

231

232 **A kinome shRNA screen identifies the IFN-activated kinases JAK1 and TYK2 as negative**  
233 **regulators of cell viability in trisomy 21 fibroblasts.**

234 In a parallel unbiased approach to identify signaling cascades deregulated by T21, we  
235 employed an shRNA screen to identify protein kinases that may have a differential impact on  
236 the viability (i.e. proliferation and/or survival) of T21 cells relative to D21 cells. We hypothesized  
237 that core gene expression changes in T21 cells lead to a rewiring of signaling cascades,  
238 creating differential requirements for specific kinases during cell survival and proliferation. In  
239 order to identify such kinases, we introduced a library of 3,075 shRNAs targeting 654 kinases  
240 into each of the 12 fibroblast cell lines we subjected to transcriptome analysis. We then  
241 propagated these cells for 14 days to allow for selection of cells harboring shRNAs targeting

242 kinases that differentially affect survival and/or proliferation of T21 cells versus D21 cells,  
243 henceforth referred to as DM<sup>T21</sup> kinases (**D**ifferential **M**odulators of **T21** cells) (Figure 4A). In this  
244 screen, relative enrichment of a given shRNA in the T21 population could result from the  
245 targeted kinase being a negative regulator of T21 cellular fitness, a positive regulator of D21  
246 cellular fitness, or a combination of both. To minimize the possibility of shRNA off-target effects,  
247 we required at least three independent shRNAs targeting a given kinase to score as significantly  
248 enriched or depleted, with no more than one shRNA against each kinase scoring in the opposite  
249 direction (see Materials and Methods for details). This analysis identified a total of 25 and 15  
250 kinases that negatively and positively affect the fitness of T21 cells relative to D21 cells,  
251 respectively (Figure 4B, Figure 4 – figure supplement 1, Supplementary file 2). The top scoring  
252 enriched kinase was mTOR, indicating that this kinase differentially decreases the fitness of T21  
253 cells (and/or differentially increases the fitness of D21 cells). This could be consistent with  
254 previous reports showing hyperactivation of mTOR signaling in the brains of individuals with DS  
255 and mouse models of trisomy 21 and consequent impairments in autophagy (Ahmed et al.  
256 2013; Perluigi, Di Domenico, and Butterfield 2015; Troca-Marín et al. 2014; Iyer et al. 2014).  
257 Importantly, among DM<sup>T21</sup> kinases predicted to hinder T21 cell viability were the IFN-activated  
258 kinases JAK1 and TYK2 (Müller et al. 1993; Stahl et al. 1994) (Figure 4B, C, Figure 4 - figure  
259 supplement 1A, B). To confirm that JAK1 signaling negatively affects the relative viability of T21  
260 cells, we treated two pairs of D21/T21 fibroblasts with increasing doses of the JAK1/2 inhibitor  
261 ruxolitinib (Rux) (Tefferi, Litzow, and Pardanani 2011). Rux treatment led to decreased levels of  
262 pSTAT1, decreased protein expression of MX1 –an ISG encoded on chr21–, and decreased  
263 mRNA expression of several ISGs found to be upregulated in T21 fibroblasts in our RNA-seq  
264 experiment (Figure 4D and Figure 4 –figure supplement 1C, D). To assess the impact of Rux  
265 treatment on cell viability, we seeded equal numbers of D21 and T21 fibroblasts in the absence  
266 or presence of increasing doses of the inhibitor, and counted the number of viable cells 3 days  
267 post-seeding. Notably, the number of viable T21 cells was much lower in all conditions tested

268 (Figure 4E and Figure 4 – figure supplement 1E). However, whereas Rux treatment led to a  
269 dose-dependent increase in the number of viable T21 cells, it also produced a decrease in the  
270 number of viable D21 cells at the highest concentration. When the cell counts are represented  
271 as T21/D21 ratios, it is clear that JAK inhibition has a differential effect on cell proliferation  
272 between T21 and D21 cells (Figure 4F, G and Figure 4 – figure supplement 1F, G). This is  
273 consistent with shRNAs targeting JAK1 (and TYK2) being differentially enriched in T21 cells  
274 during the 14-day course of the screen. Ultimately, these data support the notion of differential  
275 signaling requirements in T21 relative to D21 cells and identify two IFN-related kinases as  
276 negative regulators of T21 fibroblast viability.

277

#### 278 **Activation of the IFN response by trisomy 21 is conserved in lymphoblastoid cells.**

279 To test whether consistent changes in gene expression programs elicited by trisomy 21  
280 are conserved across cell types, we performed RNA-seq on a panel of six age-matched, female  
281 lymphoblastoid cell lines from D21 and T21 individuals (Figure 5 – figure supplement 1A-B).  
282 These cell lines were generated by immortalizing B cells with Epstein Bar virus (EBV), thus  
283 enabling us to compare a cell type of lymphocytic origin with the fibroblasts of mesenchymal  
284 origin. Analysis of DEGs associated with T21 identified 1,538 genes both up and downregulated  
285 with more upregulated DEGs (861 out of 1,538), as was seen in the fibroblasts (Figure 5A,  
286 Supplementary file 1B). Similarly, a peak of highly significant DEGs with ~1.5-fold change,  
287 comprised of chr21-encoded genes, is observed in a volcano plot (Figure 5B). Furthermore,  
288 most DEGs are distributed across the genome, and not arranged into obvious chromosomal  
289 domains (Figure 5C and Figure 5 – figure supplement 2). IPA revealed that the top upstream  
290 regulators of the consistent gene expression signature driven by T21 in lymphoblastoids are  
291 also IFN-related, and that this prediction is powered by non-chr21 DEGs (Figure 5D).  
292 Comparison of DEGs from fibroblasts and lymphoblastoids demonstrates that many of the same  
293 upstream regulators are predicted to be activated and are IFN-related factors (Figure 5E). All

294 four chr21-encoded IFN receptors are significantly upregulated in lymphoblastoids (Figure 5F),  
295 as they are in fibroblasts. In fact, the most significant DEG encoded on chr21 is *IFNAR1* (Figure  
296 5B). Increased basal protein expression was confirmed by western blot for IFNAR1 and IL10RB,  
297 as well as for the interferon-related genes TBX21, GBP5 and BCL2L11 (BIM) (Figure 5G).  
298 STAT1 phosphorylation was also elevated in the T21 lymphoblastoids (Figure 5G).

299 We next wanted to determine if the IFN signature was conserved in a mouse model of  
300 Down syndrome. Dp16 mice were selected because they contain a region of mouse  
301 chromosome 16 syntenic to human chromosome 21 that includes the IFN receptor cluster,  
302 without triplication of non-syntenic regions (Z. Li et al. 2007). RNA-seq was performed on the  
303 LSK (Lineage negative, Sca1 positive, c-Kit positive) population of multipotent hematopoietic  
304 stem and progenitor cells obtained from the bone marrow of Dp16 mice and matched littermate  
305 controls. These results confirmed that three of the four IFN receptors are upregulated in Dp16  
306 mice (*Ifnar1*, *Ifnar2*, and *Ifngr2*), along with several canonical ISGs (Figure 5 – figure  
307 supplement 3, Supplementary file 1C). Our results demonstrate that IFN activation by trisomy  
308 21 is conserved in the hematopoietic lineage.

309

### 310 **The IFN response is activated in circulating blood cell types of individuals with trisomy** 311 **21.**

312 In order to determine whether our findings are applicable to living human individuals with  
313 T21, we isolated monocytes, T cells, and B cells, from 10 individuals with T21 and seven D21  
314 individuals. As for our cell line work, we included samples from both genders with varying ages  
315 and genetic backgrounds (Figure 6 – figure supplement 1A, B). Monocytes and T cells were  
316 subjected to transcriptome analysis by RNA-seq, and B cells used for IFN receptor surface  
317 expression analysis by flow cytometry. The transcriptome analyses identified hundreds of  
318 consistent gene expression changes associated with T21 in both cell types, with the expected  
319 ~1.5x fold increase in chr21 gene expression (Figure 6 – figure supplement 1C, D). The IFN

320 receptors encoded on chr21 are significantly upregulated in circulating blood cell types from  
321 individuals with T21, with the sole exception of *IFNGR2* in T cells (Figure 6A, B, Supplementary  
322 file 1D). Flow cytometry detected a minor increase in surface expression of IFNAR1, IFNGR2,  
323 and IL10RB, in the B cell population, but not for IFNGR1, which is not encoded on chr21 (Figure  
324 6 –figure supplement 2). Once again, upstream regulator analysis identified IFN ligands and  
325 IFN-activated transcription factors as predicted drivers of gene induction in T21 monocytes and  
326 T cells (Figure 6C and Figure 6 – figure supplement 3) with many canonical ISGs scoring  
327 among the most significantly induced genes (Figure 6A, B).

328         A comparison of the upstream regulator analyses for the four cell types included in this  
329 study revealed both conserved and cell type-specific features. The upstream regulator analysis  
330 shows that IFN activation is conserved, as is predicted inactivation of the IFN repressors  
331 MAPK1 and TRIM24 (Figure 6C). However, a unique feature of the primary cell types -  
332 monocytes and T cells- is a predicted inactivation of the gene expression program driven by the  
333 transcription factor MYCN (Figure 6C). Comparison of the canonical pathways deregulated in all  
334 four cell types confirms that IFN signaling is the top activated pathway, but also reveals that  
335 monocytes and T cells, and to a lesser degree lymphoblastoids, show strong repression of the  
336 EIF2 pathway (Figure 6D). Since both MYCN and EIF2 are potent regulators of protein  
337 synthesis, we decided to investigate this observation in more detail.

338

### 339 **Trisomy 21 downregulates the translation machinery in primary monocytes and T cells.**

340         A well-established aspect of the IFN response is the selective control of protein  
341 translation, purportedly to prevent the synthesis of viral proteins during the course of infection  
342 (Johnson, Lerner, and Lancz 1968). Mechanistically, it has been shown that IFN signaling  
343 impairs processing of rRNAs and controls the activity and/or expression of specific translation  
344 factors (Walsh, Mathews, and Mohr 2013; Maroun 1978). On the other hand, the MYC family of  
345 transcription factors are known drivers of ribosome biogenesis, protein synthesis and cell growth

346 (van Riggelen, Yetil, and Felsher 2010; Boon et al. 2001; S. Kim et al. 2000; Arabi et al. 2005).  
347 Similarly, the EIF2 pathway is a key driver of protein translation, with eIF2 itself being an  
348 essential translation initiation factor (Hinnebusch 2014). Analysis of the gene signatures  
349 identified by IPA that predicted inactivation of both the MYCN transcriptional program and the  
350 EIF2 pathway showed a substantial degree of overlap (Figure 7A, C, Supplementary file 1E). In  
351 monocytes and T cells, the genes common between the two repressed programs encode  
352 components of both the small and large ribosome subunits (i.e. RPS proteins in the 40S  
353 complex and RPL proteins in the 60S complex) (Figure 7A, C, Figure 7 – figure supplements 1  
354 and 2). Genes exclusive to the MYCN signature are enriched for metabolic enzymes and  
355 translation elongation factors (EEFs). Genes exclusive to the EIF2 signature are enriched for  
356 translation initiation factors (EIFs) and additional ribosomal proteins. Examples of RPSs, RPLs,  
357 EEFs and EIFs downregulated in trisomy 21 cells are shown in Figure 7B and D (see also  
358 Figure 7 – figure supplements 1 and 2). This result is consistent with reports that interferon  
359 treatment results in global decreases in expression of the translational machinery in primary  
360 PBMCs (Taylor et al. 2007; Gupta et al. 2012). Altogether, these results indicate that T21  
361 causes a general downregulation of dozens of components of the protein synthesis machinery  
362 in circulating monocytes and T cells.

363

#### 364 **Trisomy 21 elicits cell type-specific IFN transcriptional responses.**

365 Having performed transcriptome analysis of cell types of different origins, we  
366 investigated to what degree the gene expression changes caused by T21 are affected by cell  
367 type-specific regulatory landscapes. A principal component analysis (PCA) shows the fibroblast  
368 transcriptomes segregating strongly (PC1 80.5%) from those of the cell types of hematopoietic  
369 origin (Figure 8A). B cell-derived lymphoblastoids and T lymphocytes cluster together, yet they  
370 segregate away from the monocytes of myeloid origin (PC2, 11.3%). Within this background,  
371 the global impact of the trisomy on the transcriptome is secondary to the effects of the cell type

372 of origin (Figure 8B). Next, we asked to what degree genes encoded on chr21 could be affected  
373 by these cell type-specific regulatory landscapes. Indeed, it was easy to identify many chr21  
374 genes displaying obvious differences in relative expression among cell types. For example, *APP*  
375 is relatively more highly expressed in fibroblasts, *U2AF1* more highly expressed in  
376 lymphoblastoids, *ETS2* more highly expressed in monocytes, and *DYRK1A* more highly  
377 expressed in T cells (Figure 8C, Supplementary file 1F). The IFN receptors on chr21 also  
378 showed some degree of cell type-specific expression (e.g. *IFNAR2* lowly expressed in  
379 fibroblasts, *IFNGR2* lowly expressed in T cells, Figure 8D). Furthermore, relative differences in  
380 cell type-specific expression is also evident for canonical ISGs (Figure 8E). These observations  
381 led us to ask to what degree the IFN transcriptional response elicited by T21 is conserved  
382 across cell types. To address this, we compared the DEGs comprising the T21-induced  
383 *Interferon alpha* signature identified by IPA in each cell type (Figure 6C). Remarkably, this  
384 exercise revealed a large degree of cell type-specificity, with most IFN-related genes being  
385 differentially expressed in only one cell type (Figure 8F). In fact, the only common genes among  
386 all four signatures are three IFN $\alpha$ -related genes encoded on chr21: *IFNAR1*, *IFNAR2*, and *MX1*.  
387 Expectedly, lymphoblastoids and T cells showed a greater degree of overlap than other pairwise  
388 comparisons. Overall, these results indicate that while T21 operates within, and is modulated  
389 by, cell type-specific regulatory landscapes, it nonetheless activates the IFN transcriptional  
390 response consistently by inducing different gene sets within this program. This is in stark  
391 contrast to the notion that T21 affects gene expression either stochastically or through large  
392 rearrangements of chromatin domains. In fact, Manhattan plots of the DEGs in monocytes and  
393 T cells derived from the same individuals not only confirm the absence of large domains of  
394 chromatin deregulation, but also highlight the high degree of cell type-specific changes caused  
395 by the trisomy (Figure 8G).

396

397 **DISCUSSION.**

398 We report here that T21 leads to consistent activation of the IFN pathway. As discussed  
399 below, IFN hyperactivation could explain many of the developmental and clinical impacts of T21.  
400 In fact, we posit that Down syndrome can be understood largely as an interferonopathy, and  
401 that the variable clinical manifestations of T21 could be explained by inter-individual differences  
402 in adaptation to chronic IFN hyperactivity.

403 The link between IFN signaling and T21 is not entirely unprecedented. More than 40  
404 years ago, it was found that human T21 fibroblasts, but not those trisomic for chr13 or chr18,  
405 have increased sensitivity to IFN exposure and are more resistant to viral infection (Tan et al.  
406 1974; Tan, Tischfield, and Ruddle 1974). In fact, somatic cell hybrid experiments showed that  
407 chr21 is sufficient to confer sensitivity to human IFN in mouse cells (Slate et al. 1978).  
408 Pioneering work by Maroun and colleagues using an early mouse model of DS carrying an extra  
409 copy of chr16 that harbors orthologues of many human chr21 genes, including the four IFN  
410 receptors, clearly implicated IFN as a contributor to the deleterious effects of the trisomy. For  
411 example, treatment of pregnant female mice with anti-IFN antibodies resulted in partial rescue  
412 of embryonic growth defects and embryonic lethality (Maroun 1995). Furthermore, partial  
413 normalization of gene dosage for the IFN receptor subunits via gene knockout was shown to  
414 improve embryonic development and survival of T21 cortical neurons *in vitro* (Maroun,  
415 Heffernan, and Hallam 2000). More recently, a study found global disruption of IFN-related gene  
416 networks in the brains of the Ts1Cje mouse model of DS, which also carries triplication of the  
417 IFN receptor subunits (Ling et al. 2014). However, deeper investigations of IFN signaling in  
418 human T21 cells and tissues are largely absent from the literature of the past 30 years, with a  
419 few exceptions, such as the description of IFN signaling as a contributor to periodontal disease  
420 in DS (Tanaka et al. 2012; Iwamoto et al. 2009). Collectively, these reports and the genomics  
421 analyses reported here demonstrate that activation of the IFN pathway in T21 cells is a

422 widespread phenomenon that occurs in diverse tissues, and that is relevant to human Down  
423 syndrome as well as the various mouse models of DS with triplication of IFN receptors.

424         Constitutive activation of IFN signaling could conceivably explain a large number of  
425 comorbidities associated with DS, such as the increased risk of transient myeloproliferative  
426 disorder, diverse leukemias, several autoimmune disorders (Richardson et al. 2010), and  
427 perhaps even the lower rate of solid tumors (Zitvogel et al. 2015; Hasle et al. 2016). Importantly,  
428 several JAK inhibitors are either approved or being tested in clinical trials for the treatment of  
429 several conditions associated with DS –albeit in the typical population– , including  
430 myeloproliferative, inflammatory and autoimmune disorders, as well as leukemia (Padron et al.  
431 2016; Spaner et al. 2016; Tefferi, Litzow, and Pardanani 2011; Quintás-Cardama et al. 2010;  
432 Shi et al. 2014; Keystone et al. 2015; Jabbari et al. 2015). It should be noted, however, that the  
433 dose limiting toxicities of JAK inhibitors, like ruxolitinib, are anemia and thrombocytopenia  
434 (McKeage 2015; Plosker 2015). Therefore, rigorous clinical investigations will be required to  
435 define if there is a therapeutic window in which these drugs would benefit individuals with DS  
436 before the appearance of toxicity. Additional research will also be required to elucidate the  
437 interplay between hyperactive IFN signaling in DS with other important factors encoded on  
438 chr21 (e.g. *DYRK1A*, *APP*) (Malinge et al. 2012; Wiseman et al. 2015) or elsewhere in the  
439 genome, that have been involved in development of the specific comorbidities. For example, the  
440 Sonic Hedgehog (SHH) pathway has been implicated in the etiology of structural and cognitive  
441 defects in a mouse model of DS, including cerebellar atrophy (Das et al. 2013). Interestingly,  
442 IFN signaling has been show to crosstalk with the SHH pathway, and cerebellar atrophy is also  
443 a hallmark of Type I Interferonopathies (Moisan et al. 2014; Sun, Tian, and Wang 2010;  
444 McGlasson et al. 2015; Crow and Manel 2015).

445         Increased JAK/STAT signaling has been postulated to contribute to some of the  
446 neurological features of DS (Lee et al. 2016). Notably, it has been reported that therapeutic  
447 exposure to interferons can produce diverse types of neurological dysfunction, including

448 depression, cerebral palsy and spastic diplegia (M C Wichers et al. 2005; Grether et al. 1999;  
449 Wörle et al. 1999; Barlow et al. 1998). Furthermore, a large number of neurological conditions  
450 have been linked to deregulated IFN signaling, most prominent among them the so called Type  
451 I Interferonopathies (McGlasson et al. 2015; Crow and Manel 2015). Therefore, we propose that  
452 constitutive activation of the IFN pathway in the central nervous system of individuals with DS is  
453 responsible for many of the neurological problems caused by the trisomy. In particular, IFN-  
454 mediated activation of microglia could lead to neurotoxicity by several mechanisms, including  
455 serotonin depletion, generation of reactive oxygen species, and excitatory toxicity, which could  
456 potentially be ameliorated with inhibitors of the IDO1 enzyme, a key ISG (Marieke C Wichers  
457 and Maes 2004; M C Wichers et al. 2005). Although much research remains to be done, it is  
458 now possible to envision early intervention strategies to ameliorate the variable ill effects of T21  
459 by using pharmacological inhibitors of the IFN pathway.

460

## 461 **MATERIALS AND METHODS**

462 **Cell culture and drug treatments.** Six human fibroblast lines from individuals with trisomy 21  
463 (T21) and six approximately age- and gender-matched fibroblast lines from typical individuals  
464 (D21) were obtained from the Coriell Cell Repository and immortalized with hTERT as described  
465 (Lindvall et al. 2003). EBV-immortalized lymphoblastoid lines, three T21 and three D21, were  
466 obtained from the Nexus Clinical Data Registry and Biobank at the University of Colorado.  
467 Fibroblasts were maintained in DMEM and lymphoblastoids were maintained in RPMI medium  
468 in a humidified 5% CO<sub>2</sub> incubator at 37°C. Media was supplemented with 10% fetal bovine  
469 serum and 1% antibiotic/antimycotic and was changed every 3-6 days. Fibroblast monolayers  
470 were serially passaged by trypsin-EDTA treatment, and lymphoblastoids were serially passaged  
471 via dilution in fresh media. Fibroblast lines used in this study are described in Figure 1 – figure  
472 supplement 1. All cell lines were confirmed mycoplasma negative by PCR as previously

473 described (Uphoff and Drexler 2002). T21 status was authenticated as described in Figure 1 –  
474 figure supplement 1D. Research Resource Identifiers (RRIDs) for fibroblast cell lines are:

Line	RRID #
GM08447	CVCL_7487
GM05659	CVCL_7434
GM00969	CVCL_7311
GM02036	CVCL_7348
GM03377	CVCL_7384
GM03440	CVCL_7388
GM04616	CVCL_V475
AG05397	CVCL_L780
AG06922	CVCL_X793
GM02767	CVCL_V469
AG08941	CVCL_X871
AG08942	CVCL_X872

475  
476 **Interferon treatment in cell culture.** Recombinant human interferons alpha 2A (11101-2, R&D  
477 Systems), beta (300-02BC, Peprotech) and gamma (PHC4031, Gibco) were obtained from  
478 Fisher Scientific, aliquoted, and stored at -80°C. Three T21 fibroblast lines and their age- and  
479 sex-matched D21 fibroblast counterparts were plated at equivalent densities and grown 72  
480 hours to ensure similar cycling of the cells, then re-plated at equivalent densities and incubated  
481 overnight. Media was removed the following day and replaced with media containing the  
482 indicated doses of interferon ligands dissolved in PBS or vehicle (PBS alone). All media was  
483 normalized for final PBS concentration at highest interferon dose. Cells were grown an  
484 additional 24 hours after interferon application, then media removed, cells washed with PBS and  
485 harvested via cell scraping. The harvested cells were pelleted and lysed in RIPA buffer with  
486 protease and phosphatase inhibitors.

487 **JAK inhibition in cell culture.** Ruxolitinib (INCB018424) was obtained from Selleck Chemicals  
488 (S1378) and dissolved in DMSO to make a 5 mM stock solution and stored at -20°C. Fibroblast  
489 lines were plated at equivalent cell numbers and allowed to grow for 72 hours in order to

490 condition the media with secreted factors. Conditioned media was harvested and stored at 4°C  
491 for 3-7 days prior to use. One T21 fibroblast line and its age- and sex-matched D21 fibroblast  
492 counterpart were plated at equivalent cell numbers in their respective conditioned media and  
493 incubated overnight. Plating media was removed the following day and replaced with  
494 conditioned media containing the indicated doses of ruxolitinib or DMSO. All conditioned drug  
495 media was normalized for DMSO concentration. Cells were grown an additional 72 hours after  
496 drug application, harvested with trypsin-EDTA, and counted with 0.2% trypan blue using a  
497 hemocytometer.

498 **Western blots.** Cells were plated at equal densities and allowed to grow 72 hours before  
499 harvesting cell pellets. Pellets were washed with PBS and resuspended in RIPA buffer  
500 containing 1 µg/mL pepstatin, 2 µg/mL aprotinin, 20 µg/mL trypsin inhibitor, 10 nM leupeptin,  
501 200 nM Na<sub>3</sub>VO<sub>4</sub>, 500 nM phenylmethylsulfonyl fluoride (PMSF), and 10 µM NaF. Suspensions  
502 were sonicated at six watts for 15 seconds two times and clarified by centrifugation at 21,000 g  
503 for 30 minutes at 4°C. Supernatants were quantified in a Pierce BCA Protein Assay and diluted  
504 in complete RIPA with 4x Laemmli sample buffer. Tris-glycine SDS-polyacrylamide gel  
505 electrophoresis was used to separate 20-40 µg protein lysate, which was transferred to a 0.2  
506 µm polyvinylidene fluoride (PVDF) membrane. Membranes were blocked in 5% non-fat dried  
507 milk or 5% bovine serum albumin (BSA) in Tris-buffered saline containing 0.1% TWEEN (TBS-  
508 T) at room temperature for 30-60 minutes before probing overnight with primary antibody in 5%  
509 non-fat dried milk or 5% BSA in TBS-T at 4°C while shaking. Membranes were washed 3x in  
510 TBS-T for 5-15 minutes before probing with a horseradish peroxidase (HRP) conjugated  
511 secondary antibody in 5% non-fat dried milk or 5% BSA at room temperature for one hour.  
512 Membranes were again washed 3x in TBS-T for 5-15 minutes before applying enhanced  
513 chemiluminescence (ECL) solution. Chemiluminescence signal was captured using a GE  
514 ImageQuant LAS4000.

515 Antibodies used in this study:

Antibody	Manufacturer	Product #	RRID #
anti-mouse IgG-HRP	Santa Cruz Biotechnology	sc-2005	AB_631736
anti-rabbit IgG-HRP	Santa Cruz Biotechnology	sc-2317	AB_641182
BIM	Cell Signaling Technology	2819	AB_659953
GAPDH	Santa Cruz Biotechnology	sc-365062	AB_10847862
GBP5	Abcam	ab96119	AB_10678091
IFI27	Abcam	ab171919	N/A
IFNAR1	R&D Systems	AF245	AB_355270
IFNGR2	R&D Systems	AF773	AB_355589
IL10RB	R&D Systems	AF874	AB_355677
ISG15	Cell Signaling Technology	2743	AB_2126201
MX1	Abcam	ab95926	AB_10677452
pSTAT1	Cell Signaling Technology	7649	AB_10950970
TBX21	Cell Signaling Technology	5214	AB_10692112

516

517 **Q-RT-PCR.** Total RNA was isolated using Trizol according to manufacturer's instructions. cDNA  
 518 was synthesized using the qScript kit from Quanta Biosciences. PCR was performed using  
 519 SYBR Select on a Vii7 from Life technologies.

520 Oligonucleotides used in this study:

Gene ID	Accession #	Forward	Reverse
IFI27	NM_001130080	TCTGCAGTCACTGGGAGCAACT	AACCTCGCAATGACAGCCGCAA
IFITM1	NM_003641	TTCGCTCCACGCAGAAAACCA	ACAGCCACCTCATGTTCTCCT
MX1	NM_001144925	TCCACAGAACCGCCAAGTCCAA	ATCTGGAAGTGGAGGCGGATCA
MX2	NM_002463	TCGGACTGCAGATCAAGGCTCT	CGTGGTGGCAATGTCCACGTTA
OAS1	NM_001032409	CCGCATGCAAATCAACCATGCC	TTGCCTGAGGAGCCACCCTTTA
OAS2	NM_001032731	AGGTGGCTCCTATGGACGGAAA	CGAGGATGTCACGTTGGCTTCT

521

522 **RNA-seq from cell lines.** Biological replicates for each cell line were obtained by independently  
 523 growing cells in duplicate. Total RNA was purified from  $\sim 1 \times 10^7$  logarithmically growing cells  
 524 using Qiagen RNeasy columns per manufacturer's instructions including on-column DNase  
 525 digestion. RNAs were quantified using a Take3 Micro-Volume plate in a Biotek Synergy2 plate  
 526 reader and their integrity confirmed using the Agilent RNA 6000 Pico Kit and the Agilent 2100

527 Bioanalyzer System. 500 ng of total RNA with an RNA Integrity Number (RIN) greater than 7  
528 were used to prepare sequencing libraries with the Illumina TruSeq Stranded mRNA Library  
529 Prep Kit. Libraries were sequenced with an Illumina HiSeq 2000 System at the UCCC  
530 Genomics Core.

531 **Isolation of Monocytes and T cells by Florescence Activated Cell Sorting (FACS).**

532 Peripheral blood was collected in EDTA vacutainer tubes from 10 individuals with T21 and  
533 seven D21 controls. Blood was centrifuged at 500g for 15 minutes to separate plasma, buffy  
534 coat and red blood cells (RBCs). Peripheral Blood Mononuclear Cells (PBMCs) were isolated  
535 from the buffy coat fraction by RBC lysis and 1x PBS wash according to manufacturer's  
536 instructions (BD, 555899). After RBC lysis and PBS wash, PBMCs were stained for sorts at 10-  
537  $20 \times 10^7$  cells/ml then diluted to approximately  $5 \times 10^7$  cells/ml in flow cytometry sorting buffer (1x  
538 PBS, 1 mM EDTA, 25 mM HEPES pH 7.0, 1% FBS). All staining was performed in flow  
539 cytometry sorting buffer with fluorochrome-conjugated antibodies for at least 15 min on ice while  
540 protected from light. Single cell suspensions were stained with CD45 (eBioscience, HI30,  
541 RRID:AB\_467273), CD14 (Biolegend, 63D3, RRID:AB\_2571928), CD3 (Biolegend, OKT3,  
542 RRID:AB\_571907), CD16 (Biolegend, B73.1, RRID:AB\_2616914), CD19 (Biolegend, HIB19,  
543 RRID:AB\_2973118), CD56 (Biolegend, 5.1H11, RRID:AB\_2565855) and CD34 (Biolegend, 561,  
544 RRID:AB\_343601) antibodies. CD45+CD14+CD19-CD3-CD56- Monocytes and  
545 CD45+CD3+CD14-CD19-CD56- T cells were FAC-sorted into Dulbecco's Modified Eagle  
546 Medium (DMEM) supplemented with 4.5g/L D-Glucose, L-Glutamine, and 5% FBS, on the  
547 MoFlo Astrios (Beckman Coulter) at the CU-SOM Cancer Center Flow Cytometry Shared  
548 Resource.

549 **RNA extraction from Monocytes and T cells.** FAC-sorted cells were centrifuged at 500g for 5  
550 minutes and media removed. Cells were resuspended in 350  $\mu$ l RLT plus (QIAGEN) and Beta-  
551 mercaptoethanol (BME) lysis buffer (10  $\mu$ L BME:1 mL RLT plus) for downstream RNA isolation.

552 Lysed cells were immediately stored at -80°C and RNA was later extracted using the AllPrep  
553 DNA/RNA/Protein Mini Kit according to manufacturer's instructions (QIAGEN, 80004). RNA  
554 quality was determined by BioAnalyzer (Agilent) and quantified by Qubit (Life Technologies).  
555 Samples with RIN of 7 or greater and a minimum of 500 ng total RNA were used for library prep  
556 and sequencing.

557 **RNA-seq Data Analysis.** Analysis of library complexity and high per-base sequence quality  
558 across all reads (i.e. q>30) was performed using FastQC (v0.11.2) software (Andrews 2010).  
559 Low quality bases (q<10) were trimmed from the 3' end of reads and short reads (<30 nt after  
560 trimming) and adaptor sequences were removed using the fastqc-mcf tool from ea-utils.  
561 Common sources of sequence contamination such as mycoplasma, mitochondria, ribosomal  
562 RNA were identified and removed using FASTQ Screen (v0.4.4). Reads were aligned to  
563 GRCh37/hg19 using TopHat2 (v2.0.13, --b2-sensitive --keep-fastq-order --no-coverage-search -  
564 -max-multihits 10 --library-type fr-firststrand) (D. Kim et al. 2013). High quality mapped reads  
565 (MAPQ>10) were filtered with SAMtools (v0.1.19) (H. Li et al. 2009). Reads were sorted with  
566 Picardtools (SortSAM) and duplicates marked (MarkDuplicates). QC of final reads was  
567 performed using RSeQC (v2.6) (L. Wang, Wang, and Li 2012). Gene level counts were obtained  
568 using HTSeq (v0.6.1, --stranded=reverse --min-coverage=10 --type=exon --idattr=gene --mode=  
569 intersection-nonempty, GTF-ftp://igenome:G3nom3s4u@usd-  
570 ftp.illumina.com/Homo\_sapiens/UCSC/hg19/Homo\_sapiens\_UCSC\_hg19.tar.gz) (Anders, Pyl,  
571 and Huber 2014). Differential expression was determined using DESeq2 (v1.6.3) and R (3.10)  
572 (Love, Huber, and Anders 2014). Volcano plots, manhattan plots, and violin plots, were made  
573 using the Python plotting library "matplotlib" (<http://matplotlib.org>).

574 **shRNA Screening.** A pool of plasmids encoding 3,075 shRNAs targeting 654 kinases (kinome  
575 library) in the pLKO.1 backbone produced by The RNAi Consortium (TRC, Sigma-Aldrich) were  
576 obtained from the University of Colorado Cancer Center Functional Genomics Shared  
577 Resource, as were the pΔ8.9 and pCMV-VSV-G lentiviral packaging plasmids. 2 μg of kinome

578 library plasmid DNA at 100 ng/ $\mu$ L was mixed with 2  $\mu$ g of packaging plasmid mix (at a 9:1 ratio  
579 of p $\Delta$ 8.9:pCMV-VSV-G) at 100 ng/ $\mu$ L and incubated with 12  $\mu$ g of Polyethylenimine for 15 min  
580 at RT. The entire mixture was then added to  $3 \times 10^5$  HEK293FT packaging cells to give 100X  
581 coverage. 16 h after transfection, media on cells was replaced with complete DMEM. 24 h after  
582 media replacement, target cells were seeded at  $1 \times 10^5$  cells/ well in a 6-well plate. Three wells  
583 for each line were combined at the time of harvest to reach a starting number of  $3 \times 10^5$  cells per  
584 condition (again 100X coverage of the kinome library). 24 h after seeding, media from each well  
585 of packaging cells (now containing lentiviral library particles) was filtered through 0.45  $\mu$ m  
586 cellulose acetate filters, diluted 1:3 into 6 mL of DMEM, and mixed with 6  $\mu$ L of 8 mg/mL  
587 polybrene to facilitate transduction. This mixture was then used to transduce 3 wells (one total  
588 replicate) of each target cell line. 24 h after transduction viral transduction, media was replaced  
589 with fresh media. Finally, after an additional 24 h, selection began by adding fresh DMEM with 1  
590  $\mu$ g/mL puromycin. Cells were then propagated for 14 days and genomic DNA harvested from all  
591 remaining cells using the Qiagen DNeasy Blood and Tissue kit with the optional RNase A  
592 treatment step. Genomic DNA was quantified by  $A_{260}$  using a Take3 micro-volume plate on a  
593 Synergy2 Microplate Reader. The quality of the genomic DNA was confirmed via  
594 electrophoresis on a 0.5% TAE agarose gel. Screens were performed in three independent  
595 biological replicates for each of the 12 fibroblast cell lines.

596 **shRNA Library Preparation.** The library preparation strategy uses genomic DNA and two  
597 rounds of PCR in order to isolate the shRNA cassette and prepare a single strand of the hairpin  
598 for sequencing by means of an XhoI restriction digest in the stem loop region. This is critical as  
599 the hairpin secondary structures of shRNAs are not amenable to NGS and the TRC shRNAs do  
600 not have a long enough loop to allow PCR amplification of one shRNA arm in a single step. The  
601 first step in sequencing library preparation is to calculate how much genomic DNA must be used  
602 for PCR1 which isolates and amplifies the shRNA cassettes from genomic DNA using Phusion

603 Polymerase. The oligonucleotides for PCR1 anneal to regions inside of the LTRs that are  
604 common to all clones in the library and should, therefore, amplify all shRNA cassettes with  
605 equal efficiency. Each reaction mixture for PCR1 consisted of 10  $\mu$ L 5X Phusion *HF* buffer, 1  $\mu$ L  
606 dNTPs (10 mM each), 2.5  $\mu$ L pLKO Forward and Reverse primers (10  $\mu$ M), 1  $\mu$ L of 2 unit/ $\mu$ L  
607 Phusion Polymerase, 500 ng genomic DNA, and dH<sub>2</sub>O to 50  $\mu$ L. The cycling conditions were as  
608 follows: 1 cycle of 98°C for 5 min, 15 to 25 cycles of 98°C for 30 s, 70°C for 30 s, 72°C for 30 s,  
609 and 1 cycle of 72°C for 7 min. 5  $\mu$ L of each PCR1 were run on a 2% TAE agarose gel in order to  
610 visualize the expected band of 497 bp. It should be noted that optimal PCR1 cycle number must  
611 be empirically determined for each library and to limit cycle numbers to minimize the effects of  
612 amplification bias. The correct product of PCR1 is 497 bp; however, excessive cycle numbers  
613 can result in the appearance of a slower migrating band. This band represents an annealing  
614 event between two amplification products with different shRNA sequences. As the majority of  
615 the 497 bp amplicon is common to all products, denatured PCR products can anneal to one  
616 another when not out-competed by an excess of primer in later cycles. This aberrant product  
617 does not correctly anneal within the central shRNA-containing sequence, therefore disrupting  
618 the double-stranded XhoI site required for the subsequent restriction digestion. Carefully  
619 determining the appropriate number of cycles prevents the appearance of this undesired  
620 product. After establishing optimal cycle number, we performed 12 identical PCR1 reactions in  
621 order to amplify sufficient amounts of genomic DNA and pooled them all prior to cleanup with a  
622 QIAquick PCR Purification Kit.

623 **XhoI digest.** 1  $\mu$ g of the resulting DNA was digested with XhoI overnight at 37°C. Digest  
624 reactions consisted of 3.5  $\mu$ L 10X FD buffer, 1  $\mu$ L of 20,000 units/mL XhoI, 1  $\mu$ g of DNA and  
625 dH<sub>2</sub>O to 35  $\mu$ L. Heat inactivation of XhoI is not recommended, as the high temperatures result  
626 in reappearance of the spurious annealing products mentioned above, leading to a disruption of  
627 the XhoI overhang required for ligation. For the TRC1 and TRC1.5 libraries, there are two XhoI

628 sites within the product of PCR1, resulting in fragments of 271, 43 and 183 bp. In order to purify  
629 the desired fragment, the entire digest was run on a 2% TAE agarose gel and purified the 271  
630 bp fragment using a QIAquick Gel Extraction Kit. Once the band was excised, three volumes of  
631 buffer QG were added and the mixture heated at 30°C to dissolve the agarose. Lower melting  
632 temperatures are recommended so as not to denature the complementary double-stranded  
633 shRNA cassettes, which may not reanneal to their cognate strand. After the agarose was  
634 dissolved, one volume of isopropanol was added and protocol resumed following the  
635 manufacturer's instructions including the optional addition of NaOAc.

636 **Ligation of barcoded linkers.** We prepared the barcoded linkers required for ligation by  
637 resuspending the lyophilized oligonucleotides in ST buffer (10 mM Tris pH 8.0, 50 mM NaCl) to  
638 200 µM and combining 25 µL of each for a final concentration of 100 µM. The mixture was  
639 heated to 94°C for 10 min and gradually cooled to ensure proper annealing. Single-stranded  
640 oligonucleotides were removed from annealed oligonucleotides using Illustra MicroSpin G-25  
641 columns. The sense (S1-S4) oligonucleotides are 5'-phosphorylated and the antisense  
642 oligonucleotides (AS1-AS4) each contain a single phosphorothioate bond at the 3' end to  
643 stabilize them and are designed to prevent the reformation of a functional XhoI site. The  
644 barcodes within these linkers are used for multiplexing and their length ensures they are  
645 compatible with the Illumina HiSeq 2000. Shorter barcode sequences may be compatible with  
646 other sequencing platforms. The selected barcoded linkers were added to ligation reactions with  
647 100 ng of each purified 271 bp XhoI fragment, 3.5 µL 10X T4 DNA ligase buffer, 4 µL of 1 µM  
648 barcoded linker, 1 µL T4 DNA ligase and dH<sub>2</sub>O to 35 µL. Ligations were performed overnight at  
649 16°C. The entire ligation was run on a 2% TAE agarose gel and the resulting 312 bp band  
650 purified using the QIAquick Gel Extraction Kit in the same manner as previously described.

651 **PCR2.** The final step in the preparation of the sequencing library is a second PCR with  
652 oligonucleotides that contain the Illumina adaptors required for bridge amplification and

653 sequencing. In this PCR, the number of cycles is minimized in order to avoid PCR bias as well  
654 as errors that could affect sequencing. The reaction for PCR2 was as follows: 10  $\mu$ L 5X Phusion  
655 HF buffer, 1  $\mu$ L dNTPs (10 mM each), 2.5  $\mu$ L Forward adapter primer (10  $\mu$ M) 2.5  $\mu$ L, Reverse  
656 adapter primer (10  $\mu$ M), 1  $\mu$ L Phusion DNA polymerase 10 ng barcoded DNA, and dH<sub>2</sub>O to 50  
657  $\mu$ L. The cycling program consisted of 1 cycle of 98°C for 2 min, 2 cycles of 98°C for 30 s, 62°C  
658 for 30 s, 72°C for 30 s, 7 cycles of 98°C for 30 s, 72°C for 30 s and 1 cycle of 72°C for 3 min.  
659 The final 141 bp product was purified on a 2% TAE-agarose gel followed by QIAquick Gel  
660 Extraction as described above.

661 **Illumina Sequencing.** We assessed the purity of our sequencing library using the Bioanalyzer  
662 High Sensitivity DNA Kit (Agilent-5067-4626) and confirmed the presence of a single 141 bp  
663 peak, indicating one PCR product at the appropriate size. We utilized a multiplexing strategy  
664 consisting of four different barcodes with each nucleotide represented at each position of the  
665 barcode, allowing us to sequence four samples in each lane on a HiSeq 2000 Illumina  
666 instrument. To accomplish this, each sample was quantified and mixed together at a final  
667 concentration of 10 ng/ $\mu$ L and using Illumina-specific oligonucleotides and qPCR, we  
668 determined the cluster formation efficiency (i.e. effective concentration) of our library to be  
669 slightly greater than that of a known library. Accordingly, we loaded the flow cell at 5 pM and  
670 included a 10%  $\Phi$ X-174 spike-in, which aids in quality control of cluster formation and  
671 sequencing on the Illumina platform. Cluster formation efficiency and the concentration of library  
672 to be loaded on the flow cell needs to be determined empirically for each library preparation.  
673 These loading conditions yielded cluster densities between 733,000 clusters/mm<sup>2</sup> and 802,000  
674 clusters/mm<sup>2</sup> and between 203 and 222 million reads per lane.

675 **shRNA Screen Analysis.** shRNA data were analyzed in a similar fashion to RNA-seq data.  
676 Briefly, quality control was performed with FastQC, reads were trimmed to include only shRNA  
677 sequences using FASTQ trimmer, and filtered with the FASTQ Quality Filter. Reads were then

678 aligned to a custom reference library of shRNA sequences using TopHat2. Three out of 36  
679 samples were removed based on poor performance in unsupervised hierarchical clustering  
680 and/or principal component analysis, but each fibroblast cell line retained at least two biological  
681 replicates and nine of 12 retained all three replicates. Count tables were generated using  
682 HTSeq and differential expression determined by DESeq2.

683 **SOMAScan proteomics.** Cell lysates from all 12 fibroblast cell lines were analyzed using  
684 SOMAScan v4.0 according to manufacturer's instructions and as previously reported (Hathout et  
685 al. 2015; Mehan et al. 2014). Data were analyzed using the QPROT statistical package (Choi et  
686 al. 2015).

687 **Isolation of RNA from LSK cells for RNA-seq.** Whole bone marrow was harvested from the  
688 long bones of Dp16 mice (RRID:IMSR\_JAX:013530) and matched littermate controls. Cells  
689 were first purified using hemolysis to remove RBCs and then stained and sorted for LSK cells  
690 (CD3-, Ter119-, Mac1-, Gr1-, B220-, Sca1+, cKit) using the Moflo XDP 70 FACS sorter. RNA  
691 was then isolated from these cells using the RNeasy Kit from Qiagen.

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698

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709

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1036 **FIGURE LEGENDS**

1037 **Figure 1. Transcriptome analysis identifies consistent changes in global gene expression**

1038 **between euploid (D21) and trisomy 21 (T21) fibroblasts. (A)** MA plots displaying the results

1039 of RNA-seq analysis for the indicated comparisons (see Figure 1- figure supplement 1A-C).

1040 Differentially expressed genes (DEGs), as defined by DEseq2 (FDR<10%), are labeled in red.

1041 **(B)** Volcano plots of comparisons in A highlight changes in chr21 gene expression (green)

1042 consistent with increased gene dosage effects. **(C)** Manhattan plots displaying DEGs (red) and

1043 all genes (black) for individual chromosomes do not show obvious domains of contiguous

1044 upregulation or down regulation. Shaded areas highlight regions of overlapping upregulation

1045 and downregulation (see Figure 1- figure supplements 2A and 3) **(D)** Violin plots of chr21 and

1046 non-chr21 DEGs displaying the distribution of fold changes of DEGs in each category. P-values

1047 were calculated with the Kolmogorov-Smirnov test. **(E)** Heatmap of all significant DEGs showing

1048 clustering of chr21 DEGs (green) around 1.5 fold upregulation in T21 cells. **(F)** Kernel density

1049 estimate plot highlighting the probabilities of chr21 DEGs (green, green dashed line indicates

1050 median), non-chr21 DEGs (black, black dashed line indicates median), and all genes (gray), of

1051 having a given fold change. **(G)** Box and whisker plot of standard deviations of fold changes in

1052 DEGs for six pairwise comparisons of age- and gender-matched T21 versus D21 fibroblasts

1053 showing greater variation in fold change for non-chr21 DEGs. P-values were calculated with the

1054 Kolmogorov-Smirnov test.

1055 **Figure 2. The interferon (IFN) transcriptional response is activated in trisomy 21 (T21)**

1056 **fibroblasts. (A)** Upstream regulator analysis of the T21-associated gene expression signature

1057 using Ingenuity Pathway Analysis (IPA) predicts numerous IFN-related factors as activated in

1058 T21 cells. **(B)** Representative results of the upstream regulator analysis for the Type I IFN ligand

1059 IFNA2. **(C)** Graphical summary of the observed deregulation of the IFN pathway in T21

1060 fibroblasts, showing the six IFN receptor subunits, four of which are encoded on chr21 and

1061 significantly upregulated in T21 fibroblasts; the predicted upstream regulators (orange),

1062 including the Type I, II, and III IFN ligands, as well as the IFN-activated transcription factors  
1063 (IRFs and STATs); and select examples of Interferon Stimulated Genes (ISGs) upregulated in  
1064 T21 fibroblasts, either encoded on chr21 (green) or elsewhere in the genome (gray). **(D)** Box  
1065 and whisker plots showing RNA expression for the six IFN receptor subunits and select ISGs.  
1066 chr21-encoded genes are highlighted in green. mRNA expression values are displayed in reads  
1067 per kilobase per million (RPKM). Benjamini-Hochberg adjusted p-values were calculated using  
1068 DESeq2. **(E)** Western blot analysis confirming upregulation of IFN receptors, STAT1  
1069 phosphorylation, and ISGs, in T21 fibroblasts. **(F)** Box and whisker plots showing protein  
1070 expression for select IFN-related genes as measured by SOMAscan assay. chr21-encoded  
1071 genes are highlighted in green. Protein expression values are displayed in relative fluorescence  
1072 units (RFU). Adjusted p-values were calculated using the Empirical Bayes method in QPROT.  
1073 **Figure 3. T21 fibroblasts are more sensitive to IFN stimulation than D21 fibroblasts. (A)**  
1074 Western blots showing that three T21 cell lines are more sensitive to IFN $\alpha$  treatment (24 hours)  
1075 than age- and gender-matched D21 control cells as measured by induced expression of the  
1076 ISGs MX1, IDO1 and ISG15. Elevated pSTAT1 levels confirm effective induction of the IFN  
1077 pathway in response to ligand exposure. **(B)** Western blots as in **A** for IFN- $\beta$  treatment. **(C)**  
1078 Western blots as in **A** for IFN- $\gamma$  treatment. \* indicates non-specific bands.

1079 **Figure 4. An shRNA screen identifies the interferon (IFN)-activated kinases JAK1 and**  
1080 **TYK2 as negative regulators of trisomy 21 (T21) cellular fitness. (A)** Schematic of kinome-  
1081 focused shRNA screen to identify Differential Modulators of T21 (DM<sup>T21</sup>) cellular fitness. **(B)**  
1082 Volcano plot highlighting shRNAs targeting DM<sup>T21</sup> genes that differentially inhibit T21 (blue) or  
1083 euploid (D21, yellow) cellular fitness. Top hits were filtered by a FDR<5% and at least three  
1084 shRNAs to the same gene scoring in one direction with no more than one shRNA scoring in the  
1085 opposite direction. NRBP1 and JAK1 shRNAs are indicated with arrows. **(C)** Bar graphs of  
1086 screen results for the IFN-related kinases JAK1 and TYK2, as well as mTOR, NRBP1, MAPK9

1087 and TSSK6. (D) Western blot analysis confirming downregulation of STAT1 phosphorylation  
1088 and MX1 expression upon inhibition of JAK kinases with ruxolitinib (Rux) at the indicated  
1089 concentrations in the GM2036-GM02767 cell pair. (E) Absolute cell numbers grown for 72 hours  
1090 in their respective conditioned media with the indicated doses of Rux. (F) Relative cell numbers  
1091 from (E). (G) Ratio of T21:D21 relative cell numbers demonstrates the overall differential effect  
1092 of Rux on the number of viable cells from this T21-D21 pair. Results from a second cell line pair  
1093 are shown in Figure 4 – figure supplement 1D-G. All data shown are an average of three  
1094 experiments  $\pm$  standard error of the mean.

1095 **Figure 5. Activation of the interferon (IFN) transcriptional response is conserved in**  
1096 **trisomy 21 (T21) lymphoblastoid cell lines.** (A) MA plot displaying the gene expression  
1097 signature associated with T21 in a panel of six lymphoblastoid cell lines, three of which harbor  
1098 T21. Differential expressed genes (DEGs), as defined by DESeq2 (FDR<10%), are labeled in  
1099 red. (B) Volcano plot of DEGs with those encoded on chr21 highlighted in green. (C) Manhattan  
1100 plot of chr21 with DEGs in red and all other genes in black. (D) Upstream regulator analysis  
1101 reveals activation of the IFN transcriptional response in T21 lymphoblastoid cell lines. (E)  
1102 Comparative analysis between fibroblasts and lymphoblastoids highlights conserved upstream  
1103 regulators within the IFN pathway. (F) Box and whisker plots of RNA expression for the four IFN  
1104 receptor subunits encoded on chr21 (green) and three interferon-related genes (black). mRNA  
1105 expression values are displayed in reads per kilobase per million (RPKM). Benjamini-Hochberg  
1106 adjusted p-values were calculated using DESeq2. (G) Western blot analysis confirming  
1107 upregulation of IFN receptors, pSTAT1, and interferon related genes, at the protein level in T21  
1108 lymphoblastoids.

1109 **Figure 6. IFN signaling is activated in circulating blood cells from individuals with T21.**  
1110 (A) Box and whisker plots of RNA expression for the four IFN receptor subunits encoded on  
1111 chr21 and representative IFN-related genes in circulating monocytes. mRNA expression values  
1112 are displayed in reads per kilobase per million (RPKM). Benjamini-Hochberg adjusted p-values

1113 were calculated using DESeq2. **(B)** Box and whisker plots of RNA expression as in (A) for  
1114 circulating T cells. **(C)** Upstream regulator analysis reveals activation of the IFN transcriptional  
1115 response in T21 monocytes and T cells, as well as downregulation of the MYCN-driven  
1116 transcriptional program. **(D)** Canonical pathway analysis reveals activation of the IFN signaling  
1117 pathway in T21 monocytes and T cells, as well as downregulation of the EIF2 signaling  
1118 pathway.

1119 **Figure 7. Trisomy 21 globally downregulates the translational machinery in monocytes**  
1120 **and T cells.** **(A)** Venn diagram demonstrating the overlap in DEGs comprising the MYCN  
1121 upstream regulator and EIF2 signaling pathway gene signatures identified by IPA in monocytes.  
1122 Prominent components of each group are indicated with arrows. See also Figure 7 – figure  
1123 supplements 2 and 3. **(B)** Box and whisker plots of RNA expression for representative  
1124 translation-related genes from monocytes. mRNA expression values are displayed in reads per  
1125 kilobase per million (RPKM). Benjamini-Hochberg adjusted p-values were calculated using  
1126 DESeq2. **(C)** Venn diagram demonstrating the overlap in DEGs as in (A) for T cells. **(D)** Box and  
1127 whisker plots of RNA expression as in (C) for T cells.

1128 **Figure 8. Trisomy 21 activates the IFN gene expression program in a cell type-specific**  
1129 **manner.** **(A)** Principal component analysis (PCA) of all RNA-seq samples from this study  
1130 colored by cell type. **(B)** PCA analysis as in (A) colored by chr21 copy number. **(C)** Box and  
1131 whisker plots of RNA expression for representative chr21-encoded genes from all samples.  
1132 mRNA expression values are displayed in reads per kilobase per million (RPKM). Benjamini-  
1133 Hochberg adjusted p-values were calculated using DESeq2 by comparing all T21 samples to all  
1134 D21 samples. Individual data points are colored by cell type. **(D,E)** Box and whisker plots as in  
1135 (C) for chr21-encoded IFN receptors and representative ISGs. **(F)** Venn diagram showing the  
1136 cell type-specificity of the *Interferon alpha* gene expression programs identified by IPA for each  
1137 cell type. **(G)** Manhattan plots for chromosomes 19 and 21 comparing the DEGs from  
1138 monocytes and T cells derived from the same individuals.

1139 **Figure 1 – figure supplement 1. T21 and D21 fibroblast RNA-seq.** (A) Description of  
1140 fibroblast cell lines used in this study. (B) Principal component analysis (PCA) of fibroblast RNA-  
1141 seq samples demonstrates tight grouping of biological replicates. (C) Schematic of group  
1142 comparisons. (D) PCR of genomic DNA for the *RCAN1* gene encoded on chr21 confirms T21  
1143 status. *RPLP0* is a control gene encoded on chr12. (E) Bar graph displaying how numbers of  
1144 differentially expressed genes (DEGs) encoded on chr21 increase with sample size.

1145 **Figure 1 – figure supplement 2. Amplification of changes in gene expression emanating**  
1146 **from T21.** (A) Manhattan plot showing most DEGs (red) are not encoded on chr21. (B)  
1147 Example box and whisker plots of chr21 (green) and non-chr21 (black) DEGs. mRNA  
1148 expression values are displayed in reads per kilobase per million (RPKM). Benjamini-Hochberg  
1149 adjusted p-values were calculated using DESeq2.

1150 **Figure 1 – figure supplement 3. Differentially expressed genes in trisomy 21 fibroblasts**  
1151 **are not organized into obvious chromatin domains.** Manhattan plots for individual  
1152 chromosomes indicating differentially expressed genes in red.

1153 **Figure 2 – figure supplement 1. Network analysis confirms IFN activation signature in T21**  
1154 **cells.** (A) IPA upstream regulator analysis of genes activated upon MDM2 inhibition with Nutlin-  
1155 3, hypoxia (1% O<sub>2</sub>), and serum stimulation in HCT116 colorectal cancer cells correctly identifies  
1156 the transcription factor p53, the transcription factor HIF1A, and the growth factor PDGF, as the  
1157 key upstream regulators in each scenario. (B) Top 15 deregulated pathways in T21 cells  
1158 identified by Pathway Commons Analysis in WebGestalt. IFN-related pathways are highlighted  
1159 in red. (C) Pie charts showing the percentage of chr21 and non-chr21 upregulated genes in the  
1160 interferon pathway.

1161 **Figure 4 – figure supplement 1. An shRNA screen identifies Differential Modulators of**  
1162 **T21 (DM<sup>T21</sup>) cellular fitness.** (A, B) shRNAs targeting DM<sup>T21</sup> genes that differentially inhibit T21  
1163 (blue) or D21 (yellow) cellular fitness. (C) Q-RT-PCR demonstrating that Ruxolitinib (Rux)  
1164 treatment downregulates mRNA expression for many ISGs in a dose-dependent manner. (D)

1165 Western blots demonstrating effect of Rux treatment on pSTAT1 and MX1 on the cell line pair  
1166 GM05659 (D21) and AG05397 (T21) (pair 2). (E) Absolute cell numbers from pair 2 grown for  
1167 72 hours in their respective conditioned media with the indicated doses of Rux. (F) Relative cell  
1168 numbers from (E). (G) Ratio of T21:D21 relative cell numbers demonstrates the overall  
1169 differential effect of Rux on the number of viable cells from this T21-D21 pair. All data shown are  
1170 an average of three experiments  $\pm$  standard error of the mean.

1171 **Figure 5 – figure supplement 1. Biological replicates of lymphoblastoid samples are**  
1172 **highly related.** (A) Table of lymphoblastoid cell lines used in this study. All lymphoblastoid lines  
1173 used are female. (B) Principal component analysis (PCA) of RNA-seq samples from  
1174 lymphoblastoid cell lines.

1175 **Figure 5 – figure supplement 2. Differentially expressed genes in trisomy 21**  
1176 **lymphoblastoid cell lines are not organized into obvious chromatin domains.** Manhattan  
1177 plots for individual chromosomes indicating differentially expressed genes in red.

1178 **Figure 5 – figure supplement 3. Components of the IFN response are activated in a**  
1179 **mouse model of Down syndrome.** (A) Principal component analysis (PCA) of RNA-seq  
1180 samples produced from lineage negative, Sca1 positive, c-kit positive (LSK) cells from Dp16  
1181 mice and matched littermate controls. (B) Box and whisker plots of RNA expression for the four  
1182 IFN receptor subunits encoded on chr16 (green) and representative IFN-related genes from  
1183 Dp16 LSK cells. mRNA expression values are displayed in reads per kilobase per million  
1184 (RPKM). Benjamini-Hochberg adjusted p-values were calculated using DESeq2.

1185 **Figure 6 – figure supplement 1. Effects of T21 on the transcriptome of circulating**  
1186 **monocytes and T cells from individuals with T21 and typical controls.** (A) Description of  
1187 samples from individuals with T21 and typical controls used in this study. (B) Principal  
1188 component analysis (PCA) of monocyte and T cell RNA-seq samples. (C) MA plots displaying  
1189 the results of RNA-seq analysis for monocytes and T cells. Differentially expressed genes  
1190 (DEGs), as defined by DESeq2 (FDR<10%), are labeled in red. (D) Volcano plots of data from

1191 monocytes and T cells highlight changes in chr21 gene expression (green) consistent with  
1192 increased gene dosage effects.

1193 **Figure 6 – figure supplement 2. Surface expression of IFN receptors is increased in B**  
1194 **cells from individuals with T21.** Flow cytometric analysis of surface expression of three chr21-  
1195 encoded IFN receptors (in green) and one encoded on another chromosome (IFNGR1) in B  
1196 cells isolated from the same individuals as monocytes and T cells used in Figure 6.

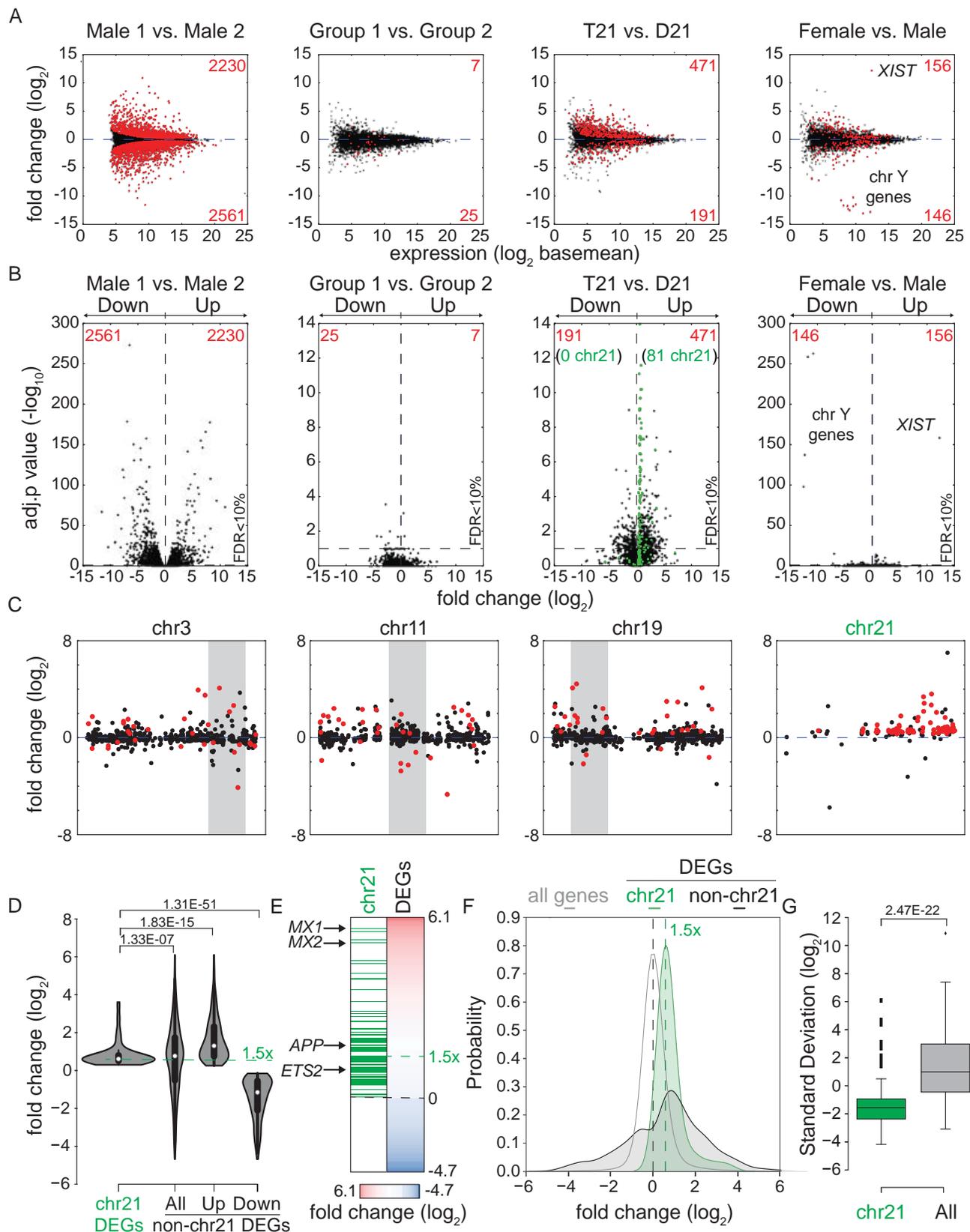
1197 **Figure 6 – figure supplement 3. The IFN gene signature from monocytes and T cells is**  
1198 **largely encoded by non-chr21 genes.** IPA upstream regulator analysis of all DEGs, non-chr21  
1199 DEGs, and chr21 DEGs, for monocytes and T cells.

1200 **Figure 7 – figure supplement 1. The MYCN transcriptional program is downregulated by**  
1201 **T21.** A heatmap demonstrates downregulation of numerous components of the translational  
1202 machinery associated with MYCN-driven transcription in monocytes from individuals with T21.  
1203 Data presented are the fold change of the RPKM of each sample relative to the mean RPKM of  
1204 all D21 individuals.

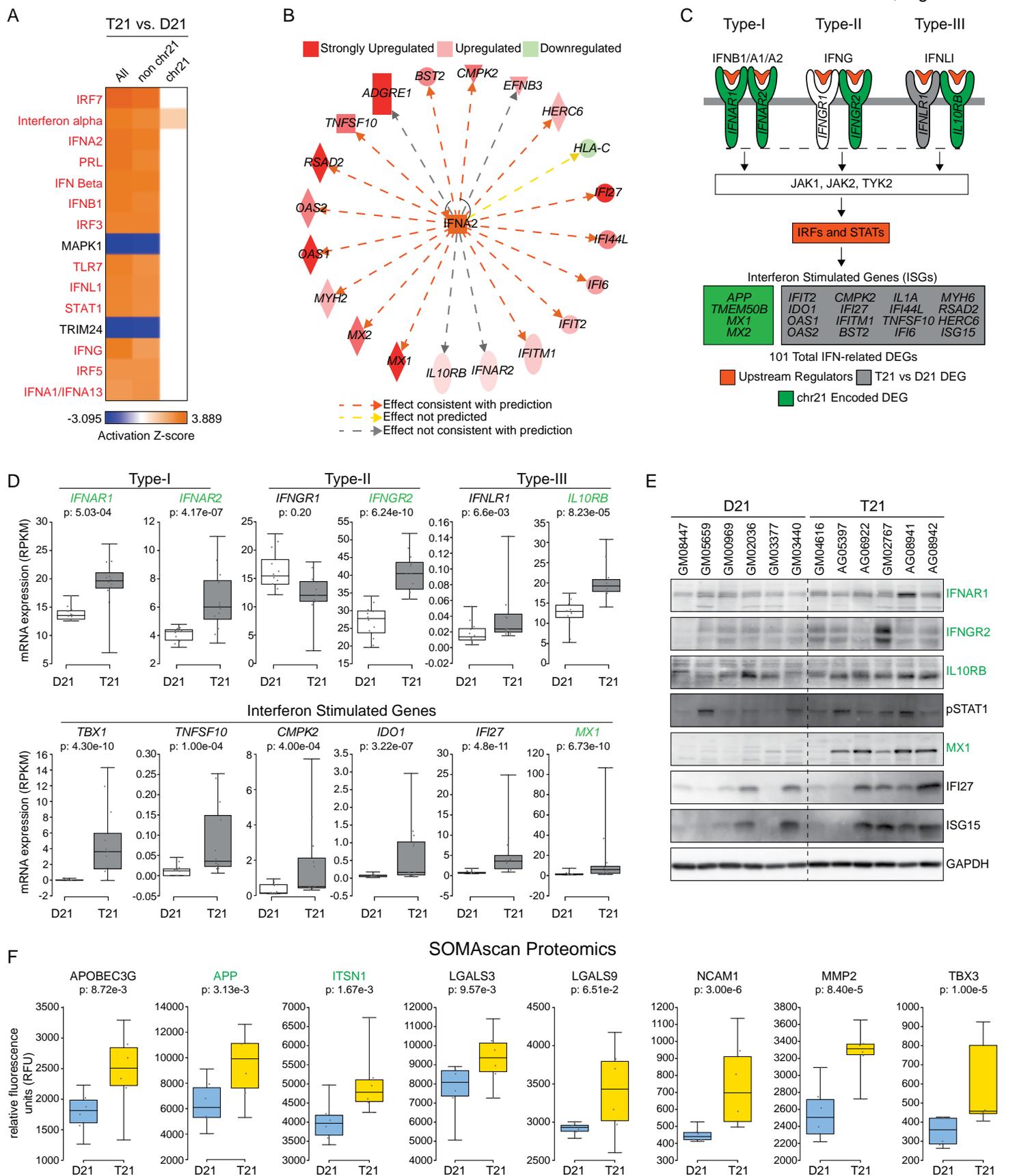
1205 **Figure 7 – figure supplement 2. The EIF2 Signaling pathway is downregulated by T21.** A  
1206 heatmap demonstrates downregulation of numerous components of the translational machinery  
1207 associated with EIF2 Signaling in monocytes from individuals with T21. Data presented are the  
1208 fold change of the RPKM of each sample relative to the mean RPKM of all D21 individuals.

1209 **Supplementary file 1. (A) Fibroblast, (B) lymphoblastoid, (C) Dp16, (D) monocyte, (E) T**  
1210 **cell and (F) meta RNA-seq.** DESeq2 analysis of T21 versus D21 fibroblasts. Columns include:  
1211 (A) Chromosome, (B) Gene start coordinate, (C) Gene end coordinate, (D) Gene strand, (E)  
1212 Gene name, (F) basemean (average read count across all samples), (G) basemeanD21  
1213 (average read count across all D21 samples), (H) basemeanT21 (average read count across all  
1214 T21 samples), (I) foldChange (basemeanT21/basemeanD21), (J) log2FoldChange, (K)  
1215 foldChange\_adj (DESeq2 adjusted fold change), (L) log2FoldChange\_adj, (M) pval (p-value),  
1216 (N) padj (Benjamini-Hochberg adjusted p-value).

1217 **Supplementary file 2. Fibroblast kinome shRNA screen analysis.** DESeq2 analysis of  
1218 kinome shRNA screens in T21 versus D21 fibroblasts. Columns include: (A) TRC number (B)  
1219 shRNA targeting location (C) Chromosome, (D) Genomic coordinates, (E) Gene strand, (F)  
1220 Gene name, (G) RefSeq ID (H) basemean (average read count across all samples), (I)  
1221 basemeanD21 (average read count across all D21 samples), (J) basemeanT21 (average read  
1222 count across all T21 samples), (K) foldChange (basemeanT21/basemeanD21), (L)  
1223 log2FoldChange, (M) foldChange\_adj (DESeq2 adjusted fold change), (N)  
1224 log2FoldChange\_adj, (O) pval (p-value), (P) padj (Benjamini-Hochberg adjusted p-value).  
1225 **Supplementary file 3. Fibroblast SOMAscan analysis.** QPROT analysis of T21 versus D21  
1226 fibroblasts. Columns include: (A) Chromosome, (B) Gene start coordinate, (C) Gene end  
1227 coordinate, (D) Gene strand, (E) Gene name, (F) RFUmean (average RFU across all samples),  
1228 (G) RFUmeanD21 (average RFU across all D21 samples), (H) RFUmeanT21 (average RFU  
1229 across all T21 samples), (I) foldChange (RFUmeanT21/RFUmeanD21), (J) log2FoldChange, (K)  
1230 Zstatistic (Z-score from QPROT), (L) FDRup (FDR of upregulated proteins), (M) FDRdown  
1231 (FDR of downregulated proteins).  
1232

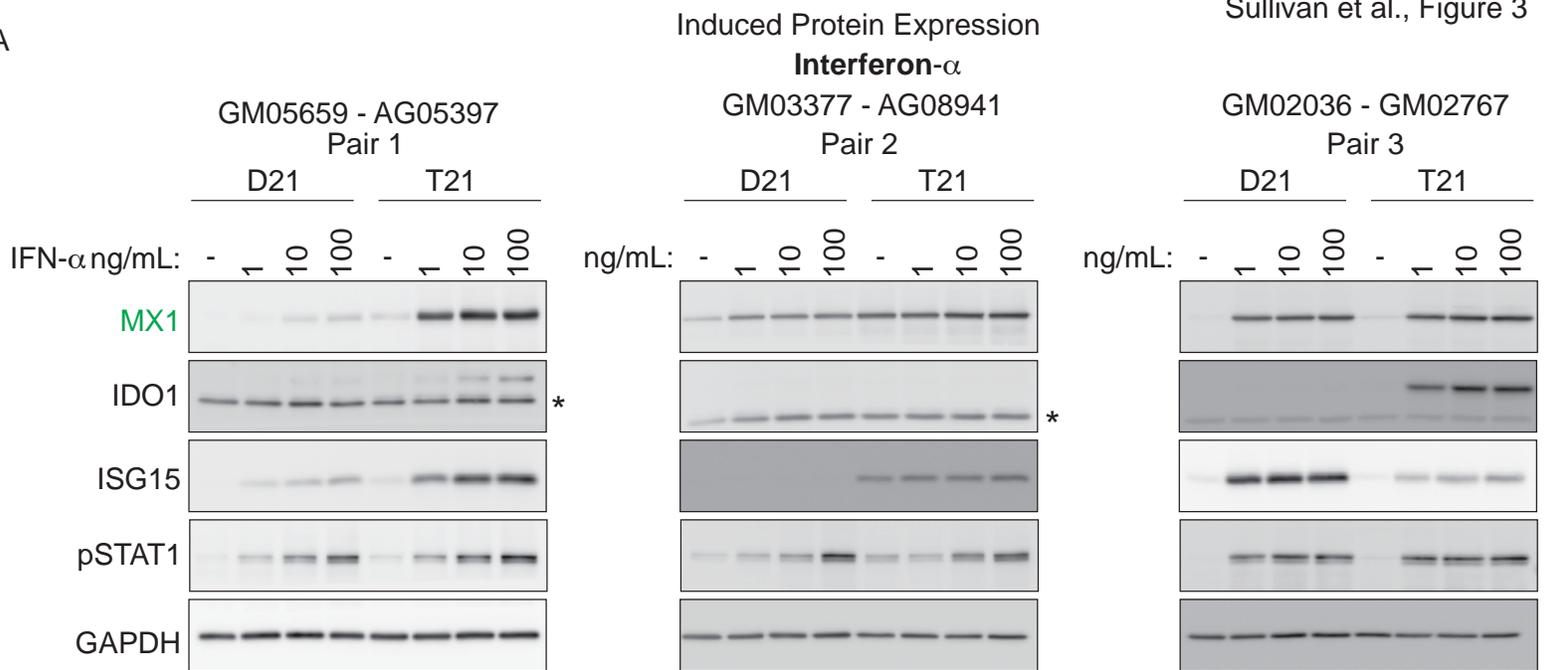


**Figure 1. Transcriptome analysis identifies consistent changes in global gene expression between euploid (D21) and trisomy 21 (T21) fibroblasts.** (A) MA plots displaying the results of RNA-seq analysis for the indicated comparisons (see Figure 1- figure supplement 1A-C). Differentially expressed genes (DEGs), as defined by DESeq2 (FDR<10%), are labeled in red. (B) Volcano plots of comparisons in A highlight changes in chr21 gene expression (green) consistent with increased gene dosage effects. (C) Manhattan plots displaying DEGs (red) and all genes (black) for individual chromosomes do not show obvious domains of contiguous upregulation or down regulation. Shaded areas highlight regions of overlapping upregulation and downregulation (see Figure 1- figure supplements 2A and 3) (D) Violin plots of chr21 and non-chr21 DEGs displaying the distribution of fold changes of DEGs in each category. P-values were calculated with the Kolmogorov-Smirnov test. (E) Heatmap of all significant DEGs showing clustering of chr21 DEGs (green) around 1.5 fold upregulation in T21 cells. (F) Kernel density estimate plot highlighting the probabilities of chr21 DEGs (green, green dashed line indicates median), non-chr21 DEGs (black, black dashed line indicates median), and all genes (gray), of having a given fold change. (G) Box and whisker plot of standard deviations of fold changes in DEGs for six pairwise comparisons of age- and gender-matched T21 versus D21 fibroblasts showing greater variation in fold change for non-chr21 DEGs. P-values were calculated with the Kolmogorov-Smirnov test.

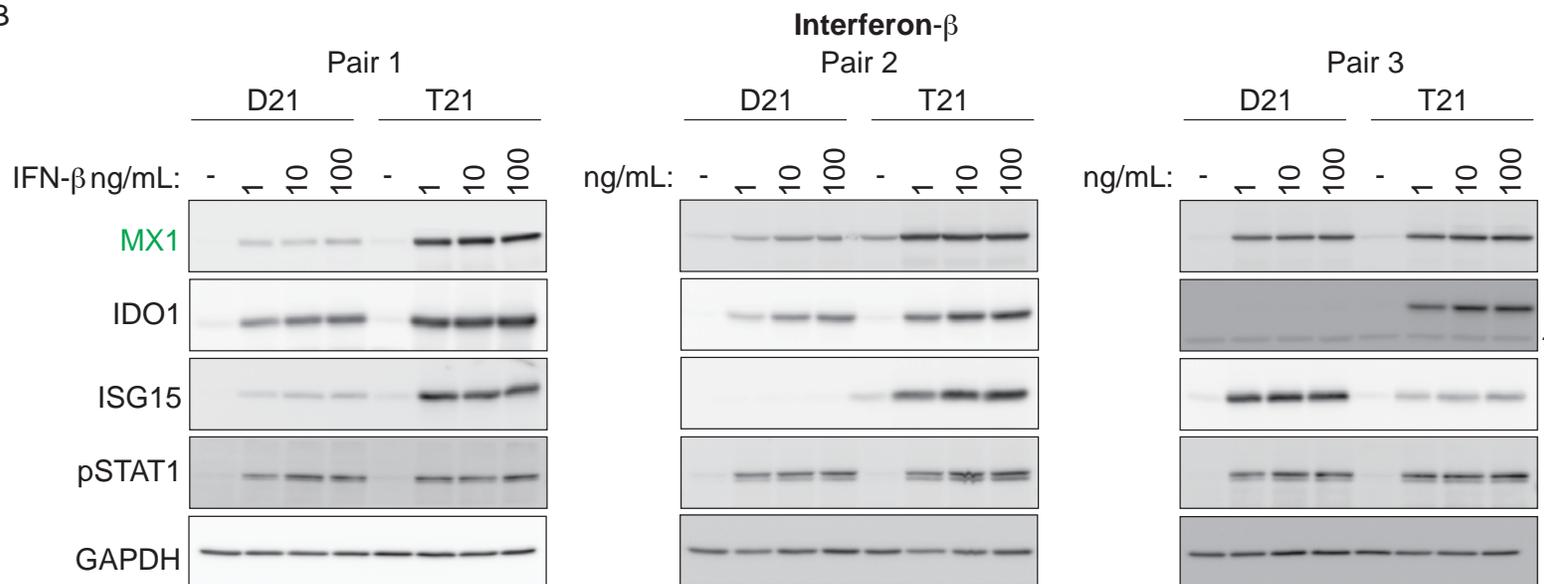


**Figure 2. The interferon (IFN) transcriptional response is activated in trisomy 21 (T21) fibroblasts.** (A) Upstream regulator analysis of the T21-associated gene expression signature using Ingenuity Pathway Analysis (IPA) predicts numerous IFN-related factors as activated in T21 cells. (B) Representative results of the upstream regulator analysis for the Type I IFN ligand IFNA2. (C) Graphical summary of the observed deregulation of the IFN pathway in T21 fibroblasts, showing the six IFN receptor subunits, four of which are encoded on chr21 and significantly upregulated in T21 fibroblasts; the predicted upstream regulators (orange), including the Type I, II, and III IFN ligands, as well as the IFN-activated transcription factors (IRFs and STATs); and select examples of Interferon Stimulated Genes (ISGs) upregulated in T21 fibroblasts, either encoded on chr21 (green) or elsewhere in the genome (gray). (D) Box and whisker plots showing RNA expression for the six IFN receptor subunits and select ISGs. chr21-encoded genes are highlighted in green. mRNA expression values are displayed in reads per kilobase per million (RPKM). Benjamini-Hochberg adjusted p-values were calculated using DESeq2. (E) Western blot analysis confirming upregulation of IFN receptors, STAT1 phosphorylation, and ISGs, in T21 fibroblasts. (F) Box and whisker plots showing protein expression for select IFN-related genes as measured by SOMAscan assay. chr21-encoded genes are highlighted in green. Protein expression values are displayed in relative fluorescence units (RFU). Adjusted p-values were calculated using the Empirical Bayes method in QPROT.

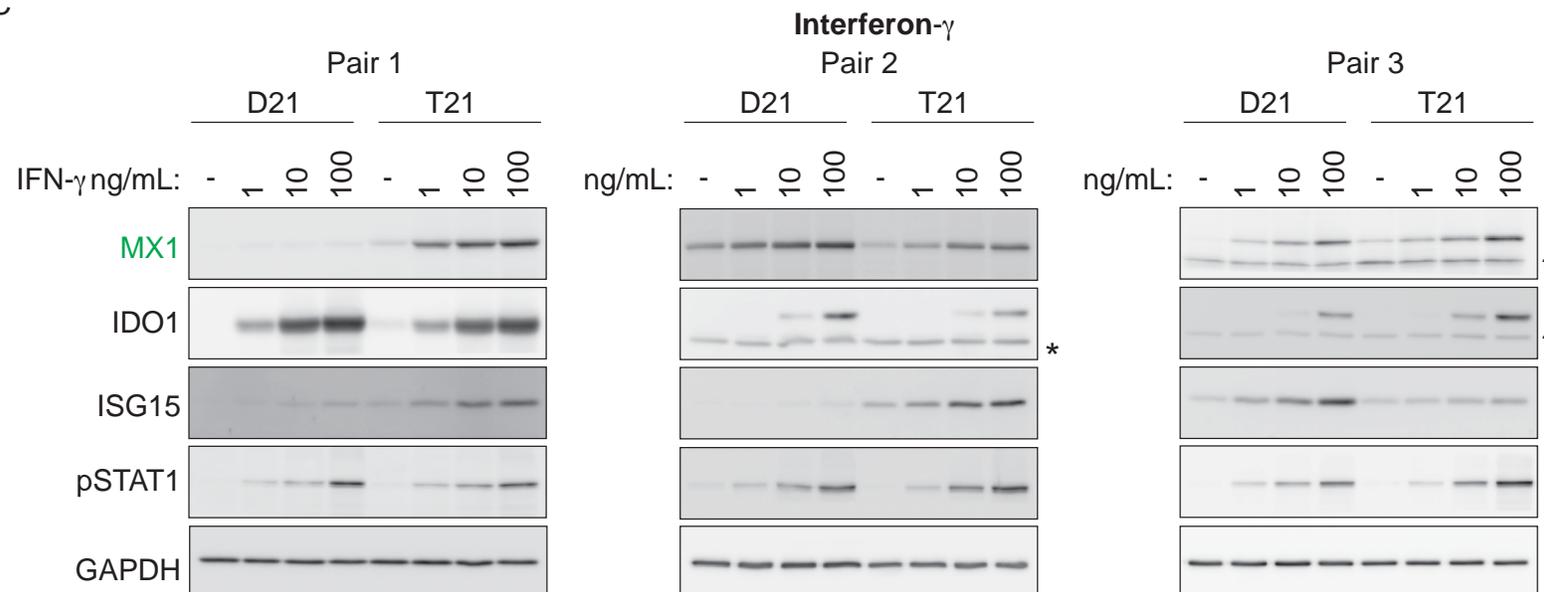
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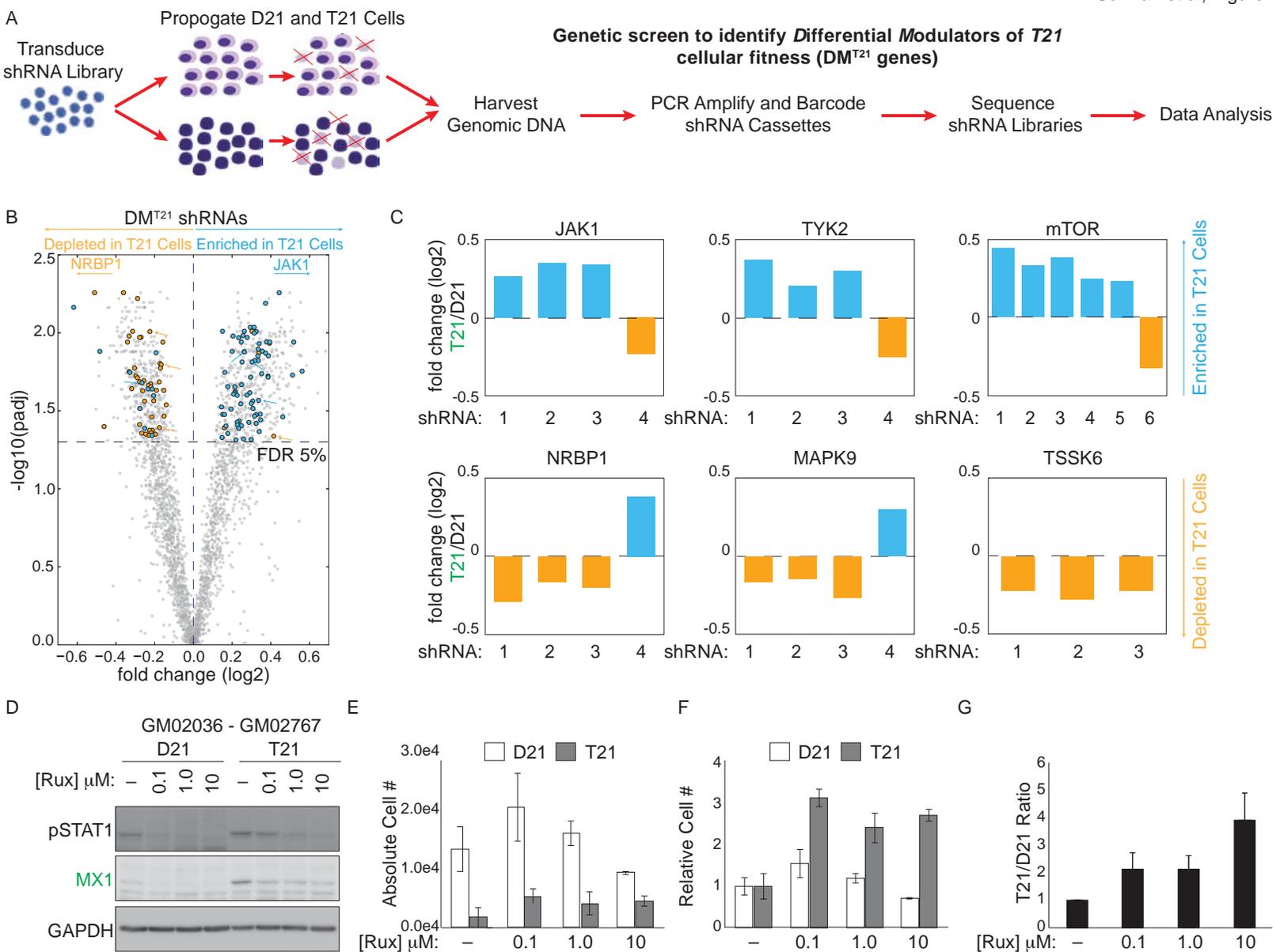
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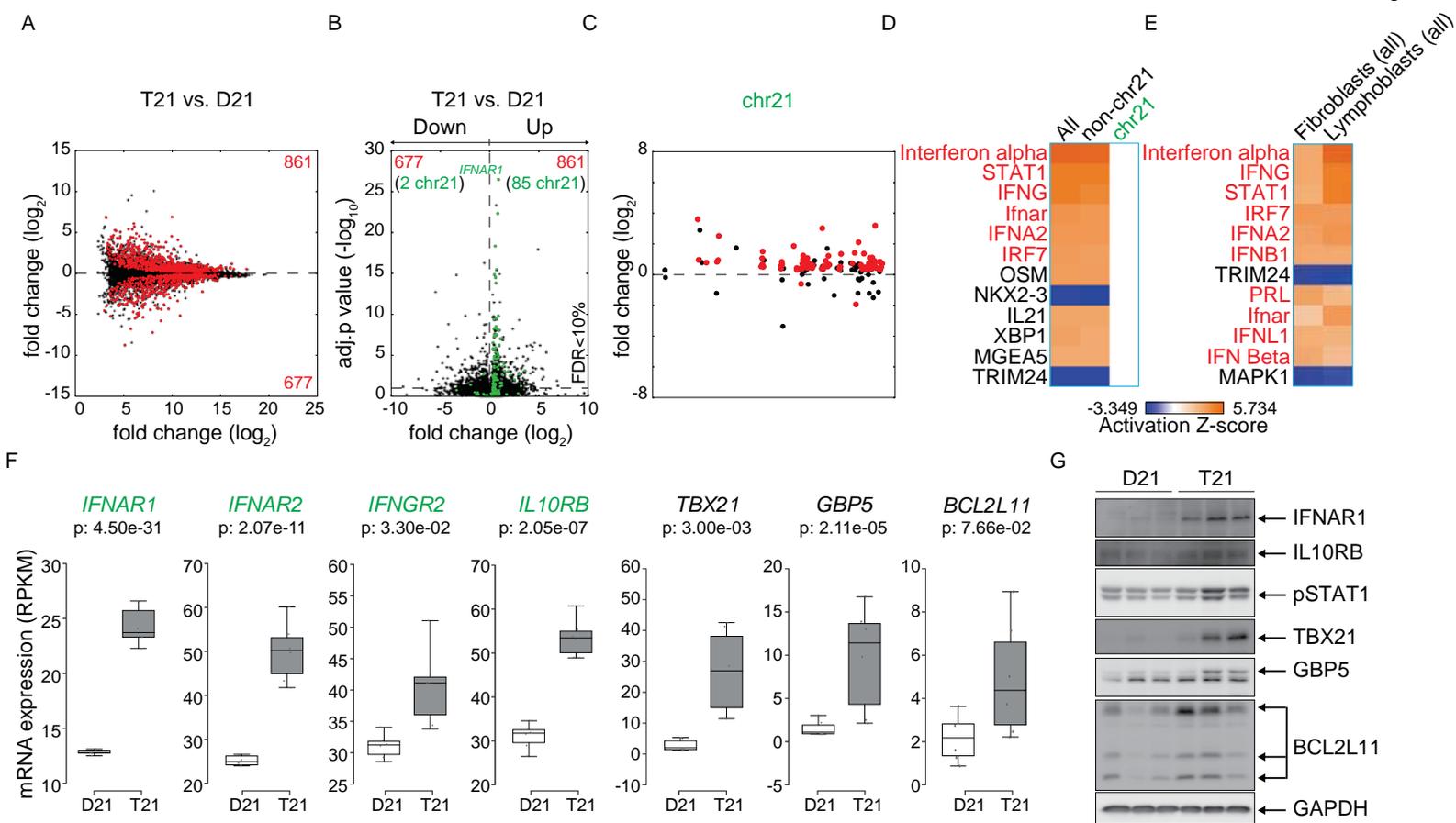
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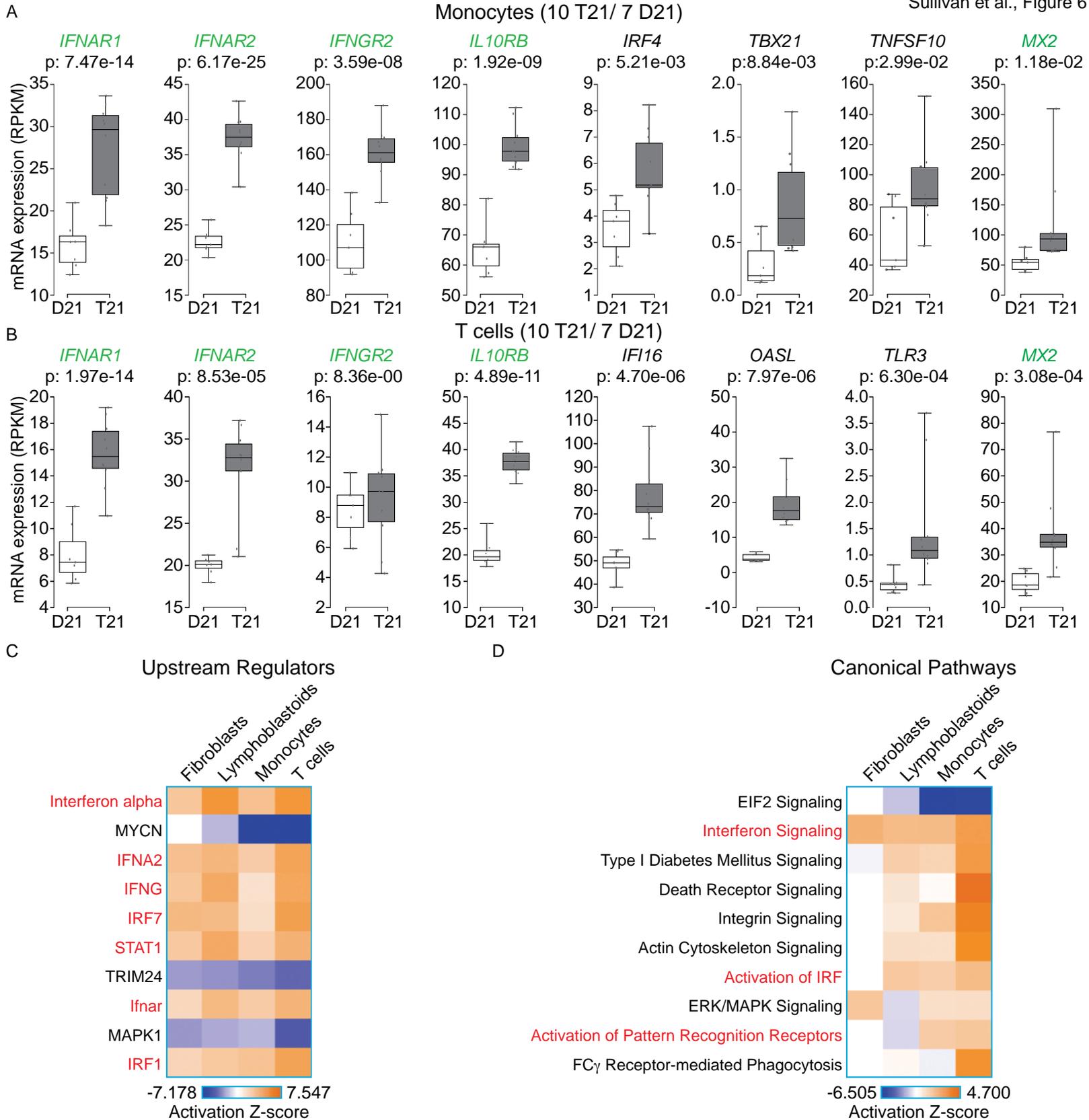
**Figure 3. T21 fibroblasts are more sensitive to IFN stimulation than D21 fibroblasts.** (A) Western blots showing that three T21 cell lines are more sensitive to IFN- $\alpha$  treatment (24 hours) than age- and gender-matched D21 control cells as measured by induced expression of the ISGs MX1, IDO1 and ISG15. Elevated pSTAT1 levels confirm effective induction of the IFN pathway in response to ligand exposure. (B) Western blots as in A for IFN- $\beta$  treatment. (C) Western blots as in A for IFN- $\gamma$  treatment. \* indicates non-specific bands.



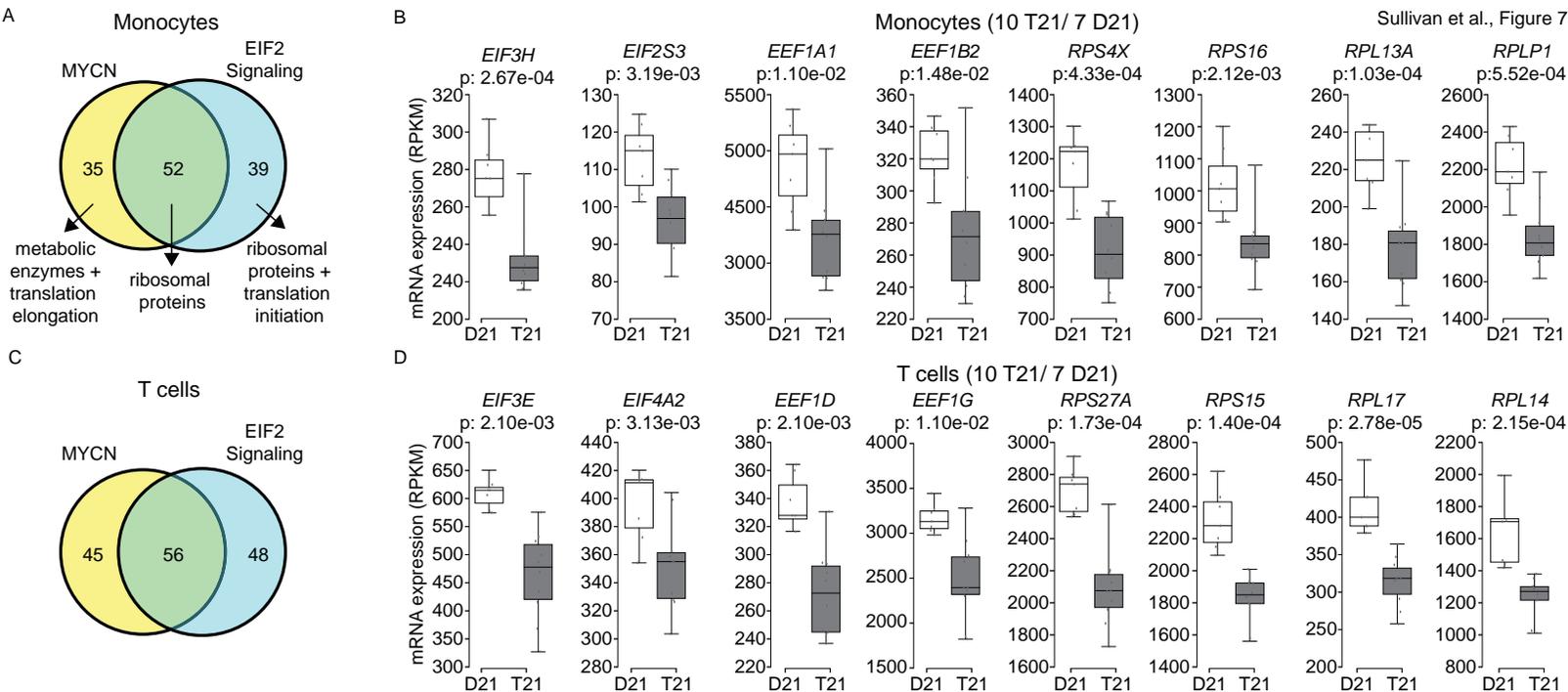
**Figure 4. An shRNA screen identifies the interferon (IFN)-activated kinases JAK1 and TYK2 as negative regulators of trisomy 21 (T21) cellular fitness.** (A) Schematic of kinome-focused shRNA screen to identify Differential Modulators of T21 (DM<sup>T21</sup>) cellular fitness. (B) Volcano plot highlighting shRNAs targeting DM<sup>T21</sup> genes that differentially inhibit T21 (blue) or euploid (D21, yellow) cellular fitness. Top hits were filtered by a FDR<5% and at least three shRNAs to the same gene scoring in one direction with no more than one shRNA scoring in the opposite direction. NRBP1 and JAK1 shRNAs are indicated with arrows. (C) Bar graphs of screen results for the IFN-related kinases JAK1 and TYK2, as well as mTOR, NRBP1, MAPK9 and TSSK6. (D) Western blot analysis confirming downregulation of STAT1 phosphorylation and MX1 expression upon inhibition of JAK kinases with ruxolitinib (Rux) at the indicated concentrations in the GM2036-GM02767 cell pair. (E) Absolute cell numbers grown for 72 hours in their respective conditioned media with the indicated doses of Rux. (F) Relative cell numbers from (E). (G) Ratio of T21:D21 relative cell numbers demonstrates the overall differential effect of Rux on the number of viable cells from this T21-D21 pair. Results from a second cell line pair are shown in Figure 4 – figure supplement 1D-G. All data shown are an average of three experiments  $\pm$  standard error of the mean.



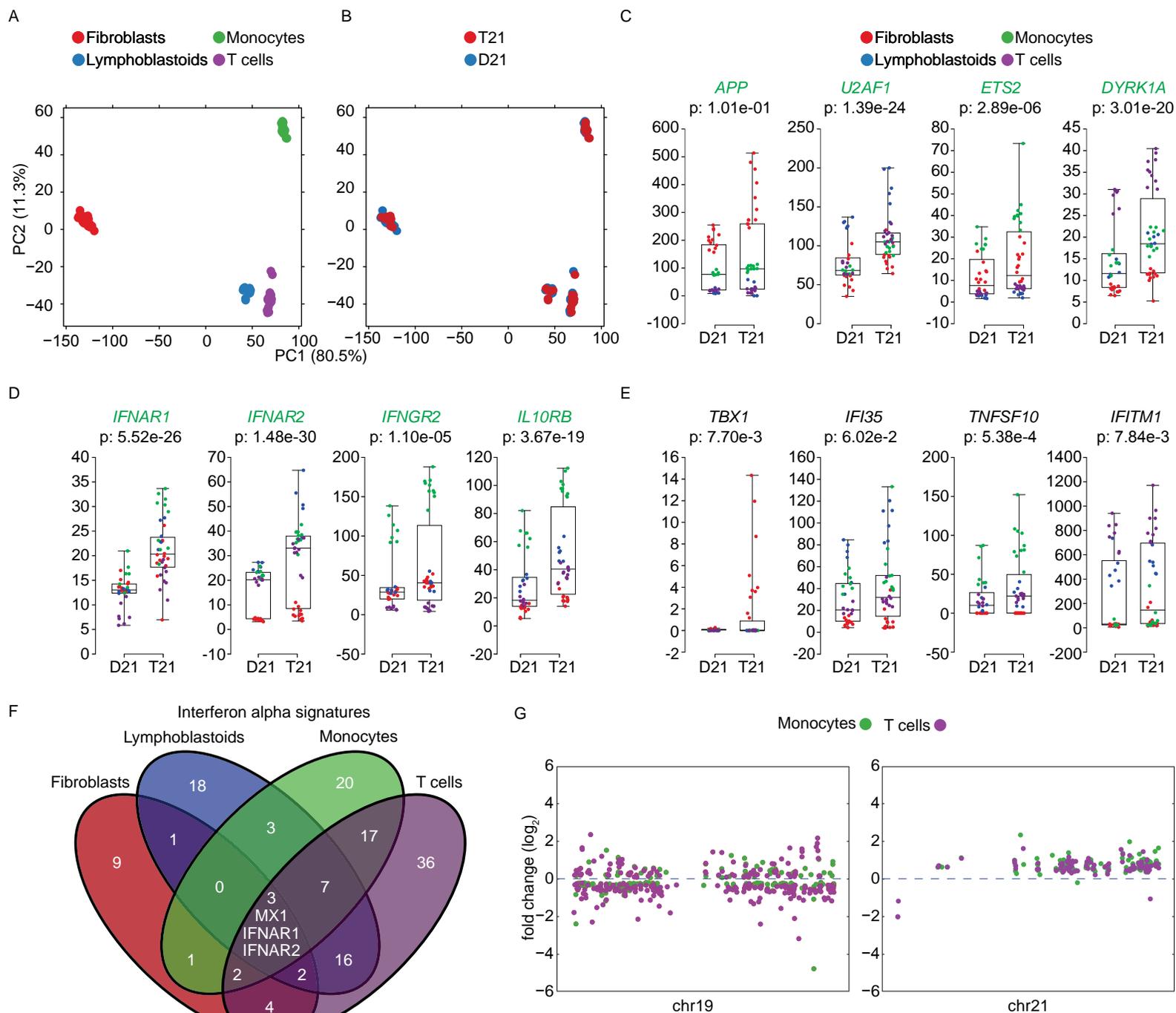
**Figure 5. Activation of the interferon (IFN) transcriptional response is conserved in trisomy 21 (T21) lymphoblastoid cell lines.** (A) MA plot displaying the gene expression signature associated with T21 in a panel of six lymphoblastoid cell lines, three of which harbor T21. Differentially expressed genes (DEGs), as defined by DESeq2 (FDR<10%), are labeled in red. (B) Volcano plot of DEGs with those encoded on chr21 highlighted in green. (C) Manhattan plot of chr21 with DEGs in red and all other genes in black. (D) Upstream regulator analysis reveals activation of the IFN transcriptional response in T21 lymphoblastoid cell lines. (E) Comparative analysis between fibroblasts and lymphoblastoids highlights conserved upstream regulators within the IFN pathway. (F) Box and whisker plots of RNA expression for the four IFN receptor subunits encoded on chr21 (green) and three interferon-related genes (black). mRNA expression values are displayed in reads per kilobase per million (RPKM). Benjamini-Hochberg adjusted p-values were calculated using DESeq2. (G) Western blot analysis confirming upregulation of IFN receptors, pSTAT1, and interferon related genes, at the protein level in T21 lymphoblastoids.



**Figure 6. IFN signaling is activated in circulating blood cells from individuals with T21.** (A) Box and whisker plots of RNA expression for the four IFN receptor subunits encoded on chr21 and representative IFN-related genes in circulating monocytes. mRNA expression values are displayed in reads per kilobase per million (RPKM). Benjamini-Hochberg adjusted p-values were calculated using DESeq2. (B) Box and whisker plots of RNA expression as in (A) for circulating T cells. (C) Upstream regulator analysis reveals activation of the IFN transcriptional response in T21 monocytes and T cells, as well as downregulation of the MYCN-driven transcriptional program. (D) Canonical pathway analysis reveals activation of the IFN signaling pathway in T21 monocytes and T cells, as well as downregulation of the EIF2 signaling pathway.



**Figure 7. Trisomy 21 globally downregulates the translational machinery in monocytes and T cells.** (A) Venn diagram demonstrating the overlap in DEGs comprising the MYCN upstream regulator and EIF2 signaling pathway gene signatures identified by IPA in monocytes. Prominent components of each group are indicated with arrows. See also Figure 7 – figure supplements 2 and 3. (B) Box and whisker plots of RNA expression for representative translation-related genes from monocytes. mRNA expression values are displayed in reads per kilobase per million (RPKM). Benjamini-Hochberg adjusted p-values were calculated using DESeq2. (C) Venn diagram demonstrating the overlap in DEGs as in (A) for T cells. (D) Box and whisker plots of RNA expression as in (C) for T cells.



**Figure 8. Trisomy 21 activates the IFN gene expression program in a cell type-specific manner.** (A) Principal component analysis (PCA) of all RNA-seq samples from this study colored by cell type. (B) PCA analysis as in (A) colored by chr21 copy number. (C) Box and whisker plots of RNA expression for representative chr21-encoded genes from all samples. mRNA expression values are displayed in reads per kilobase per million (RPKM). Benjamini-Hochberg adjusted p-values were calculated using DESeq2 by comparing all T21 samples to all D21 samples. Individual data points are colored by cell type. (D,E) Box and whisker plots as in (C) for chr21-encoded IFN receptors and representative ISGs. (F) Venn diagram showing the cell type-specificity of the Interferon alpha gene expression programs identified by IPA for each cell type. (G) Manhattan plots for chromosomes 19 and 21 comparing the DEGs from monocytes and T cells derived from the same individuals.