

Supplementary Table S3. Pathophysiological mechanism, clinical phenotypes, and therapeutic targets in different neurons with *MECP2* deletions

Neuron types	Pathophysiological mechanism	Clinical phenotypes	Therapeutic targets
Dopaminergic neurons	Affect dopaminergic nervous system	Motor disorder: stereotyped hand-wringing, progressive rigidity, dyskinesia, and dystonia	Dopaminergic agents: levodopa and benserazide
Cholinergic neurons			
The basal forebrain-hippocampus	Affect cholinergic neural circuit	Anxiety/depression-related behavioral changes, abnormal social skills, susceptibility to epilepsy, and loss of fear memory	Cholinergic Drugs: Choline
The striatum	Up-regulation of $\alpha 2$ -GABA receptor		
GABAergic neurons	GABAergic signaling dysfunction	Repetitive behaviors, impaired motor coordination, increased social interest, and altered sensorimotor gating and arousal	GABAergic modulators: GABA _A antagonist GABA reuptake inhibitors
Brain stem / basal forebrain			
The hippocampus			
Forebrain excitatory neurons	Down-regulation GABA receptor	Motor disorder, increased anxiety-like behaviors and impaired fear conditioning and social behavior	GABAergic modulators
Glutamatergic neurons	Glutamatergic signaling dysfunction leads to repetitive glutamate transients	The motor performance, clasping behavior and fear-conditioning defects, sleep dysfunction, susceptibility to epilepsy	Glutamatergic modulators: NMDA receptor antagonist mGlu5 modulator
The frontal cortices			
The hippocampus			
BDNF expression neurons	BDNF-TrkB signaling dysfunction: Decrease in BDNF and TrkB receptor protein levels	Motor deficits, breathing dysfunction, heart rate disorder, neural morphology abnormality, life span influence	Growth factor therapy BDNF mimetics or boosters
The cerebral cortex, hippocampus and cerebellum			
HDAC expression neurons	HDAC overexpression and decrease in acetylated tubulin levels Affect BDNF signaling	Motor deficits, breathing dysfunction, heart rate disorder, neural morphology abnormality, life span influence	HDAC inhibitors
Serotonergic neurons	Down-regulation serotonin receptor	Increased aggression, irregular breathing and apnoea	Serotonin receptor agonist Dopamine D ₂ partial agonist
Catecholaminergic neurons	Norepinephrine system dysfunction	Impairment of cognitive and attention, anxiety, psychosis, motor disorder, breathing	Adrenergic receptor agonist
Neurons in the locus coeruleus			

The brain stem		dysfunction, and social abnormalities	
<i>Sim1</i>-expressing neurons in the hypothalamus	Disrupts MC4R signaling pathway Decreased expression of <i>Crh</i> and BDNF in PVN	Alterations in feeding behavior, aggression and stress response	Adrenergic drugs BDNF mimetics or boosters
Somatosensory neurons in the barrel cortex	Impaired E/I balance	Leads to anxiety, social interaction abnormalities, and tactile sensory and motor problems	Antidepressants

BDNF, brain-derived neurotrophic factor; *Crh*, Corticotropin-Releasing Hormone; E/I, excitation/inhibition; GABA, γ -aminobutyric acid; HDAC, histone deacetylase; *MECP2*, methyl-CpG binding protein gene 2; mGlu5, metabotropic glutamate 5 receptor; NMDA, *N*-methyl-D-aspartate; PVN, paraventricular nucleus; TrkB, tyrosine receptor kinase B.