

# Myosin Id localizes in dendritic spines through the tail homology 1 domain

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1 **Title**

2 Myosin Id localizes in dendritic spines through the tail homology 1 domain

3

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13

14 **Abstract**

15 Dendritic spines, the postsynaptic compartments at excitatory synapses, are capable of changing their  
16 shape and size to modulate synaptic transmission. The actin cytoskeleton and a variety of  
17 actin-binding proteins play a critical role in the dynamics of dendritic spines. Class I myosins are  
18 monomeric motor proteins that move along actin filaments using the energy of ATP hydrolysis. Of  
19 these class I myosins, myosin Id, the mammalian homolog of *Drosophila Myo31DF*, has been  
20 reported to be expressed in neurons, whereas its subcellular localization in neurons remained  
21 unknown. Here, we investigated the subcellular localization of myosin Id and determined the domain  
22 responsible for it. We found that myosin Id is enriched in the F-actin-rich pseudopodia of HEK293T  
23 cells and in the dendritic spines of primary hippocampal neurons. Both deletion and substitution of  
24 the tail homology 1 (TH1) domain drastically diminishes its colocalization with F-actin. In addition,  
25 the mutant form lacking the TH1 domain is less distributed in dendritic spines than is the full-length  
26 form. Taken together, our findings reveal that myosin Id localizes in dendritic spines through the  
27 TH1 domain.

28

29 **Keywords**

30 Dendritic spine; Actin filament; Myosin Id; Tail homology 1 domain; Primary hippocampal neuron

31

## 32 **Introduction**

33 Dendritic spines are postsynaptic compartments that receive excitatory neurotransmitters, such as  
34 glutamate, released from the presynaptic terminals. The changing in the shape and size of dendritic  
35 spines in response to environmental stimuli is an essential process for synaptic plasticity (Caroni et  
36 al., 2012). The actin cytoskeleton is a major component of dendritic spines and plays a critical role in  
37 their structural dynamics (Cingolani and Goda, 2008; Hotulainen and Hoogenraad, 2010). In addition,  
38 a variety of actin-binding proteins such as Arp2/3 (Spence et al., 2016), ADF/cofilin (Gu et al., 2010),  
39 and myosins (Rex et al., 2010; Ryu et al., 2006) are involved in regulation of dendritic spine  
40 morphology. The importance of understanding the regulatory mechanisms underlying the dynamics  
41 of dendritic spines has been increasingly emphasized because abnormal spine morphology is  
42 associated with neurodevelopmental disorders such as autism spectrum disorder (ASD) and  
43 schizophrenia (Dölen et al., 2007; Penzes et al., 2011).

44 Myosins are motor proteins that move along actin filaments by using the energy of ATP hydrolysis  
45 (Kneussel and Wagner, 2013). Myosins form a large family that consists of approximately 40  
46 members. Of these, class I myosins (myosin Ia –Ih) are monomeric proteins that carry three different  
47 domains in common, namely an N-terminal motor domain, a neck domain, and a C-terminal tail  
48 homology 1 (TH1) domain (McConnell and Tyska, 2010; McIntosh and Ostap, 2016). The motor

49 domain contains ATPase and an actin-binding site. The TH1 domain is capable of binding to anionic  
50 phospholipids. The neck domain resides between the former two domains and contains IQ motifs  
51 that bind to calmodulin. Subcellular localization of myosin I isoforms has been assumed to be  
52 determined by its affinity to actin or phospholipids. In fact, class I myosins act as a linker between  
53 actin filaments and the plasma membrane in a variety of cell types (Bose et al., 2004; Komaba and  
54 Coluccio, 2010; Patino-Lopez et al., 2010; Tyska and Mooseker, 2002).

55 The tendency of class I myosins to localize actin-rich protrusions prompted us to hypothesize that  
56 they are enriched in actin-rich dendritic spines. In particular, myosin Id is a promising candidate  
57 because it is expressed in neurons (Benesh et al., 2012). In addition, a linkage analysis suggesting  
58 that myosin Id is a potential risk gene for ASD (Stone et al., 2007) implied that myosin Id might play  
59 an important role in dendritic spines. Myosin Id is a homolog of *Drosophila* myosin IA (encoded by  
60 *Myo31DF*), which is essential for the left-right visceral asymmetry of *Drosophila* organs (Hozumi et  
61 al., 2006). In mammals, myosin Id is highly enriched in the microvilli of intestinal epithelial cells  
62 (Benesh et al., 2010). However, its subcellular localization in neurons remained unknown.

63 Here, we showed that myosin Id localizes in the dendritic spines of primary hippocampal neurons.  
64 We also found that the TH1 domain is critical for its distribution in dendritic spines.

65

66 **Materials and Methods**

67 *Mice*

68 All experiments using CD1 and C57BL/6J mice were carried out according to the Guide for the  
69 Care and Use of Laboratory Animals at the University of Tsukuba.

70

71 *DNA constructs*

72 The open reading frame of the myosin Id gene was amplified from mouse brain cDNA using PCR  
73 and subcloned into a pEGFP-C1 vector (Clontech) so that EGFP was fused to its N-terminus. Mutant  
74 vectors lacking the conserved sequence corresponding to the actin-binding site of *Drosophila*  
75 homolog myosin IA ( $\Delta$ 584–594) (Morgan et al., 1994), the TH1 domain ( $\Delta$ TH1), or the motor  
76 domain (IQ + TH1) and mutant vectors in which each of the “signature basic residues” in the TH1  
77 domain is substituted with alanine (K865A, R875A) (Hokanson and Ostap, 2006) were prepared  
78 using a PrimeSTAR Mutagenesis Basal Kit (TaKaRa).

79

80 *Cell cultures and transfection*

81 Primary hippocampal neurons were prepared from mouse embryos at embryonic day 16.5. Briefly,  
82 the hippocampi were dissected and digested with 0.25% trypsin/HBSS for 15 minutes at 37 °C. The

83 cells were dissociated by gentle pipetting and plated at a density of  $8 \times 10^4$  cells on 12-well plates. In  
84 advance, coverslips were placed on the well and coated with 0.04% polyethylenimine and 1 mg/ml  
85 poly-L-lysine. Primary hippocampal neurons were maintained in MEM supplemented with 6 g/l  
86 glucose, 1 mM sodium pyruvate, 2 mM GlutaMax (Gibco), and 2% NeuroBrew-21 (Miltenyi Biotec).  
87 HEK293T cells were cultured in DMEM supplemented with 10% heat-inactivated fetal bovine serum  
88 and 1% Pen Strep (Gibco). Both groups of cells were transfected with vectors using Lipofectamine  
89 2000 (Invitrogen).

90

#### 91 *Quantitative RT-PCR*

92 Total RNA was extracted from mouse brains and primary hippocampal neurons using NucleoSpin  
93 RNA (Macherey-Nagel) and cDNA was synthesized using a High-Capacity RNA-to-cDNA Kit  
94 (Applied Biosystems) according to the manufacturer's instructions. Real-time PCR was performed  
95 on an Eco Real-time PCR System (Illumina) with THUNDERBIRD SYBR qPCR Mix (Toyobo).  
96 The analyses were performed in duplicate. Relative expression levels were calculated with the  $2^{-\Delta\Delta Ct}$   
97 method using HPRT as an internal control. The primers used were as follows: Myosin Id forward,  
98 ATTCGAACACCCCGTACACT-3'; Myosin Id reverse, 5'-TTGGTCCTCTTGTACCGCAT-3';  
99 HPRT forward, 5'-TTGTTGTTGGATATGCCCTTGACTA-3'; and HPRT reverse,

100 5'-AGGCAGATGGCCACAGGACTA-3'.

101

102 *Immunoblot analysis*

103 To obtain a synaptosomal fraction, adult mouse cerebra were homogenized in ice-cold TEVP  
104 buffer (10 mM Tris, pH 7.5, 1 mM EDTA, 1 mM EGTA, 320 mM sucrose) containing a cOmplete  
105 Protease Inhibitor Cocktail (Roche) and were centrifuged at  $1000 \times g$  for 10 minutes at 4 °C to  
106 remove nuclei and large debris. The supernatant (S1) was centrifuged at  $10,000 \times g$  for 20 minutes at  
107 4 °C. The resulting supernatant (S2) was collected as a cytoplasmic fraction, and the remaining pellet  
108 (P2), a crude synaptosomal fraction, was solubilized with 1% SDS in TEVP buffer. HEK293T cells  
109 were lysed with RIPA buffer (50 mM Tris, pH 8.0, 150 mM NaCl, 1% Triton X-100, 0.1% SDS)  
110 containing the protease inhibitors.

111 The lysates were mixed with Laemmli sample buffer (Bio-Rad) and heated for 3 minutes at 95°C.  
112 The samples were electrophoresed by SDS-PAGE and transferred to PVDF membranes. The  
113 membranes were blocked with 5% skim milk in TBS-0.05% Tween-20 for 30 minutes at room  
114 temperature and incubated with primary antibodies overnight at 4 °C. The antibodies used were as  
115 follows: anti-GFP (1:1000, A11122; Invitrogen), anti-myosin Id (1:200, sc-66982, Santa Cruz  
116 Biotechnology), anti-PSD-95 (1:2000, ab13552; Abcam) and anti- $\beta$ -actin (1:5000, A5441, Sigma).



117 The following day, HRP-linked secondary antibodies (1:10,000, Cell Signaling Technology) and  
118 Immobilon HRP Chemiluminescence HRP substrate (Millipore) were used for detection. The bands  
119 were visualized with a C-DiGit Blot Scanner (LI-COR Bioscience) and quantified with Image Studio  
120 Digits software (LI-COR Bioscience). The signal intensity of each sample was normalized to that of  
121  $\beta$ -actin.

122

### 123 *Immunocytochemistry*

124 The cells on coverslips were fixed with 4% paraformaldehyde in PBS for 15 minutes at room  
125 temperature. The cells were then permeabilized and blocked with 3% normal goat serum plus 0.1%  
126 Triton X-100 in PBS for 1 hour at room temperature and incubated with primary antibodies  
127 overnight at 4 °C. The antibodies used were as follows: anti-myosin Id (1:200, sc-66982, Santa Cruz  
128 Biotechnology) and anti-PSD-95 (1:2000, ab13552; Abcam). The following day, the cells were  
129 washed with PBS-0.05% Tween-20 and then incubated with Alexa Fluor 568-conjugated secondary  
130 antibody (Molecular Probes) for 1 hour at room temperature. For F-actin staining, the cells were  
131 incubated with Alexa Fluor 568-phalloidin (Molecular Probes) for 30 minutes at room temperature.  
132 The coverslips were mounted onto glass slides using a mounting medium.

133

134 *Image analysis*

135 Fluorescence images were acquired on a LSM510 laser confocal microscope (Carl Zeiss) with a  
136 40×/1.2 NA water-immersion objective and analyzed with Image J software (NIH). Each area of  
137 interest was enclosed manually and its fluorescence intensity was quantified. The areas of  
138 pseudopodia were determined based on F-actin accumulation. The areas of cytoplasm were enclosed  
139 except for pseudopodia and nuclei. The areas of dendritic spines were determined based on the  
140 morphology visualized by mCherry (Hotulainen and Hoogenraad, 2010).

141

142 *Statistical analysis*

143 All data are expressed as means  $\pm$  SEMs. Differences between the two groups were analyzed using  
144 a Student *t* test. For comparison within the same samples, a paired *t* test was applied. For multiple  
145 comparisons, the Tukey Honest Significant Differences (HSD) test or the Dunnett test was applied.  
146 All statistical analyses were performed using R software (<http://www.r-project.org>). Probability  
147 values less than 0.05 were considered significant.

148

149 **Results**

150 *Myosin Id is enriched in the synaptosomal fraction of mouse brain.*

151 It has already been reported that myosin Id is expressed in neurons (Benesh et al., 2012). To test  
152 whether there is a regional preference for its expression within the brain, we collected RNA from  
153 different subregions of the mouse brain and analyzed myosin Id mRNA expression using qRT-PCR.  
154 We found that myosin Id was expressed throughout the mouse brain, but it was more highly  
155 expressed in the striatum, thalamus, and brain stem (Fig. 1A). Next, we examined myosin Id mRNA  
156 expression in the whole brain at different ages. At P28, the young adult stage, it was expressed twice  
157 as much as at P0 (Fig. 1B). Notably, oligodendrocytes also express myosin Id (Yamazaki et al., 2014).  
158 The upregulation of myosin Id at P28 could be attributed to postnatal proliferation of  
159 oligodendrocytes. Thus, we prepared primary hippocampal neurons to minimize the effect of  
160 oligodendrocytes. As a result, myosin Id mRNA levels were unchanged between days *in vitro* (DIV)  
161 1, 7, and 14 (Fig. 1C). Furthermore, to investigate the localization of myosin Id protein, we prepared  
162 synaptosomal and cytoplasmic fractions from adult mouse cerebra. Immunoblot analysis with  
163 anti-myosin Id antibody has revealed that myosin Id protein is significantly enriched in the  
164 synaptosomal fraction compared to the cytoplasmic fraction (Fig. 1D, E) in a similar manner to  
165 PSD-95, a well-known postsynaptic marker. These data suggest that myosin Id is a synapse-related  
166 molecule.

167

168 *Myosin Id localizes in the F-actin-rich pseudopodia of HEK293T cells.*

169 To characterize the subcellular localization of myosin Id protein, we prepared an expression vector  
170 that produces EGFP-tagged myosin Id protein. We transfected HEK293T cells with this vector and  
171 confirmed successful expression of EGFP-myosin Id protein as shown by immunoblot analysis (Fig.  
172 2A). In addition, immunocytochemical analyses showed that the GFP signals were highly enriched in  
173 the F-actin-rich pseudopodia (Fig. 2B).

174

175 *Myosin Id localizes in the dendritic spines of primary hippocampal neurons.*

176 Given that dendritic spines are rich in the actin cytoskeleton (Cingolani and Goda, 2008), we  
177 tested whether myosin Id accumulates there. We transfected primary hippocampal neurons at DIV13,  
178 when the dendritic spines are formed, with an EGFP-myosin Id vector. An mCherry-C1 vector was  
179 co-transfected as a reference. At 24 hours after transfection, we examined the fluorescence intensities  
180 of both EGFP and mCherry at the same spine. The spine/shaft ratio of GFP was statistically higher  
181 than that of mCherry at the same spine (Fig. 3A, B), which demonstrated that myosin Id is enriched  
182 in dendritic spines. Consistent with this, GFP fluorescence in the PSD-95-positive puncta (dendritic  
183 spines) was significantly higher than that in the neighboring PSD-95-negative shafts (Fig. 3C, D).  
184 These results reveal that myosin Id protein localizes in dendritic spines.

185

186 *Deletion of the TH1 domain drastically diminishes its colocalization with F-actin in the*  
187 *pseudopodia.*

188 To identify a region responsible for its localization, we created mutant vectors lacking specific  
189 regions (Fig. 4A). To search for a possible actin-binding site, we identified the conserved sequence  
190 (residues 584–594) corresponding to the actin-binding site of *Drosophila* homolog myosin IA  
191 (Morgan et al., 1994). Deletion of residues 584–594 ( $\Delta$ 584–594) reduced its accumulation in the  
192 F-actin-rich pseudopodia, yet the reduction was marginal (Fig. 4B, C). Surprisingly, deletion of the  
193 TH1 domain ( $\Delta$ TH1) drastically diminished its accumulation in the pseudopodia. A C-terminal  
194 fragment consisting of the IQ motifs and the TH1 domain (IQ + TH1) localized mainly in the nuclei.  
195 This nuclear localization is similar to the findings of a previous study with myosin Ig (Patino-Lopez  
196 et al., 2010), which has higher homology to myosin Id (59%, ClustalW;  
197 <http://www.genome.jp/tools-bin/clustalw>) than do any other class I myosins (29–37%). Deletion of  
198 the N-terminal portion might unmask a cryptic nuclear localization signal. Notably, the IQ + TH1  
199 fragment was also enriched in the pseudopodia.

200

201 *“Signature basic residues” in the TH1 domain are critical for its colocalization with F-actin.*

202 The TH1 domain in class I myosins commonly includes the pleckstrin homology (PH) domain,  
203 which is capable of binding to phospholipids (McConnell and Tyska, 2010). A previous study with  
204 myosin Ic determined the conserved basic residues (“signature basic residues”) that are critical for its  
205 binding capacity (Hokanson et al., 2006). We created two additional mutant vectors of myosin Id in  
206 which each of the corresponding basic residues is substituted with alanine (K865A or R875A).  
207 Notably, both of the mutant forms displayed diminished colocalization with F-actin in the  
208 pseudopodia (Fig 5A, B). These results reveal that the TH1 domain is critical for its colocalization  
209 with F-actin.

210

211 *The TH1 domain is critical for distribution of myosin Id from the soma to the dendrites and for its*  
212 *enrichment in dendritic spines.*

213 To test whether the TH1 domain is important for localization of myosin Id even in neurons, we  
214 transfected primary hippocampal neurons at DIV13 with full-length or  $\Delta$ TH1 vectors. Notably, the  
215  $\Delta$ TH1 fragment was less distributed from the soma to the dendrites than was full-length myosin Id  
216 (Fig. 6A, B). In addition, the  $\Delta$ TH1 fragment showed diminished accumulation in dendritic spines as  
217 evidenced by reduction in the GFP fluorescence ratio of the spines to the shafts (Fig. 6C, D). These  
218 results suggest that the TH1 domain is critical for the distribution of myosin Id from the soma to the

219 dendrites and for its enrichment in dendritic spines.

220

## 221 **Discussion**

222 In this study, we have revealed that myosin Id localizes in the dendritic spines of neurons. Domain  
223 analysis suggested that the TH1 domain is critical for distribution of myosin Id in dendritic spines.  
224 To our knowledge, ours is the first study to describe the subcellular localization of myosin Id in  
225 neurons.

226 Fine-tuning of synaptic transmission in accordance with environmental stimuli, namely synaptic  
227 plasticity, underlies brain functions such as learning and memory. A number of molecules in dendritic  
228 spines are involved in regulation of synaptic plasticity (Caroni et al., 2012; Koleske, 2013).  
229 Abnormalities in synaptic transmission have been proposed to underlie the pathogenesis of ASD  
230 (Barak and Feng, 2016). Clinical studies have shown that individuals with ASD exhibit a higher  
231 density of dendritic spines than do age-matched controls (Penzes et al., 2011). In addition,  
232 *Fmr1*-knockout mice, a model for fragile X syndrome, exhibit enhanced mGluR5-dependent  
233 long-term depression accompanied by a higher density of dendritic spines in the hippocampi (Dölen  
234 et al., 2007; Huber et al., 2002). These studies highlighted the importance of understanding the  
235 regulatory mechanisms underlying the dynamics of dendritic spines. Combined with the linkage

236 analysis suggesting myosin Id as a potential risk gene for ASD (Stone et al., 2007), our results  
237 showing that myosin Id is enriched in dendritic spines raise the possibility that myosin Id regulates  
238 synaptic transmission in dendritic spines and, furthermore, that its dysfunction would result in ASD.  
239 Further analyses such as by means of electrophysiological and behavioral experiments will be  
240 required to test this possibility.

241 In this study, both deletion and substitution of the TH1 domain drastically diminished its  
242 enrichment in the F-actin-rich pseudopodia. Although the TH1 domain includes the PH domain,  
243 which is capable of binding to anionic phospholipids (Hokanson et al., 2006), it is unlikely that its  
244 binding to phospholipids solely determines the localization of myosin Id because the GFP signals did  
245 not accumulate on the plasma membrane. Unexpectedly, deletion of the conserved domain  
246 corresponding to the actin-binding site in *Drosophila* homolog myosin IA (Morgan et al., 1994)  
247 resulted in marginal reduction of the enrichment in pseudopodia. These results indicate that this  
248 conserved domain is not critical for its actin binding and, furthermore, that actin-binding sites in the  
249 motor domain of mammalian myosin Id remain unclear. Interestingly, our study suggests that the  
250 TH1 domain critically mediates binding of mammalian myosin Id to F-actin. Previous studies  
251 showing that the PH domain interacts with F-actin (Macia et al., 2008; Yao et al., 1999) support our  
252 results. Further biophysical and biochemical studies will be required to clarify how myosin Id



253 interacts with actin filaments.

254 Neurons have a specialized transport system to deliver dendritic molecules efficiently throughout  
255 the multiple and highly branched dendrites. For this delivery, neurons use motor proteins, that is,  
256 kinesins, dyneins, and myosins. These motor proteins carry their cargo to the destination by moving  
257 along cytoskeletons (microtubules or actin filaments) (Hirokawa et al., 2010). Actin filaments exist  
258 not only in the dendritic spines but also in the dendritic shafts as long bundles (Konietzny et al.,  
259 2017). Previous studies have shown that an actin-depolymerizing factor, cytochalasin D, disturbs the  
260 dendritic localization of some specific molecules (Balasanyan and Arnold, 2014; Lewis et al., 2009),  
261 which suggests that actin filaments offer some paths for dendritic transport. In those previous studies,  
262 myosin Va was suggested as a carrier in this actin-based dendritic transport. In our study, the  $\Delta$ TH1  
263 were less distributed from the soma to the dendrites than was the full-length form. Combined with  
264 the fact that  $\Delta$ TH1 is defective in binding to F-actin, it could be assumed that myosin Id moves to the  
265 dendrites along actin filaments through the TH1 domain by its own energy. However, it cannot be  
266 ruled out that myosin Id is transported to dendrites by different molecules. Additional analysis of a  
267 mutant form with defective ATPase activity that cannot use the energy of ATP would provide us with  
268 useful information.

269 At present, the function of myosin Id in neurons remains to be uncovered. In a variety of cell types,

270 class I myosins work as a linker between actin filaments and phospholipids (McIntosh and Ostap,  
271 2016). In fact, class I myosins prefer to localize actin-rich protrusions such as the microvilli of  
272 enterocytes (myosins Ia and Id) (Tyska et al., 2005; Tyska and Mooseker, 2004), stereocilia of  
273 auditory hair cells (myosin Ic) (Holt et al., 2002), and foot processes of podocytes (myosin Ie) (Mele  
274 et al., 2011), where they are involved in maintenance of membrane tension. In addition, class I  
275 myosins have been proposed to dock or tether vesicles to the plasma membrane (Boguslavsky et al.,  
276 2012). If myosin Id shares these functions, it could be possible that myosin Id modulates synaptic  
277 transmission by regulating dendritic spine architecture or vesicular transport.

278 In conclusion, myosin Id, a member of the class I myosins, localizes in dendritic spines through  
279 the TH1 domain. Our study also provides the possibility that the TH1 domain, rather than the motor  
280 domain, includes a critical actin-binding site in myosin Id.

281

## 282 **Author contributions**

283 R.K. and Y.T. designed the experiments. R.K. and S.T. performed the experiments. R.K. analyzed  
284 the data and wrote the manuscript.

285

## 286 **Conflicts of interest**

287 The authors declare no competing financial interests.

288

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296

297

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411

412 **Figure legends**

413 Fig. 1. Myosin Id is enriched in the synaptosomal fraction of mouse brain. (A) qRT-PCR analysis for  
414 myosin Id mRNA in the subregions of mouse brain at 8 weeks of age. n = 4 per group. Data are  
415 expressed relative to the mean value of all samples. (B) Myosin Id mRNA expression in the whole  
416 brain during postnatal development. n = 4 per each group. Data are expressed relative to the P0. \* $p <$   
417 0.05, Dunnett multiple comparison test (vs P0). (C) Myosin Id mRNA expression in primary  
418 hippocampal neurons at different days *in vitro* (DIV). Data are expressed relative to the DIV 1. n = 3  
419 per group. (D) Immunoblot analysis of cytoplasmic and synaptosomal fractions prepared from adult  
420 mouse cerebra. Myosin Id protein is significantly enriched in the synaptosomal fraction. PSD-95 is a  
421 postsynaptic marker. (E) Signal intensity of the immunoblot analysis. Data are expressed as a ratio to  
422  $\beta$ -actin. n = 3 cerebra. \* $p < 0.05$ , paired *t* test.

423

424 Fig. 2. Myosin Id localizes in the F-actin-rich pseudopodia of HEK293T cells. (A) Immunoblot  
425 analysis for EGFP-myosin Id expression by HEK293T. Anti-GFP antibody was used as the primary  
426 antibody. A band of EGFP-myosin Id protein appears at approximately 150 kDa (arrow). (B)  
427 Confocal images of HEK293T cells at 24 hours after transfection. EGFP-myosin Id (green) was  
428 overlapped with F-actin (red) in the pseudopodia (arrowheads). Scale bar: 20  $\mu$ m.

429

430 Fig. 3. Myosin Id localizes in the dendritic spines of primary hippocampal neurons. (A) Confocal  
431 images of primary hippocampal neurons at DIV14 transfected with both EGFP-myosin Id (green)  
432 and mCherry (red), which was used as a reference. The lower panels show higher magnification  
433 images of the square areas in the upper panels. The yellow and white circles indicate the areas of the  
434 spines and the neighboring shafts, respectively. Scale bars: upper panels, 50  $\mu\text{m}$ ; lower panels, 5  $\mu\text{m}$ .  
435 (B) A scatterplot representing the fluorescence ratio of the spines to the shafts. GFP fluorescence  
436 (y-axis) is biased to the spine as evidenced by its significantly higher fluorescence ratio than that of  
437 mCherry (x-axis) at the same spines.  $n = 79$  spines (6 neurons).  $p < 0.05$ , paired  $t$  test. (C)  
438 EGFP-myosin Id (green) colocalizes with PSD-95 (red), a postsynaptic marker. Scale bar: 5  $\mu\text{m}$ . (D)  
439 GFP fluorescence in the PSD-95-positive puncta (spines) is significantly higher than that in the  
440 neighboring PSD-95-negative shafts.  $n = 77$  puncta (4 neurons).  $*p < 0.05$ , paired  $t$  test.

441

442 Fig. 4. Deletion of the TH1 domain drastically diminishes its colocalization with F-actin in the  
443 pseudopodia. (A) Schematic protein structures of full-length and mutant forms of myosin Id. The  
444 conserved region (residues 584–594) corresponding to the actin-binding site of *Drosophila* homolog  
445 myosin IA ( $\Delta 584\text{--}594$ ), the TH1 domain ( $\Delta\text{TH1}$ ), or the motor domain (IQ + TH1) was deleted in

446 each mutant vector. (B) Confocal images of HEK293T cells transfected with full-length or mutant  
447 forms of myosin Id. Scale bar: 20  $\mu\text{m}$ . Arrowheads indicate the F-actin-rich pseudopodia (red). (C)  
448 GFP fluorescence ratio of pseudopodia to cytoplasm.  $n = 10\text{--}12$  cells per group.  $*p < 0.05$ ,  $**p <$   
449  $0.01$ ,  $***p < 0.001$ , Tukey HSD test.

450

451 Fig. 5. “Signature basic residues” in the TH1 domain are critical for its colocalization with F-actin.

452 (A) Confocal images of HEK293T cells transfected with full-length or mutant forms in which each  
453 of the “signature basic residues” was substituted with alanine (K865A, R875A). Scale bar: 20  $\mu\text{m}$ .

454 (B) GFP fluorescence ratio of pseudopodia to cytoplasm.  $n = 10$  cells per group.  $*p < 0.05$ , Tukey  
455 HSD test.

456

457 Fig. 6. The TH1 domain is critical for distribution of myosin Id from the soma to the dendrites and

458 for its enrichment in the dendritic spines of primary hippocampal neurons. (A) Primary hippocampal

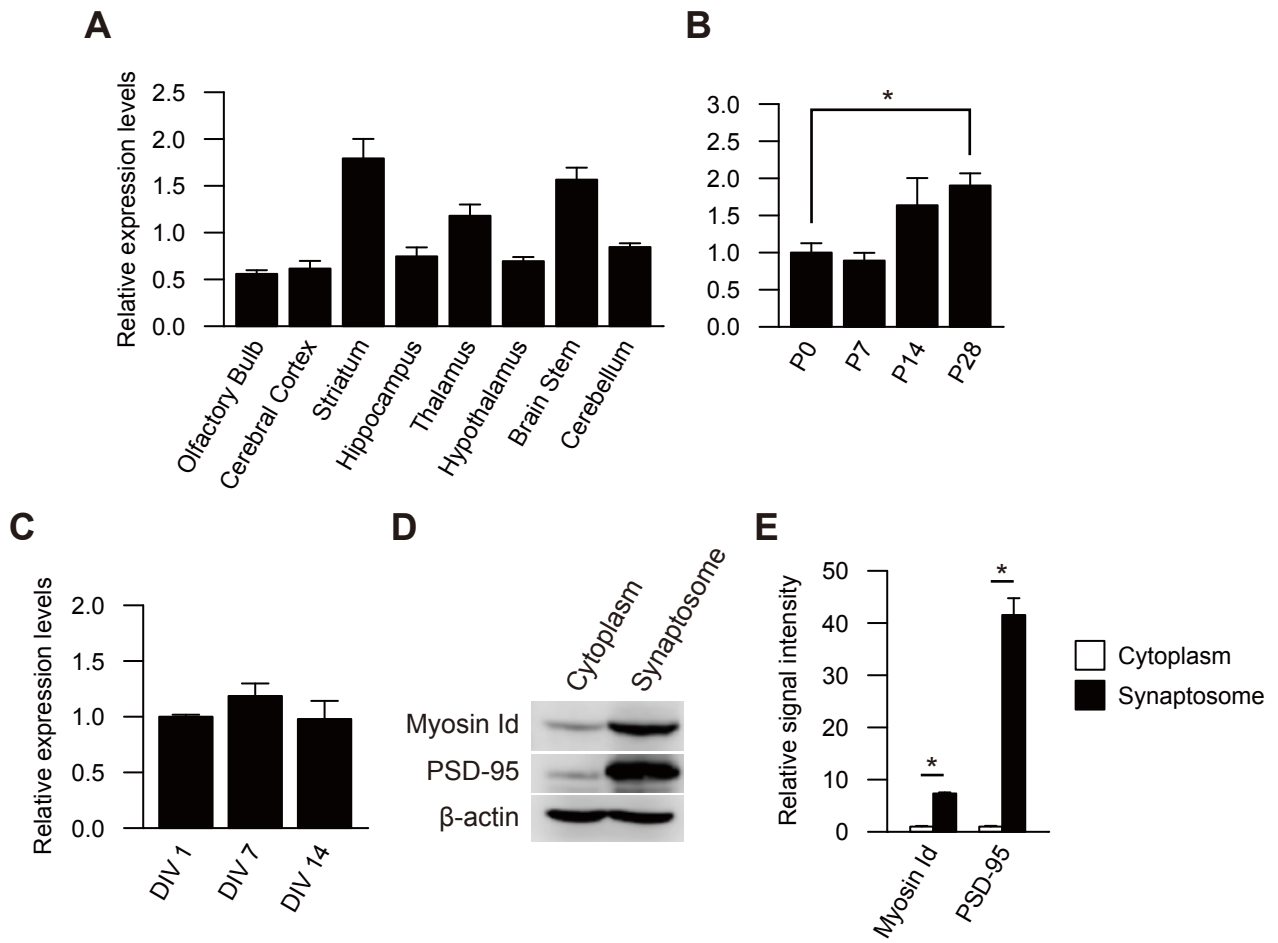
459 neurons at DIV14 transfected with full-length myosin Id or  $\Delta\text{TH1}$  vectors. Scale bar: 50  $\mu\text{m}$ . (B)

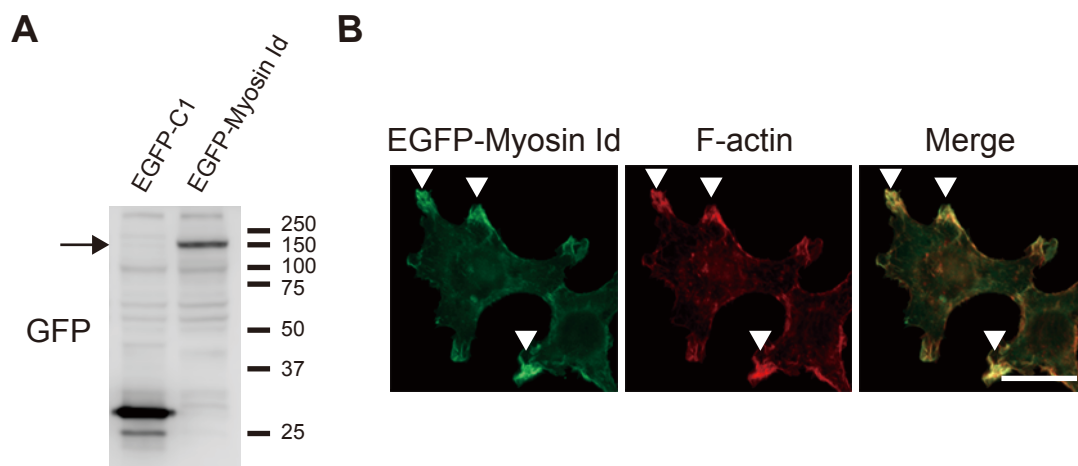
460 GFP fluorescence ratio of dendrites to nuclei.  $n = 6$  neurons per group.  $*p < 0.05$ , Student  $t$  test. (C)

461 Confocal images of dendritic spines. Scale bar: 5  $\mu\text{m}$ . (D) GFP fluorescence ratio of spines to shafts.

462 mCherry fluorescence was used as a reference.  $n = 90$  (full-length) or 91 ( $\Delta\text{TH1}$ ) spines from 4

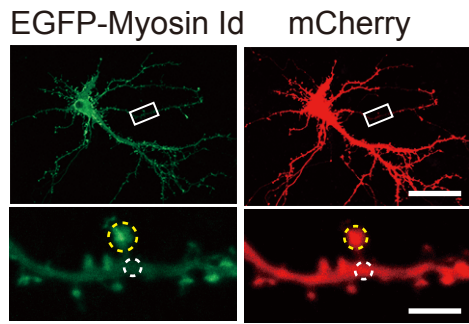
463 neurons per group. \* $p < 0.05$ , Student  $t$  test.



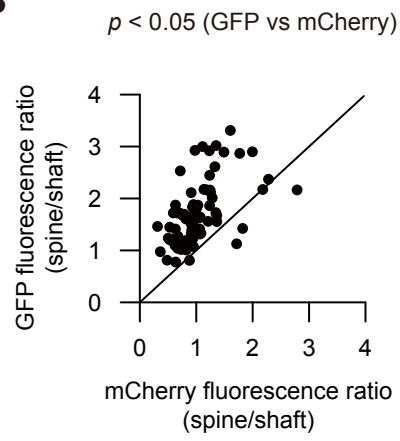




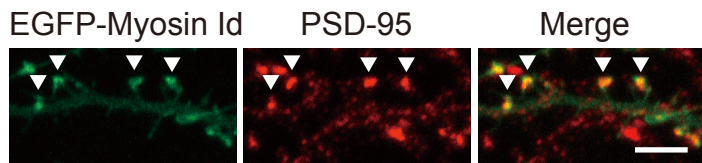
**A**



**B**



**C**



**D**

