

# De novo mutations in schizophrenia implicate synaptic networks

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**Inherited alleles account for most of the genetic risk for schizophrenia. However, new (*de novo*) mutations, in the form of large chromosomal copy number changes, occur in a small fraction of cases and disproportionately disrupt genes encoding postsynaptic proteins. Here we show that small *de novo* mutations, affecting one or a few nucleotides, are overrepresented among glutamatergic postsynaptic proteins comprising activity-regulated cytoskeleton-associated protein (ARC) and N-methyl-D-aspartate receptor (NMDAR) complexes. Mutations are additionally enriched in proteins that interact with these complexes to modulate synaptic strength, namely proteins regulating actin filament dynamics and those whose messenger RNAs are targets of fragile X mental retardation protein (FMRP). Genes affected by mutations in schizophrenia overlap those mutated in autism and intellectual disability, as do mutation-enriched synaptic pathways. Aligning our findings with a parallel case-control study, we demonstrate reproducible insights into aetiological mechanisms for schizophrenia and reveal pathophysiology shared with other neurodevelopmental disorders.**

Schizophrenia is a disorder whose pathophysiology is largely unknown. It has a lifetime risk of about 1%, is frequently chronic and socially disabling, and is associated with an average reduction in lifespan of about 25 years. High heritability points to a major role for transmitted genetic variants<sup>1</sup>. However, it is also associated with a marked reduction in fecundity<sup>2</sup>, leading to the hypothesis that alleles with large effects on risk might often occur *de novo* (mutations present in affected individual but not in either parent) to balance their elimination from the population by selection<sup>3</sup>.

Of the known risk alleles for schizophrenia, the only ones definitively shown to confer considerable increments in risk are rare chromosomal copy number variants (CNVs)<sup>1,4</sup>, which involve deletion or duplication of thousands of bases of DNA. As predicted by the association of schizophrenia with decreased fecundity, these CNVs often occur *de novo* in the small proportion of cases in which they are found<sup>5</sup>. Exome sequencing technology now allows systematic scans of genes for *de novo* mutations at single-base rather than kilobase resolution. This approach has already implicated *de novo* loss-of-function mutations in disorders in which, as in schizophrenia, *de novo* CNVs have a role, including autism spectrum disorder (ASD)<sup>6–9</sup> and intellectual disability<sup>10,11</sup>. In schizophrenia, the results from exome sequencing<sup>12–14</sup> do not yet support definitive conclusions, probably owing to limited sample sizes.

We report the largest exome sequencing study of *de novo* mutations in schizophrenia to date, using genomic (blood) DNA from 623 schizophrenia trios. The primary aims were fourfold (Table 1a–d). The first two aims were to establish a general case for the relevance of *de novo* mutations in schizophrenia by determining whether *de novo* mutations

affecting protein sequences occur in schizophrenia at higher than expected rates (Table 1a) or are enriched among sets of genes implicated in the disorder through other approaches (Table 1b). The remaining two aims, the main motivation for the study, were to determine whether *de novo* mutations implicate specific pathogenic biological processes in schizophrenia (Table 1c) and to investigate the relationship between schizophrenia and other neurodevelopmental disorders (Table 1d). To test for reproducibility, and ensure robustness of the findings to study design, we shared our findings with an independent case-control exome sequencing study<sup>15</sup>.

## De novo mutation rates

We generated sequence data for a median of 93% of targeted exome bases at a depth of >10 reads, from which we generated putative *de novo* calls (Extended Data Figs 1 and 2; Supplementary Information). Using Sanger sequencing, we validated 637 *de novo* coding or canonical splice site variants (Supplementary Table 1) in 617 probands (6 trios were excluded after quality control), a rate of 1.032 mutations per trio. These comprised 482 nonsynonymous mutations, of which 64 were loss-of-function (nonsense, splice and frameshift). The remaining 155 mutations were silent and were therefore excluded from enrichment analyses.

The exome point-mutation rate in schizophrenia was, adjusting for target coverage,  $1.61 \times 10^{-8}$  per base per generation, compatible with the population expectation of  $1.64 \times 10^{-8}$  (Supplementary Information). The mutation rate (corrected for experimental confounders, Supplementary Information) was associated with increasing paternal ( $P = 0.005$ ) and maternal ( $P = 0.0003$ ) age at proband birth. Given the high correlation

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**Table 1 | Summary results for primary hypotheses**

| Hypothesis category  | <i>P</i> value (corrected) |                  | Sub-tests of primary hypotheses   | Sub-test details               | <i>P</i> value (uncorrected) |                  |
|--|----------------------------|------------------|---|--------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------|
| <b>a</b> Increased rates of <i>de novo</i> mutations                       | 1.00                       |                  | Nonsynonymous:synonymous ratio compared to controls <sup>7–10,13,14</sup>   | Table 2                        | 0.43                         |                  |
|  |                            |                  | Loss-of-function:misense ratio compared to controls <sup>7–10,13,14</sup>   | Table 2                        | 0.37                         |                  |
|  | Nonsynonymous              | Loss-of-function |   |                                | Nonsynonymous                | Loss-of-function |
| <b>b</b> Genic recurrence in schizophrenia                                 | <b>0.0007</b>              | 0.25             | Genic recurrence of <i>de novo</i> mutations (current study)  | Extended Data Table 2          | <b>0.03</b>                  | 0.20             |
|  |                            |                  | Enrichment in schizophrenia (literature <sup>12–14</sup> ) nonsynonymous <i>de novo</i> genes                     | Table 4, Extended Data Table 5 | 0.59                         | 0.21             |
|  |                            |                  | Increased case/control <sup>15</sup> ratio of rare (MAF < 0.1%) loss-of-function variants in <i>de novo</i> genes | Ref. 15                        | <b>0.0003</b>                | <b>0.0075</b>    |
|  |                            |                  | Excess transmission of nonsynonymous singletons (current study) in <i>de novo</i> genes                           | –                              | <b>0.01</b>                  | 0.29             |
|  |                            |                  | Enrichment in schizophrenia CNV (literature <sup>1,20</sup> ) genes   | –                              | 0.29                         | 0.66             |
| <b>c</b> Enrichment in candidate genes                                     | <b>0.0098</b>              | 1.00             | Enrichment in ARC/NMDAR genes <sup>20</sup>   | Table 3, Extended Data Fig. 4  | <b>0.0008</b>                | <b>0.006</b>     |
|  |                            |                  | Enrichment in postsynaptic density genes, excluding ARC/NMDAR genes <sup>20</sup>                                 | –                              | 0.24                         | 0.53             |
|  |                            |                  | Enrichment in FMRP target genes <sup>9</sup>  | Extended Data Table 3          | <b>0.009</b>                 | 0.37             |
| <b>d</b> Enrichment in autism/intellectual disability <i>de novo</i> genes | 0.17                       | <b>0.0055</b>    | Enrichment in autism loss-of-function <i>de novo</i> genes <sup>6–9</sup>   | Table 4, Extended Data Table 5 | <b>0.02</b>                  | <b>0.0007</b>    |
|  |                            |                  | Enrichment in intellectual disability loss-of-function <i>de novo</i> genes <sup>10,11</sup>                      | Table 4, Extended Data Table 5 | 0.27                         | <b>0.02</b>      |

Hypotheses are grouped into four broad categories (a–d). Each is comprised of sub-tests from which we derive global evidence for the broad category (see Supplementary Information). **a**, The broad *P* value was generated using Fisher's exact method on the missense, silent and loss-of-function mutation counts. **b**, *P* values were generated using Fisher's combined probability test to combine the sub-tests. **c**, **d**, All genes from each sub-test were combined into a single gene set and enrichment evaluated using the dnenrich software (see main text and Supplementary Information). For **b–d**, we separately evaluated two classes of mutation, nonsynonymous and loss-of-function, making seven tests in total. Corrected *P* values for the broad categories are adjusted by Bonferroni correction for seven tests. *P* values < 0.05 (corrected for broad category tests, uncorrected for sub-tests) in bold.

between the two, we could not confidently distinguish independent parental age effects (Supplementary Information). As expected<sup>16</sup>, most *de novo* mutations (79%) we could phase occurred on paternal chromosomes (Supplementary Information). The number of *de novo* mutations per individual followed a Poisson distribution (Extended Data Fig. 3a), in line with previous studies of autism<sup>6</sup> and schizophrenia<sup>13</sup>. Nevertheless, loss-of-function *de novo* mutations were more common in patients with relatively poor school performance ( $P = 0.018$ ; Extended Data Fig. 3b), but none of the other variables tested—family history, age at onset, gender or having a *de novo* CNV—were significantly associated with mutation rates.

Compared with 731 controls from published data sets (Supplementary Table 2), probands did not have a significant elevation in the relative rates of nonsynonymous to silent mutations, or loss-of-function to missense mutations (Tables 1a and 2). No differences were observed

between schizophrenia cases with or without *de novo* CNVs or between those stratified by common allele risk scores (Extended Data Table 1a). Consistent with their higher loss-of-function mutation rate, those with school grades below the median had significantly elevated loss-of-function to missense ratios compared to both controls ( $P = 0.02$ ) and cases with higher school grades ( $P = 0.0095$ ) (Extended Data Table 1b and Extended Data Fig. 3b). In the absence of an effect of age at onset (that might affect school performance), this suggests loss-of-function mutations occur preferentially in (the large proportion of) schizophrenia cases that have premorbid cognitive impairment<sup>17</sup>. All probands attended and graduated from mainstream schools, which excluded people with significant degrees of intellectual disability; moreover, recruiting psychiatrists were explicitly instructed to exclude people with known intellectual disability. Thus, the enrichment of loss-of-function mutations in those with the poorest scholastic attainment cannot be attributed

**Table 2 | Ratios of functional classes of *de novo* mutations across various samples**

|                      | Controls <sup>7–10,13,14</sup> | Current study | Schizophrenia (ref. 14) | Schizophrenia (ref. 13) | Schizophrenia all (refs 12–14) | Autism spectrum disorder <sup>6–9</sup> | Intellectual disability <sup>10,11</sup> |
|----------------------|--------------------------------|---------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------|---|--|
| Nonsynonymous        | 434                            | 482           | 68                      | 137                     | 702                            | 789                                     | 141                                      |
| Synonymous           | 155                            | 155           | 29                      | 27                      | 211                            | 255                                     | 25                                       |
| Ratio                | 2.8                            | 3.1           | 2.3                     | 5.1                     | 3.3                            | 3.1                                     | 5.6                                      |
| <i>P</i> vs controls | –                              | 0.43          | 0.46                    | <b>0.0097</b>           | 0.18                           | 0.41                                    | <b>0.0027</b>                            |
| Loss-of-function     | 49                             | 64            | 12                      | 20                      | 100                            | 134                                     | 34                                       |
| Misense              | 376                            | 408           | 56                      | 113                     | 588                            | 638                                     | 104                                      |
| Ratio                | 0.13                           | 0.16          | 0.21                    | 0.18                    | 0.17                           | 0.21                                    | 0.33                                     |
| <i>P</i> vs controls | –                              | 0.37          | 0.17                    | 0.29                    | 0.17                           | <b>0.0072</b>                           | <b>0.0003</b>                            |

Counts of *de novo* mutation in the present study, in previous studies of schizophrenia (refs 13 and 14), and in all studies of schizophrenia combined (Schizophrenia all), which includes this study and an additional small study<sup>12</sup>. Controls are unaffected individuals or unaffected siblings of probands with autism spectrum disorder or schizophrenia. To control for factors that influence estimates of absolute rates (sequencing depth, calling, parental age, etc.), we tested for differences between the ratios of classes of *de novo* mutations (nonsynonymous to silent, loss-of-function to missense) in the disorder groups and the controls, using Fisher's exact test. Nominally significant *P* values (< 0.05) are bold.

to the inclusion of individuals with severe intellectual disability, although this does not preclude the presence of individuals with mild intellectual disability among cases with low educational achievement.

### Mutations in schizophrenia gene sets

Gene sets selected for independent evidence for relevance to schizophrenia showed enrichment ( $P_{\text{corrected}} = 0.0007$ ) of nonsynonymous *de novo* mutations (Table 1b), indicating that a proportion of mutations are pathogenic for schizophrenia. Specifically, genes were recurrent for *de novo* mutations more than expected (Table 1b, Extended Data Table 2). Genes affected by nonsynonymous *de novo* mutations were also enriched for inherited rare risk alleles (Table 1b), with excess transmission of rare nonsynonymous alleles from parents to the affected probands, as well as enrichment in cases of rare (minor allele frequency (MAF) < 0.001) gene-disruptive mutations in an independent case-control exome sequencing study<sup>15</sup>. One gene, *TAF13*, encoding a subunit of the TFIID transcription initiation complex, contains two *de novo* loss-of-function mutations. This recurrence is significant even after genome-wide correction ( $P = 1 \times 10^{-6}$ ;  $P_{\text{corrected}} = 0.024$ ) (Extended Data Table 2). Replication is necessary to firmly establish this as a susceptibility gene.

### Mutations enriched in synaptic genes

Previous studies have suggested that CNVs in people with schizophrenia preferentially affect broadly defined sets of synaptic genes<sup>18,19</sup>. Moreover, a detailed analysis of *de novo* CNVs based on gene sets constructed from experimental proteomics led us to propose that this synaptic enrichment could be explained by mutations affecting proteins closely associated with the *N*-methyl-D-aspartate (NMDA) receptor, which we refer to as the NMDAR complex, and proteins that interact with ARC (activity-regulated cytoskeleton-associated protein), referred to as the ARC complex<sup>20</sup>. Our primary functional hypothesis in the present study was that genes encoding proteins in the ARC and NMDAR complexes would be disproportionately affected by *de novo* SNV and indel mutations. We additionally postulated that brain-expressed genes that are repressed by fragile X mental retardation protein (FMRP)<sup>21</sup> would also be enriched for *de novo* mutations because these have been shown to be enriched for *de novo* mutations in ASD<sup>9</sup>. Moreover, FMRP targets include multiple members of the NMDAR and ARC complexes.

We observed experiment-wide significant enrichment for nonsynonymous mutations among the synaptic gene sets (Table 1c), as well as specifically for NMDAR and ARC complexes (Tables 1c and 3, Extended Data Fig. 4). NMDAR and ARC complexes are closely associated elements central to regulating synaptic strength at glutamatergic synapses and have been implicated in cognition. NMDA signalling triggers multiple processes required for inducing synaptic plasticity<sup>22</sup>. ARC is involved in almost all known forms of synaptic plasticity, including

synaptic remodelling, the consolidation of changes in synaptic strength linked to memory and response to stress<sup>23–25</sup>, and regulating synapse elimination during development<sup>26</sup>, a process believed to be aberrant in schizophrenia<sup>27</sup>.

FMRP targets were also enriched for nonsynonymous *de novo* mutations (Table 1c), even after NMDAR, ARC and the broader group of postsynaptic density genes were removed (Extended Data Table 3). Given that loss of FMRP results in widespread deficits in synaptic plasticity<sup>28</sup>, these findings again implicate pathogenic disruption of plasticity mechanisms in schizophrenia. Secondary analyses to dissect the FMRP target enrichment by subdividing genes by gene ontology<sup>29</sup> membership did not identify significant categories.

Support for the candidate hypotheses were replicable and robust to study design. In the schizophrenia case-control study<sup>15</sup>, rare (MAF < 0.001) loss-of-function mutations were enriched in NMDAR ( $P = 0.02$ ), ARC ( $P = 1 \times 10^{-3}$ ), and FMRP target ( $P = 0.003$ ) sets. Across studies, loss-of-function enrichments in the ARC complex were particularly striking; 17-fold here (Table 3 and Extended Data Fig. 4f) and 19-fold in the case-control study, indicating that disruption of ARC function has particularly strong effects on disease risk.

Aiming to identify hitherto unsuspected disease mechanisms, we undertook an hypothesis-free analysis based on the comprehensive gene ontology (GO) annotations<sup>29</sup>. A single category (GO:0051017) was significantly enriched for nonsynonymous *de novo* mutations ( $P = 6.6 \times 10^{-6}$ ) after correction for all GO categories ( $P_{\text{corrected}} = 0.032$ ). Genes in GO:0051017, assembly of actin filament bundles, are intimately involved in synaptic plasticity, and are functionally interconnected with ARC and NMDAR signalling (see Supplementary Information). Even after removal of genes overlapping with ARC/NMDAR sets, GO:0051017 remained enriched eightfold for mutations ( $P = 0.0011$ ). Although not significant in the case-control data set<sup>15</sup>, this category was significantly enriched for *de novo* CNVs in a study of ASD<sup>30</sup>. It also includes *KCTD13*, the gene responsible for some of the phenotypes associated with CNVs at 16p11.2 (ref. 31), duplication of which is a risk factor for schizophrenia<sup>4</sup>. *KCTD13* also maps to a schizophrenia genome-wide significant SNP locus<sup>32</sup>.

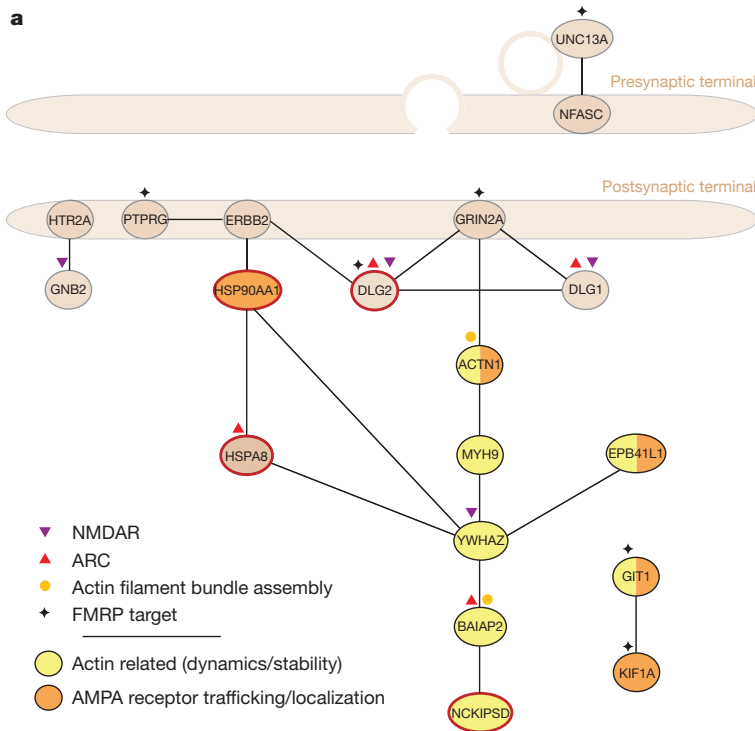
### Connectivity of mutated synaptic genes

Seeking further insights into synaptic pathology, we identified interactions involving proteins with *de novo* mutations using a synaptic interactome database<sup>33</sup> (Supplementary Information). Proteins with nonsynonymous *de novo* mutations had more connectivity than expected among each other (Fig. 1a) and with synaptic proteins in general, indicating a greater than average importance to the synapse. Directly interacting proteins with *de novo* mutations are involved in multiple processes regulating synaptic plasticity, particularly NMDA, AMPA ( $\alpha$ -amino-3-hydroxy-5-methyl-4-isoxazolepropionic acid) and kainate

**Table 3 | Enrichment of *de novo* mutations in postsynaptic protein complexes**

| Gene set             | Current study       |                | Schizophrenia (ref. 14) |      | Schizophrenia (ref. 13) |          | Schizophrenia all (refs 12–14) |          | Autism spectrum disorder <sup>6–9</sup> |          | Intellectual disability <sup>10,11</sup> |               |                       |              |                        |                |                       |          |                        |          |                       |          |                       |  |
|----------------------|---------------------|----------------|-------------------------|------|-------------------------|----------|--------------------------------|----------|---|----------|--|---------------|-----------------------|--------------|------------------------|----------------|-----------------------|----------|------------------------|----------|-----------------------|----------|-----------------------|--|
|                      | Nonsynonymous (482) |                | Loss-of-function (64)   |      | Non-synony-mous (68)    |          | Loss-of-function (12)          |          | Non-synony-mous (137)                   |          | Loss-of-function (20)                    |               | Non-synony-mous (702) |              | Loss-of-function (100) |                | Non-synony-mous (789) |          | Loss-of-function (134) |          | Non-synony-mous (141) |          | Loss-of-function (34) |  |
|                      | Genes (N)           | <i>P</i>       | No. mut.                | O/E  | <i>P</i>                | No. mut. | O/E                            | <i>P</i> | <i>P</i>                                | <i>P</i> | <i>P</i>                                 | <i>P</i>      | <i>P</i>              | <i>P</i>     | <i>P</i>               | <i>P</i>       | <i>P</i>              | <i>P</i> | <i>P</i>               | <i>P</i> | <i>P</i>              | <i>P</i> | <i>P</i>              |  |
| Postsynaptic density | 681                 | <b>0.019</b>   | 34                      | 1.46 | 0.091                   | 6        | 1.92                           | 0.84     | 0.45                                    | 0.65     | 0.64                                     | 0.091         | 0.12                  | 0.47         | 0.064                  | <b>0.0015</b>  | <b>0.00004</b>        |          |                        |          |                       |          |                       |  |
| ARC complex          | 28                  | <b>0.00048</b> | 6                       | 6.06 | <b>0.005</b>            | 2        | 17.42                          | 1        | 1                                       | 1        | 1  | <b>0.0035</b> | <b>0.015</b>          | 0.22         | 0.22                   | <b>0.00002</b> | <b>0.0015</b>         |          |                        |          |                       |          |                       |  |
| NMDAR complex        | 60                  | <b>0.025</b>   | 6                       | 2.74 | <b>0.035</b>            | 2        | 6.99                           | 1        | 1                                       | 0.13     | 0.086                                    | <b>0.016</b>  | <b>0.011</b>          | <b>0.031</b> | 0.46                   | <b>0.00002</b> | <b>0.00002</b>        |          |                        |          |                       |          |                       |  |

Statistical significance for enrichment of *de novo* mutations in glutamatergic postsynaptic gene sets<sup>20</sup>. Nominally significant *P* values (< 0.05), as calculated with dnenrich (see Supplementary Information), are marked in bold. No. mut., mutation counts in each set. O/E, observed-to-expected ratio of mutational hits (fold-enrichment statistic) calculated with dnenrich. Samples and classes of mutations are as Table 2. Total numbers of mutations for each class in each sample are given in parentheses. Additional details for the current study, including genes and 95% credible intervals (CI) for the O/E statistics, are given in Extended Data Fig. 4.



**Figure 1 | De novo mutations from schizophrenia affect genes coding for synaptic proteins and genes affected in other neuropsychiatric diseases.**

**a**, Synaptic protein–protein interactions between proteins affected by nonsynonymous *de novo* mutations in schizophrenia. Interactions were retrieved from the expert-curated lists in the SynSysNet database (<http://bioinformatics.charite.de/synsysnet/>) and plotted to show their general pre/postsynaptic localization. Proteins belonging to various functional sets are as marked, and the four proteins encoded by genes with loss-of-function

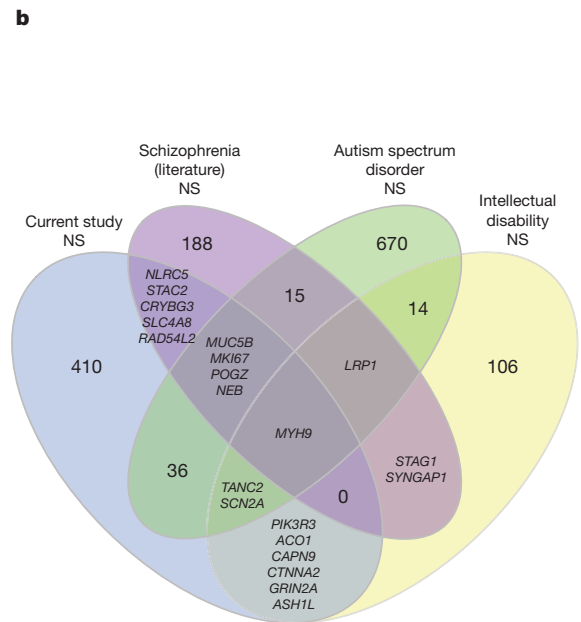
receptor trafficking, and the regulation of actin dynamics. These interactions involve genes not present in our pre-assigned NMDAR/ARC and actin filament complexes (Supplementary Information). Although our analyses highlighted postsynaptic processes, some of the interacting synaptic proteins with *de novo* mutations are presynaptic (Fig. 1a, Supplementary Information and Extended Data Fig. 4a). Pre- and postsynaptic proteins are, however, closely functionally related; indeed, trans-synaptic effects of presynaptic proteins on the regulation of AMPA receptor trafficking and NMDAR-dependent plasticity have recently been described<sup>34</sup>.

We were unable to replicate a previous report of prenatal bias in brain expression for genes with schizophrenia *de novo* mutations<sup>13</sup> using microarray or RNA-seq data (Supplementary Information and Extended Data Table 4).

**Table 4 | Overlap between genes hit by de novo mutations in this study and other phenotypes**

| Gene set                                 | Mutation class (N genes) | P            | Current study (mutations) |                       |          |
|--|--------------------------|--------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|----------|
|  |                          |              | Nonsynonymous (482)       | Loss-of-function (64) |          |
|  |                          |              | No. mut.                  | P                     | No. mut. |
| Schizophrenia (ref. 14)                  | Nonsynonymous (67)       | 0.22         | 6                         | <b>0.021</b>          | 3        |
|  | Loss-of-function (12)    | 0.051        | 3                         | 0.11                  | 1        |
| Schizophrenia (ref. 13)                  | Nonsynonymous (136)      | 0.79         | 5                         | 1                     | 0        |
|  | Loss-of-function (20)    | 0.24         | 2                         | 1                     | 0        |
| Autism spectrum disorder <sup>6–9</sup>  | Nonsynonymous (743)      | 0.14         | 45                        | <b>0.023</b>          | 9        |
|  | Loss-of-function (128)   | <b>0.015</b> | 11                        | <b>0.00072</b>        | 4        |
| Intellectual disability <sup>10,11</sup> | Nonsynonymous (132)      | <b>0.032</b> | 9                         | <b>0.031</b>          | 1        |
|  | Loss-of-function (30)    | 0.27         | 1                         | <b>0.019</b>          | 1        |
| Controls <sup>7–10,13,14</sup>           | Nonsynonymous (424)      | 0.59         | 21                        | 1                     | 0        |
|  | Loss-of-function (49)    | 0.6          | 2                         | 1                     | 0        |

Number of mutations (No. mut.) in present study in gene sets derived from previous studies. P values are calculated with dnenrich for enrichment of mutations in the gene sets from previous studies (see Supplementary Information). Nominally significant P values (< 0.05) are in bold. Disease sets and mutation classes are as Table 2. Additional comparisons are given in Extended Data Table 5.



mutations are noted with a red outline. Proteins with nonsynonymous *de novo* mutations had more than expected direct interconnections ( $P = 0.008$ ), which was consistent with more overall connectivity to synaptic proteins as a whole ( $P = 0.005$ ). **b**, Overlap of genes bearing nonsynonymous (NS) *de novo* mutations in schizophrenia (refs 12–14), autism spectrum disorder (refs 6–9) and intellectual disability (refs 10, 11). Overlaps of six or fewer genes are listed by name. See Extended Data Table 5 for statistical significance of these overlaps, and see Table 2 and text for disease sets.

### Overlaps between disorders

CNV loci associated with schizophrenia overlap with those seen in ASD, intellectual disability and attention deficit hyperactivity disorder<sup>1,4,35</sup>. However, because pathogenic CNVs typically span multiple genes and are concentrated in a relatively small fraction of the genome<sup>36</sup>, it is possible that this may not indicate cross-disorder effects at the level of specific genes. Therefore, we sought evidence for shared genetic aetiology between schizophrenia and both intellectual disability and ASD<sup>37</sup> by testing for overlap of genes affected by *de novo* mutations in schizophrenia, ASD and intellectual disability.

Genes with *de novo* mutations in the current study overlapped those affected by *de novo* mutations in ASD<sup>6–9</sup> and intellectual disability<sup>10,11</sup> (Fig. 1b and Tables 1d and 4), but not in controls (Extended Data Table 5). Moreover, loss-of-function mutations in schizophrenia were enriched

even in the small subset of genes ( $N = 7$ ) with recurrent loss-of-function *de novo* mutations in ASD ( $P = 0.0018$ ) or intellectual disability ( $P = 0.019$ ), the mutations occurring in *SCN2A* (encoding an alpha subunit of voltage-gated sodium channels, a major mediator of neuronal firing and action potential propagation) and *POGZ* (whose involvement in mitosis suggests a possible role in regulating neuronal proliferation<sup>38</sup>). Both *SCN2A* and *POGZ* are now established ASD genes<sup>39</sup>. Other notable genes affected by loss-of-function mutations in the present study for which there is prior support for loss-of-function mutations in other neurodevelopmental disorders include *DLG2* and *SHANK1* (Supplementary Information). Thus, we now show overlap between schizophrenia, ASD and intellectual disability at the resolution not just of loci or even individual genes, but even of mutations with similar functional (loss-of-function) effects.

ARC/NMDAR complexes (Table 3) and FMRP targets (Extended Data Table 3) were enriched for *de novo* mutations in intellectual disability, and NMDAR and FMRP targets were also enriched in ASD, providing further evidence of shared disease mechanisms. However, we also find differences between the disorders. In general, enrichment statistics were stronger for ASD and intellectual disability than schizophrenia, particularly for loss-of-function mutations (Table 2), despite the relatively small number of intellectual disability trios. Genes and mutation sites were most highly conserved in intellectual disability, then ASD, with schizophrenia least conserved (Supplementary Information and Extended Data Table 6). These findings indicate that highly disruptive mutations have a relatively lesser role in schizophrenia, and also that the disorders differ by severity of functional impairment, consistent with the hypothesis of an underlying gradient of neurodevelopmental pathology<sup>40</sup> indexed by cognitive impairment, with intellectual disability at one extreme.

That the most damaging mutations reflect a gradient of neurodevelopmental impairment is further supported by the observation that, within schizophrenia, the highest rate of loss-of-function mutations (Extended Data Fig. 3b) occurred in individuals likely to have the greatest cognitive impairment (lowest scholastic attainment), as does the observation that the loss-of-function genic overlap between schizophrenia and both autism and intellectual disability is dependent on the *de novo* mutations (including *SCN2A* and *POGZ*) in those individuals (Extended Data Table 1c). However, as noted above, the enrichment of loss-of-function mutations in those with the poorest scholastic attainment cannot be attributed to the inclusion of individuals with severe intellectual disability. Moreover, when we exclude cases with low scholastic attainment, we still see significant enrichment of the synaptic pathways that are enriched in the full sample (Supplementary Information and Extended Data Table 1c). Thus, our implication of synaptic protein complexes is not dependent on mutations present in a subset of cases with severely impaired cognitive function.

## Discussion

In the largest exome-sequencing-based study of *de novo* mutations in schizophrenia, we demonstrate a convergence of *de novo* mutations on multiply defined sets of functionally related proteins, pointing to the regulation of plasticity at glutamatergic synapses as a pathogenic mechanism in schizophrenia. How disruption of these synaptic mechanisms affects brain function to produce psychopathology cannot be answered by genetic studies alone, but our identification of *de novo* mutations in these gene sets provides the basis to address this. Our findings of overlaps between the pathogenic mechanisms underlying schizophrenia and those in autism and intellectual disability lend support to recent, controversial suggestions that our understanding of these disorders might be advanced better by research that integrates findings across multiple disorders and places more emphasis on domains of psychopathology (for example, cognition) and their neurobiological substrates rather than current diagnostic categories<sup>40,41</sup>.

## METHODS SUMMARY

Parent proband trios ( $N = 623$ ), where the proband had a history of hospitalization for schizophrenia or schizoaffective disorder, were recruited from psychiatric hospitals in Bulgaria. Proband attended mainstream schools which excluded people with intellectual disability; all graduated with a pass. Exome DNA was captured from genomic DNA (whole blood), using either Agilent or NimbleGen array-based capture, and subjected to paired-end sequencing on Illumina HiSeq sequencers. The BWA-Picard-GATK pipeline was used for sequence alignment and variant calling. Putative *de novo* mutations were identified using Plink/Seq (<http://atgu.mgh.harvard.edu/plinkseq>) and were validated using Sanger sequencing. We used Plink/Seq to annotate mutations according to RefSeq gene transcripts (UCSC Genome Browser, <http://genome.ucsc.edu>). Mutation rate was tested for association with clinical and other covariates using a generalized linear model. Rates of functional classes of mutations in probands were compared with those in published controls using Fisher's exact test. Mutations were tested for recurrence, enrichment in candidate gene sets, and enrichment in genes affected by *de novo* mutations in previous studies using the dnenrich software (Supplementary Information, <https://bitbucket.org/statgen/dnenrich>). dnenrich calculates one-sided  $P$  values under a binomial model of greater than expected hits using randomly placed mutations accounting for gene size, sequencing coverage, tri-nucleotide contexts and functional effects of the observed mutations. Candidate gene sets and studies of neuropsychiatric disease are described in the main and Supplementary Information. Primary hypotheses (Table 1) were Bonferroni-corrected for multiple testing.

**Online Content** Any additional Methods, Extended Data display items and Source Data are available in the online version of the paper; references unique to these sections appear only in the online paper.

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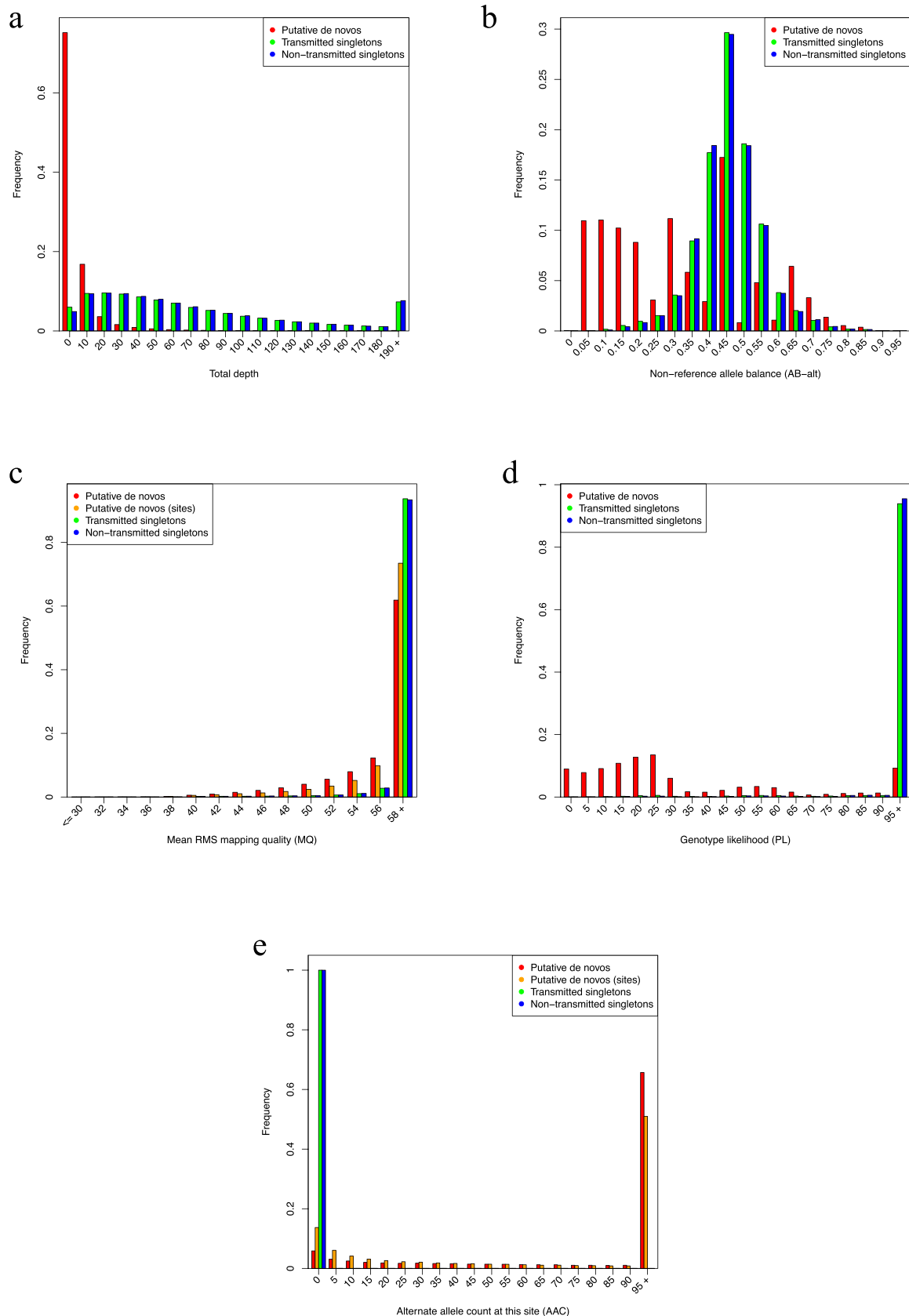
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**Supplementary Information** is available in the online version of the paper.

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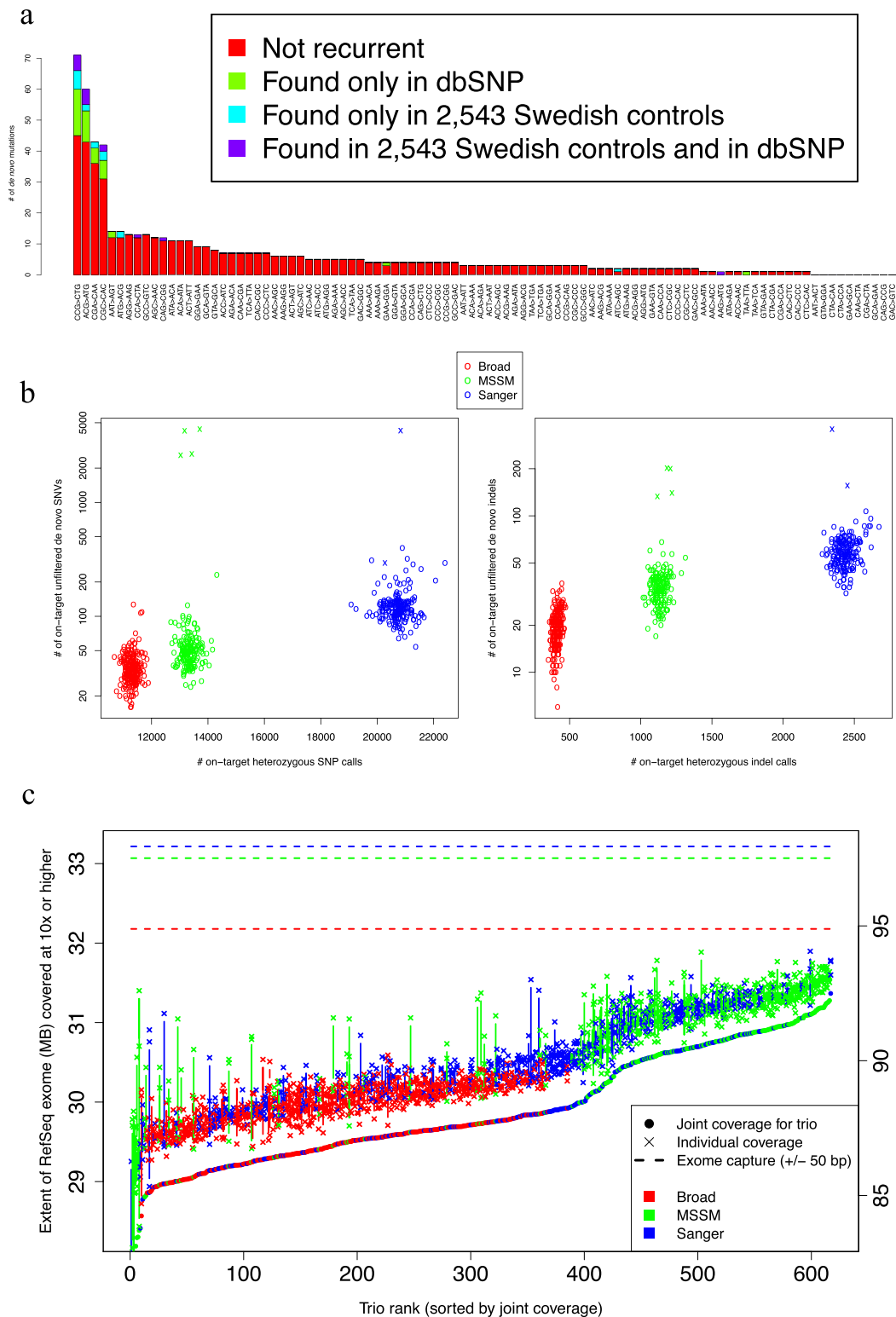
**Author Contributions** The project was led in Cardiff by M.C.O.D. and M.J.O., in Mount Sinai by S.M.P. and P.S., at the Broad by S.A.M. and J.L.M., and at the Sanger by A.P.; H.J.W., J.L.M., K.C., J.S.J., D.D.B., M.M. and S.A.R. were responsible for sample processing and data management. M.F., H.J.W., P.G., D.M.R., D.H.K., G.K., E.R. and S.D. processed NGS data, annotated and validated mutations. L.G., N.C., I.H., S.D., H.J.W. and S.A.R. undertook validation of mutations and additional lab work. A.J.P., M.F., D.H.K., S.M.P. and P.H. co-ordinated/undertook the main bioinformatics/statistical analyses. E.R., D.M.R., E.B., P.P., E.H. and P.R. performed additional analyses. S.G.G. contributed additional insights into synaptic biology. Sample recruitment was led by G.K. and V.M.; The main findings were interpreted by M.C.O.D., M.F., M.J.O., P.H., G.K., E.M.S., S.A.M., D.H.K., A.J.P., A.P., S.M.P. and P.S. who drafted the manuscript.

**Author Information** Data included in this manuscript have been deposited at dbGaP under accession number phs000687.v1.p1 and is available for download at [http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/projects/gap/cgi-bin/study.cgi?study\\_id=phs000687.v1.p1](http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/projects/gap/cgi-bin/study.cgi?study_id=phs000687.v1.p1). Reprints and permissions information is available at [www.nature.com/reprints](http://www.nature.com/reprints). The authors declare no competing financial interests. Readers are welcome to comment on the online version of the paper. Correspondence and requests for materials should be addressed to M.J.O. ([owenmj@cardiff.ac.uk](mailto:owenmj@cardiff.ac.uk)).



**Extended Data Figure 1 | Comparison of sequencing metrics for putative *de novo* calls and parental singletons.** a–e, Putative *de novo* calls (child heterozygous, both parents homozygous reference;  $N$  parent-proband trios = 623) were compared with variants observed in only a single parent (“singletons”), in terms of depth of all reads at the variant site (a), fraction of reads with the alternate allele (AB = allele balance) (b), mapping quality of the

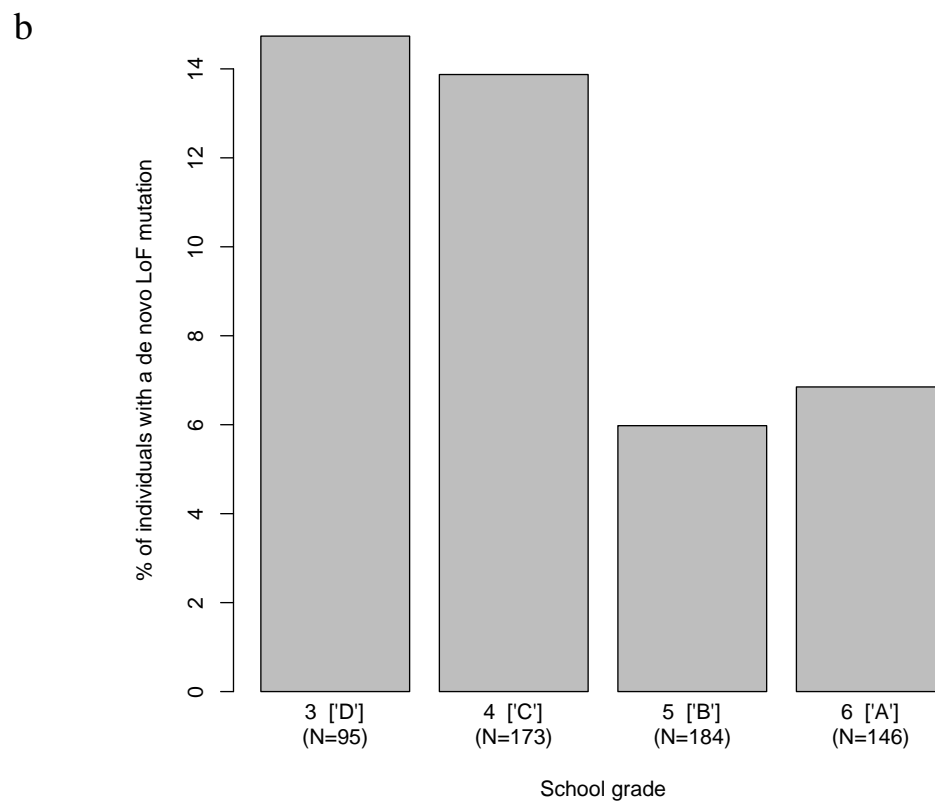
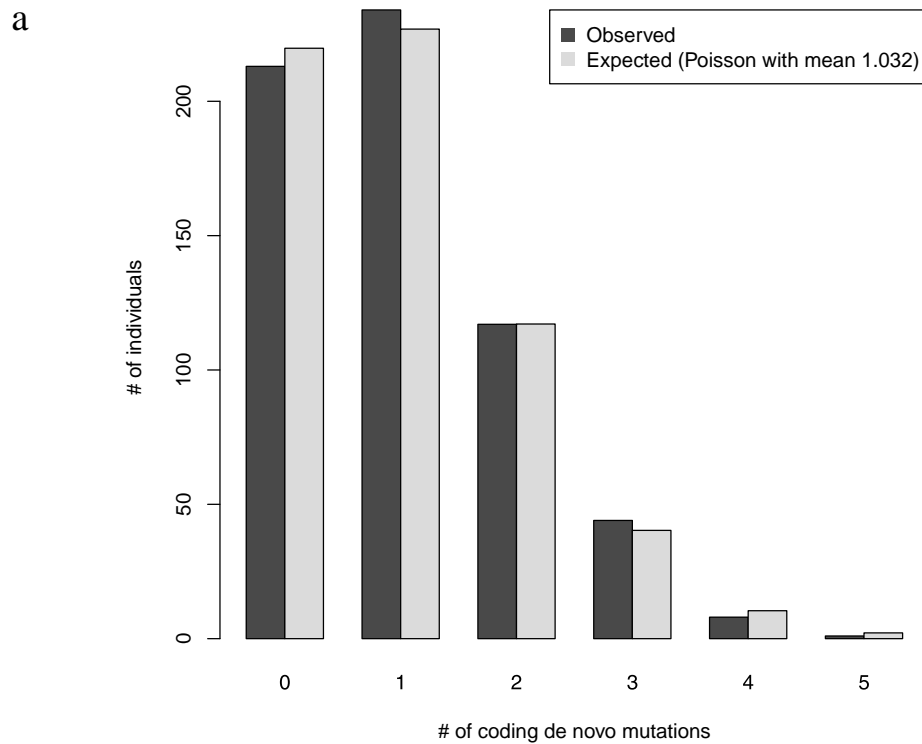
reads at the site (MQ) (c), the likelihood of the heterozygous genotype (PL = Phred-scaled likelihood) (d), and the number of other samples in the present study with a non-reference allele at that site (AAC = alternate allele count) (e). Distributions were calculated for putative *de novo* variants (red), or grouped by sites of putatively recurrent *de novo* mutations (orange) when relevant, transmitted singletons (green), and non-transmitted singletons (blue).



**Extended Data Figure 2 | Metrics for *de novo* variants across cohorts and trios.** **a**, Rates of recurrence of validated *de novo* mutations for tri-nucleotide sequences. For each of 96 possible tri-nucleotide base contexts of single-base mutations (accounting for strand symmetry by reverse complementarity), the number of observed *de novo* SNV is plotted (sorted by this count). Mutation counts are sub-divided into those not found in external data (red), those found in dbSNP (build 137, green), those found in controls ( $N = 2543$ ) in the parallel exome sequencing study<sup>15</sup> (cyan), and those found both in dbSNP and that study (purple). **b**, Comparison of on-target heterozygous SNV and indel call rate with putative *de novo* mutation calls. For each proband ( $N = 623$ ), the number of heterozygous SNV and indel calls is compared with the number of putative *de novo* mutations (child heterozygous, both parents homozygous

reference). Proband are coloured by sequencing centre (see Supplementary Information for differences in exome capture), and six trios are noticeable outliers from all others (marked by 'x') in terms of number of putative *de novo* mutations. **c**, Variation in sequencing coverage between and across trios and sequencing centres. For each trio ( $N = 623$ ), the number of bases covered by 10 reads or more for each member (marked by 'x') and the joint coverage<sup>9</sup> in all three members (marked by points) are plotted at corresponding horizontal points; trios are sorted in increasing order of joint coverage and coloured by sequencing centre (see Supplementary Information). The intersection of each exome capture with the RefSeq coding sequence is marked by respective dotted lines.





**Extended Data Figure 3 | *De novo* mutation counts and rates.**

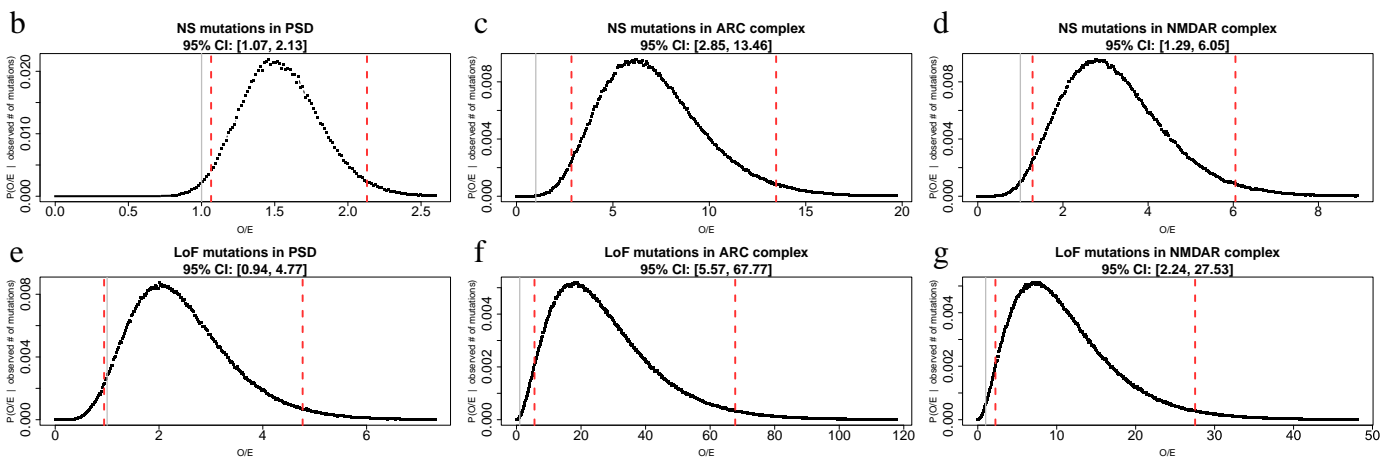
**a**, The observed distribution of number of validated RefSeq-coding (see Supplementary Information) *de novo* mutations found for each trio ( $N = 617$ ) is compared with that expected from a Poisson distribution with a rate equal to the observed mean number of *de novo* mutations ( $\lambda = 1.032$ ). **b**, Deleterious mutation rate inversely correlates with academic performance. Individuals were grouped according to their final school grade (3–6, corresponding to D, C,

B, A in the US system, <http://www.fulbright.bg/en/p-Educational-System-of-Bulgaria-18/>), and the proportion of individuals with one or more *de novo* loss-of-function mutations is plotted.  $N$ , number of individuals in each group. See Supplementary Information for details on linear regression performed to evaluate association; note that 19 samples were removed from this analysis for missing parental age or school grade information, leaving a total of 598 trios.

**a**

| Gene set      | # genes | Mut type | # mut hitting set | p-value | Genes hit (counts)   | <i>de novo</i> *CNV p-value (Kirov et al., 2012) | <i>de novo</i> CNV genes  | Case-control CNVs p-value (Kirov et al., 2012) |
|---------------|---------|----------|-------------------|---------|--|--|---|--|
| PSD           | 681     | NS       | 34                | 0.019   | ACTN1, ANK1, BAIAP2(x2), BRSK1, CAPN5, DLG1, DLG2, EPB41, EPB41L1, FARSA, GIT1, GNB2, HSP90AA1, HSPA8(x2), ITSN1, KIF1A, MYH11, MYH9, MYO18A, NCKIPSD, NFASC, NRXN1, PLXNA1, PTK2B, RIMS1, SHANK1, SLC25A12, SND1, SORBS2, SRCIN1, UNC13A, YWHAZ | 4.50E-02   | ALDOA, CYFIP1, DLG1, DLG2, DLGAP1, HSPB1, MAPK3, MDH2, RPH3A, RYR2, SND1, STX1A, TAOK2, TJP1, YWHAG | -  |
|               |         | LoF      | 6                 | 0.091   | DLG2, HSP90AA1, HSPA8, ITSN1, NCKIPSD, SHANK1  |  |   |  |
| ARC complex   | 28      | NS       | 6                 | 0.0005  | BAIAP2(x2), DLG1, DLG2, HSPA8(x2)  | 2.51E-04   | CYFIP1, DLG1, DLG2, DLGAP1  | 0.14   |
|               |         | LoF      | 2                 | 0.005   | DLG2, HSPA8  |  |   |  |
| NMDAR complex | 60      | NS       | 6                 | 0.025   | DLG1, DLG2, GNB2, PTK2B, SHANK1, YWHAZ   | 6.30E-03   | MAPK3, STX1A, TJP1, YWHAG   | 1.50E-03                                       |
|               |         | LoF      | 2                 | 0.035   | DLG2, SHANK1   |  |   |  |

\* compared to control *de novo* CNVs



#### Extended Data Figure 4 | Enrichment of *de novo* SNVs, indels and CNVs in genes encoding postsynaptic complexes at glutamatergic synapses.

**a**, Number of *de novo* mutations ( $N$  cases = 617) in postsynaptic complexes in current study (and genes affected) are shown alongside the most conservative estimate of *de novo* CNV enrichment from ref. 20 ( $N$  cases studied = 662). NS, nonsynonymous, LoF, loss-of-function, PSD, postsynaptic density. The NMDAR complex gene set was derived a priori from a published proteomics data set<sup>42</sup>. To avoid investigator bias, we did not add additional members *post hoc*, thus omitting genes with *de novo* mutations and important NMDAR functions; these include *GRIN2A*, which encodes a subunit of the NMDA receptor itself, and *AKAP9*, which directly anchors protein complexes involved in signalling at NMDA receptors<sup>43</sup>.  $P < 0.05$  are marked in bold as are

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genes hit by mutations in the current study and by *de novo* CNVs in ref. 20. **b–g**, 95% credible intervals (CI) for fold-enrichment statistics of *de novo* mutations in postsynaptic gene sets (corresponding to enrichments in **a**, above, and as marked) were calculated from the posterior distributions of fold-enrichment (O/E, observed to expected) statistic values for individuals in this study. Point estimates of O/E are given in Table 3, and correspond to the distribution modes here. The 95% CI is marked by red vertical lines, and a null effect size (value of 1) is marked by a grey line. Note that loss-of-function mutations in the large postsynaptic density set are not significantly enriched, and thus the corresponding CI includes an effect size of 1. All posterior distributions were calculated using dnenrich, as described in the Supplementary Information.

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**Extended Data Table 1 | Stratification of *de novo* mutations based on polygenic burden, presence of a 'pathogenic' CNV, or poor scholastic achievement**

**a**

|          | Proband with top 50% of polygenic scores | Proband with bottom 50% of polygenic scores | Proband with top 50% of polygenic scores or a 'pathogenic' CNV | Proband with bottom 50% of polygenic scores and no 'pathogenic' CNV |
|----------|--|---|--|---|
| NS       | 210                                      | 229   | 228  | 214   |
| S        | 71                                       | 66  | 74   | 63  |
| Ratio    | 2.96                                     | 3.47  | 3.08   | 3.4   |
| <i>P</i> | 0.43                                     |   | 0.63   |   |

|          | Proband with top 50% of polygenic scores | Proband with bottom 50% of polygenic scores | Proband with top 50% of polygenic scores or a 'pathogenic' CNV | Proband with bottom 50% of polygenic scores and no 'pathogenic' CNV |
|----------|--|---|--|---|
| LoF      | 24                                       | 29  | 26   | 27  |
| missense | 182                                      | 196   | 198  | 183   |
| Ratio    | 0.13                                     | 0.15  | 0.13   | 0.15  |
| <i>P</i> | 0.77                                     |   | 0.77   |   |

**b**

|   | Controls <sup>7-10,13-14</sup> | Proband with poor scholastic performance (school grades 3 or 4) | Proband with high scholastic performance (school grades 5 or 6) |
|---|--------------------------------|---|---|
| NS                                      | 434                            | 222   | 242   |
| S                                       | 155                            | 67  | 84  |
| Ratio                                   | 2.8                            | 3.3   | 2.9   |
| <i>P</i> vs poor scholastic performance | 0.32                           | -   | 0.51  |

|   | Controls <sup>7-10,13-14</sup> | Proband with poor scholastic performance (school grades 3 or 4) | Proband with high scholastic performance (school grades 5 or 6) |
|---|--------------------------------|---|---|
| LoF                                     | 49                             | 40  | 23  |
| missense                                | 376                            | 177   | 214   |
| Ratio                                   | 0.13                           | 0.23  | 0.11  |
| <i>P</i> vs poor scholastic performance | 0.021                          | -   | 0.0095  |

**c**

| Gene set                       | Genes (N) | All probands    |       |                |       | Exclude probands with lowest school grade (3) |       |               |       | Exclude probands with a 'pathogenic' CNV or with a polygenic score in the top 5% among probands |       |               |       |
|--------------------------------|-----------|-----------------|-------|----------------|-------|---|-------|---------------|-------|---|-------|---------------|-------|
|                                |           | NS (482)        |       | LoF (64)       |       | NS (398)                                      |       | LoF (49)      |       | NS (423)  |       | LoF (54)      |       |
|                                |           | <i>P</i>        | # mut | <i>P</i>       | # mut | <i>P</i>                                      | # mut | <i>P</i>      | # mut | <i>P</i>  | # mut | <i>P</i>      | # mut |
| PSD                            | 681       | <b>0.019</b>    | 34    | 0.091          | 6     | <b>0.0033</b>                                 | 32    | <b>0.031</b>  | 6     | <b>0.039</b>  | 29    | <b>0.047</b>  | 6     |
| ARC complex                    | 28        | <b>0.00048</b>  | 6     | <b>0.005</b>   | 2     | <b>0.0002</b>                                 | 6     | <b>0.0036</b> | 2     | <b>0.0019</b>   | 5     | <b>0.0048</b> | 2     |
| NMDAR complex                  | 60        | <b>0.025</b>    | 6     | <b>0.035</b>   | 2     | <b>0.036</b>                                  | 5     | <b>0.02</b>   | 2     | <b>0.045</b>  | 5     | <b>0.026</b>  | 2     |
| FMRP targets                   | 784       | <b>0.0094</b>   | 64    | 0.37           | 7     | <b>0.0041</b>                                 | 56    | 0.28          | 6     | <b>0.031</b>  | 54    | 0.55          | 5     |
| actin filament bundle assembly | 34        | <b>6.57E-06</b> | 8     | 1              | 0     | <b>0.0023</b>                                 | 5     | 1             | 0     | <b>0.0005</b>   | 6     | 1             | 0     |
| autism LoF genes               | 128       | <b>0.015</b>    | 11    | <b>0.00072</b> | 4     | 0.41  | 6     | 0.52          | 1     | <b>0.025</b>  | 9     | <b>0.0013</b> | 3     |
| ID LoF genes                   | 30        | 0.27            | 1     | <b>0.019</b>   | 1     | 1   | 0     | 1             | 0     | 0.22  | 1     | <b>0.016</b>  | 1     |

**a**, Ratios of nonsynonymous to synonymous (NS:S) and loss-of-function to missense (LoF:missense) *de novo* mutations were compared (Fisher's exact test) between those found in individuals with a high polygenic score (top 50%) and those in the individuals in the bottom 50% of the polygenic score distribution (scores previously generated for this sample<sup>44</sup>). Individuals were additionally split based on the presence of a 'pathogenic' CNV. A 'pathogenic' CNV was defined as either a *de novo* CNV identified for these samples in ref. 20, or a CNV associated with psychiatric disease<sup>1</sup>. *P* values were computed using Fisher's exact test as in Table 2. **b**, Ratios of NS:S and LoF:missense *de novo* mutations were compared (Fisher's exact test) between schizophrenia probands with poor scholastic performance and (1) controls; (2) probands with high scholastic performance. Nominally significant results (*P* < 0.05) are marked in bold. **c**, Enrichment of *de novo* mutations (as calculated by dnenrich, see Supplementary Information) including all individuals, after excluding individuals with the lowest scholastic achievement (a school grade of 3), or excluding those with a 'pathogenic' CNV (see above) or a polygenic score in the top 5% of the distribution (see above). These secondary exclusion analyses were performed on those gene sets identified as significant in the analyses of the full set; statistics shown as in Table 3. Total numbers of nonsynonymous (NS) and loss-of-function (LoF) mutations in each subset of probands are given in parentheses, and *P* < 0.05 are marked in bold. PSD, postsynaptic density.

44. Ruderfer, D. M, et al. A family-based study of common polygenic variation and risk of schizophrenia. *Mol. Psychiatry* **16**, 887–888 (2011).

Extended Data Table 2 | Genes overlapped by two nonsynonymous *de novo* mutations in schizophrenia probands

| 18 genes with recurrent nonsynonymous <i>de novo</i> s mutations ( $p = 0.0314$ ) |                          |  |  |                                 |
|---|--------------------------|--|--|---------------------------------|
| Gene  | De novo mutations        | Nominal $p$ -value for recurrence of NS (LoF) <i>de novo</i> s | Case/control counts of rare (MAF < 0.001) LoF mutations in Purcell, et al. <sup>15</sup> | Nominal case/control $p$ -value |
| AKD1  | frameshift, missense     | 0.0024   | 2/8  | 1                               |
| BAIAP2  | codon-deletion, missense | 0.00042  | 1/0  | 0.53                            |
| C7orf60   | missense (x2)            | 0.00013  | 0/0  | 1                               |
| CD14  | missense (x2)            | 0.00021  | 0/0  | 1                               |
| HSPA8   | frameshift, missense     | 0.00035  | 0/0  | 1                               |
| HUWE1   | missense (x2)            | 0.014  | 0/0  | 1                               |
| KIAA1244  | missense (x2)            | 0.0041   | 0/0  | 1                               |
| KIF18A  | missense (x2)            | 0.00063  | 1/0  | 0.52                            |
| LPHN2   | missense, nonsense       | 0.0014   | 0/0  | 1                               |
| MUC6  | missense (x2)            | 0.0059   | 3/5  | 1                               |
| NIPAL3  | missense, nonsense       | 0.00017  | 0/0  | 1                               |
| NLRC5   | missense (x2)            | 0.0025   | 3/4  | 1                               |
| PHC2  | missense (x2)            | 0.00072  | 0/0  | 1                               |
| PHF7  | missense, nonsense       | 9.80E-05   | 0/0  | 1                               |
| PIK3C2B   | frameshift, missense     | 0.0024   | 3/0  | 0.11                            |
| PSPC1   | missense, nonsense       | 0.00034  | 0/0  | 1                               |
| RYR3  | missense (x2)            | 0.018  | 4/1  | 0.22                            |
| TAF13   | frameshift, nonsense     | 1.5e-05 ( <b>1.2e-06</b> )                                     | 1/0  | 0.53                            |

Genes hit by nonsynonymous (NS) mutations in two different probands with schizophrenia ( $N = 18$ ) are listed, with the expected functional impact of those mutations and the nominal  $P$  value for genic recurrence (calculated by dnenrich); for the single instance of two loss-of-function alleles in a single gene (*TAF13*), the  $P$  value for loss-of-function recurrence is given in parentheses; this is bolded since it is significant after Bonferroni correction for multiple testing of all genes (see Supplementary Information). Also shown are the case/control counts from the parallel exome sequencing study<sup>15</sup> and the corresponding nominal  $P$  value for association with schizophrenia.

**Extended Data Table 3 | Enrichment of *de novo* mutations in genes targeted by FMRP and conditional analysis of enrichment in postsynaptic density complexes**

| Genes tested                         | Mutations<br>Genes (N) | Current study |       |          |       | Schizophrenia (ref. 14) |       |          |       | Schizophrenia (ref. 13) |       |          |       | Autism spectrum disorder <sup>6-9</sup> |       |           |       | Intellectual disability <sup>10,11</sup> |       |          |       |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------|---------------|-------|----------|-------|-------------------------|-------|----------|-------|-------------------------|-------|----------|-------|---|-------|-----------|-------|--|-------|----------|-------|
|                                      |                        | NS (482)      |       | LoF (64) |       | NS (68)                 |       | LoF (12) |       | NS (137)                |       | LoF (20) |       | NS (789)                                |       | LoF (134) |       | NS (141)                                 |       | LoF (34) |       |
|                                      |                        | <i>P</i>      | # mut | <i>P</i> | # mut | <i>P</i>                | # mut | <i>P</i> | # mut | <i>P</i>                | # mut | <i>P</i> | # mut | <i>P</i>                                | # mut | <i>P</i>  | # mut | <i>P</i>                                 | # mut | <i>P</i> | # mut |
| FMRP targets (ALL)                   | 784                    | 0.0094        | 64    | 0.37     | 7     | 0.065                   | 11    | 1        | 0     | 0.027                   | 21    | 0.55     | 2     | 0.003                                   | 102   | 0.0003    | 26    | 2.00E-05                                 | 40    | 0.00068  | 10    |
| FMRP targets not ARC complex         | 768                    | 0.011         | 63    | 0.52     | 6     | 0.061                   | 11    | 1        | 0     | 0.023                   | 21    | 0.54     | 2     | 0.0046                                  | 100   | 0.00052   | 25    | 2.00E-05                                 | 35    | 0.0094   | 8     |
| FMRP targets not NMDAR complex       | 753                    | 0.016         | 61    | 0.67     | 5     | 0.055                   | 11    | 1        | 0     | 0.062                   | 19    | 0.84     | 1     | 0.0096                                  | 96    | 0.0004    | 25    | 2.00E-05                                 | 32    | 0.17     | 5     |
| FMRP targets not ARC or NMDAR        | 745                    | 0.014         | 61    | 0.67     | 5     | 0.053                   | 11    | 1        | 0     | 0.059                   | 19    | 0.84     | 1     | 0.012                                   | 95    | 0.00088   | 24    | 2.00E-05                                 | 31    | 0.35     | 4     |
| FMRP targets excluding all PSD genes | 615                    | 0.02          | 51    | 0.68     | 4     | 0.037                   | 10    | 1        | 0     | 0.12                    | 15    | 0.77     | 1     | 0.013                                   | 80    | 0.0094    | 18    | 2.00E-05                                 | 29    | 0.22     | 4     |
| ARC complex (ALL)                    | 28                     | 0.00048       | 6     | 0.005    | 2     | 1                       | 0     | 1        | 0     | 1                       | 0     | 1        | 0     | 0.22                                    | 3     | 0.22      | 1     | 2.00E-05                                 | 5     | 0.0015   | 2     |
| ARC complex and FMRP target          | 16                     | 0.46          | 1     | 0.068    | 1     | 1                       | 0     | 1        | 0     | 1                       | 0     | 1        | 0     | 0.26                                    | 2     | 0.14      | 1     | 2.00E-05                                 | 5     | 0.00084  | 2     |
| ARC complex not FMRP targets         | 12                     | 6.00E-05      | 5     | 0.045    | 1     | 1                       | 0     | 1        | 0     | 1                       | 0     | 1        | 0     | 0.47                                    | 1     | 1         | 0     | 1  | 0     | 1        | 0     |
| NMDAR complex (ALL)                  | 60                     | 0.025         | 6     | 0.035    | 2     | 1                       | 0     | 1        | 0     | 0.13                    | 2     | 0.086    | 1     | 0.031                                   | 8     | 0.46      | 1     | 2.00E-05                                 | 8     | 2.00E-05 | 5     |
| NMDAR complex and FMRP target        | 31                     | 0.17          | 3     | 0.016    | 2     | 1                       | 0     | 1        | 0     | 0.061                   | 2     | 0.055    | 1     | 0.031                                   | 6     | 0.33      | 1     | 2.00E-05                                 | 8     | 2.00E-05 | 5     |
| NMDAR complex not FMRP targets       | 29                     | 0.04          | 3     | 1        | 0     | 1                       | 0     | 1        | 0     | 1                       | 0     | 1        | 0     | 0.36                                    | 2     | 1         | 0     | 1  | 0     | 1        | 0     |

Enrichment was tested using dnenrich (Supplementary Information). Columns are as in Table 3, and *P* < 0.05 are marked in bold. PSD, postsynaptic density.

Extended Data Table 4 | Brain expression biases of genes affected by *de novo* mutations

a

| Brain region | Mutations        |           | Current study |       |          |       | Schizophrenia (ref. 14) |       |          |       | Schizophrenia (ref. 13) |       |          |       | Autism spectrum disorder <sup>6,9</sup> |       |                |       | Intellectual disability <sup>10,11</sup> |       |          |       |
|--------------|------------------|-----------|---------------|-------|----------|-------|-------------------------|-------|----------|-------|-------------------------|-------|----------|-------|---|-------|----------------|-------|--|-------|----------|-------|
|              | Expression bias? | Genes (N) | NS (482)      |       | LoF (64) |       | NS (68)                 |       | LoF (12) |       | NS (137)                |       | LoF (20) |       | NS (789)                                |       | LoF (134)      |       | NS (141)                                 |       | LoF (34) |       |
|              |                  |           | P             | # mut | P        | # mut | P                       | # mut | P        | # mut | P                       | # mut | P        | # mut | P                                       | # mut | P              | # mut | P  | # mut | P        | # mut |
| HPC          | none             | 5373      | 0.72          | 106   | 0.1      | 19    | 0.72                    | 14    | 0.52     | 3     | 0.41                    | 33    | 0.48     | 5     | 0.36                                    | 186   | 0.54           | 30    | 0.95                                     | 25    | 0.8      | 6     |
|              | prenatal         | 6444      | 0.45          | 175   | 0.81     | 22    | 0.12                    | 30    | 0.91     | 3     | 0.32                    | 53    | 0.52     | 8     | <b>0.00028</b>                          | 332   | <b>0.021</b>   | 63    | 0.14                                     | 57    | 0.21     | 16    |
|              | postnatal        | 7299      | 0.13          | 196   | 0.63     | 22    | 0.78                    | 23    | 0.21     | 6     | 0.82                    | 47    | 0.44     | 8     | 1                                       | 258   | 0.99           | 37    | 0.33                                     | 57    | 0.57     | 12    |
| PFC          | none             | 4997      | 0.36          | 104   | 0.41     | 14    | 0.99                    | 7     | 0.72     | 2     | 0.9                     | 23    | 0.94     | 2     | 0.92                                    | 149   | 0.89           | 22    | 0.89                                     | 24    | 0.71     | 6     |
|              | prenatal         | 6266      | 0.44          | 174   | 0.52     | 25    | 0.071                   | 31    | 0.54     | 5     | 0.18                    | 55    | 0.34     | 9     | <b>6.00E-05</b>                         | 333   | <b>0.00084</b> | 69    | 0.052                                    | 60    | 0.2      | 16    |
|              | postnatal        | 7853      | 0.34          | 200   | 0.59     | 24    | 0.37                    | 29    | 0.5      | 5     | 0.59                    | 54    | 0.35     | 9     | 0.97                                    | 294   | 0.99           | 39    | 0.68                                     | 55    | 0.69     | 12    |

b

| Brain expression? | Mutations |               | Current study |              |          |      | Schizophrenia (ref. 14) |      |          |      | Schizophrenia (ref. 13) |      |          |                 | Autism spectrum disorder <sup>6,9</sup> |                |           |                 | Intellectual disability <sup>10,11</sup> |               |          |  |
|-------------------|-----------|---------------|---------------|--------------|----------|------|-------------------------|------|----------|------|-------------------------|------|----------|-----------------|---|----------------|-----------|-----------------|--|---------------|----------|--|
|                   | Genes (N) | P             | NS (482)      |              | LoF (64) |      | NS (68)                 |      | LoF (12) |      | NS (137)                |      | LoF (20) |                 | NS (789)                                |                | LoF (134) |                 | NS (141)                                 |               | LoF (34) |  |
|                   |           |               | # mut         | P            | # mut    | P    | # mut                   | P    | # mut    | P    | # mut                   | P    | # mut    | P               | # mut                                   | P              | # mut     | P               | # mut                                    | P             | # mut    |  |
| low               | 5851      | 0.89          | 118           | 0.97         | 11       | 0.48 | 19                      | 0.17 | 5        | 0.31 | 40                      | 0.44 | 6        | 0.99            | 185                                     | 1              | 22        | 1               | 23                                       | 1             | 2        |  |
| high              | 9279      | <b>0.0058</b> | 264           | <b>0.016</b> | 40       | 0.45 | 34                      | 0.57 | 6        | 0.12 | 74                      | 0.34 | 11       | <b>2.00E-05</b> | 442                                     | <b>0.00018</b> | 86        | <b>6.00E-05</b> | 93                                       | <b>0.0007</b> | 26       |  |
| prenatal          | 7962      | 0.33          | 225           | 0.39         | 32       | 0.74 | 29                      | 0.97 | 3        | 0.2  | 68                      | 0.65 | 9        | <b>0.00054</b>  | 405                                     | <b>0.00024</b> | 83        | 0.35            | 67                                       | 0.21          | 19       |  |
| postnatal         | 2393      | 0.17          | 64            | 0.54         | 7        | 0.68 | 7                       | 0.74 | 1        | 0.96 | 10                      | 0.65 | 2        | 0.95            | 79                                      | 0.88           | 11        | 0.71            | 15                                       | 0.89          | 2        |  |

**a**, Enrichment of *de novo* mutations (as calculated by dnenrich, see Supplementary Information) falling in genes with pre- or postnatal brain expression bias. Number and significance of overlap of mutations in schizophrenia, autism and intellectual disability in genes with no brain expression bias, or with a pre- or postnatal expression bias in the brain, based on Human Brain Transcriptome (HBT) data as used in ref. 13 (see Supplementary Information), for two brain regions; HPC, hippocampus; PFC, prefrontal cortex. Columns are as in Table 3, and  $P < 0.05$  are marked in bold. **b**, Enrichment of *de novo* mutations (as calculated by dnenrich, see Supplementary Information) on the basis of RNA-seq-based brain expression and developmental trajectory. Number and significance of overlap of mutations in schizophrenia, autism and intellectual disability in genes not expressed in the brain, highly expressed in the brain, or with a pre- or postnatal expression bias in the brain (rows), based on BrainSpan RNA-seq data (see Supplementary Information). Columns are as in Table 3, and  $P < 0.05$  are marked in bold.

Extended Data Table 5 | Comparison of genes hit by *de novo* mutations between this study and other disease studies and control individuals

| Mutations (N)                            |           | Current study |       |                |       | Schizophrenia (ref. 14) |       |             |       | Schizophrenia (ref. 13) |       |               |       | Autism spectrum disorder <sup>6-9</sup> |       |                 |       | Intellectual disability <sup>10,11</sup> |       |                 |       | Controls <sup>7-10,13-14</sup> |       |          |       |
|--|-----------|---------------|-------|----------------|-------|-------------------------|-------|-------------|-------|-------------------------|-------|---------------|-------|---|-------|-----------------|-------|--|-------|-----------------|-------|--------------------------------|-------|----------|-------|
|  |           | NS (482)      |       | LoF (64)       |       | NS (68)                 |       | LoF (12)    |       | NS (137)                |       | LoF (20)      |       | NS (789)                                |       | LoF (134)       |       | NS (141)                                 |       | LoF (34)        |       | NS (434)                       |       | LoF (49) |       |
| Gene set                                 | Genes (N) | P             | # mut | P              | # mut | P                       | # mut | P           | # mut | P                       | # mut | P             | # mut | P                                       | # mut | P               | # mut | P  | # mut | P               | # mut | P                              | # mut | P        | # mut |
| Current study                            | NS (464)  |               |       |                |       | 0.16                    | 6     | <b>0.03</b> | 3     | 0.85                    | 4     | 0.29          | 1     | <b>0.016</b>                            | 55    | <b>0.0066</b>   | 15    | <b>0.044</b>                             | 13    | 0.26            | 3     | 0.61                           | 21    | 0.72     | 2     |
|  | LoF (63)  |               |       | -              |       | <b>0.014</b>            | 3     | 0.088       | 1     | 1                       | 0     | 1             | 0     | <b>0.0023</b>                           | 14    | <b>0.00012</b>  | 7     | <b>0.019</b>                             | 4     | <b>0.002</b>    | 3     | 1                              | 0     | 1        | 0     |
| Schizophrenia (ref. 14)                  | NS (67)   | 0.22          | 6     | <b>0.021</b>   | 3     |                         |       |             |       | 0.31                    | 2     | 0.16          | 1     | 0.47                                    | 7     | 0.11            | 3     | 0.67                                     | 1     | 1               | 0     | 0.48                           | 4     | 1        | 0     |
|  | LoF (12)  | 0.051         | 3     | 0.11           | 1     |                         |       |             |       | 0.21                    | 1     | 1             | 0     | 0.15                                    | 3     | 0.21            | 1     | 0.21                                     | 1     | 1               | 0     | 1                              | 0     | 1        | 0     |
| Schizophrenia (ref. 13)                  | NS (136)  | 0.79          | 5     | 1              | 0     | 0.25                    | 2     | 0.15        | 1     |                         |       |               |       | 0.083                                   | 16    | 1               | 0     | 0.13                                     | 4     | <b>0.012</b>    | 3     | 0.081                          | 10    | 0.49     | 1     |
|  | LoF (20)  | 0.24          | 2     | 1              | 0     | 0.13                    | 1     | 1           | 0     |                         |       |               |       | 1                                       | 0     | 1               | 0     | <b>0.0026</b>                            | 3     | <b>4.00E-05</b> | 3     | 0.21                           | 2     | 1        | 0     |
| Autism spectrum disorder <sup>6-9</sup>  | NS (743)  | 0.14          | 45    | <b>0.023</b>   | 9     | 0.49                    | 6     | 0.13        | 3     | 0.32                    | 14    | 1             | 0     |   |       |                 |       | <b>6.00E-05</b>                          | 24    | <b>2.00E-05</b> | 12    | 0.26                           | 38    | 0.64     | 4     |
|  | LoF (128) | <b>0.015</b>  | 11    | <b>0.00072</b> | 4     | 0.11                    | 2     | 0.17        | 1     | 1                       | 0     | 1             | 0     |   |       |                 |       | <b>2.00E-05</b>                          | 8     | <b>2.00E-05</b> | 5     | 0.36                           | 8     | 0.52     | 1     |
| Intellectual disability <sup>10,11</sup> | NS (132)  | <b>0.032</b>  | 9     | <b>0.031</b>   | 1     | 0.56                    | 1     | 0.14        | 1     | 0.14                    | 2     | <b>0.01</b>   | 1     | <b>2.00E-05</b>                         | 24    | <b>2.00E-05</b> | 7     |  |       |                 |       | 0.37                           | 7     | 0.46     | 1     |
|  | LoF (30)  | 0.27          | 1     | <b>0.019</b>   | 1     | 1                       | 0     | 1           | 0     | <b>0.046</b>            | 1     | <b>0.0062</b> | 1     | <b>2.00E-05</b>                         | 15    | <b>2.00E-05</b> | 5     |  |       |                 |       | 1                              | 0     | 1        | 0     |
| Controls <sup>7-10,13-14</sup>           | NS (424)  | 0.59          | 21    | 1              | 0     | 0.41                    | 4     | 1           | 0     | 0.15                    | 9     | 0.26          | 2     | 0.062                                   | 41    | 0.31            | 8     | 0.48                                     | 7     | 1               | 0     |                                |       |          |       |
|  | LoF (49)  | 0.6           | 2     | 1              | 0     | 1                       | 0     | 1           | 0     | 0.44                    | 1     | 1             | 0     | 0.42                                    | 4     | 0.45            | 1     | 0.45                                     | 1     | 1               | 0     |                                |       |          |       |

Each set of columns gives the number of mutations (either nonsynonymous (NS) or loss-of-function (LoF)) and enrichment *P* value (as calculated by dnenrich, see Supplementary Information) in the set of genes hit by *de novo* mutations in the study listed in the corresponding row. For example, the first two rows detail the significance of the overlap of the mutations from other studies of disease hitting the genes hit by mutations in this study. Nominally significant *P* values (<0.05) are marked in bold. Disease sets and functional classes are as listed in Table 2.

Extended Data Table 6 | Mammalian conservation at *de novo* mutation sites and of genes hit by *de novo* mutations

**(a) GERP score of NS Mutations**

|  | median ( <i>N</i> ) | Intellectual disability <sup>10,11</sup> | Autism spectrum disorder <sup>6-9</sup> | Current study  |
|--|---------------------|--|---|----------------|
| Intellectual disability <sup>10,11</sup> | 4.89 (141)          | -  | <b>0.028</b>                            | <b>0.00053</b> |
| Autism spectrum disorder <sup>6-9</sup>  | 4.72 (780)          | 0.972                                    | -                                       | <b>0.013</b>   |
| Current study                            | 4.48 (481)          | 0.999                                    | 0.987                                   | -              |

**(b) GERP score of genes containing NS mutations**

|  | median ( <i>N</i> ) | Intellectual disability <sup>10,11</sup> | Autism spectrum disorder <sup>6-9</sup> | Current study   |
|--|---------------------|--|---|-----------------|
| Intellectual disability <sup>10,11</sup> | 4.75 (141)          | -  | <b>0.00015</b>                          | <b>0.000009</b> |
| Autism spectrum disorder <sup>6-9</sup>  | 4.27 (780)          | 0.9999                                   | -                                       | 0.166           |
| Current study                            | 4.2 (481)           | 1.0000                                   | 0.834                                   | -               |

**(c) Variant term from joint linear model of variant and gene GERP scores**

| Comparison   | Coefficient  | P-value      |
|--|--------------|--------------|
| Intellectual disability > Autism spectrum disorder | 0.052        | 0.270        |
| Intellectual disability > Current study            | <b>0.102</b> | <b>0.044</b> |
| Autism spectrum disorder > Current study           | 0.039        | 0.079        |

Logistic regression model for ( $X > Y$ ): type ~ gene\_gerp + variant\_gerp

**a.** Mann–Whitney rank test of the Genomic Evolutionary Rate Profiling (GERP) score (see Supplementary Information) distributions of nonsynonymous (NS) *de novo* mutations between pairs of phenotypes, with significant pairwise comparisons ( $P < 0.05$ ) in bold. **b.** Mann–Whitney rank test of the median GERP scores of genes (see Supplementary Information) hit by nonsynonymous *de novo* mutations between pairs of phenotypes, with significant comparisons ( $P < 0.05$ ) in bold. **c.** Linear modelling of variant GERP and per-gene GERP was employed to test whether the differences observed in **a** were driven by those observed in **b**. The coefficients and *P* value of the variant GERP score (from the joint linear models) are shown, where, for example, “intellectual disability > current study” indicates a test of whether the conservation at sites of *de novo* mutations in intellectual disability is greater than that of mutations in schizophrenia (from the current study), after correcting for the fact that the mutations in intellectual disability hit genes with greater overall conservation (**b**).  $P < 0.05$  are marked in bold.