Role of CBP and SATB-1 in Aging, Dietary Restriction, and Insulin-Like Signaling

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Abstract
How dietary restriction (DR) increases lifespan and decreases disease burden are questions of major interest in biomedical research. Here we report that hypothalamic expression of CREB-binding protein (CBP) and CBP-binding partner Special AT-rich sequence binding protein 1 (SATB-1) is highly correlated with lifespan across five strains of mice, and expression of these genes decreases with age and diabetes in mice. Furthermore, in Caenorhabditis elegans, cbp-1 is induced by bacterial dilution DR (bDR) and the daf-2 mutation, and cbp-1 RNAi specifically in adults completely blocks lifespan extension by three distinct protocols of DR, partially blocks lifespan extension by the daf-2 mutation but not of cold, and blocks delay of other age-related pathologies by bDR. Inhibiting the C. elegans ortholog of SATB-1 and CBP-binding partners daf-16 and hsf-1 also attenuates lifespan extension by bDR, but not other protocols of DR. In a transgenic Aβ42 model of Alzheimer’s disease, cbp-1 RNAi prevents protective effects of bDR and accelerates Aβ42-related pathology. Furthermore, consistent with the function of CBP as a histone acetyltransferase, drugs that enhance histone acetylation increase lifespan and reduce Aβ42-related pathology, protective effects completely blocked by cbp-1 RNAi. Other factors implicated in lifespan extension are also CBP-binding partners, suggesting that CBP constitutes a common factor in the modulation of lifespan and disease burden by DR and the insulin/IGF1 signaling pathway.

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Abbreviations: bDR, DR produced by dilution of bacteria in liquid media to produce optimum lifespan; CBP, CREB-binding protein; CITED-1, CBP/p300-interacting transactivator with Glu/Asp-rich carboxy-terminal domain 1; DR, dietary restriction; FUDR, flurodeoxyuridine; HAT, histone acetyltransferase; HDAC, histone deacetylase; q-PCR, quantitative real-time PCR; RNAi, RNA interference; SATB-1, special AT-rich sequence binding protein 1; TSA, Trichostatin A.

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Introduction
Elicidation of mechanisms mediating lifespan extension and reduction of disease burden, including cancer and neurodegenerative diseases, by DR is a major goal of aging research [1]. Recent studies have implicated sirtuins [2], SKN-1 [3], SMK-1 and PHA-4/Foxa [4], AMPK [5], RHEB-1 [6], daf-16/Foxa1 [5], and HSF-1 [7] in mediating lifespan extension by some, but not all [8,9], protocols of DR, and the daf-2 mutation, and hsf-1 also attenuates lifespan extension by bDR, but not other protocols of DR. In a transgenic Aβ42 model of Alzheimer’s disease, cbp-1 RNAi prevents protective effects of bDR and accelerates Aβ42-related pathology. Furthermore, consistent with the function of CBP as a histone acetyltransferase, drugs that enhance histone acetylation increase lifespan and reduce Aβ42-related pathology, protective effects completely blocked by cbp-1 RNAi. Other factors implicated in lifespan extension are also CBP-binding partners, suggesting that CBP constitutes a common factor in the modulation of lifespan and disease burden by DR and the insulin/IGF1 signaling pathway.

Results
Expression of CBP and SATB-1 Predicts Lifespan and Decreases With Age and Diabetes in Mice
Since hypothalamic neurons mediate physiological responses to nutritional deprivation, we hypothesized that hypothalamic gene expression may play a role in mediating lifespan extension by DR [10], a hypothesis supported by the observation that two neurons mediate protective effects of DR in C. elegans [3]. In a small microarray survey to discover candidates that may mediate protective effects of DR, the only transcription factor we corroborated to be induced by nutritional deprivation in mouse hypothalamus was the transcription factor CBP/p300-interacting transactivator with Glu/Asp-rich carboxy-terminal domain 1 (CITED-1) [11]. In a larger microarray survey, we observed over 40 transcription factors induced by nutritional deprivation in mouse hypothalamus, among the most prominent of which were CBP and its co-factors.

Hypothesizing that expression of genes mediating lifespan extension by DR may also predict lifespan under ad lib fed conditions, we screened over 40 genes, including CBP and genes otherwise implicated in lifespan extension, to detect genes whose hypothalamic expression predicts lifespan across five strains of mice (BALB/cByJ, A/J, C3H/HeJ, DBA/2J, and C57Bl/6J) in order of increasing lifespan, based on published lifespan data (see Methods) [12,13]. Hypothalamic expression of CBP and SATB1 were highly and positively correlated with lifespan (Figure 1A and 1B), accounting for 84% and 81%, respectively, of lifespan variance. These results were corroborated in a second set of mice purchased over 2 y after the first strain comparison study, with...
Author Summary

The simple manipulation of dietary restriction (DR) (reduction of caloric intake by about 30% in rodents) produces robust increases in lifespan and slows the development of almost all age-related diseases, including cancer and neurological diseases. This relationship between dietary restriction and longevity is observed in most models in which the effect of DR has been tested. Thus, understanding how DR produces its protective mechanisms would have potentially profound implications for the treatment of age-related diseases, including possibly the development of a "magic bullet" for these diseases. In the present study we have discovered that DR induces a transcription factor, CBP, and additional factors that work with CBP to control the expression of other genes involved in determination of lifespan. When we blocked the DR-mediated increase in CBP and associated factors, we blocked all the protective effects of DR on lifespan extension, on the slowed rate of aging, and on protection against pathology in a model of Alzheimer’s disease. Further, in mice expression of CBP and a CBP-interacting factor positively predicted lifespan, and expression of both factors decreased with age and in diabetes. Finally, pharmacological manipulations that mimicked enhanced CBP activity increased lifespan and reduced pathology in a model of Alzheimer’s disease.


cbp-1 RNAi Completely Blocks Lifespan Extension by Three Protocols of DR in C. elegans

Three classes of protocols for DR have been used to extend lifespan in C. elegans: "aeonic" or "dietary deprivation" dietary restriction with no bacteria [16,17,5], genetic reduction of feeding rate (e.g., by mutation in the eat-2 gene [18]), or optimized bacterial dilution in liquid media (bDR) [19,3,8]. Lifespan extension by different DR protocols requires different sets of genes [9], although it has been argued that the optimized bacterial dilution method provides the most valid protocol [3,8]. We therefore used one protocol from each class of DR to assess the role of cbp-1 in lifespan extension by DR. First, entailing axenic liquid media, worms were maintained on standard solid agar plates in which bacteria (RNAi-bearing or control) were present on adult days 1–5, then transferred to liquid axenic media with no bacteria for the remainder of the study [16]. This protocol produces lifetime inhibition of the target gene (unpublished data), but to our knowledge no genes have previously been implicated in lifespan extension by axenic media [9]. Second, worms expressing the eat-2 mutation were maintained on standard solid media with bacteria; extension of lifespan by this protocol requires the activity of several genes implicated in aging including hsf-1 but not daf-16/foxO3a or eat-2/ampk [9]. Finally, worms were maintained in liquid media in which bacteria were diluted for optimum lifespan (bDR) [19,3,8]. The bacterial dilution producing the greatest average lifespan was determined by serial bacterial dilution, and the optimum concentration for longest lifespan was 10^9 bacteria/ml (Figure S1), similar to the optimum concentration previously reported [19]. Two other bacteria concentrations, 10^8 and 10^10 cells/ml, both of which reduced lifespan compared to 10^9 cells/ml (Figure S1), were used for comparison. In all studies worms were fed bacteria expressing control (L4440) or dsRNAi constructs in the adult phase only. The RNAi-sensitive rrf-3 strain [20] used in some of these studies exhibited the same average lifespan and lifespan extension as exhibited in the control n2 strain (Table S1).

The axenic media protocol increased average lifespan in worms fed control bacteria by about 50%, an extension of lifespan completely blocked by cbp-1 RNAi (Figure 2A, Table S1). The eat-2 mutation increased lifespan by about 20%, an extension also completely blocked by cbp-1 RNAi (Figure 2B, Table S1). At the optimum bacterial concentration (10^9 bacteria/ml), lifespan increased by about 65% relative to ad lib concentration (10^10) bacteria/ml, an extension also completely blocked by cbp-1 RNAi (Figure 2C, Table S1). Thus, inhibiting cbp-1 by only 50% specifically in the adult phase (Figure 1D) completely blocked lifespan extension by three distinct protocols of DR.

To assess the specificity of the reversal of DR-induced lifespan extension by cbp-1 RNAi, we assessed if cbp-1 RNAi, like daf-16 RNAi, would block lifespan extension by the daf-2 mutation. Under standard conditions the daf-2 mutation increased average lifespan by 157% (Figure 2D, Table S1), consistent with previous reports [21]. While in contrast to DR cbp-1 RNAi did not completely block lifespan extension by the daf-2 mutation, it did substantially reduce the degree of lifespan extension by the daf-2 mutation (Figure 2D, Table S1). While daf-16 RNAi and cbp-1 RNAi reduced average lifespan in ad lib conditions to about the same extent, cbp-1 RNAi completely blocked lifespan extension by bDR on lifespan but only partially blocked lifespan extension by the daf-2 mutation at the ad lib concentration. Conversely, daf-16 RNAi completely blocked lifespan extension by the daf-2 mutation but only partially blocked lifespan extension by bDR (Figure 2D, Table S1). Furthermore, whereas at the ad lib bacterial concentration in liquid media the daf-2 mutation increased lifespan by about 30% and optimum bacterial dilution increased lifespan by 65%, the daf-2 mutation further increased lifespan at the optimum bacterial concentration by 40% (Figure 2E, Table S1), consistent with previous conclusions that lifespan extension by the daf-2 pathway and by DR are mediated by additive mechanisms [19]. Nevertheless, cbp-1 RNAi completely blocked the increase in lifespan by the daf-2 mutation at the optimum bacterial concentration (Figure 2E, Table S1), suggesting that under conditions of bDR cbp-1 may participate in lifespan extension by the daf-2 mutation. Similarly, cbp-1 RNAi completely blocked lifespan extension by the gfp-1 and clk-1 mutations (Table S1), the latter observation consistent with a key role of electron chain transport complex I in mediating effects of DR on lifespan [14].
also the case with smk-1 RNAi [22] and pha-4 RNAi [4], similar to hsf-1 and dve-1/satb-1 RNAi; see below), the effect on mortality was only manifested late in life, indicating that increased mortality by cbp-1 RNAi is specific to the aging process. Furthermore, cbp-1 RNAi did not attenuate lifespan extension by low temperature (40% extension in controls vs. 44% extension in the cbp-1 RNAi group) (Figure 2F). Similarly, cbp-1 RNAi had no effect on lifespan in daf-16 hypomorphic (m26) worms (Figure 2G and Table S1), and combining both cbp-1 and daf-16 RNAi in wild-type N2 worms produced a similar reduction in lifespan as produced by either cbp-1 or daf-16 RNAi alone (Table S1). Taken together, these studies demonstrate that lifespan reduction by cbp-1 RNAi is not non-specific but depends on context, such that increased mortality due to cbp-1 RNAi depends on age and daf-16, is greatest under conditions of dietary restriction, and is minimal under ad lib fed conditions.

Figure 1. Expression of CBP and SATB-1 predicts lifespan, is reduced with aging and diabetes, and is induced by DR and the Daf-2 mutation. Hypothalamic mRNA, assessed by q-PCR, of (A) cbp (n = 10/group, p = 0.027, R² = 84%) and (B) satb-1 (n = 10/group, p = 0.036, R² = 81%) correlates with average lifespan across five mouse strains (Balb/cByJ, A/J, C3H/HeJ, DBA/2J, and C57Bl/6J, in order of increasing lifespan). (C) Cortical mRNA of CBP, SATB-1, HSF-1, and FOXO3A in young (10–12 wk), aged (18–19 mo), and diabetic male C57Bl/6J mice. Data are presented as mean ± SEM (n = 7–14/group, *p < 0.05). cbp-1 mRNA is (D) induced by bDR (10⁸-9 bacteria/ml) and inhibited by cbp-1 RNAi, and (E) induced by the daf-2 hypomorphic allele. (F) CBP-1 protein, assessed by immunoblotting, is induced by DR (10⁻⁹ bacteria/ml) and the daf-2 mutation.

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To more directly assess the impact of *cbp-1* on the rate of aging, we quantified the effect of *cbp-1* RNAi on mortality rate doubling time, using the Gompertz model for mortality rate, \( h(t) = Ae^{Gt} \), in which \( G \) reflects age-dependent acceleration of mortality rate and thus the rate of aging, whereas \( A \) reflects the initial or constant component of mortality rate [23]. The effect of bDR and *cbp-1* RNAi were calculated using an improved and validated algorithm, based on a validated non-linear regression algorithm, as recently described [24]. Based on these analyses, bDR significantly reduced

**Figure 2. Cbp-1 RNAi blocks life extension by DR produced by three protocols.** (A) Axenic media; adult *rf3* worms were fed bacteria expressing control L4440 or *cbp-1* dsRNA for 5 d, then transferred to liquid axenic media. (B) *eat-2* mutation; adult *eat-2* mutant worms (ad1113) were fed bacteria expressing control L4440 or *cbp-1* dsRNA. (C) Bacterial dilution (bDR); adult worms were grown in liquid media at three concentrations of bacteria expressing control L4440 or *cbp-1* dsRNA. (D) *daf-2* mutant or wild-type worms under standard conditions were fed bacteria expressing control L4440 or *cbp-1* dsRNA (*cbp-1* RNAi only partly blocks lifespan extension by the *daf-2* mutation; \( p < 0.05 \)). (E) *daf-2* mutant worms under optimum bacterial concentration (bDR) were fed bacteria expressing control L4440 or *cbp-1* dsRNA (*cbp-1* RNAi blocks lifespan extension by the both bDR and the *daf-2* mutation in these conditions). (F) Cold-induced longevity; adult worms were maintained under standard conditions at either 25 C or 16 C and fed bacteria expressing control L4440 or *cbp-1* dsRNA (40% extension in controls versus 44% extension in the *cbp-1* RNAi group; effect not significant). (G) *cbp-1* or control RNAi in *daf-16* hypomorphic worms (effect not significant).

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*cbp-1* RNAi Specifically Accelerates Aging

The effect of *cbp-1* RNAi on mortality rate doubling time, using the Gompertz model for mortality rate, \( h(t) = Ae^{Gt} \), in which \( G \) reflects age-dependent acceleration of mortality rate and thus the rate of aging, whereas \( A \) reflects the initial or constant component of mortality rate [23]. The effect of bDR and *cbp-1* RNAi were calculated using an improved and validated algorithm, based on a validated non-linear regression algorithm, as recently described [24]. Based on these analyses, bDR significantly reduced
the rate of aging, an effect reversed by cbp-1 RNAi (indeed, cbp-1 RNAi significantly accelerated the rate of aging; Figure 3A and Table S2). By the same analysis, the daf-2 mutation also significantly reduced the rate of aging, an effect similarly (though only partly) reversed both by cbp-1 RNAi and daf-16 RNAi (Figure 3B and Table S2). Another marker thought to reflect a fundamental process of aging, sensitivity to oxidative stress [25], as indicated by paraquat-induced mortality, was delayed by bDR

Figure 3. Cbp-1 RNAi accelerates aging without producing non-specific toxicity. cbp-1 RNAi reverses the reduction of mortality rate doubling time by (A) DR or (B) the daf-2 mutation. The Gompertz variables G and A were calculated using non-linear regression on the Kaplan-Meier estimates of the survivorship curves. Line was generated from the calculated value of G (slope) and A (intercept). Mortality rate doubling time equals to Ln2 divided by G. cbp-1 RNAi reverses resistance to 50 mM paraquat produced by (C) bDR or the (D) daf-2 mutation. Data are quantified as average survival time in the paraquat solution and presented as mean ± SEM (n = 30/group, *p < 0.01, **p < 0.001). (E) cbp-1 RNAi accelerates paralysis caused by age-dependent aggregation of transgenic human Aβ1-42. Data are quantified as average rate of paralysis per day and presented as mean ± SEM (n = 50–100/group). cbp-1 RNAi (F) increases autofluorescence but (G) does not reduce activity. Data are presented as mean ± SEM (n = 6–10/group, *p < 0.05).

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and the daf-2 mutation and strikingly enhanced by cbp-1 RNAi (Figure 3C and 3D).

Mechanisms by which DR increases lifespan are of interest, but of even greater interest are mechanisms by which DR reduces the burden of age-related pathologies, including such disparate diseases as cancer and neurodegeneration [1]. We therefore assessed if cbp-1 RNAi would block protective effects of bDR to delay the development of pathology in a transgenic model of Alzheimer’s disease produced by expression of human \( \alpha B42 \) in \( C. elegans \) (CL2006) [7,26]. Consistent with previous reports [7], bDR delayed the onset of paralysis produced by the human \( \alpha B42 \) transgene, and cbp-1 RNAi greatly accelerated the onset of paralysis (Figure 3E). However, since cbp-1 RNAi accelerated the onset of paralysis even in worms subjected to bDR (Figure 3E), and bDR significantly delayed the onset of paralysis even in the presence of cbp-1 RNAi, the effect of cbp-1 RNAi on \( \alpha B42 \)-dependent pathology may be independent of bDR.

To further assess if cbp-1 RNAi reduces lifespan by accelerating aging or producing general sickness, we examined if cbp-1 RNAi would increase autofluorescence, an indicator of aging, or reduce activity, an indicator of toxicity [27]. As a histone acetyltrasferase (HAT), CBP acetylates core histones and transcription factors [34], in particular histone H4 at lysine 5 [35]. To assess the relationship of HAT activity to lifespan, we examined acetylation of H4 Lys 5 during aging, and at lysine 5 [35]. To assess the relationship of HAT activity to lifespan, we examined acetylation of H4 Lys 5 during aging, and with bDR and cbp-1 RNAi. Acetylation of H4 Lys 5, but not total H4, decreased with age (Figure 5A) and with cbp-1 RNAi (Figure 5B) and increased with DR (Figure 5C).

Inhibition of Three CBP-Interacting Factors Attenuates Lifespan Extension by bDR

To discover genes mediating lifespan extension by bDR, we used RNAi to screen over 500 genes including factors that interact with CBP, are nutritionally regulated, or are otherwise reported to influence lifespan, for reduction of lifespan at the optimal bacterial concentration (see Methods). In this screen inhibition of only four genes reduced viability on adult day 20 at the optimum bacterial concentration: cbp-1, daf-16, hsf-1, and dve-1 (Defective proVEntriculus in Drosophila), the \( C. elegans \) ortholog of sod-3. More detailed lifespan studies corroborated that hsf-1, daf-16, and dve-1 attenuated lifespan extension by bDR, though daf-16 RNAi and dve-1 RNAi did not completely block lifespan extension by bDR (Table S1), whereas cbp-1 and hsf-1 RNAi did completely block lifespan extension by bDR (Table S1). Furthermore, daf-16 RNAi also completely blocked lifespan extension by the daf-2 mutation as previously reported [28], while hsf-1, dve-1, and cbp-1 RNAi only partially blocked life extension by the daf-2 mutation (Figure 4B).

As with cbp-1 RNAi directed against all of these three other genes products attenuated protection against oxidative stress by bDR (Figure 4C).

**Cbp-1 RNAi Blocks Effects of bDR on Expression of Genes Regulated by daf-16 and hsf-1 and Other Genes Regulating Metabolism**

Mammalian FOXO3A [29], HSF-1 [30], and SATB-1 [31] all interact with CBP. In \( C. elegans \), the interaction between DAF-16 and CBP-1 has been confirmed by yeast two-hybrid assays [29]. To assess possible interactions between \( C. elegans \) cbp-1 and these CBP-binding gene products, we assessed the effect of cbp-1 RNAi on genes regulated by daf-16 and hsf-1, daf-16 and hsf-1 were induced by bDR (Figure 4D and 4E), whereas, interestingly, dve-1 expression was not induced (unpublished data). Though cbp-1 RNAi did not block the induction of daf-16 or hsf-1 (Figure 4D and 4E) by bDR, it did block the induction of the DAF-16 target gene, sod-3 [32], and the HSF-1 target gene, sp-1 [28] by bDR (Figure 4F and 4G). cbp-1 RNAi also blocked the induction of sod-3 expression by daf-2 RNAi (Figure S5). In contrast, cbp-1 RNAi did not block increased Nile Red staining produced by the daf-2 mutation, and in fact further enhanced Nile Red staining in daf-2 mutant worms (Figure S5).

We also assessed the effects of bDR and cbp-1 RNAi on 17 genes regulating glycolysis and beta-oxidation of lipids (based on their regulation by nutritional deprivation [33]), since the shift away from glycolysis toward beta-oxidation may contribute to protective effects of DR to increase lifespan and decrease disease burden [14]. As expected [14,33], DR shifted metabolic balance away from glycolysis and toward beta-oxidation, as indicated by inhibited expression of \( Y71H10A.1 \), an ortholog of mammalian PFK, and \( F47G4.3 \), an ortholog of mammalian glyceraldehyde dehydrogenase, and induced expression of \( ZK370.5 \), an ortholog of pyruvate dehydrogenase kinase (Figures 4H, S8, and S9), and \( W03P9.4 \), an ortholog of mammalian CPT1 (Figure 4E), as well as genes promoting peroxisome metabolism (unpublished data). As with genes regulated by daf-16 and hsf-1, cbp-1 RNAi blocked the effect of bDR on every metabolic gene whose expression was influenced by bDR (Figures 4D, 4E, 4F, 4G, 4H, 4I, S8, and S9).

**Age-Related Decrease in Histone Acetylation Level Is Delayed by bDR and Accelerated by cbp-1 RNAi**

As a histone acetyltransferase (HAT), CBP acetylates core histones and transcription factors [34], in particular histone H4 at lysine 5 [35]. To assess the relationship of HAT activity to lifespan, we examined acetylation of H4 Lys 5 during aging, and with bDR and cbp-1 RNAi. Acetylation of H4 Lys 5, but not total H4, decreased with age (Figure 5A) and with cbp-1 RNAi (Figure 5B) and increased with DR (Figure 5C).

**HDAC Inhibitors Increase Lifespan Dependent on cbp-1 and Delay \( \alpha B42 \)-Dependent Paralysis**

To assess if mimicking HAT activity chemically mimics protective effects of DR, we examined if two HDAC inhibitors, sodium butyrate (NaB) and Trichostatin A (TSA), would increase lifespan and reduce paralysis produced by the \( \alpha B42 \)-transgene. Both HDAC inhibitors increased H4 Lys 5 acetylation (Figure 5D) and significantly increased lifespan at both ad lib and optimal bacterial concentrations, protective effects completely prevented by cbp-1 RNAi (Figure 5E, 5F, and 5G, and Table S1). Similarly both HDAC inhibitors significantly delayed the onset of paralysis produced by the \( \alpha B42 \)-transgene (Figure 5H).

**Discussion**

In the present studies, we used two complementary screens to discover genes implicated in lifespan: an expression screen to discover genes whose hypothalamic expression predicts lifespan across five strains of mice, and an RNAi screen to discover genes whose inhibition blocks life extension by bDR. In the expression screen, hypothalamic expression of CBP and SATB-1, but not other genes previously implicated in influencing lifespan [2–9], correlated positively with lifespan. Since it is unlikely that polymorphisms in any single gene could account for such a large degree of variance in lifespan [36], we hypothesize that the differential hypothalamic expression of CBP and SATB-1 across strains is a quantitative trait reflecting many polymorphisms, which however sum to produce genetic variance in lifespan. It is not yet clear if the differential expression of CBP and SATB-1 that correlates with lifespan is confined to the hypothalamus, but cbp-1 RNAi does produce dye-filling defects in all \( C. elegans \) amphid
neurons (ASI, ADL, ASK, AWB, ASH, and ASJ). (Figure S4), consistent with the observation that a small number of neurons mediates lifespan extension by DR [3]. The identity of hypothalamic neurons whose expression of CBP predicts lifespan is therefore of particular interest.

Similarly, among genes whose expression was examined (including those previously implicated in mediating protective effects of DR), expression of only CBP, SATB-1, and HSF-1 decrease with age and diabetes. In the initial RNAi screen in C. elegans, of over 500 genes potentially associated with CBP or
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otherwise implicated in mediating effects of DR, only four genes were implicated in subsequent detailed analysis of lifespan extension by bDR: cbp-1, daf-16, hsf-1, and dve-1, the C. elegans ortholog of SATB-1. It should be noted, however, that whereas cbp-1 and hsf-1 RNAi completely block lifespan extension by bDR, daf-16 and dve-1 RNAi only partially block lifespan extension by bDR. Since molecular mechanisms mediating DR depend on the protocol of DR [8,9], we further corroborated that cbp-1 RNAi blocks lifespan extension by the eat-2 mutation and liquid axenic media. To our knowledge cbp-1 is the only gene implicated in lifespan extension by three different protocols of DR; it will therefore be of interest to determine if there are any protocols of DR in which life extension is not blocked by cbp-1 RNAi [9].

Of the more than 500 genes screened in two distinct protocols, the gene most comprehensively implicated in mediating lifespan extension by bDR was cbp: expression of CBP accounts for the most variance in lifespan, decreases with age and diabetes, is induced by bDR and by the daf-2 mutation, and cbp-1 RNAi blocks lifespan extension by all three protocols of DR examined so far and partly attenuates lifespan extension by the daf-2 mutation. Expression of SATB-1 accounts for almost as much variance of lifespan and decreases with age and diabetes but is not induced by bDR, and dve-1 RNAi (ortholog of SATB-1) only partly blocks lifespan extension by bDR and the daf-2 mutation. Expression of HSF-1 decreases with age and diabetes and is induced by bDR, and hsf-1 RNAi completely blocks lifespan extension by bDR and the daf-2 mutation but does not block lifespan extension by other protocols of DR [8], nor predicts lifespan. Expression of daf-16 is induced by bDR, and daf-16 RNAi completely blocks lifespan extension by the daf-2 mutation, but only partially blocks lifespan extension by bDR and does not attenuate lifespan extension by other protocols of DR [8], nor does expression of FOX03A predict lifespan or decrease with age or diabetes. Nevertheless, since cbp-1 RNAi greatly suppresses lifespan extension by the daf-2 mutation (completely so under bDR conditions), we hypothesize that cbp-1 also plays a role in mediating effects of the insulin/IGF1 signaling pathway on longevity, possibly through an interaction with daf-16 [29].

The robustness with which cbp-1 RNAi blocks lifespan extension by DR, and the observation that cbp-1 RNAi slightly reduces lifespan in standard conditions, raises the key question of whether cbp-1 RNAi reduces lifespan extension by DR by reversing the retardation of aging by DR or by increasing general sickness [27]. Several lines of evidence strongly support that cbp-1 RNAi specifically acts by reversing effects of DR on the process of aging. First, it should be noted that cbp-1, daf-16 and hsf-1 RNAi, and pha-4 hypomorph [4] reduce lifespan in standard conditions to the same extent, and it is accepted that these latter genes influence lifespan by influencing the process of aging, not by increasing general sickness [4,28]. As with pha-4, daf-16, and hsf-1 RNAi, the effect of cbp-1 RNAi to increase mortality in standard conditions is completely age-dependent, occurring only after midlife, and entails a doubling of the age-dependent acceleration of mortality rate without influencing initial mortality rate, inconsistent with age-independent general sickness. Furthermore, the effect of cbp-1 RNAi on lifespan is highly context-dependent, reducing lifespan maximally in the context of DR (any of three protocols), partially in long-lived daf-2 mutant worms, minimally in standard conditions, and not at all in daf-16 mutant worms. Conversely, daf-16 RNAi, which reduces lifespan in standard conditions to the same extent as does cbp-1 RNAi, reduces lifespan maximally in long-lived daf-2 mutant worms and only partly reduces lifespan in the context of DR [18,4]. Thus the same logic that supports the conclusion that daf-16 and hsf-1 mediate lifespan extension by the daf-2 mutation, and that pha-4 mediates lifespan extension by bDR, would also appear to support the conclusion that cbp-1 also mediates lifespan extension by bDR. Furthermore, cbp-1 RNAi specifically blocks effects of bDR on parameters thought to reflect processes of aging, age-dependent acceleration of mortality rate, resistance to oxidative stress, and specific profile of metabolic and anti-oxidant gene expression. Similarly, cbp-1 RNAi accelerates the onset of autofluorescence without reducing total activity, feeding activity, or egg-laying rate, thus meeting criteria previously described for processes specifically impinging on aging rather than general sickness [27]. Indeed, cbp-1 has been implicated in a genome-wide RNAi screen as one of 41 genes potentially mediating life extension through the insulin/IGF1 signaling pathway by influencing the process of aging, not general sickness [27]. Of particular interest, bDR delays and cbp-1 RNAi accelerates the onset of proteotoxicity, just as the daf-2 mutation and DR delay, and inhibition of daf-16 and hsf-1 accelerates the same toxicity [7,28]. Taken together, these data strongly support that cbp-1 mediates lifespan extension and reduction of age-related pathology by DR.

Mechanisms linking cbp-1 expression to increased lifespan and reduced age-related pathology are therefore of great interest. It is suggestive that all genes implicated in the present screens are either CBP or CBP-binding co-activators [29–31]. Similarly, genes recently implicated in mediating lifespan extension by DR, shn-1 and pha-4, also code for transcriptional factors that interact with CBP [37,38]. Furthermore, transgenic overexpression of cbp-1 did not significantly increase lifespan (Figure S6), suggesting that effects of CBP on lifespan requires increased expression of other factors. Uniquely among factors implicated in mediating lifespan extension by DR, RHEB-1 is not known to interact with CBP [6]. However, RHEB-1 mediates lifespan extension by intermittent fasting-induced longevity [6], which, in contrast to other protocols of DR (including those examined in the present studies), increases lifespan by reducing initial mortality rate, not by reducing age-related acceleration of mortality rate (Yen and Mobbs, unpublished data), a characteristic of lifespan regulation through chemosensory rather than caloric mechanisms [39]. We therefore hypothesize that CBP-interacting transcriptional complexes (whose composition may depend on DR protocol) mediate protective effects of reduced caloric intake, whereas other mechanisms mediate lifespan extension by chemosensory mechanisms.

Figure 5. HDAC inhibitors increase histone acetylation and lifespan and delay pathology in a model of Alzheimer’s disease. (A) Immunoblot for histone H4 and acetylated H4 (Lys5) in N2 worms during aging. Left: Immunoblot; Right: Densitometry (normalized to total H4). (B) Immunoblot for histone H4 and acetylated H4 (Lys5) in ret3 worms fed with control bacteria or bacteria expressing cbp-1 dsRNA. (C) Immunoblot for histone H4 and acetylated H4 (Lys5) in the N2 worms treated with or without HDAC inhibitors (5 mM NaB and 150 ng/ul TSAI). Left: Immunoblot; Right: Densitometry (normalized to total H4). (E) HDAC inhibitors (5 mM NaB and 150 ng/ul TSA) extend lifespan of N2 worms at 20°C. (F) Lifespan-extending effect of NaB is blocked by cbp-1 RNAi. N2 worms were treated with bacteria expressing cbp-1 dsRNA or control, and lifespan was measured in the presence or absence of 5 mM NaB at 20 C. (G) NaB further extended lifespan of bDR worms. N2 worms were treated with bacteria expressing cbp-1 dsRNA or control at optimum bacterial dilution (10^9 cells/ml) at 20°C. Lifespan was measured in the presence or absence of 5 mM NaB at 20C. cbp-1 RNAi completely blocked lifespan extension by NaB and bDR. (H) NaB and TSA decrease Aβ1-42 toxicity as measured by rate of paralysis in Aβ1-42 transgenic worms (CL2006). doi:10.1371/journal.pbio.0010245.g005
How CBP-interacting transcriptional complexes would act to increase lifespan and reduce age-related pathologies remains to be fully elucidated. An important role for the protective effects of CBP HAT activity is implicated by the observation that HDAC inhibitors, which effectively amplify HAT activity, increase lifespan, an effect completely dependent on cbp-1 (enhanced by bDR, which increases CBP activity, and completely blocked by cbp-1 RNAi). Since HAT activity, by increasing histone acetylation, presumably enhances transcriptional flexibility, decreased cbp expression with age may contribute to age-related loss of adaptive capacity [40], in particular in learning and memory [41]. On the other hand, HDAC inhibitors increase lifespan less than does dietary restriction, suggesting that increased HAT activity only partly accounts for the mechanisms by which cbp induction by DR increases lifespan. Since cbp-1 RNAi also blocks effects of bDR on expression of genes regulating metabolic pathways, we hypothesize that the protective effect of CBP is mediated through these metabolic effects, particularly through a shift from glycolysis to fatty acid oxidation [14], as previously reported [42] (SOD isoforms do not appear to play a role in lifespan extension with at least some protocols of DR [43]). Since glucose produces a transcriptional profile opposite that of DR [14], these studies also suggest that down-regulation of the same CBP transcriptional complex implicated here may play a role in the development of age-related diseases such as Huntington’s disease [44], Alzheimer’s disease, and diabetic complications.

Material and Methods

Mouse Gene Expression

All studies in mice were carried out with permission and in accordance with the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee at Mount Sinai School of Medicine. Ten-week-old male mice (n = 10 mice per strain) were obtained from Jackson Laboratory. The strains, with average lifespans as reported [12,13], were as follows (mean lifespan ± standard error in days): BALB/cByJ (648 ± 20.6); A/J (662 ± 20.4); C3H/HeJ (700 ± 35); DBA/2J (722 ± 30); C57Bl/6J (827 ± 30). Animals were housed with free access to food and water under a 12:12 h light-dark cycle (lights on at 7:00 am). Mice were sacrificed, following a balanced design (648), after a brief exposure to carbon dioxide. Hypothalamic tissue was collected during the light period (10:00 am to 2:00 pm), by decapitation at 7:00 am). Mice were scored every 2 d and were categorized as dead when they failed to respond to gentle prodding from a platinum wire. For bacterial dilution, bacteria containing dsRNA or empty vector were suspended in S basal medium supplemented with FUDR (0.1 g/L) and ampicillin (0.1 g/L). Adult worms were grown on solid plates with appropriate RNAi or control constructs for 3 d, then transferred to liquid axenic media, or to control agar-adib plates with no RNAi, and scored every 2 d.

Lifespan Analysis

Eggs were collected by standard hypochlorite treatment of gravid worms. Worms were grown on 100 mm NGM plates until the L4/early adult stage was reached. The worms were then transferred to 55 mm NGM plates supplemented with 5-FUDR (0.1 g/ml) with 10 worms on each plate. The worms were scored every 2 d and were categorized as dead when they failed to respond to gentle prodding from a platinum wire. For bacterial dilution, bacteria containing dsRNA or empty vector were suspended in S basal medium supplemented with FUDR (0.1 g/L), ampicillin (0.1 g/L), and IPTG (0.24 g/L) at the concentrations of 10^8, 10^9, or 10^10 cells/ml. The worms were transferred to 24 well plates with 15 worms per well and scored every 2 d. For studies in liquid axenic media, adult worms were grown on RNAi or control solid media plates for 5 d, then transferred to liquid axenic media afterward and scored every 2 d.

RNAi Screening

RNAi screening was carried out using 24 well plates. E. coli expressing various dsRNAs were prepared at the concentration of 10^9 cells/ml. The synchronized nfy3 worms just reaching adulthood were washed off agar plates and suspended in M9 buffer. Around 25 worms were pipetted into each E. coli solution. On day 15 and day 20, the number of dead worms was counted. Genes whose inhibition by RNAi reduced the number of live worms at day 20 (according to visual inspection) were further assessed in more detailed lifespan assays; only four genes out of more than 500 tested met this initial criterion, and lifespan reducing effects were corroborated for all four.

Parasquat Assay

Thirty worms from each experimental group were transferred into 50 ul of a 50 nM parasquat solution with 10 worms per well in a 96 well plate. Worms were scored every 24 h and were categorized as dead when they failed to respond to gentle prodding from a platinum wire.

Paralysis Assay

The paralysis assay followed the method described by Cohen et al [46]. Briefly, 50 worms were placed on plates or in wells (10 worms per plate or well). The worms were tested daily by tapping the head with a platinum wire. Worms that moved their heads but failed to move their bodies were categorized as paralyzed. To avoid scoring of dead animals as paralyzed, paralysis assay was terminated at day 12 of adulthood unless described otherwise.

RNA Isolation and Quantitative Real-Time PCR (q-PCR)

Total RNA was isolated from synchronized populations at day 7 of adult worms. Total RNA was extracted using TRIzol reagent (Invitrogen, 15496-018). 1 ug total RNA from each sample was converted into cDNA with 100 pg utilized for each individual q-PCR assay in a 40 cycle, three-step PCR reaction using the ABI
Taq (Life Technologies). Quantification was completed using (Molecular Probes), 200 uM of each primer, and 0.25 U platinum Tris pH 8.4, 3 mM MgCl2, 200 mM dNTPs, 0.5% SYBR green module and robot arm. Amplification was performed in 20 mM Prism 7900 thermocycler with 384-well thermal cycling block.

Immunoblot Protocol

50–100 worms from each experimental group were boiled in 20 ul 2X sample buffer for 20 min. After 5 min chilling on ice, the whole sample was loaded onto SDS-PAGE for immunoblotting. Equal loading was assured as the same number of worms was used in each experiment. Antibodies CBP (C-1): Sc-7300 and DAF-16 were purchased from Upstate. Immunoblots were carried out following standard procedures (Dilutions: anti-CBP antibody 1:200, anti-DAF-16 antibody 1:500, anti-H4 antibody 1:3000, and anti-H4 (Lys5) antibody 1:2000).

Drug Treatments

TSA (#19-138) was purchased from Upstate and prepared at a concentration of 150 ng/ul. Sodium butyrate (NaB) was obtained from Sigma and prepared at the concentration from 2, 5, or 10 mM. The drug solution was added onto seeded plates and distributed evenly on the surface of the agar. Worms just reaching adulthood were transferred to the plates with or without drugs and lifespan or paralysis assay was conducted as described above.

Aging Phenotype Studies

To assess autofluorescence, 6–10 N2 worms from each experiment group were transferred onto a slide and images were taken by fluorescence microscope. Green fluorescence intensity of each worm was measured using software image-J. For movement studies, adult worms that only moved head or tail but failed to move the body upon prodding were considered as immobile and the number of immobile worms was counted daily. The ability to swim in water was quantified as the number of full movement back and forth within 30 s. To assess egg laying, two worms were placed onto a seeded NGM plate and were transferred daily to fresh plates. The number of eggs left on the plate was counted daily. Ten plates were used for each experiment group.

Statistical Analysis

Analysis of lifespan began with an estimation of the survival curve using the Kaplan-Meier product limit estimate of the survivorship function. The Gompertz variables G and A were calculated using non-linear regression on the Kaplan-Meier estimates of the survivorship curves; although another parameter, M0, can be included in such an analysis, we have found that this parameter is essentially 0 when included in the analysis [24] and is therefore not included. After the non-linear regression determined the values for G, the extra sum-of-squares F-test was used to assess significant effects on G values. The analysis was completed using Prism 4 software. For survival studies, statistical significance was determined using Log-rank test. For paraquat studies, paralysis assays, and q-PCR, statistical significance was determined using t-tests. For mouse gene expression studies, linear regression was used to determine the correlation between mRNA levels and average lifespan across the five strains of mice.

Supporting Information

Figure S1 Bacterial dilution extended lifespan in C. elegans. E. coli was prepared at 5*10^7, 10^8, 2*10^8, 5*10^8, 10^9, 2*10^9, 5*10^9, and 10^10 cells/ml and average lifespan of the nrf3 worms was measured. Found at: doi:10.1371/journal.pbio.1000245.s001 (2.58 MB DOC)

Figure S2 cbp-1 RNAi does not affect the p-pumping rate in N2 worms. Data are quantified as the number of pharyngeal pumping within 15 s and presented as mean ± SEM (n = 6–10/group). Found at: doi:10.1371/journal.pbio.1000245.s002 (2.77 MB DOC)

Figure S3 cbp-1 RNAi does not affect egg laying in N2 worms. Data are quantified as the number of eggs per day per two worms and presented as mean ± SEM (n = 10/group). Found at: doi:10.1371/journal.pbio.1000245.s003 (2.67 MB DOC)
Figure S4 cbp-1 RNAi produces DiI staining defect. 

\[ \text{rrf3} \] worms were grown at optimum bacterial concentration and fed with either control bacteria (L4440) or bacteria expressing cbp-1 dsRNA for 7 d. The neuron-specific dye DiI was added into the cultured worms were stained for 2 h. Images were taken by confocal microscope using a 40X objective lens. Red staining: amphib neurons.

Found at: doi:10.1371/journal.pbio.1000245.s006 (6.62 MB DOC)

Figure S5 cbp-1 anddaf-16 RNAi similarly block the induction of sod-3 by the daf-2 mutation. sod-3::GFP transgenic worms (CF1553) were fed with daf-2 dsRNA alone (A), daf-2 and cbp-1 dsRNA (B), daf-2 and daf-16 dsRNA (C), or control L4440 empty vector (D) at 20 °C, and photographed by fluorescence microscope. RNAi dilution effect was controlled by 1:1 dilution of daf-2 RNAi with L4440. (E) cbp-1 RNAi and daf-16 RNAi equally decreased sod-3 expression. Average GFP fluorescence was quantified using software ImageJ and difference between groups was determined by student's t-test (p<0.05, n = 5–7/group).

Found at: doi:10.1371/journal.pbio.1000245.s005 (4.72 MB DOC)

Figure S6 Overexpression of cbp-1 does not extend lifespan in N2 worms at 25°C. Transgenic worms were generated by co-microinjecting PCR product cbp-1::cbp-1 and rol-6 plasmid (pRF4) into N2 worms. Two independent transgenic lines were maintained and used in lifespan assay. Control worms were generated by injecting rol-6 plasmid alone. No lifespan extension was observed by cbp-1 overexpression (p = 0.11 line 1 versus control, p = 0.14 line 2 versus control).

Found at: doi:10.1371/journal.pbio.1000245.s006 (2.65 MB DOC)

Figure S7 cbp-1 RNAi increases, rather than reverses, increased Nile Red staining produced by the daf-2 mutation. 

\[ \text{daf-2} \] mutant worms were fed with control bacteria or bacteria expressing cbp-1 dsRNA for 5 d at 25°C. Worms were stained with Nile Red dye and fluorescence was quantified software ImageJ. Data are presented as mean ± SEM (n = 5/group, p<0.05).

Found at: doi:10.1371/journal.pbio.1000245.s007 (2.58 MB DOC)

**Figure S8** cbp-1 RNAi blocks the inhibition of F47G4.3, an ortholog of mammalian glycero-phosphate dehydrogenase, by bDR. Data are presented as mean ± SEM (p<0.05, n = 4–6/group).

Found at: doi:10.1371/journal.pbio.1000245.s008 (2.81 MB DOC)

**Figure S9** cbp-1 RNAi blocks the induction of ZK370.5, an ortholog of mammalian pyruvate dehydrogenase kinase, by bDR. Data are presented as mean ± SEM (p<0.05, n = 4-6/group).

Found at: doi:10.1371/journal.pbio.1000245.s009 (2.74 MB DOC)

**Table S1** Summary of lifespan assays.

Found at: doi:10.1371/journal.pbio.1000245.s010 (0.18 MB DOC)

**Table S2** Gompertz values for lifespan assays.

Found at: doi:10.1371/journal.pbio.1000245.s011 (0.04 MB DOC)

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**Author Contributions**

The author(s) have made the following declarations about their contributions: Conceived and designed the experiments: MZ MP KY HC CVM. Performed the experiments: MZ MP KY HC EB XZ HP. Analyzed the data: MZ MP KY HC EB XZ HP. Contributed reagents/materials/analysis tools: KY. Wrote the paper: MZ CVM.
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