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2 *Title:* **Polysialic acid is a cellular receptor for human adenovirus 52**

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23 glycan microarray

1 **ABSTRACT**

2 Human adenovirus 52 (HAdV-52) is one of only three known HAdVs equipped with both a
3 long and a short fiber protein. While the long fiber binds to the coxsackie- and adenovirus
4 receptor, the function of the short fiber in the virus life cycle is poorly understood. Here, we
5 show that the short fiber knob (SFK) specifically recognizes long chains of α -2,8-linked sialic
6 acids (polySia), an unusual posttranslational modification of selected carrier proteins, and
7 that HAdV-52 can use polySia as a receptor on target cells. Structural analyses and structure-
8 guided mutagenesis of the SFK reveal that the non-reducing terminal sialic acid of polySia
9 engages the protein with direct contacts, and that specificity for polySia is achieved through
10 subtle, transient electrostatic interactions with additional sialic acid residues. To the best of
11 our knowledge, this is the first time polySia has been shown to function as a cellular receptor
12 for a human viral pathogen. Our detailed analysis of the determinants of specificity for this
13 interaction has general implications for protein-carbohydrate interactions, particularly
14 concerning highly charged glycan structures, and provides interesting new dimensions on the
15 biology and evolution of species G adenoviruses.

1 **SIGNIFICANCE STATEMENT**

2 We present here that adenovirus type 52 (HAdV-52) attaches to target cells through a
3 mechanism not previously observed by other human pathogenic viruses. The interaction
4 involves unusual, transient, electrostatic interactions between the short fiber capsid protein
5 and polysialic acid (polySia)-containing receptors on target cells. Not much is known about
6 the binding interactions between polySia and natural ligands and our results therefore provide
7 novel insight to not only adenovirus biology but also the structural basis of polySia function.
8 Since polySia can be found in high expression levels in brain and lung cancers where its
9 presence is associated with poor prognosis, we suggest that this polySia-binding adenovirus
10 could be useful for design of vectors for gene therapy of these cancers.

1 INTRODUCTION

2 Human adenoviruses (HAdVs) are common human pathogens associated with
3 gastrointestinal, ocular and respiratory infections. To date, 79 different HAdV types have
4 been identified, and they are grouped into seven species (*Human mastadenovirus A to G*) (1).
5 HAdVs are non-enveloped viruses whose icosahedral capsid is composed of three major
6 proteins, the fiber, the penton base and the hexon, all of which are known to mediate binding
7 to host cells. The fiber protein, with a terminal knob domain, binds to cellular receptors such
8 as the coxsackie and adenovirus receptor (CAR) (2-4), desmoglein-2 (5), CD46 (6-8) or sialic
9 acid (Sia)-containing glycans (9-11). The penton base interacts with cellular integrins, thereby
10 facilitating endocytosis (12, 13) and endosomal release (14, 15). The hexon protein is the
11 main component of the viral capsid and binds with high affinity to coagulation factors IX and
12 X, resulting in liver tropism through indirect binding to heparan sulfate on hepatocytes (16-
13 18) and, shields the virion from neutralizing antibodies and complement-mediated destruction
14 (19).

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16 HAdV-52 was isolated in 2003 from a small outbreak of gastroenteritis (20). The virus
17 diverged from other HAdVs and was classified into the new species *Human mastadenovirus*
18 *G* (HAdV-G), which otherwise exclusively contains Old World monkey AdVs. HAdVs are
19 normally equipped with only one fiber protein, but HAdV-52, along with species HAdV-F
20 types HAdV-40 and -41, differ from all other known HAdVs by having two different fiber
21 proteins, one short (coded by gene fiber-1) and one long (fiber-2) (20-22). We showed
22 recently that the knob domain of HAdV-52 long fiber (52LFK) binds to CAR and that the
23 knob domain of the short fiber (52SFK) binds Sia-containing glycoproteins on target cells
24 (23). However, the identity and structure of the cellular Sia-containing glycans have remained
25 unknown.

1 Sia-containing glycans serve as receptors for a large number of viral pathogens, including
2 influenza A virus, coronavirus, rotavirus, polyomavirus and many others (24). Variations in
3 Sia specificity determine host and tissue tropism, pathogenicity and transmission of multiple
4 viruses. Here we show by employing an extensive glycan microarray analysis that the 52SFK
5 recognizes longer chains of sialic acid residues, known as polysialic acid (polySia), with
6 higher affinity than any other tested glycan. PolySia is a rare posttranslational modification
7 of only nine identified carrier proteins, among them the cell adhesion molecules NCAM (25)
8 and SynCAM-1 (26) as well as Neuropilin-2 (27) and the dendritic cell chemokine receptor
9 CCR7 (28). Polysialylation is most well-known as a modulator of developmental plasticity in
10 the nervous system, but more recently, additional roles in the development of a number of
11 organs such as the liver, kidney, heart, and testes have been unraveled (reviewed in (29)). In
12 the adult brain, polySia expression is drastically downregulated and only retained in few areas
13 that retain plasticity such as the hippocampus, olfactory bulb and hypothalamus (reviewed in
14 (30-32)). However, polySia is not exclusively found in the brain. Newer studies demonstrate
15 additional regulatory roles in innate immune responses (28, 33-36), and in regenerative or
16 anti-inflammatory processes (37-42). Further, polySia is found in high expression levels on
17 several types of cancer including glioma (43-45), neuroblastoma (46, 47), and lung cancer
18 (48, 49). By means of X-ray crystallography, NMR, molecular dynamics simulation and
19 cellular analyses we reveal here a novel function for polySia as a cellular receptor for the
20 short fiber knob of HAdV-52. The 52SFK possesses a unique polySia-binding mode featuring
21 transient polar interactions and electrostatic contributions that extend beyond a fixed
22 anchoring epitope engaging the non-reducing end of the polySia chain. We further provide
23 an evolutionary analysis of the newly found polySia binding pocket within *Human*
24 *mastadenovirus G*.

1 RESULTS

2 HAdV-52 short fiber knob binds to polysialic acid

3 We showed previously that the binding of HAdV-52 to human epithelial cells is sialic acid-
4 dependent and occurs via the short fiber knob (23). To date, the precise composition and
5 structure of glycans that can be optimally engaged by 52SFK remains unknown. We
6 performed a glycan microarray analysis of 52SFK binding to 128 different sialylated glycans
7 in an attempt to characterize the glycan receptor of HAdV-52. In the array, 52SFK showed
8 relatively weak binding to α -2,3- and α -2,6-linked sialic acids. However, very strong signals
9 were observed for a group of linear α -2,8-linked oligoSia that represent fragments of naturally
10 occurring polySia (Fig. 1 & Table S1). A markedly enhanced binding signal was observed at
11 a degree of polymerization (DP) of 3 or more monosaccharides, with a maximal response at
12 five or more Sia moieties. To confirm the ability of 52SFK to interact with polySia and
13 evaluate the specificity of this interaction, we developed an ELISA with immobilized, *E. coli*-
14 derived polySia (colominic acid; DP \approx 80-100) and analyzed the attachment of recombinant
15 knob domains from HAdV-52 short fiber, the Sia-binding HAdV-37 fiber (37FK), and the
16 CAR-binding HAdV-5 (5FK) and HAdV-52 long fiber (52LKF). 52SFK bound efficiently to
17 polySia, while the two CAR-binding FKs did not show any binding to this compound (Fig.
18 2A). 37FK, which binds with relatively high affinity to the branched, disialylated GD1a
19 glycan using a different binding site (11, 23), bound less strongly to polySia than 52SFK. We
20 therefore conclude that HAdV-52 is able to interact preferentially with polySia via the knob
21 domain of its short fiber while having low affinities for a number of monosialylated glycans.

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1 **HAdV-52 binds to polysialic acid on human polySia-expressing cells**

2 To test the relevance of polySia recognition by HAdV-52 in a cellular context, we used human
3 polySia-expressing neuroblastoma cells SH-SY5Y, and their polySia-lacking parental cell
4 line SK-N-SH as models for virus binding and infection (50). The levels of polySia on these
5 cells were confirmed by flow cytometry using the anti-polySia antibody mAb735 (Fig. S1).
6 52SFK bound five times more strongly to polySia-expressing SH-SY5Y cells compared to
7 the control cell line, whereas none of the control knobs, including 37FK, showed a
8 comparable interaction pattern (Fig. 2B). Next, we used monosialic acid-binding lectins to
9 determine the relative levels of glycans with terminal sialic acids on both cell lines to exclude
10 the possibility that the higher 52SFK binding to SH-SY5Y was due to a higher level of
11 glycans with terminal monosialic acids on these cells rather than a specific binding to polySia.
12 In fact, the lectins MAL-I & -II (bind to α -2,3-linked Sia), SNA (binds to α -2,6-linked Sia),
13 and WGA (binds to terminal sialic acid as well as to N-Acetyl-D-glucosamine) all bound
14 better to SK-N-SH cells than to SH-SY5Y cells (Fig. S1), indicating that the parental,
15 polySia-negative SK-N-SH cells have a higher total density of terminal sialic acids.
16 Furthermore, pre-incubation of 52SFK with soluble oligoSia (DP5) reduced 52SFK binding
17 to SH-SY5Y cells with up to 75%, while no effect was observed on 37FK binding (Fig. 2C).
18 Pre-incubating the whole HAdV-52 virions with oligoSia (DP5) also efficiently reduced
19 binding to and infection of SH-SY5Y cells, whereas sialic acid monosaccharide (DP1) did
20 not have as much of an effect (Fig. 3A & C). Neither of the two glycans tested reduced HAdV-
21 5 binding to or infection of SH-SY5Y cells (Fig. 3B & D). Based on these results we conclude
22 that HAdV-52 virions show a clear preference for polySia-expressing cells over cells lacking
23 polySia, that this feature is not shared by sialic acid- or CAR-binding HAdVs, and that the
24 interactions with polySia are mediated by the 52SFK.

25

1 **PolySia is engaged at the non-reducing end, similarly to mono- and di-sialylated glycans**

2 Using 2-O-methyl-sialic acid as a ligand, we previously identified a sialic acid-binding site
3 on the lateral side of 52SFK (23). This binding site includes a stretch of three adjacent
4 residues that together form a prominent RGN motif (R316-G317-N318). This site is located
5 on a different part of the knob than the binding site of 37FK, which engages sialic acid near
6 its three-fold axis. The features responsible for the increased affinity for polySia are unknown,
7 and it seems possible that additional contacts or an additional epitope that went undetected in
8 earlier studies are formed between 52SFK and polySia. Consequently, we solved the complex
9 crystal structures of 52SFK with three oligoSia glycans (DP3, -4 or -5) as well as the GD3
10 glycan (Neu5NAc α 2,8Neu5NAc α 2,3Gal β 1,4Glc, representing a disialic acid motif). All
11 complex structures produced similar results, as shown exemplary for DP3 in Fig. 4.
12 Surprisingly, well-defined electron density was only found for a single sialic acid moiety in
13 the canonical binding pocket in all cases. The electron density around O8 and its direction
14 relative to the protein clearly indicate that it is the non-reducing end of the glycan chain that
15 is engaged, and the observed binding mode is identical to the one observed for monosialic
16 acid. In all cases except for GD3, we observed additional electron density for a second sialic
17 acid moiety projecting from the pocket towards the solvent. The overall density for this
18 moiety is weaker, deteriorating from the glycerol group to the pyranose ring and indicating
19 increased flexibility. All structures showed similar angles for the α -2,8-glycosidic linkage
20 (Fig. S2). Interestingly, the second sialic acid moiety does not seem to contribute any directed
21 contacts to the overall interaction, except for a van-der-Waals contact between its N-acetyl
22 group and E328. This contact seems to cause a local decrease of electron density and a slight
23 rotation of the N-acetyl group. The third (and all following) sialic acids could not be
24 unambiguously traced in any of the structures. In order to verify our observations in solution,
25 we employed saturation transfer difference (STD) NMR spectroscopy to screen for glycan

1 protons of DP3 and DP5 that are placed within 5-6 Å of the protein (shown exemplary for
2 DP3 in Fig. 4B & C). The spectrum of the glycans alone compared well to the literature (51,
3 52). Since all of the sialic acid repeats were in a highly similar chemical environment in
4 solution, the respective peaks overlap - with the exception of the non-reducing end, which
5 experiences an upfield shift. The experiment showed saturation transfer occurring almost
6 exclusively at the non-reducing end, while the other moieties only received a very moderate
7 spin saturation occurring exclusively in the N-acetyl group region, which is very much
8 consistent with the contacts observed in the crystal structures. In the case of the R316A
9 mutant, which disrupts the canonical RGN motif and prevents 52SFK attachment to sialic
10 acid on A549 cells (23), saturation transfer was completely abrogated. Together, these results
11 demonstrate that 52SFK engages polySia exclusively via its canonical sialic acid binding site,
12 without any additional epitopes present on the protein.

13

14 **Transient hydrogen bonds and electrostatic effects are major determinants of** 15 **52SFK:polySia interactions**

16 A length of more than three sialic acid residues is required for a strong interaction with
17 52SFK, as seen in our glycan array data (Fig. 1). According to a cell attachment inhibition
18 experiment, which does not underlie the steric constraints of chip-bound probes, a DP of three
19 was sufficient to substantially decrease 52SFK binding at low concentration in solution. A
20 decrease could also be observed with DP2, but only at higher concentrations (Fig. 5A).
21 Similar results were acquired from surface plasmon resonance experiments with immobilized
22 fiber knobs and oligoSia in solution, where the biggest increase in affinity was shown between
23 DP2 and DP3 (Fig. 5B). In combination with the structural data, these findings suggest that
24 effects other than classical directed short-range contacts may account for the increased
25 binding affinity of higher-order polySia compounds of DP3 or more. Given the poly-anionic

1 character of polySia, we hypothesized that these effects might be caused by electrostatic
2 interactions, which are non-directed and can occur over longer distances than direct
3 interactions such as hydrogen bonds or van-der-Waals contacts. Indeed, an inspection of the
4 electrostatic potential of the 52SFK revealed a positively charged rim located around the sialic
5 acid binding site, which we termed the ‘steering rim’. The rim is mainly formed by residues
6 Q320, R321, R316, and K349 (Fig. 6A-D). According to in-solution NMR studies, the poly-
7 anionic polySia seems to at least transiently adopt a left-handed helical conformation (53).
8 However, polySia is expected to be rather flexible in solution due to its linear, non-branched
9 structure and the conformationally less restricted α -2,8-glycosidic linkage (42). In the DP3
10 complex structure, the second sialic acid moiety is situated above the ϵ -amino group of K349.
11 We reasoned that if the polySia glycan roughly followed the left-handed helical arrangement
12 proposed by the literature with energy-minimal glycosidic torsion angles similar to those
13 observed between the first two moieties (Fig. S2A-B), the carbohydrate chain would protrude
14 away from the protein surface into the bulk solvent (indicated in Fig. 6E). Since such an
15 arrangement would unlikely be in agreement with an increased affinity for DP3, we
16 performed molecular dynamics simulation of the complex between 52SFK and DP5 on the
17 microsecond timescale in explicit solvent. Throughout this simulation, DP5 shows a flexible
18 structure with dynamic partial helical features (Video S1). Consistent with the results from
19 our STD-NMR experiments, only the non-reducing end is stably associated with the protein
20 (Fig. 7A-B & 6E). However, the simulation shows that the other sialic acid residues
21 transiently approach the protein surface and form favorable contacts with a variety of amino
22 acids, most of which are located in the ‘steering rim’ and the closely adjacent R347 (Fig. 7A-
23 D). While the sialic acid moieties adjacent to the non-reducing end mainly interact with a
24 subset of residues located in the canonical pocket and ‘steering rim’, the moieties towards the
25 reducing end show a much more variable interaction pattern with low occupancies for

1 individual contacts. In total however, the large majority of contacts are being formed with the
2 canonical pocket or ‘steering rim’, respectively. The dimensions of DP5 are similar to the
3 combined radius of the binding pocket and ‘steering rim’ (Fig. 7A-B). In particular, the fifth
4 sialic acid engages in a large number of low-intensity interactions with residues outside the
5 rim according to our simulations (Fig. 7 C-D), which might explain why the enhancing effect
6 of additional Sia moieties is fading beyond DP5 (Fig. 1) and why colominic acid is only
7 moderately more potent than DP5 given the size difference (Fig. 5B). Over the time course
8 of the simulation, the sialic acids display an alternating pattern of transient interactions, and
9 there are most of the time at least two pyranoses that directly interact with the protein (Fig.
10 7E). This avidity effect is only possible if there are at least three Sia moieties. The average
11 number of favorable interactions found in the canonical pocket and the ‘steering rim’ per
12 residue are shown in Fig. 7F. Overall, the data agree remarkably well with the other
13 experiments and strongly suggest that transient contact interactions of the third to fifth sialic
14 acid moiety are responsible for the increased binding affinity, while the non-reducing sialic
15 acid is a necessary feature and engaged in a shape-complementary binding site. The
16 involvement of additional non-contact electrostatic interactions could further contribute to
17 binding affinity, as suggested by the opposite charges between the polySia chain and the
18 ‘steering rim’.

19

20 To provide additional experimental support for this hypothesis, we produced fiber knobs with
21 mutations in the ‘steering rim’, and analyzed knob binding to polySia-expressing SH-SY5Y
22 cells. The K349A mutant almost completely lost its cell binding capacity, and similar effects
23 were observed for the R321Q and analogous mutants (Fig. 7G). When mutated, residue R321
24 can no longer counterbalance the charge of the proximal side chain of E348, which then likely
25 repelled the polyanionic polySia and might thus contribute to an unexpectedly strong loss in

1 binding. Indeed, if E348 is also mutated to a non-charged residue, the effect of the R321Q
2 mutation is largely reversed (Fig. 7G). This implies that R321 interacts more weakly with
3 polySia than R316 and K349 do, which fits well with the assumption of a flexible ‘pseudo-
4 helical’ arrangement.

5

6 **The polySia binding site and the ‘steering rim’ are conserved in closely related simian** 7 **adenoviruses**

8 The polySia-binding RGN motif is conserved in the short fibers of other closely related
9 members of species HAdV-G: SAdV-1, -2, -7 and -11, as well as SAdV-19 (SAdV-C, which
10 obtained its short fiber from an unknown type/species) (54), but it is not found in any other
11 known non-human or human AdV, including the short fiber knobs of HAdV-40 and -41
12 (HAdV-F) (Fig. S3A). Interestingly, the three positively charged residues forming the ‘steering
13 rim’ are also functionally conserved in these SAdV types, but in different permutations (RRK,
14 RKK, RRR) (Fig. S3A). Another functionally important residue is Q320, which aids in the
15 production of an electropositive field in the ‘steering rim’ and is functionally conserved in all
16 of the SAdV types of HAdV-G (but not in SAdV-19). No other HAdV fiber knob with known
17 structures exhibits a comparable ‘steering rim’ (Fig. S3B). In fact, the lateral part of the knob
18 is typically used for protein interfaces, e.g. for CAR or CD46 (55). However, since the two
19 fibers of HAdV-52 display a clear division of labor, the 52SFK likely serves as a purely Sia-
20 binding fiber knob and thus can accommodate Sia-containing glycans at a more prominently
21 exposed lateral binding site than e.g. HAdV-37. In the HAdV-41 SFK, which is the only other
22 structurally characterized short fiber knob, the disordered G strand is thought to obstruct the
23 electropositive patch on the side (56) making a Sia interaction unlikely. HAdV-5 possesses an
24 electropositive patch, but lacks a shape-complementary Sia-binding site and has never been
25 reported to use sialic acid as attachment receptor. Instead, it has been used as a negative control

1 in many studies (Fig. 2 & 3). This further supports our hypothesis that polySia binding is a
2 specific ability limited to a small subset of AdVs. We assayed the polySia specificity and
3 binding capacity of fiber knobs belonging to this subset in a cell attachment assay with cells
4 expressing or lacking polySia. All of the examined short knobs except that of SAdV-2 SFK
5 bound better to polySia-expressing cells than the control cell line (Fig. 8). One possible
6 explanation for the inability of SAdV-2 SFK to bind polySia, despite a conserved ‘steering rim’,
7 could be that this knob harbors a sequence more distantly related to the other knobs (Fig. S3C),
8 which might result in a different overall arrangement of the residues. Nonetheless, 52SFK still
9 displayed the strongest discrepancy between SH-SY5Y and SK-N-SH cells, indicating a more
10 specific interaction of 52SFK with polySia rather than a general high binding to both cell lines
11 as seen for SAdV-7SFK (Fig. 8).

1 **DISCUSSION**

2 We show here that HAdV-52 specifically engages cell surface-expressed polySia via its SFK,
3 employing direct protein-carbohydrate contacts as well as longer-range electrostatic steering
4 forces. As to the best of our knowledge, this is the first time polySia is shown to function as
5 a cellular receptor for a human pathogenic virus. Although a growing number of polySia-
6 binding proteins has been identified (57-63), there are few in-depth structural analyses on the
7 determinants of specificity for polySia, and so far no other polySia-binding protein has been
8 reported to use the unusual binding mode presented here. We therefore believe that our
9 analysis provides a useful framework for a better understanding of general aspects of the
10 interactions of polySia with its binding partners and it remains to be seen whether polySia
11 reacts with its other binding partners similar to that predicted for human adenovirus.

12

13 PolySia was identified as a potential receptor for 52SFK in our glycan microarray screen (Fig.
14 1). In that same array, 52SFK also showed weaker binding to a number of glycans with single
15 capping α -2,3-linked sialic acids, which we also observed in our previous study using a
16 smaller array (23). In a cellular context however, blocking or removing α -2,3-linked sialic
17 acids from the cell surface only had a minor effect on HAdV-52 attachment (23). In
18 comparison, polySia is a more effective ligand. The polySia binding site of HAdV-52
19 accomplishes the challenging task of maintaining a large pool of ligands while developing
20 increased affinity for a specific subset of surface molecules using just a single binding site.
21 52SFK can engage α -2,3 and α -2,8 linked sialylated glycans, which bind with their terminal,
22 non-reducing sialic acid moieties to the same epitope using identical direct contacts. The
23 much higher specificity for α -2,8 linked compounds, including polySia, is generated through
24 a multitude of transient contacts between residues surrounding the binding site and sialic acid
25 residues that are distal to the non-reducing end of the polySia chain. These transient contacts

1 ensure that most of the time at least two Sia moieties are simultaneously associated with the
2 protein, providing an avidity effect. In this manner, mono- and disialylated glycans are still
3 able to interact with the knob with lower affinities, but long-range electrostatic and transient
4 polar interactions enable higher-affinity binding of oligosialic acids with a higher degree of
5 polymerization ($DP \geq 3$). In a physiological context, this might reflect the ability of HAdV-52
6 to adapt to different surface glycan landscapes presented by different cells, hosts, or even
7 commensal bacteria. In humans, it is unknown in which contexts HAdV-52 might encounter
8 polySia for cell attachment. The two most efficient attachment factors of HAdV-52, polySia
9 and CAR, have different expression profiles in the human body and are recognized by the
10 two separate HAdV-52 fiber proteins. In light of its limited genome size, the virus likely
11 draws an evolutionary advantage from being able to interact with two attachment factors. The
12 close evolutionary relationship between HAdV-52 and simian AdVs, and the polySia-binding
13 capacity of these AdVs (Fig. 8), also indicate that polySia might play a role as a cellular
14 attachment factor for viruses that infect other mammals. Sialic acid-containing glycans are
15 known to serve as attachment factors for a number of animal AdVs such as turkey and canine
16 AdV (64, 65). The observed interaction between HAdV-52 and polySia therefore provides an
17 interesting new angle to the known rules that govern virus:glycan receptor interactions, which
18 may be translated to other glycan-binding pathogens.

19

20 PolySia can be found in high expression levels on many tumors and its expression is
21 frequently associated with high tumor aggressiveness and invasiveness, resulting in poor
22 clinical prognosis (43, 66, 67). Cancers expressing polySia are also often recurrent and non-
23 responsive to conventional treatments (43), and therefore attention has been drawn to novel
24 therapeutic approaches, including AdV vectors for gene delivery and the use of modified
25 oncolytic AdVs. In a recent approach, the fiber knob of HAdV-5 was substituted with

1 endosialidaseNF, a tail spike protein from the bacteriophage K1F to generate an efficient
2 polySia-targeting oncolytic vector (68). HAdV-52, a naturally-occurring, unmodified HAdV
3 that already binds polySia, could form the basis for a viable alternative strategy for developing
4 oncolytic vectors, especially in light of its low seroprevalence rates and reduced liver tropism
5 (23, 69). The specificity for polySia can also be increased further by mutating K349 to an
6 arginine (Fig. 7G). With this in mind, we suggest that HAdV-52 based vectors could have a
7 potential for treatment of cancers characterized by elevated polySia-expression.

1 MATERIALS AND METHODS

2 Cells and viruses

3 Human neuroblastoma SK-N-SH cells (purchased from LGC Promochem) were grown in
4 Dulbecco's modified Eagle medium (DMEM) supplemented with 10% FBS, 20 mM HEPES,
5 20 U/ml penicillin, 20 µg/ml streptomycin. Human neuroblastoma SH-SY5Y cells (LGC
6 Promochem) were grown in DMEM:Ham's-F12 (Sigma-Aldrich) 1:1, with the same
7 supplements as the parental SK-N-SH cell line. HAdV-52 (HAdV-G, strain TB3-2243) (20)
8 and HAdV-5 (HAdV-C, strain Ad75; source ATCC) virions were produced with or without
9 ³⁵S-labeling in A549 cells as described previously (70), with the exception that the virions
10 were eluted in sterile phosphate buffered saline (PBS) when desalting on a NAP column (GE
11 Healthcare).

12

13 Production of fiber knobs for cell-based assays and ELISA

14 52SFK and 52LFK were produced as described previously (23). HAdV-37 FK (amino acids
15 172-365) and HAdV-5 FK (387-581) were produced in the same manner. Simian adenovirus
16 1 (SAdV-1, HAdV-G) SFK (183-363), SAdV-2 (HAdV-G) SFK (132-312), SAdV-7 (HAdV-
17 G) SFK (167-347), SAdV-11 (HAdV-G) SFK (183-364) and SAdV-19 (*Simian*
18 *mastadenovirus C*) SFK (101-286) were all cloned with the same RGS-hexa-histidine tag as
19 the fiber knobs described above. SAdV fiber knobs were expressed in *E. coli* (strain Rosetta)
20 and purified with Ni-NTA agarose beads followed by anion exchange (Q-Sepharose). Fiber
21 knob mutants of 52SFK were generated using a QuikChange mutagenesis kit (Agilent
22 Technologies). The following mutants were produced: 1) K349A, 2) R321Q, 3)
23 R321Q/E348Q, 4) R321I, 5) R321V, 6) R321L, 7) K349A/R321Q and 8) K349R. All mutants
24 were produced as 52SFK, described above, and all fiber knobs were analysed by denaturing

1 gel electrophoresis (NuPAGE Bis-Tris, LifeTechnologies) and Western blots with
2 monoclonal antibodies directed against the His-tag (Qiagen).

3

4 **Glycan microarray**

5 Microarray analyses were carried out using the neoglycolipid (NGL)-based microarray
6 system (71). Details of the glycan probe library, the generation of the microarrays, imaging
7 and data analysis are in Supplementary Glycan Microarray Document (Table S2) in
8 accordance with the MIRAGE (Minimum Information Required for A Glycomics
9 Experiment) guidelines for reporting glycan microarray-based data (72). In brief, the
10 microarrays were composed of lipid-linked oligosaccharide probes robotically printed at 2
11 and 5 fmol per spot in duplicate. The microarray binding assay of the recombinant His-tagged
12 52SFK was performed at 20°C, essentially as described previously (73). In brief, the arrayed
13 slide was blocked for 1 h with 5 mM HEPES pH 7.4, 150 mM NaCl, 5 mM CaCl₂, 0.3% (v/v)
14 Blocker Casein (Pierce), 0.3% (w/v) bovine serum albumin (Sigma) (0.3% casein/0.3%
15 BSA). 52SFK was pre-complexed with mouse monoclonal anti-poly-histidine (Ab1) and
16 biotinylated anti-mouse IgG antibodies (Ab2) (both from Sigma) in a ratio of 4:2:1 (by
17 weight). The 52SFK-antibody pre-complexes were prepared by pre-incubating Ab1 with Ab2
18 for 15 min at ambient temperature, followed by addition of 52SFK and incubation for an
19 additional 15 min on ice. The VP1-antibody complexes were diluted in 0.3% casein/0.3%
20 BSA, to give a final 52SFK concentration of 150 µg/ml, and overlaid onto the arrays at 20°C
21 for 2 h. Binding was detected with Alexa Fluor-647-labelled streptavidin (Molecular Probes).
22 Binding signals were probe-dose dependent. The results of 128 glycan probes at 5 fmol per
23 spot are presented as histogram chart (Fig. 1) and table (Table S1) which includes the list
24 glycan probes present in the array (in house designation ‘Sialyl Glycan Array Sets 40,41’),

1 binding intensities and errors (difference of signal intensities of duplicate spots of each glycan
2 probe).

3

4 **ELISA**

5 Ninety-six-well plates (Nunc MaxiSorp, Thermo Scientific) were coated with 1 µg/ml of
6 colominic acid (Sigma-Aldrich) for 2 h at room temperature (RT) in coating buffer (100 mM
7 bicarbonate/carbonate, pH 9.6). The plate was blocked with asialofetuin type II (Sigma-
8 Aldrich) 1 mg/ml in PBS-T (phosphate-buffered saline, 140 mM NaCl, 2.7 mM KCl, 10 mM
9 phosphate buffer pH 7.4, supplemented with 0.05% Tween-20) for 1 h at RT and then washed
10 three times with PBS-T. Meanwhile, fiber knobs (10 µg/ml) were incubated with monoclonal
11 anti RGS-His antibodies (Qiagen; dilution 1:1000 in PBS-T) for 1 h at RT. The wells were
12 then washed three times with PBS-T and incubated with fiber knob:antibody mixtures for 1
13 h at RT. After washing, the plate was incubated with a HRP-conjugated rabbit anti-mouse
14 IgG antibody (Dako Cytomation; diluted 1:2000 in PBS-T) for 1 h at RT. The wells were
15 washed again and incubated with 100 µl enhanced K-Blue TMB substrate (Neogen Europe)
16 for 15 min and the reaction was then stopped by addition of 100 µl 1 M H₂SO₄. The
17 absorbance was measured at 450 nm using Tecan infinite F2000 Pro (Tecan Nordic AB).

18

19 **Flow cytometry**

20 Cells were detached with PBS-EDTA (PBS supplemented with 0.05% EDTA), reactivated in
21 growth medium for 1h at 37°C, pelleted in 96-well plates (2x10⁵ cells/well) and washed once
22 with binding buffer (BB: DMEM supplemented with 20 mM HEPES, 20 U/ml penicillin +
23 20 µg/ml streptomycin and 1% BSA). Fiber knobs were added (10 µg/ml in BB) to the cells
24 and incubated for 1 h on ice. Unbound fiber knobs were washed away with PF buffer (PBS
25 supplemented with 2% FBS) and the cells were then incubated with an anti RGS-His mouse

1 monoclonal antibody (Qiagen; diluted 1:200 in PF) for 30 min. Followed by one wash with
2 PF, the cells were incubated with an Alexa Fluor 488-conjugated secondary antibody (Life
3 Technologies, donkey-anti mouse A488, dilution 1:1000 in PF) for 30 min on ice. Thereafter
4 the cells were washed once with PF and analysed with flow cytometry using FACSLSR II
5 instrument (Becton Dickinson). Results were analysed using FACSDiva software (Becton
6 Dickinson).

7 The experiment was performed with the following variations: i) fiber knobs were pre-
8 incubated with different concentrations of [α -2,8]-linked oligoSia (N-acetyl neuraminic acid
9 DP2-5, Gerbu/Nakalai) for 1 h on ice before addition to cells; ii) cells were incubated on ice
10 for 30 min with 4 μ g/ml of biotinylated a) *M. amurensis* type I or II (MAL I or II) lectins, b)
11 *S. nigra* (SNA) lectins, c) wheat germ agglutinin (WGA; all from Vector Laboratories), or d)
12 monoclonal mouse-anti polySia antibody (mab735, kind gift from Rita Gerardy-Schahn,
13 1:500) diluted in PF-buffer. Following a-c, the cells were incubated for 30 min on ice with a
14 1:100 diluted streptavidin-FITC for MAL I & II, SNA and WGA, or (following d), incubated
15 for 30 min on ice with an Alexa Fluor 488-conjugated secondary antibody (donkey-anti
16 mouse A488, dilution 1:1000 in PBS).

17

18 **Virion binding experiments**

19 Cells were detached with PBS-EDTA, reactivated in growth medium for 1 h at 37°C (in
20 solution), pelleted in 96 well plates (2×10^5 cells/well) and washed with BB. Meanwhile ^{35}S -
21 labeled virions (0.5×10^9 virions) were preincubated with different concentrations of [α -2,8]-
22 linked oligoSia diluted in BB for 1 h on ice. 50 μ l/well of virion:oligoSia mixtures were then
23 added to cells and incubated for an additional 1 h on ice. Unbound virions were washed away
24 with BB and the cell associated radioactivity was measured in a Wallac 1409 liquid
25 scintillation counter (Perkin-Elmer).

1 **Infection experiments**

2 HAdV-52 and HAdV-5 virions were preincubated with different concentrations of [α -2,8]-
3 linked oligoSia diluted in DMEM supplemented with 20 mM HEPES, 20 U/ml penicillin and
4 20 μ g/ml streptomycin for 1 h on ice. Meanwhile SH-SY5Y cells, grown as a monolayer in
5 black 96-well plate with transparent bottom, were washed three times with serum-free medium.
6 50 μ l/well of virion:oligoSia mixtures were then added to the cells and incubated for an
7 additional 1 h on ice. After incubation, the wells were washed three times with serum-free
8 medium in order to remove unbound virions. Cell culture medium containing 2% FBS was
9 added and the plate was incubated at 37°C. After 44 h the cells were washed once with PBS,
10 fixed with methanol and stained for AdV hexon (Millipore, mab8052, diluted 1:200 in PBS)
11 for 30 min at RT. After washing twice with PBS an Alexa Fluor 488-conjugated secondary
12 antibody (Life Technologies, donkey-anti mouse A488, dilution 1:1000 in PBS) was added and
13 incubated for 30 min at RT. Following two washes the stained plates were imaged using a
14 Trophos system (Luminy Biotech Enterprises).

15

16 **Saturation transfer difference NMR**

17 NMR spectra were recorded at 285 K using 3 mm tubes (200 μ L sample volume) and a Bruker
18 AVIII-600 spectrometer equipped with a room temperature probe head and processed with
19 TOPSPIN 3.0 (Bruker). Samples contained 1 mM of [α -2,8]-linked oligoSia (DP3 or DP5)
20 and 20 μ M of 52SFK WT or R316A mutant protein (monomeric concentration). The proteins
21 were buffer-exchanged prior to NMR experiments to 20 mM potassium phosphate pH 7.4,
22 150 mM NaCl in D₂O and the glycans were subsequently added from concentrated stock
23 solutions in D₂O. Off- and on-resonance irradiation frequencies were set to -30.0 ppm and
24 7.0 ppm, respectively. The irradiation power of the selective pulses was 57 Hz, the saturation
25 time was 2 s, and the total relaxation delay was 3 s. A 50 ms continuous-wave spin-lock pulse

1 with a strength of 3.2 kHz was employed to suppress residual protein signals. A total number
2 of 512 scans and 10,000 points were collected, and spectra were multiplied with a Gaussian
3 window function prior to Fourier transformation.

4

5 **Crystallization, data collection, and refinement of complex structures**

6 Crystals of 52SFK were prepared as described previously (23). PolySia complex crystals were
7 generated by soaking in 17.5% (w/v) PEG 1000, 12.5% (v/v) PEG 3350, 12.5% MPD, 100
8 mM Bicine/Tris pH 8.5 supplemented with 50 mM [α -2,8]-linked oligoSia (DP3, -4, or -5)
9 for 18 to 36 h. The GD3 complex structure was prepared by soaking with 20 mM GD3
10 (Elicityl) for 1.5 h. No cryoprotection was necessary for crystal freezing. Data collection was
11 done at the X06DA beamline of the Swiss Light Source (Villigen) at a wavelength of 1 or
12 0.92 Å using a Pilatus 2M detector. Structures were indexed with XDS (74) and initial phases
13 were obtained by molecular replacement with Molrep (75) using a published 52SFK structure
14 (PDB-ID: 4XL8) as a template. The structures were refined using phenix.refine (76) and
15 Refmac5 (77) from the PHENIX and CCP4 software suites, respectively, using threefold NCS
16 restraints. Figures were prepared with PyMOL (The PyMOL Molecular Graphics System,
17 Version 1.8, Schrödinger, LLC). Data collection and refinement statistics can be found in
18 Tables S3 and S4. Poisson-Boltzmann electrostatic distributions were calculated using the
19 PDB2PQR and APBS plugins in PyMOL (78, 79).

20

21 **Surface plasmon resonance**

22 52SFK was diluted in running buffer (HBS-EP+; GE Healthcare) to a concentration of around
23 0.03 μ M (0.022-0.035 μ M) and captured on the Ni-NTA sensor chip (GE Healthcare)
24 according to the manufacturer's instructions, resulting in an immobilization density between
25 700-900 RU. In short: an automated program cycle of the following sequence: (1) activation

1 of the sensor chip with Ni (II), (2) capture of 52SFK, (3) analyte injection, (4) regeneration
2 of the surface with 0.35 M EDTA, and (5) rinse with HBS-EP+ without EDTA. All steps
3 were performed at a flow rate of 30 $\mu\text{l}/\text{min}$. All binding assays were carried out at 25°C, and
4 HBS-EP+ buffer was used as running buffer. The analytes ($[\alpha\text{-}2,8]$ -linked oligoSia DP3, -4,
5 -5 and colominic acid) were serially diluted in running buffer to prepare a two-fold
6 concentration series ranging from 0.1 to 8 mM (with small variations depending on the
7 analyte), and then injected in series over the reference and experimental biosensor surfaces
8 for 120 s and a dissociation time of 120 s. Blank samples containing only running buffer were
9 also injected under the same conditions to allow for double referencing.

10

11 **Molecular dynamics simulation**

12 The complex of 52SFK with three polySia (DP5) glycans was prepared using PDB entry
13 4XL8 as a starting structure. Two polySia glycans were positioned into their binding sites by
14 superimposing the terminal Neu5Ac residues with the two Neu5Ac residues present in the
15 crystal structure. The remaining polySia glycan was positioned into the third site (unoccupied
16 in 4XL8) by taking into account the threefold symmetry of 52SFK. The complex was solvated
17 in 0.1% NaCl solution and two independent 1 μs trajectories were sampled at 310 K using
18 YASARA (80). AMBER14 (81) was chosen as the force field, which includes Glycam-06
19 (82) parameters for carbohydrates. The terminal Neu5Ac residues were kept in their binding
20 site by the application of distance restraints. Snapshots were stored every 25 ps. The
21 interactions of polySia with its 52SFK receptor were analysed based on accumulated 6 μs
22 trajectory data (three polySias, 2 μs each) using Conformational Analysis Tools ([www.md-
23 simulations.de/CAT/](http://www.md-simulations.de/CAT/)).

24

1 **Statistical analysis of cell based assays**

2 ELISA and all cell based experiments were performed three times with duplicate samples in
3 each experiment. The results are expressed as means \pm standard deviations and t-test or was
4 performed using GraphPad Prism version 7.00 for Windows, GraphPad Software, San Diego
5 California USA. P-values < 0.05 were considered statistically significant.

6

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17

18 **AUTHOR CONTRIBUTIONS**

19 A.L., A.M.L. and Y.L. designed and carried out experiments, analyzed results, and wrote the
20 manuscript. L.F. and M.F. designed and carried out experiments, analyzed results and
21 reviewed manuscript. B.B., W.C. and I.P. performed experiments. I.P., B.H. and M.B.
22 provided useful ideas and reviewed the manuscript. T.F., T.S. and N.A. designed the study,
23 interpreted results and wrote the manuscript.

24

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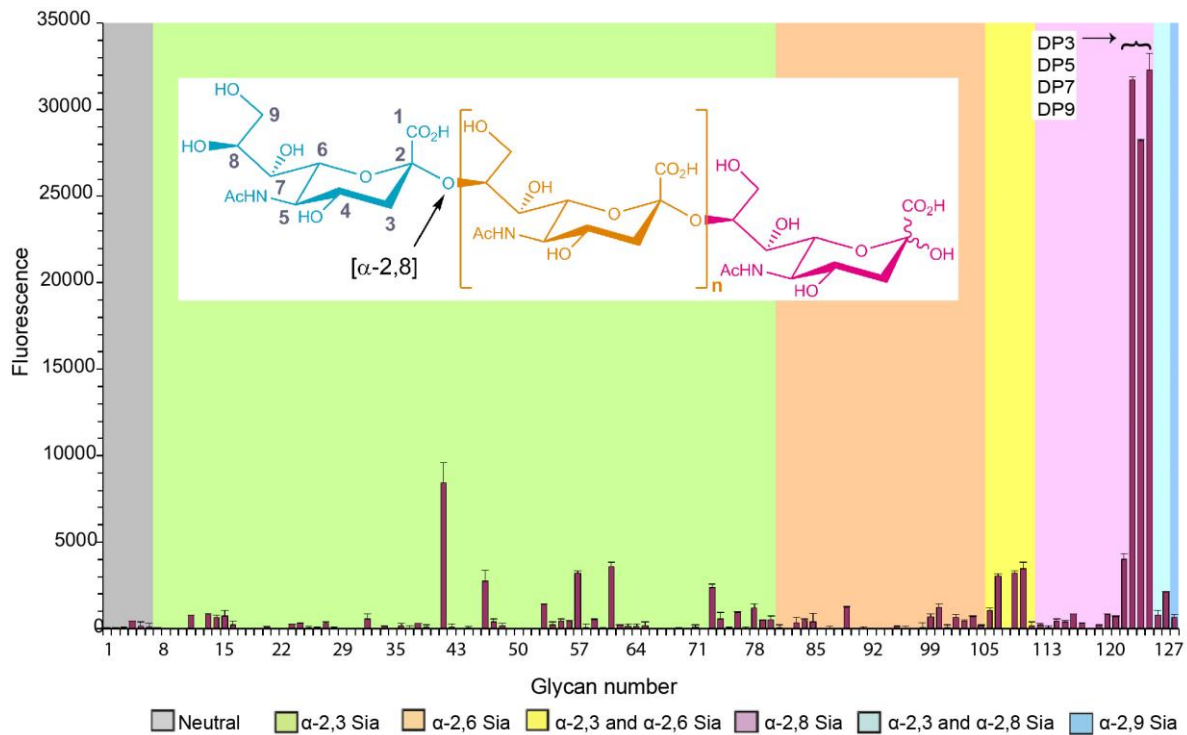
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20

1 **FIGURES**

2



3

4 **Fig. 1.** Glycan array analysis of HAdV-52 short fiber knob interactions with sialylated

5 glycans. The microarray consists of lipid-linked oligosaccharide probes, the sequences are

6 listed in Table S1. The probes are arranged according to terminal sialic acid linkage,

7 oligosaccharide backbone chain length, and sequence. The various types of terminal sialic

8 acid linkages are indicated by the colored panels as defined at the bottom of the figure.

9 Numerical scores for the binding intensity are shown as means of fluorescence intensities of

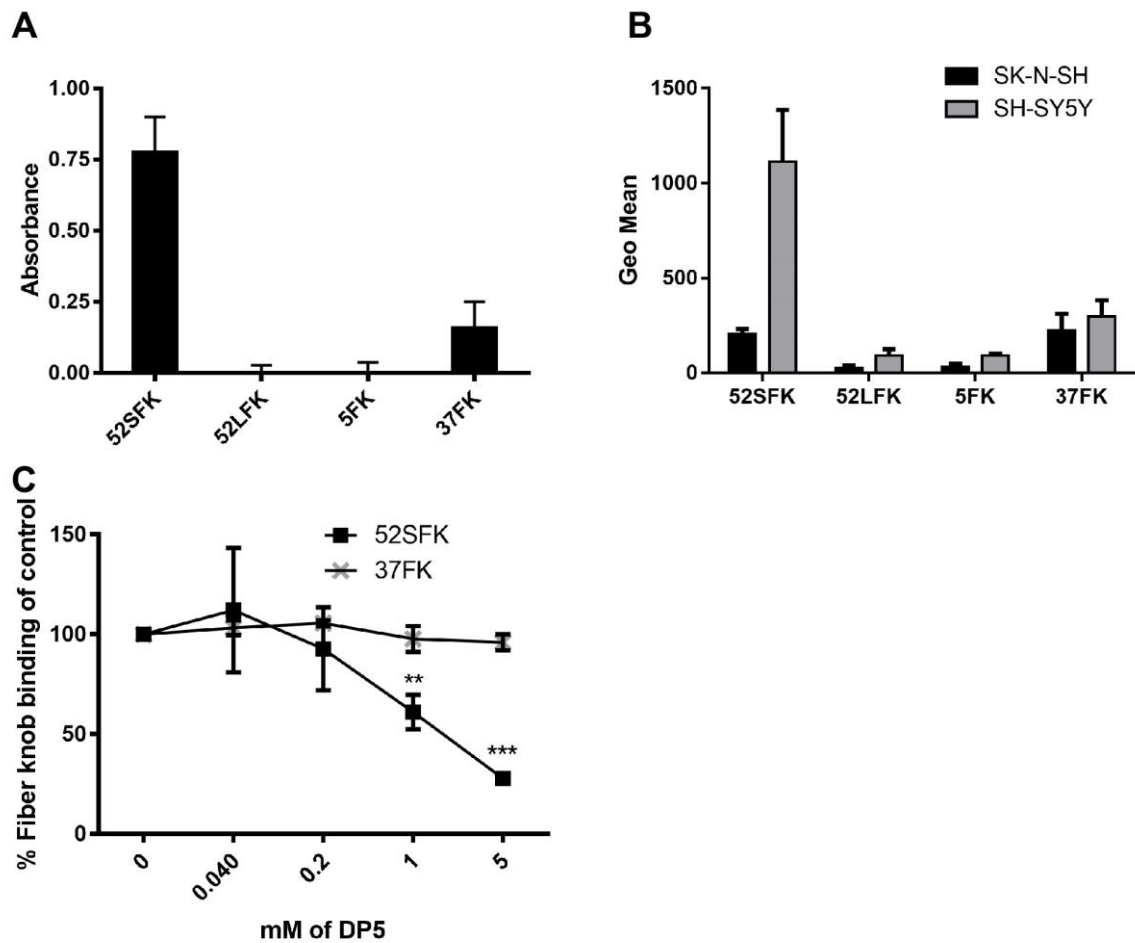
10 duplicate spots at 5 fmol/spot. Error bars represent half of the difference between the two

11 values. DP3-DP9= [α-2,8]-linked sialic acids with a degree of polymerization (DP) between

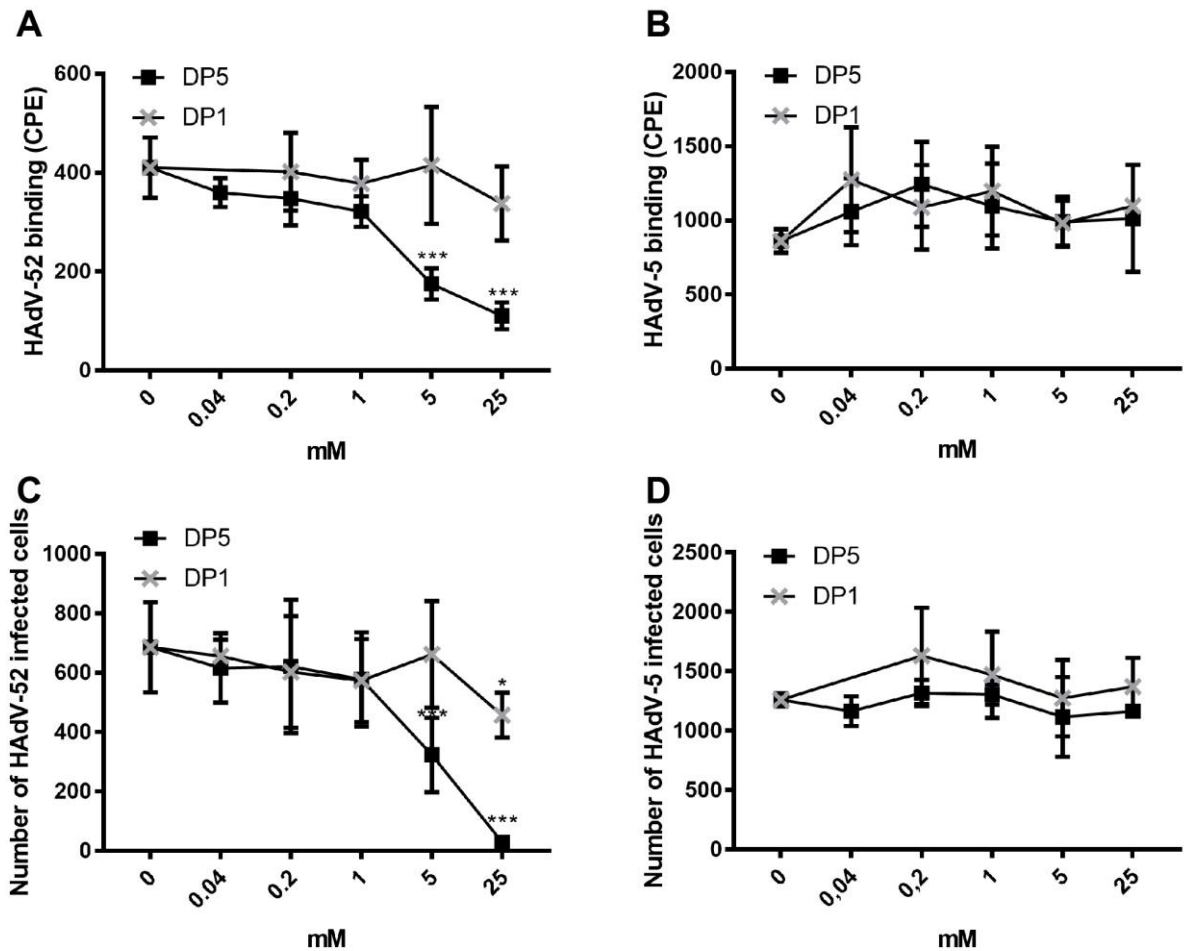
12 3-9 (from left to right, in steps of two). Inlay: general structure of polySia, up to ~100 sialic

13 acid moieties are linearly connected via an [α-2,8]-linkage. Blue: non-reducing end; Pink:

14 reducing end.

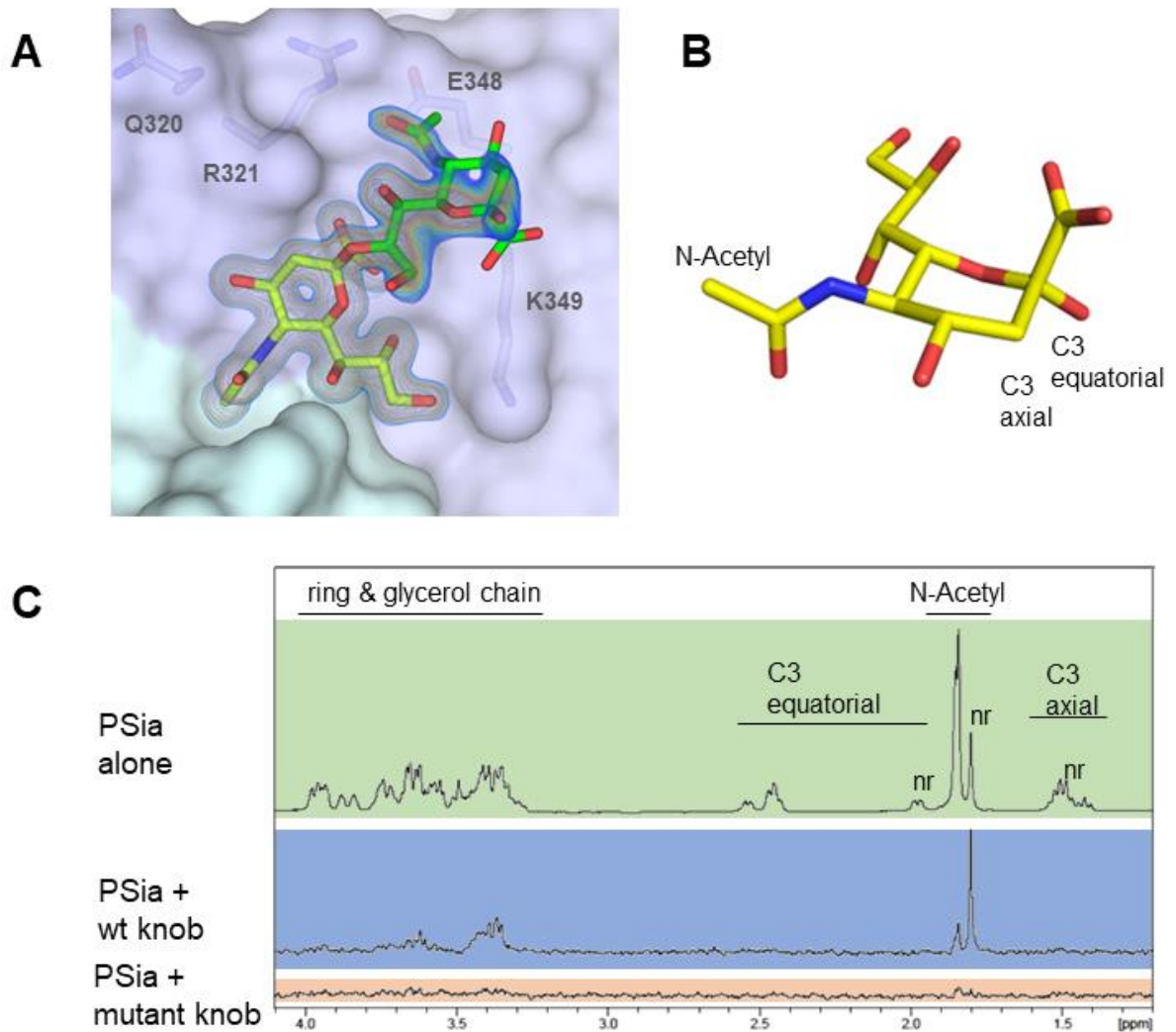


1
2 **Fig. 2.** HAdV-52 short fiber knob binds to polysialic acid. (A) HAdV-fiber knob binding to
3 immobilized E.coli-derived polySia (colominic acid, DP≈80-100). Relative absorbance is
4 shown. (B) Flow cytometry-based quantification of HAdV fiber knob binding to human
5 neuroblastoma cells expressing (SH-SY5Y) or lacking (SK-N-SH) polySia. (C) Flow
6 cytometry-based quantification of 52SFK and 37FK binding to SH-SY5Y cells after fiber
7 knob pre-incubation with increasing concentrations of pentasialic acid (DP5). SFK: short
8 fiber knob; LFK: long fiber knob; FK: fiber knob. All experiments were performed three
9 times with duplicate samples in each experiment. Error bars represent mean ± SD. **indicates
10 $p < 0.01$ and *** indicates $p < 0.001$.



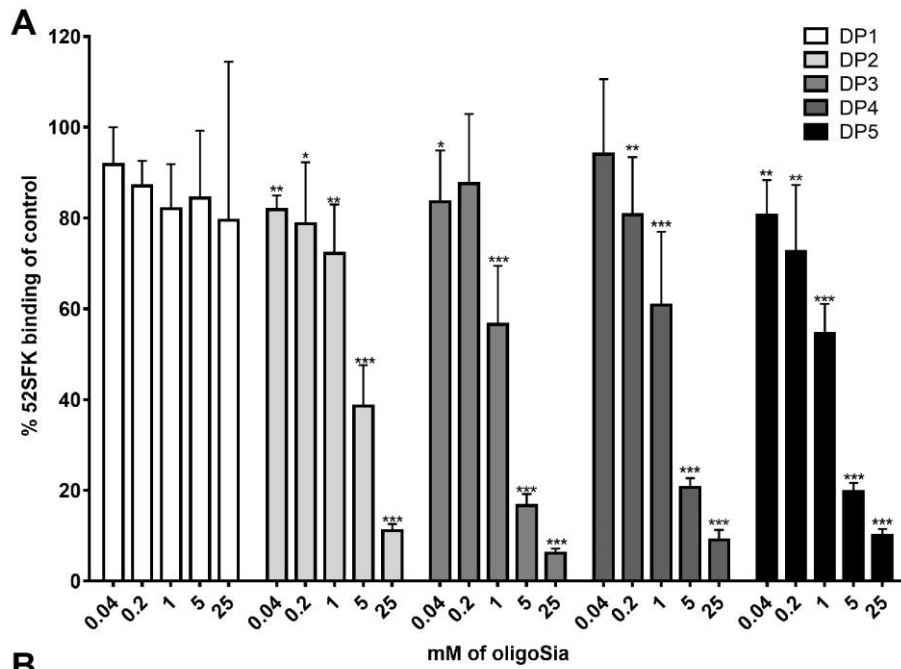
1

2 **Fig. 3.** OligoSia efficiently reduces HAdV-52 virion binding to and infection of SH-SY5Y
 3 cells. Binding of (A) ³⁵S-labeled HAdV-52 and (B) ³⁵S-labeled HAdV-5 virions to SH-SY5Y
 4 cells after pre-incubation with soluble monosialic acid (DP1) or pentasialic acid (DP5).
 5 Infection of SH-SY5Y with (C) HAdV-52 and (D) HAdV-5 after pre-incubation with DP1 or
 6 DP5. The experiments were performed three times with duplicate samples in each
 7 experiment. Error bars represent mean ± SD. *** indicates p<0.001.



1

2 **Fig. 4.** [α -2,8]-linked oligoSias are engaged in the canonical binding pocket of HAdV-52
 3 short fiber knob via their non-reducing end. (A) Complex structure of 52SFK and trisialic
 4 acid (DP3). Shown is a 2Fo-Fc map calculated at 1 σ (blue) and 1.5 σ (orange) after
 5 refinement. The non-reducing sialic acid moiety is colored in yellow, the adjacent moiety in
 6 green. The third sialic acid moiety could not be resolved. (B) Schematic representation of
 7 sialic acid in the α -conformation. The positions of distinctive protons for NMR are indicated.
 8 (C) STD-NMR of 52SFK and DP3. Green box: DP3 alone; blue box: Saturation transfer
 9 difference spectrum of the 52SFK:DP3 complex; red box: Saturation transfer difference
 10 spectrum of the R316A-52SFK:DP3 complex, nr = non-reducing end.



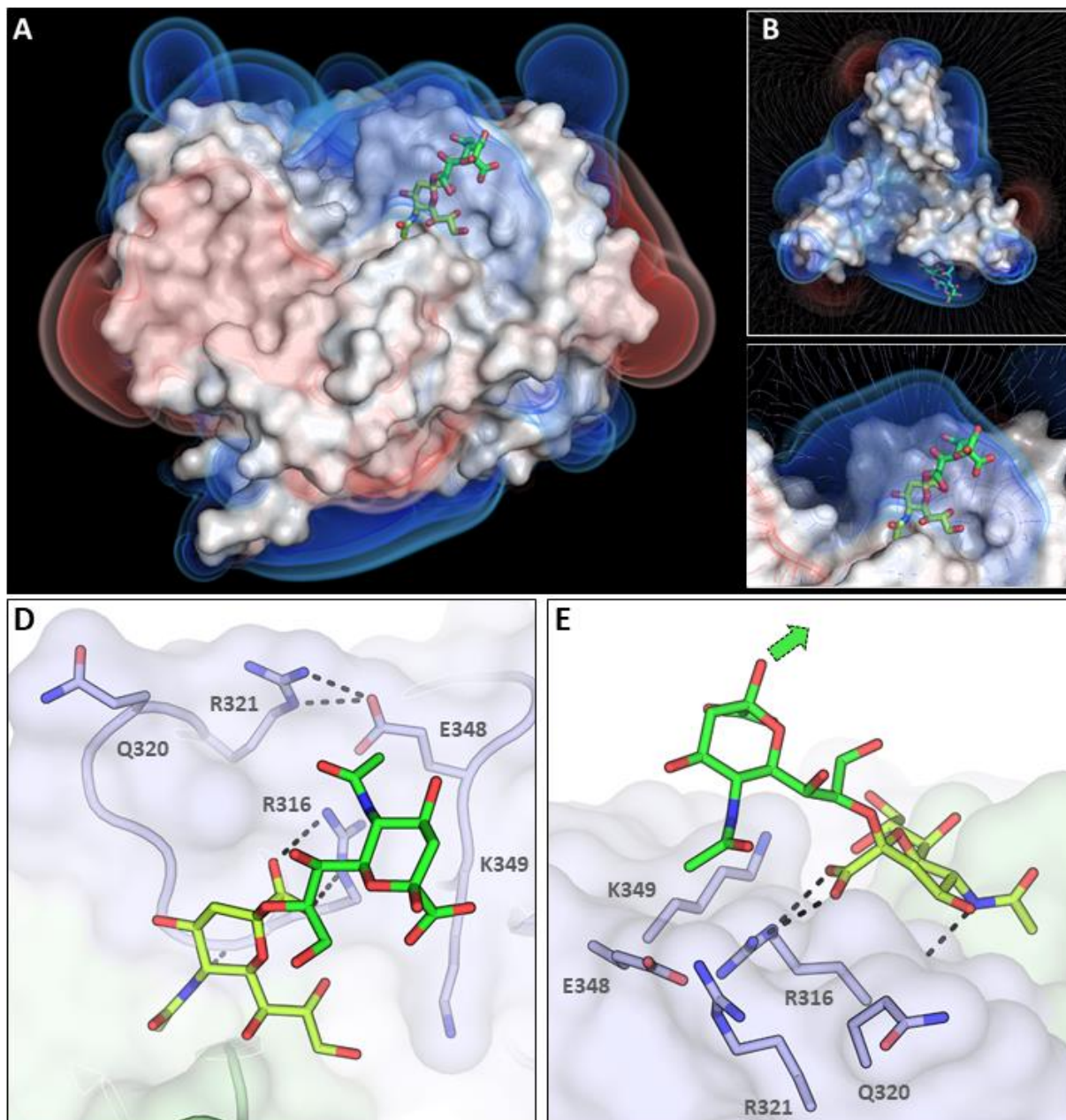
B

Ligand (immobilized)	Analyte (in solution)	K_D (10^{-3} M)
52SFK	DP2	12.13 ± 0.70
52SFK	DP3	6.60 ± 0.43
52SFK	DP4	6.05 ± 0.21
52SFK	DP5	5.07 ± 0.20
52SFK	<i>E. coli</i> -derived PSA	1.11 ± 0.14

1

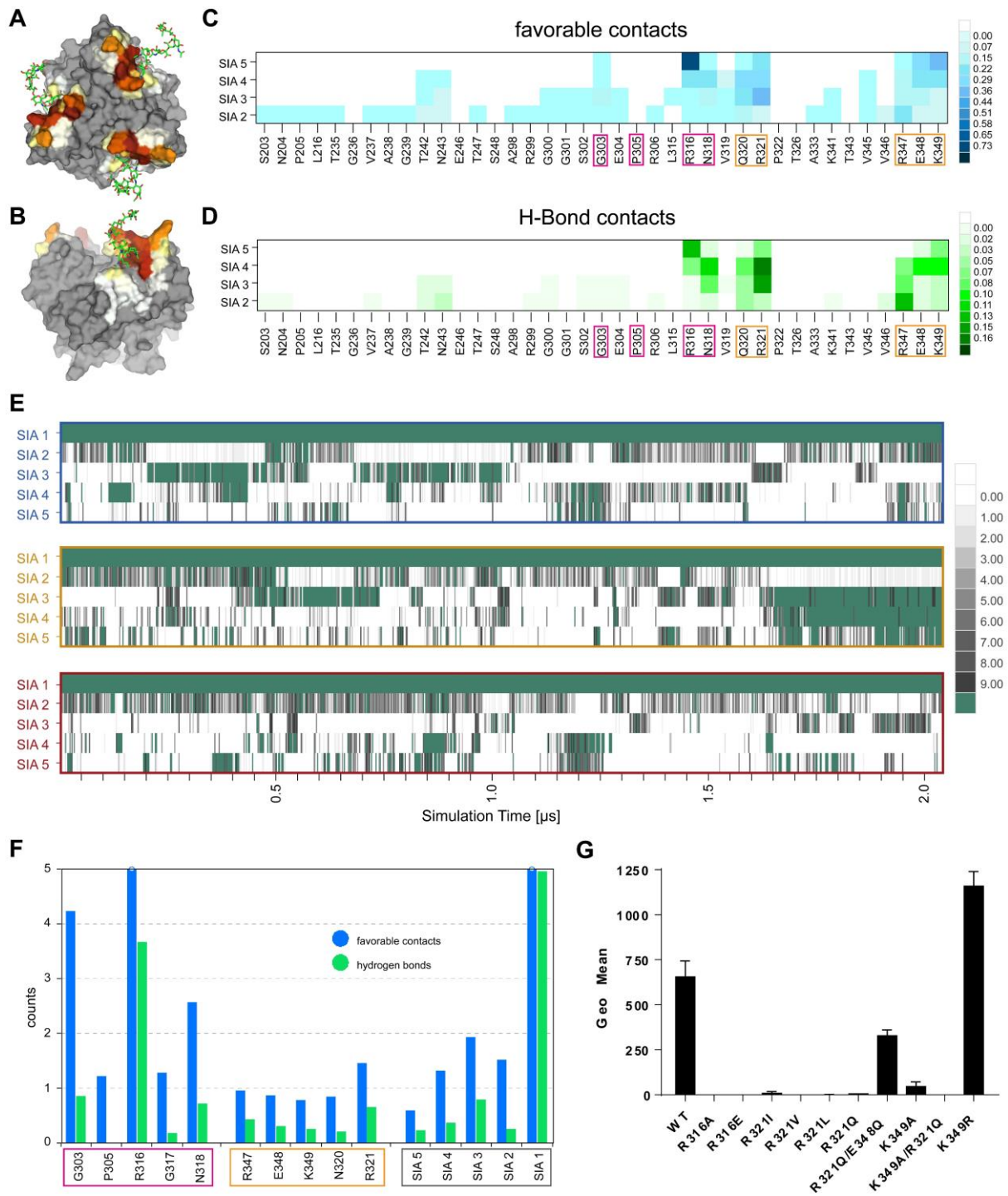
2 **Fig. 5.** A degree of polymerization of three, or more, strengthens the interactions with 52SFK.

3 (A) Flow cytometry-based quantification of 52SFK binding to SH-SY5Y cells after fiber
 4 knob pre-incubation with increasing concentrations of oligoSia. The experiment was
 5 performed three times with duplicate samples in each experiment. Error bars represent mean
 6 \pm SD. *indicates $p < 0.05$, **indicates $p < 0.01$ and *** indicates $p < 0.001$. (B) Surface plasmon
 7 resonance analysis of 52SFK binding to dialic acid (DP2), trisialic acid (DP3), tetrasialic
 8 acid (DP4), pentasialic acid (DP5) and *E. coli*-derived polySia (DP \approx 80-100).



1
 2 **Fig. 6.** Representation of the HAdV-52 short fiber knob ‘steering rim’. Poisson-Boltzmann
 3 electrostatic potential isosurfaces and field lines for the protein were calculated at ± 1 ; ± 0.75 ;
 4 ± 0.5 kT/e. The positively charged rim can be seen in blue. Bound trisialic acid (DP3) is shown
 5 as green sticks. (A) Side view. (B) Top view including field lines. (C) Detailed view of the
 6 binding pocket including field lines. (D) Detailed view of the binding pocket showing the
 7 relative placement of glycan and ‘steering rim’ residues. Residues of the ‘steering rim’ are
 8 highlighted as sticks. R321 and E348 are forming a salt bridge, as do R316 and the carboxyl
 9 group at the non-reducing end of DP3. The orientation is the same as in Panel A. (E) Side

- 1 view of the interaction site. The second sialic acid moiety is projection away from the protein
- 2 surface. The green arrow indicates the expected direction of the adjacent sialic acid moieties.
- 3 (D-E) The non-reducing sialic acid moiety is colored in yellow, the adjacent moiety in green.
- 4
- 5
- 6

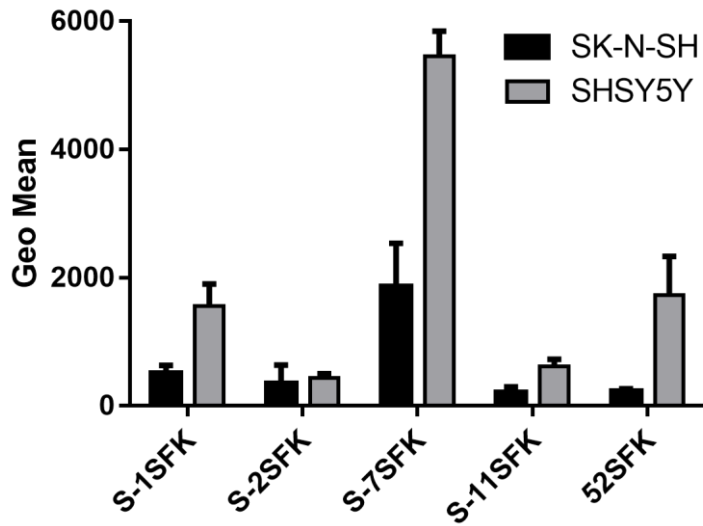


1

2

3 **Fig. 7.** Molecular dynamics simulation of the interactions between 52SFK and DP5. Three
 4 pentasialic acid (DP5) molecules interacting with the three identical binding pockets of
 5 52SFK were simulated over a time of 2 μs. (A-B) The interaction profile of DP5 with the
 6 protein is mapped onto 52SFK in a ‘heat map’ style. Non-interacting residues are colored in

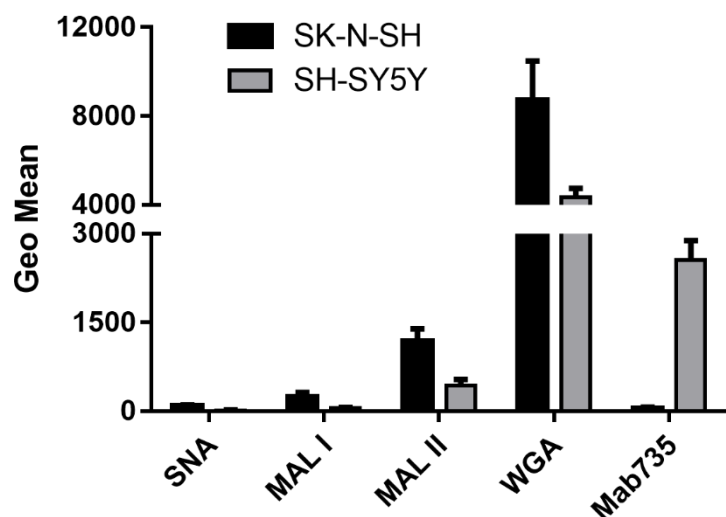
1 gray, interacting residues are scored from white (few interactions) to brown (strongly
2 interacting). (A) All three pockets are shown from a top view. (B) One of the simulated
3 binding pockets is shown from a side view. (C-D) Detailed interactions contributed by the
4 additional sialic acid moieties in polySia. Amino acids of the canonical binding site are boxed
5 in pink, residues of the ‘steering rim’ in orange. (C) Residue-residue interaction matrix
6 showing the average number of favorable atom contacts between individual amino acids and
7 sialic acids (SIA 2-5, counted from the non-reducing end) over the whole simulation. (D)
8 Analogous plot showing the average number of hydrogen bonds. (E) Time-resolved trajectory
9 plot of the number of atom contacts per sialic acid residue (numbered from the non-reducing
10 end) in the three binding sites (individual rows) averaged over 2.5 ns increments. Atom
11 contacts are counted as favorable if one of the following conditions are satisfied: H-bond
12 donor/acceptor atom distance $< 3.2 \text{ \AA}$ or C-C atom distance $< 4.2 \text{ \AA}$. The average number of
13 interactions is depicted according to the color legends on the right for each panel. (F)
14 Summary of the interactions of polySia with the 52SFK canonical pocket and ‘steering rim’.
15 The number of favorable atom contacts and hydrogen bonds per residue is averaged over the
16 three binding sites. Boxing of the amino acid residues is analogous to panels C & D, sialic
17 acids are boxed in grey. (G) Flow cytometry-based analysis of HAdV-52 short fiber knob
18 mutant binding to polysialic acid-expressing SH-SY5Y cells. The experiment was performed
19 three times with duplicate samples in each experiment. Error bars represent mean \pm SD.



1

2 **Fig. 8.** AdV short fiber knob binding to polysialic acid-expressing/-lacking cells. Flow
 3 cytometry-based quantification of simian (S) and human AdV short fiber knob binding to
 4 human neuroblastoma cells expressing (SH-SY5Y) or lacking (SK-N-SH) polySia. The
 5 experiment was performed three times with duplicate samples in each experiment. SFK: short
 6 fiber knob; FK: fiber knob. Error bars represent mean \pm SD.

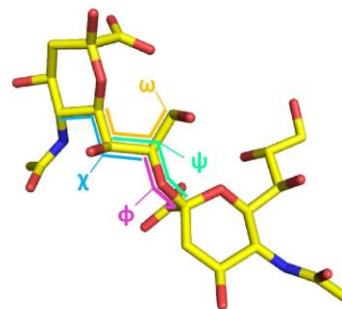
SUPPORTING INFORMATION



1 **Fig. S1.** Relative expression levels of sialic acid-containing glycans on SK-N-SH and SH-
2 SY5Y cells. Sialic acid expression was determined using the sialic acid-binding lectins
3 Sambucus Nigra (SNA, binds to α 2,6-linked sialic acid), Maackia Amurensis I and II (MAL I
4 & MAL II, both binds to α 2,3-linked sialic acid) and wheat germ agglutinin (WGA binds to
5 terminal sialic acid as well as to N-acetyl-D-glucosamine). PolySia expression was determined
6 using an anti-polySia antibody (mab735). The experiment was performed three times with
7 duplicate samples in each experiment. Error bars represent mean \pm SD.

A

	ϕ C1-C2-O-C8	ψ C2-O-C8-C7	ω C9-C8-C7-C6	χ C8-C7-C6-C5
DP3	-55,45	121,38	69,79	168,74
DP4	-41,90	116,76	46,26	164,96
DP5	-45,33	128,74	40,84	165,53

B

- 1 **Fig. S2.** Observed glycosidic angles in 52SFK / polySia complex structures. (A) Torsion angles
- 2 observed for polySia of different DP in the complex crystal structures. All angles adopt similar
- 3 conformations. (B) Definition of the glycan torsion angles as in (83).

1 **Fig. S3.** AdV fiber knobs and polysialic acid. (A) Sequence alignment of AdV knobs closely
2 related to HAdV-52. Residues of the ‘steering rim’ and their functional analogues are
3 highlighted in cyan, the additional residues of the RGN motif in yellow, and the negatively
4 charged E348 in orange. Sequences are ordered by name. (B) Poisson-Boltzmann electrostatic
5 surface potentials of known HAdV fiber knobs across all species. Electrostatic surface
6 potentials have been calculated at ± 3 kT/e, electropositive batches are displayed in blue. (C)
7 Phylogenetic cladogram of the short fiber knob sequences based on ClustalOmega alignment.
8

9 **Movie S1.** Molecular dynamics simulation of the complex between 52SFK and pentasialic acid
10 (DP5).

11

Table S1. List of sialylated glycans included in the microarray screening analysis.

Position	Probe ^a	Sequence	Fluorescence Intensity ^{b,c}	Error ^d
1	Lac-AO	Gal β -4Glc-AO	27	13
2	LacNAc-AO	Gal β -4GlcNAc-AO	-	93
3	LNT	Gal β -3GlcNAc β -3Gal β -4Glc-DH	10	79
4	LNnT	Gal β -4GlcNAc β -3Gal β -4Glc-DH	430	18
5	LNFP-III	Gal β -4GlcNAc β -3Gal β -4Glc-DH Fuc α -3	154	224
6	NA2	Gal β -4GlcNAc β -2Man α -6 Man β -4GlcNAc β -4GlcNAc-DH Gal β -4GlcNAc β -2Man α -3	113	188
7	GM4	NeuAc α -3Gal β -Cer	-	113
8	GM3	NeuAc α -3Gal β -4Glc β -Cer	-	106
9	GM3(Gc)	NeuGc α -3Gal β -4Glc β -Cer	-	191
10	Haematoside	NeuAc α -3Gal β -4Glc β -Cer	-	36
11	NeuAc α -(3')Lac-AO	NeuAc α -3Gal β -4Glc-AO	755	19
12	GSC-199	KDN α -3Gal β -4Glc β -C30	-	71
13	NeuAc β -(3')Lac-AO	NeuAc β -3Gal β -4Glc-AO	832	52
14	Neu α -(3')Lac-AO	Neu α -3Gal β -4Glc-AO	667	118
15	Neu4,5Ac-(3')Lac-AO	(4-OAc)NeuAc α -3Gal β -4Glc-AO	750	339
16	GSC-75	(4-deoxy)NeuAc α -3Gal β -4Glc β -Cer36	221	215
17	GSC-76	(7-deoxy)NeuAc α -3Gal β -4Glc β -Cer36	-	182
18	GSC-77	(8-deoxy)NeuAc α -3Gal β -4Glc β -Cer36	-	32
19	GSC-51	(9-deoxy)NeuAc α -3Gal β -4Glc β -Cer36	-	84
20	GSC-78	(4-OMe)NeuAc α -3Gal β -4Glc β -Cer36	84	53
21	GSC-79	(9-OMe)NeuAc α -3Gal β -4Glc β -Cer36	-	20
22	GSC-161	NeuAc α -3Gal β -4Glc β -C30 Fuc α -3	-	195
23	NeuAc α -(3')LN1-3-AO	NeuAc α -3Gal β -3GlcNAc-AO	266	21

24	NeuAc α -(3')LN	NeuAc α -3Gal β -4GlcNAc-DH	326	13
25	NeuAc α -(3')LN-AO	NeuAc α -3Gal β -4GlcNAc-AO	55	103
26	SA(3')-Lea-Tri-AO	NeuAc α -3Gal β -3GlcNAc-AO Fuca-4	2	103
27	SA(3')-Lex-Tri-AO	NeuAc α -3Gal β -4GlcNAc-AO Fuca-3	308	106
28	GSC-440	NeuAc α -3Gal β -4GlcNAc β -C30 Fuca-3	11	77
29	GSC-512	(4-OAc) NeuAc α -3Gal β -4GlcNAc β -C30 Fuca-3	-	96
30	GSC-513	(9-OAc) NeuAc α -3Gal β -3GlcNAc β -C30 Fuca-4	-	124
31	GSC-511	(9-OAc) NeuAc α -3Gal β -4GlcNAc β -C30 Fuca-3	-	108
32	GSC-479	NeuAc α -3Gal β -4GlcNAc β -3Gal β -C30 Fuca-3	577	287
33	GSC-105	NeuAc α -3Gal β -4GlcNAc β -3Gal β -Cer36 Fuca-3	-	26
34	GSC-177	NeuGca-3Gal β -4GlcNAc β -3Gal β -Cer36 Fuca-3	129	67
35	GSC-341	KDN α -3Gal β -4GlcNAc β -3Gal β -C30 Fuca-3	-	342
36	GSC-257	NeuAc α -3(4,6-deoxy)Gal β -4GlcNAc β -3Gal β -Cer36 Fuca-3	201	114
37	GSC-175	NeuAc α -3(4-deoxy)Gal β -4GlcNAc β -3Gal β -Cer36 Fuca-3	-	296
38	GSC-176	NeuAc α -3(6-deoxy)Gal β -4GlcNAc β -3Gal β -Cer36 Fuca-3	326	3
39	LSTa	NeuAc α -3Gal β -3GlcNAc β -3Gal β -4Glc-DH	108	101
40	GSC-272	NeuAc α -3Gal β -3GlcNAc β -3Gal β -4Glc β -C30	-	88
41	GSC-273	NeuAc α -3Gal β -4GlcNAc β -3Gal β -4Glc β -C30	8436	1162
42	GSC-396	NeuGca-3Gal β -3GlcNAc β -3Gal β -4Glc β -C30	106	184
43	Sialylparagloboside	NeuAc α -3Gal β -4GlcNAc β -3Gal β -4Glc β -Cer	-	53
44	GSC-31	NeuAc α -3Gal β -4GlcNAc β -3Gal β -4Glc β -Cer36	79	53
45	GSC-516B	Neu α -3Gal β -4GlcNAc β -3Gal β -4Glc β -Cer36 SU-6	-	178
46	C4U	NeuAc α -3Gal β -4GlcNAc β -3Gal β -3GlcNAc-DH SU-6 SU-6 SU-6	2732	655
47	SA(3')-LNFP-II	NeuAc α -3Gal β -3GlcNAc β -3Gal β -4Glc-DH Fuca-4	396	148
48	SA(3')-LNFP-III	NeuAc α -3Gal β -4GlcNAc β -3Gal β -4Glc-DH Fuca-3	175	128
49	GSC-64	NeuAc α -3Gal β -4GlcNAc β -3Gal β -4Glc β -Cer36 Fuca-3	-	167
50	GSC-533	NeuAc α -3Gal β -4GlcN β -3Gal β -4Glc β -Cer36 Fuca-3	-	162
51	GSC-149	KDN α -3Gal β -4GlcNAc β -3Gal β -4Glc β -Cer36 Fuca-3	-	54
52	GSC-472	Neu α -3Gal β -4GlcNAc β -3Gal β -4Glc β -Cer36 Fuca-3	-	58
53	GSC-268	NeuAc α -3Gal β -4GlcNAc β -3Gal β -4Glc β -Cer36 SU-6 Fuca-3	1392	63
54	GSC-268 deNAc	Neu α -3Gal β -4GlcN β -3Gal β -4Glc β -Cer36 SU-6 Fuca-3	249	168
55	GSC-269	NeuAc α -3Gal β -4GlcNAc β -3Gal β -4Glc β -Cer36 SU-6 Fuca-3	447	98
56	GSC-406	Neu α -3Gal β -4GlcNAc β -3Gal β -4Glc β -Cer36 Fuca-3	419	57

57	GSC-270	$\begin{array}{c} \text{SU-6} \quad \text{SU-6} \\ \quad \\ \text{NeuAc}\alpha\text{-3Gal}\beta\text{-4GlcNAc}\beta\text{-3Gal}\beta\text{-4Glc}\beta\text{-Cer36} \\ \\ \text{Fuca}\alpha\text{-3} \end{array}$	3219	125
58	GSC-220	$\begin{array}{c} \text{NeuAc}\alpha\text{-3Gal}\beta\text{-4GlcNAc}\beta\text{-3Gal}\beta\text{-4GlcNAc}\beta\text{-3Gal}\beta\text{-4Glc}\beta\text{-Cer36} \\ \quad \\ \text{Fuca}\alpha\text{-3} \quad \text{Fuca}\alpha\text{-3} \end{array}$	24	257
59	GSC-221	$\begin{array}{c} \text{NeuAc}\alpha\text{-3Gal}\beta\text{-4GlcNAc}\beta\text{-3Gal}\beta\text{-4GlcNAc}\beta\text{-3Gal}\beta\text{-4Glc}\beta\text{-Cer36} \\ \\ \text{Fuca}\alpha\text{-3} \end{array}$	527	18
60	MSMFLNH	$\begin{array}{c} \text{Gal}\beta\text{-4GlcNAc}\beta\text{-6} \\ \quad \\ \text{Fuca}\alpha\text{-3} \quad \text{Gal}\beta\text{-4Glc-DH} \\ \\ \text{NeuAc}\alpha\text{-3Gal}\beta\text{-3GlcNAc}\beta\text{-3} \end{array}$	1	22
61	A2F(2-3)	$\begin{array}{c} \text{NeuAc}\alpha\text{-3Gal}\beta\text{-4GlcNAc}\beta\text{-2Man}\alpha\text{-6} \quad \text{Fuca}\alpha\text{-6} \\ \quad \\ \text{Man}\beta\text{-4GlcNAc}\beta\text{-4GlcNAc-DH} \\ \\ \text{NeuAc}\alpha\text{-3Gal}\beta\text{-4GlcNAc}\beta\text{-2Man}\alpha\text{-3} \\ \\ \text{NeuAc}\alpha\text{-3Gal}\beta\text{-4GlcNAc}\beta\text{-6} \end{array}$	3575	256
62	P22-1 (GTP 3N(2,3)-3A(2,6)+F)	$\begin{array}{c} \text{NeuAc}\alpha\text{-3Gal}\beta\text{-4GlcNAc}\beta\text{-2Man}\alpha\text{-6} \quad \text{Fuca}\alpha\text{-6} \\ \quad \\ \text{Man}\beta\text{-4GlcNAc}\beta\text{-4GlcNAc-DH} \\ \\ \text{NeuAc}\alpha\text{-3Gal}\beta\text{-4GlcNAc}\beta\text{-2Man}\alpha\text{-3} \\ \\ \text{NeuAc}\alpha\text{-3Gal}\beta\text{-4GlcNAc}\beta\text{-6} \end{array}$	211	15
63	P6-1 (GTP 4N(2,3)- 4A+F)	$\begin{array}{c} \text{NeuAc}\alpha\text{-3Gal}\beta\text{-4GlcNAc}\beta\text{-2Man}\alpha\text{-6} \quad \text{Fuca}\alpha\text{-6} \\ \quad \\ \text{Man}\beta\text{-4GlcNAc}\beta\text{-4GlcNAc-DH} \\ \\ \text{NeuAc}\alpha\text{-3Gal}\beta\text{-4GlcNAc}\beta\text{-2Man}\alpha\text{-3} \\ \\ \text{NeuAc}\alpha\text{-3Gal}\beta\text{-4GlcNAc}\beta\text{-4} \end{array}$	139	115
64	P7-2 (GTP 4N(2,3)- 4A+1R+F)	$\begin{array}{c} \text{NeuAc}\alpha\text{-3Gal}\beta\text{-4GlcNAc}\beta\text{-6} \\ \\ \text{NeuAc}\alpha\text{-3Gal}\beta\text{-4GlcNAc}\beta\text{-3Gal}\beta\text{-4GlcNAc}\beta\text{-2Man}\alpha\text{-6} \quad \text{Fuca}\alpha\text{-6} \\ \quad \\ \text{Man}\beta\text{-4GlcNAc}\beta\text{-4GlcNAc-DH} \\ \\ \text{NeuAc}\alpha\text{-3Gal}\beta\text{-4GlcNAc}\beta\text{-2Man}\alpha\text{-3} \\ \\ \text{NeuAc}\alpha\text{-3Gal}\beta\text{-4GlcNAc}\beta\text{-4} \end{array}$	137	137
65	P8-1 (GTP 4N(2,3)- 4A+2R+F)	$\begin{array}{c} \text{NeuAc}\alpha\text{-3Gal}\beta\text{-4GlcNAc}\beta\text{-6} \\ \\ \text{NeuAc}\alpha\text{-3Gal}\beta\text{-4GlcNAc}\beta\text{-3Gal}\beta\text{-4GlcNAc}\beta\text{-2Man}\alpha\text{-6} \quad \text{Fuca}\alpha\text{-6} \\ \quad \\ \text{Man}\beta\text{-4GlcNAc}\beta\text{-4GlcNAc-DH} \\ \\ \text{NeuAc}\alpha\text{-3Gal}\beta\text{-4GlcNAc}\beta\text{-2Man}\alpha\text{-3} \\ \\ \text{NeuAc}\alpha\text{-3Gal}\beta\text{-4GlcNAc}\beta\text{-4} \end{array}$	185	216
66	GM2	$\begin{array}{c} \text{GalNAc}\beta\text{-4Gal}\beta\text{-4Glc}\beta\text{-Cer} \\ \\ \text{NeuAc}\alpha\text{-3} \end{array}$	-	507
67	GM1	$\begin{array}{c} \text{Gal}\beta\text{-3GalNAc}\beta\text{-4Gal}\beta\text{-4Glc}\beta\text{-Cer} \\ \\ \text{NeuAc}\alpha\text{-3} \end{array}$	-	167
68	GM1-penta	$\begin{array}{c} \text{Gal}\beta\text{-3GalNAc}\beta\text{-4Gal}\beta\text{-4Glc-DH} \\ \\ \text{NeuAc}\alpha\text{-3} \end{array}$	-	18
69	GM1(Gc)	$\begin{array}{c} \text{Gal}\beta\text{-3GalNAc}\beta\text{-4Gal}\beta\text{-4Glc}\beta\text{-Cer} \\ \\ \text{NeuGc}\alpha\text{-3} \end{array}$	-	93
70	GM1(Gc)-penta	$\begin{array}{c} \text{Gal}\beta\text{-3GalNAc}\beta\text{-4Gal}\beta\text{-4Glc-DH} \\ \\ \text{NeuGc}\alpha\text{-3} \end{array}$	-	103
71	GSC-195	$\begin{array}{c} \text{KDN}\alpha\text{-3Gal}\beta\text{-3GalNAc}\beta\text{-4Gal}\beta\text{-4Glc}\beta\text{-Cer36} \\ \\ \text{KDN}\alpha\text{-3} \end{array}$	107	127
72	GD1a	$\begin{array}{c} \text{NeuAc}\alpha\text{-3Gal}\beta\text{-3GalNAc}\beta\text{-4Gal}\beta\text{-4Glc}\beta\text{-Cer} \\ \\ \text{NeuAc}\alpha\text{-3} \end{array}$	-	107
73	GD1a-hexa	$\begin{array}{c} \text{NeuAc}\alpha\text{-3Gal}\beta\text{-3GalNAc}\beta\text{-4Gal}\beta\text{-4Glc-DH} \\ \\ \text{NeuAc}\alpha\text{-3} \end{array}$	2356	223
74	GSC-335	$\begin{array}{c} \text{SU-6} \\ \\ \text{NeuAc}\alpha\text{-3Gal}\beta\text{-3GalNAc}\beta\text{-4Gal}\beta\text{-4Glc}\beta\text{-Cer36} \end{array}$	547	398
75	GSC-488	$\text{NeuAc}\alpha\text{-3Gal}\beta\text{-3GalNAc}\beta\text{-C30}$	50	50
76	GSC-489	$\begin{array}{c} \text{SU-6} \\ \\ \text{NeuAc}\alpha\text{-3Gal}\beta\text{-3GalNAc}\beta\text{-C30} \\ \\ \text{NeuAc}\alpha\text{-3Gal}\beta\text{-4GlcNAc}\beta\text{-6Gal}\beta\text{-4Glc}\beta\text{-Cer36} \end{array}$	963	7
77	GSC-154	$\begin{array}{c} \text{Fuca}\alpha\text{-3} \end{array}$	-	368
78	GSC-441	$\begin{array}{c} \text{NeuAc}\alpha\text{-3Gal}\beta\text{-4GlcNAc}\beta\text{-6GalNAc}\alpha\text{-3Gal}\beta\text{-4Glc}\beta\text{-C30} \\ \\ \text{NeuAc}\alpha\text{-3Gal}\beta\text{-4GlcNAc}\beta\text{-4GalNAc}\beta\text{-3Gal}\beta\text{-4Glc}\beta\text{-C30} \\ \\ \text{Fuca}\alpha\text{-3} \end{array}$	1193	271
79	GSC-384	$\begin{array}{c} \text{GalNAc}\beta\text{-6Gal}\beta\text{-4Glc}\beta\text{-Cer36} \\ \\ \text{NeuAc}\alpha\text{-3} \end{array}$	478	29
80	GSC-284	$\begin{array}{c} \text{GalNAc}\beta\text{-6Gal}\beta\text{-4Glc}\beta\text{-Cer36} \\ \\ \text{NeuAc}\alpha\text{-3} \end{array}$	531	222
81	GSC-27	$\text{NeuAc}\alpha\text{-6Gal}\beta\text{-Cer36}$	39	183
82	GSC-61	$\text{NeuAc}\alpha\text{-6Gal}\beta\text{-4Glc}\beta\text{-Cer36}$	-	156

83	NeuAc α -(6')Lac-AO	NeuAc α -6Gal β -4Glc-AO	335	321
84	NeuAc β -(6')Lac-AO	NeuAc β -6Gal β -4Glc-AO	476	92
85	Neu α -(6')Lac-AO	Neu α -6Gal β -4Glc-AO	390	500
86	NeuAc α -(6')LN	NeuAc α -6Gal β -4GlcNAc-DH	-	90
87	NeuAc α -(6')LN-AO	NeuAc α -6Gal β -4GlcNAc-AO	-	259
88	Neu5,9Ac-(6')LN	(9-OAc)NeuAc α -6Gal β -4GlcNAc-DH	-	159
89	LSTb	Gal β -3GlcNAc β -3Gal β -4Glc-DH NeuAc α -6	1243	22
90	LSTc	NeuAc α -6Gal β -4GlcNAc β -3Gal β -4Glc-DH	-	235
91	GSC-397	NeuGc α -6Gal β -3GlcNAc β -3Gal β -4Glc β -C30	-	386
92	GSC-97	NeuAc α -6Gal β -4GlcNAc β -3Gal β -4Glc β -Cer36 Fuca α -3	-	55
93	SA(6')-LNFP-VI	NeuAc α -6Gal β -4GlcNAc β -3Gal β -4Glc-DH Fuca α -3	-	32
94	MSLNH	NeuAc α -6Gal β -4GlcNAc β -6 Gal β -4Glc-DH Gal β -3GlcNAc β -3 Gal β -4GlcNAc β -6	-	229
95	MSLNnH-I	NeuAc α -6Gal β -3GlcNAc β -3 NeuAc α -6Gal β -4GlcNAc β -6 Gal β -4Glc-DH	138	41
96	DSLNNH	NeuAc α -6Gal β -4GlcNAc β -3 Gal β -4Glc-DH Gal β -4GlcNAc β -6 Fuca α -3	-	145
97	MFMSLNnH	NeuAc α -6Gal β -3GlcNAc β -3 NeuAc α -6Gal β -4GlcNAc β -6 Gal β -4Glc-DH Fuca α -3	-	23
98	A2(2-6)	NeuAc α -6Gal β -4GlcNAc β -2Man α -6 Man β -4GlcNAc β -4GlcNAc-DH NeuAc α -6Gal β -4GlcNAc β -2Man α -3	66	291
99	AGP-Bi-Ac2	NeuAc α -6Gal β -4GlcNAc β -2Man α -6 Man β -4GlcNAc β -4GlcNAc-DH NeuGc α -6Gal β -4GlcNAc β -2Man α -6	700	166
100	AGP-Bi-Gc2	NeuGc α -6Gal β -4GlcNAc β -2Man α -6 Man β -4GlcNAc β -4GlcNAc-DH GalNAc β -4Gal β -4Glc β -Cer36 NeuAc α -6	1222	221
101	GSC-442	NeuAc α -6Gal β -3GalNAc β -4Gal β -4Glc β -Cer36	70	147
102	GSC-68	NeuAc α -6Gal β -3GalNAc β -4Gal β -4Glc β -Cer36 Gal β -3GalNAc β -4Gal β -4Glc β -Cer36	652	155
103	GSC-155	NeuAc α -6Gal β -3GalNAc β -4Gal β -4Glc β -Cer36 NeuAc α -6	444	59
104	GSC-107	NeuAc α -6Gal β -6GalNAc β -4Gal β -4Glc β -Cer36 NeuAc α -6	704	32
105	GSC-70	NeuAc α -3Gal β -3GalNAc-DH NeuAc α -6Gal β -6GalNAc β -4Gal β -4Glc β -Cer36	174	70
106	DST	NeuAc α -6Gal β -3GalNAc-AO NeuAc α -6	1086	122
107	DST-AO	NeuAc α -3Gal β -3GalNAc-AO NeuAc α -6	3027	163
108	GSC-490	NeuAc α -3Gal β -3GalNAc β -C30 NeuAc α -6	-	74
109	DSLNT	NeuAc α -3Gal β -3GlcNAc β -3Gal β -4Glc-DH NeuAc α -6	3213	147
110	A3	NeuAc α -3Gal β -4GlcNAc β -2Man α -6 Man β -4GlcNAc β -4GlcNAc-DH NeuAc α -3Gal β -4GlcNAc β -4Man α -3 NeuAc α -6Gal β -4GlcNAc β -2 NeuAc α -3Gal β -3GalNAc β -4Gal β -4Glc β -Cer36	3473	391
111	GSC-118	NeuAc α -8NeuAc α -3Gal β -Cer36 NeuAc α -6	195	198
112	GSC-230	NeuAc α -8NeuAc α -3Gal β -Cer36	223	93
113	GSC-231	NeuAc α -8NeuAc α -6Gal β -Cer36	58	122
114	GSC-439	NeuAc α -8NeuAc α -8NeuAc α -6Gal β -Cer36	454	122
115	GD3	NeuAc α -8NeuAc α -3Gal β -4Glc β -Cer	391	77
116	GD3-tetra-AO	NeuAc α -8NeuAc α -3Gal β -4Glc-AO	873	5
117	GSC-229	NeuAc α -8NeuAc α -3Gal β -4Glc β -Cer36	319	18

118	GSC-437	NeuAc α -8NeuAc α -8NeuAc α -3Gal β -4Glc β -Cer ₃₆	-	191
119	GD2	GalNAc β -4Gal β -4Glc β -Cer NeuAc α -8NeuAc α -3	228	14
120	GD1b	Gal β -3GalNAc β -4Gal β -4Glc β -Cer NeuAc α -8NeuAc α -3	800	74
121	GQ1b	NeuAc α -8NeuAc α -3Gal β -3GalNAc β -4Gal β -4Glc β -Cer NeuAc α -8NeuAc α -3	673	47
122	SA3(α 8)	NeuAc α -8NeuAc α -8NeuAc-DH	4026	303
123	SA5(α 8)*	NeuAc α -8NeuAc α -8NeuAc α -8NeuAc α -8NeuAc-DH	31735	167
124	SA7(α 8)*	NeuAc α -8NeuAc α -8NeuAc α -8NeuAc α -8NeuAc α -8NeuAc-DH	28224	86
125	SA9(α 8)*	NeuAc α -8NeuAc α -8NeuAc α -8NeuAc α -8NeuAc α -8NeuAc α -8NeuAc α -8NeuAc-DH	32320	954
126	GT1a	NeuAc α -8NeuAc α -3Gal β -3GalNAc β -4Gal β -4Glc β -Cer NeuAc α -3	781	272
127	GT1b	NeuAc α -3Gal β -3GalNAc β -4Gal β -4Glc β -Cer NeuAc α -8NeuAc α -3	2104	79
128	GSC-96	NeuAc α -9NeuAc α -3Gal β -4Glc β -Cer ₃₆	-	152

1
2 ^a The glycan probes are all lipid-linked, neoglycolipids (NGLs) or glycosylceramides and are
3 from the collection assembled in the course of research in the Glycosciences Laboratory. For
4 definition of the lipid moieties of the probes, please see
5 <https://glycosciences.med.ic.ac.uk/docs/lipids.pdf>.

6 ^b Numerical scores for the binding signals are shown as means of duplicate spots at 5 fmol per
7 spot.

8 ^c -, signal less than 1.

9 ^d Difference of signal intensities of duplicated spots of each glycan probe.

Table S2. Supplementary Glycan Microarray Document based on [MIRAGE guidelines](#) (doi:10.3762/mirage.3)

Classification	Guidelines
1. Sample: Glycan Binding Sample	
Description of Sample	<p>Sample name: HAdV-52 fiber-1 or HAdV52 SFK (abbreviated as 52SFK in the main text)</p> <p>Previous reference: Lenman et al. PLoS pathogens (2015). PMID: 25674795.</p> <p>Public database IDs: DQ923122.2 in the Genbank https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/nuccore/124375632/ ABK35058.1 in the Protein sequence database https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/protein/ABK35058.1 4XL8 in PDB as well as the PDB entry of the construct used in this publication (ID 4XL8). http://www.rcsb.org/pdb/explore/explore.do?structureId=4XL8</p> <p>Origin: recombinant.</p> <p>Method of preparation: DNA fragment encoding the knob domain of the short fiber (SFK) was isolated from virions of Species G HAdV-52 (strain TB3-2243) and cloned into a pQE30Xa expression vector encoding an N-terminal His-tag. The protein HAdV52 SFK was expressed in Escherichia coli (strain M15) and purified with Ni-NTA agarose beads. Proteins were analyzed by denaturing gel (NuPAGE Bis-Tris, Invitrogen, Life Technologies) and western blot with monoclonal antibodies directed against the His-tag (Qiagen).</p>
Sample modifications	Not relevant.
Assay protocol	Please see method section in the main text.
2. Glycan Library	
Glycan description for defined glycans	<p>The microarray (in house designation ‘Sialyl Glycan Array Sets 40,41’) contained 128 lipid-linked glycan probes, neoglycolipids (NGLs) or glycosylceramides, which are from the collection assembled in the course of research in the Glycosciences Laboratory (https://glycosciences.med.ic.ac.uk/glycanLibraryList.html). The probe names and structures are in Supplementary Table S3.</p>
Glycan description for undefined glycans	Not relevant.

Glycan modifications	<p>Unless otherwise specified the NGLs were prepared from reducing oligosaccharides by reductive amination with the amino lipid, 1,2-dihexadecyl-sn-glycero-3-phosphoethanolamine [(DHPE) (Chai et al., Methods Enzymol. 2003)]; AO, NGLs prepared from reducing oligosaccharides by oxime ligation with an aminoxy functionalized DHPE [(AOPE) (Liu et al., Chem. Biol. 2007)].</p> <p>For full description on the definition of the lipid moieties of the glycan probes, please see https://glycosciences.med.ic.ac.uk/docs/lipids.pdf.</p>
3. Printing Surface; e.g., Microarray Slide	
Description of surface	Nitrocellulose-coated glass microarray slides.
Manufacturer	Whatman® FAST 16-pad Slides
Custom preparation of surface	Not relevant.
Non-covalent Immobilization	The lipid-linked glycan probes were formulated as liposomes by adding carrier lipids, phosphatidylcholine and cholesterol (Liu et al., Methods Mol. Biol. 2012) for robotically arraying and non-covalent immobilization on nitrocellulose-coated glass slides.
4. Arrayer (Printer)	
Description of Arrayer	Piezorray (PerkinElmer LAS, Beaconsfield, UK)
Dispensing mechanism	Non-contact liquid delivery with four dispensing tips.
Glycan deposition	Approximate 0.33 nl was printed for each spot. Each glycan probe was printed at two levels (2 and 5 fmol per spot) in duplicate.
Printing conditions	The printing solutions contained 100 pmol/μl of phosphatidylcholine and cholesterol (both from SIGMA) as lipid carriers in addition to the lipid-linked glycan probes in water (HPLC grade). The concentrations of the lipid-linked glycan probes were 5 and 15 pmol/μl for the 2 and 5 fmol per spot levels, respectively. The printing solutions also contained Cy3 NHS ester (GE Healthcare) at 20 ng/ml (26 fmol/μl) as a marker to monitor the printing process.
5. Glycan Microarray with “Map”	
Array layout	<p>Each array slide contained 16-pad subarrays. Each subarray contained 64 glycan probes printed at two levels in duplicate (four spots for one probe in a row); 256 spots (16x16) in total for 64 probes.</p> <p>There are 128 glycan probes (in 2 subarrays) present in the arrays of ‘Sialyl Glycan Array Sets 40,41’.</p>
Glycan identification and quality control	<p>The 128 glycan probes printed are defined in Supplementary Table S3.</p> <p>The quality control of the glycan probes on the arrays was carried out by analyses with biotinylated plant lectins including wheat germ agglutinin (WGA), <i>Sambucus nigra</i> lectin (SNL) and <i>Maackia</i></p>

	<i>amurensis</i> Lectin I (MAL I) (Vector Labs) as well as a number of influenza viruses (Crusat et al, <i>Virology</i> , 2013). These data are not included in the present paper but available on request.
6. Detector and Data Processing	
Scanning hardware	ProScanArray microarray scanner (PerkinElmer LAS, Beaconsfield, UK)
Scanner settings	Scanning resolution: 10 μm / pixel (this resolution is adequate for the sizes of sample spots) Laser channel: Red (scan wavelength 633 nm) PMT Voltages: 35 Scan power: 85%
Image analysis software	ScanArray Express software (PerkinElmer LAS, Beaconsfield, UK).
Data processing	The gpr file was entered into an in-house microarray database using software (designed by Dr Mark Stoll, http://www.beilstein-institut.de/en/publications/proceedings/glyco-2009) for data processing. No particular normalization method or statistical analysis was used.
7. Glycan Microarray Data Presentation	
Data presentation	The microarray binding results are in Figure 1 and Supplementary Table S3 . The table includes the list of glycan probes present in the array, binding intensities at the 5 fmol per spot level and errors (difference of signal intensities of duplicate spots of each glycan probe).
8. Interpretation and Conclusion from Microarray Data	
Data interpretation	No software or algorithms were used to interpret processed data.
Conclusions	52SFK bound strongly to [α -2,8]-linked (poly) sialic acid sequences (DP>3), and weakly to a number of α 2,3-sialylated probes.

Table S3. Data collection statistics of 52SFK complex structures.

	GD3	PSia DP3	PSia DP4	PSia DP5
Beamline	X06DA (PXIII)	X06DA (PXIII)	X06DA (PXIII)	X06DA (PXIII)
Detector	Pilatus 2M	Pilatus 2M	Pilatus 2M	Pilatus 2M
Angle increment [°]	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Total rotation angle [°]	360	360	360	360
Wavelength [Å]	1.00	1.00	0.92	0.92
<u>Data collection</u>				
Resolution [Å]	50.0 - 1.17 (1.25 - 1.17)	50 - 1.50 (1.59 - 1.50)	50 - 1.35 (1.43 - 1.35)	50 - 1.48 (1.57 - 1.48)
Completeness [%]	99.0 (88.0)	97.7 (94.7)	99.5 (97.0)	99.5 (97.1)
Observed	2,103,614 (289,758)	1,041,202 (150,022)	1,412,870 (216,260)	1,078,654 (154,372)
Redundancy	13.3 (12.3)	13.2 (12.3)	13.1 (12.9)	13.1 (12.1)
CC1/2* [%]	100.0 (75.3)	100.0 (66.8)	100.0 (72.3)	100.0 (70.1)
I/σ	22.7 (2.4)	21.3 (2.0)	23.6 (2.2)	23.5 (2.2)
Wilson B-Factor [Å ²]	17.0	16.9	14.8	15.8
FreeR [% of reflections]	5	5	5	5
<u>Crystal properties</u>				
Space group	P2 ₁ 2 ₁ 2 ₁	P2 ₁ 2 ₁ 2 ₁	P2 ₁ 2 ₁ 2 ₁	P2 ₁ 2 ₁ 2 ₁
Unit cell axes [Å]	a=63.88 b=82.03 c=93.31	a=64.80 b=81.80 c=93.40	a=63.89 b=93.16 c=81.77	a=63.92 b=81.70 c=93.39
Unit cell angles [°]	α=β=γ=90	α=β=γ=90	α=β=γ=90	α=β=γ=90

Table S4. Refinement statistics of 52SFK complex structures.

	GD3	PSia DP3	PSia DP4	PSia DP5
Rwork [%]	11.95	16.56	16.65	15.06
Rfree [%]	14.06	18.25	18.81	17.76
Rmsd bond [Å]	0.016	0.009	0.011	0.015
Rmsd angles [°]	1.729	1.353	1.426	1.624
B-Factor [Å ²]				
overall	16.87	20.8	17.8	21.2
protein	15.47	19.9	18.8	17.8
solvent	29.80	26.0	24.6	30.3
ligand	25.31	38.3	31.4	34.8
No of atoms				
protein	4077	3811	3817	3927
ligand	21	41	41	40
solvent	511	237	263	324
Ramachandran favored (%)	98.1	98.1	98.1	97.7
Ramachandran allowed (%)	1.9	1.9	1.9	2.1
Ramachandran outliers (%)	0	0	0	0.2