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Genetic deciphering of the antagonistic activities of the melanin-concentrating hormone and melanocortin pathways in skin pigmentation

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Melanosome pigment contraction and dispersion in zebrafish larvae after background adaptation.

MCH induced peptide expression after heat-shock reduces dorsal melanocyte dispersion (upper left), while *mchr2* homozygous mutants have extensive melanosome dispersion (lower right). Control larvae are pictured under white background (upper right) and dark background (lower left) conditions, where dark adapted larvae have more dispersed pigmentation than white adapted larvae which have contracted melanocytes.

Image credit: Romain Madelaine.