

1                    ***Norovirus NS1/2 protein increases glutaminolysis for efficient viral replication***

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16 **Short title:** Norovirus NS1/2 increases glutaminolysis

17 **Abstract:** Viruses are obligate intracellular parasites that rely on host cell metabolism for successful  
18 replication. Thus, viruses rewire host cell pathways involved in central carbon metabolism to increase  
19 the availability of building blocks for replication. However, the underlying mechanisms of virus-induced  
20 alterations to host metabolism are largely unknown. Noroviruses (NoVs) are highly prevalent pathogens  
21 that cause sporadic and epidemic viral gastroenteritis. In the present study, we uncovered several  
22 strain-specific and shared host cell metabolic requirements of three murine norovirus (MNV) strains, the  
23 acute MNV-1 strain and the persistent CR3 and CR6 strains. While all three strains required glycolysis,  
24 glutaminolysis, and the pentose phosphate pathway for optimal infection of macrophages, only MNV-1  
25 relied on host oxidative phosphorylation. Furthermore, the first metabolic flux analysis of NoV-infected  
26 cells revealed that both glycolysis and glutaminolysis are upregulated during MNV-1 infection of  
27 macrophages. Glutamine deprivation affected the MNV lifecycle at the stage of genome replication,  
28 resulting in decreased non-structural and structural protein synthesis, viral assembly, and egress.  
29 Mechanistic studies further showed that MNV infection and overexpression of the MNV non-structural  
30 protein NS1/2 increased the enzymatic activity of the rate-limiting enzyme glutaminase. In conclusion,  
31 the inaugural investigation of NoV-induced alterations to host glutaminolysis identified the first viral  
32 regulator of glutaminolysis for RNA viruses, which increases our fundamental understanding of virus-  
33 induced metabolic alterations.

34

35 **Author Summary:** All viruses critically depend on the host cells they infect to provide the necessary  
36 machinery and building blocks for successful replication. Thus, viruses often alter host metabolic  
37 pathways to increase the availability of key metabolites they require. Human noroviruses (HNoVs) are a  
38 major cause of acute non-bacterial gastroenteritis, leading to significant morbidity and economic  
39 burdens. To date, no vaccines or antivirals are available against NoVs, which demonstrates a need to  
40 better understand NoV biology, including the role host metabolism plays during infection. Using the  
41 murine norovirus (MNV) model, we show that host cell glutaminolysis is upregulated and required for  
42 optimal virus infection of macrophages. Additional data point to a model whereby the viral non-  
43 structural protein NS1/2 upregulates the enzymatic activity of glutaminase, the rate-limiting enzyme in  
44 glutaminolysis. Insights gained through investigating the role host metabolism plays in MNV replication  
45 may assist with improving HNoV cultivation methods and development of novel therapies.

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47

## 48 **Introduction**

49 Viruses are metabolically inert and must rely on host cell metabolic events to generate the  
50 necessary building blocks to multiply (1). Historically, host metabolism has been thought to play only  
51 host-specific roles in cellular homeostasis, the immune response, and autophagy (2-3). However, recent  
52 studies have shown that pathogens such as parasites, bacteria, and viruses influence host cell  
53 metabolism (4-6) to create a more favorable environment to ensure their own optimal replication (15).  
54 Many investigations within the past decade have examined how viruses alter the host cellular metabolic  
55 profile and identified some of the metabolic pathways important during virus infection. These studies  
56 have shown that a common consequence of viral infection is induction of high glucose metabolism,  
57 which can lead to aerobic glycolysis, or the Warburg effect (7). In addition, other pathways such as  
58 glutaminolysis, the pentose phosphate pathway (PPP), fatty acid synthesis, and tricarboxylic acid cycle  
59 (TCA) activity may also be altered, thus highlighting that central carbon metabolism is significantly  
60 perturbed during many viral infections (7). Viruses often hijack these pathways to divert the production  
61 of nucleotides, lipids, amino acids, and other metabolites away from host processes toward virus  
62 particle construction. Virus-induced alterations to host metabolism can be shared among different  
63 viruses but are usually context dependent and variable between specific virus families or infected host  
64 cell types. For example, glucose deprivation significantly decreases dengue virus replication, while lack  
65 of glutamine does not (8). In contrast, glutamine deprivation significantly reduces vaccinia virus  
66 replication, while glucose deprivation has no effect (9). Thus, dengue virus and vaccinia virus show  
67 opposite dependencies on host glycolysis and glutaminolysis during infection. Other examples of virus-  
68 induced changes in host metabolism come from adenovirus, human cytomegalovirus, chikungunya virus,  
69 Zika virus, SARS-CoV-2, rhinovirus, lytic gammaherpesvirus, both latent and lytic Kaposi sarcoma-  
70 associated herpes virus and hepatitis C virus (10-14, 33, 36, 38-39, 68). While multiple studies have  
71 reported that metabolic pathways are altered during virus infection, the mechanistic details of how  
72 viruses achieve these changes remain elusive. Increased investigation into how viruses reprogram and  
73 usurp host metabolic pathways with an emphasis on mechanistic insights may reveal innovative  
74 therapeutic targets and provide a deeper understanding of specific viral replicative cycles.

75 Noroviruses (NoVs) are positive-sense single-stranded RNA viruses and the leading cause of  
76 acute non-bacterial gastroenteritis worldwide (16). Globally, human NoV (HNoV) infections are  
77 extremely common, with estimated cases reaching ~685 million per year. Annually, HNoV infections  
78 result in ~200,000 fatalities, mostly in infants but also in immunocompromised individuals and in older  
79 adults (17). Additionally, HNoV infections result in serious annual economic burdens, with global

80 economic costs surpassing US\$60 billion (18). In the United States alone, HNoV infections cause ~21  
81 million cases of gastroenteritis and are the leading cause of death in older adults with viral  
82 gastroenteritis (19-20). Although HNoV infections are self-limiting in most individuals, the intense  
83 vomiting, diarrhea, and abdominal pain associated with this infection can be debilitating. However,  
84 despite the devastating public health and economic burdens caused by HNoV, no approved vaccines or  
85 antivirals against this virus exist (21), and development of anti-NoV therapeutics has been hampered by  
86 the lack of a cell culture model for HNoV. Although human intestinal enteroids (HIEs) and human B cells  
87 support varying degrees of infection, a cell culture–derived HNoV stock is still not available (22-24). To  
88 overcome the limitations inherent to HNoV research, murine NoV (MNV) is used as a model system to  
89 study general NoV biology because MNV readily replicates in cell culture, is genetically similar to HNoV,  
90 and has a genetically tractable small animal model and infectious clones available (25). MNV strains,  
91 although genetically closely related, fall into two phenotypic groups. The acute strain, MNV-1, is cleared  
92 from infected mice within one week, while persistent strains, including MNV-CR6 (CR6) and MNV-CR3  
93 (CR3), are shed for months (26). The strains also differ in their *in vivo* tropism, in which CR6 infects tuft  
94 cells while MNV-1 infects immune cells (macrophages, dendritic cells, and lymphocytes) (27,28).

95 We previously performed a metabolomic screen of MNV-1–infected macrophages, which  
96 revealed that metabolites in many pathways were significantly upregulated, including those integral to  
97 central carbon metabolism (29). Our screen identified glycolysis, nucleotide biosynthesis via the PPP,  
98 and oxidative phosphorylation (OXPHOS) as being required for optimal MNV-1 replication in murine  
99 macrophages based on experiments using common metabolic inhibitors (29). We further determined  
100 that glycolysis is important for the replication step in the MNV lifecycle since treatment with the  
101 hexokinase inhibitor 2-deoxyglucose (2DG) led to a decrease in viral protein and RNA synthesis (29).  
102 However, the requirement for glycolysis was independent of the host antiviral type I interferon  
103 response, and the underlying mechanisms behind NoV-induced upregulation of host metabolism and  
104 the role that host metabolic pathways plays in persistent MNV replication are not known. Thus, the  
105 goals of this current study were to further define the role of host metabolism in NoV replication, explore  
106 the role of host metabolism for persistent MNV strains, and begin to uncover the underlying  
107 mechanisms of NoV-induced metabolic alterations. Untangling the process of virus-induced metabolic  
108 alterations may enable development of more efficient HNoV cultivation systems and identify innovative  
109 metabolic therapeutic targets aimed at reducing persistent NoV infections.

110 With these goals in mind, we investigated the dependence of persistent strains CR3 and CR6 on  
111 host cell glycolysis, the PPP, and OXPHOS. While MNV-1, CR3, and CR6 all relied on glycolysis and

112 nucleotide biosynthesis, OXHPOS was not required for replication of persistent strains. We also  
113 performed the first metabolic flux analysis of MNV-1–infected macrophages, which revealed a  
114 concurrent increase in glycolysis and glutaminolysis. Reducing host glutaminolysis via pharmacological  
115 inhibition with the inhibitor CB839 and via glutamine deprivation showed that both acute and persistent  
116 MNV strains rely on glutamine metabolism, in particular for viral genome replication, which has  
117 repercussions for later steps in the viral life cycle. Early mechanistic investigations revealed that the  
118 observed increase in glutaminolysis during MNV infection is driven in large part by the viral non-  
119 structural protein NS1/2 that caused increased glutaminase (GLS) activity, the rate limiting enzyme  
120 within the glutamine catabolic pathway (30). Overall, our findings highlight the importance of pathways  
121 in central carbon metabolism in NoV infection, albeit with strain-specific differences, and show that  
122 glutaminolysis is universally required for optimal MNV replication. Our finding that glutaminolysis is  
123 modulated by the viral protein NS1/2 provides a foundation for detailed mechanistic studies in the  
124 future, which may reveal novel chokepoints for therapeutic intervention.

125

## 126 **Results**

127 **Persistent MNV strains CR6 and CR3 rely on glycolysis and nucleotide biosynthesis, but not OXPPOS,**  
128 **for optimal replication.** We previously performed a metabolomics screen of MNV-1–infected  
129 macrophages, which identified increased metabolites from glycolysis, PPP, and OXPPOS in infected cells  
130 (29). Inhibition of these pathways resulted in significantly lower MNV titers, ranging from an 0.5 to 2-  
131  $\log_{10}$  reduction (29). However, whether the genetically closely related persistent MNV strains CR3 and  
132 CR6 also rely on these important metabolic pathways for optimal replication was not known. To  
133 investigate whether acute and persistent MNV strains have a common dependence on host cell  
134 metabolism, RAW 264.7 (RAW) cells were inoculated with MNV-1, CR3, and CR6 at an MOI of 5 for 1  
135 hour. Medium containing the glycolysis inhibitor 2DG, the PPP inhibitor 6-Aminonicotinamide (6AN), or  
136 the OXPPOS inhibitor oligomycin-A was then added after inoculation, and cells were incubated for 8  
137 hours, corresponding to approximately one round of viral replication. Non-toxic concentrations of 2DG  
138 and 6AN were previously determined (29), and cell viability assays were performed to ensure the  
139 concentration of oligomycin-A used would maintain >80% cell viability (Fig S1A). Infectious titers were  
140 measured after 8 hours via plaque assay. A significant (>2  $\log_{10}$ ) decrease was observed in the number of  
141 infectious MNV-1, CR3, and CR6 titers in 2DG-treated cells (Fig. 1A). Treatment with 6AN also resulted in  
142 significantly decreased MNV-1, CR3, and CR6 titers; however, only a 1  $\log_{10}$  decrease in infectious  
143 particles was observed (Fig 1B). Additionally, the 1 versus 2  $\log_{10}$  decrease in viral titers observed after

144 6AN and 2DG treatment, respectively, suggested that all three MNV strains depend more on glycolysis  
145 than the PPP for optimal reproduction.

146 Because active viral replication requires large amounts of host energy, we also investigated  
147 whether CR3 and CR6 require OXPPOS for optimal replication. Surprisingly, we observed that CR3 and  
148 CR6 infection did not depend on OXPPOS because viral titers remained similar between oligomycin-A  
149 treated and untreated cells; however, acute strain MNV-1 showed an 0.5- $\log_{10}$  titer decrease. Lack of a  
150 significant reduction in viral titers of persistent MNV strains during oligomycin-A treatment suggests  
151 that glycolysis-derived ATP is sufficient to meet the energetic requirements for sustaining optimal CR3  
152 and CR6 replication. These data highlight strain-specific dependencies on individual metabolic pathways  
153 for efficient MNV virion production.

154 Taken together, these data demonstrate that like MNV-1, the persistent strains CR3 and CR6  
155 require host glycolysis and nucleotide biosynthesis for optimal replication; however, unlike MNV-1,  
156 OXPPOS is dispensable for the persistent strains.

157

158 **MNV-1 infection upregulates metabolite flux through glycolysis and glutaminolysis.** Our previous static  
159 metabolomic screen (29) analyzed the intracellular concentrations of metabolites but did not measure  
160 metabolite flux or metabolite turnover. To this end, we performed a metabolic flux analysis, which uses  
161 uniformly labeled metabolites measured via gas chromatography mass spectrometry (GC-MS) to track  
162 incorporation of molecules into various metabolic pathways. Because glucose and glutamine are the two  
163 leading carbon sources used by mammalian cells (31), we analyzed their incorporation during MNV-1  
164 infection to determine whether infection mediates an increase in their catabolism (Fig. 2). RAW cells  
165 were infected for 1 hour with MNV-1 or mock lysate at an MOI of 5. After a 1-hour incubation, the virus  
166 inoculum was replaced with medium containing either  $^{13}\text{C}_5$ -glucose or  $^{13}\text{C}_5$ -glutamine. Samples were  
167 collected and analyzed after an 8-hour incubation. Through analysis of the mass isotopomer distribution  
168 (MID), we observed higher glucose metabolism in MNV-1–infected cells than in mock-infected cells as  
169 seen by increased incorporation of glucose into lactate, a common glycolytic byproduct, and into citrate,  
170 a downstream metabolite within the TCA cycle that can be generated from the final glycolytic product  
171 pyruvate through acetyl co-enzyme A (Fig. 2A). These findings are consistent with our previous  
172 metabolic screen that showed higher concentrations of several glycolytic intermediates such as 2- and 3-  
173 phosphoglycerate and fructose-bisphosphate in infected cells (29) and confirmed that MNV-1 induces  
174 host glucose metabolism during its replicative cycle. Additionally, we further observed increased  
175 glutamine metabolism in MNV-1–infected cells relative to mock-infected cells. Glutamine undergoes a

176 deaminase reaction to produce glutamate followed by another deaminase reaction to produce alpha-  
177 ketoglutarate (aKG), an intermediate that can enter the TCA cycle (Fig. 2B). In MNV-1–infected cells,  
178 higher production of both metabolites was observed, thus showing increased glutamine metabolism  
179 (Fig. 2B). Given this finding, we revisited our previous metabolomic screen and investigated whether the  
180 concentrations of glutamate or aKG were significantly altered during MNV-1 infection. While aKG was  
181 not included in the screen, glutamate levels were significantly higher during infection (29). Taken  
182 together, our previous metabolomic screen (29) and current flux analysis provide strong evidence that  
183 glutamine metabolism is upregulated during MNV infection. As a control to ensure that the presence of  
184 uniformly labeled glucose and glutamine did not negatively affect virus replication, we titered MNV-  
185 infected RAW cells in the presence of the labeled metabolites and measured viral replication via plaque  
186 assay (Fig. 2C). We observed no negative effects from the uniformly labeled metabolites on virus  
187 replication, with a  $>6 \log_{10}$  growth after 8 hours (Fig. 2C), which is similar to titers obtained in unlabeled  
188 medium (Fig. 1).

189         Activated macrophages can dramatically upregulate immunoresponsive gene 1 (IRG1)  
190 expression leading to itaconate production from cis-aconitate in the TCA cycle (74-76). Furthermore,  
191 itaconate can play diverse roles in the immune response, including inhibition of succinate  
192 dehydrogenase in the TCA cycle (77). Consistent with previous reports, we measured approximately  
193 two-fold higher itaconate and succinate abundances (Fig. 2D) with a larger fraction being glutamine-  
194 derived in MNV-1 infected cells (Fig. S2A). To determine how itaconate production might affect  
195 mitochondrial metabolism in macrophages, we analyzed the utilization of reductive carboxylation in  
196 MNV-1 infected cells. Reductive carboxylation is a glutamine-dependent metabolism favored by cells  
197 when the oxidative mitochondrial metabolism is dysfunctional (69). We reasoned that production of  
198 itaconate during viral infection may reduce reliance on oxidative metabolism. Indeed, we measured a  
199 decrease in the ratio of oxidative to reductive metabolism in MNV-1 infected cells as measured by the  
200 ratio of oxidative-derived M4 citrate, M4 fumarate, and M4 malate to reductive-derived M5 citrate, M3  
201 fumarate, and M3 malate (Fig. 2E).

202         Overall, flux analysis of MNV-1 infection demonstrates production of itaconate coupled with  
203 reductive TCA cycle activity and reprogramming of glucose and glutamine metabolism, which are all  
204 hallmarks of virus-induced metabolic reprogramming of infected cells (67).

205

206 **Inhibition of glutaminolysis significantly reduces MNV replication.** Glutaminolysis catabolizes  
207 glutamine for anaplerosis and provides a nitrogen source to fuel nucleotide and amino acid biosynthesis,



208 key building blocks required for viral replication (32). The rate-limiting enzyme within the pathway is  
209 glutaminase (GLS), which catalyzes the first deaminase reaction (30). Since we uncovered higher  
210 glutamine flux in MNV-1 infected cells (Fig. 2), we hypothesized that this pathway would be required for  
211 optimal MNV replication. To test this, we infected RAW cells and primary bone marrow-derived  
212 macrophages (BMDMs) with MNV-1, CR3, and CR6 at an MOI of 5 for 1 hour. Medium containing CB839,  
213 a non-competitive GLS inhibitor, was thus added after infection and infectious titers measured after 8  
214 hours by plaque assay. The concentrations of CB839 used in both RAW cells and primary BMDMs were  
215 non-toxic and maintained >80% cell viability (Fig. S1B, C). Cells treated with CB839 had significantly  
216 lower MNV titers (by  $\sim 1.5\text{-log}_{10}$ ) than cells that were treated with vehicle control (Fig. 3A). RAW cells are  
217 transformed macrophages, and transformed cells can have altered metabolic processes (80). Thus, to  
218 confirm the phenotype observed in RAW cells, we repeated infections in primary BMDMs. MNV-infected  
219 primary BMDMs treated with CB839 harbored significantly lower MNV titers (by  $>1.0\text{-log}_{10}$ ) than vehicle  
220 control (DMSO) cells for all strains despite using a slightly higher non-toxic concentration of CB839 (Fig.  
221 3B). The results in BMDMs confirmed what was seen in RAW cells and showed that glutaminolysis is  
222 required for optimal replication of acute and persistent MNV strains.

223       Pharmacologic inhibitors can result in off-target effects. Hence, we repeated infections in RAW  
224 cells with medium lacking glutamine. Infections were performed as before, and viral titers were  
225 measured by plaque assay at 8 hpi. While glutamine deprivation has been reported to negatively affect  
226 cell viability after 48 hours in numerous cell types (40-41), we confirmed that 8-hour incubation without  
227 extracellular glutamine did not negatively affect RAW cell viability ( $> 80\%$  viability) (Fig. S1D). Glutamine  
228 deprivation resulted in significantly lower (by  $2\text{-}2.5\text{-log}_{10}$ ) MNV titers for all strains tested (Fig. 3C).

229       Taken together, these results demonstrate that acute and persistent MNV strains have a similar  
230 dependence on glutaminolysis for optimal replication.

231

### 232 **MNV genome replication is the stage in the viral life cycle most dependent upon glutaminolysis.**

233 Typical of a positive-sense, single-stranded virus, the MNV life cycle involves the following steps: host  
234 cell uptake of viral particles, uncoating of the positive-strand viral RNA (vRNA) genome, direct  
235 translation of the positive-sense vRNA to produce nonstructural proteins, and synthesis of viral  
236 negative-sense RNA strand for eventual production of new positive-strand vRNA, translation of  
237 structural proteins, followed by progeny virion assembly, maturation, and finally egress. To identify the  
238 stage within the MNV lifecycle that is most dependent upon glutaminolysis, we continued investigating  
239 infection under glutamine-starved conditions to avoid potential off-target effects of CB839. Since



240 glutamine can be used as a nitrogen source for nucleotide biosynthesis (32), we first sought to analyze  
241 the role of glutaminolysis on viral genome replication. To test this, RAW cells were infected with MNV-1,  
242 CR3, or CR6 for 1 hour at an MOI of 5. After 1 hour, the virus inoculum was replaced with glutamine-free  
243 medium, and cells were incubated for 8 hours. After the incubation period, we extracted RNA and  
244 assessed viral genome levels via reverse transcriptase quantitative polymerase chain reaction (RT-qPCR).  
245 Glutamine-deprived cells had significantly fewer genome copies for all three strains, a 1.8-2.0- $\log_{10}$   
246 decrease (Fig. 4A).

247 Glutamine can also be used for amino acid synthesis (81). Thus, we next investigated whether  
248 MNV protein synthesis is dependent on host glutaminolysis. RAW cells were infected as before, and  
249 after the 8 hr incubation period, levels of the non-structural protein NS1/2 and the capsid protein were  
250 measured via western blot (Fig. 4B). NS1/2 protein levels were low in samples from infections with  
251 glutamine-containing medium, but not detectable in protein samples from infections with glutamine-  
252 free media (Fig. 4B left panel). Quantification of NS1/2 protein signals from three independent replicates  
253 indicated a >90% decrease for all strains tested when grown in glutamine-free medium (Fig. 4B middle  
254 panel), indicating that glutaminolysis is required for NS1/2 synthesis. Quantification of the capsid  
255 protein also showed significantly lower levels of this protein during glutamine starvation (Fig. 4B left  
256 panel). For MNV-1 and CR6 infected cells starved for glutamine, we observed a ~60% reduction in capsid  
257 protein levels compared to infections in replete media, while a ~40% reduction was observed for CR3-  
258 infected glutamine-starved cells (Fig. 4B right panel). These data suggested that glutaminolysis is  
259 important for MNV viral protein synthesis, although CR3 was slightly more resistant to glutamine  
260 starvation than MNV-1 and CR6 (Fig. 4B).

261 Last, we investigated viral assembly and egress, the end stages of infection. RAW cells were  
262 infected with MNV-1, CR3, or CR6 as before in replete and glutamine-starved media. After the 8 hr  
263 incubation period, supernatants and cell monolayers were collected separately to measure viral titers  
264 and calculate the released virus. In the cell-associated fraction, about a 2.0- $\log_{10}$  decrease in viral titers  
265 was observed during glutamine starvation vs. replete media for all three strains tested (Fig. 4C left  
266 panel), which was similar to the results obtained for total MNV titers (Fig. 3C). The significant decrease  
267 in cell-associated MNV titers during glutamine starvation suggests that glutaminolysis is required for  
268 MNV assembly in both persistent and acute strains. However, analysis of extracellular MNV showed a  
269 significant decrease of MNV titers in glutamine-depleted media only for the persistent strains (Fig. 4C  
270 middle panel). Specifically, we observed a 0.75- $\log_{10}$  decrease in extracellular CR3 and CR6 titers but no  
271 significant decrease for MNV-1 titers (Fig. 4C middle panel), highlighting strain-specific dependencies on

272 glutaminolysis. Additionally, we calculated the ratio of released-to-total viral titers to investigate  
273 whether glutamine deprivation affects MNV release efficiency. Surprisingly, glutamine deprivation led to  
274 increased release efficiency in all strains, with the highest increase in release efficiency observed in  
275 MNV-1 infected cells (Fig. 4C right panel).

276 In summary, because glutamine can be used for nucleotide synthesis but no change in the  
277 intracellular amino acid pool was detected in MNV-1–infected cells in our flux analysis (Fig. S2B), we  
278 conclude that genome replication is the stage of the MNV lifecycle that most imminently relies on host  
279 glutaminolysis. All other phenotypes observed during later stages of the viral life cycle are most likely a  
280 consequence of this initial effect.

281

282 **Glutaminase activity is upregulated during MNV infection.** Our previous data indicated that  
283 glutaminolysis is upregulated during and required for optimal MNV replication. Therefore, we were  
284 interested in whether MNV infection increases glutaminolysis through changes in GLS expression. We  
285 first directed our attention to GLS transcript and protein levels, since HCMV and HIV have previously  
286 been shown to increase GLS protein levels and mRNA expression, respectively (35, 43). To test whether  
287 MNV infection modulates GLS expression, we infected RAW cells with MNV-1, CR3, and CR6 for 1 hour  
288 at an MOI of 5. After 8 hours, we assessed GLS transcript and protein levels via RT-qPCR and western  
289 blot, respectively. We observed that *GLS* transcript levels were significantly higher in MNV-infected cells  
290 compared to mock-infected cells (Fig. 5A). Using the housekeeping gene beta-actin as a measure of  
291 baseline transcription, we observed some strain-specific differences, with MNV-1 infection leading to a  
292 3-fold increase in *GLS* transcript levels and the persistent strains leading to a 0.5-1-fold increase (Fig.  
293 5A). Western blot analysis of GLS protein levels resulted in no observable difference between MNV and  
294 mock-infected cells (Fig. 5B). The two bands present in the immunoblot potentially represent the two  
295 isoforms of GLS, KGA and GAC, which are identical in all aspects except the C-terminal domain (45).  
296 Surprisingly, quantification of GLS protein levels revealed a small but significant decrease (5-7%) in GLS  
297 protein levels in MNV-infected relative to mock-infected cells (Fig. 5B). From these data, we conclude  
298 that the upregulation of glutamine metabolism during MNV infection is not due to increased GLS mRNA  
299 or protein expression.

300 We next investigated whether GLS enzymatic activity was increased during MNV infection,  
301 which would be consistent with our flux analysis results showing increased glutamine catabolism during  
302 MNV infection. RAW cells were infected with MNV-1, CR3, and CR6 for 8 hours as before and GLS  
303 enzymatic activity was analyzed with a commercially available kit that measures ammonia, the

304 byproduct of the reaction that GLS catalyzes (45). We observed higher levels of GLS enzyme activity in  
305 MNV-infected cells than in mock-infected cells (Fig. 5C). When analyzing the fold change in GLS activity  
306 over mock infected cells, an approximately 0.75-fold increase was detected for all three MNV strains,  
307 with each strain increasing GLS activity to a similar extent (Fig. 5C).

308 Overall, we conclude that increased rates of glutaminolysis during MNV infection in  
309 macrophages is the result of increases host cell GLS enzymatic activity, but not due to changes in GLS  
310 transcript or protein levels.

311

312 **NS1/2 is a viral mediator of increased GLS activity.** Viral proteins can mediate changes to host  
313 metabolism to ensure optimal infection. For example, dengue virus NS1 interacts with glyceraldehyde-3-  
314 phosphate dehydrogenase to upregulate glycolysis (46). Therefore, we investigated whether increased  
315 GLS activity in MNV-infected cells is mediated by a viral protein. To test this, we overexpressed  
316 individual MNV non-structural proteins in Huh-7 cells expressing the viral receptor CD300lf and  
317 measured GLS activity as before. As a control, we first tested whether MNV infection of CD300lf-  
318 expressing Huh-7 cells would be sensitive to glutaminolysis inhibition. Cell viability studies determined  
319 the concentration of CB839 at which >80% cell viability is maintained to be 5  $\mu$ M (Fig. S1E). We then  
320 infected the cells with MNV-1, CR3, and CR6 for 1 hour at an MOI of 5 before adding medium containing  
321 5  $\mu$ M CB839 or vehicle control (DMSO) for 8 hrs. Viral titers were measured via plaque assay. We  
322 observed a 0.5-1- $\log_{10}$  decrease in MNV titers when glutaminolysis was inhibited, confirming that similar  
323 to infected macrophages CD300lf-expressing Huh-7 cells are sensitive to glutaminolysis inhibition (Fig.  
324 6A) and provide an efficient cell line for protein overexpression.

325 Having confirmed the importance of glutaminolysis during MNV infection in CD300lf-expressing  
326 Huh-7 cells, we investigated whether the expression of an individual viral protein would alter GLS  
327 activity. To this end, we transfected CD300lf expressing Huh-7 cells with plasmids for the expression of 6  
328 MNV-1 non-structural proteins (NS1/2 and NS3 to NS7) or green fluorescent protein (GFP) as a negative  
329 control. Transfected cells were incubated for 24-48 hours, and cell lysates were first tested for  
330 successful protein expression via western blot (Fig. S3). After confirming expression of the proteins of  
331 interest, cell lysates were analyzed for GLS activity. We observed increased GLS activity in cells  
332 expressing NS1/2 (Fig. 6B left panel), with an approximately 0.5-fold change in GLS activity (Fig. 6B, right  
333 panel), over cells expressing GFP. This is slightly less than the 0.75-fold increase in GLS activity observed  
334 during MNV-1 infection (Fig. 5C). NS7 overexpression resulted in highly variable GLS activities but was

335 not statistically significant (Fig. 6B). Thus, other viral proteins, e.g. NS7 or structural proteins, may  
336 contribute to the full increase in GLS activity observed in MNV-infected macrophages.

337 Taken together, these data demonstrate that the MNV structural protein NS1/2 mediates an  
338 increase in GLS activity and is a viral factor upregulating glutaminolysis during macrophage infection.

339

## 340 **Discussion**

341 Viruses have evolved numerous mechanisms for manipulating host cellular metabolism to  
342 create a more favorable intracellular environment to support optimal replication. Our previous study  
343 showed that MNV-1 infection significantly alters numerous host metabolic pathways, including  
344 glycolysis, the PPP, and OXHPOS, thereby supporting the energetic and biosynthetic needs for optimal  
345 virion production (29). In our present study, we extended our investigation to include two persistent  
346 MNV strains, CR3 and CR6, and observed strain-dependent differences compared to MNV-1 in that while  
347 these strains also required host glycolysis and the PPP for optimal replication, they did not require  
348 OXPPOS. To support the previous static metabolomic analysis, we furthermore performed metabolic  
349 flux analysis to measure the incorporation of labeled carbon from glucose and glutamine. These data  
350 showed significantly higher glucose and glutamine catabolism during MNV-1 infection, thus supporting  
351 the observation that MNV infection upregulates both metabolic pathways concurrently. Having  
352 previously investigated the role of glycolysis during MNV infection, we focused on the role of  
353 glutaminolysis during MNV infection in this study. Glutamine deprivation and pharmacological inhibition  
354 of glutamine catabolism resulted in significantly lower MNV-1, CR3, and CR6 viral titers in multiple cell  
355 types, thus revealing that glutaminolysis is required for optimal MNV replication. Our results also  
356 showed that MNV genome replication is the first step in the viral life cycle that depends on  
357 glutaminolysis and our mechanistic studies point to NS1/2 as a viral protein that mediates upregulation  
358 of GLS activity, the key enzyme in glutaminolysis. Thus, in addition to glycolysis, glutaminolysis is  
359 another intrinsic host metabolic factor that contributes to optimal MNV replication. Collectively, our  
360 investigation has revealed both shared and strain-specific metabolic dependencies that may underly the  
361 different pathogenic phenotypes of various MNV strains.

362 Glycolysis and glutaminolysis are the catabolic pathways for glucose and glutamine, respectively,  
363 and these molecules are the main carbon sources used by mammalian cells to perform a myriad of  
364 cellular processes. Importantly, these pathways are often concurrently rewired by viruses, since  
365 metabolites from the glycolytic pathway can not only be used for energy production via OXPPOS, but  
366 also can be used within the PPP for nucleotide synthesis, molecules that viruses need for genome

367 replication. Additionally, glycolytic intermediates can be used in lipid biosynthesis, and when glycolytic  
368 intermediates are used more for lipid biosynthesis or lactic acid assembly rather than energy  
369 production, aKG, a glutaminolysis product, can be shuttled into the TCA cycle to ensure continuous  
370 downstream ATP production via anaplerosis. This phenotype is observed in HCMV infections (35).  
371 Glutamine catabolism also provides nitrogen-containing metabolites for amino acid and nucleotide  
372 biosynthesis (32). Together, glycolysis and glutaminolysis provide the necessary building blocks and  
373 energetic needs for optimal progeny virion production. Hence, viruses may target both pathways to  
374 promote optimal replication. In the present study we observed increased glycolysis and glutaminolysis  
375 during MNV-1 replication in murine macrophages. Glutamine deprivation and treatment with the  
376 pharmacological inhibitor CB839 significantly decreased virion production of MNV-1, CR3, and CR6  
377 through reduced genome replication, which resulted in lower levels of non-structural and structural  
378 protein synthesis, viral assembly, and release. Diverse viruses such as HIV-1, white-spot syndrome virus,  
379 hepatitis C virus, influenza virus, and adenovirus also upregulate both glycolysis and glutaminolysis  
380 during infection (9, 47-55). However, the molecular mechanisms underlying the upregulation of these  
381 two key metabolic pathways and how this metabolic rewiring affects virus replication vary by virus and  
382 host cell type. Uncovering these mechanisms may reveal shared metabolic dependencies and  
383 therapeutic chokepoints.

384         As obligate intracellular parasites, viruses rely on the metabolic products of host cells and have  
385 evolved capabilities to hijack metabolic resources and stimulate specific metabolic pathways required  
386 for replication. However, the viral proteins responsible for metabolic control are mostly unknown. In this  
387 study, we identified the NoV non-structural protein NS1/2 as being involved in host cell metabolic  
388 modulation. This protein is released from the viral polyprotein precursor via proteolytic activity of the  
389 viral protease NS6 (82). Our results strongly suggest that upon release from the polyprotein one  
390 function of the NS1/2 protein is to enhance GLS enzymatic activity, leading to increased glutaminolysis.  
391 Other viral proteins known to mediate changes to host metabolism come from diverse virus families. For  
392 example, three different DNA viruses use non-structural proteins to modulate host metabolism. Epstein-  
393 Barr virus increases fatty acid synthase expression during lytic replication through the immediate-early  
394 non-structural protein BRLF1, which works in a p38 stress mitogen-activated protein kinase-dependent  
395 manner to increase fatty acid production (56). Hepatitis B virus uses viral protein X to reprogram liver  
396 glucose metabolism through increased expression of key gluconeogenic enzymes (57). And adenoviruses  
397 use the E4ORF1 gene product through a direct interaction with c-Myc to increase anabolic glucose  
398 metabolism and glutaminolysis (9,49). Enterovirus A71, on the other hand, affects host cell metabolism

399 through its structural protein VP1, which directly binds to trifunctional carbamoyl-phosphate synthetase  
400 2, aspartate transcarbamylase, and dihydroorotase to promote increased pyrimidine synthesis (37).  
401 These examples highlight that both non-structural and structural viral proteins from diverse viral  
402 families can contribute to altering host metabolism during viral infection. However, our work on NS1/2  
403 increasing GLS activity provides the first example of an RNA virus that upregulates glutaminolysis  
404 through a specific non-structural viral protein. Although we cannot rule out that NS1/2 is the only MNV  
405 viral protein that increases GLS activity. Future investigations into the detailed mechanism of NS1/2-  
406 mediated increase in GLS enzymatic activity are needed and have the potential to reveal fundamental  
407 insights into norovirus-host interactions and pathogenesis.

408           Macrophages are highly plastic immune cells that adapt to different physiological  
409 microenvironments. These cells are often parsed into two major categories: pro-inflammatory (M1) and  
410 anti-inflammatory/pro-resolving (M2) macrophages (58). Importantly, these two macrophage  
411 phenotypes are associated with distinct metabolic profiles. Hallmarks of M1 macrophages include high  
412 rates of glycolysis, fatty acid synthesis, and pentose phosphate activity. In contrast, hallmarks of M2  
413 macrophages include high rates of glutaminolysis, fatty acid oxidation, and OXPHOS (58). Our previous  
414 (29) and current metabolomic analyses revealed significant upregulation of central carbon metabolism  
415 and increased carbon flow through glycolysis and glutaminolysis during MNV infection of macrophages.  
416 Since upregulation of glycolysis, the PPP, and increased succinate production are hallmarks of M1  
417 macrophages, while upregulation of glutaminolysis and OXPHOS are hallmarks of an M2 macrophage,  
418 MNV-infected macrophages display a hybrid metabolic profile during infection. Intriguingly, the  
419 underlying metabolic program is crucial for macrophage function (58). However, how the metabolic  
420 alterations induced by MNV infection impact macrophage function remains unknown. Like MNV,  
421 bacteria also rewire macrophage metabolism to grow and evade innate immunity. *Legionella*  
422 *pneumophila*, *Brucella abortus*, and *Listeria monocytogenes* rewire macrophages towards aerobic  
423 glycolysis, and *L. pneumophila* enhances glycolysis by a yet-to-be-determined mechanism (59). *L.*  
424 *monocytogenes* uses a bacterial toxin to induce mitochondrial fragmentation and takes advantage of  
425 increased glycolysis in M1 macrophages to efficiently proliferate (60). While chronic *B. abortus* infection  
426 preferentially occurs in M2 macrophages, it requires PPAR $\gamma$  to increase glucose availability (61).  
427 Parasites can also alter macrophage metabolism during intracellular infection. For example, *Leishmania*  
428 *spp.* are protozoan parasites that infect macrophages and activate HIF-1 $\alpha$  to upregulate HIF-1 $\alpha$  target  
429 genes, including glucose transporters and glycolytic enzymes, resulting in increased glucose uptake,  
430 glycolysis, and activation of the PPP (62). These examples suggest that while MNV infection increases



431 the availability of resources for optimal infection, rewired macrophage metabolism may also promote  
432 changes to the host immune response. Disentangling which metabolic pathways are directly altered by  
433 MNV and which are consequences of macrophage host defenses is an important area for future  
434 investigations.

435 In conclusion, we have shown that glutaminolysis, in addition to glycolysis, is an intrinsic host  
436 factor promoting optimal replication of MNV. Our data are consistent with a model whereby MNV uses  
437 the NS1/2 protein to upregulate GLS activity during infection of macrophages, which increases  
438 glutamine catabolism. Our previous and current findings reveal that central carbon metabolism plays an  
439 important role in NoV replication, and these findings may uncover novel chokepoints for therapeutic  
440 intervention and new avenues for improving HNoV cultivation.

441

## 442 **Methods**

443 **Compounds and reagents:** 2-Deoxyglucose (2DG) (Sigma #D8375) was solubilized fresh for each  
444 experiment in cell culture medium to 100 mM and added to the culture medium at a final concentration  
445 of 10 mM. CB839 (Cayman Chemical #22038) was solubilized in DMSO at 10 mM and used at final  
446 concentrations of 5, 10, or 15  $\mu$ M. 6-Aminonicotinamide (6AN) (Cayman #10009315) was solubilized in  
447 DMSO at 500 mM and used at 500 or 750  $\mu$ M. Oligomycin A (Cayman #11342) was solubilized in DMSO  
448 at 5 mM and used at 1  $\mu$ M. Glutamine-free media was prepared fresh for each experiment using DMEM-  
449 10 medium (Gibco DMEM medium #11995-044 with 4.5 g/L D-Glucose, 10% dialyzed fetal bovine serum  
450 (Thermo Fischer Scientific #A3382001), and 1% HEPES buffer (1M, Gibco #15630-080). MNV-1 NS1/2,  
451 NS3, and NS5 plasmids were a kind gift from Dr. Jason Mackenzie (University of Melbourne, AUS) and  
452 previously described (83). Flag-tagged MNV-1 NS4, NS6, and NS7 plasmids were a kind gift from Dr. Ian  
453 Goodfellow (University of Cambridge, UK) and previously described (84).

454

455 **Cell culture and virus strains:** The RAW 264.7 macrophage cell line (referred to herein as RAW cells)  
456 (ATCC TIB-71) and CD300lf-expressing Huh-7 cells were maintained in DMEM-10 medium (Gibco DMEM  
457 medium #11995-065 with 4.5 g/L D-Glucose and 110 mg/L Sodium Pyruvate, 10% Fetal Bovine Serum  
458 [HyClone #SH30396.03], 1% HEPES buffer [1M, Gibco #15630-080], 1% Non-Essential Amino Acids [100X,  
459 Gibco #11140-050] and 1% L-Glutamine [200 mM, Gibco #25030-081]) in treated tissue culture flasks at  
460 37°C/5% CO<sub>2</sub>. CD300lf-expressing Huh-7 cells were a gift from Dr. Stefan Taube (University of Lübeck,  
461 Germany) and were previously described (63). Primary bone marrow-derived macrophages (BMDM)  
462 were differentiated from male Balb/C mouse femur and tibia bone marrow in 20% L929 medium (Gibco



463 DMEM medium, 20% FBS [HyClone #SH30396.03], 30% L9 supernatant, 1% L-Glutamine, 1% Sodium  
464 Pyruvate, 0.25 mL  $\beta$ -mercaptoethanol/L and 2% Penicillin/Streptomycin). All experiments using primary  
465 cells were performed with 10% L929 working medium (same as 20% L929 medium but with 10% L929  
466 supernatant). The plaque purified MNV-1 clone (2002/USA) MNV-1.CW3 (referred herein as MNV-1) was  
467 used at passage 6 in all experiments. CR3 and CR6 were also used at passage 6 in all experiments (64).

468

469 **Virus infections and plaque assay:** All MNV infections were performed in the RAW 264.7 cell line, Balb/C  
470 primary bone marrow-derived macrophages (BMDM), or CD300lf-expressing Huh-7 cells. Cells were  
471 grown in 12-well tissue culture plates seeded at  $5 \times 10^5$  cells/well. At the time of infection, the medium  
472 was replaced with 1 mL of media containing MNV-1, CR3, or CR6 at the indicated MOI. Plates were  
473 rocked for 1 hour on ice. Then, cells were washed 3X with cold DPBS++ (+Calcium and +Magnesium  
474 Chloride—Gibco #14040), fresh medium was added containing metabolic inhibitors at the indicated  
475 concentrations, vehicle control, or glutamine-free media. Cells were incubated for indicated times. Cells  
476 were then frozen at  $-80^\circ\text{C}$  and freeze-thawed two times before lysates were analyzed by plaque assay  
477 as previously described (65). Vehicle control experiments were performed using DMSO in a v/v match to  
478 the volume of metabolic inhibitors. Primary cell infections were done the same as RAW infections  
479 except in medium containing 10% L929 supernatant.

480

481 **RNA extraction and RT-qPCR:** Experiments to quantify MNV genome copies and glutaminase expression  
482 were performed on MNV- or mock-infected RAW cells as indicated above. At time of RNA extraction,  
483 cells were washed 1X with cold DPBS++ and then 500  $\mu\text{L}$  of Zymo Research TriReagent (#R2050-1) was  
484 added. Extraction was performed per manufacturer's directions using the Zymo Research Direct-zol RNA  
485 MiniPrep Plus (#R2072) and then used for One-Step TaqMan Assay. Primers used to measure murine  
486 glutaminase transcript and MNV genome levels were previously described (66, 78).

487

488 **Protein extraction, SDS-PAGE, and immunoblotting:** Experiments were performed as described above  
489 in 12-well or 6-well tissue culture plates. At time of harvest, cells were washed 2X with cold DPBS++ and  
490 RIPA buffer (Pierce #89900) containing complete EDTA-free protease inhibitor cocktail (Roche  
491 #11873580001) was added to wells. Cells were scraped, moved to Eppendorf tubes, and incubated on  
492 ice for 15 minutes. Cells were then spun at  $4^\circ\text{C}$  at  $14,000 \times g$  for 15 minutes. Lysates were moved to  
493 fresh tubes, and Laemmli buffer with  $\beta$ -mercaptoethanol was added at 3:1 lysate to buffer ratio before  
494 freezing the sample until analysis. SDS-PAGE was performed with BioRad 4-20% Mini-Protean TGX gels

495 (BioRad #456-1096) per standard SDS-PAGE procedures (79). Gels were transferred to Immobilon-FL  
496 transfer membranes (#IPFL00010, pore size 0.45  $\mu\text{m}$ ) using a Semi-Dry transfer at 10V for 60 minutes.  
497 Membranes were blocked in PBS+0.05% Tween + 1% low-fat milk for 1 hour at room temp, then primary  
498 antibodies were added in the same buffer and membranes were rocked at 4°C overnight. Membranes  
499 were washed 3X with 1X PBS, then secondary LI-COR fluorescent antibodies were added for 1 hour at  
500 room temp and then visualized on the LI-COR Odyssey Imager. Western blots were quantified by  
501 densitometry using ImageJ and normalizing bands to  $\beta$ -actin. Antibodies used: mouse mAb  $\beta$ -Actin  
502 (clone 8H10D10, Cell Signaling #3700) at 1:10,000 dilution; rabbit mAb  $\beta$ -Actin (clone 13E5, Cell  
503 Signaling #8457) at 1:10,000 dilution; anti-rabbit polyclonal glutaminase (Proteintech #12855-1-AP) at  
504 1:1000 dilution; anti-mouse monoclonal FLAG (Sigma #F1804) at 1:3000 dilution. The rabbit polyclonal  
505 anti-MNV-1 capsid antibody (used at 1:500 dilution) was described previously (29). The mouse  
506 monoclonal anti-NS1/2 and anti-NS5 antibodies (both used at 1:3000 dilution) were a kind gift from Dr.  
507 Vernon Ward (University of Otago, New Zealand) and previously described (85).

508

509 **Cell Viability Assay:** Cell viability was tested with the WST-1 Cell Proliferation Reagent (Sigma  
510 #5015944001) or Resazurin Cell Viability Assay Kit (Biotium #30025-1). Briefly, RAW cells, primary  
511 BMDMS, or CD300lf-expressing Huh-7 cells were plated at  $2 \times 10^5$  per well of a 24-well plate. After  
512 overnight growth at 37°C/5% CO<sub>2</sub>, medium was replaced with DMEM-10 medium containing a specific  
513 pharmacological inhibitor. Treated cells were then placed back at 37°C/5% CO<sub>2</sub> for a 24-hour incubation  
514 period. The following day, cell viability was calculated according to the manufacturer's  
515 recommendations.

516 To measure the viability of RAW cells in glutamine-free media, cells were plated at  $5 \times 10^5$  per  
517 well in a 6-well plate. After overnight growth at 37°C/5% CO<sub>2</sub>, media was replaced with glutamine-free  
518 DMEM-10 medium for 8 hours. After the incubation, cells were scrapped with a cell scrapper and cell  
519 viability was measured using trypan blue staining on a Life Technologies Countess 3 automated cell  
520 counter assay platform. Cell viability was calculated as the percent of live cells in glutamine-free media  
521 treated vs. untreated controls.

522

523 **Metabolic Flux Analysis:**  $5 \times 10^5$  RAW cells were plated in 6-well plates and infected with MNV-1 or mock-  
524 infected as described above. Following the removal of the virus inoculum, fresh medium was added  
525 containing uniformly labeled <sup>13</sup>C<sub>5</sub> glucose or glutamine and incubated at 37°C/5% CO<sub>2</sub> for 8 hours.  
526 Following the 8-hour incubation, cells were washed 2x DPBS (+Calcium and +Magnesium Chloride –

527 Gibco #14040) and 300  $\mu$ L of ice-cold methanol was added. Wells were scraped with a cell lifter and the  
528 volume was transferred to a fresh Eppendorf tube where 300  $\mu$ L of water containing 1 $\mu$ g of norvaline  
529 internal standard was added to each tube. Next, 600 $\mu$ L of high-performance liquid-chromatography  
530 grade chloroform was added to each tube to isolate nonpolar lipid content from the sample matrix.  
531 Tubes were then vortexed at 4°C for 30 minutes and centrifuged at 17,000 x g for 15 minutes at 4°C to  
532 separate contents into an upper aqueous layer and lower chloroform layer. The upper phase was  
533 collected into new tubes which were then dried by vacuum centrifugation in a SpeedVac for 5 hours at  
534 room temperature. After drying, samples were stored at -80°C until GC-MS analysis.  
535 For polar metabolite analysis, dried samples were derivatized with 30 $\mu$ L of 2% methoxyamine  
536 hydrochloride in pyridine at 45°C for 1 hour under constant shaking. Then 30  $\mu$ L of N-tert-  
537 butyldimethylsilyl-N-methyltrifluoroacetamide (MBTSTFA) + 1% tertbutyldimethylchlorosilane  
538 (TBDMCS) was added, and samples were further incubated at 45°C for 30 min. Derivatized samples were  
539 then transferred to GC vials with glass inserts and loaded for autosampler injection. GC-MS analysis was  
540 performed using an Agilent 7890 GC equipped with a 30m DB-35MS UI capillary column connected to an  
541 Agilent 5977B MS. Samples were run with 1 mL/min helium flow with the following heating cycle for the  
542 GC oven: 100 °C for 1 minute, ramp of 3.5 °C/min to 255 °C, ramp of 15 °C to 320 °C, then held at 320 °C  
543 for 3 min to a total run time of 52.6 min. MS source was held at 230 °C and quadrupole at 150 °C. Data  
544 was acquired in scan mode (70-600 m/z). The relative abundance of metabolites was calculated from  
545 the integrated signal of all potentially labeled ions for each metabolite fragment. Metabolite levels were  
546 normalized to the norvaline internal standard and quantified using 10-point calibration with external  
547 standards for 36 polar metabolites. Mass Isotopomer Distributions (MIDs) were corrected for natural  
548 isotope abundances and tracer purity using IsoCor.

549

550 **Overexpression of Viral Proteins:** A total of 2.0  $\mu$ g of plasmid DNA harboring sequences for individual  
551 MNV non-structural proteins or green fluorescent protein (GFP) was added to 100  $\mu$ L of Opti-MEM  
552 media (Thermo Fischer Scientific #11058-02 with L-Glutamine and HEPES). Then, 8  $\mu$ L of FuGENE HD  
553 Transfection reagent (FuGENE #0000553572) was added to the Opti-MEM plasmid mix and centrifuged  
554 for 10 s at 8000 x g. Plasmid mix was then incubated for 15 minutes at room temperature. After the  
555 incubation, the plasmid mix was added to a separate Eppendorf tube containing 1.6x10<sup>6</sup> CD300lf-  
556 expressing Huh-7 cells and incubated for 10 minutes at room temperature. After the incubation, 500  $\mu$ L  
557 of the cell suspension was plated per well in a 6-well plate and incubated at 37°C/5% CO<sub>2</sub> for 24-48  
558 hours. After the incubation period, two of the wells were used to confirm successful expression of the

559 viral protein via western blot analysis as described above. The remaining well was used to analyze  
560 glutaminase activity with the commercially available Cohesion Biosciences Microplate Assay Kit as  
561 described above.

562

563 **Glutaminase Activity Assay:** Glutaminase enzymatic activity was assessed with the commercially  
564 available Cohesion Biosciences Microplate Assay Kit (#CAK1065). Briefly, RAW or CD300lf-expressing  
565 Huh-7 cells were either mock- or MNV-infected as described above. After 8 hours of incubation at  
566 37°C/5% CO<sub>2</sub>, cells were sonicated for 10 seconds 30x and kit contents added per the manufacturer's  
567 instructions. Samples were transferred to a 96-wellplate and absorbance at 620 nm was measured in a  
568 Synergy H1 plate reader. Glutaminase activity was calculated following the manufacturer's instructions.

569

570 **Statistical Analysis:** For all experiments, data were analyzed in Prism9 using the tests as indicated in  
571 figure legends.

572

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579 Jason Mackenzie, and Stefan Taube for the indicated reagents.

580

581

582 **Figure legends:**

583 **Figure 1: Persistent strains CR3 and CR6 rely on host glycolysis and nucleotide biosynthesis, but not**  
584 **OXPHOS, for optimal replication.** RAW 264.7 cells were infected for 1 hour at an MOI of 5 with either  
585 MNV-1, CR3, or CR6. Virus inoculum was removed and replaced with medium containing **(A)** 10 mM 2-  
586 deoxyglucose (2DG), **(B)** 500  $\mu$ M 6-aminonicotinamide (6AN), **(C)** 1  $\mu$ M oligomycin-A (Oligo), or vehicle  
587 control (DMSO). Infected cells were incubated for 8 hours and infectious MNV titers were measured via  
588 plaque assay. Experiments represent combined data from at least three independent experiments.  
589 Statistical analysis was performed using Two-tailed Students-t tests. \*\*\*,  $P < 0.001$ ; \*\*,  $P < 0.01$ ; \*,  
590  $P < 0.05$ ; ns, not significant.

591 **Figure 2: MNV-1 infection upregulates glycolysis and glutaminolysis in macrophages.** RAW 264.7 cells  
592 were mock-infected or infected with MNV-1 for 1 hour at an MOI of 5. The virus inoculum was removed  
593 and replaced with medium containing **(A)**  $^{13}\text{C}_5$ -glucose or **(B-E)**  $^{13}\text{C}_5$ -glutamine for 8 hours. After 8 hrs,  
594 intracellular metabolites were extracted with ice-cold methanol. **(D)** RAW 264.7 cells were infected as  
595 before, and MNV-1 titers measured via plaque assay. Experiments represent combined data from at  
596 least two independent experiments with at least two technical replicates. Statistical analysis was  
597 performed by multiple unpaired t-tests. \*\*\*\*,  $P < 0.0001$ ; \*\*\*,  $P < 0.001$ ; \*\*,  $P < 0.01$ ; \*,  $P < 0.05$ ; ns, not  
598 significant.

599 **Figure 3: Inhibition of glutaminolysis significantly reduces MNV replication in both primary and**  
600 **transformed macrophages.** **(A)** RAW 264.7 cells or **(B)** primary bone marrow-derived macrophages were  
601 infected for 1 hour at an MOI of 5 with either MNV-1, CR3, or CR6. Virus inoculum was removed and  
602 replaced with medium containing **(A)** 10  $\mu$ M or **(B)** 15  $\mu$ M CB839 or vehicle control (DMSO). **(C)** RAW  
603 264.7 cells were infected as before but infection was performed with glutamine-free or replete medium.  
604 After an 8 hr incubation, MNV titers were measured via plaque assay. Experiments represent combined  
605 data from at least three independent experiments. Statistical analysis was performed using Two-tailed  
606 Students-t tests. \*\*\*,  $P < 0.001$ ; \*\*,  $P < 0.01$ ; \*,  $P < 0.05$ ; ns, not significant.

607 **Figure 4: Viral genome replication is the stage of the MNV lifecycle that is most dependent on host**  
608 **glutaminolysis.** **(A)** RAW 264.7 cells were infected for 1 hour at an MOI of 5 with either MNV-1, CR3, or  
609 CR6. Virus inoculum was removed and replaced with glutamine-free or replete medium. Infected cells  
610 were incubated for 8 hours. RNA was extracted and MNV genome levels were assessed via qRT-PCR. **(B)**  
611 RAW 264.7 cells were infected as above, and Western blot analysis was performed for MNV viral

612 proteins NS1/2 and capsid.  $\beta$ -actin was used as a loading control. Data shown are representative  
613 Western blots from 3 independent experiments. Numbers below blots indicate densitometry  
614 measurement of protein level relative to MNV-infected cells receiving replete medium. **(C)** RAW 264.7  
615 cells were infected as before. Supernatants and cell-associated virus were measured separately via  
616 plaque assay. Experiments represent combined data from at least three independent experiments.  
617 Statistical analysis was performed using Two-tailed Students-t tests and One-Way ANOVA. \*\*\*,  $P < 0.001$ ;  
618 \*\*,  $P < 0.01$ ; \*,  $P < 0.05$ ; ns, not significant.

619 **Figure 5: Glutaminase activity is upregulated during MNV infection in macrophages. (A)** RAW 264.7  
620 cells were infected for 1 hour at an MOI of 5 with either MNV-1, CR3, or CR6. Virus inoculum was  
621 removed and replaced with replete medium. Infected cells were incubated for 8 hours. RNA was  
622 extracted and glutaminase transcripts were assessed via qRT-PCR. **(B)** RAW 264.7 cells were infected as  
623 before. Western blot analysis was then performed for glutaminase protein levels.  $\beta$ -actin was used as a  
624 loading control. A representative Western blot is shown on the left and quantification from 3  
625 independent experiments on the right. **(C)** RAW 264.7 cells were infected as before. Glutaminase activity  
626 was analyzed utilizing the Cohesion Biosciences Glutaminase Microassay kit. Experiments represent  
627 combined data from at least three independent experiments. Experiments represent combined data  
628 from at least three independent experiments. Statistical analysis was performed using Two-tailed  
629 Students-t tests. \*\*\*,  $P < 0.001$ ; \*\*,  $P < 0.01$ ; \*,  $P < 0.05$ ; ns, not significant.

630 **Figure 6: NS1/2 is a viral mediator of increased glutaminase activity in macrophages. (A)** Huh-7 cells  
631 expressing the viral receptor CD300lf were infected for 1 hour at an MOI of 5 with either MNV-1, CR3, or  
632 CR6. Virus inoculum was removed and replaced with medium containing 5  $\mu$ M CB839 or vehicle control  
633 (DMSO). Infected cells were incubated for 8 hours and MNV titers were measured via plaque assay. **(B)**  
634 Huh-7 CD300lf cells were transfected with plasmids encoding the indicated MNV-1 non-structural  
635 protein or green fluorescent protein. Transfected cells were incubated for 24-48 hours. Glutaminase  
636 activity was analyzed utilizing the Cohesion Biosciences Glutaminase Microassay kit. Experiments  
637 represent combined data from at least three independent experiments. Statistical analysis was  
638 performed using Two-tailed Students-t tests. \*\*,  $P < 0.01$ ; \*,  $P < 0.05$ ; ns, not significant.

639

640 **Supplemental figure legends**

641 **Supplementary Figure 1: Cell viability assays of indicated cell lines. (A-B)** RAW 264.7 cells were treated  
642 with indicated concentrations of **(A)** Oligomycin-A, **(B)** CB839, or vehicle control (DMSO) for either 8 or  
643 24 hours, respectively. Cell viability was measured using Resazurin or WST-1 reagent. **(C)** Primary bone  
644 marrow-derived macrophages were treated with CB839 or vehicle control at the indicated  
645 concentrations for 24 hours. Cell viability was measured using WST-1 reagent. **(D)** RAW 264.7 cells were  
646 incubated with glutamine free or replete medium for 8 hours. Cell viability was measured using trypan  
647 blue staining on a Life Technologies Countess 3 automated cell counter assay platform. **(E)** Huh-7  
648 CD300lf cells were treated with indicated concentrations of CB839 for 24 hrs. Cell viability was  
649 measured using WST-1 reagent. Experiments represent combined data from at least two independent  
650 experiments with two technical replicates each.

651 **Supplementary figure 2: MNV-1 infection does not alter the intracellular amino acid pool. (A-B)** RAW  
652 264.7 cells were either mock-infected or infected with MNV-1 for 1 hour at an MOI of 5. The virus  
653 inoculum was removed and replaced with medium containing  $^{13}\text{C}_5$ -glutamine for 8 hours. Intracellular  
654 metabolites and amino acids were extracted with ice-cold methanol and measured by mass  
655 spectrometry. Experiments represent combined data from two independent experiments with four  
656 technical repeats.

657 **Successful expression of MNV viral proteins.** Validation of MNV-1 nonstructural protein expression. **(A-**  
658 **E)** Huh-7 CD300lf cells were transfected with plasmids encoding the indicated MNV-1 nonstructural  
659 protein or green fluorescent protein. Transfected cells were incubated for 24-48 hours. Western blot  
660 analysis was performed to confirm successful expression.  $\beta$ -actin was used as a loading control. Data  
661 shows representative Western blots from 3 independent experiments.



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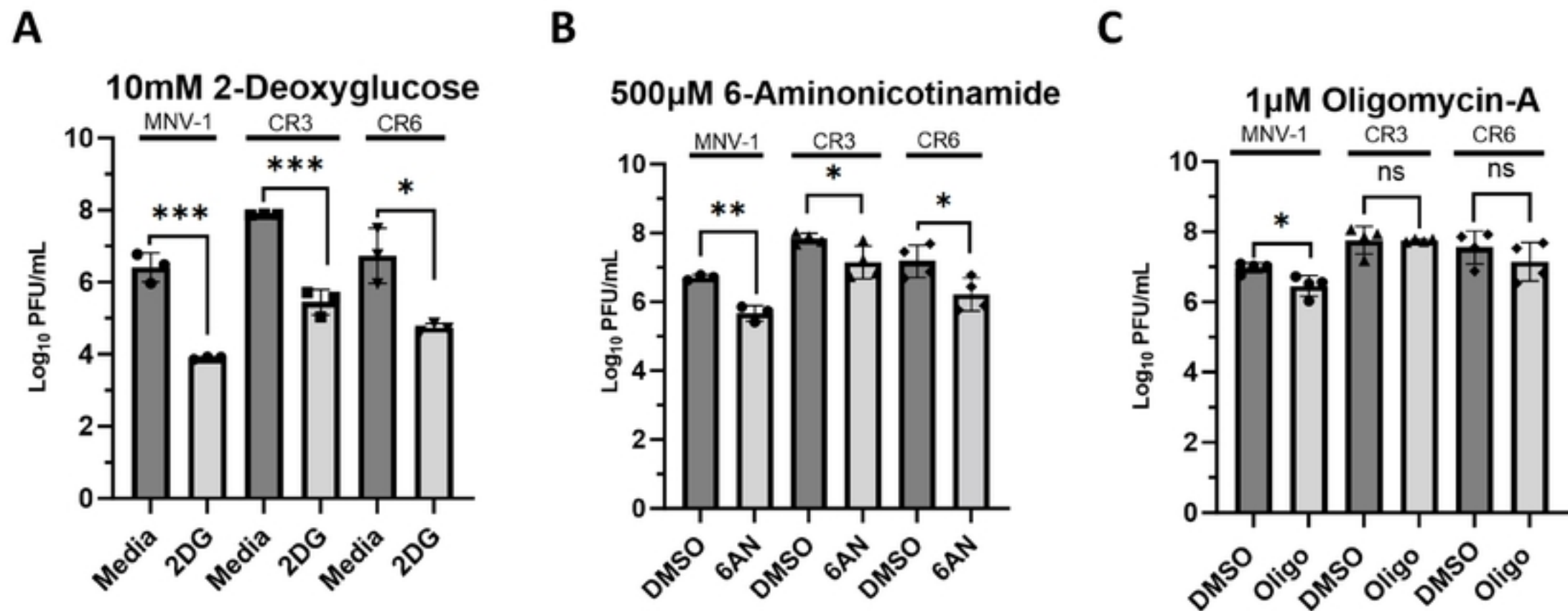
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Figure 1



**Figure 2**

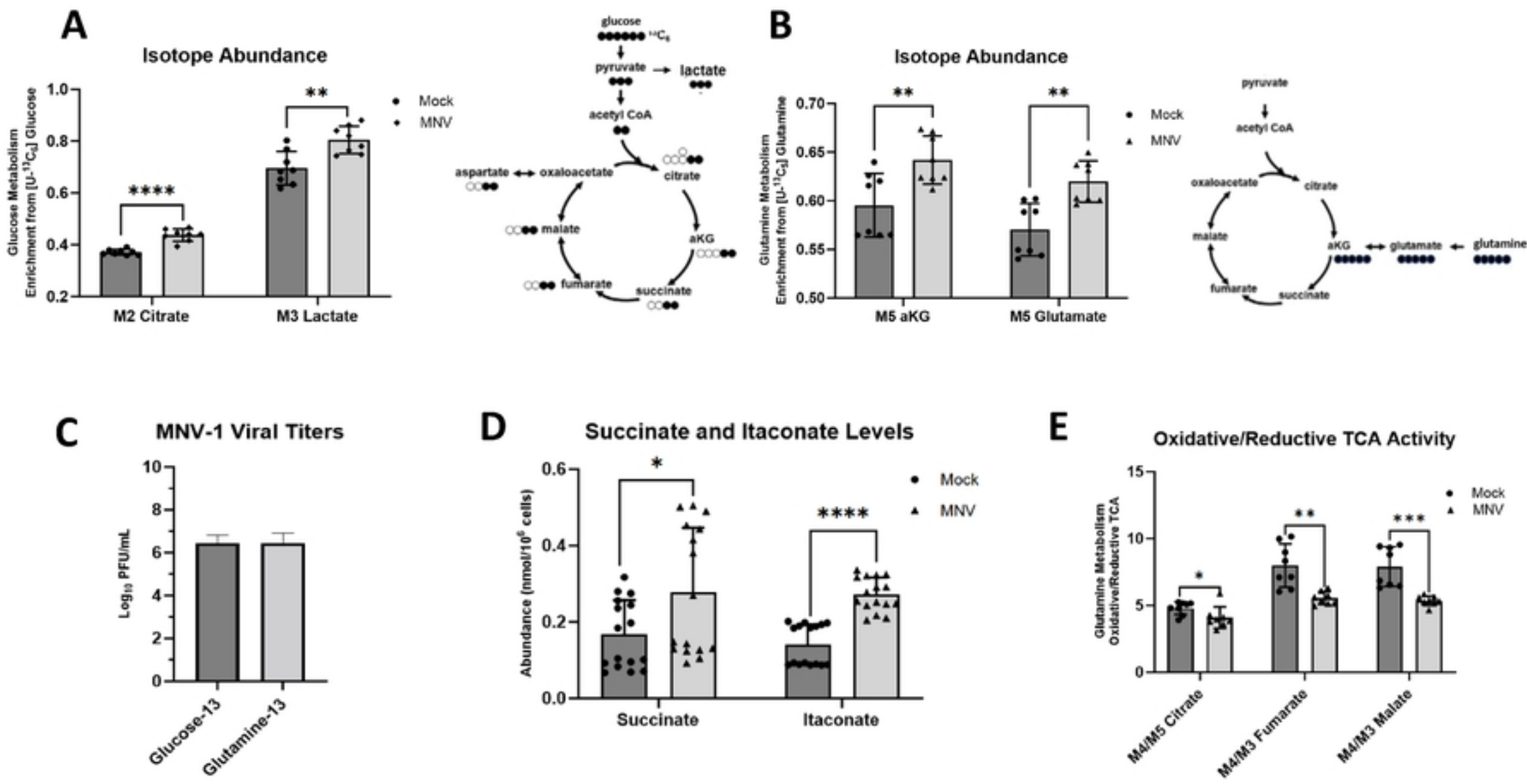
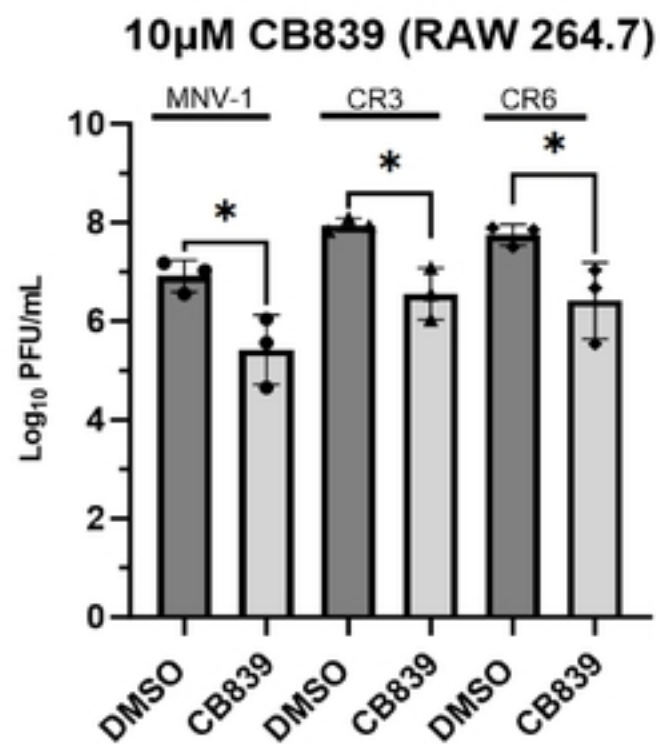
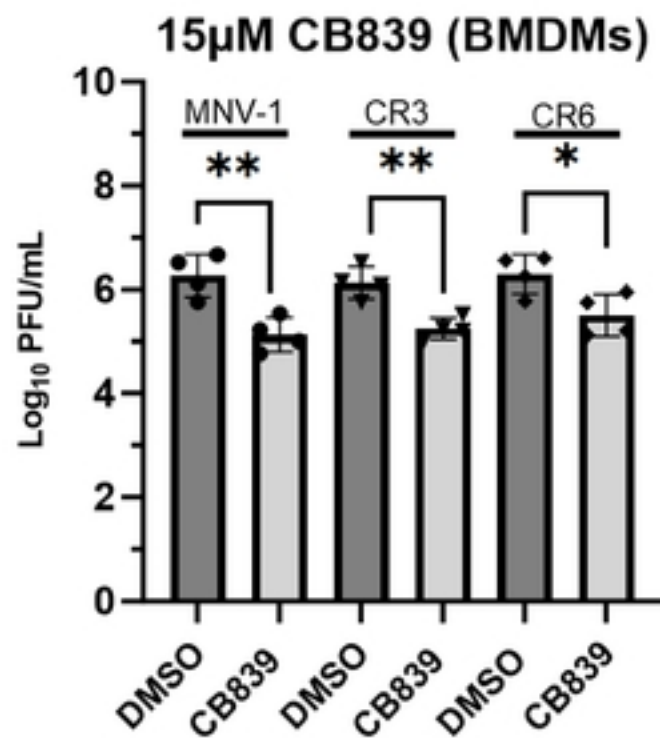


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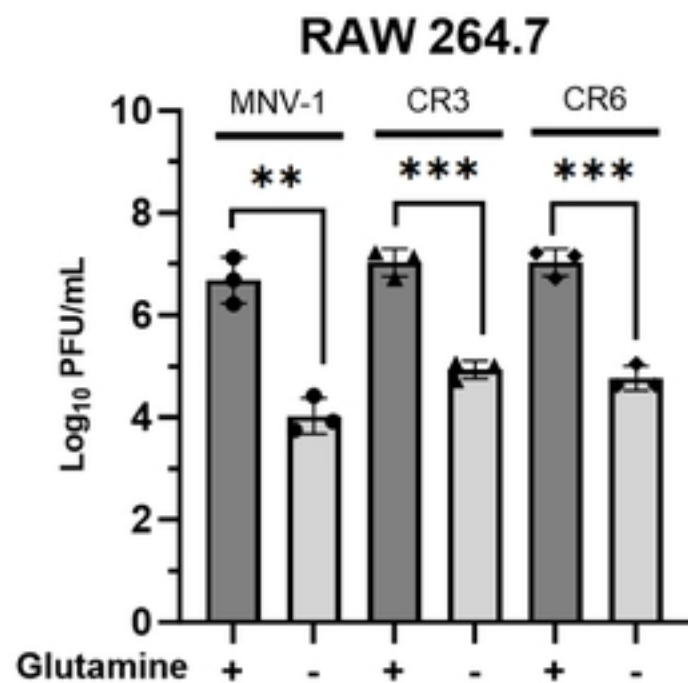
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**Figure 4**

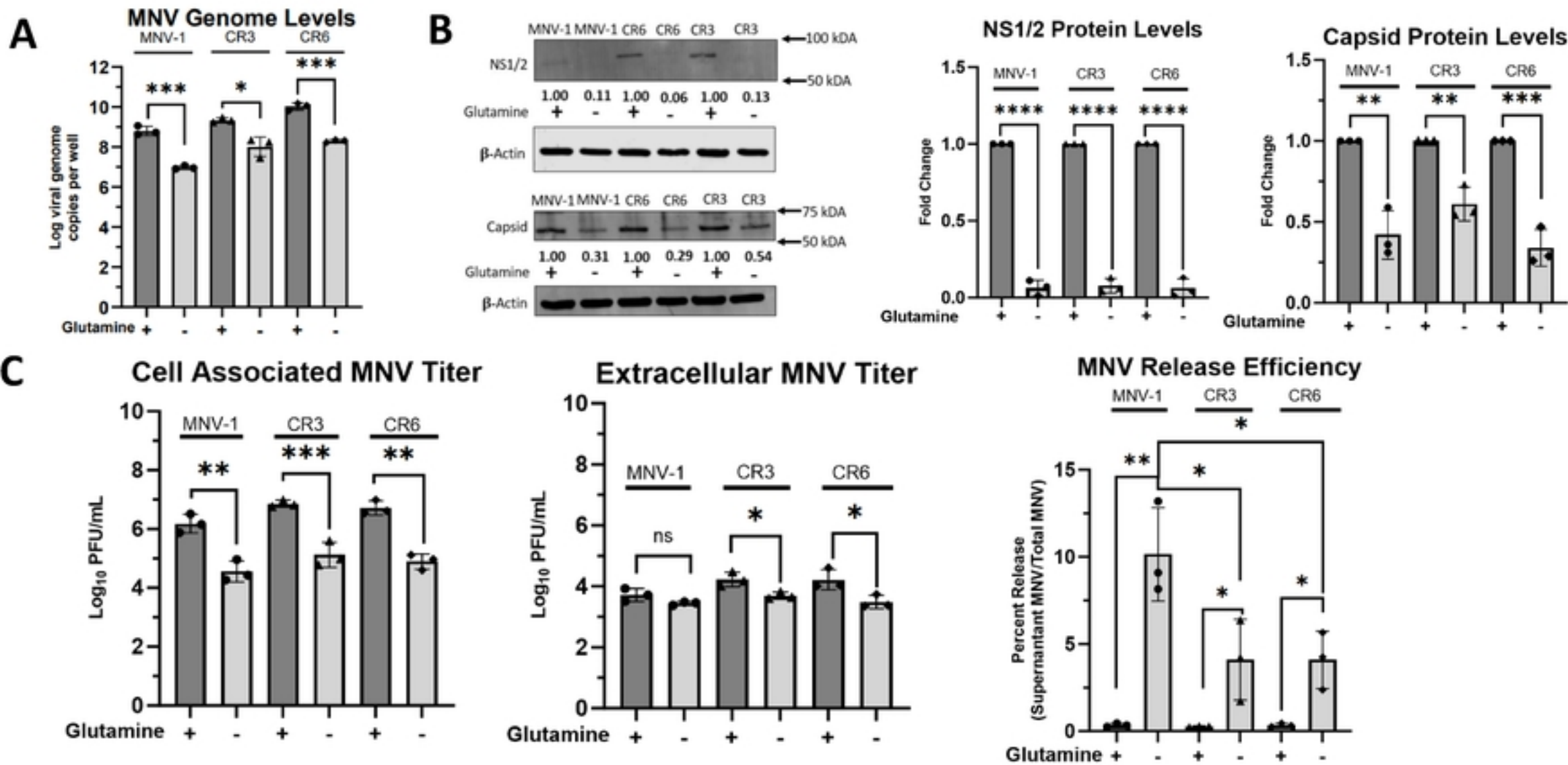


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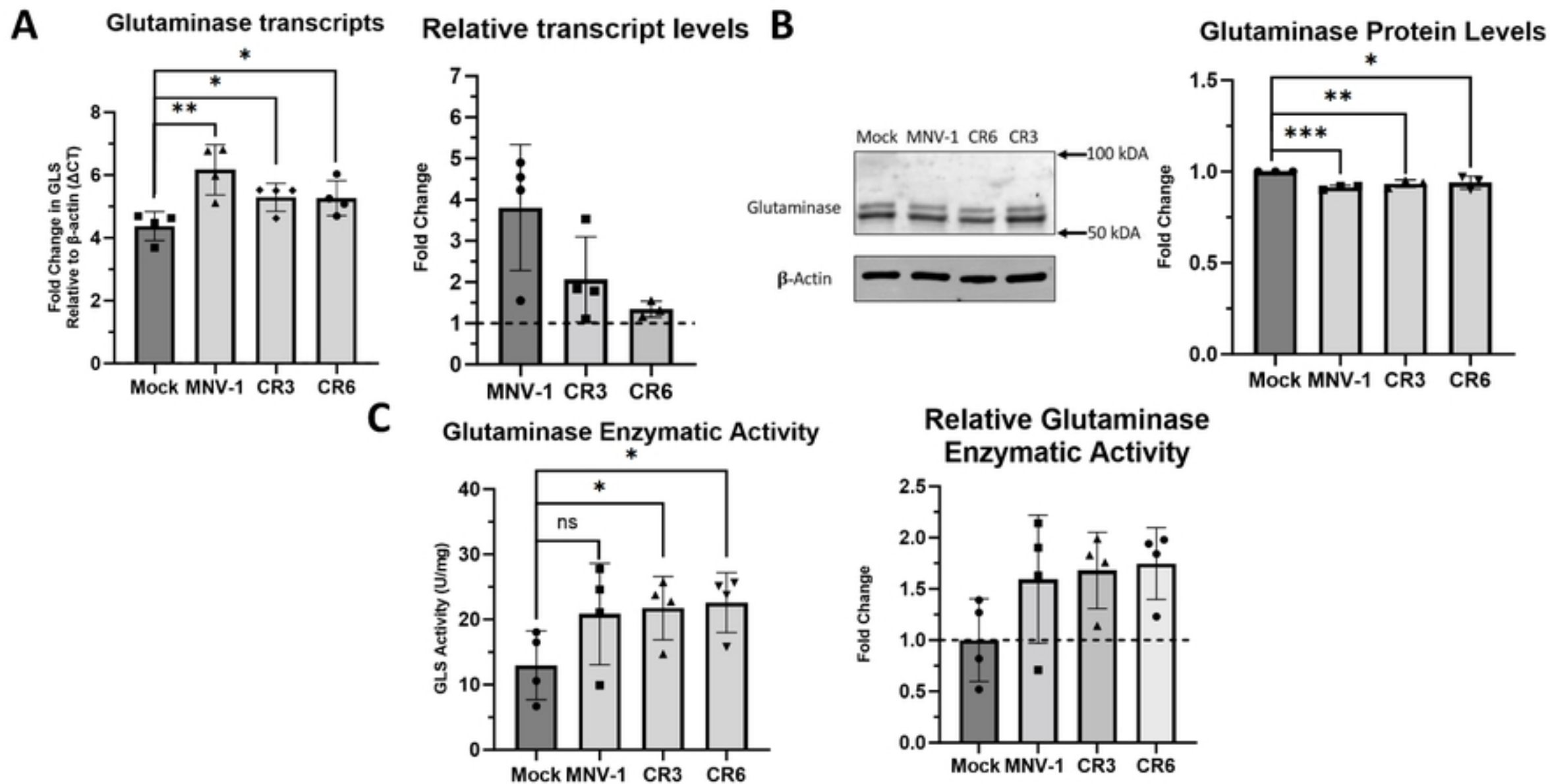
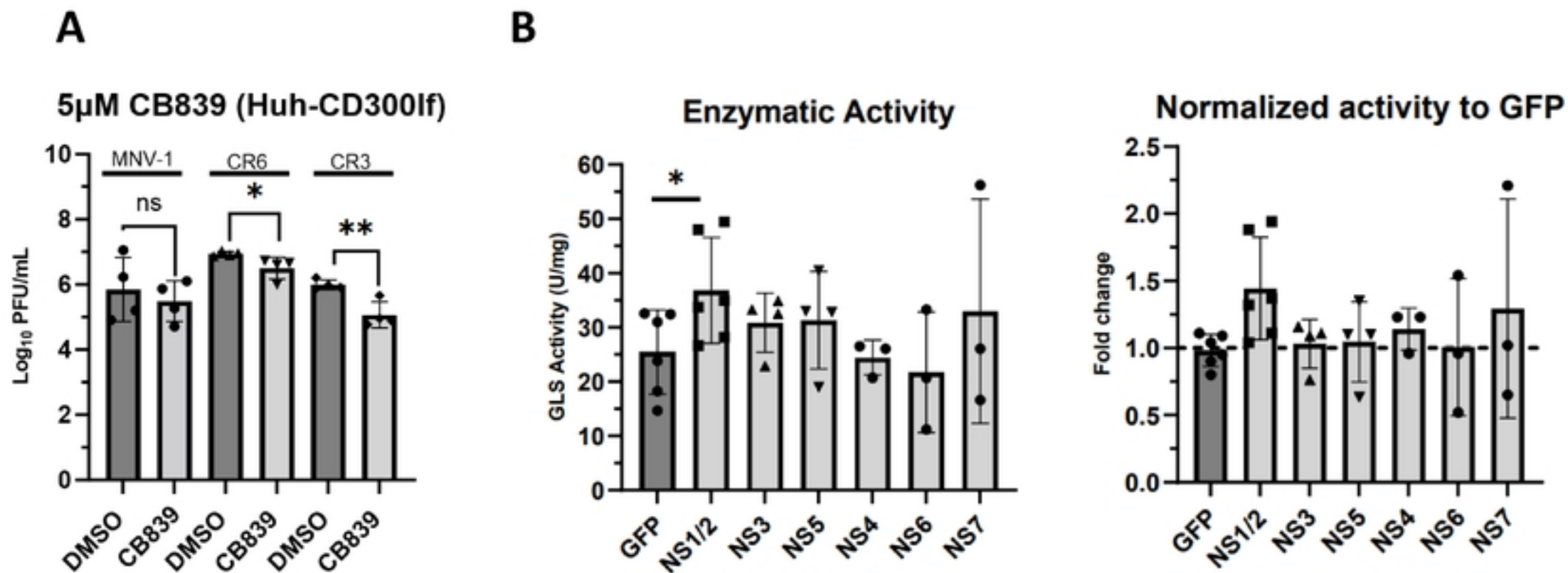
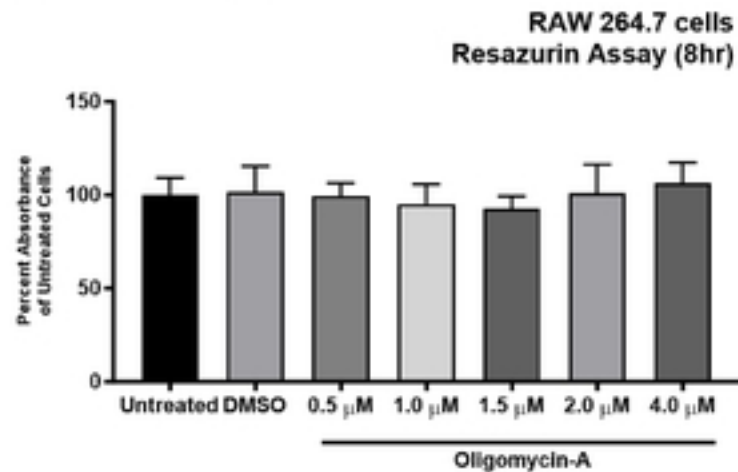


Figure 6

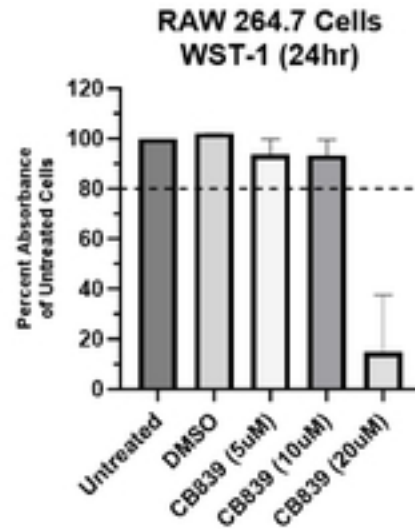


## Supplementary Figure 1:

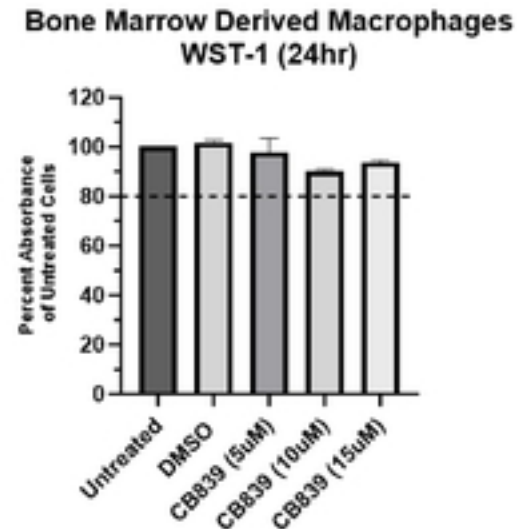
**A**



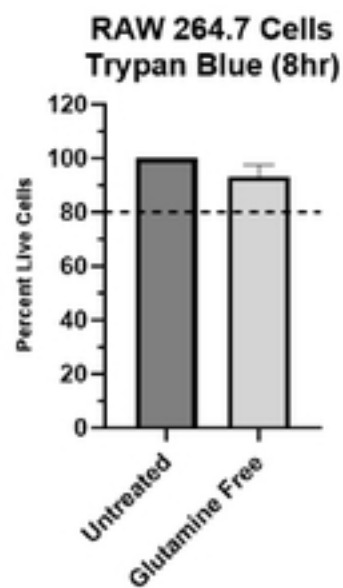
**B**



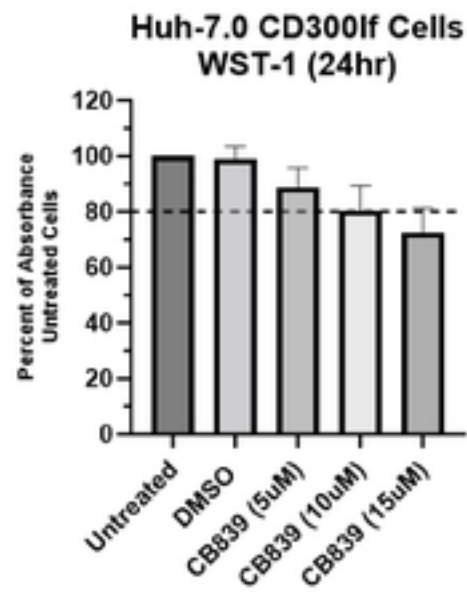
**C**



**D**



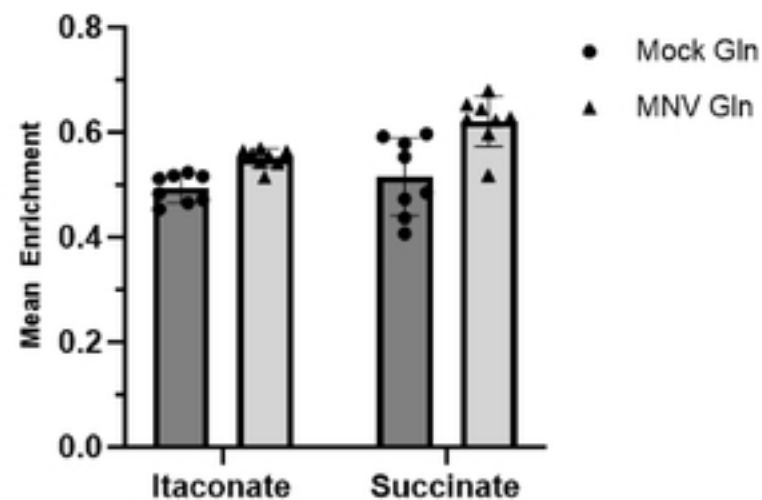
**E**



Supplementary Figure 2

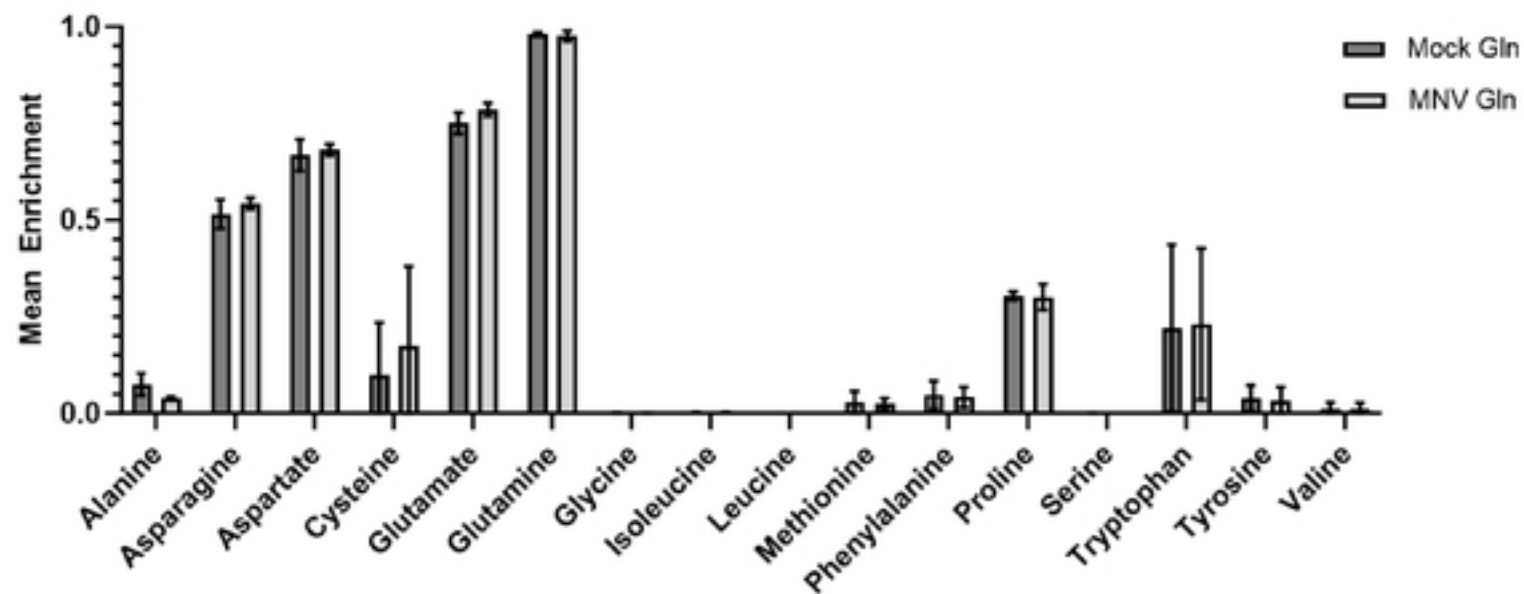
**A**

Contribution from Glutamine



**B**

Intracellular Amino Acid Levels



## Supplementary Figure 3: Validation of MNV-1 non-structural protein expression

