

1 **SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIAL**

2
3 **A tryptophan-derived uremic metabolite-AHR-Pdk4 axis governs skeletal muscle**
4 **mitochondrial energetics in chronic kidney disease**

5
6 Trace Thome¹, Nicholas A. Vugman¹, Lauren E. Stone¹, Keon Wimberly¹, Salvatore T.
7 Scali^{2,5}, Terence E. Ryan^{1,3,4,#}
8

9 ¹Department of Applied Physiology and Kinesiology, ²Division of Vascular Surgery and
10 Endovascular Therapy, ³Myology Institute, ⁴Center for Exercise Science, University of
11 Florida, Gainesville, FL, USA.

12
13 ⁵Malcom Randall VA Medical Center, Gainesville, FL, USA.

14
15 #Correspondence should be addressed to Terence E. Ryan, PhD: 1864 Stadium Rd,
16 Gainesville, FL, 32611. Tel: 352-294-1700 (office); email: ryant@ufl.edu

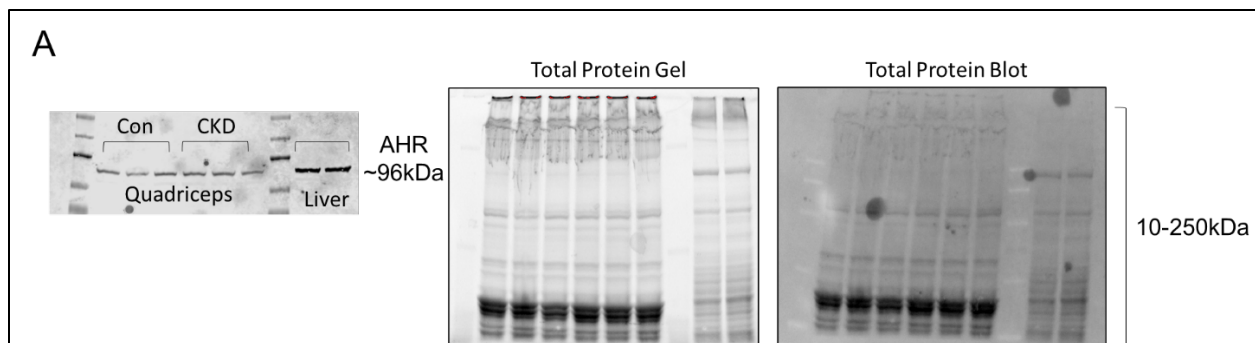
17
18 **Content Included:**

- 19 • Supplemental Tables 1-3
20 • Supplemental Figures 1-10
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33

34 **Supplemental Table 1: Physical and Clinical Characteristics of Human Patients**

Characteristic	Control (N=12)	CKD (N=10)	P value (X² or t-test)
Age (years) – (SD)	66.2 (6.6)	66.2 (11.5)	0.99
Female sex – no. (%)	4 (33)	4 (40)	0.86
BMI (kg/m ²) – (SD)	29.5 (7.6)	27.7 (7.9)	0.59
eGFR (mL/min/1.73*m ²) – (SD)	85.67 (14.77)	19.30 (10.34)	1.45E-10
Creatinine (mg/dL) – (SD)	0.88 (0.24)	4.55 (2.43)	3.94E-05
BUN (mg/dL) – (SD)	17.5 (5.9)	33.8 (13.4)	0.0011
Albumin (g/dL) – (SD)	4.23 (0.39)	4.53 (1.1)	0.48
Medical history – no. (%)			
Diabetes mellitus type I or II	7 (58)	3 (30)	0.36
Hypertension	8 (67)	10 (100)	0.14
Hyperlipidemia	6 (50)	7 (70)	0.61
Coronary artery disease	6 (50)	4 (40)	0.99
Congestive Heart Failure	4 (33)	3 (30)	0.76
Medication used – no. (%)			
Aspirin	7 (58)	5 (50)	0.99
Statin	11 (92)	7 (70)	0.45
ACE inhibitor	3 (25)	3 (30)	0.82
Anticoagulant	1 (8)	2 (20)	0.86
Antiplatelet	3 (25)	3 (30)	0.82

35
36
37
38
39
40
41
42
43
44
45
46
47
48
49
50



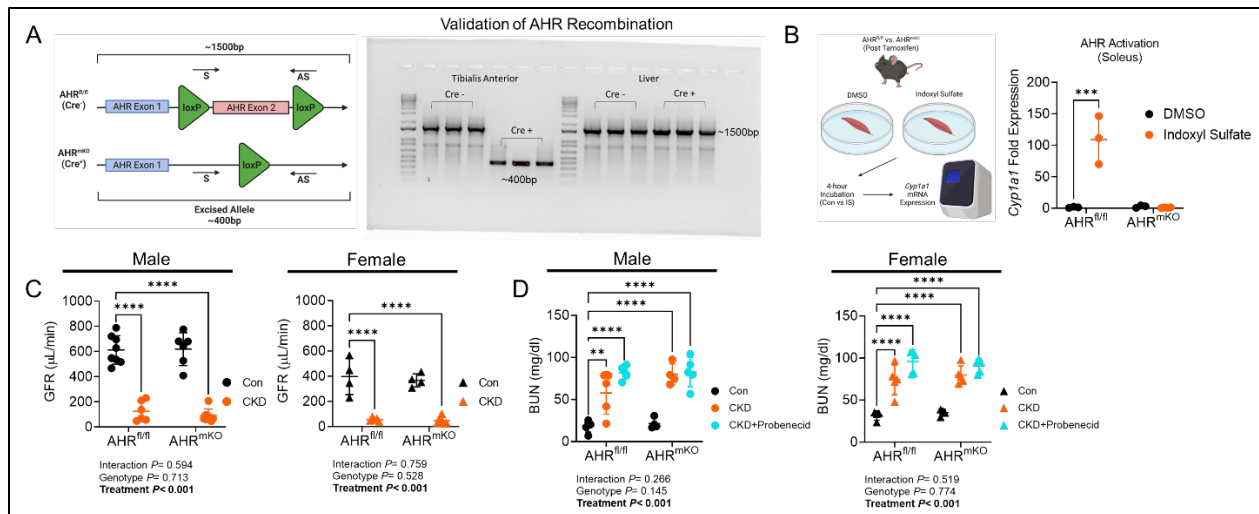
51
52 **Supplemental Figure 1.** (A) Uncropped gel and PVDF membranes for western blot
53 analysis confirming AHR protein expression is present in skeletal muscle (quadriceps) of
54 control and CKD mice.
55
56
57
58
59
60
61
62
63
64
65
66
67
68
69
70
71
72
73
74
75
76
77

Supplemental Table 2.

Primers and Probes for RT-PCR analysis			
Gene Name	Chemistry	Sequence or Product Number	Species
Actb	Sybr Green	5'-GGCTGTATTCCCCTCCATCG-3'	Mus
		5'-CCAGTTGGTAACAATGCCATGT-3'	Musculus
Ahrr	Sybr Green	5'- GACTTCTGCAGACAGCTACA-3'	Mus
		5'-TGTC AAGAAGGCCGAGTACT-3'	Musculus
Ahr Exon 1-2	Sybr Green	5'-AACATCACCTATGCCAGCCG-3'	Mus
		5'-GGTCTCTGTGTCGCTTAGAAGG-3'	Musculus
Ahr Exons 2-3	Sybr Green	5'-AAGCTGGACAAACTCTCTGTTCTT-3'	Mus
		5'-GCCAGTCTCTGATTTGTGCTCTA-3'	Musculus
Arnt	Sybr Green	5'-CATCATCGGTCTAGTTCCAGTG-3'	Mus
		5'-CAGCATGGACAGCATTCTTG-3'	Musculus
Atp5d	Sybr Green	5'-TGCTTCAGGCGCGTACATAC-3'	Mus
		5'-CACTTGCTTGACGTTGGCA-3'	Musculus
Atp5k	Sybr Green	G TTCAGGTCTCTCCACTCATCA	Mus
		C GGGGTTTTAGGTA ACTGTAGC	Musculus
Cox7a1	Sybr Green	GCTCTGGTCCGGTCTTTTAGC	Mus
		G TACTGGGAGGTCATTGTCGG	Musculus
Cox8b	Sybr Green	GCGAAGTTCACAGTGGTTCC	Mus
		GGAACCATGAAGCCAACGAC	Musculus
Cs	Sybr Green	GGACAATTTCCAACCAATCTGC	Mus
		TCGGTTCATTCCCTCTGCATA	Musculus
Cyp1a1	Sybr Green	CAGCCTTCCCAAATGGTTTA	Mus
		GCCTGGGCTACACAAGACTC	Musculus
Cyp1b1	Sybr Green	AGGATGTGCCTGCCACTATT	Mus
		AGCTGGAGAATCGCATTGAT	Musculus
Erra_1	Sybr Green	GGAGGACGGCAGAAGTACAAA	Mus
		GCGACACCAGAGCGTTCAC	Musculus
L32	Sybr Green	TTCCTGGTCCACAATGTCAA	Mus
		GGCTTTTCGTTCTTAGAGGA	Musculus
Ndufa5	Sybr Green	AGCTGGATATGGTCAAGGCG	Mus
		GCCACTTCCACTGGTTAGCA	Musculus
Pdha1	Sybr Green	GAAATGTGACCTTCATCGGCT	Mus
		TGATCCGCCTTTAGCTCCATC	Musculus
Pdk1	Sybr Green	GGCCAGGTGGACTTCTATGC	Mus
		AGCATTCACTGACCCGAAGT	Musculus
Pdk2	Sybr Green	GGCGCTGTTGAAGAATGCG	Mus
		GGCATTGCTGGATCCGAAGTC	Musculus
Pdk3	Sybr Green	GCCCGTACTTGTGTAGGTG	Mus
		TTACCTCTACCTGGGGCTCG	Musculus
Pdk4	Sybr Green	CCGCTGTCCATGAAGCA	Mus
		GCAGAAAAGCAAAGGACGTT	Musculus
Pdp1	Sybr Green	CGGCTCCGTGTTGTGATGA	Mus
		TCTGACTGGGATTCCAATTCGT	Musculus

Pdp2	Sybr Green	GGACGAGGATACGAGGCTGA	Mus Musculus
		GCGTCTCCCACCTCGTAAAA	
Sdhd	Sybr Green	AATTTGCCATTTACCGATGGGA	Mus Musculus
		AGCATCCAACACCATAGGTCC	
Sod2	Sybr Green	ACAAACCTGAGCCCTAAGGGT	Mus Musculus
		GAACCTTGGACTCCCACAGAC	
Tbp	Sybr Green	ATCCCAAGCGATTTGCTG	Mus Musculus
		CCTGTGCACACCATTTTTCC	
Tfam	Sybr Green	ATTCCGAAGTGTTTTCCAGCA	Mus Musculus
		TCTGAAAGTTTTGCATCTGGGT	
Ahr	Taqman	Mm00478932	Mus Musculus
AHR	Taqman	Hs00169233	Homo Sapiens
Cyp1a1	Taqman	Mm00487218	Mus Musculus
CYP1A1	Taqman	Hs00153120	Homo Sapiens
Cyp1b1	Taqman	Mm00487229	Mus Musculus
CYP1B1	Taqman	Hs00164383	Homo Sapiens
Primers used for Validation of DNA Recombination in AHR^{mkO} Mice			
Gene Name	Primer	Sequence	Species
Ahr	Forward	5'-ATCTTGTGTCAGGAACAGGCCATC-3'	Mus Musculus
	Reverse	5'-GGTACAAGTGCACATGCCTGC-3'	

79
80
81
82
83
84
85
86
87
88
89
90
91



92
 93 **Supplemental Figure 2.** (A) Graphical depiction of Cre-mediated excision of exon 2 and
 94 the DNA gel confirming muscle-specific recombination in the AHR gene in AHR^{mKO} mice
 95 treated with tamoxifen. (B) Graphical illustration of experimental procedure to validate
 96 AHR dependent mRNA signaling was abolished in AHR^{mKO} mice and quantification of IS
 97 induced *Cyp1a1* gene expression (n=3/genotype/group). (C) Validation of reduced
 98 glomerular filtration rate (GFR, n=4-8/group/sex) and (D) elevated plasma blood urea
 99 nitrogen (BUN, n=3-5/group/sex) concentrations. Statistical analyses performed using
 100 two-way ANOVA with Dunnett's post hoc testing for multiple comparisons when
 101 significant interactions were detected. Error bars represent the standard deviation.
 102 **P<0.01, ***P<0.001, ****P<0.0001.

103
 104
 105
 106
 107
 108
 109
 110
 111
 112
 113
 114
 115
 116
 117

Supplemental Table 3.

Chemical Name	Supplier	Catalog No.
α -Ketoglutaric acid	Millipore-Sigma	K1750
α -keto- β -Methylvalerate	Millipore-Sigma	198978
Adenosine 5' -diphosphate (ADP)	Millipore-Sigma	A5285
Adenosine 5'-triphosphate di(tris) salt hydrate (ATP)	Millipore-Sigma	A9062
Alamethecin from <i>Trichoderma viride</i>	Millipore-Sigma	A4665
Amplex Ultra Red (AUR)	Millipore-Sigma	A36006
Antimycin A (AMA)	Millipore-Sigma	A8674
Auranofin	Millipore-Sigma	A6733
β -Nicotinamide adenine dinucleotide hydrate (NADH)	Millipore-Sigma	N1636
β -Nicotinamide adenine dinucleotide salt (NAD ⁺)	Millipore-Sigma	N0632
(NADPH)	Millipore-Sigma	N1630
(NADP ⁺)	Millipore-Sigma	N5755
Bovine serum albumin (BSA)	Millipore-Sigma	A7030
Cell lytic M	Millipore-Sigma	C2978
Creatine Kinase (CK)	Millipore-Sigma	C3755
Creatine monohydrate	Millipore-Sigma	C3630
Coenzyme A trilithium salt	Millipore-Sigma	C3019
Cytochrome c from equine heart	Millipore-Sigma	C2506
D-Glucose	Millipore-Sigma	G32030
EDTA	Millipore-Sigma	E9884
EGTA	Millipore-Sigma	E3889
Fetal Bovine Serum (FBS)	Avantar (VWR)	97068
Goat Serum	ThermoFisher Scientific	16210064
Hydrogen Peroxide, 30%	ThermoFisher Scientific	H325-100
Horseradish Peroxidase (HRP)	Millipore-Sigma	P8375
Insulin/transferrin/selenium	ThermoScientific	41400
Indoxyl sulfate potassium salt	Millipore-Sigma	I3875
Indole-3-acetic acid (IAA)	Millipore-Sigma	I5148
Isocitrate	Millipore-Sigma	58790
Isocitrate dehydrogenase (ICDH)	Millipore-Sigma	I1877
Kynurenic Acid (KA)	Millipore-Sigma	K3375
L-Kynurenine (L-Kyn)	Millipore-Sigma	K8625
Lactate dehydrogenase/pyruvate kinase	Millipore-Sigma	P0294
Magnesium chloride hexahydrate	Research Products International	M24000
Magnesium Sulfate	Millipore-Sigma	M2643
Malate Dehydrogenase	Millipore-Sigma	442610

Malic acid	Millipore-Sigma	M7397
Malonate	Millipore-Sigma	M1296
MES potassium salt	Millipore-Sigma	M0895
2-Methylbutane	Fisher Scientific	60048070
MOPS	Millipore-Sigma	M1254
Octanoyl-L-carnitine (OC)	Millipore-Sigma	50892
Oligomycin A	Millipore-Sigma	75351
Penicilin-streptomycin	ThermoFisher Scientific	15140
Pierce rapid gold BCA protein assay kit	ThermoFisher Scientific	A53225
Phosphoenol-pyruvate (PEP)	Millipore-Sigma	10108294001
Potassium chloride (KCl)	Millipore-Sigma	P9541
Potassium phosphate (K ₂ HPO ₄) dibasic	Millipore-Sigma	P3786
Potassium Phosphate (KH ₂ PO ₄) monobasic	Millipore-Sigma	P2670
Potassium Pyruvate	Combi-Blocks	QA1116
Rotenone	Millipore-Sigma	R8875
Succinic acid	Research Products International	S42000
Superoxide dismutase from bovine erythrocytes	Millipore-Sigma	S7446
Thiamine pyrophosphate (TPP)	Millipore-Sigma	C8754
Tris-adenosine trisphosphate (ATP)	Millipore-Sigma	A9062
Tris-phosphocreatine (PCr)	Millipore-Sigma	P1937
Triton-X100	Millipore-Sigma	X100
Trypsin	Millipore-Sigma	T4799
Trypsin-EDTA (0.25%)	ThermoFisher Scientific	252000

119

120

121

122

123

124

125

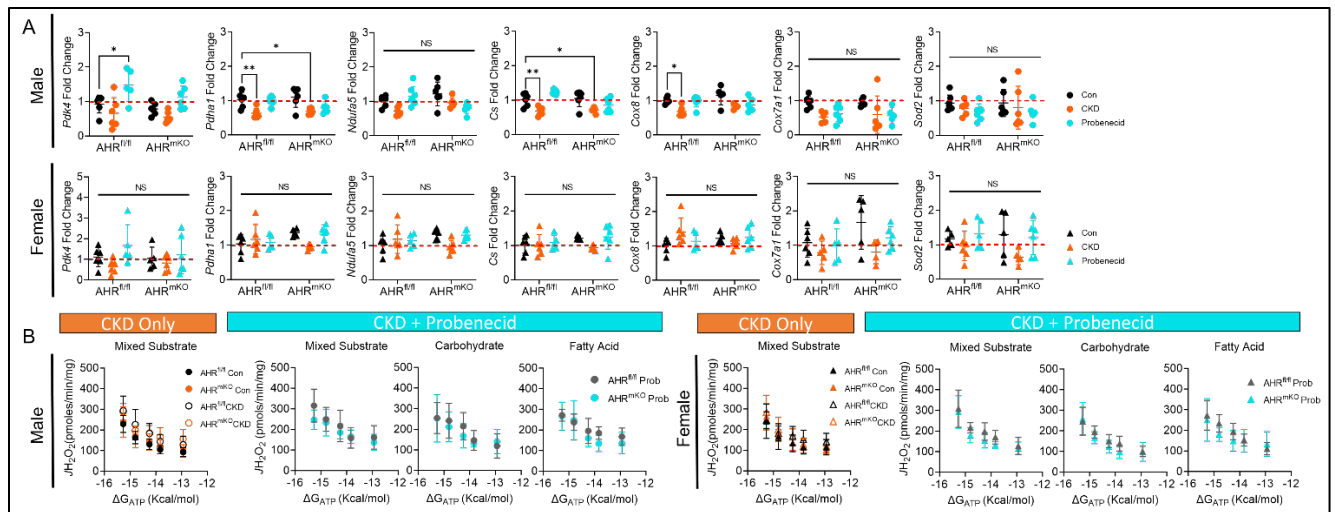
126

127

128

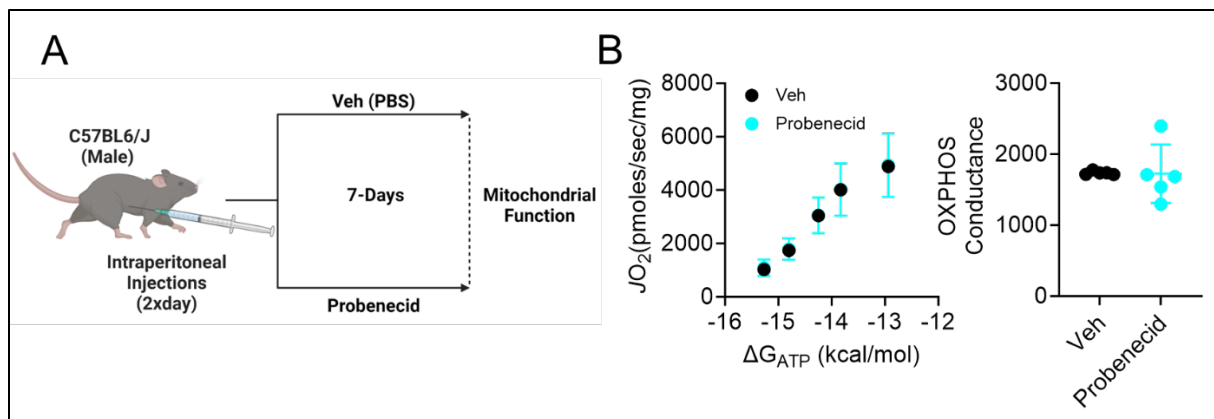
129

130



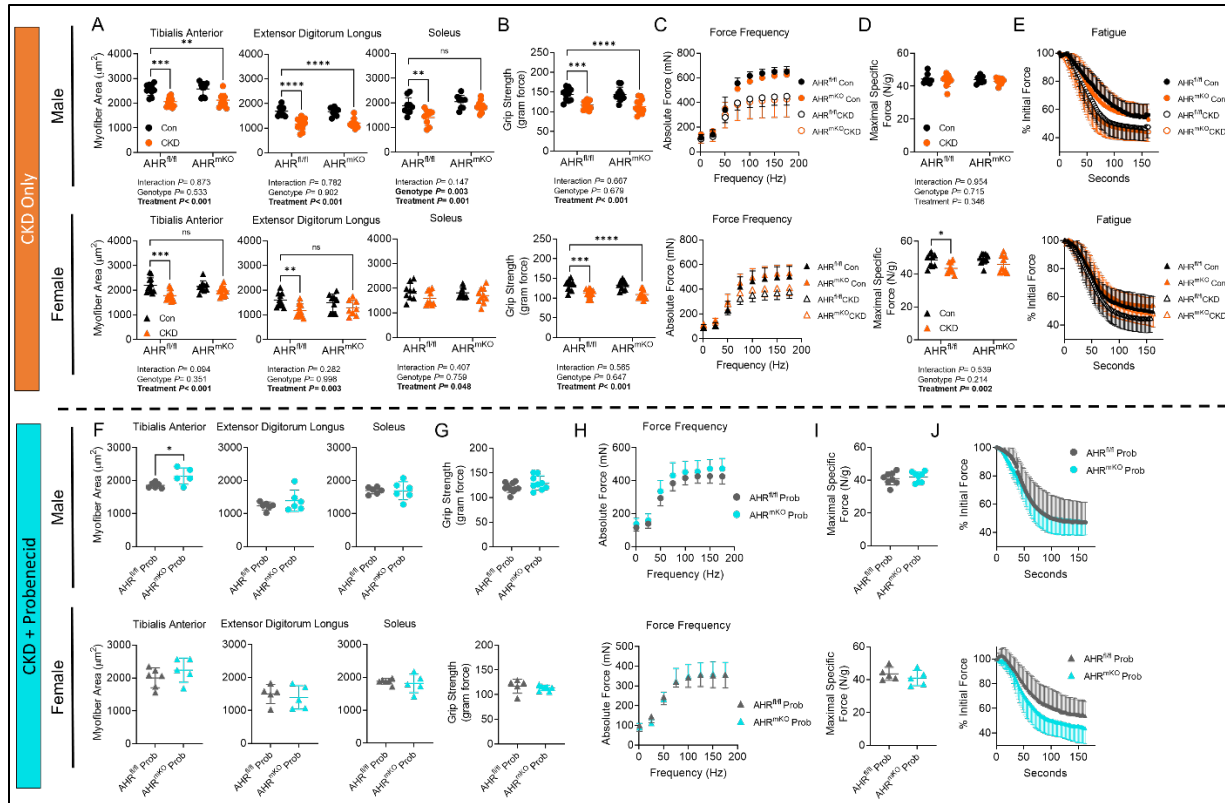
131
 132 **Supplemental Figure 3.** (A) qPCR analysis of genes related to mitochondrial health and
 133 function in $AHR^{fl/fl}$ and AHR^{mKO} male/female control mice, CKD only mice, and CKD mice
 134 administered probenecid daily ($n=4-7$ /group). (B) Relationship between JH_2O_2 and ΔG_{ATP}
 135 for male and female $AHR^{fl/fl}$ and AHR^{mKO} with CKD and administered probenecid daily
 136 when mitochondria were energized with carbohydrates only (pyruvate/malate), fatty acids
 137 only (octanoyl-L-carnitine/malate), or mixed carbohydrate and fatty acid substrates
 138 (pyruvate/malate/octanoyl-L-carnitine) ($n=4-9$ /group). Statistical analyses performed
 139 using two-way ANOVA with Dunnett's post hoc testing for multiple comparisons when
 140 significant interactions were detected. Error bars represent standard deviation.

141
 142
 143
 144
 145
 146
 147
 148
 149
 150
 151
 152
 153

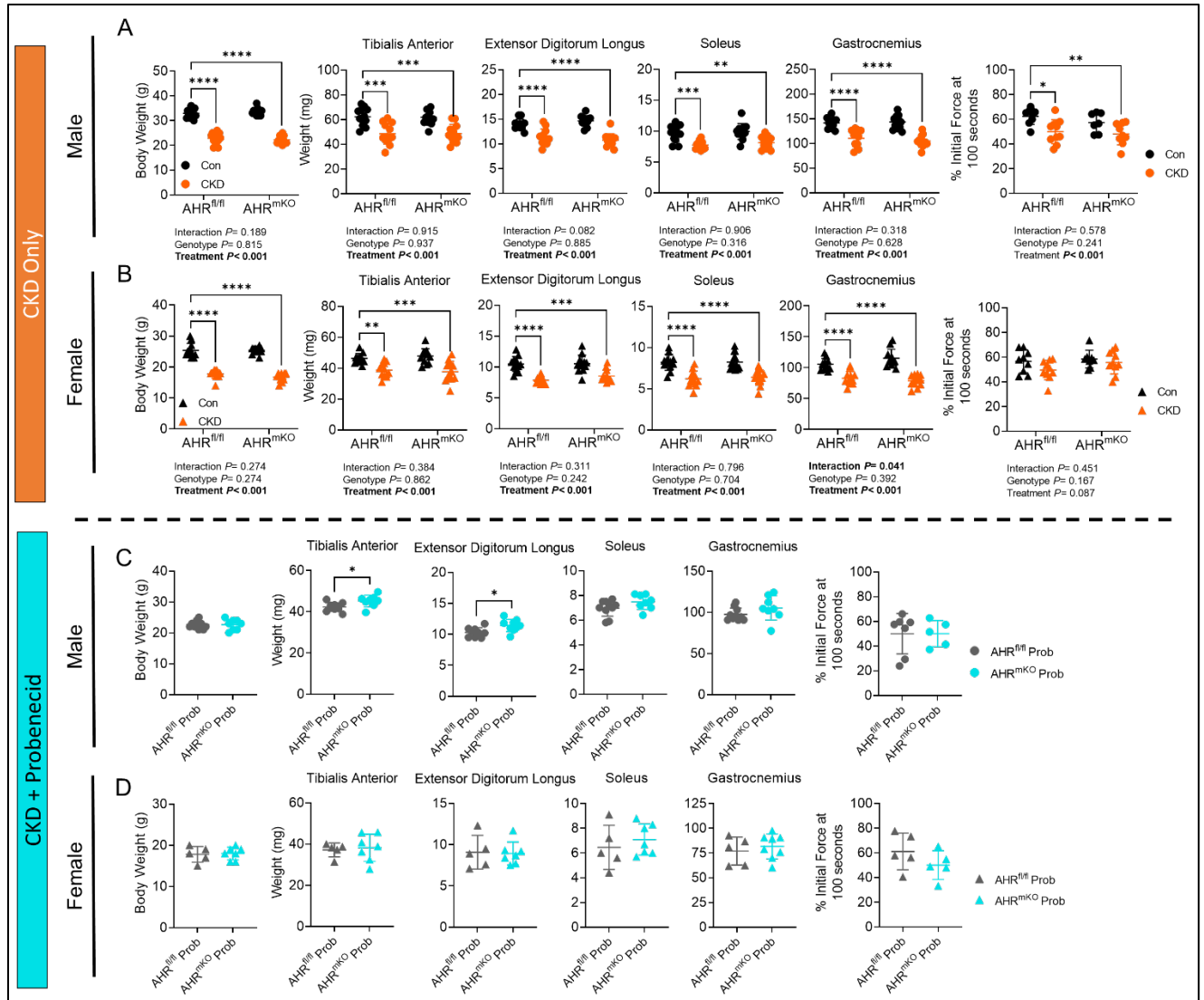


154
 155
 156
 157
 158
 159
 160
 161
 162
 163
 164
 165
 166
 167
 168
 169
 170
 171
 172
 173
 174

Supplemental Figure 4. (A) Graphical depiction of the experimental approach testing if daily systemic injections of probenecid negatively impact mitochondrial OXPHOS conductance in healthy control mice. (B) Relationship between JO_2 and ΔG_{ATP} in isolated mitochondria from the gastrocnemius muscle using carbohydrate (pyruvate/malate) fuel sources in male mice treated with vehicle (Veh, PBS) or probenecid (25mg/kg), and quantification of OXPHOS conductance (n=5/group). Statistical analyses were performed using two-tailed Student's *t*-test. Error bars represent standard deviation.



175
 176 **Supplemental Figure 5.** (A) Myofiber area of the tibialis anterior, extensor digitorum
 177 longus, and soleus of male and female AHR^{fl/fl} and AHR^{mKO} mice with CKD. (B) *In vivo*
 178 dual forelimb grip strength, (C) *in situ* peroneal nerve stimulated force frequency
 179 analysis and (D) maximal specific force production quantification, and (E) muscle fatigue
 180 analysis of the extensor digitorum longus muscle in male AHR^{fl/fl} and AHR^{mKO} mice with CKD (n=7-
 181 10/group). (F) Myofiber area measurements of the tibialis anterior, extensor digitorum
 182 longus, and soleus of male and female AHR^{fl/fl}/AHR^{mKO} mice treated with CKD and
 183 probenecid. (G) Comparisons of *in vivo* dual forelimb grip strength. (H) *In situ* force
 184 frequency, (I) maximal specific force quantification, and (J) fatigue analysis of the
 185 extensor digitorum longus in AHR^{fl/fl}/AHR^{mKO} mice with CKD and probenecid. Statistical
 186 analyses performed using Student's *t*-tests or two-way ANOVA with Dunnett's post hoc
 187 testing for multiple comparisons when interactions were detected. Error bars represent
 188 standard deviation. **P*<0.05, ***P*<0.01, ****P*<0.001, *****P*<0.0001. NS = no significance.
 189

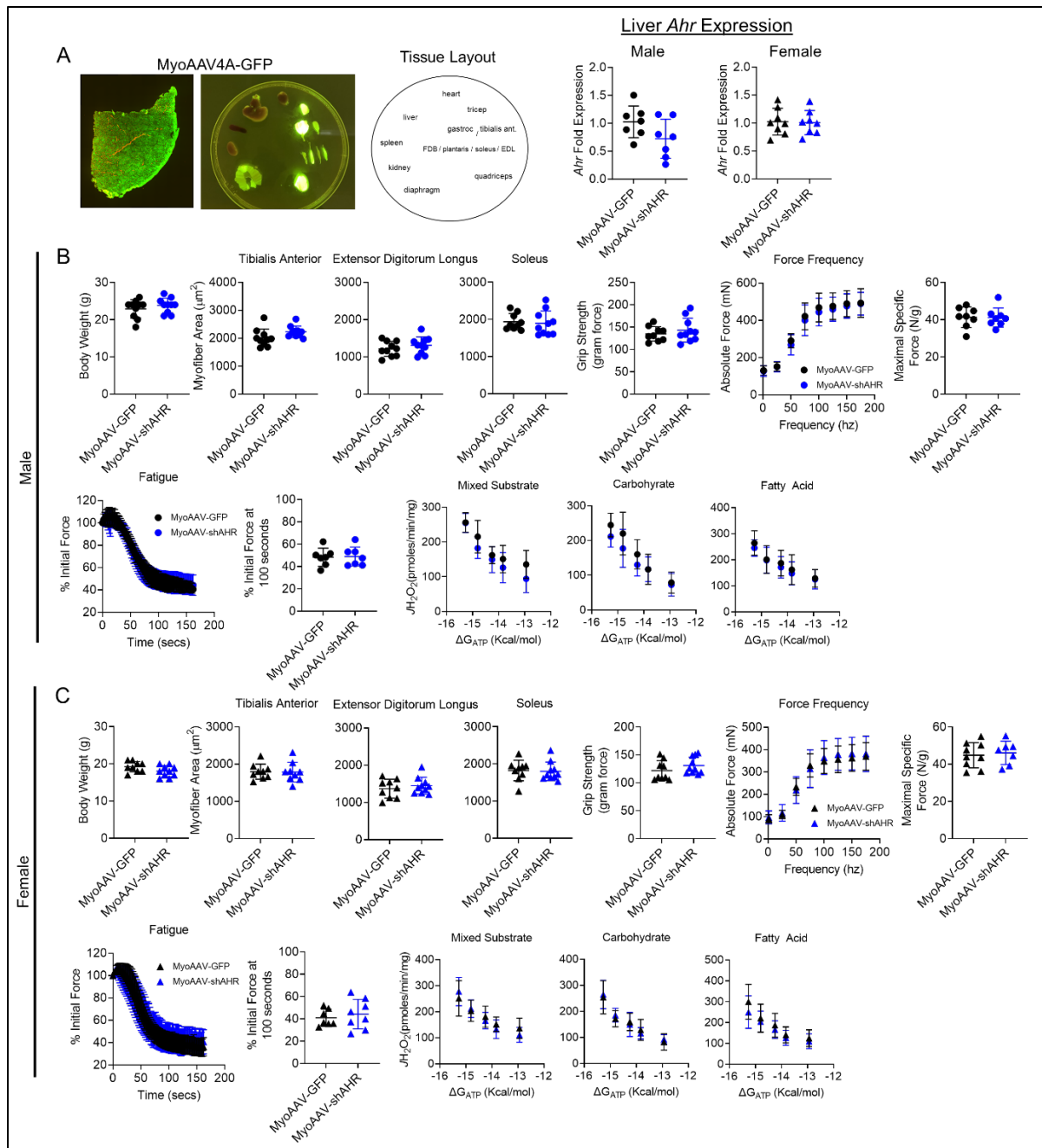


190
 191 **Supplemental Figure 6.** (A) Body weights, muscle wet weights (tibialis anterior, extensor
 192 digitorum longus, soleus, and gastrocnemius), and extensor digitorum longus muscle
 193 fatigue quantification in male $AHR^{fl/fl}$ and AHR^{mKO} mice with CKD only ($n=7-12$ /group). (B)
 194 Identical measurements in female $AHR^{fl/fl}$ and AHR^{mKO} mice with CKD only ($n=8-$
 195 12 /group). (C) Quantification of body weights, muscle wet weights (tibialis anterior,
 196 extensor digitorum longus, soleus and gastrocnemius), and extensor digitorum longus
 197 muscle fatigue in male $AHR^{fl/fl}$ and AHR^{mKO} mice with CKD and administered probenecid
 198 daily ($n=5-10$ /group). (D) Identical measurements in female $AHR^{fl/fl}$ and AHR^{mKO} mice with
 199 CKD only ($n=5-10$ /group). Statistical analyses performed using Student's t -tests or two-
 200 way ANOVA with Dunnett's post hoc testing for multiple comparisons when interactions
 201 were detected. Error bars represent standard deviation. * $P<0.05$, ** $P<0.01$, *** $P<0.001$,
 202 **** $P<0.0001$.

203

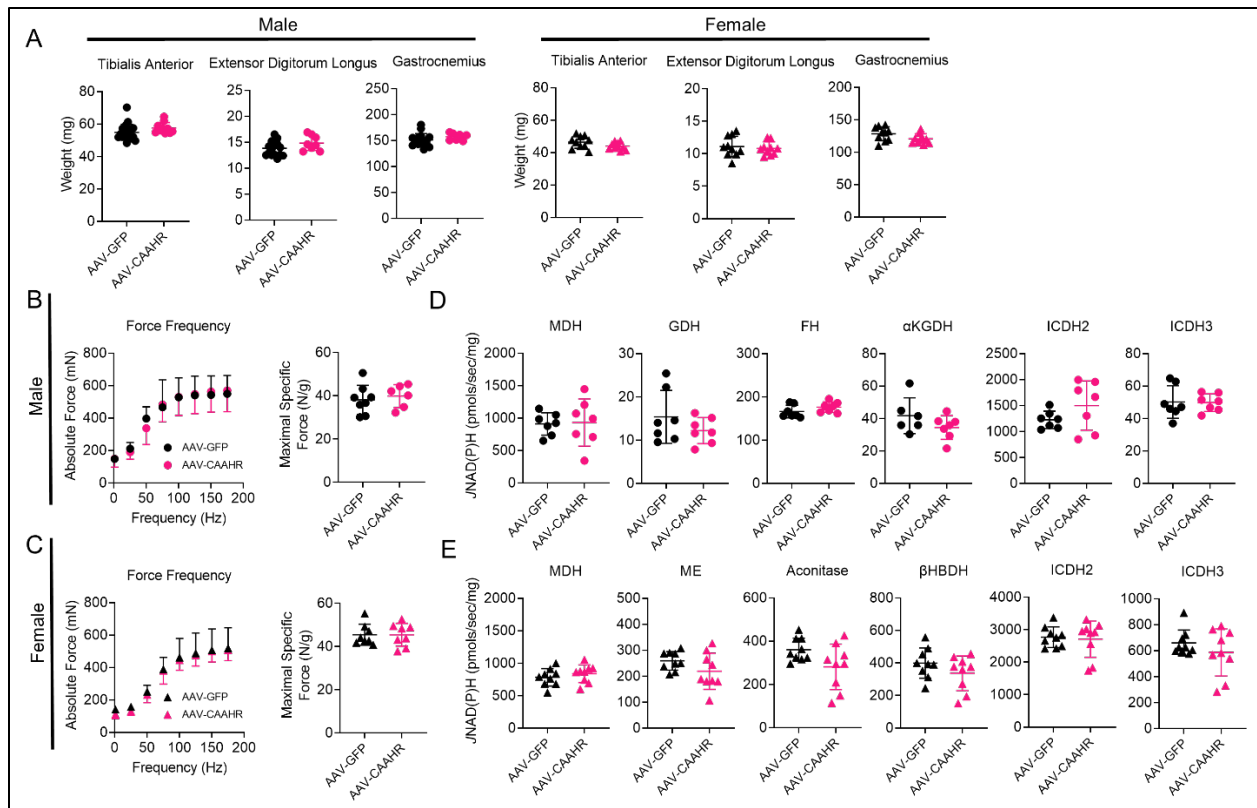
204

205



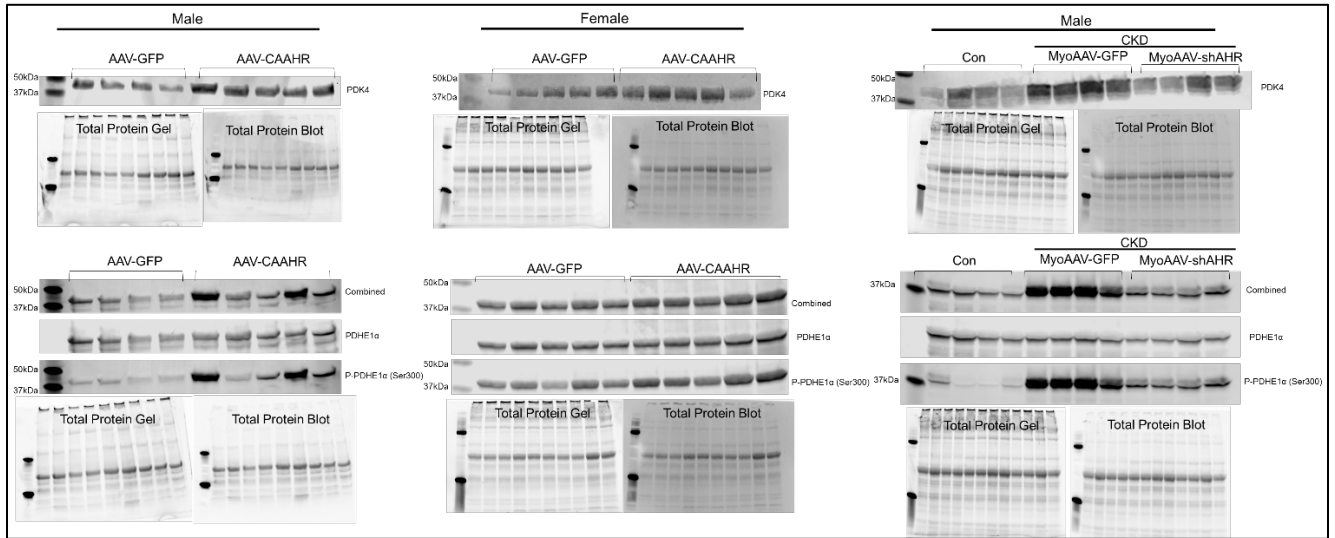
206

207 **Supplemental Figure 7.** (A) Validation of muscle specific expression using systemic
 208 delivery of MyoAAV4a-GFP and *Ahr* gene expression in mouse livers. (B) Body weights,
 209 muscle wet weights (tibialis anterior, extensor digitorum longus, and soleus), *in vivo* dual
 210 forelimb grip strength, *in situ* peroneal nerve stimulated force frequency (absolute force)
 211 and maximal specific force production of the extensor digitorum longus, quantification of
 212 *in situ* extensor digitorum longus fatigue, and the relationship between JH_2O_2 and ΔG_{ATP}
 213 in isolated mitochondria from the gastrocnemius energized with multiple substrate
 214 combinations in CKD males with either MyoAAV-GFP or MyoAAV-shAHR (n=7-
 215 10/group). (C) Identical measurements in female mice (n=7-10/group). Statistical
 216 analyses performed using Student's *t*-test. Error bars represent standard deviation.



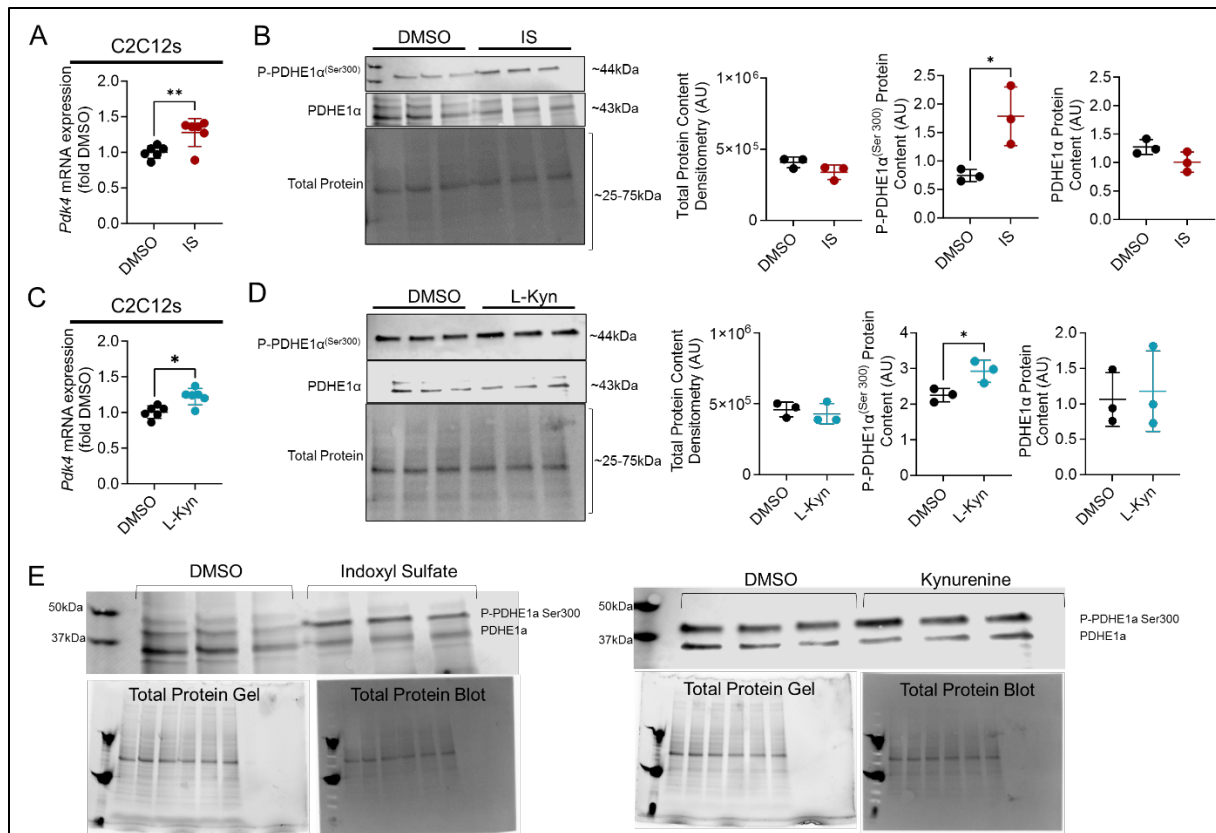
217
 218 **Supplemental Figure 8.** (A) Muscle wet weights in male and female AAV-CAAHR mice
 219 compared to AAV-GFP controls (n=7-19/group). (B) *In situ* extensor digitorum longus
 220 force frequency (absolute force) and maximal specific force in males (n=6-8/group) and
 221 (C) females comparing AAV-GFP controls with AAV-CAAHR mice (n=8/group). (D)
 222 Quantification of mitochondrial matrix dehydrogenase activity in isolated mitochondrial
 223 from males (n=6-7/group) and (E) females (n=7-9/group) with ectopic expression of the
 224 AAV-CAAHR or AAV-GFP. Statistical analyses performed using Student's *t*-test and two-
 225 way ANOVA with Dunnett's post hoc testing for multiple comparisons when significant
 226 interactions were detected. Error bars represent the standard deviation. ** $P < 0.01$,
 227 **** $P < 0.0001$.

228
 229
 230
 231
 232
 233
 234
 235
 236
 237
 238
 239
 240
 241
 242



Supplemental Figure 9. Uncropped blots and gels related to data in Figure 6.

244
245
246
247
248
249
250
251
252
253
254
255
256
257
258
259
260
261
262
263
264
265
266
267
268
269
270
271
272
273
274



275
 276 **Supplemental Figure 10. AHR activation increased *Pdk4* expression and PDHE1 α**
 277 **phosphorylation.** (A) qPCR of *Pdk4* mRNA expression in C2C12 muscle cells treated
 278 with DMSO or indoxyl sulfate (IS, 100 μ M) (n=6/group). (B) Western blotting of
 279 phosphorylated and total PDHE1 α protein expression in C2C12 muscle cells treated with
 280 DMSO or indoxyl sulfate (IS, 100 μ M) (n=3/group). (C) qPCR of *Pdk4* mRNA expression
 281 in C2C12 muscle cells treated with DMSO or L-Kynurenine (L-Kyn, 100 μ M) (n=6/group).
 282 (D) Western blotting of phosphorylated and total PDHE1 α protein expression in C2C12
 283 muscle cells treated with DMSO or L-Kynurenine (L-Kyn, 100 μ M) (n=3/group). (E)
 284 Uncropped blots and gels related to data in (B) and (D). Data analyzed using two-tailed
 285 Student's *t*-test. Error bars represent standard deviation. **P*<0.05, ***P*<0.01.

286
 287
 288
 289
 290
 291
 292
 293
 294
 295
 296
 297
 298