

## **Supplementary Methodology**

### **Plasmid transfection and overexpression**

Cells were allowed to proliferate to 70% to 80% confluency in a suitable culture medium before being transfected. According to the manufacturer's instructions, the cells were transiently transfected with plasmids using Turbofect Transfection Reagent (Thermo Scientific). To overexpress Rev-erb $\alpha$  and ROR $\alpha$ , HepG2 cells were transfected with pCMV2-Rev-erb $\alpha$  and pcDNA3-ROR $\alpha$  for 48 h.

### **Enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA)**

EPO levels were quantified in HepG2 cell-culture supernatants and mouse serum, using commercial ELISA kits specific for human (Novus biologicals) and mouse (R&D Systems) EPO, according to the manufacturer's instructions.

### **Chromatin immunoprecipitation (ChIP)**

HepG2 cells were cultured in 10-cm plates and treated with GSK4112 as indicated. The cells were fixed using 1% (w:v) formaldehyde, and the reaction was stopped by adding 150 mM glycine (50046, Sigma-Aldrich). Subsequently, the cells were washed with ice-cold 1X PBS and lysed using sodium dodecyl sulfate (SDS) lysis buffer (1% SDS, 10 mM EDTA, 50 mM Tris-HCl, pH 8.0) followed by sonication to obtain DNA fragments of 200bp to 300bp. The lysates were then centrifuged at  $14,000 \times g$  for 10 minutes, and the supernatants were collected. These supernatants were diluted in dilution buffer (0.1% SDS, 0.1M NaHCO<sub>3</sub>) and pre-cleared with 2  $\mu$ g of salmon sperm DNA and protein A beads (17-5280-01, GE HEALTHCARE) for 2 hours at 4 °C. Immunoprecipitation was carried out overnight at 4 °C using the following antibodies: anti-Rev-erb $\alpha$  (E1Y6D, Cell Signaling and Technology), ROR $\alpha$  (ab60134, Abcam), and normal rabbit IgG (DA1E, Cell Signaling and Technology). The immunoprecipitated complexes were collected using Protein A beads and subjected to sequential washes in low salt (0.1% SDS, 1% Triton X, 20mM Tris-HCL pH8, 2mM EDTA, 150mM NaCl), high salt (0.1% SDS, 1% Triton X, 20mM Tris-HCL pH8, 2mM EDTA, 500mM NaCl), lithium (0.25M LiCl, 1% NP-40, 1% Deoxycholate, 1mM EDTA, 10 mM Tris-HCL pH8), and Tris-EDTA buffers. The precipitates were then eluted in ChIP elution buffer (0.1% SDS, 0.1M NaHCO<sub>3</sub>), and 5 M NaCl was added to reverse the cross-links at

65 °C for 6h. The purified DNA was amplified using specific primers for the EPO and BMAL1 promoters. GAPDH primers were used as a negative control DNA region to check the non-specific amplification and specificity of the antibodies used in the assay. The primer sequences used in the ChIP assay were as follows: EPO h-RRE1 forward 5'- AGTGTCTGGGTTTGCAGAGTAC-3' and reverse 5'-GTCTGGAAGCCCAGAAGCTTTA-3', EPO h-RRE2 forward 5'-TGGACTGTGTGCTCTGTGCA-3' and reverse 5'-TGGAGCAGCTGGGACTACAG-3' and BMAL1 forward 5'-TTGGGCACAGCGATTGGTG-3', reverse 5'-TAAACAGGCACCTCCGTCCC -3' and GAPDH forward 5'- CGGTGCGTGCCCAGTTG-3' and reverse 5'- GCGACGCAAAAGAAGATG-3'.

### **Primers for Electrophoretic mobility shift assay (EMSA)**

The oligonucleotide sequence containing h-RRE1 (5'-TTCCTCAACATGGTCAACATTGTTTC-3' and 5'-GAAACAATGTTGACCATGTTGAGGAA-3') and h-RRE2 (5'-TCACCTGAGGTCAGGAGTTCAAGACCG-3' and 5'-CGGTCTTGAACCTCCTGACCTCAGGTGA-3') response elements present on human *EPO* promoter were used. Mutant EPO oligonucleotides mut h-RRE1 (5'-TTCCTCAACAGCCGATACATTGTTTC-3' and 5'-GAAACAATGTATCGGCTGTTGAGGAA-3') and mut h-RRE2 (5'-TCACCTGCTTGACGGCTTGACAGACCG-3' and 5'-CGGTCTGTCAAGCCGTCAAGCAGGTGA-3') were generated whereby the mutations were done in the core motif.

### **Quantitative real-time PCR (qRT-PCR)**

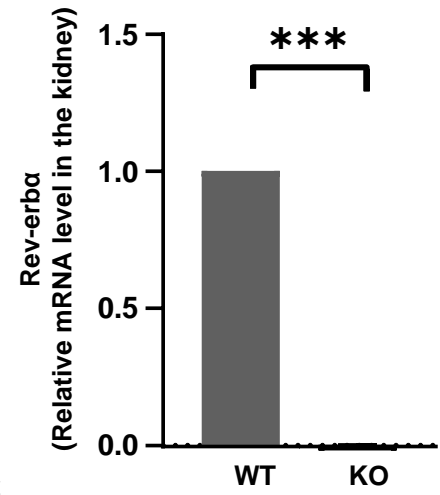
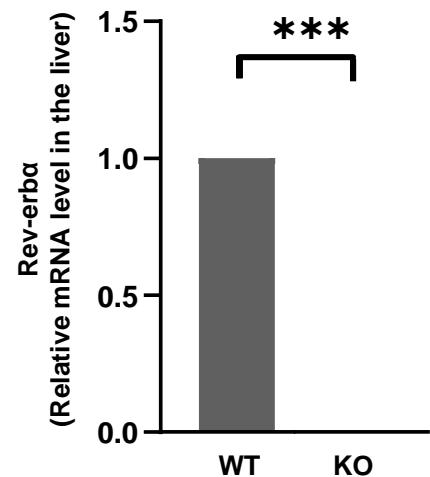
Total RNA was isolated from cells, kidneys, and livers using the TRIzol reagent (Ambion, Invitrogen), and 1 µg of RNA was reverse transcribed as per the manufacturer's instructions using the Verso cDNA Synthesis Kit (Thermo Scientific). The cDNA was then subjected to SYBR green (Thermo Scientific)-based qRT-PCR with gene-specific primers. Using the formula  $2^{-\Delta\Delta C_t}$ , the relative abundance of the genes was calculated.

## **Immunoblot analysis**

For immunoblot analysis, cells were subjected to lysis using mammalian cell lysis buffer for 15 minutes on ice, and protein concentrations in the samples were quantified by Bradford reagent (Sigma-Aldrich). Furthermore, the protein was resolved with SDS-polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis (PAGE) followed by transfer to a polyvinylidene difluoride membrane (PVDF; Immobilon-P, Millipore). The membranes were blocked with 5% BSA (Merck Millipore) and incubated overnight at 4°C with primary antibodies. Membranes were then washed three times with TBS (Tris-HCL-buffer saline) containing 0.1% Tween 20 (Sigma-Aldrich), followed by 60 minutes at room temperature incubation with suitable HRP-conjugated secondary antibodies (Santa Cruz Biotechnology) and visualization with chemiluminescent HRP substrate Luminata Forte (Millipore).

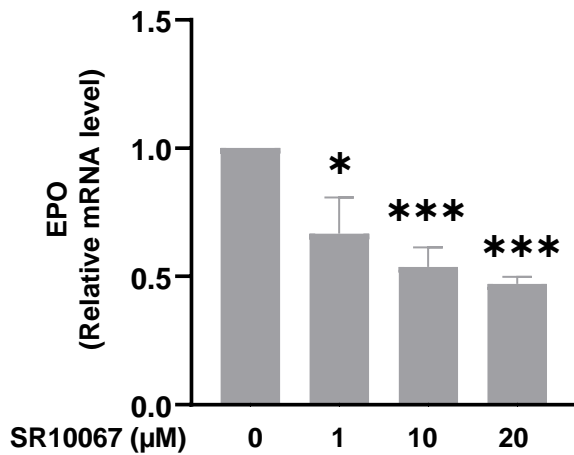
**A****Other blood parameters**

Parameter (Units)	WT	KO
MCV (fL)	46.43 ± 2.1	46.35 ± 1.3
MCH (pg)	15.23 ± 0.4	15.43 ± 0.3
MCHC (g/dL)	32.95 ± 2.2	33.30 ± 0.5
RDW (%)	13.53 ± 2.3	13.08 ± 2.0
MPV (fL)	4.25 ± 0.1	4.40 ± 0.1
PDW	15.83 ± 0.3	16.23 ± 0.6
PCT	0.38 ± 0.1	0.34 ± 0.2
Lymphocytes (%)	80.05 ± 3.8	79.35 ± 2.4
Monocytes (%)	2.88 ± 0.4	3.40 ± 0.8
Granulocytes (%)	17.08 ± 3.4	17.25 ± 1.7

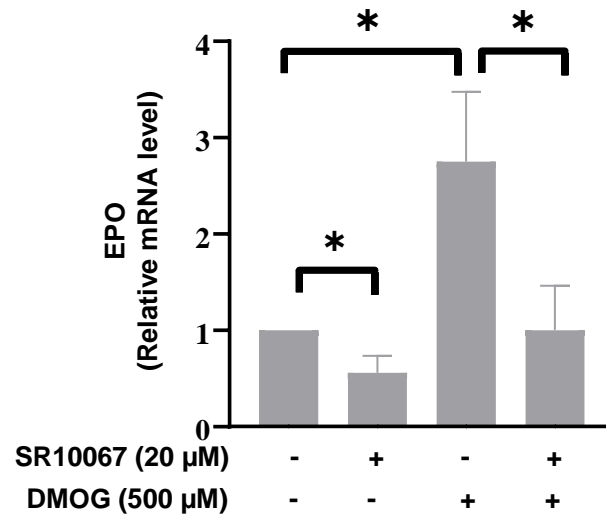
**B****C**

**Supplementary Figure 1: Different blood parameters in Rev-erb $\alpha$  knockout and wild type mice.** A) Rev-erb $\alpha$  KO and WT mice showing the values for different blood parameters; mean corpuscular volume (MCV), mean corpuscular hemoglobin (MCH), mean corpuscular hemoglobin concentration (MCHC), red cell distribution width (RDW), mean platelet volume (MPV), platelet distribution width (PDW), plateletcrit (PCT). **B and C**) Relative expression of Rev-erb $\alpha$  in the B) kidney and C) liver of WT and KO mice determined by qRT-PCR. Values are mean  $\pm$  SD (n = 4). \*\*\*p < 0.001 as indicated.

A

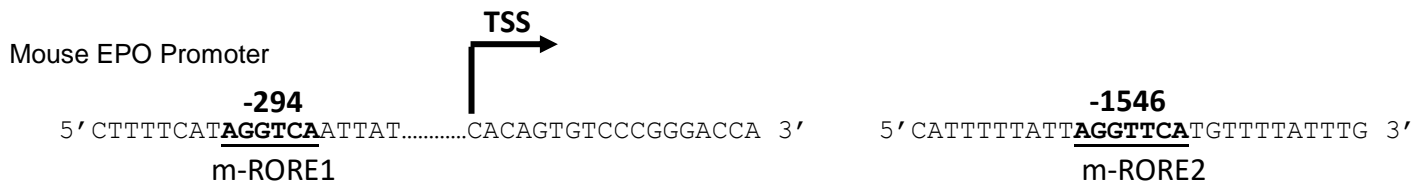


B

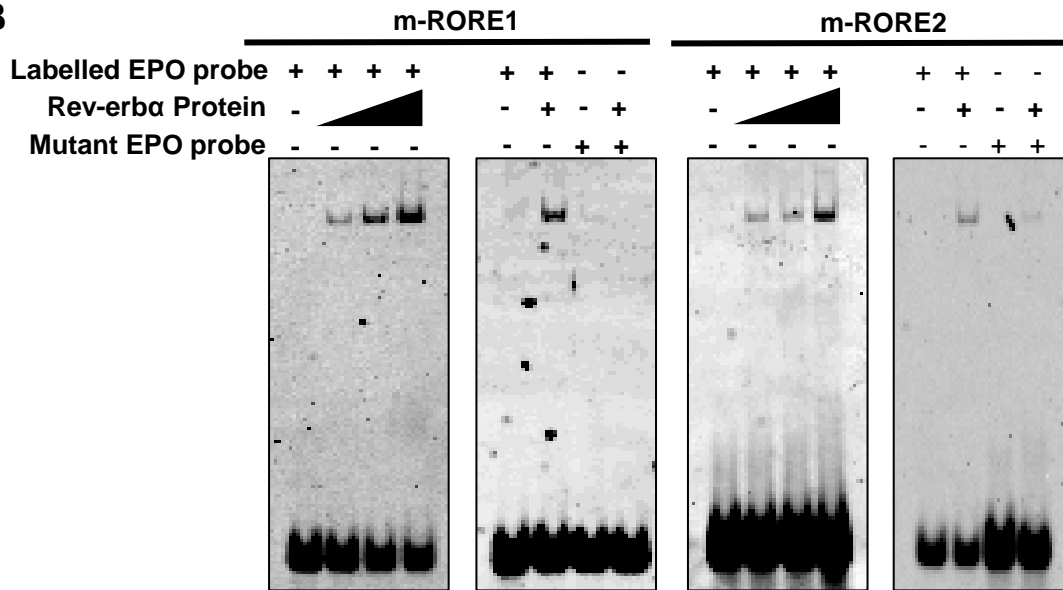


**Supplementary Figure 2: Rev-erba ligand SR10067 suppresses EPO expression.** A) HepG2 cells were treated with an increasing concentration of SR10067 for 24 h and expression of EPO is measured with qRT-PCR. B) HepG2 cells were treated with DMOG (500 μM) or SR10067 (20 μM) for 24 h, and EPO expression was evaluated by qRT-PCR. Data are representative and mean ± SD from three independent experiments. \*p < 0.05, \*\*\*p < 0.001, compared to control or as indicated.

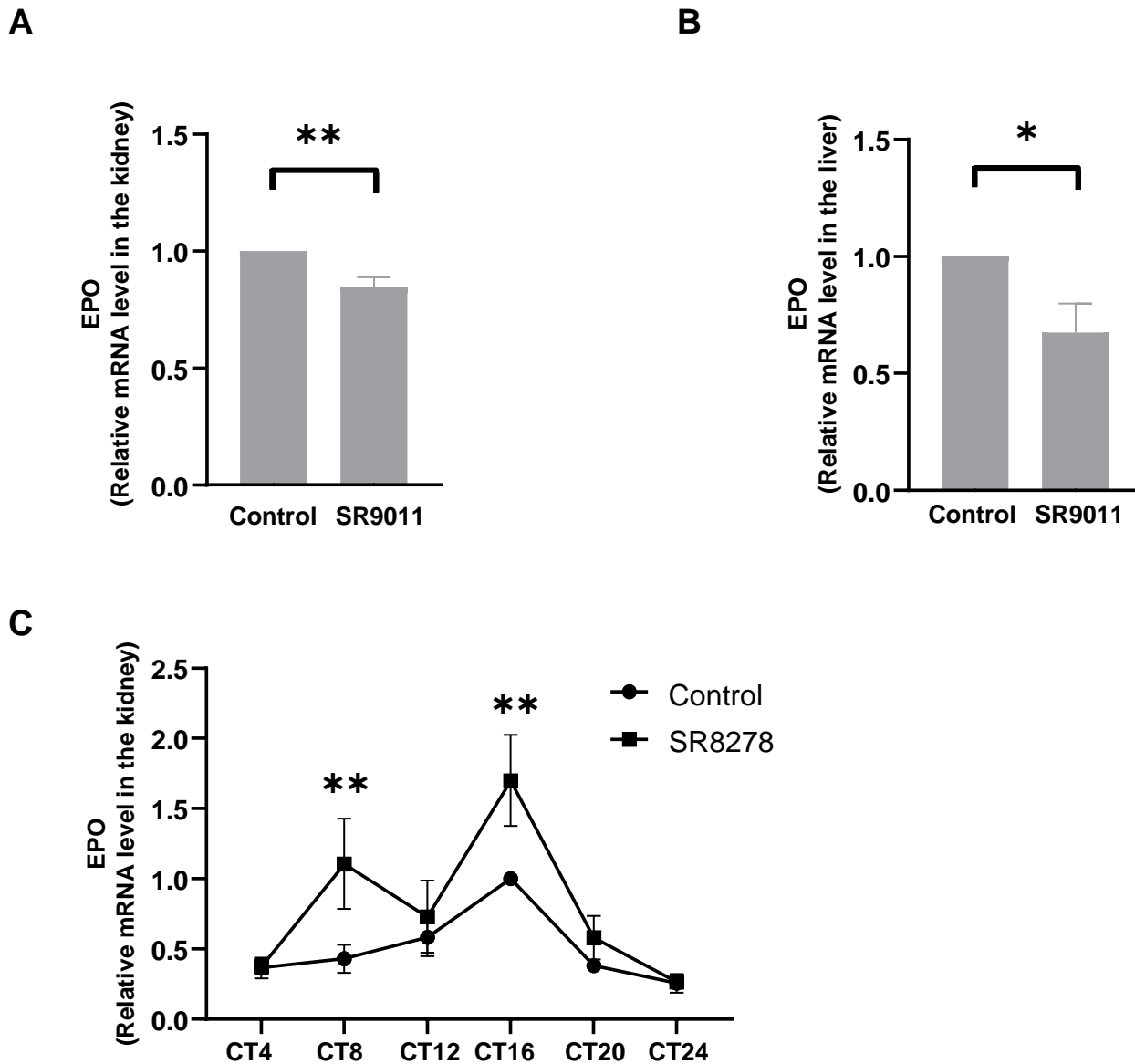
A



B

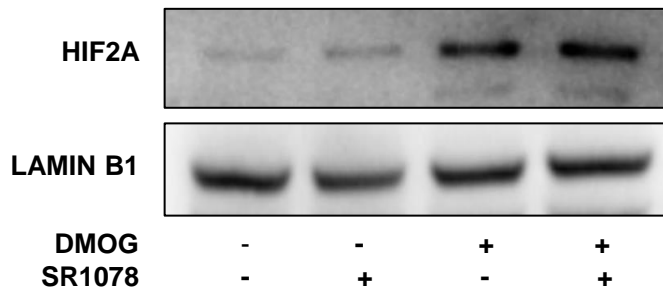


**Supplementary Figure 3: Rev-erb $\alpha$  binds to mice EPO promoter:** A) Pictorial representation of Rev-erb $\alpha$  binding sites on mice EPO gene promoter, 294 bp to 299 bp (m-RORE1) and 1546 bp to 1552 bp (m-RORE2) upstream of the TSS. B) EMSA with Rev-erb $\alpha$  protein on mice epo promoter by using a) WT (containing m-RORE1: CCCAACTTTTCATAGGTCAATTATCCTT and AAGGATAATTGACCTATGAAAAGTTGGG) and mutant (Mut m-RORE1:CCCAACTTTTCATCTTGACATTATCCTT and AAGGATAATGTCAAGATGAAAAGTTGGG) fluorescent probes b) WT (containing m-RORE2: CTTTTTTATTAGGTTTCATGTTTTATTG and CAAATAAAACATGAACCTAATAAAAATG) and mutant (Mut m-RORE2:CATTTTTATTCTTGACTGTTTTATTG and CAAATAAAACACAGGTTGAATAAAAATG) fluorescent probes.

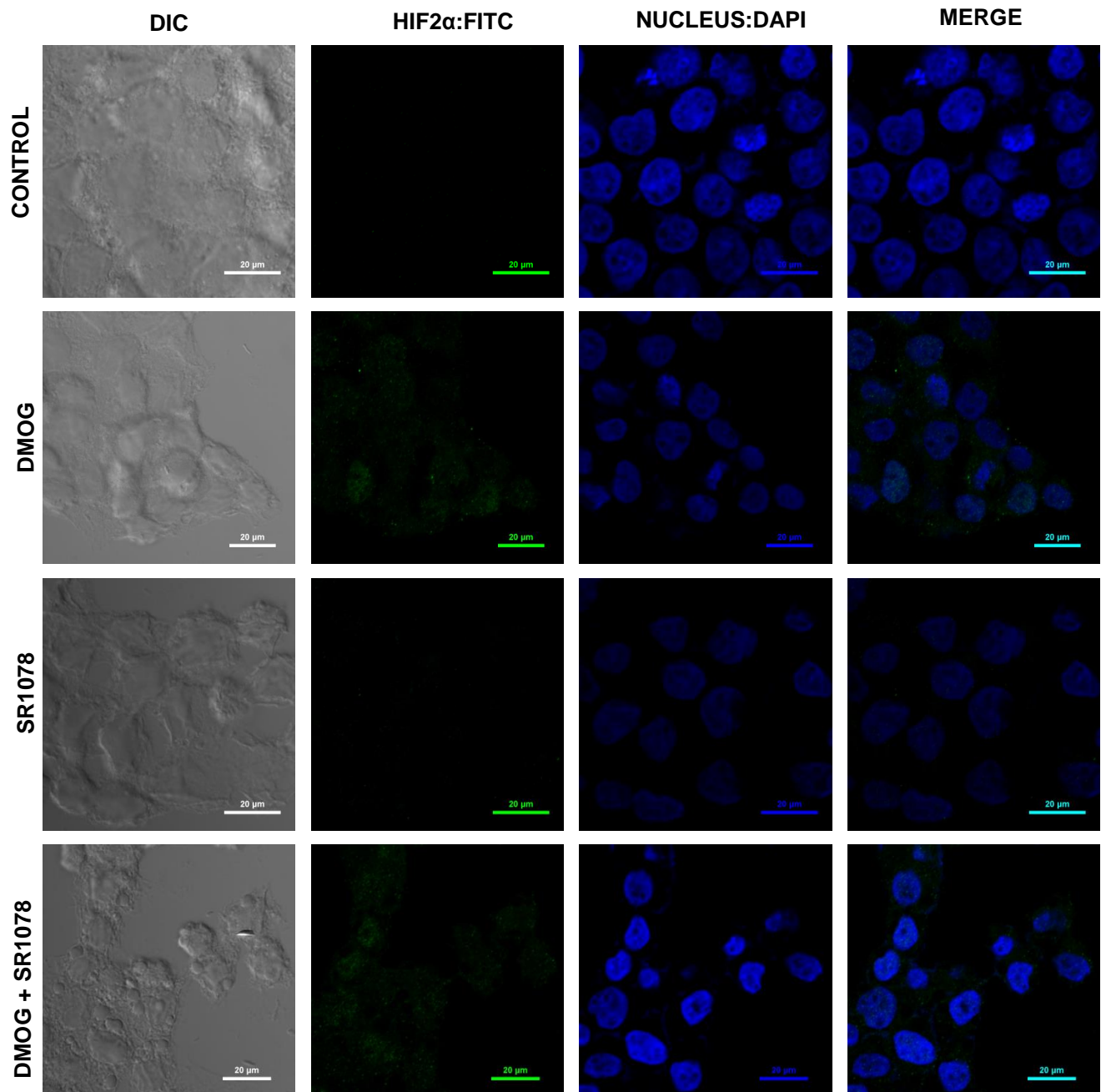


**Supplementary Figure 4: Effect of Rev-erba on EPO production under *in-vivo* condition.** C57BL/6 mice were treated with the Rev-erba agonist SR9011 for three alternative days and the relative mRNA expression of EPO was assessed in both the **A**) kidney and **B**) liver (n=3). C57BL/6 mice were treated with the Rev-erba antagonist SR8278 (25mg/kg); samples were collected at indicated time points and the relative mRNA expression of EPO was measured in kidney. \*p < 0.05, \*\*p < 0.01, as compared to the control.

A

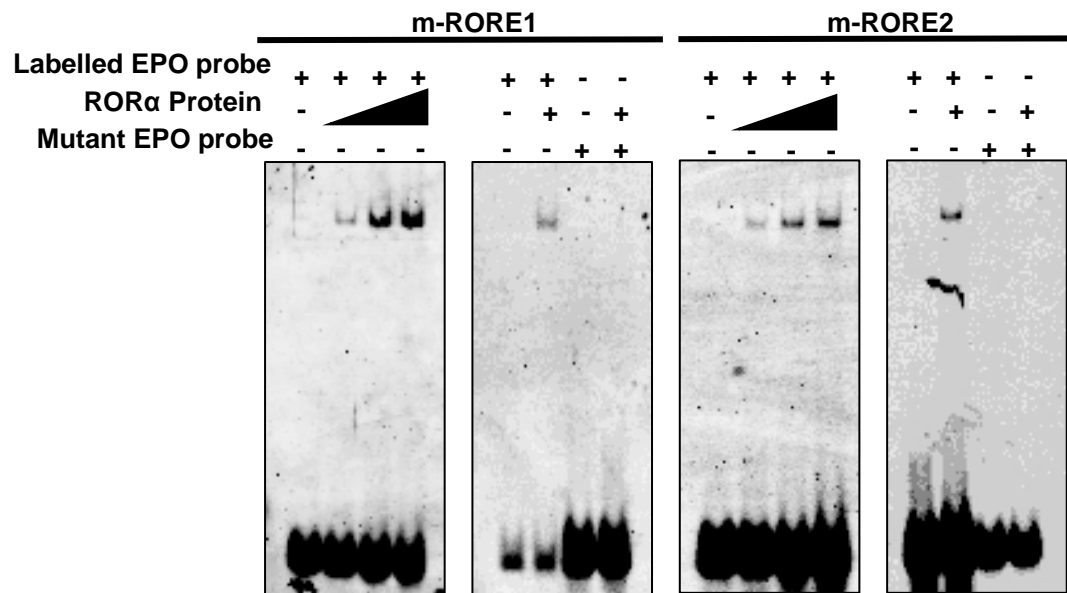


B

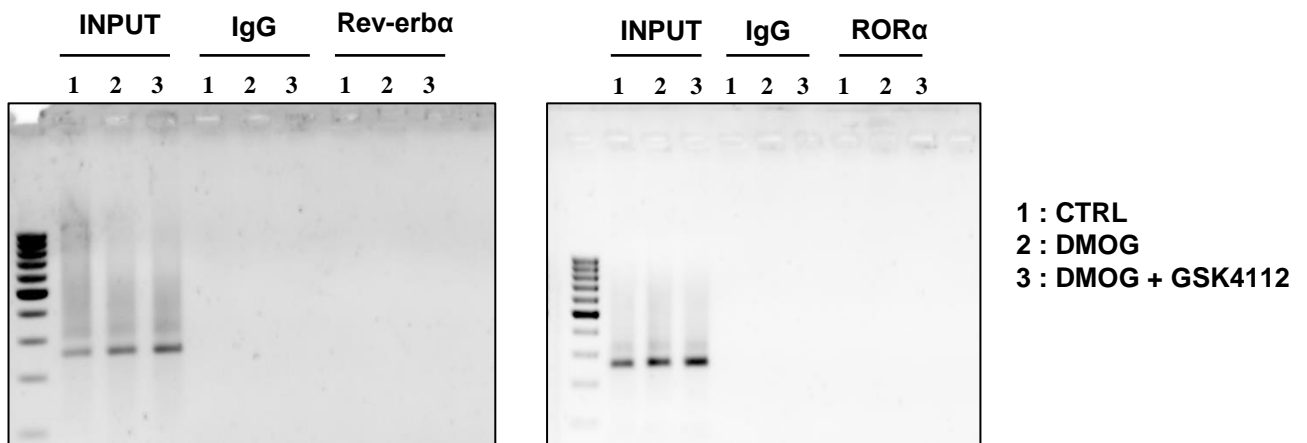


**Supplementary Figure 5: Effect of ROR $\alpha$  on HIF2 $\alpha$  translocation: A)** Immunoblot analysis of HIF2 $\alpha$  in the nuclear extract of HepG2 cells treated with DMOG, SR1078, or their combination for 24 hours. **B)** Image analysis of HIF2 $\alpha$  protein translocation by confocal microscopy of HepG2 cells treated with DMOG or SR1078 or combination for 24 h.





**Supplementary Figure 6: ROR $\alpha$  binds to mice EPO promoter:** EMSA with ROR $\alpha$  protein on mice EPO promoter by using **a)** WT (containing m-RORE1: CCCAACTTTTCATAGGTCAATTATCCTT and AAGGATAATTGACCTATGAAAAGTTGGG) and mutant (Mut m-RORE1:CCCAACTTTTCATCTTGACATTATCCTT and AAGGATAATGTCAAGATGAAAAGTTGGG) fluorescent probes **b)** WT (containing m-RORE2: CATTTTATTAGGTTTCATGTTTTATTTG and CAAATAAAACATGAACCTAATAAAAATG) and mutant (Mut m-RORE2:CATTTTATTCTTGGACTGTTTTATTTG and CAAATAAAACACAGGTTGAATAAAAATG) fluorescent probes.



**Supplementary Figure 7:** Representative Semi-quantitative PCR gel showing the amplified product for the ChIP experiment, to evaluate the specificity of isotype IgG, Rev-erba, and ROR $\alpha$  antibodies used. GAPDH primers were used as negative DNA region control.

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