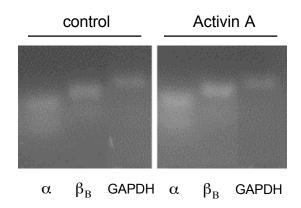
Supplementary Figure 1: The mRNA levels of the inhibin  $\alpha$ - and  $\beta_B$ -subunits in L $\beta$ T2 cells after activin A (20 ng/ml) treatment for 48h were measured with real time PCR after reverse transcription. Agarose gel depicts the raw data from real time PCR shown in Figure 2A. Specificity of all the real time PCR reactions was confirmed by a single peak in the melt curves and by a single band of the predicted size after agarose gel electrophoresis of the PCR products.



Supplementary Figure 2: Effect of actinomycin D and cycloheximide pretreatment on activin A-induced furin gene transcription. L $\beta$ T2 cells were pretreated for 30 minutes with medium or (A) actinomycin D (4 mg/ml) or (B) cycloheximide (4 mg/ml) before stimulation with activin A (100 mg/ml) for 24h. Furin mRNA levels were measured with real time PCR following reverse transcription. Results are an average of three independent experiments each performed in triplicate. Bars with different letters indicate statistical differences, p<0.05.

