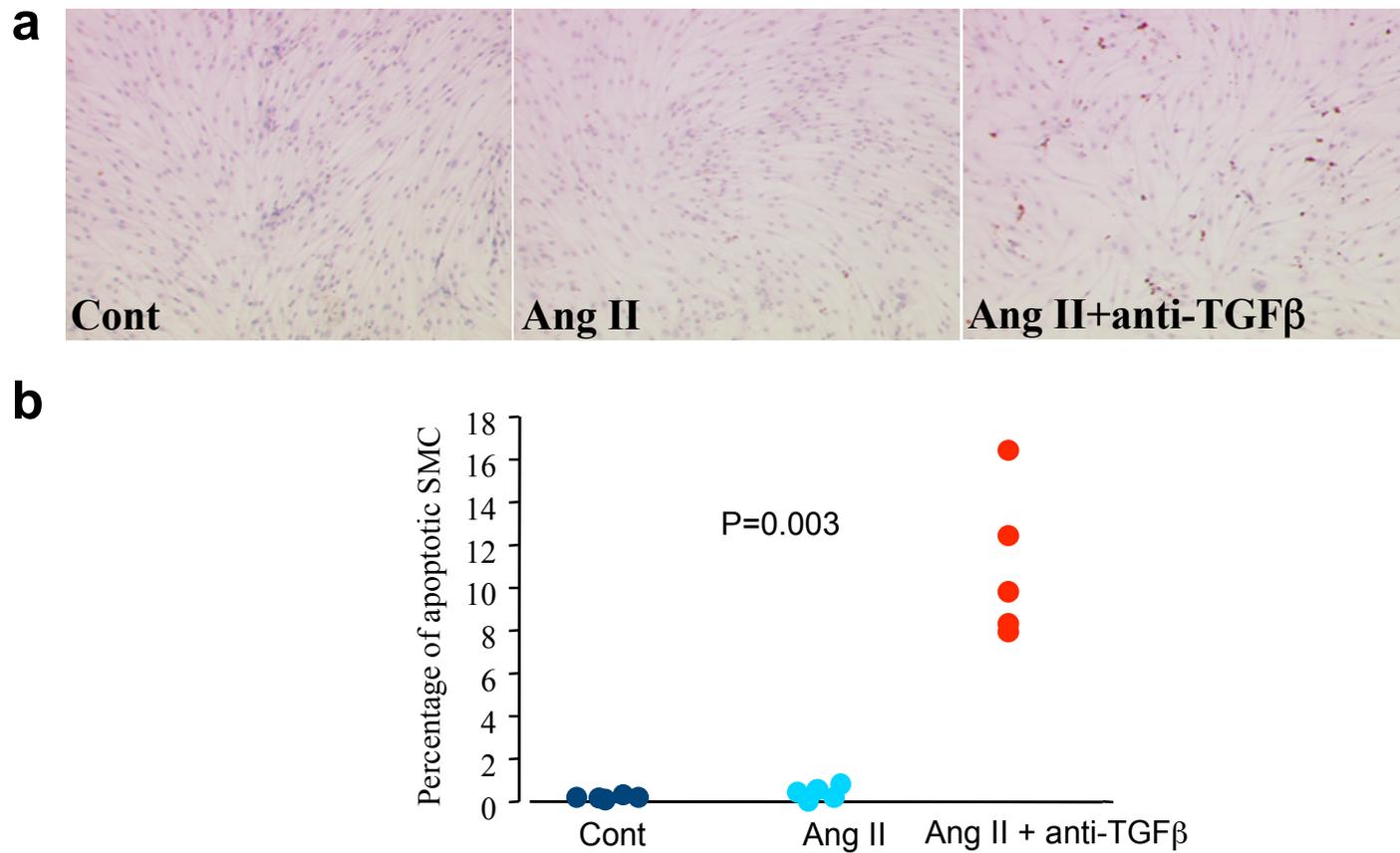
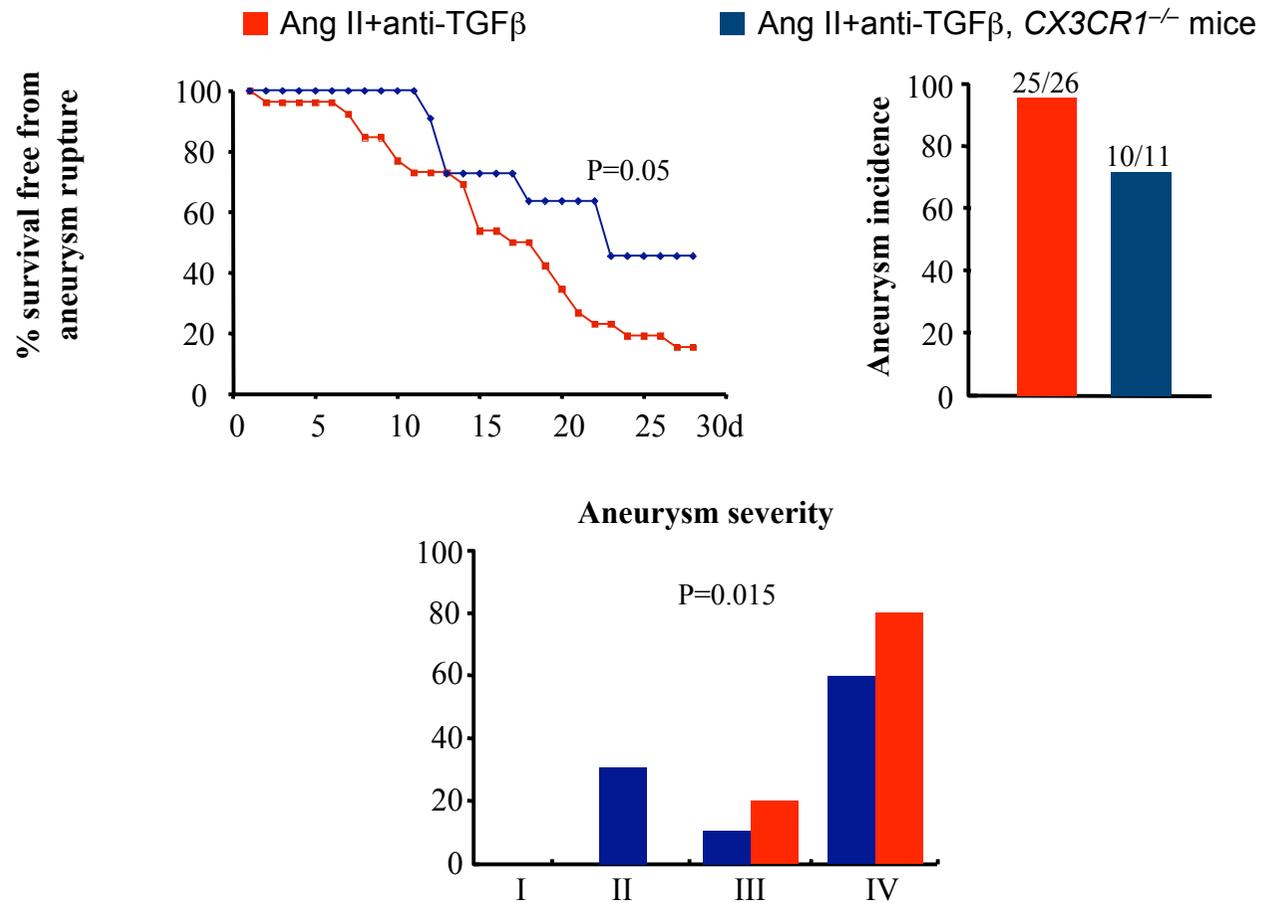


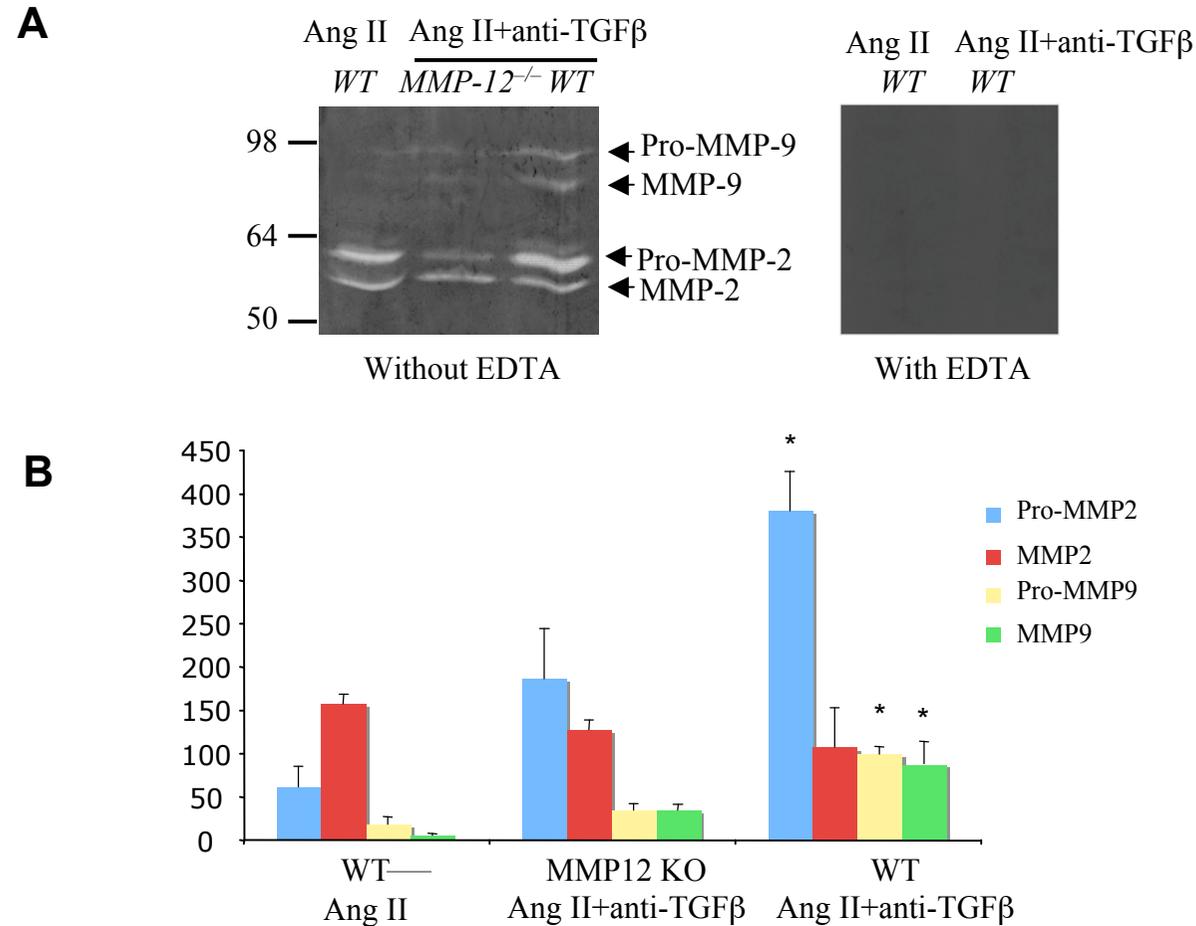
Supplementary Figure 1 online. Kaplan-Meier curves representing survival free from abdominal aortic aneurysm rupture in *ApoE*^{-/-} mice treated with Ang II with or without systemic neutralization of TGF-β activity (n=10 mice per group). Please, note that the 2 remaining mice in AII+anti-TGF-β group (not represented in the Kaplan-Meier curve) were sacrificed before the end of the experiment because of signs of imminent death and showed stage III and stage IV abdominal aortic aneurysms.



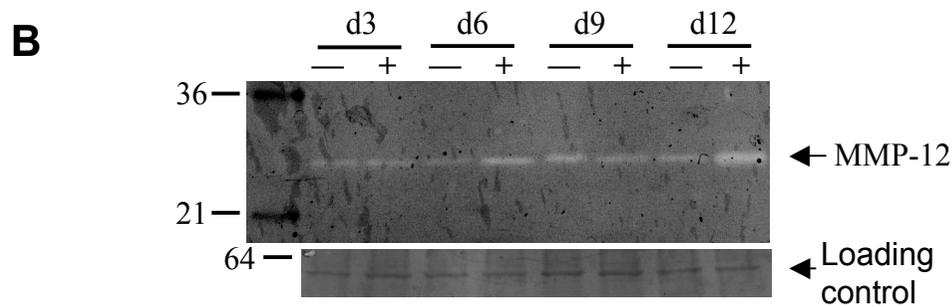
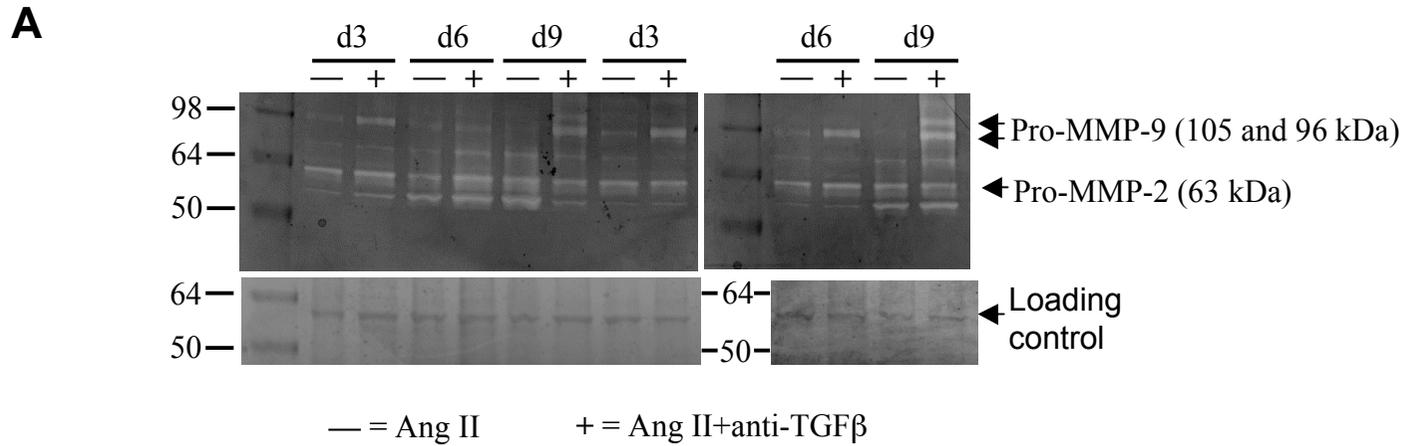
Supplementary Figure 2 online. Inhibition of TGF- β activity enhances vascular smooth muscle cell (VSMC) apoptosis. Panel (a) shows TUNEL staining (red-brown nuclei) of confluent serum-deprived VSMC treated with Ang II with or without TGF- β neutralization. Sections were counter-stained with hematoxylin. Panel (b) shows quantitative analysis of VSMC apoptosis.



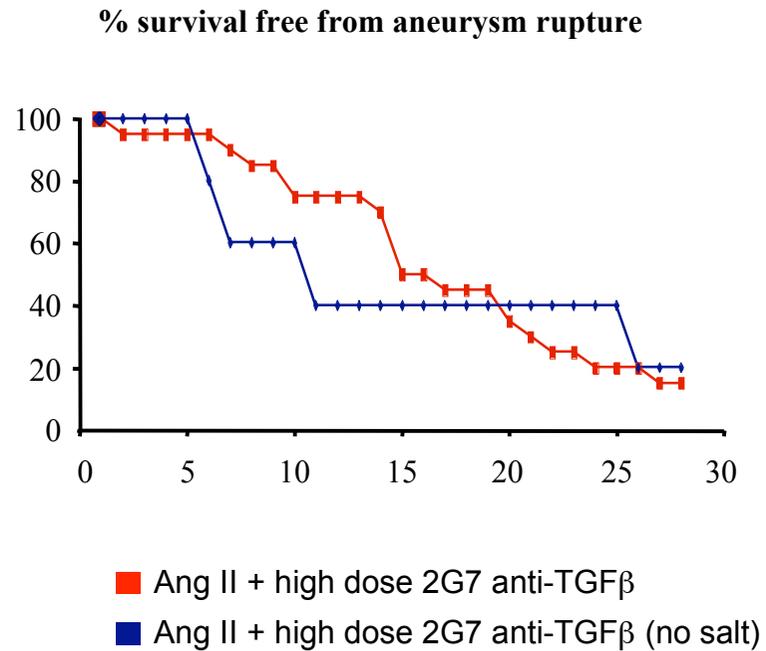
Supplementary Figure 3 online. Kaplan-Meier curves of survival free from aneurysm rupture and quantification of aortic aneurysm incidence and severity in wild type or *CX3CR1*^{-/-} mice.



Supplementary Figure 4 online. Panel A shows representative examples of gelatin gel zymography on aortic extracts (supra-renal aorta) of wild type (WT) or MMP-12-deficient mice infused with Ang II with or without anti-TGF- β treatment. Aortas were collected at the end of the experiment. All gelatinolytic activity was abrogated after adding EDTA in the gel. Data are representative of 5 mice per group. Panel B shows semi-quantitative analysis of MMP activity. Asterisk indicates $P < 0.05$ compared to both WT and MMP-12-deficient mice.



Supplementary Figure 5 online. Panels show representative examples of gelatin (A) or casein (B) gel zymography on aortic extracts (supra-renal aorta) of mice infused with Ang II with or without anti-TGF- β treatment. Aortas were collected at different intervals after the initiation of the experiment. The increase of vascular MMP-9 gelatinolytic activity was already detected at day 3 after TGF- β neutralization, irrespective of the occurrence of abdominal aortic aneurysm (AAA) rupture. However, vascular MMP-12 caseinolytic activity of anti-TGF- β -treated mice increased only after day 9 of TGF- β neutralization and was markedly upregulated in mice that died from AAA rupture (Figure 7B). Loading controls represent bands detected after Coomassie blue staining. For technical reasons, they were performed on separate gels using the same samples. Results are representative of 3 separate experiments.



Supplementary Figure 6 online. Kaplan-Meier curves representing survival free from abdominal aortic aneurysm rupture in C57Bl/6 mice treated with Ang II and anti-TGF- β antibody with (n=20) or without salt supplementation (n=10).