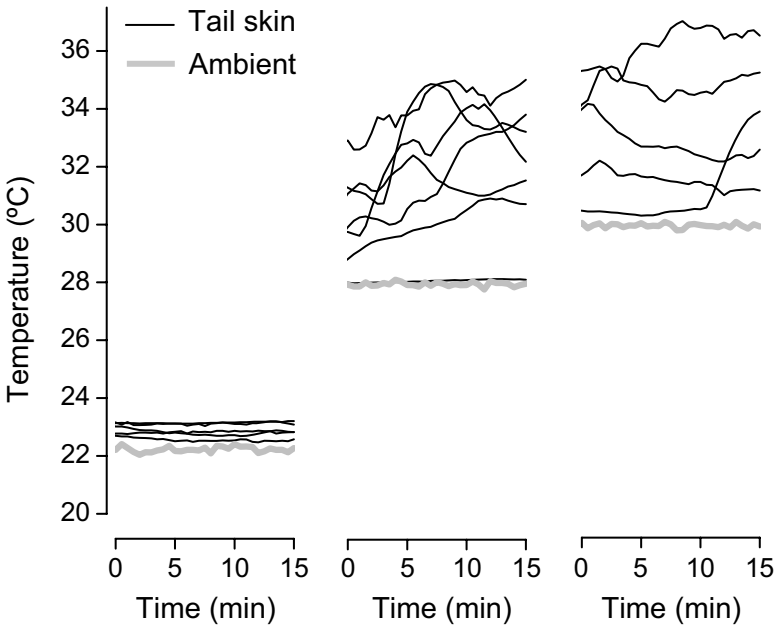
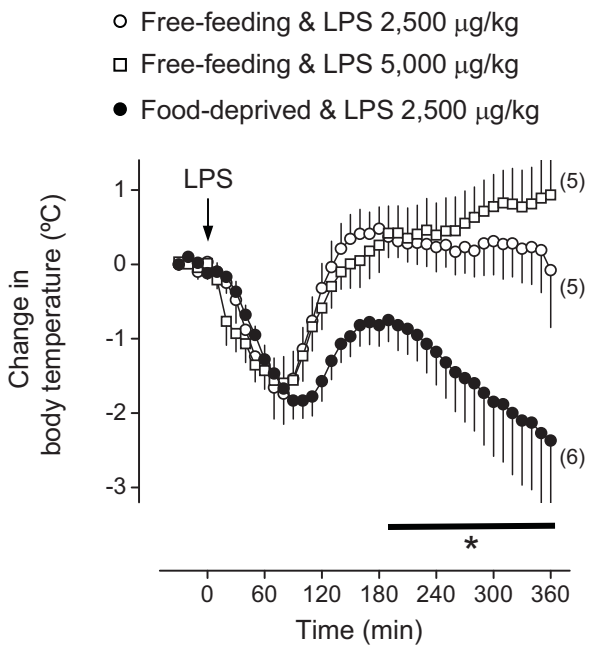


Supplemental Figure 1. Thermoneutrality of rats in our experimental set-up was assessed by the method of Romanovsky *et al.* (J Appl Physiol 92:2667-2679, 2002), which is based on the principle that tail-skin vasodilation is present and variable in rats exposed to an ambient temperature that is within their thermoneutral zone. Tail-skin vasodilation was estimated by using the difference between tail-skin temperature and ambient temperature, both measured by thermocouple thermometry. At an ambient temperature of 22ºC, tail-skin temperature was close to ambient temperature and did not fluctuate during the recording period. These thermal characteristics indicate the absence of active tail-skin vasodilation, implying that 22ºC is below the thermoneutral zone of rats in our set-up. However, at ambient temperatures of 28ºC and 30ºC, tail-skin temperature exceeded ambient temperature on average by 3.3 ± 0.7ºC and 3.3 ± 1.0ºC, respectively, and it showed large intra-animal and inter-animal variability. These are typical characteristics of rats exposed to a thermoneutral environment. Hence, ambient temperatures of 28ºC and 30ºC were considered to be within the thermoneutral zone of rats in our experimental set-up.



Supplemental Figure 2. Free-feeding rats exposed to 22ºC respond to LPS doses of 2,500 μg/kg and 5,000 μg/kg with similar hypothermia. The hypothermic response of food-deprived (24 h) rats to the 2,500-μg/kg dose was significantly enhanced even when compared to the response of free-feeding rats to the 5,000-μg/kg dose. This result rules out any possibility that small differences in LPS dosing due to a 2.5% difference in the mass of free-feeding and food-deprived rats might have accounted for the observed differences in LPS hypothermia. The number of animals in each group is shown in parentheses. Statistical difference between food-deprived and free-feeding rats are indicated by an asterisk (*).