

Supporting Information

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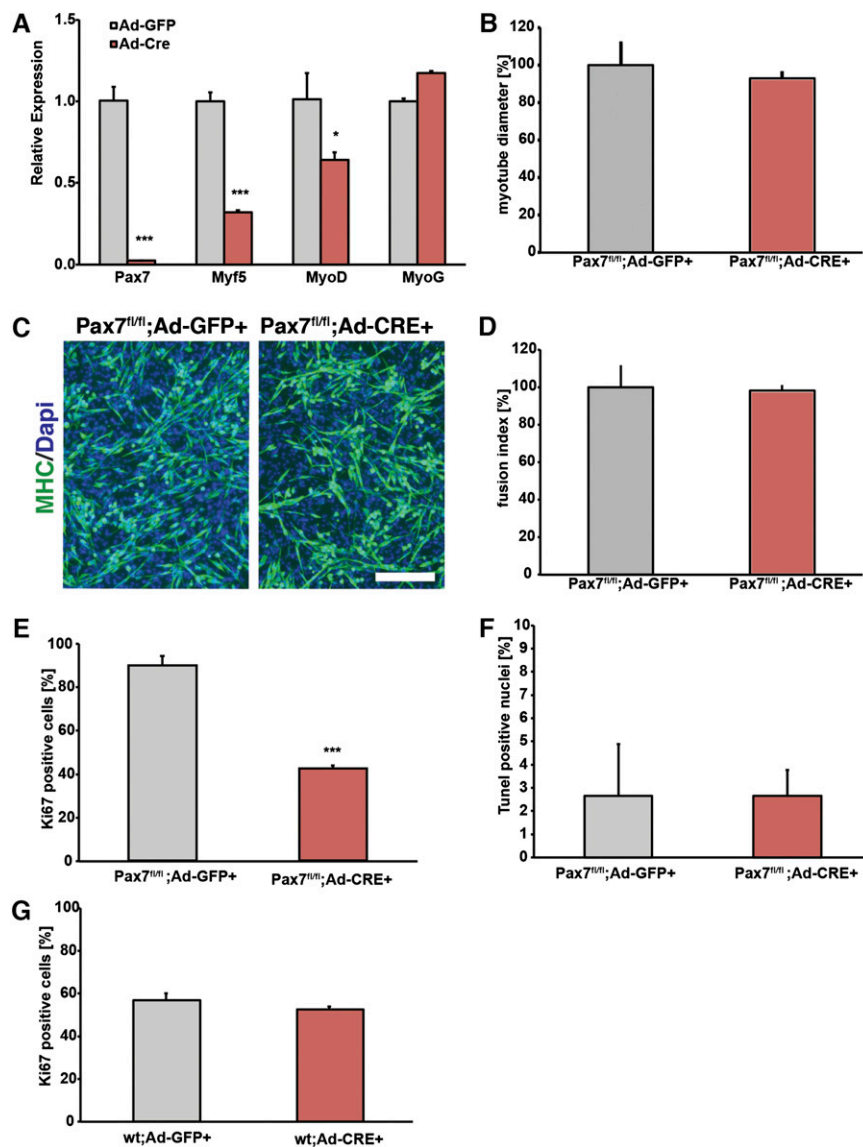


Fig. S1. Paired box 7 (Pax7) is not required for the differentiation of primary myoblasts. (A) Quantitative PCR analysis confirms loss of Pax7 expression and dysregulation of Myf5 and MyoD following infection of Pax7^{fl/fl} myoblasts with an adenovirus encoding the Cre gene. Data are presented as the mean + SEM, normalized to GAPDH and shown relative to Ad-GFP infected control myoblasts; $n = 4$, $*P < 0.05$, $***P < 0.001$. (B) No differences in myotube diameter were observed following infection of Pax7^{fl/fl} myoblasts with an adenovirus encoding the Cre gene compared with Pax7^{fl/fl} myoblasts infected with an adenovirus encoding the GFP gene; $n = 3$. (C) Primary myoblasts depleted for Pax7 expression differentiate normally, myosin heavy chain is shown in green, and nuclei are counterstained with DAPI (in blue). (Scale bar: 100 μm.) (D) No differences in the fusion index (nuclei per myotube) were observed after depletion of Pax7 expression and consecutive differentiation, $n = 3$, and cells were differentiated at similar confluencies. (E) Analysis of staining for Ki67 demonstrates inhibited proliferation when Pax7 expression is ablated; $n = 3$, $***P < 0.001$. (F) Ablation of Pax7 expression does not lead to increased apoptosis in myoblasts; $n = 3$. (G) Expression of Ad-Cre in WT myoblasts does not impair proliferation; $n = 3$.

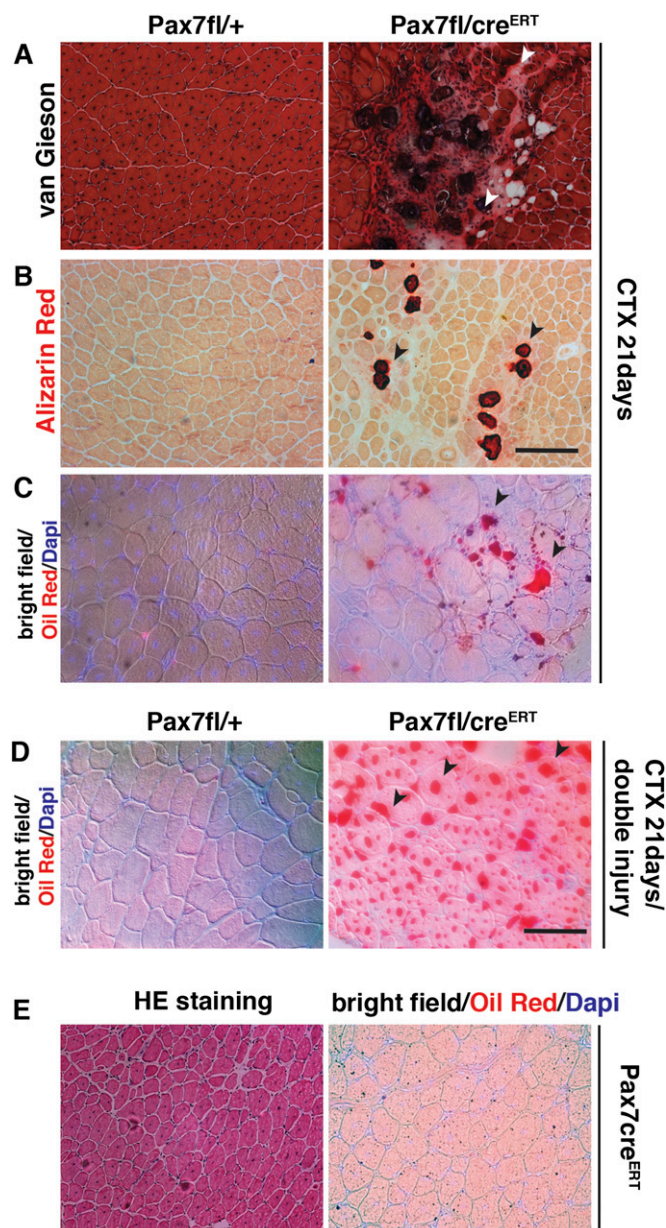


Fig. S3. Maintenance of CreERT2 activity with continuous tamoxifen treatment leads to increased adipogenesis in Pax7^{fl/CreERT2} mice. (A) van Gieson staining demonstrating increased connective tissue deposition (bright red, marked by arrowheads) in Pax7^{fl/CreERT2} mice maintained on tamoxifen diet. (B) Alizarin Red staining marking calcium deposition (in red, marked arrowheads) in Pax7^{fl/CreERT2} mice maintained on tamoxifen diet. (C) Oil Red staining showing lipid deposits (in red, marked by arrowheads) in Pax7^{fl/CreERT2} mice maintained on tamoxifen diet. (D) Oil Red staining showing lipid deposits (in red, marked by arrowheads) in Pax7^{fl/CreERT2} mice maintained on tamoxifen diet. (E) H&E staining and Oil Red staining of Pax7^{CreERT2/+} mice reveals no impairment of regeneration through expression of Cre-recombinase in satellite cells. (Scale bar: 100 μ m.)

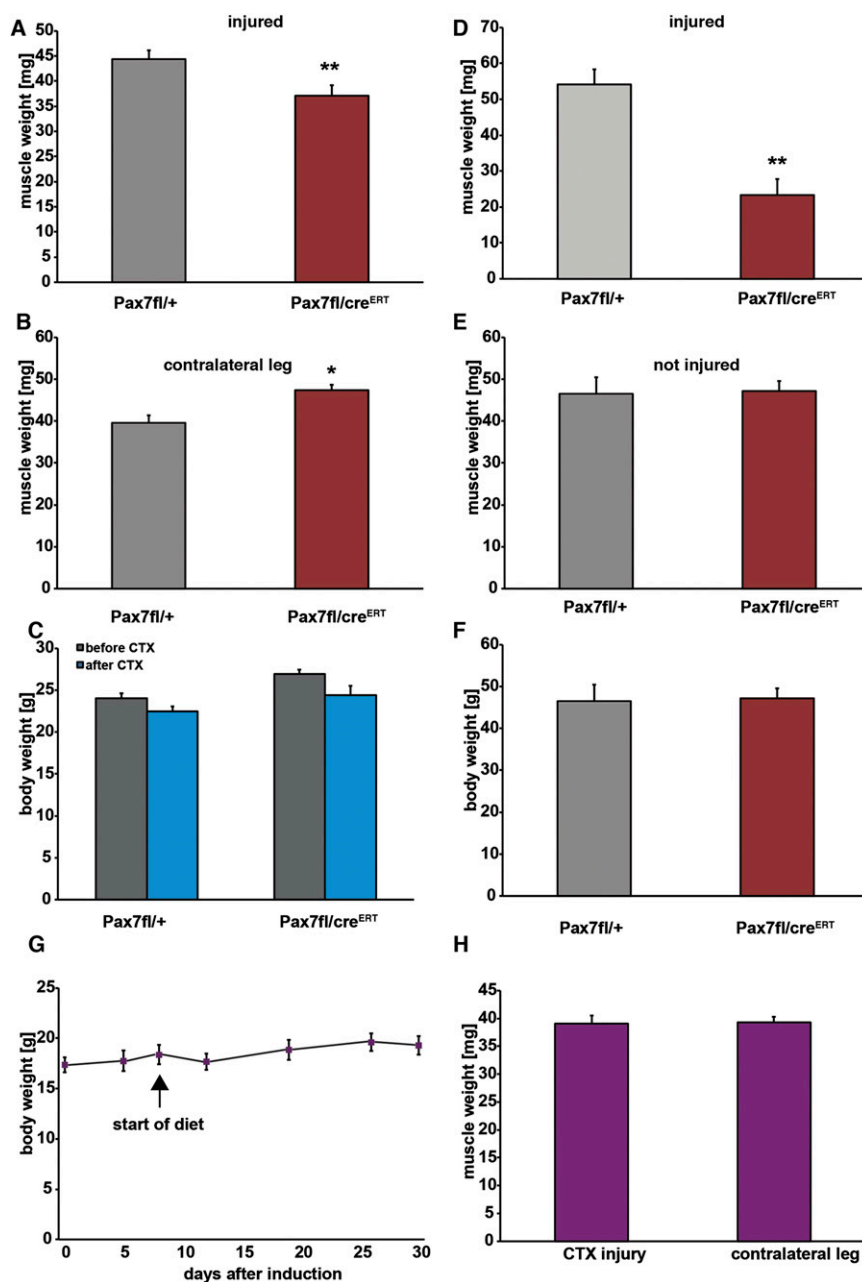


Fig. S4. Decreased weights of CTX-injured muscles following deletion of Pax7 in satellite cells. (A) Wet weight of Tibialis anterior muscles from mice 10 d after CTX injury following continuous tamoxifen application; $n = 4$, $^{**}P < 0.01$. (B) Tibialis anterior muscle wet weights of the contralateral leg of mice 10 d after CTX injury following continuous tamoxifen application; $n = 4$, $^{*}P < 0.05$. (C) Body weight of mice 10 d after CTX injury following continuous tamoxifen application; $n = 4$. (D) Wet weight of Tibialis anterior muscles from mice 21 d after the second CTX injury following continuous tamoxifen application; $n = 3$, $^{**}P < 0.01$. (E) Tibialis anterior muscle wet weights of the contralateral leg of mice 21 d after the second CTX injury following continuous tamoxifen application; $n = 3$. (F) Body weight of mice 21 d after the second CTX injury following continuous tamoxifen application; $n = 3$. (G) Body weight of $Pax7^{CreERT2/+}$ animals fed with Tamoxifen containing chow; $n = 3$. (H) Wet weights of Tibialis anterior muscles from $Pax7^{CreERT2/+}$ animals; $n = 3$.

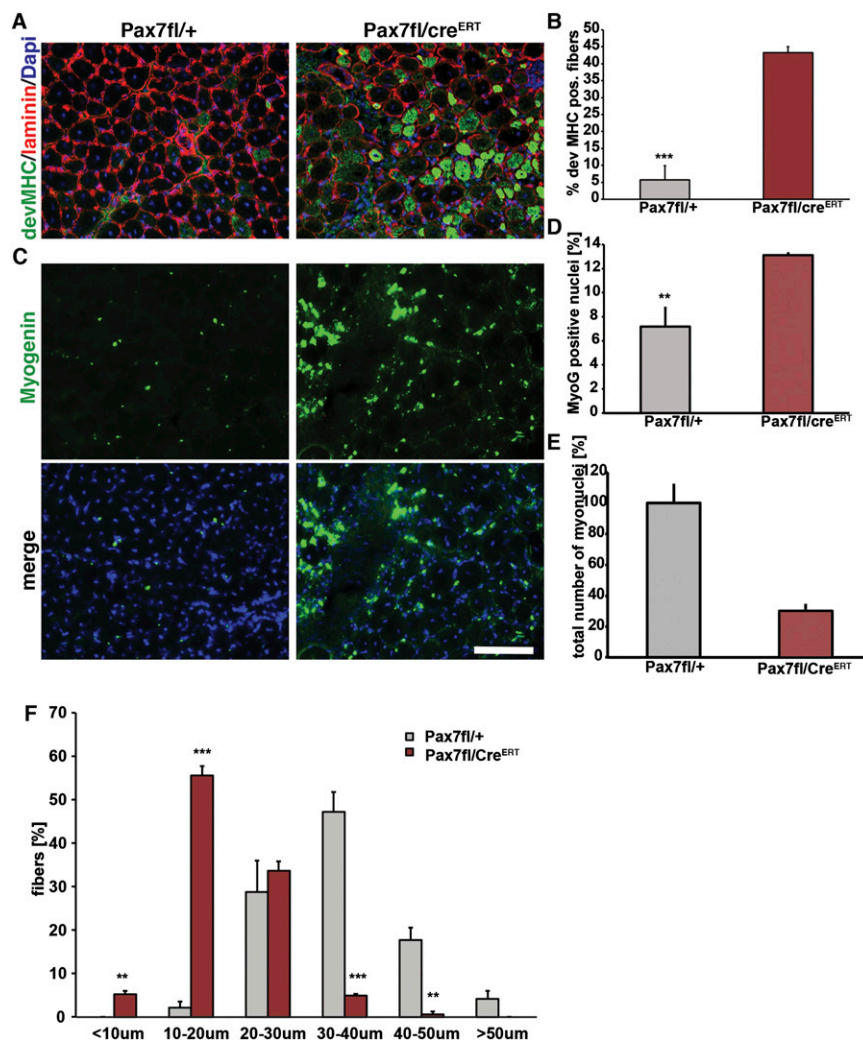


Fig. S5. Impaired muscle regeneration following deletion of Pax7 in satellite cells. (A) Deletion of Pax7 in adult satellite cells results in delayed regeneration marked by expression of developmental myosin (in green) at day 10 after acute injury. Laminin staining is shown in red, and nuclei are counterstained with DAPI (in blue). (Scale bar: 100 μ m.) (B) Quantification of developmental myosin heavy chain fibers at day 10 after CTX injury; $n = 6$, $P < 0.001$. (C) Immunostaining for myogenin (in green) demonstrating increased numbers of myogenin-positive nuclei in Pax7^{fl/cre^{ERT}} animals compared with Pax7^{fl/+} animals at 10 d after acute injury. Nuclei are counterstained with DAPI (in blue). (Scale bar: 100 μ m.) (D) Quantification of myogenin-positive nuclei relative to the total number of nuclei; $n = 6$, $**P < 0.01$. (E) Quantification of the number of myonuclei; $n = 4$, $*P < 0.05$. (F) Quantification of the minimal fiber feret; $n = 3$, $**P < 0.01$, $***P < 0.001$.

