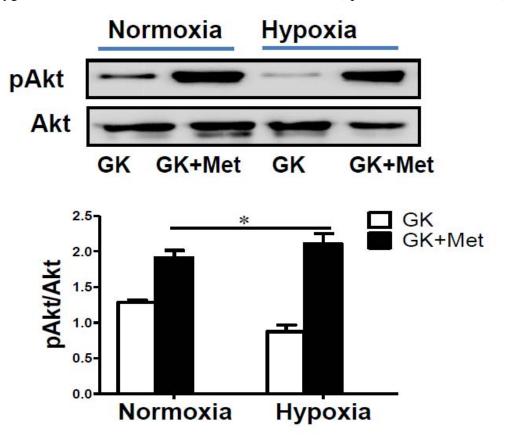
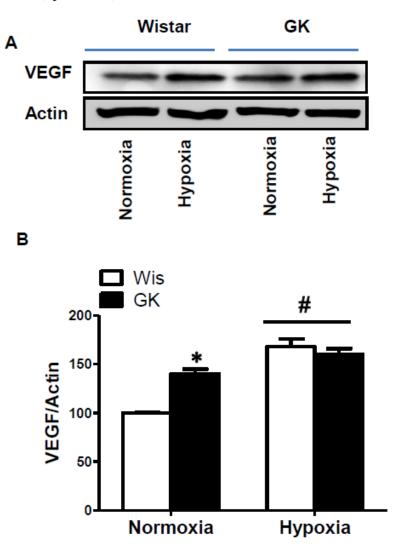
## SUPPLEMENTARY DATA

Supplementary Figure 1. Metformin preserves Akt activation after Hypoxia/reoxygenation. Akt was measured by immunoblot analysis in BMVECs isolated from GK rats subjected to hypoxia (10hrs) and reoxygenation (18 hrs). Cells were treated with metformin (5 mM) at reoxygenation. Metformin caused Akt activation under basal normoxic conditions. Metformin preserved Akt activation after hypoxia/reoxygenation. Results are shown as mean  $\pm$  SEM, n=4-6 (\*p<0.01 vs GK normoxia).



## SUPPLEMENTARY DATA

Supplementary Figure 2. Hypoxia increases VEGF levels in Wistar and GK BMVECs. VEGF levels were assessed using immunoblot analysis in BMVECs isolated from GK rats subjected to hypoxia (10hrs) and reoxygenation (18 hrs). Our data levels showed that cells isolated from GK rats express higher levels of VEGF (#p<0.05). Hypoxia/reoxygenation caused significant increase in VEGF levels in both control and GK cells (#p<0.0001). Results are shown as mean  $\pm$  SEM, n=6-8.



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