

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

EXTENDED MATERIALS AND METHODS

Ethics statements

All experimental procedures with animals were carried out in strict accordance with the recommendations in the European Communities directive 2010/63/EU and Spanish legislation (Real Decreto 53/2013, BOE 34/11370-11421, 2013) regulating the care and use of laboratory animals. The protocol was approved by the Ethics Committee for Animal Experiments of the University of Malaga (Permit number: 2014/0003). All efforts were made to minimize animal suffering and to reduce the number of animals used.

Animals

Ten-weeks-old male Wistar rats were used (Charles Rivers, Barcelona, Spain). Seven-weeks-old male $CB_1^{-/-}$ mice on a C57BL/6NCrl background were obtained, bred and genotyped as described (Marsicano et al., 2002). Animals were housed in pairs in cages maintained in standardized conditions of animal facilities at $20\pm 2^\circ\text{C}$ room temperature, $40\pm 5\%$ relative humidity and a 12-hours light/dark cycle (on at 8 am and off at 8 pm) with dawn/dusk effect. Water and food were available *ad libitum* throughout the course of the study.

Diet-induced obesity (DIO)

Rats ($n = 16$ per group) were fed *ad libitum* for 12 weeks with three different types of diet: a regular chow diet (standard diet, STD) purchased from Harlam Teklad, Madison WI, a high-fat diet (HFD, 60% fat diet; D12492), or a high-carbohydrate diet (HCD, 70% carbohydrate diet; D12450B) both purchased from Research Diets Inc. (New Brunswick, NJ, USA). The HFD and HCD were used in order to induce obesity (Vida et al., 2014). The STD contains 2.9 kcal g^{-1} (6% fat, 20% protein), the HFD diet consisted of 5.24 kcal g^{-1} (of which, 20% of the

26 metabolizable energy content was protein, 20% carbohydrates and 60% fat) and the HCD had
27 3.85 kcal g⁻¹ (with 20% protein, 70% carbohydrates and 10% fat). The HFD contained fat
28 constituted by soybean oil (9.26 kcal% of total fat content) and lard (90.74 kcal% of total fat
29 content) while the HCD contained carbohydrates constituted by corn starch (45 kcal% of total
30 carbohydrate content), maltodextrin (5 kcal% of total carbohydrate content) and sucrose (50
31 kcal% of total carbohydrate content).

32

33 **AM251 treatment**

34 A dose-response study was firstly tested to select the most effective treatment for the repeated
35 study. Rats ($n=8$) fed with STD received one intraperitoneal (i.p.) injection of either vehicle
36 (1 mL kg⁻¹ of 10% Tocrisolve in saline) or CB₁ receptor antagonist AM251 [N-(piperidin-1-
37 yl)-5-(4-iodophenyl)-1-(2,4dichlorophenyl-4-methyl-1H-pyrazole-3-carboxamide] (Tocris) at
38 doses of 0.3, 1, 3 and 10 mg kg⁻¹ of body weight. The cumulative food intake was measured
39 over a time course of 30, 60, 120 and 240 minutes in rats previously food-deprived for 24
40 hours with *ad libitum* access to water. The minimal dose at which treatment showed a robust
41 effect on food intake was selected for the repeated treatment experiment (Fig. S1A).

42 For repeated treatment, rats ($n=8$) fed with STD and HFD for 10 weeks received a daily
43 intraperitoneal injection of vehicle or AM251 at a dose of 3 mg kg⁻¹ over 14 days (Fig. S1B).
44 Food intake and body weight were monitored every two days along feeding (Fig. S1C-E) and
45 treatment (Fig. S1F-H). We generated six experimental groups ($n=8$): STD-vehicle, STD-
46 AM251, HFD-vehicle, HFD-AM251, HCD-vehicle and HCD-AM251.

47

48 **Sample collection**

49 Free-feeding rats from the six experimental groups were anaesthetized (sodium pentobarbital,
50 50 mg kg⁻¹, i.p.) two hours after the last dose of treatment in a room separate from the other

51 experimental animals. Striate muscle from the abdominal wall was dissected, immediately
52 frozen in liquid nitrogen and kept at -80 °C until mRNA or protein extraction for subsequent
53 analyses. The muscles collected from rats were also prepared for histological examination.
54 Samples were cut into small pieces, immediately fixed in 4% paraformaldehyde for 24 hours,
55 and embedded in paraffin. Then samples were cut by microtome (5- μ m thick), mounted on D-
56 polylysinated glass slides, deparaffinized in xylene, and stained with haematoxylin and eosin
57 for the evaluation of muscle fiber size, histological structure and inflammatory state by using
58 an optical microscope (Olympus) (see Figure S1H-M). Muscle samples from the abdominal
59 wall of the $CB1^{-/-}$ and wild-type mice ($n = 6$) followed the same procedure described above.

60

61 **Preparation of soluble protein fraction**

62 Samples of rat abdominal muscle were placed on a homogenization buffer (10 mM HEPES,
63 10 mM NaCl, 1 mM K_2HPO_4 , 5 mM $NaHCO_3$, 5 mM EDTA $Na_2 \times 2H_2O$, 1 mM $CaCl_2 \times 2H_2O$,
64 0.5 mM $MgCl_2 \times 6H_2O$) supplemented with a protease inhibitor cocktail (Roche Complete
65 tablets). Then, 100 μ l of 2.5 M sucrose was added and centrifuged at 6,400 g for 5 minutes.
66 The supernatant was placed into a new tube and centrifuged at 40,000 g for 45 minutes at 4°
67 C. Protein content of the supernatant, correspondent to the cytoplasm fraction of samples, was
68 measured using the Bradford assay. The supernatant was placed into a new tube and frozen at
69 -20° C until the two-dimensional (2D) electrophoresis analysis.

70

71 **2D gel electrophoresis**

72 Triplicate 2D polyacrylamide gels were performed for each animal to minimize the effects of
73 intra-assay variation. Isoelectric focusing (IEF) was performed with a Protean IEF cell
74 (BioRad), using IPG (immobilized pH gradient) gel strips pH 3-10 NL 11 cm long.
75 Equivalent amounts of protein extract (30 μ g) were added to rehydration buffer (8M urea, 2

76 M thiourea; 4% CHAPS; 0,4% IPG buffer pH 3-10, 0,002% bromophenol blue, 40 mM DTT)
77 until a final volume of 200 μ l, and added to the strips. Gel strips were rehydrated for 18 hours,
78 at 50 V and 20° C, and focused at 40 kV h⁻¹ at 20° C. Then, the strips were incubated in two
79 equilibration buffer (1.5 M Tris-HCl pH 8.8, 6 M urea, 30% glycerol, 2% SDS), first with 130
80 mM dithiothreitol and after with 135 mM iodoacetamide. The separation of protein in the
81 second dimension was performed on Criterion XT Bis-Tris 12% polyacrylamide gel at 80 V
82 for 20 minutes and then at 160 V for 70 minutes at room temperature. The 2D gels were fixed
83 for 16 hours in a fix solution (40% ethanol, 10% acetic acid) and stained using a method
84 compatible with MS (Dodeca™ silver stain kit, Bio-Rad). The stained gels were analyzed
85 using PDQuest® Software v7.1 (Bio-Rad). Normalization of spots was made to compare the
86 densities of the same spot (amount of protein) on other gels by using the total density in gel
87 image. Data were expressed as parts per million (PPM) of the summed OD value of all pixels
88 within the image. This model assumes that all information captured in an image from both
89 background and the spots will be relatively consistent from gel to gel.

90

91 **MALDI-TOF mass spectrometric analysis**

92 Spots with densities that significantly differed between diets and/or treatments were excised
93 from the SDS-PAGE gels using the BioRad spot cutter. Gel plugs were directly placed into a
94 96-well V-bottomed plate with 100 μ L of water that was removed immediately before the
95 trypsination process. The proteins were trypsinized using the MassPrep Station (Waters,
96 Micromass, Manchester, UK) protocol, which includes sequentially: destaining steps for
97 silver removal, reduction of the protein with DTT, alkylation of the protein with
98 iodoacetamide, removal of DTT and iodoacetamide, dehydration of the gel plug, incubation
99 with trypsin, and extraction of the peptides. Of the extracted peptides, 1 μ L was applied to the
100 target area of a 96 \times 2 teflon MALDI target plate (Applied Biosystems, Warrington, UK) and

101 allowed to dry to ~50% of the original volume. At this point, 0.5 μL of an α -cyano-4-
102 hydroxycinnamic acid matrix solution (5 mg/ml in 70% acetonitrile/ H_2O , 0.1% TFA) was
103 applied to the target. The samples were dried in a stream of air before MALDI MS analysis.
104 MALDI–time of flight (TOF) MS was performed using an Applied Biosystems Voyager-DE
105 PRO in reflectron mode. Each spectrum was obtained using 500 shots of the appropriate laser
106 power and, where appropriate, spectra were accumulated and filed. A macro was applied,
107 which allowed baseline correction and de-isotoping of the peptide mass peaks. A peptide
108 mass list of the most intense peaks was generated automatically, and this list was pasted into
109 Matrix Science Mascot by using the MSDB database during the search. We set the following
110 search criteria: allowance of 0 or 1 missed cleavages, trypsin as digestion enzyme,
111 carbamidomethyl modification of cysteine, methionine oxidation as partial modification, and
112 charged state as MH^+ (De Roos et al., 2005).

113

114 **Nano LC-ESI-CID-MSMS analysis**

115 Gel plugs were also analyzed by nano-HPLC/ESI ion trap MS, using manual in-gel trypsin
116 digestions of destained spots after reduction and alkylation with DTT and iodoacetamide, as
117 described above. Gel pieces were washed, dehydrated and dried in the similar manner as
118 previously described. Dried gel pieces were re-swollen and in-gel digested with 40 $\text{ng } \mu\text{l}^{-1}$
119 trypsin (Promega Trypsin Gold, Madison, WI, USA) and incubated overnight at 30°C.
120 Peptides were extracted with 100% acetonitrile + 0.1% formic acid.

121 LC-ESI-CID-MS/MS analysis was performed using an Agilent 1200 nano-HPLC system
122 equipped with a Zorbax 300SB C-18 trap column (5 μm , 5 x 0,3 mm) and a Zorbax 300SB
123 C-18 analytical column (3,5 μm , 150 mm x 75 μm). A HCT ultra ETD II (Bruker Daltonics,
124 Bremen, Germany) was used to record peptide spectra over the mass range of m/z 350–1,500,
125 and MS/MS spectra in information-dependent data acquisition over the mass range of m/z

126 100–2,800. MS/MS spectra were interpreted and peak lists were generated by Data Analysis
127 3.4 (Bruker). Searches were done by using the Mascot 2.2 (Matrix Science, London, UK)
128 against latest NCBI and Swissprot database for protein identification. Searching parameters
129 were set as follows: enzyme selected as trypsin with two maximum missing cleavage sites,
130 species limited to rat, a mass tolerance of 0.2 Da for peptide tolerance, 0.5 Da for MS/MS
131 tolerance, fixed modification of carbamidomethyl (C) and variable modification of oxidation
132 (M). Repeatedly, MS spectra were recorded followed by three data-dependent CID MS/MS
133 spectra generated from the three of highest intensity precursor ions. An active exclusion of 0.4
134 min after two spectra was used to detect low abundant peptides. The voltage between ion
135 spray tip and spray shield was set to 1,500 V. Drying nitrogen gas was heated to 150 °C and
136 the flow rate was 10 l min⁻¹. The collision energy was set automatically according to the mass
137 and charge state of the peptides chosen for fragmentation. Multiple charged peptides were
138 chosen for MS/MS experiments due to their good fragmentation characteristics (Bae et al.,
139 2012).

140

141 **RNA isolation and RT-PCR analysis**

142 Samples of abdominal muscle tissue (~100 mg) were placed on 1 ml of Trizol® and then
143 homogenized using a TissueLyser II (Qiagen®). To ensure the purity of the mRNA sequences
144 excluding molecules smaller than 200 nucleotides, RNA samples were isolated with
145 RNeasy® Mini kit (Qiagen), which included digestion on a DNase I column (RNase-free
146 DNase Set; Qiagen). Total mRNA concentration was quantified using a spectrophotometer
147 (Nanodrop 1000 Spectrophotometer, Thermo Scientific, Rochester, NY) to ensure
148 A260/A280 ratios of 2.0. Reverse transcription was carried out from 1 µg of mRNA using the
149 Transcriptor Reverse Transcriptase kit and random hexamer primers (Transcriptor RT, Roche
150 Diagnostic GmbH, Mannheim, Germany). Quantitative reverse transcription polymerase

151 chain reaction (quantitative RT-PCR) was performed using a C1000 Touch™ Thermal Cycler
152 and the FAM dye label format for the TaqMan® Gene Expression Assays (Applied
153 Biosystems). Each reaction was run in duplicate and contained 9 µl of cDNA diluted 1/100.
154 Cycling parameters were: 50°C for 2 minutes to deactivate single- and double-stranded DNA
155 containing dUTPs, 95°C for 10 minutes to activate Taq DNA polymerase followed by 45
156 cycles at 95°C for 15 seconds for cDNA melting, and 60°C for 1 minute to allow for
157 annealing and the extension of the primers, during which fluorescence was acquired. Melting
158 curves analysis was performed to ensure that only a single product was amplified. We
159 analyzed three housekeeping genes (*Actb*, *Gapdh* and *Gusb*) and selected the most suitable
160 according to their homogeneity. Absolute values from each sample were normalized with
161 regard to the housekeeping gene *Gapdh*. The relative quantification was calculated using the
162 $\Delta\Delta C_t$ method and normalized to the control group. Primers for the PCR reaction were
163 obtained based on Applied Biosystems' genome database of rat and mouse mRNA references
164 (<http://bioinfo.appliedbiosystems.com/genome-database/gene-expression.html>) (see Table S1)
165 (Crespillo et al., 2011; Vida et al., 2014).

166

167 **Protein extraction and Western blot analysis**

168 Proteins from abdominal muscle of wild-type and *CB1^{-/-}* mice were extracted using RIPA
169 buffer 1x (50 mM Tris HCl pH 7.4, 150 mM NaCl, 0.25% NaDOC, 1% Triton X-100, 1 mM
170 EDTA pH 8) containing a protease and phosphatase inhibitor cocktail (5 mg ml⁻¹ leupeptin,
171 100 mM NaF 5, 1 mM sodium orthovanadate, 5 µg ml⁻¹ aprotinin, 1 µg ml⁻¹ pepstatin A, 10
172 µg ml⁻¹ trypsin inhibitor, 1 mM phenylmethylsulfonyl fluoride, 0.75 µl ml⁻¹ protease and
173 phosphatase inhibitor cocktail). The samples (~100 mg) were first incubated on the RIPA
174 buffer 1x for 2 hours at 4°C with gentle agitation, then homogenized with an IKA-Ultra-
175 Turrax® T8 homogenizer (IKA-Werke) and finally centrifuged at 20,800 g for 20 minutes at

176 4°C. The supernatants were collected into a new tube, diluted with loading buffer and frozen
177 at -20° C. Protein concentration was determined by the Bradford protein assay. Equivalent
178 amounts of protein extract (75 µg) were separated in gradient SDS-PAGE gels (Criterion XT
179 Precast Gel with 3-8% polyacrylamide, Bio-Rad Laboratories, Inc.) and electroblotted onto
180 nitrocellulose membranes (Bio-Rad). Membranes were blocked in TBS-T (50 mM Tris-HCl,
181 pH 7.6; 200 mM NaCl and 0.1% Tween-20) with 2% albumin fraction V from bovine serum
182 (BSA, Roche) at room temperature for 1 h. Specific proteins were detected by incubation in
183 TBS-T and 2% BSA at 4°C overnight with the corresponding primary antibodies (see Table
184 S2). After extensive washings in TBS containing 1% Tween 20, a HRP-conjugated anti-rabbit
185 IgG (H+L) or anti-mouse secondary antibodies (Promega) diluted 1:10,000 was added for 1 h
186 at room temperature. After extensive washings in TBS containing 1% Tween 20, the specific
187 protein bands were revealed using the enhanced chemiluminiscence detection system (Santa
188 Cruz, Biotechnology Inc. CA, USA), in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.
189 Images were visualized in an Autochemi-UVP Bioimaging System. Bands were quantified by
190 densitometric analysis performed by ImageJ software (Rasband, W.S., ImageJ, U.S., National
191 Institutes of Health, Bethesda, MA, USA, <http://imagej.nih.gov/ij>, 1997-2012) Absolute
192 values were normalized regarding β-actin levels (Crespillo et al., 2011; Vida et al., 2014).

193

194 **Isolation of rat muscle mitochondria for protein (Western blot) analysis**

195 The isolation of muscle mitochondria was realized as described previously (Benard et al.,
196 2006) with modifications. Abdominal muscle was collected in isolation medium I (210 mM
197 mannitol, 70 mM sucrose, 50 mM Trizma and 10 mM EDTA) and digested with trypsin
198 (Gibco) at 0.5 mg g⁻¹ for 30 minutes. Then, the reaction was stopped with a trypsin inhibitor
199 and centrifuged at 1,000 g for 5 minutes. The supernatant was filtered and centrifuged at
200 7,000 g for 10 minutes. The obtained pellet was resuspended in an isolation medium II (225

201 mM mannitol, 75 mM sucrose, 10 mM Trizma and 0.1 mM EDTA) and centrifuged at 1,000 g
202 for 5 minutes. The resulting supernatant was centrifuged at 7,000 g for 10 minutes. The
203 obtained pellet (mitochondrial fraction) was resuspended in 50 μ l of isolation medium II.
204 Then, samples were homogenized by sonication and protein concentration was measured
205 using the Bradford method with BSA as standard.

206 Western blotting of the mitochondrial protein extracts (30 μ l) was performed as was described
207 above. DLD and CB₁ proteins were detected by overnight incubation in the corresponding
208 primary antibodies diluted 1:200 (Table S2). Absolute values were normalized regarding β -
209 actin levels.

210

211 **Cell culture and treatment**

212 C₂C₁₂ mouse C3H muscle myoblasts (cat. no. 91031101, Sigma-Aldrich) were cultured and
213 differentiated as previously described (Iannotti et al., 2014). Proliferating C₂C₁₂ cells were
214 propagated in a growth medium composed of DMEM (ThermoFisher) supplemented with 5%
215 fetal bovine serum (FBS), 20 mM HEPES, 100 U ml⁻¹ penicillin and 100 μ g ml⁻¹
216 streptomycin, and 1% L-glutamine (ThermoFisher) in a humidified atmosphere of 95%
217 air/5% CO₂ at 37°C. Myotube differentiation was achieved upon exposure of proliferating
218 C₂C₁₂ cells to a differentiating medium (DM) containing DMEM (25 mM glucose)
219 supplemented with 2% horse serum, 20 mM HEPES, 100 U ml⁻¹ penicillin and 100 μ g ml⁻¹
220 streptomycin, and 1% L-glutamine for six days, according to the experimental needs. To
221 assess C₂C₁₂ myotube treatment, cells were first synchronized in fresh DM for 24 hours.
222 Then, the cells were treated with the CB₁ receptor agonist ACEA or the CB₁ receptor
223 antagonist AM251 at concentrations of 20, 50, 500, 10³ and/or 5·10³ nM for 2 hours. After
224 treatment, the cells were first cultured in fresh DM without serum for 2 hours and then
225 incubated in 10 nM insulin for 10 minutes. Finally, 0.2 mg ml⁻¹ Nitroblue Tetrazolium (NBT)

226 was also added into the medium in order to activate and detect diaphorase/oxidative reaction.
227 Then, the stained cells were disrupted and homogenised by sonication. The quantification of
228 the staining was determined by optic density at 560 nm using a VersaMax Absorbance
229 Microplate Reader (Molecular Devices).

230

231 **Isolation of C₂C₁₂ myotube mitochondria**

232 Mitochondrial extraction from differentiated C₂C₁₂ cells was realized as described previously
233 (Benard et al., 2007) with modifications. Cells were trypsinised and centrifuged at 1,000 g for
234 10 minutes. The pellet was resuspended in a buffer I containing 210 mM mannitol, 70 mM
235 sucrose, 5 mM HEPES, 1 mM EDTA and 0.5% BSA supplemented with 0.5 mM Tx100.
236 After 15 minutes, permeabilization was verified using trypan blue. Samples were centrifuged
237 at 625 g for 5 minutes and the pellet was resuspended in 10 ml of buffer I and homogenized
238 with 60 gentle strikes in a glass potter. Membrane disruption was verified under the
239 microscope, and cells were centrifuged at 625 g for 5 minutes. The supernatant was
240 centrifuged at 10,000 g for 20 minutes, and the pellet (mitochondrial fraction) was
241 resuspended in 100 µl of a respiration buffer (75 mM mannitol, 25 mM sucrose, 100 mM
242 KCl, 10 mM Tris-HCl pH 7.4, 50 µM EDTA and 10 mM sodium pyruvate). Protein
243 concentration was measured using the Bradford method with BSA as standard.
244 Approximately, 1.1 mg of mitochondrial proteins per 10⁶ cells was recovered.

245

246 **Diaphorase activity measurement of C₂C₁₂ mitochondrial fraction**

247 Mitochondrial samples at a final protein concentration of 0.2 mg ml⁻¹ were incubated in
248 respiration buffer for 10 minutes at 37° C. Samples were first treated with AM251 or ACEA
249 at 20, 50, 500, 10³ and 5·10³ nM for 30 minutes. Then, NBT were added for an overnight

250 incubation at 37° C in order to detect diaphorase/oxidative reaction. Finally, samples were
251 homogenized by sonication and measured at an optic density of 560 nm.

252

253 **Preembedding immunogold method for electron microscopy**

254 Muscular tissues were cut at 50 µm in a vibrotome and collected in 0.1M PB (pH 7.4) at room
255 temperature (RT). Sections were preincubated in a blocking solution of 10% bovine serum
256 albumin (BSA), 0.1% sodium azide and 0.02% saponin prepared in Tris-HCl buffered saline
257 (TBS 1X, pH 7.4) for 30 minutes at RT. A preembedding silver-intensified immunogold
258 method was used for the localization of CB₁ protein. Muscular sections were incubated in
259 primary goat CB₁ polyclonal antibodies (2µg ml⁻¹; CB1-Go-Af450-1; Frontier Science Co.
260 Ltd; 1-777-12, Shinko-nishi, Ishikari, Hokkaido, Japan) in 10% BSA/TBS containing 0.1%
261 sodium azide and 0.004% saponin on a shaker for 2 days at 4°C.

262 After several washes in 1% BSA/TBS, tissue sections were incubated in a secondary 1.4 nm
263 gold-labeled rabbit anti-goat IgG (Fab' fragment, 1:100, Nanoprobes Inc., Yaphank, NY,
264 USA) in 1% BSA/TBS with 0.004% saponin on a shaker for 4 hours at room temperature.
265 Thereafter, the tissue was washed in 1% BSA/TBS overnight at 4°C and postfixed in 1%
266 glutaraldehyde in TBS for 10 minutes at RT. Following washes in double-distilled water, gold
267 particles were silver-intensified with a HQ Silver kit (Nanoprobes Inc., Yaphank, NY, USA)
268 for about 12 minutes in the dark and then washed in 0.1M PB (pH 7.4). Stained sections were
269 osmicated (1% OsO₄ in 0.1M PB, pH 7.4, 20 minutes), dehydrated in graded alcohols to
270 propylene oxide and plastic-embedded flat in Epon 812. 65nm ultrathin sections were
271 collected on mesh nickel grids, stained with uranyl acetate and lead citrate, and examined in a
272 Philips EM208S electron microscope. Tissue preparations were photographed by using a
273 digital camera coupled to the electron microscope.

274

275 **Semi-quantification of mitochondrial CB₁ in rat abdominal muscle**

276 50- μ m-thick muscular sections from each animal ($n=3$ each) showing good and reproducible
277 silver-intensified gold particles were cut at 65 nm. Electron micrographs (10,000–25,000X)
278 were taken from grids (132 μ m side) containing silver-intensified gold particles; all of them
279 showed a similar labeling intensity indicating that selected areas were at the same depth.
280 Furthermore, to avoid false negatives, only ultrathin sections in the first 1.5 μ m from the
281 surface of the tissue block were examined. Positive labeling was considered if at least one
282 immunogold particle was over mitochondria or within approximately 30 nm from the
283 mitochondria membrane. Metal particles on mitochondrial membranes were visualized and
284 counted. The numbers of labeled mitochondria were normalized to the total number of
285 mitochondria in the images to identify the proportion of CB₁-positive mitochondria, as
286 performed previously (Bénard et al., 2012; Hebert-Chatelain et al, 2014). Then, the
287 percentage of immunolabeled mitochondria was calculated and displayed as mean \pm S.E.M.
288 Density of mitochondrial CB₁ immunolabeling was calculated as immuneparticles/ μ m
289 membrane of positive mitochondria and shown as mean \pm s.e.m. Image-J software (1.43u
290 version, NIH, USA) was used to measure membrane length (see Figure S3).

291

292 **Statistical analysis**

293 All data for graphs were expressed as the mean \pm standard error of the mean (s.e.m.) of at
294 least 6-8 determinations per experimental group. Statistical results were obtained using the
295 computer program GraphPad Prism version 5.04 (GraphPad Software Inc., San Diego, CA,
296 USA). Statistical analysis was performed using two-way ANOVA with the two factors being
297 diet (STD, HFD and HCD) and treatment (vehicle and AM251), followed by Bonferroni *post*
298 *hoc* test for multiple comparisons, and one-tailed Student's *t* test with the *Welch* correction

299 applied when appropriate (no equal variances assumed). A *p*-value below 0.05 was considered
300 statistically significant.

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