Methods

LV hemodynamics. LV end-systolic and end-diastolic pressures, slopes of LV endsystolic and end-diastolic pressure-volume relations) were measured or calculated, as previously described¹, from LV pressure-volume curves obtained in anesthetized (sodium methohexital, 60 mg.kg⁻¹, IP) animals at the end of the different protocols.

Echocardiographic studies. LV diastolic and systolic diameters, as well as LV fractional shortening were measured or calculated, as described previously^{2, 3}, from transthoracic Doppler echocardiographic tracings obtained in anesthetized rats (sodium methohexital; 60 mg.kg⁻¹, IP) at different time-points during the 90-day or at the end of the 2-and 7-day protocols, using an echocardiographic system (Vivid 7, GE, France) equipped with a 10 MHz transducer.

LV tissue perfusion. Myocardial tissue perfusion in the 'viable' part of the LV was evaluated in anesthetized rats (sodium methohexital; 50 mg.kg⁻¹, IP) using an MRI (Bruker Biospec 4.7 Tesla, France) by Arterial Spin Labeling acquisition sequence, as previously described.^{4, 5}

Left ventricular histomorphology. After assessment of LV hemodynamics, the heart was dissected, the atria as well as right and left ventricle weighted separately, and sections of the LV were either immersed in fixative solution or snap frozen in liquid nitrogen for subsequent assessment of LV collagen or LV immunohistochemistry and enzymatic activities.

LV collagen density was determined as described previously⁶, while infarct size was measured by planimetry either on triphenyltetrazolium-stained fresh tissue slices in the 2-day protocol⁷, or on Sirius-red stained slices in the 7- and 90-days protocols as described previously.^{2, 3}

Cardiac oxidative stress. Reactive oxygen species production in the 'viable' part of the LV was evaluated by electron paramagnetic resonance spectroscopy, as previously described.⁶

Cytosolic and mitochondrial superoxide dismutase (SOD), cytosolic catalase, and selenium-dependent glutathione peroxidase activities were measured spectrophotometrically as previously described.⁸⁻¹⁰

Coronary vascular function. Coronary endothelium-dependent vasorelaxation and the role of NO, NADPH oxidase-originating reactive oxygen species, and superoxide anions were assessed *ex vivo* by obtaining concentration–relaxing response curves to acetylcholine, as described previously^{1, 11}, before and after incubation of the coronary vessel for 20 min with the NO-synthase inhibitor L-NNA (10⁻⁴ M) ¹², the NADPH oxidase inhibitor apocynin (10⁻⁴ M), or superoxide dismutase, SOD (200 U/mL). Endothelium-independent relaxation responses to increasing concentrations of sodium nitroprusside (SNP) were also examined in serotonin pre-contracted arteries.¹¹

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		Wistar		
	Sham	I/R	I/R Early Gevo	I/R Delayed Gevo
Collagen density				
Infarct Size		0		0
		GK		
	Sham	I/R	I/R Early Gevo	I/Delayed Gevo
Collagen density				
Infarct Size				

Representative photos for interstitial collagen and infarct size in sham operated, I/R early and delayed gevokizumab-treated Wistar or GK ratsat the end of a 90 days treatment period.