Supplement Methods

Two-Bottle Choice Procedure

Drinking behavior was assessed using a standard two-bottle choice procedure. The ?5 KO and WT mice (n=11 mice/treatment group) were singly-housed in the testing room with ad libitum access to food and water one week prior to alcohol administration. Each cage contained two water-filled 10-mL serological pipettes fitted with a double ball-bearing metal sipper tube and rubber stopper on opposite ends. At the end of the acclimation week, one water tube was replaced with 3% (w/v) ethanol, providing a choice of ethanol or water with 24-hr access for 4 days. Liquid volume intake (mL) was recorded daily. The ethanol concentration was incrementally increased to 6-, 10-, 15- and 30% (v/v) every 3 days. The positions of the water and ethanol tubes were alternated every 2 days. Additional ethanol and water tubes were placed on two empty cages, allowing for measurement of and correction due to leakage and/or evaporation. The average volume depleted daily was subtracted from each individual drinking volume daily. Alcohol intake was reported in g/kg alcohol consumed and the alcohol preference ratio is that of the amount of ethanol consumed to the total amount of fluid consumed (mL). Body mass (g) was also monitored every 4 days. Data were expressed as the total ethanol intake or ethanol preference ratio.