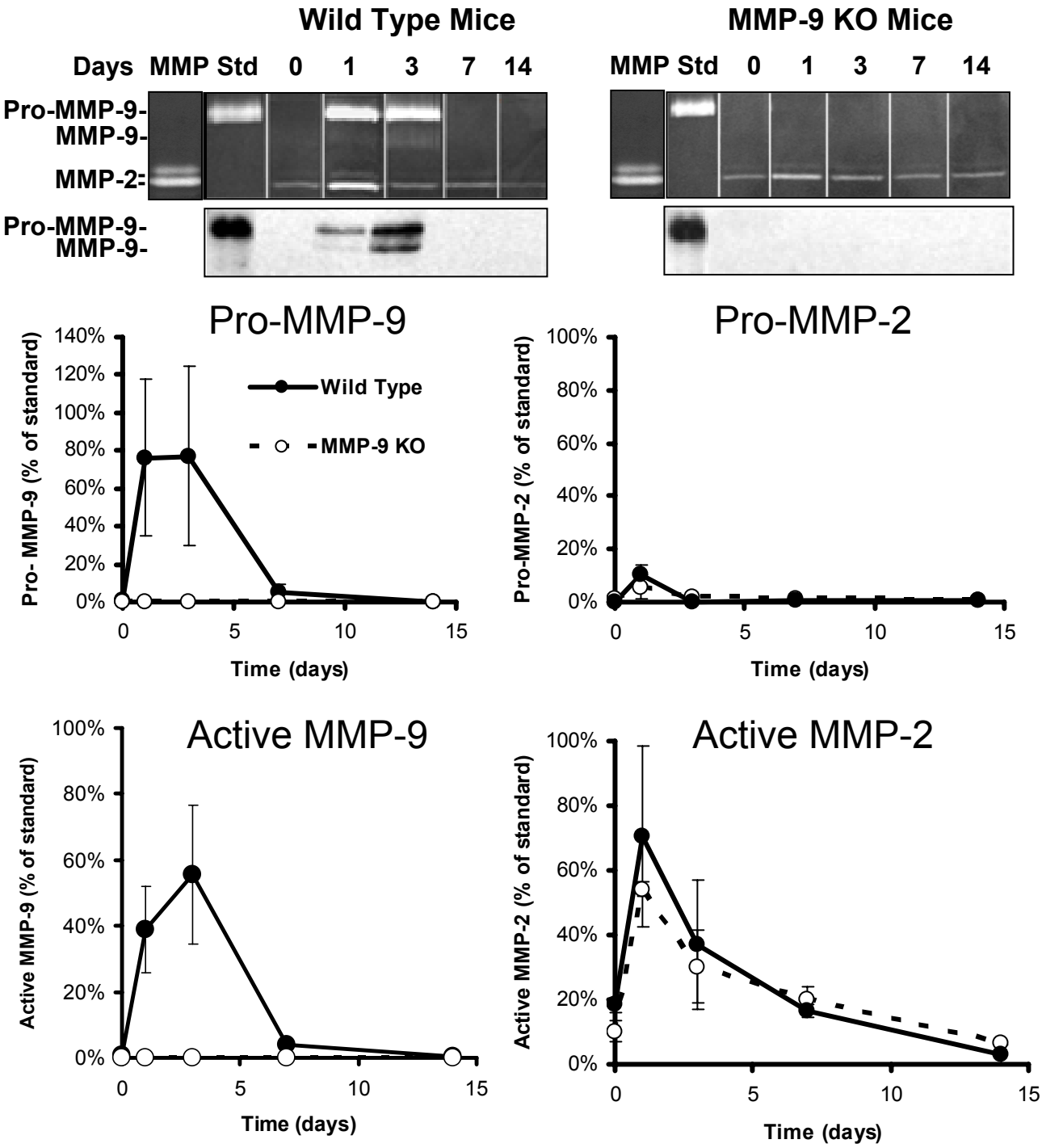
Online Figure I legends

Detection of MMP-2 and MMP-9 gelatinolytic activity in WT and MMP-9$^{-/-}$ tissue homogenates. Top panels illustrate representative SDS-PAGE gelatin zymography obtained from the non-ischemic (Day 0) or ischemic (Day 1, 3, 7, and 14) adductor muscle tissue homogenates. The same MMP standards ("Std") were used for the separate quantification of lytic bands associated with the latent (pro-) or activated forms of MMP-2 and MMP-9 in all animals (n=4 for each point), as presented in the graphs. A significant induction of MMP-9 was noted early after onset of ischemia in the WT muscle tissue (* $p<0.05$ vs. 0 day time point). Western blotting (middle panels) was used to confirm MMP-9 protein expression in WT tissue, respectively lack of it in the MMP-9$^{-/-}$ tissue. No compensatory increase in the MMP-2 was observed in the MMP-9$^{-/-}$ tissue lysates.

Online Figure II

Detection of Flk-1 and alpha-smooth actin as an indication for the presence of endothelial cell precursors and respectively pericytes in the non-ischemic and ischemic WT and MMP-9$^{-/-}$ tissue. Positive staining (arrows) for alpha-actin was detected around capillaries, consistent with the perivascular location of pericytes. Similar patterns (see insets) and densities were detected in the WT and MMP-9$^{-/-}$ tissue sections. Levels of FLK-1 staining were too low to allow conclusive discrimination between various specimens.



Online Figure I
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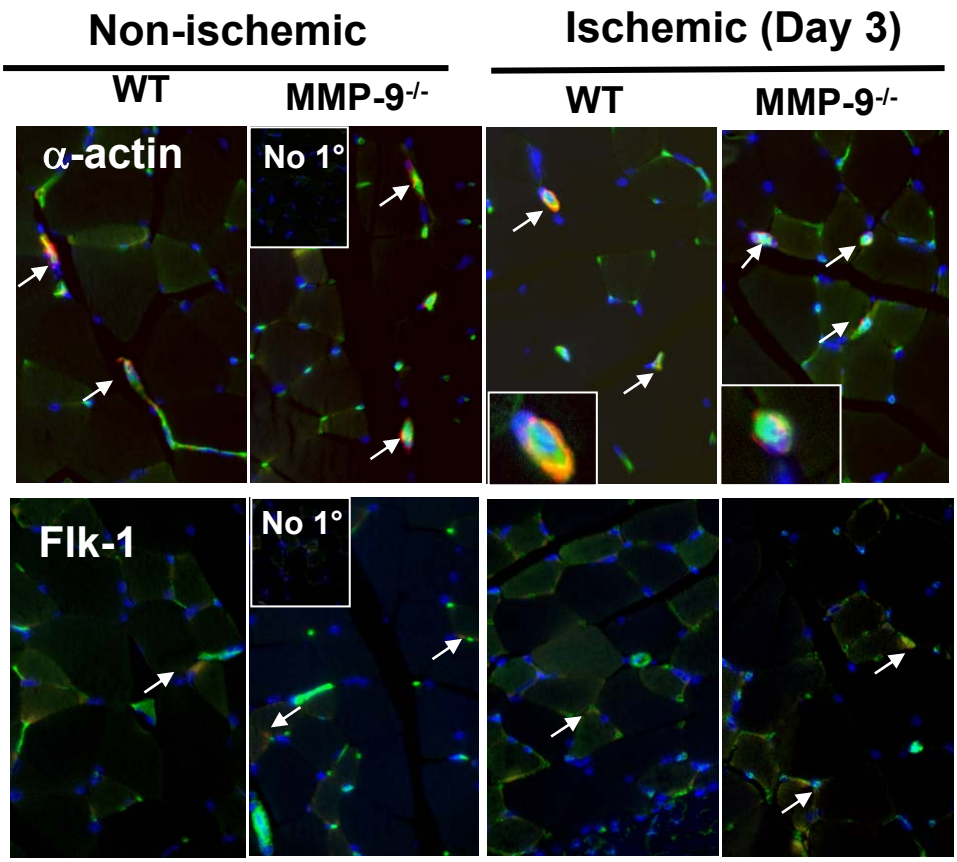

Online Figure II
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