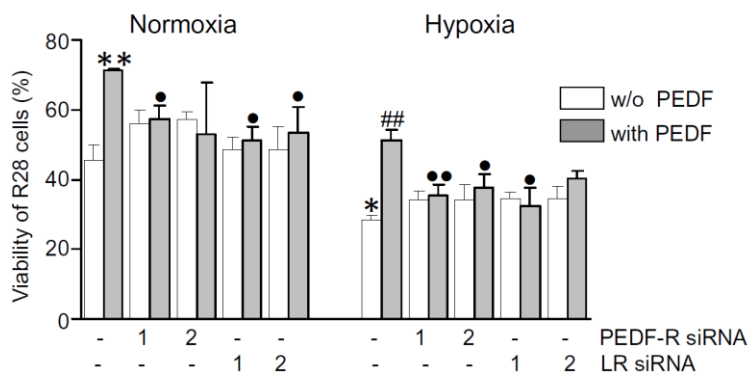


Supplementary material

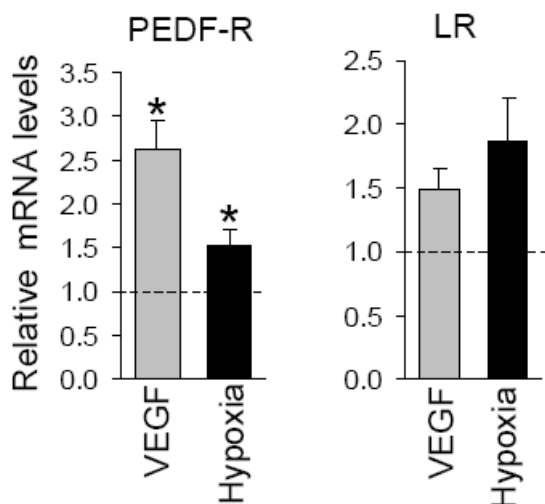
**Pigment Epithelium-Derived Factor (PEDF) Receptors are involved in
Survival of Retinal Neurons**

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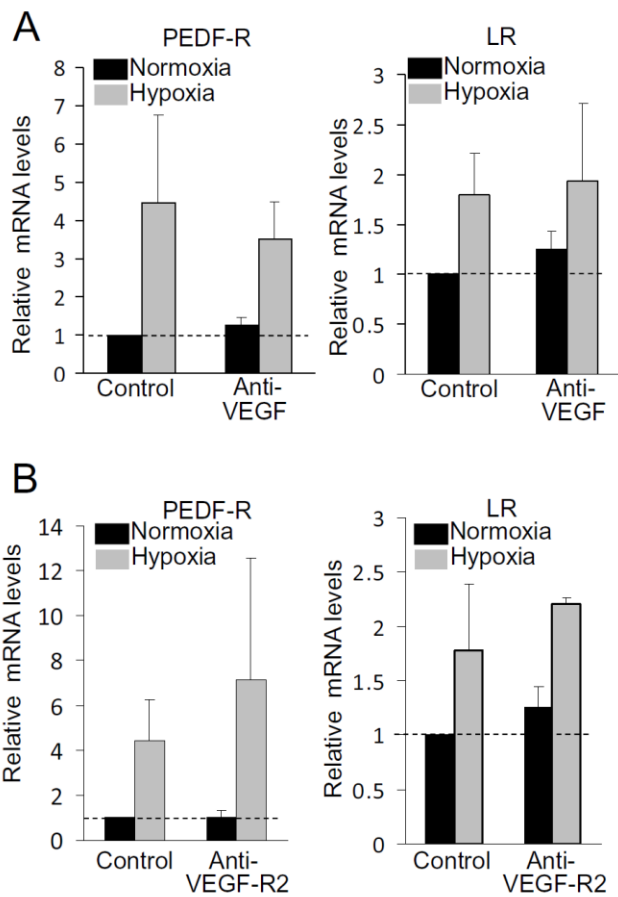
Supplementary Figures



Supplementary Fig. S1. The viability of differentiated R28 cells was determined under normoxia and hypoxia, under siRNA-mediated PEDF-R and LR knockdown and control (—, control siRNA) conditions as well as in the presence or absence of PEDF. R28 cells were cultured in laminin-coated culture plates in the presence of 250 μ M 8-pCPT-2'-O-Me-cyclic AM, a cell-permeable cAMP analogue. Cell viability was determined using a calcein live/ dead assay. Significant differences to normoxic (* $P < 0.05$, ** $P < 0.01$) or hypoxic (## $P < 0.01$) control siRNA-containing, PEDF-free cultures and the significance comparing the effect of PEDF stimulation between control siRNA- and PEDF-R- or LR siRNA-transfected cells (• $P < 0.05$, •• $P < 0.01$) are indicated (means \pm SEM; $n = 3$, one way ANOVA).



Supplementary Fig. S2. PEDF-R and LR mRNA expression in R28 cells is regulated by VEGF and hypoxia. Cells were treated with 50 ng/ml VEGF or incubated at 0.2% O_2 for 4 h. Total RNA was prepared, reverse transcribed and analyzed by qPCR. Shown are relative mRNA levels of PEDF-R and LR relative to normoxia-exposed control cultures (*dashed* lines; $n = 3 - 4$, * $P < 0.05$).



Supplementary Fig. S3. Hypoxia-induced PEDF-R and LR mRNA upregulation in R28 cells was not affected by neutralizing antibodies directed to (A) VEGF or (B) VEGF-R2. Cells were incubated at normoxia or hypoxia (0.2% O₂) in the presence of polyclonal antibodies or non-immune immunoglobulin (control). At 24 h posttreatment, total RNA was prepared and expression of genes of interest was analyzed by semi-quantitative real-time RT-PCR. Levels of PEDF-R or LR are presented relative to normoxia-exposed control cultures (*dashed* lines; $n = 3$).