

**Supplemental information**

**Imatinib and methazolamide ameliorate COVID-19-  
induced metabolic complications via elevating ACE2  
enzymatic activity and inhibiting viral entry**

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## **Supplemental Information**

### **Supplemental Information Inventory**

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## Supplementary Figure Legends

### Figure S1. ACE2 is a Key Molecule Potentially Linking COVID-19 to Associated Metabolic Defects, Related to Figure 1.

(A-B) HUVECs were infected by SARS-CoV-2 (MOI = 0.005) for 24 h and subjected to transcriptome study. Kyoto Encyclopedia of Genes and Genomes (**KEGG**) pathway enrichment (A) and Gene Ontology (**GO**) pathway enrichment (B) of differentially expressed genes after infection were shown. (C) HUVECs were treated with vehicle (-) or combination of 50 ng/ml of TNF- $\alpha$ , IL-4, IL-6 and IFN- $\gamma$  for 48 h and were subjected to real-time PCR of *ACE2* (n = 3). Error bars represent SEM; \* p < 0.05; \*\* p < 0.01; \*\*\* p < 0.001.

### Figure S2. ACE2 Plays an Important Role in Maintaining Metabolic Homeostasis, Related to Figure 2.

(A-D) HUVECs were transfected with ACE2 plasmid for overexpression for 72 h and subjected to real-time PCR (n = 4). (E-N) Eight-week-old male ob/ob mice were treated with intravenous injection of AAV9-CAG-humanACE2-EGFP (**ob/ob-ACE2**) or corresponding control virus (**ob/ob-Con**) and their wild type littermates with control virus (**WT-Con**), and all mice were sacrificed at 12 weeks after 6 h fasting. Livers were subjected to immunoblotting of ACE2 (E, blot shown on the left, quantification on the right; n = 4). The ratio of plasma Ang II to Ang-(1-7) (F) was shown (n = 5). Body weight gain at 4 weeks after virus injection was calculated as body weight on sacrificed day against body weight on virus injection day (G), epididymal fat index (H), food intake (I) and water intake (J) were shown (n = 6). Plasma triglyceride (TG) (K) and total cholesterol (TC) (L) were shown (n = 5). (M) H&E staining in livers was shown. (N) Quantifications of TC in liver were shown (n = 6). Error bars represent SEM, \* p < 0.05, \*\* p < 0.01 and \*\*\* p < 0.001. **Ang II**, angiotensin II; **Ang-(1-7)**, angiotensin (1-7).

### Figure S3. Imatinib, Harpagoside and Methazolamide Are Identified as ACE2 Activators, Related to Figure 3.

(A) Conformational shuffling of ACE2 structure between closed (PDB code: 1R4L) and open state (PDB code: 1R42). (B) Knockdown efficiency of ACE2 siRNA in HUVECs was shown after real-time PCR analysis (n = 4). (C) Cell viability with the highest concentration of 15 compounds

in HUVECs was determined by lactate dehydrogenase (LDH) assay (n = 6). **(D-I)** HUVECs were treated with diminazene aceturate (**DIZE**, 100  $\mu$ M), imatinib (**Ima**), harpagoside (**Har**) or methazolamide (**Met**) for 16 h and subjected to real-time PCR (n = 6). **(J-M)** HUVECs were treated with combination of 50 ng/ml TNF- $\alpha$ , IFN- $\gamma$ , IL-4 and IL-6 for 32 h following imatinib, harpagoside or methazolamide for 16 h and subjected to real-time PCR (n = 6). The significance of Inflammatory factors versus Control was shown as #, Ima/Har/Met + Inflammatory factors versus Inflammatory factors as \*. **(N-S)** HUVECs were treated with 10 nM control siRNA (**siCon**) or ACE2 siRNA (**siACE2**) for 8 h following imatinib, harpagoside or methazolamide for 16 h and subjected to real-time PCR (n = 4). **(T-W)** HUVECs were treated with imatinib, harpagoside or methazolamide for 16 h, and subjected to real-time PCR of *ACE2* (**T**) (n = 6), and immunoblotting (**U-W**, blot shown on the left, quantification on the right; n = 4). **L**, low concentration; **M**, medium concentration; **H**, high concentration; imatinib: 1  $\mu$ M, 5  $\mu$ M, 25  $\mu$ M, respectively; harpagoside: 4  $\mu$ M, 20  $\mu$ M, 100  $\mu$ M, respectively; methazolamide: 4  $\mu$ M, 20  $\mu$ M, 100  $\mu$ M, respectively. Error bars represent SEM, \*p < 0.05, \*\*p < 0.01 and \*\*\*p < 0.001; #p < 0.05, ##p < 0.01 and ###p < 0.001.

**Figure S4. Imatinib, Harpagoside and Methazolamide Directly Bind to and Activate ACE2, Related to Figure 4.**

**(A)** Alignment of human and mouse ACE2 protein. Conserved amino acid residues for two proteins were labeled with asterisk (\*), as unconserved amino acid residues were highlighted in red. **(B)** Murine AML12 cells were treated with 10 nM control siRNA (**Con**) and ACE2 siRNA (**siACE2**) for 24 h and subjected to real-time PCR (n = 6). **(C-E)** AML12 cells were treated with imatinib, harpagoside or methazolamide for 16 h and subjected to real-time PCR (n = 5). **L**, low concentration; **H**, high concentration; imatinib: 1  $\mu$ M, 25  $\mu$ M, respectively; harpagoside: 4  $\mu$ M, 100  $\mu$ M, respectively; methazolamide: 4  $\mu$ M, 100  $\mu$ M, respectively. Error bars represent SEM, \*p < 0.05, \*\*p < 0.01 and \*\*\*p < 0.001.

**Figure S5. Imatinib and Methazolamide Ameliorate Metabolic Defects in Insulin-resistant Mice via ACE2, Related to Figure 5.**

**(A-L)** Twenty-eight-week-old male mice with 23 weeks high-fat-diet treatment (**DIO**) and controlled lean mice (**Lean**) were treated with vehicle, 250 mg/kg of imatinib (**DIO + Ima**) or 100 mg/kg of methazolamide (**DIO + Met**) through gavage once each day for 4 weeks. At 32 weeks,



all mice were fasted for 6 h and sacrificed. Body weight (**A**), epididymal fat index (**B**), food intake (**C**) and water intake (**D**) were shown (n = 6). The significance of DIO versus Lean was shown as \*, DIO+Met versus DIO as #. \*#p < 0.05, \*\*\*#p < 0.01 and \*\*\*\*#p < 0.001. Plasma triglyceride (**TG**) (**E**), total cholesterol (**TC**) (**F**), alanine aminotransferase (**ALT**) (**G**) and aminotransferase (**AST**) (**H**) were shown. Livers were subjected to quantifications of TG (**I**) and TC (**J**) (n = 6) and immunoblotting of FoxO1 (**K**, blot shown on the left, quantification on the right; n = 6) and ACE2 (**L**, blot shown on the left, quantification on the right; n = 6). (**M-O**) For whole body knockdown of ACE2 (**ACE2 kd**), twenty-six-week-old male mice with 21 weeks high-fat-diet treatment (**DIO**) were treated with intravenous injection of AAV9-CAG-mACE2shRNA-EGFP or control virus. After two weeks recovery, all mice were given vehicle (**DIO** and **DIO + ACE2 kd**), 250 mg/kg of imatinib (**DIO + Ima** and **DIO + Ima + ACE2 kd**) or 100 mg/kg of methazolamide (**DIO + Met** and **DIO + Met + ACE2 kd**) through gavage once each day for 4 weeks. At 32 weeks, all mice were fasted for 6 h and sacrificed. Livers, kidneys and aortas were subjected to real-time PCR (**M**) (n = 3). Glucose tolerance testing (**GTT**) was performed at 30 weeks (**N**), and insulin tolerance testing (**ITT**) was performed at 31 weeks (**O**) (n = 6). The significance of Lean versus DIO was shown as \*, DIO versus DIO + Ima as #, DIO versus DIO + Met as \$, and DIO + Ima versus DIO + Ima + ACE2 kd as &. \*#&p < 0.05, \*\*\*#&&p < 0.01 and \*\*\*\*#&&&p < 0.001. (**P**) Kidneys from kidney conditional knockdown of ACE2 (**ACE2 C-kd**) with transparenchymal renal pelvis injection of AAV9-CAG-mACE2shRNA-EGFP or control virus were subjected to real-time PCR for knockdown efficiency analysis (n = 6). (**Q, R**) Twenty-eight-week-old male mice with 23 weeks high-fat-diet treatment were treated with vehicle (**DIO**), 250 mg/kg of imatinib (**DIO + Ima**) or 100 mg/kg of methazolamide (**DIO + Met**) through gavage once each day for 4 weeks. At 32 weeks, all mice were fasted for 6 h and sacrificed. Kidneys (**Q**) and aortas (**R**) were subjected to real-time PCR (n = 4-6). Error bars represent SEM. \*p < 0.05, \*\*p < 0.01 and \*\*\*p < 0.001.

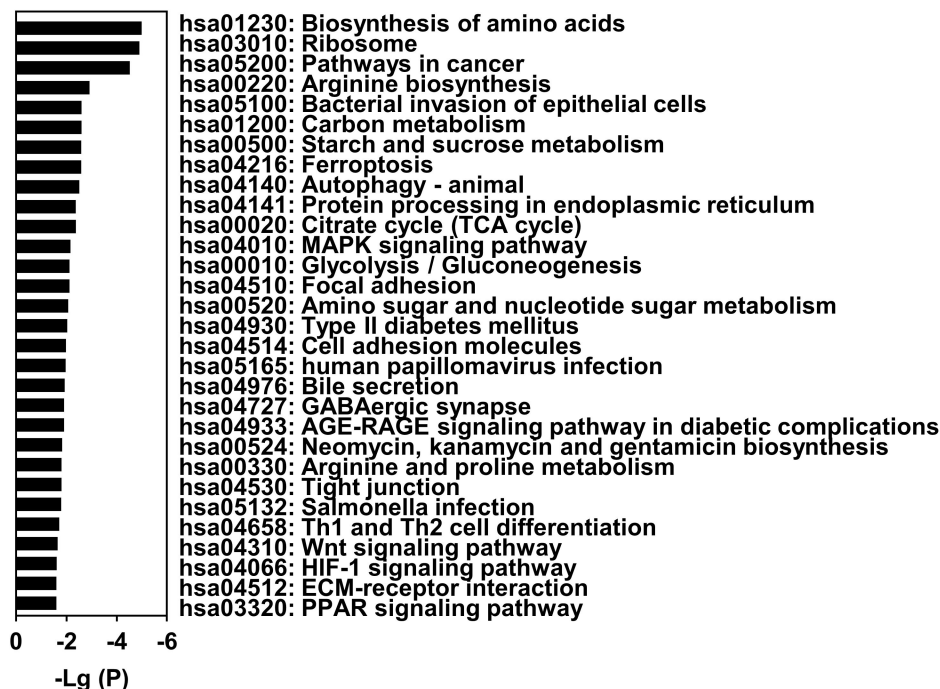
**Figure S6. ACE2 Enzymatic Activators Improve Metabolic Defects and Inhibit Virus Entry upon SARS-CoV-2 Infection, Related to Figure 6.**

(**A**) Twelve-week-old human ACE2 transgenic mice were treated with vehicle (**Mock** and **CoV-2**), 250 mg/kg imatinib (**CoV-2 + Ima**) or 100 mg/kg methazolamide (**CoV-2 + Met**) through gavage once each day for 4 weeks after 6 weeks high-fat-diet treatment and were intranasally challenged with  $4 \times 10^4$  FFU SARS-CoV-2. After 7 days post infection, all mice were fasted for 6 h and

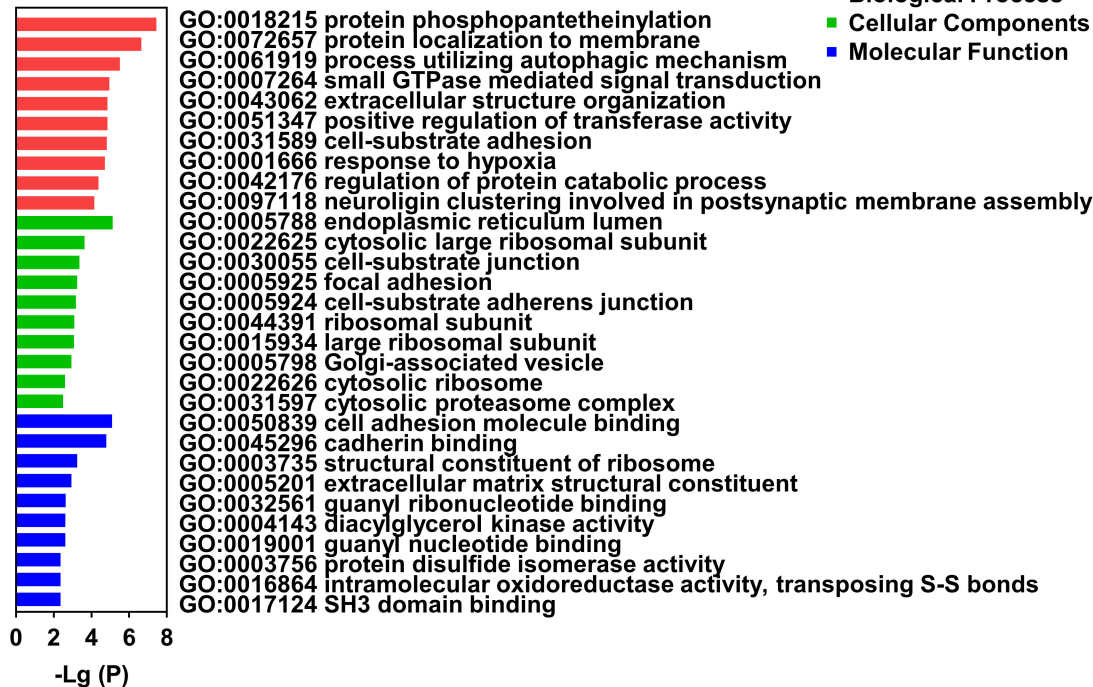
sacrificed. Lungs were subjected to immunohistochemistry stainings for viral nucleocapsid protein (NP). (B-C) Vero E6 cells were pre-treated with 25  $\mu$ M imatinib, 100  $\mu$ M harpagoside or 100  $\mu$ M methazolamide for 6 h, followed by SARS-CoV-2 (MOI = 0.005) infection for 42 h, and focus formation assay for the titer of active virus in the supernatant was performed (B). (C) Infected Vero E6 cells were further subjected to real-time PCR (n = 6). (D) HEK293T cells expressing hACE2 were pre-treated with 25  $\mu$ M imatinib, 100  $\mu$ M harpagoside or 100  $\mu$ M methazolamide for 6 h, followed by pseudovirions treatment for 66 h and were examined with lactate dehydrogenase (LDH) assay (n = 5). (E) The binding free energy of spike to ACE2 protein with or without imatinib or methazolamide was shown. (F, G) The structural conformations of spike and ACE2 protein before and after binding to imatinib (F, arrow) or methazolamide (G, arrow) were shown. Spike and ACE2 protein were labeled in gray before binding to the compounds, whereas spike protein in red, ACE2 in green (F) or blue (G) after binding. (H) meta-analysis of ACEi/ARB application and risk of severity and mortality in COVID-19 patients with hypertension were shown. CI, confidence interval. Error bars represent SEM. \*\*p < 0.01 and \*\*\*p < 0.001.

Supplementary Figure 1

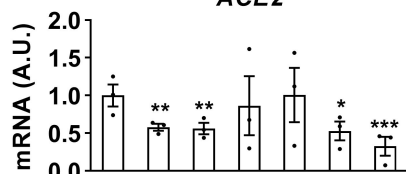
A KEGG Enrichment



B GO Enrichment

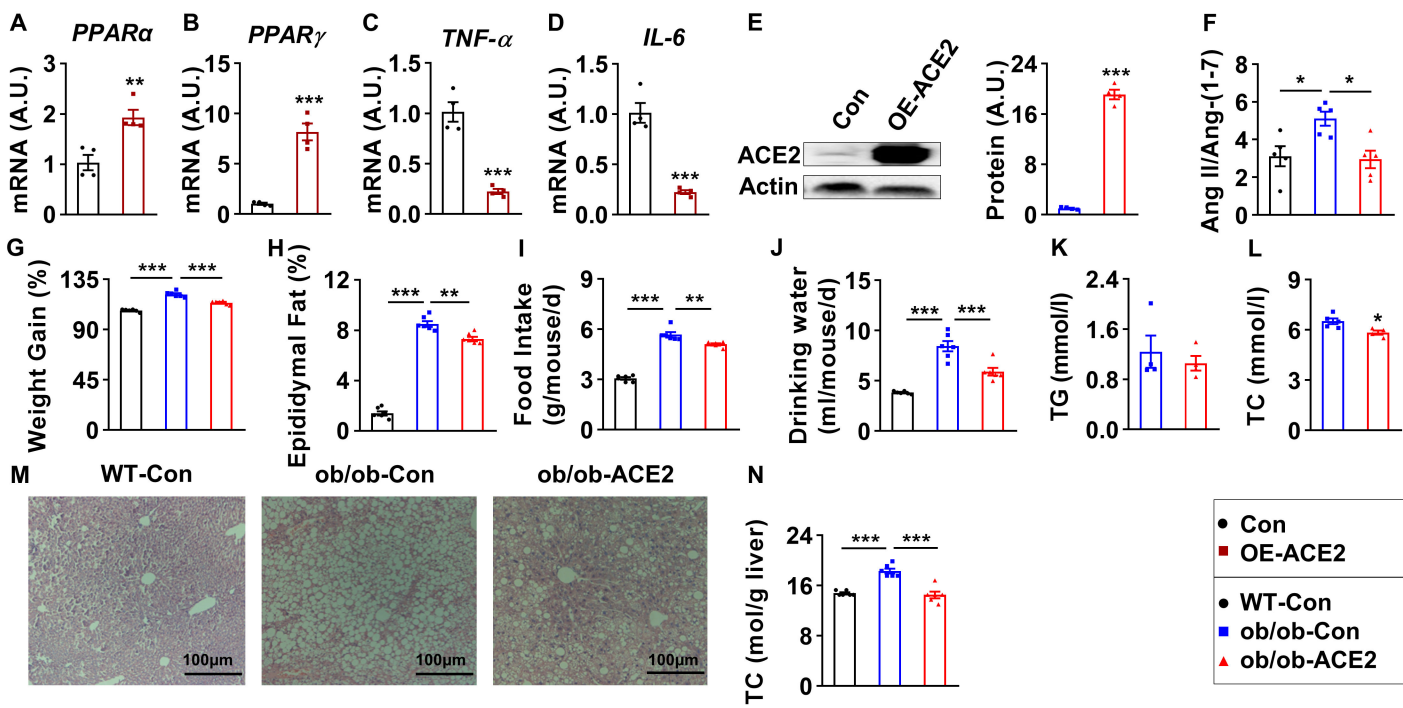


C ACE2

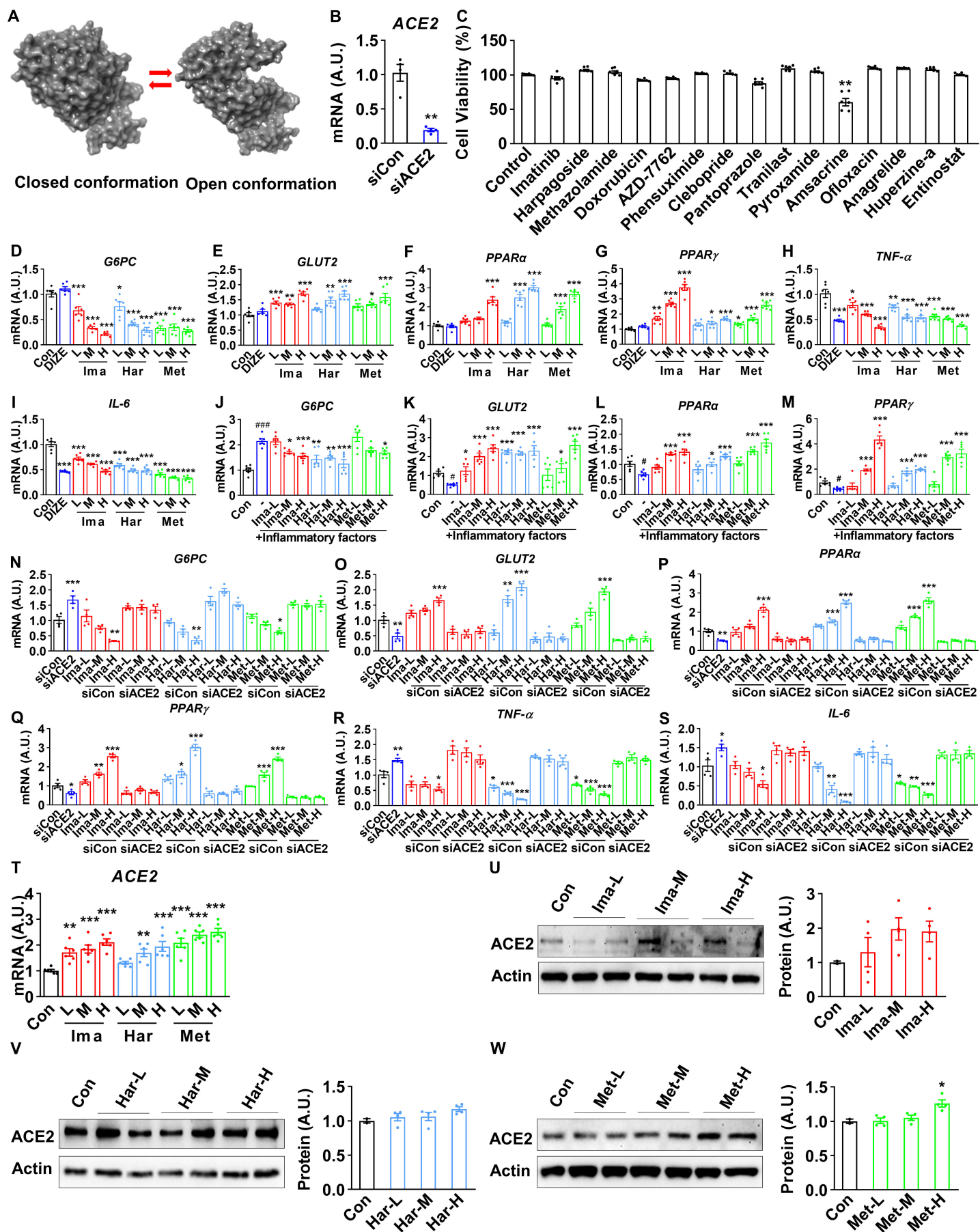


Treatment	50 ng/ml	50 ng/ml	50 ng/ml	50 ng/ml
TNF-α (ng/ml)	-	50	-	50
IL-4 (ng/ml)	-	-	50	50
IL-6 (ng/ml)	-	-	-	50
IFN-γ (ng/ml)	-	-	-	50

Supplementary Figure 2



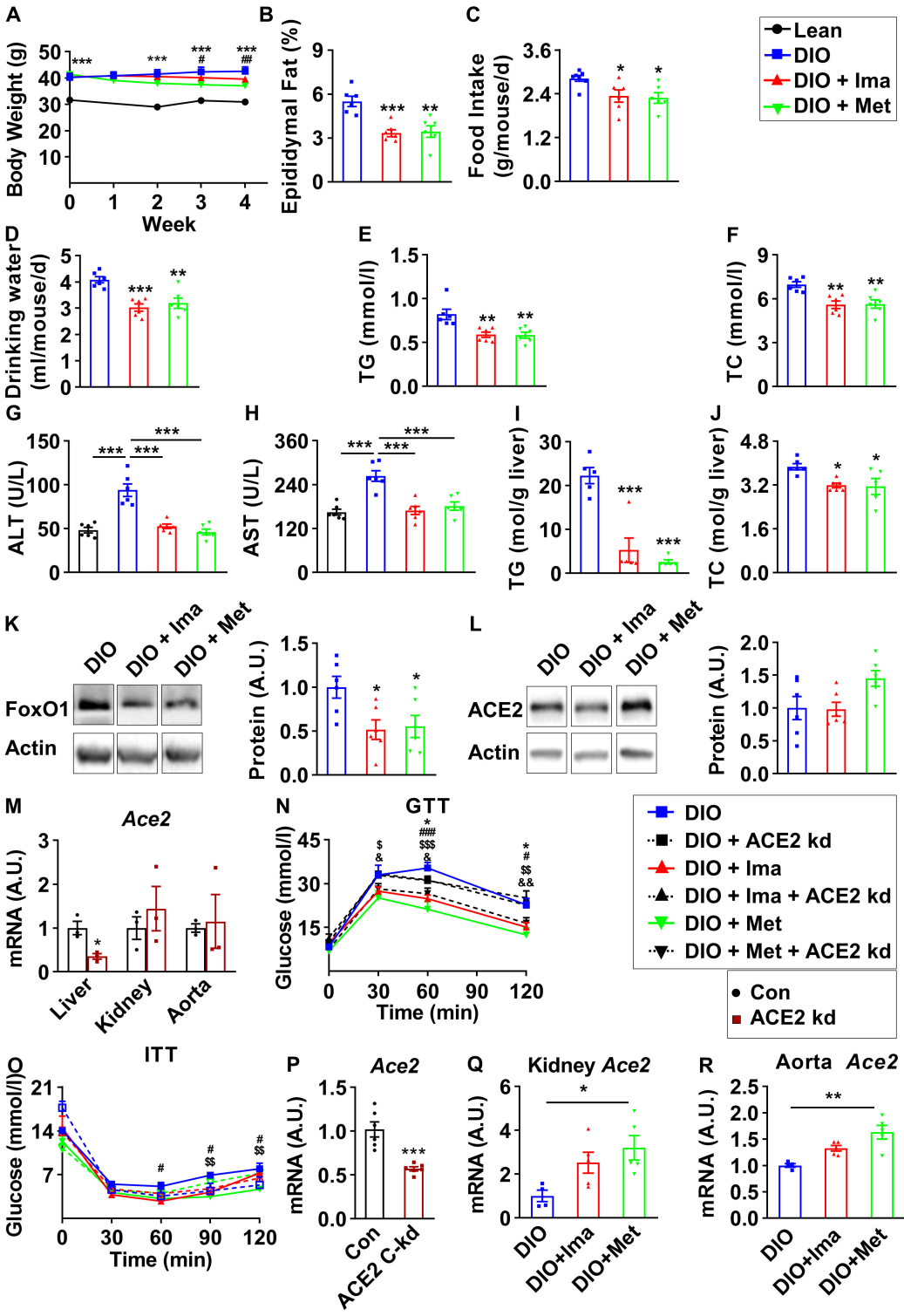
Supplementary Figure 3



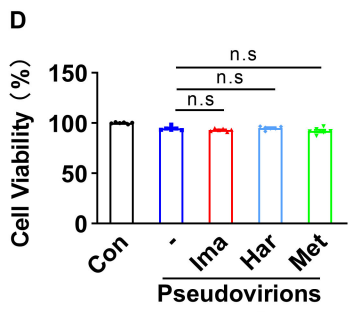
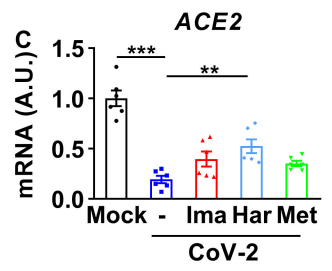
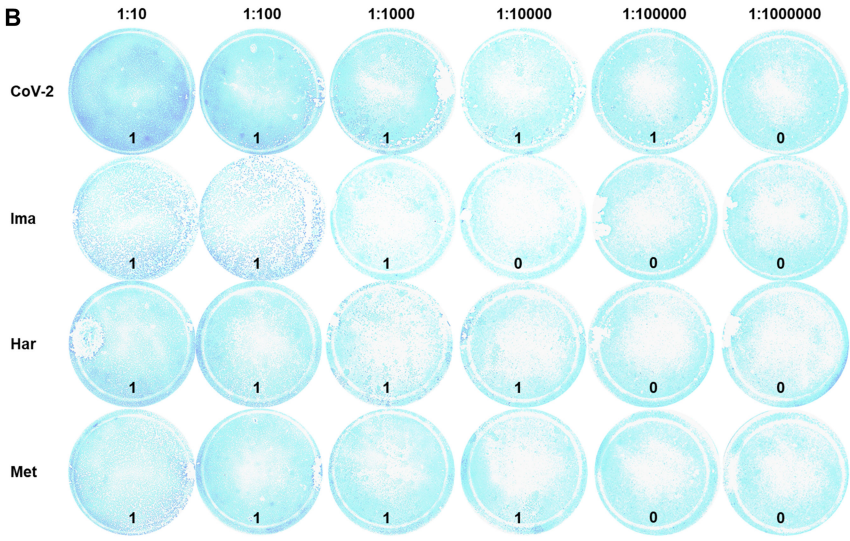
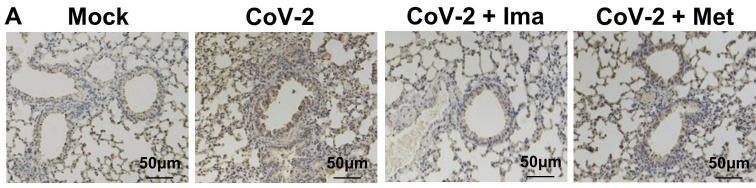




Supplementary Figure 5



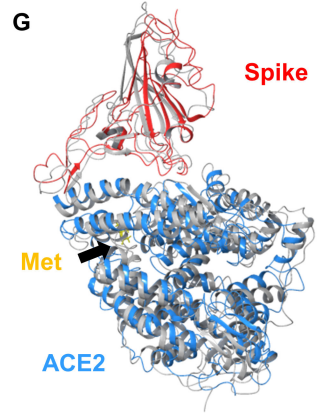
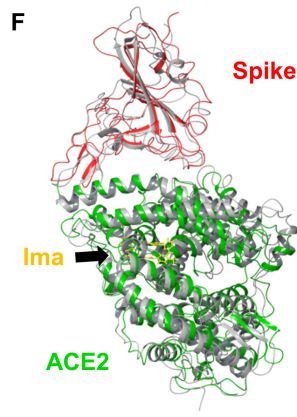
Supplementary Figure 6



**E**

**Molecular dynamics simulation**

System	Interaction Types	Binding free energy (kcal/mol)
Spike protein-ACE2 system	Spike protein to ACE2	-264.784 ± 28.139
Spike protein-ACE2-Drug system	Spike protein to ACE2 (Imatinib)	-249.744 ± 30.329
	Spike protein to ACE2 (Methazolamide)	-258.103 ± 29.533



**H**

Meta-analysis	ACEi/ARB group		Non-ACEi/ARB group		Heterogeneity		Odds Ratio 95% CI
	Total events	Total patients	Total events	Total patients	I <sup>2</sup>	P	
Severity	452	1501	673	2022	48%	0.69	0.95 [0.74, 1.22]
Mortality	2969	15483	2935	14089	70%	0.0003	0.74 [0.63, 0.87]



Table S4. Oligos used in this study, Related to STAR Methods.

<b>Oligo name</b>		<b>Sequence (5'-3')</b>	<b>Purpose</b>
Mouse <i>G6pc</i>	Forward	AGGTCGTGGCTGGAGTCTTGTC	qPCR
	Reverse	GTAGCAGGTAGAATCCAAGCGC	qPCR
Mouse <i>Glut2</i>	Forward	GTTGGAAGAGGAAGTCAGGGCA	qPCR
	Reverse	ATCACGGAGACCTTCTGCTCAG	qPCR
Mouse <i>Pgc1a</i>	Forward	TGCCTGCATGAGTGTGTGCT	qPCR
	Reverse	GGCTGGTCTCACCAACCAG	qPCR
Mouse <i>Ppara</i>	Forward	GAGTGCAGCCTCAGCCAAG	qPCR
	Reverse	TCCAGAGCTCTCCTCACCGA	qPCR
Mouse <i>Pparγ</i>	Forward	ACGCGGAAGAAGAGACCTGG	qPCR
	Reverse	TGCGAGTGGTCTTCCATCACG	qPCR
Mouse <i>Tnfa</i>	Forward	GGTGCCTATGTCTCAGCCTCTT	qPCR
	Reverse	GCCATAGAACTGATGAGAGGGAG	qPCR
Mouse <i>Il-1β</i>	Forward	TGGACCTTCCAGGATGAGGACA	qPCR
	Reverse	GTTTCATCTCGGAGCCTGTAGTG	qPCR
Mouse <i>Il-6</i>	Forward	TACCACTTCAACAAGTCGGAGGC	qPCR
	Reverse	CTGCAAGTGCATCATCGTTGTTC	qPCR
Mouse <i>Pck1</i>	Forward	GGCGATGACATTGCCTGGATGA	qPCR
	Reverse	TGTCTTCACTGAGGTGCCAGGA	qPCR
Mouse <i>Gyl1</i>	Forward	CCAGAGTTTCTGAACCTGTGGTG	qPCR
	Reverse	CCAAAGGACAGGTCTGACAAGG	qPCR
Mouse <i>Sglt1</i>	Forward	ATGCTACACACCGAGGGCTG	qPCR
	Reverse	TTCTTGGCCGAGAGGCATCG	qPCR
Mouse <i>Dgat2</i>	Forward	CTGTGCTCTACTTCACCTGGCT	qPCR
	Reverse	CTGGATGGGAAAGTAGTCTCGG	qPCR
Mouse <i>Fasn</i>	Forward	CACAGTGTCTCAAAGGACATGCC	qPCR
	Reverse	CACCAGGTGTAGTGCCTTCCTC	qPCR
Mouse <i>Col3a1</i>	Forward	GACCAAAAGGTGATGCTGGACAG	qPCR
	Reverse	CAAGACCTCGTGCTCCAGTTAG	qPCR
Mouse <i>Gpt1</i>	Forward	CCACTCAGTCTCTAAGGGCTAC	qPCR
	Reverse	ACACAACCGCACGTCATCAGT	qPCR
Mouse <i>Srebp1</i>	Forward	CGACTACATCCGCTTCTTGCAG	qPCR
	Reverse	CCTCCATAGACACATCTGTGCC	qPCR
Mouse <i>Vim</i>	Forward	CGGAAAGTGGAATCCTTGCAGG	qPCR
	Reverse	AGCAGTGAGGTCAGGCTTGGAA	qPCR
Mouse <i>Cd36</i>	Forward	GGACATTGAGATTCTTTTCCTCTG	qPCR
	Reverse	GCAAAGGCATTGGCTGGAAGAAC	qPCR
Mouse <i>Mcp1</i>	Forward	GCTACAAGAGGATCACCAGCAG	qPCR
	Reverse	GTCTGGACCCATTCTTCTTGG	qPCR
Mouse <i>Msr1</i>	Forward	CGCAGTTCAATGACAGCATCC	qPCR
	Reverse	GCAAACACAAGGAGGTAGAGAGC	qPCR
Mouse <i>Lox1</i>	Forward	GTCATCTCTGCCTGGTGTGT	qPCR
	Reverse	TGCCTTCTGCTGGGCTAACATC	qPCR
Mouse <i>Mmp2</i>	Forward	CAAGGATGGACTCCTGGCACAT	qPCR
	Reverse	TACTCGCCATCAGCGTTCCCAT	qPCR
Mouse <i>Srb1</i>	Forward	ACACCCGAATCCTCGCTGGAAT	qPCR
	Reverse	CCGTTGGCAAACAGAGTATCGG	qPCR
Mouse <i>Ace2</i>	Forward	CACCTTGGGAATGAGGACACGG	qPCR
	Reverse	TTTCCCGTGCGCCAAGAT	qPCR
Mouse <i>Gapdh</i>	Forward	CATCACTGCCACCCAGAAGACTG	qPCR
	Reverse	ATGCCAGTGAGCTTCCCGTTTCA	qPCR
Human <i>G6PC</i>	Forward	AGGTCGTGGCTGGAGTCTTGTC	qPCR
	Reverse	GTAGCAGGTAGAATCCAAGCGC	qPCR
Human <i>GLUT2</i>	Forward	TGCCACACTCACACAAGACCTG	qPCR
	Reverse	TGGAAGGAACCCAGCACAGC	qPCR
Human <i>PGC1α</i>	Forward	ATTGGAGCCCCATGGATGAAGG	qPCR
	Reverse	ATTCGCCAGCGGCTGTFACT	qPCR
Human <i>PPARα</i>	Forward	AGCTGTCAACCACAGTAGCTTG	qPCR
	Reverse	ATGACCGAGCCATCTGAGCC	qPCR
Human <i>PPARγ</i>	Forward	AGCCTGCATTTCTGCATTCTGC	qPCR
	Reverse	CCACGGAGCTGATCCCAAAGT	qPCR
Human <i>TNFα</i>	Forward	GAGGCGCTCCCCAAGAAGAC	qPCR
	Reverse	CAGGCTTGTCACTCGGGGTT	qPCR
Human <i>IL-1β</i>	Forward	TCGAGGCACAAGGCACAACA	qPCR
	Reverse	TCACTGGCGAGCTCAGGTACT	qPCR
Human <i>IL-6</i>	Forward	GCAAGGCTCTGGTTTCAGCCT	qPCR
	Reverse	TCGCTCCCTCTCCCTGTAAGT	qPCR
Human <i>IL-10</i>	Forward	TGCAAAACCAAACCACAAGACAG	qPCR

Human <i>ICAM-1</i>	Reverse	TTCACTCTGCTGAAGGCATCTCG	qPCR
	Forward	TGCCCTGATGGGCAGTCAAC	qPCR
Human <i>VCAM-1</i>	Reverse	TCTCTCCTCACCAGCACCGT	qPCR
	Forward	TGGTCGTGATCCTTGGAGCC	qPCR
Human <i>MMP9</i>	Reverse	GATGTGGTCCCCTCATTCTGT	qPCR
	Forward	TGTGCCTTTGAGTCCGGTGG	qPCR
Human <i>ACE2</i>	Reverse	AAGACCGAGTCCAGCTTGCG	qPCR
	Forward	TGAGGACACTGAGCTCGCTT	qPCR
Human <i>GAPDH</i>	Reverse	TTGAACTGGGGTTGGGCGCT	qPCR
	Forward	GCCATGTTGCAACCGGGAAG	qPCR
SARS-CoV-2 <i>Spike</i>	Reverse	TAGCCTCGCTCCACCTGACT	qPCR
	Forward	TCCTGGTGATTCTTCTTCAGGT	qPCR
pcDNA3.1-Flag-GFP -ACE2(human)	Reverse	TCTGAGAGAGGGTCAAGTGC	qPCR
	Forward	CTTGGTACCGAGCTCGGATCC	Cloning
siACE2(human)	Reverse	GCCACCATGTCAAGCTCTTCCTGGCT	Cloning
	Reverse	GAAAGGGCCCTCTAGACTCGA	
siACE2(mouse)		GAAAGGAGGTCTGAACATCATCAGTG	siRNA
shACE2(mouse)		GAAGACCTGTTCTATCAAA	siRNA
		GAGATAAACTTCTAACTGAAA	siRNA
		CCGATCATCAAGCGTCAAC	shRNA
		TACTCGAGTAGTTGACGCTT	
		GATGATCGGTTTTT	

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