



## Supporting Information

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Medical Gas Therapy for Tissue, Organ, and CNS Protection: A Systematic Review of Effects, Mechanisms, and Challenges

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## Supporting Information

### Table S1

Summary of Articles Exhibiting Adverse Effects or No Discernible Therapeutic Benefits of Medical Gases

Author/Year	Gas	Model	Findings
Lopez, I. 2003 <sup>[1]</sup>	CO	In vivo: 8-day old rat pups	Mild chronic CO exposure hindered cochlea development.
Cheng, Y. 2012 <sup>[2]</sup>	CO	In vivo: 10-day old CD-1 mouse pups	Three-hour exposure to 5 ppm or 100 ppm CO mitigated developmental apoptosis in neocortex and hippocampus, increasing neuronal numbers to trigger megalencephaly with impaired memory, learning, and socialization.
Cheung, N. S. 2007 <sup>[3]</sup>	H <sub>2</sub> S	In vitro: murine primary cortical neurons	H <sub>2</sub> S induced neuronal death and apoptosis through activating ionotropic glutamate receptors.
Kim, D. S. 2020 <sup>[4]</sup>	H <sub>2</sub> S	In vivo: mouse after acute exposure to H <sub>2</sub> S	H <sub>2</sub> S caused lesions in the inferior colliculus (IC) and thalamus (TH) via modulation of multiple biological pathways including unfolded protein response, neurotransmitters, oxidative stress, hypoxia, calcium signaling, and inflammatory response in the IC and TH.
Matchett, G. A. 2009 <sup>[5]</sup>	H <sub>2</sub>	In vivo: neonatal hypoxia-ischemia rat model	H <sub>2</sub> (2.9%) did not ameliorate neural damage of moderate to severe neonatal hypoxia-ischemia insults.
Takeuchi, S. 2016 <sup>[6]</sup>	H <sub>2</sub>	In vivo: intracerebral hemorrhage rat model	H <sub>2</sub> did not attenuate brain water content or improve functional outcome.
Badr, A. E. 2001 <sup>[7]</sup>	O <sub>2</sub>	In vivo: MCAO rat model	HBO therapy for ≥12 h significantly exacerbated the cerebral infarct area.
Veltkamp, R. 2006 <sup>[8]</sup>	O <sub>2</sub>	In vivo: rat transient and permanent MCAO model	O <sub>2</sub> was not effective in reducing neural lesion after permanent MCAO.
Hjelde, A. 2002 <sup>[9]</sup>	O <sub>2</sub>	In vivo: rat permanent MCAO model	HBO did not reduce neutrophil infiltration into the infarct brain tissue and did not mitigate tissue damage in rats after 4h of permanent focal ischemia, relative to control treatment.
David, H. N. 2012 <sup>[10]</sup>	Ag	Ex vivo: OGD injury in brain slices In vivo: MCAO rat model	Post-ischemic argon exposure worsened MCAO-caused subcortical brain damage and did not improve neurologic outcome, compared to control animals.
Harris, K. 2013 <sup>[11]</sup>	He	Ex vivo: mechanical trauma in the organotypic hippocampal brain slices	Helium, neon, and krypton did not result in neuroprotection.
Aehling, C. 2018 <sup>[12]</sup>	He	In vivo: rat cardiac resuscitation model	The combined helium pre/post-conditioning did not benefit neurofunctional outcome.
Rizvi, M. 2010 <sup>[13]</sup>	Ag & He	In vitro: OGD injury in human tubular kidney cells	Neon, argon, and krypton did not protect cells from OGD. Helium worsened cell injury.
Brosnan, H. 2013 <sup>[14]</sup>	Xe	Ex vivo: organotypic hippocampal cultures	Xenon causes neuronal cell death in an in vitro model of the developing rodent brain.

**Abbreviations:** HBO, hyperbaric oxygen therapy; MCAO, middle cerebral artery occlusion; OGD, oxygen glucose deprivation.

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**Table S2**

Analysis of Experimental Models and Medical Gas Dosages in Studies Exhibited in Table 2

<b>Gases</b>	<b>Therapeutic Agents</b>	<b>Study Subjects/Materials</b>	<b>Injury/Lesion Types</b>	<b>Safe and/or Effective Dosage</b>	<b>Toxic Dosage</b>
CO	<i>Biological Gases</i> <u>In vitro</u> : CORM-2 <u>In vivo</u> : CO Gas, CORM-ALF-186, CORM-2, CORM-3, and Methylene Chloride	<u>In vitro</u> : Human Umbilical Cord Vein Endothelial Cells, Primary Human Brain Astrocytes, and Human Brain Microvascular Endothelial Cells <u>In vivo</u> : Male Wistar rats, Male/Female Sprague Dawley rats, and Male C57BL/6 mice	<u>In vitro</u> : Excitotoxicity, oxidative stress, hypoxia, and OGD <u>In vivo</u> : Retinal, kidney or cardiac I/R injury, optical nerve crush, MCAO, cerebral hypoxia-ischemia, neurotrauma, myocardial infarction, heat shock-induced lung injury, acetaminophen-triggered liver lesion, and hepatectomy	<b>CO gas</b> : 250 ppm CO gas inhalation for 1 h post-injury <sup>[6]</sup> <b>CORM-2</b> : 5-20 μM RuCO added to culture media for 2-6 h <sup>[1a]</sup> , 100 μM CORM-2 added to culture media for 8 h <sup>[2a]</sup> , 5-100 μM CORM-2 added to culture media for 2-12 h <sup>[4]</sup> , 30 mg/kg i.p. CORM-2 pretreatment for 2 h pre-injury <sup>[5b]</sup> , and 0.1/1.0/10 mg/kg i.v. SMA/CORM-2 injected 24 h pre-BLM injections for 33 d <sup>[5c]</sup> <b>CORM-3</b> : 4 mg/kg or 8 mg/kg dissolved in distilled water, i.v., CORM-3 injected post-injury <sup>[1b]</sup> 4 mg/kg body weight dissolved in saline, i.p. CORM-3 injected 1 h post-injury <sup>[6]</sup> <b>CORM ALF-186</b> : 10 mg/kg body weight i.v. dissolved in water injected 0-3 h post-injury <sup>[5a]</sup> <b>Methylene Chloride</b> : 500 mg/kg p.o. 3 h pre-injury <sup>[3]</sup>	All medical gas dosages were well tolerated and safe in the experimental models investigated (see <i>Left Columns</i> ). For the purposes of the cited studies ( <b>Table 2</b> ), no toxic doses (gases in further higher concentrations) were evaluated
H <sub>2</sub> S	<u>In vitro</u> : NaHS, and Diallyl Trisulfide (DATS) <u>In vivo</u> : NaHS, Na <sub>2</sub> S, H <sub>2</sub> S Donor (NaGYY), and H <sub>2</sub> S Donor (PTA-NO-NPs)	<u>In vitro</u> : Primary Astrocytes (from cerebral cortices of Sprague-Dawley rats), and Human Umbilical Cord Vein Endothelial Cells <u>In vivo</u> : Male APP/PS1 (APP <sup>sw</sup> e PS1dE9) transgenic mice, Male Wistar rats, Male C57BL/6J mice, B6.129P2-Nos3tm1Unc/J (eNOS-knockout) mice, 3xTg-AD mice, and Male Sprague-Dawley rats	<u>In vitro</u> : Excitotoxicity, cytotoxicity, and hypoxia/reoxygenation <u>In vivo</u> : TBI, PD, chronic restraint stress, brain toxicity, SAH, intracranial hemorrhage, MCAO, vascular dementia, AD model, spinal cord lesion, retinal, liver, or cardiac I/R, ischemia, cardiac arrest, heart failure, and hypertension	<b>NaHS</b> : 50 μmol/kg, i.p. NaHS once daily for 4 weeks post-injury <sup>[7a]</sup> , 5.6 mg/kg, i.p. NaHS once daily for 3 weeks post-injury <sup>[7b]</sup> , 50 μmol/kg, i.p. NaHS pre-surgery/once daily for 5 d post-surgery <sup>[9b]</sup> , 3 mg/kg NaHS i.p. 5 min post-surgery <sup>[11a]</sup> , 50 and 100 μmol/kg intracerebral injection NaHS daily for 8 weeks post-injury <sup>[11b]</sup> , 200–800 μM NaHS added to culture media 1 h pre-injury <sup>[12a]</sup> , and 56 μmol/kg i.p. NaHS 30 min pre-closure of surgical incision <sup>[12b]</sup> <b>Diallyl Trisulfide (DATS)</b> : 200 μg/kg retro-orbital injection, DATS once during study <sup>[9a]</sup> <b>Na<sub>2</sub>S</b> : 0.5-1.0 mg/kg retro-orbital injection, Na <sub>2</sub> S twice daily <sup>[8a]</sup> , and 6-12 mg/kg, i.p. Na <sub>2</sub> S once daily 6 d pre-injury <sup>[10b]</sup> <b>H<sub>2</sub>S donor (NaGYY)</b> : 100 mg/kg, i.p. NaGYY once daily for 12 weeks post-injury <sup>[8b]</sup> <b>H<sub>2</sub>S donor (PTA-NO-NPs)</b> : 0.5-1 mg/mL PTA-NO-NPs added to culture media <sup>[13b]</sup>	Same as above
NO	<u>In vitro</u> : NO donors: SNAP, Spermine NONOate, PTA-NO-NPs, and NOC-18 <u>In vivo</u> : NO Donor (NaNO <sub>2</sub> ), NO Gas, and NO Synthesis Stimulator (L-arginine)	<u>In vitro</u> : Human Epidermal Stem Cells, Human Umbilical Cord Vein Endothelial Cells, and Human Embryonic Kidney 293 cells <u>In vivo</u> : Male Sprague-Dawley rats, Neonatal Sprague-Dawley rats, Infant Yorkshire piglets, and Male Wistar rats	<u>In vitro</u> : Excitotoxicity, OGD, endothelial oxidative stress, mechanical nerve injury, and angiogenesis <u>In vivo</u> : Excitotoxicity, DHCA, cerebral malaria, acute kidney injury, skin burn, liver, and lung transplant or I/R	<b>NO donors (SNAP, spermine NONOate)</b> : 100 μM SNAP/10 μM spermine NONOate added to culture media for 48 h post-injury <sup>[13a]</sup> <b>NO donor (PTA-NO-NPs)</b> : 0.05-1 mg/mL PTA-NO-NPs added to culture media <sup>[13b]</sup> <b>NO donor (NaNO<sub>2</sub>)</b> : 4 μmol, i.v. NaNO <sub>2</sub> 5 min post-injury <sup>[14]</sup> <b>NO donor (NOC-18)</b> : 300 μM bath perfusion Noc-18 added to culture media <sup>[15]</sup> <b>NO gas</b> : 5-20 ppm inhalation NO and <1 ppm NO <sub>2</sub> for 7 d <sup>[16a]</sup> , and 20 ppm inhalation NO for 3 h post-injury <sup>[16b]</sup> <b>NO stimulator (L-arginine)</b> : 50 mg/kg L-arginine i.v. in the anhepatic phase <sup>[17]</sup>	<b>NO donors (SNAP/spermine NONOate)</b> : 5000 μM SNAP/100 μM NONOate for 48 h post-injury <b>NO donor (PTA-NO-NPs)</b> : ≥1 mg/mL added to culture media

H <sub>2</sub>	<u>In vitro</u> : H <sub>2</sub> Gas <u>In vivo</u> : H <sub>2</sub> Gas, and Hydrogen-rich Saline	<u>In vitro</u> : Primary Hepatocytes (from Male C57BL/6 (B6) mice), and Hippocampal neurons (from newborn Sprague-Dawley rats) <u>In vivo</u> : Pregnant ICR (CD-1) mice, Male C57BL/6 (B6) mice, Male Sprague-Dawley, and Neonatal BALB/c mice	<u>In vitro</u> : OGD/reoxygenation, oxidative stress, and hypoxia and/or reoxygenation <u>In vivo</u> : Spinal cord, cardiac, hepatic, retinal and cerebral I/R, cardiac arrest, birth asphyxia, MCAO, SAH, SCI, toxicity, and STZ-induced diabetes	<b>Hydrogen-rich saline</b> : 0.4 mM hydrogen-rich water 200 ml/kg/d x 14 <sup>[18a]</sup> , 1 mL 7 ppm hydrogen-rich saline spread on directly on liver pre-injury <sup>[18b]</sup> , 0.16 mol/kg, i.p. hydrogen-rich saline post-surgery <sup>[20a]</sup> , 3 μmol/kg, i.p. hydrogen-rich saline daily 5 d pre-surgery <sup>[20b]</sup> , and 5 ml/kg, i.p. hydrogen saline 3 d post-injury <sup>[22]</sup> <b>H<sub>2</sub> gas</b> : 21% O <sub>2</sub> , 5% CO <sub>2</sub> , 3.8% H <sub>2</sub> , and N <sub>2</sub> gas mixture added to culture media for 10 h <sup>[18b]</sup> , 67% H <sub>2</sub> -33% O <sub>2</sub> mixed gas (1 h inhalation/d x 1, 3 or 7) <sup>[19a, 19b]</sup> , 2% H <sub>2</sub> gas inhalation for 1-2 h post-injury <sup>[20c]</sup> , 1-3% H <sub>2</sub> gas inhalation 10 min pre-injury and 130 min post-injury <sup>[20d]</sup> , and 60% H <sub>2</sub> , 10% O <sub>2</sub> , 5% CO <sub>2</sub> , and 25% N <sub>2</sub> gas mixture inhalation for 24 h post-injury <sup>[21]</sup>	All medical gas dosages were well tolerated and safe in the experimental models investigated (see <i>Left Columns</i> ). For the purposes of the cited studies ( <b>Table 2</b> ), no toxic doses (gases in further higher concentrations) were evaluated
O <sub>2</sub>	<u>In vitro</u> : Hyperbaric O <sub>2</sub> <u>In vivo</u> : Hyperbaric O <sub>2</sub>	<u>In vitro</u> : Human Umbilical Cord Vein Endothelial Cells, and Spinal cord neurons (from embryonic Sprague-Dawley rats) <u>In vivo</u> : Male Sprague-Dawley rats, C57B and SV129 mice, and Male Wistar rats	<u>In vitro</u> : Osteoarthritic chondrocytes, dermal fibroblasts, and muscle progenitor cells <u>In vivo</u> : Nerve injury, SCI, AD model, MCAO, TBI, cerebral I/R, hepatectomy, muscle injury, ischemic, and tumor model	<b>Hyperbaric O<sub>2</sub></b> : 2.5 atmospheres 100% O <sub>2</sub> inhalation (1 h/d x 5 post-surgery) <sup>[23a]</sup> , 2 atmospheres 95% O <sub>2</sub> inhalation (1 h/b.i.d. in first 3 d and q.d. x 11 d post-surgery) <sup>[23b]</sup> , 1-2.5 atmospheres 98% O <sub>2</sub> added to culture media for 2-8 h <sup>[23c]</sup> , 280 kPa HBO added to culture media for 60 min <sup>[24]</sup> , 2.0 atmospheres 100% O <sub>2</sub> 1 h inhalation x 4/d pre-injury <sup>[25]</sup> , and 2.5 atmospheres 100% O <sub>2</sub> inhalation (2 h/d x 5 post-injury) <sup>[26]</sup>	Same as above
O <sub>3</sub>	<u>In vitro</u> : None <u>In vivo</u> : Ozone Gas, and Ozone Oil	<u>In vitro</u> : None <u>In vivo</u> : C57B/L6 mice, and Male Sprague-Dawley rats	<u>In vitro</u> : Endothelial cells <u>In vivo</u> : Pam3CYS inflammatory induction in the lungs, streptozotocin-induced diabetic model, and skin wound model	<b>Ozone gas</b> : 2 ppm ozone for 3 h pre-injury <sup>[27]</sup> , 50 μg/ml ozone (q.d. x 15 post-injury) <sup>[28]</sup> <b>Ozone oil</b> : 400 μl ozone oil applied once every 2 d x 12 post-lesion <sup>[29]</sup>	Same as above
<b>Noble Gases</b>					
Xenon (Xe)	<u>In vitro</u> : Xe Gas <u>In vivo</u> : Xe Gas, Xe-ELIP	<u>In vitro</u> : Mixed cortical glial-neuronal cocultures (from BALB/c mice), Midbrain cultures (from embryos of female Wistar rats), and hearts (from Male New Zealand rabbits) <u>In vivo</u> : Sprague-Dawley rats, Male Wistar rats, and C57BL/6J mice	<u>In vitro</u> : OGD, hypoxia, excitotoxicity, and mechanical trauma <u>In vivo</u> : TBI, I/R of spinal cord, MCAO, neonatal hypoxic-ischemic injury, and cardiac I/R	<b>Xe gas</b> : 12.5-70% Xe gas inhalation for 90 min post-injury <sup>[30a]</sup> , 12.5-70% Xe gas added to culture media <sup>[30a]</sup> , 70-75% Xe gas for 1 h post-injury <sup>[30b]</sup> , 75% Xe gas applied to culture media for 3 d <sup>[31]</sup> , 70% Xe gas inhalation for 3 h pre-injury <sup>[33]</sup> , and 75% Xenon gas for 1 h pre-injury <sup>[34]</sup> <b>Xe-ELIP</b> : 7-14 mg/kg (in 200 μL; i.a./intra-common carotid artery) of Xe-ELIP administered at 2, 3, or 5 h post-injury <sup>[32]</sup>	Same as above
Argon (Ar)	<u>In vitro</u> : Ar Gas <u>In vivo</u> : Ar Gas	<u>In vitro</u> : Human Neuroblastoma Cells, and Human Cardiac Myocyte-like Progenitor Cells <u>In vivo</u> : Sprague-Dawley rats, and Male New Zealand rabbits	<u>In vitro</u> : Rotenone-induced apoptosis, LPS induction of microglia, OGD, OGD-reperfusion. <u>In vivo</u> : MCAO, retinal I/R, kidneys, transplant, and multiorgan failure	<b>Ar gas</b> : 25-75% Ar gas inhalation for 2-4 hours post-injury <sup>[35a]</sup> , 75% Ar gas inhalation for 60 min post-injury <sup>[35b]</sup> , 75% Ar gas added to culture media for 2 h post-injury <sup>[35]</sup> , 30-50% Ar gas added to culture media for 90 min pre-injury <sup>[36]</sup> , 70% Ar gas inhalation 30 min pre-injury to 300 min post-injury <sup>[37a]</sup> , and 2.06-2.14 MPa Ar gas <sup>[37b]</sup>	Same as above
Helium	<u>In vitro</u> : None	<u>In vitro</u> : None	<u>In vivo</u> : Brain hypoxic-	<b>He gas</b> : 70% He gas inhalation for 5 min x 3 periods pre-	Same as above

(He)	<u>In vivo</u> : He Gas	<u>In vivo</u> : Rat pups (7 d/o), Male Wistar rats, C57BL/6J mice, Male and New Zealand white rabbits	ischemic injury, cardiac arrest, and cardiac I/R	injury <sup>[38]</sup> , 70% He gas inhalation for 5, 15, or 30 min post-injury <sup>[39]</sup> , 70% He gas inhalation for 30 min pre-injury <sup>[40]</sup> , and 70% He gas inhalation for 5 min x 1, 3, or 5 times post-injury <sup>[41]</sup>
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**Table S2:** (1) Abbreviations and reference citations (same as **Table 2**) in Section S3. (2) For citation numbers representing more than one references, citation of the number only (e.g., [20] versus [20a] or [20d]) indicated that all references under that number (e.g., all 4 papers under [20]) were included.

### Table S3

Analysis of Statistical Methods Used in All Medical Gas Studies Exhibited in Table 2

Gases	Data Presentation	Model and Sample Size	Power Analysis	Statistical Test	Post-hoc Analysis	Significance Level	Statistical Software
<b>Biological Gases</b>							
<b>CO</b>	Mean ± SD <sup>[1, 2, 4, 5a, 6]</sup>	<b>In vitro:</b> n = 3 <sup>[1a]</sup> n = 3-4 <sup>[2]</sup> n = 4 <sup>[5b &amp; c]</sup> n = 3-6 <sup>[4]</sup> n = 5-6 <sup>[6]</sup> n = 7 <sup>[5c]</sup> n = 6-8 <sup>[5b]</sup> <b>In vivo:</b> n = 3-7 <sup>[6]</sup> n = 6 <sup>[1b]</sup> n = 8 <sup>[5a]</sup> n = 5-10 <sup>[3]</sup> n = 10-13 <sup>[6]</sup> n = 9-15 <sup>[6]</sup>	1 <sup>[6]</sup> /8 (12.5%)* *Percentage of studies that conducted power analysis	One way ANOVA <sup>[1-3, 5, 6]</sup> Two way ANOVA <sup>[6]</sup> Kruskal-Wallis test <sup>[3, 5a]</sup> Student's <i>t</i> -test <sup>[4, 5c]</sup>	Bonferroni test <sup>[1a]</sup> Scheffé test <sup>[1a]</sup> Tukey's test <sup>[1b-3, 6]</sup> Mann-Whitney U test <sup>[3]</sup> Holm-Sidak test <sup>[5a, 6]</sup> Fisher's exact test <sup>[5b]</sup> Newman-Keuls test <sup>[5c]</sup> Paired <i>t</i> -test <sup>[6]</sup>	<i>p</i> -value ( <i>p</i> < 0.005-0.05) <sup>[1-6]</sup> <i>α</i> -value ( <i>α</i> = 0.05) <sup>[6]</sup> <i>β</i> -value ( <i>β</i> = 0.2) <sup>[6]</sup>	GraphPad Prism 6 (GraphPad Software, San Diego, CA, USA) <sup>[2, 6]</sup> GraphPad Prism 8 (GraphPad Software, San Diego, CA, USA) <sup>[1b]</sup> SigmaPlot 11.0 (Systat Software Inc., San Jose, CA, USA) <sup>[5a]</sup> SPSS 22.0 (IBM, Armonk, NY, USA) <sup>[5c]</sup>
	Mean ± SEM <sup>[3, 5b &amp; c]</sup>						
<b>H<sub>2</sub>S</b>	Mean ± SD <sup>[12a]</sup>	<b>In vitro:</b> n = 3 <sup>[12a]</sup> n = 3-4 <sup>[8b]</sup> n = 4 <sup>[7b, 9a]</sup> n = 4-5 <sup>[9b]</sup> n = 7 <sup>[9b]</sup> n = 12 <sup>[12b]</sup> <b>In vivo:</b> n = 4-12 <sup>[8a]</sup> n = 5 <sup>[7a]</sup> n = 6 <sup>[7b, 8b, 10-11b]</sup> n = 8 <sup>[10b]</sup> n = 12 <sup>[11b]</sup> n = 18 <sup>[10a]</sup>	0/12 (0%)	One way ANOVA <sup>[7, 8b-12a]</sup> Two way ANOVA <sup>[7b, 9a, 11, 12b]</sup> Mann-Whitney U test <sup>[8a, 9a]</sup> Kruskal-Wallis test <sup>[8a, 9a]</sup> Student's <i>t</i> -test <sup>[7a, 8b, 9a]</sup> Two-tailed independent <i>t</i> -test <sup>[10a]</sup>	Bonferroni test <sup>[7b, 9b, 10a, 11, 12b]</sup> Tukey's test <sup>[7b, 8b, 9a, 10b]</sup> Dunn's test <sup>[8a, 9a]</sup> Games-Howell test <sup>[10a]</sup> Fisher's LSD <sup>[11a]</sup> Newman-Keuls test <sup>[12a]</sup> Dunnett's test <sup>[12a]</sup>	<i>p</i> -value ( <i>p</i> < 0.001-0.05) <sup>[7-12b]</sup>	SPSS 13.0 (IBM, Armonk, NY, USA) <sup>[9b]</sup> SPSS 16.0 (IBM, Armonk, NY, USA) <sup>[7b, 11a, 12b]</sup> SPSS 19.0 (IBM, Armonk, NY, USA) <sup>[9b, 10a, 12a]</sup> SPSS 20.0 (IBM, Armonk, NY, USA) <sup>[11b]</sup> SPSS 22.0 (IBM, Armonk, NY, USA) <sup>[10b]</sup> GraphPad Prism (GraphPad Software, San Diego, CA, USA) <sup>[8a, 9a]</sup>
	Mean ± SEM <sup>[7a-11b, 12b]</sup>						
<b>NO</b>	Mean ± SD <sup>[13a, 14]</sup> Mean ± SEM <sup>[13b, 15-17]</sup>	<b>In vitro:</b>	0/7 (0%)	One way ANOVA <sup>[13, 14, 16a]</sup> Two way ANOVA <sup>[14]</sup>	Newman-Keuls test <sup>[16a]</sup> F-test <sup>[17]</sup>	<i>p</i> -value ( <i>p</i> < 0.001-0.05) <sup>[13-17]</sup>	GraphPad Prism (GraphPad Software, San Diego, CA,

n = 3<sup>[13a]</sup>  
n = 3-4<sup>[13b]</sup>  
n = 3-8<sup>[15]</sup>  
n = 6-8<sup>[15]</sup>  
n = 12-16<sup>[14]</sup>  
**In vivo:**  
n = 3-5<sup>[14]</sup>  
n = 4-5<sup>[14]</sup>  
n = 4-9<sup>[14]</sup>  
n = 5<sup>[16b]</sup>  
n = 6-10<sup>[14]</sup>  
n ≥ 12<sup>[16a]</sup>  
n = 18-19<sup>[14]</sup>  
n = 22<sup>[17]</sup>

Mann-Whitney U test<sup>[14, 16b]</sup>  
Kruskal-Wallis test<sup>[14]</sup>  
Student's *t*-test<sup>[13a, 15]</sup>  
Two-tailed unpaired *t*-test<sup>[16b]</sup>  
Two-tailed Chi-squared test<sup>[17]</sup>

USA)<sup>[13b]</sup>  
GraphPad Prism 4.0  
(GraphPad Software, San Diego, CA, USA)<sup>[16a]</sup>  
GraphPad Prism 5.0  
(GraphPad Software, San Diego, CA, USA)<sup>[16b]</sup>  
GraphPad Prism 6.05  
(GraphPad Software, San Diego, CA, USA)<sup>[14]</sup>

<b>H<sub>2</sub></b>	Mean ± SD <sup>[19b-20a, 20c-21]</sup>	<b>In vitro:</b> 1 <sup>[20d]</sup> /10 (10%)	One way ANOVA <sup>[18a-22]</sup>	Bonferroni test <sup>[20c]</sup>	<i>p</i> -value ( <i>p</i> < 0.001-0.05) <sup>[18-22]</sup>	GraphPad Prism 5.0 (GraphPad Software, San Diego, CA, USA) <sup>[18a]</sup>
	Mean ± SEM <sup>[18-19a, 20b]</sup> Median <sup>[20d]</sup>	n = 3 <sup>[18b, 21]</sup> n = 5-7 <sup>[18a]</sup> n = 6 <sup>[20b]</sup> n = 8 <sup>[20b]</sup> <b>In vivo:</b> n = 3-4 <sup>[20c, 22]</sup> n = 4 <sup>[20a]</sup> n = 5-7 <sup>[18b]</sup> n = 6 <sup>[19a, 20c &amp; d, 22]</sup> n = 14 <sup>[20a]</sup> n = 16-23 <sup>[19b]</sup> n = 20 <sup>[18a]</sup>	Two way ANOVA <sup>[20d]</sup> Mann-Whitney U test <sup>[18a]</sup> Kruskal-Wallis test <sup>[18a]</sup> Student's <i>t</i> -test <sup>[18a]</sup> Bivariate analysis <sup>[20a]</sup> Chi-squared test <sup>[18a]</sup>	Tukey's test <sup>[18a, 19a, 20b, 20d, 22]</sup> Dunn's test <sup>[18a]</sup> Student's <i>t</i> -test <sup>[18b]</sup> Dunnnett's test <sup>[20a]</sup> F-test <sup>[20c]</sup> Fisher's LSD test <sup>[21]</sup>	<i>α</i> -value ( <i>α</i> = 0.01) <sup>[20d]</sup>	SPSS 13.0 (IBM, Armonk, NY, USA) <sup>[20a, 20b]</sup> SPSS 16.0 (IBM, Armonk, NY, USA) <sup>[19b]</sup> SPSS 19.0 (IBM, Armonk, NY, USA) <sup>[19a, 21]</sup> EZAnalyze (Microsoft, Redmond, WA, USA) <sup>[20c]</sup> Statflex 6.0 (ARTECH Co, LTD, Osaka, Japan) <sup>[20d]</sup> Sigmaplot 13.0 ( Systat Software Inc., San Jose, CA, USA ) <sup>[20d]</sup>
<b>O<sub>2</sub></b>	Mean ± SD <sup>[23-25]</sup>	<b>In vitro:</b> 0/6 (0%)	One way ANOVA <sup>[23-26]</sup>	Bonferroni test <sup>[26]</sup>	<i>p</i> -value ( <i>p</i> < 0.01-0.05) <sup>[23-26]</sup>	SPSS 17.0 (IBM, Armonk, NY, USA) <sup>[23b, 25]</sup>
	Mean ± SEM <sup>[26]</sup>	n ≥ 3 <sup>[24]</sup> <b>In vivo:</b> n = 3 <sup>[23c]</sup> n = 5 <sup>[23a]</sup> n = 5-6 <sup>[26]</sup> n = 6 <sup>[23b]</sup> n = 6-8 <sup>[25]</sup> n = 6-13 <sup>[26]</sup>	Two way ANOVA <sup>[26]</sup> Kruskal-Wallis test <sup>[18a]</sup> Student's <i>t</i> -test <sup>[23a, 26]</sup> Independent <i>t</i> -test <sup>[23b]</sup> Welch's <i>t</i> -test <sup>[26]</sup>	Newman-Keuls test <sup>[25]</sup> Fisher's LSD test <sup>[23c, 24]</sup>		SPSS 18.0 (IBM, Armonk, NY, USA) <sup>[24]</sup> SPSS 23.0 (IBM, Armonk, NY, USA) <sup>[26]</sup>
<b>O<sub>3</sub></b>	Mean ± SD <sup>[28-29]</sup>	<b>In vitro:</b> 0/3 (0%)	One way ANOVA <sup>[29]</sup>	N/A	<i>p</i> -value	GraphPad Prism



	Mean ± SEM <sup>[27]</sup>	n ≥ 3 <sup>[29]</sup> <b>In vivo:</b> n = 4 <sup>[27]</sup> n = 6 <sup>[28]</sup> n = 10-15 <sup>[27]</sup> n = 24 <sup>[29]</sup>		Mann-Whitney U test <sup>[27]</sup> Student's <i>t</i> -test <sup>[28, 29]</sup>		( <i>p</i> < 0.001-0.05) <sup>[27-29]</sup>	(GraphPad Software, San Diego, CA, USA) <sup>[27]</sup> GraphPad Prism 5.0 (GraphPad Software, San Diego, CA, USA) <sup>[29]</sup> SPSS 18.0 (IBM, Armonk, NY, USA) <sup>[28]</sup>
<b>Noble Gases</b>							
<b>Xenon (Xe)</b>	Mean ± SD <sup>[30a, 31, 32, 34]</sup>	<b>In vitro:</b>	0/6 (0%)	One way ANOVA <sup>[30, 31, 33, 34]</sup>	Bonferroni test <sup>[34]</sup>	<i>p</i> -value	Sigmastat 3.1
	Mean ± SEM <sup>[33]</sup> Mean <sup>[30b]</sup>	n = 4 <sup>[30a, 33]</sup> n = 6-16 <sup>[31]</sup> <b>In vivo:</b> n = 4 <sup>[32]</sup> n = 4-5 <sup>[30b]</sup> n = 4-6 <sup>[30a, 33]</sup> n = 8-9 <sup>[32]</sup> n = 10-20 <sup>[34]</sup>		Two way ANOVA <sup>[34]</sup> Kruskal-Wallis test <sup>[31, 32]</sup> Kaplan-Meier test <sup>[30a]</sup> Wilcoxon rank sum test <sup>[32]</sup>	Newman-Keuls test <sup>[30a, 31, 33]</sup>  Unpaired <i>t</i> -test <sup>[30a]</sup> Mann-Whitney U test <sup>[30a]</sup> <i>Post-hoc t</i> -test <sup>[34]</sup>	( <i>p</i> < 0.0005-0.01) <sup>[30-34]</sup>	(Systat Software Inc., San Jose, CA, USA) <sup>[30b]</sup> SigmaPlot 12.5 (Systat Software, San Jose, CA, USA) <sup>[31]</sup> Statistica (Statsoft Inc., Tulsa, OK, USA) <sup>[32]</sup> SPSS 16.0 (IBM, Armonk, NY, USA) <sup>[34]</sup>
<b>Argon (Ar)</b>	Mean ± SD <sup>[35, 36]</sup>	<b>In vitro:</b>	0/5 (0%)	One way ANOVA <sup>[35]</sup>	Bonferroni test <sup>[36]</sup>	<i>p</i> -value	SigmaPlot 11.0 (Systat Software, San Jose, CA, USA) <sup>[35, 37b]</sup>
	Mean ± SEM <sup>[37]</sup> Median <sup>[37a]</sup>	n = 3 <sup>[36]</sup> n = 4-8 <sup>[37b]</sup> n = 5-8 <sup>[35a]</sup> n = 6 <sup>[35b]</sup> <b>In vivo:</b> n = 4-8 <sup>[35b]</sup> n = 7 <sup>[37a]</sup>		Two way ANOVA <sup>[36-37a]</sup> Student's <i>t</i> -test <sup>[36, 37a]</sup> Mann-Whitney U test <sup>[37b]</sup> Kruskal-Wallis test <sup>[35, 37a]</sup>	Holm-Sidak test <sup>[35, 37a]</sup> Mann-Whitney U test <sup>[37a]</sup> Newman-Keuls test <sup>[35a]</sup>	( <i>p</i> < 0.0001-0.05) <sup>[35-37b]</sup>	GraphPad Prism 6.0 (GraphPad Software, San Diego, CA, USA) <sup>[36]</sup>
<b>Helium (He)</b>	Mean ± SD <sup>[38, 40, 41]</sup>	<b>In vitro:</b>	1 <sup>[41]</sup> /4 (25%)	One way ANOVA <sup>[38, 40, 41]</sup>	Bonferroni test <sup>[40, 41]</sup>	<i>p</i> -value	SPSS 16.0 (IBM, Armonk, NY, USA) <sup>[38]</sup>
	Mean ± SEM <sup>[39]</sup>	N/A <b>In vivo:</b> n = 4-8 <sup>[39]</sup> n = 4-9 <sup>[40]</sup> n = 6-7 <sup>[41]</sup> n = 7-16 <sup>[38]</sup> n = 6 <sup>[41]</sup> n = 7 <sup>[39-40]</sup> n = 16 <sup>[38]</sup>		Two way ANOVA <sup>[40]</sup> Kruskal-Wallis test <sup>[39]</sup> Welch's <i>t</i> -test <sup>[40]</sup> Mann-Whitney U test <sup>[40]</sup>	Dunn's test <sup>[39]</sup> Newman-Keuls test <sup>[38]</sup>	( <i>p</i> < 0.01-0.05) <sup>[38-41]</sup> <i>α</i> -value ( <i>α</i> = 0.05) <sup>[41]</sup> <i>β</i> -value ( <i>β</i> = 0.2) <sup>[6]</sup>	GraphPad Prism 5.0 (GraphPad Software, San Diego, CA, USA) <sup>[39]</sup> GraphPad Prism 5.01 (GraphPad Software, San Diego, CA, USA) <sup>[40]</sup>

**Table S3:** (1) Abbreviations: ANOVA, analysis of variance; SD, standard deviation; SEM, standard error of mean; N/A, not available. (2) Reference citations (same as **Table 2**) in Section S3. (3) For citation numbers representing more than one references, citation of the number only

(e.g., [20] versus [20a] or [20d]) indicated that all references under that number (e.g., all 4 papers under [20]) were included. (4) All research papers enrolled in **Table 2** (n = 62; see Section S3) were systematically evaluated regarding statistical methods utilized, which included data presentation format, sample size, utilization of power analysis, specific statistical methods, *post-hoc* analysis, significance level setting, and statistical software used for computation.

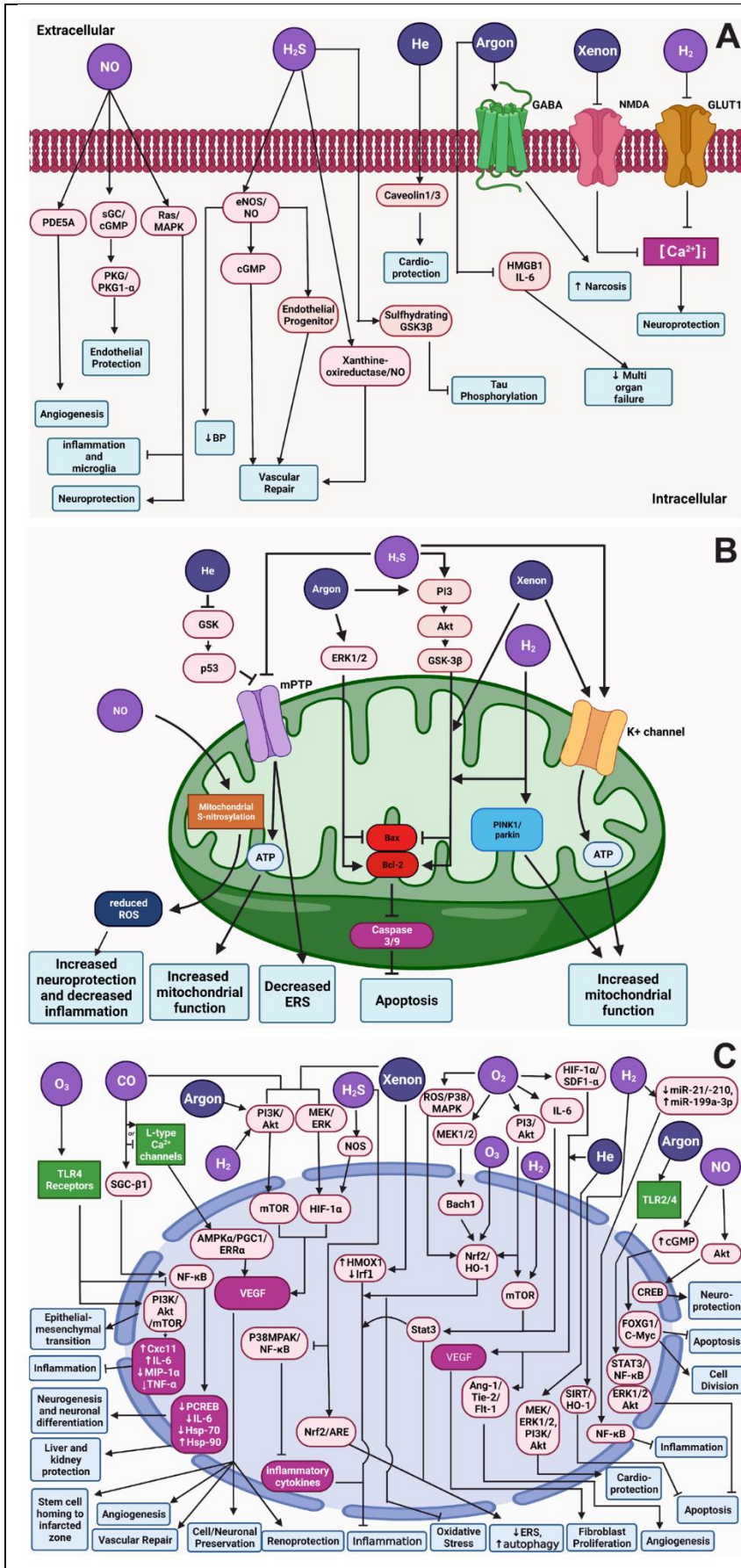
**Table S4**

## Data Pre-Processing in Medical Gas Studies Exhibited in Table 2

Gases	Data Pre-processing	Method of Data Quality Analysis
<b>Biological Gases</b>		
Carbon Monoxide (CO)	Normalization <sup>[1-6]</sup> Percentage <sup>[1a, 3, 4]</sup> Ratio <sup>[5a]</sup>	Shapiro-Wilk test for normality <sup>[1b]</sup> Levene's test to assess the equality of variances for a variable calculated for two or more groups <sup>[1b]</sup>
Hydrogen (H <sub>2</sub> )	Normalization <sup>[18, 19b, 20d, 22]</sup> Percentage <sup>[18a, 19a, 20a, 21-22]</sup> Ratio <sup>[19a, 22]</sup> Transformation <sup>[20d]</sup>	Shapiro-Wilk test <sup>[20d]</sup> Brown-Forsythe test for the equality of group variances based on performing an ANOVA on a transformation of the response variable <sup>[20d]</sup>
Hydrogen Sulfide (H <sub>2</sub> S)	Normalization <sup>[8a, 10]</sup> Percentage <sup>[7-8a, 10a, 11a]</sup> Ratio <sup>[8a, 10a]</sup> Homoscedasticity <sup>[10a]</sup>	Shapiro-Wilk test <sup>[10a]</sup> Levene's test <sup>[10a]</sup>
Nitric Oxide (NO)	Normalization <sup>[13a, 14-16a]</sup> Percentage <sup>[14, 15]</sup> Ratio <sup>[13a, 14, 16a]</sup>	Not specified
Oxygen (O <sub>2</sub> )	Normalization <sup>[23a, 23c, 26]</sup> Percentage <sup>[26]</sup> Ratio <sup>[23b &amp; c, 26]</sup> Homoscedasticity <sup>[26]</sup>	Shapiro-Wilk test <sup>[26]</sup> Levene's test <sup>[26]</sup>
Ozone (O <sub>3</sub> )	Normalization <sup>[27, 29]</sup> Log2-transformation <sup>[27]</sup> Ratio <sup>[28, 29]</sup>	Quantile Normalization to eliminate or minimize technical variability <sup>[27]</sup>
<b>Noble Gases</b>		
Argon (Ar)	Normalization <sup>[35, 36]</sup> Percentage <sup>[35, 36, 37b]</sup> Ratio <sup>[35]</sup>	Kolmogorov-Smirnov test, a nonparametric goodness-of-fit test used to determine if two distributions differ, or an underlying probability distribution differs from a hypothesized one <sup>[36]</sup>
Helium (He)	Normalization <sup>[38-40]</sup> Percentage <sup>[41]</sup> Ratio <sup>[38-40]</sup>	D'Agostino and Pearson test to assessing normality of data using skewness and kurtosis <sup>[40]</sup>
Xenon (Xe)	Normalization <sup>[30a &amp; b, 32-33]</sup> Percentage <sup>[30-32, 34]</sup> Ratio <sup>[30a, 32]</sup> Rank <sup>[32]</sup> Transformation <sup>[32]</sup>	Not specified

**Table S4:** (1) Reference citations (same as **Table 2**) in Section S3. (2) For citation numbers representing more than one references, citation of the number only (e.g., [20] versus [20a] or [20d]) indicated that all references under that number (e.g., all 4 papers under [20]) were included. (3) All research papers enrolled in **Table 2** (n = 62; see Section S3 for reference citations) were assessed for methods of data pre-processing to evaluate data quality. Normalization, transformation, and homoscedasticity were data pre-processing procedures that were utilized in 34/62 (55%) of the reports reviewed in **Table 2**. Methods applied for data quality analysis were Brown-Forsythe test, D'Agostino and Pearson test, Kolmogorov-Smirnov test, Levene's test, Quantile Normalization, and Shapiro-Wilk test (see more details in the table above). However, the cited studies on CO (n = 8), NO (n = 4, and Xe (n = 4) did not specify statistical methods used in data normalization.

**Figure S1**



**Figure S1.** The key signal transduction pathways and molecular mechanisms underlying the primary tissue protective effects of the medical gases reviewed. **Figure S1** illustrated the main signal transduction pathways, cell signalling convergence, divergence and crosstalk, and key messenger, effector or target molecules underlying the primary tissue protective mechanisms of the medical gases reviewed in **Table 2**. To avoid redundancy with **Figures 4** and **5**, only the therapeutic mechanisms of 3 biological gases (H<sub>2</sub>, H<sub>2</sub>S, and NO) and 3 noble gases (Argon/Ar, Helium/He, and Xenon/Xe) were detailed at cytoplasmic (**A**) and mitochondrial (**B**) levels; primary nuclear level mechanisms for tissue protection of all six biological gases (CO, H<sub>2</sub>, H<sub>2</sub>S, NO, O<sub>2</sub>, and O<sub>3</sub>) and 3 noble gases (Ar, He, and Xe) were shown in **C** (note: for summaries on tissue protective mechanisms of medical gases, see **Table 2**; abbreviations, acronyms, and reference citations, see Section S3; for cytoplasmic and mitochondrial mechanisms of CO, O<sub>2</sub> and O<sub>3</sub>, see **Figures 4** and **5**; **Figure S1** plotting was assisted by BioRender.com).

## **Section S1: Supporting Information**

### **Database Search Strategies**

I. Limitation for all database: (1) publications from January 1, 2000 to July 31, 2021

(2) literature published in English

II. Search Criteria for Ovid MEDLINE, using Medical Subject Headings (MeSH)

1. Tissue preservation/

2. Tissue preservation.mp.

3. Tissue repair.mp.

4. Tissue protection.mp.

5. Neuroprotection/

6. Neural Protection.mp.

7. Regeneration/

8. Neuroregeneration.mp.

9. Neural Regeneratiom.mp.

10. Spinal cord regeneration/

11. Angioplasty/

12. Bone regeneration/

13. Bone protection.mp.

14. Liver regeneration/

15. Nerve regeneration/

16. Brain regeneration/

17. Neural Repair.mp.

18. Brain repair.mp.

19. Spinal cord repair.mp.

20. 1 OR 2 OR 3 OR 4 OR 5 OR 6 OR 7 OR 8 OR 9 OR 10 OR 11 OR 12 OR 13 OR 14 OR 15 OR 16 OR 17 OR 18 OR 19

21. Medical gas.mp.

22. Gases/

23. Oxygen/

24. Hydrogen/

25. Hydrogen Sulfide/
26. Carbon Monoxide/
27. Nitric Oxide/
28. Nitrous Oxide/
29. Ozone/
30. Noble gas/
31. Noble gas.mp.
32. Helium/
33. Xenon/
34. Krypton/
35. Argon/
36. 21 OR 22 OR 23 OR 24 OR 25 OR 26 OR 27 OR 28 OR 29 OR 30 OR 31 OR 32 OR 33 OR 34 OR 35
37. Signal transduction/
38. Signal transduction.mp.
39. Mechanism.mp.
40. Pathway.mp.
41. Signaling.mp.
42. 37 OR 38 OR 39 OR 40 OR 41
43. 20 AND 36 AND 42

III. The same search criteria was utilized for EMBASE for performing a focused search using MeSH

#### VI. Search Criteria for Scopus and Google Scholar

(Tissue AND Preservation) OR ("Tissue protection") OR (Tissue AND Repair)

AND

("Medical gas") OR (Oxygen AND Therapy) OR (Hydrogen AND Therapy) OR ("Hydrogen sulfide") OR ("Carbon monoxide") OR ("Nitrous Oxide") OR ("Nitric Oxide") OR (Ozone) OR ("Noble gas") OR (Helium) OR (Xenon) OR (Krypton) OR (Argon)

AND

("Signal transduction") OR (Mechanism) OR (Pathway)

## Section S2: Supporting Information

### Publications Qualified for Systematic Review Enrollment

(note: articles are listed in alphabetical order under each medical gas molecule)

- Biological gases

1. Carbon Monoxide<sup>1-48</sup>
2. Hydrogen<sup>29, 49-74</sup>
3. Hydrogen sulfide<sup>75-129</sup>
4. Nitric oxide<sup>130-147</sup>
5. Oxygen<sup>148-172</sup>
6. Ozone<sup>173-180</sup>

- Noble gases

1. Argon<sup>181-191</sup>
2. Helium<sup>191, 192-197</sup>
3. Xenon<sup>191, 198-212</sup>

- Reports on findings of adverse effects or no significant therapeutic impact of medical gases on some or all outcome measures<sup>192, 199, 211, 213-223</sup>

### Biological Gases

#### Carbon Monoxide (CO)

1. Bai, J., Bai, Y., Wang, X.-P., Zheng, W.-C. & Zhang, L.-M. Carbon Monoxide-Releasing Molecule-3 Ameliorates Acute Lung Injury in a Model of Hemorrhagic Shock and Resuscitation: Roles of p38MAPK Signaling Pathway. *Shock* **55**, 816-826, doi: 10.1097/SHK.0000000000001684 (2021).
2. Biermann, J., Lagreze, W. A., Dimitriu, C., Stoykow, C. & Goebel, U. Preconditioning with inhalative carbon monoxide protects rat retinal ganglion cells from ischemia/reperfusion injury. *Invest Ophthalmol Vis Sci* **51**, 3784-3791, doi:http://dx.doi.org/10.1167/iovs.09-4894 (2010).
3. Carraway, M. S. *et al.* Carbon monoxide promotes hypoxic pulmonary vascular remodeling. *Am J Physiol Lung Cell Mol Physiol* **282**, L693-702, doi:10.1152/ajplung.00211.2001 (2002).
4. Choi, Y. K. *et al.* Carbon monoxide promotes VEGF expression by increasing HIF-1alpha protein level via two distinct mechanisms, translational activation and stabilization of HIF-1alpha protein. *J Biol Chem* **285**, 32116-32125, doi:10.1074/jbc.M110.131284 (2010).
5. Choi, Y. K. *et al.* Carbon Monoxide Potentiation of L-Type Ca<sup>2+</sup> Channel Activity Increases HIF-1α-Independent VEGF Expression via an AMPKα/SIRT1-Mediated PGC-1α/ERRα Axis. *Antioxid Redox Signal* **27**, 20-36, doi:10.1089/ars.2016.6684 (2017).
6. Choi, Y. K. *et al.* Dual effects of carbon monoxide on pericytes and neurogenesis in traumatic brain injury. *Nat Med* **22**, 1335-1341, doi:10.1038/nm.4188 (2016).
7. Correa-Costa, M. *et al.* Carbon monoxide protects the kidney through the central circadian clock and CD39. *Proc Natl Acad Sci U S A* **115**, E2302-E2310, doi:10.1073/pnas.1716747115 (2018).
8. Dallas, M. L. *et al.* Carbon monoxide protects against oxidant-induced apoptosis via inhibition of Kv2.1. *FASEB J* **25**, 1519-1530, doi:http://dx.doi.org/10.1096/fj.10-173450 (2011).
9. Dreyer-Andersen, N. *et al.* Intermittent, low dose carbon monoxide exposure enhances survival and dopaminergic differentiation of human neural stem cells. *PLoS ONE* **13**, e0191207,

doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0191207 (2018).

10. Han, Y. *et al.* Carbon monoxide offers neuroprotection from hippocampal cell damage induced by recurrent febrile seizures through the PERK-activated ER stress pathway. *Neurosci Lett* **585**, 126-131, doi:http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.neulet.2014.11.040 (2015).
11. Horvat, A., Vardjan, N. & Zorec, R. Targeting Astrocytes for Treating Neurological Disorders: Carbon Monoxide and Noradrenaline-Induced Increase in Lactate. *Curr Pharm Des* **23**, 4969-4978, doi:10.2174/1381612823666170622112734 (2017).
12. Imuta, N. *et al.* Hypoxia-mediated induction of heme oxygenase type I and carbon monoxide release from astrocytes protects nearby cerebral neurons from hypoxia-mediated apoptosis. *Antioxid Redox Signal* **9**, 543-552, doi:10.1089/ars.2006.1519 (2007).
13. Jamal Uddin, M. *et al.* IRG1 induced by heme oxygenase-1/carbon monoxide inhibits LPS-mediated sepsis and pro-inflammatory cytokine production. *Cell Mol Immunol* **13**, 170-179, doi:10.1038/cmi.2015.02 (2016).
14. Joshi, H. P. *et al.* Nanocarrier-mediated Delivery of CORM-2 Enhances Anti-allodynic and Anti-hyperalgesic Effects of CORM-2. *Mol Neurobiol* **56**, 5539-5554, doi:10.1007/s12035-019-1468-7 (2019).
15. Józkwicz, A. *et al.* Heme oxygenase and angiogenic activity of endothelial cells: stimulation by carbon monoxide and inhibition by tin protoporphyrin-IX. *Antioxid Redox Signal* **5**, 155-162, doi:10.1089/152308603764816514 (2003).
16. Kaiser, S., Selzner, L., Weber, J. & Schallner, N. Carbon monoxide controls microglial erythrophagocytosis by regulating CD36 surface expression to reduce the severity of hemorrhagic injury. *Glia* **68**, 2427-2445, doi:http://dx.doi.org/10.1002/glia.23864 (2020).
17. Kaizu, T. *et al.* Protection of transplant-induced hepatic ischemia/reperfusion injury with carbon monoxide via MEK/ERK1/2 pathway downregulation. *Am J Physiol Gastrointest Liver Physiol* **294**, G236-G244, doi:10.1152/ajpgi.00144.2007 (2007).
18. Kaizu, T. *et al.* Carbon monoxide inhalation ameliorates cold ischemia/reperfusion injury after rat liver transplantation. *Surgery* **138**, 229-235, doi:10.1016/j.surg.2005.06.015 (2005).
19. Kim, J. H. *et al.* Hypoxia-responsive microRNA-101 promotes angiogenesis via heme oxygenase-1/vascular endothelial growth factor axis by targeting cullin 3. *Antioxid Redox Signal* **21**, 2469-2482, doi:10.1089/ars.2014.5856 (2014).
20. Kim, K. M. *et al.* Carbon monoxide induces heme oxygenase-1 via activation of protein kinase R-like endoplasmic reticulum kinase and inhibits endothelial cell apoptosis triggered by endoplasmic reticulum stress. *Circ Res* **101**, 919-927, doi:10.1161/circresaha.107.154781 (2007).
21. Kuramitsu, K. *et al.* Carbon monoxide enhances early liver regeneration in mice after hepatectomy. *Hepatology* **53**, 2016-2026, doi:https://dx.doi.org/10.1002/hep.24317 (2011).
22. Kuramitsu, K., Wegiel, B., Csizmadia, E., Otterbein, L. E. & Hanto, D. W. The effect of carbon monoxide on liver regeneration after hepatectomy. *Hepatology* **50**, 639A, doi:http://dx.doi.org/10.1002/hep.23303 (2009).
23. Lakkisto, P. *et al.* Heme oxygenase-1 and carbon monoxide promote neovascularization after myocardial infarction by modulating the expression of HIF-1 $\alpha$ , SDF-1 $\alpha$  and VEGF-B. *Eur J Pharmacol* **635**, 156-164, doi:10.1016/j.ejphar.2010.02.050 (2010).
24. Li, M., Gallo, D., Csizmadia, E., Otterbein, L. E. & Wegiel, B. Carbon monoxide induces chromatin remodelling to facilitate endothelial cell migration. *Thromb Haemost* **111**, 951-959, doi:10.1160/TH13-09-0748 (2014).
25. Lin, C. C., Yang, C. C., Hsiao, L. D., Chen, S. Y. & Yang, C. M. Heme Oxygenase-1 Induction by Carbon Monoxide Releasing Molecule-3 Suppresses Interleukin-1 $\beta$ -Mediated Neuroinflammation. *Front Mol Neurosci* **10**, 387, doi:10.3389/fnmol.2017.00387 (2017).
26. Lin, H. H., Chen, Y. H., Yet, S. F. & Chau, L. Y. After vascular injury, heme oxygenase-1/carbon monoxide enhances re-endothelialization via promoting mobilization of circulating endothelial progenitor cells. *J Thromb Haemost* **7**, 1401-1408, doi:10.1111/j.1538-7836.2009.03478.x (2009).



27. Lu, K. *et al.* Carbon Monoxide Releasing Molecule-3 (CORM-3) Regulates Microglia Activity, Prevents Neuronal Injury, and Improves Memory Function During Radiation Induced Brain Injury. *Curr Neurovasc Res*, **17**, 464-470, doi:10.2174/1567202617999200730213259 (2020).
28. Nakao, A. *et al.* Ex vivo carbon monoxide delivery inhibits intimal hyperplasia in arterialized vein grafts. *Cardiovasc Res* **89**, 457-463, doi:https://dx.doi.org/10.1093/cvr/cvq298 (2011).
29. Nakao, A. *et al.* Amelioration of rat cardiac cold ischemia/reperfusion injury with inhaled hydrogen or carbon monoxide, or both. *J Heart Lung Transplant* **29**, 544-553, doi:10.1016/j.healun.2009.10.011 (2010).
30. Nakao, A. *et al.* Protection against ischemia/reperfusion injury in cardiac and renal transplantation with carbon monoxide, biliverdin and both. *Am J Transplant* **5**, 282-291, doi:10.1111/j.1600-6143.2004.00695.x (2005).
31. Ozaki, K. S. *et al.* Carbon monoxide inhibits apoptosis during cold storage and protects kidney grafts donated after cardiac death. *Transplant Int* **25**, 107-117, doi:10.1111/j.1432-2277.2011.01363.x (2012).
32. Pizarro, M. D. *et al.* Protective effects of a carbon monoxide-releasing molecule (CORM-3) during hepatic cold preservation. *Cryobiology* **58**, 248-255 (2009).
33. Queiroga, C. S. *et al.* Preconditioning triggered by carbon monoxide (CO) provides neuronal protection following perinatal hypoxia-ischemia. *PLoS ONE* **7**, e42632, doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0042632 (2012).
34. Ryter, S. W., Morse, D. & Choi, A. M. K. Carbon monoxide and bilirubin: Potential therapies for pulmonary/vascular injury and disease. *Am J Resp Cell Mol Biol* **36**, 175-182, doi:10.1165/rcmb.2006-0333TR (2007).
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## Section S3: Supporting Information

### Abbreviations and References of Tables 2-4

**Table 2.** Representative Tissue Protective Effects of Medical Gases

#### Abbreviations:

AD, Alzheimer's disease; Akt, protein kinase B; AMPK $\alpha$ , adenosine monophosphate-activated protein kinase  $\alpha$  subunit; AP-1, activating protein-1; ATP, adenosine triphosphate; Bax, BCL2 Associated X: a protein coding gene regulating apoptosis; Bach1, BTB And CNC Homology 1/basic leucine zipper transcription factor 1; Bcl2, B-cell lymphoma 2: a protein coding gene regulating apoptosis; Cav-1/3, caveolin-1/3; cGMP, cyclic guanosine monophosphate; c-Myc, cellular Myc proto-oncogene (Myc: abbreviation for myelocytoma); CO, carbon monoxide; CORM, carbon monoxide releasing molecule; CREB, cAMP response element-binding protein; eNOS, endothelial nitric oxide synthase; ER, endoplasmic reticulum; ERK1/2, extracellular regulated kinase 1/2; ERR $\alpha$ , estrogen-related receptor alpha; ERS, endoplasmic reticulum stress; FOXG1, Forkhead Box G1: a protein coding gene; Fyn: a proto-oncogene tyrosine-protein kinase that belongs to the Src family kinases; GABA, gamma-aminobutyric acid; GSK, glycogen synthase kinase; GSK3 $\beta$ , glycogen synthase kinase 3 $\beta$ ; HIF1 $\alpha$ , hypoxia-inducible factor 1-alpha; HMGB1: high mobility group box 1 protein; HMOX1, a human gene encoding for the heme oxygenase 1; HO-1, heme-oxygenase 1; I/R, ischemia/reperfusion; Irf1, interferon regulatory factor 1; IL, interleukin; L-type Ca<sup>2+</sup> channels, long-lasting calcium channels; M2 macrophages: M2 subtype-polarized macrophages mainly produce Arginase-I, IL-10 and TGF- $\beta$  and other anti-inflammatory cytokines to promote tissue repair and wound healing; MAPK, mitogen-activated protein kinase; MCAO, middle cerebral artery occlusion; MEK, MAP kinase/ERK kinase or mitogen-activated protein kinase kinase; MIP-1 $\alpha$ , macrophage inflammatory protein 1; miR, microRNA; MPa, megapascal (1 MPa = 10 bar or ~145 PSI/ pounds per square inch); mPTP, mitochondrial permeability transition pore; mTOR, the mammalian target of rapamycin: a kinase; NF- $\kappa$ B, nuclear factor kappa-light-chain-enhancer of activated B cells; NMDA receptor, N -methyl-D-aspartate receptor; nNOS, neuronal nitric oxide synthase; NO, nitric oxide; Nrf2, the nuclear factor erythroid 2-related factor 2; NSCs, neural stem cells; OGD, oxygen-glucose deprivation; PD, Parkinson's disease; PDE5A, phosphodiesterase-5A; PGC1 $\alpha$ , peroxisome proliferator-activated receptor gamma coactivator 1 $\alpha$ ; PI3K, phosphoinositide 3-kinase; PINK1, PTEN-induced kinase 1 that is a mitochondrial serine/threonine-protein kinase; PKG, cyclic GMP-dependent protein kinase; p-p38MAPK, phosphorylated p38 mitogen-activated protein kinases; Ras, Ras (rat sarcoma) proteins belonging to small GTPase family; RISK, the reperfusion injury salvage kinase; ROS, reactive oxygen species; SAH, subarachnoid hemorrhage; SCI, spinal cord injury; sGC, soluble guanylyl cyclase; SOD, superoxide dismutase; STAT3, signal transducer and activator of transcription 3; STZ, streptozotocin; TBI, traumatic brain injury; TLR, the toll-like receptor family; VEGF, vascular endothelial growth factor; and Xe-ELIP, xenon containing echogenic liposomes.

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**Table 3.** Neuroprotective Mechanisms of Carbon Monoxide (CO)

**Abbreviations:**

Akt, protein kinase B; AIF1, allograft inflammatory factor 1; AMPK $\alpha$ , adenosine monophosphate-activated protein kinase  $\alpha$  subunit; Bax, BCL2 Associated X: a protein coding gene regulating apoptosis; Bcl2, B-cell lymphoma 2: a protein coding gene regulating apoptosis; BV2 cell line, a type of microglial cell derived from C57/BL6 murine that was immortalized by v-raf /v-myc carrying J2 retrovirus; CaMKK $\beta$ , Ca<sup>2+</sup>/calmodulin-dependent protein kinase kinase  $\beta$ ; cGMP, cyclic guanosine monophosphate; CHOP, C/EBP homologous protein; CO, carbon monoxide; CORM, carbon monoxide releasing molecule; CREB, cAMP response element-binding protein; eIF2, eukaryotic initiation factor 2; eNOS, endothelial nitric oxide synthase; ERK1/2, extracellular regulated kinase 1/2; ERR $\alpha$ , estrogen-related receptor alpha; ERS, endoplasmic reticulum stress; GFAP, glial fibrillary acidic protein; GRP78, glucose-regulated protein 78; HBMEC, human brain microvascular endothelial cells; HIF1 $\alpha$ , hypoxia-inducible factor 1-alpha; HO-1, heme-oxygenase 1; HSF1, heat shock factor 1: a transcription factor; Hsp-70 or 90, heat shock protein 70 KD or 90 KD; IL, interleukin; I/R, ischemia/reperfusion; ICAM-1, intercellular adhesion molecule 1; IRE1, the ER-resident transmembrane kinase-endoribonuclease inositol-requiring enzyme 1; Kv2.1, potassium voltage gated channel, Shab-related subfamily, member 1; L-type Ca<sup>2+</sup> channels, long-lasting calcium channels; MAP2, microtubule-associated protein 2; MAPK, mitogen-activated protein kinase; MCAO, middle cerebral artery occlusion; MEK, MAP Kinase/ERK Kinase or mitogen-activated protein kinase kinase; mitoKATP, mitochondrial adenosine triphosphate-dependent potassium channel; MMP, matrix metalloproteinase; mTOR, the mammalian target of rapamycin: a kinase; NAMPT, nicotinamide phosphoribosyl transferase 1; NF- $\kappa$ B, nuclear factor kappa-light-chain-enhancer of activated B cells; NO, nitric oxide; nNOS, neuronal nitric oxide synthase; Nrf2, the nuclear factor erythroid 2-related factor 2; NSCs, neural stem cells; OGD, oxygen-glucose deprivation; p-p38, phosphorylated-p38 mitogen-activated protein kinase; pCREB, phosphorylated CREB; PERK, the protein kinase R (PKR)-like endoplasmic reticulum kinase; PI3K, phosphoinositide 3-kinase; PGC1 $\alpha$ , peroxisome proliferator-activated receptor gamma coactivator 1 $\alpha$ ; PKG, cyclic GMP-dependent protein kinase; Ras, Ras (rat sarcoma) proteins belonging to small GTPase family; RGC, retinal ganglion cells; RISK, the reperfusion injury salvage kinase; ROS, reactive oxygen species; SCI, spinal cord injury; sGC, soluble guanylyl cyclase; SIRT1, sirtuin 1; TBI, traumatic brain injury; TNF $\alpha$ , tumor necrotic factor  $\alpha$ ; VEGF, vascular endothelial growth factor; and XBP1, the X-box binding protein 1: a transcription factor.

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#### **Table 4.** Neuroprotective Mechanisms of Xenon (Xe)

##### **Abbreviations:**

Akt, protein kinase B that was originally identified as the oncogene in the transforming retrovirus, AKT8; Ar, argon; ATM, standard atmosphere, unit of pressure, equal to the mean atmospheric pressure at sea level (i.e., 14.7 pounds per square inch; it is used to describe relative pressure); Bax, BCL2 Associated X: a protein coding gene regulating apoptosis; Bcl2, B-cell lymphoma 2: a protein coding gene regulating apoptosis; BDNF, brain-derived neurotrophic factor; CREB, cAMP response element-binding protein; DA, dopamine; E, embryonic day; ERK, extracellular regulated kinase; HIF1 $\alpha$ , hypoxia-inducible factor 1-alpha; Irf1, interferon regulatory factor 1; LDH, lactate dehydrogenase; MAPK, mitogen-activated protein kinase; MCAO, middle cerebral artery occlusion; NMDA, N-methyl-D-aspartate; OGD, oxygen-glucose deprivation; p-Akt, phosphorylated Akt; PC12, a cell line derived from a pheochromocytoma of the rat adrenal medulla, with an embryonic origin from

the neural crest (a mixture of neuroblastic cells and eosinophilic cells); PDC, 1-trans-pyrrolidine-2,4-dicarboxylic acid: an synthetic analog of glutamate; p-ERK, phosphorylated ERK; PI3K, phosphoinositide 3-kinase; PND, postnatal day; TBI, traumatic brain injury; TREK1, Twik-related K<sup>+</sup> channels (TREK) 1; Twik, tandem of P domains in weakly inward rectifier K<sup>+</sup> channels; Xe, xenon; Xe-ELIP, Xe-containing echogenic liposomes.

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## Section S4: Supporting Information

### Abbreviations, Acronyms, and Nomenclatures in the Text

Akt: protein kinase B that is the oncogene in the transforming retrovirus, AKT8

AMPK $\alpha$ : 5'-AMP-activated protein kinase catalytic subunit alpha-1

ARDS: acute respiratory distress syndrome

ATA: atmospheres absolute (1 ATA = 14.7 pounds per square inch that is the average atmospheric pressure exerted at sea level; it is used to describe the total ambient pressure on the system)

ATM: standard atmosphere, unit of pressure, equal to the mean atmospheric pressure at sea level (i.e., 14.7 pounds per square inch; it is used to describe relative pressure: e.g., 33' of water is 1 ATM of water but it is 2 ATA because of the 1 atmosphere of air above it)

BACH1: BTB and CNC homology 1 or basic leucine zipper transcription factor 1

Bax: Bcl-2-associated X protein

BBB: the blood-brain barrier

Bcl-2: B cell lymphoma 2

Bcl-xL: B-cell lymphoma-extra large

BSCB: the blood-spinal cord barrier

CA: the cornu ammonis

Cav-1 and Cav-3: caveolin-1 and caveolin-3

CDC: centers for disease control and prevention

C/EBP homologous protein: the UPR-regulated CCAAT/enhancer-binding protein (C/EBP) homologous protein

CF: concentration factor (CF = theoretical distribution/actual distribution)

cGMP: cyclic guanosine monophosphate

c-Myc: cellular Myc, with homology to an oncogene of the Avian virus, Myelocytomatosis, v-Myc

COPD: chronic obstructive pulmonary disease

CORM: carbon monoxide-releasing molecule

COVID-19: the coronavirus disease 2019

CREB: cAMP response element-binding protein

CSE: cystathionine  $\gamma$ -lyase, the endogenous biosynthetic enzyme of H<sub>2</sub>S

CST: the corticospinal tract

CXCL: cysteine-X-cysteine motif chemokine ligand

d/o: day(s) old  
d.p.i.: day(s) post injury  
DTDP: 2,2'-dithiodipyridine  
ELISA: enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay  
eNOS: endothelial nitric oxide synthetase  
ER: endoplasmic reticulum  
ERK: extracellular signal-regulated kinase  
ERR $\alpha$ : estrogen-related receptor alpha  
FDA: food and drug administration  
FOXP1: forkhead box G1  
Fyn: a proto-oncogene tyrosine-protein kinase that belongs to the Src family kinases  
GAP-43: growth associated protein 43  
GRP78: the 78-kDa glucose-regulated protein  
GSK-3: glycogen synthase kinase 3  
GSK3 $\beta$ : glycogen synthase kinase 3 $\beta$   
HBO: hyperbaric oxygen  
HIBI: hypoxic-ischemic brain injury  
HIF-1 $\alpha$ : hypoxia inducible factor-1 $\alpha$   
hiPSCs: human inducible pluripotent stem cells  
HK II: hexokinase II  
HMGB1: high-mobility group box protein 1  
HMOX1: a human gene encoding for the heme oxygenase 1  
HO: heme oxygenase  
HSF-1: heat shock factor 1  
HSP: heat shock protein  
HSP-70: heat shock protein 70  
HSP-90: heat shock protein 90  
i.a.: intraarterial  
ICAM-1: intercellular adhesion molecule-1  
IL: interleukin

iNOS: inducible nitric oxide synthetase

Interleukin: IL

IRE1: inositol-requiring enzyme-1

Irf1: interferon regulatory factor 1

IRG1: immune responsive gene 1

IRI: ischemia-reperfusion injury

i.t.: intrathecal

i.v.: intravenous

LC: lethal concentration

LSP: lipopolysaccharides

L-trans-2,4-PDC: L-trans-pyrrolidine-2,4-dicarboxylic acid

m/o: month(s) old

MACO: middle cerebral artery occlusion

MAP2: microtubule associated protein 2

MAPK: the mitogen-activated protein kinase

MBP: myelin basic protein

MDA: malondialdehyde

MEK-1/2: mitogen-activated protein kinase kinase-1/2

MeSH: medical subject headings

MGT: medical gas therapy

MIP-1 $\alpha$ : macrophage inflammatory protein 1

Mitophagy: selective degradation of mitochondria by autophagy.

MPa: megapascal pressure unit

mPTP: the mitochondrial permeability transition pore

mTOR: mechanistic target of rapamycin for cell proliferation

NADH-TR: nicotinamide adenine dinucleotide dehydrogenase-tetrazolium reductase

NF- $\kappa$ B: nuclear factor- $\kappa$ B

NIH: the national institutes of health

NMDA: N-methyl-D-aspartate

nNOS: neuronal nitric oxide synthetase

NOS: nitric oxide synthetase

NPAS2: neuronal PAS (prostate specific antigen) domain protein 2

NQO1: NAD(P)H quinone oxidoreductase 1

Nrf2: nuclear factor erythroid 2-related factor 2

OGD: oxygen-glucose deprivation

pAkt: phosphorylated Akt (phospho-Akt)

PDE5A: phosphodiesterase-5A that specifically degrades cGMP, an important signaling molecule

p.i.: post injury

p38MAPK: p38 mitogen-activated protein kinases

p-p38MAPK: phosphorylated p38 mitogen-activated protein kinases

Parkin: an E3 ubiquitin ligase

PBN: N-tert-butyl-a-phenylnitron

PD: Parkinson's disease

pERK: phosphorylated ERK

PERK: protein kinase R (PKR)-like ER kinase

PGC-1 $\alpha$ : peroxisome proliferators-activated receptor (PPAR) gamma coactivator 1-alpha that induces the expression of several members of the mitochondrial ROS detoxification system

PGC-1 $\alpha$ : peroxisome proliferator-activated receptor gamma coactivator 1-alpha

PI3K: phosphoinositide 3-kinases

PINK1: PTEN-induced kinase 1 (PTEN: phosphatase and tensin homolog deleted on chromosome 10)

PKG: protein kinase G

PND: postneonatal day

pO<sub>2</sub>: partial pressure of oxygen

ppm: parts per million

Ras: a class of small GTPase

RISK: the reperfusion injury salvage kinase

RNS: reactive nitrogen species

ROS: reactive oxygen species

rRT-PCR: real-time reverse transcription polymerase chain reaction

scRNA-seq: single-cell RNA (ribonuclear acid) sequencing

SDF-1: stromal cell-derived factor-1 $\alpha$  and -1 $\beta$

SDF-1 $\alpha$ : stromal cell derived factor-1 $\alpha$

SIRT1: NAD-dependent protein deacetylase sirtuin-1

*S*-nitrosylation: the addition of one NO group to the thiol side chain of cysteine residues within a protein or a peptide to form an *S*-nitrosothiol

SOD: superoxide dismutase

Stat3: signal transducer and activator of transcription 3

Tau: a microtubule-associated protein that normally stabilizes neuronal microtubules

TGF-  $\beta$ 1: transforming growth factor-  $\beta$ 1

TLRs: toll-like receptors, a class of receptors that play a key role in regulating the innate immune system

TNF $\alpha$ : tumor necrosis factor- $\alpha$

TNF $\alpha$ : tumor necrosis factor- $\alpha$

tPA: tissue plasminogen activator

VEGF-B: vascular endothelial growth factor-B

vol: volume

XBP1: X-box binding protein 1

Xe-ELIP: Xe-containing echogenic liposomes

y/o: year(s) old