

**Figure S1. The body weight, adipocyte quantification, and lipid accumulation in livers of *boh* mice, related to Figure 1**

(A-C) Weight of iBAT (A), eWAT (B), and iWAT (C) from 16-week-old male mice.

(D-G) Quantification of adipocyte area and adipocyte volume from H&E sections of 16-week-old male homozygous *boh* mice and WT littermates.

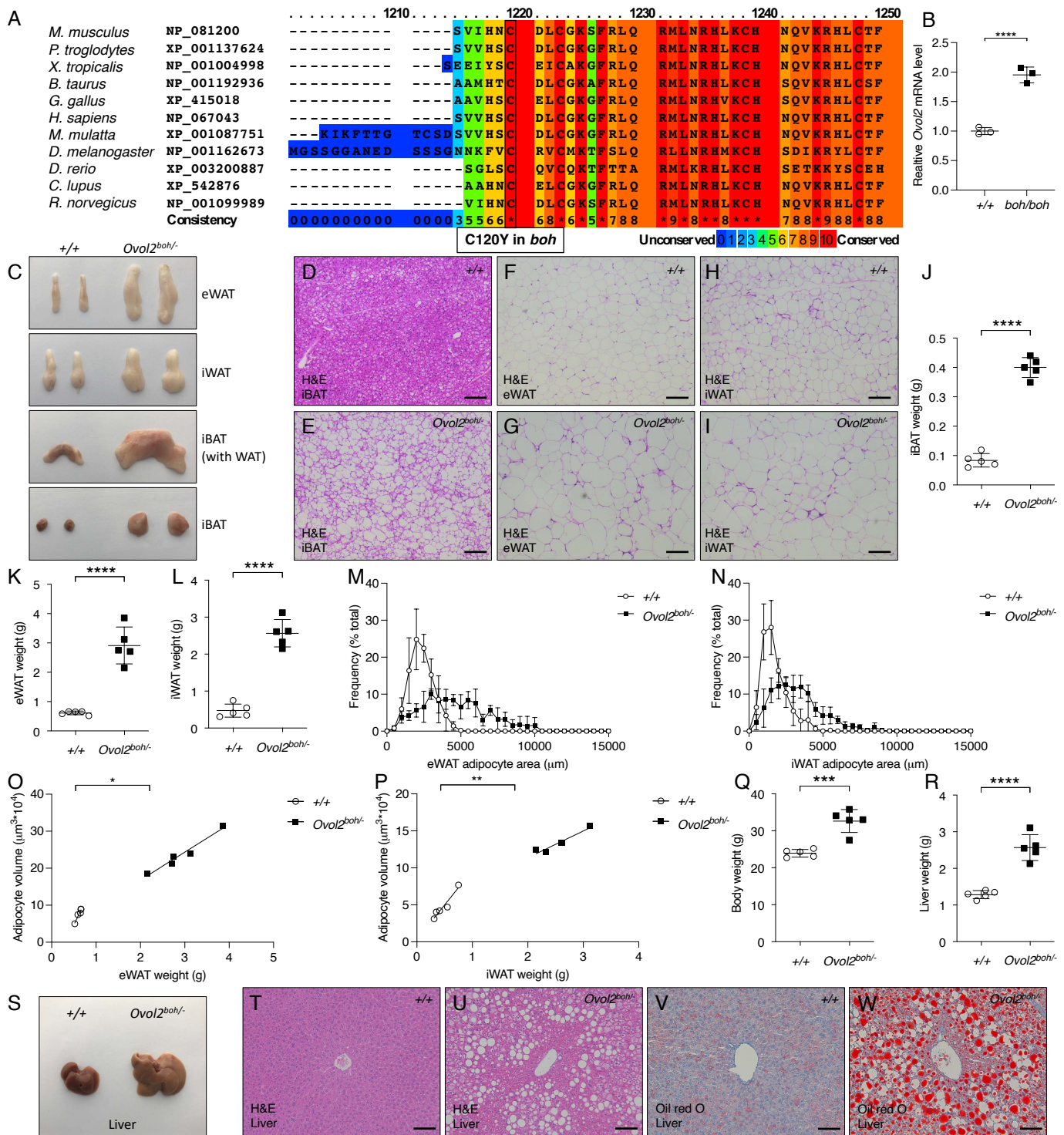
(H and I) Serum glucose (H) and insulin (I) in 5-week-old male mice after a 6-h fast.

(J) Glucose tolerance test. Blood glucose was measured at indicated times after i.p. glucose injection in 5-week-old male mice (n=5).

(K) Insulin tolerance test. Blood glucose was measured at indicated times after i.p. insulin injection in 5-week-old male mice (n=5). The baseline blood glucose levels (0 min) of *boh/boh* and WT littermates were  $211 \pm 28$  mg/dL and  $219 \pm 23$  mg/dL, respectively.

(L and M) Representative TEM images of liver sections from an 18-week-old female homozygous *boh* mouse (M) and a WT littermate (L). The boundary of a single liver cell is highlighted in red color. Scale bar: 10  $\mu$ m.

Data are presented as means  $\pm$  SD. *P* values were determined by Student's *t* test (A-C, H, and I). A linear correlation with a two-tailed comparison of slope and intercept was calculated and compared between different mouse groups (F and G). *P* values are denoted by \*  $P \leq 0.05$ ; \*\*\*\*  $P \leq 0.0001$ ; ns, not significant with  $P > 0.05$ . Data points represent individual mice (A-C, F-I). Data are representative of two independent experiments (A-K) or one experiment (L and M).



**Figure S2. The *boh* phenotype is caused by a conserved mutation in *Ovol2*, related to Figure 2**

(A) *Boh* mutation is highly conserved among different species.

(B) Relative *Ovol2* mRNA level in iWAT of 12-week-old male *Ovol2*<sup>boh/boh</sup> mice and WT littermates (mRNA level was normalized to *Polr2a*).

(C) Representative photographs of eWAT, iWAT, iBAT with WAT, and iBAT from 16-week-old male mice.

(D-I) H&E staining of sections from different adipose tissues of 16-week-old male mice. Scale bar: 100 μm.

(J-L) Weight of iBAT (J), eWAT (K), and iWAT (L) from 16-week-old male mice.

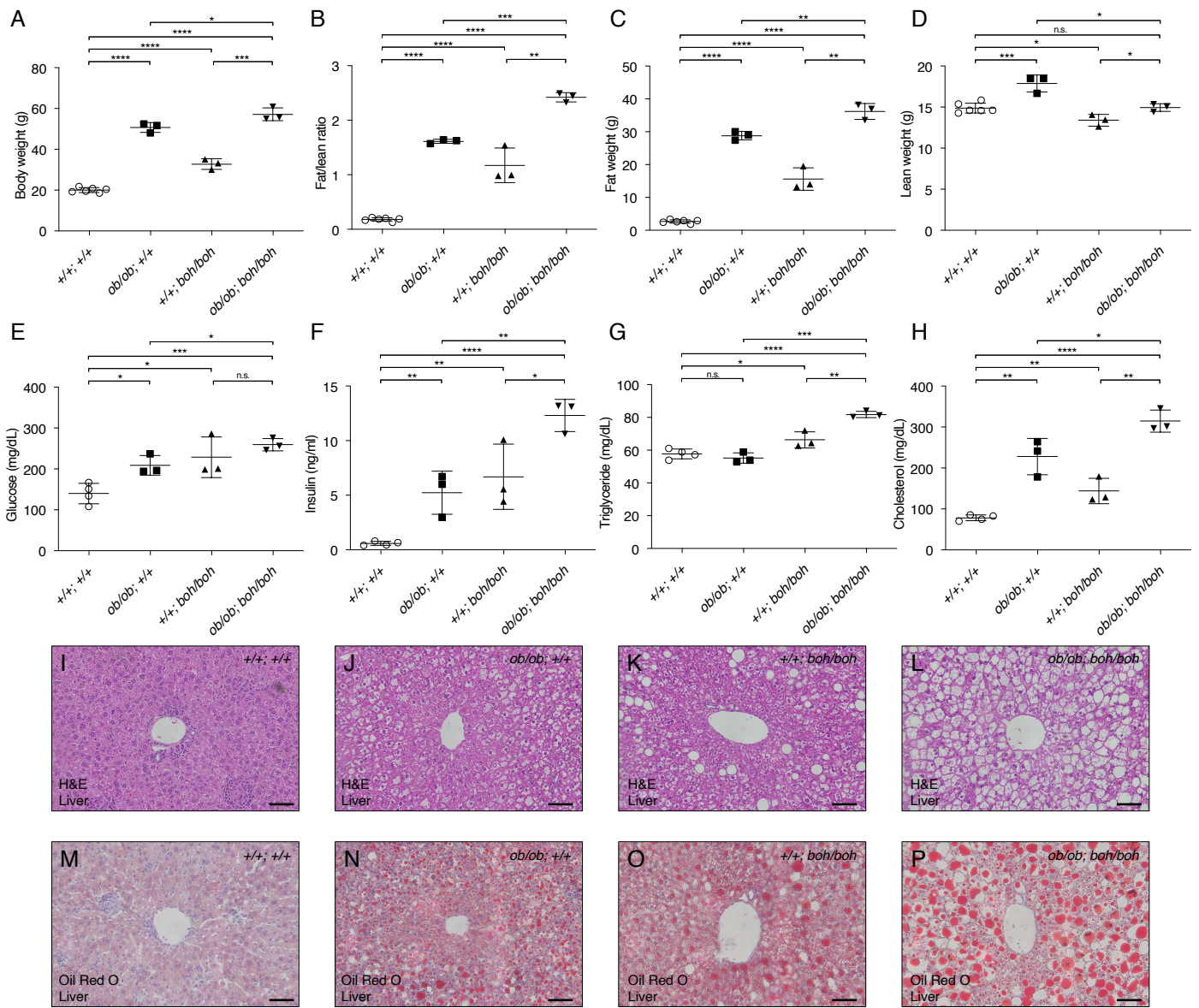
(M-P) Quantification of adipocyte area and adipocyte volume from H&E sections of 16-week-old male mice.

(Q and R) Body weight (Q) and liver weight (R) of 16-week-old male mice.

(S) Representative photographs of liver from 16-week-old male mice.

(T-W) Liver sections of 16-week-old male mice stained with H&E (T and U) and Oil Red O (V and W). Scale bar: 100 μm.

Data are presented as means ± SD. *P* values were determined by Student's *t* test (B, J-L, Q, and R). A linear correlation with a two-tailed comparison of slope and intercept was calculated and compared between different mouse groups (O and P). *P* values are denoted by \* *P* ≤ 0.05; \*\* *P* ≤ 0.01; \*\*\* *P* ≤ 0.001; \*\*\*\* *P* ≤ 0.0001. Data points represent individual mice (B, J-L, O-R). Data are representative of two independent experiments (B-S) or one experiment (T-W).



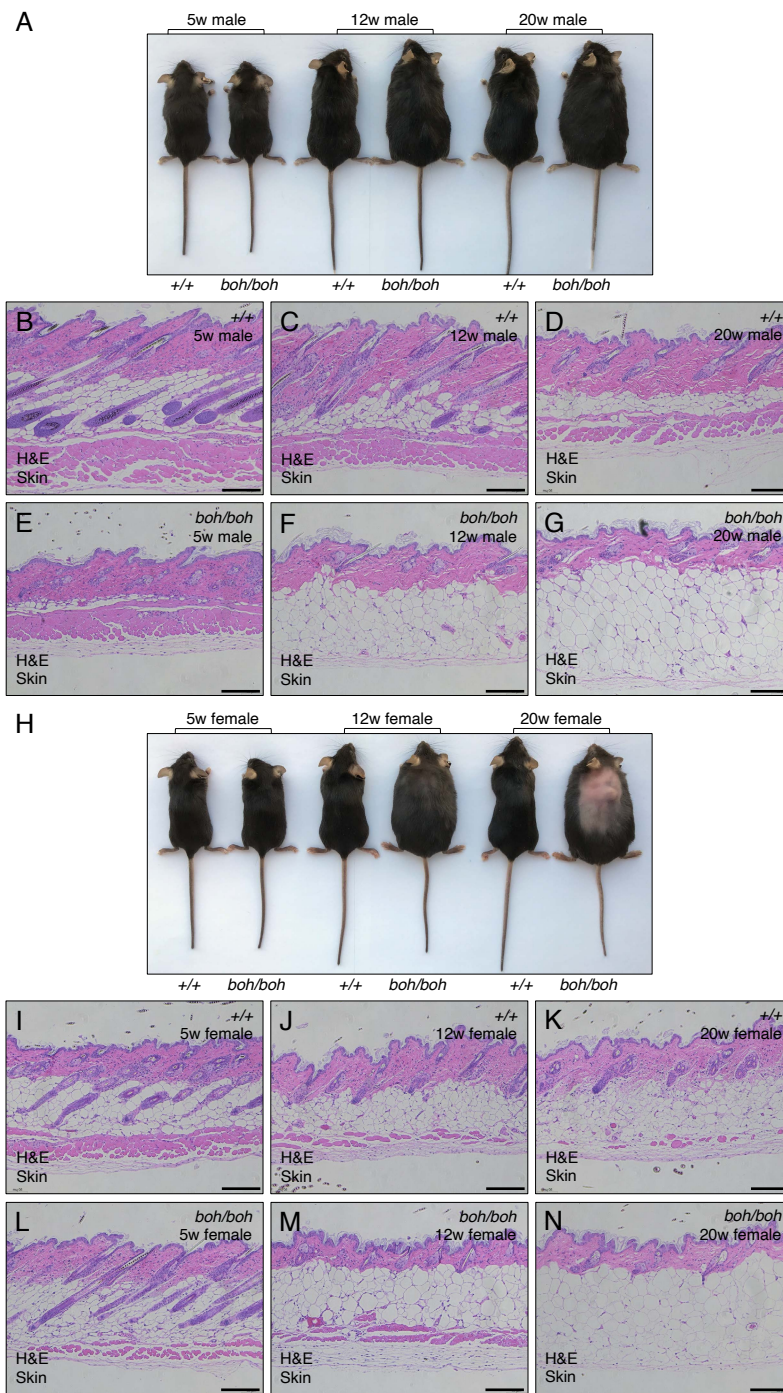
**Figure S3. The *boh* mutation further increases obesity in *ob* mutant mice, related to Figure 3**

(A-D) Body weight (A), fat to lean weight ratio (B), fat weight (C), and lean weight (D) of 16-week-old female mice.

(E-H) Serum glucose (E), insulin (F), triglyceride (G), and cholesterol (H) in 16-week-old female mice after a 6-h fast.

(I-P) Liver sections of 16-week-old female mice stained with H&E (I-L) and Oil Red O (M-P). Scale bar: 100  $\mu$ m.

Data are presented as means  $\pm$  SD. *P* values were determined by one-way ANOVA with Tukey's multiple comparison test. *P* values are denoted by \* *P*  $\leq$  0.05; \*\* *P*  $\leq$  0.01; \*\*\* *P*  $\leq$  0.001; \*\*\*\* *P*  $\leq$  0.0001; ns, not significant with *P* > 0.05. Data points represent individual mice (A-H). Data are representative of two independent experiments (A-H) or one experiment (I-P).



**Figure S4. Changes of skin from WT and *Ovo12<sup>boh/boh</sup>* mice at different ages, related to [Figure 4](#)**

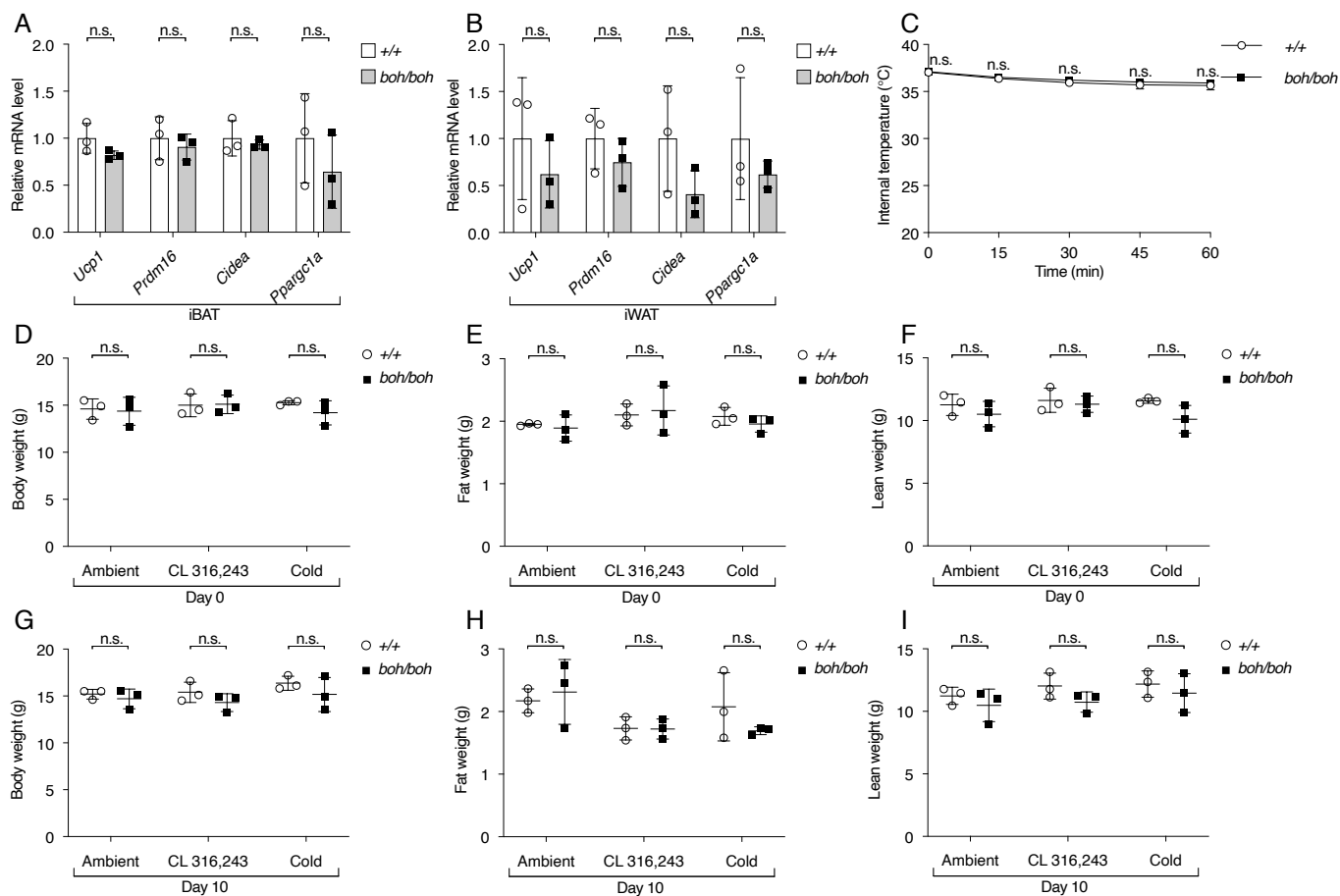
(A) Photograph of male *Ovo12<sup>boh/boh</sup>* mice and WT littermates at different ages (week).

(B-G) H&E staining of skin sections from male *Ovo12<sup>boh/boh</sup>* mice and WT littermates at different ages (week).

(H) Photograph of female *Ovo12<sup>boh/boh</sup>* mice and WT littermates at different ages (week).

(I-N) H&E staining of skin sections from female *Ovo12<sup>boh/boh</sup>* mice and WT littermates at different ages (week).

Data are from one experiment.



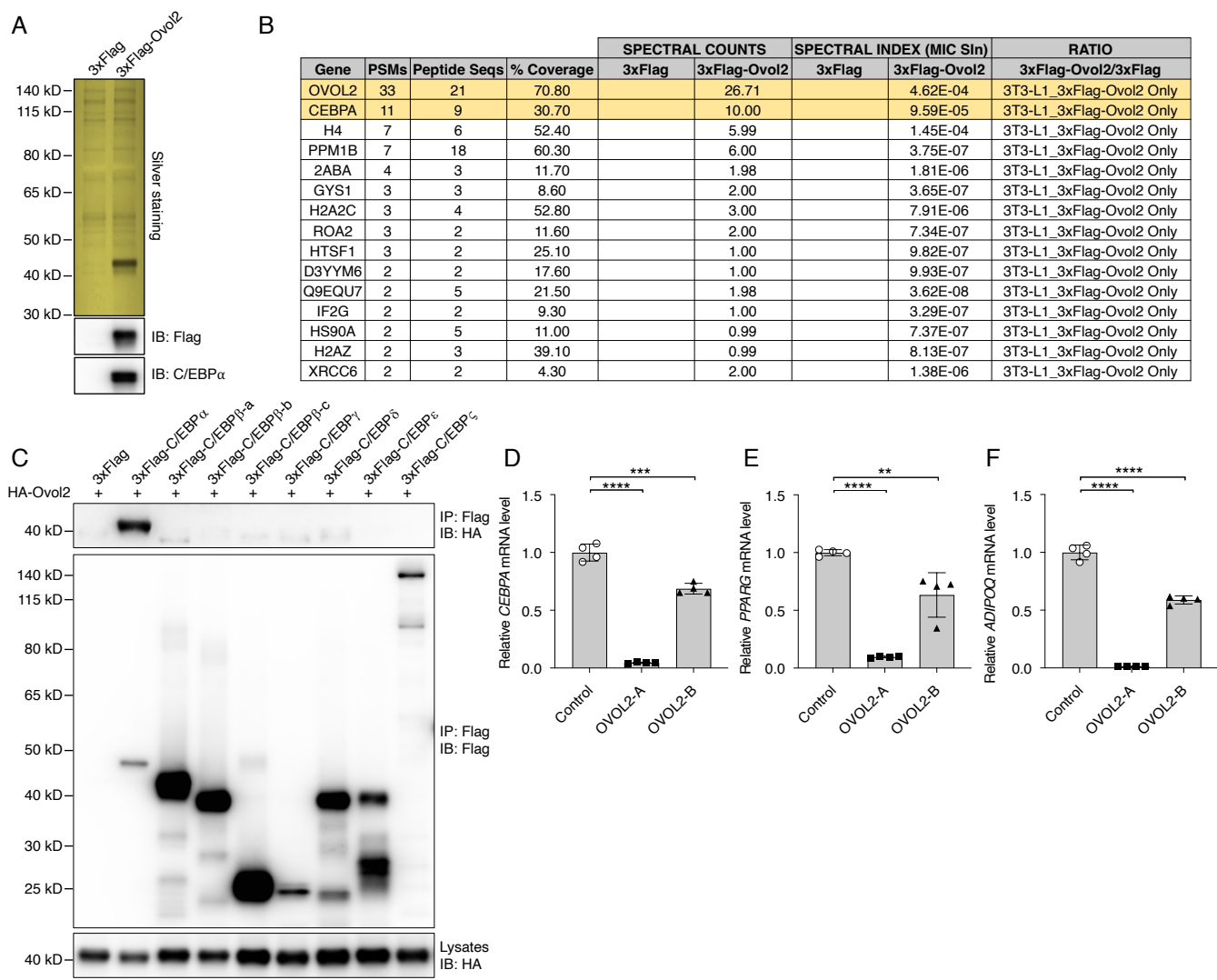
**Figure S5. The expression of thermogenic genes, acute cold tolerance, and body composition of 5-week-old *Ovol2<sup>boh/boh</sup>* mice after chronic cold challenge, related to Figure 5**

(A and B) Relative mRNA level of thermogenic genes in iBAT (A) and iWAT (B) of 5-week-old female mice (mRNA level was normalized to *Polr2a* and shown as fold change to WT controls).

(C) Internal temperature change of 5-week-old female mice housed at cold environment in the absence of food (n=4).

(D-I) Body weight, fat weight, and lean weight of 5-week-old female mice that were untreated (D-F) or treated with different conditions for 10 days (G-I).

Data are presented as means  $\pm$  SD. *P* values were determined by Student's *t* test. *P* values are denoted by ns, not significant with  $P > 0.05$ . Data points represent individual mice (A, B, and D-I). Data are representative of two independent experiments (A-C) or one experiment (D-I).



**Figure S6. Mass spectrometry identified C/EBP $\alpha$  as a specific interacting protein of OVOL2 among C/EBP family proteins, related to Figure 6**

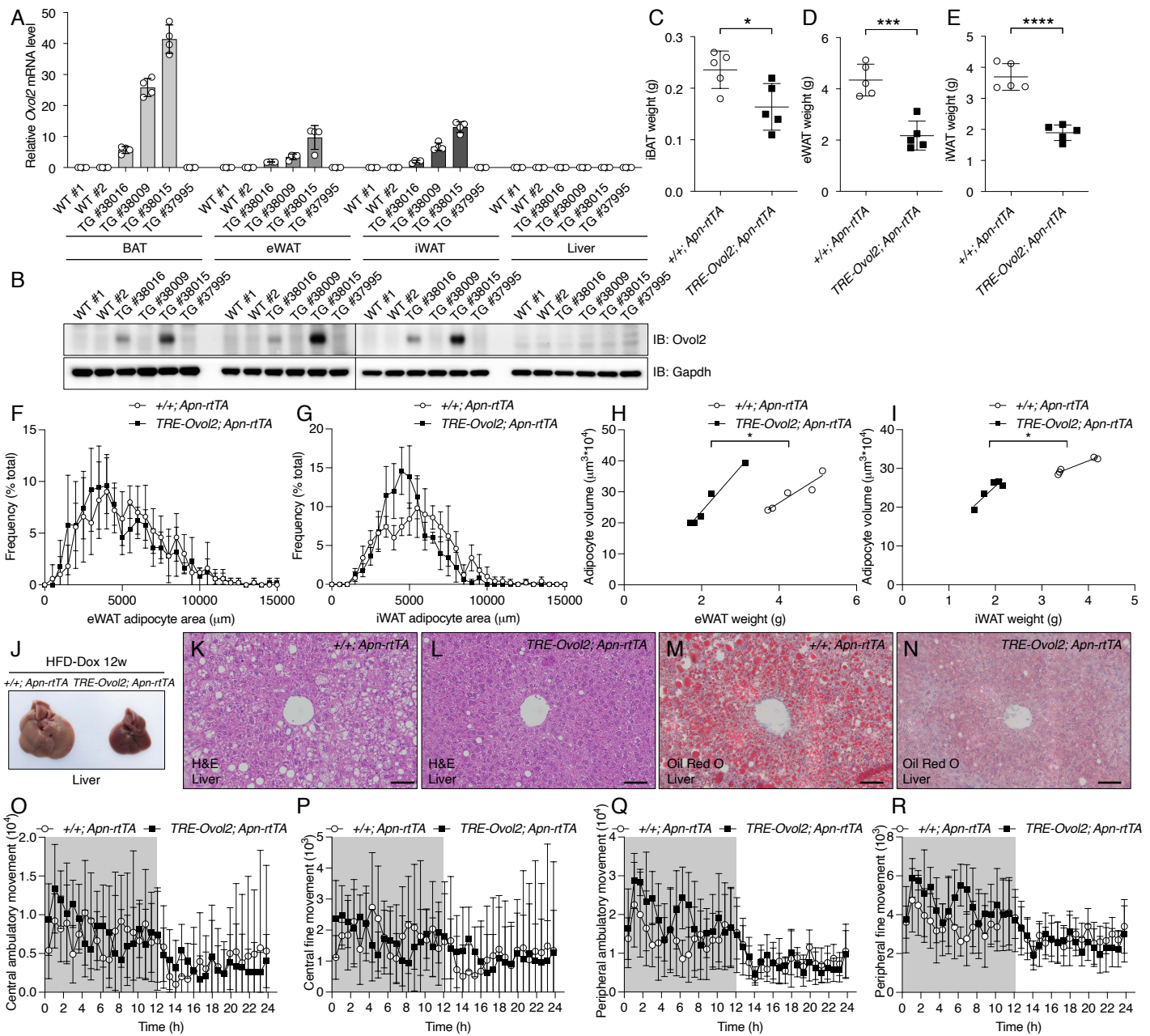
(A) Mass spectrometry identification of OVOL2 interacting proteins. Silver staining (Top) and immunoblot analysis (Middle and Bottom) of immunoprecipitates of 3T3-L1 adipocytes expressing 3xFLAG-tagged OVOL2.

(B) Mass spectrometry identified hits that were only found in 3xFLAG-OVOL2 immunoprecipitates.

(C) Immunoblot analysis of immunoprecipitates (Top and Middle) or lysates (Bottom) of 293T cells expressing HA-tagged Ovov2 and 3xFLAG-tagged C/EBP family proteins.

(D-F) Relative mRNA level of human adipocyte markers 14 days after primary human subcutaneous pre-adipocyte differentiation with overexpression of control or OVOL2 isoforms.

Data are presented as means  $\pm$  SD. *P* values were determined by one-way ANOVA with Tukey's multiple comparison test. *P* values are denoted by \*\* *P*  $\leq$  0.01; \*\*\* *P*  $\leq$  0.001; \*\*\*\* *P*  $\leq$  0.0001. Data are representative of two independent experiments (C-F) or one experiment (A and B).



**Figure S7. Verification and testing of inducible adipocyte-specific OVOL2 expression mouse model, related to Figure 7**

(A) *Ovnl2* mRNA levels normalized to *Polr2a* mRNA in different tissues of male mice after 4 weeks high-fat diet doxycycline feeding.

(B) Immunoblots of lysates of different tissues of male mice after 4 weeks high-fat diet doxycycline feeding.

(C-E) Weight of iBAT (C), eWAT (D), and iWAT (E) from 12 weeks HFD-Dox feeding mice.

(F-I) Quantification of adipocyte area and adipocyte volume from H&E sections of 12 weeks HFD-Dox feeding mice.

(J) Representative photographs of liver from 12 weeks HFD-Dox feeding mice.

(K-N) Liver sections of 12 weeks HFD-Dox feeding mice stained with H&E (K and L) and Oil Red O (M and N). Scale bar: 100  $\mu\text{m}$ .

(O-R) Metabolic cage measurements of central ambulatory movement (O), central fine movement (P), peripheral ambulatory movement (Q), and peripheral fine movement (R) of 12 weeks HFD-Dox feeding mice ( $n=6$ ) housed at 23  $^{\circ}\text{C}$ .

Data are presented as means  $\pm$  SD. *P* values were determined by Student's *t* test (C-E). A linear correlation with a two-tailed comparison of slope and intercept was calculated and compared between different mouse groups (H and I). *P* values are denoted by \*  $P \leq 0.05$ ; \*\*\*  $P \leq 0.001$ ; \*\*\*\*  $P \leq 0.0001$ . Data points represent individual mice (C-E, H, and I). Data are representative of two independent experiments (A-E) or one experiment (F-R).

**Table S1. Primers used for quantitative PCR, related to STAR Methods**

Target name	Forward primer (5'-3')	Reverse primer (5'-3')
<i>Ovol2</i>	AATCAAGTTTACCACCGGCA	CTCTTCAGGTCGAAGGTGTC
<i>Polr2a</i>	CAAGATGCAAGAGGAGGAAGAG	TGTTGTCTGTCTGAGGTAAGTG
<i>Ucp1</i>	AAATACTGGCAGATGACGTC	GTACAATCCACTGTCTGTCTG
<i>Prdm16</i>	CCATTCATATGCGAGGTCTG	GTGTAATGGTTCTTGCCCTC
<i>Cidea</i>	TGCTCTTCTGTATCGCCCAGT	GCCGTGTTAAGGAATCTGCTG
<i>Ppargc1a</i>	AGCCGTGACCACTGACAACGAG	GCTGCATGGTTCTGAGTGCTAAG
<i>Fabp4</i>	CCAGGGAGAACCAAAGTTGAG	CTGACCATGTGACTGTAGGAG
<i>Glut4</i>	GGCTCTATGTCATCCTGCTG	CTTGGACTGCGAAATTTCTG
<i>ACTB</i>	CACCACACCTTCTACAATGAG	GTCTCAAACATGATCTGGGTC
<i>CEBPA</i>	GTTCTACATGAAGGTGGAGG	CTAGCTTTCTGGTGTGACTC
<i>PPARG</i>	GTAATGGAAGACCACTCCCAC	CACTTTGATTGCACTTTGGTACTC
<i>ADIPOQ</i>	CAGGAAACCACGACTCAAGG	GGACCAATAAGACCTGGATCTC