

Original article

Proteomic and metabolomic analysis of cardioprotection: Interplay between protein kinase C epsilon and delta in regulating glucose metabolism of murine hearts

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ABSTRACT

We applied a combined proteomic and metabolomic approach to obtain novel mechanistic insights in PKC ϵ -mediated cardioprotection. Mitochondrial and cytosolic proteins from control and transgenic hearts with constitutively active or dominant negative PKC ϵ were analyzed using difference in-gel electrophoresis (DIGE). Among the differentially expressed proteins were creatine kinase, pyruvate kinase, lactate dehydrogenase, and the cytosolic isoforms of aspartate amino transferase and malate dehydrogenase, the two enzymatic components of the malate aspartate shuttle, which are required for the import of reducing equivalents from glycolysis across the inner mitochondrial membrane. These enzymatic changes appeared to be dependent on PKC ϵ activity, as they were not observed in mice expressing inactive PKC ϵ . High-resolution proton nuclear magnetic resonance (¹H-NMR) spectroscopy confirmed a pronounced effect of PKC ϵ activity on cardiac glucose and energy metabolism: normoxic hearts with constitutively active PKC ϵ had significantly lower concentrations of glucose, lactate, glutamine and creatine, but higher levels of choline, glutamate and total adenosine nucleotides. Moreover, the depletion of cardiac energy metabolites was slower during ischemia/reperfusion injury and glucose metabolism recovered faster upon reperfusion in transgenic hearts with active PKC ϵ . Notably, inhibition of PKC ϵ resulted in compensatory phosphorylation and mitochondrial translocation of PKC δ . Taken together, our findings are the first evidence that PKC ϵ activity modulates cardiac glucose metabolism and provide a possible explanation for the synergistic effect of PKC δ and PKC ϵ in cardioprotection.

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1. Introduction

Protein kinase C (PKC) is a heterogeneous family of phospholipid-dependent kinases. Notably, the PKC ϵ and the PKC δ isoforms have both been implicated in cardioprotection as translocation of activated PKC ϵ and PKC δ to the membrane fraction has been detected in preconditioned hearts [1]. PKC ϵ activation and PKC δ inhibition are thought to be involved in myocardial salvage and combined treatment with PKC δ inhibitor and PKC ϵ activator peptides exerted an additive protective effect on the ischemic heart [2–7]. On the other hand, expression of active PKC δ increased resistance to simulated ischemia in neonatal cardiomyocytes [8]. Thus, although it is now widely accepted that PKC isoforms play a pivotal role in mediating both the early and the late phase of ischemic preconditioning [9–11], the mechanisms responsible for PKC-mediated ischaemic preconditioning

are still debated. While numerous studies have addressed potential targets of PKC in cardiac signalling [12–15], the role of these specific PKC isoforms in cardiac metabolism is less clear.

To further advance our understanding of how PKC isoforms alter cardiac metabolism, we have previously identified protein and metabolite changes after ischemic preconditioning [16] and demonstrated that loss of PKC δ altered glucose metabolism resulting in a reduction in the ratio of cardiac glucose to lipid metabolites [17]. We now integrate protein with metabolite changes in cardioprotected mice with transgenic activation of PKC ϵ and unravel metabolic changes occurring during ischemia/reperfusion injury. Our data are the first evidence that the cardioprotective effect of PKC ϵ activation on mitochondrial function may be, in part, an indirect effect of modulating cardiac glucose metabolism providing an explanation for the synergistic effects of PKC ϵ and PKC δ in cardioprotection.

2. Methods

Detailed methodology is provided in the [online data supplement](#).

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2.1. Transgenic mice

Animals used in the present study were PKC ϵ transgenic mice (ICR background) generated using a cDNA of active PKC ϵ driven by the α -myosin heavy chain promoter to achieve cardiac-specific expression [12,18]. AE PKC ϵ transgenic mice express a PKC ϵ molecule that favors the open and active conformation (A to E mutation at A159), whereas DN PKC ϵ mice express a dominant negative form of the same molecule (A to E mutation at A159 and K to R mutation at K436). The hearts of AE PKC ϵ mice exhibit a 6-fold overexpression of PKC ϵ and an inherent resistance to infarction (as compared to wild type, ICR controls) that is not observed in the DN PKC ϵ mice [12]. Transgenic and control mice were sacrificed at the age of 6 months. Only male animals were used in all the experiments. Hearts from 8-week-old PKC δ -deficient mice served as controls for validating the antibody specificity [19].

2.2. Subcellular fractionation

Isolation of mitochondria was performed in the cold room at 4 °C. Freshly-harvested mouse hearts were minced in 250 mM sucrose, 1 mM EGTA, 20 mM Hepes, pH 7.5 with a glass homogenizer. Nuclei and unbroken cells were pelleted by centrifugation at 1000 g for 10 min. The crude mitochondrial and cytosolic fraction was obtained from the supernatant by centrifugation at 4000 g for 30 min. The membrane fraction was obtained by centrifugation of the cytosolic fraction at 100,000 g for 1 h.

2.3. Proteomics

Key techniques involved adaptations of previously published protocols, including those for difference in-gel electrophoresis (DIGE) [20], and nano-liquid chromatography tandem mass spectro-

metry (nano-LC MS/MS) [21]. Methods are described online. A detailed methodology is also available on our website <http://www.vascular-proteomics.com>. For proteomic analysis, mitochondrial and cytosolic protein extracts were prepared from 16 murine hearts ($n=6$ for control and AE mice, $n=4$ for DN mice). Two samples were pooled for each gel to obtain sufficient material for proteomic analysis. Differences in protein expression were analyzed using the Decyder software (Version 6.5, GE healthcare).

2.4. Murine model of regional myocardial ischemic injury

Myocardial infarction was induced in the anesthetized mouse using an established protocol of regional ischemic injury [22]. Briefly, male ICR mice were subjected to a 30 min left anterior descending coronary artery occlusion followed by 30 min of reperfusion. Sham control group was subjected to open chest surgery without coronary occlusion.

2.5. Metabolomics

For metabolomic analysis, metabolite extracts were prepared from 29 murine hearts ($n=5$ for normoxic control and AE PKC ϵ mice, $n=4$ for control and $n=3$ for AE PKC ϵ mice after ischemia, and $n=4$ for control, AE and DN PKC ϵ mice after 30 min reperfusion, respectively). Water-soluble metabolites were extracted in 6% perchloric acid and proton magnetic resonance spectroscopy ($^1\text{H-NMR}$) was performed as described online [23].

2.6. Statistical analysis

Statistical analysis was performed using the analysis of variance (ANOVA) and unpaired Student's t -test. Pairwise comparisons between metabolites were performed using the Bonferroni/Dunn

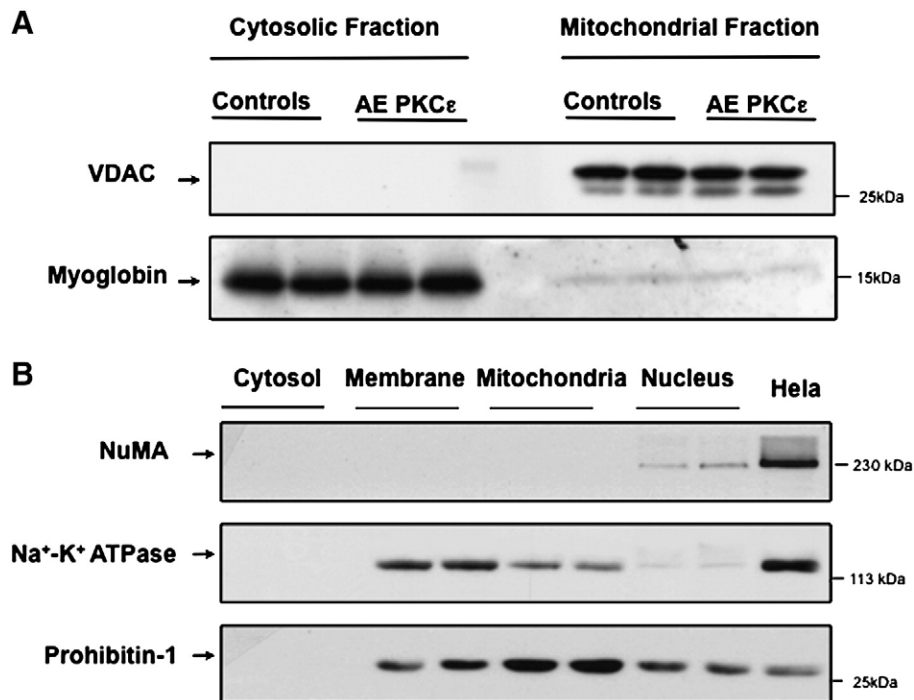


Fig. 1. Subcellular fractionation. Mitochondrial and cytosolic extracts were prepared from murine hearts as described in the Methods section. The purity of the fractions was assessed by Western blotting for VDAC, a mitochondrial outer membrane protein, and myoglobin, an abundant cytosolic protein (A). Panel B illustrates the depletion of nuclear proteins (NuMA) and the enrichment of mitochondrial (prohibitin) compared to other membrane proteins (Na $^+$ /K $^+$ ATPase).

test. Results were given as means \pm SE. A *P* value <0.05 was considered significant. Principal component analysis (PCA) was used for the analysis of the multivariate data produced by proteomic and metabolomic technologies, which reduces the data dimensionality. For proteomic datasets, DIGE gels were analyzed using the extended data analysis (EDA) module of the Decyder software (GE healthcare). For metabolite profiles, the $^1\text{H-NMR}$ spectra were used for generating bucket tables for PCA analysis.

3. Results

3.1. The proteome of PKC ϵ transgenic hearts

To provide insights into potential cellular targets of PKC ϵ , we compared the mitochondrial and cytosolic proteome of control hearts and transgenic hearts with constitutively active (AE) and dominant negative (DN) PKC ϵ by DIGE. The quality of subcellular fractionation was assessed by immunoblotting (Fig. 1). The intactness of mitochondria was verified by the calcium swelling assay as described [24]. A representative image of the cardiac mitochondrial and cytosolic fraction as separated by two-dimensional gel electrophoresis (2-DE, pH 3–10 nonlinear) is presented in Fig. 2. Differentially expressed spots are numbered and protein identifications as obtained by nano-LC MS/MS analysis are listed in online Tables I–III. Only a few mitochondrial proteins in AE transgenic hearts were consistently different from control as well as DN transgenic hearts, including mitofilin (Supplemental Fig. 1A), an inner mitochondrial membrane protein and regulator of metabolic flux, and manganese superoxide dismutase, an important mitochondrial antioxidant (Supplemental Table I). The latter was subsequently confirmed by immunoblotting (Supplemental Fig. 2). No difference in net expression was observed

for mitofilin because post-translational modifications as well as changes in net expression can be visualized on 2-DE gels (Supplemental Fig. 1A).

Besides mitochondria, several cytosolic enzymes related to glucose and energy metabolism were profoundly influenced by PKC ϵ activation (Supplemental Table III, Supplemental Fig. 1B), including pyruvate kinase, enolase, lactate dehydrogenase, creatine kinase, as well as cytosolic malate dehydrogenase and cytosolic aspartate aminotransferase. The latter two enzymes constitute the components of the malate–aspartate shuttle, which exchanges cytoplasmic malate for mitochondrial aspartate and allows the transport of glycolytically-derived reducing equivalents across the inner mitochondrial membrane. When cross-validation was performed using principal component analysis (PCA) to investigate the global variation in the proteomic space, the differentially expressed cytosolic proteins allowed a clear separation of control and transgenic hearts (Figs. 3A–C).

Unexpectedly, the proteomic experiments also revealed a pronounced effect of PKC ϵ inhibition on the mitochondrial pyruvate dehydrogenase complex (Supplemental Table II). The latter consists of E1 [the pyruvate dehydrogenase (decarboxylating) (α) $_2$ / (β) $_2$ heterotetramer], E2 (the dihydrolipoamide acetyltransferase) and E3 (the dihydrolipoyl dehydrogenase). Component X is an E3-binding protein and/or an E2 ancillary subunit with E2-like activity. Given that a 1:1 stoichiometry should exist between E1- α and E1- β , the opposing directionality in changes observed in the proteomic experiment, suggests a post-translational modification. This was further substantiated by our finding that pyruvate dehydrogenase kinase 4, an inducible regulatory component, was identified within the protein spot containing E1- α . Phosphorylation of E1 by pyruvate dehydrogenase kinase (PDK) inactivates E1 and subsequently the entire pyruvate dehydrogenase complex. No statistically significant

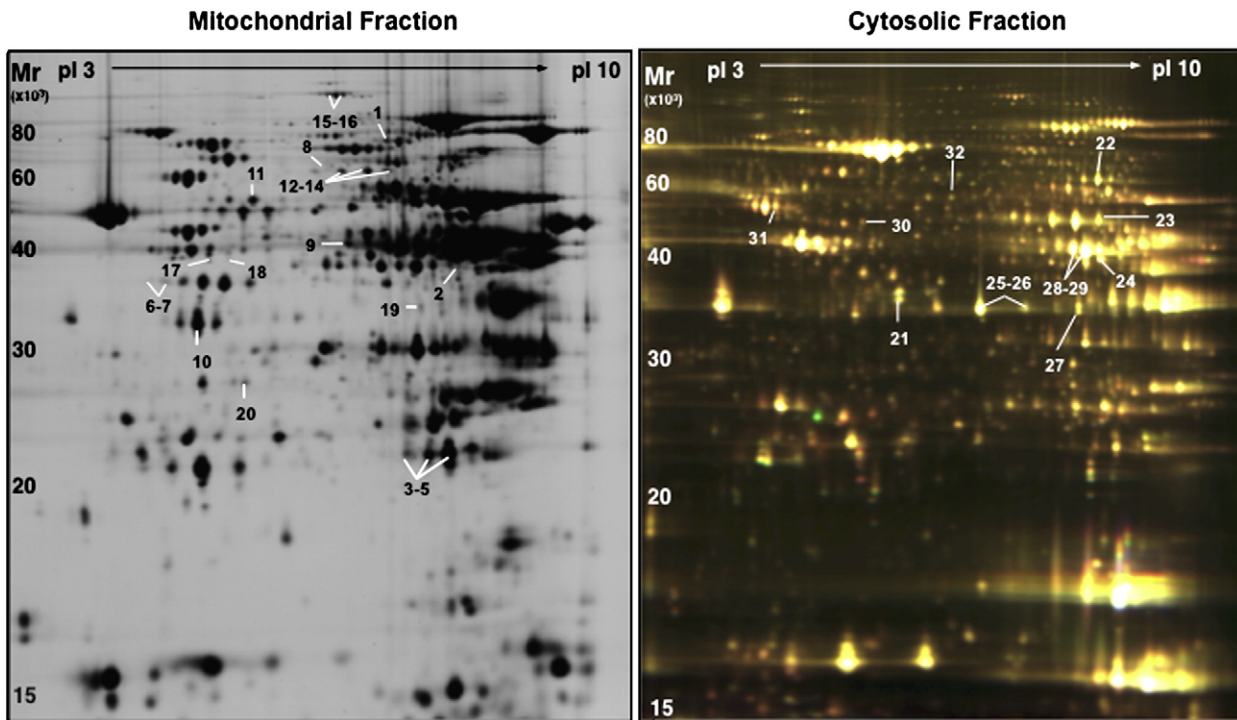


Fig. 2. 2-DE map of cardiac proteins in the mitochondrial and cytosolic fraction. Subcellular protein extracts were pre-labelled with Cy3 and Cy5 using the DIGE approach and co-separated on large format 2-DE gels using pH 3–10NL IPG strips followed by 12% SDS polyacrylamide gels. Images were acquired on a fluorescence scanner and counterstained with silver. A silver-stained image of mitochondrial extracts and a DIGE image of cytosolic extracts is shown in panels A and B, respectively. Analyses using Decyder[®] software revealed the spots showing a significant difference in AE or DN hearts. Proteins were numbered and identified by nano-LC MS/MS (Supplemental Table I–III).

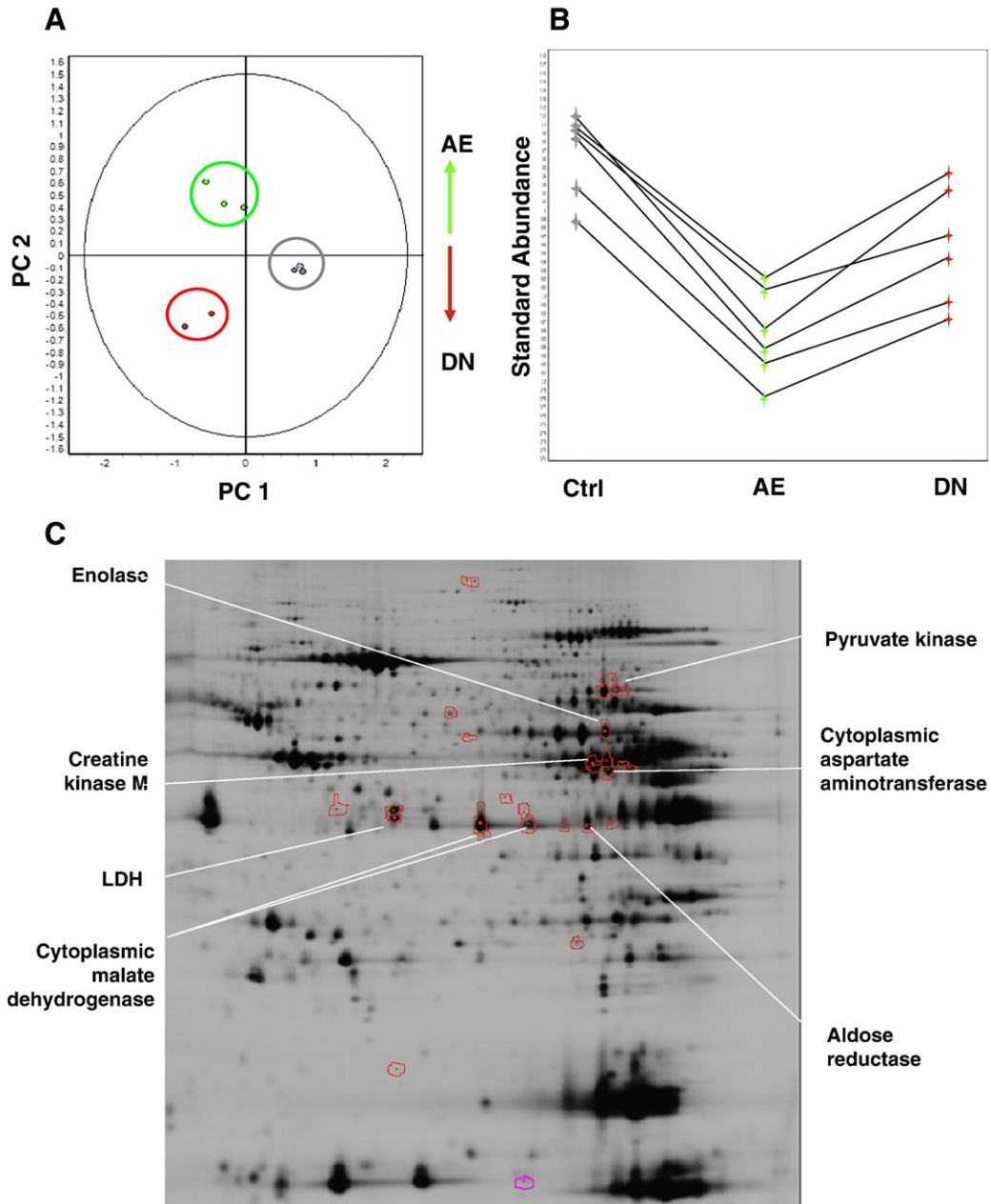


Fig. 3. Differential expression of cytosolic enzymes in PKC ϵ transgenic hearts. Principal Component Analysis on the set of differentially expressed cytosolic proteins (ANOVA <math><0.05</math>) allowed clear discrimination of controls (grey), AE (green) and DN PKC ϵ hearts (red) (A). The differentially expressed enzymes contributing to this discrimination formed a cluster of similar expression profiles (B) and are highlighted on the representative 2-DE gel shown below (C).

differences were found for cytosolic proteins. When the differentially expressed proteins were submitted to Ingenuity Pathway Analysis (Ingenuity System, Mountain View, CA), the computational algorithms built two dominant protein association networks (Supplemental Fig. 3) and returned pyruvate metabolism as the top canonical pathway. Thus, our proteomic data provide strong evidence for a previously unrecognized effect of PKC ϵ activity on cardiac glucose metabolism.

3.2. Metabolomic analysis of normoxic PKC ϵ transgenic hearts

To prove the functional relevance of the described enzymatic changes, we applied high-resolution ^1H -NMR spectroscopy to measure cardiac metabolites. A representative ^1H -NMR spectrum of

control and AE PKC ϵ transgenic hearts is shown in Fig. 4. A principal component (PCA) and a linear discriminant analysis (LDA) were performed to investigate the global variation of the cardiac samples in the 25-dimensional metabolite space. AE PKC ϵ and control hearts were dissimilar enough that principal component 1 (PC1) alone gave good discrimination (Supplemental Fig. 4A). 9/10 samples were correctly classified, with 1 control misclassified (LDA, leave one out). The scores on PC1 were -0.0565 , -0.0039 , -0.0420 , -0.0321 , 0.0015 for control and 0.0256 , 0.0363 , 0.0236 , 0.0169 , 0.0307 for AE PKC ϵ hearts. The difference between the two means (blue) and PC1 (green) is plotted in the bottom panel of Fig. 4. The fact that the difference between the 2 means and the direction of largest variance (PC1) is so small suggests that the two groups are well separated, which is

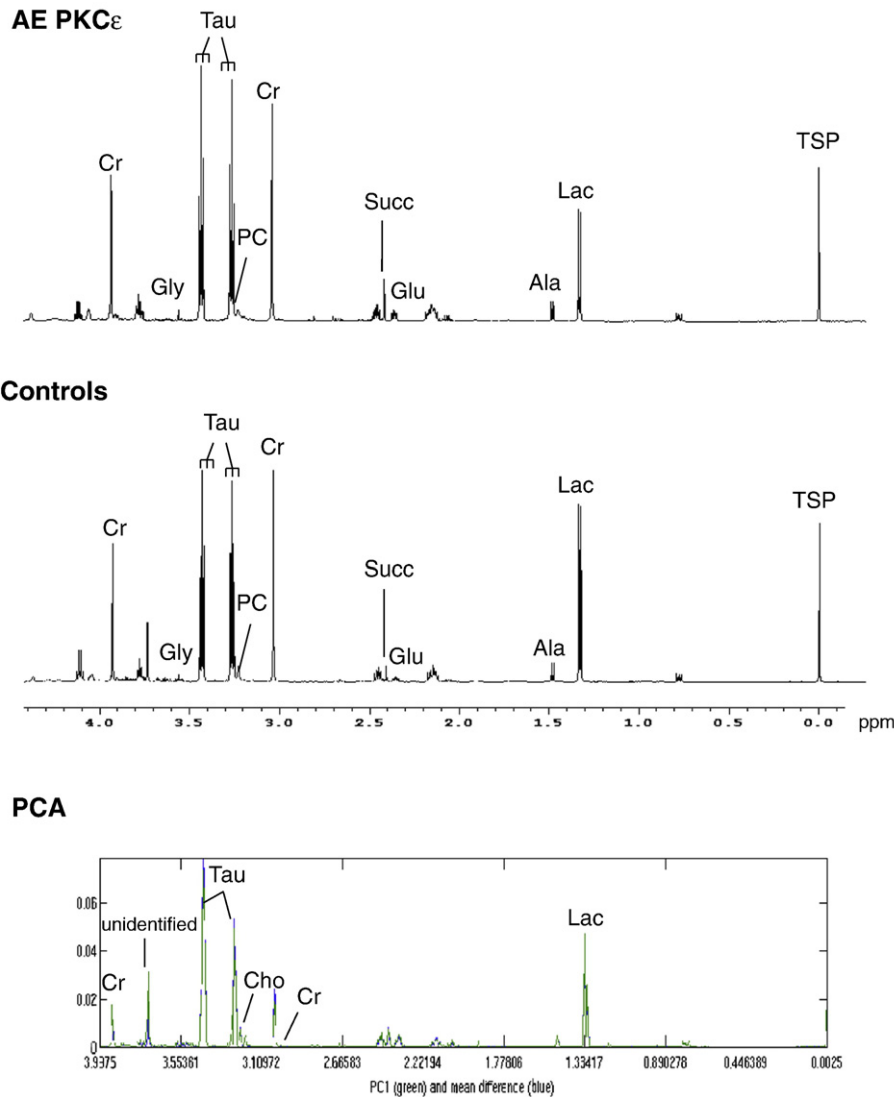


Fig. 4. Nuclear magnetic resonance spectra of murine hearts. Representative high-resolution ^1H -NMR spectra of AE PKC ϵ transgenic and control hearts. Within the aliphatic region of the NMR spectra (-0.05 to 4.2 parts per million), resonances have been assigned to 25 metabolites, including creatine (Cr), glycine (Gly), taurine (Tau), phosphocholine (PC), succinate (Succ), glutamate (Glu), alanine (Ala), and lactate (Lac). Sodium 3-trimethylsilyl-2,2,3,3-tetra-deuteriopropionate (TSP) was added into the samples for chemical shift calibration. The bottom panel shows the first principal component (PC1) and the differences between the two means of metabolites in hearts with and without PKC ϵ activation.

confirmed by the cross-validated classification. Metabolites responsible for the discrimination between the two groups have been assigned. The quantitative data are included as online Table IV. Levels of lactate, glucose, glutamine, leucine, taurine and total creatine were significantly lower in cardioprotected AE PKC ϵ transgenic hearts, while choline, glutamate and adenosine nucleotides were higher compared to controls (Fig. 5A).

3.3. Metabolomic analysis after ischemia/reperfusion injury

To trace metabolite changes during ischemia/reperfusion injury, we measured cardiac metabolites after 30 min of ischemia and 30 min reperfusion. Strikingly, no significant metabolite changes were detected between control and AE PKC ϵ transgenic hearts immediately after ischemia (Supplemental Table V), but differences reappeared upon reperfusion (Supplemental Table VI, Supplemental Fig. 4B): After only 30 min of reperfusion, the adenosine nucleotide pool was again significantly higher in AE PKC ϵ transgenic hearts. Similarly, the decline

of the total creatine pool during ischemia/reperfusion injury was less pronounced. This maintenance of cardiac energy metabolites in AE PKC ϵ transgenic hearts coincided with a faster recovery of glucose metabolites (Fig. 5B). A direct comparison of average metabolite concentrations in control, AE and DN PKC ϵ transgenic hearts provides further evidence that the activity of PKC ϵ correlates with metabolic recovery upon reperfusion (Fig. 6).

3.4. Mitochondrial translocation of PKC δ in PKC ϵ transgenic hearts

While cardiac glucose metabolism was clearly affected by PKC ϵ activity, it remained to be determined whether there was a cross-talk between the PKC ϵ and the PKC δ isoform [25]. Fig. 7 provides evidence that activation of PKC ϵ did not lead to a compensatory change in PKC δ expression. Inhibition of PKC ϵ , however, markedly increased phosphorylation of PKC δ at Thr⁵⁰⁵ and promoted translocation of PKC δ to the cardiac mitochondria (Fig. 7A). The specificity of the antibodies was confirmed by using PKC δ -deficient hearts (Figs. 7B, C). These

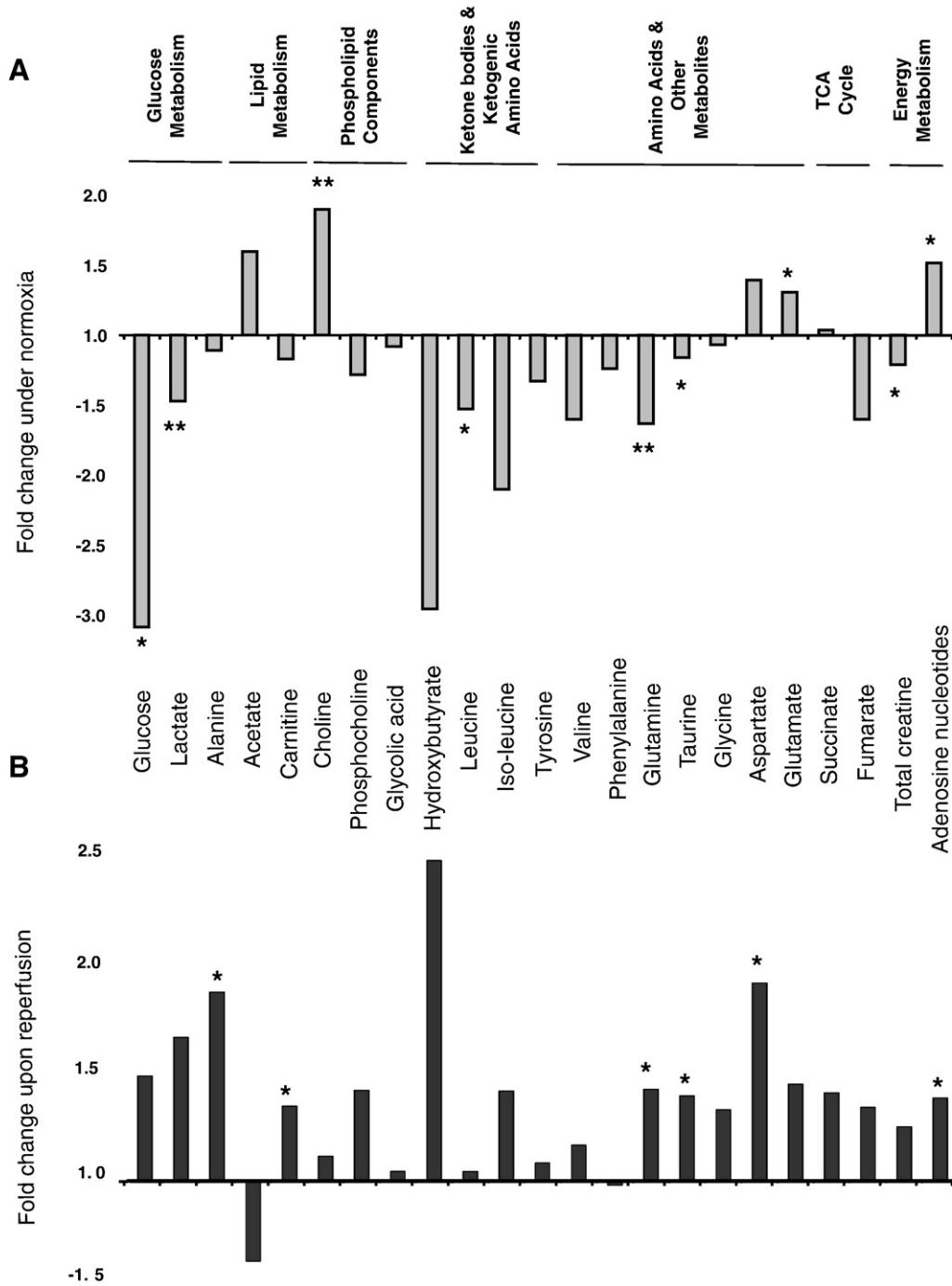


Fig. 5. Comparison of metabolites during normoxia (A) and after ischemia/reperfusion injury (B). The histogram shows the fold change of metabolites in AE PKCε hearts normalized to controls. Note the inverse pattern of most cardiac metabolites before (A) and after ischemia/reperfusion injury (B), but the consistent elevation of the adenosine nucleotide pool in AE PKCε hearts. * Significant difference $p < 0.05$, ** $p < 0.01$

results provide additional support for the differential expression of the pyruvate dehydrogenase complex in DN PKCε hearts (Supplemental Table II), as PKCδ Thr⁵⁰⁵ phosphorylation is known to alter substrate specificity [26] and the pyruvate dehydrogenase complex is one of the likely targets of PKCδ on cardiac mitochondria [16,17,27]. Thus, the activation state of PKCε influences PKCδ and the pyruvate dehydrogenase complex, the key enzyme linking glycolysis to mitochondrial respiration.

4. Discussion

In previous studies, our laboratory has shown that transgenic activation of PKCε in the heart is sufficient to significantly reduce myocardial infarction after coronary artery occlusion [12,28]. In the present study, we used a novel combination of gel-based proteomics and high-resolution ¹H-NMR spectroscopy-based metabolomics [29], to investigate mechanisms of PKCε-mediated cardioprotection. This

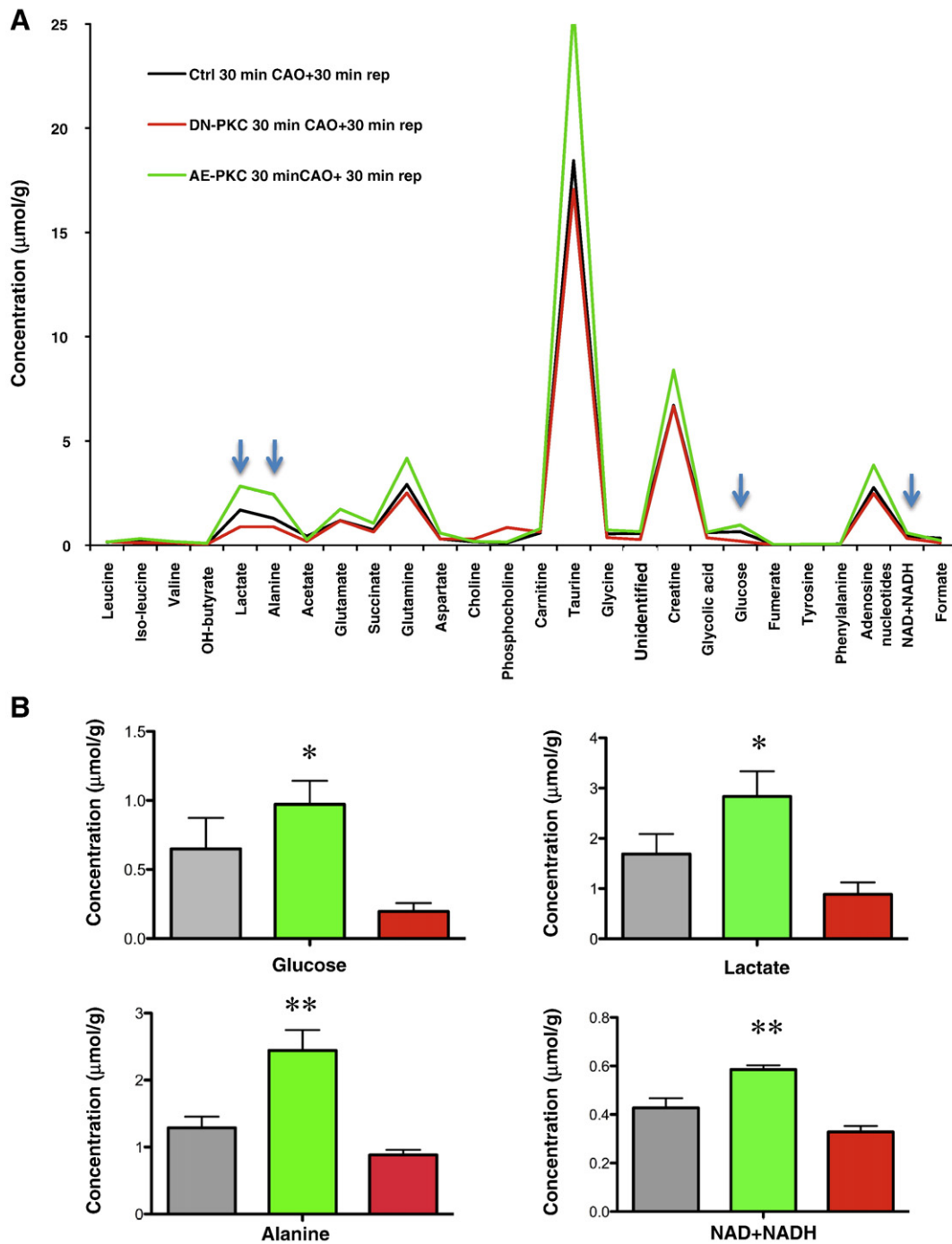


Fig. 6. Metabolic recovery after ischemia/reperfusion. Average metabolite concentration after 30 min of reperfusion in control, AE and DN transgenic hearts (A). The short reperfusion time was adapted to assess the early recovery of cardiac metabolism upon restoration of blood flow. Note that concentrations of metabolites related to glucose metabolism (arrows) correlate with PKC ϵ activity (B). * Statistically significant difference from DN hearts, ** statistically significant difference from control as well as DN hearts.

comprehensive analysis revealed that PKC ϵ activation has a previously unrecognized effect on cardiac glucose metabolism [30,31].

4.1. PKC ϵ and cardiac metabolism

Despite abundant information on PKC ϵ signalling networks in the heart [12–14,32], the manner in which the actions of these various signalling molecules integrate into cardiac metabolism is still not well understood. To our knowledge, only two papers have previously

addressed the effects of PKC ϵ activation on cardiac metabolism: Cross et al [33] used ^{31}P -NMR spectroscopy to measure phosphorus metabolites during ischemia reperfusion injury in Langendorff-perfused hearts. Despite maintaining a greater level of myocardial ATP during ischemia and reperfusion, the phosphocreatine content in AE PKC ϵ transgenic hearts was similar to controls. McCarthy [34] et al. subsequently evaluated this phenotype in isolated mitochondria: they described a modest basal hyperpolarization in mitochondria from AE PKC ϵ transgenic hearts versus controls. While no difference was

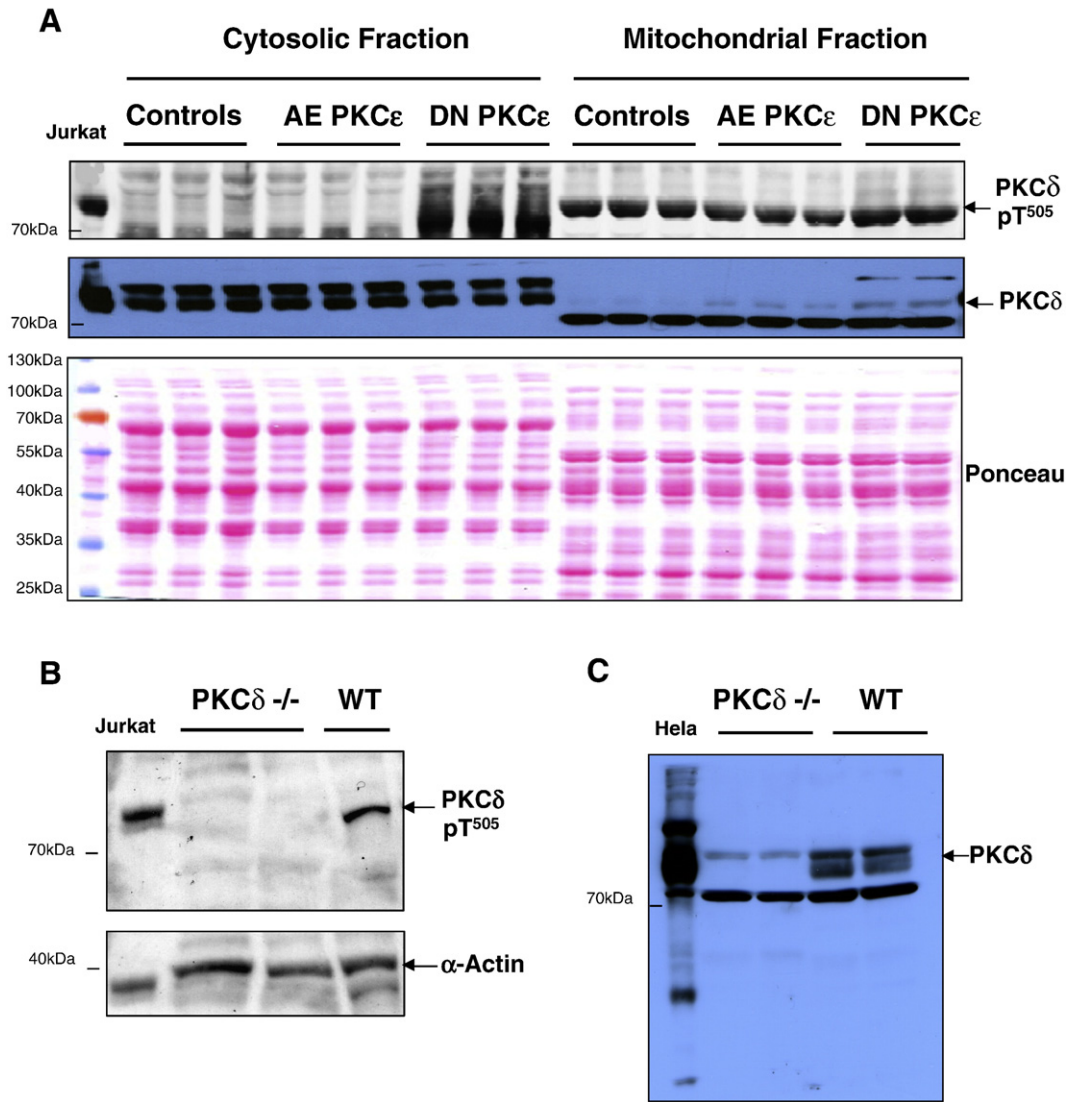


Fig. 7. Mitochondrial translocation of PKC δ . Mitochondrial extracts of control, AE and DN PKC ϵ hearts were analyzed by Western blotting and probed with antibodies for phospho-PKC δ (Thr⁵⁰⁵) and total PKC δ . Ponceau red staining served as a loading control. Note the increase in phosphorylation and mitochondrial translocation of PKC δ upon inactivation of PKC ϵ . pT denotes phosphothreonine (A). Verification of the antibody specificity by using hearts from PKC δ -deficient mice (B, C). The antibody for PKC δ -pThr⁵⁰⁵ showed good specificity. The antibody for total PKC δ recognizes three bands, of which the middle one is specific for PKC δ .

observed in basal mitochondrial respiratory function by measuring oxygen consumption, respiratory-control index, and the rate of ATP production, PKC ϵ activation augmented mitochondrial respiratory capacity in response to anoxia–reoxygenation. However, many issues of metabolism in AE PKC ϵ hearts remain unresolved, especially with respect to the hearts *in vivo*.

4.2. Proteomics and metabolomics combined

Previous proteomic analyses of cardiac PKC ϵ signalling complexes revealed metabolic enzymes as potential interacting partners of this serine/threonine kinase [13,32]. We now demonstrate that some of the previously identified PKC ϵ targets, i.e. creatine kinase, enolase, and the mitochondrial malate carrier, are indeed among the differentially expressed proteins in AE PKC ϵ transgenic hearts. Moreover, as no data were available on how these interactions between PKC ϵ and metabolic enzymes influence cardiac metabolism, we quantified cardiac metabolites in control and transgenic hearts

under normoxia, after ischemia and after reperfusion injury. Our ¹H-NMR data on extracted cardiac metabolites not only confirmed the ³¹P-NMR data on Langendorff-perfused hearts [33] in that cardiac energy metabolites were better preserved in AE PKC ϵ transgenic hearts, but also provide a mechanistic underpinning for the observed cardioprotective phenotype: activation of PKC ϵ resulted in lower lactate levels and a similar downregulation of cytosolic malate dehydrogenase isoforms as previously observed in preconditioned wildtype hearts [16]. Thus, PKC ϵ activation induces proteomic and metabolic characteristics of a preconditioned cardiac phenotype, which were previously found to be abolished in hearts with targeted disruption of the PKC δ gene [16].

4.3. Cross-talk between PKC ϵ and PKC δ

The striking consistency between different genetically engineered mouse models suggests that the metabolic effects of PKC ϵ may, at least partially, be interrelated with PKC δ . Subsequent experiments

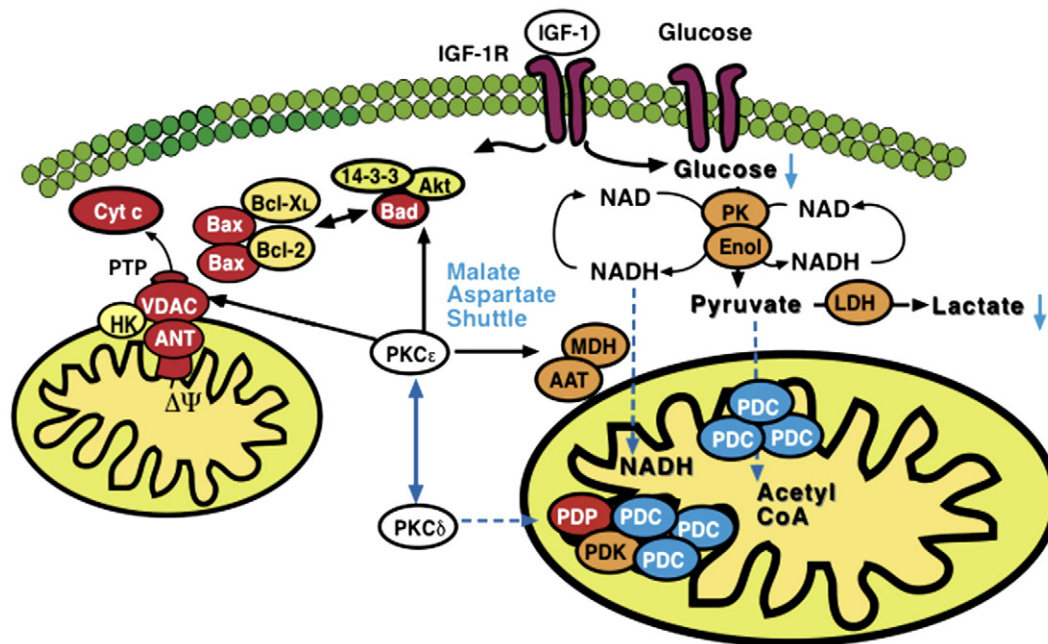


Fig. 8. Model for PKC ϵ -initiated metabolic changes linked to cardioprotection. PKC ϵ activation resulted in differential expression of pyruvate kinase (PK), enolase (Enol) and lactate dehydrogenase (LDH) with a corresponding reduction of glucose and lactate in murine hearts. Notably, a pronounced effect was also observed on cytosolic malate dehydrogenase (MDH) and aspartate aminotransferase (AAT), the two enzymatic components of the malate–aspartate shuttle. The latter transfers electrons from the cytoplasm to mitochondria and is important in allowing maximum release of the free energy in glycolysis under aerobic conditions. In contrast, inhibition of PKC ϵ stimulated loop phosphorylation and translocation of PKC δ to cardiac mitochondria, where it targets the pyruvate dehydrogenase complex (PDC), the enzyme responsible for converting the glycolytic endproduct pyruvate to acetyl-CoA. The pyruvate dehydrogenase complex is located at the inner mitochondrial membrane and inhibited when phosphorylated by pyruvate dehydrogenase kinase (PDK) and activated upon dephosphorylation by pyruvate dehydrogenase phosphatase (PDP). Thus, PKC ϵ and PKC δ activities influence key enzymatic reactions bridging aerobic and anaerobic glucose metabolism.

confirmed a pronounced effect of PKC ϵ activity on PKC δ translocation to cardiac mitochondria. Previously, increased expression and activation of PKC δ was observed in PKC ϵ -/- mice [35,36]. However, increased PKC δ activity in the complete absence of PKC ϵ did not result in mitochondrial translocation of the PKC δ isoform. In our study, cardiac-specific manipulation of PKC ϵ activity did not alter PKC δ expression, but inhibition of PKC ϵ was associated with increased PKC δ loop phosphorylation, mitochondrial translocation and differential expression of the pyruvate dehydrogenase complex. These data confirm our previous results in PKC δ -deficient mice, where altered activity of the pyruvate dehydrogenase complex was postulated to be a likely explanation for the observed metabolic effects after deletion of the PKC δ gene [16,17,37].

Notably, despite increased PKC δ on mitochondria, transgenic hearts with DN PKC ϵ showed no cardioprotective phenotype, which may be consistent with previous reports claiming that translocation of PKC δ is required for mediating cardioprotection after pharmacological [38], but not ischemic preconditioning [39]. On the other hand, a moderate increase in mitochondrial PKC δ was also observed in AE PKC ϵ hearts and similar to mice deficient for PKC ϵ [35], PKC δ knockout mice lost cardioprotection in response to ischemic preconditioning [16]. In fact, cardiac damage was even exaggerated by ischemic preconditioning in the absence of PKC δ [16]. This finding is in line with a recent clinical trial [40], demonstrating that the intra-coronary application of high doses of a PKC δ inhibitor during primary percutaneous coronary intervention was associated with an increase, rather than a decrease, in infarct size [41]. Thus, deficiency for either PKC ϵ or PKC δ is sufficient to abrogate the cardioprotective effects of ischemic preconditioning, indicating that an individual PKC isoform may not be cardioprotective *per se*, but that cardioprotection may require the interaction of both PKC isoforms and that the cardiopro-

tective effect may be the consequence of their combined orchestration of cardiac glucose and energy metabolism (Fig. 8).

4.4. Limitations of the study

Although proteomics and metabolomics offer a suite of tools to interrogate tissue metabolism [29,37,42], it is important to acknowledge that both techniques are biased to high-abundant components. Moreover, metabolites were extracted directly from snap-frozen hearts and a reduction of a metabolite as measured by $^1\text{H-NMR}$ spectroscopy may be the consequence of increased consumption or decreased production. As enzymatic activity in tissues is reflected in the expression and post-translational modifications of enzymes [43], 2-DE offers a particular advantage by visualizing posttranslational modifications of high abundant enzymes as a shift in isoelectric point or molecular weight [44]. In combination, these emerging technologies contribute to a better understanding of enzymatic and metabolite changes associated with PKC ϵ -mediated cardioprotection.

4.5. Conclusion

While activation of PKC ϵ and inhibition of PKC δ were known to be cardioprotective against ischemia/reperfusion injury, the common denominator in cardioprotective signalling between the two PKC isoforms remained unknown. Our studies demonstrate that PKC ϵ and PKC δ influence key steps in glucose metabolism of murine hearts. Thus, these kinases appear to be uniquely positioned to integrate signalling with metabolism, a central determinant of cardiomyocyte life and death. Future studies will have to address whether a similar interplay between the two PKC isoforms is also observed in human hearts and other experimental models of cardioprotection.

Acknowledgments

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Appendix A. Supplementary data

Supplementary data associated with this article can be found, in the online version, at [doi:10.1016/j.yjmcc.2008.10.008](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.yjmcc.2008.10.008).

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**PROTEOMIC AND METABOLOMIC ANALYSIS OF
CARDIOPROTECTION:
INTERPLAY BETWEEN PROTEIN KINASE C EPSILON AND DELTA
IN REGULATING CARDIAC GLUCOSE METABOLISM
OF MURINE HEARTS**

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ONLINE DATA SUPPLEMENT

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ONLINE METHODS

Difference in-gel electrophoresis (DIGE). Mitochondrial pellets were resuspended in a standard lysis buffer (9M urea, 1% DTT, 4% CHAPS, 0.8% Pharmalytes 3-10, protease and phosphatase inhibitors (Complete Mini, Roche). After centrifugation at 13,000 g for 10 min, the supernatant containing soluble proteins was harvested and the protein concentration was determined using a modification of the method described by Bradford [1]. Solubilised samples were divided into aliquots and stored at -80°C . For DIGE, proteins were precipitated (ReadyPrep 2-D Clean-up kit, Biorad) and resuspended in DIGE buffer (30mM TrisCl pH 8.5, 8M urea, 4% w/v CHAPS). The fluorescence dye labelling reaction was carried out at a dye/protein ratio of 400 pmol/100 μg . After incubation on ice for 30 min, the labelling reaction was stopped by scavenging non-bound dyes with 10mM lysine for 15 min. For two-dimensional gel electrophoresis, extracts were loaded on nonlinear immobilized pH gradient 18-cm strips, 3-10 (GE healthcare). 100 μg per sample was applied to the IPG strip using an in-gel rehydration method. Samples were diluted in rehydration solution (8 M urea, 0.5% w/v CHAPS, 0.2% w/v DTT, and 0.2 % w/v Pharmalyte pH 3-10) and rehydrated overnight in a reswelling tray. Strips were focused at 0.05 mA/IPG strip for 35 kVh at 20°C (IPGphor, GE healthcare). Once IEF was completed the strips were equilibrated in 6M urea containing 30% v/v glycerol, 2% w/v SDS and 0.01% w/v Bromphenol blue, with addition of 1% w/v DTT for 15 min, followed by the same buffer without DTT, but with the addition of 4.8% w/v iodoacetamide for 15 min. SDS-PAGE was performed using 12% T (total acrylamide concentration), 2.6% C (degree of cross-linking) polyacrylamide gels without a stacking gel, using the Ettan DALT system (GE healthcare). The second dimension was terminated when the Bromphenol dye front had migrated off the lower end to the gels. After electrophoresis, fluorescence images were acquired using the Typhoon variable mode imager 9400 (GE healthcare). Finally, gels were fixed overnight in methanol: acetic acid: water solution (4:1:5 v/v/v). Protein profiles were visualised by silver staining

using the Plus one silver staining kit (GE healthcare) with slight modifications to ensure compatibility with subsequent mass spectrometry analysis [2]. For documentation, silver-stained gels were scanned in transmission scan mode using a calibrated scanner (GS-800, Biorad).

Nano-LC MS/MS. Gel pieces containing selected protein spots were treated overnight with modified trypsin (Promega) according to a published protocol modified for use with an Investigator ProGest (Genomic Solutions, Huntington, UK) robotic digestion system. Following enzymatic degradation, peptides were separated by a Surveyor HPLC system on a reverse-phase column and applied online to a LTQ ion-trap mass spectrometer. Spectra were collected from the ion-trap mass analyzer using full ion scan mode over the mass-to-charge (m/z) range 300-2000. MS-MS scans were performed on each ion using dynamic exclusion. Database search was performed using the TurboSEQUENT software (Thermo Finnigan). One missed cleavage per peptide was allowed and carbamidomethylation of cysteine as well as partial oxidation of methionine were assumed. The following filters were applied: Xcorr values of >2.0 (+1 charge), >2.5 (+2 charge) and >3.5 (+3 charge), deltaCN >0.1, a minimum of 2 peptides and a probability score lower than e^{-003} .

Ingenuity Pathway Analysis (IPA). Differentially expressed proteins were analyzed using Ingenuity Pathway Knowledge Base (Ingenuity System, Mountain View, CA) to determine their most relevant interaction networks and biological functions. The IPA algorithm proceeds by selecting the most connected protein and adding other interconnected proteins to the network. Datasets containing protein accession numbers, fold change and p-values were uploaded into the program application for the analysis. The program generates networks of these proteins using the right-tailed fisher's Exact Test, by comparing the number of proteins that participate in a given function, relative to the total number of occurrences of those

proteins in all functional annotations stored in the Ingenuity Pathways Knowledge Base, and are then ranked by score, i.e. score of 2 or higher have a 99.9% confidence level of not being randomly assembled into a network. This score was used as the cut-off for identifying protein networks or pathways.

Immunoblotting. Western blotting was performed as described previously [3, 4]. The following antibodies were used: anti-VDAC (Ab5, PC548, Calbiochem), anti-mitofilin (10179-1-AP, Proteintech) and anti-Prx-SO3 antibodies (LF-PA0005, Lab Frontier). Anti-NuMA was purchased from Pharmingen (San Diego, CA). Anti-Na⁺/K⁺ ATPase, was purchased from Upstate Biotechnology (Lake Placid, NY), anti-prohibitin-1 antibody from Research Diagnostics (Flanders, NJ). Antibodies to PKC δ (sc-937), and myoglobin (sc-8081) were obtained from Santa Cruz, phospho-PKCdelta (Thr505) antibodies were purchased from Cell Signaling Technology, Inc. (Danvers, MA, Cat# 9374).

Proton magnetic resonance spectroscopy (¹H-NMR). Hearts were rinsed with PBS and snap-frozen immediately in liquid nitrogen. Tissues were ground under liquid nitrogen using a mortar and pestle. Water-soluble metabolites were extracted in 6% perchloric acid (PCA) [5]. Deproteinised extracts were transferred to ice cold centrifuge tubes and centrifuged at 3000 rpm for 10 minutes at 4°C. The supernatant was transferred to fresh cold centrifuge tubes and neutralised to pH 7 with 10M KOH. After neutralization, extracts were centrifuged, the supernatant was collected, freeze-dried and reconstituted in deuterium oxide (D₂O). Immediately before the NMR analysis, the pH was readjusted to 7 with PCA or KOH. 0.5ml of the extracts were placed in 5mm NMR tubes. ¹H-NMR spectra were obtained using a Bruker 600MHz spectrometer. The water resonance was suppressed by using gated irradiation centred

on the water frequency. Sodium 3-trimethylsilyl-2,2,3,3-tetradeuteropropionate (TSP) was added to the samples for chemical shift calibration and quantification.

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ONLINE FIGURE LEGENDS

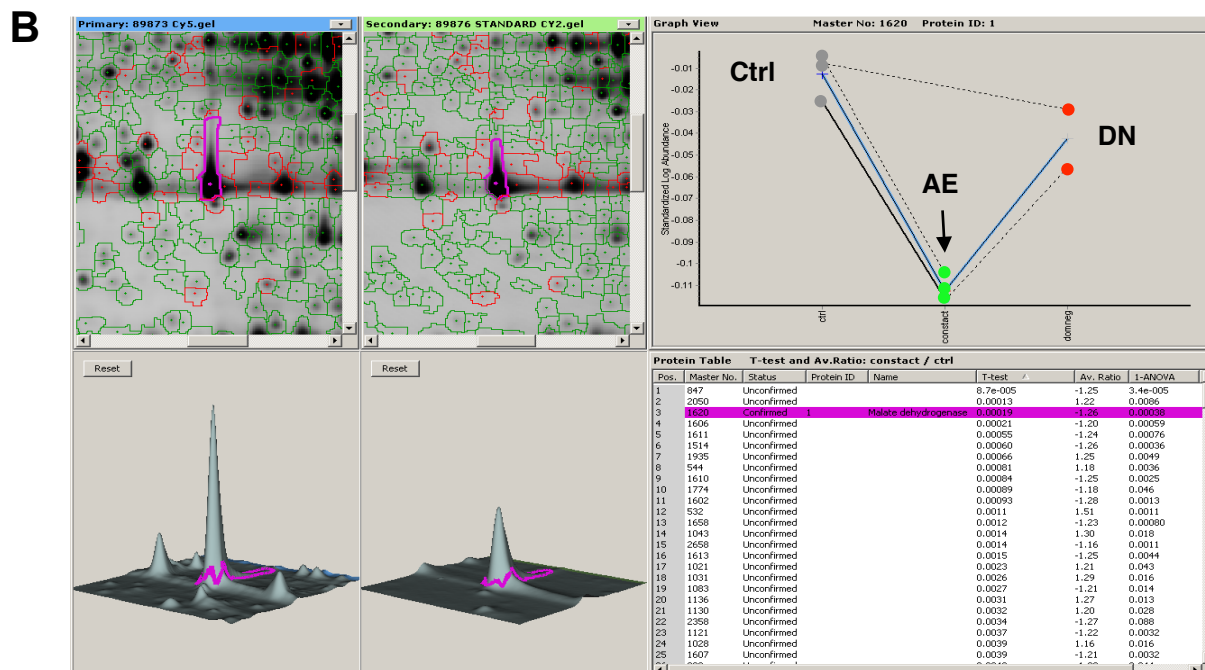
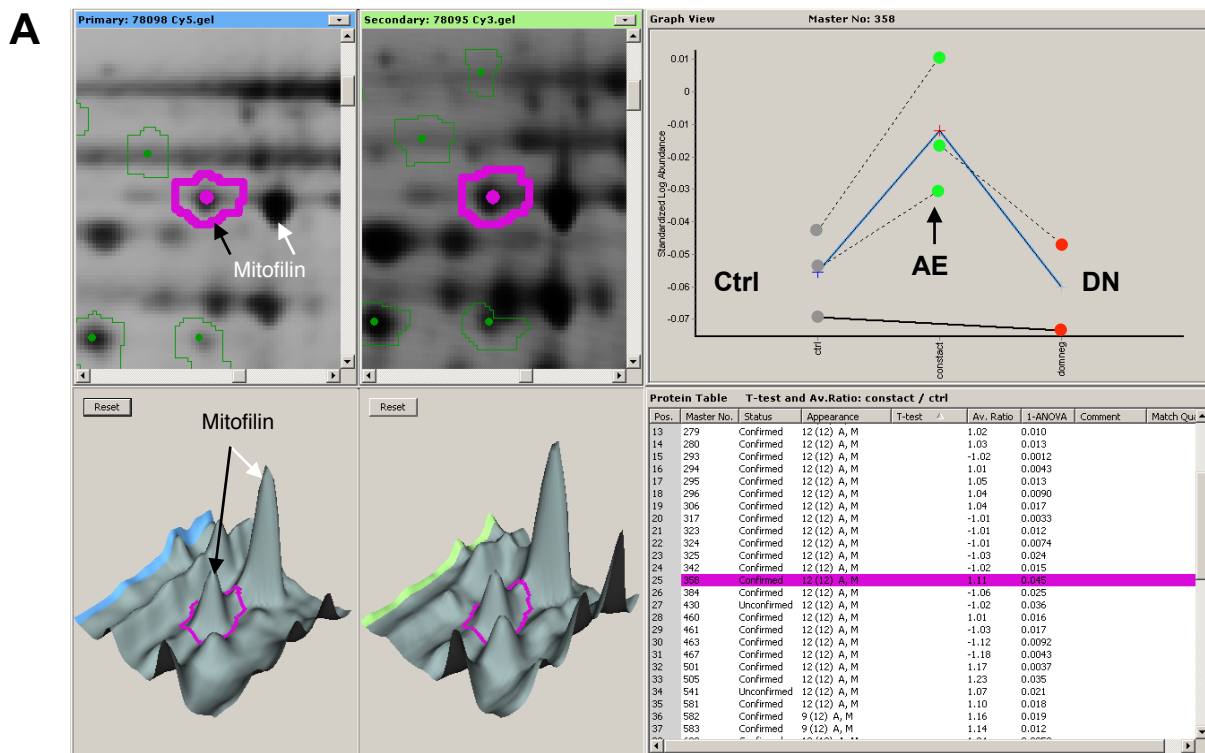
Online Figure 1. Changes in the proteome of PKC transgenic hearts. The user interface of the Decyder 2D software (version 6.5, GE healthcare) displays the image view (top left), the experimental design view (top right), the 3D view (bottom left) and the table view (bottom right) for “mitofilin” (A, spot no 1, online table I) and “cytoplasmic malate dehydrogenase” (B, spot no 25, online table III). Note the differential expression in constitutively active (AE) PKC ϵ hearts (arrows), while expression levels in control and dominant negative (DN) PKC ϵ hearts were identical. Both spots marked with arrows were identified as mitofilin on 2-DE gels, indicating a post-translational modification.

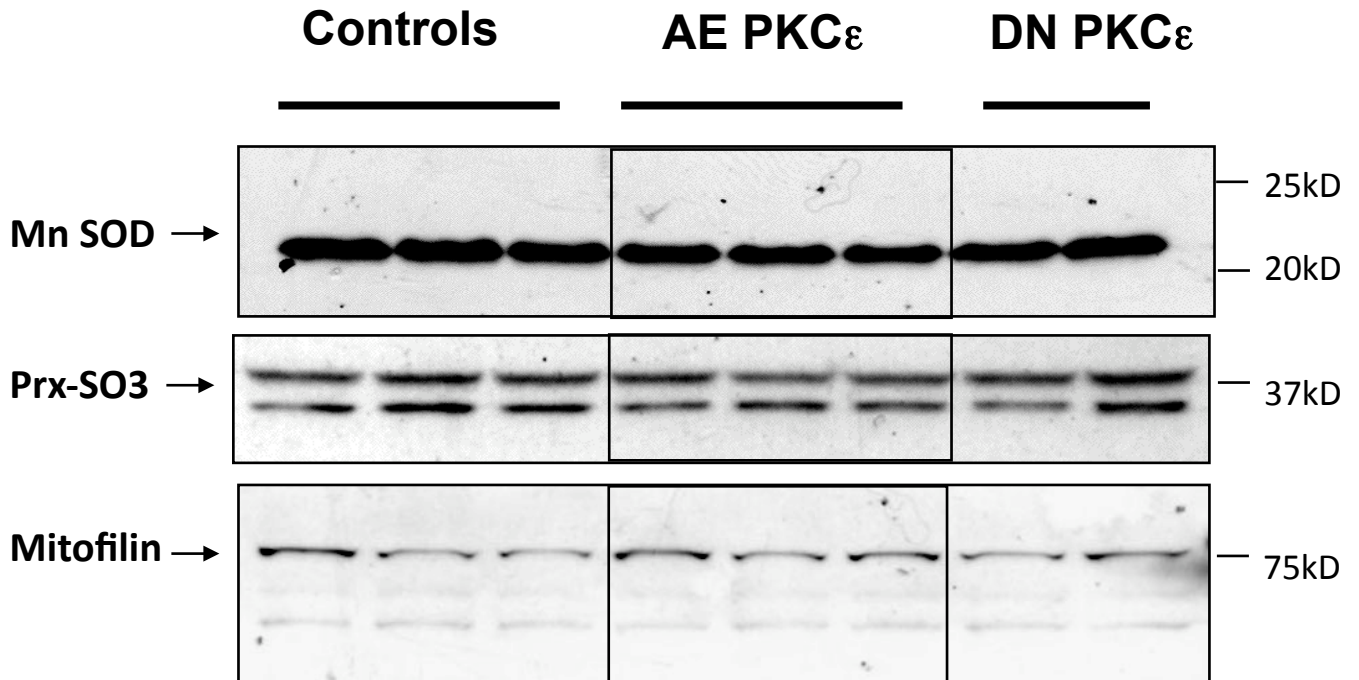
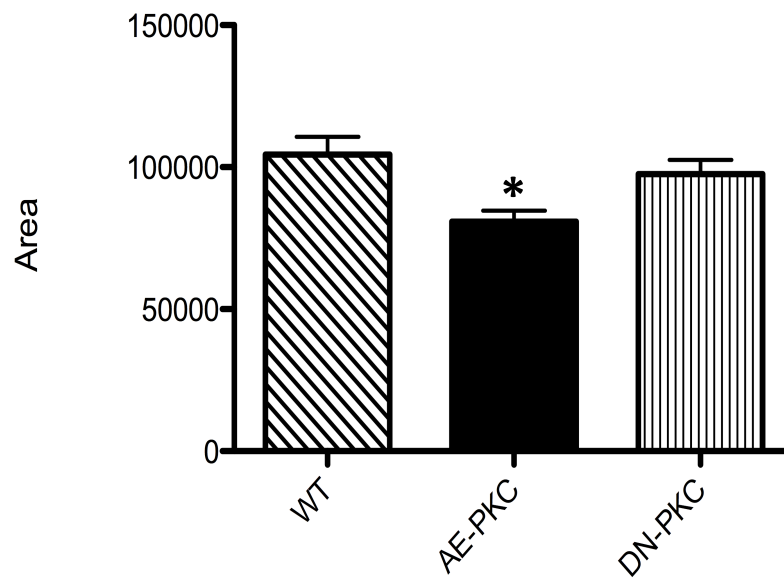
Online Figure 2. Immunoblotting. Mitochondrial extracts of controls (ctrl) and transgenic hearts with constitutive active (AE) and dominant negative (DN) PKC ϵ were analyzed by Western blotting and probed with antibodies to manganese superoxide dismutase (MnSOD, SOD2), oxidized peroxiredoxins (Prx-SO₃) and mitofilin. A moderate reduction of MnSOD expression was confirmed in AE PKC ϵ transgenic hearts by densitometry (B). The oxidation state of mitochondrial peroxiredoxins, which contain a redox-active cysteine, was not affected. No change in net expression was found for mitofilin, which is consistent with the observed acidic shift on the 2-DE gel (Online Figure 1A).

Online Figure 3. Pathway analysis for PKC ϵ transgenic hearts. The dominant networks in AE (A) and DN PKC ϵ hearts (B). Red and green colors indicate up- and

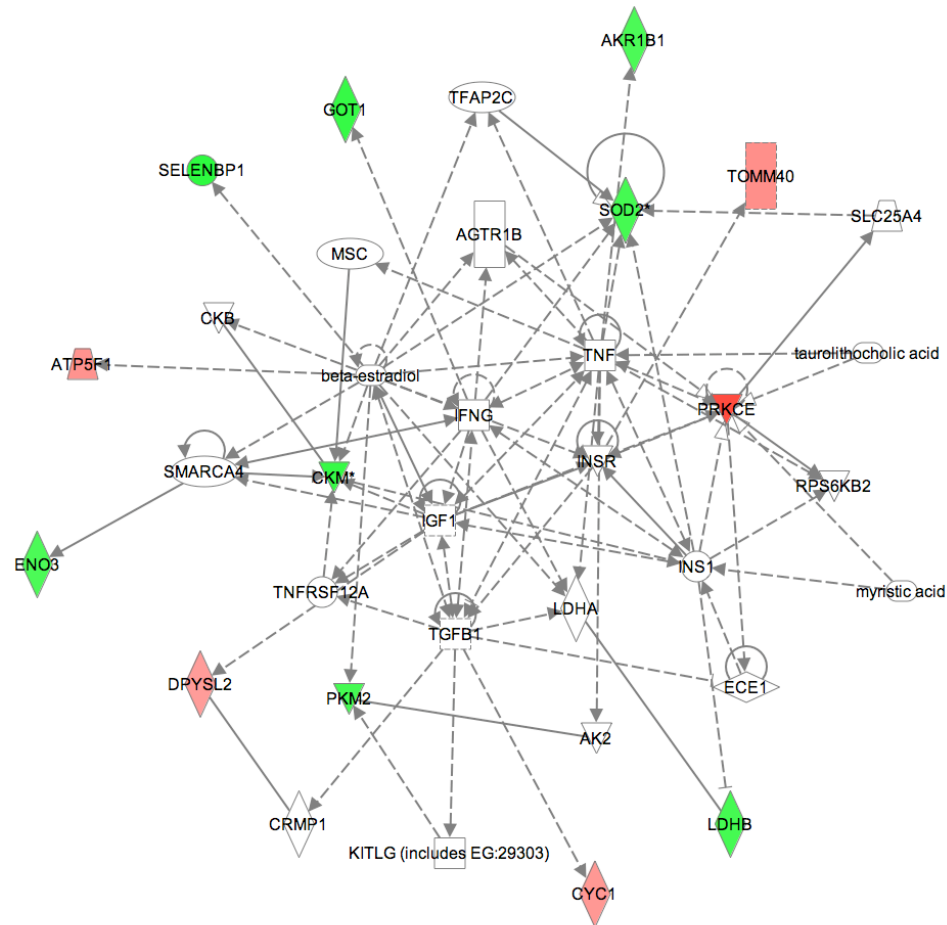
downregulation of protein isoforms, respectively (Supplemental Tables I-III). Note that glucose metabolism constituted a core of these protein association networks.

Online Figure 4. Principal Component Analysis. Metabolite extracts of controls (triangles) and AE PKC ϵ transgenic hearts (circles) were analyzed by ^1H -NMR spectroscopy. Principal Component Analysis (PCA) was applied to investigate the variation of the samples in the metabolite space before (A) and after ischemia/reperfusion (B).

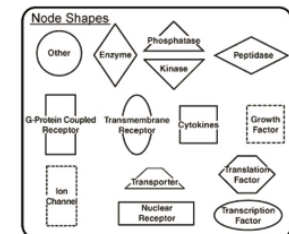
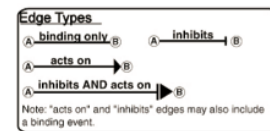
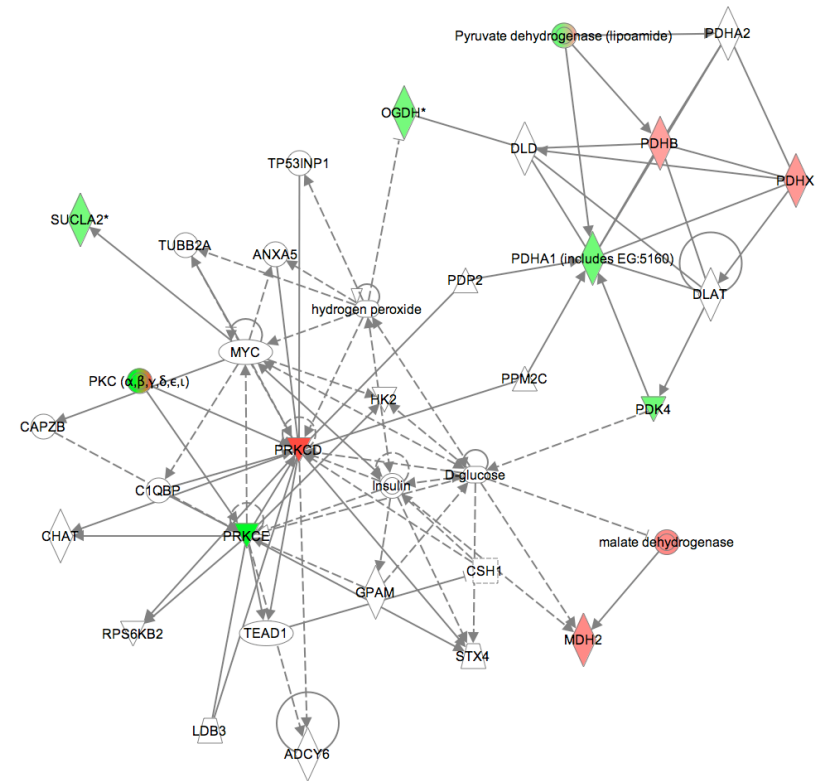


A**B**

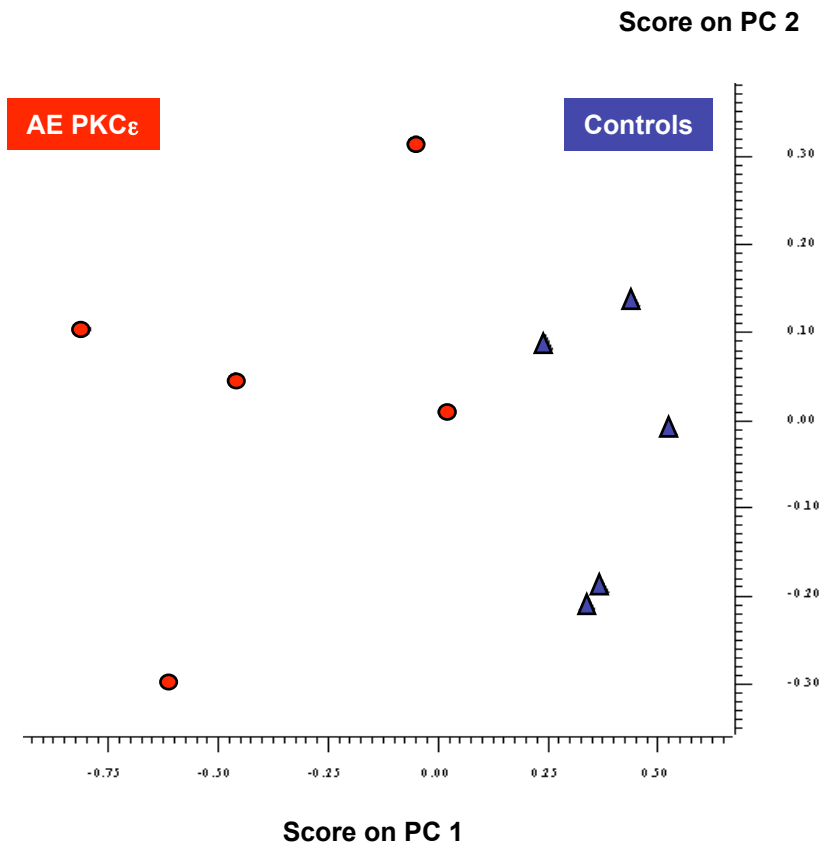
A



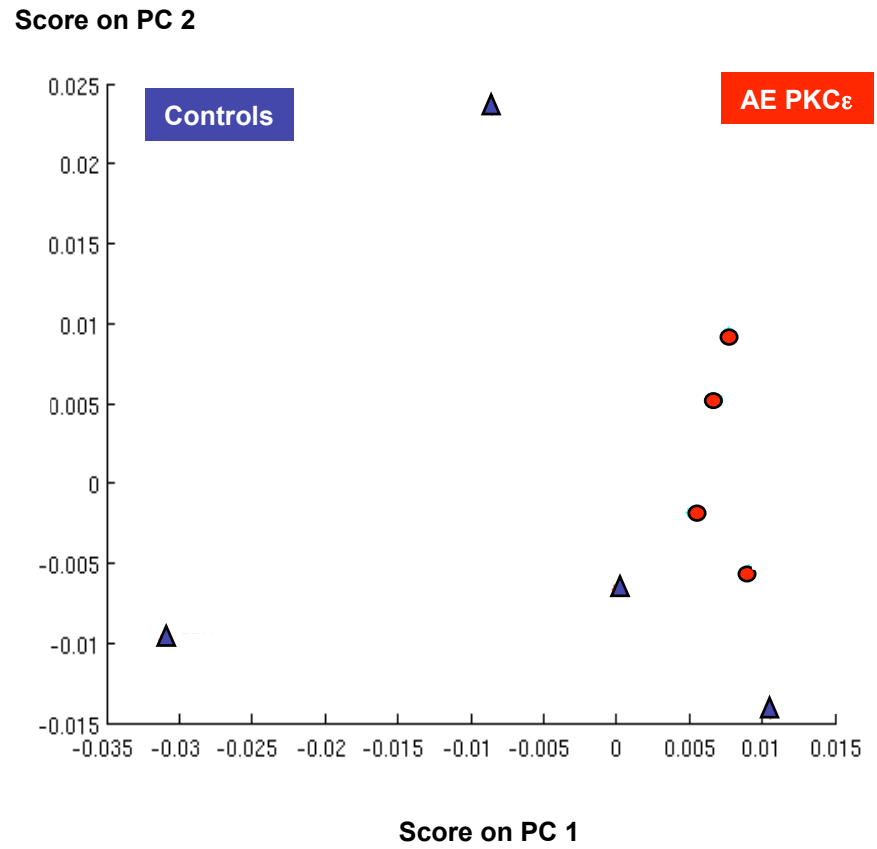
B



A



B



Supplemental Table I. Differentially expressed mitochondrial proteins in transgenic hearts with constitutively active PKCepsilon (AE)

N	Protein identity	IPI Number	Theoretical pI / MW (Da x 10 ³)	Coverage (% AA)	XC Score	AE vs Ctrl & DN	P T-test	P ANOVA
	Inner mitochondrial membrane							
1	Mitofilin	00228150	6.0 / 83.8	42.1	330.3	+1.11	0.019	0.081
	Outer mitochondrial membrane							
2	Tom 40 homolog	00135946	8.3 / 37.9	15.0	30.4	+ 1.24	0.038	0.019
	Antioxidants							
3	Manganese superoxide dismutase	00109109	8.3 / 24.6	24.8	30.3	-1.27	0.0051	0.0076
4	Manganese superoxide dismutase	00109109	8.3 / 24.6	47.3	70.3	-1.17	0.036	0.10
5	Manganese superoxide dismutase	00109109	8.3 / 24.6	42.3	65.3	-1.18	0.030	0.11
	TCA cycle							
6	Isocitrate dehydrogenase, alpha	00459725	6.0 / 39.6	9.5	20.2	-1.47	0.0015	0.011
7	Isocitrate dehydrogenase, alpha	00459725	6.0 / 39.6	20.2	80.2	-1.14	0.014	0.049
	Others							
8	Dihydropyrimidinase-like 2	00420349	6.0 / 62.2	28.3	88.3	+1.19	0.011	0.0033

Values are average ratios, XC denotes X-correlation score as calculated by the Sequest algorithm, Ctrl denotes controls, AE constitutively active, DN dominant negative PKCε transgenic hearts. Subcellular extracts were prepared from 16 murine hearts (n=6 for control and AE mice, n=4 for DN mice) with two samples being combined to obtain sufficient material for a 2-DE gel. p-values are derived from ANOVA or unpaired Student's t-test comparing AE transgenic vs control and DN hearts.

Supplemental Table II. Differentially expressed mitochondrial proteins in transgenic hearts with dominant negative PKCepsilon (DN)

N	Protein identity	IPI Number	Theoretical pI / MW (Da x 10 ³)	Coverage (% AA)	XC Score	DN vs Ctrl & AE	P T-test	P ANOVA
Glucose metabolism								
9	Mixture:							
	Pyruvate dehydrogenase, E1 alpha	00337893	8.1 / 43.2	30.5	173.5	-1.44	0.0002	0.00029
	Pyruvate dehydrogenase kinase 4	00119431	6.7 / 46.6	25.7	110.2	-1.44	0.0002	0.00029
10	Pyruvate dehydrogenase, E1 beta	00132042	6.0 / 38.9	73.3	508.3	+1.13	0.0027	0.0073
11	Pyruvate dehydrogenase, X	00222767	7.7 / 53.9	26.2	180.3	+1.19	0.025	0.093
Lipid metabolism								
12	Hydroxysteroid dehydrogenase-like 2	00117214	6.0 / 55.6	30.1	230.3	-1.36	0.0041	0.022
13	Hydroxysteroid dehydrogenase-like 2	00117214	6.0 / 55.6	49.4	368.3	-1.39	0.0066	0.015
14	Hydroxysteroid dehydrogenase-like 2	00117214	6.0 / 55.6	46.6	218.3	-1.43	0.043	0.0077
TCA cycle								
15	Oxoglutarate dehydrogenase, E1	00128281	6.0 / 117.7	9.9	50.3	-1.37	0.0098	0.041
16	Oxoglutarate dehydrogenase, E1	00128281	6.0 / 117.7	38.5	430.4	-1.32	0.0035	0.018
17	Succinate CoA ligase, beta subunit	00459487	6.0 / 46.8	17.1	60.2	-1.26	0.049	0.084
18	Succinate CoA ligase, beta subunit	00459487	6.0 / 46.8	17.1	60.2	-1.23	0.0081	0.033
19	Malate dehydrogenase, NAD	00331590	8.3 / 35.6	33.4	108.2	+1.22	0.093	0.030
Others								
20	Ubiquinone methyltransferase COQ5	00379695	7.2 / 37.4	42.8	225.4	-1.21	0.0026	0.0067

For abbreviations see Supplemental Table I footnote, p-values are derived from ANOVA or unpaired Student's t-test comparing DN transgenic vs control and AE hearts.

Supplemental Table III. Differentially expressed cytosolic proteins in transgenic hearts with constitutively active PKCepsilon (AE)

N	Protein identity	IPI Number	Theoretical pI / MW (Da x 10 ³)	Coverage (% AA)	XC Score	AE vs Ctrl & DN	P T-test	P ANOVA
Glucose metabolism								
21	L-lactate dehydrogenase B chain	00229510	5.6 / 36.4	34.8	152.3	-1.18	0.022	0.019
22	Pyruvate kinase, muscle isozyme	00469199	7.2 / 57.8	34.7	238.3	-1.17	0.039	0.00046
23	Beta-Enolase	00228548	6.8 / 46.7	25.6	198.3	-1.17	0.0040	0.014
24	Aldose reductase	00223757	6.8 / 35.7	16.8	40.3	-1.16	0.025	0.060
Malate-Aspartate shuttle								
25	Malate dehydrogenase, cytoplasmic	00336324	6.2 / 36.3	42.0	130.3	-1.22	0.00051	0.0013
26	Malate dehydrogenase, cytoplasmic	00336324	6.2 / 36.3	41.4	110.3	-1.21	0.0054	0.0020
27	Aspartate aminotransferase, cytoplasmic	00230204	6.7 / 46.2	35.1	200.3	-1.23	0.022	0.023
Energy metabolism								
28	Creatine kinase, M-type	00120076	8.4 / 47.5	43.5	298.4	-1.25	0.011	0.033
29	Creatine kinase, M-type	00120076	8.4 / 47.5	40.8	240.3	-1.18	0.044	0.029
Mitochondrial proteins								
30	Ubiquinol Cytochrome C reductase, complex core protein 1	00111885	5.7 / 52.7	33.5	140.3	+1.15	0.049	0.032
31	ATP synthase beta chain	00468481	5.1 / 56.3	69.4	290.3	+1.16	0.031	0.012
Antioxidant								
32	Selenium binding protein 1	00314298	5.8 / 52.7	42.6	150.3	-1.33	0.0027	0.017

For abbreviations see Supplemental Table I footnote, p-values are derived from ANOVA or unpaired Student's t-test comparing AE transgenic vs control and DN hearts.

Supplemental Table IV.
Metabolic effects of transgenic PKC ϵ activation in normoxic hearts.

	Ctrl	AE	P
	(n=5)	(n=5)	(t-test)
Leucine	0.149 (\pm 0.018)	0.098 (\pm 0.003)	0.045
Isoleucine	0.069 (\pm 0.018)	0.033 (\pm 0.002)	0.109
Valine	0.203 (\pm 0.032)	0.127 (\pm 0.006)	0.078
Beta-hydroxybutyrate	0.207 (\pm 0.063)	0.070 (\pm 0.010)	0.094
Lactate	16.658 (\pm 0.724)	11.357 (\pm 0.624)	< 0.001
Alanine	1.776 (\pm 0.148)	1.599 (\pm 0.129)	0.394
Acetate	0.144 (\pm 0.020)	0.230 (\pm 0.095)	0.425
Glutamate	2.639 (\pm 0.169)	3.443 (\pm 0.194)	0.015
Succinate	1.773 (\pm 0.437)	1.837 (\pm 0.386)	0.916
Glutamine	6.965 (\pm 0.562)	4.265 (\pm 0.429)	0.006
Aspartate	0.478 (\pm 0.040)	0.665 (\pm 0.074)	0.066
Choline	0.190 (\pm 0.029)	0.361 (\pm 0.018)	0.002
Phosphocholine	0.227 (\pm 0.023)	0.178 (\pm 0.023)	0.168
Carnitine	0.722 (\pm 0.092)	0.618 (\pm 0.054)	0.364
Taurine	35.052 (\pm 0.735)	30.191 (\pm 1.729)	0.046
Glucose	0.961 (\pm 0.198)	0.312 (\pm 0.073)	0.027
Fumarate	0.156 (\pm 0.032)	0.098 (\pm 0.016)	0.155
Tyrosine	0.091 (\pm 0.011)	0.069 (\pm 0.006)	0.108
Total creatine	13.034 (\pm 0.591)	10.767 (\pm 0.762)	0.048
Phenylalanine	0.092 (\pm 0.007)	0.074 (\pm 0.005)	0.080
Adenosine nucleotides	2.848 (\pm 0.201)	4.307 (\pm 0.432)	0.024
Glycolic acid	0.696 (\pm 0.171)	0.647 (\pm 0.036)	0.795
Glycine	0.833 (\pm 0.045)	0.779 (\pm 0.091)	0.611
NAD+NADH	0.077 (\pm 0.011)	0.320 (\pm 0.112)	0.096
Formate	0.124 (\pm 0.046)	0.163 (\pm 0.041)	0.549

Data presented are given in μ mol/g wet weight (mean \pm SE), P-values were derived from unpaired Student's t-test

Supplemental Table V.
Metabolic effects of transgenic PKC ϵ activation in ischemic hearts.

	Ctrl	AE	P
	(n=4)	(n=3)	(t-test)
Leucine	0.183 (\pm 0.043)	0.146 (\pm 0.018)	0.46
Isoleucine	0.253 (\pm 0.009)	0.264 (\pm 0.044)	0.83
Valine	0.177 (\pm 0.032)	0.224 (\pm 0.059)	0.53
Beta-hydroxybutyrate	0.058 (\pm 0.013)	0.079 (\pm 0.029)	0.55
Lactate	4.084 (\pm 0.798)	4.768 (\pm 2.946)	0.84
Alanine	1.511 (\pm 0.114)	1.762 (\pm 0.214)	0.37
Acetate	0.427 (\pm 0.155)	0.618 (\pm 0.186)	0.47
Glutamate	1.917 (\pm 0.147)	1.610 (\pm 0.156)	0.21
Succinate	1.027 (\pm 0.068)	1.026 (\pm 0.363)	1.00
Glutamine	3.763 (\pm 0.425)	3.623 (\pm 0.245)	0.79
Aspartate	0.433 (\pm 0.047)	0.400 (\pm 0.073)	0.73
Choline	0.200 (\pm 0.052)	0.147 (\pm 0.028)	0.41
Phosphocholine	0.144 (\pm 0.031)	0.137 (\pm 0.007)	0.83
Carnitine	0.560 (\pm 0.148)	0.760 (\pm 0.132)	0.36
Taurine	22.966 (\pm 2.717)	24.044 (\pm 1.611)	0.75
Glucose	0.487 (\pm 0.109)	0.599 (\pm 0.168)	0.61
Fumarate	0.021 (\pm 0.005)	0.041 (\pm 0.026)	0.52
Tyrosine	0.049 (\pm 0.013)	0.031 (\pm 0.009)	0.31
Total creatine	9.630 (\pm 0.994)	8.281 (\pm 1.242)	0.44
Phenylalanine	0.065 (\pm 0.010)	0.052 (\pm 0.008)	0.34
Adenosine nucleotides	3.625 (\pm 0.396)	3.801 (\pm 0.221)	0.72
Glycolic acid	0.594 (\pm 0.047)	0.658 (\pm 0.063)	0.46
Glycine	0.633 (\pm 0.048)	0.601 (\pm 0.010)	0.56
NAD+NADH	0.498 (\pm 0.081)	0.330 (\pm 0.137)	0.36
Formate	0.349 (\pm 0.130)	0.382 (\pm 0.141)	0.87

See legend to Supplemental Table IV

Supplemental Table VI.
Metabolic effects of transgenic PKC ϵ in reperfused hearts.

	Ctrl	AE	DN	P
	(n=4)	(n=4)	(n=4)	(Anova)
Leucine	0.150 (\pm 0.003)	0.155 (\pm 0.009)	0.163 (\pm 0.010)	0.509
Isoleucine	0.221 (\pm 0.029)	0.315 (\pm 0.028)*	0.109 (\pm 0.026)	0.002
Valine	0.150 (\pm 0.004)	0.175 (\pm 0.014)	0.113 (\pm 0.041)	0.271
Beta-hydroxybutyrate	0.036 (\pm 0.007)	0.092 (\pm 0.044)	0.043 (\pm 0.005)	0.303
Lactate	1.688 (\pm 0.402)	2.836 (\pm 0.497)*	0.885 (\pm 0.240)	0.020
Alanine	1.288 (\pm 0.169)	2.443 (\pm 0.306)**	0.883 (\pm 0.077)	0.001
Acetate	0.430 (\pm 0.173)	0.262 (\pm 0.106)	0.182 (\pm 0.059)	0.381
Glutamate	1.188 (\pm 0.181)	1.729 (\pm 0.131)	1.176 (\pm 0.161)	0.059
Succinate	0.744 (\pm 0.053)	1.053 (\pm 0.159)	0.635 (\pm 0.197)	0.176
Glutamine	2.913 (\pm 0.300)	4.172 (\pm 0.210)*	2.505 (\pm 0.445)	0.016
Aspartate	0.299 (\pm 0.061)	0.581 (\pm 0.052)**	0.292 (\pm 0.050)	0.007
Choline	0.162 (\pm 0.007)	0.180 (\pm 0.006)	0.294 (\pm 0.143)	0.500
Phosphocholine	0.107 (\pm 0.030)	0.153 (\pm 0.017)	0.826 (\pm 0.315)	0.038
Carnitine	0.586 (\pm 0.067)	0.792 (\pm 0.046)	0.639 (\pm 0.280)	0.677
Taurine	18.449 (\pm 2.145)	25.847 (\pm 1.436)**	17.06 (\pm 1.159)	0.009
Glucose	0.650 (\pm 0.223)	0.972 (\pm 0.171) *	0.195 (\pm 0.062)	0.027
Fumarate	0.021 (\pm 0.007)	0.029 (\pm 0.007)	0.014 (\pm 0.005)	0.357
Tyrosine	0.043 (\pm 0.007)	0.046 (\pm 0.007)	0.026 (\pm 0.005)	0.111
Total creatine	6.707 (\pm 1.073)	8.402 (\pm 0.223)	6.659 (\pm 0.407)	0.171
Phenylalanine	0.062 (\pm 0.006)	0.060 (\pm 0.004)	0.061 (\pm 0.014)	0.993
Adenosine nucleotides	2.764 (\pm 0.285)	3.843 (\pm 0.282)**	2.473 (\pm 0.164)	0.009
Glycolic acid	0.602 (\pm 0.056)	0.626 (\pm 0.053)	0.535 (\pm 0.139)	0.776
Glycine	0.547 (\pm 0.031)	0.731 (\pm 0.090)*	0.367 (\pm 0.095)	0.028
NAD+NADH	0.428 (\pm 0.040)	0.585 (\pm 0.018)**	0.328 (\pm 0.024)	0.001
Formate	0.343 (\pm 0.136)	0.230 (\pm 0.086)	0.115 (\pm 0.007)	0.273

Data presented are given in μ mol/g wet weight (mean \pm SE), differences from all groups were derived from ANOVA tables, * statistically significant difference from DN hearts, ** statistically significant difference from control as well as DN hearts