



UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI  
STUDI DI NAPOLI  
FEDERICO II



**64** CONGRESSO  
NAZIONALE SIGG

*Continuità di affetti, continuità di cure*

ROMA, 27/30 NOVEMBRE 2019 - AUDITORIUM DELLA TECNICA

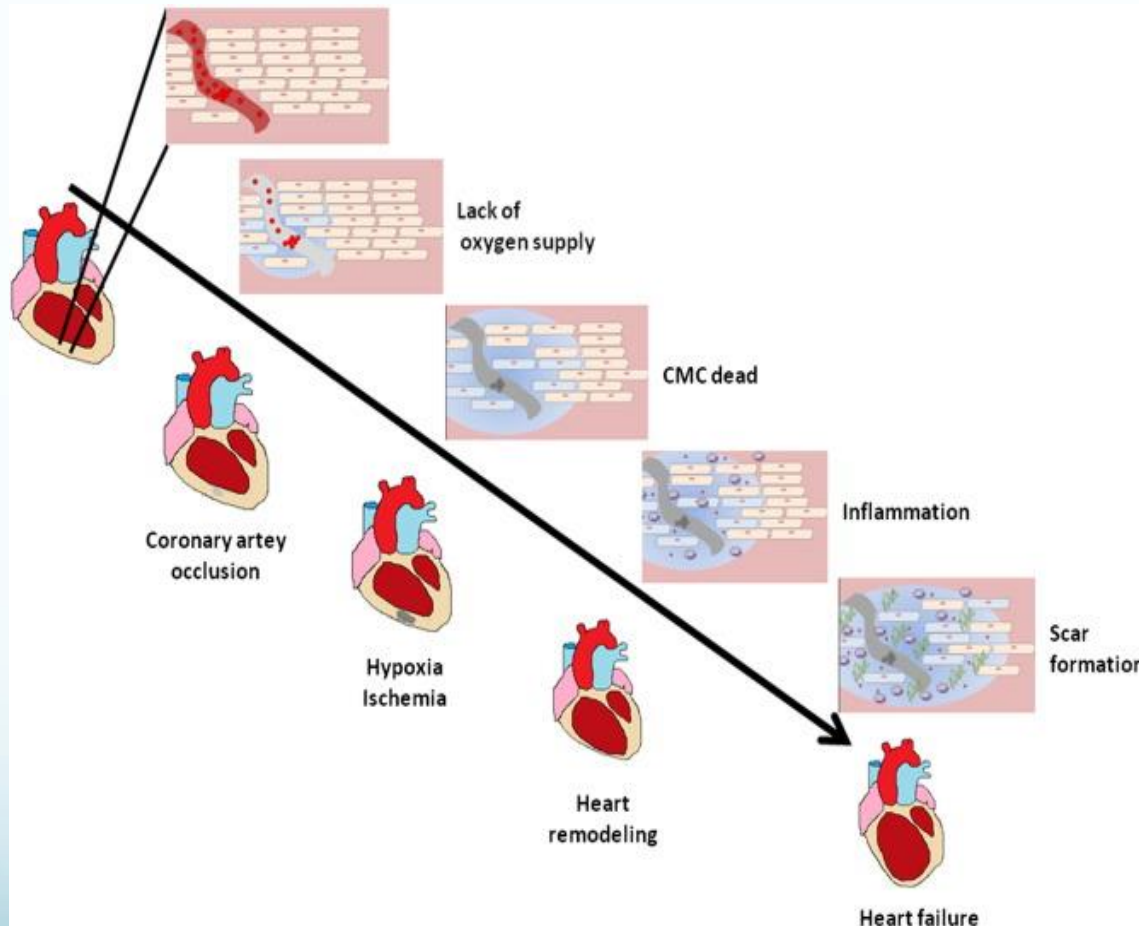
# Ruolo del metabolismo e della proliferazione cellulare nelle cardiopatie dell'anziano



**Daniela Liccardo, PhD**

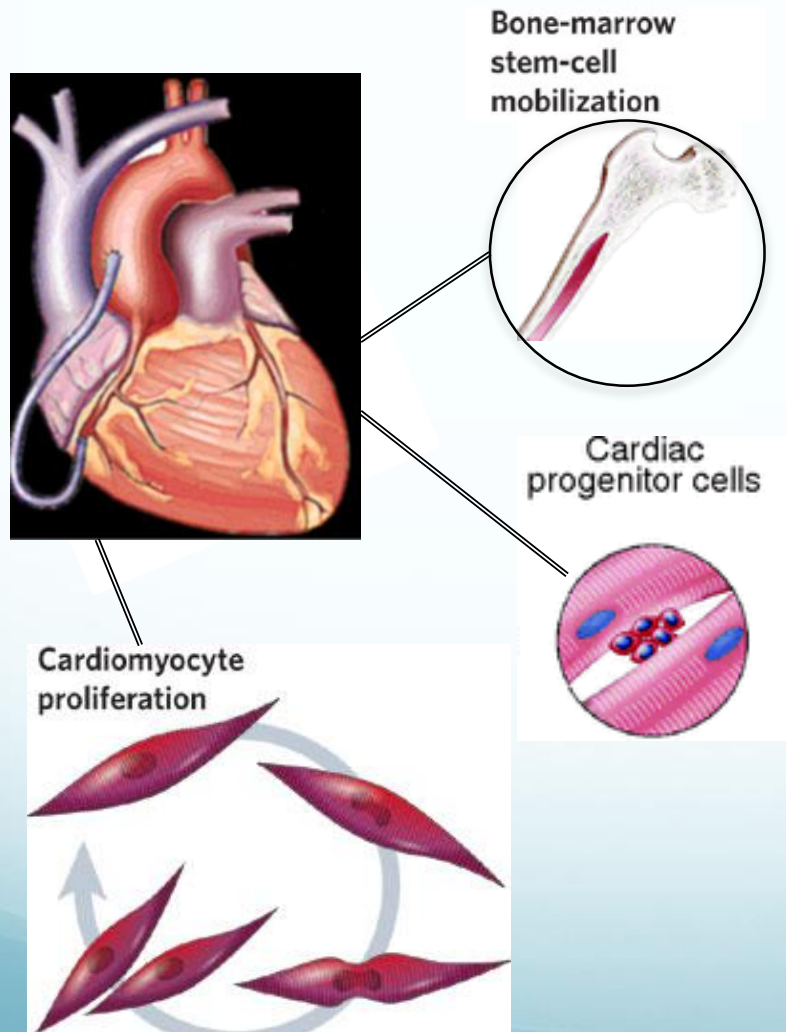
Dipartimento di Scienze Mediche Traslazionali  
Università degli studi di Napoli "Federico II"

# Heart injury and regeneration



- **Myocardial infarction (MI)** remains the most common cause of heart failure
- The adult heart regeneration rate is not sufficient to replace lost cardiomyocytes
- Dead cardiomyocyte are gradually replaced by fibroblasts

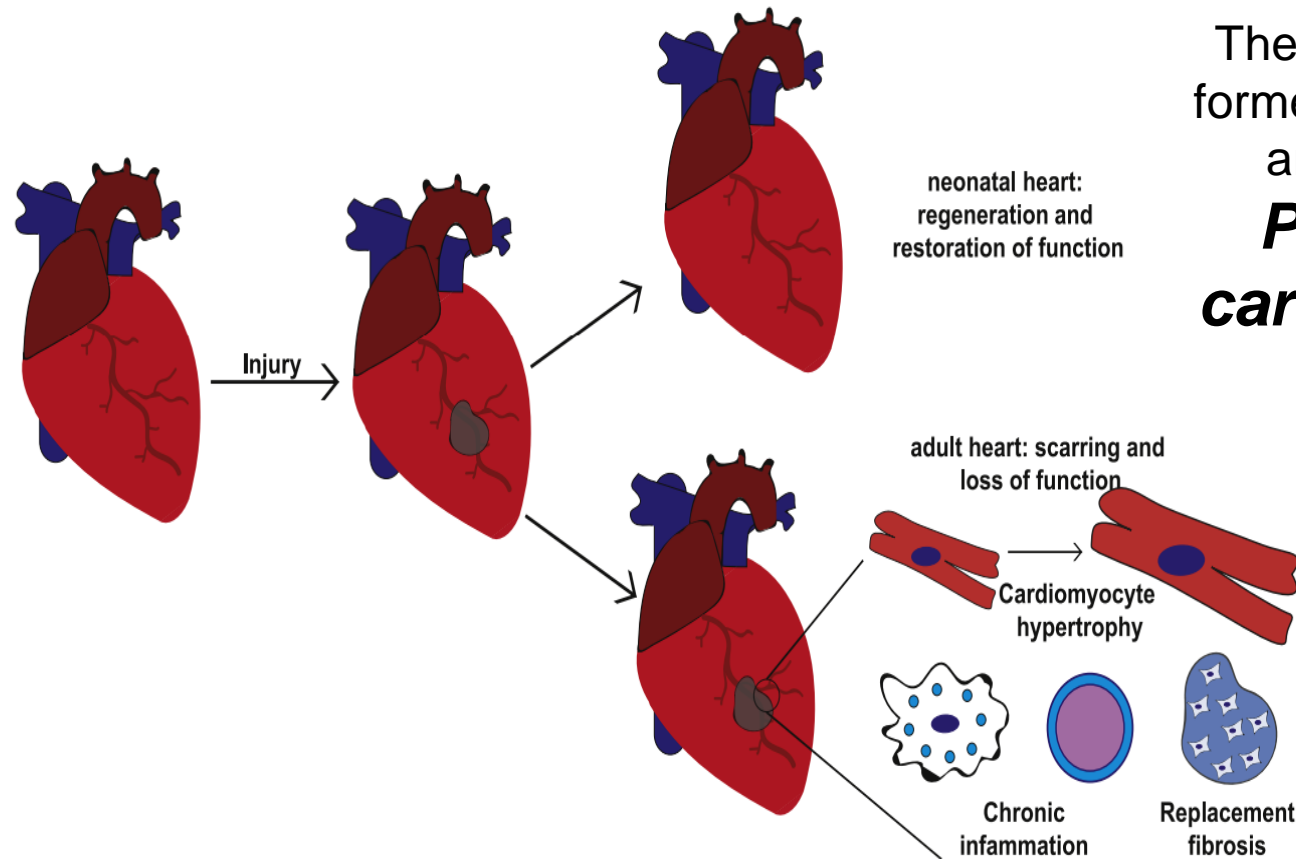
# Heart injury and regeneration



## Strategies to regenerate Heart:

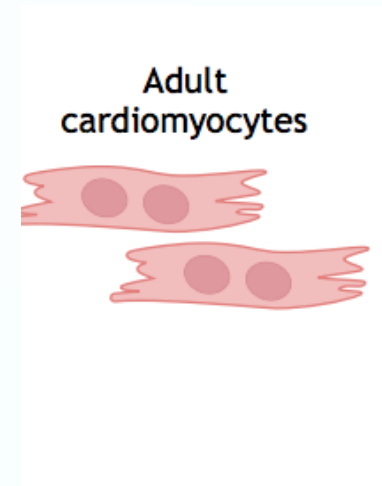
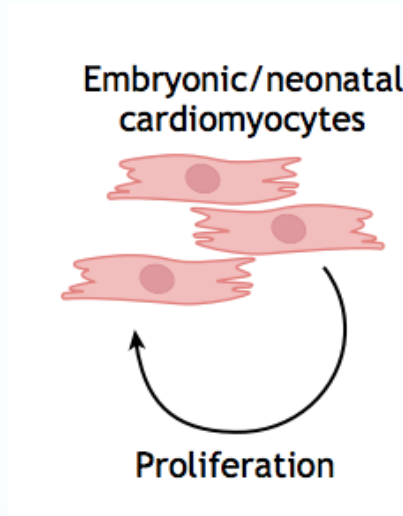
- to activate endogenous stem cells differentiation
- to activate progenitors such as cardiac stem cells (CSCs)
- to promote resident cardiomyocytes proliferation by inducing them to re-enter the cell cycle

# Neonatal heart regenerates after injury



The majority of newly formed *cardiomyocytes* are derived from ***Pre-existing cardiomyocytes***

# Cardiac features : neonatal vs adult

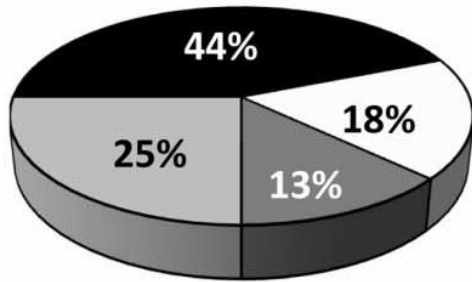


- cardiomyocytes are able to proliferate then gradually stop proliferating and exit the cell cycle (G0/G1 phase).
- cardiomyocytes are less differentiated.
- Cardiomyocytes can re-enter the cell cycle and proliferate.
- cardiomyocytes are **NOT** able to proliferate.
- cardiomyocytes are differentiated.
- Cardiomyocyte can re-enter the cell cycle but **not** undergo cell division (polyploidization and polynucleation).

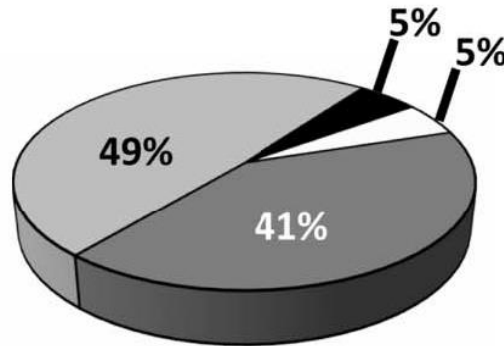


# Metabolism: neonatal vs adult

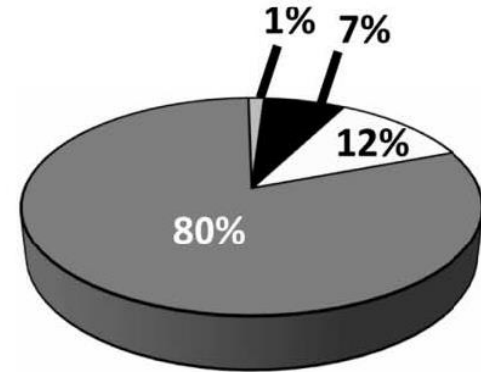
Fetal/Immediate Newborn



Newborn (7 days old)



Newborn (21 days old)/adult



Anaerobic metabolism

Oxidative metabolism

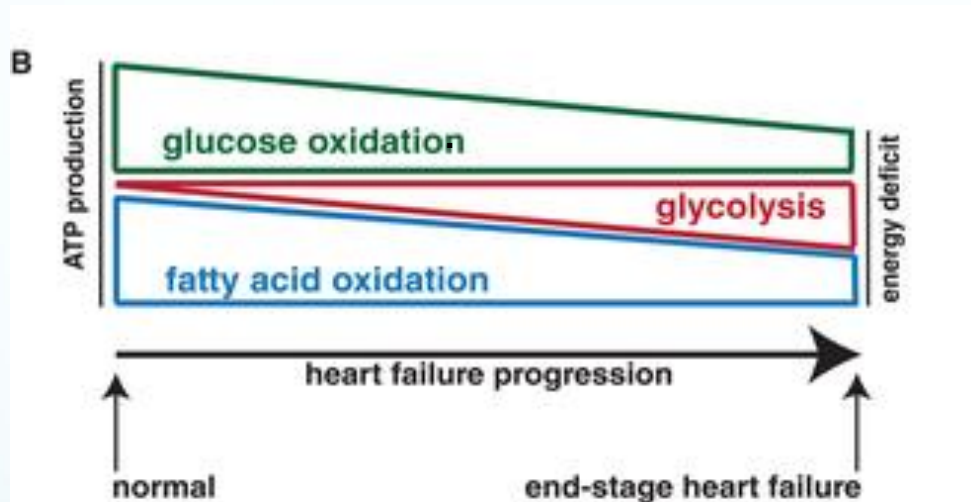


Glucose

Fatty acids

# Metabolism in the failing heart

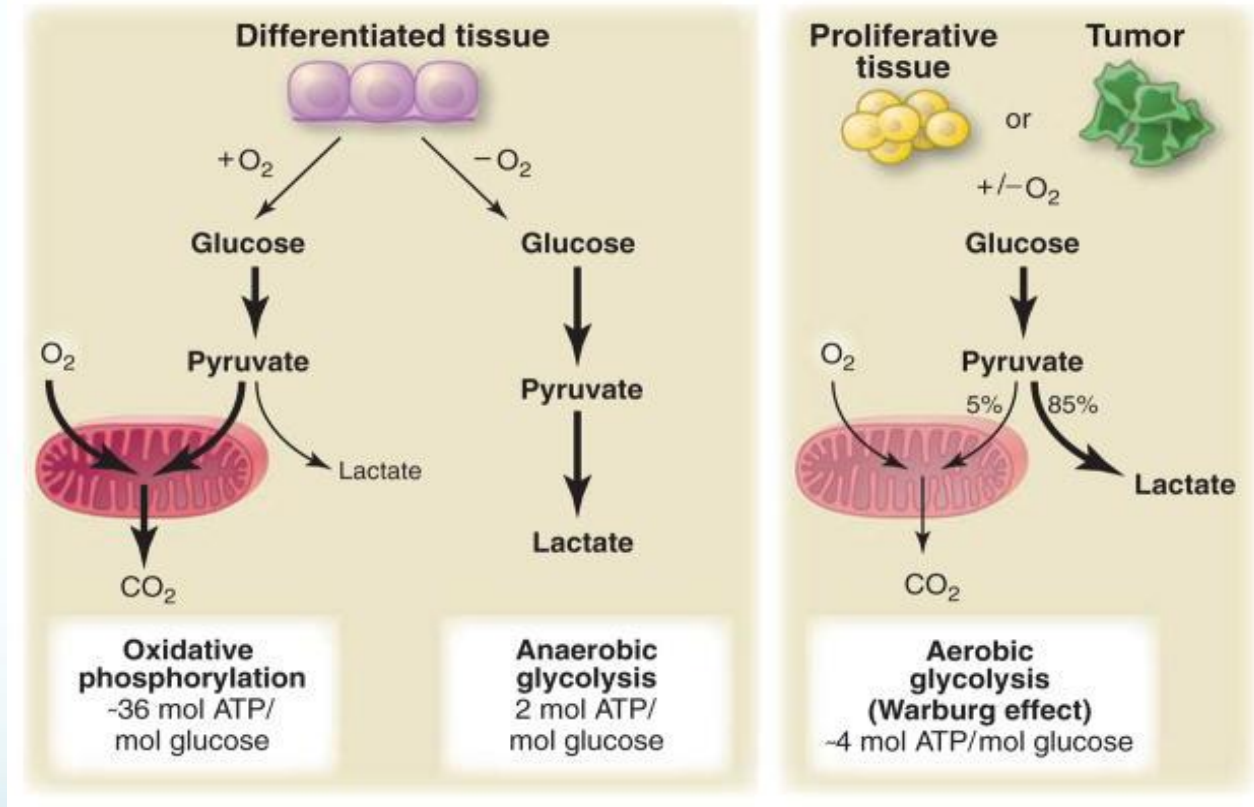
In the failing heart there is a substantial shift from fatty acid oxidation (FAO) towards increased glucose metabolism



- fatty acids can no longer be oxidized efficiently, leading to intracellular accumulation of fatty acids and their derivatives, provoking lipotoxicity
- the oxidation of glucose is more energy efficient than that of fatty acids
- the generation of glycolytic ATP in the cytoplasm is rapid and readily available for cell maintenance and protein synthesis.

# Metabolism and cell cycle

In **proliferating cells** energy substrate metabolism is characterized by high rates of **glycolysis** even in the presence of adequate oxygen.



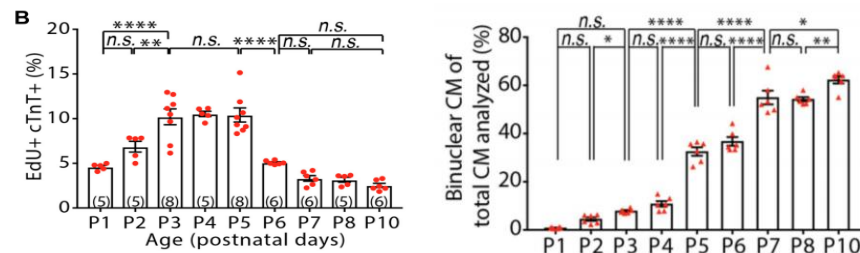
The preferential use of aerobic glycolysis offers several advantages to highly proliferation cells concerning both bioenergetics and biosynthetic requirements



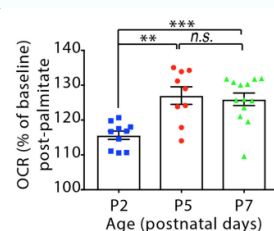
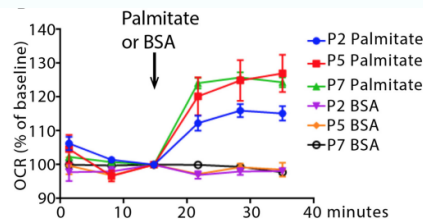


# Fatty Acid Oxidation Promotes Cardiomyocyte Proliferation Rate but Does Not Change Cardiomyocyte Number in Infant Mice

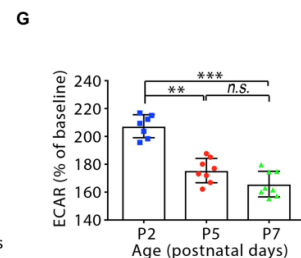
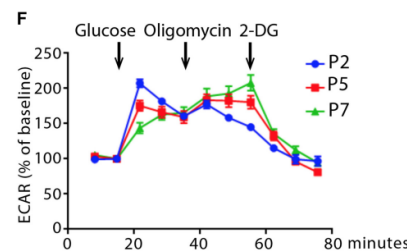
Tongtong Cao<sup>1,2††</sup>, Daniela Liccardo<sup>1†</sup>, Ryan LaCanna<sup>1</sup>, Xiaoying Zhang<sup>3</sup>, Rong Lu<sup>2</sup>, Brian N. Finck<sup>4</sup>, Tani Leigh<sup>1</sup>, Xiongwen Chen<sup>3</sup>, Konstantinos Drosatos<sup>1</sup> and Ying Tian<sup>1\*</sup>

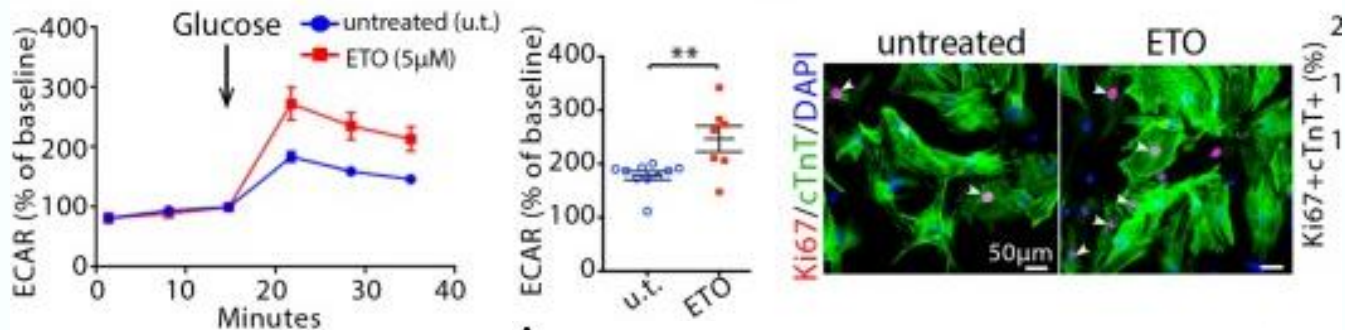


Cardiomyocytes proliferate in the postnatal life and exit the cell cycle between p3 and p5 becoming benucleated.

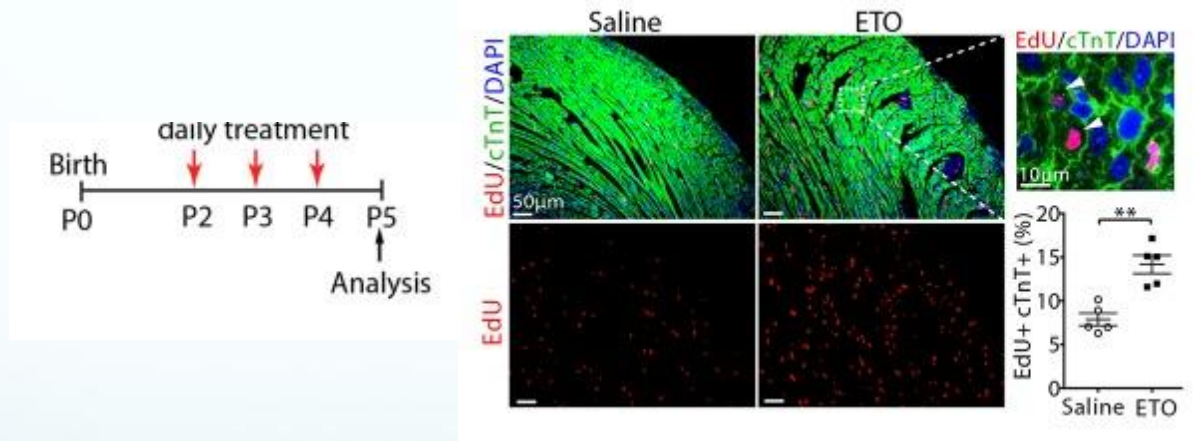


Cardiomyocytes exit cell cycle and Switch their metabolism to Fatty Acid  $\beta$ -Oxidation

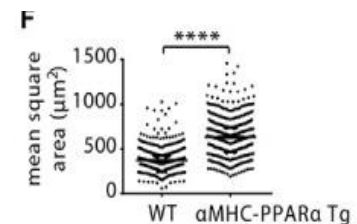
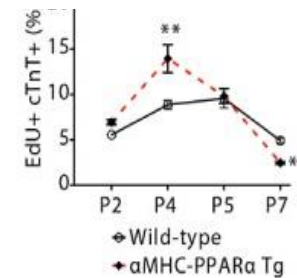
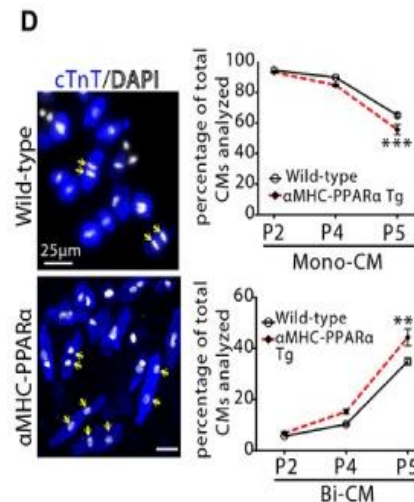
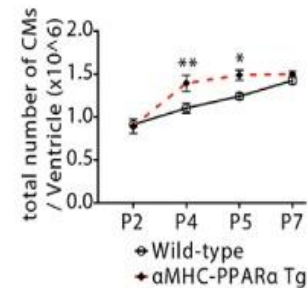
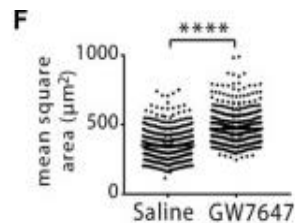
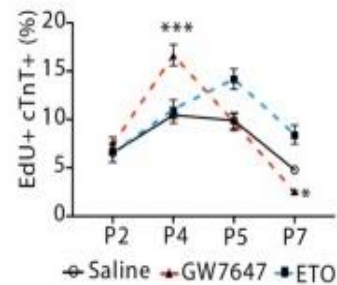
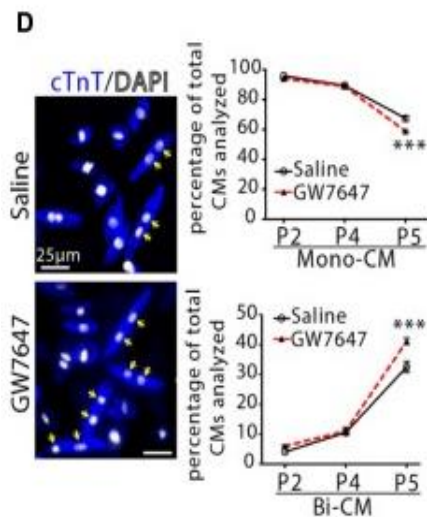
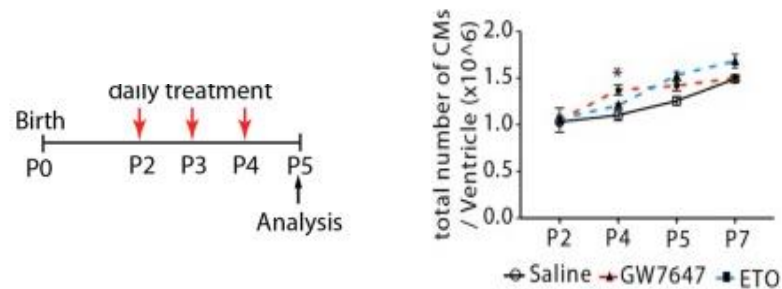




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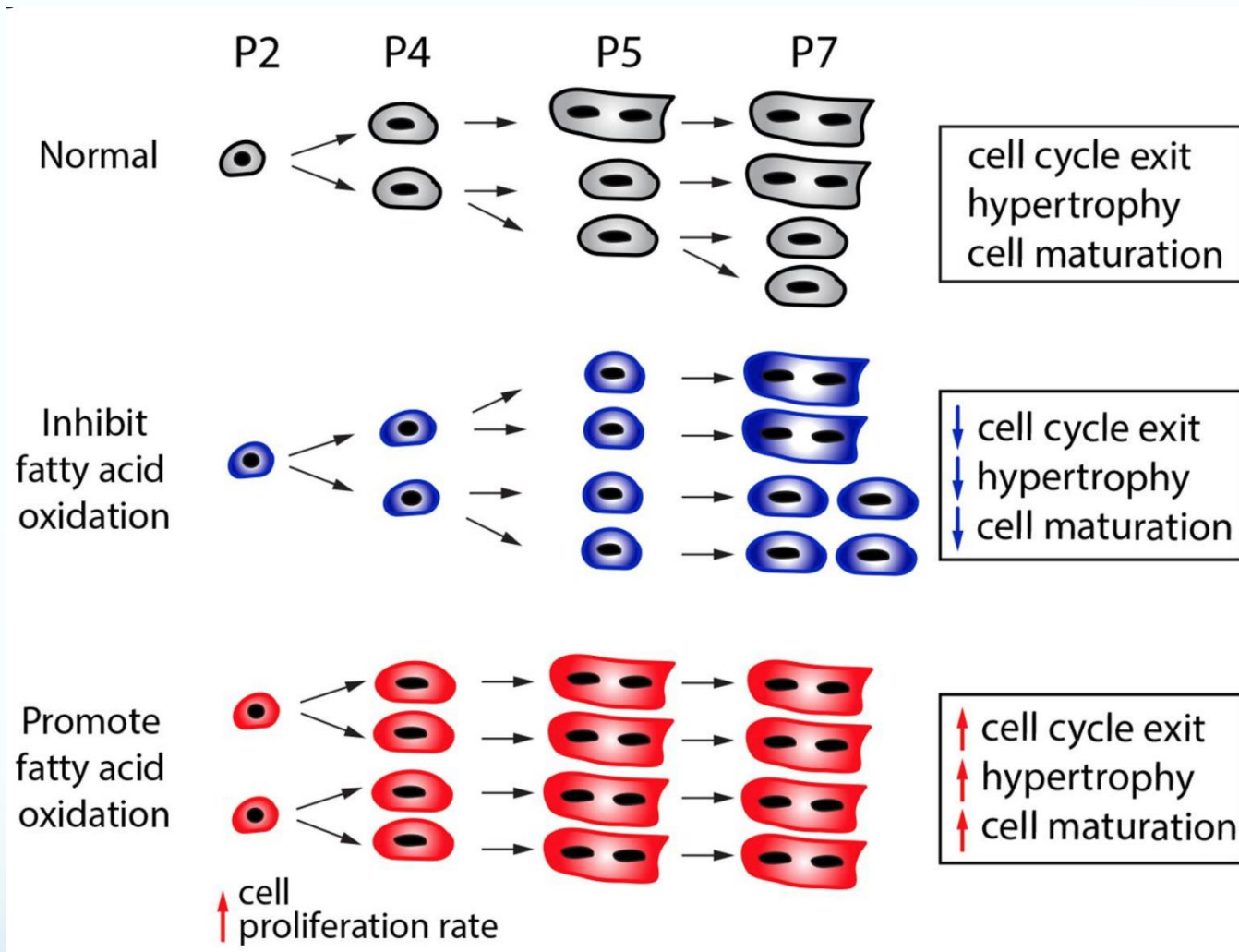
Inhibition of Cardiomyocyte Fatty Acid  $\beta$ -Oxidation Enhances Glycolysis and Maintains the Ability of Cardiomyocyte to Proliferate in Infant Mice



Stimulating PPARalpha

Overexpressing PPARalpha

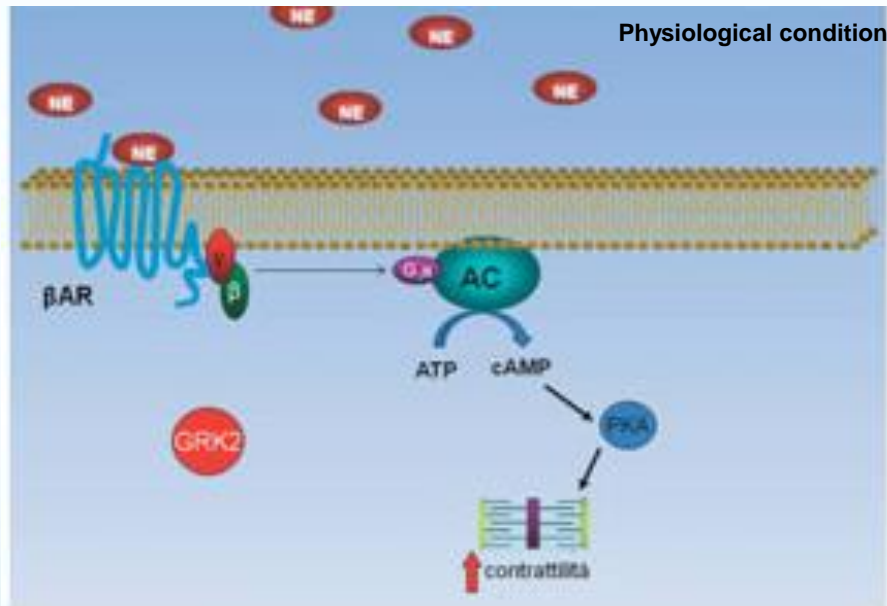
Activation of Fatty Acid  $\beta$ -Oxidation Promotes Cell proliferation rate, Hypertrophic Growth and Binucleation



Oxidative metabolism plays an important role in enhancing cardiomyocyte proliferation rate

# GRK2 in the heart

G protein-coupled receptor kinase (GRK2) is a serine/threonine kinase controlling the function of most of GPCRs present on cardiomyocytes and is involved in regulation of overall cardiovascular physiology.



Increased GRK2 is central to heart failure (HF) pathogenesis, via desensitization of  $\beta$ -adrenergic receptors and loss of contractile reserve.

$\beta$ ARKct, reduces the capability of GRK2 to induce dysregulation and downregulation of  $\beta$ -adrenergic receptors increasing contractility.

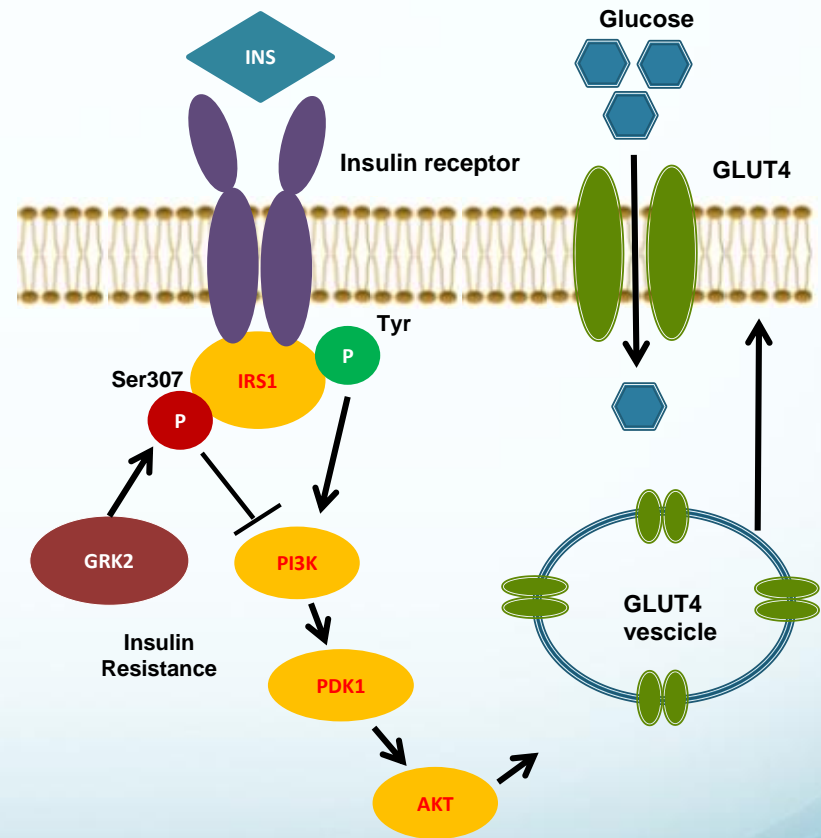
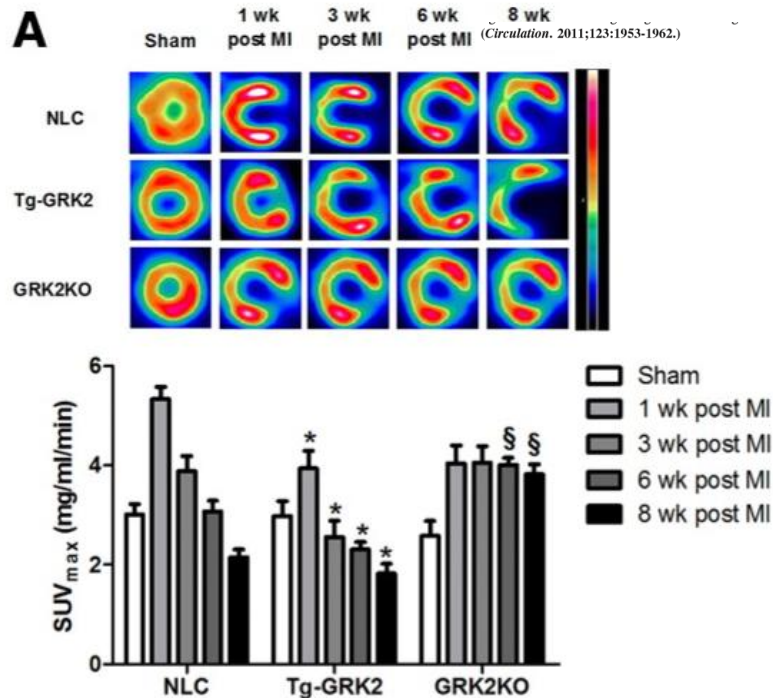


# GRK2 impaires glucose uptake following myocardial infarction

## Molecular Cardiology

### G Protein–Coupled Receptor Kinase 2 Activity Impairs Cardiac Glucose Uptake and Promotes Insulin Resistance After Myocardial Ischemia

Michele Ciccarelli, MD, PhD; J. Kurt Chuprun, PhD; Giuseppe Rengo, MD, PhD; Erhe Gao, MD, PhD; Zhengyu Wei, PhD; Raymond J. Peroutka, BS; Jessica I. Gold, BS; Anna Gumpert, PhD; Mai Chen, MD, PhD; Nicholas J. Otis, BS; Gerald W. Dorn II, MD; Bruno Trimarco, MD; Guido Iaccarino, MD, PhD; Walter J. Koch, PhD



Grk2 overexpression reduces glucose uptake

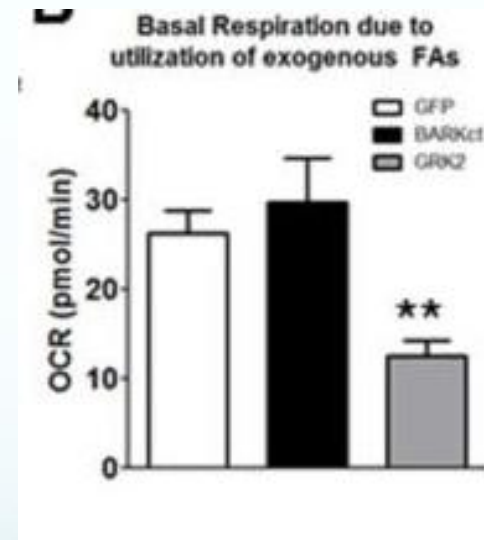
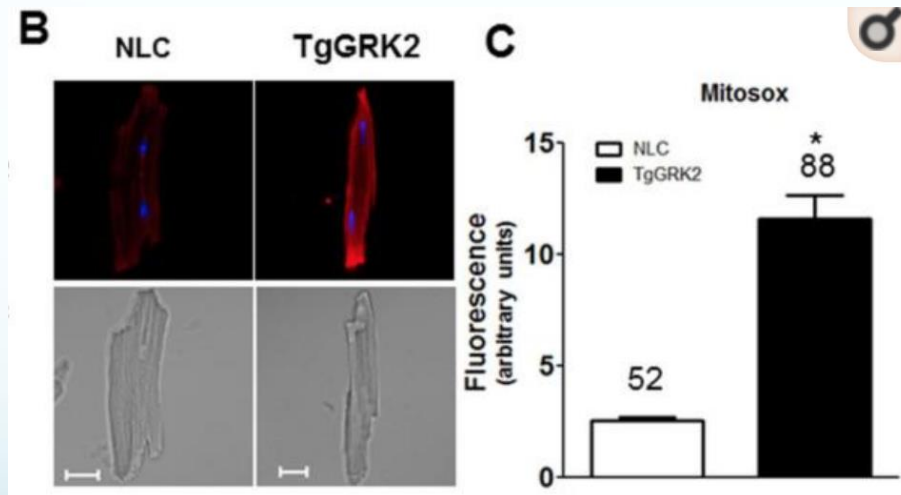
## GRK2 compromises cardiomyocyte mitochondrial function by diminishing fatty acid-mediated oxygen consumption and increasing superoxide levels.

Sato PY<sup>1</sup>, Chuprun JK<sup>1</sup>, Ibeti J<sup>1</sup>, Cannavo A<sup>1</sup>, Drosatos K<sup>1</sup>, Elrod JW<sup>1</sup>, Koch WJ<sup>2</sup>.

J Mol Cell Cardiol. 2018 Oct;123:108-117. doi: 10.1016/j.yjmcc.2018.08.025. Epub 2018 Aug 29.

## G protein-coupled receptor kinase 2 contributes to impaired fatty acid metabolism in the failing heart.

Pfleger J<sup>1</sup>, Gross P<sup>2</sup>, Johnson J<sup>2</sup>, Carter RL<sup>1</sup>, Gao E<sup>1</sup>, Tilley DG<sup>1</sup>, Houser SR<sup>2</sup>, Koch WJ<sup>3</sup>.

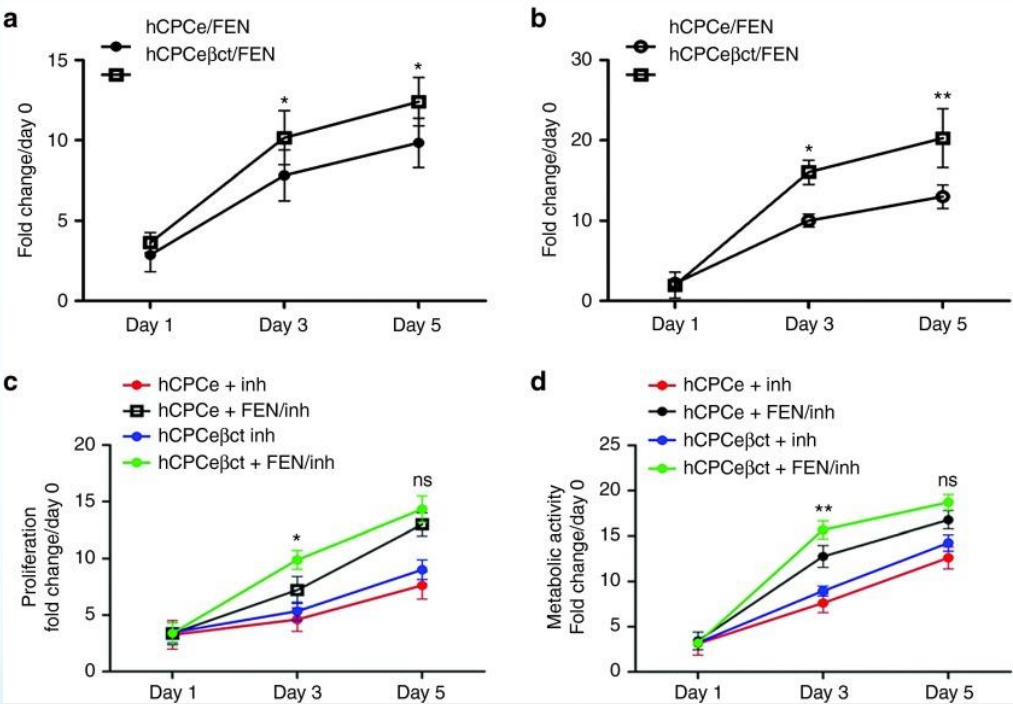


Overexpression of GRK2 in cardiomyocytes increases superoxide levels and reduces cell respiration and beta oxidation in cardiomyocytes and in HF

# Cardiac progenitor cells engineered with $\beta$ ARKct have enhanced $\beta$ -adrenergic tolerance.

Khan M<sup>1</sup>, Mohsin S<sup>1</sup>, Toko H<sup>1</sup>, Alkatib M<sup>1</sup>, Nguyen J<sup>1</sup>, Truffa S<sup>1</sup>, Gude N<sup>1</sup>, Chuprun K<sup>2</sup>, Tilley DG<sup>2</sup>, Koch WJ<sup>2</sup>, Sussman MA<sup>1</sup>.

[Author information](#)



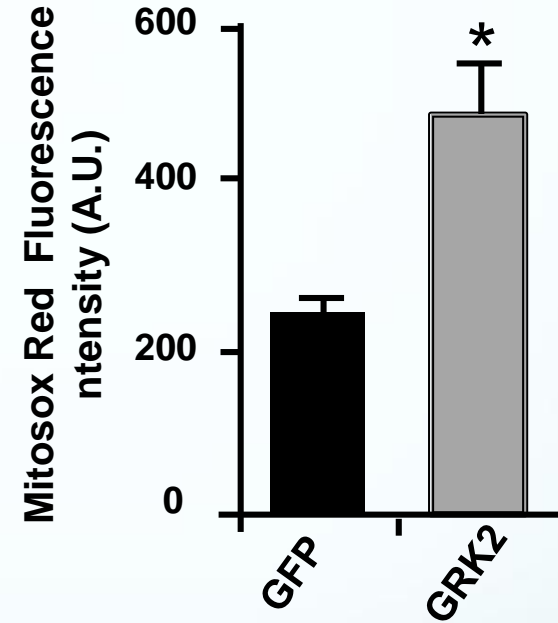
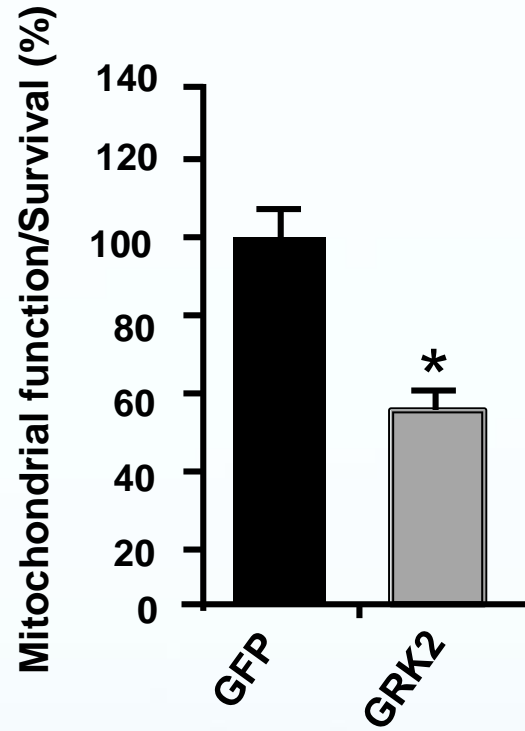
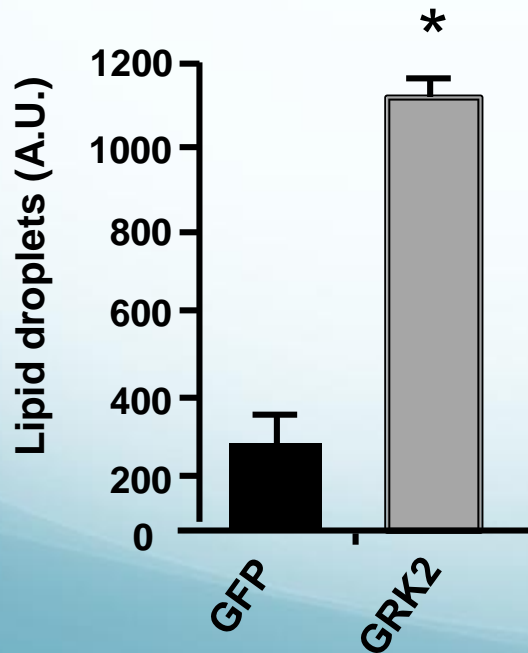
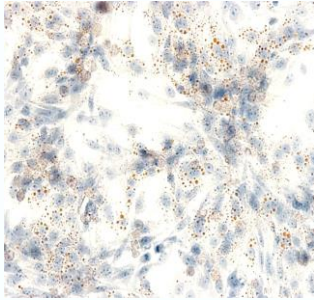
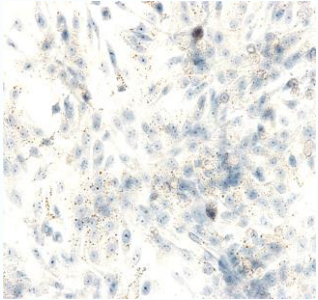
$\beta$ ARKct increases **proliferation** and **metabolic activity** in cardiac progenitor cells

*It is more than plausible to speculate that  
GRK2 impairing oxidative metabolism  
affects cardiac regeneration.....*

# GRK2 induces lipid accumulation and lipotoxicity

GFP

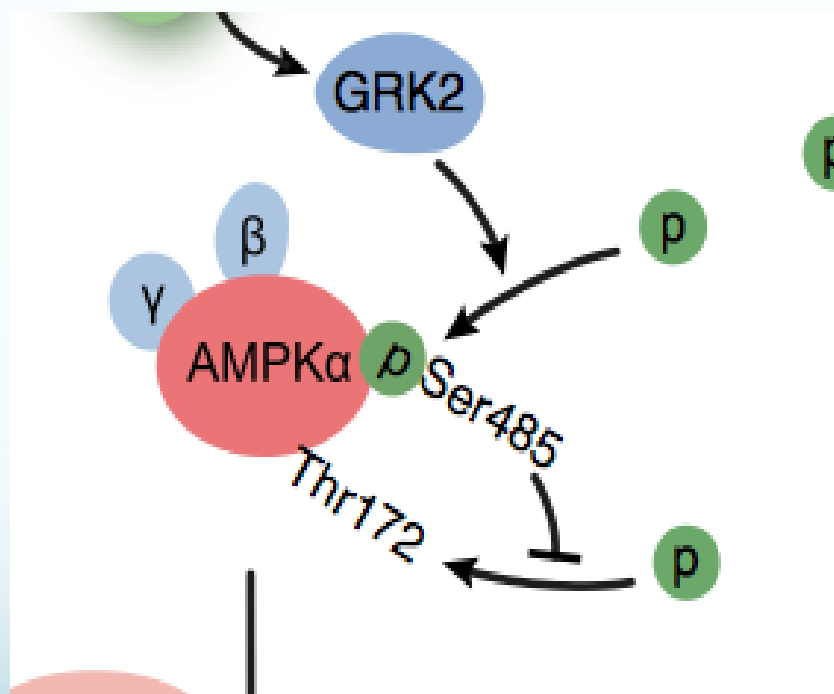
GRK2





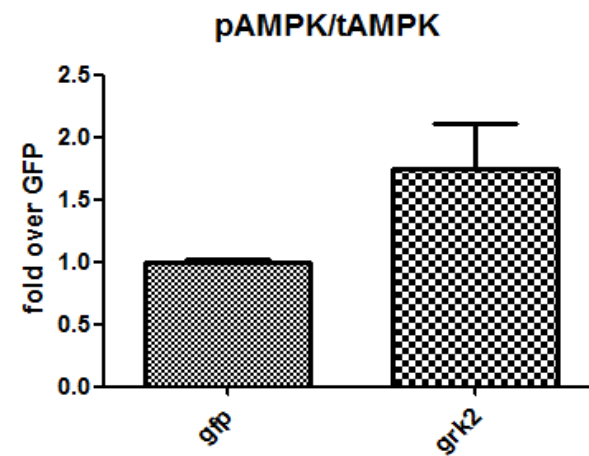
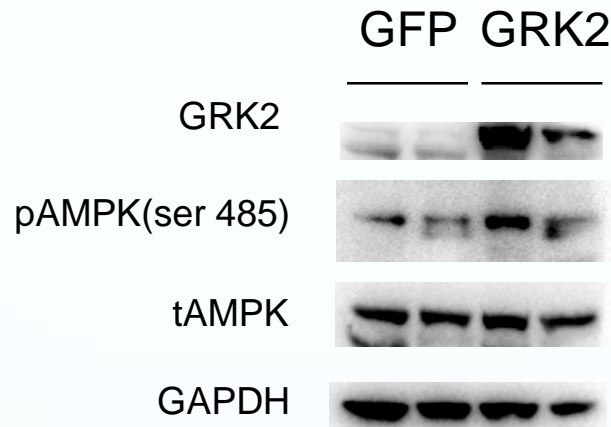
## G protein-coupled receptor kinase 2 (GRK2) as a multifunctional signaling hub.

Penela P<sup>1,2,3</sup>, Ribas C<sup>1,2,3</sup>, Sánchez-Madrid F<sup>2,3,4</sup>, Mayor F Jr<sup>5,6,7</sup>.



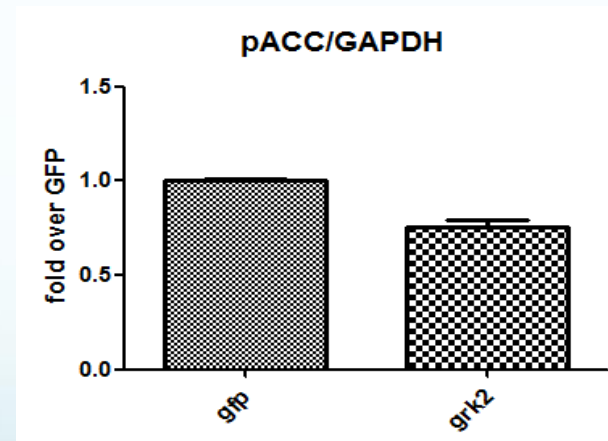
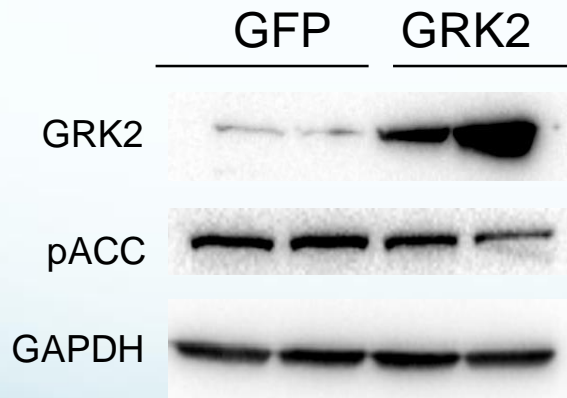
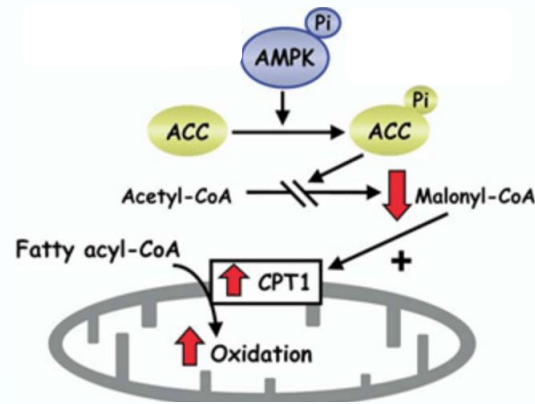
**GRK2 binds** to the **AMPK** α1 and α2 catalytic subunits and phosphorylates AMPK at Ser485, leading to the inhibition of AMPK Thr172 phosphorylation and its **inactivation**.

# GRK2 reduces beta oxidation



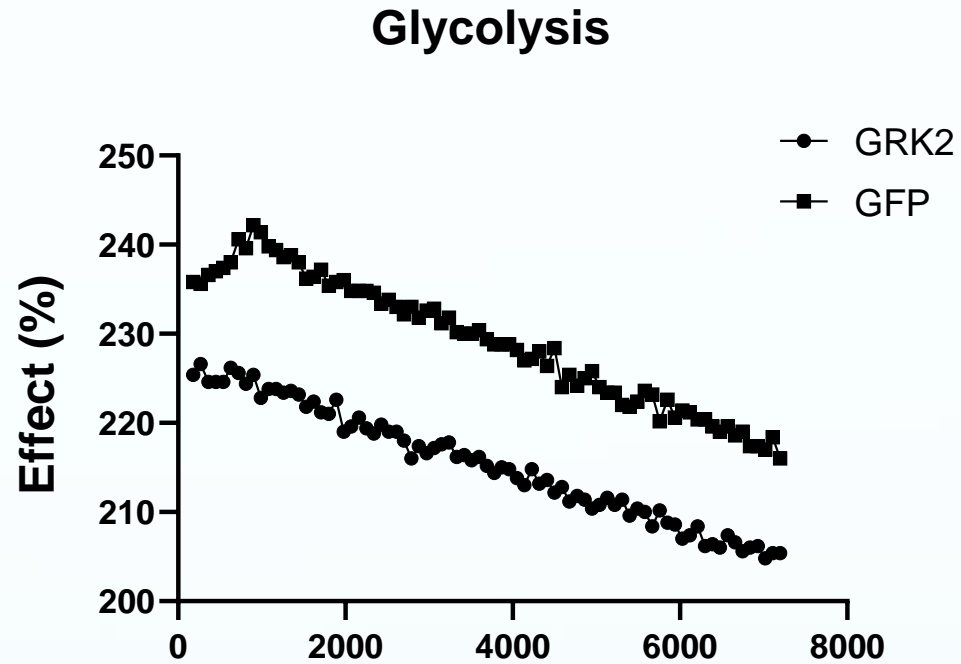
**Grk2 reduces beta oxidation through AMPK inhibition**

# GRK2 reduces beta oxidation

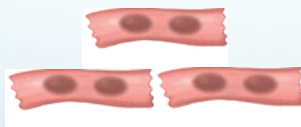
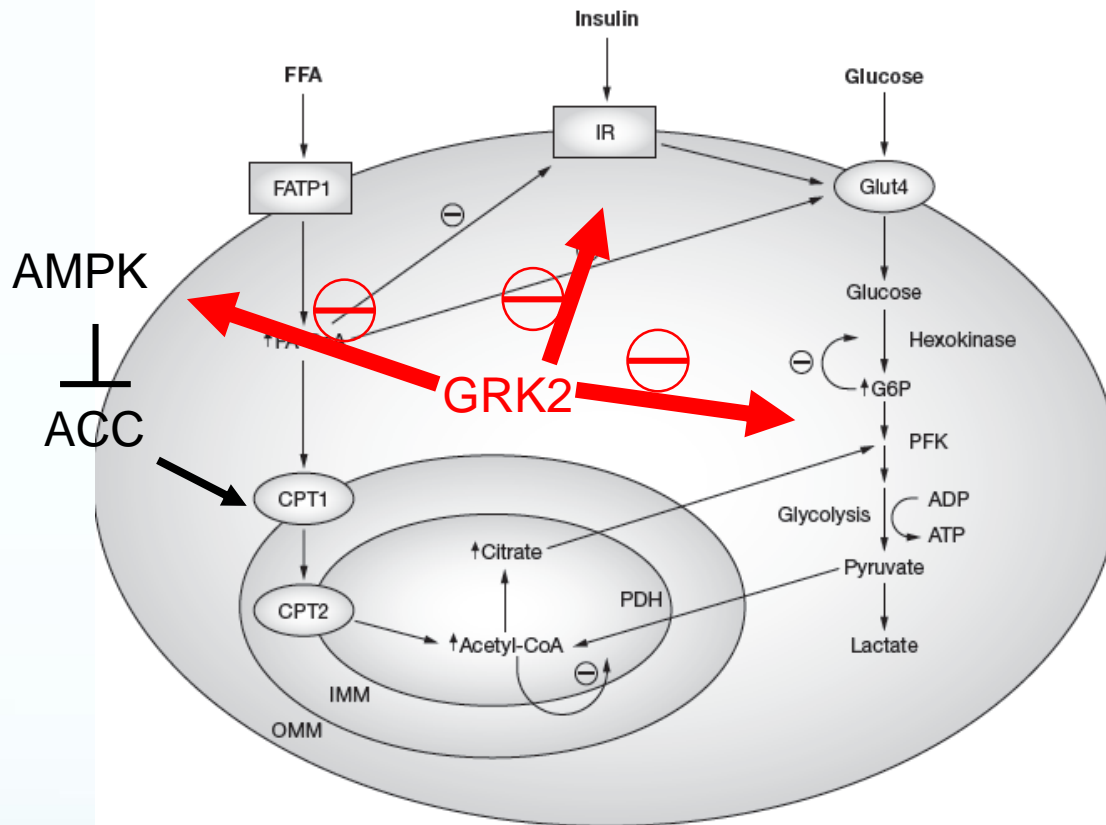


**Grk2 reduces beta oxidation through AMPK/ACC inhibition**

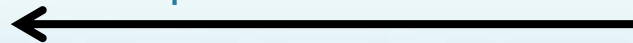
# GRK2 affects glycolytic rate



# CONCLUSION



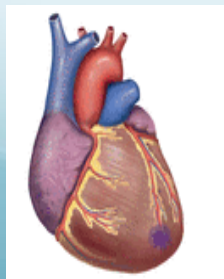
proliferation



Oxidative metabolism

Cardiac regeneration

?





# Acknowledgments



**Dr. Alessandro Cannavo, PhD**  
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Giuseppina Gambino, PhD



**Walter J Koch, PhD**  
**Ying Tian, PhD**



**Fondazione  
Umberto Veronesi**  
— per il progresso  
delle scienze

# Thank you!