**Supplementary Material**

**Inhibition of p38 mitogen-activated protein kinase exerts a hypoglycemic effect by improving β cell function via inhibition of β cell apoptosis in db/db mice**

**Short title: P38 inhibitor inhibits β cell apoptosis**

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**Supplementary Material 1**

**Sequences of primers used for RT-PCR**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Gene** | **Primer sequences** |
| ***β-actin*** |

|  |
| --- |
| Forward: CCCTAAGGCCAACCGTGAAReverse: CACAGCCTGGATGGCTACGT |

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| ***Bip*** | Forward: GAGACTGCTGAGGCGTATTTGGReverse: CGCTGGGCATCATTGAAGTA |
| ***Chop*** |

|  |
| --- |
| Forward: TCGGACGCACTTGGAATGAReverse: AACCACCTTGAATGGCAAGAA  |

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| ***Bcl-2*** | Forward: GGCATCTGCACACCTGGATReverse: TCAAACAGAGGTCGCATGCT |
| ***Bax*** | Forward: TGGAGCTGCAGAGGATGATTGReverse: TGCCATCAGCAAACATGTCA |

**Supplementary Material 2**

**Metabolic features of the mice**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Weeks |  | Con |  |  | Dmo |  |  | Dmi |  |
| Food intake (g/day) | Weight (g) | FBG (mmol/L) | Food intake (g/day) | Weight (g) | FBG (mmol/L) | Food intake (g/day) | Weight (g) | FBG (mmol/L) |
| 7  |  | 18.40±1.14 | 5.03±0.39 |  | 31.85±1.76\* | 12.93±3.86\* |  | 31.76±1.65 | 13.23±3.58 |
| 8  | 5.53±0.34  | 19.03±1.16 | 5.37±0.53 | 8.46±0.21\* | 35.19±1.74\* | 22.86±6.05\* | 8.37±0.41 | 35.43±1.66 | 19.33±5.04 |
| 9  | 5.7±0.25  | 20.42±1.14 | 5.13±0.42 | 8.88±0.19\* | 37.29±1.65\* | 11.72±3.17\* | 8.83±0.49 | 38.18±1.26 | 9.23±3.18# |
| 10  | 5.3±0.41  | 20.32±1.04 | 5.28±0.43  | 10.47±0.33\* | 39.17±1.81\* | 17.26±4.70\* | 10.92±0.12 | 40.25±2.29 | 17.29±4.63 |
| 11  | 5.0±0.18  | 19.90±0.45 | 5.20±0.36 | 10.23±0.98\* | 40.31±1.98\* | 19.54±3.85\* | 10.84±0.11 | 41.08±2.39 | 13.68±3.80# |
| 12  | 5.2±0.22  | 20.50±0.99 | 5.07±0.40 | 10.10±0.49 | 41.81±2.47\* | 19.22±2.39\* | 10.27±0.51 | 42.83±2.48 | 11.81±3.67# |
| 13  | 5.3±0.17 | 20.23±0.85 | 5.08±0.53 | 9.96±0.18\* | 44.92±2.04\* | 22.58±4.19\* | 10.4±0.51 | 45.22±2.94 | 15.27±3.58# |
| 14  | 5.6±0.87 | 19.72±0.99 | 5.43±0.50 | 10.92±0.21\* | 46.56±2.16\* | 22.57±4.82\* | 11.24±0.35 | 46.26±3.25 | 16.52±3.93# |
| 15  | 5.3 | 20.35±1.20 | 5.20±0.14 | 9.84 | 45.82±1.73\* | 16.78±3.17 | 9.92 | 45.23±1.68 | 12.00±1.73# |
| 16  | 5.4 | 20.30±0.99 | 4.85±0.07 | 9.56 | 46.48±1.88\* | 18.08±4.65 | 9.73 | 46.28±1.90 | 14.78±1.37 |

Data are mean ± SD. Treatment groups were compared using independent t-tests. Dmo, vehicle-treated db/db mice; Dmi, SB203580-treated db/db mice; Con, C57 mice (\*, p<0.05, Dmo or Dmi vs. Con; #, p<0.05, Dmi vs. Dmo)