

The role of the c-Jun N-terminal kinase (JNK) in insulin resistance

Carme Caelles

Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology

School of Pharmacy, University of Barcelona

&

Institute of Biomedicine from the University of Barcelona

ccaelles@ub.edu

Inflammation is at the origin and/or the progression of many diseases



Inflammation is at the origin and/or the progression of many diseases

Pro-inflammatory cytokines
Stress



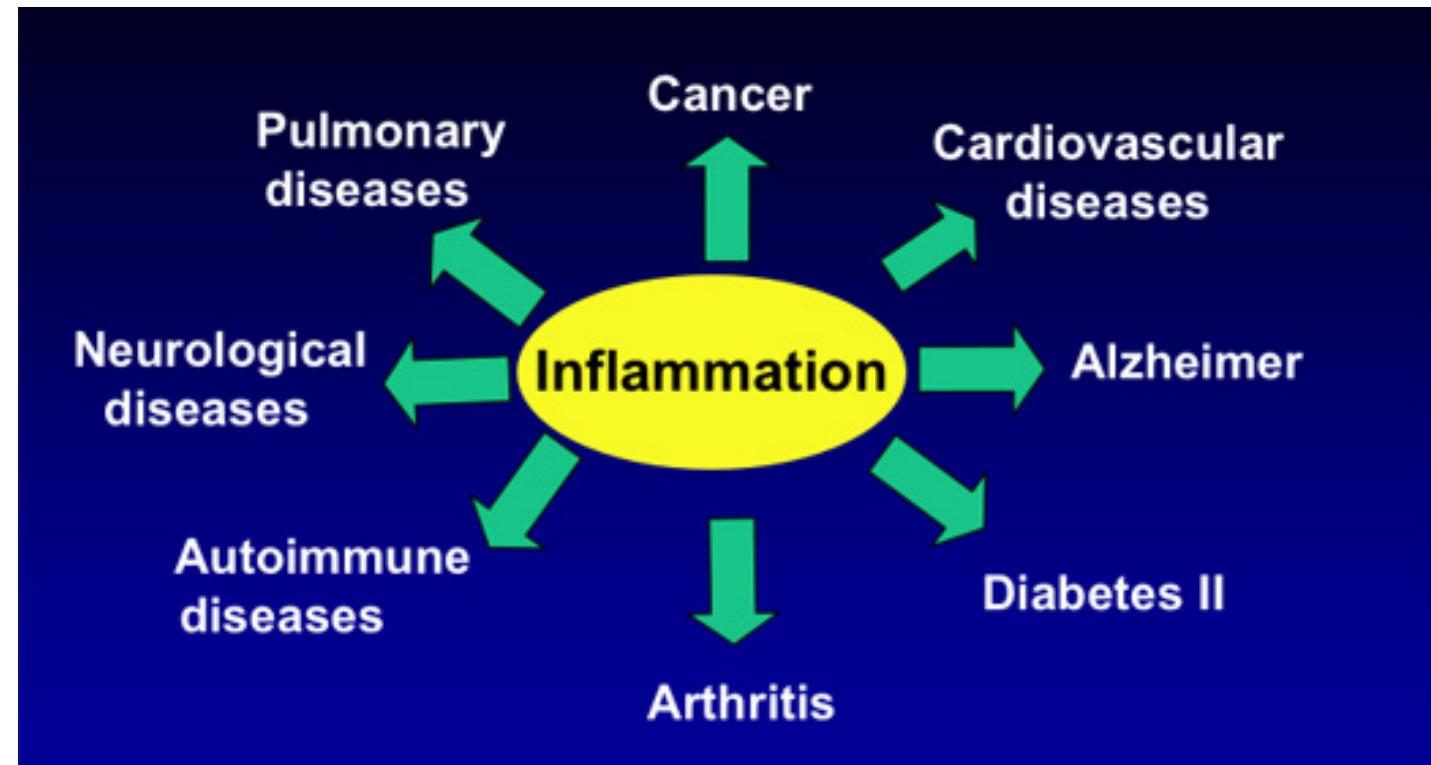
MEKK1

MKK7

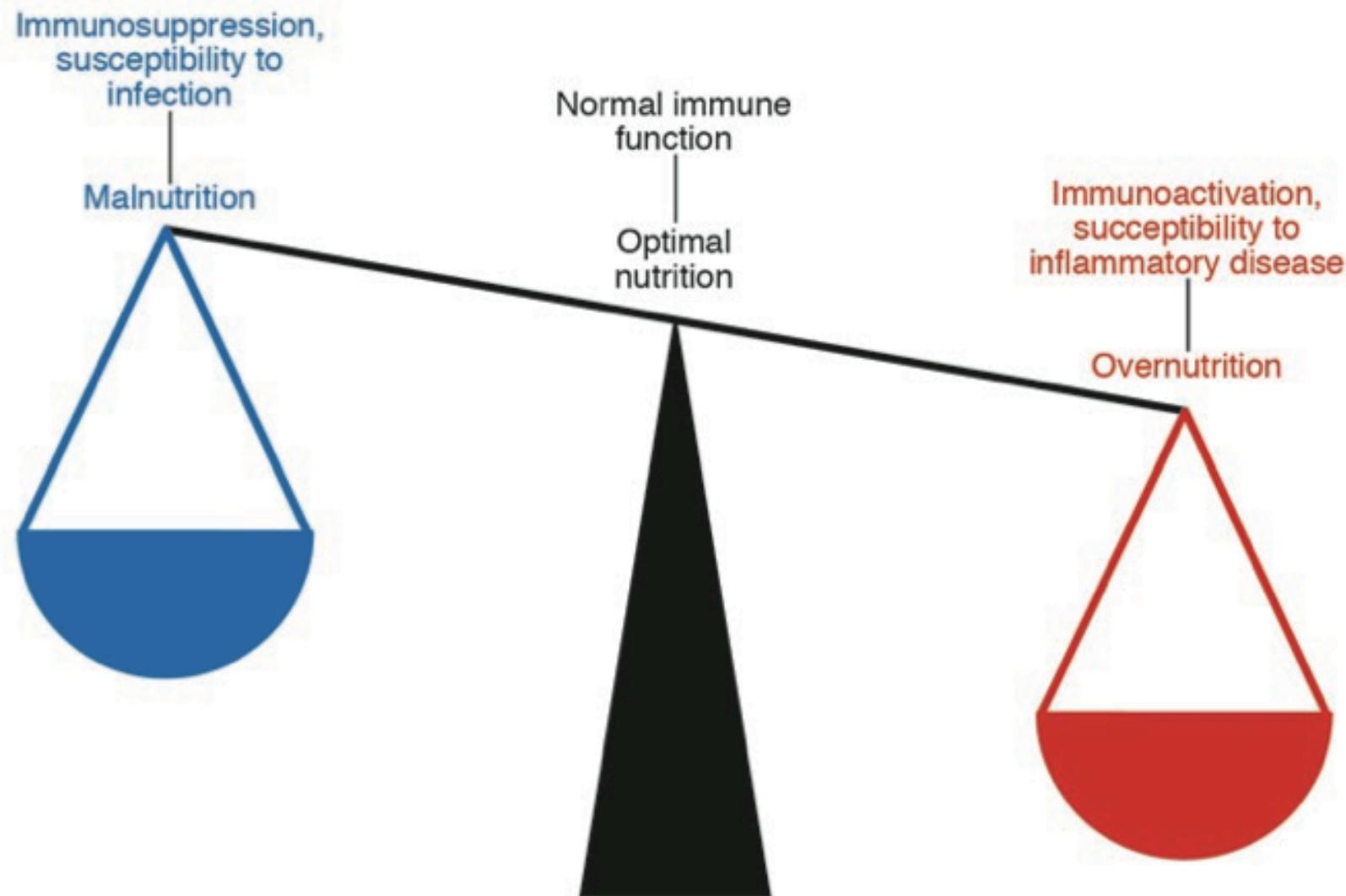
JNK



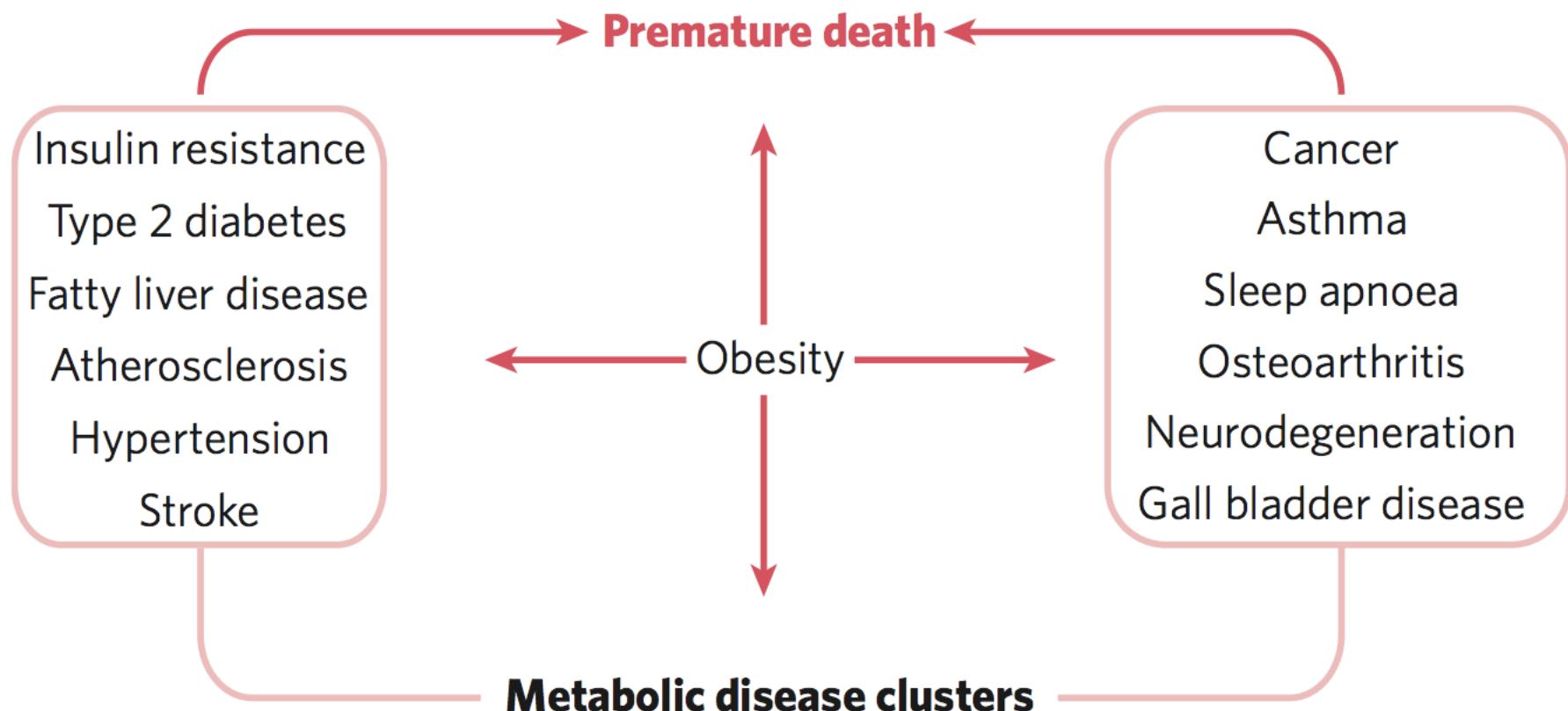
Inflammation



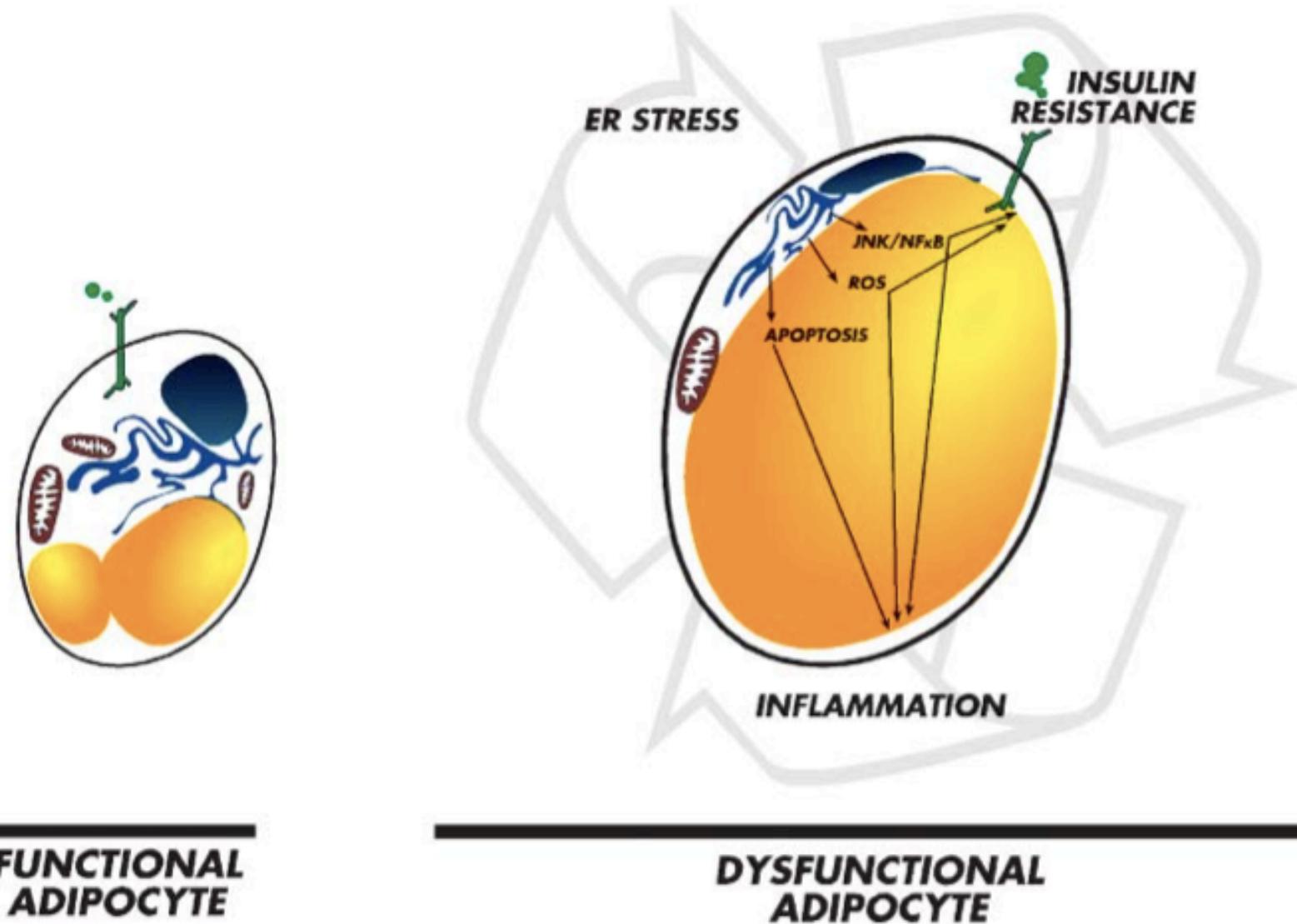
Metabolism and immunity are closely linked



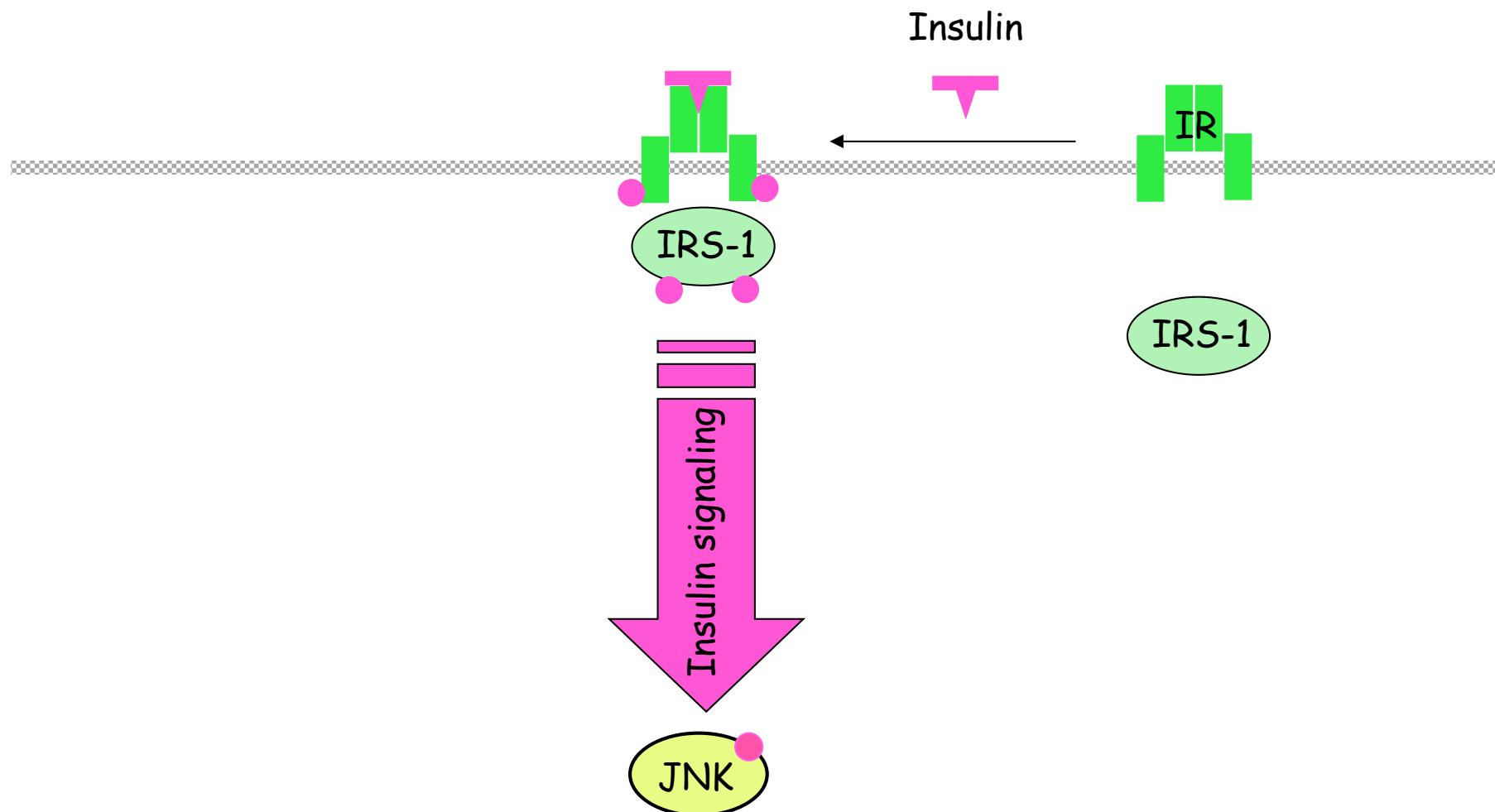
Obesity is a major risk factor for a vast array of diseases



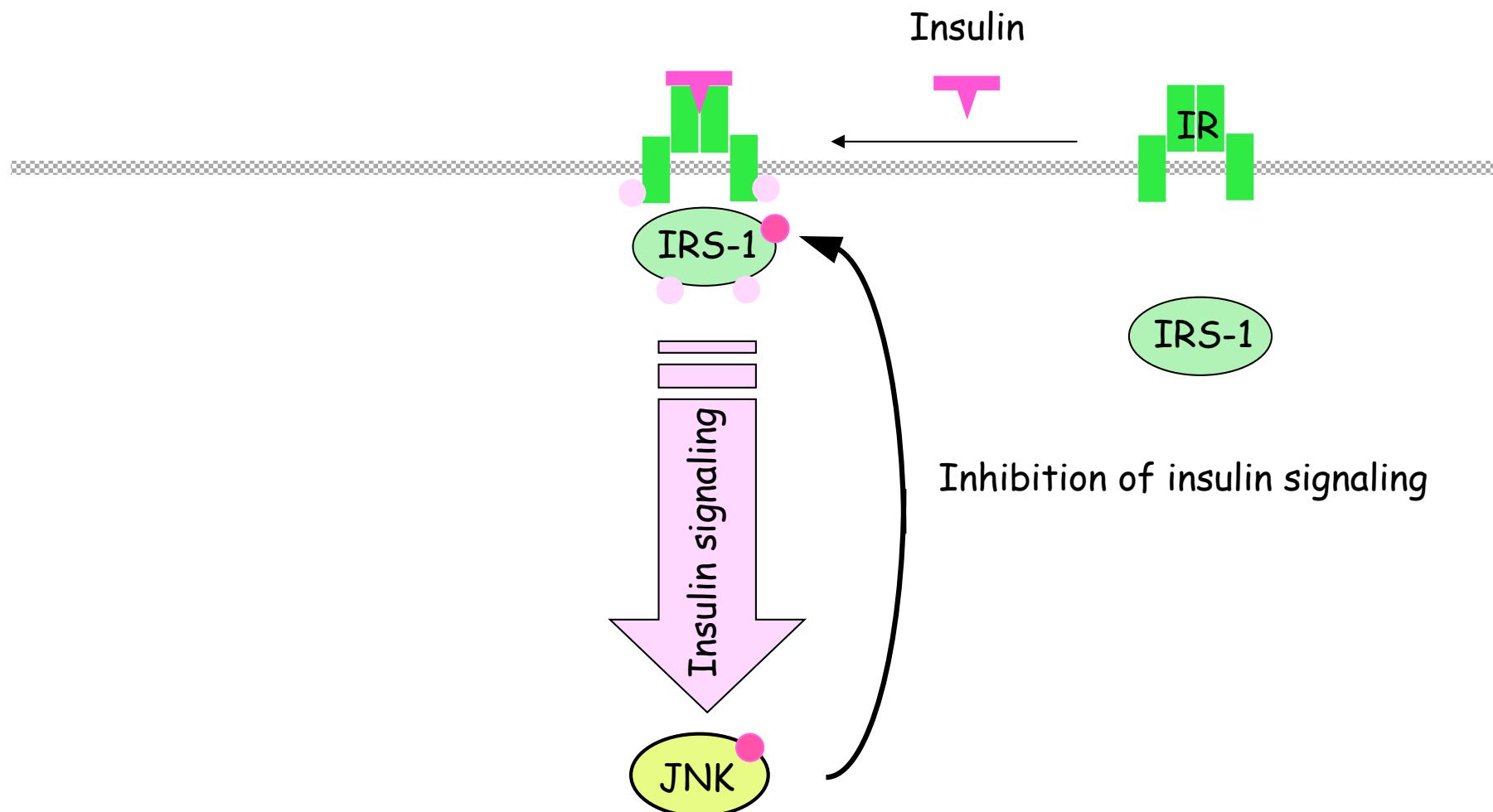
Many alterations are found in the hypertrophic adipocyte



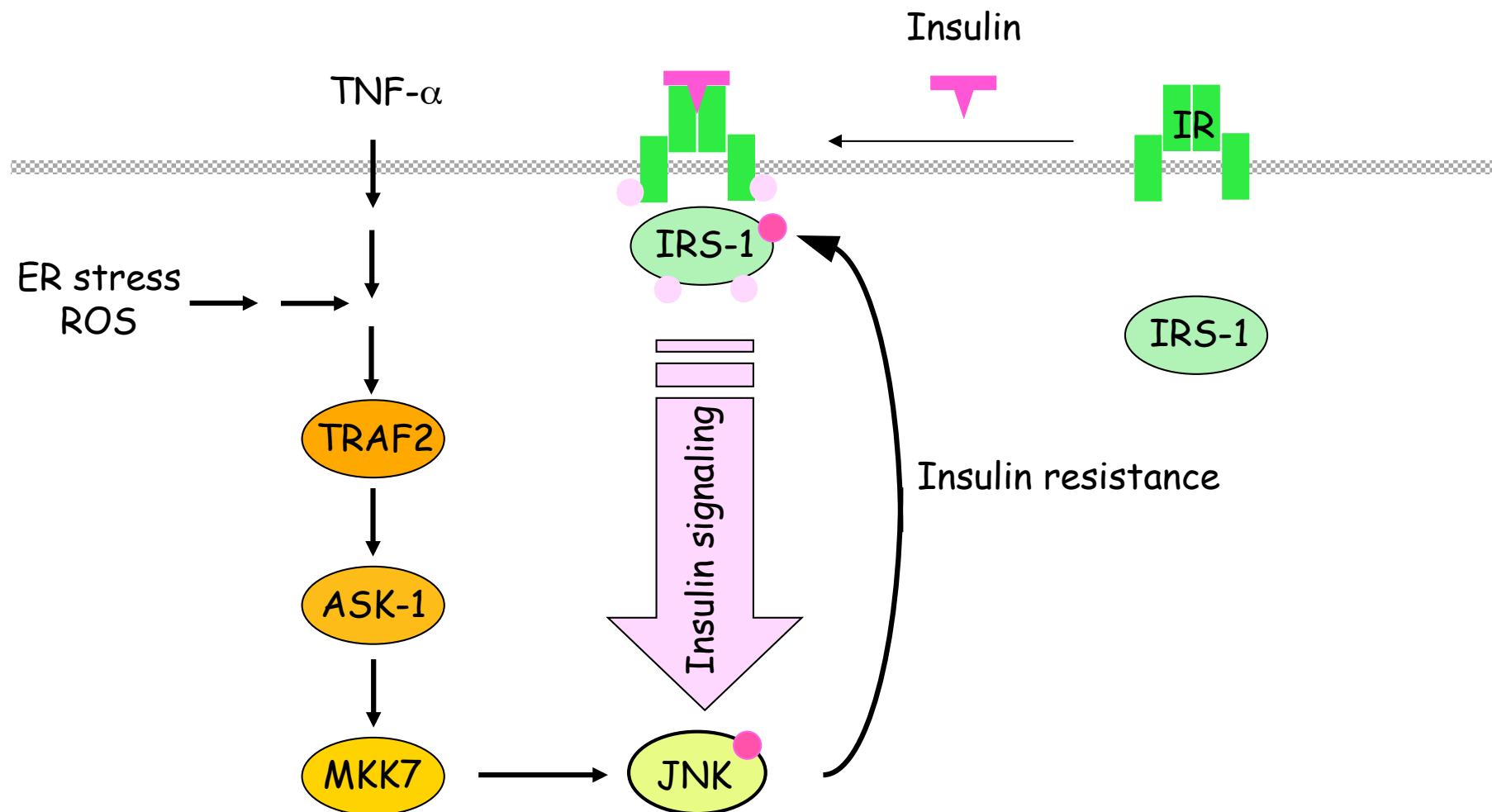
JNK is activated by insulin signaling



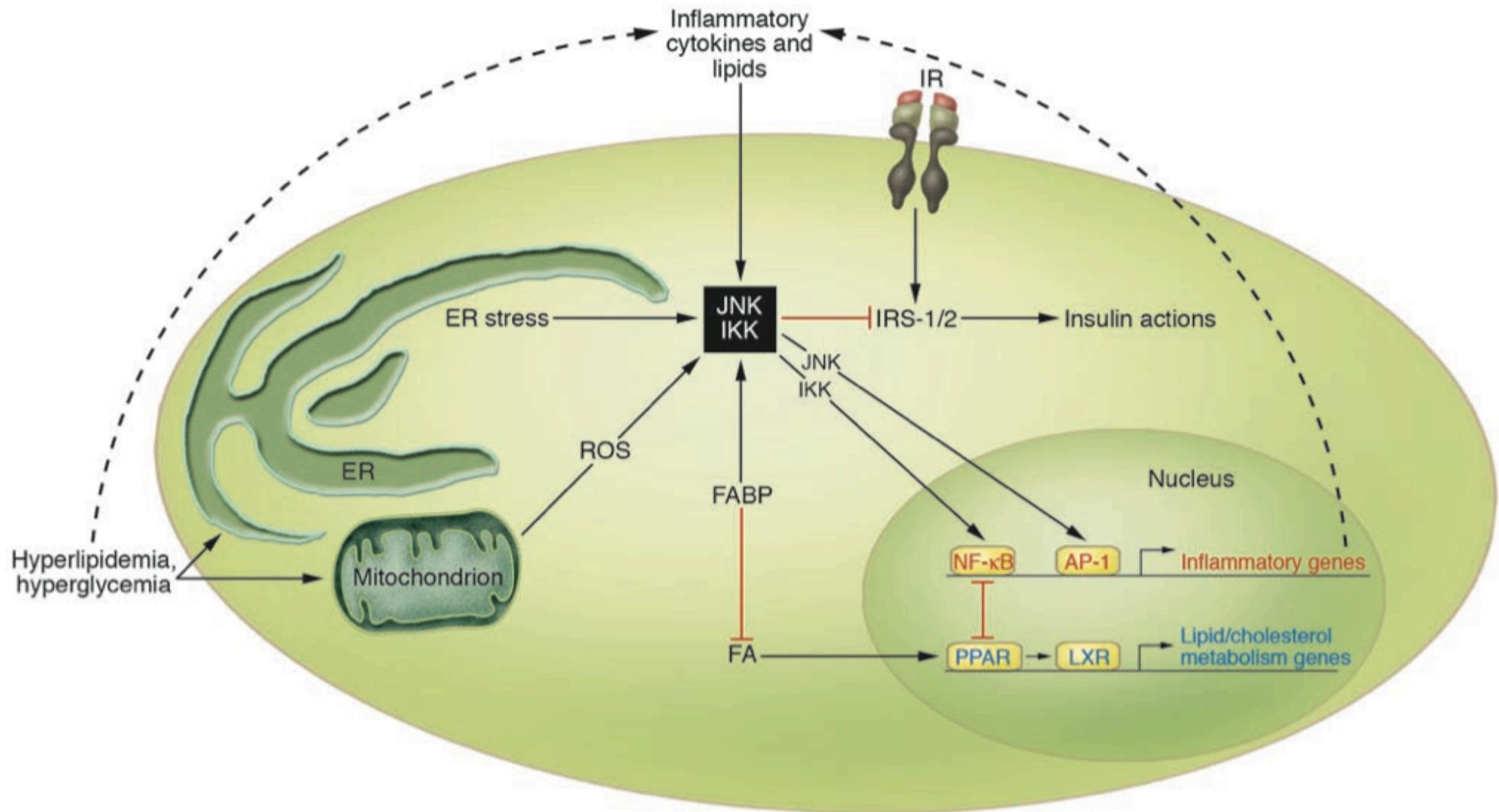
JNK activation down-regulates insulin signaling



Exacerbated JNK activation induces insulin resistance



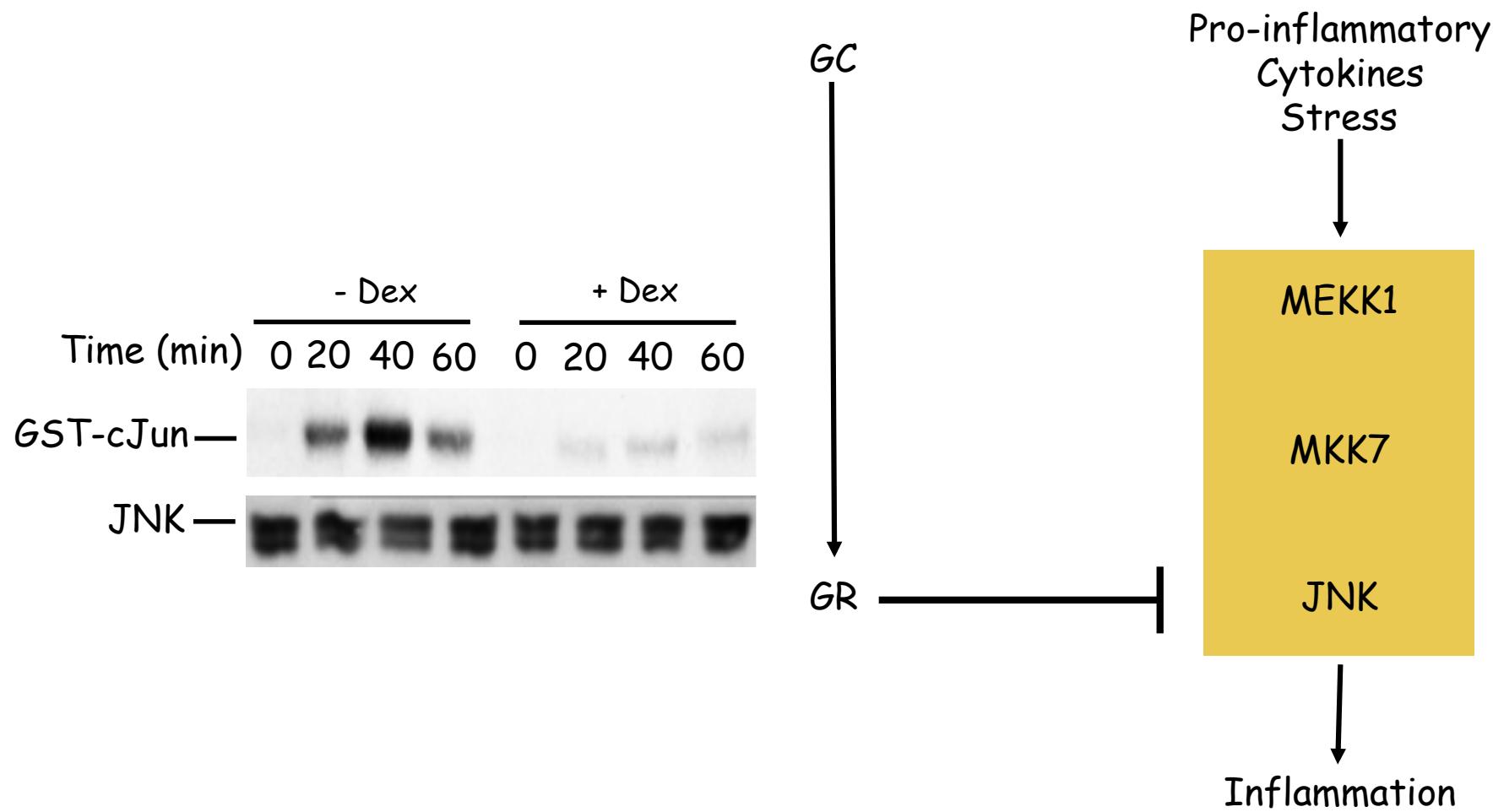
Inflammatory pathway activation in adipocytes and macrophages



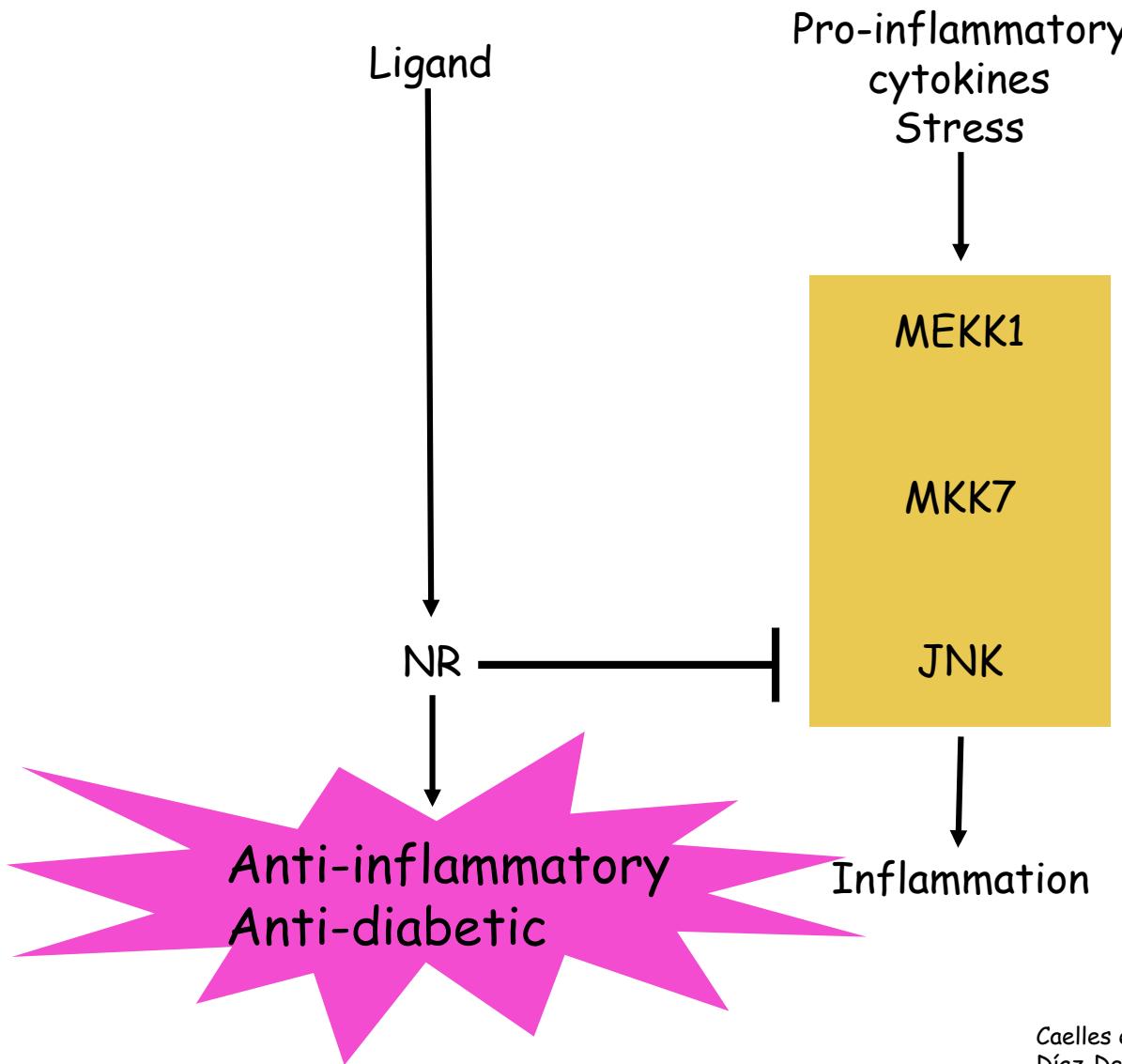
The role of the JNK pathway in insulin resistance

- * The involvement of JNK in the antidiabetic action of TZD/PPAR γ
- * *In vivo* effects of JNK activation in pancreatic β -cells

GC/GR-JNK pathway negative crosstalk



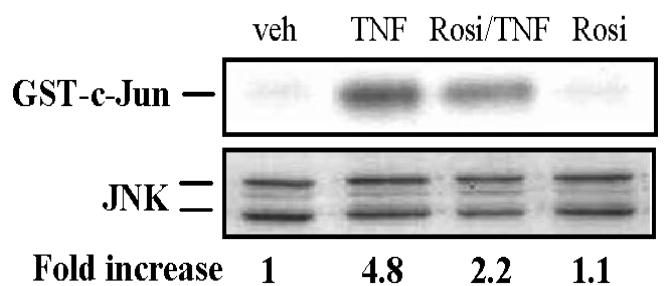
Actions of the nuclear receptor-JNK pathway crosstalk



Caelles et al. (1997) *Genes & Dev.* 11, 3351-64
Díaz-Delfín et al. (2007) *Diabetes* 56, 1865-71

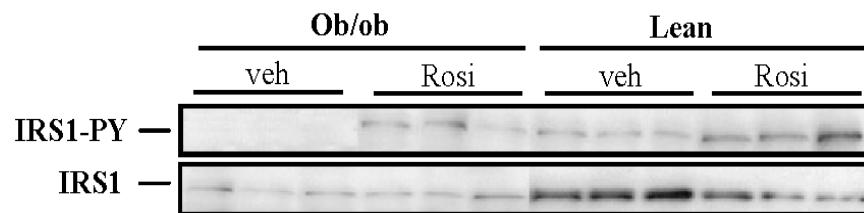
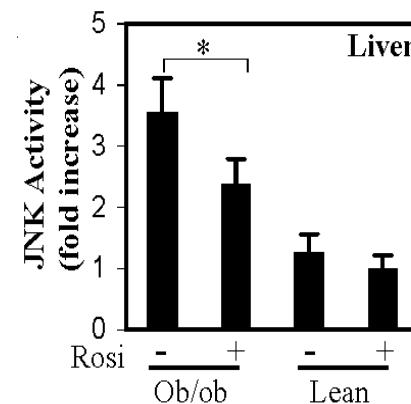
TZDs inhibit JNK activation in a PPAR γ -dependent manner

A. 3T3L1 adipocytes



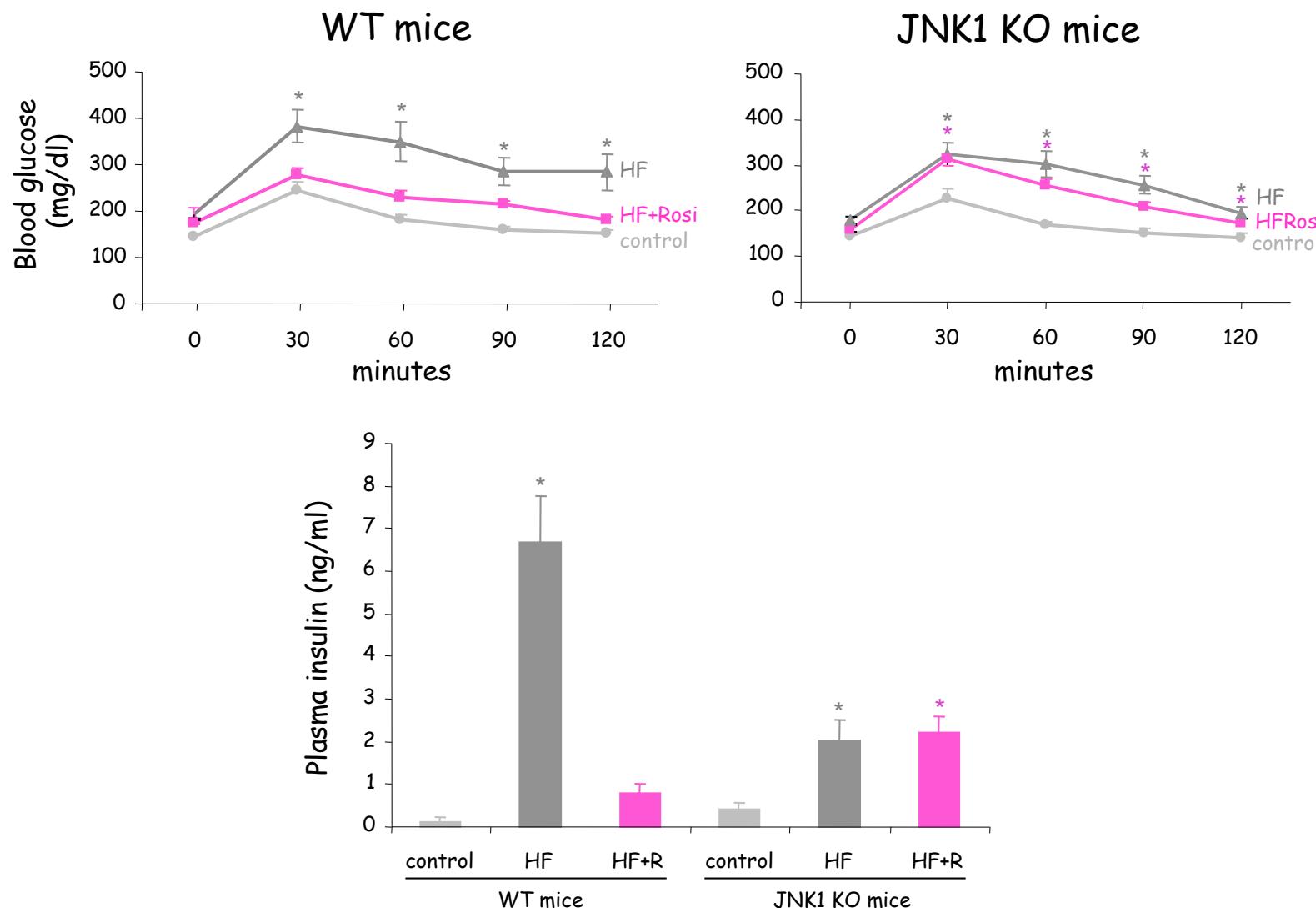
	pSUPER				PPAR γ RNAi			
Rosi	-	-	+	+	-	-	+	+
TNF	-	+	+	-	-	+	+	-
GST-cJun								
JNK								
Fold increase	1	3.8	2.2	0.9	1	3.4	3.4	0.7

B. In vivo

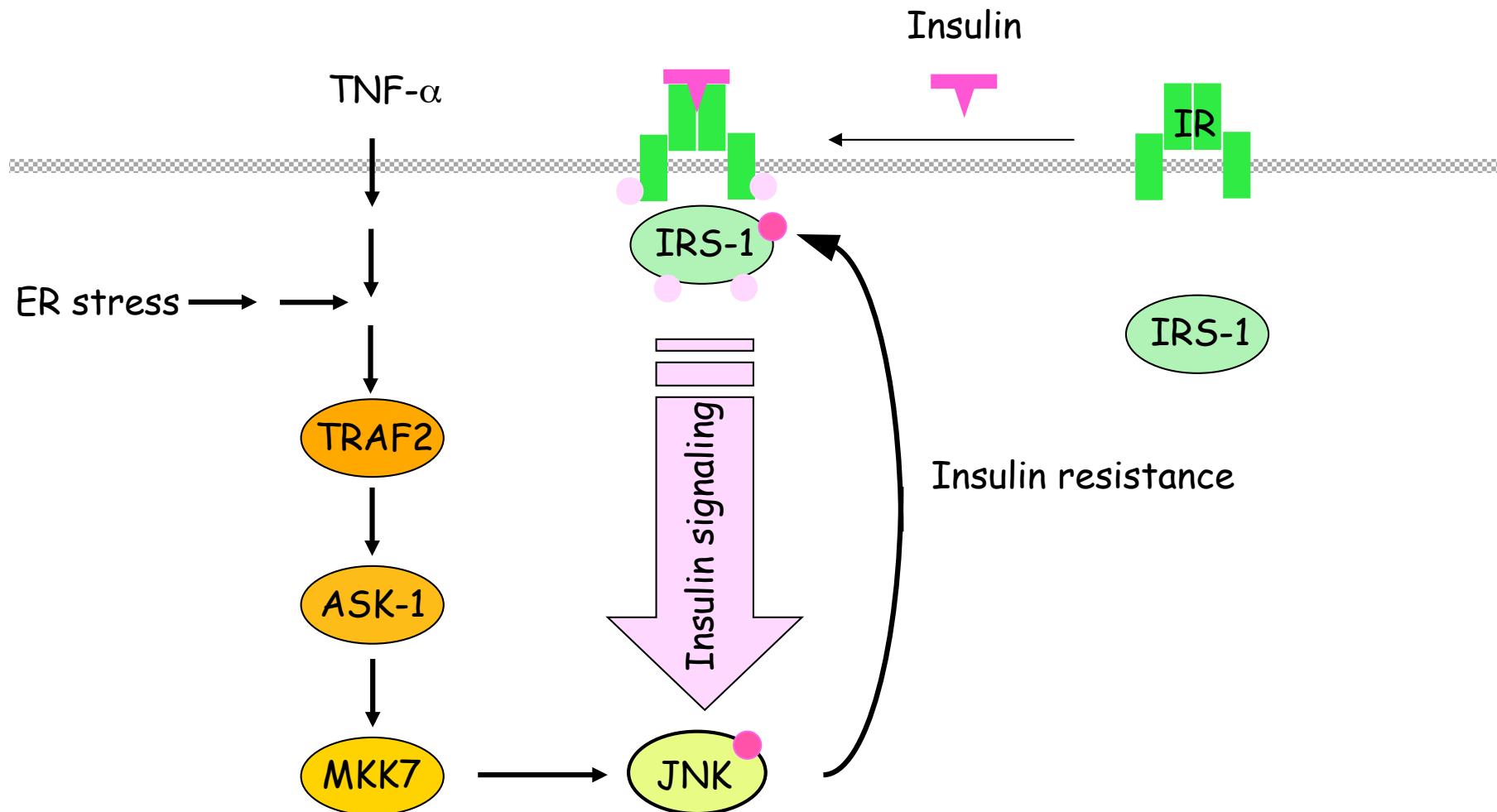


JNK1 inhibition mediates TZD insulin-sensitizing action

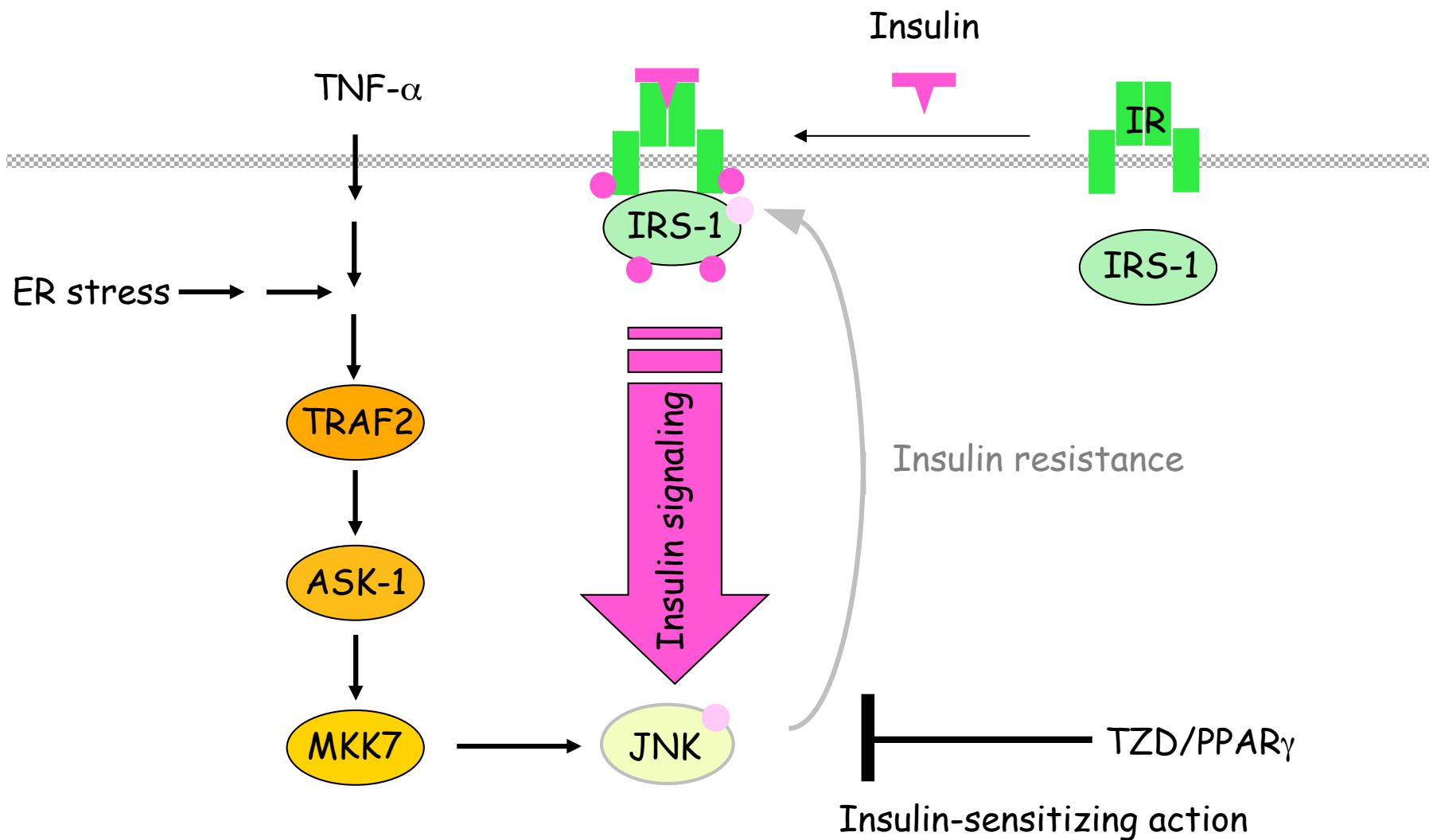
Glucose tolerance test



Exacerbated JNK activity induces insulin resistance



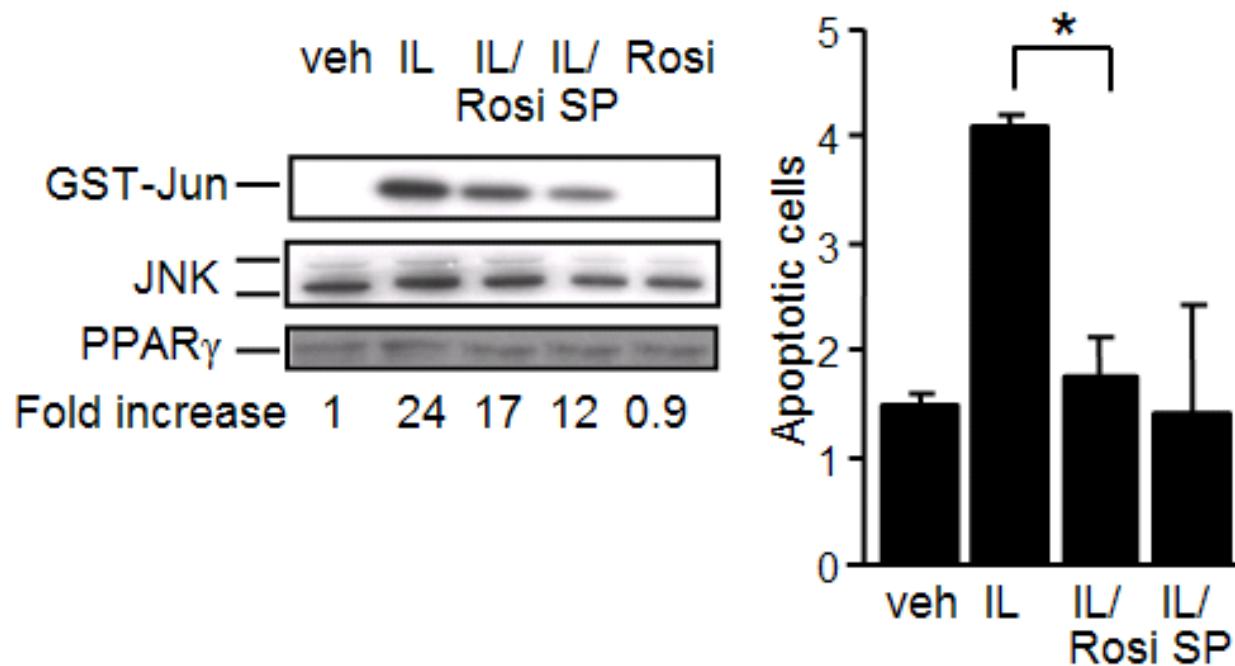
JNK pathway inhibition mediates TZD/PPAR γ insulin-sensitizing action



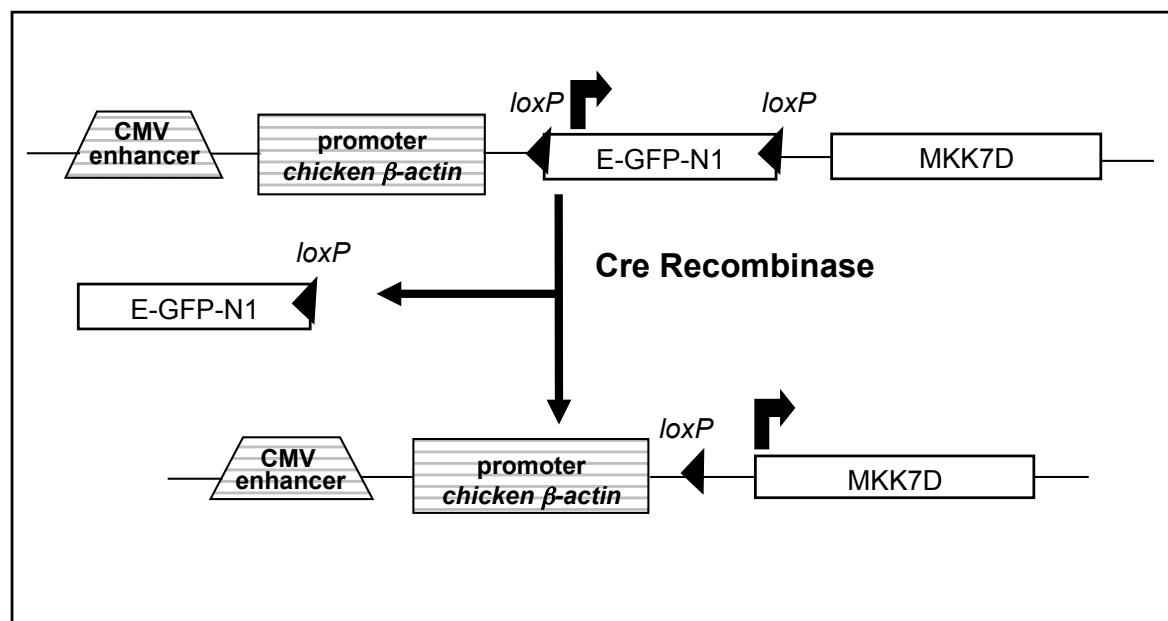
The role of the JNK pathway in insulin resistance

- * The involvement of JNK in the antidiabetic action of TZD/PPAR γ
- * *In vivo* effects of JNK activation in pancreatic β -cells

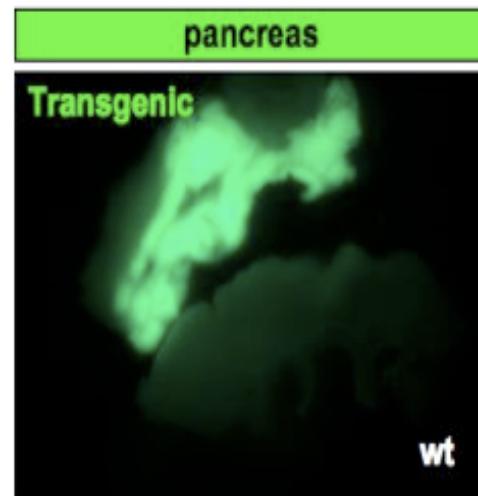
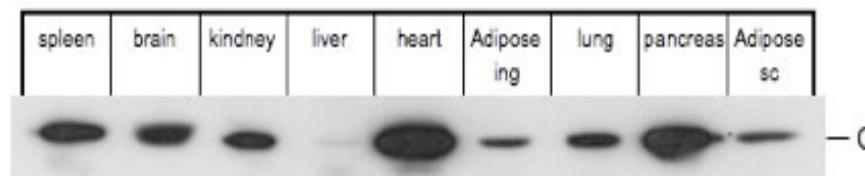
JNK inhibition by TZDs in insulin-secreting cell lines protects from IL-1 β -induced apoptosis



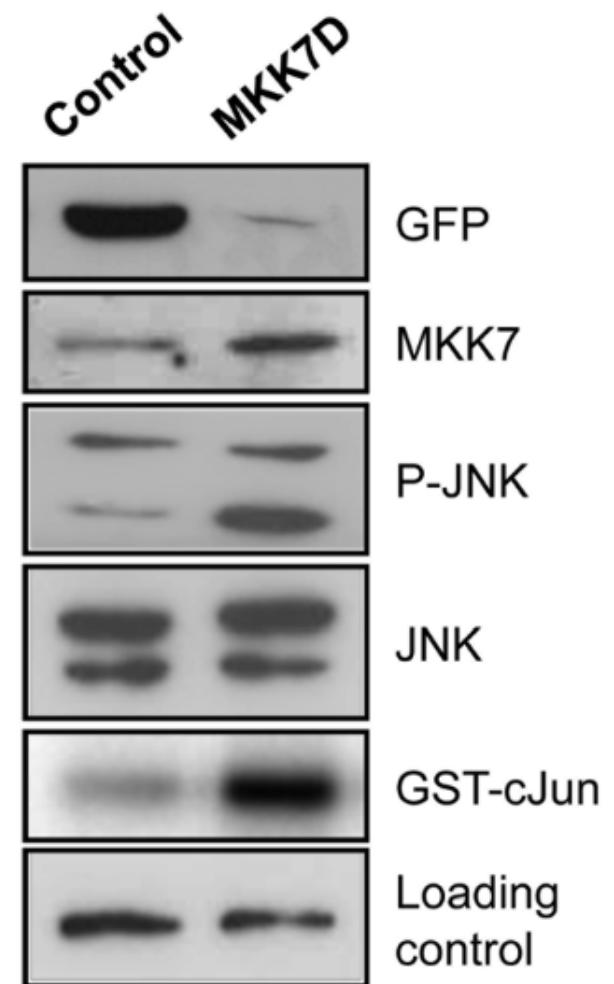
Cre-conditional transgene encoding a constitutively-activated mutant of the JNK MAP2K MKK7



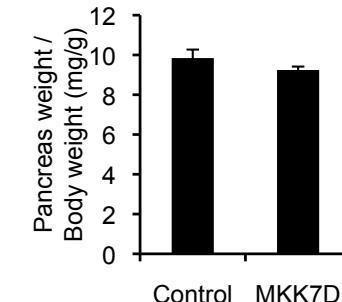
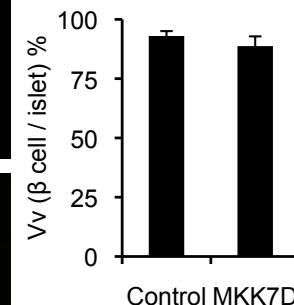
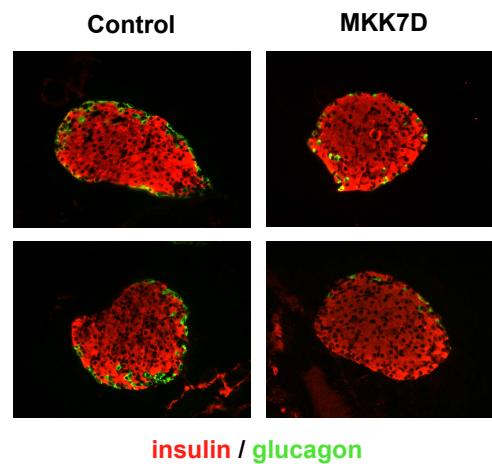
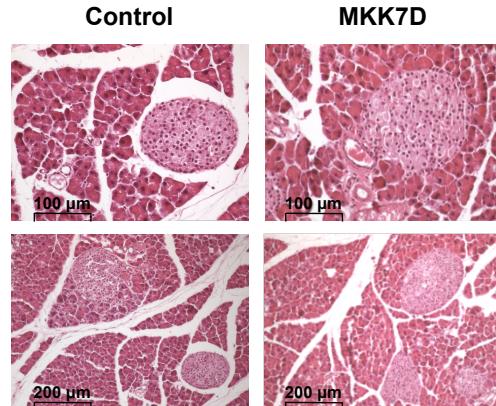
Generation of a transgenic mouse for conditional activation of JNK *in vivo*



X C57Bl/6-Tg(Ins2-Cre)25Mgn



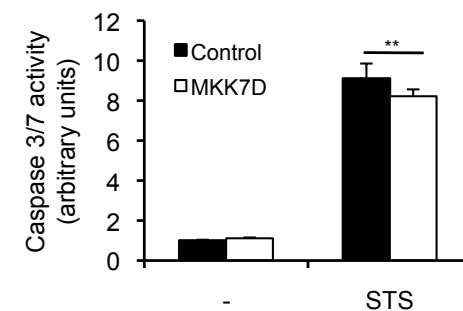
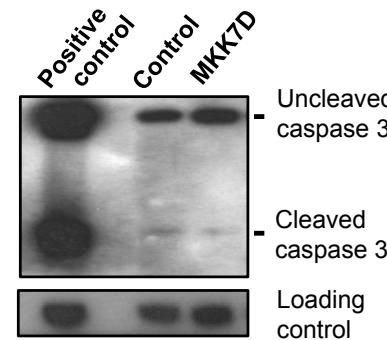
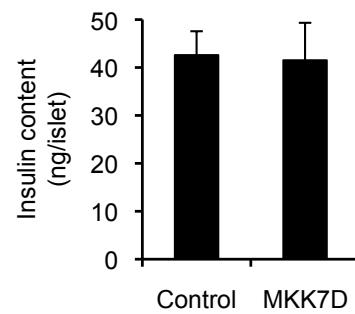
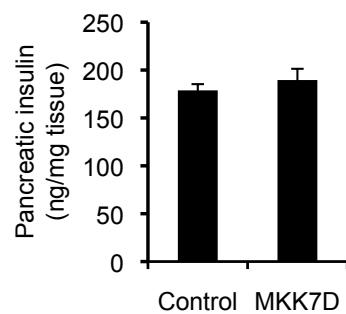
JNK activation in pancreatic β cells alter neither the overall islet structure nor their insulin content and does not induce β -cell death



Normal islet shape and size

Normal α/β cell proportion and distribution

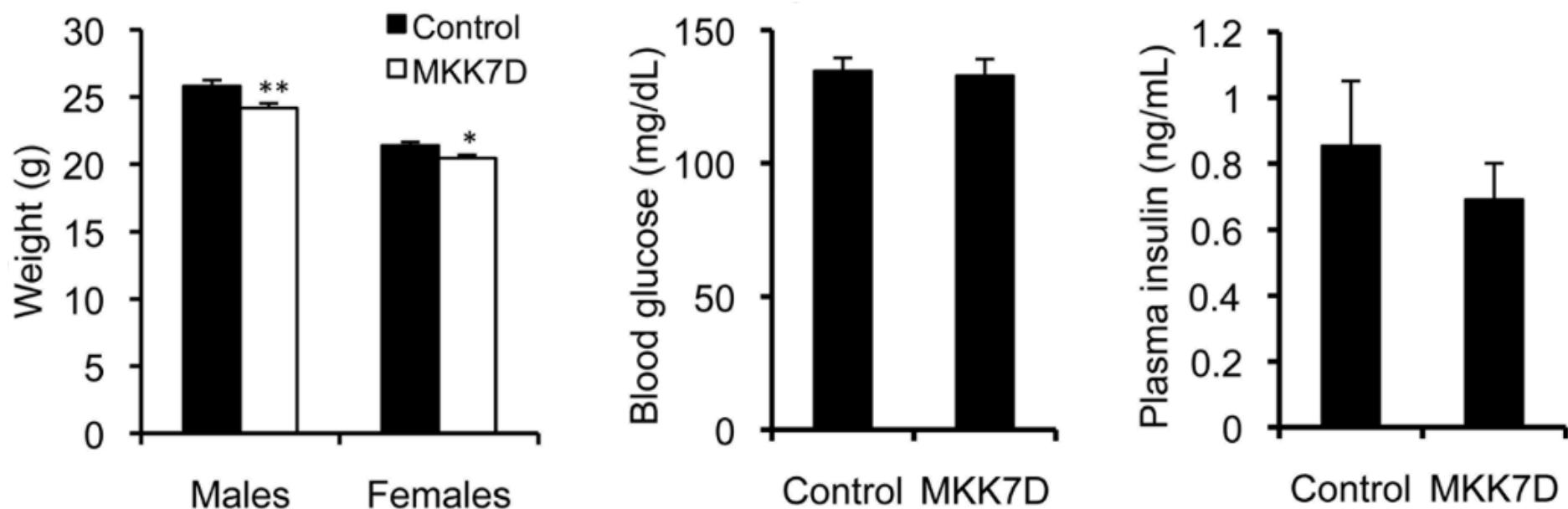
Normal size of the pancreas



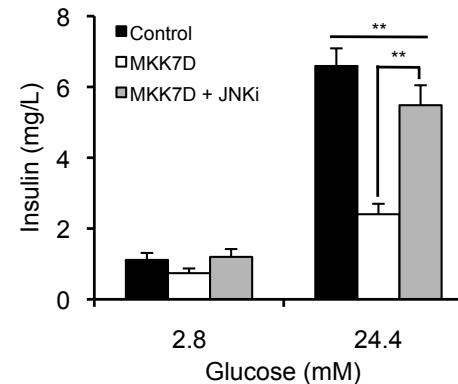
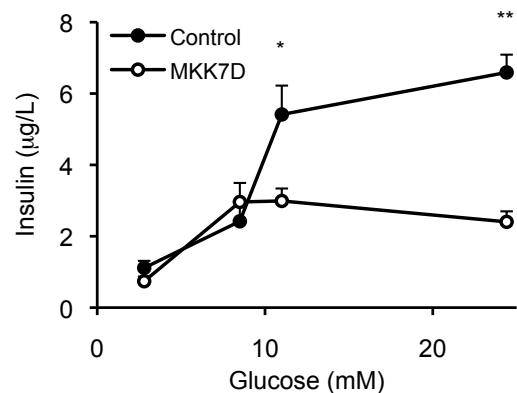
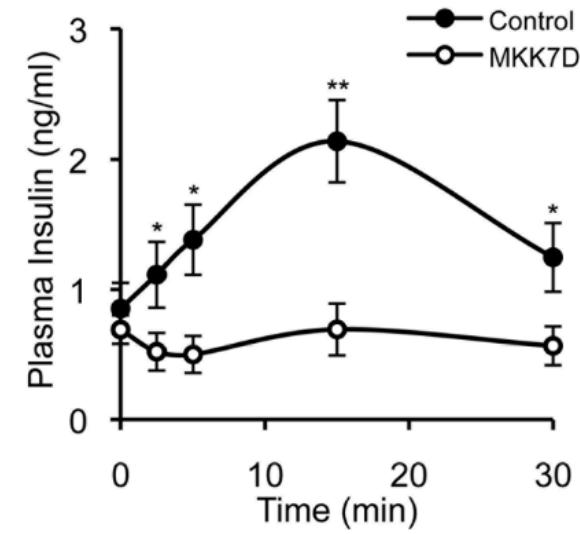
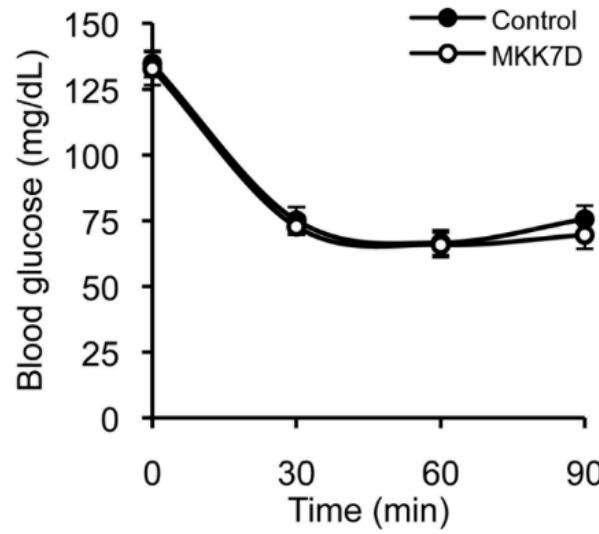
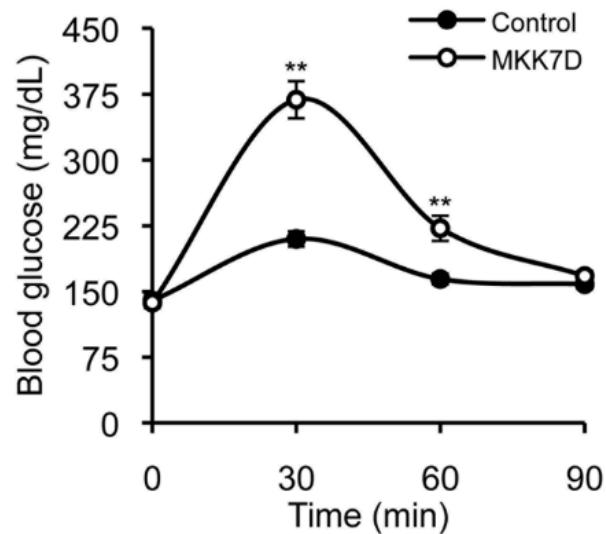
Normal pancreatic and islet insulin content

No caspase 3 activation

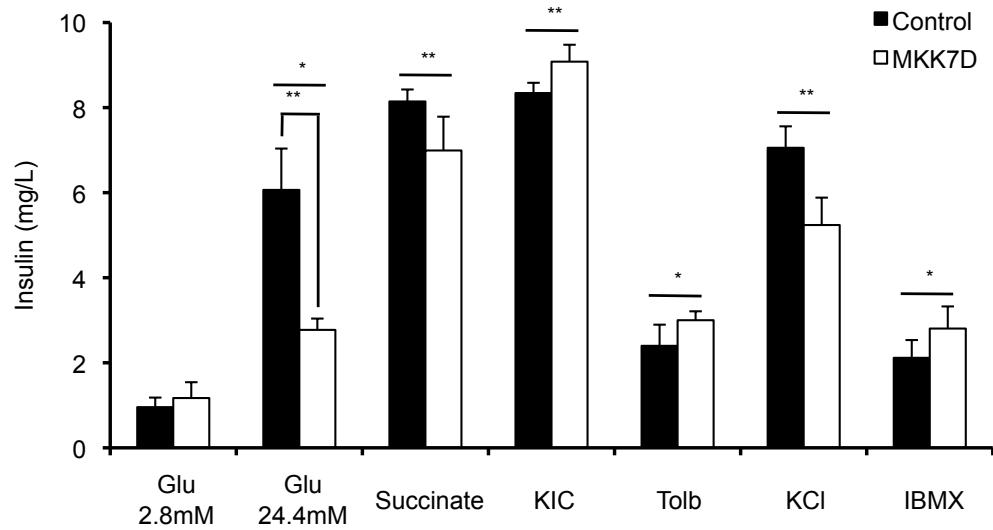
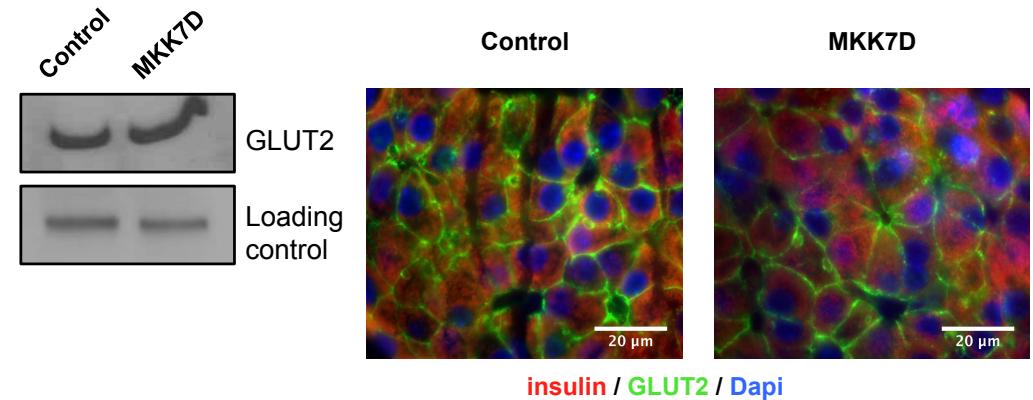
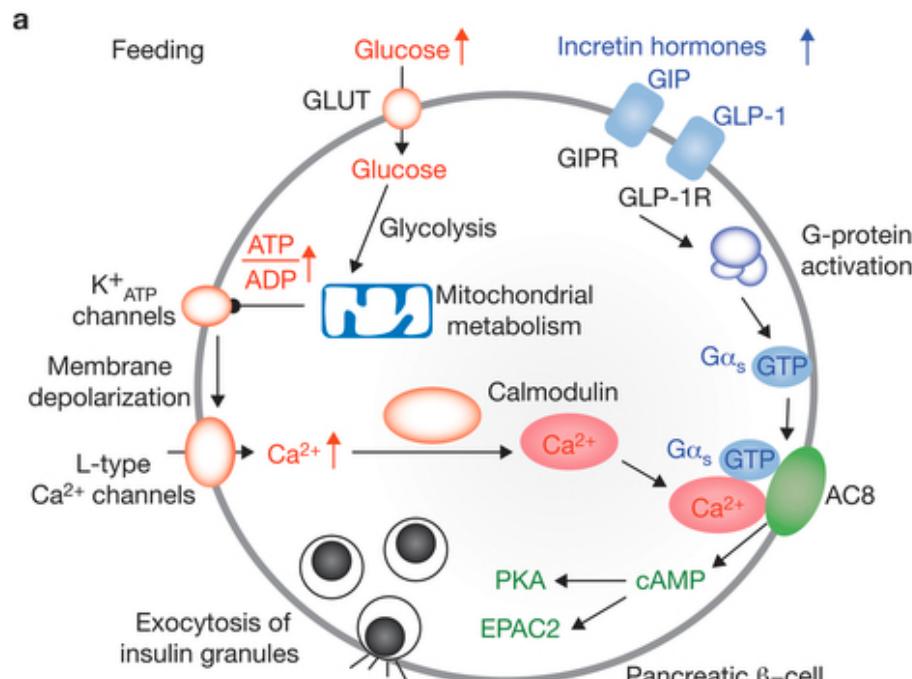
JNK activation in pancreatic β -cells does not affect basal glycemia or insulinemia



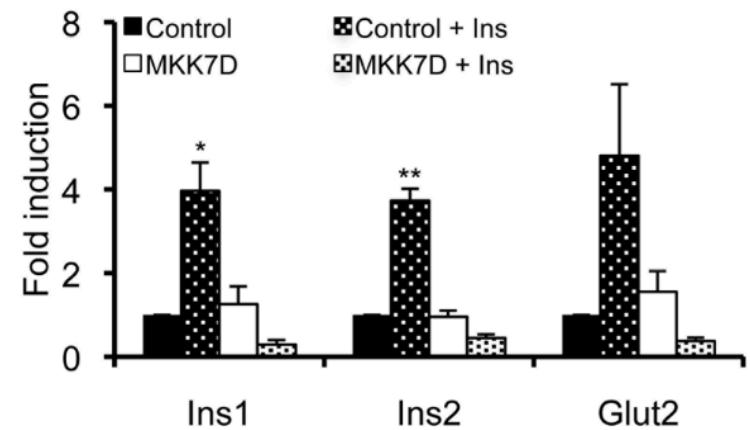
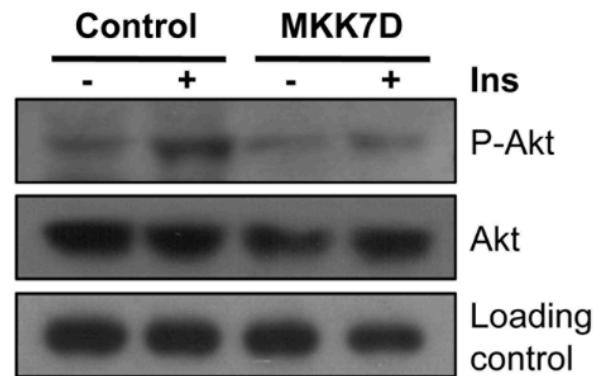
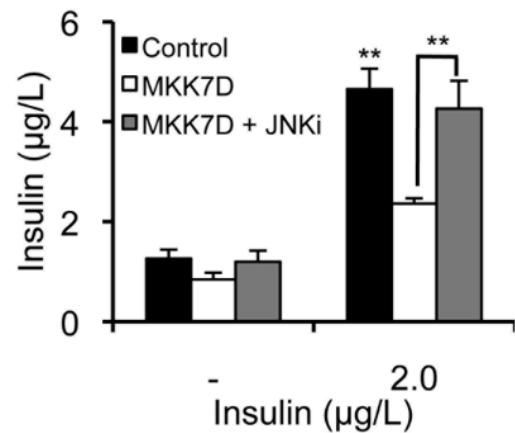
JNK activation in pancreatic β cells leads to glucose intolerance due to impairment of glucose-induced insulin secretion



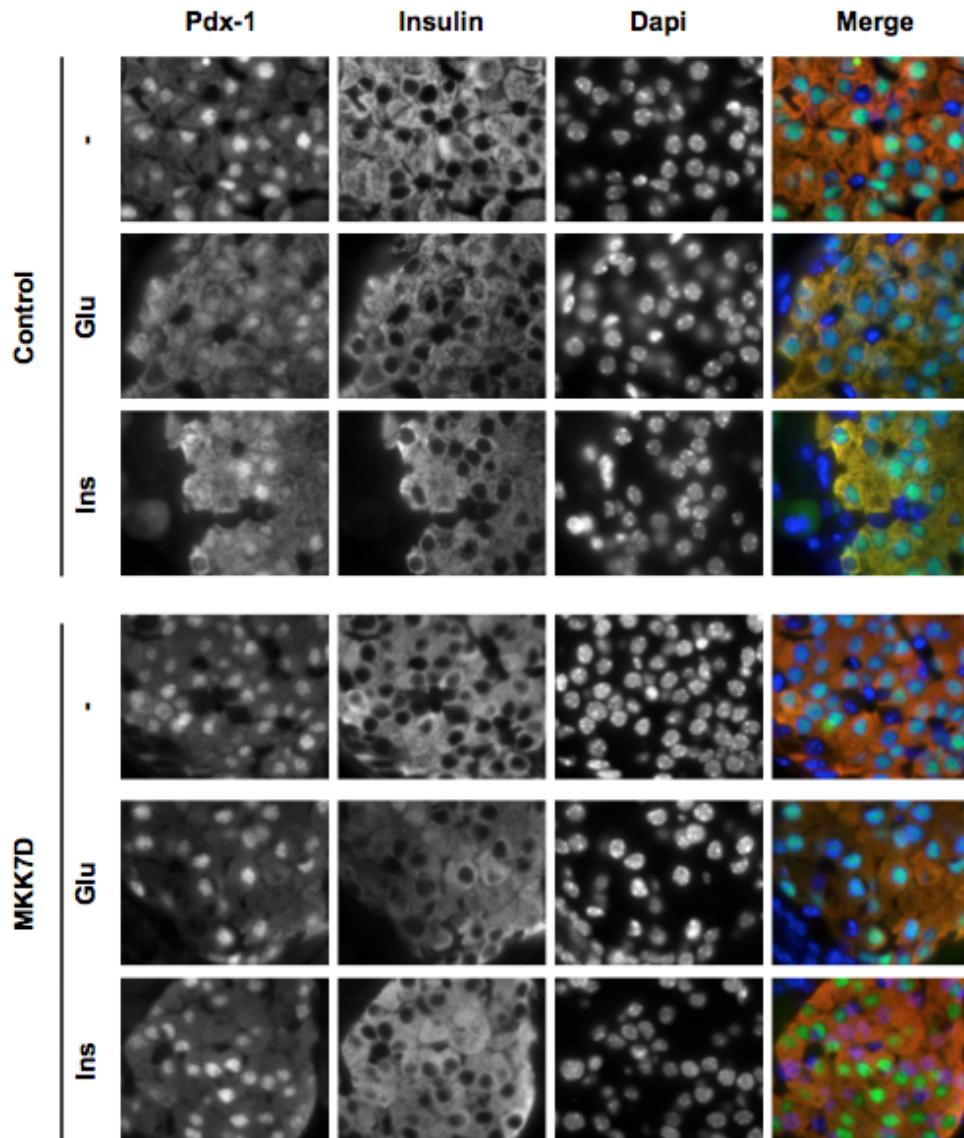
JNK activation in pancreatic β cells does not interfere with the first phase of glucose-induced insulin secretion



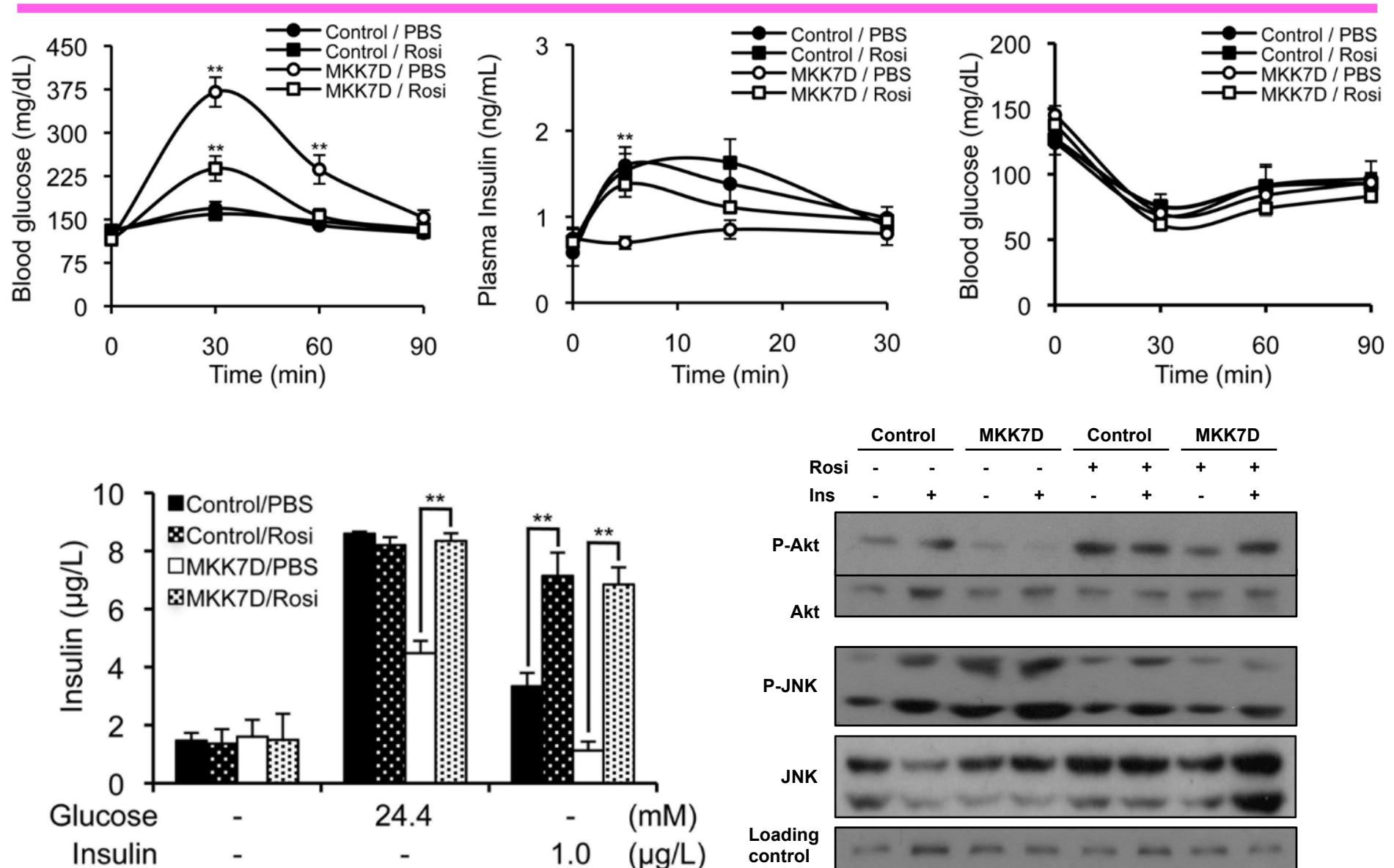
JNK activation in pancreatic β cells interferes with the second phase/insulin-dependent glucose-induced insulin secretion



JNK activation blocks insulin signaling in pancreatic β cells *in vivo*



Rosiglitazone treatment alleviates insulin resistance induced by JNK activation in pancreatic β cells





UNIVERSITAT DE BARCELONA



Mònica Morales

Julieta Díaz-Delfín

M. Isabel Arévalo

Jordi Lanuza

Giuseppe Pulice

Albert Barberà

Ramón Gomis

(IDIBAPS)

Cristina Vila

This work has been financed by grants from Plan Nacional I+D
and Generalitat de Catalunya

