

1 **Glycolytic interference blocks influenza A virus propagation by impairing viral**
2 **polymerase-driven synthesis of genomic vRNA**

3

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17 **Running title:** Glycolytic inhibition and influenza A virus replication

18 **Abstract**

19 Influenza A virus (IAV), like any other virus, provokes considerable modifications of its host
20 cell's metabolism. This includes a substantial increase in the uptake as well as the
21 metabolization of glucose. Although it is known for quite some time that suppression of glucose
22 metabolism restricts virus replication, the exact molecular impact on the viral life cycle
23 remained enigmatic so far. Using 2-deoxy-D-glucose (2-DG) we examined how well inhibition
24 of glycolysis is tolerated by host cells and which step of the IAV life cycle is affected. We
25 observed that effects induced by 2-DG are reversible and that cells can cope with relatively
26 high concentrations of the inhibitor by compensating the loss of glycolytic activity by
27 upregulating other metabolic pathways. Moreover, mass spectrometry data provided
28 information on various metabolic modifications induced by either the virus or agents interfering
29 with glycolysis. In the presence of 2-DG viral titers were significantly reduced in a
30 dose-dependent manner. The supplementation of direct or indirect glycolysis metabolites led
31 to a partial or almost complete reversion of the inhibitory effect of 2-DG on viral growth and
32 demonstrated that indeed the inhibition of glycolysis and not of *N*-linked glycosylation was
33 responsible for the observed phenotype. Importantly, we could show via conventional and
34 strand-specific qPCR that the treatment with 2-DG led to a prolonged phase of viral mRNA
35 synthesis while the accumulation of genomic vRNA was strongly reduced. At the same time,
36 minigenome assays showed no signs of a general reduction of replicative capacity of the viral
37 polymerase. Therefore, our data suggest that the significant reduction in IAV replication by
38 glycolytic interference occurs mainly due to an impairment of the dynamic regulation of the
39 viral polymerase which conveys the transition of the enzyme's function from transcription to
40 replication.

41

42 **Author Summary**

43 Upon infection the influenza A virus alters the metabolism of infected cells. Among others, this
44 includes a pronounced increase in glucose metabolism. We aimed to get a better
45 understanding of these metabolic virus-host interactions and to unravel the mechanism by
46 which glycolytic inhibition impairs the viral life cycle. On the one hand, we observed a
47 virus-induced upregulation of many glycolysis metabolites which could often be reversed by
48 the administration of a glycolysis inhibitor. On the other hand, our data suggested that the
49 inhibitor treatment severely impaired viral propagation by interfering with the regulation of the
50 viral polymerase. This manifested in an extended phase of transcription, while replication was
51 strongly reduced. Additionally, we assessed the safety and tolerability of the used drug in
52 immortalized and primary cells. Our study sheds more light on metabolic virus-host interactions
53 and provides a better understanding of metabolic interference as a potential host-targeted
54 antiviral approach, which does not bear the risk of creating resistances.

55 **1. Introduction**

56 Influenza viruses (IVs) still constitute a major risk factor for the human health all over the globe.
57 According to extrapolations, 3-5 million severe cases and up to half a million deaths occur on
58 average during annual IV epidemics [1]. The influenza A virus (IAV) is of special interest since
59 it has zoonotic and pandemic potential. The high mutation rate of the IV genome easily allows
60 to develop resistances to antiviral treatments. Therefore, more and more research focuses on
61 targeting cellular factors, which are indispensable for viral replication, to develop novel
62 host-targeted antiviral strategies. Since viruses in general are intracellular parasites and thus
63 have no metabolism on their own, they completely depend on the host cell's metabolism for
64 their replication. Moreover, each type of virus reshapes the host cell's metabolism towards its
65 specific needs by regulating – often increasing – the uptake of metabolites and the activity of
66 certain metabolic pathways [2-6]. Frequently, this includes elevated activity of glycolysis, the
67 pentose phosphate pathway (PPP), lipid metabolism and the generation of amino acids [3].
68 This was also demonstrated for IV infections. Altered activity or elevated levels of pathway
69 intermediates of, among others, glutaminolysis [7-9], fatty acid synthesis (FAS) [7, 9], the PPP
70 [7, 8], the hexosamine biosynthetic pathway [9] and the tricarboxylic acid (TCA) cycle [7, 8]
71 were observed. However, especially an increased glycolytic rate and uptake of glucose has
72 been described in various immortalized and primary cells after infection with IV as well as in
73 the lungs of infected patients [7, 8, 10]. Direct inhibition of glycolysis or mediators of glycolysis
74 led to a significant impairment of IV reproduction and spread [7, 11, 12]. Furthermore, the
75 concentration of extracellular lactate increases during IV infections [8], suggesting the
76 exploitation of aerobic glycolysis. This is indicative of the Warburg effect [13, 14], in which cells
77 metabolize glucose rather to lactate instead of pyruvate despite the adequate availability of
78 oxygen. In this scenario, which is also observed in tumors, cells depend more on glycolysis
79 than oxidative phosphorylation for sufficient synthesis of adenosine triphosphate (ATP). On
80 the one hand IV benefits from this by rapidly generating large amounts of biological building
81 blocks for its replication and on the other hand an increased production of lactate inhibits the
82 induction of type I interferons [15].

83 In our research we targeted the glucose metabolism with a special focus on the inhibition of
84 glycolysis with the inhibitor 2-deoxy-D-glucose (2-DG), which has already been demonstrated
85 to interfere with the formation of new infectious IAV particles [11, 12, 16, 17]. Beside the
86 competitive inhibition of glucose uptake, 2-DG inhibits the first two glycolytic enzymes
87 hexokinase (HK) and glucose-6-phosphate isomerase (GPI), the latter being its primary target.
88 Just like glucose, 2-DG will be phosphorylated at the C6 position by HK to
89 2-deoxy-D-glucose-6-phosphate (2-DG-6-P). 2-DG-6-P competitively inhibits GPI and cannot
90 be further metabolized by this enzyme. The increasing concentration of 2-DG-6-P leads to a
91 feedback that additionally inhibits hexokinase in an allosteric manner [18-22]. Moreover, 2-DG
92 gets fraudulently incorporated into oligosaccharide chains needed for *N*-linked glycosylation of
93 glycoproteins [23], partially preventing this post-translational modification [24] and hence
94 affecting the proteins' folding and their functions. This inhibition is mainly conveyed by
95 guanosine diphosphate (GDP)-2-DG into which 2-DG can be converted [25]. Thereby, 2-DG
96 evidentially inhibits glycolysis and interferes with *N*-linked glycosylation. Here, we demonstrate
97 the inhibitor's significant impact on the replication of IAV without causing irreversible damage
98 to the host cells. Furthermore, we unraveled a major mechanism by which this treatment
99 interferes with the viral life cycle and discuss the potential of metabolic interference to fight
100 severe IAV infections.

101

102 **2. Results**

103 **2-DG is well tolerated in cells and exhibits strong virus-restricting activity**

104 Our first aim was to prove the virus-restricting potential of 2-DG in cell culture. First, we showed
105 in plaque assays that the number of newly produced infectious IAV particles decreased
106 significantly in a dose-dependent manner when 2-DG was applied directly after the infection
107 of A549 cells (**Fig 1A**). This decrease became as strong as more than four orders of magnitude
108 when the glucose/2-DG ratio was 1:1. Second, we observed a very similar 2-DG-mediated
109 decrease for IAV nucleoprotein (NP)-positive cells via flow cytometry (**Fig S1A**). These data
110 demonstrated the strong impairment of IAV reproduction and spread in the presence of 2-DG.

111 Next, we assessed the reversibility as well as metabolic and potential cytotoxic effects of the
112 2-DG treatment on cells. Here, it could be demonstrated that the strong antiviral effect of a
113 24 h treatment was quickly abolished once the inhibitor was removed (**Fig 1B**). The massive
114 increase of viral titers after the replacement of 2-DG with inhibitor-free medium suggested the
115 full reversibility of 2-DG-induced effects and indicated that there was no permanent cell
116 damage which is also substantiated by the literature [11]. By performing lactate
117 dehydrogenase (LDH) assays we detected no cytotoxicity within the range of used 2-DG
118 concentrations (**Fig 1C**), as previously demonstrated in various cell lines including A549 [26,
119 27]. Moreover, we could even observe a beneficial effect of the 2-DG treatment for the survival
120 of infected cells. With increasing 2-DG concentrations the total percentage of dead cells
121 decreased significantly 24 hours post infection (hpi) (**Fig S1B**). However, the results of the
122 LDH assays in combination with data obtained from trypan blue exclusions suggested a certain
123 cytostatic effect, since even though the viability of all samples was not affected, total cell counts
124 decreased with rising 2-DG concentrations (**Fig S1C+D**). In line with these results, a cytostatic
125 effect of 2-DG has also been observed previously in other cells [27-29]. Furthermore, we
126 investigated the effect of 2-DG on the metabolism in real-time via a Seahorse Analyzer. We
127 observed a very rapid and significant reduction of the glycolytic proton efflux rate (glycoPER),
128 which constitutes a direct read-out of the glycolytic rate (**Fig 1D**). Since a major factor to
129 calculate the glycoPER is the extracellular acidification rate (ECAR), this decreased in a similar
130 pattern as the glycoPER (**Fig 1E**). Simultaneously, the oxygen consumption rate (OCR) of
131 2-DG-treated cells increased quickly after the beginning of the treatment (**Fig 1F**). These data
132 proved the partial inhibition of glycolysis by 2-DG in a dose-dependent manner and indicated
133 that cells were able to cope with the treatment by compensating the loss of glycolytic activity
134 by upregulating cellular respiration to generate energy.

135 In addition to evaluating the cytotoxicity of 2-DG, we also tested potential effects of 2-DG on
136 the innate immune response and the cellular responsiveness to viral infections. For that
137 purpose, we measured expression levels of the proinflammatory genes *interleukin-6* (*IL-6*) and
138 *C-X-C motif chemokine ligand 8* (*CXCL8*, protein: IL-8) as well as the interferon-stimulated

139 genes (ISGs) *DExD/H-box helicase 58 (DDX58, protein: retinoic acid inducible gene I)* and
140 *myxovirus resistance gene A (MxA)* after stimulation with either cellular or viral RNA in the
141 presence or absence of 2-DG (**Fig S1E-H**). We observed a mild to more pronounced induction
142 of *IL-6* (**Fig S1E**) and *CXCL8* (**Fig S1F**) with increasing concentrations of 2-DG. This finding
143 was consistent with a previous publication, reporting that nutrient shortage (also induced by
144 2-DG) triggers a cell response which resembles wound healing processes in cancer cells as
145 well as in primary cells [26]. Moreover, the mild induction of proinflammatory cytokines in the
146 presence of 2-DG might be attributed to the fact that the inhibitor can also impair glycosylation.
147 This in turn gives rise to endoplasmic reticulum (ER) stress, elicited by deficient glycoproteins,
148 consequently leading to the unfolded protein response (UPR) [23] which has been
149 demonstrated to drive the production of proinflammatory cytokines [30]. On the other hand, we
150 measured no clear differences in the expression of *DDX58* (**Fig S1G**) and *MxA* (**Fig S1H**) in
151 the presence of lower 2-DG concentrations but a moderate and significant reduction of both
152 ISGs at 25 mM of the inhibitor, when stimulated with viral RNA. Nevertheless, our data
153 confirmed that the cells were well responsive to viral stimuli, regardless of the concentration of
154 2-DG that was applied.

155 Apart from the permanent cell line A549, key experiments were repeated in primary human
156 bronchial epithelial cells (HBEpCs) and genuine human lung explants (**Fig S2A-E**). Since the
157 used media for primary tissue contained less glucose, lower concentrations of the inhibitor
158 were used. However, we still applied the same 2-DG/glucose ratio to human lung explants as
159 in A549 experiments which led to a significant and dose-dependent reduction of viral titers (**Fig**
160 **S2A**). Because HBEpCs were more susceptible to the treatment, lower 2-DG/glucose ratios
161 were applied. The highest concentration used in HBEpC experiments was 1200 μ M which
162 corresponds to the 2-DG/glucose ratio (1:5) of 5 mM 2-DG in experiments carried out with
163 A549 cells. Similar to A549 cells, HBEpCs displayed barely any signs of cytotoxicity after
164 treatment (**Fig S2B**). Reduced lactate concentrations in the supernatant of treated cells
165 indirectly indicated the efficiency of glycolytic inhibition (**Fig S2C**). Importantly, the treatment
166 with 2-DG also led to a significant and dose-dependent reduction of viral titers in HBEpCs (**Fig**

167 **S2D+E**). Even though the magnitude of the inhibitory effect on glycolysis and viral replication
168 differed slightly from the data obtained with A549 cells – most likely due to distinct cellular
169 metabolic activities and lower 2-DG/glucose ratios (HBEpC) – these data suggested the save
170 use and antiviral activity of 2-DG in primary tissue.

171

172 **2-DG only moderately affects viral protein translation in a single viral life cycle**

173 Given the remarkable impairment of IAV replication by 2-DG, we now aimed to identify the spot
174 of interference of the drug within the viral life cycle. Therefore, we checked potential changes
175 in the accumulation of various IAV proteins 24 hpi (**Fig 2A**) and after a single replication cycle
176 of 8 h (**Fig 2B**). In accordance with the strongly reduced viral titers there was also a
177 pronounced reduction of viral protein accumulation after 24 h. However, within a single
178 replication cycle we only detected rather weak differences among the accumulation of viral
179 proteins. While the accumulation of the late viral proteins polymerase acidic protein (PA) and
180 matrix protein 1 (M1) was moderately reduced, the accumulation of the early proteins NP and
181 non-structural protein 1 (NS1) was barely affected by 2-DG. Consequently, even though there
182 was a moderate reduction of some viral proteins within a single replication cycle we did not
183 consider reduced viral protein accumulation to be the main reason for the severe impact of
184 2-DG on IAV propagation.

185 To rule out a general effect on the cellular protein synthesis machinery, we measured the
186 fluorescence signal of the reporter *Renilla* luciferase driven by a constitutive promoter in a
187 luciferase assay in the absence or presence of various concentrations of 2-DG (**Fig 2C**).
188 Decreased signals would be an indication for an impairment of cellular transcription and/or
189 translation. Interestingly, there was no negative effect on the luciferase signal, suggesting no
190 general impairment of the cellular protein synthesis. Quite the opposite was the case when
191 high concentrations of 2-DG were used which even led to an increase of the luciferase signal.

192

193 **Glycolytic interference prolongs the phase of viral transcription while it clearly reduces**
194 **viral replication within a replication cycle**

195 After disproving viral protein expression being notably hampered by 2-DG, we delved deeper
196 into the IAV replication cycle to understand the virus-restricting properties of 2-DG. Therefore,
197 we now examined if a treatment with 2-DG interfered with the main processes driven by the
198 viral polymerase: transcription and replication. Since IAV is a negative-sense RNA virus its
199 RNA-dependent RNA polymerase can, right after reaching the host cell's nucleus, transcribe
200 positive-sense mRNA. After translation and nuclear import, nascent viral polymerase
201 complexes mediate the two-step process of replication. Here, a positive-sense, full-length
202 complementary RNA (cRNA) is synthesized from the initial viral genomic RNA (vRNA) which
203 subsequently serves as a template for vRNA synthesis [31, 32].

204 We analyzed the accumulation of viral mRNA and vRNA that codes for M1. In case of vRNA
205 detection, the values of M1 are representative of segment 7 (M). As before, M1 mRNA and
206 vRNA were analyzed after 24 h (**Fig 3A+B**) and after a single replication cycle of 8 h (**Fig**
207 **3C+D**) with and without 2-DG. As observed for viral proteins, we measured a massive
208 reduction of M1 mRNA and vRNA 24 hpi when 2-DG was applied (**Fig 3A+B**), which is in line
209 with the reduction of viral titers. Experiments for the duration of a single replication cycle,
210 however, revealed intriguing differences between the two distinct RNA species. While viral
211 mRNA levels were elevated in the presence of 2-DG (**Fig 3C**) the amount of vRNA was clearly
212 reduced after an infection period of 8 h (**Fig 3D**). Again, these experiments were repeated with
213 HBEpCs to see if there are similar effects in non-transformed cells with no altered metabolism
214 (**Fig S2F-I**). Using these primary cells, we observed a very similar pattern of IAV mRNA and
215 vRNA accumulation through the treatment with 2-DG as in A549 cells. While mRNA was
216 decreased 24 hpi (**Fig S2F**) and unaffected 8 hpi (**Fig S2G**), vRNA was decreased at both time
217 points (**Fig S2H+I**). The difference in mRNA accumulation 8 hpi might be due to a milder 2-DG
218 treatment or could be a cell-specific effect. Nevertheless, the strong reduction in vRNA
219 accumulation, limiting viral propagation, seemed to be tissue-independent.

220 With this phenotype at hand, we wanted to exclude a virus strain-specific effect and additionally
221 analyzed the influence of 2-DG on viral growth, transcription, and replication of the H3N2 strain
222 A/Panama/2007/1999 (Pan/99). As for SC35M, we observed a strong dose-dependent

223 decrease of viral titers, mRNA and vRNA 24 hpi (**Fig S3A-C**). Importantly, with an increase of
224 Pan/99 mRNA and a decrease of vRNA in a single cycle experiment (**Fig S3D+E**) the results
225 resembled those obtained with SC35M. Therefore, glycolytic interference on IAV appears to
226 be a general phenomenon and not a virus strain-specific effect.

227 Summing up the obtained insights, the qPCR data suggested that the main cause for the
228 impairment of IAV reproduction and spread by 2-DG is the interference of the inhibitor with the
229 production of viral genome copies. Hereafter, we were especially interested in why glycolytic
230 inhibition increased viral mRNA but decreased vRNA within a single viral life cycle.

231 In order to shed light on this question we performed an 8 h infection kinetic and analyzed the
232 synthesis of M1 mRNA and vRNA in the presence of 2-DG in comparison to an untreated
233 control (**Fig 4A+B**). In untreated cells the production of viral mRNA reached its strongest
234 incline at approximately 6 hpi and started to establish a plateau afterwards (**Fig 4A**, black line).

235 In contrast, the treatment with 2-DG led to a continuous increase of mRNA transcription,
236 exceeding the total accumulation of viral mRNA in untreated cells (**Fig 4A**, gray line). Thus,
237 despite a lower accumulation rate of viral mRNA in treated cells in the first 6 h of an infection,
238 these samples displayed higher mRNA levels at time points later than 7 hpi. Even though the

239 underlying mechanisms are unknown this observation explained why we detected higher viral
240 mRNA levels in 2-DG-treated cells after one replication cycle (**Fig 3C**). In accordance with our

241 previous data on vRNA accumulation at 8 hpi (**Fig 3D**), the kinetic revealed that vRNA
242 accumulated at a clearly reduced rate when 2-DG was applied throughout the whole
243 experiment (**Fig 4B**, gray line). To verify our results, we performed strand-specific real-time

244 qPCR according to the protocol established by Kawakami *et al.* [33] for segment 5 (NP) and 6
245 (NA). Additionally, we analyzed segment 1 (PB2), which is the longest of the IAV gene
246 segments, to rule out effects which might be caused by the length of different segments. We

247 determined the n-fold of viral mRNA and vRNA of the three segments in 2-DG-treated cells
248 8 hpi in comparison to untreated cells. The results for all three gene segments were very similar
249 and supported the previous kinetics. We observed a 3-4-fold increase of viral mRNA (**Fig**

250 **4C-E**) while the vRNA of the same gene segments was decreased by approximately 80-90%

251 **(Fig 4F-H)** when 2-DG was applied. Notably, these findings confirmed our previous
252 measurements of mRNA and vRNA after one replication cycle (**Fig 3C+D**). The data presented
253 in **Fig 4** indicated that glycolytic inhibition by 2-DG prolonged the phase of viral mRNA
254 transcription while it attenuated viral genome replication. This suggested either a distinct effect
255 on the transcriptional and replicative capacity of the viral polymerase or an impairment of the
256 dynamic regulation of the polymerase function, determining whether it performs transcription
257 or replication.

258

259 **2-DG treatment does not affect the replicative capacity of the viral polymerase nor the** 260 **durability of vRNA**

261 After revealing that reduced vRNA accumulation in the presence of 2-DG was the most crucial
262 consequence of glycolytic interference for viral growth, we wanted to understand this
263 phenomenon more mechanistically. Minigenome systems can be used to explicitly focus on
264 transcription and replication without the dynamic of a full-fledged infection and hence allow to
265 dissect distinct steps of the viral life cycle to a certain degree. Here, minigenome assays were
266 performed as described previously [34] to assess whether 2-DG has a direct influence on the
267 activity of the viral polymerase. For this purpose, we transfected HEK293T cells with plasmids
268 encoding all proteins of the viral ribonucleoprotein (vRNP) complex – PA, PB1, PB2 and NP –
269 together with a reporter plasmid coding for a firefly luciferase under the control of a viral
270 promoter. Another plasmid that constitutively expressed *Renilla* luciferase was co-transfected
271 to serve as a transfection control. Subsequently, those cells were mock-treated or treated with
272 2-DG and analyzed via luciferase assay. By transfecting two different expression plasmids of
273 the firefly reporter luciferase either vRNA-like or cRNA-like RNA templates were synthesized,
274 which were converted by the transfected and nascent viral proteins. Thus, we were able to
275 analyze the effect of 2-DG on the transcriptional capacity of the viral polymerase (**Fig 5A**) or a
276 potential effect on the replicational capacity of the polymerase since vRNA first had to be
277 synthesized from the cRNA-like template (**Fig 5B**). We observed that transcription was
278 significantly reduced in the presence of 2-DG (**Fig 5A**) which confirms the previously seen

279 2-DG-induced lower accumulation rate of viral mRNA in the earlier phase of the 8 h kinetic
280 (**Fig 4A**). On the other hand, there was no significant difference of the luciferase signal
281 between the various samples when the cRNA plasmid was transfected (**Fig 5B**). Even though
282 the interpretation here is less straightforward, since the transcription of vRNA in mRNA was
283 also included in this process, this suggested no reduction of the replicational capacity of the
284 viral polymerase by 2-DG.

285 Additionally, we examined whether the 2-DG treatment potentially affected the durability (e.g.,
286 altered stability or rate of degradation) of RNP complexes and performed an assay based on
287 a previous publication [35] in which HEK293T cells were pre-transfected with plasmids
288 encoding all RNP complex proteins. 24 h later they were infected with IAV and subsequently
289 treated with 2-DG and cycloheximide, an inhibitor of translation, for 6 h. This way, the
290 pre-transfected RNP proteins were synthesized and, after IAV infection, formed RNP
291 complexes with the nascent cRNA and vRNA. Strand-specific real-time qPCR revealed that
292 levels of vRNA remained equal between the solvent control and 2-DG-treated samples (**Fig**
293 **S4**), which indicated no effect of 2-DG on the durability of vRNP complexes.

294 The data presented in the last two chapters suggested that 2-DG mainly impaired IAV
295 replication and spread by interfering with viral genome replication which was marked by
296 massively reduced levels of vRNA if the inhibitor was applied. However, 2-DG neither had a
297 direct effect on the replicative capacity of the viral polymerase (**Fig 5B**) nor on the durability of
298 vRNP complexes (**Fig S4**).

299

300 **IAV infections and glycolytic interference alter the metabolic profile of A549 cells**

301 Given the fact that viral infections affect the cellular metabolism and after revealing that the
302 IAV life cycle is mainly impaired on the level of vRNA synthesis by glycolytic interference, we
303 wanted to get a more comprehensive understanding of metabolic alterations induced by the
304 virus and by a treatment with 2-DG. As we know from the literature [7-9], an IAV infection has
305 profound impacts on the host's metabolism which especially applies to the glucose
306 metabolism. Since IAV upregulates the glucose metabolism and 2-DG inhibits glycolysis, we

307 expected a (partial) reversion of virus-induced metabolic changes through the inhibitor.
308 Moreover, we were interested in metabolic changes aside from glycolysis. Via hydrophilic
309 interaction liquid chromatography (HILIC) coupled to tandem mass spectrometry (MS/MS), as
310 described previously [36], we analyzed major alterations of the metabolic profile of A549 cells,
311 induced by IAV infection and/or the treatment with 2-DG after 24 h (**Fig 6**).

312 In accordance with the literature [7, 8, 10], the levels of glucose and most detected glycolysis
313 intermediates were increased in infected cells, pointing towards an increase of the uptake of
314 glucose and the rate of glycolytic activity. When 2-DG was applied, several glycolytic
315 intermediates (e.g., glucose-6-phosphate (G-6-P) or F-6-P) were detected at decreased
316 concentrations in both, infected and uninfected cells. Counterintuitively, the amount of lactate
317 was decreased in infected cells, which may be explained by an increased efflux upon infection
318 [7, 8] or its metabolization into other intermediates. Independent of an infection, the treatment
319 with 2-DG clearly decreased intracellular lactate. Altogether our data confirmed a
320 virus-mediated upregulation of glycolysis as well as its downregulation in the presence of
321 2-DG. In combination with our previous data this strengthens the position of metabolic
322 inhibitors as effective antivirals by counteracting virus-induced alterations of the host
323 metabolism.

324 Other metabolic pathways which are closely connected to glycolysis, such as the PPP or the
325 TCA cycle, revealed some fascinating changes induced by 2-DG treatment or an IAV infection.
326 Among all analyzed metabolites 6-phosphogluconate (6-PG) exhibited the strongest increase
327 upon infection (> 8-fold). The supplementation of 2-DG increased 6-PG concentrations in
328 uninfected and infected cells. This suggested a strong redirection of G-6-P towards the PPP
329 which was probably actively induced by the virus or by the inhibition of GPI by 2-DG. It seems
330 that the oxidative branch of the PPP and thus the direct oxidation of glucose is upregulated
331 upon IAV infection. Similar results have been obtained previously in chicken embryo cells [10].
332 However, the profiles of detectable downstream intermediates of the non-oxidative PPP
333 differed from each other and were therefore difficult to interpret.

334 Most of the detected TCA cycle intermediates decreased upon inhibition of glycolysis
335 (abolishment of the anaplerotic function of glycolysis) and during infection. The concentration
336 of acetyl coenzyme A (acetyl-CoA), the linking intermediate between glycolysis and the TCA
337 cycle, was increased in uninfected cells in the presence of 2-DG. But the highest increase of
338 acetyl-CoA was found in untreated but infected cells. Apparently, IAV infections promote the
339 production of large quantities of the important coenzyme.

340 Among amino acids we observed, with only a few exceptions (arginine, lysine and
341 *N*-acetylaspartate), that most of them were decreased during infection. But, while 2-DG led to
342 a decrease of approximately half of the analyzed amino acids it also induced a moderate
343 increase of the other amino acids, independent of an infection. Besides, we noticed that
344 ketogenic or partly ketogenic amino acids were barely or not reduced by 2-DG. Ketogenic
345 amino acids can be catabolized into keto bodies (mostly TCA cycle intermediates such as
346 acetyl-CoA, succinyl-CoA, or fumarate). The amino acids with most severely reduced
347 concentrations after 2-DG treatment all belonged to the group of glucogenic amino acids,
348 which means they can be catabolized into glucose through gluconeogenesis. In favor of this,
349 we also found slightly increased concentrations of pyridoxine (vitamin B6), which is a co-factor
350 for transaminase reactions which convert amino acids into substrates for gluconeogenesis [37,
351 38]. The inhibition of glycolysis by 2-DG feigned the deprivation of glucose and hence
352 mimicked starvation. Probably this triggered cells to catabolize more glucogenic amino acids.
353 Furthermore, we observed a disturbance of the glutathione equilibrium, one of the most
354 important antioxidant factors for cellular redox homeostasis. In line with this finding, the
355 disruption of glutathione and consequentially the redox homeostasis, as an important factor
356 for IAV pathogenicity, was described before [39-41].

357 The effect of an IAV infection and especially of 2-DG on many nucleobase-related metabolites
358 (e.g., nucleobases, nucleosides and coenzymes with related structures) was rather mild.
359 Despite the virus-mediated increase in glycolysis, just like Ritter *et al.* reported [8], we
360 observed no significant alteration of ATP levels 24 hpi. Even though to a mild extent, the
361 treatment with 2-DG had the expected effect on intracellular ATP in uninfected cells: 2-DG led

362 to an ATP decrease via inhibition of glycolysis (which even consumes ATP upstream of the
363 inhibition of GPI through the ATP-driven phosphorylation of 2-DG to 2-DG-6-P). The increase
364 of adenosine monophosphate (AMP) in the presence of 2-DG is supported by previous
365 publications reporting of the activation of AMP-activated protein kinase (AMPK) after glycolytic
366 inhibition, which is triggered by a low ATP/AMP ratio [22]. One of the most striking increases
367 upon infection was the 6-fold increase of xanthine which was abolished if 2-DG was
368 administered to infected cells. Despite the decrease of oxidized glutathione (GSSG), the
369 virus-induced increase of xanthine might be linked to the generation of reactive oxygen species
370 (ROS, in this case superoxide) which is an important factor for IAV pathogenicity and
371 proliferation [42]. The catabolism of adenosine generates, among others, xanthine which in
372 turn is a substrate for xanthine oxidase to generate superoxide [43]. In this light, a high
373 catabolic rate of adenosine to generate xanthine during IAV infections may explain the low and
374 high concentration of adenosine and xanthine, respectively, in infected but untreated cells.
375 Among miscellaneous metabolites we found three candidates which were distinctly affected.
376 The first one is carnitine which is important for the mitochondrial shuttle of fatty acids for
377 β -oxidation and thus the lipid metabolism. Interestingly, in infected but untreated cells carnitine
378 was heavily decreased, suggesting a potential alteration of the lipid metabolism, which was
379 earlier demonstrated in IBV-infected mice [44]. By inhibiting β -oxidation, the virus increases
380 the pool of lipids which can be utilized for the viral envelope, biosynthesis and transport
381 purposes. The other two striking metabolites were creatine and phosphocreatine which were
382 moderately reduced upon IAV infection but heavily reduced in the presence of 2-DG. A main
383 task of these molecules is the conversion of ADP into ATP to sustain energy levels. The strong
384 downregulation of creatine and phosphocreatine might have correlated with the conspicuously
385 mild impact of IAV and 2-DG on ATP concentrations by depleting creatine/phosphocreatine
386 pools in order to maintain sufficient ATP levels.
387 All described measurements so far aimed to better understand IAV and 2-DG-induced
388 metabolic alterations. However, beside these effects, we also analyzed samples which were
389 additionally supplied with mannose, a C2 epimer of glucose. Since mannose can be converted

390 into fructose-6-phosphate (F-6-P) it should be able to bypass the inhibition by 2-DG to refuel
391 glycolysis. Hence, we expected mannose to reverse some 2-DG-induced effects. Importantly,
392 we observed this reversion, sometimes even followed by an increase, for several glycolytic
393 intermediates (e.g., G-1-P, G-6-P and F-6-P) which demonstrated the antagonistic effect of
394 mannose against glycolytic inhibition by 2-DG. The reduction of ATP in uninfected cells was
395 reversed by mannose, too. However, mannose did not always reverse up-/downregulations of
396 metabolites triggered by 2-DG. For instance, mannose could not or barely reverse the
397 2-DG-induced decreases of TCA cycle intermediates or alterations among PPP metabolites.
398 Altogether, it seemed that the most pronounced reversions of 2-DG-mediated alterations on
399 the metabolism by mannose took place among intermediates of the glucose metabolism and
400 certain amino acids. Nevertheless, the supplementation of mannose sometimes affected
401 metabolites apart from reversing 2-DG-mediated alterations.

402 Taken together, these data showed how diversely metabolic pathways are modified during IAV
403 infections and that even metabolites from the same pathway may be affected in different
404 manners. Furthermore, the complex connectivity between pathways or single metabolites
405 became obvious once again. In the context of IAV infections it additionally suggested the
406 potential of glycolytic interference to counteract IAV-induced metabolic changes as well as a
407 function for mannose to regulate 2-DG-mediated effects.

408

409 **Mannose circumvents the virus-restricting effect of 2-DG by refueling glycolysis**

410 As described before, glycolysis is closely linked to various other metabolic pathways and its
411 level of activity, as seen in **Fig 6**, can have a strong impact on the abundance of other
412 metabolites. As shown in **Fig 7A** a very close connection exists to the mannose metabolism
413 since F-6-P from glycolysis and mannose-6-phosphate can be converted into each other by
414 the enzyme mannose-6-phosphate isomerase (MPI). Therefore, glucose and mannose should
415 be able to substitute each other for many of their purposes inside a cell, which would also
416 explain some results of the metabolomic data (**Fig 6**). Indeed, the vast majority of mannose is
417 usually shunted to glycolysis to be catabolized. The remaining mannose is mainly utilized for

418 *N*-linked glycosylation [45]. Due to the close connection of glycolysis and *N*-linked
419 glycosylation and since others reported that the antiviral effect of 2-DG originated from the
420 impairment of glycosylation [25, 46] rather than glycolytic inhibition, we aimed to dissect the
421 interplay of these two hexoses in the context of IAV infections and the virus-restricting effects
422 of 2-DG. Since previous publications have shown that 2-DG reduced IAV glycoprotein
423 synthesis [24, 47] and that in general the inhibition of glycosylation by 2-DG could be reversed
424 by low doses of mannose [16, 48], we supplied 2-DG-treated cells with mannose to see if this
425 would reverse the inhibition of viral growth in our cell culture model as well (**Fig S5A**). Indeed,
426 low concentrations of mannose restored viral titers almost completely. We observed this
427 abolishment of the inhibitory function of 2-DG until a 1:10 ratio between mannose (1 mM) and
428 2-DG (10 mM). To elucidate if the reversal of inhibition can be attributed to mannose being
429 catabolized via glycolysis or being utilized for *N*-linked glycosylation we used the MPI inhibitor
430 MLS0315771 (MLS) to disrupt the link between these two pathways [49]. First, we determined
431 a safe dosage of the inhibitor including potential effects on cell growth, glycolysis, and the
432 formation of infective viral particles. We observed no significant effect on cell proliferation and
433 cell viability but an increase of lactate in the medium in the presence of 50 μ M MLS, indicating
434 the safe use of the indicated concentrations and a higher glycolytic rate when the inhibitor is
435 applied (**Fig S5B-D**). The latter can be explained by the fact that MLS prevents the redirection
436 of F-6-P to *N*-linked glycosylation. Therefore, more glucose will be catabolized into lactate via
437 glycolysis. Besides, we observed no significant effect on the production of viral particles (**Fig**
438 **S5E**). Subsequently, we applied MLS to infected cells which were also treated with 2-DG and
439 mannose (**Fig 7B**). We saw the typical reduction of viral titers when 2-DG alone was applied
440 and the restoration of titers via the addition of mannose. Increasing concentrations of MLS
441 decreased viral titers back to the level of 2-DG-treated samples which suggested that mannose
442 restored IAV propagation mainly by driving glycolysis and not *N*-linked glycosylation.
443 Furthermore, it also confirmed that the inhibition of glycolysis was indeed the primary antiviral
444 mode of action of 2-DG. This got substantiated by the fact that the addition of pyruvate, the
445 final product of glycolysis under physiological conditions, partially restored viral titers after

446 inhibition by 2-DG (**Fig S5F**). To finally confirm the concept of the glycolytic rate as a
447 determinant of IAV replication, we examined the effects of 2-DG, mannose, and MLS on the
448 RNA levels of IAV after a single replication cycle of 8 h. The pattern of M1 vRNA accumulation
449 (**Fig 7C**) strikingly resembled the pattern of viral titers (**Fig 7B**). The treatment with 2-DG led
450 to a highly significant reduction of vRNA which was almost completely restored to the control
451 value by supplementation of mannose. The additional administration of MLS, however,
452 decreased the vRNA value to a similar extent as 2-DG alone did. Regarding viral mRNA
453 accumulation (**Fig 7D**) we observed the typical slight increase after treatment with 2-DG, but
454 barely a return to the control value when mannose was added as well. This only happened
455 when also MLS was supplemented.

456 Summarizing, these data corroborated that the antiviral activity of 2-DG mainly derived from a
457 strong impairment of the synthesis of viral genomic RNA by reducing the glycolytic rate of
458 infected host cells. Moreover, by directly or indirectly inhibiting or fueling glycolysis we found
459 a way to turn viral reproduction on and off to a certain degree.

460 461 **3. Discussion**

462 Understanding the diverse interplay between the host cell metabolism and viral intruders is of
463 importance since it may create potential new strategies to counteract viral infections. In our
464 study we were able to improve our comprehension of metabolic virus-host interactions as well
465 as the mode of action of glycolytic interference on the life cycle of IAV. We observed profound
466 changes of the whole metabolic profile of infected cells (**Fig 6**), including especially
467 upregulated amounts of many intermediates of glycolysis. By applying 2-DG, a potent inhibitor
468 of glycolysis, many virus-induced metabolic alterations could be reversed which indicated the
469 inhibitor's counteraction against viral manipulations of the host. Furthermore, we showed the
470 severe impact of glycolytic interference by 2-DG on the propagation of IAV *in vitro* (**Fig**
471 **1A+S1A**). The reduction of virus titers reached up to 4.5 orders of magnitude and hence was
472 similar or even exceeded the effectivity of other antiviral compounds [50, 51].

473 During our search for the point of interference within the viral life cycle we deduced that viral
474 protein synthesis played a subordinate role, because protein accumulation was rather mildly

475 affected within one replication cycle (**Fig 2B**). Interestingly, we did not at all observe a decrease
476 in cellular protein accumulation after a 2-DG treatment, shown by steady signals of the cellular
477 control protein in our western blots and via *Renilla* luciferase reporter assay (**Fig 2**). This may
478 be indicative of a more selective effect which rather applies to viral than cellular protein
479 translation. According to the data of **Fig 4** and **5** we assume that the predominant mechanism
480 which is responsible for the strong reduction of IAV multiplication is a 2-DG-mediated
481 interference with the dynamic regulation that switches the viral polymerase from a
482 transcriptase to a replicase. Even though one hypothesis proposed that viral transcription and
483 replication are stochastic without a switch mechanism [35] many studies suggest the opposite.
484 The switch process of the polymerase is still not fully understood and is probably a
485 multifactorial process determined by several viral and host factors (summarized in [31]). NP
486 seems to be one of the key factors in this context and was shown to have a stimulatory function
487 on viral polymerase activity via a direct interaction with it [52-55]. Additionally, NS1 and nuclear
488 export protein (NEP, also known as NS2) are presumably implicated in viral replication [56-
489 58]. Furthermore, small viral RNAs (svRNAs), which resemble the 5' end of vRNAs, have been
490 linked to the regulation of viral replication [59-62]. It's been hypothesized that the role of
491 svRNAs in viral replication is the association with a second and trans-acting polymerase which
492 binds the 5' end of newly synthesized vRNA [31]. Even though it once was postulated that host
493 factors are not required to initiate viral replication [54], many candidates that can associate
494 with vRNP components [31, 55, 63-66] and thereby potentially influence the process, such as
495 the recently described acidic nuclear phosphoprotein 32 (ANP32) [67-69], have been
496 identified. Since the nuclear matrix and chromatin of infected cells were postulated to constitute
497 a platform for viral transcription and replication [70-72], various potential host factors are
498 associated with these sub-nuclear structures [73-76]. Linking the described regulators of IAV
499 polymerase activity and the here presented data, it is quite possible that metabolic interference
500 via 2-DG impairs the IAV replication-associated function or the expression of one or several of
501 these viral or host factors. After all we know, however, it is also possible that there is no strong
502 switching mechanism controlling viral transcription or replication. Potentially the abundance of

503 both processes is basically stochastic but can be modulated in favor of transcription or
504 replication in a time-dependent manner. Combining the insights from previous publications
505 with our data it is imaginable that the antiviral effect of 2-DG operates in several steps. One
506 scenario could be that inhibition by 2-DG leads to a primary antiviral effect by interfering with
507 the function of the initial transcription and replication complexes which could explain the
508 generalized lower levels of mRNA and vRNA until 7 hpi (**Fig 4**). A secondary effect could be
509 the seemingly selective impairment of the synthesis of some viral proteins. This includes at
510 least PA of the polymerase or RNP complex (**Fig 2B**). Consequently, a lack of nascent
511 polymerase complexes may have a stronger impact on replication than transcription since
512 replication requires a second polymerase for the binding of nascent cRNA and vRNA strands.
513 Alternatively or additionally, treatment with 2-DG might impair the synthesis of any of the
514 afore-mentioned modulators of the viral polymerase which may contribute to the prolonged
515 phase of transcription and the clear reduction of replication. Of course, the variety of potential
516 2-DG-mediated influences on viral replication is huge and on top of that we cannot fully exclude
517 an off-target interaction which may play a role here. However, the latter seems highly unlikely
518 based on the data we generated through the supplementation of mannose and MLS in the
519 presence of 2-DG (**Fig 7**). It will be interesting to examine if and how severely 2-DG influences
520 the expression or interactions of the afore-mentioned viral and cellular factors with the complex
521 replication machinery of IAV.

522 Furthermore, our data suggest that the predominant antiviral mode of action of 2-DG is the
523 inhibition of glycolysis. Decades ago it has been postulated that the impairment of *N*-linked
524 glycosylation is responsible for the antiviral effect of 2-DG [46]. The fact that inhibition of the
525 enzyme MPI, which links glycolysis and glycosylation, abolished the restoration of viral titers
526 and vRNA levels by mannose after treatment with 2-DG (**Fig 7B+C**) lets us oppose this view.
527 Our data indicate that the positive effect of mannose on IAV replication mainly (but not
528 necessarily exclusively) derives from fueling glycolysis via its conversion into F-6-P by MPI.
529 The partial recovery of the ATP/AMP ratio back to the physiological level in the presence of
530 2-DG and mannose (**Fig 6**) supports this theory. Moreover, the partial restoration of viral titers

531 by the supplementation of pyruvate after inhibiting glycolysis substantiates the assumption that
532 glycolysis and its intermediates are crucial for virus reproduction. Probably the availability of
533 glycolytic intermediates, which are needed to fuel other pathways and to synthesize
534 macromolecules such as nucleotides and amino acids, is the most critical factor.
535 Extrapolations predicted only a very minor extra demand for energy (~1% of the total energetic
536 budget of a eukaryotic cell) to synthesize viral progeny during the characteristic time of an
537 influenza infection [77]. Therefore, we assume that a potential role of ATP in viral replication
538 may rather not be its availability for synthesis reactions.

539 As reviewed previously [78], 2-DG has various direct and indirect mechanism by which it can
540 negatively affect normal cellular functions (e.g., inhibition of glycolysis and glycosylation or
541 induction of AMPK and UPR). Therefore, a certain cytotoxicity – which heavily depends on the
542 dose and type of administration as well as the type of cell, tissue, or organism – must be
543 considered. However, we could demonstrate the tolerability and the quickness of effectivity of
544 the antimetabolite in immortalized and primary cells (**Fig 1C-F, S1B, S2B+C**). Our *in vitro* data
545 and previous reports [26, 27] support the performance of more *in vivo* studies and clinical trials
546 to assess the safety of 2-DG and its efficiency to treat virus infections in model organisms or
547 even humans. Several such studies have already reported the safety of 2-DG in animal models
548 in the context of other virus infections [79] or different fields of research [80-82], especially
549 when administered in continuous low doses. This could even be confirmed in clinical trials [83,
550 84]. Very recent phase II and III clinical trials in India [85, 86] demonstrated the safety and
551 effectiveness of 2-DG when applied in addition to the standard of care to treat severe
552 COVID-19 patients. As studies in which a virus infection was more successfully treated in
553 humans through metabolic interference, these clinical trials may become a milestone in the
554 development of host-targeted metabolic drugs as antivirals. However, some studies [87, 88]
555 and its poor pharmacokinetic properties, e.g., its short plasma half-life [89], suggest that 2-DG
556 itself may never become a licensed drug. Nevertheless, it is a useful tool to examine the
557 principles of glycolytic interference and novel 2-DG analogs or other glycolytic inhibitors
558 possibly boast a better pharmacological suitability [90]. Since dependence on the host

559 metabolism is a universal feature of all viruses, differential and strictly determined metabolic
560 treatments may be able to alleviate all types of virus infections in the future. However, before
561 this may become reality, we need to gain a more comprehensive understanding of
562 metabolism-related virus-host interactions, including virus-induced metabolic modifications,
563 specific metabolic needs of different viruses and how exactly metabolic treatments affect the
564 viral life cycle as well as the host. We are positive that this specific field of research deserves
565 more attention to elaborate metabolic interference and make it become a realistic and sensible
566 treatment option in the future.

567

568 **4. Experimental procedures**

569 **4.1 Cell lines and viruses**

570 Human adenocarcinomic alveolar basal epithelial cells (A549, American type culture collection
571 (ATCC®), CCL-185™) and human embryonic kidney (HEK) 293t cells (ATCC®, CRL-3216™)
572 were cultured in the high glucose variant of Dulbecco's modified Eagle's medium (DMEM,
573 Sigma-Aldrich, D5796) supplemented with 10 % fetal bovine serum (FBS). Madin-Darby
574 canine kidney (MDCK) II cells (Institute of Virology, WWU Muenster, Germany) were cultured
575 in minimum essential medium (MEM, Sigma-Aldrich, M4655) supplemented with 10 % fetal
576 bovine serum (FBS). The primary cells human bronchial epithelial cell (HBEpC, PromoCell,
577 C-12640) were cultured in airway epithelial cell growth medium (AECGM, PromoCell,
578 C-21060). Tumor-free human lung explants were obtained from various donors right after
579 surgery at the University Hospital Muenster and were cultured in Roswell Park Memorial
580 Institute-1640 medium (RPMI-1640, Sigma-Aldrich, R8758) supplemented with 100 U/mL
581 penicillin and 0.1 mg/mL streptomycin. The donors gave written consent for the tissue to be
582 used for scientific purposes. Ethical approval was given by the Deutsche Ärztekammer (AZ:
583 2016-265-f-S). All cells were kept at 37 °C and 5 % CO₂. Mouse-adapted
584 A/Seal/Massachusetts/1/80 H7N7 (SC35M) and A/Panama/2007/1999 H3N2 (Pan/99) are
585 recombinant influenza A virus (IAV) strains which were propagated in MDCK II cells.

586 **4.2 Infection and treatment**

587 Viruses were diluted to the desired multiplicity of infection (MOI) in phosphate-buffered saline
588 (PBS) supplemented with 0.2 % bovine serum albumin (BSA), 1 mM MgCl₂, 0.9 mM CaCl₂,
589 100 U/mL penicillin and 0.1 mg/mL streptomycin. Cells were washed once with PBS and
590 incubated for 30 min at 37 °C and 5 % CO₂ with the respective amount of virus. Afterwards
591 A549 and HEK293T cells were washed once more with PBS and then incubated for the
592 depicted periods in DMEM (Thermo Fisher Scientific, A14430) containing 0.2 % bovine serum
593 albumin (BSA), 100 U/mL penicillin and 0.1 mg/mL streptomycin, 25 mM D-glucose, 2 mM
594 L-glutamine and the respective concentration of inhibitor/supplement. The medium did not
595 contain sodium pyruvate, HEPES and phenol red. HBEpCs were washed once with PBS after
596 an infection and incubated in AECGM, containing the respective amounts of
597 inhibitor/supplement for the depicted periods of the experiments. Human lung explants
598 (~100 mg) were infected with 2 x 10⁵ infectious virus particles as described previously [91], but
599 without any interferon or bafilomycin. After washing the tissue 1 hpi, it was incubated in fresh
600 RPMI supplemented with 2 mM L-glutamine, 100 U/mL penicillin, 0.1 mg/mL streptomycin,
601 0.1 % bovine serum albumin and the indicated concentrations of inhibitor. 2-deoxy-D-glucose
602 (2-DG, Sigma-Aldrich, D8375), D-(+)-mannose (Sigma-Aldrich, M6020) and sodium pyruvate
603 (Sigma-Aldrich, P5280) were dissolved in H₂O to 1 M (2-DG and mannose) and 2 M (sodium
604 pyruvate) stock solutions. MLS0315771 (MedChemExpress, HY-112945) was dissolved in
605 dimethyl sulfoxide (DMSO) to a stock concentration of 10 mM. For the stimulation of immune
606 responses via RNA transfection, RNA was isolated from mock-infected and SC35M-infected
607 (MOI of 5) cells 8 hpi, as described in 4.7. 100 ng RNA per well was transfected using
608 HiPerFect Transfection Reagent (QIAGEN) according to the manufacturer's protocol for 6 h in
609 the presence of the depicted inhibitor concentrations.

610 **4.3 Plaque titration**

611 After the indicated periods of infection, the supernatants were collected and used to determine
612 the number of infectious virus particles. Confluent MDCK II cells were infected with serial
613 dilutions of the supernatants in PBS containing 0.2 % bovine serum albumin (BSA), 1 mM
614 MgCl₂, 0.9 mM CaCl₂, 100 U/mL penicillin and 0.1 mg/mL streptomycin for 30 min at 37 °C

615 and 5 % CO₂. Subsequently the supernatants were replaced with MEM/BA containing 0.21 %
616 BSA, 0.21 % NaHCO₃, 1 mM MgCl₂, 0.01 % DEAE-dextran, 0.9 mM CaCl₂,
617 100 U/ml penicillin, 0.1 mg/ml streptomycin and 0.9 % purified agar. After an incubation for 2-3
618 days at 37 °C and 5 % CO₂ the overlay was removed and cells were stained with a Coomassie
619 staining solution (45 % ddH₂O (v/v), 45 % methanol (v/v), 10 % acetic acid (v/v) and 0.25 %
620 Coomassie Brilliant blue R-250 (w/v)). Cell free plaques in the monolayer were counted as
621 plaque-forming units per milliliter (PFU/mL).

622 **4.4 Cytotoxicity assays**

623 Potential cytotoxic effects of inhibitors were assessed by three different methods: lactate
624 dehydrogenase (LDH) assay, trypan blue staining and flow cytometry. LDH assays were
625 performed with the CytoSelect LDH cytotoxicity assay kit (Bio Cat, CBA-241-CB) according to
626 the manufacturer's manual. Trypan blue exclusion was done by mixing a 0.4 % trypan blue
627 dye (Invitrogen) 1:1 with a sample's cell suspension and having the automated cell counting
628 machine Countess™ II (Invitrogen) determine the number of living cells. Determination of living
629 cells via flow cytometry is described below in section **4.10**.

630 **4.5 Glycolytic rate test**

631 The induced assay version of the glycolytic rate test (Agilent, Kit 103344-100) was performed
632 with a Seahorse XFe96 Analyzer (Agilent) according to the manufacturer's instructions. The
633 assay medium was supplemented with 25 mM D-glucose and 2 mM L-glutamine to match
634 other experimental conditions. Concomitantly, the final injection of 2-DG was set to 125 mM.
635 After three measured points to obtain the basal glycolytic level, the indicated concentrations of
636 inhibitor were injected and the glycolytic rate was measured for 1 h before continuing with the
637 standard procedure.

638 **4.6 Lactate assay**

639 To determine the concentration of lactate in the supernatants of samples and thus have an
640 indirect assay to assess glycolytic activity, the L-Lactate Assay Kit II (PK-CA577-K607) from
641 PromoCell was used according to the manufacturer's instruction.

642 **4.7 Reverse transcription and quantitative real-time PCR**

643 At the end of an infection and/or treatment period, total RNA was isolated using the RNeasy®
644 Plus Mini Kit (Qiagen). The procedure was done according to the manufacturer's manual.
645 Reverse transcription was performed with the RevertAid™ H Minus Reverse Transcriptase
646 (Thermo Fisher Scientific) and oligo(dT) primers (Eurofins Genomics) for detection of mRNA
647 or a fluA uni12 forward primer [92] (Sigma-Aldrich, 5'-AGCAAAGCAGG-3') to detect vRNA
648 according to the manufacturer's protocol. The obtained cDNA was used for real-time qPCR
649 with a LightCycler® 480 II (Roche) and Brilliant III SYBR® Green (Agilent) according to the
650 manufacturer's instructions. The following primers were used during qPCR: influenza matrix
651 protein M1 forward (5'-AGA TGA GTC TTC TAA CCG AGG TCG-3') and reverse (5'-TGC AAA
652 AAC ATC TTC AAG TCT CTG-3'), IL-6 forward (5'-AGA GGC ACT GGC AGA AAA CAA C-3')
653 and reverse (5'-AGG CAA GTC TCC TCA TTG AAT CC-3'), CXCL8 forward (5'-ACT GAG
654 AGT GAT TGA GAG TGG AC-3') and reverse (5'-AAC CCT CTG CAC CCA GTT TTC-3'),
655 DDX58 forward (5'-CCT ACC TAC ATC CTG AGC TAC AT-3') and reverse (5'-TCT AGG GCA
656 TCC AAA AAG CCA-3'), MxA forward (5'-GTT TCC GAA GTG GAC ATC GCA-3') and reverse
657 (5'-GAA GGG CAA CTC CTG ACA GT-3') and human glyceraldehyde 3-phosphate
658 dehydrogenase (GAPDH) forward (5'-GCA AAT TCC ATG GCA CCG T-3') and reverse
659 (5'-GCC CCA CTT GAT TTT GGA GG-3'). GAPDH, as a housekeeping gene, was used for
660 the normalization of PCR results. The relative n-fold was calculated using the $2^{-\Delta\Delta CT}$ method
661 [93].

662 **4.8 Strand-specific quantitative real-time RT-PCR**

663 Total RNA was isolate as described in 4.7. Reverse transcription was performed by using
664 Maxima™ Reverse Transcriptase (Thermo Fisher Scientific) according to the manufacturer's
665 instructions and specific primers (Eurofins Genomics) for the different types of RNA as
666 reported previously [33]. The following primers were designed according to the SC35M
667 sequences DQ266097, DQ226096 and DQ266095 (Influenza Research Database) and used
668 for cDNA synthesis and qPCR of the SC35M segments 1, 5 and 6:

669 **Table 1: Primer for strand-specific real-time qPCR subdivided into their use in cDNA synthesis via reverse transcription**
670 **and PCR.**

target	purpose	primer name	sequence (5' - 3')	position (nt)
--------	---------	-------------	--------------------	---------------

segment 1 (PB2)	vRNA	RT	vRNAtag_SC35M_seg1_1540F	GGCCGTCATGGTGCGAAT CGGGATCAACGAGGGAATGTACTAC	1540-1564	
		PCR		vRNAtag	GGCCGTCATGGTGCGAAT	
				SC35M_seg1_1704R	AGTTTCCCAGTTCCTGATGATCCA	1704-1681
	mRNA	RT	mRNAtag_SC35M_seg1_dTR	CCAGATCGTTCGAGTCGT TTTTTTTTTTTTTTTAAACAATTCTGA	2325-2310	
		PCR		mRNAtag	CCAGATCGTTCGAGTCGT	
				SC35M_seg1_2176F	GCGAAGGGAGAGAAGGCTAATGTGC	2176-2200
segment 5 (NP)	vRNA	RT	vRNAtag_SC35M_seg5_675F	GGCCGTCATGGTGCGAAT AAATGGGCGGAGAACAAGAATTGC	675-698	
		PCR		vRNAtag	GGCCGTCATGGTGCGAAT	
				SC35M_seg5_845R	CTCAGAATGAGAGCAGACCGTGCA	845-822
	mRNA	RT	mRNAtag_SC35M_seg5_dTR	CCAGATCGTTCGAGTCGT TTTTTTTTTTTTTTTCTTAAATTGTT	1549-1534	
		PCR		mRNAtag	CCAGATCGTTCGAGTCGT	
				SC35M_seg5_1466F	CGATCGTGCTTCTTTGACATG	1466-1488
segment 6 (NA)	vRNA	RT	vRNAtag_SC35M_seg6_734F	GGCCGTCATGGTGCGAAT GTAGTGATGACCGATGGATCAGCA	734-757	
		PCR		vRNAtag	GGCCGTCATGGTGCGAAT	
				SC35M_seg6_885R	CAAGTTACTTTTGAATCGTGCCCATAG	885-859
	mRNA	RT	mRNAtag_SC35M_seg6_dTR	CCAGATCGTTCGAGTCGT TTTTTTTTTTTTTTTGCAATTTACGA	1445-1430	
		PCR		mRNAtag	CCAGATCGTTCGAGTCGT	
				SC35M_seg6_1338F	GGTGGACGAGCAACAGCTTAGTTGC	1338-1362

671

672 4.9 Western blot

673 Samples were lysed at 4 °C with radioimmunoprecipitation assay (RIPA) buffer (25 mM
674 Tris-HCl pH 8, 137 mM NaCl, 10 % glycerol, 0.1 % SDS, 0.5 % NaDOC, 1 % NP-40, 2 mM
675 EDTA pH 8, 200 µM Pefabloc®, 5 µg/mL aprotinin, 5 µg/mL leupeptin, 1 mM sodium
676 orthovanadate and 5 mM benzamidine). Cell debris was removed via centrifugation and
677 protein concentrations were determined by Bradford assay. Samples were adjusted to the
678 same protein concentration, mixed with the appropriate amount of Laemmli sample buffer and
679 then proteins were separated and visualized by sodium dodecyl sulfate polyacrylamide gel
680 electrophoresis (SDS-PAGE) and western blot analysis. The following primary antibodies were
681 used to detect their respective proteins: ERK2 (rabbit, polyclonal, Santa Cruz, sc-154), M1
682 (mouse, monoclonal, Biorad, MCA401), NP (rabbit, polyclonal, GeneTex, GTX125989), NS1
683 (rabbit, polyclonal, GeneTex, GTX125990), and PA (rabbit, polyclonal, GeneTex,
684 GTX125932). ERK2 served as the loading control for whole cell lysates. Fluorescence signals
685 were visualized by using fluorophore-labelled secondary antibodies: IRDye® 680RD Donkey
686 anti-Mouse (LI-COR, 926-68072), IRDye® 680RD Donkey anti-Rabbit (LI-COR, 926-68073),
687 IRDye® 800CW Donkey anti-Mouse (LI-COR, 926-32212), and IRDye® 800CW Donkey

688 anti-Rabbit (LI-COR, 926-32213). Images were taken with the ODYSSEY® F_C Imaging System
689 (LI-COR).

690 **4.10 Flow Cytometry**

691 At the end of an infection with or without treatment, cells were trypsinized and subsequently
692 stained for analysis via flow cytometry with the FACSCalibur (Becton Dickinson) flow
693 cytometer. At first, cells were stained with eBioscience™ Fixable Viability Dye eFluor™ 660
694 (Invitrogen, 65-0866-14) for 30 min at 4 °C in the dark. Afterwards the samples were fixated
695 and permeabilized for 20 min and 60 min at 4 °C in the dark using BD Cytotfix/Cytoperm™
696 solution and BD Perm/Wash™ solution (BD Biosciences), respectively. Intracellular staining of
697 influenza A nucleoprotein was done by applying the anti influenza A (nucleoprotein) – FITC
698 antibody (OriGene, AM00924FC-N) for 60 min at 4 °C in the dark. FlowJo software v10 (Becton
699 Dickinson) was used to analyze the data obtained by flow cytometry. 10⁵ cells of each sample
700 were analyzed. The gating strategy is displayed in **Fig S6**.

701 **4.11 Minigenome assay**

702 Using Lipofectamine™ 2000 (Invitrogen), HEK293T cells were transfected with polymerase
703 II-driven plasmids coding for PA, PB1, PB2, NP of SC35M as well as the transfection control
704 *Renilla* luciferase. A sixth plasmid was one of two polymerase I-driven plasmids encoding
705 either a vRNA-like or cRNA-like firefly luciferase template. 4 h post transfection the medium
706 was replaced with DMEM (Thermo Fisher Scientific, A14430) containing 0.2 % BSA, 100 U/mL
707 penicillin and 0.1 mg/mL streptomycin, 25 mM D-glucose, 2 mM L-glutamine and the
708 respective concentration of 2-DG. 24 h post transfection the Dual-Luciferase® Reporter Assay
709 System (Promega) was used according to the manufacturer's manual. For measurements of
710 relative light units (RLU) the luminometer MicroLumat^{Plus} LB 96V (Berthold Technologies)
711 and the software WinGlow (Berthold Technologies) were used.

712 **4.12 RNP durability assay**

713 HEK293T cells were transfected with plasmids coding for PA, PB1, PB2 and NP of SC35M
714 using Lipofectamine™ 2000 (Invitrogen). 24 h post transfection cells were infected with SC35M
715 at an MOI of 5 (see **4.2**) and incubated with or without cycloheximide (100 µg/mL) and various

716 concentrations of 2-DG. 6 hpi cell lysates were taken and subjected to strand-specific
717 quantitative real-time RT-PCR (see **4.8**).

718 **4.13 Metabolic profiling by HILIC-MS/MS**

719 24 h after seeding 1.5×10^6 A549 cells in 6 cm dishes, they were mock-infected or infected
720 with SC35M at an MOI of 0.001. 24 hpi cells were washed twice with PBS and 400 μ L
721 pre-cooled (4-8 °C) acetonitrile (ACN)/water (4+1, v/v) including 50 μ M D-phenylglycine as
722 internal standard was added for metabolic quenching. Until further preparation the samples
723 were kept at 4-8 °C. Cells were then detached using a sterile cell scraper. The dish was
724 washed with additional 800 μ L ACN/water (4+1, v/v) and pooled with the respective cell
725 sample. Further preparation of samples as well as chromatographic and mass spectrometric
726 analysis were performed as described previously [36].

727

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974 **Fig 1: 2-DG impairs IAV propagation and is well tolerated by A549 cells. (A+B)** 24 h after seeding, A549 cells were infected
975 with SC35M at an MOI of 0.001 for 30 min and incubated in the presence of 25 mM glucose and the indicated concentrations of
976 2-DG or its solvent water for **(A)** 24 h or **(B)** 24 and 48 h. Subsequently, supernatants were collected to determine viral titers via
977 plaque assay. **(C)** Uninfected cells were treated with the indicated inhibitor concentrations for 24 h and were then subjected to
978 LDH assay for assessment of the relative cytotoxicity of the treatment. **(D-F)** The glycolytic proton efflux rate (glycoPER),
979 extracellular acidification rate (ECAR) and oxygen consumption rate (OCR) were measured in real-time via glycolytic rate assay
980 and a Seahorse XFe96 Analyzer. The kinetics show the influence of different concentrations of 2-DG on the three measured
981 parameters. Depicted are the means \pm SD of **(A-C)** three or **(D-F)** five independent experiments with **(A-C)** three or **(D-F)** four
982 biological replicates per condition and experiment. Statistical significances were determined via **(A)** unpaired one-way ANOVA
983 and Dunnett's correction, comparing all treated samples to the water control and **(B-F)** ordinary two-way ANOVA with **(B)** Tukey's,
984 **(C)** Sidak's and **(D-F)** Dunnett's correction for multiple comparison, comparing **(B)** all samples with one another, **(C)** all treated
985 samples of one group to the respective water control or **(D-F)** the time points of differentially treated cells with their respective
986 start value. p-values are indicated as follows: $< 0.05 = *$, $< 0.01 = **$, $< 0.001 = ***$, $< 0.0001 = ****$.

987 **Fig 2: 2-DG mildly reduces the expression of viral proteins. (A+B)** 24 h after seeding, A549 cells were infected with SC35M
988 at the depicted MOIs for 30 min and were incubated with 25 mM glucose and the indicated concentrations of 2-DG for a total of
989 **(A)** 24 h or **(B)** 8 h. Lysates of triplicates were unified to yield sufficient protein amounts. Proteins were separated via SDS-PAGE.
990 Visualization was done using primary antibodies against PA (rabbit), M1 (mouse), NP (rabbit), NS1 (rabbit) and ERK2 (rabbit) and
991 fluorescence-labelled anti-mouse (donkey) and anti-rabbit (donkey) secondary antibodies. Depicted are representative protein
992 bands from three independent experiments. **(C)** HEK293T cells were, 24 h after seeding, transfected with an empty vector or a
993 plasmid containing the *Renilla* luciferase gene which is under the control of a constitutive herpes simplex virus thymidine kinase
994 promoter. Subsequently, the cells were incubated with the shown 2-DG concentrations. After 24 h, cells were lysed and the n-fold
995 of relative light units (RLU) in comparison to the water control was measured via luciferase assay. Depicted are the means \pm SD
996 of three independent experiments with three biological replicates per condition and experiment. Statistical significances were
997 determined via unpaired one-way ANOVA and Dunnett's correction, comparing all treated samples to the water control. p-values
998 are indicated as follows: $< 0.05 = *$, $< 0.01 = **$, $< 0.001 = ***$, $< 0.0001 = ****$.

999 **Fig 3: 2-DG conversely affects IAV mRNA and vRNA accumulation.** 24 h after seeding, A549 cells were infected with SC35M
1000 at the depicted MOIs for 30 min and were incubated with 25 mM glucose and the indicated concentrations of 2-DG for a total of
1001 **(A+B)** 24 h or **(C+D)** 8 h. Subsequently, cells were lysed, their RNA isolated and cDNA synthesized using either **(A+C)** oligo(dT)
1002 primers to transcribe mRNA or **(B+D)** fluA uni12 primers to transcribe vRNA. Real-time qPCR was performed with two technical
1003 replicates per sample and values of treated samples were normalized to the water control. In case of mRNA detection, all results
1004 were additionally normalized to a GAPDH control. Depicted are the means \pm SD of three independent experiments with three
1005 biological replicates per condition and experiment. Statistical significances were determined via unpaired one-way ANOVA and
1006 Dunnett's correction, comparing all treated samples to the water control. p-values are indicated as follows: $< 0.05 = *$, $< 0.01 = **$,
1007 $< 0.001 = ***$, $< 0.0001 = ****$.

1008 **Fig 4: Prolongation of IAV transcription and reduction of replication by 2-DG.** 24 h after seeding, A549 cells were infected
1009 with SC35M at an MOI of 5 for 30 min and were incubated without or with 10 mM 2-DG in the presence of 25 mM glucose for a
1010 total of 8 h. **(A+B)** Each hour or **(C-H)** 8 hpi cells were lysed, their RNA isolated and cDNA synthesized using **(A)** oligo(dT) primers,
1011 **(B)** fluA uni12 primers or **(C-H)** specific primers to transcribe mRNA and vRNA of the SC35M gene segments 1 (PB2), 5 (NP) and
1012 6 (NA). Real-time qPCR was performed with two technical replicates per sample. **(A+B)** All values were normalized to the water
1013 control 1 hpi or **(C-H)** values of treated samples were normalized to the water control. Depicted are the means \pm SD of three
1014 independent experiments with three biological replicates per condition and experiment. Statistical significances were determined
1015 **(A+B)** via ordinary two-way ANOVA and Sidak's correction, comparing the treated sample of each time point to its respective
1016 water control or **(C-H)** via unpaired t-test. p-values are indicated as follows: $< 0.05 = *$, $< 0.01 = **$, $< 0.001 = ***$, $< 0.0001 = ****$.

1017 **Fig 5: 2-DG shows no effect on the replicative capacity of the IAV polymerase.** 24 h after seeding, HEK293T cells were
1018 transfected with plasmids encoding PA, PB1, PB2 and NP of SC35M, the transfection control *Renilla* luciferase and either a **(A)**
1019 vRNA-like or **(B)** cRNA-like template of the *Firefly* luciferase. The negative control was transfected with an empty vector instead
1020 of PB2. 4 h later the transfection solution was replaced with medium containing 25 mM glucose and the indicated concentrations
1021 of 2-DG for another 20 h. Subsequently, cells were lysed and the n-fold of relative light units (RLU) was measured via luciferase
1022 assay and normalized to the water control. Additionally, all values were normalized to their respective transfection control.
1023 Statistical significances were determined via unpaired one-way ANOVA and Dunnett's correction, comparing all other samples to
1024 the water control. p-values are indicated as follows: $< 0.05 = *$, $< 0.01 = **$, $< 0.001 = ***$, $< 0.0001 = ****$.

1025 **Fig 6: Metabolic alterations induced by IAV infection and glycolytic treatment.** A549 cells were mock-infected or infected
1026 with SC35M at an MOI of 0.001 and were subsequently incubated in DMEM (containing 25 mM glucose) with or without 10 mM
1027 2-DG and 1 mM mannose as indicated. 24 hpi metabolic activity was quenched and intracellular metabolites were relatively
1028 quantified via HILIC-MS/MS. All values have been normalized to the uninfected and untreated control (left column). Darker shades
1029 of blue indicate a higher and darker shades of red indicate a lower n-fold of the respective metabolite compared to the control.
1030 Black indicates increases higher than 5-fold compared to the control. Depicted are the means of three independent experiments
1031 with three biological replicates per condition and experiment. Statistical significances were determined via ordinary two-way
1032 ANOVA and Dunnett's correction, comparing all samples to their respective uninfected and untreated control. The n-folds and
1033 p-values are presented in **Table S1**.

1034 **Fig 7: Mannose counteracts 2-DG by refueling glycolysis. (A)** The metabolic pathways of glycolysis and N-linked glycosylation
1035 are closely connected via mannose-6-phosphate isomerase (MPI). Other enzymes depicted here are hexokinase (HK),
1036 glucose-6-phosphate isomerase (GPI), and phosphomannomutase 2 (PMM2). **(B-D)** 24 h after seeding, A549 cells were infected
1037 with SC35M at an MOI of **(B)** 0.001 or **(C+D)** 5 for 30 min and were incubated with 25 mM glucose and the indicated concentrations
1038 of 2-DG, mannose, and the mannose-6 phosphate isomerase inhibitor MLS0315771 (MLS) for a total of **(B)** 24 h or **(C+D)** 8 h.
1039 Subsequently, **(B)** supernatants were collected to determine viral titers via plaque assay or **(C+D)** cells were lysed, their RNA
1040 isolated and cDNA synthesized using either **(C)** fluA uni12 primers to transcribe vRNA or **(D)** oligo(dT) primers to transcribe
1041 mRNA. Real-time qPCR was performed with two technical replicates per sample and values of treated samples were normalized
1042 to the untreated control. In case of mRNA detection all results were additionally normalized to a GAPDH control. Depicted are the
1043 means \pm SD of three independent experiments with three biological replicates per condition and experiment. Statistical
1044

1045 significances were determined via unpaired one-way ANOVA and Dunnett's correction, comparing all treated samples to the
1046 untreated control. p-values are indicated as follows: < 0.05 = *, < 0.01 = **, < 0.001 = ***, < 0.0001 = ****.

1047 **Fig S1: Effects of 2-DG on IAV propagation, cell growth and immune induction.** 24 h after seeding, A549 cells were infected
1048 with SC35M at an MOI of (A+B) 0.01 or (C+D) 0.001 for 30 min and incubated in the presence of the indicated concentrations of
1049 2-DG or its solvent water for 24 h. Subsequently, cells were (A+B) stained with an NP antibody and a live/dead marker and
1050 analyzed via flow cytometry or (C+D) detached to assess the number of living cells as well as the viability via trypan blue exclusion
1051 in an automated cell counter. (E-H) Uninfected cells were transfected with cellular or viral RNA and treated with the indicated 2-
1052 DG concentrations for 6 h. Subsequently, cells were lysed, their RNA isolated and cDNA synthesized using oligo(dT) primers to
1053 transcribe mRNA. Real-time qPCR was performed with two technical replicates per sample and values of all other samples were
1054 normalized to the unstimulated water control. Additionally, all results were normalized to a GAPDH control. (A-H) Depicted are
1055 the means \pm SD of three independent experiments with three biological replicates per condition and experiment. Statistical
1056 significances were determined via (A, C, D) unpaired one-way ANOVA and Dunnett's correction, comparing all treated samples
1057 to the water control or (B, E-H) ordinary two-way ANOVA with Dunnett's correction, comparing all treated samples of both groups
1058 to their respective water control. p-values are indicated as follows: < 0.05 = *, < 0.01 = **, < 0.001 = ***, < 0.0001 = ****.

1059 **Fig S2: Effects of 2-DG on human primary cells and IAV propagation.** (A) Human lung explants were infected with 2×10^5
1060 SC35M particles for 30 min. Afterwards they were incubated with 11.1 mM glucose and the indicated concentrations of 2-DG and
1061 supernatants were collected 1, 24 and 48 hpi to determine viral titers via plaque assay. (B-I) After reaching \approx 90 % confluency (B)
1062 uninfected HBEpCs were treated with the indicated concentrations of 2-DG or its solvent water for 24 h. Afterwards the
1063 supernatants were used to perform LDH assays to determine the relative cytotoxicity of the treatment. (C-I) HBEpCs were infected
1064 with SC35M at an MOI of (C) 1, (D, F, H) 0.01 or (E, G, I) 5 for 30 min and were incubated with 6 mM glucose and the indicated
1065 concentrations of 2-DG for a total of (D, F, H) 24 h or (E, G, I) 8 h. Subsequently, (C-E) supernatants were used to (C) perform
1066 lactate assays in order to indirectly assess the glycolytic activity and (D+E) determine viral titers via plaque assay. (F-I)
1067 Additionally, cells were lysed, their RNA isolated and cDNA synthesized using either (F+H) oligo(dT) primers to transcribe mRNA
1068 or (H+I) fluA uni12 primers to transcribe vRNA. Real-time qPCR was performed with two technical replicates per sample and
1069 values of treated samples were normalized to the water control. In case of mRNA detection, all results were additionally normalized
1070 to a GAPDH control. Depicted are the means \pm SD of three independent experiments with three biological replicates per condition
1071 and experiment. Statistical significances were determined via (A-C) ordinary two-way ANOVA and Dunnett's correction,
1072 comparing each treated sample to its respective water control. (D-I) Other significances were determined via unpaired one-way
1073 ANOVA and Dunnett's correction, comparing all treated samples to the water control. p-values are indicated as follows: < 0.05 =
1074 *, < 0.01 = **, < 0.001 = ***, < 0.0001 = ****.

1075 **Fig S3: Impairment of IAV replication by 2-DG is not strain-specific.** 24 h after seeding, A549 cells were infected with Pan/99
1076 at the depicted MOIs for 30 min and were incubated with the indicated concentrations of 2-DG or its solvent water for a total of
1077 (A-C) 24 h or (D+E) 8 h. Subsequently, (A) supernatants were collected to determine viral titers via plaque assay or (B-E) cells
1078 were lysed, their RNA isolated and cDNA synthesized using either (B+D) oligo(dT) primers to transcribe mRNA or (C+E) fluA
1079 uni12 primers to transcribe vRNA. Real-time qPCR was performed with two technical replicates per sample and values of treated
1080 samples were normalized to the water control. In case of mRNA detection, all results were additionally normalized to a GAPDH
1081 control. Depicted are the means \pm SD of three independent experiments with three biological replicates per condition and
1082 experiment. Statistical significances were determined via unpaired one-way ANOVA and Dunnett's correction, comparing all
1083 treated samples to the water control. p-values are indicated as follows: < 0.05 = *, < 0.01 = **, < 0.001 = ***, < 0.0001 = ****.

1084 **Fig S4: 2-DG does not impair IAV vRNA durability.** 24 h after seeding, HEK293T cells were transfected with plasmids containing
1085 the SC35M sequences of PA, PB1, PB2 and NP. 4 h later the transfection solution was replaced with fresh medium for another
1086 20 h. Subsequently, cells were infected with SC35M at an MOI of 5 for 30 min and were incubated with the indicated
1087 concentrations of 2-DG and 100 μ g/mL cycloheximide. A negative control was previously transfected with an empty vector instead
1088 of PA while a positive control was not treated with cycloheximide. 6 hpi, cells were lysed, their RNA isolated and cDNA synthesized
1089 using specific primers to transcribe vRNA of the SC35M gene segment 6 (NA). Real-time qPCR was performed with two technical
1090 replicates per sample. Statistical significances were determined via unpaired one-way ANOVA and Dunnett's correction,
1091 comparing all other samples to the water control. p-values are indicated as follows: < 0.05 = *, < 0.01 = **, < 0.001 = ***, < 0.0001
1092 = ****.

1093 **Fig S5: Effects of mannose, MLS0315771, and pyruvate on IAV propagation and A549 cells.** 24 h after seeding, A549 cells
1094 were infected with SC35M at an MOI of 0.001 or for 30 min and incubated in the presence of the indicated concentrations of
1095 metabolites and inhibitors or their solvents for a total of 24 h. Subsequently, (A, D-F) supernatants were collected to determine
1096 (A, E, F) viral titers via plaque assay and (D) extracellular lactate concentrations via lactate assay or (B+C) cells were detached
1097 to assess the number of living cells and the viability via trypan blue exclusion and an automated cell counter. Depicted are the
1098 means \pm SD of three independent experiments with three biological replicates per condition and experiment. Statistical
1099 significances were determined via unpaired one-way ANOVA and Dunnett's correction, comparing (B-E) all treated samples to
1100 the DMSO control or (A+F) all other samples to the 2-DG-treated sample (white bar). p-values are indicated as follows: < 0.05 =
1101 *, < 0.01 = **, < 0.001 = ***, < 0.0001 = ****.

1102 **Fig S6: Gating strategy for the quantification of uninfected versus infected and living versus dead cells.** A549 cells were
1103 infected with SC35M at an MOI of 0.01. Directly after the infection, cells were mock-treated or treated with 2-DG. 24 hpi cells were
1104 stained with a viability dye and an NP antibody and were quantified via flow cytometry. At first cells were pre-gated according to
1105 their FSC/SSC appearance. Then these cells were sub-classified to discriminate between uninfected and infected cells as well as
1106 living and dead cells. Representative dot plots are depicted to exemplify the gating strategy used for data analysis in Fig S1A+B.

1107 **Table S1: n-fold changes over control and statistical significances of Fig 6.**

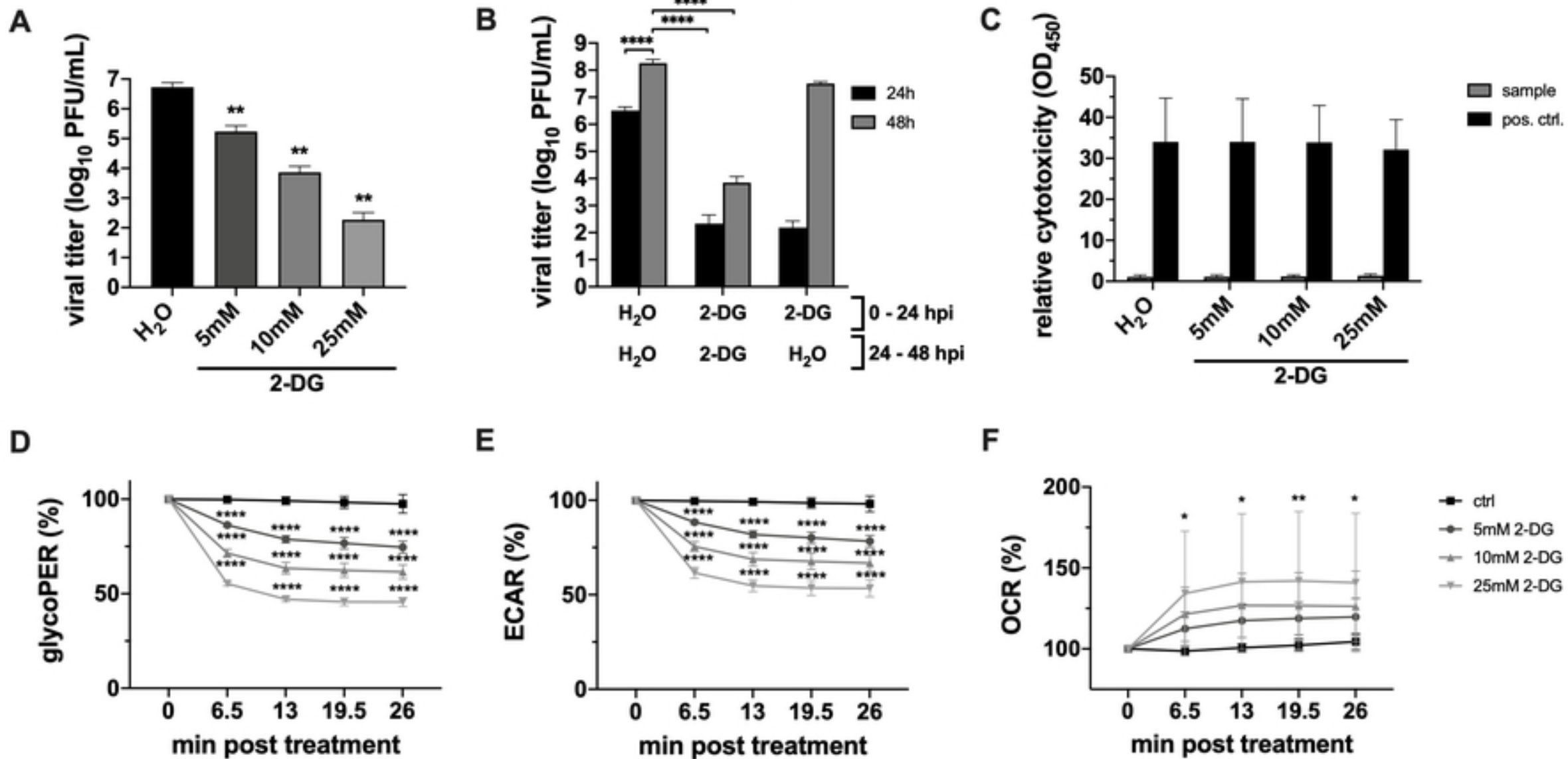


Fig 1

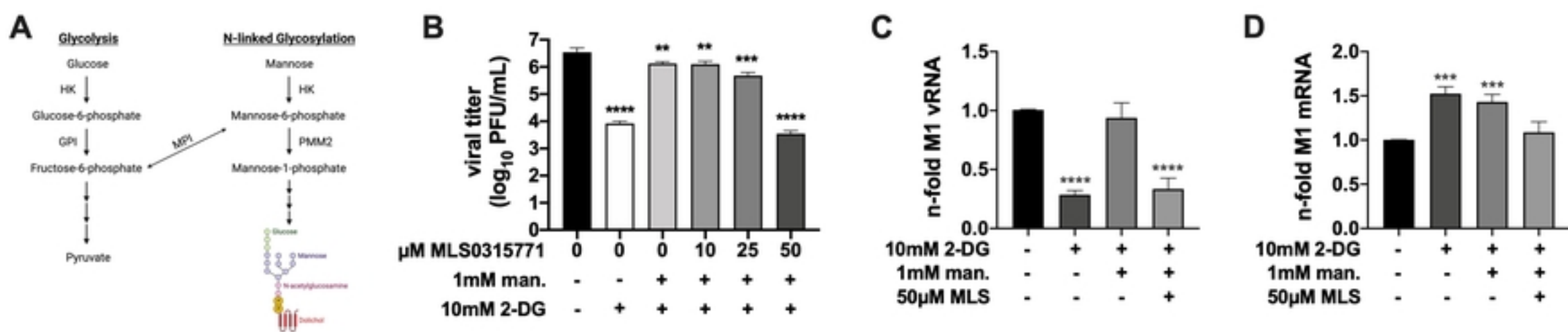


Fig 7

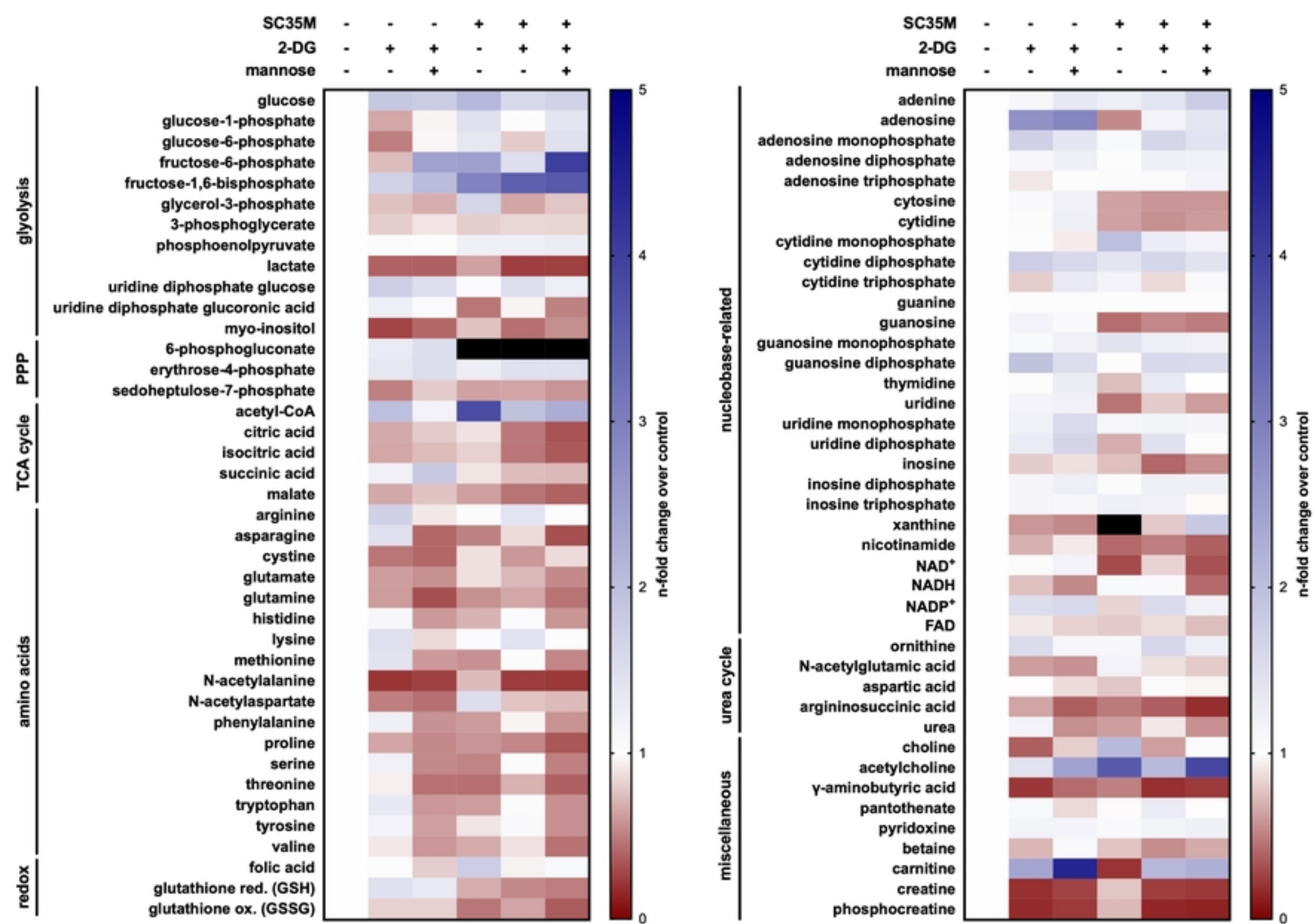


Fig 6

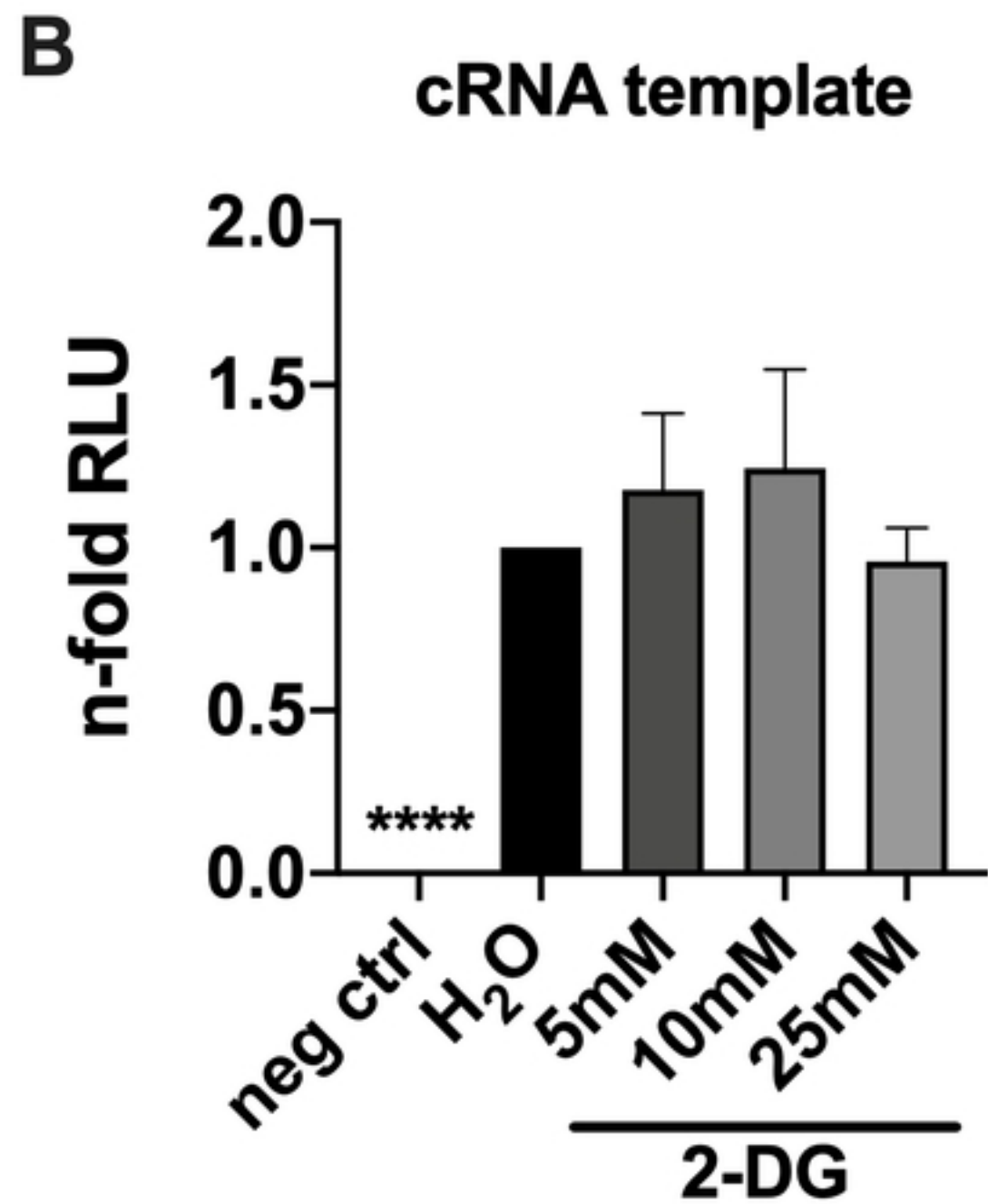
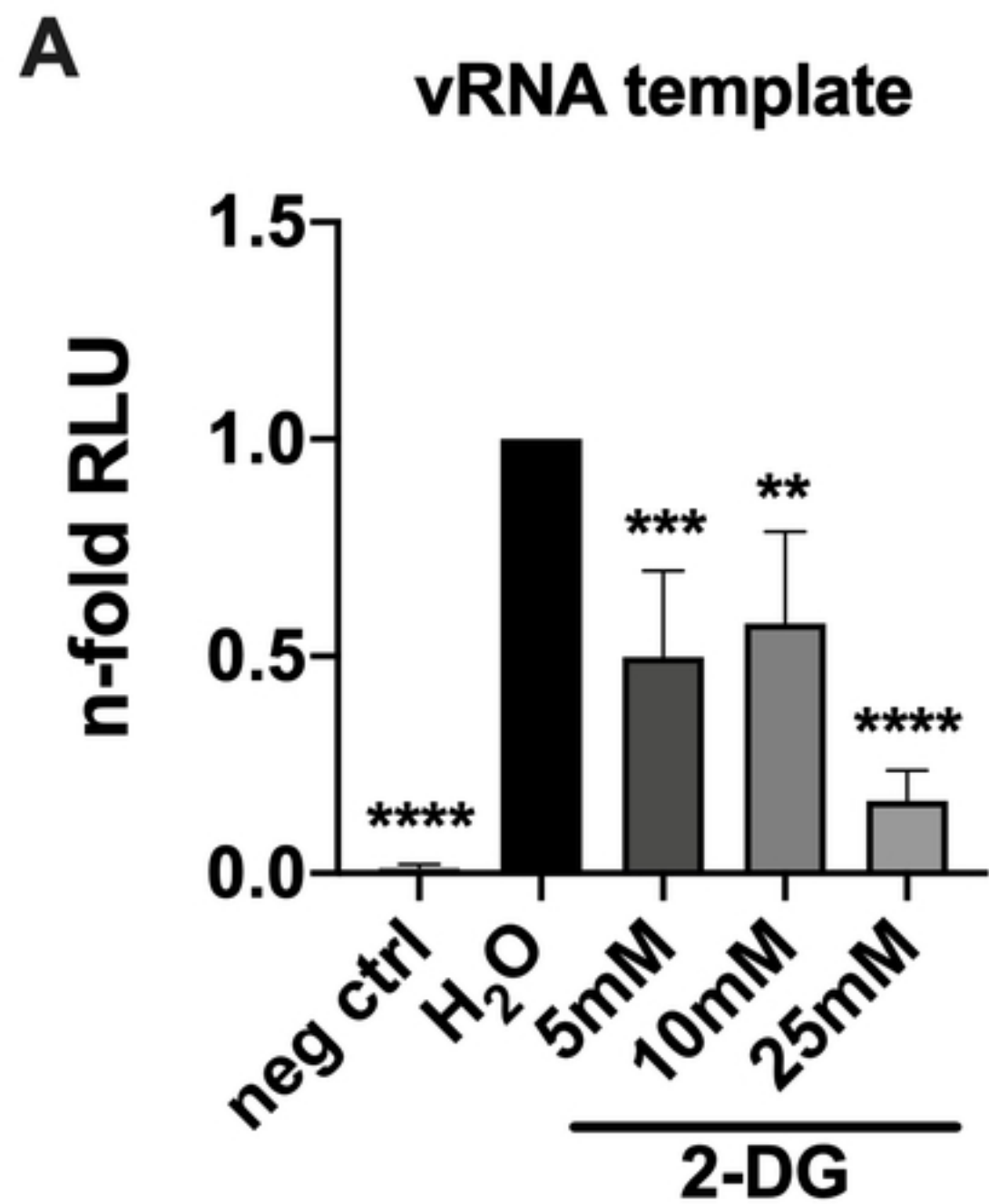


Fig 5

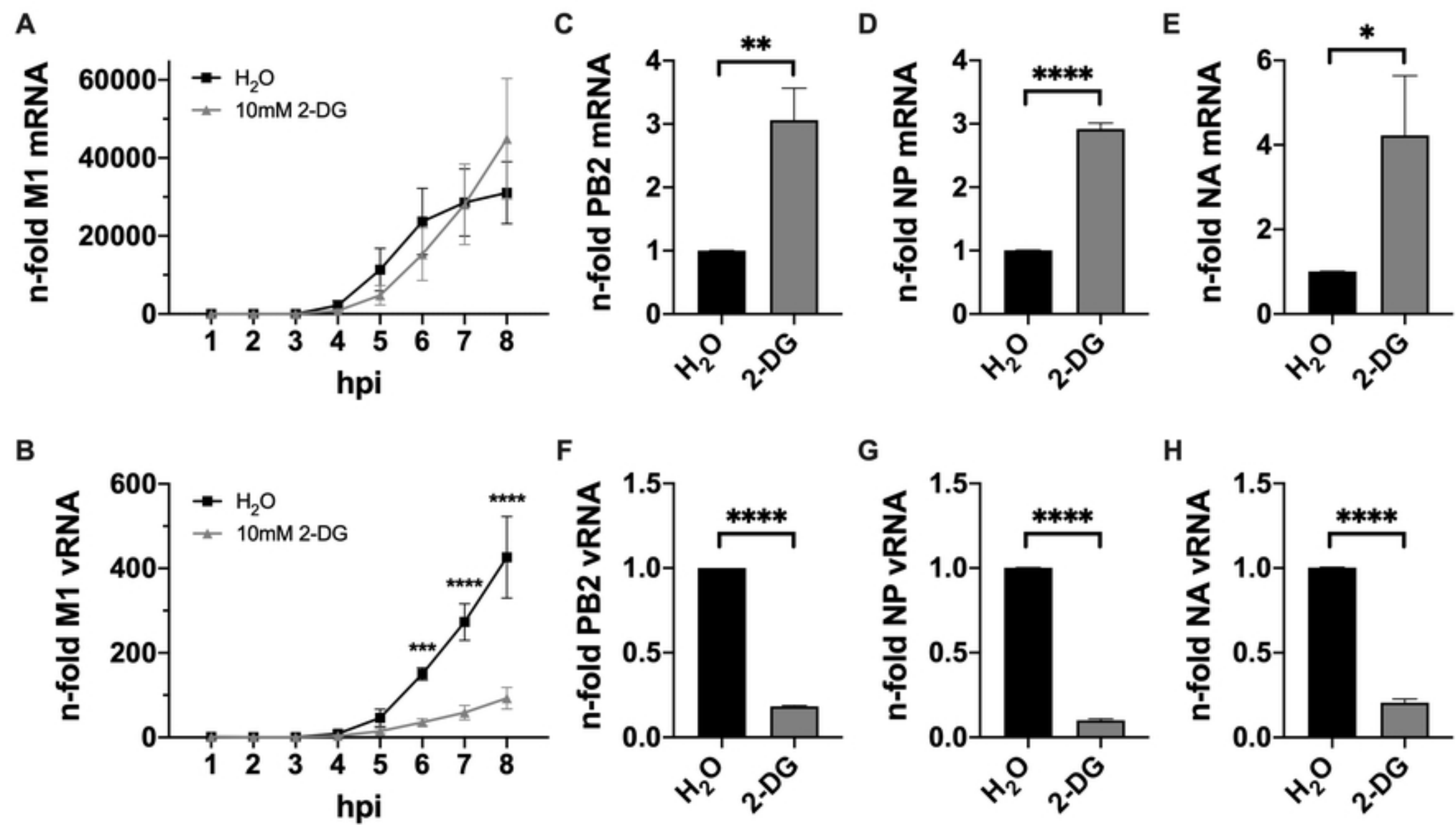
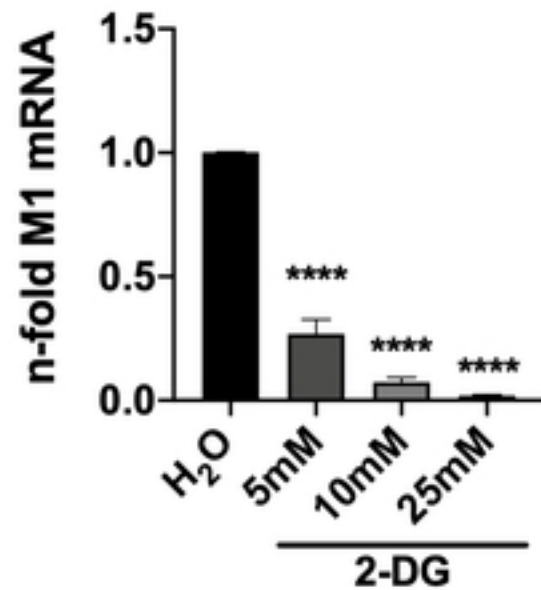


Fig 4

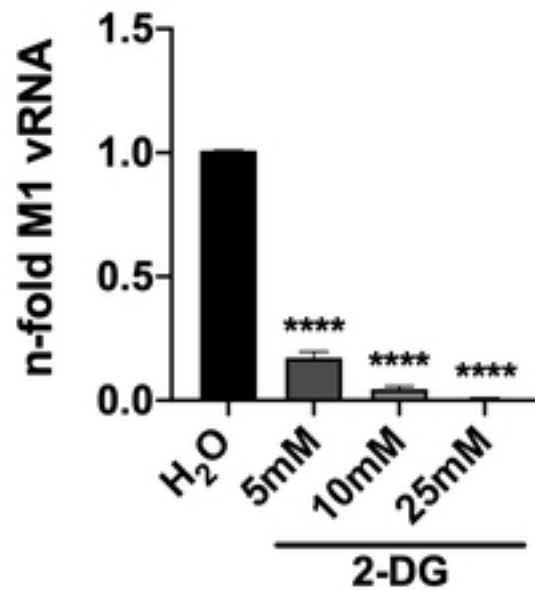
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8h, MOI = 5

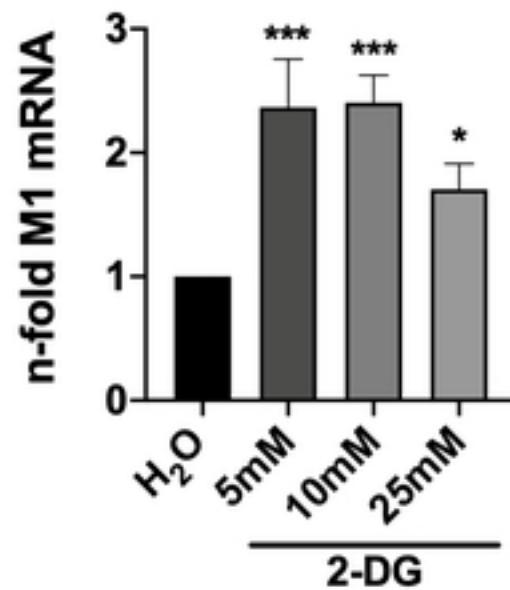
A



B



C



D

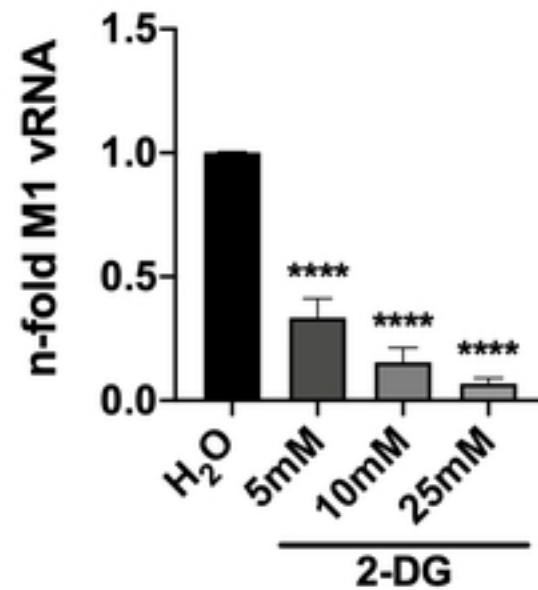


Fig 3

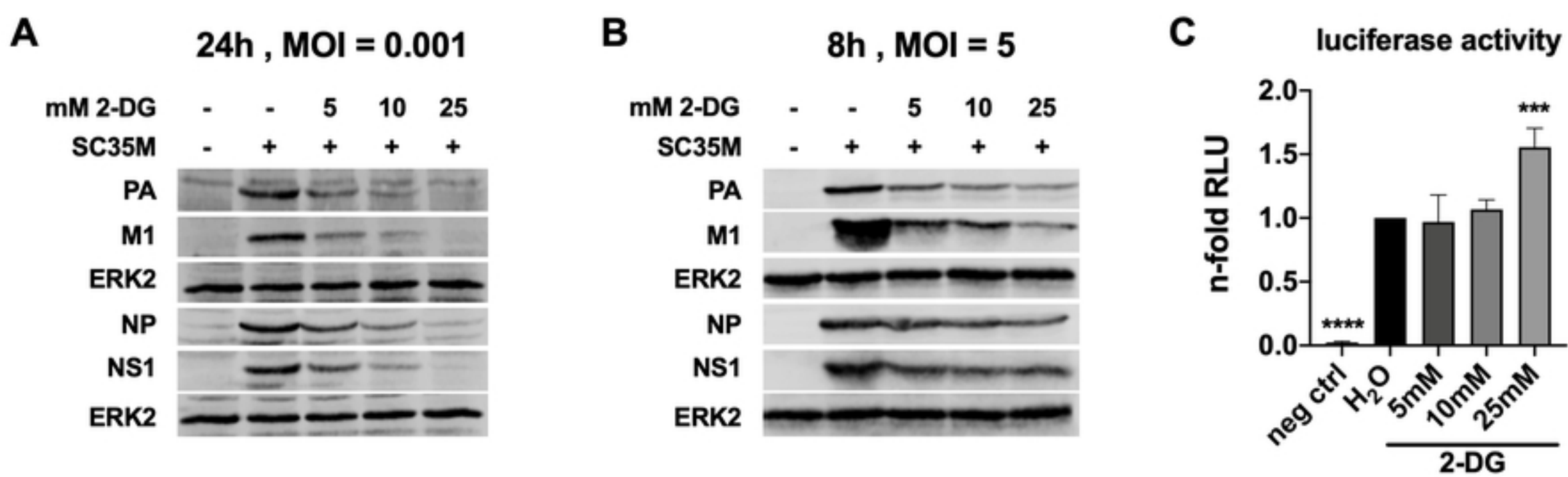


Fig 2