

1 **C-terminal truncation of Pik3r1 in mice models human lipodystrophic insulin**
2 **resistance uncoupled from dyslipidemia**
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2 **Summary**

3 Heterodimeric class IA phosphatidylinositol-3-kinases (PI3K) transduce signals from
4 many receptor tyrosine kinases including the insulin receptor. PI3K recruitment to
5 phosphotyrosines is mediated by *Pik3r1* gene products including the most intensely
6 studied PI3K regulatory subunit, p85 α , which also binds and regulates the PIP₃
7 phosphatase *Pten*, and the lipogenic transcription factor *Xbp1*. Mutations in human
8 *PIK3R1* cause SHORT syndrome, featuring lipodystrophy and severe insulin
9 resistance which, uniquely, are uncoupled from fatty liver and dyslipidemia. We
10 describe a novel mouse model of SHORT syndrome made by knock in of the *Pik3r1*
11 Y657X mutation. Homozygous embryos die at E11.5, while heterozygous mice
12 exhibit pre-and postnatal growth impairment with diminished placental vascularity.
13 Adipose tissue accretion on high fat feeding was reduced, however adipocyte size
14 was unchanged and preadipocyte differentiation *ex vivo* unimpaired. Despite severe
15 insulin resistance, heterozygous mice were hypolipidemic, and plasma adiponectin,
16 liver weight, cholesterol, glycogen and triglyceride content were unchanged. Mild
17 downregulation of lipogenic *Srebp1*, *Srebp2* and *Chrebp* transcriptional activity but
18 no suppression of *Xbp1* target genes was seen after fasting. These findings give
19 new insights into the developmental role of *Pik3r1*, and establish a model of
20 lipodystrophic insulin resistance dissociated from dyslipidemia as seen in SHORT
21 syndrome.

22

23

1 INTRODUCTION

2 Class 1A phosphatidylinositol-3-kinases (PI3K) phosphorylate
3 phosphatidylinositol-4,5-bisphosphate to produce phosphatidylinositol-3,4,5-
4 trisphosphate, or PIP₃. They are composed of a heterodimer of a p110 catalytic
5 subunit (either p110 α , β or δ , encoded in humans by *PIK3CA*, *PIK3CB* and *PIK3CD*
6 respectively) tightly bound to a regulatory subunit, three of which - p85 α , p55 α or
7 p50 α – are encoded by the *PIK3R1* gene. Each of these *PIK3R1* gene products is
8 able to bind any of the three catalytic subunits with no discernible selectivity,
9 stabilising them and mediating recruitment of PI3K holoenzymes to activated
10 receptor tyrosine kinases or their substrates through binding of one or both SH2
11 domains to phosphotyrosines within YMXM motifs (1, 2).

12 The critical importance of Class 1A PI3K in human physiology is manifest in
13 the convincing association of activating mutations in catalytic subunits with disease:
14 activating mutations in *PIK3CA*, encoding p110 α , occur at high frequency both in
15 cancers (3), and in a wide range of asymmetric forms of overgrowth, where
16 mutations occur postzygotically and are in a mosaic distribution (4). Genetic and
17 pharmacological studies have moreover established that p110 α is critical in
18 transducing the metabolic actions of insulin (5, 6), however it is also coupled to a
19 wide range of other receptor tyrosine kinases. p110 δ is predominantly important in
20 lymphocytes, and activating mutations cause autosomal dominant immunodeficiency
21 (7), while the role of the ubiquitous p110 β has been less precisely defined (8).

22 Genetic efforts to probe the role of *PIK3R1*-encoded regulatory subunits have
23 yielded a more complex picture. Selective deficiency of p85 α in mice or humans
24 leads to immunodeficiency (9, 10) and enhanced insulin sensitivity (11), with the
25 latter also seen in mice with heterozygous p85 α deletion (12) or deletion of both
26 p50 α and p55 α subunits (13). Deficiency of all three gene products leads to perinatal

1 mortality in mice with liver necrosis (14), and when the p85 β regulatory subunit,
2 encoded by *Pik3r2*, is also knocked out, embryos die around E12.5 with evidence of
3 failure of turning (15). Collectively these findings demonstrate that *Pik3r1* gene
4 products and p85 β have some redundant functions. The enhanced insulin sensitivity
5 seen in p85 α deficiency has been argued to be due to the presence of excess free
6 p85 α subunits in the wild-type state which can compete with PI3K heterodimers at
7 phosphotyrosines (16), although there is some evidence to counter this notion, and
8 other possibilities such as alterations in PIP₃ phosphatase activity have been
9 advanced (17).

10 *PIK3R1* gene products have also been suggested to have signaling roles
11 beyond stabilising PI3K and conferring recruitability to phosphorylated YMXM motifs.
12 Pertinent to metabolic homeostasis, for example, is the ability of p85 α in mice to bind
13 the transcription factor Xbp1 and to traffic it to the nucleus, where it regulates
14 transcription of effector genes of the unfolded protein response (18, 19), as well as
15 lipogenic genes (20).

16 In the face of this complexity, the discovery that missense or nonsense
17 mutations in the C-terminal SH2 domain of *PIK3R1*, which affect all three protein
18 products of the gene, produce SHORT syndrome (21–23), was of great interest.
19 SHORT syndrome is named according to visible dysmorphic features (short stature,
20 hyperextensibility of joints and/or hernia, ocular depression, Rieger anomaly of the
21 iris, and teething delay), however it is the associated metabolic disorders that are
22 potentially more informative about mechanisms of pandemic metabolic disease.
23 Most patients with SHORT syndrome show insulin resistance that is often very
24 severe, and partial lipodystrophy is also common (24). Highly unusually,
25 lipodystrophy and severe insulin resistance are uncoupled from fatty liver and
26 metabolic dyslipidaemia in this setting, for reasons that are not clear, and
27 adiponectin concentrations in the plasma are preserved, unlike in pandemic insulin

1 resistance (25). Affected women are also commonly anovulatory with severely
2 elevated testosterone concentrations in the blood (25).

3 Recently, mice heterozygous for the commonest SHORT syndrome-
4 associated *PIK3R1* mutation, R649W, were reported to exhibit features of SHORT
5 syndrome including reduced linear growth, partial lipodystrophy, and systemic insulin
6 resistance (26). We now report a novel murine model of SHORT syndrome created
7 by knock in of a different pathogenic human allele, Y657X, that severely truncates
8 the C terminal SH2 domain of all *PIK3R1* gene products. We extend previous
9 phenotyping to demonstrate the consequences for development of the *Pik3r1*
10 mutation, and, importantly, we demonstrate that this novel SHORT syndrome model
11 reproduces the unexplained uncoupling of metabolic dyslipidemia from
12 lipodystrophic insulin resistance seen in humans, although the most widely studied
13 lipogenic transcriptional programmes are only mildly perturbed.

14

15 **RESULTS**

16 **Growth and development of *Pik3r1* Y657X knockin mice**

17 The truncating *Pik3r1* Y657X mutation, previously associated with
18 normolipidemic severe insulin resistance in SHORT syndrome (25), was knocked
19 into murine embryonic stem cells by homologous recombination-based gene
20 targeting, and these cells were used to generate founder heterozygous knock-in
21 mice (**Supplemental Figure S1**). Immunoblotting of insulin-responsive liver,
22 skeletal muscle and adipose tissue confirmed the presence of a truncated p85 α
23 gene product, which in general was more highly expressed than full length, wild type
24 protein in the same tissues, most likely due to loss of a previously described C-
25 terminal ubiquitylation motif (27) No change in expression was seen of the p85 β
26 regulatory subunit of PI3K, while expression of the p110 α catalytic subunit was
27 reduced in white adipose tissue, and expression of the p110 β catalytic subunit was

1 reduced in both liver and white adipose tissue. p110 β expression very low in skeletal
2 muscle in both wild-type and mutant animals (**Supplemental Figure S1**).

3 Homozygosity for the *Pik3r1* Y657X allele was lethal *in utero*, with no
4 homozygous embryos identified beyond E11.5. At E11.5 homozygous embryos
5 were smaller, with poorly developed limb buds and reduced eye pigmentation
6 (**Figure 1A**), while heterozygous embryos were smaller from E15.5 onwards
7 (**Supplemental Figure S2**). No difference in mass of wild type and heterozygous
8 placentas examined from wild type dams was seen, however vascularisation of the
9 placental exchange region was severely compromised, with around a 40% reduction
10 in vessel density, volume and length at E15.5 (**Supplemental Figure S3**), as
11 reported previously for placentas heterozygous for a kinase dead p110 α catalytic
12 subunit (28). In contrast to that model, however, the size of the placental exchange
13 region (both volume and surface area) and the thickness of the diffusion barrier were
14 normal (**Supplemental Figure S3**).

15 *Pik3r1*^{WT/Y657X} mice were born at expected Mendelian frequency, however they
16 showed impaired linear growth on a chow diet, with body length of males 6% less
17 than wild-type littermates at 18 weeks old (**Figures 1B,C**), and bodyweight 17% less
18 (**Figure 1D**). Overall body composition assessed by TD-NMR showed no difference
19 between heterozygous males and controls (**Figure 1E**), and, in keeping with this, no
20 difference was found in epididymal or inguinal white adipose depot nor interscapular
21 brown adipose depot weights when the reduced bodyweight of the male
22 heterozygous mice was taken into account (**Figure 1F-H**). Plasma leptin
23 concentrations were similar between male *Pik3r1*^{WT/Y657X} and wild-type mice (3.3 \pm 1.2
24 vs 2.6 \pm 0.3 μ g/L in the fasting state (n=9,10; not significant), and 10.3 \pm 2.2 vs
25 15.9 \pm 3.9 μ g/L on *ad libitum* feeding (n=13,13; not significant)). Liver weights were
26 also indistinguishable (**Figure 1I**), however hearts were significantly heavier in
27 *Pik3r1*^{WT/Y657X} mice (**Figure 1J**) whether analysed with respect to lean mass or whole

1 body weight by ANCOVA. No significant difference in either food consumption or
2 energy expenditure was seen at 16 weeks old on chow diet (**Figure 1K,L**). A similar
3 pattern of differences was seen between heterozygous and wild-type female mice for
4 all variables assessed in both sexes (**Supplemental Figure S4**).

5

6 **Reproductive function of *Pik3r1*^{WT/Y657X} mice**

7 Postpubertal women with SHORT syndrome commonly exhibit anovulation
8 with severe ovarian hyperproduction of testosterone (25). This is most likely a
9 consequence of systemic severe insulin resistance, however important roles for
10 PI3K in the ovary are also known, with deletion of PTEN, a negative regulator of
11 PI3K, in oocytes in mice producing unrestrained maturation of primordial follicles and
12 thus rapid exhaustion of the follicular pool (29). We thus assessed ovarian
13 morphology and reproductive function in the *Pik3r1*^{WT/Y657X} mice. No significant
14 difference was seen in litter frequency for any pairwise genotype combination,
15 assessed between 10 and 18 weeks, however litter size was reduced significantly for
16 *Pik3r1*^{WT/Y657X} mothers whether mating with wild-type or heterozygous males, and
17 taking into account the reduced litter size expected in double heterozygous matings
18 due to homozygote non-viability (**Supplemental Table S1**). There was also a
19 surprising excess of heterozygous offspring both in double heterozygous crosses
20 and when heterozygotes were crossed with wild-type females, but not when
21 wild-type males were crossed with heterozygous females. As expected, corpora
22 lutea were observed in both *Pik3r1*^{WT/Y657X} and wild-type females of reproductive age
23 (at 42 days old), consistent with ovulation, and serum testosterone concentrations
24 were similar in both genotypes at 12 weeks old ($0.18 \pm 0.05 \mu\text{g/l}$ in heterozygotes
25 ($n=7$) vs 0.23 ± 0.04 in wild-types ($n=10$) (Not significant)). More detailed
26 morphometric analysis of ovaries at 7 days old, before sexual maturation, showed a
27 grossly normal microscopic appearance, with the proportions and sizes of follicles at

1 different developmental stages similar in wild type and heterozygous ovaries,
2 suggesting normal early follicle development (**Figure 2**).

3

4 **Adipose response of *Pik3r1*^{WT/Y657X} mice to a high fat diet**

5 Lipodystrophy, or impaired accretion of adipose tissue, is a common feature of
6 SHORT syndrome (24), and the previously reported *Pik3r1*^{WT/R649W} mouse was also
7 shown to have reduced subcutaneous adipose tissue even on chow diet. On the
8 other hand at least one human proband with the Y657X mutation showed normal
9 adipose development (25). To assess whether placing a greater load on adipose
10 tissue storage in *Pik3r1*^{WT/Y657X} mice would unmask a lipodystrophic phenotype, mice
11 were fed a palatable 45% high fat diet (HFD) from 8 weeks old. *Pik3r1*^{WT/Y657X} mice
12 showed significantly reduced gain of weight and whole body fat content under these
13 conditions over the 8 week period studied (**Figure 3A,B**). Epididymal white adipose
14 tissue was most severely affected (**Figure 3C**), with the difference in inguinal
15 adipose tissue not achieving statistical significance by ANCOVA (**Figure 3D**). Brown
16 adipose tissue mass was unaffected (**Figure 3E**). Consistent with reduced adiposity,
17 *Pik3r1*^{WT/Y657X} mice had lower serum leptin concentration in the fed state (37.7 ± 7.3 vs
18 11.3 ± 2.0 $\mu\text{g/L}$ ($n=15,11$; $p=3 \times 10^{-3}$)), although this was not significant on fasting
19 (15.9 ± 3.9 vs 10.3 ± 2.2 $\mu\text{g/L}$ ($n=13,13$; not significant)). Lean mass did not increase at
20 a greater rate in *Pik3r1*^{WT/Y657X} mice than wild-type littermates (**Supplemental Figure**
21 **S5**), and liver weights also did not diverge, while heart weights were elevated in
22 heterozygotes, as on chow (**Figure 3F,G**).

23 Despite the marked decrease in weight of epididymal white adipose tissue, the
24 histological appearance and adipocyte size distribution was similar in both
25 genotypes (**Figure 3H,I**), indicating a smaller number of normal sized adipocytes in
26 heterozygotes. *Ex vivo* differentiation of preadipocytes from either inguinal or
27 epididymal depots using conventional protocols was normal, however (**Figure 3J**

1 **and Supplemental Figure S6)** as previously reported for *Pik3r1*^{WT/R649W} mice,
2 suggesting that the reduced adipose expansion is not accounted for by a cell
3 autonomous defect in differentiation capacity. To assess whether the impaired
4 adipose expansion might instead reflect altered energy homeostasis, food intake and
5 energy expenditure were next assessed. *Pik3r1*^{WT/Y657X} mice, at odds with the
6 observed reduction in white adipose tissue expansion on high fat feeding, exhibited
7 significantly increased food intake (**Figure 3K**). Energy expenditure was also
8 increased, however (**Figure 3L**), possibly in part due to increased locomotor activity
9 during the dark cycle, although observed activity was not significantly increased
10 across the whole 24 hour cycle (**Figure 3M**).

11

12 ***Pik3r1*^{WT/Y657X} mice are severely insulin resistant**

13 In accord with the critical role known to be played by PI3K in insulin action,
14 severe insulin resistance is common in SHORT syndrome, and insulin resistance
15 was also reported in *Pik3r1*^{WT/R649W} mice. Assessed at 12 weeks old, neither male
16 nor female *Pik3r1*^{WT/Y657X} mice on chow were hyperglycemic compared to wild-type
17 littermates, but plasma insulin concentrations were significantly raised, more
18 severely so in the fed state, as in human severe insulin resistance (**Table 1**,
19 **Supplemental Table S2**). On high fat feeding male *Pik3r1*^{WT/Y657X} mice remained
20 hyperinsulinemic, but the difference between mutant and control animals was
21 abolished as wild-type mice exhibited a much greater increase in insulin
22 concentrations on high fat feeding than *Pik3r1*^{WT/Y657X} animals. Glucose
23 concentrations were slightly lower in the fed state on high fat diet in the
24 heterozygous mice than controls, which may also have contributed to the loss of a
25 significant difference in insulin concentrations. Plasma adiponectin concentrations in
26 fasted chow-fed *Pik3r1*^{WT/Y657X} mice were lower than in wild-type controls, however
27 no significant difference in concentrations were seen between genotypes in the other
28 conditions despite severe insulin resistance of heterozygous mice (**Table 1**).

1 Moreover in *Pik3r1*^{WT/Y657X} animals on HFD, adiponectin normalised to body fat
2 content was significantly higher than in controls (**Supplemental Figure S7**).
3 Normalised plasma leptin concentrations, in contrast, were lower in heterozygous
4 mice than controls (**Supplemental Figure S7**).

5 To evaluate insulin sensitivity in more detail, hyperinsulinemic euglycemic
6 clamps were undertaken on both chow-fed or HFD-fed male mice. Initial clamps
7 undertaken without isotopic tracers demonstrated that on chow feeding *Pik3r1*^{WT/Y657X}
8 mice required a glucose infusion rate at steady state of only one eighth of the rate
9 required by wild-type mice, confirming severe insulin resistance (**Figure 4A**). On
10 HFD *Pik3r1*^{WT/Y657X} mice remained extremely insulin resistant, however the difference
11 between heterozygous and wild-type mice was much smaller than on chow due to
12 insulin resistance induced in wild-type animals (**Figure 4A**). Further studies were
13 thus undertaken on chow. Glucose and insulin excursions on oral glucose tolerance
14 testing showed only a trend towards an increase in male *Pik3r1*^{WT/Y657X} mice (**Figure**
15 **4B,C**), but were significantly increased in female mice (**Supplemental Figure S8**),
16 while the hypoglycemic response to insulin was clearly attenuated on insulin
17 tolerance testing in both sexes (**Figure 4D and Supplemental Figure S8**). Further
18 clamp studies in males incorporating isotopic tracers showed glucose disposal to be
19 19% lower in *Pik3r1*^{WT/Y657X} mice (**Figure 4E**) while suppression of hepatic glucose
20 production by hyperinsulinemia was 49% lower compared to wild type littermates
21 (**Figure 4F**). Despite this, liver glycogen content was similar between heterozygous
22 *Pik3r1*^{WT/Y657X} mice and wild type littermates in both fed and fasted states (**Figure**
23 **4G**). Insulin infusion lowered plasma free fatty acid concentration in plasma by 38%
24 in wild-type mice, however this suppression was nearly abolished in heterozygous
25 mutant animals, consistent with impaired suppression of triglyceride lipolysis in
26 adipose tissue (**Figure 4H**).

27 Intraperitoneal injection of insulin in male mice strongly induced Akt Ser 473
28 phosphorylation in liver, skeletal muscle and both epididymal and inguinal adipose

1 tissue of wild-type controls, as expected, and this was reduced by 55%, 20%, 37%
2 and 30% respectively in male *Pik3r1*^{WT/Y657X} mice (**Figure 4I-L**). A similar pattern was
3 seen for threonine 308 phosphorylation (**Supplemental Figure S9**). As muscle
4 insulin sensitivity was previously reported not to be reduced in *Pik3r1*^{WT/R649W} mice,
5 insulin responsiveness of soleus and extensor digitorum longus (EDL) muscles was
6 further assessed *ex vivo*. Soleus and EDL muscle from *Pik3r1*^{WT/Y657X} mice both
7 showed a 1.3-fold reduction in insulin-stimulated deoxyglucose uptake compared to
8 wild-type muscle (**Figure 4M**). Insulin-induced Akt phosphorylation was also
9 markedly reduced in both types of muscle *ex vivo* to a much more significant degree
10 than *in vivo* (**Figure 4N,O**).

11 ***Pik3r1*^{WT/Y657X} mice are hypolipidemic**

12 Having shown that, like humans with SHORT syndrome, heterozygous
13 *Pik3r1*^{WT/Y657X} mice show severe insulin resistance and lipodystrophy, we next
14 assessed whether, like humans, they are protected from fatty liver and metabolic
15 dyslipidaemia. Strikingly, in both fed and fasting states, and on either chow or high
16 fat diets *Pik3r1*^{WT/Y657X} mice showed hypolipidemia, with lower plasma total
17 cholesterol and HDL cholesterol (**Table 1**). Plasma triglyceride concentration was
18 also lower in heterozygous animals in all cases except the fasting state after high fat
19 feeding, and plasma free fatty acid concentration in all cases except chow fed
20 animals in the fed state. A similar pattern of hypolipidemia was seen in chow fed
21 female mice in the fasting state (**Table S2**). Importantly no difference was seen in
22 immunoassay-determined VLDL concentrations in either chow fed or high fat diet fed
23 mice (**Table 1**).

24 No difference was seen in liver triglyceride content between heterozygous and
25 wild-type mice either on chow diet or on HFD, assessed both by Oil Red O staining
26 and biochemical quantification (**Figure 5A,B**), in keeping with the lack of difference
27 in liver weights previously noted. Liver cholesterol content was also the same in
28 chow-fed animals of both genotypes (**Figure 5C**). To screen for abnormal lipid

1 absorption or handling by the intestine oral lipid tolerance testing was undertaken,
2 but although lower plasma triglyceride concentrations were seen at all time points,
3 the excursion after lipid loading was the same in both genotypes (**Figure 5D**), and
4 bomb calorimetry of faeces on chow showed the same energy content in both
5 groups (**Figure 5E**). Collectively these findings argue strongly against abnormal
6 intestinal lipid absorption and/or mobilisation as the explanation for hypolipidemia
7 and failure to gain adipose mass on HFD.

8 *Srebp1* and *Srebp2* are critical transcriptional regulators of *de novo* lipogenesis
9 and cholesterol synthesis respectively, and many studies have demonstrated that
10 they are activated by insulin in a PI3K-dependent manner. Their mRNA expression,
11 together with expression of a panel of *Srebp1* target genes (*Acc1*, *Fasn*, *Scd1*) and
12 *Srebp2* target genes (*Mvk*, *Nsdhl*), were assessed in the liver of chow fed animals in
13 the fed, fasting and refeed states (**Figure 5F-L**). After 16 hours of fasting there was a
14 significant decrease in expression of all genes except *Scd1* in *Pik3r1*^{WT/Y657X} mice,
15 however no difference was seen either in the *ad libitum* fed state or after 6 hours of
16 refeeding. Moreover expression of all genes except *Scd1* was much higher in both
17 fed and refeed states than in fasting, raising questions about the relevance of the
18 prolonged fasting state to the observed hypolipidemic phenotype of *ad lib* fed
19 animals.

20 Other candidate transcriptional regulators relevant to hypolipidemia include
21 carbohydrate response element binding protein (*Chrebp*) and *Xbp1*, with the latter
22 having been shown to bind p85 α , facilitating its nuclear translocation (19, 20, 26) A
23 sentinel *Chrebp*-responsive gene (*Pklr*) showed mild but significant repression in the
24 fasting state, but two *Xbp1* target genes (*Acacb* and *Dgat2*) showed no
25 transcriptional repression during a fasting refeeding cycle (**Supplementary Figure**
26 **S10**). It has recently been proposed that acute insulin and *Foxo*-mediated
27 modulation of the ratio between Glucose-6-phosphatase (*G6pc*) and Glucokinase
28 (*Gck*) serves to toggle the direction of hepatocyte glucose flux between lipogenesis

1 and hepatic glucose production, and that this mechanism is operative before
2 transcriptional changes in canonical lipogenic transcription factors are observed (30).
3 However although an increase in *G6pc:Gck* liver transcript levels was seen on
4 fasting of wild-type mice in this study, consistent with this model, this ratio was
5 suppressed in *Pik3r1^{WT/Y657X}* mice, as reported in mice fed a Western-type diet (30).

6

7 **Discussion**

8 *PIK3R1* was first sequenced in the 1990s and since then it has been
9 intensively studied in different cellular contexts, with many different constitutional
10 and conditional murine genetic models generated. These studies have collectively
11 established that *PIK3R1* gene products are critically involved in signaling
12 downstream from tyrosine kinase receptors and also that they serve to integrate this
13 role with other signaling inputs, most commonly through interaction of relevant
14 proteins with the N terminal domain of p85 α , which is truncated in the splice variants
15 p55 α and p50 α . *PIK3R1* gene products may also play signaling roles independent
16 of RTKs.

17 Human pathogenic mutations in *PIK3R1* have only been discovered relatively
18 recently. Selective loss of p85 α produces agammaglobulinemic immunodeficiency
19 (10), closely replicating findings in the earlier, corresponding murine model (9), while
20 somatic activating mutations are found in some solid malignancies (31), in line with
21 the role of PI3K in transducing growth factor signaling. Germline activating
22 mutations, however, produce immunodeficiency due to impaired lymphocyte
23 maturation (32, 33), with no consistent metabolic or growth abnormalities described.
24 SHORT syndrome, the last disorder to be associated with *PIK3R1* mutations, is
25 predominantly associated with mutations in the C terminal SH2 domain of
26 p85 α /p55 α /p50 α (21–23), and provides arguably the most surprising and yet
27 instructive insights into *PIK3R1* function in humans, particularly in view of discordant

1 phenotypic features between it and the various murine *Pik3r1* knockout models that
2 have been reported.

3 Another mouse model of SHORT syndrome has recently been described,
4 heterozygous for the common SHORT-associated R649W mutation in the
5 phosphotyrosine binding motif of the C terminal SH2 domain (26). This model
6 recapitulated key features of SHORT syndrome including growth impairment,
7 lipodystrophy and insulin resistance. While the phenotype of the novel model we
8 describe is broadly concordant this model, it differs in some significant respects, and
9 we moreover extend phenotyping with more detailed developmental assessment and
10 challenge with a high fat diet.

11 As previously described for the R649W mutation, no mice homozygous for the
12 *Pik3r1* Y657X mutation were born, contrasting with *Pik3r1* knockout mice which are
13 born but die perinatally (9). *Pik3r1*^{Y657X/Y657X} embryos are not seen beyond E11.5, at
14 which stage they are smaller and retarded in development compared to wild-type
15 and heterozygous embryos. This timing is reminiscent of mice with knockout of both
16 *Pik3r1* and *Pik3r2*, which do not survive beyond E12.5 (15). Homozygous knockout
17 or homozygosity for a kinase dead mutant of p110 α also both lead to lethality around
18 E10.5 (5, 34), while embryos without functional p110 δ are viable (35), and those
19 without functional p110 β have been reported to have variable phenotypes (8).
20 These findings demonstrate that the SHORT-related allele is not simply a loss-of-
21 function allele, but that instead it disrupts *Pik3r1* function in a manner that renders it
22 resistant to rescue by other PI3K regulatory subunits. Pertinent to this are prior
23 findings that expression of p85 β is upregulated and expression of all three p110
24 catalytic subunits downregulated in cells from p85 α knockout mice (9, 36, 37). In
25 *Pik3r1*^{WT/Y657X} mice, as in dermal fibroblasts from humans with SHORT syndrome
26 (25), p85 β expression is unaffected, however p110 α was modestly downregulated in
27 subcutaneous adipose tissue only, and p110 β more markedly downregulated in both

1 white adipose tissue and liver. These findings suggest that it may be the failure to
2 upregulate p85 β that is most important in the phenotypic differences between p85 α
3 knockout and *Pik3r1*^{WT/Y657X} mice.

4 Reduced embryo size may be due to an embryo autonomous growth defect, to
5 impaired placental function, and/or to perturbed placental nutrient flux. Indeed,
6 recent studies of mice heterozygous for a kinase dead p110 α allele (*Pik3ca*^{KD/WT})
7 have shown that p110 α action on both maternal and fetal sides of the placental
8 circulation influence each of these (28). *Pik3r1*^{WT/Y657X} fetuses are around 20%
9 smaller than wild-type fetuses at E15.5, which is similar to the decrease noted in
10 *Pik3ca*^{KD/WT} fetuses previously. Although no significant reduction in placental mass
11 was seen, striking reduction of the vascularisation of the placental exchange region
12 was seen at E15.5, again very similar to the *Pik3ca*^{KD/WT} model. In contrast to that
13 model, however, the size of the placental exchange region and thickness of the
14 diffusion barrier were normal for *Pik3r1*^{WT/Y657X} fetuses. These findings are consistent
15 with p85 α and p110 α co-operating in formation of the placental vascular tree, and
16 add to prior evidence highlighting the importance of class IA PI3Ks (particularly
17 p110 α) in developmental angiogenesis (38).

18 In the previous study of *Pik3ca*^{KD/WT} mice, maternal genotype as well as
19 fetoplacental genotype was important in determining placental phenotype. This was
20 not assessed directly in this study, where wild-type dams were used for
21 developmental studies, however a marked effect of maternal genotype was seen on
22 litter size, which were reduced by around 50% of the expected for heterozygous
23 dams, and apart from homozygous lethality no evidence of selection for fetal
24 genotype was apparent. Whether this relates to reduced size of the heterozygous
25 dams, to their metabolic state during gestation, or both, remains to be determined.
26 As previous studies have suggested that the insulin resistance of pregnancy is
27 caused by increased *Pik3r1* expression (39), it will be interesting to assess whether

1 pregnancy exaggerates the already severe insulin resistance seen in *Pik3r1*^{WT/Y657X}
2 mice in the non pregnant state, and whether any such exacerbation influences
3 growth of the fetoplacental unit.

4 PI3K also plays several important roles in ovarian function, some of which,
5 such as the activation of dormant primordial follicles, are follicle autonomous and
6 some of which are indirect, mediated by factors such as systemic insulin resistance.
7 This is manifest in the severe hyperandrogenism and ovulatory dysfunction seen in
8 young women with SHORT syndrome (25). Despite these well established links, we
9 report no evidence of altered early follicle development, nor evidence of impaired
10 fertility nor hyperandrogenism in female *Pik3r1*^{WT/Y657X} mice. This suggests either
11 that *Pik3r1* gene products are not involved in triggering oocyte maturation, or that the
12 degree of PI3K hypofunction is insufficient to compromise this action. The lack of
13 features of insulin resistance-related ovulatory dysfunction and hyperandrogenism is
14 in keeping with many prior studies showing that mice model this highly prevalent
15 aspect of human severe insulin resistance poorly (40).

16 SHORT syndrome commonly features partial lipodystrophy (24, 25), and on
17 chow diet the previously reported *Pik3r1*^{WT/R649W} mouse, too, was reported to have
18 reduced subcutaneous adipose depots (26). In this study no significant differences
19 in whole body fat content and adipose depot weights were observed on chow when
20 the smaller size of the *Pik3r1*^{WT/R649W} mice was taken into account, however they
21 diverged strikingly between wild type and heterozygotes on high fat feeding. *Ex vivo*
22 differentiation of white preadipocytes was not impaired, consistent with the previous
23 study, although in preadipocyte cell lines overexpression of the mutant has been
24 shown to impair adipogenesis markedly (25). It was previously suggested that a
25 reduced number of preadipocytes in adipose tissue might account for reduced
26 adipose expansion, however although this was not assessed in the current study,
27 the normal adipocyte size and histological appearance argue against this, as a larger
28 adipocyte size would be expected if a smaller number of precursor cells were

1 accommodating the same hypercaloric load. Alternative explanations for reduced
2 adipose accretion that are disproven by the current study are reduced food intake or
3 intestinal lipid malabsorption, or increased partitioning of excess energy into growth
4 of non adipose tissues.

5 Lipodystrophy in humans and mice is normally associated strongly with
6 exaggerated features of obesity-associated metabolic syndrome including fatty liver,
7 metabolic dyslipidaemia, and low plasma adiponectin concentrations (41, 42),
8 however SHORT syndrome is unique among human insulin resistant partial
9 lipodystrophies in featuring reduced adiposity with preserved plasma adiponectin
10 levels, absence of fatty liver and apparent protection from metabolic dyslipidemia
11 (24, 25). This is similar to the profile seen in people with severe insulin resistance
12 due to mutations in the insulin receptor gene (43), suggesting that proximal insulin
13 signalling defects in humans produce a distinct subphenotype of insulin resistance.
14 The mechanisms underlying these human observations have not been tested,
15 however insulin resistance has been uncoupled from hyperlipidemia in various
16 mouse models, including mice with liver-specific knockout of *Insr* (44), both *Irs1* and
17 *Irs2* (45), *Pik3ca* (46) or *Akt2* (47). These severe perturbations have generally been
18 suggested to produce hypolipidemia through loss of insulin-stimulated upregulation
19 of genes involved in *de novo* lipogenesis and/or cholesterol synthesis. The recent
20 *Pik3r1*^{WT/R649W} SHORT syndrome model mice, in contrast, were said to have normal
21 blood lipid concentrations, however in the case of the *Pik3r1*^{WT/Y657X} mouse we report
22 hypolipidemia in both males and females, on chow diet and high fat feeding, and in
23 both the fed and fasted state. Moreover liver triglyceride levels showed no
24 difference between wild-type and *Pik3r1*^{WT/Y657X} mice, although in the face of
25 lipodystrophic severe insulin resistance they would normally be increased. This
26 suggests that this murine model may permit dissection of mechanisms underlying
27 the dyslipidemia-insulin resistance dissociation.

1 Preliminary assessment of lipogenic transcriptional effects of the *Pik3r1* Y657X
2 mutation in a feed/fasting/refeeding paradigm did show significant reduction in
3 transcript levels of *Srebp* and their transcriptional targets in the liver, with a sentinel
4 *Chrebp*-responsive gene also mildly suppressed, however these changes were only
5 seen in the fasting state. Whether these mild fasting changes can explain the
6 hypolipidemia observed, which is most striking in the fed state on high fat diet, is
7 unclear. No evidence was found for reduced lipogenic transcriptional activity of
8 *Xbp1*, which has both been shown to interact with p85 α (18, 19), and to serve as a
9 potent lipogenic transcription factor (20). A further mechanism toggling glucose
10 routing between hepatic lipogenesis and glucose secretion depends on the relative
11 expression of glucose-6-phosphatase (*G6pc*) and glucokinase (*Gck*), with a high
12 G6pc:Gck ratio favouring hepatic glucose output and disfavoring lipogenesis (30).
13 However although the refeed G6pc:Gck ratio did significantly differ in *Pik3r1*^{WT/Y657X}
14 mice compared to controls, the direction of the difference would be predicted to
15 favour lipogenesis.

16 Interestingly, global knockout of the insulin-responsive *Glut4* transporter in
17 mice grossly mimics the phenotype of the mice we describe in key respects,
18 featuring insulin resistance, severely reduced adipose tissue, and an enlarged heart
19 (48). Moreover, although fatty liver was not observed, blood lipid levels and liver
20 triglyceride secretion was markedly increased (49), but was countered by
21 accelerated VLDL clearance by peripheral tissues, demonstrating extensive
22 remodelling of metabolism (50). In this case lipid tolerance testing does not provide
23 evidence for similarly enhanced clearance of lipid, however. Gaining further insight
24 into the mechanisms uncoupling dyslipidemia from insulin resistance in *Pik3r1*^{WT/Y657X}
25 mice will require metabolic flux studies, and consideration of the possibility that
26 effects on hepatic metabolism are effected by primary dysfunction in other insulin
27 sensitive organs such as adipose tissue, which has recently been shown in some
28 contexts to be critical for such indirect regulation of hepatic gluconeogenesis (51, 52).

1 In summary, we describe a novel mouse model of SHORT syndrome driven by
2 a naturally occurring human mutation in *PIK3R1*. We describe novel developmental,
3 reproductive and metabolic aspects of the model, and establish that it recapitulates
4 the highly unusual human observation of lipodystrophic insulin resistance uncoupled
5 from atherogenic dyslipidaemia.

6

7 **METHODS**

8 **Mice generation and maintenance**

9 A vector containing the *Pik3r1* exon 15 Y657X mutation and a neomycin
10 resistance cassette flanked by LoxP sites was introduced into the genome of
11 C57Bl/6 embryonic stem cells by electroporation and homologous recombination.
12 Targeted cells were injected into Bl/6J blastocysts to generate chimeras which were
13 bred onto the C57Bl/6J background to create the mutant strain (**Supplemental**
14 **Figure S1**). All animals were kept on a C57Bl/6J background, backcrossed at least
15 three times, and housed on a 12-hour-light/12-hour-dark cycle at 23°C, with *ad*
16 *libitum* access to water and food. Feed was with either chow (Catalogue no. 105,
17 Safe diets) or a 45% high fat diet (45% fat, 35% Carbohydrate and 25% protein)
18 (Catalogue no. D12451, Research diet, Inc). All animal experiments were carried out
19 under the UK Home Office Animals (Scientific Procedures) Act 1986, following
20 ethical review by the University of Cambridge.

21 **Fetoplacental development studies**

22 Single male mice were housed with a female mouse and noon of the day of
23 detection of a vaginal plug was taken to be E0.5. Images of dissected embryos were
24 acquired with a Zeiss SteREO Discovery V8 microscope and AxioCam MRc5
25 camera. Placentas were bisected and one half was fixed in 4% (wt/vol)
26 paraformaldehyde, paraffin-embedded, exhaustively sectioned at 7 µm and stained
27 with hematoxylin and eosin to analyse gross placental structure. The other half was
28 fixed in 4% (wt/vol) glutaraldehyde, embedded in Spurr's epoxy resin and a single,

1 and 1 μm midline section was cut and then stained with toluidine blue for detailed
2 analysis of labyrinthine (exchange) zone structure using the Computer Assisted
3 Stereological Toolbox (CAST v2.0) program as previously described (28).

4 **Assessment of growth, body composition, and energy homeostasis**

5 Fat and lean mass of live mice was determined by time-domain NMR using a
6 Bruker's minispec whole body composition analyser. For determination of food
7 intake and energy expenditure, male mice were acclimatized for 1 week to single
8 housing then given 200g of standard chow diet or 45% high fat diet for 10 days.
9 Food intake was measured every 24 hours, and energy expenditure was measured
10 by indirect calorimetry as described previously (53). Locomoter activity was
11 quantified as beam breaks over 48 hours. Fecal energy content was measured by
12 drying then totally combusting feces from 48hr calorimeter runs in an IKA
13 Calorimeters Oxygen Bomb calorimeter (IKA C1).

14 **Biochemical assays**

15 Blood was collected by cardiac puncture and plasma separated and snap
16 frozen immediately. Plasma analytes were assayed following manufacturers'
17 instructions with the following assays: glucose (Siemens Healthcare Diagnostics),
18 insulin (Meso Scale Discovery), leptin (Meso Scale Discovery), adiponectin (Meso
19 Scale Discovery), triacylglyceride (Siemens Healthcare Diagnostics), total
20 cholesterol (Siemens Healthcare Diagnostics), HDL cholesterol (Randox), VLDL
21 (Cusabio), free fatty acids (Roche) and testosterone (IBL international). Plasma
22 insulin concentration during glucose tolerance testing used an ELISA (Crystal
23 Chem).

24 Hepatic glycogen content was determined in snap-frozen liver samples that
25 were weighed before glycogen hydrolysis in 1 M HCl (2.5 h at 100°C). Hydrolysate
26 was neutralized with NaOH and glucose units analysed fluorometrically as described
27 in (54). Hepatic triglyceride was extracted and measured with a Triglyceride
28 Colorimetric Assay kit (Cayman) according to the manufacturer's instructions.

1 Hepatic cholesterol was extracted from 10mg liver using 400uL of
2 chloroform:isopropanol:NP-40 mixture (7:11:0.1) in a homogenizer before
3 centrifugation and air drying of superatant at 50°C. After 30 minutes of vacuum
4 drying lipids was dissolved in PBS and cholesterol was assayed with Siemens
5 Dimension Healthcare following the manufacturer's instructions (Siemens
6 Healthcare Diagnostics).

7 ***In vivo* metabolic studies**

8 For fasting/refeeding studies, mice were fed *ad libitum* on the standard chow
9 until 16 weeks before fasting for 16 hours and refeeding with chow for 6 hours.
10 Tissues were harvested and snap-frozen before overnight fasting, after fasting and
11 then after 6 hour refeeding. For study of acute insulin action 16 hours fasted mice
12 (16 weeks old) were injected with 2U/kg insulin intraperitoneally and tissues were
13 collected after 10 minutes and snap frozen in liquid nitrogen. Glucose tolerance
14 testing was undertaken on overnight (16 hour) fasted mice using 2g/kg 20% glucose
15 *via* oral gavage. For insulin tolerance testing mice were fasted for 6 hours and
16 challenged with 0.5U/kg intraperitoneal insulin. For lipid tolerance testing overnight
17 16 hour fasted mice were administered 10mL/kg olive oil by oral gavage.

18 Hyperinsulinemic euglycemic clamp studies and the subsequent sample
19 processing and analysis were conducted as described previously (55) with minor
20 modifications. 16 week old mice were fasted overnight, before clamps were carried
21 out with a priming dose of human insulin (0.7 mU), followed by a constant insulin and
22 [$3\text{-}^3\text{H}$]-D-glucose tracer infusion at 7 mU/h and 0.72 $\mu\text{Ci/h}$, respectively.

23 **Study of insulin action *ex vivo***

24 Measurement of insulin action on isolated Soleus and Extensor Digitorum
25 Longus was undertaken in 16 week old male mice as previously described(56). For
26 primary preadipocyte studies fat pads from 8 week-old male mice were isolated,
27 minced and digested in pre-warmed sterile digest solution (1:3 BSA 7.5 %
28 solution:Hanks' Buffered Salt Solution, and 1 mg/ mL Collagenase Type II). Digested

1 tissues were strained through 100 µm cell strainers and placed on ice for 20
2 minutes. Following removal of the fat layer, supernatant was mixed 1:1 with growth
3 medium (high-glucose DMEM, 10% NCS, 4 mM L-glutamine and 100 U/L penicillin
4 streptomycin), and the stromovascular fractions washed twice with growth medium,
5 and resuspended in differentiation medium (growth media supplemented with 2.4 nM
6 insulin and 150 µM sodium L-ascorbate). The cells were plated into two wells of a
7 12-well plate and fed with fresh differentiation medium daily for 3 days and then
8 every other day until Oil-Red O staining as described previously(25).

9 **Histology**

10 Ovaries from day 7, 21 or 42 (D7, D21 or D42) wildtype and heterozygous
11 female mice (3 per age per genotype) were fixed in 10% neutral buffered formalin
12 solution, dehydrated in ethanol, infiltrated with Histo-Clear, and embedded in
13 paraffin. 5µm serial sections were stained with haematoxylin and eosin. Follicles in
14 every 5th section of D7 ovaries were classified morphologically as primordial,
15 transitional, primary, primary plus or secondary, and their cross-sectional area
16 measured in ImageJ(57). To assess ovulation, every 10th section of the D42 ovaries
17 was analysed for the presence of corpora lutea.

18 Adipocyte size measurement was undertaken in formalin-fixed, paraffin-
19 embedded adipose tissue stained with haematoxylin and eosin. Cell sizes were
20 measured using CellP software (Olympus Scientific Solutions). At least 1000 cells
21 per genotype were analyzed. For oil-red-O staining of liver, livers were snap-frozen
22 and embedded in optimum cutting temperature (OCT) media. Following sectioning
23 with a cryostat, sections were fixed in 10% NBF, incubated in 0.5% oil red O working
24 solution, and counterstained with haematoxylin. Images were taken with an Olympus
25 CKX41 inverted microscope and Olympus DP20 microscope camera.

26 **Gene expression analysis**

27 For protein expression studies, freshly dissected issues were snap-frozen in
28 liquid nitrogen. Liver and skeletal muscle were homogenised using MD ceramic

1 beads and an MD machine in RIPA buffer with proteinase and phosphatase
2 inhibitors (Roche). Adipose tissue was ground using mortar and pestle in liquid
3 nitrogen before dissolving in the buffer. Protein concentrations were determined
4 using the BCA assay (BioRad). Western blotting employed the Novex gel system
5 (Thermo Fisher Scientific). Antibodies used are shown in **Supplemental Table S3**
6 Imaging and quantification of immunoblots were undertaken using the BioRad image
7 system.

8 For RNA expression studies total RNA was extracted by RNeasy kits (Qiagen).
9 500 ng of total RNA was used for cDNA synthesis with the ImProm-II reverse
10 transcription system (Promega). Realtime quantitative PCR was carried out in 13 μ l
11 reaction volumes containing 300 nM forward and reverse primers, 150 nM
12 fluorogenic probe when applicable, and ABI Taqman or SYBR® Green Master Mix
13 (Thermo Fisher Scientific). Reactions were conducted in duplicate with a standard
14 curve for each gene using the QuantStudio™ 7 Flex Real-Time PCR system
15 (Thermo Fisher Scientific). Expression of target genes were normalised to the
16 geometric mean of 4 housekeeping genes (*Ywhaz*, *Ppia*, *B2m* and *Eef1a1*) (see
17 **Supplemental Table S4** for primer and probe sequences).

18 **Statistical Analysis**

19 Numerical data are presented as mean \pm SEM and statistical tests used are
20 indicated in figure legends. In general unpaired two-tailed Student's t tests were
21 used to compare two groups of data, while ANOVA with *post hoc* testing as indicated
22 was performed for more than two groups. All these analyses were performed using
23 GraphPad Prism (GraphPad Software). Tissue weights, food consumption and
24 energy expenditure were analyzed by ANCOVA using XLSTAT (Addinsoft), with total
25 body weight or lean mass as covariant.

26

27 **Author Contributions**

1 Conceptualization, RKS, AK; Methodology, SV, JJ, PV; Formal Analysis, AK, IZ, SV,
2 IHD, PRT, DAB, DH, RK, SF, PV, AS-P, JJ, RKS; Investigation, AK, IZ, SV, IHD,
3 PRT, DAB, DH, RK, PV, AS-P, JJ, RKS; Writing – Original Draft, RKS, AK, IHD;
4 Writing – Review & Editing, IZ, SV, PRT, DAB, DH, RK, AVP, SF, PV, AS-P, JJ, SO;
5 Supervision, RKS; Project Administration, RKS; Funding Acquisition, RKS, SO, AVP

6

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12
13

Tables

	Chow						45% Fat Diet					
	Fasting			Fed			Fasting			Fed		
	<i>Pik3r1</i> ^{WT/WT} (n=10)	<i>Pik3r1</i> ^{WT/Y657X} (n=9)	p	<i>Pik3r1</i> ^{WT/WT} (n=10)	<i>Pik3r1</i> ^{WT/Y657X} (n=14)	p	<i>Pik3r1</i> ^{WT/WT} (n=13)	<i>Pik3r1</i> ^{WT/Y657X} (n=13)	p	<i>Pik3r1</i> ^{WT/WT} (n=15)	<i>Pik3r1</i> ^{WT/Y657X} (n=11)	p
Glucose (mmol/L)	10.2 ± 1.1	9.0 ± 1.1	0.43	12.5 ± 0.7	13.2 ± 0.5	0.48	9.7 ± 0.8	7.9 ± 0.5	0.06	12.6 ± 0.5	9.4 ± 0.5	4x10 ⁻⁴
Insulin (pmol/L)	138 ± 21	603 ± 202	0.05	229 ± 33	3393 ± 578	1.9 x10 ⁻⁴	469 ± 77	693 ± 102	0.09	424 ± 73	1313 ± 494	0.104
Adiponectin (mg/L)	30.5 ± 1.1	26.7 ± 1.3	0.03	33.2 ± 1.5	35.6 ± 1.0	0.2	37.0 ± 1.1	40.6 ± 1.5	0.07	40.3 ± 2.2	42.8 ± 1.1	0.3
Total cholesterol (mmol/L)	2.7 ± 0.1	2.3 ± 0.1	0.01	2.6 ± 0.1	2.0 ± 0.1	6 x10 ⁻³	4.2 ± 0.2	3.0 ± 0.3	0.01	4.7 ± 0.3	1.7 ± 0.1	1.0x10 ⁻⁷
HDL cholesterol (mmol/L)	1.5 ± 0.1	1.1 ± 0.1	0.02	1.6 ± 0.1	1.3 ± 0.1	0.04	1.8 ± 0.2	1.2 ± 0.2	0.02	2.3 ± 0.1	0.9 ± 0.1	2.7x10 ⁻⁸
Triglycerides (mmol/L)	1.5 ± 0.1	1.0 ± 0.1	0.01	1.6 ± 0.1	1.1 ± 0.1	0.01	1.5 ± 0.1	1.4 ± 0.1	0.15	1.0 ± 0.1	0.6 ± 0.02	3.5x10 ⁻⁶
NEFA (mmol/L)	2.0 ± 0.2	1.2 ± 0.1	5 x10 ⁻³	1.5 ± 0.1	1.3 ± 0.2	0.3	2.5 ± 0.2	1.9 ± 0.1	0.05	1.5 ± 0.1	0.8 ± 0.1	7 x10 ⁻⁵
VLDL (mg/mL)	N.D.	N.D.	N.D.	7.9 ± 0.3	7.4 ± 1.2	0.25	N.D.	N.D.	N.D.	10.5 ± 0.5	11.9 ± 0.8	0.13

Table 1. Fasting plasma biochemical profile of male *Pik3r1*^{WT/WT} and *Pik3r1*^{WT/Y657X} mice. Significant differences between genotypes are shown in bold. See also Supplemental Table S1 for fasting biochemical profile for chow-fed female mice. N.D. = not determined. Statistical comparisons were undertaken using the student's t-test.

Figure Legends

1

2 **Figure 1. Effect of *Pik3r1* Y657X on prenatal development and postnatal growth**

3 (A) Representative images and weights (adjacent scatter plot) of *Pik3r1*^{WT/WT},
4 *Pik3r1*^{WT/Y657X} and *Pik3r1*^{Y657X/Y657X} embryos at E11.5. Scale bar = 5mm (B)
5 Representative image of male *Pik3r1*^{WT/WT} and *Pik3r1*^{WT/Y657X} mice at 18 weeks old.
6 (C) Body lengths (nose to anus) at 18 weeks of *Pik3r1*^{WT/WT} and *Pik3r1*^{WT/Y657X} mice
7 (n=11 and 18 respectively) (D) Bodyweight increase from 8 to 16 weeks of
8 *Pik3r1*^{WT/WT} and *Pik3r1*^{WT/Y657X} (n=16 and 12 respectively). (E) Time course of fat
9 mass accretion, expressed as percentage of bodyweight, of *Pik3r1*^{WT/WT} and
10 *Pik3r1*^{WT/Y657X} mice (n =16 and 12 respectively). Mean ± S.E.M. are shown for
11 scatter plots in (A) and (C)-(E) (F)-(J) Masses of (F) inguinal adipose tissue
12 (IngWAT) (G) Epididymal adipose tissue (eWAT), (H) Brown adipose tissue (BAT),
13 (I) Liver, and (J) Heart of *Pik3r1*^{WT/WT} and *Pik3r1*^{WT/Y657X} mice (n= 11 and 7
14 respectively). (K) Food intake (n=13 for *Pik3r1*^{WT/WT} and n=14 for *Pik3r1*^{WT/Y657X})
15 and (L) Energy expenditure (n=7 for *Pik3r1*^{WT/WT} and n=13 for *Pik3r1*^{WT/Y657X}) of wild
16 type and heterozygous mice assessed at 18 weeks old. All masses and energy
17 expenditure are shown relative to total lean mass, and were analysed statistically by
18 ANCOVA. **** = p < 0.0001

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20

21 **Figure 2. Ovarian follicular appearance and profile of *Pik3r1*^{WT/Y657X} mice and**

22 **wild type littermates** Representative H&E-stained cross sections of ovaries from 7
23 day old *Pik3r1*^{WT/WT} (A) and *Pik3r1*^{WT/Y657X} (B) mice. Scale bars = 300µm. (C-G)
24 Examples of follicles at different stages of pre-antral follicular development:

1 primordial (C), transitional (D), primary (E), primary plus (F) and secondary (G). (H)
2 Cross sectional area of follicles from 7 day old *Pik3r1*^{WT/WT} and *Pik3r1*^{WT/Y657X} mouse
3 ovaries, classified by developmental stage (n=3 per genotype). (I) Proportions of
4 follicles at different developmental stages in *Pik3r1*^{WT/WT} and *Pik3r1*^{WT/Y657X} mouse
5 ovaries (n=3 per genotype). Bars represent mean ± SEM.

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9 **Figure 3. Response of *Pik3r1*^{WT/Y657X} mice to a palatable 45% fat diet.** (A)
10 Bodyweight increase from 8 to 16 weeks of *Pik3r1*^{WT/WT} and *Pik3r1*^{WT/Y657X} (n=16 and
11 12 respectively). (B) Time course of fat mass accretion, expressed as percentage of
12 bodyweight, of *Pik3r1*^{WT/WT} and *Pik3r1*^{WT/Y657X} mice (n =16 and 12 respectively).
13 Masses of (C) Epididymal adipose tissue (eWAT), (D) Inguinal adipose tissue
14 (IngWAT), (E) Brown adipose tissue (BAT), (F) Liver, and (G) Heart of *Pik3r1*^{WT/WT}
15 and *Pik3r1*^{WT/Y657X} mice (n= 12 for both genotypes). (H) Representative histological
16 appearance of haematoxylin and eosin-stained eWAT from *Pik3r1*^{WT/WT} and
17 *Pik3r1*^{WT/Y657X} mice. Scale bars = 100µm (I) Adipocyte size distribution in eWAT
18 based on quantification of >1,000 cells per genotype from 4 wild type and 4
19 heterozygous mice. The inset shows a zoomed-in view of the early part of the
20 distribution. (J) Representative images of *ex vivo* differentiated stromovascular cells
21 from ingWAT stained with Oil Red O (see also Supplementary Figure S5). (K) Food
22 intake (n=13 for *Pik3r1*^{WT/WT} and n=14 for *Pik3r1*^{WT/Y657X}) and (L) Energy
23 expenditure (n=17 for *Pik3r1*^{WT/WT} and n=10 for *Pik3r1*^{WT/Y657X}) of wild type and
24 heterozygous mice assessed at 18 weeks old. All masses and energy expenditure are
25 shown relative to total lean mass, and were analysed statistically by ANCOVA. ****

1 = $p < 0.0001$ (M) Locomotor activity of *Pik3r1*^{WT/WT} and *Pik3r1*^{WT/Y657X} mice (n=17
2 and n=10 respectively) Mean \pm SEM are shown. Statistical analysis used included 2-
3 way repeated measured ANOVA for (A-B), ANCOVA for (C-G, K and L), and
4 Student's t-test for (M). * $p < 0.05$, ** $p < 0.01$, *** $p < 0.001$ and **** $p < 0.0001$.

5

6 **Figure 4. *Pik3r1*^{WT/Y657X} mice show systemic and tissue-level insulin resistance (A)**

7 Glucose infusion rates during hyperinsulinemic euglycemic clamping of *Pik3r1*^{WT/WT}
8 and *Pik3r1*^{WT/Y657X} mice on chow (n=4 and 4) or 45% fat diet (n=10 and 11) at 16

9 weeks old; (B) Oral glucose tolerance test (OGTT) and corresponding comparison of
10 areas under the curves (AUC) of *Pik3r1*^{WT/WT} and *Pik3r1*^{WT/Y657X} mice on chow at X
11 weeks old (n=10 and 9). (C) Insulin concentrations and AUC for the same OGTT.

12 (D) Insulin tolerance test and AUC comparison for the same mice 1 week later. (E)

13 Glucose disposal and (F) suppression of hepatic glucose output by insulin during
14 hyperinsulinemic euglycemic clamping of *Pik3r1*^{WT/WT} and *Pik3r1*^{WT/Y657X} mice on

15 chow at 18 weeks old (both n=4). (G) Glycogen content of livers during a fasting-
16 refeeding cycle in chow fed animals at 16 weeks old (both n=6). (H) Plasma non-

17 esterified free fatty acid concentrations during hyperinsulinemic euglycemic
18 clamping (both genotypes n=4). (I)-(L) Representative images of immunoblots and

19 corresponding quantifications of tissue lysates from mice injected intraperitoneally
20 with 2U/kg insulin 10 mins prior to sacrifice, showing pAkt^{Ser473}, total Akt and their

21 ratio: (I) Liver, (J) Skeletal muscle (K) eWAT, (L) ingWAT. (n=6 per genotype and
22 condition). (M) Insulin-induced fold increase of glucose uptake into *ex vivo* incubated

23 soleus (n=18 for *Pik3r1*^{WT/WT}, n=11 for *Pik3r1*^{WT/Y657X}) and Extensor Digitorum
24 Longus (EDL) (n=20 and 11). (N) Representative immunoblots of Soleus and EDL

25 lysates from the same paradigm. (O) Quantification of pAkt^{Ser473} to total Akt ratios

1 from soleus and EDL immunoblots (n=5 and 4 for both). Quantitative data are
2 presented as mean \pm SEM. Analysis used includes 2-way repeated measures
3 ANOVA (A-D, when 2-factors involved), Student's t-test for (B-H, M-O) and 1-way
4 ANOVA for (I-L). * = p < 0.05, ** = p < 0.01, *** = p < 0.001 and **** = p <
5 0.0001.

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8 **Figure 5. Lipid handling and liver phenotype of *Pik3r1*^{WT/Y657X} mice (A)**

9 Representative images of Oil-Red-O-stained livers of chow-fed and 45% fat diet-fed

10 *Pik3r1*^{WT/WT} and *Pik3r1*^{WT/Y657X} mice. Scale bars = 200 μ m (B) Hepatic triglyceride and

11 (C) Hepatic total cholesterol concentration during a fasting refeeding cycle of chow

12 fed mice at 16 weeks old (n=6 per genotype). (D) Lipid tolerance testing and

13 comparison of areas under the curve (AUC), also of chow-fed mice, at 16 weeks old.

14 Triglyceride concentrations were equalised at baseline by adding the difference

15 between genotypes to the lower (heterozygous value), and the same fixed correction

16 was applied to all points on the graph (n = 11 and n=17 for wild-type and

17 heterozygous mice respectively) (E) Faecal energy content determined by bomb

18 calorimetry of chow fed mice at 16 weeks old (n=8 and 8). (F)-(L) Liver mRNA

19 expression, determined by quantitative real time PCR of (F) *Srebp1* and its

20 transcriptional targets (G) *Acc1*, (H) *Fasn*, and (I) *Scd1*, and of (J) *Srebp2* and its

21 transcriptional targets (K) *Mvk* and (L) *Nsdhl* in chow fed mice during a fasting

22 refeeding cycle at 16 weeks old (n=6 per genotype per condition). Numerical data

23 are presented as mean \pm SEM, and were analysed by Student's t-test and 2-way

24 repeated measures ANOVA when appropriate. * = p < 0.05.

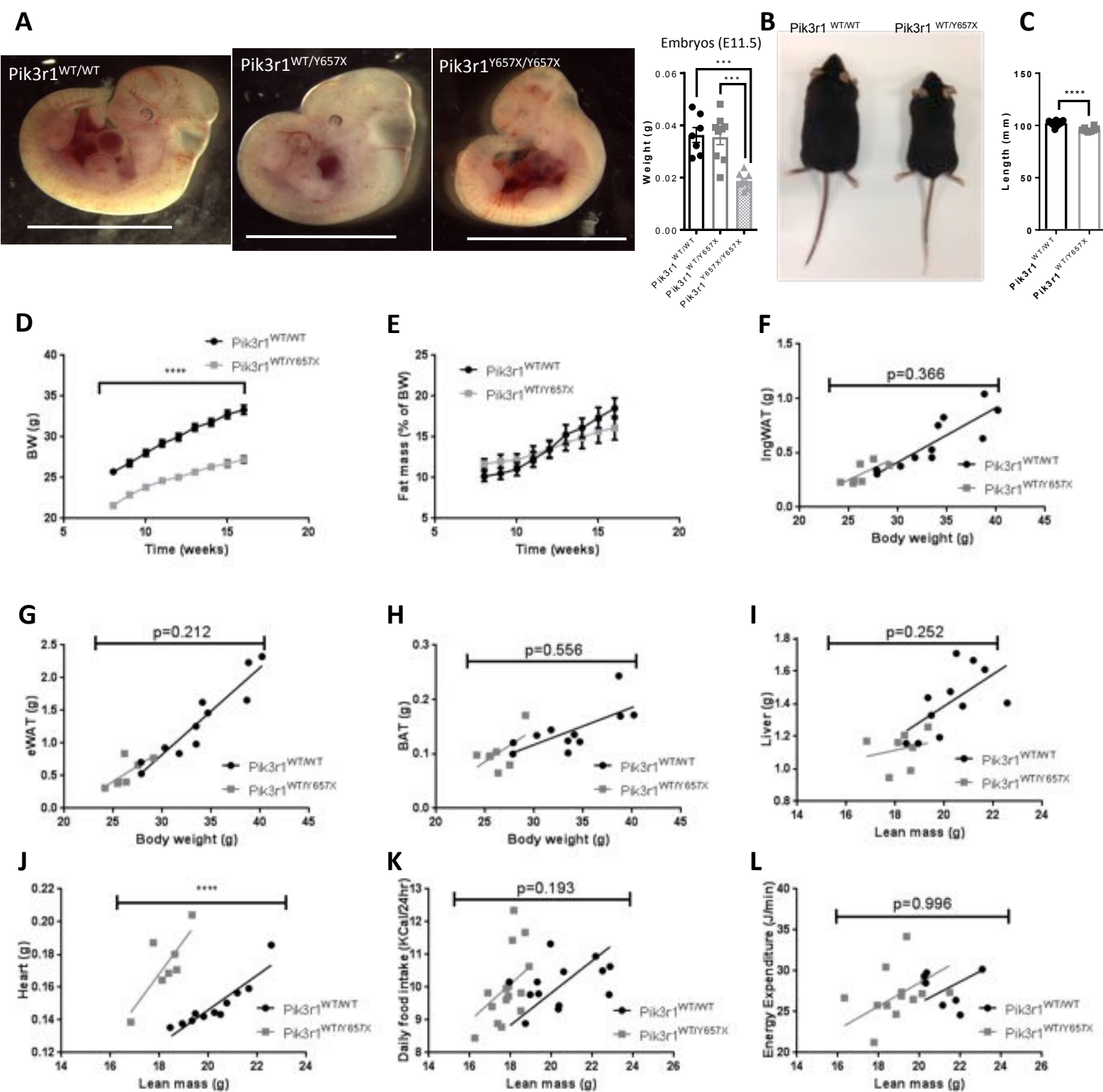


Fig. 1

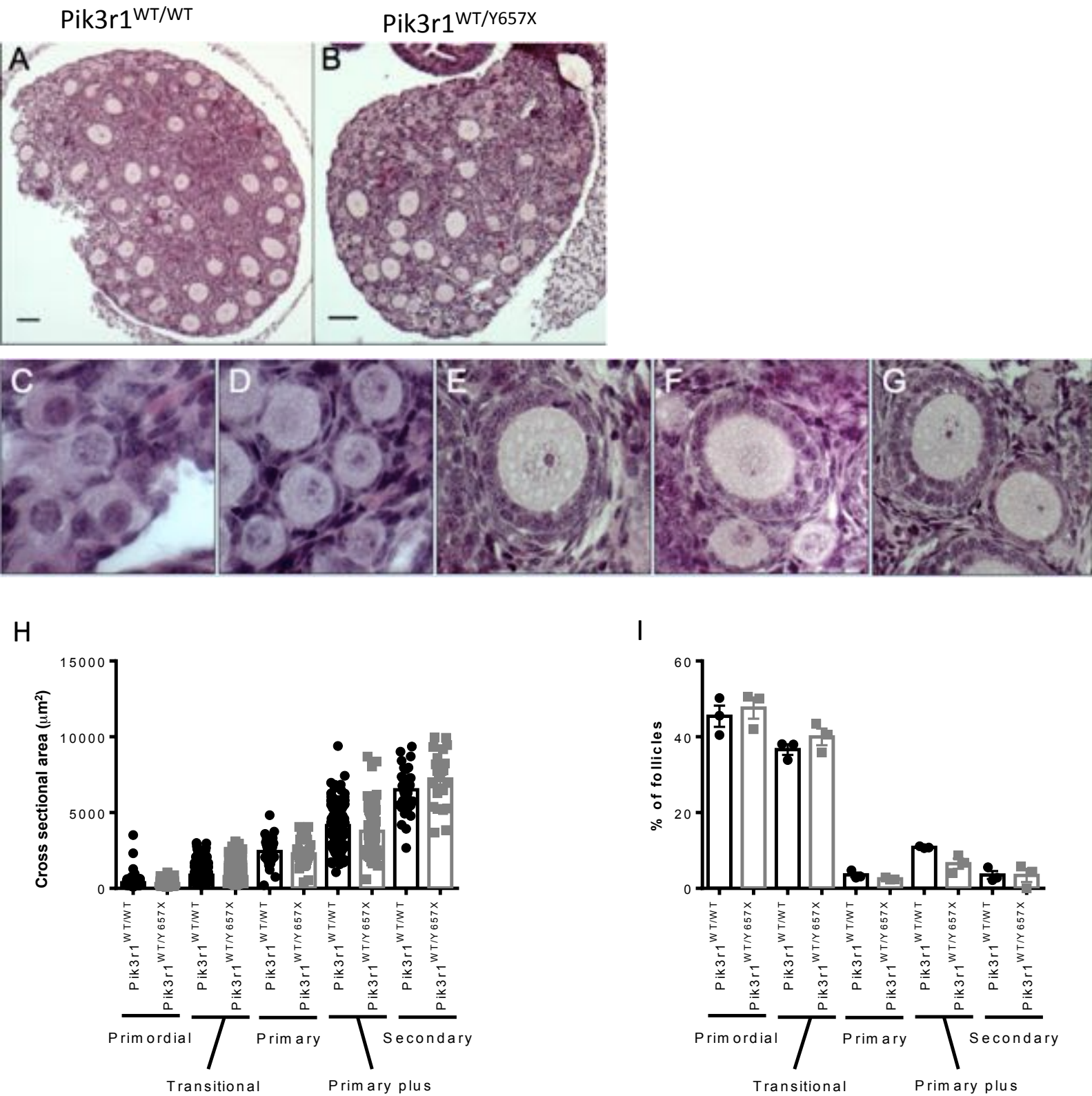


Fig. 2

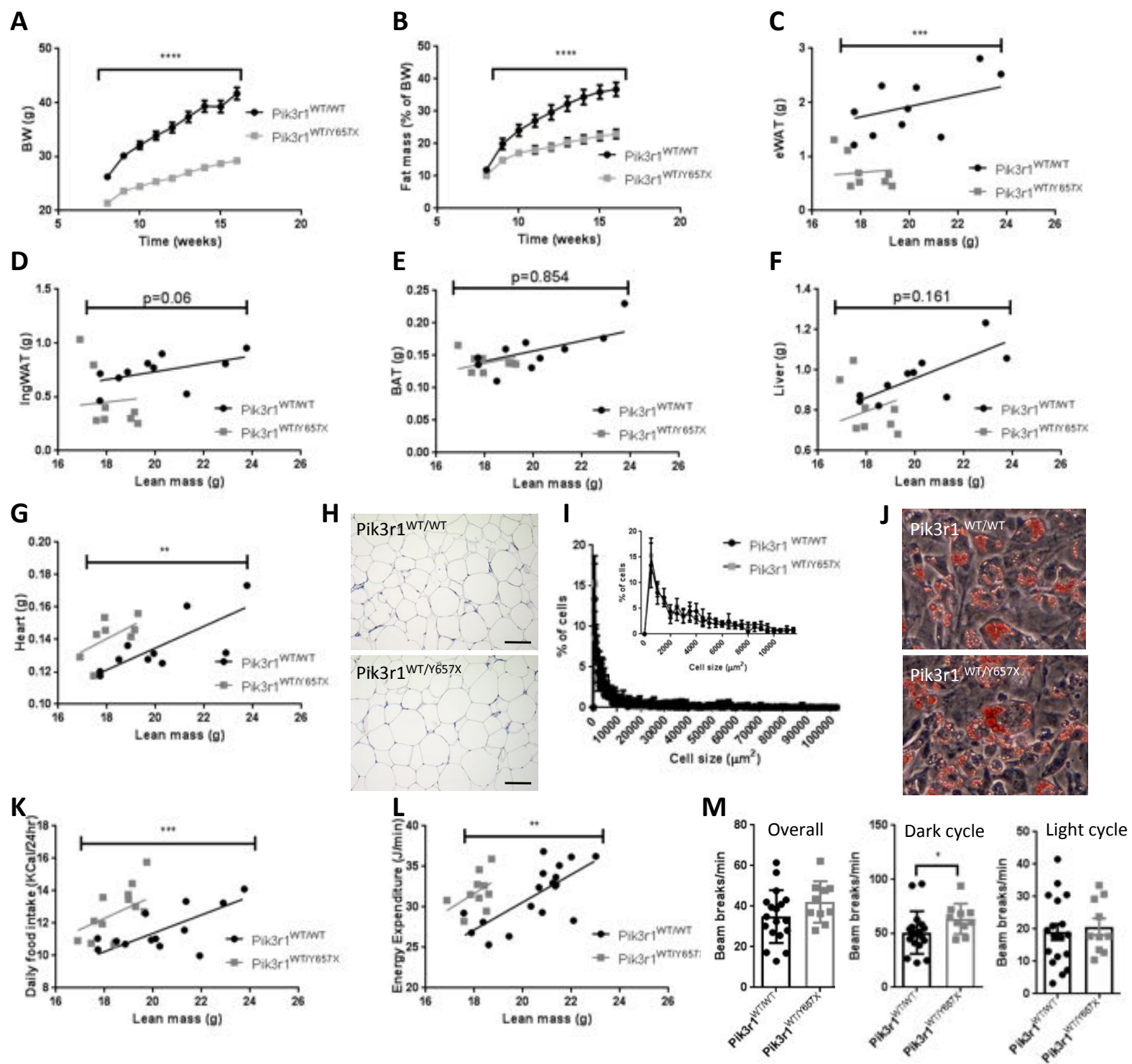


Fig. 3

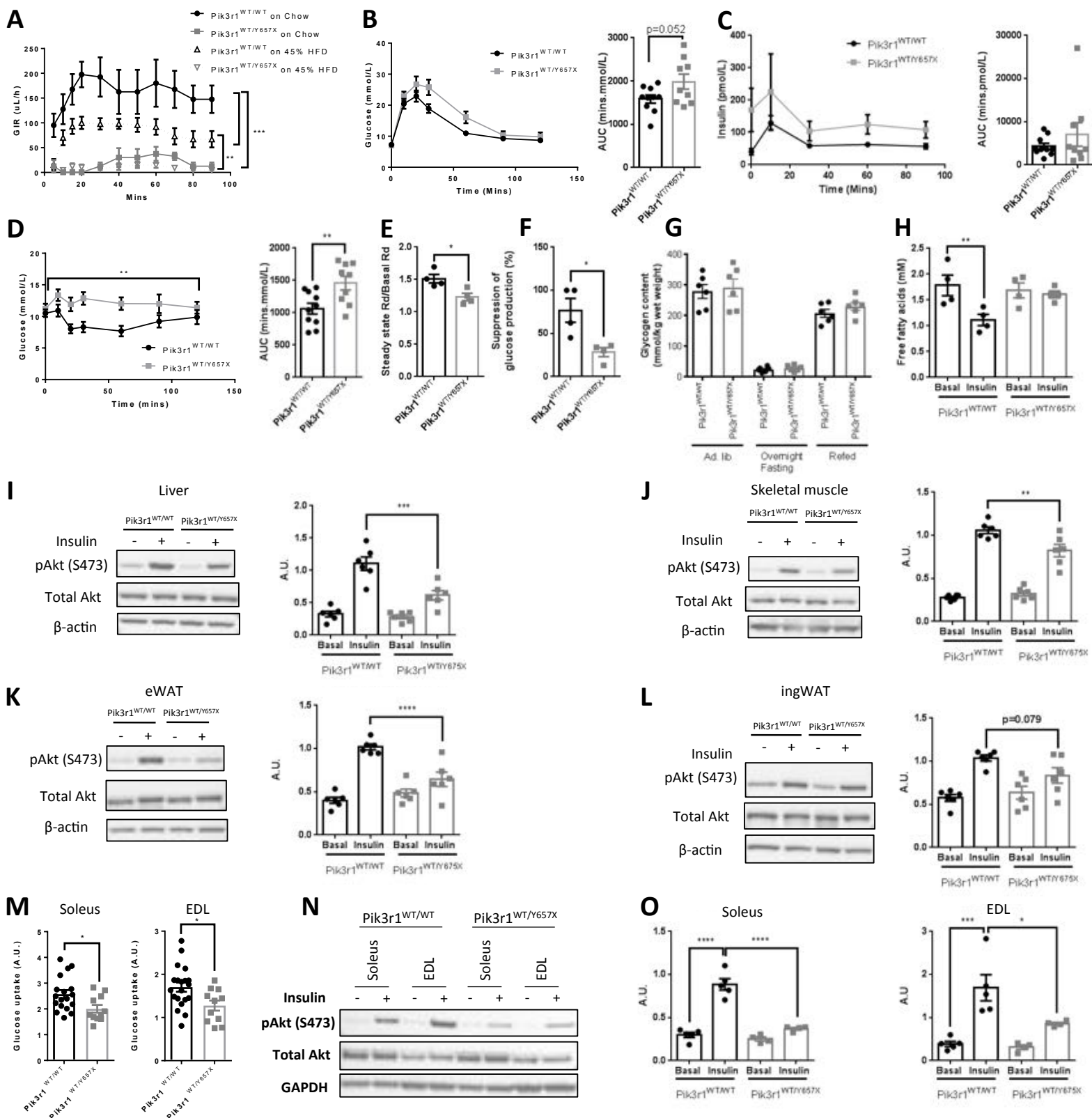


Fig. 4

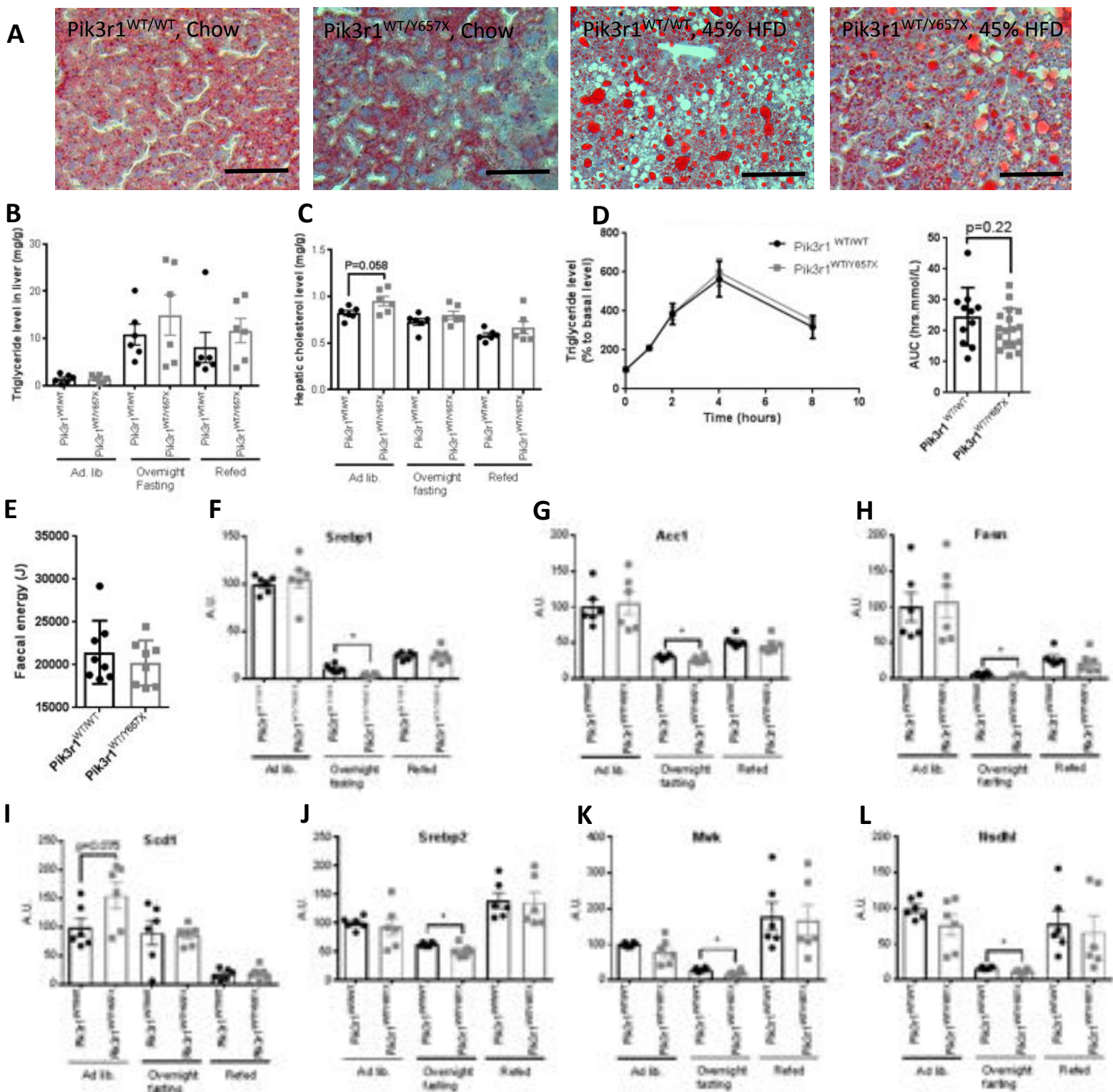


Fig. 5