

**Supplemental Materials for
Polarized localization of phosphatidylserine in endothelium regulates Kir2.1**

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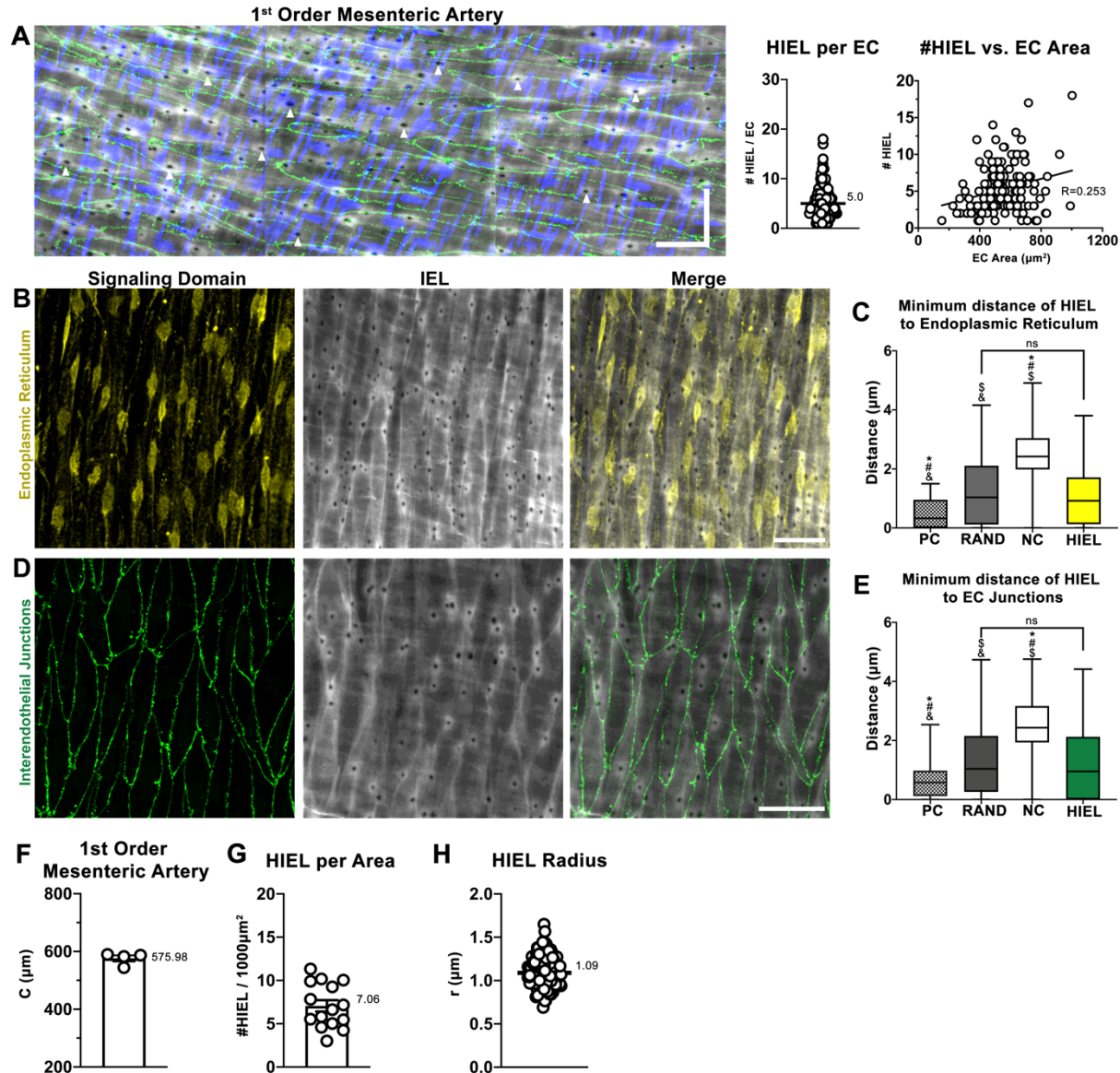


Figure S1: HIEL are randomly distributed with respect to endothelial signaling hubs in first order mesenteric arteries. (A) Representative stitched confocal image of a first order mesenteric artery prepared *en face* and stained for nuclei (blue) via DAPI, the IEL (grey) via Alexa-Fluor 488-linked hydrazide, and interendothelial junctions (green) via claudin-5. Scale bar is 30 μ m in both directions. Quantification of HIEL per EC and correlation of HIEL per EC versus EC area. N=4 mice, n=4 arteries, n=12 ROIs, and n=155 ECs. (B) Representative *en face* confocal image of endoplasmic reticulum (ER, yellow) detected via calnexin and IEL (grey), (C) box and whiskers plot of minimum distance of real-world HIEL centers to ER compared to Matlab-simulated HIEL centers. N=1 mouse, n=1 artery, n=2 ROIs, Area= 6.96x10⁴ μ m², and n=315 HIEL. (D) Representative *en face* confocal image of interendothelial junctions (green) detected via claudin-5 and IEL (grey), (E) box and whiskers plot of minimum distance of real-world HIEL centers to interendothelial junctions compared to Matlab-simulated HIEL centers. N=6 mice, and n=10 arteries, n=15 ROIs, Area=1.66x10⁵ μ m², and n=1200 HIEL. Statistical test: Brown-Forsythe and

Welch ANOVA. # indicates a $p < 0.0001$ significant difference to real-world HIEL distribution, * indicates a $p < 0.0001$ significant difference to RAND, \$ indicates a $p < 0.0001$ significant difference to NC distribution, and & indicates a $p < 0.0001$ significant difference to PC. (F) Circumference (C) of first order mesenteric arteries measured as the width of the artery in an *en face* preparation. N=4 mice, n=4 arteries. (G) HIEL per area taken from *en face* images that were used for HIEL spatial pattern analysis with respect to claudin-5. Number of HIEL was determined via the in-house Matlab program. (H) HIEL radius measurements obtained from in-house Matlab program.

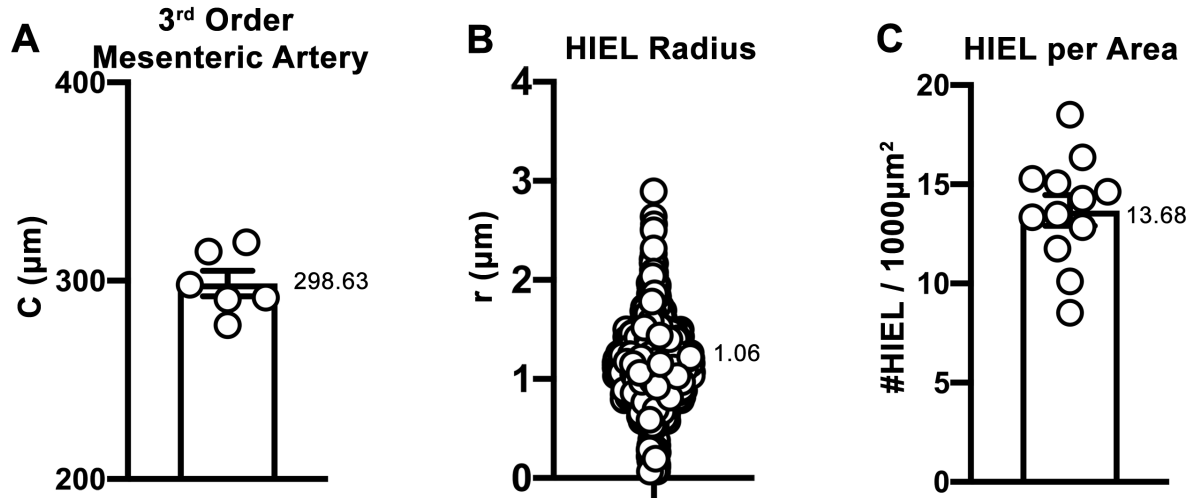


Figure S2: Quantitative data obtained from third order mesenteric artery *en face* preparations. (A) Circumference of third order mesenteric arteries measured as the width of the artery in an *en face* preparation. N=5 mouse, n=6 arteries. (B) HIEL radius measurements obtained from in-house Matlab program. N=6 mice, and n=10 arteries, n=22 ROIs, Area= $1.48 \times 10^5 \mu\text{m}^2$, and n=2166 HIEL. (C) HIEL per area taken from *en face* images used in Matlab analysis. Number of HIEL was determined via the in-house Matlab program. N=4 mice, n=4 arteries, n=12 ROIs, and Area= $1.67 \times 10^5 \mu\text{m}^2$.

In vitro Vascular Cell Co-Culture

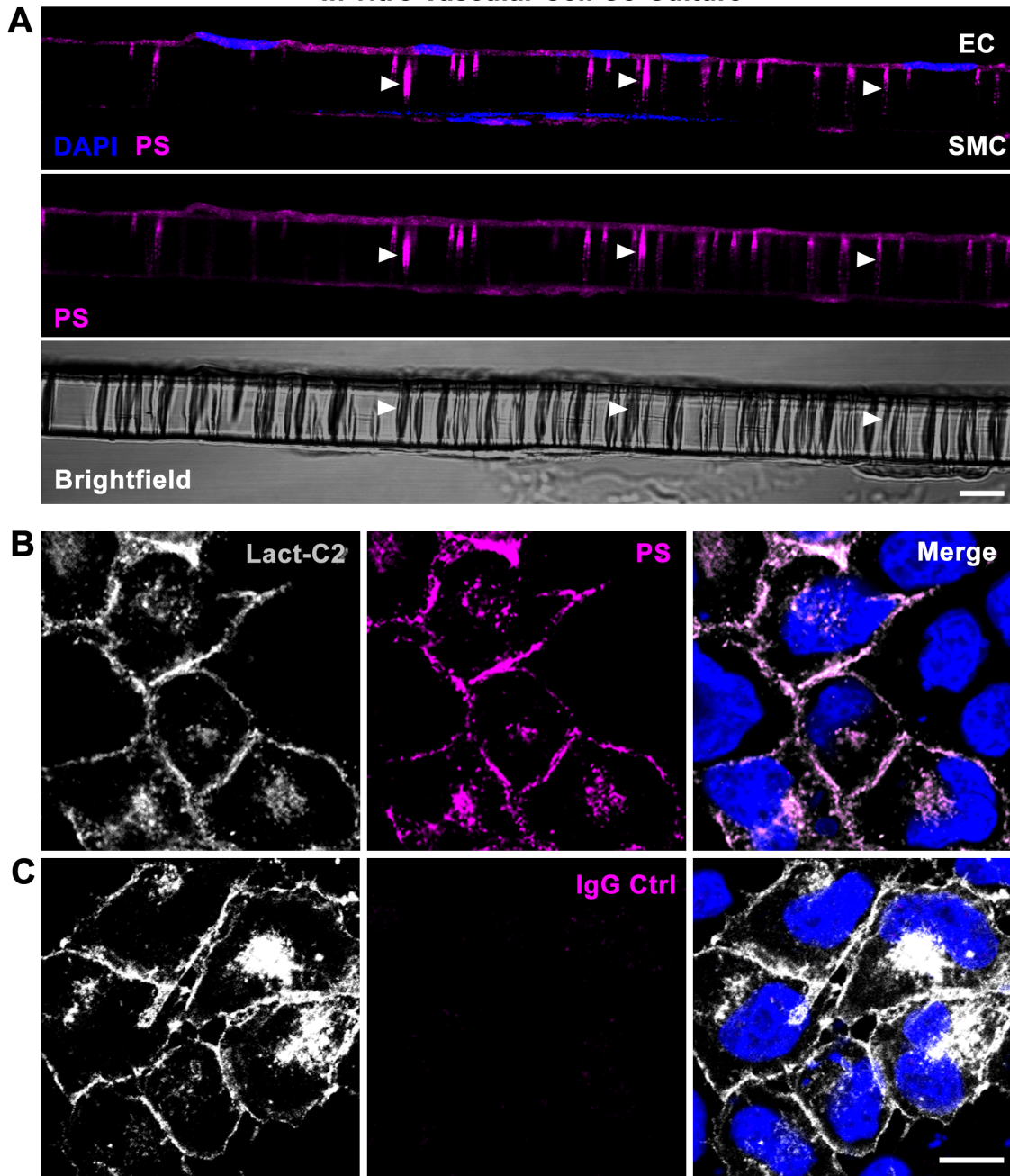


Figure S3: Validation of PS antibody. (A) Transverse cross-sections of an *in vitro* vascular cell co-culture model where EC and SMC are plated on either side of a Transwell. Nuclei (blue) are detected via DAPI and PS (magenta). Brightfield image of Transwell is shown in the bottom panel. Arrowheads indicate PS localization to *in vitro* MEJs. (B) HeLa cells transfected with Lact-C2-GFP plasmid (white) and co-stained with PS antibody or (C) IgG control. Nuclei (blue) are detected via DAPI. Scale bars are 10µm.

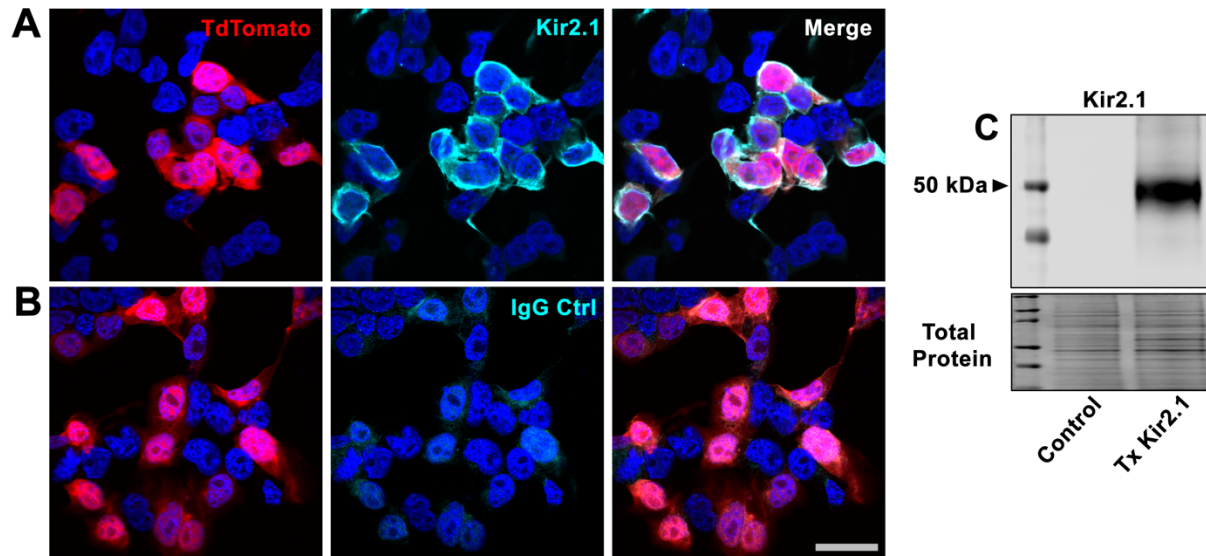


Figure S4: Validation of Kir2.1 antibody. (A) HEK293T cells transfected with Kir2.1-T2A-tdTomato plasmid (red) and co-stained with PS antibody or (B) IgG control. Nuclei (blue) are detected via DAPI. Scale bar is 30 μ m. (C) Western blot detection of Kir2.1 protein in HEK293T cells that were untreated or transfected with Kir2.1-T2A-tdTomato plasmid. Total protein was used as a loading control.

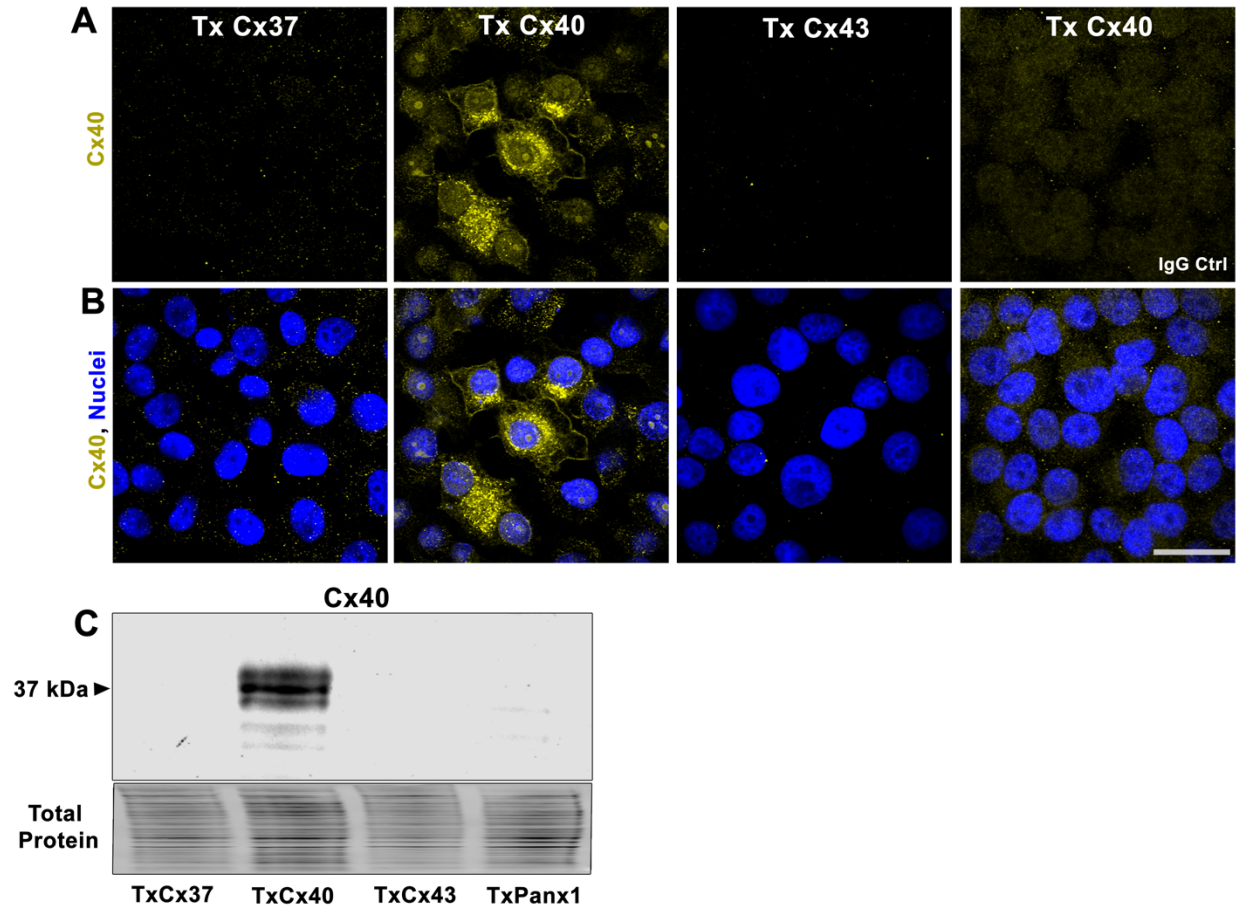


Figure S5: Validation of Cx40 antibody. (A) HeLa cells transfected with a connexin plasmid, either connexin 37 (Tx Cx37), connexin 40 (Tx Cx40), or connexin 43 (Tx Cx43), then stained using a Cx40 antibody or IgG control to evaluate Cx40 antibody specificity. Nuclei (blue) are detected via DAPI. Scale bar is 30 μ m. (C) Western blot detection of Cx40 protein in HeLa cells that were transfected with plasmids for Cx37, Cx40, Cx43, and Panx1. Total protein was used as a loading control.

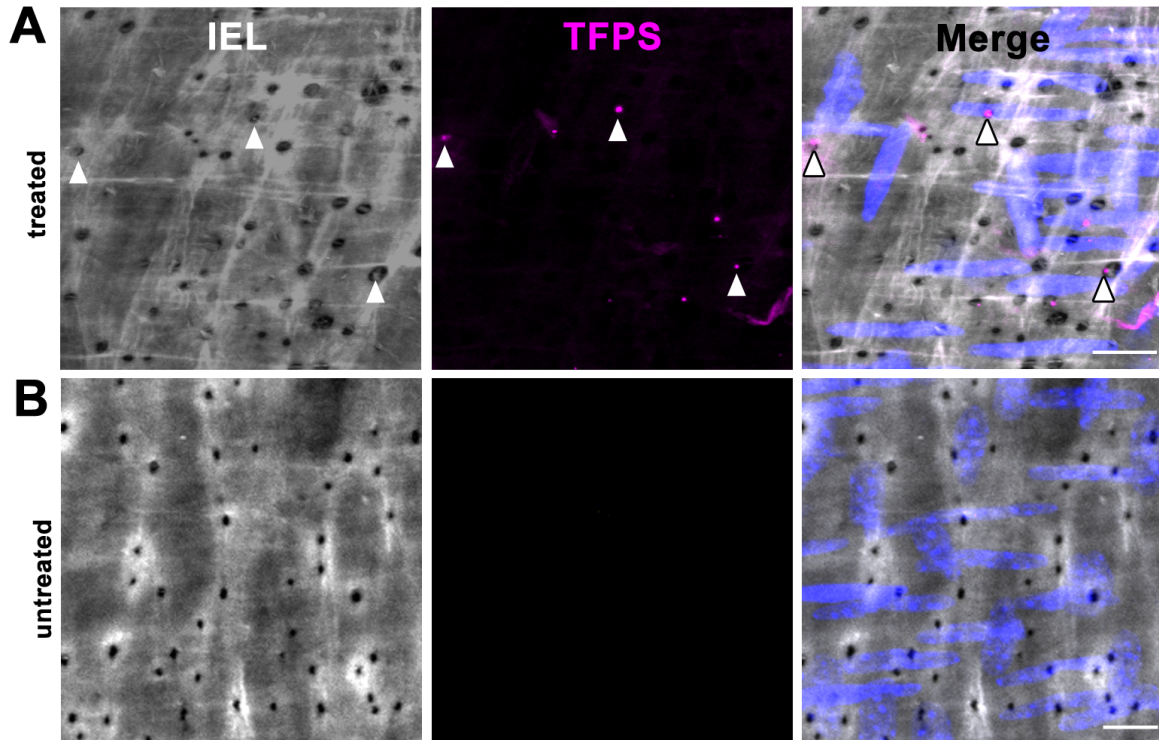


Figure S6: Exogenous application of TopFluor-PS localizes to the MEJ in intact third order mesenteric arteries. Live third order mesenteric arteries prepared *en face* after treatment with (A) 10 μ M TopFluor-PS in the bath solution of a pressure myography setup or (B) without treatment. Nuclei (blue) are detected via DAPI and IEL (grey) is detected via Alexa Fluor linked hydrazide. Arrowheads indicate TopFluor-PS localization to MEJ. Scale bars are 10 μ m.

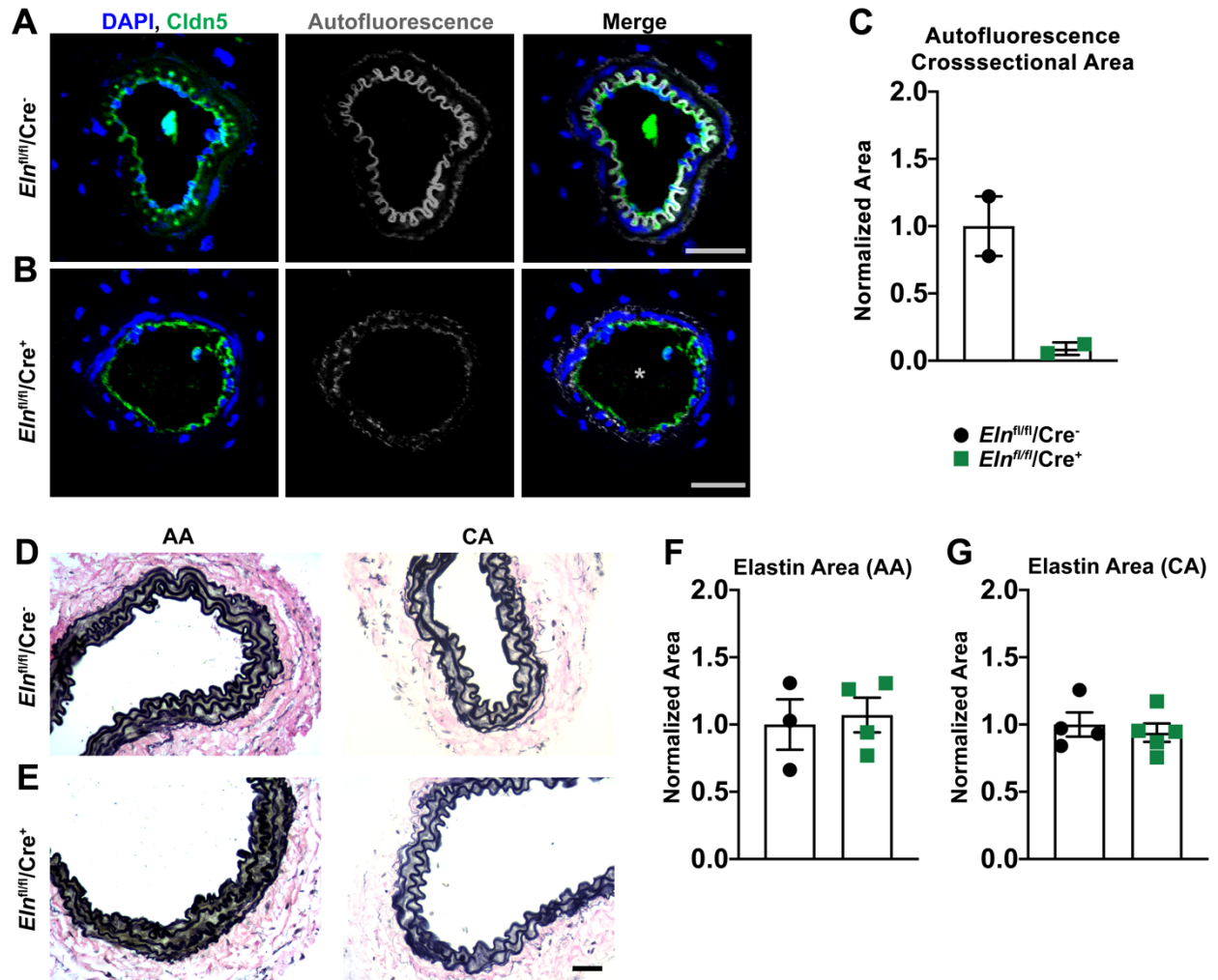


Figure S7: EC-specific knockout of elastin disrupts IEL in resistance arteries and not large conduit arteries. Representative images of cross-sections from third order mesenteric arteries taken from (A) *Eln^{fl/fl}/Cre⁻* and (B) *Eln^{fl/fl}/Cre⁺* mice where nuclei (blue) are detected via DAPI, IEL (grey) is detected via autofluorescence, and interendothelial junctions (green) are detected via claudin-5. Scale bar is 30 μ m. N=2 mice per group. (C) Quantification of cross-sectional IEL area detected via autofluorescence. Representative images of cross-sections from the abdominal aorta (AA) and carotid artery (CA) of (D) *Eln^{fl/fl}/Cre⁻* and (E) *Eln^{fl/fl}/Cre⁺* mice. Scale bar is 30 μ m. Quantification of Verhoeff stain in (F) AA and (G) CA. N= 3-5 mice per group. Student's t-test.

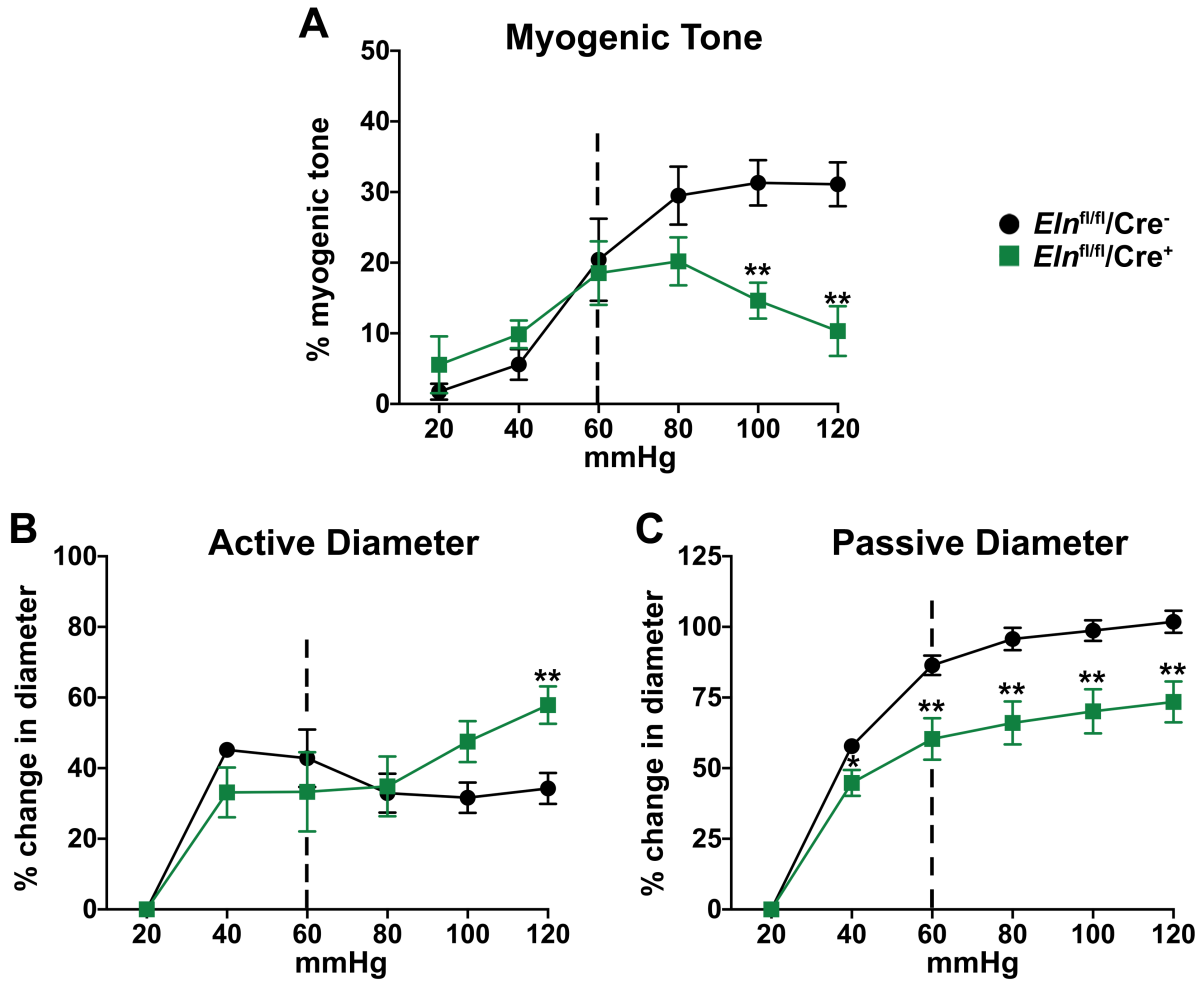


Figure S8: Determination of optimal pressure for myography experiments on *Eln^{fl/fl}/Cre⁺* mice. Pressure myography experiments on third order mesenteric arteries from *Eln^{fl/fl}/Cre⁻* and *Eln^{fl/fl}/Cre⁺* mice, where (A) is myogenic tone, (B) is the active diameter, and (C) is the passive diameter. Dotted line indicates the optimal pressure for *Eln^{fl/fl}/Cre⁺* arteries. N=3 mice per group, n=4-6 arteries per group. Students t-test was performed at each pressure. * indicates p<0.050, and ** indicates p<0.010.

Variable	Value	Unit	Source	Description
C	298.6	μm	N=4, n=6 arteries Fig. S2A	Circumference of 3 rd order mesenteric arteries
C_{IEL}	298.6	μm	Assume that it is equal to C	Circumference of IEL
d	2.1	μm	N=5 mice, n=2166 HIEL Fig. S2B	Average diameter of HIEL
\bar{A}_{xy}	13,942.9	μm^2	Experimental parameter	Area of en face images
\bar{N}_{HIEL}	190.7	HIEL / image	N=4, n=4 arteries, n=12 images Fig. S2C	Average number of HIEL
ρ_{HIEL}	13.6	HIEL per $1000\mu\text{m}^2$	Eq. 1	Density of HIEL per $1000\mu\text{m}^2$

Table S1: Summary of quantitative data obtained from *en face* images. Measurements taken from third order mesenteric arteries, either manually, automatically via in-house Matlab program, or calculated from direct measurements.

Variable	Value	Units	Source	Description
Y_{TEM}	0.070	μm	Experimental parameter	Thickness of transverse TEM sections
$A_{\text{TEM},1}$	20.902	μm^2	Eq. 2	Artery area spanning Y_{TEM}
$A_{\text{TEM},d}$	627.06	μm^2	Eq. 4	Artery area spanning the length d
L_{IEL}	1791.6	μm	Eq. 5	Length of IEL across 6 TEM sections
HIEL_{TEM}	9	HIEL per A_{TEM}	Eq. 6	Number of HIEL expected across $A_{\text{TEM},d}$

Table S2: Calculated parameters of arterial cross-sections imaged via TEM. Experimental and calculated parameters for converting *en face* quantitative data to be interpretable in a TEM geometry.

Case Definition	Variable	Value	Units	Equation	Description
Case 1: <u>Maximum case</u>, assumes HIEL are evenly distributed	$D_{\text{HIEL}, E}$	54	TEM detections	Eq. 7	HIEL detections over 6 sections for Case 1
Case 2: Assumes HIEL are <u>randomly distributed</u>	$D_{\text{HIEL}, R}$	32		Adjusted Eq. 7 (see text)	HIEL detections over 6 sections for Case 2
Case 3: <u>Minimum case</u>, represents the <u>rare case</u> where each HIEL only appear on 1/6 of sections	$D_{\text{HIEL}, S}$	9		Adjusted Eq. 7 (see text)	HIEL detections over 6 sections for Case 3
Normalized Case 1	$D_{\text{HIEL}, EN}$	30	TEM detections per <u>1000μm IEL</u>	Eq. 8	HIEL detections over 6 sections for Case 1 normalized to IEL length
Normalized Case 2	$D_{\text{HIEL}, RN}$	17.8		Eq. 9	HIEL detections over 6 sections for Case 2 normalized to IEL length
Normalized Case 3	$D_{\text{HIEL}, SN}$	5		Eq. 10	HIEL detections over 6 sections for Case 3 normalized to IEL length

Table S3: Case scenarios that consider the potential spatial distributions of HIEL. Prediction of HIEL incidence in TEM sections with consideration of spatial distributions of evenly distributed (**Case 1**), randomly distributed (**Case 2**), or sparsely distributed (**Case 3**). Predictions are then normalized to obtain ratios with respect to IEL length, a metric that can be reproducibly measured in TEM images (**Normalized Cases 1-3**).