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(all-E)- and (5Z)-Lycopene display similar biological effects on adipocytes

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Abbreviations: PPAR: peroxisome proliferator-activated receptor; TNF: Tumoral necrosis factor; CD36: cluster of differentiation 36; AKT: Protein kinase B; ChREBP: carbohydrate response element binding protein; NF- κ B: nuclear factor κ B.

Scope: Although about 90% of lycopene in dietary sources occurs in the linear all-*trans* conformation, a large proportion of the lycopene found in human tissues is of the *cis*-isomer type, notably (5Z)-lycopene. The biological effects of this (5Z) isomer have been under-researched. The aim of this study was to evaluate some biological functions of (5Z)-lycopene in adipocytes and to compare them with those of (all-E)-lycopene.

Methods and results: (all-E)- and (5Z)-Lycopene displayed strong similarities in global gene expression profile and biological pathways impacted. We identified PPAR signaling as a major actor mediating the effects of lycopene isomers. Transactivation assays confirmed the ability of both isomers to transactivate PPAR γ . In addition, the TNF α -induced proinflammatory cytokine mRNA expression in 3T3-L1 adipocytes was reduced by both isomers, via a reduction in the phosphorylation levels of p65. Finally, lycopene isomers restored the TNF α -blunted uptake of glucose by adipocytes, via a modulation of AKT phosphorylation.

Conclusion: These results show that lycopene isomers exert similar biological functions in adipocytes, linked to their ability to transactivate PPAR γ . These findings add to our knowledge of lycopene effects in adipocyte biology and point to the possible use of lycopene in the prevention of obesity-related disorders.

Introduction

Lycopene is a lipophilic non-provitamin A carotenoid. It is responsible for the red color of various fruits and vegetables such as watermelon, papaya, guava and grapefruit, and is commonly found in tomatoes [1]. This carotenoid is well-known for its antioxidant properties [2], and has been reported to display anti-inflammatory effects in various cell types and tissues [3]. Notably, we have established that lycopene can decrease inflammatory markers in adipocytes, in macrophages and *in vivo* [4-7], which might alleviate disorders with a low-grade inflammatory background such as obesity, type II diabetes and cardiovascular disease (CVD) [2, 8]. In humans, lycopene is mainly stored in adipose tissue, where it comprises more than a half of the total carotenoid concentration [9]. This storage is partly mediated by CD36 [10]. It has also been reported that higher lycopene intakes were associated with a lower waist circumference and visceral and subcutaneous fat mass [11], suggesting a beneficial impact of lycopene on adipose tissue / adipocyte metabolism, as recently highlighted [7].

As expected from its highly unsaturated structure, with 11 conjugated and two non-conjugated double bonds, several isomers of lycopene have been identified. Among these, (all-E)-lycopene is the most abundant isomer in fruits and vegetables (about 90%). By contrast, a large proportion (approx. 1/3) of the lycopene isomers found in human serum and tissues is of the *cis*-isomer type [8, 12]. Several *cis* isomers have been identified, including (5Z)-, (9Z)-, (13Z)-, (15Z)-, (7Z)- and (11Z)-lycopene. Among these, (5Z)-lycopene was found to be the most stable [13]. Lycopene isomerization is assumed to take place in enterocytes [14], after absorption [15, 16], but the mechanism has never been described and it is unclear whether isomerization results from chemical and/or enzymatic processes, and whether it modulates the biological activity of lycopene.

Until now, most studies on the biological effects of lycopene have used (all-E)-lycopene. However, the presence of (5Z)-lycopene in plasma and its high stability suggest that this isomer

might also mediate biological effects. The aim of this study was to evaluate some biological functions of (5Z)-lycopene in adipocytes and to compare these effects with those of (all-E)-lycopene, which have already been documented.

Materials and methods

Chemicals

Dulbecco's modified Eagle's medium (DMEM) was purchased from Life Technologies (Cergy-Pontoise, France). Fetal bovine serum (FBS) was obtained from PAA Laboratories (Les Mureaux, France). Isobutylmethylxanthine, dexamethasone, tetrahydrofuran containing 250 ppm butylated hydroxytoluene (THF/BHT) and insulin were purchased from Sigma-Aldrich (Saint-Quentin-Fallavier, France). (all-E)-Lycopene (purity > 95%) was kindly provided by Dr. Catherine Caris-Veyrat (INRA, Avignon France). (5Z)-Lycopene was purchased from CaroteNature (Münsingen, Switzerland). TRIzol reagent, random primers and Moloney murine leukemia virus reverse transcriptase were obtained from Life Technologies (Saint-Aubin, France). SYBR Green reaction buffer was purchased from Eurogentec (Angers, France).

Cell culture

3T3-L1 Preadipocytes (ATCC, Manassas, VA) were seeded in 3.5 cm diameter dishes at a density of 15×10^4 cells/well. Cells were grown in DMEM supplemented with 10% FBS at 37 °C in a 5% CO₂ humidified atmosphere, as previously reported [17, 18]. To induce differentiation, two-day postconfluent 3T3-L1 preadipocytes (Day 0) were stimulated for 48 h with 0.5 mM isobutylmethylxanthine, 0.25 μM dexamethasone, and 1 μg/ml insulin in DMEM supplemented with 10% FBS. The cultures were then treated with DMEM supplemented with 10% FBS and 1 μg/mL insulin. To examine the impact of lycopene isomers on gene expressions, 3T3-L1 adipocytes were incubated with 2 μM of (all-E)- or (5Z)-lycopene dissolved in THF/BHT at 0.1% as previously reported [19] for 24 h. Control received the vehicle (THF/BHT) alone. All treatments were performed on Day 8. The data are the mean of three independent experiments each performed in triplicate. To examine the anti-inflammatory

effect of lycopene isomers, 3T3-L1 adipocytes were incubated with 2 μ M of (all-E)- or (5Z)-lycopene or THF/BHT alone (Control) for 24 h. These adipocytes were then incubated with TNF α (15 ng /mL) for 3 h. All treatments were performed on Day 8. The data are the mean of three independent experiments each performed in triplicate.

RNA isolation and qPCR

Total cellular RNA was extracted using TRIzol reagent according to the manufacturer's instructions. cDNA was synthesized from 1 μ g of total RNA using random primers and Moloney murine leukemia virus reverse transcriptase [20]. Real-time quantitative RT-PCR analyses were performed using the Mx3005P Real-Time PCR System (Stratagene, La Jolla, CA) as previously described [21]. For each condition, the expression was quantified in duplicate, and the ribosomal protein 18S mRNA was used as the endogenous control in the comparative cycle threshold (CT) method ($2^{-\Delta\Delta Ct}$) [22].

Hybridization arrays and microarray data analysis

RNA quality control was performed on an Agilent 2100 Bioanalyzer (Massy, France) with 6000 Nano Chips, according to the manufacturer's instructions and as previously reported [20, 23]. RNA from three independent experiments were pooled per treated group and hybridized to Agilent Whole Human Genome (4x44k; Massy, France). All labeling, hybridization, washing and scanning were performed as described in the manufacturer's protocol. Arrays were scanned with an Agilent Scanner (Massy, France). Data were extracted with Agilent Feature Extraction v9.5.3 and analyzed with Agilent GeneSpring GX v10.0 (Massy, France). Data were determined to be significant based on *p*-value ($p < 0.05$) and fold change (1.5). Lists of genes regulated by lycopene isomers are available on request from the corresponding author. Pathway analyses were performed with Metacore (<http://www.genego.com/metacore.php>).

PPAR γ transactivation assay *in vitro*

The reporter plasmid containing the gene for firefly luciferase under the control of four copies of the Gal4 binding site UAS was transfected into 3T3-L1 preadipocyte cells, together with plasmids coding CMX-Gal4 or CMX-Gal4-PPAR γ and pGL4 plasmid coding the renilla luciferase. The transfection was performed using Lipofectamine 2000 (Invitrogen, Saint-Aubin, France). After overnight incubation with the transfection mixes (1 μ g of plasmid, 0.9 μ L of Lipofectamine LTX and 1 μ L of Plus Reagent per well), according to the manufacturer's instructions, the medium was replaced by DMEM supplemented with 10% FBS and various concentrations (0.1, 0.2, 1, 2, 10 μ M) of (all-E)- or (5Z)-lycopene. After 24 h of treatment, the cells were lysed and assayed for luciferase activity using a Dual-Glo luciferase assay system (Promega, Madison, WI), firefly luciferase activity was normalized to renilla luciferase. Rosiglitazone (0.1 and 1 μ M) was used as a positive control (data not shown). The transfection experiments were performed in triplicate and repeated three times independently.

Glucose uptake

The 3T3-L1 preadipocytes were differentiated into adipocytes for 8 days as previously described [24]. At Day 8, the cells were incubated with (all-E)- or (5Z)-lycopene (2 μ M) or THF/BHT alone (control) for 24 h with or without TNF α incubation (15 ng/mL) for 24 h. One hour before the experiment, the cell medium was replaced by serum-free medium. The uptake of glucose was measured using a Uptake-GloTM glucose assay (Promega, Madison, WI). Briefly, the cells were incubated in PBS without insulin (unstimulated condition) or with 1 μ g/mL insulin for 30 min at 37 °C (insulin-stimulated condition). After washing in PBS buffer, the cells were incubated in 500 μ L of PBS containing 1 mM of 2-deoxyglucose (2DG) for 10 min. An acid detergent solution (Stop Buffer) was then added to lyse cells. The cells were

transferred to a 96-well plate and a high-pH buffer solution (neutralization buffer) was added to neutralize the acid; 250 μ L of 2-deoxyglucose-6-phosphate (2DG6P) detection reagent was added to the sample wells, and the luminescence was measured after 1 h. The uptake measurement was performed in triplicate and a standard curve of 2DG6P (1 mM) was used to convert the luminescence into 2DG6P concentration.

NF- κ B and AKT activation measurement

To examine the involvement of the NF- κ B signaling pathway in 3T3-L1, the levels of p65 (Ser) phosphorylation were quantified using the ELISA InstantOne™ Kit according to the manufacturer's instructions (eBiosciences SAS, Paris, France), as previously reported [25]. To examine the activation of the AKT signaling pathway, AKT phosphorylation and total AKT were measured in cells using ELISA InstantOne™ Kit according to the manufacturer's instructions (eBiosciences SAS, Paris, France).

Statistical analysis

The data are expressed as means \pm SEM. Significant differences between the control and treated groups were determined using ANOVA followed by the Tukey-Kramer *post hoc* test using Statview software: $p < 0.05$ was considered statistically significant.

Results

(all-E)- and (5Z)-Lycopene modulate the transcriptome of 3T3-L1 adipocytes

To study the impact of (all-E)- and (5Z)-lycopene in terms of global gene expression on adipocytes, microarray experiments were performed. 3T3-L1 adipocytes were incubated with (all-E)- or (5Z)-lycopene (2 μ M) for 24 h. The impact of these treatments on the transcriptome was evaluated with a fold change filter of 1.5. As shown in Fig. 1A, 4821 genes were regulated by (all-E)-isomer (2392 upregulated, 1852 downregulated, $p < 0.05$), and 3387 genes were regulated by (5Z)-isomer (1852 upregulated, 1535 downregulated, $p < 0.05$). To compare these lists of genes, we made a Venn diagram that highlighted regulated genes in common or specifically for each isomer. Interestingly, 1941 genes were upregulated and downregulated by both (all-E)- and (5Z)-isomers (983 upregulated, 958 downregulated) (Fig. 1A). In addition, the fold change of genes regulated by (all-E) (y-axis) was plotted against the fold change of genes regulated by (5Z) (x-axis) (Fig. 1B). This scatter plot revealed a highly significant ($p < 0.01$) linear correlation between the two isomer conditions (Pearson coefficient of correlation 0.890). Pathway analysis using Metacore software showed that several pathways were significantly regulated by the two isomers (Tables 1 and 2). Both isoforms displayed impact on cytoskeleton, lipid metabolism, cell adhesion, immune response, AKT signaling and PPAR signaling. In addition, genes regulated by both (all-E)- and (5Z)-lycopene (983 upregulated, 958 downregulated, Fig. 1A) significantly impacted pathways related to cell adhesion, cytoskeleton, immune response, and lipid and glucose metabolism via several pathways such as regulation of lipid metabolism, insulin regulation of fatty acid metabolism, ChREBP signaling, PPAR signaling, and oxidative phosphorylation (Table 3).

(all-E)- and (5Z)-Lycopene transactivate PPAR γ *in vitro*

In order to assess the ability of (all-E)- and (5Z)-lycopene to transactivate PPAR γ , we performed transactivation assays in 3T3-L1 cells transiently transfected with a vector coding for the PPAR γ ligand binding domain in the presence of various concentrations of (all-E)- and (5Z)-lycopene (0.1, 0.2, 1, 2, 10 μ M). The lowest concentration of (all-E)-lycopene did not transactivate PPAR γ , whereas concentrations from 1 μ M to 10 μ M induced a dose response effect. (5Z)-Lycopene induced a significant transactivation of PPAR γ from 0.2 μ M. A strong effect was observed for the highest concentration of 10 μ M (Fig. 2).

(all-E)- and (5Z)-Lycopene decrease TNF α -mediated proinflammatory cytokine expression and NF- κ B activation in 3T3-L1 adipocytes

We compared the ability of (all-E)- and (5Z)-lycopene to limit the inflammatory response triggered by TNF α treatment in 3T3-L1 adipocytes. For this purpose, 3T3-L1 cells were incubated with isomers (2 μ M) for 24 h, followed by incubation with TNF α (15 ng/mL) for 3 h. As expected, expression of monocyte chemoattractant protein-1 (Mcp1), interleukin-6 (Il6), chemokine (C-C motif) ligand 5 (Ccl5), haptoglobin and serum amyloid A3 (Saa3), which are classical inflammatory markers, increased significantly by 90%, 80%, 95%, 99% and 63% respectively in the cells incubated in the presence of TNF α compared with the control cells (Fig. 3). As previously reported, the pretreatment of cells with 2 μ M of (all-E)-lycopene significantly reduced Mcp1 expression by 16%, Ccl5 by 27%, and haptoglobin by 14%. No significant differences were noted in the expression of Il6 and Saa3. Interestingly, the pretreatment of cells with (5Z)-lycopene significantly reduced the expression of Mcp1 by 21%, Il6 by 50%, Ccl5 by 28%, haptoglobin by 13% and Saa3 by 32% (Fig. 3).

NF- κ B is a well-known transcription factor involved in the regulation of proinflammatory cytokines and chemokines in adipocytes [26]. We thus examined the involvement of the NF- κ B signaling pathway in the mediation of anti-inflammatory effects of (all-E)- and (5Z)-

lycopene in 3T3-L1 adipocytes. Cells were pretreated with (all-E)- or (5Z)-lycopene for 24 h followed by a 5 min incubation with TNF α . As expected, the phosphorylation level of p65 was significantly increased under TNF α effect, whereas preincubation of cells with (all-E)- or (5Z)-lycopene strongly limited the phosphorylation of p65 (Fig. 3).

(all-E)- and (5Z)-Lycopene improve 2-deoxyglucose uptake and AKT phosphorylation in 3T3-L1 adipocytes

To determine the effect of (all-E)- and (5Z)-isomers on glucose metabolism, we measured 2-deoxyglucose (2DG) uptake in 3T3-L1 adipocytes evaluated in the presence of TNF α alone or pretreated with (all-E)- and (5Z)-lycopene. The TNF α treatment led to a significant decrease in insulin-stimulated 2DG transport compared with control cells ($p < 0.001$) (Fig. 4A). Pretreatment with (all-E)- or (5Z)-lycopene followed by the TNF α treatment led to a significant increase in insulin-stimulated 2DG uptake compared with the TNF α condition ($p < 0.001$). The impact of these treatments on insulin signaling was evaluated at the phosphorylation level of AKT. The results showed that TNF α treatment decreased AKT phosphorylation ($p < 0.01$). Pretreatment with (all-E)- and (5Z)-lycopene followed by the TNF α treatment significantly restored AKT phosphorylation ($p < 0.01$) (Fig. 4B).

Discussion

In this study, we compared the biological effects of two major isomers of lycopene, (all-E)- and (5Z)-lycopene. The first is the most abundant form in fruits and vegetables, but the second form is found in large amounts in plasma. Interestingly, both isomers are found in adipose tissue, where their concentrations have been evaluated at 0.9 and 1 μM for (all-E) and (5Z)-lycopene [9], but data on their respective biological effects are scant.

Firstly, we determined the impact of (all-E)- and (5Z)-lycopene (2 μM , which is in the range of concentrations found in adipose tissue) on gene expression in 3T3-L1 cells. Importantly, the (all-E)-isomer exhibited more pronounced effects in gene regulation than did (5Z)-lycopene. Such discrepancies could be due to different abilities of the two isomers to activate various signaling pathways or nuclear receptors: it has been established that all-*trans* lycopene transactivates RAR [27], but no data are available for (5Z)-lycopene. This is also the case for many other transcription factors such as Nrf2 [28]. In addition, we cannot exclude the possibility that (all-E) and (5-Z)-lycopene are differentially taken up by adipocytes as previously reported in enterocytes [15], or are differentially metabolized by enzymes such as BCO2 (expressed in 3T3-L1 cells; persona data), which is known to display a cleavage activity toward (5Z) but not toward (all-E) lycopene [29]. Nevertheless, a large proportion of genes are regulated by both isomers (1941 genes, Fig. 1), suggesting that common signaling pathways are involved. In evidence, pathway analysis of genes regulated by (all-E)- and (5Z)-isomers revealed a large overlap in pathways impacted (Table 2 and 3). This is notably the case for pathways related to lipid and glucose metabolism (regulation of lipid metabolism, regulation of insulin and fatty acid metabolism, oxidative phosphorylation, AKT signaling, etc.) and to immunity and transcription of PPAR. Moreover, these pathways were found to be regulated by genes commonly regulated by both (all-E)- and (5Z)-isomers (Table 3), suggesting that these pathways correspond to a similar pattern of gene regulation of the two isomers. Interestingly,

these data strongly suggest a role of PPAR in the biological effect of lycopene isomers: the pathway “transcription_PPAR pathway” is activated by both isomers, and it is well established that this nuclear receptor is involved in various pathways found to be regulated in the present study. Peroxisome proliferator-activated receptor γ (PPAR γ), the main PPAR isoform in adipocytes, belongs to the superfamily of transcription nuclear receptors [30, 31]. PPAR γ forms a heterodimer with retinoid X receptor (RXR) that binds to a peroxisome proliferator-responsive element (PPRE) in the regulatory domain of target genes, thereby affecting their expression [32]. PPAR γ is known to be an important stimulator of adipogenesis [33, 34], and a potent modulator of insulin sensitivity [35], lipogenesis and adipocyte differentiation [36-38]. It also displays anti-inflammatory activity and is involved in metabolic homeostasis [30].

Based on these observations, we investigated in detail the impact of (all-E)- and (5Z)-lycopene on (i) PPAR γ transactivation, (ii) inflammatory process and (iii) glucose uptake in adipocytes. We demonstrated that both lycopene isomers transactivated PPAR γ *in vitro* in adipocytes. These results are consistent with previous reports demonstrating that lycopene and extracts of tomato were able to induce PPAR γ dose-dependently [39], along with other carotenoids such as bixin and norbixin [40].

Since the activation of PPAR γ is associated with anti-inflammatory effects [41], we assessed the effect of (all-E)- and (5Z)-lycopene on the adipocyte inflammatory status. To this end, TNF- α , a major mediator of obesity-related inflammation [42], was used to induce a low-grade inflammation in adipocytes. (all-E)- and (5Z)-Lycopene displayed an anti-inflammatory effect by decreasing the TNF α -mediated expression of genes encoding pro-inflammatory markers such as cytokines (Il6), acute phase proteins (Saa3, haptoglobin) and chemokines (Ccl5, Mcp1). This downregulation of numerous proinflammatory markers mediated by lycopene isomers is associated with a strong limitation in the phosphorylation of p65 (Fig. 3), leading to a

deactivation of the NF- κ B signaling. Thus it is highly probable that transactivation of PPAR γ mediated the anti-inflammatory effect of (all-E)- and (5Z)-lycopene via the dephosphorylation of p65. Such an effect could be due to the impact of PPAR γ activation on early events in the NF- κ B signaling such as IKK phosphorylation, as previously demonstrated [4]. However, the precise molecular mechanism governing this deactivation of NF- κ B signaling requires further investigation, since many mechanisms could be involved [43].

Also of note is the involvement of cytokines and chemokines in cardiometabolic disorders,, such as insulin resistance and type II diabetes; all proinflammatory substances studied have been linked to inflammatory-mediated insulin resistance in metabolic tissues including the liver, skeletal muscles and adipose tissue [44]. In adipocytes, these substances are able to impair insulin sensitivity via several mechanisms, including direct interaction with insulin signaling via the modulation of the phosphorylation level of key players such as IRS1 [45]. We therefore hypothesized that the decrease in proinflammatory cytokines and chemokines reported with lycopene isomers would have a beneficial effect on adipocyte insulin sensitivity and glucose uptake. In evidence, we showed that lycopene isomers restored the TNF α -mediated decrease in glucose uptake and AKT phosphorylation in adipocytes. These results are fully consistent with the well-established effects of PPAR γ agonists (including thiazolidinediones) in increasing glucose uptake in adipocytes and subsequent AKT signaling [46]. We note that these properties are largely due to the ability of the PPAR γ agonists to block the inflammatory process responsible for insulin resistance [47, 48].

Altogether, results generated by a transcriptomic and bioinformatics-coupled approach, highlight the ability of (all-E)- and (5Z)-lycopene to transactivate PPAR γ , leading to a modulation of inflammatory tone and a subsequent favorable impact on glucose uptake and insulin sensitivity in adipocytes. This study provides new data for the comparison of (all-E)-

and (5Z)-lycopene in terms of biological activity, and reveals that these substances display similar effects, at least in adipocytes. Our findings add to current knowledge on the effects of lycopene on adipocyte biology, and open new perspectives for using lycopene isomers in the prevention of obesity-related health disorders.

Conflict of interest statement: The authors have nothing to disclose.

Legends for figures

Figure 1. Comparison of genes regulated by (all-E)- and (5Z)-lycopene in 3T3-L1 adipocytes. (A) Venn diagrams represent the number of significantly ($p < 0.05$) upregulated or downregulated genes in 3T3-L1 adipocytes due to (all-E)- or (5Z)-lycopene treatments. 3T3-L1 adipocytes were incubated with (all-E)-lycopene (2 μ M) or (5Z)-lycopene (2 μ M) or vehicle alone for 24 h. RNA was extracted and hybridized on a whole-mouse genome microarray. Data were computed using Genespring GX10 (fold change filter 1.5). (B) Commonly regulated genes after treatment with (all-E) (y -axis) and (5Z) (x -axis) were plotted. The correlation line was drawn, and the Pearson correlation coefficient and the associated p -value were calculated with SPSS17.

Figure 2. Effect of (all-E)- and (5Z)-lycopene on the transactivation of PPAR γ . 3T3-L1 cells were transiently transfected with plasmids coding for TK-MH100x4-Luc, PPAR γ -Gal4 and renilla luciferase. Cells were treated for 24 h with various concentrations of (all-E)- and (5Z)-lycopene. Renilla and firefly luciferase quantification were performed as described in Materials and methods. Values not assigned the same letter are significantly different, $p < 0.05$

Figure 3. Relative expression of mRNA inflammatory genes. 3T3-L1 adipocytes were incubated with (all-E)- and (5Z)-lycopene (2 μ M) or vehicle alone for 24 h, and then incubated with TNF α (15 ng/mL) for 3 h (A to E). RNAs were extracted and reverse transcribed with MMLV. Real-time PCR was performed using specific primers. 18S rRNA was used as the endogenous control. Effect of (all-E)- and (5Z)-lycopene on p65 phosphorylation (F). Cells were preincubated with (all-E)- and (5Z)-lycopene (2 μ M) or vehicle alone for 24 h, and incubated with TNF α (15 ng/mL) for 5 min. Phosphorylation levels of p65 were evaluated by

ELISA. Values are presented as mean \pm S.E.M. Values not assigned the same letter are significantly different, $p < 0.05$.

Figure 4. Effect of (all-E)- and (5Z)-lycopene on insulin-stimulated glucose uptake in 3T3-L1 adipocytes. (A) Cells were preincubated with (all-E)- and (5Z)-lycopene (2 μ M) or vehicle alone for 24 h, and incubated with TNF α (15 ng/mL) for 30 min. Glucose uptake was monitored as reported in Materials and methods. Effect of (all-E)- and (5Z)-lycopene on phosphorylation of AKT. (B) Cells were preincubated with (all-E)- and (5Z)-lycopene (2 μ M) or vehicle alone for 24 h, and incubated with TNF α (15 ng/mL) for 5 min. Phosphorylated and total levels of AKT were evaluated by ELISA, and the ratio between phosphorylated and total AKT was calculated. Values are presented as mean \pm S.E.M. Values not assigned the same letter are significantly different, $p < 0.05$.

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Table 1. Pathways regulated by (all-E)- lycopene.

Map	Map Folders	p-Value
Cytoskeleton remodeling_Role of PKA in cytoskeleton reorganisation	Protein function/Kinases Regulatory processes/Cytoskeleton remodeling	1,071E-07
Cytoskeleton remodeling_Cytoskeleton remodeling	Regulatory processes/Cytoskeleton remodeling	1,186E-07
Regulation of lipid metabolism Stimulation of Arachidonic acid production by ACM receptors	Protein function/G-proteins/GPCR Regulation of metabolism/Regulation of lipid metabolism	3,844E-03
Cytoskeleton remodeling_TGF, WNT and cytoskeletal remodeling	Regulatory processes/Cytoskeleton remodeling	9,321E-07
Regulation of lipid metabolism_Insulin regulation of glycogen metabolism	Protein function/Hormones Regulation of metabolism/Regulation of lipid metabolism	1,251E-02
Cell adhesion_Integrin-mediated cell adhesion and migration	Regulatory processes/Cell adhesion	1,295E-05

Signal transduction_AKT signaling	Protein function/Kinases	3,617E-03
Immune response_Signaling pathway mediated by IL-6 and IL-1	Protein function/Cyto/chemokines Regulatory processes/Immune response/Acute inflammatory response	1,654E-02
Immune response_Antigen presentation by MHC class I	Disease maps/Lung Diseases/Cystic Fibrosis Regulatory processes/Immune response	1,654E-02
Transcription_PPAR Pathway	Protein function/Transcription factors	6,845E-03

Table 2. Pathways regulated by (5Z)-lycopene.

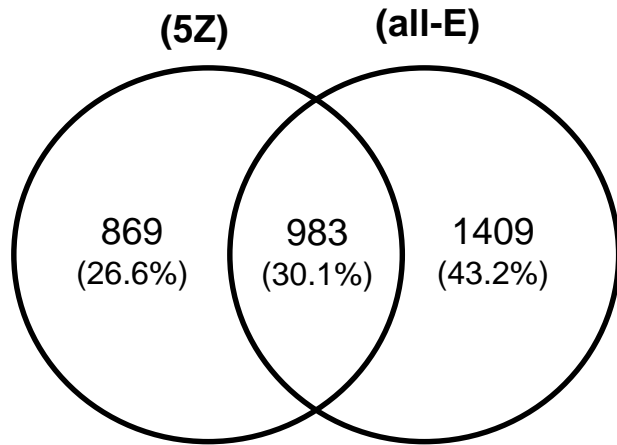
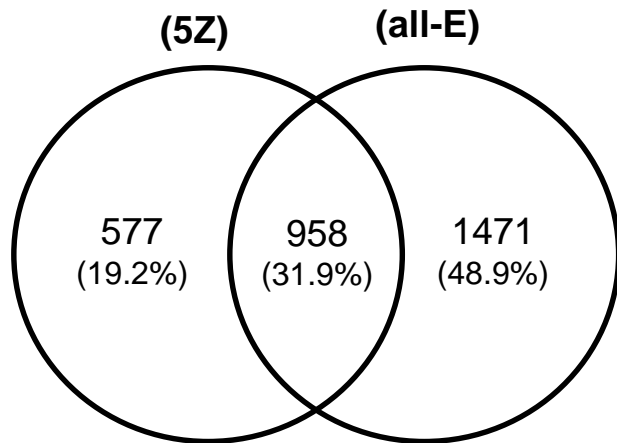
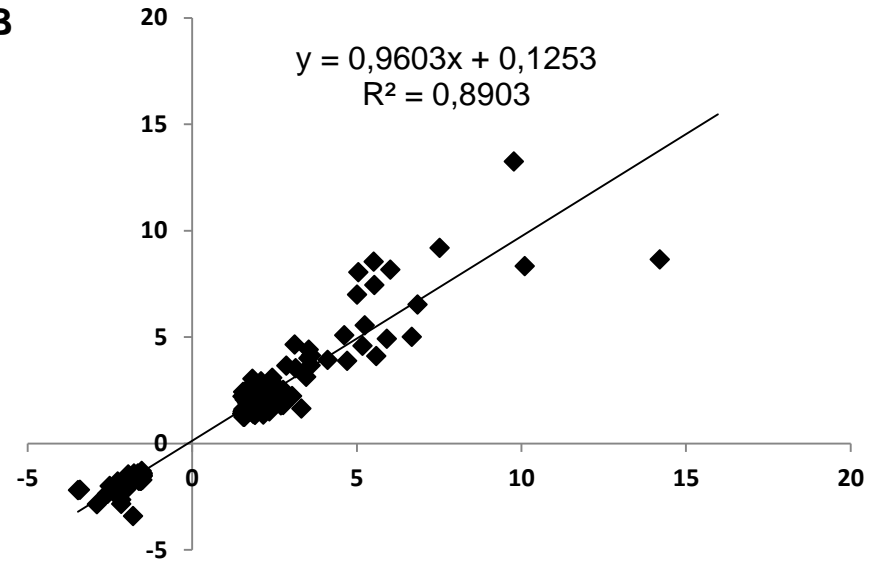
Map	Map Folders	p-Value
Cytoskeleton remodeling_Role of PKA in cytoskeleton reorganisation	Protein function/Kinases Regulatory processes/Cytoskeleton remodeling	1,071E-07
Cytoskeleton remodeling_Cytoskeleton remodeling	Regulatory processes/Cytoskeleton remodeling	1,186E-07
Regulation of lipid metabolism Stimulation of Arachidonic acid production by ACM receptors	Protein function/G-proteins/GPCR Regulation of metabolism/Regulation of lipid metabolism	3,844E-03
Cytoskeleton remodeling_TGF, WNT and cytoskeletal remodeling	Regulatory processes/Cytoskeleton remodeling	9,321E-07
Regulation of lipid metabolism_Insulin regulation of glycogen metabolism	Protein function/Hormones Regulation of metabolism/Regulation of lipid metabolism	1,251E-02
Cell adhesion_Integrin-mediated cell adhesion and migration	Regulatory processes/Cell adhesion	1,295E-05

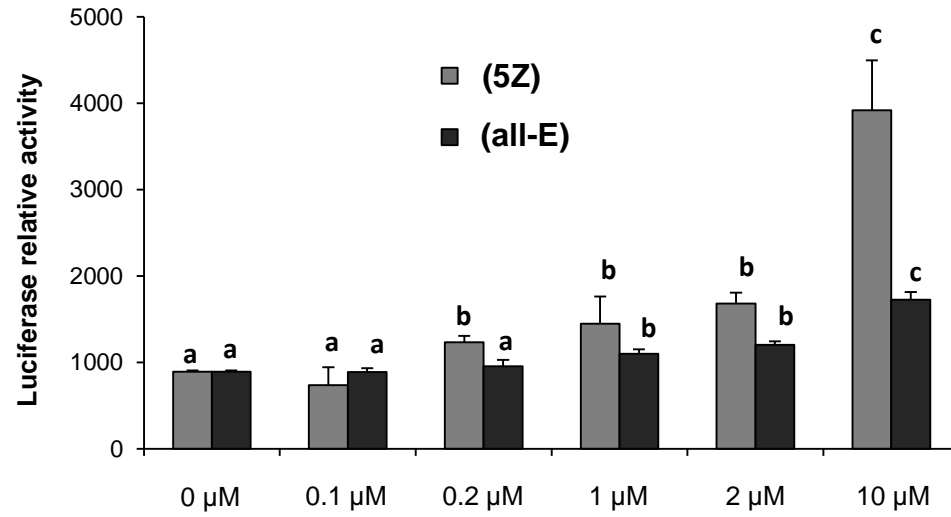
Signal transduction_AKT signaling	Protein function/Kinases	3,617E-03
Immune response_Signaling pathway mediated by IL-6 and IL-1	Protein function/Cyto/chemokines Regulatory processes/Immune response/Acute inflammatory response	1,654E-02
Immune response_Antigen presentation by MHC class I	Disease maps/Lung Diseases/Cystic Fibrosis Regulatory processes/Immune response	1,654E-02
Transcription_PPAR Pathway	Protein function/Transcription factors	6,845E-03

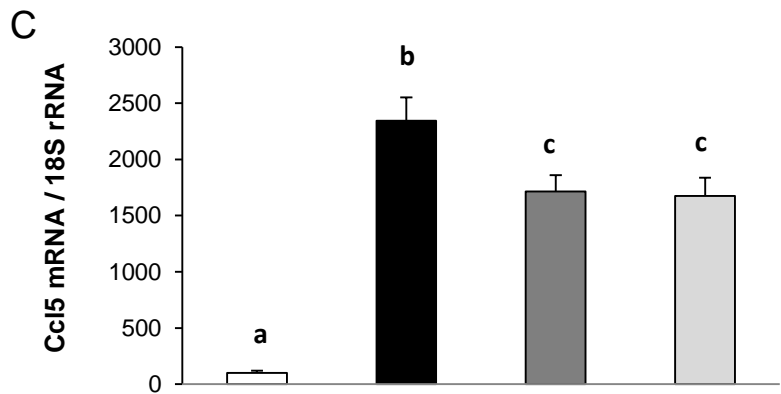
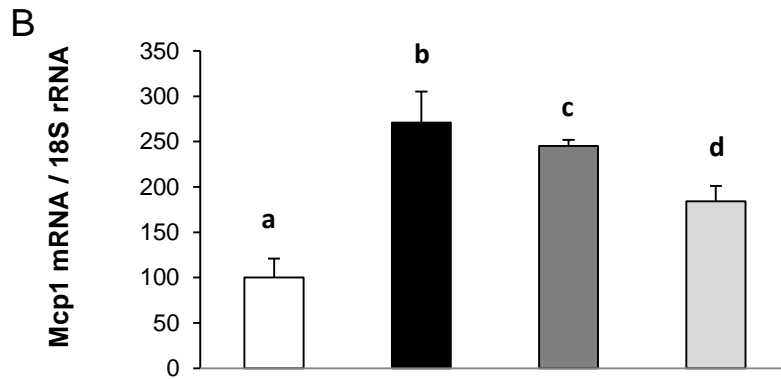
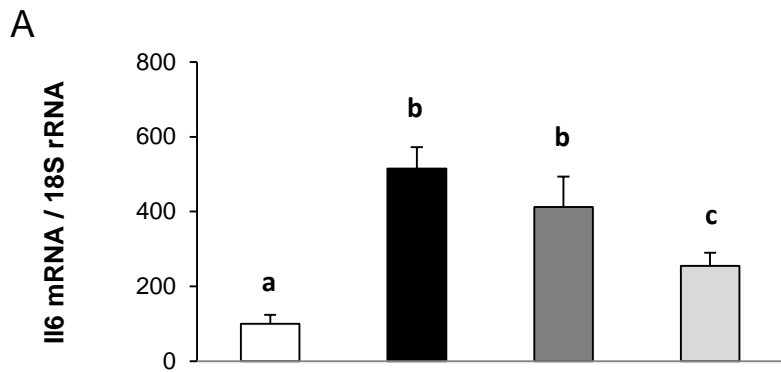
Table 3. Pathways regulated by (all-E) and (5-Z) isoforms of lycopene.

Map	Map Folders	p-Value
Transcription_ChREBP regulation pathway	Protein function/G-proteins/GPCR Protein function/Transcription factors	2,086E-04
Cytoskeleton remodeling_Role of PKA in cytoskeleton reorganisation	Protein function/Kinases Regulatory processes/Cytoskeleton remodeling	1,969E-09
Cell adhesion_Integrin-mediated cell adhesion and migration	Regulatory processes/Cell adhesion	8,004E-09
Cytoskeleton remodeling_Fibronectin-binding integrins in cell motility	Regulatory processes/Cell adhesion Regulatory processes/Cytoskeleton remodeling	6,236E-07
Immune response_IFN gamma signaling pathway	Protein function/Cyto/chemokines Regulatory processes/Immune response	1,431E-02
Immune response_Antigen presentation by MHC class I	Disease maps/Lung Diseases/Cystic Fibrosis Regulatory processes/Immune response	1,654E-02

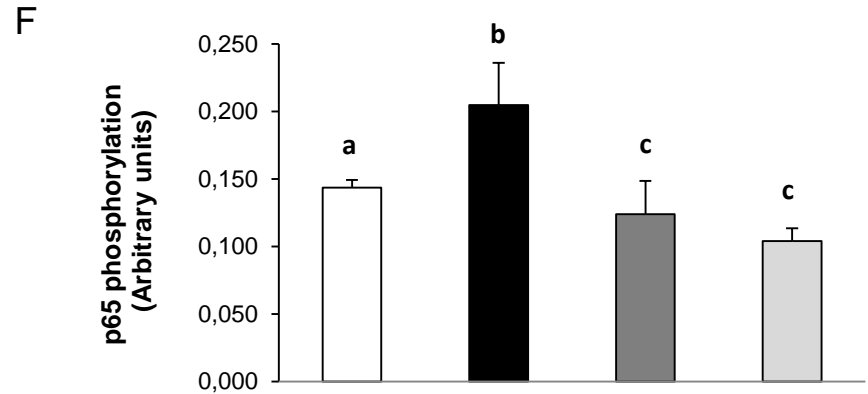
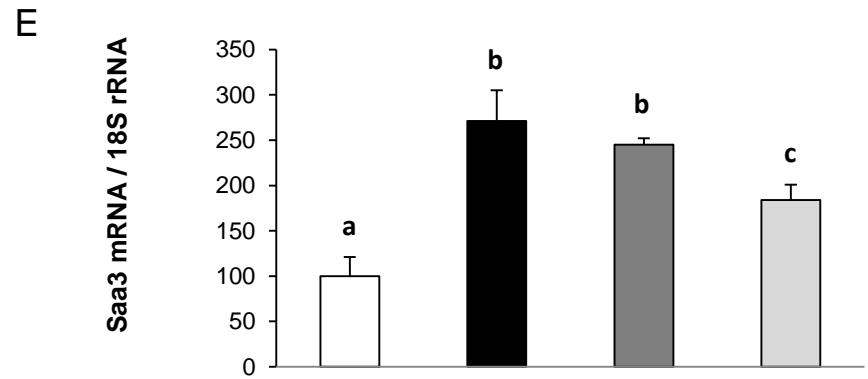
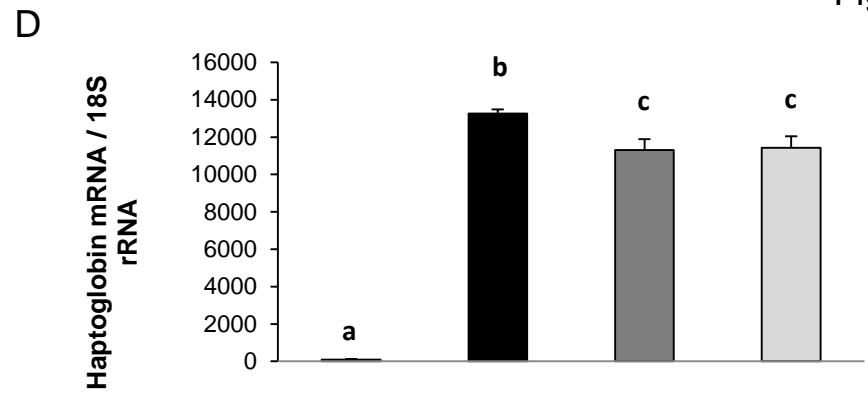
Transcription_PPAR Pathway	Protein function/Transcription factors	2,097E-03
G-protein signaling_Regulation of p38 and JNK signaling mediated by G-proteins	Protein function/G-proteins/GPCR	2,937E-05
Oxidative phosphorylation	Metabolic maps/Metabolic maps (common pathways)/Energy metabolism	3,025E-05
Regulation of lipid metabolism_Stimulation of Arachidonic acid production by ACM receptors	Protein function/G-proteins/GPCR Regulation of metabolism/Regulation of lipid metabolism	1,989E-03

A Up-regulated genes**Down-regulated genes****B**

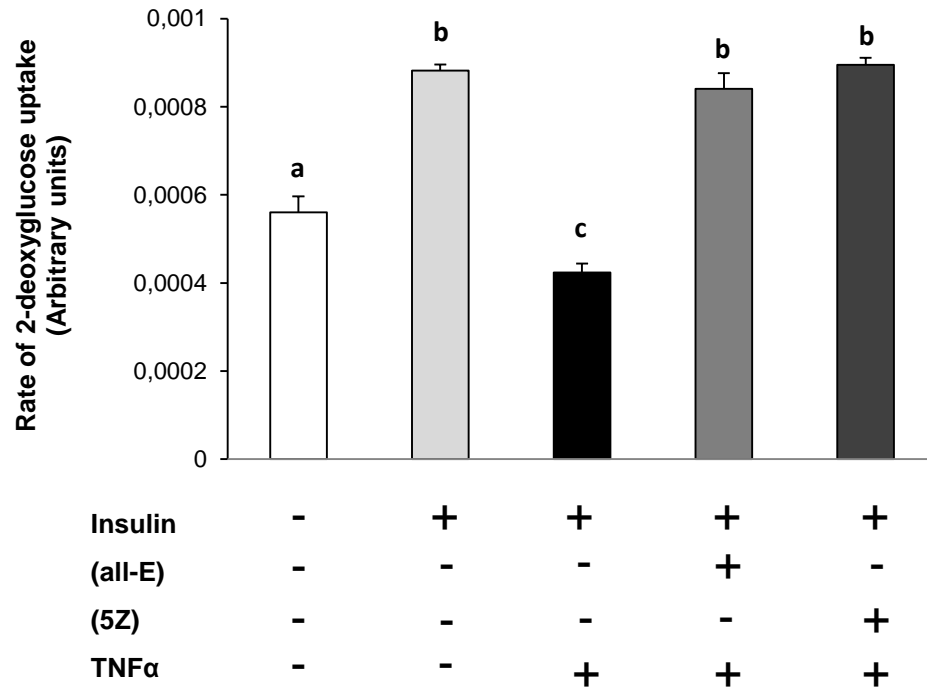




TNF α	-	+	+	+
(all-E)	-	-	+	-
(5Z)	-	-	-	+



TNF α	-	+	+	+
(all-E)	-	-	+	-
(5Z)	-	-	-	+

A**B**