

Tubule-mitophagic secretion of SerpinG1 reprograms macrophages to instruct anti-septic acute kidney injury efficacy of high-dose ascorbate mediated by NRF2 transactivation

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Supplemental Figure S1-7 and Supplemental Table S1 and 2

Supplemental Figure S1. High-dose ascorbate by itself did not prime macrophages for phenotypic switch during septic AKI. (A and B) ELISA measuring interleukin-1 β (IL-1 β) and interleukin-18 (IL-18) production in kidney homogenate of LPS-induced endotoxemia (LIE) mice with PBS (P), low- or high-dose ascorbate (A1 or A2) therapy ($n = 9$ per group). Data are expressed as mean \pm s.d. Two-sided ANOVA with Bonferroni post hoc t test correction was used to calculate the P value. Iso, isotype. **(C)** Fluorescence-activated cell sorting (FACS) analyses comparing F4/80 $^{+}$ proportion in spleen tissues of mice with or without intravenous administration of clodronate liposome (Clod) treatment. **(D)** Experimental scheme illustrating adoptive transfer of splenic macrophages (Mac) from mice with either PBS (P) or high-dose ascorbate (A2) therapy into LIE mice in which macrophages were depleted by clodronate liposomes in the presence of PBS or high-dose ascorbate therapy. **(E-I)** Representative images and quantification of iNOS $^{+}$ /F4/80 $^{+}$, CD206 $^{+}$ /F4/80 $^{+}$, H&E and p-ULK1_Ser555 staining in renal sections from clodronate liposomes-pretreated mice with P or A2 splenic macrophages transfer in the presence of PBS or high-dose ascorbate therapy upon LIE challenge. Data are expressed as mean \pm s.d. Two-sided ANOVA with Bonferroni post hoc t test correction was used to calculate the P value ($n \geq 5$ per group). Scale bar: 50 μ m and 100 μ m. **(J and K)** ELISA assays measuring interleukin-1 β (IL-1 β) and interleukin-18 (IL-18) production in kidney homogenate of clodronate liposomes-pretreated mice with P or A2 splenic macrophages transfer in the presence of PBS or high-dose ascorbate therapy upon LIE challenge ($n \geq 5$ per group). Data are expressed as mean \pm s.d. Two-sided ANOVA with Bonferroni post hoc t test correction was used to calculate the P value.

Supplemental Figure S2. Mitophagy inhibition or SVCT-1 and -2 knockout in RTECs abrogates the boosting effects of high-dose ascorbate on M2 macrophages. (A and B) Representative FACS histograms examining CD206 $^{+}$ populations as well as ELISA comparing IL-10 and TNF productions in BMDMs incubated with conditioned medium (CM) from the scrambled shRNA (Scr)- or *Atg7* shRNA (*sh.Atg7*)-transfected and DMSO- or liensinine (Lien)-pretreated RTECs under LPS plus high-dose ascorbate-costimulated circumstances, respectively ($n \geq 3$ per group). Data are expressed as mean \pm s.d. Two-sided ANOVA with Bonferroni post hoc t test correction was used to calculate the P value. **(C)** Western-blotting analyses determining ATG7 expression in RTECs transfected with scrambled shRNA (Scr) or *Atg7* shRNA (*sh.Atg7*). **(D)** Representative FACS histograms evaluating CD206 $^{+}$ populations in BMDMs incubated with conditioned medium (CM) from the

SVCT1- and/or SVCT2-knockout (KO) RTECs under LPS plus high-dose ascorbate-costimulated circumstances, respectively ($n = 3$ per group). Data are expressed as mean \pm s.d. Two-sided ANOVA with Bonferroni post hoc t test correction was used to calculate the P value. **(E)** Western-blotting analyses measuring SVCT-1 and -2 expression in RTECs where SVCT1- and/or SVCT2 were knocked out by CRISPR-Cas9 genome editing. **(F)** Western-blotting analyses assessing levels of iNOS and ARG1 protein expression in SVCT1- and/or SVCT2-knockout (KO) BMDMs stimulated with LPS ($n = 3$ per group).

Supplemental Figure S3. Tubular epithelium-specific ATG7 ablation impairs renal protection *in vivo* and anti-inflammatory macrophages polarization *in vitro* elicited by high-dose ascorbate. **(A)** Left panel: Representative gel images for the genotyping PCR to verify the genotype of $ATG7^{\Delta TE}$ mice ($n = 3$). Right panel: Representative immunofluorescence (IF) images of ATG7 in mouse primary RTECs. **(B)** Representative immunohistochemistry (IHC) images of p62 and ATG7 protein expression as well as transmission electron microscopy (TEM) pictures of mitophagosomes in $Atg7^{flx/flx}$ and $Atg7^{\Delta TE}$ mice. Scale bar: 100 μ m and 1 μ m. **(C and D)** Serum creatinine (Scr) and blood urea nitrogen (BUN) levels in $Atg7^{flx/flx}$ and $Atg7^{\Delta TE}$ mice receiving PBS (P) or high-dose ascorbate (A2) therapy upon LIE challenge ($n \geq 10$ per group). Data are expressed as mean \pm s.d. Two-sided ANOVA with Bonferroni post hoc t test correction was used to calculate the P value. **(E)** Kaplan-Meier curves comparing survivals of $Atg7^{flx/flx}$ and $Atg7^{\Delta TE}$ mice receiving PBS (P) or high-dose ascorbate (A2) therapy upon LIE challenge ($n \geq 12$ mice per group). Log-rank t test was used to calculate the P value. **(F)** Representative images and quantification of H&E staining in renal sections from $Atg7^{flx/flx}$ and $Atg7^{\Delta TE}$ mice receiving PBS (P) or high-dose ascorbate (A2) therapy upon LIE challenge in the presence or absence of clodronate liposomes (Clod) pretreatment ($n = 6$ per group). Data are expressed as mean \pm s.d. Two-sided ANOVA with Bonferroni post hoc t test correction was used to calculate the P value. Scale bar: 100 μ m. **(G)** ELISA assessing secretion of interleukin-4 (IL-4) and interferon- γ (IFN- γ) in BMDMs incubated with conditioned medium (CM) from RTECs from $Atg7^{flx/flx}$ and $Atg7^{\Delta TE}$ mice under LPS plus high-dose ascorbate-costimulated circumstances, respectively ($n = 4$ per group). Data are expressed as mean \pm s.d. Two-sided ANOVA with Bonferroni post hoc t test correction was used to calculate the P value. **(H)** Western-blotting analyses comparing ATG7 expression in $Atg7^{flx/flx}$ and $Atg7^{\Delta TE}$ RTECs.

Supplemental Figure S4. High-dose ascorbate favors tubular secretion of

SerpinG1 in a mitophagy-dependent fashion under inflammatory stress. (A) Quantification of DAB2, IGF1, SerpinG1, SerpinB2, TNC and VEGFC protein levels in cell lysates or conditioned medium (CM) from SVCT-1 and/or -2 knockout (KO) RTECs with LPS stimuli as in Figure 4B ($n = 3$ per group). Data are expressed as mean \pm s.d. Two-sided ANOVA with Bonferroni post hoc t test correction was used to calculate the P value. **(B)** ELISA examining secretion of SerpinG1 in the LPS-stimulated RTECs with high-dose ascorbate exposure followed by withdrawal for the indicated times ($n = 4$ per group). Data are expressed as mean \pm s.d. Two-sided ANOVA with Bonferroni post hoc t test correction was used to calculate the P value. **(C)** RT-qPCR analysis assessing mRNA expression of *SerpinG1* in the SVCT-1 and -2 shRNA-transfected HK-2 cells with LPS and/or high-dose ascorbate costimuli in the presence or absence of reconstituted SVCT-1 plus -2 expression ($n = 7$ per group). Data are expressed as mean \pm s.d. Two-sided ANOVA with Bonferroni post hoc t test correction was used to calculate the P value. **(D)** Quantification of SerpinG1 protein levels in the SVCT-1 and -2 shRNA-transfected HK-2 cells with LPS and/or high-dose ascorbate costimuli in the presence or absence of reconstituted SVCT-1 plus -2 expression as in Figure 4D ($n = 3$ per group). Data are expressed as mean \pm s.d. Two-sided ANOVA with Bonferroni post hoc t test correction was used to calculate the P value. **(E)** Western-blotting analyses determining abundance of SerpinG1 in renal tissues from *Atg7^{fllox/fllox}* and *Atg7 ^{Δ TE}* mice subjected to LIE ($n = 3$ per group). **(F)** RT-qPCR analysis measuring mRNA expression of *SerpinG1* in *Atg7^{fllox/fllox}* and *Atg7 ^{Δ TE}* RTECs with LPS stimuli ($n = 5$ per group). Data are expressed as mean \pm s.d. Experiments were performed five times, each with quantitative RT-PCR in technical duplicate and real-time values were normalized to glyceraldehyde 3-phosphate dehydrogenase (GAPDH). Two-sided ANOVA with Bonferroni post hoc t test correction was used to calculate the P value. **(G)** ELISA examining secretion of SerpinG1 in *Atg7^{fllox/fllox}* and *Atg7 ^{Δ TE}* RTECs with LPS stimuli ($n = 4$ per group). Data are expressed as mean \pm s.d. Two-sided ANOVA with Bonferroni post hoc t test correction was used to calculate the P value. **(H)** Left panel: ELISA detecting secretion of SerpinG1 in the LPS-stimulated RTECs transfected with siRNA targeting PINK1, PARK2 or NIX, respectively ($n = 4$ per group). Right panel: Western-blotting analyses detecting levels of PINK1, PARK2 or NIX in RTECs transfected with siRNA targeting PINK1, PARK2 or NIX, respectively. Un, untransfected. M, mock. **(I)** ELISA comparing secretion of SerpinG1 in the LPS-stimulated HK-2 cells with or without CCCP (10 μ mol/L) treatment ($n = 4$ per group). Data are expressed as mean \pm s.d. Two-sided ANOVA with Bonferroni post hoc t test correction was used to calculate the P value. **(J)** TOMM20 staining, cytosolic mitochondrial COX-1

(mt-COX-1) release and mitochondrial reactive oxygen species (mt-ROS) production of the LPS-stimulated RTECs with recombinant SerpinG1 (rSerpG1, 100 µg/mL) or high-dose ascorbate treatment ($n = 3$ per group). Data are expressed as mean \pm s.d. Two-sided ANOVA with Bonferroni post hoc t test correction was used to calculate the P value. **(K)** TOMM20 staining, cytosolic mitochondrial COX-1 (mt-COX-1) release and mitochondrial reactive oxygen species (mt-ROS) production of the LPS-stimulated and LPS plus high-dose ascorbate-costimulated RTECs with SerpinG1 siRNA transfection ($n = 4$ per group). Data are expressed as mean \pm s.d. Two-sided ANOVA with Bonferroni post hoc t test correction was used to calculate the P value. si.Ctrl: control siRNA. **(L)** ELISA evaluating secretion of SerpinG1 in the LPS and/or high-dose ascorbate-costimulated RTECs with liensinine (Lien) treatment in the presence of scrambled shRNA (Scr) or *Atg7* shRNA (*sh.Atg7*) transfection ($n = 4$ per group). Data are expressed as mean \pm s.d. Two-sided ANOVA with Bonferroni post hoc t test correction was used to calculate the P value.

Supplemental Figure S5. NRF2 transactivation contributes to the high-ascorbate-inducible SerpinG1 secretion mediated by tubular mitophagy. **(A)**

ELISA determining secretion of SerpinG1 in the LPS plus high-dose ascorbate-costimulated RTECs with alkaloid trigonelline (Trig.) treatment for the indicated times ($n = 6$ per group). Data are expressed as mean \pm s.d. Two-sided ANOVA with Bonferroni post hoc t test correction was used to calculate the P value.

(B) ELISA comparing secretion of SerpinG1 in the LPS-stimulated RTECs with HA-tagged NRF2 expression ($n = 4$ per group). Data are expressed as mean \pm s.d. Two-sided ANOVA with Bonferroni post hoc t test correction was used to calculate the P value. Un: untransfected; EV: empty vector. **(C)** Western-blotting analyses detecting levels of SerpinG1 protein in RTECs with HA-tagged NRF2 expression. **(D)** Left panel: ELISA examining secretion of SerpinG1 in the LPS plus high-dose ascorbate-costimulated RTECs transfected with ATG7 shRNA (*sh.Atg7*) in the presence or absence of NRF2 depletion ($n = 4$ per group). Data are expressed as mean \pm s.d. Two-sided ANOVA with Bonferroni post hoc t test correction was used to calculate the P value. Middle and right panel: western-blotting analyses comparing levels of NRF2 and ATG7 protein in RTECs transfected with NRF2 shRNA (*sh.NRF2*) and ATG7 shRNA (*sh.Atg7*), respectively.

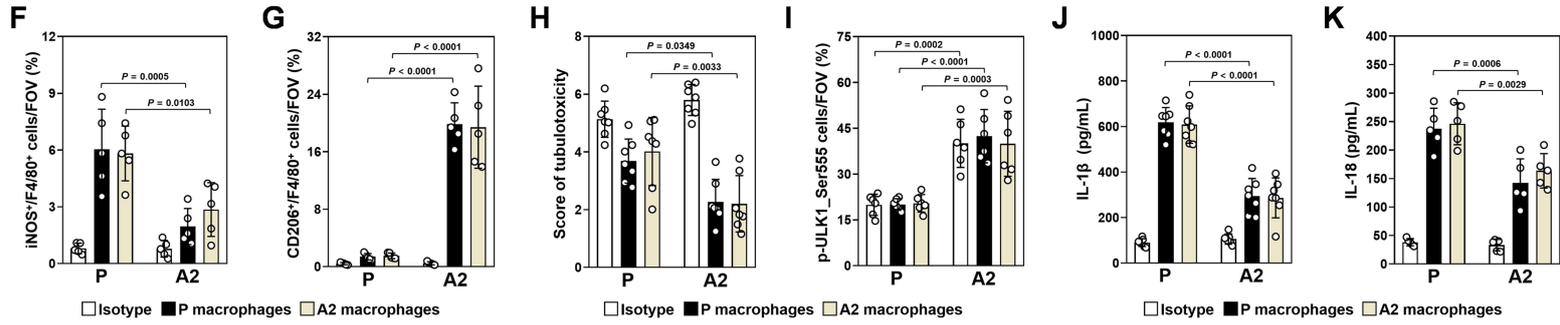
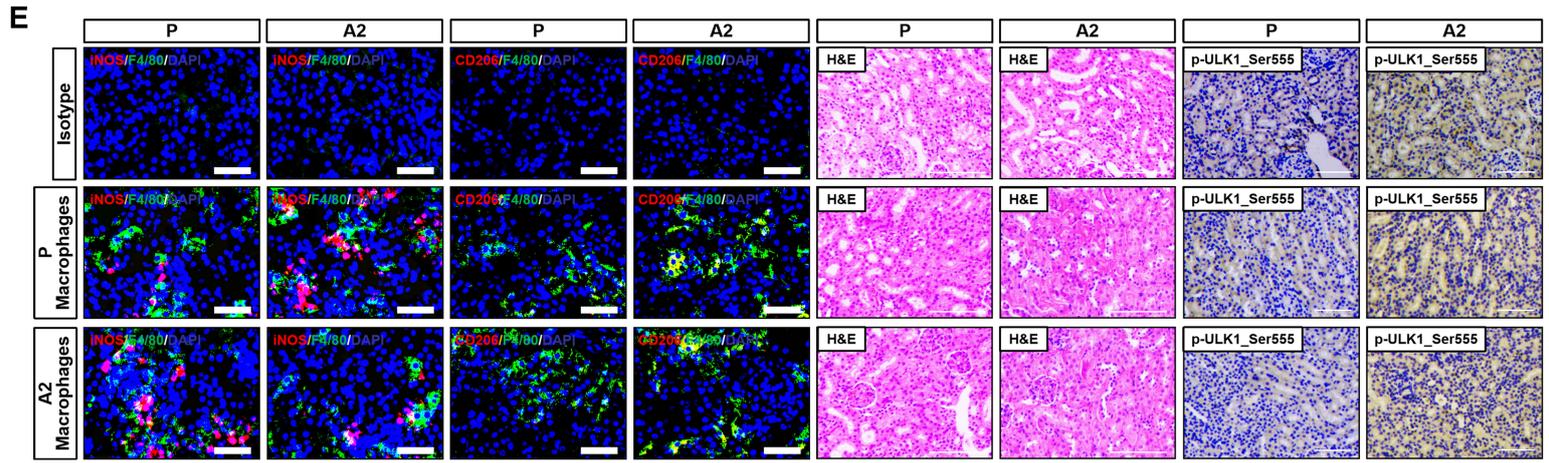
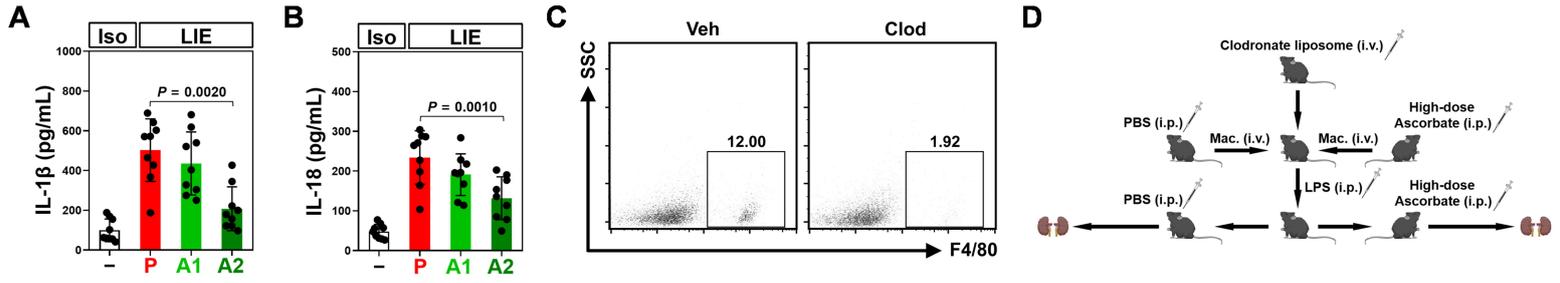
Supplemental Figure S6. Tubular SerpinG1 perpetuates the anti-inflammatory macrophages and thereby prevents septic AKI. **(A)** Western-blotting analyses examining abundance of SerpinG1 protein in RTECs transfected with vector

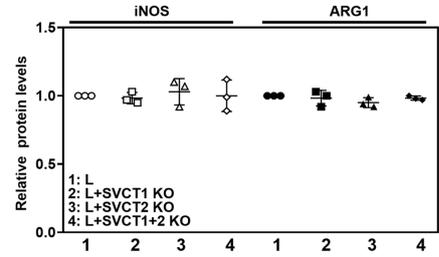
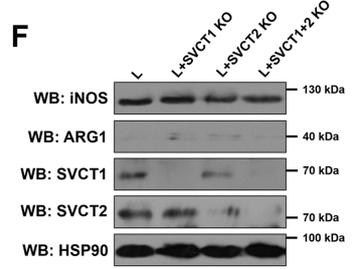
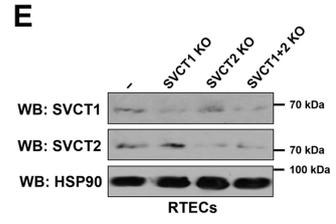
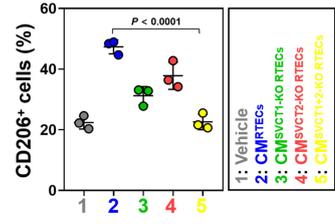
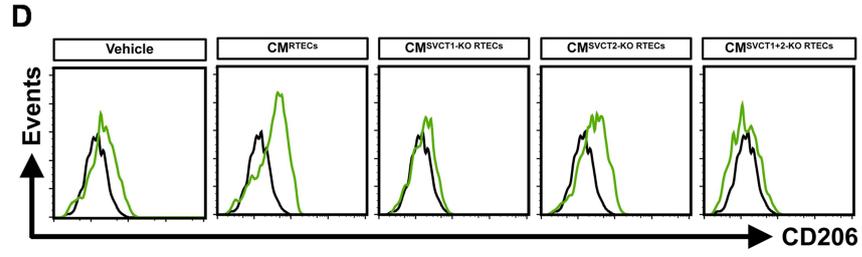
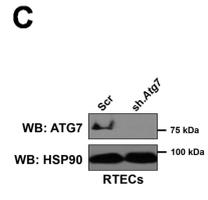
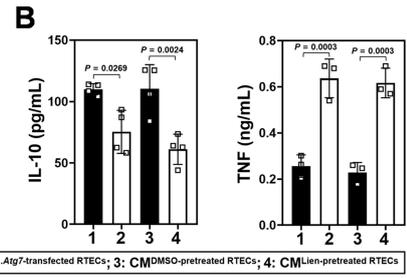
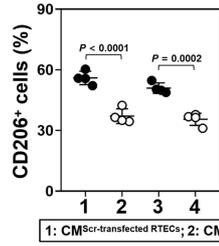
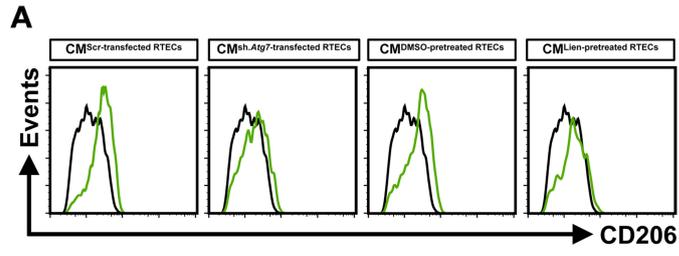
expressing GFP or GFP-tagged SerpinG1. CB: coomassie blue. **(B and C)** Representative contour plots and quantification of FACS assessing CD206⁺/CD86⁻ populations in the LPS-stimulated BMDMs with the indicated conditioned medium (CM) treatment in the presence of anti-SerpinG1 Ab incubation ($n = 3$ per group). Data are expressed as mean \pm s.d. Two-sided ANOVA with Bonferroni post hoc t test correction was used to calculate the P value. **(D)** Western-blotting analyses (left panel) and quantification (right panel) testing abundance of iNOS and ARG1 protein in the LPS-stimulated BMDMs with the indicated conditioned medium (CM) treatment in the presence of anti-SerpinG1 Ab incubation ($n = 3$ per group). Data are expressed as mean \pm s.d. Two-sided ANOVA with Bonferroni post hoc t test correction was used to calculate the P value. **(E)** ELISA evaluating secretion of interleukin-1 β (IL-1 β), interleukin-18 (IL-18), C-C motif chemokine ligand 3 (CCL3) and interferon- γ (IFN- γ) in the LPS-stimulated BMDMs with the indicated conditioned medium (CM) treatment in the presence of anti-SerpinG1 Ab incubation ($n = 4$ per group). Data are expressed as mean \pm s.d. Two-sided ANOVA with Bonferroni post hoc t test correction was used to calculate the P value. **(F)** Western-blotting analyses comparing levels of SerpinG1 protein in RTECs transfected with siRNA targeting control (si.Ctrl) or SerpinG1 (si.SerpinG1). **(G)** Representative FACS histograms and quantification evaluating CD206⁺ populations in the LPS-stimulated or LPS plus high-dose ascorbate-costimulated BMDMs cocultured with RTECs transfected with siRNA targeting control (si.Ctrl) or SerpinG1 (si.SerpinG1) ($n = 3$ per group). Data are expressed as mean \pm s.d. Two-sided ANOVA with Bonferroni post hoc t test correction was used to calculate the P value. **(H)** Representative images (left panel) and quantification (right panel) of H&E staining in renal sections from LPS-induced endotoxemia (LIE) mice receiving rSerpinG1 administration in the presence or absence of clodronate liposomes pretreatment ($n = 5$ per group). Data are expressed as mean \pm s.d. Two-sided ANOVA with Bonferroni post hoc t test correction was used to calculate the P value. Scale bar: 100 μ m. **(I)** Kaplan-Meier curves assessing survival of LPS-induced endotoxemia (LIE) mice receiving rSerpinG1 administration in the presence or absence of clodronate liposomes pretreatment ($n \geq 12$ mice per group). Log-rank t test was used to calculate the P value.

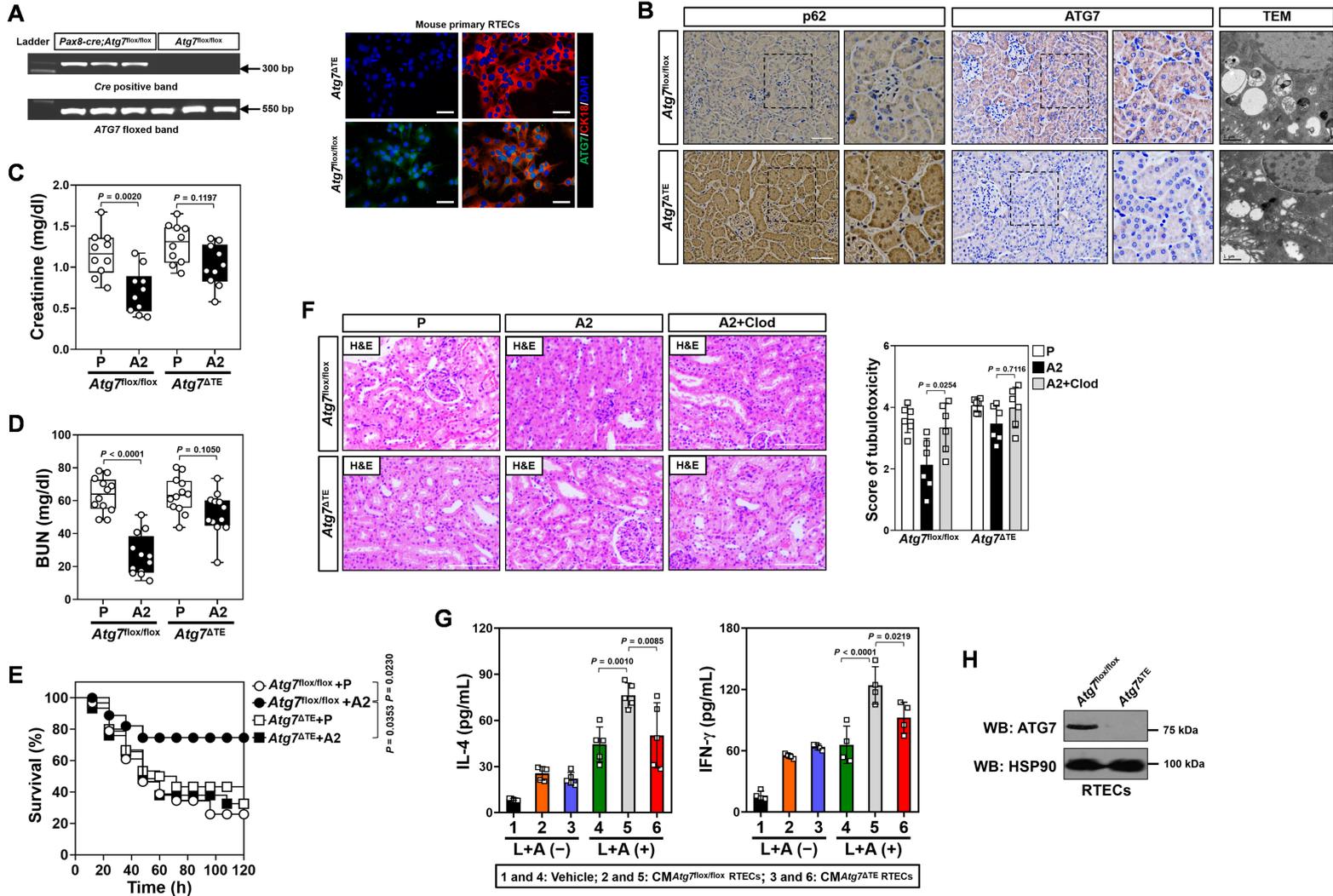
Supplemental Figure S7. SerpinG1 reverses depolarization of anti-inflammatory macrophages and septic AKI exacerbation triggered by tubular

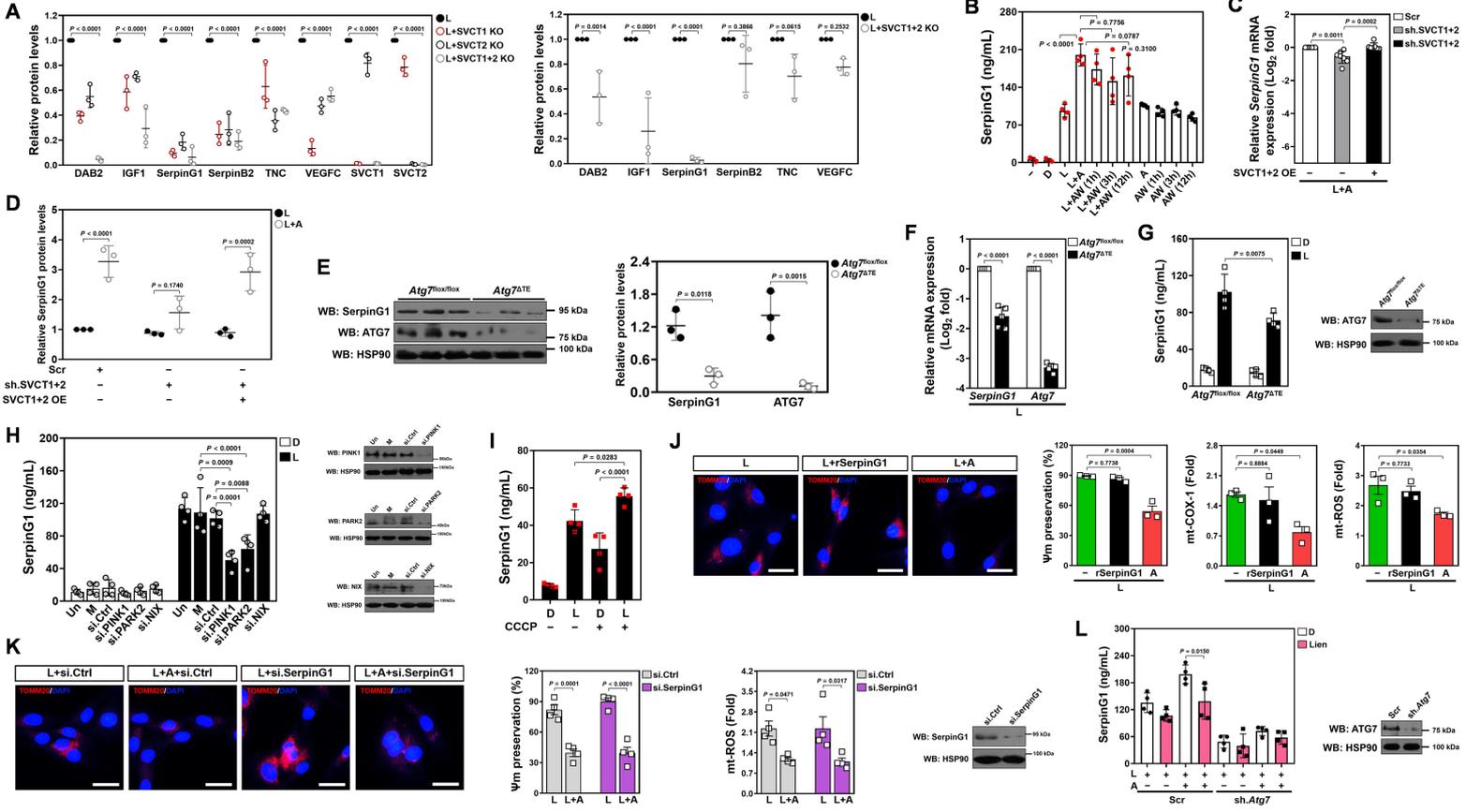
epithelium-specific ablation of ATG7. (A) Representative images and quantification of CD206⁺/F4/80⁺, ATG7 and H&E staining in renal sections from *Atg7*^{fl^{ox}/fl^{ox} and *Atg7* ^{Δ TE} mice with or without receiving rSerpinG1 (800 μ g) administration upon LIE}

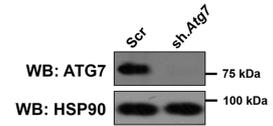
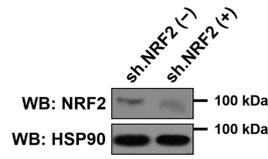
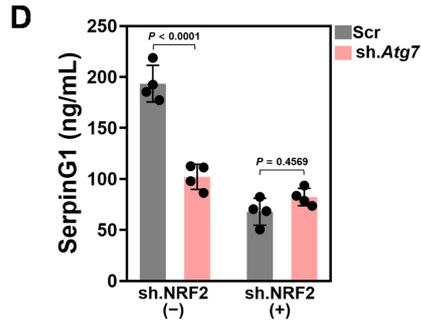
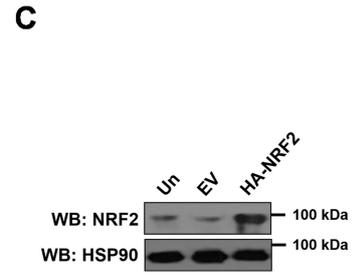
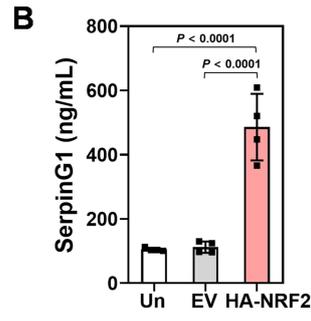
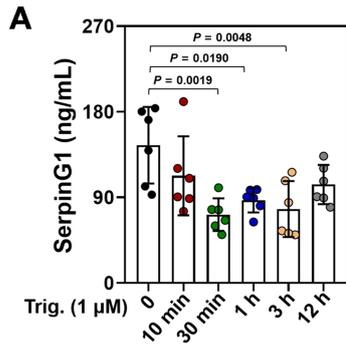
challenge ($n \geq 3$ per group). Data are expressed as mean \pm s.d. Two-sided ANOVA with Bonferroni post hoc t test correction was used to calculate the P value. Scale bar: 50 μm and 100 μm . **(B)** ELISA measuring secretion of interleukin-1 β (IL-1 β) in kidney homogenate of $Atg7^{\text{flox/flox}}$ and $Atg7^{\Delta\text{TE}}$ mice with or without receiving rSerp1G1 administration upon LIE challenge ($n = 4$ per group). Data are expressed as mean \pm s.d. Two-sided ANOVA with Bonferroni post hoc t test correction was used to calculate the P value.

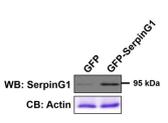
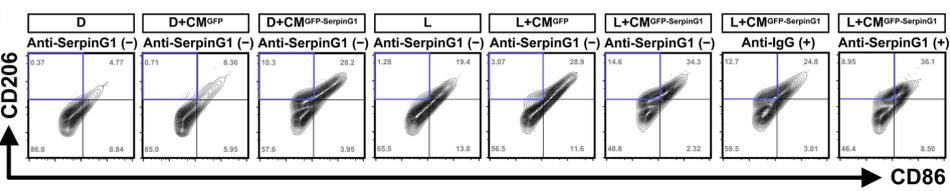
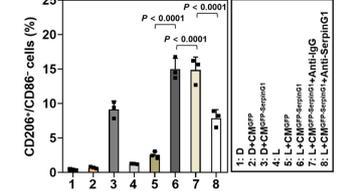
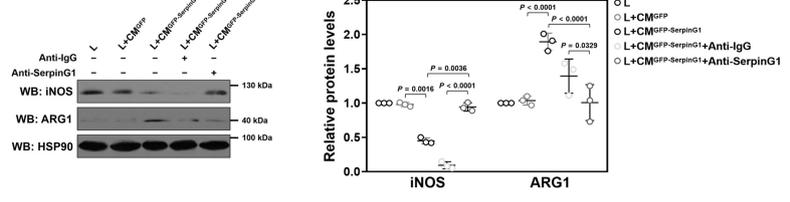
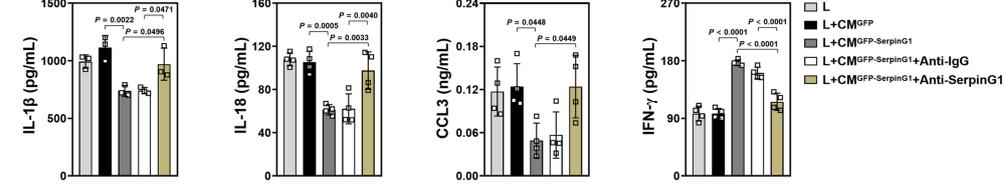
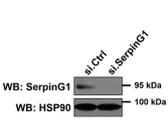
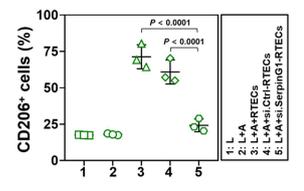
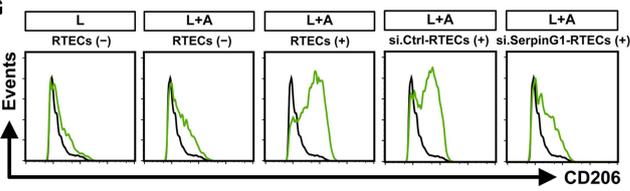
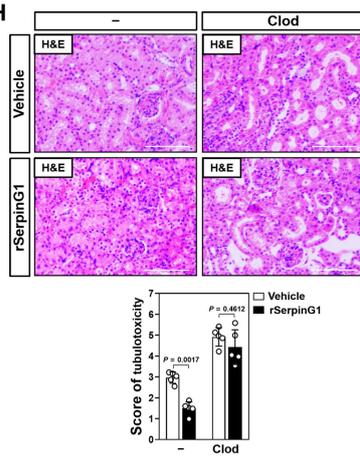
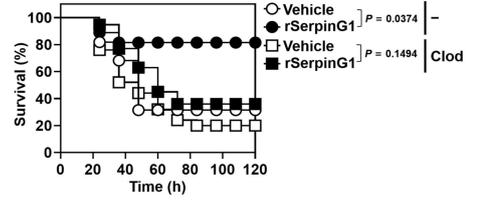




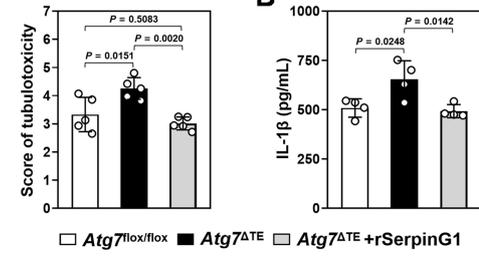
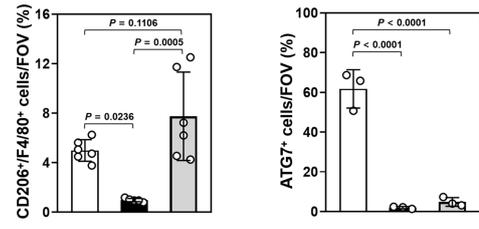
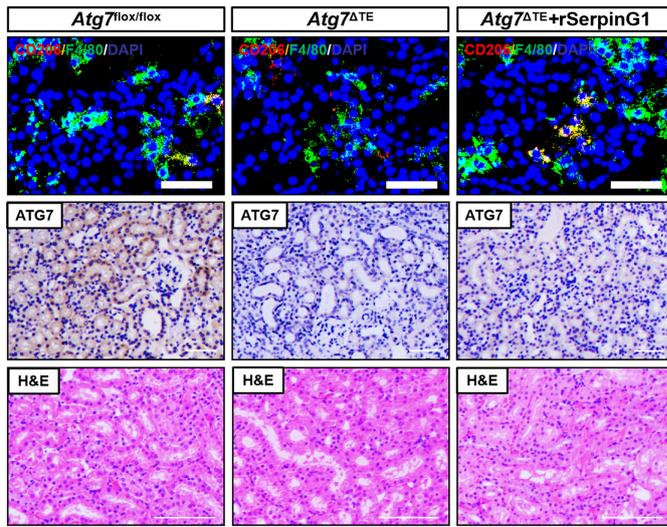






A**B****C****D****E****F****G****H****I**

A



B

Supplemental Table S1. A list of the secreted proteins significantly downregulated in SVCT1 and -2 KO RTECs relative to parental RTECs under LPS stimuli (Fold change ≤ -2)

Gene symbol	Description	Fold change	ANOVA <i>p</i> value	Chromosome
<i>CTSB</i>	Cathepsin B	-43.54	0.000455	Chr 14
<i>LOXL4</i>	Lysyl oxidase like 4	-40.58	0.000279	Chr 19
<i>SERPING1</i>	Serpin family G member 1	-36.64	0.009317	Chr 2
<i>SERPINB2</i>	Serpin family B member 2	-28.83	0.002078	Chr 1
<i>SLURP1</i>	Secreted LY6/PLAUR domain containing 1	-25.02	0.000542	Chr 15
<i>FSHB</i>	Follitropin subunit beta	-19.35	0.000375	Chr 2
<i>COL12A1</i>	Collagen alpha-1(XII) chain	-12.37	0.015754	Chr 9
<i>DAB2</i>	DAB adaptor protein 2	-12.06	0.009912	Chr 15
<i>GALP</i>	Galanin like peptide	-9.79	0.001775	Chr 7
<i>IGF1</i>	Insulin like growth factor 1	-7.31	0.014601	Chr 10
<i>CCL2</i>	C-C motif chemokine ligand 2	-5.53	0.022789	Chr 11
<i>AMTN</i>	Amelotin	-5.26	0.015077	Chr5
<i>SFRP5</i>	Secreted frizzled related protein 5	-5.12	0.000625	Chr 19
<i>FAM20A</i>	Pseudokinase FAM20A	-4.83	0.005566	Chr 11
<i>TNC</i>	Tenascin C	-4.12	0.007348	Chr 4
<i>CXCL12</i>	C-X-C motif chemokine 12	-4.06	0.047149	Chr 6
<i>VEGFC</i>	Vascular endothelial growth factor C	-3.07	0.003430	Chr 8
<i>LGALS3BP</i>	Galectin 3 binding protein	-2.93	0.024956	Chr 11

Supplemental Table S2. Primers used in real-time quantitative PCR (RT-qPCR)

Gene	Accession number	Sense, 5'→3'	Antisense, 5'→3'
<i>DAB2-m</i>	NM_023118	CCTTCATTGCTCGTGATGTGA	CCCCAAACAAATCCATCTGGTC
<i>IGF1-m</i>	NM_001111274	CACATCATGTCGTCTTCACACC	GGAAGCAACACTCATCCACAATG
<i>SerpinG1-h</i>	NM_001032295	CTGGCTGGGGATAGAGCCT	GAGATAACTGTTGTTGCGACCT
<i>SerpinG1-m</i>	NM_009776	GAGGCTCAAGCGAAAAGCAGA	ACTCGTTGGCTACTTTACCCA
<i>CTSB-m</i>	NM_007798	CAGGCTGGACGCAACTTCTAC	TCACCGAACGCAACCCTTC
<i>LOXL4-m</i>	NM_001164311	GCCAACGGACAGACCAGAG	CCAGGTCAAGGCTGACTCAA
<i>SLURP1-m</i>	NM_020519	AGCCCACGGCCATTAATC	CCAATGCCATCAGGGTCCG
<i>FSHB-m</i>	NM_008045	CCATAGCTGTGAATTGACCAACA	AGATCCCTAGTGTAGCAGTAGC
<i>COL12A1-m</i>	NM_007730	AGGCAGAAGTTGACCCACCT	CAGTGGTACTAGCTGCAAGGG
<i>GALP-m</i>	NM_178028	ATGGCCTGCTCCGTACATCT	ACCAGCACTATTGAGGGTCCA
<i>CCL2-m</i>	NM_011333	TAAAAACCTGGATCGGAACCAA	GCATTAGCTTCAGATTTACGGGT
<i>AMTN-m</i>	NM_027793	ATCAGCCCAGTCATTACCAAAG	AGGTCTGACCCCAGAGTGAG
<i>SFRP5-m</i>	NM_018780	GAGATCAAGATAGACAACGGGGA	TTGCGCTTTAAGGGGCCTG
<i>FAM20A-m</i>	NM_153782	CTCCGCGTCTCTACTCAG	GCCACCTTCCTCCGGTAATA
<i>CXCL12-m</i>	NM_001012477	TGCATCAGTGACGGTAAACCA	CACAGTTTGGAGTGTTGAGGAT
<i>LGALS3BP-m</i>	NM_011150	TGGTTCCAGGGACTCAAGGTA	CCACCGGCCTCTGTAGAAGA
<i>SerpinB2-m</i>	NM_001174170	ATTGGCAGTTATGGTATCACCAC	GGTGTGTTGATTGTTGAGCTGA
<i>TNC-m</i>	NM_011607	TTTGCCCTCACTCCCGAAG	AGGGTCATGTTTAGCCCACTC
<i>VEGFC-m</i>	NM_009506	GTGAGGTGTGTATAGATGTGGGG	ACGTCTTGCTGAGGTAACCTG
<i>ATG7-m</i>	NM_001253717	TCTGGGAAGCCATAAAGTCAGG	GCGAAGGTCAGGAGCAGAA
<i>mtCOX-1-m</i>	NC_005089	GCCCCAGATATAGCATTCCC	GTTTCATCCTGTTCCCTGCTCC
<i>GAPDH-h</i>	NM_001256799	GGAGCGAGATCCCTCCAAAAT	GGCTGTTGTCATACTTCTCATGG
<i>GAPDH-m</i>	NM_008084	AGGTCCGGTGTGAACGGATTTG	GGGGTCGTTGATGGCAACA