

Supplementary Materials

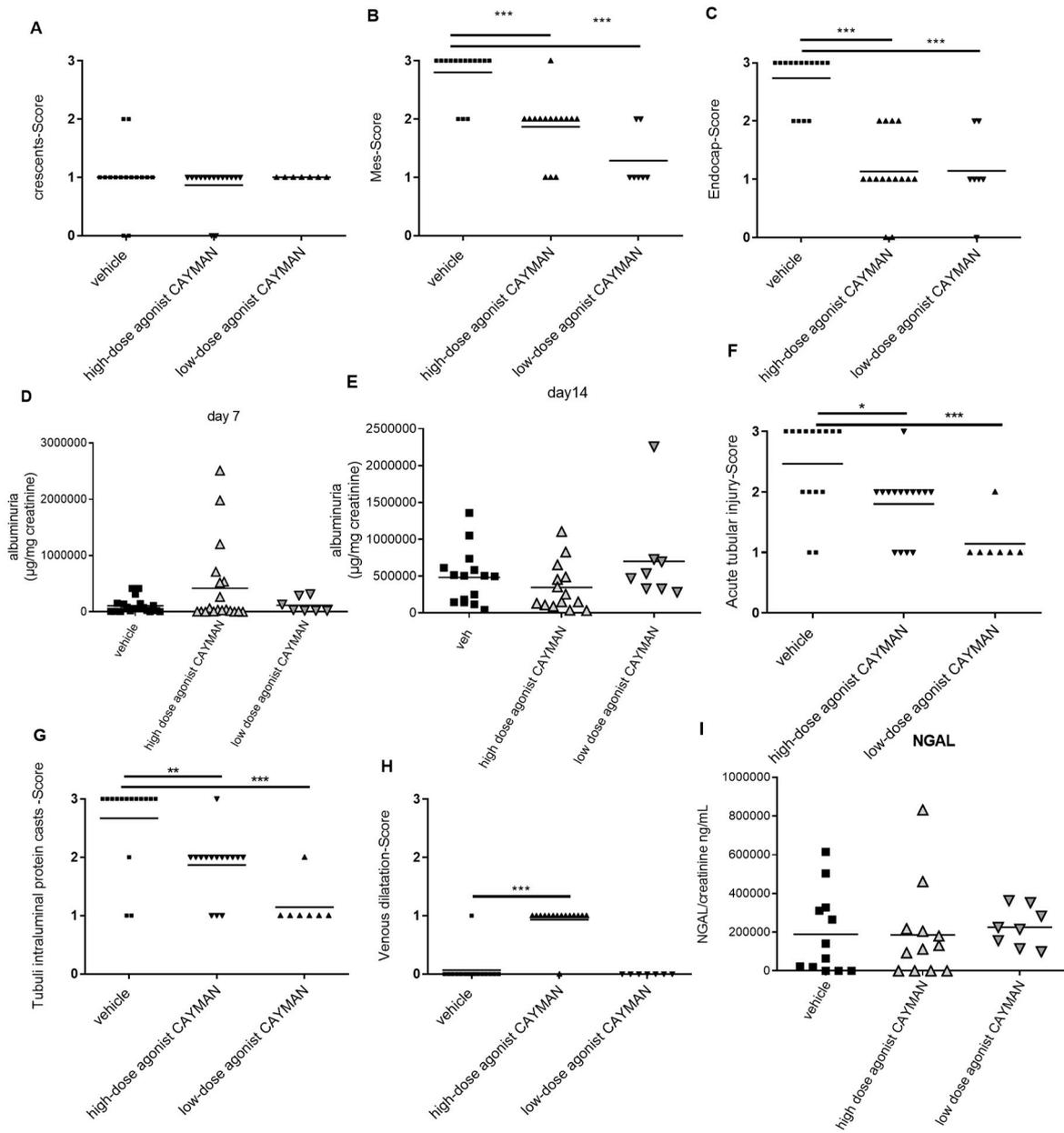


Figure S1. EP4 receptor agonism improves the phenotype of NTS. Fourteen days after NTS induction kidneys of mice treated with vehicle, high-dose EP4 receptor agonist (25 $\mu\text{g}/\text{mouse}/\text{day}$) or low-dose EP4 receptor agonist (7 $\mu\text{g}/\text{mouse}/\text{day}$; Cayman Chemicals, L-902,688) were harvested and stained kidney sections were quantified for glomerular and kidney damage (A–C). Urine samples collected on day 7 (D) and 14 (E) were analyzed for albumin and creatinine. In order to quantify for tubular damage acute tubular injury score (F) and tubular cast formation per 6 high power field (HPF) (G) were evaluated. Venous dilatation score (H) was quantified and serum NGAL levels (I) were evaluated on day 14. (* $p \leq 0.05$, ** $p \leq 0.01$, *** $p \leq 0.001$).

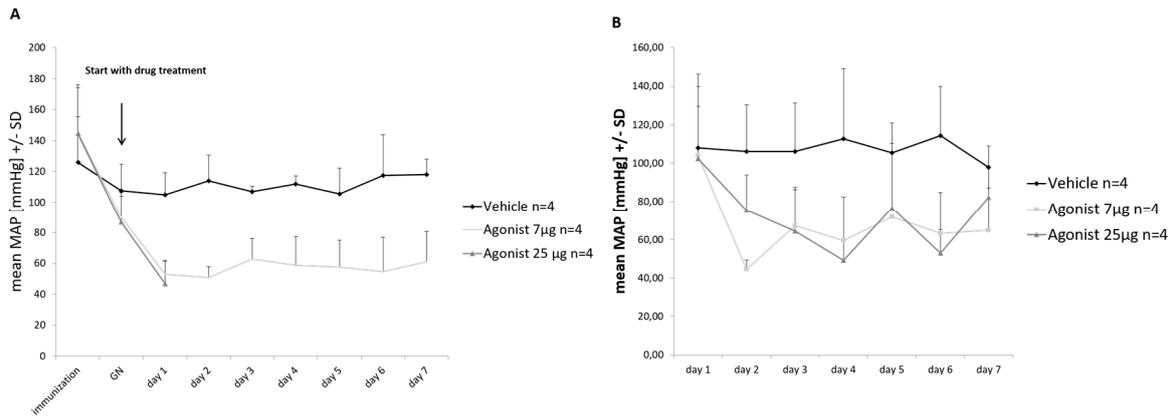


Figure S2. Hypotensive episodes occur after EP4 receptor agonist (Cayman Chemicals, L-902,688) administration. Blood pressure was assessed in vehicle ($n = 4$), EP4 receptor high-dose agonist ($n = 4$) and EP4 receptor low-dose agonist ($n = 4$) treated mice after NTS induction. Blood pressure was measured via the tail cuff method immediately (**A**) and 30 min after EP4 agonist injection (**B**) in all 3 groups. Mean arterial pressure (MAP) is represented as mean \pm SEM.

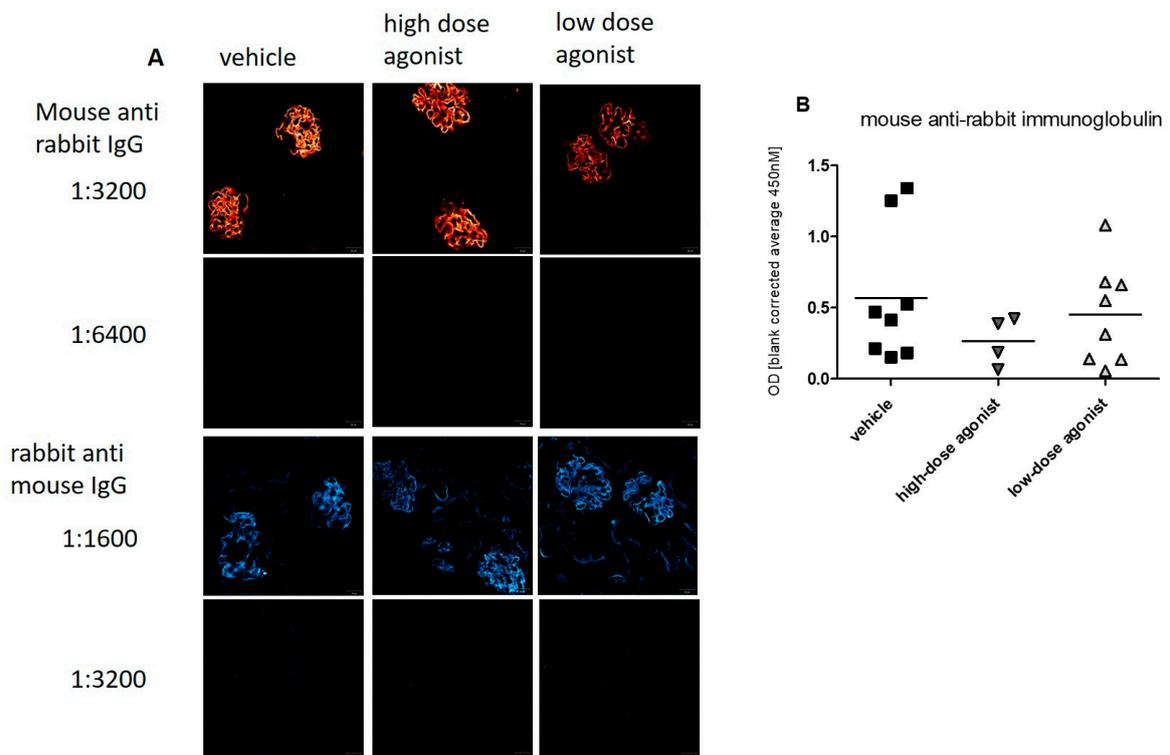


Figure S3. Treatment of NTS mice with EP4 antagonist or agonist does not affect IgG deposition in the kidney. Mouse anti-rabbit IgG serum titers were evaluated on day 14 after NTS induction (**A**). Furthermore, deposition of mouse anti-rabbit IgG and rabbit anti-mouse IgG on glomerular basal membrane was performed (**B**).

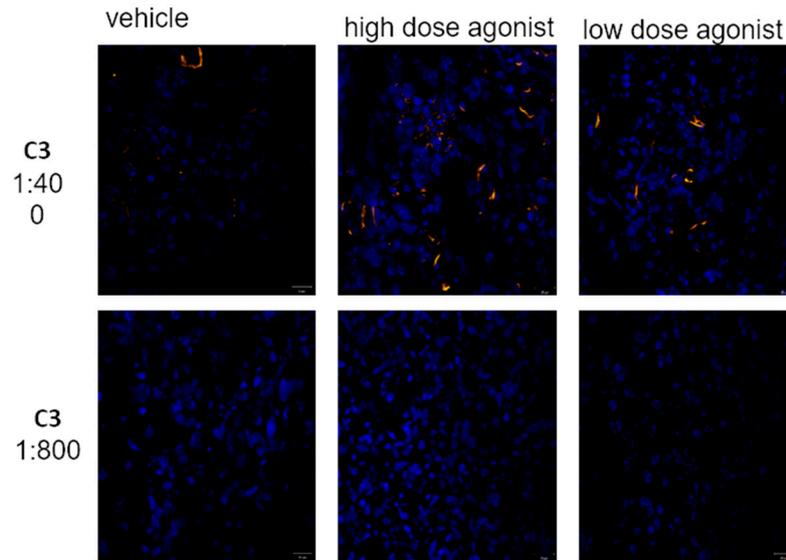


Figure S4. Treatment of NTS mice with EP4 agonist does not affect C3 deposition in the kidney. On day 14 after NTS induction C3 deposition was evaluated by immunofluorescence microscopy;

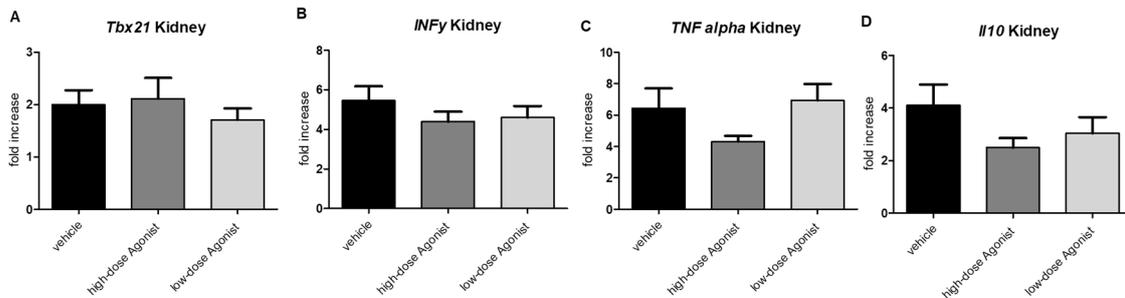


Figure S5. Cytokine mRNA expression in the kidney. Fourteen days after NTS induction RT PCR was performed to evaluate cytokine expression in the kidney (A–D) in mice treated with vehicle ($n = 6$), high-dose EP4 receptor agonist ($n = 3-4$), low-dose EP4 receptor agonist ($n = 7-8$) and compared to healthy mice kidneys ($n = 3$).

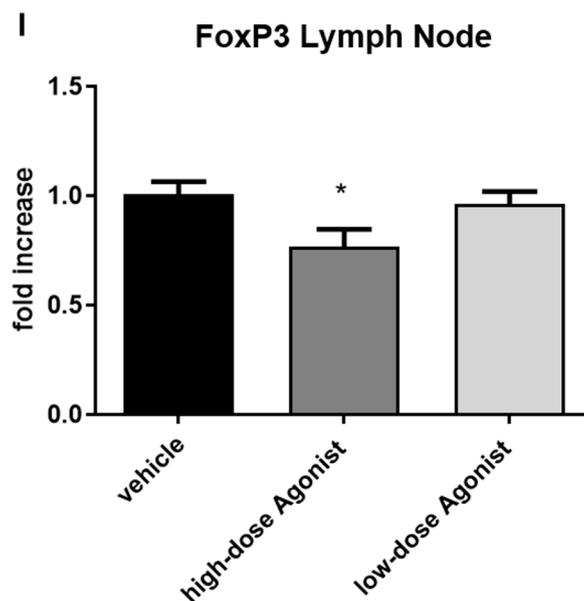


Figure S6. Proliferation of tubular cells in vivo. (A) Fourteen days after the induction of NTS mice treated with a high- (25 $\mu\text{g}/\text{mouse}/\text{day}$; $n = 7$) or low-dose (7 $\mu\text{g}/\text{mouse}/\text{day}$; $n = 6$) of the EP4 receptor

agonist (Cayman Chemicals, L-902,688) or vehicle ($n = 9$) were evaluated for the number of PCNA⁺ tubular cells. * $p < 0.05$.

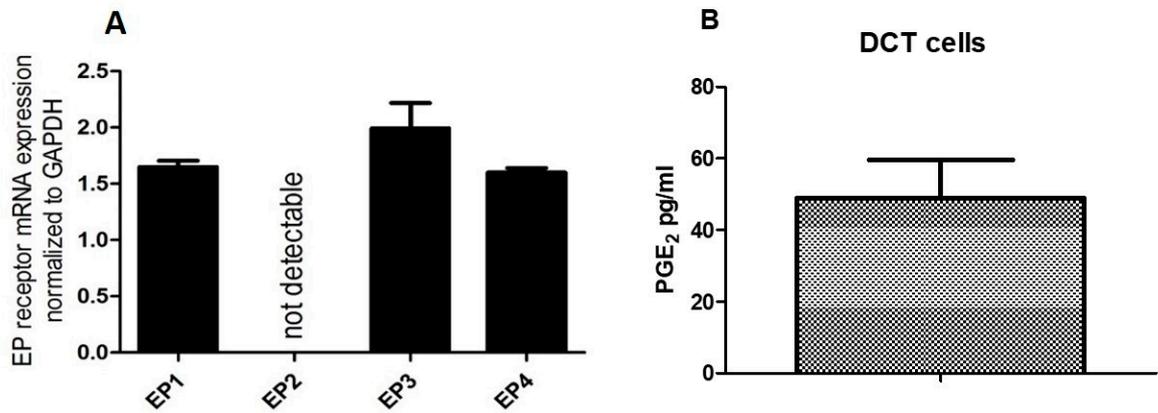


Figure S7. EP4 is expressed by Distal Convolved Tubular cells. EP1, 2, 3 and 4 receptor mRNA expression was evaluated on DCT cells (A). PGE₂ production of DCT cells after 72 h of incubation in starving medium was evaluated by RIA (48.9 ± 10.6 pg/mL) (B). Experiments were performed in duplicates and in total at least five different experiments were performed.