

# **Electrical and Structural Remodeling of Rabbit Ventricles during Therapeutic Hypothermia: Role of Conduction Velocity on Ventricular Arrhythmogenesis**

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**Taichung Veterans General Hospital**



1462 Beds

738 Doctors

1736 Nurses



# Outlines

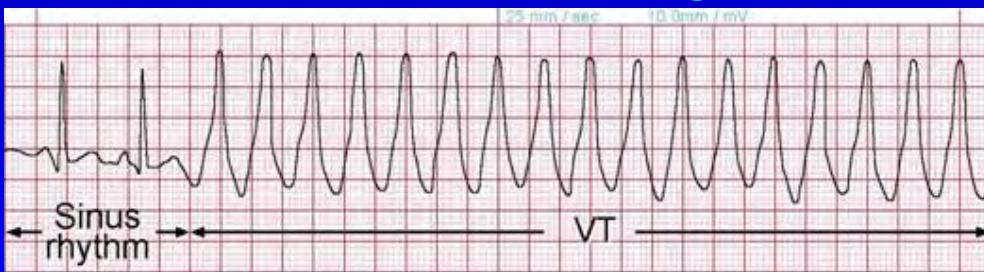
- Background of Therapeutic Hypothermia (TH)
- Electrical Remodeling During Short-duration TH
- Structural Remodeling During Short-duration TH

# Lethal Ventricular Arrhythmias

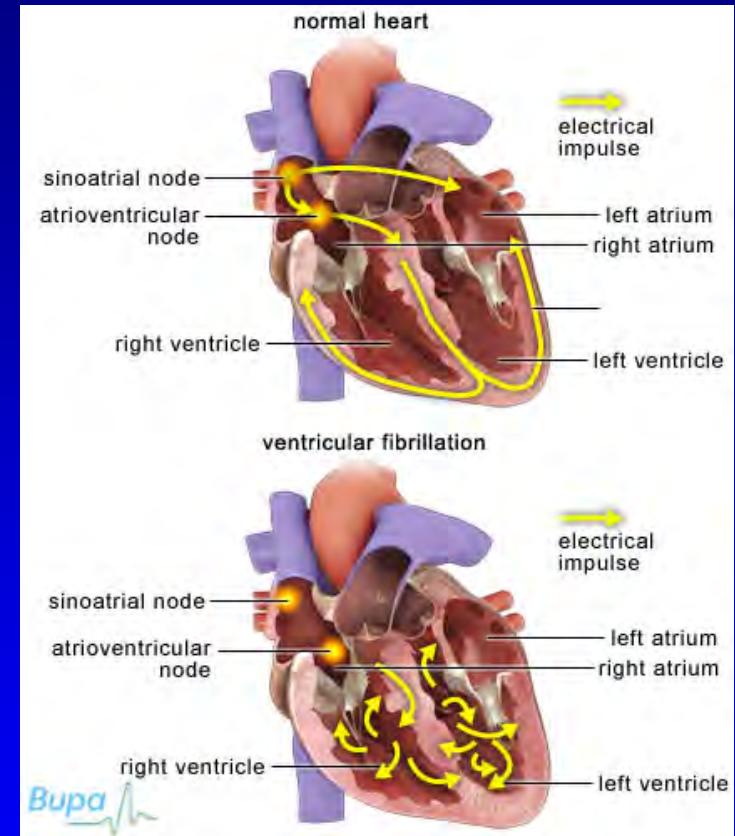
- Normal Rhythm



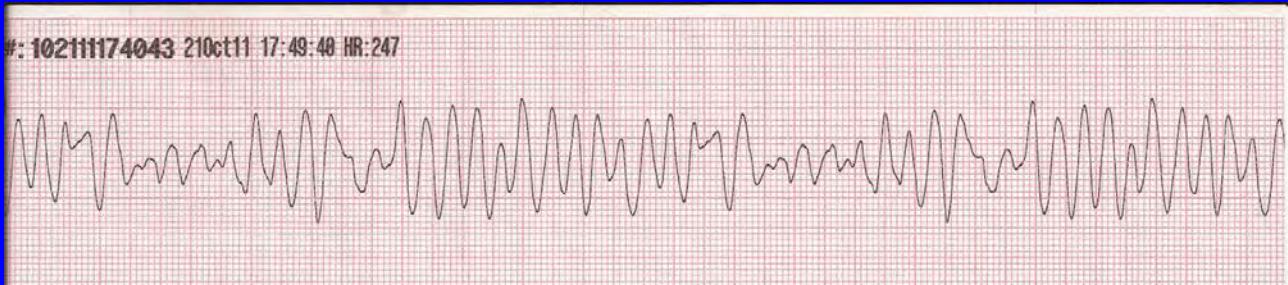
- Ventricular Tachycardia



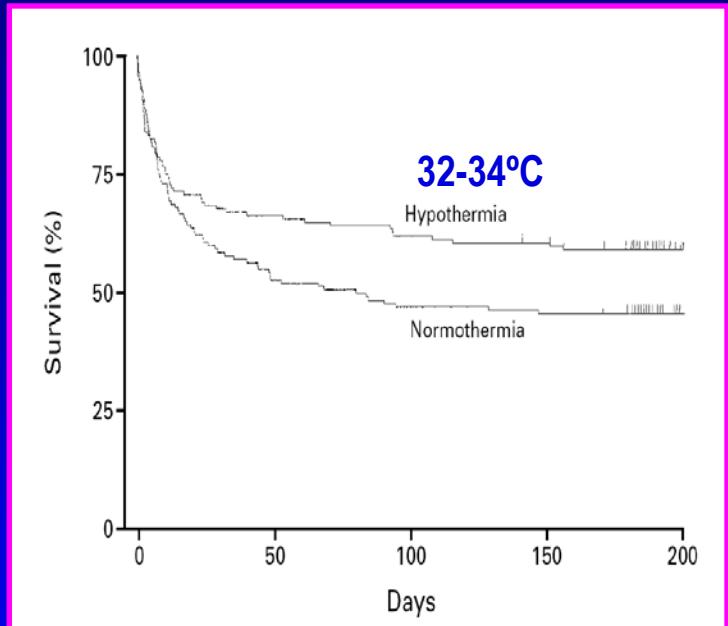
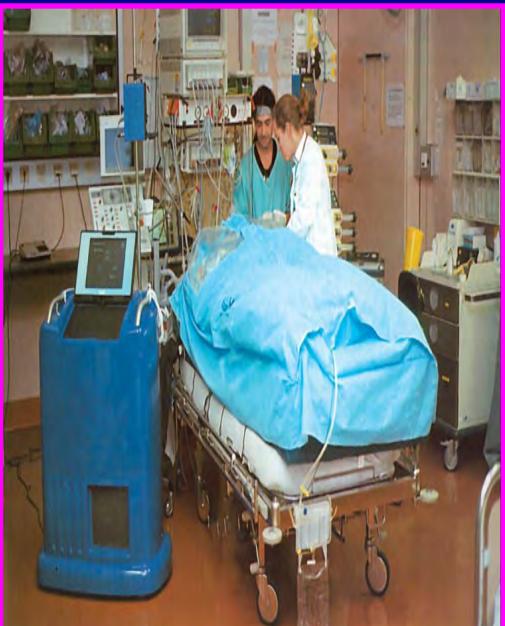
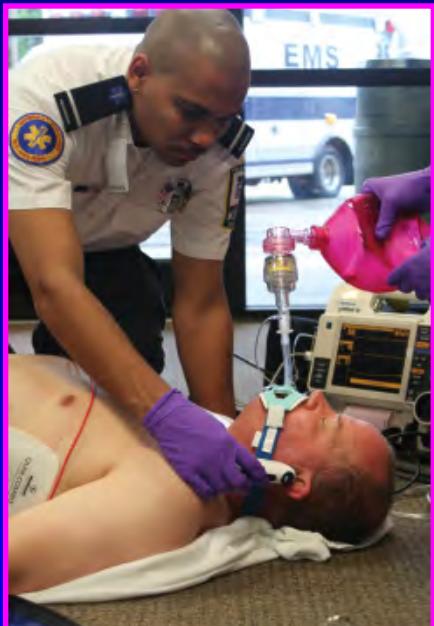
- Ventricular Fibrillation



#102111174043 210ct11 17:49:48 HR:247



# Background



- TH has been demonstrated to improve neurological outcomes in patients randomized to TH (32-34°C) after being resuscitated from out-of-hospital cardiac arrest VF.

*NEJM 2002, 346:549-56*

## Part 9: Post-Cardiac Arrest Care

### 2010 American Heart Association Guidelines for Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation and Emergency Cardiovascular Care

Mary Ann Peberdy, Co-Chair\*; Clifton W. Callaway, Co-Chair\*; Robert W. Neumar; Romergryko G. Geocadin; Janice L. Zimmerman; Michael Donnino; Andrea Gabrielli; Scott M. Silvers; Arno L. Zaritsky; Raina Merchant; Terry L. Vanden Hoek; Steven L. Kronick

- **Unconscious adult patients with spontaneous circulation after out-of-hospital cardiac arrest should be cooled to 32-34 °C for 12-24 h when the initial rhythm was ventricular fibrillation (VF).**

# **Part 9: Post–Cardiac Arrest Care**

## **2010 American Heart Association Guidelines for Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation and Emergency Cardiovascular Care**

Mary Ann Peberdy, Co-Chair\*; Clifton W. Callaway, Co-Chair\*; Robert W. Neumar;  
Romergrzyko G. Geocadin; Janice L. Zimmerman; Michael Donnino; Andrea Gabrielli;  
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- **A number of potential complications are associated with cooling, including coagulopathy, arrhythmias, and hyperglycemia, particularly with an unintended drop below target temperature.**

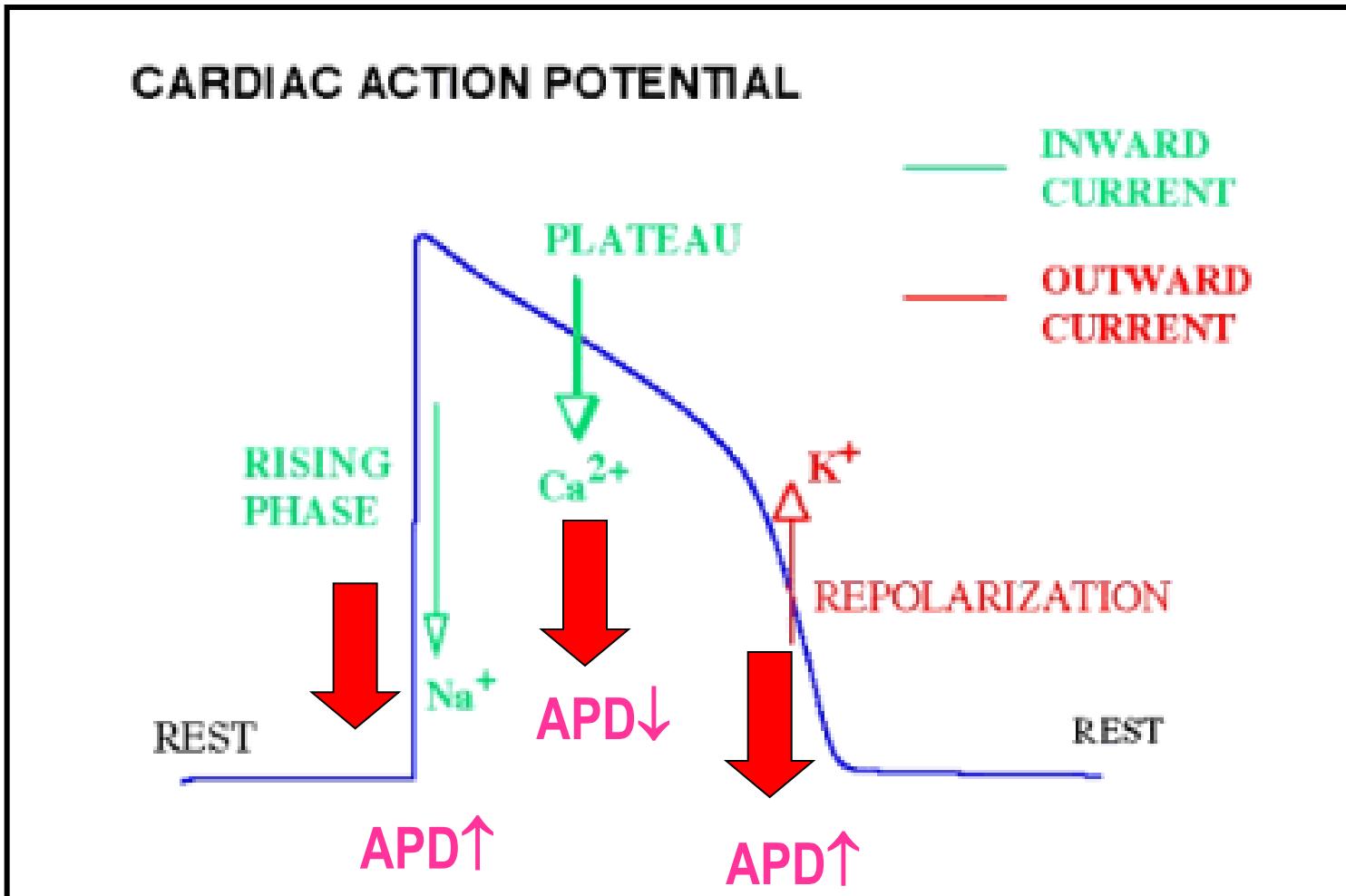
## Therapeutic Hypothermia-Related Torsade de Pointes

Chien-Hua Huang, MD; Min-Shan Tsai, MD; Chiung-Yuan Hsu, MD; Wen-Jone Chen, MD, PhD



# Electrical Remodeling During TH in Rabbit Ventricles

# Hypothermia on Cardiac Action Potential



# Electrical Remodeling During TH

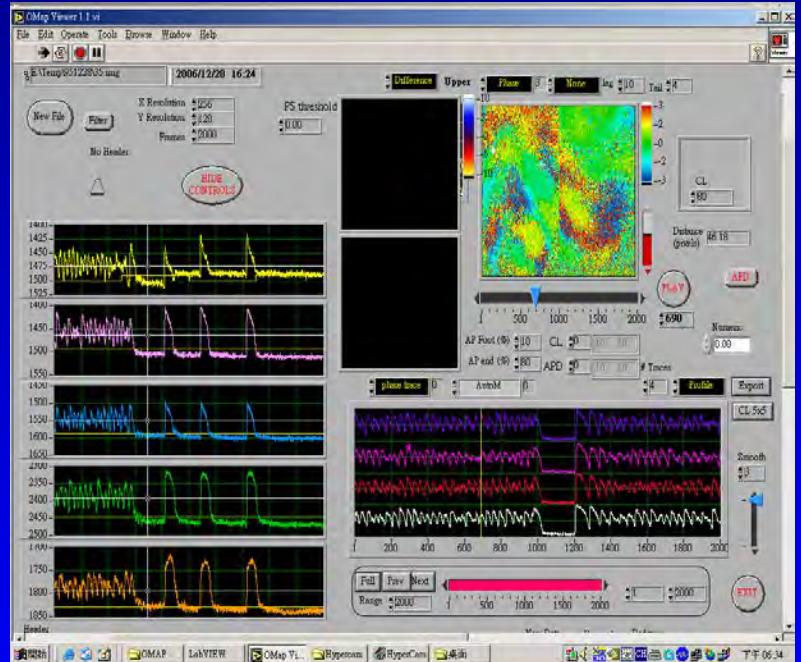
- 30°C is the lowest temperature proven to be feasible in clinical practice.
- We hypothesize that TH at 30°C
  - Enhances wavebreaks during VF and S1 pacing
  - Facilitates pacing-induced cardiac alternans
  - Increases the vulnerability of pacing-induced VF

# EP Lab (Prof. Wu TJ), Taichung VGH

Thermostatic perfusion/ superfusion



Optical mapping system software



Two-camera optical mapping system



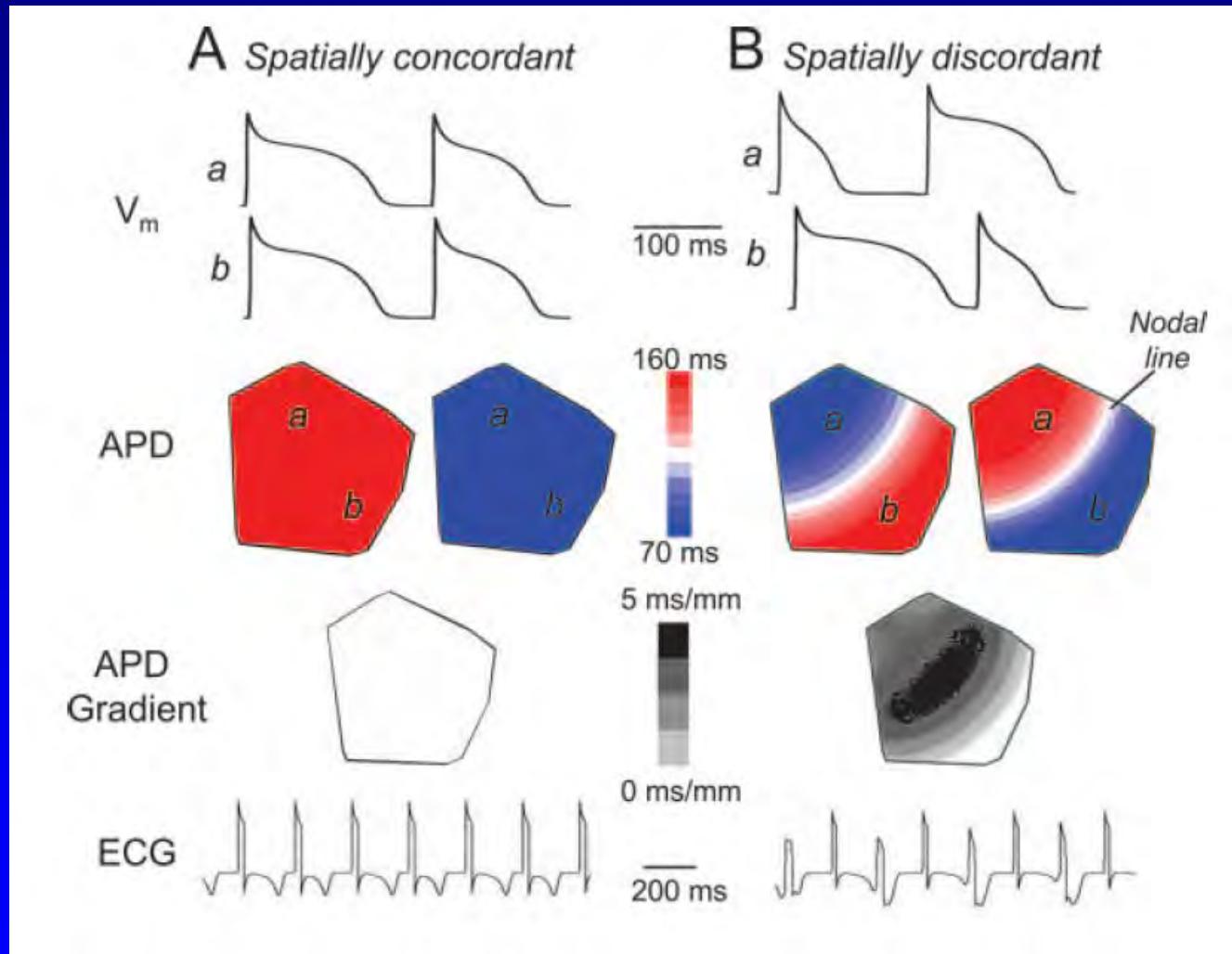
# Protocol I: Restitution Curves

To determine ERP, APD and CT<sup>-1</sup> restitution curves at baseline, during TH and after rewarming. (n=6).

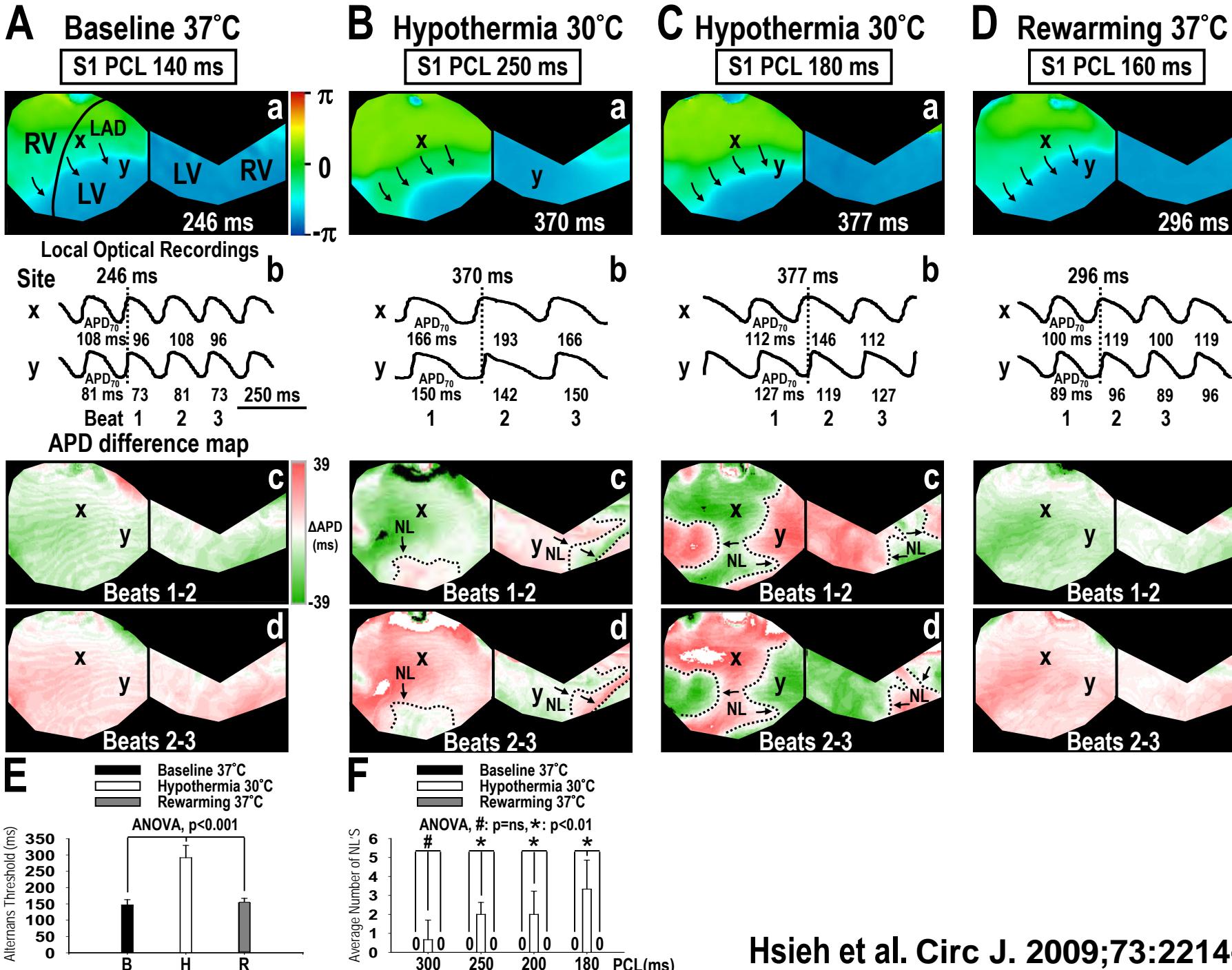
S<sub>1</sub> pacing with PCLs from 500 to 110 ms (RVOT) (S<sub>1</sub> pacing method)

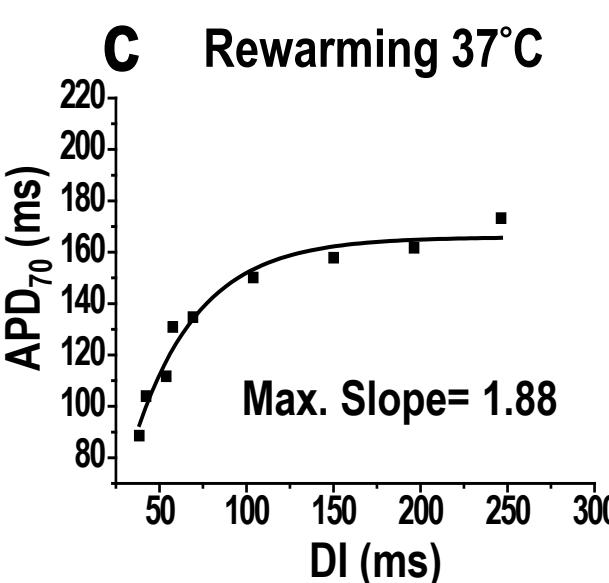
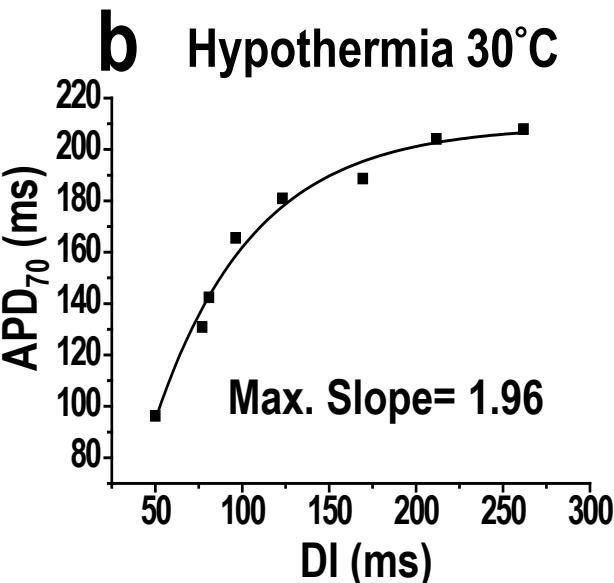
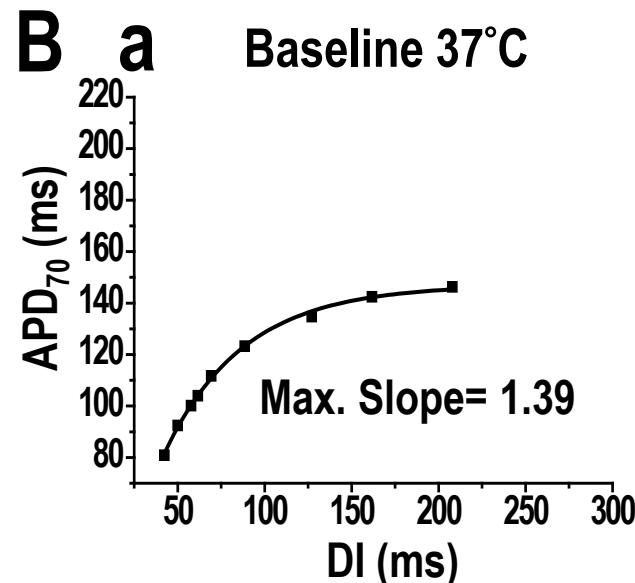
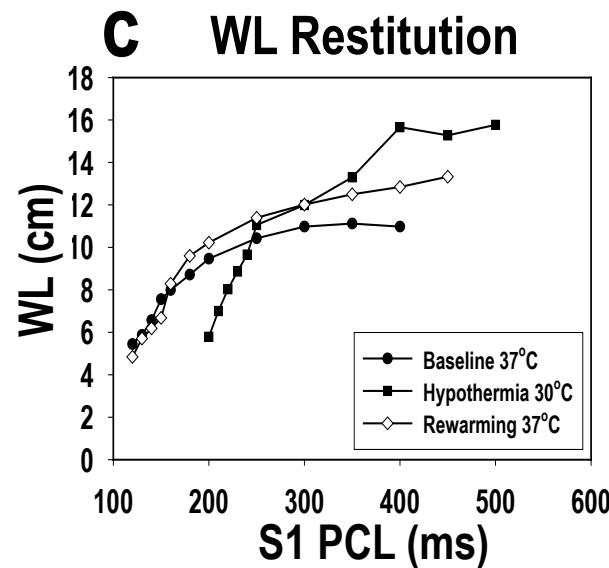
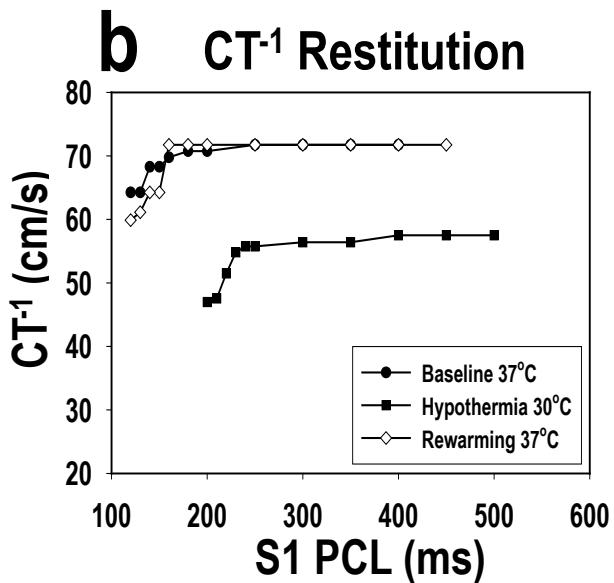
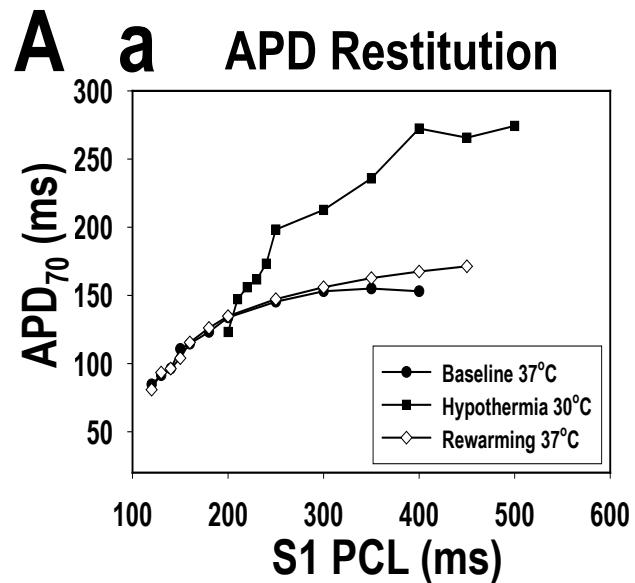


# Spatially Concordant/Discordant Alternans



Weiss et al. Circ Res. 2006;98:1244-1253.





## Protocol II: Effect of TH on VF Activations

To observe the wavefront characteristics  
during VF under TH (30°C)

(n=7)

Baseline VF by burst pacing from RVOT



Baseline (37°C 5 mins)



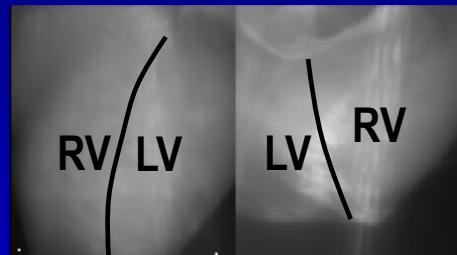
TH (30°C for 15 mins)



Re-warming (37°C for 15 mins)

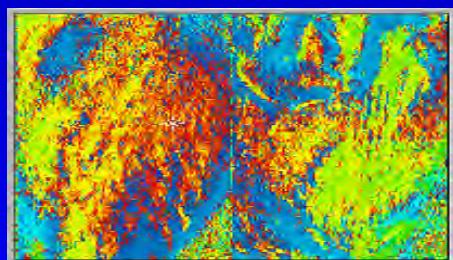
# Optical Mapping During Burst Pacing

## Mapped Area



Baseline

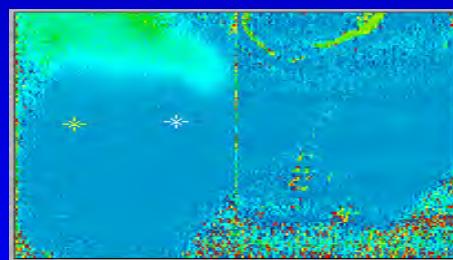
37°C



No wavebreak  
during pacing

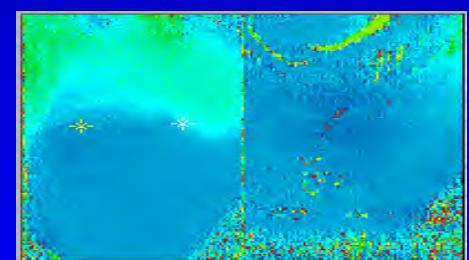
Severe Hypothermia

30°C



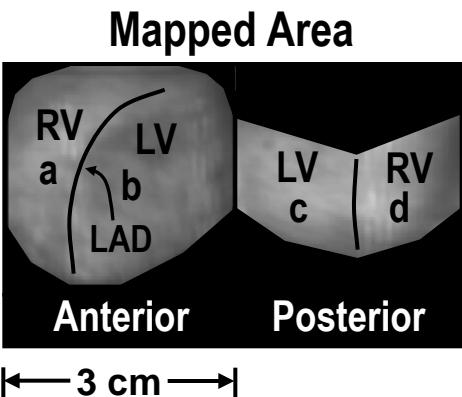
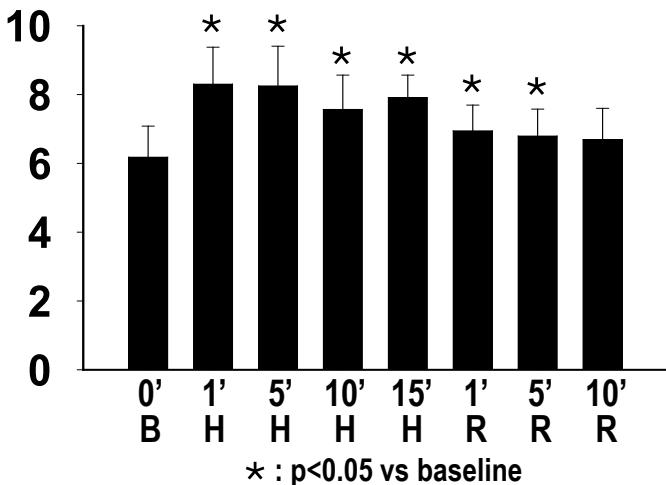
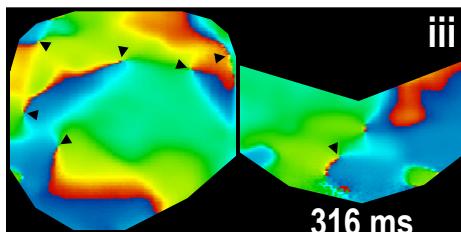
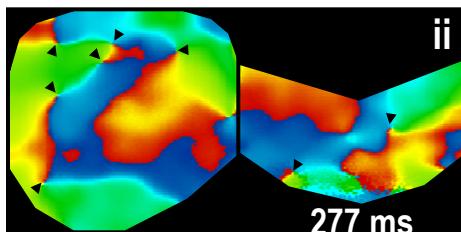
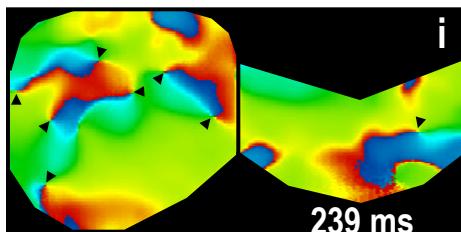
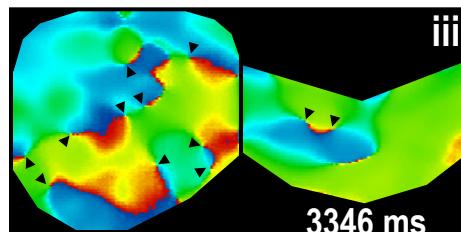
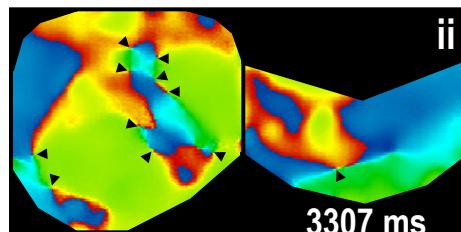
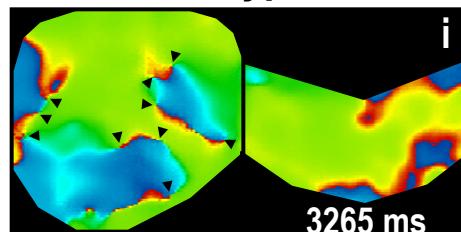
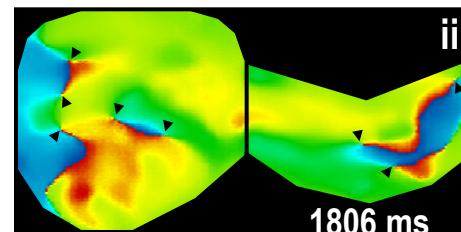
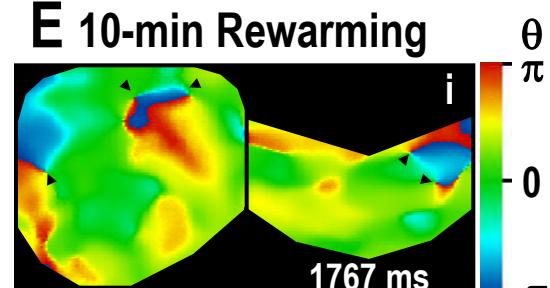
Rewarming

37°C



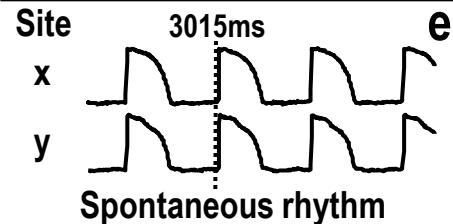
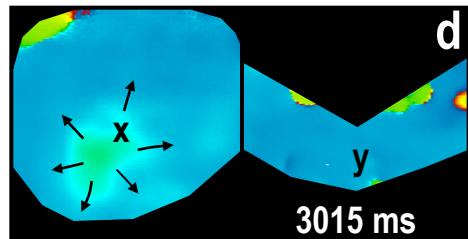
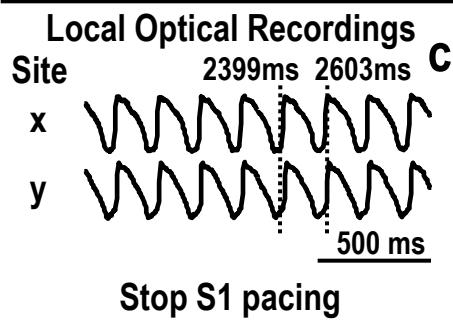
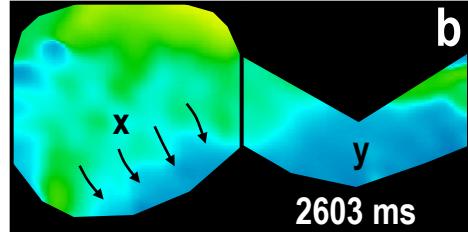
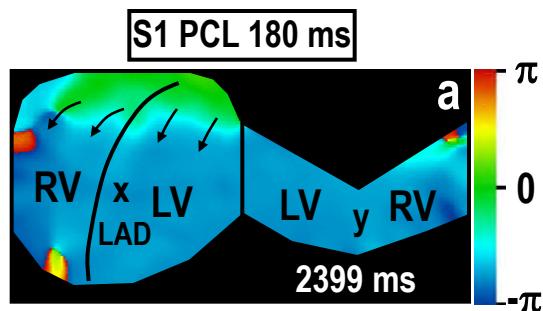
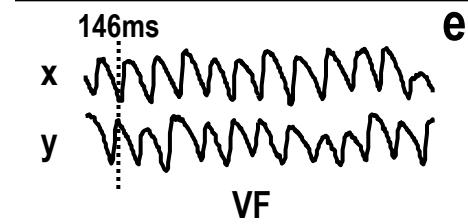
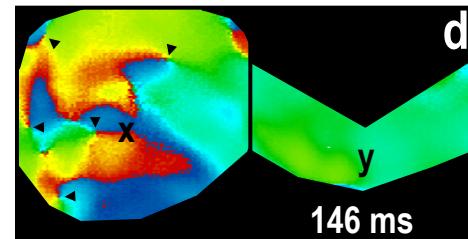
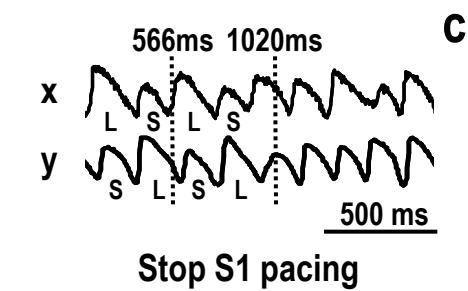
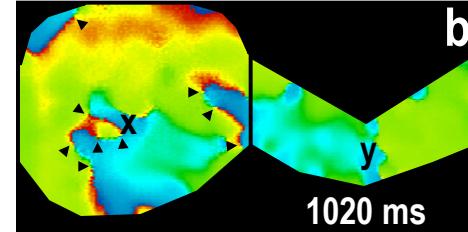
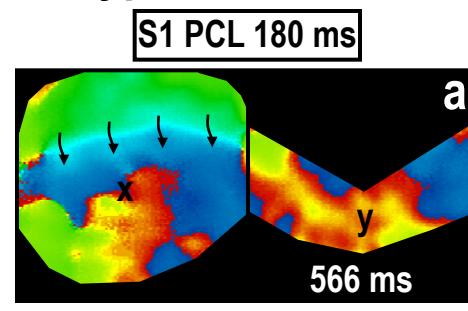
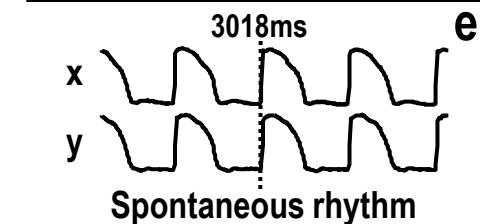
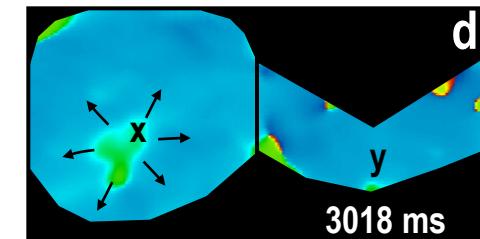
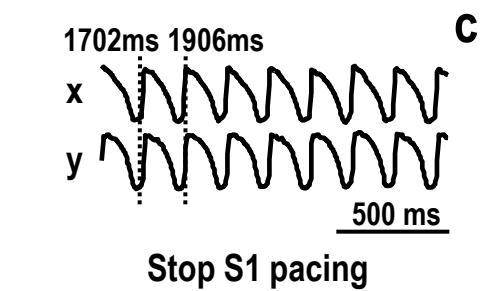
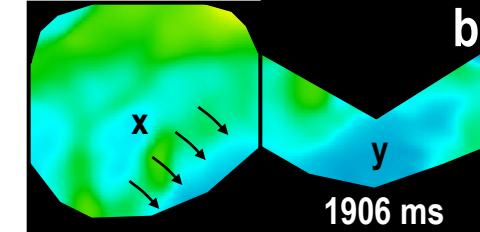
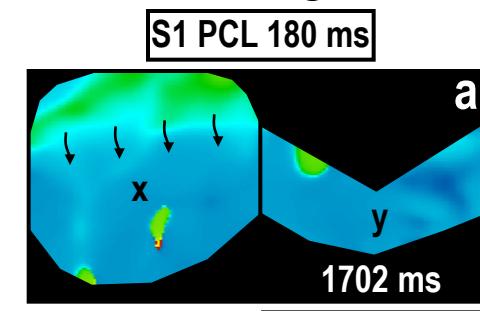
The pacing  
wavefronts always  
broke into multiple  
wavelets and became  
self-perpetuated,  
leading to VF  
maintenance.

once epicardial  
wavebreak  
occurred, it  
always vanished  
without  
perpetuation.

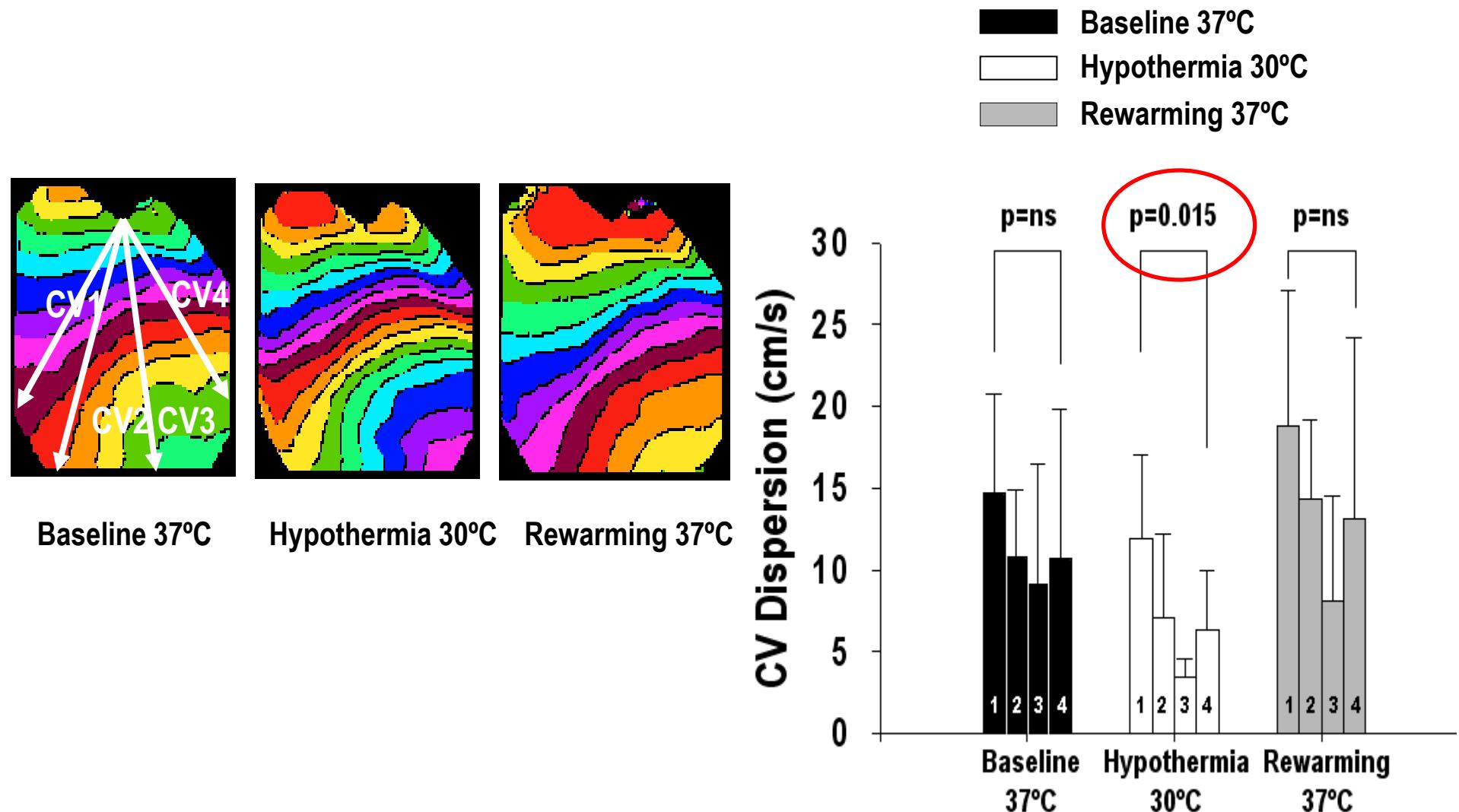
**A****B****Average No. of PSs****C****Baseline****D****15-min Hypothermia****E****10-min Rewarming**
 $\theta$   
 $\pi$   
0  
 $-\pi$

# Pacing-induced VF Episodes

- During S<sub>1</sub> pacing, there was no VF episode inducible at B or R (n=6).
- During TH, a total of 6 sustained VF episodes were induced in 3 hearts (p=0.027).
- In 5 of these 6 VF episodes, SDA was observed during S1 pacing before VF formation.

**A Baseline 37°C****B Hypothermia 30°C****C Rewarming 37°C**

# Spatial heterogeneity of CV restitutions

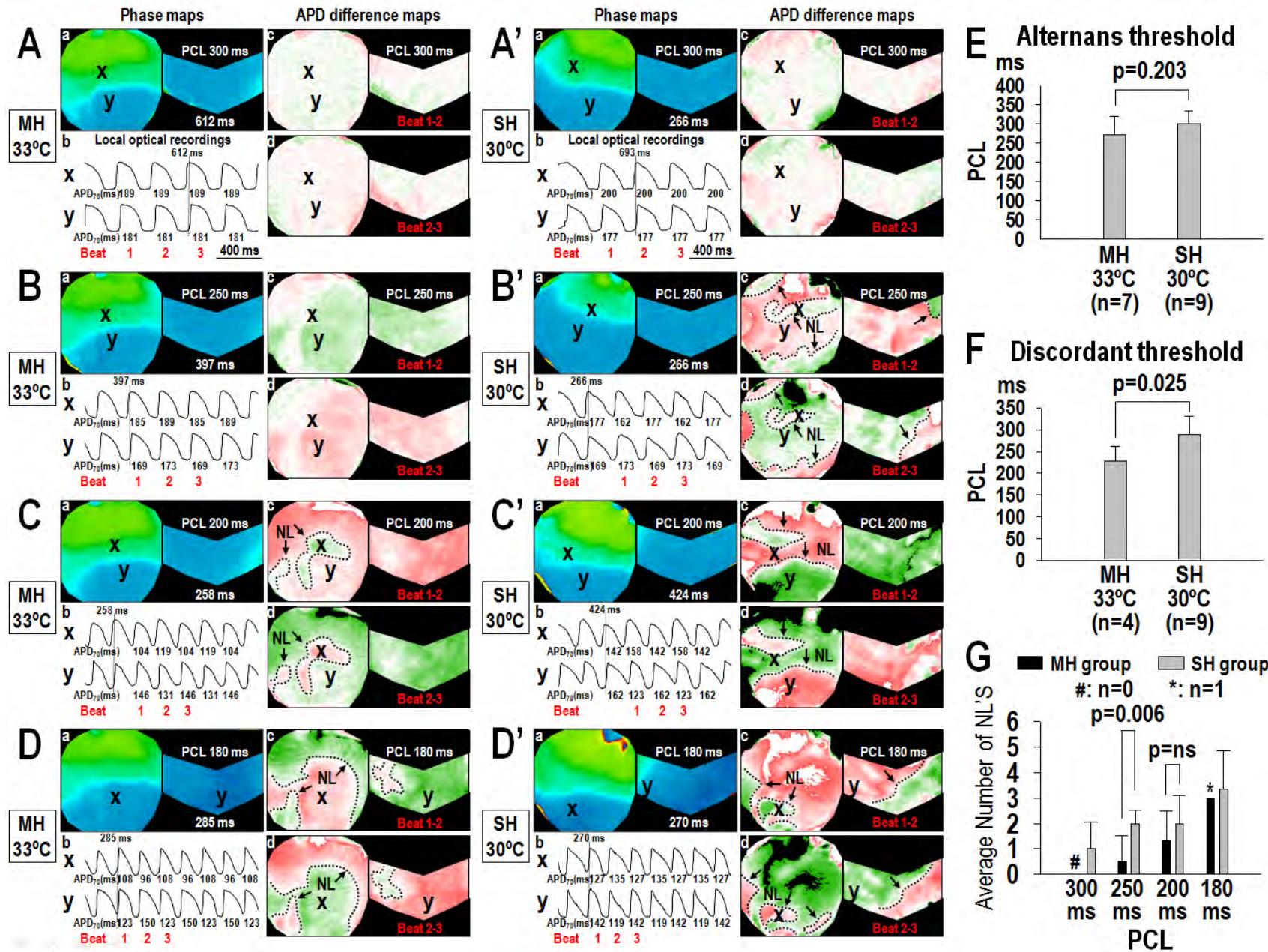


# Major Findings

- TH (30°C) increases wavebreaks during VF
- TH (30°C) enhances proarrhythmic parameters
  - ↓CV, ↓WL
  - ↑spatial heterogeneity of CV restitution
- TH (30°C) results in earlier onset of APD alternans, which are predominated by SDA.
- TH (30°C) increases the vulnerability of pacing-induced VF.

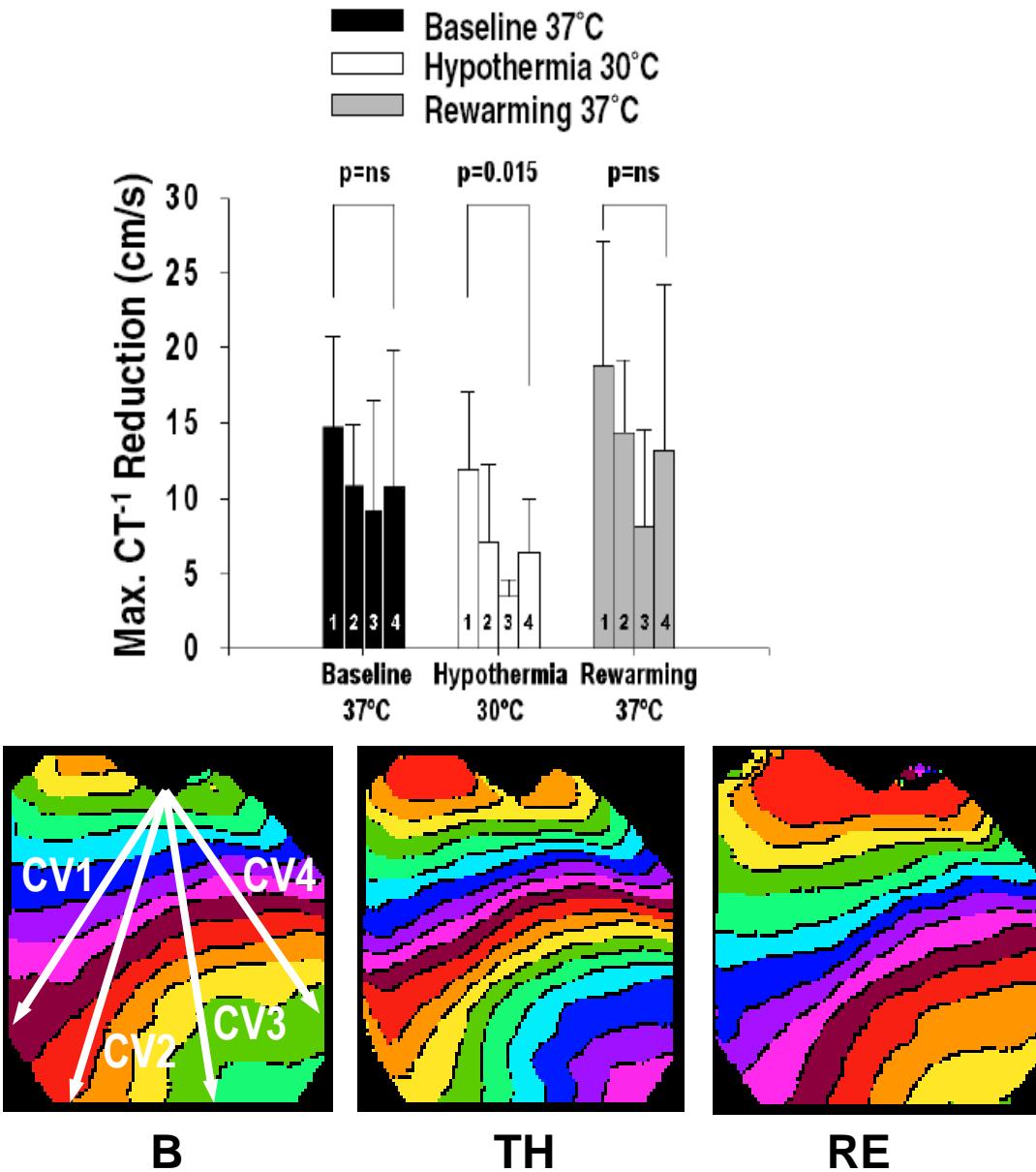
# Clinical Implication

- When cardiac pacing is necessary in patients undergoing TH
  - PCL should be carefully determined
  - Placing pacing wire/pulmonary catheter with caution
  - 32-34°C might be safer than 30°C



# **Structural Remodeling During TH in Rabbit Ventricles**

# Background



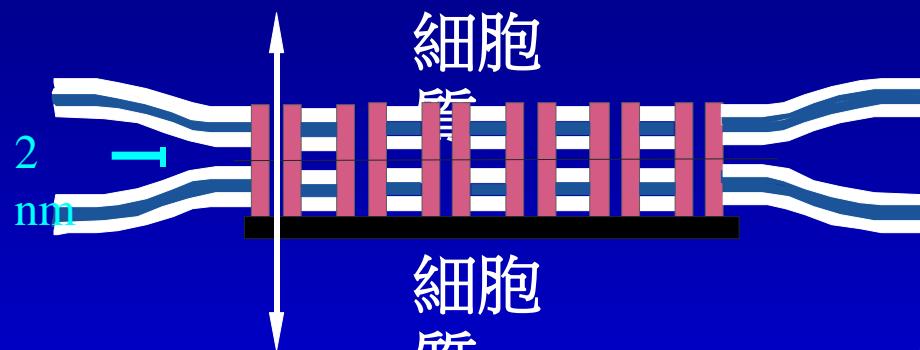
- TH (30°C) reduces CV and enhances spatial heterogeneity of CV restitution.
- Whether connexin43 (Cx43) gap junctions and spatial heterogeneity of CV are altered during TH remains unclear.

# Conduction Velocity and Hypothermia

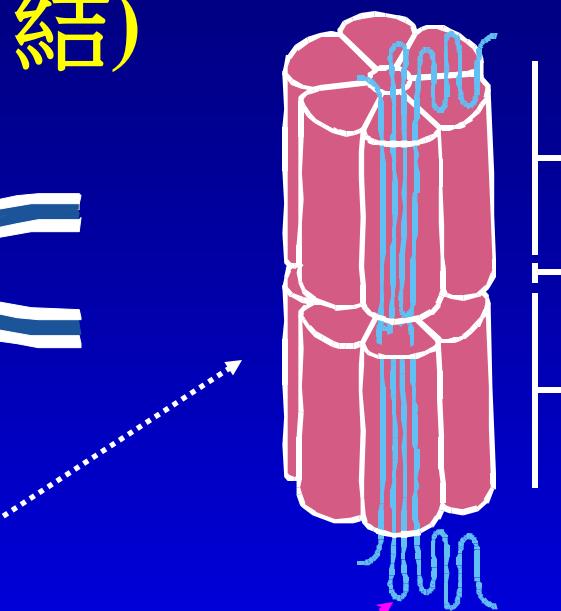
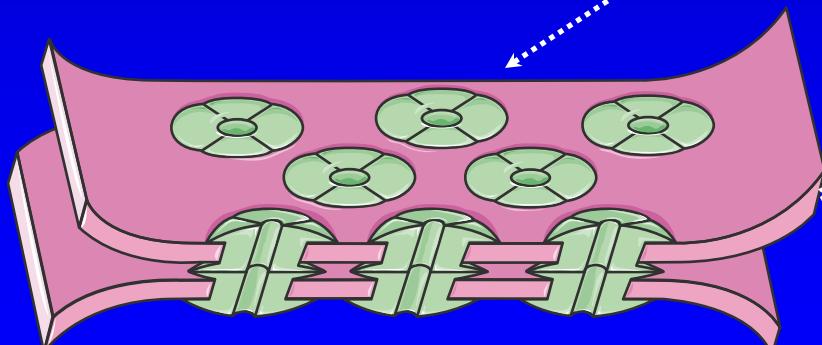
- Cardiac CV is mainly determined by
  - Phase 0 Na current
  - Extra-cellular matrix
  - Gap junction (GJ) coupling

Pflugers Arch. 1993;423:133-139.

# The Gap Junction (隙連 結)



電子，離子，代謝物



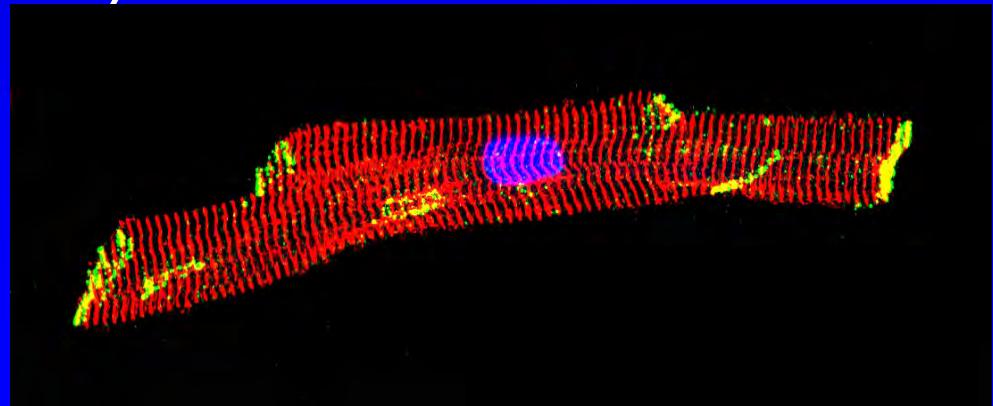
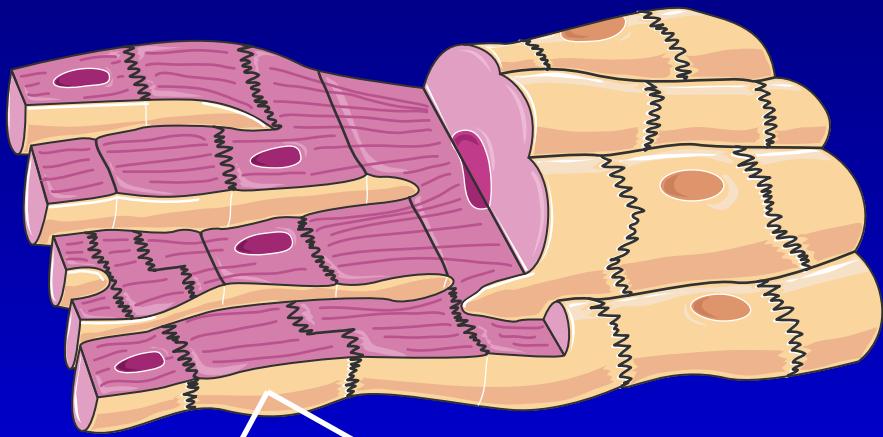
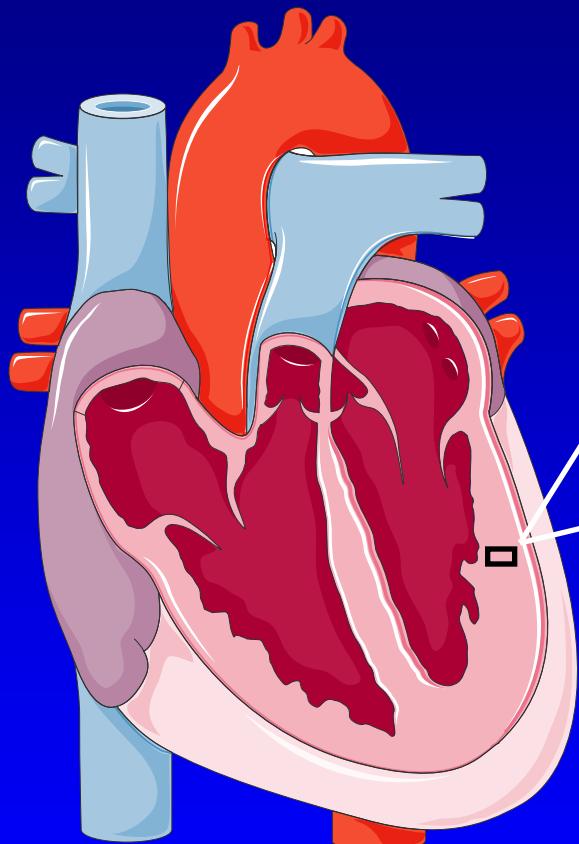
細胞內

Connexin (連接素)

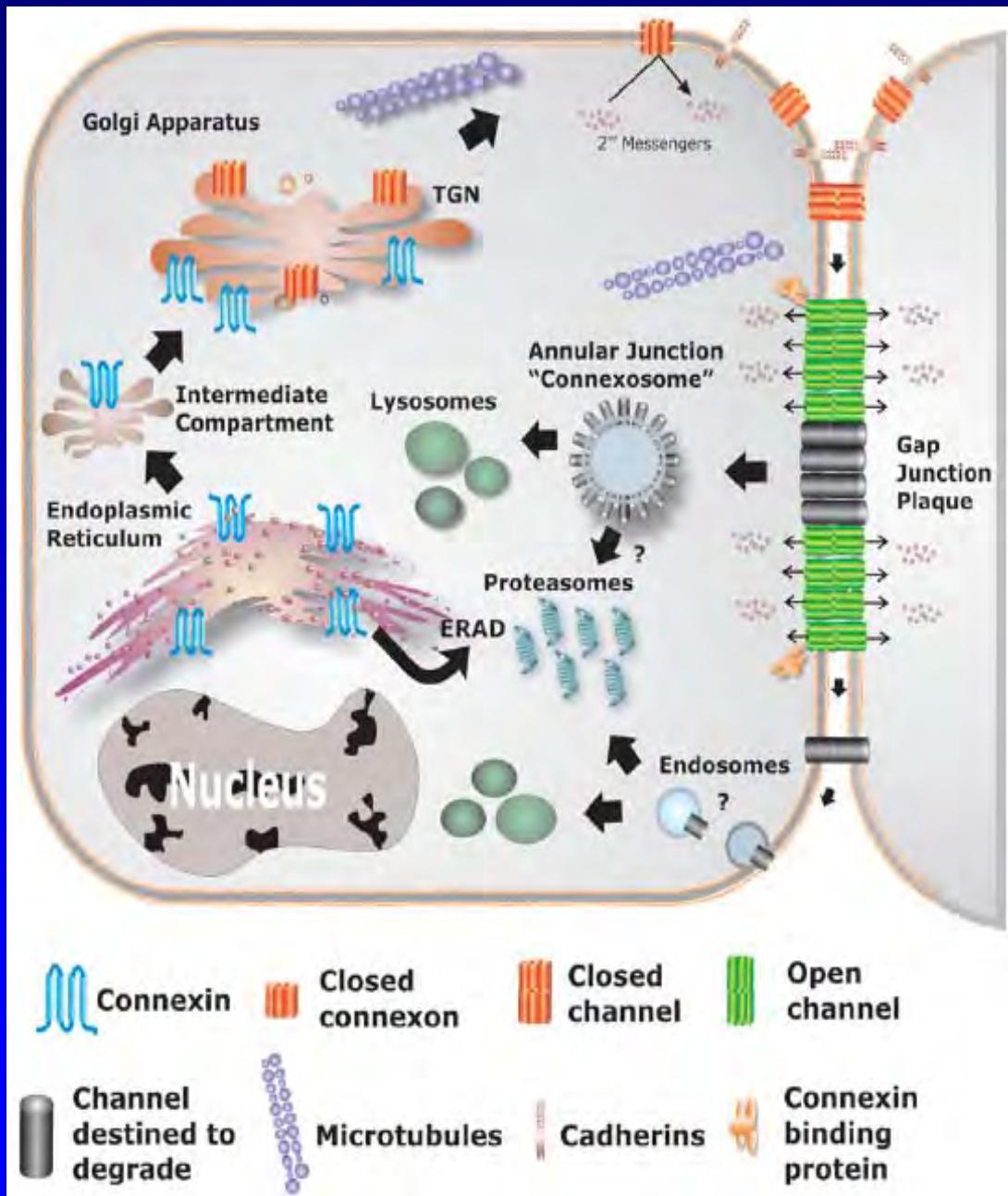


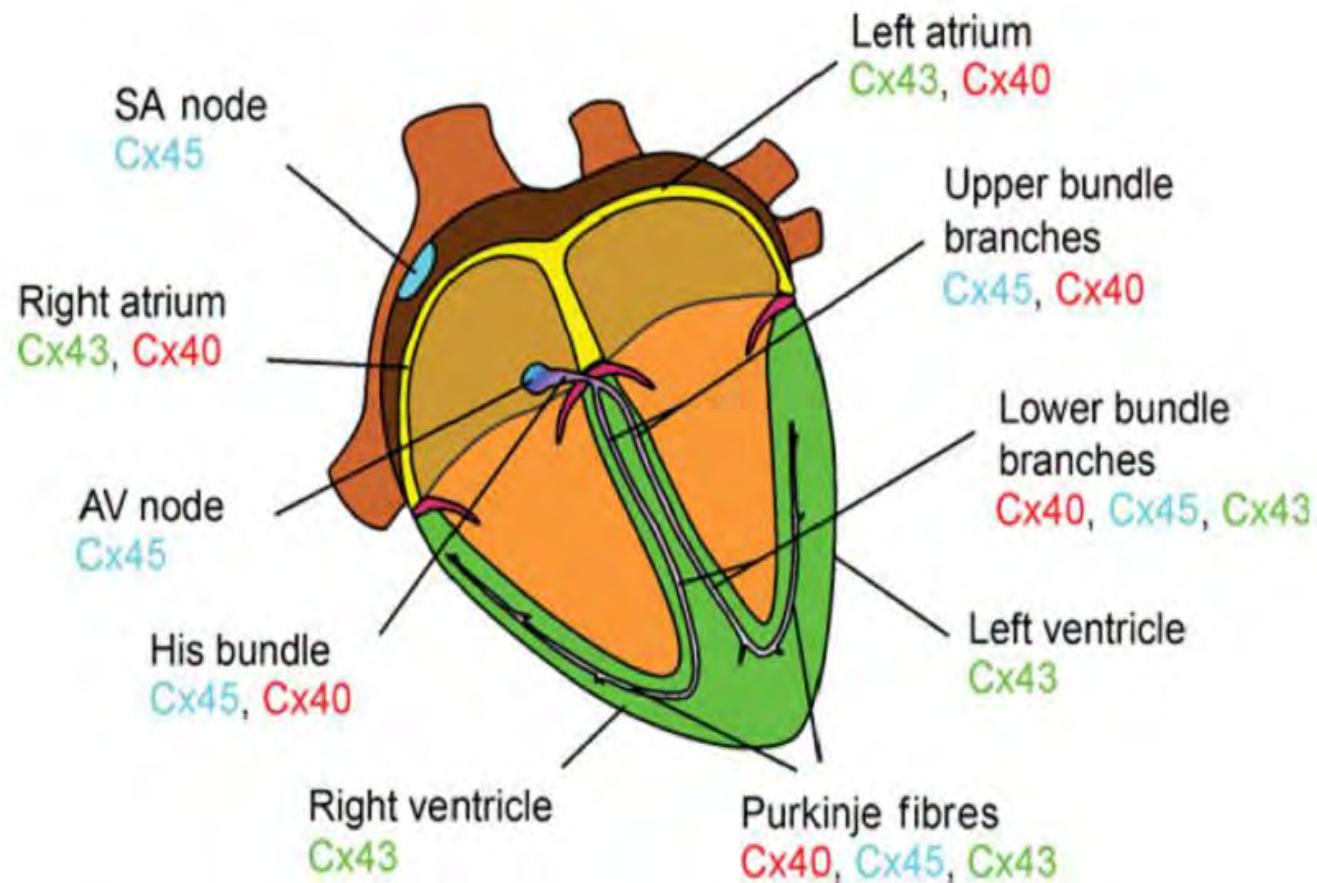
Connexo (連接半管)  
nm Connexo n

# Cardiomyocyte Gap Junction



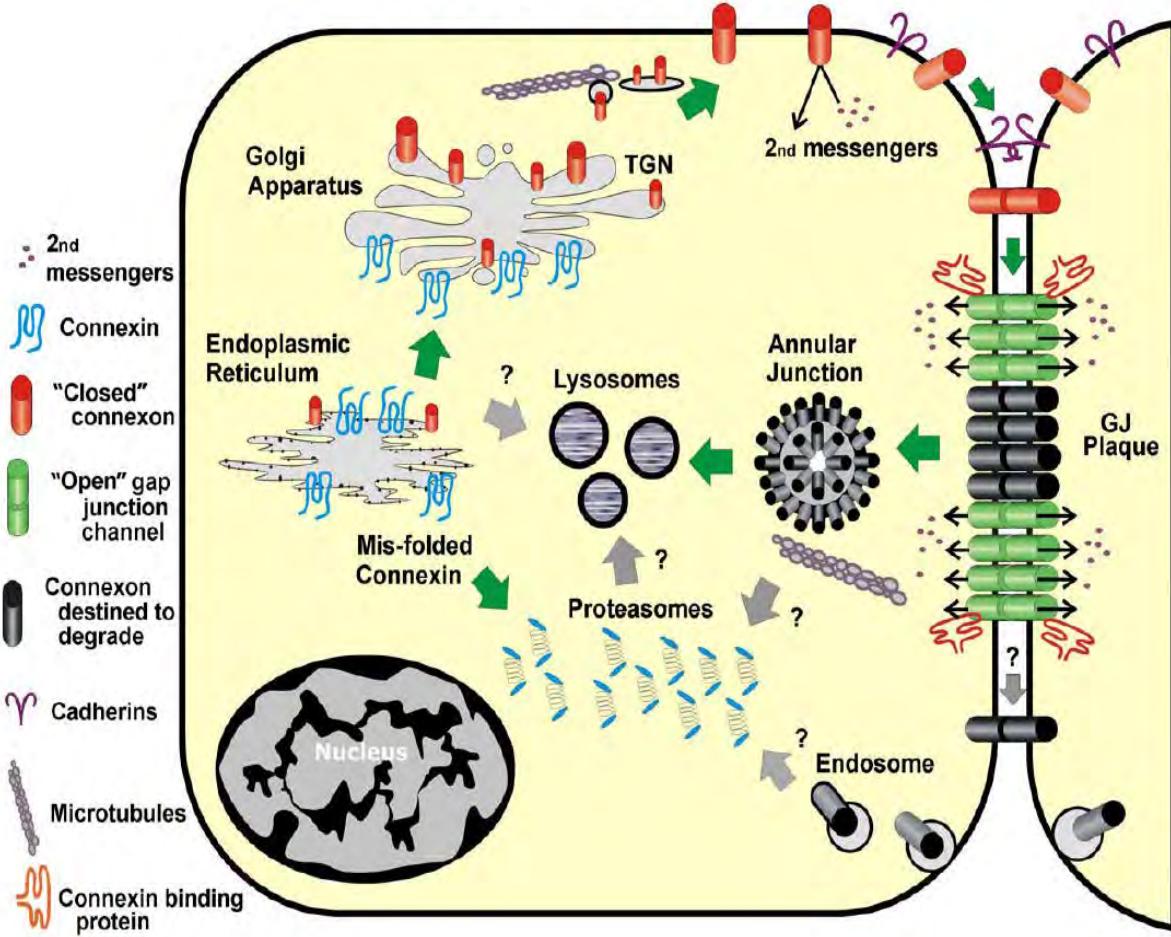
# Life Cycle of GJ



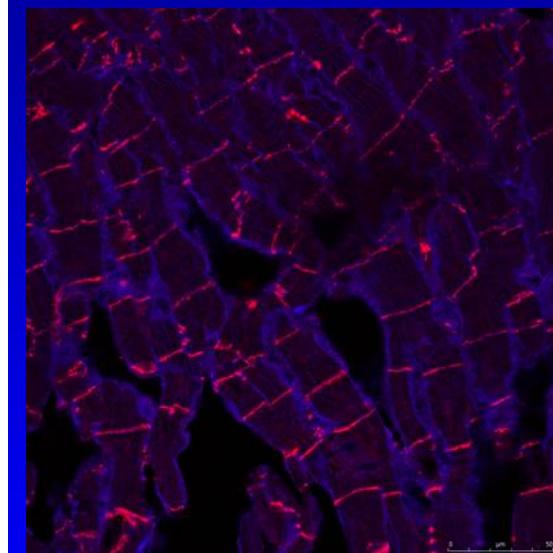


**Figure 1** Summary of the typical connexin expression patterns of the mammalian heart.

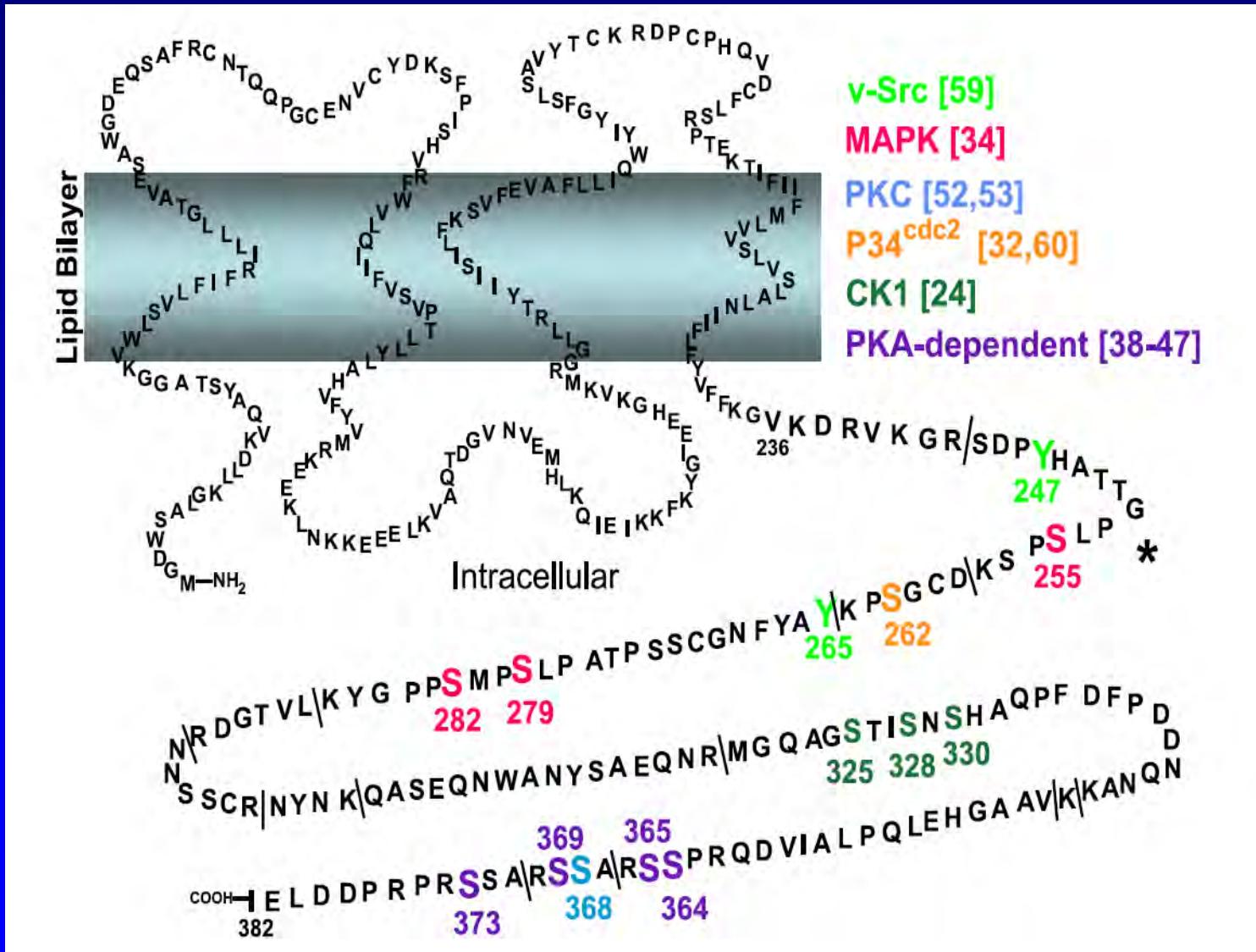
## The Life Cycle of a Connexin



Normal Ventricles



Taichung VGH data

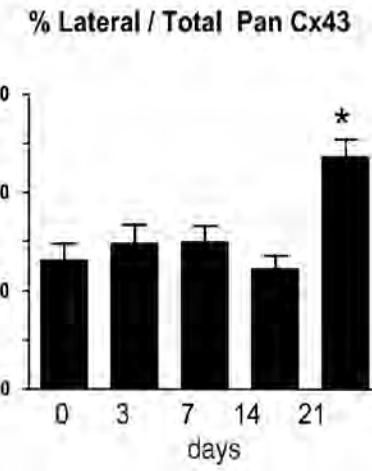
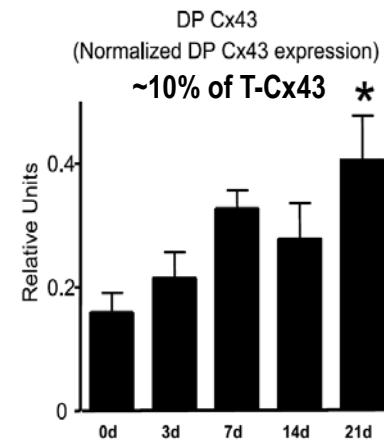
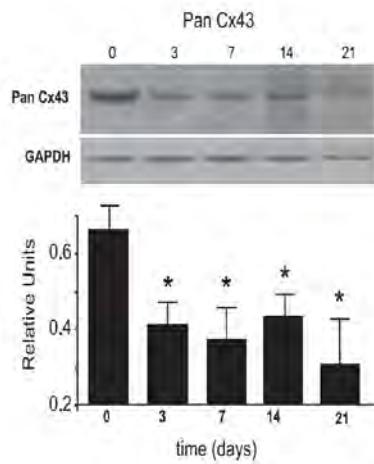
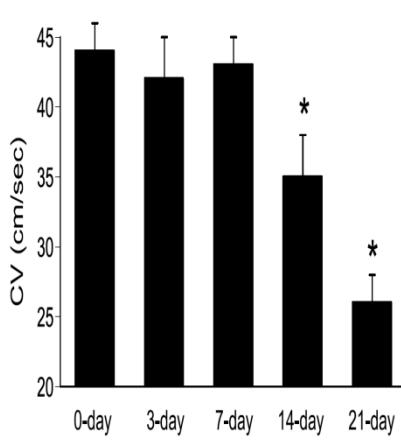
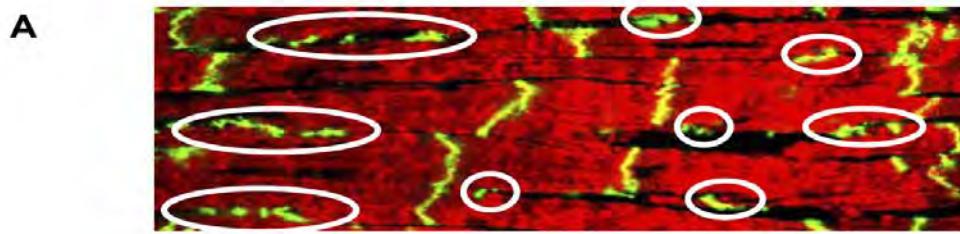


# Dynamic changes in conduction velocity and gap junction properties during development of pacing-induced heart failure

Fadi G. Akar, Robert D. Nass, Samuel Hahn, Eugenio Cingolani, Manish Shah, Geoffrey G. Hesketh, Deborah DiSilvestre, Richard S. Tunin, David A. Kass, and Gordon F. Tomaselli

Division of Cardiology and Institute for Computational Medicine, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Maryland

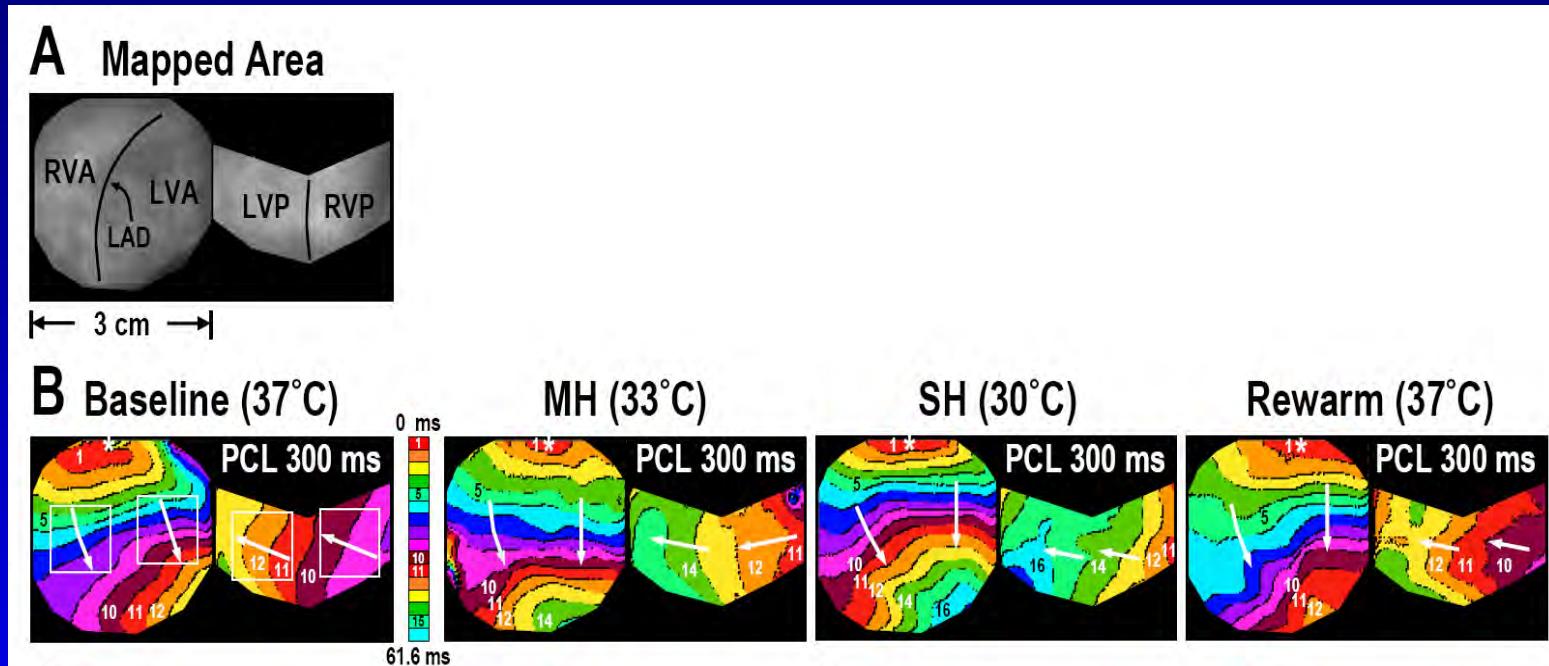
Submitted 18 January 2007; accepted in final form 12 April 2007



# Method

- Epicardial CV of ventricles was evaluated by S1 pacing in Langendorff-perfused isolated rabbit hearts
  - Baseline (37°C, 9 hearts)
  - After 30-min moderate hypothermia (MH, 33°C, 6 hearts)
  - After 30-min severe hypothermia (SH, 30°C, 9 hearts)
  - Rewarming (30-min SH+ 30 min 37°C, n=5)

# Immunoblotting and Histopathological study



- CV was determined at anterior and posterior aspects of RV and LV.
- Tissue samples were collected to measure the level and distribution of the non-phosphorylated (NP-Cx43) and total (T-Cx43) forms Cx43 by Western blotting and immunoconfocal microscopy.

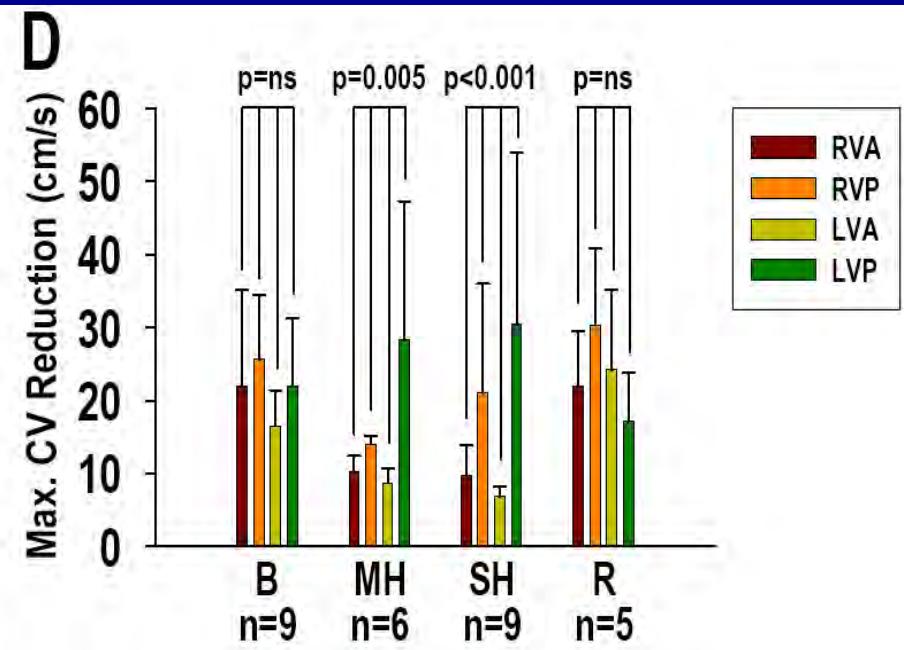
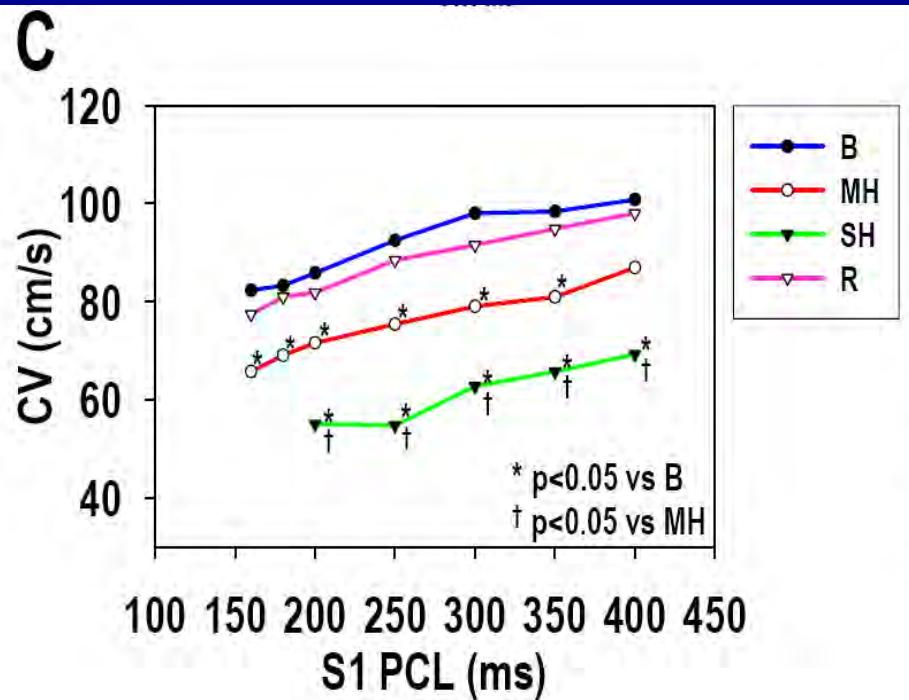


Figure 2

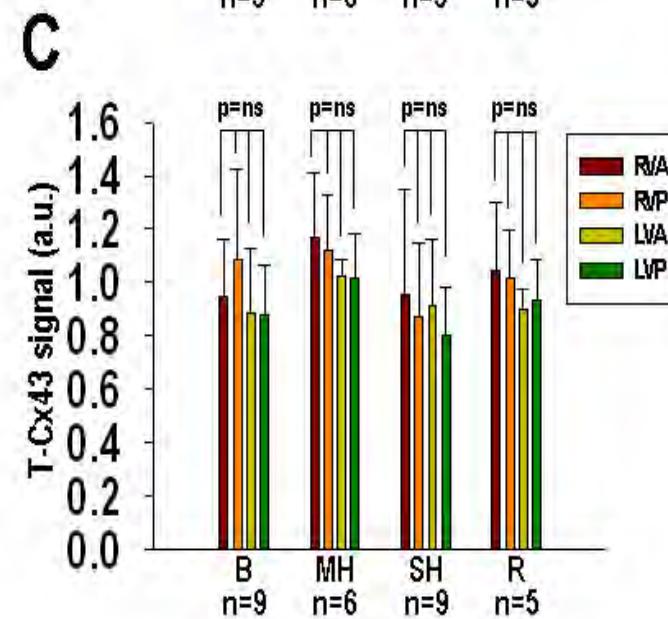
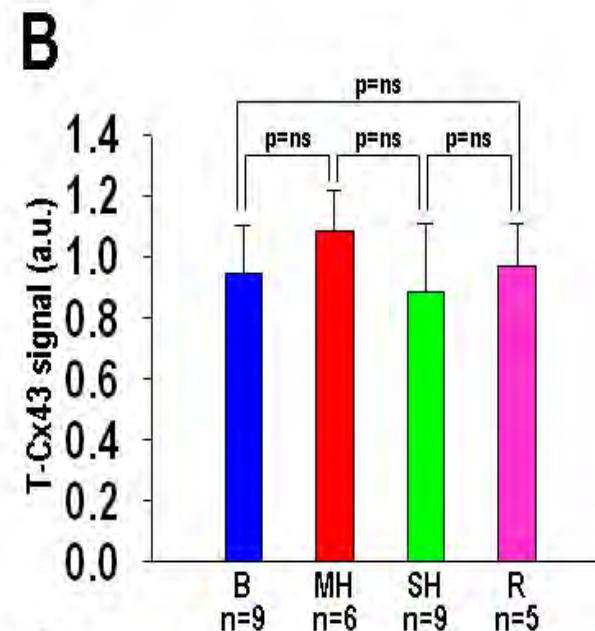
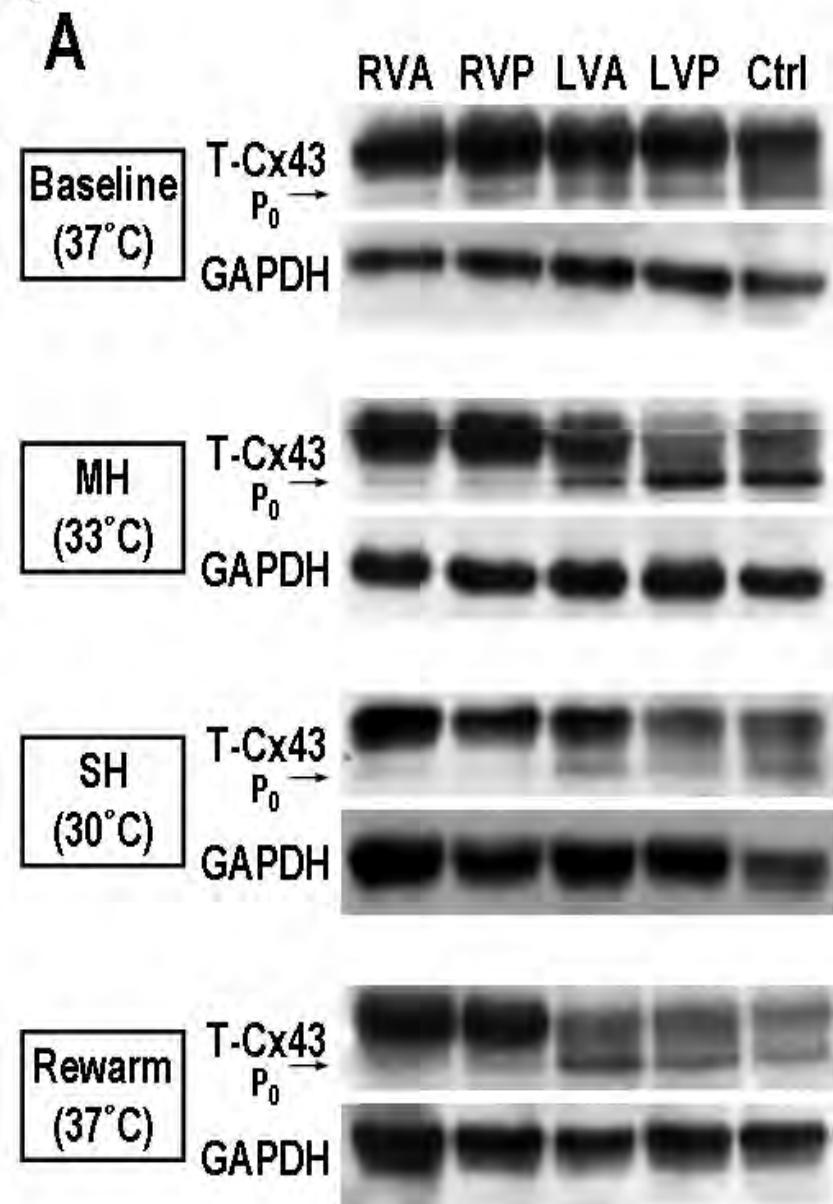
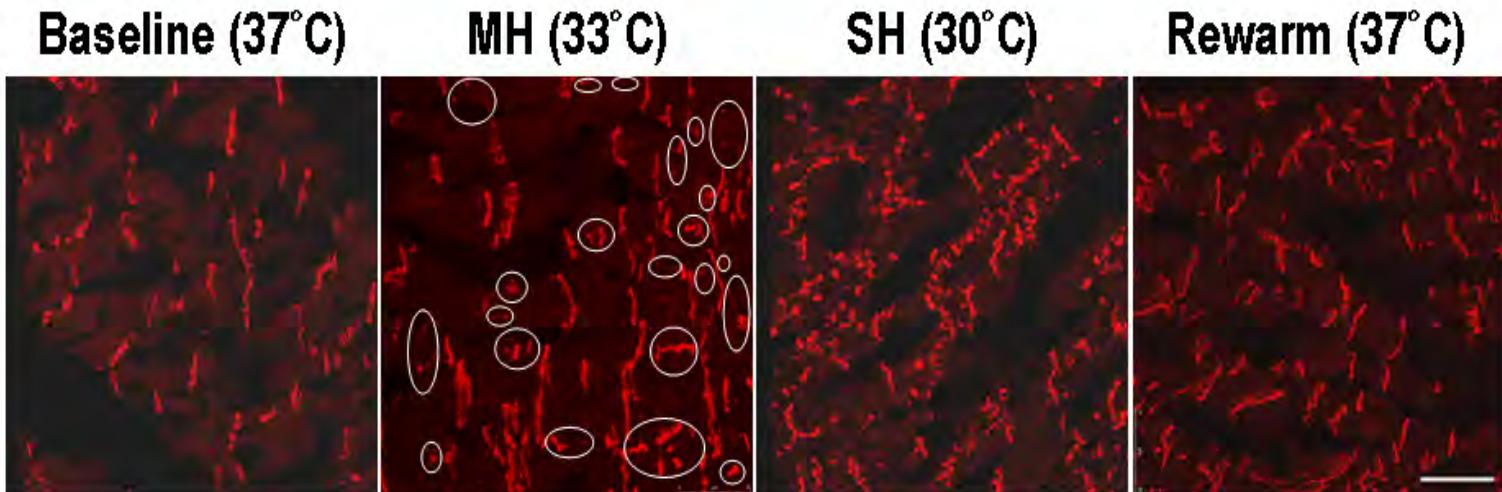
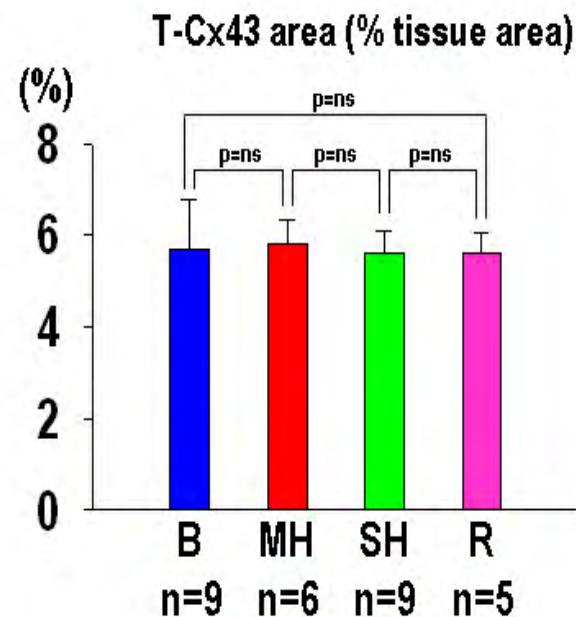


Figure 3

A



B



C

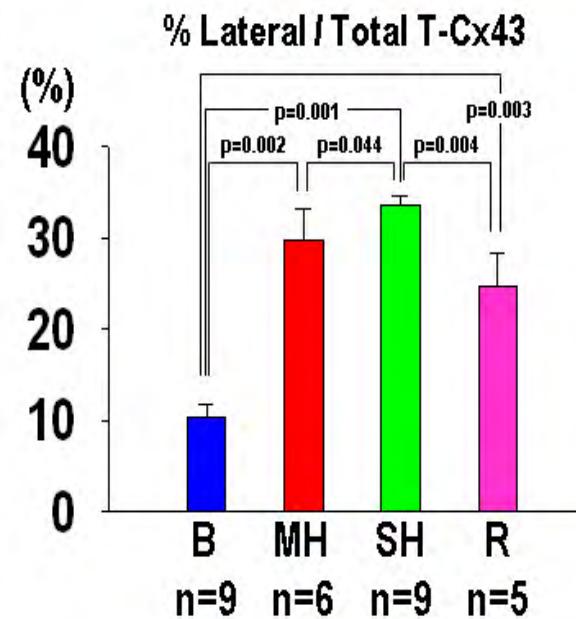


Figure 4

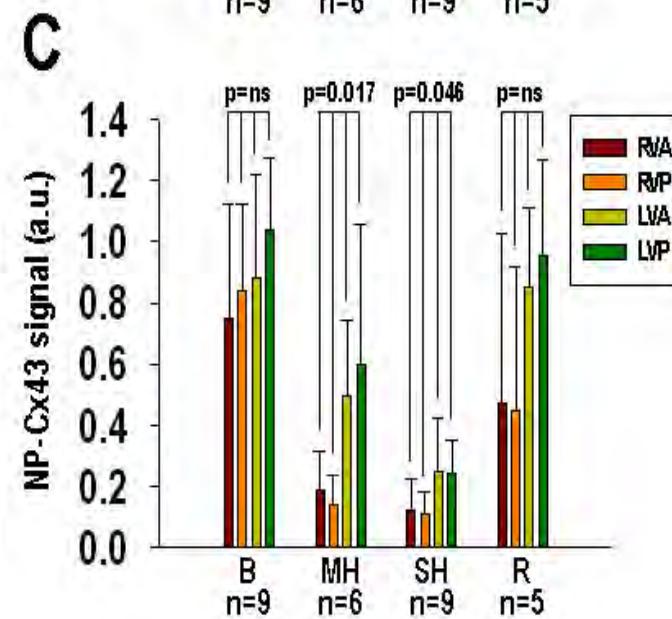
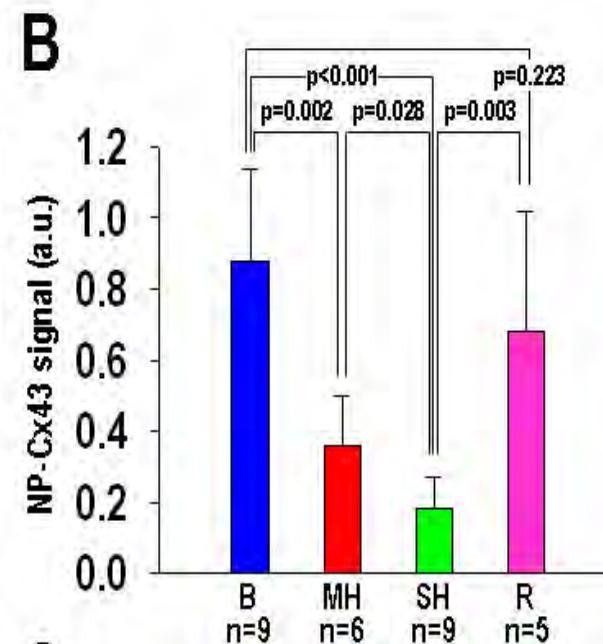
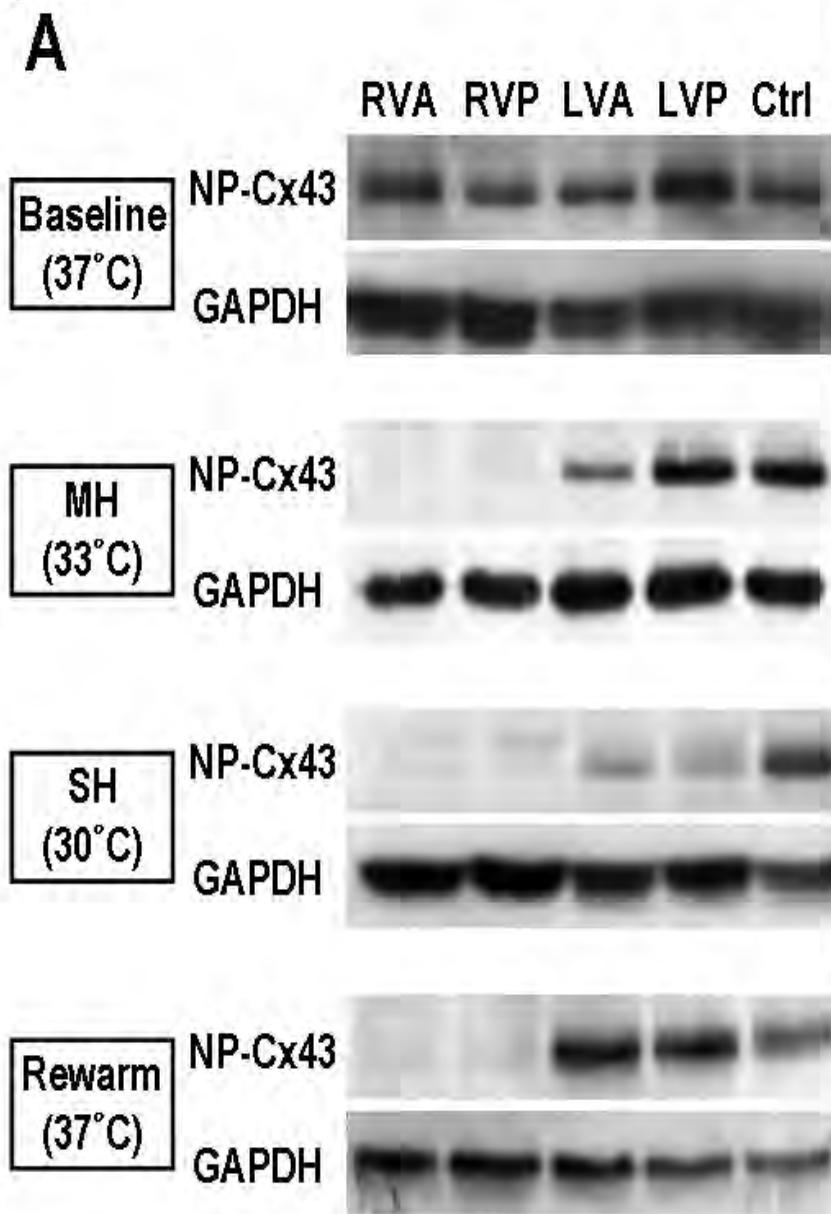
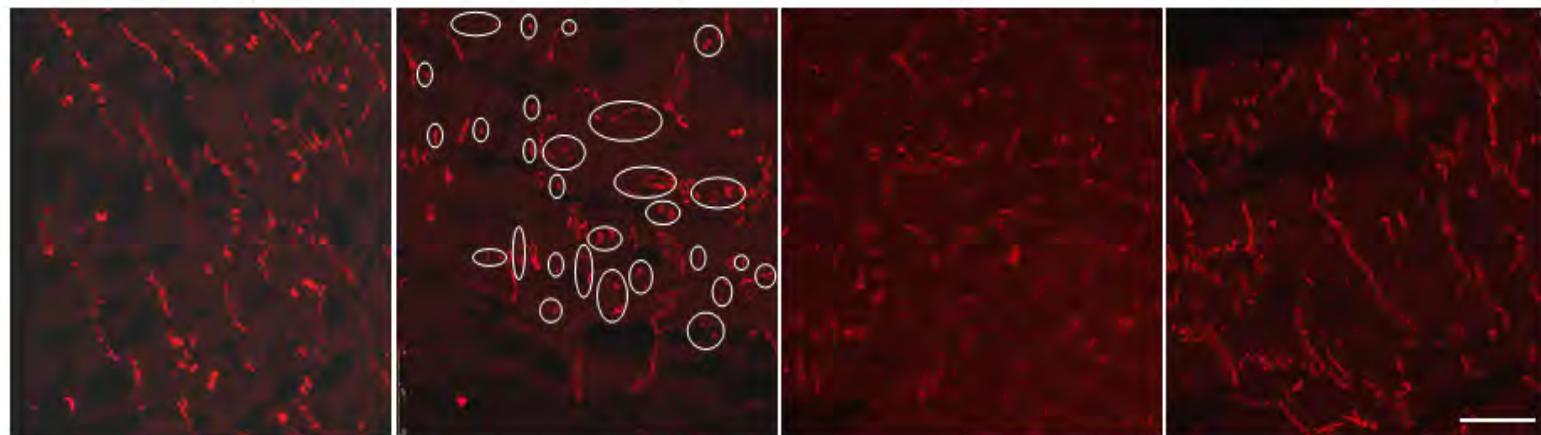


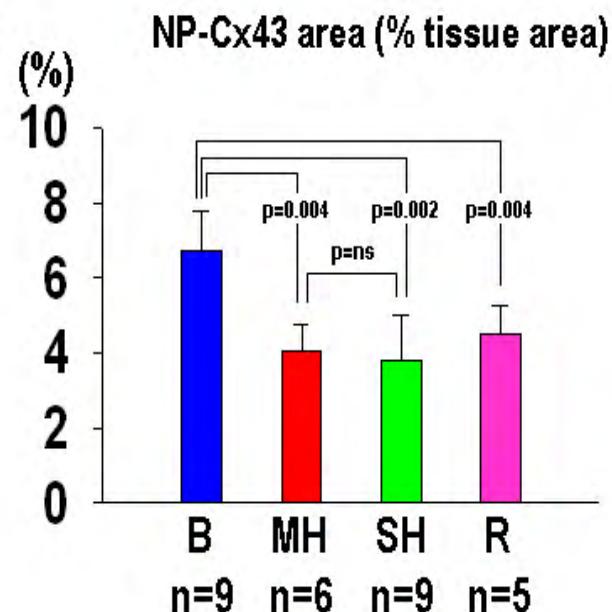
Figure 5

A

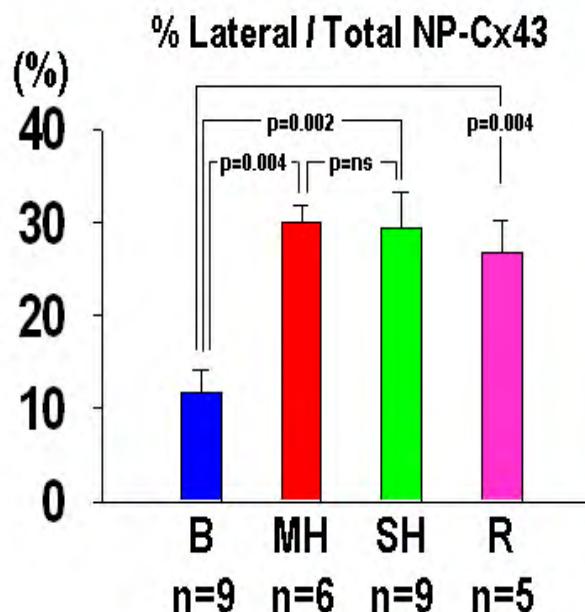
Baseline (37°C)      MH (33°C)      SH (30°C)      Rewarm (37°C)

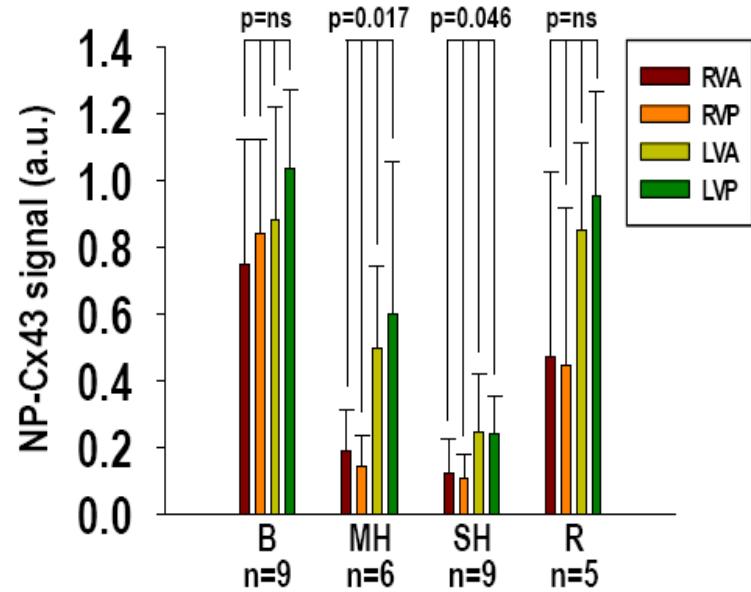
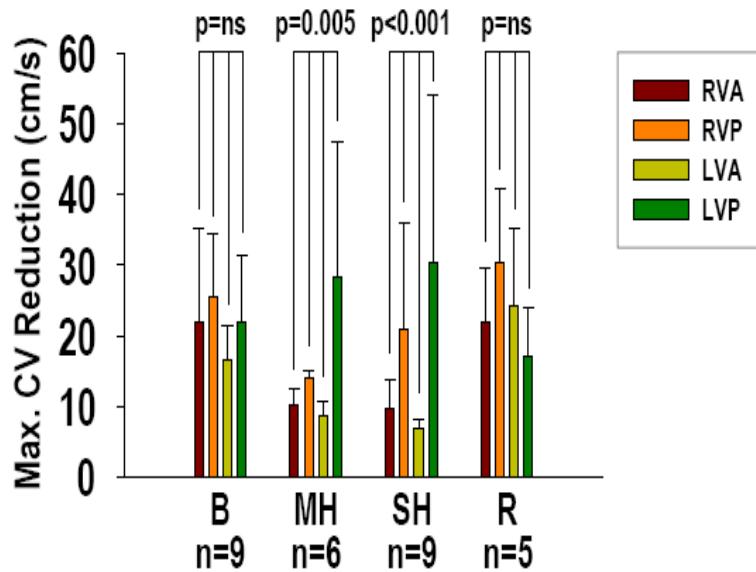


B

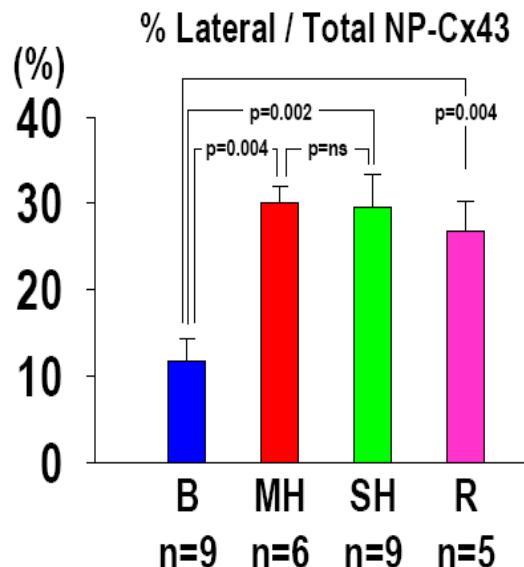
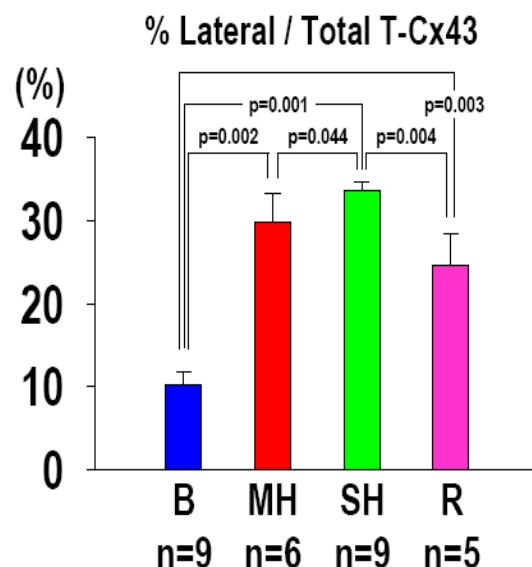
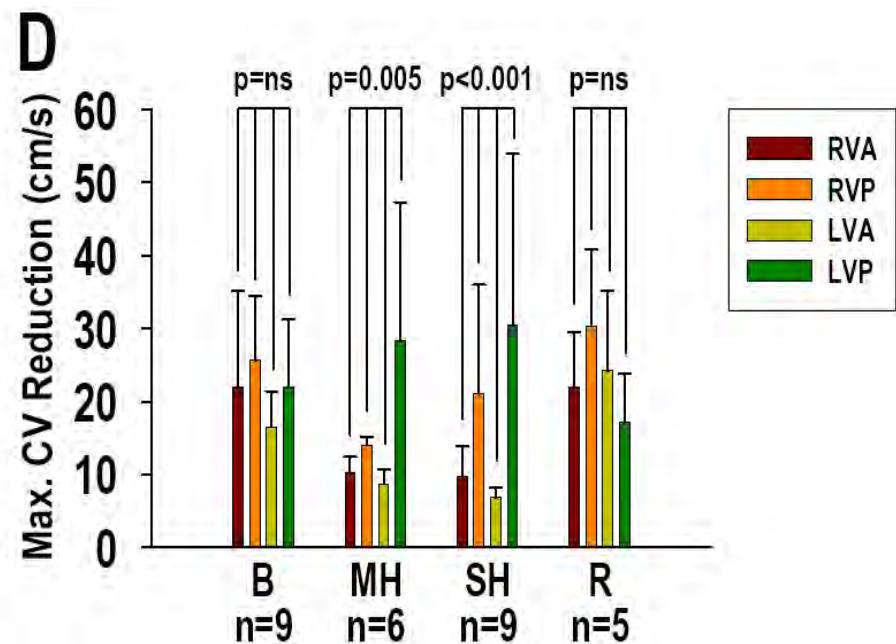
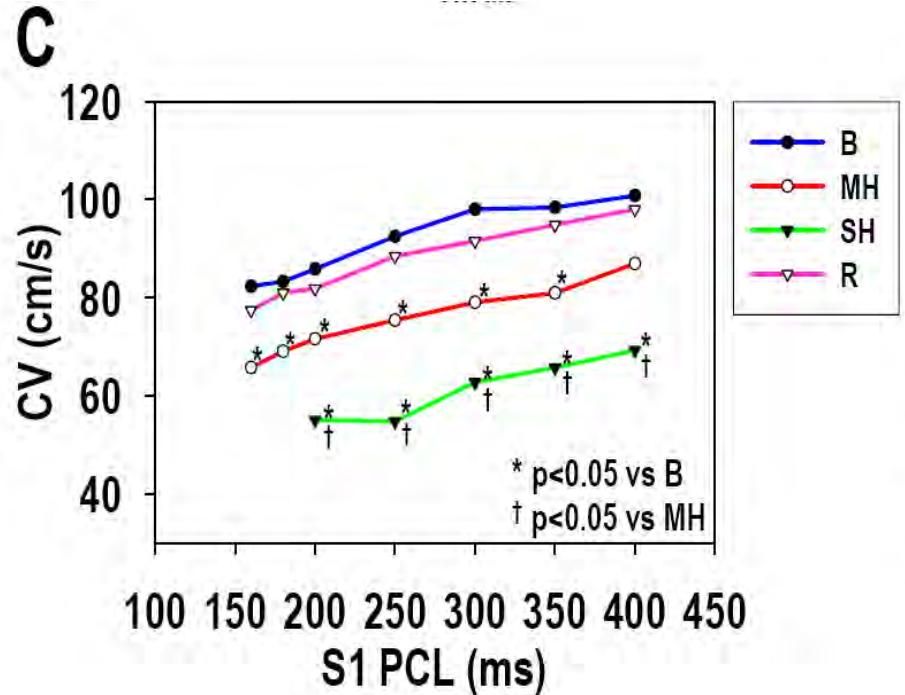


C





**Remodeling of Cx43 gap junctions may contribute to the demonstrated conduction disturbance during hypothermia !?**



# Possible Explanation

- NP- and T-Cx43 lateralization might not play a major role in CV slowing during TH in this acute model.
- Tansey et al. also reported that 30-minute global ischemia in isolated rabbit heart caused significant T-Cx43 lateralization, while CV was not changed, which was similar to our findings.

# Clinical Implication

- SH hearts showed a greater extent in
  - CV slowing
  - NP-Cx43 down-regulation
  - T-Cx43 lateralization
  - Heart numbers with inducible VF, compared to values in MH hearts.
- 33°C might be a more feasible temperature for patients receiving TH than 30°C.

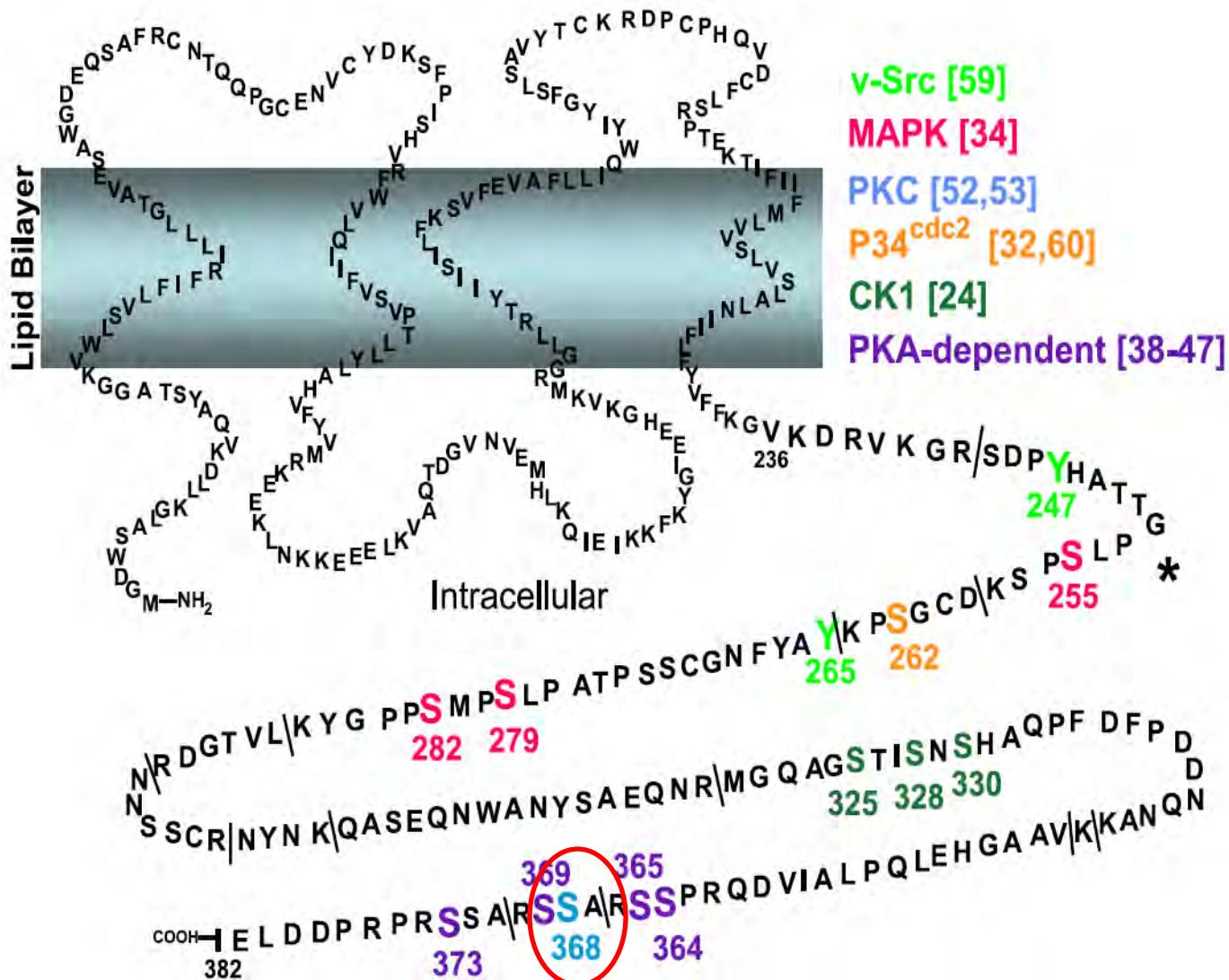
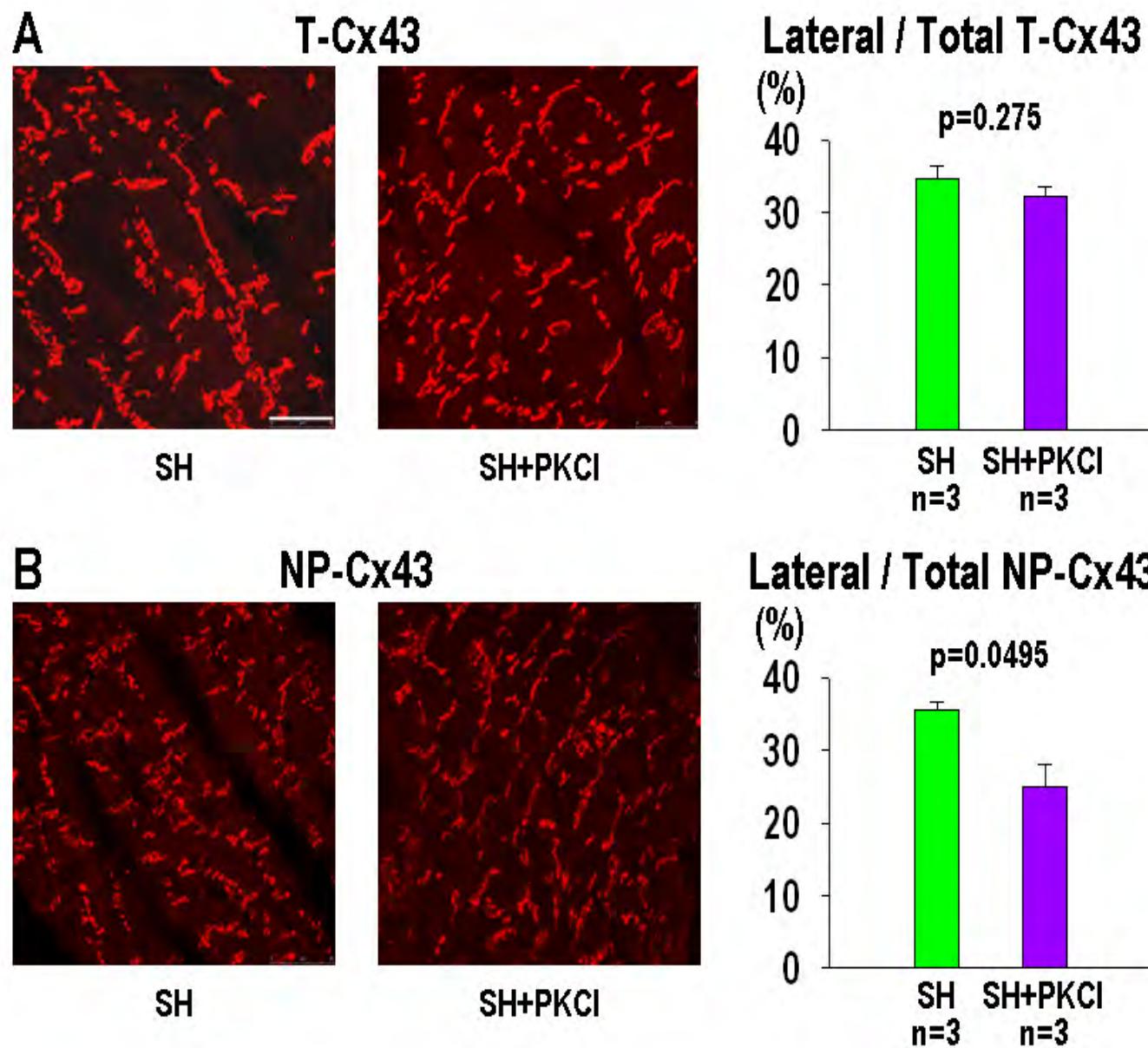


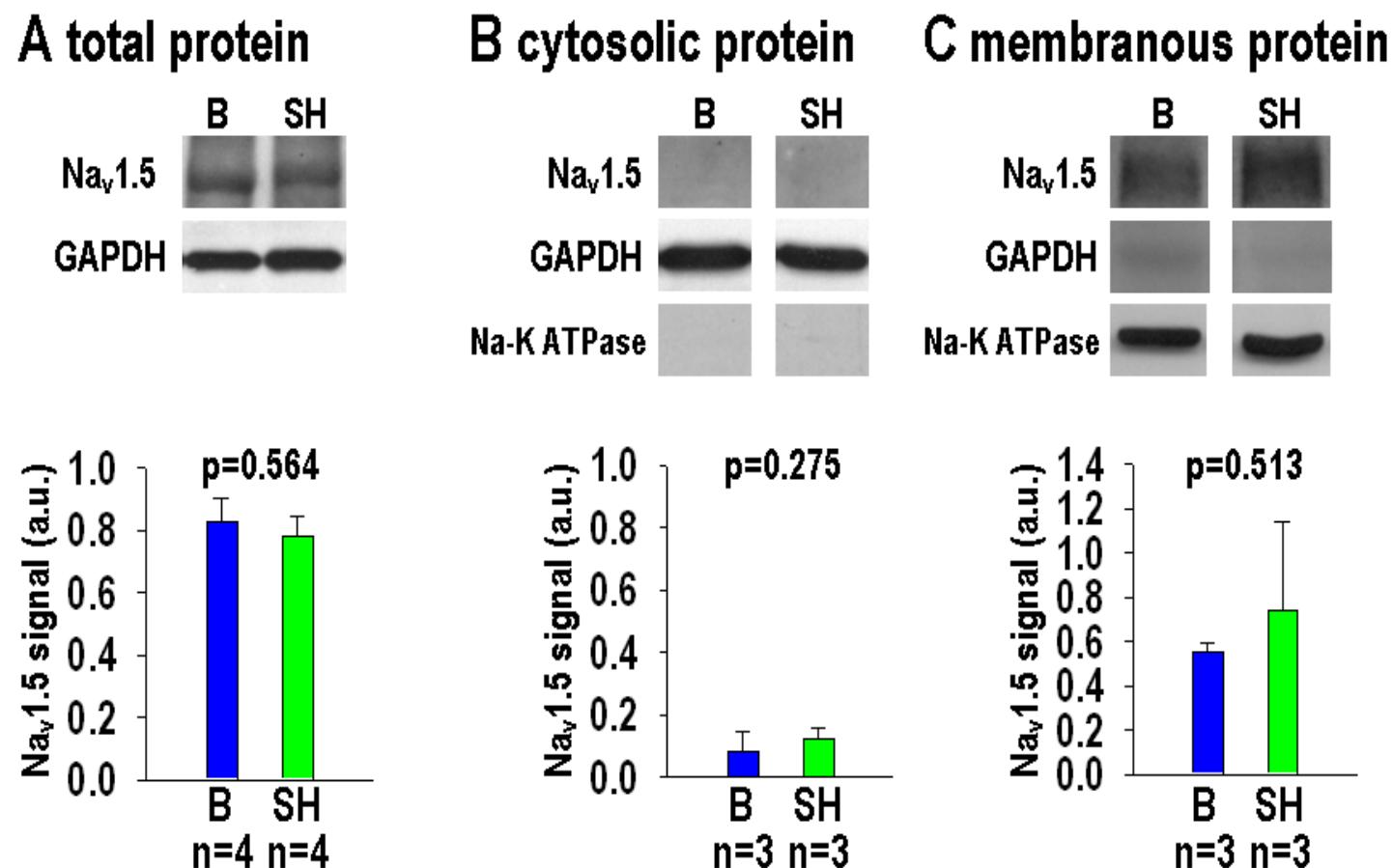
Figure 7

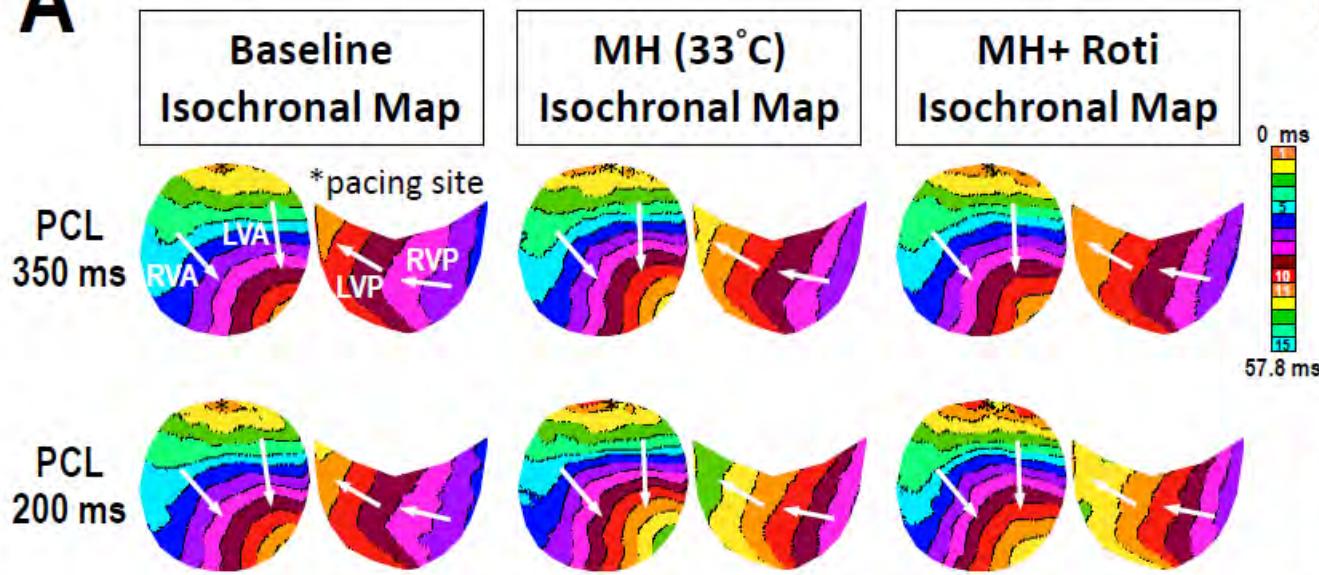
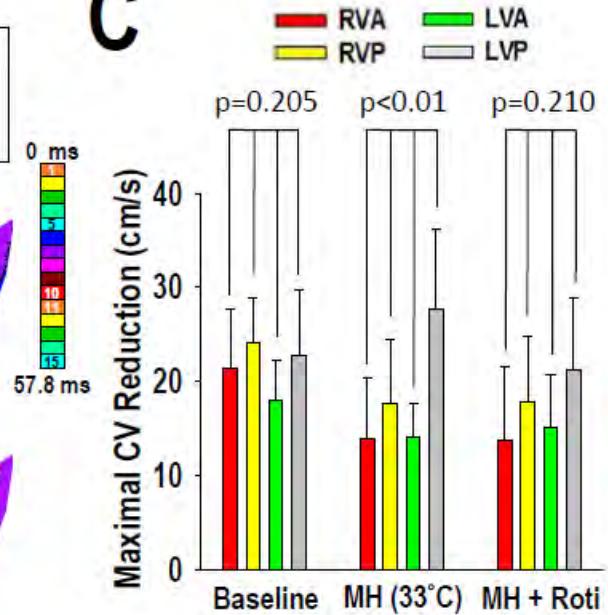
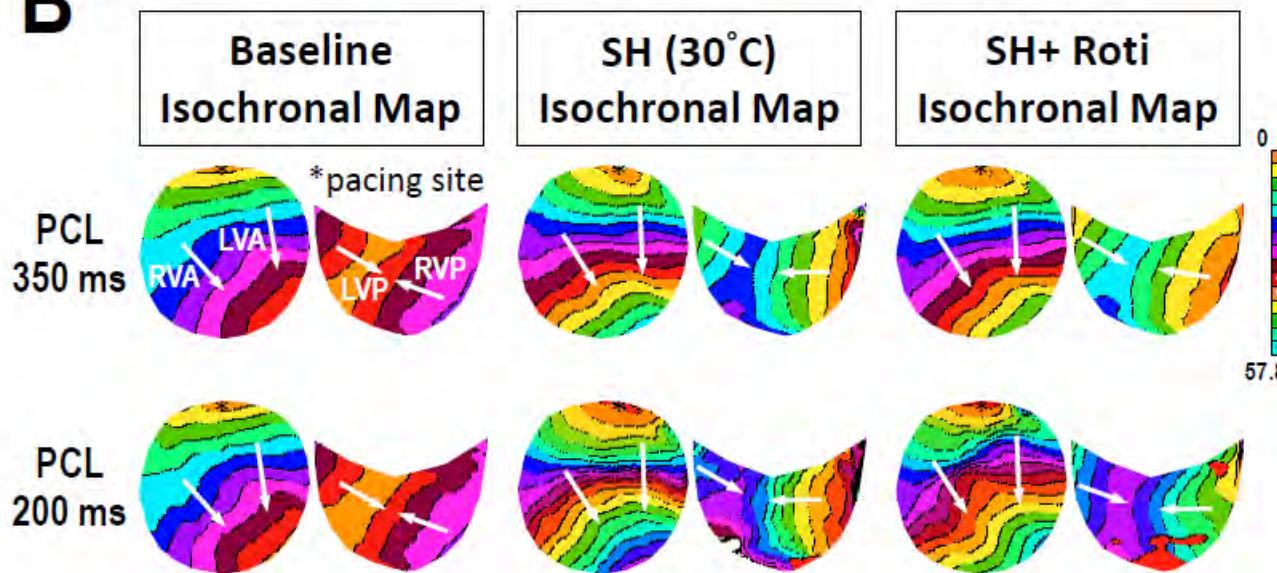
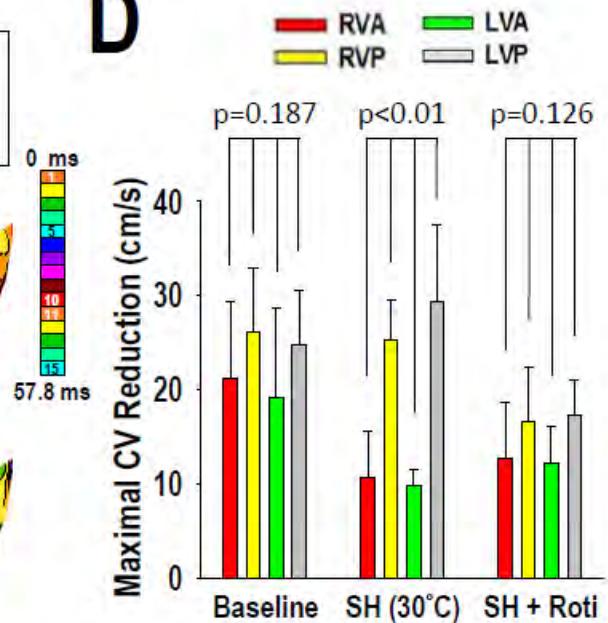


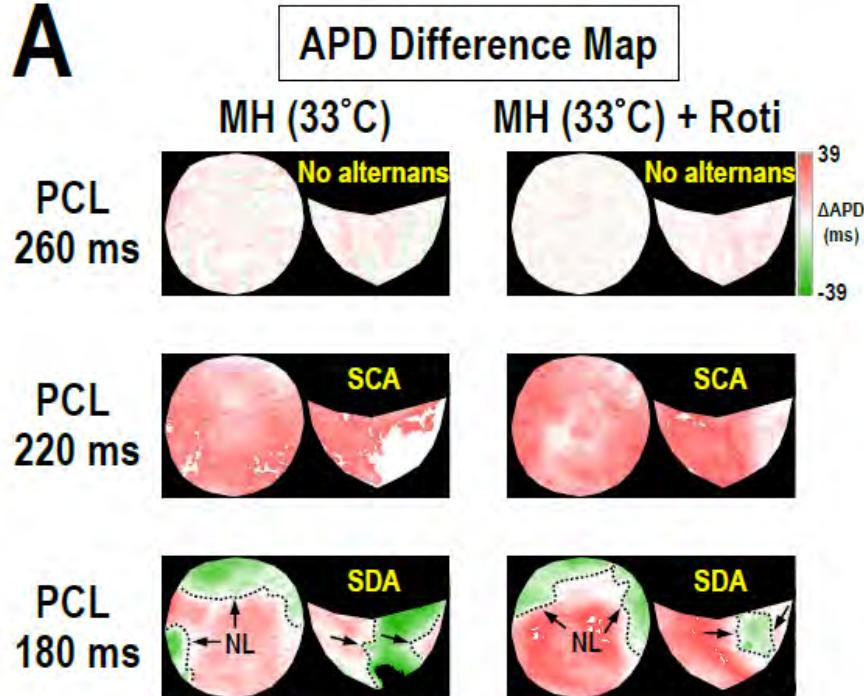
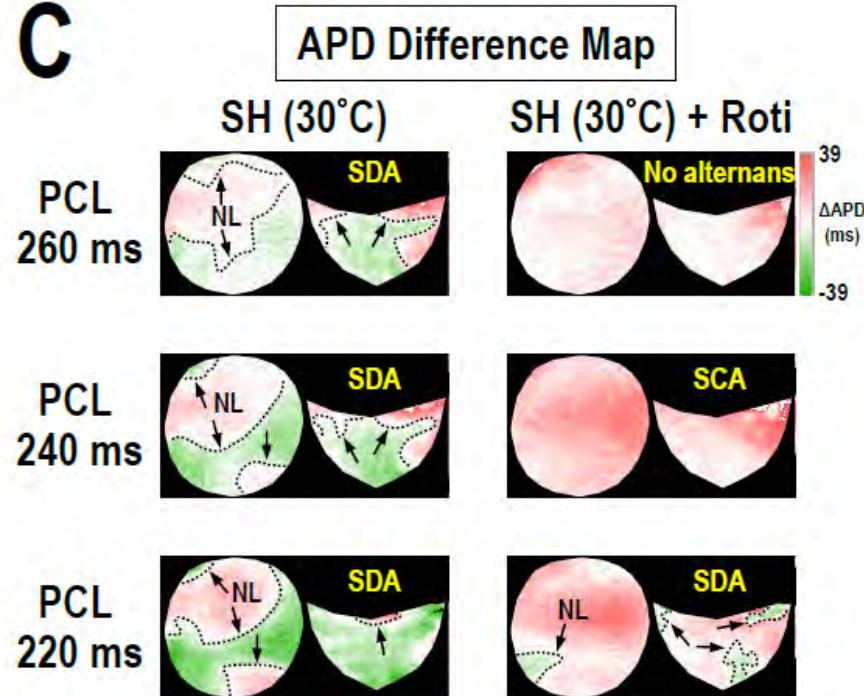
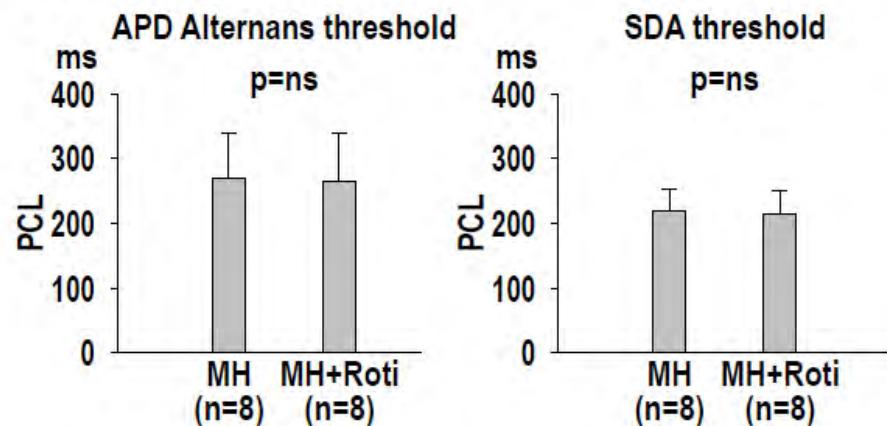
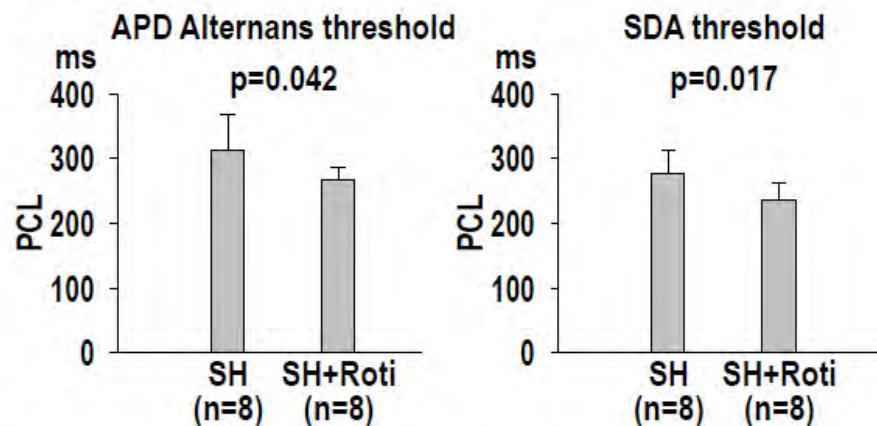
# Conclusion

- Short-duration (30 minutes) TH causes a prompt temperature-dependent Cx43 GJ remodeling, in which the PKC pathway is involved.
- However, GJ remodeling alone might not play a major role in the conduction disturbance of this acute model.

Figure 8



**A****C****B****D**

**A****C****B****D**

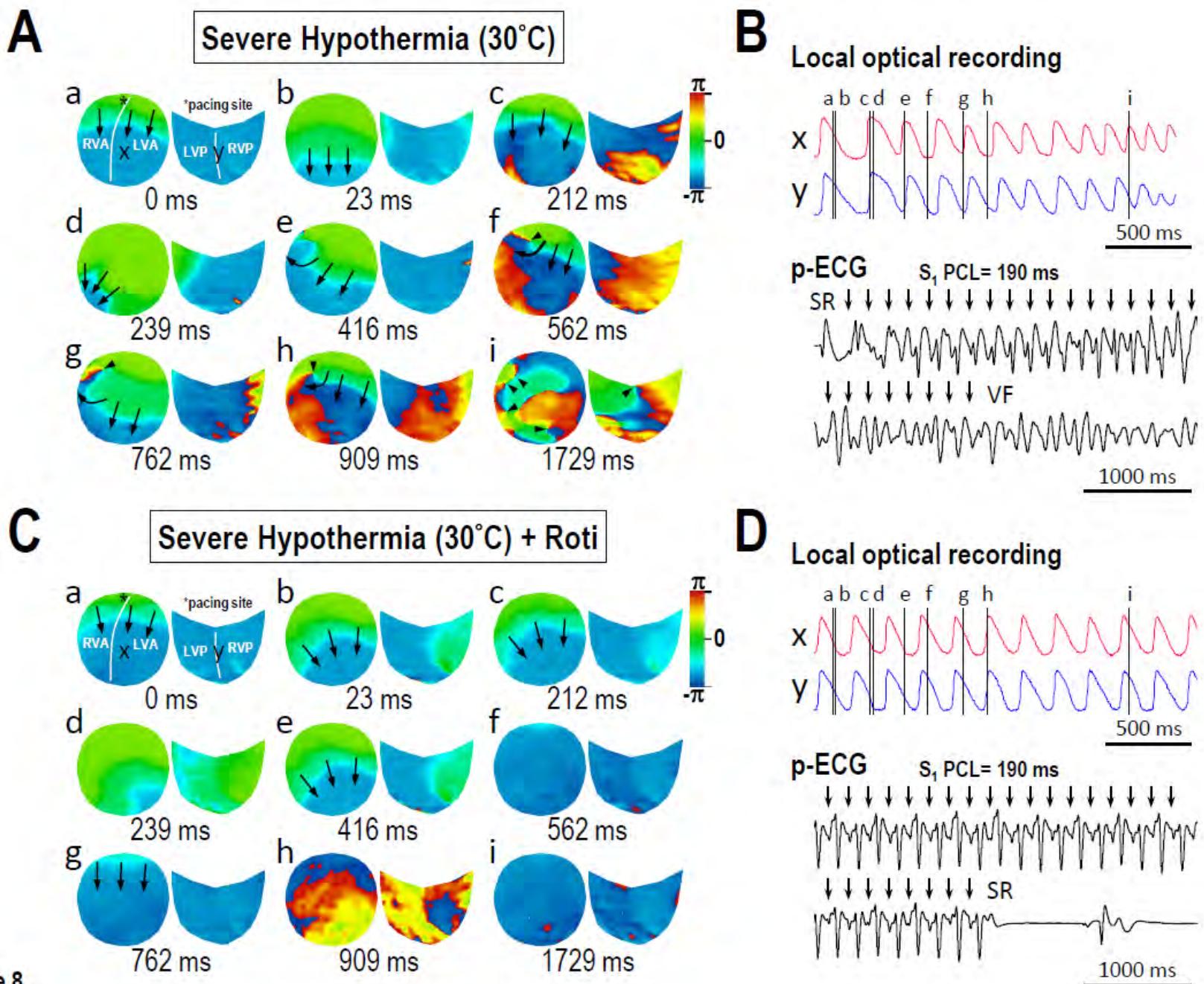


Figure 8

# Conclusions

- TH (30°C) increased the vulnerability of VF by enhancing proarrhythmic parameters (SDA).
- Short-duration (30 min) therapeutic hypothermia causes prompt Cx43 GJs remodeling.
- Rewarming abolished hypothermia-induced conduction disturbance, while Cx43 GJs lateralization did not completely recover.
- Rotigaptide protects the hearts against ventricular arrhythmias by increasing ventricular CV and delaying the onset of SDA during TH.
- Enhancing cell-to-cell coupling by rotigaptide might be a novel approach to prevent ventricular arrhythmias during TH.

**Thanks For Your Attention !!**