



Cytokinetics[®]

CK-4021586 is a new class of cardiac myosin inhibitor for potential treatment of the hyper-contractile subgroup of HFpEF

Meredith Redd

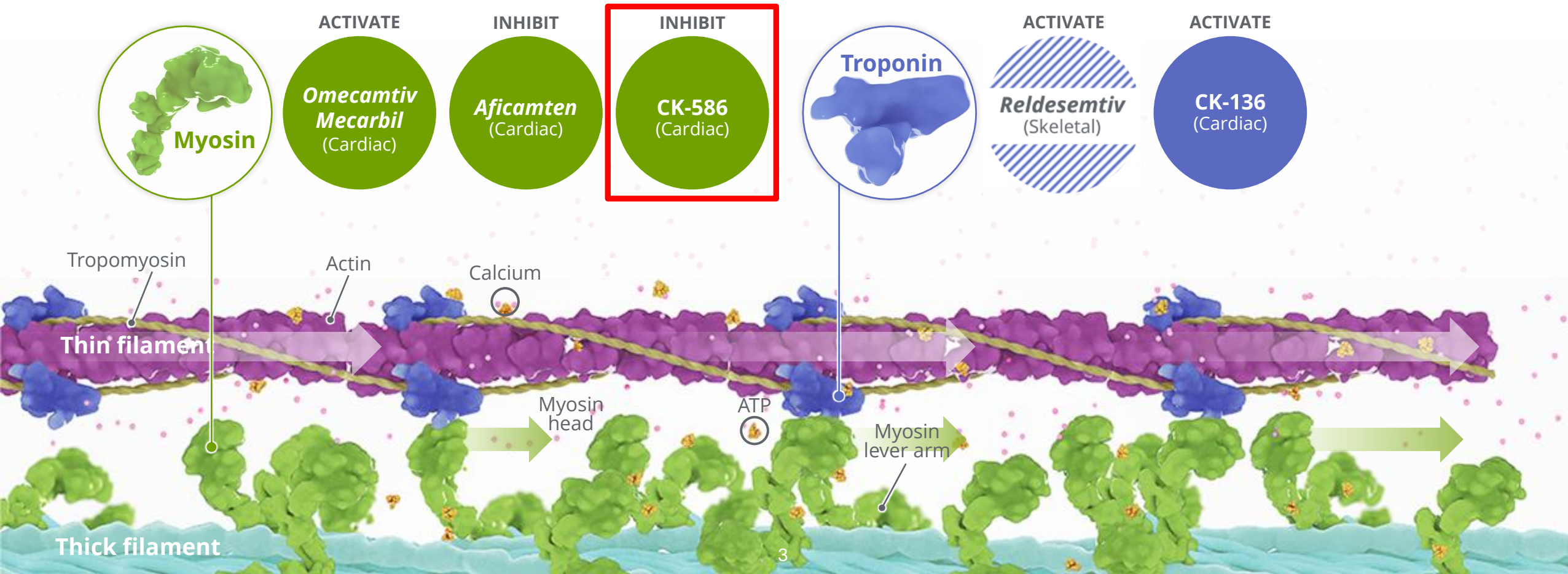
BCVS Scientific Sessions 2025
Emerging Cardiovascular Translational Technologies

July 25, 2025

CYTOKINETICS[®] and the C logo are registered trademarks of Cytokinetics in the U.S. and certain other countries.

Sarcomere directed drug discovery & development

The sarcomere is a molecular structure found in skeletal and cardiac muscle that enables muscle to contract and generate force

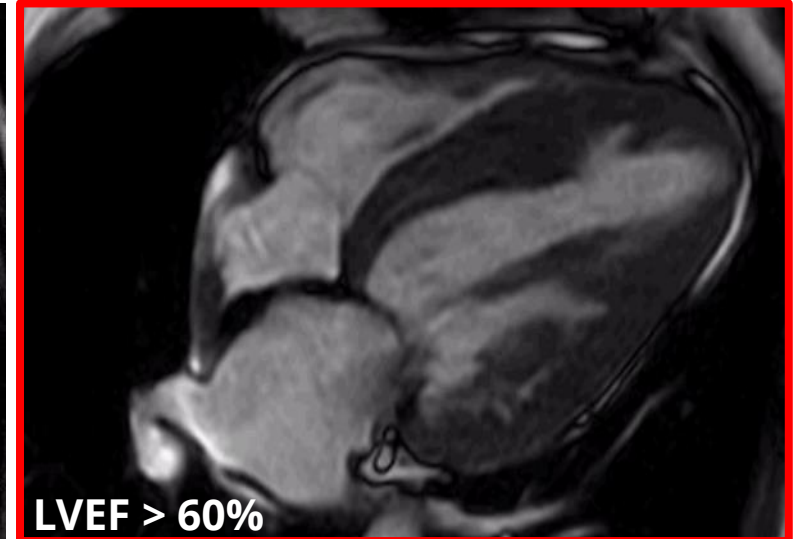
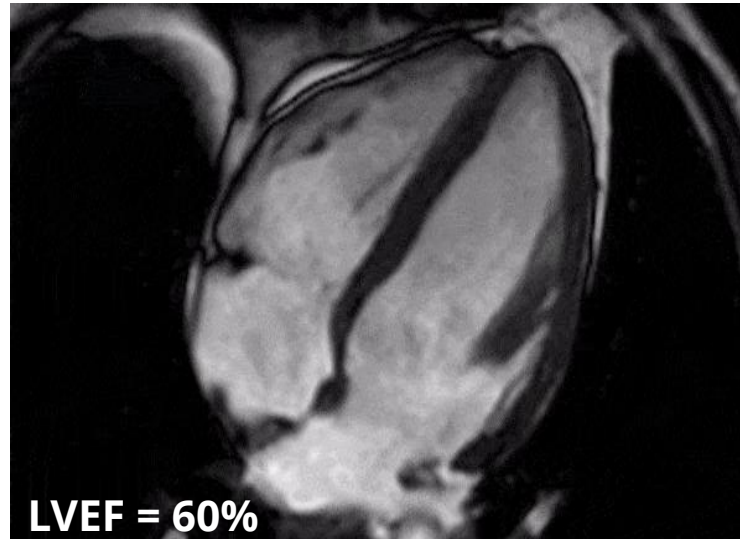
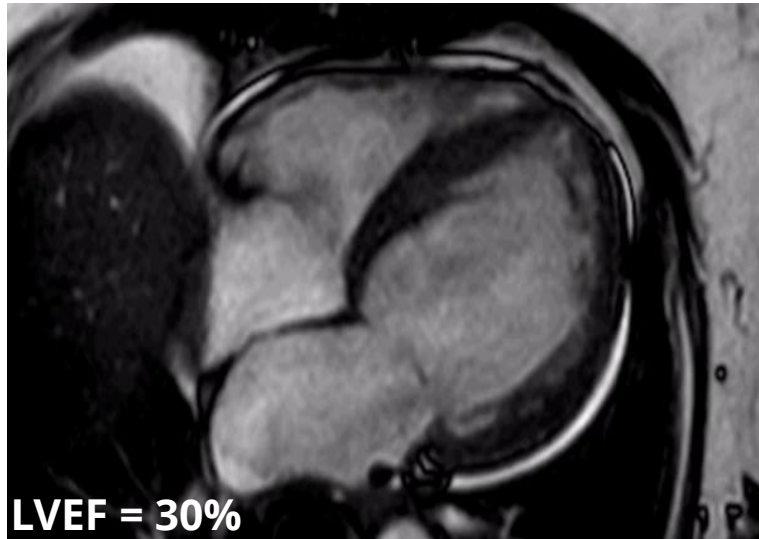


Diseases associated with reduced and increased cardiac contractility

HFrEF
(Hypocontractility)

Normal Contractility

HCM & HFpEF (subset)
(Hypercontractility)



HFrEF = Heart Failure with Reduced Ejection Fraction

HFpEF = Heart Failure with Preserved Ejection Fraction

HCM = Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy

Hypothesis: Normalization of Contractility May Treat the Root Cause of the Disease

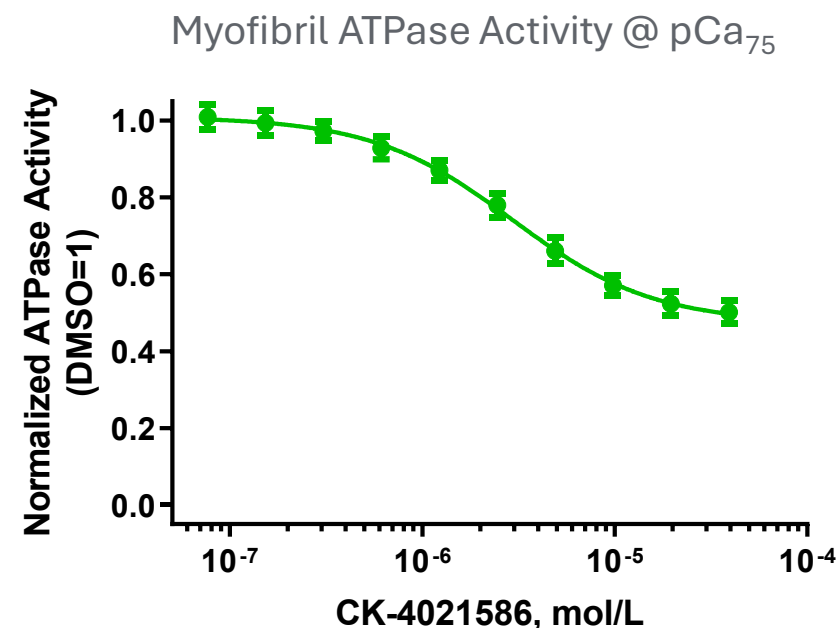
Opportunities exist for another cardiac myosin inhibitor

- Shallow concentration-effect profile:
 - Compounds with shallow *in vivo* concentration-response profiles, due either to intrinsic mechanism of action or drug properties, can facilitate titration of muscle modulation
- Ease of use:
 - Lessening the safety requirements for echo-based titration in HFpEF
- Different mechanisms-of-action may provide different opportunities
 - Enlarging the toolbox of muscle modulators can both inform our understanding of muscle mechanics as well as provide additional opportunities for therapeutic benefit

CK-586 is a sarcomere inhibitor with a unique mechanism of action

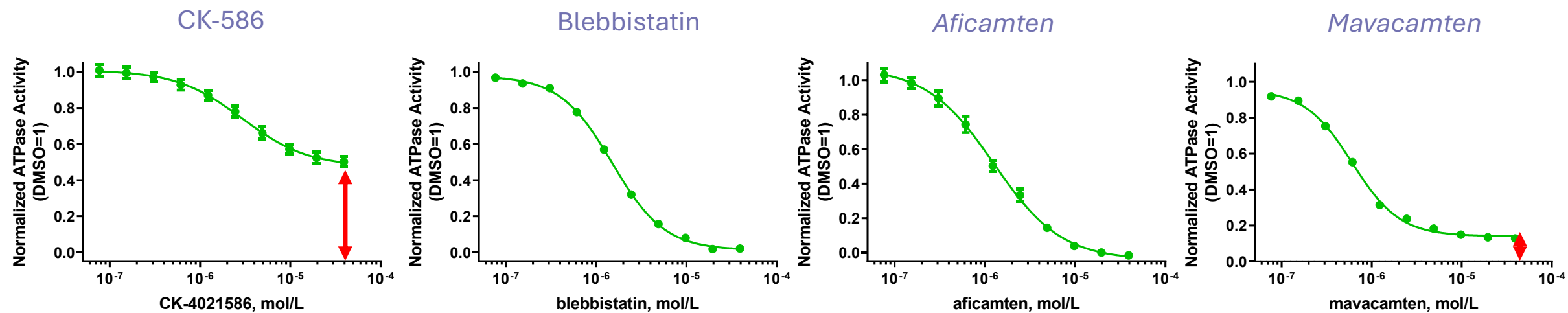
CK-4021586

- small molecule (<500 Da)
- Initial hit identified in high throughput screen for inhibitors of cardiac myofibril ATPase activity
- Optimized by iterative medicinal chemistry (>2000 compounds synthesized in series)
- Favorable predicted human pharmacokinetics (predicted $t_{1/2} \sim 15$ hours)
- Desirable off-target profile
- Unique biochemical phenotype: partial inhibition of myofibril ATPase activity



CK-586 Inhibition Profile Differs from Other Cardiac Myosin Inhibitors

Partial inhibition of cardiac myofibril ATPase is observed within the chemical series



Bovine Cardiac Myofibril ATPase Activity @ pCa_{7.5}

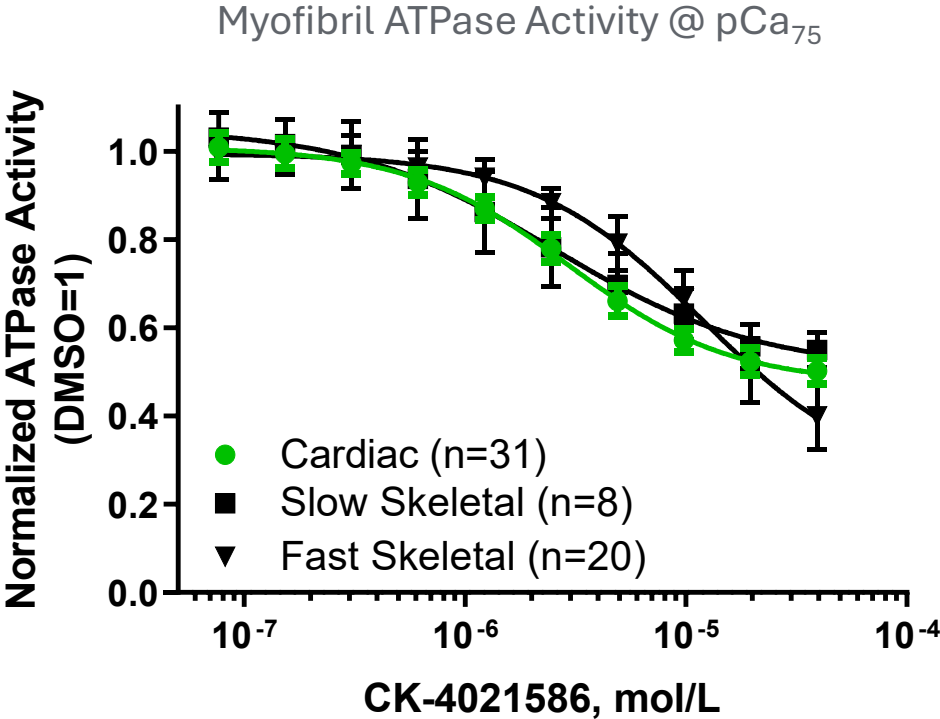
	CK-586 (n=31)	Blebbistatin (n=404)	Aficamten (n=17)	Mavacamten (n=302)
EC ₅₀ (μM)	2.9	1.5	1.3	0.6
Min. Normalized ATPase Activity*	0.47	0.02	-0.02	0.12

* Non-myosin ATPase activity subtracted from cardiac myofibril ATPase assays using saturating blebbistatin to improve assay reproducibility

CK-586 Selectively Inhibits Cardiac and Slow Skeletal Myofibrils

Similar selectivity observed across the chemical series

	IC ₁₅ (μM)	EC ₅₀ (μM)
Cardiac	1.4	2.9
Slow skeletal	1.4	2.5
Fast skeletal	3.3	12

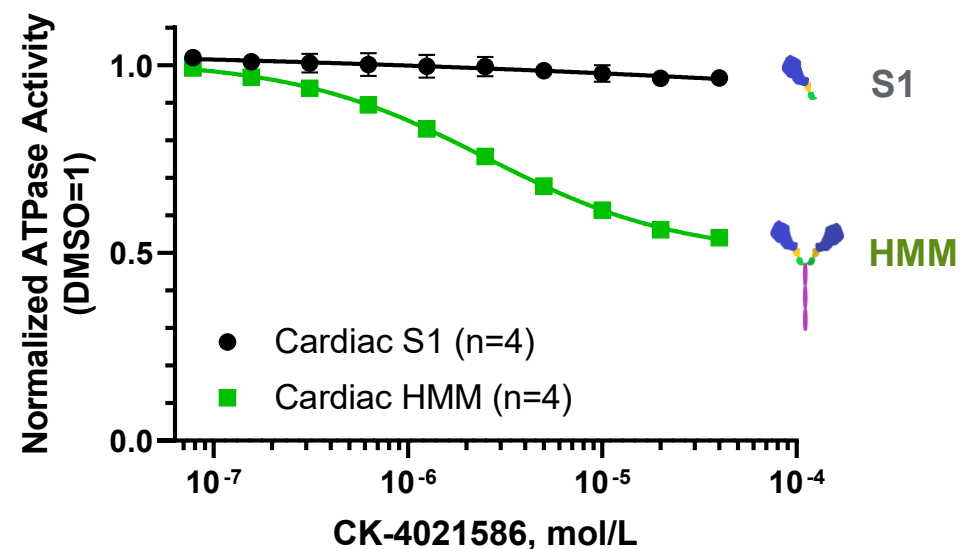
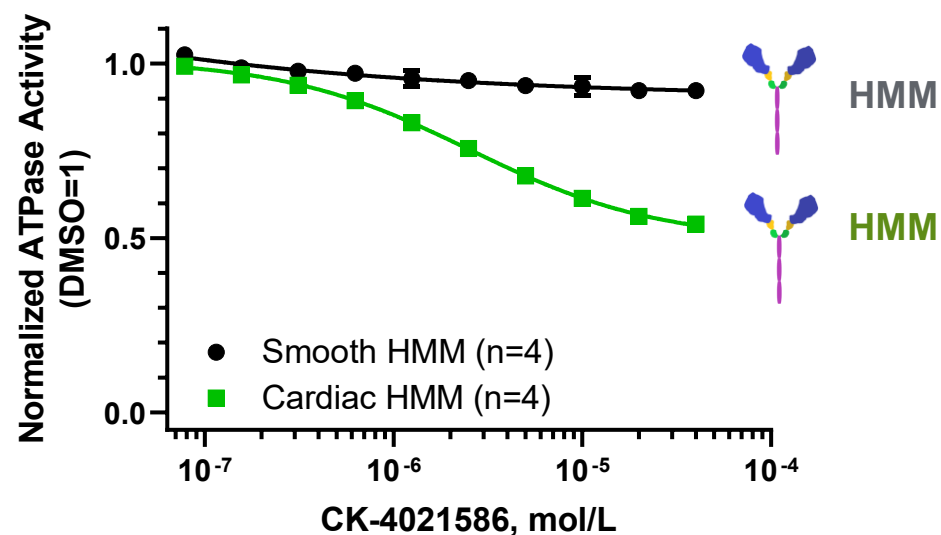


CK-586 Inhibits HMM but not S1 Preparations of Cardiac Myosin

Establishes cardiac myosin as target of CK-586

S1 = Subfragment-1, single-headed myosin fragment
HMM = Heavy meromyosin, two-headed myosin fragment

Actin-activated ATPase Activity



EC₅₀ (μM)

Bovine cardiac S1 >39

Bovine cardiac HMM 2.5

Chicken Gizzard Smooth HMM >39

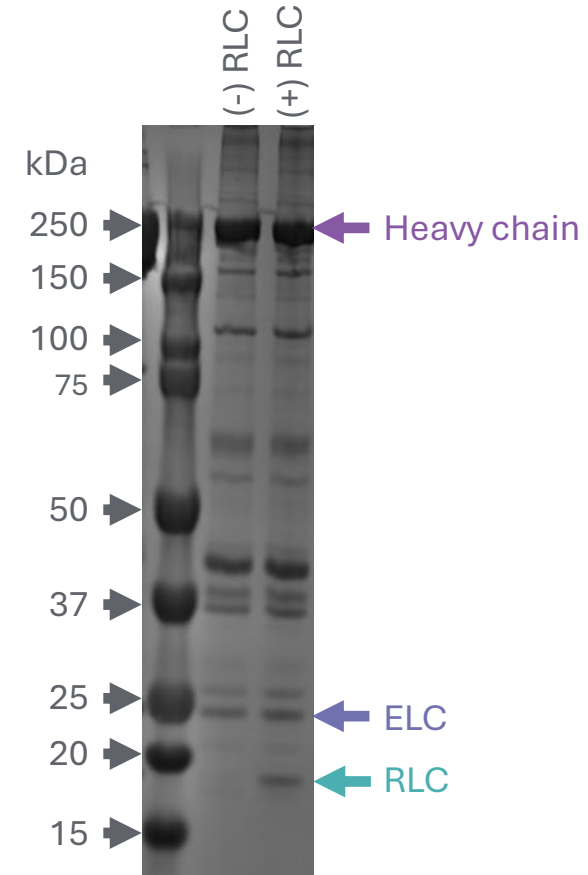
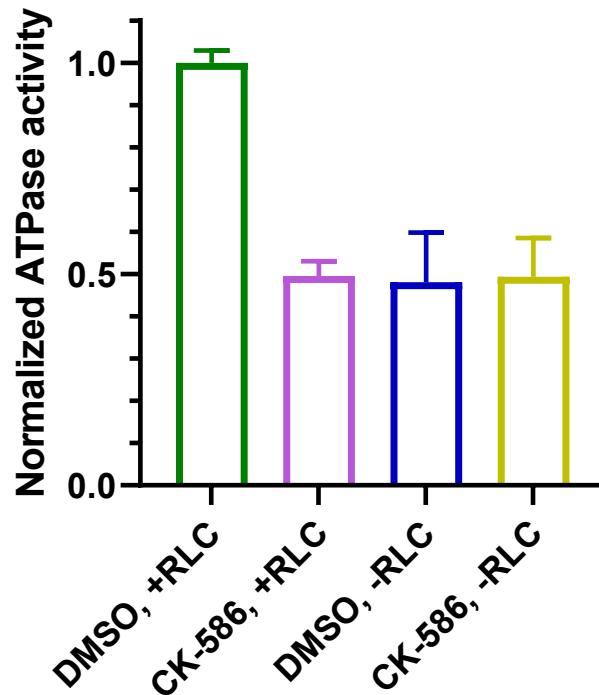
Potency in cardiac HMM actin-activated ATPase assay is similar to cardiac myofibrils (EC₅₀ = 2.9 μM)

Inhibitory Activity of CK-586 Requires the Regulatory Light Chain (RLC)

CK-586 is unable to further inhibit bovine cardiac myofibrils after RLC depletion

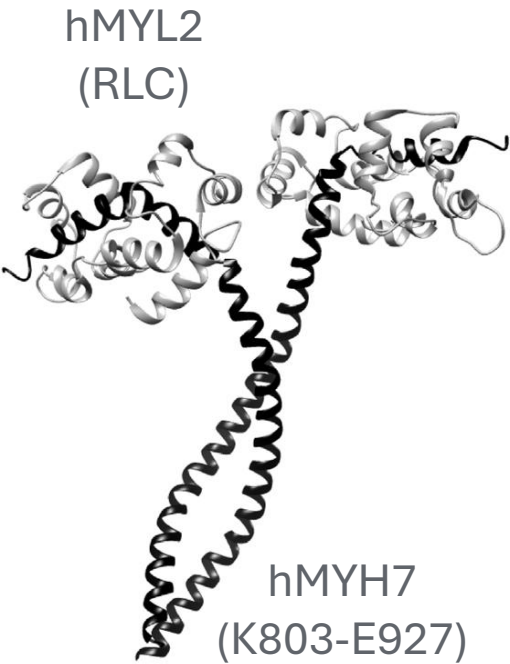
Depletion of RLC from Bovine Cardiac Myofibrils by Triton/CDTA Treatment

Myofibril ATPase Activity @ 1 mM CaCl_2

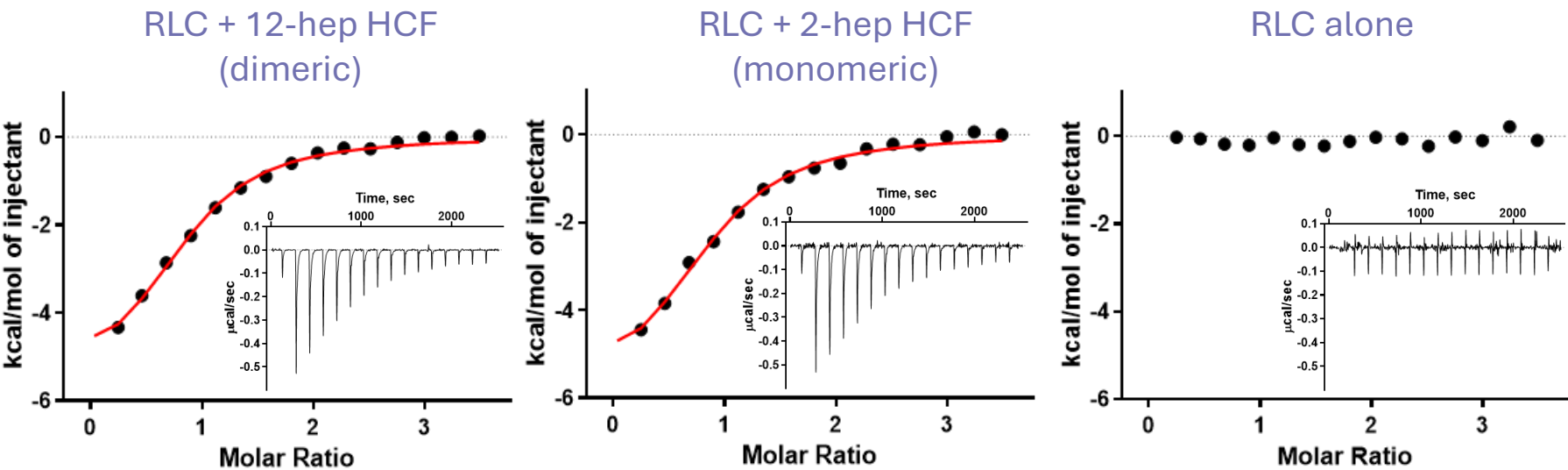


CK-586 Binds to the RLC + Myosin Heavy Chain Fragment

Isothermal titration calorimetry demonstrates direct, stereoselective interaction



Human cardiac version of recombinant RLC + heavy chain fragment



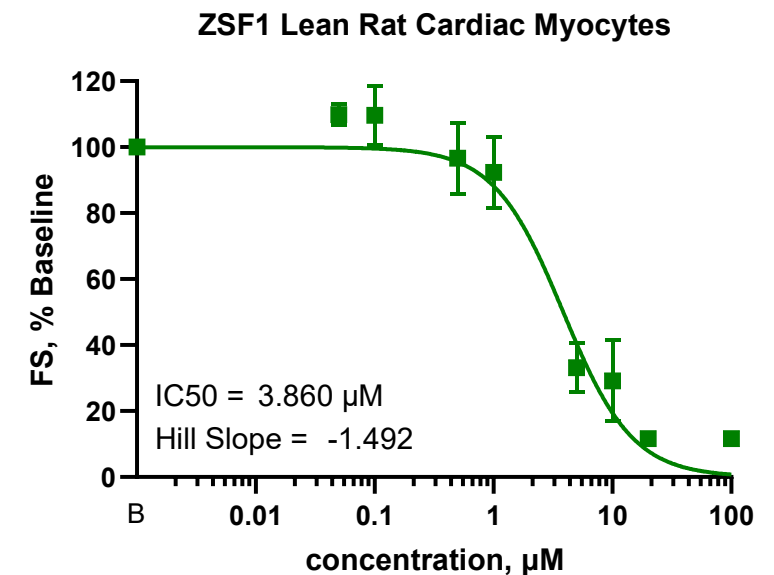
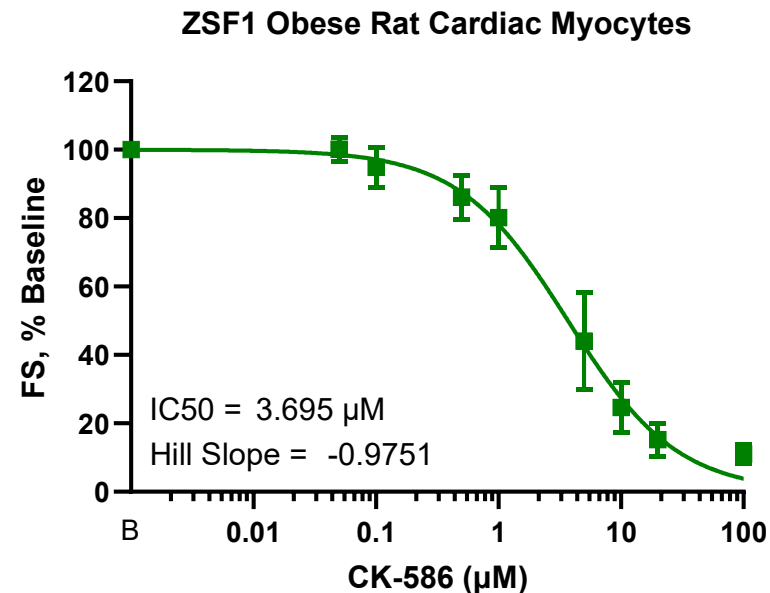
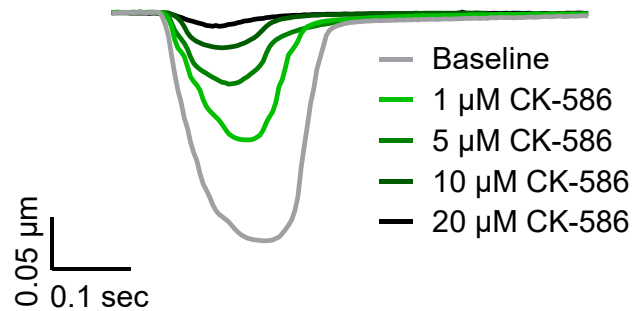
	 RLC + 12-hep HCF	 RLC + 2-hep HCF
Stoichiometry (N) (ligand/target)	0.78 ± 0.1	0.94 ± 0.084
Affinity (K_D , µmol/L)	7.3 ± 1.3	6.6 ± 1.5
Enthalpy (ΔH , kcal/mol)	-6.1 ± 1.2	-5.3 ± 0.65
Entropy (ΔS , e.u.)	3.0 ± 4.1	6.0 ± 2.6

~ 1 / monomer

CK-586 decreases contractility of ZSF1 obese rat ventricular myocytes

IC₅₀ values are consistent across genotypes and comparable to myofibril assay (EC₅₀ = 2.9 μ M)

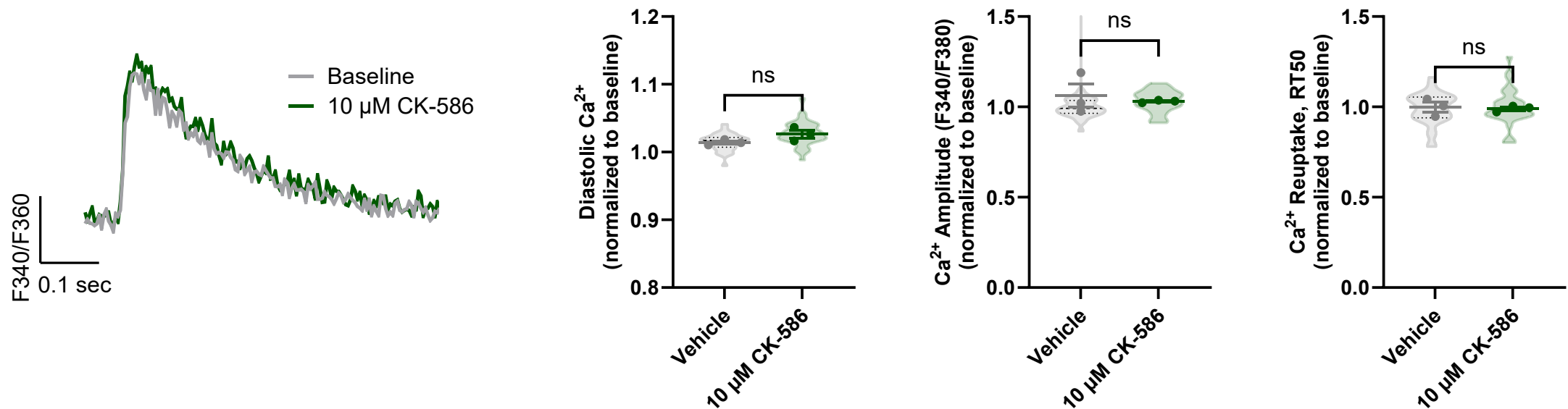
Contractility is inhibited to a much greater extent than myofibril ATPase activity



CK-586 decreases contractility of ZSF1 obese rat ventricular myocytes

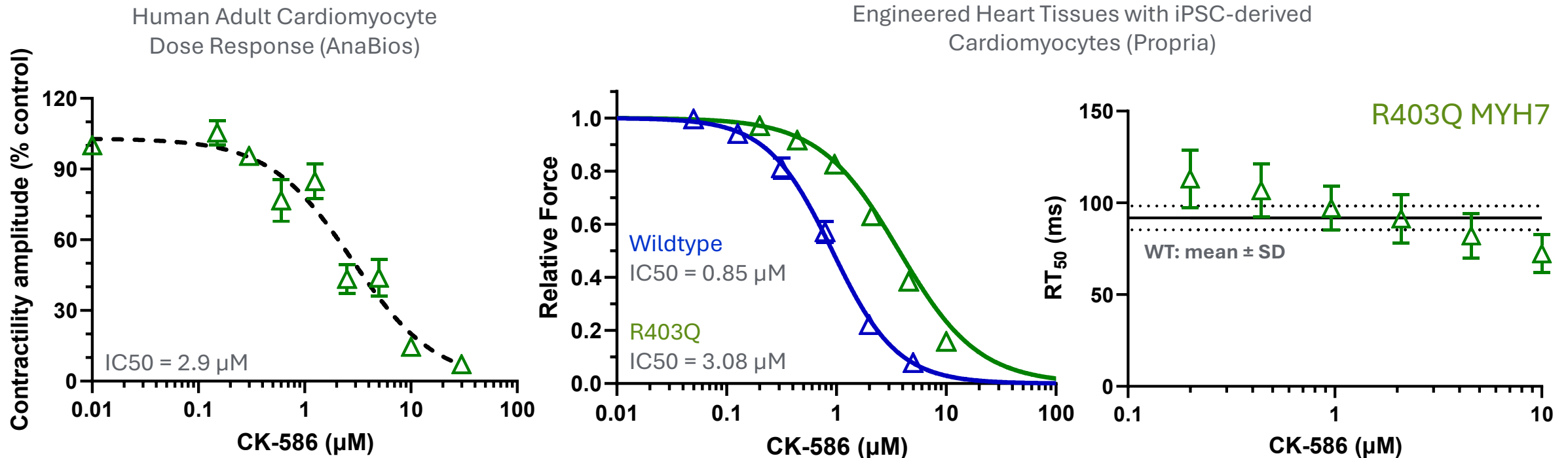
Acute treatment with CK-586 does not alter calcium transients

Results are consistent with direct inhibition of the cardiac sarcomere



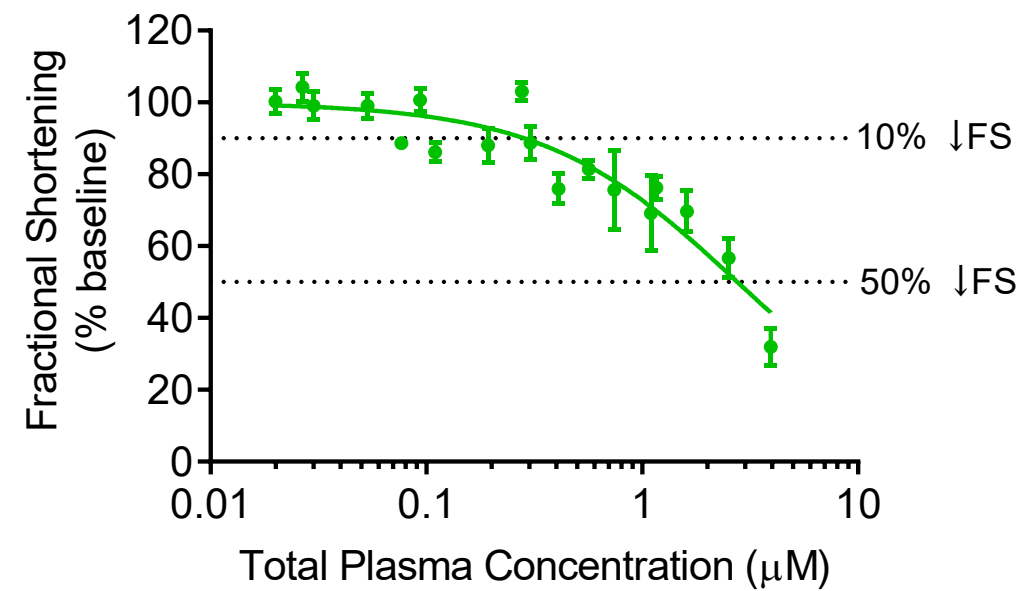
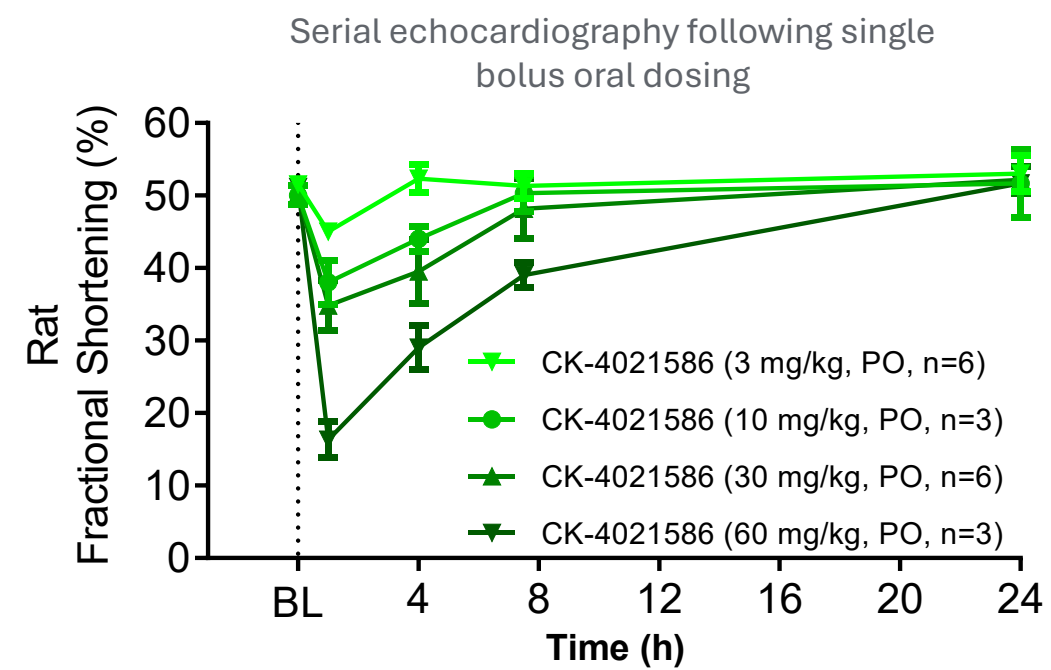
CK-586 inhibits contractility of human cardiomyocytes with similar IC50

Data supportive of rodent to human translation



CK-586 has a shallow *in vivo* dose-response in normal Sprague Dawley rats

Shallow concentration-effect profile optimized empirically to maximize titratability

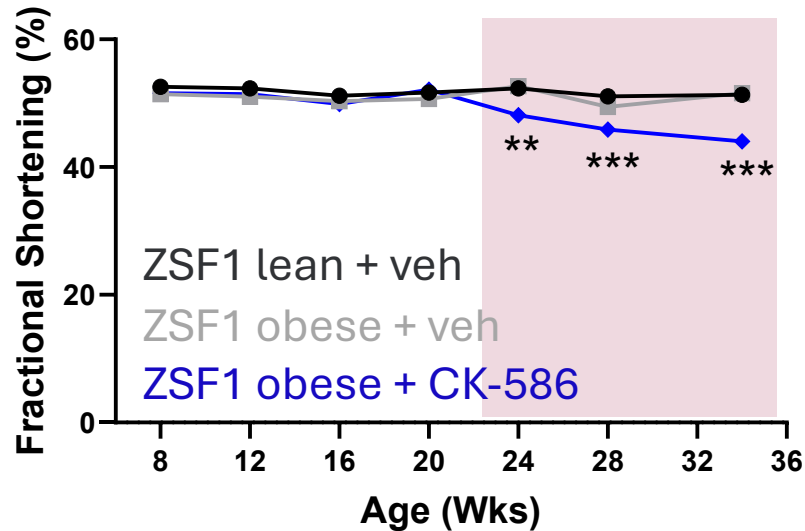


Fractional Shortening	
IC_{10}	0.28 μM
IC_{50}	2.76 μM

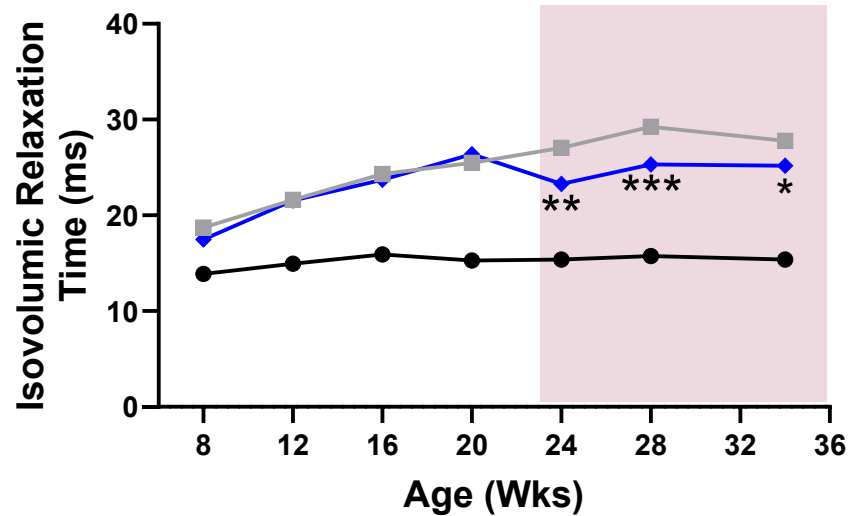
CK-586 is Efficacious in ZSF1 Obese Rat Model of HFpEF

12 weeks of oral treatment (10mg/kg) improved diastolic function and reduced cardiac fibrosis

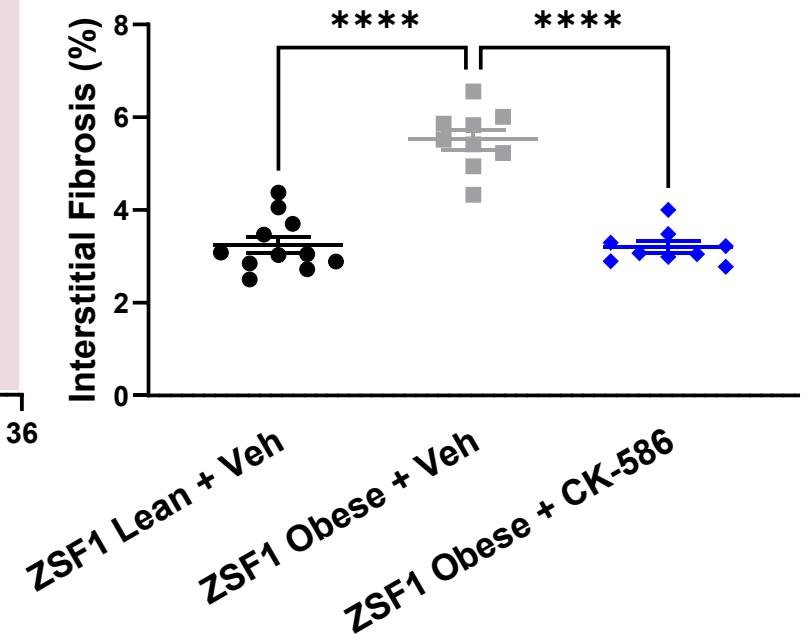
Reduced Fractional Shortening



Improved Diastolic Function



Reduced Fibrosis



Model is representative of hypertensive, diabetic, hyperphagic aspects of HFpEF

Conclusions

- CK-586 is a selective, small molecule allosteric inhibitor of cardiac myosin with a different mechanism-of-action than either mavacamten or aficamten:
 - Inhibits HMM but not S1 preparations of cardiac myosin
 - Requires the presence of the regulatory light chain (RLC) for activity
 - Likely binds on or near the RLC in a complex with myosin heavy chain
- CK-586 inhibits cardiomyocyte contractility across species and disease phenotypes without significant effects on calcium
- In normal rats, CK-586 reduces fractional shortening with a shallow in vivo concentration-response (similar to aficamten), supporting titratability of sarcomere modulation
- In obese ZSF1 rats, CK-586 reduces fractional shortening, improves relaxation, and reduces fibrosis supporting exploration of therapeutic benefit in HFpEF, particularly where ejection fractions are elevated



Thank You

cytokinetics.com

Saswata Sankar Sarkar
Meredith A. Redd
James J. Hartman
Darren T. Hwee
Anand Bat-Erdene
Leo Kim
Chihyuan Chuang
Xia Li
Viet Dau
Benjamin Archer
William Dorion
Cassady Rupert
Najah Abi-Gerges
Janette Rodriguez
Desirae Martin
Andre deRosier
Samantha Edell
Yangsong Wu
Lisette Yco
Anne N. Murphy
Bradley P. Morgan
Fady I. Malik

And to many others on the
research, toxicology, safety,
regulatory, and clinical
development teams at
Cytokinetics!