

Supplementary Materials

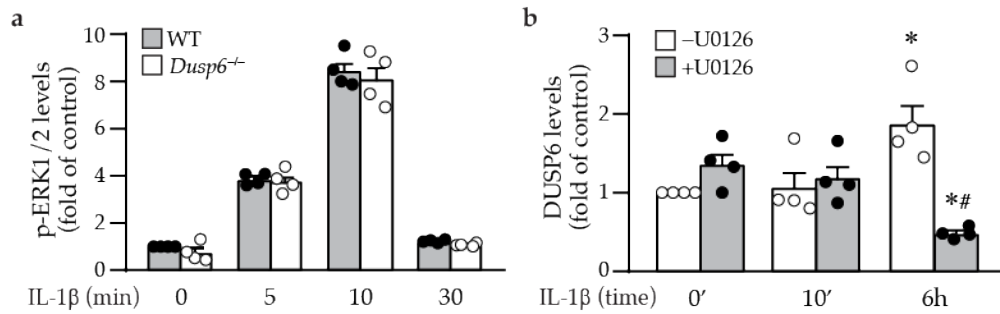


Figure S1. Quantitative analysis of IL-1 β -induced ERK1/2 activation and DUSP6 expression in VSMCs. (a) Quantification of IL-1 β -induced ERK1/2 phosphorylation at different time points after IL-1 β stimulation in wild-type (WT) and *Dusp6*^{-/-} VSMCs. n = 4 each. (b) Wild-type VSMCs were pretreated with or without U0126, an ERK1/2 inhibitor, prior to stimulation with or without IL-1 β for the indicated time, and DUSP6 expression levels were quantified. n=4 each. **p* < 0.05 vs. vehicle (-U0126) without IL-1 β treatment; #*p* < 0.05 vs. vehicle after IL-1 β treatment for 6 h. Mann-Whitney U Test.

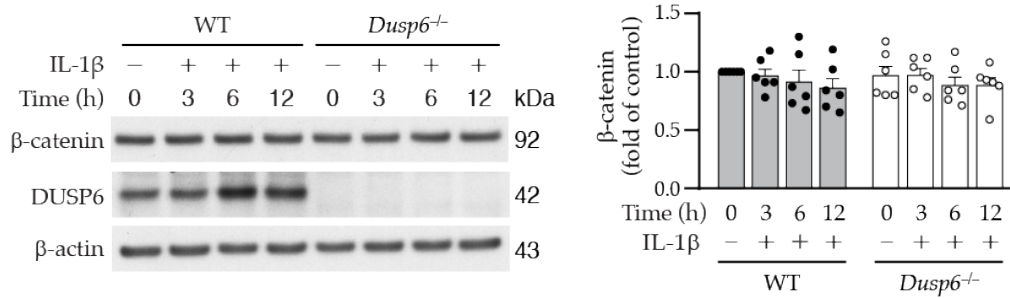


Figure S2. DUSP6 does not affect β -catenin levels. Serum-starved wild-type (WT) and *Dusp6*^{-/-} VSMCs were treated with IL-1 β (10 ng/mL) for the indicated times and proteins collected. Western blot analysis was performed to detect β -catenin and DUSP6 expression. β -Actin was used as an internal control. A representative of 6 independent experiments is shown. Levels of β -catenin were quantified. Expression level of WT cells at time 0 without IL-1 β stimulation was set as 1. n=6 each. No significant difference of β -catenin level was detected at different time points between WT and *Dusp6*^{-/-} VSMCs, Mann-Whitney U test.