

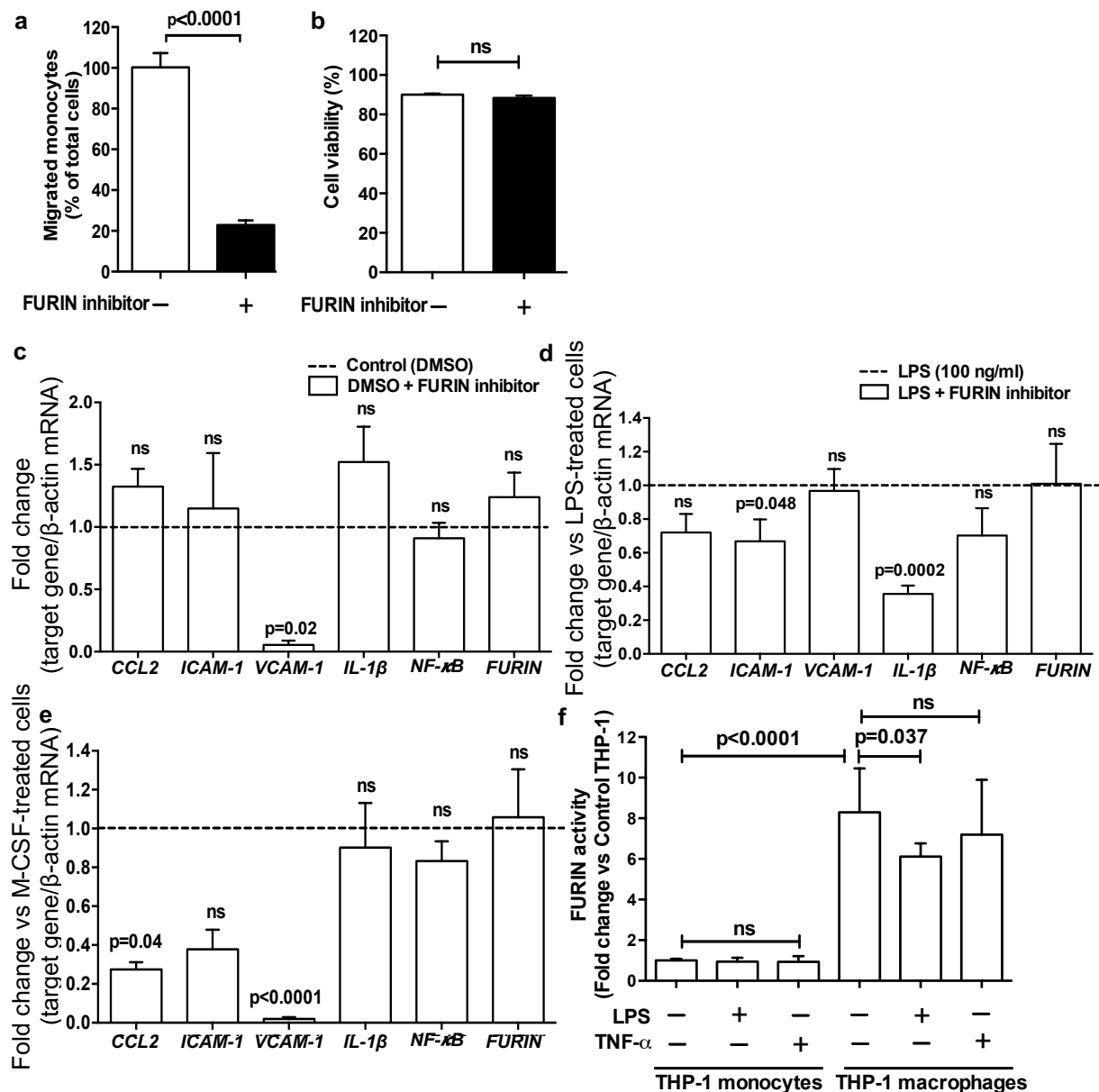


Figure 2: FURIN inhibition decreases monocyte migration and inflammatory gene expression *in vitro*. (a) Activated human THP-1 monocytes were subjected to trans-well migration assays. In the presence of the FURIN inhibitor Dec-RVKR-CMK, a significantly lower number of monocytes migrated to the chemo-attractant M-CSF, and (b), the lower number of transmigrated monocytes did not result from increased cell death. (c) Lower VCAM-1 expression level in FURIN inhibitor treated monocytes. (d) ICAM-1 and IL-1 β transcription is significantly reduced in FURIN inhibitor treated monocytes upon LPS stimulation. (e) CCL2 and VCAM-1 transcription is significantly reduced in FURIN inhibitor treated M-CSF derived macrophages. (f) FURIN activity is significantly decreased in LPS-treated macrophages. Data represent mean $\pm$ SEM of 3 independent experiments performed in triplicate. The dotted lines in (c), (d) and (e) represent control values. Data in a,b and f are normally distributed, and p-values were assessed using Student's T-tests. Data in c-e were not normally distributed, and Kruskal-Wallis ANOVA tests were used.

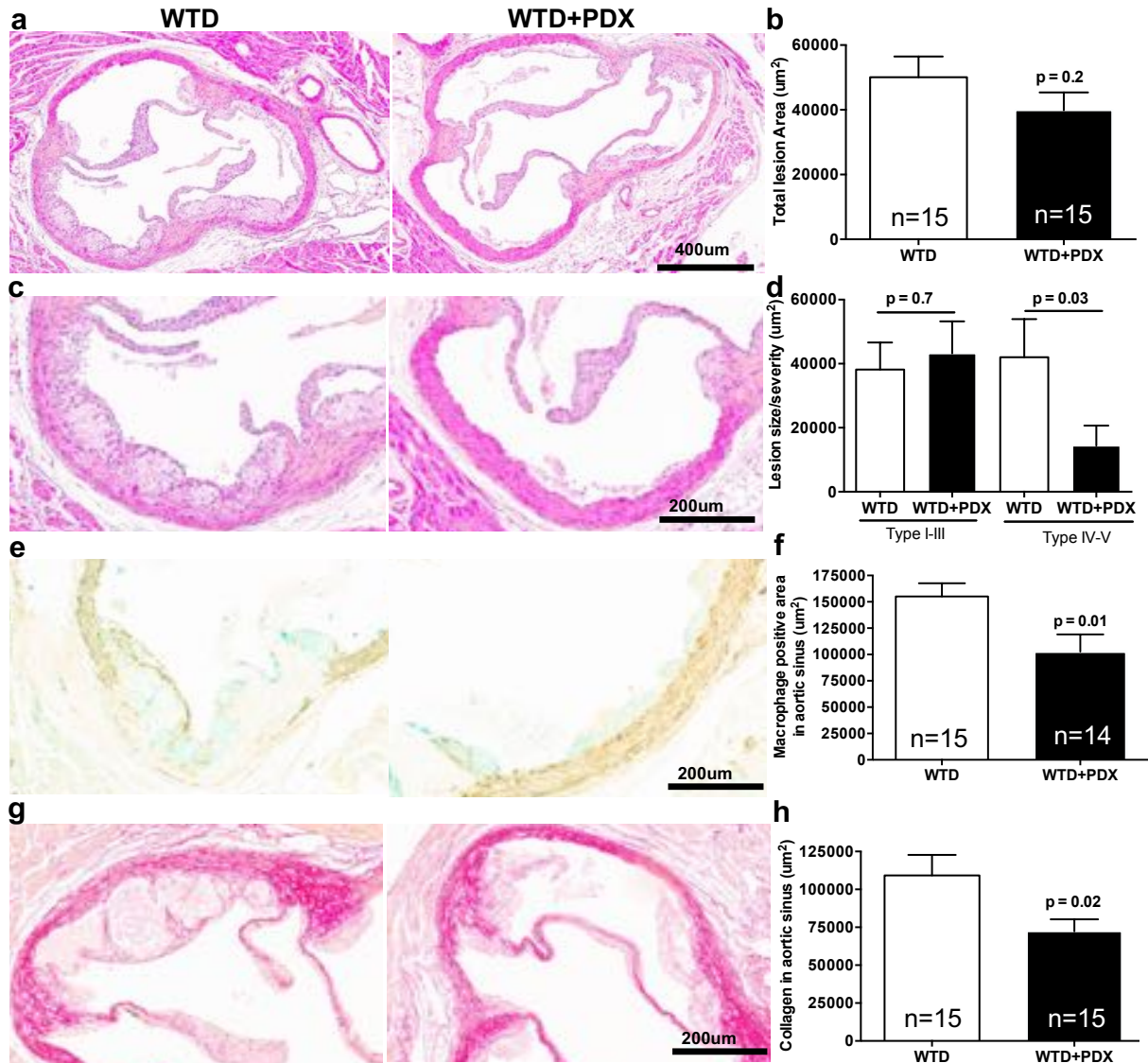


Figure 3: Lower lesion complexity and severe atherosclerotic lesion size in FURIN inhibitor treated mice. (a) Representative photomicrographs of aortic sinus after histological staining with hematoxylin-phloxine-saffron (200x). (b) A trend toward lower aortic sinus lesion area in FURIN inhibitor treated mice. (c) Representative photomicrographs of lesion severity in aortic sinus after histological staining with hematoxylin-phloxine-saffron (100x). (d) Significantly lower severe lesion area (type IV and V) in FURIN inhibitor treated mice. (e) Representative photomicrographs of macrophages (green) in aortic sinus (100x). (f) Significantly lower lesional macrophage area in FURIN inhibitor treated mice. (g) Representative photomicrographs of aortic root after histological staining with picrosirius red for collagen (100x). (h) Significantly lower collagen area in lesions of FURIN inhibitor treated mice. Groups are abbreviated as: *Ldlr*^{-/-} mice fed Western type diet injected with PBS (WTD); *Ldlr*^{-/-} mice fed Western type diet injected with the α -1-PDX FURIN inhibitor (WTD+PDX). All mice are male. Values represent mean $\pm$ SEM. Data in f and h are normally distributed, and p-values were assessed using Student's T-tests. Data in b and d were not normally distributed, and Mann-Whitney tests were used.

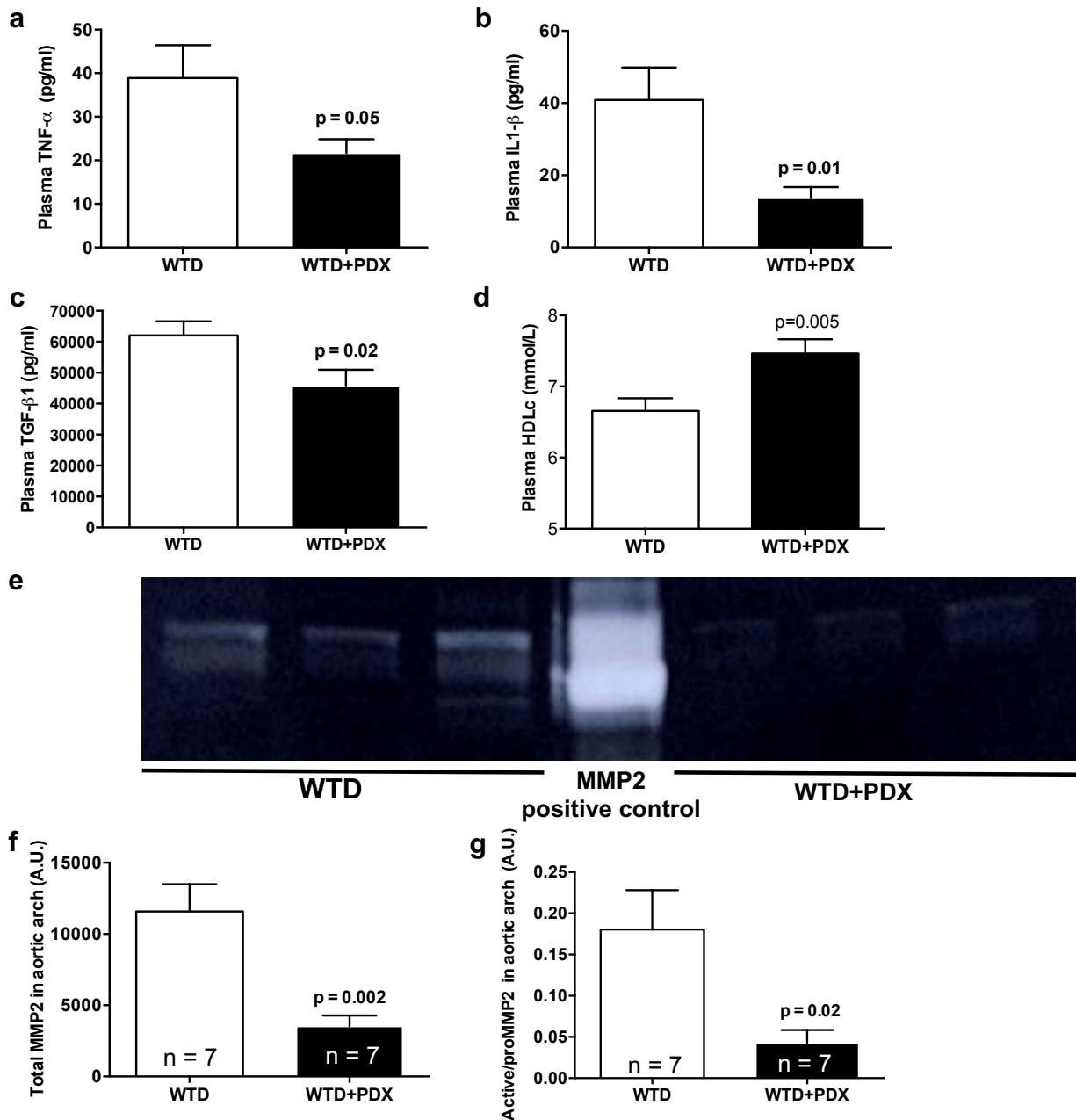


Figure 4: Lower plasma inflammatory markers, elevated plasma HDL cholesterol and lower MMP2 expression in aorta of FURIN inhibitor treated mice. Lower plasma levels of (a) TNF- α , (b) IL1- β , (c) TGF- β 1, and (d) elevated plasma HDL cholesterol levels in FURIN inhibitor treated mice. $n = 14-16$ for all analyses. (e) Gelatin zymography in the aortic arch showing both the pro and active forms of MMP2. (f) Total MMP2 expression levels are significantly lower in the aortic arch of FURIN inhibitor treated mice. (g) Significantly lower active MMP2/proMMP2 expression in the aortic arch of FURIN inhibitor treated mice. Groups are abbreviated as: *Ldlr*^{-/-} mice fed Western type diet injected with PBS (WTD); *Ldlr*^{-/-} mice fed Western type diet injected with the α -1-PDX FURIN inhibitor (WTD+PDX). A.U.= Arbitrary Units. Values represent mean $\pm$ SEM. All mice are male. Data in a-f are normally distributed, and p-values were assessed using Student's T-tests. Data in g are not normally distributed, and Mann-Whitney test was performed.

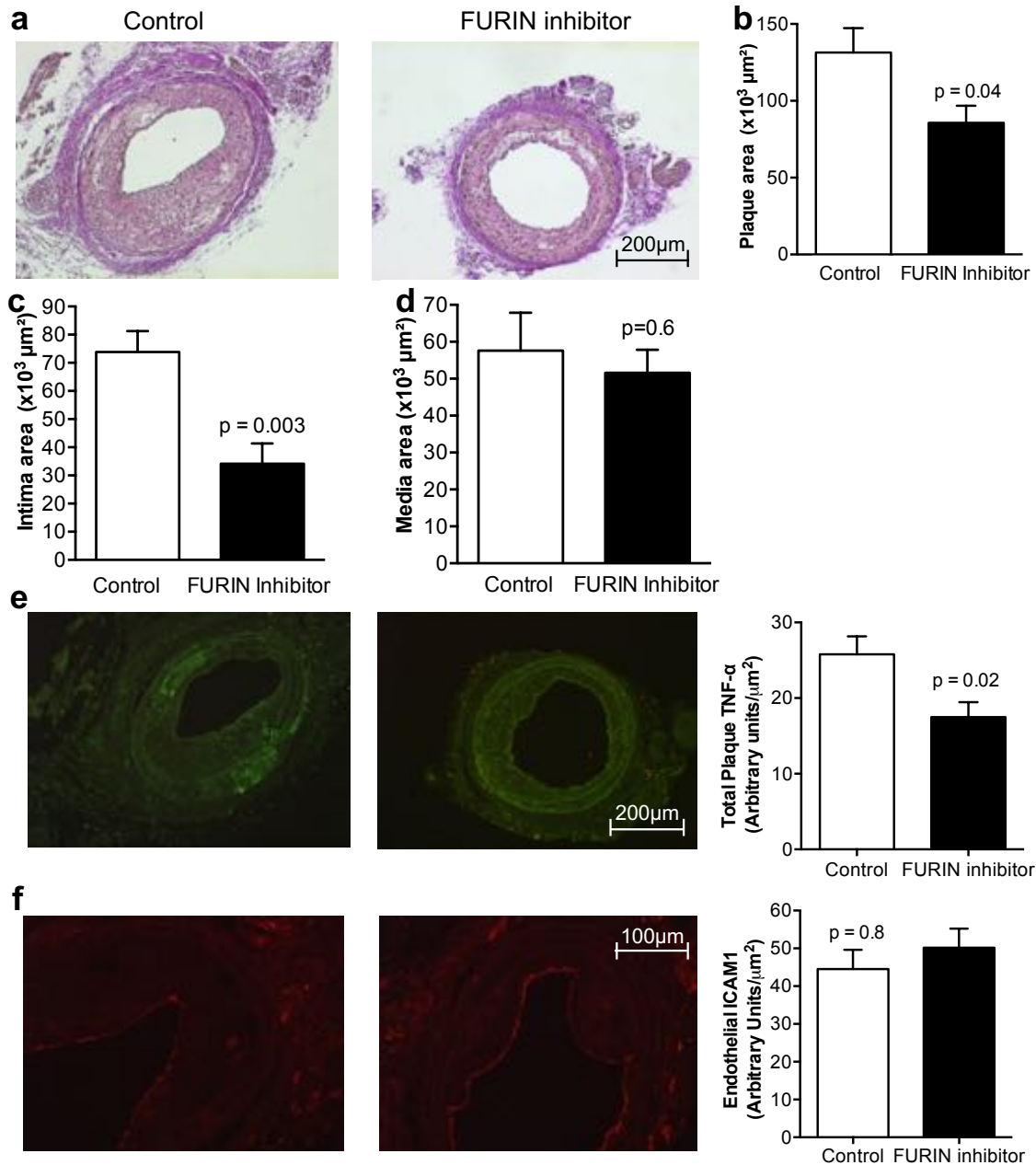


Figure 5: FURIN inhibition reduces neointimal plaque formation and inflammation in a wire injury model of atherosclerosis. Male *Apoe*^{-/-} mice were fed a high-fat diet, treated with vehicle (DMSO) or FURIN Inhibitor α -1-PDX and were subjected to wire injury of the common carotid artery. **(a)** Representative photomicrographs of pentachrome-stained sections 2 weeks after injury, **(b)** Significantly lower plaque area, **(c)** Significantly lower neointima area, and **(d)** Unchanged media area in FURIN inhibitor treated mice. **(e)** Significantly decreased vascular inflammatory cytokine TNF- α levels (stained in green), and **(f)** Unchanged endothelial adhesion molecule ICAM1 levels (stained in red) in FURIN inhibitor treated mice. Groups are abbreviated as: *Apoe*^{-/-} mice (Control); *Apoe*^{-/-} mice administered the FURIN inhibitor α -1-PDX (FURIN inhibitor). n=6 per group. Values represent mean $\pm$ SEM. Data in **a-e** are normally distributed, and p-values were assessed using Student's T-tests. Data in **f** was not normally distributed and a Mann-Whitney test was used.

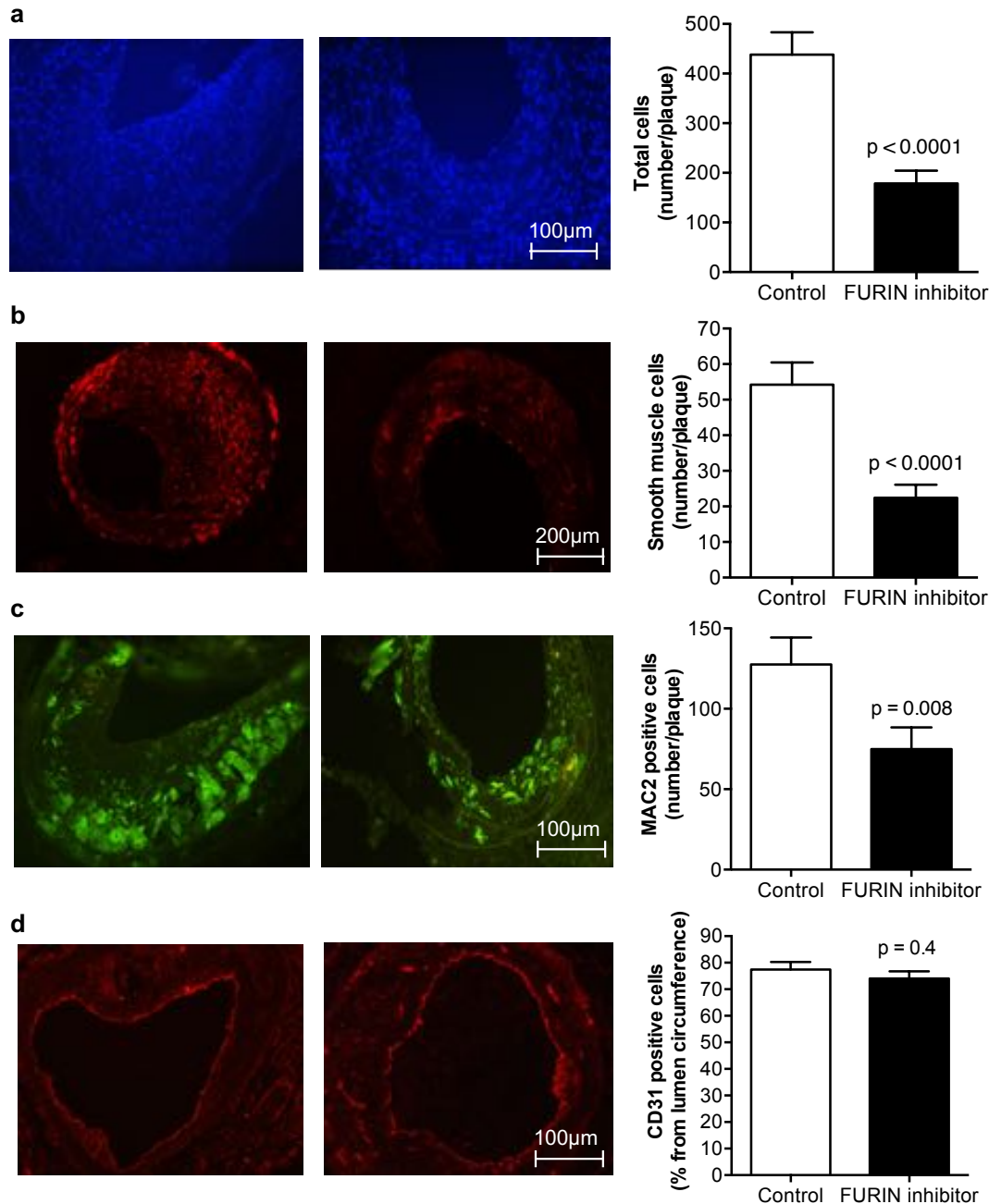


Figure 6: FURIN inhibition reduces plaque complexity in a wire injury model of atherosclerosis. Male *Apoe*^{-/-} mice were fed a high-fat diet, treated with vehicle (control) or FURIN Inhibitor α -1-PDX and subjected to wire-induced injury of the common carotid artery. **(a)** The total number of cells, **(b)** the number of smooth muscle cells, and **(c)** the number of MAC2 positive macrophages per plaque were all significantly lower in FURIN inhibitor treated mice. **(d)** No changes in CD31⁺ endothelial cell numbers were observed. Groups are abbreviated as: *Apoe*^{-/-} mice (Control); *Apoe*^{-/-} mice administered the FURIN inhibitor α -1-PDX (FURIN inhibitor). n=6 per group. Values represent mean $\pm$ SEM. Data in **a-c** are not normally distributed, and p-values were assessed using Mann-Whitney tests. Data in **d** is normally distributed, and Student's T-test was used.

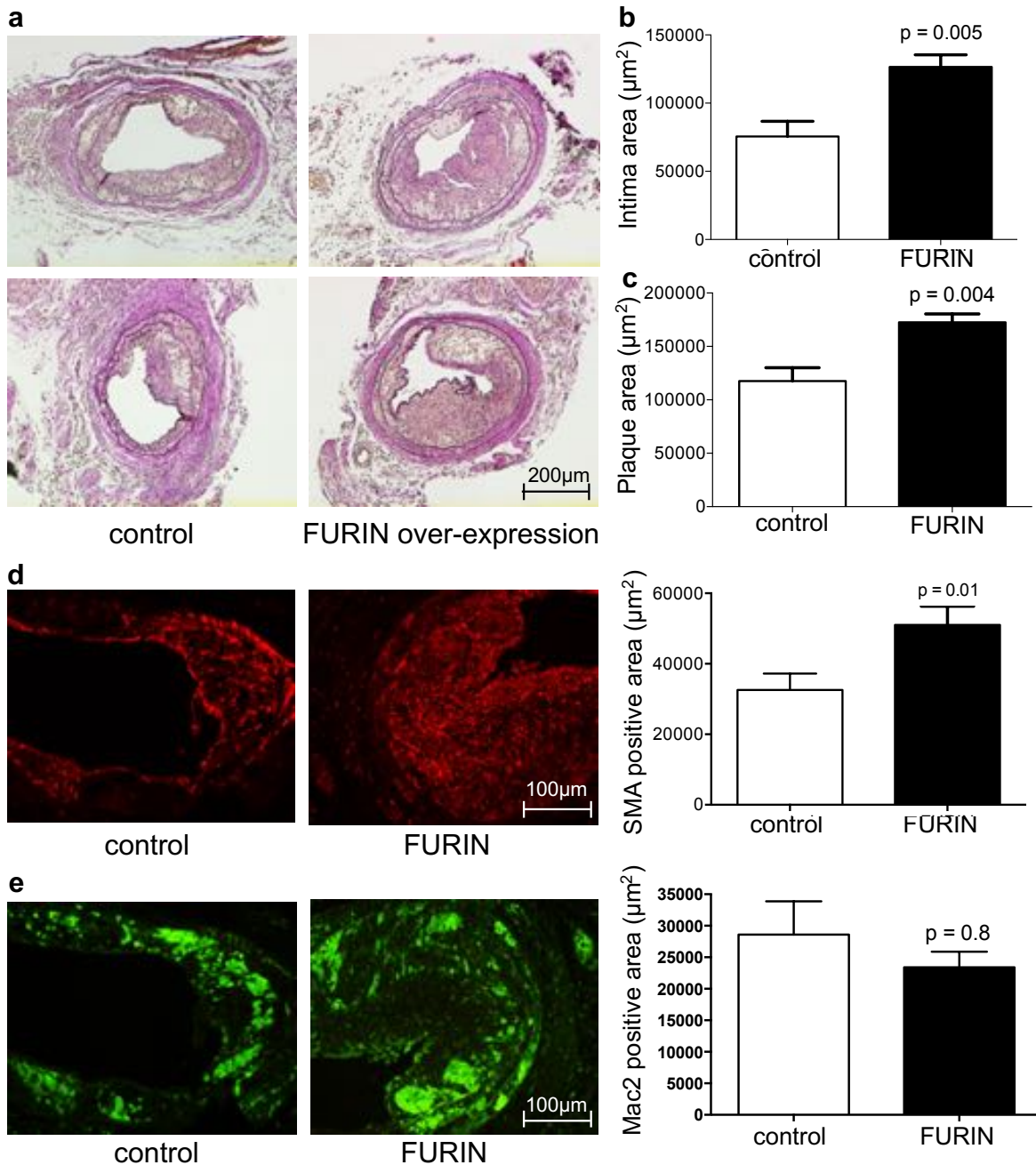
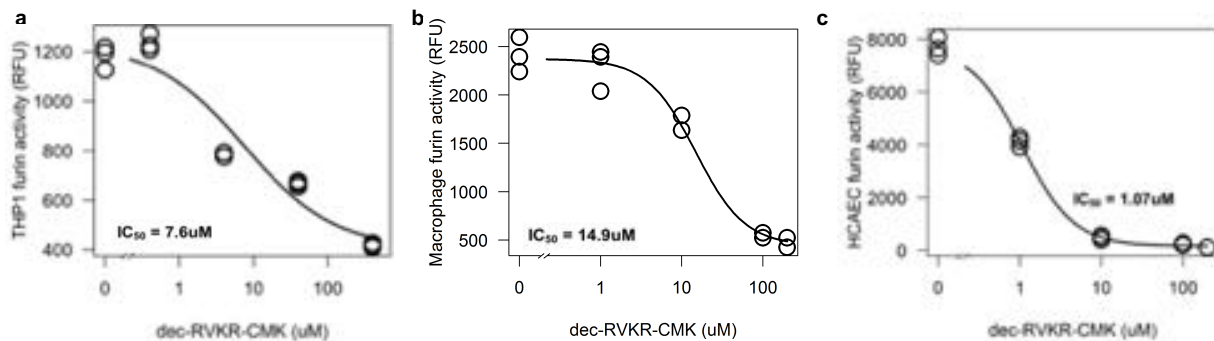
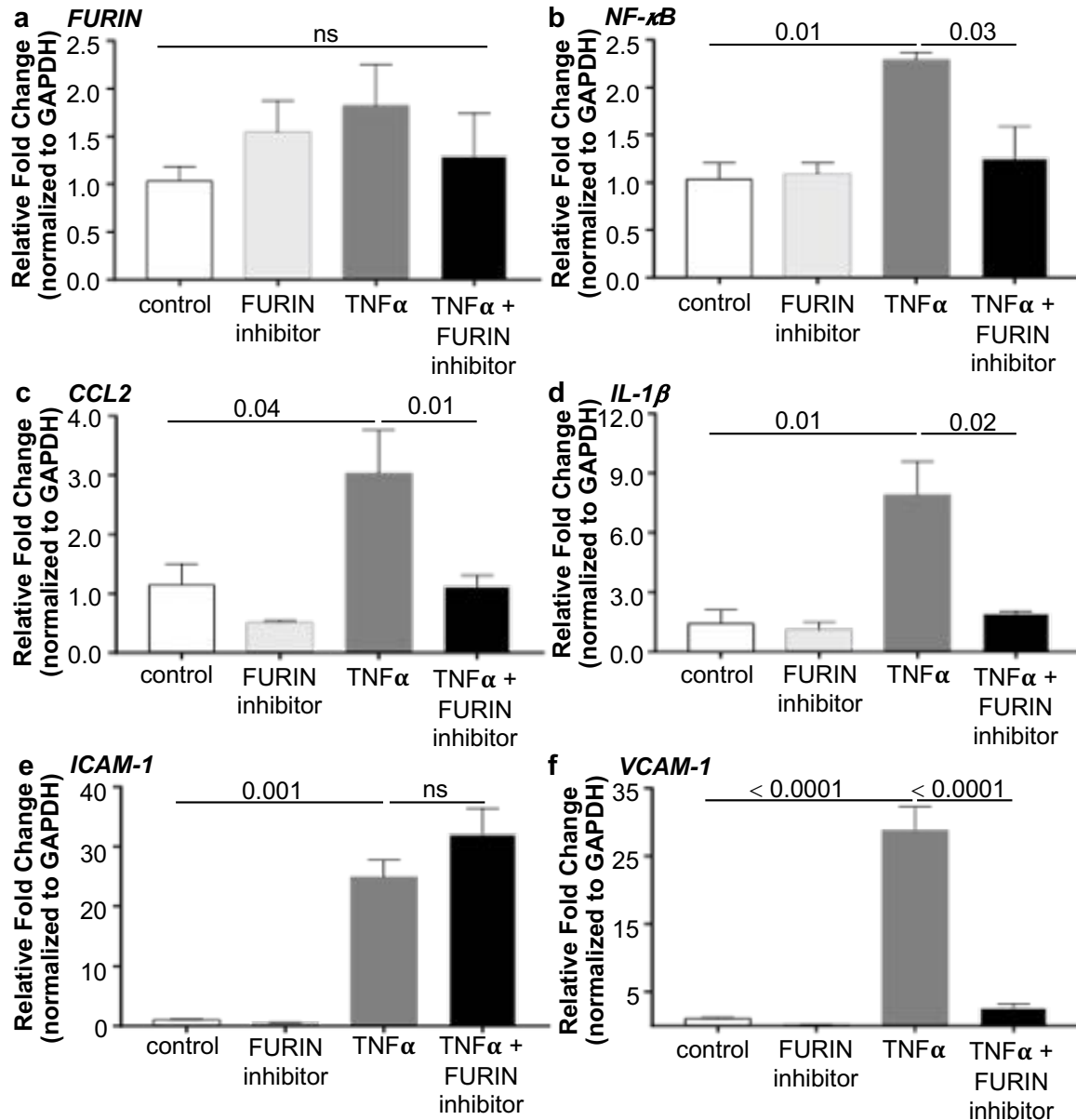


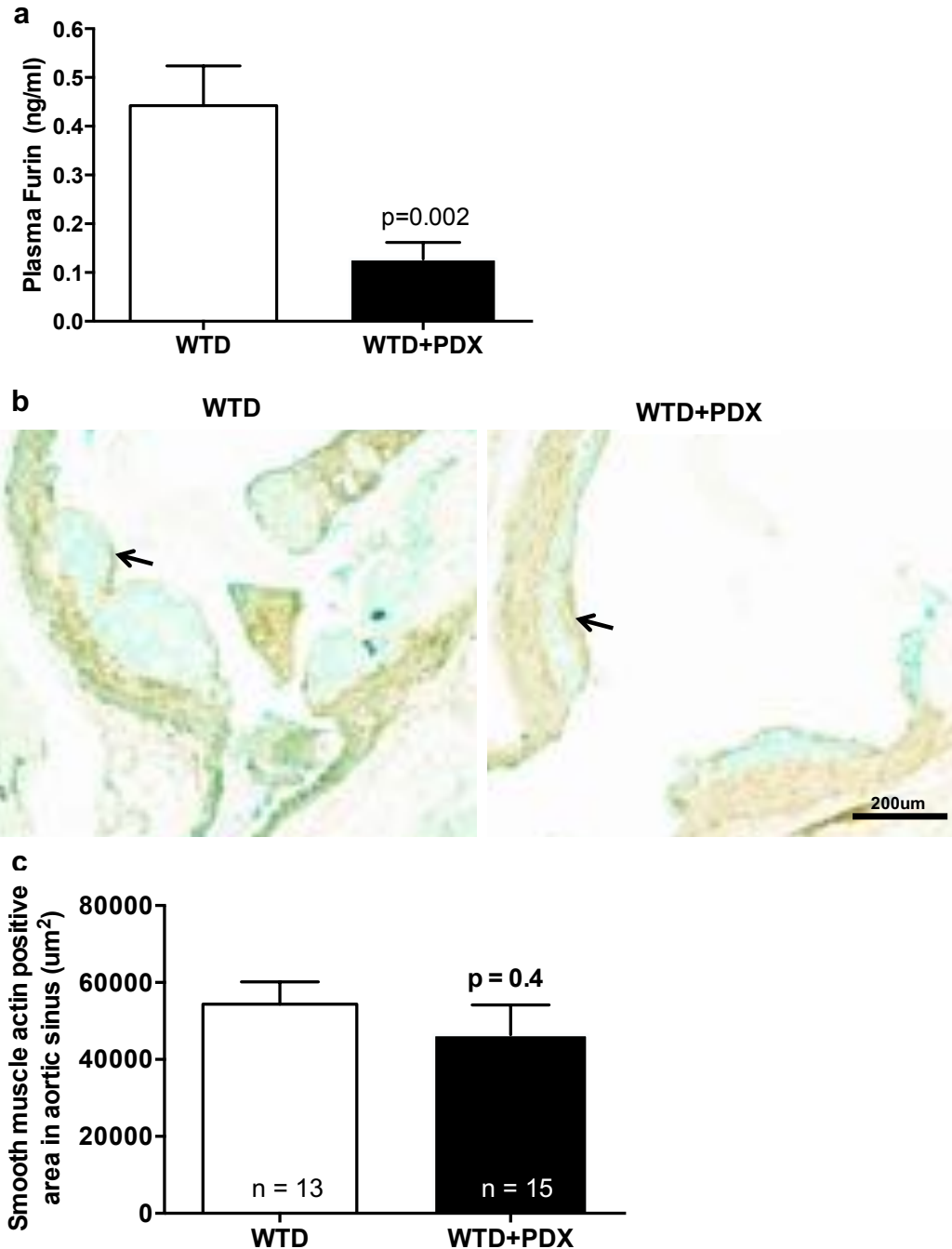
Figure 7: FURIN over-expression increases neointimal plaque formation in a wire injury model of atherosclerosis. Male *Apoe*^{-/-} mice were fed a western-type diet, subjected to wire-induced injury of the common carotid artery, and treated with vehicle (n=5) or purified FURIN protein (n=6). **(a)** Representative photomicrographs of pentachrome-stained sections at 2 weeks after injury, and **(b)** significantly higher neointima and **(c)** plaque area in FURIN protein injected mice. **(d)** Significantly increased smooth muscle cell area (stained in red), and **(e)** no change in macrophage area (stained in green) in the lesions of FURIN over-expressing mice. Groups are abbreviated as: *Apoe*^{-/-} mice (Control); *Apoe*^{-/-} mice administered purified FURIN protein (FURIN). Values represent mean $\pm$ SEM. Data in **a-d** are normally distributed, and p-values were assessed using Student's T-tests. Data in **e** is not normally distributed, and the Mann-Whitney test was used.



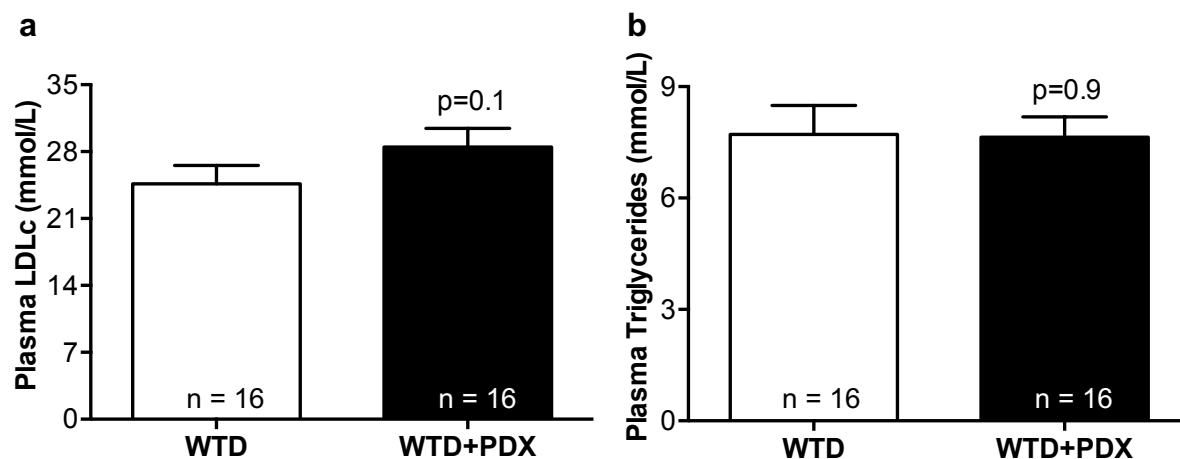
Supplementary figure 1: Dose response curve for the FURIN inhibitor Decanoyl-RVKR-CMK. Dose response curve in (a) THP1 human monocyte cells, (b) in THP1-derived macrophages, and (c) in human coronary artery endothelial cells. Dose-response curves were generated via the *drc* software in R, based on a 4-parameter log-logistic model.



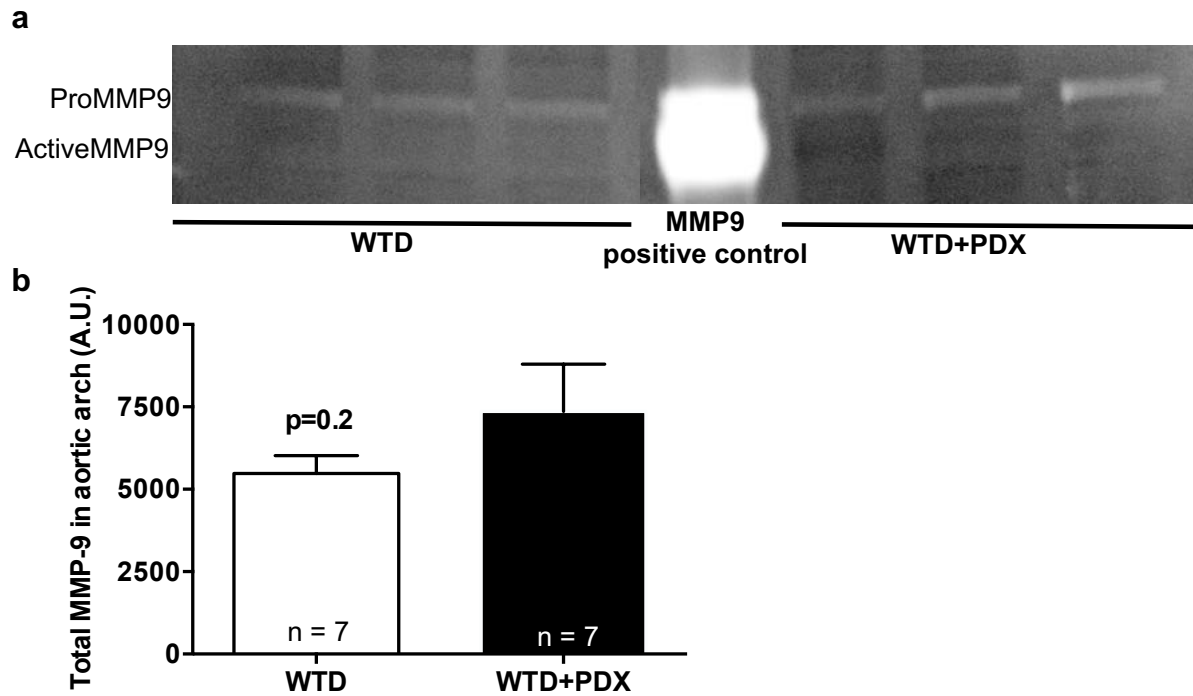
Supplementary figure 2: FURIN inhibition reduces vascular endothelial cell cytokine, chemokine and inflammatory gene expression *in vitro*. (a) *FURIN* gene expression is not changed, (b) *NF- κ B*, (c) *CCL2*, and (d) *IL-1 β* expression levels are significantly decreased, (e) *ICAM-1* levels are not changed, and (f) *VCAM-1* expression levels are significantly decreased in TNF α -stimulated, FURIN inhibitor (Dec-RVKR-CMK) treated human aortic endothelial cells. Values represent the mean $\pm$ SEM. Data are normally distributed, and p-values generated by one-way ANOVA followed by Tukey's post hoc test.



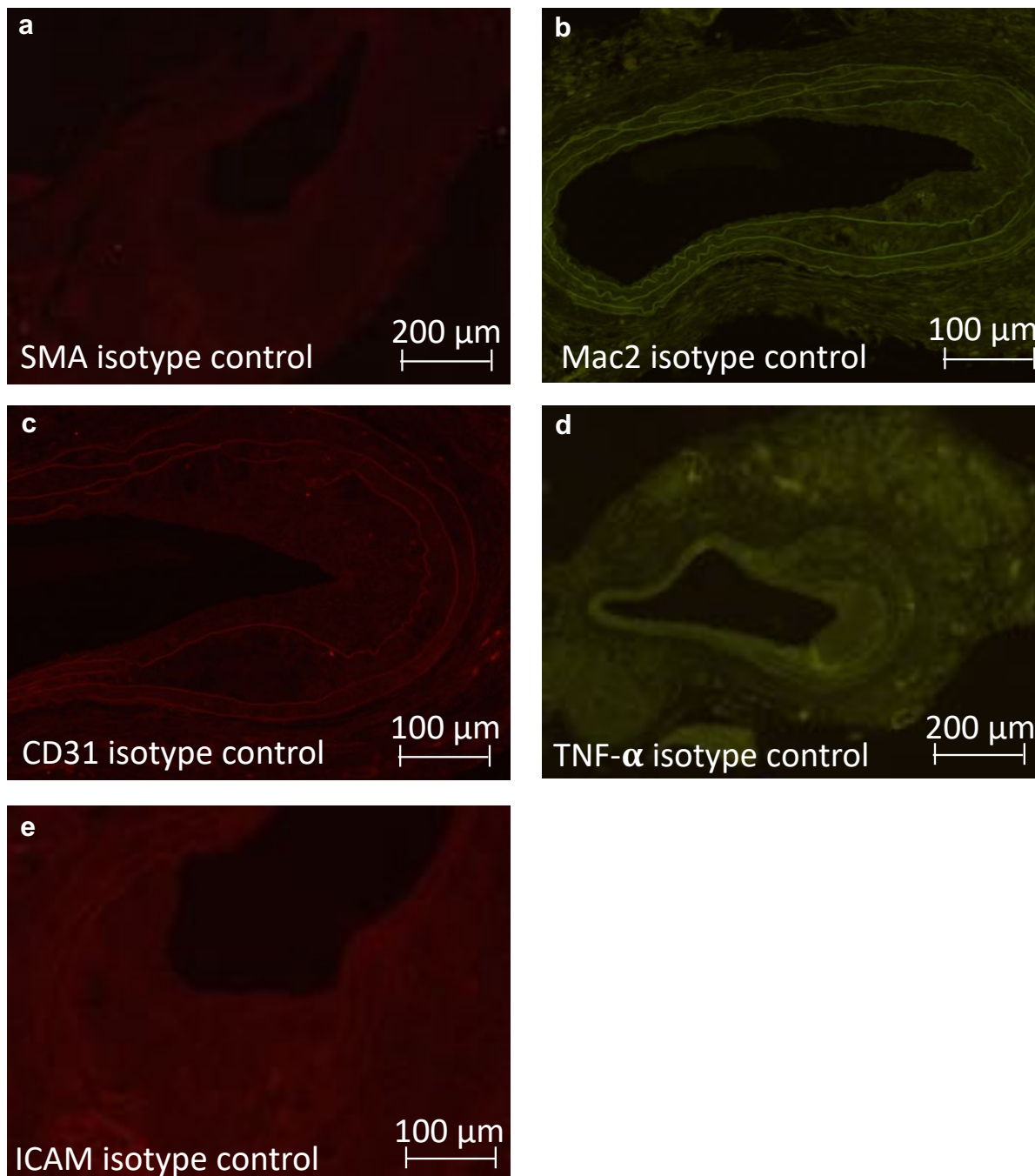
Supplementary figure 3: FURIN inhibitor treatment reduces plasma FURIN levels and does not affect smooth muscle actin expression in the aorta. (a) Plasma FURIN levels are significantly reduced in α -1-PDX FURIN inhibitor treated western type diet fed *Ldlr*^{-/-} mice. **(b)** Representative photomicrographs of the aortic root after histological staining with smooth muscle actin (SMA, brown), and **(c)** No change in SMA expression in the aortic sinus. Groups are abbreviated as: *Ldlr*^{-/-} mice fed Western type diet injected with PBS (WTD); *Ldlr*^{-/-} mice fed Western type diet injected with the α -1-PDX FURIN inhibitor (WTD+PDX). All mice are male. Values are mean $\pm$ SEM. Data are normally distributed, and p-values were assessed using Student's T-tests.



Supplementary figure 4: No changes in plasma triglycerides and LDL cholesterol levels in FURIN inhibitor treated mice. (a) Plasma LDL cholesterol levels, and (b) Plasma triglyceride levels are unchanged in FURIN inhibitor treated mice. Groups are abbreviated as: *Ldlr*^{-/-} mice fed Western type diet injected with PBS (WTD); *Ldlr*^{-/-} mice fed Western type diet injected with the α -1-PDX FURIN inhibitor (WTD+PDX). All mice are male. Values represent the mean $\pm$ SEM. Data are normally distributed, and p-values were assessed using Student's T-tests.



Supplementary figure 5: FURIN inhibition does not affect MMP9 expression in the aorta. (a) Gelatin zymography in the aortic arch, and **(b)** Quantification of total MMP9 expression in the aortic arch. Groups are abbreviated as: *Ldlr*^{-/-} mice fed Western type diet injected with PBS (WTD); *Ldlr*^{-/-} mice fed Western type diet injected with the α -1-PDX FURIN inhibitor (WTD+PDX). A.U.= Arbitrary Units. All mice are male. Values represent the mean $\pm$ SEM. Data are normally distributed, and p-values were assessed using Student's T-tests.



Supplementary figure 6: Isotype-specific immunoglobulin negative controls. (a) Isotype control for the anti-smooth muscle actin (SMA) antibody, (b) Isotype control for the anti-MAC2 macrophage antibody, (c) Isotype control for the anti-CD31 endothelial cell antibody, (d) Isotype control for the anti-TNF- α antibody, and (e) Isotype control for the anti-ICAM1 antibody in adjacent sections from wild-type control mice.