

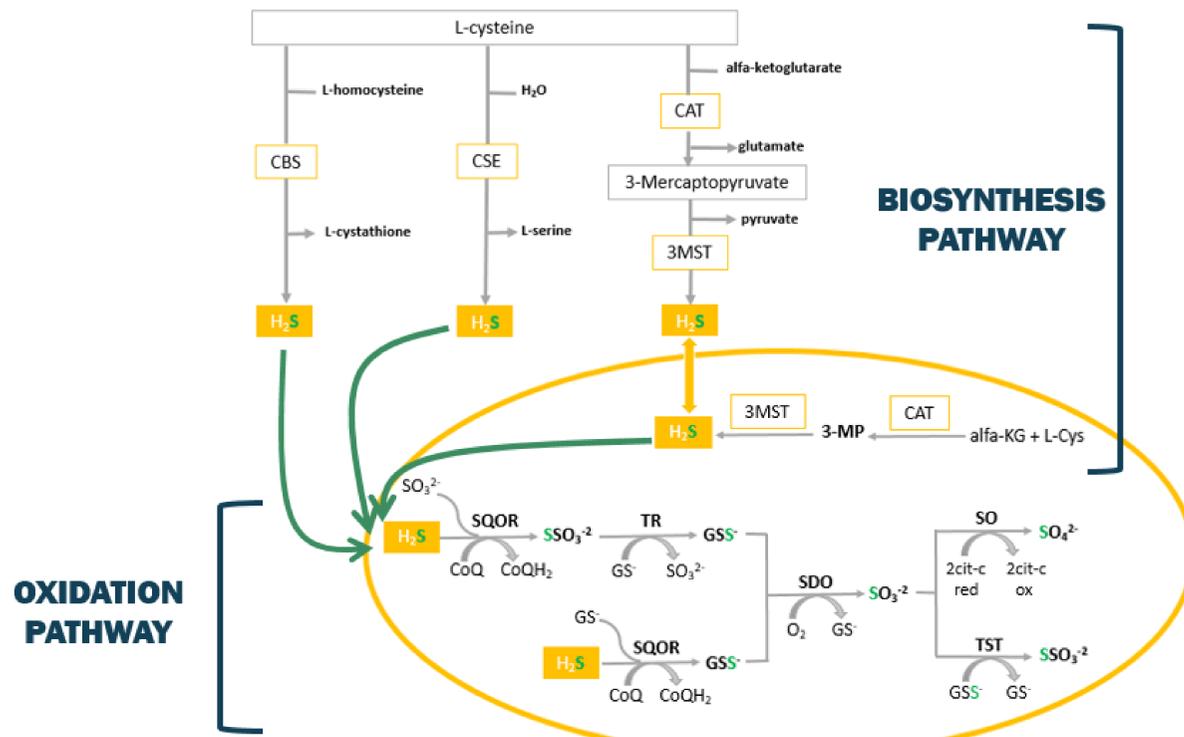
H₂S metabolism in mitochondrial Complex I deficiency. Influence of Coenzyme Q10 supplementation.

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BACKGROUND

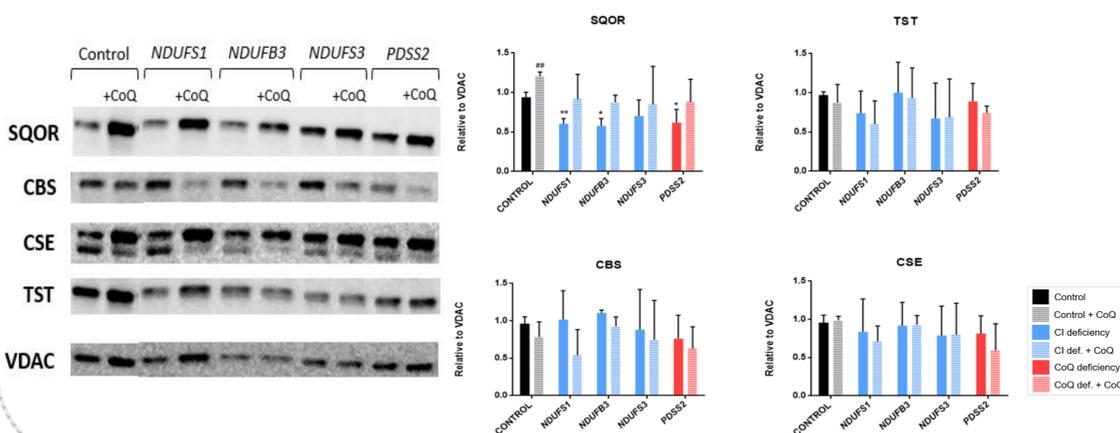
The cellular levels of H₂S are regulated by the **transsulfuration pathway** (biosynthetic) and by the mitochondrial **oxidation pathway** (catabolic), being the latter one involved in the mitochondrial energy production through the activity of **Sulfide:Quinone Oxidoreductase (SQOR)**. The SQOR depends on the levels of CoQ, since a deficiency of this molecule causes a drastic reduction of the levels of the enzyme. However, it is unknown how sulfide metabolism responds to supraphysiological levels of CoQ₁₀ after exogenous supplementation and if imbalances in sulfide metabolism may be also a common feature in other mitochondrial diseases, such as Complex I deficiency (CI).



AIM

Our purpose is to evaluate the enzymes of the sulfide metabolism pathway in mitochondrial dysfunction like **Complex I and CoQ deficiency** in physiological conditions and after the **supplementation with CoQ₁₀**.

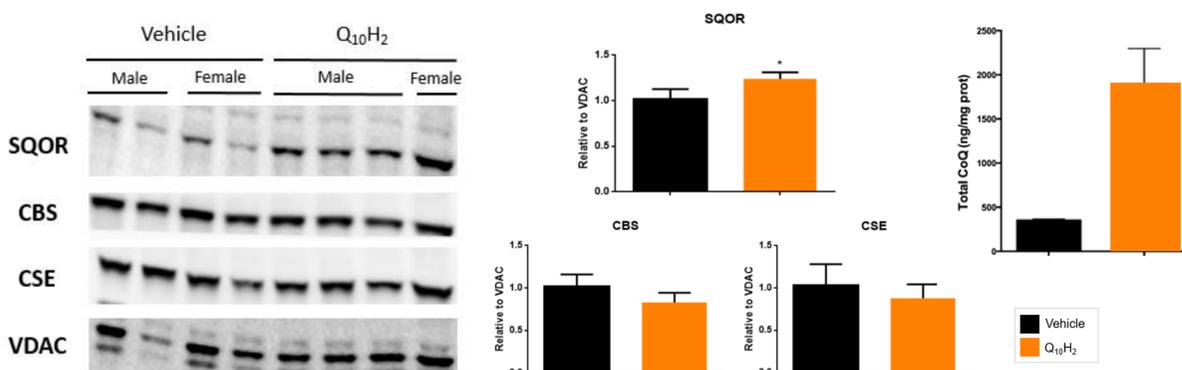
Results in fibroblasts treated with CoQ₁₀



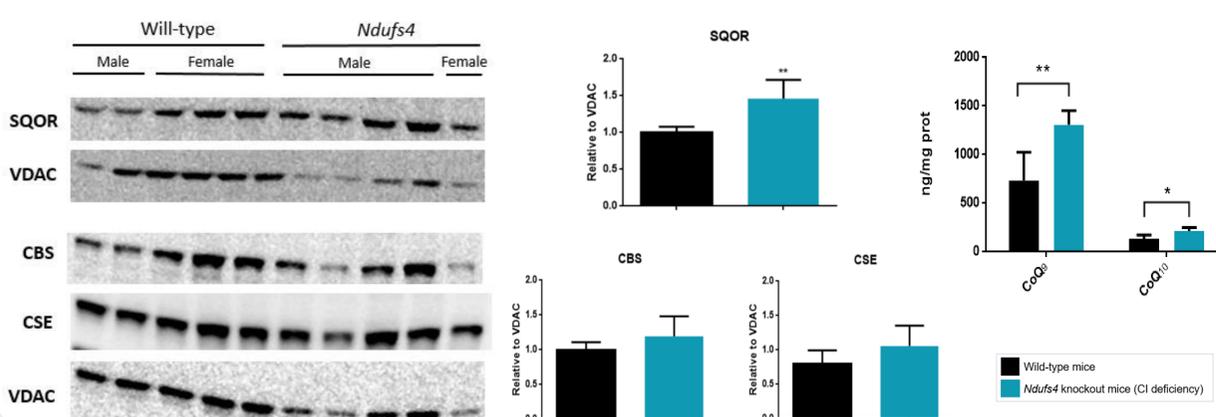
Gene	Regular medium (A)	Regular medium + 100 μM CoQ ₁₀ (B)	(B/A)
	CoQ ₁₀ (ng/mg prot)	CoQ ₁₀ (ng/mg prot)	Increase in CoQ ₁₀
CONTROL	83.2 ± 13.3	715335 ± 304041	8597
NDUFB3	88 ± 22.8	3260636 ± 1498894	37074
NDUFS1	75 ± 8.6	265735 ± 144425	3543
NDUFS3	93 ± 9.2	446627 ± 169118	4802
PDSS2	18.8 ± 11.2	2046794 ± 9957	108872

Defect	Gene	Mutation	Residual CI activity
Complex I deficiency	NDUFB3	c.64T>C, p.Trp22Arg c.208G>T, p.Gly70X	17%
	NDUFS1	c.683T>C, p.V228A c.755A>G, p.D252G	37%
	NDUFS3	c.595C>T homo; p.R199W	40%
Residual CoQ₁₀ levels			
Primary CoQ ₁₀ deficiency	PDSS2	c.[964C>T]x[1145C>T]	15%

Results in mouse model treated with Q₁₀H₂



Results in kidney of Ndufs4 KO mice



CONCLUSIONS

- SQOR levels depends on the mitochondrial function:
 - ↓ in CI and CoQ deficiency fibroblasts
 - ↑ in *Ndufs4* KO mice tissues
- The enzymes of the biosynthetic pathway were not affected by defects in CI.
- The effect of the exogenous supplementation of CoQ₁₀ showed a tendency to increase the SQOR levels.
- The levels of CoQ₁₀ and SQOR influences the protein levels of the transsulfuration enzymes.