

## Metformin treatment or PRODH/POX-knock out similarly induces apoptosis by reprogramming of amino acid metabolism, TCA, Urea cycle and pentose phosphate pathway in MCF-7 breast cancer cells.

Thi Yen Ly Huynh<sup>1</sup>, Ilona Oscilowska<sup>2</sup>, Jorge Sáiz<sup>3</sup>, Magdalena Nizioł<sup>2</sup>, Weronika Baszanowska<sup>1</sup>, Coral Barbas<sup>3</sup>, and Jerzy Palka<sup>1,\*</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Department of Medicinal Chemistry, Faculty of Pharmacy, Medical University of Białystok, 15-089, Białystok, Poland; ly.huynhthien@umb.edu.pl (TYLH); w.baszanowska22@wp.pl (WB); pal@umb.edu.pl (JP).

<sup>2</sup> Department of Pharmaceutical and Biopharmaceutical Analysis, Faculty of Pharmacy, Medical University of Białystok, 15-089, Białystok, Poland; ilona.zareba@gmail.com (IO), Magdalena.niziol@umb.edu.pl (M.N.)

<sup>3</sup> Centre for Metabolomics and Bioanalysis (CEMBIO), University CEU San Pablo, 28003 Madrid, Spain; jorge.saizgalindo@ceu.es (JS); cbarbas@ceu.es (CB).

\* Correspondence: Department of Medicinal Chemistry, Faculty of Pharmacy, Medical University of Białystok, 15-089, Białystok, Poland. Phone number: +48 85748 5706. E-mail: pal@umb.edu.pl (JP).

### Supplementary Material

#### 1. Calculation of percentage of change (%)

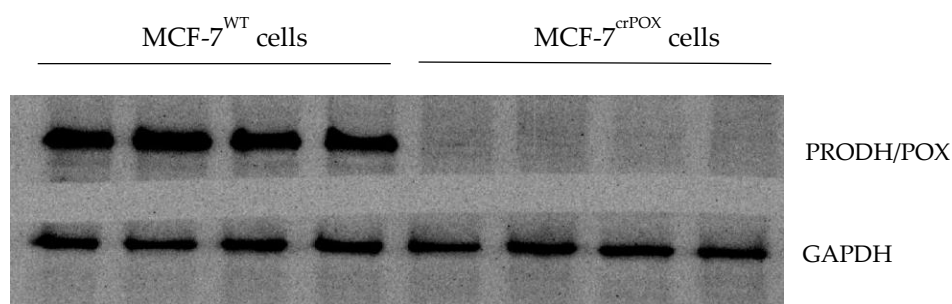
Due to zero value of several metabolites, the percentage of change (%) were calculated in different ways to avoid the non-valid % change.

- In Group B vs group G, (%) change was calculated by:

$$\text{Change (\%)} = \frac{[(\text{average of metabolite concentration in MCF-7}^{\text{WT}} \text{ cells group} - \text{average of metabolite concentration in MCF-7}^{\text{crPOX}} \text{ cells group})]}{[\text{average of metabolite concentration in MCF-7}^{\text{crPOX}} \text{ cells group}]} \times 100$$

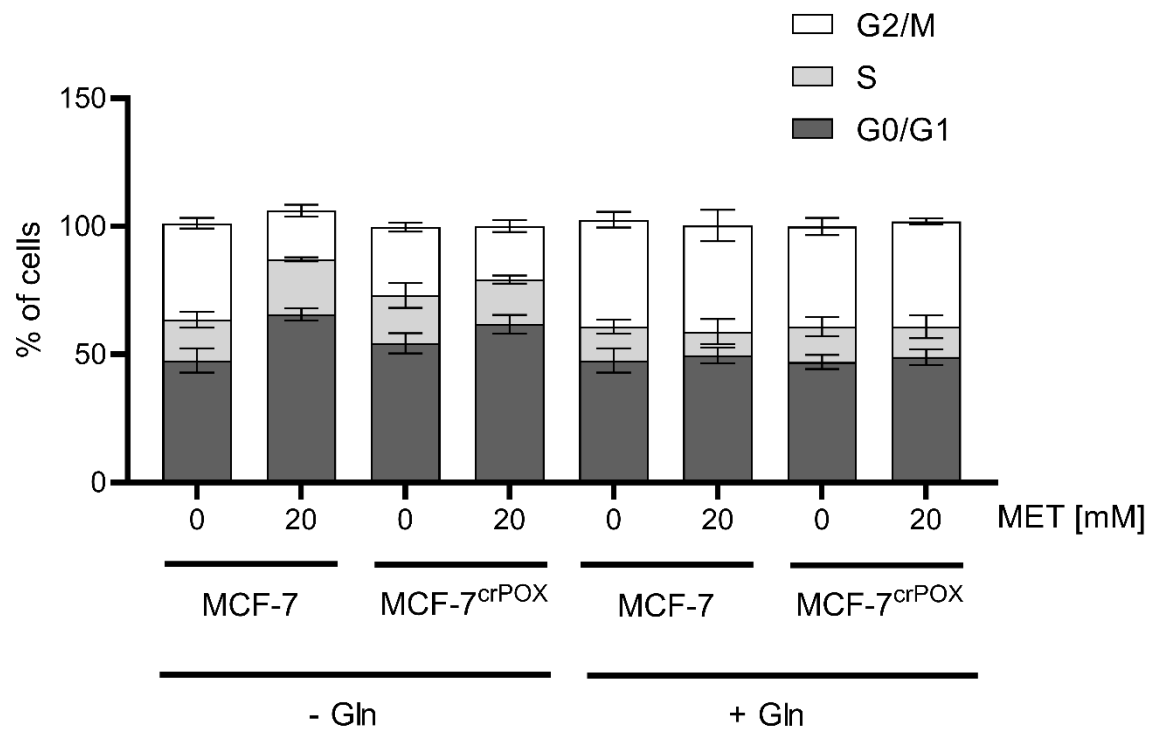
- In group D vs group I and group E vs group J, (%) change was calculated by:

$$\text{Change (\%)} = \frac{[(\text{average of metabolite concentration in MCF-7}^{\text{crPOX}} \text{ cells group} - \text{average of metabolite concentration in MCF-7}^{\text{WT}} \text{ cells group})]}{[\text{average of metabolite concentration in MCF-7}^{\text{WT}} \text{ cells}]} \times 100$$



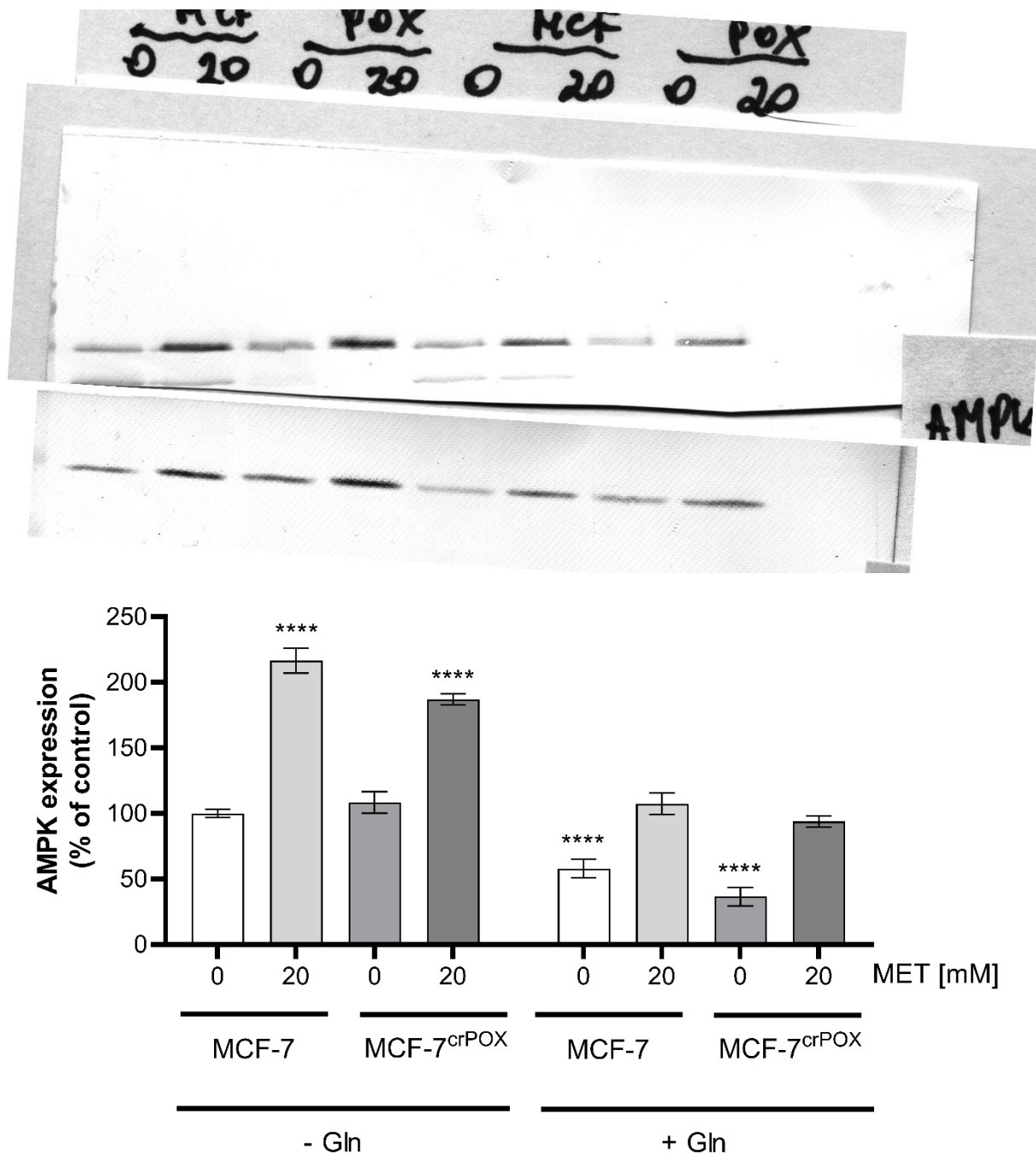
**Figure S1.** The PRODH/POX expression in MCF-7<sup>WT</sup> cells and MCF-7<sup>crPOX</sup> cells by Western Blot using Anti-PRODH/POX antibody (Santa Cruz).

## 2. Cell cycle phases



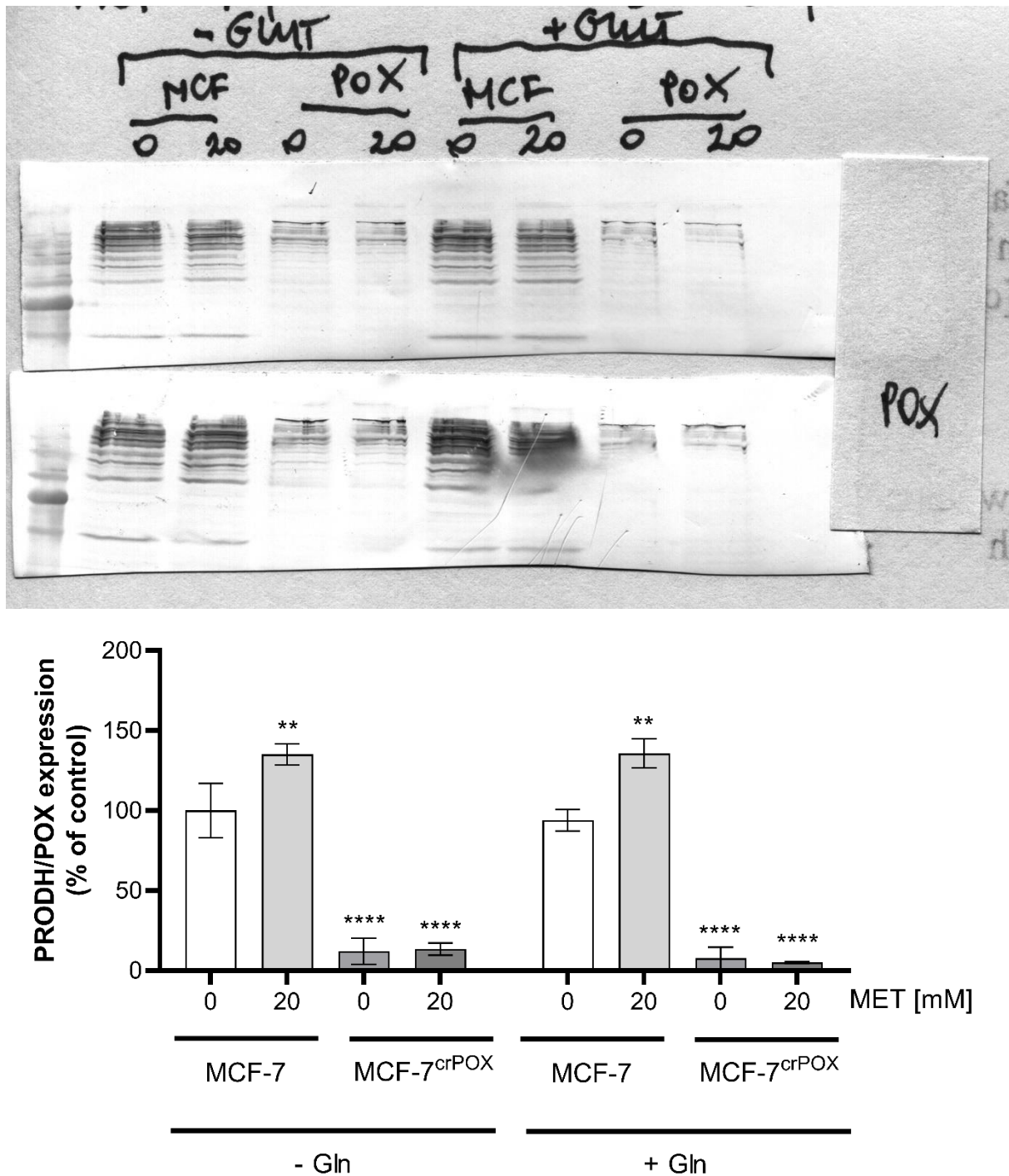
**Figure S2.** The percentage of cells in G0/G1, S and G2/M phases of the cell cycle of MCF-7 and MCF-7<sup>crPOX</sup> cells treated with metformin with or without glutamine (Gln).

### 3. Expression of AMPPK



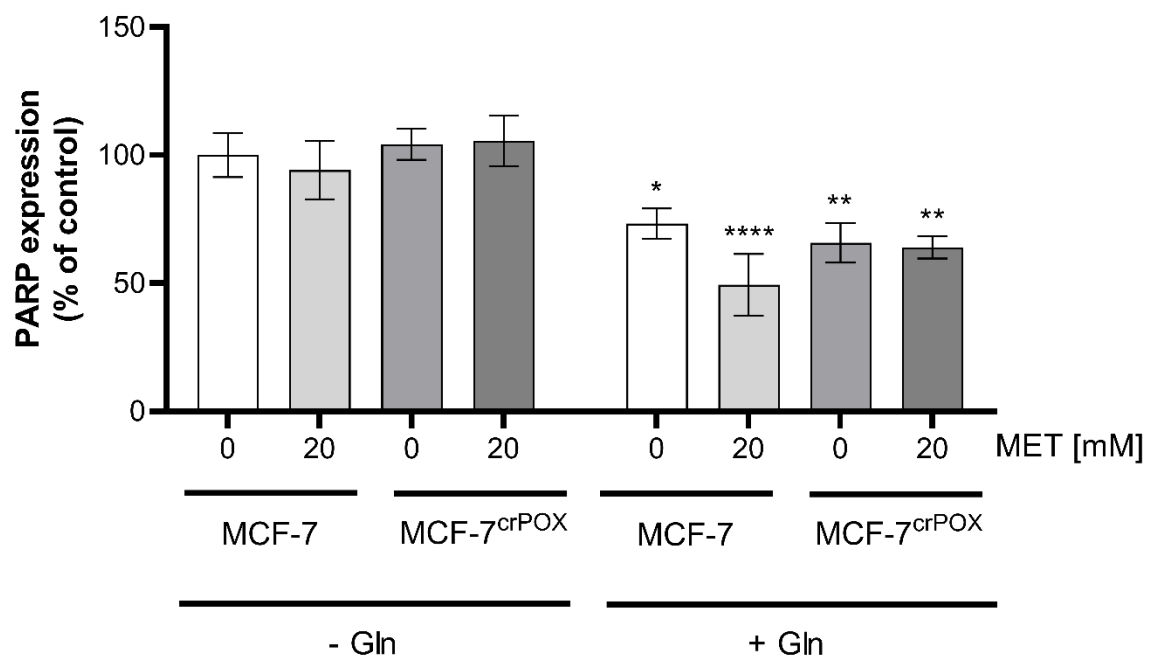
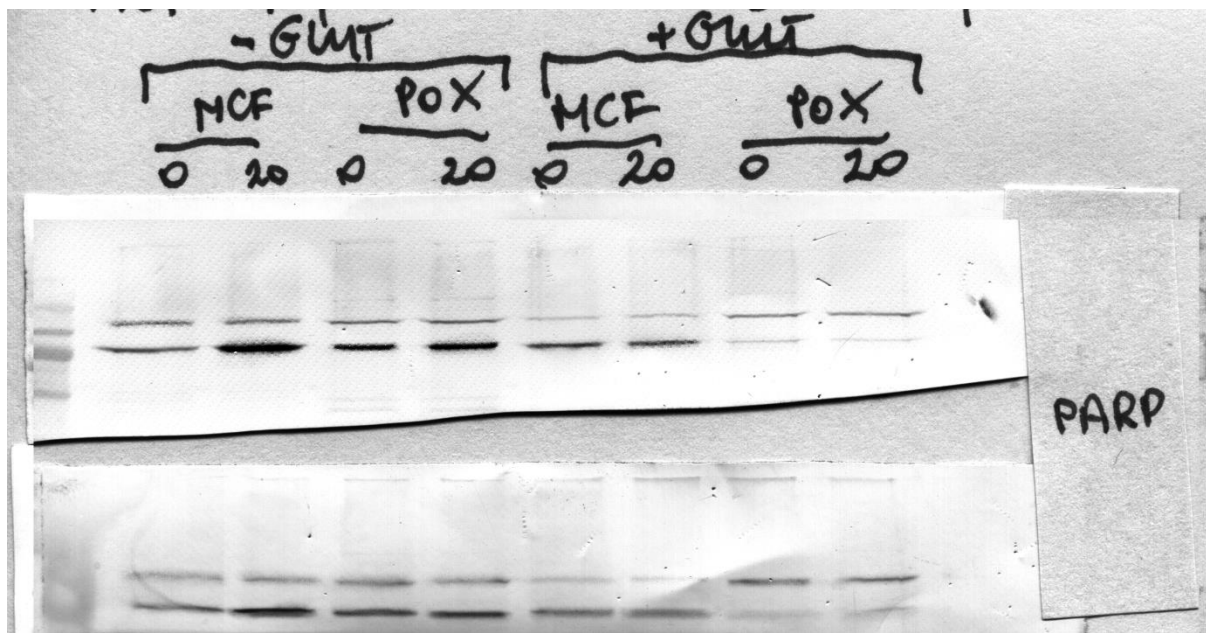
**Figure S3.** The representatives' blots of AMPK expressions in MCF-7 cells and MCF-7<sup>crPOX</sup> cells treated with metformin (MET) cultured in DMEM in the presence and absence of glutamine. GAPDH expression was used as a loading control. The WB bands intensity of representative gels was quantified by densitometry and normalized to GAPDH. The densitometry values represent the mean (% of control)  $\pm$  SD of three experiments, \*P < 0.001.

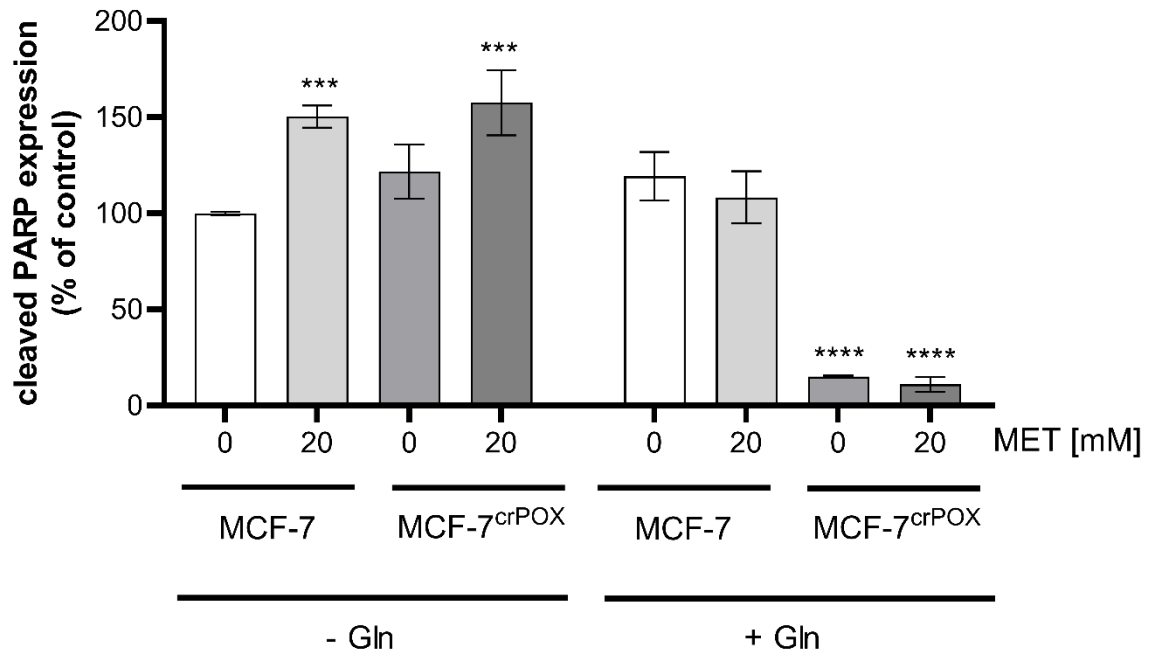
#### 4. Expression of PRODH/POX



**Figure S4.** The representatives' blots of PRODH/POX expressions in MCF-7 cells and MCF-7<sup>crPOX</sup> cells treated with metformin (MET) cultured in DMEM in the presence and absence of glutamine. GAPDH expression was used as a loading control. The WB bands intensity of representative gels was quantified by densitometry and normalized to GAPDH. The densitometry values represent the mean (% of control)  $\pm$  SD of three experiments, \*P < 0.001.

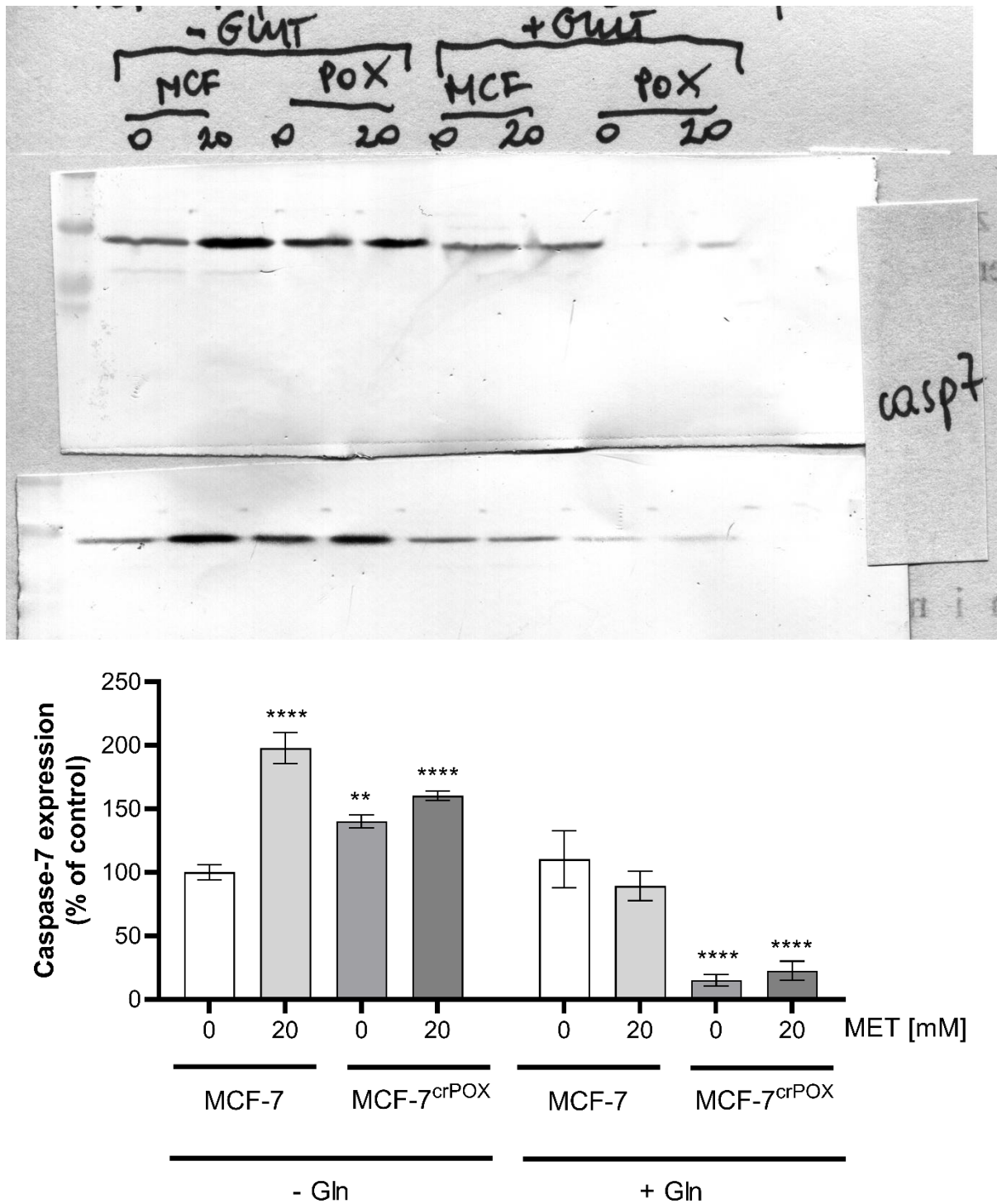
## 5. Expression of PARP and cleaved-PARP





**Figure S5.** The representatives' blots of PARP and cleaved-PARP expressions in MCF-7 cells and MCF-7<sup>crPOX</sup> cells treated with metformin (MET) cultured in DMEM in the presence and absence of glutamine. GAPDH expression was used as a loading control. The WB bands intensity of representative gels was quantified by densitometry and normalized to GAPDH. The densitometry values represent the mean (% of control)  $\pm$  SD of three experiments, \*P < 0.001.

## 6. Expression of Caspase-7



**Figure S6.** The representatives' blots of Caspase-7 expressions in MCF-7 cells and MCF-7<sup>crPOX</sup> cells treated with metformin (MET) cultured in DMEM in the presence and absence of glutamine. GAPDH expression was used as a loading control. The WB bands intensity of representative gels was quantified by densitometry and normalized to GAPDH. The densitometry values represent the mean (% of control)  $\pm$  SD of three experiments, \*P < 0.001.

**Table S1.** Testing samples for MS-based approaches

No. Samples	Descriptions	Groups
1-5	MCF-7 <sup>WT</sup> cells in DMEM + glutamine, glucose 4g.l <sup>-1</sup> , treated with Metformin 20 mM	A
6-10	MCF-7 <sup>WT</sup> cells in DMEM + glutamine, glucose 4g.l <sup>-1</sup> , untreated	B
11-15	MCF-7 <sup>WT</sup> cells in DMEM - glutamine, glucose 4g.l <sup>-1</sup> , treated with Metformin 20 mM	C
16-20	MCF-7 <sup>WT</sup> cells in DMEM - glutamine, glucose 4g.l <sup>-1</sup> , untreated	D
21-25	MCF-7 <sup>WT</sup> cells in DMEM - glutamine, low glucose 1g.l <sup>-1</sup> , untreated	E
26-30	MCF-7 <sup>crPOX</sup> cells in DMEM + glutamine, glucose 4g.l <sup>-1</sup> , treated with Metformin 20 mM	F
31-35	MCF-7 <sup>crPOX</sup> cells in DMEM + glutamine, glucose 4g.l <sup>-1</sup> , untreated	G
36-40	MCF-7 <sup>crPOX</sup> cells in DMEM - glutamine, glucose 4g.l <sup>-1</sup> , treated with Metformin 20 mM	H
41-45	MCF-7 <sup>crPOX</sup> cells in DMEM - glutamine, glucose 4g.l <sup>-1</sup> , untreated	I
46-50	MCF-7 <sup>crPOX</sup> cells in DMEM - glutamine, low glucose 1g.l <sup>-1</sup> , untreated	J

MCF-7<sup>WT</sup> cells: Wild type MCF-7 cells

MCF-7<sup>crPOX</sup> cells: PROPDH/POX knockout MCF-7 cells

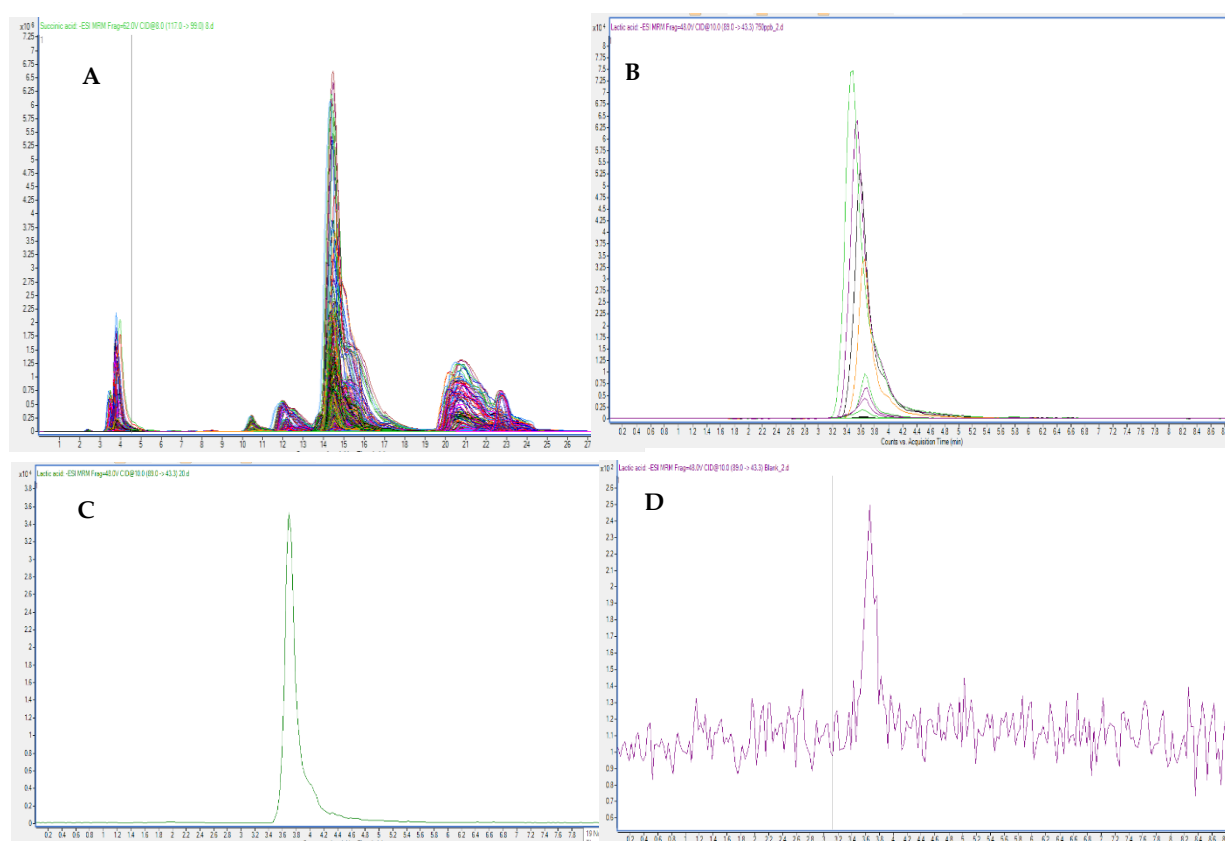
**Table S2.** The summary of testing metabolites

Relevant metabolic pathways	Metabolites
Glycolysis	Glucose
	Phosphoenol-pyruvic acid
	Pyruvic acid
Pentose phosphate pathway	Glucose 6-phosphate
	6-phospho-gluconate
Krebs cycle	Fumaric acid
	Alpha-ketoglutaric acid
	Citric acid
	Succinic acid
	Malic acid
	Cis-aconitic acid
Urea cycle	Ornithine
	Arginine
	Citrulline
Amino acids	Proline
	Glutamine
	Glutamic acid
Additional metabolites	Lactic acid
	Fructose

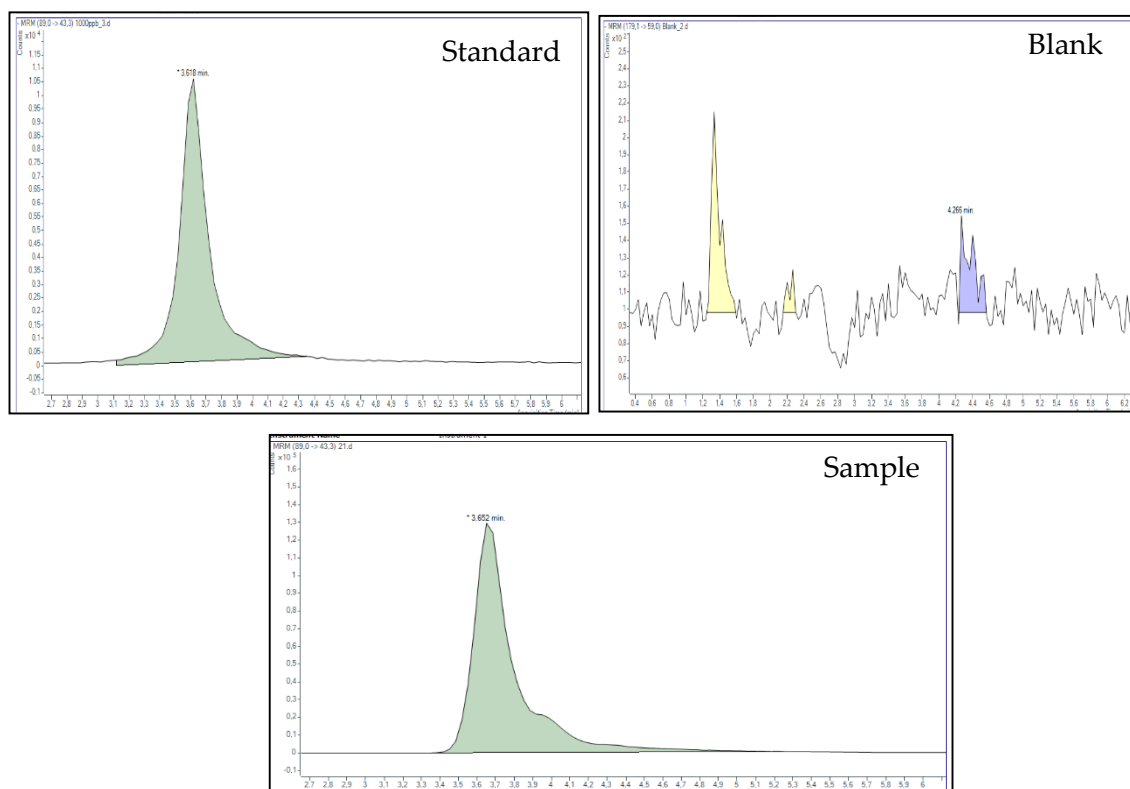


**Table S3.** Optimized transition of targeted metabolites

No.	Metabolites	Transition	No.	Metabolites	Transition
1	Glucose	259 → 79	11	Phosphoenolpyruvate	167 → 79
2	Fumaric acid	115.1 → 71	12	Pyruvic acid	87 → 43.2
3	Lactic acid	89 → 45.3	13	Succinic acid	117 → 73.1
4	Arginine	173.1 → 131	14	6- phosphogluconic acid	275.1 → 78.9
5	Citrulline	174 → 131	15	Alpha ketoglutaric acid	145 → 101
6	Glutamic acid	146 → 128	16	Cis-aconitic acid	173 → 129
7	Glutamine	145.1 → 127	17	Citric acid	191 → 111
8	Malic acid	133 → 115	18	Fructose	179.1 → 59
9	Ornithine	133 → 133	19	Glucose	179.1 → 59
10	Proline	114 → 68.1			



**Figure S7.** Representatives of chromatograms viewed by MassHunter Qualitative analysis navigator post-run LC-QqQ. **A.** All extracted profiles. **B.** The standard curve of Lactic acid. **C.** A testing sample with extracted Lactic acid peak. **D.** Blank.



**Figure S8.** The results of lactic acid in Masshunter QQQ Quantitative analysis version 8.0 in reference samples (standard), testing sample and blank.