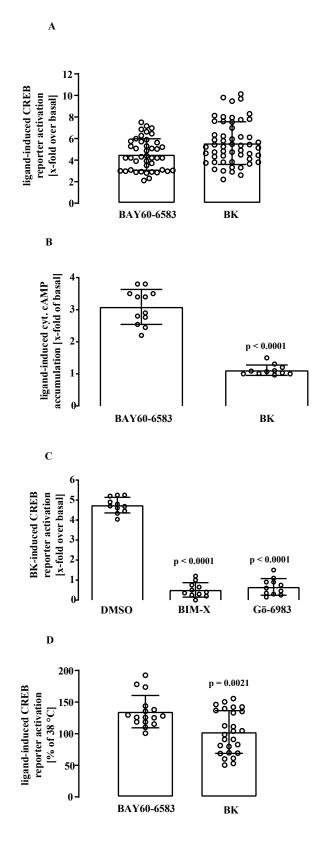
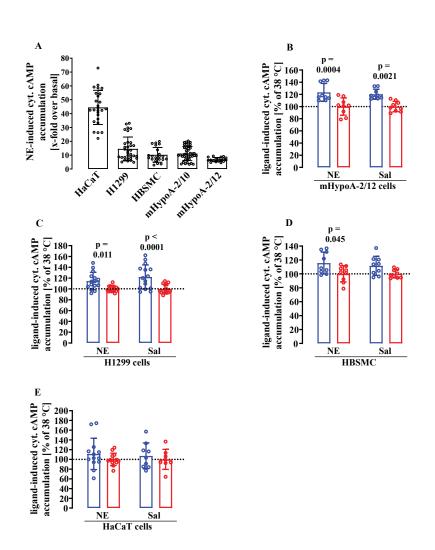
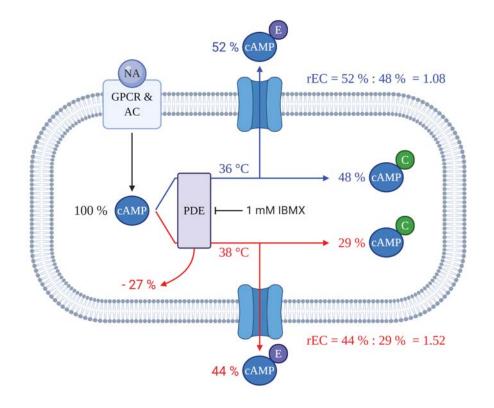


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# TITLE PAGE

# Physiological temperature changes fine-tune $\beta_2$ -adrenergic receptor-induced cytosolic cAMP accumulation

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# **RUNNING TITLE PAGE**

RUNNING TITLE: enhanced norepinephrine-induced cAMP accumulation at 36 °C

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# ABBREVIATIONS

ATP, adenosine triphosphate; ABCC, ATP-binding cassette subfamily C; AC, adenylyl cyclase; AR, adrenergic receptors; BAY60-658, 2-[[6-Amino-3,5-dicyano-4-[4-(cyclopropylmethoxy)phenyl]-2-pyridinyl]thio]-acetamide; BK, bradykinin; cAMP, cyclic adenosine-3',5'-monophosphate; BIM-X, bisindolylmaleimide X; BMAL1, brain and muscle ARNT-like protein-1; CBT, core body temperature; CREB, cAMP response elements binding protein; CYP, cyanopindolol; DMEM, Dulbecco's modified Eagle's medium; EPAC, exchange factor directly activated by cAMP; ESI-09,  $\alpha$ -[(2-(3-Chlorophenyl)hydrazinylidene]-5-(1,1-dimethylethyl)- $\beta$ -oxo-3-isoxazolepropanenitrile; FBS, fetal bovine serum; rEC-cAMP, ratio of extracellular and cytosolic cAMP; FOXO, forkhead-box-proteine-O; FSK, forskolin; GDP, guanosine diphosphate; GTP, guanosine triphosphate; GPCR, G protein-coupled receptors; Gpp(NH)p, guanosine 5'-[ $\beta$ , $\gamma$ -imido]triphosphate; Gö-6983, (3-[1-[3-(Dimethylamino)propy]]-5-methoxy-1H-indol-3-yl]-4-(1H-indol-3-yl)-1H-pyrrole-2,5-dione); HSF, heat shock factor; HSP, heat shock protein; IBMX, 3-isobutyl-1-methylxantine; ICI118,551, (2R,3R)-rel-1-[(2,3-dihydro-7-methyl-1H-inden-4-yl)oxy]-3-[(1-methylethyl)amino]-2-butanol; IFN, interferone; ISO, isoproterenol; NE, norepinephrine; KT-7520, (9S,10S,12R)-2,3,9,10,11,12-Hexahydro-10-hydroxy-9-methyl-1-oxo-9,12-epoxy-1H-diindolo[1,2,3-fg:3',2',1'-kl]pyrrolo[3,4-

i][1,6]benzodiazocine-10-carboxylic acid hexyl ester; PBS, phosphate-buffered saline; PDE, phosphodiesterase; RLU, random light units; RPKM, reads per kilobase of transcript per million reads mapped; Sal, salmeterol; SR29230A, 3-(2-Ethylphenoxy)-1-[[(1S)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydronaphth-1-yl]amino]-(2S)-2-propanol oxalate salt; STAT, signal transducer and activator of transcription

#### ABSTRACT

Norepinephrine (NE) controls many vital body functions by activating adrenergic receptors (AR). Average core body temperature (CBT) in mice is 37 °C. Of note, CBT fluctuates between 36 and 38 °C within 24 h, but little is known about the effects of CBT changes on the pharmacodynamics of NE. Here we used Peltier-element-controlled incubators and challenged murine hypothalamic mHypoA-2/10 cells with temperature changes of  $\pm$  1 °C. We observed enhanced NE-induced activation of a cAMP-dependent luciferase reporter at 36 compared to 38 °C. mRNA analysis and subtype specific antagonists, revealed that NE activates  $\beta_2$ - and  $\beta_3$ -AR in mHypoA-2/10 cells. Agonist binding to the  $\beta_2$ -AR was temperature-insensitive, but measurements of cytosolic cAMP accumulation revealed an increase in efficacy of 45  $\pm$  27 % for

NE and of  $62 \pm 33$  % for the  $\beta_2$ -AR-selective agonist salmeterol (Sal) at 36 °C. When monitoring NE-promoted cAMP efflux, we observed an increase in the absolute efflux at 36 °C. However, the ratio of exported to cytosolic accumulated cAMP is higher at 38 °C. We also stimulated cells with NE at 37 °C and measured cAMP degradation at 36 and 38 °C afterwards. We observed increased cAMP degradation at 38 °C, indicating enhanced PDE activity at higher temperatures. In line with these data, NE-induced activation of the thyreoliberin promoter was found to be enhanced at 36 °C. Overall, we show that physiological temperature changes fine-tune NE-induced cAMP signaling in hypothalamic cells via  $\beta_2$ -AR by modulating cAMP degradation and the ratio of intra- and extracellular cAMP.

#### SIGNIFICANCE STATEMENT

Increasing cytosolic cAMP levels by activation of G protein-coupled receptors (GPCR) such as the  $\beta_2$ -adrenergic receptor ( $\beta_2$ -AR) is essential for many body functions. Changes in core body temperature are fundamental and universal factors of mammalian life. Here, we provide first data linking physiologically relevant temperature fluctuations to  $\beta_2$ -AR-induced cAMP signaling, highlighting a so far unappreciated role of body temperature as a modulator of the prototypic class A GPCR.

#### INTRODUCTION

NE together with epinephrine belongs to the neurotransmitter family of catecholamines. Catecholamines bind to  $\alpha_1$ -,  $\alpha_2$ - and  $\beta$ -adrenergic receptors (AR), which are part of the G proteincoupled receptors (GPCR) superfamily and modulate cytosolic cAMP and Ca<sup>2+</sup> levels in a variety of cells including myocytes, adipocytes, lymphocytes, keratinocytes, smooth muscle cells, and neurons (De Blasi, 1990; Lefkowitz et al., 1984; Strosberg, 1993). Consequently, signaling induced by NE via AR regulates a wide variety of vital body functions pertinent to coping with all kinds of stress and summarized as the so-called fight-or-flight response (Tank and Lee Wong, 2015).

In humans and mice, average core body temperature (CBT) is 37 °C. Thus, most of our knowledge about cellular signaling induced by hormones such as NE is based on data obtained with cells stimulated at 37 °C. However, depending on the species, CBT in mammals fluctuates by 1-4 °C within 24 h, with a nadir in temperature at the end of the resting state and a zenith during the phase of activity (Refinetti and Menaker, 1992). In humans, the amplitude of temperature change varies between 0.7 and 1.4 °C, whereas in mice, changes between 1.4 and 1.8 °C are described (Refinetti and Menaker, 1992).

cAMP accumulation is a popular read-out of AR signaling and the result of agonist binding to AR, G protein activation and engagement of effector enzymes such as adenylyl cyclases (AC) and PDE. When temperature sensitivity of AR signaling was investigated so far, temperatures used were beyond the physiological range, most probably because water baths or standard incubators had to be used, which could not ensure temperature control with an accuracy required to reliably analyze effects of small temperature changes. For example,  $\beta_2$ -AR-promoted contraction of guinea-pig atria was stronger when 42 were compared to 27 °C or 30 to 24 °C (Miyamoto et al., 2001; Reinhardt et al., 1978). Walsh et al reported that  $\beta$ -AR-induced potassium currents in myocytes were higher at 37 °C compared to 30 °C (Walsh et al., 1989). AC or PDE activity in membrane fractions of hepatic cells linearly increased within a temperature range from 25 to 40 °C. Interestingly, epinephrine induced a change in the thermodynamics of AC activity that led to an abrupt increase above 32 °C (Keirns et al., 1973; Kreiner et al., 1973;

Wada et al., 1987). In contrast, when comparing the ligand binding properties of the  $\beta_1$ -AR and  $\beta_2$ -AR in lung cells at 18 and 37 °C, no differences were observed (Brodde et al., 1983). Similar, in brown adipocytes  $\beta$ -AR signaling was not affected when 37 were compared to 33 °C (Ye et al., 2013). To the best of our knowledge, no data about putative effects of physiologically relevant temperature changes (± 1 °C) on  $\beta$ -AR-induced cAMP accumulation are available.

Murine and human hypothalamic neurons express relevant levels of AR and high numbers of  $\beta$ -AR were found in the *paraventricular nucleus (PVN)* (Little et al., 1992). NE has been reported to induce mRNA levels of thyreoliberin in *PVN* neurons and therefore to stimulate the hypothalamic-pituitary-thyroid axes (Grimm and Reichlin, 1973). Thyreoliberin mRNA levels show circadian rhythms with peaks at the end of the resting "cool" phase (Covarrubias et al., 1988). Similar, NE undergoes diurnal changes in humans and rodents, with low plasma concentrations at the end of the resting phase and increased levels during the active "warm" phase (Leach and Suzuki, 2020). Hence, it is stablished, that NE and thyreoliberin expressing *PVN* neurons interact in a circadian fashion but it is not clear whether diurnal changes in CBT directly affect this interaction.

The adult mouse hypothalamic cell line mHypoA-2/10 expresses a wide array of hypothalamic markers (Belsham et al., 2009). We have recently reported that these cells behave similar to thyreoliberin-positive neurons of the *PVN* (Breit et al., 2015; Breit et al., 2018). However, the responsiveness of these cells to NE has not yet been described. Herein, we first report that  $\beta_2$ -AR and  $\beta_3$ -AR subtypes are endogenously expressed in mHypoA-2/10 cells and responsible for NE-induced cAMP accumulation. Secondly, we used mHypoA-2/10 cells as an *in vitro* model system to analyze putative temperature effects on  $\beta$ -AR signaling. In order to appropriately challenge cells with temperature changes in the physiological range (± 1 °C), we employed Peltier-element-controlled incubators (accuracy ± 0.1 °C). We exposed cells to 36 or 38 °C and analyzed direct effects of temperature on NE binding, cytosolic cAMP accumulation and efflux as well as cAMP degradation and thyreoliberin promoter activity.

#### MATERIALS AND METHODS

**Materials.** Dulbecco's modified Eagle's medium (DMEM) was from PanBiotech, fetal bovine serum (FBS), penicillin/streptomycin, phosphate buffered saline (PBS), trypsin/EDTA and zeocin were purchased from Invitrogen (Carlsbad, CA). Turbofect® was from Thermo Fisher (Heidelberg, Germany). NE, Sal, BK, desArg<sup>9</sup>BK, FSK, SR59230A, ICI118,551, oxymetazoline, phentholamine, propranolol, Gpp(NH)p, indomethacin, 3-isobutyl-1-methylxanthine (IBMX) were obtained from Sigma-Aldrich (Deisenhofen, Germany). ESI-09 was from Biolog (Bremen, Germany) and KT-5720 from Tocris life science (Lörrach, Germany). IFNγ was from Millipore (USA). <sup>125</sup>I-CYP and [2,8-<sup>3</sup>H]-adenine was from PerkinElmer (Boston, USA). Adenosine 3',5'-cyclic monophosphate [5',8-<sup>3</sup>H] (<sup>3</sup>H-cAMP) was from Hartmann Analytic (Braunschweig, Germany).

**Cell culture and transfection.** The adult mouse hypothalamic cell lines mHypoA-2/10 (Clu-176) and mHypoA-2/12 (CLU-177) were purchased from Cedarlane (Burlington, Canada). HaCaT cells were from ATCC. H1299 cells were kindly provided by Dr. Georgios Stathopoulos (CPC Helmholtz Center, Munich). All cells were cultured in DMEM supplemented with 10 % FBS, 2 mM L-glutamine, penicillin (100 U/ml) and streptomycin (100 µg/ml). Human bronchial smooth muscle cells (HBSMC) were obtained from PromoCell (C-12561) and cultured in medium provided by PromoCell. mHypoA-2/10 cell clones stably expressing the BMAL1-, FOXO-, STAT- or CREB-dependent reporter were obtained by selecting cells (400 µg/ml zeocin) transfected with an empty pcDNA4B and the corresponding reporter plasmid. mHypoA-2/10-CREB and mHypoA-2/10-BMAL1 cells have been reported previously (Breit et al., 2018). For mHypoA-2/10-STAT cells the pGL4.47 (luc2P/SIE/Hygro) from Promega was used. For mHypoA-2/10-FOXO cells the FHRE-luciferase construct was obtained from Addgene (#1789) (Brunet et al., 1999). mHypoA-2/10 cells stably expressing the entire promoter sequence of the thyreoliberin gene were generated as described above. The thyreoliberin promoter reporter plasmid was kindly provided by Dr. Clerget-Froidevaux (Kouidhi et al., 2010).

**Thermostimulation.** In order to incubate cells with high temperature accuracy ( $\pm 0.1$  °C), two programmable, Peltier-element-controlled incubators (Friocell55) from MMM group (Planegg,

Germany) were used. For all experiments, cell were kept in DMEM (D5030 from SigmaAldrich) with 25 mM glucose, 1 mM pyruvate, 4 mM glutamine, penicillin/streptomycin, 25 mM HEPES but without serum. pH was adjusted to 7.4 using 10 M NaOH. The following protocols were applied. I) experiments with 37 °C as a control (Fig.1 and 4D): both incubators were first set to 37 °C. After 12 h, one incubator remained at 37 °C and the other switched within 30 min to 36 or 38 °C, respectively. II) experiments without 37 °C control. Both incubators were first set to 37 °C. After 12 h, one incubator switched within 30 min to 36 the other to 38 °C, respectively. Cells were then collected at the indicated time. For the binding-assay or cAMP degradation assay incubators were set to the corresponding temperature 4 h prior to the experiment and all buffers needed were pre-warmed for 2 h. For the promoter reporter experiment incubators were set to the corresponding temperature for 4 h, the door quickly opened, cells stimulated with 10-fold ligand solutions and incubated for another 4 h. Temperature adjusted within 2 min after opening the incubator door. In order to measure cAMP accumulation, cells were incubated with [<sup>3</sup>H]adenine for ~ 20 h and then stimulated with 10-fold IBMX or IBMX ligand solution.

Luciferase Reporter assay. Cells were seeded on 12-well plates (~100,000/well) and treated as described above. After stimulation cells were lysed (25 mM Tris/HCl pH 7.4, 4 mM EGTA, 8 mM MgCl<sub>2</sub>, 1 mM DTT and 1 % Triton-X-100) and luciferase activity was measured in white bottom 96-well plates after automatically injecting luciferase substrate (Promega). Resulting total light emission was detected every s for 10 s post injection in a FLUOstar<sup>®</sup> Omega plate reader.

**Aequorin-based calcium measurements.** 24 h after transfection of ~ 1 x  $10^6$  cells with a calcium-sensing aequorin-eGFP construct (pG5 $\alpha$ , kindly provided by Dr. Chubanov, LMU, Germany) in a 10-cm dish, cells were loaded with the aequorin substrate coelenterazine H (5  $\mu$ M) in HBS buffer for 30 min at room temperature. After cell harvesting in HBS, ~ 1 x  $10^5$  cells per well were seeded in 96-well plates and total luminescence was measured in a FLUOstar<sup>®</sup> Omega plate reader at 37 °C. Pure HBS as a control or with the corresponding ligand was automatically injected after 5 s. Total emission was measured at 0.5-s intervals.

**Radioligand binding assay**. At first, total membrane fractions were prepared as described previously and aliquots stored as -80 °C. For saturation binding 20 µg of membranes were

incubated with increasing concentration of <sup>125</sup>I-CYP (3.125 - 400 pM) in DMEM. Specific <sup>125</sup>I-CYP binding was determined by inhibition of total <sup>125</sup>I-CYP binding by 10  $\mu$ M propranolol. Samples were incubated at 37 °C for 1 h and the reaction stopped by rapid filtration over Whatman GF/C glass-fibers filters using a cell harvester from Brandel (Alphabiotech, Glasgow, UK). Remaining radioactivity was measured by scintillation counting using a WinSpectral1414 (PerkinElmer). Competition binding assays were performed under the same conditions using 75 pM <sup>125</sup>I-CYP as a tracer. In order to uncouple GPCR from their cognate G proteins, membranes were pre-incubated (10 min) with 10  $\mu$ M Gpp(NH)p.

**cAMP accumulation and efflux.** To determine agonist-induced cAMP accumulation, 100,000 cells were seeded in 12-well dishes 48 h prior to the experiment and labelled in serum-free DMEM containing 1  $\mu$ Ci/ml of [<sup>3</sup>H]adenine as described above. Cells were stimulated for various time periods in DMEM containing 1 mM IBMX along with NE, Sal or FSK. The reaction was terminated by removing the medium and adding ice-cold 5 % trichloroacetic acid to the cells. [<sup>3</sup>H]ATP and [<sup>3</sup>H]cAMP were then purified by sequential chromatography (dowexresin/aluminium oxide columns). [<sup>3</sup>H]cAMP accumulation was expressed as the ratio of [cAMP/(cAMP + ATP)] x 1000. In order to determine cAMP efflux from cells, IBMX and ligand containing medium (1 ml) was collected, reactions stopped with 1 ml of 10 % trichloroacetic acid and cAMP purified as described above. When these data are expressed as the ratio of [cAMP/(cAMP + ATP)] x 1000, cytosolic ATP levels were used.

**cAMP degradation.** To determine basal cAMP degradation,  $2 \times 10^6$  cells were seeded in 150 cm<sup>2</sup> dishes 24 h prior to the experiment, serum starved overnight and harvested in 2 ml ice-cold assay buffer (50 mM HEPES 7.4, 1 mM EDTA, 0.1 mM EGTA, 10 mM MgCl<sub>2</sub>, Roche cOmplete<sup>TM</sup> protease inhibitor cocktail). Cells were homogenized using a Polytron (Ultra-Turrax, T24, IKA) 3 x 10 s at level 4. 100 µl total cell fraction was then added to pre-warmed (36, 37 or 38 °C) assay buffer (900 µl) containing <sup>3</sup>H-cAMP (100,000 DPM) without IBMX or as a control with 1 mM IBMX. Samples were then incubated at the corresponding temperature for various time periods. Reactions were terminated by incubating the samples for 2 min at 100 °C. After adding 1 ml 10 % trichloroacetic acid, remaining <sup>3</sup>H-cAMP was purified as described above. As control, samples with <sup>3</sup>H-cAMP but without cell homogenates were used. These samples were

used to calculate the homogenate-dependent cAMP degradation in percentage. In order to analyze effects of NE on cAMP degradation, cells were first stimulated with 10  $\mu$ M NE at 37 °C for 30 min and collected afterwards.

**Total mRNA sequencing.** 1 x 10<sup>6</sup> cells were seeded in six 100 cm<sup>2</sup> dishes. After 24 h cells were serum starved over night and harvested in RNAlater (ThermoFisher). Frozen samples were sent to IMGM Laboratories (Martinsried, Germany) on dry-ice and RNA sequencing performed using the Illumina TruSeq® Stranded mRNA technology and the NextSeq® 500 next generation sequencing system.

**Statistical analysis.** Standard sample size in this study was n = 5 performed in quadruplicates (or triplicates if necessary for technical reasons). If a p-value of > 0.05 was obtained, analysis was stopped and defined as "not statistically different". If a p-value of < 0.05 was determined 3-5 additional replicates were measured in order to confirm statistical differences. All data are presented as the mean  $\pm$  standard deviations (SD). One sample t-tests were used to analyze differences to an expected value. Two sample t-tests were used to analyze experiments with two data sets. Multiple samples under one condition were analyzed by one-way ANOVA followed by Tukey's post-hoc test. Multiple samples under two conditions were analyzed by two-way ANOVA followed by Tukey's or Šidák's post-hoc test. p-values are indicated in the figures, with except for Fig. 1, were asterisks and hash signs were used for the sake of simplicity. For all analyses, GraphPad Prism 9.0 was used. Figure 11 as created using the BioRender figures software provided by BioRender.com.

#### RESULTS

Effects of temperature on BMAL1, CREB, STAT or FOXO reporter activity. So far, effects of physiologically relevant temperature changes on signaling by transmembrane receptors in mHypoA-2/10 cells have not been investigated. Thus, in a first step, we analyzed basal activity of a CREB-, STAT- and FOXO-dependent reporter. As a control, we used a BMAL1 reporter, which is temperature-sensitive in many cell types, including mHypoA-2/10 cells (Breit et al., 2018). As expected, when compared to 37 °C, the activity of the BMAL1 reporter was enhanced

at 36 and decreased at 38 °C (Fig. 1A). The FOXO reporter showed no significant temperature sensitivity (Fig. 1B), whereas STAT- and CREB-dependent reporter activity were also enhanced at 36 °C (Fig. 1C-D). Thus, we provide first evidence that physiological temperature changes affect signaling pathways regulated by transmembrane receptors in hypothalamic cells and that the CREB and STAT pathways are significantly affected. Hence, in a second step, we stimulated CREB and STAT reporter expressing cells for 4 h either at 36 or at 38 °C and then for additional 4 h with hormones known to activate either reporter. As shown in figure 1E, IFN $\gamma$  activated the STAT reporter at both temperatures equally, suggesting effects of temperature on basal but not on ligand-induced STAT activation. When CREB reporter expressing cells were stimulated with 10  $\mu$ M NE, values of 63  $\pm$  19 x-fold over basal were detected at 38 °C and of 89  $\pm$  34 at 36 °C, suggesting enhanced NE effects at cooler temperature (Fig. 1F). Similarly, CREB activity induced by the direct AC activator forskolin (FSK) (10  $\mu$ M) was also enhanced at 36 °C. Thus, our data clearly indicate rather specific effects of temperature on hormone-induced CREB then on STAT activation.

mHypoA-2/10 cells endogenously express the  $\beta_2$ -AR and  $\beta_3$ -AR subtype. Members of  $\alpha_1$ ,  $\alpha_2$ and  $\beta$ -AR subfamilies are expressed in hypothalamic neurons, but so far, no data about putative expression of AR in mHypoA-2/10 cells are available. Thus, we aimed at identifying the AR subtype(s) expressed in these cells. Total mRNASeq data revealed the highest expression for  $\beta_2$ -AR, followed by  $\beta_3$ -AR and to a lesser extent by  $\alpha_{1D}$ -AR and  $\alpha_{1B}$ -AR (Fig. 2A). Measurements of intracellular calcium transients, showed no Ca<sup>2+</sup>-signals induced by NE (10 $\mu$ M) or the  $\alpha_2$ -AR agonist oxymetazoline (10  $\mu$ M), suggesting no activation of Gq-coupled  $\alpha$ -AR in hypothalamic cells. Saturation binding experiments with the  $\beta$ -AR specific and  $\beta_2$ -AR selective antagonist <sup>125</sup>Icyanopindolol (CYP), revealed a  $B_{max}$  of 79 ± 4 fmol/mg and a K<sub>D</sub>-value of 28 ± 5 pM (Fig. 2C), which is characteristic of endogenously expressed  $\beta_2$ -AR (Chuang et al., 1986). In line with these findings, 10  $\mu$ M of the  $\beta$ -AR selective agonist isoproterenol (ISO) and 100 nM of the  $\beta_2$ -AR specific ligand Sal induced significant CREB-dependent reporter activity (Fig. 2D). NE-induced CREB activation was insensitive to the PKC inhibitors BIM-X and Gö-6983, but equally blocked by the PKA inhibitor KT-5720 or the EPAC inhibitor ESI-09 (Fig. 2E), providing additional hints for the involvement of  $\beta$ -AR rather than  $\alpha$ -AR. To further elucidate the contribution of  $\alpha$ -AR and  $\beta$ -AR subtypes, we inhibited NE-induced CREB activation with increasing concentrations of either the  $\beta_2$ -AR selective antagonist ICI118,551, the  $\beta_3$ -AR selective antagonist SR59230A or the  $\alpha$ -AR antagonist phentholamine (Fig. 2F). Concentration-response curves with ICI118,551 or SR59230A reflected a high- and low-affinity state with almost identical fractions, indicating that NE-induced activation of the CREB reporter is mediated by  $\beta_2$ -AR and  $\beta_3$ -AR in mHypoA-2/10 cells. In line with these data, phentholamine had no inhibitory actions on NE-induced CREB activation.

Temperature does not affect binding of NE or Sal to  $\beta_2$ -AR in mHypoA-2/10 cells. Ligand receptor interactions depend on the enthalpy of the reaction, which is strongly temperaturedependent (Reynolds and Holloway, 2011). Thus, we tested whether temperature would affect competition binding of NE and <sup>125</sup>I-CYP. To this end, we prepared membrane fractions of cells cultured at 37 °C and performed ligand binding experiments for 1 h at 36 or 38 °C. As shown in figure 3A, temperature did not affect competition binding between NE and  $^{125}$ I-CYP (IC<sub>50</sub>: 1.8 ± 0.06 µM at 36 °C; IC<sub>50</sub>: 2.1 ± 0.08 µM at 38 °C), suggesting that increased NE-induced CREB reporter activation at 36 °C is not due to enhanced binding affinity of NE and β-AR. Similarly, binding of Sal to mHypoA-2/10 cells was also insensitive to temperature changes (Fig. 3B). Of note, competition binding curves with Sal were biphasic. CYP binds to the  $\beta_2$ -AR with a KD of ~10 pM and to the  $\beta_3$ -AR with ~500 pM (Niclauss et al., 2006). Therefore, the high-affinity site might be attributed to the  $\beta_2$ -AR and the low-affinity site to the  $\beta_3$ -AR. However, the <sup>125</sup>I-CYP concentration used (75 pM) was most probably not sufficient to detect significant amounts of the  $\beta_3$ -AR (calculated occupancy  $\leq 13$  %). In line with this notion, the saturation binding curve with <sup>125</sup>I-CYP shown in figure 2B exhibited only one phase.  $\beta_2$ -AR form inactive (R) and active (R\*) conformations. Agonists preferentially bind to and thereby stabilize R\* (Samama et al., 1993). Thus, biphasic competition curves of Sal could also reflect R and R\* of the  $\beta_2$ -AR. Formation of R\* is a thermodynamic process which may be altered by physiological temperature changes. However, no different R to R\* ratios were apparent at 36 and 38 °C, indicative of a lack of effects of temperature on R to R\* isomerization. In order to substantiate this finding, we aimed at defining this relationship more precisely. R\* is not only stabilized by agonists but also by the GDP-bound form of the G protein, which can be permanently transferred into the GTP-bound form by the GTP-analogue Gpp(NH)p (Lotti et al., 1982; Samama et al., 1993). Hence, the Gpp(NH)p-sensitive receptor population corresponds to R\*. We pretreated membranes with 10  $\mu$ M Gpp(NH)p and performed competition binding experiments with <sup>125</sup>I-CYP and Sal at 36 and 38 °C. In the absence of the GTP analogue, we obtained almost identical biphasic competition curves at both temperatures, suggesting that physiological temperature changes do not affect the isomerization between R and R\* of the  $\beta_2$ -AR in mHypoA-2/10 cells (Fig. 3C&D, Tab. 1). Moreover, Gpp(NH)p decreased the high-affinity state for Sal equally at both temperatures (Tab. 1), further strengthening the assumption that temperatures between 36 and 38°C do not affect agonist binding to the  $\beta_2$ -AR in mHypoA-2/10 cells.

 $\beta_2$ -AR-induced cytosolic cAMP accumulation is enhanced at 36 °C in mHypoA-2/10 cells. Next, we monitored temperature sensitivity of  $\beta_2$ -AR-induced cytosolic cAMP accumulation in the presence of the non-selective PDE inhibitor IBMX for 1 h. As shown in figure 4A and B, NEand Sal-promoted cytosolic cAMP accumulation was enhanced at 36 °C. At 36 °C, the x-fold over basal value increased from 8.3  $\pm$  3.9 to 13.5  $\pm$  6.5 for NE and from 10.8  $\pm$  4.4 to 17.5  $\pm$  10.9 for Sal compared to 38 °C. When normalized to the response at 38 °C, efficacy of NE-induced cAMP accumulation was enhanced by  $52 \pm 27$  % and of Sal by  $62 \pm 32$  %. Interestingly, when cAMP accumulation was induced by FSK, enhanced efficacy at 36 °C was also observed (Fig. 4C). However, these effects were significantly less pronounced compared to those of NE or Sal (Fig. 4C). Our data implicate sensitivity of  $\beta_2$ -AR-mediated cAMP accumulation towards physiological temperature fluctuations with increased activity at cooler temperatures. Thus, we next tested how  $\beta_2$ -AR-induced cAMP accumulation at 36 and 38 °C would compare to 37 °C. As shown in figure 4D, at 36 °C, NE- and Sal-promoted cAMP accumulation was significantly increased compared to 37 °C and decreased at 38 °C, indicating an inverse correlation between temperature and  $\beta_2$ -AR-induced cAMP accumulation. We next performed concentration response curves with NE in order to analyze effects of temperature on agonist potency (Fig. 4E). E<sub>max</sub> increased from 7.5  $\pm$  0.3 (cAMP/ATP ratio) at 38 °C to 10.5  $\pm$  0.4 at 36 °C, whereas the EC<sub>50</sub> values remained unchanged (3.8  $\pm$  0.07  $\mu$ M at 36 °C and 4.1  $\pm$  0.06  $\mu$ M at 38 °C). Thus, temperature apparently affected  $E_{max}$  but not EC<sub>50</sub> values of NE in mHypoA-2/10 cells, which is in line with the observation that temperature did not affect NE binding to the  $\beta_2$ -AR in these cells (Fig. 3A).

Temperature sensitivity of NE-induced cAMP efflux from mHypoA-2/10 cells. In order to further dissect the cellular events leading to NE-induced cytosolic cAMP accumulation at lower temperatures, we determined the kinetics of this process at 37 °C. As shown in figure 5A, NE-induced cAMP accumulation peaked at ~ 20 min, but strongly declined afterwards. In fact, between 20 and 60 min of accumulation 57 % of the cAMP was lost. One explanation for this phenomenon may relate to the export of cAMP via transmembrane transporters (Godinho et al., 2015). When cAMP levels in the supernatants of the same samples shown in figure 5A were analyzed, a steady increase in extracellular cAMP was observed (Fig. 5B). Extracellular cAMP levels induced by NE were almost completely diminished when cAMP transporters of the ATP-binding cassette subfamily C (ABCC) were blocked by 100  $\mu$ M indomethacin (Fig. 5C), indicating that the measured extracellular cAMP levels were the result of cAMP efflux (Low et al., 2020). When compiling NE-induced cAMP efflux (Fig. 5B) and cytosolic cAMP accumulation (Fig. 5A), we obtained total cAMP production (Fig. 5D), which now showed a decrease between 20 and 60 min of 28 %. Thus around half of the amount of the cAMP, which is lost from the cytosol between 20 and 60 min of NE stimulation, is found in the supernatant.

Temperature effects on the cAMP efflux may account for enhanced cytosolic cAMP accumulation at 36 °C. Therefore, we monitored cytosolic cAMP accumulation and efflux after 20 and 60 min of NE stimulation at 36 and 38 °C. As expected, we found enhanced cAMP levels in the cytosol at 36 °C after 20 and 60 min (Fig. 6A). Interestingly, NE-induced cAMP efflux was similar after 20 min but increased after 60 min at 36 compared to 38 °C (Fig. 6B). Assuming that cAMP efflux depends on the cytosolic cAMP concentration and is temperature-independent, the ratio of cAMP efflux and cytosolic cAMP accumulation (rEC-cAMP) is constant. However, we observed a significantly higher rEC-cAMP at 38 (1.52  $\pm$  0.14) compared to 36 °C (1.08  $\pm$  0.19) after 60 min (Fig. 6C). The latter observation suggests that, the probability of a cAMP molecule to be exported after NE stimulation is higher at 38 as compared to 36 °C. Such an elevated export at 38 °C may contribute to enhanced cytosolic cAMP accumulation at 36 °C, there was no loss of the cyclic nucleotide (Fig. 6D). In contrast, at 38 °C total cAMP production was still significantly reduced by 27 % between 20 and 60 min (Fig. 6D).

Enhanced NE-induced cAMP degradation in mHypoA-2/10 cells at 38 °C. All cAMP accumulation experiments presented so far, were performed in the presence of the non-selective PDE inhibitor IBMX, suggesting that cAMP degradation is significantly inhibited. However, because there was still a significant amount of cAMP missing between 20 and 60 min at 38 °C (Fig. 6D), we wondered whether altered PDE activity might nevertheless contribute to the effects of temperature on NE-induced cAMP accumulation. First, we analyzed a role of the IBMXindependent PDE-8 subtype in this process. Selective inhibition of PDE-8 did not contribute to NE-induced cAMP accumulation (Fig. S1), questioning a role for this PDE subtype in the temperature-sensitive signaling of NE. Next, we performed cAMP degradation experiments by incubating exogenous <sup>3</sup>H-cAMP for different time periods (10 to 60 min) with homogenates of mHypoA-2/10 cells at 37 °C. As shown in figure 7A, <sup>3</sup>H-cAMP levels decreased over time in the absence but not in the presence of IBMX and significant <sup>3</sup>H-cAMP degradation was observed after 20 min onwards. We next stimulated cells with NE for 30 min at 37 °C without IBMX and then detected <sup>3</sup>H-cAMP degradation in the same homogenates at 36 or 38 °C after 20 min. At both temperatures significantly less <sup>3</sup>H-cAMP was recovered compared to the input (Fig. 7B). Interestingly, the amount of recovered <sup>3</sup>H-cAMP was significantly less at 38 compared to 36 °C. When <sup>3</sup>H-cAMP degradation was calculated as percentage of the corresponding input, degradation increased significantly from 12.7  $\pm$  6.5 % at 36 °C to 21.2  $\pm$  6.3 % at 38 °C (Fig. 7C), indicating that PDE activity in NE-stimulated mHypoA-2/10 cells is promoted by physiological temperature increases, resulting in enhanced NE-induced cytosolic cAMP accumulation at 36 °C.

**Basal and NE-induced thyreoliberin promoter activity in mHypoA-2/10 cells is enhanced at 36** °C. Herein, we report that transcriptional activity of CREB and STAT is enhanced at 36 °C (Fig. 1). The promoter of the thyreoliberin gene exhibits binding sites for CREB and STAT (Harris et al., 2001). Thus, enhanced activity of these transcription factors at 36 °C could in turn enhance the thyreoliberin promoter. We used mHypoA-2/10 cells expressing a thyreoliberin promoter reporter construct and measured promoter activity at 36 and 38 °C over 1 to 4 h. As shown in figure 8A, basal thyreoliberin promoter activity increased at 36 and decreased at 38 °C. After 4 h, promoter activity was significantly different (748 ± 273 RLU at 36 °C versus 409 ± 135 RLU at 38 °C). NE has also been shown to induce thyreoliberin mRNA expression in the

*PVN* (Grimm and Reichlin, 1973). Thus, we also stimulated thyreoliberin promoter expressing cells for 1 to 4 h with 10  $\mu$ M NE at either 36 or 38 °C (Fig. 8B). NE enhanced thyreoliberin promoter activity at each time point and temperature. Noteworthy, after 3 h, x-fold over basal values significantly increased from 0.8 ± 0.3 at 38 to 1.4 ± 0.5 at 36 °C.

Temperature affects Gs- rather the Gq-induced CREB activation. So far we provide new data indicating that hormone-induced activation of CREB-dependent transcription is increased at 36 °C, because of enhanced PDE activity and cAMP efflux at 38 °C. In this model, cAMPdependent but not -independent CREB activation should be temperature insensitive. In order to analyze the correlation between the signaling pathway leading to CREB activation and temperature sensitivity, we compared CREB activity by the adenosine A2B receptor agonist BAY60-6583 and BK. Both ligands induced significant activation of the CREB reporter of 4.5  $\pm$ 1.5 and 5.6  $\pm$  2.0 respectively at 37 ° C (Fig. 9A). As already shown in figure 2B, BK induced Ca<sup>2+</sup>-signals in hypothalamic cells, suggesting that BK activates rather Gq then Gs proteins. In contrast, adenosine A2B receptor more likely engage with Gs proteins. In line with these assumptions, BAY60-6583 but not BK induced cAMP accumulation in mHypoA-2/10 cells (Fig. 9B) and BK-mediated CRE activity was blunted by the PKC inhibitors BIM-X and Gö6983 (Fig. 9C). Interestingly, when effects of temperature were analyzed on BAY60-6583- and BK-induced CREB activation, enhanced activity was observed at 36 °C for BAY60-6583 but not for BK (Fig. 9D). Hence, we put forward a model in which temperature affects specifically Gs- and not Gqpromoted CREB activation, which is in line with the observed effects of temperature on PDE activity and cAMP efflux.

**36** °C enhanced NE- or Sal-induced cAMP accumulation in various cell lines. Our data obtained in mHypoA-2/10 cells raise the question, whether temperature effects on  $\beta_2$ -AR-induced cAMP signaling is restricted to these cells or a rather common phenomenon. Thus, we aimed at analyzing the temperature sensitivity of NE- and Sal-induced cAMP accumulation in a second hypothalamic cell line (mHypoA-2/12 cells), in lung cells (H1299 cells), in keratinocytes (HaCaT cells) and in primary human bronchial smooth muscle cells (HBSMC). First, we determined NE-induced cAMP accumulation at 37 °C, in order to compare efficacy of NE in these cells (Fig 10A). We found a rank order of efficacy of HaCaT >> H1299 > HBMSC = mHypoA-2/10 =

mHypoA-2/12. When cAMP accumulation obtained at 38 °C was set to 100 %, efficacy of NE at 36 °C significantly increased to  $123 \pm 14$  % in mHypoA-2/12 cells, to  $114 \pm 15$  % in H1299 cells and to  $115 \pm 15$  % in HBSMC. Efficacy of Sal was significantly enhanced to  $120 \pm 8$  % in mHypoA-2/12 cells and to  $122 \pm 22$  % in H1299 cells (Fig 10 B-E).

#### Discussion

Although it is established, that CBT fluctuates  $\pm 1$  °C, most of our knowledge about cellular signaling induced by hormones is based on data obtained with cells analyzed at the average CBT of 37 °C. Cellular signaling is the result of consecutive interactions of small molecules with proteins, protein-protein interactions and enzymatic reactions. Each of these steps is potentially temperature-dependent and even small effects on each single level could sum up to significant effects at the end of the signaling pathway.

Herein, we used a murine hypothalamic cell line (mHypoA-2/10 cells) as an *in vitro* model system and cell incubators with a temperature accuracy that allowed challenging cells with temperature changes in the physiological range of  $\pm 1$  °C with the average CBT as the baseline. A span in temperature changes of  $\pm 1$  °C seems reasonable, because it is well in the range of the CBT changes observed in mice and humans and an established protocol in order to mimic changes in CBT *in vitro* (Breit et al., 2018; Buhr et al., 2010; Refinetti and Menaker, 1992). We have chosen mHypoA-2/10 cells because they have previously been shown to be temperature-sensitive, when the promoter of the clock gene BMAL1 was used as a read-out (Breit et al., 2018). Secondly, these cells show several characteristics of *PVN* neurons, which have been reported to express high levels of  $\beta$ -AR (Breit et al., 2015; Little et al., 1992). Here, we report firstly, based on mRNA analysis and the use of subtype specific agonists and antagonists, that  $\beta_2$ - and  $\beta_3$ -AR subtypes are endogenously expressed in mHypoA-2/10 cells at levels that allow to study ligand binding, cAMP signaling and gene reporter activity induced by catecholamines in their natural, cellular environment. Hence, we exposed these cells to temperatures that mimic changes in CBT and analyzed the pharmacodynamics of NE.

We found that affinity and potency of NE is temperature-independent, whereas efficacy to induce cytosolic cAMP accumulation was enhanced at 36 °C compared to 37 °C and even more pronounced when compared to 38 °C. Binding assays were performed when ligand binding reached equilibrium. Thus, at this point, we cannot exclude that the kinetics of agonist binding to the  $\beta_2$ -AR (e.g. association or dissociation constants) are temperature-dependent. Furthermore, based on the low affinity of the  $\beta_3$ -AR to the radiolabeled tracer used, we cannot comment on the

temperature sensitivity of the agonist binding to this receptor subtype. We also cannot exclude a role for G protein or AC activity in the temperature sensitivity of NE-induced cAMP accumulation. The independence of the Gpp(NH)p-sensitive fraction to temperature observed in the displacement experiment with Sal (Fig. 3, Tab. 1), suggests that agonist-induced interactions between  $\beta_2$ -AR and G proteins might be temperature-independent. Similarly, temperature sensitivity of NE-induced cAMP accumulation was not affected by the G<sub>i/o</sub> inhibitor *pertussis toxin* (data not shown). However, further studies with direct measurements of G protein and AC activity induced by NE are required to define finally the role for these processes in the temperature dependence of NE-induced cAMP accumulation.

Cytosolic cAMP accumulation is the result of cAMP production by AC and degradation by PDE. Because we performed the cAMP accumulation assay in the presence of IBMX, a role for PDE in the temperature dependence of NE-induced cAMP accumulation seemed unlikely. However, based on the data shown in figure 6D, it appeared that PDE inhibition was not complete. Thus, we validated sensitivity of PDE towards temperature by performing PDE activity assays. Here, we found that <sup>3</sup>H-cAMP degradation in the homogenates of cells stimulated with NE is significantly higher at 38 compared to 36 °C. Noteworthy, in these experiments, NE stimulation was performed at 37 °C and the same pool of homogenates was used to detect degradation at 36 and 38 °C, excluding potential effects of temperature on the processes leading to cAMP production (e.g. G protein or AC activity). Hence, we provide significant new data indicating that cAMP degradation in NE-challenged hypothalamic cells is increased at 38 compared to 36 °C. This model raises the question of the identity of the temperature-sensitive PDE subtype. mRNA-Seq data revealed expression of 8 different PDE subtypes (PDE1a, PDE1b, PDE3b, PDE4a, PDE4b, PDE7a, PDE8a, PDE12) in mHypoA-2/10 cells with a RPKM  $\geq$  2.0. Hence, any of these PDE subtypes could potentially be temperature-sensitive. Further studies using specific siRNA and small molecule inhibitors are required to determine the PDE subtype(s) responsible for the temperature sensitivity of NE-induced cAMP signaling. Of note, recent studies advanced our understanding of cAMP signaling by revealing that distinct intracellular cAMP pools have specific signaling properties (Zaccolo et al., 2021). Different intracellular expression patterns of distinct PDE subtypes contribute to these cytosolic cAMP pools. Thus, specific effects of temperature on certain PDE subtypes in particular areas of the cell could lead to exclusive temperature dependence of cAMP signaling within these areas. The use of cAMP dependent FRET probes and confocal microscopes could help to reveal these specific effects of temperature on particular cAMP pools within the cell (Adams et al., 1991).

We postulate that other processes besides PDE activity are also responsible for the temperature sensitivity of NE-induced cAMP signaling. Similar to other cell types, we observed NE-induced efflux from mHypoA-2/10 cells (Godinho et al., 2015). Interestingly, NE-induced net cAMP efflux was higher at 36 compared to 38 °C after 60 min but not after 20 min (Fig. 6B). However, after NE stimulation the rEC-cAMP was higher at 38 °C. This increased rEC-cAMP value may reflect an enhanced efflux at 38 °C, a factor that could also account for enhanced cytosolic cAMP concentrations at 36 °C. We developed a model in figure 10, which suggests that a combination of enhanced PDE and ABCC activity at 38 °C determines NE-induced signaling, such that the cytosolic cAMP concentration is increased at 36 °C but the rEC-cAMP at 38 °C. However, further studies using siRNA against distinct ABCC subtypes are required to validate finally their contribution to the enhanced NE-induced cytosolic cAMP accumulation and their interplay with PDEs. At this point, the physiological role of cAMP efflux from hypothalamic cells is unknown. In other tissues, extracellular cAMP has been shown to be converted into adenosine and thus to activate members of the adenosine receptor family (Godinho et al., 2015). Assuming a similar role of extracellular cAMP in the interstitium of hypothalamic neurons, temperature may appear as a significant modulator of this process. Which might be of particular interest when considering the importance of the adenosine-1-receptor subtype in the *PVN* (Wu et al., 2017).

Here we provide new evidence that physiological temperature alterations modulate basal CREBor STAT-dependent reporter activity in hypothalamic cells. Thyreoliberin mRNA levels peak at the end of the resting "cool" phase (Covarrubias et al., 1988). However, it is not fully understood which signal pathways control circadian thyreoliberin expression on the level of the promoter. The thyreoliberin promoter contains cAMP and STAT sites and thyreoliberin mRNA levels in the hypothalamus peak at the end of the resting "cool" phase (Covarrubias et al., 1988; Harris et al., 2001). Thus, assuming that temperature-sensitive CREB and/or STAT activity translates into altered thyreoliberin promoter activity, our data provide an interesting new molecular basis for circadian expression of thyreoliberin. This notion is supported by our data, showing that basal thyreoliberin promoter activity is indeed enhanced at 36 °C. However, it needs further investigations to dissect whether or not temperature-sensitivity of either CREB or STAT is responsible for the enhanced thyreoliberin promoter activity. So far, it has been reported that the NE system is less active in the resting state because AR expression and NE serum levels are reduced at cooler temperature (Kafka et al., 1981; Leach and Suzuki, 2020; Pangerl et al., 1990). Our data, indicating that efficacy of NE is increased at 36 °C, suggest that despite decreased receptor and hormone levels in the resting phase, the impact of NE on cAMP signaling might even be increased. However, it requires animal experiments to analyze 1) if NE-induced cAMP accumulation is also enhanced in the resting state *in vivo* and 2) if this increase compensates for the reduced hormone and receptor levels. Here we provide first data, showing that in the presence of NE thyreoliberin promoter activity is significantly higher at 36 compared to 38 °C. Thus, enhanced efficacy of NE in the resting state could contribute to increased thyreoliberin promoter activity in this state.

We present first evidence indicating that physiologically-relevant temperature fluctuations affect catecholamine-induced signaling in murine, hypothalamic mHypoA-2/10 cells. These data raise the question of how specific these effects are. We found several indications that temperature changes in the range of  $\pm$  1 °C do not affect overall signaling. Temperature affected 1) basal STAT- and CREB- but not FOXO activity, 2) NE-, FSK, and BAY60-658 but not BK-induced CREB or IFN $\gamma$ -promoted STAT activation and 3) NE-induced cAMP accumulation but not ligand binding. Hence, we suggest that temperature specifically affects Gs- and not Gq-promoted CREB activation, due to the observed effects of temperature on PDE activity and cAMP efflux. In this context it might be worth mentioning, that temperature enhanced efficacy of Sal by 62  $\pm$  33 % and of NE by 45  $\pm$  27 % (p-value = 0.04, t-test), suggesting that temperature might even affect distinct  $\beta_2$ -AR agonists differently. This may be related to the selectivity of Sal to the  $\beta_2$ -AR in contrast to the unselective interaction of NE with  $\beta_2$ - and  $\beta_3$ -AR, in particular, when considering that both receptors are expressed in mHypoA-2/10 cells. However, it requires further studies to dissect the temperature-sensitivity of different  $\beta$ -AR ligand receptor pairs.

Our data obtained in one hypothalamic cell line raise also the question, whether this effect is restricted to these cells or an overall phenomenon. We further tested efficacy of NE and Sal to

induce cAMP accumulation in a second hypothalamic cell line, in lung cells, in keratinocytes and primary bronchial smooth muscle cells. With the exception of the keratinocytes, all cells exhibited significantly increased efficacy of NE at 36 °C and hypothalamic and lung cells also for Sal. Although these effects were less pronounced, physiological temperature alterations may function as a general regulator of catecholamine-induced cAMP signaling.

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# **Authorship Contributions**

Participated in research design: Faro, Boekhoff, Gudermann, Breit

Conducted experiments: Faro, Breit

Performed data analysis: Faro, Breit

Wrote or contributed to the writing of the manuscript: Faro, Boekhoff, Gudermann, Breit

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#### **LEGENDS FOR FIGURES**

**Figure 1.** *Temperature sensitivity of BMAL, CREB, STAT or FOXO activity in mHypoA-2/10 cells.* Basal reporter activity of BMAL1- (A), FOXO- (B), STAT- (C and E) or CREB-dependent (D and F) luciferase reporter was detected after 2, 4 or 8 h at 36, 37 or 38 °C. Data were normalized by setting data obtained at 37 °C to 100 %. Blue symbols present data obtained at 36

°C, red symbols data at 38 °C. Results are expressed as the mean  $\pm$  S.D. of 6 independent experiments performed in triplicates. Asterisks indicate significant differences between 36 and 38 °C using two-way ANOVA with Šidák's post-hoc test. Hash signs indicate significant differences to 37 °C (set to 100 %) using one-sample t-test. In (E), cells were first exposed to 36 or 38 °C for 4 h, then stimulated with IFN $\gamma$  (100 nM) and in (F) with 10  $\mu$ M NE or 10  $\mu$ M FSK for additional 4 h and x-fold over basal calculated. Results are expressed as the mean  $\pm$  S.D. of 4 independent experiments performed in quadruplicates. Differences between 36 and 38 °C were analyzed using two-ANOVA with Šidák's post-hoc test.

**Figure 2.** *mHypoA-2/10 cells express*  $\beta_2$ -*AR and*  $\beta_3$ -*AR*. In (A) RPKM-values for  $\alpha_1$ -,  $\alpha_2$ - and  $\beta$ -AR are shown as the mean  $\pm$  S.D. RNAs from six distinct cell pools were used. In (B), aequorin expressing cells were stimulated with the indicated ligand by automatic injection at time point 5 s. In (C) saturation-binding experiments with total membrane fractions (20 µg) are shown. <sup>125</sup>I-CYP (3.125 - 400 pM) was either used alone (total binding) or together with 10 µM propranolol (unspecific binding). Receptor-bound <sup>125</sup>I-CYP was calculated by subtracting unspecific from total binding. Results of 3 independent experiments performed in triplicates are expressed as the mean ± S.D. Data were fitted using a non-linear fit (one-site specific binding). In (D to E) data using cells stably expressing the CREB-dependent luciferase reporter are shown. In (D) serumstarved cells were stimulated or not for 4 h at 37 °C with either NE (10 µM), ISO (10 µM) or Sal (100 nM). Cells were then lysed, luciferase activity determined and x-fold over basal calculated. Data of 5 independent experiments performed in quadruplicates are expressed as the mean  $\pm$  S.D. In (E), cells were pre-incubated for 30 min with 10 µM of the PKC inhibitors BIM-X or Gö-6983, the PKA inhibitor KT-5720 or the EPAC inhibitor ESI-09. In (F) serum-starved cells were stimulated for 4 h at 37 °C with either NE (10 µM) alone or together with increasing concentrations of ICI118551, SR59230A or phentholamine. Cells were then lysed, luciferase activity determined and data obtained with NE alone set to 100 %. All other signals were calculated as percentage. Data of 6 independent experiments performed in triplicates were expressed as the mean  $\pm$  S.D. and analyzed by a non-linear fit (two-site fit logIC<sub>50</sub>).

**Figure 3.** Competition binding with membranes from mHypoA-2/10 cells at distinct temperatures. Competition-binding experiments with total membrane fractions (20  $\mu$ g) and <sup>125</sup>I-

CYP (75 pM) performed for 1 h at 36 °C (blue symbols) or at 38 °C (red symbols) are shown. In (A) increasing concentrations of NE and in (B-D) of Sal were used to detect specific binding. The total <sup>125</sup>I-CYP binding in the absence of any agonist was set to 100 %, and all other values calculated as percentage. In C and D membranes were pre-incubated or not with 10  $\mu$ M of Gpp(NH)p. Data of 3 (A and B) or 4 (C and D) independent experiments performed in triplicates were expressed as the mean  $\pm$  S.D and fitted using a non-linear fit (one-site logIC<sub>50</sub> in A or two-site fit logIC<sub>50</sub> in B to D). Parameters of the binding curves are given in Tab. 1.

**Figure 4.** *NE- or Sal-induced cAMP accumulation is enhanced at 36* °C. cAMP accumulation was determined for 1 h with 1 mM IBMX alone or with NE, FSK (both 10  $\mu$ M) or Sal (100 nM) in A to D. In (E) increasing concentrations of NE were used. Blue bars present data obtained at 36 °C, red bars data at 38 °C and black bars at 37 °C. In (A and E) data are presented as the ratio cAMP/ cAMP + ATP, in (B) as x-fold over basal in (C) data obtained at 38 °C and in (D) at 37 °C were set to 100 %. Data of 7 (A-C), 3 (D) or 4 (E) independent experiments performed in triplicates were expressed as the mean  $\pm$  S.D. Data shown in A to C are the same. Two-way ANOVA followed by Šidák's post-hoc test was used to determine statistical differences. In (E) data were fitted using a non-linear fit (log<sub>agonist</sub> vs response variable slope; four parameters)

**Figure 5.** *NE-induced cytosolic cAMP accumulation and efflux.* In (A) cytosolic cAMP accumulation for 10, 20, 40 or 60 min with 1 mM IBMX alone or with 10  $\mu$ M NE was detected at 37 °C. In (B) cAMP levels in the supernatants of the same samples are shown. In (C) cAMP levels in the supernatants of cells stimulated with 1 mM IBMX and 10  $\mu$ M NE are shown in the presence or not of 100  $\mu$ M indomethacin. In (D) data from (A) and (B) were compiled. Data of 4 independent experiments performed in triplicates were expressed as the mean  $\pm$  S.D. One-way ANOVA followed by Tukey's post-hoc test was used in (A, B and D) and unpaired t-test in (C) to determine statistical differences.

**Figure 6.** *NE-induced cytosolic cAMP accumulation and efflux are temperature-sensitive.* Cytosolic cAMP accumulation (A) and efflux (B) induced by 10  $\mu$ M NE in the presence of 1 mM IBMX was measured for 20 and 60 min at 36 or 38 °C. In (C) ratios of cAMP efflux and cytosolic cAMP accumulation (rEC-cAMP) at 20 or 60 min were calculated. In (D), data from

(A) and (B) were compiled. Blue bars present data obtained at 36 °C, red bars data at 38 °C. Data of 4 independent experiments performed in triplicates were expressed as the mean  $\pm$  S.D. Two-way ANOVA followed by Šidák's post-hoc test (A-C) or Tukey's post-hoc test (D) was used to determine statistical differences.

**Figure 7.** *NE-induced* <sup>3</sup>*H-cAMP degradation is enhanced at* 38 °C. In (A) <sup>3</sup>H-cAMP degradation in homogenates from unstimulated cells was measured for 10, 20, 40 or 60 min with or without 1 mM IBMX at 37 °C. As a control (input) the same amount of <sup>3</sup>H-cAMP was incubated without homogenates and also purified. No statistical differences between homogenates with IBMX and the input control were observed (data not shown). In (B and C) <sup>3</sup>H-cAMP degradation in homogenates of cells treated with 10  $\mu$ M NE for 30 min at 37 °C without IBMX was measured for 20 min at 36 or 38 °C. Blue bars present data obtained at 36 °C, red bars data at 38 °C. In (B) raw data are shown as <sup>3</sup>H-cAMP in DPM. In (C) <sup>3</sup>H-cAMP degradation was calculated as percentage of the corresponding input control. 7 independent experiments performed in triplicates were expressed as the mean  $\pm$  S.D. Two-way ANOVA followed by Šidák's post-hoc test was used in (B) and two-tailed t-test in (C) to determine statistical differences.

**Figure 8.** Basal and NE-induced thyreoliberin promoter activity is increased at 36 °C. Thyreoliberin promoter activity was monitored using mHypoA-2/10 cells stably expressing a luciferase promoter construct encoding the rat thyreoliberin promoter. Basal and NE (10  $\mu$ M)-induced promoter activity was measured for 1, 2, 3 and 4 h at 36 °C (blue bars) or 38 °C (red bars). In (A) basal reporter activity is given in RLU. In (B) x-fold over basal values of NE-stimulated cells are provided. Data of 4 independent experiments performed in triplicates were expressed as the mean  $\pm$  S.D. Two-way ANOVA followed by Šidák's post-hoc test was used to determine statistical differences.

**Figure 9.** *BAY60-6583 but not BK-induced CREB activation is enhanced at 36* °C. In (A, B and D) data using cells stably expressing the CREB-dependent luciferase reporter are shown. In (C), ligand-induced cytosolic cAMP accumulation is given as x-fold of basal after stimulation of cells with BAY60-6583 or BK (both 1  $\mu$ M) at 37 °C for 30 min. Data of 4 independent experiments performed in triplicates are compiled as the mean  $\pm$  SD and two-tailed t-test performed to

determine statistical differences. In (A) CREB reporter expressing mHypoA-2/10 cells were stimulated for 4 h at 37 °C with BAY60-6583 or BK (both 1  $\mu$ M). Data of XXX independent experiments performed in triplicates are compiled as the mean  $\pm$  SD and two-tailed t-test performed to determine statistical differences. In (C) cells were pre-incubated with the PKC inhibitors BIM-X or Gö6983 (both 10  $\mu$ M) and the stimulated with BK (1  $\mu$ M) for 4 h at 37 °C. Data of 3 independent experiments performed in triplicates are compiled as the mean  $\pm$  SD and one-way ANOVA followed by Šidák's post-hoc test used to determine statistical differences. In (D) cells were either incubated for 4 h at 36 or 38 °C and then for additional 4 h stimulated with BAY60-6583 or BK (both 1  $\mu$ M). Bars in red indicate data obtained at 38 °C, bars in blue at 36 °C. Data obtained at 38 °C were set to 100 %. Two-tailed t-test was performed to determine statistical differences.

**Figure 10.** *NE- or Sal-induced cAMP accumulation is enhanced at 36* °*C in various cell lines.* cAMP accumulation was measured after stimulation of cells with NE (10  $\mu$ M) at 37 °C (A) or at 36 and 38 °C with NE (10  $\mu$ M) or Sal (100 nM) in B to E. In A data of 5 independent experiments performed in quadruplicates are compiled as the mean ± SD. In (B) mHypoA-2/12 cells, in (C) H1299 cells, in (D) primary human bronchial smooth muscle cells (HBSMC) and in (E) data of HaCaT cells are shown. Bars in red indicate data obtained at 38 °C, bars in blue at 36 °C. Data obtained at 38 °C were set to 100 %. Two-way ANOVA followed by Sidak's post-hoc test was used to determine statistical differences.

**Figure 11.** Increased temperature decrease NE-induced cytosolic cAMP accumulation by enhancing PDE activity and cAMP efflux. A model based on the data shown in Fig, 6 is depicted. Assuming that NE-induced cAMP production in mHypoA-2/10 cells is temperature-insensitive, we set the amount of original produced cAMP to 100 %. At 36 °C (blue path) no cAMP is degraded in the presence of the PDE inhibitor IBMX (1 mM). Thus, the entire cAMP pool is available for cAMP transporters. 52 % of this pool is exported and 48 % remains in the cell, resulting in a rEC-cAMP of 1.08. At 38 °C (red path) around 27 % of the produced cAMP is degraded, 44 % exported and 29 % remains in the cytosol. Thus, resulting in a rEC-cAMP of 1.52.

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<b>Tab 1</b> Competition-binding data of <sup>125</sup> I-CYP (75 pM) and Sal with 10 $\mu$ M Gpp(NH)p. Original	
binding curves are shown in figure 3C and D	

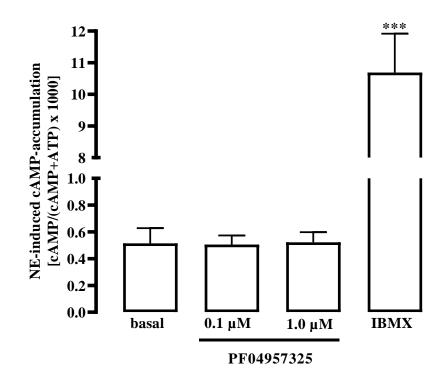
		36 °C		38 °C	
		IC <sub>50</sub> [pM]	fraction [%]	IC <sub>50</sub> [pM]	fraction [%]
control	High-affinity	3.4 ± 1.4	39 ± 2	5.6 ± 1.5	$38 \pm 2$
	state				
	Low-affinity	7,713 ± 657	61 ± 2	9,838 ± 1,450	$62 \pm 2$
	state				
ratio high-affinity to low-affinity state			0.64		0.62
Gpp(NH)p	High-affinity state	13 ± 2.4	$22 \pm 3$	$6.3 \pm 2.8$	$24 \pm 3$
	Low-affinity	9,398 ± 583	78 ± 3	12,830 ± 775	76 ± 3
	state	.,		-,	
ratio high-affinity to low-affinity state			0.28		0.31

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Physiological temperature changes fine-tune  $\beta_2$ -adrenergic receptor-induced cytosolic cAMP accumulation

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#### **Supplementary Figure S1**



# Figure S1. The selective PDE-8 blocker PF04957325 has no effect on NE-induced cAMP accumulation in mHypoA-2/10 cells

100,000 cells were seeded in 12-well dishes 48 h prior to the experiment and labelled in serum-free DMEM containing 1  $\mu$ Ci/ml of [<sup>3</sup>H]adenine as described above. Cells were stimulated for various 1 h in DMEM containing no inhibitor, 0.1 or 1.0  $\mu$ M PF049573251 or mM IBMX along with NE (10  $\mu$ M). The reaction was terminated by removing the medium and adding ice-cold 5 % trichloroacetic acid to the cells. [<sup>3</sup>H]ATP and [<sup>3</sup>H]cAMP were then purified by sequential chromatography (dowex-resin/aluminium oxide columns). [<sup>3</sup>H]cAMP accumulation was expressed as the ratio of [cAMP/(cAMP + ATP)] x 1000. Data of 4 independent experiments performed in triplicates were expressed as the mean  $\pm$  S.D. One-way ANOVA followed by Tukey's post-hoc test was used to determine statistical differences.