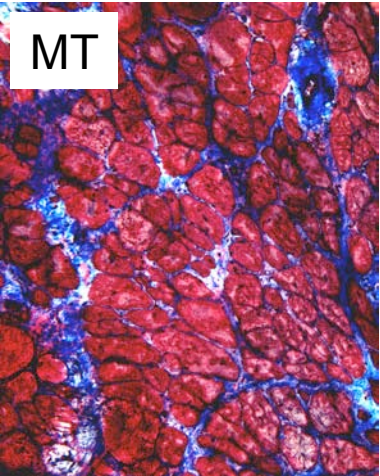
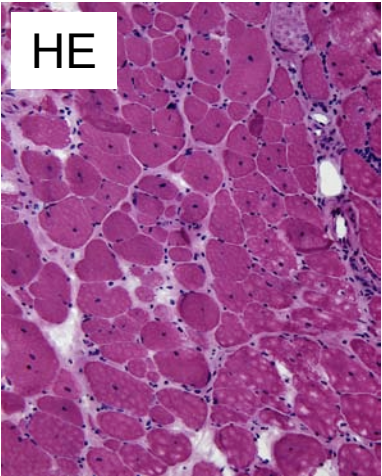
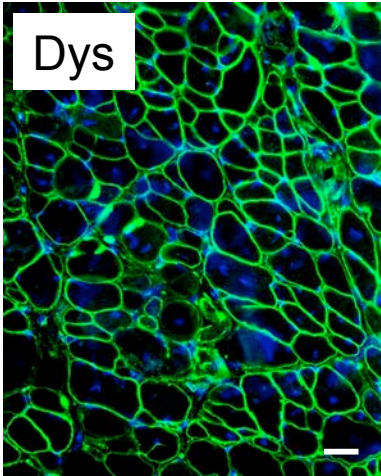
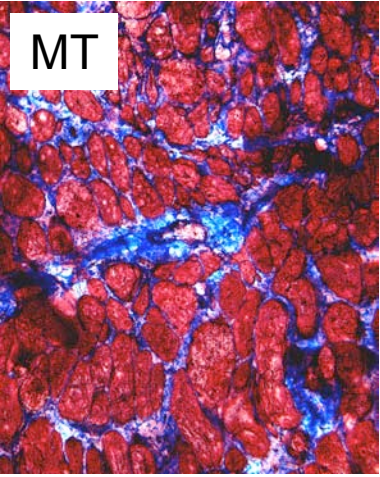
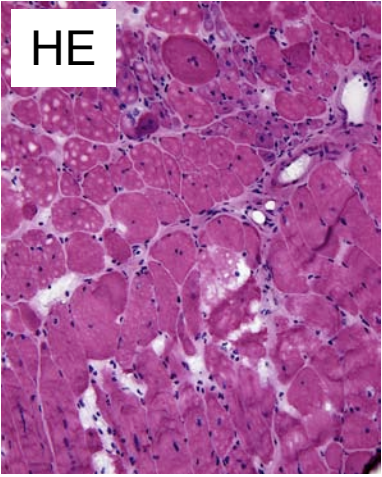
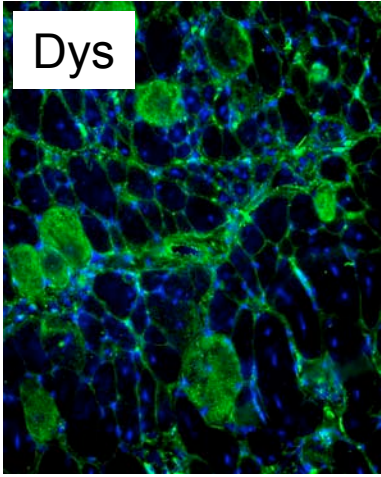


a

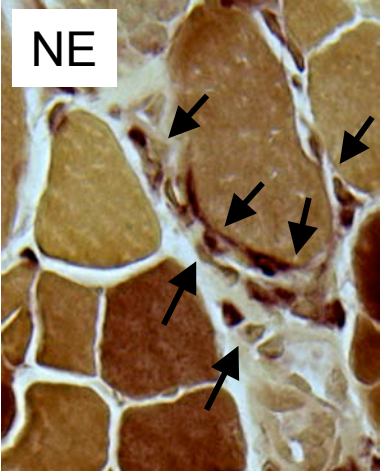
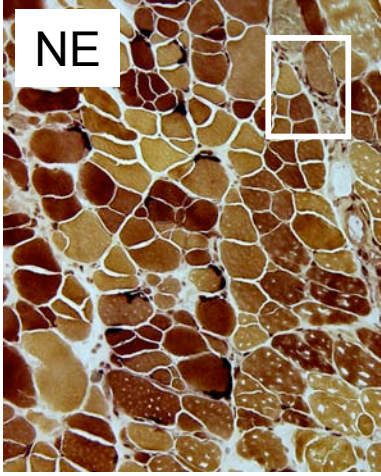
AV.Donor.60 +  
AV.Acceptor.60



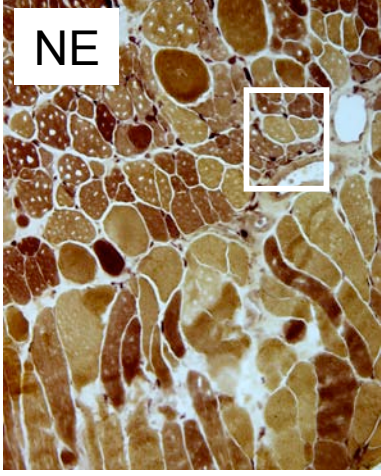
HEPES Buffer



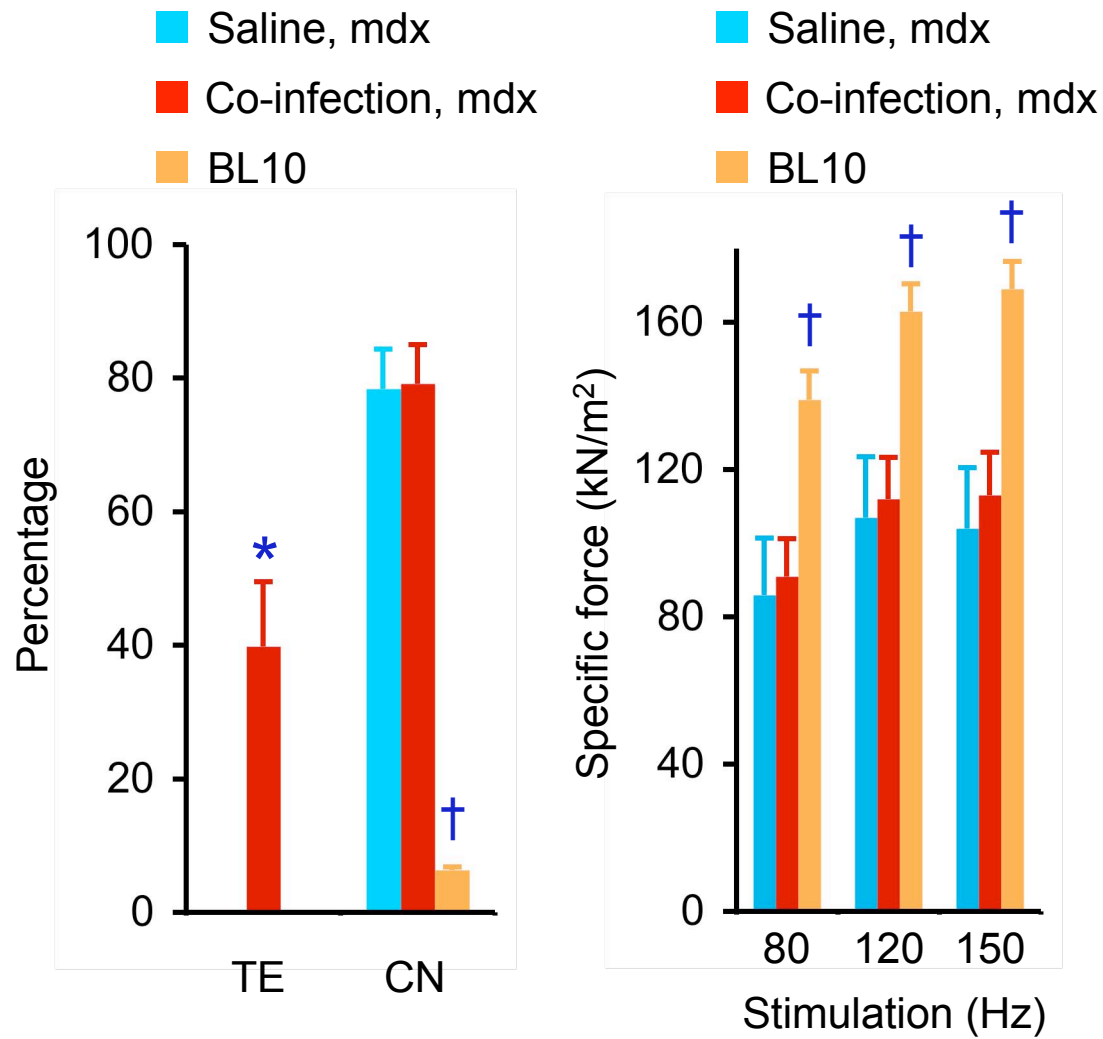
AV.Donor.60 +  
AV.Acceptor.60



HEPES Buffer



b



**Supplementary Figure 5. AV.Donor.60 and AV.Acceptor.60 co-infection in aged *mdx* EDL muscle does not reduce muscle pathology neither does it increase specific force.** The EDL muscles of 1-year-old *mdx* mice were co-infected with  $1.5 \times 10^{10}$  vg particles of AV.Donor.60 and AV.Acceptor.60 ( $7.5 \times 10^9$  vg particles each). Transgene expression, muscle pathology and muscle physiology were examined at six months later. **a**, Representative photomicrographs of the EDL muscles either co-infected with *trans*-splicing AAV vectors, or mock infected with HEPES saline. Serial sections were stained for human dystrophin N-terminal domain (Dys), HE, Masson trichrome (MT) and nonspecific esterase (NE). A closer view of the boxed regions in low power nonspecific esterase staining was used to reveal macrophage infiltration (arrow) in both AAV treated and saline-treated muscles. Scale bar, 50  $\mu$ m. **b**, Left panel, quantitative analysis of transduction efficiency ( $n = 6$  pairs, *mdx* muscle only) and central nucleation ( $n = 4$  pairs for *mdx* muscle,  $n = 3$  for BL10 muscle). TE, transduction efficiency; CN, central nucleation; Right panel, specific muscle force ( $n = 3$  for each group). Asterisk, the difference between co-infected muscle and mock-infected muscle was statistically significant according to paired *t* test. Cross, the results in BL10 muscle were significantly different from that in *mdx* muscle (both AAV infected and mock treated) according to oneway ANOVA and Bonferromi *post hoc* test.