



# A bioactive ginsenoside alleviates hepatocellular ferroptosis induced by oxidized phospholipid accumulation in nonalcoholic steatohepatitis.

Yibo Zong<sup>1</sup>, Guo Long<sup>2</sup>, Tiantian Gu<sup>1</sup>, Huang Pan<sup>3</sup>, Yong Tian<sup>1</sup>, Wenwu Xu<sup>1</sup>,  
Xiheng Hu<sup>2</sup>, Dazun Shi<sup>2</sup>, Lizhi Lu<sup>1</sup>, Tao Zeng<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Zhejiang Academy of Agricultural Science

<sup>2</sup>Xiangya Hospital, Central South University

<sup>3</sup>Jiangsu University

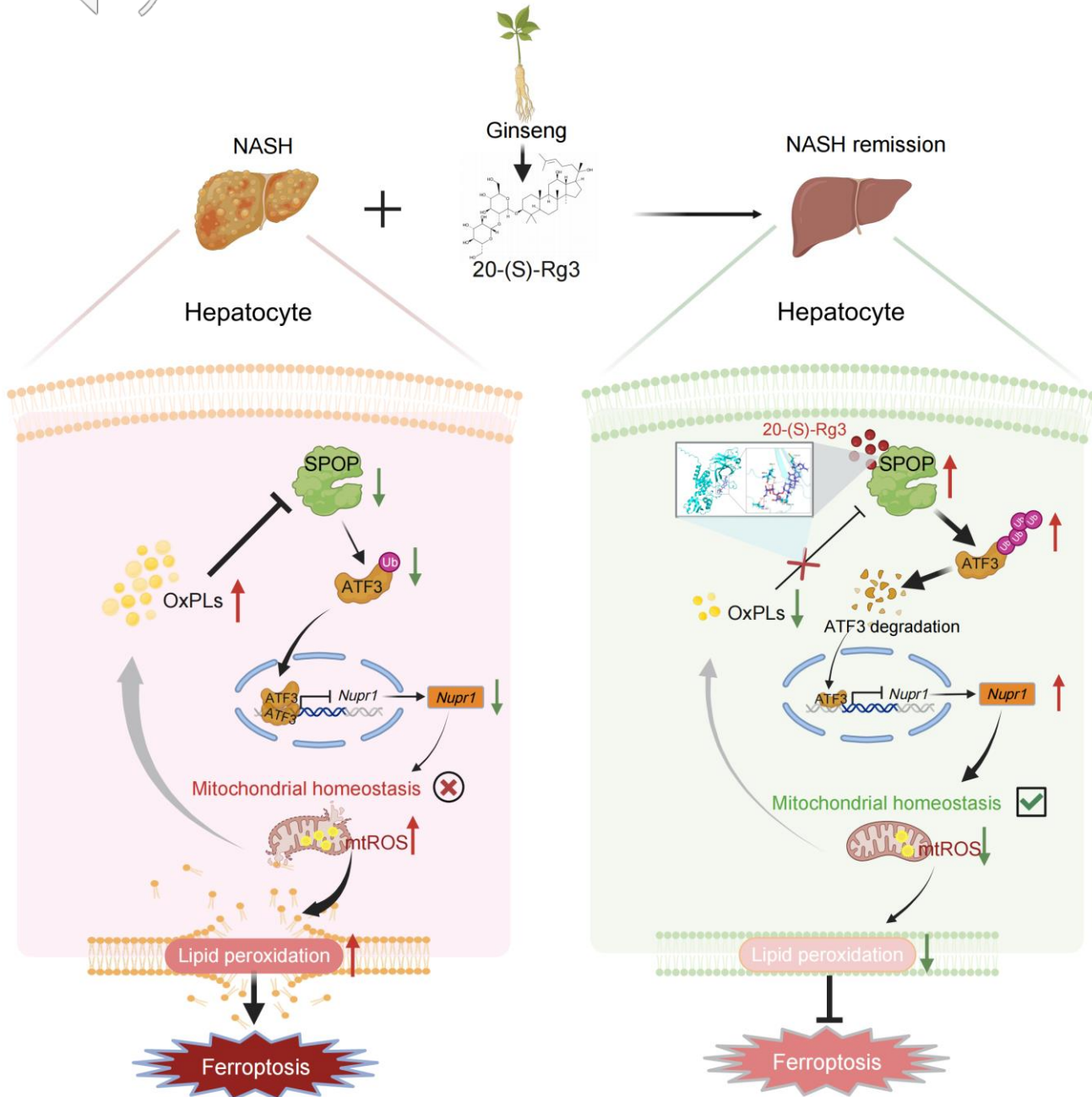


Yibo Zong, Guo Long, Tiantian Gu, Pan Huang, Yong Tian, Wenwu Xu, Xiheng Hu, et al. 2026. A Bioactive Ginsenoside Alleviates Hepatocellular Ferroptosis Induced by Oxidized Phospholipid Accumulation in Nonalcoholic Steatohepatitis.

*iMeta* 5: e70114. <https://doi.org/10.1002/imt2.70114>



# Introduction and Highlights



- The accumulation of OxPLs promotes the development of NASH, and 20(S)-Rg3 can reduce the content of OxPLs in mice.
- SPOP promotes ubiquitination of ATF3.
- 20(S)-Rg3 alleviates hepatocyte ferroptosis via the *Spop/Atf3/Nupr1* axis.

# 1. High-dose Rg3 ameliorates NASH and upregulates SPOP expression

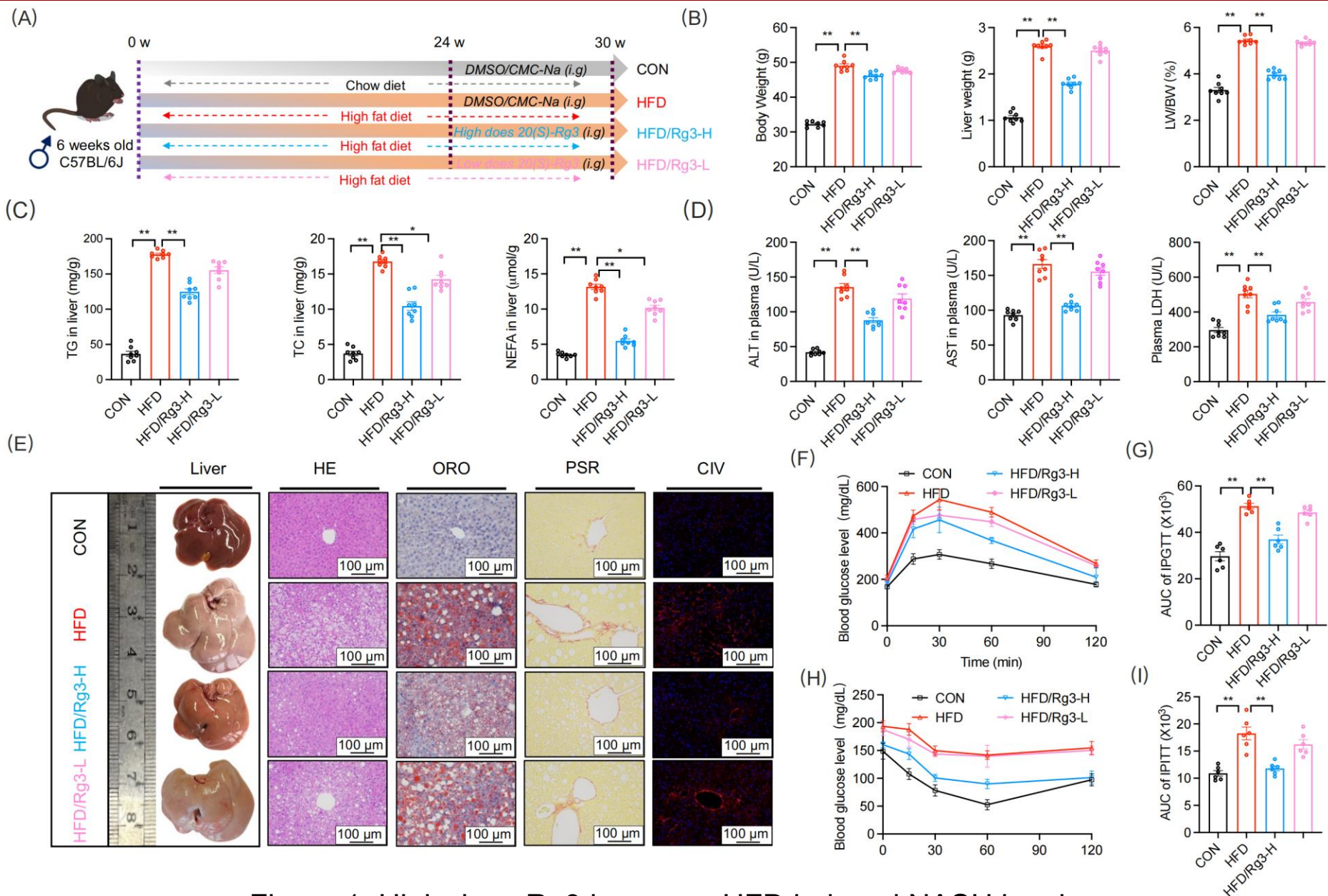


Figure 1. High-dose Rg3 improves HFD induced NASH in mice

# 1. High-dose Rg3 ameliorates NASH and upregulates SPOP expression

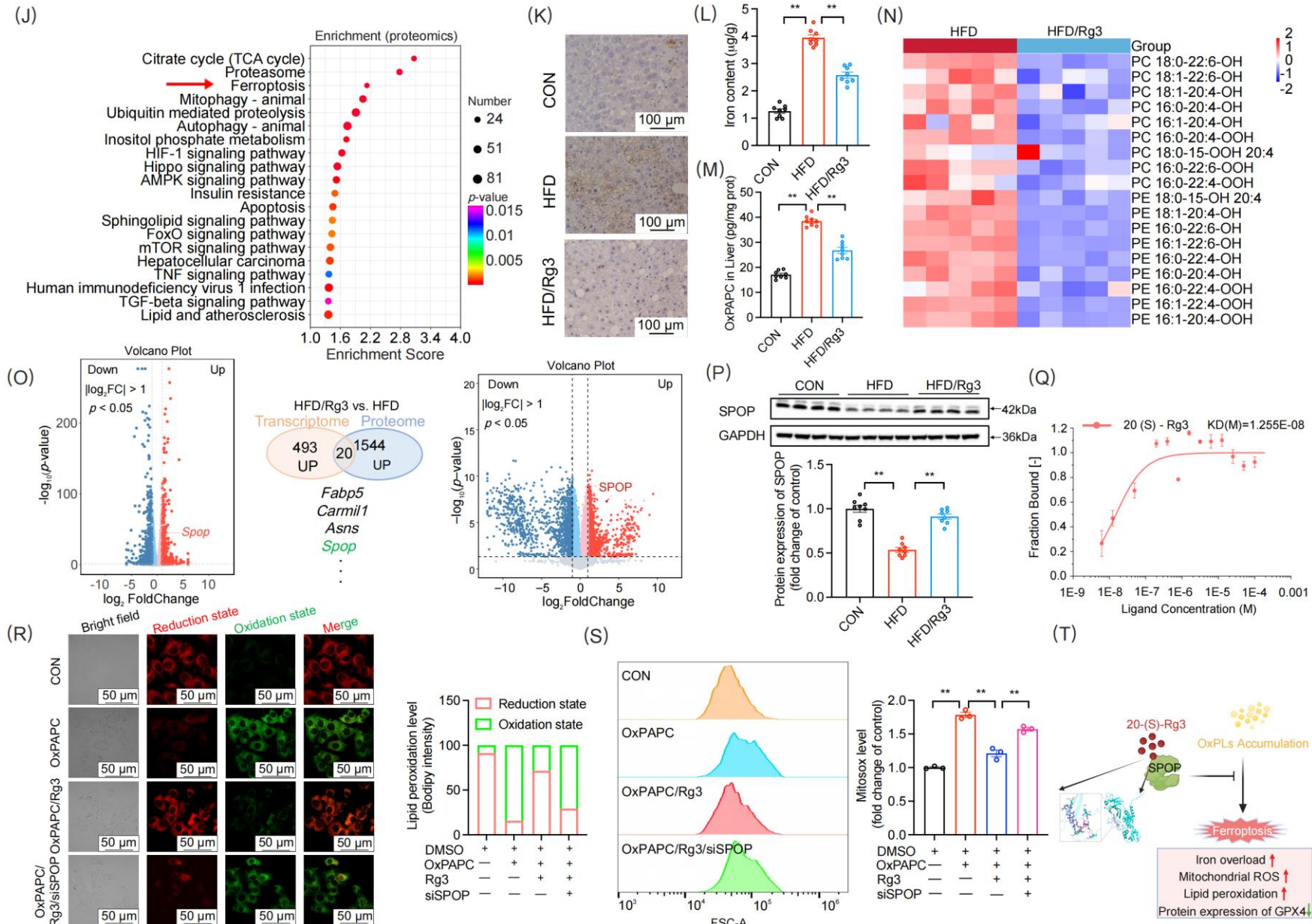


Figure 2. Rg3 alleviates ferroptosis and upregulates hepatic SPOP Expression

# 2. Rg3 Alleviates hepatocyte ferroptosis via the Spop/Atf3/Nupr1 axis

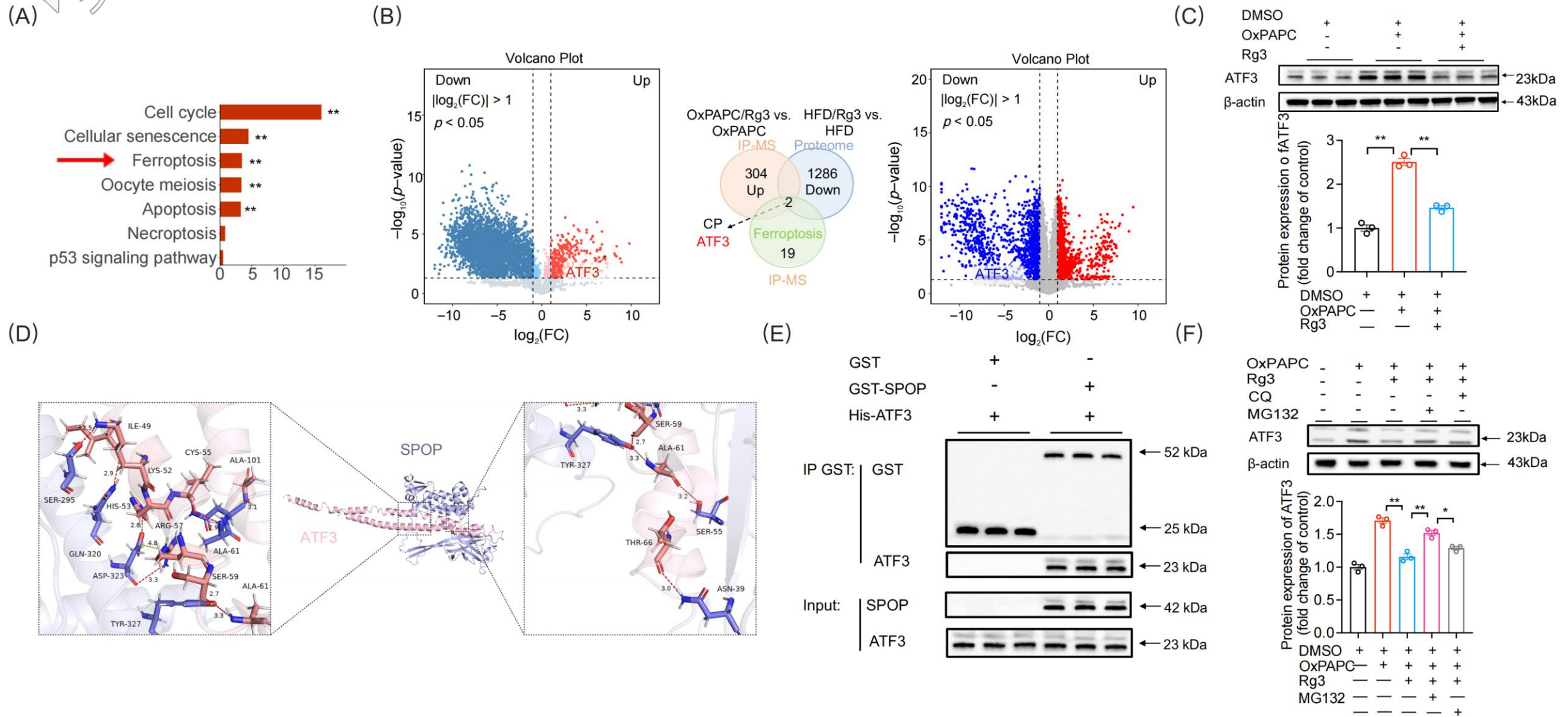


Figure 3. SPOP binds to ATF3 and promotes its ubiquitination

# 2. Rg3 Alleviates hepatocyte ferroptosis via the Spop/Atf3/Nupr1 axis

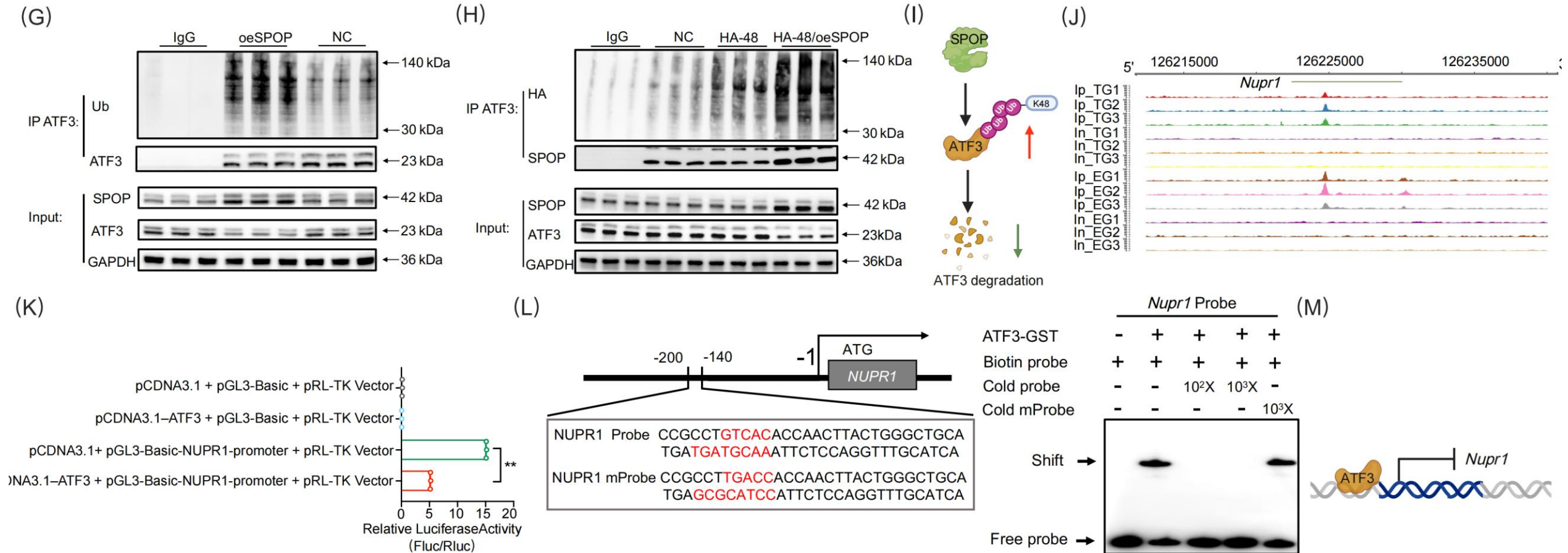


Figure 4. SPOp promotes K48-linked ubiquitination of ATF3

# 2. Rg3 Alleviates hepatocyte ferroptosis via the Spop/Atf3/Nupr1 axis

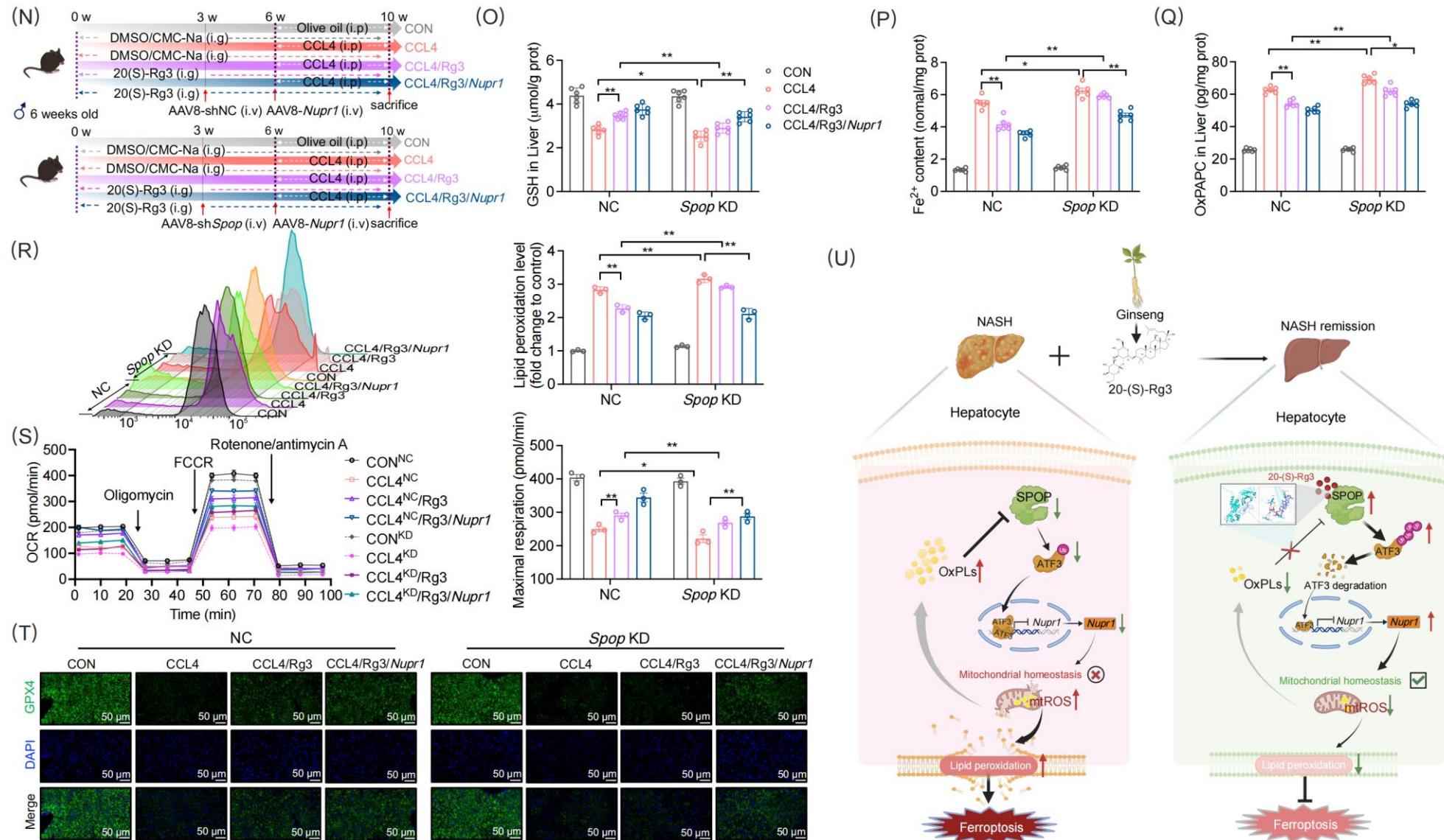


Figure 5. Nupr1 rescues the attenuation of Rg3-mediated anti-ferroptotic effects caused by SPOP knockdown in mouse liver



# Summary

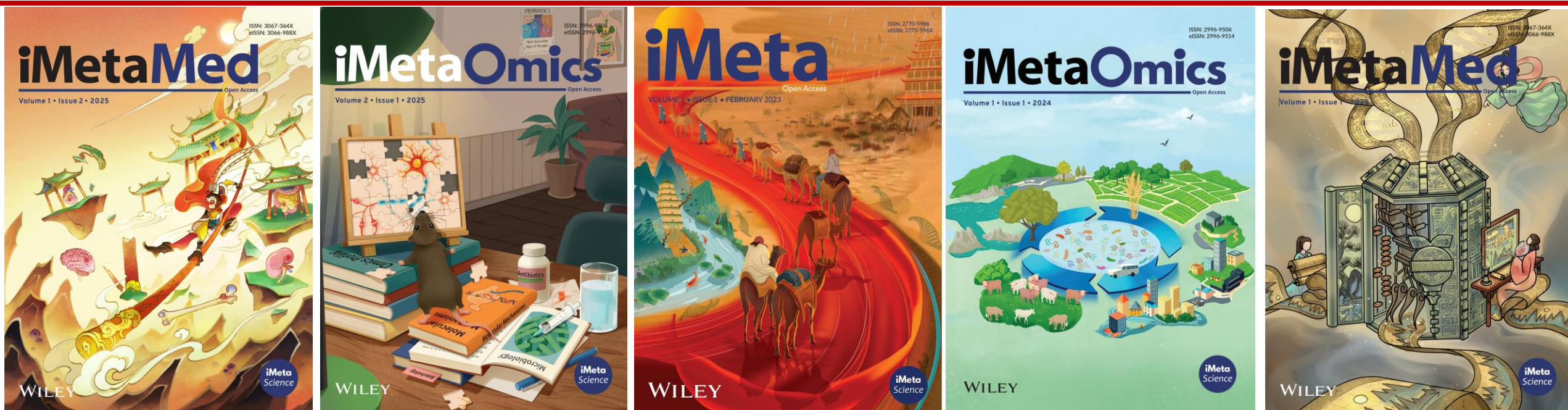
- ❑ This study systematically elucidates the molecular mechanism by which Rg3 alleviates NASH by suppressing OxPLs accumulation and hepatocellular ferroptosis;
- ❑ Rg3 activates SPOP to promote ATF3 ubiquitination and degradation, thereby relieving the transcriptional repression of Nupr1, restoring mitochondrial homeostasis, reducing lipid peroxidation, and ultimately inhibiting ferroptosis;
- ❑ OxPL levels are markedly elevated in the livers of patients with NASH as well as in mouse models, suggesting their potential as noninvasive biomarkers.

Yibo Zong, Guo Long, Tiantian Gu, Pan Huang, Yong Tian, Wenwu Xu, Xiheng Hu, et al. 2026. A Bioactive Ginsenoside Alleviates Hepatocellular Ferroptosis Induced by Oxidized Phospholipid Accumulation in Nonalcoholic Steatohepatitis.

*iMeta* 5: e70114. <https://doi.org/10.1002/imt2.70114>

# iMeta: To be top journals in biology and medicine

# WILEY



“**iMeta**” launched in 2022 by iMeta Science Society, **impact factor (IF) 33.2**, ranking **top 65/22249 in world and 2/161 in the microbiology**. It aims to publish innovative and high-quality papers with broad and diverse audiences. **Its scope is similar to Cell, Nature Biotechnology/Methods/Microbiology/Medicine/Food**. Its unique features include video abstract, bilingual publication, and social media with 600,000 followers. Indexed by **SCIE/ESI, PubMed, Google Scholar** etc.

“**iMetaOmics**” launched in 2024, with a **target IF>10**, and its scope is similar to **Nature Communications, Cell Reports, Microbiome, ISME J, Nucleic Acids Research, Briefings in Bioinformatics**, etc.

“**iMetaMed**” launched in 2025, with a **target IF>15**, similar to **Med, Cell Reports Medicine, eBioMedicine, eClinicalMedicine** etc.



Society: <http://www.imeta.science>

Publisher: <https://wileyonlinelibrary.com/journal/imeta>

iMeta: <https://wiley.atyponrex.com/journal/IMT2>

Submission: iMetaOmics: <https://wiley.atyponrex.com/journal/IMO2>

iMetaMed: <https://wiley.atyponrex.com/journal/IMM3>



[iMetaScience](#)



[iMetaScience](#)



[office@imeta.science](mailto:office@imeta.science)  
[imetaomics@imeta.science](mailto:imetaomics@imeta.science)



[Promotion Video](#)

Update  
2025/7/6