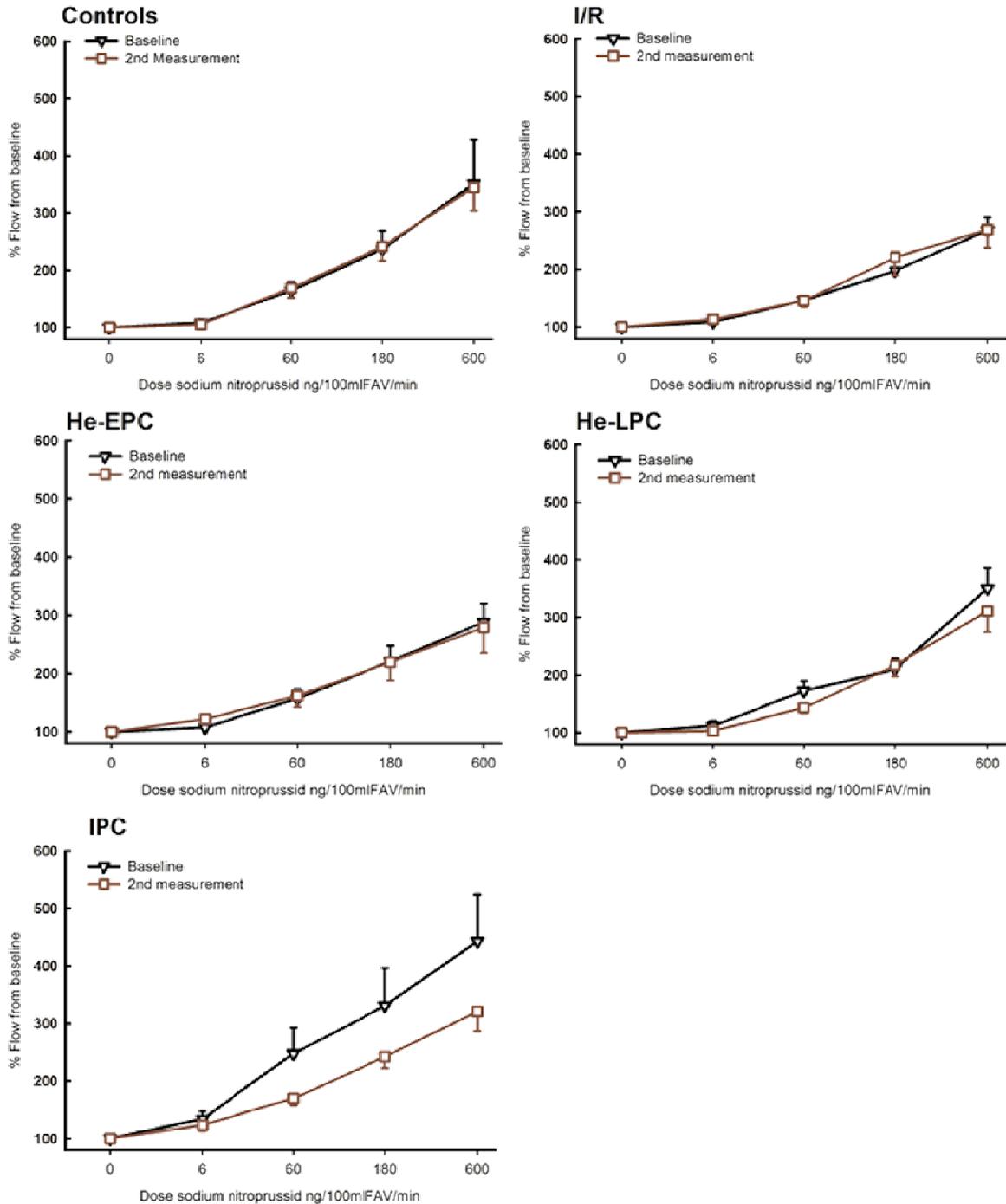


## Results of Nitroprusside Infusion



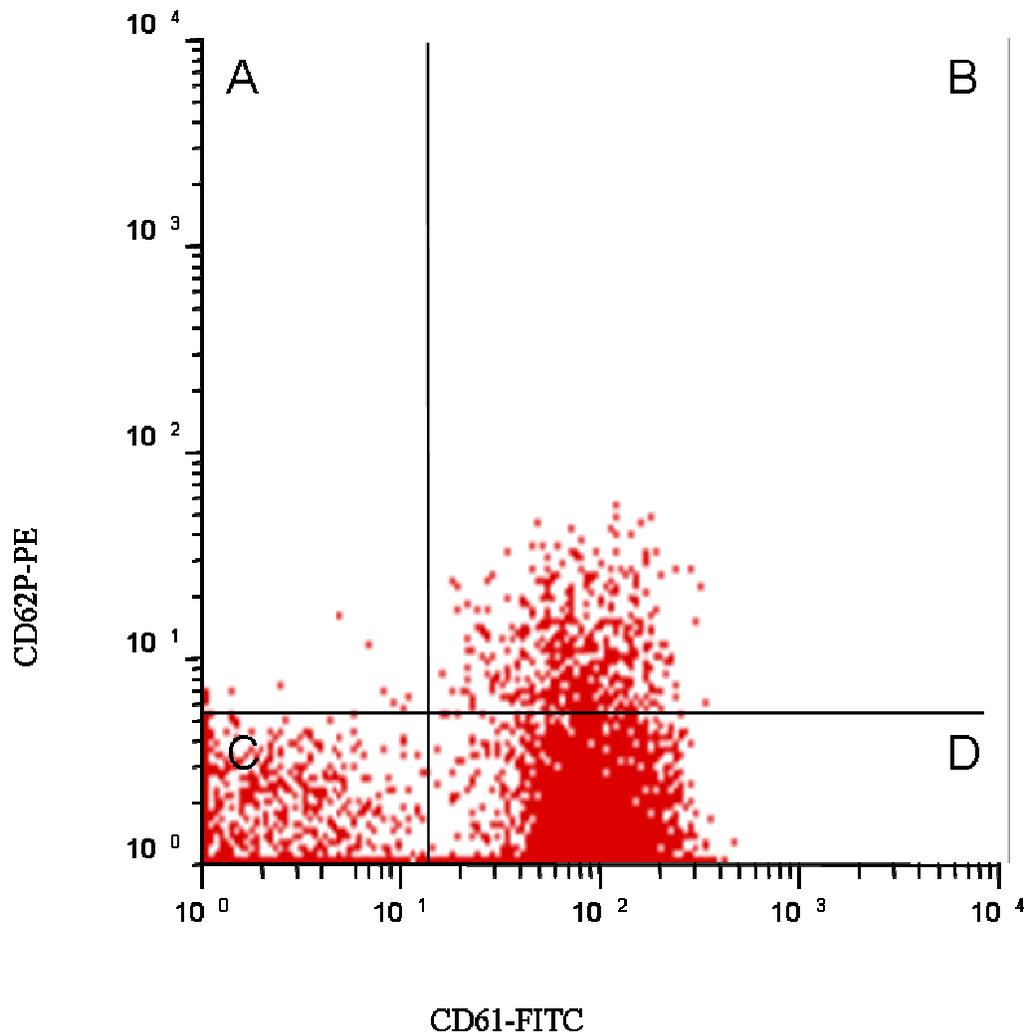
**Fig. 1.** All data are represented as mean  $\pm$  SEM, no significant statistical differences were observed between first and second FBF measurement.

Controls = control group without ischemia; FAV = forearm volume; FBF = forearm blood flow;

He-EPC = helium early preconditioning group; He-LPC = helium late preconditioning group;

IPC = Ischemic preconditioning group; I/R = ischemia-reperfusion group.

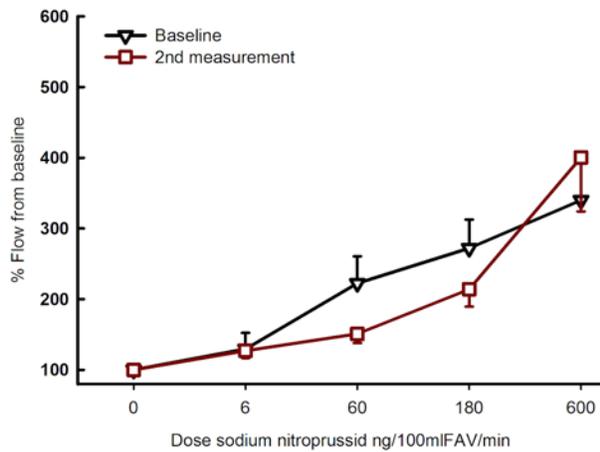
## Example of Microparticle Results



**Fig. 2.** These are the results of the microparticle analysis of a volunteer from the helium early preconditioning group, at time point 10 min of reperfusion. Microparticles positive for CD 61-FITC are shown in panels B and D, and microparticles positive for CD62p-PE are shown in panels A and C. Microparticles positive for CD61-FITC that are also positive for CD62p-PE (which indicates that these particles are derived from activated platelets) are shown in panel B, and are 4,37%.

FITC = Fluorescein isothiocyanate; PE = phycoerythrin.

### L-NMMA + He-EPC



**Fig. 3.** Results of Helium early preconditioning group with N<sup>G</sup>-monomethyl-L-arginine (L-NMMA) infusion (L-NMMA + He-EPC).

All data are represented as mean  $\pm$  SEM, no significant statistical differences were observed between first and second FBF measurement.

FAV = Forearm volume; FBF = Forearm blood flow.