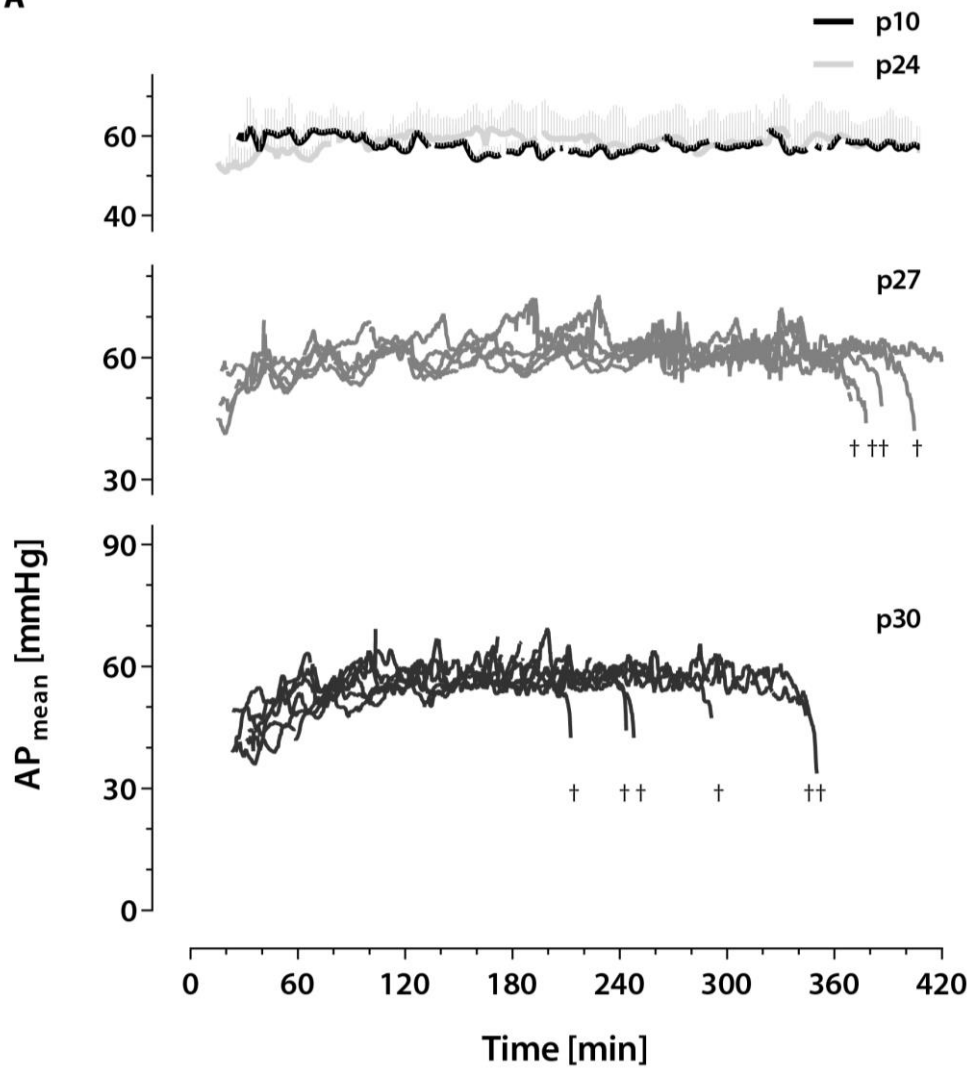


A



B

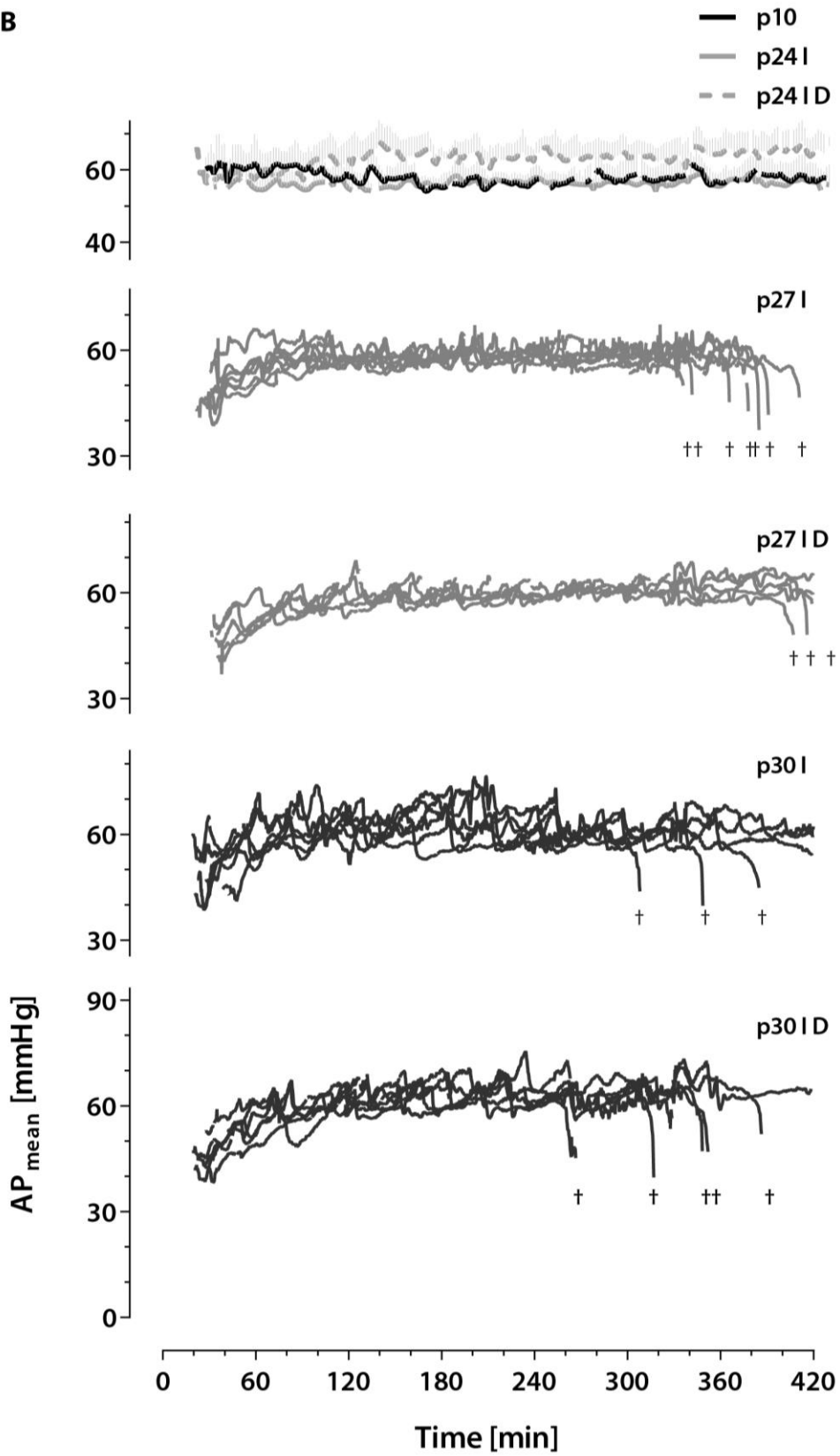


Fig. S2: Stable arterial blood pressures during mechanical ventilation until death occurred in high inspiratory pressure groups. **A:** Mean arterial blood pressure (AP_{mean}) in mice during 7 h of pressure unlimited mechanical ventilation (series_1). Data are shown as mean + SD from groups 10 cmH₂O (p10) and 24 cmH₂O (p24); n = 6 each. Groups 27 cmH₂O (p27) and 30 cmH₂O (p30) are shown as single curve for each replicate and time of death is indicated (†). **B:** Mean arterial blood pressure in mice during 7 h of pressure-limited mechanical ventilation (series_2). Animals randomly received dexamethasone (D, 1mg/kg i.v.) directly after start of mechanical ventilation including pressure release valve (I, $p_{\text{plat}}^{\text{max}}$ 34 cmH₂O). Data are shown as mean + SD from groups 10 cmH₂O (p10), 24 cmH₂O (p24 I) and 24 cmH₂O + dexamethasone (p24 I D); n = 6 each. Groups 27 cmH₂O (p27 I), 27 cmH₂O + dexamethasone (p27 I D), 30 cmH₂O (p30 I) and 30 cmH₂O + dexamethasone (p30 I D) are shown as single curve for each replicate and time of death is indicated (†).