

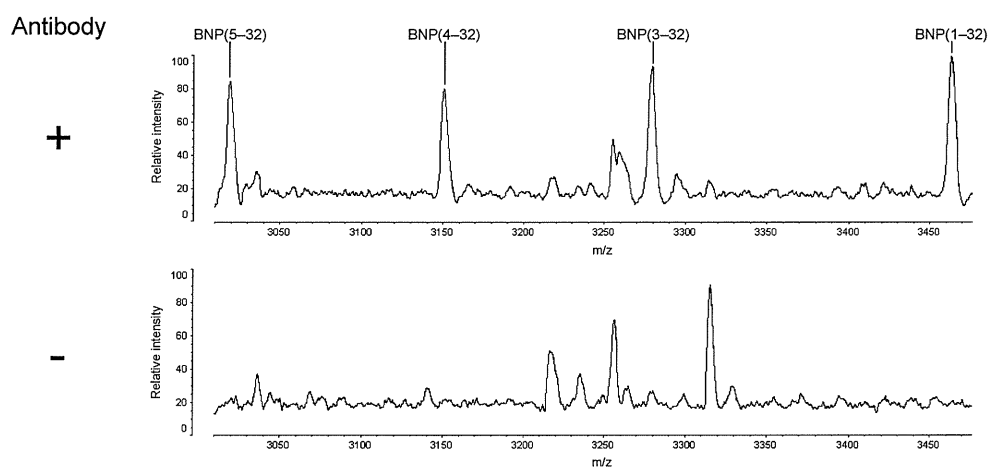


Figure S2. Specificity of the BNP monoclonal antibody (KY-hBNP II). KY-hBNP II recognized various types of BNP molecules including BNP(1-32), BNP(3-32), BNP(4-32) and BNP(5-32).

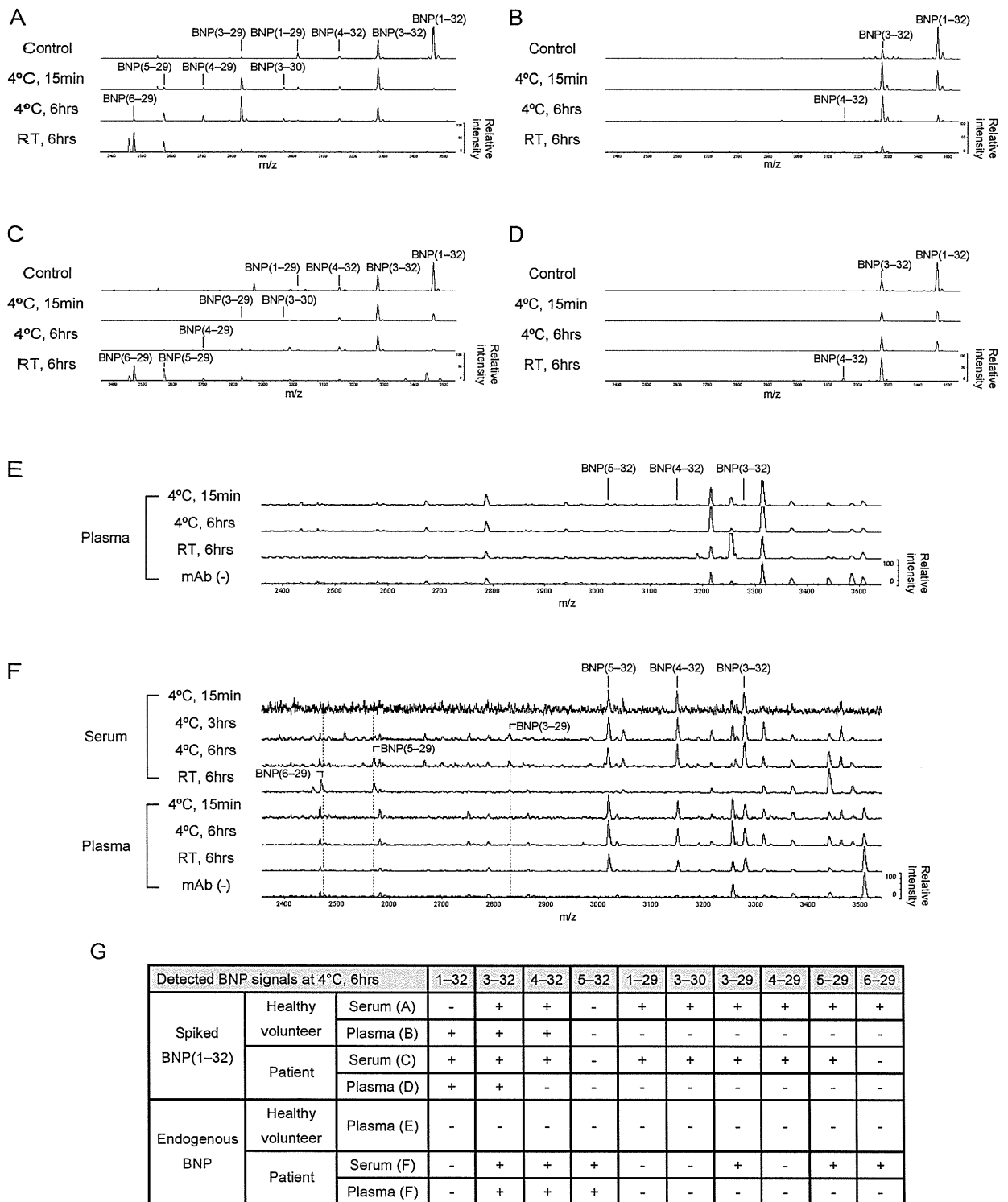


Figure S3. Processing of BNP. Time course for BNP(1–32) proteolysis in serum (**A, C**) and plasma (**B, D**). Plasma sampling tube contains ethylenediaminetetraacetate-2Na and aprotinin. Commercially available BNP(1–32) was added at 200 fmol/mL immediately after drawing blood from a healthy volunteer (**A, B**) and from a patient (**C, D**). (**E**) Processed endogenous BNP was not detectable in plasma from a healthy volunteer. (**F**) The degradation patterns of endogenous BNP in serum (upper 4 panels) and plasma (lower 4 panels) from a patient. Detected signals are summarized in (**G**). + indicates signals which were detected, and – indicates signals which were not detected.

