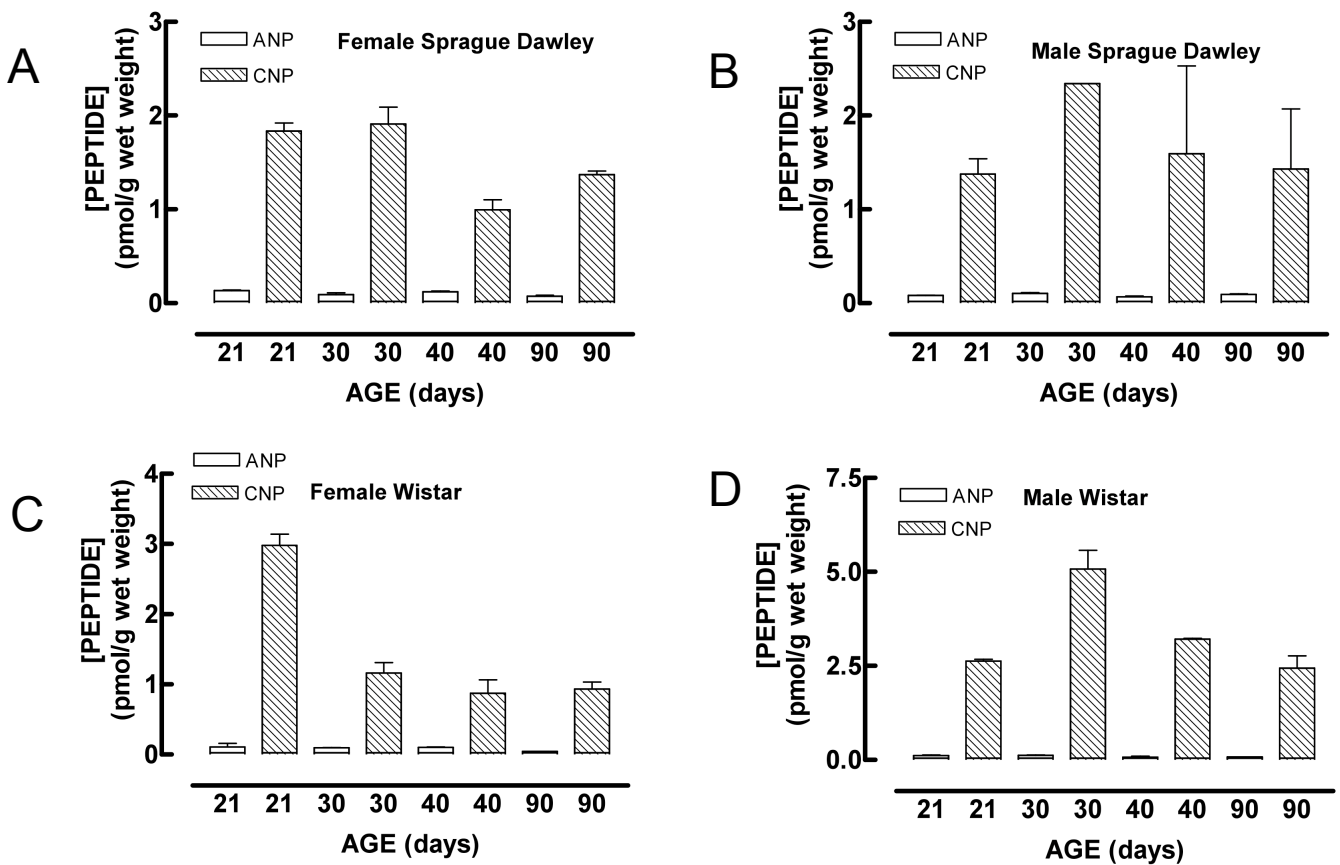


Supplemental Figure 1



Determination of pituitary ANP and CNP content from male and female Sprague Dawley (A and B) and Wistar rats (C and D), collected at 21, 30 40 and 90 days old. Pituitary CNP content was between 1 and 3pmol/g wet weight, whereas pituitary ANP content was below the limit of detection (0.05pmol/g wet weight) in all samples. Data shown are means±SD for two independent experiments, each involving 6 animals per group.