

## Appendix A (Supplementary data)

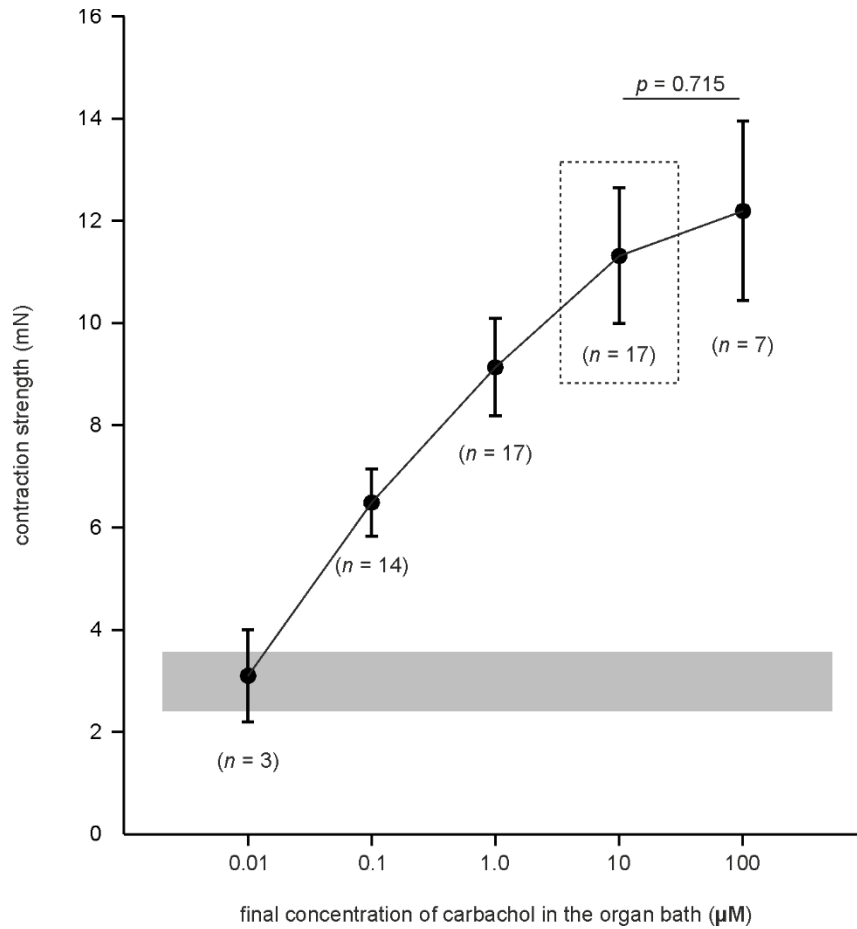


Figure S1: Effects of carbachol on esophageal smooth muscle contraction force. The baseline tone was not statistically different among the segments. With 0.01  $\mu\text{M}$  CCH, no contraction could be induced, and the contraction strength corresponded to the baseline tone (gray box). With increasing concentrations, the contraction strength amplified and became maximal with a CCH concentration of 10  $\mu\text{M}$  and 100  $\mu\text{M}$ . There was no statistical difference between these two concentrations ( $p = 0.715$ , student's  $t$ -test). The baseline tone of all segments is highlighted by the grey box, and the dashed rectangle highlights the carbachol concentration we used in our experiments.  $p$ -values were calculated with a student's  $t$ -test resp. with a one-way ANOVA test. The number of segments we used to test the different concentrations is given in parentheses. CCH = carbachol.