Diabetic mice show normal dopamine uptake but decreased Girk2 in striatal synaptosomes.

Diabetes potentiates striatal fiber loss induced by 6-OHDA.

Diabetes decreases striatal expression of DAT.

Diabetes potentiates neuronal cell loss induced by 6-OHDA.

Conclusions

- Diabetes causes oxidative stress in the dopamine nigrostriatal system.
- Diabetes alters striatal dopaminergic neurotransmission.
- Diabetes enhances the vulnerability of the dopamine nigrostriatal system to degeneration, resulting in aggravated impairment of motor function.