

Figure S2. Effects of different doses of VH on the protein expressions of TNF- α , IL-1 β , VCAM-1 and MCP-1 in HMEC-1 cells response to LPS. HMEC-1 cells were pretreated with different doses of VH for 6 h before LPS incubation for another 48 h. The protein expressions of TNF- α , IL-1 β , VCAM-1 and MCP-1 were quantified by ELISA kits. Values are mean \pm S.D. * $p < 0.05$ vs. Control, † $p < 0.05$ vs. LPS. $n = 6$ for each group. Hy, hypaphorine; LPS, lipopolysaccharide; TNF- α , tumor necrosis factor- α ; IL-1 β , interleukin-1 β ; VCAM-1, vascular cellular adhesion molecule-1; MCP-1, monocyte chemoattractant protein 1.

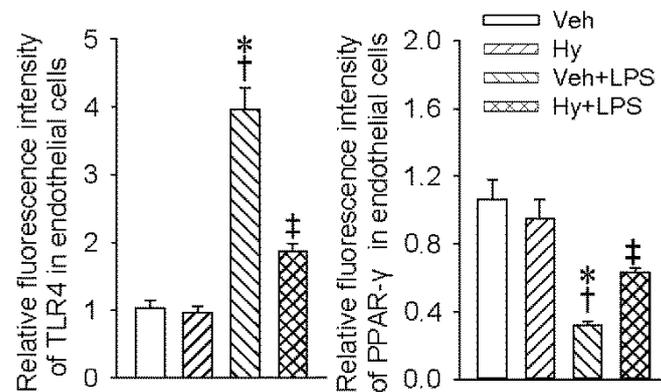


Figure S3. Average TLR4 or PPAR- γ fluorescence intensity normalized to control was obtained from four independent experiments. The mean fluorescent intensity of TLR4 (A) or PPAR- γ (B) in endothelial cells of the control group was normalized to 1.0. Values are mean \pm S.D. * $p < 0.05$ vs. Veh, † $p < 0.05$ vs. VH, ‡ $p < 0.05$ vs. Veh + LPS. $n = 4$ for each group. Hy, hypaphorine; LPS, lipopolysaccharide; PPAR- γ , peroxisome proliferator-activated receptor γ .

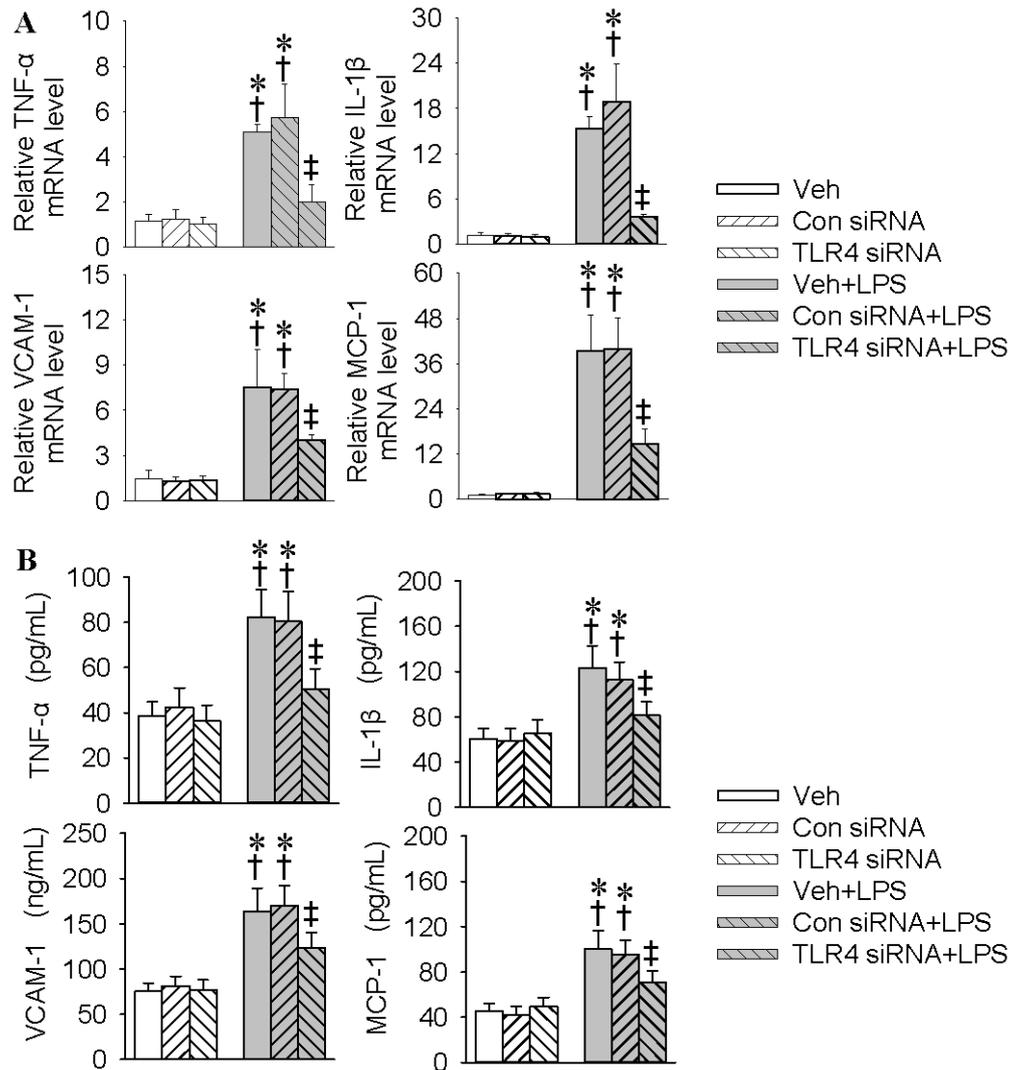


Figure S4. Knockdown of TLR4 alleviated inflammatory response in HMEC-1 cells response to LPS. The HMEC-1 cells were transfected with 100 nM Control siRNA or TLR4 siRNA for 24 h followed by LPS (500 ng/mL) stimulation for 48 h. The mRNA expressions of TNF- α , IL-1 β , VCAM-1 and MCP-1 were detected by real time quantitative PCR (A) and ELISA (B). Values are mean \pm S.D. * $p < 0.05$ vs. Veh, † $p < 0.05$ vs. Con siRNA (Control siRNA), ‡ $p < 0.05$ vs Veh + LPS. $n = 4$ for each group for PCR and $n = 6$ for each group for ELISA. LPS, lipopolysaccharide; TNF- α , tumor necrosis factor- α ; IL-1 β , interleukin-1 β ; VCAM-1, vascular cellular adhesion molecule-1; MCP-1, monocyte chemoattractant protein 1.

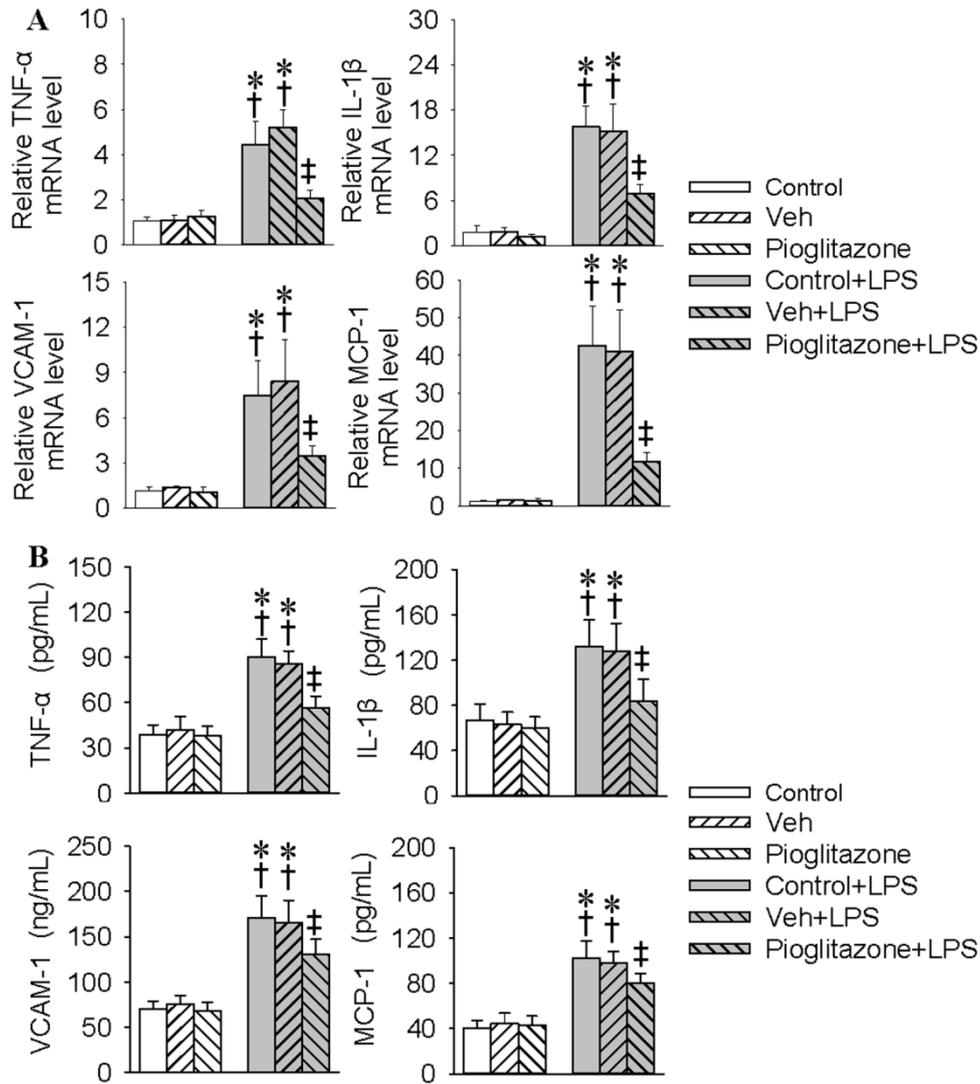


Figure S5. PPAR- γ activation ameliorated inflammatory response in HMEC-1 cells response to LPS. The HMEC-1 cells were pre-incubated with pioglitazone (20 μ M) for 6 h followed by LPS (500 ng/ml) stimulation for 48 h. The mRNA expressions of TNF- α , IL-1 β , VCAM-1 and MCP-1 were detected by real time quantitative PCR (A) and ELISA (B). Values are mean \pm S.D. * p < 0.05 vs. Control, † p < 0.05 vs. Veh, ‡ p < 0.05 vs. Control+LPS. n = 4 for each group for PCR and n = 6 for each group for ELISA. LPS, lipopolysaccharide; TNF- α , tumor necrosis factor- α ; IL-1 β , interleukin-1 β ; VCAM-1, vascular cellular adhesion molecule-1; MCP-1, monocyte chemoattractant protein 1.

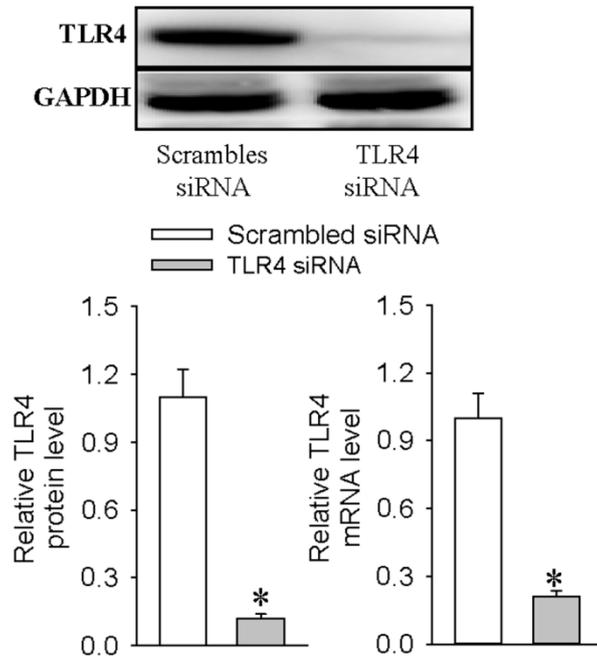


Figure S6. Knockdown of TLR4 with siRNA effectively downregulated the protein and mRNA levels of TLR4 in HMEC-1 cells. The HMEC-1 cells were transfected with 100 nM Control siRNA or TLR4 siRNA for 24 h followed by LPS (500 ng/mL) stimulation for 48 h. The protein and mRNA levels of TLR4 were measured by Western blot or RT-PCR, respectively. Values are mean \pm S.D. * $p < 0.05$ vs. Scrambled siRNA. $n = 4$ for each group.

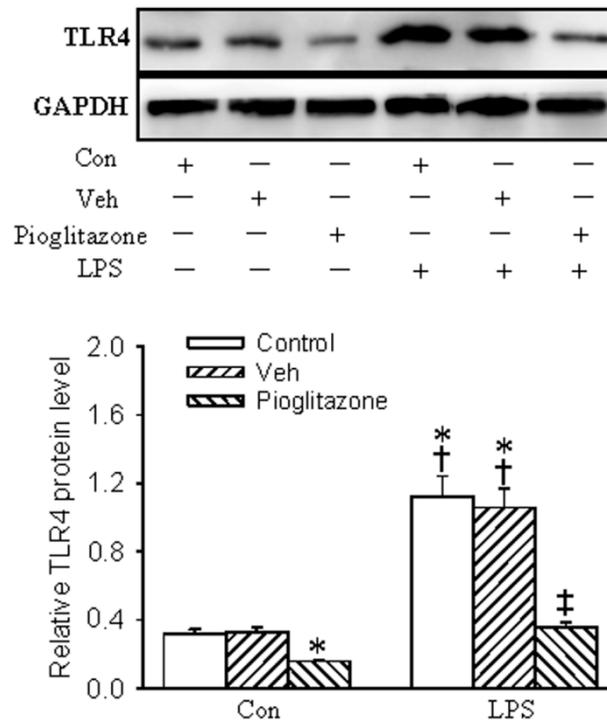


Figure S7. The EA.hy926 cells were pre-incubated with pioglitazone (20 μ M) for 6 h followed by LPS (500 ng/mL) stimulation for 48 h. The protein levels of TLR4 were measured by Western blot. Values are mean \pm S.D. * $p < 0.05$ vs. Control, † $p < 0.05$ vs. Veh (Vehicle), ‡ $p < 0.05$ vs. Pioglitazone. $n = 4$ for each group. Hy, hypaphorine; LPS, lipopolysaccharide; PPAR- γ , peroxisome proliferator-activated receptor γ .

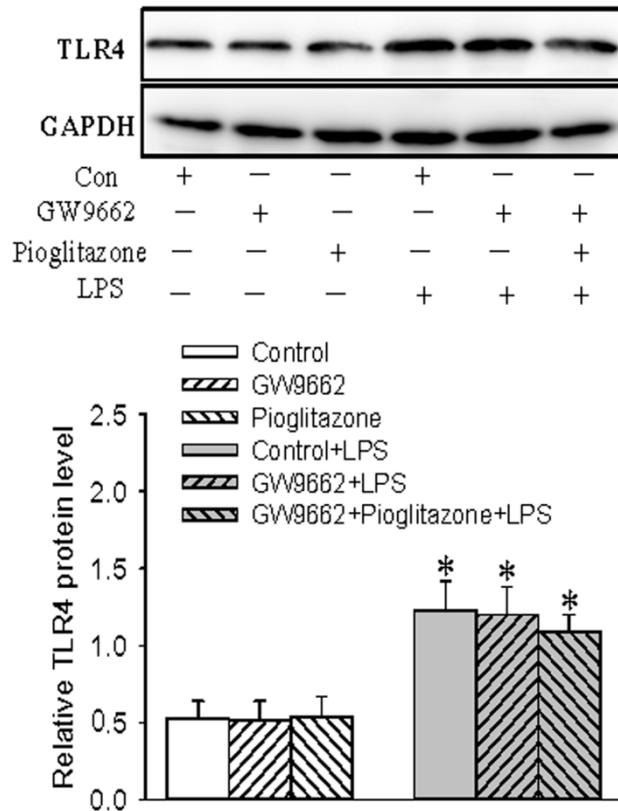


Figure S8. GW9662, a PPAR- γ antagonist, blocked pioglitazone-mediated inhibition of TLR4 in LPS-challenged HMEC-1 cells. The HMEC-1 cells were pre-incubated with GW9662 (10 μ M) for 30 min, and then pioglitazone (20 μ M) for 6 h, followed by LPS (500 ng/mL) stimulation for 48 h. The protein levels of TLR4 were measured by Western blot. Values are mean \pm S.D. * $p < 0.05$ vs. Control. $n = 4$ for each group.

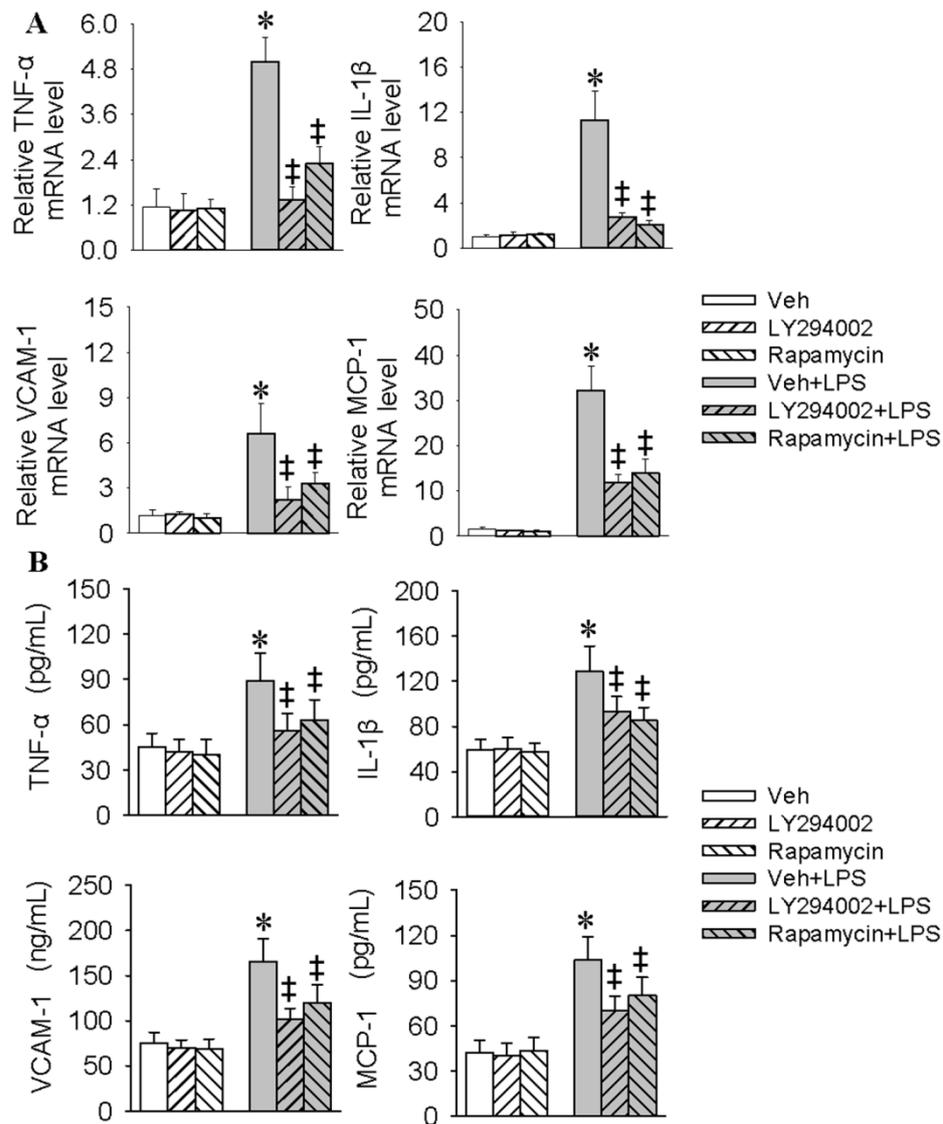


Figure S9. The HMEC-1 cells were pretreated with LY294002 (10 μ M), or mTOR inhibitor rapamycin (200 nM) for 6 h before LPS incubation for 48 h. The mRNA expressions of TNF- α , IL-1 β , VCAM-1 and MCP-1 were detected by real time quantitative PCR (A) and ELISA (B). Values are mean \pm S.D. * p <0.05 vs. Veh, \ddagger p < 0.05 vs Veh+LPS. n = 4 for each group for PCR and n =6 for each group for ELISA. LPS, lipopolysaccharide; TNF- α , tumor necrosis factor- α ; IL-1 β , interleukin-1 β ; VCAM-1, vascular cellular adhesion molecule-1; MCP-1, monocyte chemoattractant protein 1.