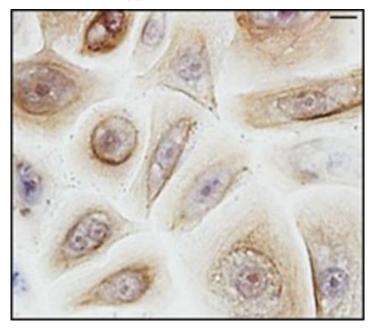
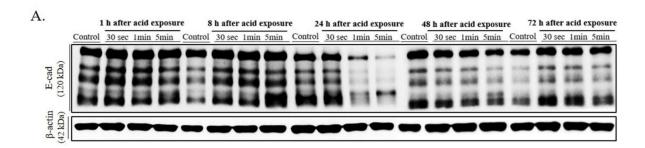
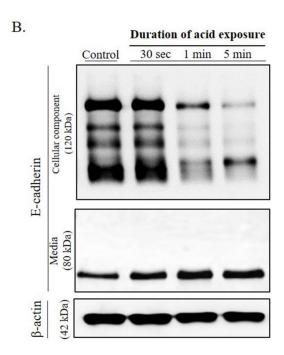
## **Supplementary Materials**

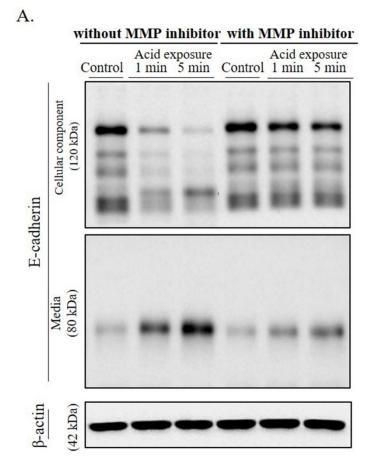


**Supplementary Figure S1.** Cytokeratin immunocytochemical stain of primary pharyngeal epithelial cells. Most of the pharyngeal epithelial cells show cytokeratin expression (bar, 50 um).

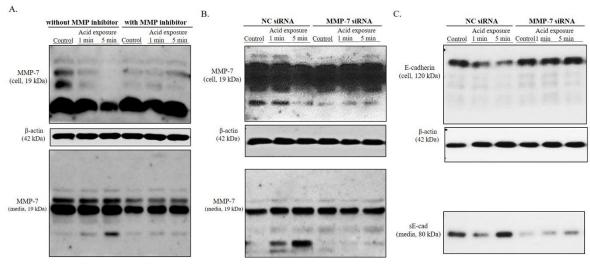




**Supplementary Figure S2.** E-cadherin cleavage in human pharyngeal mucosal epithelial cells exposed to acidic media (Full-length blots/gels of Figure 1).



**Supplementary Figure S3.** Effect of MMP inhibitor on changes in E-cadherin (Full-length blots/gels of Figure 2).



**Supplementary Figure S4.** Effect of MMP inhibitor and MMP-7 knockdown on changes in MMP-7 (Full-length blots/gels of Figure 4).