

Supplementary Materials

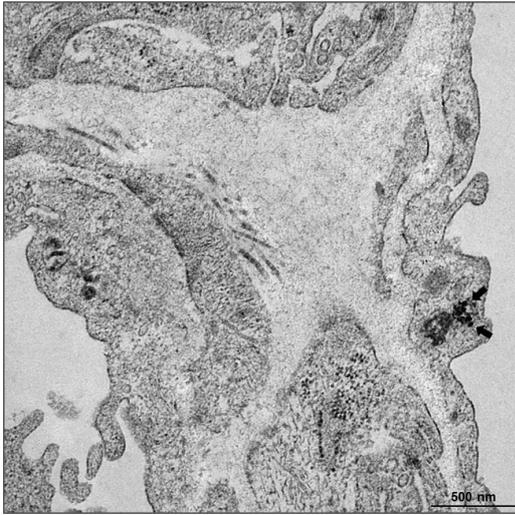


Figure S1. Localization of SiO₂ NPs in the lungs by transmission electron microscopy. Same epithelial type I cell from NS lungs exposed to SiO₂ plain as represented in Figure 7b, at higher magnification. Ultrastructural localization of SiO₂ NPs surrounded by a single membrane (arrows) is evident within the cell cytoplasm.

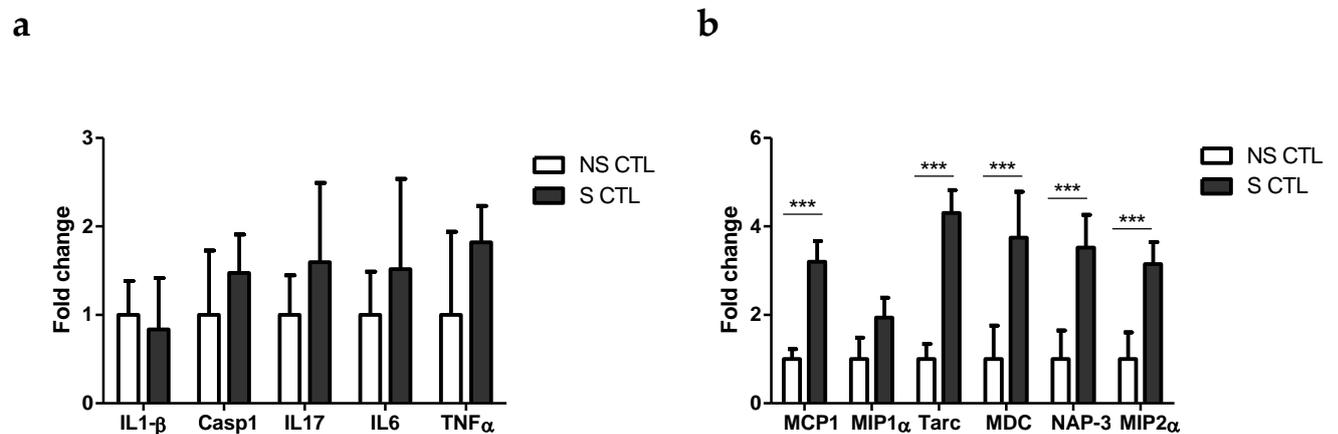


Figure S2. Effect of sensitization on inflammasome activation and expression of inflammatory genes *in vivo*. Gene expression was evaluated in NS and S mice 5 days after intratracheal instillation of 50 μg of NPs supernatant control (CTL) and ovalbumin challenge. Mean ± standard deviation were evaluated in the lung by real-time PCR (n=4/group). ***p≤0.001 vs NS, evaluated by two-way ANOVA.