



**Fig. S5.** The effect of *tert*-butylhydroquinone (tBHQ) on the proinflammatory cytokine transcription in response to *S. aureus*. Cells were pretreated with tBHQ at 50  $\mu$ M for 1 h followed by incubation with *S. aureus* ( $1 \times 10^7$  particles/mL) for further 6 h. Total RNAs were prepared and subjected to qPCR analyses for determining mRNA levels of *IL-6* and *IL-8*. The results are the mean  $\pm$  s.d. of three replicates.