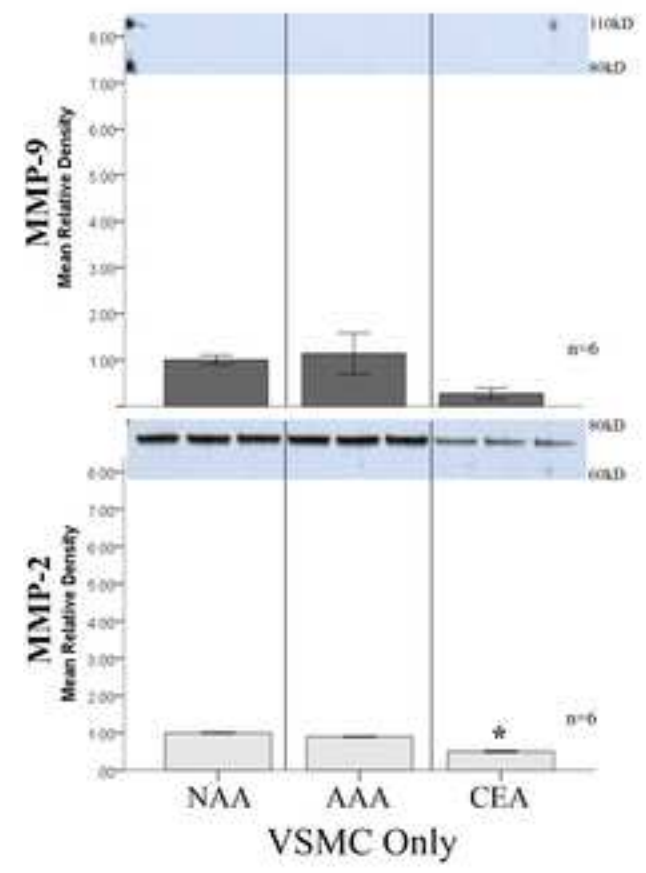
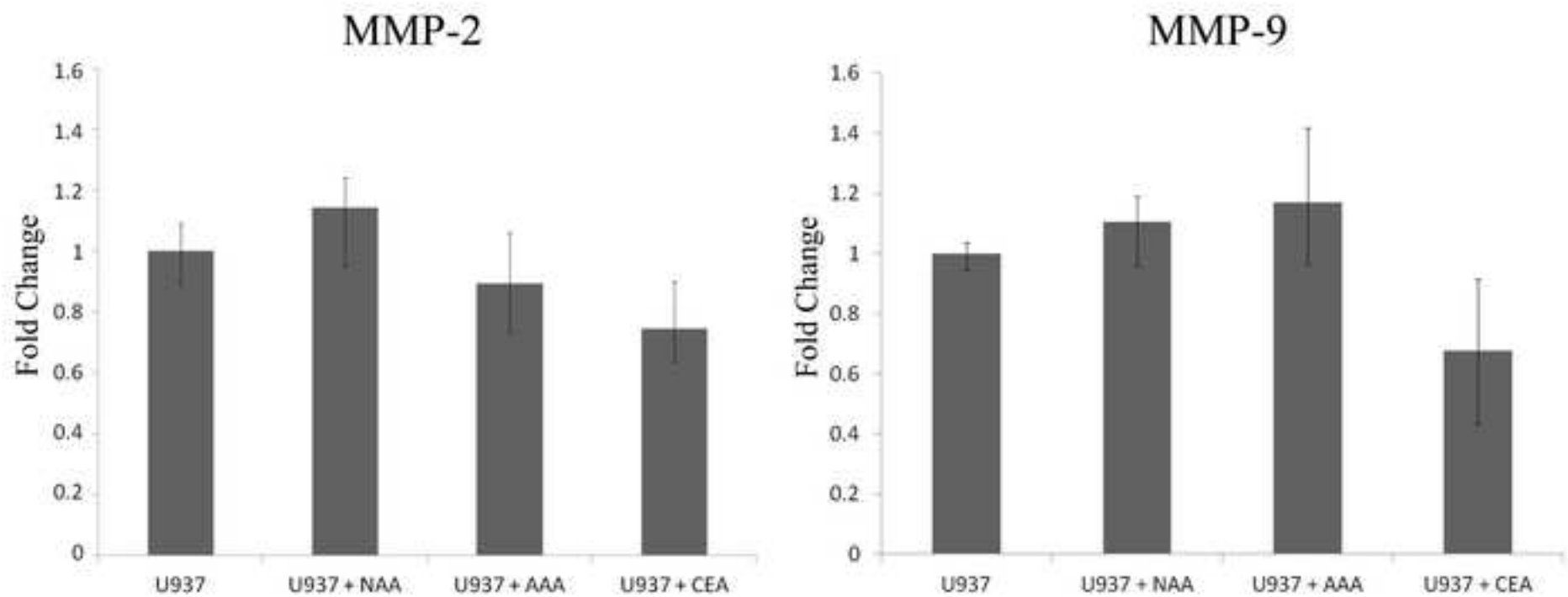


Western blot (MMP-9, MMP-2)



mRNA Relative Expression (U937 Cells)



Supplemental Methods: Additional detail to supplement the methods description in the manuscript.

Supplemental Figure 1: Heatmap based on Affymetrix U133 genechip demonstrating 49 genes which are informative in segregating the three microdissected regions of the arterial wall: intima, media, and adventitia. RNA was extracted after microdissection of the arterial wall from three patients with abdominal aortic aneurysms. The RNA was converted to cDNA and amplified prior to hybridization with the genechip. The media specimen from Patient #1 was analyzed in duplicate due to poor amplification of the (A) specimen.

Supplemental Figure 2: Western blot analysis of conditioned cell culture media for MMP-2 and MMP-9. VSMC derived from AAA, NAA, and CEA were cultured in serum free media. The media was collected after 7 days of cell growth and equal volumes from each well were

subjected to western blot analysis for MMP-2 and MMP-9. In media from VSMC-only cultures, relatively equal amounts of MMP-2 (72 kD) were observed. No MMP-9 was detected in the media containing only VSMC (n=6).

Supplemental Figure 3: Real-Time PCR analysis was used to compare total mRNA levels in PMA-activated U937 monocytes cultured alone, and in the presence of vascular smooth muscle cells (VSMC) derived from abdominal aortic aneurysm (AAA), non-dilated abdominal aorta (NAA) and carotid endarterectomy (CEA). Error bars represent 95% CI. MMP-2 and MMP-9 expression by U937 cells was not significantly affected by co-culture with VSMC derived from AAA, CEA, or NAA tissue (n=3).