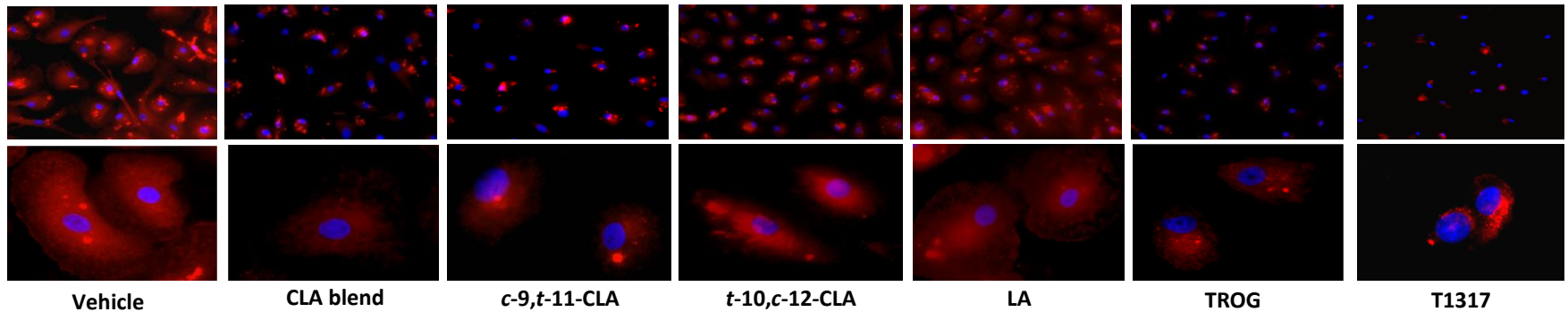
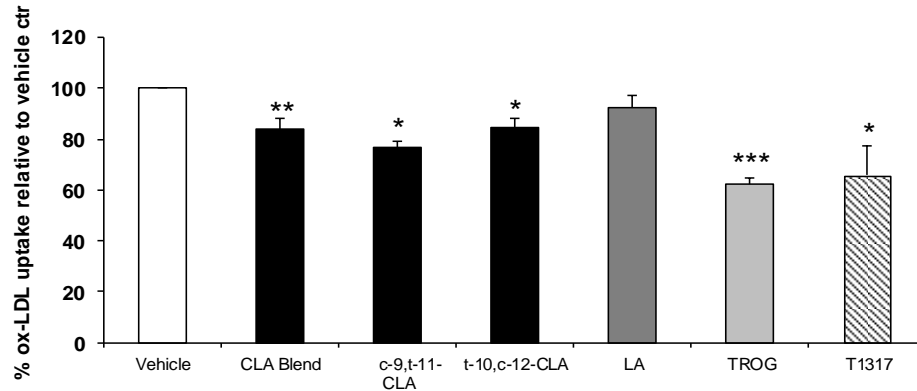


a**b**

Additional file 4. CLA reduces foam cell formation in primary human cells. HPBMC-derived MCSF-induced macrophages were treated for 48 hrs with CLA or controls and then loaded with 50 ug/ml Dil-ox-LDL for 4 hrs to induce foam cell formation. Both CLA isomers and their blend inhibit ox-LDL accumulation, as shown by immunofluorescence **(a)** and quantified by spectrophotometric measurement **(b)** of ox-LDL fluorescence signal (adjusted per cell number), *via* a PPAR- γ (TROG) and LXR- α (T1317) dependent mechanism. 20x and 63x magnification of DAPI and Dil-ox-LDL stained foam cells are shown in **(a)**. Micrographs are representative of three independent experiments. Data are expressed as mean % uptake \pm SEM where * = $p < 0.05$, ** = $p < 0.01$, *** = $p < 0.001$ vs DMSO vehicle control