

Supplementary information

**Micro-concentration Lipopolysaccharide as a Novel
Stimulator of Megakaryocytopoiesis that Synergizes with IL-6 for
Platelet Production**

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Figure S1 | Effects of LPS on IL-6-induced NF- κ B transcriptional activity and NF- κ B-DNA binding activity. (A) Cells were transiently transfected with a pNF- κ B-luc reporter construct with the pRL-TK vector as an internal control. After transfection, the cells were pretreated with IL-6 either alone or in combination with LPS (0.1, 10, and 1000 ng/ml) for 48 h, and luciferase activity was measured. (B) The effect of LPS plus IL-6 on the NF- κ B p65 binding activity in the nuclear extracts from 293T cells was measured using the ELISA-based NF- κ B assay, as described in the Methods section. The experiments were repeated three times, and similar results were obtained.

Figure S2 | Proposed model for the regulation of thrombocytopoiesis via the LPS/IL-6 signaling pathway. Activation of TLR4 by the administration of LPS or release of LPS from the gut microbiota potentiates the production of NF- κ B and enhances the NF- κ B p65 DNA binding activity. Meanwhile, the up-regulated IL-6 can bind the increased IL-6R to initiate an autocrine loop and mediate p38 MAPK activation. The up-regulation of these costimulatory molecules effectively activates megakaryocytopoiesis and platelet production through distinct but overlapping TLR4- and IL-6R-dependent molecular mechanisms.

