

Supplemental Figure

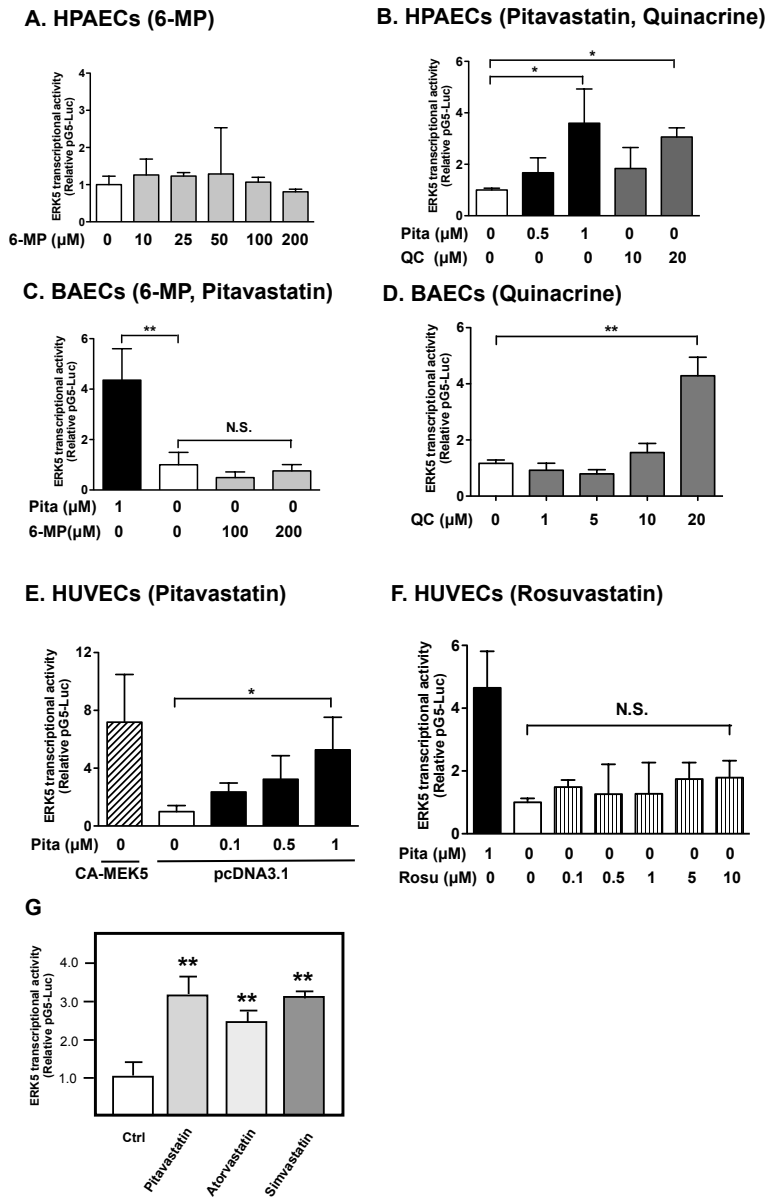


Figure S1: Activation of ERK5 transcriptional activity induced by 6-mercaptopurine (6-MP), quinacrine (QC), pitavastatin (Pita), and rosuvastatin (Rosu) in various types of ECs.

HPAECs (A and B), BAECs (C and D) and HUVECs (E and F) were transfected with pG5-Luc and pBIND-ERK5 constructs as described in Fig.1. Twenty-four hours later, transfected cells were treated with 6-MP, pitavastatin, QC and rosuvastatin as indicated for 24 hrs. Luciferase activity was assayed as described in Fig.1. Values represent firefly luciferase:*Renilla* luciferase ratios. Values are mean \pm SD (n=3) * p<0.05, **p< 0.01 versus non-treated control. (G) ERK5 transcriptional activation induced by various statins in HUVECs. HUVECs were transfected with pG5-Luc and pBIND-ERK5 constructs as described in Fig.1. Twenty-four hours later, transfected cells were treated with pitavastatin, atorvastatin, or simvastatin for 24 hrs. Luciferase activity was assayed as described in Fig.1. Values represent firefly luciferase:*Renilla* luciferase ratios. Values are mean \pm SD (n=3), **p< 0.01 versus untreated control.

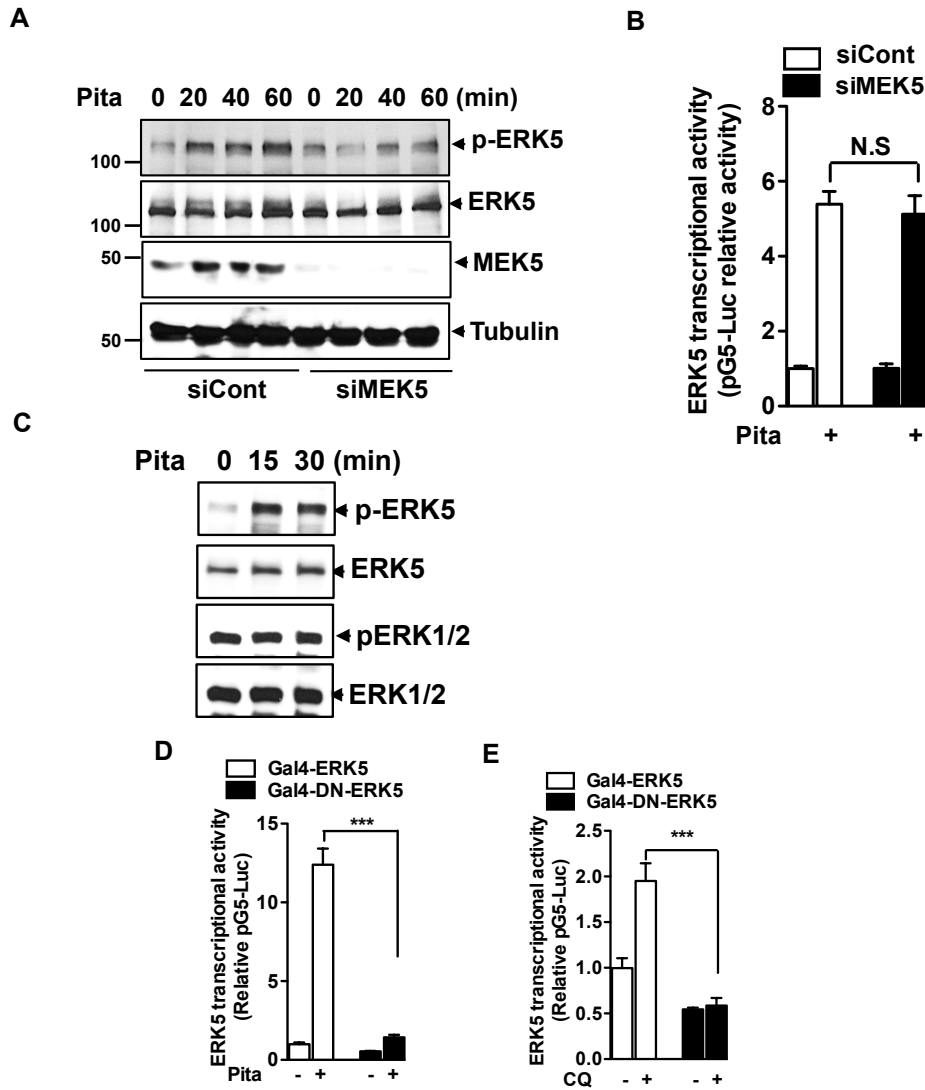


Figure S2: ERK5 TEY motif phosphorylation, but not activation of ERK5 transcriptional activity, was inhibited by MEK5 siRNA transfection. (A) HUVECs were transfected with MEK5 siRNA (siMEK5, 100 nM) or control siRNA (siCont) for 48 hrs prior to pitavastatin stimulation as indicated. p-ERK5, ERK5, MEK5, and tubulin expression were assayed by Western blotting with each specific antibodies. Representative blots from three independent experiments are shown. (B) HUVECs were transfected with siMEK5 (100 nM) or siCont for 48 hrs. Cells were then transfected with pG5-Luc and Gal4-ERK5 as described in the methods. Cells were then stimulated with pitavastatin as indicated, and luciferase activity was assayed. Values are mean \pm S.D, n=3 (non-treated groups), n=6 (treated groups). (C) **Pitavastatin increased ERK5 TEY motif phosphorylation, but not ERK1/2 phosphorylation.** HUVECs were treated with pitavastatin as indicated. p-ERK5, ERK5, p-ERK1/2, and ERK1/2 expression were assayed by Western blotting with each specific antibodies. Representative blots from three independent experiments are shown. (D-E) **ERK5 TEY motif phosphorylation mutant (AEF) inhibited pitavastatin (pita) and chloroquine (CQ)-induced ERK5 transcriptional activity.** HUVECs were transfected with pG5-Luc and Gal4-ERK5 as described in the methods. Cells were then stimulated with pitavastatin (D) or CQ (E) as indicated, for 24 hrs, and luciferase activity was assayed. Values are mean \pm S.D (n=6).