Supplementary figures

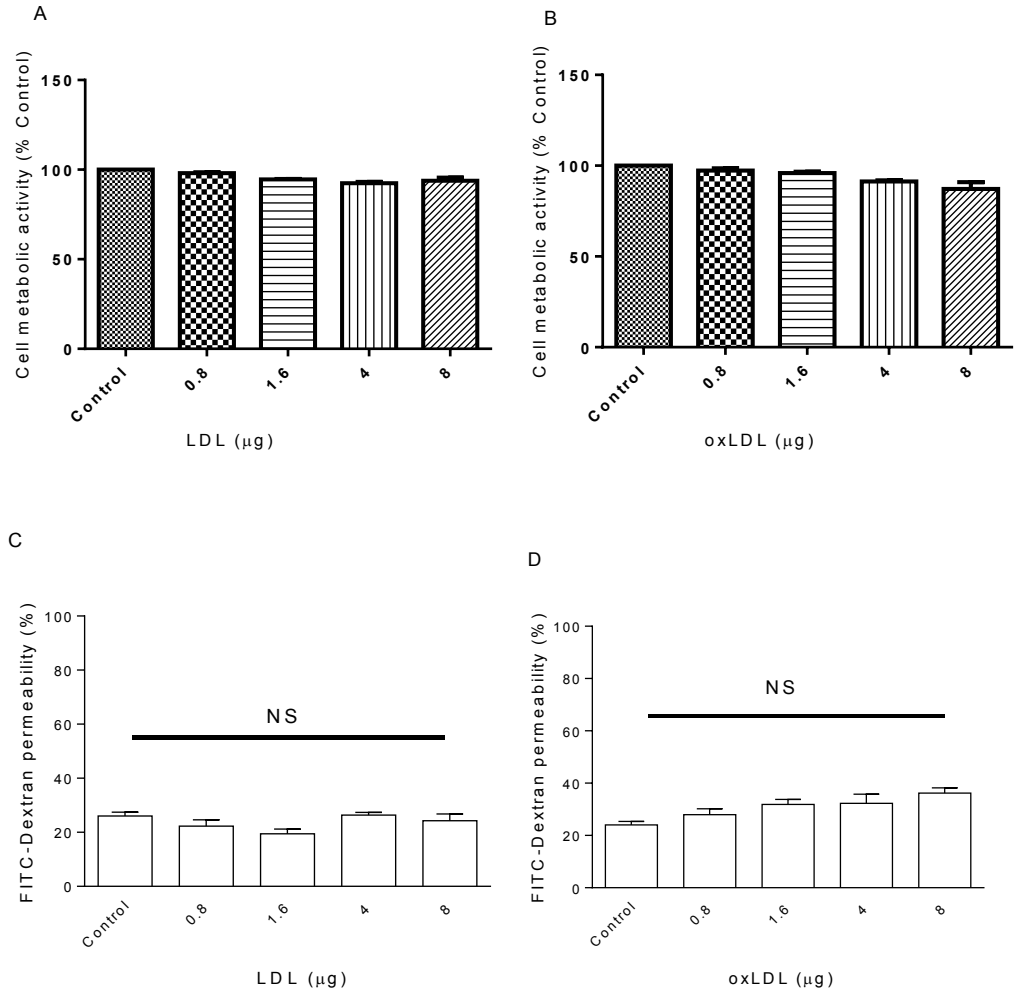

Figure 1: The effect of LDL- and oxLDL on endothelial cell metabolic activity. HMVEC cells (1×10^5cells) treated with increasing concentrations of LDL or oxLDL (0.8-8µg) for 24 hours. Cell metabolic activity was measured by CellTiter-Blue® assay (A and B). Barrier tightness was measured by FITC dextran permeability (C and D) n=3 independent experiments, NS=not significant.

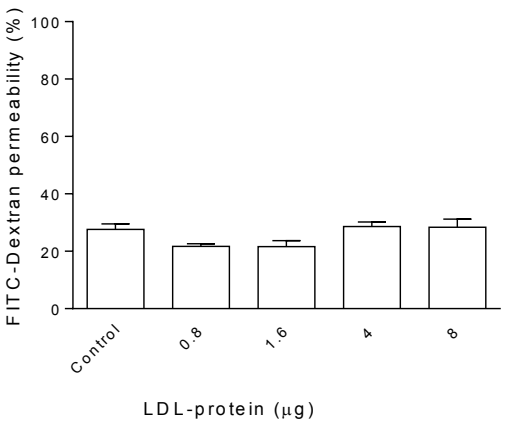

Figure 2: The effect of LDL-protein on endothelial cell permeability. HMVEC cells (1×10^5cells) treated with increasing concentrations of LDL protein (0.8-8µg) for 24 hours. Barrier tightness was measured by FITC dextran permeability. n=3 independent experiments.

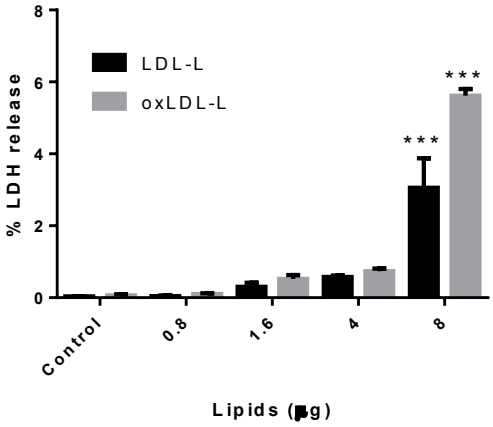

Figure 3: LDH activity in HMVEC cell supernatants treated with LDL-L and oxLDL-L. HMVEC cells (1×10^5cells) were seeded in transwell inserts for 2 weeks before lipid treatments. HMVEC were treated with increasing concentrations of LDL-lipids and oxLDL-lipids for 24 hours. Cell supernatants were collected and analysed for LDH activity. *** P<0.001, n=3 independent experiments.

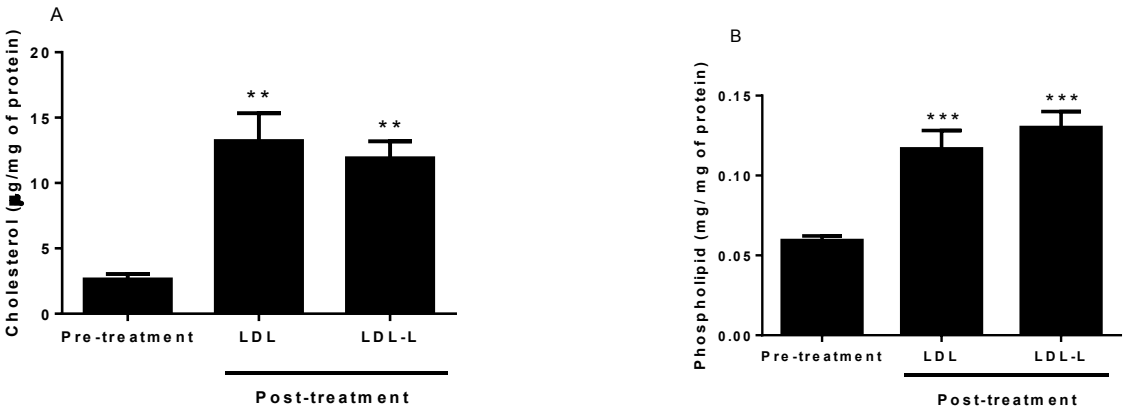

Figure 4: Lipid uptake by HMVEC cells. HMVEC cells (1×10^5cells) were seeded in transwell inserts for 2 weeks before lipid treatments. Total cholesterol levels (A) and phospholipid (B) levels in HMVEC cell lysates were analysed pre- and post-treatment with 4µg lipids for 24 hours. *** P<0.001, n=3 independent experiments.

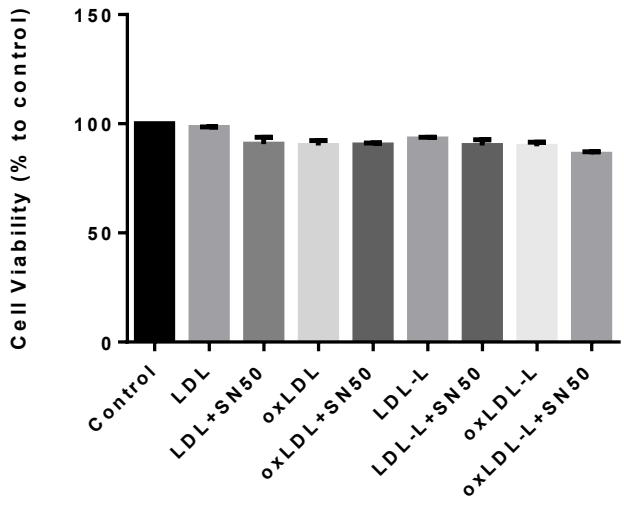

Figure 5: The effect of NFkB inhibitory peptide SN50 on endothelial cell viability. HMVEC were co-incubated with lipid fractions of LDL and oxLDL in the presence or absence of 20µM SN-50. Cell viability was measured by CellTiter-Blue assay. n=3 independent experiments.