



Fig. S3 HFD-induced atherosclerosis and tissue distribution of transferrin mRNA in mice. (a) *ApoE*^{-/-} mice were fed a normal diet (ND) or high fat diet (HFD) for 3 or 6 weeks (WK), with representative images of oil-red O-stained plaques in aortic root area (left) and quantitative results of stained area (right) shown. (b) Transferrin mRNA expression in different tissues (liver, plaque, brain, spleen, muscle, kidney, and stomach) was detected by qRT-PCR. Animal experiments were repeated two independent times. Data represent mean \pm SD (n = 6), ** p < 0.01 by unpaired t-test. Tf: transferrin.