

Supplementary material

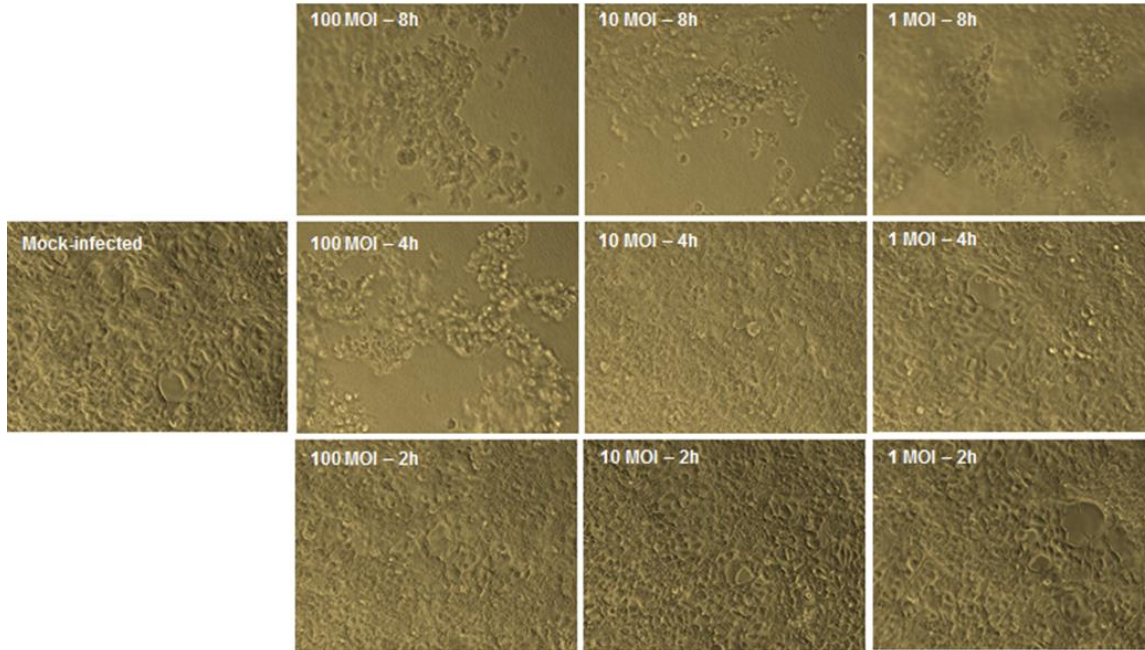


Figure S1. Time course (2-8 hours) of destruction of Caco-2 monolayer following EHEC infection at different MOI (100-1). Visual differences in cell monolayer integrity can be observed among the mock-infected control and cells at the different experimental conditions

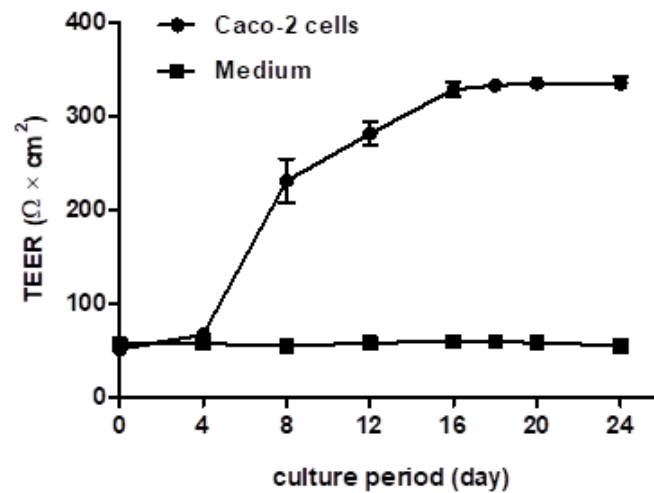


Figure S2. Optimization of Caco-2 cell culture in a Transwell system device. Cells (passages 30-35) were seeded on the Transwell membrane and TEER values were measured as a function of culture time; a continuous increase in TEER values was observed in the first 15 days thereafter reaching a plateau. Values were over $250 \Omega \times \text{cm}^2$ that is considered as a threshold value for a standard polarized Caco-2 monolayer.

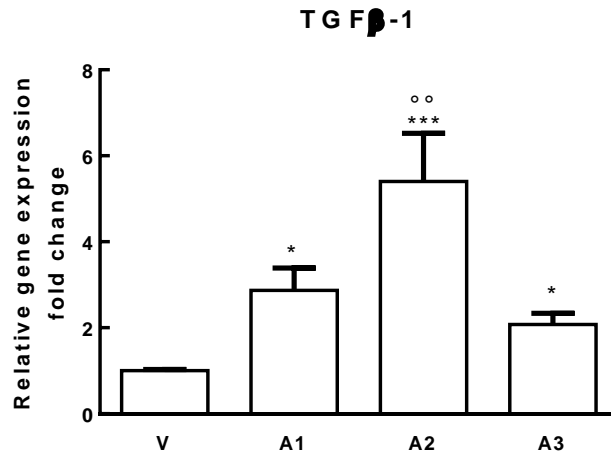


Figure S3. Relative TGFβ-1 gene expression in polarized Caco-2 cell monolayers treated for 24 hours with the broth solutions (or the vehicle, V, MRS broth) and infected with EHEC at 100 MOI for 2 h. A1, A2 and A3 (1:10 dilution) pretreatment significantly increase TGFβ-1 expression (*** P < 0.001; * P < 0.05) in respect with cells treated with just EHEC; A2 with a greater effect compared with A1 and A3 (°° P < 0.01).

The following primers were used to perform Real-Time PCR: TGFβ-1 forward 5'-CAACTATTGCTTCAGCTCCACG -3' reverse 5'- AAGTTGGCATGGTAGCCCTT -3'; RPL13A forward 5'-CACCTGGAGGAGAAGAGGA-3', reverse 5'- CCGTAGCCTCATGAGCTGTT-3'. Changes in gene expression were calculated by the $2^{-\Delta\Delta C_t}$ formula using RPL13A as reference gene. Data are the pool of three independent experiments.