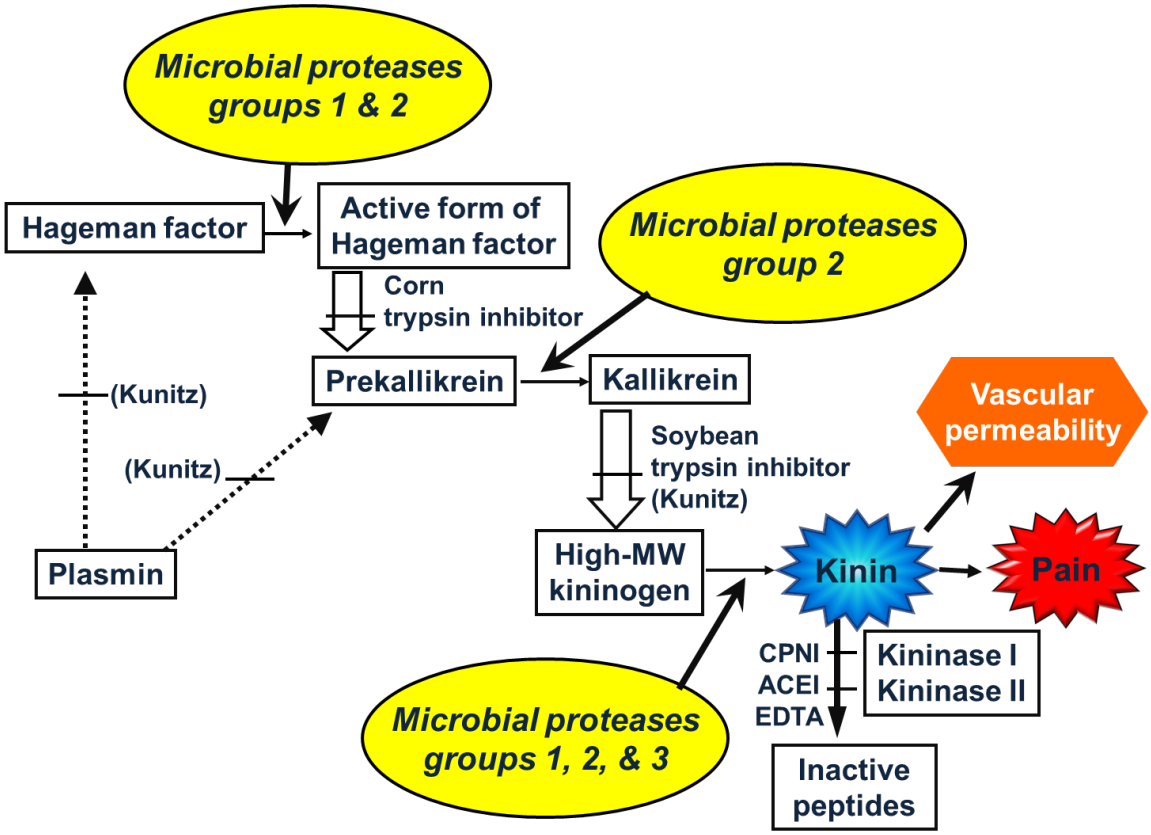

Supplementary Figure S1: The bradykinin (kinin)-generating cascade of host animals that is activated by various microbial proteases at different steps and inhibitors. All protease inhibitors in the plasma, including α_1-trypsin inhibitor and α_2-macroglobutin, cannot efficiently suppress these bacterial proteases. and α_2-macroglobutin is effective for only a short period. Similar to the protease cascade of kinin production that operates in parallel is the blood clotting (fibrin formation) cascade [4, 20-30, 34]. Kinin has multiple physiological roles, including pain induction, effects on vascular permeability, and effects on many inflammatory mediators (see Figure 1). CPNI, carboxypeptidase N inhibitor; ACEI, angiotensin-converting enzyme inhibitor; EDTA, ethylenediaminetetraacetic acid. (Adapted from [4,34].)