



**Figure S1. Immunoblots of NHLRC2 and  $\alpha$ -SMA expression in cultured lung cells.**

(A) Immunoblot of NHLRC2 expression in cell lysates prepared from primary stromal cells derived from control lungs (n = 4) and idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis (IPF) patients (n=5), small airway epithelial cells (SAEC) (n = 1), and primary bronchial/tracheal epithelial cells (PBTE) (n = 1). (B, C) Primary stromal cells derived from normal control lung (n = 1) and IPF (n = 1), and small airway epithelial cell line (SAEC, n = 1) were exposed to 5 ng/ml TGF- $\beta$ 1 for 24 to 72 hours, cell lysates were prepared and subjected to SDS-PAGE and Western blot analysis. (B) Immunoblot of NHLRC2 expression in TGF- $\beta$ 1 exposed cells. (C) Immunoblot and a bar graph of alpha smooth muscle actin ( $\alpha$ -SMA) levels. Band intensities were quantified using Image Studio Lite software, normalized to GAPDH, and compared to non-treated cells (control).