

# An Inhalable Hybrid Biomimetic Nanoplatfrom for Acute Lung Injury Treatment

Ph.D. Candidate: Chang LIU

Supervisor: Prof. Ying ZHENG

State Key Laboratory of Quality Research in Chinese Medicine,  
Institute of Chinese Medical Sciences, University of Macau

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*THE FUTURE OF DELIVERY SCIENCE*



# Personal Profile



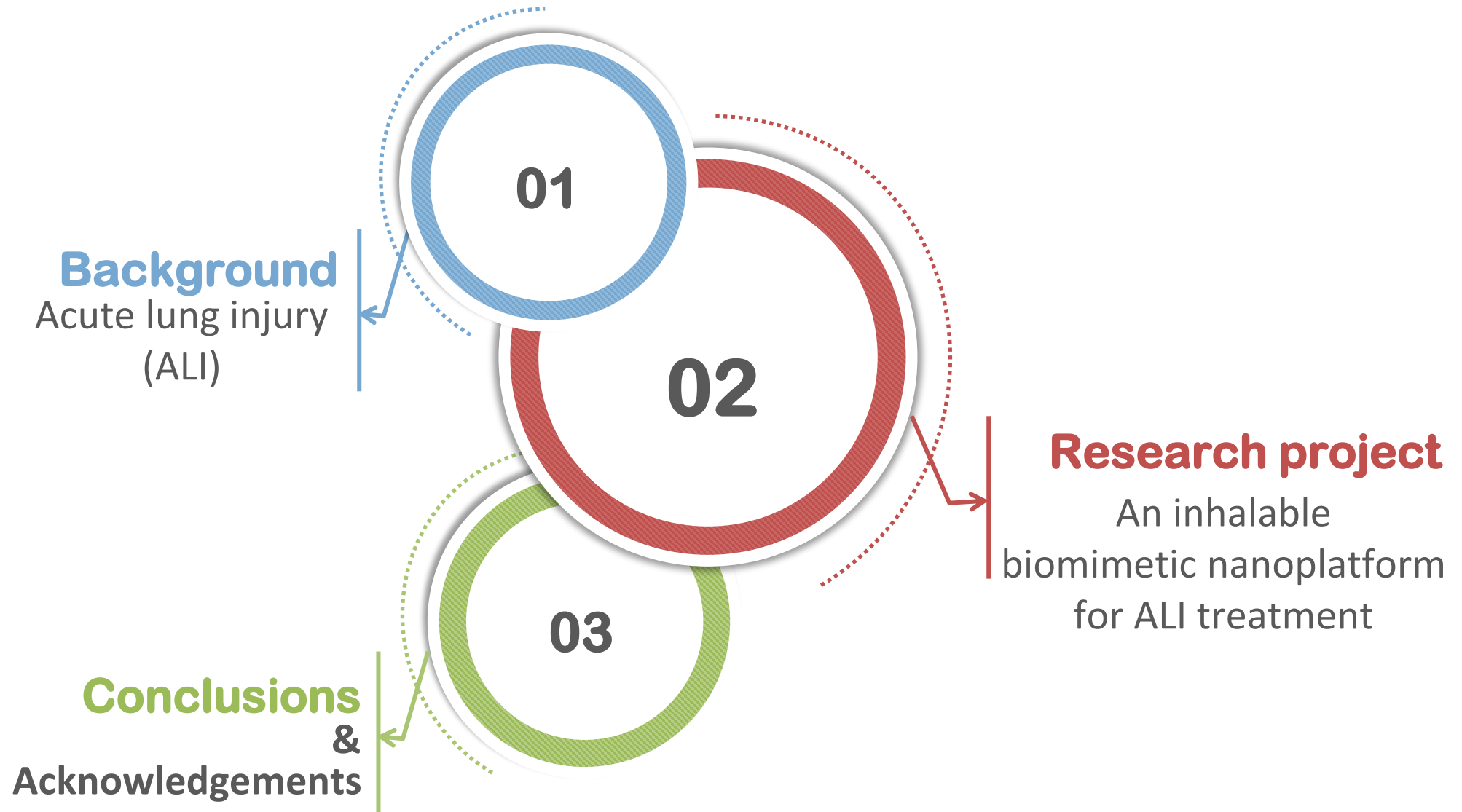
## LIU Chang

*PhD candidate., University of Macau*  
*Major: Biomedical Sciences*

### Research Interests

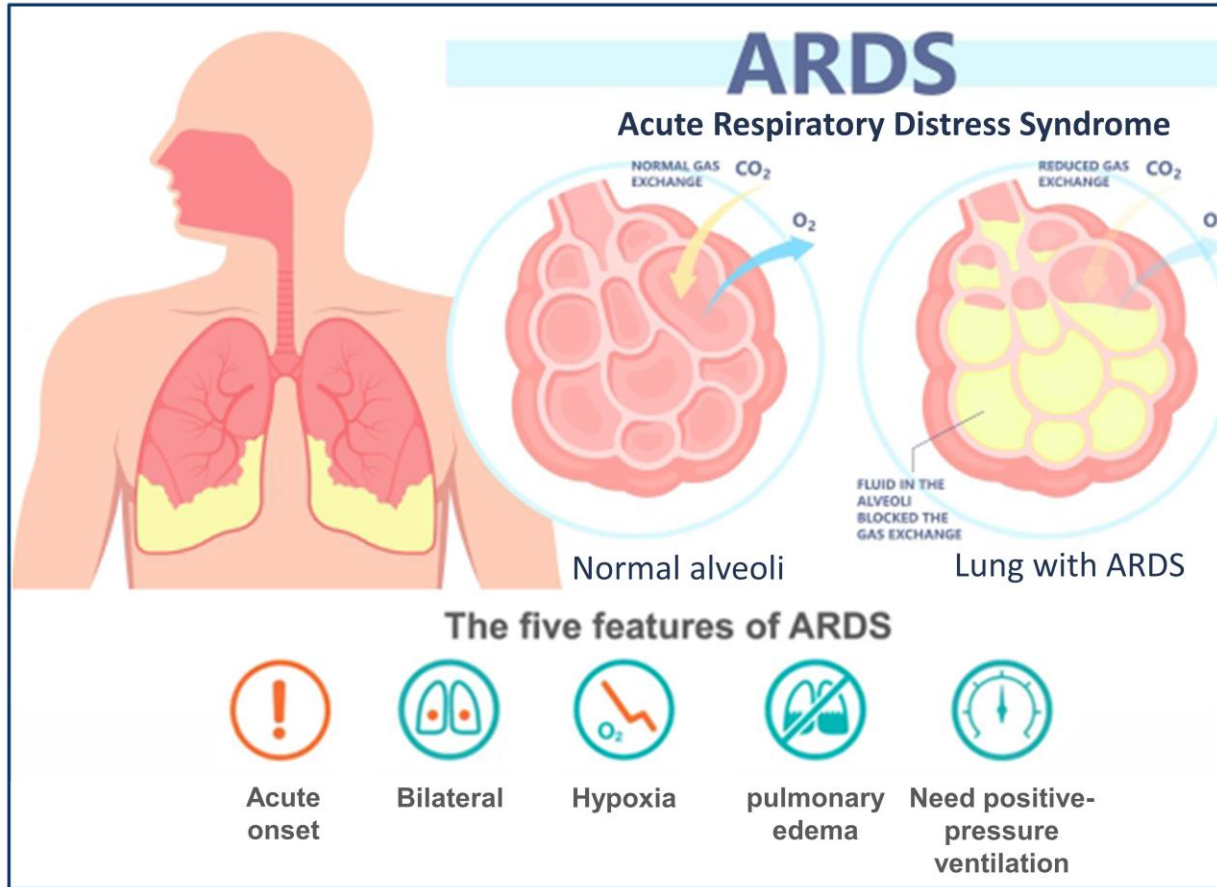
- Inhaled nanomedicines and pulmonary disease
- Developing lipid-based particles for pulmonary drug delivery
- Polymeric particle-based therapies for acute inflammatory diseases

# Outline



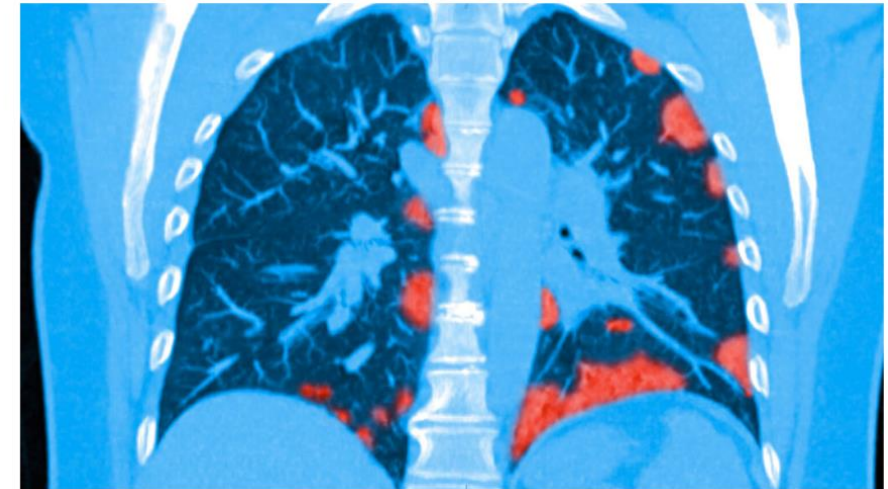
# 1. Research background

## What is Acute Lung Injury (ALI or ARDS)?



**Some patients who survive COVID-19 may suffer lasting lung damage**

The similar respiratory disease SARS left lasting lung injury in some patients



**“**  
*Estimated mortality rate for patients with severe COVID-19-related ARDS is 80%*

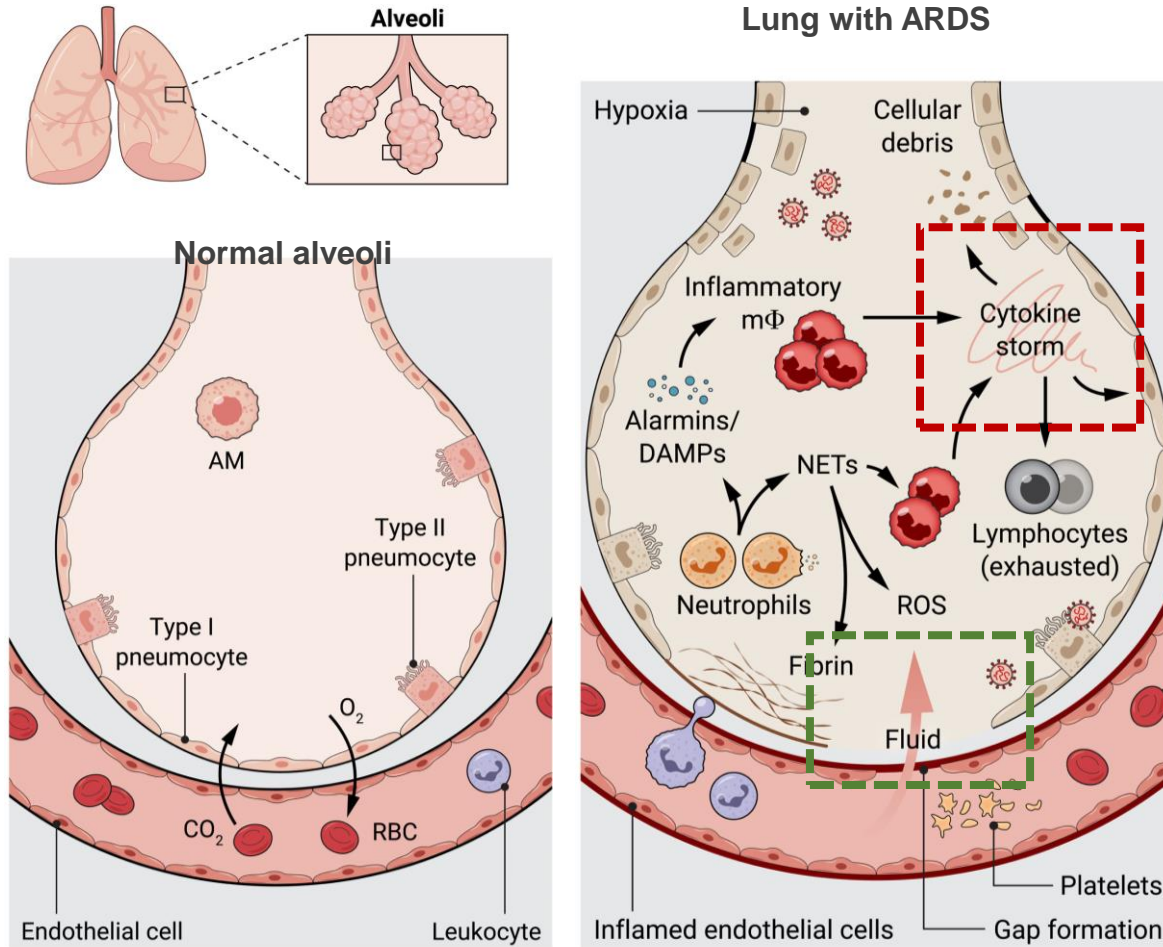
STEVEN NEEDELL/SCIENCE SOURCE, 2020

ALI/ARDS is a type of respiratory failure caused by **the rapid onset of the spread of inflammation** in the lungs.

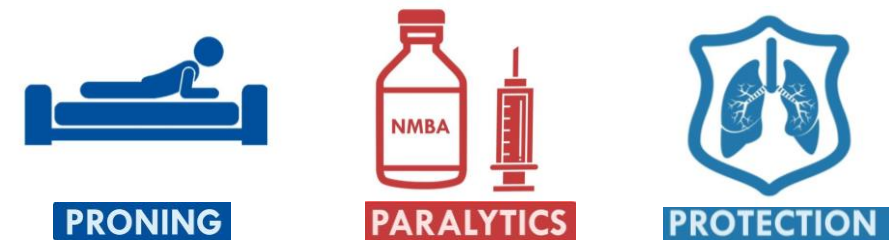


# 1. Research background

## Hurdles for ALI/ARDS Treatment



## Therapy options in ARDS treatment



**No specific pharmacotherapies have been identified.**

## Insights from clinical studies

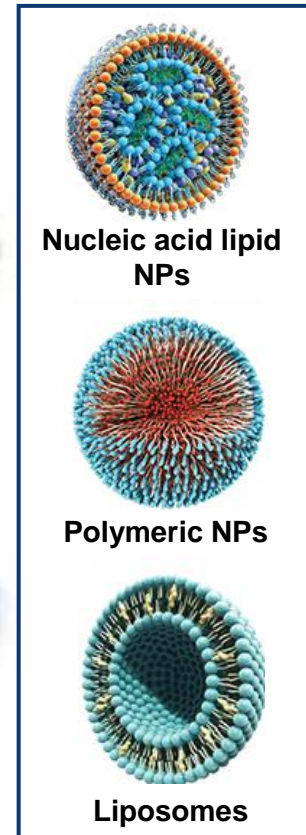
- **The heterogeneity of ARDS**  
Targeting one pathway may be suboptimal
- **The unique pulmonary physiological barrier**  
Low drug delivery efficiency to the lungs

# 1. Research background

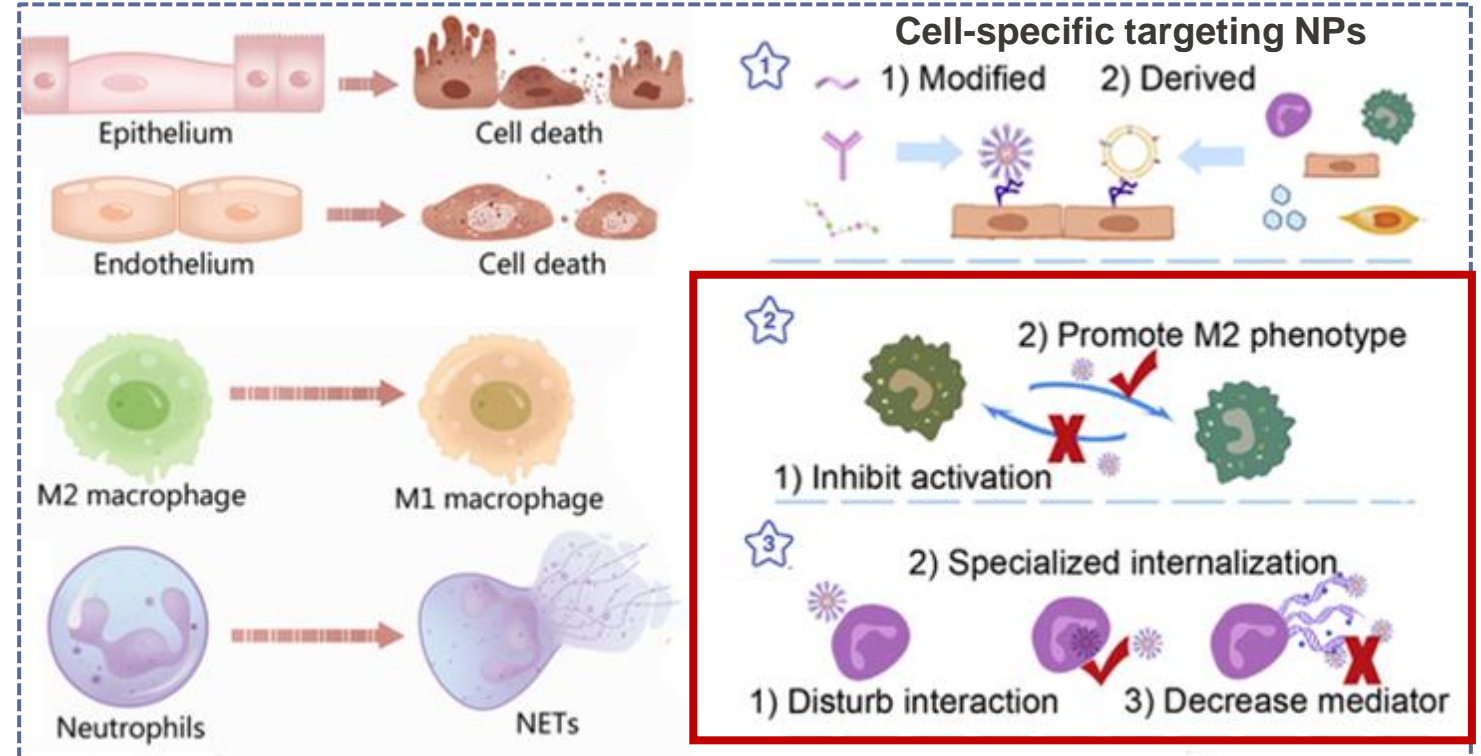
## Inhalable Nanoparticle (NP)-Based Therapeutics



Inhalation delivery



### ALI: A Multicellular Process

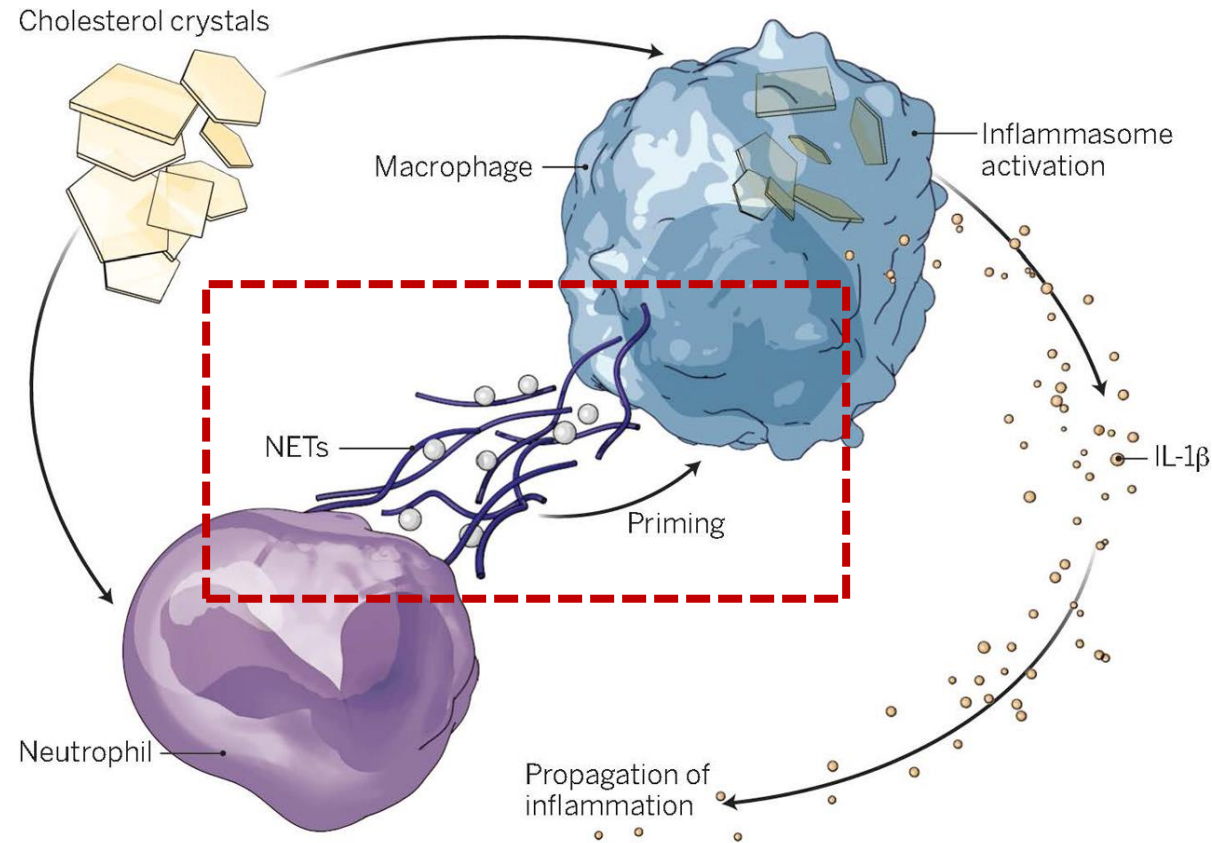


Limitation: 1. Single-targeted strategies 2. Insufficient for restoring pulmonary functions

**Key points:** Deliver sufficient drug to the lung;  
Control overwhelming inflammation; Repair lung function

## 2. Research Project

### Attempt to modulate multiple immune cells



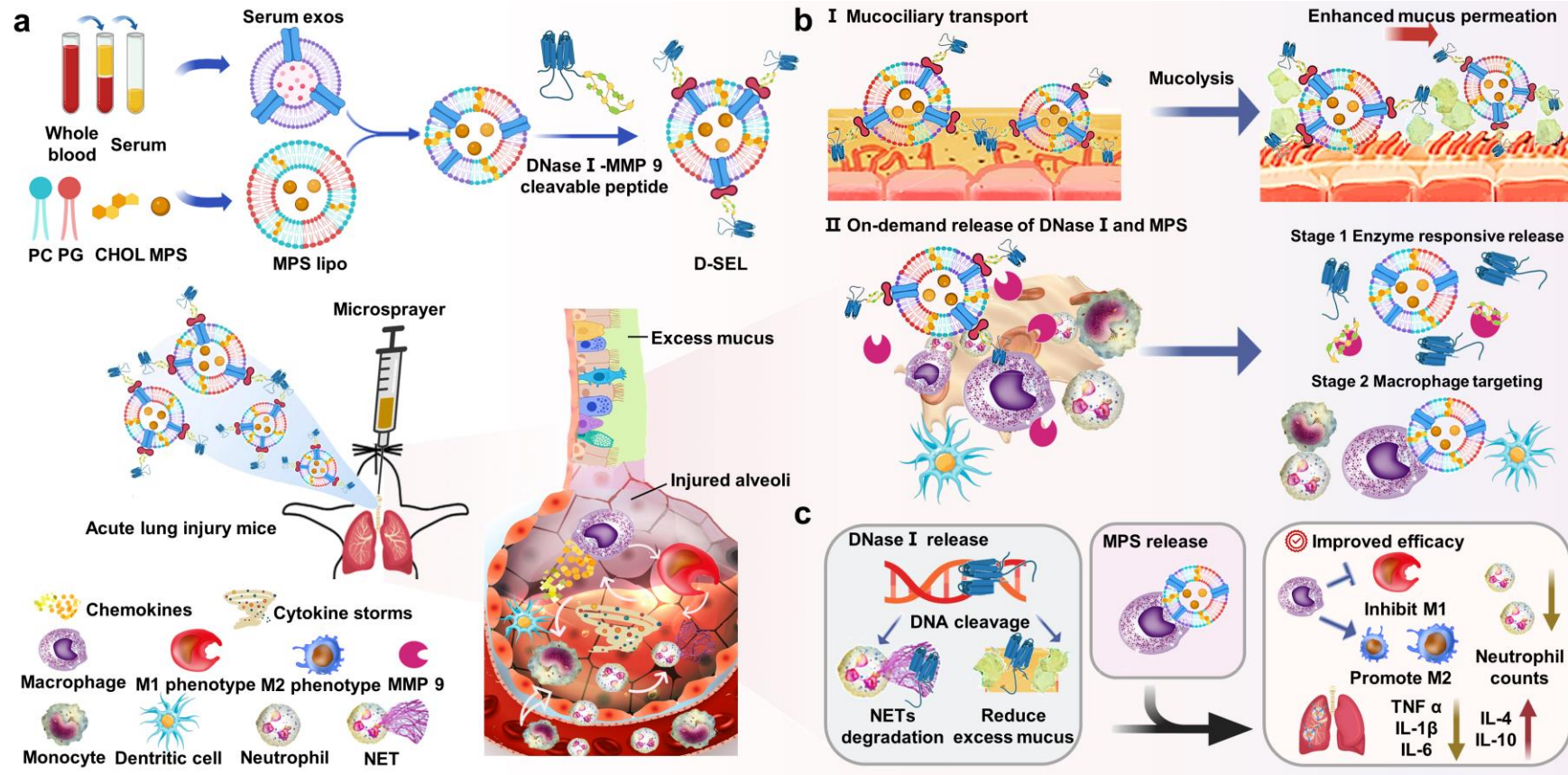
*SCIENCE*,2015,349.

Interactions of **lung macrophages** and **recruited neutrophils** with **lung microenvironment** are strongly implicated in the progress of lung inflammation.



## 2. Research Project

### An inhalable biomimetic nanoplatfrom (D-SEL)



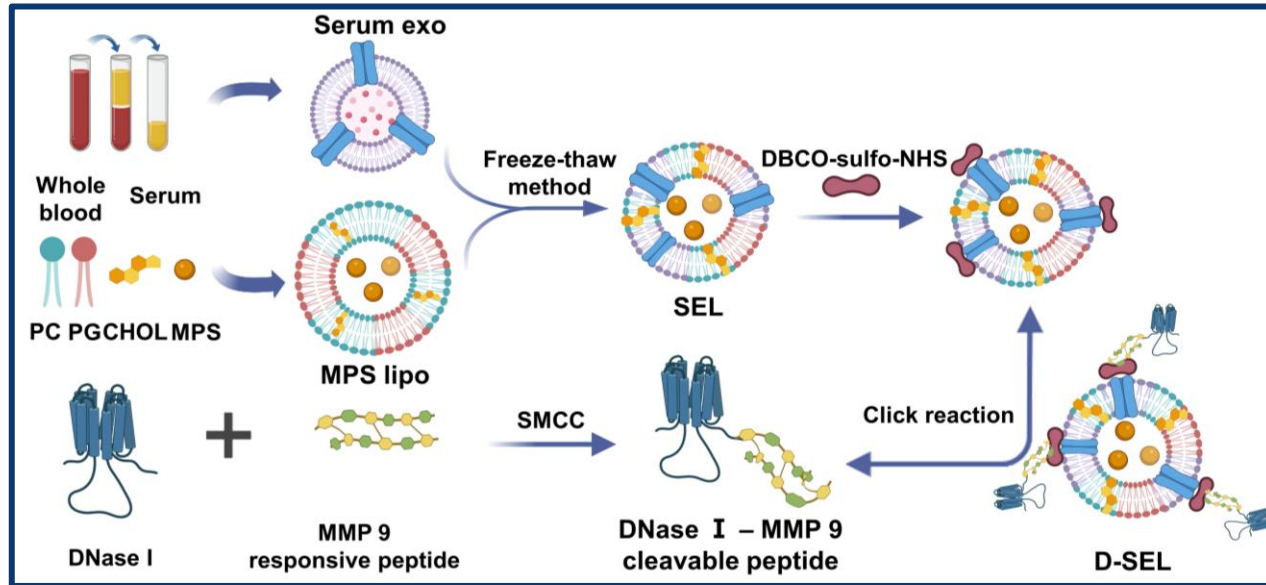
Inhalation of D-SEL can **directly degrading** dysregulated neutrophil extracellular traps (NETs) and **efficiently modulating** lung macrophages polarization into M2 phenotype.



# 2. Research Project

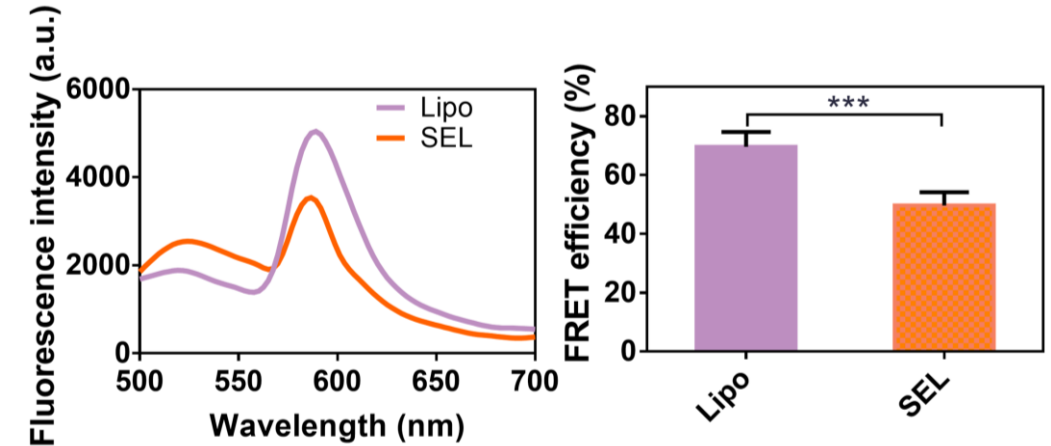
## Results

An inhalable biomimetic sequential drug-releasing nanoplatform (D-SEL) for the combinatorial treatment of ALI

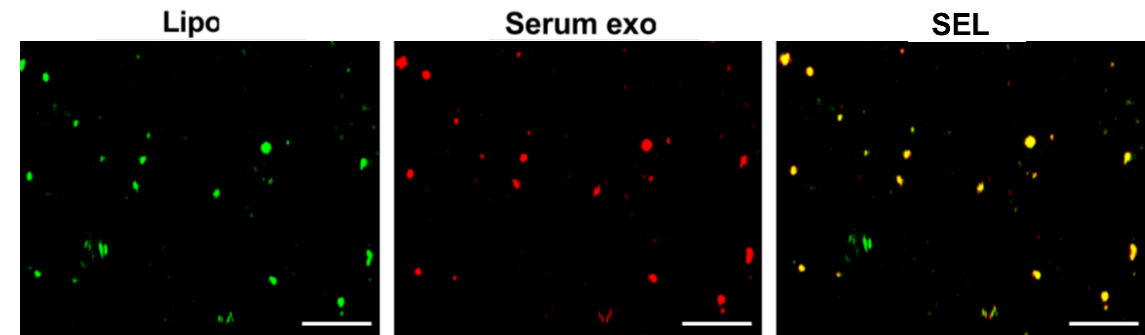


Model drug:  
methylprednisolone sodium succinate(MPS) and DNase I .

(A) FRET ratio



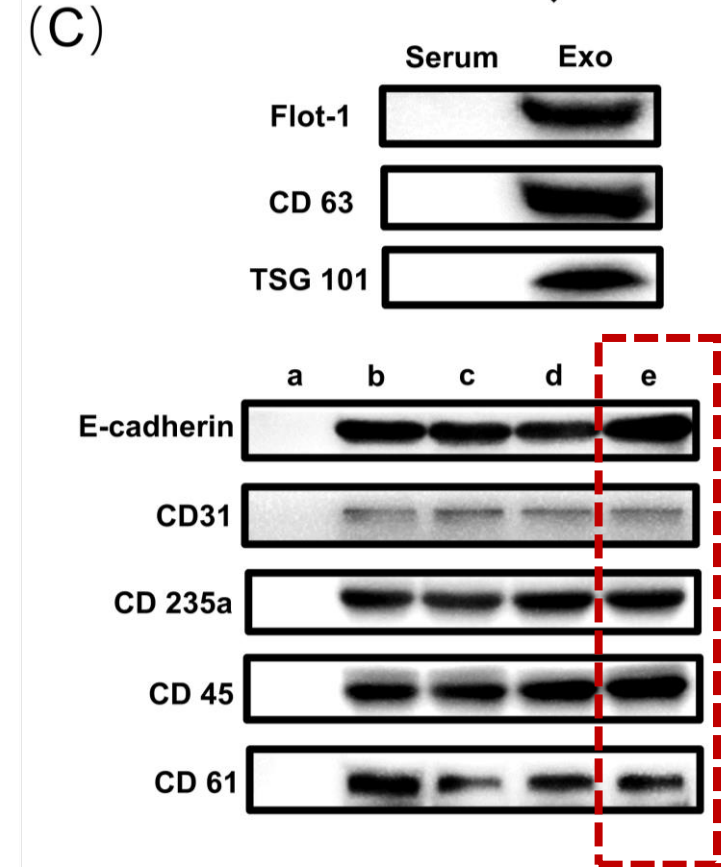
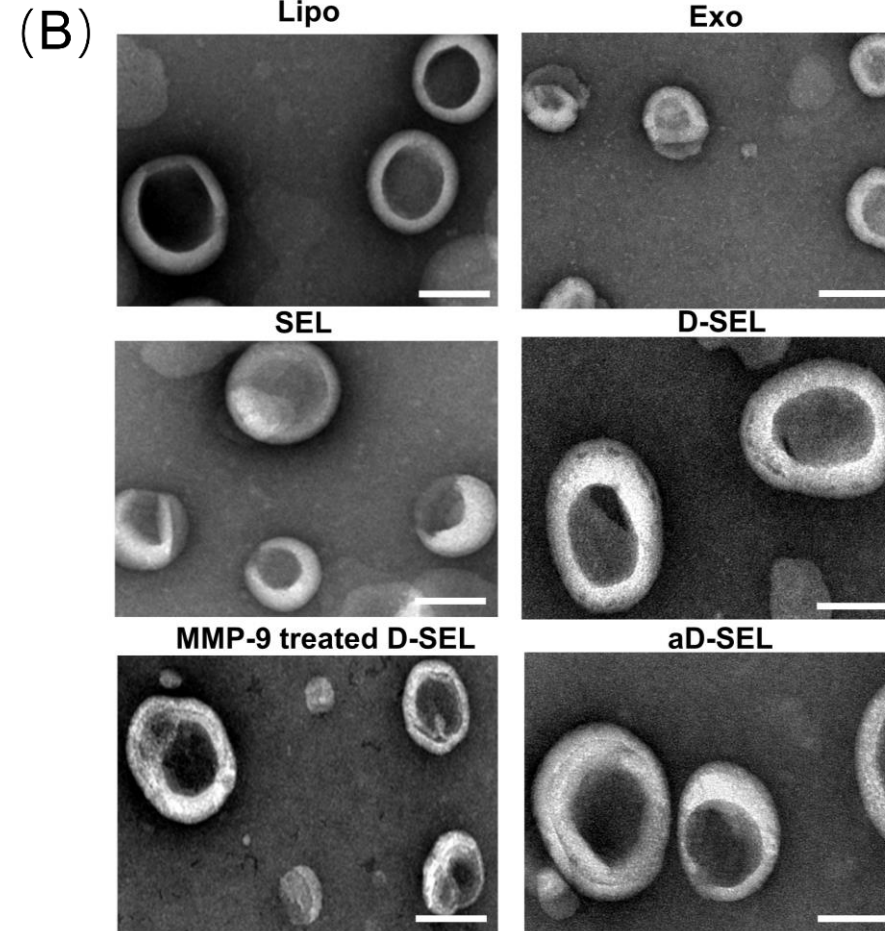
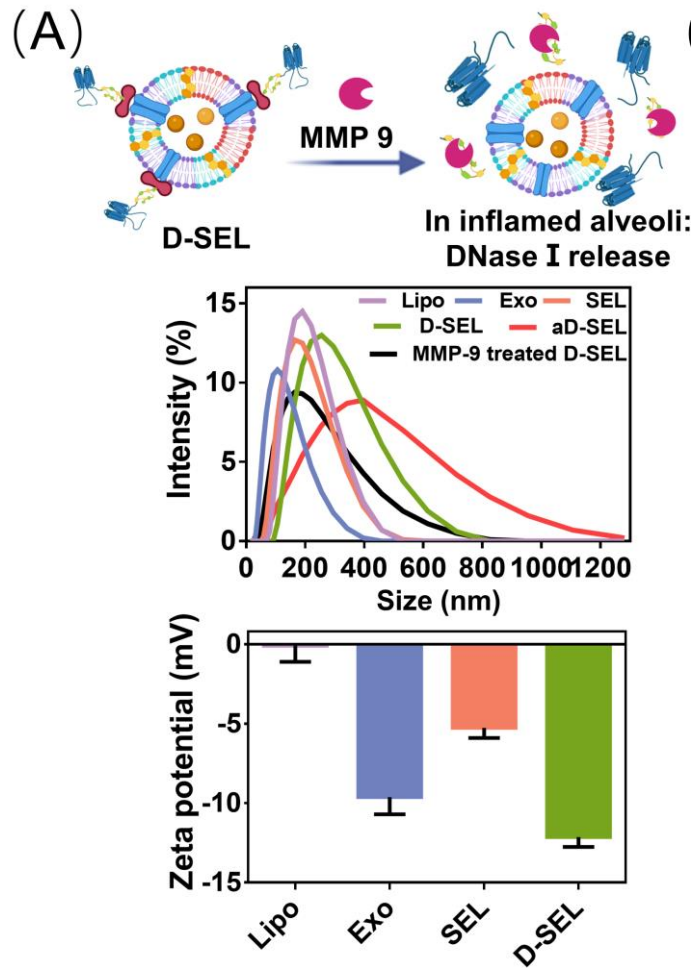
(B) Representative CLSM images



Construction of D-SEL.

## 2. Research Project

### Results

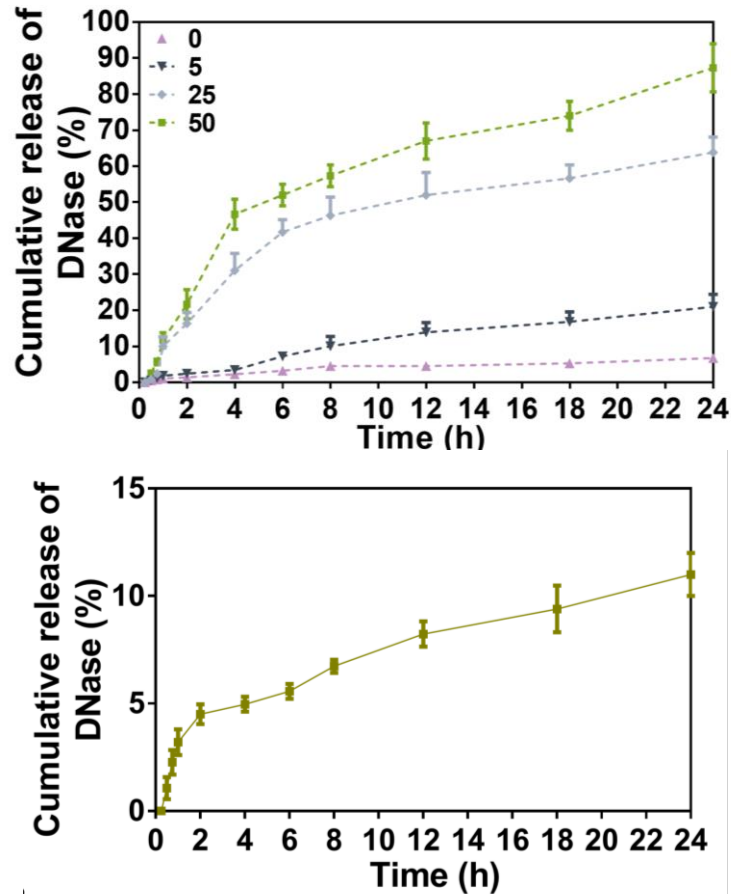


Physicochemical and protein characterization of D-SEL.

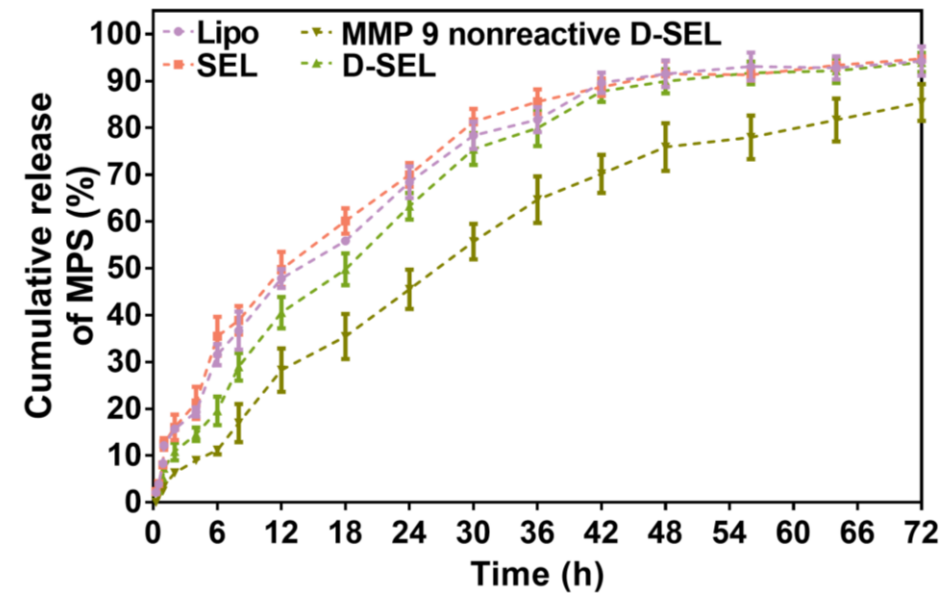
## 2. Research Project

### Results

(A) DNase release profile in medium



(B) MPS release profile in medium



For comparison, the MMP-9 nonreactive MPS/D-SEL was established.

- DNase I was released **faster** than that of MPS from the MPS/D-SEL within the same period of time.

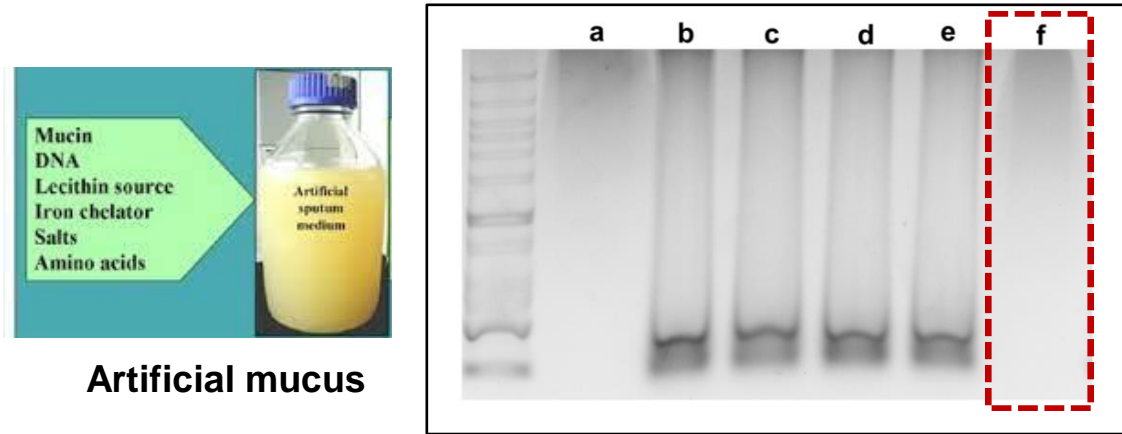
The **sequential release** of DNase I and MPS from the MPS/D-SEL exhibited **a high MMP-9-responsiveness**.



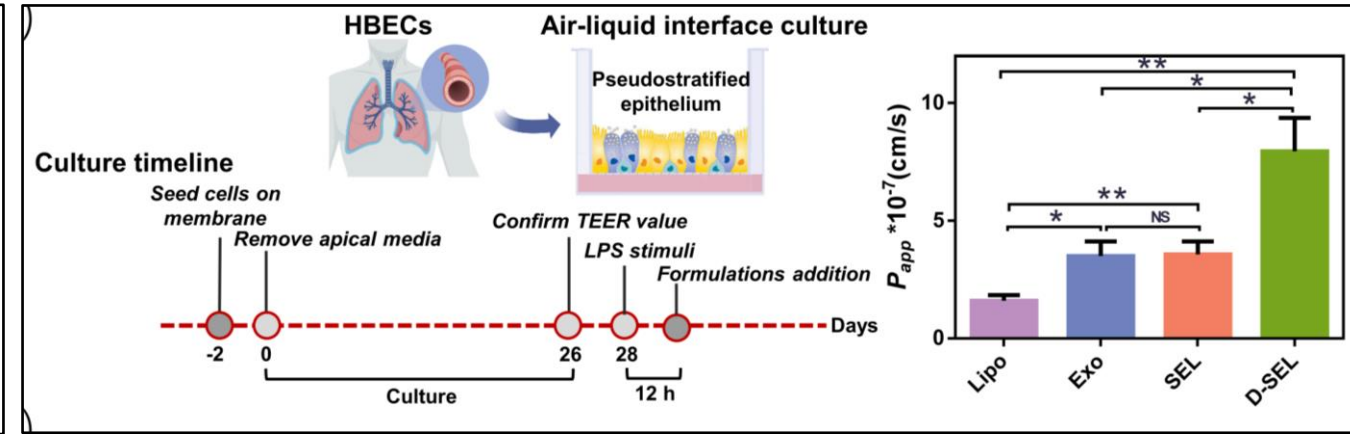
# 2. Research Project

## Results

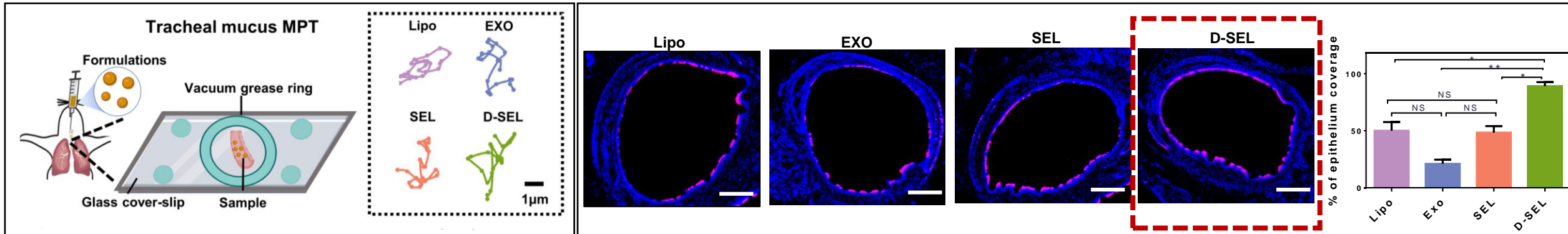
(A) DNA digestion assay



(B) Transwell multi-plate assay



(C) Particle distribution in airways following intratracheal administration

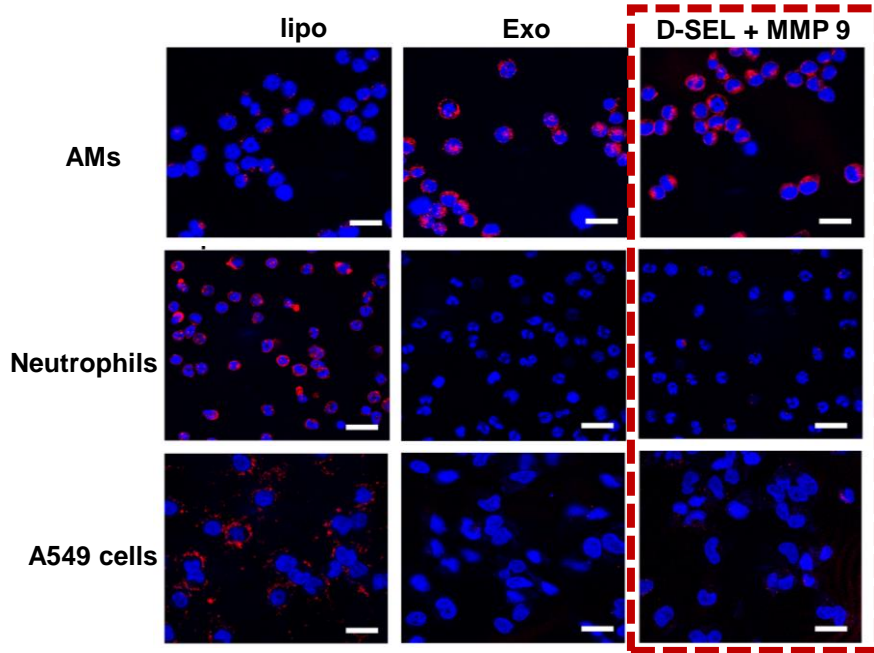
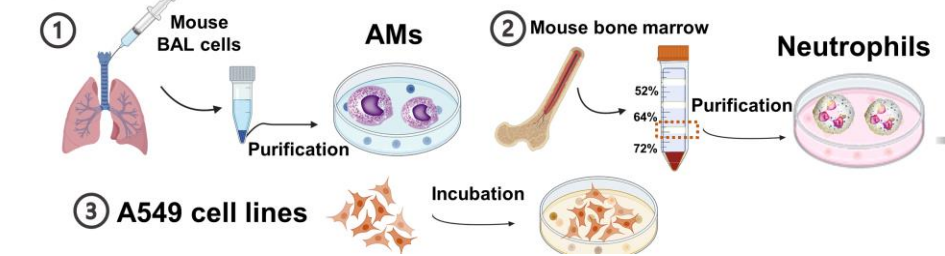


DNase I grafting **enhanced** particle permeation through mucus *in vitro* and *in vivo*.

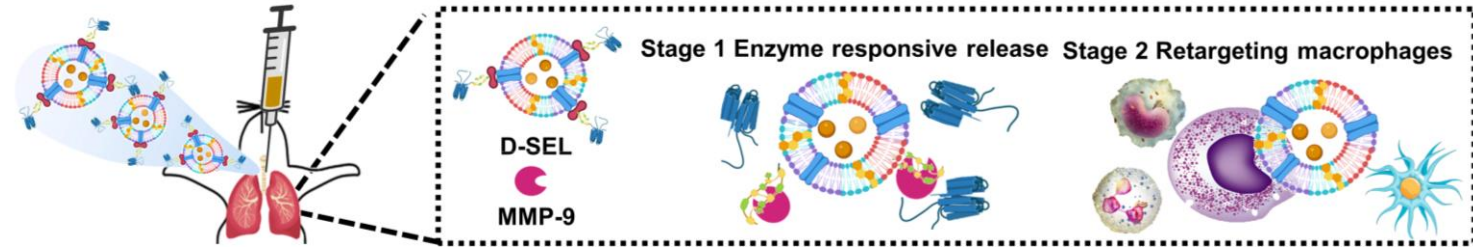
# 2. Research Project

## Results

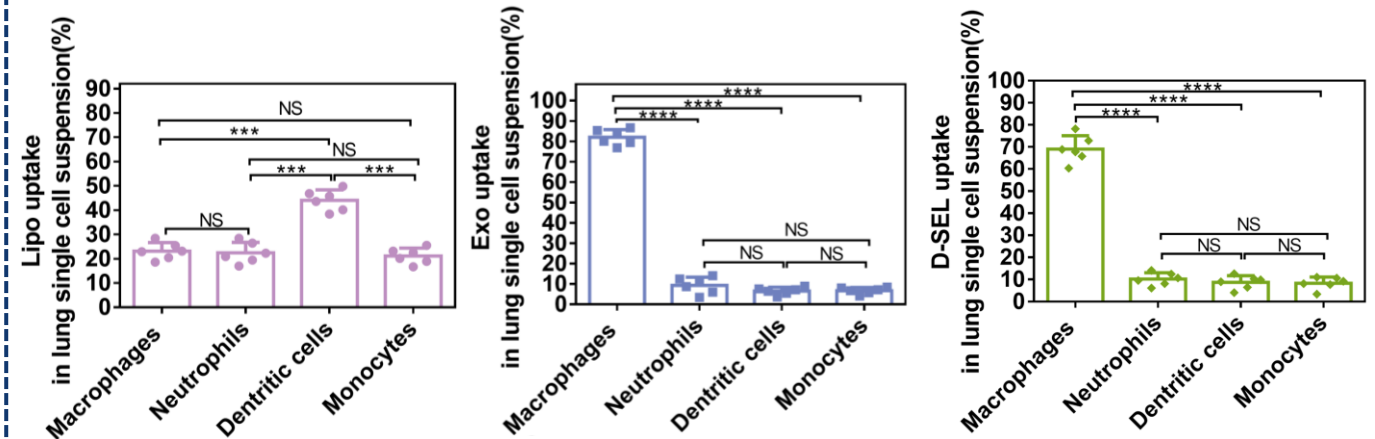
(A) A cellular uptake study *in vitro*



(B) A cell targeting study *in vivo*



Distribution of D-SEL among lung single cell suspension

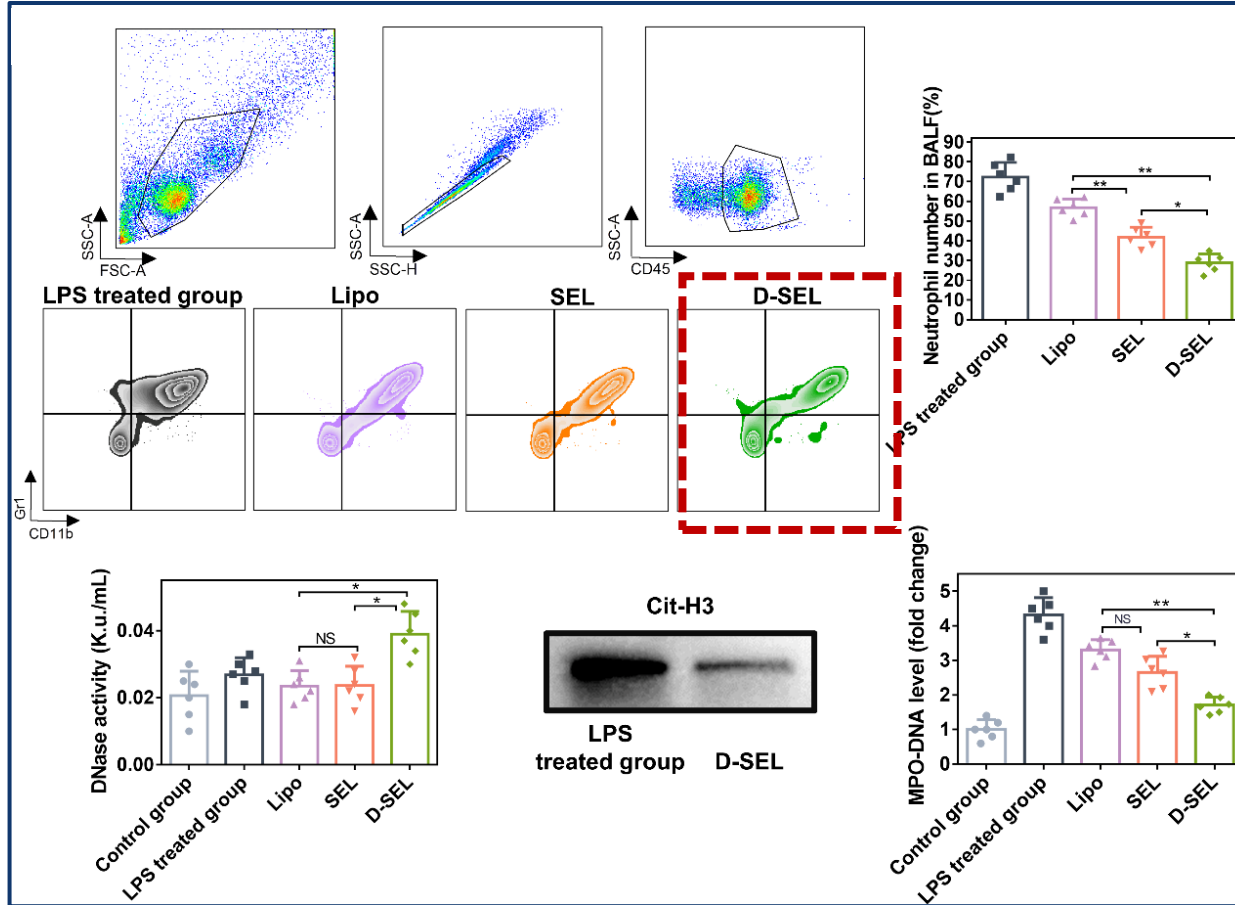


The D-SEL would detach their DNase I arms and accurately retarget the macrophages.

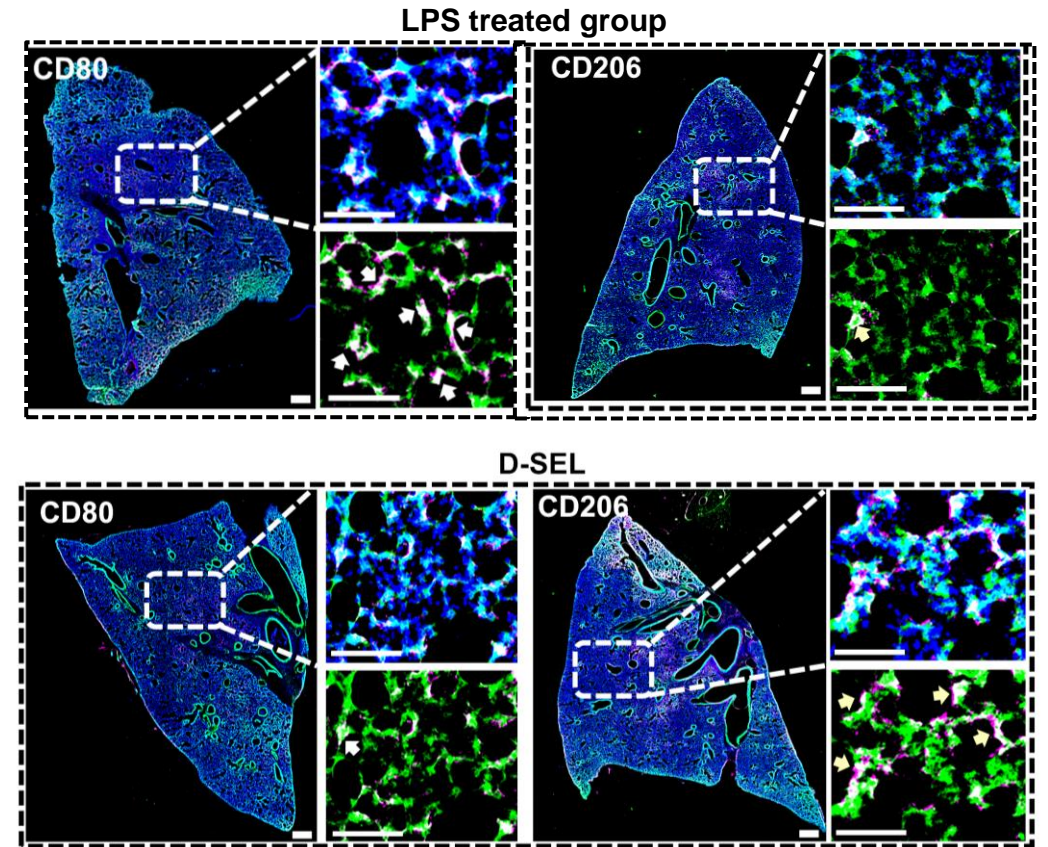
## 2. Research Project

### Results

(A) **Favorable NET degradation** by released DNase I arms



(B) **Promoted** expression of M2 Macrophages



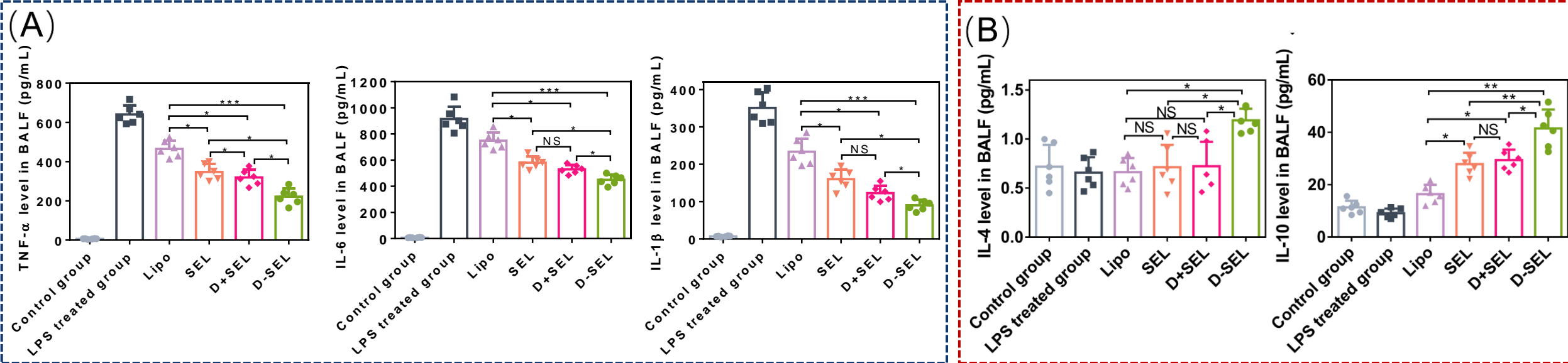
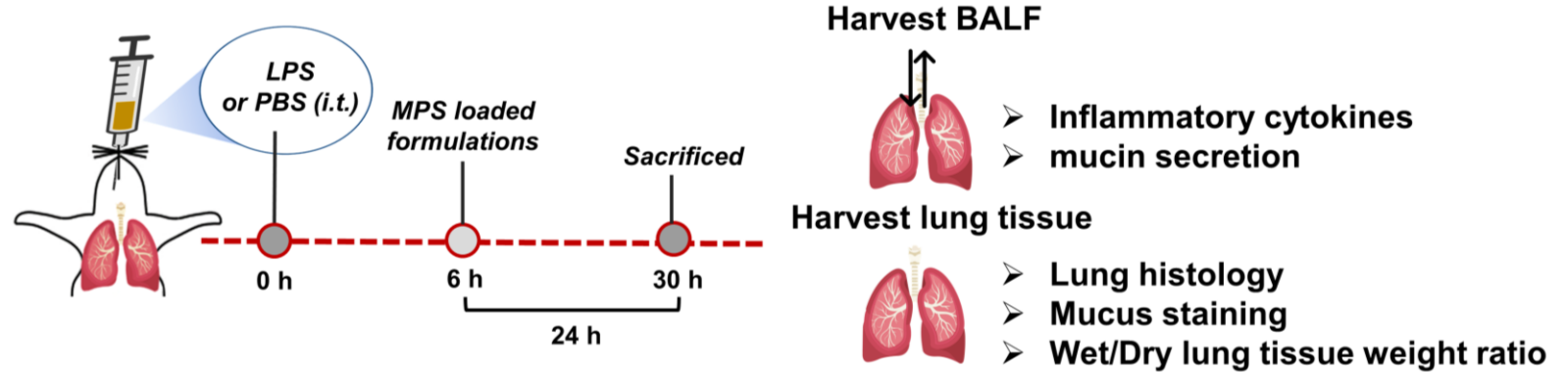
Inhalation of MPS/D-SEL could **efficiency disturb the coordinated interaction** between neutrophils and lung macrophages.



## 2. Research Project

### Results

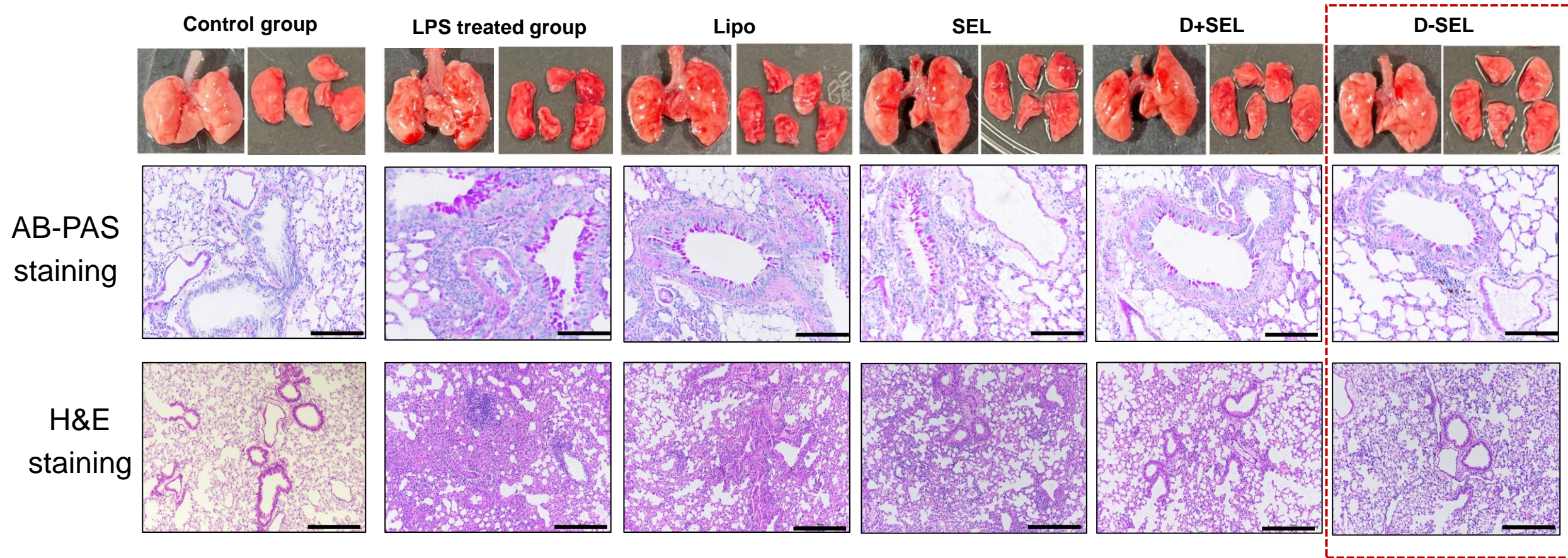
- ALI mice
  - Severe lung injury
  - Cytokine release syndrome (CRS)



Inhalation of MPS/D-SEL remarkably decrease proinflammatory cytokines but higher expression levels of anti-inflammatory cytokines.

## 2. Research Project

### Results



Inhalation of MPS/D-SEL **remarkably alleviate** lung pathological disorders in LPS induced mice.



# 3. Conclusions

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- The fabrication of dual drug-loaded nanoplateform was facile and efficient;
- Excellent mucus penetration;
- On-demand targeting towards multiple inflammatory cells ;
- Offering new solutions to achieve precise modulation of the lung immune responses in ALI treatments.





# Acknowledgement



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# Thanks!

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## Q & A