Supplementary Figures and Figure Legends

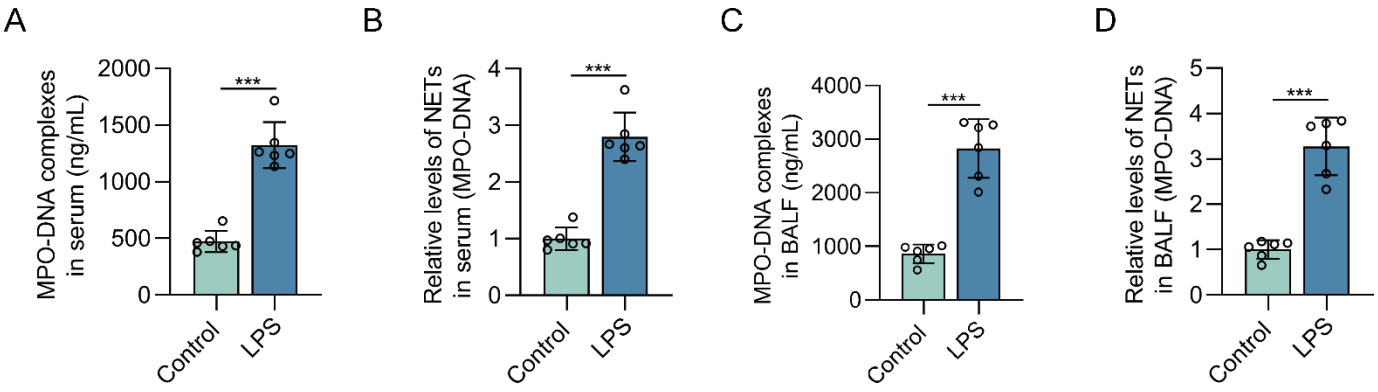

Figure S1. LPS increased the concentration of NETs in serum and BLAF of mice. C57BL/6J mice were intratracheally injected with LPS (5 mg/kg). Mice were killed 12 h after injection of LPS, and serum and bronchoalveolar lavage (BALF) were collected. An ELISA kit was used to measure the amount of MPO-DNA in serum and BALF of mice. **A** MPO-DNA complexes in serum (n=6). **B** Relative levels of NETs in serum (MPO-DNA) (n=6). **C** MPO-DNA complexes in BLAF (n=6). **D** Relative levels of NETs in BLAF (MPO-DNA) (n=6). Data are expressed as the mean ± SD. Comparisons between the two groups were made using an unpaired t-test. ***$P < 0.001$.

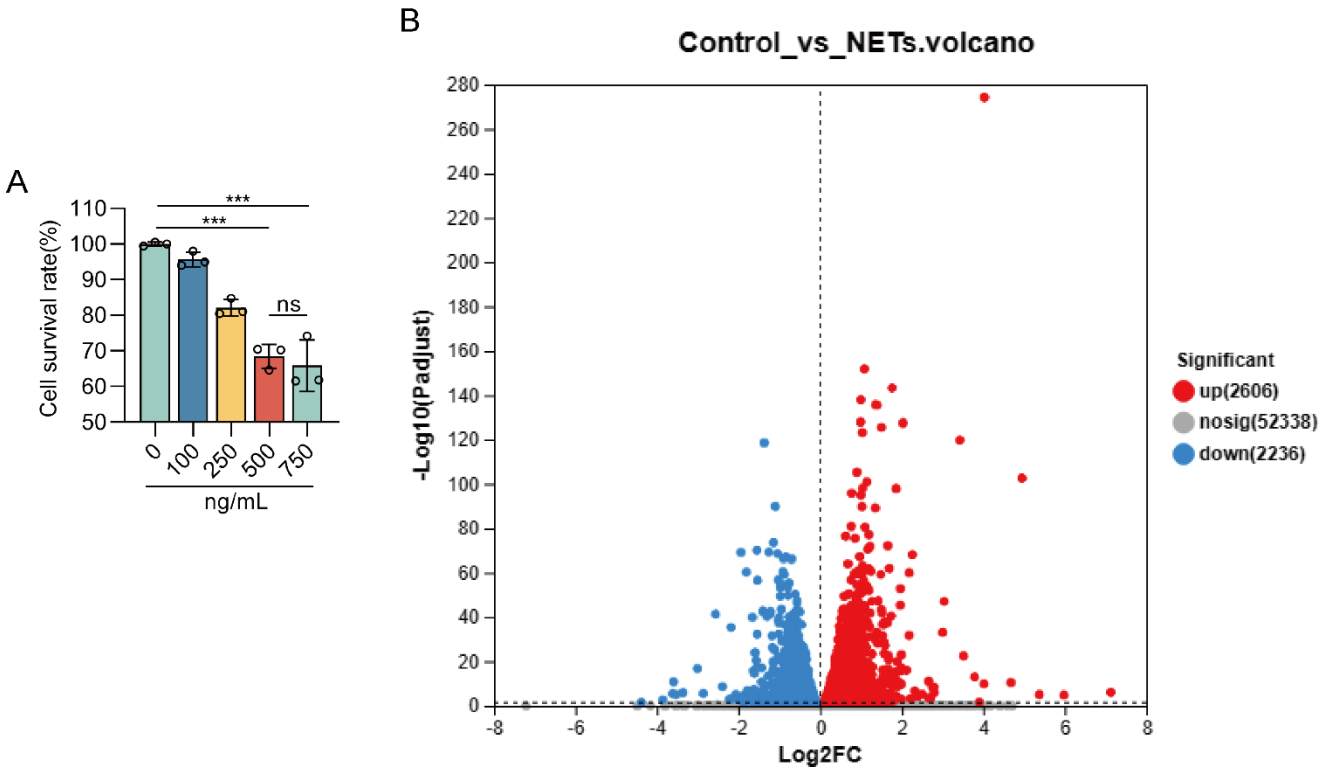

Figure S2. NETs can cause damage to AECs. A MLE12 cells were treated with different concentrations of NETs (100, 250, 500, and 750 ng/mL) for 12 h. MLE12 cell viability was evaluated by CCK-8 assay (n=3). **B** Significantly changed RNAs were visualized in volcano plots. Red and blue dots indicate up-regulated and downregulated genes, respectively. Differentially expressed genes in NETs-treated MLE12 cells compared with normal cells. Data are expressed as the mean ± SD. Differences among multiple groups were performed using ANOVA. ***$P < 0.001$.

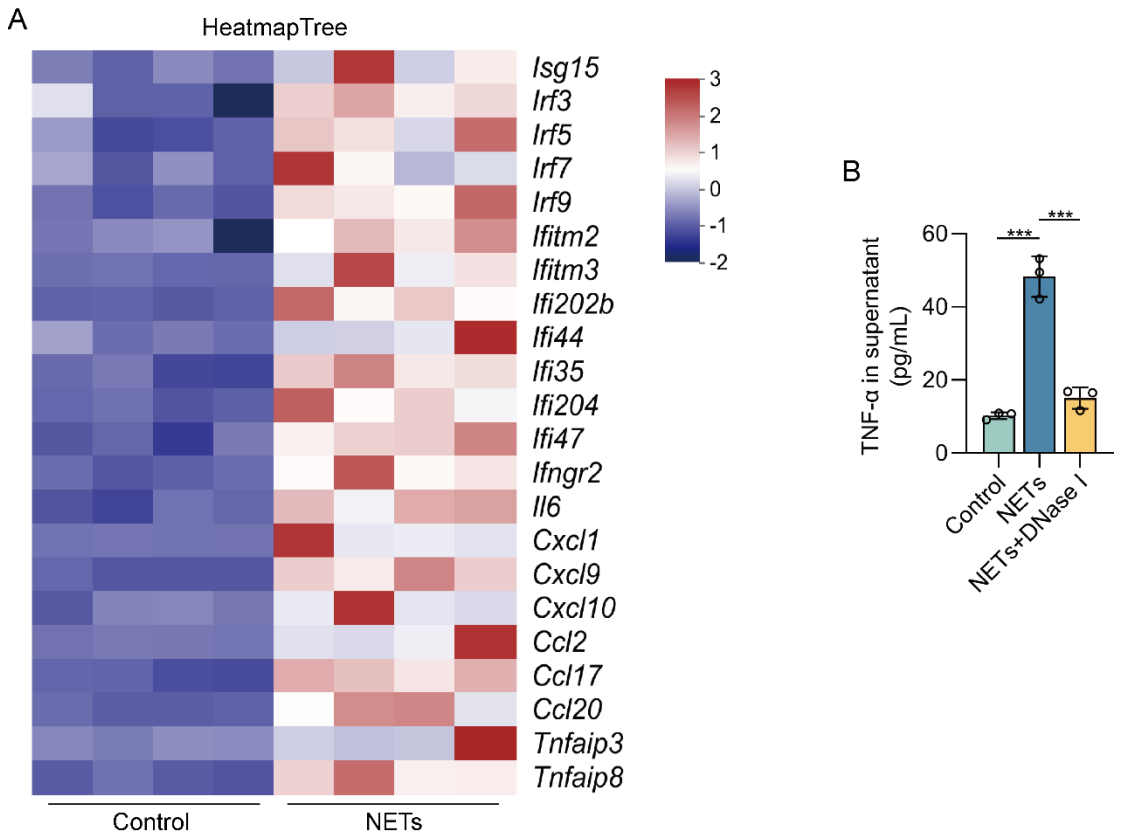

Figure S3. NETs can cause upregulation of pro-inflammatory factor gene expression in AECs. MLE12 cells were treated with NETs (500 ng/mL) for 12 h after DNase I (10 μg/mL) intervention 30 min earlier. **A** Heatmap analysis of RNA sequencing for pro-inflammatory factor gene expression in MLE12 cells as indicated. **B** TNF-α production in the supernatant (n=3). Data are expressed as the mean ± SD. Differences among multiple groups were performed using ANOVA. ***P < 0.001.

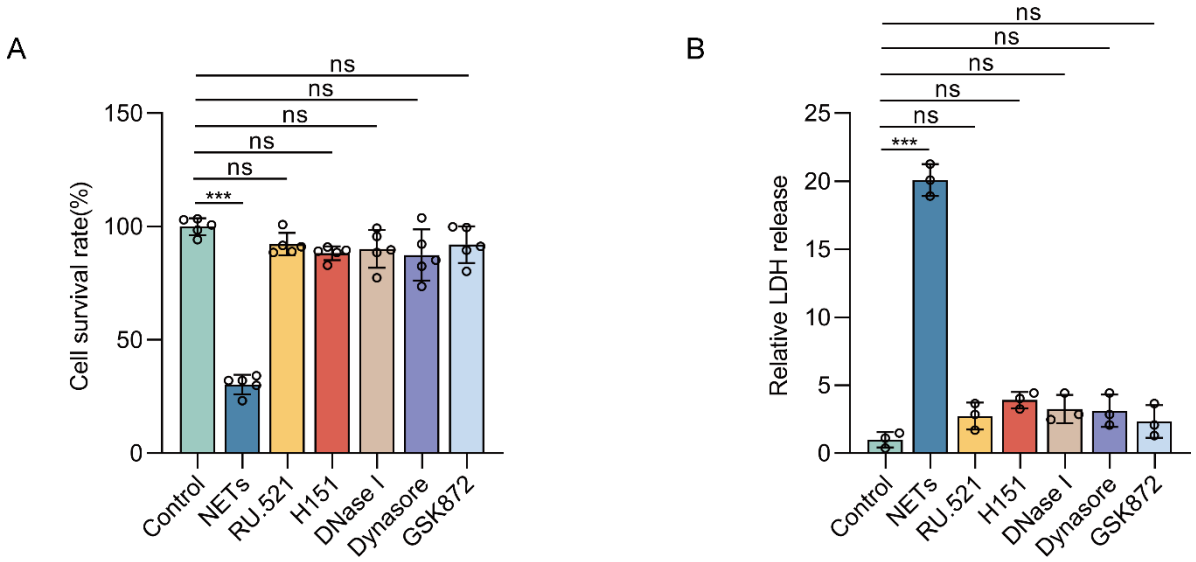

Figure S4. Drug treatment alone had no significant effect on the viability of AECs *in vitro*. MLE12 cells were treated with RU.521 (10 μM), H151 (5 μM), DNase I (10 μg/mL), Dynasore (80 μM), or GSK872 (10 μM) for 12 h. **A** MLE12 cell viability was evaluated by CCK-8 assay (n=5). **B** Evaluation of MLE12 cell mortality by LDH release assay (n=3). Data are expressed as the mean ± SD. Differences among multiple groups were performed using ANOVA. ***$P < 0.001$.