

Figures:

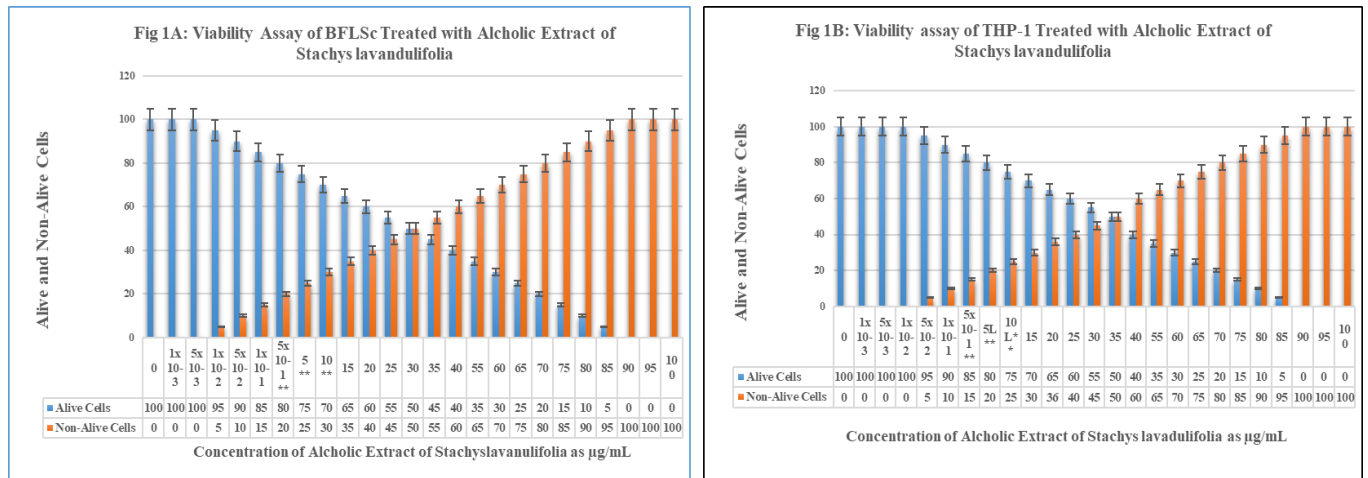


Figure 1: Trypan blue cellular viability assay for BFLSc (1A) and THP-1 (1B). Response of THP-1 and BFLSc cell treatment with increasing concentration of ASEL after 24 h. Cellular viability decreased in a dose-dependent manner in both cells treated with ASEL. Data are presented as the mean \pm SE from four independent duplicate experiments. * $p < 0.01$ and ** $p < 0.001$.

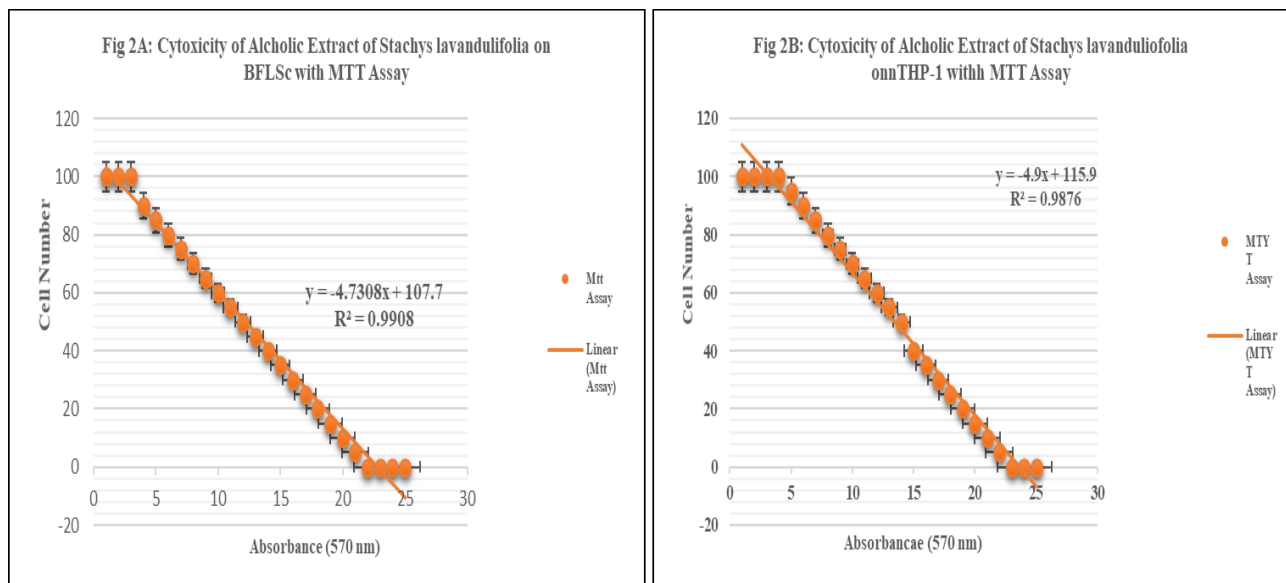


Figure 2: MTT Cell Proliferation Assay: BFLSc cells (2A) and THP-1 cell (2B) were grown in DMEM media supplemented with 10% FBS. Cells were exposed to increasing concentration of ASEL extract in the presence of LPS (1 µg/ml) or incubated with LPS (1 µg/ml) alone for 24 h. The cells were incubated with 20 µl MTT and placed in a 37 °C incubator for 4 h. After incubation, cells were treated with MTT Solvent for 15 min. at room temperature. Absorbance was measured at 570 nm. Inset graph is an expanded segment of the assay data at lower cell number per well

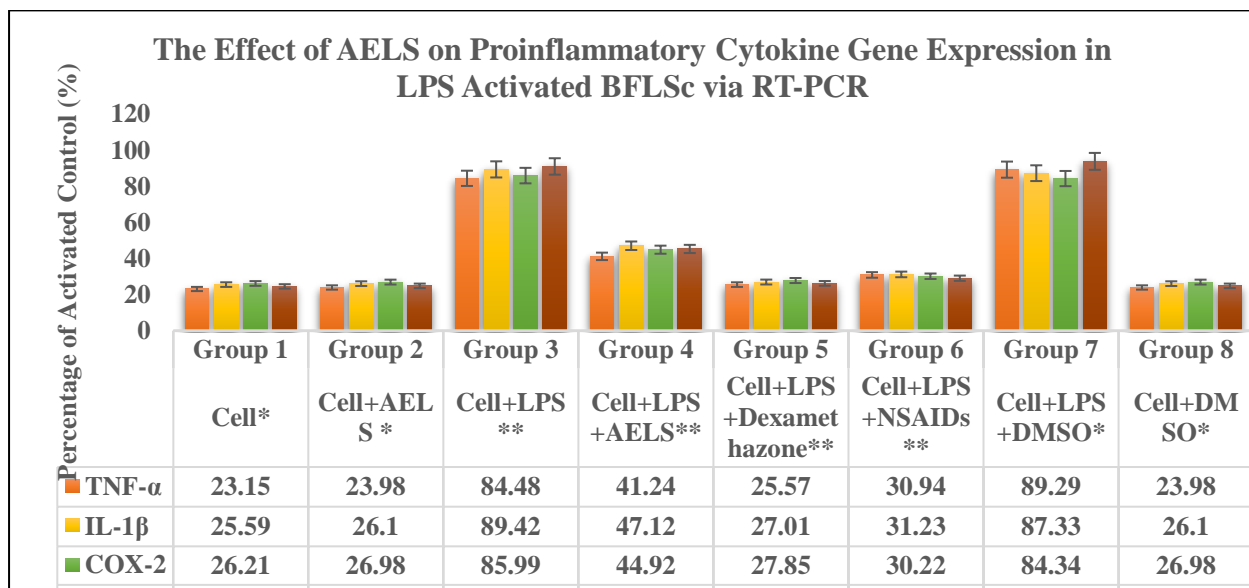


Fig. 3. The effect of AELS on proinflammatory gene expression in BFLSc using real-time PCR. BFLSc were incubated with AELS for 72 h and activated with LPS for 24 h. Quantification of normalized TNF- α , IL-1 β , COX-2 and iNOS expression are shown. Statistical significances between activated control and other groups were analyzed using the Studente NewmanKeuls test (mean \pm 1 SD, n = 3).

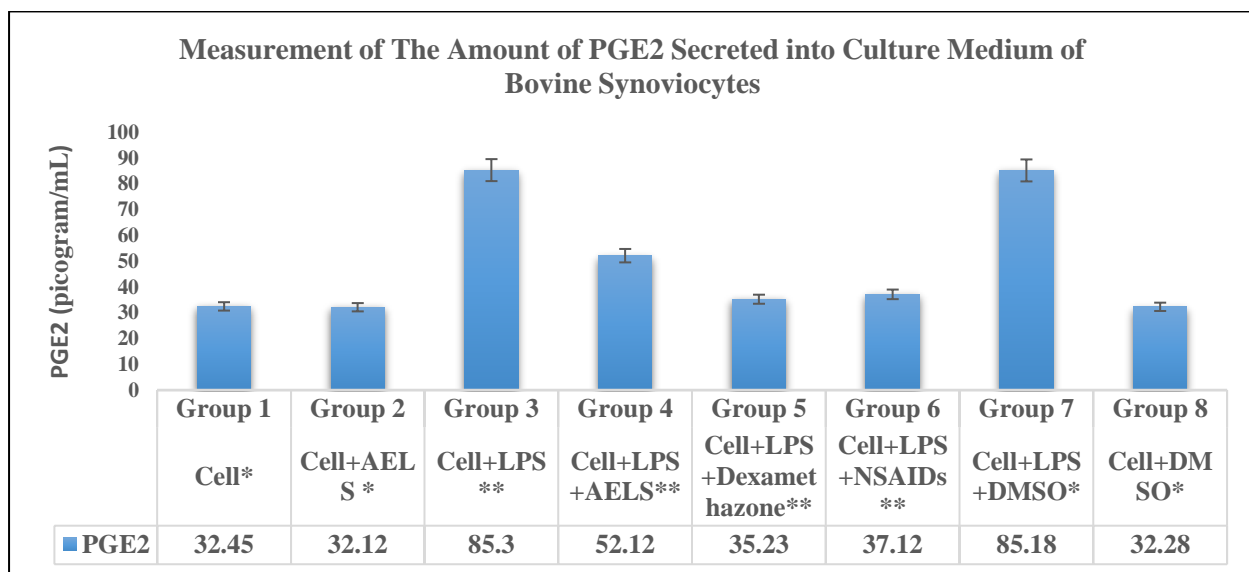


Fig. 4. The effect of ASEL on PGE2 levels in BFLSc. BFLSc were incubated with ASEL for 72 h and activated with LPS for 24 h. Mean PGE2 levels released into the cellular supernatant are shown as percent of activated control. Statistical significances between activated control and other groups were analyzed using the StudenteNewmaneKeuls test (mean \pm 1 SD, n = 3)

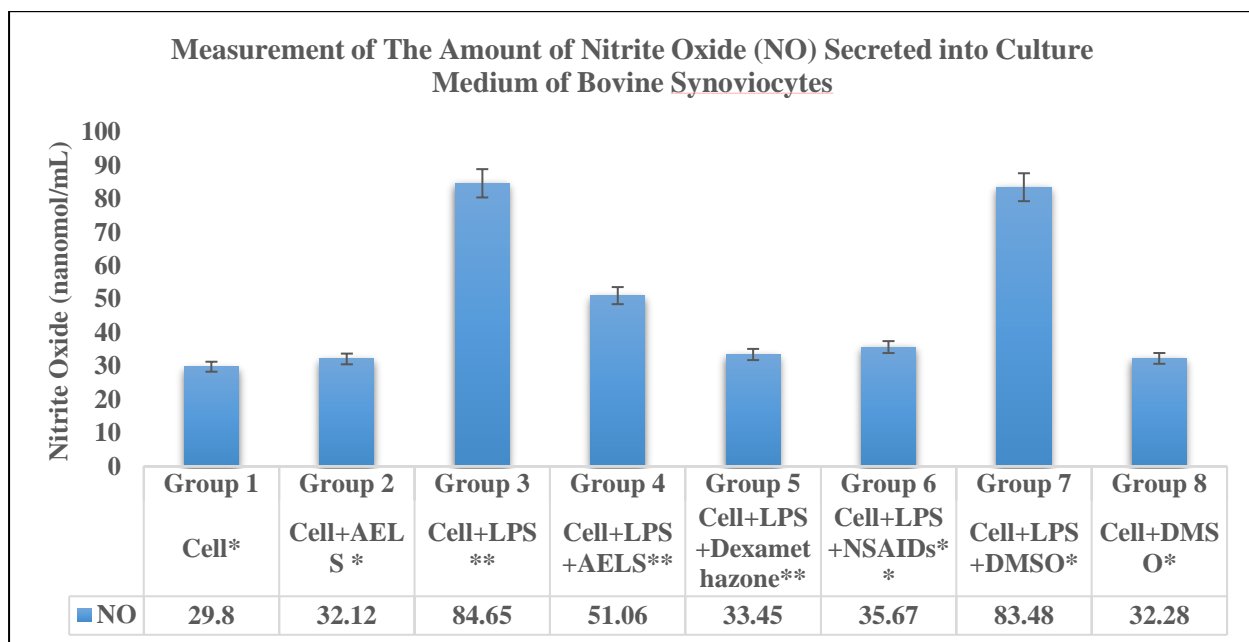


Fig. 5. The effect of ASEL on nitrite levels BFLSc. BFLSc were incubated with ASEL for 72 h and activated with LPS for 24 h. Mean nitrite levels released into the cellular supernatant are shown as percent of activated control. Statistical significances between activated control and other groups were analyzed using the StudenteNewmaneKeuls test (mean \pm 1 SD, n + 3).

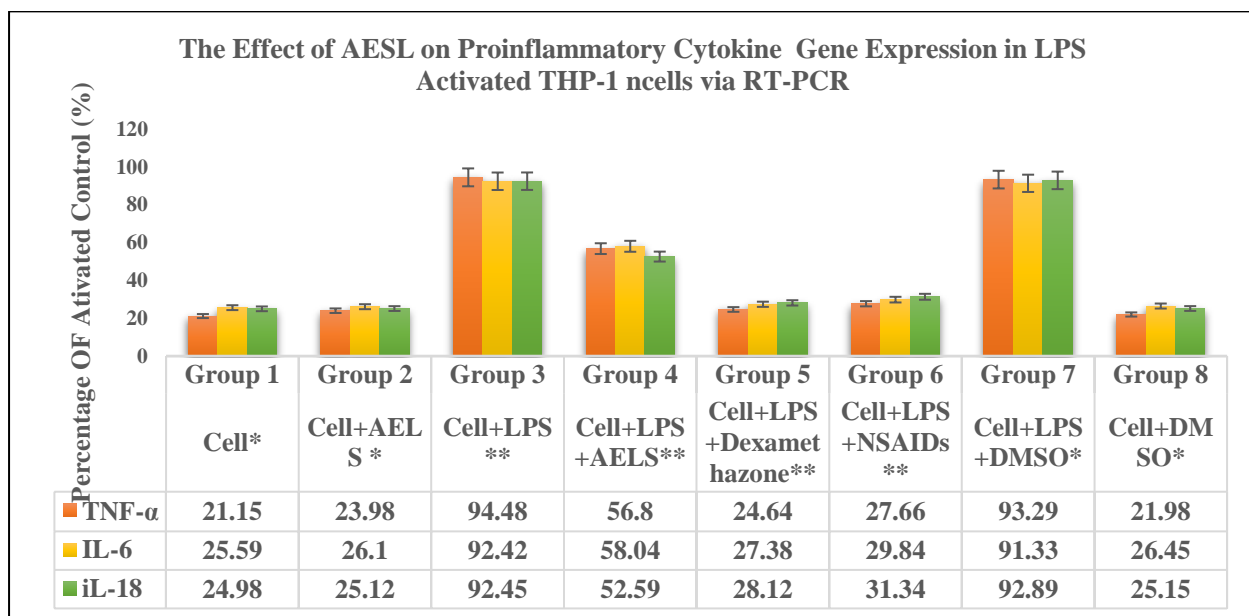


Fig. 6. The effect of ASEL on nitrite levels BFLSc . BFLSc were incubated with ASEL for 72 h and activated with LPS for 24 h. Mean nitrite levels released into the cellular supernatant are shown as percent of activated control. Statistical significances between activated control and other groups were analyzed using the StudenteNewmaneKeuls test (mean \pm 1 SD, n + 3).