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**Abstract**

Thymol is one of the most important dietary constituents in the thyme species and has been shown to possess anti-inflammatory properties both in vivo and in vitro. We investigated the protective effects of thymol on the lipopolysaccharide (LPS)-induced inflammatory responses in the human peritoneal mesothelial cell line (HMrSV5) to clarify the potential mechanism. HMrSV5 cells were stimulated with LPS in the presence or absence of thymol. Our results showed that thymol markedly suppressed the production of cytokines such as tumour necrosis factor  $\alpha$  (TNF- $\alpha$ ), interleukin

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