Supplementary materials:

1. TNF-α had no effect on the expression of claudin-5 in hCMEC/D3 cells. The hCMEC/D3 cells were treated with different concentrations of TNF-α (10, 50 and 100 ng/ml) for 8 h. Left side shows the image of a representative Western blot for claudin-5; right side is the plot of normalized ratios of optical densities.
2. TNF-α could decrease the expression of ZO-1, while propofol could not attenuate it. Left side is the protein expression of ZO-1 in hCMEC/D3 cells that treated with TNF-α and propofol; right side is the plot of normalized ratios of optical densities. β-actin was served as internal loading control. Data was repressed as the mean ± SD. \*p < 0.05, compared with the control group. Each assay was performed in five replicates.