

Table S1 – Demographic and clinical data for ARDS patients and control subjects

| | Control (n=5) | ARDS (n=5) | p value |
|--|---------------|------------------|-------------------|
| Mean age (yrs) (range) | 58.2 (40-64) | 59.4 (41-68) | 0.83 ^A |
| Sex (M/F) | 4/1 | 4/1 | 1.0 ^B |
| Smoking (% current) | 20 | 20 | 1.0 ^B |
| Apache II score Mean (95% CI) | -- | 21.8 (13.5-30.0) | |
| PaO ₂ /FiO ₂ (mmHg) Mean (95% CI) | -- | 157 (120-193) | |
| Sepsis (%) | -- | 100 | |
| ≥1 co-morbidity (%) | -- | 80 ^C | |
| Mortality (%) ^D | -- | 20 | |

APACHE II Acute Physiology and Chronic Health Evaluation II, PaO₂ partial pressure arterial oxygen, FiO₂ fraction of inspired oxygen; ^At-test; ^Bchi-squared; ^Cco-morbidities were chronic obstructive airways disease, coronary artery disease, chronic liver disease, chronic neurological illness (unspecified) and past history of treated leukaemia; ^Dassessed at time of discharge from intensive care