Figure S1. Effects of Pdn on levels of CD14 transcripts. After serum starvation, THP-1 cells were treated for 48 h with indicated amount of Pdn in the presence of 27OHChol. Levels of CD14 transcripts were assessed by quantitative PCR. The y-axis values represent the increases of CD14 mRNA levels normalized to GAPDH levels, relative to that of the non-treated THP-1 cells (control). Data are presented as the mean ± SD (n=3 replicates for each group). ***$P<0.001$ vs. control. Pdn, prednisolone.
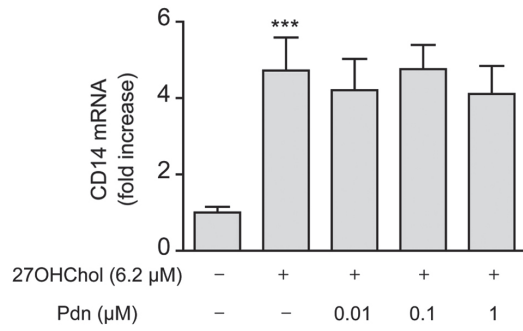
Figure S2. Effects of Pdn on CCL2 production in response to LPS in the presence of 27OHChol. Serum-starved THP-1 cells were cultured for 24 h with 27OHChol in the presence of Pdn, followed by stimulation for 9 h with or without LPS. Levels of CCL2 transcripts were assessed by quantitatie PCR. Data are presented as the mean ± SD (n=3 replicates for each group). [*]$P<0.05$ vs. control; [+++]$P<0.001$ vs. 27OHChol; [##]$P<0.01$ vs. 27OHChol+LPS; [###]$P<0.001$ vs. 27OHChol+LPS. Pdn, prednisolone; LPS, lipopolysaccharide; CCL2, chemokine ligand 2.
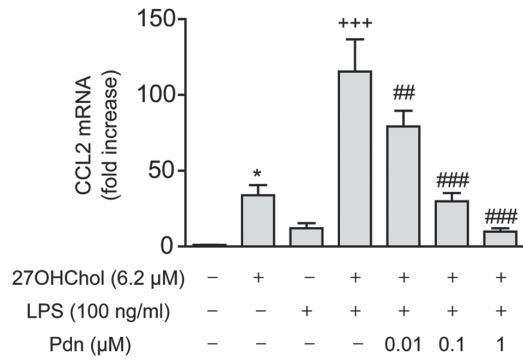
Figure S3. Effects of 27OHChol and Pdn on CD68 expression. Serum-starved THP-1 cells were treated for 48 h with 27OHChol in the absence or presence of Pdn. (A) Transcripts of CD68 were amplified by reverse transcription PCR. (B) Relative CD68 band intensity was semi-quantified by normalizing to β-actin. Data are presented as the mean ± SD (n=3 replicates for each group). Pdn, prednisolone.