**Table S1** Primers used for reverse transcription-quantitative PCR

| Gene | Forward primer | Reverse primer |
|------|----------------|----------------|
| *β-actin* | AGTGTGACGTTGACATCCGT | GCAGCTCAGTAACAGTCCGC |
| *Il6* | TAGTCCTTCCTACCCCAATTTCC | TAGTCCTTCCTACCCCAATTTCC |
| *Tnfα* | AAAATTCGAGTGACAAGCCTGTAG | CCCTTGAAGAGAACCTGGGAGTAG |
| *Il1b* | GACCTTCCAGGATGAGGACA | AGCTCATATGGGTCCGACAG |
| *iNOS* | ACATCGACCCGTCCACAGTAT | CAGAGGGGTAGGCTTGTCTC |
| *Arg1* | CTCCAAGCCAAAGTCCTTAGAG | AGGAGCTGTCATTAGGGACATC |
| *Ccl2* | CCTGCTGCTACTCATTCAC CA | ATTCCTTCTTGGGGTCAG CA |

**Table S2** Baseline characteristics of collected subjects

| Characteristics | Sepsis patients (n=55) | Non-septic patients (n=18) | P |
|-----------------|------------------------|----------------------------|---|
| Age (years), mean ± SD | 68.24±16.43 | 60.56±14.47 | 0.08 |
| BMI (kg/m$^2$), mean ± SD | 21.65±2.28 | 22.61±2.65 | 0.13 |
| Sex, n (%) | | | 0.84 |
| Male | 43 (78.2) | 13 (72.2) | |
| Female | 12 (21.8) | 5 (27.8) | |
| The origin of sepsis, n (%) | | | |
| Lung infection | 8 (14.5) | | |
| Abdominal infection | 45 (81.8) | | |
| Intracranial infection | 2 (3.6) | | |