



**Supplementary Fig. 1.** (A) and (B) Light microscopic examination of IMA tissues reveals a regular single-layered endothelial cell structure in the T. intima, and well-arranged smooth muscle cells and intact elastic laminae in the T. media. Vasa vasorum and nerve fibres within the T. adventitia have a normal histological appearance. (C) and (D) Thickened T. intima, lipid accumulation, foam cell infiltration, and fibrous tissue proliferation are observed in aortic sections. The T. media appears distorted, with fragmentation of elastic laminae and irregular disposition of smooth muscle cells. En, endothelium; TI, T. Intima; TM, T. Media; TA, T. adventitia; FC, foam cell; L, lumen; EL, elastic lamina; Black arrow: Elastic Lamina irregularity. H+E, X20.