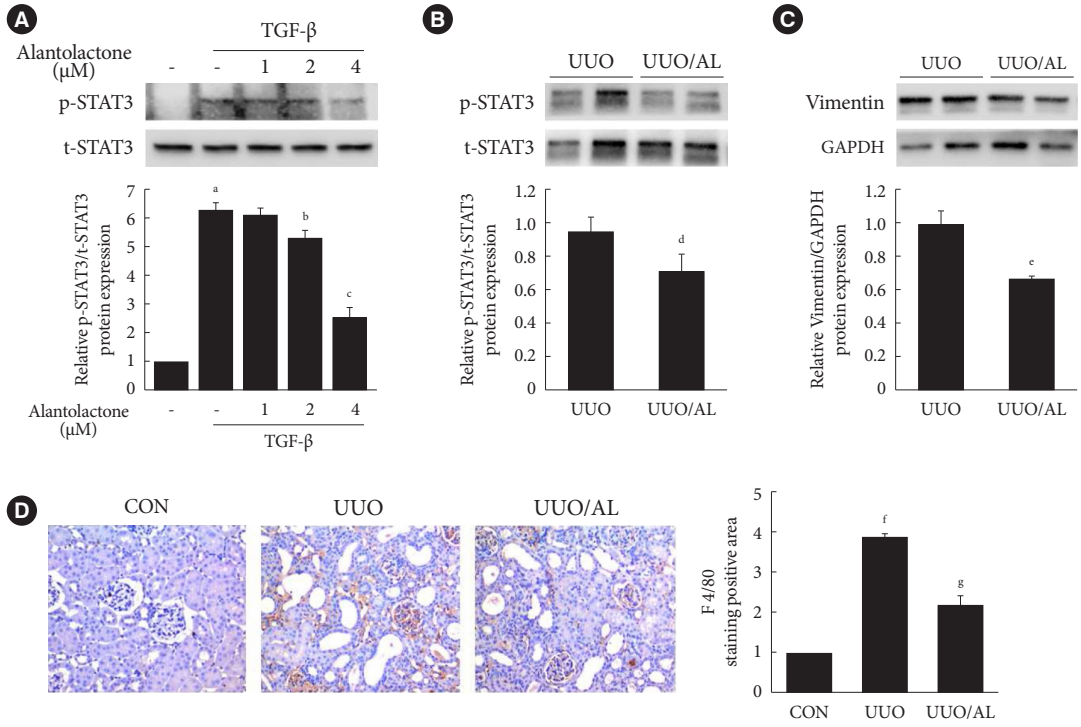

Supplementary Fig. 2. Serum-starved rat fibroblast cell line (NRK-49F) cells were incubated with 2 ng/mL transforming growth factor β (TGF-β) for 24 hours in the presence of alantolactone (AL; 0 to 4 μM). (A) Western blot analysis of protein expression of phospho-signal transducer and activator of transcription 3 (p-STAT3) in TGF-β-stimulated NRK-49F cells. Quantification of Western blot data is from three independent experiments. Data are shown as the mean±standard error of the mean. Mice received AL (5 mg/kg per day) by oral gavage for 5 days before unilateral ureteral obstruction (UUO) and for 10 additional days thereafter. (B, C) Representative results of Western blot analysis of kidney lysates for p-STAT3 and vimentin in UUO kidneys. (D) Image showing the immunostaining of kidney sections for F4/80 at 20× magnification. (B-D) Quantification of fibrotic scores or positively stained areas using computer-based morphometric analysis. Data in all bar graphs were normalized against the control (n=1) and expressed as a fold increase relative to the control. t-STAT3, total-signal transducer and activator of transcription 3. [a]P<0.001 vs. control (TGF-β [–]); [b]P<0.05 and [c]P<0.01 vs. TGF-β; [d]P<0.05 and [e]P<0.01 vs. UUO; [f]P<0.01 vs. control (CON); [g]P<0.05 vs. UUO (n=7 for each group).