

## Supporting Information

for Adv. Sci., DOI 10.1002/advs.202206814

Material Stiffness in Cooperation with Macrophage Paracrine Signals Determines the Tenogenic Differentiation of Mesenchymal Stem Cells

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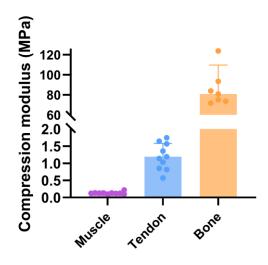


Figure S1. Compressive modulus of the muscle (soleus), tendon (Achilles' tendon), and bone (tibia) of SD rat. The results are shown in mean  $\pm$  SD.

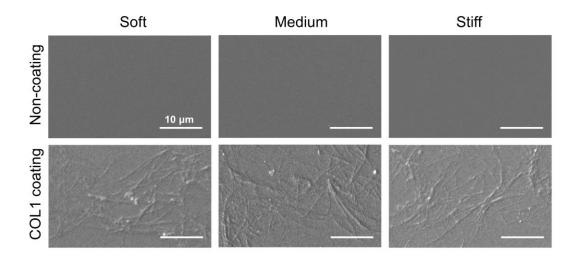


Figure S2. SEM images of three PDMS substrates before and after COL1 coating. Scale  $bar = 10 \ \mu m$ .

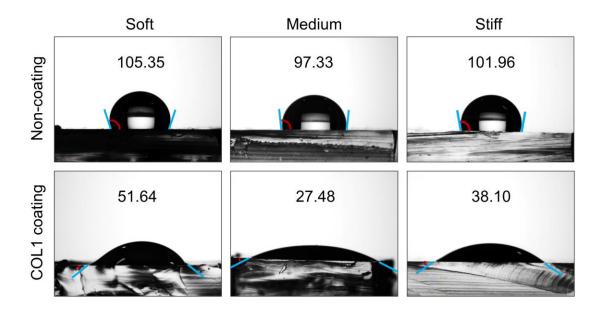


Figure S3. Water contact angles of three PDMS substrates before and after COL1 coating.

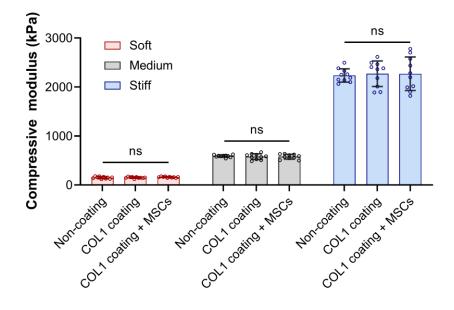


Figure S4. Compressive modulus of three PDMS substrates before and after COL1 coating and MSCs seeding (n = 10). The results are shown in mean  $\pm$  SD. ns (P > 0.05) determined using one-way ANOVA with Tukey's post hoc test.

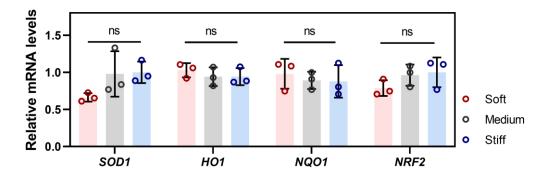


Figure S5. Gene expression of antioxidant mediators in macrophages on day 3 by qPCR (n = 3). The results were shown in mean  $\pm$  SD. ns (P > 0.05) determined using one-way ANOVA with Tukey's post hoc test.

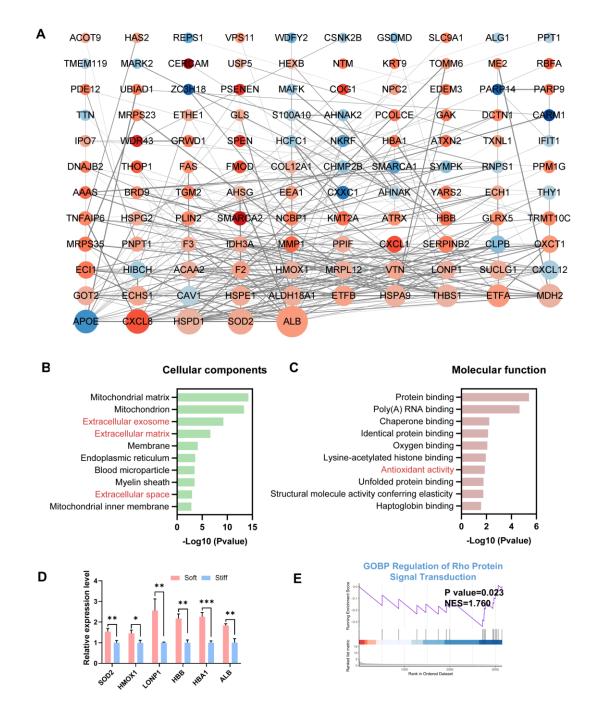


Figure S6. Functional insights of DEPs in Soft vs. Stiff. (A) The protein interaction network for all DEPs (Soft vs. Stiff). The larger size of the protein node indicates a higher frequency in the protein network. The up-regulated proteins are presented in red while the down-regulated are in blue. A deeper color of nodes represents a lower or higher fold change of DEPs. (B-C) Key GO terms significantly enriched in CC and MF (Soft vs. Stiff). (D) Protein expression of several antioxidative mediators from proteomic profiles (n = 3). (E) GSEA plot of regulation of Rho protein signal transduction (Soft vs. Stiff). The results are shown in mean  $\pm$  SD. \*p < 0 .05; \*\*p < 0.01; \*\*\*p < 0.001 determined using two-tailed student's t-test (D).

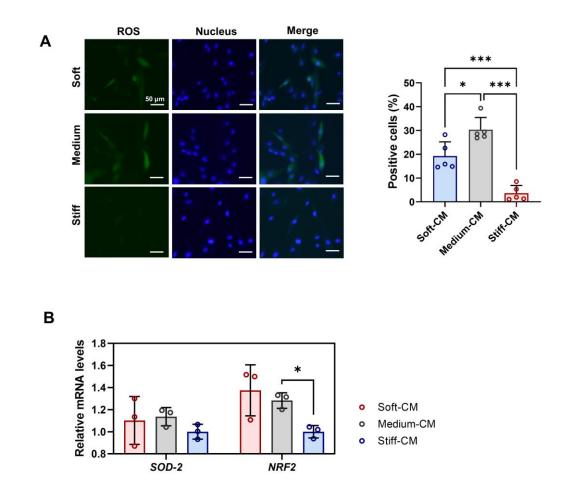


Figure S7. Influences of different CMs on the oxidative stress of MSCs. (A) Representative images and quantitative analysis of ROS staining in MSCs exposed to different CMs for 1 d (n = 5). Scale bar = 50  $\mu$ m. (B) Gene expression of *SOD2* and *NRF2* in MSCs exposed to different CMs by qPCR (n = 3). The results are shown in mean  $\pm$  SD. \*p < 0.05; \*\*p < 0.01; \*\*\*p < 0.001 determined using one-way ANOVA with Tukey's post hoc test.

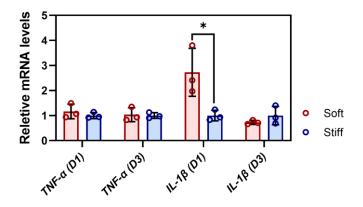


Figure S8. Gene expression of *TNF-a* and *IL-1β* in MSCs exposed to different stiffnesses and CMs on days 1 and 3 by qPCR (n = 3). The results are shown in mean  $\pm$  SD. \*p < 0.05 determined using two-tailed student's t-test.

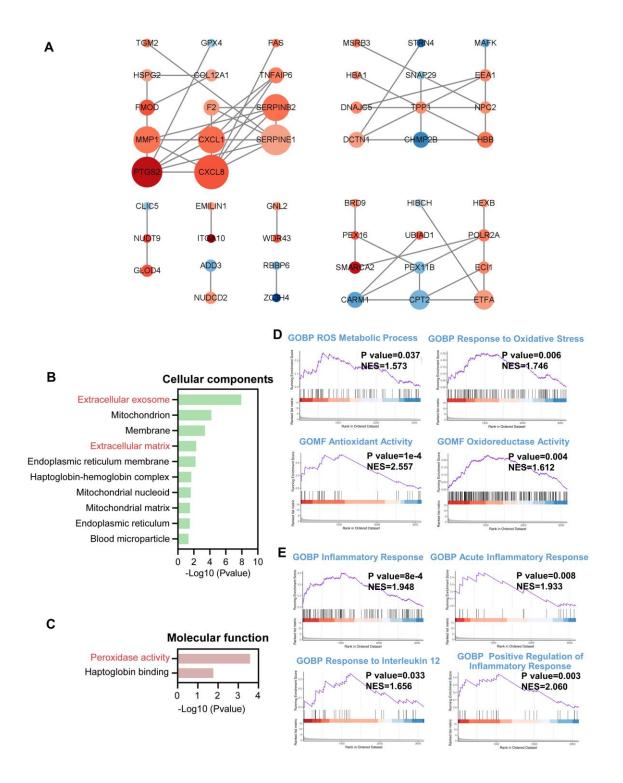


Figure S9. Functional insights of DEPs in Medium vs. Stiff. (A) The protein interaction network for all DEPs (Medium vs. Stiff). The larger size of the protein node indicated a higher frequency in the protein network. The up-regulated proteins are presented in red while the down-regulated are in blue. A deeper color of nodes represents a lower or higher fold change of DEPs. (B-C) Key GO terms significantly enriched in CC and MF (Medium vs. Stiff). (D) GSEA plot of GO terms associated with oxidative stress (Medium vs. Stiff). (E) GSEA plot of GO

terms associated with inflammation (Medium vs. Stiff).

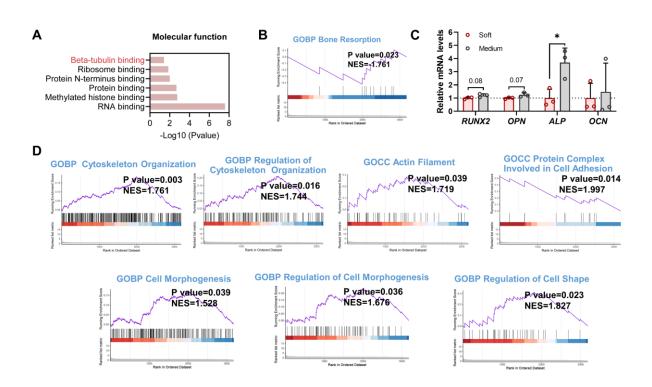


Figure S10. Functional insights of DEPs in Medium vs. Soft. (A) Key GO terms significantly enriched in MF (Medium vs. Soft). (B) GSEA plot of bone resorption (Medium vs. Soft). (C) Gene expression of osteogenic markers in MSCs on day 1 by qPCR (n = 3). (D) GSEA plot of GO terms associated with focal adhesion, cytoskeletal organization, and cell morphogenesis (Medium vs. Soft). The results are shown in mean  $\pm$  SD. \*p < 0.05 determined using two-tailed student's t-test (C).

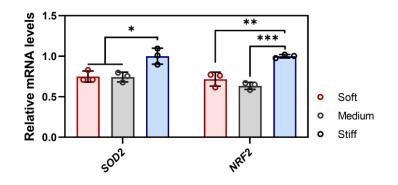


Figure S11. Gene expression of *SOD2* and *NRF2* in MSCs cultured on different substrates on day 3 by qPCR (n = 3). The results are shown in mean  $\pm$  SD. \*p < 0.05; \*\*p < 0.01; \*\*\*p < 0.001 determined using one-way ANOVA with Tukey's post hoc test.

Species	Gene	Forward & Reverse	Sequence (5'- 3')
Human	GAPDH	Forward	TGACGCTGGGGCTGGCATTG
		Reverse	GGCTGGTGGTCCAGGGGTCT
Human	SCX	Forward	CGAGAACACCCAGCCCAAAC
		Reverse	CTCCGAATCGCAGTCTTTCTGTC
Human	МКХ	Forward	GAAGGCAACTTTGTCTATCGCA
numan		Reverse	TGATCTCCTTCCAATACGTGTC
Human	TNMD	Forward	CCATGCTGGATGAGAGAGGT
numan		Reverse	CTCGTCCTCCTTGGTAGCAG
Human	COL1	Forward	CGATGGATTCCAGTTCGAGTAT
numan		Reverse	CATCGACAGTGACGCTGTAGG
Human	COL3	Forward	TTTTGCAGTGATATGTGATGTT
naman		Reverse	GGATGGTGGTTTTCAGTTTA
Human	COL14	Forward	AAGGATTGCCCTCCGACTACAC
naman		Reverse	CTGATGCGTTCATTGCCTTCTC
Human	SOD2	Forward	CTGGACAAACCTCAGCCCTA
naman		Reverse	TGATGGCTTCCAGCAACTC
Human	NRF2	Forward	AGTGGATCTGCCAACTACTC
naman		Reverse	CATCTACAAACGGGAATGTCTG
Human	IL-1β	Forward	GCAAGGGCTTCAGGCAGGCCGCG
ruman		Reverse	GGTCATTCTCCTGGAAGGTCTGTGGGC
Human	TNF-α	Forward	ATGTTGTAGCAAACCCTCAAGC
manan		Reverse	TGATGGCAGAGAGGAGGTTG
Human	MAP2K2	Forward	CGGACCTGAAGATGCTCACA
nanan		Reverse	TTCAGCCGCAGGGTTTTACA

Table S1. Primer sequences are specific to MSCs and Raw264.7 for qPCR.

Human	MAP4K4	Forward	GGGGAACGCTTCAGAGTGAG
		Reverse	GTGCGGTCAGATCAGCAGG
Human	ΤΑΟΚ1	Forward	CCTCCTCCTCCTCACTCCTC
		Reverse	GGCATAAACTACCTTTCGCCG
Liveren	FAS	Forward	ATTATCGTCCAAAAGTGTTA
Human		Reverse	TCACACAATCTACATCTT CTG
Mouro	GAPDH	Forward	GCAAGTTCAACGGCACAG
Mouse		Reverse	CGCCAGTAGACTCCACGAC
Mouse	CCR7	Forward	ATGGACCCAGGTGTGCTTCT
		Reverse	TCAGTATCACCAGCCCGTTG
Mouse	iNOS	Forward	CCTGTGTTCCACCAGGAGAT
		Reverse	CCCTGGCTAGTGCTTCAGAC
Maura	IL-1β	Forward	AAGGAGAACCAAGCAACGACAAAA
Mouse		Reverse	TGGGGAACTCTGCAGACTCAAACT
Maura	TNF-α	Forward	CGTCAGCCGATTTGCTATCT
Mouse		Reverse	CGGACTCCGCAAAGTCTAAG
Mauga	IL-10	Forward	CCAAGCCTTATCGGAAATGA
Mouse		Reverse	TTTTCACAGGGGAGAAATCG
Mouso	CD206	Forward	AGCTTCATCTTCGGGCCTTTG
Mouse		Reverse	GGTGACCACTCCTGCTGCTTTAG
Mouse	SOD1	Forward	AACCAGTTGTGTTGTCAGGAC
Mouse		Reverse	CCACCATGTTTCTTAGAGTGAGG
Mouse	HO1	Forward	GATAGAGCGCAACAAGCAGAA
wouse		Reverse	CAGTGAGGCCCATACCAGAAG
Mouse	NQO1	Forward	AGGATGGGAGGTACTCGAATC
WIDUSE		Reverse	TGCTAGAGATGACTCGGAAGG
Mouse	NRF2	Forward	TAGATGACCATGAGTCGCTTGC
wouse		Reverse	GCCAAACTTGCTCCATGTCC