

Supporting Information

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Evaluating the Impact of a Biomimetic Mechanical Environment on Cancer Invasion and Matrix Remodeling

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Figure S1- Stiffness (Pa) of all acellular controls made for this work. Each experiment was set with an n=3 of acellular controls, which are shown here as one colour. The stiffness varies within one sample but also from gel to gel and experiment to experiment due to the experimental process.



Figure S2- Metabolic activity of cancer cell lines HT-29 and HCT 116 in compressed collagen gel over 21 days using CellTiter Glo®. The proliferation is uncorrelated with stiffness of the tumouroids. If the 'soft' felt by AFM was due to a higher cell number, we would expect the HCT 116 to have a higher proliferation rate. All n=3, showing (mean \pm SEM). Shows unpaired t test significance at each time point. All p-value significance is indicated as: 0.05<*, 0.01<***, 0.001<*** and 0.0001<****.

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Single cell stiffness

Figure S3- Stiffness (Pa) of HT-29 and HCT 116 single cells measured by AFM. Cells measured after 24 hours on a glass petri dish, with a cantilever of $k \sim 0.1$ N/m, a bead of 10 μ m, and a force of 2 nN. All n>34, showing (mean \pm SD) and showing Mann-Whitney significance (p<0.0001).



Figure S4- Cell viability assay in 2D for HT-29 and HCT 116 cells, treated with increasing concentrations of Batimastat in 0.1% DMSO (from 1 μ M to 400 μ M). 5 μ M was chosen as the optimum concentration as it was it highest concentration possible without affecting cell viability.

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MMP2/9 activity



Figure S5- Zymography using human dermal fibroblast conditioned media. It shows MMP-2 and MMP-9 presence and activity in the untreated condition and no MMP activity when incubated with 5 μ M of BB-94



Figure S6- Live/dead cell viability staining of BB-94 treated tumouroids after 21 days. MMP inhibition via BB-94 treatment, at 5 μ M every 48 hours. Green = Live, Red = Dead. Scale bars = 100 μ m