

1 **Legend for Figure 1**

2

3 Fig. 1. COCs cultured without exogenous E2 were not competent to undergo cumulus expansion or full
4 expression of the cumulus expansion-related transcripts even in the presence of freshly isolated oocytes.

5 (A) COCs cultured without E2 were co-cultured with freshly isolated fully-grown oocytes and EGF, and
6 the degree of cumulus expansion (B) and expression levels of the cumulus expansion-related transcripts

7 (C) were assessed. Bar, 200 μ m.

8

9

Figure 1

