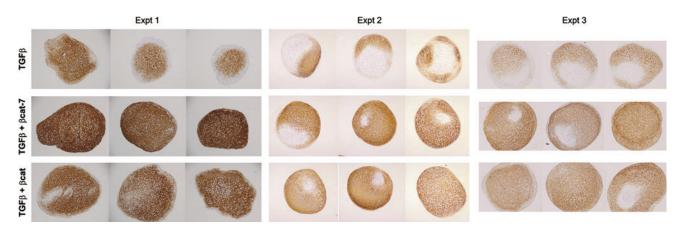
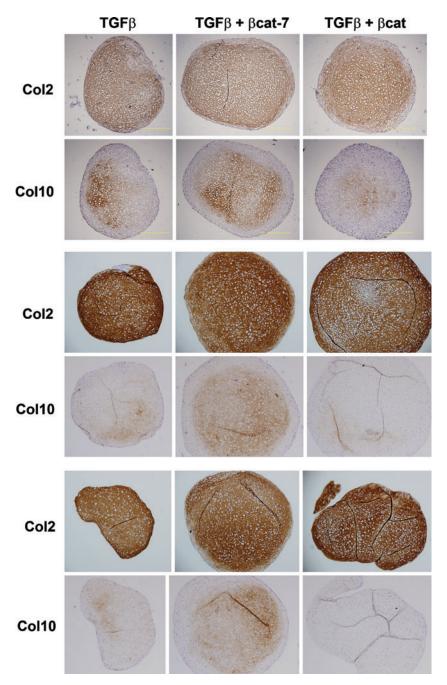
## **Supplementary Data**



**SUPPLEMENTARY FIG. S1.** MSC pellets were subjected to chondrogenic differentiation in TGF $\beta$ , TGF $\beta$  with transient or continuous  $\beta$ -catenin co-activation. Pellets harvested at day 28 were sectioned and subjected to type II collagen immuno-histochemistry staining. Micrograms of 9 pellets from 3 independent experiments (n = 3 per experiment) of 3 different donors' MSCs are shown. Images were taken at  $\times 100$  magnification. TGF, transforming growth factor; MSC, mesenchymal stem cell.



**SUPPLEMENTARY FIG. S2.** Characterization of hypertrophy development of cartilage pellets. MSC pellets were subjected to 35 days of chondrogenic differentiation in TGF $\beta$ , TGF $\beta$  with transient or continuous  $\beta$ -catenin coactivation. Three representative micrograms of sequential tissue slides immunostained for Type II and Type X collagen are shown.