



SUPPLEMENTARY FIG. S2. Effects of bFGF dose on the endothelial phenotype of ASCs. Cells were seeded at 3000 cells/cm² and cultured for 14 days in either EGM-2 or a medium containing 2 ng/mL VEGF plus bFGF (0, 2, 10 or 50 ng/mL). **(A)** ASCs morphology became more fibroblastic at high bFGF concentrations, while those without bFGF appeared large and flattened. **(B)** AcLDL uptake increased significantly with bFGF dose, with an apparent peak at 10 ng/mL. ASCs in EGM-2 or in the absence of bFGF were unable to form networks on Matrigel **(C)**. With an increase in bFGF concentration, the network density also increased. Scale bars = 100 μ m **(A, B)** and 500 μ m **(C)**. **(D)** mRNA expression of endothelial markers and growth factor receptors show a dramatic dose-dependent response to bFGF. Relative expression was compared against expansion medium control (dotted line) and normalized to GAPDH expression ($n=4$; * $p < 0.05$, ** $p < 0.01$).