

**SUPPLEMENTARY FIG. S3.** HBDC:HUVEC coculture immunostaining: red—Cx43 (present in gap junctions)—labeled using mouse monoclonal anti-Cx43 antibodies in combination with biotin-conjugated secondary antibodies with extravidin-TRITC; green—von Willebrand factor(characteristic for EC)—labeled with mouse monoclonal antibodies and goat antimouse fluorescein isothiocyanate -conjugated antibody; and violet—fluorescent stain DAPI (indicating localization of cell nuclei). Arrows indicate gap junctions localized between EC (von Willebrand-positive) and OB (von Willebrand-negative). HUVEC, human umbilical vein endothelial cells; Cx43, connexin 43; OB, osteoblasts.