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Supplementary Figure 1: GFP expression was used to distinguish astrocytes within the gels from cells seeded on the surface. Images are confocal micrographs corresponding to the GFAP immunoreactivity panels shown in Figure 2 (A) and Figure 3 (B). In most cases the astrocytes within the gel were the GFP positive population, but in some experiments this was reversed (an example is shown in (A) where the centre panel shows GFP positive astrocytes seeded onto a gel containing wild type astrocytes). Scale bars 100 μ m.

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	Control	Schwann cells	NCSC	dADSC	BM-MSC
Top of gel	119.2 ± 18.4	72.6 ± 7.3	184.5 ± 13.5	67.57 ± 7.3	65.7 ± 6.8
Bottom of gel	89.6 ± 8.54	85.3 ± 12.6	133.3 ± 11.56	59.31 ± 4.8	81.7 ± 15.2

Supplementary table 1: summary of the astrocyte number present in each test volume used for analysis. Data are means \pm SEM for the number of astrocyte nuclei. Astrocytes within the gels were distinguished from cells seeded on the surface using GFP. There were no significant differences between treatment groups and controls (Kruskal-Wallis test).