



**SUPPLEMENTARY FIG. S2.** Histological staining of rat explants with hematoxylin and eosin (H&E) at (A) 7 days without eMSC, (B) 7 days with eMSC, showing residual gelatine at the implant site ( $\rightarrow$ ), (C) 90 days without eMSC; and (D) 90 days with eMSC, showing the integration of the implant with the surrounding tissue.