



SUPPLEMENTARY FIG. S2. MSC^{cherry}, HBCEC^{GFP} cells, and a co-culture of MSC^{cherry}/HBCEC^{GFP} cells (ratio 60:40) were cultured in 24-well plates in MSC culture medium till 8 days, respectively, whereby the two different HBCEC^{GFP} (*upper panel*) and MSC^{cherry} mono-cultures (*lower panel*) contained the same amount of cells as the corresponding co-culture. At the indicated time points, all cells from each culture were trypsinized, and the total amount of cells in each culture was counted by trypan blue exclusion in a hemocytometer using the mcherry and the eGFP filter in a fluorescence microscope. The data represent the mean \pm SD of four independent experiments. A statistical analysis between the mono-culture and the corresponding population in co-culture was conducted by unpaired Student's *t*-test (* $P < 0.05$; ** $P < 0.01$). HBCEC, human breast cancer-derived epithelial cells.