SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION



Supplementary Figure 1 (a) Fluorescent microscope images of central and marginal regions of microfluidic hydrogel scaffolds after loading FITC-Dextran. (b) Comparison of pore size in different regions of microfluidic hydrogel scaffolds (n = 55). (c) Histogram of microscale hydrogel pore size distribution of microfluidic scaffolds (n = 100). (d) Histogram of sub-cellular hydrogel pore size distribution (n = 30).

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Empty Chamber

Scaffold Chamber



D=6mm, H=1mm Volume= 28.28mm³ Surface area=28.28mm² Assumptions

- Each pore has spherical shape - Each pore has 12 channels

Pore D=0.154mm Channel D=0.03mm Each pore has 12 channels

Estimated total surface area of a scaffold-chip

Chamber volume = Each pore volume x Total pore number

- * Pore volume=0.0019123mm³
- * Total pore number= 14,778

Available pore surface = Pore surface - Channel area x (12)

- * Pore surface= 0.0745mm²
- * Channel area= 0.00848mm²
- * Available pore surface= 0.06602mm²

Total available pore surface

- = Available pore surface x Total pore number
- = 975.64mm²

Total surface for cell adhesion

- = Chamber surface + Scaffold surface
- =1003.92mm²
- * Provide about 35 more surface area than an empty chamber

Supplementary Figure 2 Assumptions and calculation of total surface area for cell adhesion in a microfluidic hydrogel scaffold in comparison with an empty chamber.



Supplementary Figure 3 Comparison of cell seeding efficiency depending on seeding methods and pre-coated BMSCs (n = 5, *p < 0.05).



Supplementary Figure 4 Fluorescent image of live-dead staining after 24 hours perfusion culture of human BMSCs in a microfluidic hydrogel scaffold (Green: live, Red: dead). Fluorescent image based analysis indicated 90 \pm 2% cell viability (N = 3).



Supplementary Figure 5 Comparison of human prostate tumor growth on 2D culture with and without human BMSCs. The result showed growth of PC3 tumor cells is independent of human BMSCs on a 2D substrate (n = 5).

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