

Additional file 2. Analysis of the percentage of dying nucleus pulposus (NP) cells in each group. The flow cytometry assay showed that the percentage of dying NP cells in the 20% deformation compression group (22.17%) increased compared with the 2% deformation compression group (4.31%) and the control group (3.55%). However, treatment with the ROS scavenger NAC and the p38 MAPK inhibitor SB203580 decreased 20% deformation compression-induced NP cell apoptosis (from 22.17% to 16.83% and from 22.17% to 11.65%, respectively).

