

Supplementary Fig. 1. Genesis of the Halo.

Cells released from the myospheres between the seventh and ninth day of culture. Once the cells are isolated in the medium enter in apoptosis. The sample contains cells at all stages of apoptosis since they are continuously released from myospheres.

a, phase-contrast image; **b**, Hoechst 33342 staining, labeling all nuclei; **c**, Propidium Iodide staining, labeling dead cells nuclei; **d**, Annexin V staining. Annexin V binds to phosphatidylserine residues translocated to the external face of the plasma membrane. This is an early event in apoptosis. These aggregates stick to myospheres but are quickly dissolved with DNase treatment. Bar = $50\mu m$