

**Towards the next generation of spine bioreactors: validation of an *ex vivo* intervertebral disc organ model and customized specimen holder for multiaxial loading - Supporting Information**

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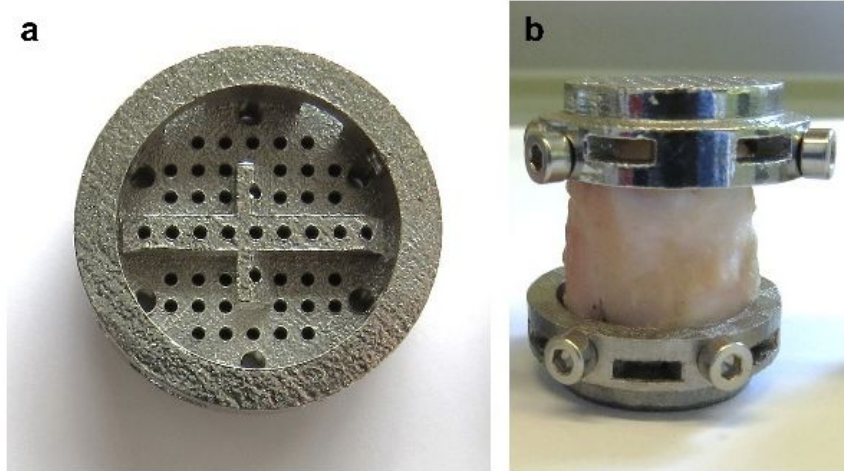
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**Figure S1.** Prototype of the specimen holder used in mechanical tests. Images show (a) the specimen holder and (b) the assembly of the holder and intervertebral disc (IVD) specimen tightened with side screws onto the bone.