Table S1. Impact of electroporation on chondrocyte survivability.

| Conditions  | 1% FCS   | 10% FCS | 15% FCS |
|-------------|----------|---------|---------|
| No Plasmid  | 100 ± 3  | 100 ± 4 | 100 ± 2 |
| 500 ng      | 50 ± 9 * | 65 ± 7 *| 70 ± 5 **|
| 1 µg        | 48 ± 8 * | 51 ± 11 *| 62 ± 7 *|
| 2 µg        | 40 ± 5 **| 48 ± 7 *| 61 ± 8 *|

Rat chondrocytes were electroporated with plasmids encoding pCMV Renilla luciferase before electroporation using a Nucleofector kit (Amaxa/Lonza) according to the manufacturer’s protocol. Briefly, 3 × 10^6 cells were gently mixed with 0.5, 1, or 2 µg of plasmid and immediately after transfection, cells were split equally into three wells containing 1%, 10%, or 15% fetal calf serum (FCS)-DMEM/Ham’s F-12 supplemented with L-glutamine (2 mM), penicillin (100 U/mL), streptomycin (100 µg/mL), left to recover for 24 h. Metabolic activity was assessed using the MTT assay. The cell metabolic activity results are presented in % versus control results (as 100%). The results shown are mean ± SD of at least four individual experiments. * p < 0.01 and ** p < 0.001 compared to control for each % FCS with no plasmid.