

Figure. S1. Effect of GlcN on hOCs and hOBs viability. (A) hMCs were isolated from peripheral blood and used as a source of osteoclast progenitors. The ability of hMCs to differentiate into hOCs in presence of MCSF (25 ng/ml) and RANKL (30 ng/ml) for 14 days was evaluated by measuring TRAP activity, as well as cathepsin K and NFATc1 expression (scale bars, 50  $\mu$ m). The effect of different GlcN concentrations (10, 100 and 200  $\mu$ g/ml) on the viability of hOCs was also evaluated via an MTT assay. Data are presented as the percentage of surviving cells (mean  $\pm$  SD, n=3). The viability of control cells was normalized to 100%. (B) hMCs from patients with OA and healthy donors were cultured in osteoclast differentiation media with different doses of GlcN (100 and 200  $\mu$ g/ml) for 14 days. Osteoclasts were detected by TRAP staining and counting cell numbers (cells with >3 nuclei were considered osteoclasts), and quantified per area (scale bars, 50  $\mu$ m). Data are presented as the mean  $\pm$  SD (healthy donors, n=3; patients with OA, n=7). (C) hOBs were obtained from vertebral lamina. The expression of OPN, COL1a1 and RUNX2 osteogenic markers was evaluated via immunocytochemistry in hOBs at P2 passage of culture (scale bars, 20  $\mu$ m). The effect of different GlcN concentrations (10, 100 and 200  $\mu$ g/ml) on the viability of hOBs was also evaluated via an MTT assay. Data are presented as the percentage of surviving cells (mean  $\pm$  SD, n=3). The viability of control cells was normalized to 100%. COL1a1, collagen type 1 $\alpha$ ; CTR, control; GlcN, glucosamine; hMC, human primary monocyte; hOB, human primary osteoblast; hOC, human primary osteoclast; NFATc1, nuclear factor of activated T-cells, cytoplasmic 1; OA, osteoarthritis; OPN, osteopontin; RUNX2, runt-related transcription factor 2; TRAP, tartrate-resistant acid phosphatase.

