

Figure S1. Transfection efficiency of the MMP-2 overexpression vector and MMP-2 siRNA were analyzed by reverse transcription-quantitative PCR in NP cells. \*\*\* $P < 0.001$  MMP-2 OE vs. vector; MMP-2 si vs. siRNA NC. MMP-2, matrix metalloproteinase 2; OE, overexpression; si, small interfering; NC, negative control; NP, nucleus pulposus.

