

Table S1. For gene expression analysis, primer sequences used are as following:

Name of Genes		Primer Sequence	Amplicon Length (bp)
<i>Collagen type I</i>	Forward:	5'-CATCCCAGCCAAGAACTGGT-3'	139
	Reverse:	5'-GAAGGCGAGTTGAGTAGCCA-3'	
<i>Collagen type II</i>	Forward:	5'-CACTGCCAACGTCCAGATGA-3'	215
	Reverse:	5'-GTTTCGTGCAGCCATCCTTC-3'	
<i>Aggrecan</i>	Forward:	5'-ACTTCCGCTGGTCAGATGGA-3'	111
	Reverse:	5'-TCTCGTGCCAGATCATCACC-3'	
<i>MMP-13</i>	Forward:	5'-GGCTTAGAGGTCACTGGCAAAC-3'	118
	Reverse:	5'-TGGACCACTTGAGAGTTCGGG-3'	
<i>Sox9</i>	Forward:	5'-GCCGAGGAGGCCACCGAACA-3'	179
	Reverse:	5'-CCCGGCTGCACGTCGGTTTT-3'	
<i>GAPDH</i>	Forward:	5'-CTGAACGGGAAGCTCACTGG-3'	129
	Reverse:	5'-CGATGCCTGCTTCACTACCT-3'	