Electronic Supplementary Material (ESI) for Biomaterials Science. This journal is © The Royal Society of Chemistry 2018

## **Supporting Information**

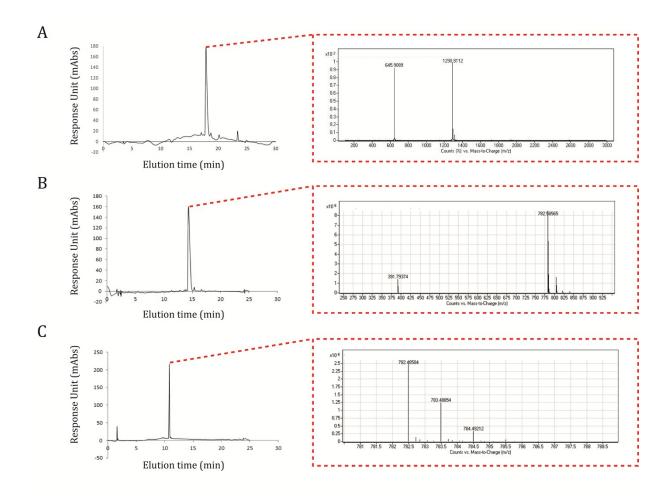
## Tenascin-C Derived Signaling Induces Neuronal Differentiation in Three-Dimensional Peptide Nanofiber Gel

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**Figure S1** Liquid chromatography and mass spectroscopy of TN-PA (A), KK-PA (B) and EE-PA (C). Mass spectrometry of TN-PA (a) [M+H]<sup>+</sup> (calculated): 1290.81, [M+H]<sup>+</sup> (observed): 1290.81, [M+2H]<sup>+2</sup>/2 (calculated): 645.91, [M+2H]<sup>+2</sup>/2 (observed): 645.91. Mass spectrometry of KK-PA; [M+H]<sup>+</sup> (calculated): 782.58 , [M+H]<sup>+</sup> (observed): 782.59, [M+2H]<sup>+2</sup>/2 (calculated): 391.79, [M+2H]<sup>+2</sup>/2 (observed): 391.79. Mass spectrometry of EE-PA; [M-H]<sup>-</sup> (calculated): 782.47, [M-H]<sup>-</sup> (observed): 782.48.

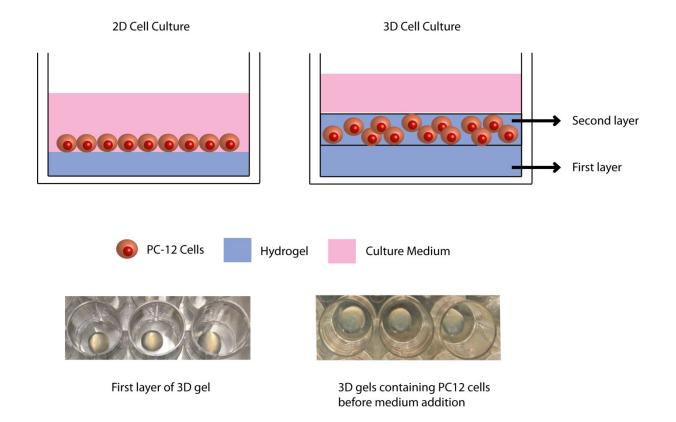
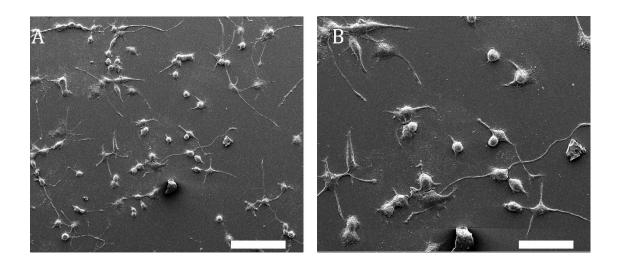


Figure S2 In vitro experimental design.

 Table S1 Experimental Groups

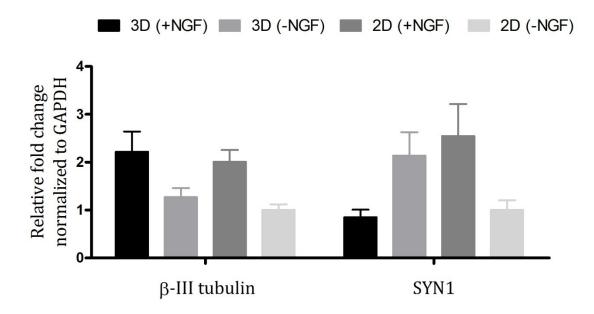
3D		2D	
+NGF	-NGF	+NGF	-NGF
PA-TN/PA-EE	PA-TN/PA-EE	PA-TN/PA-EE	PA-TN/PA-EE
(12 mM/6 mM)	(12 mM/6 mM)	(4 mM/2 mM)	(4 mM/2 mM)
PA-KK/PA-EE	PA-KK/PA-EE	PA-KK/PA-EE	PA-KK/PA-EE
(10 mM/10 mM)	(10 mM/10 mM)	(3 mM/3 mM)	(3 mM/3 mM)



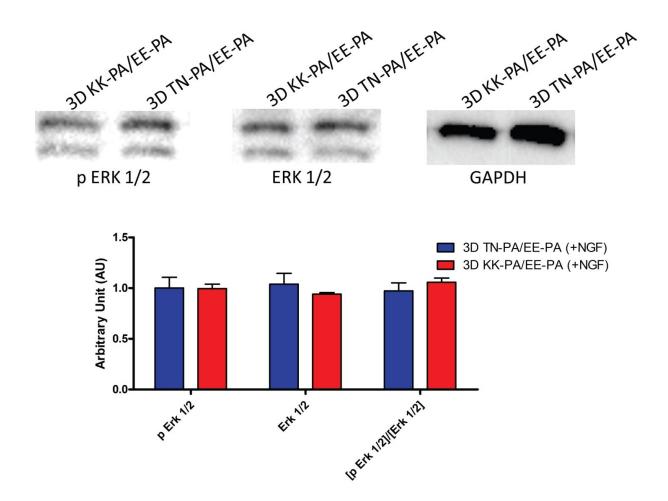
**Figure S3.** SEM images of PC12 cells on 2D poly-D-lysine coated surfaces in the presence of NGF on day 7 (Scale bars:  $100 \mu m$  (A) and  $50 \mu m$  (B)).

 Table S2 Primers Used for qRT-PCR Expression Analysis

Gene	Forward Primer	Reverse Primer	Product Size (bp)
GAPDH	GTGCCAGCCTCGTCTCATA	AACTTGCCGTGGGTAGAGTC	186
β-III Tubulin	CCTGCCTCTTCGTCTCTAGC	AACTTGGCCCCTATCTGGTT	222
SYN1	CCAGCTCAACAAATCCCAGT	TGGTCTCAGCTTTCACCTCA	307



**Figure S4** Gene expression analyses of β-III tubulin and Synaptophysin I (SYN1) on day 3 on 2D TN-PA/EE-PA nanofibers and in 3D TN-PA/EE-PA hydrogels with and without the addition of NGF. Expression level of each gene was normalized to GAPDH. Values represent mean  $\pm$  sem.



**Figure S5** Western blot analysis of ERK phosphorylation (p ERK) and total ERK expression. Values represent mean  $\pm$  sem.