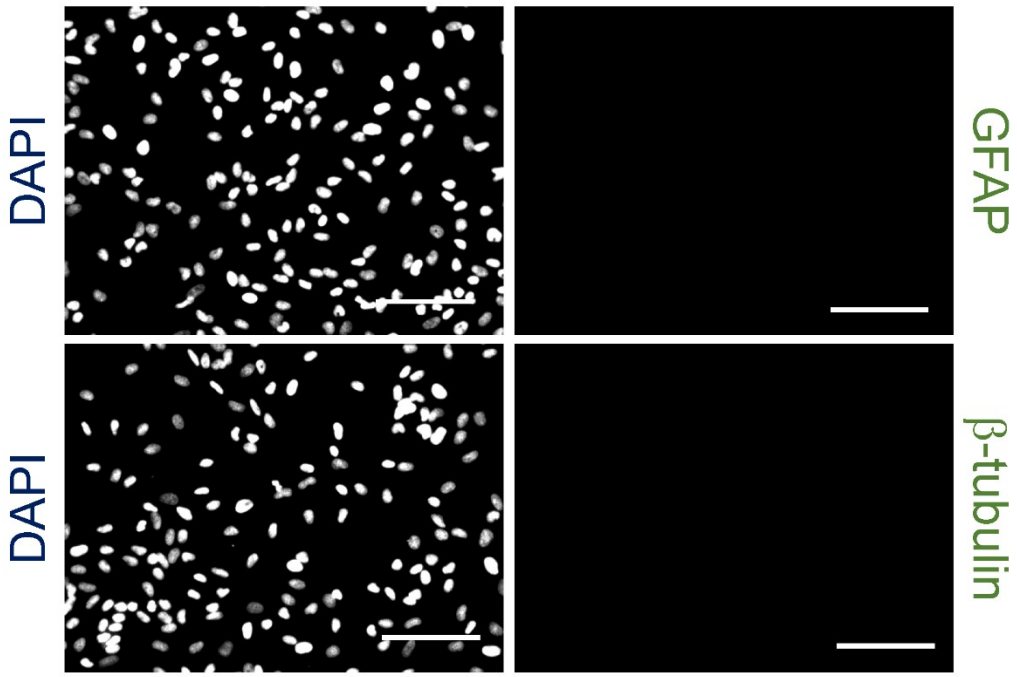
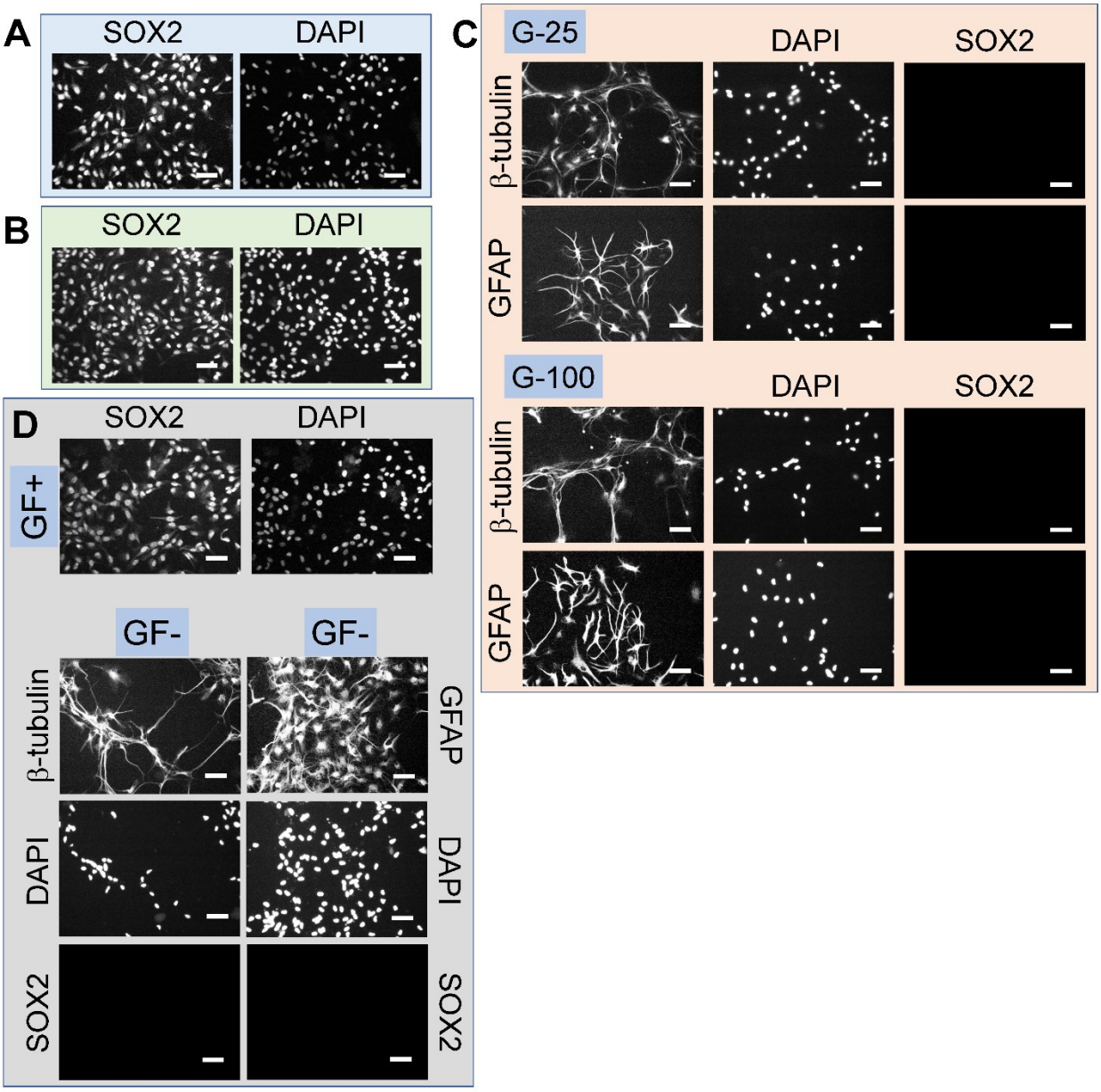
Electronic Supplementary Material (ESI) for Biomaterials Science.



Supplementary Figure 1. Representative (individual channels) immunofluorescence images of GFAP and βIII-tubulin stained cells after priming. DAPI staining shows the nuclei, while lack of staining for these two primary antibodies in these cultures indicate lack of hNPC differentiation.



Supplementary Figure 2. Representative SOX-2 and DAPI (cell nuclei) labeled immunofluorescence images of cells (**A**) in the presence of *complete medium*, after priming three days in culture, and (**B**) cultured on TCPS, three days post-priming, in the presence of *complete medium*. (**C**) Representative immunofluorescence images of star-shaped and elongated cells on G-25 and G-100 gels, nine days post-priming, in *complete medium*. Primary antibodies for SOX2, βIII-tubulin, and GFAP were used. Staining for SOX2 was not evident. Cultures were counterstained with DAPI for cell nuclei identification. (**D**) Representative immunofluorescence images of cells after nine days of culture on laminin coated TCPS in the presence of *complete medium* or *maintenance medium*. Primary antibodies for SOX2, βIII-tubulin, and GFAP were used with appropriate secondary antibodies. Cultures were counterstained with DAPI for cell nuclei identification. SOX2 staining was not evident in the GF- cultures, while GFAP and βII-tubulin staining was not evident in GF+ cultures. Scale bar: 50 μm.