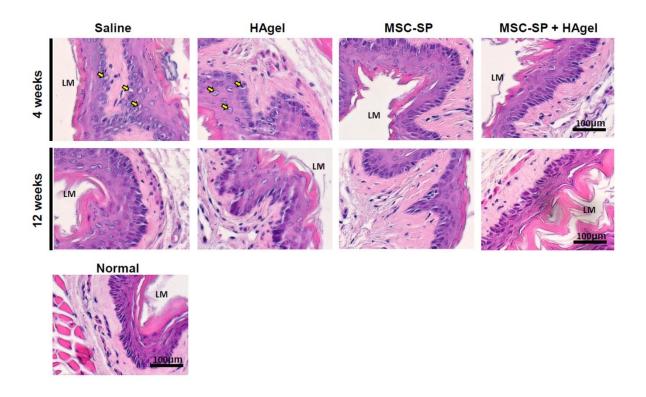
## **Supplemental Information**

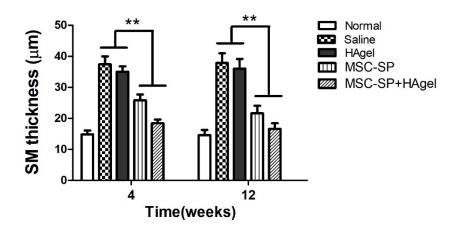
## Regeneration of irradiation-damaged esophagus by local delivery of mesenchymal stem-cell spheroids encapsulated in a hyaluronic-acid-based hydrogel

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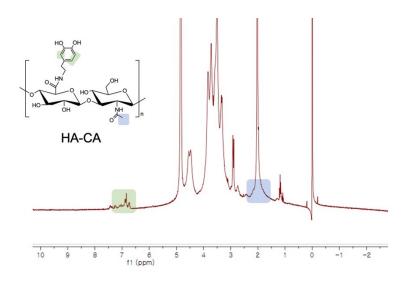
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**Supplementary figure 1.** Histological evaluation of epithelium (EPI) via H & E staining at 4 and 12 weeks post-esophageal injection. The yellow arrows indicate the enlargement of epithelial cells (cytoplasmic vacuolization). (LM, lumen)



**Supplementary figure 2.** Quantitative analysis of esophageal submucosa layer. The thickness of the SM (submucosa) was significantly reduced in the two experimental groups injected with MSC-SPs compared to the normal and saline group. (\*\*p < 0.01)



**Supplementary figure 3.** <sup>1</sup>**H-NMR spectrum of HA-CA conjugate.** The peak at 2.0 ppm represented acetyl group of HA backbone and the peaks at 6.8 ppm represented three aromatic ring protons of catechol group.