

## **Hierarchically patterned protein scaffolds with nano-fibrillar and micro-lamellar structures modulate neural stem cell homing and promote neuronal differentiation**

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## Supplementary materials

### Experimental methods

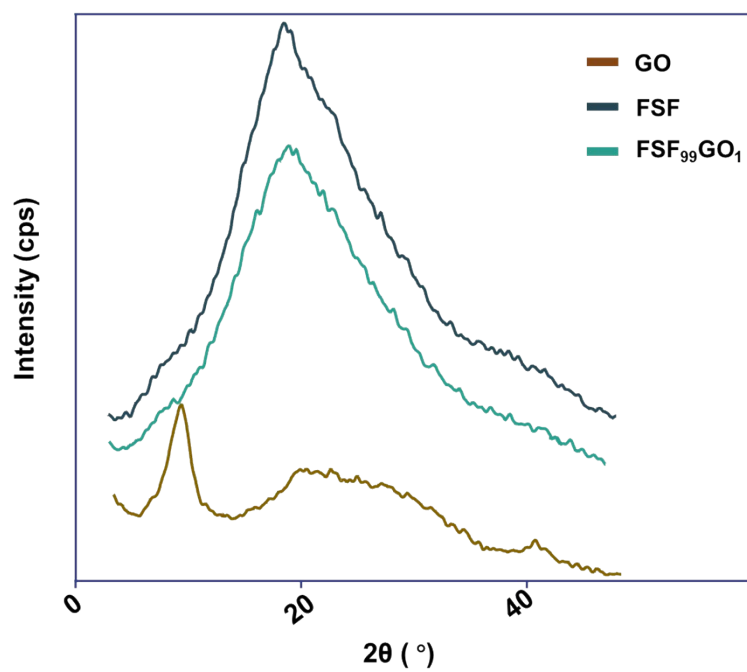
### Supplementary Figures 1-12

#### Experimental methods

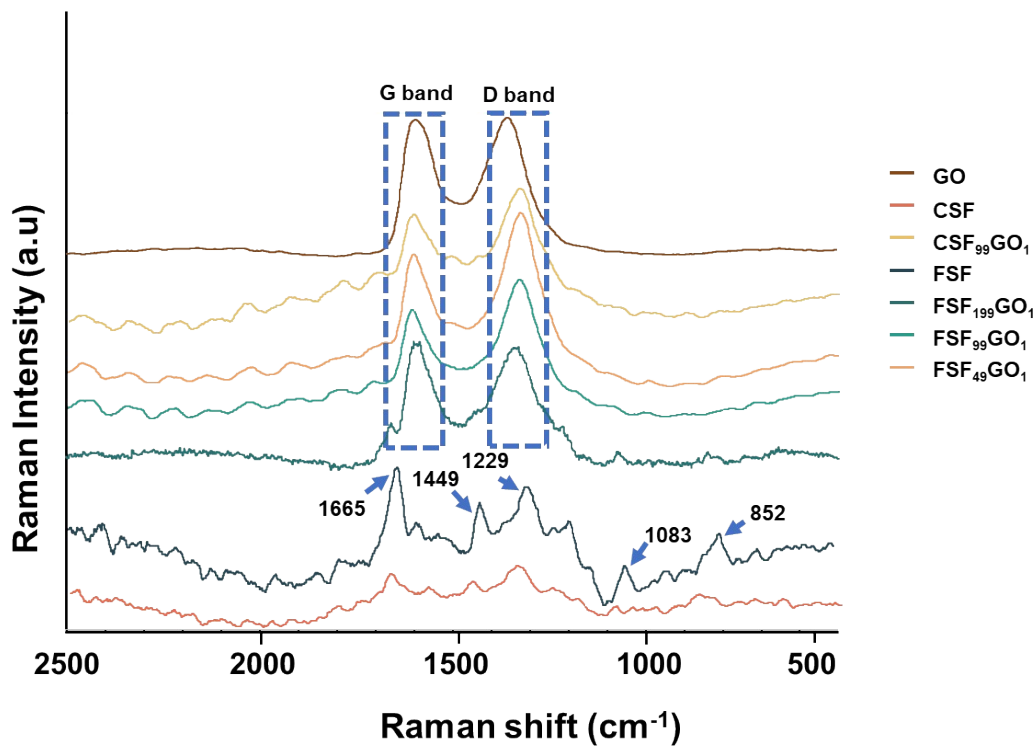
**Preparation of SF-GO film:** SF film was prepared by extension method with 2% solution. After ultrasonic dispersion for 30 min, 2% GO solution was well-dispersed. Then SF film was immersed into the GO solution, slowly oscillating at room temperature to form the nano structure on the film surface. After processing for two hours, the SF-GO film was washed twice and air dried.

**The viability of NSCs on the SF-GO film:** After co-cultured with the material for 24 h, the LDH cytotoxicity of NSCs was detected by LDH Cytotoxicity Assay Kit (Beyotime, China) according the manufacturer's instructions. The cell cultured in serum-free medium on the plate without any treatment was treated as the control group. To examine the viability of NSCs on the SF-GO film, the Live/Dead assay was conducted using 1  $\mu\text{mol/L}$  calcein AM and 4  $\mu\text{mol/L}$  ethidium homodimer-1 (Life Technologies kit) for 30 min at 37 °C.

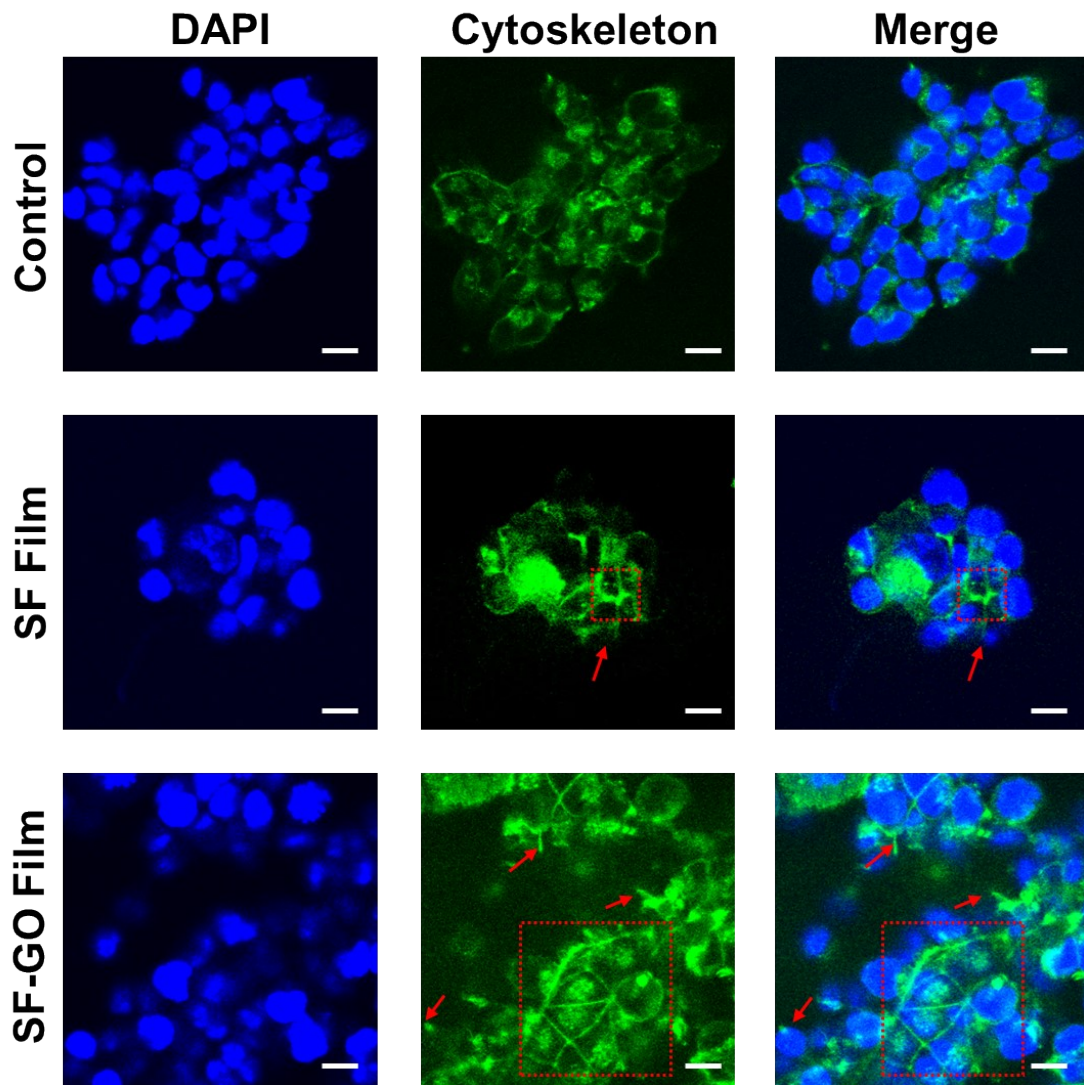
**RNA extraction, Library preparation, and Sequencing:** Total RNA was extracted from the NSCs growing on the scaffolds using TRIzol® Reagent according the manufacturer's instructions. Then RNA quality was determined by 5300 Bioanalyser (Agilent) and quantified using the ND-2000 (NanoDrop Technologies). Only high-quality RNA sample ( $\text{OD}_{260/280}=1.8\sim 2.2$ ,  $\text{OD}_{260/230}\geq 2.0$ ,  $\text{RIN}\geq 6.5$ ,  $28\text{S}:18\text{S}\geq 1.0$ ,  $>1\mu\text{g}$ ) was used to construct sequencing library. mRNA libraries were generated by Illumina Stranded Total RNA Prep, Ligation with Ribo-Zero Plus. They were then sequenced using an Illumina NovaSeq 6000.



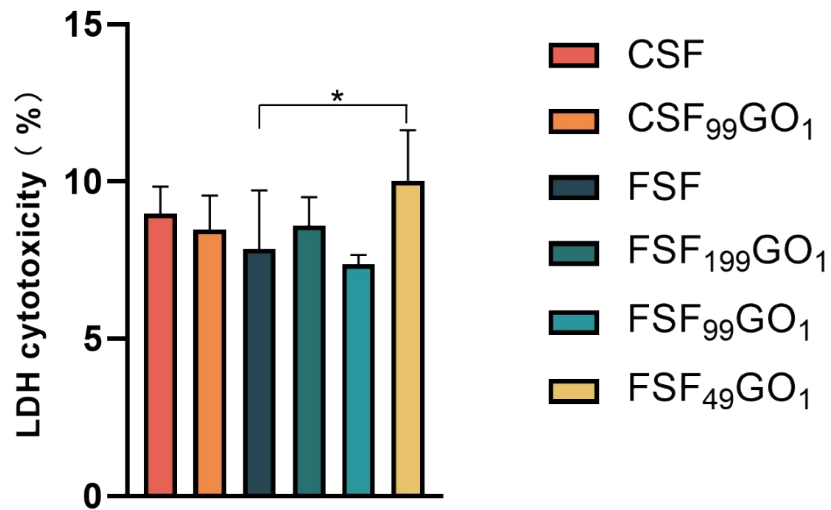
**Supplementary Figure 1.** The XRD patterns of GO, FSF and FSF<sub>99</sub>GO<sub>1</sub> scaffolds. The peak value of GO, FSF and FSF<sub>99</sub>GO<sub>1</sub> appeared at 11°, 21.4° and 20.6°, respectively.



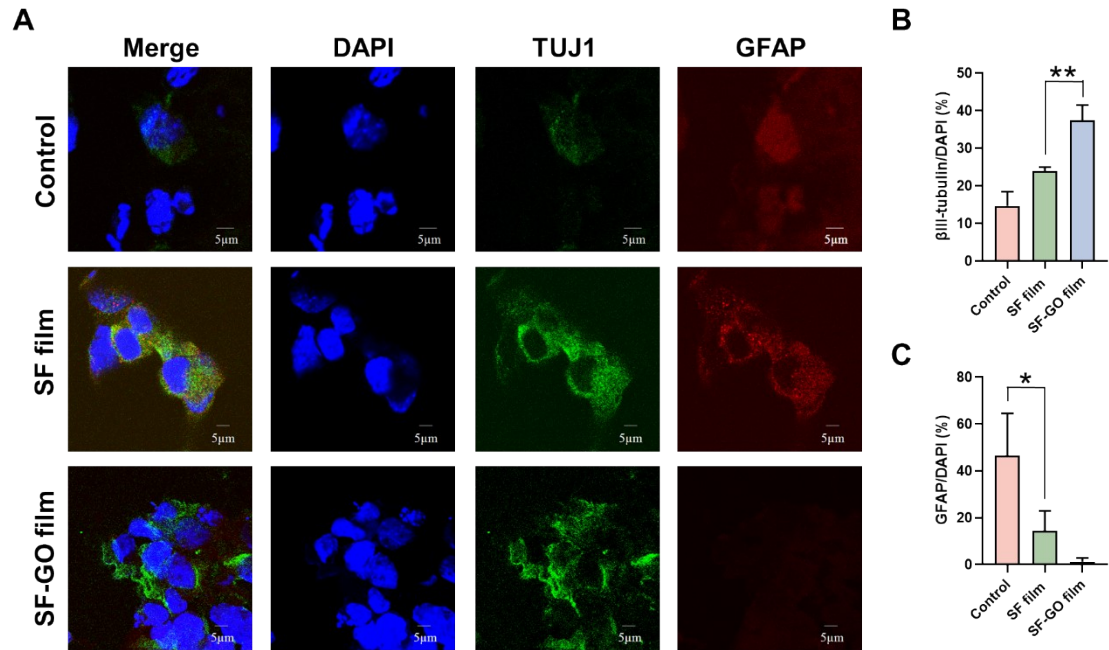
**Supplementary Figure 2.** The Raman spectra of GO, CSF, CSF<sub>99</sub>GO<sub>1</sub>, FSF, FSF<sub>199</sub>GO<sub>1</sub>, FSF<sub>99</sub>GO<sub>1</sub> and FSF<sub>49</sub>GO<sub>1</sub> scaffolds. FSF and CSF scaffolds below showed random coil structure. When GO was added, the G band and D band appeared.



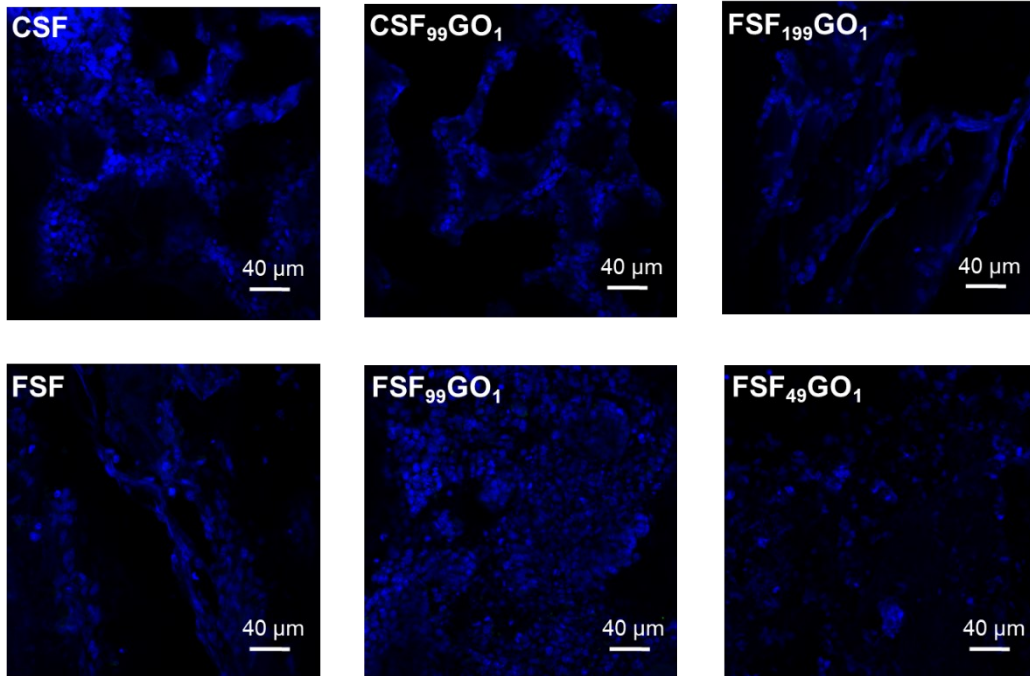
**Supplementary Figure 3.** Fluorescence staining images of NSCs proliferating on SF-GO film for 3 d. (Blue: nucleus; Green: cytoskeleton) Scale bars represent 20  $\mu\text{m}$ . Dotted box: cells showing spindle spread. Arrow: cell pseudopodia.



**Supplementary Figure 4.** LDH cytotoxicity of NSCs co-cultured with the material for 24 h. Sample pairs (CSF vs CSF<sub>99</sub>GO<sub>1</sub>, FSF vs FSF<sub>99</sub>GO<sub>1</sub>, CSF vs FSF, CSF<sub>99</sub>GO<sub>1</sub> vs FSF<sub>99</sub>GO<sub>1</sub>) were analyzed with the Student's t-test. One-way ANOVA analysis was applied among FSF-GO groups. \* $P < 0.05$ , (Mean  $\pm$  SD,  $n=3$ )



**Supplementary Figure 5.** Immunofluorescence-stained neural cells cultured on SF-GO films for 14 d. (A) Neurons are stained green (beta III tubulin: green), astrocytes are stained red (GFAP: red) and nuclei are stained blue (DAPI: blue). (B) Percentage of tubulin versus DAPI-stained area. (C) Percentage of GFAP versus DAPI-stained area. \* $P < 0.05$ , \*\* $P < 0.01$ . (Mean  $\pm$  SD,  $n = 3$ )



**Supplementary Figure 6.** Immunofluorescence-stained neural cells cultured for 14 d. Astrocyte stained red (GFAP: red) and nuclei stained blue (DAPI: blue).