Supported information

Procedure for QCM-D

To prepare the TMV modified Gold sensors for QCM-D measurements, the fresh cleaned gold crystals were immersed

- 5 in0.1 M cysteamine ethanol solution for 48 h, rinsing with ethanol and deionized water, and blow-drying with a stream of nitrogen. The sensors were then immersed in TMV solution for 1 h (0.5 mg/mL, pH 4.7 in 0.1 M potassium phosphate buffer), rinsing with deionized water and drying with nitrogen, then the
- 10 sensor was mounted in a QFM 401 chamber (Q-Sense, Gothenburg, Sweden). Before and after each introduction of special components separately (dissolved in 0.1 M pH 7.4 potassium phosphate buffer) into the system the chip was exposed to a buffer of the same pH. For the bare senor the
- 15 measurement was similar as the TMV modified gold sensor.



Supplementary fig. 1 Representative AFM micrographs showing the stability of TMV substrate after 24 hours incubation. (A) Silane wafer
coated with 3 μg/cm² TMV nanoparticles. Left: the wafer is completely covered with multilayers of TMV (scan area is 10 μm). Right: the morphology of rod-shape virus is visible (scan area is 2 μm). (B) TMV-coated wafer after 24 hours incubation in PBS at 37 °C. Left: the wafer is still completely covered with a few layers of TMV (scan area is 10 μm).
Right: the rod-shape virus is still visible showing intact viral particles on

the substrate.



Supplementary fig. 2 RT-qPCR analysis for *BMP2* expression in the 30 cells seeded on TCP control with or without the three osteogenic inducers for 8 hours. The osteogenic inducers are sodium β -glycerolphosphate, Lascorbic acid 2-phosphate and dexamethasone. No significant difference in *BMP2* gene expression was observed. The error bars denote \pm s.d.



Supplementary fig. 3 QCM-D results showing changes in the third harmonic frequency (Δf) and dissipation (ΔD) when delivering (A) 10 mM of sodium β -glycerolphosphate, (B) 10 nM of dexamethasone, (C) 50 μ g/mL of ascorbic acid-2-phosphate to TMV-coated gold surface, and when delivering (D) 10 mM of sodium β -glycerolphosphate, (E) 10 nM

of dexamethasone, (F) 50 μ g/mL of ascorbic acid-2-phosphate to uncoated gold surface. No significant deposition can be seen at all conditions.

Electronic Supplementary Material (ESI) for Integrative Biology This journal is The Royal Society of Chemistry 2012

Gene	Sequence (5'-3')
ALPL	Forward: ACCTCGAGCAGGAACAGAAGTTTGCT
	Reverse: TTCCATGATGGTTGCAGGGTCTGGA
BMP2	Forward: ACCAACCATGGGTTTGTGGTGGAAGT
	Reverse: TCCGCTGTTTGTGTTTGGCTTGACG
GAPDH	Forward: ACTAAAGGGCATCCTGGGCTACACTGA
	Reverse: TGGGTGGTCCAGGGTTTCTTACTCCTT
IBSP	Forward: TCTGAACGGGTTTCAGCAGACGA
	Reverse: GCCATGCCCCTTGTAGTAGCTGTA

Supplementary fig. 4 Primers used for RT-qPCR to measure gene expression levels. ALPL: alkaline phosphatase; BMP2: bone morphogenetic protein 2; IBSP: integrin-binding sialoprotein.