

Supporting Information

Tailoring Chemical and Physical Properties of Fibrous Scaffolds from Block Copolyesters Containing Ether and Thio-ether Linkages for Skeletal Differentiation of Human Mesenchymal Stromal Cells

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Table S1. Electrospinning operating conditions.

| Polymer | solvent mixture (v:v) | conc. (w/v%) | voltage (kV) | flow rate (ml/h) | D ^a (cm) |
|---|--------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|---------------------|------------------------|
| PBS | DCM:2-CE (80:20) | 23 | 14 | 0.6 | 15 |
| PBS/PBDG | HFIP | 25 | 20 | 0.3 | 15 |
| P(BS ₁₁ BDG ₁₁)-m ^b | DCM:2-CE (90:10) | 35 | 17 | 0.6 | 20 |
| P(BS ₁₁ BDG ₁₁)-n ^c | HFIP | 25 | 22 | 0.5 | 15 |
| PBS/PBTDG | HFIP | 25 | 19 | 0.5 | 15 |
| P(BS ₁₀ BTDG ₁₀) | HFIP | 25 | 23 | 0.5 | 15 |

^{a)} D = needle-to-collector distance; ^{b)} “m” indicates micrometric fibers; ^{c)} “n” indicates nanometric fibers.

Table S2. Peak molecular weight as a function of incubation time for PBS/PBDG and PBS/PBTDG.

| Incubation time (days) | PBS/PBDG | | PBS/PBTDG | |
|------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| | M _p , 1 | M _p , 2 | M _p , 1 | M _p , 2 |
| 0 | 40600 | / | 51400 | / |
| 27 | 24700 | 58800 | 37900 | / |
| 47 | 18500 | 58600 | 32000 | 59300 |
| 77 | 14200 | 58600 | 26100 | 59400 |
| 92 | 12000 | 58100 | 18800 | 59000 |
| 109 | 10700 | 56600 | 12500 | 57500 |
| 145 | 8200 | 51100 | 9700 | 52100 |
| 162 | 5400 | 50900 | 8700 | 51000 |

Table S3. Sequences of primers used in real time RT-PCR.

| Gene | Forward primer 5' to 3' | Reverse primer 5' to 3' |
|--------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| B2M | ACAAAGTCACATGGTTCACA | GACTTGTCTTTCAGCAAGGA |
| ALP | ACAAGCACTCCCACTTCATC | TTCAGCTCGTACTGCATGTC |
| RUNX2 | TGGTACTGTCATGGCGGGTA | TCTCAGATCGTTGAACCTTGCTA |
| COL1A1 | GAGGGCCAAGACGAAGACATC | CAGATCACGTCATCGCACAAC |
| BSP | CCCCACCTTTTGGGAAAACCA | TCCCCGTTTCTCACTTTCATAGAT |
| COL2A1 | CGTCCAGATGACCTTCTACG | TGAGCAGGGCCTTCTTGAG |
| SOX9 | TGGGCAAGCTCTGGAGACTTC | ATCCGGGTGGTCTTCTTGTC |
| ACAN | AGGCAGCGTGATCCTTACC | GGCCTCTCCAGTCTCATTCTC |
| ALCAM | ACGATGAGGCAGACGAGATAAGT | CAGCAAGGAGGAGACCAACAAC |

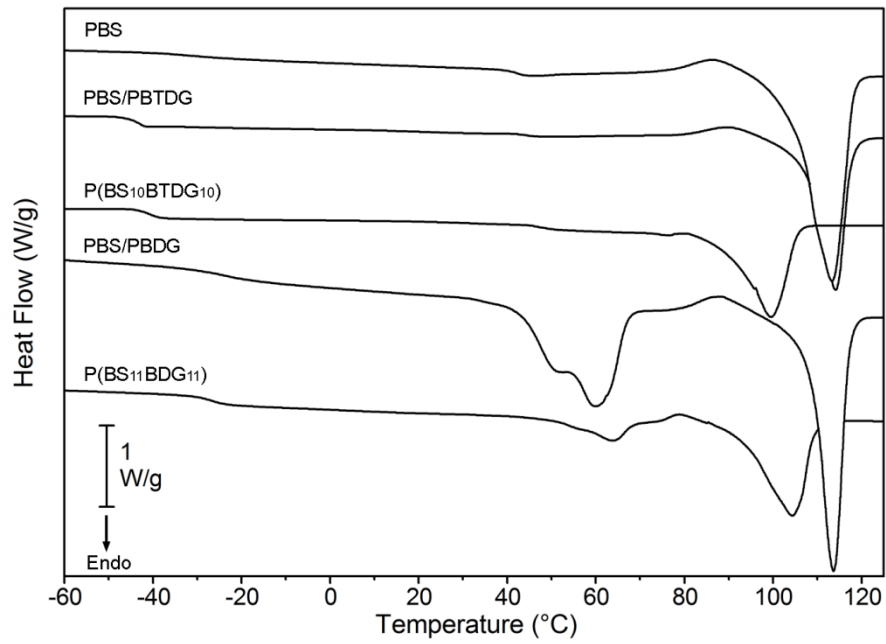


Fig. S1. Calorimetric curves of the polymeric scaffolds under investigation.

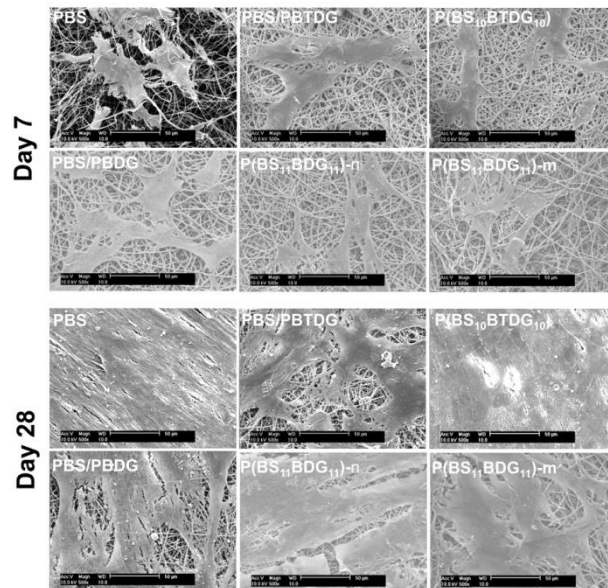


Fig. S2. SEM images of hMSCs cultured on scaffolds in BM at day 7 and day 28.

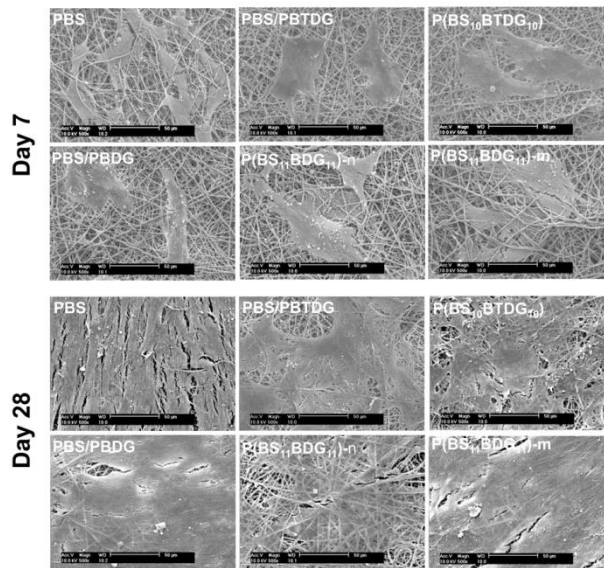


Fig. S3. SEM images of hMSCs cultured on scaffolds in OM at day 7 and day 28.

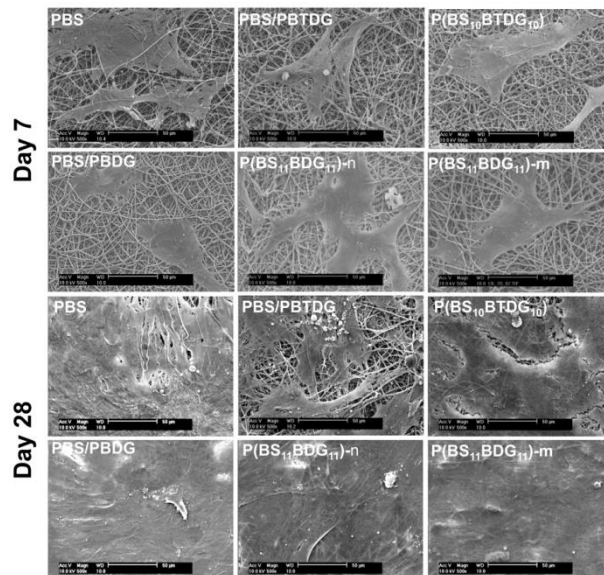


Fig. S4. SEM images of hMSCs cultured on scaffolds in CM at day 7 and day 28.

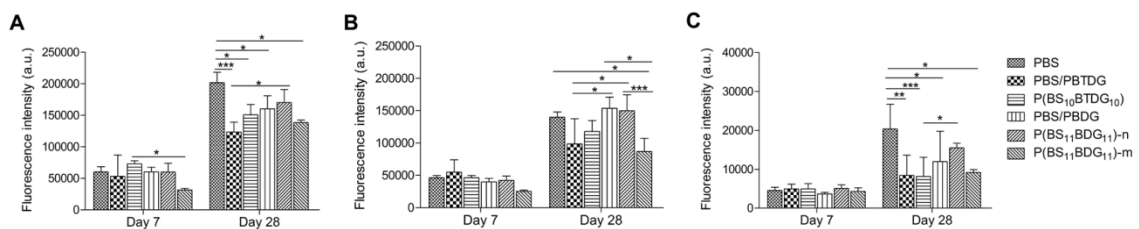


Fig. S5. Metabolic activity of hMSCs cultured on scaffolds in BM(A), OM(B) and CM (C) at day 7 and day 28. * $p < 0.05$, ** $p < 0.01$, *** $p < 0.001$.

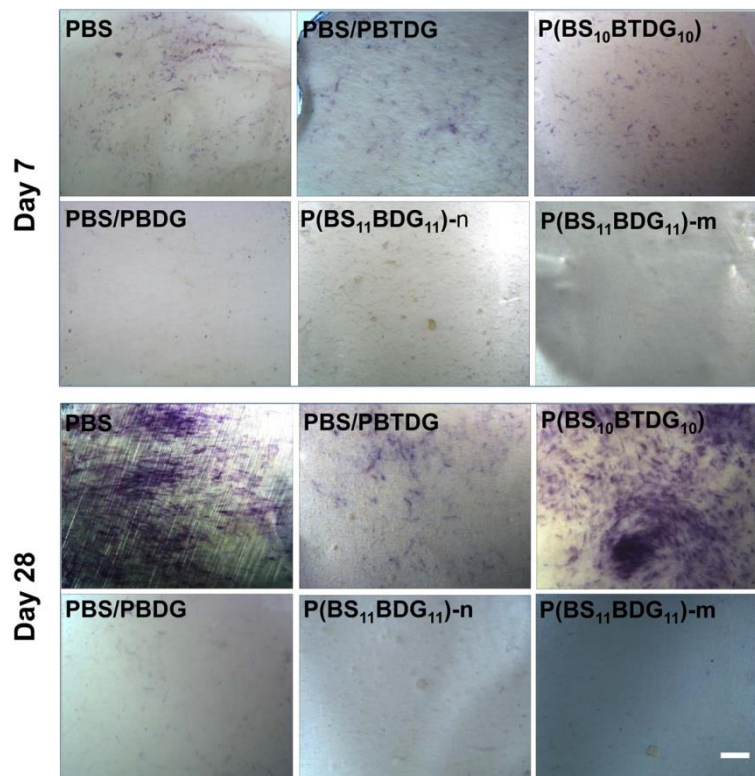


Fig. S6. The staining of alkaline phosphatase enzyme activity for hMSCs on scaffolds in BM at day 7 and day 28. Scale bar =1mm.

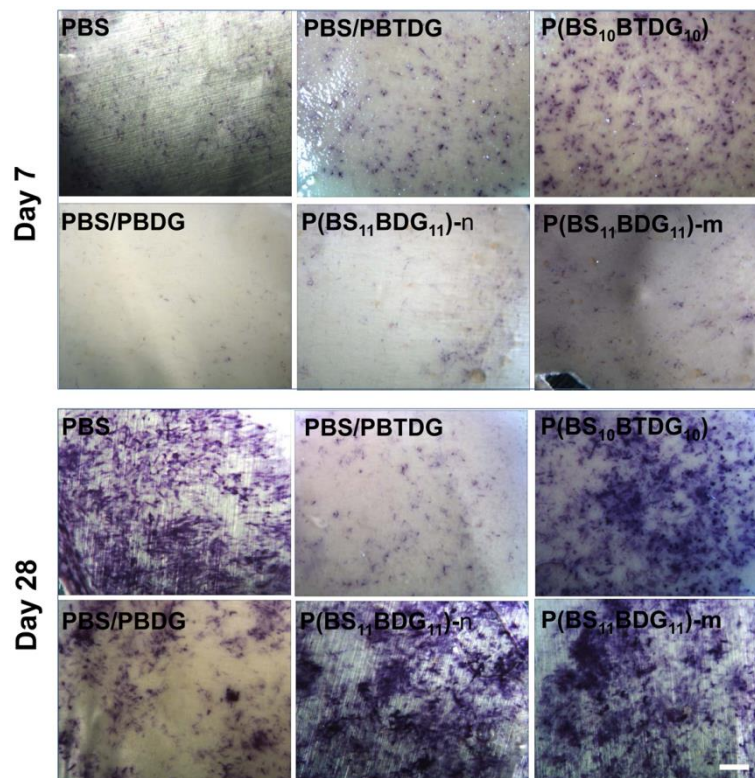


Fig. S7. The staining of alkaline phosphatase enzyme activity for hMSCs on scaffolds in OM at day 7 and day 28. Scale bar =1mm.