

Supporting Information

Sequences used in the study

GI-GAL4DBD

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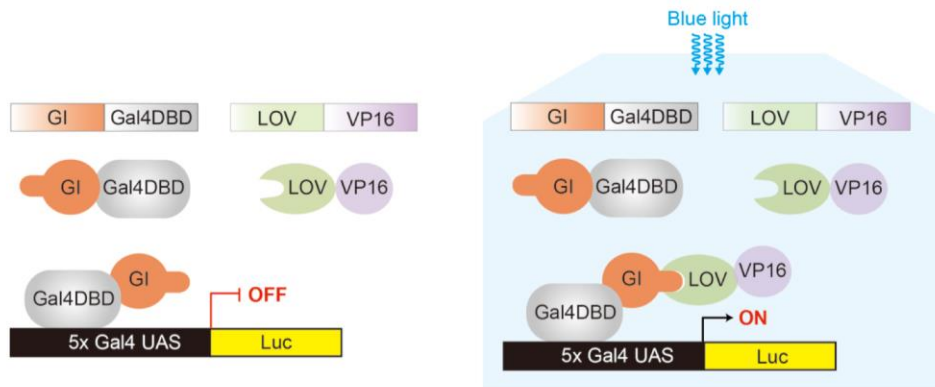
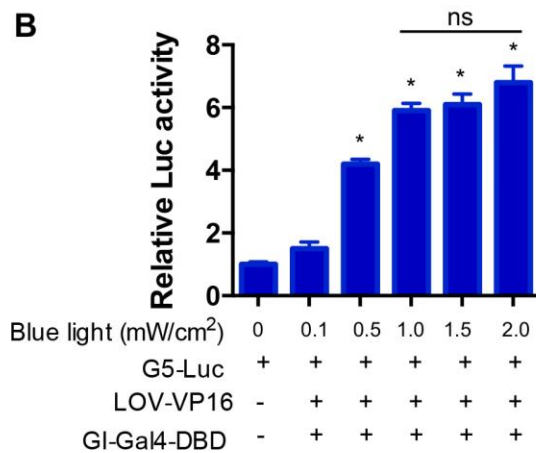
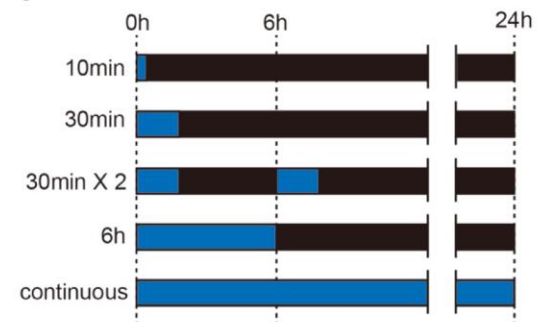
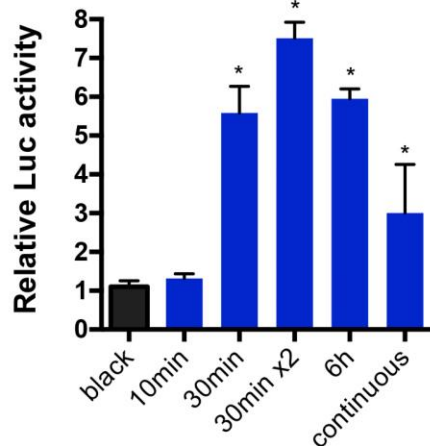
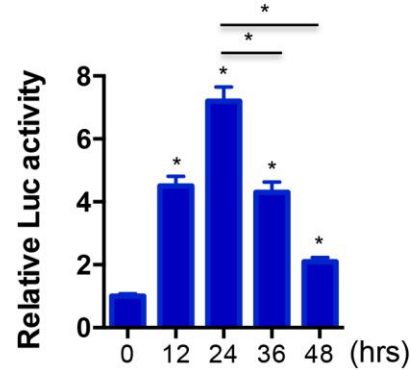
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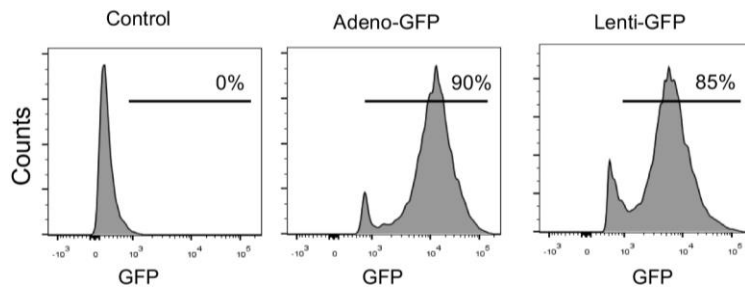
Supplementary Table 1 Primers used in the study.

Name	Sense	Antisense
Gapdh	5'-TGCCCTCATGTTCTGATAAAT-3'	5'-CATTACATCACAGCTTCCAGG-3'
Lhx8	5'-GGTGAATGACTTATGCTGGCATGT-3'	5'-CCATACCGTCTGAAGTAATCG-3'
Bmp2	5'-AGCAGGTCTTTGCACCAAGATGA-3'	5'-GCTGTTTGTGTTTGGCTTGACG-3'

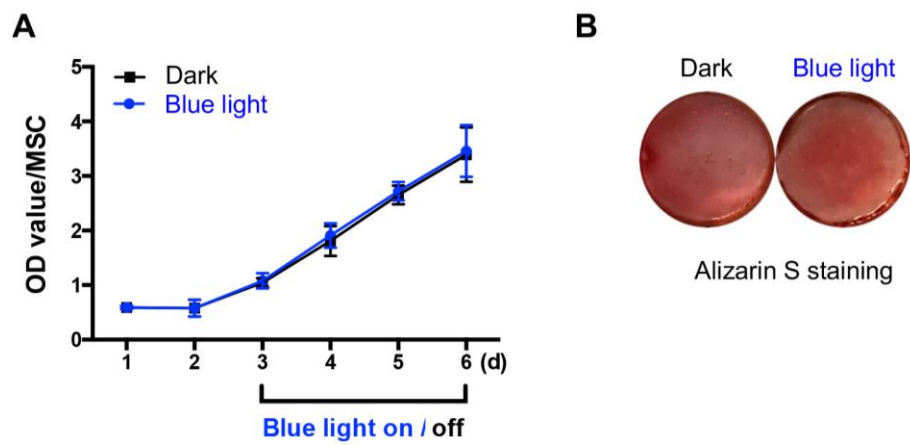
A**B****C****D****E**

Supplementary Figure 1 Optimization of the light parameters to control gene expression. (A) Schematic representation of the protein structure of GI-Gal4DBD and LOV-VP16, and light induced interaction for transactivation of the luciferase under 5xGal4 UAS promoter. (B) Relative luciferase activity of cells treated with different doses of blue light. HEK293 cells were co-transfected with GI-Gal4DBD, LOV-VP16, pG5luc and pRL-TK. Twenty-four hours later, cells were treated with or without 30 min blue light (0-2 mW/cm²) before

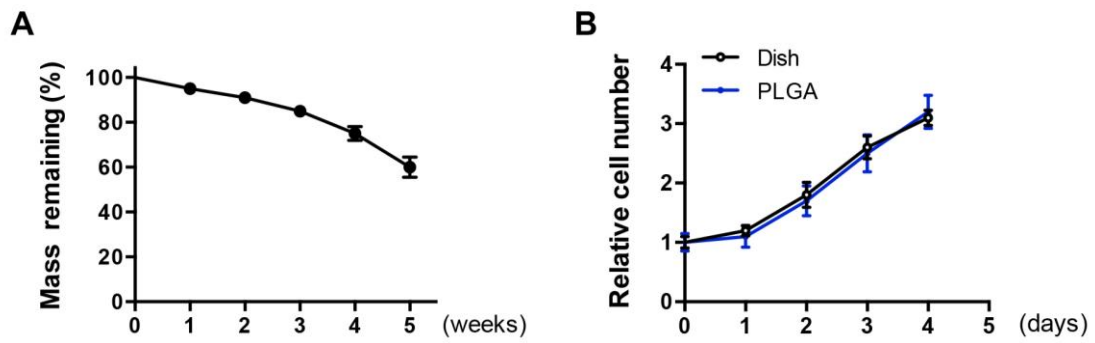
harvested for luciferase activity. (C-D) Effects of light illumination duration on gene expression. (C) Schematic representation of the procedure of blue light illumination. (D) The relative luciferase activity of cells treated with blue light (1 mW/cm^2) for different duration. (E) Reversibility of light illumination on gene expression. HEK293 cells were co-transfected with GI-Gal4DBD, LOV-VP16, pG5luc and pRL-TK, followed by 30 min blue light illumination 24 h (1 mW/cm^2) after transfection. Luciferase activity was monitored at the indicated time post illumination. Data were expressed as mean \pm SEM, * $P < 0.05$. n=5.



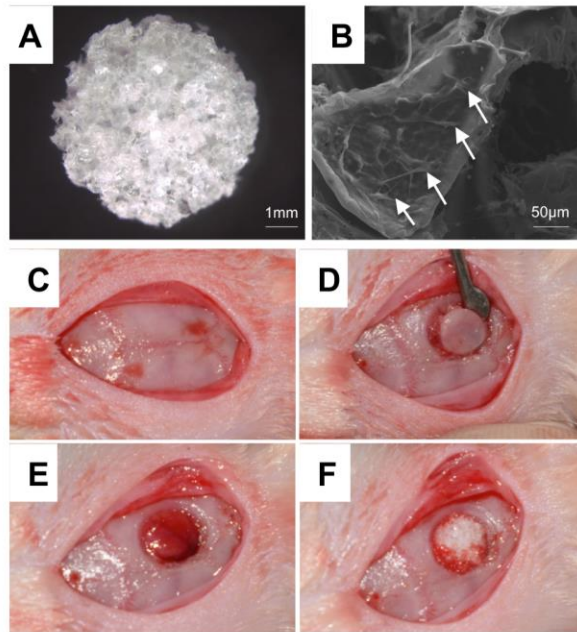
Supplementary Figure 2 Infection efficiency analyzed by flow cytometry. Control MSCs without virus infection or MSCs infected adenovirus or lentivirus expressing GFP for 48 hours were subjected to flow cytometry for analysis of GFP expression. MSCs were efficiently infected by either adenovirus or lentivirus. Representative images of 3 different experiments.



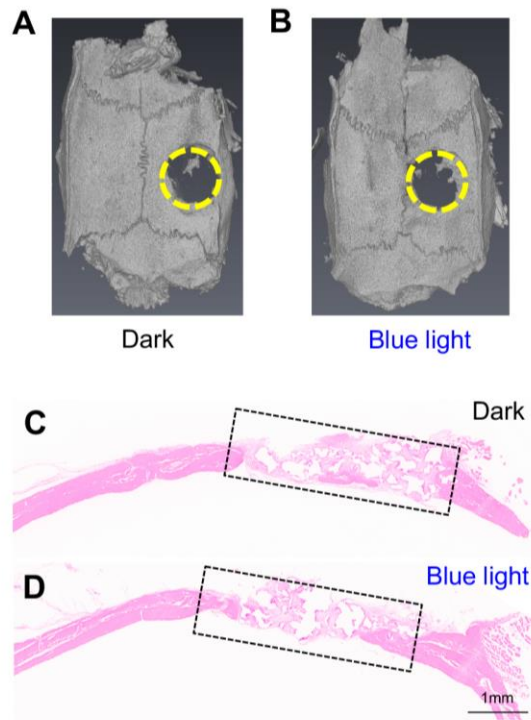
Supplementary Figure 3 Blue light alone has minimal effects on MSC fate in vitro. (A) Growth curve of the cells with or without blue light illumination. Primary MSCs without any gene transfection were cultured in dark until subjected to control (remaining dark) or blue light (30 min, 1 mW/cm²) twice a day. Cell numbers were counted by CCK-8 assay. Data were expressed as mean±SEM, * $P < 0.05$. n=5. (B) Representative images of the Alizarin red S staining of the cells treated similar as above, except that the cells were seeded and cultured in osteogenic medium.



Supplementary Figure 4 Degradation of PLGA and its toxicity to MSCs. (A) Degradation rate of PLGA in PBS at RT. (B) CCK-8 analysis of cell growth in cell dish or PLGA sheets. Data were expressed as mean \pm SEM of three biological replicates.



Supplementary Figure 5 Animal experimental procedures. (A) Morphology of the PLGA scaffold. (B) MSCs attached on the pores of the PLGA scaffold, as revealed by scanning electron microscope. (C-E) Surgery procedures showing the steps to produce calvarial defect (F) and MSCs/scaffold transplantation.



Supplementary Figure 6 Blue light alone has little effects on bone regeneration in vivo. Representative images from microCT (A-B) and HE staining (C-D) showing bone defect healing after 4 weeks of scaffold transplantation. The scaffold was loaded with MSCs without any transfection or infection. The rats were subjected to control (remaining in dark) or blue light illumination (30 min each time, twice a day) for 6 days.