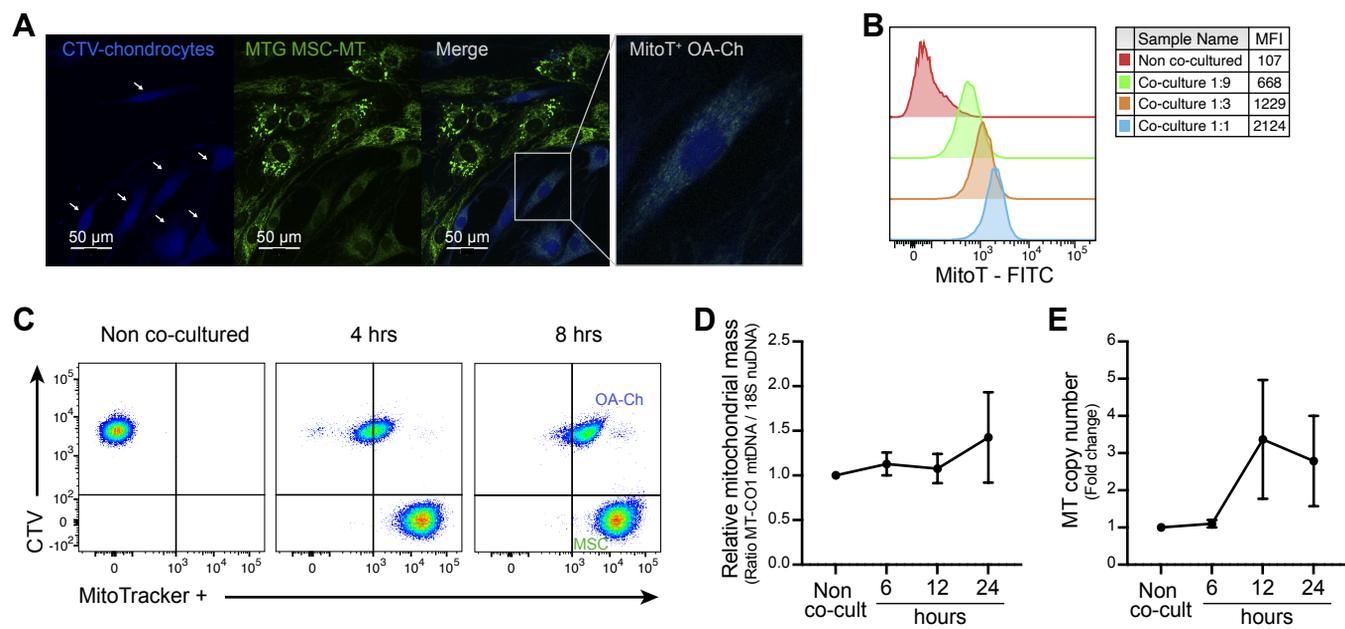
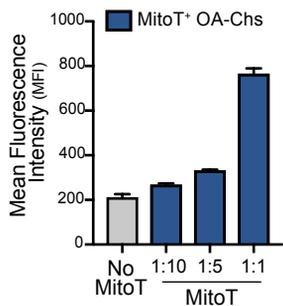


# Supp. Figure 1.

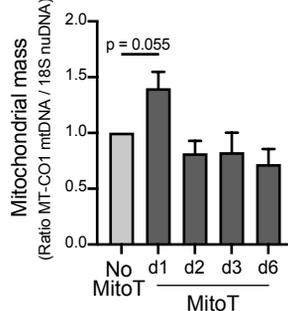


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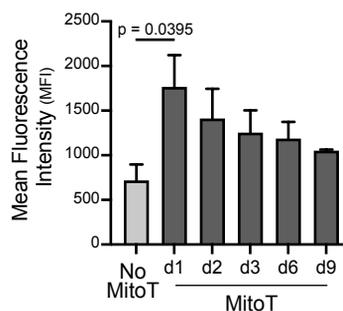
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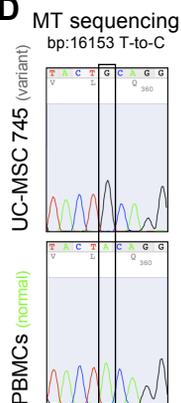
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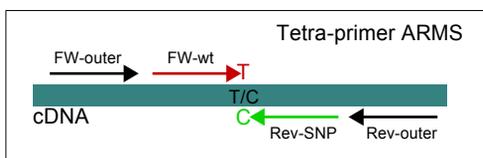
## C



## D

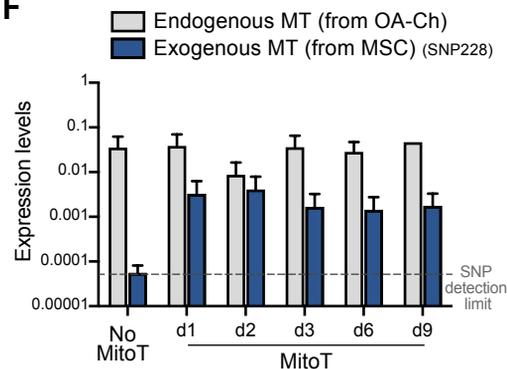


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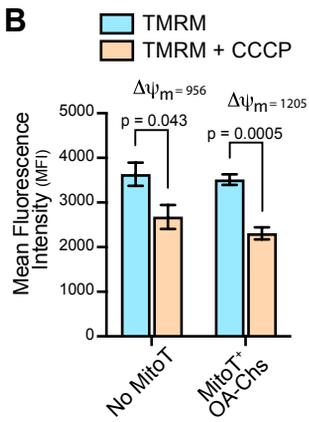
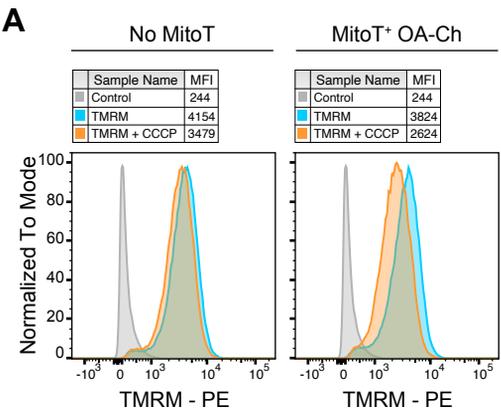


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16153 Rev-outer	Reverse	TAG TTG AGG GTT GAT TGC TGT ACT TGC T
16153 FW-wt	Forward	ACG GTA CCA TAA ATA CTT GAC CAC CGG T
16153 Rev-SNP	Reverse	TTT TGA TGT GGA TTG GGT TTT TAT GTA ATG
228 FW-outer	Forward	GTT CAA TAT TAC AGG CGA ACA TAC TTA CT
228 Rev-outer	Reverse	GTG GAA ATT TTT TGT TAT GAT GTC TGT
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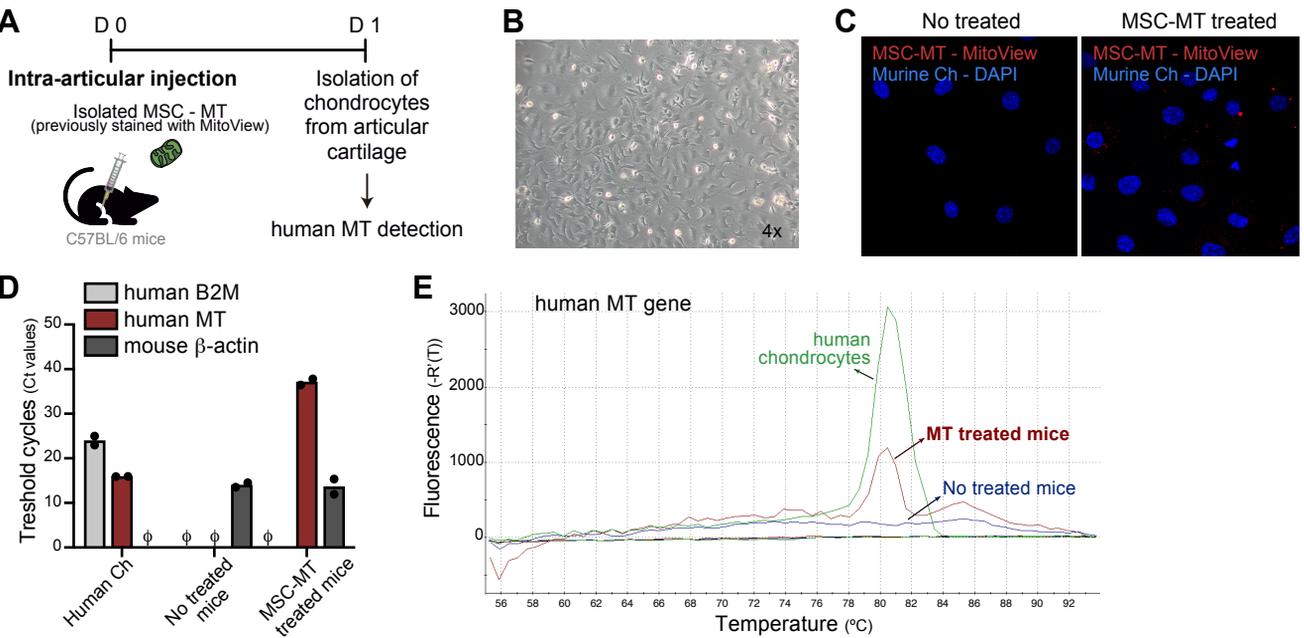
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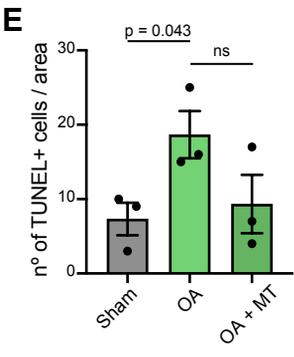
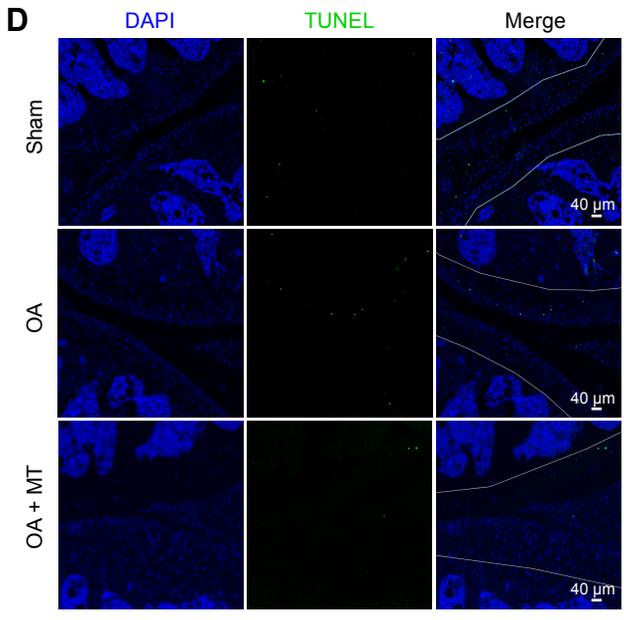
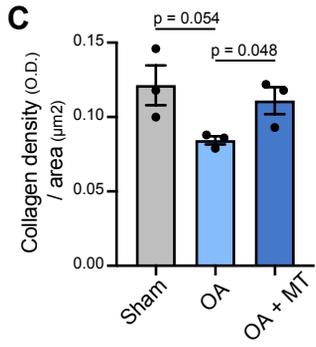
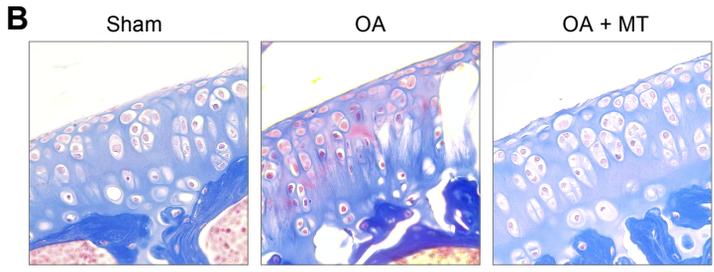
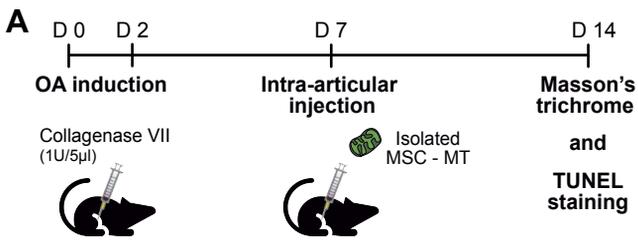
**Supp. Figure 3.**



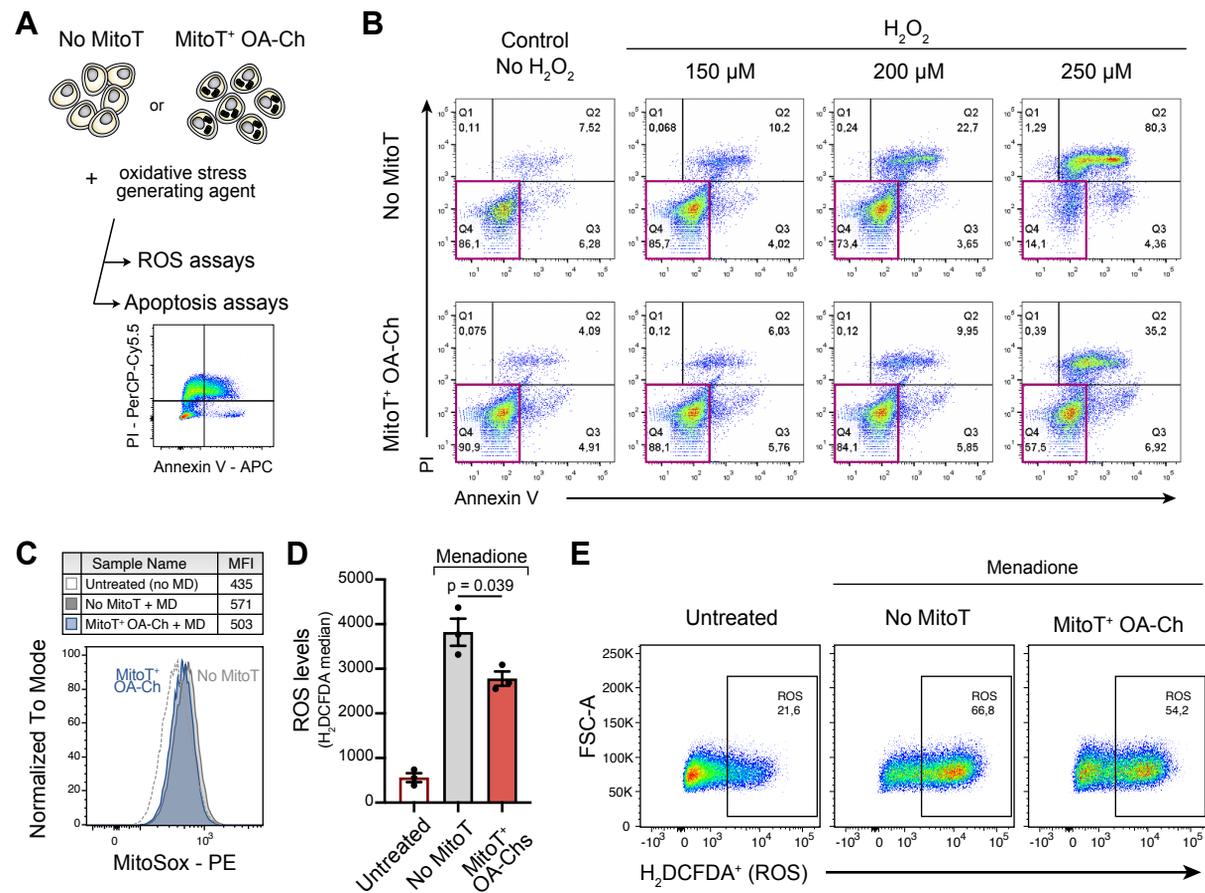
**Supp. Figure 4.**



**Supp. Figure 5.**



# Supp. Figure 6.



## SUPPLEMENTARY FIGURE LEGENDS

### Figure S1. MT Transfer from UC-MSC to human OA chondrocytes.

(A) Representative confocal microscopy of human CTV-stained OA-Chs (white arrows) co-cultured with UC-MSCs previously labeled with MitoTracker-Green (MTG) for 24 hours.

(B) Representative mean fluorescence intensity (MFI) of MitoT<sup>+</sup> OA-Chs at increasing co-culture ratios with MTG-labeled MSCs. Control-red histogram depicts OA-Chs with no MSC co-culture.

(C) Representative FACS plots of MitoT to CTV-stained OA-Chs at short co-culture times with MTG-labeled MSCs in a 1:1 ratio. Control OA-Chs with no MSC co-culture (left panel).

(D) Mitochondrial mass expressed as the mitochondrial DNA/nuclear DNA (mtDNA/nuDNA) ratio of MitoT<sup>+</sup> FACS-sorted OA-Chs at 6, 12 or 24 hrs of UC-MSC co-culture, as compared to control non co-cultured chondrocytes ( $n = 2$  patient samples, replicates run in triplicates).

(E) Mitochondrial copy number of MitoT<sup>+</sup> FACS-sorted OA-Chs, at 6, 12 or 24 hrs of co-culture with UC-MSCs, compared to non co-cultured chondrocytes ( $n = 2$  patient samples, replicates run in triplicates). Graphs show mean  $\pm$  SEM and statistical analysis by Student's t-test. All replicates are biological.

### Figure S2. Persistence of exogenous MSC-MT within OA-chondrocytes.

(A) Average MFI by FACS analysis of MitoT<sup>+</sup> OA-Chs transferred with increasing amounts of UC-MSC-derived MT, isolated from the equivalent number of MSCs according to previously tested cell ratios. Non mitoaccepted control in gray ( $n = 3$  patient samples).

(B) Mitochondrial mass represented as the ratio of mitochondrial DNA/nuclear DNA (mtDNA/nuDNA) for MitoT<sup>+</sup> OA-Chs collected at different time-points (day 1-6) after mitoception with MSC-MT in doses equivalent to a 1:1 cell ratio ( $n = 3$  patient samples).

(C) MFI by FACS analysis of MitoT<sup>+</sup> OA-Chs collected at days 1 through 9 after mitoception with MSC-MT in doses equivalent to a 1:1 cell ratio ( $n = 4$  patient samples).

(D) Representative Sanger sequencing analysis of high-fidelity PCR products amplified with primers flanking the SNP 16153 T-to-C, showing G(C) peak in UC-MSC (code 745) cells, instead of an A(T) peak (in normal peripheral blood mononuclear control cells, PBMCs), allowing the identification of target acceptor cells versus donor MSC-MT.

(E) Primer design strategy (upper panel) and primer sequences (bottom panel) to selectively detect SNPs from MSC-MT gene from normal described MT sequence using the Tetra-primer Amplification Refractory Mutation System (ARMS) principles. FW = forward primer, Rev = reverse primer.

(F) Persistence of MSC-derived MT in OA-Chs according to SNP-PCR analysis of human-specific MSC mitochondrial-SNP (228 G-to-A) gene expression levels, in OA-Chs collected at different time points after mitoception, compared to non mitoaccepted chondrocytes ( $n = 3$  patient samples). Graphs show mean  $\pm$  SEM and statistical analysis by Student's t-test. All replicates are biological.

### Figure S3. MitoT effects on human OA chondrocytes.

(A) Representative FACS histograms of the mitochondrial membrane potential, measured with Tetramethylrhodamine methyl ester (TMRM), on MitoT<sup>+</sup> OA-Chs at 24 hours post-mitoception with MSC derived MT compared to non-mitoaccepted OA-Chs control (No MitoT). MT membrane depolarization was induced with the mitochondrial oxidative phosphorylation uncoupler CCCP (100  $\mu$ M).

(B) Average MFI of TMRM intensity levels for four different OA patients, as described above. DYm showed an increased depolarization capacity of MitoT<sup>+</sup> OA-Chs compared to No MitoT OA-Chs control ( $n = 4$  patient samples). All replicates are biological.

**Figure S4. Human MT detection in mouse chondrocytes isolated from articular cartilage.**

(A) *In vivo* experimental design of intra-articular injections with MSC-derived MT to evaluate its integration in the mouse joint.

(B) Bright-field microscopy image of primary cultured murine chondrocytes isolated from the knee articular cartilage (pooled samples from 3 mice), at day 6 after seeded for culture.

(C) Confocal microscopy images of chondrocytes isolated from MT-treated mice or control non treated mice, at day 6 after seeded for culture.

(D) qPCR analysis of human  $\beta 2$ -microglobulin (B2M), human specific mitochondrial (MT) and mouse specific ( $\beta$ -actin) gene expression levels in chondrocytes isolated from MT-treated mice, no treated mice or human chondrocytes as control ( $n = 2$ ).  $\phi$  = not detected.

(E) Representative melting curves from qPCR of human MT gene from sample in (D).

**Figure S5. UC-MSC derived-MT restores cartilage damage in a preclinical model of OA.**

(A) *In vivo* experimental design of collagenase-induced model of OA (CIOA) treated with isolated human MSC derived mitochondria (MSC-MT), to evaluate cartilage damage by histological knee sections.

(B) Representative articular knee cartilage sections obtained from CIOA mice (OA), CIOA mice transplanted intraarticularly with isolated MT derived from  $2 \times 10^5$  MSCs (OA+MT) or control group (sham) stained with Masson's trichrome, showing positive stains for collagen (blue). (40x).

(C) Collagen density quantification calculated from two independent images per group described in (B). ( $n = 1$  experimental replicate, with 3 mice per group).

(D) Representative confocal microscopy of TUNEL staining (green) in articular knee cartilage sections obtained from CIOA mice (OA), CIOA mice transplanted intraarticularly with isolated MT derived from  $2 \times 10^5$  MSCs (OA+MT) or control group (sham). Cell nucleus were stained with DAPI (blue). (10x).

(E) Quantification of the number of TUNEL-positive cells per unit area ( $500.000 \mu\text{m}^2$ ) in the cartilage region (ROI) from the articular knee sections described in (D). ( $n = 1$  experimental replicate, with 3 mice per group). In (C) and (E) graphs show mean  $\pm$  SEM and statistical analysis by unpaired Student's t-test.

**Figure S6. MitoT increases resistance to oxidative stress in OA chondrocytes.**

(A) Experimental design of oxidative stress response in non-mitocepted OA-Chs (No MitoT) or MitoT<sup>+</sup> OA-Chs.

(B) Representative FACS plots of apoptosis assay on MitoT<sup>+</sup> OA-Chs after 24 hours incubation with increasing concentrations of hydrogen peroxide ( $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$ ) compared to No MitoT control.

(C) Representative histogram of MitoSox ( $2.5 \mu\text{M}$ ) by flow cytometry on MitoT<sup>+</sup> OA-Chs and non-mitocepted Chs, treated for 30 minutes with menadione (MD,  $25 \mu\text{M}$ ), compared to untreated control.

(D) Average of the median fluorescence intensity of  $\text{H}_2\text{DCFDA}$  (ROS levels) on MitoT<sup>+</sup> OA-Chs compared to non-mitocepted Chs after incubation with  $25 \mu\text{M}$  MD, by flow cytometry analysis. ( $n = 3$  OA patient samples). Graph shows mean  $\pm$  SEM and statistical analysis by Student's t-test.

(E) Representative FACS plots of  $\text{H}_2\text{DCFDA}^+$  (ROS) population on MitoT<sup>+</sup> OA-Chs compared to control No MitoT after incubation with  $25 \mu\text{M}$  MD, by flow cytometry analysis.