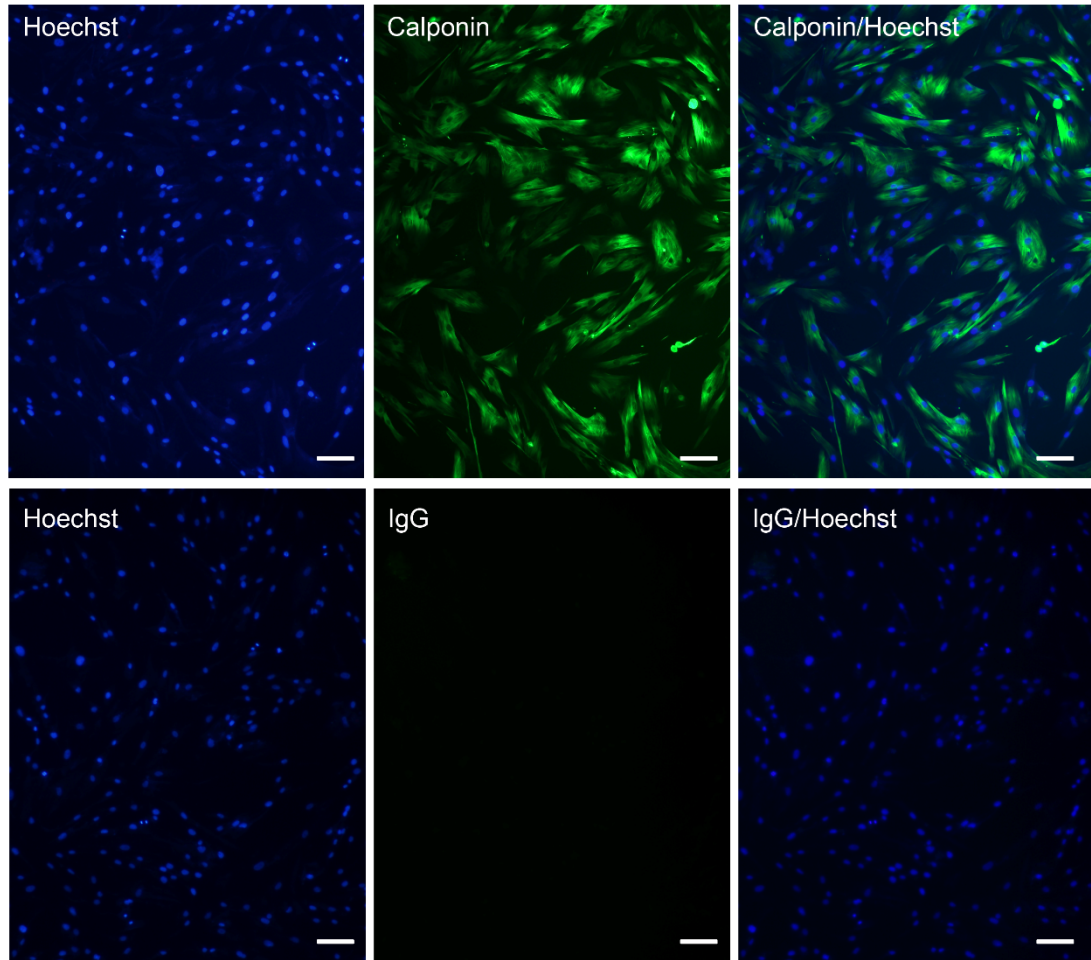


Supplement Fig. 1. Immunofluorescence staining for α -smooth muscle actin in cultured HUSMCs. Cells were fixed in 4% paraformaldehyde solution for 20 min at room temperature. The fixed cultures were washed with PBS and incubated with 10% BSA for 2 h and then were incubated with monoclonal antibody recognizing α -smooth muscle actin (α -actin, sc-58669, Santa Cruz) at the dilution of 1:100 in PBS containing 2% BSA overnight at 4 °C. Subsequently, the specimens were incubated with anti-mouse IgG conjugated to Alexa Fluor 594 (1:400 dilution, Invitrogen). The cell nuclei were visualized by applying the DNA-specific dye Bisbenzimidazole Hoechst 33342 (1:5 000, Sigma-Aldrich). For negative controls, the primary antibody was substituted with a normal IgG in the same dilution. Staining images were visualized using the Olympus fluorescent microscope (Tokyo, Japan). Scale bar, 100 μ m.



Supplement Fig. 2. Immunofluorescence staining for calponin in cultured HUSMCs. Cells were fixed in 4% paraformaldehyde solution for 20 min at room temperature. The fixed cultures were washed with PBS and incubated with 10% BSA for 2 h and then were incubated with monoclonal antibody recognizing calponin (Abcam, ab46794) at the dilution of 1:100 in PBS containing 2% BSA overnight at 4 °C. Subsequently, the specimens were incubated with anti-rabbit IgG conjugated to Alexa Fluor 488 (1:400 dilution, Invitrogen). The cell nuclei were visualized by applying the DNA-specific dye Bisbenzimidazole Hoechst 33342 (1:5 000 dilution, B2261, Sigma-Aldrich). For negative controls, the primary antibody was substituted with a normal IgG in the same dilution. Staining images were visualized using the Olympus fluorescent microscope (Tokyo, Japan). Scale bar, 100 μ m.