

S3 Appendix. Compression data and curves of functionalized and non-functionalized samples.

Data are the same as presented in Fig. 4B and are presented as means \pm SD. The graphs (stress vs. strain) show all compression curves, from which the fracture points are averaged. The photograph shows cylindrical hydrogel samples, cell-free but incubated in DMEM.

Sample description	Fracture Strength [kPa]	Fracture Strain [%]	<i>n</i>
NaGG + SPD	4.3 \pm 1.1	32.7 \pm 6.5	5
NaGG + CaCl ₂	5.1 \pm 0.8	45.5 \pm 1.0	5
NaGG-avd (L) + SPD	5.5 \pm 0.7	35.9 \pm 4.0	5
NaGG-avd (L) + CaCl ₂	8.6 \pm 1.0	45.7 \pm 2.2	5
NaGG-avd (H) + SPD	6.4 \pm 1.2	36.5 \pm 5.6	4
NaGG-avd DMEM on gel	11.5 \pm 0.8	37.6 \pm 3.5	5

