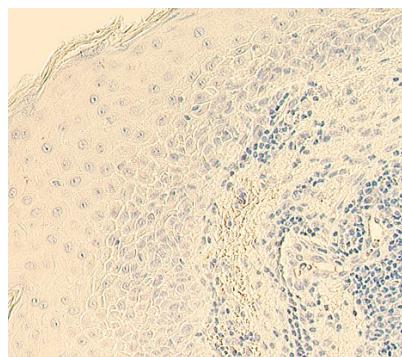


## Supplementary file

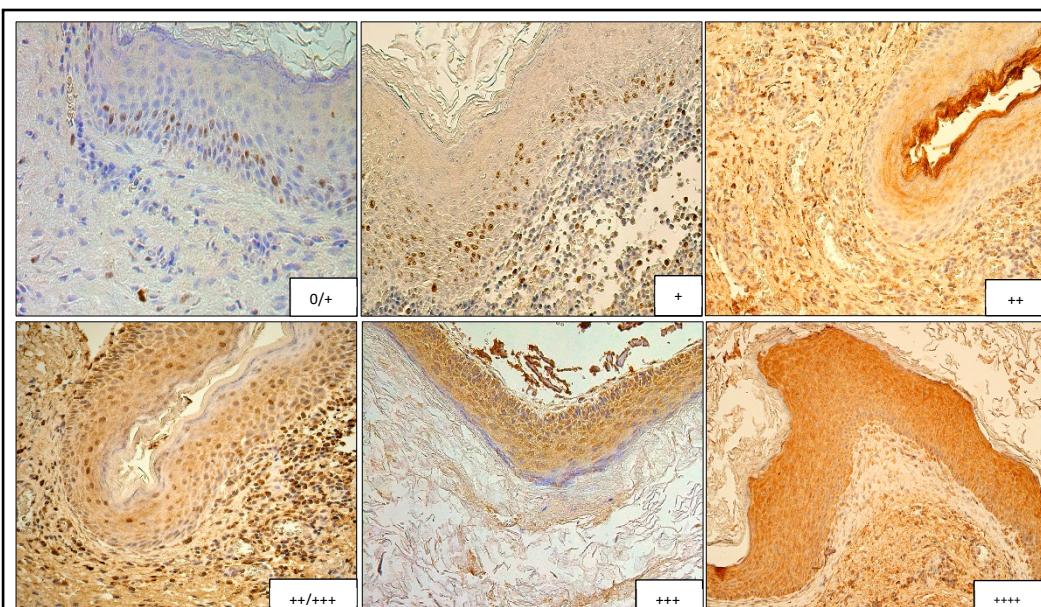
**Figure S1** Negative control.

The example of test sample of the cholesteatoma: MMP2 negative control in cholesteatoma tissue. X 250.



Positive controls in accordance with the manufacturer's guidelines and negative controls with exclusion of primary antibody were developed.

**Figure S2** Pictures of each criterion of semi-quantitative method.



0/+ = occasional positive structures; + = few positive structures; ++ = moderate number of positive structures; ++/+++ = moderate to numerous positive structures; +++ = numerous positive structures; ++++ = an abundance of positive structures in the visual field.

**Table S1**

Complete table of relative tissue factor values in each group

## 1. Children group

	Gender	Age	Ki-67 M	Ki-67 P	MMP-2 M	MMP-2 P	TIMP-2 M	TIMP-2 P	IL-1 M	IL-1 P	IL-10 M	IL-10 P	HBD-2 M	HBD-2 P	HBD-4 M	HBD-4 P	Shh M	Shh P	MMP-9M	MMP-9P	TIMP-4M	TIMP-4P	NFKB M	NFKB P	VEGF M	VEGF P			
1	M	11	+	+	+/++	+	+/++	0/+	+++	+	+++	++	+/-/+++	++	+/-/++	0/+	+/-/+++	++	0/+	0/+	+/-/+++	++	+/-/+++	++	+/-/+++	++	+/-/+++	0/+	
2	M	16	+	0/+	+	0/+	0	0/+	+	+	+++	+/-/++	++	+/-/++	0/+	+	+/-/+++	++	0/+	0-0/+	+/-/+++	+/-/+++	++	+	++	+	++	0	
3	F	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0/+	0	0/+	0	0	0	0/+	0	0	0	0	+	+/-/++	0/+	0/+	0/+	0/+	++	0	
4	M	17	0/+	0-0/+	0/+	0/+	0	0	+	0/+	++	+	+/-/++	+	0	+	+/-/++	+	0	0-0/+	++	++	++	+/-/++	++	+/-/++	0/+		
5	M	10	0-0/+	0-0/+	++	++	0	0/+	++	+	+/-/++	++	+/-/++	0/+	0	0/+	++	+/-/++	0/+	0/+	+/-/++++	+/-/++++	+/-/++++	+/-/++++	+	+/-/++++	++	+/-/++++	++
6	F	16	+	0/+	+/-/++	+/-/++	+	0/+	++	+/-/++	++	+/-/++	++	+/-/++	+	0	0/+	+/-/++	++	+/-/++	+/-/++++	+/-/++++	++	++	+/-/++	+/-/++++	+/-/++++	+/-/++++	
7	F	16	0/+	0-0/+	+	+	+/-/++	0/+	++	+/-/++	++	+/-/++	++	+/-/++	0	0-0/+	+/-/++	++	0/+	+/-/++++	+/-/++++	++	++	+/-/++	+/-/++	+/-/++	+/-/++		
8	M	13	++	0/+	+/-/++	++	0/+	0/+	+++	++	+/-/++	++	+/-/++	++	0-0/+	0/+	+/-/++	++	+/-/++	+/-/++++	+/-/++++	++	++	++	++	++	++	++	
9	F	12	0-0/+	0	++	+/-/++	+/-/++	0-0/+	+/-/+++	+	+/-/+++	+	+/-/++	+/-/++	0	0-0/+	++	+	0	0	+/-/+++	++	+/-/+++	0/+	++	0/+	++	0/+	
10	F	15	0-0/+	0-0/+	+/-/++	+	0-0/+	0/+	+	0/+	++	+/-/++	++	+/-/++	0	0/+	+/-/++	+/-/++	0	0-0/+	+/-/++++	+/-/++++	++	++	0/+	++	++	+	
11	F	15	0	0	+	0/+	0	0	0	0/+	0/+	0/+	0/+	0/+	0	0/+	+	0/+	0	0-0/+	+/-/++	+	0	0	+	+	0		
12	M	15	0/+	0-0/+	+/-/++	0/+	0/+	0	++	0/+	+/-/++	+	+/-/++	0/+	0	0	++	+/-/++	+	0/+	+/-/++	+/-/++	++	++	0/+	++	++	0	
13	M	6	0-0/+	0-0/+	0/+	0/+	0/+	0/+	0/+	+/-/++	0/+	0/+	+/-/++	0/+	0-0/+	0/+	+/-/++	+	+	+	+/-/++	+/-/++	+/-/++	+/-/++	+/-/++	+/-/++	+/-/++	+/-/++	
14	F	16	0/+	0	+/-/+++	+++	+/-/++++	+/-/++	0	0	+/-/++	0	+/-/++	+/-/++	+	0/+	+/-/++	++	0/+	0-0/+	0	0	++	++	++	++	++	0	
15	F	8	0/+	0-0/+	++	++	0	0	0	0/+	+/-/++	0-0/+	+/-/++	+	0	0-0/+	+++	++	+	0-0/+	+/-/++++	+/-/++++	++	++	++	++	++	0/+	
16	M	6	0/+	0-0/+	+/-/+++	+/-/+++	+/-/++++	++	+/-/++	+	+/-/++	+	+/-/++	+	0/+	0-0/+	+++	++	0	0/+	+++	+/-/+++	++	+/-/++	++	+/-/++	++	+/-/++	0/+
17	F	5	0	0-0/+	0	0	0	0	0	0-0/+	0	0	0	0	0-0/+	0-0/+	+	+/-/++	0	0	+/-/++	+/-/++	0	0	0	0	0	0	
18	M	5	0-0-0	0/+	+/-/++	+/-/++	0	0	0/+	0/+	0	0/+	0	0/+	0/+	+/-/+++	+/-/++	+++	++	0	0-0/+	+/-/+++	+/-/+++	++	++	0/+	0/+	0-0/+	
19	M	15	0	0	0/+	0/+	0	0-0/+	0	0/+	0	0-0/+	0	0/+	0/+	0-0/+	+/-/++	+	0	0-0/+	+/-/++	+/-/++	0-0/+	0-0/+	0-0/+	0-0/+	0	0	
20	M	17	+	0/+	++	+/-/++	+	+	++	0/+	0/+	+/-/++	0/+	+/-/++	0/+	0/+	+/-/++	0/+	0/+	0/+	++	+/-/++	+/-/++	++	+/-/++	+/-/++	+/-/++	+	+/-/0-0/+
21	M	14	+/-/++	+/-/++	+++	+/-/+++	++	0/+	+++	+/-/+++	+/-/+++	+	+/-/++	+	+/-/+++	+/-/+++	+/-/+++	+/-/+++	+/-/+++	+/-/+++	+/-/+++	+/-/+++	+/-/+++	++	+/-/+++	++	+/-/+++	0/+	
22	F	13	0-0/+	0	0/+	0/+	0/+	0/+	+/-/++	+	+/-/++	++	+/-/++	+	0/+	0/+	++	++	0/+	0-0/+	++	++	++	++	0/+	++	++	+	
23	M	14	0-0/+	0	+/-/++	0/+	+	0-0/+	+/-/++	0/+	+	0/+	0	0/+	0/+	+/-/+++	+/-/++	+++	++	0	0-0/+	++	++	+	0-0/+	+	0-0/+		
24	M	17	0-0/+	0-0/+	+	0/+	0/+	0	+	0/+	++	0/+	+	0-0/+	0/+	0-0/+	+	0/+	0/+	0-0/+	+/-/++	+/-/++	0/+	0	+	+	0	0	
25	M	17	0/+	0-0/+	+/-/+++	0/+	++	+	+++	+/-/++	+++	+	+/-/+++	0/+	++	0/+	+++	+	++	0/+	+++	+/-/+++	+++	+/-/++	+/-/++	+/-/++	+/-/++	+	

## 2. Adult group

### 3. Control group

			Ki-67 M	Ki-67 P	MMP-2 M	MMP-2 P	TIMP-2 M	TIMP-2 P	IL-1 M	IL-1 P	IL-10 M	IL-10 P	HBD-2 M	HBD-2 P	HBD-4 M	HBD-4 P	Shh M	Shh P	MMP-9M	MMP-9P	TIMP-4M	TIMP-4P	NFKB M	NFKB P	VEGF M	VEGF P
		Age	E	CT	E	CT	E	CT	E	CT	E	CT	E	CT	E	CT	E	CT	E	CT	E	CT	E	CT	E	CT
1	-	0	0	0/+	+	0/+	+	+	0/+	+	+	+	0/+	+	0/+	0	0	0/+	0/+	++	+	0	0-0/+	++/+++	+	
2	-	0	0	0	+	+	+	0	+	++	++	+	0	+	0/+	++	+	+/++	+	++/+++	++	0/+	0/+	++/+++	+	
3	-	0	0	0	0/+	+	0	0/+	+	++	++	0-0/+	0	+/-	+	0/+	0	0/+	0/+	+/-	+/-	0	0	++	0/+	
4	-	0-0/+	0-0/+	+++	+	++/+++	+	0/+	0/+	++/+++	++	++	0/+	+	0/+	+++/++++	+	+/-	0-0/+	++/+++	++	+	0/+	+++	+/-	
5	-	0	0	++/+++	+	++/+++	+	0	0/+	++/+++	++	++	0/+	++	+	+++/++++	+	+/-	+/-	+++	++	++	+/-	+++	+	
6	-	0-0/+	0-0/+	+	+	++	0/+	+	0/+	+	0/+	0/+	0	+	0/+	+/-	0/+	+	0/+	++/+++	++	+	0/+	++	0/+	
7	-	0	0	0/+	+	+/-	0/+	+/-	+	+/-	+	0/+	0-0/+	+	0	0/+	+	+	0/+	+	+	0/+	0	++	0	

Abbreviations: M—matrix; P—perimatrix; E—epithelium; CT—connective tissue; HBD-2—human beta defensin 2; HBD-4—human beta defensin 4; IL-1—interleukin 1; IL-10—interleukin 10; Ki-67—proliferation marker; NF-κβ—nuclear factor kappa beta; VEGF—vascular endothelial growth factor; Shh—Sonic hedgehog gene protein; MMP-2—matrix metalloproteinase 2; MMP-9—matrix metalloproteinase 9; TIMP-2—tissue inhibitor of metalloproteinase-2; TIMP-4—tissue inhibitor of metalloproteinase-4; 0 = no positive structures, 0-0/+ = no to occasional positive structures, 0/+ = occasional positive structures, 0/+ = occasional-to-few positive structures, + = few positive structures, +/++ = few-to-moderate number of positive structures, ++ = moderate number of positive structures, ++/+++ = moderate-to-numerous positive structures, +++ = numerous positive cells, +++/++++ = numerous-to-abundant structures, ++++ = abundance of positive structures in the visual field.

## Supplementary file

**Table S2**

### Adult group correlations

	MMP-2 M	MMP-2 P	MMP-9M	MMP-9P	TIMP-2 M	TIMP-2 P	TIMP-4M	TIMP-4P	Shh M	Shh P	IL-1 M	IL-1 P	IL-10 M	IL-10 P	NFKB M	NFKB P	Ki-67 M	Ki-67 P	VEGF M	VEGF P	HBD-2 M	HBD-2 P	HBD-4 M	HBD-4 P		
Spearman's rho	1.000	.574*	-0.199	-0.190	.484*	-0.057	0.183	-0.168	.719**	0.376	-0.220	-0.195	-0.150	-0.231	.399*	-0.202	0.230	0.078	-0.041	0.071	0.046	0.001	0.374	0.275		
			Correlation Coefficient																							
			Sig. (2-tailed)																							
MMP-2 P	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	.453*	.460*	-0.100	0.088	-0.111	0.131	0.169	0.090	0.078	0.275	0.014	0.219	-0.029	0.344	0.054	0.096	0.184	
			Correlation Coefficient																							
			Sig. (2-tailed)	0.003	0.156	0.456	0.344	0.866	0.892	0.587	0.023	0.021	0.633	0.674	0.596	0.533	0.419	0.670	0.712	0.184	0.948	0.292	0.891	0.092	0.798	0.367
MMP-9M	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	.25	.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25
			Correlation Coefficient																							
			Sig. (2-tailed)	0.339	0.156	0.150	0.394	0.138	0.393	0.064	0.317	0.451	0.034	0.424	0.021	0.214	0.413	0.204	0.258	0.758	0.236	0.082	0.219	0.949	0.419	0.505
MMP-9P	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	.644**	.4033	0.128	.435*	.608**	.357	.601**	.287	.790**	0.086	.677**	0.324	0.361	.464*	.576**	-0.145	0.106	
			Correlation Coefficient																							
			Sig. (2-tailed)	0.362	0.456	0.150	0.493	0.115	0.276	0.000	0.877	0.541	0.030	0.001	0.080	0.001	0.165	0.000	0.683	0.000	0.114	0.077	0.019	0.003	0.488	0.613
TIMP-2 M	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	.25	.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25
			Correlation Coefficient																							
			Sig. (2-tailed)	0.014	0.344	0.394	0.493	0.000	0.413	0.316	0.016	0.625	0.161	0.739	0.088	0.199	0.017	0.980	0.681	0.350	0.376	0.003	0.038	0.797	0.081	0.582
TIMP-2 P	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	.25	.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25
			Correlation Coefficient																							
			Sig. (2-tailed)	0.788	0.866	0.138	0.115	0.000	0.713	0.088	0.507	0.264	0.010	0.057	0.001	0.001	0.136	0.059	0.324	0.630	0.114	0.010	0.007	0.215	0.428	0.531
TIMP-4M	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	.25	.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25
			Correlation Coefficient																							
			Sig. (2-tailed)	0.382	0.892	0.393	0.276	0.413	0.713	0.031	0.029	0.250	0.781	0.195	0.353	0.975	0.005	0.527	0.351	0.119	0.924	0.070	0.699	0.732	0.620	0.982
TIMP-4P	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	.25	.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25
			Correlation Coefficient																							
			Sig. (2-tailed)	0.422	0.587	0.064	0.000	0.316	0.088	0.031	0.781	0.109	0.022	0.001	0.034	0.001	0.036	0.000	0.046	0.000	0.051	0.059	0.045	0.005	0.859	0.752
Shh M	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	.25	.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25
			Correlation Coefficient																							
			Sig. (2-tailed)	0.000	0.023	0.317	0.877	0.016	0.507	0.029	0.781	0.113	0.710	0.544	0.867	0.921	0.005	0.687	0.565	0.264	0.805	0.094	0.403	0.254	0.146	0.051
Shh P	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	.25	.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25
			Correlation Coefficient																							
			Sig. (2-tailed)	0.376	.460*	-0.158	0.128	-0.103	-0.232	0.239	0.328	0.325	1.000	-0.124	0.194	-0.073	0.117	0.322	0.308	.646*	0.350	0.114	0.047	-0.056	.527**	0.188
IL-1 M	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	.25	.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25
			Correlation Coefficient																							
			Sig. (2-tailed)	0.290	0.633	0.034	0.030	0.161	0.010	0.781	0.022	0.710	0.554	0.004	0.000	0.000	0.091	0.008	0.634	0.180	0.055	0.480	0.000	0.084	0.656	0.636
IL-1 P	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	.25	.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25
			Correlation Coefficient																							
			Sig. (2-tailed)	0.349	0.674	0.424	0.001	0.739	0.057	0.195	0.001	0.544	0.352	0.004	0.053	0.001	0.060	0.000	0.749	0.002	0.541	0.156	0.011	0.019	0.462	0.511
IL-10 M	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	.25	.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25
			Correlation Coefficient																							
			Sig. (2-tailed)	0.475	0.596	0.021	0.080	0.088	0.001	0.353	0.034	0.867	0.729	0.000	0.053	0.000	0.086	0.004	0.855	0.639	0.001	0.262	0.000	0.020	0.543	0.476
IL-10 P	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	.25	.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25
			Correlation Coefficient																							
			Sig. (2-tailed)	0.267	0.533	0.214	0.001	0.199	0.001	0.975	0.001	0.921	0.578	0.000	0.001	0.000	0.050	0.000	0.251	0.251	0.175	0.417*	.687**	0.357	.686**	-0.161
NFKB M	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	.25	.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25
			Correlation Coefficient																							
			Sig. (2-tailed)	0.332	0.670	0.204	0.000	0.980	0.059	0.527	0.000	0.687	0.134	0.008	0.000	0.004	0.000	0.061	0.222	0.003	0.017	0.342	0.007	0.000	0.729	0.168
Ki-67 M	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	.25	.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25
			Correlation Coefficient																							
			Sig. (2-tailed)	0.268	0.712	0.258	0.683	0.681	0.324	0.351	0.046	0.565	0.000	0.634	0.749	0.855	0.404	0.458	0.222	0.119	0.349	0.303	0.955	0.011	0.282	0.073
Ki-67 P	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	.25	.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25
			Correlation Coefficient																							
			Sig. (2-tailed)	0.078	0.275	-0.065	.677**	0.195	0.101	0.320	.651**	0.232	0.350	0.277	.583**	0.099	.417*	0.330	.571**	0.320	1.000	0.153	0.295	0.349		

**Table S3**

## Children group correlations

	MMP-2 M	MMP-2 P	MMP-9M	MMP-9P	TIMP-2 M	TIMP-2 P	TIMP-4M	TIMP-4P	Shh M	Shh P	IL-1 M	IL-1 P	IL-10 M	IL-10 P	NFKB M	NFKB P	Ki-67 M	Ki-67 P	VEGF M	VEGF P	HBD-2 M	HBD-2 P	HBD-4 M	HBD-4 P	
Spearman's rho																									
MMP-2 M	1.000	.803**	0.312	415*	.622**	.535**	.550**	.368*	.786*	.439*	.499*	0.236	.420	0.100	.677**	.510**	.516**	.278	0.188	.238*	.475*	0.332	0.334	0.066	
MMP-2 P		0.000	0.129	0.039	0.001	0.006	0.004	0.071	0.000	0.028	0.011	0.256	0.037	0.633	0.000	0.009	0.008	0.178	0.367	0.253	0.016	0.105	0.103	0.753	
MMP-2 P	N	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	
MMP-2 P	Correlation Coefficient	.803**	1.000	0.227	451*	.459*	.509*	.580**	0.386	.786**	.653**	0.342	0.276	0.327	0.189	.629**	.643**	.545**	0.354	0.284	0.364	0.376	.539**	0.159	0.109
MMP-2 P	Sig. (2-tailed)	0.000	0.276	0.024	0.021	0.009	0.002	0.057	0.000	0.000	0.094	0.182	0.110	0.365	0.001	0.001	0.005	0.082	0.169	0.073	0.064	0.005	0.448	0.604	
MMP-9M	Correlation Coefficient	0.312	0.227	1.000	.710**	.436*	.346*	.481*	.528**	.473*	.316*	.549**	.604**	.418*	0.332	.522**	.531**	.560**	0.373	.561**	.525**	.562**	0.225	0.127	0.027
MMP-9M	Sig. (2-tailed)	0.129	0.276		0.000	0.029	0.090	0.015	0.007	0.017	0.124	0.004	0.001	0.038	0.105	0.007	0.006	0.004	0.067	0.004	0.007	0.003	0.280	0.545	0.898
MMP-9M	N	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	
MMP-9M	Correlation Coefficient	415*	451*	.710**	1.000	.463*	.549**	.585**	.490*	.558**	.461*	.642**	.714**	.397*	.468*	.630**	.614**	.623**	.550**	.571**	.487*	.286	0.199	0.173	
MMP-9M	Sig. (2-tailed)	0.039	0.024	0.000	0.020	0.005	0.002	0.013	0.004	0.020	0.001	0.000	0.050	0.018	0.001	0.001	0.001	0.004	0.003	0.014	0.165	0.340	0.409		
TIMP-2 M	Correlation Coefficient	.622**	.459*	.436*	.463*	1.000	.685**	.220	.186*	.537**	.287	.597**	.407*	.488*	.206	.504*	.462*	.420*	.118	.302	.294	.505*	0.277	.409*	-0.097
TIMP-2 M	Sig. (2-tailed)	0.001	0.021	0.029	0.020		0.000	0.292	0.374	0.006	0.164	0.002	0.044	0.013	0.323	0.010	0.020	0.037	0.573	0.142	0.154	0.010	0.179	0.042	0.645
TIMP-2 M	N	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	
TIMP-2 P	Correlation Coefficient	.535**	.509**	.346*	.545**	.685**	1.000	.355	.303	.613**	.442*	.457*	.474*	.423*	.370	.560**	.548**	.413*	.237	.453*	.445*	.526**	0.380	0.392	0.177
TIMP-2 P	Sig. (2-tailed)	0.006	0.009	0.090	0.005	0.000		0.081	0.140	0.001	0.027	0.022	0.017	0.035	0.069	0.004	0.005	0.040	0.253	0.023	0.026	0.007	0.061	0.052	0.398
TIMP-4 M	Correlation Coefficient	.550**	.589**	.481*	.585*	0.220	0.355	1.000	.841**	.681**	.566**	.634**	.575**	.522**	.605**	.738**	.485*	.569**	.590**	.492*	.690**	.606**	.500*	-0.104	0.069
TIMP-4 M	Sig. (2-tailed)	0.004	0.002	0.015	0.002	0.292	0.081		0.000	0.000	0.003	0.001	0.003	0.008	0.001	0.000	0.014	0.003	0.002	0.012	0.000	0.001	0.011	0.619	0.745
TIMP-4 M	N	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	
TIMP-4P	Correlation Coefficient	0.368	0.386	.528**	.490*	0.186	0.303	.841**	1.000	.475*	0.367	.641**	.663**	.638*	.721**	.654**	.457*	.481*	.414*	.628*	.678**	.568**	.397*	-0.185	0.018
TIMP-4P	Sig. (2-tailed)	0.071	0.057	0.007	0.013	0.374	0.140		0.000	0.016	0.071	0.001	0.000	0.001	0.000	0.022	0.015	0.040	0.001	0.000	0.003	0.049	0.376	0.930	
TIMP-4P	N	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	
Shh M	Correlation Coefficient	.786**	.786**	.473*	.556**	.537**	.613**	.681**	.475*	1.000	.813**	.472*	.393	.444*	.232	.753**	.702**	.803**	.575**	.278*	.384	.530**	.515**	.437*	.278*
Shh M	Sig. (2-tailed)	0.000	0.000	0.017	0.004	0.006	0.001	0.000	0.016		0.000	0.017	0.052	0.026	0.264	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.003	0.179	0.058	0.005	0.008	0.029	0.178
Shh P	Correlation Coefficient	.439*	.653**	.316	.461*	.287	.442*	.566**	.367	.813**	1.000	.320	.271	.197	.273	.570**	.530**	.746**	.667**	.152	.278	.283	.428*	.367	.284
Shh P	Sig. (2-tailed)	0.028	0.000	0.124	0.020	0.164	0.027	0.003	0.071	0.000	0.119	0.191	0.344	0.187	0.003	0.006	0.000	0.000	0.467	0.178	0.171	0.033	0.071	0.169	
IL-1 M	Correlation Coefficient	.499*	.342	.549**	.642**	.597**	.457*	.634**	.641**	.472*	0.320	1.000	.716**	.709**	.720**	.827**	.406*	.597**	.493*	.510**	.574**	.700**	.377	0.207	0.101
IL-1 M	Sig. (2-tailed)	0.011	0.094	0.004	0.001	0.002	0.022	0.001	0.001	0.017	0.119		0.000	0.000	0.000	0.044	0.002	0.012	0.009	0.003	0.000	0.063	0.320	0.632	
IL-1 P	Correlation Coefficient	0.236	0.276	.604**	.714**	.407*	.474	.575**	.663**	.393	0.271	.716**	1.000	.820*	.694*	.647**	.510**	.442*	.441*	.664*	.714**	.630**	.369	0.075	
IL-1 P	Sig. (2-tailed)	0.256	0.182	0.001	0.000	0.044	0.017	0.003	0.000	0.052	0.191		0.000	0.001	0.000	0.000	0.009	0.027	0.000	0.000	0.001	0.069	0.722	0.310	
IL-1 P	N	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	
IL-10 M	Correlation Coefficient	.420*	0.327	.418*	.397*	.488*	.423	.520**	.638**	.444*	.197*	.709**	.620**	1.000	.668**	.677**	.536**	.558**	.437*	.559**	.422*	.828*	.677**	.082	
IL-10 M	Sig. (2-tailed)	0.037	0.110	0.038	0.050	0.013	0.035	0.008	0.001	0.026	0.344		0.000	0.001	0.000	0.004	0.029	0.004	0.036	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.698	0.506	
IL-10 P	Correlation Coefficient	0.100	0.189	0.332	0.468*	0.206	0.370	.605**	.721**	0.232	0.273	.720**	.694**	.668*	1.000	.602*	0.316	0.376	0.372	.696*	.674*	.592**	.516**	-.163	
IL-10 P	Sig. (2-tailed)	0.633	0.365	0.105	0.018	0.323	0.069	0.001	0.000	0.264	0.187		0.000	0.000	0.000	0.001	0.124	0.064	0.067	0.000	0.000	0.002	0.008	0.343	
IL-10 P	N	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	
NFKB M	Correlation Coefficient	.677**	.629**	.522**	.630*	.504*	.560*	.738**	.654**	.753**	.570**	.827**	.647**	.677**	.602**	1.000	.680**	.726**	.588**	.595**	.614**	.750**	.570**	0.188	
NFKB M	Sig. (2-tailed)	0.000	0.001	0.007	0.001	0.010	0.004	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.003	0.000	0.000	0.001	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.002	0.002	0.001	0.000	0.003	0.368	0.138	
NFKB P	Correlation Coefficient	.510**	.643**	.531**	.614**	.462*	.548*	.485*	.457*	.702*	.530**	.406*	.510**	.536*	.316	.680**	1.000	.678**	.494*	.637**	.473*	.621**	.635**	.154	.271
NFKB P	Sig. (2-tailed)	0.009	0.001	0.006	0.001	0.020	0.005	0.014	0.022	0.000	0.006	0.044	0.009	0.006	0.012	0.000	0.017	0.001	0.001	0.017	0.001	0.001	0.0461	0.190	
Ki-67 M	Correlation Coefficient	.516**	.545**	.560**	.623**	.420*	.413*	.566**	.481*	.803**	.746**	.597**	.442*	.558*	.376	.726**	.678**	1.000	.780**	.311	.293	.595**	.520**	.426*	
Ki-67 M	Sig. (2-tailed)	0.008	0.005	0.004	0.001	0.037	0.040	0.003	0.015	0.000	0.000	0.002	0.027	0.004	0.064	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.130	0.155	0.002	0.008	0.034	0.034	
Ki-67 P	Correlation Coefficient	0.278	0.354	0.373	.624*	0.118	0.237	.590**	.414*	.575**	.667**	.493*	.441*	.437*	0.372	.588*	.494*	.780**	1.000	.235	.257	.461*	.366	0.323	0.386
Ki-67 P	Sig. (2-tailed)	0.178	0.082	0.067	0.001	0.573	0.253	0.002	0.040	0.003	0.000	0.012	0.027	0.029	0.067	0.002	0.012	0.000	0.258	0.216	0.020	0.072	0.115	0.057	
VEGF M	Correlation Coefficient	0.188	0.284	.561**	.550**	0.302	.453	.492*	.628*	.278*	.052	.510**	.664**	.559**	.696*	.595**	.637**	0.311	.235	1.000	.745*	.639**	.509**	-.343	
VEGF M	Sig. (2-tailed)	0.367	0.169	0.004	0.004	0.142	0.023	0.012	0.001	0.179	0.467	0.009	0.000	0.004	0.000										

**Table S4**

## Control group correlations

	MMP-2 M	MMP-2 P	MMP-9M	MMP-9P	TIMP-2 M	TIMP-2 P	TIMP-4M	TIMP-4P	Shh M	Shh P	IL-1 M	IL-1 P	IL-10 M	IL-10 P	NFKB M	NFKB P	Ki-67 M	Ki-67 P	VEGF M	VEGF P	HBD-2 M	HBD-2 P	HBD-4 M	HBD-4 P	
Spearman's rho																									
MMP-2 M	1.000	0.520	0.472	-0.271	.833*	0.396	0.547	0.416	0.593	0.385	0.009	-.808*	0.346	-0.061	.785*	0.591	0.644	0.644	0.577	0.448	0.664	0.668	0.023	-0.010	
	Correlation Coefficient	0.232	0.285	0.557	0.020	0.380	0.204	0.353	0.161	0.393	0.984	0.028	0.447	0.897	0.036	0.163	0.118	0.118	0.175	0.314	0.104	0.101	0.962	0.983	
	Sig. (2-tailed)																								
N	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	
MMP-2 P	0.520	1.000	0.540	0.113	0.312	0.683	0.424	0.228	0.312	0.569	0.105	-0.471	-0.105	-0.342	0.525	0.535	0.258	0.258	0.432	0.321	0.629	0.441	-0.509	-0.569	
	Correlation Coefficient	0.232	0.211	0.810	0.496	0.091	0.344	0.623	0.496	0.182	0.823	0.286	0.823	0.453	0.227	0.216	0.576	0.576	0.333	0.483	0.130	0.322	0.243	0.182	
	Sig. (2-tailed)																								
N	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	
MMP-9M	0.472	0.540	1.000	0.292	0.683	0.601	0.726	.769*	.924**	.896**	-0.612	-0.153	0.690	0.474	.777*	.772*	0.251	0.251	0.670	0.535	0.728	0.204	0.024	-0.011	
	Correlation Coefficient	0.285	0.211	0.525	0.091	0.154	0.065	0.043	0.003	0.006	0.144	0.744	0.086	0.282	0.040	0.042	0.587	0.587	0.100	0.216	0.063	0.661	0.960	0.982	
	Sig. (2-tailed)																								
N	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	
MMP-9P	-0.271	0.113	0.292	1.000	-0.050	0.231	0.429	0.231	0.201	0.231	-0.557	0.159	0.152	0.231	0.223	0.434	-0.611	-0.611	0.156	-0.062	0.152	-0.128	0.516	0.385	
	Correlation Coefficient	0.557	0.810	0.525	0.915	0.619	0.336	0.619	0.666	0.619	0.194	0.733	0.745	0.619	0.631	0.331	0.145	0.145	0.738	0.895	0.745	0.785	0.236	0.394	
	Sig. (2-tailed)																								
N	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	
TIMP-2 M	.833*	0.312	0.683	-0.050	1.000	0.152	0.585	0.639	.824*	0.629	-0.224	-0.441	0.598	0.183	.925**	0.619	0.564	0.564	0.433	0.238	0.495	0.314	0.249	0.122	
	Correlation Coefficient	0.020	0.496	0.091	0.915	0.745	0.168	0.122	0.023	0.130	0.629	0.322	0.156	0.695	0.003	0.138	0.188	0.188	0.332	0.607	0.258	0.492	0.590	0.795	
	Sig. (2-tailed)																								
N	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	
TIMP-2 P	0.396	0.683	0.601	0.231	0.152	1.000	0.620	0.333	0.456	0.433	-0.461	-0.483	0.338	0.300	0.338	0.658	0.000	0.000	.885**	.845*	.921**	0.645	-0.149	-0.033	
	Correlation Coefficient	0.380	0.091	0.154	0.619	0.745	0.137	0.465	0.303	0.331	0.298	0.272	0.459	0.513	0.459	0.108	1.000	1.000	0.000	0.017	0.003	0.117	0.750	0.943	
	Sig. (2-tailed)																								
N	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	
TIMP-4M	0.547	0.424	0.726	0.429	0.585	0.620	1.000	.868*	.811*	.393	-0.705	-0.599	0.476	0.310	.781*	.990**	0.328	0.328	0.706	0.641	0.724	0.240	0.277	0.434	
	Correlation Coefficient	0.204	0.344	0.065	0.336	0.168	0.137	0.011	0.027	0.383	0.077	0.155	0.280	0.499	0.038	0.000	0.472	0.472	0.076	0.121	0.066	0.604	0.547	0.330	
	Sig. (2-tailed)																								
N	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	
TIMP-4P	0.416	0.228	.769*	0.231	0.639	0.333	.868*	1.000	.882**	0.456	-0.686	-0.322	0.522	0.367	0.747	.845*	0.529	0.464	0.491	0.471	-0.129	0.149	0.344		
	Correlation Coefficient	0.353	0.623	0.043	0.619	0.122	0.465	0.011	0.009	0.304	0.089	0.481	0.229	0.419	0.053	0.017	0.222	0.222	0.295	0.264	0.783	0.750	0.449		
	Sig. (2-tailed)																								
N	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	
Shh M	0.593	0.312	.924**	0.201	.824*	0.456	.811*	.882**	1.000	0.730	-0.682	-0.294	.794*	0.548	.851*	.819*	0.403	0.403	0.674	0.562	0.682	0.196	0.249	0.274	
	Correlation Coefficient	0.161	0.496	0.003	0.366	0.023	0.303	0.027	0.009	0.062	0.091	0.522	0.033	0.203	0.015	0.024	0.371	0.371	0.097	0.189	0.091	0.673	0.590	0.552	
	Sig. (2-tailed)																								
N	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	
Shh P	0.385	0.569	.896**	0.231	0.629	0.433	0.393	0.456	0.730	1.000	-0.317	0.081	0.584	0.333	0.665	0.480	0.088	0.088	0.464	0.240	0.563	0.215	-0.075	-0.300	
	Correlation Coefficient	0.393	0.182	0.006	0.619	0.130	0.331	0.383	0.304	0.062	0.488	0.864	0.169	0.465	0.103	0.276	0.851	0.851	0.295	0.604	0.188	0.643	0.874	0.513	
	Sig. (2-tailed)																								
N	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	
IL-1 M	0.009	0.105	-0.612	-0.557	-0.224	-0.461	-0.705	-0.686	-0.682	-0.317	1.000	0.000	-0.736	-.829*	-0.330	-0.644	0.163	0.163	-0.622	-0.596	-0.500	0.000	-0.527	-0.676	
	Correlation Coefficient	0.984	0.823	0.144	0.194	0.629	0.298	0.077	0.089	0.091	0.488	1.000	0.059	0.021	0.470	0.118	0.728	0.728	0.136	0.158	0.253	1.000	0.225	0.096	
	Sig. (2-tailed)																								
N	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	
IL-1 P	-.808*	-0.471	-0.153	0.159	-0.441	-0.483	-.599*	-.322	-.294	0.081	0.000	1.000	0.000	0.242	-0.519	-0.605	-0.548	-0.548	-0.529	-0.593	-0.624	0.000	-0.161		
	Correlation Coefficient	0.028	0.286	0.744	0.733	0.322	0.272	0.155	0.481	0.522	0.864	1.000	0.000	1.000	0.602	0.232	0.150	0.203	0.203	0.216	0.222	0.160	0.135	1.000	0.730
	Sig. (2-tailed)																								
N	7	7	7	7	7																				