**Supplementary Figure 2.** (a) Expression of Ngn1, Ngn2, Mash1 and Runx1 in bNCSCs, DRG and in spinal cord (SC) of E11.5 mouse embryo determined by RT-PCR and quantification by real-time PCR of Ngn2 and Runx1 mRNA 3 days after differentiation of bNCSCs with and without Ngn2 or Runx1 transfection, respectively as indicated. Control PCR reactions were performed on samples excluding reverse transcriptase (DRG RT). Ngn1 was present at reduced levels in bNCSCs as compared to DRG and SC. Ngn2 and Runx1 were low in both DRG and in bNCSCs as compared to spinal cord whereas Mash1 was highly expressed. Real-time PCR quantification shows that both Ngn2 and Runx1 were greatly increased after transfection with the expression vectors whereas in the differentiated untransfected control cells their expression was at the limit of detection. (b) Effect of neurotrophins and/or GDNF removal on the survival of Ngn2/Runx1 overexpressing bNCSCs 5 days after electroporation. Note that removal of the trophic factors did not influence the survival of the Ngn2 and Runx1 overexpressing neurons, indicating a cell intrinsic cell survival effect by Runx1. Error bars = sem.