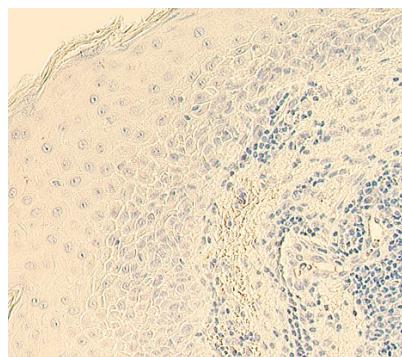


Supplementary file

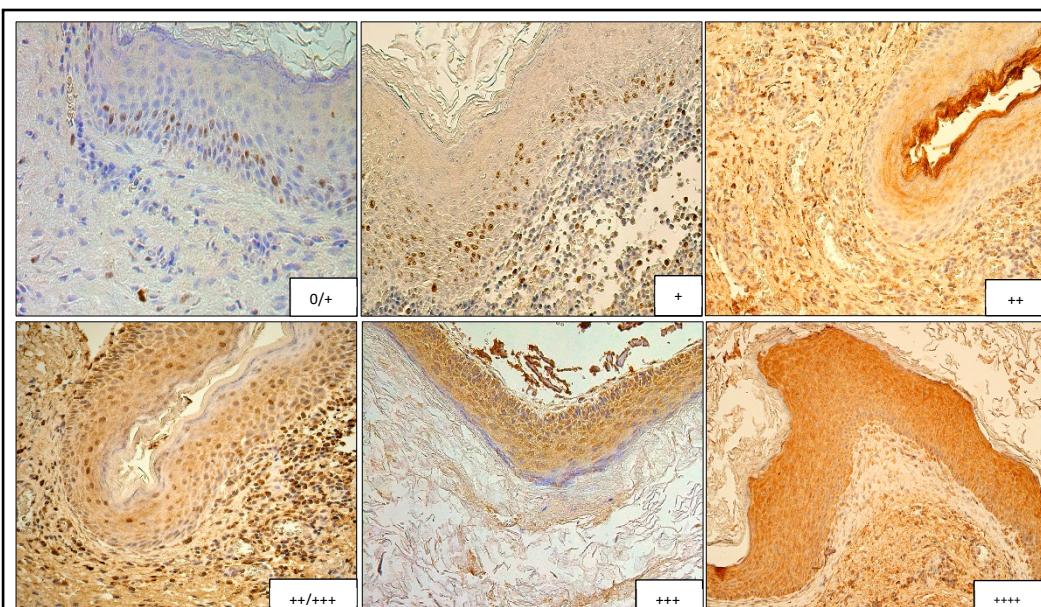
Figure S1 Negative control.

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/+	+++	+/-/++	++	+/-/++	++	+/-/++	++	+/-/++	
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	
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/+	+	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*	0.278
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**	0.316	.461*	.287	.442*	.566**	.367	.813**	1.000	.320	.271	.197	.273	.570**	.530**	.746**	.667**	.152	.278	.283	.428*	0.367	0.284
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	0.310
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-10 M	Correlation Coefficient	0.420*	0.327	.418*	.397*	.488*	.423	.520**	.638**	.444*	0.197	.709**	.620**	1.000	.668**	.677**	.536**	.558**	.437*	.559**	.422*	.828*	.677**	.082	0.140
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**	-0.163	0.198
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	0.434	
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	0.305
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*	1.000	.680**	1.000	.678**	.494*	.637**	.473*	.621**	.635**	.154	0.271
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	0.006	0.124	0.000	0.000	0.012	0.001	0.017	0.001	0.001	0.461	
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	
VEGF M	Correlation Coefficient	0.188	0.284	.561**	.550**	0.302	.453	.492*	.628*	.278	0.152	.510**	.664**	.559**	.696*	.595**	.637**	0.311	.235	1.000	.745*	.639**	.509**	-0.343	0.044
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	0.002	0.001	0.130	0.258		0.000	0.001	0.009	0.093	0.835
HBD-2 M	Correlation Coefficient	N	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	
HBD-2 M	Sig. (2-tailed)	0.016	0.064	0.003	0.014	0.010	0.007	0.001	0.003	0.005	0.171	0.000	0.001	0.000	0.002	0.000	0.001	0.002	0.020	0.001	0.002	0.000	0.001	0.701	0.174
HBD-2 P	Correlation Coefficient	0.332	.539**	0.225	0.286	0.277	0.380	.500*	.397*	.515**	.428*	.377	0.369	.677**	.516**	.570**	.635**	.520**	0.366	.509**	.390	.748*	1.000	-0.102	0.201</td

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	
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																									

*. Correlation is significant at the 0.05 level (2-tailed).

**. Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed).