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The embryonic and evolutionary boundaries between notochord and cartilage: A new look at nucleus pulposus-specific markers

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#### ACCEPTED MANUSCRIPT

#### **Title**

The embryonic and evolutionary boundaries between notochord and cartilage: A new look at nucleus pulposus-specific markers

#### **Running title**

Nucleus Pulposus-Specific Markers

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#### **Abstract**

The adult nucleus pulposus (NP) and articular cartilage are similar in terms of their histocytological components and biomechanical functionalities, requiring a deep understanding of NP-specific markers to better evaluate stem-cell-based NP regeneration. Here, we seek to distinguish NP cells from articular chondrocytes (ACs),

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