

Figure 1. Expression of VEGF and HIF-1 α mRNA in superficial zone-excluded meniscal tissues and cultured meniscus cells. (A) RT-PCR and (B,C) quantitative RT-PCR results. * $p < 0.05$. ** $p < 0.01$. *** $p < 0.001$.

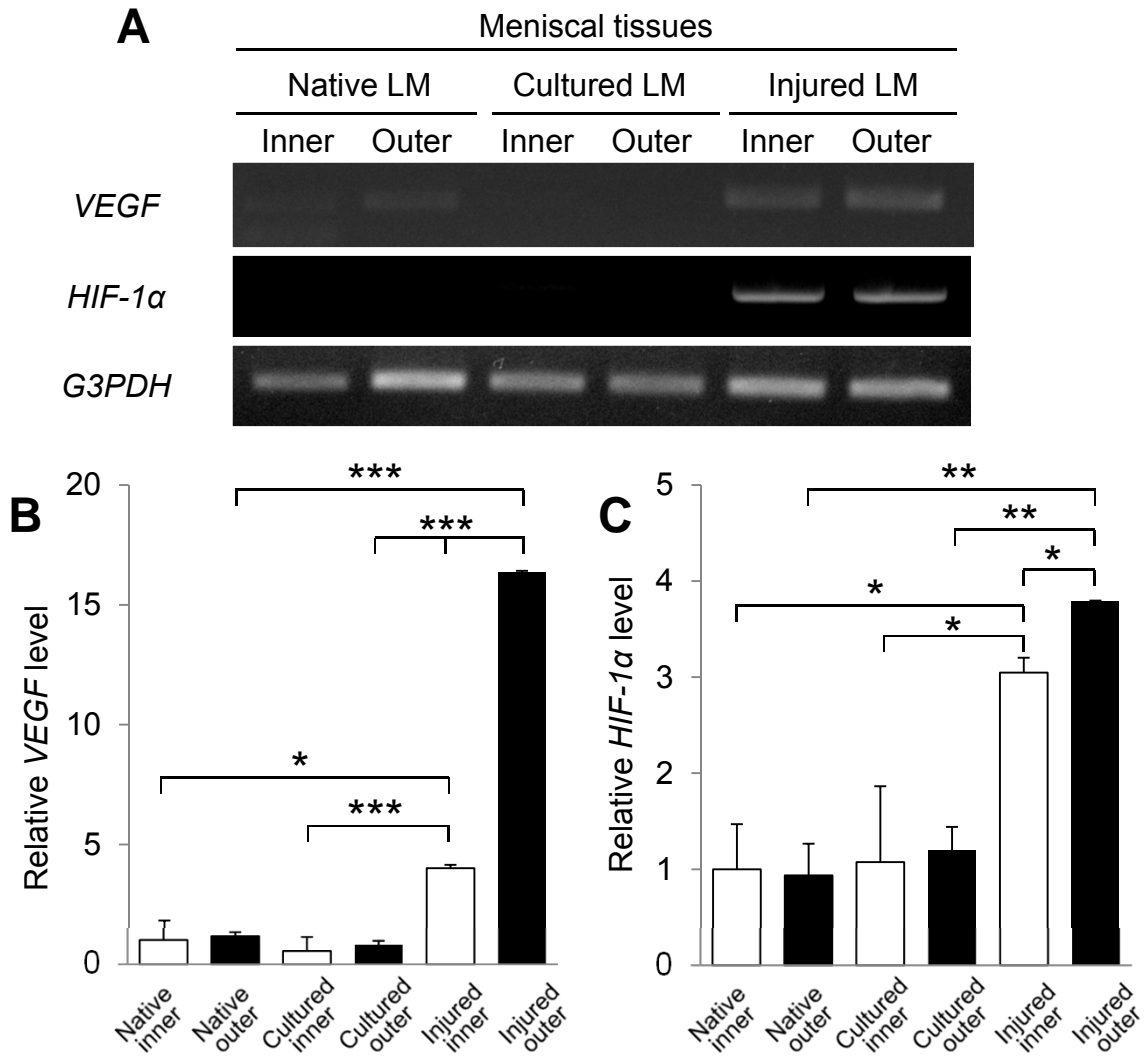


Figure 2. Expression of VEGF and HIF-1 α mRNA in native, cultured, and injured meniscal tissues. (A) RT-PCR and (B,C) quantitative RT-PCR results. $p^* < 0.05$, $p^{**} < 0.01$, $p^{***} < 0.001$.

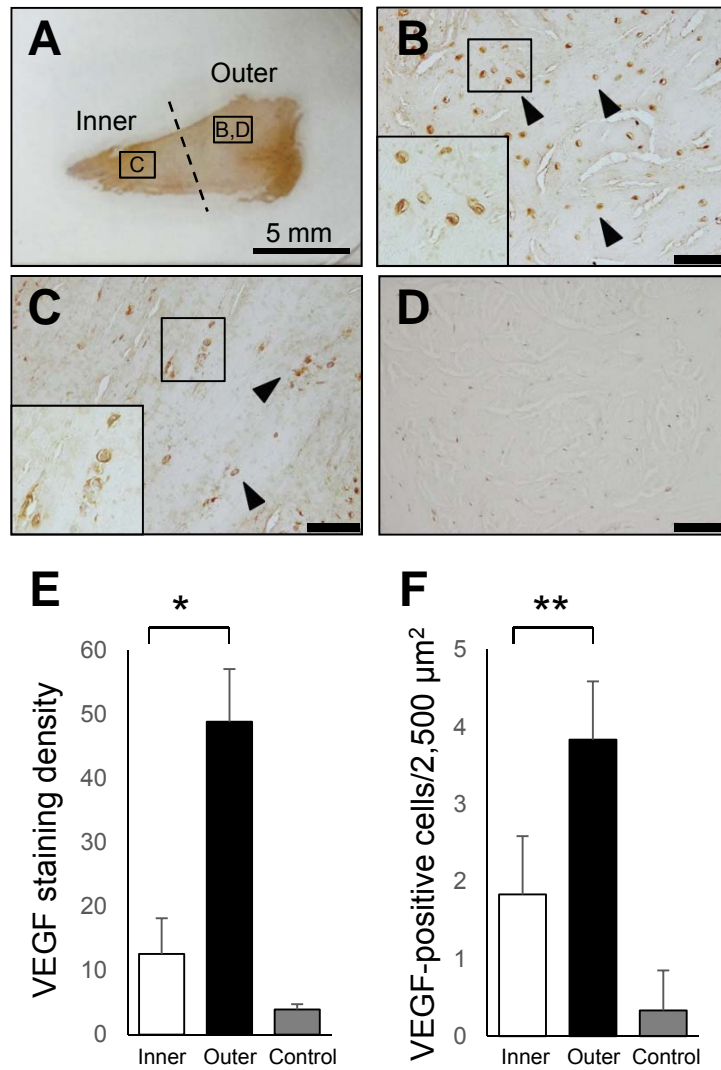


Figure 3. VEGF localization in native meniscus. (A) Radial section of lateral meniscus. VEGF deposition (brown) in (B) outer and (C) inner meniscus cells. Arrows, VEGF-positive cells. (D) Control without VEGF deposition. (E) VEGF staining density. (F) VEGF-positive cells per 2,500 μm^2 . Bars, 100 μm . $p^* < 0.05$, $p^{**} < 0.01$.

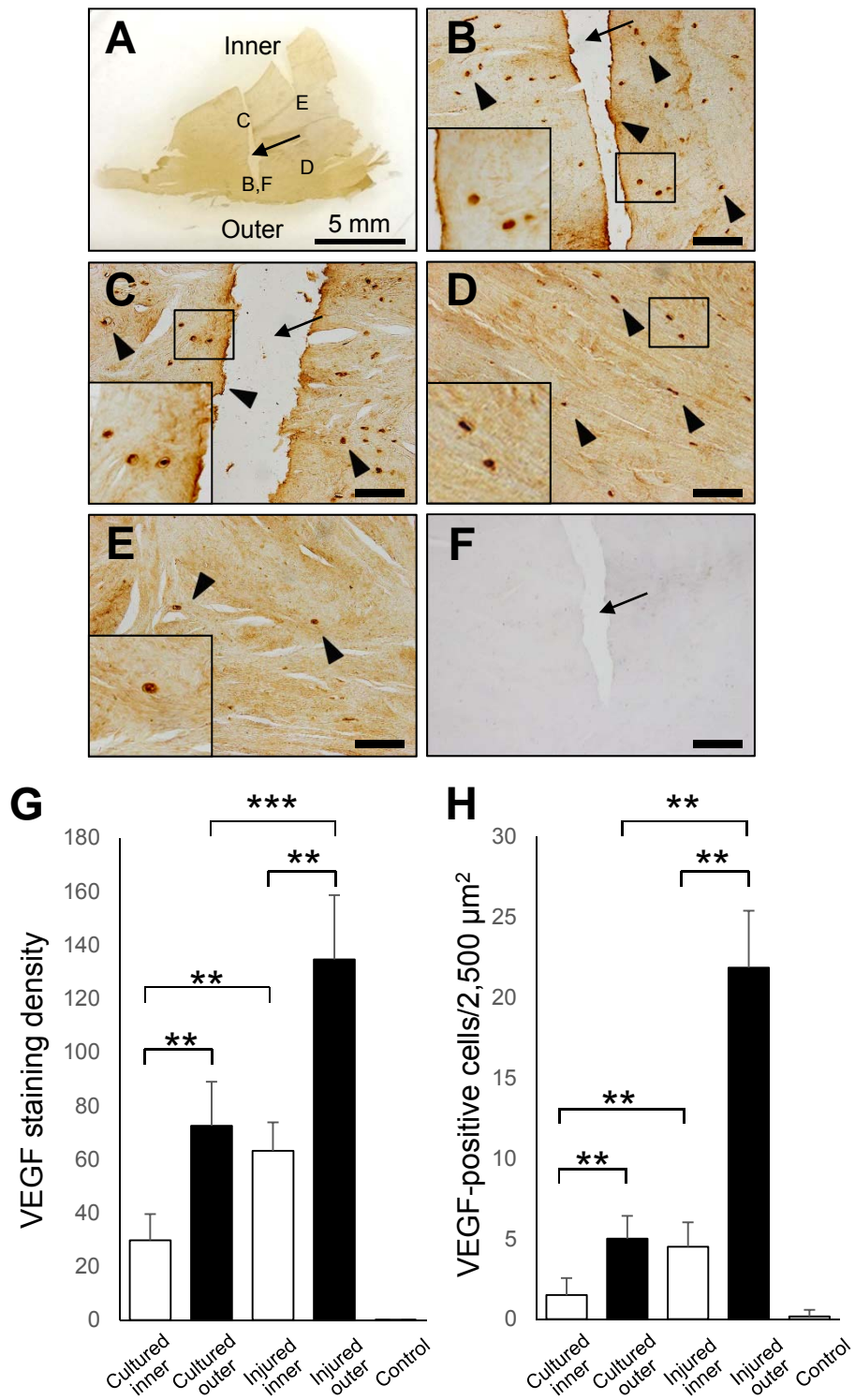


Figure 4. VEGF localization in injured meniscus. (A) Radial section. VEGF deposition (brown) around tear area (esp., outer area) (B, C). Arrows, VEGF-positive cells. VEGF deposition in (D) inner and (E) outer cells. (F) Control without VEGF deposition. (G) VEGF staining density. (H) VEGF-positive cells per 2,500 μm². Bars, 100 μm. p^{**}<0.01, p^{***}<0.001.