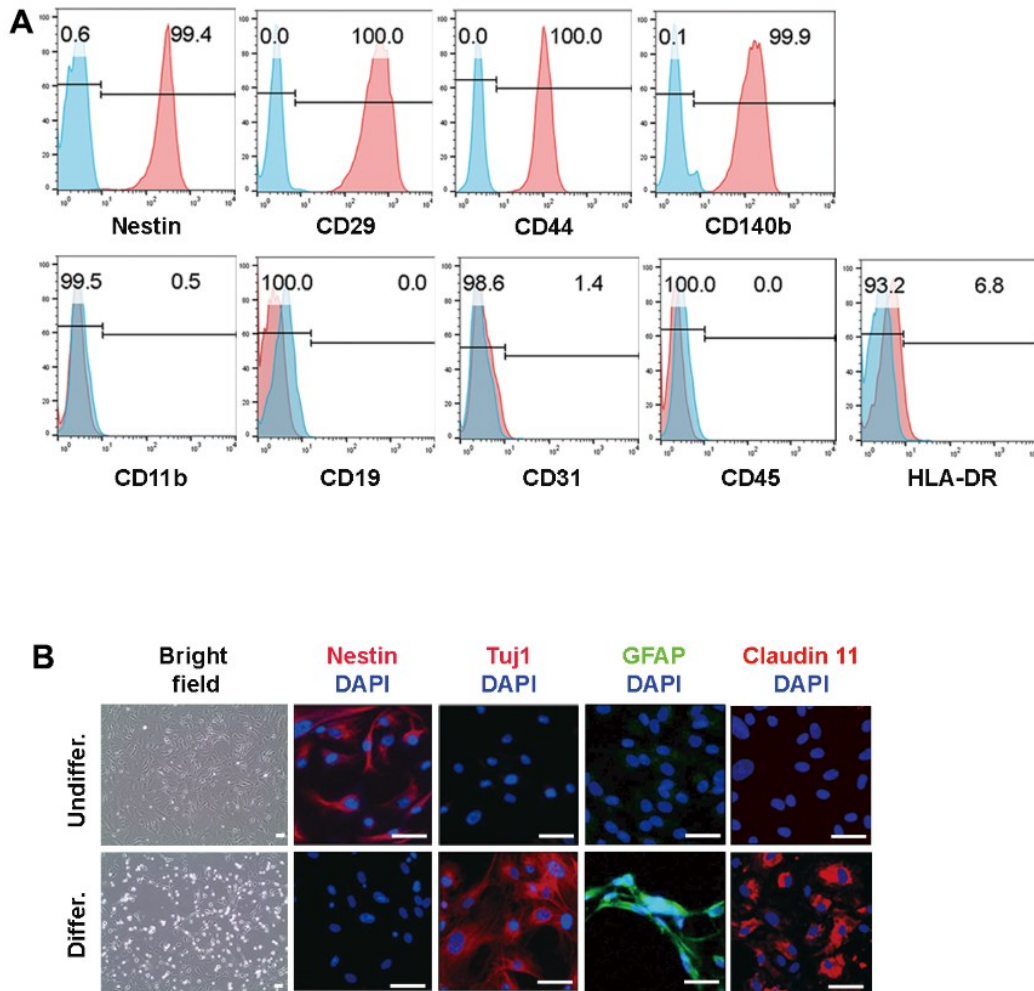
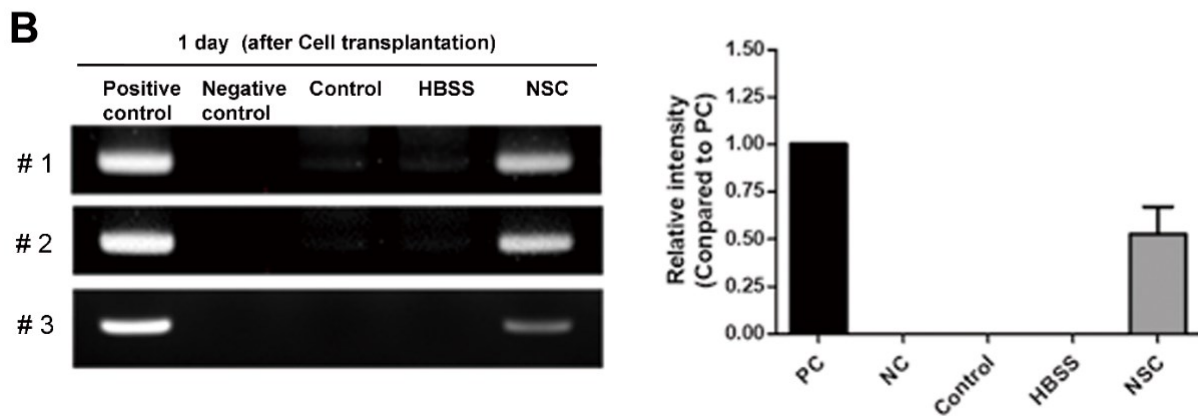
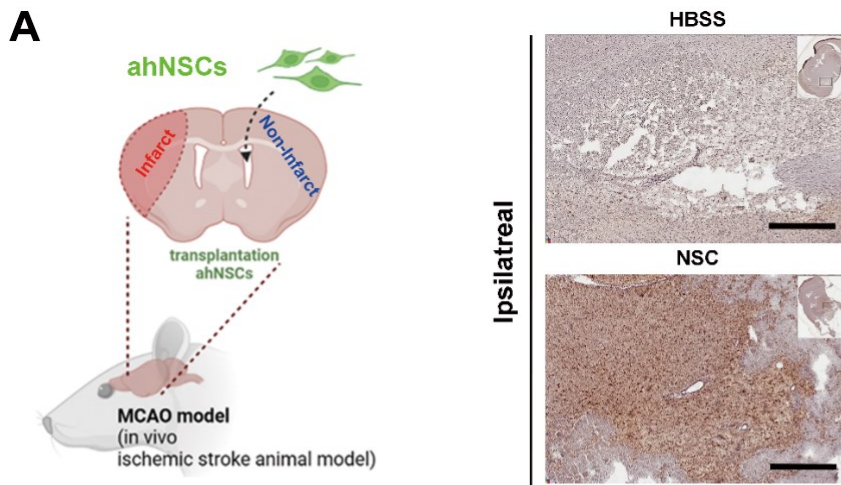


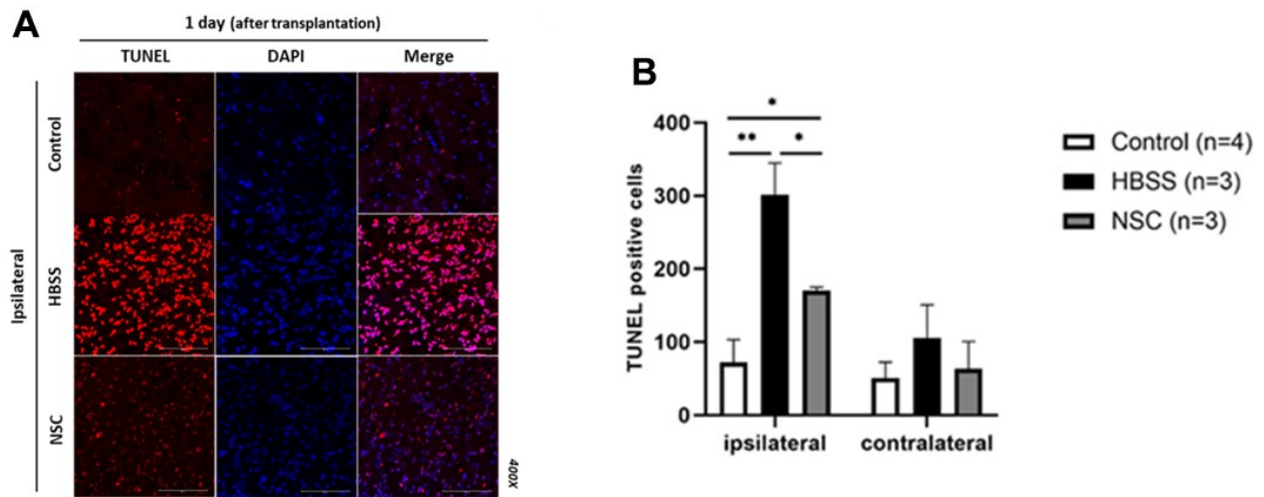
SUPPLEMENTARY FIGURES



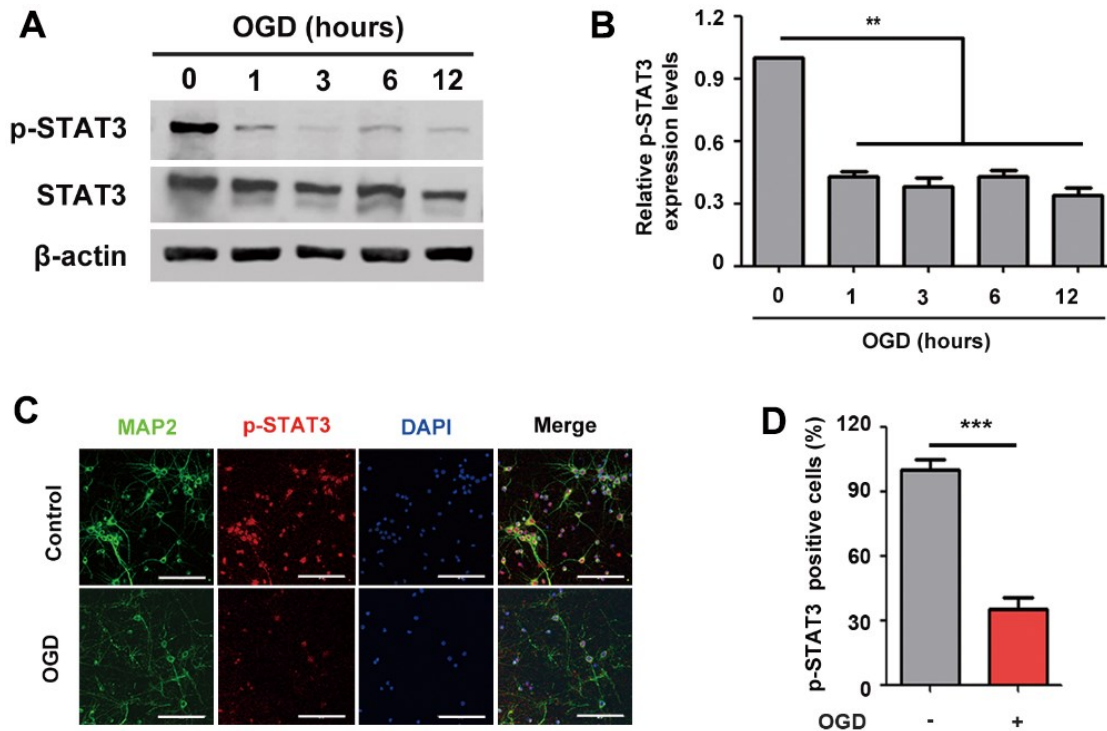
Supplementary Figure 1. Characteristics of ahNSCs. (A) Expression of Nestin, CD29, CD44, CD140b, CD11b, CD19, CD31, CD45, and HLA-DR was analyzed by flow cytometry. HLA-DR was used as negative control. Blue = isotype control. Number = percent of stained cells in the area, below. (B) The differentiation potential of ahNSCs was tested by ICC. Representative images show bright field, Nestin, Tuj1, GFAP, or Claudin 11 before (Undiffer.) or after differentiation (Differ.). Scale bar = 100 μ m.



Supplementary Figure 2. Distribution of ahNSCs in the brains of ischemic stroke animal models at 1 day after transplantation. (A) AhNSCs were injected into the contralateral (non-infarct) right lateral ventricle (left). Immunohistochemistry against human cytoplasm (right) detected ahNSCs in the ischemic areas of the ipsilateral (infarct) brain hemispheres in the NSC group, while no human cytoplasm-positive cells were found in the HBSS group. $n = 3$ for each group. Scale bar = 600 μm . (B) The presence of ahNSCs was detected by PCR of human specific-Alu sequences in the ipsilateral (infarct) brain hemispheres. Human specific-Alu sequences were amplified only in the NSC group (left). Positive control (PC) = human mesenchymal stem cells, negative control (NC) = distilled water. $n = 3$ for each group. Relative intensities of the PCR products were quantified using Image J software (right). Data = mean \pm SEM.



Supplementary Figure 3. *In vivo* neuroprotective activities of ahNSCs. (A) TUNEL staining was performed at 1 day after ahNSCs transplantation in the brains of ischemic stroke animal models. Representative images show the results of TUNEL staining (red) in the ipsilateral (infarct) hemisphere of each group (n = 4 for the Control group, n = 3 for the HBSS group, n = 3 for the NSC group). Blue = nuclei. Scale bar = 100 μ m. (B) Numbers of TUNEL-positive cells were calculated and then compared among the groups. Mean \pm SEM. * $P < 0.05$; ** $P < 0.01$.



Supplementary Figure 4. Effects of OGD condition on phosphorylation of STAT3 of primary cortical cells. (A) Expression of p-STAT3 and STAT3 (79/86 kDa) of primary cortical neurons (n = 3 per group) was accessed after application of OGD condition (0, 1, 3, 6, and 12 h) by western blot analysis. The pictures show representative images. β -actin (43 kDa) = loading control. (B) Expression of p-STAT3 was quantified and then compared. Mean \pm SD. ** $P < 0.01$. (C) Representative images of immunofluorescence staining against MAP2 and p-STAT3 of primary cortical neurons (n = 3 per group). Scale bar = 100 μ m. (D) Percent of p-STAT3-positive cells was determined and compared. Mean \pm SD. *** $P < 0.001$.