

## Figure 1– figure supplement 3

## Differential gene expression pattern of neurons grown on hydrogels

**A.** Up-regulation of clathrin-associated endocytosis genes in 0.1 kPa cultures. Gene expression patterns emerging from microarray analysis were grouped into four modules: expression increased with substrate softness in 5 hr (i) or 16 hr (iii) cultures, or increased with substrate stiffness in 5 hr (ii) or 16 hr (iv) cultures (cut off: >1.5-fold change, p<0.05, n=3 independent experiments). Normalized expression levels are represented by a color-coded heatmap.

**B.** A QuantiGene Plex branched-chain DNA amplification assay validated the relatively increased levels of mRNAs encoding the clathrin-associated endocytosis factors Dab2, Myo6, and Cltc in neurons grown on 0.1 kPa gels. Data represent fold changes in RNA levels ( $\pm$ SEM; n=4-5 independent experiments; relative to that of 0.1 kPa culture; "\*", p<0.05; *t* test).

**C.** Representative single-molecule RNA fluorescence in situ hybridization (smRNA FISH) images of mRNA encoding Myo6, Dab2, Chd11, Vcl, or Cry61 on segmented lamellipodium (SL) or broad lamellipodium (BL) neurons in 5 hr cultures, as indicated. Histograms showing average number (±SEM; n=42-52 cells; "\*", p<0.05; "\*\*", p<0.01; "\*\*\*\*", p<0.0001; *t* test) of smRNA FISH puncta for each gene per single neurons of the SL and BL cells.