**Supplementary File 3. Samples used for analysis along with statistical test used for analysis. n numbers represent biological replicates.**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Analysis** | **Tendon** | **Foetus** | **0 days** | **0-1 month** | **3-6 months** | **1-2 years** | **Statistical analysis** |
| **Biomechanics** | SDFT fascicle | n=4 | n=4 | n=3 | n=4 | n=4 | Two-way ANOVA. Outliers < or > mean ± 2xSD were removed. The average of 4-7 technical replicates was used (depending on sample availability). |
| SDFT IFM | n=4 | n=4 | n=3 | n=4 | n=4 |
| CDET fascicle | n=4 | n=4 | n=3 | n=4 | n=4 |
| SDFT IFM | n=3 | n=4 | n=3 | n=4 | n=4 |
| **Histology and Immunohistochemistry** | SDFT | n=3 | n=3 | n=3 (0-1 year) | n=4 (hist.), 3 (IHC) | Kruskal-Wallis, Rank Sum Test |
| CDET | n=3 | n=3 | n=3 (0-1 year) | n=4 (hist.), 3 (IHC) |
| **Elastin quantification**  | SDFT | n=3 | n=3 | n=3 (0-1 year) | n=3 | Two-way ANOVA. The average of 2 technical replicates was used. |
| CDET | n=3 | n=3 | n=3 (0-1 year) | n=3 |
| **Proteomics** | SDFT fascicle | n=3 | n=4 | n=3 | n=4 | n=4 | Differentially abundant proteins – PEAKS QDifferential total neopeptide abundance – One-way ANOVA, Benjamini-Hochberg correction  |
| SDFT IFM | n=4 | n=4 | n=3 | n=4 | n=4 |
| **Relative mRNA expression** | SDFT | - | n=4 | n=3 | n=4 | n=4 | Two-way ANOVA |
| CDET | - | n=4 | n=3 | n=4 | n=4 |