

Supplementary Materials

Table S1. Calculated hydrogel stiffness values from atomic force microscopy measurements. Data represented as mean \pm SD.

Type of poly-acrylamide hydrogel	Softview 1 kPa standard	Softview 8 kPa standard	Softview 50 kPa standard	1 kPa gel (Soft sample)	8 kPa gel (Intermediate sample)	40 kPa gel (Stiff sample)
Hydrogel stiffness measured with AFM	1.14 \pm 0.69	8.53 \pm 2.84	48.41 \pm 7.22	1.08 \pm 0.55	9.20 \pm 1.87	37.65 \pm 5.47
Number of measurements	14	23	12	39	47	53

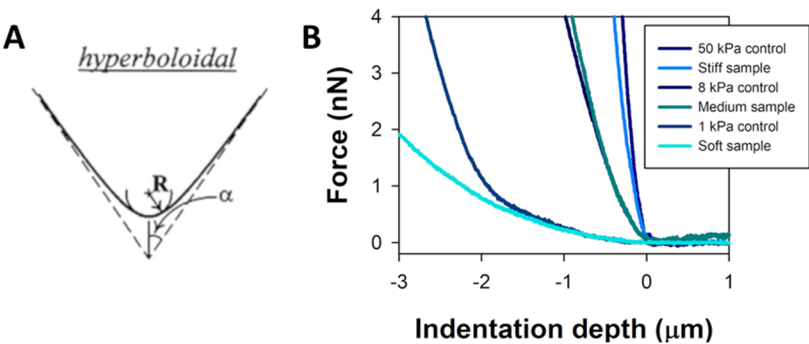


Figure S1. (A) Scheme of a hyperboloidal AFM tip used in the analysis: α , semivertical angle; R , radius of curvature of the tip apex. (B) Representative force-indentation curves of each tested sample.