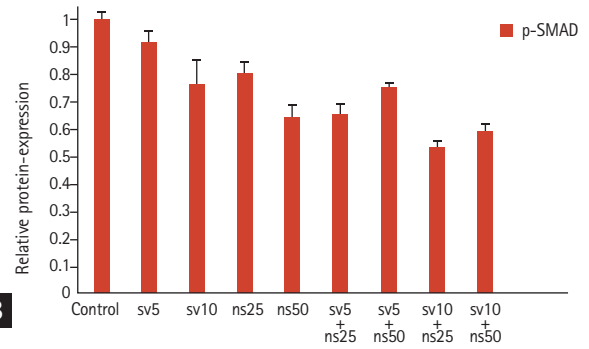


**A**



**B**

**Supplementary Figure 2.** Simvastatin and NS-398 showed a tendency to block the expression Smad2/3 phosphorylation, but there was no statistical significance. A Western blot analysis detected hepatic stellate cells pretreated with simvastatin (5 or 10  $\mu$ M), NS-398 (25 or 50  $\mu$ M) and the combination of simvastatin & NS-398. (A) A Western blot of cellular proteins probed for p-Smad2/3. (B) Densitometry of p-Smad2/3 protein expression. The control value was set to 100%. The 95% confidence interval was calculated to determine the statistical significance of the difference between the control and treated cells (95%). ns, NS-398; sv, simvastatin.