Supplementary Figure 1. $p75^{NTR}$ mRNA was detected in purified adult mouse neural stem cells

Adult mouse SVZ cells were stained for PNA and HSA (Rietze et al., 2001). A small number of purified neural stem cells ($PNA_{\text{low}}/HSA_{\text{low}}$) were collected separately from the remaining SVZ cells by flow cytometry to generate cDNA. By reverse transcription PCR the neural stem cell sample amplified a cDNA fragment of equivalent size to the $p75^{NTR}$ plasmid control, indicative of $p75^{NTR}$ mRNA expression by adult mouse neural stem cells.

Supplementary Figure 2. $p75^{NTR}$ is not detected on the cell surface of neurosphere cells

Primary neurospheres generated from the purified $p75^{NTR}$-high, -mid and -negative populations were harvested at maturity, dissociated and re-stained to detect cell surface $p75^{NTR}$ expression by flow cytometry (PE, y-axis). While PC12 cells stained alongside each cell suspension displayed detectible levels of $p75^{NTR}$ fluorescence, the profiles for each neurosphere population were negative. Cells expressing high levels of cell surface $p75^{NTR}$ were not detected in any of the cultures, indicating the frequency of positive cells was 0 to 0.01% after 1 week in vitro, irrespective of the expression level of the original cell. Consequently we suggest that $p75^{NTR}$ expression is significantly down-regulated, or that the $p75^{NTR}$-expressing cells are extremely rare events (less than 1:100,000).