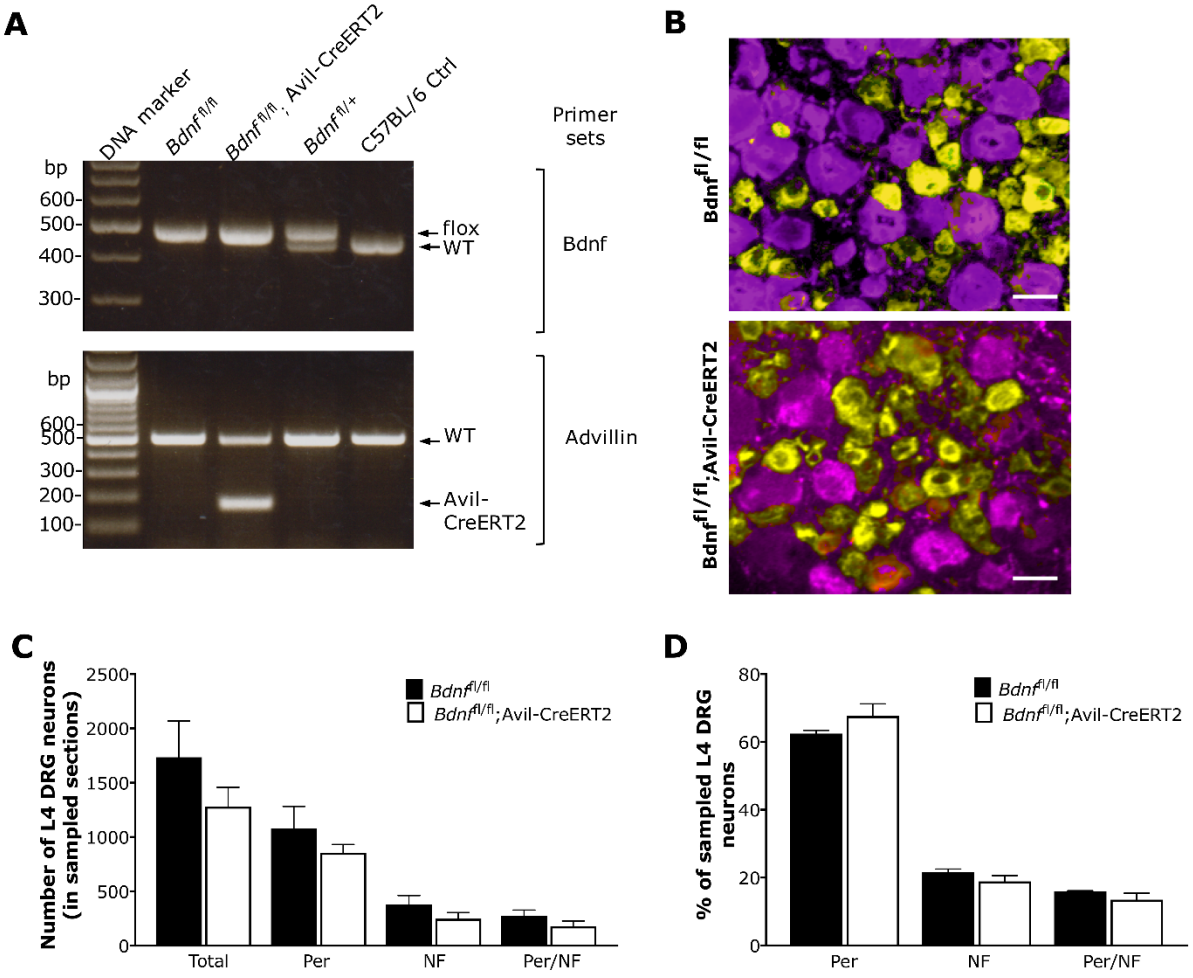

Supplemental Figure S1.

Characterization of BDNF knockout mice. (**A**) Genotyping analysis with PCR. The representative gel analysis of PCR products using both the BDNF primer set and the Advillin-CreERT2 primer set is shown in top and bottom panels, respectively. Mice homozygous for the floxed *Bdnf* band and heterozygous for the Advillin-CreERT2 band were defined as *Bdnf*$^{fl/fl}$; Avil-CreERT2 mice. Mice only homozygous for the floxed Bdnf band were defined as *Bdnf*$^{fl/fl}$ littermate controls. The genomic DNA from C57BL/6J wild-type mice and heterozygous floxed Bdnf (*Bdnf*$^{fl/+}$) mice were used as controls. (**B**) DRG sections were labelled with large diameter DRG neuron marker neurofilament (in magenta), and small-medium diameter DRG neuron marker peripherin (in yellow). Scale bar, 50 µm. (**C**) The number of DRG neurons either expressing neurofilament (NF), or peripherin (Per) in the sampled L4 DRG sections, or both NF and Per were counted respectively. (**D**) The proportions of neurofilament and peripherin positive neurons in L4 DRG are presented. Both total number and proportion are normal in BDNF knockout mice (n = 3) compared to littermate controls (n = 3). Data were analysed with Student's t-test and $P > 0.05$.