Examples was further added (+) or not added (-).

[0154]

A culture medium used for each step at a “differentiation culture stage” in the Examples (as referred to as “culture medium for differentiation culture stage” in the following Examples) was a culture medium prepared by mixing 60 mL of DMEM (no glucose, Wako) and 40 mL of F10 (Gibco), by adding 1 μL of 2-mercaptoethanol, 6 μL of selenious acid (0.01%), 1.5 mL of ascorbic acid (5 mg/mL), and 5 mL of 30% BSA, and by further adding 30% of FBS immediately before use while an additional component(s) designated in each table in the Examples was added (+) or not added (-).

[0155]

[Test Example 1] amplification culture stage: the first culturing step (Whole Tissue Culturing (WTC) method)

[Table 1]

Test Example	Amplification culture stage (7 days)	
	Additional component to prepare a culture medium	Culture method
1-1	10ng/mL bFGF	WTC method
1-2	-	WTC method
1-3	10ng/mL bFGF	Two-dimensional culture method
1-4	-	Two-dimensional culture method

[0156]

A nucleus pulposus tissue of an intervertebral disc excised from an affected part of each patient with disc herniation (a 32-year-old woman, a 28-year-old woman, or a 20-year-old man) was finely cut into a size of several-mm cubes using scissors and other instruments. Next, 0.1 to 0.5 g of the finely cut nucleus pulposus tissue containing the cell population was suspended in 3 mL of culture medium prepared such that the additional component designated in Table 1 was added to the culture medium