Supporting Information Fig 11. Proposed mechanisms responsible for the abnormal neuronal differentiation of Twin-DS-iPSCs.
In DS, the extra copy of HSA21 leads to the overexpression of HSA21 gene such as \textit{DYRK1A}, \textit{S100B}, \textit{OLIG1} and \textit{OLIG2}. Here, we proposed that a possible mechanism for the abnormal neuronal differentiation of Twin-DS-iPSCs is related to DYRK1A. The increased expression and activity of DYRK1A in NPCs derived from Twin-DS-iPSCs lead to an increase of cell apoptosis and a decrease of cell proliferation contributing to a reduced number of these cells. Moreover, upon neuronal differentiation, Twin-DS-iPSCs exhibited a reduced number of neurons and an increase of astroglial and oligodendroglial cells compared to Twin-N-iPSCs. In line with this, neurons derived from Twin-DS-iPSCs showed dendritic and synaptic alterations. Importantly, DYRK1A inhibition though EGCG treatment and shRNA silencing corrected these defects. Genes and pathways involved in neural fate and differentiation such as \textit{REST/NRSF}, \textit{WNT}, and \textit{NOTCH} likely underlie DYRK1A correction (\(\rightarrow\): stimulation; \(\leftarrow\): inhibition).