Interfacing Inorganic Nanocrystals with Biological Systems Using a Coordinating Polymer Coating



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Potential Applications of Colloidal Nanocrystals



From Invitrogen







QDs and AuNPs: Lipoic Acid Anchors



Lipoic Acid/Histidine-Modified Polymer for QDs



Stoichiometric insertion can be achieved

Ligand	(molar fractions)	Nomina	l numbers per chain ^a	Experimental numbers per chain ^b
LA-PIMA-PEG	(x:z = 30:70)	LA: 12	PEG: 27	LA: ~13 PEG: ~27
His-PIMA-PEG	(y:z = 30:70)	His: 12	PEG: 27	His: ~10 PEG: ~27
His-PIMA-PEG	(y:z = 50:50)	His: 20	PEG: 20	His: ~17 PEG: ~19
LA/His-PIMA-PEG	(x:y:z = 20:30:50)	LA: 8	His: 12 PEG: 20	LA: ~10 His: ~12 PEG: ~18
LA/His-PIMA-PEG-R	(x:y:z:z' = 20:30:45:5)	LA: 8	His: 12 PEG: 18 R: 2	

Photoligation of LA-containing Polymer Ligands



The Zwitterion Motif: an Alternative to PEG



His-PIMA-ZW: Compact Coating











Functionalization of Au-Nanostructures



Gold nano-structures with a PEGylated (or ZW) polymer coating





Wang, Ji, Du, Mattoussi, *J. Phys. Chem. C* **2017**, 121, 22901-22913.

DTT Stability Test: Polymer vs Monomer PEG-Coating



Similar results were collected for AuNPs.

Similar differences between polymer and monomer were found with the zwitterion motif.

Cellular Uptake of Nanoparticles: The Endocytosis Problem





Uptake Promoted by SVS-1 Peptide



- > Cationic, amphiphilic peptide with anti-cancer activity
- Peptide: "CGG-KVKVKVDPPTKVKVKVK-NH₂"
- > Preferentially folds at the negatively charged surface of cells, adopting an amphiphilic β -hairpin structure capable of disrupting cell membranes.



Sinthuvanich *et al. J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2012**, 134, 6210

Medina *et al., J. Controlled Release* **2015**, 209 317–326

Cell Uptake Studies: Case of AuNR/NP-SVS-1 Conj.









Proof of Imidazole-to-AuNC coordination

Aldeek, Safi, Zhan, Palui, Mattoussi, *ACS Nano* 2013, 11, 10197

S. Medina et al., J. Controlled Release **2015**, 209 317–326

SVS-1: CGG-KVKVKVKV^DPPTKVKVKVK-NH₂

1. NHS-Texas Red/NHS-maleimide

2. SVS-1 peptide (thiol-maleimide)





- SVS-1-mediated delivery of AuNR- conjugates into HeLa cells.
- Here, Texas-Red dye coupled to AuNR- conjugates allowed visualization of the AuNR-SVS-1 distribution inside cells.
- Scale bar ~ 10 μ m.

Kapur, Medina, Wang, ..., Mattoussi, ACS Omega **2018**, 3, 12754–12762





SVS-1-mediated delivery of		
AuNP-conjugates into HeLa		
cells.		
10-nm NPs were used.		
Scale bar = 10 μm.		

Kapur, Medina, Wang, ..., Mattoussi, *ACS Omega* **2018**, 3, 12754–12762

Intracellular Uptake of QDs









Confocal Images

Three color QD-peptide conjugates have been tested





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Testing Uptake in the Presence of Inhibitors

- 1. Incubation at 4°C
- 2. ATP depletion using NaN₃
- 3. Clathrin mediated endocytosis inhibition using Sucrose



Kapur, Medina, Wang, Palui ... ACS Omega **2018**, 3, 17164–17172





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Integrative