

## Physically cross-linked pH-responsive hydrogels with tunable formulations for controlled drug delivery

Deepa Suhag,<sup>#a</sup> Rohan Bhatia,<sup>#a</sup> Souvik Das,<sup>#a</sup> Adeeba Shakeel,<sup>#a</sup> Abhisek Ghosh,<sup>#b</sup> Anirudha Singh,<sup>c</sup> O. P. Sinha,<sup>d</sup> Sandip Chakrabarti<sup>\*d</sup> and Monalisa Mukherjee<sup>\*a</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Biomimetic and Nanostructured Materials Research Laboratory, Amity Institute of Biotechnology, Amity University Uttar Pradesh, Sector-125, Noida, India

**E-mail:** mmukherjee@amity.edu

<sup>b</sup> Centre for Biomedical Engineering, Indian Institute of Technology Delhi, New Delhi 110016, India

<sup>c</sup> Faculty of Translational Tissue Engineering Centre & Dept. of Urology, Johns Hopkins School of Medicine, Baltimore, USA

<sup>d</sup> Amity Institute of Nanotechnology, Amity University Uttar Pradesh, Sector-125, Noida, India

**E-mail:** schakrabarti@amity.edu

<sup>#</sup> These authors contributed equally to this work

### ESI 1 Feed Composition of PAD Hydrogels

Sample Code	AAc (mol %)	DMAEMA (mol %)	Water (mol %)*
PAD50	50	50	1000
PAD70	70	30	380
PAD80	80	20	380
PAD90	90	10	440

Note: SPS = 0.025 mole % and TEMED = 0.3 mole %; \*mol % to total monomer content

**ESI 2** Diffusion Exponents (n) and Diffusion Constants (K) of PAD Hydrogels during swelling in buffer solutions of pH 1.2 and 7

Sample code	Diffusion Parameters					
	pH 1.2			pH 7.0		
	K × 10 <sup>3</sup>	n	R <sup>2</sup>	K × 10 <sup>3</sup>	n	R <sup>2</sup>
PAD70	14.3	0.34	0.98	3.2	0.43	0.98
PAD80	27.4	0.29	0.98	2.1	0.42	0.93
PAD90	190.1	0.13	0.97	92.1	0.05	0.93

**ESI 3** In-vitro BSA release behavior of PAD hydrogels.

Sample code	Cumulative release (%) of BSA in			
	pH 1.2		pH 7.4	
	mg/g	%	mg/g	%
PAD70	15.0 ± 2.9	5.5 ± 0.3	200.0 ± 13	73.1 ± 2.6
PAD80	30.5 ± 4.2	3.7 ± 0.5	270.0 ± 9.4	32.7 ± 1.9
PAD90	50.5 ± 7.0	4.1 ± 0.8	310.7 ± 13	25.3 ± 2.6