

## Electronic Supplementary Information

### Branched polyethyleneimine modified with hyaluronic acid *via* a PEG spacer for targeted anticancer drug delivery

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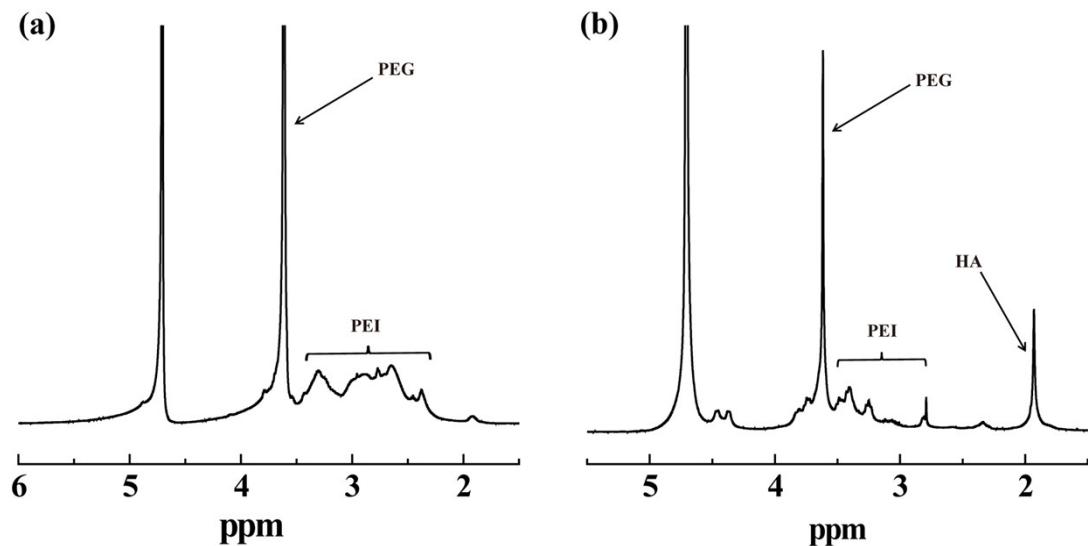
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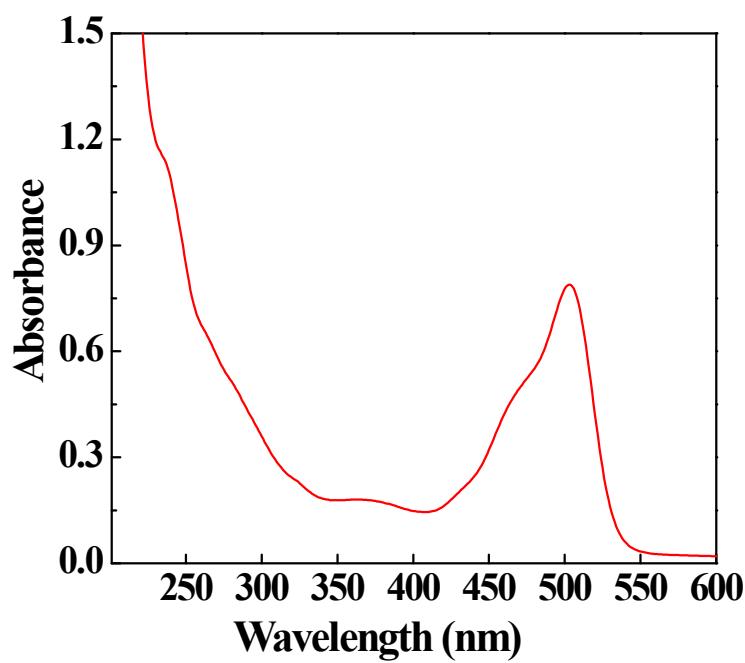
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**Table S1.** Zeta potential and hydrodynamic size of PEI-FI-(PEG-HA) conjugate.

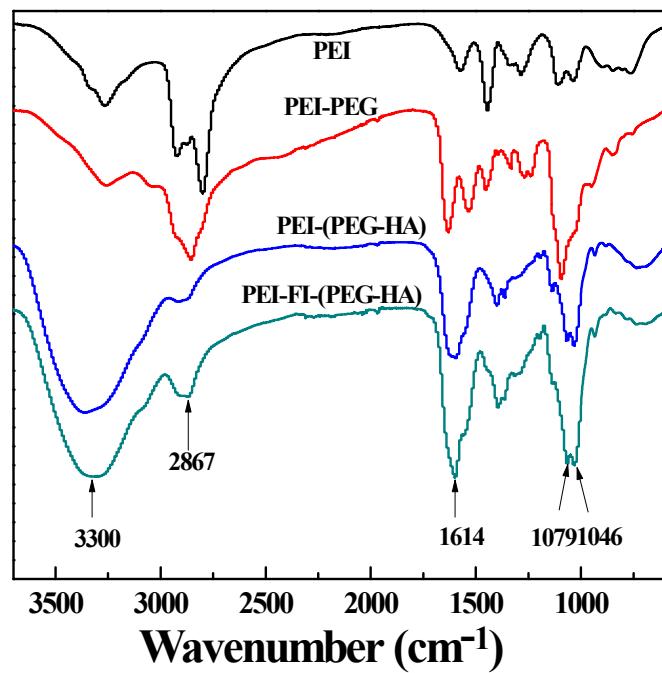
Time (days)	Zeta potential (mV)	Hydrodynamic size (nm)
1	-18.4 ± 1.44	190.2 ± 0.64
2	-17.3 ± 1.30	197.3 ± 0.67
4	-18.2 ± 1.08	202.6 ± 0.49
7	-19.4 ± 1.50	192.0 ± 0.23



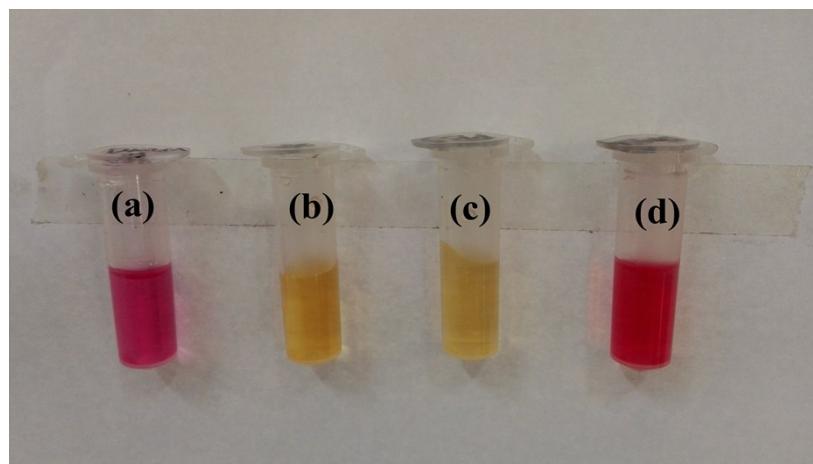
**Figure S1.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra of PEI-PEG (a), and PEI-(PEG-HA) (b), respectively.



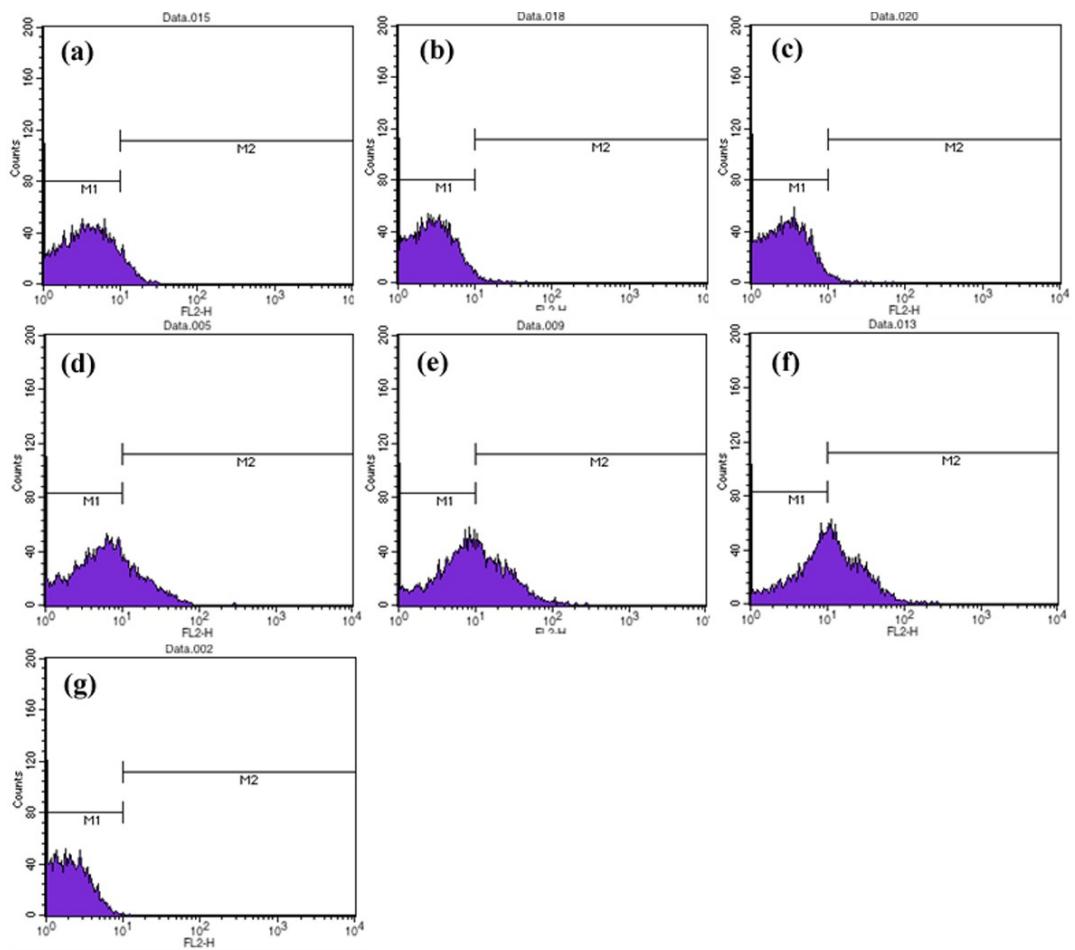
**Figure S2.** UV-vis spectrum of PEI-FI-(PEG-HA) conjugate.



**Figure S3.** FTIR spectra of PEI, PEI-PEG, PEI-(PEG-HA), and PEI-FI-(PEG-HA), respectively.



**Figure S4.** Photos of PEI-FI-(PEG-HA) conjugate dispersed in water (b), PBS (c), and cell culture medium (d) for 7 days. Blank cell culture medium is shown in (a).



**Figure S5.** Flow cytometric analysis of HeLa-LCD44 (a, b, c), and HeLa-HCD44 (d, e, f) cells treated with the PEI-FI-(PEG-HA)/DOX complexes at the DOX concentrations of 8.0  $\mu\text{g/mL}$  (a, d), 10.0  $\mu\text{g/mL}$  (b, e), and 15.0  $\mu\text{g/mL}$  (c, f) for 4 h at 37  $^{\circ}\text{C}$ , respectively. HeLa-HCD44 cells treated with NS (g) were used as control.