## Supplementary information

## Hydrophobic Chain Modified Low Molecular Weight Polyethylenimine for Efficient Antigen Delivery

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**Figure S1.** (A) <sup>1</sup>H NMR of C12-PEI, <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra using integral values obtained from the number of -CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>- and the peaks at 2.5-3.2 ppm to protons of PEI; (B) FT-IR spectra of C12-PEI. The absorption peaks ( $v_{N-H}$ ) at 3500-3100 cm<sup>-1</sup> and 2800-3000 cm<sup>-1</sup> ( $v_{C-H}$ ) indicate the existence of polyethlenimine and alkyl chain.

**Figure S2.** Average particle size distribution of the as-prepared polyplex nanoparticles of C12-PEI/OVA-0.07/1 measured by DLS

Figure S3. AFM images of the C12-PEI/OVA-0.07/1 polyplex nanoparticles

**Figure S4.** (**A**).Change in average particle size and PDI of the C12-PEI/OVA-0.07/1 polyplex during incubation at 4 °Cin NaCl (0.9%); (**B**).Change in average particle size and PDI of the C12-PEI/OVA-0.07/1 polyplex during incubation at 4 °C in HEPES buffer solution (10 mM, pH 7.4).

**Figure S5**. Intracellular distribution of the C12-PEI/Rho-OVA polyplexes in DCs cells after incubation of the polyplexes for 15min, 30 min and 1 hour, the fluorescence images were observed and recorded on a Leica TCS SP8 Confocal Laser Scanning Microscope.



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Figure S1. (B) FT-IR spectra of C12-PEI. The absorption peaks (v  $_{N-H}$ ) at 3500-3100 cm<sup>-1</sup> and 2800-3000 cm<sup>-1</sup> (v  $_{C-H}$ ) indicate the existence of polyethleneimine and alkyl chain.



**Figure S2**. Average particle size distribution of the as-prepared polyplex nanoparticles of C12-PEI/OVA-0.07/1 measured by DLS



Figure S3. AFM images of the C12-PEI/OVA-0.07/1 polyplex nanoparticles



Figure S4 (A).Change in average particle size and PDI of the C12-PEI/OVA-0.07/1 polyplex during incubation at 4 °Cin NaCl (0.9%)



**Figure S4 (B)**.Change in average particle size and PDI of the C12-PEI/OVA-0.07/1 polyplex during incubation at 4 °Cin HEPES buffer solution (10 mM, pH 7.4)



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