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Supporting Information

Shake&Read Distance-based Microfluidic Chip as a Portable Quantitative Readout Device for Highly Sensitive Point-of-Care Testing

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Experimental Section

Materials and Reagents

Tween 20 was purchased from Xilong Chemical Co., Ltd. (Guangdong, China). 2-Mercaptoethanol was obtained from Xiya Reagent Company Ltd. (Chengdu, China). We purchased the mPEG-SH (MW ~5 kDa) from JenKem Technology Co., Ltd. (Beijing, China). Other reagents were purchased from Sinopharm Chemical Reagent (Shanghai, China). The magnetic beads modified with human kallikrein 3/PSA antibody were purchased from Abbott (Shanghai, China). Human kallikrein 3/PSA and biotinylated antibody recombinant human kallikrein 3/PSA were purchased from R&D Systems (Minneapolis, MN, USA). Ten clinical PSA samples were provided by Chenggong Hospital of Xiamen University with different concentrations of PSA ranging from 20 pM to 160 pM.

Synthesis and Purification of Thiol-PEG-biotin Hetero-linker

Thiol-PEG-biotin hetero-linker was synthesized according to the standard DNA synthesis protocol using biotin CPG and 5' thiol modifier. Then the product was cleaved from the solid support and deprotected with ammonia treatment. After purification by HPLC, it was reduced by DTT (DL-dithiothreitol), and desalted by a NAP-5 column and NAP-10 column, and finally quantified by UV-Vis spectrometry.

Nanoparticle Synthesis¹ and Functionalization

10 μ L of 100 mM H₂PtCl₆ was added to 900 μ L deionized water and incubated at 80°C for 20 min. Then 100 μ L aqueous solution of 0.4 M ascorbic acid was added and incubated at 80°C for 30 min. The synthesized nanoparticles were stored at 4°C before use. The PtNPs were then modified by a thiol-PEG-biotin hetero-linker. Briefly, 10 μ L of 1 wt% Tween 20 and 5 μ L of 100 μ M mPEG-SH (MW ~5 kDa) were added to 1 mL of a 2.5 nM solution of 30 nm PtNPs. After a brief mixing, 10 μ L of 120 μ M thiol-PEG-biotin hetero-linker and 50 μ L of 0.2 M H₃PO₄ were added to the mixture. After aging at 37°C for 1 hr, excess reagents were removed via centrifugation at 13,000 rpm three times for 4 min each. The precipitate was then redissolved in 1 mL of PBST solution (137 mM NaCl, 2.7 mM KCl, 8.1 mM Na₂HPO₄, 1.5 mM KH₂PO₄, 0.05 wt% Tween 20, pH 7.4).

Design and Fabrication of the S&R-µChip

The S&R-µChip is composed of two layers of PMMA material as cover layer and bottom layer, respectively. The pattern of two layers was designed with CorelDraw12 software and was fabricated on 2 mm thick PMMA using the laser cutting machine. As shown in Figure S1, the patterned cover layer was composed of four small holes (black) with diameter of 0.7 mm and one big hole (yellow) with a diameter of 1.5 mm. The three inlets were located over the three reservoirs for the injection of sample solution, H₂O₂ solution and food color solution, respectively. A discharge outlet was designed for inner air expel when injecting the reagents. A work outlet was located at the terminal of the channel to connect with the atmosphere. After injection of all reagents, the three inlets and the discharge outlet were sealed to form a hermetical chamber as reaction region. The bottom layer was fabricated with three reservoirs and three parts of channels. The three reservoirs were respectively used as sample reservoir (diameter: 7 mm, deeper: about 1 mm), H₂O₂ reservoir (diameter: 5 mm, deeper: about 1 mm) and food color reservoir (diameter: 7 mm, deeper: about 1 mm) and connected with three correlated inlets. The shaking channel (width: 1 mm, deeper: about 0.5 mm) bridge-linked sample reservoir and H₂O₂ reservoir for shaking and mixing of reagents. The "T-shape" medium exchange channel (width: 0.5 mm, deeper: about 0.5 mm) was set for two functions. One role is applied as an interchange between H₂O₂ solution and the air of sample reservoir after shaking. In the other words, the H₂O₂ solution can't be shaken into the sample reservoir without the air exchange. The other effect is to connect the indicator reservoir. The scale channel bridge-links with food color reservoir and work outlet to act as a ruler for the distance readout of the pushed food color. Next, the two patterned layers were processed by thermal bonding in a laminated bonding machine (temperature: 105°C, pressure: 2Mpa, time: 180s). The final S&R-µChip device was obtained by natural cooling to ambient temperature. Then, fluorocarbon oil was injected into the S&R-µChip to cover all inner-regions and kept statically for 20-min hydrophobic treatment. Finally, the hydrophobically treated S&R-µChip was dried in nitrogen and stored in a desiccator. The produced S&R- μ Chip is 11 cm \times 2 cm in size and 11.2 g in total weight.



Figure S1. The design of the S&R-µChip.

Analytical Procedure

The PSA antibody-functionalized capture beads from commercial ELISA kits (Abbott) were mixed with PSA (25 pM, 50 pM, 80 pM, 100 pM, 120 pM, 150 pM, respectively) in a final volume of 150 μ L of reagent diluent, and the mixtures were incubated in the centrifuge tubes for 30 min. Then the beads in each tube were washed three times and then incubated with the biotinylated detection antibody solution (0.1 μ g/mL) for 20 min. After another three-time washing, the beads were incubated with the streptavidin solution (1 μ g/mL) for 15 min. After washing three times, the beads were then incubated with biotinylated PtNPs (0.625 nM) for 15 min. After washing another six times, the recovered beads were resuspended in PBST. After adding the dye (20 μ L) and H₂O₂ (20 μ L) in the specified area in the S&R- μ Chip, the beads solution (20 μ L) was added to the sample area of the S&R- μ Chip. The micropores of S&R- μ Chip were sealed with transparent tape, and then the chip was shaken to initiate the contact of the bead solution with H₂O₂. The O₂ generated by PtNPs/H₂O₂ promoted the dye to move forward and the distance was recorded after 5 min.



Figure S2. The reproducibility and Stability of the S&R-µChip. A) Response of 10 devices to 10 pM PtNPs. B) Response of S&R-µChip operated by 6 volunteers to10 pM PtNPs.



Figure S3. Linear standard curve for the detection of PSA in serum using the S&R- μ Chip.



Figure S4. Linear response of the dye distance to the concentration of HCG ($R^2 = 0.99$).

References

1. S. J. Guo, J. Li, S. J. Dong and E. K. Wang, *Journal of Physical Chemistry C*, 2010, **114**, 15337-15342.