Supplementary information for

Hydrophilic CeO₂ Nanocubes Protect Pancreatic β -cell Line INS-1 from H₂O₂-Induced Oxidative Stress

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Sample	Adsorbed species					
_	N ₂ (m ² /g)	Acetate (mg/g)	Protein (mg/g)			
CeO ₂ -5 NCs	133	6.7	267			
CeO ₂ -25 NCs	38	2.3	98			
Ratio	3.5	2.9	2.7			

Table S1 The amount of various adsorbed species (N_2 , acetate or coating proteins) on the surface of the CeO₂ NCs from the BET and TGA results.

Table S2 Catalytic performance of CeO_2 NCs before and after incubation with RPMI-1640 + 10% FBS for 24 h.

	BET surface area / m ² ·g ⁻¹	Specific reaction rate at 37 °C		
Sample		per unit weight of catalyst / mmol·h ⁻¹ ·g ⁻¹	per unit surface area / mmol·h ⁻¹ ·m ⁻²	TOF at 37 °C /s ⁻¹
CeO ₂ -5 NCs	133	25	0.19	2.3×10 ⁻²
CeO ₂ -25 NCs	38	5.5	0.14	1.8×10 ⁻²
FBS coated CeO ₂ -5 NCs	/	2.0	0.015	1.8×10 ⁻³
FBS coated CeO ₂ -25 NCs	/	3.0	0.080	9.7×10 ⁻³



Fig. S1 Size distribution of the as-prepared small-sized CeO₂-5 NCs (a) and large-sized CeO₂-25 NCs (b).



Fig. S2 (a) Ce 3d spectra of CeO₂-5 (a) and CeO₂-25 NCs (b) fitted as the linear combination of Ce(III) and Ce(IV) 3d spectra by the previously reported method (Ref. S1, S2). (Black dots: experimental data; olive line: fitted data; blue line: fitting curve for Ce(IV); red line: fitting curve for Ce(III); magenta line: background).



Fig. S3 Colloid solutions of CeO₂-5 (a) and CeO₂-25 NCs (b) redispersed in water (2 mg/mL).



Fig. S4 TEM images of the nanoceria-protein corona conjugates formed from the CeO₂-5 (a) and the CeO₂-25 (b).



Fig. S5 Confocal bright field images of the agglomerate state of CeO_2 -5 NCs in RPMI 1640 medium (a) and RPMI 1640 medium + 10% FBS (b); CeO_2 -25 NCs in RPMI 1640 medium (c) and RPMI 1640 medium + 10% FBS (d). INS-1 cells were seeded and incubated for 24 h prior to the addition of CeO_2 NCs solution. The adhesive cells were used as the reference. In addition, the results exhibited that the exposing CeO_2 NCs have no conspicuous effect on cell morphology and growth.



Fig. S6 Cell number of INS-1 cells exposed to 50 µg/mL CeO₂-5 NCs or CeO₂-25 NCs compared to cells exposed to medium only. *p < 0.05 vs. control group. n = 3. Briefly, INS-1 cells were seeded in 35-mm diameter dishes at a density of 2×10⁵ cells/well in 2 mL medium. By referencing the CCK-8 cell viability assay, cells were incubated for 24 h prior to the addition of CeO₂-5 NCs or CeO₂-25 NCs at a representative concentration of 50 µg/mL. Then, the cells number was analyzed by direct cell counting with haemocytometer at 24 h after the addition of nanoceria.



Fig. S7 Intracellular ROS was detected from the DCF signal by flow cytometry with the reported method (Ref. S2). 10,000 cells per sample were acquired after 2, 6 and 10 h exposure to 50 μ g/mL CeO₂-5 NCs. Data are presented as the mean fold change in DCF signal compared to medium only ± SD (n = 3).



Fig. S8 Representative confocal fluorescent images (left) and merged images (right) with bright field signals of INS-1 cells after staining with DCFH-DA. (a) control, (b) cells preincubated with 100 μ g/mL CeO₂-5 NCs, (c) cells preincubated with 100 μ g/mL CeO₂-5 NCs.



Fig. S9 Quantification of CeO₂-5 and CeO₂-25 NCs internalized by INS-1 cells.



Fig. S10 UV-vis spectra of (a) CeO₂-5 NCs before and after the addition of H_2O_2 , (b) CeO₂-5 NCs coated with FBS before and after the addition of H_2O_2 , (c) CeO₂-25 NCs before and after the addition of H_2O_2 , (d) CeO₂-25 NCs coated with FBS before and after the addition of H_2O_2 .

References

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