Controlled aggregation and cell uptake of thermoresponsive

polyoxazoline-grafted superparamagnetic iron oxide

nanoparticles

Steffen Kurzhals, Noga Gal, Ronald Zirbs and Erik Reimhult*

ELECTRONIC SUPPORTING INFORMATION



Fig. S1 ¹H-NMR spectrum of PIPOX/PETOX(87/13) in CDCl₃.



Fig. S2 Transmission electron micrographs of (A) $Fe_3O_4/PIPOX(100)$ and (B) $Fe_3O_4/PIPOX/PETOX(87/13)$, scale bar: 100 nm.



Fig. S3 FTIR-spectrum of Fe₃O₄/PIPOX/PETOX(87/13), bands at 3447 cm⁻¹ (H₂O) and 2336, 2359 cm⁻¹ (CO₂).



Fig. S4 TGA of $Fe_3O_4/PIPOX(100)$ (blue), $Fe_3O_4/PIPOX/PETOX(87/13)$ (red) and $Fe_3O_4/PETOX(100)$ (black) in synthetic air, 10 K min⁻¹ (25-600 °C).



Fig. S5 DLS heating curves for free polyoxazolines in MilliQ, count rate vs. temperature, and hydrodynamic diameter vs. temperature, (A, D) for PIPOX(100) (1 mg mL⁻¹), (B, E) for PIPOX/PETOX(87/13) (1 mg mL⁻¹) and (C) for PETOX(100) (7 mg mL⁻¹).



Fig. S6 Temperature cycled DLS measurements for medium (RPMI-1540) with 10 vol% FCS, red diamonds: heating curve, blue squares: cooling curve.



Fig. S7 Temperature cycled DLS measurements for pozylated SPIONs (1 mg mL⁻¹) in medium with 10 vol-% FCS, count rate *vs.* temperature and hydrodynamic diameter *vs.* temperature for Fe₃O₄/PIPOX(100) (A, D), for Fe₃O₄/PIPOX(87/13) (B, E) and Fe₃O₄/PETOX(100) (C, F).



Fig. S8 Viability of HeLa cells compared to control after incubation at 37 °C for 24 h with pozylated SPION (addition of 10 μ L SPION-dispersion (1 mg mL⁻¹ in MilliQ) to cells suspended in medium (RPMI-1640) (100 μ L)).



Fig. S9 DSC heating curve (1 °C min⁻¹) for $Fe_3O_4/PETOX(100)$, 1 mg mL⁻¹ in MilliQ water.



Fig. S10 Temperature-cycled DLS measurements for SPION sample $Fe_3O_4/PNIPAM$ (1 mg mL⁻¹) in medium (RPMI-1640), A) count rate vs. temperature, B) hydrodynamic diameter vs. temperature.



Fig. S11 DLS correlation functions A-B) for SPION sample $Fe_3O_4/PIPOX(100)$, (1 mg mL⁻¹) in MilliQ water, A) at 25°C, B) at 45°C, C-D) for SPION sample $Fe_3O_4/PIPOX/PETOX(87/13)$, (1 mg mL⁻¹) in medium (RPMI-1640), C) at 20°C, D) at 38°C.



Fig. S12 DLS heating curves (zoomed region from 20 to 31 °C for Fig. 3 from main text) for SPION dispersed in medium (RPMI-1640) at 1 mg mL⁻¹, hydrodynamic diameter *vs.* temperature for A) $Fe_3O_4/PIPOX(100)$, B) $Fe_3O_4/PIPOX/PETOX(87/13)$ and C) $Fe_3O_4/PETOX(100)$. Heating curve: red diamonds, cooling curve: blue squares.