

## Electronic Supplementary Information (ESI)

*for*

### **Enzyme-sensitive cytotoxic peptide-dendrimer conjugates enhance cell apoptosis and deep tumor penetration**

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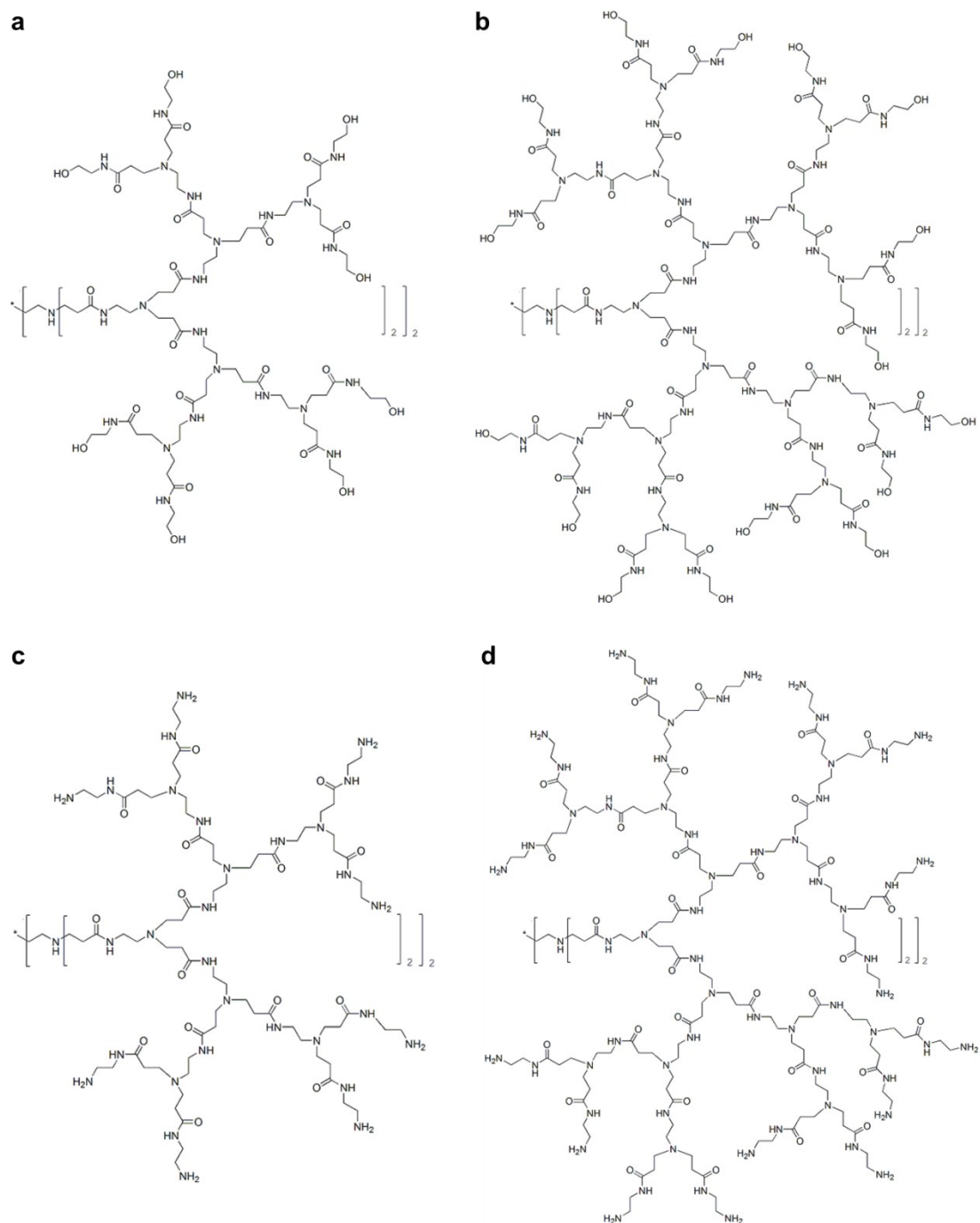


Figure S1. The chemical structures of (a) PAMAM-OH G3, (b) PAMAM-OH G4, (c) PAMAM-NH<sub>2</sub> G3 and (d) PAMAM-NH<sub>2</sub> G4.

Table S1. The synthesis and characterization of Acryl-PAMAM

| Dendrimer                | N <sub>1</sub> <sup>a</sup> | N <sub>2</sub> <sup>b</sup> | MD <sup>c</sup> (%) |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------|
| PAMAM-OH G3              | 32                          | 10                          | 31                  |
| PAMAM-OH G4              | 64                          | 19                          | 30                  |
| PAMAM-NH <sub>2</sub> G3 | 32                          | 22                          | 69                  |
| PAMAM-NH <sub>2</sub> G4 | 64                          | 37                          | 58                  |

<sup>a</sup> The number of end group (OH/NH<sub>2</sub>) in dendrimers. <sup>b</sup> The average number of modified end group (acrylate/acrylamide) in dendrimers determined by <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra. <sup>c</sup> The modification degree (MD) of dendrimers determined by <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra.

Table S2. The synthesis and properties of PKT dendrimers

| Dendrimer                | KLAK:TAT <sup>a</sup> | N(KLAK) <sup>b</sup> | N(TAT) <sup>c</sup> | IC <sub>50</sub> <sup>d</sup> (μM) |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------------------------|
| PAMAM-OH G3              | 5:1                   | 5                    | 1                   | ~500                               |
| PAMAM-OH G4              | 5:1                   | 9.5                  | 1.9                 | ~150                               |
| PAMAM-NH <sub>2</sub> G3 | 5:1                   | 11                   | 2.2                 | ~110                               |
| PAMAM-NH <sub>2</sub> G4 | 5:1                   | 18.5                 | 3.7                 | ~15                                |

<sup>a</sup> Molar ratio of KLAK and TAT in feed. <sup>b</sup> Average number of KLAK peptide in dendrimers determined by <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra. <sup>c</sup> Average number of TAT peptide in dendrimers determined by <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra. <sup>d</sup> The IC<sub>50</sub> values of dendrimers determined by cytotoxicity assay.