### SUPPORTING INFORMATION

# Nanostructured interfacial self-assembled peptide-polymer membranes for enhanced mineralization and cell adhesion

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## S1. Molecular and structural information of the MDPs used for fabricating the selfassembling membranes

| MDP   | Sequence   | Chemical structure           | Expected mass |
|---|--|------------------------------|---------------|
| K <sub>2</sub> (QL) <sub>6</sub> K <sub>2</sub>       | CH <sub>3</sub> CONH-K <sub>2</sub> (QL) <sub>6</sub> K <sub>2</sub> -CONH <sub>2</sub>      | $C_{92}H_{167}N_{27}O_{23}$  | 2019.51       |
| K <sub>2</sub> (SV) <sub>6</sub> K <sub>2</sub>       | CH <sub>3</sub> CONH-K <sub>2</sub> (SV) <sub>6</sub> K <sub>2</sub> -CONH <sub>2</sub>      | $C_{74}H_{137}N_{21}O_{23}$  | 1689.03       |
| K <sub>3</sub> (QL) <sub>6</sub> E <sub>2</sub>       | CH <sub>3</sub> CONH-K <sub>3</sub> (QL) <sub>6</sub> E <sub>2</sub> -COOH                   | $C_{96}H_{168}N_{26}O_{29}$  | 2150.55       |
| K <sub>3</sub> (QL) <sub>6</sub> E <sub>2</sub> RGDS  | CH <sub>3</sub> CONH-K <sub>3</sub> (QL) <sub>6</sub> E <sub>2</sub> RGDS-CONH <sub>2</sub>  | $C_{111}H_{194}N_{34}O_{35}$ | 2564.98       |
| K <sub>3</sub> (QL) <sub>6</sub> K <sub>2</sub> YGFGG | CH <sub>3</sub> CONH-K <sub>3</sub> (QL) <sub>6</sub> K <sub>2</sub> YGFGG-CONH <sub>2</sub> | $C_{120}H_{196}N_{32}O_{34}$ | 2631.08       |

Table S1 Molecular information of MDPs used in this study



Fig. S1 (A) ESI-MS and (B) RP-HPLC trace (with corresponding mobile phase gradient) of purified  $K_2(QL)_6K_2$  (98% purity).



K<sub>2</sub>(SV)<sub>6</sub>K<sub>2</sub> (95% purity).



Fig. S3 (A) ESI-MS and (B) RP-HPLC trace (with corresponding mobile phase gradient) of purified  $K_3(QL)_6E_2$  (70% purity).



Fig. S4 (A) ESI-MS and (B) RP-HPLC trace (with corresponding mobile phase gradient) of purified  $K_3(QL)_6E_2RGDS$  (95% purity).



Fig. S5 (A) ESI-MS and (B) RP-HPLC trace (with corresponding mobile phase gradient) of purified  $K_3(QL)_6E_2YGFGG$ .

| рΗ | $K_2(QL)_6K_2$ | K <sub>2</sub> (SV) <sub>6</sub> K <sub>2</sub> | K <sub>3</sub> (QL) <sub>6</sub> E <sub>2</sub> | K <sub>3</sub> (QL) <sub>6</sub> E₂RGDS | K <sub>3</sub> (QL) <sub>6</sub> E <sub>2</sub> YGFGG |
|----|----------------|---|---|---|---|
| 3  | 82.33 ± 2.1    | 55.03 ± 2.1                                     | 45.83 ± 0.8                                     | 55.43 ± 0.4                             | 35.97 ± 0.3   |
| 7  | 65.70 ± 2.8    | 48.10 ± 1.3                                     | -1.48 ± 1.3                                     | 44.57 ± 0.3                             | 10.57 ± 0.1   |
| 9  | 23.42 ± 2.3    | 21.33 ± 1.3                                     | -34.37 ± 0.5                                    | 5.7 ± 0.1                               | -18.67 ± 0.2  |

Table S2 Zeta potential of MDP solutions (0.1 wt%).



**Fig. S6** CD spectra of MDPs. Peptide samples were prepared at 0.011 mM in water (pH 3, 7 and 9) or phosphate solution (pH 7).



Fig. S7 (A) Deconvoluted ATR-FTIR of MDPs. (B) Estimated and observed wave numbers for deconvoluted peaks.



Fig. S8 TEM images of MDPs at 0.01 wt% dissolved in 10 mM phosphate buffer at pH 11.

S2. Scanning electron microscopy images of HA-MDP membranes



Fig. S9 Representative SEM images of the membranes overall structure showing macro (left) and microscopic (right) details.

#### S3. Flow cytometry analysis of PDCs



**Fig. S10** Flow cytometry analysis of CD105, CD73, CD90, CD45, CD34 and CD31 expression on PDCs showing high expression of specific MSC markers (CD105, CD73, CD90).



# S4. Analysis of density and morphology of cells cultured on MDP-coated coverslips and MDP-HA membranes

**Fig. S11** Average cell density, cell area and aspect ratio of PDCs cultured on uncoated (control) coverslips and coated with MDPs (A, B, C) and on HA-MDP membranes (D, E, F) under serum-free conditions at 2 and 24 hours. \*\*\*p<0.001; \*\*p<0.01; \*p<0.05), error bars represent standard deviation.

## **S5. Cell proliferation on HA-MDP membranes**

To determine the proliferation potential of PDCs seeded on self-assembled HA-MDP membranes, a similar protocol was used as described in section 2.4.2 (PDC seeding and culture on MDP-coated coverslips and HA-MDP membranes), with the alteration that after 14 hours of culture, the medium was replaced with DMEM containing 10% fetal bovine serum (FBS) to allow cell proliferation for 7 and 14 days. PDCs cultured directly onto the well plate under the same conditions was used as positive control. Cell numbers were estimated by DNA quantification and the morphology of the cells was analysed by SEM. Samples were prepared and imaged as described in 2.4.4 and 2.3.1.



**Fig. S12** Cell proliferation assay on HA-MDP membranes with serum supplementation. (A) dsDNA quantification (\*\*\*p<0.001), error bars represent standard deviation; (B) SEM images showing PDCs on the surface (peptide side) of self-assembled HA-MDP membranes after 14 days of culture.