# **Electronic Supplementary Information**

## Rapid bactericidal activity of amphiphilic polyacrylate terpolymer

system comprised of same centered comonomers with 2-carbon and

6-carbon spacer arms and an uncharged repeating unit

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#### S 1. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra of monomers and copolymers

*6-((tert-butoxycarbonyl)amino)hexyl acrylate (Monomer M6)* <sup>1</sup>*H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl*<sub>3</sub>): δ 1.28-1.36 (m, 4H), 1.37-1.42 (s, 9H), 1.42-1.48 (m, 2H), 1.63 (m, 2H), 3.06 (s, 2H), 4.10 (t, 2H), 5.77 (dd, 1H), 6.07 (q, 1H), 6.35 (dd,1H).

2-((tert-butoxycarbonyl)methylamino)ethyl acrylate (Monomer M2) <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 1.41 (s, 9H), 2.88 (s, 3H), 3.48 (s, 2H), 4.23 (s, 2H), 5.81 (d, 1H), 6.09 (q, 1H), 6.38 (d, 1H).

*PolyM6-M2* <sup>1</sup>*H NMR* (*600 MHz*, *D*<sub>2</sub>*O*): δ 1.36-1.47 (bs, 75H), 1.56-2.6 (bm, 162H), 2.72 (s, 2H), 2.80-2.86(bs, 33H), 2.99-3.04 (bs, 36H), 3.37-3.45 (bs, 22H), 3.74 (s, 3H), 4.00-4.21 (bs, 36H), and 4.31-4.84 (bs, 22H).

*PolyM-4%* <sup>1</sup>*H NMR* (600 *MHz*, *D*<sub>2</sub>*O*): δ 1.29-1.39 (bs, 60H), 1.49-2.54 (bm, 135H), 2.64 (s, 2H), 2.71-2.78 (bs, 25H), 2.91-2.97 (bs, 28H), 3.30-3.38 (bs, 16H), 3.61-3.64 (bs, 2H), 3.67 (s, 3H), 3.96-4.12 (bs, 28H), and 4.23-4.37 (bs, 16H).

*PolyM-12%* <sup>1</sup>*H NMR* (600 *MHz*, *D*<sub>2</sub>O): δ 1.29-1.39 (bs, 65H), 1.49-2.54 (bm, 142H), 2.64 (s, 2H), 2.72-2.79(bs, 21H), 2.91-2.97 (bs, 31H), 3.30-3.38 (bs, 14H), 3.61-3.66(bs, 7H), 3.67 (s, 3H), 3.94-4.12 (bs, 31H), and 4.23-4.37 (bs, 14H).

*PolyM-24%* <sup>1</sup>*H NMR* (600 MHz, *D*<sub>2</sub>O): δ 1.29-1.42 (bs, 65H), 1.49-2.54 (bm, 143H), 2.65 (s, 2H), 2.72-2.79(bs, 12H), 2.91-2.97 (bs, 30H), 3.30-3.38 (bs, 7H), 3.61-3.66(bs, 15H), 3.67 (s, 3H), 3.94-4.12 (bs, 30H), and 4.23-4.37 (bs, 7H).

*PolyE-4%* <sup>1</sup>*H NMR* (*600 MHz, D*<sub>2</sub>*O*): δ 1.23-1.32 (bs, 3H) δ 1.36-1.44 (bs, 66H), 1.58-2.58 (bm, 145H), 2.71 (s, 2H), 2.79-2.83(bs, 26H), 2.96-3.02 (bs, 33H), 3.36-3.44 (bs, 17H), 3.72 (s, 3H), 4.01-4.19 (bs, 33H), and 4.30-4.43 (bs, 17H).

*PolyE-24%* <sup>1</sup>*H NMR* (600 *MHz, D*<sub>2</sub>*O*): δ 1.21-1.32 (bs, 20H) δ 1.34-1.46 (bs, 92H), 1.51-2.51 (bm, 198H), 2.70 (s, 2H), 2.77-2.81(bs, 16H), 2.97-3.04 (bs, 40H), 3.36-3.42 (bs, 10H), 3.72 (s, 3H), 3.98-4.21 (bs, 57), and 4.29-4.43 (bs, 10H).

PolyE-24% <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz,  $D_2O$ ): δ 1.23-1.32 (bs, 21H) δ 1.36-1.47 (bs, 88H), 1.62-2.74 (bm, 177H), 2.76 (s, 2H), 2.79-2.85(bs, 17H), 2.97-3.04 (bs, 42H), 3.37-3.45 (bs, 10H), 3.73 (s, 3H), 4.01-4.22 (bs, 55H), and 4.30-4.40 (bs, 10H).

*PolyB-4%* <sup>1</sup>*H NMR* (*600 MHz, D*<sub>2</sub>*O*): δ 0.93-1.00 (bs, 3H) δ 1.36-1.47 (bs, 61H), 1.56-2.60 (bm, 136H), 2.79 (s, 2H), 2.79-2.87 (bs, 27H), 2.98-3.05 (bs, 30H), 3.36-3.48 (bs, 18H), 3.74 (s, 3H), 4.01-4.21 (bs, 31H), and 4.31-4.47 (bs, 18H).

*PolyB-12%* <sup>1</sup>*H NMR* (600 *MHz*,  $D_2O$ ): δ 0.93-1.00 (bs, 10H) δ 1.34-1.47 (bs, 83H), 1.52-2.60 (bm, 171H), 2.79 (s, 2H), 2.79-2.84(bs, 24H), 2.96-3.03 (bs, 37H), 3.34-3.44 (bs, 14H), 3.72 (s, 3H), 4.01-4.19 (bs, 44H), and 4.29-4.44 (bs, 14H).

*PolyB-24%* <sup>1</sup>H *NMR* (600 *MHz*, *D*<sub>2</sub>*O*): δ 0.91-1.03 (bs, 22H) δ 1.34-1.47 (bs, 92H), 1.49-2.57 (bm, 181H), 2.70 (s, 2H), 2.78-2.84(bs, 15H), 2.96-3.03 (bs, 37H), 3.33-3.45 (bs, 9H), 3.72 (s, 3H), 3.96-4.21 (bs, 52H), and 4.29-4.43 (bs, 9H).

#### S 2. Determination of actual mole percentage of the repeating units in polymer

**S 2a. PolyM6-M2**: In Figure S 2a, a broad single peak at  $\delta$  2.99-3.04 (a) belongs to methylene protons in M6 monomer repeating unit. Methylene protons in M2 monomer repeating unit (k) give a chemical shift at  $\delta$  3.37-3.45. Mole percentages of the repeating units are calculated as below assuming chain transfer as mode of termination:

Mol% of M6 repeat unit: (36/2) ÷ (18 + 11) = 62% Mol% of M2 repeat unit: (22/2) ÷ (18 + 11) = 38%



Figure S 2a. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of PolyM6-M2

**S 2b. PolyM-4%:** In Figure S 2b, a broad single peak at  $\delta$  2.91-2.97 (a) belongs to methylene protons in M6 monomer repeating unit. Methylene protons in M2 monomer repeating unit (k) give a chemical shift at  $\delta$  3.30-3.38. A broad single peak at  $\delta$  3.61-3.64 corresponds to methoxy protons (p) in methyl acrylate monomer. Mole percentages of the repeating units are calculated as below assuming chain transfer as mode of termination:

Mol% of M6 repeat unit: (28/2) ÷ (14 + 8 +0.67) = 62% Mol% of M2 repeat unit: (16/2) ÷ (14 + 8 +0.67) = 35% Mol% of methyl acrylate repeat unit: 2/3 ÷ (14 + 8 +0.67) = 3%





Figure S 2b. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of PolyM-4%

**S 2c. PolyM-12%:** In Figure S 2c, a broad single peak at  $\delta$  2.91-2.97 (a) belongs to methylene protons in M6 monomer repeating unit. Methylene protons in M2 monomer repeating unit (k) give a chemical shift at  $\delta$  3.30-3.38. A broad single peak at  $\delta$  3.61-3.66 corresponds to methoxy protons (p) in methyl acrylate monomer. Mole percentages of the repeating units are calculated as below assuming chain transfer as mode of termination:

Mol% of M6 repeat unit:  $(31/2) \div (15.5 + 7 + 2.33) = 62\%$ Mol% of M2 repeat unit:  $(14/2) \div (15.5 + 7 + 2.33) = 28\%$ Mol% of methyl acrylate repeat unit:  $7/3 \div (15.5 + 7 + 2.33) = 10\%$ 



PolyM- 12%



Figure S 2c. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of PolyM-12%

**S 2d. PolyM-24%:** In Figure S 2d, a broad single peak at  $\delta$  2.91-2.97 (a) belongs to methylene protons in M6 monomer repeating unit. Methylene protons in M2 monomer repeating unit (k) give a chemical shift at  $\delta$  3.30-3.38. A broad single peak at  $\delta$  3.61-3.66 corresponds to methoxy protons (p) in methyl acrylate monomer. Mole percentages of the repeating units are calculated as below assuming chain transfer as mode of termination:

Mol% of M6 repeat unit:  $(30/2) \div (15 + 3.5 + 5) = 64\%$ Mol% of M2 repeat unit:  $(7/2) \div (15 + 3.5 + 5) = 15\%$ Mol% of methyl acrylate repeat unit:  $15/3 \div (15 + 3.5 + 5) = 21\%$ 





Figure S 2d. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of PolyM-24%

**S 2e. PolyE-4%:** In Figure S 2e, a broad single peak at  $\delta$  2.96-3.02 (a) belongs to methylene protons in M6 monomer repeating unit. Methylene protons in M2 monomer repeating unit (k) give a chemical shift at  $\delta$  3.36-3.44. A broad single peak at  $\delta$  1.23-1.32 corresponds to methyl protons (p) in ethyl acrylate monomer. Mole percentages of the repeating units are calculated as below assuming chain transfer as mode of termination:

Mol% of M6 repeat unit:  $(33/2) \div (16.5 + 8.5 + 1) = 63\%$ Mol% of M2 repeat unit:  $(17/2) \div (16.5 + 8.5 + 1) = 33\%$ Mol% of ethyl acrylate repeat unit:  $3/3 \div (16.5 + 8.5 + 1) = 4\%$ 





Figure S 2e. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of PolyE-4%

**S 2f. PolyE-12%:** In Figure S 2f, a broad single peak at  $\delta$  2.97-3.03 (a) belongs to methylene protons in M6 monomer repeating unit. Methylene protons in M2 monomer repeating unit (k) give a chemical shift at  $\delta$  3.36-3.44. A broad single peak at  $\delta$  1.23-1.32 corresponds to methyl protons (p) in ethyl acrylate monomer. Mole percentages of the repeating units are calculated as below assuming chain transfer as mode of termination:

Mol% of M6 repeat unit: (46/2) ÷ (23 + 9.5 +4.33) = 62% Mol% of M2 repeat unit: (19/2) ÷ (16.5 + 8.5 +1) = 26% Mol% of ethyl acrylate repeat unit: 13/3 ÷ (16.5 + 8.5 +1) = 12%



Figure S 2f. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of PolyE-12%

**S 2g. PolyE-12%:** In Figure S 2g, a broad single peak at  $\delta$  2.97-3.04 (a) belongs to methylene protons in M6 monomer repeating unit. Methylene protons in M2 monomer repeating unit (k) give a chemical shift at  $\delta$  3.36-3.42. A broad single peak at  $\delta$  1.21-1.32 corresponds to methyl protons (p) in ethyl acrylate monomer. Mole percentages of the repeating units are calculated as below assuming chain transfer as mode of termination:

Mol% of M6 repeat unit: (40/2) ÷ (20 + 5 +6.7) = 63%

Mol% of M2 repeat unit: (10/2) ÷ (20 + 5 +6.7) = 16%

Mol% of ethyl acrylate repeat unit:  $20/3 \div (20 + 5 + 6.7) = 21\%$ 





Figure S 2g. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of PolyE-24%

**S 2h. PolyB-4%:** In Figure S 2h, a broad single peak at  $\delta$  2.98-3.05 (a) belongs to methylene protons in M6 monomer repeating unit. Methylene protons in M2 monomer repeating unit (k) give a chemical shift at  $\delta$  3.36-3.48. A broad single peak at  $\delta$  0.93-1.00 corresponds to methyl protons (p) in butyl acrylate monomer. Mole percentages of the repeating units are calculated as below assuming chain transfer as mode of termination:

Mol% of M6 repeat unit:  $(30/2) \div (15 + 9 + 1) = 60\%$ Mol% of M2 repeat unit:  $(18/2) \div (15 + 9 + 1) = 36\%$ Mol% of butyl acrylate repeat unit:  $3/3 \div (15 + 9 + 1) = 4\%$ 





Figure S 2h. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of PolyB-4%

**S 2i. PolyB-12%**: In Figure S 2i, a broad single peak at  $\delta$  2.96-3.03 (a) belongs to methylene protons in M6 monomer repeating unit. Methylene protons in M2 monomer repeating unit (k) give a chemical shift at  $\delta$  3.34-3.44. A broad single peak at  $\delta$  0.93-1.00 corresponds to methyl protons (p) in butyl acrylate monomer. Mole percentages of the repeating units are calculated as below assuming chain transfer as mode of termination:

Mol% of M6 repeat unit: (37/2) ÷ (18.5 + 7 +3.33) = 64% Mol% of M2 repeat unit: (14/2) ÷ (18 + 7.5 +3.33) = 25% Mol% of butyl acrylate repeat unit: 10/3 ÷ (18 + 7.5 +3.33) = 11%





Figure S 2i. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of PolyB-12%

**S 2j. PolyB-24%**: In Figure S 2j, a broad single peak at  $\delta$  2.96-3.03 (a) belongs to methylene protons in M6 monomer repeating unit. Methylene protons in M2 monomer repeating unit (k) give a chemical shift at  $\delta$  3.33-3.45. A broad single peak at  $\delta$  0.91-1.03 corresponds to methyl protons (p) in butyl acrylate monomer. Mole percentages of the repeating units are calculated as below assuming chain transfer as mode of termination:

Mol% of M6 repeat unit: (37/2) ÷ (18.5 + 4.5 +7.33) = 61% Mol% of M2 repeat unit: (9/2) ÷ (18.5 + 4.5 +7) = 15% Mol% of butyl acrylate repeat unit: 22/3 ÷ (18.5 + 4.5 +7) = 24%





Figure S 2j. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of PolyB-24%



S 3. Estimation of molecular weight through gel permeation chromatography (GPC)

Figure S 3.1. Gel permeation chromatography elution curves of copolymers



Figure S 3.2. Polystyrene standard calibration curve used for the estimation of molecular weights of copolymer samples by GPC

### S 4. Time-dependent bacterial killing efficiency of PolyE-12% copolymer



Figure S 4. Time-dependent killing efficiency analysis of PolyE-12% against a) *E. coli* and b) *S. aureus*. Results shown here are the averages of two experiments (size of error bars is negligible).