## Supporting Information for

# Antibacterial Coordination Polymer Hydrogels Consisted of Silver(I)-PEGylated Bisimidazolylbenzyl Alcohol

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## **Synthesis**

#### Scheme 1S. Synthesis of compounds 1a-c



**Compound 2.<sup>1</sup>** A Schlenk flask was charged with (3,5-dibromophenyl) methanol (106.38 mg, 0.4 mmol), imidazole (68.08 mg, 1 mmol ), CuI (15.24 mg, 0.08 mmol), *N*, *N*-dimethylglycine (16.5 mg, 0.16 mmol), and  $K_2CO_3(221.14 \text{ mg}, 1.6 \text{ mmol})$ . The system was then evacuated twice and back filled with N<sub>2</sub>, followed by addition of 4 mL of DMSO. The mixture was heated at 110 °C for 48 h before it was partitioned between water and ethyl acetate. The organic layer was separated, and the aqueous layer was extracted with ethyl acetate (3 × 10 mL). The combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, and concentrated *in vacuo*. The residue was loaded on a silica gel column and eluted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/CH<sub>3</sub>OH (10/1) to give the compound **2** as a white solid with the yield of 48%.

**Compound 3a-c.** To a solution of poly(ethylene glycol) monomethyl ether (10 mmol) and *p*-toluenesulfonyl chloride (3.81 g, 20 mmol) in 20 mL of anhydrous  $CH_2Cl_2$ , pyridine (1.6 mL) was added. The reaction mixture was stirred at 25 °C under N<sub>2</sub> atmosphere for 24 h. After the addition of 5 mL aqueous solution of HCl (1 M), the mixture was extracted with  $CH_2Cl_2$  (3 × 30 mL). The combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, and concentrated *in vacuo*. The residue was

loaded on a silica gel column and eluted with  $CH_2Cl_2/CH_3OH$  (10/1) to give the desired product as a colorless oil.

**Compound 1a.**<sup>2</sup> NaH (9.60 mg, 0.4 mmol) was added to a solution of compound **2** (48.1 mg, 0.2 mmol) in dry *N*,*N*-dimethylformamide (DMF, 2 mL) at room temperature. After the mixture was stirred at room temperature for 1 h, compound **3a** (83.4 mg, 0.24 mmol) in an anhydrous DMF (1.5 mL) was added slowly. The reaction mixture was stirred at 100 °C under N<sub>2</sub> atmosphere for 20 h, cooled to room temperature, and poured over 10 mL of icy water. The mixture was extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (3 × 10 mL). The combined organic phase was washed with brine (30 mL), dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, and concentrated *in vacuo*. The residue was loaded on a silica gel column and eluted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/CH<sub>3</sub>OH (10/1) to give the product as a colorless oil with the yield of 78%. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  3.32 (S, 3 H), 3.49-3.71 (m, 16H), 4.66 (S, 2H), 7.21 (S, 2H), 7.33 (S, 3H), 7.39 (S, 2H), 7.93(S, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz):  $\delta$  58.93, 70.21, 70.48, 70.58, 113.20, 118.09, 118.61, 130.77, 135.52, 143.13. High resolution ESI-MS: [M+H]<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>31</sub>N<sub>4</sub>O<sub>5</sub><sup>+</sup> 431.2294, found 431.2287.

**Compound 1b.** Following the synthetic procedure of compound **1a**, compound **2** (50 mg, 0.21 mmol), NaH (9.96 mg, 0.42mmol), and compound **3b** (87.51 mg, 0.25mmol) were used. The residue was loaded on a silica gel column and eluted with  $CH_2Cl_2/CH_3OH$  (10/1) to give compound **1b** as a colorless oil with the yield of 82%. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  3.34 (S, 3H), 3.51-3.71 (m, 48H), 4.67 (S, 2H), 7.22 (S, 2H), 7.37 (S, 2H), 7.41 (S, 3H), 8.01 (S, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  58.95, 70.18, 70.59, 71.76, 113.30, 118.17, 118.63, 130.43, 135.52, 143.15. High resolution ESI-MS: [M+H]<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>38</sub>H<sub>63</sub>N<sub>4</sub>O<sub>13</sub><sup>+</sup> 783.4392, found 783.4383. Pairs of peaks correspond to different length oligomers (each pair containing a [M + H]<sup>+</sup>).

**Compound 1c.** Following the synthetic procedure of compound **1a**, compound **2** (50 mg, 0.21 mmol), NaH (9.96 mg, 0.42mmol), and compound **3c** (294.7 mg, 0.25mmol) were used. The residue was loaded on a silica gel column and eluted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/CH<sub>3</sub>OH (10/1) to give compound **1c** as a colorless oil with the yield of 80%). <sup>1</sup>HNMR (400MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  3.33 (S, 3H), 3.49-3.70 (m, 72H), 4.66 (S, 2H), 7.20 (S, 2H), 7.34 (S, 3H), 7.39 (S, 2H), 7.94 (S, 2H). <sup>13</sup>CNMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz):  $\delta$  58.98, 70.16, 70.50, 70.61, 113.23, 118.12, 118.57, 130.71, 135.53, 143.07 High resolution ESI-MS: [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>56</sub>H<sub>98</sub>N<sub>4</sub>NaO<sub>22</sub><sup>+</sup> 1201.6570, found 1201.6539. Pairs of peaks correspond to different length oligomers (each pair containing a [M + Na]<sup>+</sup>).

### References

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Fig. 1S. TEM micrograph of coordination polymer hydrogel of Ag/1c.



Fig. 2S. OD600 values for S. aureus (a) and E. coli (b) with different concentrations of ligands 1a-c.



**Fig. 3S.** *In vitro* cytotoxicity of ligands **1a-c** against 293T cells after incubation for 24 h at 37 °C with a series of concentrations. 293T cells incubated without any materials were used as the control (mean  $\pm$  SD, n = 6).

# <sup>1</sup>H, <sup>13</sup>C NMR, and MS Spectra of Compounds 1a-c











