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Electronic Supplementary Information (ESI)

Improving Acute Cardiac Transplantation Rejection Therapy by Ultrasound-Targeted FK506-Loaded Microbubbles in Rats

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Supplementary information

S1. In vivo stability of FK506-MBs

We evaluated the lifetime of the FK506-MBs in vivo by evaluating their echo intensity in heart tissues, using a commercial ultrasound system IU22 (Philips Medical Systems, Amsterdam, Netherlands) using a L12-5 linear array transducer. FK506-MBs and blank MBs were diluted to the same concentration (5×10^7 MBs/mL) with 0.9% normal saline. After separately bolus injection of 5×10^7 MBs via the tail vein, the time–intensity curve (TIC) was obtained. The lifetime of the FK506-MBs and blank MBs *in vivo* was then estimated by the clearance time. All data were analysed with Q-Lab software (Philips Medical Systems, Amsterdam, Netherlands).

S2. Safety evaluation of MBs and UTMD

To further illustrate the safety of MBs and UTMD, a total of 27 rats were randomly divided into three groups: (1) PBS group: rats were only injected with PBS; (2) MBs group: rats were only injected with 5×10^8 MBs; (3) UTMD group: rats were injected with 5×10^8 MBs and combined with ultrasound, the ultrasound probe (Sonitron 2000 V, Japan) was placed at the heart. The parameters of UTMD were ultrasound frequency = 1 MHz; duty cycle = 50%; ultrasound intensity = 2 w/cm²; irradiation time = 2 min. Blood samples and major organs of three rats in each group were collected after treatment 30 min, 1 day and 7 days. Serum biochemical indexes including lactic dehydrogenase 1 (LDH1), creatine kinase (CK), alanine aminotransferase (ALT), aspartate aminotransferase (AST), creatinine (Cr) and blood urea nitrogen (BUN) and complete blood count were measured and analysed . Additionally, major organs were HE stained.

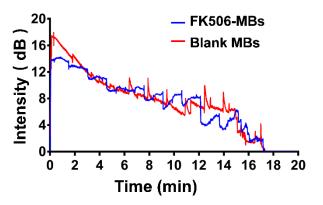


Fig. S1. *In vivo* lifetime of FK506-MBs and blank MBs measured from backscattered ultrasound intensity within heart.

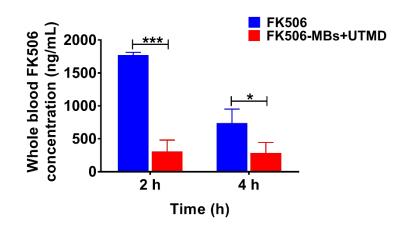


Fig. S2. The concentration of FK506 in whole blood were evaluated at 2 h and 4 h after administration. (n = 6), *P < 0.05, ***P < 0.001.

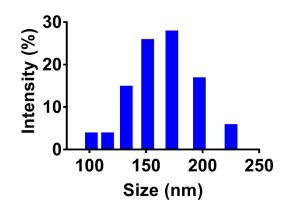


Fig. S3. Size distribution of FK506-MBs after UTMD.



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Table. S1. Complete blood count analysis (mean \pm SEM) (n = 3)

	PBS			MB			UTMD		
	30 min	1 day	7 day	30 min	1 day	7 day	30 min	1 day	7day
WBC (10 ⁹ /L)	6.63 ± 0.21	6.43 ± 0.21	6.43 ± 0.20	6.36 ± 0.17	6.56 ± 0.18	6.66 ± 0.12	6.7 ± 0.11	6.63 ± 0.08	6.66 ± 0.14
Lymphocyte (10 ⁹ /L)	4.80 ± 0.37	4.80 ± 0.20	4.86 ± 0.46	4.76 ± 0.29	5.00 ± 0.05	4.76 ±0.16	4.73 ± 0.14	4.90 ± 0.15	4.70 ± 0.17
Monocyte (10 ⁹ /L)	0.2 ± 0.01	$0.2\ 1 \pm 0.02$	$0.2\ 2\pm0.01$	0.196 ± 0.01	0.19 ± 0.01	0.19 ± 0.01	0.18 ± 0.01	0.21 ± 0.01	0.20 ± 0.02
Neutrophils (10 ⁹ /L)	1.8 ± 0.37	1.83 ± 0.31	1.9 ± 0.35	2.26 ± 0.31	2.30 ± 0.25	2.03 ± 0.31	2.33 ± 0.29	1.93 ± 0.29	2.10 ± 0.26
RBC (10 ¹² /L)	5.67 ± 0.26	5.79 ± 0.43	5.84 ± 0.29	5.71 ± 0.34	5.72 ± 0.35	5.77 ± 0.29	5.84 ± 0.19	5.67 ± 0.35	5.89 ± 0.32
PLT (10 ⁹ /L)	1232 ± 140.5	1297 ± 89.87	1263 ± 109.7	1341 ± 98.97	1269 ± 83.73	1300 ± 118.4	1410 ± 77	1390 ± 98	1352 ± 132

WBC, white blood cell; RBC, red blood cell; PLT, platelets

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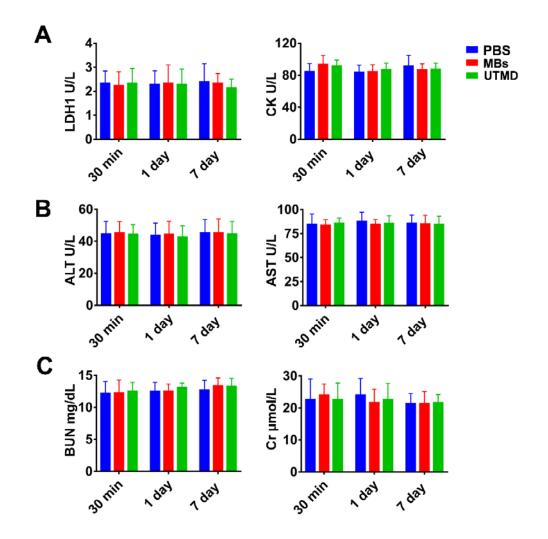


Fig. S4. Serum biochemical indexes analysis. (A) Serum biochemical indexes of LDH1 and CK. (B) Serum biochemical indexes of ALT and AST. (C) Serum biochemical indexes of BUN and Cr.

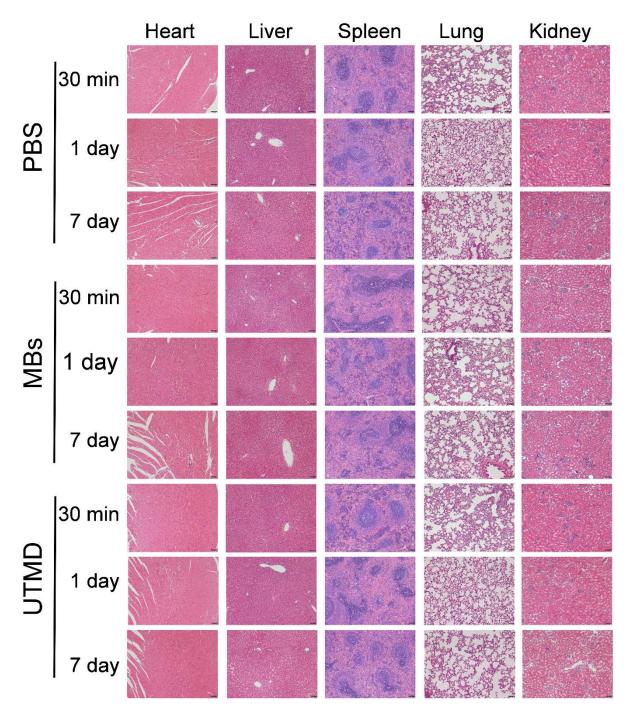


Fig. S5. Representative H&E stained sections of major organs obtained at 30 min, day 1 and day 7 after injection of PBS, MBs and treatment with UTMD respectively. Scale bar = $100 \mu m$.