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## Biocompatibility assessment of sub-5 nm silica-coated superparamagnetic iron oxide nanoparticles in human stem cell and in mice for potential application in nanomedicine

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Target gene	Primer sequence	Annealing temperature (C°)
VEGF	<pre>F 5'-cttgggtgcattggagcct-3' R 5'-ctgcgctgatagacatccat-3'</pre>	60
β-ΑСΤ	<pre>F 5'-gctcctcctgagcgcaag-3' R 5'catctgctggaaggtggaca-3'</pre>	60
Ki67	<pre>F 5'-tgaacaaaaggcaaagaagac-3' R 5'-gagctttccctattattatggt-3'</pre>	60
IDO	<pre>F 5'-tgctaaaggcgctgttggaa-3' R 5'-tacaccagaccgtctgatag-3'</pre>	60
HGF	<pre>F 5'-caatagcatgtcaagtggag-3' R 5'-ctgtgttcgtgtggtatcat -3'</pre>	60
OPN	<pre>F 5'-gtgtggtttatggactgagg-3' R 5'-acggggatggccttgtatg-3</pre>	60
RUNX2	<pre>F 5'-catcatctctgccccctct-3' R 5'-actcttgcctcgtccactc-3'</pre>	60
ALP	<pre>F 5'-caatgagggcaccgtggg-3' R 5'-tcgtggtggtcacaatgcc-3'</pre>	60
OCL	<pre>F 5'-gcagcgaggtagtgaagag-3' R 5'-gaaagccgatgtggtcagc-3'</pre>	60
PAX7	<pre>F 5'-gcaaattgctgtcctgctca-3' R 5'-gaaaactggtcacatctgcct-3'</pre>	60
MYOD	<pre>F 5'-atgatggactacagcggcc-3' R 5'-agatgcgctccacgatgc-3'</pre>	60
MYF5	<pre>F 5'-gagagcaggtggagaactac-3' R 5'-gatgctgtcaaaagtactgc-3'</pre>	60
Distrophin	<pre>F 5'-cacaaaatgggtaaatgcaca-3' R 5'-ccatcctgtaggtcactgaa-3'</pre>	60
GAPDH	<pre>F 5'-catcatctctgccccctct-3' R 5'-caaagttgtcatggatgacct-3'</pre>	60

**Table S1**. List of primer sequences used for RT-qPCR analysis in this study. F: Forward primer.R: reverse primer.

	Size in water at each time point (nm±SE)						
Particle	0h	3h	6h	9h	12h		
Fe <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	3.6±0.4	3.8±0.58	3.61±0.72	4.12±0.74	4.09±0.20		
Fe <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub> -SIO	4.6±0.5	4.91±0.70	5.41±0.75	4.9±0.50	4.87±0.47		

**Table S2**. Dynamic Light Scattering characterization of SIO naked nanoparticles after exposure to pure water.



**Fig. S1**. Blank subtracted absorbance spectra for the control (A) and the treated samples with different NP concentrations, namely 10  $\mu$ g/ml (B), 50  $\mu$ g/ml (C) and 100  $\mu$ g/ml (D) at different incubation times (1h, 10h, 24h, 48h). Blank subtracted absorbance spectra of the iron standards used for the calibration curve in the 0.06 – 2.0 mM concentration range (E). Calibration curve (F) with the corresponding least-squares line fitted to the standard points (R=0.9979). Absorbance at  $\lambda$ max=600 nm of the blank subtracted samples as a function of the incubation time at different NP concentrations (G). Total Iron concentration in the sample solutions as a function of the incubation time at different NP concentrations (H).

	Experimental results		Assignment	
	sub-5 SIO-Fl	Fl-NCS		
	565		Fe-O stretching	
$\vee$ $\vee$	1035		Si-OH, Si-O-C stretching	
FI-NCS	1110		asymmetric Si-O-Si stretching	
Ma MANNY V		1113	Aromatic C-H bending	
	1195	1173	CCH bending + phenolic C-OH	
NAV V. WW	1200	1207	XR C-O-C stretching	
	1266	1264	Carboxyl C-O stretching	
	1302	1308	Phenoxide stretching conjugated with XR stretching	
	1330		XR C-C stretching	
	1384	1386	Symmetric COO <sup>-</sup> stretching	
V// W//	1466 sh	1458	XR C-C stretching conjugated with COO <sup>-</sup> stretching	
	1499	1490 sh	central ring breathing C-C stretching	
sub-5 SIO-FI	1557	1539	XR C-C stretching	
		1590	Asymmetric COO <sup>-</sup> stretching	
	1635 sh		O-H and/or N-H bending	
VV 1	1720	1740	Carboxyl C=O stretching	
		2020	NCS stretching	

**Fig. S2**. (A) Fourier transform infrared spectroscopy (FTIR) spectra in the 2400–400cm<sup>-1</sup> region of sub-5nm silica-coated magnetic iron oxide fluorescent nanoparticles (sub-5 SIO-FI) and pristine fluorescein isothiocyanate (FI-NCS). (B) Peak position (cm<sup>-1</sup>) and assignment for sub-5 SIO-FI and pristine FI-NCS. Sh, shoulder; XR, xanthene ring



**Fig. S3**. *In vivo* percentage tissue distribution. Kidney, lung, liver, spleen, stomach organs collected from CD-1 mice 2 hours, 1 week and 7 weeks post-injection of sub-5 SIO-FI nanoparticles (10 mg / kg body weight). Data are reported as percentage relative to the control, indicated by the black line. Mice are grouped per organ type. n=4. \* P < 0.05 versus the control group.



**Fig. S4.** Histological examination. Representative photographs of H&E stained tissue sections from other organs (brain, heart and intestine). Ten/twelve-week-old female CD-1 mice ( $48 \pm 3$  g weight) were treated (4 animals/group) *i.v.* with 10mg/kg of sub-5 SIO-FI nanoparticles. Brain, heart and intestine were examined for potential tissue damage, inflammation or lesions at 2 hours, 1 week and 7 weeks from sub-5 SIO-FI nanoparticle injection, in comparison with untreated animals (control) tissue sections. (10X)



Fig. S5. Representative ELISA standard curves for each factor: TNF- $\alpha$ , IL-6, MIP-2 and IFN- $\gamma$ .



**Fig. S6.** Biochemical analysis results of AST, ALT, albumin and total protein in mouse blood serum, from animal treated with 10mg/kg of sub-5 SIO-FI nanoparticles, collected at 1week and 7 weeks after i.v. injection. Results represent the mean and standard deviation.