

Supporting Information
for
Tumor-Specific Nanomedicine *via* Sequential Catalytic
Reactions for Accurate Tumor Therapy

Li Chen^{a#}, Lu Zhao^{b#}, Guoyang Hu^a, Ronghua Jin^a, Bolei Cai^c, Yongkang Bai^a, Xin Chen^{a*}

a. Department of Chemical Engineering, Shaanxi Key Laboratory of Energy Chemical Process Intensification, Institute of Polymer Science in Chemical Engineering, School of Chemical Engineering and Technology, Xi'an Jiao Tong University, Xi'an, 710049, China

b. Hospital of Stomatology, Jiamusi University, Jiamusi, 154002, China

c. State Key Laboratory of Military Stomatology, Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, School of Stomatology, The Fourth Military Medical University, Xi'an, 710032, China

* Corresponding Author (E-mail: chenx2015@xjtu.edu.cn)

[#]L.C. and L.Z. contributed equally to this work.

1. Materials

Ferrous sulfate (FeSO_4), citrate sodium ($\text{C}_6\text{H}_5\text{Na}_3\text{O}_7$), N-[(3-Trimethoxysilyl)propyl]-N,N,N-trimethylammonium chloride, bis[3-(triethoxysilyl)propyl]disulfide (TESPD), tetraethyl orthosilicate (TEOS), hyaluronic acid (HA, $M_w = 1000\text{kDa}$) and glucose oxidase (GOD) were purchased from Sigma-Aldrich, USA. All the chemicals were analytical grade and used without further treatment. The glutathione (GSH) was obtained from Shanghai Macklin Biochemical Co., Ltd. The deionized water was prepared by a Millipore NanoPure purification system (resistivity higher than $18.2\text{ M}\Omega/\text{cm}$).

2. Synthesis of GOD and Fe_3O_4 nanoparticles encapsulated silica nanoparticles

(Fe₃O₄-GOD@SiO₂)

The Fe₃O₄ nanoparticles (Fe₃O₄ NPs) were synthesized according to the published literature [1] and then 50 mg Fe₃O₄ NPs were dispersed in 10 ml aqueous solution of HAase with concentration of 2.5 mg·mL⁻¹. After that, triton X-100 (35.4 mL) and n-hexanol (36.0 mL) were dissolved in cyclohexane (150.0 mL) with magnetic stir (Solution i). Separately, 6.0 mL of the prepared aqueous solution containing HAase and Fe₃O₄ NPs were mixed with 0.6 mL of tetraethyl orthosilicate (TEOS) and 2.1 mL of bis[3-(triethoxysilyl)propyl]disulfide (TESPD) (Solution ii). After vigorous stirring for 5 minutes, this solution ii was added to the solution i. Then 1.0 mL of 25 % aqueous ammonia solution was added and the mixed water–oil emulsion was stirred for 12h at room temperature. After that 400 mL of pure acetone was subsequently added in order to precipitate the Fe₃O₄-GOD@SiO₂. The resulting material was lyophilized after twice wash with ethanol and five times wash with water.

3. Surface modification of Fe₃O₄-GOD@SiO₂

The Fe₃O₄-GOD@SiO₂ powder was washed with copious anhydrous ethanol, and then re-dispersed in 50 mL anhydrous ethanol. Subsequently, N-[(3-Trimethoxysilyl)propyl]-N,N,N-trimethylammonium chloride (1 mL, 50% in anhydrous ethanol) was added into the suspension and stirred for another 2 h. After that, the resulting Fe₃O₄-GOD@SiO₂-TMA was further centrifuged, washed several times with ethanol and dried through lyophilization.

To introduce the hyaluronic acid (HA) shell on the surface of Fe₃O₄-GOD@SiO₂-TMA as smart cap and tumor targeting agent, 1 g Fe₃O₄-GOD@SiO₂-TMA was well dispersed in 50 mL water. After that HA (10 mL, 5 % in water) was added into the suspension and stirred for another 8 h. The resultant solid was centrifuged, washed with water, and then dried under vacuum to get the HA covered Fe₃O₄-GOD@SiO₂ (Fe₃O₄-GOD@SiO₂-HA).

4. HAase and GSH dependent glucose oxidization and hydroxyl radicals generation of Fe₃O₄-GOD@SiO₂-HA

As to investigate the HAase and GSH dependent glucose oxidization progress of $\text{Fe}_3\text{O}_4\text{-GOD@SiO}_2\text{-HA}$, certain amount of $\text{Fe}_3\text{O}_4\text{-GOD@SiO}_2\text{-HA}$ pretreated by PBS, PBS+HAase and PBS+HAase+GSH was dissolved in 1 mL of Ultra-pure water containing glucose. The mixtures were stirred well, and then the supernatants were collected against time to measure the concentration of glucose by glucose meter.

HAase and GSH dependent hydroxyl radicals generation of $\text{Fe}_3\text{O}_4\text{-GOD@SiO}_2\text{-HA}$ by the Fenton reaction are detected by UV-Vis spectra according our previous work [2]. Briefly, we use methyl violet as a hydroxyl radical probe, which could be degraded by hydroxyl radicals, resulting in obvious color change from purple to colorless. As to carry out the experiment, certain amount of $\text{Fe}_3\text{O}_4\text{-GOD@SiO}_2\text{-HA}$ pretreated by PBS, PBS+HAase and PBS+HAase+GSH was dissolved in 1 mL of Ultra-pure water containing glucose, followed by adding 1 mL methyl violet solution. The mixtures were stirred well, and the supernatants were collected against time to measure the characteristic absorption peak of methyl violet by UV-Vis spectra for calculating the generation rate of hydroxyl radical.

5. Cell uptake experiments

To observe the selective cell uptake of $\text{Fe}_3\text{O}_4\text{-GOD@SiO}_2\text{-HA}$, the rhodamine-labeled $\text{Fe}_3\text{O}_4\text{-GOD@SiO}_2\text{-HA}$ (Rh- $\text{Fe}_3\text{O}_4\text{-GOD@SiO}_2\text{-HA}$) were prepared. HaCat and HN6 cells were seeded at 2.5×10^4 per well into 24-well plates with coverglass slides. The Rh- $\text{Fe}_3\text{O}_4\text{-GOD@SiO}_2\text{-HA}$ were incubated with cells for 12 hours, followed by rinsing with PBS for 5 times, fixed with 4% paraformaldehyde for 20 min, and then stained with 4', 6-diamidino-2-phenylindole (DAPI, Life Technologies, USA). The stained cells were observed under a fluorescence microscope (Olympus BX51, Olympus, Japan).

For quantitative analysis of cell uptake of $\text{Fe}_3\text{O}_4\text{-GOD@SiO}_2\text{-HA}$, HaCat and HN6 cells were seeded in a 6 well plate at a density of 1×10^6 /well overnight. Then the Rh- $\text{Fe}_3\text{O}_4\text{-GOD@SiO}_2\text{-HA}$ were incubated with cells at the Pt concentration of 1 μM at 37 $^\circ\text{C}$ for 24 hours. After incubation, the cells were gently washed by PBS 3 times and

detached by trypsin (0.25 %). The cell suspensions were spun down and wash by PBS twice. Finally, the cells were counted by flow cytometer (FC500; Beckman Counter, CA, USA) .

6. *In vitro* cytotoxicity analysis

HaCat and HN6 cells were seeded at 3×10^3 per well in 96-well plate for 24 hours before treatment. Then the cells were exposed to GOD@SiO₂-HA, Fe₃O₄@SiO₂-HA and Fe₃O₄-GOD@SiO₂-HA with different concentration for 48 h. Cell viability was measured by Cell Counting Kit 8 (CCK-8, Dojindo Co., Ltd. Japan) proliferation assay according to the manufacture's protocol. The absorbance was read at 450 nm by using Varioskan Flash multimode reader (Thermo Fisher Scientific, USA).

7. *In vivo* Antitumor Efficacy

All animal procedures were performed in compliance with the Guidelines for Care and Use of Laboratory Animals of the Fourth Military Medical University Health Science Center. All the animal experiments in this study followed the institutional guideline and approved by the Animal Ethics Committee of the Fourth Military Medical University. To set up the tumor xenograft model, a total of 5×10^6 HN6 cells were injected subcutaneously into the back of BALB/c female nude mice (5 weeks old), and permitted the tumor to reach a size over 25 mm³ in volume.

Thirty tumor-bearing nude mice were divided into 5 groups (PBS, BSA@SiO₂-HA, GOD@SiO₂-HA, Fe₃O₄@SiO₂-HA and Fe₃O₄-GOD@SiO₂-HA). 100 μ L of PBS, aqueous solution containing various nanoparticles (2 mg·mL⁻¹) were intravenously injected into the tail vein of the tumor-bearing nude mice. Tumor size ($V=W^2 \times L/2$ mm³) was measured and the body weight were recorded every 3 days for 21 days. At day 21, the tumors were collected and fixed in 10% formalin overnight, embedded in paraffin, and sectioned at a thickness of 5 μ m. The sections were stained with DeadEnd Fluorometric or Colorimetric TUNEL system (Promega Corporation, Madison, Wis) and hematoxylin and eosin (H&E).

The *in vivo* antitumor activity was further investigated for survival. Another 5 groups (PBS, BSA@SiO₂-HA, GOD@SiO₂-HA, Fe₃O₄@SiO₂-HA and Fe₃O₄-GOD@SiO₂-HA) with 6 mice per group were monitored every 3 days until the mice were either naturally died or were sacrificed when the tumor volume grew to 2000 mm³ in 50 days for survival analysis, according to the animal ethical requirement.

12. Characterization

Transmission electron microscopy (TEM) images were recorded on a TECNAI G2 spirit BioTwin Transmission electron microscope equipped with energy dispersive X-ray spectroscopy (EDS). For the TEM observation, samples were obtained by dropping 10 μ L of solution onto carbon-coated copper grids. All the TEM images were visualized without staining. The infrared (IR) spectra were measured by Nicolet iS50 FT-IR using KBr pellets. The ultraviolet-visible (UV-Vis) spectra were measured with dilute aqueous solution in a 2 mm thick quartz cell using a Hitachi U-2910 spectrophotometer. The zeta potentials and dynamic light scattering (DLS) were measured by a DelsaTM Nano C particle analyzer (Beckman Coulter, USA) running Delsa Nano software and using 4mW He-Ne laser operating at a wavelength of 633nm and avalanche photodiode (APD) detector. All pH value measurements were carried out on a Sartorius BECKMAN F 34 pH meter. The cellular uptake of rhodamine-labeled Fe₃O₄-GOD@SiO₂-HA was monitored by fluorescence microscopy using a Olympus BX51 microscope equipped with a fluorescent lamp.

Reference

1. Hui, C., et al., *Large-Scale Fe₃O₄ Nanoparticles Soluble in Water Synthesized by a Facile Method*. The Journal of Physical Chemistry C, 2008. **112**(30): p. 11336-11339.
2. Jin, R., et al., *Core-Satellite Mesoporous Silica-Gold Nanotheranostics for Biological Stimuli Triggered Multimodal Cancer Therapy*. Advanced Functional Materials, 2018. **28**(31): p. 1801961.

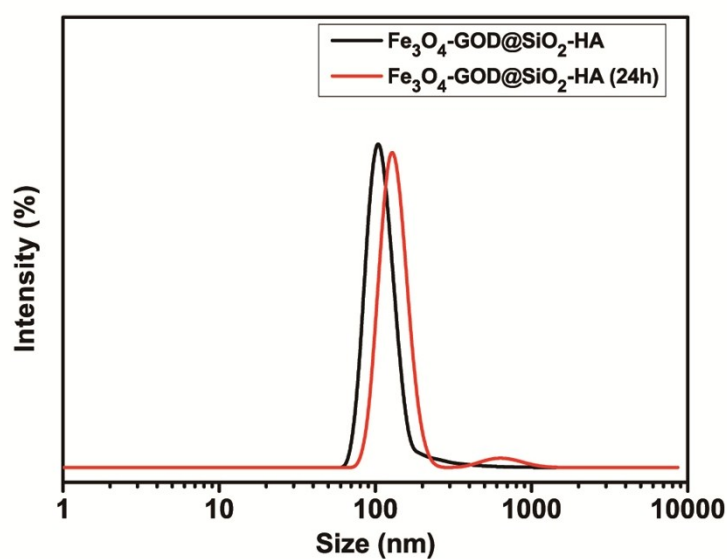


Figure S1. Size distribution of $\text{Fe}_3\text{O}_4\text{-GOD@SiO}_2\text{-HA}$ before (black curve) and after (red curve) 24 h incubation in PBS.

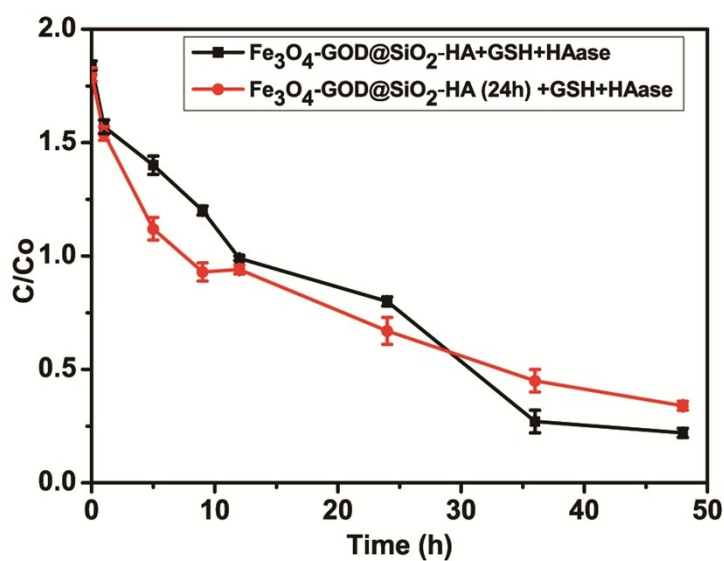


Figure S2. ROS generation induced by $\text{Fe}_3\text{O}_4\text{-GOD@SiO}_2\text{-HA}$ before (black curve) and after (red curve) 24 h incubation in PBS.

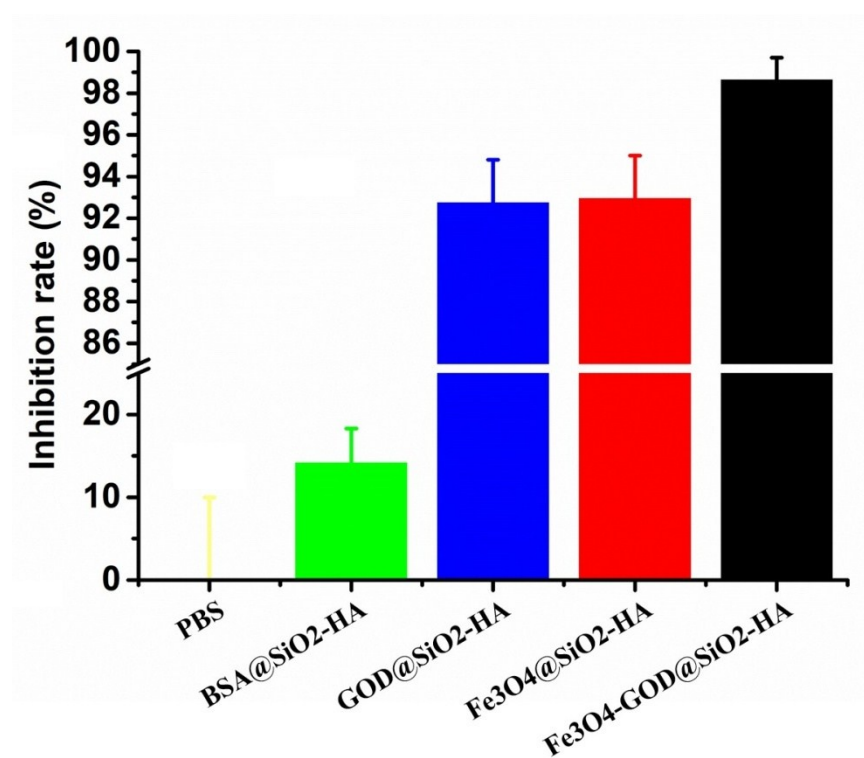


Figure S3. The tumor inhibition ratio of different formulations after 21 d treatment