

Support Information

Fibroblast activation protein- α -adaptive micelle reprogram stroma fibrosis for promoted anti-cancer drug delivery

Chao Teng ^a, Beiyuan Zhang ^a, Zhongyue Yuan^a, Zheng Kuang^a, Zhuodong Chai^a, Lianjie Ren^{a,b},
Chao Qin^a, Lei Yang^a, Xiaopeng Han ^{a*} and Lifang Yin^{a*}

^a School of Pharmacy, China Pharmaceutical University, Nanjing, 210009, PR China

^b Center for Drug Evaluation, CFDA, Beijing, 100022, PR China

Corresponding Author

Tel.: +86 2583271018; fax: +86 2583271018. E-mail address: nkxhp15@163.com (Xiaopeng Han)

Tel.: +86 2583271018; fax: +86 2583271018. E-mail address: lifangyin_@163.com (Lifang Yin)

Supplementary Figure Captions

Scheme S1. Synthesis of the FAP- α -sensitive pegylated Hyaluronic acid-Curcumin conjugate (PFHC).

Scheme S2. Synthesis of the non-FAP- α -sensitive pegylated Hyaluronic acid-Curcumin conjugate (PHC)(Ph= p-hydroxy-phenylalanine).

Figure S1. ^1H NMR spectrum of Z-Ala-pro-gly(Z-ARG) in DMSO- d_6 .

Figure S2. ^1H NMR spectrum of Ala-phe-gly(Z-AHG) in DMSO- d_6 .

Figure S3. Cleavage of Z-Ala-pro-gly after incubating with FAP α for 4 h. (A) 0h; (B) 4h.

Figure S4. Cleavage of Z-Ala-phe-gly after incubating with FAP α for 4 h. (A) 0h; (B) 4h.

Figure S5. ^1H NMR spectrum of PFHC in D_2O .

Figure S6. ^1H NMR spectrum of PFHC in D_2O after incubating with FAP α for 4 h.

Figure S7. ^1H NMR spectrum of PHC in D_2O after incubating with FAP α for 4 h.

Figure S8. *In vitro* DOX release profiles of DOX/PFHC and DOX/PHC NPs in different conditions. Data are presented as mean \pm SD (n = 3).

Figure S9. The stability of nanopartilces formulations in 10 % plasma (A) and DMEM with 10% FBS(B) (Data are presented as mean \pm SD (n = 3)).

Figure S10. The relative expressing levels of α -SMA in different cell lines with CLSM (bar=20 μm).

Figure S11. The relative expressing levels of FAP- α in in different cell lines with flow cytometry (a: control, b: NIH3T3 c: active NIH3T3).

Figure S12. The relative expressing levels of CD44 receptors in different cell lines. (A) Immunofluorescence staining analysis of CD44 receptors expression with CLSM (bar=100 μ m). (B) Analysis of CD44 receptors expression with flow cytometry. (C) Analysis of CD44 receptors expression with WB.

Figure S13. Representative CLSM images of 4T1 cell lines following 2 h incubation with different formulations (DOX dosage: 5.0 μ g/mL, bar=50 μ m).

Figure S14. Representative CLSM images of active NIH3T3 cell lines following 2 h incubation with different formulations (DOX dosage: 5.0 μ g/mL, bar=50 μ m).

Figure S15. The cytotoxicity of Dox+Cur against different cell lines for 24h. (A)NIH3T3, (B) 4T1, (C) active NIH3T3 cells (mean \pm SD, $n = 3$)(The concentration of free Cur was equal to that in DOX-loading nanoparticles with same DOX dosage).

Figure S16. (A-B)Ex vivo Dox fluorescence images of the major organs and tumor harvested from the 4T1-NIH3T3 bearing mice following different times intravenous injection of NPs (DOX:5mg/kg). (C)Quantitative analysis of relative organ and tumor accumulation at 8 h (* $P \leq 0.05$, indicates \pm SD, $n = 3$).

Figure S17. Plasma concentration-time curves of DOX in rats after intravenous administration with different DOX formulations at a dose of 5 mg/kg DOX ($n = 3$, mean \pm SD).

Figure S18. Expression of FAP α by western blot in 4T1 tumor tissues (30 μ g of rhFAP α used as control).

Figure S19. H&E staining of major organs after the last treatment (bar= 50 μ m).

Figure S20. Morphological evaluations of tumor sites. (A) In situ cell death detection of tumor tissue (TUNEL);(B) *In vivo* evaluation of tumor proliferation level by Ki-67 immunohistochemistry (*P≤0.05, **P≤0.01, indicates ± SD, n = 3).

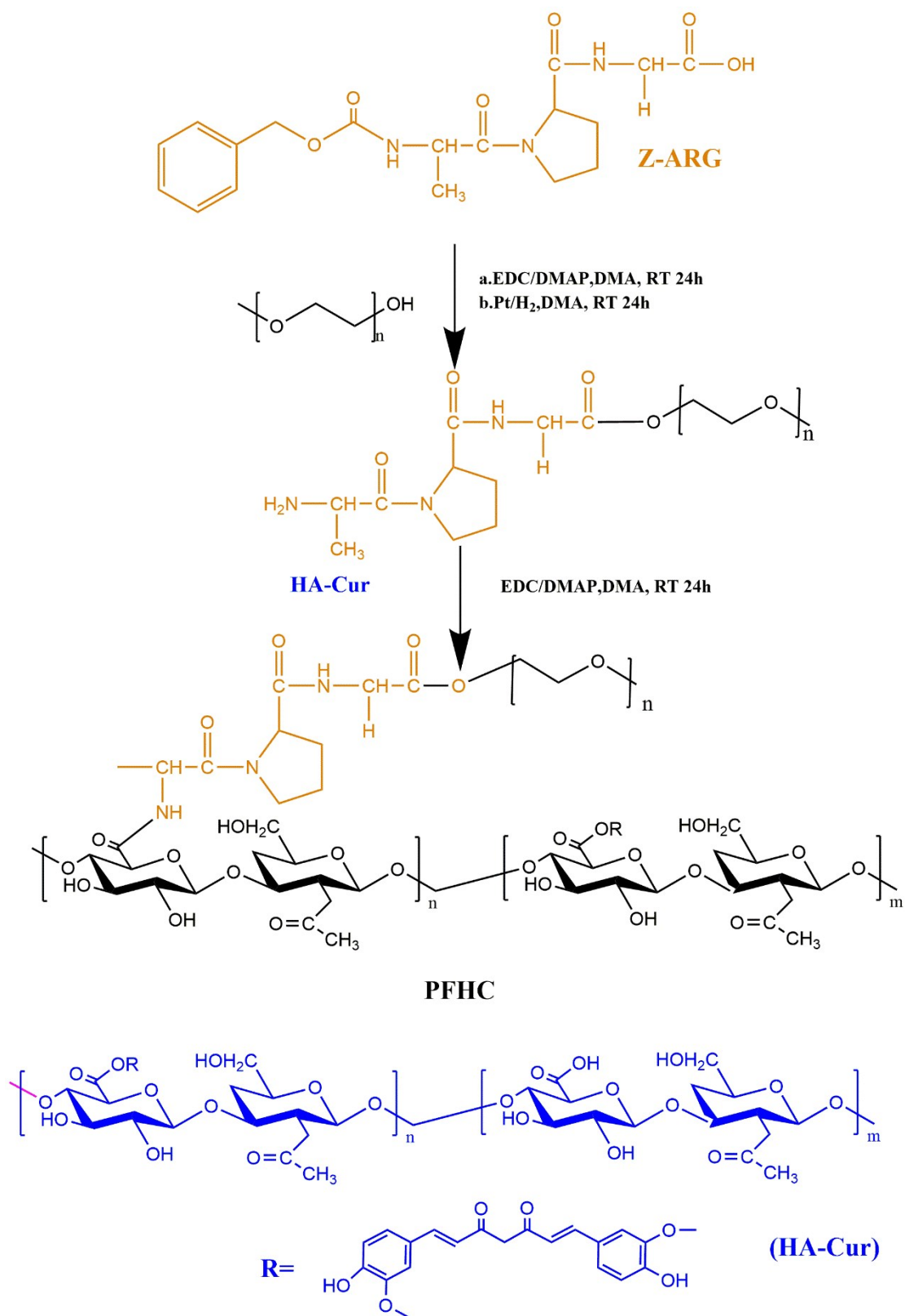
Figure S21. Semi-quantitative analysis of Masson staining and α-SMA by immunofluorescent staining (*P≤0.05, indicates ± SD, n = 3).

Figure S22. Micro-distribution of NPs in tumor mass after last treatment. (bar=20 μm)

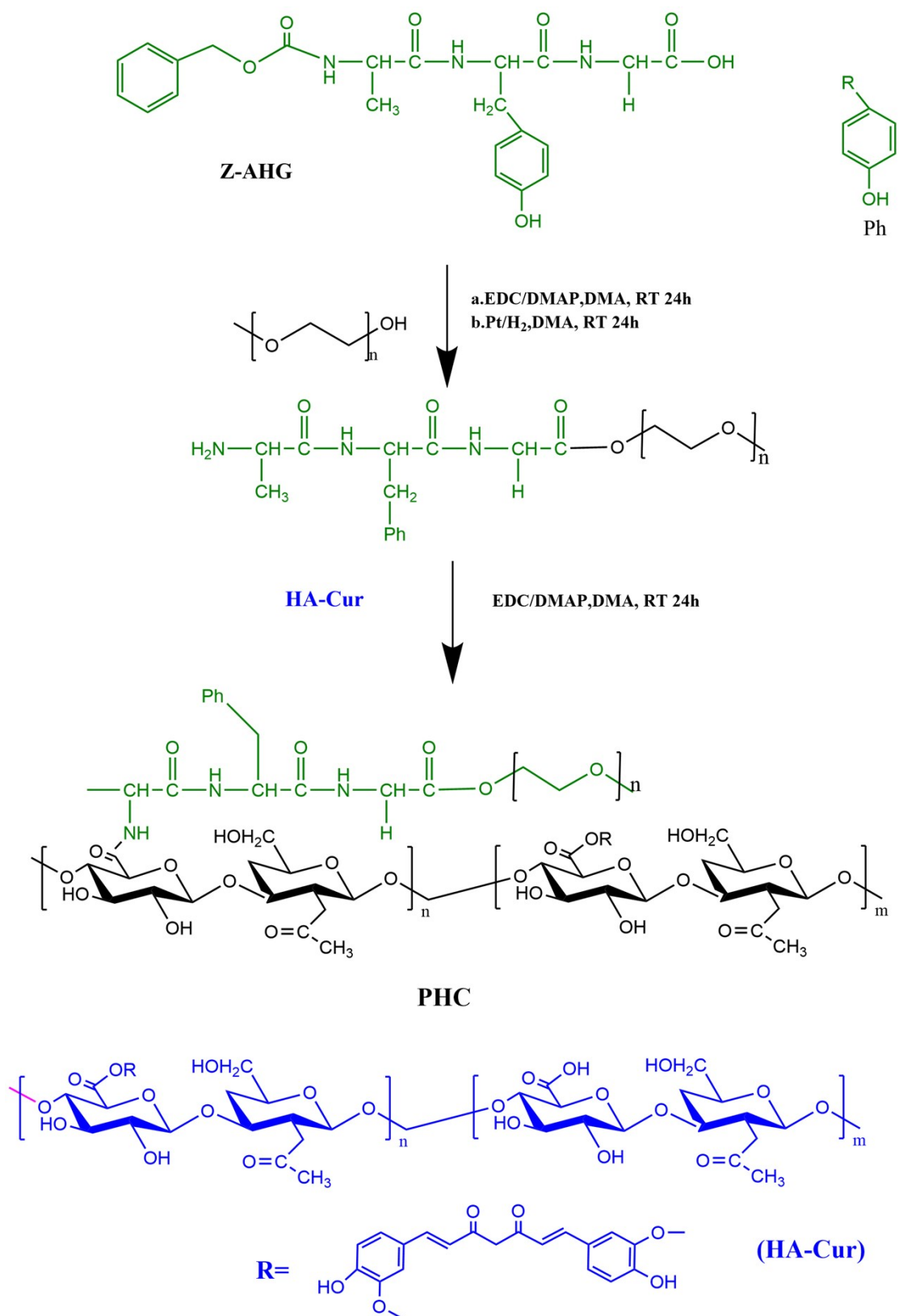
Figure S23. Semi-quantitative analysis of TGF-beta and MCP-1 by immunofluorescent staining (*P≤0.05, indicates ± SD, n = 3).

Table S1. Characterizations of the micelles. (indicates ± SD, n = 3)

Table S2. Pharmacokinetic parameters of Dox and DOX-loading NPs in mice after a single intravenous administration at the dose of 5 mg/kg (*n* = 3).



Scheme S1. Synthesis of the FAP- α -sensitive pegylated Hyaluronic acid-Curcumin conjugate (PFHC).



Scheme S2. Synthesis of the non-FAP- α -sensitive pegylated Hyaluronic acid-Curcumin conjugate (PHC)(Ph= p-hydroxy-phenylalanine).

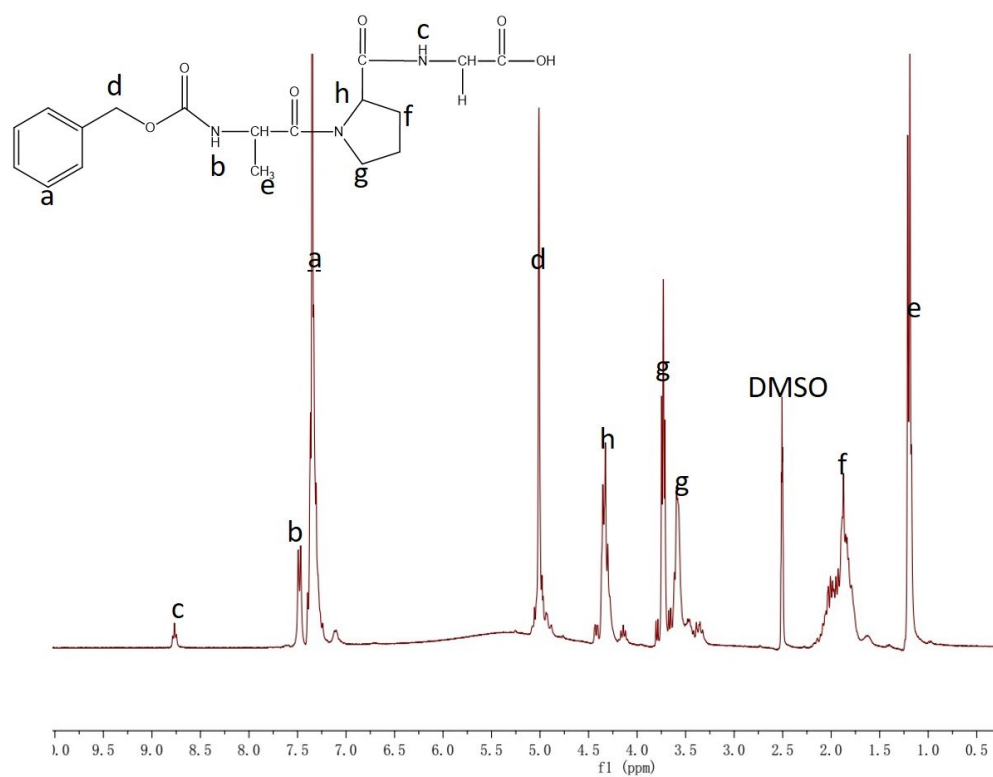


Figure S1. ¹H NMR spectrum of Z-Ala-pro-gly(Z-ARG) in DMSO-d₆.

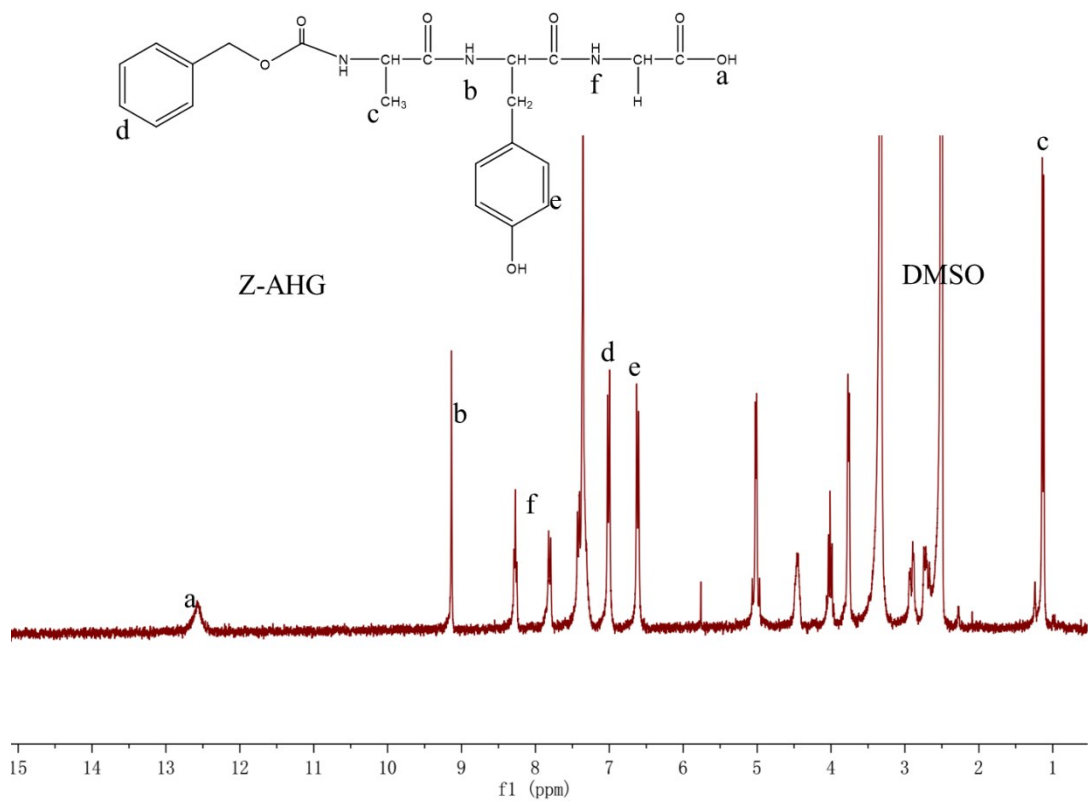


Figure S2. ¹H NMR spectrum of Ala-phe-gly(Z-AHG) in DMSO-*d*₆.

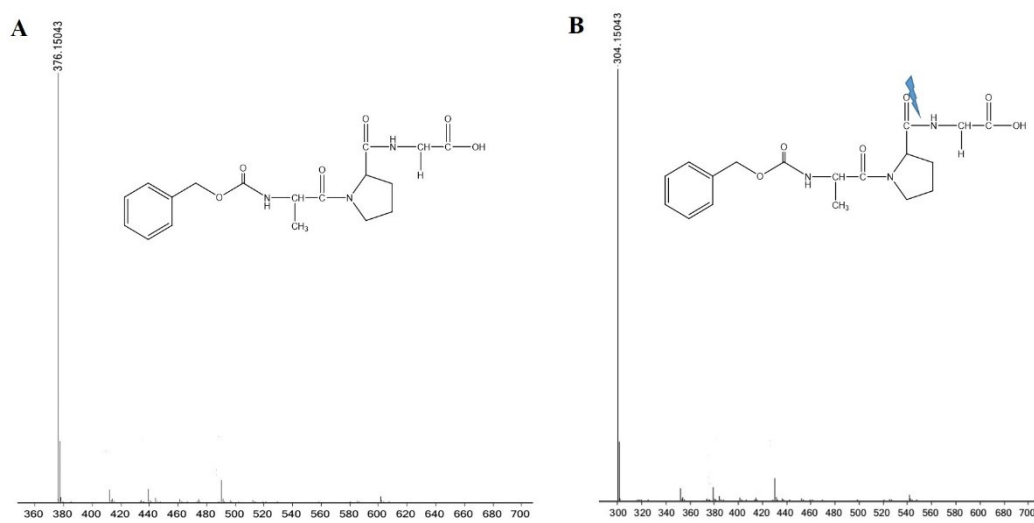


Figure S3. Cleavage of Z-Ala-phe-gly after incubating with FAP α for 4 h. (A) 0h; (B)

4h.

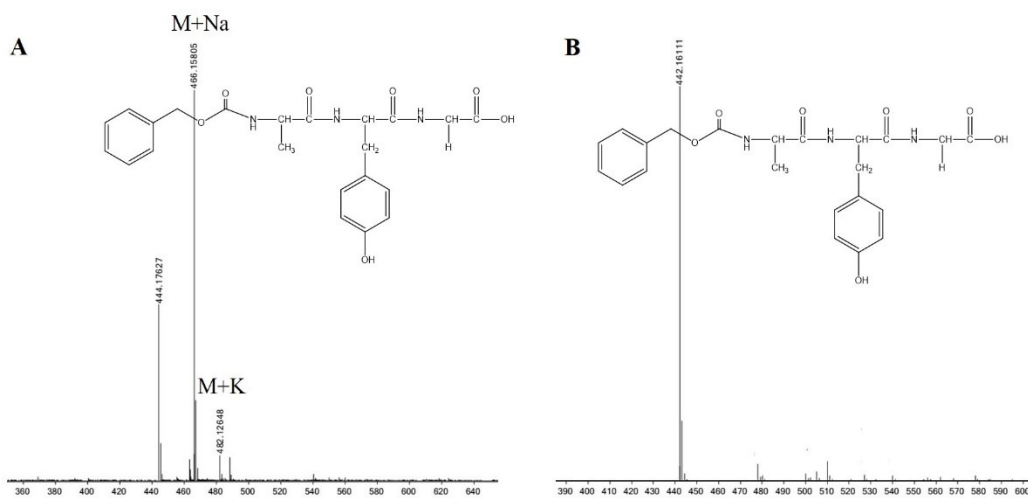


Figure S4. Cleavage of Z-Ala-phe-gly after incubating with FAP α for 4 h. (A) 0h; (B) 4h.

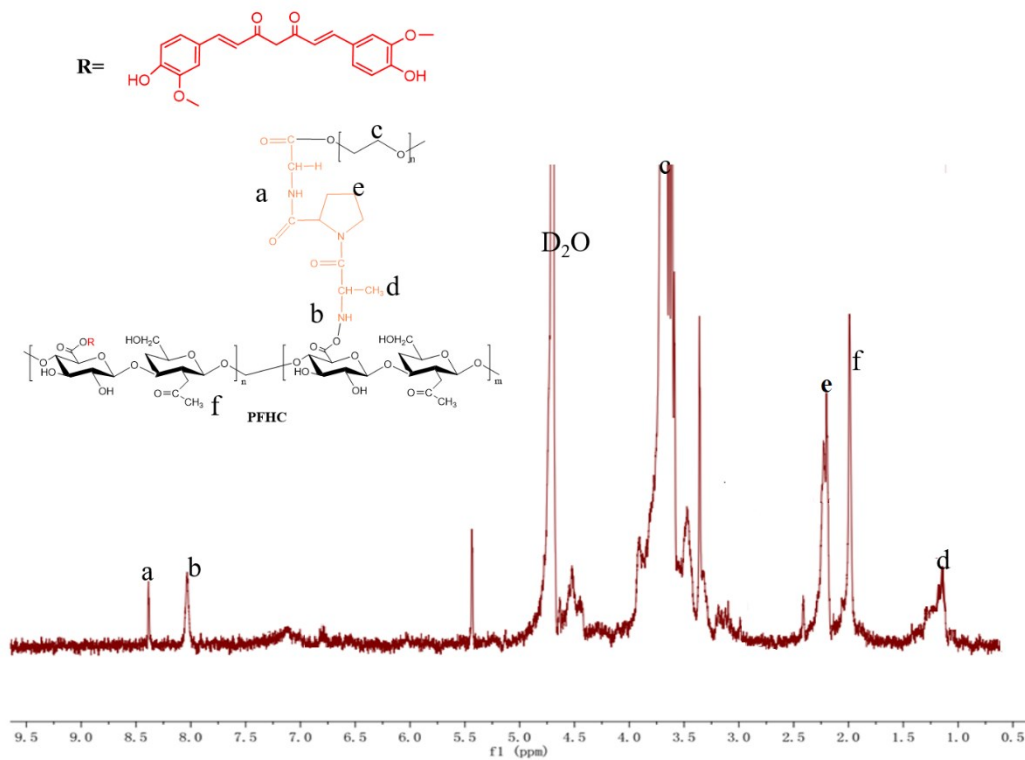


Figure S5. ^1H NMR spectrum of PFHC in D_2O .

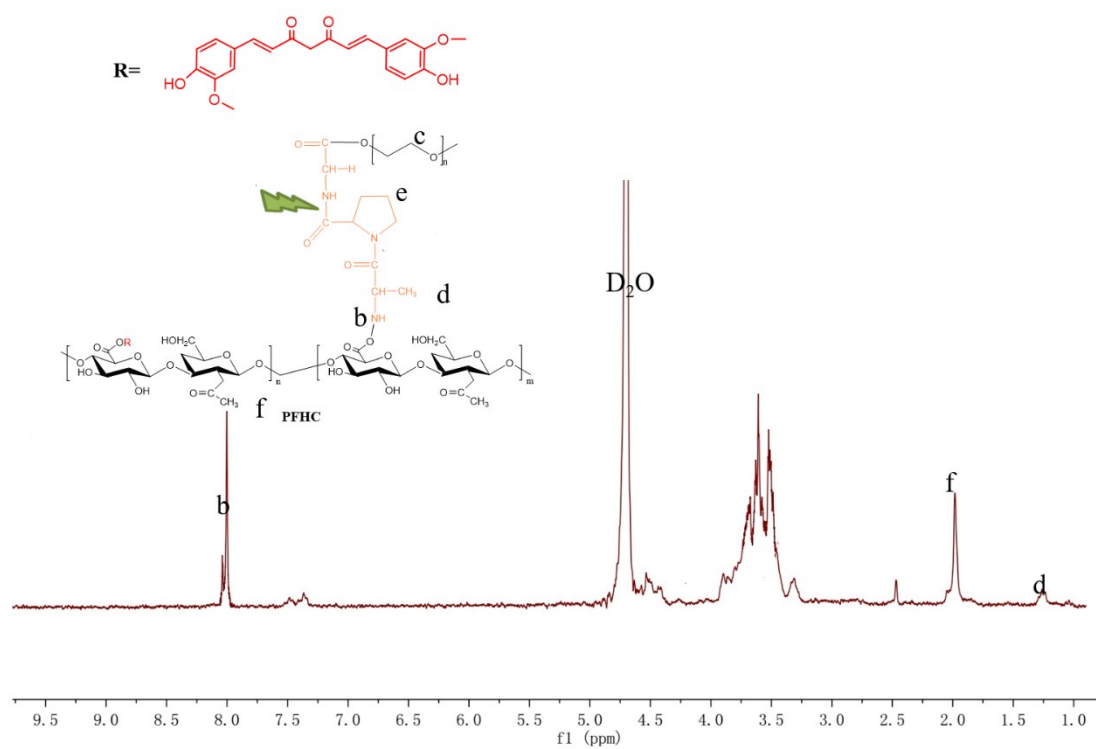


Figure S6. ¹H NMR spectrum of PFHC in D₂O after incubating with FAPα for 4 h.

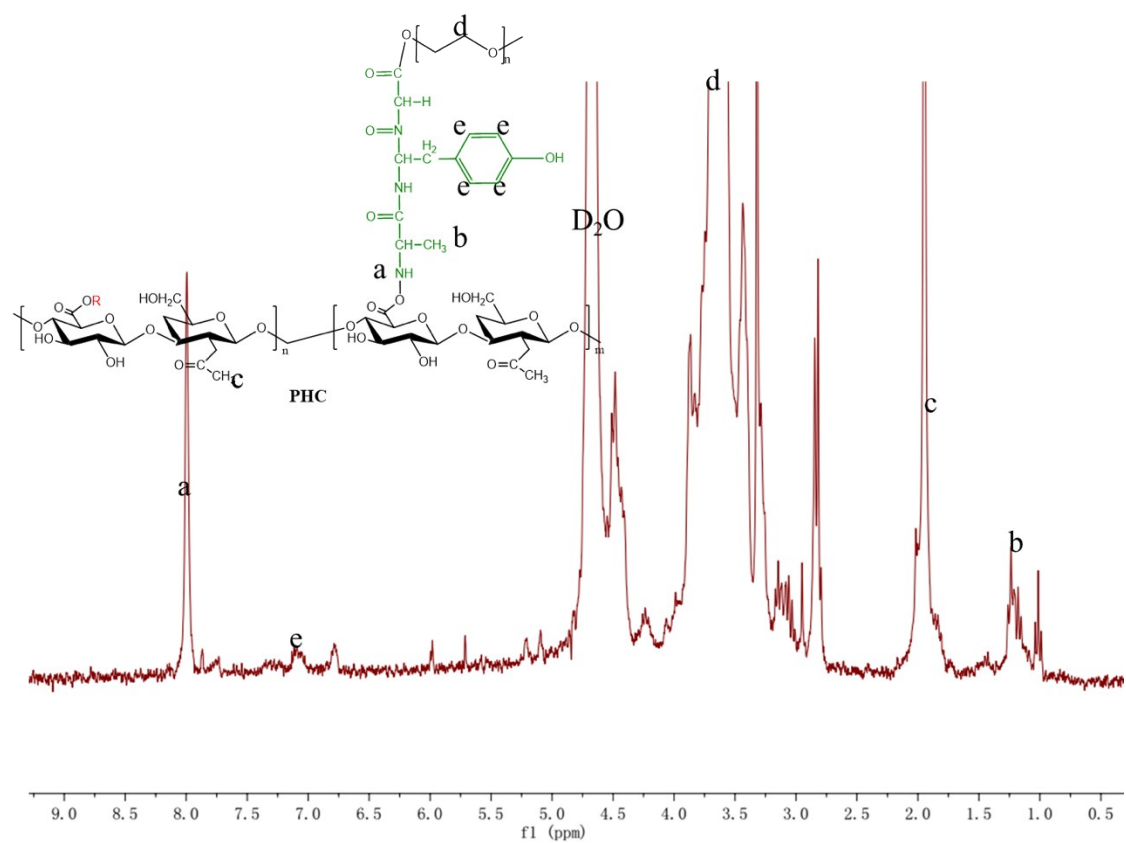


Figure S7. ¹H NMR spectrum of PHC in D₂O after incubating with FAP α for 4 h.

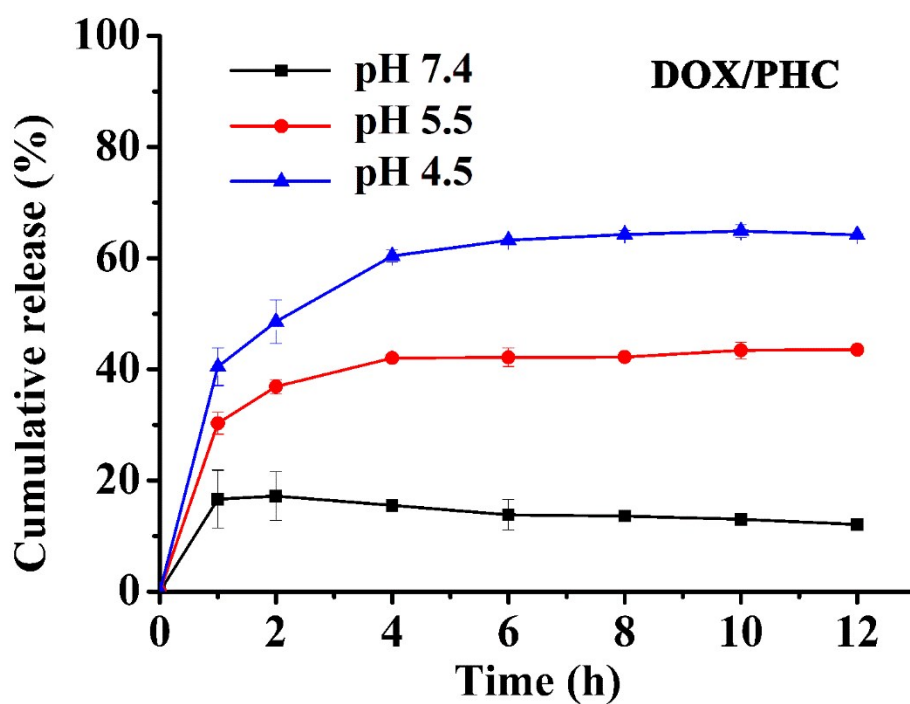
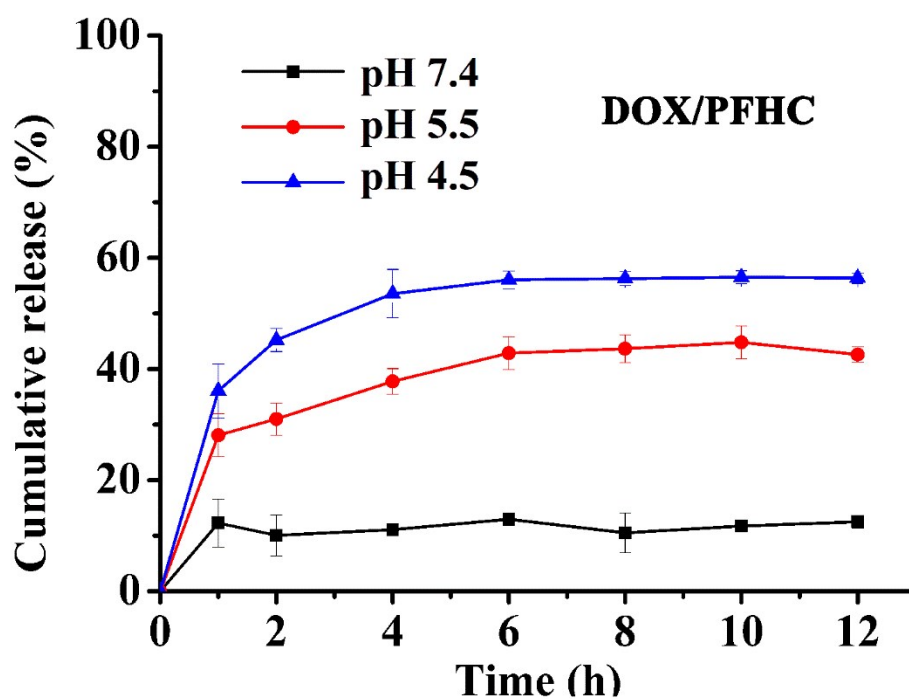


Figure S8. *In vitro* DOX release profiles of DOX/PFHC and DOX/PHC NPs in different conditions. Data are presented as mean \pm SD (n = 3).

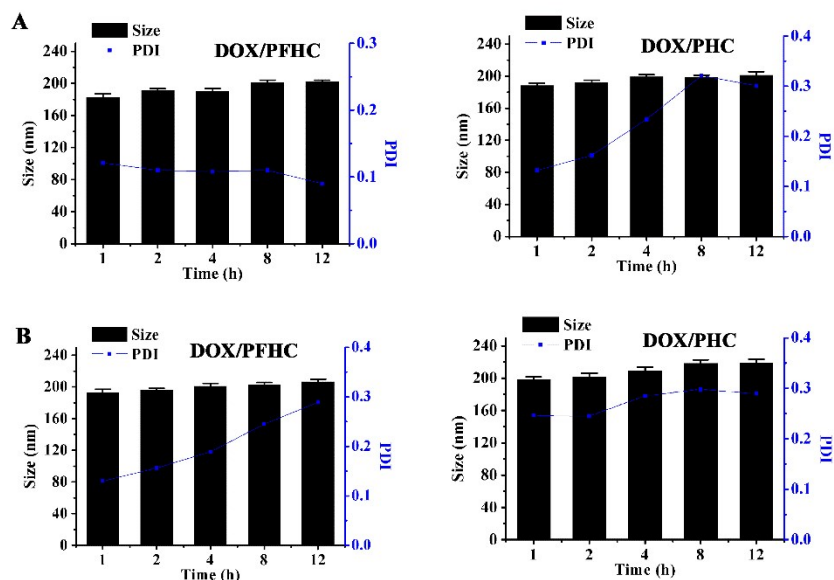


Figure S9. The stability of nanoparticle formulations in 10 % plasma (A) and DMEM with 10% FBS(B) (Data are presented as mean \pm SD (n = 3)).

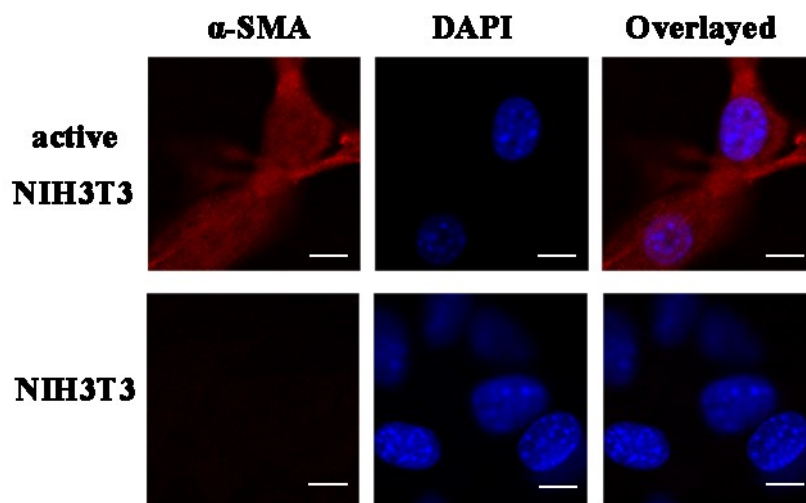


Figure S10. The relative expressing levels of α -SMA in different cell lines with CLSM (bar=20 μ m).

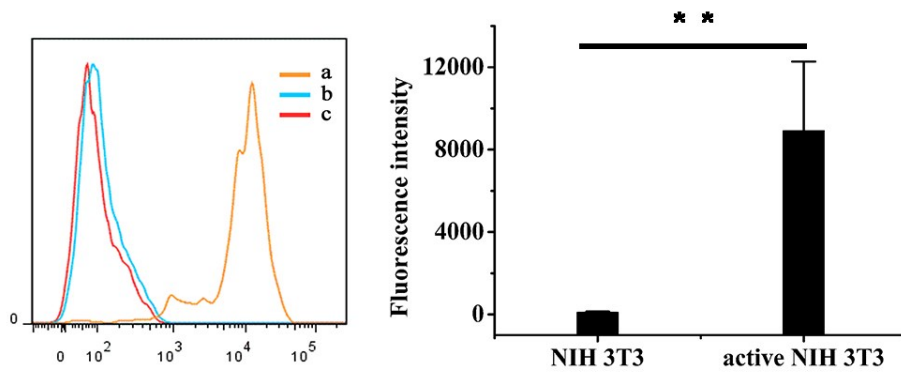


Figure S11. The relative expressing levels of FAP- α in in different cell lines with flow cytometry (a: active NIH3T3, b: NIH3T3 c: control).

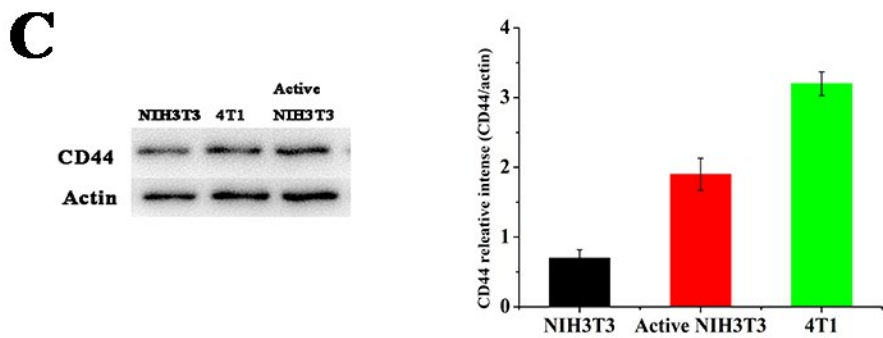
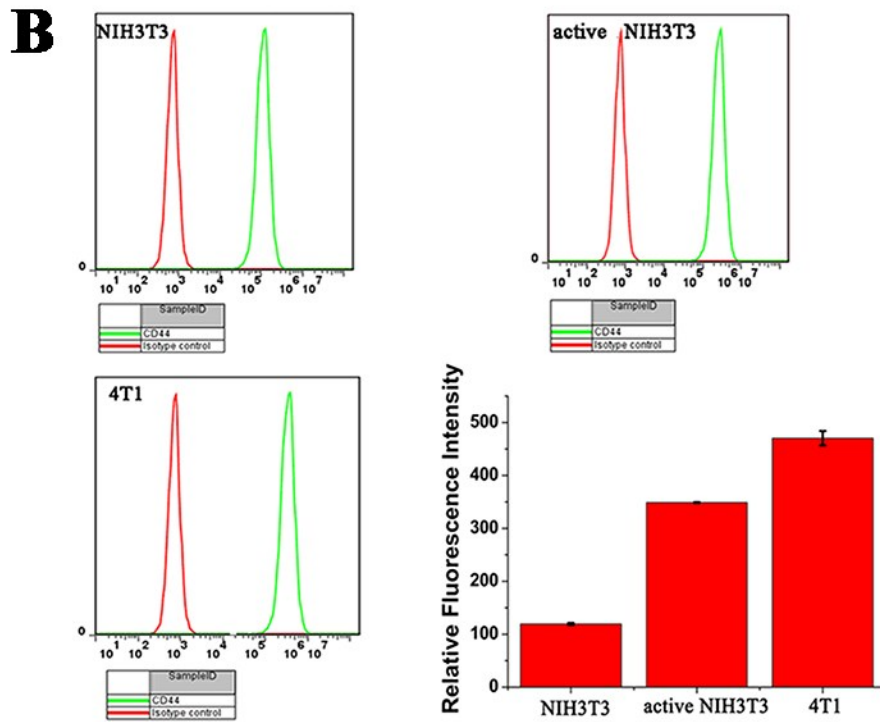
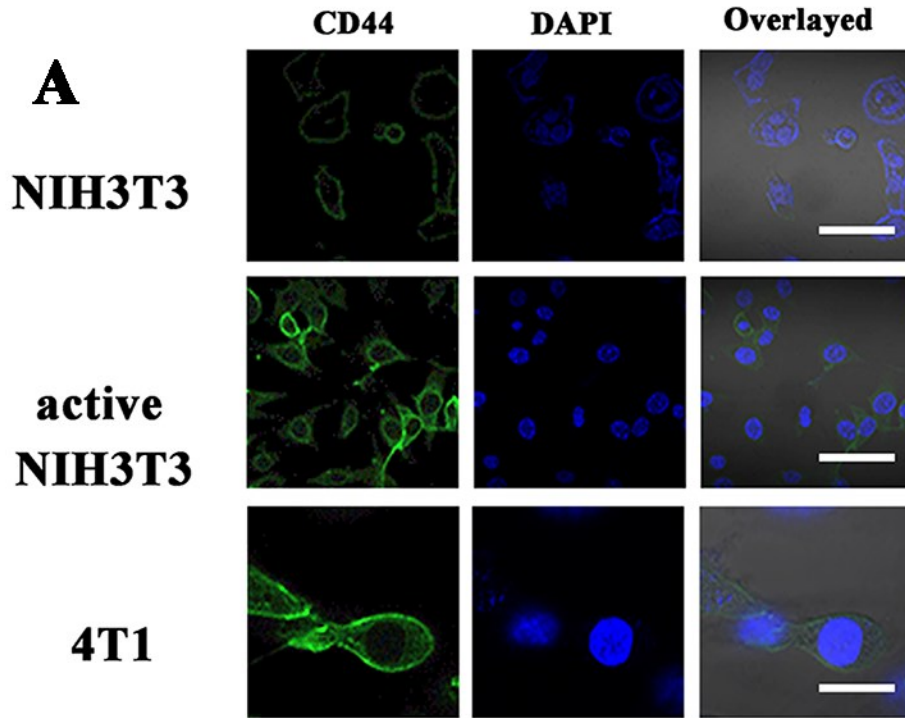


Figure S12. The relative expressing levels of CD44 receptors in different cell lines. (A) Immunofluorescence staining analysis of CD44 receptors expression with CLSM (bar=100 μ m). (B) Analysis of CD44 receptors expression with flow cytometry. (C) Analysis of CD44 receptors expression with WB.

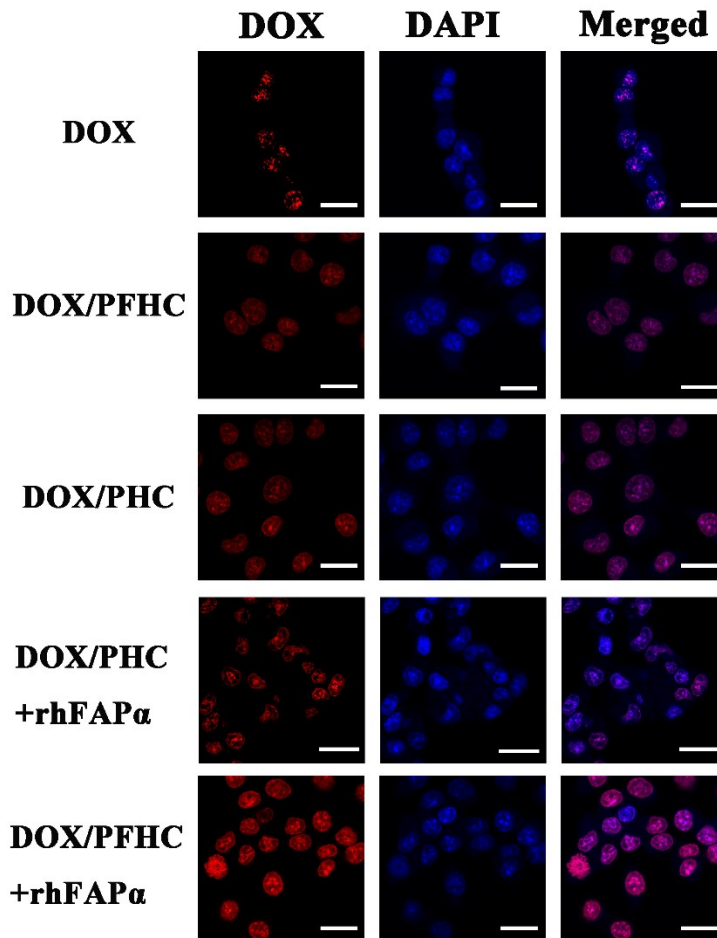


Figure S13. Representative CLSM images of 4T1 cell lines following 2 h incubation with different formulations (DOX dosage: 5.0 μ g/mL, bar=50 μ m).

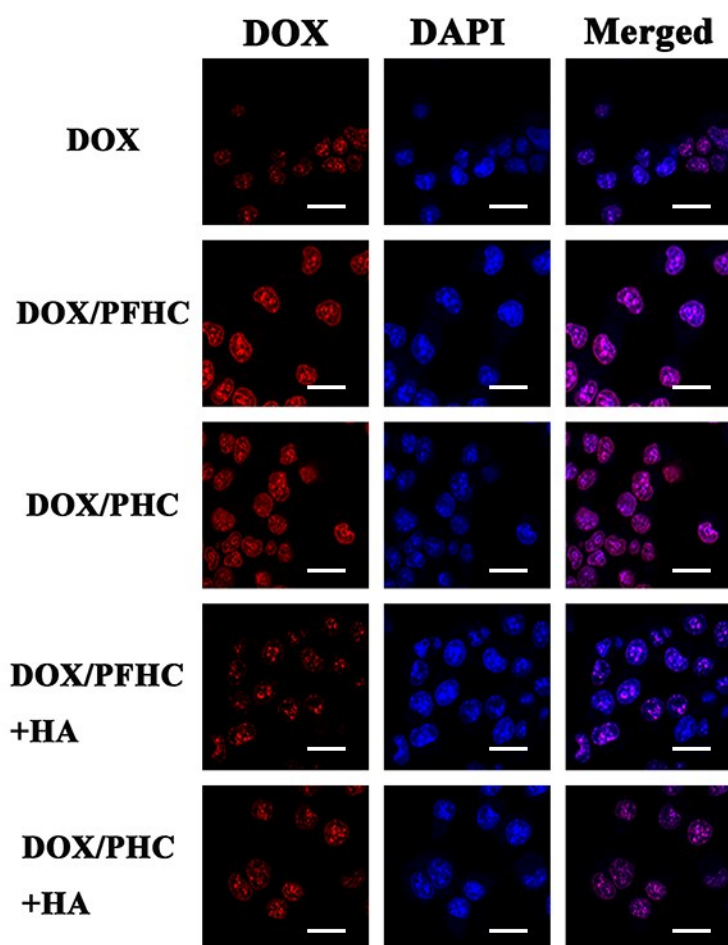


Figure S14. Representative CLSM images of active NIH3T3 cell lines following 2 h incubation with different formulations (DOX dosage: 5.0 $\mu\text{g/mL}$, bar=50 μm).

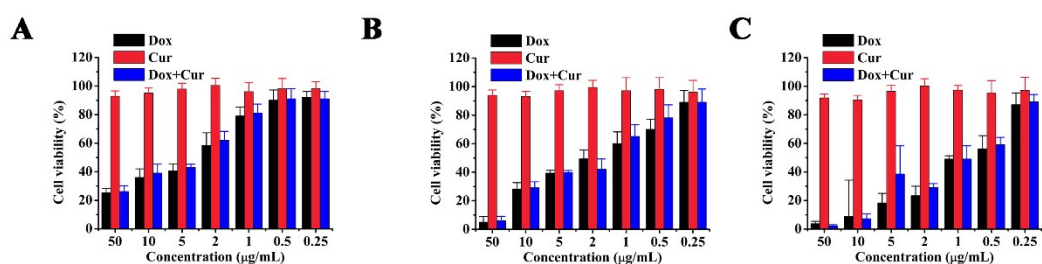


Figure S15. The cytotoxicity of Dox+Cur against different cell lines for 24h. (A)NIH3T3, (B) 4T1, (C) active NIH3T3 cells (mean \pm SD, $n = 3$)(The concentration of free Cur was equal to that in DOX-loading nanoparticles with same DOX dosage).

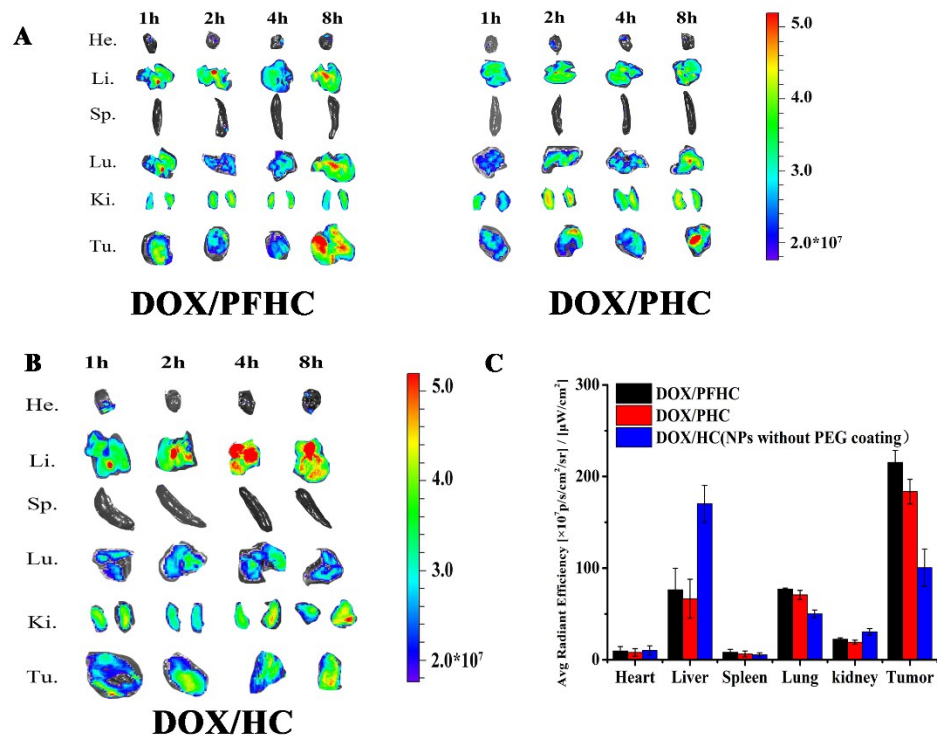


Figure S16. (A-B) Ex vivo Dox fluorescence images of the major organs and tumor harvested from the 4T1-NIH3T3 bearing mice following different times intravenous injection of NPs (DOX:5mg/kg). (C) Quantitative analysis of relative organ and tumor accumulation at 8 h (* $P \leq 0.05$, indicates \pm SD, $n = 3$).

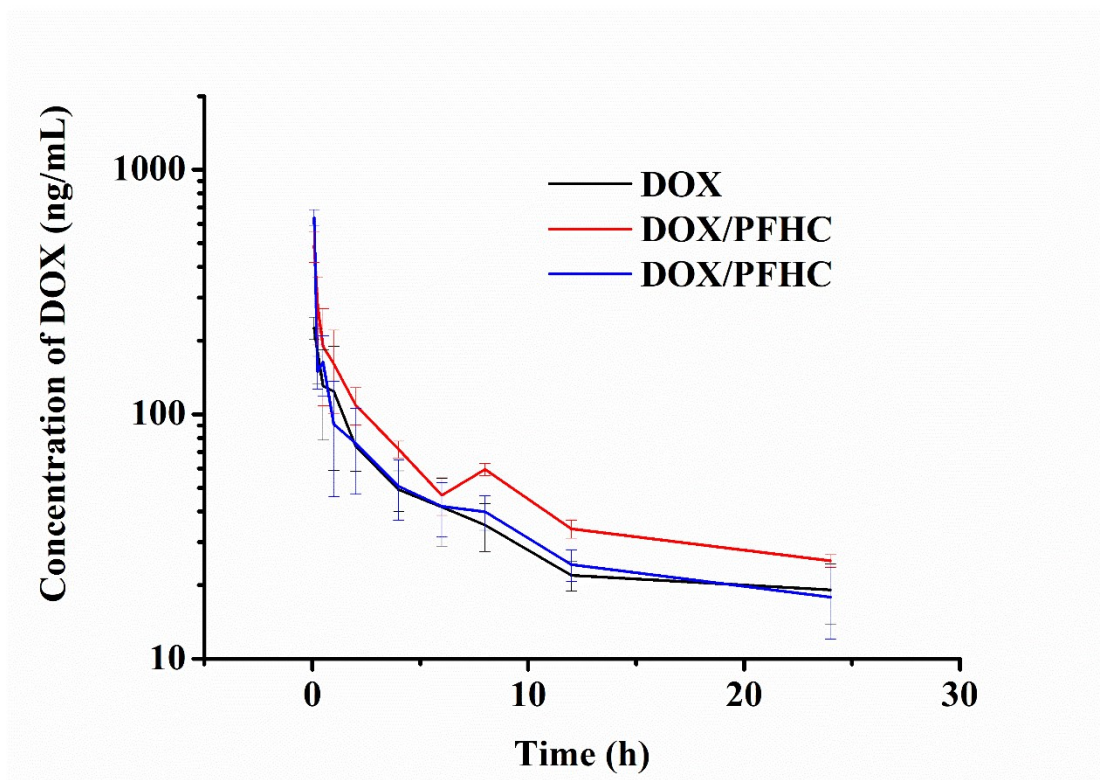


Figure S17. Plasma concentration-time curves of DOX in rats after intravenous administration with different DOX formulations at a dose of 5 mg/kg DOX (n = 3, mean \pm SD) .

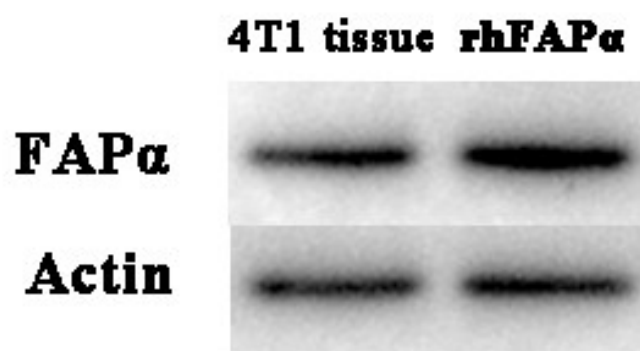


Figure S18. Expression of FAP α by western blot in 4T1 tumor tissues (30 μ g of rhFAP α used as control).

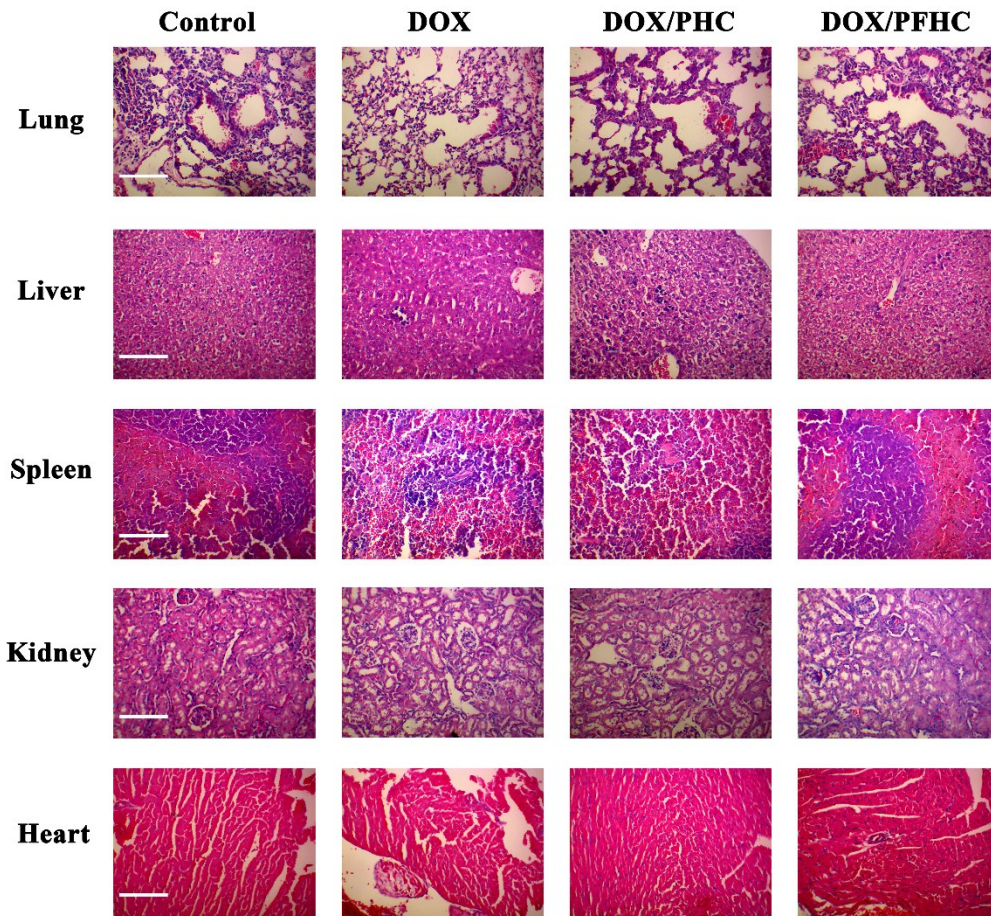


Figure S19. H&E staining of major organs after the last treatment (bar= 50 μ m).

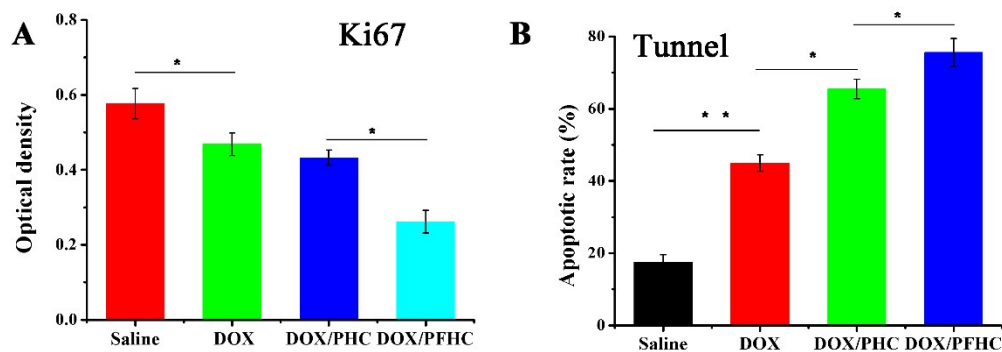


Figure S20. Morphological evaluations of tumor sites. (A) In situ cell death detection of tumor tissue (TUNEL);(B) *In vivo* evaluation of tumor proliferation level by Ki-67 immunohistochemistry (* $P \leq 0.05$, ** $P \leq 0.01$, indicates \pm SD, n = 3).

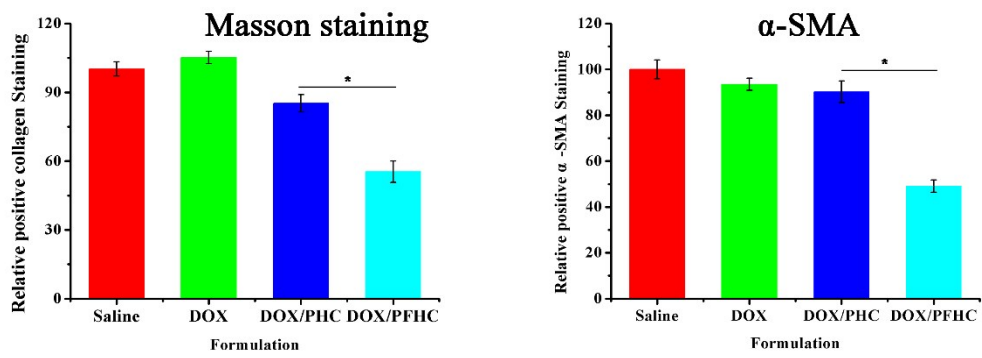


Figure S21. Semi-quantitative analysis of Masson staining and α -SMA by immunofluorescent staining (* $P \leq 0.05$, indicates \pm SD, $n = 3$).

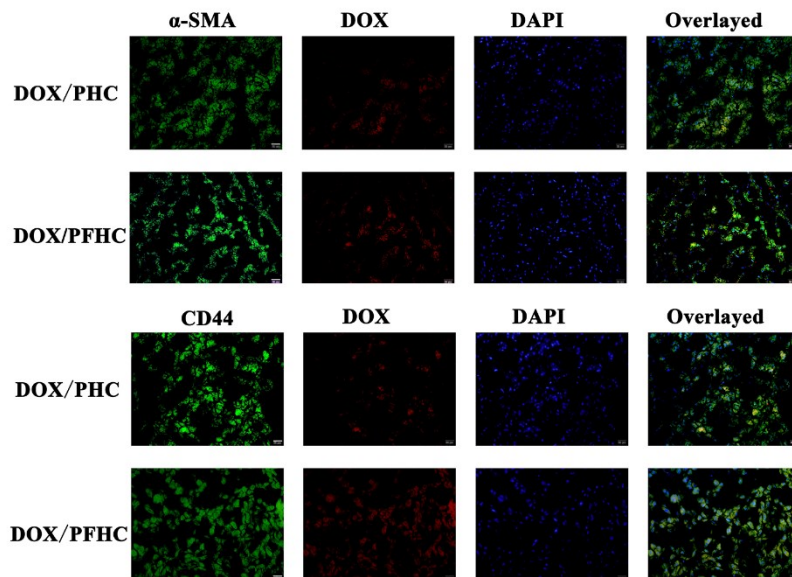


Figure S22. Micro-distribution of NPs in tumor mass after last treatment. (bar=20 μ m)

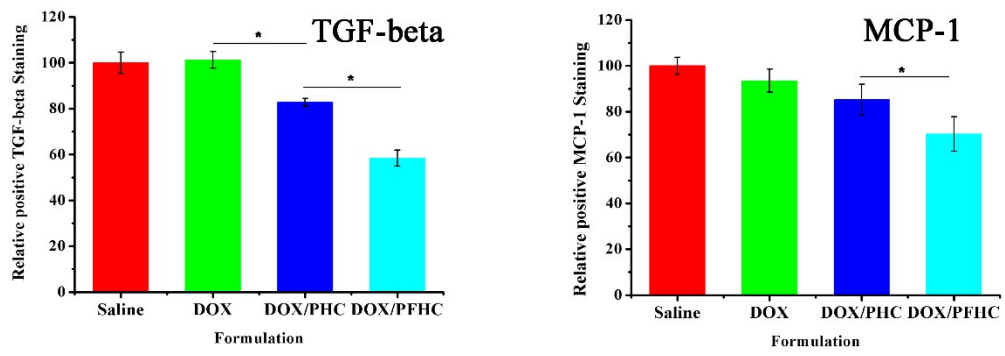


Figure S23. Semi-quantitative analysis of TGF-beta and MCP-1 by immunofluorescent staining (* $P \leq 0.05$, indicates \pm SD, $n = 3$).

Table S1. Characterizations of the micelles. (indicates \pm SD, n = 3)

| Name | Size(nm) | PDI | Zeta potential (mv) | DL (%) | EE (%) |
|-------------|-----------------|------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| DOX/PHC | 178.1 \pm 2.5 | 0.202 \pm 0.08 | 0 | 9.8 \pm 0.15 | 98 \pm 0.23 |
| DOX/PFHC | 167.3 \pm 1.3 | 0.12 \pm 0.02 | -3.2 \pm 0.3 | 9.9 \pm 0.13 | 95 \pm 0.21 |

Table S2. Pharmacokinetic parameters of Dox and DOX-loading NPs in mice after a single intravenous administration at the dose of 5 mg/kg ($n = 3$).

| Parameter | Units | DOX | DOX/PHC | DOX/PFHC |
|----------------------|--------|----------------|--------------------|----------------|
| AUC _(0-t) | µg/L*h | 1118.44±103.51 | 1184.44±367.6 5 | 1358.33±132.92 |
| t _{1/2} | h | 4.47±1.13 | 13.6±4.01 | 13.92±1.9 |