## **Electronic Supporting Information**

## USPIO-PEG Nanoparticles Functionalized with a Highly Specific Collagen-binding Peptide: a Step towards MRI Diagnosis of Fibrosis

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Figure ESI 1: PO-PEG-yne synthesis (A), NMR (B) and FTIR (C) spectra.



**Figure ESI 2:** Synthesis of PO-PEG-yne and click chemistry (thiolyne reaction) to covalently linked Collagelin peptide onto USPIO NP surface.

![](_page_2_Figure_2.jpeg)

Figure ESI. 3: Diffusion of USPIO NPs through collagen hydrogels.

![](_page_3_Figure_0.jpeg)

**Figure. ESI 4:** Proton transverse relaxation rates (R2) measured at 7 T for USPIO-PO-PEG-yne and USPIO-PO-PEG-collagelin NPs

![](_page_3_Figure_2.jpeg)

Figure. ESI 5: Cell viability within collagen hydrogels concentrated at 3 mg.mL<sup>-1</sup>

![](_page_4_Figure_1.jpeg)

**Figure ESI 6:** Evolution of the T2 relaxation time through the thickness (position x) of 3 mg.mL<sup>-1</sup> collagen hydrogels after a 72h incubation with USPIO-PO-PEG-yne NPs (green curve) or USPIO-PO-PEG-collagelin NPs (red curve).

Time (months)	USPIO-PO-PEG-yne (pH 7)	USPIO-PO-PEG- collagelin (pH 7)
0	$d_{H(Vol)} = 32.6 \pm 15 \text{ nm}$	d <sub>H(√01)</sub> = 32.7 ± 21.3 nm
1	$d_{H(\forall 01)} = 31.3 \pm 0.9  \text{nm}$	d <sub>H(Vol)</sub> = 25.2 ± 3.4 nm

**Table ESI 1:** hydrodynamic diameter variation after 1 month for USPIO-PO-PEG-yne andUSPIO-PO-PEG-collagelin NPs.