

## Supporting Information

### **In vivo Delivery of Nuclear Targeted Drugs for Lung Cancer Using Novel Synthesis and Functionalization of Iron Oxide Nanocrystals**

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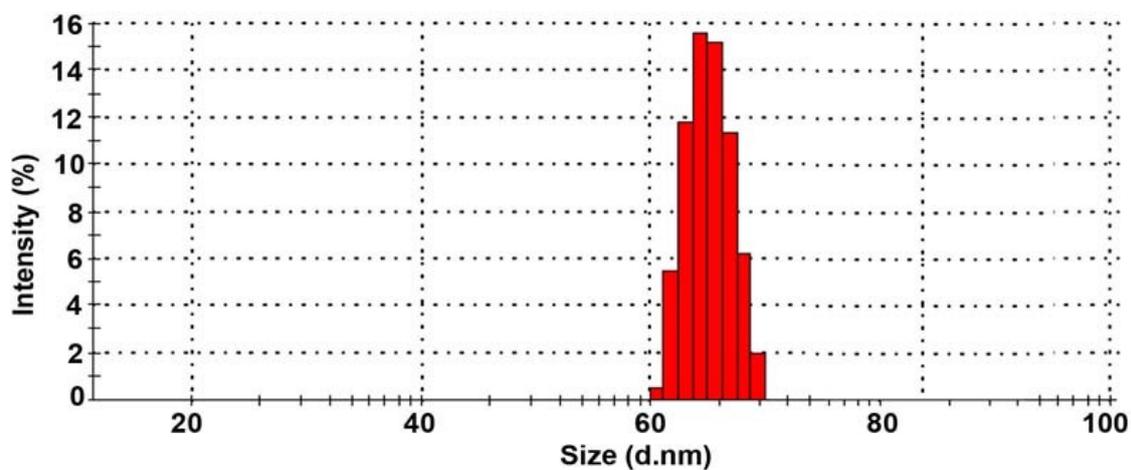
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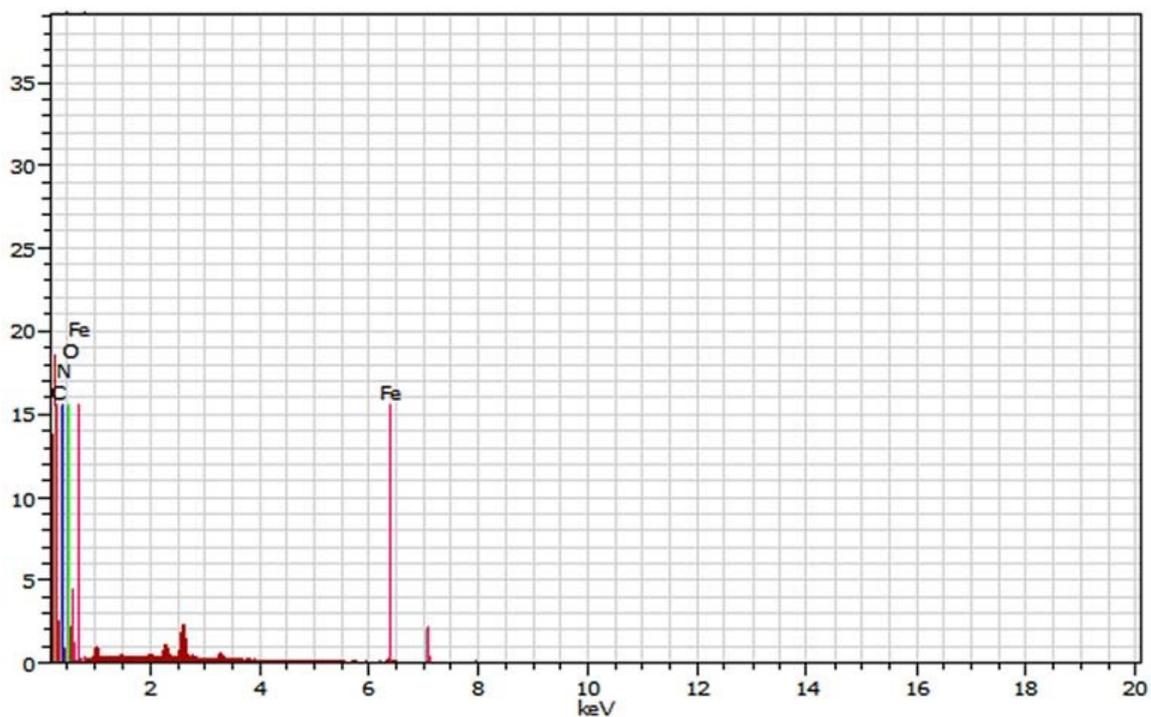
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Figure S1-S8



**Figure S1.** The hydrodynamic size distribution measured by dynamic light scattering shows a narrow size distribution with an average diameter of  $65.7 \pm 0.92$  nm



**Figure S2.** The EDS analysis of PEG-DOX- $\gamma$ -Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>-NC showed a strong signal from Fe and the presence of C, N and O due to DOX and PEG.

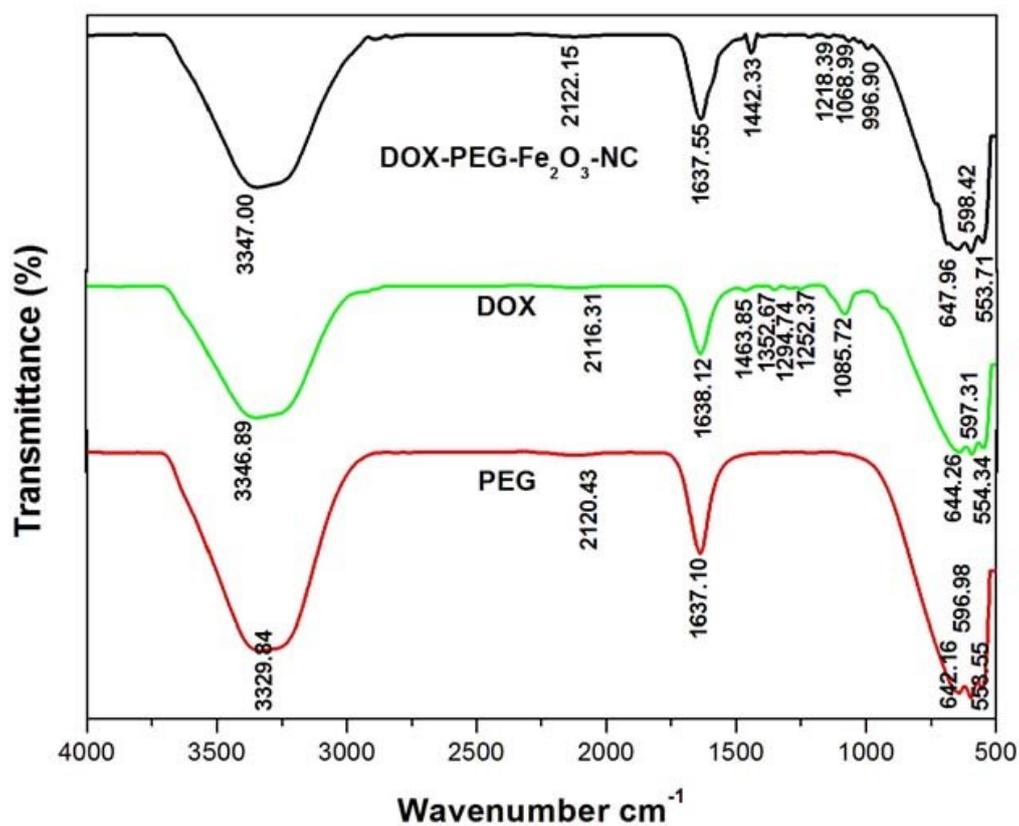


Figure S3. FTIR spectra of PEG, DOX and PEG-DOX- $\gamma$ - $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3$ -NC.

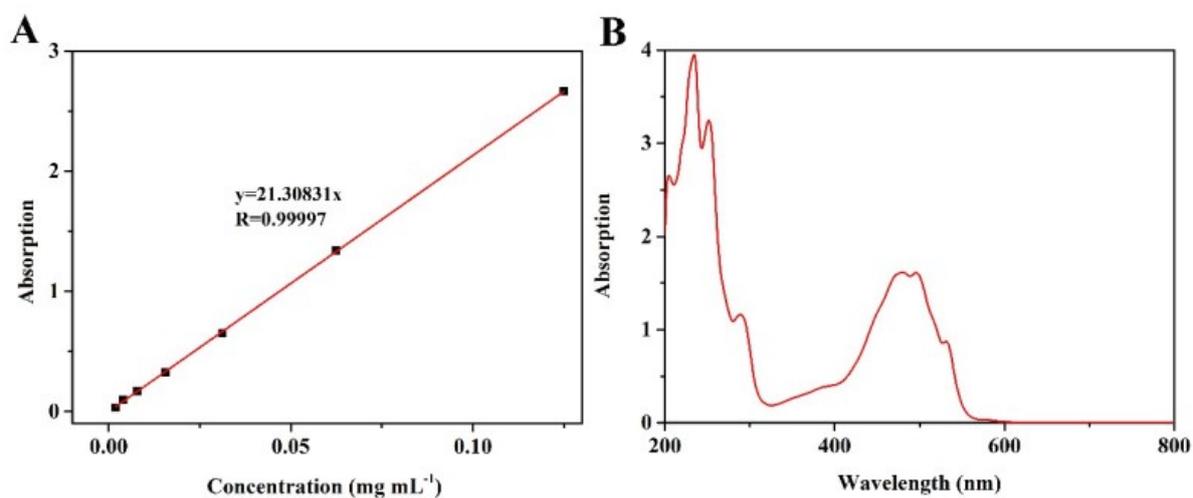
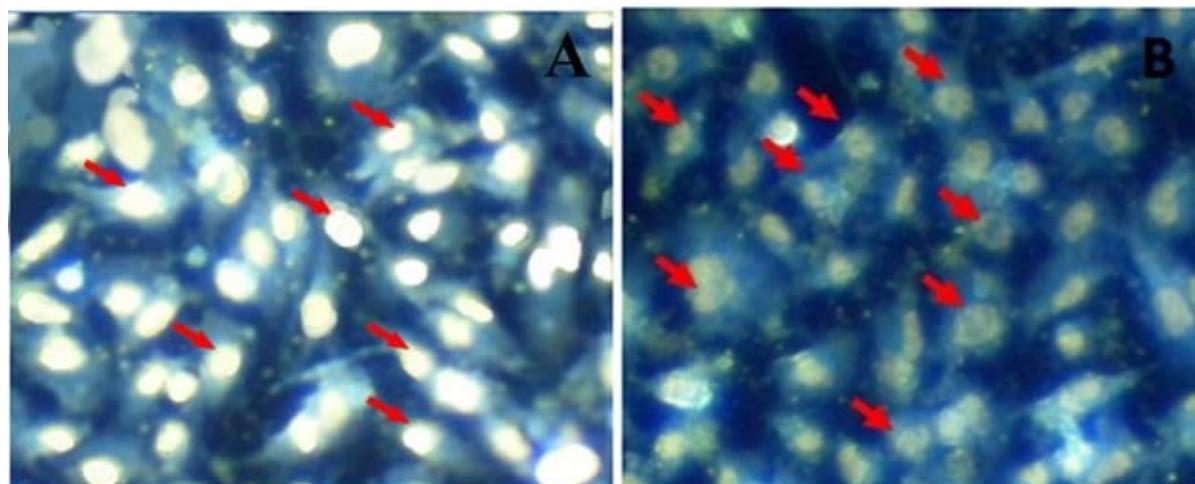


Figure S4. (A) The established standard curve of DOX at about 480 nm by UV-VIS absorption spectra; (B) UV-VIS absorption spectrum of DOX in supernatant.

## PRUSSIAN BLUE STAIN

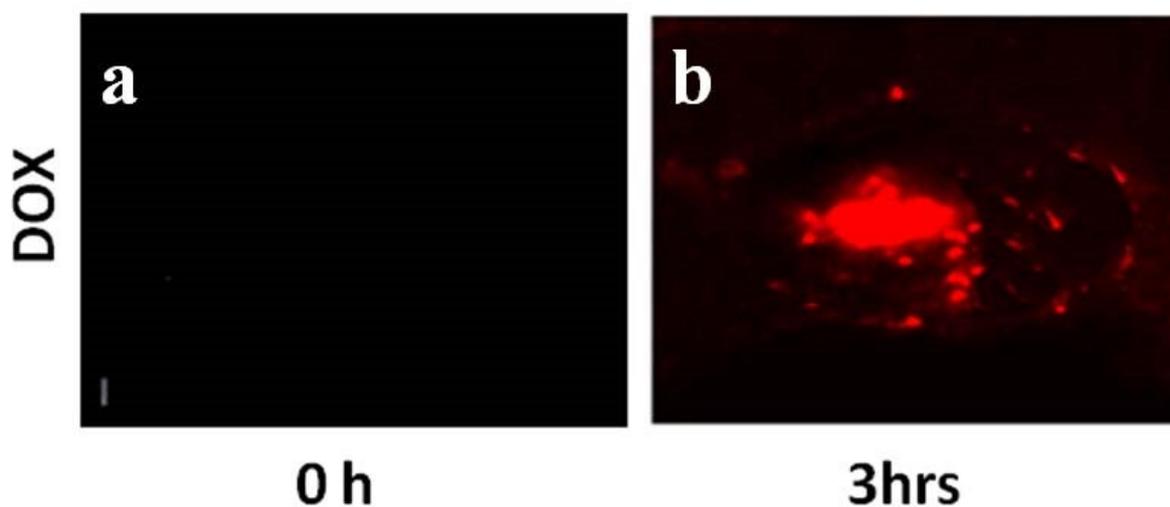


CONTROL

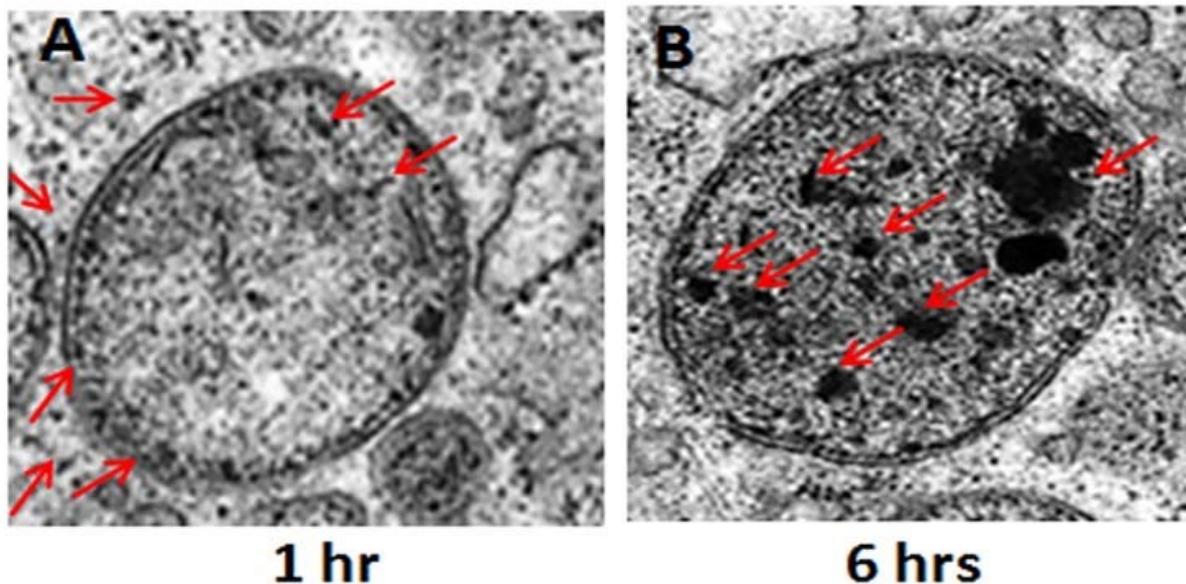
24 h –  $\gamma\text{-Fe}_2\text{O}_3\text{-NC}$

**Figure S5.** Prussian blue staining A) Control and B) cells were incubated with 25  $\mu\text{g}/\text{mL}$  PEG-DOX- $\gamma\text{-Fe}_2\text{O}_3\text{-NC}$  for 24hr, and stained with 2 mL of Prussian blue solution at 37°C for 30min. A blue area or spot was observed in almost every cell (indicated by arrows).

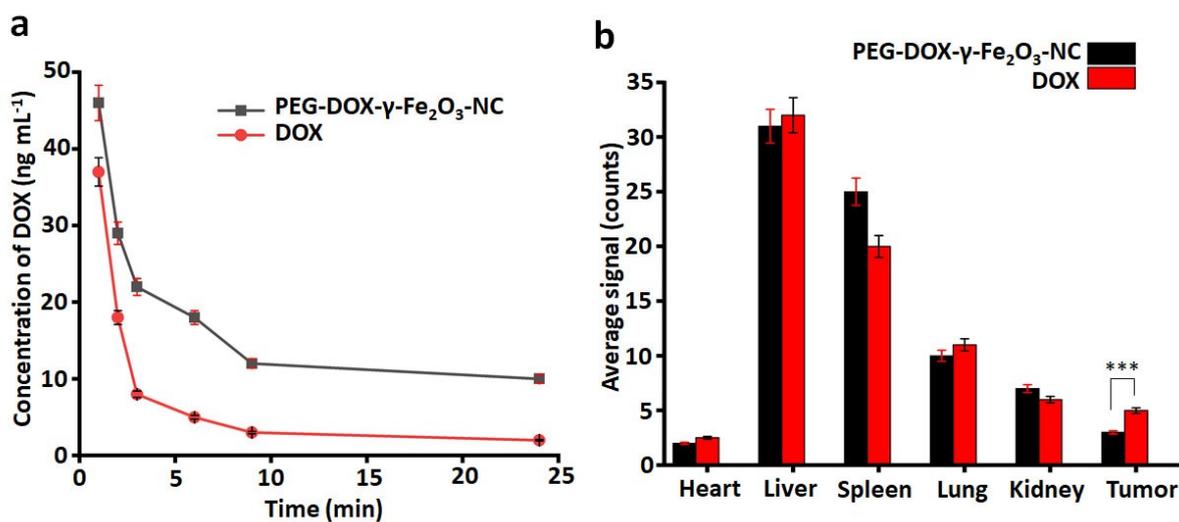
## A549



**Figure S6.** Confocal microscopy image of A549 cells treated with PEG-DOX- $\gamma\text{-Fe}_2\text{O}_3\text{-NC}$ . No DOX signal was obtained within 0 hr, but DOX was concentrated in the core within 3 hr, and evenly distributed DOX was also displayed around the core. Note: DOX (red) in cell.



**Figure S7.** Transmission electron microscopy of A549 cells showed the internalization of PEG-DOX- $\gamma$ -Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>-NC after 6 hr of incubation in the nucleus. Note: The red arrow represents the collection of nanocrystals.



**Figure S8.** Pharmacokinetics and biodistribution of DOX formulations in vivo. (a) In vivo DOX pharmacokinetics after i.v. injection of free PEG-DOX- $\gamma$ -Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>-NC and in to Sprague-Dawley rat. (b) Average semiquantitative signals of major organs and tumor after i.v. injection. Data are presented as mean  $\pm$  SD (n = 3; \*P < 0.05, \*\*\*P < 0.001).