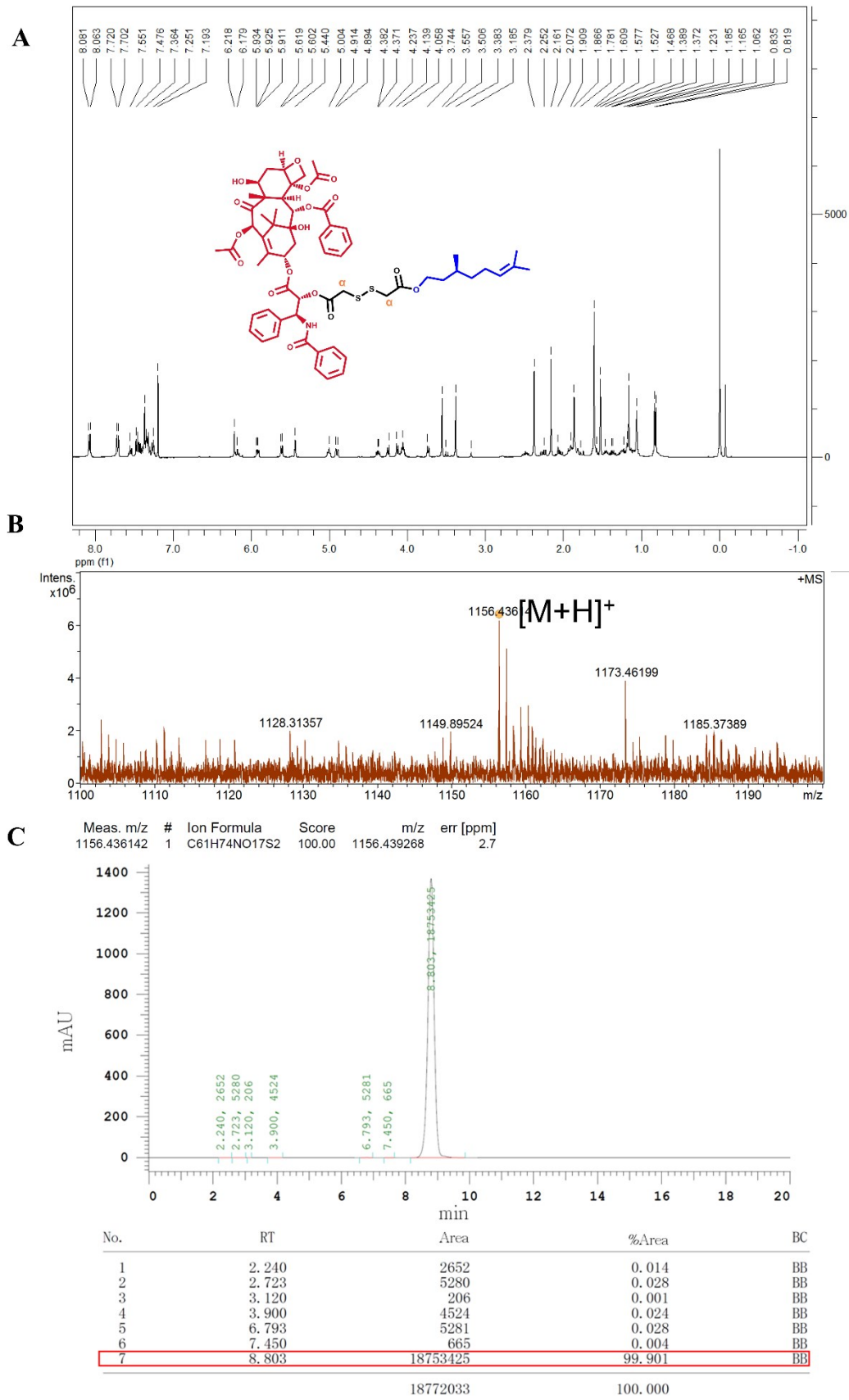


## Supporting Information

### **The Length of Disulfide Bond-Containing Linkages Impacts the Oral Absorption and Antitumor Activity of Paclitaxel Prodrugs-Loaded Nanoemulsions**

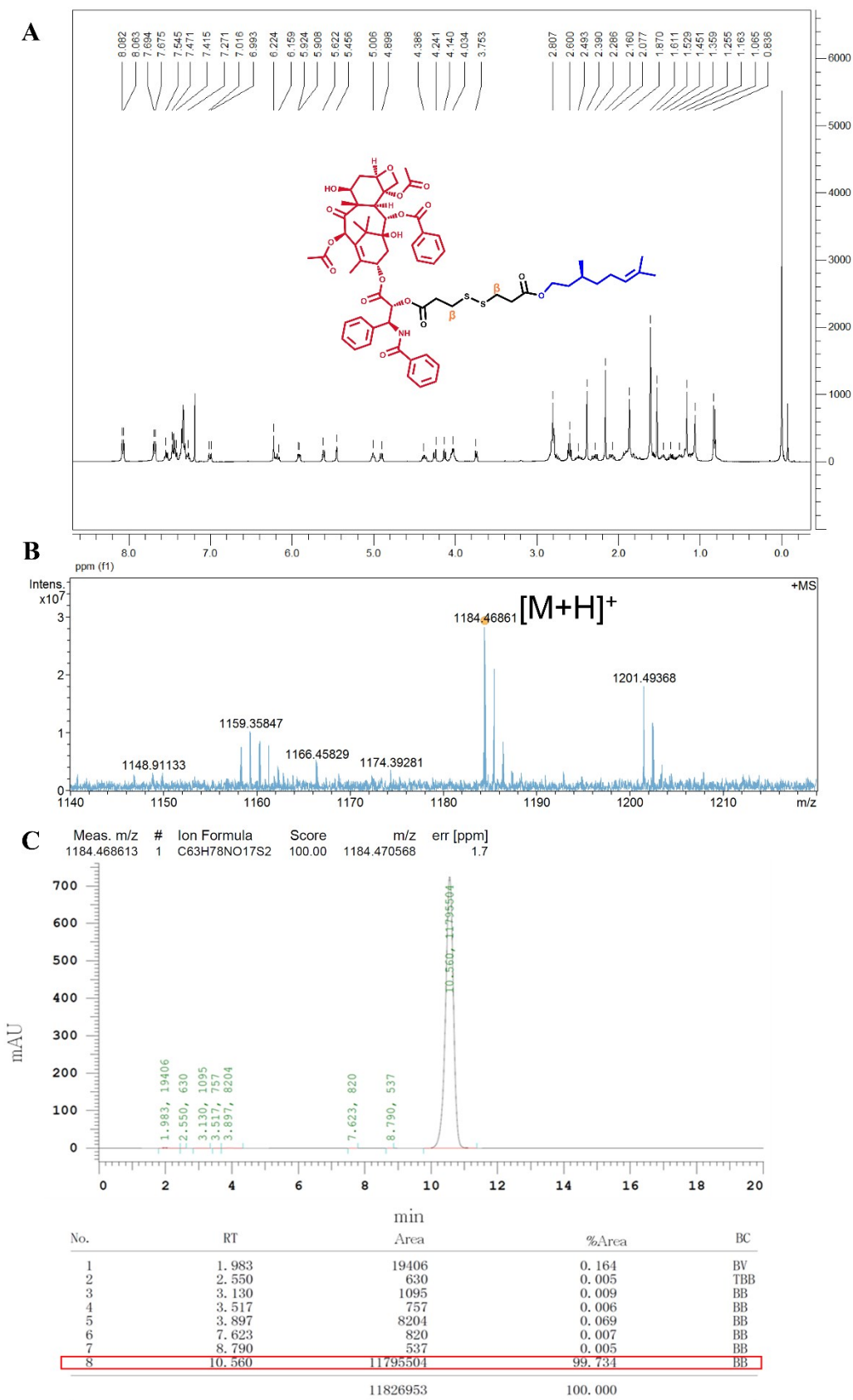
*Yanlin Gao, Shiyi Zuo, Lingxiao Li, Tian Liu, Fudan Dong, Xin Wang, Xuanbo Zhang, Zhonggui He, Yinglei Zhai \*, Bingjun Sun \*, Jin Sun \**



**Figure S1.** Structure confirmation of  $\alpha$ -PTX-SS-CIT. (A)  $^1\text{H}$  NMR. (B) MS. (C) Purity.

$^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  8.081 (d, 2H, Ar-H,  $J=7.3\text{Hz}$ ), 7.720 (d, 2H, Ar-H,  $J=7.4\text{Hz}$ ), 7.551 (t, 1H, Ar-H,  $J=7.4\text{Hz}$ ), 7.476-7.251 (Ar-H, 10H), 6.218 (s, 1H, 10-H), 6.179 (t, 1H,  $J=8.6\text{Hz}$ , 13-H), 5.934 (dd, 1H,  $J=3.0\text{Hz}$ ,  $J=6.4\text{Hz}$ , 3'-H), 5.619 (d, 1H,  $J=7.0\text{Hz}$ , 2-H), 5.440 (d,  $J=3.5\text{Hz}$ , 1H, H-2', PTX), 5.004 (t, 1H,  $(\text{CH}_3)_2\text{CCH}$ ), 4.914 (d, 1H,  $J=8.0\text{Hz}$ , 5-H), 4.382 (dd, 1H,  $J=6.5\text{Hz}$ ,  $J=4.2\text{Hz}$ , 7-H), 4.237 (d, 1H,  $J=8.4\text{Hz}$ , 20 $\alpha$ -H), 4.139 (d, 1H,  $J=8.4\text{Hz}$ , 20 $\beta$ -H), 4.058 (m, 2H,  $\text{CH}_2\text{OCO}$ ), 3.744 (d, 1H,  $J=7.0\text{Hz}$ , 3-H), 3.557 (dd, 4H,  $\text{CH}_2\text{SSCH}_2$ ), 3.383 (m, 1H, 6 $\alpha$ -H), 2.379 (s, 3H, 4-COCH<sub>3</sub>), 2.252 (m, 2H, 14-H), 2.161 (s, 3H, 10-COCH<sub>3</sub>), 1.866 (m, 2H,  $\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{OH}$ ), 2.072 (t, 1H, 6 $\beta$ -H), 1.781 (s, 3H, 18-CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.609 (s, 3H, 19-CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.511 (s, 3H,  $(\text{CH}_3)_2\text{CCH}$ , cis-), 1.527 (s, 3H,  $(\text{CH}_3)_2\text{CCH}$ , trans-), 1.468 (m, 2H,  $(\text{CH}_3)_2\text{CCHCH}_2$ ), 1.389 (m, 2H,  $\text{CH}_2\text{CH}(\text{CH}_3)\text{CH}_2$ ), 1.185 (s, 3H, 17-CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.165 (s, 3H, 16-CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.062 (m, 1H,  $\text{CH}_2\text{CH}(\text{CH}_3)\text{CH}_2$ ), 0.835 (d, 3H,  $\text{CH}_2\text{CH}(\text{CH}_3)\text{CH}_2$ ).

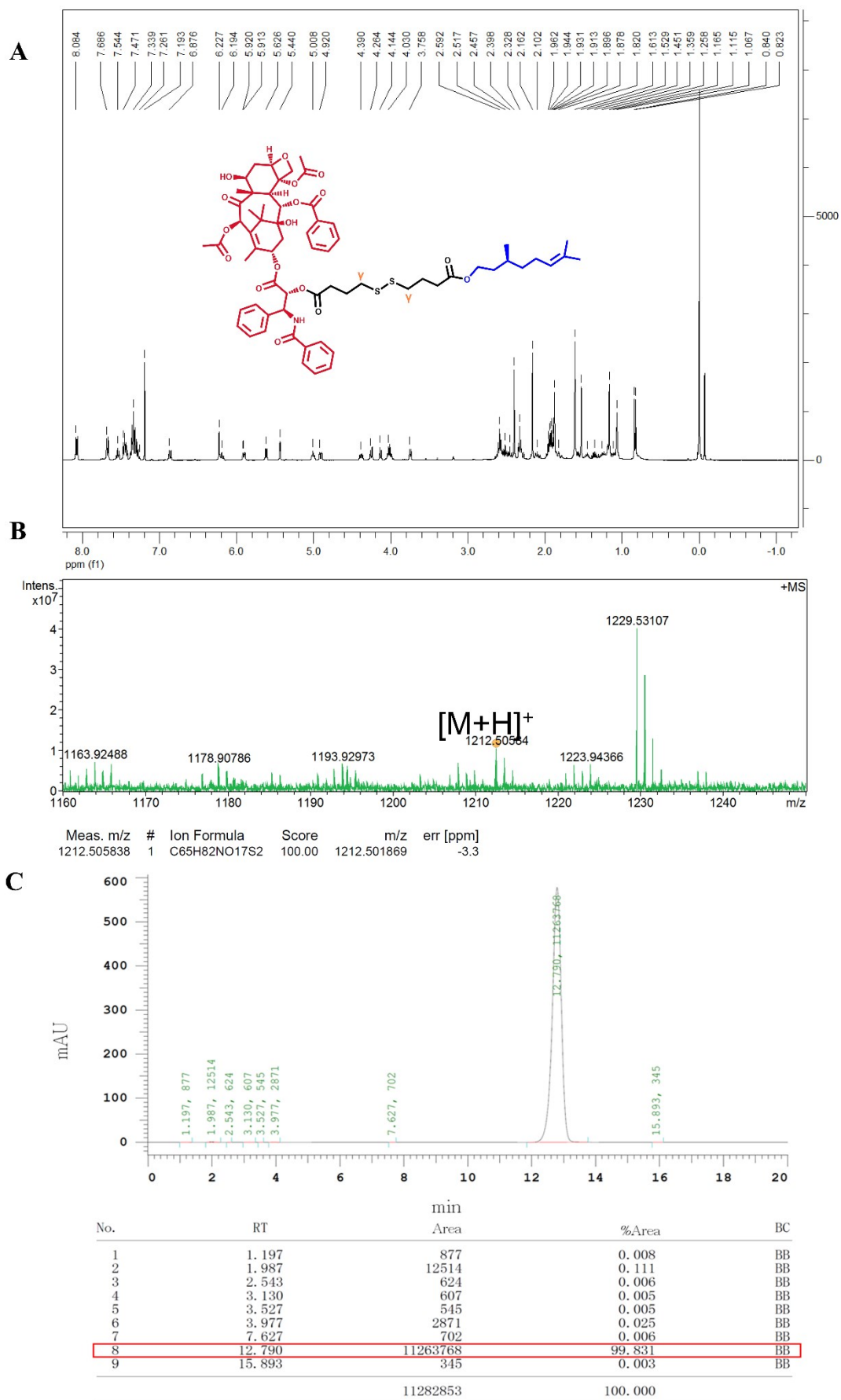
MS (ESI) for  $\alpha$ -PTX-SS-CIT  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+=1156.43614$ .



**Figure S2.** Structure confirmation of  $\beta$ -PTX-SS-CIT. (A)  $^1\text{H}$  NMR. (B) MS. (C) Purity.

$^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  8.082 (d, 2H, Ar-H,  $J=7.3\text{Hz}$ ), 7.694 (d, 2H, Ar-H,  $J=7.4\text{Hz}$ ), 7.545 (t, 1H, Ar-H,  $J=7.4\text{Hz}$ ), 7.471-7.271 (Ar-H, 10H), 7.016 (d, 1H,  $J=9.2\text{Hz}$ , -NH-), 6.224 (s, 1H, 10-H), 6.159 (t, 1H,  $J=8.6\text{Hz}$ , 13-H), 5.924 (dd, 1H,  $J=3.0\text{Hz}$ ,  $J=6.4\text{Hz}$ , 3'-H), 5.622 (d, 1H,  $J=7.0\text{Hz}$ , 2-H), 5.456 (d,  $J = 3.5\text{Hz}$ , 1H, H-2', PTX), 5.006 (t, 1H,  $(\text{CH}_3)_2\text{CCH}$ ), 4.898 (d, 1H,  $J=8.0\text{Hz}$ , 5-H), 4.386 (dd, 1H,  $J=6.5\text{Hz}$ ,  $J=4.2\text{Hz}$ , 7-H), 4.241 (d, 1H,  $J=8.4\text{Hz}$ , 20 $\alpha$ -H), 4.140 (d, 1H,  $J=8.4\text{Hz}$ , 20 $\beta$ -H), 4.034 (m, 2H,  $\text{CH}_2\text{OCO}$ ), 3.753 (d, 1H,  $J=7.0\text{Hz}$ , 3-H), 2.807 (t, 4H,  $\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{SSCH}_2\text{CH}_2$ ), 2.600 (t, 4H,  $\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{SSCH}_2\text{CH}_2$ ), 2.493 (m, 1H, 6 $\alpha$ -H), 2.390 (s, 3H, 4-COCH<sub>3</sub>), 2.286 (m, 2H, 14-H), 2.160 (s, 3H, 10-COCH<sub>3</sub>), 2.077 (m, 2H,  $\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{OH}$ ), 1.87 (t, 1H, 6 $\beta$ -H), 1.611 (s, 3H, 18-CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.529 (s, 3H, 19-CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.451 (m, 2H,  $(\text{CH}_3)_2\text{CCHCH}_2$ ), 1.359 (m, 2H,  $\text{CH}_2\text{CH}(\text{CH}_3)\text{CH}_2$ ), 1.163 (s, 3H, 17-CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.065 (s, 3H, 16-CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.255 (m, 1H,  $\text{CH}_2\text{CH}(\text{CH}_3)\text{CH}_2$ ), 0.836 (d, 3H,  $\text{CH}_2\text{CH}(\text{CH}_3)\text{CH}_2$ ).

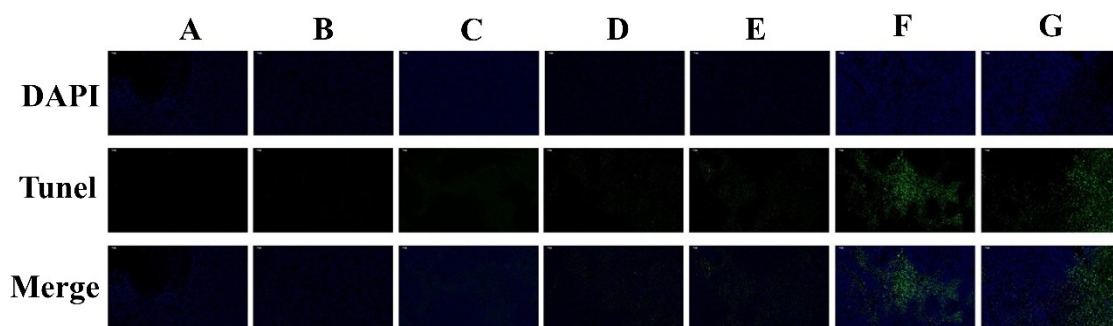
MS (ESI) for  $\beta$ -PTX-SS-CIT  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+ = 1184.46861$



**Figure S3.** Structure confirmation of  $\gamma$ -PTX-SS-CIT. (A)  $^1\text{H}$  NMR. (B) MS. (C) Purity.

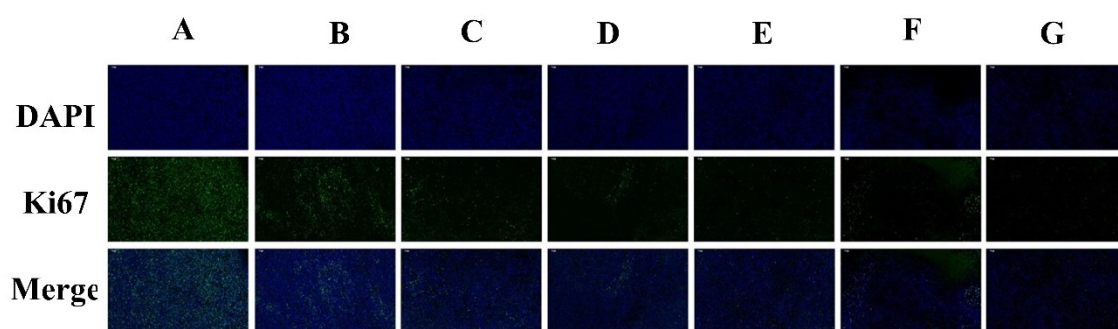
$^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  8.084 (d, 2H, Ar-H,  $J=7.3\text{Hz}$ ), 7.686 (d, 2H, Ar-H,  $J=7.4\text{Hz}$ ), 7.544 (t, 1H, Ar-H,  $J=7.4\text{Hz}$ ), 7.471-7.261 (Ar-H, 10H), 6.876 (d, 1H,  $J=9.2\text{Hz}$ , -NH-), 6.227 (s, 1H, 10-H), 6.194 (t, 1H,  $J=8.6\text{Hz}$ , 13-H), 5.920 (dd, 1H,  $J=3.0\text{Hz}$ ,  $J=6.4\text{Hz}$ , 3'-H), 5.626 (d, 1H,  $J=7.0\text{Hz}$ , 2-H), 5.440 (d,  $J=3.5\text{Hz}$ , 1H, H-2', PTX), 5.008 (t, 1H,  $(\text{CH}_3)_2\text{CCH}$ ), 4.920 (d, 1H,  $J=8.0\text{Hz}$ , 5-H), 4.390 (dd, 1H,  $J=6.5\text{Hz}$ ,  $J=4.2\text{Hz}$ , 7-H), 4.264 (d, 1H,  $J=8.4\text{Hz}$ , 20 $\alpha$ -H), 4.144 (d, 1H,  $J=8.4\text{Hz}$ , 20 $\beta$ -H), 4.030 (m, 2H,  $\text{CH}_2\text{OCO}$ ), 3.758 (d, 1H,  $J=7.0\text{Hz}$ , 3-H), 2.592 (t, 4H,  $\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{SSCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2$ ), 2.517 (t, 4H,  $\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{SSCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2$ ), 2.457 (m, 1H, 6 $\alpha$ -H), 2.398 (s, 3H, 4-COCH<sub>3</sub>), 2.328 (m, 2H, 14-H), 2.162 (s, 3H, 10-COCH<sub>3</sub>), 1.962 (t, 4H,  $\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{SSCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2$ ), 1.944 (m, 2H,  $\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{OH}$ ), 2.102 (t, 1H, 6 $\beta$ -H), 1.878 (s, 3H, 18-CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.820 (s, 3H, 19-CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.613 (s, 3H,  $(\text{CH}_3)_2\text{CCH}$ , cis-), 1.529 (s, 3H,  $(\text{CH}_3)_2\text{CCH}$ , trans-), 1.451 (m, 2H,  $(\text{CH}_3)_2\text{CCHCH}_2$ ), 1.359 (m, 2H,  $\text{CH}_2\text{CH}(\text{CH}_3)\text{CH}_2$ ), 1.115 (s, 3H, 17-CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.076 (s, 3H, 16-CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.115 (m, 1H,  $\text{CH}_2\text{CH}(\text{CH}_3)\text{CH}_2$ ), 0.840 (d, 3H,  $\text{CH}_2\text{CH}(\text{CH}_3)\text{CH}_2$ ).

MS (ESI) for  $\gamma$ -PTX-SS-CIT  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+=1212.50584$

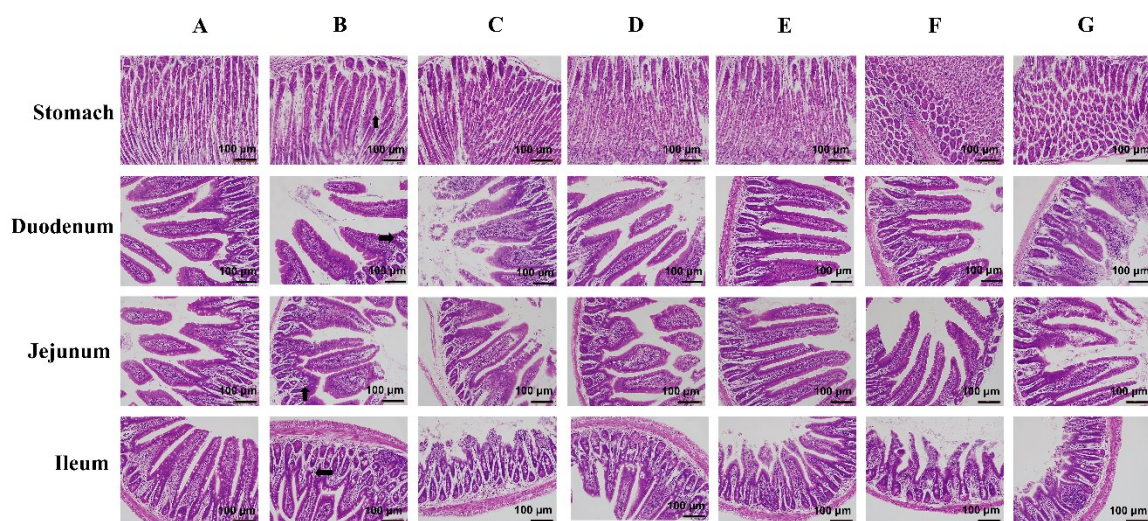


**Figure S4.** Apoptosis fluorescence micrographs of tumor cells. (A) Saline. (B) Taxol (p.o.) (30 mg kg<sup>-1</sup>). (C)  $\gamma$ -PTX-SS-CIT NEs (30 mg kg<sup>-1</sup>). (D)  $\beta$ -PTX-SS-CIT NEs (30 mg kg<sup>-1</sup>). (E)  $\alpha$ -PTX-SS-CIT NEs (30 mg kg<sup>-1</sup>). (F)  $\alpha$ -PTX-SS-CIT NEs (50 mg kg<sup>-1</sup>). (G) Taxol (i.v., 10mg kg<sup>-1</sup>).

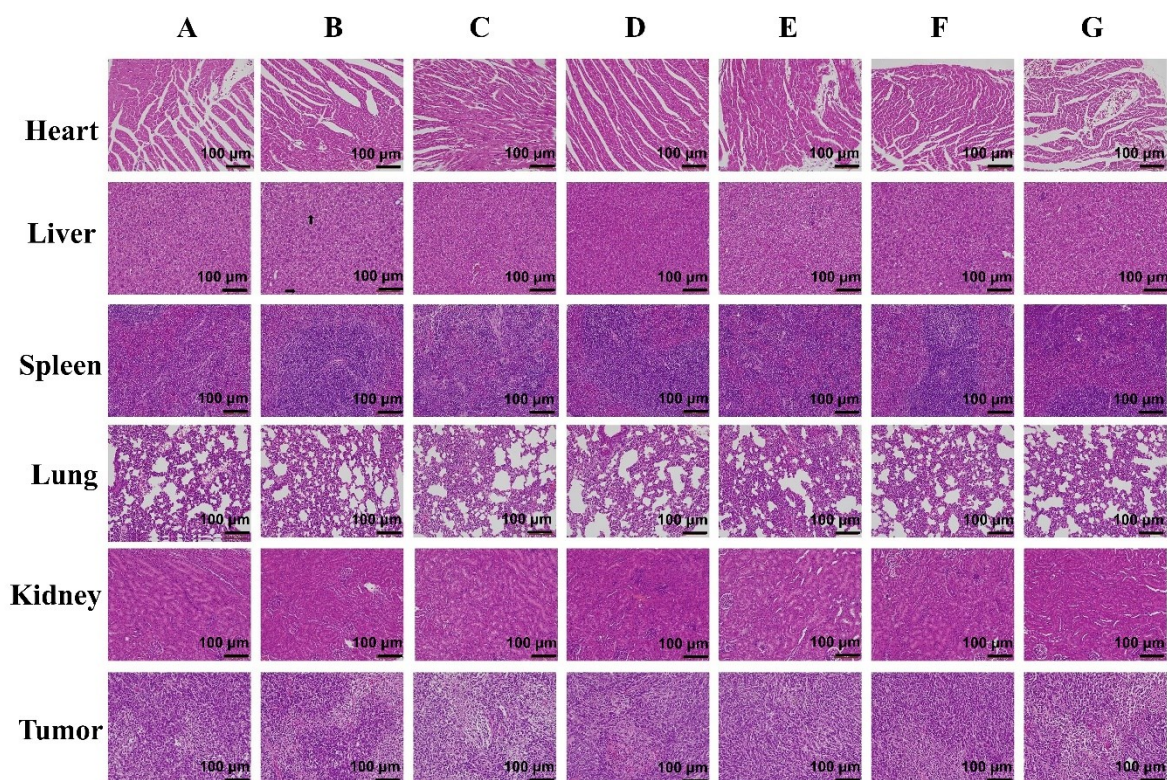




**Figure S5.** Proliferation fluorescence micrographs of tumor cells. (A) Saline. (B) Taxol (p.o.) ( $30 \text{ mg kg}^{-1}$ ). (C)  $\gamma$ -PTX-SS-CIT NEs ( $30 \text{ mg kg}^{-1}$ ). (D)  $\beta$ -PTX-SS-CIT NEs ( $30 \text{ mg kg}^{-1}$ ). (E)  $\alpha$ -PTX-SS-CIT NEs ( $30 \text{ mg kg}^{-1}$ ). (F)  $\alpha$ -PTX-SS-CIT NEs ( $50 \text{ mg kg}^{-1}$ ). (G) Taxol (i.v.,  $10 \text{ mg kg}^{-1}$ ).



**Figure S6.** H&E staining of the major tissues of gastrointestinal tract after treatments. (A) Saline. (B) Taxol. (i.v., 10mg kg<sup>-1</sup>). (C) α-PTX-SS-CIT NEs (50 mg kg<sup>-1</sup>). (D) α-PTX-SS-CIT NEs (30 mg kg<sup>-1</sup>). (E) β-PTX-SS-CIT NEs (30 mg kg<sup>-1</sup>). (F) γ-PTX-SS-CIT NEs (30 mg kg<sup>-1</sup>). (G) Taxol (p.o.) (30 mg kg<sup>-1</sup>).



**Figure S7.** H&E staining of the major tissues of gastrointestinal tract after treatments. (A) Saline. (B) Taxol. (i.v., 10mg kg<sup>-1</sup>). (C) α-PTX-SS-CIT NEs (50 mg kg<sup>-1</sup>). (D) α-PTX-SS-CIT NEs (30 mg kg<sup>-1</sup>). (E) β-PTX-SS-CIT NEs (30 mg kg<sup>-1</sup>). (F) γ-PTX-SS-CIT NEs (30 mg kg<sup>-1</sup>). (G) Taxol (p.o.) (30 mg kg<sup>-1</sup>).

**Table S1.** IC<sub>50</sub> values (nmol/L) of PTX NEs, Taxol, and prodrug NEs to 4T1 cell line.

<b>Formulations</b>	<b>IC50 (nmol/L)</b>
Taxol	27.9
PTX NEs	26.4
$\alpha$ -PTX-SS-CIT NEs	48.5
$\beta$ -PTX-SS-CIT NEs	241.5
$\gamma$ -PTX-SS-CIT NEs	119.0

**Table S2. The screening process of the amount of emulsifier.**

<b>Mixed oil</b>	<b>Egg yolk lecithin (mg)</b>	<b>Sodium deoxycholate (mg)</b>	<b>Size (nm)</b>	<b>PDI</b>
Soybean oil: MCT=1:4	120	40	145.7±0.5	0.234±0.02
Soybean oil: MCT=1:4	200	40	149.8±1.1	0.112±0.01
Soybean oil: MCT=1:4	240	40	164.4±1.2	0.195±0.12
Soybean oil: MCT=1:4	120	100	145.2±0.2	0.189±0.15
Soybean oil: MCT=1:4	120	130	169.4±0.9	0.170±0.10
Soybean oil: MCT=1:4	200	100	188.6±0.8	0.175±0.02

**Table S3. The screening process of ratio of oil and water(w/w).**

<b>Ratio of oil and water (w/w)</b>	<b>Egg yolk lecithin (mg)</b>	<b>Sodium deoxycholate (mg)</b>	<b>Size (nm)</b>	<b>PDI</b>
Oil: water=1:5	200	40	146.5±0.4	0.240±0.12
Oil: water=1:6	200	40	147.0±1.6	0.211±0.14
Oil: water=1:7	200	40	135.4±1.2	0.145±0.18
Oil: water=1:8	200	40	126.2±0.1	0.197±0.11
Oil: water=1:9	200	40	133.0±1.3	0.158±0.12
Oil: water=1:10	200	40	149.8±0.6	0.112±0.02