## Electronic Supplementary Material (ESI) for Nanoscale.

Bio-engineered Nano-vesicles for IR820 Delivery: A Therapy Platform

for Cancer by Surgery and Photothermal Therapy

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2. Results and discussion

| Table S1. Recombinant plasmid sequence |   |
|--|---|
| Name                                   | DNA sequence                            |
| Gas6                                   | ATGGCCCCTTCGCTCTCGCCCGGGCCCGCCCCCGCC    |
|  | CGCGCGCCGCAGCTGCTGCTGCTGCTGCCGCGCGGAG   |
|  | TGCGCGCTTGCCGCGCTGTTGCCGGCGCGCGAGGCCACG |
|  | CAGTTCCTGCGGCCCAGGCAGCGCCGCGCCTTTCAGGTC |
|  | TTCGAGGAGGCCAAGCAGGGCCACCTGGAGAGGGAGTG  |
|  | CGTGGAGGAGCTGTGCAGCCGCGAGGAGGCGCGGGAGG  |
|  | TGTTCGAGAACGACCCCGAGACGGATTATTTTACCCAA  |
|  | GATACTTAGACTGCATCAACAAGTATGGGTCTCCGTACA |
|  | CCAAAAACTCAGGCTTCGCCACCTGCGTGCAAAACCTGC |
|  | CTGACCAGTGCACGCCCAACCCCTGCGATAGGAAGGGG  |
|  | ACCCAAGCCTGCCAGGACCTCATGGGCAACTTCTTCTGC |
|  | CTGTGTAAAGCTGGCTGGGGGGGGCCGGCTCTGCGACAA |
|  | AGATGTCAACGAATGCAGCCAGGAGAACGGGGGGCTGCC |
|  | TCCAGATCTGCCACAACAAGCCGGGTAGCTTCCACTGTT |

|                | CCTGCCACAGCGGCTTCGAGCTCTCCTCTGATGGCAGGA  |
|----------------|--|
|                | CCTGCCAAGACATAGACGAGTGCGCAGACTCGGAGGCC   |
|                | TGCGGGGAGGCGCGCTGCAAGAACCTGCCCGGCTCCTA   |
|                | CTCCTGCCTCTGTGACGAGGGCTTTGCGTACAGCTCCCA  |
|                | GGAGAAGGCTTGCCGAGATGTGGACGAGTGTCTGCAGG   |
|                | GCCGCTGTGAGCAGGTCTGCGTGAACTCCCCAGGGAGC   |
|                | TACACCTGCCACTGTGACGGGGCGTGGGGGGCCTCAAGCT |
|                | GTCCCAGGACATGGACACCTGTGAGGACATCTTGCCGTG  |
|                | CGTGCCCTTCAGCGTGGCCAAGAGTGTGAAGTCCTTGTA  |
|                | CCTGGGCCGGATGTTCAGTGGGACCCCCGTGATCCGACT  |
|                | GCGCTTCAAGAGGCTGCAGCCCACCAGGCTGGTAGCTG   |
|                | AGTTTGACTTCCGGACCTTTGACCCCGAGGGCATCCTCC  |
|                | TCTTTGCCGGAGGCCACCAGGACAGCACCTGGATCGTGC  |
|                | TGGCCCTGAGAGCCGGCCGGCTGGAGCTGCAGCTGCGC   |
|                | TACAACGGTGTCGGCCGTGTCACCAGCAGCGGCCCGGT   |
|                | CATCAACCATGGCATGTGGCAGACAATCTCTGTTGAGGA  |
|                | GCTGGCGCGGAATCTGGTCATCAAGGTCAACAGGGATG   |
|                | CTGTCATGAAAATCGCGGTGGCCGGGGACTTGTTCCAAC  |
|                | CGGAGCGAGGACTGTATCATCTGAACCTGACCGTGGGA   |
|                | GGTATTCCCTTCCATGAGAAGGACCTCGTGCAGCCTATA  |
|                | AACCCTCGTCTGGATGGCTGCATGAGGAGCTGGAACTG   |
|                | GCTGAACGGAGAAGACACCACCATCCAGGAAACGGTGA   |
|                | AAGTGAACACGAGGATGCAGTGCTTCTCGGTGACGGAG   |
|                | AGAGGCTCTTTCTACCCCGGGAGCGGCTTCGCCTTCTAC  |
|                | AGCCTGGACTACATGCGGACCCCTCTGGACGTCGGGACT  |
|                | GAATCAACCTGGGAAGTAGAAGTCGTGGCTCACATCCG   |
|                | CCCAGCCGCAGACACAGGCGTGCTGTTTGCGCTCTGGGC  |
|                | CCCCGACCTCCGTGCCGTGCCTCTCTCTGTGGCACTGGT  |
|                | AGACTATCACTCCACGAAGAAACTCAAGAAGCAGCTGG   |
|                | TGGTCCTGGCCGTGGAGCATACGGCCTTGGCCCTAATGG  |
|                | AGATCAAGGTCTGCGACGGCCAAGAGCACGTGGTCACC   |
|                | GTCTCGCTGAGGGACGGTGAGGCCACCCTGGAGGTGGA   |
|                | CGGCACCAGGGGCCAGAGCGAGGTGAGCGCCGCGCAGC   |
|                | TGCAGGAGAGGCTGGCCGTGCTCGAGAGGCACCTGCGG   |
|                | AGCCCCGTGCTCACCTTTGCTGGCGGCCTGCCAGATGTG  |
|                | CCGGTGACTTCAGCGCCAGTCACCGCGTTCTACCGCGGC  |
|                | TGCATGACACTGGAGGTCAACCGGAGGCTGCTGGACCT   |
|                | GGACGAGGCGGCGTACAAGCACAGCGACATCACGGCCC   |
|                | ACTCCTGCCCCCGTGGAGCCCGCCGCAGCC           |
| Signal peptide | ATGAATTTACAACCAATTTTCTGGATTGGACTGATCAGT  |
|                | TCAGTTTGCTGTGTGTTTGCTT                   |
| Transmembrane  | TTATGGGTCATCCTGCTGAGTGCTTTTGCCGGATTGTTGC |
| peptide        | TGTTAATGCTGCTCATTTTAGCACTGTGG            |
| Linker         | GGTGGTGGAGGATCAGGTGGTGGTGGTGGTGGAGG      |



Fig. S1 Axl expression quantity detection of HCC. (A) SMMC7721, MDA-MB-231 (Axl-positive cells), HEK293T, and LO2 (Axl-normal cells) were (A) hybridized with anti-Axl antibody by WB and (B) quantificationally analyzed by using image J.



Fig. S2 Immunofluorescence results show that overexpression of Axl on SMMC7721 cell membrane. Scale bar,  $10 \mu m$ .



Fig. S3 Schematic illustration of the signal peptide (Sp)-Gas6-transmembrane peptide (Tp)-GFP construct, which is expressed onto the cell membrane.



Fig. S4 (A). Transfection efficiency of pcDNA 3.1 vector in HEK293T cells. (B) Western blotting analysis of Gas6 expression on HEK293T cell membrane after plasmids transfection (sample) and HEK293T cell membrane (control).



Fig. S5 (A). Immunofluorescence results show that Gas6 expression on HEK293T cell surface. Scale bar, 10  $\mu$ m. (B) Co-IP and WB analysis of G-Nvs biological activity.



Fig. S6 (A) Standard curve profile of different concentration of free IR820 in deionized water. (I) Insert figure shows transfected cells, (II) transfected cells mixed with free IR820, (III) the synthesis of G-Nvs@IR820. (B) The final concentration of IR820 in the G-Nvs@IR820 were indicated by different IR820 feeding ratio (a/f: 100 μg, b/g: 200 μg, c/h: 300 μg, d/i: 400 μg, e/j: 500 μg). The two groups of tubes are transfected cells (left) and PBS (right), respectively. (C) The encapsulation efficiency of G-Nvs@IR820 in different feeding concentrations of IR820 while transfected cells were fixed at the amount of 10<sup>7</sup>. (D) Release rate of G-Nvs@IR820 after different pH treating in the PBS (contain 5% human serum albumin) for 48 h at 37°C. (E) Release rate of G-Nvs@IR820 were measured at 4°C every two days. (F) Particle size changes of G-Nvs@IR820 at 4°C were measured every two days.



Fig. S7 (A) UV-vis-NIR absorption spectra of G-Nvs@IR820 dispersed in PBS with various concentrations. (B) Zeta potential analysis of G-Nvs@IR820 and IR820 showing successful IR820 encapsulating in G-Nvs.



Fig. S8 Fluorescence statistics of NIR dyes of the identical quality. Compared with G-Nvs@IR820, the identical quality of ICG (G-Nvs@ICG, free ICG) showed weaker brightness under surgical navigator.



Fig. S9 Cellular binding assay and competitive blocking assay of G-Nvs in SMMC7721 cells (Axl-overexpressing) and LO2 cells (Axl-normal).