

Supporting Information

Deep Neurotherapeutic Strategy for Ischemic Stroke via Focused Ultrasound-Enhanced Delivery of Curcumin-Loaded Antioxidant Nanoliposomes

Ting-Yi Su, †^a Ming-Yang Chang, †^a Guan-Tsz Huang,^b Wen-Tse Huang,^a Yu-Ling Lin,^c ChaoChin Su,^{b,} Ming-Hsien Chan,^{d,*} Ming-Yen Hsiao,^{c,*} and Ru-Shi Liu^{a,*}*

^a Department of Chemistry, National Taiwan University, Taipei 106, Taiwan

^b Institute of Organic & Polymeric Materials, National Taipei University of Technology, Taipei 106, Taiwan

^c Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, National Taiwan University Hospital, College of Medicine, National Taiwan University, Taipei 100, Taiwan

^d Department of Biomedical Imaging and Radiological Sciences, National Yang Ming Chiao Tung University, Taipei 112, Taiwan

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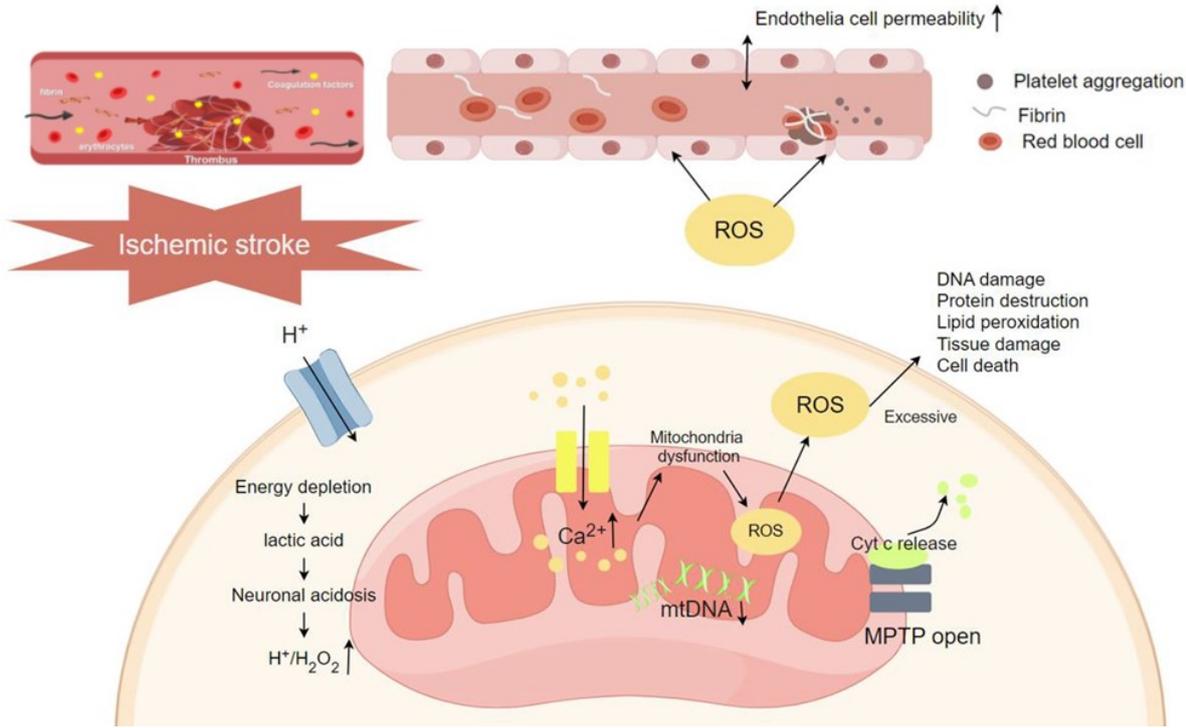


Figure S1. A schematic illustration showing the process of thrombus formation and the underlying oxidative stress mechanism involved in ischemic stroke. The diagram highlights how a blood clot can obstruct cerebral blood flow, leading to oxygen and nutrient deprivation, which subsequently triggers oxidative stress and neuronal damage in the affected brain region.

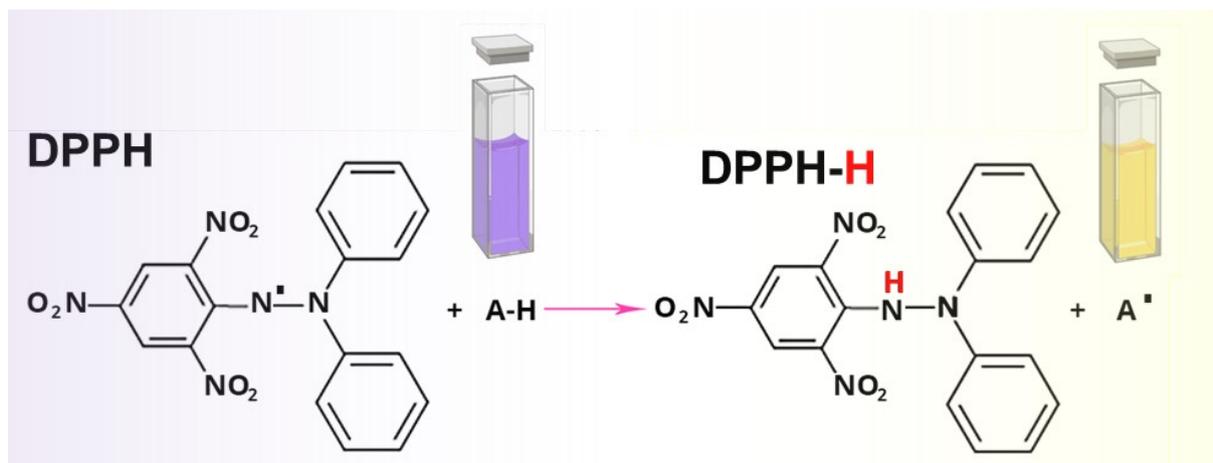


Figure S2. Hydrogen atom transfer (HAT) mechanism of DPPH radical scavenging. The antioxidant (AH) donates a hydrogen atom to the DPPH radical (DPPH•), resulting in the formation of the reduced form (DPPH-H) and a corresponding antioxidant radical (A•).

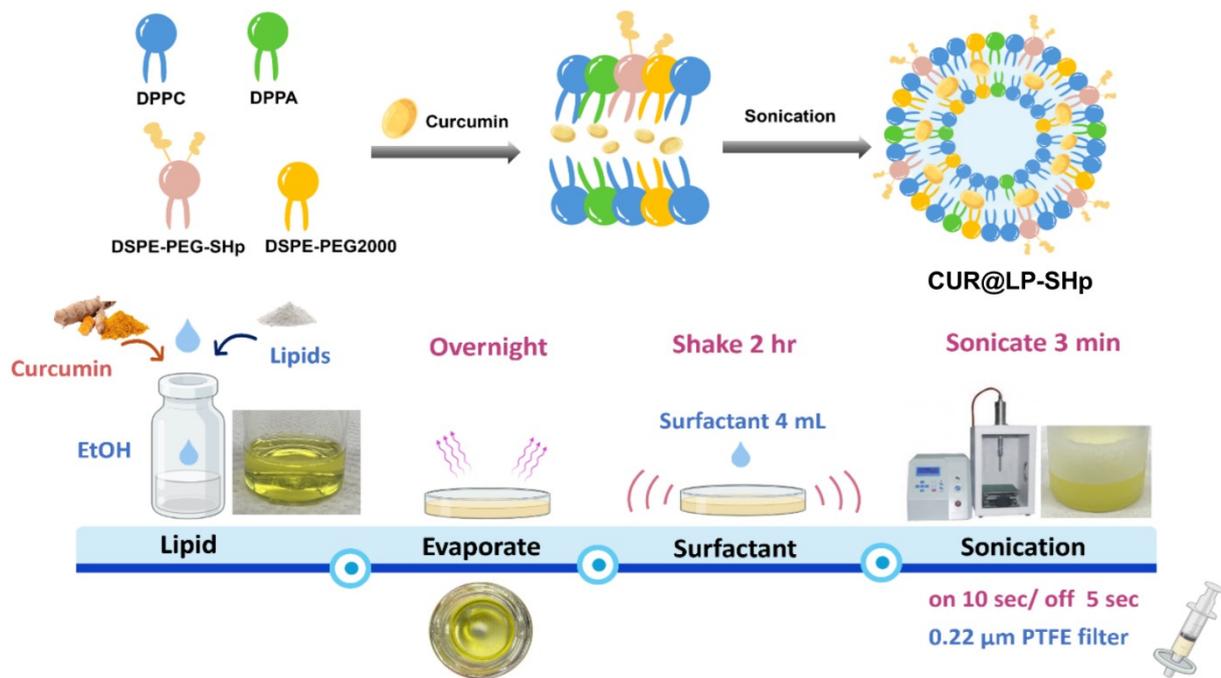


Figure S3. A schematic diagram illustrating the synthesis process of ischemic stroke-targeted curcumin-loaded liposomes (CUR@LP-SHp). The formulation, CUR@LP-SHp, is designed to enhance the targeted delivery of Cur to ischemic brain regions, aiming to improve therapeutic efficacy through its antioxidant and neuroprotective properties.

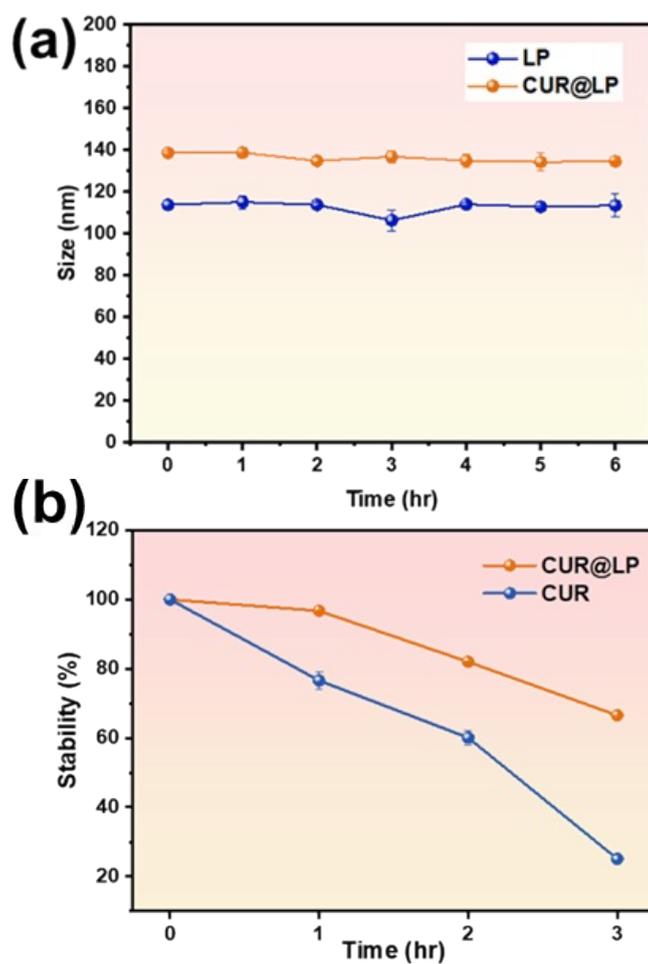


Figure S4. The thermal stability of liposomal formulations and free CUR under physiological temperatures. (a) Stability analysis of LP and CUR@LP at 37°C (n = 3). (b) Stability analysis of the antioxidant drug CUR@LP compared to free Cur at 37°C (n = 3).

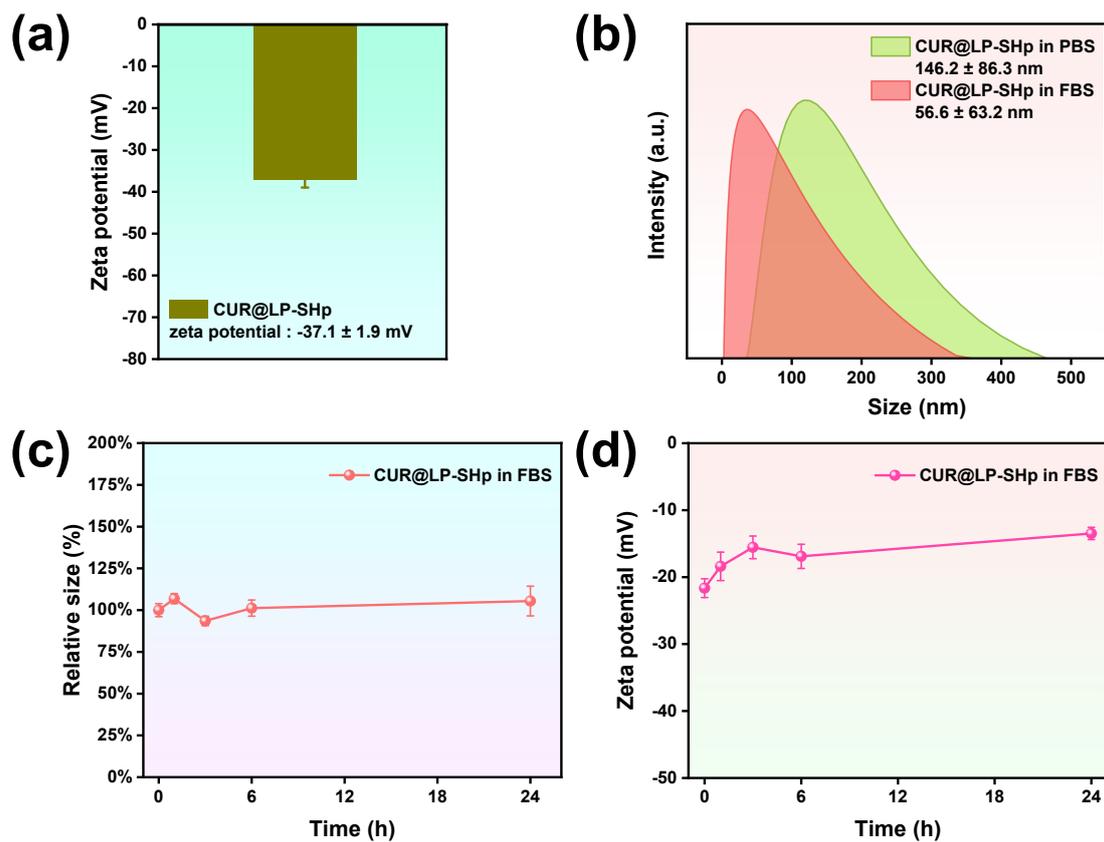


Figure S5. The characteristics of modified liposomes. (a) Zeta potential of CUR@LP-SHp ($n = 3$). (b) Size distribution of CUR@LP-SHp in PBS and in an equal volume of FBS. Serum stability of CUR@LP-SHp in (c) size distribution ($n = 3$) and (d) zeta potential ($n = 3$).

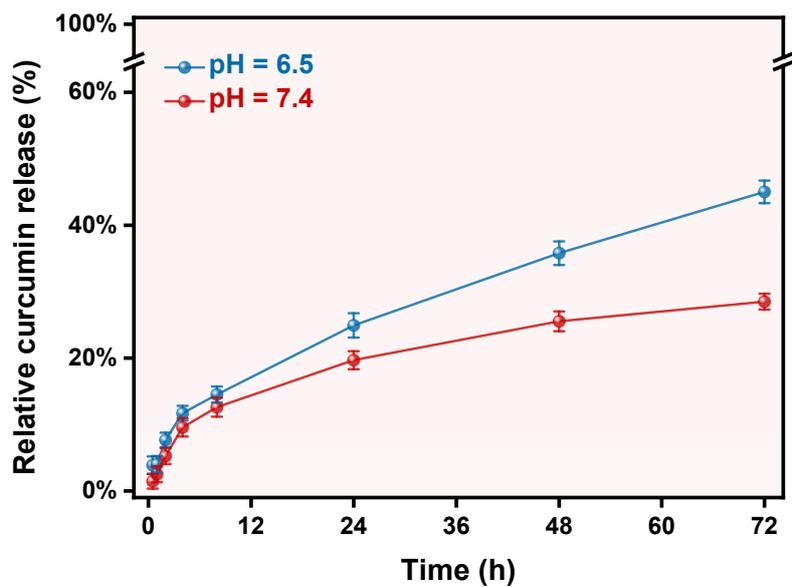


Figure S6. *In vitro* drug release analysis of the sample under simulated physiological (pH = 7.4) and ischemic (pH = 6.5) environments over 72 hours (n = 3).

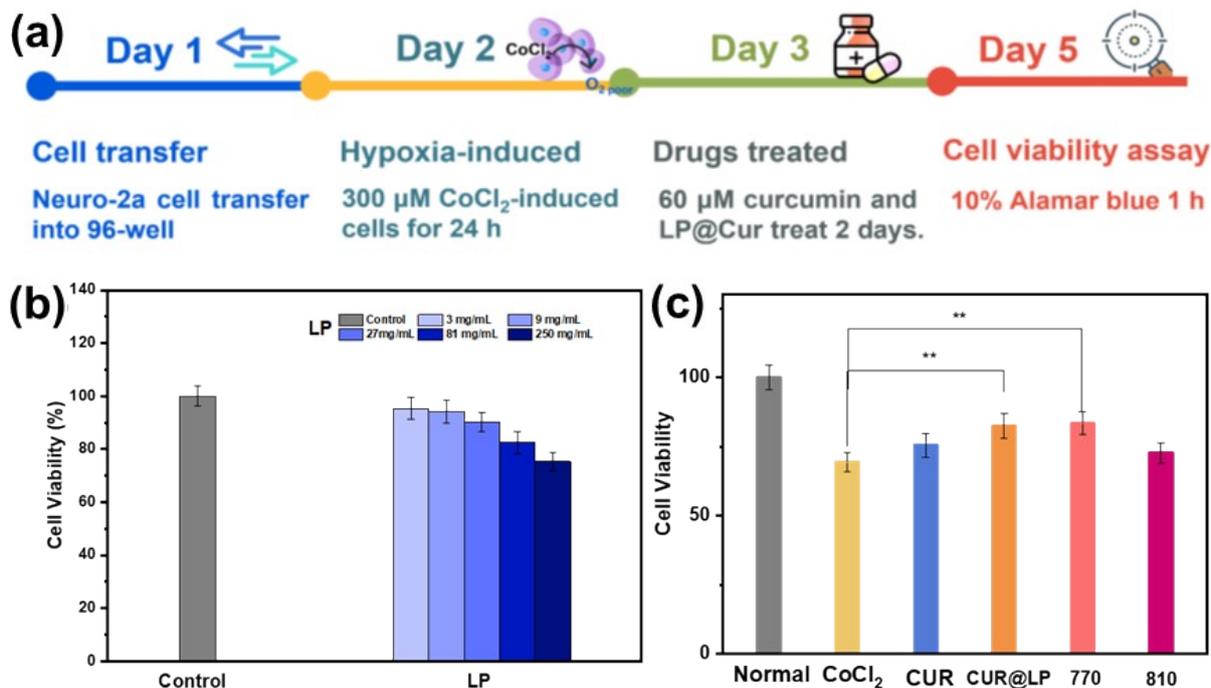


Figure S7. Cell viability analysis of normal Neuro-2a cells and CoCl_2 -induced hypoxic cells treated with Cur and CUR@LP, respectively. (a) Timeline diagram of the treatment process of CoCl_2 -induced hypoxic cells with antioxidant drugs. (b) Biocompatibility analysis of nanoliposomes with normal Neuro-2a cells (n = 8). (c) Cell viability of the control group (normal cells), CoCl_2 group (hypoxic cells), and hypoxic cells treated with 60 μM Cur and CUR@LP (n = 8). (The significance is marked as $**p < 0.01$ compared to the control group.)

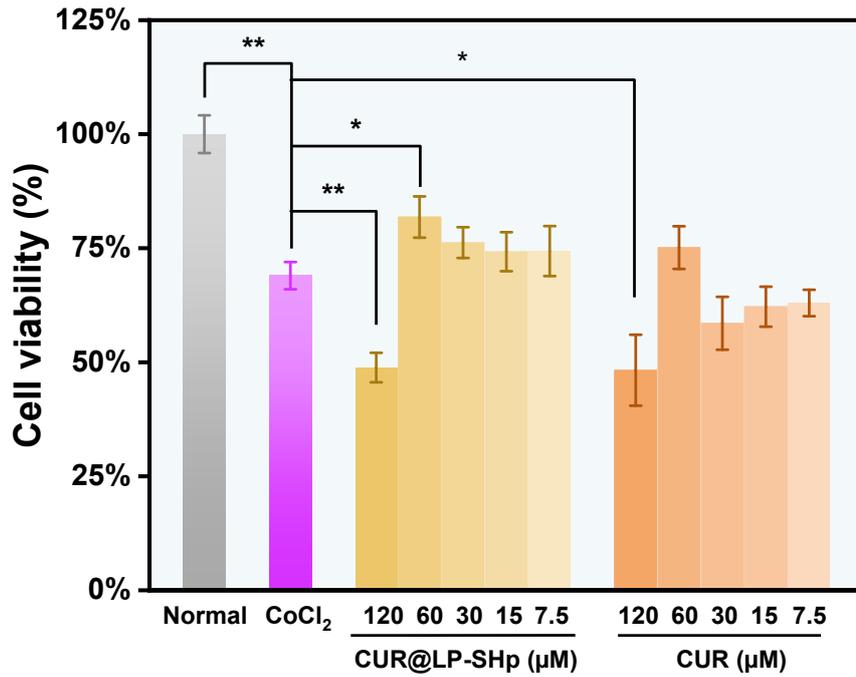


Figure S8. Cell viability of normal and CoCl₂-induced hypoxic Neuro-2a cells treated with various concentrations of CUR@LP-SHp and free CUR (n = 8). (The significance is marked as * $p < 0.05$ and ** $p < 0.01$ compared to the control group.)

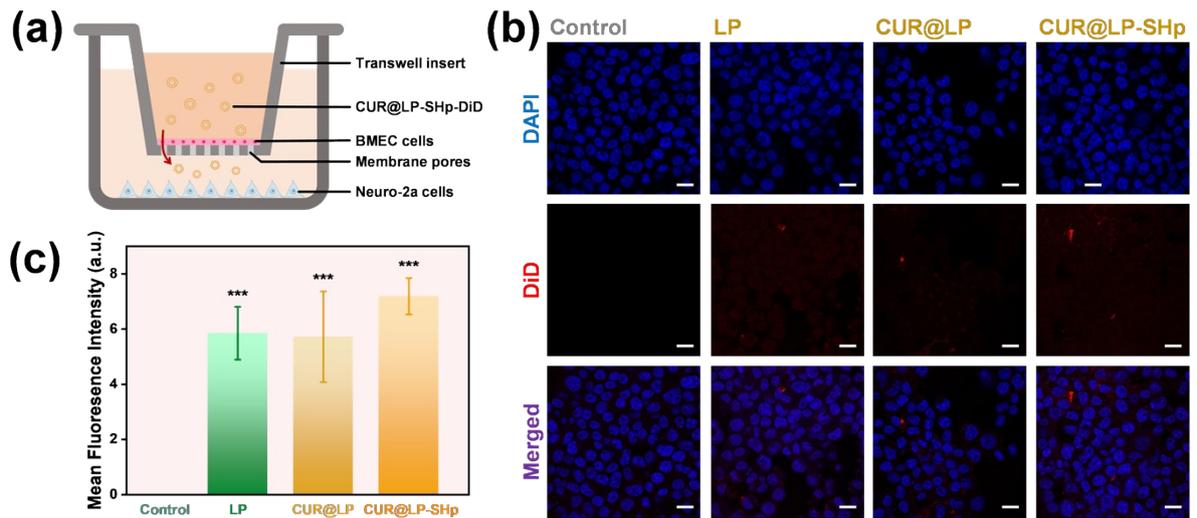


Figure S9. (a) The scheme of the blood-brain barrier-mimicked transwell system. (b) Confocal microscopy images and (c) quantitative results of DiD-labeled liposome across the BBB penetration ($n = 6$). (The significance is marked as *** $p < 0.001$ compared to the control group. Scale bar = 20 μm)

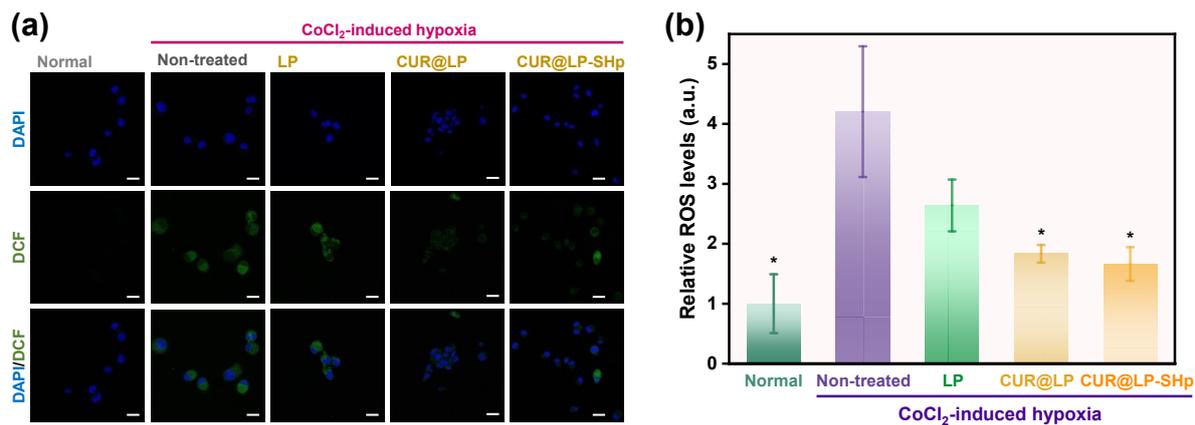


Figure S10. (a) Confocal microscopy images of DCF staining for ROS detection to investigate the antioxidant effects of LP, CUR@LP, and CUR@LP-SHp in CoCl₂-induced hypoxic Neuro-2a cells and (b) quantitative results of fluorescence intensity in the images (n = 6). (The significance is marked as **p* < 0.05 compared to the control group. Scale bar = 20 μm)

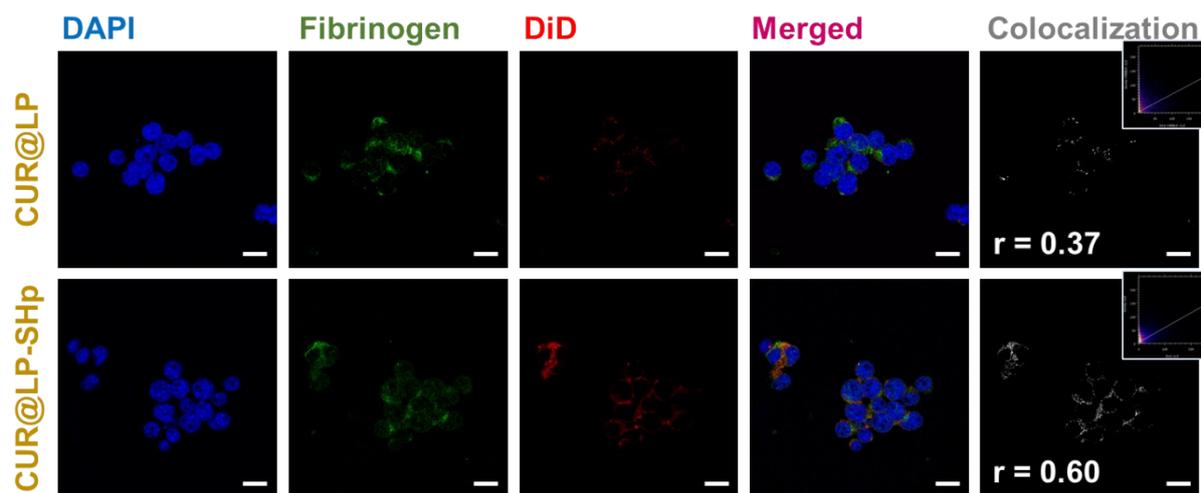


Figure S11. Confocal colocalization of DiD-labeled CUR@LP and CUR@LP-SHp with fibrinogen. (Scale bar = 20 μm)

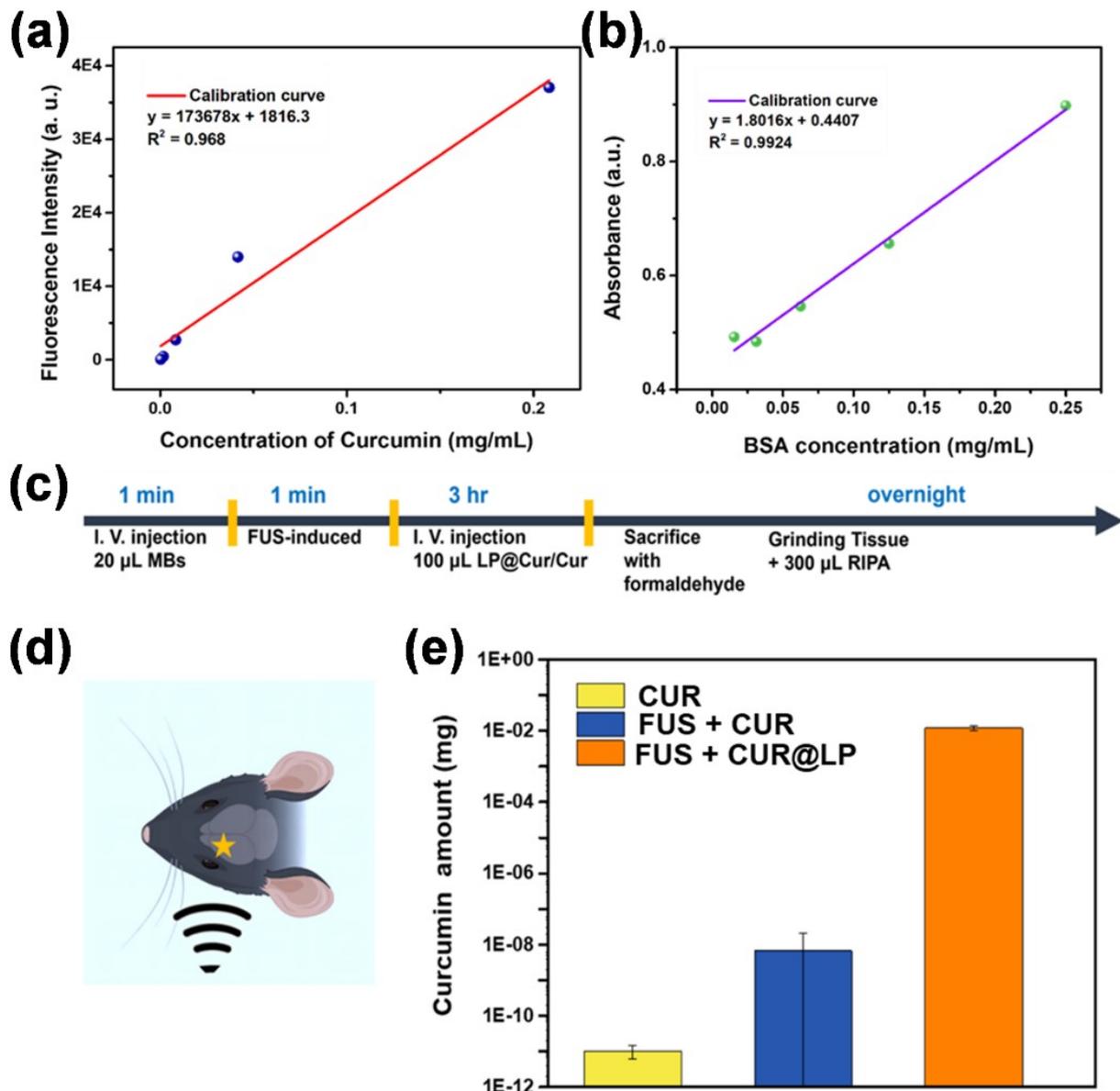


Figure S12. (a) CUR fluorescence intensity-concentration calibration curve. (b) BSA absorption-concentration calibration curve. (c) Experimental protocol flow chart and (d) scheme of drug accumulation. (e) Chart of drug accumulation (n = 3).

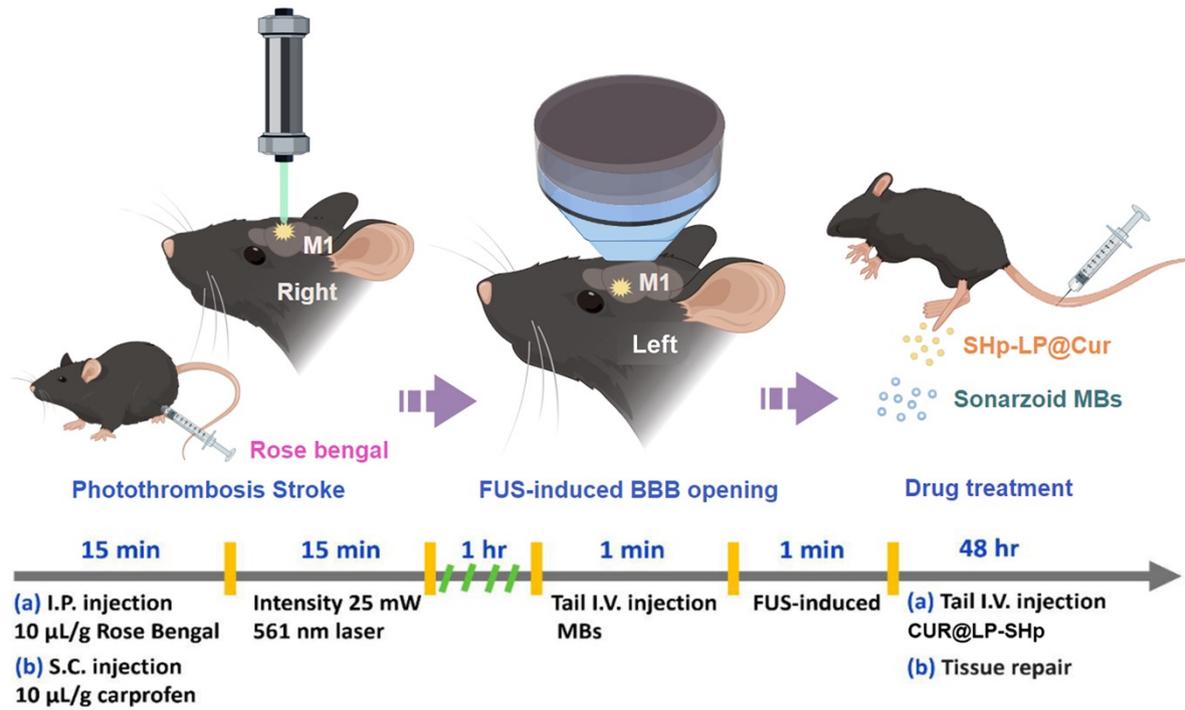


Figure S13. A schematic diagram illustrating the treatment process of photothrombotic ischemic stroke using focused ultrasound combined with liposomal drug delivery. This approach leverages the ability of focused ultrasound to temporarily increase blood-brain barrier permeability, enabling the targeted delivery of CUR@LP-SHp to the ischemic brain tissue, thereby enhancing treatment effectiveness.

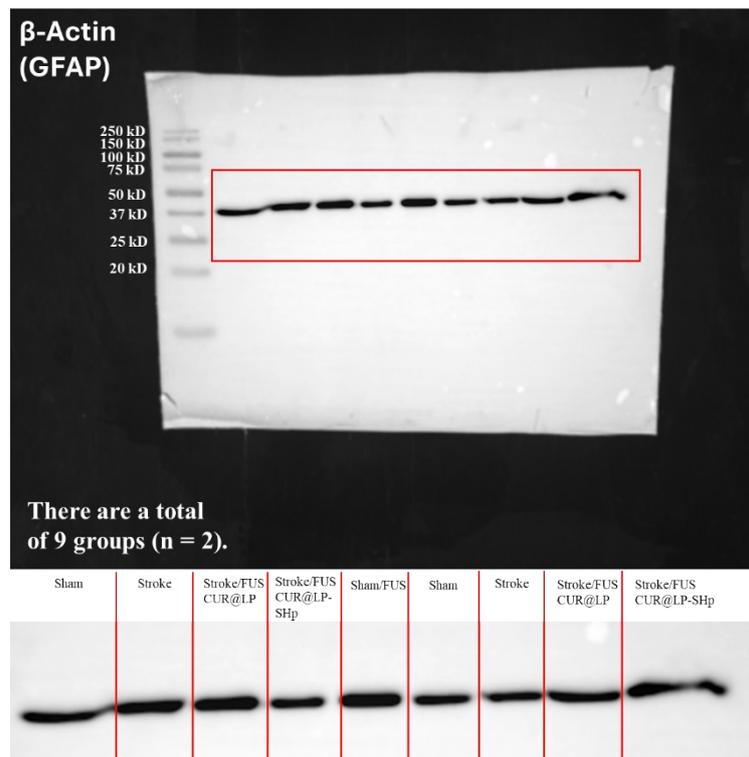
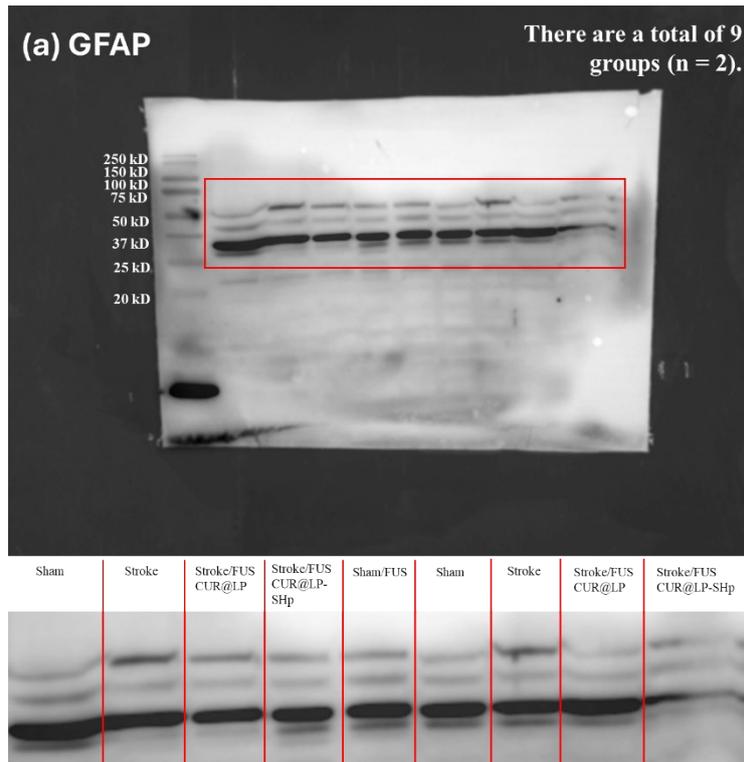


Figure S14. Raw data of the Western blot in Figure 7. Original uncropped Western blot images for GFAP and β -actin are shown in Figure 7b. Each image displays molecular weight markers and lane labels for sample identification (n = 2).

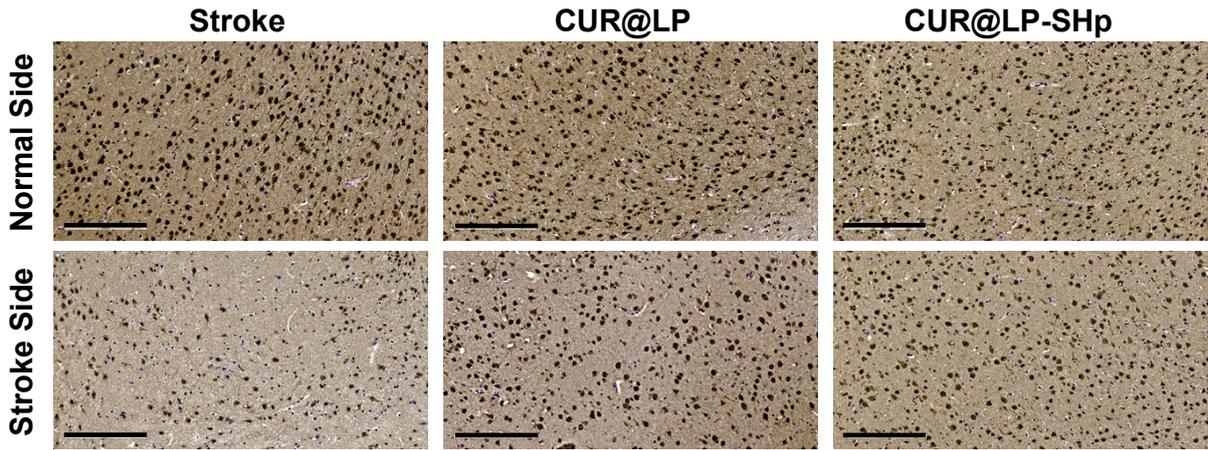


Figure S15. IHC staining of brain sections using NeuN as a neuronal marker. (Scale bar = 200 μm)

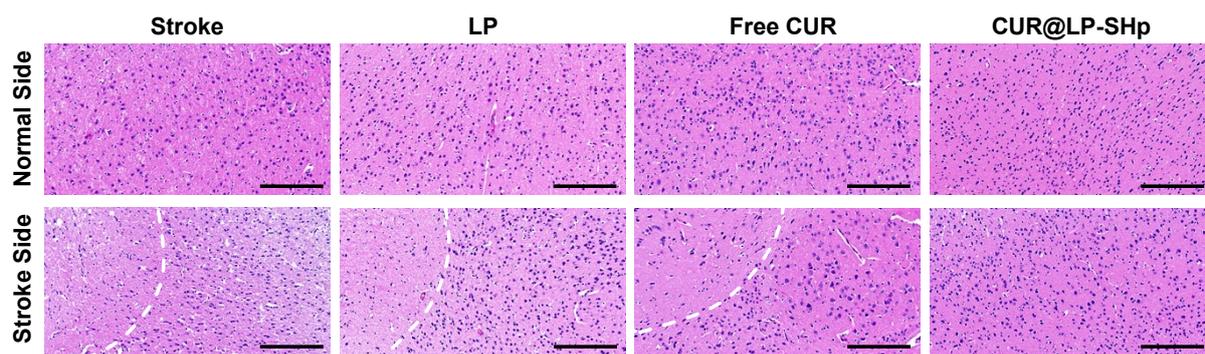


Figure S16. H&E staining of ischemic and contralateral brain regions in stroke mice after different treatments. White dashed lines indicate the boundary between ischemic regions and surrounding healthy tissue. (Scale bar = 200 μ m)