

Supplementary Information:

Dual end-functionalisation of poly(beta-amino ester) gene delivery vectors using multicomponent chemistry

Lewis O'Shaughnessy,^a Rahman Khosravi,^a James Robins,^a Akosua Anane-Adjei,^b Mariarosza Mazza,^b Naoto Hori,^a Pratik Gurnani,^{c*} Cameron Alexander^{a*}

^a Division of Molecular Therapeutics and Formulation, Boots Science Building, School of Pharmacy, University of Nottingham, Nottingham, NG7 2RD, UK

^b Advanced Drug Delivery, Pharmaceutical Sciences, Biopharmaceuticals R&D, AstraZeneca, Cambridge, United Kingdom

^c UCL School of Pharmacy, University College London, 29-39 Brunswick Square, Bloomsbury, London, WC1N 1AX, UK

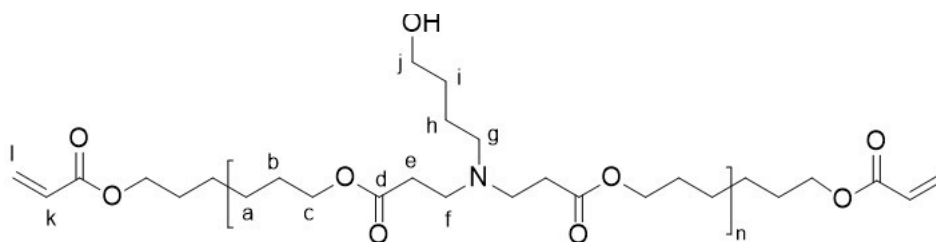
Corresponding authors: p.gurnani@ucl.ac.uk; cameron.alexander@nottingham.ac.uk

List of Figures:	1
Polymer Characterisation.....	2
TEM Imaging:.....	12
Dynamic Light Scattering:	13
Polymer pH Titration Curves:.....	14
Calculated Buffering Capacity:.....	17
Microscopy Studies of Cellular Transfection:.....	18

List of Figures:

Figure S 1: TEM images collected from a Tecnai T12 BioTWIN Transmission Electron Microscope, showing polyplexes formed at NP 64 between PolyA and pHDD-4AB derived PBAEs.....	13
Figure S 2: Polyplex PDI as measured by dynamic light scattering.....	14
Figure S 3: Polyplex diameter (as reported in Figure 4A) and PDI as measured by dynamic light scattering.....	14
Figure S 4: pH curves of the polymers in this study, following titration from pH 11 to pH 3 with 0.1M HCl.....	17
Figure S 5: Fluorescence imaging of mCherry-Gal9 expressing HEK293T cells treated with Al6/I1-(pHDD-4AB)-Al6/I1/GFP-mRNA polyplexes.....	18

Polymer Characterisation
pHDD-4AB

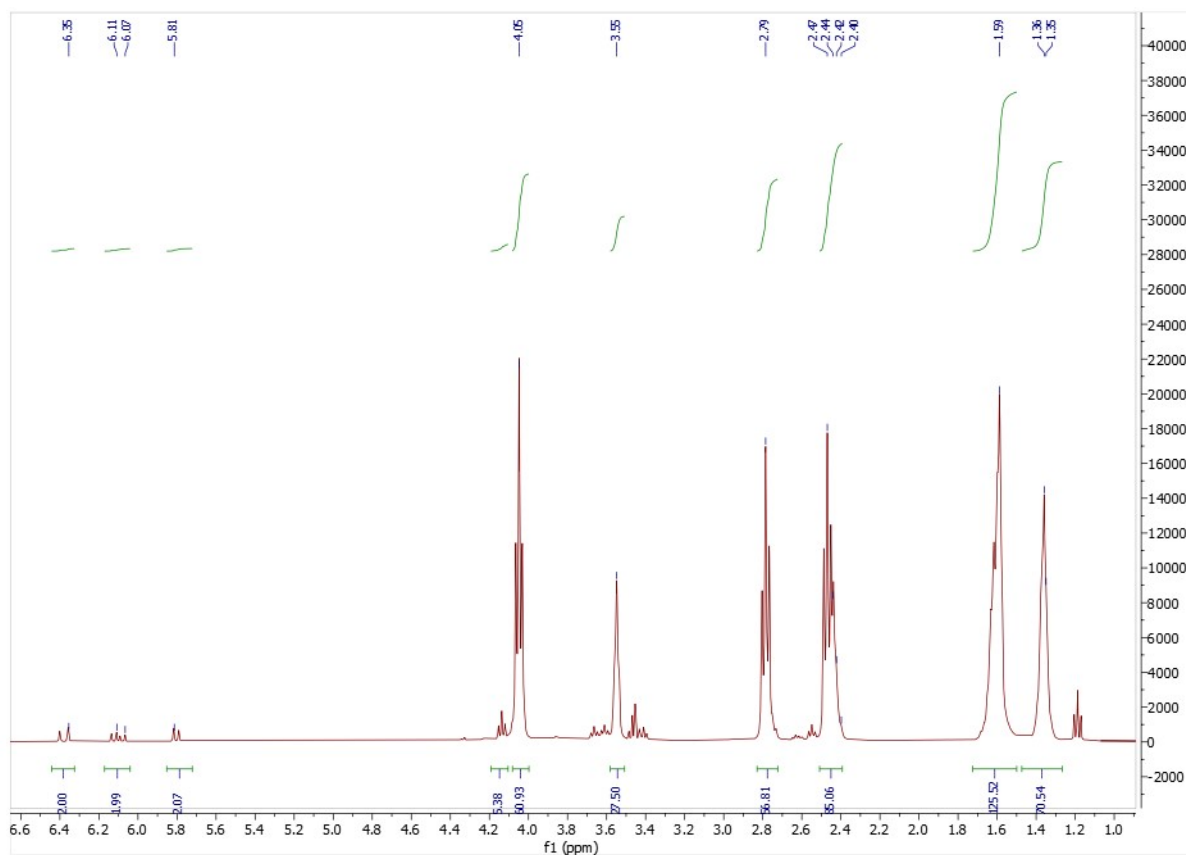


^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ /ppm: δ 6.36 (d, J = 17.83 Hz, 2H, $\text{CH}_{\text{k,l}}$), 6.11-6.07 (dd, J = 16.54, 8.64 Hz, 2H, $\text{CH}_{\text{k,l}}$), 5.81 (d, J = 9.93 Hz, 2H, $\text{CH}_{\text{k,l}}$), 4.05 (t, J = 6.69 Hz, 60H, CH_{c}), 3.55 (m, 30H, CH_{j}), 2.79 (t, J = 7.39 Hz, 60H, CH_{e}), 2.44 (m, 90H, $\text{CH}_{\text{f,g}}$), 1.59 (m, 120H, CH_{b} , $\text{CH}_{\text{h,i}}$), 1.35 (m, 60H, CH_{a})

^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ /ppm: δ 172.43 (d); 130.57, 128.56 (k, l); 64.50, 62.57 (c, j); 53.99, 48.87 (f, g); 31.79 (e); 28.48, 25.59, 24.98, 15.27 (a, b, h, i)

$\nu_{\text{max}}/\text{cm}^{-1}$: 3445 (OH alcohol), 1725 (C=O)

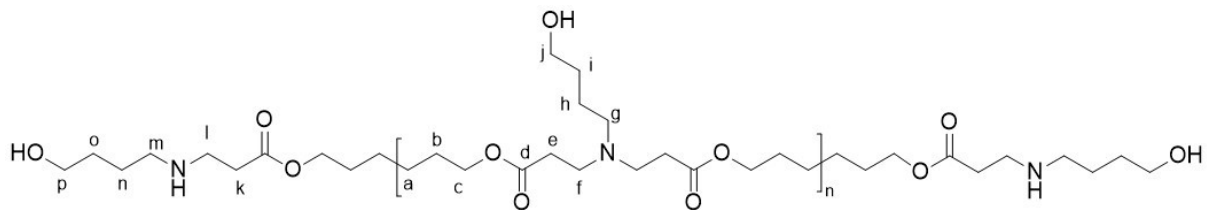
M_n , SEC: M_n 10900, D = 1.22



Spectrum S1: ^1H NMR (400 MHz, $\text{CDCl}_3\text{-d}_1$) of pHDD-4AB

Exemplar spectra are included.

OH-(pHDD-4AB)-OH

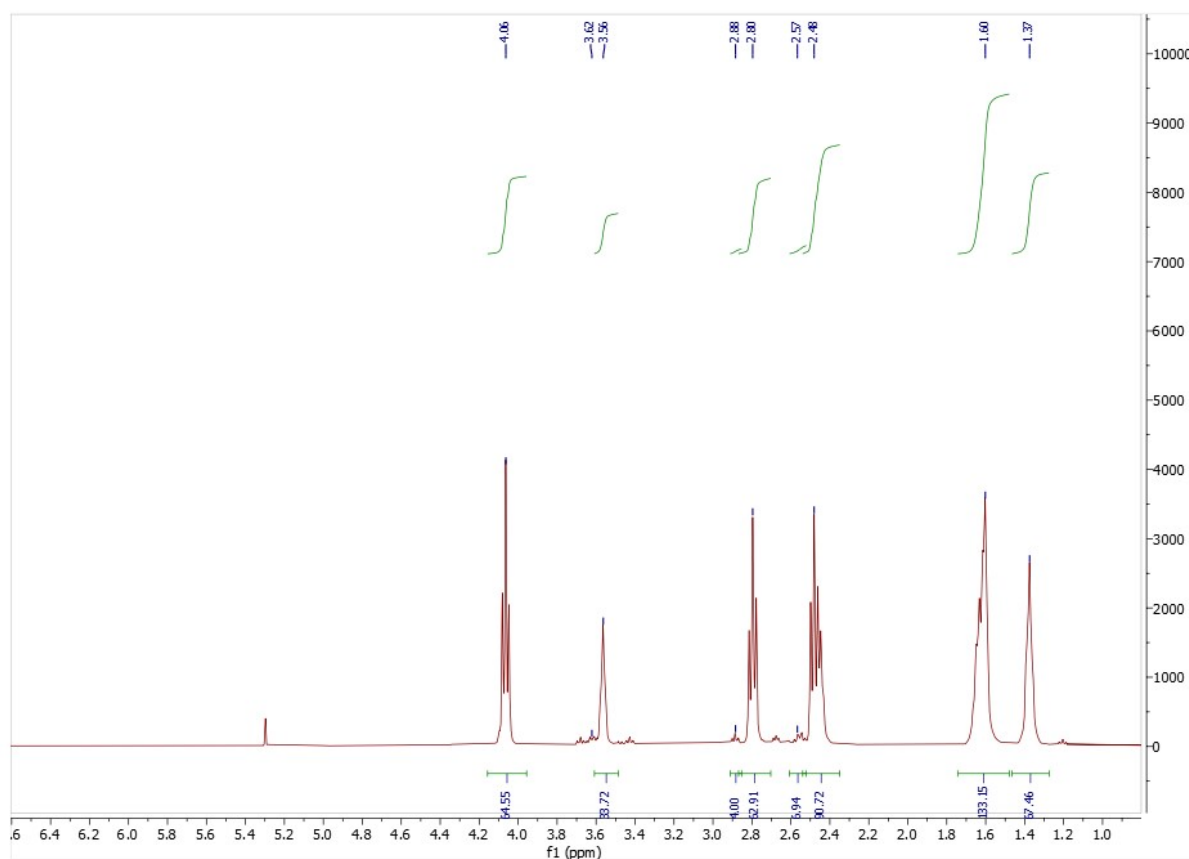


^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ /ppm: δ 4.06 (t, $J = 6.61$ Hz, 60H, CH_c), 3.62 (m, 4H, CH_p), 3.56 (m, 30H, CH_j), 2.88 (t, $J = 6.20$ Hz, 4H, CH_k), 2.80 (t, $J = 7.30$ Hz, 60H, CH_e), 2.57 (m, 8H, $\text{CH}_{l,m}$), 2.48 (m, 90H, $\text{CH}_{f,g}$), 1.60 (m, 128H, $\text{CH}_{b,h,i,n,o}$), 1.37 (m, 60H, CH_a)

^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ /ppm: δ 172.42 (d); 64.30, 62.12 (c, j, p); 53.68, 48.83 (f, g, l, m); 31.94, 31.10 (e, k); 28.34, 25.45, 24.36 (a, b, h, i, n, o)

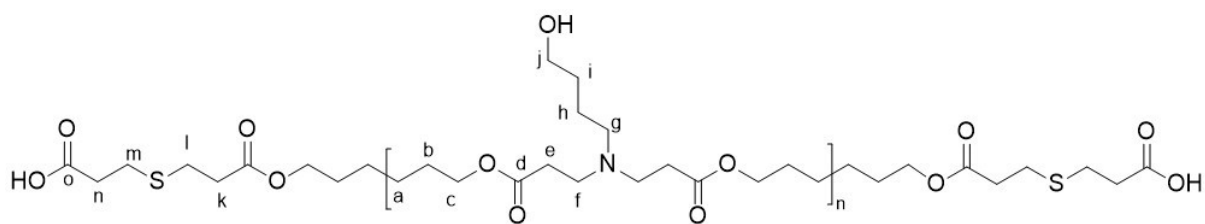
$\nu_{\text{max}}/\text{cm}^{-1}$: 3443 (OH, alcohol), 1729 (C=O, ester)

M_n , SEC: M_n 12900, $D = 1.24$



Spectrum S2: ^1H NMR (400 MHz, $\text{CDCl}_3\text{-d}_1$) of OH-(pHDD-4AB)-OH

COOH-(pHDD-4AB)-COOH

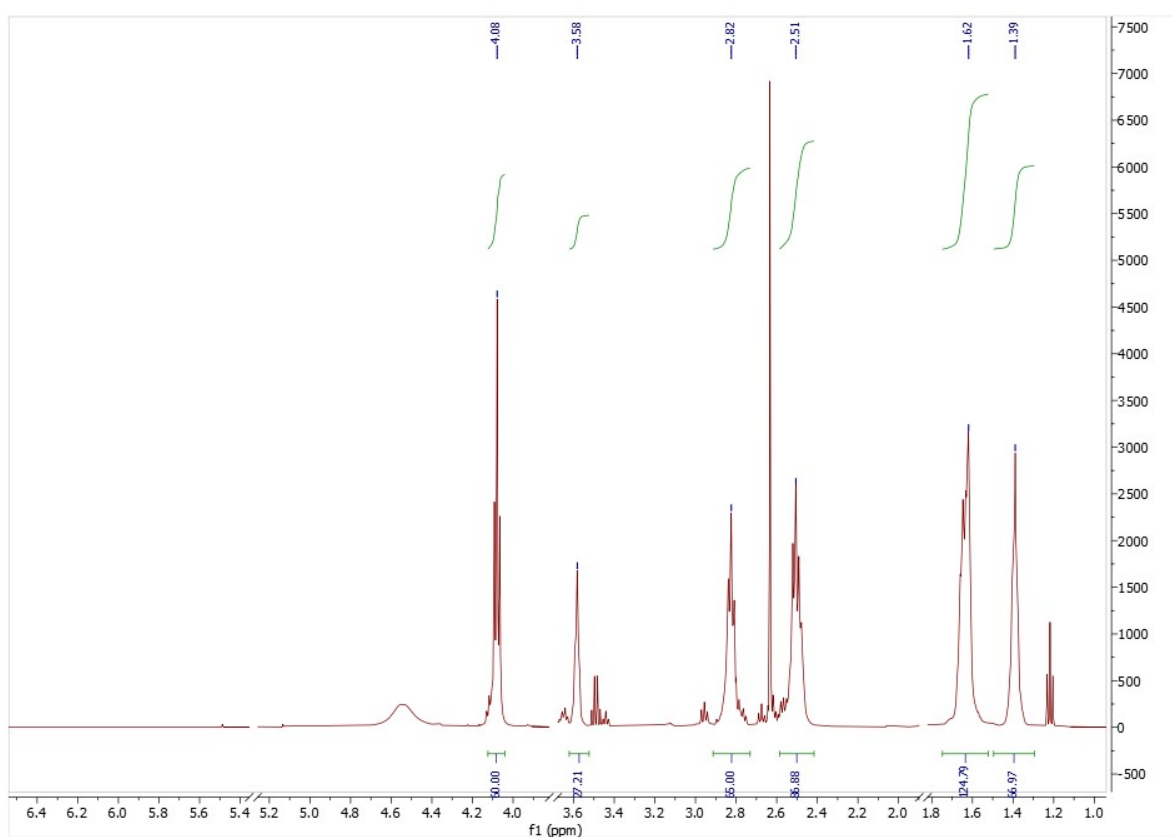


^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ /ppm: δ 4.08 (t, $J = 6.57$ Hz, 60H, CH_c), 3.58 (m, 30H, CH_j), 2.82 (m, 72H, $\text{CH}_{e,k,m,n}$), 2.51 (m, 94H, $\text{CH}_{f,g,l}$), 1.62 (m, 120H, $\text{CH}_{b,h,i}$), 1.39 (m, 60H, CH_a)

^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ /ppm: δ 199.83 (o); 172.42 (d); 77.24 (k, n); 70.98 (l, m); 64.58, 62.45 (c, j); 53.87 (g); 48.79 (f); 34.96 (e); 28.47 (b); 25.72, 25.58, 25.35 (a, h, i)

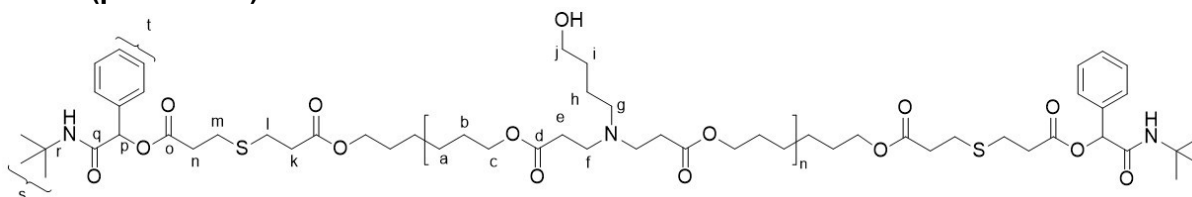
$\nu_{\text{max}}/\text{cm}^{-1}$: 2934 (COOH), 2861 weak (OH alcohol), 1727 (C=O), 1179 (C-N, amine)

M_n , SEC: M_n 12000, $D = 1.26$



Spectrum S3: ^1H NMR (400 MHz, $\text{CDCl}_3\text{-d}_1$) of COOH-(pHDD-4AB)-COOH

AI1/I1-(pHDD-4AB)-AI1/I1cdcl1



¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ/ppm: δ 7.75-7.54 (m, 4H, CH_t), 6.04 (m, 0.96H, CH_p), 4.06 (t, J = 6.67 Hz, 60H, CH_c), 3.56 (m, 30H, CH_j), 2.79 (t, J = 7.15 Hz, 72H, CH_{e, k, m, n}), 2.48 (m, 94H, CH_{f, g, l}), 1.60 (m, 120H, CH_{b, h, i}), 1.37 (m, 60H, CH_a), 1.32 (s, 8.72H, CH_s)

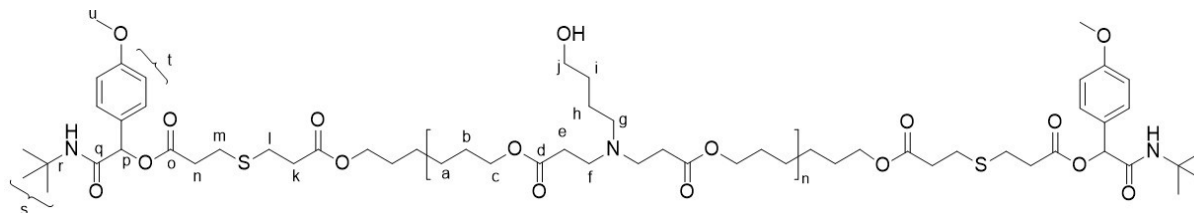
^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ /ppm: δ 172.18, 167.24 (d, o, q); 129.30, 127.84 (t); 102.96 (p); 64.63 (c, r); 62.42 (j); 53.38 (g); 48.82 (f); 34.92, 31.34 (e, k, n); 28.48, 28.47 (b, l, m); 26.26, 25.57 (a, h, i, s)

$\nu_{\text{max}}/\text{cm}^{-1}$: 3340 (OH, alcohol), 2837 (NH, amine salt), 1728 (C=O, ester)

M_n , SEC: M_n 11800, $\bar{D}$ = 1.27

% P3CR conversion as determined by proton NMR: 48%

AI3/I1-(pHDD-4AB)-AI3/I1



^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ /ppm: δ 7.31, 6.89 (m, 3H, CH_t), 5.93 (m, 0.72H, CH_p), 4.06 (t, J = 6.49 Hz, 60H, CH_c), 3.79 (s, 2.21H, CH_u), 3.56 (m, 30H, CH_j), 2.80 (t, J = 7.19 Hz, 72H, $\text{CH}_{e, k, m, n}$), 2.48 (m, 94H, $\text{CH}_{f, g, l}$), 1.60 (m, 120H, $\text{CH}_{b, h, i}$), 1.37 (m, 67H, $\text{CH}_{a, s}$)

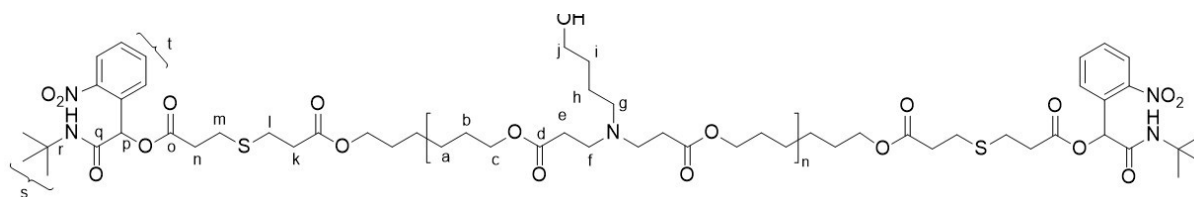
^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ /ppm: δ 172.19, 166.89 (d, o, q); 120.81, 118.26 (t); 93.88 (p); 64.54 (c, r); 62.26 (j); 53.70 (g, u); 48.80 (f); 39.04, 33.98, 31.50 (e, k, n); 28.40 (b, l, m); 25.71, 25.51 (a, h, i, s)

$\nu_{\text{max}}/\text{cm}^{-1}$: 3397 (OH, alcohol), 2937 (NH, amine salt), 1726 (C=O, ester)

M_n , SEC: M_n 11200, $\bar{D}$ = 1.37

% P3CR conversion as determined by proton NMR: 36%

AI4/I1-(pHDD-4AB)-AI4/I1



^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ /ppm: δ 7.99, 7.68, 7.51 (m, 6H, CH_t), 6.37 (m, 1.59H, CH_p), 4.06 (t, J = 6.39 Hz, 60H, CH_c), 3.56 (m, 30H, CH_j), 2.80 (t, J = 7.15 Hz, 72H, $\text{CH}_{e, k, m, n}$), 2.48 (m, 94H, $\text{CH}_{f, g, l}$), 1.60 (m, 120H, $\text{CH}_{b, h, i}$), 1.37 (m, 74H, $\text{CH}_{a, s}$)

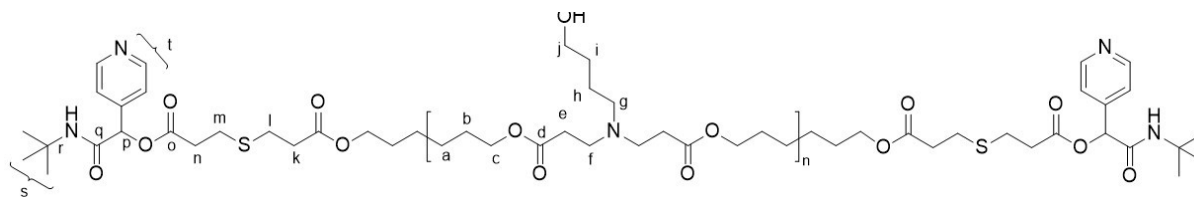
^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ /ppm: δ 172.14, 169.48 (d, o, q); 134.06, 129.43, 124.50 (t); 109.00 (p); 68.30 (r); 64.56 (c); 62.65 (j); 53.98 (g); 48.85 (f); 32.69, 31.71 (e, k, n); 28.58, 28.49 (b, l, m); 26.45, 25.59 (a, h, i, s)

$\nu_{\text{max}}/\text{cm}^{-1}$: 3398 (OH, alcohol), 2937 (NH, amine salt), 1726 (C=O, ester)

M_n , SEC: M_n 12700, $\bar{D}$ = 1.45

% P3CR conversion as determined by proton NMR: 80%

AI5/I1-(pHDD-4AB)-AI5/I1



^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ /ppm: δ 8.62, 7.36 (m, 5H, CH_t), 5.96 (m, 1.22H, CH_p), 4.06 (t, J = 6.53 Hz, 60H, CH_c), 3.56 (m, 30H, CH_j), 2.80 (t, J = 7.23 Hz, 72H, $\text{CH}_{e,k,m,n}$), 2.48 (m, 94H, $\text{CH}_{f,g,l}$), 1.60 (m, 120H, $\text{CH}_{b,h,i}$), 1.37 (m, 71H, $\text{CH}_{a,s}$)

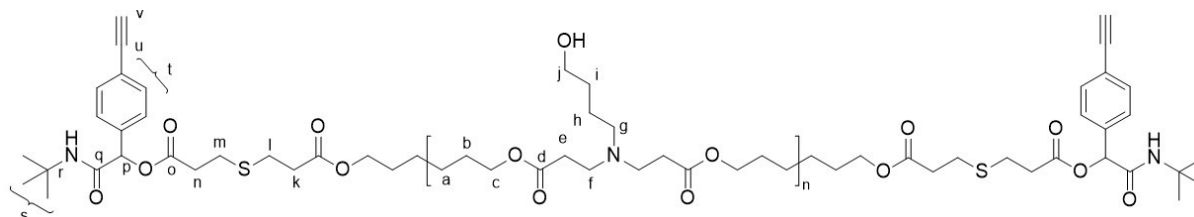
^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ /ppm: δ 172.29 (d, o, q); 149.81, 121.62 (t); 90.17 (p); 74.31 (r); 64.41 (c); 62.08 (j); 53.67 (g); 48.80 (f); 39.10, 31.71, 31.02 (e, k, n); 28.50, 28.35 (b, l, m); 25.46, 24.16 (a, h, i, s)

$\nu_{\text{max}}/\text{cm}^{-1}$: 3407 (OH, alcohol), 2863 (NH, amine salt), 1278 (C=O, ester)

M_n , SEC: M_n 8900, $\mathcal{D}$ = 1.48

% P3CR conversion as determined by proton NMR: 61%

AI6/I1-(pHDD-4AB)-AI6/I1



^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ /ppm: δ 7.49, 7.39 (m, 3H, CH_t), 5.96 (m, 0.69H, CH_p), 4.06 (t, J = 6.60 Hz, 60H, CH_c), 3.56 (m, 31H, CH_j,v), 2.80 (t, J = 7.14 Hz, 72H, $\text{CH}_{e,k,m,n}$), 2.48 (m, 94H, $\text{CH}_{f,g,l}$), 1.60 (m, 120H, $\text{CH}_{b,h,i}$), 1.37 (m, 66H, $\text{CH}_{a,s}$)

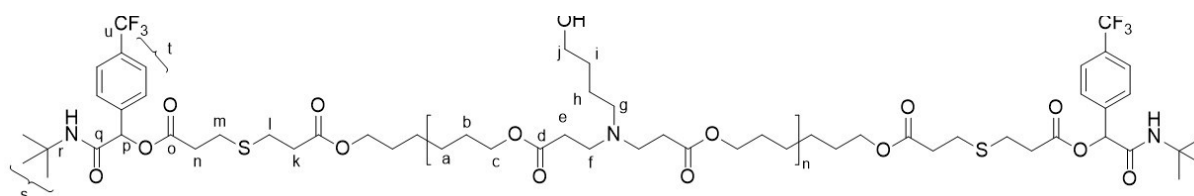
^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ /ppm: δ 175.40 (d, o, q); 149.13, 143.36, 135.91, 130.85 (t); 102.25 (p); 85.82 (u, v); 74.66 (r); 65.42 (c); 62.92 (j); 56.33 (g); 48.76 (f); 39.13, 32.69 (e, k, n); 28.41 (b, l, m); 25.54 (a, h, i, s)

$\nu_{\text{max}}/\text{cm}^{-1}$: 3265 (OH, alcohol), 2861 (NH, amine salt), 1726 (C=O, ester)

M_n , SEC: M_n 11100, $\mathcal{D}$ = 1.23

% P3CR conversion as determined by proton NMR: 35%

AI7/I1-(pHDD-4AB)-AI7/I1



^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ /ppm: δ 7.64-7.52 (m br, 6H, CH_t), 6.02 (m, 1.41H, CH_p), 4.06 (t, J = 6.55 Hz, 60H, CH_c), 3.56 (m, 30H, CH_j), 2.80 (t, J = 7.23 Hz, 72H, $\text{CH}_{e, k, m, n}$), 2.48 (m, 94H, $\text{CH}_{f, g, l}$), 1.61 (m, 120H, $\text{CH}_{b, h, i}$), 1.38 (m, 73H, $\text{CH}_{a, s}$)

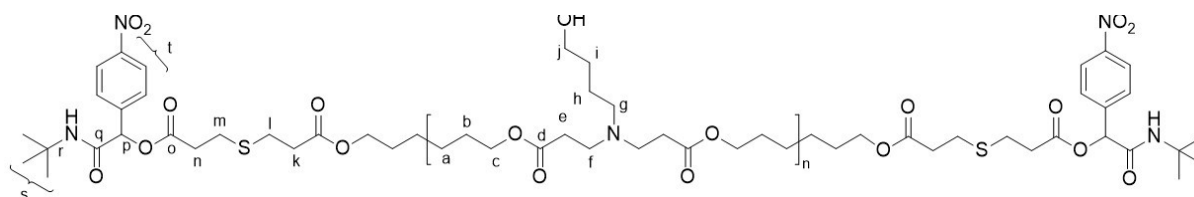
^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ /ppm: δ 175.69, 173.66 (d, o, q); 154.48, 145.71, 131.25, 123.36 (t, u); 84.96 (p); 68.81 (r); 63.71 (c); 58.64 (j); 57.10 (g); 46.23 (f); 40.99, 37.00, 35.74 (e, k, n); 27.96 (b, l, m); 25.29 (a, h, i, s)

$\nu_{\text{max}}/\text{cm}^{-1}$: 3405 (OH, alcohol), 2937 (NH, amine salt), 1726 (C=O, ester)

M_n , SEC: M_n 12100, $\bar{D}$ = 1.17

% P3CR conversion as determined by proton NMR: 71%

AI8/I1-(pHDD-4AB)-AI8/I1



^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ /ppm: δ 8.24, 7.63 (m, 8H, CH_t), 6.06 (m, 1.90H, CH_p), 4.07 (t, J = 6.53 Hz, 60H, CH_c), 3.57 (m, 30H, CH_j), 2.80 (t, J = 7.40 Hz, 72H, $\text{CH}_{e, k, m, n}$), 2.48 (m, 94H, $\text{CH}_{f, g, l}$), 1.61 (m, 120H, $\text{CH}_{b, h, i}$), 1.36 (m, 78H, $\text{CH}_{a, s}$)

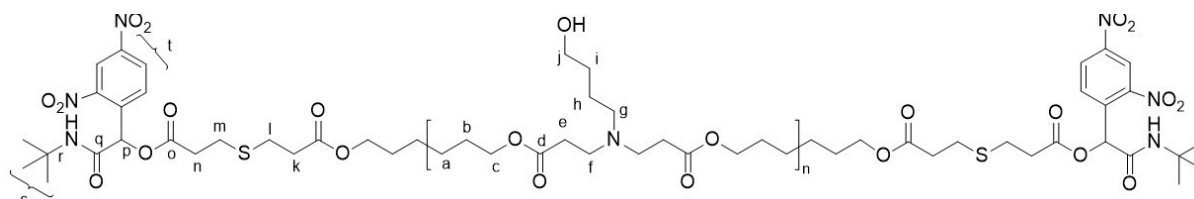
^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ /ppm: δ 172.95, 171.89 (d, o, q); 148.06, 127.99, 123.43 (t); 104.26 (p); 70.54 (r); 64.36 (c); 61.55 (j); 53.40 (g); 48.67 (f); 38.43, 33.86, 31.25 (e, k, n); 28.37, 28.21 (b, l, m); 25.32 (a, h, i, s)

$\nu_{\text{max}}/\text{cm}^{-1}$: 3408 (OH, alcohol), 2937 (NH, amine salt), 1726 (C=O, ester)

M_n , SEC: M_n 9000, $\bar{D}$ = 1.65

% P3CR conversion as determined by proton NMR: 95%

AI9/I1-(pHDD-4AB)-AI9/I1



^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ /ppm: δ 8.64-7.98 (m br, 3H, CH_t), 5.89 (m, 1.04H, CH_p), 4.07 (m, 60H, CH_c), 3.57 (m, 30H, CH_j), 2.84 (m, 72H, $\text{CH}_{e, k, m, n}$), 2.53 (m, 94H, $\text{CH}_{f, g, l}$), 1.63 (m, 120H, $\text{CH}_{b, h, i}$), 1.36 (m, 69H, $\text{CH}_{a, s}$)

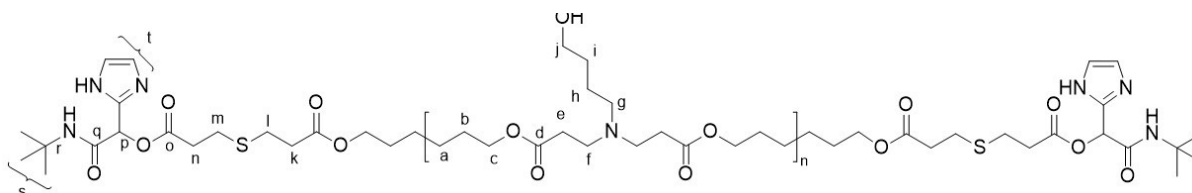
^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ/ppm : δ 180.33 (d, o, q); 149.65, 133.39, 130.06, 126.27 (t); 101.02 (p); 69.13 (r); 65.23 (c); 59.73 (j); 53.05 (g); 48.56 (f); 35.89 (e, k, n); 28.23 (b, l, m); 25.51 (a, h, i, s)

$\nu_{\text{max}}/\text{cm}^{-1}$: 3347 (OH, alcohol), 2937 (NH, amine salt), 1688 (C=O, ester)

M_n , SEC: M_n 7500, $\bar{D} = 1.84$

% P3CR conversion as determined by proton NMR: 52%

AI10/I1-(pHDD-4AB)-AI10/I1



^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ/ppm : δ 9.76 (s, 0.47H, NH), 7.34 (s, 0.48H, CH_t), 7.01 (s, 0.49H, CH_t), 4.07 (t, $J = 6.68$ Hz, 60H, CH_c), 3.56 (m, 30H, CH_j), 2.80 (t, $J = 7.38$ Hz, 72H, $\text{CH}_{e, k, m, n}$), 2.48 (m, 94H, $\text{CH}_{f, g, l}$), 1.61 (m, 120H, $\text{CH}_{b, h, i}$), 1.37 (m, 64H, $\text{CH}_{a, s}$)

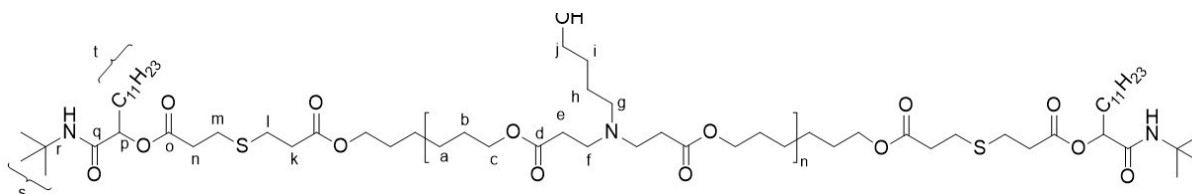
^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ/ppm : δ 175.81 (d, o, q); 154.89, 119.08 (t); 97.77 (p); 75.94 (r); 64.59 (c); 62.82 (j); 54.03 (g); 48.82 (f); 32.67, 32.52 (e, k, n); 28.48, 28.30 (b, l, m); 25.71, 25.58, 25.53 (a, h, i, s)

$\nu_{\text{max}}/\text{cm}^{-1}$: 3356 (OH, alcohol), 2935 (NH, amine salt), 1726 (C=O, ester)

M_n , SEC: M_n 11600, $\bar{D} = 1.32$

% P3CR conversion as determined by proton NMR: 24%

AI11/I1-(pHDD-4AB)-AI11/I1



^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ/ppm : δ 5.07 (m, 1.08H, CH_p), 4.07 (t, $J = 6.70$ Hz, 60H, CH_c), 3.56 (m, 30H, CH_j), 2.80 (t, $J = 7.34$ Hz, 72H, $\text{CH}_{e, k, m, n}$), 2.48 (m, 94H, $\text{CH}_{f, g, l}$), 1.60 (m, 120H, $\text{CH}_{b, h, i}$), 1.38 (m, 60H, CH_a), 1.35 (s, 10H, CH_s), 1.25 (m, 26H, CH_t)

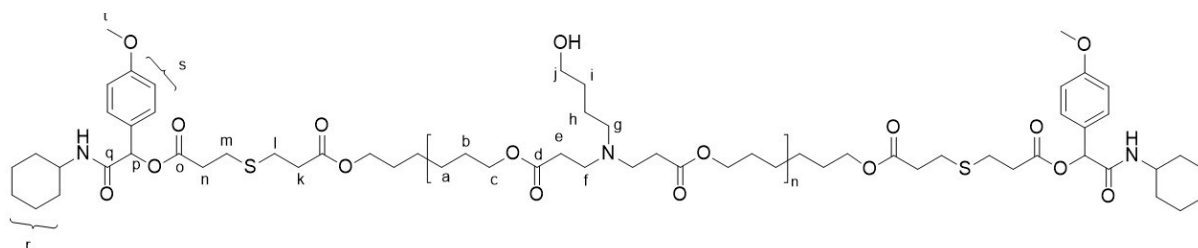
^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ/ppm : δ 169.85 (d, o, q); 92.42 (p); 70.33 (r); 63.66 (c); 62.38 (j); 54.88 (g); 48.75 (f); 31.84, 30.67 (e, k, n); 28.33 (b, l, m); 25.49, 23.34 (a, h, i, s, t)

$\nu_{\text{max}}/\text{cm}^{-1}$: 3433 (OH, alcohol), 2935 (NH, amine salt), 1728 (C=O, ester)

M_n , SEC: M_n 16300, $\bar{D} = 1.13$

% P3CR conversion as determined by proton NMR: 54%

AI3/I2-(pHDD-4AB)-AI3/I2



^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ /ppm: δ 7.34, 6.87 (m, 4H, CH_s), 6.01 (m, 1.10H, CH_p), 4.07 (m, 60H, CH_c), 3.80 (s, 3H, CH_t), 3.57 (m, 32H, $\text{CH}_{j,r}$), 2.82 (t, $J = 7.19$ Hz, 72H, $\text{CH}_{e,k,m,n}$), 2.52 (m, 94H, $\text{CH}_{f,g,l}$), 1.62 (m, 123H, $\text{CH}_{b,h,i,r}$), 1.37 (m, 67H, $\text{CH}_{a,r}$)

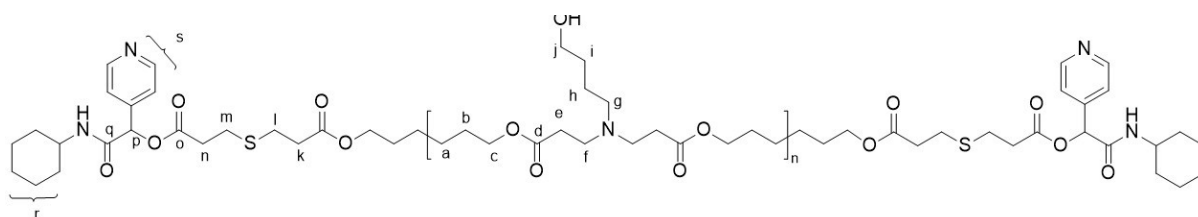
^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ /ppm: δ 172.06, 170.44 (d, o, q); 148.82, 138.73, 123.53 (s); 92.82 (p); 74.30 (r); 64.70 (c); 62.37 (j); 53.84 (g, t); 48.75 (f); 40.95, 35.18, 31.08 (e, k, n); 28.45, 27.34 (b, l, m); 25.58, 25.56 (a, h, i, r)

$\nu_{\text{max}}/\text{cm}^{-1}$: 3446 (OH, alcohol), 2935 (NH, amine salt), 1728 (C=O, ester)

M_n , SEC: M_n 4700, $\bar{D} = 1.43$

% P3CR conversion as determined by proton NMR: 55%

AI5/I2-(pHDD-4AB)-AI5/I2



^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ /ppm: δ 8.61, 7.37 (m, 8H, CH_s), 6.03 (m, 1.88H, CH_p), 4.06 (t, $J = 6.25$ Hz, 60H, CH_c), 3.56 (m, 32H, $\text{CH}_{j,r}$), 2.80 (t, $J = 7.19$ Hz, 72H, $\text{CH}_{e,k,m,n}$), 2.50 (m, 94H, $\text{CH}_{f,g,l}$), 1.61 (m, 128H, $\text{CH}_{b,h,i,r}$), 1.37 (m, 72H, $\text{CH}_{a,r}$)

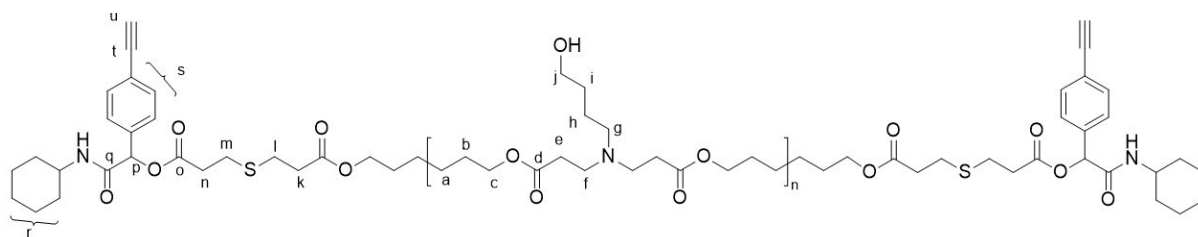
^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ /ppm: δ 172.36 (d, o, q); 150.07, 138.78, 121.66 (s); 109.67 (p); 74.59 (r); 64.56 (c); 62.44 (j); 53.73 (g); 48.85 (f); 38.58, 32.90, 31.61 (e, k, n); 28.47, 27.11 (b, l, m); 25.58, 25.38, 24.83 (a, h, i, r)

$\nu_{\text{max}}/\text{cm}^{-1}$: 3263 (OH, alcohol), 2933 (NH, amine salt), 1726 (C=O, ester)

M_n , SEC: M_n 6100, $\bar{D} = 1.94$

% P3CR conversion as determined by proton NMR: 94%

AI6/I2-(pHDD-4AB)-AI6/I2



^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ /ppm: δ 7.46, 7.39 (m, 7H, CH_s), 6.04 (m, 1.76H, CH_p), 4.06 (t, J = 6.38 Hz, 60H, CH_c), 3.56 (m, 34H, $\text{CH}_{j,r,u}$), 2.80 (t, J = 7.19 Hz, 72H, $\text{CH}_{e,k,m,n}$), 2.48 (m, 94H, $\text{CH}_{f,g,l}$), 1.60 (m, 128H, $\text{CH}_{b,h,i,r}$), 1.37 (m, 72H, $\text{CH}_{a,r}$)

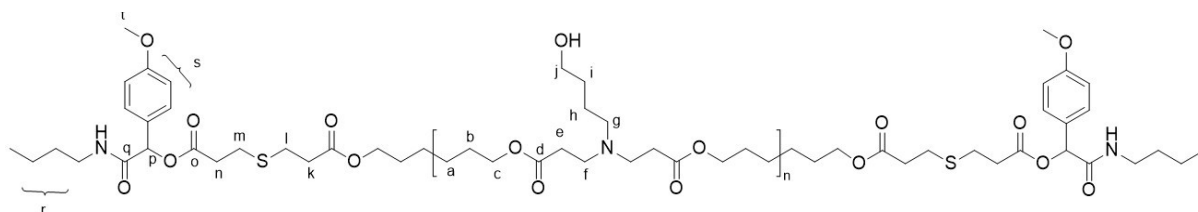
^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ /ppm: δ 172.36 (d, o, q); 132.42, 127.38 (s); 104.03 (p); 82.82, 77.25 (t, u); 75.54 (r); 64.56 (c); 62.51 (j); 53.98 (g); 48.84 (f); 41.00, 34.71, 31.66 (e, k, n); 28.48, 27.02 (b, l, m); 25.58, 24.83 (a, h, i, r)

$\nu_{\text{max}}/\text{cm}^{-1}$: 3476 (OH, alcohol), 2933 (NH, amine salt), 1726 (C=O, ester)

M_n , SEC: M_n 7900, $\bar{D}$ = 1.76

% P3CR conversion as determined by proton NMR: 88%

AI3/I3-(pHDD-4AB)-AI3/I3



^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ /ppm: δ 7.32, 6.87 (m, 2H, CH_s), 6.03 (m, 0.43H, CH_p), 4.06 (m, 60H, CH_c), 3.79 (s, 2H, CH_t), 3.56 (m, 30H, CH_j), 2.80 (t, J = 7.19 Hz, 72H, $\text{CH}_{e,k,m,n}$), 2.49 (m, 94H, $\text{CH}_{f,g,l}$), 1.61 (m, 120H, $\text{CH}_{b,h,i}$), 1.37 (m, 64H, $\text{CH}_{a,r}$)

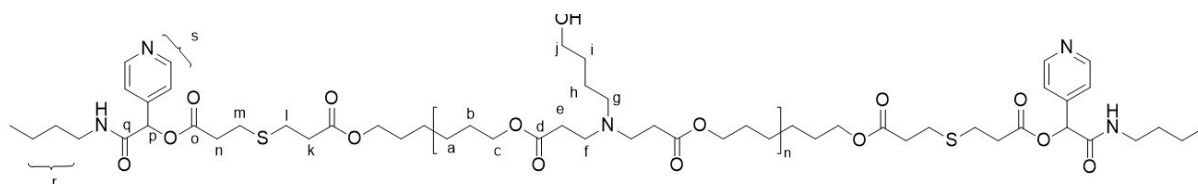
^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ /ppm: δ 171.98 (d, o, q); 131.74, 118.43 (s); 102.02 (p); 86.18 (r); 64.64 (c); 62.29 (j); 53.96 (g, t); 48.75 (f); 40.95, 31.44 (e, k, n); 28.46 (b, l, m); 25.57 (a, h, i, r)

$\nu_{\text{max}}/\text{cm}^{-1}$: 3446 (OH, alcohol), 2935 (NH, amine salt), 1726 (C=O, ester)

M_n , SEC: M_n 3700, $\bar{D}$ = 1.53

% P3CR conversion as determined by proton NMR: 21%

AI5/I3-(pHDD-4AB)-AI5/I3



^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ /ppm: δ 8.59, 7.37 (m, 8H, CH_s), 6.04 (m, 1.94H, CH_p), 4.04 (t, J

= 6.23 Hz, 60H, CH_c), 3.54 (m, 30H, CH_j), 2.78 (t, J = 7.43 Hz, 72H, CH_{e, k, m, n}), 2.46 (m, 94H, CH_{f, g, l}), 1.58 (m, 120H, CH_{b, h, i}), 1.36 (m, 78H, CH_{a, r})

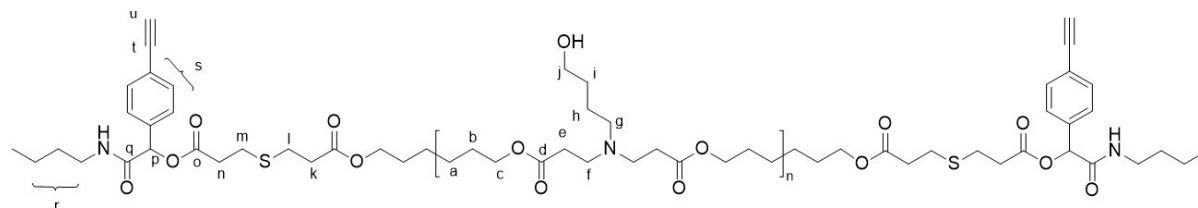
¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ/ppm: δ 172.37, 171.65 (d, o, q); 150.02, 121.66 (s); 100.69 (p); 74.31 (r); 64.53 (c); 62.49 (j); 53.94 (g, t); 48.85 (f); 40.97, 39.30, 34.67 (e, k, n); 31.70, 31.44, 28.47 (b, l, m); 25.57 (a, h, i, r)

ν_{max}/cm⁻¹: 3372 (OH, alcohol), 2935 (NH, amine salt), 1726 (C=O, ester)

M_n, SEC: M_n 5200, Đ = 1.80

% P3CR conversion as determined by proton NMR: 97%

AI6/I3-(pHDD-4AB)-AI6/I3



¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ/ppm: δ 7.46, 7.40 (m, 7H, CH_s), 6.07 (m, 1.85H, CH_p), 4.06 (t, J = 6.52 Hz, 60H, CH_c), 3.56 (m, 32H, CH_{j, u}), 2.80 (m, 72H, CH_{e, k, m, n}), 2.48 (m, 94H, CH_{f, g, l}), 1.61 (m, 120H, CH_{b, h, i}), 1.37 (m, 78H, CH_{a, r})

¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ/ppm: δ 172.13 (d, o, q); 132.42, 127.35 (s); 106.53 (p); 84.46, 77.25 (t, u); 72.44 (r); 64.64 (c); 62.51 (j); 53.68 (g); 48.81 (f); 40.99, 36.63, 31.43 (e, k, n); 28.45, 27.23 (b, l, m); 25.56, 21.94 (a, h, i, r)

ν_{max}/cm⁻¹: 3286 (OH, alcohol), 2935 (NH, amine salt), 1726 (C=O, ester)

M_n, SEC: M_n 5200, Đ = 1.68

% P3CR conversion as determined by proton NMR: 93%

TEM Imaging:

Widefield imaging of the polyplexes detailed in the paper are included below:

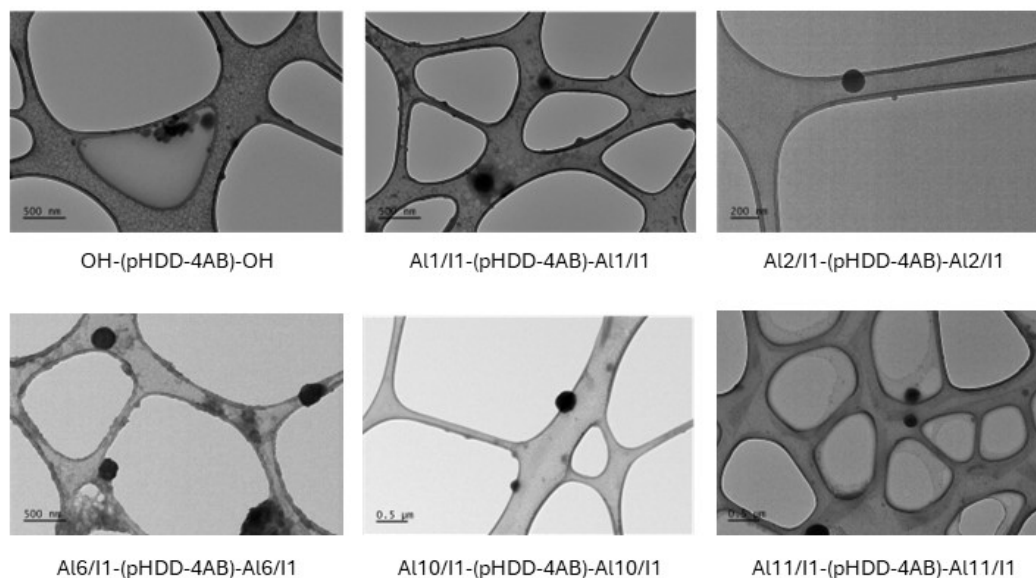


Figure S 1: TEM images collected from a Tecnai T12 BioTWIN Transmission Electron Microscope, showing polyplexes formed at NP 64 between PolyA and pHDD-4AB derived PBAEs. Polyplexes are stained with uranyl acetate and appear black.

Dynamic Light Scattering:

PDI of the polyplexes measured and detailed in Figure 4A are shown in Figure S 2 below. Figure S 3 shows particle diameter and PDI on the same graph.

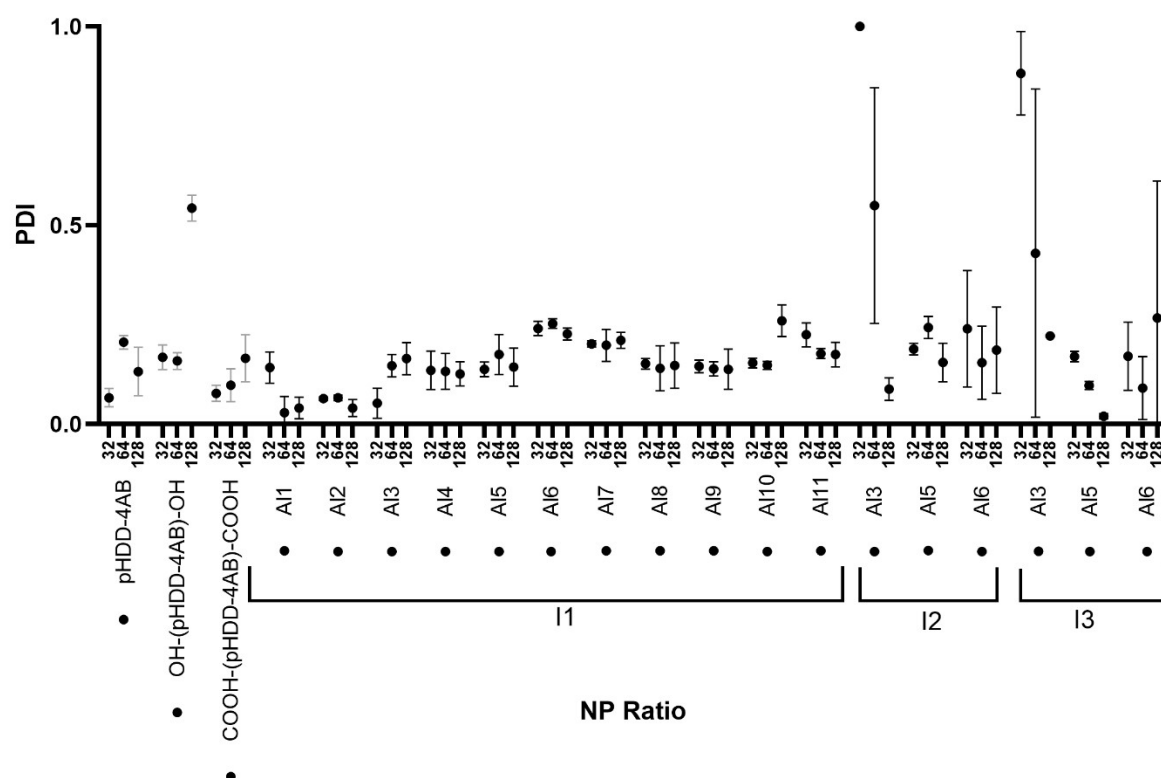


Figure S 2: Polyplex PDI as measured by dynamic light scattering. Each point is the mean of three measurements.

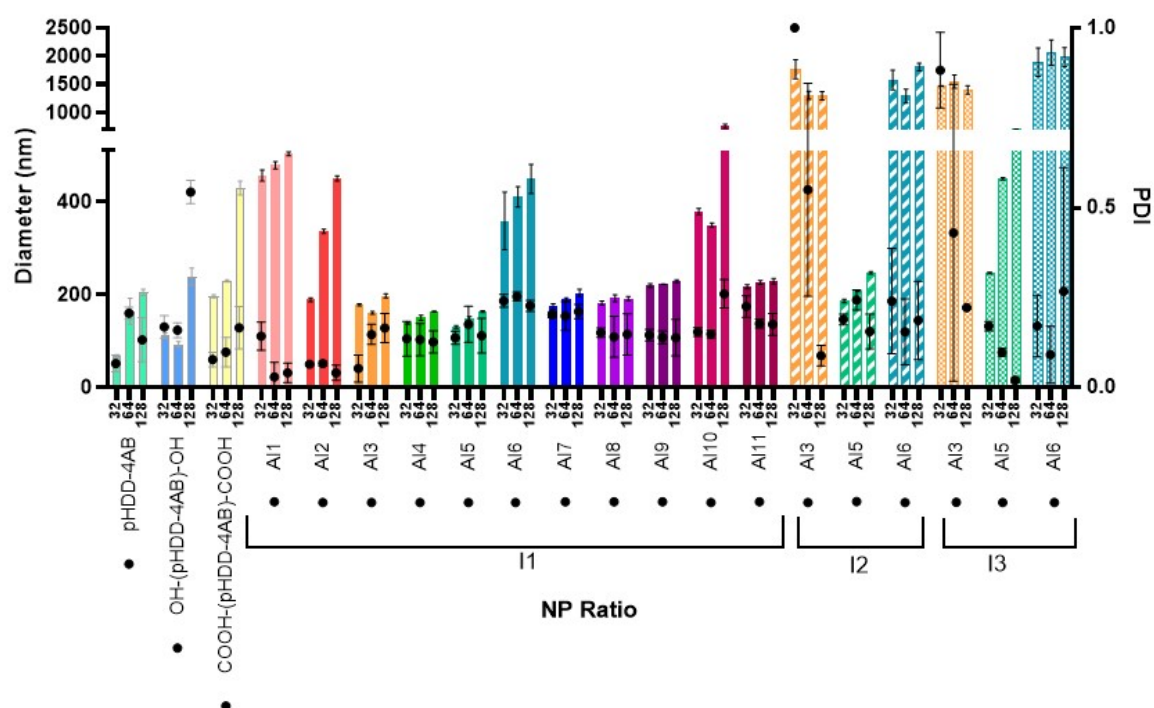
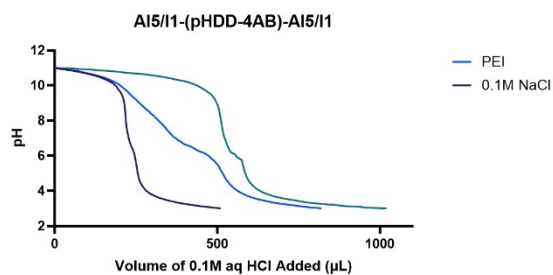
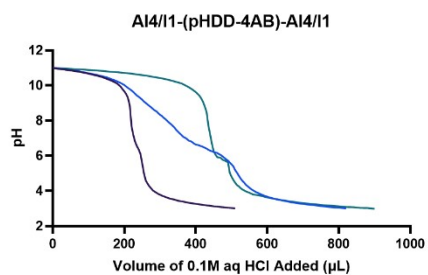
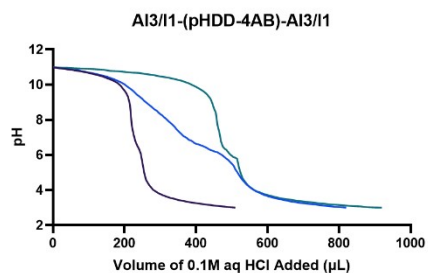
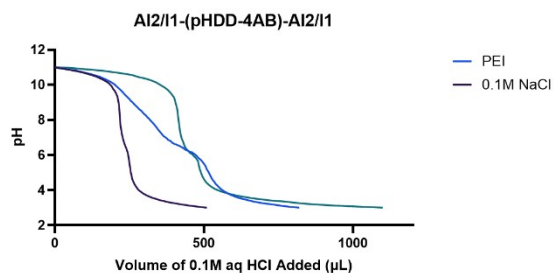
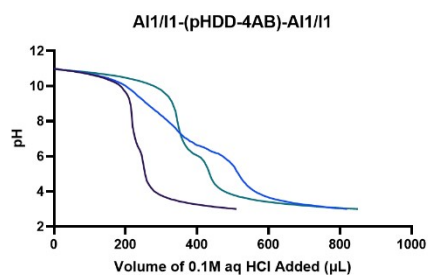
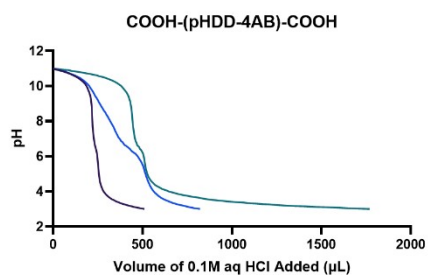
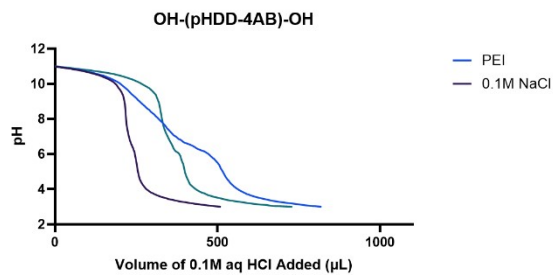
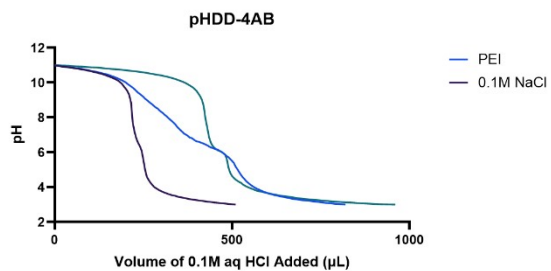
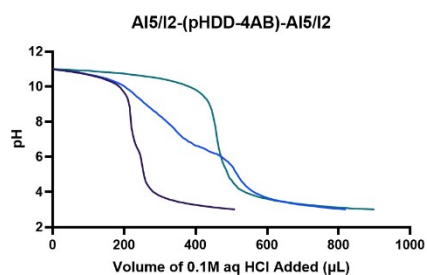
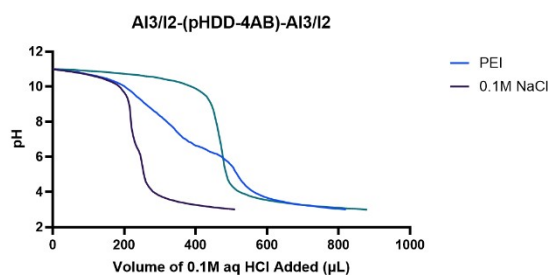
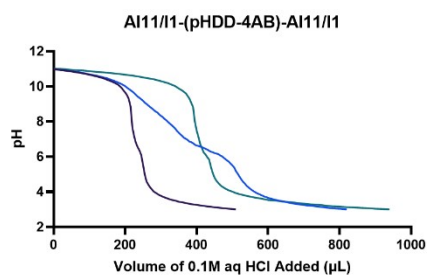
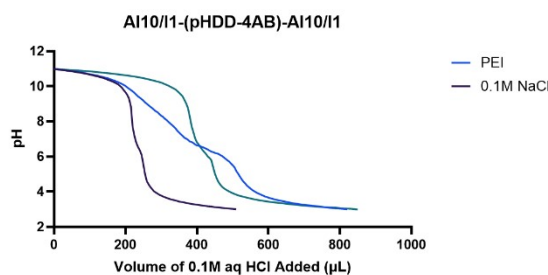
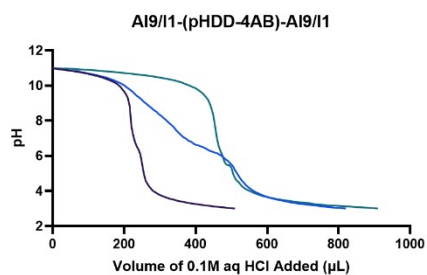
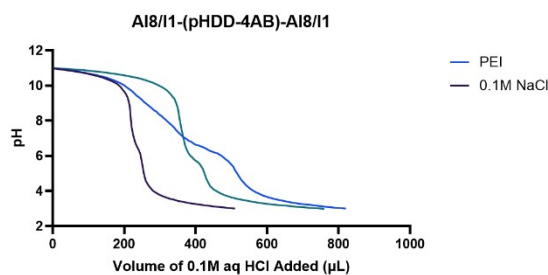
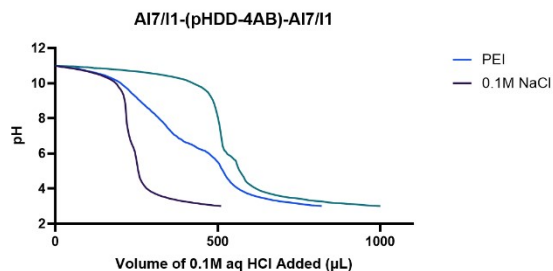
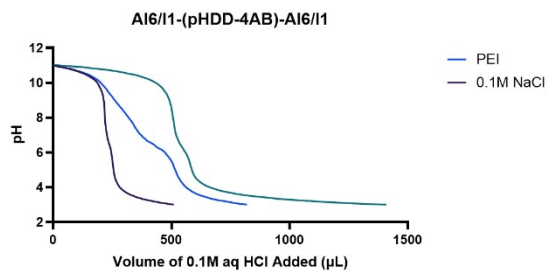


Figure S 3: Polyplex diameter (as reported in Figure 4A) and PDI as measured by dynamic light scattering. Each point is the mean of three measurements.

Polymer pH Titration Curves:

Full pH curves for HCl titration of the polymers are shown below. Each polymer is compared to 0.1M NaCl and 2mg PEI as controls.





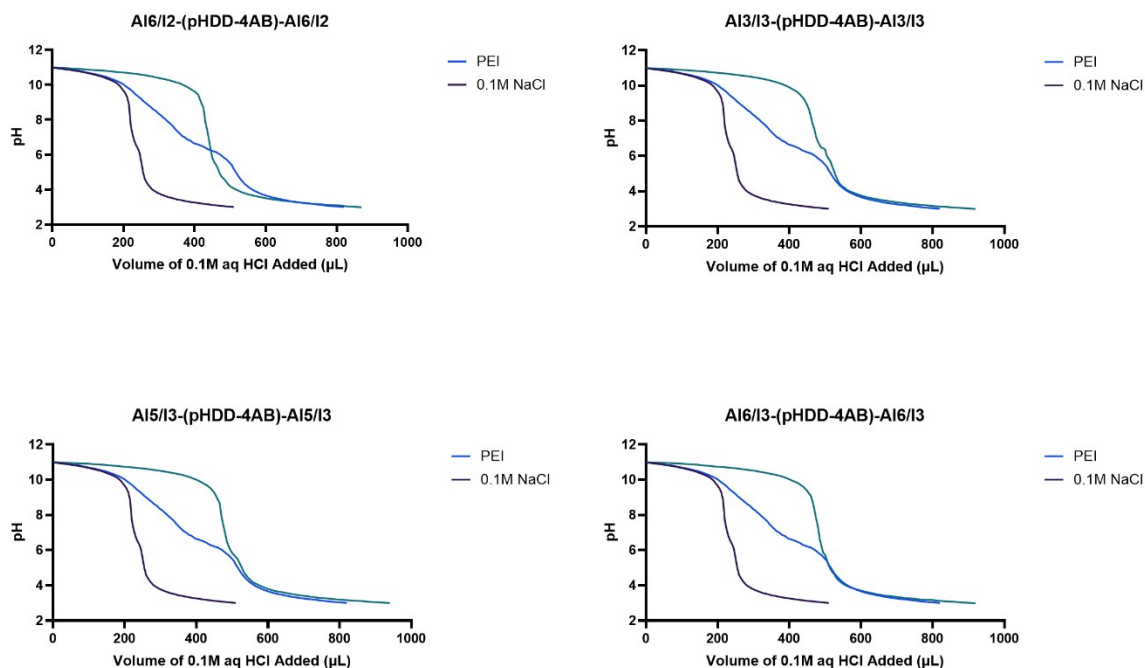


Figure S 4: pH curves of the polymers in this study, following titration from pH 11 to pH 3 with 0.1M HCl.

Calculated Buffering Capacity:

Table S1: Buffering capacities of the polymers calculated by titration against 0.1M HCl, and normalised against both mass of polymer, and moles of protonatable amine. PEI is used as a control.

Polymer	Buffering Capacity normalised by mass of polymer (moles/g)	Buffering Capacity normalised by moles of protonatable amine (no units)
pHDD-4AB	0.00285	0.8989
OH-(pHDD-4AB)-OH	0.00105	0.3312
COOH-(pHDD-4AB)-COOH	0.00255	0.8043
Al1/I1-(pHDD-4AB)-Al1/I1	0.00365	1.1512
Al2/I1-(pHDD-4AB)-Al2/I1	0.00315	0.9935
Al3/I1-(pHDD-4AB)-Al3/I1	0.00255	0.8043
Al4/I1-(pHDD-4AB)-Al4/I1	0.00265	0.8358
Al5/I1-(pHDD-4AB)-Al5/I1	0.00310	0.9778
Al6/I1-(pHDD-4AB)-Al6/I1	0.00310	0.9778
Al7/I1-(pHDD-4AB)-Al7/I1	0.00310	0.9778
Al8/I1-(pHDD-4AB)-Al8/I1	0.00260	0.8201
Al9/I1-(pHDD-4AB)-Al9/I1	0.00160	0.5047
Al10/I1-(pHDD-4AB)- Al10/I1	0.00270	0.8516
Al11/I1-(pHDD-4AB)- Al11/I1	0.00180	0.5677
Al3/I2-(pHDD-4AB)-Al3/I2	0.00080	0.2523
Al5/I2-(pHDD-4AB)-Al5/I2	0.00110	0.3470
Al6/I2-(pHDD-4AB)-Al6/I2	0.00095	0.2996

AI3/I3-(pHDD-4AB)-AI3/I3	0.00225	0.7097
AI5/I3-(pHDD-4AB)-AI5/I3	0.00195	0.6150
AI6/I3-(pHDD-4AB)-AI6/I3	0.00120	0.3785
PEI	0.00765	0.3293

Microscopy Studies of Cellular Transfection:

A large number of the puncta observed in the mCherry channel colocalise exactly with those observed in the GFP channel. The effect could also be seen to some degree in the Hoechst channel when brightness is sufficiently increased, but the signal is weak and so in the original images is typically obscured by emissions from the Hoechst dye applied to the cells.

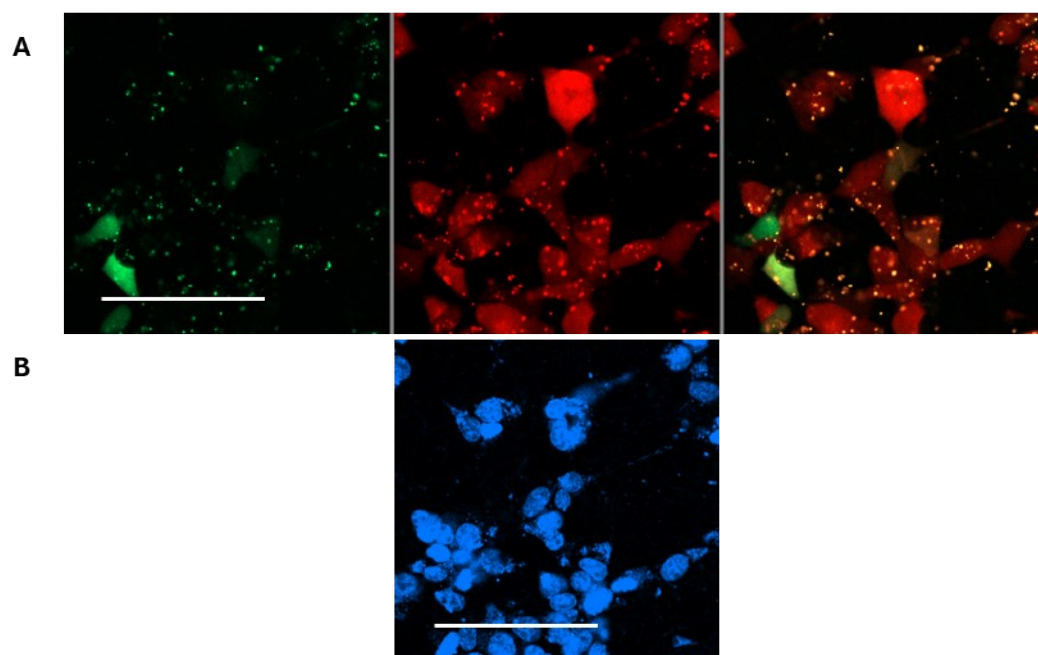


Figure S 5: Fluorescence imaging of mCherry-Gal9 expressing HEK293T cells treated with AI6/I1-(pHDD-4AB)-AI6/I1/GFP-mRNA polyplexes. Cells imaged 23 hours after treatment. Scale bar is 100 μ M. A. GFP channel (left), mCherry channel (middle) and merged image (right)