

RSC

New Journal of Chemistry (NJC)

Supporting information

**Enhancing carminic acid anticancer potential: transforming a conventional nanocarrier to a multifunctional therapeutic nanoplatform for photodynamic ROS generation and FRET-based tracking**

Fatemeh Bahadorani <sup>a</sup>, Hassan Hadadzadeh <sup>a,\*</sup>, Seyede Zohreh Mirahmadi-Zare <sup>b,\*</sup>,  
Hossein Farrokhpour <sup>a</sup>, Zahra Amirghofran <sup>c</sup>, Marziyeh Poshteh Shirani <sup>a</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Department of Chemistry, Isfahan University of Technology, Isfahan 84156-83111, Iran

<sup>b</sup> Department of Animal Biotechnology, Reproductive Biomedicine Research Center, Royan Institute for Biotechnology, ACECR, 8159358686, Isfahan, Iran

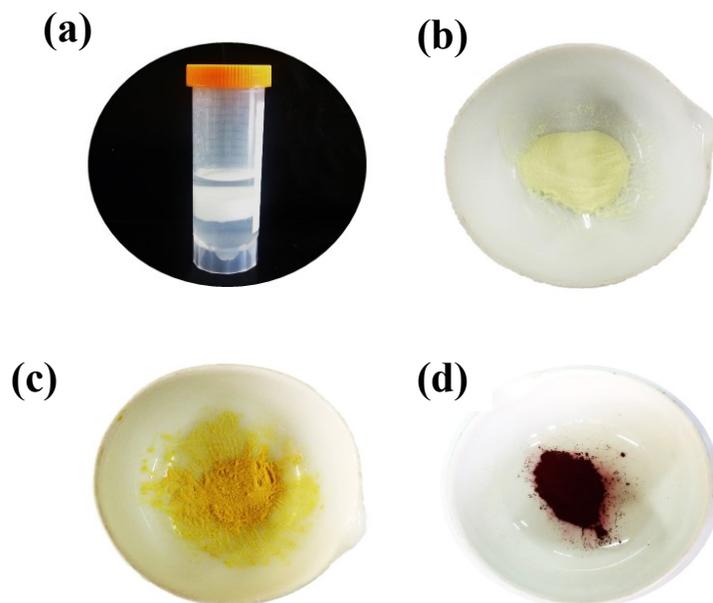
<sup>c</sup> Immunology Department and Autoimmune Diseases Research Center, Shiraz University of Medical Sciences, Shiraz, Iran

---

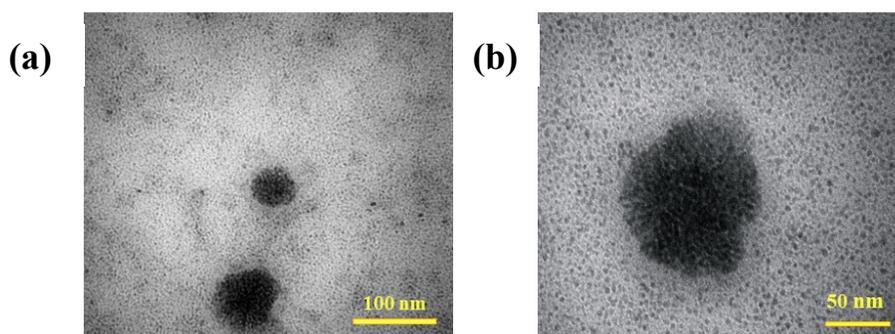
\* Corresponding authors:

Hassan Hadadzadeh, Professor of Inorganic and Bioinorganic Chemistry, Department of Chemistry, Isfahan University of Technology, Isfahan 84156-83111, Iran; E-mail address: [hadad@iut.ac.ir](mailto:hadad@iut.ac.ir)

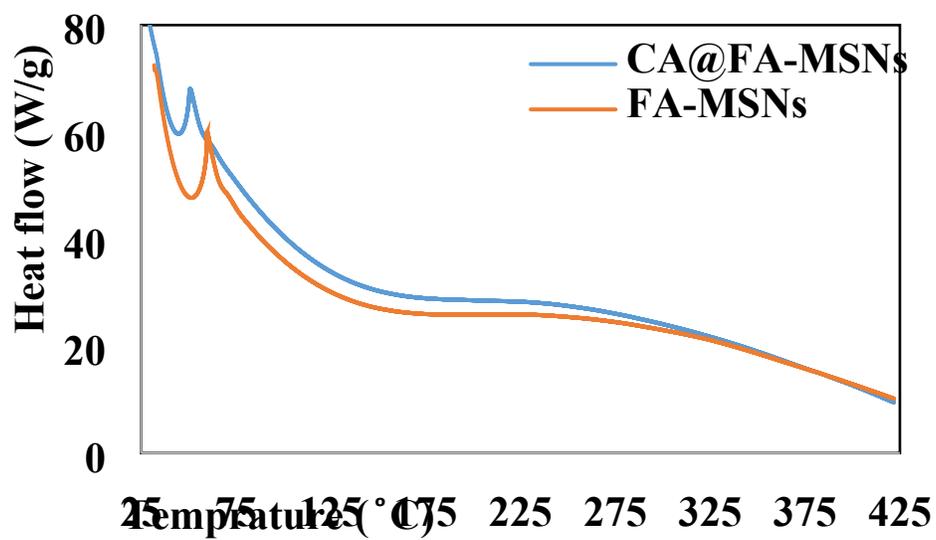
Seyede Zohreh Mirahmadi-Zare, Associate Professor of Analytical Chemistry, Department of Animal Biotechnology, Reproductive Biomedicine Research Center, Royan Institute for Biotechnology, ACECR, Isfahan 81651-31378, Iran; E-mail address: [mirahmadi\\_zare@royaninstitute.org](mailto:mirahmadi_zare@royaninstitute.org)



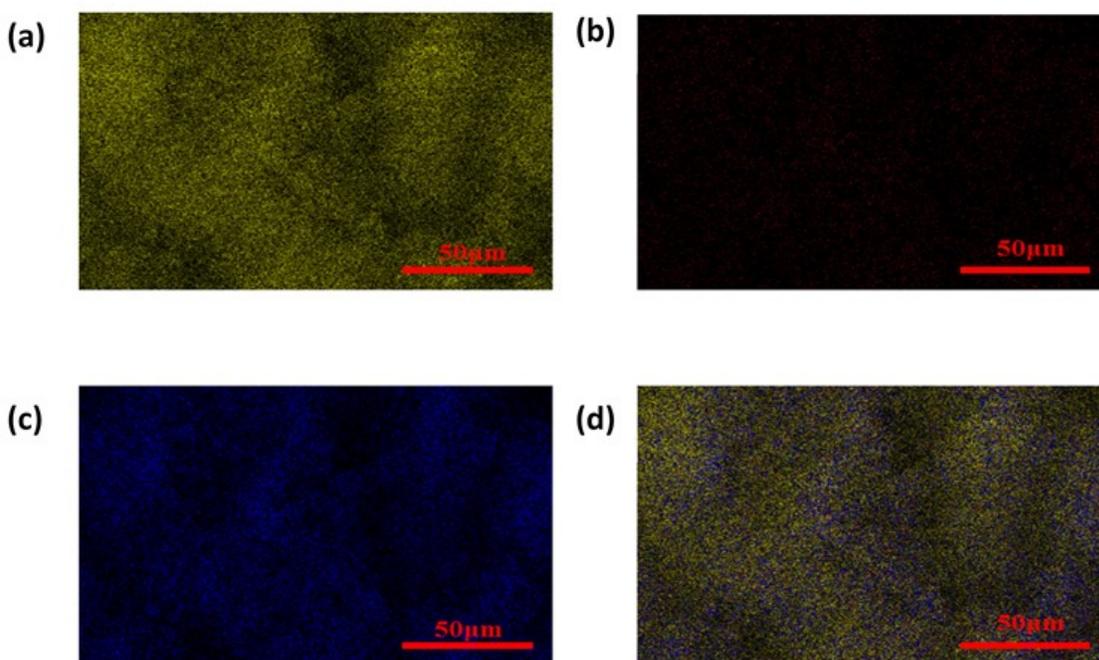
**Figure S1.** Physical view of the synthesized nanoparticles (a) hydrogel of MSNs, (b) NH<sub>2</sub>-MSNs, (c) FA-MSNs, and (d) CA@FA-MSNs.



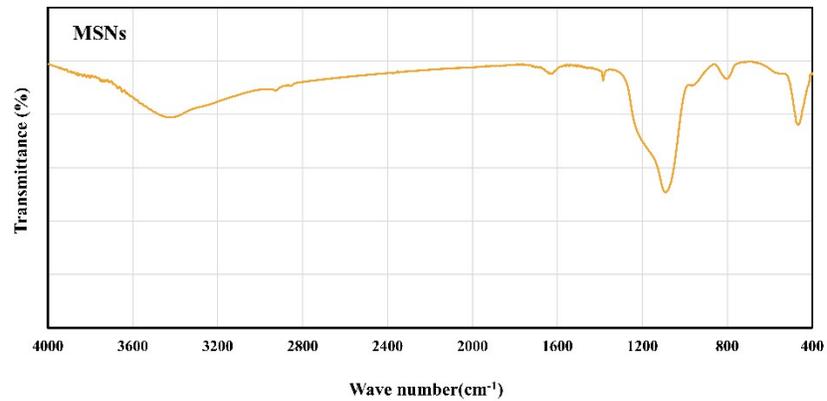
**Figure S2.** TEM images of FA-MSNs.



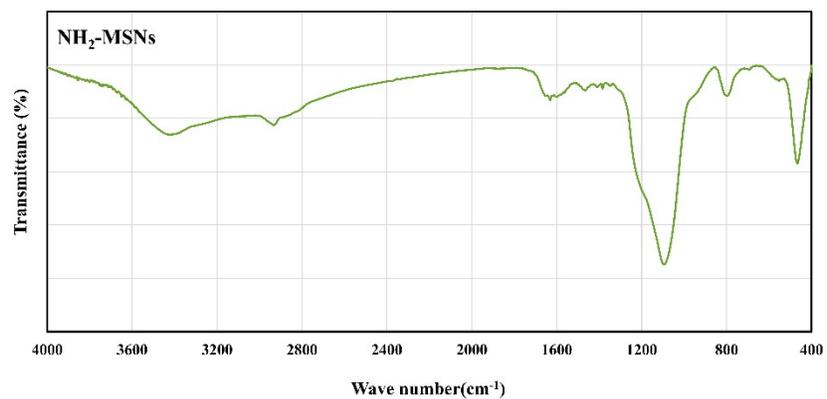
**Figure S3.** DSC of FA-MSNs and CA@FA-MSNs.



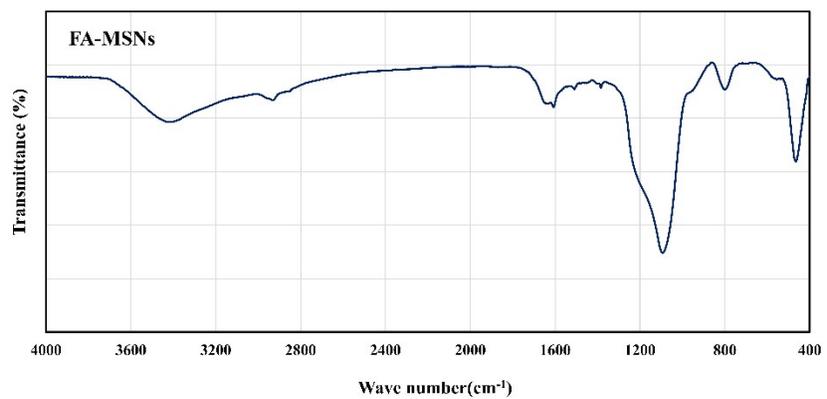
**Figure S4.** EDS mapping of MSNs. (a) Si atoms, (b) C atoms, (c) O atoms, and (d) distribution of atoms.



**Figure S5.** FT-IR spectrum of MSNs after calcination.



**Figure S6.** FT-IR spectrum of NH<sub>2</sub>-MSNs.



**Figure S7.** FT-IR spectrum of FA-MSNs.

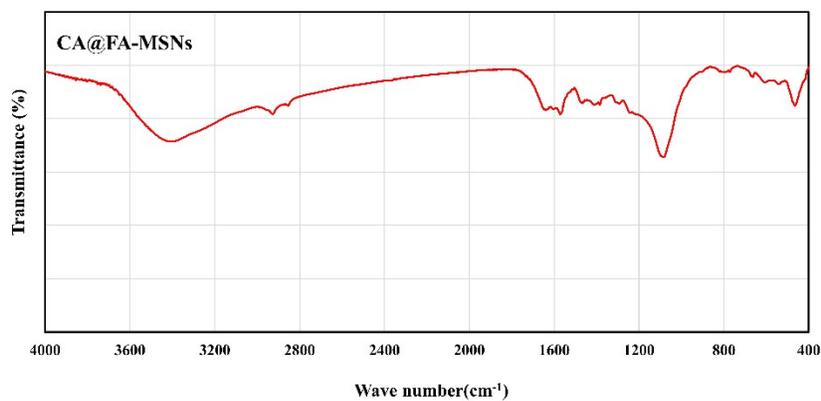


Figure S8. FT-IR spectrum of CA@FA-MSNs.

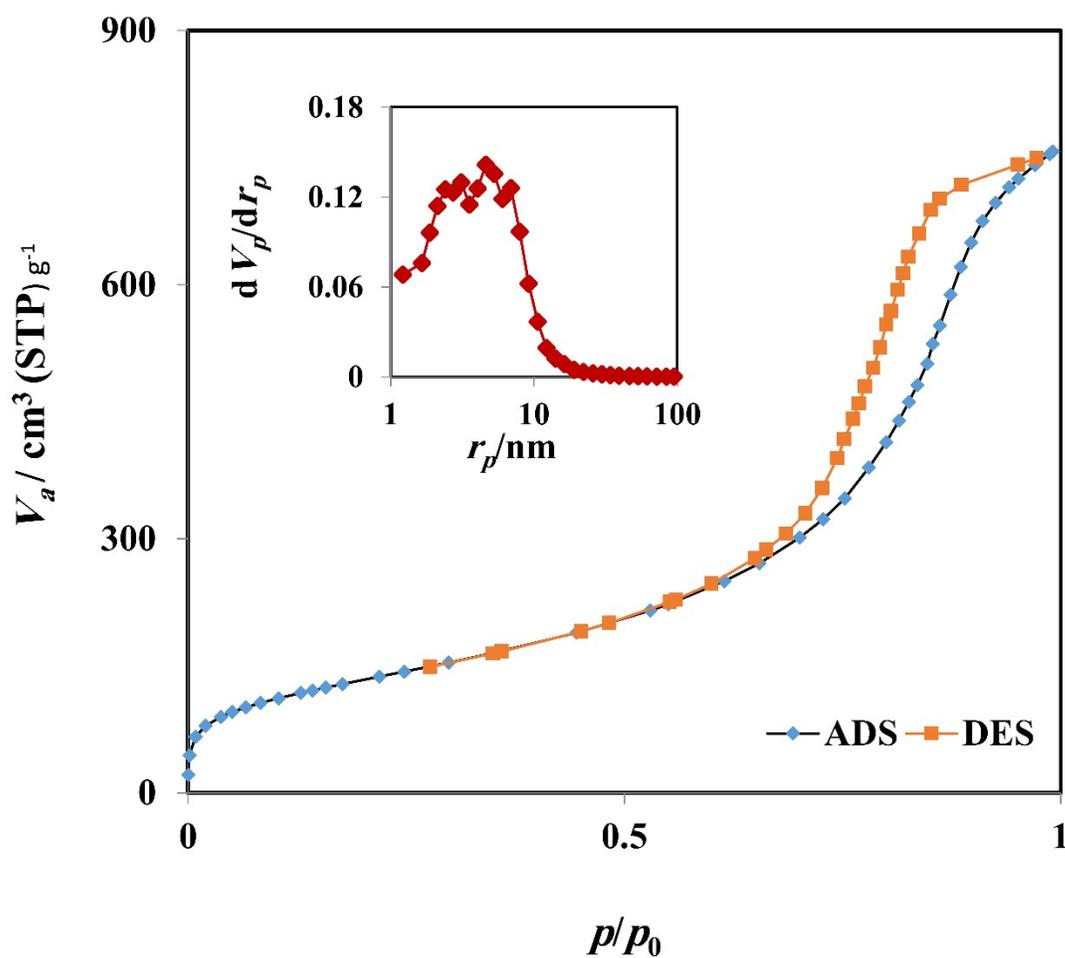


Figure S9. BET and BJH data of MSNs.

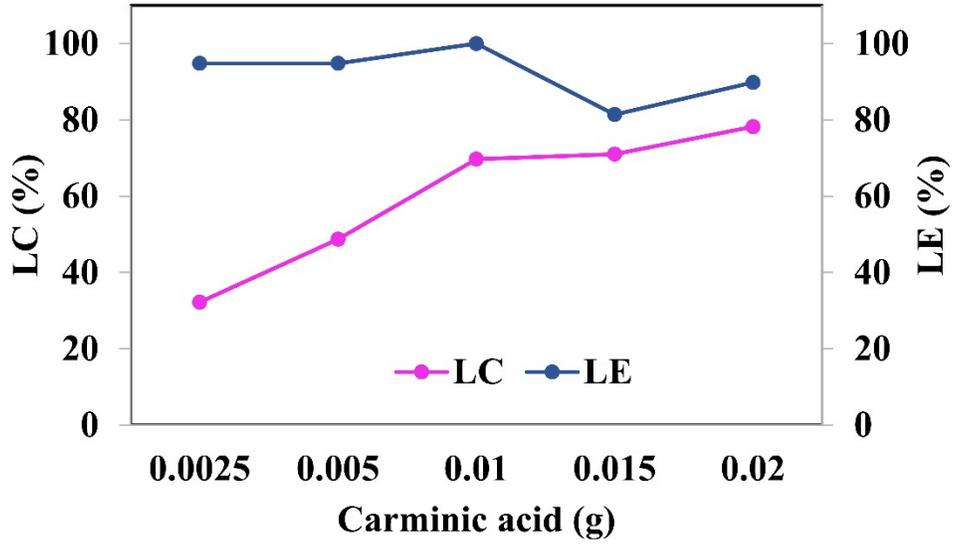


Figure S10. LC and LE of FA-MSNs.

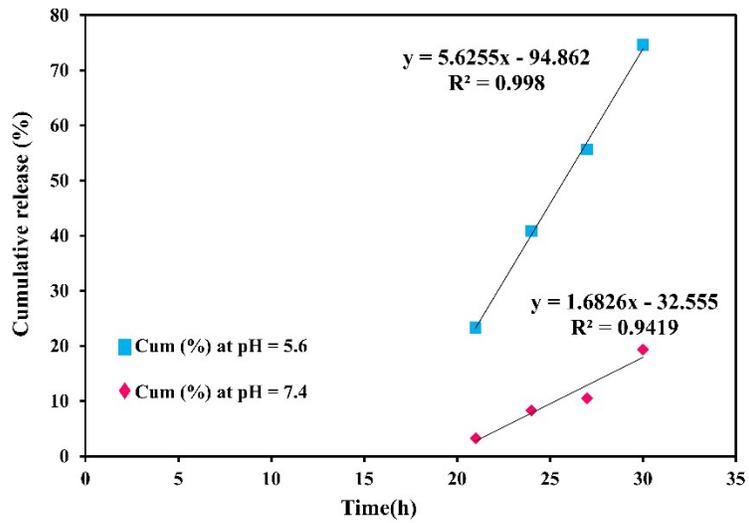
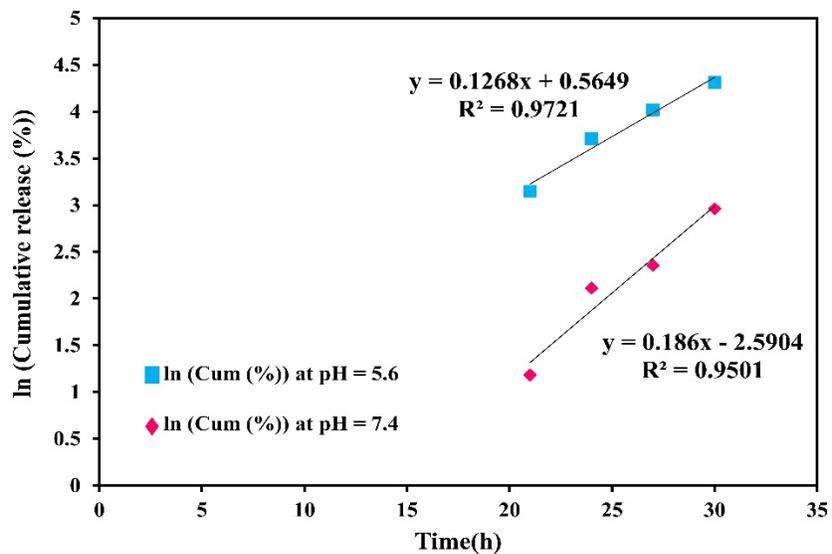
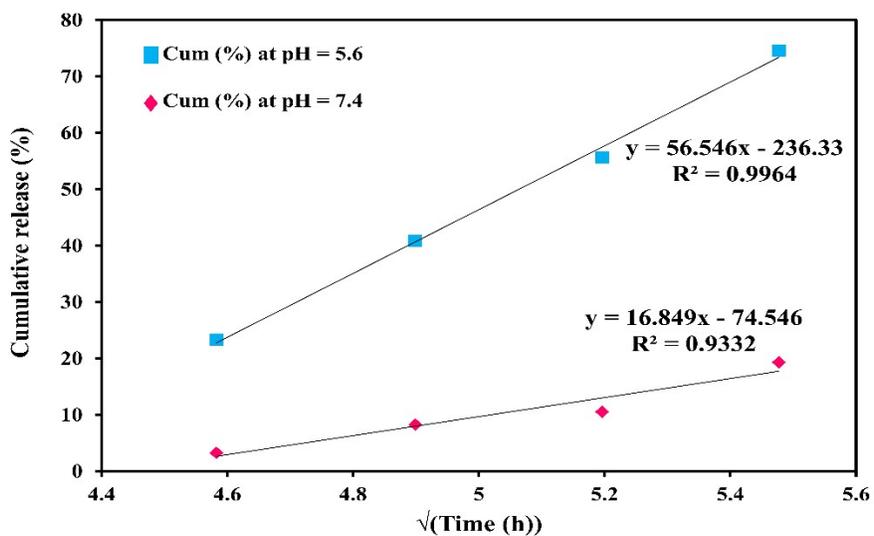


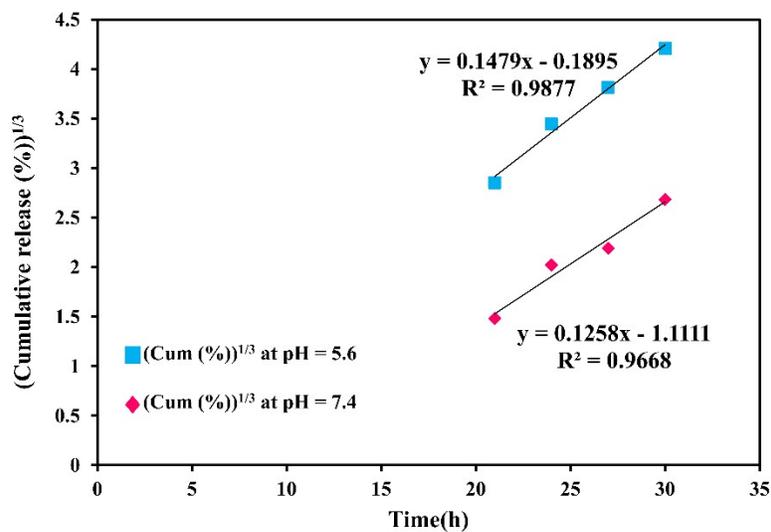
Figure S11. Zero-order plot of the CA@FA-MSNs release.



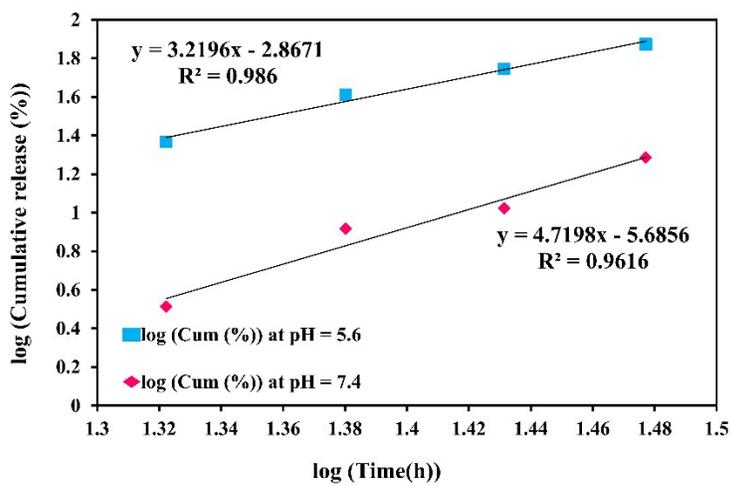
**Figure S12.** First-order plot of the CA@FA-MSNs release.



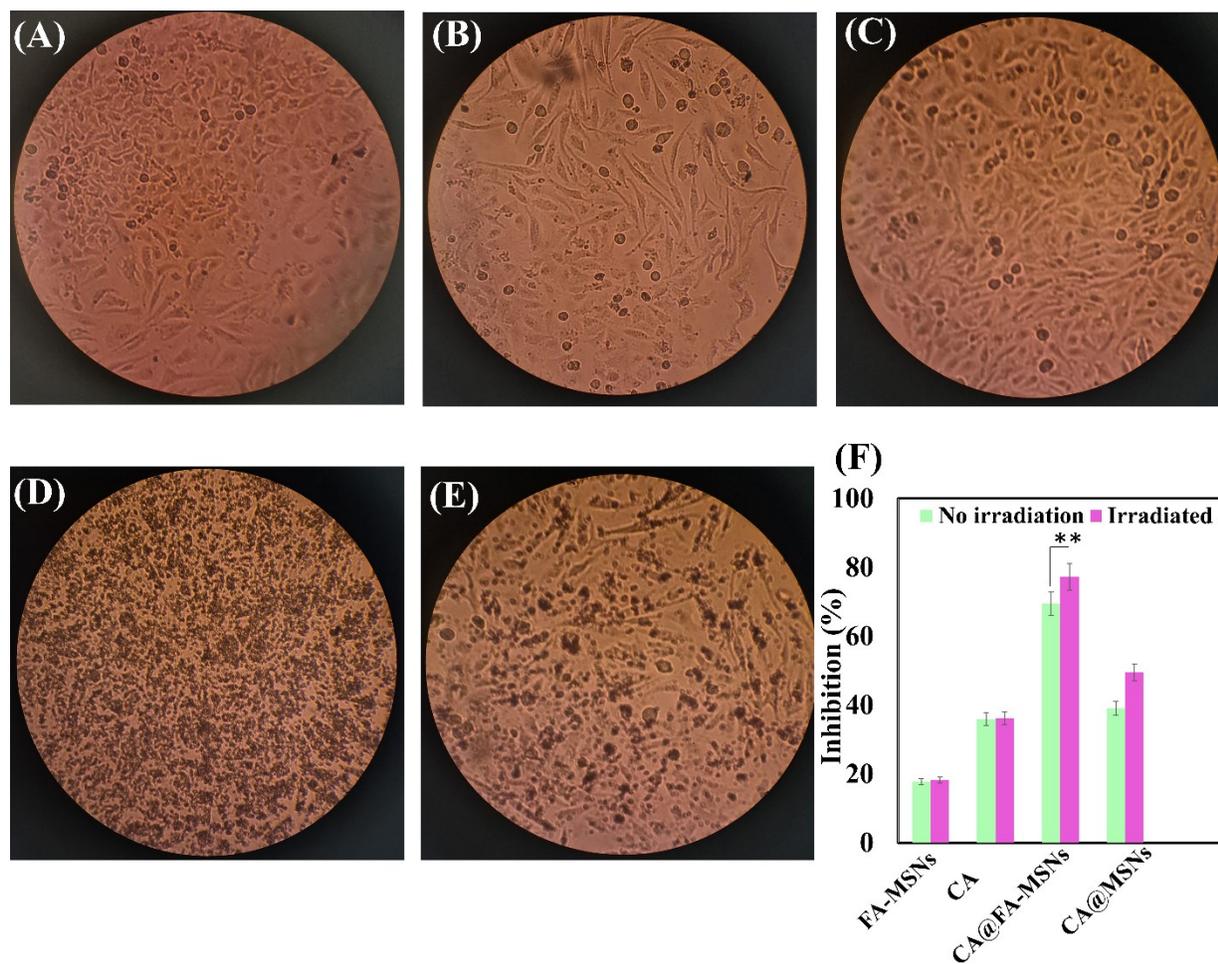
**Figure S13.** Higuchi's plot of the CA@FA-MSNs release.



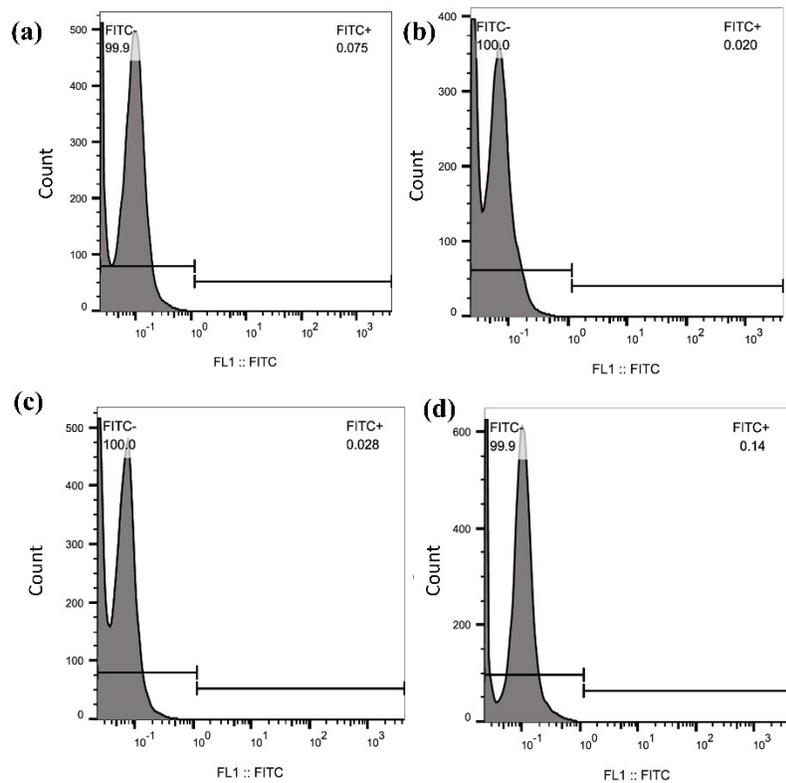
**Figure S14.** Hixson-Crowell's plot of the CA@FA-MSNs release.



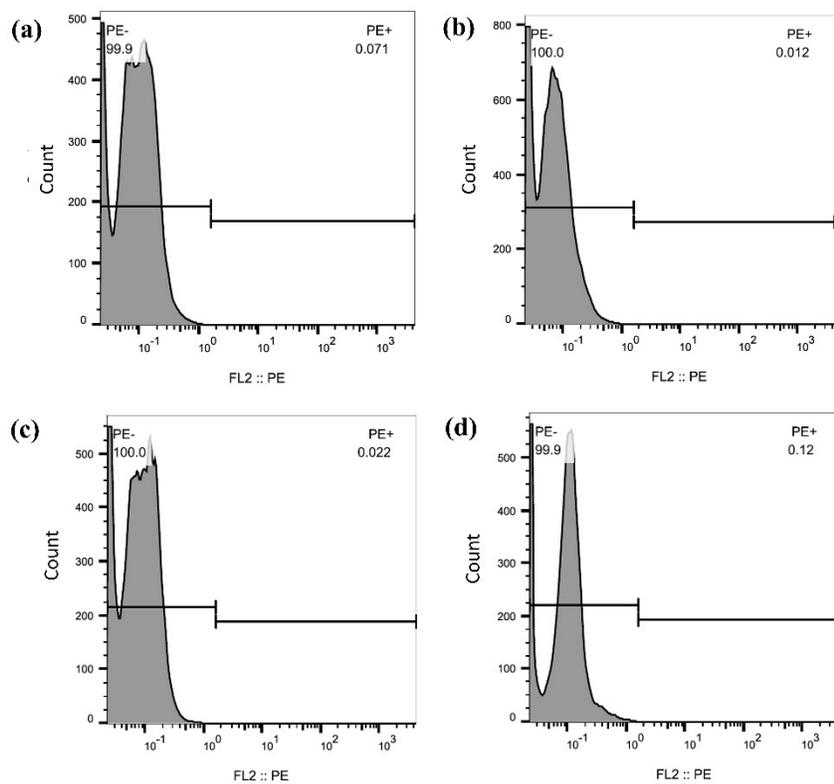
**Figure S15.** Korsmeyer-Peppas's plot of the CA@FA-MSNs release.



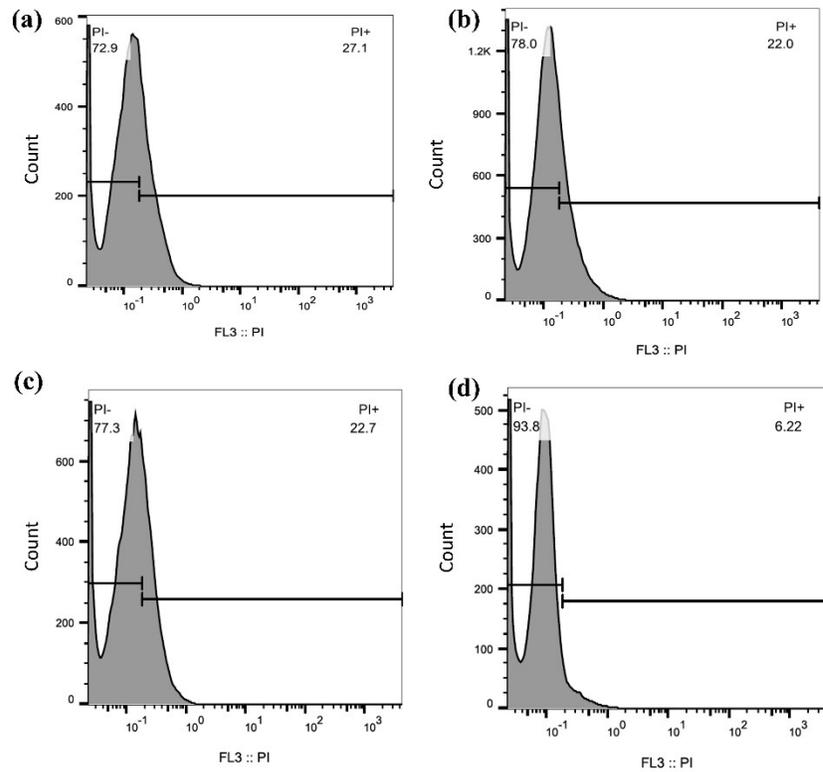
**Figure S16.** Optical microscopic image of HeLa cells treating with 100 μg/mL of (A) control, (B) FA-MSNs, (C) CA, (D) CA@FAMSNs, and (E) CA@MSNs after UVB irradiation; (F) the comparison between cytotoxicity of FA-MSNs, CA, CA@FA-MSNs, and CA@MSNs in irradiated and non-irradiated groups.



**Figure S17.** Flow cytometry results in FL1, (a) CA, (b) CA@FA-MSNs, (c) CA@MSNs, and (d) unstained.



**Figure S18.** Flow cytometry results in FL2, (a) CA, (b) CA@FA-MSNs, (c) CA@MSNs, and (d) unstained.



**Figure S19.** Flow cytometry results in FL3, (a) CA, (b) CA@FA-MSNs, (c) CA@MSNs, and (d) unstained.