## Supporting Information

## Size Effects in Magnetic Separation for Rapid and Efficient Bacteria Removal

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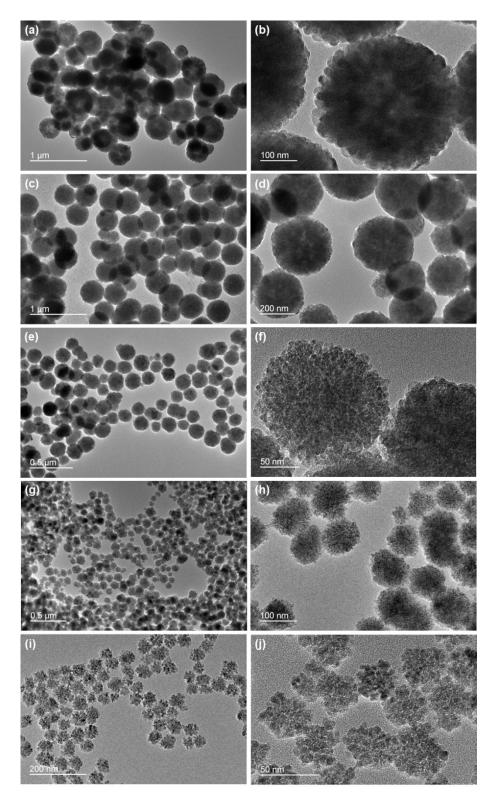
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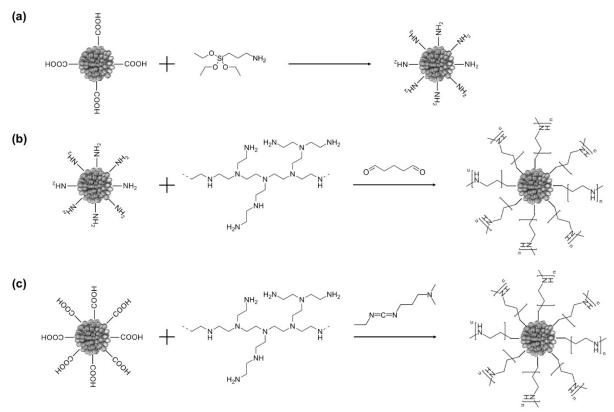
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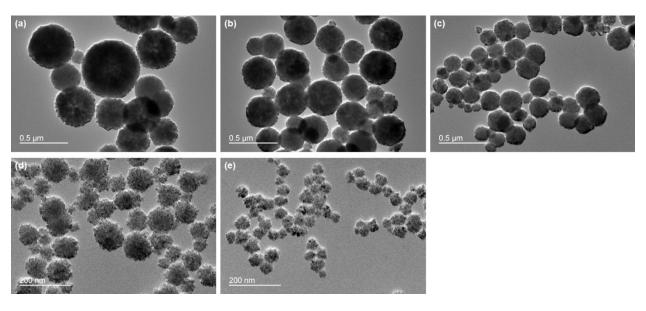
## 1. Supplementary results and discussion



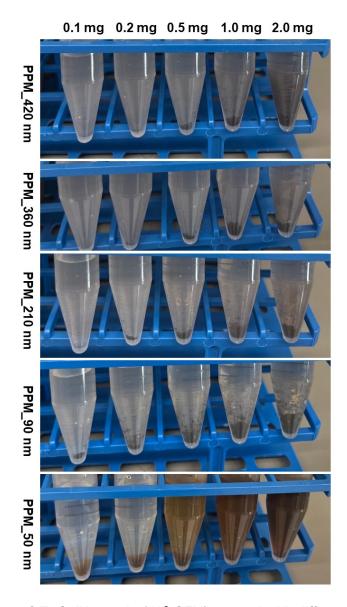
**Figure S1**. TEM images of porous magnets:  $PM_420 \text{ nm}$  (a, b),  $PM_360 \text{ nm}$  (c, d),  $PM_210 \text{ nm}$  (e, f),  $PM_90 \text{ nm}$  (g, h), and  $PM_50 \text{ nm}$ (i, j).



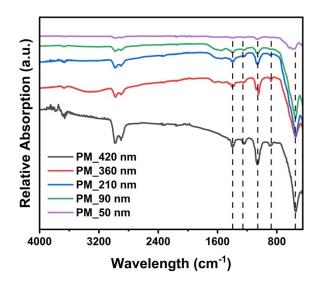
**Figure S2**. The PEI functionalization of porous magnets. PM\_420 nm, PM\_360 nm, PM\_210 nm and PM\_90 nm was first modified with APTES (a) and then functionalized with PEI with glutaraldehyde as cross-linking agent (b). PM\_50 nm was functionalized with PEI through EDC/NHS chemistry (c).



**Figure S3**. TEM images of PEI modified porous magnets: PPM\_420 nm (a), PPM\_360 nm (b), PPM\_210 nm (c), PPM\_90 nm (d), and PPM\_50 nm(e).



**Figure S4**. The images of *E. Coli* bacteria ( $10^9$  CFU) reacted with different amounts of particles (0.1 - 2.0 mg).



**Figure S5**. The FTIR spectrums of porous magnets with different sizes (before PEI coatinbg).

## References

- (1) Liu, Y.; Li, Y.; Li, X.-M.; He, T. Kinetics of (3-Aminopropyl)Triethoxylsilane (APTES) Silanization of Superparamagnetic Iron Oxide Nanoparticles. *Langmuir* **2013**, *29* (49), 15275–15282. https://doi.org/10.1021/la403269u.
- (2) Lastoskie, C.; Gubbins, K.; Quirke, N. Pore Size Distribution Analysis of Microporous Carbons: A Density Functional Theory Approach. *The Journal of Physical Chemistry* **1993**, 97. https://doi.org/10.1021/j100120a035.