

## Supplementary Information

### **Thermoresponsive Hydrogels for Controlled Drug Delivery to the Back of the Eye: A Data-Driven Guide to Formulation Design**

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| <b>Table S1. Risk of Bias Assessment Descriptors</b>  |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| <b>Type of Bias and Description</b>   | <b>Manual Assessment Criteria</b>   | <b>SciSpace Prompt</b>  |
| <b>Performance bias:</b><br>Adherence to the study protocol. Study methods should be clearly reported and followed to ensure reproducibility. | <b>Low:</b> The authors clearly describe the experiments performed, the equipment used for measurements, and the specific conditions under which the experiments were conducted. The sources of all reagents are clearly stated.<br><b>Medium:</b> Study design seems logical and appropriate for the intended determinations. Proper controls are used, but descriptions are not clear enough to guarantee study reproducibility.<br><b>High:</b> Methods either are not appropriate or are not clear enough to determine rigor/reproducibility. | Assess the rigor of the described materials and methods section for performance bias. Where the bias is assigned low, medium, or high.  |
| <b>Detection bias:</b><br>Validated experimental techniques are used to ensure accuracy and reproducibility of obtained results.              | <b>Low:</b> The detection methods used are adequately described and appropriate for the study's objectives.<br><b>Medium:</b> Detection methods are vaguely described but seem appropriate for the objective.<br><b>High:</b> Detection methods are not described and/or are not appropriate for intended purpose.  | Assess the rigor of the equipment used for detection bias to ensure validated experimental techniques are used to ensure accuracy and reproducibility of obtained results. Where the bias is assigned low, medium, or high. |
| <b>Measurement Bias:</b><br>When data or information is not   | <b>Low:</b> The obtained data is clearly reported in the context of relevant controls, and interpretation of data is rational.  | Assess the measurement Bias which measures the validity and rigor of data collection  |

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**Table S1. Risk of Bias Assessment**

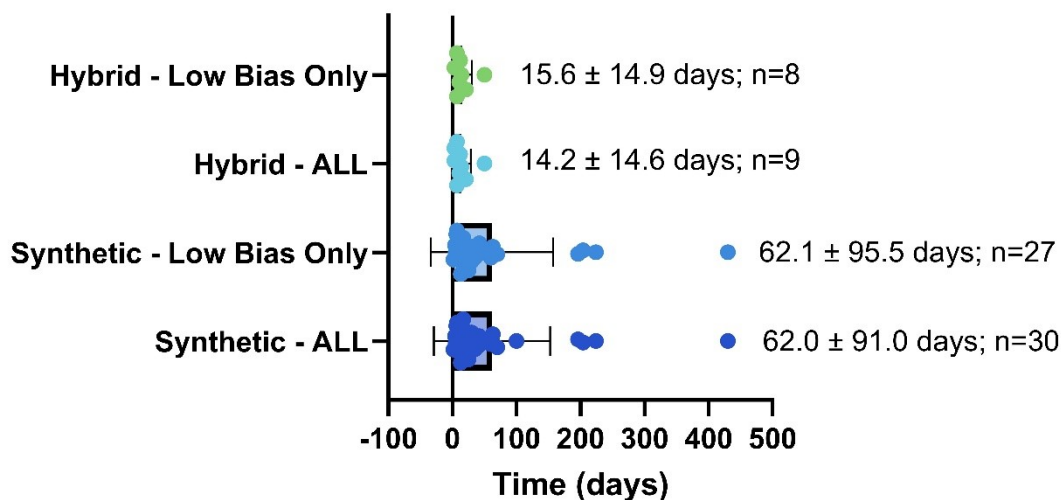
Descriptors.....S3

**Figure S1. Sensitivity Analysis for Maximum Duration of Drug Release.....S4**

**Table S3. Descriptions of Formulations used for Percent Release over Time .....S5-S6**

|  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
| accurately recorded in a research study. This can stem from errors in data collection, inconsistent measurement tools, or subjective interpretation of data, leading to skewed and unreliable results. | <p><b>Medium:</b> Data analysis seems to make sense, but the entirety of the data collection and analysis isn't reported so rigor cannot be guaranteed.</p> <p><b>High:</b> Data isn't analyzed or reported properly. Concerns related to reliability of data exist.</p> | and reports. High levels of bias can stem from errors in data collection, inconsistent measurement tools, or subjective interpretation of data, leading to skewed and unreliable results. Assign bias as high, medium, or low.                         |
| <b>Confirmation Bias:</b> Conclusion support initial hypothesis without convincing experimental evidence.  | <p><b>Low:</b> All conclusions are supported by experimental evidence.</p> <p><b>Medium:</b> Conclusions are supported by evidence but seem ambitious given the reported data.</p> <p><b>High:</b> Conclusions are not supported by reported data.</p>                   | Assess the confirmation bias which assesses the conclusions made and if they are supported by experiments performed. High levels of bias may support initial hypothesis without convincing experimental evidence. Assign bias as high, medium, or low. |

### Maximum Duration of Drug Release



**Figure S1.** Maximum duration of drug release for hybrid and synthetic polymer classes across all included studies and after exclusion of studies with medium to high risk of bias in any assessed domain. Values are presented as mean  $\pm$  standard deviation.

| <b>Table S2. Formulations used for percent release over time.</b> |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| Study ID  | Drug used for cumulative release extraction. Note: if release was only 1 drug reported then left blank. | Formulation used for cumulative release extraction. Note: if release was only reported for 1 formulation reported then left blank. |
| Bakhrushina et al. (2023)   | normal drug   | C2   |
| Bakhrushina et al. (2023)   | solid dispersion of drug  | C4   |
| Awwad et al. (2019)   |   |  |
| Jiang et al. (2025)   | ranibizumab in PBS (not SVF)  |  |
| Jiang et al. (2025)   | rapamycin-loaded microemulsion in PBS (not SVF)   |  |
| Taheri et al. (2022)  | bevacizumab   |  |
| Taheri et al. (2022)  | bevacizumab in NPs  |  |
| Taheri et al. (2022)  | dexamethasone   |  |
| Su et al. (2023)  | Rhein   |  |
| Su et al. (2023)  | Baicalein   |  |
| Wang et al. (2018)  |   |  |
| Xiong et al. (2018)   |   |  |
| Delplace et al. (2019)  |   | unmodified HAMC  |
| Delplace et al. (2019)  |   | Peptide modified HAMC  |
| Liu et al. (2024)   | borneol-decorated paeoniflorin  |  |
| Liu et al. (2024)   | tetramethylpyrazine   |  |
| Egbu et al. (2018)  |   | PEGDA Hydrogel   |
| Ilochonwu et al. (2023)   | dexamethasone   | 10%  |
| Ilochonwu et al. (2023)   | anti-VEGF antibody fragment (biosimilar to ranibizumab)   | 3%   |
| Awwad et al. (2018)   | bevacizumab   | 8uL injection  |
| Awwad et al. (2018)   | fab-10 protein  | PK eye apparatus   |
| Pachis et al. (2017)  | normal drug   | 18%  |
| Pachis et al. (2017)  | Liposome drug   | 18%  |
| Annala et al. (2023)  |   |  |
| Wang et al. (2024)  | ciliary neurotrophic factor   |  |
| Wang et al. (2024)  | triamcinolone acetonide   |  |
| Rudeen et al. (2022)  | Aflibercept   |  |
| Rudeen et al. (2022)  | Dexamethasone   |  |
| Sapino et al. (2019)  |   | Test tube release experiment   |
| Liu et al. (2019)   |   | 2 mM, 20 mg/mL   |

|                              |                 |                    |
|------------------------------|-----------------|--------------------|
| Osswald et al. (2016)        | Ranibizumab     |                    |
| Osswald et al. (2016)        | Aflibercept     |                    |
| Xie et al. (2015)            |                 | 0.625% drug load   |
| Wang et al. (2012)           |                 |                    |
| duToit et al. (2021)         |                 | NP/PEG-PCL-PEG/PLU |
| Aragon-Navas et al. (2024)   |                 | PPP-T              |
| Aragon-Navas et al. (2024)   |                 | PPP-M              |
| Xue et al. (2019)            | BSA             |                    |
| Xue et al. (2019)            | Aflibercept     |                    |
| Xue et al. (2019)            | Bevacizumab     |                    |
| Lopez-Cano et al. (2021)     | Dex alone       |                    |
| Lopez-Cano et al. (2021)     | Ketorolac alone |                    |
| Famili et al. (2014)         | Normal Drug     |                    |
| Famili et al. (2014)         | Drug micelles   |                    |
| Zou et al. (2019)            |                 | PNM1               |
| Zhang et al. (2015)          |                 | Mixture 1; 4 mg/mL |
| Huang et al. (2023)          | berberine       |                    |
| Huang et al. (2023)          | Dexamethasone   |                    |
| Prosperi-Porta et al. (2017) |                 | 13/8-30            |
| Prosperi-Porta et al. (2017) |                 | 17/6-5             |

\*Formulation designations correlate directly to those reported in associated publications.