# Dendron-stabilised gold nanoparticles: generation dependence of core size and thermal stability

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## **Supplementary Information**

## TEM images of dendron-stabilised Au nanoparticles

G1-Au



20 nm



G2-Au





Diameter/ nm



G3-Au



20 nm

#### Characterisation data for dendrimers G1SSG1 and G2SSG2.

**G1SSG1.** Pale yellow solid (83 %).  $R_f 0.54$  (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>:MeOH 90:10), Melting point: 88-90 °C,  $\alpha_D^{293}$  +18.9 (c = 1.0, CHCl<sub>3</sub>), +19.23 (c = 1.0, MeOH), m/z (ES+) C<sub>36</sub>H<sub>68</sub>N<sub>6</sub>O<sub>10</sub>S<sub>2</sub> [M]<sup>+</sup> requires 808.3; found 831.3 (100%, [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>)., HR FAB-MS calculated for C<sub>36</sub>H<sub>68</sub>N<sub>6</sub>O<sub>10</sub>Na<sub>1</sub>S<sub>2</sub> 831.4336; found 831.4338,  $\delta_H$  (270 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OCD<sub>3</sub>) 7.70 (2H, t, J 7.5, CON*H*), 6.15 (2H, t, J 8.0, CON*H*), 5.98 (2H, t, J 7.5, CON*H*), 4.10-4.08 (2H, m, COC*H*), 3.54-3.51 (4H, m, SCH<sub>2</sub>C*H*<sub>2</sub>NH), 3.06 (4H, q, J 6.5, CH<sub>2</sub>C*H*<sub>2</sub>NH), 2.86 (4H, t, J 6.5, SC*H*<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>NH), 1.9-1.37 (48H, m, C*H*<sub>2</sub>, C*H*<sub>3</sub>),  $\delta_C$ (67.9 MHz, D<sub>2</sub>O) 173.4 (NHCOCH x 2), 156.6 (NHCOO x 2), 156.3 (NHCOO x 2), 79.1 (OC(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub> x 2), 78.2 (OC(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub> x 2), 55.3 (NHCOCH x 2), 40.6 (SCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>NH x 2), 38.9 (CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>NH x 2), 38.3 (SCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>NH x 2), 33.0 (CH<sub>2</sub> x 4), 28.5 (CCH<sub>3</sub> x 6), 28.4 (CCH<sub>3</sub> x 6), 23.5 (CH<sub>2</sub> x 2) v<sub>max</sub> (KBr disc) 3346m (CONH), 2978m, 2935m, 2863w (CH<sub>2</sub>, CH<sub>3</sub>), 1687s (CONH), 1656s (CONH), 1524s (CONH), 1366m (C(CH<sub>3</sub>)).

**G2SSG2.** White solid (60 %).  $R_f 0.30$  (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>:MeOH 90:10), Melting point: 119-121 °C,  $\alpha_D^{293}$  –14.4 (c = 1.0, MeOH), m/z (ES+)  $C_{168}H_{308}N_{30}O_{46}S_2$  [M]+ requires 3548.4; found 1797.1 (100%, [M+2Na]<sup>2+</sup>), 1205.4 (55 %, [M+3Na]<sup>3+</sup>),  $\delta_H$  (270 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD) 4.29 (6H, m, COC*H*(R)NH), 4.00 (8H, m, COC*H*(R)NH), 3.49 (4H, m, SCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>NH), 3.18 (12H, m, CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>NH), 3.03 (16H, m, CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>NH), 2.84 (4H, m, SCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>NH), 1.80-1.30 (228H, m, CH<sub>2</sub>, CH<sub>3</sub>),  $\delta_C$  (67.9 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD) 175.2, 175.0, 172.2, 174.0 (CONH x 14), 158.5 (NHCOOC(Me)<sub>3</sub> x 12), 157.8 (NHCOOC(Me)<sub>3</sub> x 4), 80.6 (OC(Me)<sub>3</sub> x 4), 80.5 (OC(Me)<sub>3</sub> x 4), 79.8 (OC(Me)<sub>3</sub> x 8), 56.3, 56.2, 54.8, 54.7, 54.6 (All COCH(R)NH x 14), 41.0 (CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>NH x 8 and SCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>NH x 2), 40.1 (CH<sub>2</sub>NH x 6 and SCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>NH x 2), 33.3, 32.9, 32.8, 32.6, 30.6, 30.0 (All CH<sub>2</sub>), 28.9 (CH<sub>3</sub> x 48), 24.2 (CH<sub>2</sub>), max (KBr disc) 3310m (CONH), 2977m, 2935m (CH<sub>2</sub>, CH<sub>3</sub>), 2866w (CH), 1691s (CONH), 1655s (CONH), 1523 s (CONH), 1458w (CH<sub>2</sub>, CH<sub>3</sub>), 1366m (C(Me)<sub>3</sub>), 1250m (COO), 1172m (COO).

### Characterisation data for nanoparticles G1-Au and G2-Au.

**G1-Au.** δ<sub>H</sub> (270 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 4.40-4.00 (COC*H*), 3.15-3.00 (C*H*<sub>2</sub>NH), 1.80-1.10 (C*H*<sub>2</sub>, C*H*<sub>3</sub>), ν<sub>max</sub> (CHCl<sub>3</sub> solution) 3310m (CONH), 2979m, 2928m, 2862w (CH<sub>2</sub>, CH<sub>3</sub>), 1695s (CONH), 1510s (CONH), 1172s (COO).

**G2-Au.** δ<sub>H</sub> (270 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 4.30-4.00 (COC*H*), 3.20-2.90 (C*H*<sub>2</sub>NH), 1.90-1.10 (C*H*<sub>2</sub>, C*H*<sub>3</sub>) ν<sub>max</sub> (CHCl<sub>3</sub> solution) 3307m (CONH), 2979m, 2934m, 2864w (CH<sub>2</sub>, CH<sub>3</sub>), 1695s (CONH), 1516s (CONH).