

## Supplementary Information

### A Nanocomposite of Silver and Thermo-associating Polymer by Green Route: A Potential Soft-Hard Material for Controlled Drug Release

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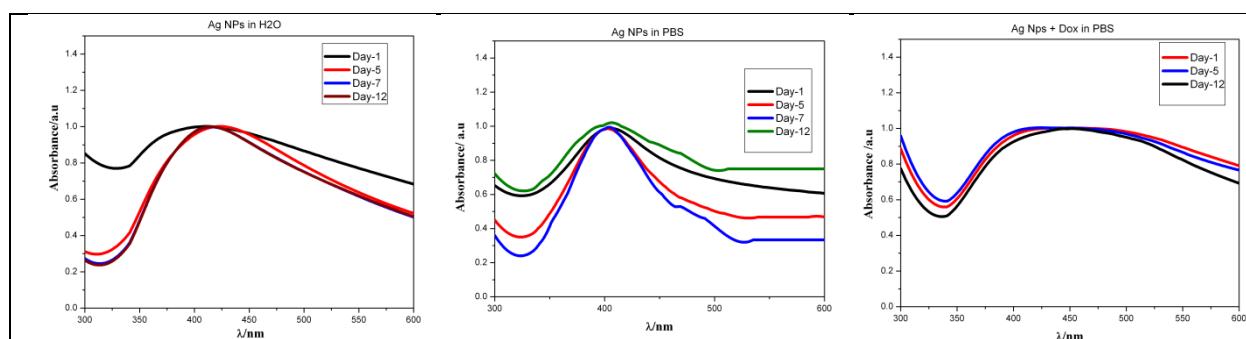
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#### 1. Stability of AgNPs:

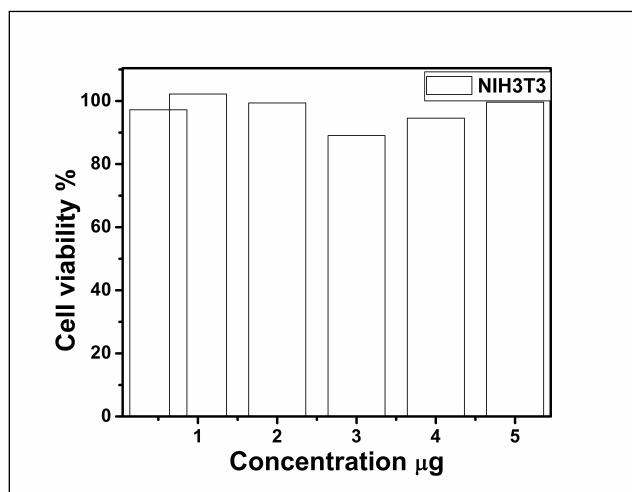


**Figure S1: UV-Vis spectra of AgNPs in water, PBS and in mixture of DOX+PBS**

The stability of AgNPs in the as-prepared state, in the PBS buffer, and after the drug release has been studied by UV-Vis spectroscopy. There is no noticeable change in the surface Plasmon resonance (SPR) peak position of the AgNPs which indicates that the colloidal particles are stable.

#### 2. Cytotoxicity of Nanocomposites:

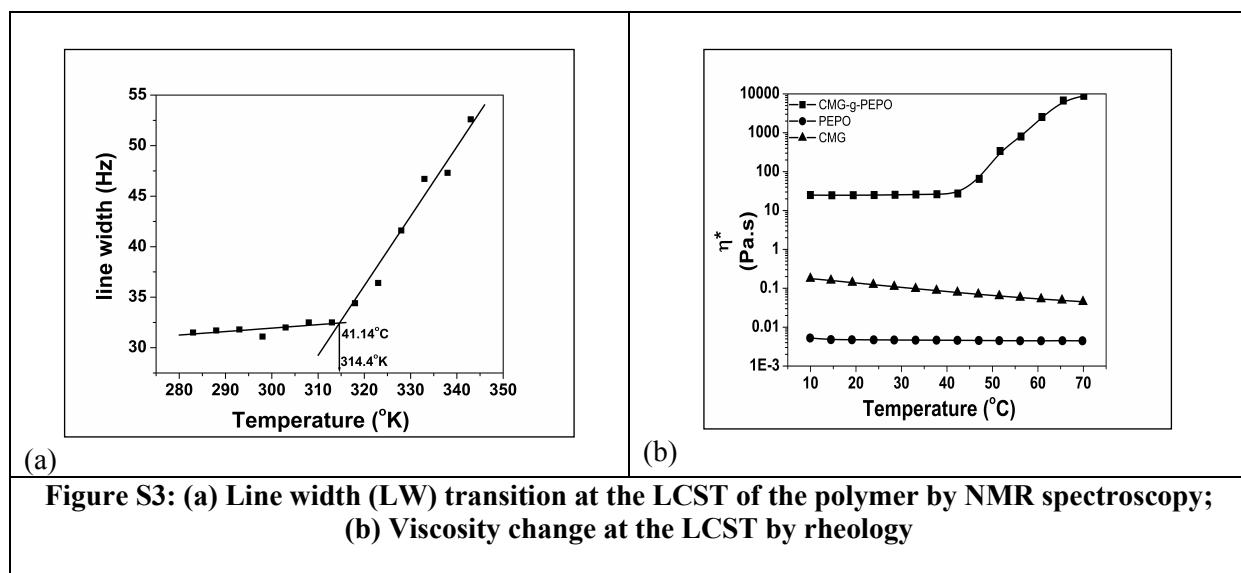
The cytotoxicity of CMG-g-PEPO polymer on NIH3T3 cells was assessed by MTT (3-(4,5-dimethylthiazol-2-yl)-2,5-diphenyltetrazolium bromide) assay. Figure S2 shows cell viability versus incubation time with different concentrations of CMG-g-PEPO. The results in figure show a very high survival rate for the polymer leading to significantly higher viabilities, measured nearly 90%. These studies indicate that CMG-g-PEPO polymer do not show any cytotoxicity even at higher concentrations and exhibit very good biocompatibility.



**Figure S2: Cell viability for CMG-g-PEPO polymer**

### **3. LCST of CMG-g-PEPO copolymer by NMR spectroscopy and Rheology:**

Extensive studies on the rheology and NMR of CMG-g-PEPO polymer solutions were carried out. It was observed that this polymer exhibits interesting thermo-associating behavior at the LCST.



**Figure S3: (a) Line width (LW) transition at the LCST of the polymer by NMR spectroscopy;  
(b) Viscosity change at the LCST by rheology**

At the LCST of the polymer, the sol-gel transition takes place which is determined by **line-width vs temperature** transition in NMR spectroscopy and  **$\eta$  vs temperature** transition in rheology. The transition temperature is found to be between 39-41  $^{\circ}\text{C}$  which correlates well with the body temperature of 37  $^{\circ}\text{C}$ .