

## Tracking mesenchymal stem cell tumor-homing using fluorescent silica nanoparticles

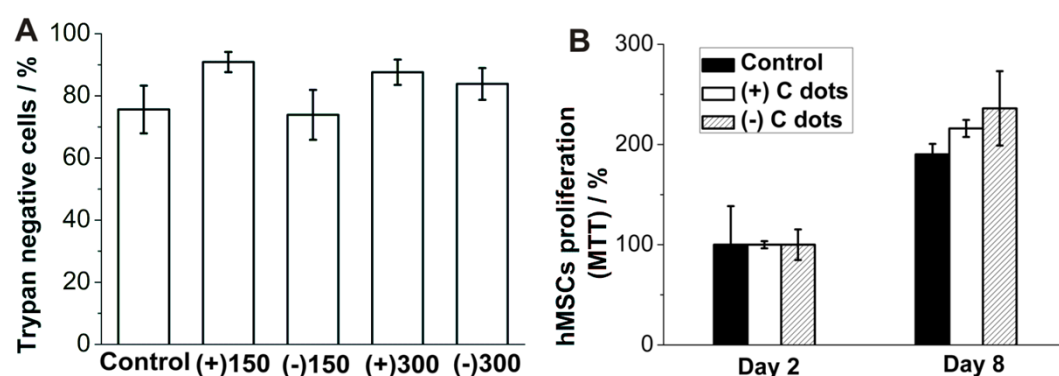
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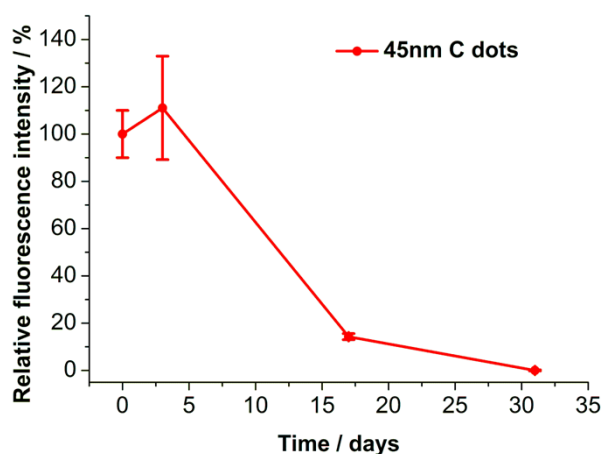
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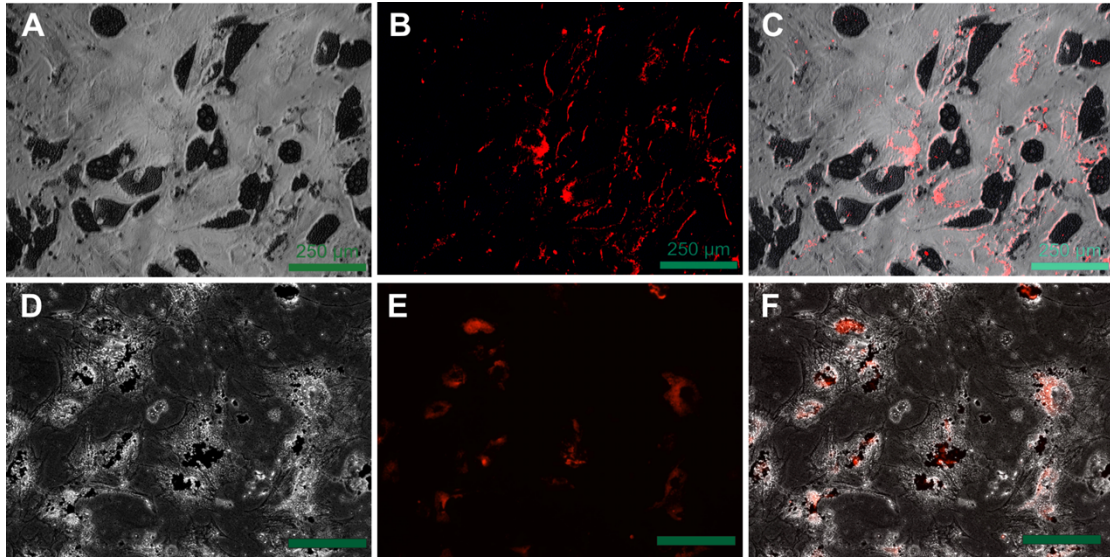
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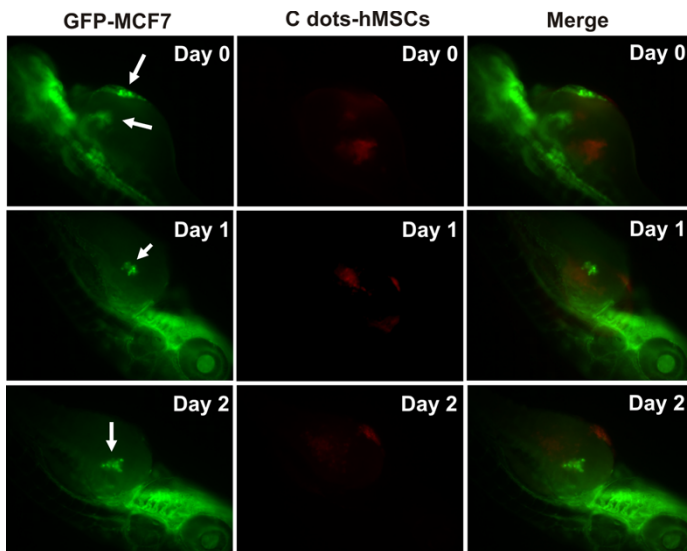
**SI Figure 1.** (A) Viability of hMSCs when incubated with 0 (control), 150 µg/mL, 300 µg/mL of C-dots with both positive (+) and negative (-) charges for 24 hours. (B) Proliferation of hMSCs labeled with 150 µg of (+) and (-) C-dots at day 2 and 8.



**SI Figure 2.** The change in the fluorescence intensity of 45 nm C dots labeled hMSCs.



**SI Figure 3.** Images of C dots labeled hMSCs under differentiation: (A-C) Bright field, fluorescence, and merged images of hMSCs in the adipogenic differentiation at day 23; (D-F) Bright field, fluorescence, and merged images of hMSCs in the osteogenic differentiation at day 17. Scale bars are 250  $\mu\text{m}$ .



**SI Figure 4.** Fluorescence images of C dots labeled hMSCs in a fli:EGFP transgenic zebrafish. GFP-MCF7 cells and C dots labeled hMSCs were injected one after another at the same location (perivitelline space) of a three-day-old zebrafish larva. Green color represents the GFP-MCF-7 cells (indicated by white arrows) and the fluorescence of the blood vessels. Red color represents C dots labeled hMSCs. Images were taken at day 0, 1, and 2 after injection.