## Supplementary data

## Diol glycidyl ether-bridged low molecular weight PEI as potential gene delivery vehicles

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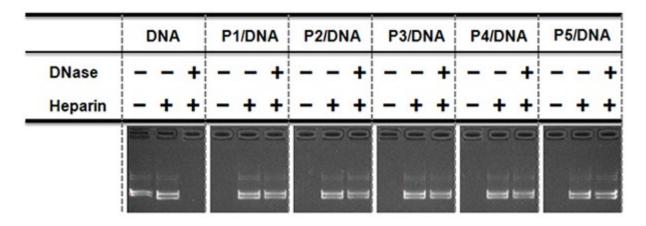
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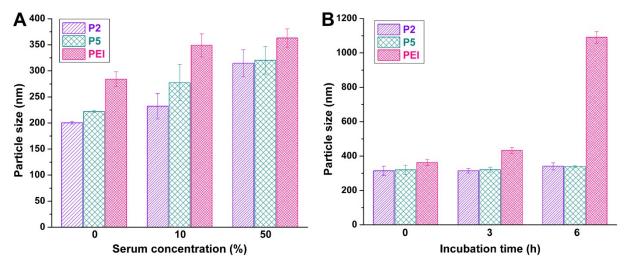
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Table S1 The IC50 values of polyplexes calculated by a Cell Counting Kit-8.

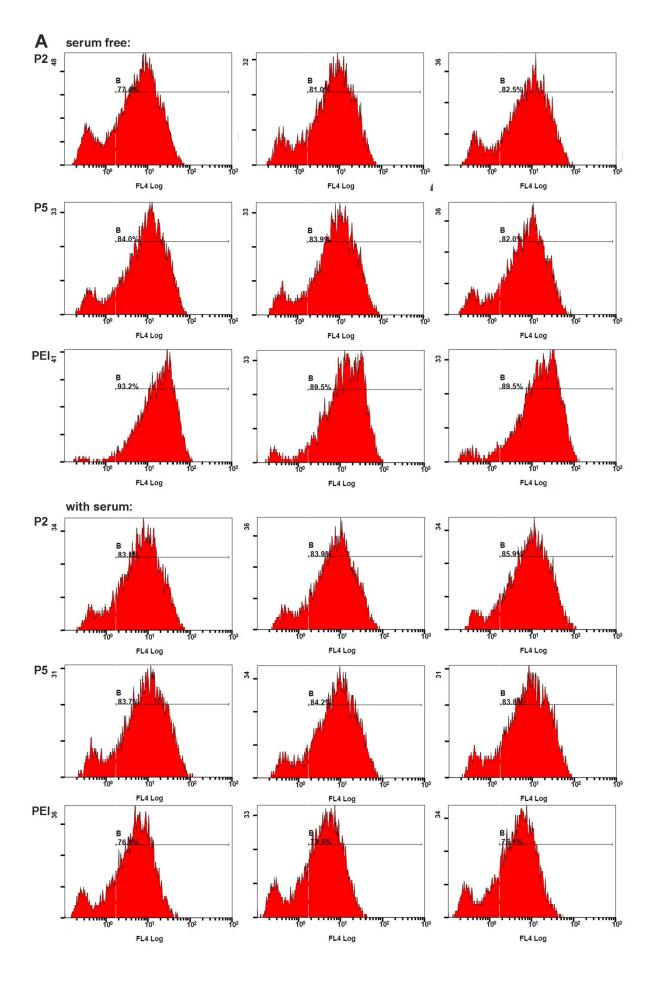
polyplexes	HEK293 cells	Hela cells
	IC50 value (μg/μL)	IC50 value(μg/μL)
P1	$1.80 \times 10^{-2}$	$2.40 \times 10^{-2}$
P2	$1.16 \times 10^{-2}$	$1.20 \times 10^{-2}$
Р3	$1.10 \times 10^{-2}$	$1.50 \times 10^{-2}$
P4	$1.30 \times 10^{-2}$	$1.16 \times 10^{-2}$
P5	$1.18 \times 10^{-2}$	$1.44 \times 10^{-2}$
PEI	$0.60 \times 10^{-2}$	$0.60 \times 10^{-2}$

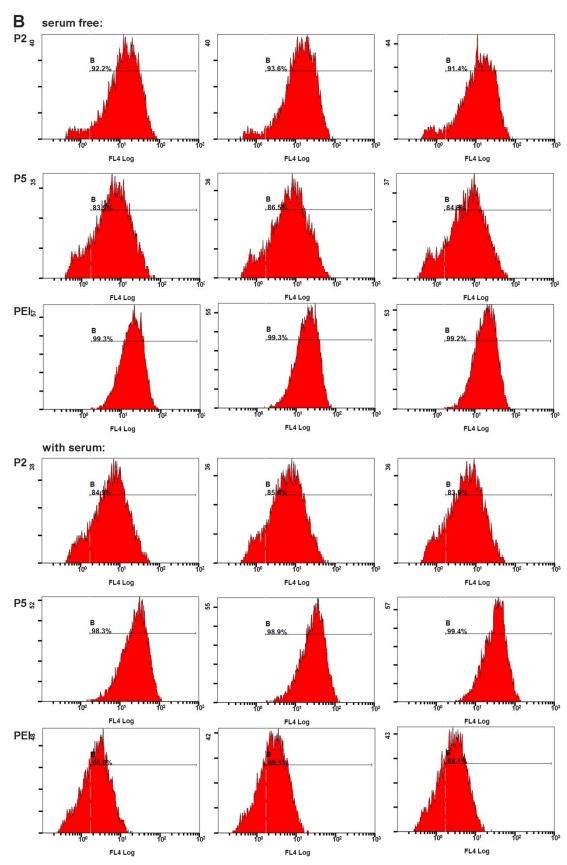


**Fig. S1** Agarose gel electrophoresis of **P1~P5**/DNA polyplexes at mass ratio of 3.2 incubated with heparin and/or DNase (-: without addition, +: with addition).



**Fig. S2** (A) Sizes of polyplexes under different FBS concentrations. (B) Sizes of polyplexes in 50% FBS solution at different time intervals. Polyplexes derived from **P2**, **P5** for w/w=6.4 and PEI for w/w=1.4. Data represent mean  $\pm$  SD (n = 3).





**Fig. S3** The detailed cellular uptake data of flow cytometry analysis by using Cy5-labelled polyplexes. A: polyplexes at optimal mass ratios in HEK 293 cells; B: polyplexes at optimal mass ratios in Hela cells.

## <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra of the polymers P1~P5:

