Supporting information for:

## Specific uptake and imaging of bombesin functionalized iron oxide nanoparticles in prostate cancer cells

Amanda L. Martin<sup>†</sup>, Jennifer L. Hickey<sup>†</sup>, Amber L. Ablack<sup>§</sup>, John D. Lewis<sup>§¶</sup>, Leonard G. Luyt<sup>†§+</sup>, and Elizabeth R. Gillies<sup>†‡</sup>\*

<sup>†</sup>Department of Chemistry, <sup>‡</sup>Department of Chemical and Biochemical Engineering, <sup>§</sup>Department of Oncology, <sup>⊥</sup>Department of Medical Imaging, <sup>¶</sup>Department of Medical Biophysics, The University of Western Ontario, 1151 Richmond St., London, ON N6A 5B7.

Table of Contents:

1.	HPLC of peptide 1	pg. 2
2.	ESI-MS of peptide 1	pg. 2
3.	UV-visible spectrum of nanoparticle 4	pg. 3
4.	Fluorescence spectrum of nanoparticle 4	pg. 3



**Figure S1.** HPLC of peptide 1. Linear gradient of 20-80% solvent A in B. Purity of peptide determined to be 98.7%.



**Figure S2.** ESI-MS of peptide 1. m/z calculated 1121.59, found 1121.35  $[M+H]^+$  and m/z calculated 561.30, found 561.50  $[M+2H]^{2+}$ .



**Figure S3.** UV-visible spectrum of nanoparticle **4** (c = 0.14 mg/mL of iron, path length (b) = 1 cm,  $\varepsilon$  for rhodamine dye = 96000 cm<sup>-1</sup>M<sup>-1</sup> at 560 nm). The loading of dye can be determined by subtracting the absorbance of the iron oxide nanoparticles at 560 nm (determined from a calibration curve), then solving the expression A =  $\varepsilon$ bc for the concentration of dye.



**Figure S4**. Fluorescence emission spectrum of nanoparticle **4** showing maximum emission at 595 nm. Lack of quenching by the iron oxide core was verified by comparison with a sample of the unconjugated dye having a normalized absorbance.