Supporting Information

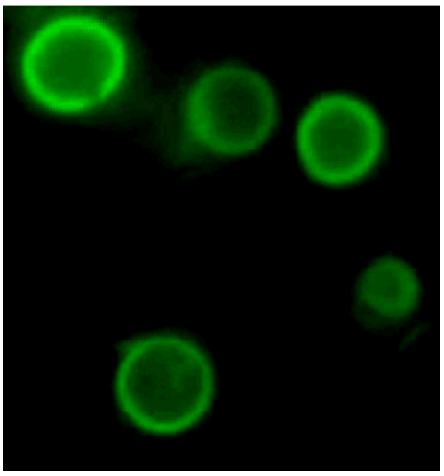

Figure 1. Confocal laser scanning microscopy image of nanoporous poly(L-glutamic acid) particles infiltrated with AF488-labelled heparin.

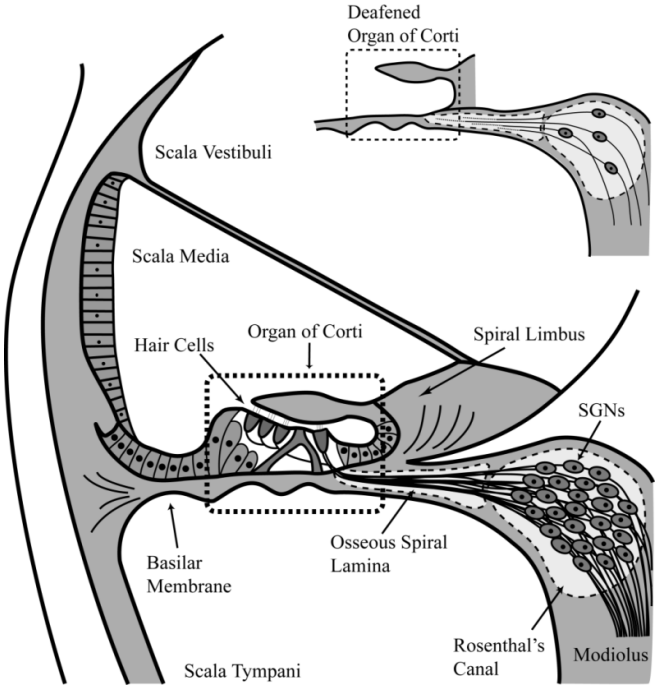

Figure 2. Illustrated cross-section of a rodent cochlea.[1] Guinea pigs with normal hearing possess sensory hair cells in the organ of Corti which are innervated by nerve processes from the primary auditory neurons lying within the Rosenthal's canal. Aminoglycoside antibiotics destroy these hair cells causing a secondary loss of primary auditory neurons. The organ of

Corti sits above a fluid-filled chamber called scala tympani, which is also the site where PGA particles are delivered. The scala tympani open into a natural orifice in the cochlea known as the round window.

[1] P. A. Hurley, J. M. Crook, R. K. Shepherd, *Eur. J. Neurosci.* **2007**, *26*, 1813.