Supplementary Data

Silver Nanoparticle Toxicity in the Embryonic Zebrafish is Governed by Particle Dispersion and Ionic Environment

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NCL report (NCL-NIEH201111A)

The interest in engineered nanomaterials (ENMs) is growing at the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS). To address the concerns of the ENMs safety, an interdisciplinary program, NIEHS Centers for Nanotechnology Health Implications Research (NCNHIR) Consortium was created. The NCNHIR Consortium consists of eight cooperative centers funded through Nanotechnology Environmental Health and Safety program for toxicity evaluation, the Nanotechnology Characterization Laboratory (NCL) for nanomaterial characterization and the National Institute of Biomedical Imaging and Bioengineering to create an informational database.

NCL characterized 20 and 110 nm AgNPs, with either PVP or citrate surface coatings, synthesized by nanoComposix (San Diego, CA). They stored materials 4 °C without freezing in a sterile environment. NCL confirmed the sterility threshold for endotoxin contamination, less than 2.5 EU/mL. They reported unstability of citrate-stabilized AgNPs in high ionic strength buffers. Citrate-stabilized AgNPs precipitate immediately (within minutes) while PVP-stabilized AgNPs precipitate gradually (in hours) in saline and PBS buffers. They reported that size of PVP-stabilized AgNPs is increased as a function of time in saline and PBS buffers. Also, they reported unstability of materials under gamma irradiation. The details for hydrodynamic diameter and zeta potential of four AgNPs are provided in the following pages.

| Silver Nanoparticle (AgNPs) | Test Media | LC ₅₀ (mg/L) | EC ₅₀ (mg/L) | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| 20nm Citrate-stabilized AgNPs | UP | 36.78 | 13.06 | |
| | CaCl ₂ | 42.97 | 45.85 | |
| | EM | 44.78 | outside of testing range | |
| 110nm Citrate-stabilized AgNPs | UP | 9.98 | 18.00 | |
| | CaCl ₂ | 10.20 | 20.20 | |
| | EM | N/A | outside of testing range | |
| 20nm PVP-stabilized AgNPs | UP | 11.92 | 10.10 | |
| | CaCl ₂ | 4.14 | 2.14 | |
| | EM | 42.49 | outside of testing range | |
| 110nm PVP-stabilized AgNPs | UP | 0.08 | 44.59 | |
| | CaCl ₂ | 44.53 | outside of testing range | |
| | EM | N/A | N/A | |
| 10 kDa PVP UP | | N/A | N/A | |
| 10 kDa PVP CaCl2 | | N/A | N/A | |
| 10 kDa PVP EM | | N/A | N/A | |
| 40 kDa PVP UP | | N/A | N/A | |
| 40 kDa PVP CaCl2 | | N/A | N/A | |
| 40 kDa PVP EM | | N/A | N/A | |

Table S1. LC₅₀ values (the concentration causing 50% mortality) and EC₅₀ values (the concentration causing 50% of adverse effects including mortality and any malformations) calculated using the Probit analysis over 6 exposure concentrations.

EM: embryo media; CaCl₂: 62.5 µM CaCl₂; UP: ultrapure water

N/A: not calculated due to low toxicity

Figure S1. NCL characterization results (Hydrodynamic diameter). Taken from the NCL report (NCL-NIEHS201111A).



b

a b

a b

25 ml 50 mL

110 nm, PVP stabilized silver

NIEHS-4

 -25.0 ± 0.8

-25.5 ± 0.9 -23.6 ± 0.9

-26.5 ± 0.8 -23.3 ± 1.5

5.8

6.0 6.0

6.0 6.0

| NCL Particle Designation | Nanomaterial | Test Aliquot | | Zeta Potential (mV) | рН | |
|------------------------------|--------------|--------------|-------------|------------------------|-----|--|
| NIEHS-3 stabilized silver | | 101 | а | -45.2 ± 0.4 | 6.4 | |
| | TO ML | b | -39.7 ± 1.1 | 6.5 | | |
| | 25 mL | а | -46.4 ± 1.0 | 6.6 | | |
| | | b | -42.3 ± 0.8 | 6.6 | | |
| | 50 ml | а | -46.5 ± 1.2 | 6.6 | | |
| | | 50 ML | b | -38.0 ± 2.7 | 6.6 | |

Figure S2. NCL characterization results (zeta-potential). Taken from the NCL report (NCL-NIEHS201111A).





Figure S3. Silver concentration of the supernatant of 4 AgNPs suspended in embryo media, 62.5 μ M CaCl₂ and ultrapure water. The initial concentration was 5 μ g/L.

Figure S4. Relationship between silver body burden and toxicity in embryo media, $62.5 \mu M CaCl_2$ and ultrapure water at 10 and 50 mg/L.

