

Electronic Supplementary Information

Title: *In Silico* before *In Vivo*: how to Predict the Heating Efficiency of Magnetic Nanoparticles within the Intracellular Space

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Table S1. Saturation magnetization M_s , coercive field H_c , average particle core diameter $\langle d \rangle$, average hydrodynamic diameter in water $\langle d_H \rangle_{\text{water}}$, and in DMEM $\langle d_H \rangle_{\text{DMEM}}$, of the magnetic nanoparticles used in this work.

| Sample | M_s Am ² /kg | H_c kA/m | $\langle d \rangle$ nm | $\langle d_H \rangle_{\text{water}}$ nm | $\langle d_H \rangle_{\text{DMEM}}$ nm |
|-----------------|------------------------------|---------------|---------------------------|--|---|
| PEI-MNPs | 51.9 | 5.6 | 25±5 | 73±25 | 3094±730 |
| PAA-MNPs | 51.6 | 5.6 | 32±6 | 155±25 | 1305±381 |

Table S2. SPA values ($H_0 = 24$ kA/m, $f = 560$ kHz) of as prepared magnetic nanoparticles in water, protein-rich medium (DMEM) and *in vitro*. Also de values of exponent λ obtained from the fit of the power law $SPA(H) = \Phi H^\lambda$ are tabulated.

| Sample | WATER | | DMEM | | Cells | |
|----------|--------------------------------|-----------|--------------------------------|-----------|--------------------------------|-----------|
| | SPA (W/g _{Fe3O4}) | λ | SPA (W/g _{Fe3O4}) | λ | SPA (W/g _{Fe3O4}) | λ |
| PEI-MNPs | 274±37 | 3.6(3) | 185±16 | 4.3(3) | 157±19 | 4.0(3) |
| PAA-MNPs | 413±42 | 4.8(3) | 378±47 | 6.2(4) | 217±12 | 3.9(3) |

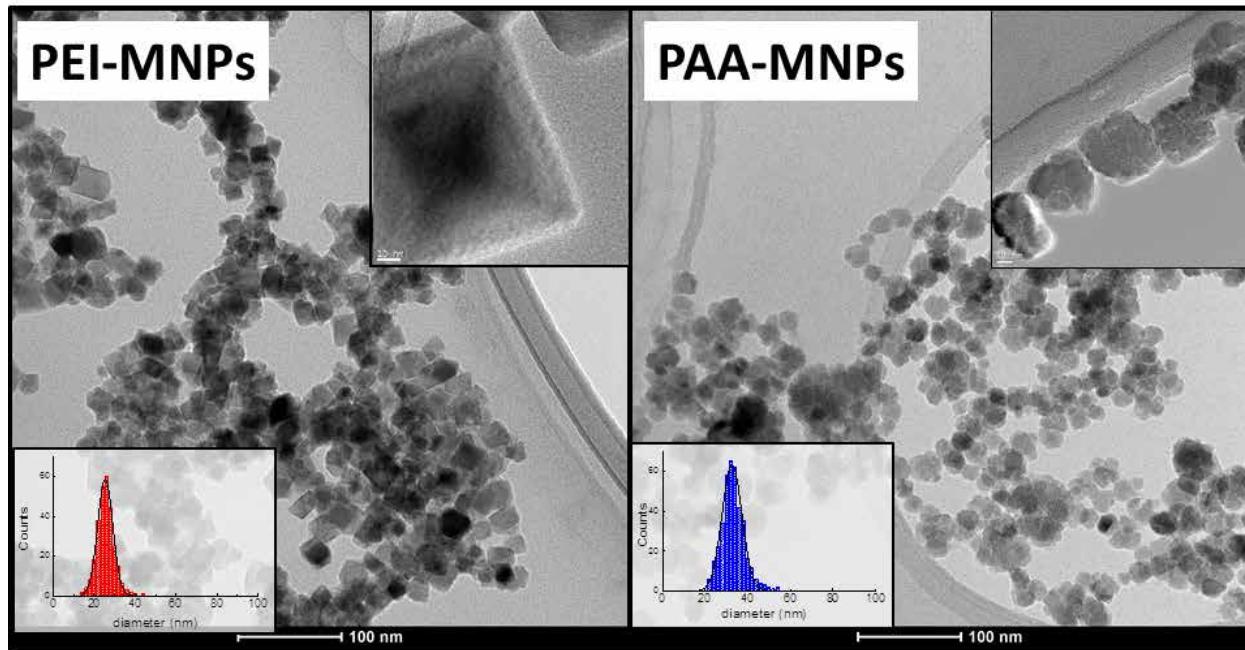


Figure S1. TEM images of the two magnetic particles used in this work. Left panel: PEI-MNPs, magnified area and resulting particle size histogram fitted with a Gaussian function. Right panel: PAA-MNPs, magnified area and resulting particle size histogram.

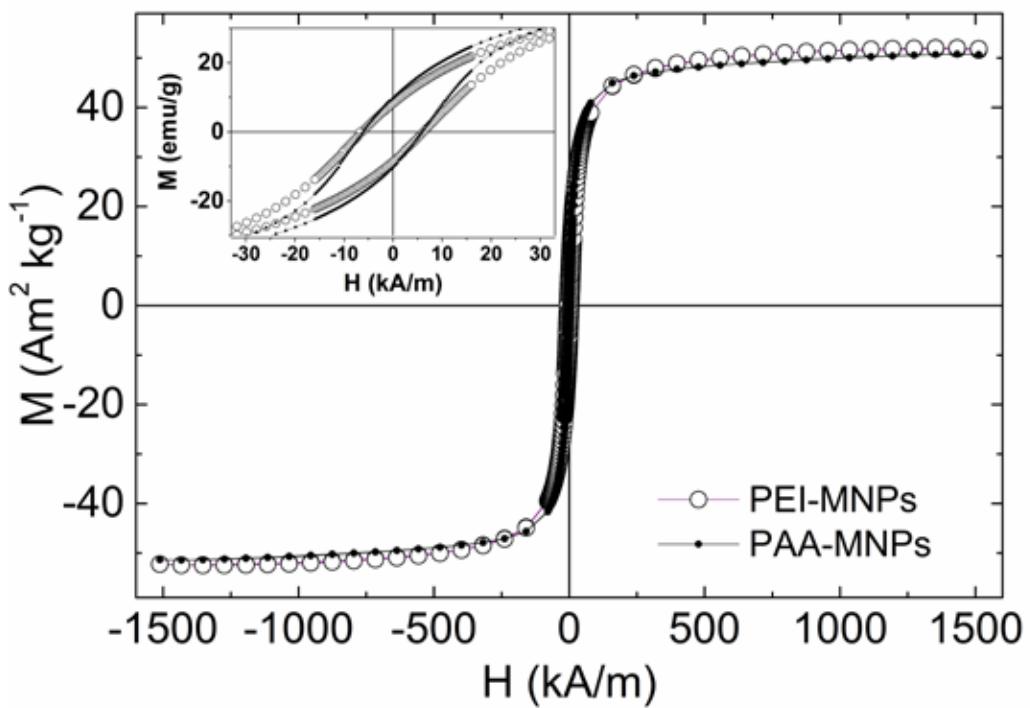


Figure S2. Room-temperature magnetization curves as a function of applied field for poly(ethyleneimine)-coated nanoparticles (open circles) and poly(acrylic acid)-coated nanoparticles (solid circles).

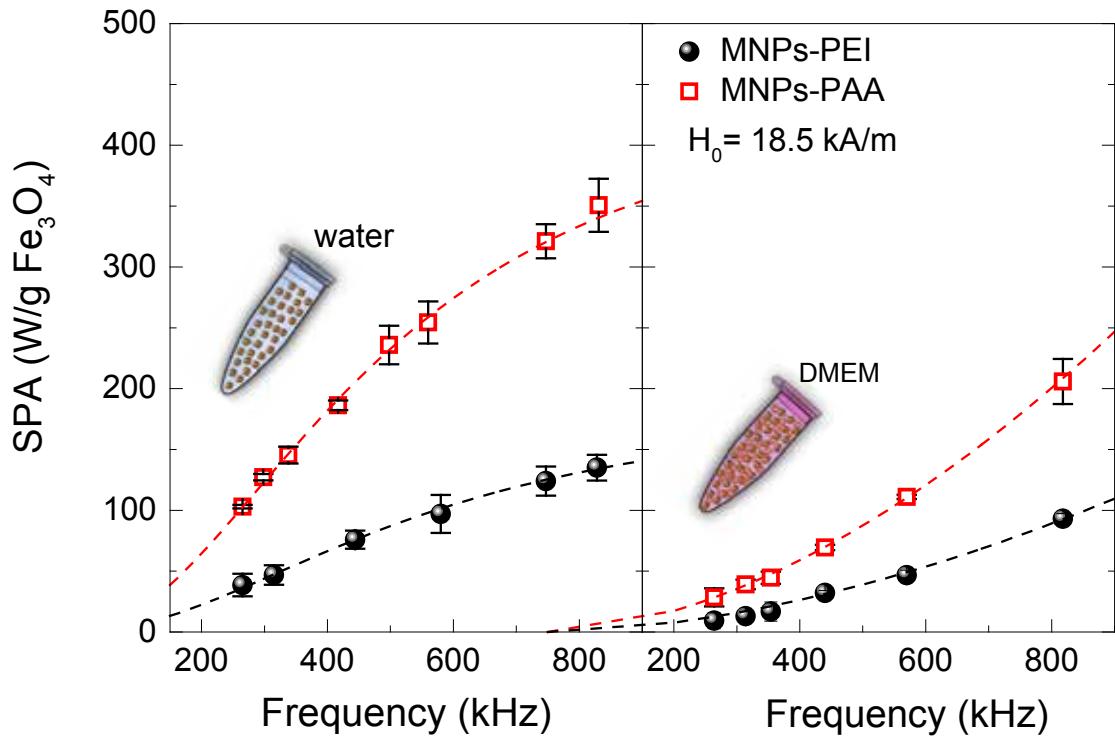


Figure S3. SPA vs. frequency (f) measured at a fixed amplitude $H_0 = 18.5 \text{ kA/m}$.

Dashed lines are the best-fit curves determined using the relation $\text{SPA}(f) = A \left(\frac{Bf^2}{1 + (Bf)^2} \right)$.

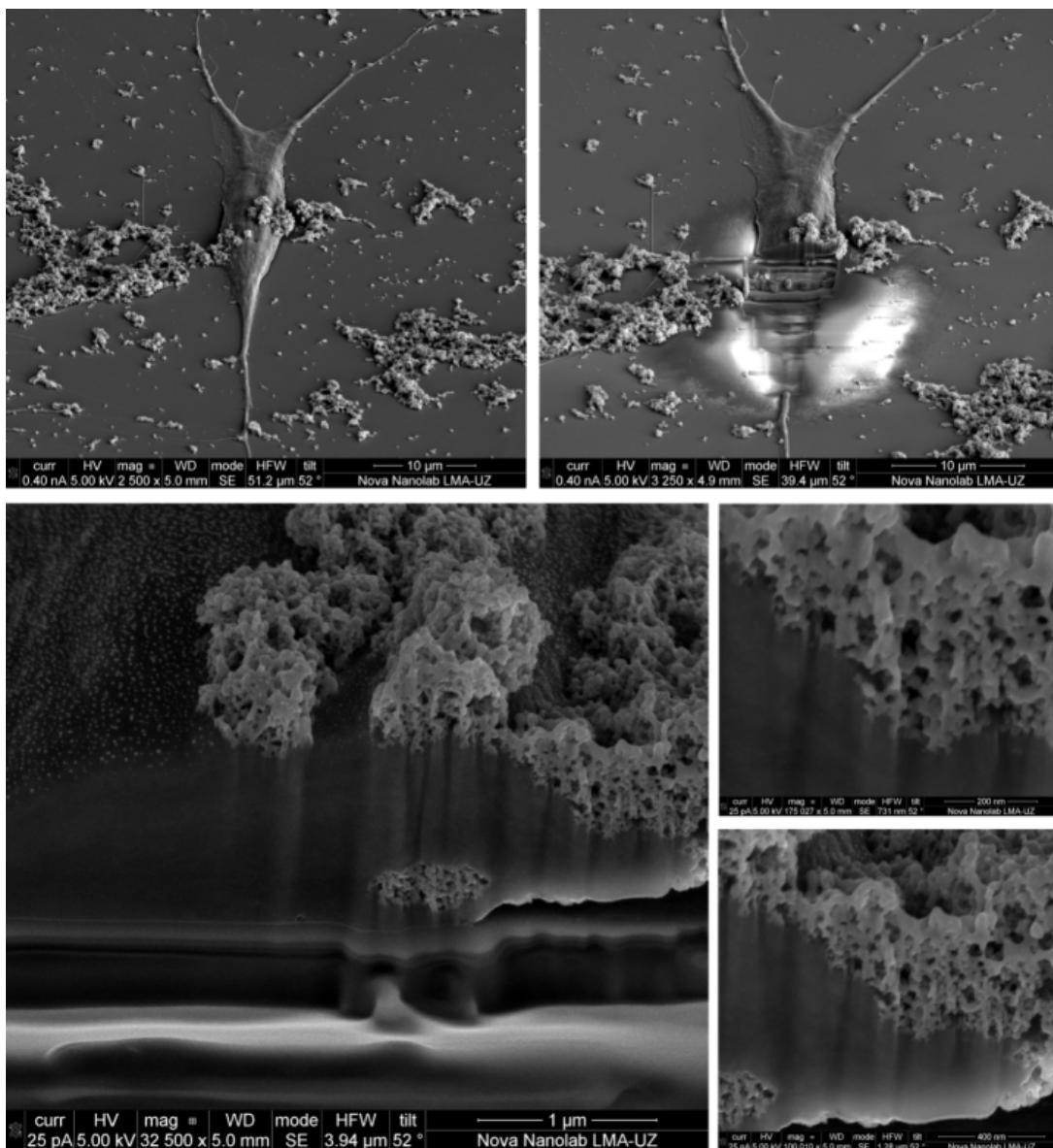


Figure S4. FIB-SEM Dual Beam images of SH-SY5Y cells incubated with PEI-MNPs (100 µg·ml⁻¹) for 24 hours. Lower panels: cross section images showing a detail of the dense cluster structures observed inside the cells and across the cell membrane.

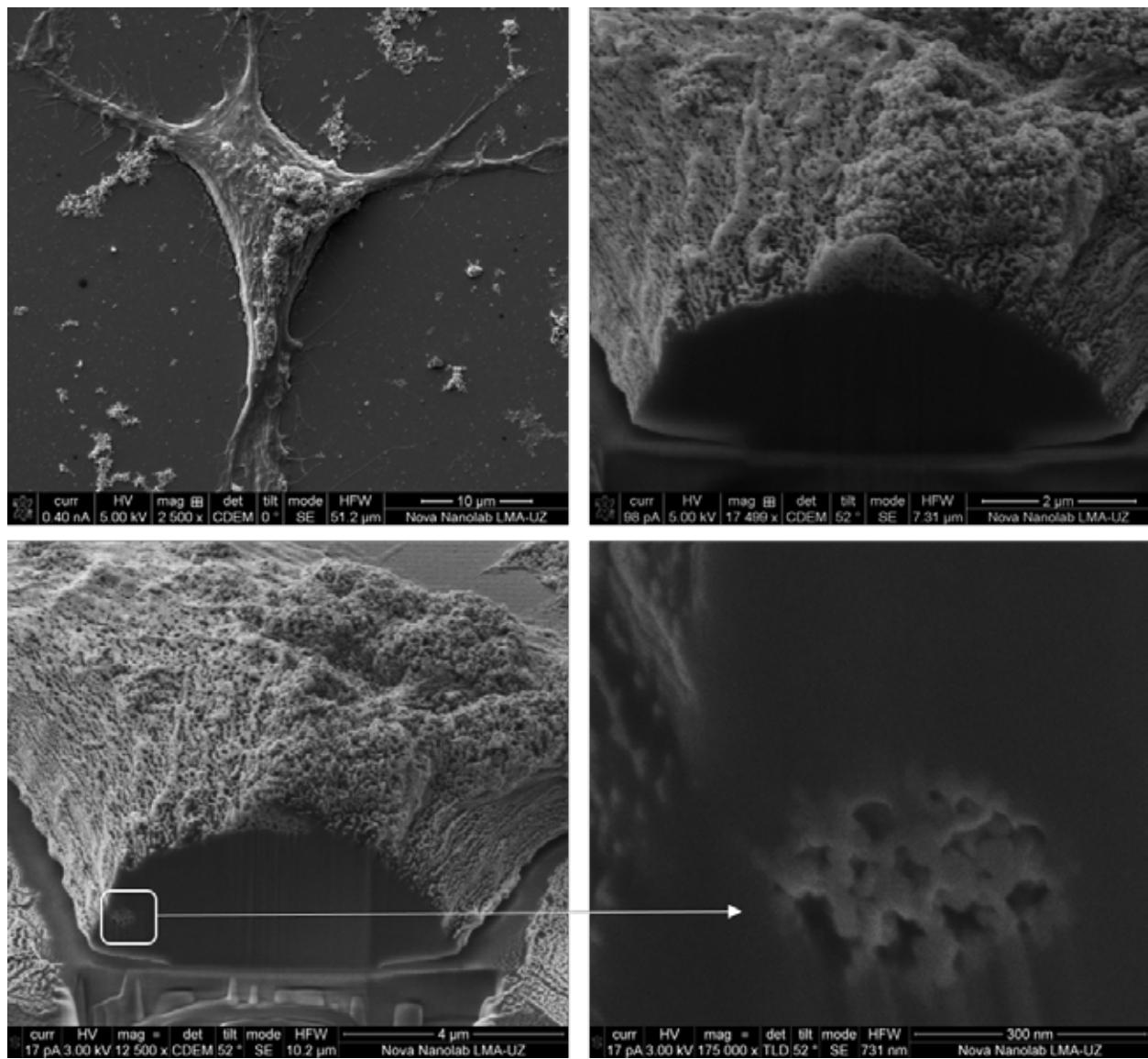


Figure S5. FIB-SEM images of SH-SY5Y cells incubated with PAA-MNPs (100 $\mu\text{g}\cdot\text{ml}^{-1}$) for 24 hours. The lower panels show a cross-sectioned cell (left) and a magnification of the NPs clusters (right)

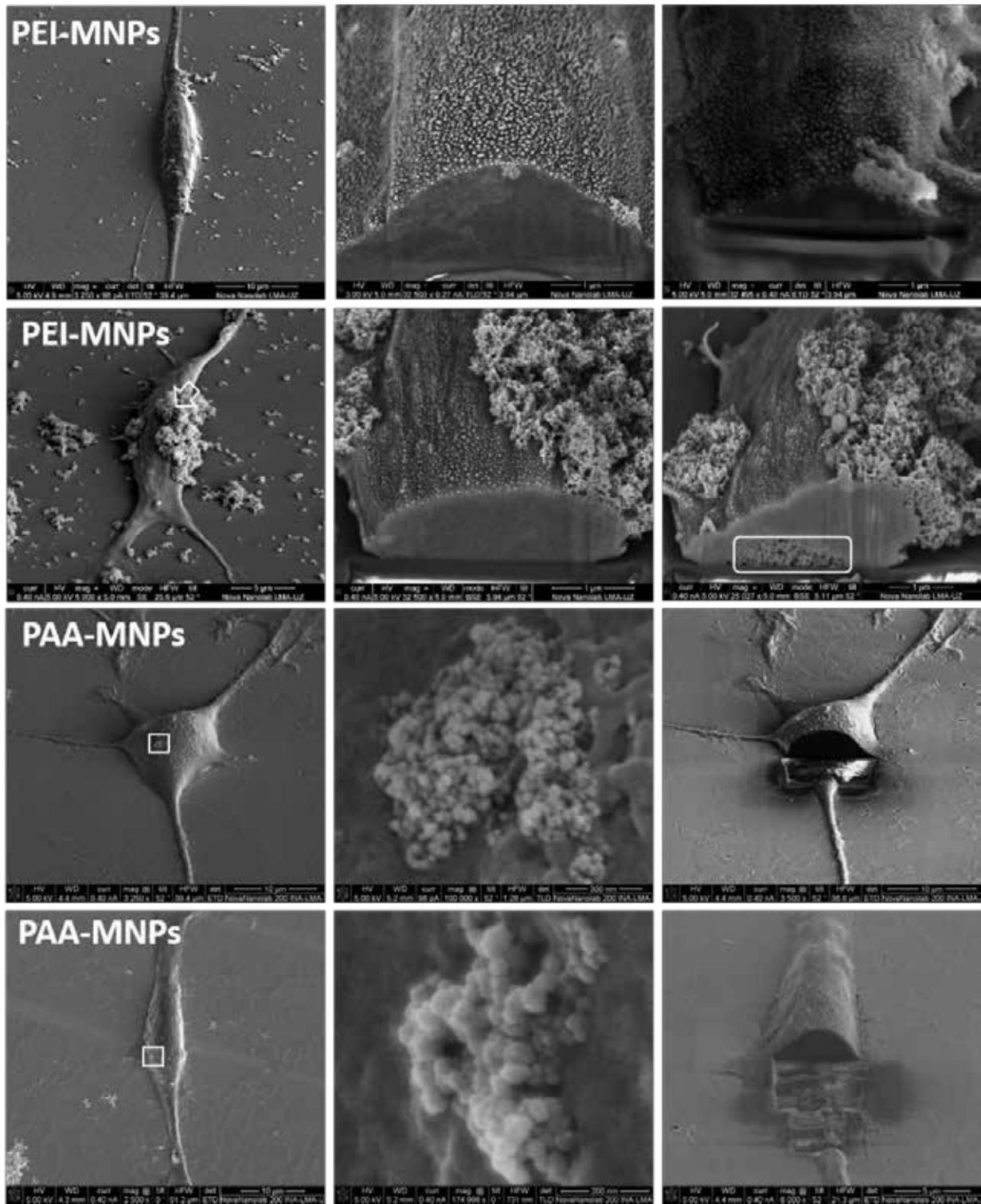


Figure S6. FIB-SEM images of SH-SY5Y cells incubated with PEI-MNPs and PAA-MNPs for 24 hours.