## **Supporting Information**

## Thixotropic peptide-based physical hydrogels applied to threedimensional cell culture

Nicola Zanna,<sup>a</sup> Stefano Focaroli,<sup>b</sup> Andrea Merlettini,<sup>a</sup> Luca Gentilucci,<sup>a</sup> Gabriella Teti,<sup>b</sup> Mirella Falconi,<sup>b</sup> and Claudia Tomasini<sup>a\*</sup>

## **Contents**

<b>Table S1.</b> Physical properties of hydrogels obtained with the gelators <b>A</b> , <b>B</b> and <b>C</b> and a stechiometric amount of CaCl <sub>2</sub> .	Page S2
<b>Figure S1.</b> Photographs of samples of hydrogels prepared with gelators <b>A</b> , <b>B</b> and <b>C</b> and CaCl <sub>2</sub> in different concentration.	Page S3
<b>Figure S2.</b> Strain dependence (A-C-E) and frequency dependence (B-D-F) of storage modulus (square) and loss modulus (triangle) for hydrogels <b>8</b> , <b>10</b> and <b>12</b> .	Page S4

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup> Dipartimento di Chimica "Giacomo Ciamician" - Alma Mater Studiorum Università di Bologna - Via F. Selmi 2, 40126 Bologna (Italy)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>b</sup> Dipartimento di Scienze Biomediche e Neuromotorie – Alma Mater Studiorum Università di Bologna – Via Ugo Foscolo, 7 – 40123 Bologna - Italy

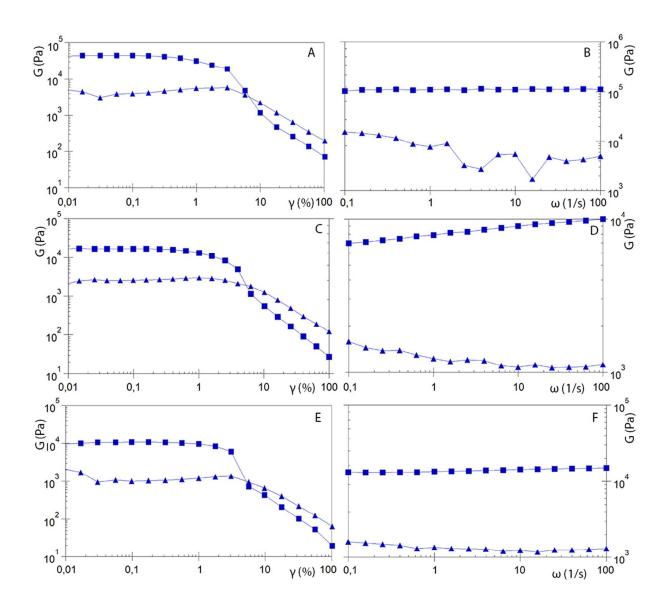
**Table S1.** Physical properties of hydrogels obtained with the gelators  $\bf A$ ,  $\bf B$  and  $\bf C$  and a stechiometric amount of  $CaCl_2$ .

Gelator (% w/w)	Hydrogel	NaOH (equiv.)	CaCl <sub>2</sub> (equiv.)	T <sub>gel</sub> (°C)
<b>A</b> (1)	1	2	1	partial gel
<b>A</b> (2)	2	2	1	40 <sup>a</sup>
<b>B</b> (1)	3	1	0.5	55 <sup>a</sup>
<b>B</b> (2)	4	2	0.5	65 <sup>a</sup>
<b>C</b> (1)	5	1	0.5	partial gel
<b>C</b> (2)	6	2	0.5	30 <sup>a</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup> Syneresis occurs on heating.



**Figure S1.** Photographs of samples of hydrogels **2**, **3**, **4** and **6** prepared with gelators **A**, **B** and **C** and of hydrogels obtained with the gelators **A-C** and a stechiometric amount of CaCl<sub>2</sub>. Hydrogels **1** and **5** were not included because they are partial gels (see Table S1 for details).



**Figure S2.** Strain dependence (A-C-E) and frequency dependence (B-D-F) of storage modulus (square) and loss modulus (triangle) for hydrogels **8** (A-B), **10** (C-D) and **12** (E-F). The analyses were performed on the hydrogel about 20 hours after the gelation begun.