

## SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIALS

### 1. Selection of CRISPR pDNA: ALG ratio

More than 99% encapsulation efficiency (EE) was obtained by using 1:100 and 10:100 pDNA:ALG (w:w) ratio. Since 1:100 and 10:100 pDNA:ALG solutions were not significantly different, further cytotoxicity study was conducted to determine optimum ratio. Interestingly, CRISPR NPs with 10:100 ratio showed no cytotoxicity as the cell metabolic activity was  $132.39 \pm 5.25\%$  at NPs concentrations ( $125 \mu\text{g/mL}$ ) after 48 h, compared to  $85.53 \pm 1.44\%$  for the 1:100 ratio at the same NPs concentration. Therefore, 10:100 pDNA/ALG ratio was selected to prepare the nanoparticles.

### 2. Optimization of Process Variables

The regression equation was

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Particle Size (nm)} = & 509.00 + 24.33 \text{ Flow Rate (ml/hr)}_{0.1} + 21.89 \text{ Flow Rate (ml/hr)}_{0.3} \\ & - 46.22 \text{ Flow Rate (ml/hr)}_{0.5} + 169.78 \text{ Applied Voltage (Kv)}_{9.5} \\ & + 78.89 \text{ Applied Voltage (Kv)}_{11.0} - 248.67 \text{ Applied Voltage (Kv)}_{12.5} \\ & + 57.6 \text{ Flow Rate (ml/hr)} * \text{Applied Voltage (Kv)}_{0.1} 9.5 \\ & - 9.2 \text{ Flow Rate (ml/hr)} * \text{Applied Voltage (Kv)}_{0.1} 11.0 \\ & - 48.3 \text{ Flow Rate (ml/hr)} * \text{Applied Voltage (Kv)}_{0.1} 12.5 \\ & - 9.3 \text{ Flow Rate (ml/hr)} * \text{Applied Voltage (Kv)}_{0.3} 9.5 \\ & - 11.1 \text{ Flow Rate (ml/hr)} * \text{Applied Voltage (Kv)}_{0.3} 11.0 \\ & + 20.4 \text{ Flow Rate (ml/hr)} * \text{Applied Voltage (Kv)}_{0.3} 12.5 \\ & - 48.2 \text{ Flow Rate (ml/hr)} * \text{Applied Voltage (Kv)}_{0.5} 9.5 \\ & + 20.3 \text{ Flow Rate (ml/hr)} * \text{Applied Voltage (Kv)}_{0.5} 11.0 \\ & + 27.9 \text{ Flow Rate (ml/hr)} * \text{Applied Voltage (Kv)}_{0.5} 12.5 \end{aligned} \dots\dots\dots \text{Eq (3)}$$

### 3. Encapsulation Efficiency

In the current study, the alginate grade used was high stiffness gelation 1L-6G with high-G content. The EE was  $99.94 \pm 0.10\%$ . In primary experiments using different alginate grades, the EE varied from 84.40% to 93.30% for Manucol LF (low molecular weight, high M, 10-40 mPa.S) and Manugel DMB (high molecular weight, high G, 300 mPa S), respectively.

### 4. Coumarin-6 Labelled CRISPR ALG NPs Properties

Coumarin-6 labelled CRISPR ALG NPs showed a spherical morphology with smooth surface. Their particle size, PDI and zeta potential was  $218.33 \pm 28.02 \text{ nm}$ ,  $0.48 \pm 0.171$ , and  $-4.22 \pm 0.28 \text{ mV}$ , respectively. No significant difference in properties was observed between CRISPR ALG NPs and coumarin-6 labeled counterpart ( $p > 0.05$ ).

*Figure S1.* TEM image of coumarin-6 labeled CRISPR ALG NPs

