## SUPPORTING INFORMATION FOR PUBLICATION

## **Bio-Inspired Amphoteric Polymer for Triggered-Release Drug Delivery on**

## **Breast Cancer Cells Based on Metal Coordination.**

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Abbreviation	Term	
NCP	nanoscale coordination polymer	
Cur@NCP	curcumin-loaded nanoscale coordination polymer	
PMPC	poly(2-methacryloyloxyethyl phosphorylcholine)	
PserA	poly(serinyl acrylate)	
RAFT	reversible addition-fragmentation chain transfer	
DFO	deferoxamine mesylate	
CPD	4-cyano-4-(phenylcarbonothioylthio) pentanoicacid	
ACVA	4,4′ -azobis (4-cyanovaleric acid)	
MTT	3-(4,5-dimethylthiazol-2-yl)-2,5-diphenyl-2H-	
	tetrazolium bromide	
M <sub>n</sub>	polymer molecular weight	
Đ	polydispersity index	

Table S1. Abbreviations



**Figure S1.** (A) Calibration curve of DFO-Fe<sup>3+</sup> complex in water using absorbance at 430 nm. The data was fit with the equation A = 0.0027C + 1.74e-5 ( $r^2 = 0.999$ ), where A is the absorbance and C is the DFO-Fe<sup>3+</sup> complex concentration. (B) Calibration curve of curcumin in acetone using absorbance at 419.6 nm. The data was fit with the equation A = 0.132C + 1.86e-3 ( $r^2 = 0.999$ ), where A is the absorbance and C is the curcumin concentration.



**Figure S2.** (A) Drug release profiles of Cur@NCPs with addition of DFO (red) and without DFO (black). The equation for curve fitting was  $C_t/C_0=C_{0.5}+A^*exp(-k^*t)$ , where  $C_t$  is curcumin concentration at time t,  $C_0$  is the initial curcumin concentration,  $C_{0.5}$  is curcumin concentration at 0.5 h, A is the constant of integration, and k is the release rate constant. (B) Calibration curve of curcumin in PBS containing 0.5% Tween 80 based on absorbance at 425 nm. The data was fit with the equation  $A = 0.0679C - 0.029 (r^2 = 0.994)$ , where A is the absorbance and C is the curcumin concentration.

Statistics	Released curcumin from Cur@NCP	Released curcumin from Cur@NCP+DFO
C <sub>0.5</sub>	1.18	13.7
Α	2.33	0.54
k	0.17	0.26
r <sup>2</sup>	0.99	0.96

Table S2. Statistics for curves shown in Figure S2A.





**Figure S3.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra of (A) serA, (B) PMPC<sub>55</sub>, and (C) PMPC<sub>55</sub>-*b*-PserA<sub>25</sub> in deionized water.



**Figure S4.** GPC chromatograms for PMPC<sub>55</sub> (black) and PMPC<sub>55</sub>-*b*-PserA<sub>25</sub> (red). Polymer molecular weights ( $M_n$ ,  $M_w$ ) and polydispersity indices ( $\oplus$ ) were determined by GPC in 0.15 M NaCl eluent at a flow rate of 0.6 mL/min.



**Figure S5.** (A) DLS measurement of PMPC in the absence of  $Fe^{3+}$  (black) and in the presence of  $Fe^{3+}$  (red). (B)UV-vis spectra of  $FeCl_{3(aq)}$  (Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> added, and the precipitate filtered), PMPC, and PMPC with FeCl<sub>3</sub> (molar ratio of  $Fe^{3+}$  to MPC = 3) in PBS.



**Figure S6.** UV-vis spectra of  $FeCl_3$  in deionized water, DFO in PBS, and DFO-Fe<sup>3+</sup> complex in PBS.



Figure S7. Cell viability of MDA-MB-231 breast cancer cells treated with free curcumin.