

For Supporting Information:

**New Synthetic Procedure for the Antiviral Sulfonate Carbosilane Dendrimer G2-S16 and its  
Fluorescein-Labelled Derivative for Biological Studies**

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## Experimental Section

### General Considerations

All reactions were carried out under inert atmosphere and solvents were purified from appropriate drying agents. NMR spectra were recorded on a Varian Unity VXR-300 (300.13 ( $^1\text{H}$ ), 75.47 ( $^{13}\text{C}$ ) MHz) or on a Bruker AV400 (400.13 ( $^1\text{H}$ ), 100.60 ( $^{13}\text{C}$ ) MHz). Chemical shifts ( $\delta$ ) are given in ppm.  $^1\text{H}$  and  $^{13}\text{C}$  resonances were measured relative to solvent peaks considering TMS = 0 ppm. Elemental analyses were performed on a LECO CHNS-932. Mass Spectra were obtained from an Agilent 6210 (ESI) and a Bruker Ultraflex III (MALDI-TOF). Compounds Karstedt's Pt catalyst, ESF ( $\text{C}_2\text{H}_3\text{SO}_2\text{F}$ ), NaOH, trifluoroacetic anhydride were obtained from commercial sources. Compound  $\text{G}_2\text{Si}(\text{NH}_2)_8^1$  was synthesized as published.

### Synthesis of compounds

**$\text{G}_2\text{Si}(\text{SO}_2\text{F})_{16}$  (1).** ( $\text{C}_2\text{H}_3$ ) $\text{SO}_2\text{F}$  (ESF, 0.47 g, 4.28 mmol) was dropwise added to a solution of compound  $\text{G}_2\text{Si}(\text{NH}_2)_8$  (0.40 g, 0.25 mmol) in THF (10 mL) and the mixture was stirred at r. T. for 16 h. The solvent and excess ESF (caution, toxic) was evaporated under vacuum, yielding **1** as pale yellow oil (0.76 g, 91%).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 3.54 (m, 32 H,  $\text{CH}_2\text{SO}_2\text{F}$ ), 3.09 (m, 32 H,  $\text{NCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{SO}_2\text{F}$ ), 2.51 (m, 16 H,  $\text{CH}_2\text{N}$ ), 1.59-1.29 (m, 40 H;  $\text{SiCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{Si}$  and  $\text{SiCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{N}$ ), 0.55–0.42 (m, 64 H,  $\text{CH}_2\text{Si}$ ), -0.02 (s, 48 H,  $\text{SiMe}_2$ ), -0.07 ppm (s, 12 H,  $\text{SiMe}$ ).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 57.5 ( $\text{CH}_2\text{N}$ ), 49.3 ( $\text{CH}_2\text{S}$ , d,  $J = 13.7$  Hz), 47.8 ( $\text{CH}_2\text{N}$ ), 21.2 ( $\text{SiCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{N}$ ), 19.6, 18.5, 17.7 ( $\text{SiCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{Si}$ ), 12.1 ( $\text{SiCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{NH}_2$ ), -3.5 ( $\text{SiMe}_2$ ), -4.9 ppm ( $\text{SiMe}$ ).  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 54.1. Elemental analysis calculated (%) for  $\text{C}_{112}\text{H}_{244}\text{F}_{16}\text{N}_8\text{O}_{32}\text{S}_{16}\text{Si}_{13}$ : C, 39.60; H, 7.24; N, 3.30; S, 15.10. Obt (%): C, 40.89; H, 7.99; N, 2.99; S, 14.50.

**$\text{G}_2\text{-S16}$  ( $\text{G}_2\text{Si}(\text{SO}_3\text{Na})_{16}$ , **2**).** Compound **2** was obtained as a white solid from **1** (0.50 g, 0.15 mmol) and NaOH (0.28 g, 7.06 mmol) by reaction in MeOH at r. T. for 4 h. Afterwards, volatiles were removed under vacuum and compound **2** was purified by nanofiltration (MWCO = 1000), yielding **2** as white solid (0.46 g, 82%).  $^1\text{H}$ -NMR ( $\text{D}_2\text{O}$ ): -0.21 (br. s, 12 H,  $\text{SiMe}$ ), -0.16 (s, 48 H,  $\text{SiMe}_2$ ), 0.28 (m, 16 H,  $\text{SiCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{N}$ ), 0.43 (m, 48 H,  $\text{SiCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{Si}$ ), 1.21-1.31 (m, 40 H,  $\text{SiCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{Si}$  and  $\text{SiCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{N}$ ), 2.28 (m, 16 H,  $\text{CH}_2\text{CHCH}_2\text{N}$ ), 2.76 (m, 32 H,  $\text{NCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{SO}_3$ ), 2.86 (m, 32 H,

NCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>3</sub>). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR{<sup>1</sup>H} (D<sub>2</sub>O): -4.4 (SiMe), -3.5 (SiMe<sub>2</sub>), 12.4 (SiCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>N), 17.7-18.5 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 20.1 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 46.7 (NCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>3</sub>), 48.0 (NCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>3</sub>), 56.9 (CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>N). <sup>29</sup>Si-NMR (D<sub>2</sub>O): G<sub>0</sub>-Si not observed, 1.1 (G<sub>1</sub>-Si), 2.1 (G<sub>2</sub>-Si). Elemental analysis calculated (%) for C<sub>112</sub>H<sub>244</sub>N<sub>8</sub>Na<sub>16</sub>O<sub>48</sub>S<sub>16</sub>Si<sub>13</sub> (3717.15): C, 36.19; H, 6.62; N, 3.01; S, 13.80; Exp. C, 35.73, H 6.43; N, 3.48; S, 13.01. These data are analogous to those observed in bibliography.<sup>2</sup>

**G<sub>2</sub>Si(NHCOCF<sub>3</sub>)(NH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>7</sub> (3).** Trifluoroacetic anhydride (0.024 g, 0.12 mmol) was dropwise added to a suspension of dendrimer G<sub>2</sub>Si(NH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>8</sub> (0.200 g, 0.11 mmol) and K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (0.62 g, 4.5 mmol) in CHCl<sub>3</sub>, and the mixture was stirred for 30 min at r. T. Afterwards, 2 mL of water were added to the mixture and the organic phase was separated and the aqueous phase was extracted with CHCl<sub>3</sub> 3 times. The organic phase was dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and the solvent was evaporated under vacuum yielding compound **3** as colourless oil (0.19 g, 88%). Data for **3**: <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 3.26 (m, 2 H, CH<sub>2</sub>NHCO), 2.60 (t, J = 7.0 Hz, 14 H, CH<sub>2</sub>NH<sub>2</sub>), 1.50 (m, 2 H, CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>NHCO), 1.37 (m, 24 H, SiCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>Si), 1.25 (m, 14 H, CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>NH<sub>2</sub>), 0.55–0.42 (m, 64 H, CH<sub>2</sub>Si), -0.08 (s, 48 H, SiMe<sub>2</sub>), -0.12 ppm (s, 12 H, SiMe). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 165.3 (C=O), 119.3 (q, <sup>1</sup>J<sub>CF</sub> = 273.5 Hz), 45.5 (CH<sub>2</sub>NH<sub>2</sub>), 42.8 (CH<sub>2</sub>NHCO), 28.2 (SiCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>N), 19.3, 18.5, 17.6 (SiCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>Si), 12.2 (SiCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>NH<sub>2</sub>), -3.4 (SiMe<sub>2</sub>), -5.0 ppm (SiMe). <sup>19</sup>F NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>): -75.8. Elemental analysis calculated (%) for C<sub>82</sub>H<sub>195</sub>F<sub>3</sub>N<sub>8</sub>O<sub>8</sub>Si<sub>13</sub>: C, 56.88; H, 11.35; N, 6.47. Obt.: C, 57.81; H, 11.28; N, 6.08.

**G<sub>2</sub>Si(NHCOCF<sub>3</sub>)(SO<sub>2</sub>F)<sub>14</sub> (4).** ESF (0.143 g, 1.30 mmol) was dropwise added to a solution of compound **3** (0.150 g, 0.087 mmol) in dry THF (10 ml) and the mixture was stirred at r. T. for 16 h. The solvent and excess ESF (caution, toxic) were evaporated under vacuum yielding **4** as yellowish oil (0.25 g, 89%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 3.54 (m, 30 H, NCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>2</sub>F), 3.26 (m, 2 H, CH<sub>2</sub>NHCO), 3.09 (m, 30 H, NCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>2</sub>F), 2.51 (m, 14 H, CH<sub>2</sub>N), 1.59–1.29 (m, 40 H, SiCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>Si and CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>N), 0.55–0.42 (m, 64 H; CH<sub>2</sub>Si), -0.02 (s, 48 H, SiMe<sub>2</sub>), -0.07 ppm (s, 12 H, SiMe). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 165.5 (C=O), 119.3 (q, <sup>1</sup>J<sub>CF</sub> = 274.8 Hz), 57.5 (CH<sub>2</sub>N), 49.2 (CH<sub>2</sub>S, d, J = 13.9 Hz), 47.7 (CH<sub>2</sub>N), 42.8 (CH<sub>2</sub>NHCO), 21.2 (SiCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>N), 19.6, 18.5, 17.7 (SiCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>Si), 12.1 (SiCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>NH<sub>2</sub>), -3.5 (SiMe<sub>2</sub>), -4.9 ppm (SiMe). <sup>19</sup>F NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 54.1 (SF), -75.6 (CF<sub>3</sub>). Elemental analysis calculated

(%) for  $C_{110}H_{237}F_{17}N_8O_{29}S_{14}Si_{13}$ : C, 40.37; H, 7.30; N, 3.42; S, 13.71. Obt.. (%):C, 42.11; H, 7.98; N, 3.40; S, 12.99.

**G<sub>2</sub>Si(NH<sub>2</sub>)(SO<sub>3</sub>Na)<sub>14</sub> (5)**. A solution of compound **4** (0.150 g, 0.046 mmol) and NaOH (0.082 g, 2.06 mmol) in MeOH (15 ml) were stirred at r. T. for 4 h. Afterwards, the solvent was evaporated under vacuum and the residue was diluted in water and purified by dialysis (MWCO = 1000 Da), yielding **5** as white solid (0.133 g, 84%). To confirm the presence of -NH<sub>2</sub> group a Kaiser test was performed. This compound was used without further treatment for next transformation. Data for **5**: <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (D<sub>2</sub>O): 2.94 (m, 64 H, NCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>3</sub>), 2.42 (m, 16 H, CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>N), 1.59 (m, 2H, SiCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>NH<sub>2</sub>), 1.44 (m, 14 H, SiCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>N), 1.30 (m, 24 H, SiCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>Si), 0.53 (m, 48H, SiCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>Si), 0.39 (m, 16 H, SiCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>N), -0.06 (s, 48 H, SiMe<sub>2</sub>), -0.11 (br. s, 12 H, SiMe).

**G<sub>2</sub>-S16-FITC (G<sub>2</sub>Si(NHFITC)(SO<sub>3</sub>Na)<sub>14</sub>, 6)**. NEt<sub>3</sub> (0.04 mmol) was added to a DMF solution of compound **5** (0.100 g, 0.029 mmol) and fluorescein isothiocyanate (FITC, 0.016 g, 0.040 mmol). This mixture was stirred, protected from light at r. T. for 12 h. Volatiles were removed under vacuum and the residue was washed with ethanol and then purified by ultrafiltration (MWCO = 1000 Da), yielding compound **6** as orange solid (0.098 g, 88%). Data for **6**: <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (D<sub>2</sub>O): 7.59, 7.17, 6.97, 6.74, 6.65 (9H, m, FITC), 3.70 (m, 2H, SiCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>NH), 3.39 (m, 28 H, NCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>3</sub>), 3.16 (m, 28 H, NCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>3</sub>), 3.00 (m, 14 H, SiCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>N), 1.60 (m, 17H, CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>N), 1.26 (m, 24 H, SiCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>Si), 0.96 (m, 2 H, SiCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>NH), 0.48 (m, 64 H, SiCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>Si and SiCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>N), -0.07 (br. s, 60 H, SiMe<sub>2</sub> and SiMe). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (D<sub>2</sub>O): 146.8, 139.4, 135.2, 103.7 (Car-FITC), 57.1 (SiCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>N), 49.1 (NCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>3</sub>), 43.0 (NCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>3</sub>), 40.2 (SiCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>NH), 20.1, 19.1, 18.1 (SiCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>Si), 12.3 (SiCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>N), -3.0 (SiMe<sub>2</sub>), -4.0 (SiMe). UV-Vis (H<sub>2</sub>O): 500.80 nm. Elemental Analysis: Calcd. for C<sub>129</sub>H<sub>249</sub>N<sub>9</sub>Na<sub>14</sub>O<sub>47</sub>S<sub>15</sub>Si<sub>13</sub> (3846.29 g/mol): C, 40.28; H, 6.53; N, 3.28; S, 12.50; Obt.: C, 41.62; H, 7.66; N, 3.82; S, 11.26.

**DOSY NMR experiments**. These experiments were recorded on a Bruker AV400 at 298 K using the routine “dosy” and processed with TopSpin from Bruker. The experiments were done in a qualitative way, using gradient length  $\delta = 120$  ms (d20) and diffusion time  $\Delta = 1500$   $\mu$ s.

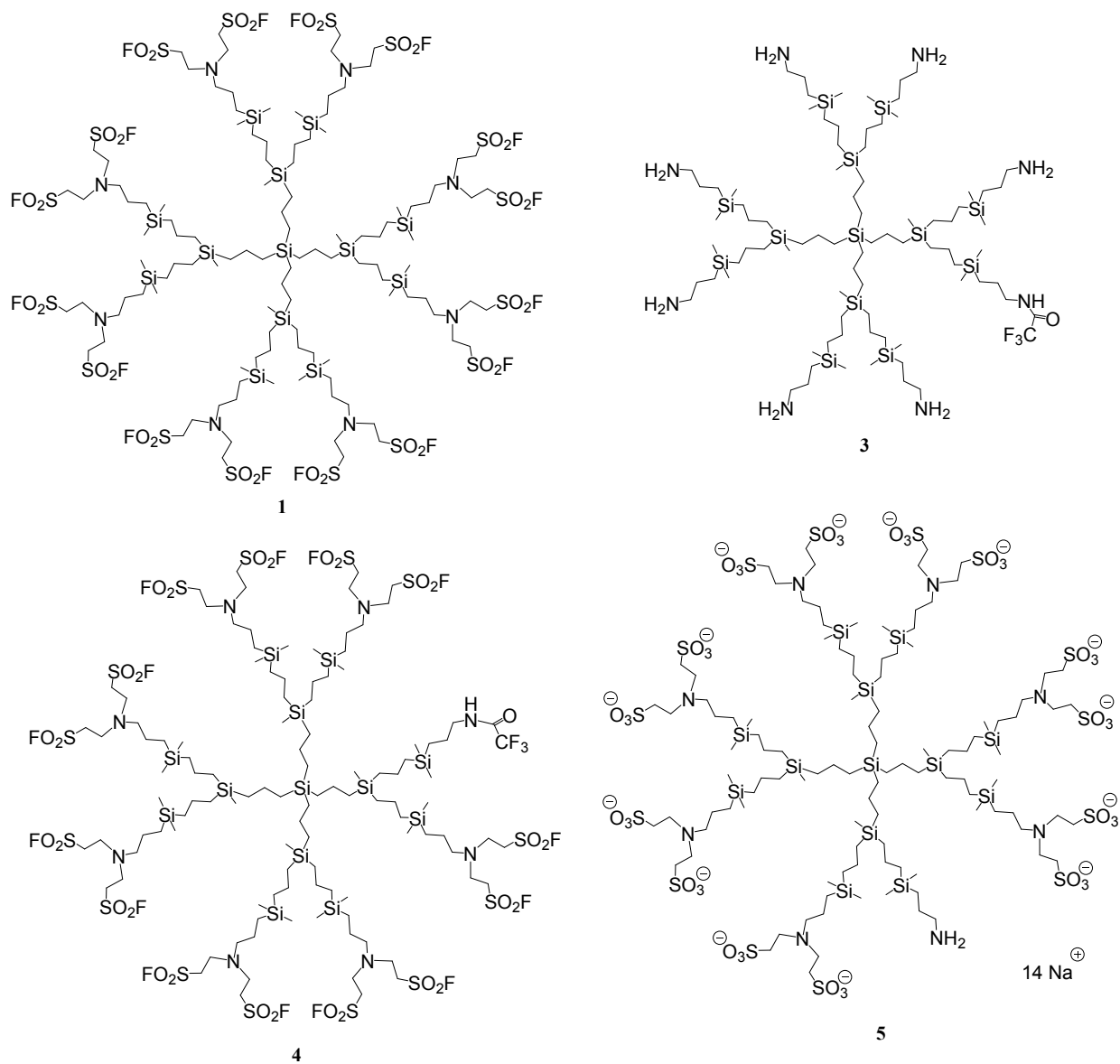
**MTT Assay.** G2-S16 (**2**) and G2-S16-FITC (**6**) were screened by MTT assay (Sigma-Aldrich) using human PBMCs according to manufacturer's instructions. A range of concentrations between 0.5  $\mu$ M and 50  $\mu$ M was evaluated for each dendrimer. DMSO 20  $\mu$ M were used as control of cell viability and death, respectively. Survival was adjusted compared to the untreated control, 80% cell viability was set as the minimum non-toxicity value.

**Confocal Imaging of G2-S16-FITC (6) in PBMC.** PBMCs were treated with 2  $\mu$ M of G2-S16-FITC for 2 h and 24 h. Subsequently, stain protocol was performed to visualize the dendrimer. Briefly, PBMCs were fixed in 3.7-4% formaldehyde w/v (Panreac AppliChem, Darmstadt, Germany) for 10 min followed by two PBS washes. PBMCs were then incubated in 0.1% Triton X-100 for 5 min followed by a PBS wash. To avoid non-specific binding, they were blocked for 30 min in PBS-BSA 5% and incubated with anti-human CD4 at a 1:100 dilution, in PBS-BSA 2.5% for 1h and washed three times with PBS-BSA 0.1%. After, samples were incubated with DAPI (Thermo Fisher Scientific, Waltham, MA, USA) to stain the nuclei. Samples were observed and images were obtained with a Zeiss LSM710 confocal microscope by using Zen 2015 software (Carl Zeiss Microimaging Inc., Thornwood, NY, USA).

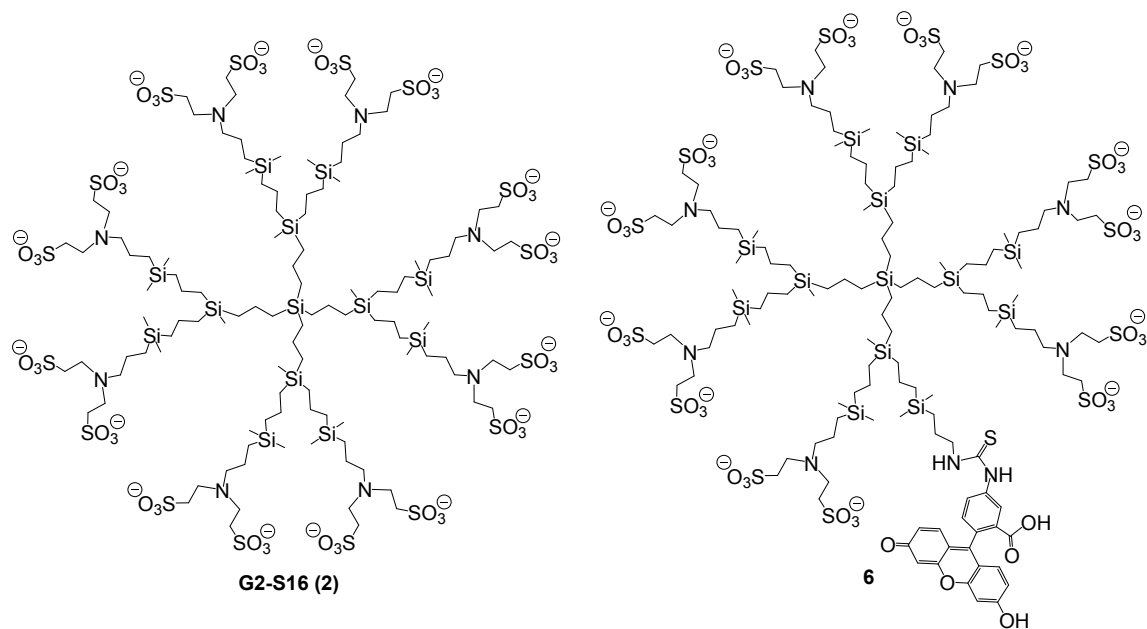
## References

1. J. F. Bermejo, P. Ortega, L. Chonco, R. Eritja, R. Samaniego, M. Mullner, E. de Jesús, F. J. de la Mata, J. C. Flores, R. Gómez and A. Muñoz-Fernández, Water-soluble carbosilane dendrimers: Synthesis biocompatibility and complexation with oligonucleotides; Evaluation for medical applications, *Chem. Eur. J.*, **13** (2007) 483-495.
2. B. Rasines, J. Sánchez-Nieves, M. Maiolo, M. Maly, L. Chonco, J. L. Jiménez, M. A. Muñoz-Fernández, F. J. de la Mata and R. Gómez, Synthesis, structure and molecular modelling of anionic carbosilane dendrimers, *Dalton Trans.*, **41** (2012) 12733-12748.

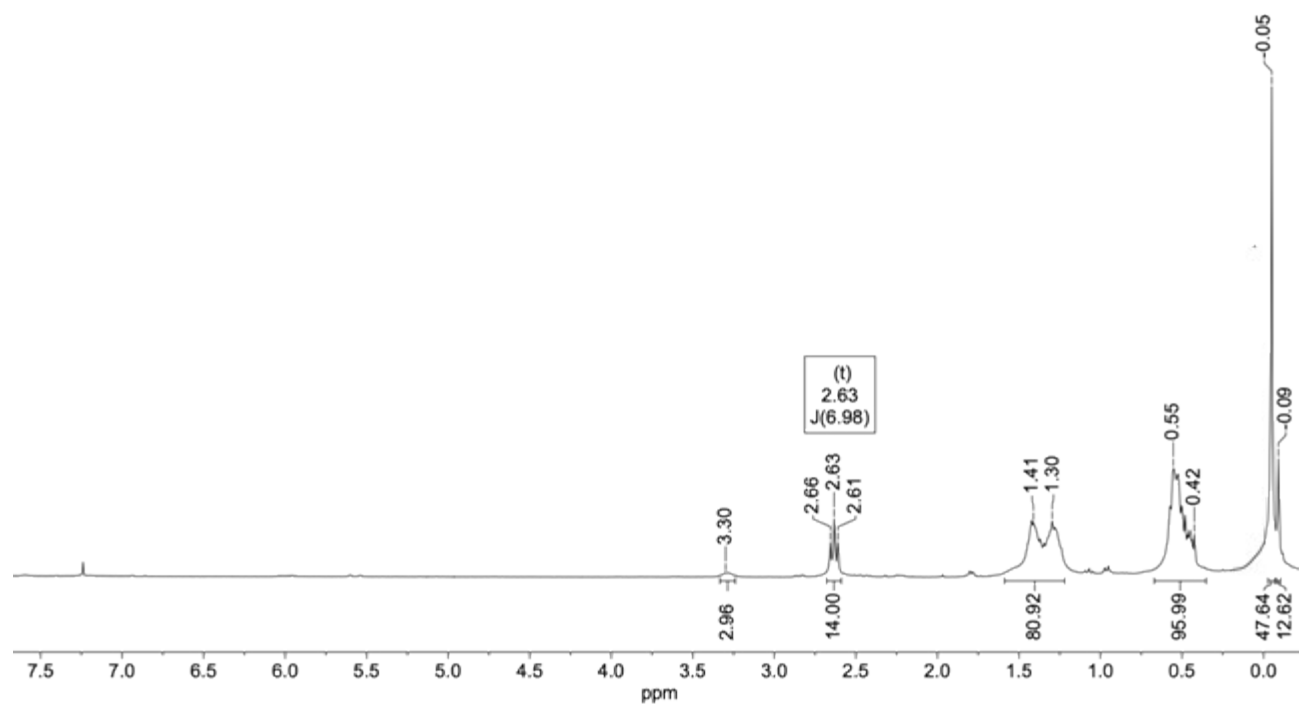
## Figures



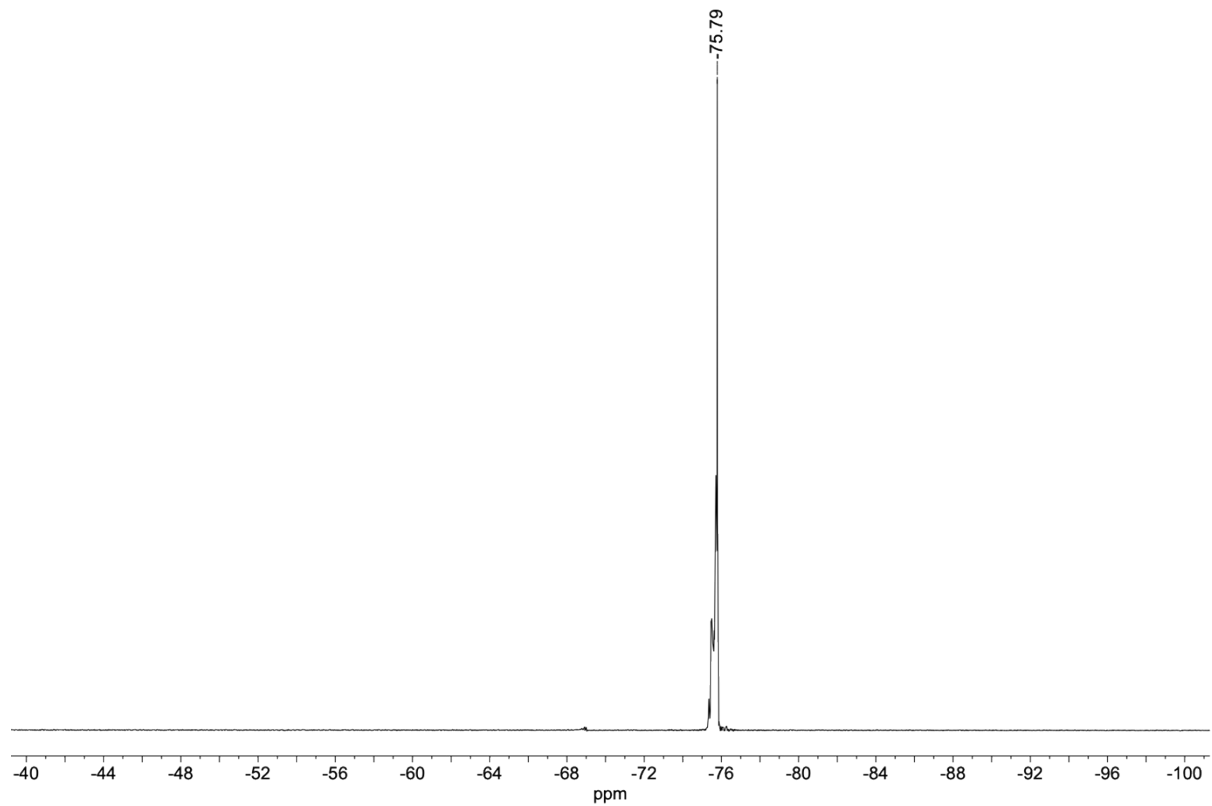
**Figure S1.** Drawing of dendrimer structures synthesized in this work.



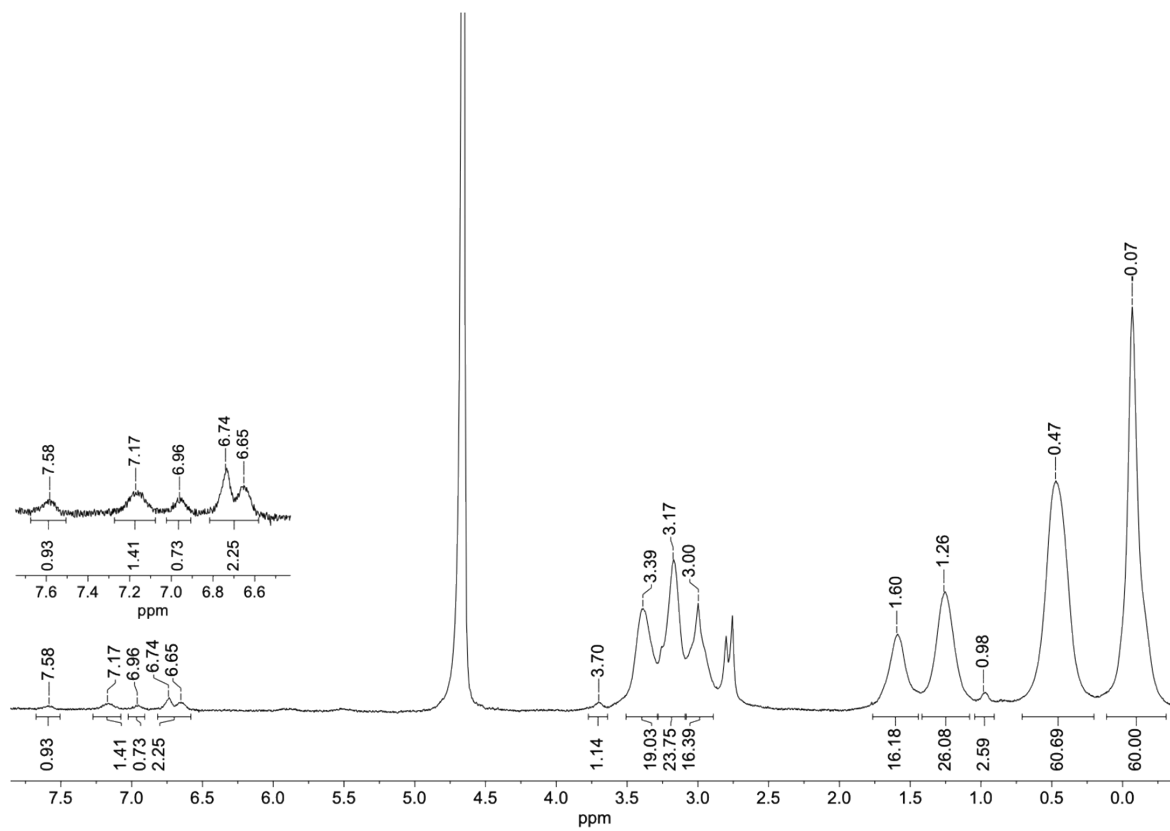
**Figure S2.** Drawing of anionic sulfonate carbosilane dendrimer G2-S16 (**2**) and corresponding fluorescein-labelled dendrimer G2-S16-FITC (**6**) (sodium cations are omitted for clarity).



**Figure S3.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of G<sub>2</sub>Si(NH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>7</sub>(NHTF) in CDCl<sub>3</sub> (**3**).

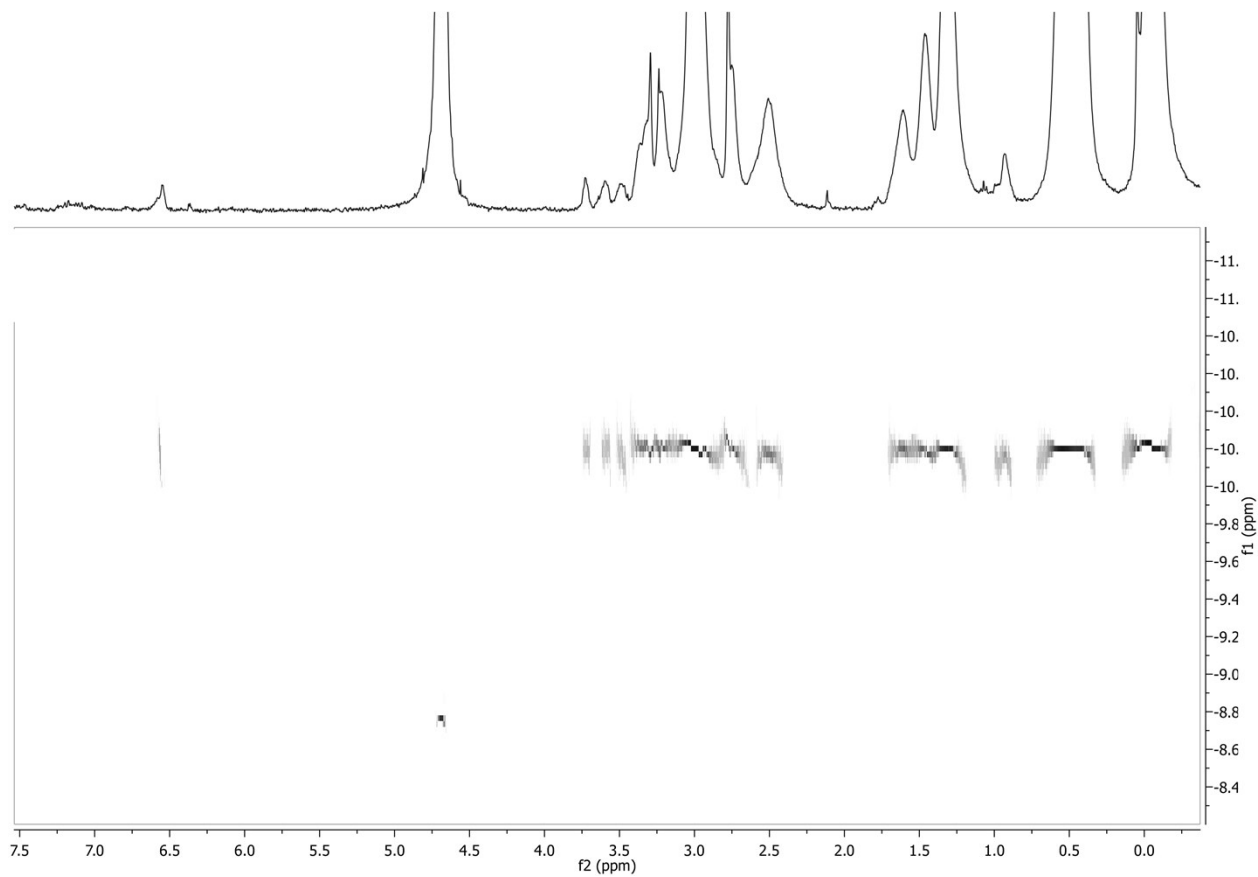


**Figure S4.**  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR spectrum of  $\text{G}_2\text{Si}(\text{NH}_2)_7(\text{NHTF})$  in  $\text{CDCl}_3$  (**3**).

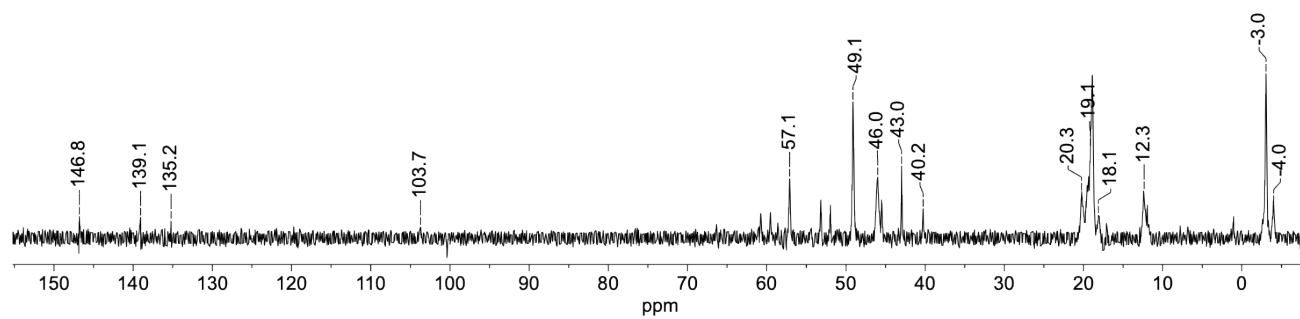


**Figure S5.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of  $\text{G}_2\text{-S16-FITC}$  in  $\text{D}_2\text{O}$  (**6**).

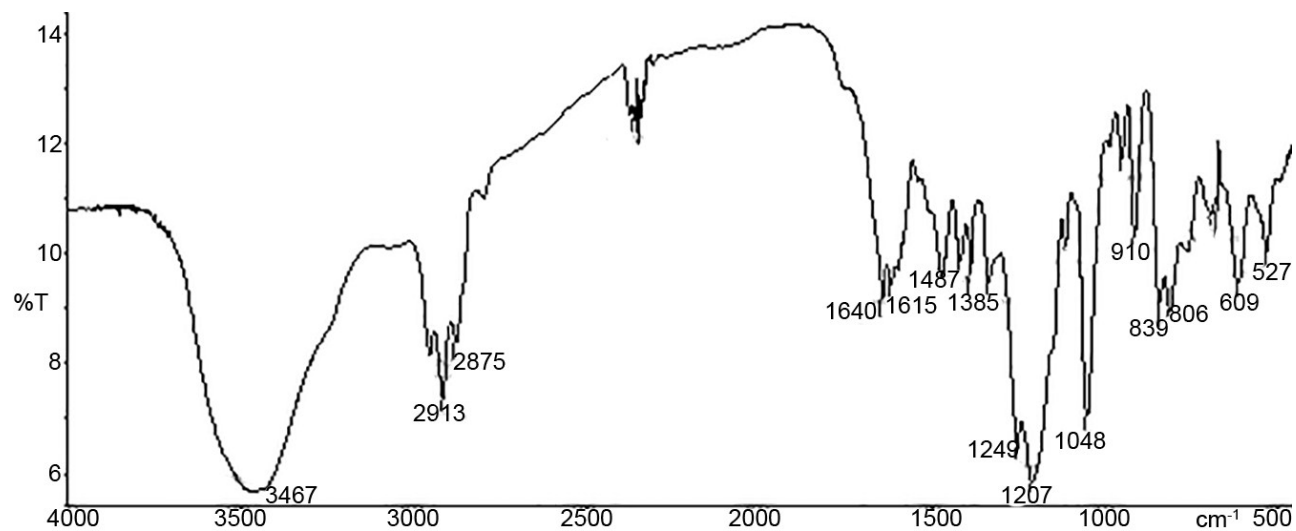




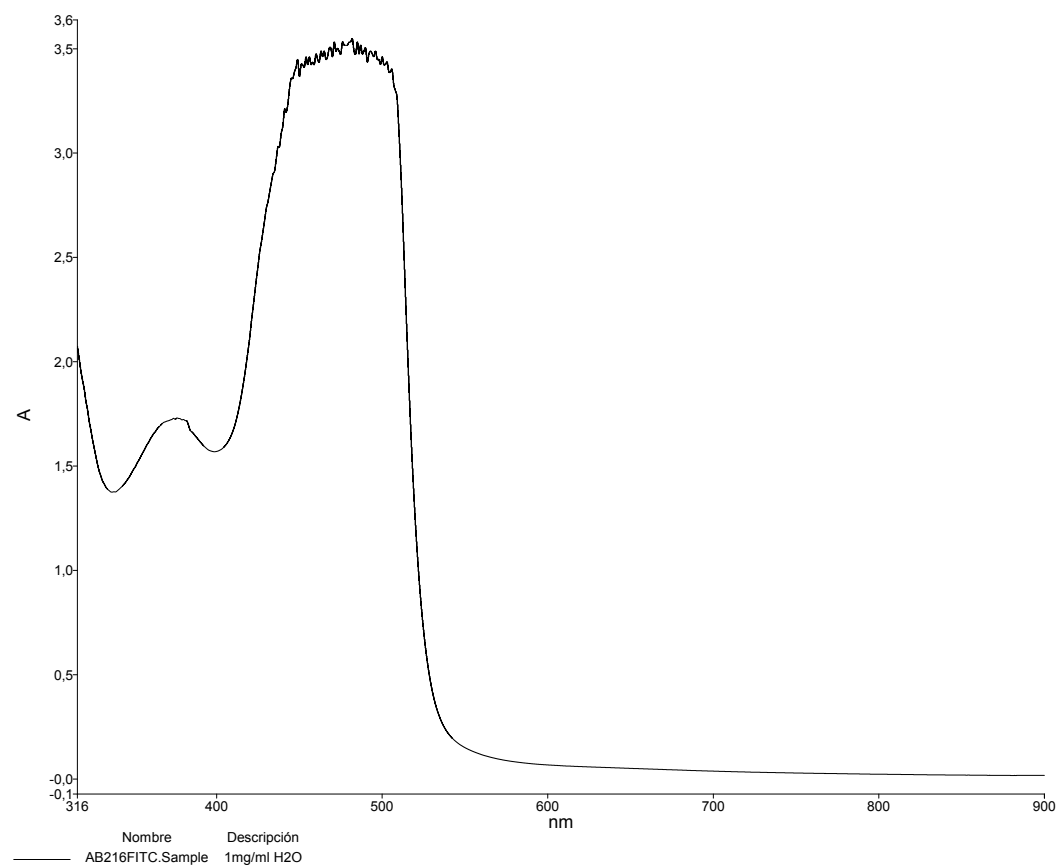
**Figure S6.** DOSY  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of G2-S16-FITC in  $\text{D}_2\text{O}$  (**6**).



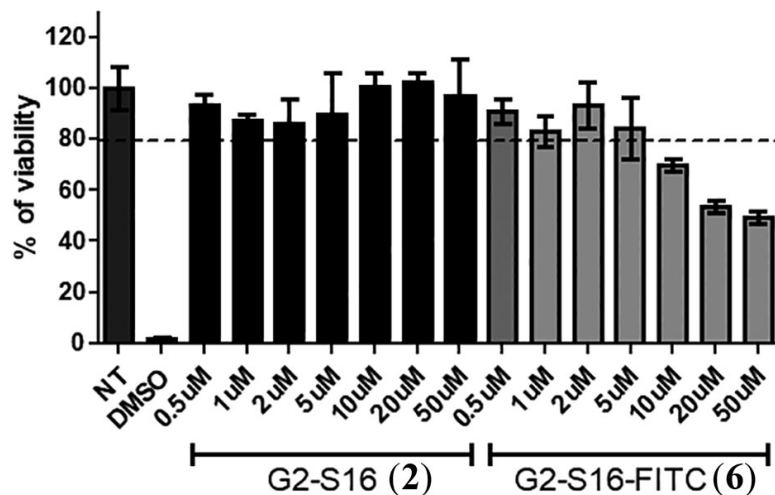
**Figure S7.**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum of G2-S16-FITC in  $\text{D}_2\text{O}$  (**6**).



**Figure S8.** IR spectrum of G2-S16-FITC in KBr (6).



**Figure S9.** UV spectrum of G2-S16-FITC (6) (1 mg/ml in distilled H<sub>2</sub>O).



**Figure S10.** Biocompatibility of polyanionic carbosilane dendrimers in human PBMCs. Viability of human PBMCs was evaluated by MTT assay after 72 h of exposure to a range of G2-S16 (2) dendrimer concentrations; 80% of viability was set as the limit of toxicity for both G2-S16 (2) and G2-S16-FICT (6) carbosilane dendrimers studied. DMSO 10% was used as normal control. Data were represented as mean  $\pm$  standard deviation of three independent experiments.