

# Supplementary materials

## Methods

### *Cell culture and TF expression*

U87MG cells and HUVECs were maintained in DMEM supplemented with 10% FBS and 1% penicillin-streptomycin at 37°C in a humidified atmosphere with 5% CO<sub>2</sub>. The medium was changed every other day. Cell viability was assessed by 0.4% trypan blue exclusion before experiments.

For cell immunofluorescence staining, U87MG cells and HUVECs were seeded onto coverslips in a 12-well plate and allowed to 70% confluence. After washed twice with PBS, cells were fixed with 4% PFA for 20 min, followed by incubation with 5% BSA for 1h. Cells were then incubated with anti-TF antibody (1:200 dilution) at 4°C overnight, and washed thrice for 5 min each. After incubation with Cy3-conjugated secondary antibody for 2 h and counterstained with DAPI, cells were visualized by a fluorescent microscopy.

For quantitative RT-PCR analysis of TF mRNA, total RNA was extracted from U87MG cells and HUVECs using Trizol Reagent. RNA samples were subjected to quantitative reverse transcription polymerase chain reaction (RT-qPCR). Primers used for PCR amplification were as follows: TF (sense: 5'-GACGAGATTGTGAAGGATGTGA-3', anti-sense: 5'- ATTGTTGGCTGTCCGAGGT-3'), GAPDH (sense: 5'-ATCATCAGCAATGCCTCCT-3', anti-sense: 5'-CCATCAGCCACAGTTTC-3'). The amplification cycling conditions were as follows: 95°C for 10 min, followed by 40 cycles at 95°C for 10 s, 60°C for 30 s and 72°C for 20 s. The relative TF mRNA levels were calculated as  $2^{-\Delta\Delta Ct}$ , where Ct represents the threshold cycle. GAPDH

were used as the internal reference.

### ***Targeting ability assessment of EGF1-EGFP in vivo***

The distribution of EGF1-EGFP in U87MG glioma *in vivo* was also assessed. On the 14th day after tumor inoculation, EGF1-EGFP was injected at a dose of 3 mg/kg body weight via tail vein. After 24 h, mice were sacrificed, brains were isolated, fixed in 4% PFA, and sectioned to a thickness of 20 µm. Nuclei was stained with DAPI. The distribution of EGF1-EGFP in U87MG glioma was visualized by a fluorescent microscopy.

## **Supporting Figures**

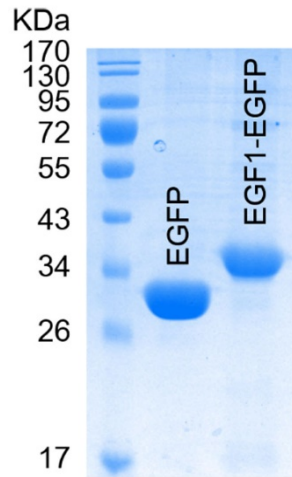
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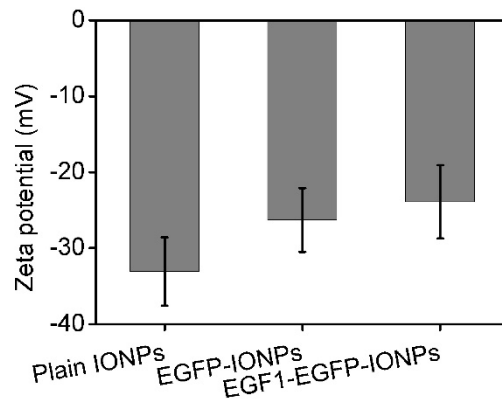
**Figure S1** cDNA sequence of EGF1-EGFP fusion protein.

MNHKVHHHHHHMDGDQCASSPCQNGGSKDQLQSYICFCLPAFEGRNCEGSMVSKGEELFT  
GVVPIVELDGDVNGHKFSVSGEGEGDATYGKLTCLKFICTTGKLPVPWPTLVTTLTLYGVQCFSR  
YPDHMKQHDFFKSAMPEGYVQERTIFFKDDGNYKTRAEVKFEGDTLVNRIELKGIDFKEDGNIL  
GHKLEYNYNSHNVYIMADKQKNGIKVNFKIRHNIEDGSVQLADHYQQNTPIGDGPVLLPDNHYL  
STQSALS KDPNEKRDHMLLEFVTATGITLGMDELYSEFKLVDLQSR

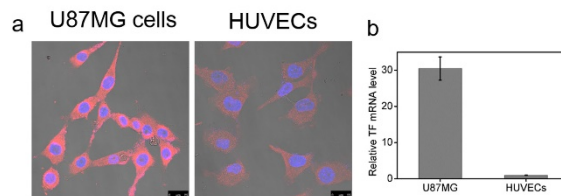
**Figure S2** Amino acid sequence of EGF1-EGFP fusion protein. The EGF1 domain is underlined.



**Figure S3** SDS-PAGE analysis of EGF1-EGFP fusion protein expressed in *E. coli*. BL21 (DE3). EGFP protein was set as control. The objective protein was obtained with high purity after purification.

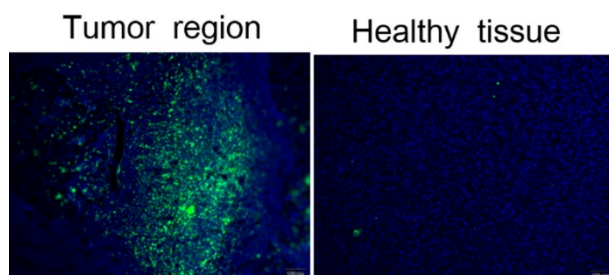


**Figure S4** Zeta potential of NPs determined by DLS.



**Figure S5** Immunofluorescence images (a) and quantitative RT-PCR (b) of TF expression on

U87MG cells and HUVECs. Scale bar, 20  $\mu\text{m}$ .



**Figure S6** Accumulation of EGF1-EGFP in U87MG glioma *in vivo*. The green fluorescence from EGF1-EGFP was localized within the tumor region. Scale bar, 100  $\mu\text{m}$ .