**Supporting Information for:** 

Polyphosphoester nanoparticles as biodegradable platform

for delivery of multiple drugs and siRNA

Hadeel Elzeny<sup>1†</sup>, Fuwu Zhang<sup>2†</sup>, Esraa N. Ali<sup>1</sup>, Heba A. Fathi<sup>1</sup>, Shiyi Zhang<sup>3</sup>, Richen

Li<sup>2</sup>, Mohamed A. El-Mokhtar<sup>4</sup>, Mostafa A. Hamad<sup>5</sup>, Karen L. Wooley<sup>2,6\*</sup> and

Mahmoud Elsabahy<sup>1,6-8\*</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Assiut International Center of Nanomedicine, Al-Rajhy Liver Hospital, Assiut

University, Assiut, Egypt; <sup>2</sup>Departments of Chemistry, Chemical Engineering and

Materials Science & Engineering, Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas,

USA; <sup>3</sup>School of Biomedical Engineering, Shanghai Jiao Tong University, Shanghai

200240, China; <sup>4</sup>Department of Microbiology and Immunology, Faculty of Medicine,

Assiut University, Assiut, Egypt; <sup>5</sup>Department of Surgery, Faculty of Medicine, Assiut

University, Assiut, Egypt; <sup>6</sup>Laboratory for Synthetic-Biologic Interactions, Department

of Chemistry, Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas, USA; <sup>7</sup>Department of

Pharmaceutics, Faculty of Pharmacy, Assiut University, Assiut, Egypt; 8Misr

University for Science and Technology, 6th of October City, Egypt

† These authors contributed equally to the manuscript

Correspondence: Mahmoud Elsabahy (mahmoud.elsabahy@chem.tamu.edu) and

Karen L. Wooley (wooley@chem.tamu.edu)

Tel.: +201000607466; Fax: +20882080711

1

**Table S1.** Size and size distribution (PDI) of the neutral PTX-SOR-PPE nanoparticles before and after freeze-drying. Data are presented as mean  $\pm$  SD (n = 3).

Nanoparticle	Particle size (nm)	PDI
Before freeze-drying	31 ± 1	$0.39 \pm 0.02$
Lyophilization without cryoprotectant	216 ± 86	$0.40 \pm 0.07$
Lyophilization with 2% mannitol	626 ± 162	$0.68 \pm 0.08$
Lyophilization with 0.1% mannitol	46 ± 7	$0.30 \pm 0.00$

**Table S2.** The effect of different cryoprotectants (Mannitol (1 mg/mL) and sucrose (10 %)) on the size of siRNA-loaded PPE, PEI, chitosan/Tpp nanoparticles.

Nanoparticle	No cryoprotectant		Mannitol		Sucrose	
	Before	After	Before	After	Before	After
PPE	137	141	155	125	117	208
PEI	214	247	214	221	214	282
Chitosan/Tpp	244	1112	181	367	206	247

**Table S3.** The effect of different cryoprotectants (Mannitol (1 mg/mL) and sucrose (10 %)) on the PDI of siRNA-loaded PPE, PEI, chitosan/Tpp nanoparticles.

Nanoparticle	No cryoprotectant		Mannitol		Sucrose	
	Before	After	Before	After	Before	After
PPE	0.19	0.29	0.17	0.52	0.19	0.20
PEI	0.48	0.35	0.48	0.31	0.48	0.57
Chitosan/Tpp	0.41	0.23	0.31	0.32	0.27	0.43

**Table S4.** Size, size distribution (PDI) and Zeta-potential measurements of the cationic and neutral PPE nanoparticles complexed with siRNA or loaded with sorafenib (SOR) and (PTX), respectively. The PPE-based cationic and neutral nanoparticles were measured either separately or mixed (with and without further dilution). Data are presented as mean  $\pm$  SD (n = 3).

Nanoparticle	Particle size (nm)	PDI	Zeta-potential (mV)
PTX-SOR-PPE nanoparticles Before mixing	45 ± 1	$0.29 \pm 0.003$	-34.2 ±1.2
siRNA-PPE nanoparticles Before mixing	160 ± 5	$0.40 \pm 0.006$	$21.6 \pm 0.5$
PTX-SOR- PPE/siRNA-PPE nanoparticles (1:1 in water)	83 ± 1	$0.58 \pm 0.010$	-2.9 ± 1.2
PTX-SOR- PPE/siRNA-PPE nanoparticles (1:1 in water and 5 × dilution)	74 ± 1	0.40 ± 0.004	-6.9 ± 0.4

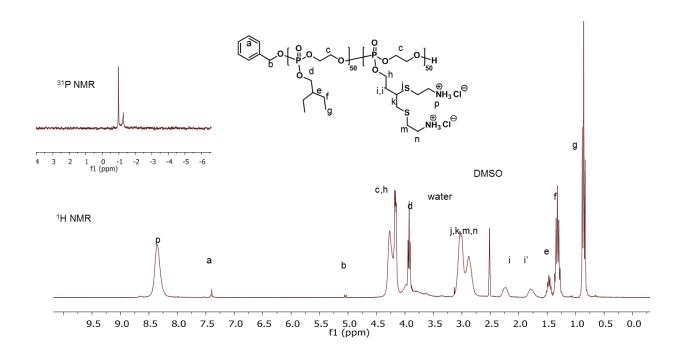
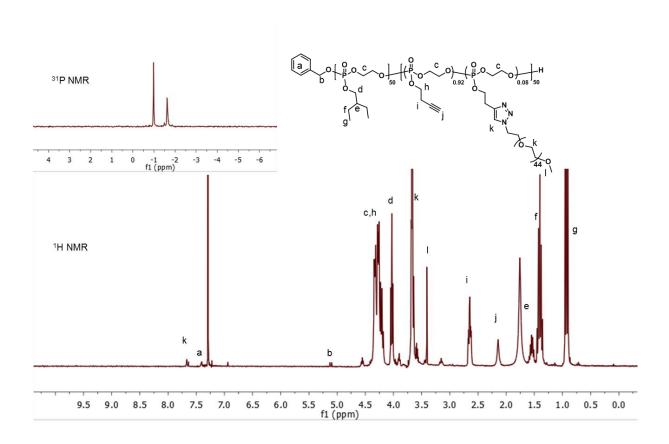
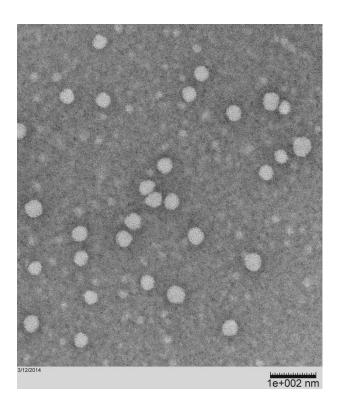


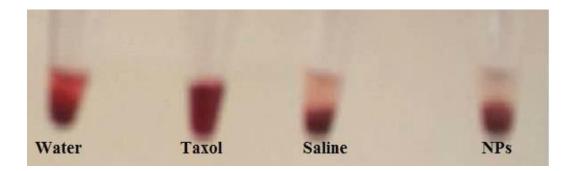
Figure S1.  $^{1}$ H NMR and  $^{31}$ P NMR of cationic block copolymer PEBP-b-PBYP-C



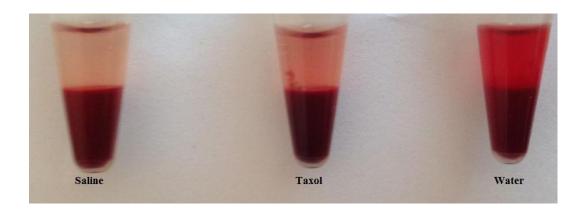
**Figure S2.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR and <sup>31</sup>P NMR of PEGylated terpolymer PEBP-*b*-PBYP-*g*-PEG



**Figure S3.** Transmission electron microscopy image of the paclitaxel-loaded nanoparticles.



**Figure S4.** The effect of PTX-SOR-PPE nanoparticles and Taxol<sup>®</sup> solutions on freshly prepared suspension of red blood cells after incubation for 60 min at 37 °C in a shaking water bath at 300 rpm. The PPE nanoparticles tested concentrations are 0.5 mg/mL for paclitaxel and 0.5 mg/mL for sorafenib. Taxol<sup>®</sup> was used as the market mimicking formulation according to the manufacturer instructions (6 mg/mL paclitaxel).



**Figure S5.** The effect of Taxol<sup>®</sup> solution on freshly prepared suspension of red blood cells after incubation for 60 min at 37 °C in a shaking water bath at 300 rpm. Taxol<sup>®</sup> was used as the market mimicking formulation according to the manufacturer instructions, but with slight modifications to contain 0.5 mg/mL paclitaxel and 0.5 mg/mL sorafenib.