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## Supporting Information

### The interactions of single-wall carbon nanohorns with polar epithelium

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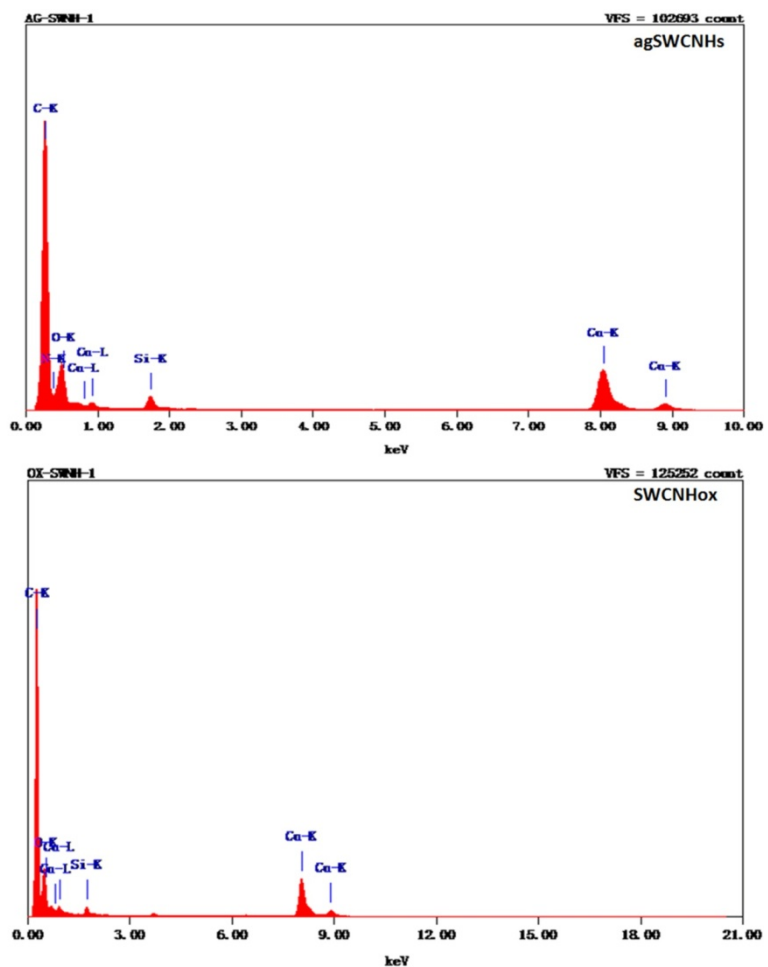
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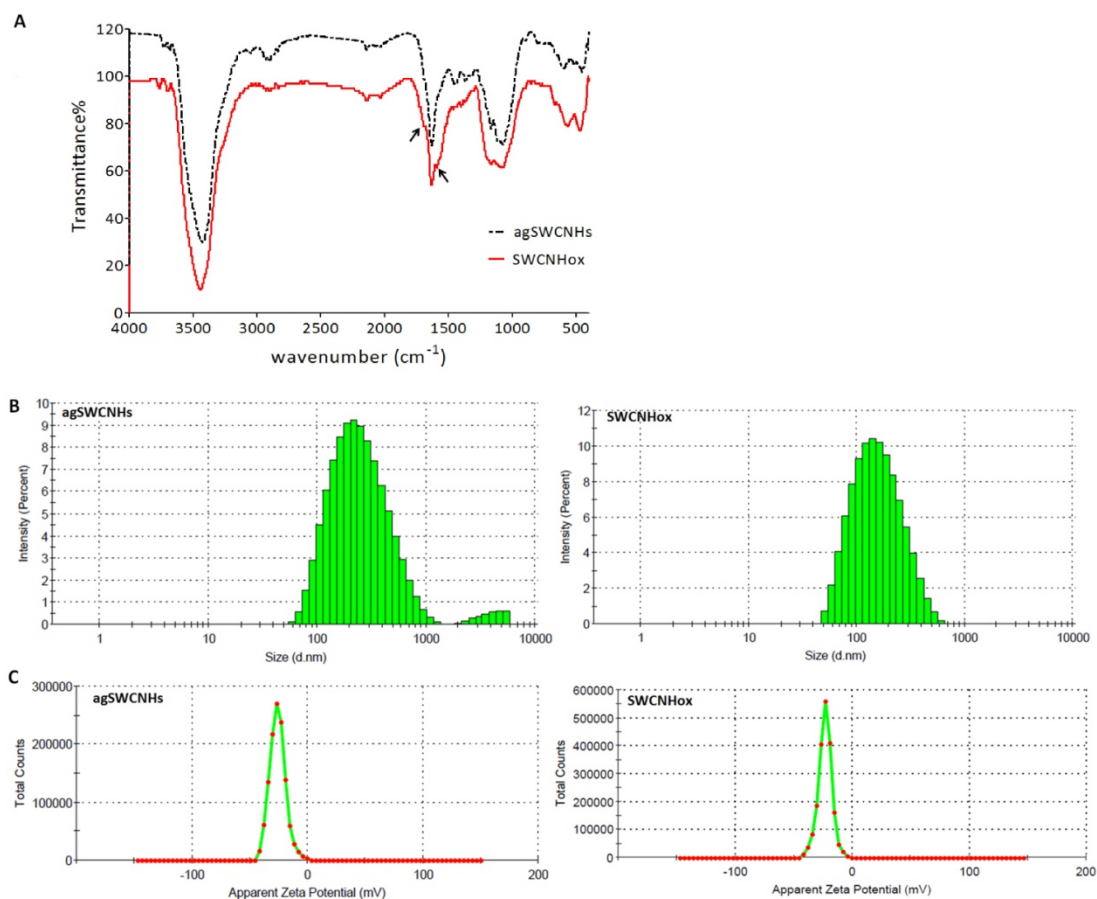
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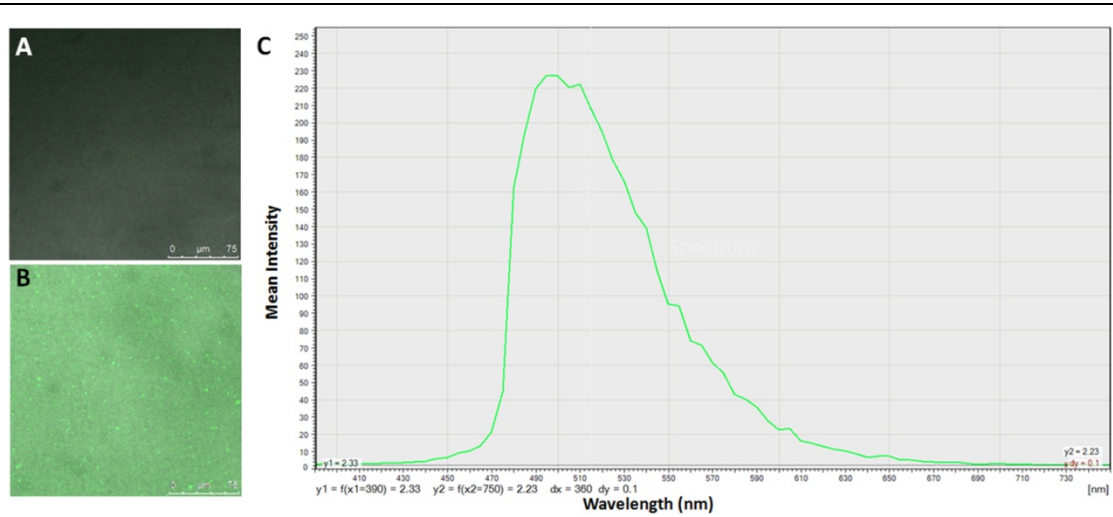
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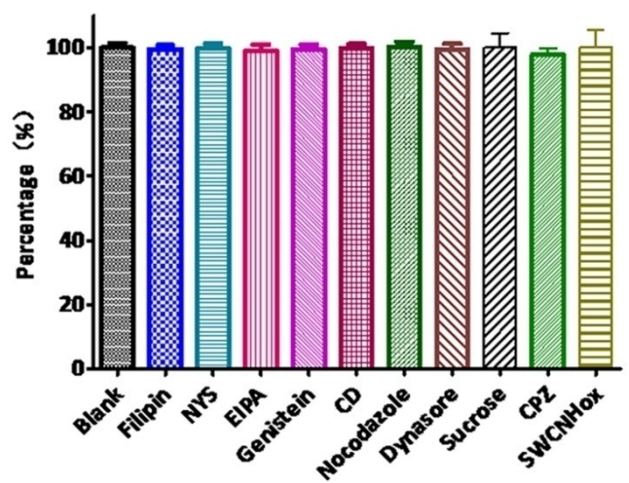
**Figure S1.** The energy dispersive spectrum of agSWCNHs and SWCNHox.



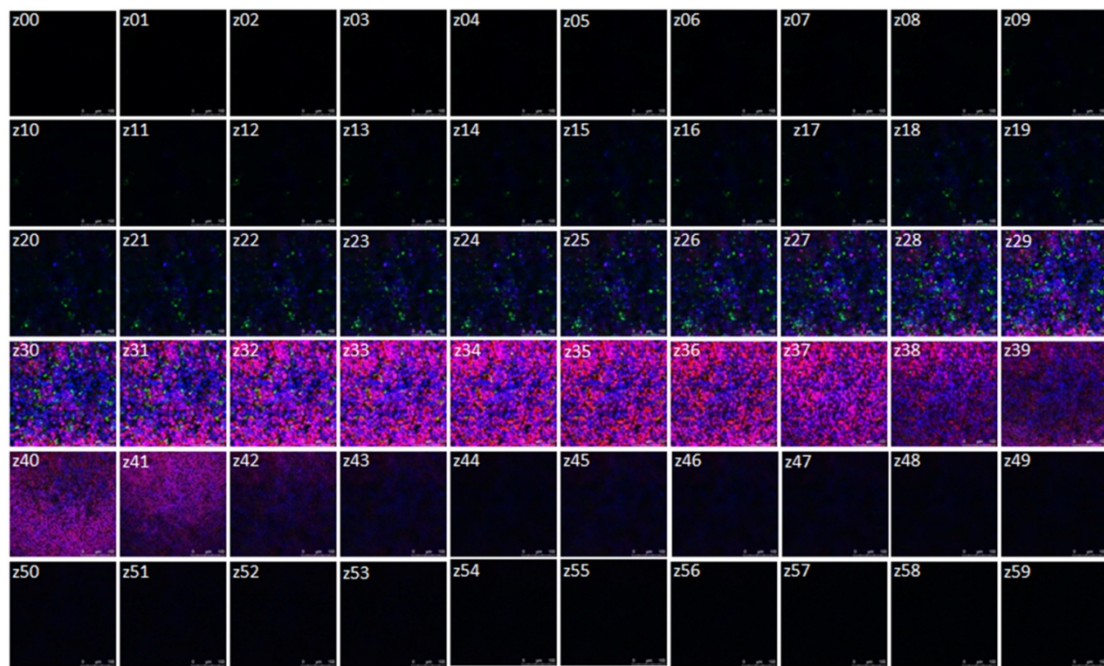
**Figure S2.** A, FTIR spectrum of agSWCNHs and SWCNHox. Black arrows indicate the additional absorption peaks besides the original ones; B, Particle size distribution of suspensions of agSWCNHs and SWCNHox in distilled water with  $10 \text{ mg mL}^{-1}$  BSA as suspending agent by dynamic light scattering analysis; C, Zeta potentials of agSWCNHs and SWCNHox in distilled water with  $10 \text{ mg mL}^{-1}$  BSA as suspending agent.



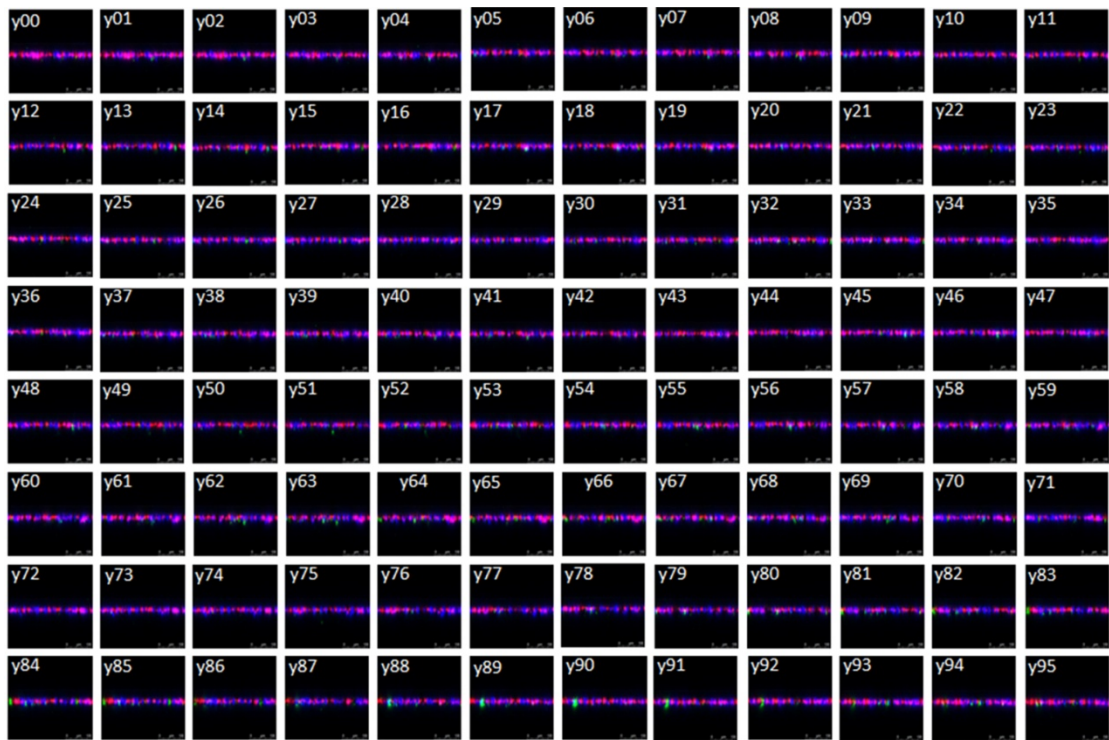
**Figure S3.** Fluorescence CLSM images of DMEM (control, A) and F-B-SWCNHox (B) suspensions in DMEM; (C) Fluorescence spectrum of F-B-SWCNHox in DMEM.



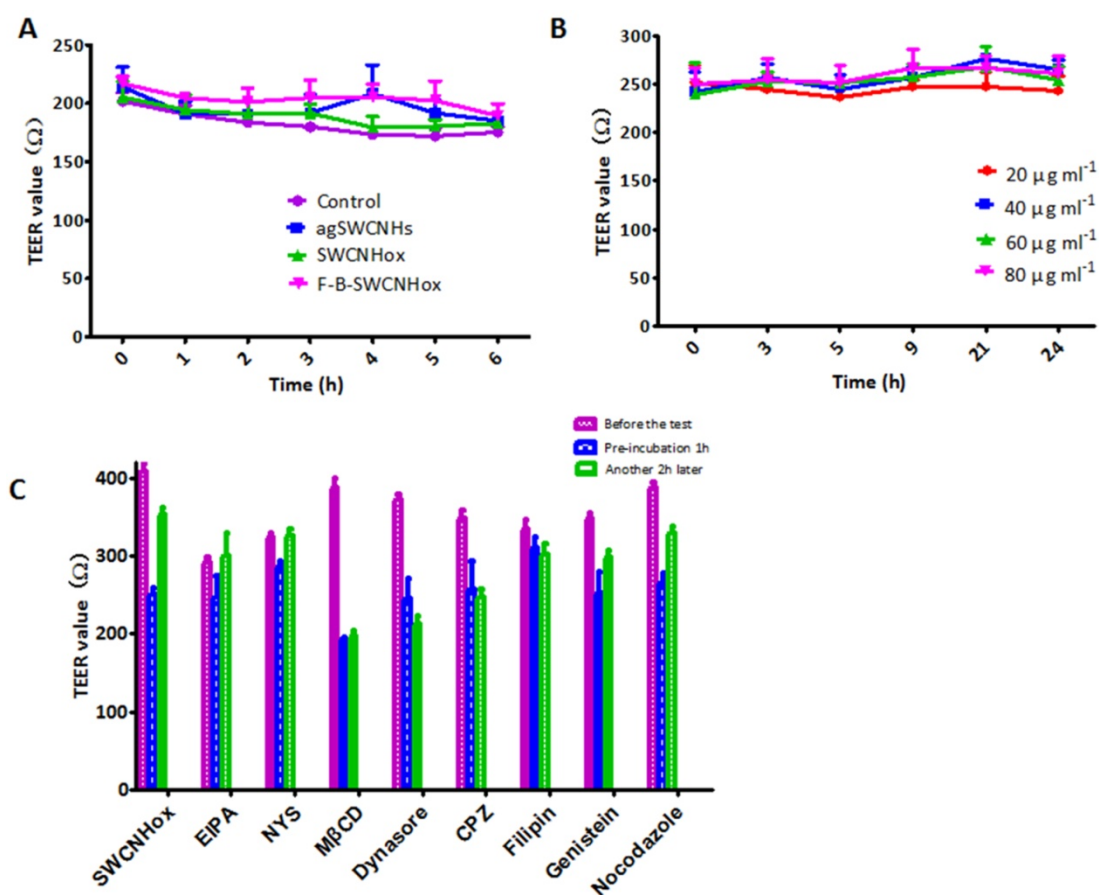
**Figure S4.** Cell viability was detected by CCK-8 assays after incubation with inhibitors and 100  $\mu\text{gml}^{-1}$  SWCNHox for 3h. Untreated cell was used as the control.



**Figure S5.** Confocal image series of MDCK cell monolayer along the Z-axis after incubation with  $40 \mu\text{g ml}^{-1}$  F-B-SWCNHox suspensions for 12 h at  $37^\circ\text{C}$ . Green represents F-B-SWCNHox, blue represents nuclei, red represents the pseudo-color of transwell membrane.



**Figure S6.** Confocal image series of MDCK cell monolayer along the Y-axis after incubation with  $40 \mu\text{g ml}^{-1}$  F-B-SWCNHox suspensions for 12 h at  $37^\circ\text{C}$ . Green represents F-B-SWCNHox, blue represents nuclei, red represents the pseudo-color of transwell membrane.



**Figure S7.** The TEER value changes of MDCK cell monolayers incubated with (A) different types of SWCNHs for different time periods at the concentration of 20  $\mu\text{g ml}^{-1}$ , (B) different concentrations of SWCNHox for different time periods, (C) different inhibitors used in endocytosis pathway study, and the influence of 100  $\mu\text{g ml}^{-1}$  SWCNHox on TEER was determined simultaneously.

**Table S1** Results of elemental analysis

Element assay	C%	N%	H%
agSWCNHs	95.3	4.23	Not detected
SWCNHox	91.5	0.564	0.728

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**Table S2** Characteristics of agSWCNHs and SWCNHox in different media

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sample	Medium	Centrifugation (rpm)	Time of repose (h)	Particle Size(d.nm)	PDI
agSWCNHs	water		0	2155.3±348.0	0.881±0.131
agSWCNHs	water with BSA	12 thousand	0	220.5±10.9	0.230±0.019
agSWCNHs	water with BSA	12 thousand	48	210.1±12.1	0.308±0.037
agSWCNHs	PBS with BSA	12 thousand	0	191.4±8.55	0.295±0.019
agSWCNHs	PBS with BSA	12 thousand	48	224.2±14.1	0.331±0.004
SWCNHox	water		0	465.4±13.5	0.840±0.122
SWCNHox	water with BSA	12 thousand	0	139.6±2.87	0.214±0.01
SWCNHox	water with BSA	12 thousand	48	183.2±4.05	0.270±0.020
SWCNHox	PBS with BSA	12 thousand	0	161.3±9.77	0.265±0.027
SWCNHox	PBS with BSA	12 thousand	48	239.0±1.38	0.270±0.020

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