

# Supporting Information

## Micellar carriers of active substances based on amphiphilic PEG/PDMS heterograft copolymers: synthesis and biological evaluation of safe use on skin

Justyna Odrobińska<sup>1</sup>, Magdalena Skonieczna<sup>2,3</sup>, and Dorota Neugebauer<sup>1,\*</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Department of Physical Chemistry and Technology of Polymers, Faculty of Chemistry, Silesian University of Technology, 44-100 Gliwice, Poland

<sup>2</sup> Department of Systems Biology and Engineering, Silesian University of Technology, Akademicka 16, 44-100 Gliwice, Poland

<sup>3</sup> Biotechnology Centre, Silesian University of Technology, Krzywoustego 8, 44-100 Gliwice, Poland

\* Correspondence: dorota.neugebauer@polsl.pl

### Content:

**Synthesis procedure S1.** Synthesis of P(AIHEMA-*co*-MPEGMA) with EiBBR initiator (Example for I).

**Synthesis procedure S2.** Synthesis of P(AIHEMA-*co*-MPEGMA) with 4nBREBr<sub>2</sub> initiator (Example for IV).

**Procedure S3.** Cell culture.

**Table S1.** D<sub>n</sub> by volume for obtained micelles.

**Table S2.** Maximum amount of released drug for pH=7.4<sup>a</sup> and pH=5.5<sup>b</sup> in time.

**Table S3.** Results of Annexin V/PI double staining apoptosis assay.

**Table S4.** Typical graphs of Annexin V/PI double staining apoptosis assay.

**Figure S1.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of the reaction mixture for copolymerization I, where m, p - the resonances related to monomer and polymer, respectively.

**Figure S2.** GPC traces of representative AIHEMA/MPEGMA copolymers.

**Figure S3.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra of (a) PDMS-OH, (b) PDMS-Br and (c) PDMS-N<sub>3</sub>.

**Figure S4.** <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra of (a) PDMS-OH, (b) PDMS-N<sub>3</sub>.

**Figure S5.** GPC traces before and after modifications of PDMS.

**Figure S6.** Plots of intensity I<sub>336</sub>/I<sub>332</sub> ratio as a function of the logarithm of copolymer concentration in aqueous solution determined by spectrofluorometry.

**Figure S7.** Size distribution intensity plots for micelles formed by heterografted copolymers (a) Ic, (b) IIc, and (c) Vc.

**Figure S8.** Kinetic profiles for (a) VitC, and (b) FA released from heterografted polymer micelles in PBS, pH=5.5.

**Figure S9.** Increase in confluency of (a) Me45, (b) 451-Lu cells in time treated with copolymer IIc\_FA (c = 100 µg/mL), CTR is control.

**Figure S10.** Me45 normal and senescent cells observed under the microscope after senescence test. Magnification 100 x, transit channel, scale bars 100 µm.

**Synthesis procedure S1.** Synthesis of P(AIHEMA-*co*-MPEGMA) with EiBBr Initiator (Example for I).

dNdpy (41.05 mg, 0.101 mmol), MPEGMA (6.20 mL, 13.39 mmol), AIHEMA (1.00 g, 4.46 mmol), and solvents (10 vol.% of monomers; MeOH : ANS = 1: 6): MeOH (0.103 mL), ANS (0.612 mL) were placed in a Schlenk flask and degassed by two freeze–pump–thaw cycles. Then, EiBBr (6.62  $\mu$ L, 0.045 mmol) was added and degassed again. After that, CuBr (6.40 mg, 0.045 mmol) was added. The reaction flask was immersed in an oil bath at 60 °C. The polymerization was stopped by exposure to air. Then, the mixture was dissolved in chloroform and passed through a neutral alumina column to remove CuBr. The solution was concentrated and the polymer was precipitated by dropwise addition of a concentrated solution into diethyl ether. The product was isolated by decantation and dried under vacuum to constant mass.

**Synthesis procedure S2.** Synthesis of P(AIHEMA-*co*-MPEGMA) with 4nBREBr<sub>2</sub> Initiator (Example for IV).

4nBREBr<sub>2</sub> (22.10 mg, 0.051 mmol), dNdpy (41.05 mg, 0.101 mmol), MPEGMA (6.20 mL, 13.39 mmol), AIHEMA (1.00 g, 4.47 mmol), and solvents (10 vol.% of monomers; MeOH : ANS = 1: 3): MeOH (0.180 mL), ANS (0.540 mL) were placed in a Schlenk flask and then degassed by three freeze–pump–thaw cycles. After that, CuBr (6.40 mg, 0.045 mmol) was added. The reaction flask was immersed in an oil bath at 60 °C. The next steps were performed according to above-described procedure for the synthesis of P(AIHEMA-*co*-MMA) with EiBBr (Synthesis procedure S1).

**Procedure S3.** Cell culture.

All cells (Me45, 451-Lu, NHDF, HaCaT) were grown in sterile culture bottles with a culture area of 75 cm<sup>2</sup> in DMEM-F12 medium supplemented with 10% (v/v) inactivated fetal bovine serum (FBS) (EURx, Poland) and 1% antibiotics (10,000  $\mu$ g/mL of streptomycin and 10,000 units/mL of penicillin) (Sigma-Aldrich, Germany) at 37 °C in a humidified atmosphere with 5% CO<sub>2</sub>. Cell lines were seeded in a 96-well plate at a density of 10,000 cells per well in the case of MTT tests and a density of 100000 cells per well in the case of apoptosis and cell cycle analyses (6-well plate).

**Table S1.** D<sub>h</sub> by volume for obtained micelles.

No.	D <sub>h</sub> $\pm$ SD (nm)			
	empty	VitC	ARG	FA
Ic	154 $\pm$ 21	543 $\pm$ 70	260 $\pm$ 4	690 $\pm$ 31
IIc	<sup>a</sup> 64 $\pm$ 17	<sup>a</sup> 92 $\pm$ 8	<sup>a</sup> 117 $\pm$ 2	134 $\pm$ 4
IIIc	431 $\pm$ 98	267 $\pm$ 55	231 $\pm$ 27	<sup>a</sup> 50 $\pm$ 8
IVc	385 $\pm$ 9	142 $\pm$ 13	458 $\pm$ 82	105 $\pm$ 3
Vc	93 $\pm$ 10	178 $\pm$ 26	364 $\pm$ 20	10 $\pm$ 1

<sup>a</sup> value of particle size for dominated fraction

**Table S2.** Maximum amount of released drug for pH=7.4<sup>a</sup> and pH=5.5<sup>b</sup> in time.

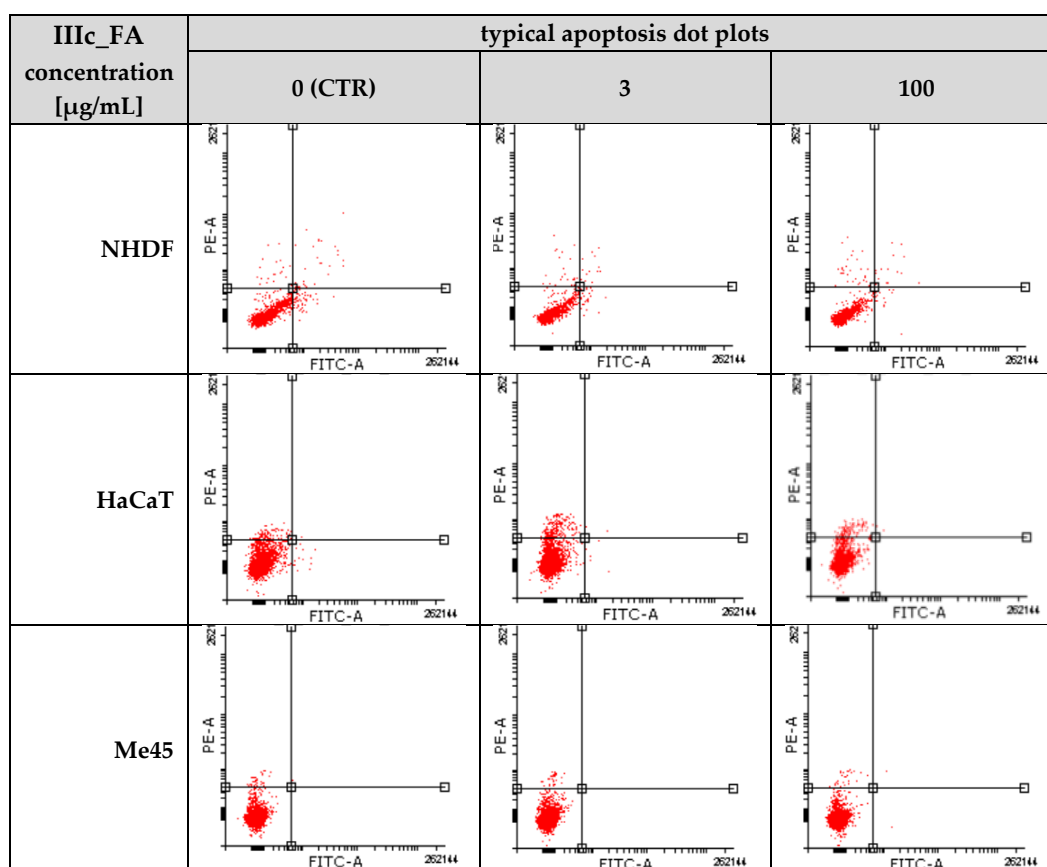
No.	Maximum amount of released drug (%) / time (min)					
	VitC <sup>a</sup>	VitC <sup>b</sup>	ARG <sup>a</sup>	ARG <sup>b</sup>	FA <sup>a</sup>	FA <sup>b</sup>
Ic	43/60	77/75	23/10	n.o.	95/90	80/180
Ic	63/130	63/180	74/60	n.o.	84/240	69/180
IIIc	31/130	13/120	92/180	n.o.	99/120	76/180
IVc	24/50	99/75	96/180	n.o.	92/300	53/180
Vc	24/80	59/50	n.o.	n.o.	81/300	82/180

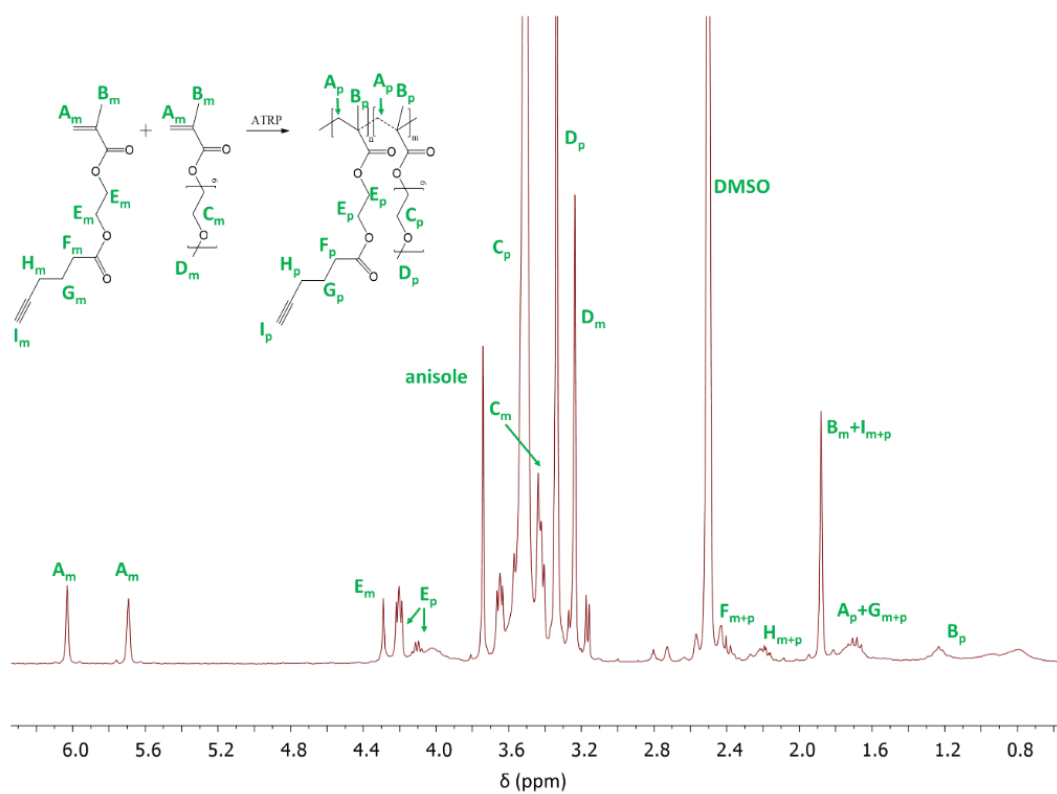
n.o.: no released substance was observed

**Table S3.** Results of Annexin V/PI double staining apoptosis assay.

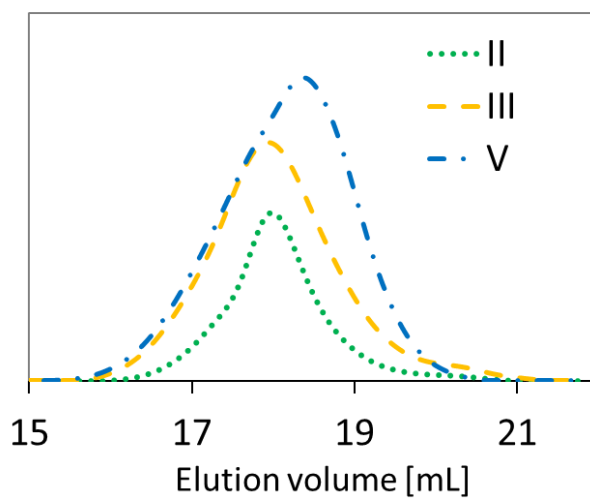
IIIc_FA concentration [μg/mL]		% of cells ± S.D.			
		A-/PI-	A+/PI-	A+/PI+	A-/PI+
0 (CTR)	NHDF	95.82 ± 0.24	1.64 ± 0.15	1.17 ± 0.13	1.36 ± 0.18
	3	95.61 ± 0.51	1.34 ± 0.18	0.96 ± 0.30	2.09 ± 0.26
	100	95.83 ± 0.38	0.64 ± 0.14	1.36 ± 0.29	2.17 ± 0.66
0 (CTR)	HaCaT	85.07 ± 0.67	0.19 ± 0.06	0.17 ± 0.04	14.58 ± 0.72
	3	80.21 ± 1.48	0.24 ± 0.16	0.46 ± 0.11	19.09 ± 1.27
	100	87.94 ± 2.76	0.05 ± 0.08	0.19 ± 0.13	11.81 ± 2.65
0 (CTR)	Me45	90.22 ± 1.63	0.03 ± 0.02	0.07 ± 0.03	9.68 ± 1.60
	3	91.00 ± 1.44	0.01 ± 0.01	0.07 ± 0.03	8.91 ± 1.42
	100	93.43 ± 1.42	0.02 ± 0.02	0.06 ± 0.03	6.49 ± 1.41

A-/PI-: live cells; A+/PI-: early apoptosis; A+/PI+: late apoptosis; A-/PI+: necrosis

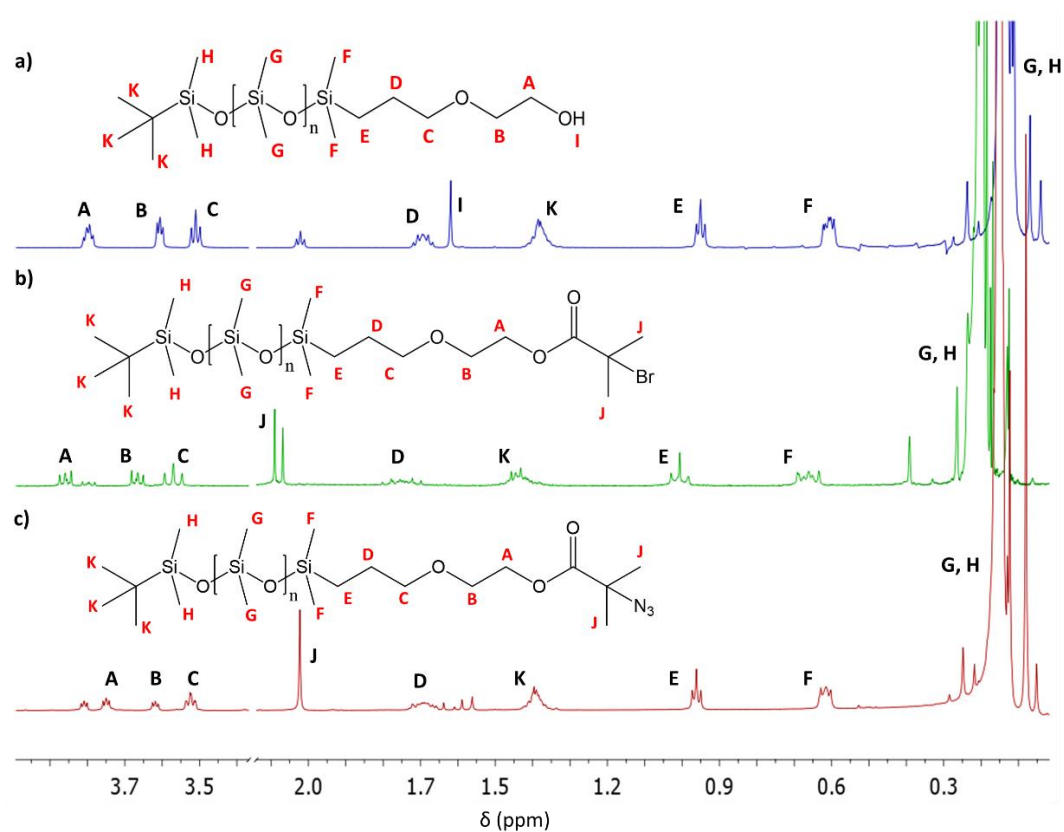
**Table S4.** Typical graphs of Annexin V/PI double staining apoptosis assay.



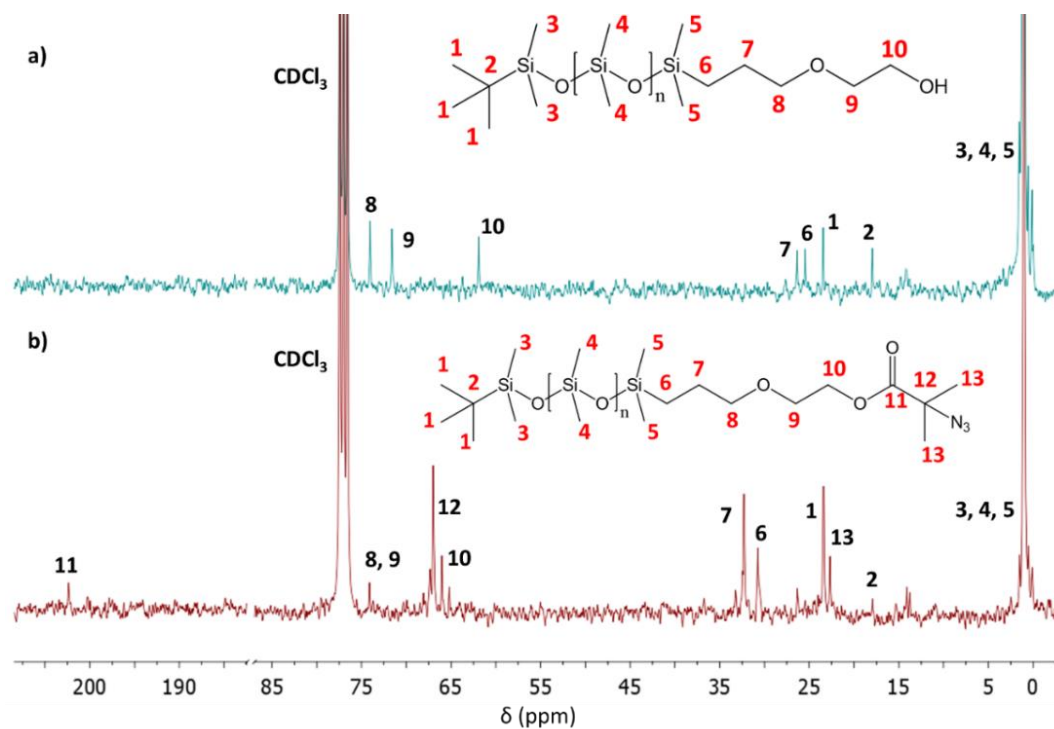
**Figure S1.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of the reaction mixture for copolymerization I, where  $m$ ,  $p$  - the resonances related to monomer and polymer, respectively.



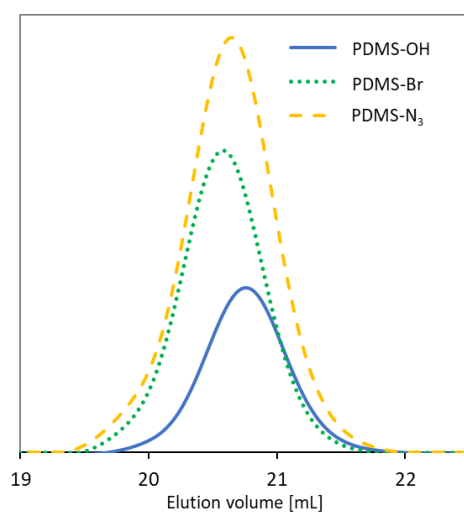
**Figure S2.** GPC traces of representative AIHEMA/MPEGMA copolymers.



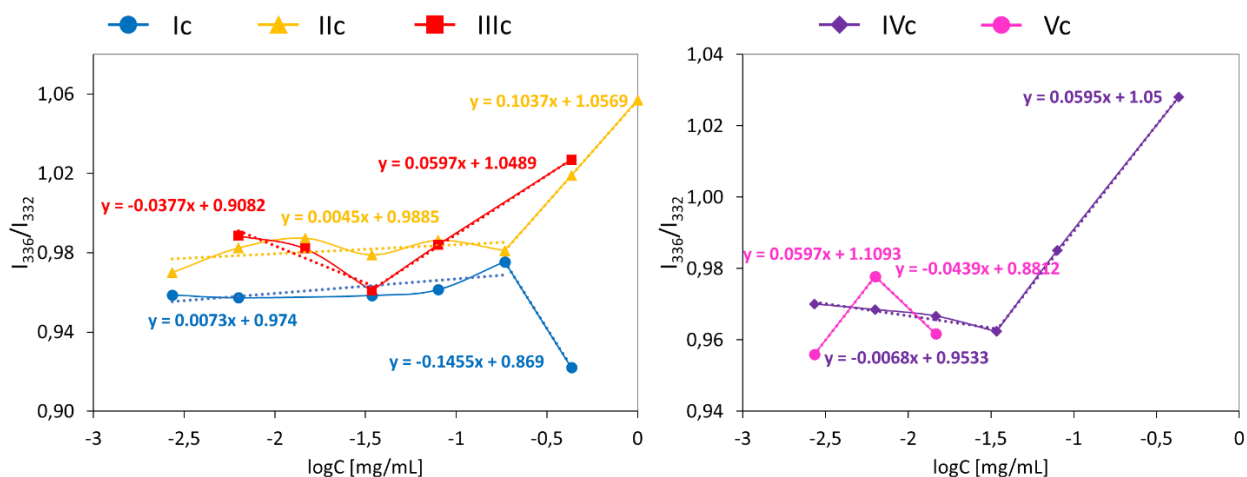
**Figure S3.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra of (a) PDMS-OH, (b) PDMS-Br and (c) PDMS- $\text{N}_3$ .



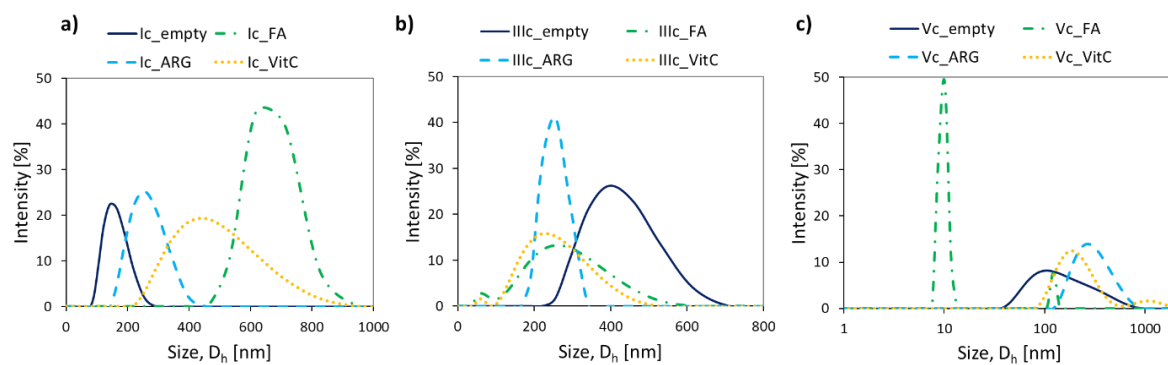
**Figure S4.**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra of (a) PDMS-OH, (b) PDMS- $\text{N}_3$ .



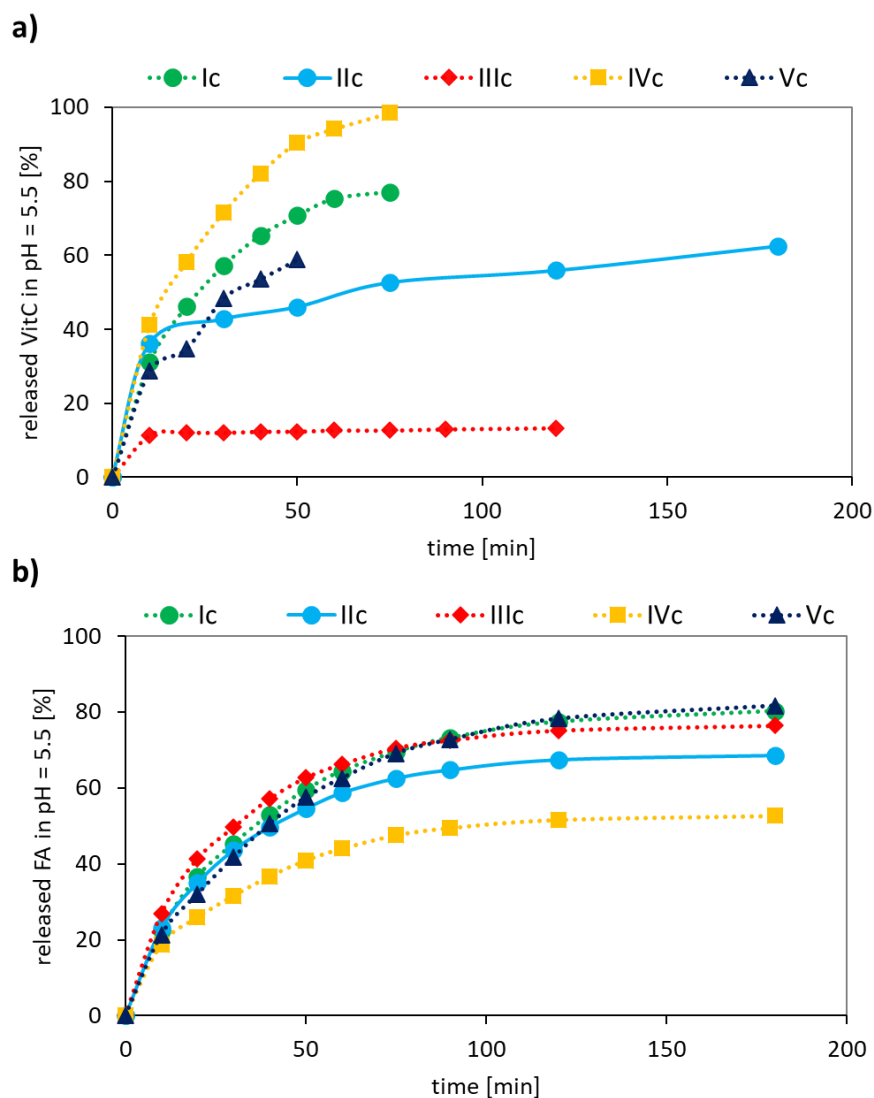
**Figure S5.** GPC traces before and after modifications of PDMS.



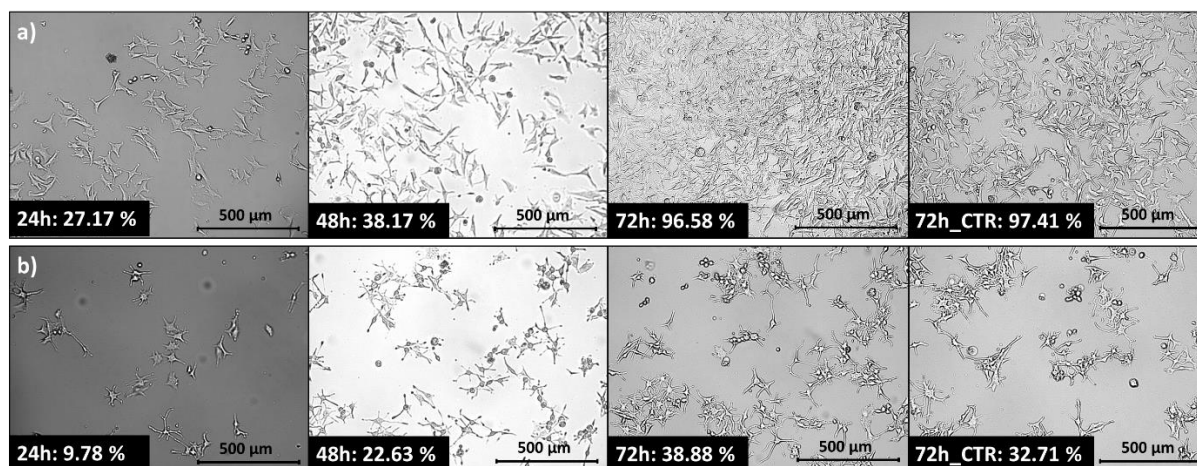
**Figure S6.** Plots of intensity  $I_{336}/I_{332}$  ratio as a function of the logarithm of copolymer concentration in aqueous solution determined by spectrofluorometry.



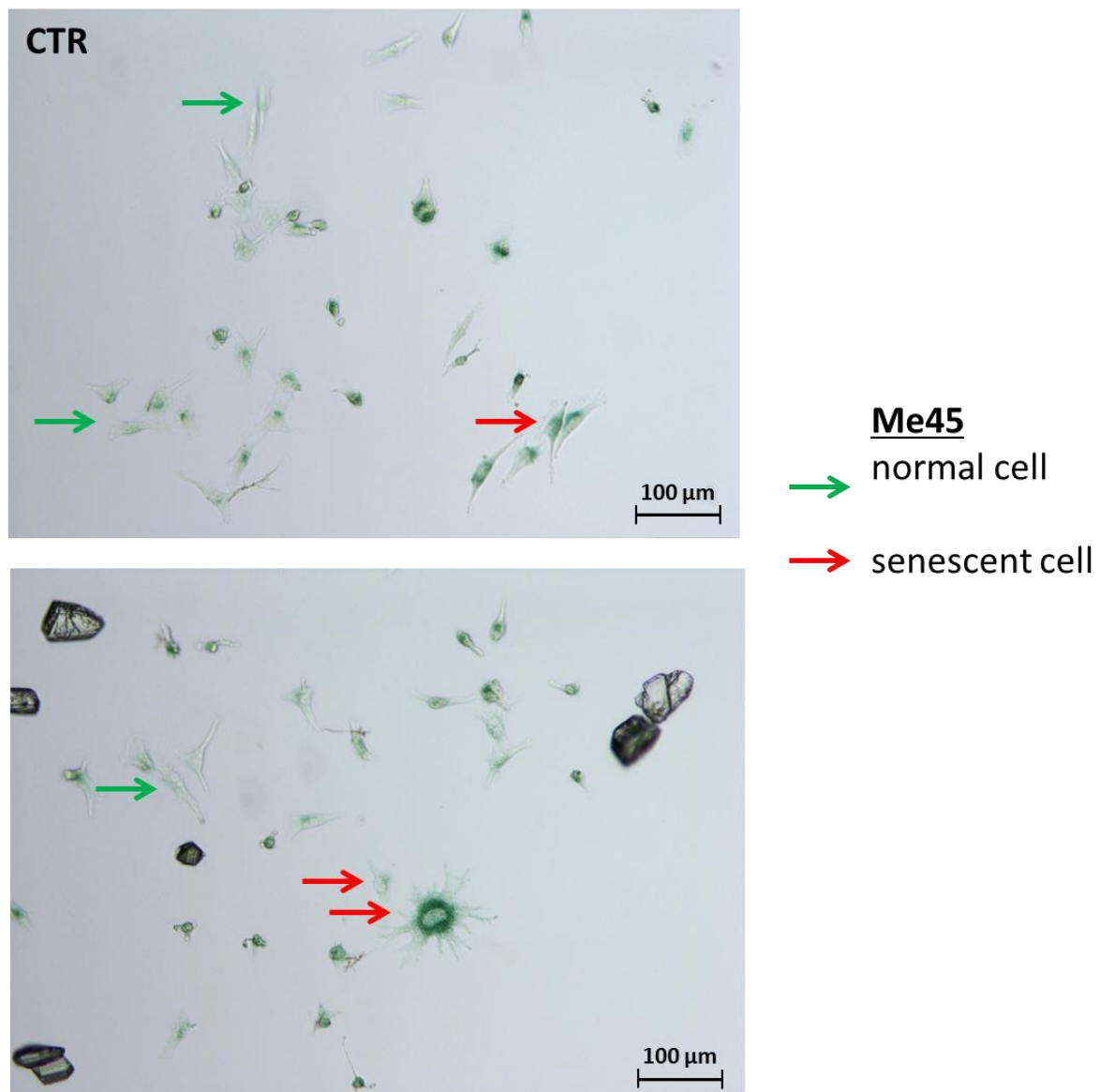
**Figure S7.** Size distribution intensity plots for micelles formed by heterografted copolymers (a) Ic, (b) IIIc, and (c) Vc.



**Figure S8.** Kinetic profiles for (a) VitC, and (b) FA released from heterografted polymer micelles in PBS pH=5.5.



**Figure S9.** Increase in confluency of (a) Me45, (b) 451-Lu cells in time treated with copolymer IIIc\_FA ( $c = 100 \mu\text{g/mL}$ ), CTR is control.



**Figure S10.** Me45 normal and senescent cells observed under the microscope after senescence test. Magnification 100 x, transit channel, scale bars 100 μm.