## Supplementary Materials

## Different Strategies for the Preparation of Galactose-Functionalized Thermo-Responsive Nanogels with Potential as Smart Drug Delivery Systems

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## **Experimental Section**

## Synthesis of 2-lactobionamidoethyl methacrylate (LAMA)

The formation of the LAMA monomer was verified by signal comparison of LAMA with lactobionic acid by FT-IR. In the lactobionic acid a signal at 3328 cm<sup>-1</sup> corresponding to O-H stretching vibration is observed, a signal of -CH<sub>2</sub>-is present at 2906 cm<sup>-1</sup>, the C=O stretching band appears at 1736 cm<sup>-1</sup> for the acid and at 1030 cm<sup>-1</sup> the –C-O- band from the aliphatic chain, is observed. The FT-IR spectrum of the LAMA monomer shows that the C=O band is displaced to 1708 cm<sup>-1</sup>, which corresponds to an ester carbonyl, the signal =CH<sub>2</sub> appears at 1644 cm<sup>-1</sup> and the -NH bending at 1538 cm<sup>-1</sup> (**Figure S1**), thus confirming the success of the LAMA monomer synthesis. By <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (**Figure S2**), the formation and purity of LAMA was confirmed. In further detail, the signal corresponding to -NH at 7.76 ppm integrates for one hydrogen, at 6.05 and 5.66 ppm, the hydrogens of the vinyl group are shown, the signals of methines *i* and *l* attached to the oxygen that unites the galactose ring to the monomer, appear at 5.18 and 5.10 ppm (both integrate for one hydrogen), methylene *d* attached to the ester of methacrylate is observed at 4.72 ppm with an integration of 2, while methine *g* in the lactobionic acid residue is observed at 4.57 ppm integrating for one hydrogens, are observed between 4.38 and 3.3 ppm; and a signal of methyl *c* (of methacrylate) is observed as a triplet at 1.85 ppm, integrating for 3 hydrogens.



Figure S1. FT-IR spectra of lactobionic acid and LAMA monomer.



Figure S2. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectrum of LAMA monomer.



Scheme S1. Synthesis of PLAMA macro-CTA.

Table	<b>S1</b> .	Reaction	conditions	for the	preparation	of nano	ogels l	PNVCL:PEG	MA:GAL	using 3
mol%	of E	GDMA w	vith respect	to NVC	L as crosslin	ker by S	SFEP (	free radical a	and RAFT	).

Nanogel	NVCL:PEGMA:GAL (wt%)	NVCL (g)	PEGMA (g)	GAL (g)	Initiator (g)	Yield (%) <sup>f)</sup>
Nanogels I	1 h at 85 °C					
N46(6-ABG)	37.5:25:37.5	0.3	0.2	0.30 <sup>a)</sup>	0.075 <sup>d)</sup>	52
N45(6-ABG)	46:31:23	0.3	0.2	0.15 <sup>a)</sup>	0.038 <sup>d</sup> )	55
N48(6-ABG)	52:35:13	0.3	0.2	0.075 <sup>a)</sup>	0.019 <sup>d)</sup>	52
Nanogels II	1 h at 85 °C					
N32	60:40:00	0.3	0.2	-	0.024 <sup>d</sup> )	53
N50(LAMA)	46:31:23	0.3	0.2	0.15 <sup>b)</sup>	0.038 <sup>d</sup> )	54
N51(LAMA)	52:35:13	0.3	0.2	0.075 <sup>b)</sup>	0.038 <sup>d</sup> )	53
Nanogels III	24 h at 70 °C					
N42	46:31:23	0.3	0.2	0.15 <sup>c)</sup>	0.038 <sup>e)</sup>	51
N44	51:34:15	0.3	0.2	0.09 <sup>c)</sup>	0.023 <sup>e)</sup>	53

<sup>a)</sup>6-ABG; <sup>b)</sup>LAMA; <sup>c)</sup>PLAMA macro-CTA; <sup>d)</sup>KPS; <sup>e)</sup>ACVA; <sup>f)</sup>mass yield



Figure S3. Berry plot by SLS analysis of nanogel N42.



Figure S4. Berry plot by SLS analysis of nanogel N44.



Figure S5. Berry plot by SLS analysis of nanogel N32.



Figure S6. Berry plot by SLS analysis of nanogel N50.



Figure S7. Berry plot by SLS analysis of nanogel N51.



Figure S8. Berry plot by SLS analysis of nanogel N46.



Figure S9. Berry plot by SLS analysis of nanogel N48.



Figure S10 TEM micrograph of nanogel N42 taken at 80 KeV.



Figure S11: TEM-micrograph of nanogels N32 taken at 80 KeV.



Figure S12: TEM micrograph of nanogels N50 taken at 80 KeV.



Figure S13: TEM-micrograph of nanogels N48 taken at 80 KeV.



Figure S14: TEM micrograph of nanogels N45 taken at 80 KeV.



Figure S16. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectrum of nanogel N44.



Figure S17. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectrum of nanogel N46.



Figure S18. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectrum of nanogel N45.



Figure S19. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectrum of nanogel N48.



Figure S20. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectrum of nanogel N50.



Figure S21. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectrum of nanogel N51.



Figure S22. Dh of nanogel N44 as function of temperature obtained by DLS.



Figure S23. Dh of nanogel N45 as function of temperature obtained by DLS.



Figure S24. Dh of nanogel N46 as function of temperature obtained by DLS.



Figure S25. Dh of nanogel N51 as function of temperature obtained by DLS.