# **Biocompatible and Multifunctional Gold Nanorods for Effective**

# **Photothermal Therapy of Oral Squamous Cell Carcinoma**

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### Calculation

### Assumption:

The diameter of GNRs is 11.1 nm and the length of GNRs is 48.3 nm. The length of a gold atom is 144 pm the area of a gold atom is  $2.0736E-20 \text{ m}^2$ . The density of gold is  $19.3 \text{ g/cm}^3$ . Totally 1E-8 mol of GNRs are coated with X mg of alginate.

### Calculation:

The volume of a GNR is  $(11.1E-9)^2 \times 3.14 \times 48.3E-9 = 1.8686 E-23 \text{ m}^3$  and the surface area of a GNR is  $11.1E-9 \times 3.14 \times 48.3E-9 + (11.1E-9)^2 \times 3.14 / 4 = 1.876E-15 \text{ m}^2$ .

The weight of a GNR is 1.8686 E-23 x 1.93E7 = 3.606E-16 g

The number of GNR in a batch is 195E-8 / 3.606E-16 = 5.407E9 rod in a batch

The number of gold atom on the surface of a GNR is 1.876E-15 / 2.0736E-20 = 9.050E4 atoms

and total number is 9.050E4 x 5.407E9 = 4.893E14 atoms = 8.128E-10 mol

| Alginate<br>(mol) <sup>#</sup> | Cysteine<br>(mol) | EDC<br>(mol) | Thiol bond<br>(µmol/g Alg) |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|--------------|----------------------------|
| 1                              | 0.5               | 10           | 143.7±15.0                 |
| 1                              | 1                 | 10           | 268.8±12.2                 |
| 1                              | 1.5               | 10           | 280.4±24.3                 |
| 1                              | 1                 | -            | 12.9±0.64                  |
| #                              |                   |              |                            |

 Table S1 Quantification of thiol on cysteine modified alginate.

<sup>#</sup>: Molecular weight used here is the weight of an alginate unit ( $\beta$ -D-mannuronate or a  $\alpha$ -L-guluronate). One mole of alginate is 176 g.



Figure S1. FTIR spectrum of cysteine and RGD peptide modified alginate.



**Figure S2.** UV-visible absorption spectrum of GNR@Alg-Cys(X). X represents the amount (mg) of cysteine modified alginate used for replacing CTAB on 2  $\mu$ g of GNR@CTAB.



Figure S3 TEM image of GNR@Alg-Cys. A shell of Alg-Cys with 1.5 nm in thickness was observed on the GNR.



Figure S4. Element distribution of Au, Br on GNR@CTAB observed with TEM-EDX.



Figure S5. Raman spectrum of GNR@CTAB and GNR@Alg-Cys.



**Figure S6.** Integration area of  $Au^0$  (red),  $Au^+$  (brown), and  $Au^{3+}$  (green) state in (a) GNR@CTAB and (b) GNR@Alg-Cys.

 Table S2 Summary of state of gold in GNR@CTAB and GNR@Alg-Cys.

|             | Atom percentage (%)* |        |                  |  |
|-------------|----------------------|--------|------------------|--|
|             | Au <sup>0</sup>      | $Au^+$ | Au <sup>3+</sup> |  |
| GNR@CTAB    | 73.6                 | 11.8   | 14.6             |  |
| GNR@Alg-Cys | 34.1                 | 27.3   | 38.6             |  |

\*: The atom percentage of each state is calculated by integration of the area of each state in XPS spectrum (Figure 2d and Figure S6)



**Figure S7.** Time-dependent temperature profile of GNR@CTAB-containing PBS irradiated with diode laser (808 nm). Square stain represents the intensity of laser at 2 W/cm<sup>2</sup>. Triangular stain represents the intensity of laser at 1.5 W/cm<sup>2</sup>.