### **Supporting Information**

# Differential study on oxidized/reduced ascorbic acid induced tumor cells' apoptosis under hypoxia

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#### **Experimental Procedures**

**Cell Culture.** Human hepatocellular carcinoma cell line (HepG2), mouse skin melanoma cell line (B16-F10) and human hepatocyte cell line (HL-7702) were incubated in DMEM and RPMI-1640 cell culture medium, respectively, with addition of 10% fetal bovine serum (FBS) and 1% penicillin-streptomycin. The cells were incubated in a humidified incubator (37 °C, 5% CO<sub>2</sub>).

MTT. Cytotoxicity was measured by applying the MTT assays under hypoxic conditions. HepG2 cells were seeded in 96-well plates (5 x  $10^4$  cells/well) and cultured for 24 h (37 °C, 5% CO<sub>2</sub>). Subsequently, fresh medium containing SiNPs and SiNP@PPF were added to each well and incubated for different time (3, 6, 12 and 24 h). At 37 °C, the medium was removed, replacing with the medium containing MTT (0.5 mg/mL) followed by a 4 h incubation. Finally, DMSO ( $100 \mu L$ ) was added to dissolve the produced formazan, and the absorbance at 490 nm of each well was measured using a microplate reader to calculated the survival rate of the cells.

Fluorescence stability test: 200  $\mu$ g /mL of SiNP@PPF sample was continuously scanned in a fluorescence spectrometer under 405 excitation and 452 nm emission condition for 30 mins, and the FL intensities were recorded every min.

## **Supplementary Figures**

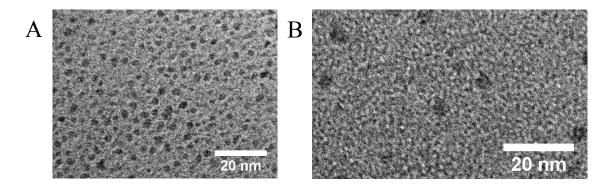
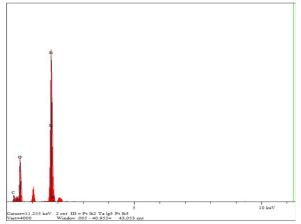
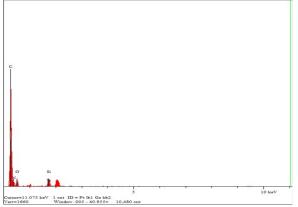


Figure S1. The TEM images of the (A) SiNPs and (B) SiNP@PPF.



Elt.	Line	Intensity (c/s)	Conc	Units
C	Ka	16.46	11.111	wt.%
N	Ka	17.46	11.575	wt.%
O	Ka	109.96	34.393	wt.%
Si	Ka	554.07	42.921	wt.%
			100.000	wt.%



Elt.	Line	Intensity (c/s)	Conc	Units
C	Ka	91.70	51.082	wt.%
N	Ka	6.58	25.755	wt.%
0	Ka	9.16	19.317	wt.%
Si	Ka	13.22	3.847	wt.%
			100.000	wt.%

Figure S2. EDX results of the SiNP (up) and SiNP@PPF (Down).

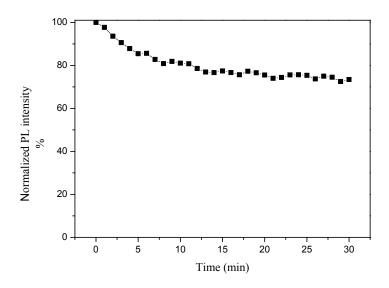
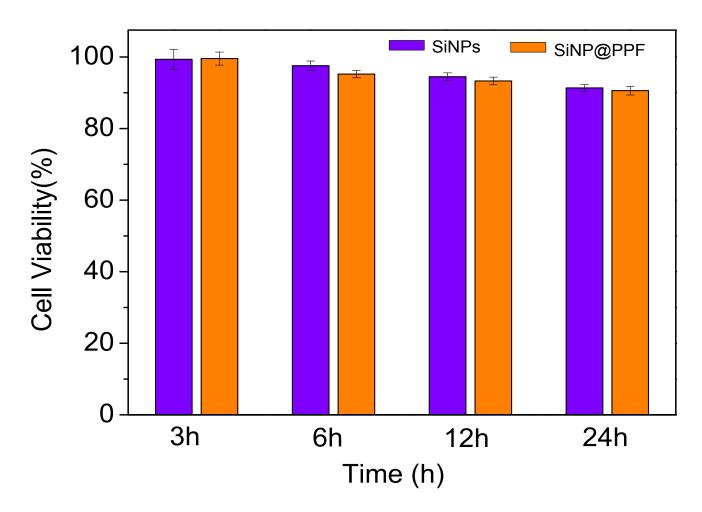
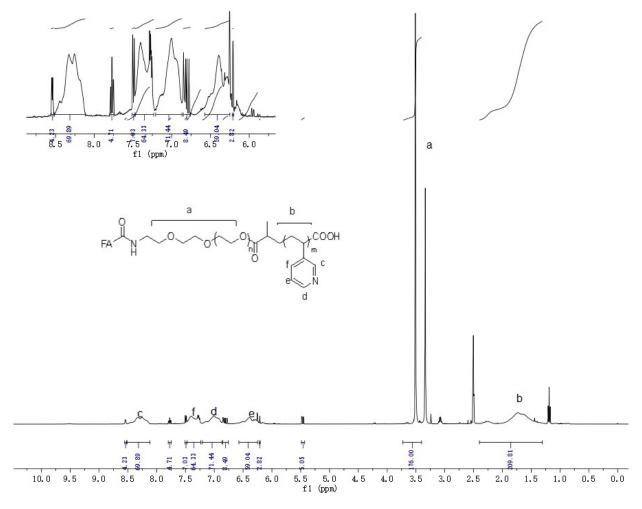


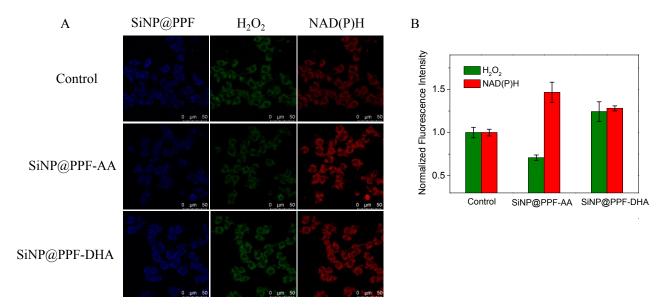
Figure S3. Fluorescence stability test of the SiNP@PPF.



**Figure S4.** Cell viability test at different time for HepG2 cells treated with SiNPs (Purple) and SiNP@PPF (Orange) under hypoxia.



**Figure S5.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of HOOC-PVP-PEG-FA provided by Xin Qiao Biotechnology (Hangzhou, China).



**Figure S6.** Confocal fluorescence images of  $H_2O_2$  and NAD(P)H in B16-F10 cells incubated with SiNP@PPF-AA/DHA under hypoxia (1%  $O_2$ ) for 6 h. (B) The quantitative fluorescence intensities of results correspond to (A). Scale bars are 50  $\mu$ m.