Supplementary Information

Stealthy Nanoparticles Protecting Endothelium Barrier from Leakiness by Resisting the Absorption of VE-cadherin

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Figure S1. UV-Vis absorption spectra of Au/gelatin (black line), Au NPs (red line) and Au/starch NPs (green line) in aqueous solution.



Figure S2. Dynamic light scattering (DLS) size (diameter, nm) and surface zetapotential (ζ , mV) of PMA/starch, PMMA/starch, PMMA/gelatin, Au, Au/starch and Au/gelatin NPs (n = 3).



Figure S3. (a) FTIR spectra of PMA/starch, PMMA/starch, PMMA/gelatin, Au, Au/starch and Au/gelatin NPs. (b) Corresponding peak position and assignment of FTIR spectra.



Figure S4. The optimal conditions of endothelial cell culture were investigated by crystal violet lactone staining to produce confluent endothelial monolayer. (a) The larger the color range, the denser the cells, and the darker the color, the more heavily the cells are stacked. We chose 17:00 on the third day as the best time for cell growth. (b) The imagines of confluent HMVEC monolayer under white light (left) and stained by crystal violet (right).



Figure S5. Bias due to biological duplication in each group itself. The fluorescence intensity of the normal group was between the blank control group and the reference group.



Figure S6. Confocal images of the control group of adhesion assay. The control group had a few sparsely attached MDA-MB-231 cells (green). The nuclei were stained blue with DAPI.



Figure S7. Confocal images of HMVEC cells incubated with FITC labelled (a-c) PMA/starch NPs and (d-f) PMMA/gelatin NPs. (a) and (d) Cell nuclear staining by DAPI under 361 nm excitation. (b) and (e) NPs internalization under 488 nm excitation. (c) and (f) merge images.



Figure S8. (a) Immunoblotting of VEC and α -Tublin from whole cell lysate and pulled down by Au/starch NPs. (b) Y658(P-VEC(Y658)) and Y731(P-VEC(Y731), from Au/starch NPs incubated whole cell lysate with/without Src kinase inhibitor, PP1.

Methods

Nanoparticle uptake assay. The fluorescein-labelled NPs were synthesised by dissolving 25.5 mg fluorescein into methyl methacrylate and use the same procedure as PMA/starch and PMMA/gelatinNPs. HMVEC cells were cultured at 37°C in 5% $CO_2/95\%$ air and the cells in log phase were harvested by trypsin (Gibco). After centrifugation at 1200 rpm for 3 min, the cells were redispersed in medium at a concentration of 2×10^5 cells/mL. A total of 3×1 mL of cell suspension was separately loaded into a 12-well plate at 37°C and left overnight under 5% CO₂/95 % air conditions. Then, the medium was removed. Afterwards, 0.1 mg/mL PMA/starch-FITC NPs and PMA/gelatin-FITC NPs were separately mixed with serum-free medium at a total volume of 1 mL and added to the HMVEC incubated 12-well plate for 24 h. The cells were washed with PBS 3 times (3 min each time) and fixed at room temperature with 4% formalin for 15 min, followed by PBS washing 3 times. Triton X-100 (0.5% in PBS, Beyotime) was then added into the well for 20 min. To stain the cell nucleus, the samples were incubated for 5 min with 4',6-diamidino2phenylindole (DAPI, Beyotime), and extra DAPI was washed out by PBS / Tween-20 (0.002%) 4 times (5 min each time). The cells were observed using a Nikon C2+ confocal microscope.