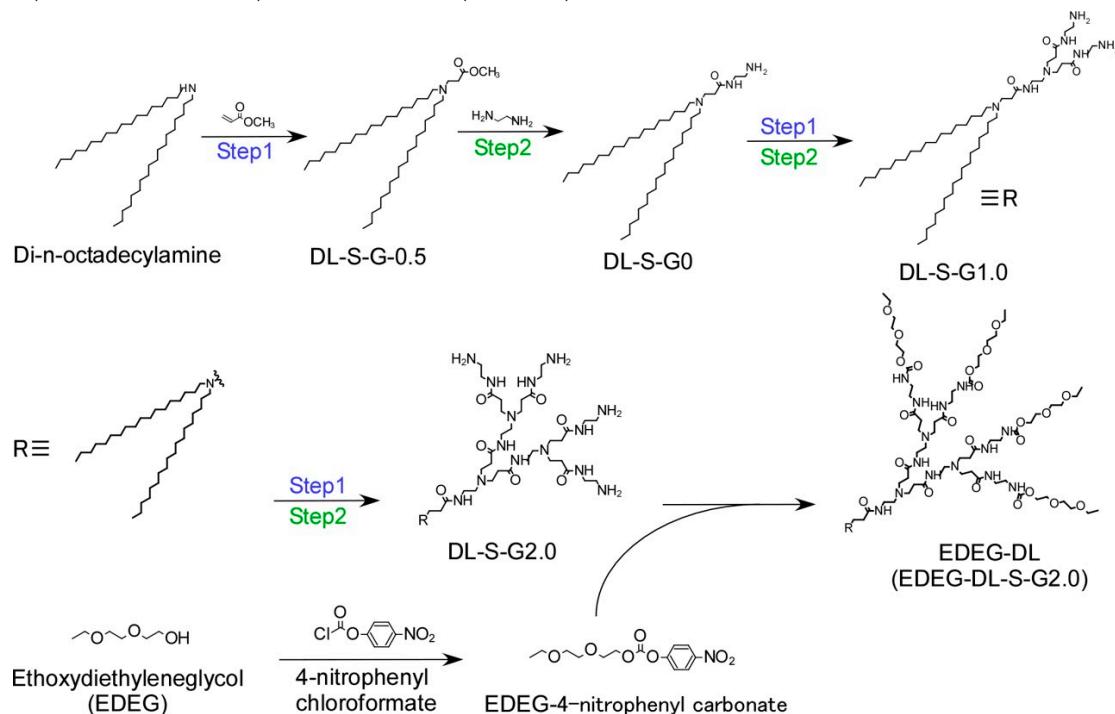


Supplementary Materials: Light-Activatable Transfection System Using Hybrid Vectors Composed of Thermosensitive Dendron Lipids and Gold Nanorods

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Synthesis of temperature-sensitive dendron lipid (EDEG-DL) (Scheme S1)

Polyamidoamine generation-2 dendron-bearing lipid having two octadecyl chains (DL-S-G2.0) were synthesized according to previous report (Takahashi, T., Kojima, C., Harada, A., and Kono, K. (2007) Alkyl chain moieties of polyamidoamine dendron-bearing lipids influence their function as a nonviral gene vector. *Bioconjugate Chem.* **18**, 1349–1354). To a solution of DL-S-G2.0 (200 mg, 151.5 μ mol) in dichloromethane (10 mL), the solution of EDEG-4-nitrophenyl chloroformate (544 mg, 1818 μ mol) in dichloromethane (3 mL) was added dropwise under nitrogen. After 5 days at room temperature, solvent was evaporated under vacuum, and the residue was chromatographed on silica gel using chloroform-methanol (9/1 subsequently 8/2, v/v) as an eluent. The yield was 120 mg, 40%. 1 H NMR (CDCl_3 , 400 MHz): δ 0.87 (m, $\text{CH}_3(\text{CH}_2)_{15}-$), δ 1.20 (t, -OCH₂CH₃), δ 1.25 (t, CH₃(CH₂)₁₅-), δ 1.44 (m, -CH₂CH₂N-), δ 2.36 (m, -NCH₂CH₂CO-), δ 2.52 (t, CH₃(CH₂)₁₆CH₂N-), δ 2.71 (m, -NHCH₂CH₂N-, -NCH₂CH₂CO-), δ 3.27 (t, -NHCH₂CH₂NH-), δ 3.33 (t, -NHCH₂CH₂N-), δ 3.51 (m, -OCH₂CH₃), δ 3.57 (t, -NHCH₂CH₂NH-), δ 3.62 (t, -O(CH₂)₂OCH₂CH₃), δ 3.67 (t, -COOCH₂CH₂O-), δ 4.19 (t, -COOCH₂CH₂O-), δ 6.10 and 7.50 (m, -NH-).



Scheme S1. Synthetic route of thermosensitive dendron lipid (EDEG-DL).

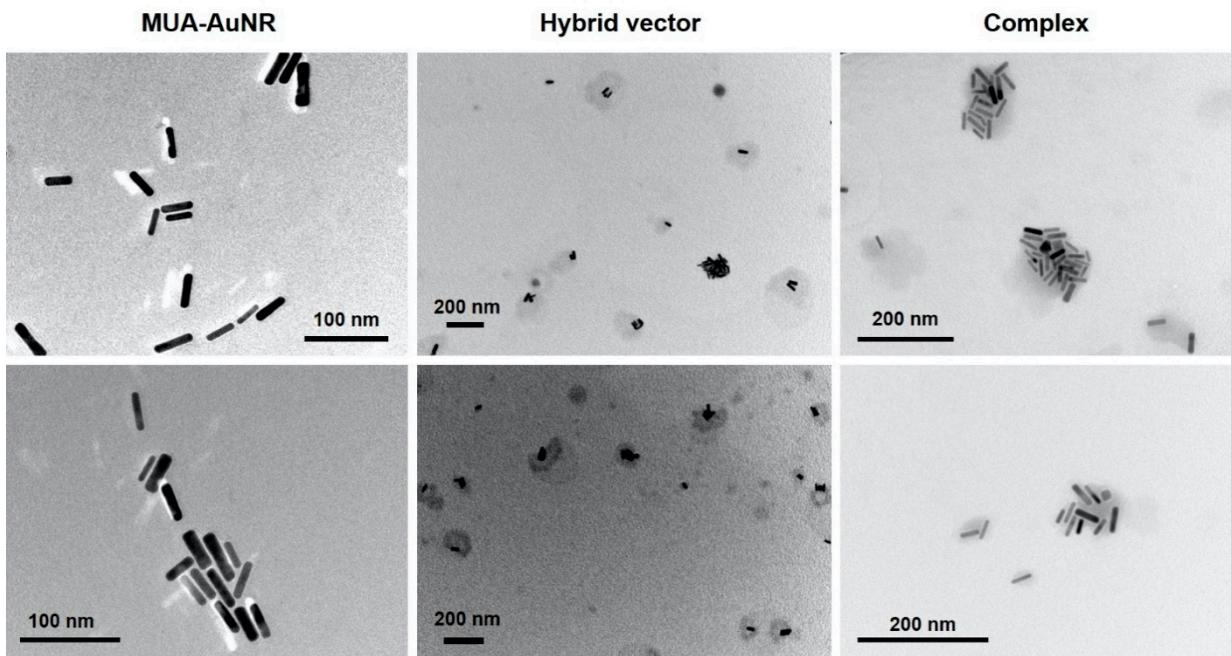


Figure S1. Transmission electron microscopic (TEM) images for MUA-AuNR, hybrid vector, and complex at low magnification.

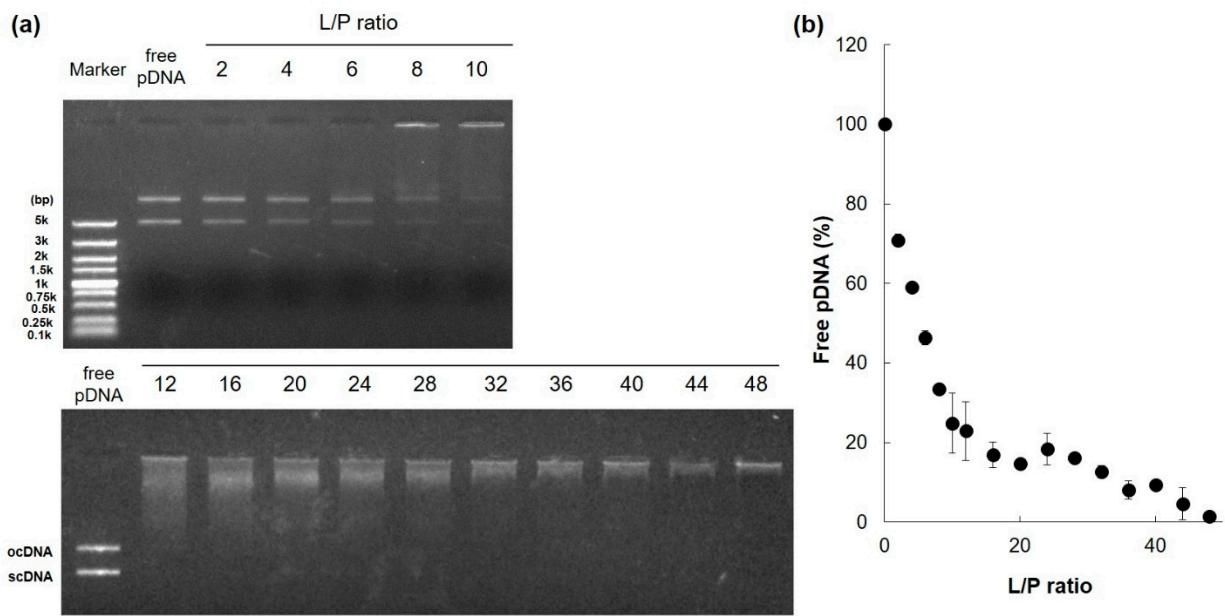


Figure S2. (a) Representative agarose electrophoresis images for pDNA-hybrid vector complexes. ocDNA: open circular DNA; scDNA: supercoiled DNA. (b) Percentage of residual pDNA as a function of L/P ratio ($n = 3$). "L" represents lipid component in DL suspension (EDEG-DL/DL = 9/1, mol/mol).

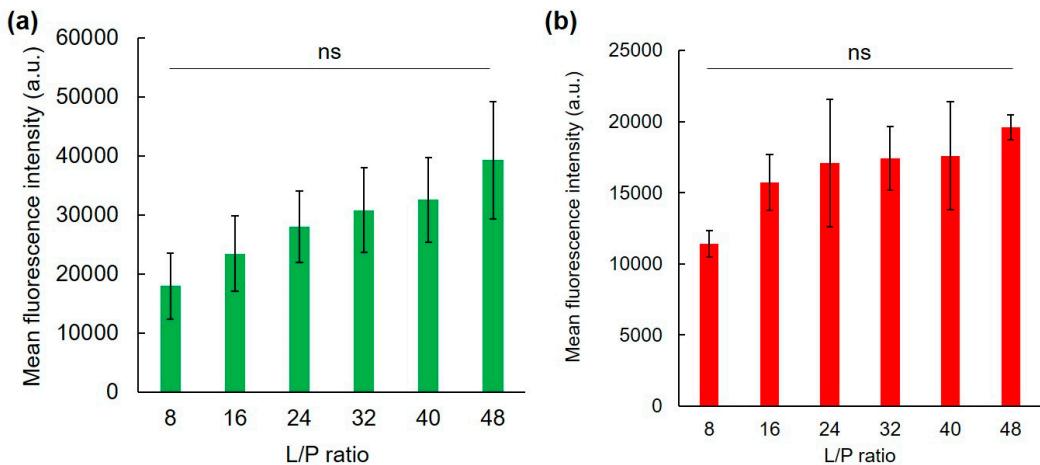


Figure S3. Effect of L/P ratio on transfection activity (a) and cellular association (b) of pDNA-hybrid vector complexes ($n = 2$). Statistical analyses were done using analysis of variance (ANOVA) with Tukey's test. ns: not significant.

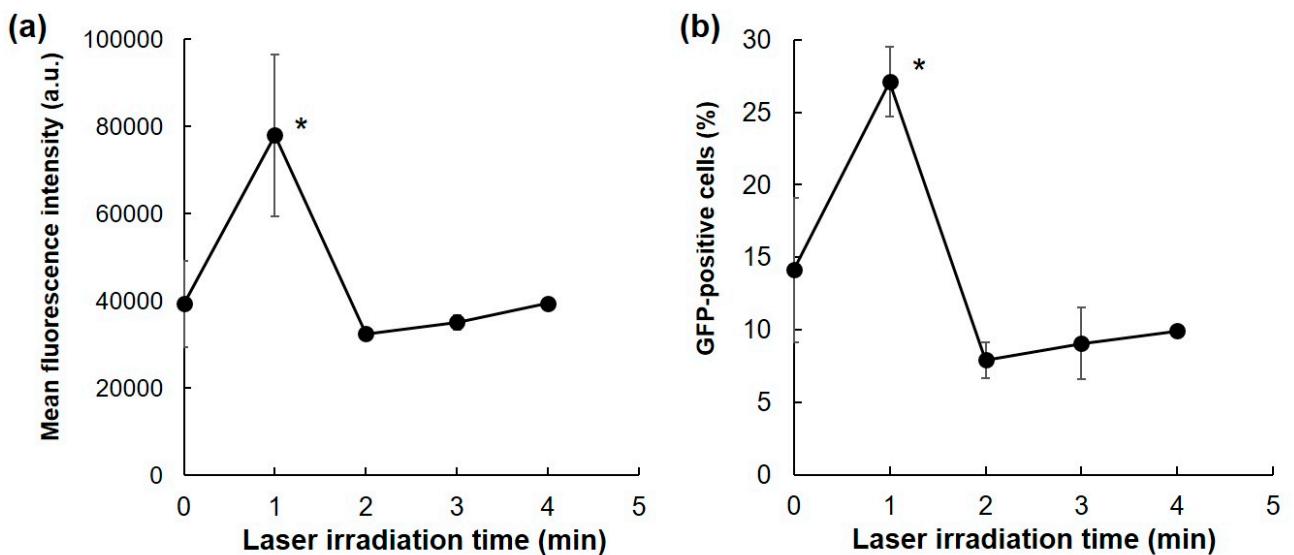


Figure S4. Effect of NIR laser irradiation time on transfection activity of pDNA-hybrid vector complexes ($L/P = 48$). (a) GFP expression levels and (b) percentage of GFP-positive cells were measured using a flow cytometer. After 1 h-incubation with EGFP-encoding pDNA-loaded complexes, NIR laser (3.5 W/cm^2) was irradiated to HeLa cells for 0-5 minutes. Cells were washed with PBS at 24 h after sample apply, and then incubated with culture medium for additional 24 h before flow cytometric analysis ($n = 2-4$). Statistical analyses were done using analysis of variance (ANOVA) with Tukey's test. * $P < 0.05$ compared with other groups.

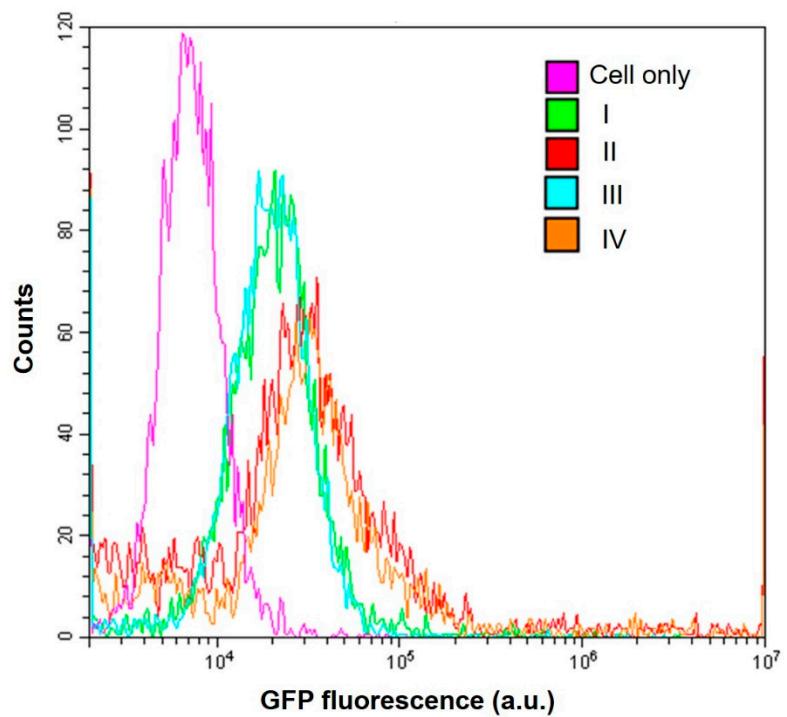


Figure S5. Representative histograms of GFP expression levels on HeLa cells in Figure 3c.