Supplementary information for

Superabsorbent polymer network degradable by a human urinary enzyme

Minji Whang ¹, Hyeonji Yu ¹ and Jungwook Kim *

¹Department of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering, Sogang University, 35,Baekbeom-ro, Mapogu, Seoul, Republic of Korea 04107; mjwhang@sogang.ac.kr_(M.W.); lkjh6309@sogang.ac.kr (H.Y.)

*Correspondence: jungwkim@sogang.ac.kr; Tel.: +82-2-704-8793

Contents

Supplementary Figure 1 to 4 Supplementary Table 1 to 2 References

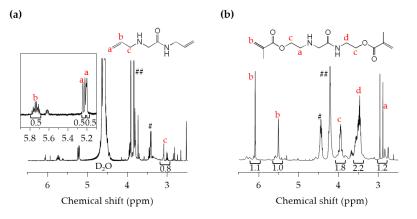


Figure S1. ¹H-NMR spectrum of NCA polymerization initiated by primary amine. (**a**) Resulting from the reaction of allyl amine. *a*, *b* indicates CH(m), $CH_2(m)$ of vinyl group at 5.2~5.3, 5.6~5.8 ppm and *c* indicates $CH_2(t)$ at 2.9~3.1 ppm. #, ## indicates residual allylamine, 2,5-oxazolidinedione at 3.4, 3.8 ppm. The residual D₂O peak appears at 4.8 ppm. (**b**) Resulting from the reaction of 2-aminoethyl methacrylate. *a*, *b*, *c* indicates $CH_2(q)$, CH(m), $CH_2(t)$ at 2.8~3.0, 5.5~6.1 of methacrylate group, 3.9 ppm and d indicates $CH_2(q)$ at 3.5 ppm. #, ## indicates residual 2-AMEA at 4.2, 4.5 ppm.

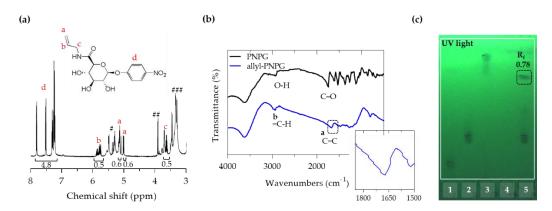


Figure S2. Synthesis of PNPG compound. (**a**) ¹H-NMR spectrum of allyl-PNPG. *a*, *b* indicates CH(*t*), CH(*m*) of vinyl group at 5.0~5.1, 5.6~5.9 ppm. *c*, *d* indicates CH₂(*t*), CH(*m*) at 3.5~3.7, .2~7.8 ppm. # indicates residual allylamine at 5.5 ppm. ##, ### indicates residual PNPG at 3.5, 3.9 ppm. (**b**) FT-IR spectrum of PNPG and allyl-PNPG. *a* indicates C=C bond at 1640~1680cm⁻¹ (inset), *b* indicates =C-H bond at 3000~3100 cm⁻¹. (**c**) TLC of allyl-PNPG. (Marked: (1) PNPG, (2) HOBt, (3) DIC, (4) allylamine, (5) allyl-PNPG (R_f: 0.78))

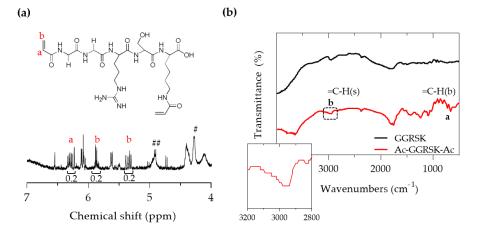


Figure S3. Synthesis of peptide crosslinker. (**a**) ¹H-NMR spectrum of Ac-GGRSK-Ac. *a*, *b* indicates CH(*m*), CH(*t*) of acrylamide at 6.2~6.5, 5.8~5.9 ppm. #, # indicates residual GGRSK at 4.0~4.5, 4.8 ppm. (**b**) FT-IR spectrum of GGRSK and Ac-GGRSK-Ac. *a* indicates =C-H(*b*) group at 650~1000 cm⁻¹ and *b* indicates =C-H(*s*) group at 3000~3100 cm⁻¹ (inset).

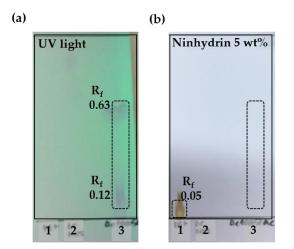


Figure S4. TLC of Ac-GGRSK-Ac. (**a**) UV light. (**b**) 5 wt% Ninhydrin. (Marked: (1) GGRSK, (2) Ac-NHS ester, (3) Ac-GGRSK-Ac (R_f: 0.63))

	Full name	EC #	Molecular weight (kDa)	Optimal pH	Isoelec. point	Specificity	Unit (U) /urine (mL)
LAP	Leucine aminopeptidase	3.4.11.1	~ 326	9.0 - 9.5	6.07	Release amino acids from the N-terminus of proteins. React efficiently with leucine.	Male: 82 Female: 43 [1]
GLU	β-D- glucuronidase	3.2.1.31	~ 290	4.5 - 5.0	4.8	Catalyze the conversion of β -D-glucuronoside to D-glucuronate	8.8 - 28.4 [2]
uPA	Urokinase-type plasminogen activator	3.4.21.73	33 ~ 54	8.5	8.78	A serine protease that cleaves plasminogen to create plasmin.	4.1 [3]

 Table S1. Detailed information on enzymes used in the study.

Table S2. The pregel composition used to create SAP.

	Chemicals	Molar ratio (mol %)
Monomer	Acrylic acid	100
Crosslinker (1X)	Ac-GGRSK-Ac	0.041
Photo initiator	Darocur 1173	0.065
	NaOH	70
Solvent	Water	523

References

1. Goldbarg, J. A.; Rutenburg, A. M., The colorimetric determination of leucine aminopeptidase in urine and serum of normal subjects and patients with cancer and other diseases. *Cancer* **1958**, *11* (2), 283-91.

2. Wu, X.; Loganathan, D.; Linhardt, R. J., Sensitive method for the quantification of betaglucuronidase activity in human urine using capillary electrophoresis with fluorescence detection. *J Chromatogr B Biomed Sci Appl* **1998**, *708* (1-2), 61-6.

3. Hong, S. Y.; Yang, D. H.; Lee, B. H.; Ki, E. K.; Chung, K. H., The urine urokinase concentration in end stage renal disease with acquired renal cyst. *Korean J Intern Med* **1991**, *6* (2), 64-8.