## Supporting information

## Development of polyelectrolyte complexes for the delivery of peptide-based subunit vaccines against group A streptococcus

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Figure S1. Analytical HPLC profile of LCP-1. $\mathrm{t}_{\mathrm{R}}=23.0 \mathrm{~min}$


Figure S2. Mass spectrum of LCP-1. ESI-MS: m/z 1203.8 (calculated 1203.8) [M+5H] ${ }^{5+}$; 1003.1 (calculated 1003.4) $[\mathrm{M}+6 \mathrm{H}]^{6+} ; 860.0$ (calculated 860.2 ) $[\mathrm{M}+7 \mathrm{H}]^{7+} ; 752.8$ (calculated 752.8 ) $[\mathrm{M}+8 \mathrm{H}]^{8+} ; 669.2$ (calculated 669.2 ) $[\mathrm{M}+9 \mathrm{H}]^{9+}$
a)

b)

c)

d)

e)

f)


Figure S3. The optimization of formulation monitored with DLS. In each panel, the top two graphs represented the optimization of negative polymer mixing ratios (a, Lip-1; b, PEC-1; c, PEC-2; d, PEC-3; e, PEC-4; f, PEC-5) while the bottom two graphs represented the optimization of TMC coating. The optimum amount of each polymer required was marked in blue column.


Figure S4. PEC-5 induced maturation of splenocyte-derived DCs. DCs were cultured with PEC-5 for 5 h and 16 h separately. Expression levels of CD 86 (a), CD 80 (b) and MHC-II (c) were measured by flow cytometry. Results are mean fluorescence intensity (MFI) $\pm$ SEM ( $\mathrm{n}=2$ ). ${ }^{*} \mathrm{p}<0.05,{ }^{* *} \mathrm{p}<0.01$ and ${ }^{* * *} \mathrm{p}<0.001$.


Figure S5. The viability of cells treated with PEC-5. NCIH-460: human lung cancer cell line, SW620: human colorectal cancer cell line, HEK293: human kidney cell line. After 68 h incubation, cell viability was measured with MTT assay. All values are reported as means $\pm$ SEM with duplicate data points.

