Supplementary Materials

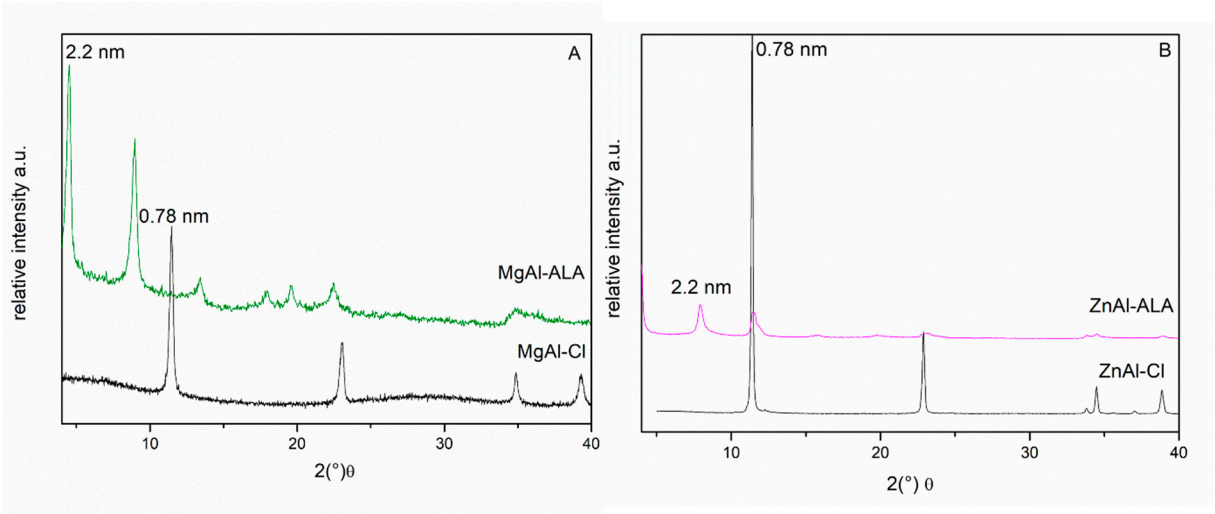

Figure S1. XRPD of: (**A**) MgAl-Cl and MgAl-ALA; (**B**) ZnAl-Cl and ZnAl-ALA.

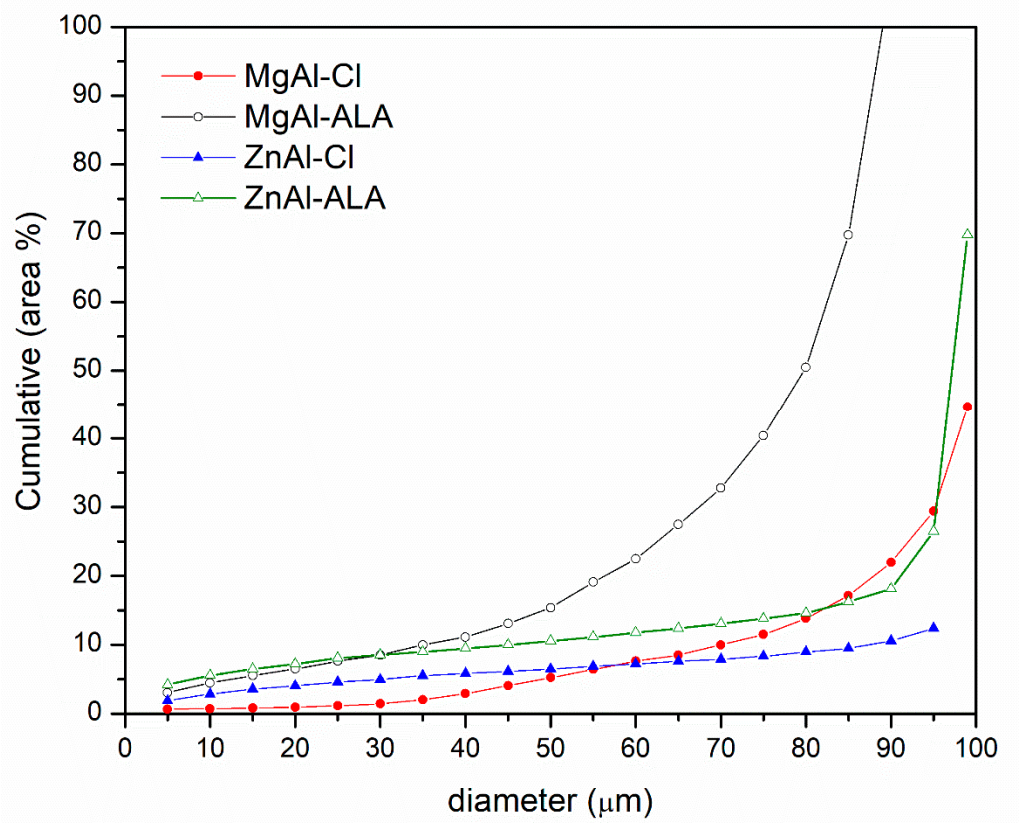

Figure S2. Dimensional distribution obtained by SPOS analysis of MgAl-Cl, ZnAl-Cl, MgAl-ALA and ZnAl-ALA.

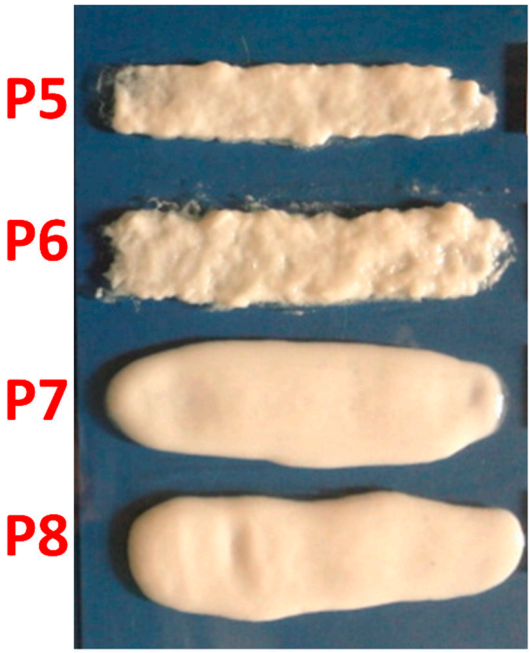

Figure S3. Aspect of hydrogels prepared using HEC in different percentages: 2.50% (P5), 2.00% (P6), 1.75% (P7) and 1.25% (P8).

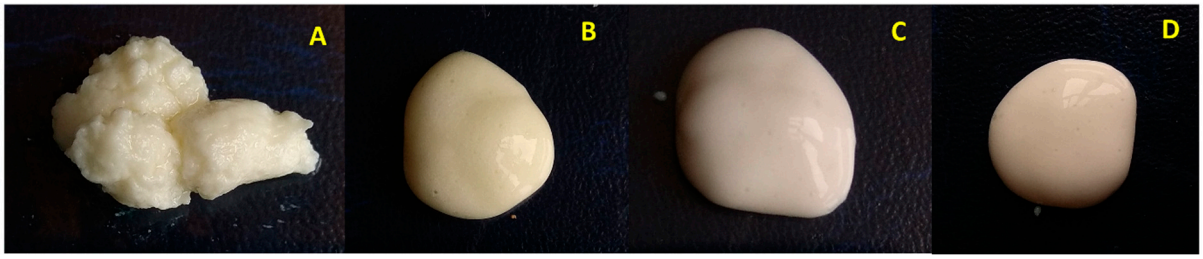

Figure S4. Aspect of (**A**) Tiobec® and hydrogels loaded with (**B**) crystalline ALA; (**C**) MgAl-ALA and (**D**) ZnAl-ALA.

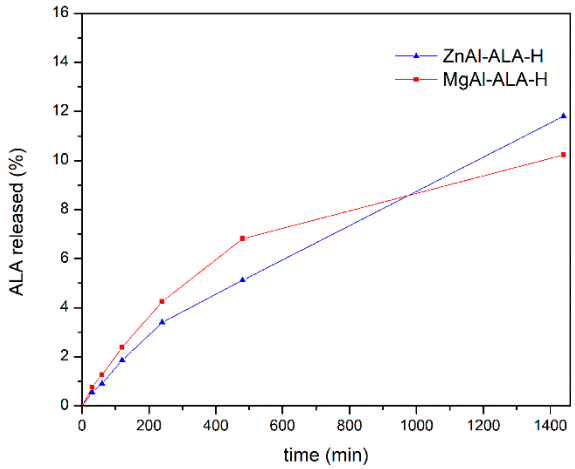

Figure S5. ALA release profiles obtained in methanol and phosphate buffer pH 5.5 (25/75 v/v) at 32°C from ZnAl-ALA-H and MgAl-ALA-H.

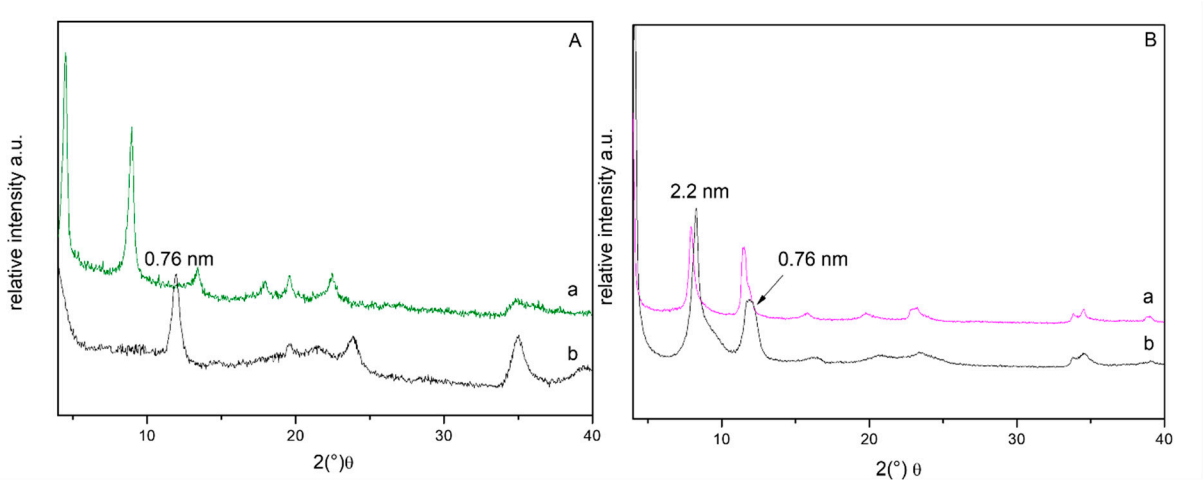

Figure S6. XRPD patterns of: (A) MgAl-ALA before (**a)** and after the contact with a MeOH/K_2CO_3 (30/70) solution at 32°C for 24 h (**b**); (B) ZnAl-ALA before (**a**) and after the contact with a MeOH/K_2CO_3 (30/70) solution at 32°C for 24 h (**b**).