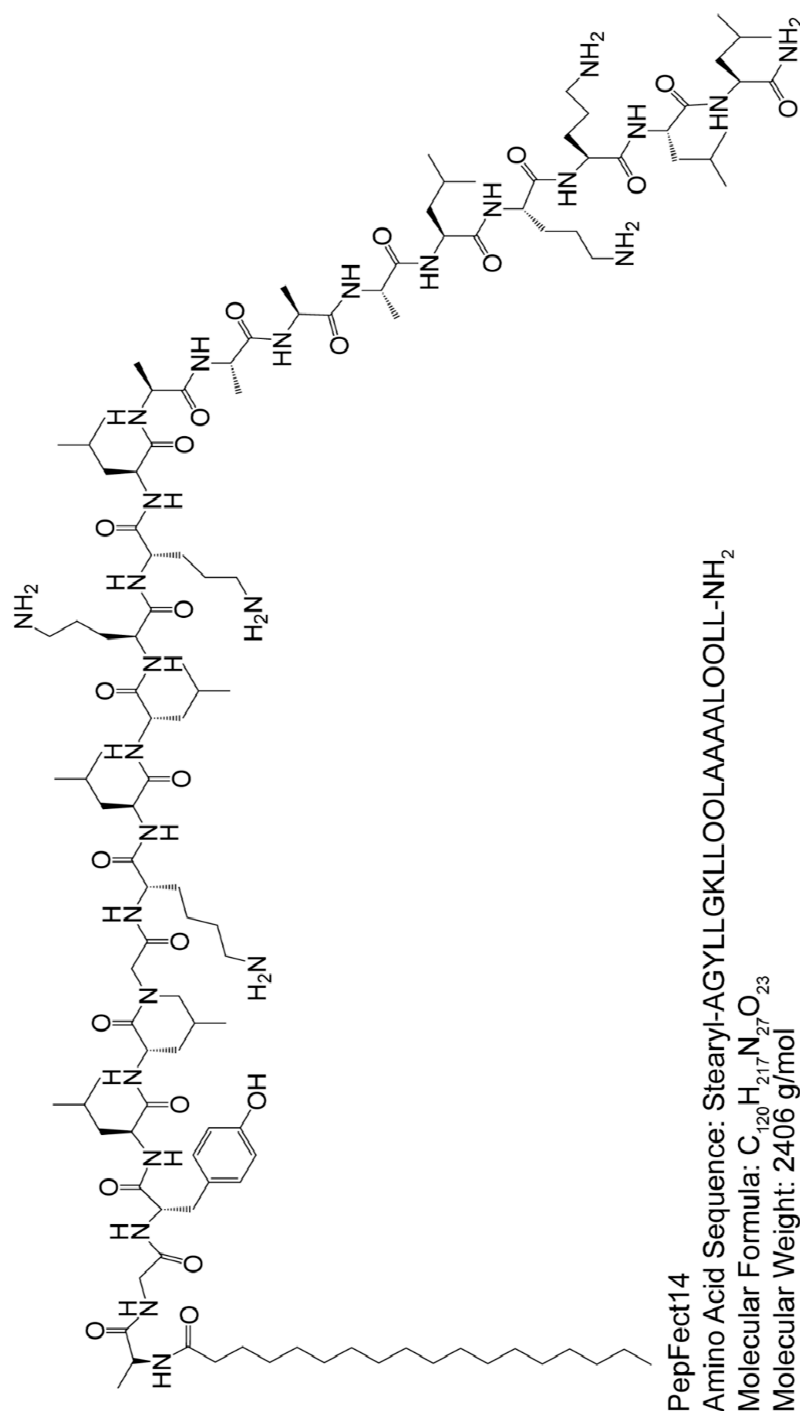
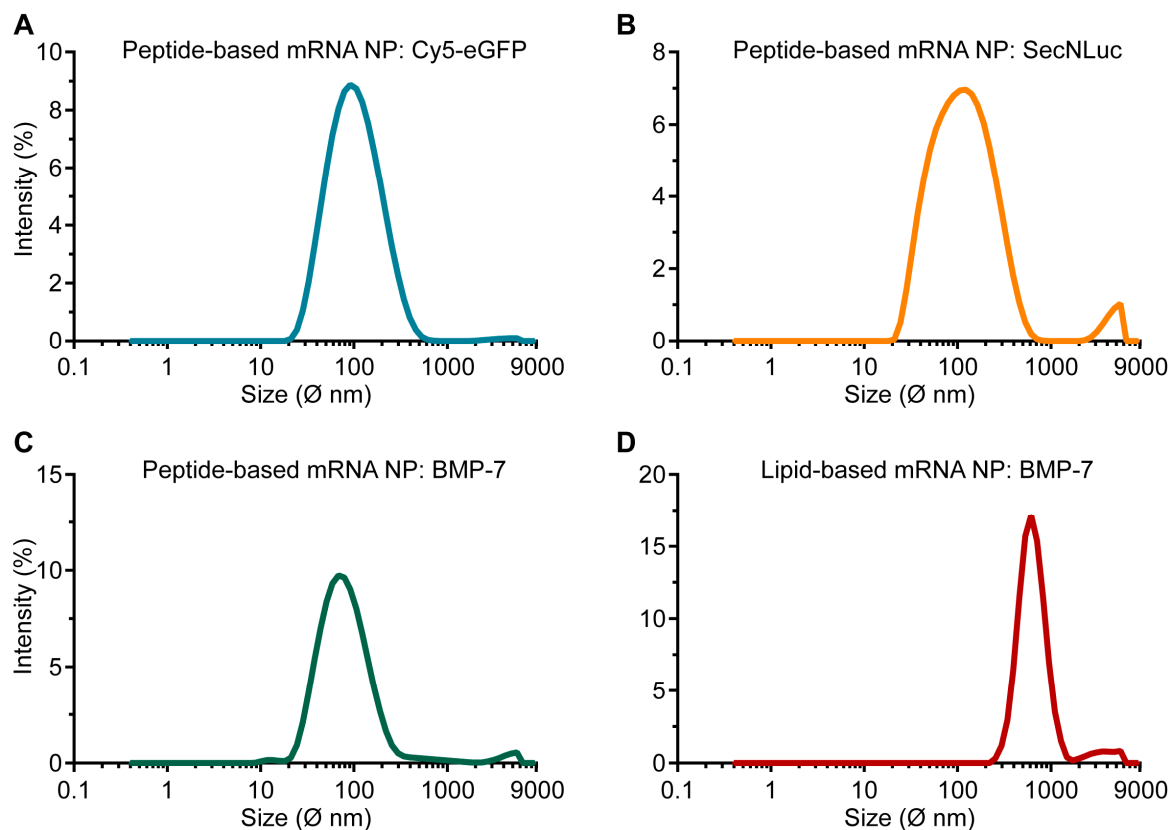


# Supplementary Materials: Biomaterial-Mediated Protein Expression Induced by Peptide-mRNA Nanoparticles Embedded in Lyophilized Collagen Scaffolds

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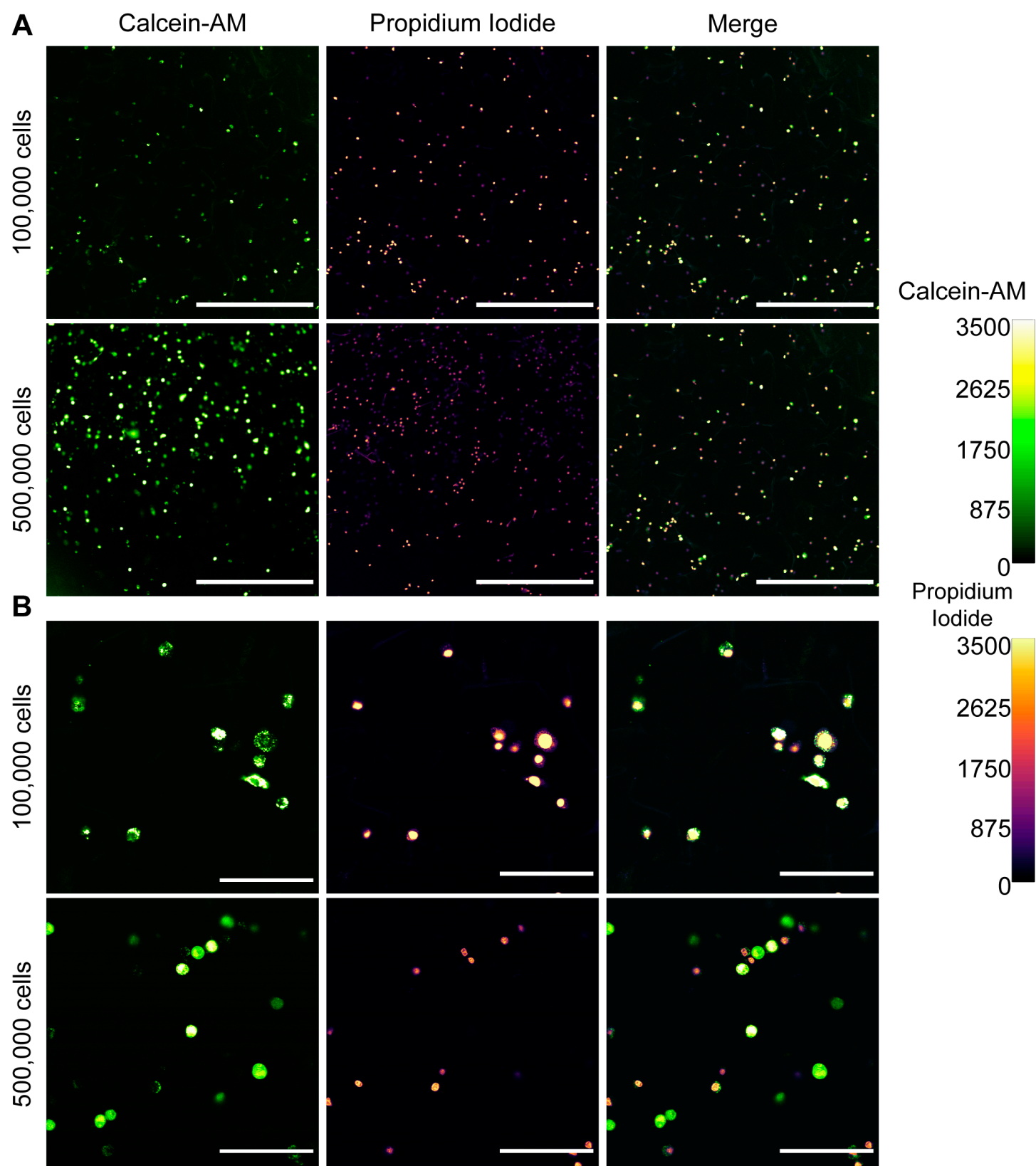
**Figure S1.** The chemical structure of the amphipathic cationic cell-penetrating peptide PepFect14. The chemical structure was drawn with ChemDraw version 21.0.0 (Perkin Elmer, Waltham, MA, USA).



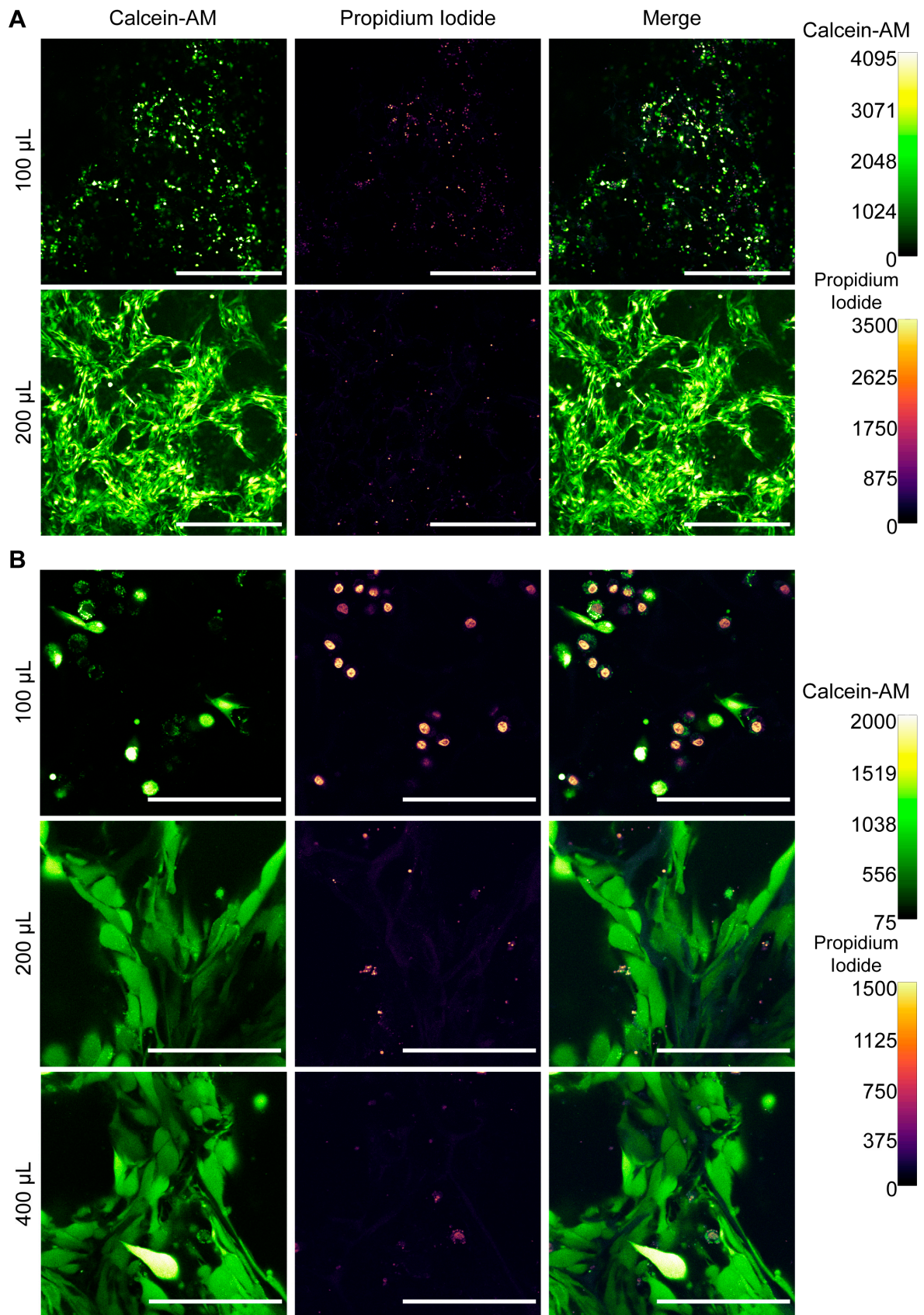
**Figure S2.** Characterization of peptide-based (PF14) and lipid-based (LMM) mRNA transfection complexes. **(A)** Intensity-based particle size distribution of PepFect14 formulated with Cy5-eGFP mRNA. **(B)** Intensity-based particle size distribution PepFect14 formulated with SecNLuc mRNA. **(C)** Intensity-based particle size distribution PepFect14 formulated with BMP-7 mRNA. **(D)** Intensity-based particle size distribution Lipofectamine MessengerMAX formulated with BMP-7 mRNA.

**Table S1.** Quantitative results of DLS measurements. Averages and standard deviations reflect four repeated measurements. PdI: polydispersity index.

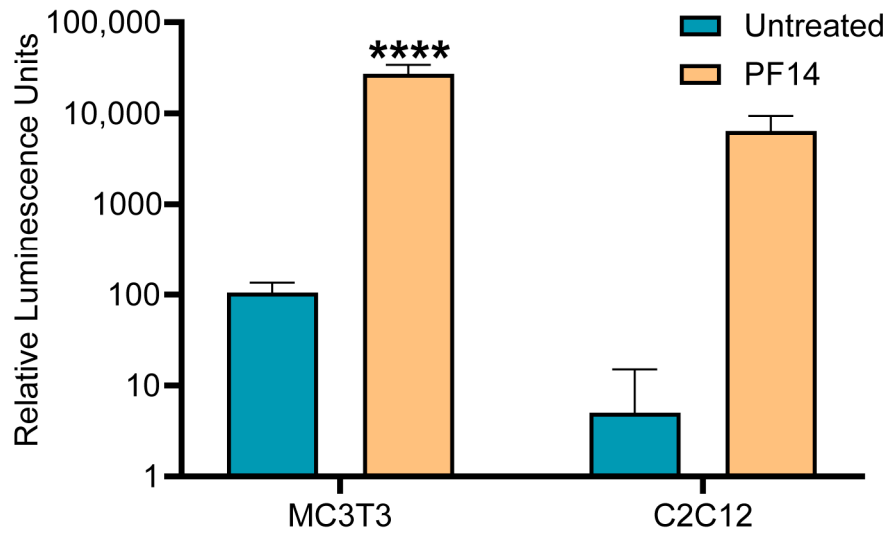
Sample	Z-Average (Ø nm)	PdI	Attenuator	Intercept	Derived Counts
20 µM PF14 + Cy-5 eGFP	84.86 ± 1.59	0.250 ± 0.047	7	0.146 ± 0.011	44,188 ± 3,029
50 µM PF14 + SecNLuc	95.00 ± 4.50	0.376 ± 0.008	9	0.924 ± 0.004	3,052 ± 17
50 µM PF14 + BMP-7	69.49 ± 3.21	0.258 ± 0.014	9	0.940 ± 0.004	3,058 ± 27
LMM + BMP-7	631.3 ± 12.4	0.249 ± 0.056	8	0.917 ± 0.004	9,362 ± 154



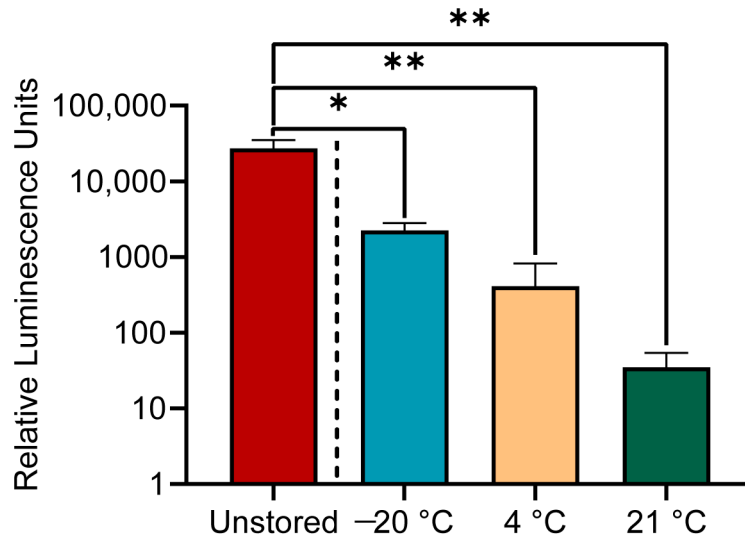
**Figure S3:** Dependence of cell viability and spreading in 3D collagen scaffolds on seeding density for C2C12 cells. **(A)** Low magnification overview of C2C12 viability 48 h post-seeding; **(B)** high magnification zoom-in. Calcein-AM intensities to assess cell viability and PI staining are visualized by false color look-up tables green hot and mpl-inferno, respectively (right). Brightness and contrast were equally adjusted across conditions. Scale bars in panel A represent 500  $\mu\text{m}$ , scale bars in panel B represent 100  $\mu\text{m}$ .



**Figure S4.** The effects of pre-lyophilization volume on the presence of viable C2C12 cells throughout a 3D collagen scaffold. **(A)** Low magnification overview of C2C12 viability 24 h post-seeding at different seeding volumes. **(B)** High magnification overview of C2C12 viability 24 h post-seeding at different seeding volumes. The green hot LUT depicts calcein-AM intensities, while the mpl-inferno LUT depicts the PI intensity. Brightness and contrast were equally adjusted across conditions per panel according to the calibration bar. Scale bars in panel A represent 500  $\mu\text{m}$ , scale bars in panel B represent 100  $\mu\text{m}$ .



**Figure S5.** Comparison of transfection efficiencies between MC3T3 and C2C12 cells, transfected with 5  $\mu$ M (536 ng mRNA/scaffold) PF14-SecNLuc mRNA nanoparticles embedded in 3D collagen scaffolds. Values represent the mean + SD of three biological replicates, of total luciferase production (sum of secreted and sequestered luciferase). \*\*\*\*:  $P \leq 0.0001$



**Figure S6.** Comparison of MC3T3 transfection efficiencies of PF14 mRNA-loaded scaffolds (536 ng mRNA/scaffold) stored at different temperatures for 14 days. Data represent the mean + SD of three biological replicates of both the secreted and sequestered nanoluciferase. The dashed line separates data that was acquired in separate experiments. Statistically significant differences were determined by means of a one-way ANOVA. \*:  $P \leq 0.05$ , \*\*:  $P \leq 0.01$ .