

## **Supplementary Materials**

### **Reduction-Hypersensitive Podophyllotoxin Prodrug Self-Assembled Nanoparticles for Cancer Treatment**

**Xinhui Wang<sup>†</sup>, Yuequan Wang<sup>†</sup>, Jiaxin Yu, Qian Qiu, Rui Liao, Shenwu Zhang, Cong Luo<sup>\*</sup>**

#### **Affiliations:**

Department of Pharmaceutics, Wuya College of Innovation, Shenyang Pharmaceutical University,  
Shenyang 110016, China

<sup>†</sup> These authors contributed equally to this work.

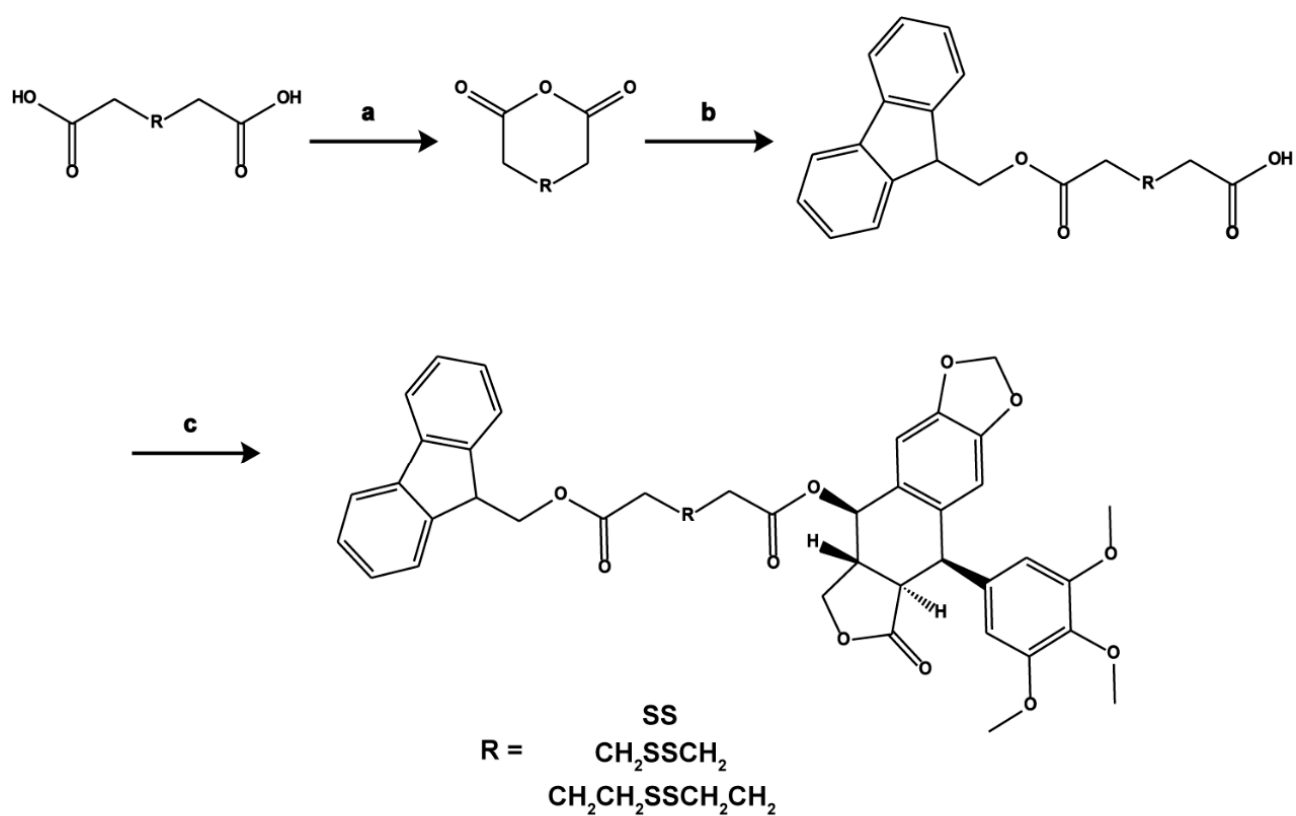
#### **\* Corresponding authors:**

Cong Luo, Ph.D.

Department of Pharmaceutics, Wuya College of Innovation, Shenyang Pharmaceutical University,  
Shenyang 110016, China

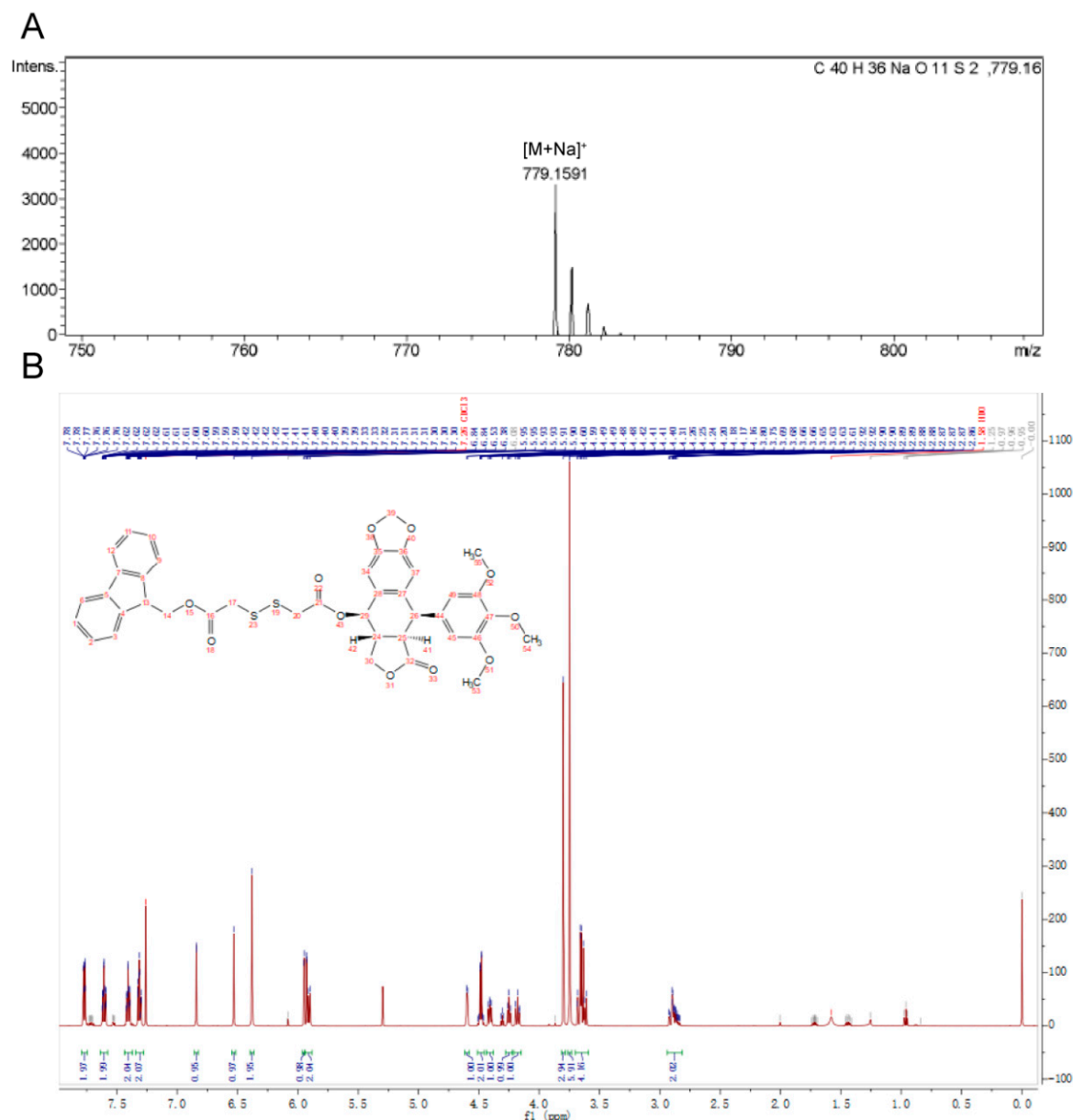
Tel: +86-24-23986321; Fax: +86-24-23986321

E-mail: [luocong@syphu.edu.cn](mailto:luocong@syphu.edu.cn)

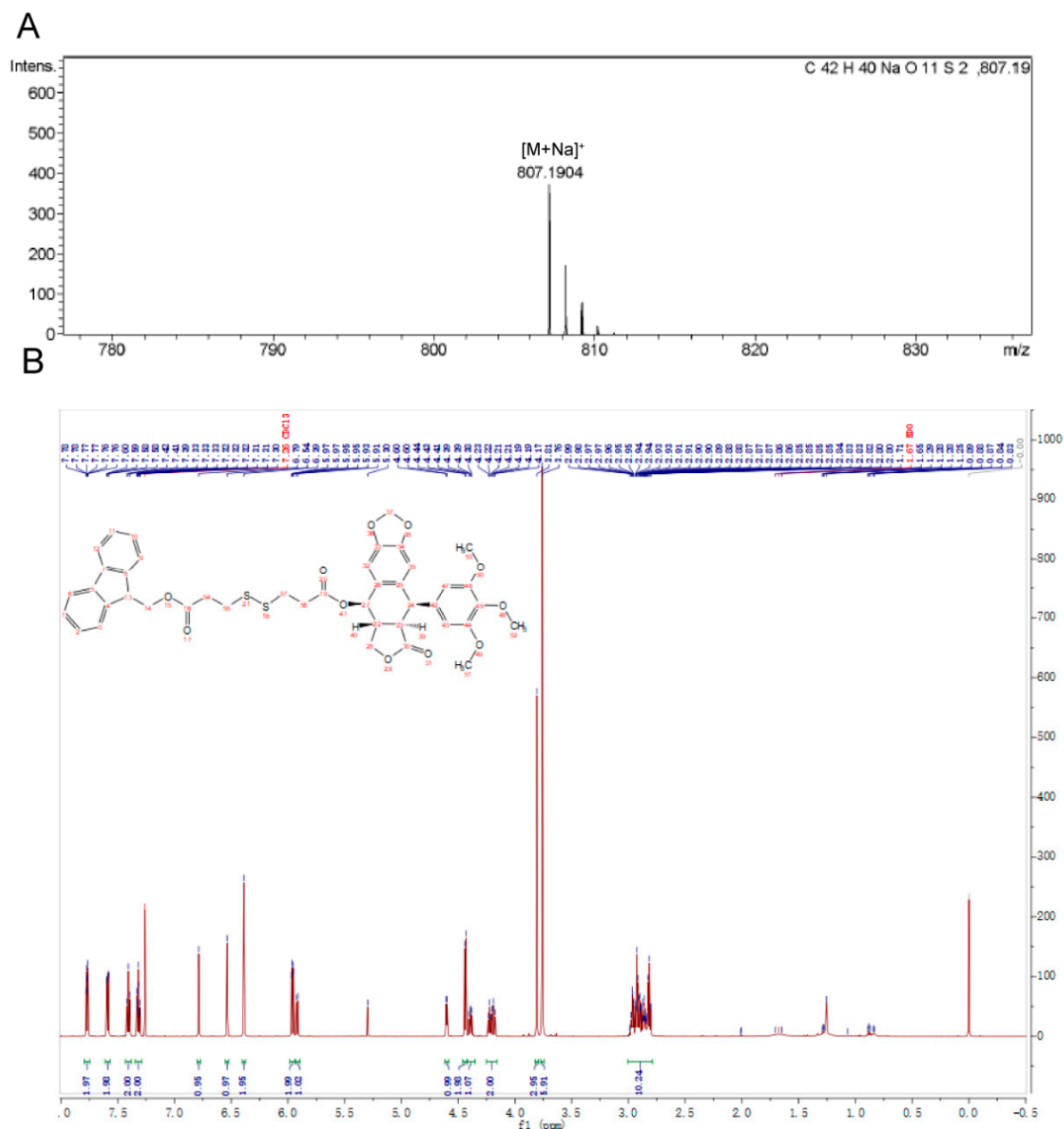


(a): acetic anhydride, 25°C; (b): 9-fluorene methanol, DMAP, 25°C; (c): EDCI, HoBt, DMAP, 0°C; PPT, 25°C.

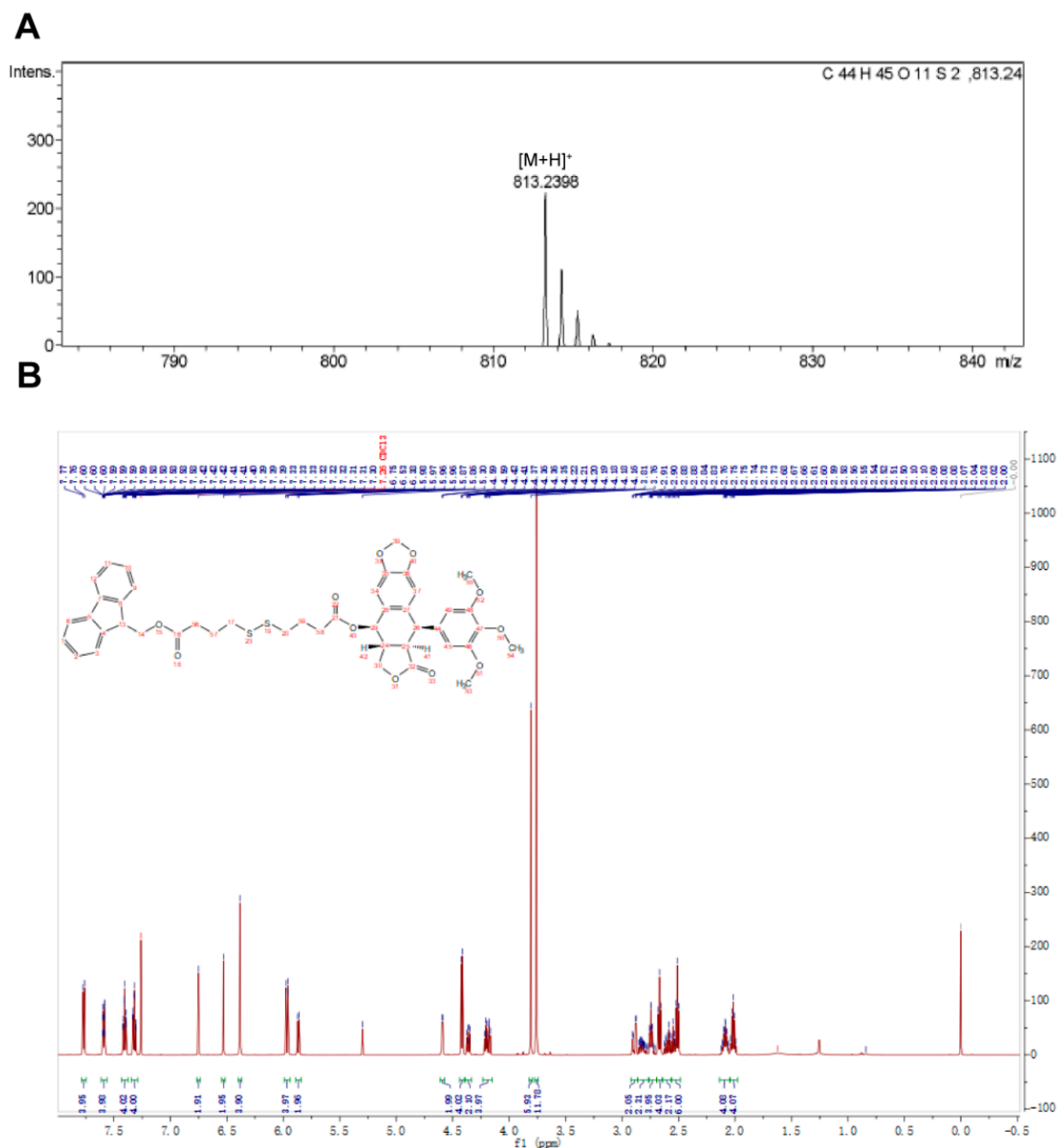
**Figure S1.** Synthetic route of designed disulfide bond-bridged PPT prodrugs.



**Figure S2.** (A) MS and (B)  $^1\text{H}$  NMR of FAP.  $[M+Na]^+=779.16$ ,  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz, Chloroform- $d$ )  $\delta$  7.77 (dt,  $J = 7.6, 0.9$  Hz, 2H, 6, 12), 7.61 (tq,  $J = 7.5, 0.9$  Hz, 2H, 1, 11), 7.41 (tq,  $J = 7.5, 0.9$  Hz, 2H, 2, 10), 7.31 (tt,  $J = 7.4, 0.9$  Hz, 2H, 3, 9, 34), 6.84 (d,  $J = 0.7$  Hz, 1H, 37), 6.53 (s, 1H, 29), 6.38 (s, 2H, 45, 49), 5.95 (d,  $J = 1.4$  Hz, 1H, 13), 5.94 – 5.88 (m, 2H, 39), 5.30 (s, 0H), 4.60 (d,  $J = 4.0$  Hz, 1H, 26), 4.48 (dd,  $J = 7.2, 1.1$  Hz, 2H, 14), 4.41 (dd,  $J = 9.2, 6.4$  Hz, 1H, 42), 4.25 (t,  $J = 7.1$  Hz, 1H, 30'), 4.21 – 4.15 (m, 1H, 30''), 3.80 (s, 2H, 17), 3.75 (s, 6H, 53, 55), 3.70 – 3.59 (m, 4H, 20', 54), 2.94 – 2.82 (m, 2H).



**Figure S3.** (A) MS and (B)  $^1\text{H}$  NMR of FBP.  $[M+Na]^+=807.19$ ,  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  7.77 (dt,  $J = 7.6, 0.9$  Hz, 2H, 3, 9), 7.59 (dd,  $J = 7.5, 1.1$  Hz, 2H, 6, 12), 7.41 (t,  $J = 7.5$  Hz, 2H, 1, 11), 7.32 (tt,  $J = 7.4, 1.0$  Hz, 2H, 2, 10), 6.79 (s, 1H, 35), 6.54 (s, 1H, 32), 6.39 (s, 2H, 37', 43, 47), 5.96 (dd,  $J = 9.5, 1.4$  Hz, 2H, 13, 27, 37''), 5.92 (d,  $J = 9.1$  Hz, 1H, 27), 4.60 (d,  $J = 4.4$  Hz, 1H, 24), 4.44 (d,  $J = 7.1$  Hz, 2H, 14), 4.39 (dd,  $J = 9.3, 6.9$  Hz, 1H, 40), 4.25 – 4.16 (m, 2H, 28), 3.81 (s, 3H, 52), 3.76 (s, 6H, 51, 53), 3.00 – 2.79 (m, 10H, 39, 54, 55, 56, 57), 1.25 (s, 1H, ).

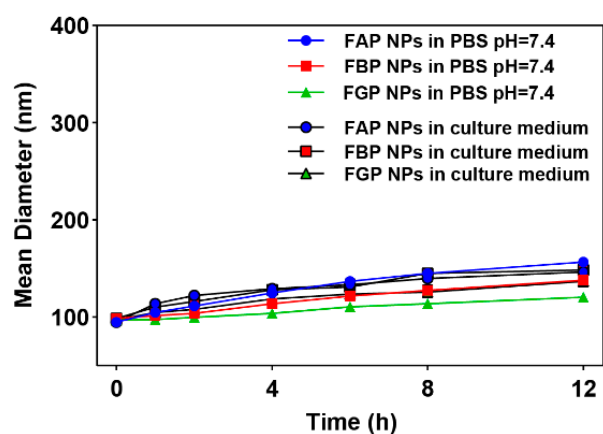


**Figure S4.** (A) MS and (B)  $^1\text{H}$  NMR of FGP.  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+=813.24$ ,  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  7.77 (d,  $J = 7.5$  Hz, 2H, 6, 12), 7.59 (ddq,  $J = 7.5, 1.8, 0.9$  Hz, 2H, 3, 9), 7.41 (tt,  $J = 7.5, 0.9$  Hz, 2H, 1, 11), 7.32 (tt,  $J = 7.5, 0.8$  Hz, 2H, 2, 10), 6.75 (s, 1H, 37), 6.53 (s, 1H, 34), 6.38 (s, 2H, 45, 49), 5.97 (dd,  $J = 10.9, 1.4$  Hz, 3H, 13, 39), 5.87 (d,  $J = 9.1$  Hz, 1H, 29), 4.59 (d,  $J = 4.4$  Hz, 1H, 26), 4.42 (d,  $J = 7.0$  Hz, 2H, 14), 4.36 (dd,  $J = 9.3, 6.9$  Hz, 1H, 42), 4.23 – 4.15 (m, 2H, 30), 3.81 (s, 3H, 54), 3.76 (s, 6H, 53, 55), 2.89 (dd,  $J = 14.5, 4.4$  Hz, 2H, 58', 58''), 2.86 – 2.76 (m, 1H, 41), 2.74 (td,  $J = 6.9, 2.1$  Hz, 2H, 41, 58''), 2.67 (t,  $J = 7.1$  Hz, 2H, 56), 2.60 (dt,  $J = 16.5, 7.3$  Hz, 2H, 17), 2.53 (dt,  $J = 22.9, 7.2$  Hz, 3H, 17, 20'), 2.09 (pd,  $J = 7.1, 2.6$  Hz, 2H, 59), 2.02 (p,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 2H, 57).

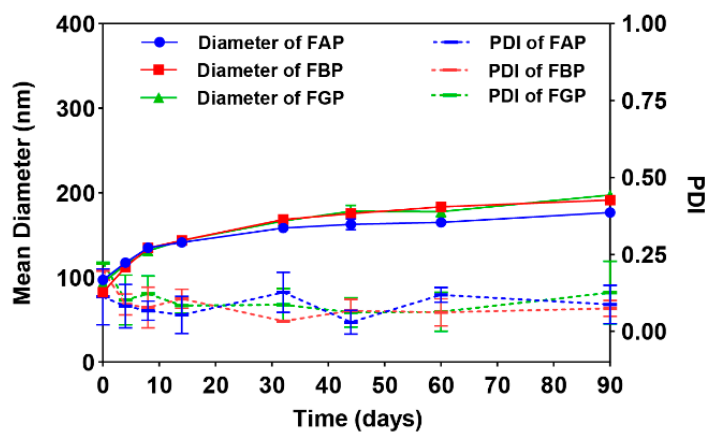


**Figure S5.** Zeta potential of FAP NPs, FBP NPs and FGP NPs.

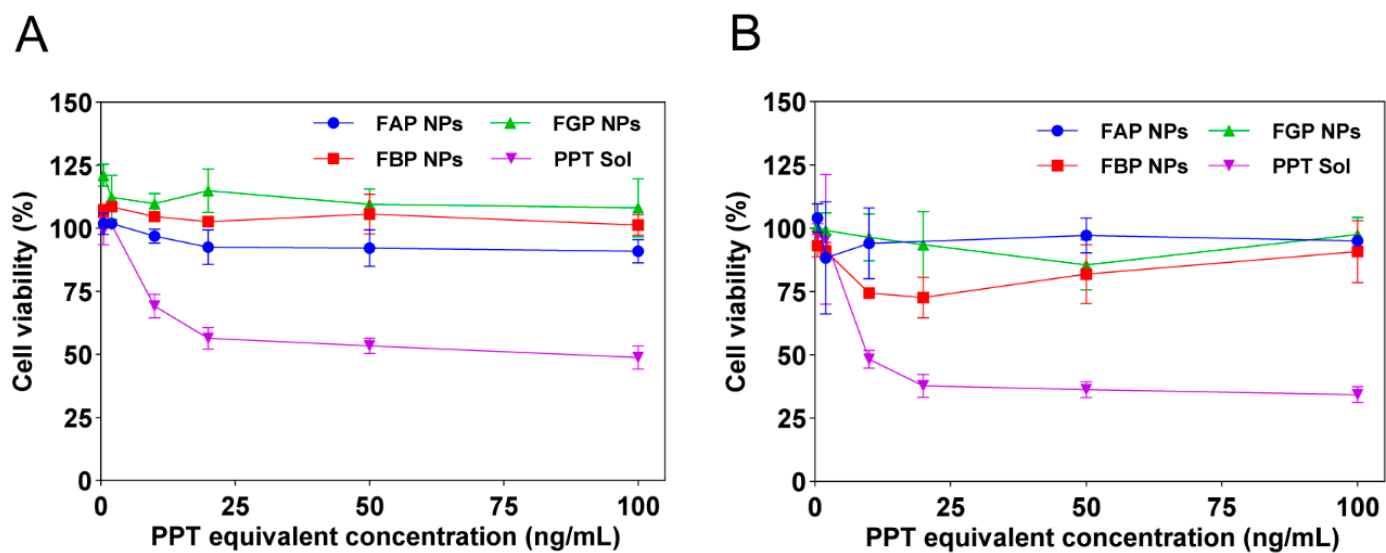
A



B



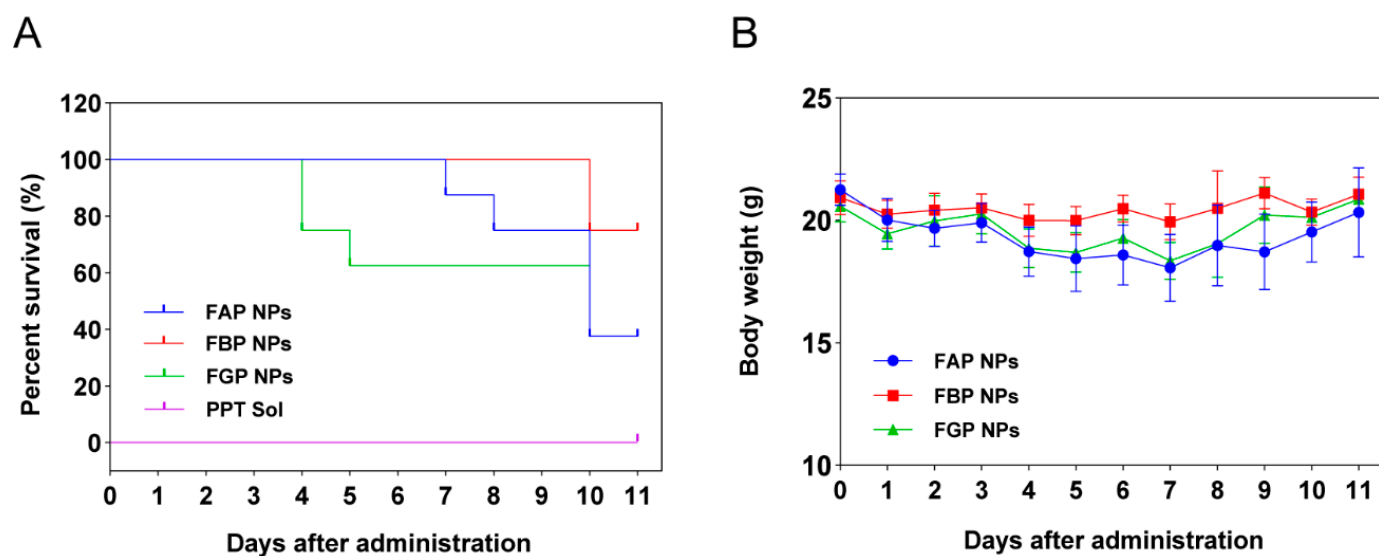
**Figure S6.** (A) Stabilities of prodrug NPs in PBS and RPMI 1640 culture medium (with 10% FBS). (B) Particle size and PDI of prodrug NPs in 90 days.



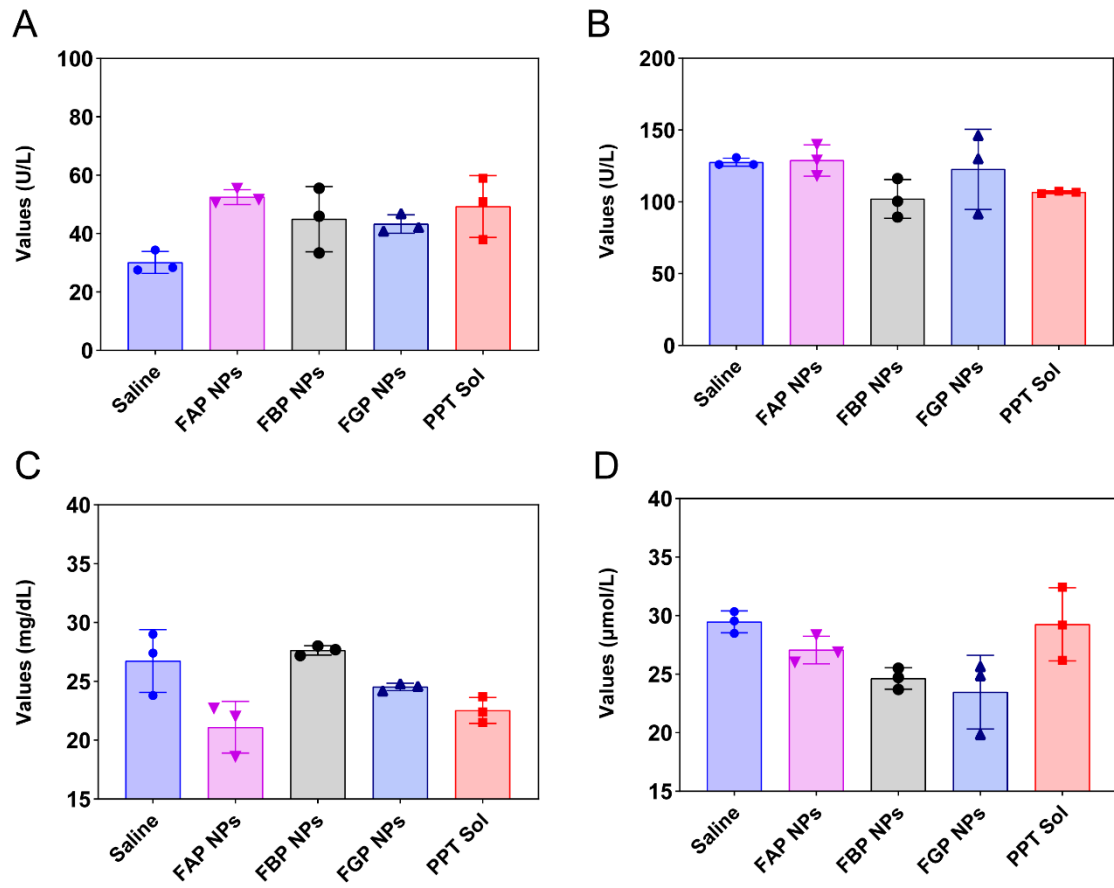
**Figure S7.** Viability of 3T3 cells after treated with various concentrations of PPT and prodrug NPs for (A) 48 h and (B) 72 h.

Data are presented as mean  $\pm$  SD (n = 3).

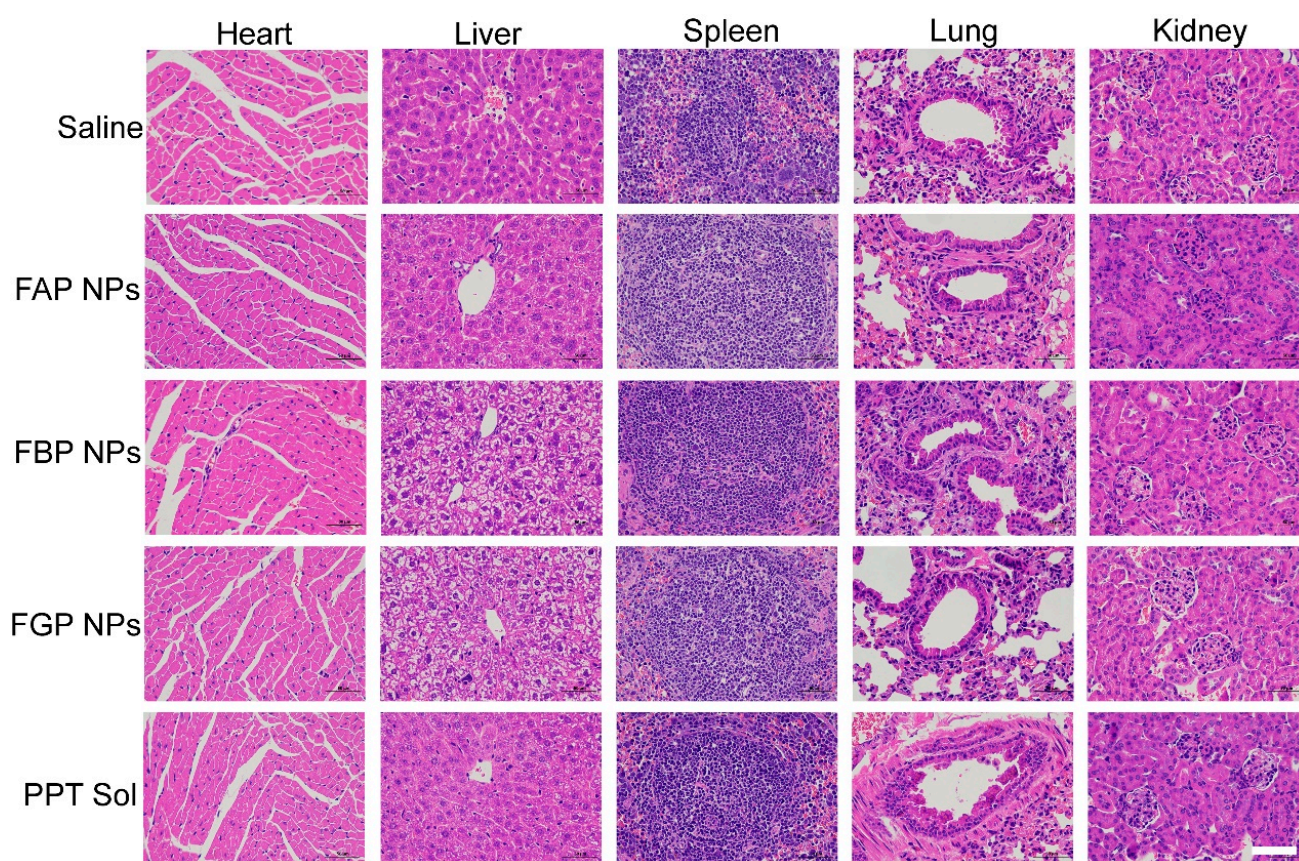




**Figure S8.** (A) Survivorship curve and (B) body weight changes following i.v. injection of prodrug NPs at PPT-equivalent dose in 30 mg/kg (n = 8).



**Figure S9.** Blood analysis of Liver and kidney function at 11 days post administration. (n=3) (A) ALT, (B) AST, (C) BUN and (D) CREA



**Figure S10.** H&E staining images of major organ sections after the treatment. (Scale bar = 50  $\mu$ m)

**Table S1.** Characterization of prodrug NPs.

Formulations	Size (nm)	PDI	Zeta potential (mV)	Drug loading (%)
FAP NPs	96.39±1.94	0.08±0.01	-31.0±0.8	43.8
FBP NPs	82.44±0.60	0.10±0.04	-30.4±0.6	42.2
FGP NPs	77.63±1.22	0.13±0.07	-31.9±2.4	40.8

**Table S2.** Cytotoxicity (IC<sub>50</sub> values, ng/mL) of PPT solution and prodrug NPs.

Formulations	4T1		3T3	
	48 h	72 h	48 h	72 h
FAP NPs	33.0	57.6	474.2	283.7
FBP NPs	>1000.0	611.0	>1000.0	>1000.0
FGP NPs	695.4	470.9	>1000.0	>1000.0
PPT Sol	3.9	3.6	94.5	20.4

**Table S3.** Pharmacokinetic parameters of PPT solution and prodrug NPs (n=6).

Formulations	Determined	AUC <sub>0-24 h</sub> (μmol/L*h)	t <sub>1/2</sub> (h)	MRT <sub>0-24 h</sub> (h)
PPT Sol	PPT	1.67±0.24	0.30±0.07	0.31±0.07
FAP NPs	FAP	5.02±0.37	1.56±2.49	0.12±0.01
	PPT	2.31±0.34	0.37±0.04	1.13±0.23
FBP NPs	FBP	3.99±0.62	0.69±0.77	0.17±0.06
	PPT	0.15±0.05	0.67±0.17	0.75±0.27
FGP NPs	FGP	5.55±1.63	0.82±0.18	0.37±0.04
	PPT	12.51±3.20	1.03±0.50	0.12±0.02