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In vivo sonodynamic activity of TPPS loaded polymeric nanoparticles

Greta Varchi,^a Roberto Canaparo,^b Giovanna Sotgiu,^a Marco Ballestri,^a Andrea Guerrini,^a Federica Foglietta,^b Stefano Fanti,^c Valentina Ambrosini,^c Gianfranco Cicoria,^c Loredana Serpe.^b

^aInstitute of Organic Synthesis and Photoreactivity – Italian National Research Council Via Gobetti, 101, 40129, Bologna, Italy; ^bDepartment of Drug Science and Technology, University of Torino, Via Pietro Giuria 13, 10125 Torino, Italy; ^cDepartment of Nuclear Medicine, University of Bologna, S. Orsola Hospital, Via Massarenti 9, 40138 Bologna, Italy.

Email of presenting author: greta.varchi@isof.cnr.it.

Although progress in basic research has led to the design of new generations of anticancer targeted drugs with some notable achievements further progress in cancer treatment may be accomplished through other existing, but still under-appreciated, therapeutic approaches.^{1,2} Among these, sonodynamic treatment takes advantage from the use of non-thermal ultrasound to activate chemical compounds known as sonosensitizers.³ The activated sonosensitizer agent is then able to kill cancer cells through the generation of highly reactive products, such as reactive oxygen species (ROS), through apoptotic and/or necrotic mechanism. The great advantage of this technique relies on its low systemic toxicity, the possibility of highly controlled non-invasive treatments/practices and the non-occurrence of drug resistance even after repeated treatment. Within this framework, we will present the use of biocompatible, polymeric core-shell nanoparticles (NPs) as multi-functionalized carriers of a properly selected sensitizer for *in vitro* and *in vivo* tumor treatment.⁴ In addition, PET and MRI *in vivo* bio-distribution data of our porphyrin loaded nanoparticles will be discussed.

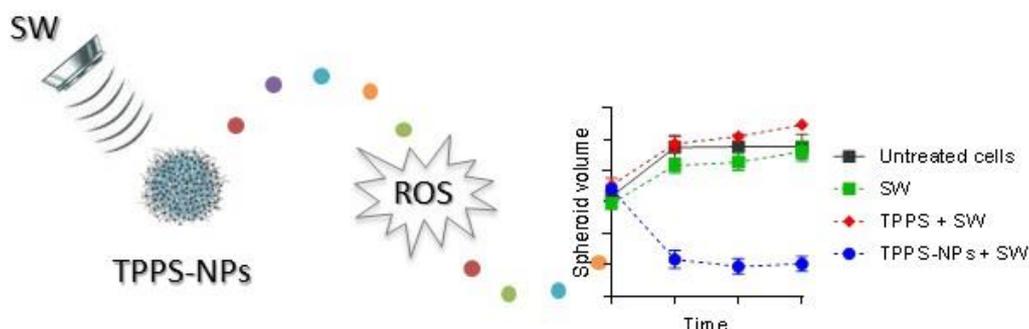


Figure 1. Schematic representation of the sonodynamic treatment mediated by TPPS-NPs and its effect on human neuroblastoma SH-SY5Y spheroids volume after different treatment conditions

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