

## Supporting Information

### **Bioevaluation of magnetic mesoporous silica rods: cytotoxicity, cell uptake and biodistribution in zebrafish and rodents.**

Jan Grzelak,<sup>a</sup> Mariana Teles,<sup>b</sup> Nerea Roher,<sup>b</sup> Alba Grayston,<sup>c</sup> Anna Rosell,<sup>c</sup> Martí Gich<sup>a\*</sup>, Anna Roig<sup>a\*</sup>

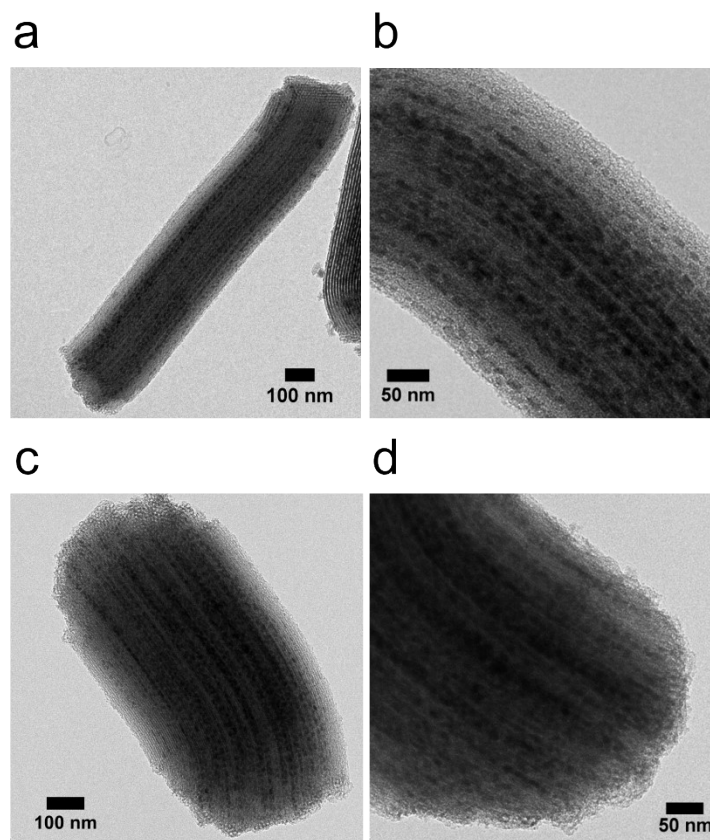
<sup>a</sup> *Institut de Ciència de Materials de Barcelona (ICMAB-CSIC).  
Campus UAB, 08193 Bellaterra, Catalonia, Spain.*

<sup>b</sup> *Institute of Biotechnology and Biomedicine (IBB), Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, 08193 Barcelona, Spain.*

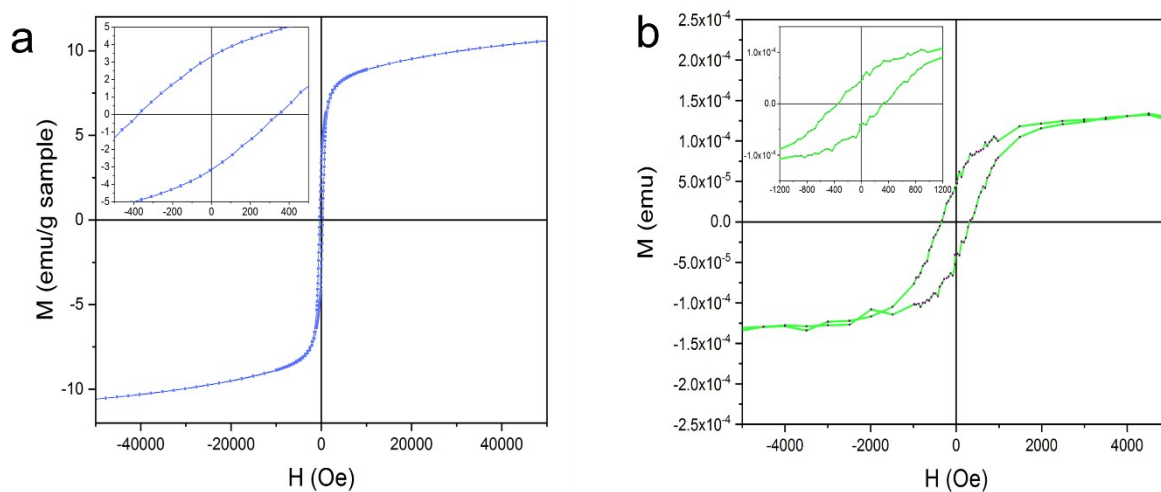
<sup>c</sup> *Neurovascular Research Laboratory Vall d'Hebron, Research Institute (VHIR), 08035, Barcelona, Catalonia, Spain.*

\* *corresponding authors: [anna.roig@csic.es](mailto:anna.roig@csic.es), [mgich@icmab.es](mailto:mgich@icmab.es)*

**Fig. S1.** TEM images of magnetic mesoporous silica rods. Long rods –  $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3@\text{LR}$  (a, b) and short rods –  $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3@\text{SR}$  (c, d).



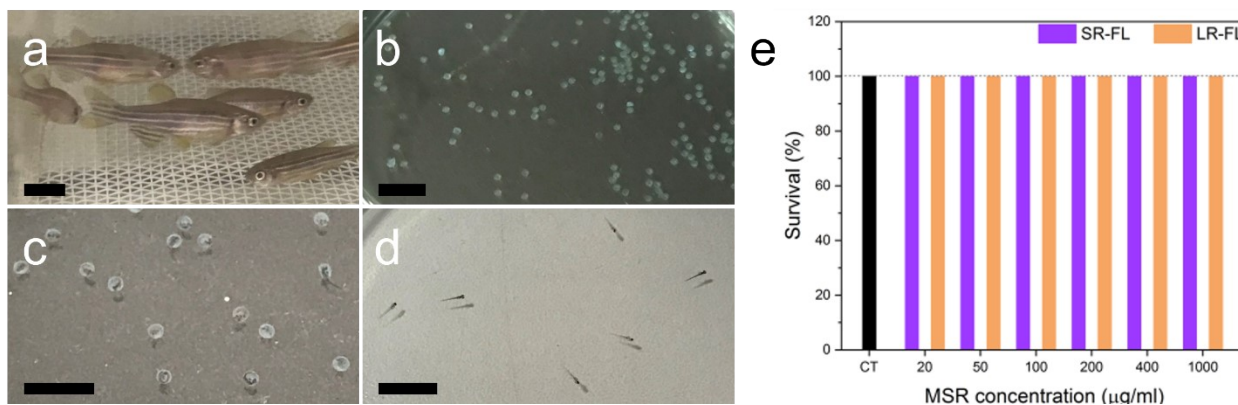
**Fig. S2.** Magnetic hysteresis loops measured at 10 K. a)  $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3@\text{SR}$ , b) pellet of ZFL cells incubated with  $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3@\text{SR}$  (100  $\mu\text{g}/\text{ml}$ ).



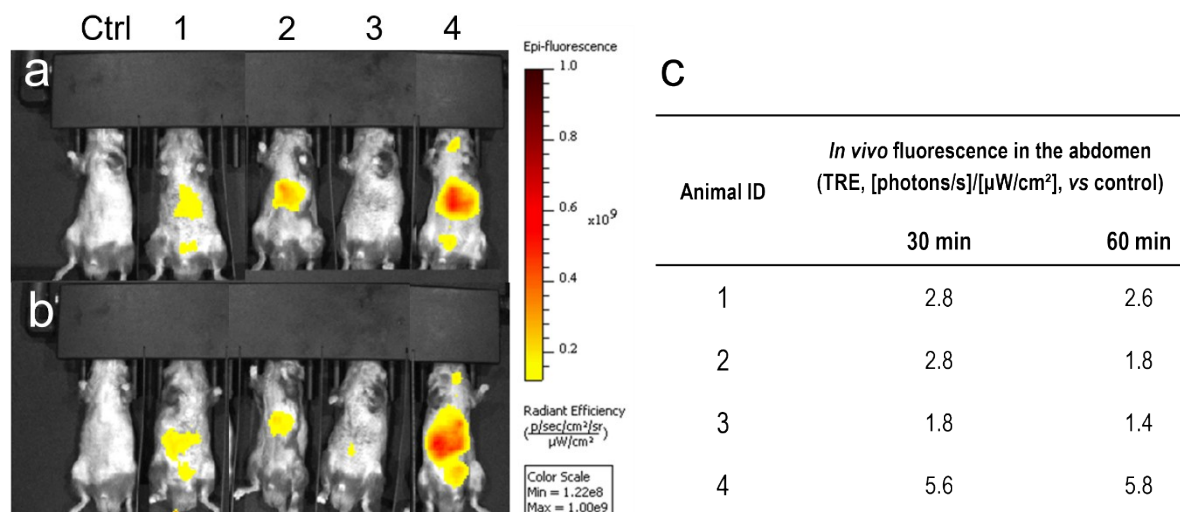
**Table S1.** Uptake of MSRs by ZFL cells studied by SQUID magnetometry. Mean values of the remanent magnetic moment at 10 K were measured for pellets of ZFL cells treated with different concentrations of  $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3@\text{SR}$  and  $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3@\text{SR-NH}_2$  (n=4).

MSR sample	[MSR] ( $\mu\text{g/ml}$ )	$m_r$ ( $10^{-6}$ emu)	$m_r/\text{cell}$ ( $10^{-11}$ emu/cell)	MSR uptake (pg/cell)
$\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3@\text{SR}$	20	$2.2 \pm 0.3$	$1.8 \pm 0.3$	$5 \pm 1$
	50	$24 \pm 4$	$19 \pm 3$	$58 \pm 9$
	100	$42 \pm 12$	$34 \pm 9$	$102 \pm 28$
$\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3@\text{SR-NH}_2$	20	$6 \pm 6$	$5 \pm 5$	$16 \pm 17$
	50	$13 \pm 4$	$11 \pm 3$	$35 \pm 11$
	100	$39 \pm 10$	$31 \pm 8$	$105 \pm 26$

**Fig. S3.** Zebrafish lifecycle. a) Zebrafish. b) Zebrafish eggs. c) Zebrafish eggs hatching. d) Zebrafish larvae. Scale bars: 1 cm. Zebrafish larvae survival after 96 h of exposure to fluorescamine-functionalized MSRs.



**Fig. S4.** *In vivo* fluorescence images of mice injected with  $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3@\text{SR-Cy5}$  at (a) 30 min, (b) 60 min, (c) *in vivo* fluorescence values measured in the abdomen at 30 min and 60 min post-injection.



**Fig. S5.**  $T_2$  relaxation time maps of the abdominal area of (a, b, c) animal 1 and (d, e, f) animal 2 recorded at various times:  $t = 0$  (pre-injection),  $t = 20$ -25 min and  $t = 60$  min post-injection of  $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3@\text{SR}$ .  $T_2$  values in the liver of the two studied rats, before and 60 min after MSR injection (g). Respiration and body temperature of the two studied rats were monitored after intravenous injection of  $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3@\text{SR}$  (h).

