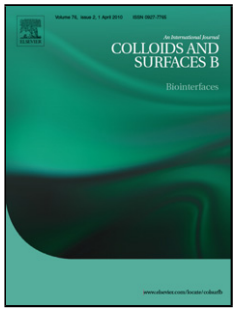

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Doxorubicin-loaded environmentally friendly carbon dots as a novel drug delivery system for nucleus targeted cancer therapy

Yifang Yuan[a, 1], Bin Guo[a, 1], Liying Hao[b], Na Liu[a], Yunfeng Lin[b], Wushuang Guo[b], Xiaoguang Li[a], Bin Gu[a, *]

[a] Institution of Stomatology, The General Hospital of China PLA, Beijing 100853, China

E-mail address: Yifang Yuan, yuanyf0331@sina.com; Bin Guo, guobin0408@126.com; Na Liu, liuna0206@163.com; Xiaoguang Li, xiaopa3084@126.com

[b] State Key Laboratory of Oral Diseases, National Clinical Research Center for Oral Diseases, West China Hospital of Stomatology, Sichuan University, Chengdu 610041, China

E-mail address: Liying Hao, haoliying2008163@163.com; Yunfeng Lin, yunfenglin@scu.edu.cn; Wushuang Guo, 477689315@qq.com

* Corresponding author at: Institution of Stomatology, The General Hospital of China PLA, Beijing 100853, China

E-mail address: gubmail@gmail.com

Address: No.28 Fuxing Road, Beijing, 100853, People's Republic of China

Tel: +86-10-66936879

[1] Author Contributions: As the co-first author, Yifang Yuan and Bin Guo contributed equally to this work.

Highlights

- Carbon dots (CDs) were fabricated by the green hydrothermolysis of milk
- The CDs were complexed with doxorubicin (DOX) with a view to targeted drug delivery
- The CD-DOX complexes displayed pH-dependent DOX release behavior
- Compared to free DOX, CD-DOX complexes were significantly more deadly to cancer cells
- Increased efficacy was based on localized drug release in the nuclei of cancer cells

Graphical

abstract