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**A novel pathway for high performance RO membrane:
preparing active layer with decreased thickness and enhanced
compactness by incorporating tannic acid into the support**

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Abstract

We report a novel pathway for preparing polyamide (PA) thin-film composite (TFC) reverse osmosis (RO) membrane with high permselectivity by incorporating tannic acid (TA) into the polysulfone (PSf) support. The support and RO membrane were characterized systematically. The results showed that (1) the support surface was enriched with TA due to the high hydrophilicity of TA and (2) TA endowed the RO membrane with a thinner and more compact PA active layer. The influencing mechanism of TA on the PA layer formation was discussed. TA affected the formation

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