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## Guanine-cytosine base-pairings crosslinked ROS-sensitive supramolecular hydrogels with improved rheological properties

Lin Liu<sup>a</sup>, Yueting Pei<sup>a</sup>, Yuandong Zhang<sup>a</sup>, Jinze Wang<sup>a</sup>, Li Chen<sup>a,\*</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Department of Chemistry, Northeast Normal University, Changchun 130024, P. R. China

### Abstract

In this work, we presented a kind of intelligent supramolecular hydrogels (SHGs) based on base-pairing interaction between guanine and cytosine, comprising  $\alpha$ -cyclodextrin, thioketals-modified guanine (G-TK-G) and cytosine-terminated PEG (C-PEG-C). The hydrogen bond of nucleic acid between G and C as an additional cross-linker effectively enhanced storage moduli ( $G'$ s) of the hydrogels. Notably, the obtained hydrogels exhibited excellent reactive oxygen species (ROS) responsive property due to the introduction of thioketals group. Under ROS-rich environment, the hydrogels could control the release of loaded-cargoes, outlining the potential of intelligent materials for biomedical application, such as smart drug delivery for anticancer.

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\* Corresponding author, Tel: +86 431 85099667; Fax: +86 431 85099668;

E-mail: [chenl686@nenu.edu.cn](mailto:chenl686@nenu.edu.cn)

**Keywords:** ROS-sensitive; Base pairs; Guanine-cytosine; Hydrogen-bond; hydrogel

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