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Macroporous Click-Elastin-Like Hydrogels for Tissue Engineering Applications.

Alicia Fernández-Colino, 1 * Frederic Wolf, 1 Hans Keijdener, 1 Stephan Rutten, 2 Thomas

Schmitz-Rode, ¹ Stefan Jockenhoevel, ¹ J. Carlos Rodríguez-Cabello, ³ Petra Mela. ¹*

¹Department of Biohybrid & Medical Textiles (BioTex) at AME-Institute of Applied Medical

Engineering, Helmholtz Institute & ITA-Institut für Textiltechnik, RWTH Aachen

University, Pauwelsstr. 20, 52074. Aachen, Germany.

²Electron Microscopy Facility, Uniklinik RWTH Aachen, Pauwelsstrasse, 30, D-52074

Aachen, Germany

³Bioforge Lab, University of Valladolid, CIBER-BBN, Paseo de Belen 11, 47011 Valladolid,

Spain.

* Corresponding Authors e-mail: fernandez@ame.rwth-aachen.de

mela@ame.rwth-aachen.de

ABSTRACT

Elastin is a key extracellular matrix (ECM) protein that imparts functional elasticity to tissues

and therefore an attractive candidate for bioengineering materials. Genetically engineered

elastin-like recombinamers (ELRs) maintain inherent properties of the natural elastin (e.g.

elastic behavior, bioactivity, low thrombogenicity, inverse temperature transition) while

featuring precisely controlled composition, the possibility for biofunctionalization and non-

animal origin. Recently the chemical modification of ELRs to enable their crosslinking via a

catalyst-free click chemistry reaction, has further widened their applicability for tissue

engineering. Despite these outstanding properties, the generation of macroporous click-ELR

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