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AMINOOXY REAGENTS IN NANOMEDICINE AND BIOANALYSIS

by

Stephanie Mattingly

A Dissertation
Submitted to the Faculty of the
College of Arts & Sciences of the University of Louisville
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University of Louisville
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AMINOOXY REAGENTS IN NANOMEDICINE AND BIOANALYSIS

by

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A Dissertation Approved on

December 2, 2014

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ABSTRACT

AMINOXY REAGENTS IN NANOMEDICINE AND BIOANALYSIS

Stephanie Mattingly

December 2, 2014

The development of nanomaterials as medical diagnostic and therapeutic agents is a rapidly expanding field. A brief search of the literature revealed that roughly half of all articles related to nanoparticle-based drug delivery were published after the onset of this thesis research, over the past 4 years. A few nano-based formulations have entered into clinical use, including liposomal drug formulations, protein-linked drugs, and nanoparticle-based MRI contrast agents. The chemistry that enables conjugation of a functional cargo, whether a drug, a targeting element, or a radionucleotide, to a nanocarrier is thus a critical component for development. Oximation is one of the simplest and most efficient chemical conjugation methods. It entails condensation of an aminoxy group with an aldehyde or ketone carbonyl yielding an oxime ether. The versatility of oximation is highlighted and exploited in this thesis.

Chapter 1 provides an overview of the application of iron oxide nanoparticles in medicine, and more specifically, to nanoparticles as delivery agents for the anticancer drug doxorubicin.

Chapter 2 describes an oximation methodology for cellular metabolite derivatization to enhance the detection of carbonyl analytes using mass spectrometry (MS). Integration of carbonyl-selective aminooxy functionality with a quaternary ammonium moiety for MS electrospray enhancement and a hydrophobic domain for sample cleanup led us to design reagent QDA (quaternary dodecyl aminooxy) and its $^{13}\text{CD}_3$ isotopologue $^*\text{QDA}$. Analysis of QDA/ $^*\text{QDA}$ -treated lung adenocarcinoma A549 cells established a profile of carbonyl metabolites spanning multiple structural classes showing capability for global carbonyl profiling.

In Chapter 4, hydroxylated cationic oxime ether lipids are described for coating core-shell $\text{Fe}_3\text{O}_4\text{-SiO}_2$ nanoparticles. Formulation of the nanoparticles produced lipid-coated, highly ζ -potential-positive assemblies: a new form of cationic magnetoliposomes (CML). The CMLs were evaluated as potential drug carriers by integrating into the bilayer a hydrophobically modified analog of doxorubicin. On treatment of MCF-7 breast cancer cells with the drug-loaded CMLs, the assemblies were rapidly internalized and exhibited higher toxicity than treatments with doxorubicin alone. In a separate assessment of the oxime ether lipids, complexation with nucleic acids to form cationic lipoplexes similarly showed high cellular uptake and marked them as viable candidates for siRNA delivery.

Chapter 5 provides all experimental procedures for the aforementioned science.

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 1.1. Representative oximation reaction	2
Figure 1.2. Comparative hydrolysis study.....	3
Figure 1.3. Comparison of alpha hydrogen pKa for ketone versus oxime ether.....	4
Figure 1.4. Representative quaternary aminooxy (QAO)	4
Figure 1.5. Agents for the derivatization of carbonyl compounds.	8
Figure 1.6. Crystal structure of Fe ₃ O ₄	12
Figure 1.7. Illustration of NP heating mechanisms.....	15
Figure 1.8. Doxorubicin hydrochloride	18
Figure 1.9. Dox covalently linked to superhigh-magnetization nanocarriers.....	19
Figure 1.10. Dox incorporated into hydrophobic NPs	21
Figure 1.11. Dox in a reducing-polymer/PEG-capped nanoassembly	21
Figure 1.12. TEM image of NPs on mesoporous silica spheres.	23
Figure 1.13. Microbubble with lipid embedded NPs	23
Figure 1.14. Nanochain-bound liposomes.....	24
Figure 2.1. Representative structure of derivatizing agent	28
Figure 2.2. Stacked 1H NMR spectra of alcohol 2.3 and QDA·Br in CDCl ₃	30
Figure 2.3. Comparison of adducts of QOA and QDA.....	31
Figure 2.4. Mass spectrum of a 1:1 mixture of QDA·I and *QDA·I	33

Figure 2.5. QDA bromide and *QDA iodide extraction of standards	34
Figure 2.6. Derivatization of carbonyl standards and A549 cell extract.....	37
Figure 2.7. Companion peaks reveal QDA adducts of carbonyl metabolites	40
Figure 2.8. Log-log plot of concentration vs ion count for four *QDA standards	42
Figure 2.9. Uniformly ^{13}C -labeled pyruvate spiked into cell extracts.....	43
Figure 2.10. Scatter plot of the ion counts of QDA- $^{13}\text{C}_3$ -pyruvate	44
Figure 3.1. Mössbauer spectrum of NPs prepared by coprecipitation	51
Figure 3.2. ζ -potential measurements of NPs under three work-up conditions.....	53
Figure 3.3. NP heating by AMF	54
Figure 3.4. Panel of variably hydroxylated ammonium salt	55
Figure 3.5. Representative TGA of variably hydroxylated ammonium salts	56
Figure 3.6. TGA results of bound panel members	57
Figure 3.7 QAOs with variable hydroxyl substituents.	59
Figure 3.8. ^1H NMR expansion of methylene region of QAO-2OH in D_2O	60
Figure 3.9. Cationic aminoxy-based oxime ether conjugates of FITC-CHO	61
Figure 3.10. Fluorescence release of three formulations of coated NPs	61
Figure 3.11. Doxorubicin hydrochloride and oxime ether conjugates	63
Figure 3.12. FTMS spectrum of Dox-2OH	63
Figure 3.13. UV-Vis detection of Dox analogs released by pulsed AMF.....	65
Figure 3.14. Toxicity of NP-Dox formulations in MCF-7 cells	67
Figure 3.15 QAO-2OH anthracene derivative	68
Figure 3.16. AMF-mediated release of anthracene derivative.....	69

Figure 3.17. Traditional xanthate preparation and ferric xanthate variant.	70
Figure 3.18. Strategies for incorporating organics onto sulfur-modified NPs.....	71
Figure 3.19. Elemental analysis of NPs formulations from Figure 3.18.....	72
Figure 3.20. TGA curves for select NPs from Figure 3.18	73
Figure 3.21. TGA of CS ₂ -modified NPs with variably hydroxylated ammonium salts.....	74
Figure 3.22. Proposed mechanism for oxidation of COS to CO ₂ on hematite.....	76
Figure 3.23. TGA of Fe ₃ S ₄ NPs or QAO-2OH anthracene-loaded particles.	77
Figure 4.1. Representative drug-coated CML of SNPs	82
Figure 4.2. Cationic oxime ether lipids	84
Figure 4.3. ¹ H NMR of oximyl protons for E and Z configurations.....	85
Figure 4.4. Nucleophilic addition of a secondary amine to C-3 of glycidol	86
Figure 4.5. Calculated exact mass of 4.6 and FTMS spectrum of the observed mass.....	86
Figure 4.6. Stacked ¹³ C NMR of Dox and Dox-AH showing hydrazone formation.....	88
Figure 4.7. Dynamic light scattering measurements of CML diameter	89
Figure 4.8. Zeta potential of SNP titrated with lipid	90
Figure 4.9. Diameter versus percent Dox-AH in a liposomal formulation.....	91
Figure 4.10. Cytotoxicity of CML treatments in MCF-7 cells	93
Figure 4.11. Bright-field and FL images of MCF-7 cells after CML treatment	94
Figure 4.12. First generation oxime ether lipids for gene transfection.....	96
Figure 4.13. Binding affinity by fluorescence anisotropy	97
Figure 4.14. Transfection efficiency of oxime ether lipids	98
Figure 4.15. Viability of MDA-MB-231 cells with liposome/RNA complexes	99

Figure 4.16. Silencing of GFP by lipoplexes with DS RNA	100
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LIST OF SCHEMES

Scheme 2.1. Preparation of QOA iodide.....	29
Scheme 2.2. Preparation of QDA bromide	29
Scheme 2.3. Synthesis of QDA and *QDA iodide.....	32
Scheme 3.1. Synthesis of FITC-CHO	58
Scheme 3.2. Synthesis of QAO-2OH	59
Scheme 4.1. Synthesis of hydroxylated lipids 1-3.....	84
Scheme 4.2: Preparation of Doxorubicin hexadecanyl acyl hydrazone, Dox-AH	87

TABLE OF CONTENTS

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	iii
ABSTRACT	iv
LIST OF FIGURES	vi
LIST OF SCHEMES	x
CHAPTER 1 AMINOXY REAGENTS IN NANOMEDICINE AND BIOANALYSIS	1
1.1. Aminooxy functionality and oximation	2
1.2. Quaternary ammonium salts	4
1.3. Derivatization reagents for mass spectrometry	6
1.4. Iron oxide nanoparticles in nanomedicine	9
1.5. Nanoparticle-mediated drug delivery	17
CHAPTER 2 AMINOXY REAGENTS FOR CHEMOSELECTIVE DERIVATIZATION OF CELLULAR EXTRACTS	26
2.1. Limitations of current derivatization methods	27
2.2. Reagent design	27
2.3. Results and discussion	28
2.4. Conclusions	45
CHAPTER 3 MAGNETIC NANOPARTICLES FOR AMF-MEDIATED DRUG DELIVERY	47
3.1. Externally triggered release of drugs by AMF	48
3.2. Results and discussion	49
3.3. Sulfur-modified NPs	68
CHAPTER 4 CATIONIC MAGNETOLIPOSOMES FOR DRUG DELIVERY	78
4.1. Composite NPs: silica on iron oxide	80
4.2. Cationic magnetoliposomes	81
4.3. Results and Discussion	82

4.4. Gene transfection studies	96
4.5. Conclusions	102
CHAPTER 5 EXPERIMENTAL PROCEDURES	104
5.1. General Procedures	105
5.2. Experimental Procedures for Chapter 2	107
5.3. Experimental Procedures for Chapter 3	122
5.4. Experimental Procedures for Chapter 4	152
REFERENCES	175
APPENDIX	186
A.1. NMR SPECTRA	187
A.2. ZETA-POTENTIAL MEASUREMENTS	253
A.3. EXCITATION-EMISSION SPECTRA	255
A.4. DYNAMIC LIGHT SCATTERING MEASUREMENTS	256
A.5. FLUORESCENCE AND BRIGHT-FIELD MICROSCOPE IMAGES	257
A.6. COPYRIGHT PERMISSIONS	260
A.7. LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS	262
CURRICULUM VITAE	264

CHAPTER 1

AMINOOXY REAGENTS IN NANOMEDICINE AND BIOANALYSIS

- 1.1. Aminooxy functionality and oximation
- 1.2. Quaternary ammonium salts
- 1.3. Derivatization reagents for mass spectrometry
- 1.4. Iron oxide nanoparticles in nanomedicine
 - 1.4.1. Nanoparticle preparation methods
 - 1.4.2. Crystal phase and magnetic properties
 - 1.4.3. Magnetic targeting and imaging
 - 1.4.4. Heating by alternating magnetic field
 - 1.4.5. Surface modifications
- 1.5. Nanoparticle-mediated drug delivery
 - 1.5.1. Doxorubicin
 - 1.5.2. Progress in nanoparticle-mediated doxorubicin delivery

1.1. Aminooxy functionality and oximation

Oximation, the condensation of an aminooxy moiety with an aldehyde or ketone (Figure 1.1), is one of a select few that meet the criteria for the term “click chemistry” established by K. Barry Sharpless.¹ Click chemistry reactions have high atom and reaction efficiency, innocuous byproducts, easy purification, and are insensitive to air and moisture. They take their cue from nature, forming covalent links between discrete molecules via carbon-heteroatom bonds. Oximation is a model click reaction in that it usually occurs spontaneously, at room temperature, in numerous solvents, requires no heat, and produces robust chemical bonds with water as its only byproduct. It is an elegant reaction that can link independently functionalized components thus enabling convergent synthesis, and because of its high chemoselectivity, it is suitable for a broad range of tethering reactions. The great versatility of oximation chemistry is reflected in this thesis — my investigations have applied aminooxy reagents to such diverse applications as metabolite derivatization, nanomaterial functionalization, drug delivery, and gene transfer.

Figure 1.1. Representative oximation reaction: an aminooxy condenses with an aldehyde or ketone to form an oxime ether.

The high stability of the products of oximation, oxime ethers, comes from the unique electronic structure of the functionality. In comparison to analogous functional

groups, hydrazones and acyl hydrazones, oxime ethers have much slower rates of hydrolysis. Jeet Kalia and Ronald Raines compared the rates of hydrolysis for these linkages and determined, as depicted in Figure 1.2, that oxime ether **1** had hydrolytic rates approximately 600 fold and 300 fold slower than hydrazones **2** and **3**, respectively. This effect is likely due to greater inductive electron donation from oxygen into the pi system as compared to nitrogen.²

Figure 1.2. Compounds examined in a comparative hydrolysis study² of oxime ethers, hydrazones, and acyl hydrazones

Whereas the carbonyl carbon of most functional groups is electropositive, in the case of the sp^2 carbon of oxime ethers, electron donation from the attached heteroatoms weakens the polarity of the bond. An indicator of this phenomenon can be found in comparisons of the alpha hydrogen pK_a 's for oxime ethers versus ketones. The acidity of alpha hydrogens is heavily influenced by the capacity of the adjacent pi system to delocalize electron density through resonance. It is thus an indirect indicator of the electrophilicity of the carbonyl carbon. James Ciula and Andrew Streitwieser have examined the alpha hydrogen pK_a 's for diphenylacetone and an oxime ether analog (Figure 1.3).³ A tenfold higher pK_a for the oxime ether species was reported; this is evidence of a dramatic reduction in electrophilicity for oxime ether carbonyl carbons.

Given that hydrolysis proceeds through nucleophilic attack of water on this carbon, the reduction in its electrophilicity can be understood to promote a high degree of stability for the linkage.

Figure 1.3. Comparison of alpha hydrogen pKa for ketone versus oxime ether

1.2. Quaternary ammonium salts

The major focus of this work is the synthesis and application of novel compounds that combine aminooxy functionality with quaternary ammonium moieties. Such quaternary aminooxys (QAOs), exemplified in Figure 1.4, are adapted both for oximation chemistry and the aqueous environment of biological applications.

Figure 1.4. Representative quaternary aminooxy (QAO)

Quaternary ammonium salts are a useful class of reagents. The four substituents of the quaternary nitrogen provide opportunity for functional variety. Depending upon the hydrophobicity of the attached substituents, amphiphilic species can be prepared with solubility in aqueous and organic solvents. For this reason, such amphiphiles are used commercially as phase transfer catalysts and surfactants. They are also relatively inexpensive, so their use in industry is more common than other phase transfer catalysts, such as phosphonium salts and crown ethers.⁴ Another variant of this type of amphiphile, dual-chain cationic lipids, are often used in gene delivery owing to their ability to condense DNA and transport it across cell membranes;⁵ this activity will be discussed in detail in Chapter 4.

The preparation of ammonium salts is generally straightforward. The protecting group chemistry for nitrogen is well established and the products of quaternization, being salts, can often be isolated by recrystallization, thereby avoiding more costly chromatographic purification.

The custom QAOs we describe in this work were utilized in several different applications. Chapter 2 details the way in which a QAO reagent was used to capture cellular aldehydes and ketones from biological samples, as well as the how the permanent positive charge of the quaternary nitrogen was exploited to maximize the signal intensity of the conjugated metabolites in mass spectral detection. In chapters 3 and 4, oximation allowed the linking of QAOs to fluorophores and drugs; in this case, the cationic ammonium group facilitated electrostatic attraction to negatively charged iron oxide and silica-coated nanoparticles. Finally, as disclosed at the end of chapter 4, cationic oxime

ether lipids with quaternary ammonium headgroups were studied for their gene transfer activity. In subsequent sections of this introductory chapter, I give the background for traditional carbonyl derivatization strategies for mass spectrometry (MS), and iron oxide nanoparticle functionalization for drug delivery.

1.3. Derivatization reagents for mass spectrometry

The analysis of cellular aldehydes and ketones is of considerable importance in the field of metabolomics since carbonyl species are pervasive intermediates of normal metabolism as well as common products of oxidative stress,⁶⁻⁷ which has been implicated in the pathogenesis of many diseases including cancer.⁸ The detection and identification of oxidized cellular species, in general, has become an important focus of research efforts in metabolomics where potential early markers of disease are sought.⁹⁻¹⁰ The identification of polar aldehyde and ketone metabolites from aqueous cell extracts is particularly challenging owing to their low-abundance, high reactivity, and the difficulties associated with their extraction from the cell matrix. Mass spectrometry (MS) has the sensitivity required for observing these low-abundant species, but due to insufficient mass accuracy and resolution, most MS methods are coupled with chromatography to distinguish analytes with similar m/z . Fourier-transform ion-cyclotron resonance MS (FT-ICR-MS), however, does not suffer these limitations and can provide unique molecular formulae of most metabolites. In addition, FT-ICR-MS can achieve simultaneous resolution of ^{13}C isotopologues and distinguish them from other elemental isotopologues (such as ^{15}N or ^2H).¹¹ However, direct infusion FT-ICR-MS is often compromised by

unstable sample introduction (e.g., electrospray) and low ion yields due to interference from cellular salts and/or interaction with matrix ions in aqueous biological extracts. Consequently, metabolite derivatization is a strategy that can be employed to overcome these challenges.

In the case of aldehyde and ketone metabolites, derivatization is commonly performed to facilitate liquid chromatography with optical or MS detection (LC–MS) or gas chromatography coupled to mass spectrometry (GC–MS). Such derivatization reagents either have distinct absorbances (for optical detection), preserve or increase volatility (GC), or have easily ionizable groups for MS detection, such as those exemplified in Figure 1.5.^{6, 12-17} These reagents react with carbonyls via their amine,¹² hydrazine,¹⁴ hydrazide,¹⁸⁻²⁰ or aminooxy²¹⁻²² moieties to form corresponding imine, hydrazone, acyl hydrazone, or oxime ether adducts, respectively. For example, dinitrophenylhydrazine (DNPH) reacts with aldehydes and ketones to form hydrazone derivatives that can be more readily detected due to characteristic UV absorbances.^{6, 14} Similarly, *O*-2,3,4,5,6-(pentafluorobenzyl)hydroxylamine (PFBHA) has been used to form stable, and readily ionizable oxime ether derivatives from aldehydes and ketones.²¹⁻²² The silylation of α,β -unsaturated ketones, using a catalyst to facilitate ketone to enol tautomerization and thus enol silylation, also has been performed to improve the GC-MS analysis of this compound class.²³ Some of these reagents also employ a permanent positive charge to enhance electrospray MS sensitivity.^{16-18, 20, 24-26} While still suitable for analysis by LC-MS, this approach precludes the use of GC since the resultant charged adducts have lower volatility. The added charge enhances MS sensitivity and, more importantly, enables

direct MS analysis under milder, non-ionizing conditions. For example, the hydrazide-based derivatization agent 4-hydrazino-4-oxobutyl-[tris(2,4,6-trimethoxyphenyl)-phosphonium bromide (TMPP-PrG) reacts with aldehydes and ketones and contains a quaternary phosphorous to impart a permanent positive charge on its adducts.²⁷ Additionally, Girard reagents,^{17, 26} such as Girard-P, also contain hydrazide functionality for reaction with carbonyl substrates and a quaternary ammonium moiety to enhance water solubility. Such reagents have been used to enhance detection in secondary ion MS (e.g. Xe^+),²⁶ LC-MS,²⁸ and electrospray ionization MS (ESI-MS).²⁹ More recently, an aminoxy-based reagent for carbonyl capture was developed by Yuan et al.³⁰ in which a biotinylated region of the reagent was used to separate conjugated carbonyls from other cellular species on streptavidin beads. In this case, release of the derivatized metabolites was achieved through activation of a photo-cleavable linker.

Figure 1.5. Agents for the derivatization of carbonyl compounds.

The disadvantages in these reported approaches include multistep procedures for metabolite derivatization, potentially damaging UV light exposure, and/or lengthy chromatographic separation of the resultant metabolite adducts. Chapter 2 will relate our strategy for using direct infusion FT-ICR-MS to analyze crude biological extracts using a QAO reagent. Like several of the reagents described above, the reagent we designed bears a permanent positive charge for ready conversion of carbonyl metabolites into stable, non-volatile, charged adducts. It was also designed for compatibility with aqueous medium. Where it departs from traditional reagents is in the addition of a hydrophobic domain optimized for partitioning of charged adducts into an organic solvent for enhanced electrospray stability. We apply this new cationic amphiphile to the global profiling of carbonyl metabolites directly from crude aqueous extracts of cancer cells.

1.4. Iron oxide nanoparticles in nanomedicine

The introduction of nanoparticles into clinical applications is at the cutting edge of medical science. The scale of nanoparticles, typically 10-100 nm, makes them perfectly suited for operating in biological systems. The standard tools of medicine inhabit vastly different size domains; molecular drugs are on the order of a nanometer, and a scalpel, at the other extreme, is roughly 50 million times larger. With the emergence of nanomedicine, there is another tool for medical science, one that is much closer to the micrometer scale of cells. Although the application of nanoparticles in clinical practice has been limited, it is a rapidly expanding field with a promising future.

Iron oxide, $\text{Fe}_3\text{O}_4/\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3$, nanoparticles (**NPs**) are a particularly attractive class of nanomaterial. They possess intrinsic magnetic properties that enable both diagnostic and therapeutic procedures, such as magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) through contrast enhancement,³¹ magnetic targeting,³² and thermotherapy through inductive heating using an alternating magnetic field.³³ Moreover, the attachment of targeting ligands³⁴ and drugs demonstrates their potential for achieving the ultimate goal of directed, minimal-dose chemotherapy. This versatility makes magnetic nanoparticles appealing candidates as multifunctional drug delivery systems.

1.4.1. Nanoparticle preparation methods

Iron oxide nanoparticles of Fe_3O_4 (magnetite) or $\gamma\text{-Fe}_2\text{O}_3$ (maghemite) can be prepared by a variety of methods.³⁵ Among the common chemical syntheses are coprecipitation, thermal decomposition and hydrothermal reactions. In coprecipitation, NPs form from an aqueous mixture of iron II and III chloride salts in the presence of base (Equation 1.1). The method was known as far back as 1852, but was not well studied until the work of René Massart in the 1980s.³⁶ It is the simplest technique as it is a wet chemistry approach that does not require special equipment. However, coprecipitation has a drawback in that the control of particle size and shape is somewhat limited, and NPs made in this way will have a wider size distribution than in more rigorous syntheses.³⁷ In thermal decomposition, NPs are formed from the decomposition and oxidation of organometallic precursors, such as iron acetylacetonate, at high temperature in organic solvents and in the presence of surfactants, typically fatty acids.³⁸ The NPs generated by this method are hydrophobic and must be modified to confer aqueous solubility.³⁹ In

hydrothermal reactions, NPs are generated using ferric nitrate under aqueous conditions at high temperatures and pressures.⁴⁰ A number of physical preparations of NPs are also known including gas-phase deposition, electron beam lithography and laser pyrolysis.⁴⁰ In perhaps the most inventive methodology, NPs can also be harvested from bacteria; termed the microbial method, Fe(III)-reducing bacteria incubated with a β -FeOOH precursor synthesize Fe_3O_4 NPs under anaerobic conditions.³⁵

Equation 1.1. Precipitation of iron salts to form Fe_3O_4 NPs

1.4.2. Crystal phase and magnetic properties

The magnetic iron oxides, Fe_3O_4 and $\gamma\text{-Fe}_2\text{O}_3$, both have inverted spinel crystal structure in which the metal ions are located in the tetrahedral and octahedral interstices of a tight packed face-centered-cubic oxygen lattice. In the case of Fe_3O_4 (Figure 1.6),⁴¹ Fe^{3+} occupies the tetrahedral coordination sites and Fe^{2+} and Fe^{3+} , in equal parts, occupy the octahedral sites. Below 851 K magnetite is ferrimagnetic; the different coordination sites have antiparallel alignment of magnetic moments, but electron hopping between the Fe^{2+} and Fe^{3+} ions in the octahedral sites produces a net magnetism.^{39, 42} $\gamma\text{-Fe}_2\text{O}_3$ differs from magnetite in that iron is present in only the +3 oxidation state. For maghemite, a somewhat weaker ferrimagnetism (60–80 emu/g compared to 92–96 emu/g for magnetite)⁴³ is still present due to an uneven distribution of the metal ions among the coordination sites, i.e. the presence of vacancies. The aligned magnetic

moments of iron ions in very small NPs combine to create a single large magnetic moment for each individual particle. These small NPs are said to exhibit superparamagnetism⁴⁴ where in the absence of a magnetic field thermal energy causes particle magnetic moments to orient randomly, thus creating a zero net magnetism. In the presence of a field, however, the magnetic moments of the particles align with the external field. This lack of remnant magnetism allows NPs to amass when a magnetic field is present, but redisperse into colloidal form when released from the field, making them ideal for biological applications.³⁹

Figure 1.6. Crystal structure of Fe_3O_4 : green balls (Fe^{2+}), brown balls (Fe^{3+}), white balls (O). Reprinted from Chem. Commun. (Cambridge, U. K.) 2011, 47, 5130-5141 with permission from the Royal Society of Chemistry.

1.4.3. Magnetic targeting and imaging

The magnetic properties of NPs enable magnetic targeting through external magnetic field application. In a survey of the literature, several *in vivo* targeting studies are reported.^{32, 45-46} Ma and coworkers, for example, injected alginate-coated NPs into a rat femoral artery and were able to demonstrate retention of the NPs at a target site by magnetic field application.⁴⁷ Similarly, Piscioti *et al.* showed accumulation of intravenously injected polyethylene glycol (PEG)-coated NPs in a mouse tumor where an external field was applied.⁴⁵ Although promising, magnetic targeting to this point has been applied only to superficial tumors; deep tissue targeting poses a challenge because the strength of a magnetic field rapidly weakens (r^{-3}) with distance from the source magnet.

NPs have also been applied in magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) where they provide negative contrast enhancement in NP-bearing tissues. The proton signal intensity in MRI in tissue is influenced by proximity to NPs. Both T_1 and T_2 relaxation processes are affected; however, because the NPs produce local field inhomogeneity, faster T_2 relaxation (decoherence of the transverse nuclear spins) dominates. Thus NPs are used in T_2 -weighted pulse sequences.³⁹ There are a few ferrofluids approved by the FDA for MRI use in humans including ferumoxsil and ferrumoxide, siloxane-coated and dextran-coated NPs, respectively. The biocompatibility of such formulations have been investigated. Radiotracer evidence suggests that clinically administered NPs are biodegraded and incorporated into erythrocyte heme iron⁴⁸ or bound to transferrin and

eliminated through defecation.³⁵ Although organic coatings, particularly polymers, can carry their own intrinsic toxicity, ferrofluids are generally regarded as biocompatible.³⁵

There is presently a thrust in nanomedicine toward theranostics, the practice of combining therapy and diagnostics. Along those lines, MRI contrast enhancement from NPs could be combined with other therapies enabled by the ferrofluid. One such therapy that has the potential to excel in this capacity is thermotherapy, as described below.

1.4.4. Heating by alternating magnetic field

In the presence of an alternating magnetic field, the magnetic properties of NPs cause heat to be generated in a process called induction heating. This can take place through a few different mechanisms depending upon the size of the particles as illustrated in Figure 1.7.⁴⁹ In the case of small superparamagnetic NPs (<20 nm diameter), Néel relaxation is the primary mechanism of heating. In this process the magnetic moment of a NP will reorient to align with the shifting external field direction, and resistance to this change in dipole orientation generates heat. For larger particles (>20 nm diameter), Brownian motion relaxation is the primary heating mechanism; the particle itself rotates to align its magnetic dipole with the external field, and the friction between the NP surface and the surrounding medium induces heating. The third mechanism of heating, hysteresis losses, similarly occurs in larger particles. Here, the particles are not superparamagnetic but instead are multi-domain particles where regions of the NPs have net magnetic moments oriented randomly with respect to one another. Hysteresis

heating is a consequence of the growth of the domain best aligned with the magnetic field at the expense of neighboring domains.

Figure 1.7. Illustration of NP heating mechanisms: (a) Néel relaxation; (b) Brownian motion relaxation; (c) Hysteresis losses

Although this discussion has focused on the mechanisms of NP heating, it is important to note that the increase in temperature of the bulk solution of a ferrofluid is not necessarily indicative of the local environment at the NP surface. There is considerable evidence to suggest that the energy transfer from AMF-induced NPs to attached ligands/polymers has exaggerated effects at the particle interface.⁵⁰ Riedinger *et al.*, for example, used a thermally sensitive azo molecule to probe NP surface temperature at subnanometer distances and found that a local temperature increase up to 44 °C during one hour of AMF exposure (17 mT, 334.5 kHz) could be found within 0.5 nm of the NP surface.⁵¹

The heat-generating ability of NPs exposed to AMF is used clinically in magnetic fluid hyperthermia where ferrofluids are injected into tumor sites and heated by AMF induction. The tumor tissue is heated to between 40 and 45 °C to achieve hyperthermia, as heating above 45 °C, termed thermoablation, causes tissue necrosis.⁵² Surrounding tissues, absent NPs, are unharmed by a well-directed oscillating field. Hyperthermic temperatures can contribute directly to tumor regression, but they also boost the efficacy of traditional therapies (chemotherapy, radiation) through a process of tumor sensitization.⁵³ The established use of hyperthermia therapy has led to the development of instrumentation designed for AMF administration in humans. MagForce Nanotechnologies (AG, Berlin), for example, manufactures units for AMF application to human patients. AMF is also used in NP applications as an external trigger for the release of bound substrates (drugs/fluorophores), as will be discussed shortly.

1.4.5. Surface modifications

Surface coating of NPs is typically employed to improve their aqueous solubility, prevent aggregation, and neutralize surface reactivity. There are several classes of coating agents; iron chelators are common, including catechols^{43, 54} and carboxylates, both single molecule (oleic acid,⁵⁵ citrate⁵⁶) and polymeric species (alginate,³² carboxymethyl dextran⁵⁷). These species bind to the iron at the surface of the NP. Hydrogen bond donors for NP surface oxyanions/hydroxyls are frequently used as well, including polymeric amines (polyethylenimine⁵⁸), alcohols (polysaccharides,⁵⁹ polyvinyl alcohol⁵⁸), and ethers (polyethylene glycol).⁶⁰ Creating composite core-shell

nanostructures with inorganic material surrounding iron oxide cores is also frequently employed, as these shells can contribute additional functionality to the NPs. Gold-coated NPs,⁶¹ for example, can be imaged by surface plasmon resonance. Silica coating of iron oxide is also common and will be discussed in detail in Chapter 4.

1.5. Nanoparticle-mediated drug delivery

To date, the clinical use of NPs has largely been confined to imaging and hyperthermia therapy, but the greater potential for NPs in nanomedicine is in multimodal therapies that augment the techniques enabled by NP magnetism with attachment of functional molecules, like pharmaceutical agents or targeting ligands. Perfecting the technology of functionalized NPs carries big implications for human health. The following excerpt⁶² from Amy Pope-Harman concerns progress in the field of cancer treatment and sums up the challenges and the motivations for nanotechnology in medicine quite poignantly.

Clinical medicine has seen tremendous improvements in the past several decades. Despite the progress . . . patients still are called on to endure toxic and uncomfortable whole-body chemotherapy and other treatments with the hope that their cancers will succumb. There is expectation, however, that all of this will change radically with the use of nanotechnology . . . allowing improvements in mortality and prevention of suffering from cancer and other devastating diseases . . . By working on a nanometer, molecular scale, there is the potential to simultaneously assess and intervene, with accuracy in space and time, which is an ability that has never before been available.

In subsequent sections of this chapter, I will outline some of the recent innovations in adapting NPs to function as drug carriers. Specifically, this overview will focus on the NP-mediated delivery of the anticancer agent doxorubicin.

1.5.1. Doxorubicin

Doxorubicin (Dox, Figure 1.8), is an anthracycline antibiotic known for its potent activity against a broad spectrum of cancers.⁶³ Several modes of action for Dox have been detailed in the literature including DNA intercalation, helicase inhibition, free radical generation, and topoisomerase II interaction leading to apoptosis.⁶⁴ In the case of MCF-7, the breast cancer cell line used in the *in vitro* studies described in Chapters 3 and 4, the antiproliferative action of Dox may be related to interference with DNA unwinding.⁶⁵ In the absence of a NP carrier, targeting agent, or liposomal formulation, Dox has nonspecific toxicity and is known to damage kidney tissue and bone marrow, but its most troubling side-effect is cardiotoxicity.⁶⁶⁻⁶⁸

Figure 1.8. Doxorubicin hydrochloride

1.5.2. Progress in nanoparticle-mediated doxorubicin delivery

Dox is frequently the model drug of choice for demonstrating targeted delivery using NP platforms. Such platforms have incorporated Dox in a variety of ways using different methods of attachment. Covalent attachment is a strategy that is occasionally used offering the benefit of good retention of Dox on the particle. The drawback of covalent linkage is that release of the drug often requires cleavage of covalent bonds in the absence of an activator. For example, Hua and coworkers formed an amide linkage between Dox and an activated carboxylic acid at the surface of acidic polymer-coated NPs to demonstrate MRI contrast enhancement and magnetic retention in a mouse hypodermic tumor (Figure 1.9).⁶⁹ Similarly, Li *et al.*⁷⁰ used silica-coated iron oxide NPs to covalently bind Dox via a urea linkage that tethered the Dox amine to an isocyanate group on the silane monomer used for constructing the silica shell.

Figure 1.9. Dox covalently linked to superhigh-magnetization nanocarriers (SHMNCs). Adapted from Biomaterials 2011, 32 (34), 8999-9010 with permission from Elsevier.

Tumor sites are known to be more acidic than healthy tissue,⁷¹ and for this reason pH-triggered release is sometimes planned into the design for NPs with covalently bound Dox. In this vein, a few investigators have covalently attached Dox to NPs via acid-cleavable hydrazone bonds formed from hydrazine/hydrazide-functionalized NPs reacting with the Dox C-13 carbonyl.⁷²⁻⁷⁴ Patra and coinvestigators, for example, used hydrazide functionalized poly(styrene)-*b*-poly(acrylic acid) block copolymer to bind Dox on folate-conjugated NPs for targeted delivery to breast and colon cancer cells.⁷³ In an alternate approach, that likewise used a pH-based cleavage strategy, Gautier and coauthors installed an Fe²⁺ ion bridging the oxygens of the Dox quinone system in order to bind Dox directly to NPs.⁷⁵ PEG chains were added to stabilize the linkage and release profiles showed a pH dependence, as protons gradually displaced Fe²⁺ and freed the Dox from the NP surface. This formulation was found to be effective against MCF-7 cells.

Hydrophobic interactions have also been used as a means to reversibly attach Dox to NPs. Jain *et al.*⁵⁵ incorporated free base Dox, prepared by bubbling gaseous ammonia into an organic suspension of Dox HCl,⁷⁶ into the hydrophobic shell of oleic acid coated iron oxide NPs. A capping polymer, Pluronic (similar to PEG), was then added to retain the Dox and confer aqueous solubility to the complex. Drug release was achieved slowly over several hours by passive diffusion (Figure 1.10). Chen and coworkers similarly utilized hydrophobic interactions to entrap Dox into the hydrophobic interior of a NP-containing micelle.⁷⁷ Figure 1.11 illustrates this novel formulation in which a reduction sensitive copolymer generates the layered nanostructure pictured. Release of Dox was designed to be mediated by the reducing environment of circulation and cytoplasm. *In vitro* real-

time fluorescent monitoring and *in vivo* tumor growth studies were used to demonstrate the efficacy of the formulation.

Figure 1.10. Left: charge neutral Dox (red dots) incorporated into an oleic acid hydrophobic layer surrounding a NP; right: confocal laser scanning microscopic images of MCF-7 cells incubated for 2, 24, and 48 h with the Dox-NPs. Adapted from Molecular pharmaceuticals 2005, 2 (3), 194-205 with permission from American Chemical Society. Copyright (2005) American Chemical Society.

Figure 1.11. Hydrophobic oleic acid nanoparticles coinorporated with Dox into a reducing-polymer/PEG-capped nanoassembly. Adapted from Biomaterials 2014, 35 (4), 1240-1248 with from permission from Elsevier.

Noncovalent interactions such as electrostatic interactions and hydrogen bonding are likewise frequently used for Dox conjugation to NPs. For example, Lübke and coworkers in a phase I clinical trial, exploited noncovalent interactions by chemisorbing a Dox analog, epirubicin, to anhydroglucose polymer coated NPs.⁷⁸ The magnetic targeting ability of the drug-loaded NPs were tested *in vivo* in 14 patients with solid tumors, and targeting was found to be successful in half of the patients. In another noncovalent approach from Lee and coauthors,⁷⁹ mesoporous silica particles were loaded with Dox, then magnetite nanocrystals and PEG chains were attached at the silica surface (Figure 1.12). Dox was administered in this formulation to a mouse tumor model where accumulation of the particles in tumor tissue as well as cell death were observed. Li *et al.*⁸⁰ used amphiphilic gelatin to incorporate NPs and to electrostatically bind Dox to the carboxylated surface of the gelatin. Calcium phosphate was then used as a capping agent to facilitate acidic pH-mediated degradation of the complex. An *in vitro* study with HeLa cells verified the release of Dox by confocal laser scanning microscopy. Finally, Fan and colleagues used a lipid to electrostatically bind Dox in a novel construct illustrated in Figure 1.13.⁸¹ Here, gas bubbles of perfluoropropane were prepared in a lipid sphere that contained embedded NPs in addition to the adsorbed Dox. Next, focused ultrasound was used to rupture the bubbles and simultaneously generating blood-brain barrier openings in an *in vivo* study with a rat glioma model. The microbubbles were targeted with an external magnet and tracked by MRI.

Figure 1.12. TEM image of NP loaded onto the surface of mesoporous silica spheres. Adapted with permission from J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2010, 132 (2), 552-557. Copyright (2010) American Chemical Society.

Figure 1.13. Microbubble with lipid embedded NPs (labeled SPIO-C4) Adapted from Biomaterials 2013, 34 (14), 3706-3715 with permission from Elsevier.

AMF application has also been applied to NPs to effect Dox release, most often in the context of heat-sensitive polymers or gels. For example, Brulé *et al.*⁸² incorporated NPs and Dox into alginate gel beads and used AMF to induce Dox diffusion from the heated gel. They observed no leakage of Dox at 4 °C, moderate release at 37 °C, and significant release from AMF heating at 53 °C. Peiris and coworkers used the mechanical effect of AMF application, rather than heat generation, to trigger release of Dox from liposomes.⁸³ In this creative approach, a string of NPs were tethered by crosslinking chains to a liposome containing encapsulated Dox (Figure 1.14). The authors were able to demonstrate superior tumor distribution of Dox in an *in vivo* model by the AMF-activated nanochains as compared to Dox liposomes alone.

Figure 1.14. Depiction of AMF-triggered release of Dox from nanochain-bound liposome. Adapted with permission from ACS Nano 2012, 6 (5), 4157-4168. Copyright (2012) American Chemical Society.

The above reports reflect the most recent advances in nanocarrier-mediated delivery of doxorubicin. Several of these innovations were reported after the onset of

our own investigations and informed the evolution of our strategies. In Chapters 3 and 4 of this thesis, I will present our contributions to this emergent field of nanotherapy.

CHAPTER 2

AMINOOXY REAGENTS FOR CHEMOSELECTIVE DERIVATIZATION OF CELLULAR EXTRACTS

2.1. Limitations of current derivatization methods

2.2. Reagent design

2.3. Results and discussion

2.3.1. Chain length variations

2.3.2. Extraction solvent determination

2.3.3. Stable isotope labeled analog

2.3.4. Counterion effects

2.3.5. Cell extract derivatization and analysis

2.3.6. Metabolite identification

2.3.7. Quantification of pyruvate

2.4. Conclusions

2.1. Limitations of current derivatization methods

Chapter 1 introduced derivatization as a technique for improving the detection by mass spectrometry (MS) of volatile, charge-neutral, or low molecular weight metabolites. The shortcomings of traditional ketone/aldehyde derivatization reagents highlighted earlier included the requirements of harsh reaction conditions (acidic pH and/or high temperature), and chromatographic separation of derivatives prior to MS detection. We, along with our collaborators, Dr. Teresa Fan, Dr. Richard Higashi, and Mr. Tao Xu, set out to design a derivatization reagent and accompanying methodology that would overcome the drawbacks of the more common approaches to enable an aqueous phase, low-temp conjugation to carbonyl metabolites. We aimed for a minimal processing method suitable for analysis of crude biological extracts using direct infusion Fourier-transform ion-cyclotron resonance mass spectrometry (FT-ICR-MS).

2.2. Reagent design

There were four key components of our reagent design. We saw in the mild and aqueous-friendly reaction conditions of oximation chemistry an opportunity for facile derivatization of carbonyl metabolites in cell extracts. The formation of oxime ether bonds from an aminooxy reagent to a bioanalyte carbonyl would stabilize the resultant adduct (recall from Chapter 1 the comparison of α -proton acidity for 1,3 diphenyl acetone, $pK_a \approx 18$, versus its corresponding methyl oxime ether, $pK_a \approx 28$).³ The second critical feature of the reagent was the incorporation of a permanent positive charge to maximize MS sensitivity, increase the aqueous solubility of the probe, and generate

nonvolatile adducts. For this purpose, a quaternary ammonium cation seemed ideal. Third, to overcome the interference of cellular salts and cell matrix ions in the establishment of a stable electrospray, we sought a reagent that, when conjugated to an analyte, could be extracted into an organic solvent. Lastly, we desired a reagent that could easily be labeled with a stable isotope both for the purpose of verification of adducts as carbonyl derivatives, as well as for quantitative MS analysis.

Figure 2.1 is a representative structure of our initial design. Present are an aminoxy moiety for chemoselective carbonyl capture, a cationic ammonium headgroup for MS sensitivity, an aliphatic tail to facilitate organic phase partition, and methyl groups for stable-isotope labeling through quaternization with commercially available and inexpensive iodomethane.

Figure 2.1. Representative structure of derivatizing agent

2.3. Results and discussion

2.3.1. Chain length variations

To examine the effect of aliphatic chain length on the efficiency of metabolite extraction, dodecyl and octyl versions of the reagent were prepared as depicted in Schemes 2.1 and 2.2 with designations **QOA** (quaternary octyl aminoxy) and **QDA** (quaternary dodecyl aminoxy). These preliminary syntheses were three step reactions beginning with quaternization of a tertiary amine with an alkyl halide of the desired chain

length. A modified Mitsunobu reaction⁸⁴ generated the phthalimide-capped alcohol, and, in the final step, hydrazinolysis of the phthalimide revealed the aminooxy functionality.

Scheme 2.1. Preparation of QOA iodide. Reagents and conditions: (a) 1-iodooctane (1.1 eq), acetone, reflux, 15h, 92% (b) *N*-hydroxyphthalimide (1.1 eq), PPh₃ (1.1 eq), DIAD (1.1 eq), THF, 0 °C-rt, 12h, 87% (c) N₂H₄ · H₂O (5 eq), CH₂Cl₂, rt, 2 h, 92%

Scheme 2.2. Preparation of QDA bromide. Reagents and conditions: (a) 1-bromododecane (1.1 eq), acetone, reflux, 10h, 49% (b) *N*-hydroxyphthalimide (1.1 eq), PPh₃ (1.1 eq), DIAD (1.1 eq), THF:CH₂Cl₂ 2.5:1, 0 °C-rt, 15h, 82% (c) N₂H₄·H₂O (4 eq), anhyd. EtOH, 50 °C, 5 h, 90%

Figure 2.2 shows ¹H NMR stacked plots of the alcohol precursor 2.3 (Scheme 2.2) and QDA·Br that highlight the disappearance of the hydroxyl proton (t, δ 4.99) as well as downfield shifts in the methylene protons of the aminooxy arm of QDA·Br. Product formation was also confirmed by high resolution mass spectrometry.

Figure 2.2. Stacked ^1H NMR spectra of alcohol 2.3 and QDA·Br in CDCl_3

2.3.2. Extraction solvent determination

To compare the two analogs, QOA and QDA, and to determine the best solvent for extraction of adducts into an organic phase, each analog was reacted with a mixture of ketone and aldehyde standards (pyruvate, α -ketoglutarate, α -ketobutyrate, and glucose¹) in ammonium acetate buffer and subjected to extraction with one of three solvents: chloroform, ethyl acetate, or *n*-butanol. The ion intensities of the resultant conjugates, normalized to a standard of known concentration, were used to compare carbonyl capture efficiency between the two reagents (Figure 2.3). In both cases, *n*-

¹ In the case of glucose, the aldehyde of the open-chain isomer is reactive with the reagent.

butanol was the most efficient extraction solvent. In addition, QDA, the dodecyl reagent, proved superior at partitioning the standards into the organic phase as compared to the octyl version.

Figure 2.3. Comparison of normalized ion counts for adducts of QOA (*upper*) and QDA (*lower*) with standards pyruvate (Pyr), α -ketoglutarate (α -Kg), α -ketobutyrate (α -Kb), and glucose (Glc)

2.3.3. Stable isotope labeled analog

To prepare a stable isotope labeled version of QDA, we redesigned the original synthesis to allow for quaternization with a doubly labeled iodomethane, $^{13}\text{CD}_3\text{I}$ (Scheme 2.3) and designated this analog ***QDA**. As the QDA previously synthesized (Scheme 2.2) had a bromide counterion, we prepared both unlabeled QDA iodide and ***QDA** iodide by this new route so that direct comparisons of the salts could be made. The successful incorporation of the label is apparent in Figure 2.4 in a mass spectrum of a mixture of the two salts showing a mass difference corresponding to $1\ ^{13}\text{C} + 3\ ^2\text{H}$.

Scheme 2.3. Reagents and conditions: (a) 1-bromododecane (1.0 eq), anhydrous Na_2CO_3 (1.0 eq), EtOH, reflux, 20 h; 70%; (b) *N*-hydroxyphthalimide (1.1 eq), PPh_3 (1.1 eq), DIAD (1.1 eq), THF, rt, 12 h; 98%; (c) CH_3I or $^{13}\text{CD}_3\text{I}$ (2.5 eq), CH_2Cl_2 , 50 °C, 12 h; (d) $\text{N}_2\text{H}_4\cdot\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (5.0 eq), anhydrous ethanol, rt (for QDA) or 50 °C (for ***QDA**), 12 h; 65-75% (2 steps).

Figure 2.4. Mass spectrum of a 1:1 mixture of QDA·I and *QDA·I

2.3.4 Counterion effects

With analogs QDA bromide and *QDA iodide in hand, we examined the effect of the differing counterions by comparing MS signal intensity for derivatized mixtures of standards conjugated to each analog. Equal volume aliquots of the standards mixture described above were combined with solutions containing excess QDA bromide or *QDA iodide. The results, represented in Figure 2.5, indicated a slight advantage for the iodo salt adducts, presumably through better partition of the larger ion pair into the organic layer during extraction.

Figure 2.5. Comparison of QDA bromide and *QDA iodide salts on extraction of standards (single sample).

The efficiency of the partitioning process was also examined; we repeatedly extracted the same standard adducts from buffer into *n*-butanol five times. The comparison of normalized ion counts suggested that the majority of the adducts (*ca.* >98%) were recovered within the first two extractions (Table 2.1). Therefore, in subsequent cellular extract studies we performed three solvent partitions of the derivatized extracts to ensure high adduct recovery.

Extraction	QDA-Pyruvate	QDA- α -Ketoglutarate	QDA- α -Ketobutyrate	QDA-Glucose
1	0.833	0.865	0.802	0.989
2	0.155	0.118	0.196	0.011
3	0.002	0.016	0.001	0.000
4	0.009	0.000	0.000	0.000
5	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Aqueous Layer (post extraction)	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000

Table 2.1. Fraction of total QDA-standard adducts partitioned per extraction into *n*-butanol from 5 mM, pH 6 ammonium acetate buffer based on normalized ion count.

2.3.5. Cell extract derivatization and analysis

The partitioning of the constituents of lysed cells into a polar acetonitrile/water layer and a nonpolar chloroform layer is a common technique used for metabolite collection. Freeze-drying of the aqueous phase produces a cell extract that can be stored frozen and reconstituted when desired for analysis. These salty extracts are difficult to analyze by MS using traditional means; their high salt content can destabilize the electrospray, the size of the metabolites may fall below the more sensitive range of the MS ($>150\ m/z$), and the ubiquity of anionic functionality (carboxylates, phosphates) often precludes detection by the more sensitive positive mode. As our custom reagent was designed to address these challenges, we set out to test its efficacy using the aqueous extracts of human lung adenocarcinoma A549 cells.

In a typical derivatization experiment, an aqueous solution of QDA was combined with a buffered solution of aqueous cell extract (pH 6 NH_4OAc buffer). Mildly acidic pH facilitates oximation as loss of water is rate determining under such conditions.⁸⁵ The mixture was then vortexed, sonicated, and placed in a 40 °C dry bath for 23 hours. This

reaction time was chosen because increased ion counts were observed at up to 23h of reaction time in 63% of the metabolites assigned, even though 85% of all assigned metabolites were observable after 30 minute of reaction time. In the case of reducing sugars, for example, the rate of ring opening will dictate the availability of the reactive aldehyde. Following reaction, the aqueous mixture was extracted with *n*-butanol three times, and dried by vacuum centrifugation. The resultant residue was dissolved in methanol with 0.1% v/v formic acid and analyzed by FT-ICR-MS as a 1:1 mixture with an external standard. Figure 2.6A and B show representative FT-ICR-MS spectra from such experiments. Figure 2.6A represents a control condition, *QDA with a standards mixture; here, the adducts with the four standards are distinct. Figure 2.6B reflects QDA-derivatized A549 cell extracts, where the QDA adducts of endogenous pyruvate, α -ketobutyrate, α -ketoglutarate, and glucose are readily observed, along with several other adducts. From the exact masses, the molecular formulae of additional observed adducts were assigned (see figure caption).

Figure 2.6. Derivatization of carbonyl standards and A549 cell extract. a) FT-ICR-MS spectrum of *QDA adducts of four carbonyl standards after partitioning from ammonium acetate buffer into *n*-butanol: a' = pyruvate, b' = α -ketobutyrate, f' = α -ketoglutarate, k' = glucose. b) FT-ICR-MS spectrum of QDA-derivatized A549 cell extract: a = pyruvate, b = α -ketobutyrate, c = $C_7H_{14}O$, d = $C_8H_{16}O$, e = $C_6H_{10}O_3$, f = α -ketoglutarate, g = $C_5H_{10}O_5$, h = $C_{10}H_{20}O$, i = $C_{11}H_{22}O$, j = $C_9H_{16}O_3$, k = glucose

N-butanol was selected as an appropriate extraction solvent both for its high polarity and for the reportedly low partition of salts such as NaCl and KCl into the solvent (0.02-0.1 wt % at 25 °C).⁸⁶ In fact, the partitioning of QDA adducts into *n*-butanol did appear to minimize the contribution of non-volatile salts in the final assay solution as confirmed by our finding that the sodiated peaks of the adducts of spiked carbonyl standards extracted from A549 cell extract represented, on average, only 0.1% of the total ion count ($H^+ + Na^+$) for a given adduct.

2.3.6. Metabolite identification

As mentioned above, the value of the labeled analog, *QDA, is two-fold: first, derivatization using *QDA helps verify whether species observed in positive mode FT-ICR-MS are genuine carbonyl adducts of QDA as opposed to other *n*-butanol-soluble cellular metabolites. “Sister signals” will be apparent in the case of a genuine adduct as a given pair of adducts represents a carbonyl metabolite that has reacted with both derivatizing agents.^{29, 87} Second, isotopic labeling enables quantitative analysis of carbonyl metabolites in cell extracts, as will be demonstrated shortly for pyruvate, the product of glycolysis and the entry metabolite of the Krebs cycle.

Figure 2.7 illustrates how *QDA made possible the global visualization of carbonyl metabolites in a crude A549 cell extract. QDA and *QDA were added in equal amounts to an aqueous cell extract and carbonyl adducts were extracted as described above. This resulted in many pairs of adduct signals with comparable ion counts separated by 4.02188 *m/z* ($1x^{13}C + 3x^2H$). Example QDA and *QDA adduct pairs are delineated in Figure 2.7,

where the full FT-ICR-MS spectrum (top inset) along with an expanded spectral region (bottom main panel) are shown. This spectrum was further processed to assign many likely carbonyl metabolites based on the derived molecular formulae of adducts matched against a custom database that compiles the molecular formulae of many known carbonyl metabolites. The adducts identified include α -keto acids of the Krebs cycle (oxaloacetate and α -ketoglutarate), carbohydrates (erythrose), lipid peroxidation products (eicosanal), serotonin metabolites (hydroxykynurenamine), nucleotide metabolites (deoxyribose), co-factors (pyridoxal-5-phosphate), and metabolites of glycolysis (pyruvate) and the pentose phosphate pathway (sedoheptulose). Table 2.2 is an abridged list of the QDA adducts assigned. Since structural isomers exist for many of these molecular formulae, the assignments shown here represent the most likely species based on known mammalian biochemistry. Further interrogation of these structural isomers by tandem MS and/or separation-based FT-ICR-MS methods is required to fully resolve their identity.

Table 2.2. Selected metabolites assigned based on Figure 2.7 spectral data

Mass isomer assignments	Molecular formula	Theoretical m/z for QDA adducts	Observed m/z	Mass error	Ion count
Pyruvate	C ₃ H ₄ O ₃	343.295519	343.295769	0.00025	905472.8
DHAP/GAP ^a	C ₃ H ₇ O ₆ P	425.277501	425.277999	0.000498	36810.4
Oxaloacetate	C ₄ H ₄ O ₅	387.285349	387.285619	0.00027	2621.8
D-Erythrose	C ₄ H ₈ O ₄	375.321734	375.322089	0.000355	22845.9
L-glutamate γ -semialdehyde	C ₅ H ₉ NO ₃	386.337718	386.338069	0.000351	33337.8
Deoxyribose	C ₅ H ₁₀ O ₄	389.337384	389.337689	0.000305	8659.2
α -Ketoglutarate	C ₅ H ₆ O ₅	401.300999	401.301469	0.00047	193346.3
5-Methylthio-D-ribose	C ₆ H ₁₂ O ₄ S	435.325104	435.325029	-7.5E-05	2982.9
Hexose (ketose and aldose)	C ₆ H ₁₂ O ₆	435.342864	435.343289	0.000425	3235226.3
Hydroxykynurenamine	C ₉ H ₁₂ N ₂ O ₂	435.369352	435.370609	0.001257	1106.1
Sedoheptulose	C ₇ H ₁₄ O ₇	465.353429	465.353969	0.00054	10502.8
Oxo-dodecanoic acid	C ₁₂ H ₂₂ O ₃	469.436369	469.437049	0.00068	33371.2
S-(3-oxo-3-carboxy-n-propyl)cysteine	C ₇ H ₁₁ NO ₅ S	476.315268	476.316249	0.000981	1017.3
N-Acetylhexosamine	C ₈ H ₁₅ NO ₆	476.369413	476.370119	0.000706	291404.4
5-isobutylthioribose	C ₉ H ₁₈ O ₄ S	477.372054	477.373469	0.001415	77115.6
Pyridoxal 5-phosphate	C ₈ H ₁₀ NO ₆ P	502.30405	502.304809	0.000759	69620.1
Muramic acid	C ₉ H ₁₇ NO ₇	506.379978	506.380799	0.000821	3817.1
Octadecenal	C ₁₈ H ₃₄ O	521.540439	521.541639	0.0012	1657.1
Eicosanal	C ₂₀ H ₄₀ O	551.587389	551.588249	0.00086	26901.3

^a DHAP: dihydroxyacetone phosphate; GAP: glyceraldehyde-3-phosphate.

2.3.7. Quantification of pyruvate

An accurate quantification of carbonyl metabolites by the QDA method requires consideration of several factors. Among these are the linearity of instrumental response to concentration changes, the “ion suppression” (loss of signal intensity) due to the abundant charged species recovered from crude cell extracts, and the reaction and extraction efficiency of the derivatizing agent.

We first verified linear instrumental response using a *QDA-derivatized standards mixture. Figure 2.8, a scatter plot of ion counts versus concentration, illustrates that the FT-ICR-MS instrument response was linear in the range from 0.025 to 25 μ M for all four metabolite derivatives. Linear regression parameters are listed in Table 2.3.

Figure 2.8. Log-log scatter plot of concentration versus ion count for four *QDA standard adducts. α Kg = α -ketoglutarate; Pyr = pyruvate ; α Kb = α -ketobutyrate; Glc = glucose.

	*QDA-Pyr	*QDA- α Kg	*QDA- α Kb	*QDA-Glc
Slope	536847	579435	470851	265815
Intercept	813724	1523225	781273	488369
RSQ	0.97	0.92	0.97	0.96

Table 2.3. Slopes, intercepts, and r-squared values for the linear regressions of Figure 2.6.

To correct for the effects of QDA reaction efficiency and adduct solvent partitioning efficiency, an internal standard of uniformly labeled $^{13}\text{C}_3$ -pyruvate was spiked into cell extracts at a series of known concentrations prior to derivatization. For an

estimate of the ion suppressing effects of the extract matrix, the ion counts of QDA-pyruvate (endogenous pyruvate) and QDA- $^{13}\text{C}_3$ -pyruvate (spiked) were normalized by dividing by the ion counts of an external standard, separately prepared $^*\text{QDA}$ -pyruvate, which was added at the same concentration to every sample. Figure 2.9 summarizes the results. As can be seen, the internal [$^{13}\text{C}_3$]-pyruvate standard produced ion counts significantly higher for the mixture in buffer than for the mixture in cell extracts.

Figure 2.9. Uniformly ^{13}C -labeled pyruvate spiked at three concentrations into either buffer (left bars) or cell extract (right bars) and derivatized *in situ* with excess QDA. Ion counts were normalized against that of an external standard of 2.5 μM $^*\text{QDA}$ -pyruvate. Labeled Pyr = QDA- $^{13}\text{C}_3$ -pyruvate; endogenous Pyr = QDA-pyruvate. Error bars represent one standard deviation over three injections of a single sample.

The normalized ion counts of QDA- $^{13}\text{C}_3$ -pyruvate were then plotted against the known concentrations of 2.5, 5, and 7.5 μM in buffer conditions and cell extract conditions, along with linear regressions (Figure 2.10). The ratio of the two slopes of the linear regressions indicated that there was a cellular extract ion suppression factor of 4.97.

Figure 2.10. Scatter plot with linear regressions of the normalized ion counts of QDA- $^{13}\text{C}_3$ -pyruvate from buffer sample and cell extract sample at three concentrations, averaged over three injections.

Using these calibrations in a manner consistent with the stable isotope-based quantitation methodology commonly employed in quantitative proteomics,⁸⁸ we estimated the pyruvate concentration to be 0.4 nanomoles in *ca.* 625,000 cells or approximately 106 nmol/g cell wet weight, when cell numbers were calibrated against cell wet weight. This result is within the reported concentration range for pyruvate in serum (22-258 μM).⁸⁹

2.4. Conclusions

In summary, we developed a new cationic aminooxy reagent for the selective derivatization of carbonyl metabolites in aqueous cell extracts. QDA is sufficiently hydrophobic that its oxime ether adducts can be extracted efficiently into *n*-butanol for rapid analysis by FT-ICR-MS. Furthermore, we demonstrated a stable isotope labeling approach wherein ¹⁵N-QDA and QDA were used to generate mass spectral ion pairs separated by 4.02188 *m/z* for global profiling of carbonyl metabolites in crude extracts. The reagent could be easily adapted for multiplex analysis as the presence of two methyl groups permits the synthesis of 9 isotopologues using variably ¹³C/D-labeled iodomethane. When applied to human lung cancer A549 cell extracts, numerous carbonyl metabolites across multiple structural classes were assigned, including important metabolites of the central metabolic pathways. Thus, this approach enables both high sample and information throughput analysis of key components of the overall cellular oxidation state. Lastly, this approach can facilitate quantification of these often low-abundant and labile metabolites, as exemplified by the analysis of cellular pyruvate. As such, our chemoselective derivatization approach coupled with high resolution and sensitive FT-ICR-MS analysis can overcome the difficult challenge of mapping key carbonyl metabolites as well as cellular oxidation states which may be indicators for the onset of diseases.

Since this work was disclosed in the journal *Metabolomics* in 2012, it has been expanded upon by other researchers in our group. A similar reagent with iodoacetimide functionality was developed for capture and profiling of thiols, for example, by my

colleague Sadakatali Gori. We also continue to supply two groups of collaborators with the reagents QDA and *QDA, for additional profiling of cell extracts, and also for derivatizing human fluid samples at the University of Louisville's Diabetes and Obesity Center. The methodology for the use of QDA has been further optimized in studies by Dr. Pawel Lorkiewicz who has looked at how changes in pH, temperature, and timing can achieve better reaction efficiency for specific classes of carbonyls.

Our *Metabolomics* article was cited by the researchers who developed the photo-cleavable linker for carbonyl capture described in Chapter 1.³⁰ Their reagent incorporated an aminooxy group for carbonyl capture, but used biotin to sequester derivatives onto streptavidin beads for subsequent release by UV light. The critique that Yuan and coworkers had for our work was that their methodology detected 1784 carbonyl metabolites, whereas we listed only 31. In fact, the QDA/*QDA derivatization of cell extracts produced thousands of sister signals in the mass spectra. However, there is a difference between *detection* and *assignment*. We chose to only report those metabolites for which a specific chemical formula could be unequivocally assigned based on the detected exact mass. Additionally, we chose a very conservative threshold (1000 ion counts) to label a signal to be above the level of instrumental noise. As the work that we disclosed was only the proof of principle for the methodology, we are confident that the work being done by our collaborators on optimizing the reaction conditions and using a more sophisticated method for determining signal significance will lead to a broader and more comprehensive profile of carbonyl metabolites in biological samples.

CHAPTER 3

MAGNETIC NANOPARTICLES FOR AMF-MEDIATED DRUG DELIVERY

- 3.1. Externally triggered release of drugs by AMF
- 3.2. Results and discussion
 - 3.2.1. Preparation of iron oxide NPs
 - 3.2.2. AMF heating properties
 - 3.2.3. Fundamental study on the influence of hydroxyl substituents
 - 3.2.4. Fluorescein release
 - 3.2.5. Doxorubicin oxime ether analogs
 - 3.2.6. AMF release profiles
 - 3.2.7. *In vitro* studies
- 3.3. Sulfur-modified NPs
 - 3.3.1. Dextran sulfate NPs
 - 3.3.2. CS₂-modified NPs
 - 3.3.3. Greigite NPs

3.1. Externally triggered release of drugs by AMF

The magnetic properties of iron oxide NPs described in chapter 1 highlight their potential for use in biological applications. Of particular interest to us was the phenomenon of inductive heating from exposure to an alternating magnetic field (AMF). Magnetic fluid hyperthermia, one of the most common medical application of ferrofluids, takes advantage of only the heating ability of NPs but fails to exploit their potential as carrier platforms for drugs, tracers, or targeting agents. Our intention in working with magnetic NPs, was to contribute to recent efforts focused on expanding NP applications to multipurpose therapies, and, in particular, to combine inductive heating with externally triggered drug delivery.

Typical NP formulations designed for AMF-triggered release of bound substrates rely upon a thermally labile mediator. For example, when NPs are associated with liposomes,⁹⁰⁻⁹¹ lipid coatings,⁹² or solid lipid particles,⁹³ temperature elevation triggers changes in lipid packing and permeability which become the basis for substrate release. Otherwise, thermosensitive polymers, gels,⁹⁴ and macrocyclic “nanovalves”⁹⁵ have also been used for heat-gated release of drugs from NP platforms.

In developing reagents for external triggering, we aimed for a more straightforward approach, one in which a drug could be directly bound through an optimized linker to a NP via electrostatic interactions or hydrogen bonding. We pursued a binding motif that would be strong enough to stabilize the attachment of a drug onto the NP surface, but weak enough for AMF-mediated release. To explore the concept, we prepared a panel of aminooxy functionalized quaternary ammonium salts for attachment

to a NP surface and, using a fluorophore, probed its AMF release properties. This led us to do a more fundamental study of the influence of hydroxyl groups and counterions on the binding of organic molecules to NPs. We then prepared a Dox analog for reversible attachment to NPs and looked at its release properties as well as its efficacy *in vitro*. Inconsistencies in the results led us to consider modifications to the NP surface to facilitate stronger binding of Dox analogs. A brief exploration of sulfur modified NPs yielded data that were revealing of the complexity of the iron oxide surface and peculiarities at the nanoscale.

3.2. Results and discussion

3.2.1. Preparation of iron oxide NPs

To synthesize iron oxide NPs, we followed a well-established^{36, 96-97} wet chemistry approach based on the coprecipitation of iron II and III chloride salts in aqueous base as described by Mikhaylova *et al.*⁹⁸ Transmission electron microscopy (TEM) imaging⁹⁹ of particles prepared using this method revealed particle diameters of 5-10 nm. Zeta potential measurements, which measure the electrophoretic mobility of charged colloidal suspensions, showed a surface charge of ≈ -32 mV.

Whereas the coprecipitation method intends to produce the magnetite phase of iron oxide crystal (Fe_3O_4), it is also well documented that exposure to air and moisture can lead to oxidation and conversion to $\gamma\text{-Fe}_2\text{O}_3$ particles.¹⁰⁰⁻¹⁰² Washing of the freshly prepared nanoparticle precipitate with a dilute hydrochloric acid solution is recommended⁹⁷ in order to peptize the particles and form a stable colloid and it is

documented that avoiding this step tends to prevent colloid formation in aqueous media unless a hydrophilic coating species is introduced in its place.³⁶ We reasoned that rinsing of the freshly prepared nanoparticle precipitate was likely sufficient to cause substantial oxidation. Moreover, we found that depending upon how the particles were handled after precipitation, there were batch-to-batch inconsistencies in the color, texture and magnetoviscosity of the resultant NPs. Color changes can be indicative of crystal phase changes,¹⁰⁰ so we examined the phase of magnetite generated by our synthetic and workup procedures. Crystallography and Mössbauer spectroscopy are commonly employed to differentiate the two phases, however the data generated from these methods can be difficult to interpret as the crystal structures of the two phases are similar, and nanoscale properties may differ from those of the bulk crystal.¹⁰³ This point is illustrated in Figure 3.1 which depicts a Mössbauer spectrum of a sample of our NPs acquired by Dr. Charles Johnson from the University of Tennessee Space Institute. The black lines (experimental data) are overlaid with reference peaks (red and green lines) that distinguish the subtle chemical shift differences for Fe^{3+} in octahedral versus tetrahedral coordination.

Figure 3.1. Mössbauer spectrum of NPs prepared by coprecipitation

We quantified the relative proportions of the two crystal phases in our NPs through a spectrophotometric method¹⁰⁴ developed by Amonette and Templeton¹⁰⁵ that enables the quantification of Fe^{2+} present exclusively in the Fe_3O_4 phase. During chemical analysis the synthesized NPs were dissolved in an acid matrix and complexed with iron II chelator 1,10-phenanthroline. Absorbance at 510 nm of the digestate allowed quantification of Fe^{2+} . Further, reduction of Fe^{3+} in the NP sample using hydroxylamine allowed for a total Fe determination. Our results for the assay indicated that during the surface acidification work-up phase dictated by the Mikhaylova procedure, the amount of Fe^{2+} decreased and the amount of Fe^{3+} increased indicating over-oxidation. For comparison, particles that were washed with neutral water alone were closer in

composition to stoichiometric Fe_3O_4 . (Table 3.1). In either case, our characterization established the prepared products as a mixture of Fe_2O_3 and Fe_3O_4 phases. And indeed many investigators acknowledge this phenomenon and choose to report their preparations as a combination of the two phases.^{101, 106}

	Fe^{2+} (weight %)	Fe^{3+} (weight %)
Neutral rinse	14.8	55.6
Acid rinse	7.7	64.8
Ref. for stoichiometric Fe_3O_4	24.1	48.24

Table 3.1. Effect of work-up conditions on Fe composition

We also observed a second effect when rinsing NPs, namely neutralization of surface charge. Figure 3.2 shows that NPs exposed to a single neutral rinse remain anionic, whereas multiple rinses generate neutral particles, and acid rinses produce highly positive NPs. Given the greater magnetic susceptibility of Fe_3O_4 as compared to Fe_2O_3 , and the better charge pairing of anionic NPs with cationic ammonium salts, we chose to continue our work with NPs prepared without surface acidification.

Figure 3.2. ζ-potential measurements of NPs under three work-up conditions

3.2.2. AMF heating properties

To test the potential of our NPs for heating in the presence of an AMF, several concentrations of uncoated NPs were prepared in water with 3% alginate. The rationale for the use of alginate was twofold; first, the bare particles are poorly dispersible in water, so the alginate provides increased viscosity to maintain suspension, and secondly, electrolytes are necessary for effective NP-mediated heating of the bulk solution. The aqueous NP solutions were exposed to AMF for up to 60 minutes while temperature measurements were made with a fiber optic probe. As can be seen in Figure 3.3, solution heating was dependent upon NP concentration, and 5 mg NP/mL was sufficient to raise the temperature of the surrounding solution by 10 °C. Hyperthermia therapy, by comparison, requires temperature increases of 5-8 °C.¹⁰⁷

Figure 3.3. Change in temperature of water with 3% alginate during AMF exposure of 201 A, 203 kHz

3.2.3. Fundamental study on the influence of hydroxyl substituents

Our rationale for preparing anionic NPs was ultimately to utilize their charge properties to noncovalently bind a pharmaceutical agent. In light of this goal, we focused on developing agent-linkers based on positively charged ammonium salts (i.e., prodrug modifiers) to promote electrostatic interactions with the negatively charged NP surface. Secondly, given that the surface of iron oxide supports oxyanions,⁵⁹ we also wanted to demonstrate that hydrogen bonding groups could promote binding of small molecules to NPs. To systematically investigate the binding impact of hydroxyl substituents, we synthesized a panel of ammonium salts (and for comparison, a free amine) which varied by the number and arrangement of hydroxyethyl groups (Figure 3.4). The salts were prepared by alkylation of tertiary ammonium precursors with iodomethane, generating iodo salts.

Figure 3.4. Panel of variably hydroxylated ammonium salts

We also were interested to see the effect of varying the counterion on binding properties, so the chloride forms of each salt were prepared through ion exchange methodology. Exchange of iodide for chloride produced little change in the NMR of the compounds, however exchange was verified in two other ways. In the first method, silver nitrate was added to aqueous solutions of the ammonium salts and the color of the precipitated silver halide was observed; silver chloride forms white crystals, whereas silver iodide forms yellow crystals. MS was also used to verify anion exchange by looking for a signal representing the mass of dimers of the salts ($m = 2$ ammonium cations + 1 halide, net charge = +1). For example, the mass of 1OH·Cl was calculated at m/z 243.18283 and observed at 243.18357, but no iodide dimer was detected.

To quantify the amount of organic material bound to ammonium coated NPs, thermogravimetric analysis (TGA) was used. The precise weight of the NP sample was monitored while the sample was heated to 700 °C. Sample weight loss below 200 °C was attributed to adsorbed water¹⁰⁸ and above 200 °C was assigned to the desorption of bound organic molecules.

Figure 3.5. A representative TGA of ≈ 6 mg each of NPs coated with variably hydroxylated ammonium salts (iodide form) and free base amine

The results of the TGA study supported our hypothesis that an ammonium ion motif having hydroxyl substituents would enhance binding to anionic NPs through both electrostatic and hydrogen bonding interactions at the NP interface. A representative TGA depicting the iodo salts can be seen in Figure 3.5; descending lines represent actual percent weight loss and, for clarity, the derivatives of those lines are overlaid. Figure 3.6 defines the number of bound organic molecules, calculated according to equations supplied by Galeotti *et al.*,¹⁰⁹ on each of the coated NP formulations. There was enhanced binding of ammonium salts when more hydroxyethyl substituents were present. Additionally, the chloride salts proved to be more efficient binders than the iodide salts. This may have resulted because ion pairs of quaternary ammonium cations with chloride

are weaker than their iodide counterparts;¹¹⁰ thus displacement of the counter-ion by NP surface anions may be more readily achieved for the chloride salts.

Figure 3.6. TGA results of bound panel members (see Figure 3.4 for structures).

3.2.4. Fluorescein release

From our fundamental study we understood that hydroxyl groups aid in the binding of small molecules to NPs. As our ultimate goal was AMF mediated release of NP bound substrates, we needed to determine the degree of binding that would cause ammonium-based linkers to adhere tightly to NPs under normal conditions, but release from the particles under AMF exposure. A fluorescent probe was chosen for this purpose as it would enable spectroscopic monitoring of release as well as function in the capacity of a drug mimic. To this end, fluorescein isothiocyanate (FITC) was modified as shown in Scheme 3.1 to install an aldehyde functional group for ease of conjugation with aminoxy functionality.

Scheme 3.1. Reagents and conditions: (a) 4-aminobutylaldehyde diethylacetal (1.2 eq), dimethyl-formamide, rt, 4 h (b) 30% aq. acetic acid, 3h, 55% (2 step)

Next, three quaternary aminoxy (QAO) salts (Figure 3.7) were prepared for conjugation with the FITC aldehyde (FITC-CHO). The first, designated QAO, was prepared by phthalimide protection of the alcohol dimethylethanolamine. Methylation with iodomethane produced the quaternary amine and hydrazinolysis cleaved the phthalimide to an aminoxy. QAO-2OH was prepared by first protecting two of the alcohols on triethanolamine with silyl groups, then proceeding with the phthalimide protection and methylation as before, and finally deprotecting the alcohols to achieve the final bis-hydroxy product (Scheme 3.2). A ^1H NMR expansion showing the methylene protons of QAO-2OH reveals the 4:2 integrations anticipated for the difunctional molecule (Figure 3.8). QAO-OH was prepared by my colleague Xuan Huang.¹¹¹

Figure 3.7. QAOs with variable hydroxyl substituents

Scheme 3.2. Synthesis of QAO-2OH. Reagents and conditions: (a) TBSCl, Et₃N, CH₂Cl₂, 0 °C-rt, 8h, 13%; (b) *N*-hydroxyphthalimide, PPh₃, DIAD, THF, 0 °C-rt, 12h, 81%; (c) CH₃I, CH₂Cl₂, 50 °C, 6h (d) H₂NNH₂ monohydrate, EtOH, rt, 12h, 91% (2 steps); (e) TBAF (1.1 eq), THF, CH₂Cl₂, 0 °C-rt, 1.5h, 73%

Figure 3.8. ^1H NMR expansion of methylene region of QAO-2OH in D_2O

Using a stepwise approach, the three QAOs were first coated onto the NPs followed by addition of FITC-CHO. The resultant oxime ether adducts, FITC-I, II, and III, are pictured in Figure 3.9. As a negative control, FITC-CHO was added to bare NPs as well. The coated NPs generated by this method were then magnetically separated, washed to remove loosely bound fluorophore, and exposed to AMF (201.4A, 203 kHz, 30 min) to induce QAO•FITC conjugate release. After magnetic separation, the supernatant solutions were collected, and fluorophore release was detected by fluorescence HPLC. Prior to this, excitation-emission spectra were acquired on the FITC adducts to verify that QAO linkers did not significantly alter the fluorescent properties of the probe: deviations in excitation maxima varied by less than the excitation beamwidth of the fluorescence detector, and the emission maxima were unaffected by the structural modifications.

Figure 3.9. Cationic aminoxy-based oxime ether conjugates of FITC-CHO

The results of this initial screen revealed that the negative control showed negligible fluorescence after AMF exposure; thus, no retention of FITC-CHO on NPs in the absence of an aminoxy linker. However, under identical conditions, the NP•FITC-II and NP•FITC-III formulations showed an increase in supernatant fluorescence after AMF exposure indicating release of the conjugates in response to the external stimulus (Figure 3.10). The FITC-I adduct peak, however, could not be resolved from unreacted FITC-CHO in the HPLC run. These results suggested that the hydroxyl motif was important for retention of drug surrogates prior to AMF induction.

Figure 3.10. Fluorescence intensity of sampled solutions of three formulations of coated NPs

3.2.5. Doxorubicin oxime ether analogs

The model fluorescence study of FITC analogs had supported the idea that AMF could be used to free noncovalently bound species from the surface of NPs. Consequently, we set out to prepare a NP platform with an attached anticancer drug, doxorubicin (Dox, Figure 3.11). As mentioned in the introductory chapter, Dox is a potent chemotherapeutic agent that, in the absence of a targeting agent or nanocarrier, exhibits nonspecific toxicity. The C-13 carbonyl is a convenient reactive partner for a QAO-based aminoxy linker. Thus, we aimed to demonstrate in an *in vitro* model how iron oxide NPs could be used to deliver modified doxorubicin to cancer cells in response to AMF induction. To simplify the strategy, we altered our methodology to a direct rather than stepwise loading route; we chose for the Dox studies to first generate, purify, and characterize Dox-QAO adducts and then attach the adducts directly onto NPs. Two Dox analogs were prepared using QAO-OH and QAO-2OH (Figure 3.6). Since chloride salts were found to bind more effectively than iodide salts in the fundamental study of hydroxylated QAOs, the QAO-Dox conjugates were converted to chloride salts for these studies. The Dox analogs Dox-OH and Dox-2OH (Figure 3.11) were characterized by NMR and high resolution mass spectrometry (Figure 3.12) to confirm the formation of the desired oxime ether conjugates.

Upon loading the Dox analogs onto NPs by stirring in DMSO, a color change in the solution from red (the color of Dox·HCl) to purple was noted. This may be the result of the formation of an Fe^{2+} ¹¹² or Fe^{3+} complex¹¹³ as these species have been documented to

occur and are associated with purple colors. After rinsing to separate unbound Dox analogs, TGA indicated 7.51 weight percent organic material for both species.

Figure 3.11. Unmodified doxorubicin hydrochloride (Dox) and mono- or dihydroxylated oxime ether conjugates

Figure 3.12. FTMS spectrum of Dox-2OH showing the calculated exact mass and the observed peak

3.2.6. AMF release profiles

AMF induction of magnetic fluids in living tissue has limitations; nonspecific tissue heating can lead to tissue necrosis. Pulsed AMF, however, has been employed in mouse

models to avoid this problem.¹¹⁴ We looked at the release profiles of Dox-OH and Dox-2OH during pulsed AMF exposure over one hour. In this study, an aqueous solution of Dox analog-coated NPs received AMF pulses (203 kHz, 350 A, rt) at five minute intervals with intervening five minute incubations at 30 °C. The NPs were then magnetically sedimented and the solution phase absorbance was measured by UV-Vis spectroscopy at 480 nm (the maximum absorbance for Dox) to measure drug-analog release. The responsiveness of the Dox analogs to AMF induction can be seen in the time course in Figure 3.13 in which the yellow bars indicate AMF “on” time. Although Dox-OH exhibited greater release overall, Dox-2OH release was more closely associated with AMF stimulation; absorbance for Dox-OH rose steadily during AMF pulses as well as during intervening incubation, whereas Dox-2OH showed an increase in absorbance primarily for AMF on times, and flat absorbance during the intervening incubation periods. This increased AMF responsiveness for Dox-2OH may be attributable to a more proximal interaction with the NP surface (facilitating AMF-induced energy transfer), presumably due to the presence of an additional hydrogen bond donor. By comparison with a calibration curve, the 60 minute endpoint corresponded to 15 μ M Dox-OH and 11 μ M Dox-2OH. Comparison with TGA data suggested this represented only 4.5 or 5.9% of payload release for Dox-OH and Dox-2OH respectively, however absorbance declined after further incubation at 30 °C indicating reattachment of the linker to the NP (likely an equilibrium phenomenon); additionally, in our experience TGA can overestimate loading. The better test for release, we reasoned, would be a non-equilibrium system, one in

which released Dox analog could be removed from proximity to the NP before readsorbance could occur, specifically, a living system.

Figure 3.13. UV-Vis detection of Dox analogs released from Dox-NPs by pulsed AMF (203 kHz, 350 A, rt) as indicated by absorbance at 480 nm of the solution after magnetic separation of the particles. Error bars represent +/- 1 standard deviation for triplicate samples.

3.2.7. In vitro studies

A pilot study conducted by my colleague, Dr. Souvik Biswas, on MCF-7 breast cancer cells had generated promising results using NPs conjugated to the iodo form of Dox-OH.⁹⁹ The key findings of his study were an initial demonstration of low toxicity for bare NPs, and high toxicity for NP-Dox-OH formulations upon AMF exposure. Most exciting was the finding that the drug analog displayed very low toxicity in its bound state, but high toxicity upon release, effectively functioning as an inactive pro-drug until external triggering with AMF—a promising scenario. We hoped that the new analogs,

with chloride counterions and, in the case of Dox-2OH, an additional hydrogen bond donor, could surpass the efficacy of the first generation analog. We also hoped to overcome a challenge encountered with the first generation Dox-OH of premature drug release upon incubation at body temperature ($\approx 14\%$ payload loss).

To test the NP-Dox formulations *in vitro*, MCF-7 breast cancer cells were cultured and plated into either 35 mm dishes or a 96 well plate modified to fit within the AMF coil. NP-Dox formulations were typically administered by suspending the NPs in PBS and adding the solution to cells in medium. Half of the cells would then be exposed to AMF (350A, 203 kHz, 3 min on, 3 min off pulses, 30 min total time) by placing the culture dish within the coil of the AMF generator. During pulsed AMF application, cells were incubated at 37 °C between pulses. Cells would then be incubated with treatments for 24 hours after which toxicity would be assayed by trypan blue exclusion and counting of living cells using a hemocytometer.

The toxicity studies presented a number of challenges. As the synthesis and loading of NPs involved a great deal of processing, reproducibility in the toxicity measurements was poor. Small differences in loading concentrations or post-loading washes of the NPs could produce particles with differing amounts of bound drug. Formulations with a lower coating of Dox were more prone to aggregate in PBS buffer resulting in uneven application to cells. As a result, the toxicity studies were highly variable. In a representative toxicity study (Figure 3.14) some effects were consistent between the first generation drug trial and the latter one. For example, AMF alone did not produce significant cell death, nor did bare NPs induced by AMF cause cell death. In

addition, the NP-Dox-OH formulation did demonstrate a modest degree of toxicity exclusively when AMF was applied. Unfortunately, the NP-Dox-2OH formulation gave an undesirable result showing minor toxicity with or without AMF.

Figure 3.14. Toxicity of NP-Dox formulations and controls on MCF-7 breast cancer cells for cells grown in a 96 well plate to 40% confluence and treated with 12.3 $\mu\text{g}/\text{well}$ NP-Dox formulations. Error bars reflect standard error over biological triplicates. NP-Dox-2OH data reflect the average of biological duplicates.

Reproducibility in trials of a NP-mediated drug carrier is crucial for establishing the practical utility of the system. And given the multi-step preparations involved with NP formulations, the components of the system must be robust with predictable interactions. Since our modifications to Dox in this approach led to disappointing results in regard to toxicity, we began to consider modifications to the NP side of the drug-nanocarrier interface — how could the surface of the iron oxide NP be altered to actuate the desired drug delivery strategy?

3.3. Sulfur-modified NPs

3.3.1. Dextran sulfate NPs

A quaternary ammonium cation is a large, diffuse positive charge. We reasoned that a size-matched large anion on the NP surface could elicit a stronger electrostatic interaction with a QAO than the $\text{Fe-O}^-/\text{OH}^-$ of the bare particle.¹¹⁵ In our first effort to modify the NPs, we elected to change the anion at the Fe_3O_4 surface to a sulfate. We selected dextran sulfate as a coating agent to modify our NPs because dextran, a sugar polymer, was already a common coating reagent for NPs.

After coating NPs with dextran sulfate, QAO-2OH conjugated to an anthracene fluorophore (Figure 3.15) was added. The release properties under AMF of this chromophore were then measured by UV-Vis. As is shown in Figure 3.16, unfortunately the formulation exhibited slow leakage of the anthracene analog both in the presence and absence of AMF exposure.

Figure 3.15. QAO-2OH anthracene derivative

Figure 3.16. AMF-mediated release of anthracene derivative (rt) versus incubation at 37 °C

3.3.2. CS₂-modified NPs

The next strategy we examined for modifying the NPs was to incorporate xanthate functionality ($\text{ROCS}_2^-\text{M}^+$) at the iron oxide surface with an eventual aim to pair the constituent dithiocarboxylate anion with a QAO. Xanthates are typically prepared from reaction of an alcohol with carbon disulfide in the presence of base, but we wondered if reaction of iron oxyanions with CS₂ might generate an analogous ferric xanthate (Figure 3.17). Some precedent for this concept is found in the adsorption of carbon disulfide and carbonyl sulfide ($\text{O}=\text{C}=\text{S}$) onto iron oxide.¹¹⁶⁻¹¹⁷ In fact, hydrated iron oxides are employed industrially as scrubbers for volatile sulfurous compounds generated during coke fuel production.¹¹⁸ Though these triatomic species are known to bind to iron oxide, they have not been applied to NP surface modifications as potential functional organic coatings.

Figure 3.17. Traditional xanthate preparation and ferric xanthate variant.

To ascertain what functional transformations could be made on the surface of the NP, we used the strategies summarized in Figure 3.18. Carbon disulfide was reacted with bare NPs **1** to produce product **2**. The zeta potential of **2** remained negative (bare NPs: -35.9; CS₂-coated: -29.3), indicating either no reaction or the formation of a sulfanion. There were indications that some type of reaction had taken place because the color and texture of the NPs changed upon coating, and off-gassing was noted after CS₂ addition and workup (rinsing and drying the NPs). Further, an IR of the product in comparison with bare NPs **1** showed the emergence of two new peaks in the fingerprint region at 1231 and 1212 cm⁻¹.

Figure 3.18. Strategies for incorporating organics onto sulfur-modified NPs.

The CS_2 -modified NPs **2**, were then reacted with either deuterated iodomethane, to cap the sulfanion with a methyl group, or they were mixed with deuterated ammonium salt **3** to test their potential for electrostatically binding substrates. Deuterated reagents were selected in the hopes that attenuated total reflectance IR (ATR-IR) of the NPs on a germanium crystal could detect the C-D stretching vibrations of the products, as this vibration occurs in an otherwise sparse region of the IR spectrum (2075 cm^{-1}).

C-D stretches for compounds **6** and **7** were not observed, however surface changes were evident using other characterization techniques. Figure 3.19 shows the results of elemental analysis (EA) that gives the weight percent of carbon, hydrogen, and

sulfur for NPs **1**, **2**, **8**, and a control prepared by addition of iodomethane to bare NPs **1**. The values displayed in the graph represent the weight percent of each element divided by its molecular weight to give relative moles of each element. Of course, the bulk of the weight of these NP formulations is iron and oxygen which are not represented in this graph. EA revealed an increase in the sulfur content of NPs **2** as compared with bare NPs **1**, but surprisingly no increase in the carbon content. EA of **8** showed an increase in carbon content, but not the 3:1 ratio of H to C that would be expected for methyl group addition. Meanwhile the sulfur content decreased for compound **8**. Most surprisingly, the negative control showed an increase in carbon content implying retention of iodomethane (b.p. 40 °C) on bare NPs, despite 24-48 hours under vacuum.

Figure 3.19. Elemental analysis of NPs formulations from Figure 3.18

TGA also demonstrated high electrostatic binding properties for the CS₂-modified NPs. TGA of NPs **6** showed a large amount of bound ammonium salt **3** compared to a control of bare NPs **1** with the same salt (Figure 3.20). The weight loss curves were integrated above 200 °C to exclude weight loss due to adsorbed water from the calculation.

Figure 3.20. TGA curves for select NPs from Figure 3.18

Presuming formation of methyl xanthate **8**, amines **2** and **3** were prepared in the hopes of forming more stable thiocarbamates (ROC(=S)NR₂) **9** and **10** by displacing methane thiolate. IR of **9** revealed aromatic C-C stretching vibrations, C-H stretching, and a peak at 1036 cm⁻¹, close to the reference peak for C=S of 1050 cm⁻¹. And MALDI-TOF-MS of **9** detected a peak at *m/z* 108, the mass of the protonated form of **3** (108.08). Compound **10** showed the greatest change in morphology with NPs turning from brown

to beige after coating. TGA validated the heavy loading on NPs **10** indicating 28.6 weight percent of bound organic.

We wondered how the CS₂-modified NPs would compare to unmodified NPs in affinity for hydroxylated ammonium salts. Using the earlier study as our model, we mixed CS₂-modified NPs **2** with the variably hydroxylated ammonium salts from Figure 3.4. As can be seen from Figure 3.21, we did not observe the same trend for greater binding with increased hydroxylation, nor did the counterion have the same effect. Strangely, the chloride salts appeared to displace some of the bound CS₂.

Figure 3.21. Weight % of bound organics based on TGA of CS₂-modified NPs with variably hydroxylated ammonium salts.

Although we were intrigued by the properties of the CS₂-modified NPs, there was a lack of clarity as to the exact nature of its interaction with the NP surface. Prior to these

experiments, we had conceived of the NPs as passive platforms for adsorbing organics, but the unexpected results of the EA in particular indicated a surface reactivity or catalytic activity that we had failed to appreciate. A deeper look into the literature on the interaction of iron oxide with species like CS₂ confirmed this reactivity. Wang *et al.*, for example, identified oxidation of CS₂ on iron oxide atmospheric particles to carbonyl sulfide (COS).¹¹⁹ In fact, this is something we had observed with our own NPs; GC-MS of the headspace during off-gassing of CS₂-modified NPs had shown a mass corresponding to COS. And neither is such catalysis exclusive to CS₂. Chen and coworkers found oxidation of COS to CO₂ on hematite, another form of iron oxide. The proposed mechanism is given in Figure 3.22.¹²⁰ Dissociative chemisorption of carbon dioxide on iron oxide has also been proposed.¹²¹ Even room temperature water splitting has been observed on the surface of magnetite.¹²² These phenomena would eventually lead us to a rethinking of attachment of sensitive molecules to NP surfaces. Rendering the surface more inert would become a priority.

Figure 3.22. Proposed mechanism for oxidation of COS to CO₂ on hematite. Reprinted with permission from *Environ. Sci. Technol.* 2007, 41 (18), 6484-6490. Copyright 2007 American Chemical Society.

In our final investigation into sulfur-modified NPs, we turned our attention to an entirely different route for putting sulfur on the surface, one that makes sulfur an intrinsic component of the NPs themselves.

3.3.3. Greigite NPs

Iron sulfide, Fe₃S₄, or greigite, shares many properties with its cousin, Fe₃O₄. Like magnetite, it has a spinel crystal structure and is magnetic. Greigite NPs can be prepared from an acidified mixture of iron II sulfate and sodium sulfide as described by Chang and colleagues.¹²³

To assess whether the presence of sulfur anions as opposed to oxyanions at the particle surface could enhance adsorbance of quaternary amines, akin to the CS₂-modified NPs, we prepared greigite NPs and coated them with the QAO-2OH anthracene

derivative pictured in Figure 3.15. TGA of the isolated product (Figure 3.23) showed that iron sulfide, like iron oxide, could bind ammonium salts.

Figure 3.23. TGA showing percent weight lost from bare Fe₃S₄ NPs or QAO-2OH anthracene-loaded particles.

AMF release properties of the anthracene adduct from the Fe₃S₄ NPs were then assessed by UV-Vis at 384 nm, however no increase in solution absorbance relative to incubation at 30 °C was observed. When the heating properties of Fe₃S₄ NPs were examined it was discovered that the greigite NPs did not heat significantly upon exposure to AMF, likely the culprit for the absence of release.

It was at this point that we decided to retool our strategy for binding organics to NPs. Iron oxide had proven the more efficient material for the sake of AMF heating, so we would return to that architecture, but the surface reactivity would need to be neutralized by coating with a more inert material. As discussed in the next chapter, we would turn to silica coating to serve this purpose.

CHAPTER 4

CATIONIC MAGNETOLIPOSOMES FOR DRUG DELIVERY

- 4.1. Composite NPs: silica on iron oxide
- 4.2. Cationic magnetoliposomes
- 4.3. Results and discussion
 - 4.3.1. Cationic oxime ether lipids
 - 4.3.2. Preparation of Dox-AH
 - 4.3.3. CML formation and stability
 - 4.3.4. Titration of SNP with cationic lipid 1
 - 4.3.5. Estimation of lipid : Dox-AH ratio
 - 4.3.6. Cytotoxicity study
 - 4.3.7. AMF and bilayer disruption
- 4.4. Gene transfection studies
 - 4.4.1. Binding affinity
 - 4.4.2. Transfection efficiency
 - 4.4.3. Cell viability

4.4.4. Gene expression

4.5. Conclusions

4.1. Composite NPs: silica on iron oxide

Modifications to the surface of iron oxide NPs are often required to generate stable aqueous colloids and to render the catalytically active^{119, 121} surface inert for the sake of ligand/drug stability. Silica coating also allows for functional group interconversion to a variety of other functionalities including alkyne, azide, carboxyl, nitrile, phosphate, and thiol.¹²⁴ To this end, coating NPs with silicon dioxide is commonly employed, particularly for multi-component nanosystems.¹²⁵ Creating a core-shell Fe₃O₄-SiO₂ structure is desirable because the silica shell enhances the hydrophilicity of the particles and reduces cellular toxicity,¹²⁶ while largely preserving their magnetic properties.¹²⁷ Moreover, as silicon is a metalloid, rather than a metal, the composite structure has a less reactive surface than iron oxide.

The surface of silica-coated NPs (SNPs) is inherently *negatively* charged due to the presence of silanol groups, but *positively* charged particles may be more desirable for oncological applications considering the favorable pairing of cationic particles with the negative exterior of many cells, including cancer cells.¹²⁸⁻¹²⁹ Further, a self-assembly process for formation of a therapeutic nanosystem is desirable since ultimate broad application would depend upon its ease of preparation.

4.2. Cationic magnetoliposomes

Dual-chain lipids, typically zwitterionic phospholipids, have been used to coat NPs and have been shown to self-assemble into bilayers surrounding anionic NPs forming what are termed classical magnetoliposomes.¹³⁰ In that the lipid is directly bound to the particle surface, these constructs differ from extruded magnetoliposomes that are composed of NPs entrapped within the aqueous core of a lipid vesicle.¹³¹ Direct attachment of lipids at a NP surface offers the advantage of size control. Namely, the size of the magnetoliposome is dictated by the dimensions of the NP, a tunable property. Thus classical magnetoliposomes are usually smaller (<100nm) than their extruded counterparts.¹³¹ In addition, the preparation of extruded liposomes generally requires more involved techniques, such as sonication or freeze-thaw cycling. Positively charged magnetoliposomes, termed “cationic magnetoliposomes” (CMLs), are typically formed from a mixture of zwitterionic phospholipids, cationic aminium lipids, and neutral lipids. Marcel De Cuyper and Stefaan Soenen have studied such cationic magnetoliposomes¹³² extensively, elucidating their cellular interactions, toxicity, and cell-labeling potential.¹³³⁻

140

Cationic lipids containing a quaternary ammonium headgroup, and thus a permanent positive charge, are known in the context of gene transfection to promote rapid cellular uptake when complexed with nucleic acids in a “lipoplex”. Their high charge density encourages association with cell membranes and facilitates endocytosis.¹⁴¹⁻¹⁴² This capacity has also been exploited in concert with NPs in the practice of magnetofection where cationic lipid-coated NPs have been explored as magnetic gene

vectors.^{141, 143-144} As the surface of SNPs, like iron oxide, is anionic, we envisioned constructing a CML that could auto-assemble by simple mixing of a custom quaternary ammonium-based lipid and SNPs.

We aimed to prepare a self-assembling CML-SNP tailored for biological applications with suitable size and charge character for efficient cellular internalization. To demonstrate the potential of the system as a nanocarrier, we prepared an amphiphilic derivative of Doxorubicin (Dox) for incorporation into the CML bilayer. We envisioned that mixing of SNPs, our custom cationic lipid, and the Dox analog would produce a CML-SNP drug carrier (Figure 4.1).

Figure 4.1. Cationic magnetoliposome with a core-shell iron oxide-silica NP surrounded by a cationic lipid bilayer and a bilayer-embedded amphiphilic drug

4.3. Results and Discussion

4.3.1. Cationic oxime ether lipids

Traditionally, lipids are constructed with ester linkages that tether hydrophobic and polar domains. In conceiving of a lipid to coat SNPs for Dox delivery applications, we turned to oximation for lipid construction. By mixing an aminooxy headgroup with

aldehyde tails of the desired chain lengths and unsaturation, a wide variety of oxime ether lipids can be prepared.^{141, 145}

The panel of oxime ether-based cationic lipids we synthesized for loading onto SNPs were designed with quaternary ammonium headgroups as the permanent positive charge ensures that pH changes in the particle environment will not alter the electronic character of the lipid. Building on our work with hydroxylated QAOs and Fe₃O₄ NPs, we also added hydroxyl functionality to the lipid headgroups to encourage association with the hydrophilic surface of the SNPs. Hydroxyl groups have also been shown to enhance cell membrane interaction.¹⁴⁶

Three lipids were prepared (Scheme 4.1 and Figure 4.2) with varying chain lengths (C12, C14, and C18) by reaction of aminooxy **4.1** with 2 equivalents of aldehyde-functionalized alkyl chains. The bis-oxime ether adducts (**4.2-4.4**) were formed as mixtures of *E,E*, and *E,Z* isomers and were not typically isolated as separate diastereomers. In Figure 4.3 the ¹H NMR triplets for the oximyl protons in *E* and *Z* configurations are shown for a representative lipid. The dissymmetry provided by incorporation of the (*E,Z*)-containing lipid fraction likely will contribute to the formation of more fluid lipid bilayers as it prevents tight lipid packing.

Scheme 4.1. Conditions: *a.* *N*-hydroxyphthalimide, PPh₃, DIAD, 0 °C to rt, 12h; *b.* N₂H₄·H₂O, CH₂Cl₂, rt, 2.5h (16%, 2 steps); *c.* corresponding dodecyl, tetradecyl, or oleyl aldehyde, CH₂Cl₂, rt, 10h (47-71%); *d.* TFA, CH₂Cl₂, 0 °C to rt, 3h (91-100%); *e.* glycidol, EtOH, rt, 60h (38-41%); *f.* CH₃I, CH₂Cl₂ (sealed tube), 55 °C, 5h (63-64%).

Figure 4.2. Cationic oxime ether lipids

Figure 4.3. ^1H NMR expansion showing oximyl proton shifts for *E* and *Z* configurations of lipid **2**

To add hydroxyl functionality to the lipid headgroup we turned to nucleophilic addition of the amines generated from step *d* of Scheme 4.1 to the C-3 carbon of glycidol (Figure 4.4) as a strategy for installing a 1,2, diol functionality.¹⁴⁷ Normally the reaction is performed at elevated temperatures, with an excess of amine, or catalysts such as lithium perchlorate.¹⁴⁸⁻¹⁴⁹ Kuwabe *et al.*,¹⁵⁰ for example, reported addition of a secondary amine to glycidol after 48 hours refluxing in ethanol. However, a recent report of room temperature reaction of secondary amines with glycidol in water¹⁴⁸ piqued our interest. As our starting material was not soluble in water, we instead used ethanol. Reaction of bis-oxime ether secondary amines with glycidol in ethanol (rt, 24h) was successful in yielding 1,2 diol substituted tertiary amines. A representative FT-MS spectrum is depicted in Figure 4.5.

Figure 4.4. Nucleophilic addition of a secondary amine to C-3 of glycidol

Figure 4.5. Calculated exact mass of **4.6** and FTMS spectrum of the observed mass

4.3.2. Preparation of Dox-AH

Model drug, Dox, can be modified at the C-13 carbonyl group through condensation with a hydrazide, to form an acyl hydrazone. In this way, the lipophilicity of an otherwise highly hydrophilic drug is increased, better suiting it for incorporation into a lipid bilayer.

Several examples of Dox C-13 hydrazones have been documented in the literature. Effenberger *et al.*¹⁵¹⁻¹⁵² prepared Dox hydrazones using C₁₇ and C₁₈ fatty acids and menthyl/bornyl esters. The cytotoxic efficacy of these analogs and mechanism of cell death were investigated in several cancer lines, and in many cases the derivatives were

more effective than the native form. Particularly interesting was the efficacy against multidrug resistant cells, possibly a consequence of superior diffusion of the analogs through cellular membranes.¹⁵³ Maleimide substituted acyl hydrazones of Dox have also been prepared and demonstrated to be practical derivatives, such as aldoxorubicin, currently in phase II clinical trials.¹⁵⁴⁻¹⁵⁵ Consequently, to adjust lipophilicity, we prepared a C-13-hydrazone (Scheme 4.2) by reaction of Dox with hexadecanoic acid hydrazide in the presence of an aniline activator¹⁵⁶ to obtain Dox acyl hydrazone **Dox-AH**. Hydrazone formation was verified by ¹³C NMR where the disappearance of the C-13 carbonyl peak at 213.6 ppm was noted along with the appearance of a peak at 152.2 ppm (Figure 4.6). This ppm shift is comparable to that reported for a similar Dox hydrazone.¹⁵⁴

Scheme 4.2: Preparation of Doxorubicin hexadecanoyl acyl hydrazone, Dox-AH

Figure 4.6. Stacked ^{13}C NMR of Dox (upper) and Dox-AH (lower), showing emergence of the C-13 hydrazone chemical shift

4.3.3. CML formation and stability

To evaluate the formation and stability of CMLs, SNPs were stirred with cationic lipids **1**, **2**, or **3** in DMSO. Particle size was monitored over 24 hours mixing time by measuring dynamic light scattering (DLS). Lipids **2** and **3** with 14 and 18 carbon chains, respectively, did not form compact, stable CMLs (see appendix). However, lipid **1** with saturated C12 chains, formed small, stable CMLs averaging 67 nm in hydrodynamic diameter (Figure 4.7) and positive surface charge as indicated by zeta-potential of 31.72 $\pm$ 2.40 mV. Consequently, lipid **1** was selected for use in subsequent studies.

Figure 4.7. Dynamic light scattering measurements of CML diameter. The data represent direct measurements of a mixture of 13 μmol s lipid 1 (Figure 4.2) with 1 mg SNP in 2 mL DMSO taken over 24 hours mixing time.

4.3.4. Titration of SNP with cationic lipid 1

To determine the amount of lipid sufficient to coat SNPs with a bilayer, an aqueous solution of SNPs was titrated with increasing amounts of lipid **1** and the change in surface charge, as indicated by zeta-potential, was measured to determine a saturation point. A log-log plot of the data generated a sigmoidal curve with a plateau indicative of saturation of the particle (Figure 4.8). This zeta potential plateau represents approximately 2800-5700 lipid molecules per SNP (see appendix for calculation). In subsequent CML formulations, we aimed for a lipid amount just sufficient to reach the onset of the positive plateau of the charge titration curve to avoid using excess lipid. In the case of extruded MLs, a ratio of 4-13 mmol lipid/gm NPs is required to reach NP encapsulation efficiencies

of >70%.¹⁵⁷ By comparison, the charge titration curve for CML formation indicated that significantly less lipid is required, 0.2-0.5 mmol lipid 1/gm SNP.

Figure 4.8. Zeta-potential of SNP titrated with lipid **1** in water.

4.3.5. Estimation of lipid: Dox-AH ratio

To determine the amount of Dox-AH to add for co-loading with lipid **1** onto SNPs, we examined the DLS of liposomal formulations of varying molar ratios of the two amphiphiles. We presumed that smaller liposomes would be indicative of tighter packing and greater stability. Liposomes were prepared using thin film hydration with sonication.¹⁵⁸ DLS measurements were taken for each solution in water. Figure 4.9 shows the plot of the percent of Dox-AH added versus the diameter of the liposomes. From the data it was estimated that a Dox-AH percent less than 30 should be used for the sake of membrane stability.

Figure 4.9. Diameter versus percent Dox-AH in a liposomal formulation with lipid 1.

4.3.6. Cytotoxicity study

Having established effective conditions for CML formation, we next examined incorporation of Dox-AH into CMLs to assess *in vitro* efficacy against MCF-7 breast cancer cells. Dr. Geoffrey Clark, a collaborator at the University of Louisville Medical School, kindly provided the use of his facilities, resources, and the assistance of his postdoctoral student, Dr. Katharine Hobbing, for this work.

Dox-AH-loaded CML were prepared by making a thin film of a 3:1 mixture of lipid **1** and Dox-AH. An aqueous dispersion of SNPs then was added to the lipid/Dox-AH film and the mixture was stirred for 12 hours to form loaded CMLs. Aliquots containing 50 μ g CMLs were diluted by 10% with 10x PBS and the formulation was added directly to cells in growth medium (serum supplemented DMEM). Control conditions using separate constituents of the complete formulation were prepared similarly, including, as a positive

control, aliquots of Dox and Dox-AH alone at 4 times the dose of the CML drug complexes. After 2h incubation with treatments at 37 °C, the medium was removed and replaced with fresh medium. Cell viability (Figure 4.10) was assayed by trypan blue exclusion after 48 hours incubation. SNPs alone showed very low toxicity, as expected. Lipid **1** was somewhat cytotoxic but much more so when delivered in the form of CMLs, presumably a consequence of higher intracellular incorporation when associated with a cationic particle that is rapidly internalized. This carrier-mediated cytotoxicity, likely a result of cell membrane destabilization by intercalated cationic lipids, is undesirable, and future studies will examine how the effect can be mitigated. Nevertheless, the most potent formulations were the drug-loaded CMLs (both Dox and Dox-AH analogs), killing over 90% of the cells. It is noteworthy that the positive controls of Dox and Dox-AH alone displayed lower toxicity than the CML-drug complexes, despite being added at *four times higher dose*, again suggesting efficient CML internalization and thus intracellular accumulation of the cytotoxic cargo. To our surprise there was no significant difference between the cytotoxicity of Dox-AH CMLs and Dox CMLs. We had anticipated that the lipophilicity imparted by the added C₁₆-acyl hydrazone would be necessary for CML-mediated conveyance of Dox into the cells.

Figure 4.10. Cytotoxicity of treatment formulations in MCF-7 cells as indicated by trypan blue exclusion. Uncoated particles (SNP), Lipid 1 alone (Lipid 1), Lipid 1-coated SNP (CML), Dox-AH alone *administered at 4X higher drug dose than Dox-AH CML (Dox-AH), Dox alone *at 4X higher drug dose than Dox CML (Dox), Dox-AH-loaded CML (Dox-AH CML), and Dox-loaded CML (Dox CML). Error bars represent standard error over biological triplicates.

To determine the degree to which the modification of Dox to acyl hydrazone Dox-AH altered the drug-CML formulation as a whole, we turned to fluorescence imaging. Dox has a strong emission at 580 nm, so fluorescence microscopy can be used to trace it within cells. Two hours after incubating MCF-7 cells, as above, with CML formulations containing either Dox-AH or Dox, fluorescence images were taken. The acquired images are paired with their bright-field counterparts in Figure 4.11. The more intense fluorescence was seen for the Dox-AH CML, so although the two drug-loaded CML function nearly identically with respect to toxicity, there is an apparent difference in the nature of their internalization. We hypothesize that Dox adsorbs to the SNP surface during CML formation via electrostatic interaction/hydrogen bonding from its ammonium sugar

moiety and thus benefits from the uptake enhancement conferred by the CML, but suffers from greater fluorescence quenching due to its tighter association with the SNP.

Figure 4.11. Stacked bright-field (*lower*) and fluorescence (*upper*) images of MCF-7 cells after two hours treatment with (*left*) Dox-AH-loaded CML, and (*right*) Dox-loaded CML. Scale: 200 μm .

Although unanticipated, we were gratified to find that CML formulations increased the efficacy of both hydrophilic and amphiphilic forms of our model drug. Still, for the purpose of Dox delivery by CML, an acyl hydrazone modification may yet be advantageous since Dox hydrazones have been shown to be more effective against multidrug resistant cell lines.

4.3.7. AMF and bilayer disruption

A few investigators have examined the application of AMF to lipid-coated NPs for achieving substrate release. Hsu and coworkers, for example, prepared “solid lipid” nanostructures with embedded NP. They were constructed with a lipid core of triglyceride and an encapsulating polymeric surfactant. Embedded within the hydrophobic interior were NPs and a model drug. Application of AMF at 25 kHz for 20 minutes resulted in release of 35% of the embedded drug.⁹³ Similarly, Bringas *et al.*⁹² reported AMF-mediated release of a dye from a lipid-coated SNP system. In this work, NPs were capped with mesoporous silica into which the dye methylene blue was incorporated. The mesoporous silica was then coated with a lipid bilayer consisting of 1,2-dioleoyl-*sn*-glycero-3-phosphocholine (DOPC). They observed full release of the dye after AMF exposure at 50 Hz for 350 minutes. These reports encouraged us to think that AMF application might be used to induce Dox release in our CML system. However several toxicity trials failed to show a difference in cell survival for treatment conditions that incorporated AMF exposure. The studies mentioned previously differ from our system in that the AMF frequency used was lower than our own, which is fixed by the size of the coil on our generator. Additionally, both involve structures that contain multiple NPs. We theorize that these factors may have lessened the impact of AMF exposure on substrate release in our system.

4.4. Gene transfection studies

As noted in the opening of this chapter, cationic lipids are commonly utilized as synthetic gene vectors owing to their ability to condense nucleic acids and form cationic lipoplexes that are rapidly taken up by cells through endocytosis. Given the similar but distinct structures of the oxime ether lipids prepared for the CML study as compared to those that had previously proven¹⁴¹ to be efficient transfection agents (Figure 4.12), we chose to examine these novel compounds for their potential for nucleic acid delivery. We were especially interested to see the effect that the 1,2 diol component of lipids **2** and **3** might have on transfection efficiency, as recent reviews of structure-activity relationships in cationic lipids had cited enhanced transfection for lipids with hydroxylated headgroups.^{146, 159}

Figure 4.12. First generation oxime ether lipids for gene transfection

In work done by collaborators at the National Cancer Institute, lipids **2** and **3** were evaluated and compared to the previous set of transfection lipids (**4**, **5**, and **6**) for

DNA/RNA binding efficiency, transfection efficiency, cell viability, and RNA release. In this section, the results related to lipids **2** and **3** are featured.

4.4.1. Binding affinity

Liposomes were formed from each lipid in combination with a zwitterionic co-lipid (DOPE) and the binding affinity of the liposomes for a fluorescently tagged hybrid DNA/RNA was studied by fluorescence anisotropy, a technique that measures changes in polarization/tumbling time. In this assay, lipids **2** and **3** were shown to bind nucleic acids as efficiently as or more so than the first generation lipids (Figure 4.13).

Figure 4.13. Binding affinity of liposomes at different concentrations (1-40 μM) with 100 nM of Alexa 488 RNA/DNA hybrid as measured by fluorescence anisotropy

4.4.2. Transfection efficiency

The transfection efficiency of the lipids was then assessed using the fluorescently labeled hybrid RNA/DNA in MDA-MB-231 breast cancer cells. The results, depicted in Figure 4.14, show a concentration dependence, where lipid **2** showed the highest transfection efficiency at lower doses and lipid **3** showed the highest efficiency at higher doses. In either case, the hydroxylated lipids performed well in comparison to their first generation analogs.

Figure 4.14. Transfection efficiency of oxime ether lipids with Alexa 488-tagged hybrid DNA/RNA

4.4.3 Cell viability

Cell viability was assessed 24 hours after treatment of MDA-MB-231 cells with liposomes of each lipid by fluorescence of CellTitre blue reagent, a dye (resazurin) which becomes fluorescent by enzymatic conversion to resorufin in live cells. None of the lipids elicited significant reduction in viability as shown in Figure 4.15.

Figure 4.15. Viability of MDA-MB-231 cells with liposome/RNA complexes by CellTitre blue assay

4.4.4. Gene expression

Gene silencing was used to assess nucleic acid release and gene expression for cells transfected with lipoplexes of each lipid. In this examination, MDA-MB-231 cells expressing green fluorescent protein (GFP) were prepared, along with lipoplexes of lipids paired with anti-GFP dicer substrate (DS) RNA. Gene expression was then evaluated

based upon the silencing of the fluorescent protein (Figure 4.16A). Lipids **2** and **3** demonstrated silencing of the GFP gene indicating release of dicer RNA. In this regard, lipid **3** bested the other analogs. Figure 4.16B shows the reduction in green fluorescence for the lipoplex of lipid **3**.

Figure 4.16. (a) Silencing of GFP by lipoplexes of lipids with DS RNA (b) Fluorescent microscope images of MDA-MB-231/GFP cells showing silencing of GFP by DS RNA lipoplex with lipid **3**

The results of the transfection studies indicated that the hydroxylated cationic oxime ether lipids are promising candidates for non-viral nucleic acid delivery. In our examination of the relationship between lipid structure and siRNA transfer efficacy, some trends emerged. Polar domain hydroxylation had the greatest influence on binding and release properties, where hydroxylated lipids **2** and **3** outperformed their non-hydroxylated counterparts both in regard to tighter binding, based on fluorescence anisotropy measurements, as well as in nucleic acid release on cellular internalization, as indicated by GFP silencing. Whereas tight lipid complexation with nucleic acids is desirable for protection against enzymatic degradation, the nucleic acid phosphate–lipid ammonium interactions¹⁶⁰ in concert with hydrophobic domain packing and any polar domain hydrogen bonding interactions must be readily overcome for later stage lipoplex disassembly to occur. In this regard, the hydroxylated lipids appear well-structured for effective siRNA protection and release. Hydrophobic domain dissymmetry has been suggested as a structural factor that is beneficial for nucleic acid release, thus ultimately enhancing transfection activity.¹⁶¹⁻¹⁶² All of the lipids in these studies were used as a mixture of (*E,E*)- and (*E,Z*)-oxime ether isomers, meaning a nontrivial amount of non-symmetric (*E,Z*)-lipid was present. Non-symmetric hydrophobic domains likely benefit transfection due to better DNA release through looser lipid packing in the lipoplex formulation.¹⁶³⁻¹⁶⁴

Lipoplex uptake and activity also was facilitated by lipid hydroxylation, and this observation agrees well with the assessment of a recent review¹⁴⁶ citing greater

transfection efficiencies for lipids possessing hydroxylated headgroups. This effect is thought to be mediated by the decrease in headgroup hydration that results from the incorporation of functionality capable of hydrogen bonding. Neighboring lipid-lipid interactions in the lipoplex bilayers lead to exclusion of interstitial water, and the resulting high positive charge/low hydration motif promotes electrostatic interactions not only with the polynucleotide but also with cell membranes.¹⁶⁵

Lipid **3** was arguably the frontrunner in these studies where the unsaturation in the hydrophobic domain appeared to enhance gene expression. Recent findings may explain this behavior; unsaturated lipids are thought to fluidize endosomal bilayers, facilitating lipoplex escape and have also been correlated with better nuclear localization.¹⁵⁹

4.5. Conclusions

Novel oxime ether lipids were synthesized with the aim of optimizing their ability to self-assemble into bilayers surrounding silica-coated magnetic NPs. The resultant cationic magnetoliposomes were assessed for their ability to function *in vitro* as drug carriers in a preliminary study with Dox and a modified amphiphilic analog. Association of the drugs with the CML increased the potency of the nanoassembly over that of the free drug. The preparation of the CML-drug complex was accomplished by simple mixing of SNPs (room temp., H₂O, neutral pH) with small quantities of lipid and drug: 0.3-0.4 mg lipid + .085-0.12 mg anthracycline per mg SNP. The CML-drug formulations showed high toxicity to MCF-7 cancer cells after 2 hours exposure to doses of 50 µg SNP/>50,000 cells

(3.6 μM with respect to the anthracycline). The CML-drug formulations functioned effectively in the presence of serum-supplemented cell growth medium. These results point to the potential for cationic magnetoliposomes built on $\text{Fe}_3\text{O}_4\text{-SiO}_2$ nanoparticles as magnetic drug delivery vehicles, thus providing opportunity for use of the tandem techniques of magnetic targeting, imaging, and inductive heating. Further, *in vitro* assessment of the transfection activity of hydroxylated oxime ether lipids and a comparison with similar lipids of that class highlighted their distinctive efficacy as gene delivery agents.

CHAPTER 5

EXPERIMENTAL PROCEDURES

- 5.1. General Procedures
- 5.2. Experimental Procedures for Chapter 2
- 5.3. Experimental Procedures for Chapter 3
- 5.4. Experimental Procedures for Chapter 4

5.1. General Procedures

Reagents were typically purchased from Aldrich Chemical Company (Milwaukee, WI). Reagent grade ACS dichloromethane, tetrahydrofuran (THF), acetone, hexanes, ethyl acetate (EtOAc), and diethyl ether were purchased from Pharmco-AAPER (Shelbyville, Ky). THF and CH_2Cl_2 were purified, when indicated, using a SPBT-101 Bench Top Solvent Purification System (LC Technology Solutions, Inc., Salisbury, MA). CDCl_3 (99.8%) was purchased from Cambridge Isotope Laboratories (Andover, MA). NMR spectra were acquired on a Varian *Inova* 500 MHz or Varian 400 MHz spectrometer, as indicated. Spectra were referenced to the residual solvent peaks according to Gottlieb *et al.*¹⁶⁶ FTIR spectra were acquired on a Perkin Elmer Spectrum 100 FT-IR Spectrometer (diamond crystal) with range: 4000-650 cm^{-1} , resolution: 4 cm^{-1} , interval: 1 cm^{-1} , and scans: 4. Solid samples were scanned using an ATR attachment, liquid samples were scanned neat or after being dissolved in CH_2Cl_2 , placing a droplet onto the crystal, and allowing the solvent to evaporate. Alternatively, DRIFT IR spectra were acquired on a Mattson galaxy series 5000 DRIFT spectrometer using 64 scans, at a scan speed of 2.1 kHz and a resolution of 4v. DRIFT samples were prepared as a loose powder in KBr. High resolution mass spectra were acquired on a Finnigan LTQ- FT spectrometer (Thermo Electron Corp). MALDI-TOF-MS detection was done on a Voyager DE-Pro MALDI-TOF instrument (PE Biosystems) using 2,5-dihydroxybenzoic acid (2,5-DHB) matrix. Melting points were determined using a Fisher-Johns melting point apparatus or an SRS Digimelt. Heating of cell extract samples was done on a Barnstead/Thermolyne Type 17600 Dri-bath. Centrifugation was performed on an Eppendorf Centrifuge type 5415R; vacuum

centrifugation was performed on an Eppendorf Vacufuge. Reaction progress was monitored by thin layer chromatography (silica gel 60 Å F-254 plates) using UV visualization and staining with ninhydrin, phosphomolybdic acid, or *p*-anisaldehyde solutions. Column chromatography was performed using silica gel (230-400 mesh) or by using a Teledyne Isco combiflash system. Cell microscopy was done on an EVOS FL Cell Imaging System (Advanced Microscopy Group, WA). Dynamic light scattering and ζ -potential measurements were acquired on a Brookhaven ZetaPALS Zeta Potential analyzer.

5.2. Experimental Procedures for Chapter 2

5.2.1 Syntheses of reagents and intermediates

5.2.2 Mass spectrometry methods

5.2.3 Extraction solvent determination, counterion comparison, and
partition efficiency

5.2.4 Verification of linear instrument response

5.2.5 Cell culture and extract preparation

5.2.6 Cell extract derivatization

5.2.7 Data analysis and statistics

5.2.8 Estimation of cellular suppression factor and quantification of
pyruvate

5.2 Experimental Procedures for Chapter 2

5.2.1 Syntheses of reagents and intermediates

N-Hydroxyethyl-*N,N*-dimethyl-octylammonium iodide (**2.1**)

Following a previously reported protocol,¹⁶⁷ a solution of *N,N*-dimethylethanolamine (0.50 mL, 4.98 mmol) and iodoctane (0.099 mL, 5.47 mmol) in acetone (15 mL) were heated to reflux. After 30h, the reaction was cooled to room temperature and dried by rotary evaporation. To the resultant yellow solid, hexanes were added (6mL) and the solution was triturated with sonication until the solid dispersed. Buchner filtration of the suspension followed by vacuum drying of the collected solids yielded **2.1** (1.77 g, 92%) as white crystals; mp 76-78 °C; ¹H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 0.82 (t, *J* = 6.7 H, 3H); 1.24 (m, 10H); 1.73 (m, 2H); 3.32 (s, 6H); 3.52 (m, 2H); 3.71 (m, 2H); 4.08 (m, 3H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) 11C δ 14.1, 22.5, 22.9, 26.2, 29.0, 29.1, 31.6, 52.4; 55.5, 65.5, 66.2. IR 3277, 2952, 2920, 2853, 1483, 1464, 1410, 1104, 1073, 1006, 968, 938, 843, 728, 594 cm⁻¹; HRMS *m/z* calcd [C₁₂H₂₈NO]⁺ 202.2165, observed 202.2166.

***N*-Aminooxyethyl-*N,N*-dimethyl-octylammonium iodide (QOA)**

To a solution of alcohol 2.1 (1.50 g, 4.55 mmol), *N*-hydroxyphthalimide (0.817g, 5.01 mmol) triphenylphosphine (1.31 g, 5.00 mmol) in THF (15 mL) at rt was added diisopropyl azodicarboxylate (DIAD) (0.993 mL, 5.01 mmol). After stirring 12h at room temperature, the solvents were removed by rotary evaporation. To the crude yellow residue was added ethyl acetate (7.0 mL). The resultant suspension of white solids was filtered, and the retentate (phthalimide intermediate) was used directly in the next step. ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 0.85 (t, J = 6.5 Hz, 3H); 1.32 (m, 10H); 1.85 (m, 2H); 3.57 (s, 6H); 3.78 (m, 2H); 4.37 (m, 2H); 4.74 (m, 2H); 7.80 (m, 2H); 7.85 (m, 2H).

To the phthalimide protected salt (1.88 g, 3.96 mmol) in CH_2Cl_2 was added hydrazine monohydrate (0.59 g, 11.9 mmol) and the mixture was stirred at rt for 2h. Collection of the CH_2Cl_2 filtrate followed by drying yielded QOA-I (1.26 gm, 93%) as a white powder; mp 55.5-58.6 °C. ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 0.80 (t, J = 6.5 Hz, 3H); 1.24 (m, 10H); 1.69 (m, 2H); 3.33 (s, 6H); 3.51(m, 2H); 3.84 (m, 2H); 4.12 (m, 2H); 4.95 (bs, 2H - NH_2 -). Key ^1H - ^1H COSY correlations: δ 4.12-3.84 ($\text{C}(1')\text{H}_2$ - $\text{C}(2')\text{H}_2$); 3.51-1.69 ($\text{C}(1)\text{H}_2$ - $\text{C}(2)\text{H}_2$). ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 14.0, 52.2; 22.5, 22.9, 26.2, 28.9, 29.1, 31.6, 62.5, 65.8, 69.0. IR: 3273, 3029, 2927, 2855, 1472, 1172, 954 $\nu(\text{O-N})$, 858, 495 cm^{-1} . HRMS m/z calcd $[\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{29}\text{N}_2\text{O}]^+$ 217.227439, observed 217.22779.

Dodecyl(2-hydroxyethyl)dimethylazanium bromide (**2.3**)

A solution of N,N-dimethylethanolamine (0.5 mL, 4.97 mmol) and 1-bromododecane (1.31 mL, 5.47 mmol) in acetone (25 mL) were heated to reflux, After 24h, the reaction was cooled to rt and the precipitated solids were collected by filtration, washed with chilled acetone and dried under vacuum. The reaction filtrate was dried under rotary evaporation and to the resulting yellow residue hexane was added. Trituration with sonication of the hexane produced a white precipitate which was collected by filtration and combined with the precipitate from acetone to afford **2.3** (0.977 gm, 58 %) as white crystals; mp (decomp) 190 °C. ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3), δ 0.87 (t, J = 6.75 Hz, 3H); 1.25 (m, 18H); 1.75 (m, 2H); 3.37 (s, 6H); 3.54 (m, 2H); 3.75 (m, 2H); 4.15 (m, 2H); 4.99 (t, J = 5.5 Hz, 1H). ^{13}C -NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 15C δ 14.1; 22.6; 22.9; 26.2; 29.2; 29.3; 29.4; 29.5; 29.6 (2 signals); 31.8; 52.0, 55.9, 65.4, 66.1. IR: 3248, 3006, 2952, 2917, 2850, 1475, 1421, 1375, 1078, 1073, 1055, 1016, 965, 918, 900, 730, 718, 601, 571, 432 cm^{-1} .

N-Aminooxyethyl-*N,N*-dimethyl-dodecylammonium bromide (**QDA·Br**)

To a solution of alcohol 2.3 (0.699 g, 2.06 mmol), *N*-hydroxyphthalimide (0.371 g, 2.27 mmol), triphenylphosphine (0.596 g, 2.27 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (10 mL) at rt was added DIAD (0.45 mL, 2.27 mmol). After stirring for 15h at rt, the solvents were removed by rotary evaporation. To the crude yellow residue was added ethyl acetate (20 mL). The resultant suspension of white solids was filtered, and the retentate (phthalimide intermediate) was used directly in the next step. ¹H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 0.86 (t, *J* = 6.7 Hz, 3H); 1.30 (m, 18H); 1.83 (m, 2H); 3.56 (s, 6H -N(Me)₂-); 3.76 (m, 2H); 4.41 (m, 2H); 4.74 (m, 2H); 7.82 (m, 2H); 7.84 (m, 2H).

To the phthalimide protected salt (1.93 g, 3.98 mmol) in anhydrous ethanol was added hydrazine monohydrate (1.24 g, 24.7 mmol). The reaction was stirred for 6hr at 50°C. The ethanol was then removed by rotary evaporation and CH₂Cl₂ was added (17 mL). The resulting white precipitate was filtered over a Buchner funnel and washed with CH₂Cl₂. The CH₂Cl₂ filtrate was dried by rotary evaporation. To the resultant off-white residue toluene was added (30 mL), heating and sonication yielded a suspension of fine white particles which were collected over a glass Buchner funnel. This afforded QDA·Br as a white powder; mp (decomp) 187 °C. ¹H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 0.84 (t (*J* = 6.7 Hz), 3H); 1.27 (m, 18H); 1.70 (m 2H); 3.36 (s, 6H); 3.54 (m, 2H); 3.94 (m, 2H); 4.17 (m, 2H); 5.30 (bs, 2H). ¹³C-NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) 15C δ 14.1; 22.1 (2 signals); 22.7; 22.9; 26.3; 29.2; 29.3; 29.5; 29.6; 31.9; 51.8, 62.2, 65.6. IR: 3280, 2921, 2848, 1653, 1576, 1472, 1173,

1073, 954 $\nu(\text{O-N})$, 719, 494 cm^{-1} . HRMS m/z calcd $[\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{37}\text{N}_2\text{O}]^+$ 273.290588, observed 273.28983.

N-(2-hydroxyethyl)-*N*-methyl-1-dodecanylamine (**2.6**)

A solution of 2-(methyamino)ethanol (1.37 mL, 17.0 mmol), 1-bromododecane (4.08 mL, 17.0 mmol), and anhydrous sodium carbonate (1.93 g, 17.0 mmol) in anhydrous ethanol (34 mL) was heated to reflux. After 20h, the reaction suspension was cooled to room temperature and the precipitated solids were removed by filtration. The filtrate was concentrated to one-third volume by rotary evaporation and then transferred to a centrifuge vial and centrifuged to pellet precipitated solids. The supernatant was collected and evaporated by rotary evaporation. Bulb-to-bulb distillation (Kugelrohr, 190 °C, *ca.* -0.986 atm) of the crude residue afforded 2.6 (2.91 g, 70%) as a clear liquid. Spectral characterization of 2.6 gave values identical to those reported.¹⁶⁸ ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 0.88 (t, J = 6.0 Hz, 3H); 1.25 (m, 18H); 1.45 (m, 2H), 2.22 (s, 3H); 2.38 (t, J = 8.50 Hz, 2H); 2.50 (t, J = 4.25 Hz, 2H); 3.57 (t, J = 5.5 Hz, 2H).

2-(2-(dodecyl(methyl)amino)ethoxy)isoindoline-1,3-dione (**2.7**)

To a solution of **2.6** (2.91 g, 11.9 mmol) in THF (50 mL) at 0 °C were added *N*-hydroxyphthalamide (2.14 g, 13.1 mmol), PPh₃ (3.44 g, 13.1 mmol) and DIAD (2.6 mL, 13.1 mmol). The reaction mixture was warmed to rt and stirred 12h before removing the solvents by rotary evaporation. To the yellow residue was added hexane (60 mL) and the resultant suspension was triturated and sonicated (rt bath, 30 sec intervals). The resultant fine solids were removed by filtration, and the filtrate was removed by rotary evaporation to afford crude **2.7** as an orange solid. The crude product was dissolved in ethyl acetate (50 mL) and the solution was washed with saturated NaHCO₃ (3X). The organic layer was dried (Na₂SO₄) and then evaporated by rotary evaporation to yield **2.7** (4.53 g, 98%) as a yellow, low melting semi-solid (38.7-40.1 °C); ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 0.87 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 3H); 1.24 (m, 18H); 1.41 (m, 2H); 2.29 (s, 3H); 2.39 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H); 2.83 (t, *J* = 5.5 Hz, 2H); 4.32 (t, *J* = 5.5 Hz, 2H); 7.74 (m, 2H); 7.83 (m, 2H). ¹³C-NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 14.1; 21.9; 22.6; 26.9; 27.4; 29.3; 29.5-29.6 (m); 31.9; 42.1; 55.4; 57.8; 75.6; 123.4; 128.9; 134.4; 163.4.

N-[2-(Aminooxy)ethyl]-*N,N*-dimethyl-1-dodecylammonium iodide (**QDA**)

A glass pressure tube was charged with 2.7 (0.10 g, 1.79 mmol), dry CH₂Cl₂ (5 mL) and iodomethane (1.53 g, 10.8 mmol). The tube was sealed and then immersed in an oil bath heated to 50 °C. After 12h, the reaction was cooled to rt. The tube was opened and the solvent was evaporated in a fume hood using a steady nitrogen stream. The resulting off-white solid 2.8 was used directly in the next step. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 0.85 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 3H); 1.24 (m, 16H); 1.36 (m, 2H); 1.84 (m, 2H); 3.56 (s, 6H); 3.77 (m, 2H); 4.37 (t, *J* = 4.3 Hz, 2H); 4.75 (t, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 2H); 7.80 (m, 2H); 7.85 (m, 2H).

To a solution of 2.8 (0.90 g, 1.70 mmol) in anhydrous ethanol (9 mL) was added hydrazine monohydrate (0.43 g 8.49 mmol). The reaction mixture was stirred at rt for 12h whereupon the solvent was removed by rotary evaporation. To the residue was added CH₂Cl₂ (20 mL) and the resultant suspension was filtered. The filtrate was concentrated by rotary evaporation and toluene (15 mL) was added. The mixture was triturated with sonication (rt bath, 30 sec intervals) and the solids were collected and dried (vacuum) to afford **QDA** (0.45 g, 65%); mp 85.9-88.9 °C; ¹H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 0.87 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 3H); 1.20-1.43 (m, 18H); 1.75 (m, 2H); 3.42 (s, 6H); 3.58 (m, 2H); 3.96 (t, *J* = 4.5 Hz, 2H); 4.16 (m, 2H); 6.85 (br. s, 2H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 14.1; 22.6; 22.9; 26.2; 29.2; 29.3; 29.35; 29.4; 29.6 (2 signals); 31.9; 52.1; 62.4; 66.0; 68.9; IR (DRIFT, KBr powder) 3270, 2917, 2848, 1468, 1172, 956, 900 cm⁻¹; HRMS *m/z* calcd [C₁₆H₃₇N₂O]⁺ 273.2906, observed 273.2903.

N-[2-(Aminooxy)ethyl]-*N*-methyl-*N*-[(¹³C²H₃)-methyl]-1-dodecylammonium iodide
 (*QDA)

Using the procedure described for synthesis of **QDA**, amine 2.7 (0.50 g, 1.29 mmol) was reacted with ¹³CD₃I (0.47 g, 3.21 mmol) and hydrazine monohydrate (0.302g, 6.02mmol) to give *QDA (0.37 g, 75%) as a white powder; mp 86.6-87.5 °C; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 0.86 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 3H); 1.14-1.43 (m, 16H); 1.74 (m, 2H); 3.41 (d, *J* = 3.5 Hz, 3H); 3.58 (m, 2H); 3.92 (m, 2H); 4.16 (m, 2H); 5.91 (br s); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 14.3; 22.8; 23.1; 26.4; 29.4; 29.5; 29.6; 29.7; 29.8 (2 signals); 32.1; 51.6 (m); 52.2; 62.6; 66.0; 69.2; IR (DRIFT, KBr powder) 3278, 2913, 2850, 1468, 1173, 1048, 947 ν(O-N), 720, 482, 418 cm⁻¹; HRMS *m/z* calcd [C₁₅¹³C²H₃H₃₄N₂O]⁺ 277.3119, observed 277.3124.

5.2.2 Mass spectrometry methods

Samples were analyzed on a hybrid linear ion trap (LIT) FT-ICR mass spectrometer (LTQ-FT, Thermo Electron, Bremen, Germany) equipped with a TriVersa NanoMate ion source (Advion BioSciences, Ithaca, NY) with an “A” electrospray chip (nozzle inner diameter 5.5 μm). The TriVersa NanoMate was operated in positive ion mode by applying 1.85 kV with 0.1 psi head pressure. MS runs were recorded over a mass range from 150 to 1200 Da. Initially, low resolution LIT-MS scans were acquired for 0.75 minute to track the stability of the ion spray, after which high mass accuracy data were collected using the FT-ICR analyzer where MS scans were acquired for 8 min. The AGC (automatic gain control) maximum ion time was set to 10 ms and 500 ms for the LIT and ICR operations, respectively, using default ion count targets for both and 5 “microscans” (ICR transients) were accumulated before Fourier transformation to produce each saved spectrum; thus the cycle time for each transformed, saved spectrum was about 5 s, the exact timing of which varied slightly with the AGC operations for each. The LTQ-FT was tuned and calibrated according to the manufacturer’s default standard recommendations, which typically achieved better than 0.2 ppm mass accuracy at 400,000 resolving power ($m/z = 400$).

FT-ICR mass spectra were exported as exact mass lists into a spreadsheet file using QualBrowser 2.0 SR2 (Thermo Electron, “Bremen” version for the LTQ-FT) by exporting all of the recorded peaks so that s/n decisions can be made in downstream data processing. QDA/*QDA adducts were assigned based on their accurate mass by using an in-house software tool PREMISE (PRecaculated Exact Mass Isotopologue Search Engine)¹¹ which

was also manually validated. PREMISE is a simple algorithm that corrects small mass errors based on a selectable known peak (such as internal standard, or a known analyte), then matches observed with theoretical m/z values within a selectable window that is typically set to 0.0008 Da or smaller. The theoretical m/z values of a large number of QDA-metabolite adducts were calculated and compiled in a reference table for the PREMISE assignment.

5.2.3 Extraction solvent determination, counterion comparison, and partition efficiency

One of three aminoxy reagents (QOA, QDA or *QDA) 9 μ M was added to a mixture of aldehyde/ketone standards (pyruvate, α -ketoglutarate, α -ketobutyrate, and glucose, 2 μ M each) in 5 mM pH 6 NH_4OAc buffer in microcentrifuge tubes. The mixtures were sonicated 2h at rt and placed in a dry bath at 40 $^{\circ}\text{C}$ for 12h. The aqueous mixtures were then subjected to 5 equal volume extractions with either CHCl_3 , EtOAc, or *n*-butanol; each extraction was separately retained. The organic extractions were dried by vacuum centrifugation. The resultant residues were dissolved in MeOH with 0.1% formic acid and were detected by FT-ICR-MS after addition of a 200 nM standard (QOA-acetone- d_6 adduct) for normalization purposes. Ion counts were normalized to the standard and compared across the 5 extractions for the three solvents and the three aminoxy reagents.

5.2.4 Verification of linear instrument response

As the automatic gain control of the FT-ICR-MS prevents the use of simple serial dilution of standards for signal intensity comparisons, the feature can be compensated for by adding a known standard at high concentration to all samples. A mixture of *QDA standard adducts (pyruvate, α -ketoglutarate, α -ketobutyrate, and glucose) were prepared in methanol and diluted to concentrations ranging from 25 μ M-25 pM. QOA-acetone-d₆ adduct (100 μ M) was added as a standard for normalization and for use as a compensation for automatic gain control.

5.2.5 Cell culture and extract preparation

Human lung adenocarcinoma A549 cells were grown in 10-cm plates with 8 mL RPMI 1640 medium (Sigma) supplemented with 2 mM glutamine, 0.2% glucose, 10% fetal bovine serum, 100 U/mL penicillin, and 0.1 mg/mL streptomycin at 37°C, 5% CO₂ and 95% humidity. When cells became 70% confluent, the medium was removed, and the cells were washed three times on ice each with 5 ml cold 1X PBS (phosphate buffered saline) to remove medium components. 1 ml of cold acetonitrile (-20 °C) was added to quench metabolism. Then, 0.75 mL of nanopure water was added before cells were scraped and collected into a 15 mL polypropylene conical centrifuge tube (Sarstedt, Newton, NC) containing three 3 mm diameter glass beads. These steps were then repeated to collect any remaining cells. Next, 1 mL HPLC-grade chloroform (Fisher Scientific) was added to the centrifuge tube containing the cell lysate. Extraction of polar metabolites via solvent

partitioning was performed as described previously.¹⁶⁹ The aqueous extract was lyophilized and stored at -80 °C prior to analysis.

5.2.6 Cell extract derivatization

50 μ L of a 1:1 mixture of 100 μ M QDA and *QDA as solutions in nanopure water was added to a 1.5 mL microcentrifuge tube containing the aqueous extract of approximately one quarter of a 10 cm cell plate in 50 μ L of 10 mM pH 6 NH_4OAc buffer. The tube was briefly vortexed, sonicated for 1 hr and placed in a 40 °C dry bath for 23 hours. Following reaction, the aqueous layer was extracted with *n*-butanol three times, and dried by vacuum centrifugation. The residue was dissolved in methanol with 0.1% v/v formic acid and analyzed by FT-ICR-MS as a 1:1 mixture with an external standard of 2 μ M QOA-acetone- d_6 adduct. For each experiment, three replicate samples were made. A buffer blank consisting of 50 μ L 10 mM pH 6 NH_4OAc buffer and 50 μ L of the QDA/*QDA mixture was prepared and analyzed similarly to serve as a negative control.

5.2.7 Data analysis and statistics

Each sample was acquired for nine minutes on FT-ICR-MS and the resultant spectra were averaged over all saved scans. Next, all peaks of a single (representative) acquisition were exported to excel. Any peaks with ion counts less than 1000 were deleted in order to eliminate noise, which typically appeared to be values around 200 counts or below. A theoretical “+4” m/z list was created by adding 4.02188 to all of the parent peaks. PREMISE software was then used to find matches between the original data and the +4 peak-list with an error range of 0.0009 m/z . This simplified list was then crosschecked manually against the negative control peak-list and any duplicate masses were deleted, except in cases where the intensity was significantly higher in the sample than the negative control (>80%). Where multiple +4 peaks were matched, the peaks with ion counts most closely matching the parent (n) peak were retained. Finally, any peaks identified as both n and n+4 peaks were deleted.

5.2.8 Estimation of cellular suppression factor and quantification of pyruvate

For an estimate of the “ion suppression” (loss of signal intensity) factor in cellular extracts, the ion counts of the parent ions (protonated) of QDA-pyruvate and QDA- $^{13}\text{C}_3$ -pyruvate were normalized by dividing by the ion counts of the external standard *QDA-pyruvate which was added at the same concentration to every sample. The normalized ion counts of QDA- $^{13}\text{C}_3$ -pyruvate were then plotted against the known concentrations of 2.5, 5, and 7.5 μM in buffer conditions, and cell extract conditions, along with linear regressions. The quotient of the slopes of the two linear regressions gives a cellular extract ion suppression factor of 4.97.

The concentration of endogenous pyruvate was calculated using the standard curve established by the internal standard QDA- $^{13}\text{C}_3$ pyruvate. Specifically, the normalized ion counts for QDA-pyruvate were averaged across three nine-minute FT-ICR-MS acquisitions, then over three replicate samples. Normalized ion counts of QDA-pyruvate from the blank (QDA added to buffer alone) were subtracted. This value was then entered as the y value into the linear regression equation of Figure 2.10 and the μM concentration was calculated. This concentration indicated the amount of pyruvate (plus mass isomers) partitioned into the aqueous extract of 1/8th of a 70% confluent 10 cm well plate (approx. 625,000 cells) dissolved in 100 μL of methanol with 0.1% formic acid.

5.3. Experimental Procedures for Chapter 3

5.3.1 Preparation of iron oxide NPs

5.3.2 Quantification of Fe^{2+} and total Fe for determination of NP composition

5.3.3 AMF heating properties

5.3.4 Syntheses of variably hydroxylated ammonium salts

5.3.5 NP coating with variably hydroxylated ammonium salts

5.3.6 Thermogravimetric analysis of NP-bound ammonium salts

5.3.7 Synthesis of FITC-CHO

5.3.8 Syntheses of aminooxy linkers

5.3.9 Fluorescence study of FITC-loaded NPs

5.3.10 Syntheses of doxorubicin analogs

5.3.11 Preparation of NP formulations of Dox analogs

5.3.12 UV-Vis detection of Dox-OH and Dox-2OH release by pulsed AMF

5.3.13 Toxicity of Dox-NPs in MCF-7 cells

5.3.14 Synthesis of QAO-2OH anthracene derivative

5.3.15 Dextran sulfate coating of NPs

5.3.16 Coating of dextran sulfate NPs with QAO-2OH anthracene derivative

5.3.17 Release of QAO-2OH anthracene derivative from dextran sulfate NPs

- 5.3.18 CS₂ and CS₂/CH₃I coating of NPs
- 5.3.19 Synthesis of deuterated ammonium salt 3
- 5.3.20 Coating of CS₂ NPs with 3
- 5.3.21 Synthesis of anthracen-9-ylmethanamine (4)
- 5.3.22 Preparation of thiocarbamate NPs 10
- 5.3.23 Elemental analysis
- 5.3.24 CS₂ modified NPs with variably hydroxylated ammonium salts
- 5.3.25 Synthesis of greigite NPs
- 5.3.26 Greigite NP coating with QAO-2OH anthracene derivative

5.3 Experimental Procedures for Chapter 3

5.3.1 Preparation of iron oxide NPs

180 mL of 0.1 M NaOH (0.719 g, 18.0 mmol) in Millipore water was prepared and deoxygenated by bubbling with N₂ for 1h. 5.29 mL of 0.4M iron III chloride (0.573 g, 2.12 mmol) and 5 mL 0.2M iron II chloride (0.232 g, 1.17 mmol) were likewise prepared in deoxygenated Millipore water. 5ml each of the iron chloride solutions were combined and added dropwise to the aqueous base under rapid stirring. After 30 min the NPs were magnetically sedimented and the supernatant was aspirated under positive N₂ pressure. The precipitate was washed with 40 mL degassed Millipore water (“water wash condition”) and again magnetically separated for supernatant aspiration. NPs were transferred in a minimal amount of Millipore water to vials and freeze dried (0.2417 g, 89%).

For “acid washed” condition, NPs were prepared as above with the addition of 4X 40 mL washes with Millipore water followed by 1X 40 mL wash with 0.01M aqueous HCl. For “multiple water wash” condition, NPs were simply washed 4X with 40 mL Millipore water.

5.3.2 Quantification of Fe²⁺ and total Fe for determination of NP composition

As outlined by Amonette and Templeton,¹⁰⁵ the assay of Fe II and total Fe in iron oxide nanoparticles samples was accomplished by dissolving 1) 25 mg of “water washed” particles or 2) 27mg of “acid washed” particles in a preheated acid matrix consisting of 10% sulfuric acid (12 mL), hydrofluoric acid (1 mL), and 10% 1,10 phenanthroline in 95%

ethanol (2 mL). After boiling for 30 minutes, boric acid solution (5%, 10 mL) and deionized water (90 mL) were added. An aliquot of each sample was reduced with 1% NH_2OH in 1% $\text{Na}_3\text{-citrate}$ (10 mL) to convert remaining Fe III to Fe II for a total Fe assay. Solutions were diluted in 1% $\text{Na}_3\text{-citrate}$ and absorbances were detected on a Beckman Coulter DU 800 spectrophotometer. Absorbance at 510 nm was used to calculate total Fe and Fe II concentrations for each samples using equation 5 (*ibid*). Fe III was determined by the difference of Fe II from total Fe concentrations.

5.3.3 AMF heating properties

Solutions of NPs with concentrations of 0.2, 1, 5, 25 mg/mL in Millipore water were prepared along with a control without NPs. Alginate (Tica-algin 613 sodium alginate: sodium phosphate, and calcium sulfate) was added such that each solution contained 3% w/v alginate. Each sample was exposed to AMF for 1h at 201.4A, 203 kHz while temperature measurements were made at 15 minute intervals with a fiber optic temperature probe (Neoptix).

5.3.4 Syntheses of variably hydroxylated ammonium salts

(2-hydroxyethyl)trimethylazanium iodide (**1OH**)

N,N-dimethylethanolamine 4.99 mmols was added to a pressure vial as a 0.2 M solution in CH_2Cl_2 and cooled to 0°C . Iodomethane was added (14.97 mmols) and the reaction was allowed to come to room temperature. After 12 hours at room temp, the solution was filtered of the white precipitated product. The precipitate was dried using a vacuum desiccator (1.61g, quantitative, mp. >260). ^1H NMR (500 MHz, D_2O) δ 3.21 (s, 9H, $\text{N}(\text{CH}_3)_3$); 3.54 (t, 2H, $J = 5.00\text{ Hz}$, $\text{C}(1)\text{H}_2$); 4.08 (m, 2H, $\text{C}(2)\text{H}_2$). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, D_2O) δ 53.8; 55.5; 67.3. m/z calcd $[\text{C}_5\text{H}_{14}\text{NO}]^+$ 104.10699, observed 104.10693.

(2,3-dihydroxypropyl)trimethylazanium iodide (**1,2 diol**)

3-(dimethylamino)-1,2-propanediol (1.0 g, 8.4 mmols) was added to a pressure vial as a 1M solution in CH_2Cl_2 . The vial was cooled to 0°C and iodomethane (3.6 g, 25.2 mmols) was added. The sealed tube was capped and the reaction ran at room temperature for 10 hours with stirring. Post reaction, a white precipitate was filtered from solution. This retentate was rinsed with CH_2Cl_2 and dried (vacuum) affording the 1,2 diol (2.077 g, 95%) as a white, crystalline solid, mp. $130.6\text{-}132.1^\circ\text{C}$. ^1H NMR (400 MHz, D_2O) δ 3.29 (s, 9H, $\text{N}(\text{CH}_3)_3$); 3.50 (m, 2H $\text{C}(1)\text{H}$, $\text{C}(1)\text{H}'$); 3.64 (m, 2H, $\text{C}(3)\text{H}_2$); 4.35 (m, 1H,

C(2)H). ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, D_2O) 4C δ 54.29; 63.74; 66.49; 68.30. m/z calcd $[\text{C}_6\text{H}_{16}\text{NO}_2]^+$ 134.117555, observed 134.11748.

bis(2-hydroxyethyl)dimethylazanium iodide (**2OH**)

N-methyl diethanolamine (1.0 g, 8.4 mmols) was added to a pressure vial as a 1M solution in CH_2Cl_2 . Iodomethane (5.9 g, 42.0 mmol) was added and the sealed tube was heated in an oil bath at 50°C for 10 hours with magnetic stirring. Post reaction, the upper clear solution was decanted and the yellow oil was washed with CH_2Cl_2 (15 mL). Acetonitrile was used to dissolve the yellow oil, the solvent was removed by rotary evaporation and drying (vacuum) afforded 2OH as a hygroscopic orange solid, mp. $76.4\text{--}78.9^\circ\text{C}$ (2.55 g, 119%). ^1H NMR (500 MHz, D_2O) δ 3.25 (s, 6H, $\text{N}(\text{CH}_3)_2$); 3.62 (t, 4H, $J = 5.00$ Hz, C(1) H_2); 4.09 (m, 4H, C(2) H_2). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, D_2O) 3C δ 52.2; 55.3; 66.9. m/z calcd $[\text{C}_6\text{H}_{16}\text{NO}_2]^+$ 134.117555, observed 134.11749.

tris(2-hydroxyethyl)(methyl)azanum iodide (**3OH**)

Triethanolamine (1.0 g, 6.7 mmols) was added to a pressure vial as a 1M solution in CH_2Cl_2 . Iodomethane (2.85 g, 20.1 mmol) was added and the sealed tube was heated in an oil bath at 50°C for 6 hours with magnetic stirring. Post reaction, the upper clear solution was decanted and the amber oil was washed with CH_2Cl_2 (8 mL). Acetonitrile was used to dissolve the oil, the solvent was removed by rotary evaporation and drying (vacuum) afforded 3OH as an orange semisolid (2.55 g, 119%). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, D_2O) δ 3.28 (s, 3H, $\text{N}(\text{CH}_3)$); 3.70 (t, 6H, $J = 5.00$ Hz, $\text{C}(1)\text{H}_2$); 4.09 (m, 6H, $\text{C}(2)\text{H}_2$). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, D_2O) 3C δ 50.0; 55.1; 64.4. m/z calcd $[\text{C}_7\text{H}_{18}\text{NO}_3]^+$ 164.12812, observed 164.12804.

(2-hydroxyethyl)trimethylazanium chloride (**1OH**)

A Dowex ion exchange resin (10g, 200-400 mesh, chloride form) was hydrated and packed in water; the eluent was then gradually switched to methanol. The iodide form of 1OH (0.21g, 0.89 mmols) was passed through the resin using gravity elution with methanol. The product, a white solid (0.143g, 115%), was verified as the chloride salt using the silver nitrate method as well as by mass spectrometry. ^1H NMR (500 MHz, D_2O)

δ 3.21 (s, 9H, N(CH₃)₃); 3.53 (t, 2H, J = 5.00 Hz, C(1)H₂); 4.07 (m, 2H, C(2)H₂). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, D₂O) 3C δ 54.0; 55.7; 67.5. *m/z* calcd [C₅H₁₄NO]⁺ 104.10699, observed 104.10693. Dimer (chloride counterion) *m/z* calcd 243.182833, observed 243.18357, no iodide dimer observed.

(2,3-dihydroxypropyl)trimethylazanium chloride (**1,2 diol**)

The iodo form of the 1,2 diol (0.21g, 0.79 mmols) was passed through an ion exchange resin prepared as above using gravity elution with methanol. The product, a pale yellow semi-solid (0.142g, 106%), was verified as the chloride salt using mass spectrometry. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, D₂O) δ 3.24 (s, 9H, N(CH₃)₃); 3.46 (m, 2H C(1)H, C(1)H'); 3.60 (d, 2H, J = 5.00 Hz, C(3)H₂); 4.30 (m, 1H, C(2)H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, D₂O) 4C δ 68.3; 66.5; 63.7, 54.3. *m/z* calcd [C₆H₁₆NO₂]⁺ 134.117555, observed 134.11748. Dimer (chloride counterion) *m/z* calcd 303.203963, observed 303.20481, no iodide dimer observed.

bis(2-hydroxyethyl)dimethylazanium chloride (**2OH**)

The iodo form of 2OH (0.21g, 0.82 mmols) was passed through an ion exchange column prepared as above using gravity elution with methanol. The product, a transparent solid (0.146g, 105%, 104 °C (d)), was verified as the chloride salt using mass spectrometry. ^1H NMR (500 MHz, D_2O) δ 3.23 (s, 6H, $\text{N}(\text{CH}_3)_2$); 3.60 (t, 4H, $J = 5.00$ Hz, $\text{C}(1)\text{H}_2$); 4.08 (m, 4H, $\text{C}(2)\text{H}_2$). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, D_2O) 3C δ 52.3; 55.5; 66.3. m/z calcd $[\text{C}_6\text{H}_{16}\text{NO}_2]^+$ 134.117555, observed 134.11748. Dimer (chloride counterion) m/z calcd 303.203963, observed 303.20479, no iodide dimer observed.

tris(2-hydroxyethyl)(methyl)azanium chloride (**3OH**)

The iodo form of 3OH (0.21g, 0.72 mmols) was passed through an ion exchange column prepared as above using gravity elution with methanol. The product, a transparent hygroscopic solid (0.148g, 104%), was verified as the chloride salt using mass spectrometry. ^1H NMR (500 MHz, D_2O) δ 3.26 (s, 3H, $\text{N}(\text{CH}_3)$); 3.69 (t, 6H, $J = 5.25$ Hz,

C(1)H₂); 4.08 (m, 6H, C(2)H₂). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, D₂O) 3C δ 50.1; 55.3; 64.5. *m/z* calcd [C₇H₁₈NO₃]⁺ 164.12812, observed 164.12818. Dimer (chloride counterion) *m/z* calcd 363.225093, observed 363.22728, no iodide dimer observed.

5.3.5 NP coating with variably hydroxylated ammonium salts

3M solutions in methanol of each ammonium salt (or amine free base) were prepared and added to microcentrifuge tubes containing ≈10 mg NPs such that there were 10 mmol ammonium salt per g NP. The microcentrifuge tubes were briefly vortexed and sonicated (rt, 1h) followed by rotating on an inverter at rt for 3h. NPs were pelleted by centrifugation (16000 rcf, 20 min) and the supernatant was removed. The NPs were then washed with water (3X 0.5 mL) with intervening pelleting by centrifugation. The pellets were then freeze dried.

5.3.6 Thermogravimetric analysis of NP-bound ammonium salts

TGA was performed on a TA Instruments Hi-Res 2950 Thermogravimetric Analyzer. Approximately 6 mg of each lyophilized NP sample was loaded into a platinum sample pan for analysis. After an initial equilibration phase at 35 °C, the temperature was increased 20 °C/min up to 700 °C under nitrogen gas. Triplicate samples were analyzed.

5.3.7 Synthesis of FITC-CHO

To a solution of fluorescein isothiocyanate (80% isomer 1, 1.28 g, 3.28 mmol) in DMF (10 mL) was added 4-aminobutyraldehyde diethyl acetal (0.771 g, 3.94 mmol) via syringe. The mixture was stirred 4h at rt. The reaction solvent was diluted with 100 mL dilute aq. HCl (pH4) and extracted with diethyl ether (8X 100 mL). The organic phase was dried over sodium sulfate and evaporated by rotary evaporation. The product was passed through a silica gel plug (CH₂Cl₂:MeOH, 1:0-9:1) and was used in the next step without further purification.

To the acetal was added 30% v/v aqueous acetic acid (150 mL) and stirred 15h at rt. The solvent was removed as an azeotrope with toluene to yield FITC-CHO as an orange solid (0.550 g, 55% 2 steps). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, dmso) major isomer δ = 10.11 (br s, 2H); 8.12 (s, 1H); 7.84 (m, 1H); 7.26-7.12 (m, 2H); 6.66 (s, 2H); 6.58 (m, 4H); 5.76 (br s, 1H); 3.78 (m, 1H); 3.61 (m, 2H); 2.30 (s, 1H); 2.09 (br, 2H); 1.89 (br, 2H). HRMS m/z calcd $[\text{C}_6\text{H}_{16}\text{NO}_2]^-$ 475.0969, observed 475.09688.

5.3.8 Syntheses of aminoxy linkers

2-[2-(dimethylamino)ethoxy]-2,3-dihydro-1H-isoindole-1,3-dione

To a solution of triphenylphosphine (5.3 g, 20.2 mmol) and *N*-hydroxyphthalimide (3.29 g, 20.2 mmol) in anhydrous THF (50 mL) at 0 °C was added *N,N* dimethyl ethanolamine (1.50 g, 16.80 mmol). After stirring 20 min, DIAD (4.08 g, 20.18 mmol) was added dropwise. The reaction mixture was then allowed to warm to room temperature. After 12 h, the solvent was removed by rotary evaporation. EtOAc (300 mL) was added to dissolve the residue and the organic phase was washed with saturated aq. NaHCO₃ (3 X 200 mL), and brine (3X 200 mL). The EtOAc was dried (Na₂SO₄), and concentrated by rotary evaporation. The residue was redissolved in EtOAc (250 mL) and extracted 3X with 50 mL portions of 5% v/v aqueous HCl and washed with Et₂O. Saturated NaHCO₃ was then added until the pH registered slightly basic and the aqueous phase was extracted with CHCl₃ (3X 100 mL). The CHCl₃ was evaporated to yield a yellow solid (1.56 g, 40%).
¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 7.86 (s, 4H); 4.21 (s, 2H); 2.61 (s, 2H); 2.18 (s, 6H).

O-[2-(trimethylazaniumyl)ethyl]hydroxylamine iodide (QAO)

To the phthalimide protected amine shown above (0.78 g, 3.33 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (10 mL) in a pressure vial was added iodomethane (11.4 g, 79.7 mmol). The reaction was sealed and heated at 50 °C for 12h. After cooling, the solvent and excess iodomethane were evaporated under N₂ stream in a fume hood. The isolated white solids were used directly in the next step. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 7.90 (s, 4H); 4.67 (s, 2H); 3.79 (s, 2H); 3.23 (s, 9H).

To the iodo salt (1.46 g, 5.77 mmol) in ethanol (20 mL) was added hydrazine monohydrate (0.92 g, 17.8 mmol). The reaction was stirred 4h at rt and the solvent was removed by rotary evaporation. The resultant residue was triturated in hot acetonitrile, filtered, and the filtrate was evaporated to yield a yellow amorphous solid (QAO). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, D₂O) δ 4.14 (m, 2H); 3.63 (t, *J* = 4.6 Hz, 2H), 3.19 (s, 9H).

[2-(aminooxy)ethyl](2-hydroxyethyl)dimethylazanium iodide (**QAO-10H**)

QAO-10H was prepared by my colleague, Dr. Xuan Huang as reported in *Tetrahedron Letters* 2010, 51 (13), 1727-1729.

Synthesis of **3.1**

To a solution of triethanolamine (56.7 g, 380.0 mmol) and triethylamine (38.4 g, 380.0 mmol) at 0 °C, a solution of tert-butyldimethylsilyl chloride (68.7 g, 455.9 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (40 mL) was added via cannula. The reaction mixture was stirred 1h at 0 °C then was allowed to warm to rt. After 12h the reaction solvent was removed by rotary evaporation. The crude residue was purified by flash chromatography using 2:1 hexanes:ethyl acetate as eluant. The product was a clear oil (12.7g, 13%). ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 3.66 (m, 4H), 3.52 (m, 2H), 6.14 (m, 6H), 0.89 (s, 18H), 0.05 (s, 12H).

Synthesis of **3.2**

To a solution of triphenylphosphine (3.055 g, 11.649 mmol) and *N*-hydroxyphthalimide (1.90 g, 11.65 mmol) in anhydrous THF (50 mL) at 0 °C was added dropwise the bis- *t*-butylated amine **3.1** (4.0 g, 10.59 mmol). After stirring 30 min, diisopropyl azodicarboxylate (DIAD) (2.3 g, 11.6 mmol) was added dropwise via syringe. The reaction mixture was then allowed to warm to room temperature. After 12h, the solvent was removed by rotary evaporation. Diethyl ether (150 mL) was added to dissolve the orange residue and the organic phase was washed with successive washings of saturated aq. NaHCO₃ (3 X 100 mL), and brine (100 mL). The ether was dried (Na₂SO₄), filtered, and concentrated to a viscous yellow-orange semisolid by rotary evaporation. The product was purified by silica gel chromatography eluting in 4:1 CH₂Cl₂/EtOAc. R_f 0.59 in 2:1 hexanes:EtOAc. The product is a yellow oil (4.5 g, 81%). ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 7.83 (m, 2H), 7.74 (m, 2H), 4.27 (t, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 2H), 3.67 (t, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 4H) 3.06 (t, *J* = 6 Hz, 2H); 2.77 (t, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 4H), 0.86 (s, 18H), 0.04 (s, 12H).

Synthesis of **3.3**

The phthalimide protected amine **3.2** (4.5 g, 8.5 mmol) was dissolved in anhydrous CH_2Cl_2 (20 mL) and placed in a pressure vial. Iodomethane (6.1 g, 42.8 mmol) was added dropwise. The vial was sealed and warmed to 50 °C. After 5 h, the vial was cooled, opened, and the solvent was evaporated under reduced pressure in a fume hood to afford the crude ammonium iodide **3.3** as a light yellow solid (5.3 g, 92%) which was used directly in the next step. ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 400 MHz) δ 7.82 (m, 4H), 4.73 (m, 2H), 4.41 (m, 2H), 4.15 (m, 8H) 3.64 (s, 3H); 0.88 (s, 18H), 0.11 (s, 12H).

The crude iodo salt **3.3** (15.2 g, 22.8 mmol) was dissolved in 95% EtOH (115 mL). Hydrazine monohydrate (4.6 g, 91.3 mmol) was added. The reaction mixture was stirred 24h at room temperature. The solvent was removed by rotary evaporation and the residue was dissolved in CH_2Cl_2 (10 mL). The white precipitate was filtered over a Buchner funnel and the CH_2Cl_2 filtrate was condensed by rotary evaporation. A pale yellow solid was isolated (12.0 g, 98%, R_f 0.61 in 9:1 MeOH/ CH_2Cl_2). ^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 400 MHz) δ 5.90 (bs, 2H), 4.17 (m, 2H), 4.09 (m, 4H), 4.02 (t, J = 4.2 Hz, 2H), 3.97 (m, 4H), 3.47 (s, 3H), 0.88 (s, 18H), 0.09 (s, 12H).

[2-(aminooxy)ethyl]bis(2-hydroxyethyl)methylazanium iodide (**QAO-2OH**)

The silylated aminooxy salt 3.3 (2.971g, 5.55 mmol) was stirred in anhydrous CH_2Cl_2 at 0 °C for 5 minutes, tetrabutylammonium fluoride (11.1 mL of 1M in THF) was added dropwise to the reaction mixture. The reaction was stirred at room temperature for 3h. The solvent was removed by rotary evaporation. The resulting pale yellow solid was dissolved in water and purified by C18 reverse phase flash chromatography eluting in 97:3 water:acetonitrile. The aqueous solvents were removed by rotary evaporation and vacuum drying. The product was isolated as colorless oil (0.61g, 36%). ^1H NMR (D_2O , 400 MHz) δ 4.17 (m, 2H), 4.07 (m, 4H), 3.80 (t, J = 4.8 Hz 2H), 3.67 (t, J = 5.0 Hz, 4H), 3.25 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz D_2O) δ 68.5, 64.4, 61.6, 55.2, 49.9.

5.3.9 Fluorescence study of FITC-loaded NPs

Aqueous solutions (0.1 M) of QAO, QAO-1OH, and QAO-2OH compound were added to suspensions of iron oxide nanoparticles (3 mg each) in vials (5 μ moles of aminoxy compound/mg of nanoparticles). The vials were briefly sonicated (15 minutes) and then vortex mixed for 45 minutes at room temperature. The resultant QAO-coated NPs were magnetically separated from the supernatant solution, washed with water to remove unbound QAO salts, and freeze dried.

To a suspension of the QAO-NPs (3 mg) in methanol at room temperature was added a solution of FITC-CHO in methanol (0.01M, 50 μ L/mg of NPs). The reaction mixture was vortex mixed 2 hours at room temperature. The particles then were magnetically separated, the supernatant was removed and analyzed. The particles were washed twice with methanol (3X reaction volume) and the supernatants collected each time and analyzed. Water was then added (50 μ L/mg NPs), an aliquot was collected for analysis, and the aqueous suspensions then were placed in an Easy Heat LI alternating electromagnetic field at 201.4A and 203 kHz for 30 minutes. After AMF exposure, the particles were removed by magnetic separation and an aliquot of the final supernatant was collected for analysis.

The collected aliquots, both pre- and post-AMF exposure, were identically diluted and their fluorescence was measured during reverse phase HPLC using a Waters Atlantis C18 column (5 μ m, 3.9x150mm) on an Agilent 1100 series HPLC. The total run-time was 45 minutes with the following gradient: (% line B, elapsed time in minutes) 0,0; 0,3; 60,10; 80,25; 100,30; 100,35; 0,45 where the A line was 5mM ammonium acetate (pH 6) and the

B line was 75% v/v aqueous acetonitrile. Excitation-emission spectra (EES) of FITC-CHO, FITC-I, and FITC-II were acquired on a PerkinElmer LS55 fluorescence spectrometer in order to determine the excitation wavelengths that would yield maximum emission for each adduct. The fluorescence excitation beam-width of the Agilent instrument was 20nm.

5.3.10 Syntheses of doxorubicin analogs

Synthesis of **Dox-2OH**

To a solution of doxorubicin•HCl (105.3 mg, 0.18 mmol) in anhydrous methanol (9 mL) at room temperature was added QAO-2OH (162.3 mg, 0.54 mmol) and trifluoroacetic acid (9.0 μ L). After stirring the reaction mixture in the dark at room temperature for 110h, the solvent was removed by rotary evaporation. The product was purified from the crude mixture by C18 reverse phase flash chromatography (C18Aq) with gradient elution in water/methanol with 0.1% TFA. The product eluted at 55% water 45% methanol/TFA. A hygroscopic red solid was isolated. The residue was dissolved in methanol and gravity eluted through an ion exchange resin as previously described to yield a red solid (0.13 g, 93%). ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CD_3OD) δ 1.28 (d, J = 5, 3H); 1.91 (m, 1H); 2.01 (m, 1H); 2.18 (d, J = 5.0 Hz, 1H); 2.45 (d, J = 15 Hz, 1H); 2.90, 3.01 (ABq, 2H, J_{AB} = 17.5 Hz); 3.27 (m, 1H);

3.30 (s 3H); 3.60 (d, $J = 15$ Hz, 1H); 3.67-3.75 (m, 6H); 3.82 (bs, 3H); 3.91-4.05 (m, 9H); 4.23 (m, 1H); 4.49, 4.53 (ABq, 2H, $J_{AB} = 15$ Hz); 4.63 (m, 4H); 4.74 (splitting and integration obscured by water peak, presumed to be 1H on C7, according to ref);¹⁷⁰ 5.35 (bs, 1H), 7.23 (d, $J = 10$ Hz, 1H); 7.43 (d, $J = 10$ Hz, 1H); 7.51 (t, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CD₃OD) δ 185.9, 185.63, 162.9, 160.7, 156.0, 154.5, 135.7, 134.8, 134.7, 134.3, 119.5, 118.8, 118.7, 110.5, 110.3, 99.5, 71.6, 70.8, 67.7, 66.6, 66.4, 64.9, 62.2, 55.8, 55.4, 54.2, 49.9, 37.7, 33.2, 28.1, 15.9. m/z calcd [C₃₄H₄₆N₃O₁₃]⁺ 704.302518, observed 704.30269.

Dox-OH

Synthesis of **Dox-OH**

To a solution of doxorubicin•HCl (103.0 mg, 0.178 mmol) in anhydrous methanol (9 mL) at room temperature was added QAO-1OH (146 mg, 0.533 mmol) and trifluoroacetic acid (9.0 μ L). After stirring the reaction mixture in the dark at room temperature for 72h, the solvent was removed by rotary evaporation. The product was purified from the crude mixture by C18 reverse phase flash chromatography (C18Aq) with gradient elution in water/methanol with 0.1% TFA. The product eluted at 55% water 45% methanol/TFA. The hygroscopic red solid was then converted to a chloride salt by gravity eluting through an ion exchange resin prepared as described previously (0.1348 g, quant).

¹H NMR (500 MHz, CD₃OD) δ 1.28 (d, $J = 6$, 3H); 1.91 (m, 1H); 2.01 (m, 1H); 2.23 (m, 1H);

2.50 (br d, $J = 14$ Hz, 1H); 3.03 (m, 2H); 3.26 (d, $J = 3.5$ Hz, 6H); 3.58 (m 3H); 3.72 (br s, 1H); 3.88 (m, 5H); 3.99 (m, 2H); 4.25 (m, 1H); 4.49, 4.55 (ABq, 2H, $J_{AB} = 13.3$ Hz); 4.61 (m, 2H); 5.37 (m, 1H), 7.33 (m, 1H); 7.59 (m, 2H). One ^1H signal was obscured by water contamination in methanol, but was verified in $\text{DMF-}d_7$ at δ 5.15. ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CD_3OD) δ 15.8, 22.6, 23.5, 28.1, 28.7, 30.2, 33.2, 37.9, 38.7, 51.9, 54.3, 55.5, 55.8, 63.8, 66.4, 66.6, 67.7, 67.8, 71.0, 71.7, 99.6, 110.5, 110.7, 118.9, 118.9, 119.8, 135.0, 135.8, 154.7, 156.1, 160.9, 163.0, 186.0, 186.3. m/z calcd $[\text{C}_{33}\text{H}_{44}\text{N}_3\text{O}_{12}]^+$ 674.291953, observed 674.29305.

5.3.11 Preparation of NP formulations of Dox analogs

To NPs (30.1 and 29.9 mg) was added 1.5 mL of either Dox-OH or Dox-2OH (respectively) as 0.1M solutions in anhydrous DMSO such that 5 μmol s Dox analog per 1 mg NP was added. Vials were vortex mixed, then inverted (Labquake microcentrifuge tube shaker, Barnstead Thermolyne) at room temperature for 12 h. The drug-loaded particles were then magnetically separated from the supernatant and washed with methanol (2X 1.5 mL) and water (2X 1.5 mL) to afford NP·Dox-OH (30.9 mg) and NP·Dox-2OH (30.3 mg).

5.3.12 UV-Vis detection of Dox-OH and Dox-2OH release by pulsed AMF

2.5 mg/mL solutions of either NP·Dox-OH or NP·Dox-2OH were prepared in 1X phosphate buffered saline and added to polystyrene cuvettes (Brookhaven Instruments). The cuvettes were placed, one per trial, in the center of an induction coil (Easy Heat LI AMF generator). The solutions were exposed to AMF pulses lasting five minutes (203 kHz, 350 A) at room temperature. After each pulse, the NPs were magnetically sedimented and the cuvettes were placed in a 30 °C spectrophotometer (Beckman Coulter DU 800) where absorbance at 480 nm was detected. Absorbance at 380 nm was used for baseline correction. A total of 6 five-minute pulses were applied with intervening 5 minute periods of “off” time for a total time of 1h per experiment. Trials were performed in triplicate.

5.3.13 Toxicity of Dox-NPs in MCF-7 cells

MCF-7 breast cancer cells were cultured in DMEM, 10% FBS, and 1% Pen strep and were plated into one of two 96 well plates which had been cut down to fit within the coil of the AMF generator. NP·Dox-OH, NP·Dox-2OH, or bare NPs (control) were dispersed in PBS buffer (50 µL/well) and then diluted with supplemented medium (200 µL/well). When cells had grown to 40% confluence, the medium was removed and replaced with the NP formulations. One 96 well plate was placed within the coil of the AMF generator and cells were exposed to 15 minutes pulsed AMF (350A, 203 kHz, 3 min on, 3 min off, 30 min total time). Between pulses cells were incubated at 37 °C. After 48 hours, toxicity was assayed by trypan blue exclusion. The medium was removed, wells were washed 2X with 200 µL PBS. 100 µL trypsin was added and the plates were incubated for 5 min. 100

μL medium was added to neutralize the trypsin and the contents of the wells were transferred to microcentrifuge tubes. The cells were pelleted by centrifuge (1100 rpm, 5 min), and the supernatant was aspirated. Cell pellets were dispersed in 30 μL PBS buffer plus 10 μL trypan blue. Live cells, which had excluded the blue dye, were counted using a hemocytometer.

5.3.14 Synthesis of QAO-2OH anthracene derivative

To aminoxy precursor QAO-2OH (0.405 g, 1.89 mmol) in 2:1 MeOH:CH₂Cl₂ (25 mL) was added 9-anthracenecarboxaldehyde (0.582 g, 2.82 mmol). The mixture was stirred at rt for 48h. The solvent was removed by rotary evaporation. The residue was passed through a thin silica gel plug eluting with CH₂Cl₂:MeOH (9:1). The solvent was evaporated by rotary evaporation to yield the product as a viscous yellow liquid (0.263 g, 35%). ¹H NMR *E* isomer (400 MHz, CD₃OD) δ 9.08 (s, 1H), 8.31 (d, *J* = 9.6 Hz, 2H), 7.87 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.55 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.53 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 4.72 (br s, 2H), 4.04 (m, 4H), 3.96 (m, 2H), 3.70 (m, 4H), 3.31 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR *E* isomer (100 MHz, CD₃OD) δ 150.8; 132.5; 131.2; 130.9; 130.0; 128.1; 126.4; 125.8; 123.7; 68.8; 66.2; 63.6; 56.8; 51.2.

5.3.15 Dextran sulfate coating of NPs

49.5 mg NPs were dispersed in 100 mL DMSO. 100.3 mg dextran sulfate in DMSO (100 mL) was added to the NPs with rapid stirring slowly by addition funnel. The mixture was stirred 14h at rt. NPs were magnetically separated, the supernatant was removed by aspiration, the precipitated particles were washed 2X with Millipore water and freeze dried.

5.3.16 Coating of dextran sulfate NPs with QAO-2OH anthracene derivative

To 19.9 mg dextran sulfate-coated NPs in DMSO (30 mL) was added QAO-2OH anthracene derivative (0.040 g, 0.10 mmol). The mixture was stirred at rt for 12h. Coated NPs were magnetically separated, the supernatant was removed by aspiration, the precipitated particles were washed 2X with Millipore water and freeze dried.

5.3.17 Release of QAO-2OH anthracene derivative from dextran sulfate NPs

A 2.5 mg/mL aqueous solution of the QAO-2OH anthracene derivative-loaded dextran sulfate NPs was placed in a cuvette. The solution was vortex mixed and the particles were magnetically sedimented. Absorbance of the solution phase was measured at 382 nm UV-Vis. This procedure was repeated every 5 minutes for 30 min at rt. The solution was then exposed to pulsed AMF for 30 minutes (5 min on, 2.5 min off). At 5 min intervals after each pulse the particles were again magnetically separated and absorbance at 382 nm was measured.

5.3.18 CS₂ and CS₂/CH₃I coating of NPs

In a typical procedure for coating NPs with CS₂, 20-60 mg NPs would be heated in a Kügelrohr distillation apparatus under vacuum at 125 °C for 4 hours to remove surface-bound water. A pre-heated stir bar and CS₂ (2-3 mL) would then be added and the solution would be stirred for 4h at rt. The particles would then be magnetically separated and dried under vacuum. For methyl capping, iodomethane (1-2 mL) would be added to the particles and the solution would be stirred for 12h at rt. Excess iodomethane would be evaporated under N₂ stream in a fume hood and, following that, the coated NPs would be dried under vacuum for up to 48h.

5.3.19 Synthesis of deuterated ammonium salt **3**

Following a modified procedure by Sommer *et al.*,¹⁷¹ to benzylamine (0.49 g, 4.57 mmol) in DMF (2.3 mL) was added *N,N*-diisopropylethylamine (1.6 mL, 9.15 mmol). The mixture was stirred for 15 minutes and cooled to 0 °C with an ice bath. CD₃I (2.99 g, 20.6 mmol) was added dropwise and the mixture was allowed to come to rt and stirred 12h. After removal of excess CD₃I in vacuo, hot EtOAc was added and the reaction was filtered of a white precipitate. The filtrate was concentrated by rotary evaporation and the DMF removed by azeotrope with toluene. The product was isolated by reverse phase flash

column chromatography (RediSep Rf Gold C18Aq) as a white solid (1.07 g, 82%). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CD_3OD) δ 7.79 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H); 7.69-7.60 (m, 3H); 4.90 (s, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (400 MHz, CD_3OD) δ 133.8; 131.7; 130.0; 128.6; 69.2, 52.2 (m); m/z calcd $[\text{C}_{33}\text{H}_{44}\text{N}_3\text{O}_{12}]^+$ 674.291953, observed 674.29305.

5.3.20 Coating of CS_2 NPs with **3**

20.8 mg NPs were heated at 125 °C under vacuum in a Kugelrohr. 0.7 mL CS_2 was added and the solution was stirred at rt for several hours. Excess CS_2 was evaporated under N_2 stream. 0.63 mL of a 0.1M solution in DMSO of the ammonium salt was added and the solution was stirred 19h. The particles were then magnetically separated and the supernatant removed. Particles were washed with 2X 1mL water and freeze dried. As a control, NPs were treated as above without the addition of CS_2 . TGA analysis was performed on $\approx$ 5 mg of sample for three conditions: NPs + CS_2 , NPs + CS_2 + **3**, or NPs+ **3**.

5.3.21 Synthesis of anthracen-9-ylmethanamine (**4**)

Reagents and conditions: (a) NaBH₄ (4.8 eq), THF/MeOH, rt

2.5 h; (b) Phthalimide, PPh₃, DIAD, THF, 0 °C-rt, 16h; (c)

H₂NNH₂ monohyd., CH₂Cl₂:MeOH, rt, 14h

To 9-anthracene carboxaldehyde (2.51 g, 12.2 mmol) in 5:1 THF:MeOH (60 ml) was slowly added NaBH₄. The mixture was stirred 2.5h after which the reaction was quenched with aq. NH₄Cl. The precipitate was removed by filtration and the filtrate extracted with diethyl ether (3X, 50 mL). The combined organic phases were washed with brine and dried over sodium sulfate. The product was purified by column chromatography (EtOAc/CH₂Cl₂) to yield a yellow solid. R_f 0.55 (1:20 EtOAc: CH₂Cl₂). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 8.47 (m, 3H); 8.03 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H); 7.57 (m, 2H); 7.49 (m, 2H) 5.68 (d, *J* = 5.2 Hz, 2H), 1.73 (br, 1H).

To a solution of triphenylphosphine (2.82 g, 10.77 mmol), phthalimide (1.58 g, 10.77 mmol), and anthracene methanol in anhydrous THF (40 mL) at 0 °C was added dropwise DIAD (2.18 g, 10.77 mmol). The mixture was stirred at rt for 16h. THF was removed by rotary evaporation. The yellow solid was triturated in 50 mL rt diethyl ether and the precipitated solids were collected over a Buchner funnel giving a yellow solid that was used directly in the next step. ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 5.87 (s, 2H), 7.48 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.57-7.66 (m, 4H), 7.75-7.77 (m, 2H); 8.01 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 8.48 (s, 1H); 8.66 (d, J = 9.2 Hz, 2H).

The anthryl phthalimide (0.667 g, 1.98 mmol) was dissolved in 2:1 CH_2Cl_2 :EtOH (50 mL). Hydrazine monohydrate (0.495 g, 9.89 mmol) was added and the mixture was stirred for 14h at rt. The product was purified by silica gel chromatography (9:1:0.1 CH_2Cl_2 : MeOH: NH_4OH) to yield an amber solid (16 %, 2 step). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 1.70 (bs, 2H); 4.82 (s, 2H); 7.46-7.57 (m, 4H); 8.02 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H); 8.33-8.40 (m, 3H).

5.3.22 Preparation of thiocarbamate NPs **10**

To xanthate ester NPs **8** (35.6 mg) in THF (2 mL) was added 20 mg of **4** in 0.3 mL. The mixture was magnetically stirred at rt for 6h. The coated particles **10** (which had changed color from brown to beige) were magnetically sedimented. The supernatant was removed and the particles were washed with THF. With successive washing the particles lost their pale coloring.

5.3.23 Elemental analysis

Elemental analyses were performed on ≈ 50 mg of sample by Midwest Microlab, LLC.

5.3.24 CS₂-modified NPs with variably hydroxylated ammonium salts

A stock solution of CS₂ modified NPs in DMSO was aliquoted into 15 microcentrifuge tubes such that each tube contained ≈ 10 mg particles. 0.15 mL of 0.66M solutions of each ammonium salt (Figure 3.3) were added to the particle solutions and the mixtures were vortex mixed, sonicated (5 min) and placed on inverter for mixing for 20h. The coated NPs were then magnetically separated, the supernatant was removed and the particles were washed with water (3X 0.5 mL) with intervening pelleting by centrifugation (13000 rpm, rt, 5 min) and supernatant removal. The washed particles were freeze dried. An unidentified orange solid was seen to pellet with the NPs.

5.3.25 Synthesis of greigite NPs

Following a procedure describe by Chang et al.,¹²³ 6.5 mL water was deoxygenated with N₂ bubbling for 45 min. Iron II sulfate (1.82 g, 6.54 mmol) and Na₂S· 9H₂O (1.57 g, 6.54 mmol) were added and a black precipitate formed immediately. Glacial acetic acid was then added dropwise as the solution pH was monitored, until the pH reached 3.3. Greigite NPs were pelleted by centrifugation (5000 rpm, 5 min, rt). After supernatant removal the particles were washed with deoxygenated water (40 mL) and again pelleted by centrifuge. The supernatant was once again removed and the particles were freeze dried. The particles were not immediately responsive to a magnet, however after sitting overnight at rt in a vial, they became magnetic.

5.3.26 Greigite NP coating with QAO-2OH anthracene derivative

To 1 mL of QAO-2OH anthracene derivative (25 mg/mL) in anhyd. DMSO was added 50.6 mg greigite NPs. The mixture was stirred at rt for 48h. Coated particles were pelleted by centrifugation (13000 rpm, 15 min, rt). The supernatant was removed and the particles were washed with water (3X 1 mL) with intervening centrifugation and supernatant removal. The particles were then freeze dried.

5.4. Experimental Procedures for Chapter 4

5.4.1 Syntheses of cationic oxime ether lipids and intermediates

5.4.2 Synthesis of doxorubicin hexadecanyl acyl hydrazone (Dox-AH)

5.4.3 Synthesis of core-shell Fe₃O₄-SiO₂ NPs

5.4.4 CML formation and stability

5.4.5 ζ -potential of CML

5.4.6 Calculation of lipid molecules per NP

5.4.7 Titration of SNP with cationic lipid 1

5.4.8 Estimation of lipid: Dox-AH ratio

5.4.9 Cell toxicity study

5.4.10 Preparation of oxime-ether liposomes and nucleic acid complexes

5.4.11 Cell culture for gene transfection studies

5.4.12 Binding affinity of oxime ether lipids with hybrid DNA/RNA

5.4.13 Cell viability for gene transfection studies

5.4.14 Transfection and GFP silencing assay

5.4 Experimental Procedures for Chapter 4

5.4.1 Syntheses of cationic oxime ether lipids and intermediates

tert-butyl *N,N*-bis[2-(aminooxy)ethyl]carbamate (**4.1**).

[Steps *a, b*] To a solution of *tert*-butyl bis(2-hydroxyethyl)carbamate (5.01 g, 24.4 mmol), triphenylphosphine (14.1 g, 53.7 mmol) and *N*-hydroxyphthalimide (8.75 g, 53.6 mmol) in THF (245 mL) at 0 °C was added dropwise diisopropyl azodicarboxylate (DIAD) (10.6 g, 52.4 mmol). The resultant red mixture was allowed to warm to rt. After stirring for 12 h, the solvent was removed by rotary evaporation. Et₂O (150 mL) was added and the mixture was cooled to 0 °C for 3 h. The resultant suspension was decanted to remove an off-white precipitate. The decanted solution was chilled to –20 °C for another 3 h and again decanted to remove a second crop of precipitated solids. The solvent then was removed by rotary evaporation and a mixture of hexanes:EtOAc, 1:1 (60 mL) was added to the crude residue. The precipitated solids were collected using a Buchner funnel, dissolved in a minimal volume of CH₂Cl₂, and passed through a plug of silica gel, eluting with a gradient of CH₂Cl₂: EtOAc, 1:0 to 0:1. The isolated product containing minor impurities was recrystallized by first dissolving in a minimal volume of hot EtOAc and then adding hexanes (final ratio: 2:1 hexanes/EtOAc). The bis-phthalimide, *tert*-butyl *N,N*-bis({2-[1,3-dioxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-isoindol-2-yl]oxy}ethyl)carbamate, obtained as a white solid (2.07 g, 17%) was used directly in the next step; m.p. 139-141 °C; TLC, *R*_f 0.47

(hexanes/EtOAc, 1:1, UV/ninhydrin stain); FT-IR 2972, 2956, 1793, 1736, 1729, 1697, 1412 cm^{-1} ; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 1.41 (s, 9H); 3.73 (m, 4H); 4.36 (m, 4H); 7.71 (m, 8H); ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 28.5; 47.7; 78.0, 80.5; 123.6; 129.1; 134.6; 155.4; 163.5.

To a solution of the isolated bis phthalimide carbamate (3.10 g, 6.26 mmol) in CH_2Cl_2 (33 mL) at rt was added dropwise hydrazine monohydrate (1.57 g, 31.3 mmol). After stirring at rt for 2.5 h, the reaction mixture was filtered to remove the white precipitate, and the retentate was washed with small portions of CH_2Cl_2 . The combined filtrate was evaporated by rotary evaporation to afford bis-aminooxy carbamate 4.1 as a clear oil (1.42 g, 96%); TLC, R_f 0.74 (CH_2Cl_2 :MeOH, 9:1); FT-IR 3312, 2976, 2925, 2871, 1677, 1590 cm^{-1} ; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 1.45 (s, 9H); 3.41 (br s, 2H), 3.49 (br s, 2H); 3.74 (t, J = 5.2 Hz, 4H); 5.46 (br s, 4H, $-\text{ONH}_2$); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 28.4; 46.0; 46.2; 73.2; 74.0; 79.7; 155.8. HRMS m/z calcd $[\text{C}_9\text{H}_{22}\text{N}_3\text{O}_4]^+ [\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$: 236.16048, observed 236.16065.

(21E)-14,20-dioxo-13,17,21-triazatritriaconta-12,21-diene (**4.2**)

Bis-aminoxy carbamate **4.1** (0.10 g, 4.21 mmol) was dissolved in CH₂Cl₂ (20 mL). To this solution was added dodecyl aldehyde (1.71 g, 9.26 mmol), prepared from dodecyl alcohol by Swern oxidation.¹⁷² After stirring the reaction for 10 h at rt, the solvent was removed by rotary evaporation and the crude product was purified by silica column chromatography (CH₂Cl₂: EtOAc, 1:0 to 9:1) to afford **4.2** (2.23 g, 93%) as a colorless oil. The mixture of (*E,E*):(*E,Z*) diastereomers was used directly in the next step without isomer separation; TLC, *R_f* 0.53, 0.42 (CH₂Cl₂/EtOAc, 9:1, *p*-anisaldehyde stain); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) (*E,E*)-isomer (major): δ 0.88 (t, *J* = 5.6 Hz, 6H); 1.25 (m, 34H), 1.45 (s, 9H); 1.62 (m, 2H); 2.17 (q, *J* = 6.2 Hz, 4H); 3.47 (m, 4H); 4.11 (m, 4H); 7.37 (t, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 2H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 14.1, 22.6, 25.7, 26.2, 26.7, 28.4, 29.1, 29.3, 29.4, 29.5, 29.6, 29.8, 31.9, 47.3, 71.7, 72.2, 79.5, 151.3, 152.3, 155.4.

The bis-oxime ether **4.2** (1.57 g, 2.77 mmol) was dissolved in a chilled 1:1 mixture of trifluoro-acetic acid: CH₂Cl₂ (7.0 mL) and the mixture was stirred at rt for 3 hours. The solvent was evaporated by rotary evaporation and Et₂O (50 mL) was added to dissolve the residue. The Et₂O solution was washed with sat. NaHCO₃ (50 mL). The aqueous wash layer was extracted with Et₂O (2 x 30 mL) and the combined Et₂O phase was dried (NaSO₄) and then evaporated by rotary evaporation to yield bis-oxime ether amine (1.25 g, 96%) as an amber liquid; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) (*E,E*)-isomer: δ 0.88 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 6H); 1.25

(m, 32H); 1.47 (m, 4H); 1.98 (br, 1H); 2.16 : (q, $J = 7.2$, 4H); 2.96 (m, 4H); 4.14 (q, $J = 5.3$ Hz, 4H); 7.39 (t, $J = 6.5$ Hz, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 14.1, 22.6, 25.7, 26.2, 26.7, 29.1, 29.3, 29.4, 29.5, 29.6, 31.9, 48.6, 48.7, 48.8, 72.3, 72.7, 151.5, 152.4.

(21E)-17-(2,3-dihydroxypropyl)-17-methyl-14,20-dioxa-13,17,21-triazatritriaconta-12,21-dien-17-ium iodide (**Lipid 1**)

Following a modified version of the procedure for glycidol epoxide opening described by Kuwabe *et al.*,¹⁷³ to a solution of the amine generated in the previous step (1.09 g, 2.33 mmol) in 1:1 water/ethanol (12 mL) was added racemic glycidol (0.568 g, 7.67 mmol) and acetic acid (0.073 g, 1.22 mmol). The reaction flask was covered with foil and stirred in the dark at 55 °C for 48 h. Note: reactions of this type were later performed without acid at 1M in ethanol (95%), with 1 eq. glycidol over 12h at rt. The ethanol was removed by rotary evaporation and Et_2O (50 mL) was added to dissolve the residue. The Et_2O solution was washed with sat. NaHCO_3 (50 mL). The aqueous wash layer was extracted with Et_2O (2 x 50 mL) and the combined Et_2O phase was dried (NaSO_4) and then evaporated by rotary evaporation. The residue was purified by silica column chromatography (CH_2Cl_2 : CH_3OH , 19:1 to 9:1) to afford 4.5 (1.01 g, 80%) as a yellow oil; TLC, $R_f = 0.47$ ($\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2/\text{MeOH}$, 9:1, *p*-anisaldehyde stain); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) (*E,E*)-isomer: δ 0.88 (t, $J = 6.6$ Hz, 6H); 1.26 (m, 32H); 1.46 (m, 4H); 2.17 (q, $J = 7.1$ Hz, 4H); 2.71

(m, 2H); 2.95 (br, 4H); 3.48 (m, 1H); 3.72 (dd, $J = 4.0, 11.2$ Hz, 2H); 3.88 (br, 1H); 4.15 (m, 4H); 7.38 (t, $J = 6.4$ Hz, 2H); HRMS m/z calcd $[\text{C}_{31}\text{H}_{64}\text{N}_3\text{O}_4]^+ [\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$: 542.48913, observed 542.48952.

A pressure tube was charged with a solution of 4.5 (0.85 g, 1.57 mmol) in CH_2Cl_2 (3.5 mL). To the solution was added iodomethane (2.23 g, 15.7 mmol). The tube was sealed and then heated at 60 °C for 6 h. On cooling, the tube was opened and the solvent and excess iodomethane were evaporated using a nitrogen stream in a closed fume hood. The residue was purified by silica column chromatography (CH_2Cl_2 : CH_3OH 1:0 to 9:1) to yield lipid **1** (0.941 g, 88%) as an amber oil; TLC, $R_f = 0.68$ ($\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2/\text{MeOH}$, 9:1, *p*-anisaldehyde stain); ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) (*E,E*)-isomer: δ 0.85 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 6H); 1.23 (m, 30H); 1.44 (m, 4H); 2.15 (q, $J = 7.4$ Hz, 4H); 3.37 (s, 3H); 3.68 (m, 3H); 3.85-4.01 (m, 5H); 4.45 (m, 5H); 7.39 (t, $J = 6.2$ Hz, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 13.9, 16.8, 22.6, 26.0, 26.1, 26.4, 29.1, 29.2, 29.3 (2 signals), 29.4, 29.5, 31.8, 51.6, 62.7, 62.9, 63.1, 64.1, 65.1, 66.3, 66.9, 67.3 (2 signals), 153.7, 154.3; HRMS m/z calcd $[\text{C}_{32}\text{H}_{66}\text{N}_3\text{O}_4]^+$: 556.50478, observed 556.50476.

16,22-dioxa-15,19,23-triazaheptatriaconta-14,23-diene

Bis-aminooxy carbamate 4.1 (0.105 g, 0.446 mmol) was dissolved in CH_2Cl_2 (4.0 mL). To this solution was added tetradecanal (0.208 g, 0.982 mmol), prepared from tetradecanol by Swern oxidation.¹⁷² After stirring the reaction for 10 h at rt, the solvent was removed by rotary evaporation and the crude product was purified by silica column chromatography (CH_2Cl_2 : EtOAc, 1:0 to 9:1) to afford *tert*-butyl *N,N*-bis({2-[(tetradecylideneamino)oxy]ethyl})carbamate (4.3) (0.199 g, 71%) as a colorless oil. The mixture of (*E,E*):(*E,Z*) diastereomers was used directly in the next step without isomer separation; TLC, R_f 0.50, 0.46 (hexanes/EtOAc, 4:1, ninhydrin stain); FT-IR 2954, 2923, 2853, 1698, 1466, 1406, 1366 cm^{-1} ; ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) (*E,E*)-isomer (major): δ 0.88 (t, J = 6.6 Hz, 6H); 1.26 (m, 44H), 1.45 (s, 9H); 2.16 (q, J = 6.9 Hz, 4H); 3.46 (m, 4H); 4.11 (m, 4H); 7.37 (t, J = 6.0 Hz, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 14.1, 22.7, 25.7, 26.2, 26.7, 28.4, 29.1, 29.3, 29.4, 29.5 (2 signals), 29.6 (3 signals), 29.7, 31.9, 47.6, 47.3, 71.7, 72.2, 79.5, 151.25, 152.2, 155.4.

The bis-oxime ether 4.3 (0.467 g, 0.748 mmol) was dissolved in 1:1 mixture of trifluoro-acetic acid: CH_2Cl_2 (3.2 mL) and the mixture was stirred at rt for 3 hours. The solvent was evaporated by rotary evaporation and Et_2O (30 mL) was added to dissolve the residue. The Et_2O solution was washed with sat. NaHCO_3 (30 mL). The aqueous wash layer was extracted with Et_2O (2 x 20 mL) and the combined Et_2O phase was dried (NaSO_4)

and then evaporated by rotary evaporation to yield the bis-oxime ether amine (0.36 g, 91%) as an off-white solid; TLC, R_f 0.66 ($\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2/\text{MeOH}$, 9:1, ninhydrin stain); FT-IR 2955, 2917, 2849, 1463 cm^{-1} ; ^1H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl_3) (*E,E*)-isomer: δ 0.88 (t, J = 6.7 Hz, 6H); 1.25 (m, 40H), 1.47 (m, 4H); 1.98 (br, 1H); 2.16 (q, J = 7.2, 4H); 2.96 (m, 4H); 4.14 (q, J = 5.3 Hz, 4H); 7.39 (t, J = 6.5 Hz, 2H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 14.3, 22.9, 25.9, 26.4, 26.9, 29.4, 29.6 (2 signals), 29.7 (2 signals), 29.8, 29.9 (2 signals), 32.1, 48.8, 71.8, 152.0. HRMS m/z calcd $[\text{C}_{37}\text{H}_{74}\text{N}_3\text{O}_4]^+ [\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$: 624.56738, observed 624.56784.

3-(16,22-dioxa-15,19,23-triazaheptatriaconta-14,23-dien-19yl)propane-1,2-diol (13)

Following a modified version of the procedure for glycidol epoxide opening described by Kuwabe *et al.*,¹⁷³ to a solution of the amine prepared in the previous step (0.166 g, 0.317 mmol) in ethanol (0.28 mL) was added racemic glycidol (0.035 g, 0.476 mmol). The reaction flask was covered with foil and stirred in the dark at rt for 57 h. The solvent then was removed by rotary evaporation and the residue was purified by silica column chromatography (CH₂Cl₂: CH₃OH, 1:0 to 9:1) to afford bis-oxime ether 4.6 (0.078 g, 41%) as a light yellow oil; TLC, R_f = 0.59 (CH₂Cl₂/MeOH, 9:1, *p*-anisaldehyde stain); FT-IR 3380, 2921, 2854, 1465, 1380, 1041 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) (*E,E*)-isomer: δ 0.88 (t, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 6H); 1.25 (m, 40H), 1.45 (sex, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 4H); 2.17 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 4H); 2.87 (m, 2H); 3.11 (br, 4H); 3.52 (m, 1H); 3.72 (dd, *J* = 3.8, 11.4 Hz, 1H); 3.88 (br, 1H); 4.21 (m, 4H); 7.39 (t, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 2H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 14.3, 22.9, 26.0, 26.4, 26.9, 29.4, 29.6 (3 signals), 29.7, 29.9 (2 signals), 32.1, 54.1, 54.2, 58.3, 64.6, 67.8, 70.2, 152.4. HRMS *m/z* calcd [C₃₅H₇₂N₃O₄] + [M + H]⁺: 598.5517, observed 598.5517.

19-(2,3-dihydroxypropyl)-19-methyl-16,22-dioxa-15,19,23-triazaheptatriaconta-14,23-dien-19-ium iodide (**Lipid 2**)

[Step *f*] A pressure tube was charged with a solution of 4.6 (0.078 g, 0.131 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (2.0 mL). To the solution was added iodomethane (0.372 g, 2.62 mmol). The tube was sealed and then heated at 55 °C for 18 h. On cooling, the tube was opened and the solvent and excess iodomethane were evaporated using a nitrogen stream in a closed fume hood. The residue was purified by silica column chromatography (CH₂Cl₂: CH₃OH 9:1) to yield lipid 4 (0.062 g, 64%) as a hygroscopic yellow solid; TLC, R_f = 0.71 (CH₂Cl₂/MeOH, 9:1, phosphomolybdic acid stain); FT-IR 3329, 2921, 2854, 1790, 1734, 1702, 1466, 1368, 1271, 1186, 1056 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) (*E,E*)-isomer: δ 0.87 (t, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 6H); 1.25 (m, 40H); 1.46 (m, 4H); 2.18 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 4H); 3.40 (s, 3H); 3.74 (m, 3H); 3.94 (m, 6H); 4.50 (m, 5H); 4.65 (m, 1H); 7.42 (t, *J* = 6.2 Hz, 2H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 14.3, 22.9, 26.3 (2 signals), 26.7, 29.4, 29.6 (3 signals), 29.7, 29.9, 32.1, 51.9, 62.9, 64.5, 66.3, 66.4, 67.0, 67.5, 154.0, 154.6; HRMS *m/z* calcd [C₃₆H₇₄N₃O₄]⁺ 612.5674, observed 612.5673.

R = (Z)-(CH₂)₇CH=CH(CH₂)₇CH₃

Tert-butyl N,N-bis[2-({[(9Z)-octadec-9-en-1-ylidene]amino}oxy)ethyl]carbamate (**4.4**)

Bis-aminooxy carbamate **4.1** (0.495 g, 2.10 mmol) was dissolved in CH₂Cl₂ (12 mL). To this solution was added oleyl aldehyde (1.966 g, 8.42 mmol), prepared from oleyl alcohol by Swern oxidation.¹⁷² After stirring the reaction for 12 h at rt, the solvent was removed by rotary evaporation and the crude product was purified by silica column chromatography (CH₂Cl₂: EtOAc, 1:0 to 19:1) to afford **4.4** (0.731 g, 47%) as a colorless oil. The mixture of (*E,E*):(*E,Z*) diastereomers was used directly in the next step without isomer separation; TLC, R_f 0.32, 0.25 (CH₂Cl₂, phosphomolybdic acid stain); FT-IR 3006, 2923, 2855, 1700, 1462, 1407, 1366, 1150 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) (*E,E*)-isomer (major): δ 0.88 (t, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 6H); 1.30 (m, 48H), 1.45 (s, 9H); 1.99 (m, 8H); 2.16 (q, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 4H); 3.47 (m, 4H); 4.12 (m, 4H); 5.35 (m, 4H); 7.37 (t, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 2H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 14.1, 22.7, 25.8, 26.3, 26.8, 27.2, 27.3, 28.5, 29.2, 29.2, 29.3, 29.4 (2 signals), 29.6, 29.7 (2 signals), 29.8, 31.9, 32.6, 47.4, 71.8, 72.2, 79.5, 110.1, 129.7, 130.0, 151.2, 152.2, 155.4. HRMS *m/z* calcd [C₄₅H₈₆N₃O₄]⁺ [M + H]⁺: 732.66128, observed 732.66145.

R = (Z)-(CH₂)₇CH=CH(CH₂)₇CH₃

(9Z,36Z)-20,26-dioxa-19,23,27-triazapentatetraconta-9,18,27,36-tetraene

The bis-oxime ether 4.4 (0.281 g, 0.383 mmol) was dissolved in a 1:1 mixture of trifluoro-acetic acid: CH₂Cl₂ (4 mL) and the mixture was stirred at rt for 1 h. The solvent was evaporated by rotary evaporation and Et₂O (60 mL) was added to dissolve the residue. The Et₂O solution was washed with sat. NaHCO₃ (60 mL). The aqueous wash layer was extracted with Et₂O (2 x 40 mL) and the combined Et₂O phase was dried (NaSO₄) and then evaporated by rotary evaporation to yield the bis-oxime ether amine as an amber oil which was used without further purification; TLC, R_f 0.29 (CH₂Cl₂/MeOH, 19:1, phosphomolybdic acid stain); FT-IR 3006, 2923, 2855, 1462, 1068 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) (*E,E*)-isomer: δ 0.87 (t, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 6H); 1.28 (m, 44H), 1.45 (m, 4H); 2.01 (m, 8H); 2.16 : (q, *J* = 7.2, 4H); 2.49 (br, 1H); 3.02 (m, 4H); 4.16 (t, *J* = 5.4 Hz, 4H); 5.36 (m, 4H); 7.39 (t, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 2H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 14.2, 22.8, 25.7, 26.3, 26.8, 27.2, 27.3, 29.2, 29.3, 29.4, 29.8 (2 signals), 32.0, 32.7, 48.5, 48.7, 71.8, 72.2, 129.8, 130.1, 151.7, 152.6. HRMS *m/z* calcd [C₄₀H₇₈N₃O₂]⁺ [M + H]⁺: 632.60886, observed 632.60907.

3-[(9Z,36Z)-20,26-dioxa-19,23,27-triazapentatetraconta-9,18,23,36-tetraen-23yl]propane-1,2-diol (**4.7**)

Following a modified version of the procedure for glycidol epoxide opening described by Kuwabe *et al.*,¹⁷³ to a solution of the amine produced in the previous step (0.154 g, 0.243 mmol) in ethanol (0.25 mL) was added racemic glycidol (0.020 g, 0.268 mmol). The reaction flask was covered with foil and stirred in the dark at rt for 16 h. The solvent then was removed by rotary evaporation and the residue was purified by silica column chromatography (CH₂Cl₂: CH₃OH, 1:0 to 9:1) to afford bis-oxime ether 4.7 (0.066 g, 38%) as a light yellow oil; TLC, *R_f* = 0.66 (CH₂Cl₂/MeOH, 19:1, phosphomolybdic acid stain); FT-IR 3423, 2955, 2923, 2854, 1728, 1462, 1274, 1123, 1072, 738 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) (*E,E*)-isomer: δ 0.87 (t, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 6H); 1.27 (m, 44H), 1.45 (m, 4H); 2.00 (m, 8H); 2.16 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 4H); 2.65 (m, 2H); 2.88 m, 4H); 3.03 (br, 2H); 3.47 (m, 1H); 3.71 (m, 2H); 4.12 (m, 4H); 5.33 (m, 4H); 7.37 (t, *J* = 6.2 Hz, 2H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 14.2, 22.8, 25.9, 26.4, 26.9, 27.3 (2 signals), 29.3, 29.4 (3 signals), 29.5, 29.6, 29.8 (2 signals), 29.9, 32.0, 32.7, 38.8, 54.0, 57.6, 64.5, 68.2, 68.3, 71.1, 71.6 (2 signals), 129.8, 130.1, 151.6, 152.4. HRMS *m/z* calcd [C₄₃H₈₄N₃O₄] + [M + H]⁺: 706.64563, observed 706.64573.

R = (Z)-(CH₂)₇CH=CH(CH₂)₇CH₃

(9Z,36Z)-23-(2,3-dihydroxypropyl)-23-methyl-20,26-dioxa-19,23,27-

triazapentatetraconta-9,18,27,36-tetraen-23-ium iodide (**Lipid 3**)

A pressure tube was charged with a solution of 4.7 (0.053 g, 0.075 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (1.0 mL). To the solution was added iodomethane (0.213 g, 1.50 mmol). The tube was sealed and then heated at 50 °C for 6 h. On cooling, the tube was opened and the solvent and excess iodomethane were evaporated using a nitrogen stream in a closed fume hood. The residue was purified by silica column chromatography (CH₂Cl₂: CH₃OH 19:1 to 9:1) to yield lipid 3 (0.040 g, 63%) as a yellow semisolid; TLC, R_f 0.63 (CH₂Cl₂/MeOH, 9:1, phosphomolybdic acid stain); FT-IR 3459, 3336, 3001, 2969, 2955, 2923, 2855, 1736, 1457, 1365, 1269, 1228, 1219, 1123, 1072, 958, 742 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) (*E,E*)-isomer: δ 0.86 (t, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 6H); 1.26 (m, 44H); 1.45 (m, 4H); 1.99 (m, 8H); 2.16 (q, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 4H); 3.39 (s, 3H); 3.71 (m, 3H); 3.95 (m, 6H); 4.50 (m, 6H); 5.33 (m, 4H); 7.40 (t, *J* = 5.8 Hz, 2H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 14.2, 22.8, 26.2 (2 signals), 26.6, 27.3 (2 signals), 29.2, 29.3 (2 signals), 29.4 (2 signals), 29.6, 29.7, 29.8 (2 signals), 32.0, 32.7, 51.8, 62.7, 62.8, 62.9, 63.1, 64.3, 66.0, 66.3, 66.9, 67.4, 129.8, 130.1, 153.8 154.5; HRMS *m/z* calcd [C₄₄H₈₆N₃O₄]⁺ 720.66128, observed 720.66168.

5.4.2 Synthesis of doxorubicin hexadecanyl acyl hydrazone (Dox-AH)

To doxorubicin hydrochloride (0.053 g, 0.092 mmol) in anhydr. CH₃OH (10 mL) was added hexadecane hydrazide prepared as in Effenberger et al.¹⁵² (0.033g, 0.122 mmol), aniline (0.007 g, 0.077 mmol), and trifluoroacetic acid (0.008 g, 0.070 mmol). The reaction was stirred at rt for 10h. The CH₃OH was removed by rotary evaporation and the product, a red solid, was recrystallized from CH₃OH (0.065 g, 85%); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CD₃OD) δ 0.89 (t, *J* = 6.6 Hz); 1.10-1.38 (br m, 28H); 1.43 (t, *J* = 5.4 Hz, 2H); 1.67 (t, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 1H); 1.84-1.98 (m, 1H); 1.99-2.12 (m, 1H); 2.26-2.45 (m, 3H); 2.55 (dd, *J* = 14.0, 6.5 Hz, 1H); 2.90 (d, *J* = 17.6 Hz, 1H); 3.16 (br m, 1H); 3.35 (s, 3H); 3.45 (d, *J* = 17.2 Hz, 1H); 3.58 (br d, *J* = 12.8 Hz, 1H); 3.62-3.71 (m, 1H); 4.04 (s, 3H); 4.21 (dd, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 6.1 Hz, 1H); 4.62 (q, *J* = 14.8 Hz, 2H); 5.07 (t, *J* = 6.2 Hz, 1H); 5.48 (br s, 1H); 7.59 (t, *J* = 9.6 Hz, 1H), 7.85 (t, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H); 7.98 (t, *J* = 10.0 Hz, 2H). ¹³C NMR (175 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 186.5 (2 signals), 186.5, 174.0, 160.7, 156.5, 154.2, 152.2, 136.9, 136.3, 135.7, 134.8, 120.0, 119.7, 119.0, 110.6, 110.5, 98.9, 72.4, 72.1, 66.31, 66.0, 56.6, 56.0, 46.6, 33.9, 31.3, 31.1, m 29.1-29.0,

28.9, 28.8 (2 signals), 28.7, 28.1, 24.1, 22.1, 16.8, 14.0; HRMS m/z calcd $[\text{C}_{43}\text{H}_{62}\text{N}_3\text{O}_{11}]^+$ 796.4379, observed 796.43916.

5.4.3 Synthesis of core-shell Fe_3O_4 - SiO_2 NPs

$\text{SiO}_2@ \text{Fe}_3\text{O}_4$ nanoparticles were prepared using a modified procedure by Pinho et al.¹²⁷ Commercially available Fe_3O_4 ferrofluid (Ferrotec EMG 304, 0.25 mL, ca. 58 mg) dispersed in water (25 mL) was added in 1 mL aliquots to a solution of EtOH (78 mL) and NH_4OH (1.55 mL, 28-30%) under rapid mechanical stirring. Tetraethyl orthosilicate (TEOS) (0.532 mL) was added to the colloidal suspension and was stirred for 12 h at rt. The NPs were magnetically sedimented for 1h on a neodymium permanent magnet. To collect additional particles, the colloidal supernatant was removed and centrifuged at 6000 rcf for 1h at rt. The ethanolic supernatant was removed by aspiration and the combined NP pellets were washed with EtOH (2x 8mL) with intervening centrifugation (16100 rcf, 20 min, rt) and supernatant removal. After a final wash and centrifugation cycle in water (8 mL) with supernatant removal, the NPs were dispersed in water (4 mL) and freeze-dried resulting in a brown powder (165.4 mg).

5.4.4 CML formation and stability

Lipids 1, 2, and 3 (6.45 mM) in DMSO were each mixed with 1 mg SNP for up to 24h. Dynamic light scattering (DLS) measurements (0.5 mg SMP/mL) were made on the mixture at intervals. 3D plots over 24 hour time intervals of the histograms of relative number of particles versus diameter are given in the appendix. In the case of lipids 2 and 3, particles aggregated at mixing times approaching 24h to diameters outside a useful range. The following table lists weighted average diameters from size histograms calculated for the DMSO suspension of CML with lipid 1 at 24h mixing time and for a water suspension of CML with lipid 1 (after magnetic separation, supernatant removal, and resuspension, 0.25 mg SNP/mL).

Solvent	Diameter (nm)	Relative abundance	Weighted avg. diameter (nm)
DMSO	62.62	0.59	68.2
	72.89	0.29	
	84.85	0.12	
Water	44.56	0.29	51.5
	50.60	0.42	
	57.46	0.21	
	65.24	0.08	

DLS measurements of CML with lipid 1 in DMSO and water

5.4.5 ζ -potential of CML

Lipid 1 (6.45 mM) in DMSO was mixed with 1 mg SNP for 5h. CML were magnetically separated, the supernatant was removed, the particles were rinsed with water, and resuspended in water (0.25 mg SNP/mL) for ζ -potential measurements (see appendix). The mean ζ -potential was 31.72 +/- 2.9 mV.

5.4.6 Calculation of lipid molecules per NP

The mass of an SNP was calculated based on volume and density according to McCarthy *et al.*¹²⁴ as 2.073×10^{-17} g. Volume was estimated based on average SNP diameter from transmission electron microscope images. A typical coating of SNP with lipid used a weight ratio of 0.3-0.4 mg lipid/mg SNP to achieve the plateau of ζ -potential shown in Figure 4.8 of the manuscript. The number of lipid molecules per SNP that this ratio represents was calculated according to: (moles lipid/g SNP) (mass of 1 SNP) (Avogadro's #).

5.4.7 Titration of SNP with cationic lipid 1

Multiple concentrations of lipid 1 were prepared by serial dilution with water in microcentrifuge tubes. 0.5 mL of a 0.6 mg/mL stock solution of SNP in water were added to each tube. Solutions were agitated for several hours. Zeta potentials of the solutions were measured directly after dilution to 0.2 mg SNP/ mL.

5.4.8 Estimation of lipid: Dox-AH ratio

Thin films of lipid 1 and DOX-AH were made by dissolving varying ratios of the two species in $\text{CHCl}_3/\text{CH}_3\text{OH}$ and removing the solvent in vacuo. To the thin films was added water for a concentration of 2 mM (lipid 1 and DOX-AH combined) and the mixtures were vortex mixed and solicited 10 min, 50% duty, 1 min intervals. DLS measurements were taken for each solution in water (2mL). Figure 4.5 shows the plot of the percent of DOX-AH added versus the diameter of the liposomes: the diameter with the highest relative number of particles from the size histogram.

5.4.9 Cell toxicity study

Lipid films were prepared by dissolving lipid, or lipid + DOX-analog mixtures (3:1 molar ratio) in CH_3OH in microcentrifuge tubes and removing the solvent in vacuo. SNP were dispersed in molecular grade water (0.185 mg/mL) by briefly sonicating. Aliquots of SNP suspensions were added to the thin films (lipid: 0.108 mM, lipid:DOX-analog mixture 0.081:0.027 mM) and the mixtures were stirred at rt 12h. The solutions were diluted 10% with 10x PBS prior to addition to cells.

MCF-7 breast cancer cells were grown in supplemented media (DMEM, 10% FBS, 1% Pen strep) in 35mm culture dishes. Prior to treatment, cells were plated in 12-well dishes (50,000 cells/well) for biological triplicates and incubated for 24h. Treatment formulations described above were added directly into cell growth media (2 mL): 0.05 mg SNP, 29.2 total nanomoles lipid or lipid + DOX-analog mixture per well in 0.3 mL volume. After 2h incubation at 37 °C the medium was removed and replaced with fresh medium.

Cell viability was assayed after 48h incubation by removing media, rinsing 2X with PBS, adding 0.25 % trypsin-EDTA 1X (0.2 mL), incubating for 5 minutes, neutralizing with 0.2 mL DMEM, diluting 1:1 with trypan blue and counting live cells (in replicate for each condition) with a hemocytometer.

5.4.10 Preparation of oxime-ether liposomes and nucleic acid complexes

Lipids were solubilized in CHCl_3 at a concentration of 10 mg/mL. Lipids (1 mg) were placed in glass vials and then mixed with equimolar amount of the co-lipid DOPE. Lipid films were prepared using rotary evaporation under reduced pressure, and kept overnight in a desiccator at room temperature. Lipid films were hydrated with 3 mL of enzyme free water under vortexing and were probe sonicated for 10 minutes on ice bath with 1 min cycle of sonication and 1 min rest to obtain 0.33 mg/mL of lipid in the liposomes. The resulting OEL liposome preparations were either used for further complexation with nucleic acids (described below), or alternatively, the OEL liposomes were stored at 4°C and used within two weeks of their preparation.

To prepare oxime-ether lipid/nucleic acid complexes, the lipids at different concentrations were introduced to fixed concentration of nucleic acids at 500 nM (DS RNAs or RNA/DNA hybrids or DNA duplexes) and incubated for 30 min at room temperature. After incubation, the mixture was diluted 10 fold by using either enzyme free water/buffer or serum media at room temperature. The final concentration of nucleic acids was 50 nM and the lipid concentrations were typically in the range of 1-20 μM . These preparations were then used immediately.

5.4.11 Cell culture for gene transfection studies

MDA-MB-231 (human breast cancer) cells either stably expressing enhanced green fluorescent protein (GFP) or non-GFP cells were maintained in a Dulbecco's modified Eagle's medium (DMEM) 10% (v/v) heat-inactivated FBS (fetal bovine serum), 100 i.u./mL penicillin and 100 µg/mL streptomycin under a humidified 5% CO₂ incubator at 37°C. On the basis of the requirement of the experiments either GFP expressing or non-GFP MDA-MB-231 cells were used.

5.4.12 Binding affinity of oxime ether lipids with hybrid DNA/RNA

Binding affinities of lipids 1-3 with nucleic acids were determined by conducting fluorescent anisotropy/polarization measurements using Tecan Infinite M1000 (Tecan, USA). Fluorescent Alexa-488 labeled RNA/DNA hybrid duplexes (200 nM) were incubated with various concentrations of the lipids. Changes in fluorescent (anisotropy/polarization) values of hybrid duplexes upon binding to the lipids with respect to the hybrids alone was measured at λ_{ex} 470 nm and λ_{em} 517 nm.

5.4.13 Cell viability for gene transfection studies

Viability of the MDA-MB-231 human breast cancer cells was determined on treatment with lipids alone and in complexation with DS RNAs. 20,000 cells/well were seeded in 96 well plates in serum containing media 24 hours prior to experiments. Lipids at different concentrations with and without DS RNAs (50 nM final) were added to the cells in triplicate in serum containing media and incubated for 4 hours at 37° C. After incubation, the media was replaced with fresh serum-containing media. The cells were then incubated for another 24 h at 37° C. At the end of incubation, cell titer blue reagent was added to each well according to the manufacturer's protocol and the cells were further incubated for 4 hours at 37° C. The fluorescence of the resofurin (converted from resazurin by viable cells) was measured at λ_{ex} 560 nm and λ_{em} 590 nm with an auto cut-off in a fluorescent ELISA plate reader (Spectra MAX, Molecular Devices, Sunnyvale, CA).

5.4.14 Transfection and GFP silencing assay

One day before the experiments 60,000 cells/well of MDA-MB-231 cells and 30,000 cells/well of MDA-MB-231/GFP were plated in two separate 24 well plates for uptake and silencing experiments in serum containing media. On the day of transfection, liposomes complexed with either Alexa-488 RNA/DNA hybrid duplexes or dicer substrates of RNA duplexes (DS RNAs) were added to the cells in serum containing media. The cells were then incubated for 4h at 37° C. After 4h, the media was replaced with the fresh serum media. Uptake efficiency of RNA/DNA hybrid duplexes and silencing of GFP was

quantified using Cell Quest software after 1 day and 3 days of transfections respectively by fluorescence-activated cell sorting (FACS).

Approximately 72 hours after the transfection, MDA-MB-231/GFP were imaged with a Nikon 200 TE inverted microscope (Melville, NJ) using Meta Morph software (Universal Imaging Co., Downingtown, PA) to determine the silencing efficiency of GFP by liposome/ DS RNAs complexes. PanFluor 20X, ELWD, NA=0.45 objective and a Nikon B-2E/C, 465–495/505/515–555 cube (Chroma Technology Corp., Rockingham, VT) were used for GFP imaging.

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APPENDIX

A.1. NMR spectra

A.2. Zeta potential measurements

A.3. Excitation-emission spectra

A.4. Dynamic light scattering measurements

A.5. Fluorescence and bright-field microscope images

A.6. Copyright permissions

A.1. NMR SPECTRA

¹H NMR of 2.1 500 MHz CDCl₃

¹³C NMR of 2.1 125 MHz acetone-d₆

¹H-¹H COSY of 2.1 500 MHz CDCl₃

¹H NMR of 2.2 500 MHz CDCl₃

^1H NMR of QOA 500 MHz CDCl_3

^1H NMR of 2.3 500 MHz CDCl_3

¹H NMR of 2.4 500 MHz CDCl₃

^1H NMR of QDA-Br 500 MHz CDCl_3

^{13}C NMR of QDA-Br 125 MHz CDCl_3

^1H NMR of 2.6 500 MHz CDCl_3

^1H NMR of 2.7 400 MHz CDCl_3

^{13}C NMR of 2.7 125 MHz CDCl_3

^1H NMR of 2.8 500 MHz CDCl_3

^1H NMR of 2.9 500 MHz CDCl_3

^1H NMR of QDA 500 MHz CDCl_3

^1H NMR of *QDA 500 MHz CDCl_3

^{13}C NMR of QDA 500 MHz in CDCl_3

¹³C NMR of *QDA 125 MHz CDCl₃

^1H NMR 500 MHz DMSO

^1H NMR of QAO 400 MHz D_2O

^1H NMR of 3.2 500 MHz CDCl_3

^1H NMR of 3.3 400 MHz CDCl_3

^{13}C NMR of 3.3 400 MHz CDCl_3

^1H NMR of QAO-2OH 400 MHz D_2O

^{13}C NMR 125 MHz D_2O

^1H NMR FITC-CHO 400 MHz DMSO

¹H NMR of Dox-OH 400 MHz DMSO

^1H NMR of Dox-2OH 400 MHz DMSO

¹³C NMR of Dox-2OH 100 MHz CD₃OD

^1H NMR 400 MHz CDCl_3

^1H NMR 400 MHz CDCl_3

^1H NMR 400 MHz D_2O

^{13}C NMR 100 MHz CD_3OD

^1H NMR of QAO-2OH anthracene 400 MHz CD_3OD

^{13}C NMR of QAO-2OH anthracene 100 MHz CD_3OD

¹H NMR 400 MHz CDCl₃

^{13}C NMR of 100 MHz CDCl_3

^1H NMR of 4.1 400 MHz CDCl_3

^{13}C NMR of 4.1 100 MHz CDCl_3

^1H NMR of 4.2 400 MHz CDCl_3

^1H NMR 400 MHz CDCl_3

^{13}C NMR 100 MHz CDCl_3

^1H NMR of 4.5 400 MHz CDCl_3

^1H NMR of Lipid 1 400 MHz CDCl_3

¹H NMR of 4.3 400 MHz CDCl₃

^1H NMR of 4.6 400 MHz CDCl_3

^{13}C NMR of 4.6 100 MHz CDCl_3

^1H NMR of Lipid 2 400 MHz CDCl_3

^1H NMR of 4.4 500 MHz CDCl_3

^1H NMR 400 MHz CDCl_3

¹³C NMR 125 MHz CDCl₃

^1H NMR of Lipid 3 400 MHz CDCl_3

^1H NMR of Dox-AH 400 MHz CD_3OD

A.2. ZETA-POTENTIAL MEASUREMENTS

Zeta-potential for NPs based on work up

Run	Mobility	Zeta Potential (mV)	Rel. Residual	Measurement Parameters:
1	-0.26	-3.37	0.0415	Conductance = 30 μ S
2	-0.25	-3.26	0.0533	Electric Field = 10.14 V/cm
3	-0.87	-11.14	0.0883	Sample Count Rate = 466 kcps
4	0.48	6.18	0.0460	Ref. Count Rate = 1121 kcps
5	-0.50	-6.37	0.0335	
6	-0.24	-3.05	0.0415	
7	0.33	4.24	0.0446	
8	0.68	8.65	0.0868	
9	-0.43	-5.53	0.0438	
10	0.18	2.27	0.0473	
Mean	-0.09	-1.14	0.0526	
Std. Error	0.15	1.97	0.0060	
Combined	-0.14	-1.84	0.0224	

Rinsed NPs

Run	Mobility	Zeta Potential (mV)	Rel. Residual	Measurement Parameters:
1	-1.40	-17.86	0.0891	Conductance = 27 μ S
2	-1.41	-17.98	0.0816	Electric Field = 10.07 V/cm
3	-2.70	-34.61	0.2664	Sample Count Rate = 213 kcps
4	-1.61	-20.64	0.0695	Ref. Count Rate = 1033 kcps
5	-1.53	-19.61	0.0827	
6	-1.42	-18.13	0.0861	
7	-1.19	-15.17	0.0628	
8	-1.23	-15.73	0.0495	
9	-1.52	-19.47	0.0640	
10	-1.89	-24.14	0.0777	
Mean	-1.59	-20.33	0.0929	
Std. Error	0.14	1.78	0.0197	
Combined	-1.46	-18.73	0.0399	

Multiply rinsed NPs

Run	Mobility	Zeta Potential (mV)	Rel. Residual	Measurement Parameters:
1	3.75	48.00	0.0630	Conductance = 80 μ S
2	4.09	52.28	0.0603	Electric Field = 9.50 V/cm
3	3.83	49.06	0.0607	Sample Count Rate = 430 kcps
4	4.76	60.90	0.0831	Ref. Count Rate = 1055 kcps
5	5.10	65.21	0.0534	
6	5.34	68.38	0.0775	
7	4.82	61.65	0.0398	
8	4.00	51.26	0.0438	
9	4.64	59.33	0.0794	
10	4.68	59.93	0.0691	
Mean	4.50	57.60	0.0630	
Std. Error	0.17	2.22	0.0046	
Combined	4.48	57.33	0.0269	

Acid rinsed NPs

Run	Zeta Potential (mV)	Half Width (mV)	Measurement Parameters: Conductance = 1042 μ S Current = 2.00 mA Electric Field = 5.26 V/cm Sample Count Rate = 383 kcps Ref. Count Rate = 803 kcps
1	-9.45	19.56	
2	-36.07	26.34	
3	-24.92	23.14	
4	-42.08	28.31	
5	-49.29	19.31	
6	-28.64	18.03	
7	-25.19	18.75	
8	-34.51	18.57	
9	-29.26	17.91	
10	-13.74	18.94	
Mean	-29.32	20.89	
Std. Error	3.81	1.18	

Zeta potential of CS₂-modified NPs

Zeta potential of CML with lipid 1

A.3. EXCITATION-EMISSION SPECTRA

Excitation-emission spectra for FITC derivatives

A.4. DYNAMIC LIGHT SCATTERING MEASUREMENTS

A

B

C

3D stack plots of DLS
measurements over 24 mixing time
with lipid 1 (A), 2 (B), and 3 (C).

A.5. FLUORESCENCE AND BRIGHT-FIELD MICROSCOPE IMAGES

Fluorescence (green filter) and bright-field microscope images were acquired after 2h treatment with CML/SNP formulations on an EVOS FL Cell Imaging System at magnifications of 10x or 20x.

Fluorescence images of MCF-7 cells after 2h treatment with SNP formulations and controls.

Bright-field images of MCF-7 cells after 2h treatment with SNP formulations and controls.

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Media: Springer, *Metabolomics* 2012, 8, 989-996. Mattingly, S. J.; Xu, T.; Nantz, M. H.;

Higashi, R. M.; Fan, T. W. –M.

A.7. LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

ATR attenuated total reflectance

CML cationic magnetoliposome

DLS dynamic light scattering

DMEM Dulbecco's modified eagle medium

DOPE 1,2-di-(9Z-octadecenoyl)-sn-glycero-3-phosphoethanolamine

Dox-HCl Doxorubicin hydrochloride

Dox-AH Doxorubicin acyl hydrazone

DRIFT diffuse reflectance infrared Fourier transform

EA elemental analysis

EES excitation-emission spectrum

FITC fluorescein isothiocyanate

FT-ICR-MS Fourier-transform ion-cyclotron resonance mass spectrometry

MS mass spectrometry

NP iron oxide nanoparticle

PBS phosphate buffered saline

QAO quaternary aminoxy

QDA quaternary dodecyl aminoxy

*QDA $^{13}\text{CD}_3$ -labeled QDA

QOA quaternary octyl aminoxy

SNP silica-coated iron oxide nanoparticle

TGA thermogravimetric analysis

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Experience

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Mass spectral analysis

Cell culture (MCF-7 cell line)

Nanomaterial characterization

Instrumental

- ^1H and ^{13}C , 1D and 2D NMR
- Fourier transform-ion cyclotron resonance-mass spectrometry
- Column and thin-layer chromatography including flash chromatography
- UV-Vis and fluorescence spectroscopy
- Diffuse reflectance infrared Fourier transform spectroscopy
- Infrared spectroscopy and attenuated total reflectance IR
- Zeta potential and dynamic light scattering measurements
- Fluorescence microscopy
- High-performance liquid chromatography
- Thermogravimetric analysis

Presentations

Mattingly, S. J.; Hobbing, K. R.; Clark, G. J.; Nantz, M. H. *Lipid-coated Nanoparticles for Drug Delivery*. **Poster** 542; presented at the 66th Southeastern Regional Meeting of the American Chemical Society, Nashville, TN; October 18, 2014.

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Biswas S.; Gordon, L.; Deb, B.; Mattingly, S. J.; Massey, A. P.; Clark, G. J.; Nantz, M. H. *Magnetic Lipid Particles (MLPs): A New Class of Iron Oxide Nanoparticles for Gene Transfer*. **Poster** 10; presented at the Inaugural Conference of the American Society for Nanomedicine, Potomac, MD; October 23, 2009.

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Biswas S.; Gordon, L.; Deb, B.; Mattingly, S. J.; Massey, A. P.; Clark, G. J.; Nantz, M. H. *Magnetic Lipid Particles (MLPs): A New Class of Iron Oxide Nanoparticles for Gene Transfer*. **Poster** 18; presented at the 11th Annual IMD³ Symposium, Louisville, KY; March 10, 2009.

Publications

Mattingly, S. J.; Clark, G. J.; Nantz, M. H., Cationic Magnetoliposomes for Drug Delivery. Submitted to *Journal of Controlled Release*, December, **2014**.

Gupta, K.; Mattingly, S. J.; Knipp, R. J.; Afonin, K. A.; Viard, M.; Bergman, J. T.; Stepler, M.; Blumenthal, R.; Nantz, M. H.; Puri, A.; Shapiro, B. A. Oxime-ether lipids containing hydroxylated head groups are superior siRNA delivery agents than their non-hydroxylated counterparts. Submitted to *Langmuir*, December, **2014**.

Knipp, R. J.; Mattingly, S. J.; Nantz, M. H., Magnetic-field induced hydrolysis as a mechanism for rapid release of nanoparticle-bound substrates. Submitted to *Advanced Materials Interfaces*, October, **2014**.

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