## A One-step Approach to Tuning the Size of Silver Nanoparticles

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## Applications of silver nanoparticles



# What are the environmental and human health impacts?



### **Dangers of Silver Nanoparticles**



There is no regulation!!!

What do we know about AgNP toxicity?

Figure 11 Schematic mechanisms for antimicrobial ability of GO-Ag-Ti.

**Notes:** Blue ball, red ball, yellow sheet, and circular platform represent Ag ion, Ag nanoparticle, GO sheet, and Ti substrate, respectively. The roman numerals I, II, III and IV are the different periods of antimicrobial process. The 20, 50, 80 and 100  $\mu$ g/mL are designated as G20, G50, G80, and G100, respectively. **Abbreviations:** Ag, silver; GO, graphene oxide; NP, nanoparticles; ROS, reactive oxygen species; Ti, titanium.

https://www.dovepress.com/ti-go-ag-nanocomposite-the-effect-of-content-level-on-the-antimicrobia-peer-reviewed-fulltext-article-IJN https://www.realclearscience.com/articles/2014/04/01/silver\_nanoparticles\_useful\_but\_dangerous\_108578.html

#### **Previous Toxicity Studies of Silver Nanoparticles**



Asharani et al. (2008). Toxicity of silver nanoparticles in zebrafish models. Nanotechnology, 19, 255102

#### Challenge

- AgNP release Ag<sup>+</sup> ions
- There is no way to study how the shape, size, surface area, and surface chemistry influence nanoparticlebiological interactions and toxicity

- Synthesized and commercially available AgNPs were tested for toxicity using zebrafish models
- With increasing concentration of AgNPs introduced, there is also an increase in mortality



Boventre et al. (2014) The impact of animated surface ligands and silica shells on the stability, uptake, and toxicity of engineered silver nanoparticles. *J Nanopart Res*, 16, 2761

# How can we control for the presence of Ag ions in samples used for evaluating toxicity?

#### Designing a Series of Different Stable AgNPs

Citrate

AgNP

SOA-PC



Key:

AgNP

• SOA - Sodium Oleate

HÔ

• PC - Phosphatidylcholine

Na

- PT Propanethiol
- HT Hexanethiol

AgNP stability, in order, from lowest to highest

 Ag-Cit (lowest), Ag-SOA-PC, Ag-SOA-PC-PT, Ag-SOA-PC-HT, and Ag-SOA-PC-HT-Purified (highest) How does shape play a role in toxicity?

How does size play a role in toxicity? How does surface chemistry play a role in toxicity?





#### How Were These Silver Nanoparticles Made?



- Sodium citrate- prevents the nanoparticles from collapsing in yield bulks
- Sodium Borohydride- donates electrons creating silver nanoparticles

#### **Citrate-capped Silver Nanoparticles**



• There was variation in size when measuring lambda max.

• Stable and soluble

• Could be some improvement on the monodispersity of the AgNPs

#### NaOH was Introduced to the Silver Nanoparticles

#### pH: 7 7 7 6 6 5 6



- NaOH OH ions increase the electrostatic repulsion force between silver nanoparticles
- Elevate reducing ability of citrate
- Improves uniformity and increases size

#### Silver Nanoparticles in the Presence of NaOH



- The bands were more broad
- There was a slight red shift in surface plasma resonance
  - 85 nm silver nanoparticle showed broadening of the band, indicating aggregation

#### Comparison with and without NaOH



#### DLS Size Comparison of AgNPs in the Presence of NaOH



#### Summary and Future Goals



Next take TEM images to get an exact diameter and dispersity

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