## 1 Supporting information

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**Table S1** Amino group content and net charge of BLG and CBLG\*

| Sample name | EDA<br>mol/L | TBNS reactive -NH <sub>2</sub> per molecule** | Total –NH <sub>2</sub> per<br>molecule** | Total –COOH<br>per molecule** | Net charge<br>per molecule |
|-------------|--------------|---|--|-------------------------------|----------------------------|
| BLG         | 0            | $16.3\pm0.2^{d}$                              | 19.3                                     | 25.7                          | -7                         |
| C-0.6M      | 0.6          | $21.4\pm0.4^{c}$                              | 24.4                                     | 20.6                          | +3                         |
| C-0.9M      | 0.9          | $24.4\pm0.3^{b}$                              | 27.4                                     | 17.6                          | +9                         |
| C-1.2M      | 1.2          | $26.6\pm0.2^{a}$                              | 31.6                                     | 13.4                          | +17                        |
| C-1.5M      | 1.5          | $27.3\pm0.5^{a}$                              | 31.3                                     | 13.7                          | +17                        |

<sup>\*</sup> Data with different letters showed significant difference (n=3, P<0.05).

Table S2 Zeta potential and hydrophobicity of BLG and CBLG in PBS and HBSS \*

|        | In PBS                 |                          | In HBSS               |                      |
|--------|------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| Sample | Zeta potential         | Hydrophobicity           | Zeta potential        | Hydrophobicity       |
|        | (mV)                   | (dimensionless)          | (mV)                  | (dimensionless)      |
| BLG    | -37.0±0.1 <sup>e</sup> | $108.5 \pm 9.6^{e}$      | $-18.3\pm0.2^{d}$     | $68.0\pm7.2^{e}$     |
| C-0.6M | $18.1\pm0.3^{d}$       | $740.1\pm10.2^{d}$       | $6.7\pm0.1^{c}$       | $305.8 \pm 11.4^{d}$ |
| C-0.9M | $27.2\pm0.5^{c}$       | $850.2\pm11.4^{c}$       | $11.4\pm0.2^{b}$      | $421.5\pm15.4^{c}$   |
| C-1.2M | $36.8 \pm 0.4^{b}$     | $1022.3\pm17.6^{b}$      | $16.1\pm0.3^{ab}$     | $571.0\pm14.2^{b}$   |
| C-1.5M | $38.9 \pm 0.4^{a}$     | 1269.8±15.4 <sup>a</sup> | 17.5±0.3 <sup>a</sup> | $628.9 \pm 16.3^{a}$ |

<sup>\*</sup> Data with different letters showed significant difference (n=3, P<0.05).

Table S3 Assignment and relative band areas of infrared Fourier self-deconvolved BLG and

14 CBLG \*

| Band assignment | Native BLG Wavenumber (cm <sup>-1</sup> ) Area% |    | C-1.5M Wavenumber (cm <sup>-1</sup> ) Area% |    |
|-----------------|---|----|---|----|
| Side chain      | 1610  | ** | 1604  | ** |

<sup>\*\*</sup> Reactive amino groups included the ones in the lysine residues and those introduced by cationization.

<sup>5</sup> Total amino groups were reactive amino groups plus the ones in the arginine residues. Total carboxyl

groups represented the ones in the aspartic acid and glutamic acid residue. This number was deducted by

<sup>7</sup> one upon the addition of each amino group. The net charge (rounded up) was calculated by summing up the

<sup>8</sup> electric charges of all residues on BLG or CBLG.

| β-sheet           | 1620 | 14.15 | 1614 | 6.28  |
|-------------------|------|-------|------|-------|
| β-sheet           | 1630 | 20.71 | 1624 | 15.39 |
| β-sheet           | 1638 | 12.72 | 1634 | 15.53 |
| Random coil       | 1648 | 12.54 | 1642 | 17.14 |
| α-helix           | 1656 | 9.96  | 1651 | 13.33 |
| Turns             | 1666 | 10.26 | 1660 | 12.82 |
| Turns             | 1676 | 7.59  | 1671 | 11.48 |
| Turns             | 1685 | 6.94  | 1681 | 9.58  |
| β-sheet           | 1695 | 5.13  | 1693 | 6.78  |
| Total α-helix     |      | 9.36  |      | 13.06 |
| Total β-sheet     |      | 52.12 |      | 36.94 |
| Total random coil |      | 25.80 |      | 33.20 |
| Total turns       |      | 12.72 |      | 16.80 |

<sup>\*</sup> The sample C-1.5M was employed for the FSD process.

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18 Table S4 Mucoadhesion properties of BLG and CBLGs \*

| Sample | PSM adsorption ng/cm <sup>2</sup> | Protein adsorption ng/cm <sup>2</sup> | Mass ratio<br>(Pro: PSM) |
|--------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| BLG    | $238\pm12^{c}$                    | 85±14 <sup>c</sup>                    | $0.357\pm0.052^{e}$      |
| C-0.6M | $359\pm17^{a}$                    | $231\pm15^{b}$                        | $0.643\pm0.013^{d}$      |
| C-0.9M | 378±15 <sup>a</sup>               | $308\pm20^{ab}$                       | $0.815\pm0.020^{c}$      |
| C-1.2M | $243\pm12^{c}$                    | $240 \pm 15^{b}$                      | $0.988 \pm 0.044^{b}$    |
| C-1.5M | $294 \pm 10^{b}$                  | $370\pm14^{a}$                        | $1.259\pm0.071^{a}$      |

<sup>\*</sup> Data with different letters showed significant difference (n=3, P<0.05).

21 Table S5 Characters of BLG and CBLG nanoparticles\*

| Sample   | Acetone<br>% | Particle size<br>nm    | Count rate<br>kcps    | Polydispersity index     |
|----------|--------------|------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| BLG      | 80           | 139.1±5.7 <sup>b</sup> | 47.4±5.2 <sup>d</sup> | 0.255±0.003 <sup>b</sup> |
| BLG      | 90           | $136.3\pm11.2^{b}$     | $386.2 \pm 7.8^{a}$   | $0.142\pm0.002^{d}$      |
| C-0.6M   | 80           | $172.3\pm6.2^{a}$      | $402.4\pm7.1^{a}$     | $0.086\pm0.002^{e}$      |
| C-0.6M** | 90           | -                      | -                     | -                        |
| C-0.9M   | 80           | $170.4 \pm 10.7^{a}$   | $30.8\pm2.3^{e}$      | $0.293\pm0.004^{a}$      |
| C-0.9M   | 90           | $93.5\pm3.4^{c}$       | $314.6 \pm 10.2^{bc}$ | $0.095\pm0.004^{c}$      |
| C-1.2M   | 80           | $165.0\pm5.2^{a}$      | $26.1 \pm 1.4^{f}$    | $0.255\pm0.006^{b}$      |

<sup>\*\*</sup> The IR intensity due to side chain vibration was excluded in the calculation for secondary structures.

| C-1.2M | 90 | 75.4±6.7 <sup>c</sup>   | 259.4±12.5°          | $0.104\pm0.003^{c}$ |
|--------|----|-------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| C-1.5M | 80 | 155.7±10.1 <sup>a</sup> | $15.8 \pm 1.6^{g}$   | $0.297\pm0.005^{a}$ |
| C-1.5M | 90 | $81.5\pm4.2^{c}$        | $280.4 \pm 13.1^{c}$ | $0.124\pm0.002^{c}$ |

- \* Data with different letters showed significant difference (n=3, P<0.05). A fixed protein concentration of</li>
   2 mg/mL was adopted.
  - \*\* No data available due to protein precipitation.

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