Supporting Information for

A Combinative Assembly Strategy Inspired Reversibly Borate-Bridged Polymeric Micelles for Lesion-Specific Rapid Release of Anticoccidial Drugs

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Supplementary Figures

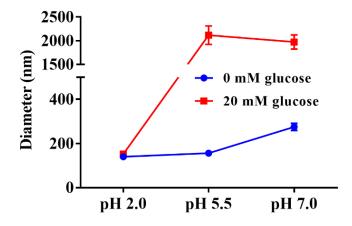


Fig. S1 Diameter variations of $S_{0.1}P_{1.0}CS/DIC$ micelles at pH values of 2.0, 5.5 and 7.0, with the presence and absence of glucose (20 mM). Data are expressed as mean±SD, n=3

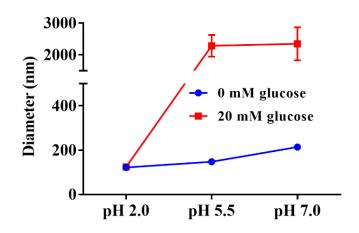


Fig. S2 Diameter variations of $S_{0.1}P_{1.5}CS/DIC$ micelles at pH values of 2.0, 5.5 and 7.0, with the presence and absence of glucose (20 mM). Data are expressed as mean±SD, n=3

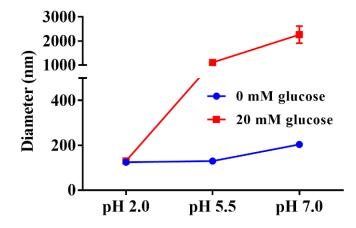


Fig. S3 Diameter variations of $S_{0.2}P_{1.5}CS/DIC$ micelles at pH values of 2.0, 5.5 and 7.0, with the presence and absence of glucose (20 mM). Data are expressed as mean±SD, n=3

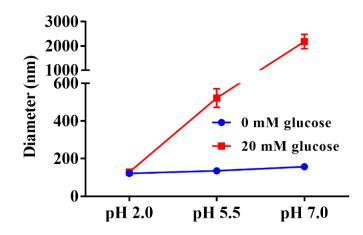


Fig. S4 Diameter variations of $S_{0.5}P_{1.5}CS/DIC$ micelles at pH values of 2.0, 5.5 and 7.0, with the presence and absence of glucose (20 mM). Data are expressed as mean±SD, n=3

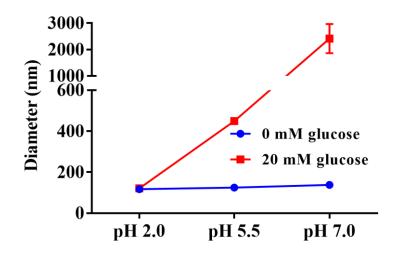


Fig. S5 Diameter variations of $S_{1.0}P_{1.5}CS/DIC$ micelles at pH values of 2.0, 5.5 and 7.0, with the presence and absence of glucose (20 mM). Data are expressed as mean±SD, n=3

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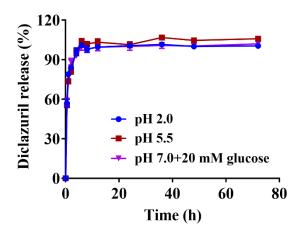


Fig. S6 Free DIC release profile from the dialysis bag at different pH values of 2.0, 5.5, and in the presence of glucose (20 mM) at pH 7.0. Data are expressed as mean \pm SD, n=3

Table S1 Graft ratio of PBA moieties in P_x CS copolymers, where *x* is the ratio of PBA molecules to CS monomers. Data are presented as mean \pm SD, n = 3

| Type of P_x CS | PBA: CS (n/n) | Graft ratio (%) | |
|---------------------|---------------|------------------|--|
| P _{0.5} CS | 0.5 | 11.93 ± 1.56 | |
| $P_{1.0}CS$ | 1.0 | 35.13 ± 3.89 | |
| $P_{1.5}CS$ | 1.5 | 40.45 ± 2.14 | |
| P _{2.0} CS | 2.0 | 41.38 ± 3.24 | |

Table S2 Graft ratio of SA moieties in $S_y P_{1.0}CS$ copolymers, where y is the ratio of SA moieties to PBA molecules. Data are presented as mean \pm SD, n = 3

| Type of S _y P _{1.0} CS | SA: PBA (n/n) | Graft ratio (%) |
|--|---------------|------------------|
| S _{0.1} P _{1.0} CS | 0.1 | 4.57 ± 1.16 |
| $S_{0.2}P_{1.0}CS$ | 0.2 | 14.56 ± 3.58 |
| $S_{0.5}P_{1.0}CS$ | 0.5 | 21.31 ± 2.79 |
| $S_{1.0}P_{1.0}CS$ | 1.0 | 25.05 ± 4.18 |

Table S3 Graft ratio of SA moieties in $S_yP_{1.5}CS$ copolymers, where *y* is the ratio of SA moieties to PBA molecules. Data are presented as mean \pm SD, n = 3

| Type of $S_y P_{1.5} CS$ | SA: PBA (n/n) | Graft ratio (%) |
|--------------------------------------|---------------|------------------|
| S _{0.1} P _{1.5} CS | 0.1 | 4.14 ± 0.93 |
| S _{0.2} P _{1.5} CS | 0.2 | 10.68 ± 2.76 |
| $S_{0.5}P_{1.5}CS$ | 0.5 | 16.67 ± 2.63 |
| $S_{1.0}P_{1.5}CS$ | 1.0 | 17.01 ± 3.32 |

Table S4 Characterization of series of DIC-loaded micelles. Data are presented as mean \pm SD, n = 3. *p < 0.05 and ***p < 0.001

| Samples | Size (nm) | PDI | DL (%) | EE (%) |
|----------|---------------|-----------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| SPCS/DIC | 124.1 ± 0.9 | 0.092 ± 0.008 | $13.4\pm1.16^{*}$ | 74.3 ± 4.2 *** |
| PCS/DIC | 139.5 ± 1.1 | 0.153 ± 0.013 | 8.97 ± 1.59 | 59.1 ± 4.3 |

| Table S5 Pharmacokinetics parameters following a single oral administration (15 mg/kg of |
|--|
| DIC) of DIC suspension and SPCS/DIC micelles. Data are presented as mean \pm SD, n = 6. *p |
| < 0.05 and ****p < 0.0001 as compared to DIC suspension |

| Parameters | Unit | DIC suspension | SPCS/DIC |
|--------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------|------------------------|
| AUC _{0-t} | µg∙mL⁻¹h | 140.40 ± 7.07 | $236.10 \pm 28.69*$ |
| C _{max} | µg∙mL⁻¹ | 8.90 ± 1.20 | 7.50 ± 0.63 |
| T _{max} | h | 0.48 ± 0.03 | $8.25 \pm 0.35^{****}$ |
| t _{1/2} | h | 64.56 ± 10.55 | $85.85 \pm 7.59*$ |
| CL | $mL \cdot (h \cdot g)^{-1}$ | 0.063 ± 0.0034 | $0.041 \pm 0.0026 *$ |

Table S6 Body weight determined at the initial and the end of the experiment, and relative body weight gain (%), feed conversion ratio (FCR). Data are expressed as mean \pm SD, n=10

| Groups | Body weight | | Weight | Relative | Feed conversion ratio (FCR) |
|------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|----------|-------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| | Before challenge (g) | After challenge (g) | gain (%) | body weight gain (%) | |
| Negative control | 95.8 ± 5.7 | 173.3 ± 13.8 | 81 | 100 | 3.06 |
| Positive control | 96.4 ± 4.8 | 138.2 ± 14.3 | 43 | 53 | 5.42 |
| SPCS/DIC (H) | 92.8 ± 7.6 | 154.5 ± 9.2 | 67 | 82 | 3.63 |
| SPCS/DIC (M) | 94.7 ± 5.9 | 163.0 ± 27.6 | 72 | 89 | 3.66 |
| SPCS/DIC (L) | 93.9 ± 7.0 | 151.4 ± 16.1 | 61 | 76 | 4.02 |
| PCS/DIC | 96.4 ± 7.2 | 153.9 ± 21.6 | 60 | 74 | 3.88 |
| DIC | 96.3 ± 5.8 | 141.0 ± 17.9 | 46 | 57 | 4.92 |

Table S7 Bloody faeces counted during 5-7 days after challenge with Eimeria tenella. Data are expressed as pooled bloody faeces from 10 chicks in each group

| G | Days af | ter challenge | TT (111 1 C | |
|------------------|---------|---------------|--------------|---------------------|
| Groups | 5 | 6 | 7 | Total bloody faeces |
| Negative control | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Positive control | 11 | 6 | 6 | 23 |
| SPCS/DIC (H) | 6 | 3 | 3 | 12 |
| SPCS/DIC (M) | 5 | 5 | 3 | 13 |
| SPCS/DIC (L) | 4 | 6 | 7 | 17 |
| PCS/DIC | 4 | 6 | 6 | 16 |
| DIC | 6 | 8 | 5 | 19 |

| | Inte | estinal l | lesion ra | inks | | |
|------------------|------|-----------|-----------|------|---|---------------------------------|
| Groups | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | - Lesion scores (mean \pm SD) |
| Negative control | 8 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.00 ± 0.00 |
| Positive control | 5 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0.62±0.92 |
| SPCS/DIC (H) | 7 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.12±0.35 |
| SPCS/DIC (M) | 7 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.12±0.46 |
| SPCS/DIC (L) | 6 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0.38±0.46 |
| PCS/DIC | 5 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.37±0.35 |
| DIC | 5 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0.51±0.71 |

Table S8 Intestinal lesions examined at 8 days after challenge with Eimeria tenella. Data are expressed as mean \pm SD, n=10

 $\label{eq:tables} Table \ S9 \ Grade \ estimation \ of \ coccidiostats \ according \ to \ ACI \ values$

| ACI | >180 | 160-180 | 120-160 | <120 |
|------------------------|------------------|----------------------|-------------|---------|
| Grade of coccidiostats | Highly effective | Moderately effective | Inefficient | Invalid |