

Supporting Information

Revolutionizing drug delivery: low-intensity pulsed ultrasound (LIPUS)- driven deep penetration into hypoxic tumor microenvironments of cholangiocarcinoma

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Supplementary Figures

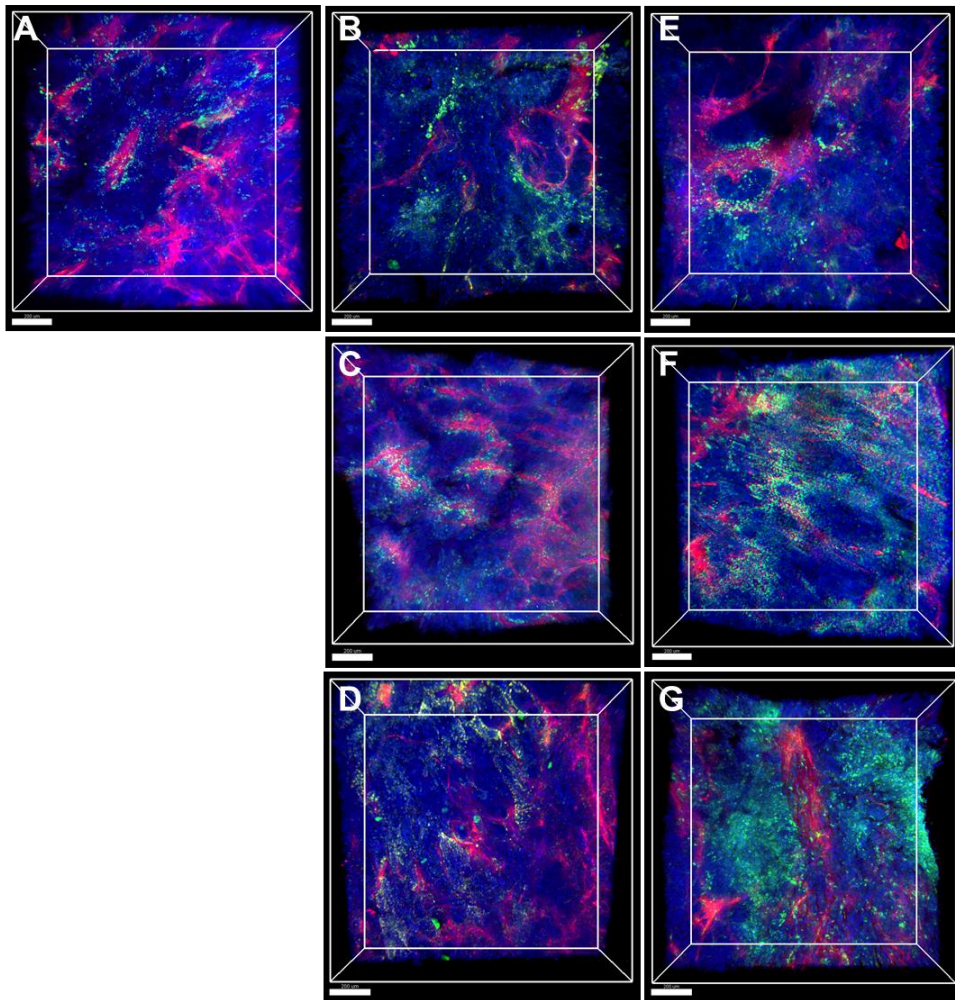


Figure S1. (A) A 3D blood vessel images (red) with TUNEL staining (green) and nucleus (blue) acquired from Gem/Cis-treated HuCCT1 tumor-bearing mice (control) without LIPUS irradiation. (B-G) 3D blood vessel images acquired from mice receiving LIPUS at (B, E) 5%, (C, F) 22%, and (D, G) 45% DCs either (B,C, and D) 20 min or (E, F, and G) 24 h post-drug injection.

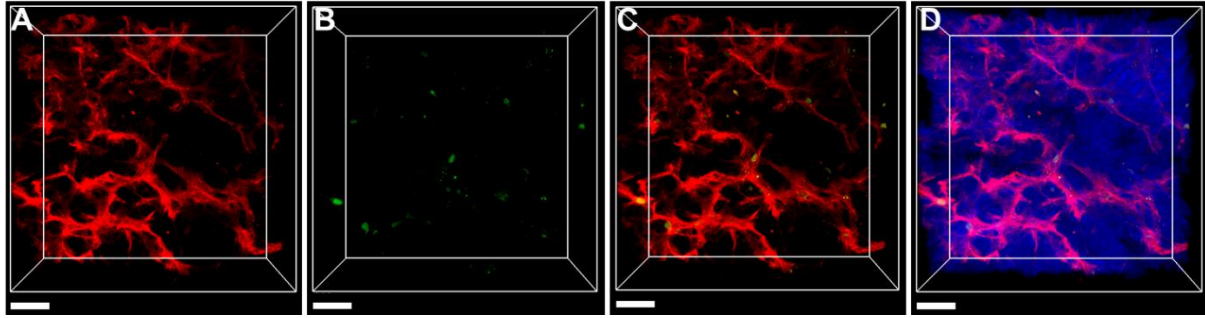


Figure S2. 3D transparent tumor images with TUNEL staining acquired from HuCCT1 tumor-bearing mice receiving LIPUS at 45% DC and 0.5 W/cm² Ispta for 1 h without drug injection. 3D distribution of (A) blood vessel (red) alone, (B) TUNEL signal (green) alone, and (C) blood vessel with TUNEL, and (D) blood vessel with TUNEL and nucleus (blue). Scale bars, 200 μ m.

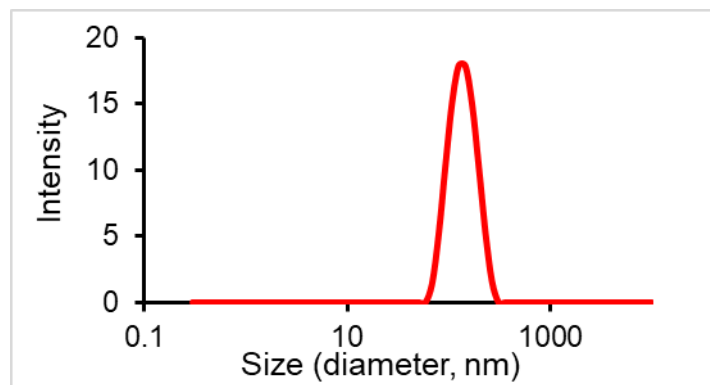


Figure S3. Dynamic light scattering (DLS), Particle size distribution of Ru-Lip.

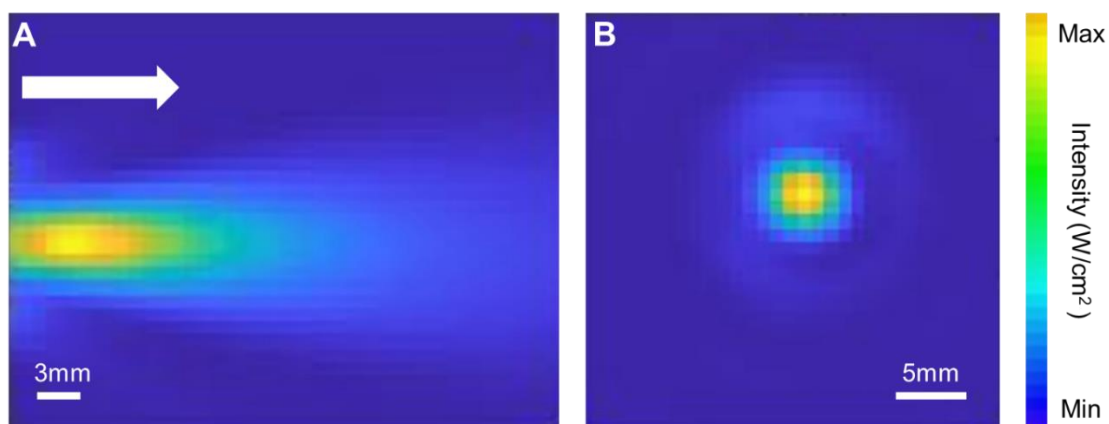


Figure S4. Sonication setup and acoustic intensity profile. The acoustic intensity profile was measured 5 mm away from the surface of the transducer on the (A) YZ axis direction (31 mm \times 41 mm; 1 mm step) and (B) XY axis direction (31 mm \times 31 mm; 1 mm step). The arrow indicates the direction of ultrasound radiation.

Supplementary Tables

Table S1. LIPUS treatment conditions for animals.

| Conditions | Duty cycle (%) | Isppa (W/cm ²) | Ispta (W/cm ²) | Pascal (kPa) |
|------------|----------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|--------------|
| 1 | 5 | 9.9 | 0.5 | 543 |
| 2 | 22 | 0.4 | 0.1 | 110 |
| 3 | 22 | 1.4 | 0.3 | 203 |
| 4 | 22 | 2.2 | 0.5 | 258 |
| 5 | 22 | 3.8 | 0.7 | 334 |
| 6 | 45 | 1.1 | 0.5 | 180 |
| 7 | 45 | 1.9 | 0.7 | 235 |

Table S2. Characterization of Ru-Lip.

| Sample | Size (nm) | Polydispersity Index (PI) | Zeta Potential (mV) | Encapsulation Efficiency (%) |
|---------------|------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Ru-Lip | 117.6 ± 9.13 | 0.097 | 4.519 ± 0.45 | 90 |

Table S3. The amount of Gem/Cis and LIPUS combination therapy-induced apoptotic cancer cells in relation to their distance from blood vessels. LIPUS conditions were set dependent on DC (5%, 22%, and 45%) and treatment-time (20 min and 24 h) (Data are presented as mean, n = 3).

| Distance from the blood vessels (μm) | Group Gem/Cis alone | Gem/Cis with US therapy (DC 5%, Ispta 0.5 W/cm^2) | | Gem/Cis with US therapy (DC 22%, Ispta 0.5 W/cm^2) | | Gem/Cis with US therapy (DC 45%, Ispta 0.5 W/cm^2) | |
|---|------------------------|--|-------|---|-------|---|-------|
| | | 20 min | 24 h | 20 min | 24 h | 20 min | 24 h |
| 10 | 3345 | 3038 | 4366 | 5180 | 9387 | 8766 | 9893 |
| 20 | 1775 | 2187 | 2386 | 4146 | 6716 | 4927 | 9035 |
| 30 | 560 | 1339 | 1760 | 1588 | 3978 | 2228 | 6202 |
| 40 | 241 | 867 | 1313 | 779 | 2238 | 1161 | 3608 |
| 50 | 128 | 594 | 1100 | 418 | 1264 | 624 | 1936 |
| 60 | 94 | 448 | 789 | 285 | 820 | 382 | 1095 |
| 70 | 69 | 302 | 553 | 176 | 503 | 221 | 774 |
| 80 | 33 | 183 | 395 | 107 | 352 | 124 | 570 |
| 90 | 12 | 108 | 265 | 69 | 260 | 65 | 444 |
| 100 | 3 | 67 | 177 | 44 | 200 | 33 | 381 |
| 110 | 2 | 49 | 98 | 20 | 119 | 15 | 272 |
| 120 | 1 | 35 | 53 | 10 | 56 | 12 | 179 |
| 130 | 0 | 14 | 38 | 7 | 33 | 5 | 113 |
| 140 | 0 | 10 | 23 | 3 | 16 | 1 | 58 |
| 150 | 0 | 2 | 11 | 3 | 9 | 2 | 28 |
| 160 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 0 | 8 | 2 | 17 |
| 170 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 6 | 1 | 12 |
| 180 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 7 |
| 190 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 7 |
| 200 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| 210 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| SUM | 6263 | 9243 | 13334 | 12835 | 25967 | 18569 | 34637 |

Table S4. The amount of Gem/Cis and LIPUS combination therapy-induced apoptotic cancer cells in relation to their distance from blood vessels. LIPUS conditions were set dependent on Ispta (0.1 W/cm², 0.3 W/cm², 0.5 W/cm², 0.7 W/cm²) (Data are presented as mean, n = 3).

| Group Distance from the blood vessels (µm) | Gem/Cis alone | Gem/Cis with US therapy (DC 22%, Ispta 0.1 W/cm ²) | Gem/Cis with US therapy (DC 22%, Ispta 0.3 W/cm ²) | Gem/Cis with US therapy (DC 22%, Ispta 0.5 W/cm ²) | Gem/Cis with US therapy (DC 22%, Istpa 0.7 W/cm ²) |
|---|---------------|--|--|--|--|
| 10 | 3345 | 3668 | 5810 | 9387 | 9282 |
| 20 | 1775 | 2235 | 2386 | 6716 | 5901 |
| 30 | 560 | 1260 | 1547 | 3978 | 3443 |
| 40 | 241 | 833 | 1093 | 2238 | 2120 |
| 50 | 128 | 620 | 868 | 1264 | 1398 |
| 60 | 94 | 393 | 636 | 820 | 1028 |
| 70 | 69 | 280 | 436 | 503 | 755 |
| 80 | 33 | 193 | 312 | 352 | 560 |
| 90 | 12 | 141 | 212 | 260 | 428 |
| 100 | 3 | 101 | 154 | 200 | 322 |
| 110 | 2 | 69 | 97 | 119 | 242 |
| 120 | 1 | 46 | 71 | 56 | 210 |
| 130 | 0 | 30 | 66 | 33 | 173 |
| 140 | 0 | 29 | 56 | 16 | 147 |
| 150 | 0 | 13 | 43 | 9 | 130 |
| 160 | 0 | 7 | 23 | 8 | 80 |
| 170 | 0 | 5 | 19 | 6 | 50 |
| 180 | 0 | 1 | 8 | 2 | 37 |
| 190 | 0 | 0 | 5 | 0 | 24 |
| 200 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 21 |
| 210 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 16 |
| 220 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 9 |
| SUM | 6263 | 9923 | 13840 | 25967 | 26375 |

Table S5. The amount of cancer cells taken up by Ru-Lip by LIPUS application in relation to their distance from blood vessels. LIPUS conditions were set dependent on DC (5%, 22%, and 45%) and Ispta (0.5 W/cm² and 0.7 W/cm²) (Data are presented as mean, n = 3).

| Group Distance from the blood vessels (μm) | Ru-Lip alone | Ru-Lip with LIPUS (DC 5%, Ispta 0.5 W/cm ²) | Ru-Lip with LIPUS (DC 22%, Ispta 0.5 W/cm ²) | Ru-Lip with LIPUS (DC 45%, Ispta 0.5 W/cm ²) | Ru-Lip with LIPUS (DC 45%, Ispta 0.7 W/cm ²) |
|---|--------------|--|---|---|---|
| 10 | 4924 | 7557 | 11117 | 12616 | 9978 |
| 20 | 1388 | 2244 | 7164 | 8854 | 7889 |
| 30 | 638 | 1289 | 5609 | 7374 | 7064 |
| 40 | 338 | 812 | 3881 | 5015 | 5291 |
| 50 | 206 | 557 | 2636 | 3325 | 4129 |
| 60 | 129 | 389 | 1608 | 2133 | 2926 |
| 70 | 103 | 270 | 991 | 1318 | 1920 |
| 80 | 80 | 206 | 564 | 814 | 1318 |
| 90 | 38 | 158 | 324 | 479 | 828 |
| 100 | 18 | 111 | 185 | 317 | 538 |
| 110 | 6 | 91 | 109 | 234 | 317 |
| 120 | 0 | 65 | 74 | 186 | 227 |
| 130 | 0 | 42 | 45 | 138 | 152 |
| 140 | 0 | 18 | 37 | 97 | 115 |
| 150 | 0 | 10 | 34 | 67 | 97 |
| 160 | 0 | 5 | 24 | 32 | 78 |
| 170 | 0 | 5 | 17 | 11 | 57 |
| 180 | 0 | 2 | 15 | 5 | 30 |
| 190 | 0 | 0 | 10 | 3 | 15 |
| 200 | 0 | 0 | 5 | 2 | 5 |
| SUM | 7868 | 13833 | 34451 | 43021 | 42975 |

Table S6. The amount of cancer cells taken up by Ru-Lip by LIPUS application in relation to their distance from blood vessels. LIPUS conditions were set dependent on Ispta (0.1 W/cm^2 , 0.3 W/cm^2 , 0.5 W/cm^2 , 0.7 W/cm^2) (Data are presented as mean, $n = 3$).

| Group Distance from the blood vessels (μm) | Ru-Lip alone | Ru-Lip with US therapy (DC 22%, Ispta 0.1 W/cm^2) | Ru-Lip with US therapy (DC 22%, Istpa 0.3 W/cm^2) | Ru-Lip with US therapy (DC 22%, Istpa 0.5 W/cm^2) | Ru-Lip with US therapy (DC 22%, Ispta 0.7 W/cm^2) |
|--|--------------|---|---|---|---|
| 10 | 4924 | 4625 | 7364 | 11117 | 12935 |
| 20 | 1388 | 1941 | 4010 | 7164 | 5529 |
| 30 | 638 | 1368 | 2597 | 5609 | 4050 |
| 40 | 338 | 959 | 1823 | 3881 | 2928 |
| 50 | 206 | 676 | 1226 | 2636 | 2209 |
| 60 | 129 | 497 | 759 | 1608 | 1574 |
| 70 | 103 | 327 | 481 | 991 | 1115 |
| 80 | 80 | 232 | 318 | 564 | 742 |
| 90 | 38 | 150 | 226 | 324 | 510 |
| 100 | 18 | 113 | 135 | 185 | 344 |
| 110 | 6 | 57 | 81 | 109 | 239 |
| 120 | 0 | 33 | 39 | 74 | 137 |
| 130 | 0 | 24 | 15 | 45 | 82 |
| 140 | 0 | 14 | 5 | 37 | 41 |
| 150 | 0 | 9 | 4 | 34 | 22 |
| 160 | 0 | 4 | 2 | 24 | 2 |
| 170 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 17 | 1 |
| 180 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 15 | 0 |
| 190 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 10 | 0 |
| 200 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 5 | 0 |
| SUM | 7868 | 11032 | 19085 | 34451 | 32460 |