

## Supplementary materials

### Evaluating the antimicrobial activity and cytotoxicity of polydopamine capped silver and silver/polydopamine core-shell nanocomposites

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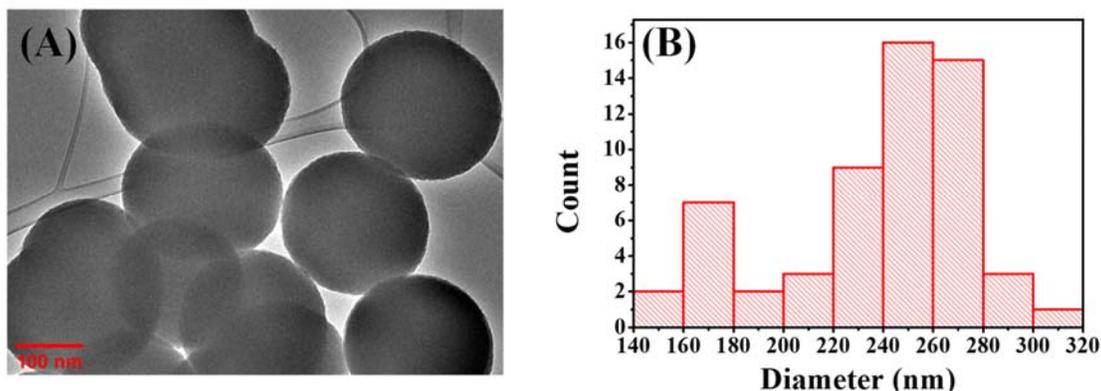
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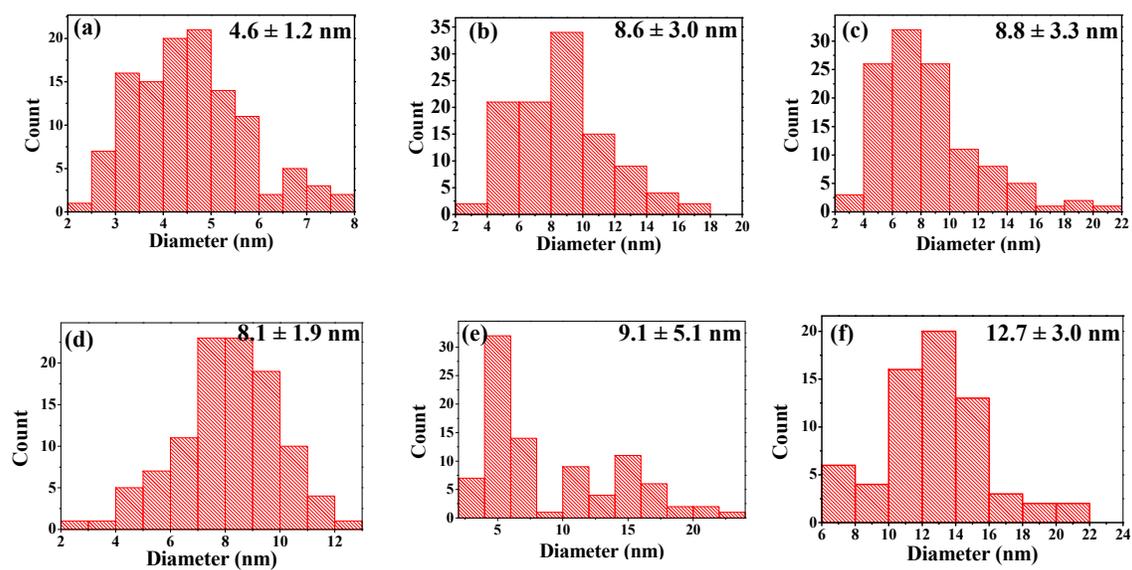
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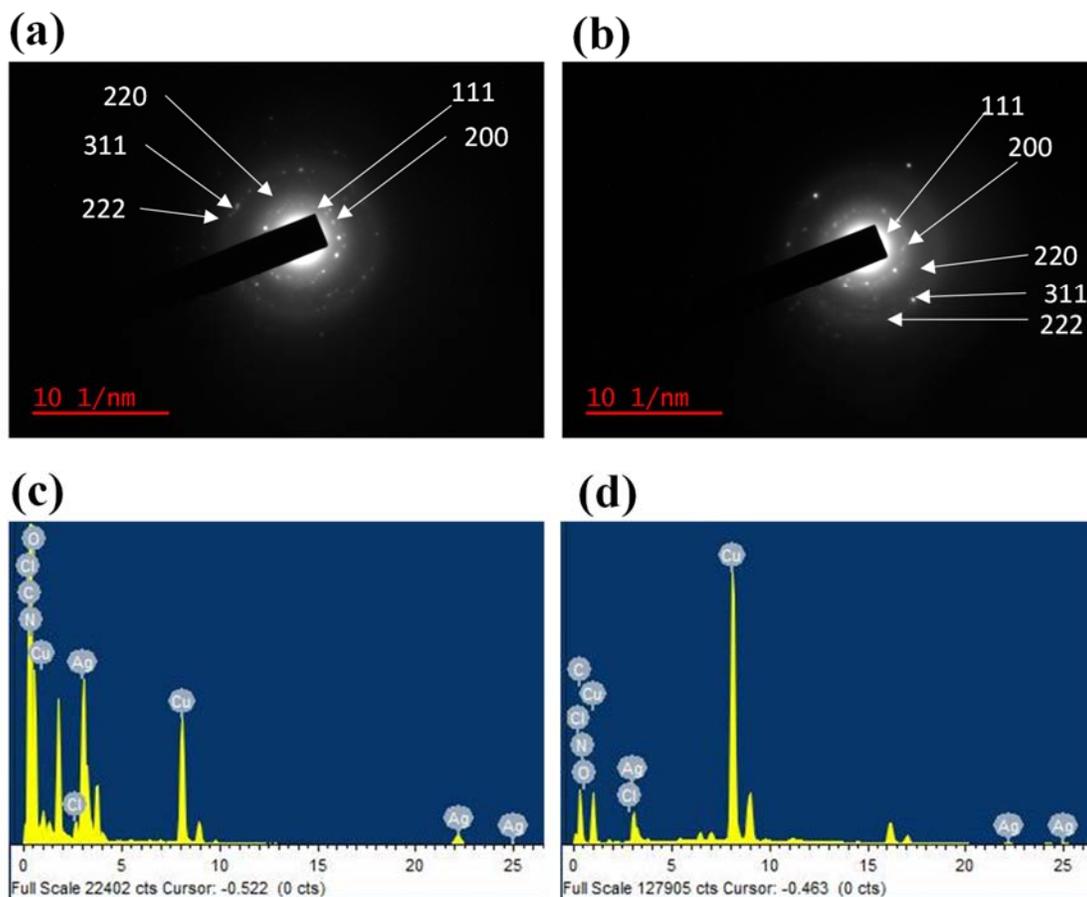
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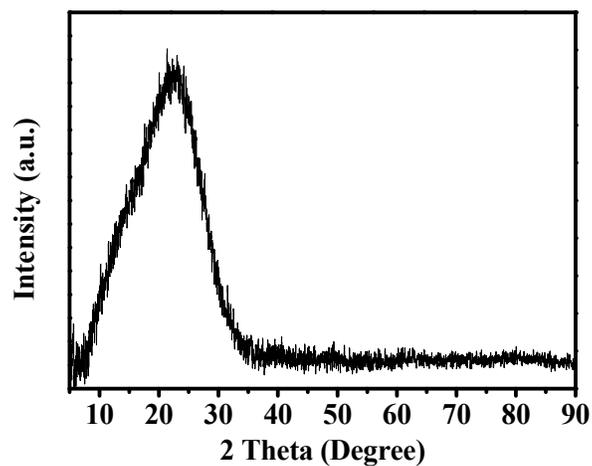
**Figure S1:** TEM micrograph (A) and particle size distribution (B) of PDA spheres



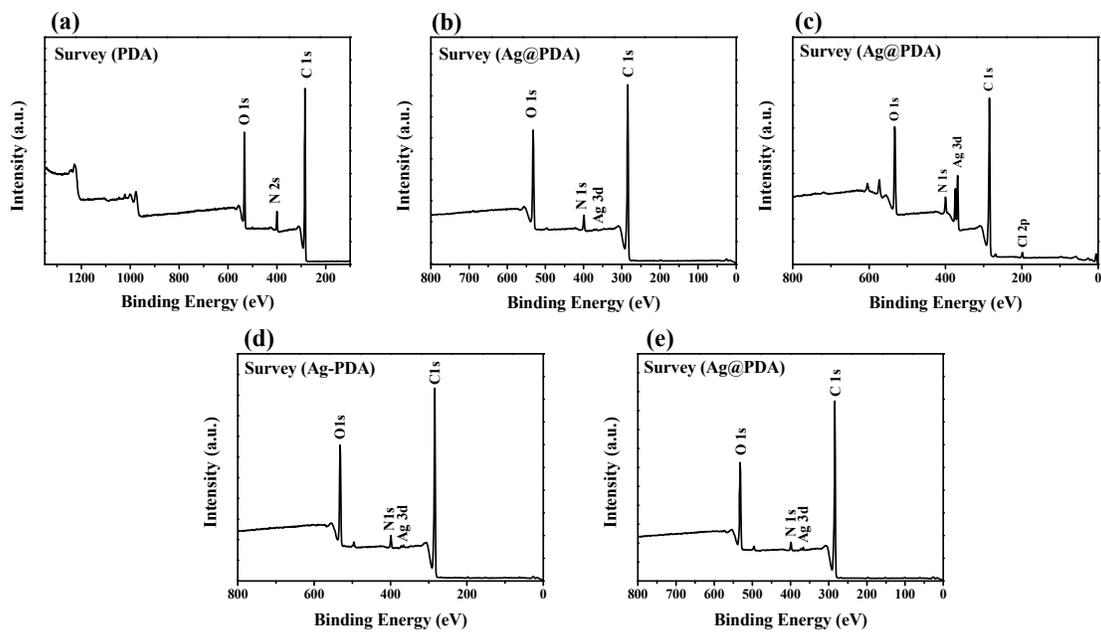
**Figure S2:** Particle size distributions of (a-c) Ag-PDA and (d-f) Ag@PDA nanocomposites at different AgNO<sub>3</sub> concentrations. [ (a, d) 1 mM, (b, e) 5 mM and (c, f) 10 mM].



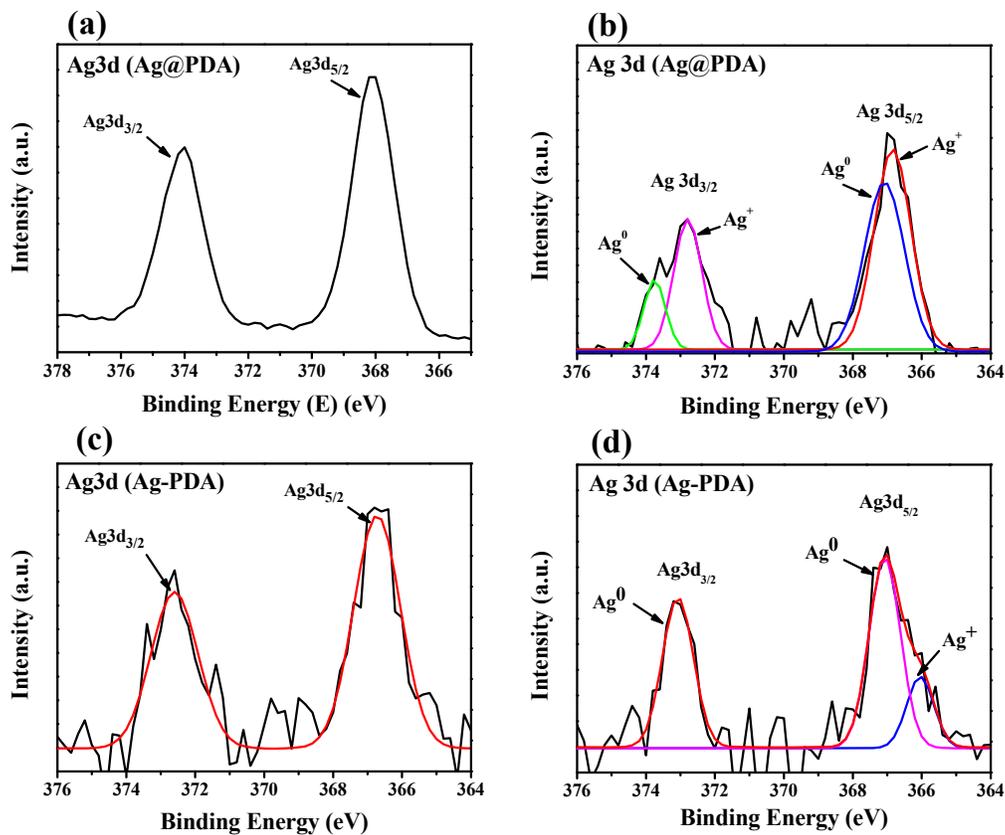
**Figure S3:** SAED and EDS of (a, c) Ag@PDA and (b, d) Ag@PDA nanocomposites [At AgNO<sub>3</sub> concentrations of 1 mM].



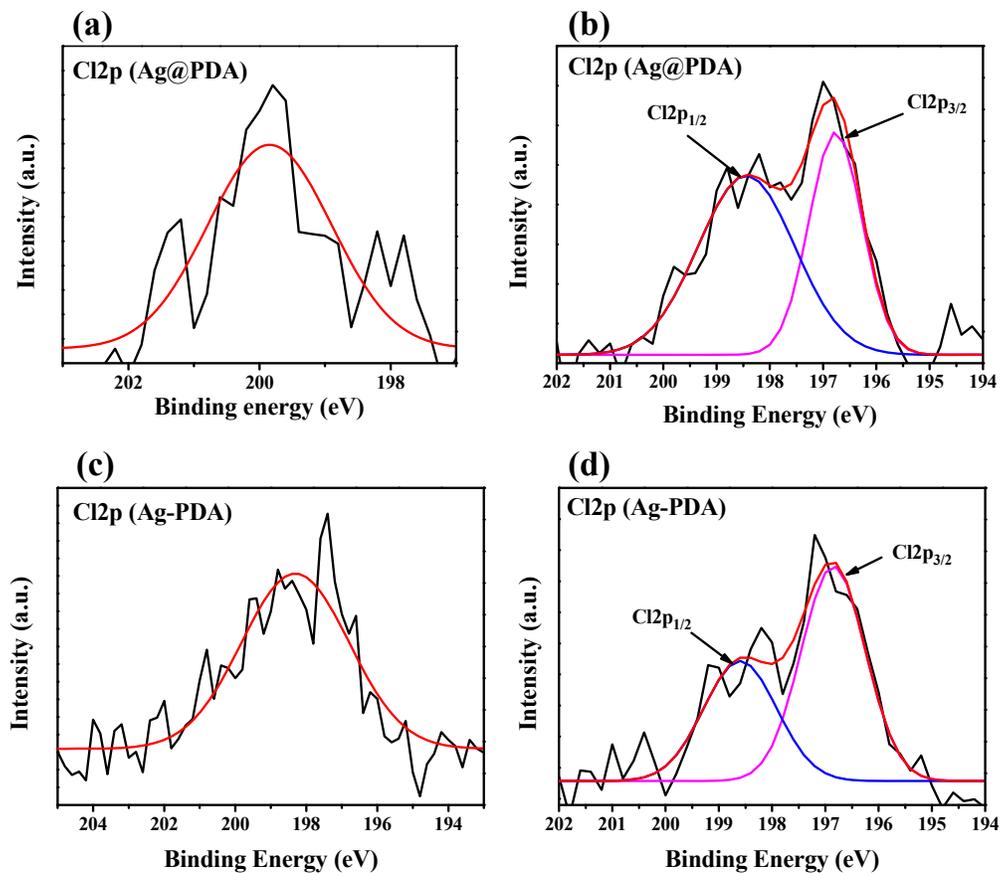
**Figure S4:** PXRD pattern of PDA spheres



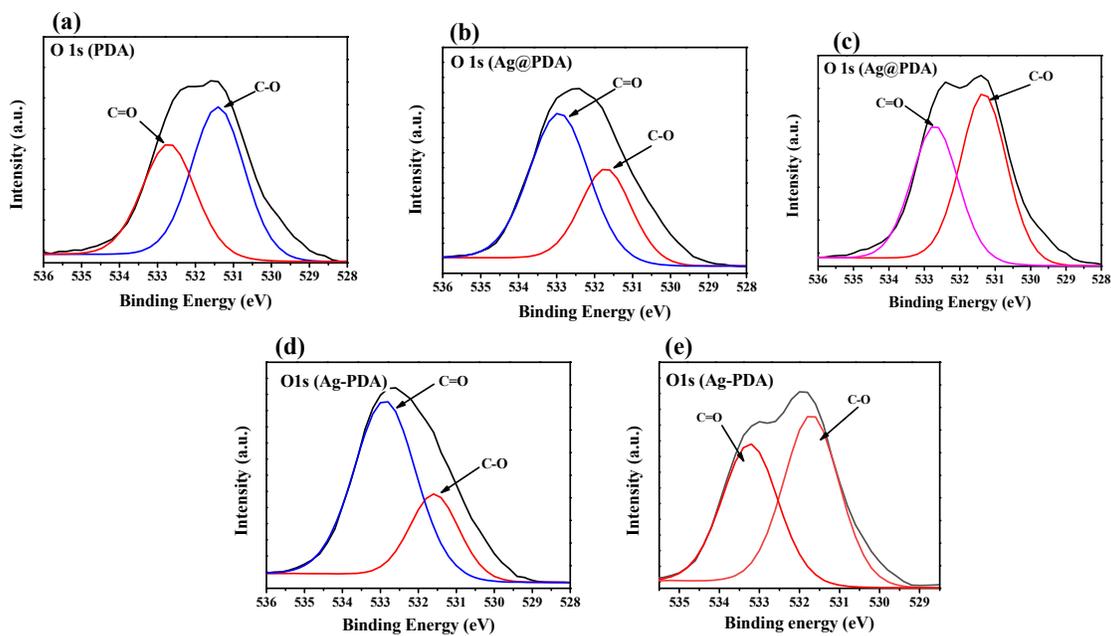
**Figure S5:** The XPS survey spectra of (a) PDA, (b) Ag@PDA [1 mM], (c) Ag@PDA [10 mM], (d) Ag-PDA [1 mM] and (e) Ag-PDA [10 mM].



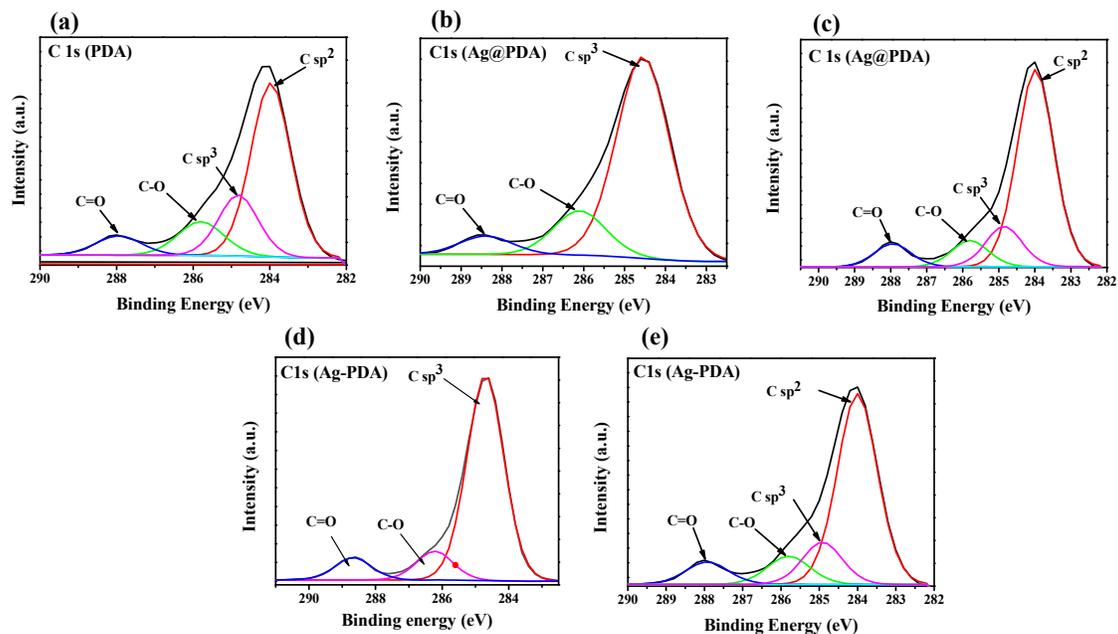
**Figure S6:** Ag3d high resolution XPS spectra of (a) Ag@PDA [1 mM], (b) Ag@PDA [10 mM], (c) Ag-PDA [1 mM] and (d) Ag-PDA [10 mM].



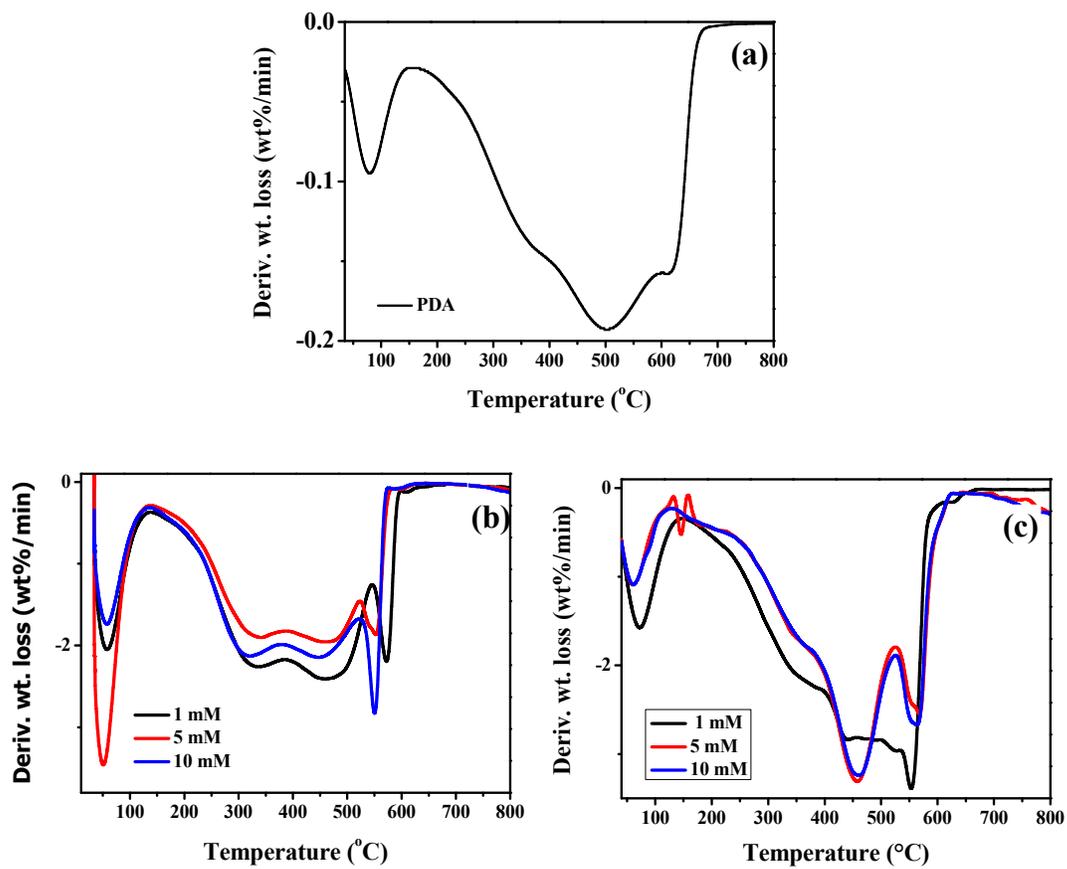
**Figure S7:** Cl 2p high resolution XPS spectra of (a) Ag@PDA [1 mM], (b) Ag@PDA [10 mM], (c) Ag-PDA [1 mM] and (d) Ag-PDA [10 mM].



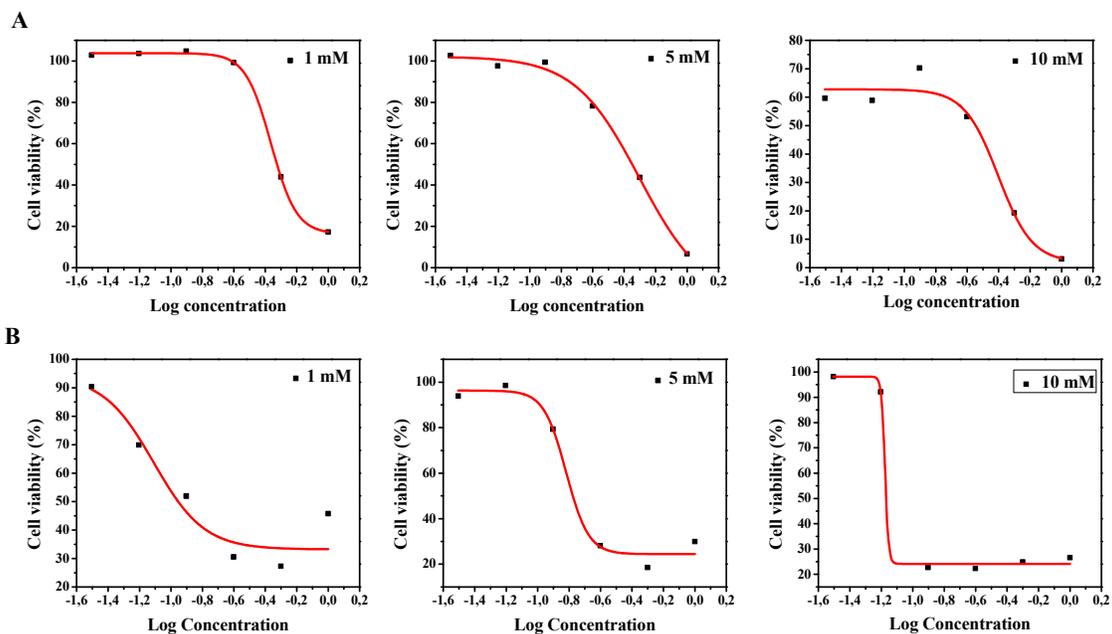
**Figure S8:** O 1s high resolution XPS spectra of (a) PDA, (b) Ag@PDA [1 mM], (c) Ag@PDA [10 mM], (d) Ag-PDA [1 mM] and (e) Ag-PDA [10 mM].



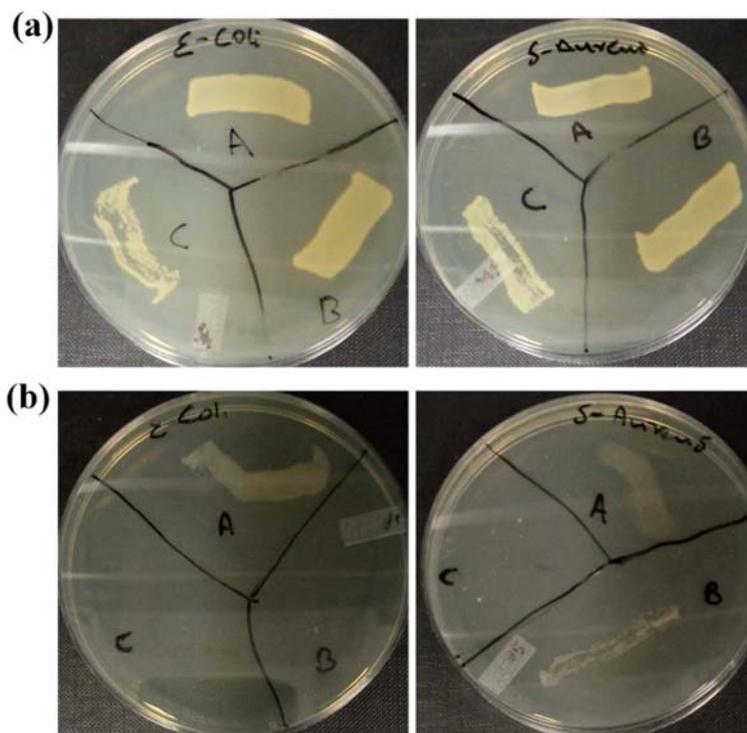
**Figure S9:** C 1s high resolution XPS spectra of (a) PDA, (b) Ag@PDA [1 mM], (c) Ag@PDA [10 mM], (d) Ag-PDA [1 mM] and (e) Ag-PDA [10 mM].



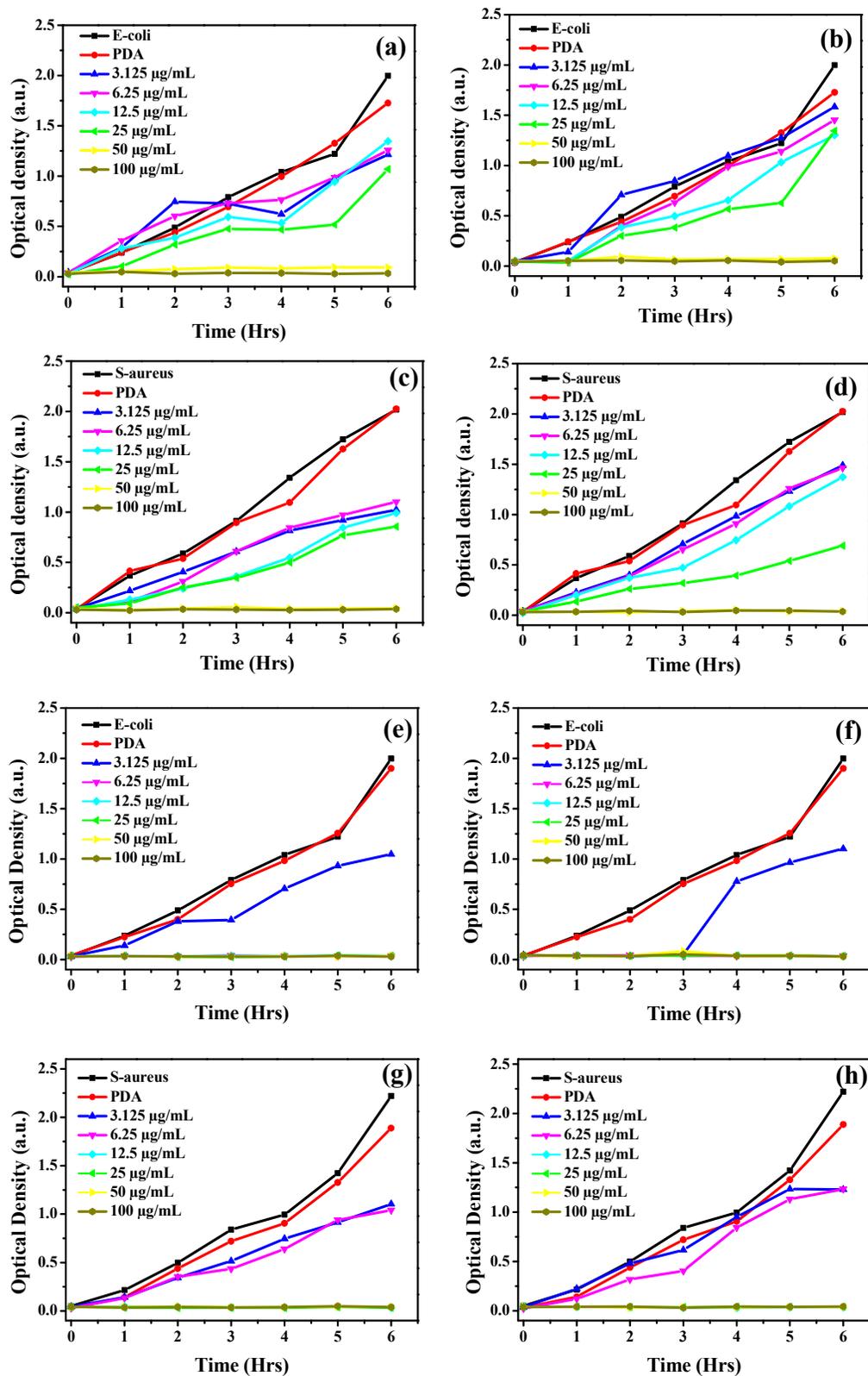
**Figure S10:** DTGA of (A) PDA. (B) Ag-PDA and (C) Ag@PDA nanocomposites at different AgNO<sub>3</sub> concentrations.



**Figure S11:** Sigmoidal curves used to determine the CC<sub>50</sub> values of (A) Ag-PDA and (B) Ag@PDA at different concentration of AgNO<sub>3</sub>.



**Figure S12:** The MBC of (a) Ag-PDA and (b) Ag@PDA nanocomposites at different AgNO<sub>3</sub> concentrations [ (A) 1 mM, (B) 5 mM and (C) 10 mM]



**Figure S13:** The bacterial growth curves of (A-D) Ag-PDA and (E-F) Ag@PDA against E-coli and S-aureus.

