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## Advanced nanomaterials for photothermal therapy in 3D cell models

*A Data Management Plan created using DMPonline.be*

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**Template:** FWO DMP (Flemish Standard DMP)

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**Project Administrator:** Beatrice Fortuni, n.n. n.n., n.n. n.n.

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**End date:** 30-09-2025

### Project abstract:

Despite significant advances in cancer therapy, cancer remains a major cause of death worldwide. In the last years, there has been increasing interest in the development of new treatment modalities with reduced side effects for difficult-to-cure cancers. One of the most promising examples is photothermal therapy (PTT), designed to selectively kill cancerous tissue through localized, light-induced thermal stress. The efficiency of this thermal treatment can be drastically increased by using nanomaterials, in particular gold nanoparticles. However, only few nanomaterial-mediated PTT have reached clinical trials and knowledge concerning the efficiency, mechanism and toxicity of NP-mediated hyperthermia remains limited. Ideal platforms for this kind of studies are multicellular tumor spheroids. Nevertheless, in these 3D models, nanoparticle internalization and penetration are drastically reduced compared to the 2D cellular monolayer, impeding consistent investigation. Here, we propose an alternative strategy to perform fundamental studies of PTT in spheroids by using our innovative silver nanowire-based endoscopy technique. The probe will be modified to locally generate thermal ablation inside solid tumors. The cell response and the therapeutic efficiency will be carefully monitored. The information obtained thereby will be used for the rational design of next-generation nanomaterials towards cancer photothermal therapies.

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## Application DMP

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### Questionnaire

**Describe the datatypes (surveys, sequences, manuscripts, objects ... ) the research will collect and/or generate and /or (re)use. (use up to 700 characters)**

1) Microscopy imaging: the temperature rise and the stress in cells will be studied via fluorescence sensing and will therefore generate data set of images. The digital data format will be: .tiff, .jpeg, .txt, .tif (Leica format). The data will be newly generated, they are digital and collected experimentally. The volume will be < 100 MB.

2) Fluorescence spectroscopy. The temperature (gTemp) and stress sensors (ERK sensor) will be characterised in vitro and in cellulo not only by imaging but also monitoring their fluorescence spectra variations. This will generate data sets of spectra normally save in the following formats: .txt, and .csv. The graphs resulting from the plotting will be stored as .jpeg, .tiff, .pxp (Igor format) and .opj (Origin format). The data will be newly generated, they are digital and collected experimentally. The volume will be < 10 TB.

2) Biological assays. Data from biological assays to quantify cell viability and to identify the cell death path (apoptosis/necrosis assays). These assays will generate data sets of images and values in the following formats: .txt, .xls, .tiff, .jpeg. The data will be newly generated, they are digital and collected experimentally. The volume will be < 1 GB.

3) Analysis Codes: a tracking algorithms will be used to monitor temperature, and calcium and ERK signalling pathways generated from MATLAB. The format of the data will be .mat, .vtk. The data will be newly generated, they are digital and collected from simulation. The volume will be < 100 GB.

4) Protocols used for preparation materials (endoscopic probes and nanoparticles), 3D cell models, staining and imaging and biological assays. The data format will be .pdf, .docx, .pptx. The data will be newly generated, they are digital and compiled. The volume will be < 100 MB.

5) Dissemination activities: publications, presentations, posters, seminars, newsletters, dedicated short videos. The data format will be .pdf, .docx, .pptx, .avi. The data will be newly generated, they are digital and compiled. The volume will be < 10 GB.

**Specify in which way the following provisions are in place in order to preserve the data during and at least 5 years after the end of the research? Motivate your answer. (use up to 700 characters)**

1. Designation of responsible person (If already designated, please fill in his/her name).  
The division has appointed Rik Nuyts to manage all activities related to data storage, annotation and sharing. He works in close collaboration with the KU Leuven ICT administration to maintain a bespoke data management system based on 2 core technologies:
  - 8Microsoft Sharepoint Server Onpremises (MS-SP): used to store metadata that serves to annotate raw experimental data
  - A custom Large Volume Storage (LVS) system: MS-SP is not suited for storage of large volumes of binary data. It is therefore coupled to a redundant file server system, achieving seamless and GxP compliant linking between data and metadata.
2. Storage capacity/repository
  - during the research. The research group will invest in the procurement of portable hard drive devices for regular storage and backup. Also, the data will be stored in the central storage facilities of the research unit.
  - after the research. The data will be stored on the university's central servers for at least 5 years after the end of the project, conforming to the RDM policy of KU Leuven.

**What's the reason why you wish to deviate from the principle of preservation of data and of the minimum preservation term of 5 years? (max. 700 characters)**

No deviation is intended nor desired.

**Are there issues concerning research data indicated in the ethics questionnaire of this application form? Which specific security measures do those data require? (use up to 700 characters)**

No such issues are expected to exist.

Nonetheless, all data stored in the mixed MS-SP/LVS system of Molecular Imaging and Photonics group is protected by the identity services of KU Leuven university. This allows GxP compliant and fully traceable control over data access rights, registration of data access events and will ensure availability and safety of data well beyond the 5 year limit as these services are an integral part of KU Leuven ICT infrastructure.

**Which other issues related to the data management are relevant to mention? (use up to 700 characters)**

None.

## Advanced nanomaterials for photothermal therapy in 3D cell models

### DPIA

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#### DPIA

Have you performed a DPIA for the personal data processing activities for this project?

- Not applicable

## Advanced nanomaterials for photothermal therapy in 3D cell models

### GDPR

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#### GDPR

Have you registered personal data processing activities for this project?

- Not applicable

# Advanced nanomaterials for photothermal therapy in 3D cell models

## FWO DMP (Flemish Standard DMP)

### 1. Research Data Summary

List and describe all datasets or research materials that you plan to generate/collect or reuse during your research project. For each dataset or data type (observational, experimental etc.), provide a short name & description (sufficient for yourself to know what data it is about), indicate whether the data are newly generated/collected or reused, digital or physical, also indicate the type of the data (the kind of content), its technical format (file extension), and an estimate of the upper limit of the volume of the data.

				Only for digital data	Only for digital data	Only for digital data	Only for physical data
Dataset Name	Description	New or reused	Digital or Physical	Digital Data Type	Digital Data format	Digital data volume (MB/GB/TB)	Physical volume
Microscopy imaging	the temperature rise and the stress in cells will be studied via fluorescence sensing and will therefore generate data set of images	Please choose from the following options: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Generate new data</li> </ul>	Please choose from the following options: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Digital</li> </ul>	Please choose from the following options: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Experimental</li> </ul>	Please choose from the following options: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• .tiff, .jpeg, .txt, .tif (Leica format).</li> </ul>	Please choose from the following options: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• &lt;10TB</li> </ul>	
Fluorescence spectroscopy	The temperature (gTemp) and stress sensors (ERK sensor) will be characterised in vitro and in cellulo not only by imaging but also monitoring their fluorescence spectra variations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Generate new data</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Digital</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Experimental</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• .txt, .cvs, .jpeg, .opj (Origin format) .xpr (Igor format)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• &lt;100MB</li> </ul>	
Biological assays	Data from biological assays to quantify cell viability and to identify the cell death path (apoptosis/necrosis assays).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Generate new data</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Digital</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Experimental</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• .txt, .xls, .jpeg, .opj (Origin format) .xpr (Igor format)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• &lt;1GB</li> </ul>	
Analysis Codes	tracking algorithms will be used to monitor temperature, and calcium and ERK signalling pathways generated from MATLAB.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Generate new data</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Digital</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Simulation data</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• .mat, .vtk</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• &lt;100GB</li> </ul>	
Protocols	Protocols used for preparation materials (endoscopic probes and nanoparticles), 3D cell models, staining and imaging and biological assays.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Generate new data</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Digital</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Compiled</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• .pdf, .docx, .pptx,</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• &lt;100MB</li> </ul>	
Dissemination activities	publications, presentations, posters, seminars, newsletters, dedicated short videos.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Generate new data</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Digital</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Compiled</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• .pdf, .docx, .pptx, .avi</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• &lt;10GB</li> </ul>	

If you reuse existing data, please specify the source, preferably by using a persistent identifier (e.g. DOI, Handle, URL etc.) per dataset or data type:

Not applicable

Are there any ethical issues concerning the creation and/or use of the data (e.g. experiments on humans or animals, dual use)? Describe these issues in the comment section. Please refer to specific datasets or data types when appropriate.

- No

Will you process personal data? If so, briefly describe the kind of personal data you will use in the comment section. Please refer to specific datasets or data types when appropriate.

- No

Does your work have potential for commercial valorization (e.g. tech transfer, for example spin-offs, commercial exploitation, ...)? If so, please comment per dataset or data type where appropriate.

- No

Do existing 3rd party agreements restrict exploitation or dissemination of the data you (re)use (e.g. Material/Data transfer agreements/ research collaboration agreements)? If so, please explain in the comment section to what data they relate and what restrictions are in place.

- No

Are there any other legal issues, such as intellectual property rights and ownership, to be managed related to the data you (re)use? If so, please explain in the comment section to what data they relate and which restrictions will be asserted.

- No

## 2. Documentation and Metadata

Clearly describe what approach will be followed to capture the accompanying information necessary to keep data understandable and usable, for yourself and others, now and in the future (e.g., in terms of documentation levels and types required, procedures used, Electronic Lab Notebooks, README.txt files, Codebook.tsv etc. where this information is recorded).

1. A README file will be provided for each dataset, each dataset will be labeled with the project name (e.g., photothermal therapy in 3D models).
2. within the dataset the data will be split in digital folders: Project name/instrument name/date/sample name.
3. within each sample folder there will be a .txt document where all the experimental parameters used are listed.
4. within each instrument folder a .txt file containing all relevant information about the instrument type will be included (brand name, serial number, year of manufacture, etc).

Will a metadata standard be used to make it easier to find and reuse the data? If so, please specify (where appropriate per dataset or data type) which metadata standard will be used. If not, please specify (where appropriate per dataset or data type) which metadata will be created to make the data easier to find and reuse.

- No

Metadata to the datasets are created automatically by the **instrumentation** (confocal microscope, spectrometer, electron microscope). Information about the instrument(s), such as brand name, serial number, year of manufacture will be provided and all metadata fields will be clearly labeled.

## 3. Data storage & back-up during the research project

Where will the data be stored?

During the research, the research group will invest in the procurement of portable hard drive devices for regular storage and backup. Also, the data will be stored in the central storage facilities of the research unit.

After the research, the data will be stored on the university's central servers for at least 5 years after the end of the project, conforming to the RDM policy of KU Leuven.

How will the data be backed up?

We will use the central server storage (Large Volume Storage) of KU Leuven, which provides a self-mirrored daily automatic back up.

OneDrive for cloud storage will be also used for personal storage of the data. Back-ups will be stored in the portable hard drive devices provided by the research group, and in the cloud drive of the instrument devices.

As division, we are planning to start using ManGo (Active Data management Platform) as additional storage solution in the near future, but this initiative hasn't been confirmed yet.

Is there currently sufficient storage & backup capacity during the project? If yes, specify concisely. If no or insufficient storage or backup capacities are available, then explain how this will be taken care of.

- Yes

How will you ensure that the data are securely stored and not accessed or modified by unauthorized persons?

The KU Leuven network drives are incorporated within secured KU Leuven environments, are password-protected (including smartphone-based multi-factor identification) and are only accessible by registered collaborating researchers. Only the PI can request access to the network drive. In addition, the data security is ensured by the dedicated service team at the institution, where the KU Leuven university data center has been built and operated at a very high security level with self-mirrored automatic backup at different physical locations. All data is transferred via encrypted methods.

What are the expected costs for data storage and backup during the research project? How will these costs be covered?

The large volume storage price is 104,42 EUR /TB/year. Our division (Molecular Imaging and Photonics) purchases 20 TB / year so the cost will be 2088,4 EUR per year and it is covered by the research fund of division (mainly from Prof. Johan Hofkens).

## 4. Data preservation after the end of the research project

**Which data will be retained for at least five years (or longer, in agreement with other retention policies that are applicable) after the end of the project? In case some data cannot be preserved, clearly state the reasons for this (e.g. legal or contractual restrictions, storage/budget issues, institutional policies...).**

All data related to this research will be retained for 5 five years after the end of the project.

**Where will these data be archived (stored and curated for the long-term)?**

The data will be stored on the university's central servers (with automatic back-up procedures) for at least 5 years after the end of project, conform the KU Leuven RDM policy.

**What are the expected costs for data preservation during the expected retention period? How will these costs be covered?**

The research unit has already invested in short-term and mid-term procuring storage devices and space for data. For long-term data storage till 5 years after the end of the project, we will use the service provided by the institution, (Large Volume storage) and data backups stored in external hard drives. As mentioned before the cost of the storage service is covered by the division. Since I do not know the size of the data I will be generating, I cannot estimate the percentage of the storage size (20 TB, which costs 2088,4 EUR per year ) that I will be using.

## 5. Data sharing and reuse

**Will the data (or part of the data) be made available for reuse after/during the project? In the comment section please explain per dataset or data type which data will be made available.**

- Yes, in an Open Access repository

After the end of project, the data produced in this project will be made usable by third parties via open-access publications and shared depository of relevant data upon requests.

**If access is restricted, please specify who will be able to access the data and under what conditions.**

The access won't be restricted

**Are there any factors that restrict or prevent the sharing of (some of) the data (e.g. as defined in an agreement with a 3rd party, legal restrictions)? Please explain in the comment section per dataset or data type where appropriate.**

- No

Not applicable

**Where will the data be made available? If already known, please provide a repository per dataset or data type.**

We will deposit the data in our institutional repository, eg. Lirias: <https://lirias2.kuleuven.be/default.html>

**When will the data be made available?**

Upon publication of the research results

**Which data usage licenses are you going to provide? If none, please explain why.**

Data from the project that can be shared will be made available under a creative commons attribution license (cc-by 4.0), so that users have to give credit to the original data creators.

**Do you intend to add a PID/DOI/accession number to your dataset(s)? If already available, you have the option to provide it in the comment section.**

- Yes

A DOI will be available through RDR (Research Data Repository), but it is not available yet.

**What are the expected costs for data sharing? How will these costs be covered?**

RDR is free for KU Leuven personnel, hence, no costs are expected for data sharing.

## 6. Responsibilities

**Who will manage data documentation and metadata during the research project?**

The grant holder, Beatrice Fortuni, will be responsible for documentation, metadata, storage and backup, under supervision of the PI, Hiroshi Uji-i.

**Who will manage data storage and backup during the research project?**

Data management, storage and back up will be performed by Beatrice Fortuni, under supervision of the PI (Hiroshi Uji-i).

**Who will manage data preservation and sharing?**

Hiroshi Uji-i, as supervisor, is responsible for data preservation and sharing

**Who will update and implement this DMP?**

Beatrice Fortuni will update and implement this DMP during the project.

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