

up to 14 day after chiNP exposure, but deeper investigation is mandatory on the functional effects that the presence of chiNPs in the nucleus may exert. Actually, long-time persistence of drug-loaded NPs in the nucleus may be considered as suitable whenever the release of a given agent must be sustained, but the question arises on the possible interference of this exogenous material *per se* with the overall nuclear functions, especially because of the polymer positive charges which could establish electrostatic interactions with the phosphate groups of nucleic acids.²⁵

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