

Abolfazl Heydari, Ph.D. is a Senior Research Scientist at the Department for Biomaterials Research, Polymer Institute of the Slovak Academy of Sciences, Bratislava, Slovakia. Dr. Heydari earned his Doctor of Philosophy in Organic Chemistry from the Department of Chemistry at Shahid Bahonar University of Kerman in Iran. His research focused on the synthesis and characterization of ionic poly( $\beta$ -cyclodextrin) and poly( $\beta$ -cyclodextrin)/graphene or clay nanocomposite hydrogels for pharmaceutical and environmental applications. He has extensive experience in the field of biomaterial research with a focus on carbohydrate, bioorthogonal, and supramolecular chemistry. Dr. Heydari's research interests include:

- Synthesizing and characterizing various polysaccharide derivatives by introducing permanent ionic charges and clickable moieties on the backbone of polymers. These derivatives will be used in the designing of biomaterials for cell encapsulation and drug delivery systems.
- Designing polymeric implantable devices stabilized by dual crosslinking using non-covalent (host-guest interactions) and irreversible/reversible covalent bonds.
- Preparing dynamic bioinks for 3D bioprinting of cell-laden constructs.