

### Supplementary Table 1 : Cellular uptake of nanoparticles

Cells were grown to confluence in 25 cm<sup>2</sup> culture flasks (medium volume 5 ml). Silver nanoparticles were then added at 1 or 20 ppm, and the flasks were incubated at 37°C for 24 hours. The medium was recovered and the cell layer rinsed once with 5ml of culture medium. The cells were then scraped in 5ml of buffer A (Hepes 50 mM pH 7.5, sorbitol 200 mM, magnesium acetate 2 mM). Aliquots of the recovered culture medium and of the cell suspension were mineralized by the addition of one volume of suprapure 65% HNO<sub>3</sub> and incubation on a rotating wheel at room temperature for 18 h. The silver content was measured by ICPMS. The results are expressed in ppb silver in the initial samples. The experiment was carried out on independent biological triplicates.

	20 ppm Ag NP			1 ppm Ag NP		
	cell layer	medium	fraction in cell layer	cell layer	medium	fraction in cell layer
mean	7744	2411	0.75	744	265	0.73
std deviation	3062	196	0.07	158	41	0.06