Facile sonochemical synthesis of pH-responsive copper nanoclusters for selective and sensitive detection of Pb²⁺ in living cells

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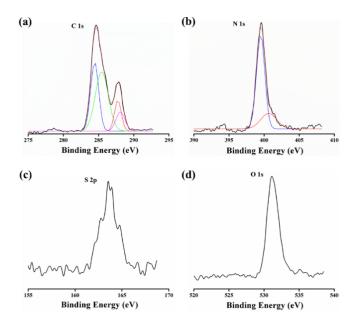


Fig S1. Typical XPS spectra of (a) C 1s; (b) N 1s; (c) S 2p and (d) O 1s involved in resultant GSH–CuNCs.

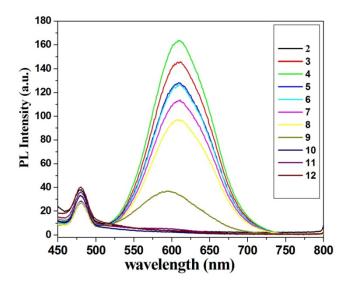


Fig S2. PL spectra of GSH–Cu NCs as a function of pH (ranging systematically from pH = 2-12).

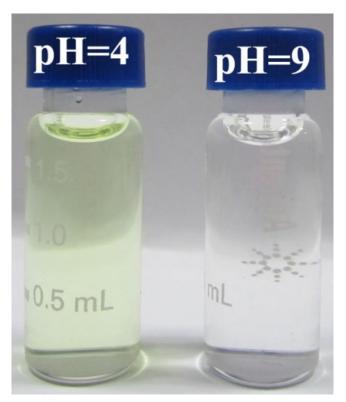


Fig S3. The photographs of resultant GSH–Cu NCs in the different pH conditions.

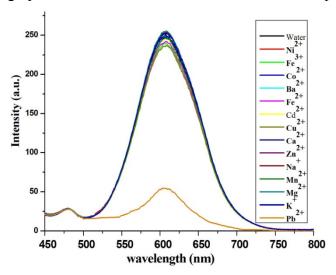


Fig S4. Fluorescence spectra of as-prepared GSH–Cu NCs in the presence of 10^{-6} M metal ions.

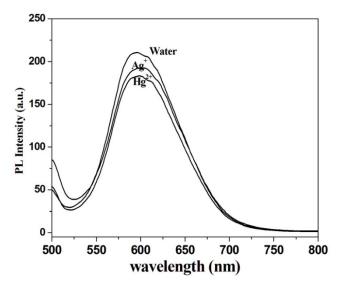


Fig S5. PL spectra of as-prepared GSH–Cu NCs in the presence of 10^{-6} M Hg(II) and Ag(I) ions.

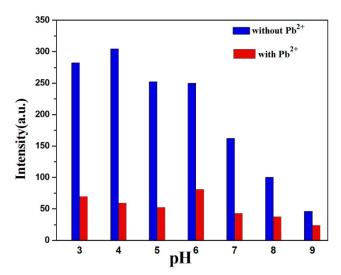


Fig S6. PL responses of as-prepared CuNCs in the absence (blue) and presence (red) of 10^{-6} M Pb²⁺ ions at different pH values.

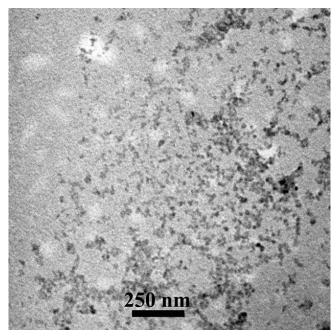


Fig S7. TEM image of the aggregated GSH-Cu NCs in the presence of Pb²⁺ ions