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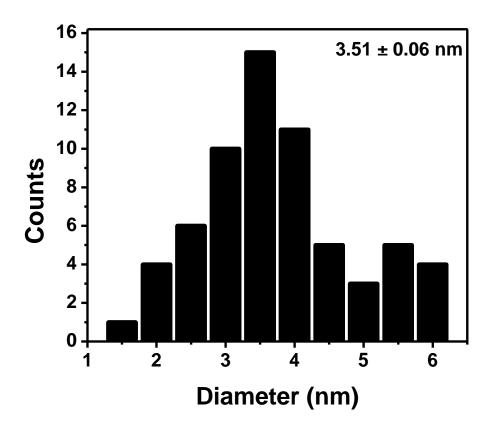
## **Supplementary Information**

Luminescence turn-on/off sensing of biological iron by carbon dots in transferrin

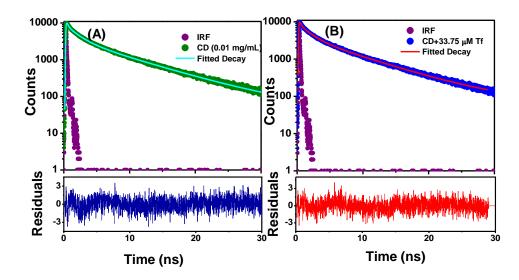
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**Figure S1.** Size distribution histogram obtained from the TEM image.



**Figure S2.** PL decay traces ( $\lambda_{ex}$ =376 nm) of CDs in the (A) absence and (B) presence of 33.75  $\mu$ M Tf with their respective fits and residuals.