

Electronic Supporting Information

**One-pot synthesis of gadolinium (III) doped carbon dots for  
fluorescence/magnetic resonance bimodal imaging**

Han Liao,<sup>a,b,†</sup> Ziyi Wang,<sup>a,d,†</sup> Song Chen,<sup>a,e</sup> Hao Wu,<sup>a,b</sup> Xiaojun Ma<sup>a</sup> and Mingqian

Tan<sup>a,c\*</sup>

<sup>a</sup> *Division of Biotechnology, Dalian Institute of Chemical Physics, Chinese Academy of Sciences, 457 Zhongshan Road, Dalian 116023, China; Fax: +86-411-84379562; mqtan@dicp.ac.cn.*

<sup>b</sup> *University of the Chinese Academy of Sciences, Beijing 100049, China.*

<sup>c</sup> *School of Food Science and Technology, Dalian Polytechnic University, Dalian 116034, China.*

<sup>d</sup> *The Second Affiliated Hospital of Dalian Medical University, 467 Zhongshan Road, Dalian 116023, China.*

<sup>e</sup> *Dalian Medical University, 9 Lvshun Southern Road (Western Section), Dalian 116044, China.*

<sup>†</sup> *These two authors contributed equally to this paper.*

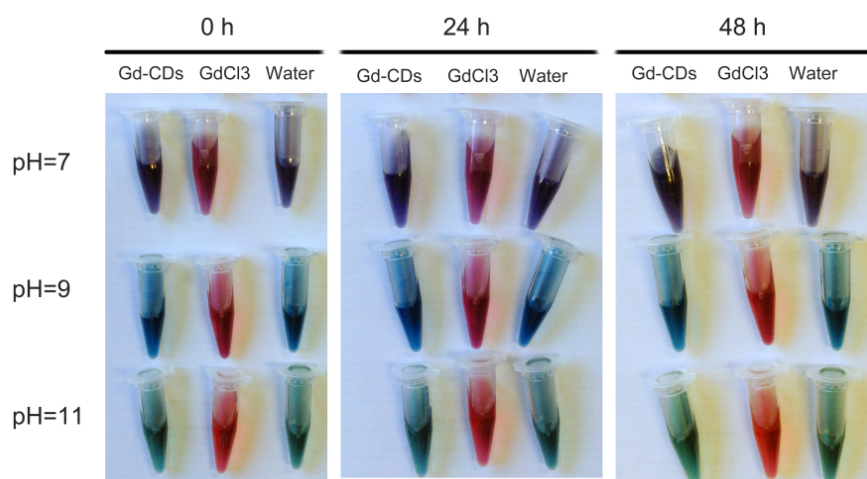


Figure S1. Eriochrome black T test of Gd-CDs at different pH values at 0, 24 and 48 h, respectively. Gd-CDs (10 mg/ml); GdCl<sub>3</sub> (2 mM).

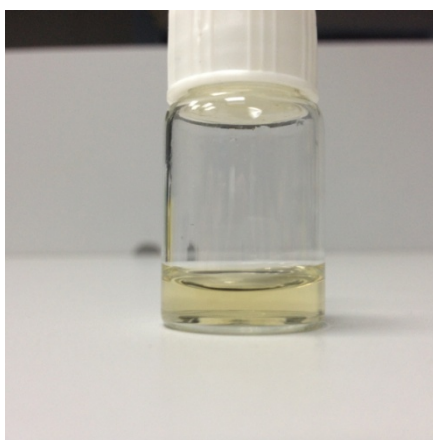


Figure S2. Photograph of the concentrated Gd-CDs solution (50 mg/mL) after stored in 4 °C for a week.

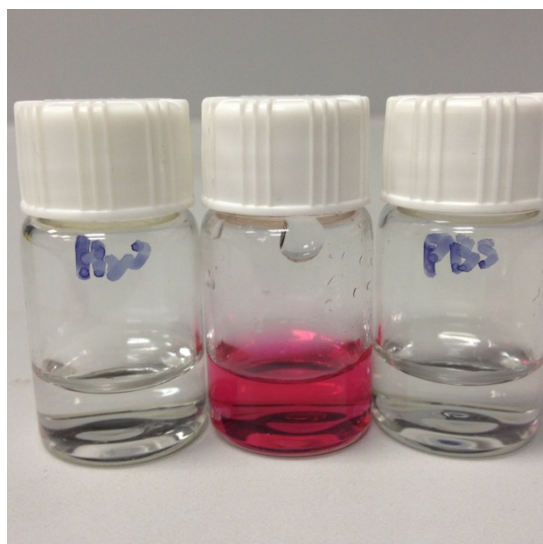


Figure S3. Photograph of the Gd-CDs solutions (5 mg/mL) in water (left), DMEM (middle) and PBS (right) after stored at room temperature for 48 h.

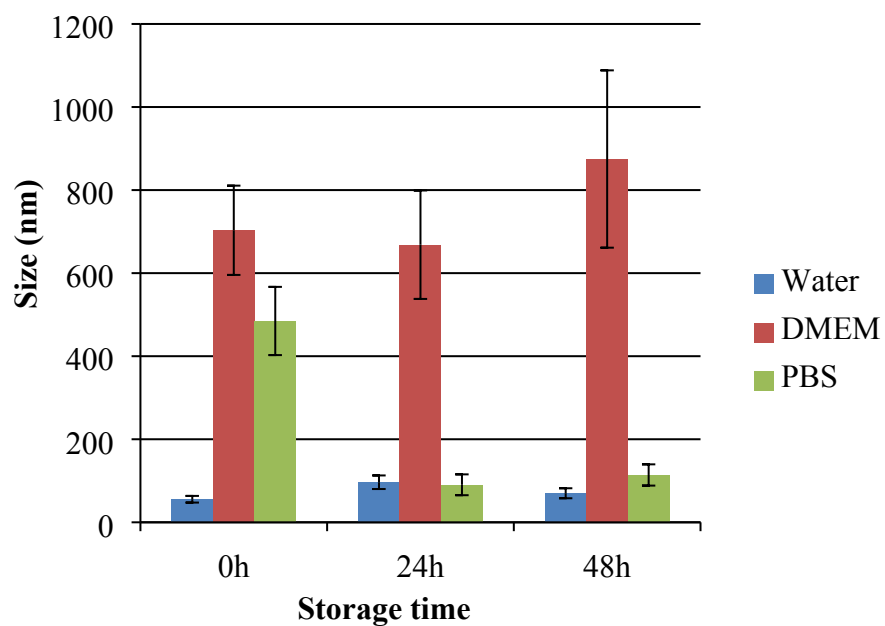


Figure S4. The hydrodynamic sizes of Gd-CDs in water, Dulbecco's modified Eagle Medium (DMEM) and PBS buffer (5 mg/mL) stored at room temperature for 0, 24 and 48 h, respectively.

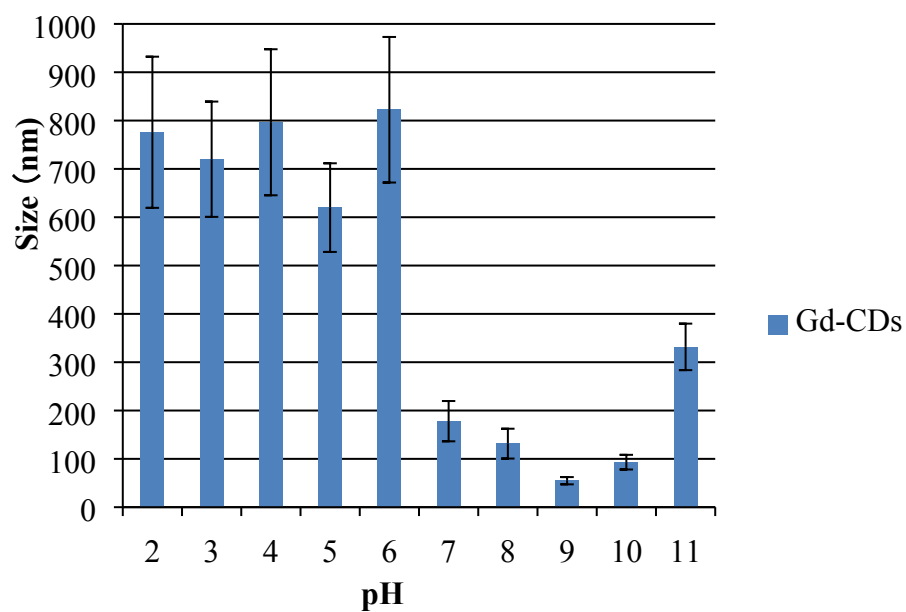


Figure S5. The effect of pH on the hydrodynamic size of Gd-CDs at the concentration of 5 mg/mL in a Britton–Robinson buffer.

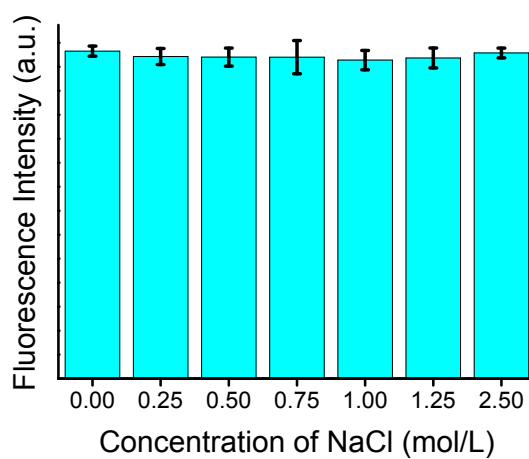


Figure S6. Effects of ionic strength on photoluminescence intensity of the Gd-CDs.

Data are mean  $\pm$  SD ( $n = 3$ ).

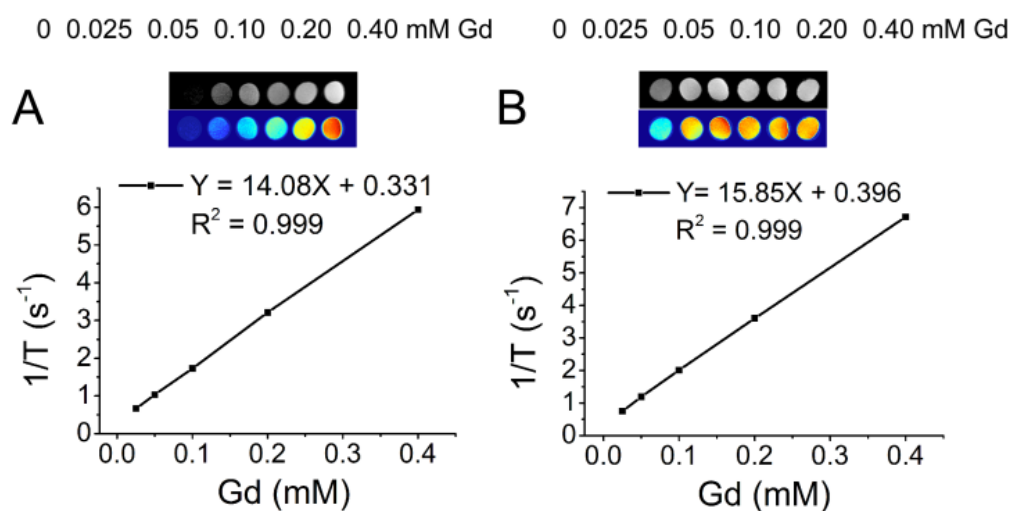


Figure S7. In vitro  $T_1$ -weighted (A) and  $T_2$ -weighted (B) MR images of the Gd-CDs solutions with various concentration and liner relationship between relaxation time and gadolinium concentration.

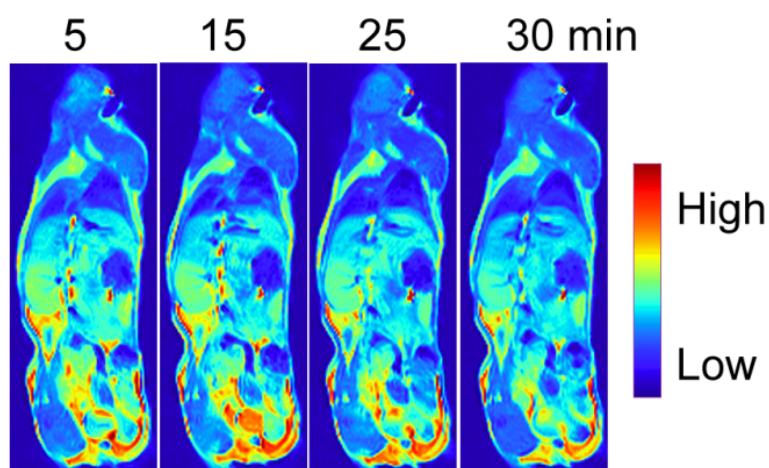


Figure S8. *In vivo*  $T_1$ -weighted MR images of mice at 5, 15, 25 and 30 min after intravenous injection of Gd-CDs

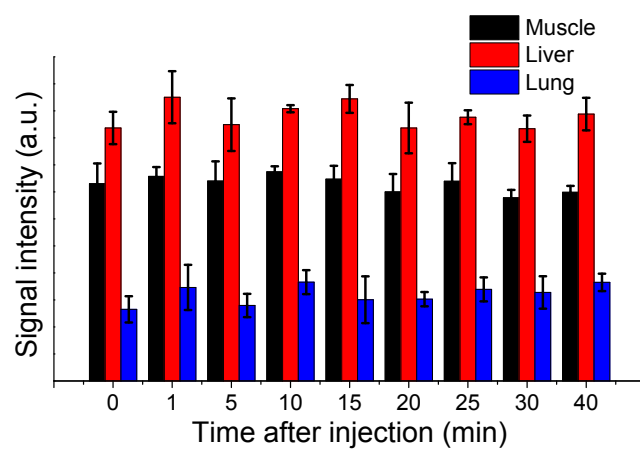


Figure S9. Quantification of magnetic resonance signal intensity in muscle, liver and lung of the mice before and after intravenous injection of Gd-CDs (n=3)

Table S1. Medium for Eriochrome black T test

	pH = 7	pH = 9	pH = 11
Acid	10 mM MES	10 mM NaHCO <sub>3</sub>	10 mM NaHCO <sub>3</sub>
Base	pH of the media was adjusted by 1.0 M NaOH		