Supporting Information

Preparation of Small-Sized Graphene Oxide Sheets from Carbon Nanohorns and Their Biological Applications

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Figure S1. (a) Dispersion of the prepared S-GO in various solvents. (b, c) Fluorescence spectra of S-GO dispersed in organic solvents at excitation wavelengths of 345 nm (b) and 420 nm (c).



Figure S2. The fluorescence spectra of the prepared S-GO sample in aqueous solutions with different pH levels. The arrow indicates the fluorescence intensity decrease of S-GO in basic pH solutions.



Figure S3. The fluorescence spectra of S-GO-IgG and S-GO-BSA at an excitation wavelength of 400 nm.



Figure S4. The cytotoxicity of S-GO to HeLa cells (a) and RAW 264.7 macrophages (b), determined using a WST-1 assay. All data represent the mean \pm SD of six independent replicates.

Equation S1.

The quantum yield of S-GO dispersed in ethanol was estimated using the following equation,^[1] where QY is the quantum yield, I is the measured integrated emission intensity, η is the reflective index of the solvent, A is the optical absorption density, subscript "st" refers to a standard with known quantum yield (here, the standard sample used was a fluorescein-ethanol solution; QYst = 0.79)^[2], and subscript "x" refers to the sample.

$$QY_x = QY_{st} (\frac{I_x}{I_{st}})(\frac{\eta_x}{\eta_{st}})^2 (\frac{A_{st}}{A_x})$$

The fluorescence spectrum and absorbance were measured at an excitation wavelength of 480 nm in a 10×10 mm fluorescence cuvette. The results are shown in Table S1.

[1] J. N. Demas, and G. A. Crosby, *J. Phys. Chem.* 1971, 75, 991–1023.
[2] R. E. Kellogg, and R. G. Bennett *J. Chem. Phys.* 1964, 41, 3042-3045.

Sample	Integrated emission	Absorbance	Refractive index	Quantum yield
	intensity (I)	at 480 nm	of solvent (η)	(<i>Q</i>)
Fluorescein	2066715	0.2638	1.36	0.79
S-GO	57248	0.147	1.36	0.039

Table S1. The quantum yield of S-GO at an excitation wavelength of 480 nm.



Figure S5. DLS measurements of aqueous dispersions of S-GO-BSA, S-GO-cRDG and S-GO particles.