# **Electronic Supplementary Information**

## Optically active multi-helical erythrocyte-like Ln(OH)CO<sub>3</sub> (Ln= La, Ce, Pr and

Sm)

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### **Experimental section**

## Materials

Lanthanide nitrate hexahydrate (Ln= La, Ce, Pr and Sm), L-Aspartic acid sodium (L-AspNa), sodium carbonate (Na2CO3) and sodium hydroxide (NaOH) were purchased and used as received.

### Preparation of RBCs LnCO<sub>3</sub>OH

The preparation process was based on our previous report.<sup>1</sup> Typically, 1.5 mmol Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> was dissolved in 10 ml deionized water, then 10ml mixture solution (6 mmol L-AspNa and 2 mmol Ln(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>•6H<sub>2</sub>O(Ln= La, Ce, Pr and Sm)) was dropped into the above solution and stirred vigorously for 1 h. After that, 6 ml 1M NaOH was added to the above mixture dropwise. After stirring for another 3h, the resulting suspension was transferred into a 30 mL autoclave and treated at 160 °C for 48 h. The as-prepared products were washed with deionized water and ethanol successively and stay overnight at 60 °C in air.

#### Characterization

The crystallographic phases of the as-synthesized simples were performed on a Rikagu D/max 2200PC, with Cu K  $\alpha$  radiation ( $\lambda$  =1.5406 Å). The morphology of the as-prepared simples was characterized by FE-SEM (FEI SIRION) and transmission electron microscopy (JEOL 2010 FEG). To obtain a cross section of the RBCs-LnCs, a thin-section with the thickness of 70 nm were prepared on a Leica EM UC6 Ultramicrotome with a diamond knife. Diffuse reflectance ultraviolet visible (DRUV) spectra was recorded by a Shimadzu UV-3600 spectropolarimeter at room temperature. DRCD spectra were recorded by a JASCO J-815 spectropolarimeter at room temperature. The photoluminescence measurements were carried out on an F-4500 spectrofluorometer (Hitachi Japan) at room temperature.



**Figure S1.** SEM images (a) and TEM images (b) of RBCs-LnCs, SEM images (c) and TEM images (d) of RBCs-PrCs, SEM images (e, f) of RBCs-SmCs.



Figure S2. XRD patterns of (a) RBCs-LaCs, (b) RBCs-PrCs and (c) RBCs-SmCs.

sample	Wavelength/nm	Transition
RBCs-LaCs	214	$O^{2-} \rightarrow La^{3+},^2$
RBCs-PrCs	217	$O^{2-} \rightarrow Pr^{3+},^2$
	446	${}^{3}\mathrm{H}_{4} \rightarrow {}^{3}\mathrm{P}_{2}{}^{3}$
	472	${}^{3}\text{H}_{4} \rightarrow {}^{3}\text{P}_{1}, {}^{1}\text{I}_{6}{}^{3}$
	488	${}^{3}\mathrm{H}_{4} \rightarrow {}^{3}\mathrm{P}_{0}{}^{3}$
	590	${}^{3}\mathrm{H}_{4} \rightarrow {}^{1}\mathrm{D}_{2}{}^{3}$
RBCs-SmCs	210	$O^{2-} \rightarrow Sm^{3+},^2$
	404	${}^{6}\mathrm{H}_{5/2} \rightarrow {}^{6}\mathrm{P}_{3/2}{}^{4}$
	472	${}^{6}\mathrm{H}_{5/2} \rightarrow {}^{4}\mathrm{G}_{7/2}{}^{4}$

**Table S1**. Assignments of peaks in the DRUV-vis spectra of RBCs-LnCs (Ln= La, Pr and Sm).



Figure S3. Emission spectra of RBCs-LnCs (Ln= La, Ce, Pr and Sm).

sample	Wavelength/nm	Transition
RBCs-PrCs	407.6	${}^{1}\mathrm{S}_{0} \rightarrow {}^{1}\mathrm{I}_{6}, {}^{5}, {}^{6}$
	468.6	${}^{3}\mathrm{P}_{1} \rightarrow {}^{3}\mathrm{H}_{4}, 5, 6$
	486.6	${}^{3}\mathrm{P}_{0} \rightarrow {}^{3}\mathrm{H}_{4},{}^{7}$
	504.6	${}^{3}\mathrm{P}_{0} \rightarrow {}^{3}\mathrm{H}_{5},{}^{7}$
	586.6	$^{1}\text{D}_{2} \rightarrow {}^{3}\text{H}_{4}, {}^{7}$
	622.6	${}^{3}P_{0} \rightarrow {}^{3}F_{2},^{8}$
	644.6	$^{1}\text{D}_{2} \rightarrow {}^{3}\text{H}_{6}, {}^{9}$
	684.6	$^{1}\text{D}_{2} \rightarrow {}^{3}\text{H}_{5}, {}^{7}$
	708.6	${}^{3}\mathrm{P}_{0} \rightarrow {}^{3}\mathrm{F}_{3},^{7}$
	759.6	${}^{3}\mathrm{P}_{0} \rightarrow {}^{3}\mathrm{F}_{4},{}^{8}$
RBCs-SmCs	467.6	${}^{6}\mathrm{H}_{5/2} \rightarrow {}^{4}\mathrm{F}(3)_{5/2}, {}^{10}$
	482.6	${}^{6}\mathrm{H}_{5/2} \rightarrow {}^{4}\mathrm{I}_{13/2}, {}^{10}$
	491.6	${}^{6}\mathrm{H}_{5/2} \rightarrow {}^{4}\mathrm{I}_{11/2}, {}^{11}$
	505.6	${}^{6}\mathrm{H}_{5/2} \longrightarrow {}^{4}\mathrm{I}_{9/2}, {}^{11}$
	606.6	${}^{4}G_{5/2} \rightarrow {}^{6}H_{7/2}, {}^{12}$
	649.6	${}^{4}G_{5/2} \rightarrow {}^{6}H_{9/2}, {}^{12}$
	685.6	${}^{4}G_{5/2} \rightarrow {}^{6}H_{11/5}, {}^{7}$
	708.6	${}^{4}G_{5/2} \rightarrow {}^{6}H_{11/2}, {}^{12}$
	760.6	not assignalbe

Table S2. Assignment of the transitions in the emission spectra of RBCs-LnCs (Ln= Pr and Sm).

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