## **Supplementary Information**

## Facile synthesis of black phosphorus-Au nanocomoposites for enhanced photothermal cancer therapy and surface-enhanced Raman scattering analysis

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Fig. S1 The size distribution of BP-Au NSs and deposited Au NPs.



Fig. S2 The stability BP-Au nanosheets with and without PEG functionalization in physiological PBS solution.

The photothermal conversion efficiency ( $\eta$ ) was calculated using the following Eqs.<sup>1</sup>

$$\eta = hS (T_{max} - T_{max, water}) / I (1 - 10^{-A})$$
(1)

$$hS = \sum mC_p / \tau_s$$
<sup>(2)</sup>

$$\tau_{\rm s} = -t / \ln \theta \tag{3}$$

$$\theta = (T_{amb} - T) / (T_{amb} - T_{max})$$
<sup>(4)</sup>

where h is the heat transfer coefficient, S is the surface area of the container, m is the mass of products (m = 1g),  $\tau_s$  is a system time constant, C<sub>p</sub> is specific heat capacity of solvent (C<sub>p, water</sub> = 4.2 J/mol), I is incident laser power (2.0 W/cm<sup>2</sup>),  $\eta$  is the photothermal conversion efficiency, A indicates the absorbance of BP-Au NSs (A<sub>808</sub> = 1.04) and BP NSs at 808 nm (A<sub>808</sub> = 0.88), T<sub>amb</sub> is ambient temperature of the surroundings, T<sub>max</sub> and T<sub>max, water</sub> are the equilibrium temperature of BP-Au NSs solution and water, respectively.



Fig. S3 Photothermal properties of BP NSs and BP-Au NSs. (a, b) Plots of the temperature vs time for the BP NSs (1g,  $OD_{808} = 0.88$ ) and BP-Au NSs (1g,  $OD_{808} = 1.04$ ) during laser irradiation (808 nm, 2 W/cm<sup>2</sup>) and cooling (laser off). The insert plots show the cooling time vs -ln  $\theta$ . On the basis of the linear regression analysis, the time constant for heat transfer  $\tau_s$  (the slope of the plot) was determined to be 145 s and 166 s, respectively.



Fig S4 Average weights of tumors collected from different groups of mice. (group I: PBS with laser; group II: BP-Au NSs without laser; group III: BP NSs with laser; group IV: BP-Au NSs with laser). Data are presented as mean  $\pm$  SD. \*\* indicates P < 0.01 versus group I, and # indicates P < 0.05 versus group III.

## **References:**

 C. Sun, L. Wen, J. Zeng, Y. Wang, Q. Sun, L. Deng, C. Zhao and Z. Li, Biomaterials, 2016, 91, 81-89.