**Supporting Information** 

## **Tunable Near-Infrared Fluorescent Gold Nanoclusters: Temperature Sensor and Targeted Bioimaging**

Yuanqing Sun,<sup>a</sup> Jiapeng Wu,<sup>c</sup> Chuanxi Wang, \*b,c Yueqi Zhao<sup>a</sup> and Quan Lin\*a

<sup>a</sup> State Key Laboratory of Supramolecular Structure and Materials, College of

Chemistry, Jilin University, Changchun, 130012, P. R. China

<sup>b</sup> Institute of New Energy Technology, Ningbo Institute of Industrial Technology,

Chinese Academy of Sciences, Ningbo, 315201, P. R. China

<sup>c</sup> China-Australia Joint Research Centre for Functional Molecular Materials, School

of Chemical & Material Engineering, Jiangnan University, Wuxi, 214122, P. R. China

Corresponding author E-mail Address: linquan@jlu.edu.cn wangcx@nimte.ac.cn



**Fig. S1**. Fluorescence excitation spectra of GSH–AuNCs with various emission wavelength: 630 nm (red line); 680 nm (blue line); 800 nm (black line).



Fig. S2. Fluorescent spectra of resultant GSH–AuNCs prepared by various pH values.



Fig. S3. Fluorescence spectrum of GSH–AuNCs with various mole ratio of  $Au^{3+}/GSH$ : 1:1 (red line), 1:2 (black line) and 1:4 (blue line).



**Fig. S4.** DLS data of GSH-AuNCs with various emission wavelengths: a, 630 nm; b, 680 nm; c, 800 nm.



**Fig. S5.** Zeta potentials of pure GSH (black line) and GSH-AuNCs with various emission wavelengths: 630 nm (red line), 680 nm (blue line) and 800 nm (green line).



**Fig. S6**. Fluorescence spectra of GSH–AuNCs under 450 W Xe lamp irradiation for different time (time interval: 10 min).



**Fig. S7**. Fluorescence spectra of the aqueous solution of GSH–AuNCs during five heat-up and cool-down cycles.



Fig. S8. FTIR spectra of GSH–AuNCs and FA-conjugated GSH–AuNCs.



**Fig. S9**. The fluorescent spectra of (a) AuNCs and (b) FA-conjugated GSH–AuNCs; c, TEM image of FA-conjugated GSH–AuNCs.



**Fig. S10**. Viability of HeLa cells after incubation with different concentrations of FAconjugated GSH–AuNCs for 24 h in the cell medium as determined by a MTT assay.



**Fig. S11**. Fluorescence imaging showing the delivery of GSH–AuNCs with NIR fluorescence into the (a, c) 3T3 cells and (b, d) HeLa cells; the concentration of GSH–AuNCs is 20  $\mu$ g/mL and the incubation time is (a, b) 4 h and (c, d) 12 h.