

## **Electronic supplementary information**

### **$\beta$ -cyclodextrin protected gold nanoparticles based cotton swabs as an effective candidates for specific sensing of trace level of cyanide**

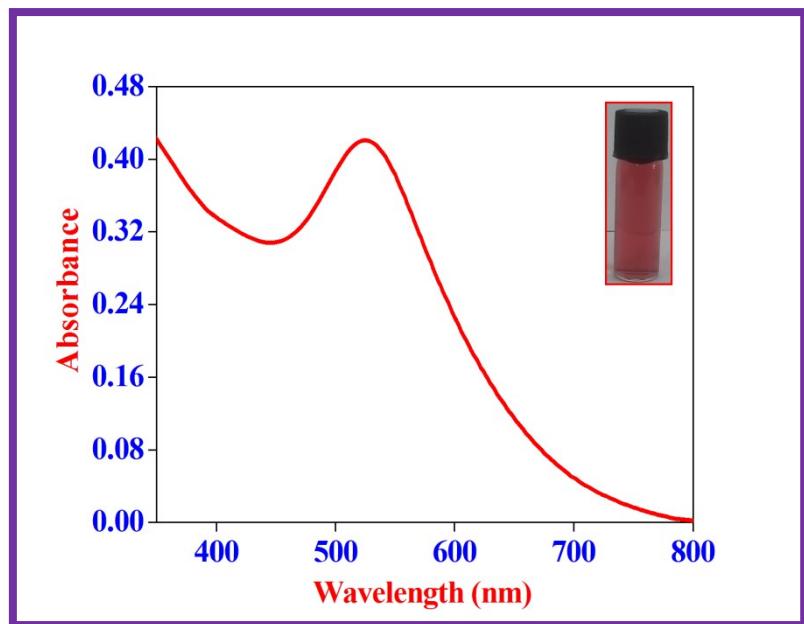
R. Rajamanikandan and M. Ilanchelian\*

Department of Chemistry,

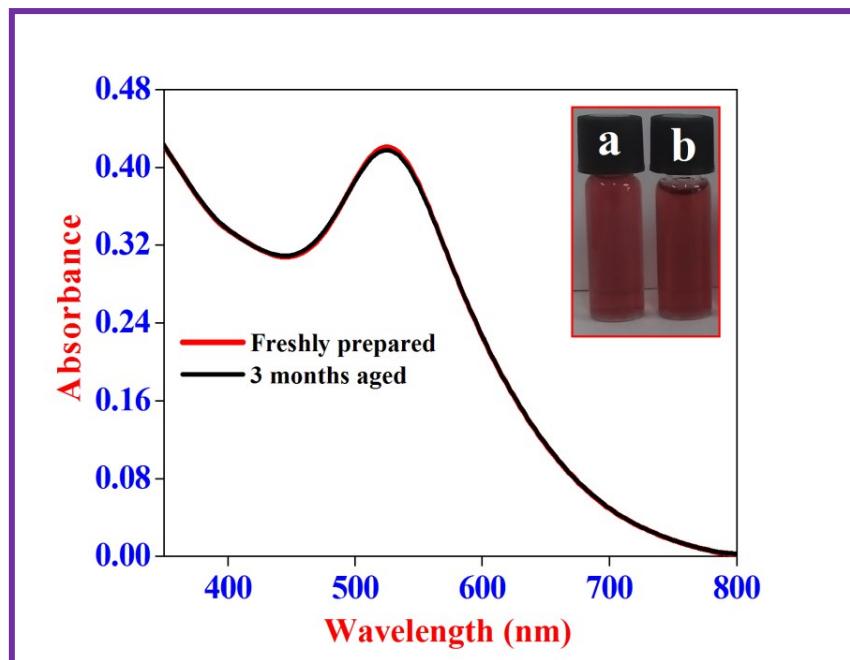
Bharathiar University, Coimbatore - 641046, Tamil Nadu, India

\*Corresponding author: E-mail: [chelian73@yahoo.com](mailto:chelian73@yahoo.com),

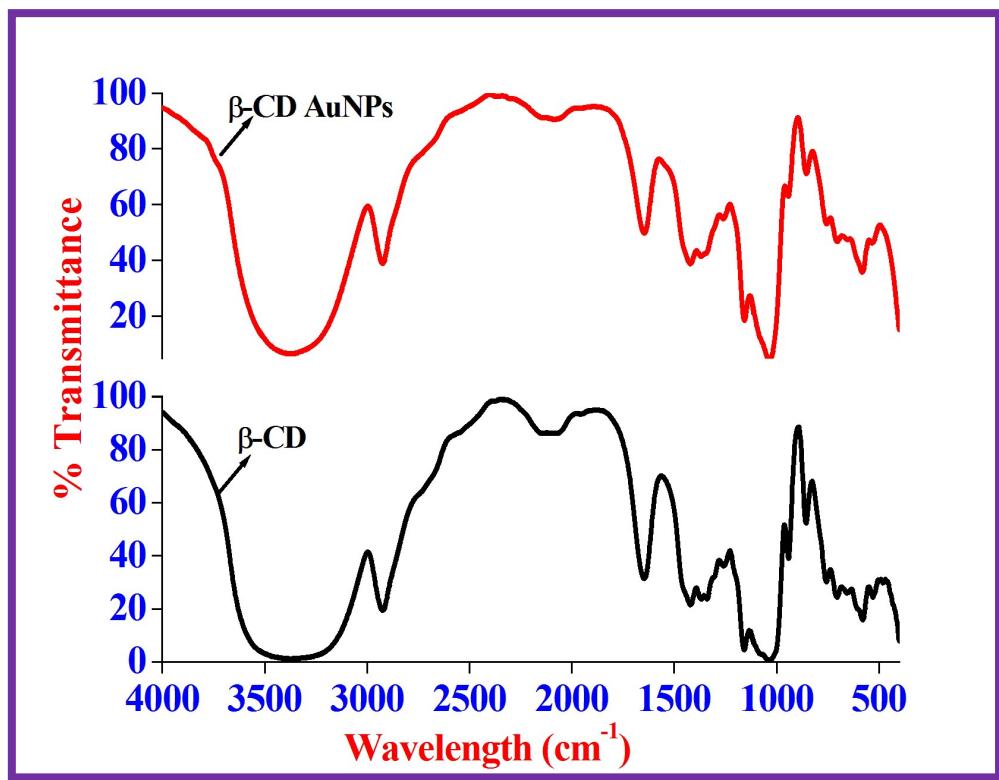
Tel: +91 422 2428317; Fax: +91 - 422 2422 387



**Fig. S1.** Absorption spectrum of  $\beta$ -CD AuNPs and inset shows corresponding photograph.



**Fig. S2.** Absorption spectra of freshly prepared and three months aged  $\beta$ -CD AuNPs and inset shows corresponding photographs of (a) freshly prepared and (b) three months aged  $\beta$ -CD AuNPs.



**Fig. S3.** FT-IR spectra of pristine  $\beta\text{-CD}$  and  $\beta\text{-CD AuNPs}$ .

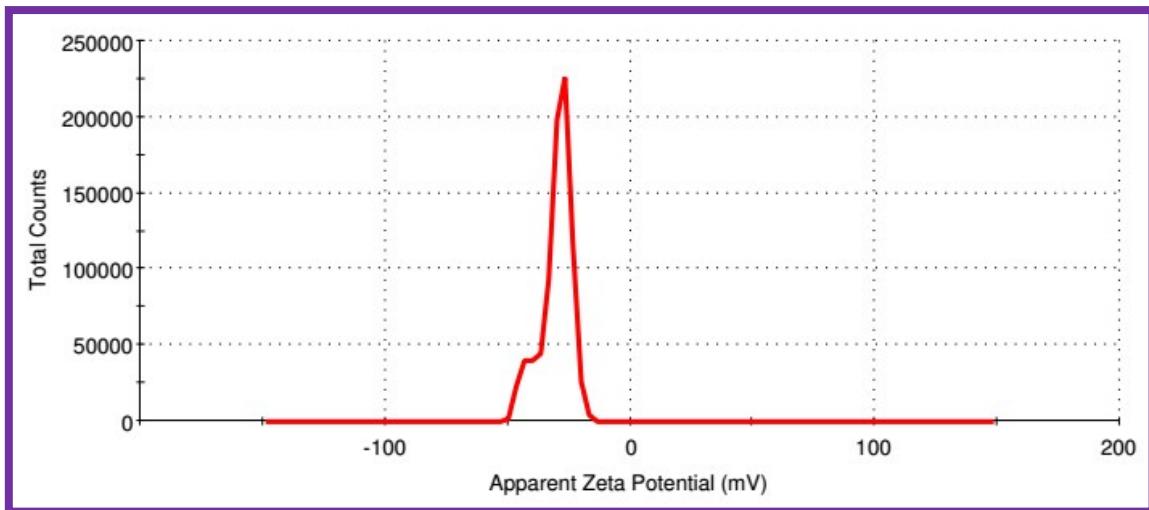
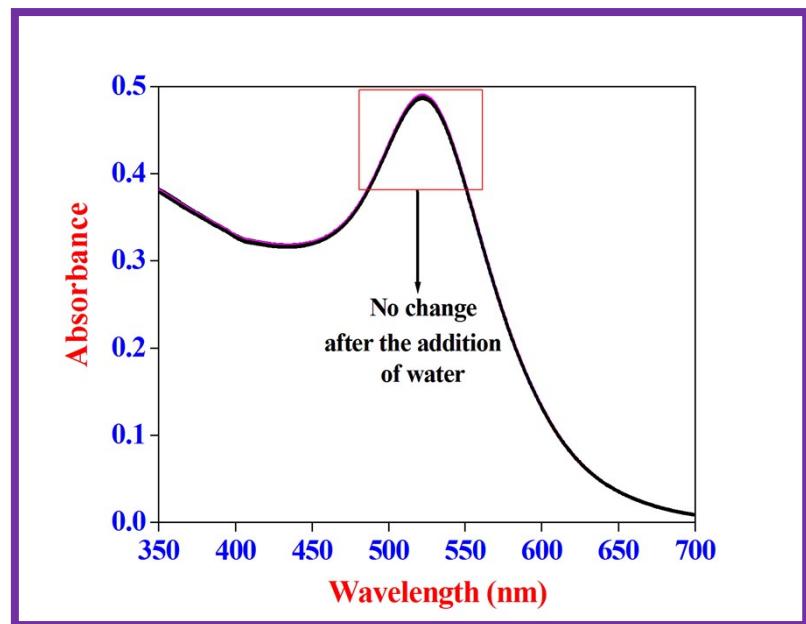
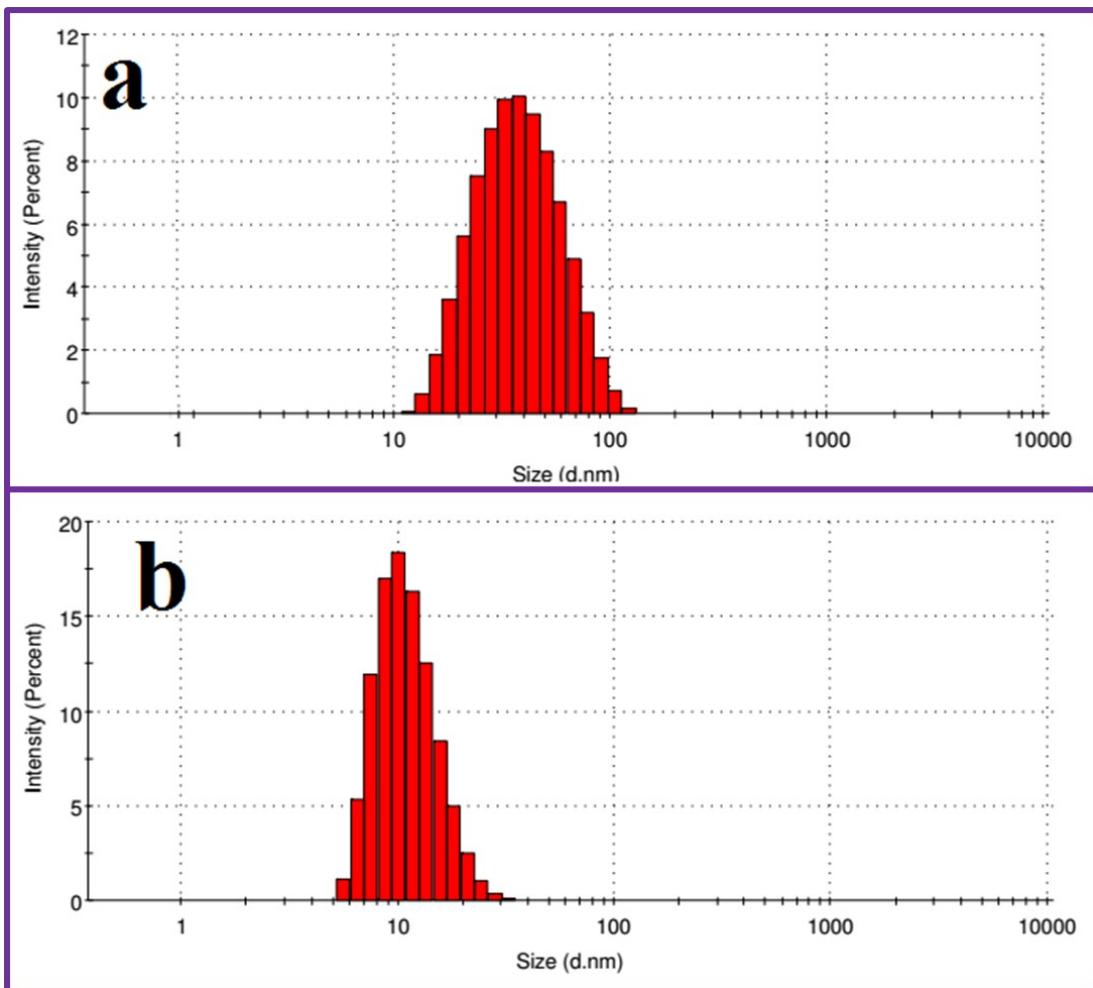


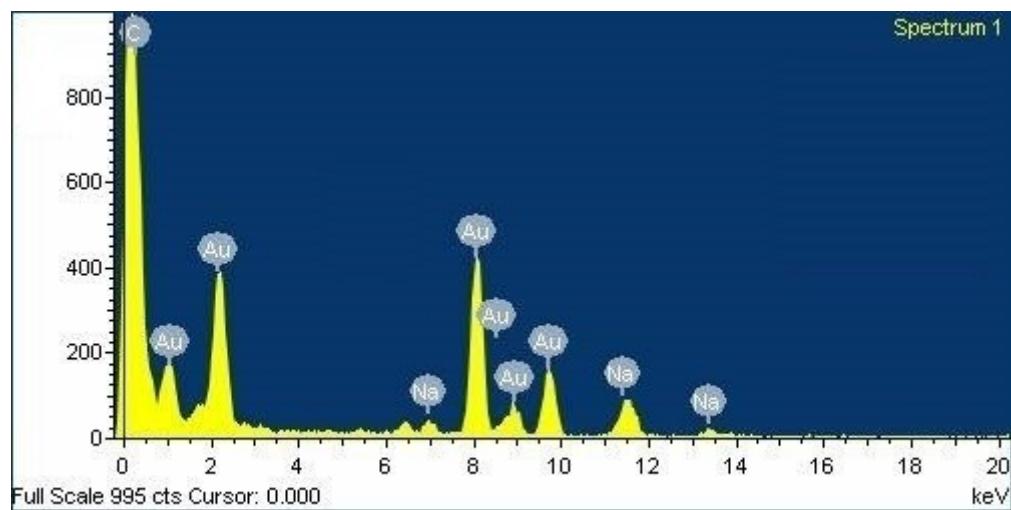
Fig. S4. Zeta potential result of  $\beta$ -CD AuNPs.



**Fig. S5.** Absorption spectra of  $\beta$ -CD AuNPs after the addition of different amounts of water.



**Fig. S6.** DLS observations for  $\beta$ -CD AuNPs before and after the addition of  $\text{CN}^-$  ions.



**Fig. S7.** EDX spectrum of  $\beta$ -CD AuNPs embedded cotton swab.

**Table S1.** Comparison of various nanomaterials based optical methods for  $\text{CN}^-$  ions with present analytical methodology.

Method	Nanoprobe	Linear range	LOD	Reference
Fluorescence	Lysozyme stabilized AuNCs	5-120 $\mu\text{M}$	0.19 $\mu\text{M}$	11
Fluorescence	Rhodamine B- adsorbed AuNPs	0.15-45 $\mu\text{M}$	80 nM	12
Fluorescence	CdSe QDs	---	1.1 $\mu\text{M}$	13
Fluorescence	Au nanodots	0.29-8.87 $\mu\text{M}$	0.15 $\mu\text{M}$	41
Fluorescence	Bovine serum albumin stabilized Ce/AuNCs	0.1-15 $\mu\text{M}$	0.05 $\mu\text{M}$	42
Fluorescence	Polymer-coated AuNPs	3-930 $\mu\text{M}$	3 $\mu\text{M}$	43
Fluorescence	OVA-AuNCs	0.5-7.5 $\mu\text{M}$	68 nM	44
Colorimetry	Ag@Au core–shell NPs	0.4-32 $\mu\text{M}$	0.18 $\mu\text{M}$	16
Colorimetry	Au@Ag core/shell NPs	8-80 $\mu\text{M}$	0.4 $\mu\text{M}$	45
Colorimetry	AgNPs	16.7-133.3 $\mu\text{M}$	1.8 $\mu\text{M}$	46
Colorimetry	AuNPs	---	14 $\mu\text{M}$	47
Colorimetry	PS20-AuNPs	0-7 $\mu\text{M}$	100 nM	48
Colorimetry	$\beta$ -CD AuNPs	4.5-99 $\mu\text{M}$	93 nM	This work