

## *Supporting Information*

### BSA templated cerium/gold nanoclusters as pH and ROS dual sensors

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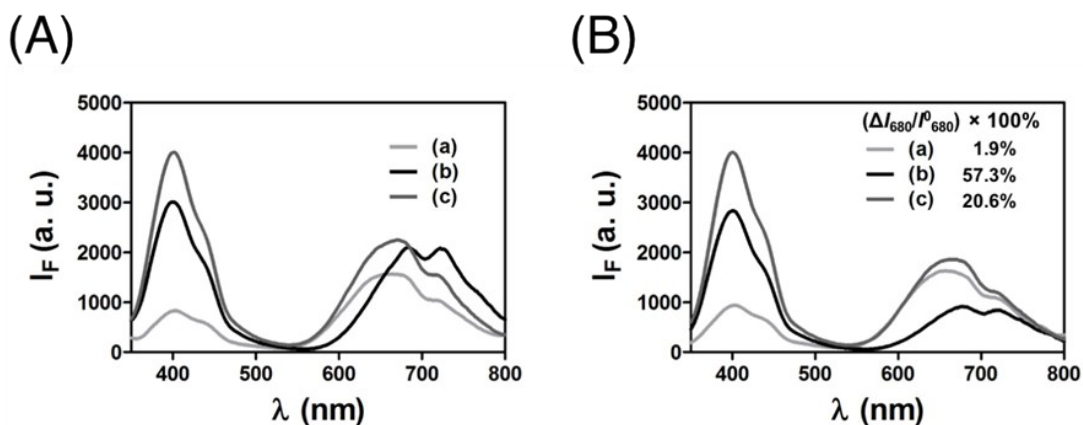
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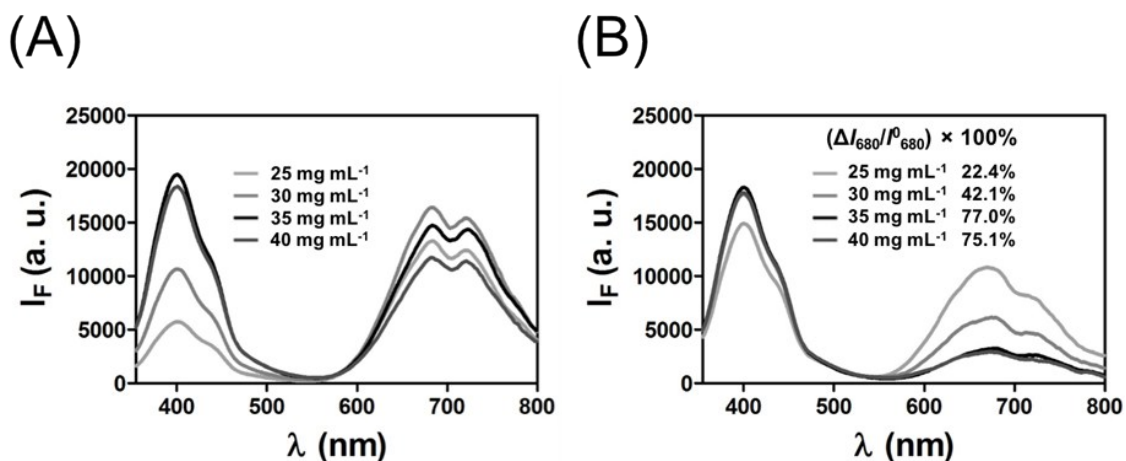
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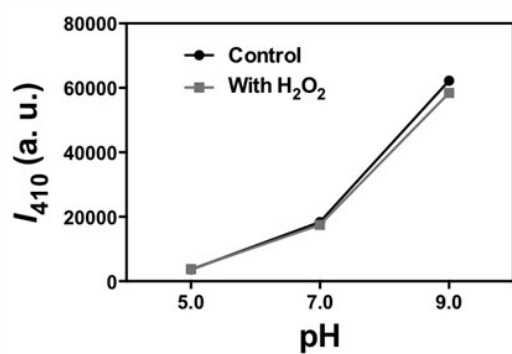


**Figure S1.** Effects of  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  (100  $\mu\text{M}$ ) on the PL spectra of BSA-Ce/Au NCs that had been prepared at a constant BSA concentration (0.76 mM; 50 mg  $\text{mL}^{-1}$ ) and different Ce(IV)/Au(III) molar ratios. Ce(IV)/Au(III) molar ratios of (a) 1 mM/10 mM (b) 1 mM/5 mM (c) 2 mM/5 mM. The purified BSA-Ce/Au NCs (0.01X) were prepared in sodium phosphate buffer (10 mM, pH 7.0) in the absence and presence of  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  (100  $\mu\text{M}$ ). PL intensities ( $I_F$ ) were plotted in arbitrary units (a. u.). The percentages listed in (B) were calculated from the intensities obtained in (A) and (B). The  $\Delta I_{680}$  is the difference of PL intensity of the BSA-Ce/Au NCs probe in the absence and presence of  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$ ; the  $I_{680}^0$  is PL intensity of the probe in the absence of  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$ .

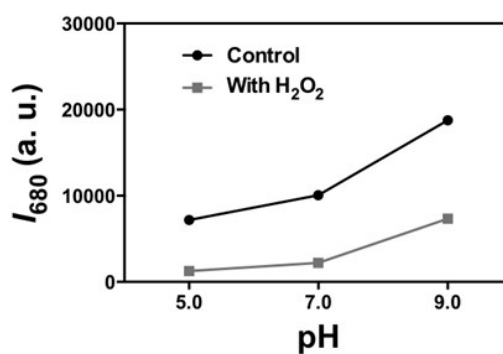


**Figure S2.** Effects of H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> (100  $\mu$ M) on the PL spectra of BSA-Ce/Au NCs that had been prepared at a constant Ce(IV)/Au(III) molar ratio (1 mM/5 mM) and various BSA concentrations (25–40 mg mL<sup>-1</sup>). The purified BSA-Ce/Au NCs (0.01X) were prepared in sodium phosphate buffer (10 mM, pH 7.0) in the absence and presence of H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> (100  $\mu$ M). The percentages listed in (B) were calculated from the intensities obtained in (A) and (B). Other conditions were as described in Figure S1.

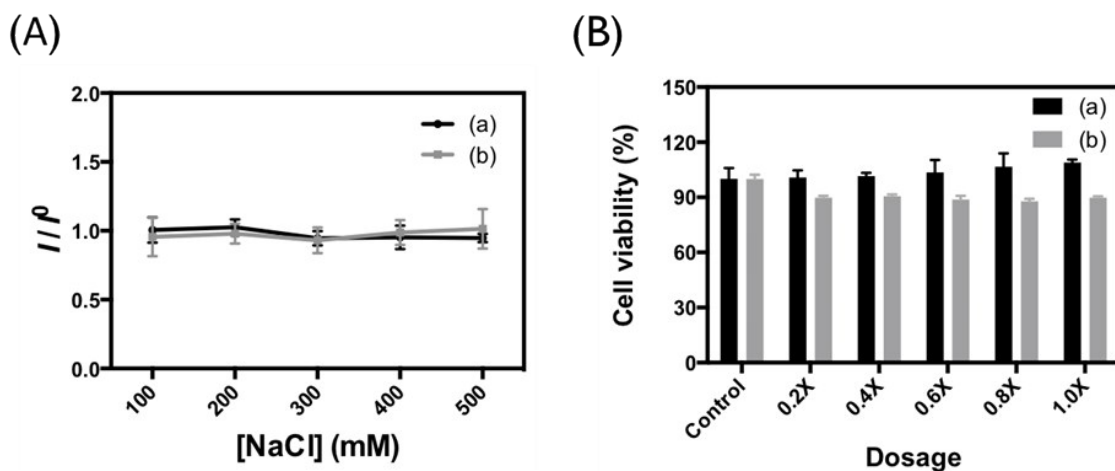
(A)



(B)



**Figure S3.** Effect of  $H_2O_2$  (100  $\mu$ M) on (A)  $I_{410}$  and (B)  $I_{680}$  of BSA-Ce/Au NCs at various pH values. BSA-Ce/Au NCs (0.01 X) were prepared in sodium phosphate buffers (20 mM).



**Figure S4.** (A) Relative PL intensities ( $I/I^0$ ) at (a) 410 nm and (b) 680 nm of BSA-Ce/Au NCs (0.01X) in sodium phosphate buffer solution (10 mM, pH 7.0) containing NaCl (100–500 mM). (B) Viability of (a) HepG2 and (b) HeLa cells after incubation of BSA-Ce/Au NCs at various concentrations for 24 h. Cell viability was determined using the Alamar Blue assay.