Supporting Information for

Nitroreductase and acidity dual functional ratiometric fluorescent probe for selectively imaging tumor cell

Zhaoshuai He, Yajie Chou, Hanxin Zhou, Han Zhang, Tanyu Cheng,* Guohua Liu

Key Laboratory of Resource Chemistry of Ministry of Education, Key Laboratory of Rare Earth Functional Materials, Department of Chemistry, Shanghai Normal University, No. 100 Guilin Road, Shanghai 200234 China. E-mail: tycheng@shnu.edu.cn

HPLC analysis

HPLC was performed on SHIMADU CTO10AS with an AD-H column. The HPLC solvents employed were 20% isopropanol and 80% *n*-hexane. HPLC conditions were as follows: flow rate 1 mL/min, detection by UV (254 nm).

The reaction solution of **NAFP** (10 μ M) and NADH (5 mM), nitroreductase (10 μ g/mL) which was incubated in PBS buffer (0.01 M PBS, pH =7.0, contains 1% DMSO).



Figure S1. HPLC profiles a) **NAFP**; b) 1 min reaction solution; c) 2 min reaction solution; d) 3 min reaction solution; e) compound **3**.

LOD measurement:

The limit of detection (LOD) was calculated by IUPAC assay. LOD = 3Sb/m (Sb is the ration signal and noise, m is the slope of linear equation). The standard deviation Sb is 0.14. According the linear equation of the fluorescence to the nitroreductase concentration at low concentration (following figure), the slope is 0.454×10^{6} . Hence, the detection limit is $0.92 \mu g/mL$.



Figure S2. Emission ratio (F_{524}/F_{460}) of **NAFP** (10 μ M) versus increasing concentration of nitroreductase in PBS buffer (1% DMSO, pH 5.0) in the presence of 500 μ M of NADH with the excitation at 389 nm at 37 °C.







Characterization of NAFP.



