

## Supporting Information

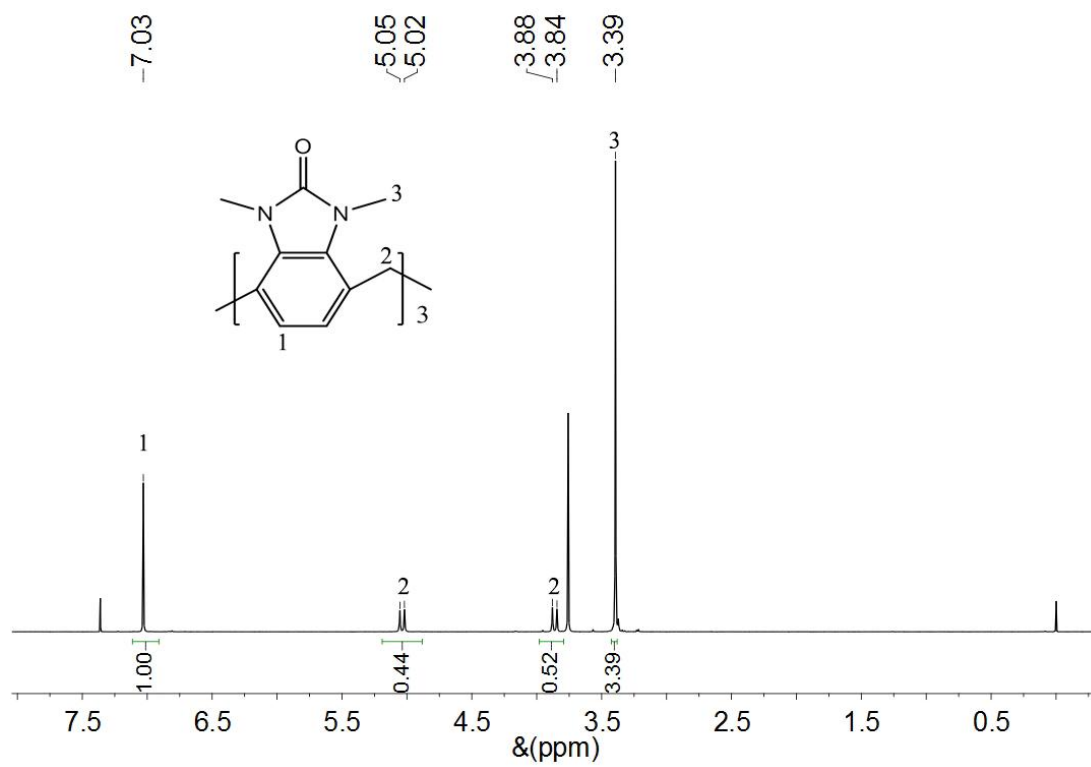
### **High sensitive sensor with HEPES-enhanced electrochemiluminescence of benzo[3]uril for Fe<sup>3+</sup> and its application in human serum**

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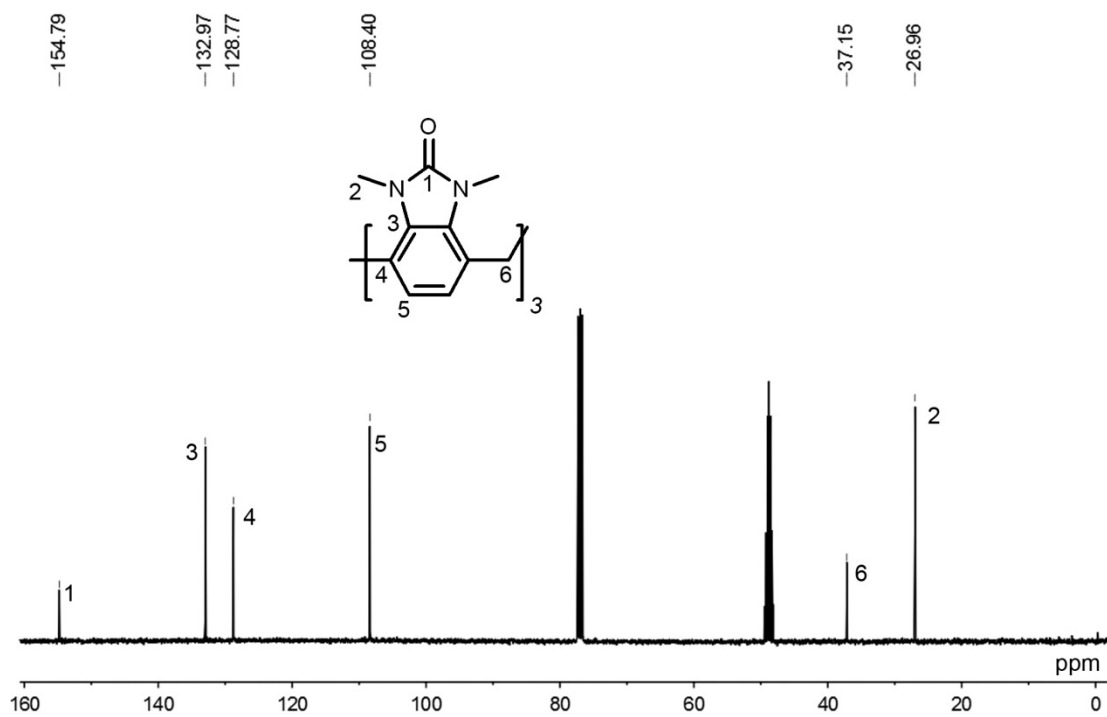
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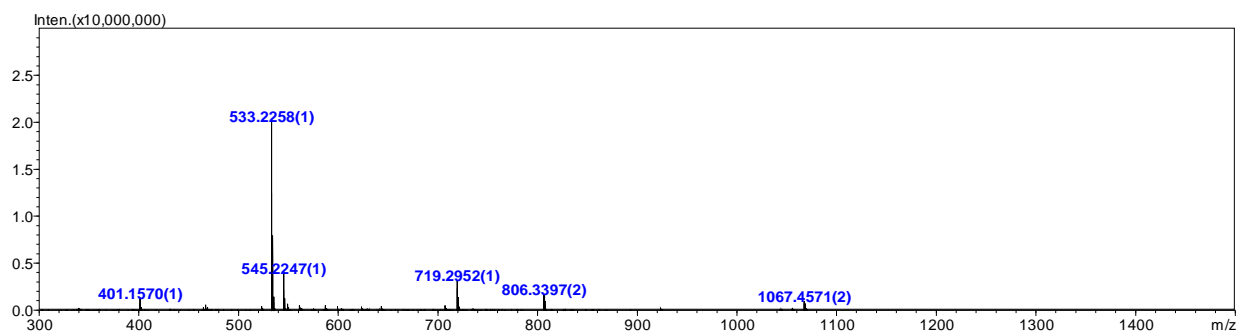
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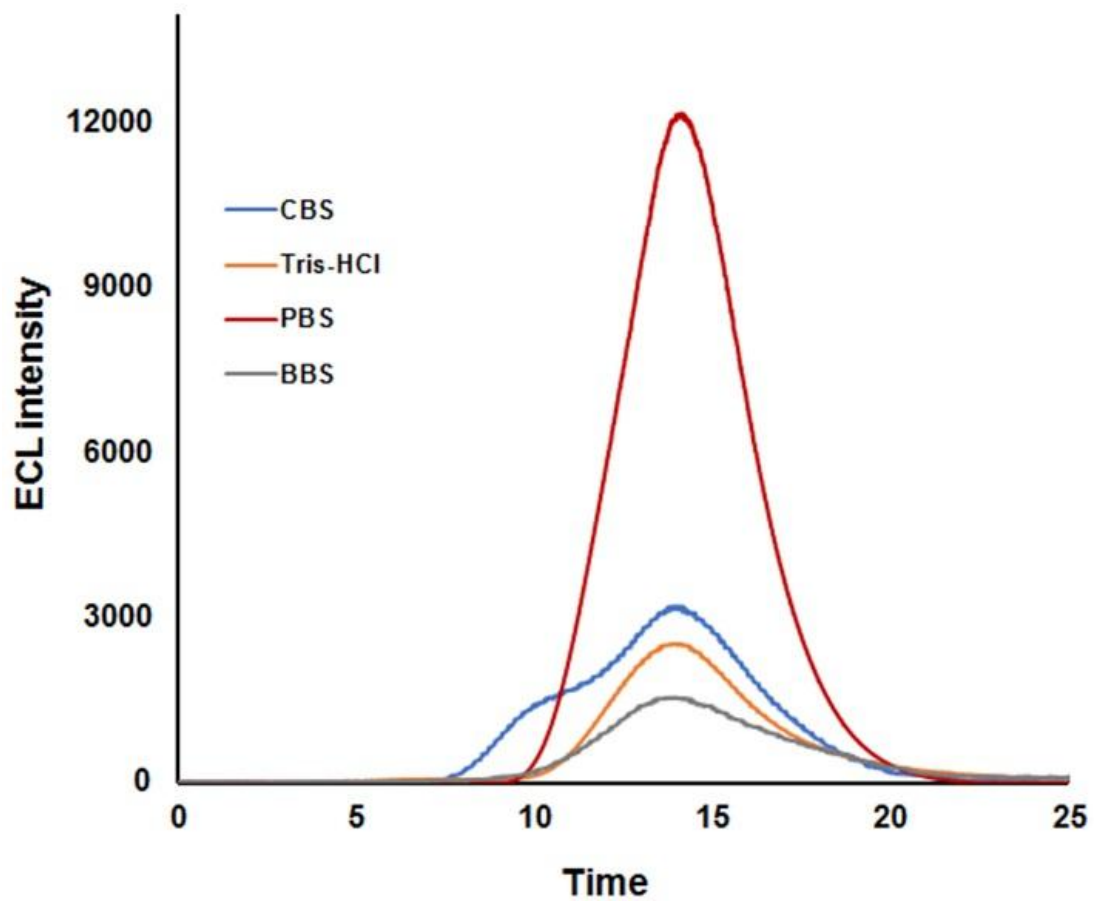
**Figure S1.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ :  $\text{CD}_3\text{OD}$  = 6:1) of benzo[3]uril.



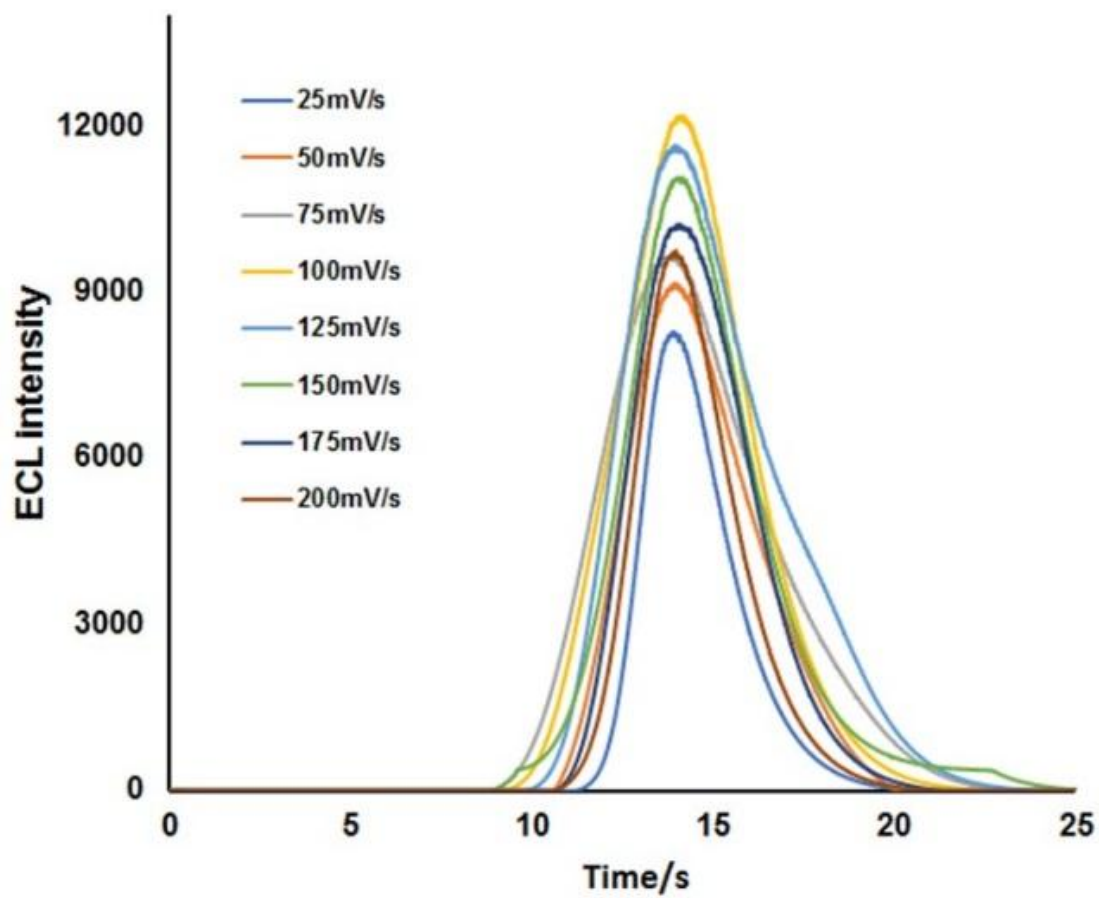
**Figure S2.**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ :  $\text{CD}_3\text{OD}$  = 6:1) of benzo[3]uril.



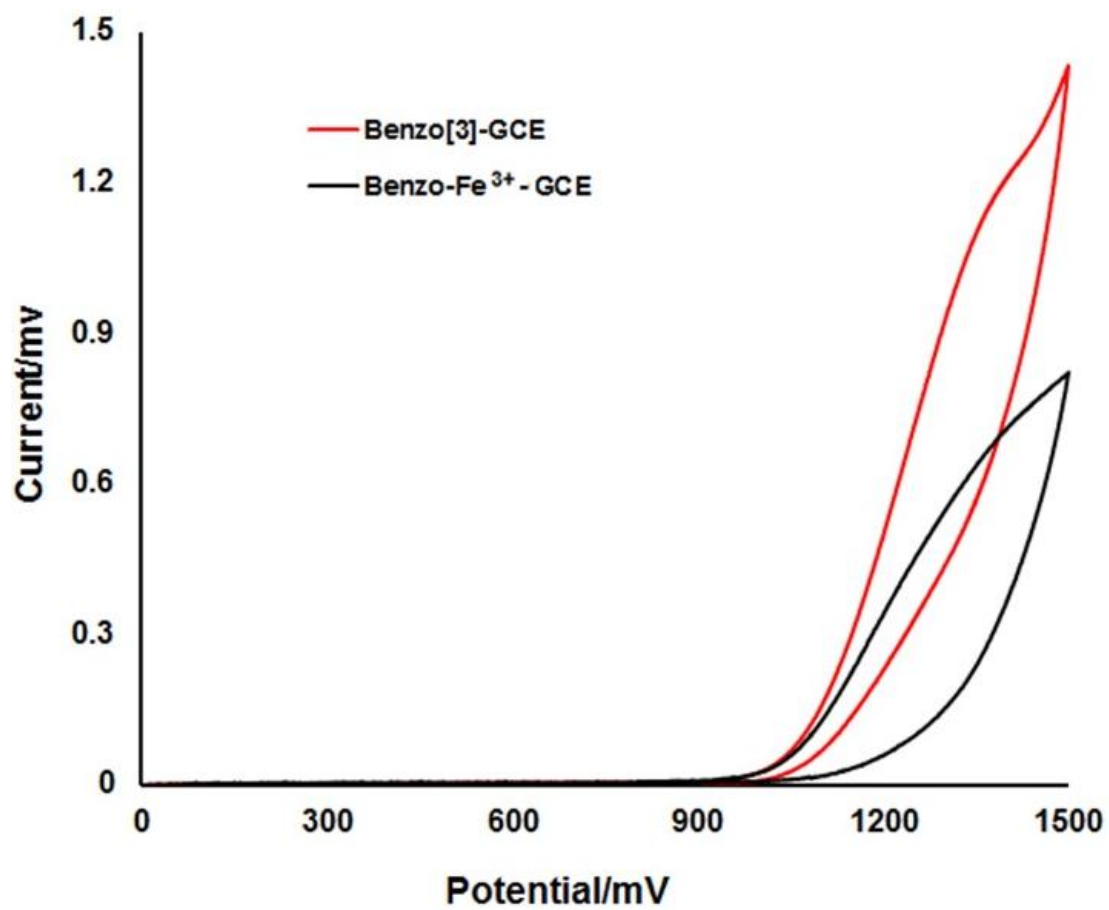
**Figure S3.** HRMS spectra of benzo[3]uril.



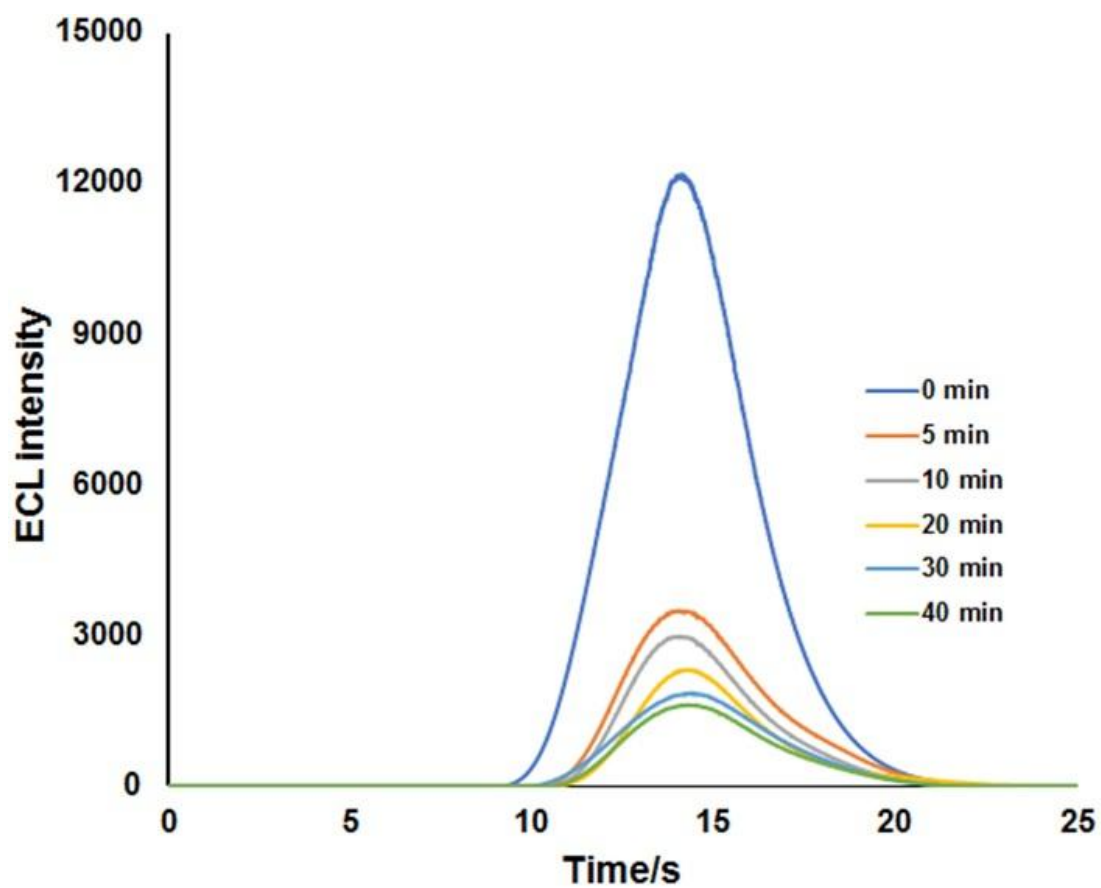
**Figure S4.** Effects of different electrolytes (0.1 M CBS, Tris-HCl, PBS, BBS, pH = 7.4), containing 0.050 M HEPES on the ECL intensity with the decorated electrode.



**Figure S5.** The ECL intensity of decorated electrode in the 0.1M PBS buffer (pH = 7.4) containing 0.050 M HEPES with different scan rates.



**Figure S6.** Cyclic voltammograms of benzo[3]uril and with the incubation of Fe<sup>3+</sup> in the 0.05M HEPES in the PBS solution at pH=7.4.



**Figure S7.** Effects of the incubation time of the decorated electrode into  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  aqueous solution (5min, 10min, 20min, 30min, 40min) to the ECL intensity of the sensor in 0.10 M PBS (pH = 7.4) containing 0.050 M HEPES, and scan rate  $100 \text{ mV/s}^{-1}$ .



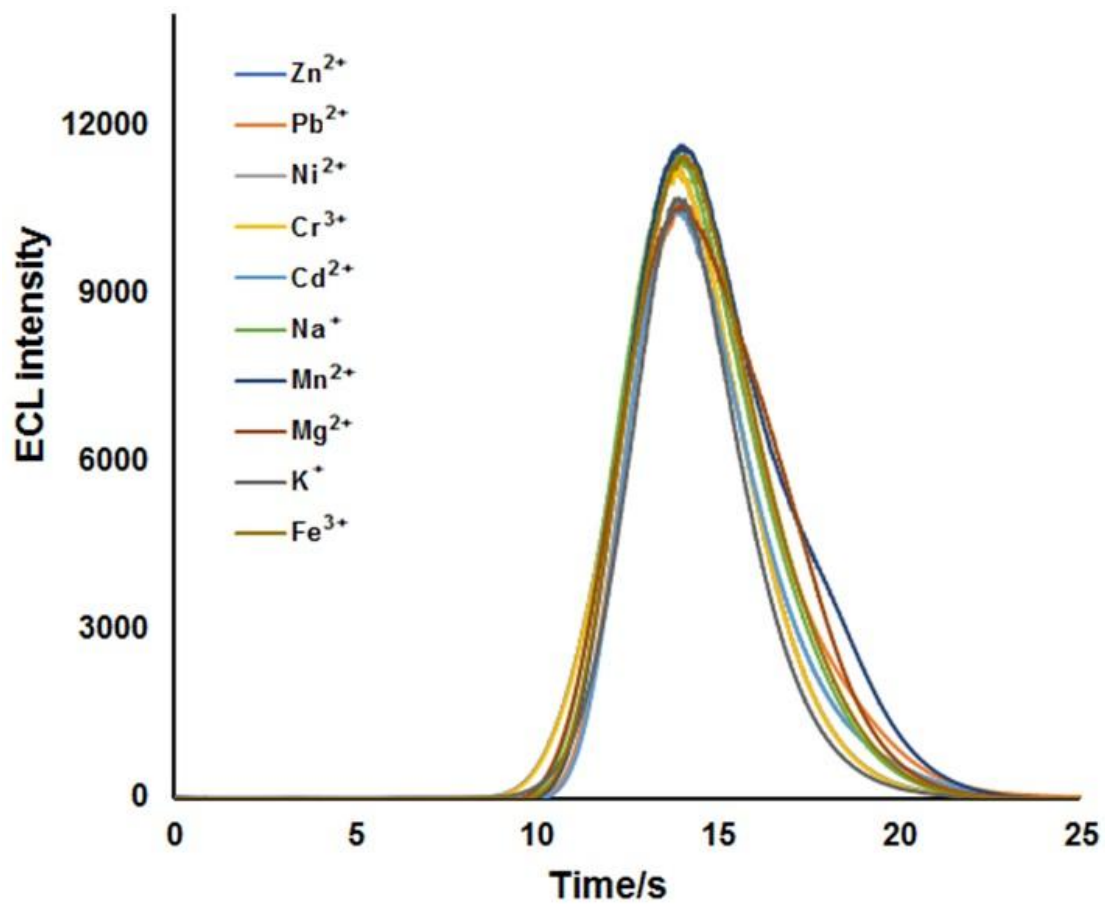
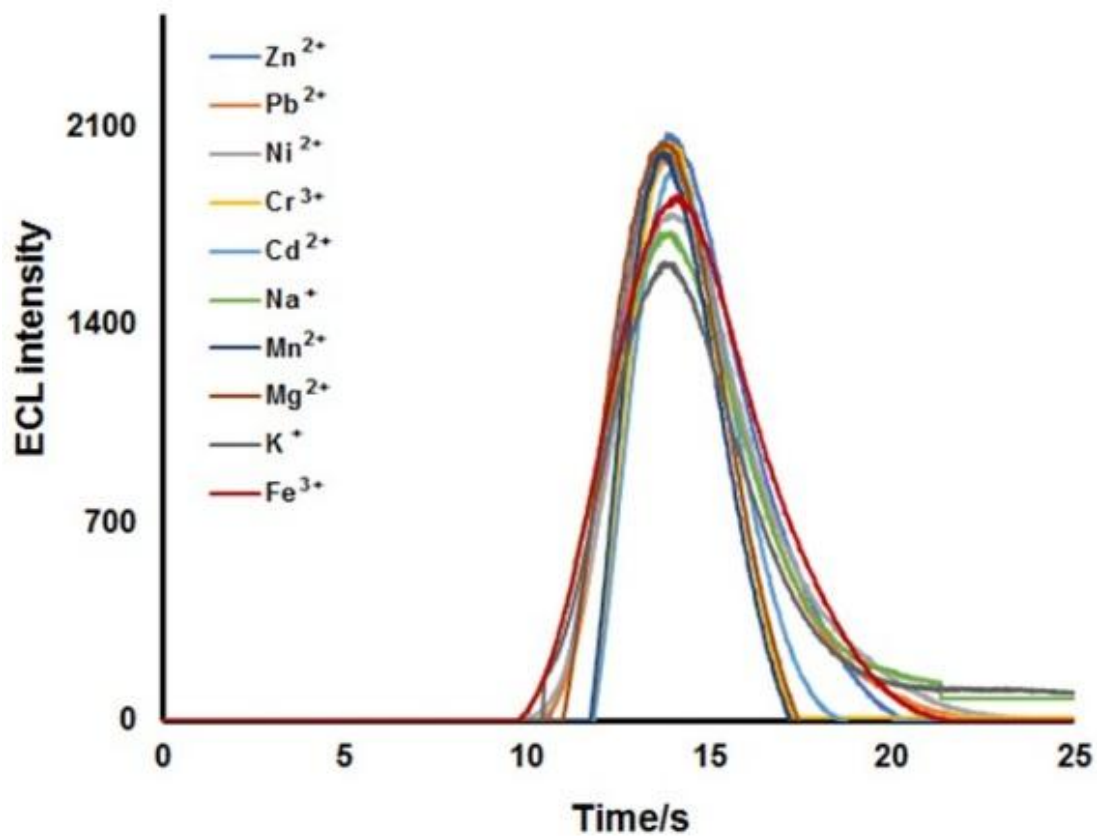
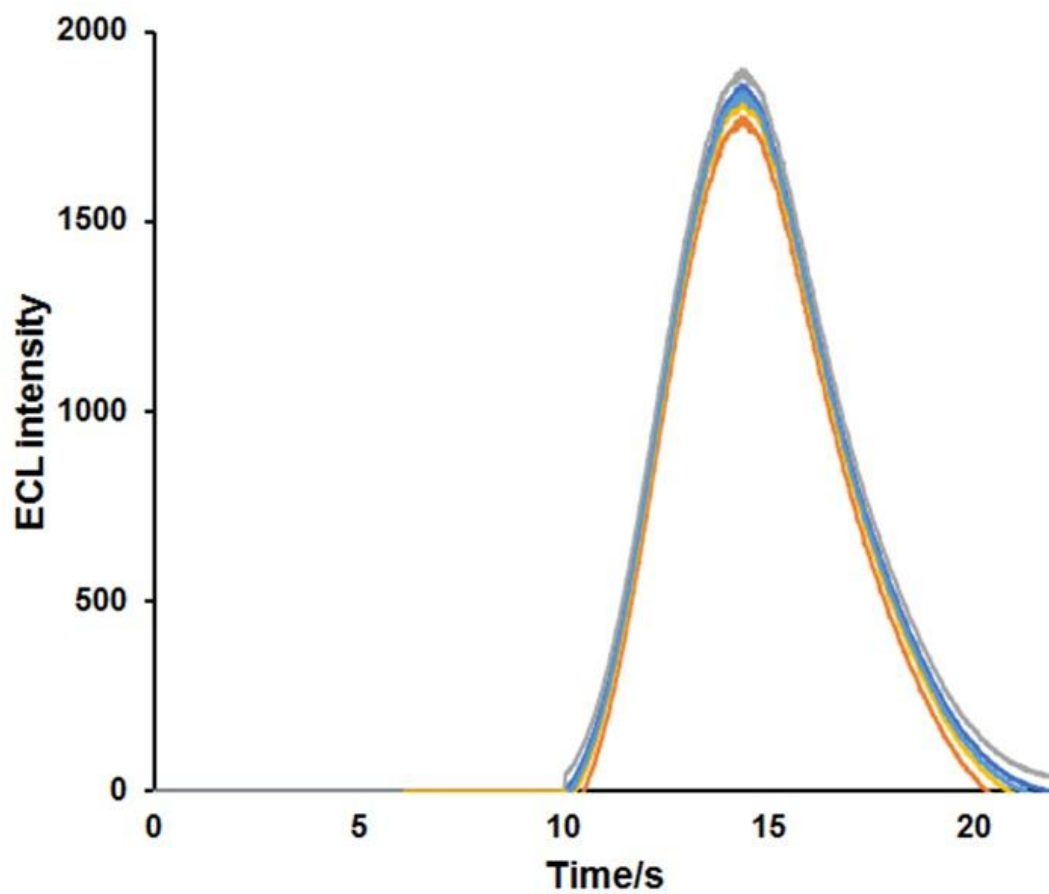


Figure S8. Competitive selectivity of the ECL sensor toward metal cations.



**Figure S9.** Competitive interferences of the ECL sensor toward Fe<sup>3+</sup> in the presence of other metal cations



**Figure S10.** The reproducibility of the proposed ECL modified electrodes.

### **Description of the source of human serum and preparation for the Fe<sup>3+</sup> solution**

Samples of deproteinized human serum were obtained from the Hospital of Guizhou University, which was applied for analysis without any further process.

The solution of Fe<sup>3+</sup> was prepared by deionized water without acidification, and we did not observe the formation of any deposits by hydrolysis of the metal cations.