

## Supporting Information

# Carbon Dots Based Theranostic Platform for Dual-Modal Imaging and Free Radical Scavenging

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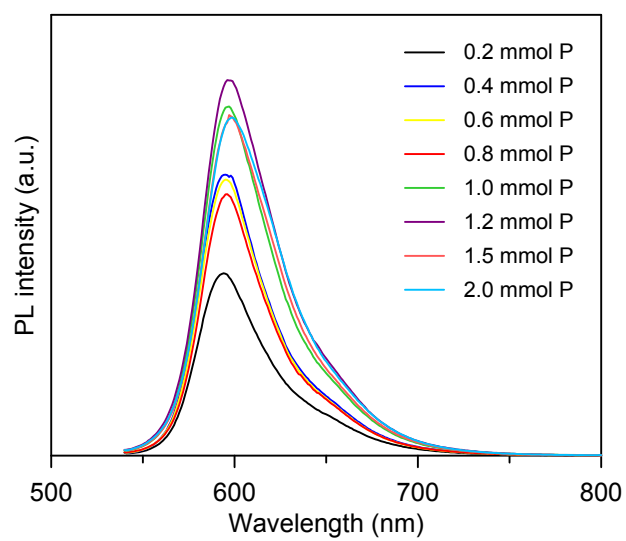
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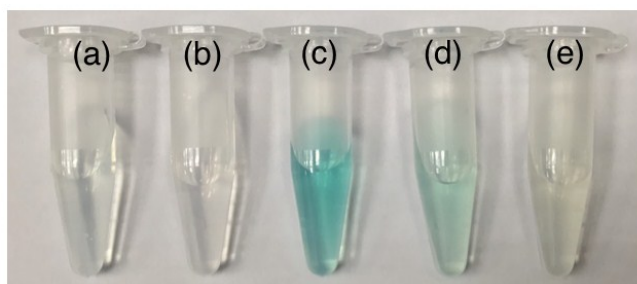
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**Table S1.** Comparison of red-emitting Cdots published in the literature.

| Precursors                                                                                                                                                                                | Solvent           | Preparation Approach                                                        | Purification                                                                                     | QY    | ref. |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|------|
| polyacrylonitrile based carbon fibers                                                                                                                                                     | nitric acid       | oxidation of carbon fibers in nitric acid                                   | ultrafiltration for 48 h and dialyzed                                                            | 20.7  | 1    |
| p-phenylenediamine                                                                                                                                                                        | ethanol           | solvothermal at 160 °C for 12 h                                             | column chromatography                                                                            | 26.1  | 2    |
| polythiophene phenylpropionic acid                                                                                                                                                        | alkaline solution | hydrothermal at 240 °C for 36 h                                             | filtered through Millipore 0.22 µm filter paper                                                  | 2.3   | 3    |
| ascorbic acid                                                                                                                                                                             | oleylamine        | heat at 280 °C for 4 h                                                      | centrifugation                                                                                   | 14    | 4    |
| citric acid                                                                                                                                                                               | formamide         | microwave reactor for heating at 160 °C for 1 h and 120 °C for another hour | precipitated with acetone overnight in a refrigerator (-20°C) and centrifugation                 | 22.9  | 5    |
| PEG800 and 2-((E)-2-((E)-2-chloro-3-((E)-2-(1-(2-hydroxyethyl)-3,3-dimethylindolin-2-ylidene)-ethylidene)cyclohex-1-en-1-yl)vinyl)-1-(2-hydroxyethyl)-3,3-di-methyl-3H-indol-1-ium iodide | ethanol           | solvothermal at 160 °C for 2 h                                              | dialyzed against water for 1 d                                                                   | 5.7   | 6    |
| glutathione                                                                                                                                                                               | formamide         | hydrothermal at 160 °C for 1 h                                              | dialyzed against water for 1 week and filtered through Millipore 0.22 µm filter paper            | 16.8  | 7    |
| p-phenylenediamine                                                                                                                                                                        | ethanol           | microwave reactor for 8 h                                                   | centrifugation and column chromatography                                                         | 15    | 8    |
| p-phenylenediamine and urea                                                                                                                                                               | water             | hydrothermal at 160 °C for 10 h                                             | column chromatography                                                                            | 23.81 | 9    |
| 2,5-diaminobenzenesulfonic acid and 4-aminophenylboronic acid hydrochloride                                                                                                               | water             | microwave reactor at 180 °C for 8 h                                         | centrifugation and dialysis for 12 h                                                             | 5.44  | 10   |
| citric acid and 1,5-diaminonaphthalene                                                                                                                                                    | sulfuric acid     | solvothermal at 200 °C for 1 h                                              | centrifugation and dialysis for 1 week                                                           | 12    | 11   |
| spinach                                                                                                                                                                                   | ethanol/water     | hydrothermal at 150 °C for 6 h                                              | dialysis with a dialysis membrane for 3 days                                                     | 15.3  | 12   |
| citric acid and urea                                                                                                                                                                      | formamide         | solvothermal at 180 °C for 12 h                                             | column chromatography and Sephadex column                                                        | 4     | 13   |
| citric acid, urea, and sodium fluoride                                                                                                                                                    | water             | microwave reactor for 5 min                                                 | dialysis against double distilled water for 24 h                                                 | 1.2   | 14   |
| citric acid and urea                                                                                                                                                                      | formamide         | solvothermal at 140 °C for 12 h                                             | centrifugation and added into the mixed solvent of petroleum ether and ethyl to obtain the solid | 12.9  | 15   |
| o-phenylenediamine and dithiothreitol                                                                                                                                                     | chloroform        | Solvothermal 160 °C for 12 h                                                | column chromatography                                                                            | 23%   | 16   |
| L-cystine and o-phenylenediamine                                                                                                                                                          | ethanol           | Solvothermal 220 °C for 12 h                                                | Centrifugation, cylindrical filtration membrane and spin-dry.                                    | 35.7% | 17   |

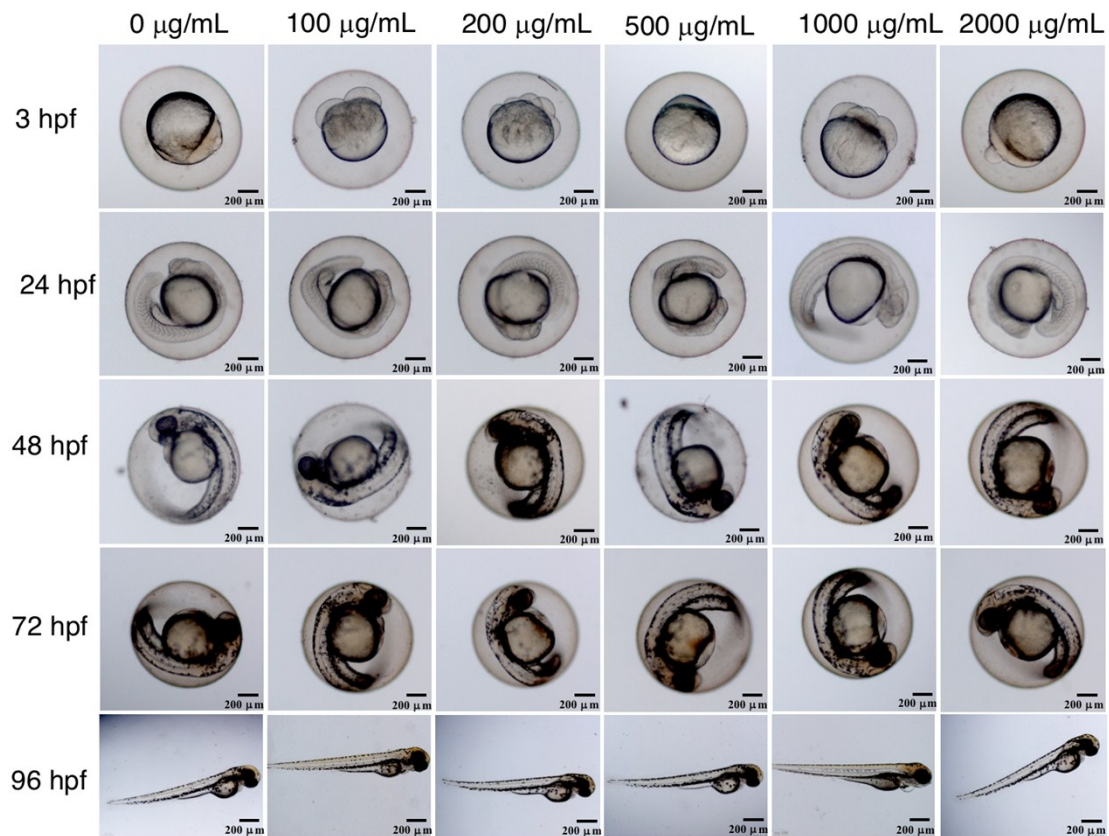


**Figure S1.** Photoluminescence spectra of P@Cdots prepared with different amounts of phosphoric acid.

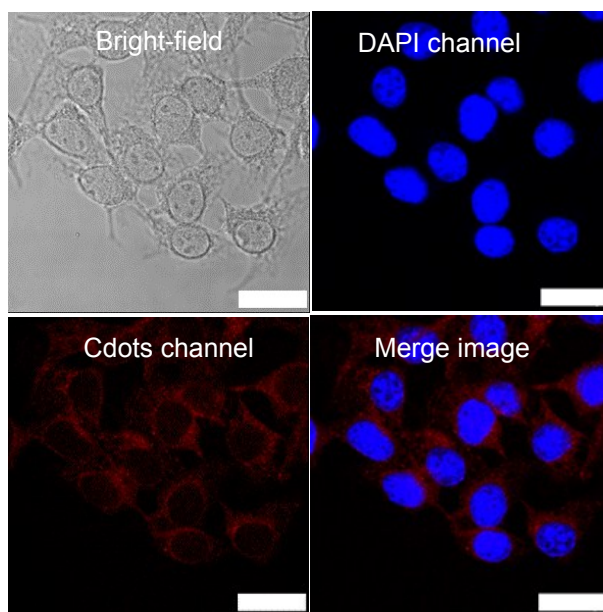


|                               |   |   |   |   |   |
|-------------------------------|---|---|---|---|---|
| PMn@CDs                       | — | — | — | + | + |
| TMB                           | + | + | + | + | + |
| H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub> | + | — | + | + | + |
| FeSO <sub>4</sub>             | — | + | + | + | + |

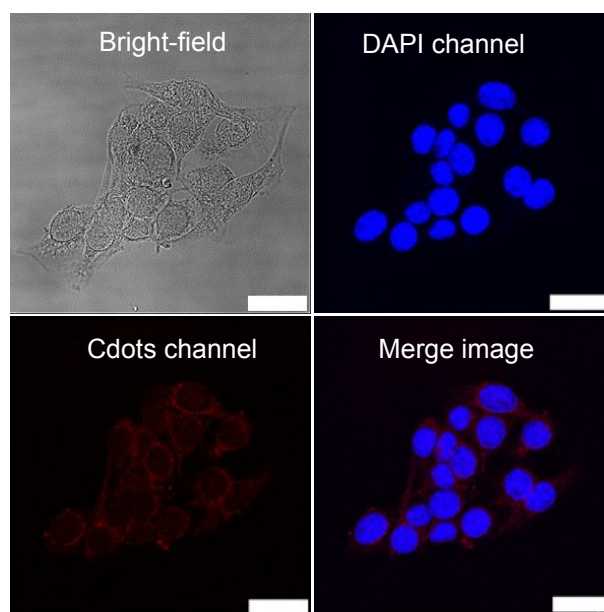
**Figure S2.** The photographs of the reaction system (a) TMB + H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>, (b) TMB + FeSO<sub>4</sub>, (c) TMB + H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> + FeSO<sub>4</sub>, (d) PMn@CDs (8 μg/mL) + TMB + H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> + FeSO<sub>4</sub>, and (e) PMn@CDs (16 μg/mL) + TMB + H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> + FeSO<sub>4</sub>, respectively.



**Figure S3.** Optical images of zebrafish embryonic development incubated with different concentrations of PMn@Cdots/HA.



**Figure S4.** Confocal microscopy images of B16F1 cells pretreated with free HA (300 ppm), then incubated with PMn@Cdots/HA for 24 h at 37°C, fixed with 75% alcohol, and followed by being stained with DAPI for nucleus. Bright-field image outlines the position of cells; DAPI channel represents the nuclear regions; Cdots channel shows the location of the PMn@Cdots/HA; merge image represents the combination of DAPI and Cdots channels. For all the images, the scale bars represent 20  $\mu\text{m}$ .



**Figure S5.** Confocal microscopy images of B16F1 cells incubated with PMn@Cdots for 24 h at 37°C, fixed with 75% alcohol, and followed by being stained with DAPI for nucleus. Bright-field image outlines the position of cells; DAPI channel represents the nuclear regions; Cdots channel shows the location of the PMn@Cdots; merge image represents the combination of DAPI and Cdots channels. For all the images, the scale bars represent 20  $\mu\text{m}$ .

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