

1 Electronic Supplementary Material (ESI) for Analytical Methods.

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4 **Supplementary Information**

5 **Phage-mediated double-nanobody sandwich immunoassay for detecting alpha  
6 fetal protein in human serum**

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27 **Table S1** The screening of paired antibodies

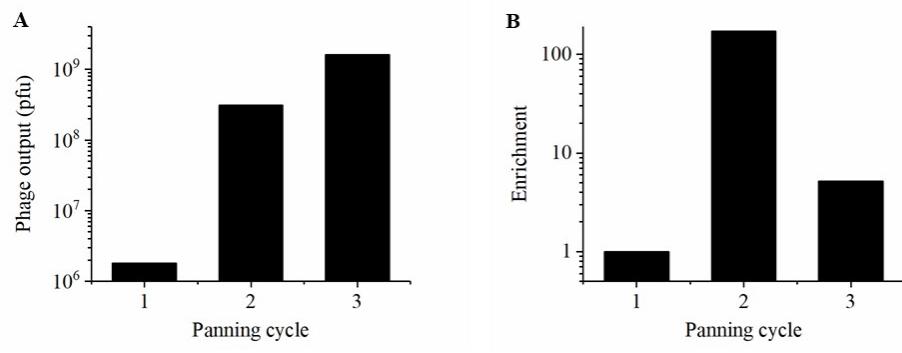
Caputre antibody	Detection antibody	AFP concentration	Phage-A1	Phage-A2
Nb-A1		50 ng/mL	0.079	2.858
		0 ng/mL	0.09	0.194
Nb-A2		50 ng/mL	0.15	0.187
		0 ng/mL	0.07	0.196

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29 **Table S2** Optimization of the concentrations of capture antibody and detection  
 30 antibody by checkerboard titration

Phage-A2 (pfu/mL)	Nb-A1 ( $\mu$ g/mL)					
	62.72	31.36	15.68	7.84	3.92	1.96
$2 \times 10^{13}$	0.562	0.347	0.228	0.221	0.182	0.180
$1 \times 10^{13}$	0.556	0.295	0.226	0.194	0.168	0.168
$5 \times 10^{12}$	0.505	0.299	0.211	0.201	0.167	0.162
$2.5 \times 10^{12}$	0.491	0.294	0.208	0.182	0.156	0.145
$1.25 \times 10^{12}$	0.448	0.295	0.201	0.182	0.152	0.143
$6.25 \times 10^{11}$	0.432	0.268	0.179	0.180	0.143	0.140
$3.125 \times 10^{11}$	0.462	0.244	0.175	0.168	0.137	0.132
$1.5625 \times 10^{11}$	0.422	0.263	0.158	0.163	0.127	0.110

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Nb-A1 QVQLVESGGGLVQSGGSLRLSCAAS**MRGFRIVA**GGWYRQSPGKQRELVAD**INYQDDTNYGDFVKGRFTISRDSAKNTLYL**

Nb-A2 QVQLVESGGGLVQAGGSLGLSCAAS**GLGFSIVAGGWFRQAPGKERELVAAIGTGTGDINYGDSVKGRFTISSDSAKNTVYL**  
 ←-----FR1-----►-----CDR1-----►-----FR2-----►-----CDR2-----►-----FR3-----►

Nb-A1 QMNSLKPEDTAVYYC**SAL**-----**SVIGN**-----EFWGQGTQTVSSEPCKTPKPQKRAS**QPELAPEDPEDVEHHHHHH\***

Nb-A2 QMNSLKPEDTAVYFC**ATTERYYTGSYDSRARPQS**GYWGQGTQTVSSEPCKTPKPQKRAS**QPELAPEDPEDVEHHHHHH\***  
 ←-----FR3-----►-----CDR3-----►-----FR4-----►-----Hinge-----►-----Hsv-tag-----►-----His-tag-----►

34 **Figure S1** Selection of anti-AFP nanobodies phages and amino acid sequences

35 analysis of positive phage clones. (A) The enrichment of phage in three rounds

36 biopanning; (B)The output phage particles in three rounds biopanning; (C) Amino

37 acid sequences of selected anti-AFP nanobodies containing Hsv-tag and His-tag.

38 **Table S3** Comparison of the proposed method with other reported AFP detection  
39 methods

No.	Methods	LOD	References
1	Phage-mediated ELISA	0.237 ng/mL	This work
2	Metal-linked immunoassay	0.1 ng/mL	1
3	Plasmonic ELISA	0.23 ng/mL	2
4	ELISA	0.48 ng/mL	3
5	AuNP-based ELISA	2 ng/mL	4

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