

## Supporting Information

### **Construction of photo-induced zinc-doped carbon dots based on drug-resistant bactericides and their application for local treatment**

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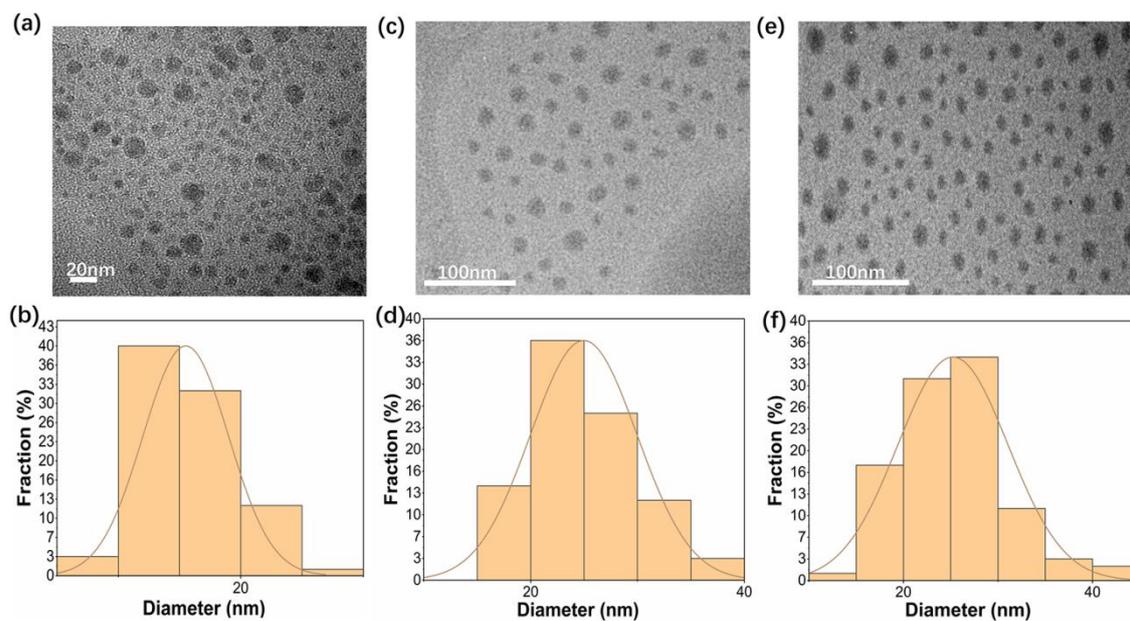
†These authors contributed equally to this work

#### **Instruments, reagents and materials**

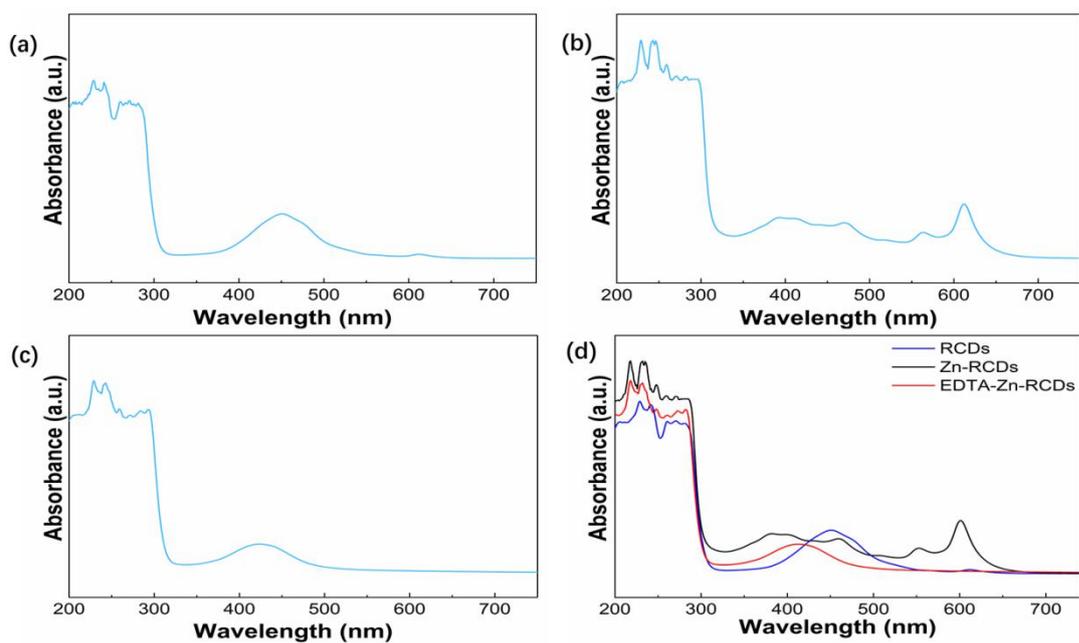
Fluorescence Spectrophotometer RF6000 (Shimadzu), Microplate Reader Varioskan LMX (Thermo), UV-2300 UV-Visible Spectrophotometer (Shanghai Tianmei Scientific Instruments Co., Ltd.), Infrared Spectrometer (Invenio R, Bruker), Transmission Electron Microscope (H-600, Hitachi, Japan)

Reactive oxygen assay kit (DCFDA, Solarbio), Singlet Oxygen Sensor Green Reagent (SOSG, Meilunbio), Protoporphyrin IX (PpIX, Sigma)

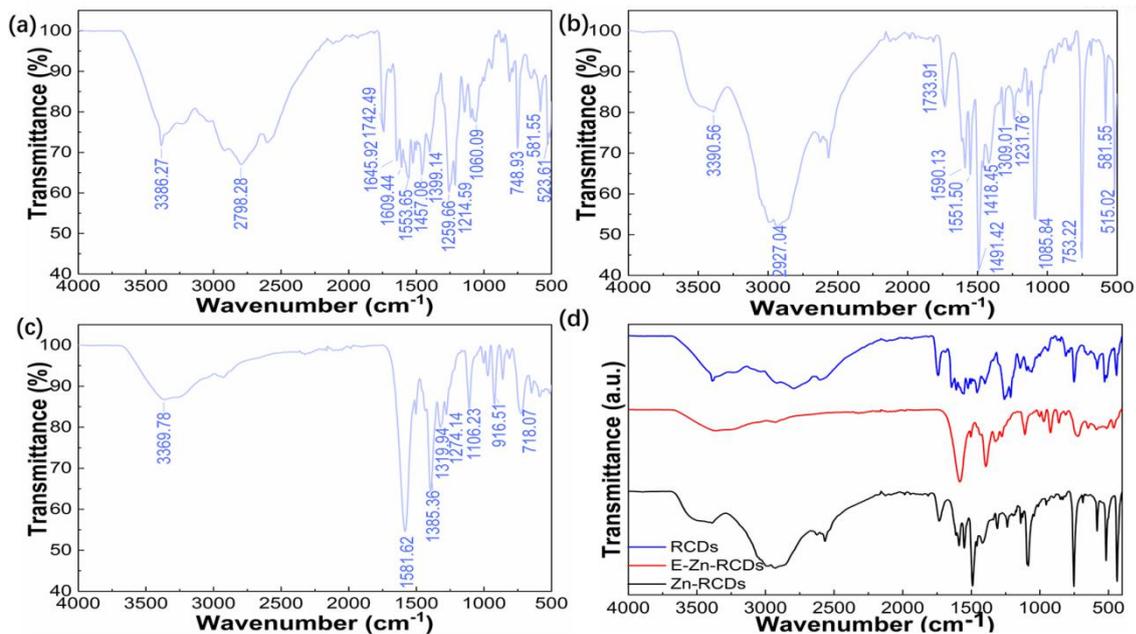
Mice (BALB/c, 7 weeks, female, SPF, Beijing Huafukang Biotechnology Co., Ltd.), *Staphylococcus aureus* and *Escherichia coli* were provided by the State Key Laboratory of Sichuan University.



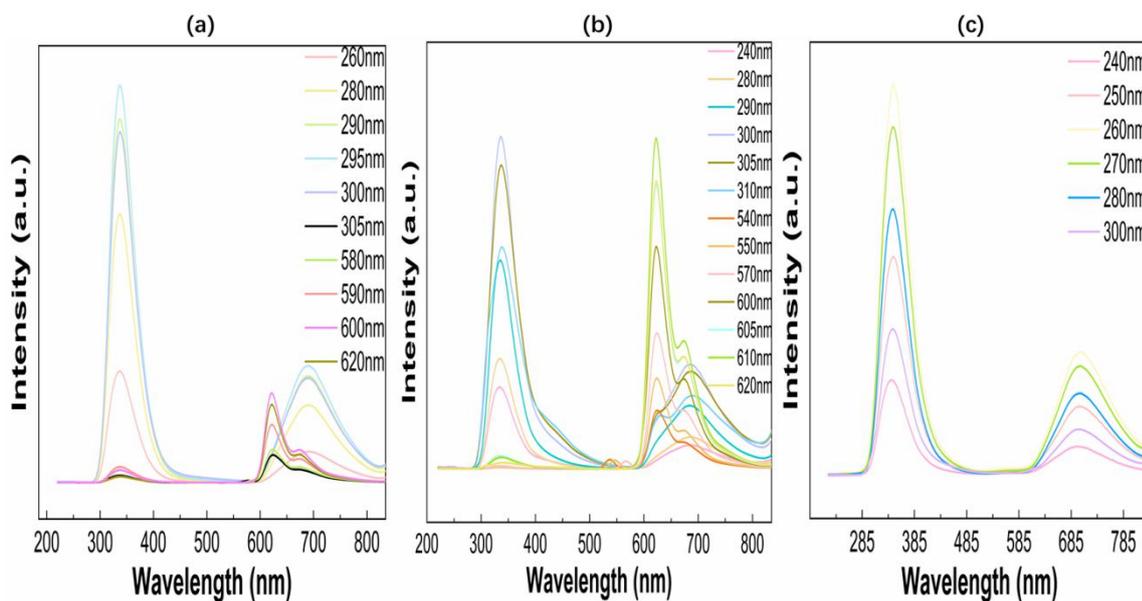
**Figure S1** TEM photographs of (a)RCDs, (c)Zn-RCDs, and (e)EDTA-Zn-RCDs. Particle size distributions of (b)RCDs, (d)Zn-RCDs, and (f)EDTA-Zn-RCDs determined by the DLS method



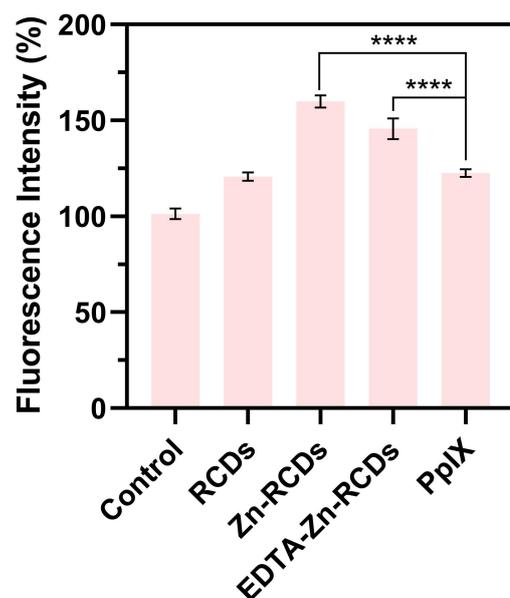
**Figure S2** UV-Vis spectra of (a)RCDs, (b)Zn-RCDs, and (c)EDTA-Zn-RCDs. (d)The UV-Vis spectra of the three CDs



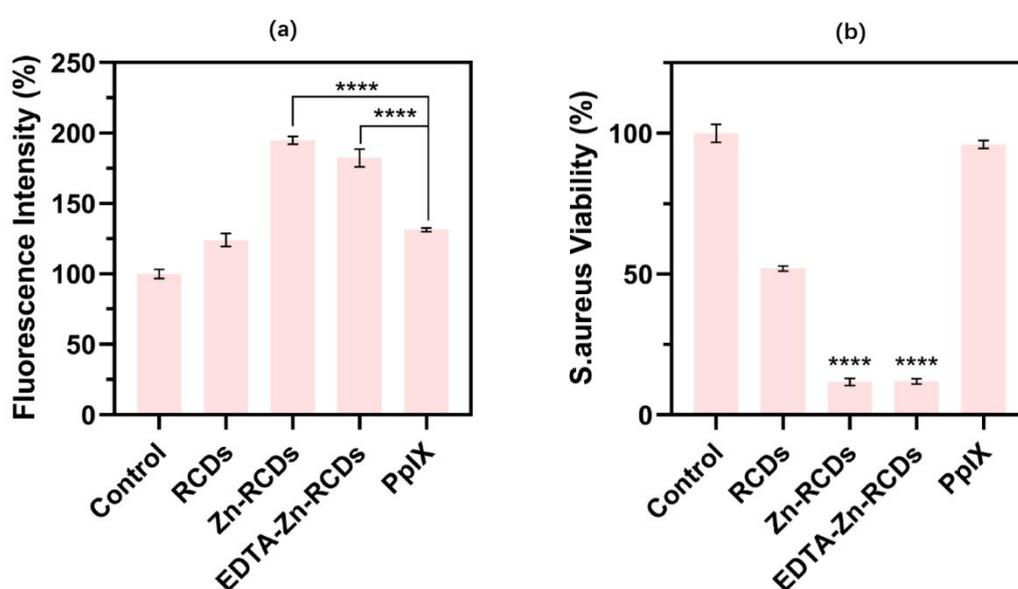
**Figure S3** IR spectra of (a)RCDs, (b)Zn-RCDs, and (c)EDTA-Zn-RCDs. (d)The IR spectra of the three CDs



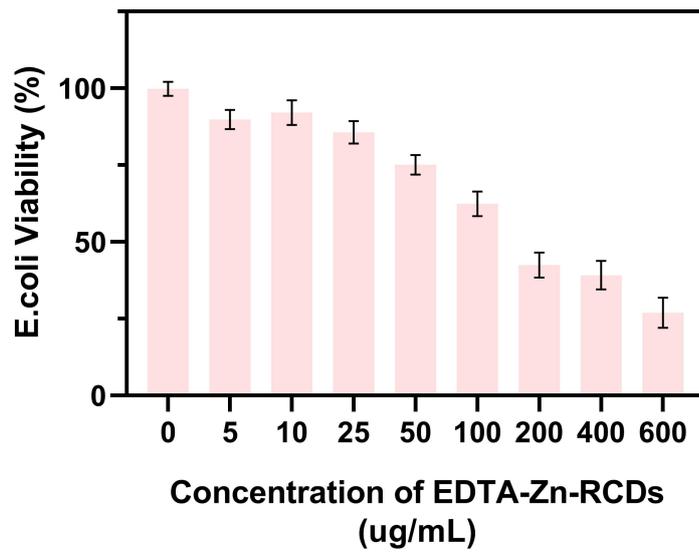
**Figure S4** Fluorescence emission spectra of (a)RCDs, (b)Zn-RCDs, and (c)EDTA-Zn-RCDs.



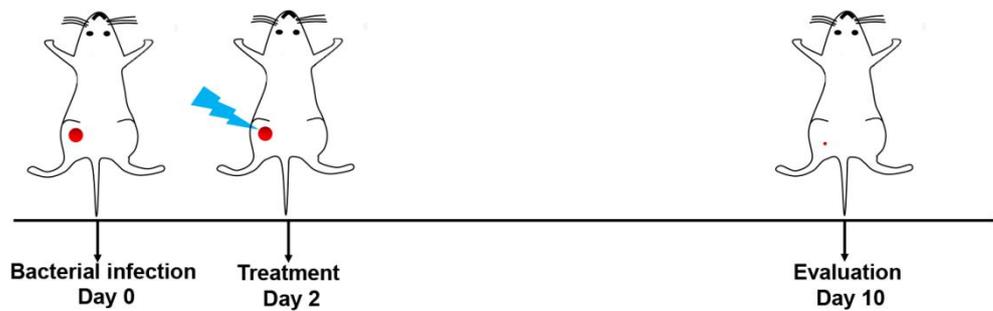
**Figure S5** Extracellular ROS production in LB medium incubated with the same concentrations as 600  $\mu\text{g/ml}$  of the RCDs, Zn-RCDs, EDTA-Zn-RCDs and PpIX (incubation time 15 min) were determined by SOSG fluorescent probe immediately after irradiation. PBS without receiving vehicles was used as the control. (n=6)



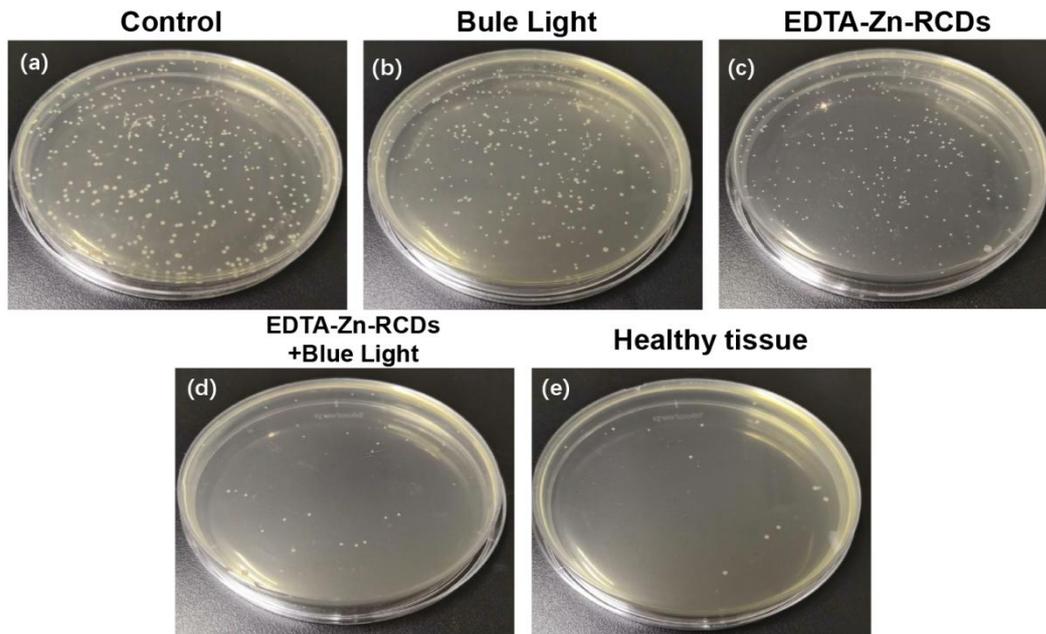
**Figure S6** (a) Intracellular ROS production in *S. aureus* incubated with the same concentrations as 600  $\mu\text{g/ml}$  of the RCDs, Zn-RCDs, EDTA-Zn-RCDs and PpIX (incubation time 15 min) were determined by DCFDA fluorescent probe immediately after irradiation. PBS without receiving vehicles was used as the control. (b) Viability of *S. aureus* cells incubated with the same concentrations as 600  $\mu\text{g/ml}$  of the RCDs, Zn-RCDs, EDTA-Zn-RCDs and PpIX (incubation time 15 min) was determined at 24 h after irradiation. (n=6)



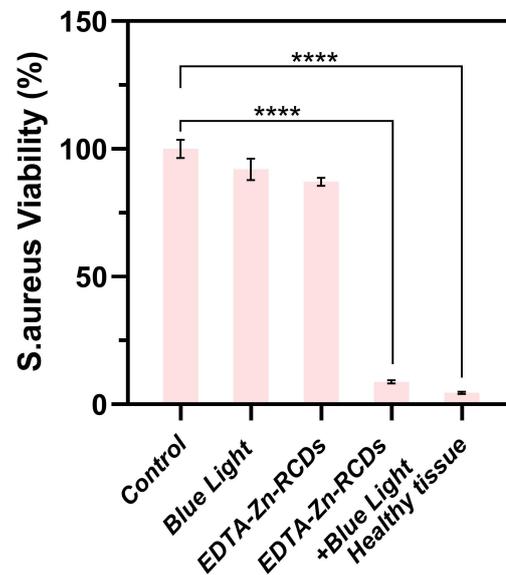
**Figure S7** Viability of *E. coli* cells incubated with different concentrations of EDTA-Zn-RCDs (incubation time 15 min) and blue light radiation was determined at 24 h after irradiation. (n=6)



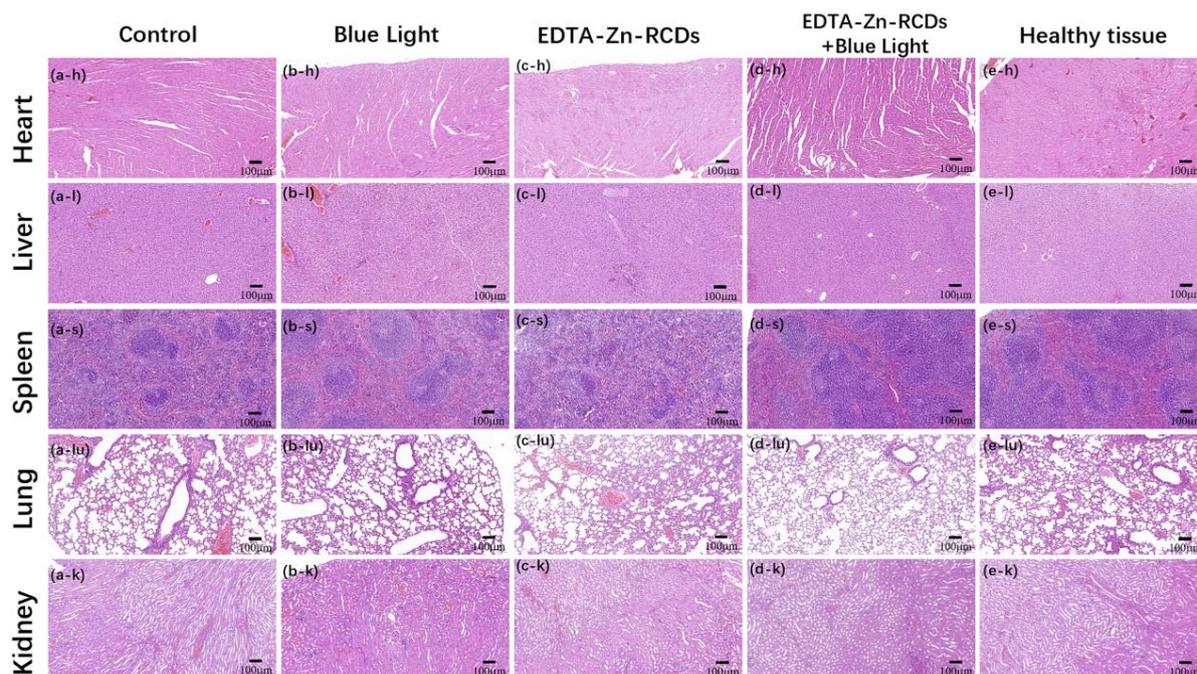
**Figure S8** Outline of wound model experiment in vivo



**Figure S9** Images of bacterial colonies in skin tissue from wounds of mice in different treatment groups (a) Control (b) Blue Light alone (c) EDTA-Zn-RCDs alone and (d) EDTA-Zn-RCDs and Blue Light (e) Healthy tissue (n=6)



**Figure S10** The corresponding viability of *S. aureus* is shown in Figure S9 (n=6)

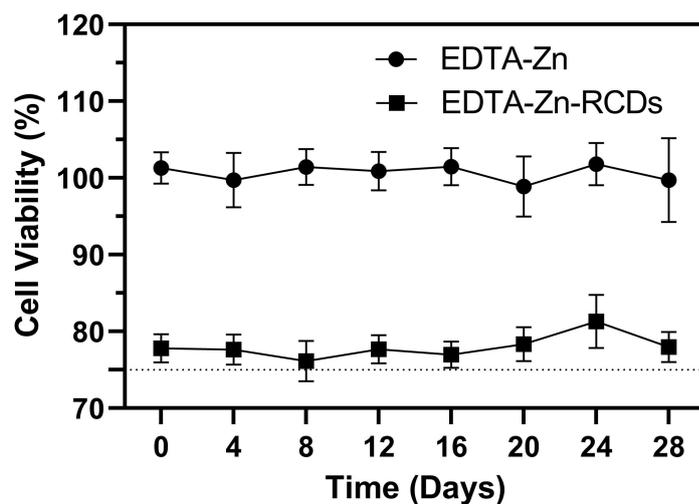


**Figure S11** H&E chromatogram of organs (heart, liver, spleen, lung and kidney) from infected mice of different treatment groups (a) Control (b) Blue Light alone (c) EDTA-Zn-RCDs alone and (d) EDTA-Zn-RCDs and Blue Light (e) Healthy tissue (n=6)

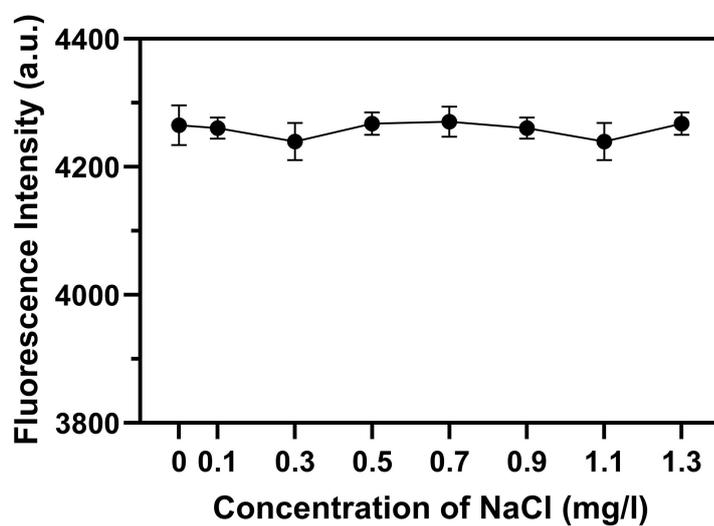
### Stability experiment

**Stability experiment of EDTA-Zn and EDTA-Zn-RCDs lyophilized powders:** The experimental results are shown in the Figure S12. Within 28 days, the cytotoxicity of  $600 \mu\text{g}\cdot\text{ml}^{-1}$  EDTA-Zn and EDTA-Zn-RCDs were higher than the threshold. The toxic zinc ion will not come out in the biological system within 28 days and EDTA-Zn and EDTA-Zn-RCDs in powder state are very stable.

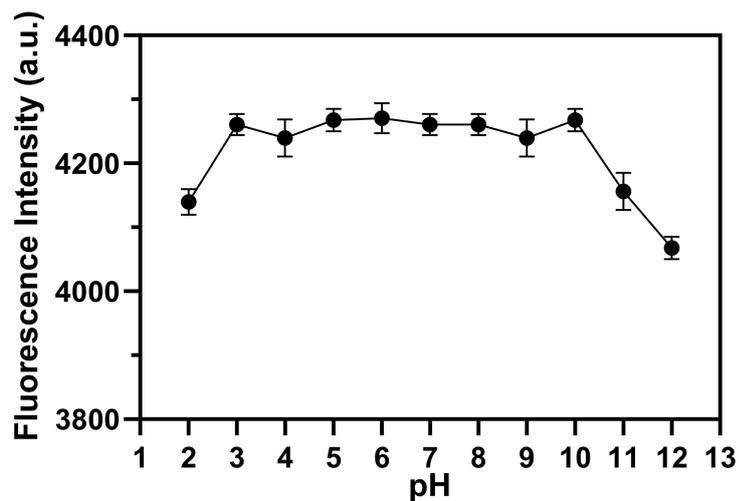
**Photostability experiment of EDTA-Zn-RCDs solution:** The experimental results are shown in the Figure S13-S16. In Figure S13, in 0~1.3 mg/l NaCl solution, with the increasing of NaCl solution concentration, the fluorescence intensity of EDTA-Zn-RCDs was stable, indicating that the fluorescence intensity of EDTA-Zn-RCDs solution were less influenced by salt solution and had good stability. As depicted in Figure S14, in BR buffer solution with pH2-12, the fluorescence intensity of EDTA-Zn-RCDs solution were stable in BR buffer solution with pH3-10. This carbon dots were greatly affected by strong acid (pH2) and strong alkaline environment (pH10-12). As depicted in Figure S15, the fluorescence intensity of EDTA-Zn-RCDs descended slightly after UV irradiation for 2 h, and decreased by 10% after 8 h. The results demonstrated that the fluorescence intensity of EDTA-Zn-RCDs were greatly affected by UV exposure. As depicted in Figure S16, the fluorescence intensity of EDTA-Zn-RCDs only slightly decreased after 8 h at room temperature, protecting from light indicating that the carbon dots can be stored stably at room temperature.



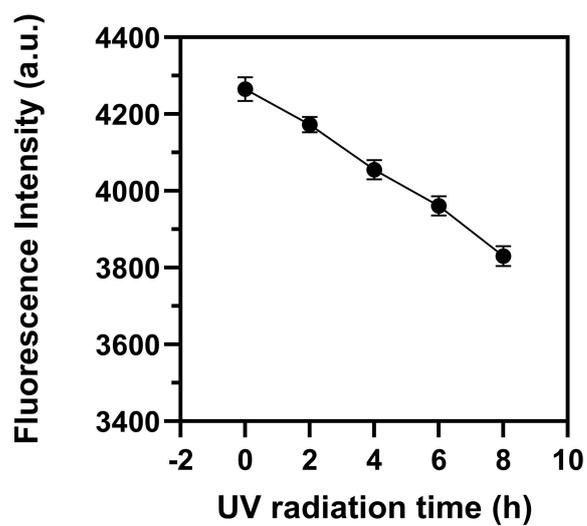
**Figure S12** The effect of  $600 \mu\text{g}\cdot\text{ml}^{-1}$  EDTA-Zn and EDTA-Zn-RCDs on L929 cells within 28 days. (n=6)



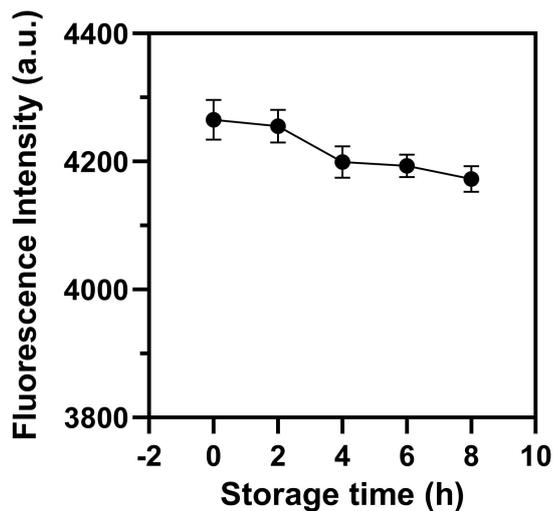
**Figure S13** The influence of salt ion concentration on fluorescence intensity of EDTA-Zn-RCDs (n=6)



**Figure S14** The influence of pH on fluorescence intensity of EDTA-Zn-RCDs (n=6)



**Figure S15** the influence of UV radiation time on fluorescence intensity of EDTA-Zn-RCDs (n=6)



**Figure S16** the influence of storage time on fluorescence intensity of EDTA-Zn-RCDs (n=6)

**Table S1** The advantages and disadvantages for synergistic treatment

	Advantages	Disadvantages
EDTA-Zn-RCDs+Blue Light Synergistic treatment	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Simple and economical preparation method of CDs</li> <li>2. Raw materials are cheap and easy to get</li> <li>3. High security and biocompatibility</li> <li>4. High catalytic oxidation efficiency and high ROS production efficiency</li> <li>5. Provide a new idea and method for researchers to prepare highly efficient and low toxic metal doped CDs</li> <li>6. More than 90% bactericidal efficiency in vitro and in vivo</li> <li>7. No antibiotics and no bacterial resistance was developed</li> <li>8. Its stock solution can be used for the subsequent treatment of deep bacterial infection</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The freeze-dried powder is used only for topical treatment</li> </ol>