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## Supporting Information

2 **Two-phase dual-signal readout immunosensing platform based on**

3 **multifunctional carbon nano-onions for ovarian cancer biomarker detection**

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## 31 **1. Experimental section**

### 32 **1.1. Materials and reagents**

33 Ethanol ( $\text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{OH} \geq 99.7$  wt %) was purchased from Shanghai Titan  
34 Scientific Co. Ltd. Si-NH<sub>2</sub> magnetic bead (MB) was acquired from PuriMag Biotech  
35 Co. (Xiamen, China). Bovine serum albumin (BSA, 1 wt %) and Glutaraldehyde  
36 (GLD, 25 wt % aqueous solution) were obtained from Biss Inc. (Beijing, China) and  
37 Jinshan Tingxin Chemical Plant (Shanghai, China), respectively. 1- aminoethyl-3-  
38 methylimidazolium chloride (Ionic liquid, ILs) was got by Lanzhou Institute of  
39 Chemical Physics, Chinese Academy of Sciences. Dimethyl sulfoxide (DMSO) was  
40 purchased from Sinopharm. Antibody (Ab) of human epididymis protein 4 (HE4)  
41 were produced by Wuhan San Ying Biotechnology Co., Ltd (China). HPV16 (E6)  
42 protein, human interleukin-6 (IL-6) and lipolysis stimulated lipoprotein receptor (LSR)  
43 were gained from Beijing biosen Biotechnology Co., Ltd. (China), Shanghai Linc-Bio  
44 Science Co. Ltd. (China) and Shanghai Genechem Co., LTD, respectively. The  
45 phosphate buffer solution (PBS, 0.1 M) of various pH was prepared by mixing the  
46 stock solution of 0.1 M Na<sub>2</sub>HPO<sub>4</sub> and NaH<sub>2</sub>PO<sub>4</sub>. Aluminum titanium carbide (Ti<sub>3</sub>AlC<sub>2</sub>)  
47 was obtained from Forsman Technology Co., Ltd. (Beijing, China).

### 48 **1.2. Apparatus**

49 The SCL emission was generated on a mini USB ultrasonic atomizer that  
50 obtained from Shenzhen Jingdongshun Electronics Co. Ltd and measured on a  
51 chemiluminescence detector (Xi'an Remax Analysis Instrument Co., Xi'an, China).

52 The solution temperature was adjusted by the 808 nm NIR light system. The ultra-

53 violet–visible absorption was measured on UV 1900 (Shanghai, Lengguang Tech).

54 Fluorescence spectrum was conducted on F-380 spectrophotometer originated from

55 Tianjin Gangdong Sci. &Tech. Co., Ltd. Transmission electron microscopy (TEM,

56 FEI F20 S-TWIN instrument) was used to characterize the morphology of the

57 materials. The temperature was monitored with a TES-1310 digital thermometer (TES

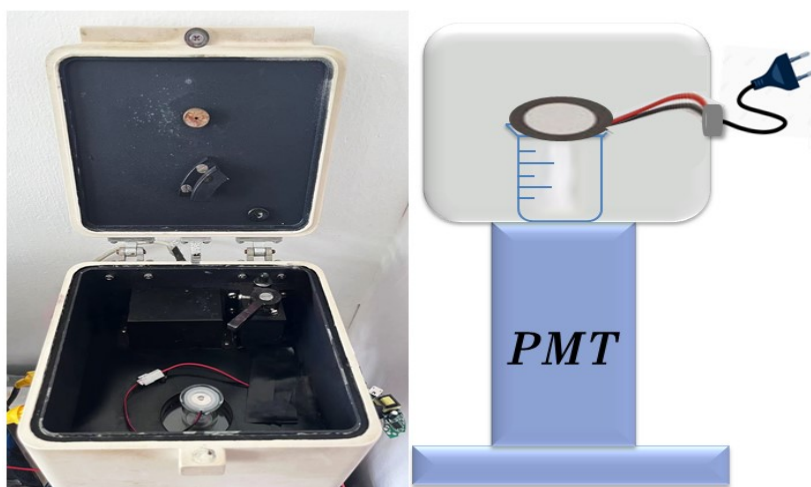
58 electrical electronic corp. Taiwan, China)

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61 2. Supplementary experimental data

62 Scheme S1

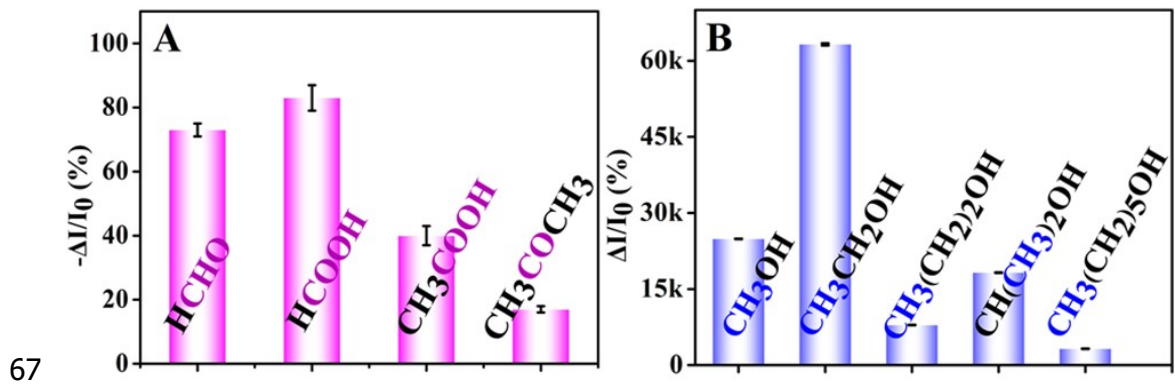


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64 Scheme S1. Layout of the SCL signal acquisition.

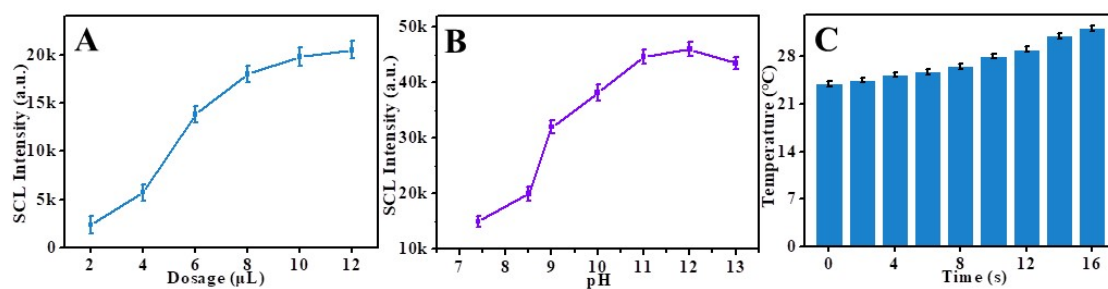
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66 **Figure S1**



67  
68 **Figure S1.** Influence of on SCL signal intensity in the presence of (A) organics with  
69 different groups and (B) alcohols with different numbers of methyl groups in Luc<sup>2+</sup>  
70 /Ti<sub>3</sub>C<sub>2</sub> NDs system.

71 **Figure S2**

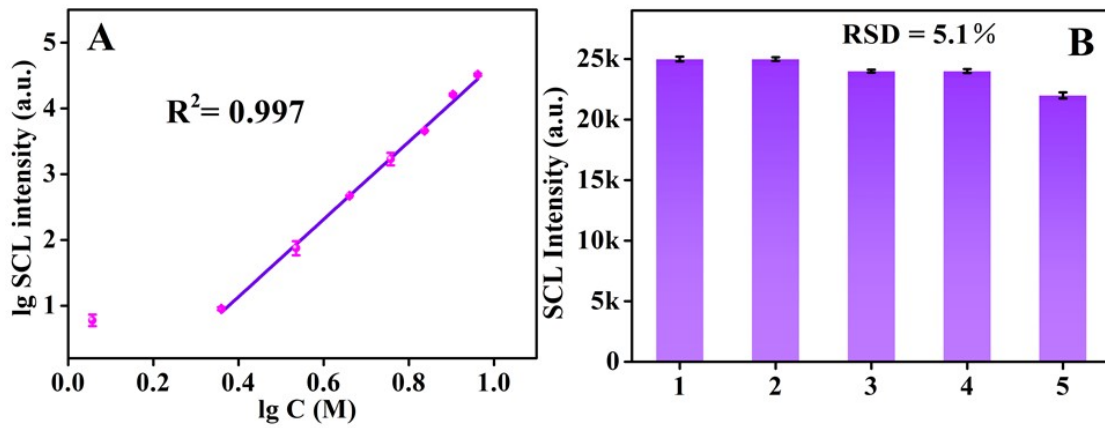


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73 **Figure S2.** The effect of (A) dosage of  $\text{Ti}_3\text{C}_2$  NDs and (B) pH on the SCL intensity of  
74  $\text{Luc}^{2+}/\text{ethanol}/\text{Ti}_3\text{C}_2$  NDs system. (C) The variation of temperature of the  
75  $\text{Luc}^{2+}/\text{ethanol}/\text{Ti}_3\text{C}_2$  NDs system with ultrasonic time.

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77 **Figure S3**



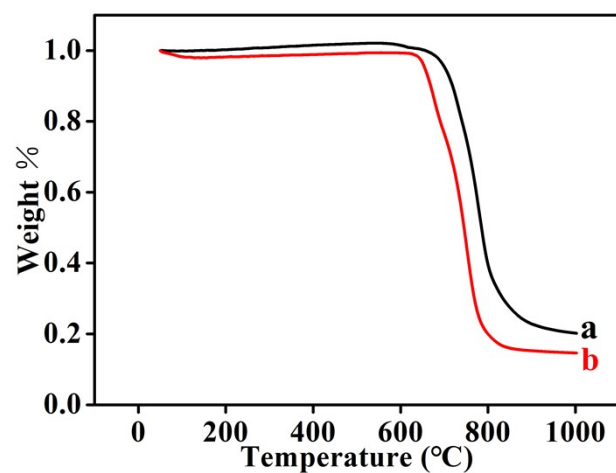
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79 **Figure S3.** (A) SCL signals of the  $\text{Luc}^{2+}/\text{Ti}_3\text{C}_2$  NDs with different concentrations of  
80 ethanol in  $\text{Luc}^{2+}/\text{Ti}_3\text{C}_2$  NDs system. (B) Reproducibility tests of five ultrasonic  
81 atomizer with 8 M ethanol in the  $\text{Luc}^{2+}/\text{Ti}_3\text{C}_2$  NDs system.

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83 **Figure S4**

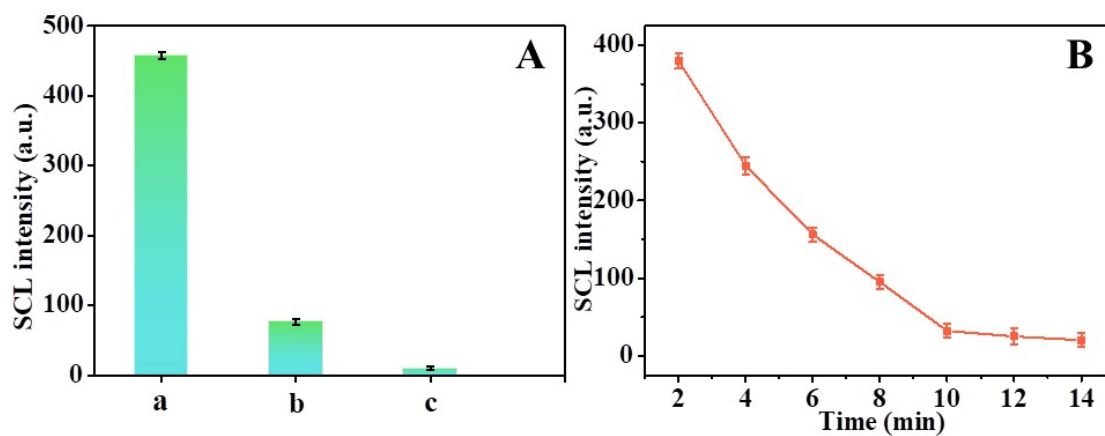


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85 **Figure S4.** Thermogravimetric analysis curves of (a) pure CNOs, (b) CNOs with

86 adsorbed ethanol.

87 **Figure S5**

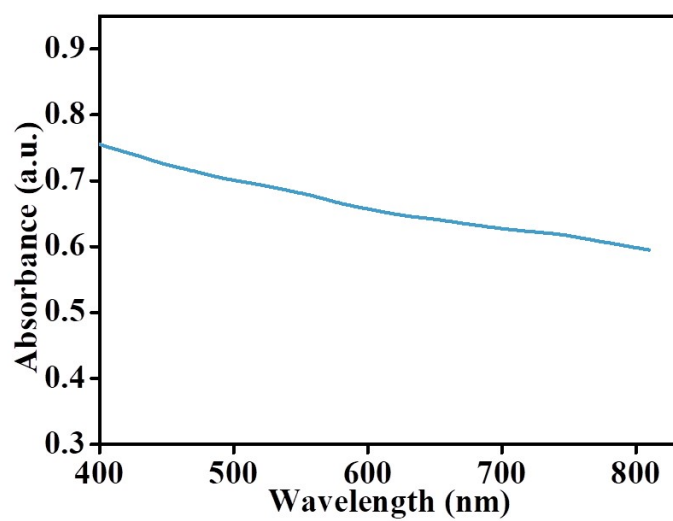


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89 **Figure S5.** (A) SCL intensity of the  $\text{Luc}^{2+}/\text{Ti}_3\text{C}_2$  NDs system with the remaining  
90 ethanol after adsorption of different materials (a) blank, (b) carbon nanohorns and (c)  
91 CNOs. (B) Optimization of ethanol adsorption time by CNOs.

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93 **Figure S6**

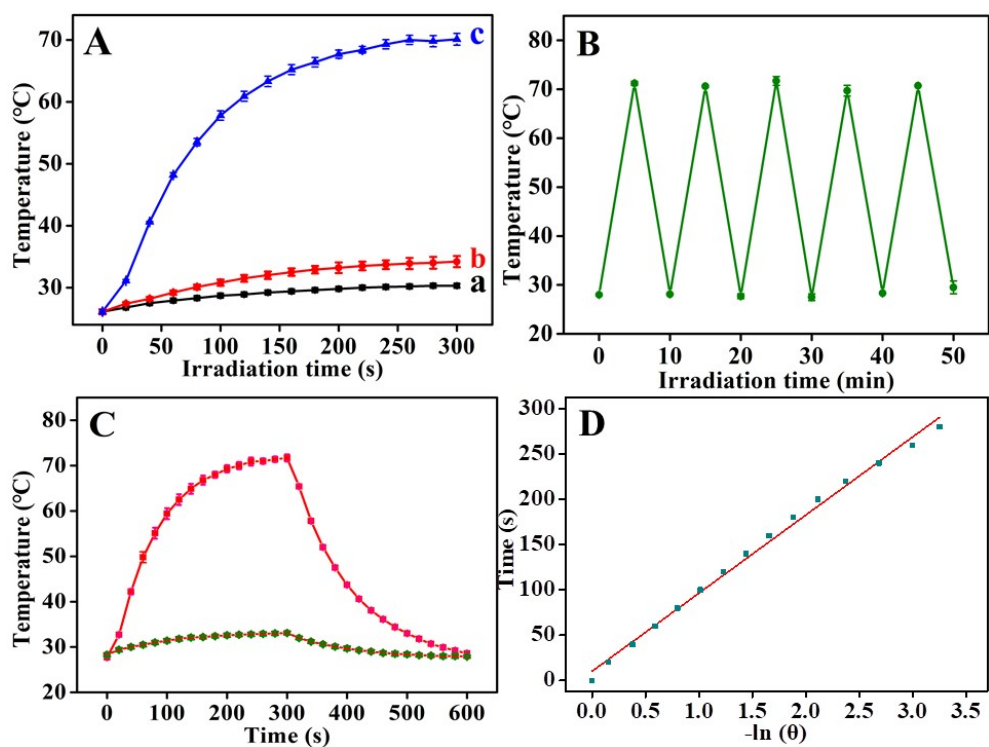


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95 **Figure S6.** UV-vis spectrum of CNOs.

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97 **Figure S7**



98

99 **Figure S7.** (A) Temperature variation of the different materials under 300 s of 808 nm  
 100 laser irradiation with a power density of  $1 \text{ W}\cdot\text{cm}^{-2}$  (a) water (b) Si-NH<sub>2</sub> MB (0.1  
 101 mg/mL), and (c) CNOs (0.75 mg/mL). (B) Photothermal stability of CNOs. (C)  
 102 Photothermal effect of H<sub>2</sub>O (green line) and CNOs (red line) under 808 nm laser (1  
 103  $\text{W}\cdot\text{cm}^{-2}$ ) for 5 min, followed by natural cooling as the laser turns off. (D) The time-(-  
 104  $\ln\theta$ ) plot for applying the linear slope of the cooling period to calculate  $hA$ .

105 The photothermal performance of CNOs as a temperature signal output was  
 106 explored. As displayed in Fig. S7A, the temperature of water (curve a) and Si-NH<sub>2</sub>  
 107 MB (curve b) had no obvious fluctuation under irradiation with  $1 \text{ W}\cdot\text{cm}^{-2}$  power  
 108 density of 808 nm laser for five minutes. However, the temperature of 0.75 mg/mL  
 109 CNOs dispersion (curve c) significantly increased from 26.1 °C to 70.1 °C under  
 110 radiation of the laser. Moreover, the photothermal stability of CNOs was investigated  
 111 upon five laser on/off cycles as exhibited in Fig. S7B, and there was no significant

112 difference in the temperature change during the five cycles. This proved that CNOs  
113 have good photothermal stability. More importantly, the photothermal conversion  
114 efficiency ( $\eta$ ) of CNOs was also calculated according to the following equation:

$$\eta = \frac{hA(\Delta T_{\max} - \Delta T_0)}{I(1 - 10^{-A_\lambda})}$$

$$\theta = \frac{\Delta T_i}{\Delta T_{\max}}$$

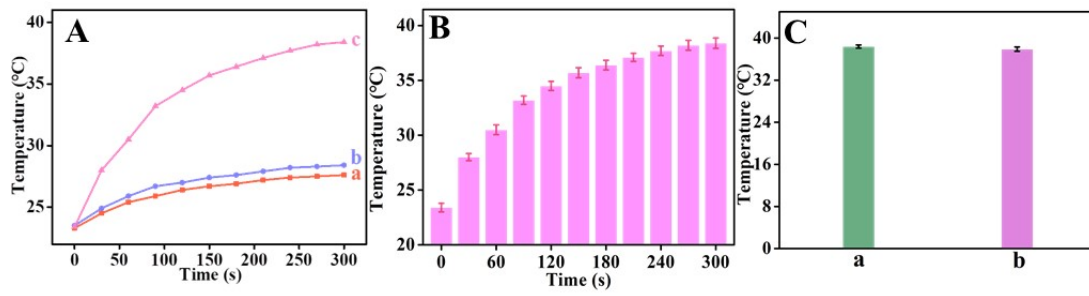
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$$hA = \frac{mc}{\text{slope of time} - [-\ln(\theta)]}$$

116 where  $\Delta T_0$  and  $\Delta T_{\max}$  are the maximum increase temperature of solvent (4.3 °C for  
117 water) and photothermal materials (44 °C for CNOs),  $\Delta T_i$  is the increase in  
118 temperature measured at any time, m is mass of solution (0.1g), c is heat capacity of  
119 solution (4.2 J·g<sup>-1</sup>), I is laser power density (1 W·cm<sup>-2</sup>), and  $A_\lambda$  is the absorbance of  
120 the CNOs solution at 808 nm (1.597).

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122 **Figure S8**



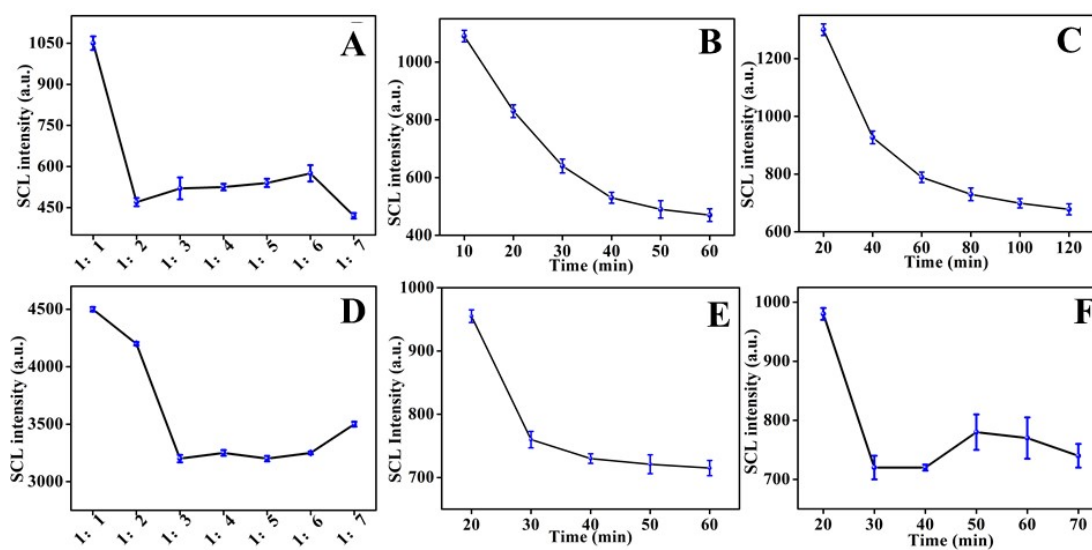
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124 **Figure S8.** (A) Effect of temperature variation of different probes on the immune  
125 construct process. (a) HE4, (b) CNOs and (c) CNOs@HE4. (B) The optimization of  
126 808 nm laser irradiation time. (C) Temperature signal of (a)  
127 PBS/CNOs@HE4/BSA/Ab/GLD/MB and (b) ethanol/CNOs@HE4  
128 /BSA/Ab/GLD/MB after magnetic separation.

129

130

131 **Figure S9**



132

133 **Figure S9.** The optimization of (A) the ratio of CNOs to HE4, (B) the connection  
134 time between CNOs and HE4, (C) the time to immobilize Ab with MB, (D) the ratio  
135 of MB to Ab, (E) the competitive time, and (F) CNOs adsorption time for ethanol.

136

137 **Table S1**

138 Comparisons of the constructed two-phase signal reading immunosensing platform  
 139 with other methods for HE4.

Method	Linear range (ng mL <sup>-1</sup> )	Detection limit (ng mL <sup>-1</sup> )	Reference
Photoelectrochemical immunoassay	0.01 ~ 200	1.56×10 <sup>-3</sup>	1
chemiluminescence immunoassay	0.25 ~ 50	0.084	2
Electrochemical assay	1 ~ 100	0.2	3
Fluorescence method	1.25~20	0.16	4
SCL biosensor	10 <sup>-5</sup> ~ 1	3.3×10 <sup>-6</sup>	This work
Temperature readout	10 <sup>-5</sup> ~ 10	3.3×10 <sup>-6</sup>	

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141 **Table S2**

142 Recoveries of the constructed two-phase signal reading immunosensing platform for  
 143 detection of HE4 in human serum sample (n=3)<sup>a</sup>.

Sample (ng/mL)	Added (ng/mL)	SCL found (ng/mL)	Recovery (%)	Temperature found (ng/mL)	Recovery (%)
1	10 <sup>-1</sup>	0.1039	103.9	0.0975	97.5
2	10 <sup>-2</sup>	1.01×10 <sup>-2</sup>	101	9.23×10 <sup>-3</sup>	92.3
3	10 <sup>-3</sup>	1.091×10 <sup>-3</sup>	109.1	1.107×10 <sup>-3</sup>	110.7
4	10 <sup>-4</sup>	0.9534×10 <sup>-4</sup>	95.34	1.049×10 <sup>-4</sup>	104.9

144 <sup>a</sup> n is the repetitive measurements number.

145 Recovery = (C<sub>found</sub>/C<sub>added</sub>) × 100%.

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