## **Supplementary Information**

Highly luminescent CuInS<sub>2</sub>-ZnS nanocrystals: achieving phase transfer and nuclear homing property simultaneously through simple TTAB modification

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Table S1. Analysis of the compositions of CIS and CIS-ZnS nanocrystals.

Sample	Analytical method	Chemical component			
		Cu	In	Zn	S
CIS	Atomic composition (%) [a]	28.59	23.12	N.D.	48.29
	Elemental content (µM) [b]	125.26	113.84	N.D.	
CIS-ZnS	Atomic composition (%)	16.40	13.86	14.13	55.61
	Elemental content (µM)	127.08	118.79	123.35	

[a] Estimated from EDS spectra. [b] Measure by ICP-AES which was only used to determine the metal elements. "N.D." means not detected.

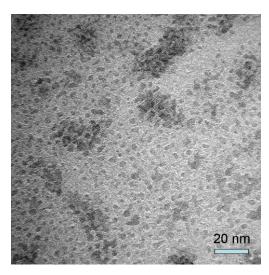


Fig. S1 TEM image of CIS-ZnS-MPA nanocrystals.

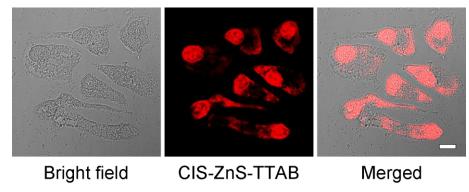


Fig. S2 Images of HepG2 cells taken after they were treated with CIS-ZnS-TTAB nanocrystals ( $\sim$ 500  $\mu$ M) for 6 h. Scale bars: 10  $\mu$ m.