Electronic Supplementary Information

Facile hydrothermal synthesis of low generation dendrimer-stabilized gold nanoparticles for *in vivo* computed tomography imaging applications

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Figure S1. Photograph of the solution of acetylated Au DSNPs when the acetylation reaction was performed at room temperature (1) and 60 $^{\circ}$ C (2), respectively.



Figure S2. ¹H NMR spectrum of Au DSNPs before (a) and after (b) acetylation.



Figure S3. TEM image and size distribution histogram of the $\{(Au^0)_3-G2.NH_2\}$ DSNPs.



Figure S4. UV-Vis spectra of $\{(Au^0)_3$ -G2.NHAc $\}$ DSNPs under different pH (a) and temperature (b) conditions.



Figure S5. Photographs of acetylated Au DSNPs dispersed in water (1), PBS buffer (2), cell culture medium (3). (4) shows the photograph of particle-free cell culture medium.