

# Supporting Information

## Glycodendrimer coated gold nanoparticles for proteins detection based on surface energy transfer process

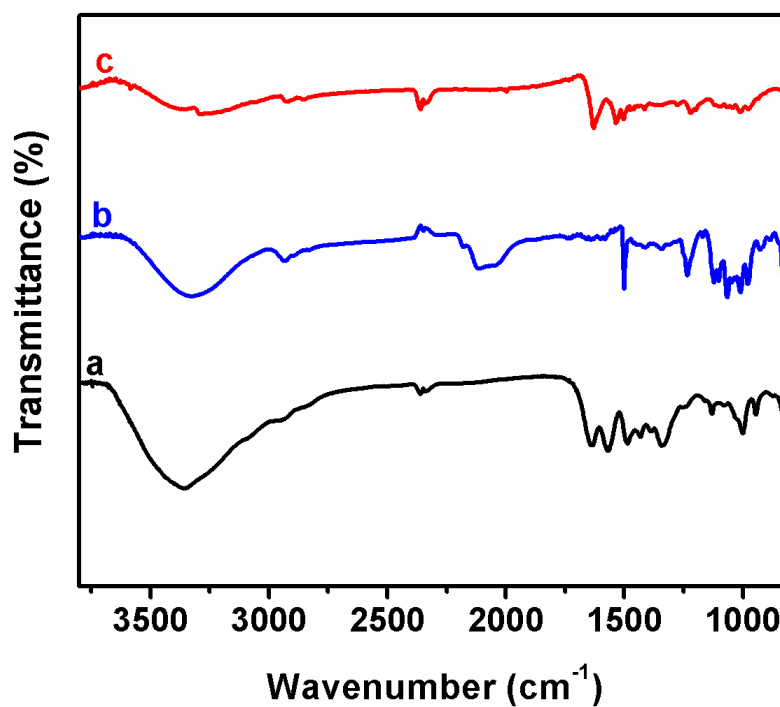
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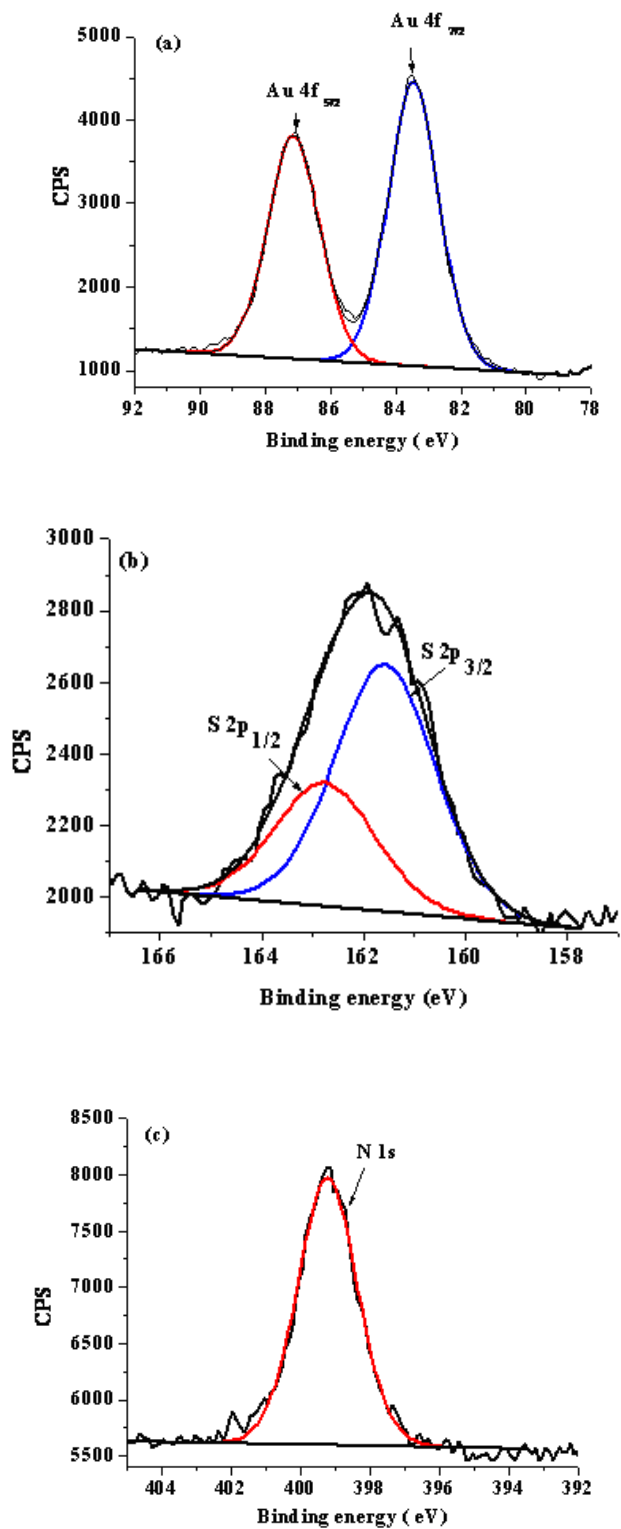
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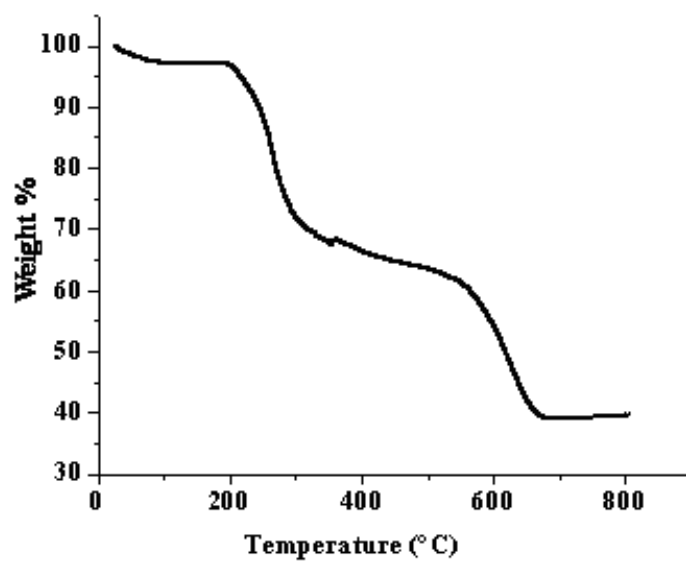
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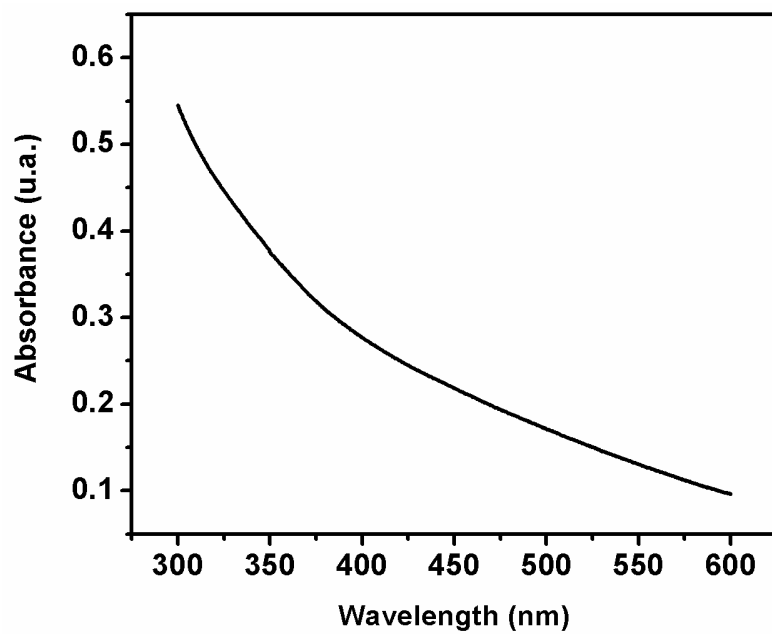
**Figure S1:** FTIR spectra of: (a) amine-terminated PAMAM G0 generation cystamine core dendrimer adsorbed on gold nanoparticles (Au-G0); (b) *p*-isothiocyanatophenyl  $\alpha$ -D-mannopyranoside and; (c) glycodendrimer (mannose-functionalized poly(amidoamine) PAMAM generation G0 cystamine core dendrimer) coated gold nanoparticles (Au-man).



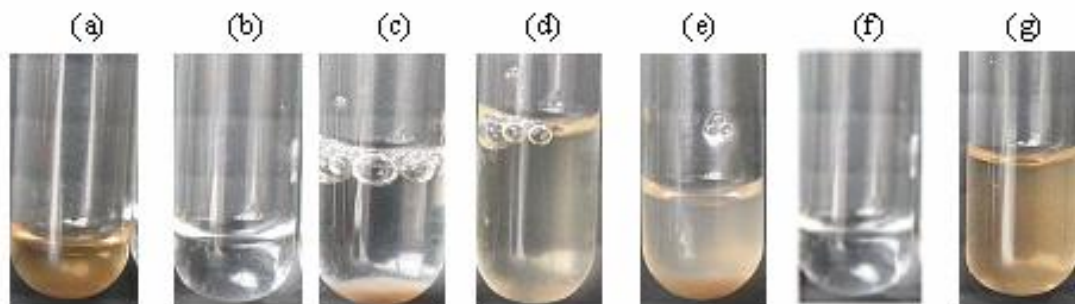
**Figure S2:** XPS spectra of Au-man: (a) gold, (b) sulphur and (c) nitrogen.



**Figure S3:** TGA measurements for Au-man. The heating rate is 10 °C min<sup>-1</sup>.



**Figure S4:** UV-visible spectra of Au-man.



**Figure S5:** Immunoprecipitation tests:

- (a) Au-man (1mg/1mL in PBS)
- (b) Con A (1mg/mL in PBS)
- (c) solution (a) mixed with solution (b) after 30 min
- (d) solution (c) after adding 1 mL of D-mannose (200 mg/mL in PBS)
- (e) solution (c) after adding 1 mL of D-galacose (200 mg/mL in PBS)
- (f) WGA from *Triticum vulgare* (1mg/mL in PBS)
- (g) solution (f) mixed with solution (a) after 30 min

## Stoichiometry of the complex between Con A-FITC and Au-man

Fluorescence measurements were used to determine the stoichiometry of the complex (RL) Au-man (L)-Con A-FITC (R). In this model each receptor can accommodate n ligands. The saturation of level of the receptors sites is :

$$Y = n[L_f][R_T],$$

where  $[R_T]$  is the receptor (Con A-FITC) concentration,  $[L_f]$  is the concentration of the complex (Au-man-Con A-FITC). In our case there is only one receptor per Con A-FITC and the Scatchard<sup>1</sup> equation is:

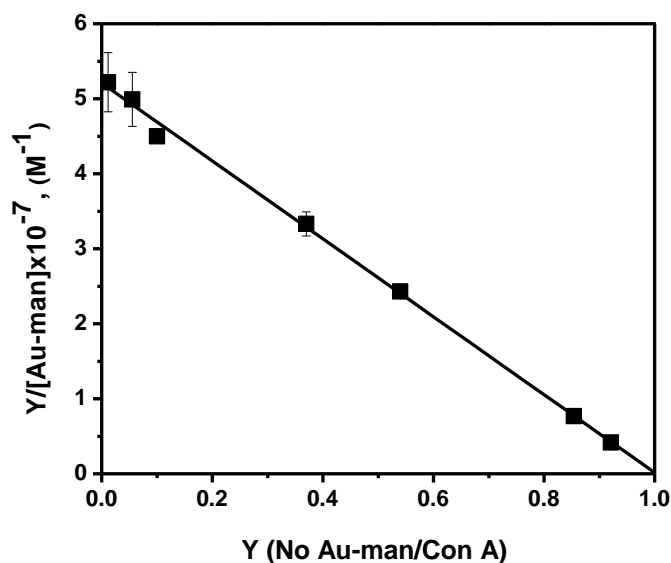
$$Y = \frac{[RL]}{[R_T]} = \frac{[RL]}{[R + RL]} = \frac{1}{\left[1 + \frac{R}{RL}\right]} \quad (1)$$

$$Y = \frac{1}{1 + K_d/[L]} = \frac{[L]}{[L] + K_d} \quad (2)$$

Rearranging equation (2) yields:

$$Y + \frac{Y}{[L]} K_d = 1 \text{ and } : \frac{Y}{[L]} = \frac{(1-Y)}{K_d} \quad (3)$$

where  $K_d = 1/K_a$  and  $K_a$  is the binding constant



**Figure S6:** Scatchard plot for the binding of Con A-FITC to Au-man, determined by fluorescence. The fluorescence of the FITC-Con A after binding to Au-man was compared with the fluorescence of equal concentration of the FITC-Con A (320 nM) in absence of Au-man. The slope equals to  $K_a = 5.2 \times 10^6 \text{ M}^{-1}$  with the intercept on  $x$  axis ( $n$ ) equal to 1 Au-man per Con A binding site. The straight line is the fit of the data with eq.  $y = 5.2 - 5.2x$  where  $y = Y/[Au-man]$  and  $x = Y$  and it has a  $R^2 = 0.9943$ .

1. Scatchard, G., The attractions of proteins for small molecules and ions. *Ann. New York Acad. Sci.* 51, 660, **1949**.



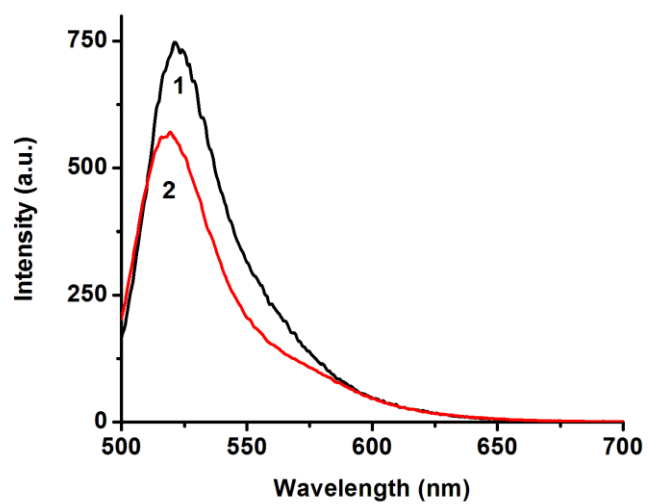


Figure S7: Fluorescence spectra of donor lectin FITC-Con A in absence (1) and presence of Au-man (2);  $\lambda_{\text{ex}}=490$  nm.