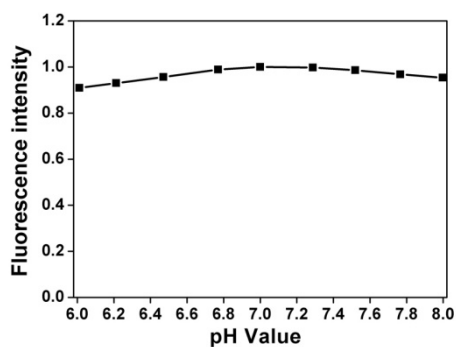
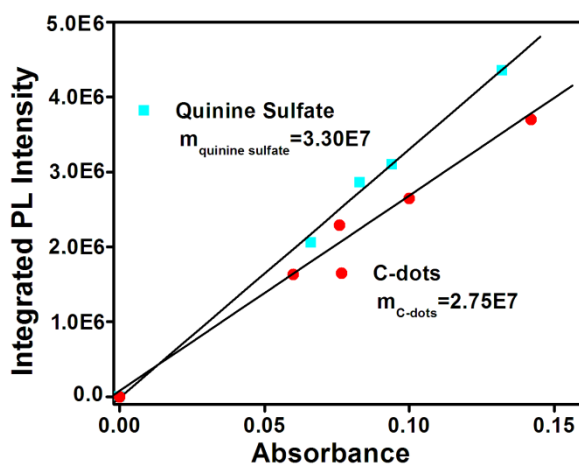


## High-bright fluorescent carbon dots and their application in selective nucleoli staining

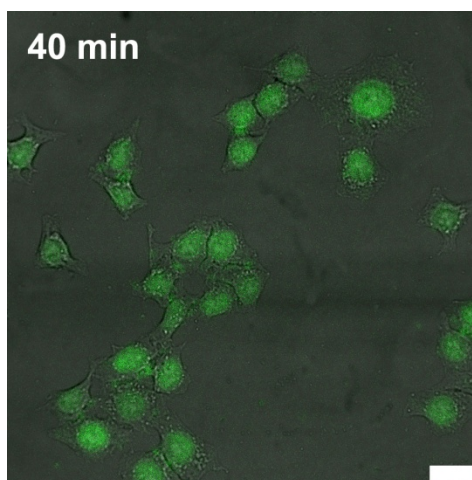
(Supporting Information)



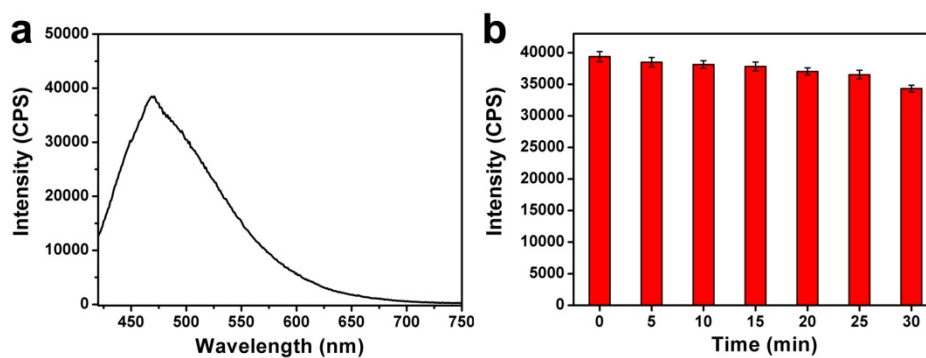
**Fig.S1.** The fluorescence intensity of FCDs in various pH with a range of 6.0~8.0.



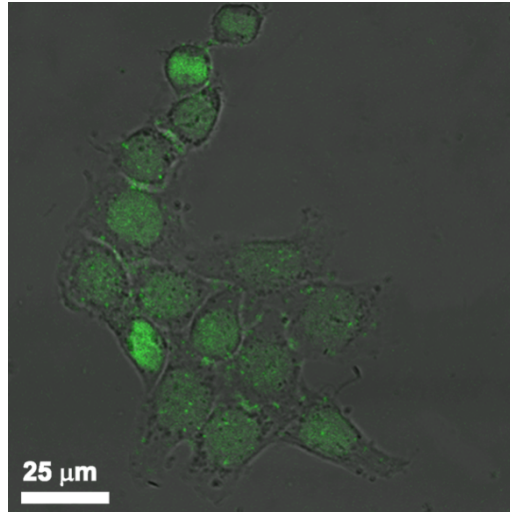
**Fig.S2.** Integrated fluorescence intensity versus absorbance plot of FCDs and quinine sulphate.



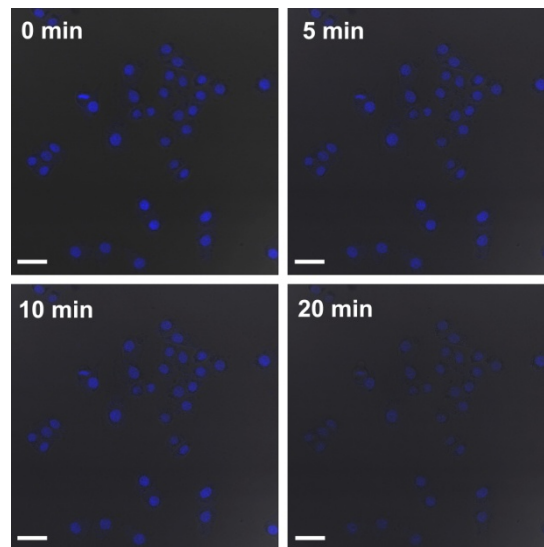
**Fig.S3.** The image of fluorescent cell images was captured by laser scanning (illuminating for 40 min). Scale bar=25  $\mu\text{m}$ .



**Fig.S4** (a) PL spectrum of FCDs-stained cells under 405 nm excitation (b) The fluorescence intensity of FCDs-stained cells which were illuminated with different period. The 300 W Xe lamp was used as irradiation source with two cut-off filters to get the 400-420 nm light. The FCDs-stained cells were illuminated for different period (0-30 min). The PL spectra of FCDs-stained cells were measured on a Horiba JobinYvon (FluoroMax 4) Luminescence Spectrometer with excitation wavelength at 405 nm.



**Fig.S5.** The image of fluorescent cell images was captured by laser scanning confocal microscopy. The HeLa cell was stained by FCDs which was stored 3 months in room temperature.



**Fig.S6** The time-dependent stability comparison of fluorescence signals of HeLa cell labelled by Hoechst. The fluorescence images were captured by laser scanning confocal microscopy in 0 min, 5 min, 10 min and 20 min, respectively. Scale bar=50 μm.