## **Supporting Information for**

Gadolinium-doped Au@prussian blue nanoparticles as MR/SERS bimodal agents for dendritic cell activating and tracking

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College of Chemistry, Research Center for Analytical Sciences, State Key Laboratory of Medicinal Chemical Biology, and Tianjin Key Laboratory of Molecular Recognition and Biosensing, Nankai University, Tianjin 300071, China AuNPs: gold nanoparticles AP NPs: Au@Prussian blue nanoparticles APG NPs: Au@Prussian blue-Gd nanoparticles APG@OVA NPs: Au@Prussian blue-Gd@ovalbumin nanoparticles

 Table S1. Description of abbreviations



**Figure S1.** TEM images of AP NPs with various shell thicknesses fabricated by adding different amounts of  $K_4[Fe(CN)_6]$  and FeCl<sub>3</sub>. The thickness of PB shell increased with the addition of PB precursors, A) 0.13 mM, B) 0.27 mM, C) 0.4 mM, and D) 0.51mM.



**Figure S2.** Raman spectra and photos of AP NPs with various shell thicknesses prepared by adding different amounts of PB precursors (A-D corresponding to 0.13, 0.27, 0.4 and 0.51 mM of  $K_4[Fe(CN)_6]$  and  $FeCl_3$ ). All the spectra were collected by a confocal Raman spectrometer using 633 nm (3 mW) laser excitation. Data acquirement time, 0.1 s.



**Figure S3.** Infrared spectra of APG NPs, OVA, and APG@OVA NPs. The bands at approximately 2084 cm<sup>-1</sup> are characteristics of CN stretching. Two strong peaks at approximately 1645 cm<sup>-1</sup> and 1533 cm<sup>-1</sup> were characteristic of amides I and II, respectively.



Figure S4. Dynamic light scattering (DLS) data of Au NPs, APG NPs and APG@OVA NPs.



**Figure S5.** Linear fitting of  $1/T_I$  vs Gd<sup>3+</sup> concentrations at a magnetic field strength of 0.5 T for APG NPs



Figure S6. OVA release from APG@OVA NPs under different pH values.



**Figure S7.** Colloidal stability of the APG@OVA NPs in different media. The final concentration of GSH and BSA was 2 mg/mL. The pure APG@OVA NPs solutions were used as the control. The vertical axis ( $I/I_0$ ) represents the ratio of the Raman intensity of the mixtures to that of the pure APG@OVA NPs. Error bars represent three sets of repeats.



**Figure S8.** Cytotoxicity APG-OVA NPs evaluated by three cell lines (BMDC, DC2.4 and 3T3 cells) that determined by the classic MTT assays.



**Figure S9.** Histopathological results of different organs from the mice after subcutaneous injection of APG@OVA labeled-BMDCs in the foodpads for 1 and 7 days. The mice without any treatment were used as the control. Scale bar,  $100 \mu m$ .



**Figure S10.** Bright-field (BF), Raman mapping in 2146 cm<sup>-1</sup> channel, and merged images of BMDCs that treated with APG@OVA NPs for different time, Scale bar, 2  $\mu$ m.



**Figure S11.** Immunohistochemical staining images of inguinal lymph nodes and popliteal lymph nodes from the mice injected with APG@OVA labeled-BMDCs on the left food pats. Scale bar, 50  $\mu$ m.



**Figure S12.** MR imaging of the labeled-BMDCs *in vivo* after intravenous injection of the DCs. The blue arrows indicate vessels (A) and the red arrows indicate spleens (B).