## **Supporting Information**

## Phenylboronic acid templated gold nanocluster for mucin detection using a smartphone based device and targeted cancer cell theranostics

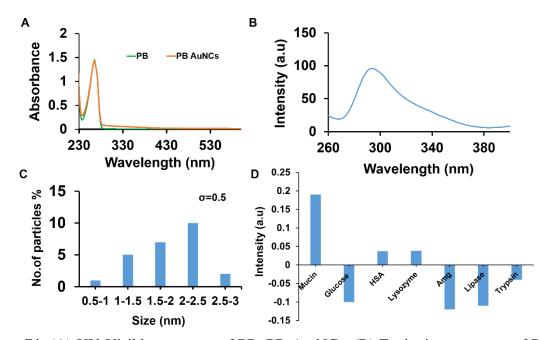
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Centre for Nanotechnology,<sup>1</sup> Department of Chemistry,<sup>2</sup> Department of Biosciences and

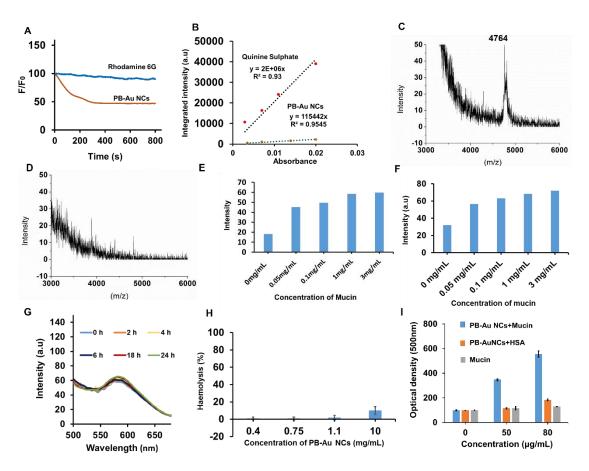
Bioengineering<sup>3</sup>

Indian Institute of Technology Guwahati, Guwahati -781039, India

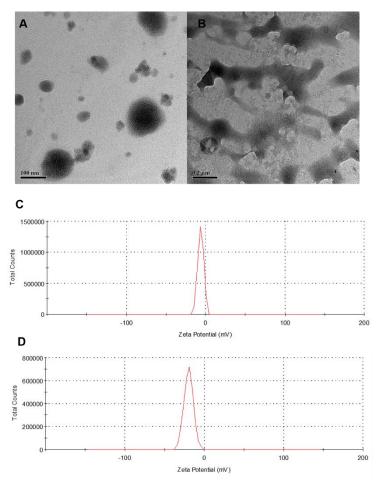
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**Figure S1.** (A) UV-Visible spectrum of PB, PB-Au NCs. (B) Excitation spectrum of PB-Au NCs. (C) Particle size distribution of PB-Au NCs. (D) Comparison of effect of various interfering analytes with respect to mucin towards fluorescence of PB-Au NCs.



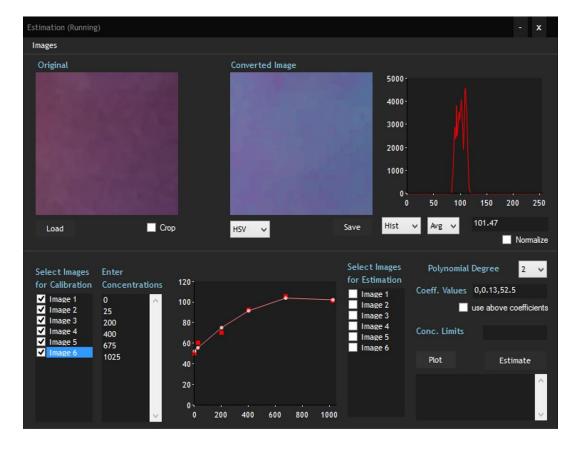
**Figure S2**. (A-C) Photo stability, quantum yield, MALDI-TOF of PB-Au NCs. (D-F) MALDI-TOF of PB, luminescence intensity of PB-Au NCs in presence of mucin in FBS, luminescence intensity of PB-Au NCs in presence of mucin in human plasma. (G) Stability of PB-Au NCs in human plasma. (H) Hemolysis assay of PB-Au NCs. (I) Change in optical density of PB-Au NCs suspension caused by addition of mucin or HSA.



**Figure S3**. (A, B) TEM of PB-Au NCs before and after addition of mucin (showing aggregation) respectively. (C, D) Zeta potential of PB-Au NCs and mucin respectively.

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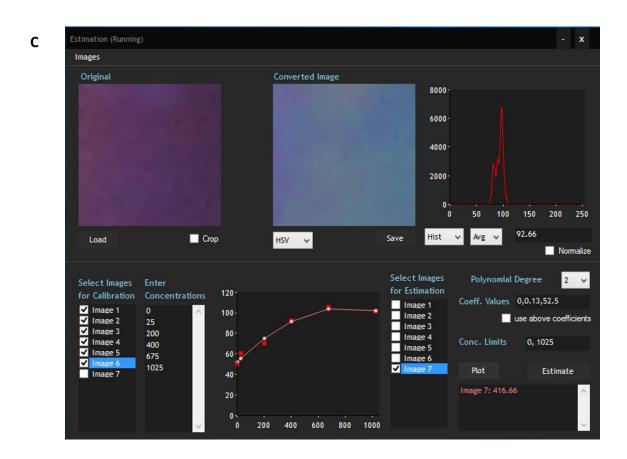
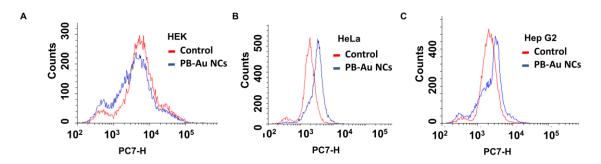


Figure S4. (A-C) Snapshots of the work flow of the custom designed application.



**Figure S5.** (A-C) Uptake of PB-Au NCs by HEK, HeLa, Hep G2 cells studied using FACS by tracking the fluorescence of PB-Au NCs.

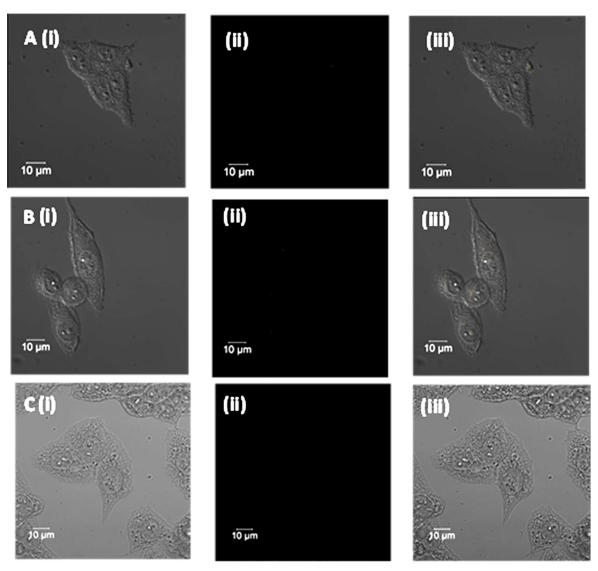
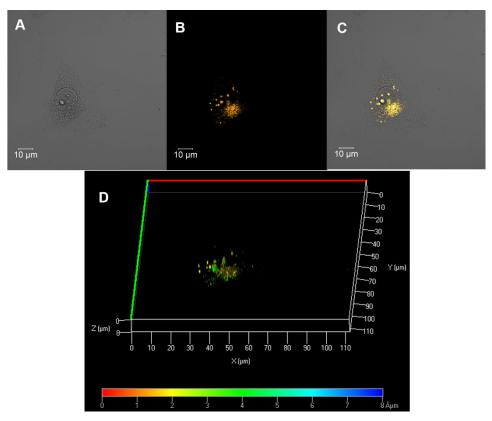
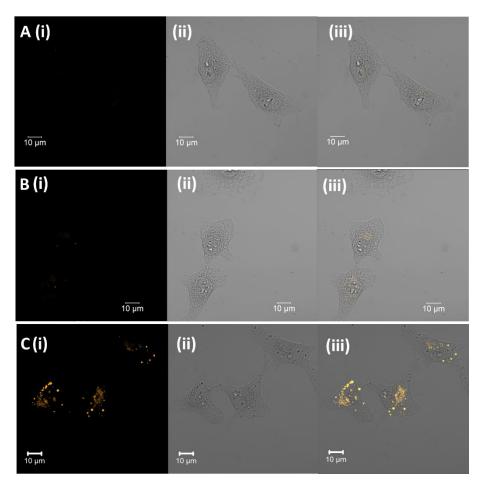


Figure S6. (A) (i-iii) Bright field image, fluorescent image and merged image of control HEK cells. (B) (i-iii) Bright field image, fluorescent image and merged image of control HeLa cells.(C) (i-iii) Bright field image, fluorescent image and merged image of control Hep G2 cells.



**Figure S7.** (A-C) Bright field image, fluorescent image and merged image of HeLa cells treated with PB-Au NCs. (D) Depth projection of confocal microscopy image showing internalization of PB-Au NCs inside HeLa cell.



**Figure S8.** (A) (i-iii) Fluorescent image, bright field image and merged image of control HeLa cells. (B) (i-iii) Fluorescent image, bright field image and merged image of HeLa cells that were first exposed to free PB and then treated with PB-Au NCs. (C) (i-iii) Fluorescent image, bright field image and merged image of HeLa cells treated with PB-Au NCs.

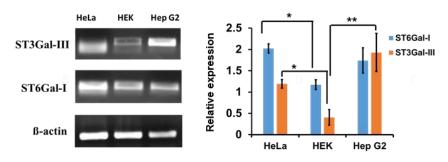
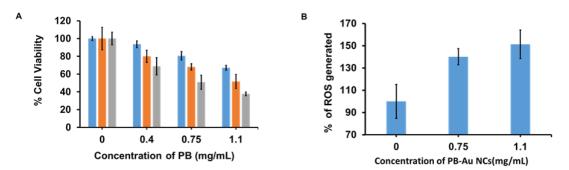
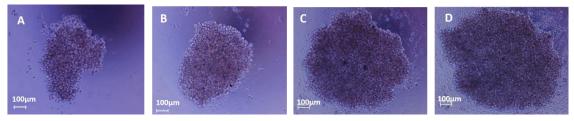


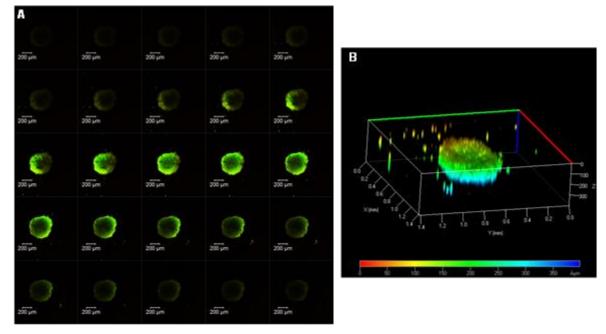
Figure S9. Semi quantitative RT-PCR of genes ST3GAL-III, ST6GAL-I,  $\beta$ -actin expressed in HeLa, HEK, Hep G2 cell lines.



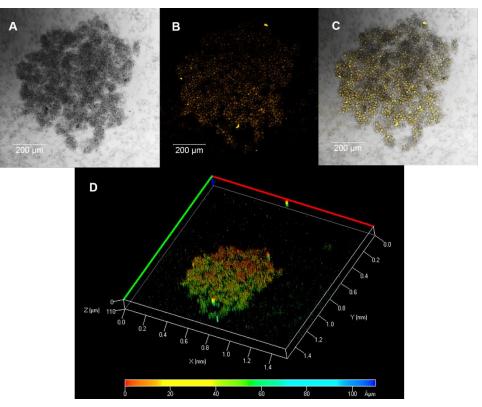
**Figure S10.** (A) Cell viability assay of HeLa cells treated with free PB. (B) ROS generation profile of DCFH-DA stained HeLa cells treated with PB-Au NCs in comparison to control HeLa cells.



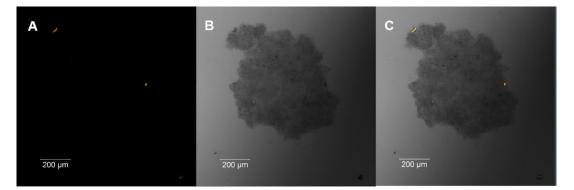
**Figure S11**. (A-D) Increasing diameter of HeLa spheroids generated by seeding of increasing number of cells (2000 cells/well, 5000 cells/well, 10000 cells/well, 20000 cells/well).



**Figure S12.** (A) Z-stack of confocal microscopy image of HeLa spheroid stained with acridine orange. (B) Depth projection of confocal microscopy image.



**Figure S13.** (A-C) Bright field image, fluorescent image, and merged image of HeLa spheroid treated with PB-Au NCs (6 mg/mL for 4 hours). (D) Depth projection of confocal microscopy image of HeLa spheroid treated with PB-Au NCs (6 mg/mL for 4 h).



**Figure S14.** (A-C) Bright field image, fluorescent image, and merged image of control HeLa spheroid.

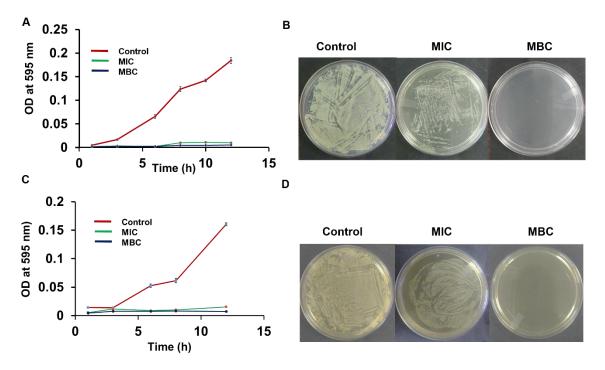


Figure S15. (A) Growth profile of control *E.coli*, *E.coli* after treatment with PB-Au NCs with MIC and MBC doses. (B) Respective plating images of control *E.coli*, *E.coli* after treatment with PB-Au NCs with MIC and MBC doses. (C) Growth profile of control *Staphylococcus aureus*, *Staphylococcus aureus* after treatment with PB-Au NCs with MIC and MBC doses. (D) Respective plating images of control *Staphylococcus aureus* after treatment with PB-Au NCs with MIC and MBC doses.