Supporting Information

Histidine derived nontoxic nitrogen-doped carbon dots for sensing and bioimaging applications

He Huang[1], Chunguang Li[1], Shoujun Zhu[2], Hailong Wang[2], Cailing Chen[1], Zhaorui Wang[1], Tianyu Bai[1], Zhan Shi[1*], Shouhua Feng[1]*

1 State Key Lab of Inorganic Synthesis and Preparative Chemistry, College of Chemistry, Jilin University, Changchun 130012, P.R. China

2 State Key Lab of Supramolecular Structure and Materials, College of Chemistry, Jilin University, Changchun 130012, P.R. China

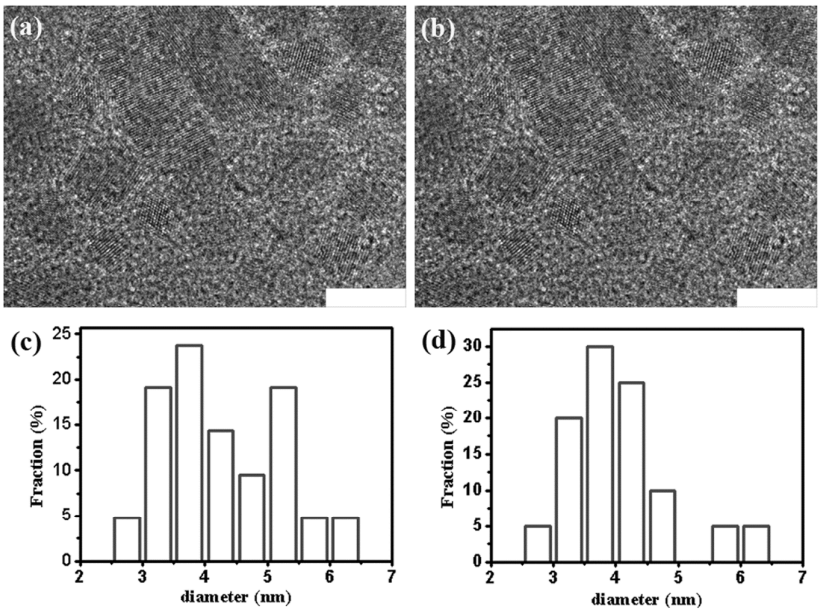

Fig. S1 TEM images of C-10 and C-30 (a,b) the scale bar is 10 nm, particle size distribution histograms of C-10 and C-30 (c,d).

Fig. S2 Photograph of C-10, C-30 and C-60 from left to right.

Table 1 Element analysis of C-10, C-30 and C-60.

	Test molecule	C (%)	H (%)	O (Cal.) (%)	N (%)
C-10	$C_{2.67}H_{6.77}O_{2.67}N_{1.32}$	32.00	6.770	42.72	18.51
C-30	$C_{3.79}H_{5.85}O_{1.41}N_{1.87}$	45.47	5.852	22.548	26.13
C-60	$C_{3.86}H_{6.20}O_{1.52}N_{1.65}$	46.36	6.202	24.318	23.12

Table 2 Quantum yield of the CDs samples.

Substance	Area	Abs. at 360nm	Refractive index	QY (%)
Quinine sulfate	181470340	0.024	1.33	54.6
C-10	4653085	0.024	1.33	1.4
C-30	8368720	0.024	1.33	2.5
C-60	29580330	0.024	1.33	8.9

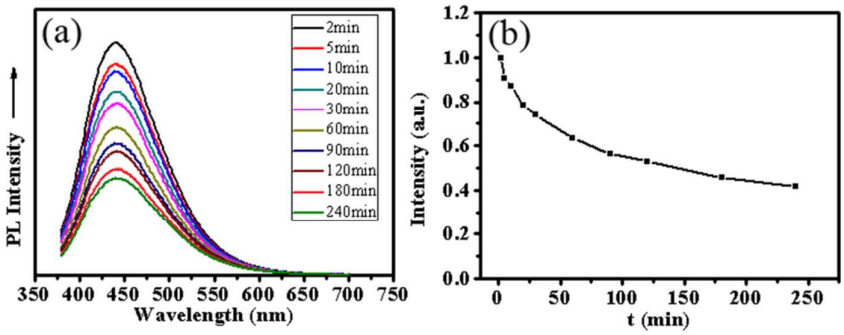

Fig. S3 (a) Dependence of photoluminescence intensity on UV excitation time for C-60 in DI water. (b) Dependence of photoluminescence intensity on UV excitation time for C-60 in DI water after normalization. The concentration of C-60 was 0.01mg.ml. (The excitation wavelength was 365nm, and the intensity of the hand-held UV lamp was 8W/cm.)