

Supporting Information

Highly Sensitive and Selective Colorimetric Detection of Creatinine Based on Synergistic Effect of PEG/Hg²⁺-AuNPs

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Supporting Tables and Figures

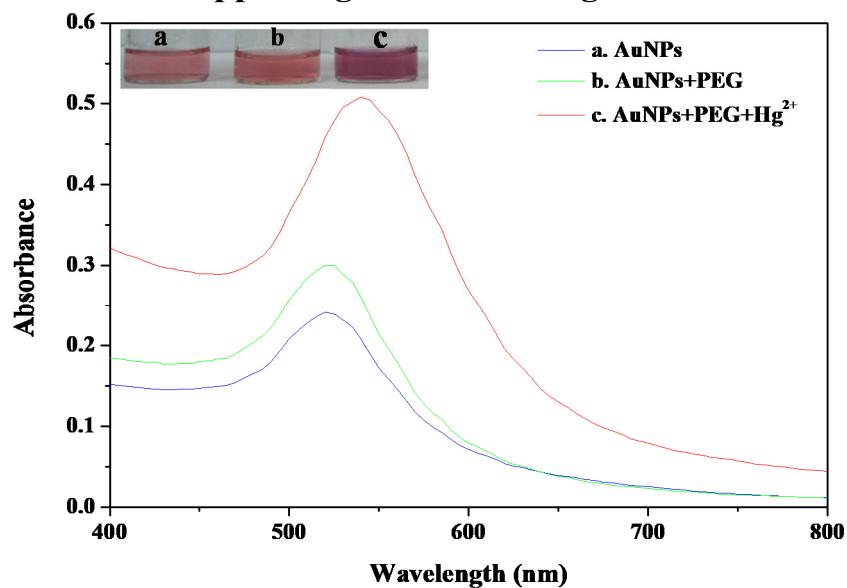


Figure S1. The stability of PEG/Hg²⁺-AuNPs probe: Photographs and UV-Vis absorption spectra of above sensor after being placed for 72 hours.

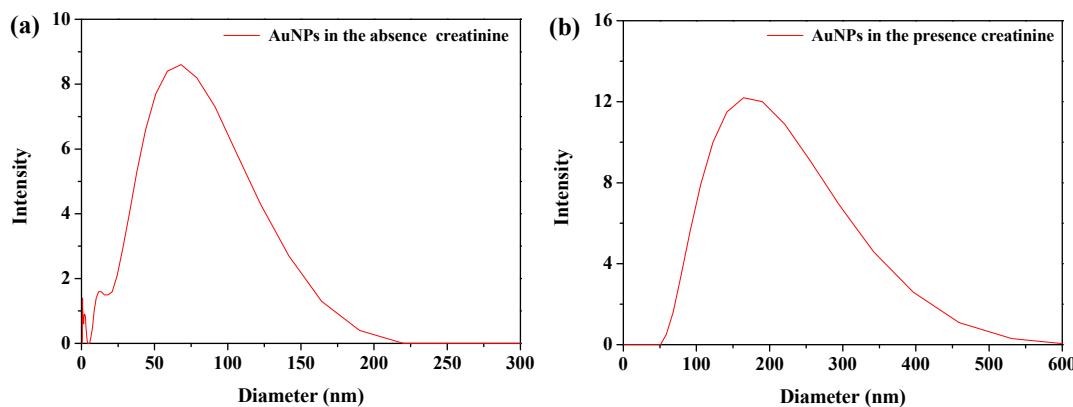


Figure S2. DLS diagram of images of PEG/Hg²⁺-AuNPs system in the (a) absence and (b) presence of creatinine.

Table S1. The comparison of TEM and DLS data before and after detection.

Method	Before	After
TEM	About 11 nm	Aggregation state
DLS	66 nm	180 nm

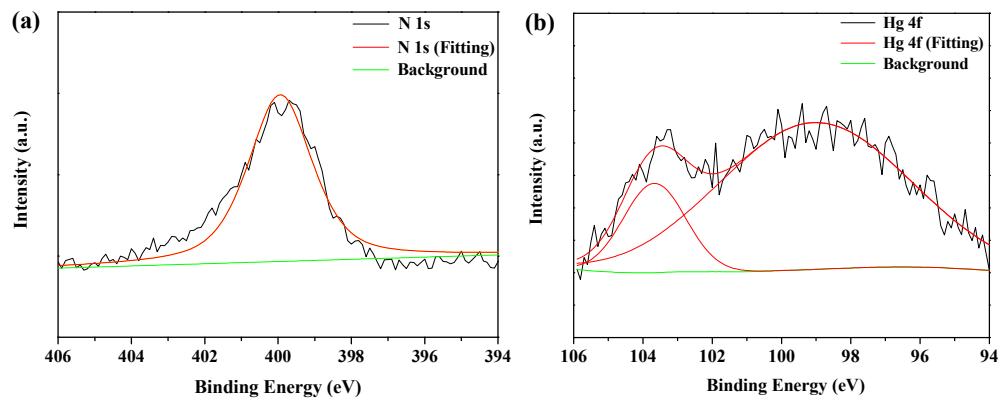


Figure S3. XPS spectra of PEG/Hg²⁺-AuNPs in the presence of creatinine with binding energies for (a) N1s, and (b) Hg4f.

Table S2. Atomic content of PEG/Hg²⁺-AuNPs before and after detecting creatinine.

Atomic species	Before (%)	After (%)
N 1s	0	1.3
Hg 4f	0	0.26

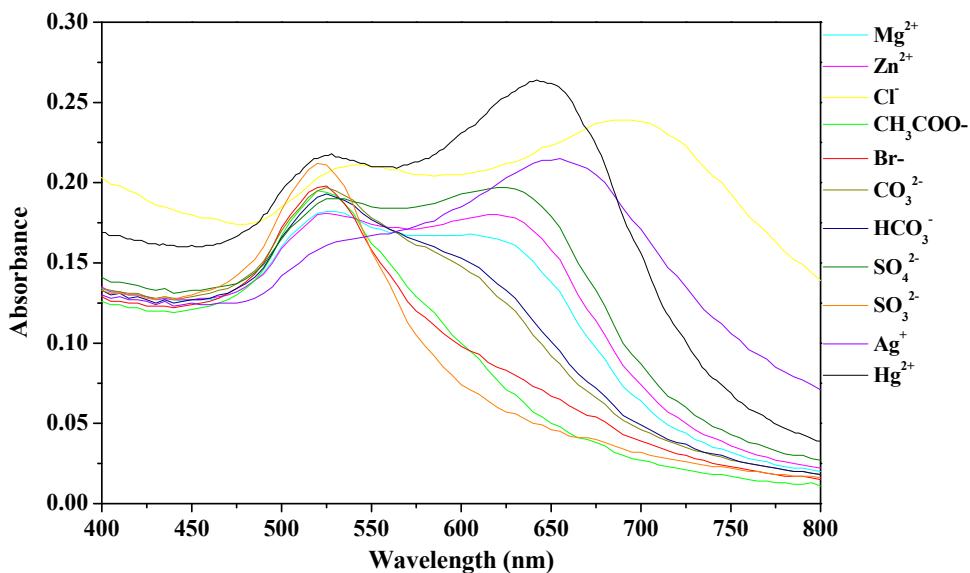


Figure S4. The role of Hg²⁺: Absorption spectra of samples using different kind to replace Hg²⁺.

Table S3. The comparison of this PEG/Hg²⁺-AuNPs with some reported methods.

Technique	LOD	Reference
Jaffé-based procedure	0.72 mM	[1]
Composite imprinted polymer membranes colorimetric test-systems	0.25 mM	[2]
Gold nanoparticles-based detection after solid phase extraction	0.121 mM	[3]
Gold nanoparticles-based probe	80 µM	[4]
Liquid chromatography-isotope dilution mass spectrometry (LC-IDMS) method	17.6 µM	[5]
A conductometric creatinine biosensor	2 µM	[6]
Improved HPLC method for creatinine	1.15 µM	[7]
Glutathione (GSH)-protected gold nanoparticles	1.21 µM	[8]
Spectrophotometric assay of creatinine	0.487µM	[9]
An enzymeless electroanalytical method	380 nM	[10]
A disposable non-enzymatic electrochemical creatinine sensor	74.6 nM	[11]
Chemiluminescence of creatinine/H ₂ O ₂ /Co ²⁺	72 nM	[12]
This PEG/Hg ²⁺ - AuNPs sensor	9.68 nM	This work

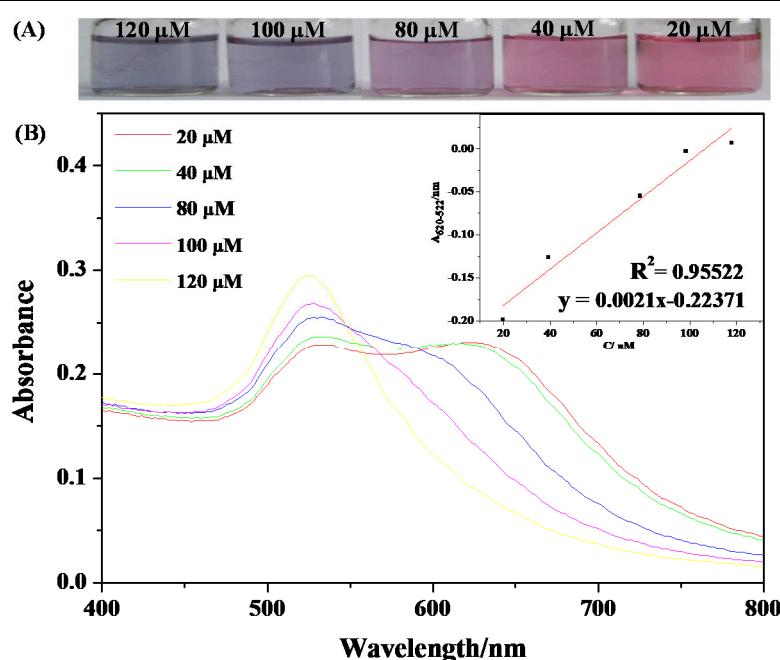


Figure S5. Sensitivity of AuNPs probe (0.798 nM) in urine simulating fluid sample: (A) Photographs and (B) absorption spectra of serum samples containing different concentration of creatinine (from 20 to 120 μM), inset: (C) linear relationship between creatinine concentration and absorbance response difference in urine simulating fluid sample.

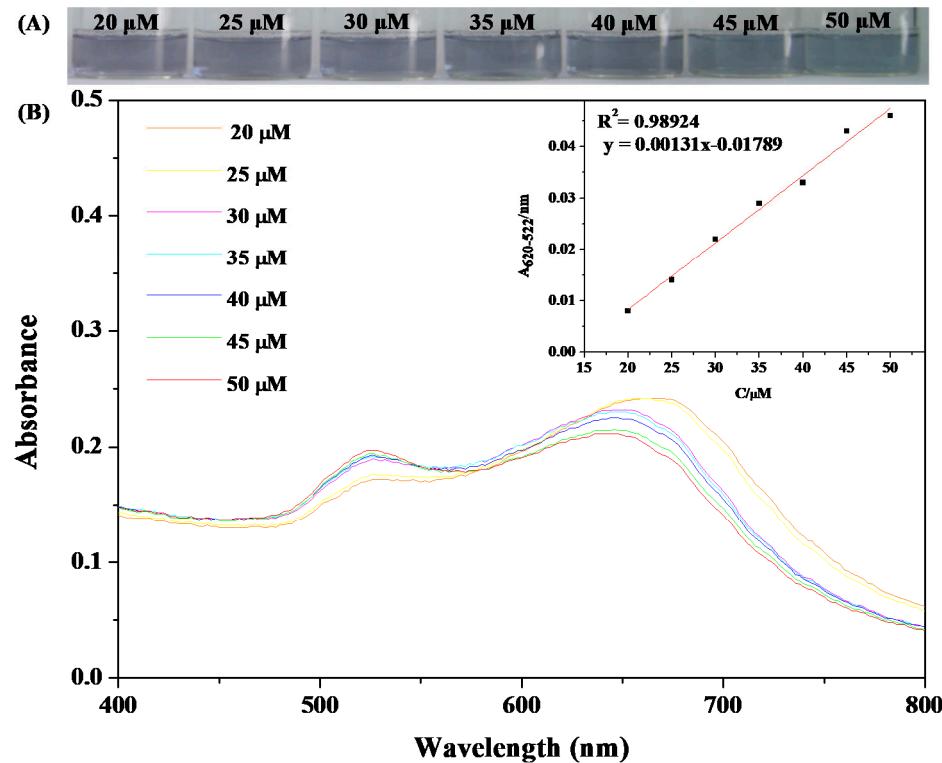


Figure S6. Practicability of AuNPs probe (0.798 nM) in real bovine serum samples: (A) Photographs and (B) absorption spectra of real bovine serum sample containing different concentration of creatinine (from 20 to 50 μM), inset: linear relationship between creatinine concentration and absorbance response in bovine sample.

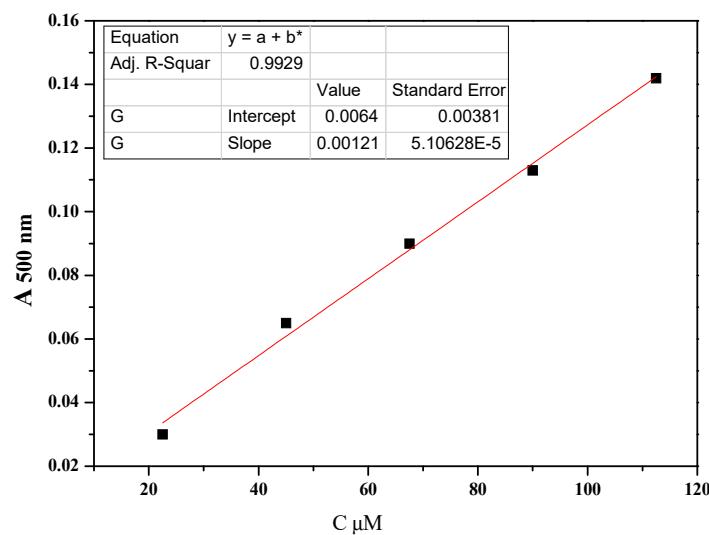


Figure S7. Linear relationship of creatinine content with $A_{500\text{ nm}}$ values by Jaffe's method for bovine serum sample.

Table S4. Determination of creatinine by proposed sensor and Jaffe's reaction.

Sample	Added (μ M)	Proposed Method		Jaffe's Reaction	
		Found	Recovery (%)	Found	Recovery (%)
1	40	40.13	100.32	40.17	100.42

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