## **Supporting Information for**

## Surface passivation of carbon nanoparticles with branched macromolecules influences near infrared bioimaging

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## Supporting Figures:

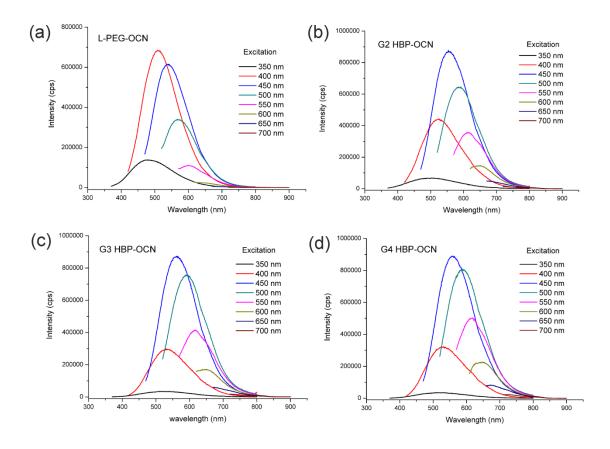


Figure S1. The emission spectra of OCNs excited at different excitation wavelength: (a) L-PEG-OCN; (b) G2 HBP-OCN; (c) G3 HBP-OCN; (d) G4 HBP-OCN.

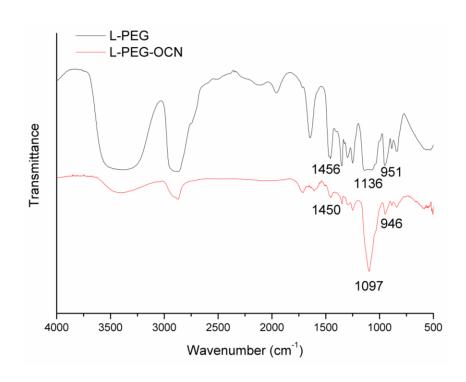


Figure S2. The FT-IR spectra of L-PEG and L-PEG-OCNs.

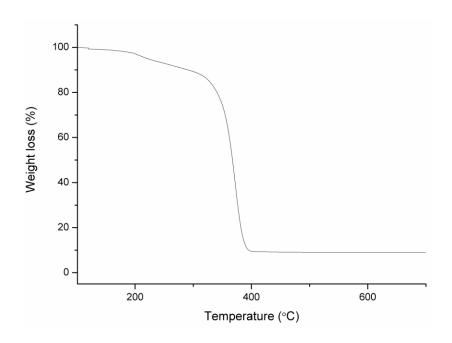


Figure S3. TGA curve of L-PEG-OCN.

TGA were measured on TGA Q 5000 of TA Instruments in the nitrogen atmosphere. The TGA curve is shown in Figure S3. The similar results were also observed in the TGA of the L-PEG capped gold [1], Fe<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub> [2] and ZnS [3] nanoparticles. The weight percentages of L-PEG and OCNs calculated using the TGA results are 88% and 9.2%, respectively.

## References:

- [1] Manson J, Kumar D, Meenan B, et al. Polyethylene glycol functionalized gold nanoparticles: the influence of capping density on stability in various media. Gold Bull 2011; 44: 99-105.
- [2] Mukhopadhyay A, Joshi N, Chattopadhyay K, et al. A Facile Synthesis of PEG-Coated Magnetite (Fe<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>) Nanoparticles and Their Prevention of the Reduction of Cytochrome C. ACS Applied Materials & Interfaces 2011; 4: 142-149.
- [3] Zhao Y, Wang F, Fu Q, et al. Synthesis and characterization of ZnS/hyperbranched polyester nanocomposite and its optical properties. Polymer 2007; 48: 2853-2859.