

## **Electronic Supplementary Information (ESI)**

### **A novel molecular logic system based on lead-induced substitution of potassium from G-quadruplex as a fluorescent lead sensor**

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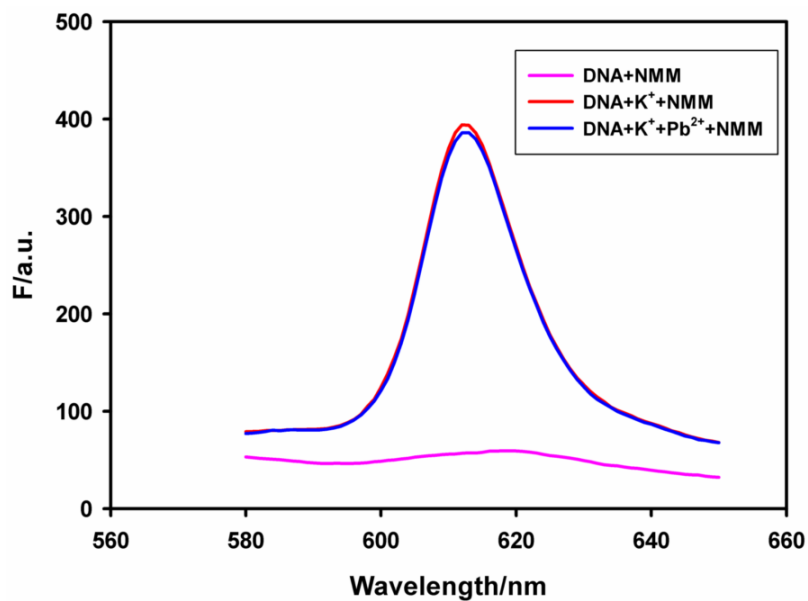
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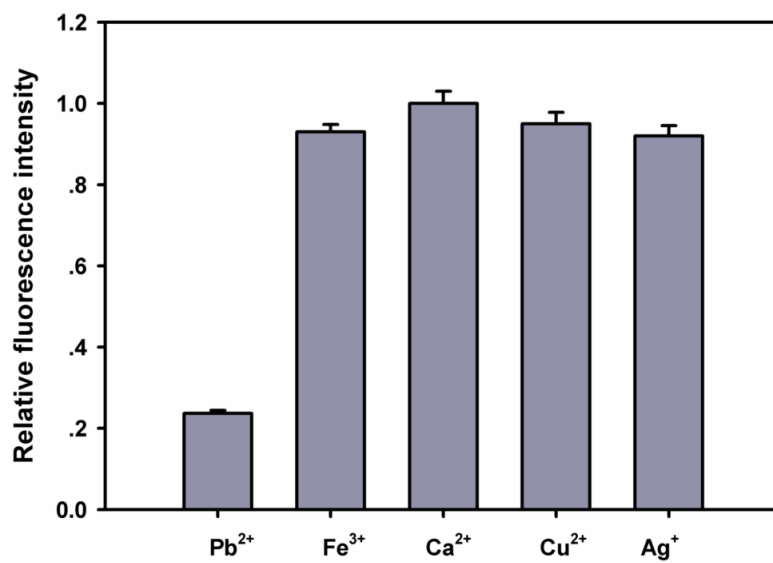
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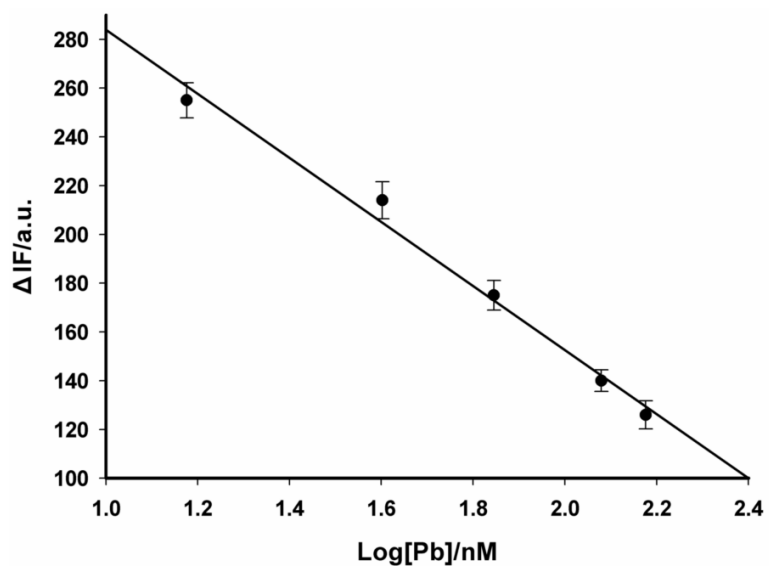
**Fig. S1** Fluorescence emission spectra of DNA (400 nm) at different conditions: 400 nM NMM (curve in pink), 2 mM K<sup>+</sup> and 400 nM NMM (curve in red), 2 mM K<sup>+</sup>, 400 nM Pb<sup>2+</sup> and 400 nM NMM (curve in blue), respectively. The DNA sequence is 5-AAGGGTGGGTGGGTGGGTACCCTT-3. All measurements are performed in Tris-HCl (10 mM, pH 7.4).



**Fig. S2** Selectivity of label-free logic gate for detection of Pb<sup>2+</sup> in the presence of K<sup>+</sup> (2 mM). The concentration of Pb<sup>2+</sup> and other metal ions are 400 nM and 5 μM, respectively. All the experiments are performed under the optimal experimental conditions.

**Table S1** Analysis of  $\text{Pb}^{2+}$  in tap water samples by the proposed biosensor.

Sample	$\text{Pb}^{2+}$ added (nM)	$\text{Pb}^{2+}$ found (nM)	Recovery (%)
Tap water 1	15	14.2	94.6
Tap water 2	40	37.4	93.5
Tap water 3	70	66.4	94.8
Tap water 4	120	117.1	97.6
Tap water 5	150	148.5	99.0



**Fig. S3** Calibration curve of  $\text{Pb}^{2+}$  assay in tap water. All the experiments are performed under the optimal experimental conditions. The background fluorescence of free NMM is subtracted from the sample solution.