## **Electronic Supplementary Information**

## Cerium-based fluorescent nanosensor for high specific distinguishing of glutathione from cysteine and homocysteine

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**Figure S1.** Fourier transfer infrared (FT-IR) spectra of DPA (curve a), GMP (curve b), and DPA-Ce-GMP (curve c).

Fourier transfer infrared (FT-IR) experiments of DPA (curve a), GMP (curve b) and DPA-Ce-GMP (curve c) were carried out to understand the assembling of DPA-Ce-GMP. The characteristic peak at 1700 cm<sup>-1</sup> in DPA spectra (curve a) was assigned to the stretching vibration of -COOH group, which becomes weak in DPA-Ce-GMP spectrum (curve c). The peak at 1633 cm<sup>-1</sup> in DPA-Ce-GMP spectra appeared are due to the nitrogen of pyridine that participates in the coordination with Ce. <sup>S1-S2</sup> The peaks at 1691 cm<sup>-1</sup> and 985 cm<sup>-1</sup> in GMP spectrum (curve b) are assigned to phosphate group and C=O stretching vibrations. <sup>S3</sup> Compared with the peaks of GMP, slight peak shifts (from 1691 cm<sup>-1</sup> to 1651 cm<sup>-1</sup> and from 985 cm<sup>-1</sup> to 993 cm<sup>-1</sup>) suggests that both phosphate and carbonyl group were involved in the coordination with Ce. <sup>S4</sup>



**Figure S2**. X-ray diffraction (XRD) spectra of DPA (a), GMP (b) and DPA-Ce-GMP (c)

X-ray diffraction (XRD) patterns of DPA (curve a) and GMP (curve b) show their typical peaks with high intensity. After forming DPA-Ce-GMP, no strong diffraction peaks are detected (curve c) since the crystallinity of DPA and GMP is destroyed after coordinating with lanthanide ions <sup>S3</sup>.



Figure S3 XPS spectra of DPA-Ce-GMP+Cu<sup>2+</sup> (a), Cu-GSH (b), DPA-Ce-GMP +Cu-

GSH (b).

Method	Sensors	Linear	Detection	Reference
		range (µM)	limit (nM)	
Fluorimetry	BPMA-CQDs	0.14-13.3	42	S6
Fluorimetry	DPP-NO <sub>2</sub>	-	61.4	S7
Fluorimetry	CDs-Br	0-34	140	S8
Fluorimetry	QDs-Cu(II)	-	160	S9
Colorimetry	Ag(I)-TMB	0.05-8	100	S10
Colorimetry	MnO <sub>2</sub> -MB	1-25	300	S11
Colorimetry	V <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub> -TMB	0.01-0.5	2.4	S12
Colorimetry	CQDs-H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub> -TMB	0.05-20	16	S13
Fluorimetry	DPA-Ce-GMP/Cu <sup>2+</sup>	0.01-40	7.1	This work

Table S1. Comparison of different methods for GSH determination.

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