## **Supporting information for**

# Smart intercalation collaborating coordination strategy to construct stable ratiometric fluorescence nanoprobe for detection of anthrax biomarker

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- **Table S3.** Comparison of some reported probes on DPA detection.
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#### Reference

### **Supplementary Figures**



Fig. S1. Absorbance at 350 nm and 394 nm of L as a function of  $Al^{3+}$  concentration.



Fig. S2. Job's plots according to the method for continuous variations. The total concentration of L and  $Al^{3+}$  is 100  $\mu$ M.



**Fig. S3.** Benesi–Hildebrand plot of L with  $Al^{3+}$  in Tris-HCl buffer solutions (pH=7.5, 10.0 mM).



**Fig. S4.** <sup>1</sup>HNMR titrations of L and L alone with  $Al^{3+}$  ions in DMSO-*d*6.



Fig. S5. XRD patterns of Mg-Al-LDHs, Mg-Al-Eu-LDHs and L@Mg-Al-Eu-LDHs.



Fig. S6. SEM images of Mg-Al-LDHs.





Fig. S7. SEM images of Mg-Al-Eu-LDHs.



Fig. S8. SEM images of L@Mg-Al-Eu-LDHs.



Fig. S9.  $N_2$  sorption isotherms and pore-size distribution of (a) L@Mg-Al-Tb-LDHs and (b) L@Mg-Al-Eu-LDHs.



Fig. S10. TEM images of L@Mg-Al-Eu-LDHs.



Fig. S11. HRTEM images of L@Mg-Al-Eu-LDHs.



Fig. S12. Elemental mapping images of L@Mg-Al-Eu-LDHs.



Fig. S13. XPS spectrum of L@Mg-Al-Tb-LDHs.



Fig. S14. XPS spectrum of L@Mg-Al-Eu-LDHs.



Fig. S15. Fluorescence spectra of L, Mg-Al-Eu-LDHs and L@Mg-Al-Eu-LDHs.



Fig. S16. FTIR spectra of Mg-Al-Tb-LDHs and L@Mg-Al-Tb-LDHs.



Fig. S17. FTIR spectra of Mg-Al-Eu-LDHs and L@Mg-Al-Eu-LDHs.



Fig. S18. Fluorescence spectra of L@Mg-Al-Eu-LDHs and L@Mg-Al-Eu-LDHs + DPA.



**Fig. S19.** (a) Time-resolved decay curves of L@Mg-Al-Tb-LDHs before and after the addition of DPA,  $\lambda_{ex}$ =275 nm and  $\lambda_{em}$ =545 nm. (b) Time-resolved decay curves of L@Mg-Al-Eu-LDHs before and after the addition of DPA,  $\lambda_{ex}$ =275 nm and  $\lambda_{em}$ =615 nm.



**Fig. S20.** Photographs of L@Mg-Al-Eu-LDHs with and without DPA under 254 nm UV light.



Fig. S21. Plot of fluorescence intensity ratio  $(I_{545}/I_{464})$  versus DPA concentration.



Fig. S22. Plot of fluorescence intensity ratio  $(I_{615}/I_{464})$  versus DPA concentration.



**Fig. S23.** (a) The dependence of  $I_{545}/I_{464}$  ratio of the L@Mg-Al-Tb-LDHs nanoprobe with pH (pH=6.7-8.4). (b) The dependence of  $I_{615}/I_{464}$  ratio of the L@Mg-Al-Eu-LDHs nanoprobe with pH (pH=6.7-8.4).



**Fig. S24.** (a) Fluorescence of L@Mg-Al-Eu-LDHs equipped portable test strips for DPA detection (0-18  $\mu$ M). (b) Plot of G/B ratio versus C<sub>DPA</sub> ( $\mu$ M). Error bars indicate standard deviations. (c) Plot of R/B ratio versus C<sub>DPA</sub> ( $\mu$ M).



**Fig. S25.** (a) Fluorescence spectra of L@Mg-Al-Eu-LDHs on different volumes of B. subtilis spores (0, 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30  $\mu$ L). (b) The plot of fluorescence intensity at I<sub>615</sub>/I<sub>464</sub> against the concentration of DPA concentration released by B. subtilis.



**Fig. S26.** (a) Fluorescence emission spectra of L@Mg-Al-Eu-LDHs with different concentrations of DPA in 10% bovine serum. (b) The plot of fluorescence intensity at  $I_{615}/I_{464}$  against the concentration of DPA from 0 to 60  $\mu$ M (0, 10, 20, 30, 40, 50, 60  $\mu$ M).

## **Supplementary Tables**

**Table S1.** The weight percentage content of elements in L@Mg-Al-Ln-LDHs fromICP-AES and elemental analysis data.

| Element     | Mg (wt%) | Al (wt%) | Tb (wt%) | Eu (wt%) |
|-------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| L@Mg-Al-Tb- | 16.74    | 9.87     | 0.65     |          |
| LDHs        |          |          | 0.03     |          |
| L@Mg-Al-Eu- | 16.12    | 10.119   |          | 0.43     |
| LDHs        |          |          |          |          |

 Table S2. Fluorescence decay lifetime parameters of L@Mg-Al-Tb-LDHs (545 nm)

| Sensors         | DPA           | $	au_1$ | $	au_2$ | τ <sub>ave</sub> |
|-----------------|---------------|---------|---------|------------------|
|                 | Concentration | (µs)    | (µs)    | (µs)             |
|                 | (µM)          |         |         |                  |
|                 | 0             | 11.76   | 11.76   | 2.35             |
| L@Mg-Al-Tb-LDHs | 10            | 14.61   | 1953.63 | 432.82           |
|                 | 0             | 618.30  | 12.75   | 17.18            |
| L@Mg-Al-Eu-LDHs | 10            | 1534.01 | 1534.00 | 1530.68          |

and L@Mg-Al-Eu-LDHs (615 nm).

| Sensing material                              | Linear range | LOD       | Ref.      |
|---|--------------|-----------|-----------|
|   |              |           |           |
| Eu/Tb SAH                                     | 0-3.0 μM     | 27.3 nM   | [1]       |
|   | 0-2.4 μM     | 1.06 nM   |           |
| CDs-Tb  | 0-6 µM       | 35.9 nM   | [2]       |
| TPE-Tbs                                       | 0-18 nM      | 0.187 nM  | [3]       |
| TbP-CPs                                       | 0-8 μΜ       | 5.0 nM    | [4]       |
| Tb-g-C <sub>3</sub> N <sub>4</sub> NS         | 0-15 μΜ      | 9.9 nM    | [5]       |
| hPEI-CD-EDTA-                                 | 1.0-100 nM   | 0.19 nM   | [6]       |
| Eu <sup>3+</sup>                              |              |           |           |
| EBT-CDs@Eu                                    | 0.1-12 μM    | 10.6 nM   | [7]       |
| Eu@SiNPs                                      | 0-20 μM      | 0.15 μΜ   | [8]       |
| GSH-Cu NCs/Eu <sup>3+</sup>                   | 0-20 μM      | 8 nM      | [9]       |
| Tb <sub>0.875</sub> Eu <sub>0.125</sub> -Hddb | 0-100 μM     | 0.8494 μM | [10]      |
| L@Mg-Al-Tb-LDHs                               | 0-0.8 μΜ     | 11.6 nM   |           |
| L@Mg-Al-Eu-LDHs                               | 0-4.0 μM     | 27.3 nM   | This work |

 Table S3. Comparison of some reported probes on DPA detection.

| Sensors         | Spores added          | Detected              | Recovery | RSD      |
|-----------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------|----------|
|                 |                       |                       | (%, n=3) | (%, n=3) |
|                 | 0                     | Not detected          |          |          |
| L@Mg-AI-10-LDHS | 1.000×10 <sup>6</sup> | 1.026×10 <sup>6</sup> | 102.59   | 0.74     |
|                 | 2.000×10 <sup>6</sup> | 1.959×10 <sup>6</sup> | 97.95    | 0.71     |
|                 | 3.000×10 <sup>6</sup> | 2.872×10 <sup>6</sup> | 95.74    | 0.17     |
|                 | 4.000×10 <sup>6</sup> | 3.740×10 <sup>6</sup> | 93.49    | 1.23     |
|                 | 5.000×10 <sup>6</sup> | 4.731×10 <sup>6</sup> | 94.61    | 2.55     |
|                 | 6.000×10 <sup>6</sup> | 5.686×10 <sup>6</sup> | 94.76    | 2.09     |
|                 | 0                     | Not detected          |          |          |
| L@Mg-AI-Eu-LDHs | 1.000×10 <sup>6</sup> | 1.081×10 <sup>6</sup> | 108.13   | 0.37     |
|                 | 2.000×10 <sup>6</sup> | 2.002×10 <sup>6</sup> | 100.11   | 0.99     |
|                 | 3.000×10 <sup>6</sup> | 2.904×10 <sup>6</sup> | 96.79    | 1.28     |
|                 | 4.000×10 <sup>6</sup> | 3.883×10 <sup>6</sup> | 97.08    | 1.27     |
|                 | 5.000×10 <sup>6</sup> | 4.751×10 <sup>6</sup> | 95.02    | 3.34     |
|                 | 6.000×10 <sup>6</sup> | 5.587×10 <sup>6</sup> | 93.11    | 1.51     |

Table S4. Results of the analysis of Bacillus subtilis spores in real samples usingL@Mg-Al-Tb-LDHs and L@Mg-Al-Eu-LDHs (n=3).

| Sample          | DPA added | Detected     | Recovery | RSD      |
|-----------------|-----------|--------------|----------|----------|
|                 | (µM)      | (µM)         | (%, n=3) | (%, n=3) |
|                 | 0         | Not detected |          |          |
|                 | 1.00      | 1.0210       | 99.88    | 0.74     |
| L@Mg-Al-Tb-LDHs | 2.00      | 1.9820       | 95.27    | 0.71     |
|                 | 3.00      | 2.9129       | 103.99   | 0.17     |
|                 | 4.00      | 3.8859       | 105.76   | 1.22     |
|                 | 5.00      | 4.8108       | 104.50   | 2.54     |
|                 | 6.00      | 5.8378       | 109.72   | 2.09     |
|                 | 0         | Not detected |          |          |
|                 | 10.00     | 10.345       | 103.45   | 0.37     |
| L@Mg-Al-Eu-LDHs | 20.00     | 19.466       | 97.33    | 0.99     |
|                 | 30.00     | 28.272       | 94.24    | 1.28     |
|                 | 40.00     | 38.864       | 97.16    | 1.27     |
|                 | 50.00     | 47.465       | 94.93    | 3.34     |
|                 | 60.00     | 62.634       | 104.39   | 1.51     |

Table S5. RSD datas (n=3) for the relative intensities of L@Mg-Al-Tb-LDHs ( $I_{545}/I_{464}$ )and L@Mg-Al-Eu-LDHs ( $I_{615}/I_{464}$ ) in 10% bovine serum.

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