# **Supporting Information**

**Surface-designed AuNPs-based Fluorescent Probe for Ultra-sensitive detection of Oral Poultry Antibacterial drug Furaltadone via Intermolecular Hydrogen Bonding†**

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# **1. Experimental Section**

# *1.1. Preparation of Stock solution*

A stock solution of PA@AuNPs and FTD was prepared by using double distilled water. The 1 mM working solution of  $PA@AuNPs$  was obtained by dilution of synthesized  $PA@AuNPs$  with 50 mL H<sub>2</sub>O. Simultaneously, the 100  $\mu$ M of FTD stock solution (0.0032 g in 100 mL H<sub>2</sub>O) was prepared in a 50 mL beaker.

# **2. Characterization**

#### *2.1. Fluorescence studies*



**Figure SI1.** Fluorescence emission spectrum of PA@AuNPs using different excitation (λ<sub>ex</sub> 340, 350, 353, 360, and 370 nm).



**Figure SI2.** Fluorescence emission intensity changes of PA@AuNPs [1.0 mM] upon addition of various analytes [100  $\mu$ M] (DA – Dopamine, AA – Ascorbic acid, UA – Uric acid, Mg<sup>2+</sup> -Magnesium ions,  $Ca^{2+}$  - Calcium ions,  $K^+$  - Potassium ions, Na<sup>+</sup> - Sodium ions, and FTD -Furaltadone) ( $\lambda_{ex}$  353 nm; slit width 5 nm).

#### *2.3. Binding constant and LoD values*



**Figure SI3.** Fluorescence emission intensity changes of PA@AuNPs upon the addition of FTD log[F-F<sub>0</sub>/F<sub>0</sub>] against log[Q], binding constant (K<sub>a</sub>) calculated through linear fit (R<sup>2</sup> = 0.9908;  $STD = 3\%$ ).



**Figure SI4.** Fluorescence emission intensity changes of PA@AuNPs upon the addition of blood serum and [FTD]  $log[F-F_0/F_0]$  against  $log[Q]$ , binding constant  $(K_a)$  calculated through linear fit  $(R<sup>2</sup> = 0.995; STD = 3\%)$ .

#### *2.4. Interference study*



**Figure SI5.** (a) Fluorescence response for PA@AuNPs [1.0 mM] with other interfering compounds (100  $\mu$ M) in the presence of FTD (1  $\mu$ M)-(b), paracetamol (PR)-(c), azithromycin (Az)-(d), erythromycin (EZ)-(e), uric acid (UA)-(f), ascarbic acid (AA)-(g), dopamine (DA)-(h), glucose (GLU)-(i), sodium ions (Na<sup>+</sup>)-(j), calcium ions (Ca<sup>2+</sup>)-(k), magnesium ions (Mg<sup>2+</sup>)-(l), (b) Corresponding bar diagram (STD = 3%).



**Figure SI6.** (a) Time effect on the fluorescence intensity of PA@AuNPs [1.0 mM] upon sensing of FTD (100  $\mu$ M) ( $\lambda_{ex}$  353 nm; slit width 5 nm). (b) Corresponding bar diagram (STD = 3%).

#### *2.6. Reversibility study*



**Figure SI7**. (a) Reversible fluorescence emission spectrum of PA@AuNPs (1.0 mM) with the alternative addition of 100  $\mu$ M FTD and EDTA ( $\lambda_{ex}$  353 nm; slit width for both excitation and emission is 5 nm). (b) Corresponding reversible cycle, (inset (b) the corresponding bar diagram)  $(STD = 3\%).$ 

*2.7. pH effect*



**Figure SI8**. (a) Fluorescence emission intensity changes of PA@AuNPs•FTD in acidic pH condition (pH 1 to 5) ( $\lambda_{ex}$  353 nm; slit width for both excitation and emission is 5 nm), and (b) Corresponding bar diagram  $(STD = 3\%).$ 



**Figure SI9**. (a) Fluorescence emission intensity changes of PA@AuNPs•FTD in basic pH condition (pH 9 to 13) ( $\lambda_{ex}$  353 nm; slit width for both excitation and emission is 5 nm), and (b) Corresponding bar diagram  $(STD = 3\%).$ 

#### *2.8. HRTEM analysis*



**Figure SI10.** (A) HRTEM images of PA@AuNPs in a different scale (a→d; 50, 20, 10, and 2 nm), (inset b) SAED pattern of PA@AuNPs, (inset c) histogram of PA@AuNPs of the average diameter of 10-15 nm, and (d) fringes with average 'd' space value of 0.248 nm;



**Figure SI11.** (A) FESEM images of PA@AuNPs (a) 1 µm, (b) 200 nm, and (c) 100 nm scale, respectively, (d) elemental mapping of PA@AuNPs (d1), C (d2), O (d3), Au (d4); and (B) AFM images of PA@AuNPs in (a) 2D, and (b) 3D modes.



*2.10. EDAX analysis*

**Figure SI12. EDAX analysis of PA@AuNPs•FTD.**



Spectrum: BM 3084

$\mathbb{1}$	E A N	Series	C $[wt.$ $]$	unn. norm. C Atom. C	$[wt.$ $]$ $[at.$ $]$ r	Erro	$\left($ 1	Sigma 「wt.%
$\bigcirc$	- 8	$K-$ series	30.12	60.55	78.50			3.92
A 7 $\mathbf{u}$		$-L-$ 9 series	14.16	28.47	3.00			0.55
$\overline{C}$	6	$K-$ series	5.11	10.27	17.73			1.01
F.	9	$K-$ series	0.35	0.71	0.78			0.19
		Total:	49.74	100.00	100.00			

*2.11. UV-Vis spectral studies*



**Figure SI13.** UV-visible absorption spectrum for the addition of FTD  $(1.0 \text{ mM}) (0 - 100 \mu\text{L})$ into the PA@AuNPs solution (1.0 mM) (inset: UV-visible absorption spectrum of FTD).



**Figure SI14.** Absorption changes of PA@AuNPs  $(1 \text{ mM})$   $[A-A_0/A_0]$  upon the addition of FTD (1 mM) FTD [Q], binding constant  $(K_a)$  calculated through linear fit  $(R^2 = 0.983)$  (STD = 3%).

*2.12. Zeta Potential*





**Figure SI15**. (a) Zeta potential of bare PA@AuNPs, (b) PA@AuNPs+FTD (0.5 µM), and (c) PA@AuNPs+FTD (0.75 µM).

# **3. DFT Calculation for PA@AuNPs•FTD**

The interaction between PA@AuNPs and FTD molecules was investigated by using density functional theory, B3LYP/6-311G(d,p) level of theory. The ECP basis set, def2-TZVPP was employed for the Au atom. The selected structural parameters are listed in Table SI2.

**Table SI2.** The selected geometrical parameters (bond length in Å, angle in degrees) of isolated PA@AuNPs, FTD molecules, and interacting complex







**Figure SI16.** The calculated FTIR spectrums for PA@AuNPs, Furaltadone (FTD), and product complex.

The ground state density plot for frontier molecular orbital, highest occupied molecular orbital (HOMO), lowest unoccupied molecular orbital (LUMO), and two singly occupied molecular orbitals (SOMO) were calculated based on the optimized geometry of the product complex. The plot was made with the contour value of 0.03 a.u. The SOMOs were localized on naphthalene rings and O- atom of PA@AuNPs. Further, the HOMO is localized on the morpholine group of FTD and LUMO is localized on the free -COOAu functional group of PA@AuNPs in the interacting complex. The energy gap between HOMO and LUMO is found as 2.47 eV.

**Figure SI17.** The ground state density plot of SOMO, HOMO, and LUMO molecular orbitals of the studied interacting complex.

$S_{\bullet}$ No.	Orbitals	Interacting complex (PA@AuNPs•FTD)
1.	$\mathbf{SOMO}$ $\mathbf{1}$	
2.	<b>SOMO</b> $\overline{2}$	
3.	HOMO	Au Au



**Table SI3.** Comparison of nanostructured-based probes for furaltadone detection reported so far.







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