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Supplemental Information

Enzyme Mimicking Based on the Natural

Melanin Particles from Human Hair

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1 **Transparent Methods**

2 **Materials**

3 Hydrogen peroxide (H₂O₂) were obtained from Sigma. Riboflavin was purchased
4 from Sinopharm Chemical Reagent Co., Ltd. Methionine, glutathione (GSH),
5 3,5,3',5'-tetramethylbenzidine (TMB) and terephthalic acid (TA) were purchased
6 from Aladdin Industrial Corporation. Nitrotetrazolium blue chloride (NBT) were
7 purchased from Meryer (Shanghai) Chemical Technology Co., Ltd. Hoechst 33342
8 and DAPI were purchased from Thermofisher Scientific.
9 3-(4,5-dimethyl-2-thiazolyl)-2,5-diphenyl-2-H-tetrazolium bromide (MTT) assay
10 were purchased from Beyotime Biotechnology. The hairs were obtained from the
11 barber shop nearby.

12 **Preparation of NMPs and M-NMPs**

13 The NMPs were prepared according to our previous work. Briefly, 5 g human hair
14 was dissolved in 50 mL NaOH solution (1 M) and heated to 85°C for 5 min. Then, the
15 dark coloured solution was dialyzed against PBS for several times. Next, the NMPs
16 were obtained by differential centrifugation with 200 g for 6 min to remove large
17 residues and 1200 g for 10 min to gather the products. Finally, the NMPs were
18 washed with DI water for several times and dried for later use.

19 The M-NMPs were prepared as follows. The prepared NMPs were stirred in 100
20 mM NaCl solutions contained 10 mM corresponding metal ions at room temperature
21 for 12 h. The metal-bound NMPs were obtained by centrifugation and dried for later
22 use.

23 **POD-like activity of M-NMPs**

24 The POD-like activity of M-NMPs was performed in HAc-NaAc buffer solution (pH
25 3.6) by studying the oxidation of TMB with H₂O₂. Typically, the oxidation of TMB

26 was carried out in a mixture of M-NMPs solution (1 mg mL⁻¹, 20 μL), H₂O₂ (30%,
27 120 μL), TMB (10 mg mL⁻¹, 40 μL) in HAc-NaAc buffer solution with final volume
28 of 1 mL. The absorbance of the mixture at 650 nm was recorded continuously at
29 different reaction time. The UV-Vis absorption spectrum of the mixture was measured
30 at 10 min of the reaction. And the change in color was photographed in the end of the
31 reaction. The concentration dependence of catalysis was studied gradually from 5 μg
32 mL⁻¹ to 40 μg mL⁻¹ of M-NMPs. The POD-like catalytic stability was assayed at
33 different pH (2-8) and temperature (20-70 °C) conditions. The absorbance of the
34 mixture at 650 nm with different pH and temperature was recorded.

35 The steady-state kinetic assays were conducted in 200 μL buffer solution with
36 Fe-NMPs and Cu-NMPs as catalyst in the presence of different concentrations of
37 H₂O₂ and TMB. The kinetic assays with TMB as the substrate were performed by the
38 mixture of catalyst (10 μg mL⁻¹), 30% H₂O₂ (24 μL) and different concentrations of
39 TMB solution (41.6, 83.2, 166.4, 249.6, 332.8, 416.0, 520.0, 624.0, 728.0, 832.0 μM).
40 And the kinetic assays with H₂O₂ as the substrate were performed by the mixture of
41 catalyst (10 μg mL⁻¹), TMB (10 mg mL⁻¹, 10 μL) and different concentrations of H₂O₂
42 (0.0441, 0.0882, 0.1764, 0.2646, 0.3528, 0.441, 0.5292, 0.6174, 0.7056, 0.882, 1.323,
43 1.764 M). The absorbance of the reactions at 650 nm was recorded continuously at
44 different reaction time. And the Michaelis-Menten constant was calculated according
45 to the Michaelis-Menten saturation curve fitting by GraphPad Prism 7.

46 **SOD-like activity of M-NMPs**

47 The SOD-like activity of M-NMPs was tested by measuring the inhibition of the
48 photoreduction of NBT. In brief, the M-NMPs mixed with riboflavin (20 μM),
49 methionine (13 mM), NBT (75 μM) in PBS (25 mM, pH 7.4) were illuminated by UV
50 light for 10 min. After that, the UV-Vis absorption spectrum of the mixture was

51 measured. The mixture treated without M-NMPs and kept in the dark were served as
52 the control and the blank, respectively. The inhibition rate was calculated by the
53 equation: inhibition rate (%) = $[(A_0 - A)/A_0] \times 100$ (A_0 and A refer to the absorbance
54 of the control and the sample, respectively).

55 **CAT-like activity of M-NMPs**

56 The CAT-like activity of Cu-NMPs was analyzed by measuring inhibition of the
57 generation of highly fluorescent 2-hydroxyterephthalic acid from non-fluorescent TA.
58 In the presence of H_2O_2 , TA could be oxidized to generate fluorescent
59 2-hydroxyterephthalic acid with a fluorescence signal at 425 nm upon excitation
60 wavelength of 320 nm. The mixture containing M-NMPs, TA (0.5 mM) and H_2O_2 (10
61 mM) in PBS (25 mM, pH 7.4) were incubated for 24 h at room temperature. The
62 fluorescence spectrum of mixture was then measured with an excitation wavelength
63 of 320 nm.

64 **Bacterial culture**

65 *Staphylococcus aureus* (ATCC 25923) were cultured in Luria-Bertani (LB) medium
66 at 37 °C. The LB medium contained 10 mg mL⁻¹ tryptone, 5 mg mL⁻¹ yeast extract
67 and 0.5 mg mL⁻¹ NaCl.

68 ***In vitro* antibacterial experiments**

69 Firstly, UV-vis spectroscopy was performed to evaluate the antibacterial property of
70 Fe-NMPs against *S. aureus*. Briefly, the *S. aureus* suspension were added into each
71 well of a 96 well plate and separately treated with PBS, different concentration of
72 Fe-NMPs and Fe-NMPs + H_2O_2 . After incubation at 37 °C for 8 h, the absorbance of
73 the suspension at 600 nm was measured to assess the bacterial viability.

74 The antibacterial effect of Fe-NMPs was also studied with plate counting method.
75 *S. aureus* in different four groups were treated with PBS, Fe-NMPs (50 µg mL⁻¹),

76 H₂O₂ (100 μM) and Fe-NMPs + H₂O₂, respectively. The mixtures were then reacted
77 for 30 min followed by placing on the LB solid medium and incubated for another 24
78 h. Counting the number of colonies in each group. All experiments were repeated
79 three times.

80 **Cell culture**

81 RAW264.7 cells were cultured in 1640 medium with 5% CO₂ at 37 °C. B16-F10 cells
82 were cultured in DMEM medium with 5% CO₂ at 37 °C. The 1640 medium and
83 DMEM medium contained 10% heat-inactivated FBS and 1% antibiotics
84 (penicillin-streptomycin, 10000 U mL⁻¹).

85 ***In vitro* cell viability**

86 The *in vitro* cytotoxicity of Mn-NMPs against B16-F10 cells was detected by MTT
87 assay. The B16-F10 cells were seeded in 96 well plates and followed by incubated
88 with Fe-NMPs. 24 h later, the cells were treated with X-ray radiation (4 Gy). After 24
89 h post-irradiation, 20 μL of MTT (5 mg mL⁻¹) was added into each well and incubated
90 for another 4 h. Subsequently, the culture medium containing MTT was replaced with
91 DMSO (150 μL and the absorbance at 570 nm was determined using a microplate
92 reader. The relative cell viability was calculated.

93 The *in vitro* cytotoxicity of Cu-NMPs towards RAW264.7 cells was also detected
94 by MTT assay. RAW264.7 cells were seeded in 96-well plates (5×10^4 cells per
95 well). 24 h later, the cells were incubated with Cu-NMPs at various concentrations (0,
96 0.625, 1.25, 2.5, 5, 10, 20, 40 μg mL⁻¹). Following incubation for another 24 h, the
97 cell viability was evaluated using a MTT assay.

98 ***In vitro* cytokines production**

99 The anti-inflammation ability of Cu-NMPs was studied by the measuring the
100 expression level of pro-inflammatory cytokines TNF-α, IL-6 and IL-1β in

101 LPS-stimulated RAW264.7 cells. The RAW264.7 cells were seeded in 6-well plates.
102 After 24 h of growth, the cells were treated with LPS for 6 h for inducing a
103 inflammatory reaction. Afterwards, the LPS-induced cells were treated with
104 Cu-NMPs. The supernatant was then collected and analyzed by ELISA to quantify the
105 levels of TNF- α , IL-6 and IL-1 β in each sample. And the expression levels of three
106 pro-inflammatory cytokines were also visualized using immunocytochemical staining.
107 After being washed with PBS for several times, the cells were fixed with 4%
108 formaldehyde. The fixed cells were then stained with the antibodies for the three
109 cytokines and DAPI. The images were observed by using CLSM.

110 **Animal**

111 Experimental protocols were approved by the Institutional Animal Care and Use
112 Committee (IACUC) of the Animal Experiment Center of Wuhan University (Wuhan,
113 China). All animal experimental procedures were performed in accordance with the
114 Regulations for the Administration of Affairs Concerning Experimental Animals
115 approved by the State Council of People's Republic of China.

116 ***In vivo* wound model and antibacterial effect**

117 The antibacterial effect of Fe-NMPs was performed by wound infection model on
118 female Balb/c mice. A wound of d = 10 mm was created on the back of the mice by
119 surgery followed by injection of 10⁸ CFU *S. aureus* to the wounds to build the wound
120 infection model. The mice with infected wounds were divided into four groups (five
121 mice per group) and treated with PBS, Fe-NMPs (100 $\mu\text{g mL}^{-1}$), H₂O₂ (100 μM) and
122 Fe-NMPs + H₂O₂ through subcutaneous injection, respectively. The wounds were
123 photographed every two days. After 10 days of treatments, the mice were sacrificed
124 and the wound tissues were harvested and analyzed by H&E staining.

125 ***In vivo* antitumoral effect**

126 The B16-F10 melanoma model was used as an example to evaluate the *in vivo*
127 antitumoral effect. B16-F10 cells (1×10^6) in 100 μ L of PBS were injected
128 subcutaneously into the back of C57 male mice. When the size of tumor reached \sim
129 100 mm³, the mice were randomly divided into four groups (five mice per group) and
130 treated with PBS, Mn-NMPs, X-ray and Mn-NMPs+X-ray through subcutaneous
131 injection, respectively. The X-ray irradiation (8 Gy) was carried out after Mn-NMPs
132 injection for 12 h. The tumor sizes and body weights were measured every day for 14
133 days post-treatment.

134 ***In vivo* inflammation models and anti-inflammatory effect**

135 The inflammation models on paw of BALB/c mice were constructed by local
136 injection of LPS (20 μ L, 2 mg mL⁻¹) in the paws of mice. After 6 h stimulation, the
137 paws were treated with Cu-NMPs through subcutaneous injection (five mice per
138 group). The levels of ROS in the inflamed paws were imaged by bioluminescence
139 imaging on an IVIS imaging system. And the expression levels of pro-inflammatory
140 cytokines TNF- α , IL-6 and IL-1 β in the inflamed paws were also analyzed by ELISA.

141 **Statistical analysis and sample collection**

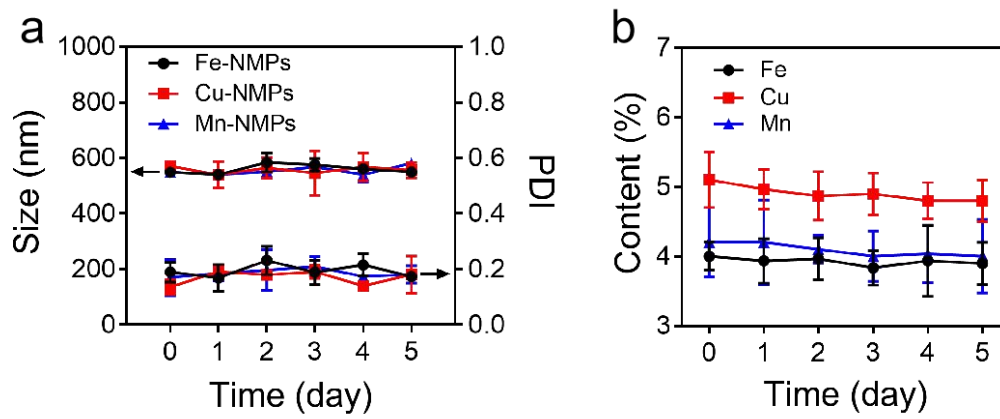
142 Significance among more than two groups was calculated using ANOVA Turkey's
143 test by using SPSS 22.0. For cell experiments and *in vivo* experiments, investigators
144 performing operations were blinded to treatment groups. In *in vivo* experiments,
145 animals were randomly divided into different groups.

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148 **Supplemental Figures**

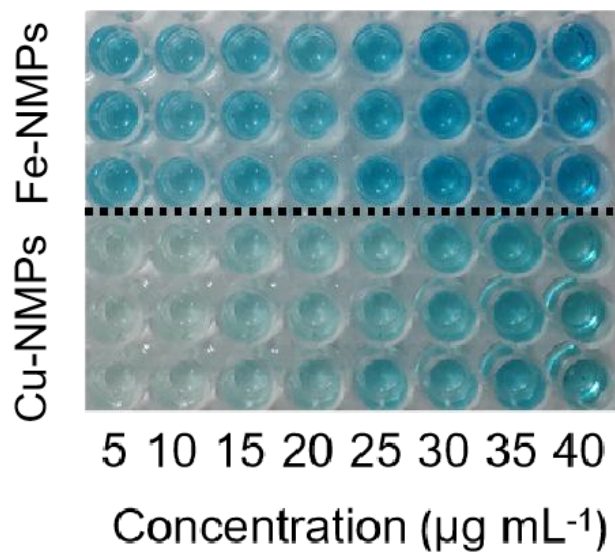
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151 **Figure S1.** Related to **Figure 1**. The stability of M-NMPs. (a) Mean size and PDI of

152 M-NMPs in 5 days. (b) Metal content of M-NMPs in 5 days.

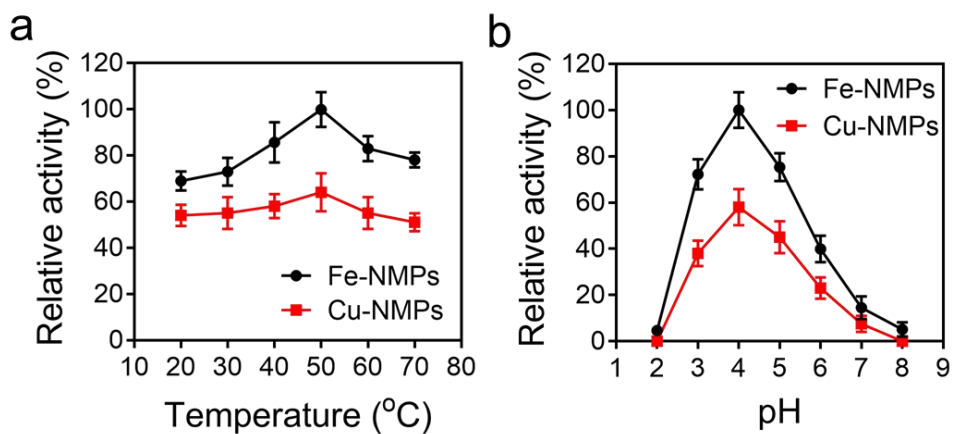


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154 **Figure S2.** Related to **Figure 2.** The color changes of the TMB oxidation with

155 different concentrations of Fe-NMPs and Cu-NMPs.

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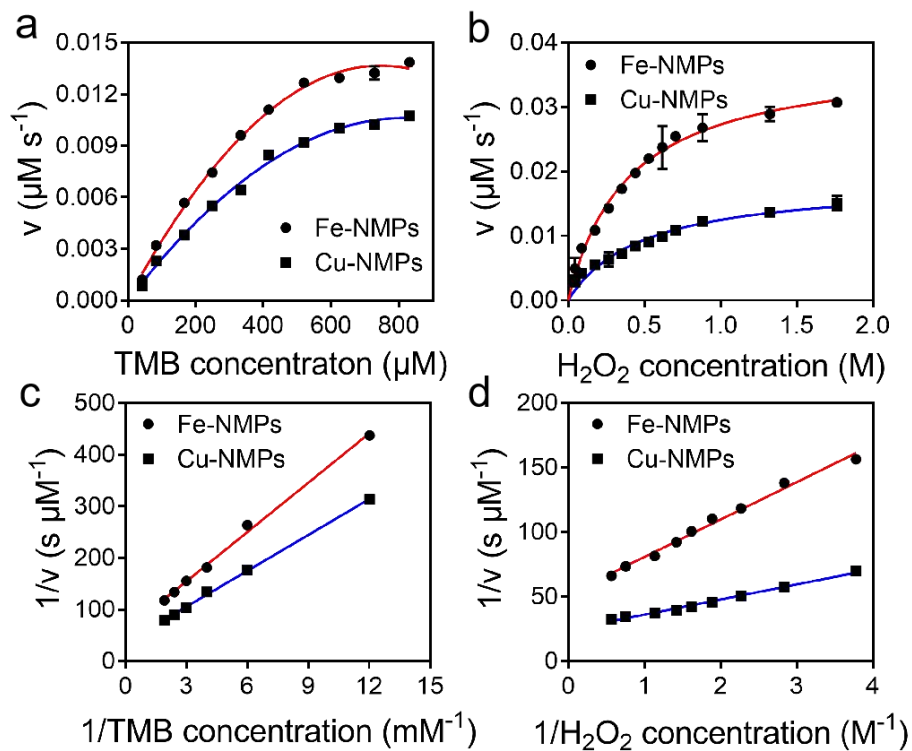
158

159 **Figure S3.** Related to **Figure 2.** Characterization for POD-like activity. The relative

160 POD-like activity of Fe-NMPs and Cu-NMPs at different temperature (a) and

161 different pH (b). Results are expressed as the mean \pm S.D. of at least three

162 independent experiments measured in triplicate.



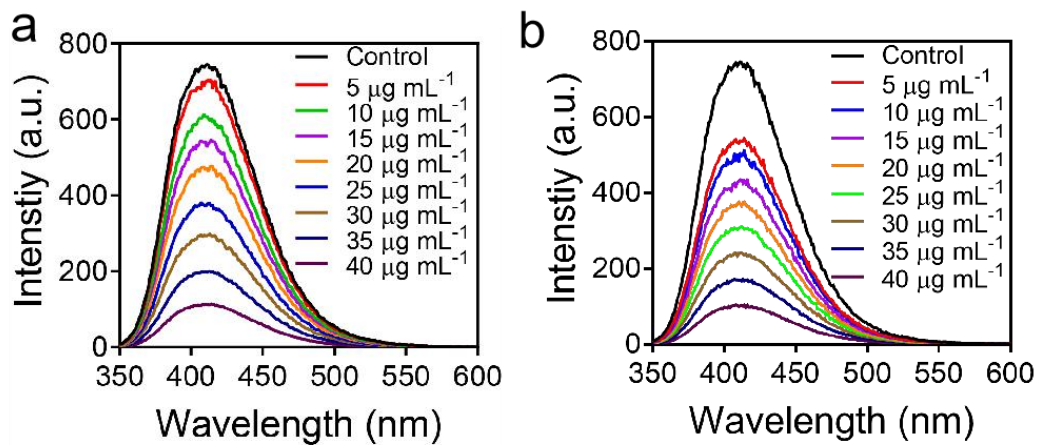
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Figure S4. Related to **Figure 2.** The steady-state kinetic assays of Fe-NMPs and

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Cu-NMPs as catalysts and different concentrations of H_2O_2 and TMB as substrates.



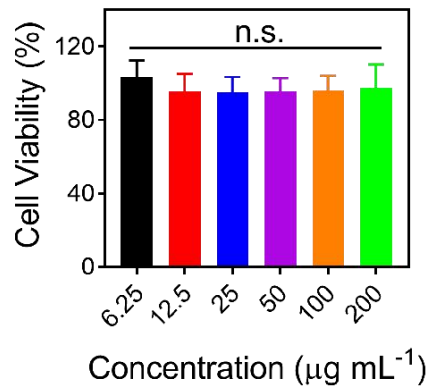
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167 **Figure S5.** Related to **Figure 2.** The decomposition efficiency of H₂O₂ in presence of

168

different concentrations of Mn-NMPs (a) and Cu-NMPs (b).

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171 **Figure S6.** Related to **Figure 4.** Cell viability of 3T3 cells with the treatment of

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different concentration of Fe-NMPs.

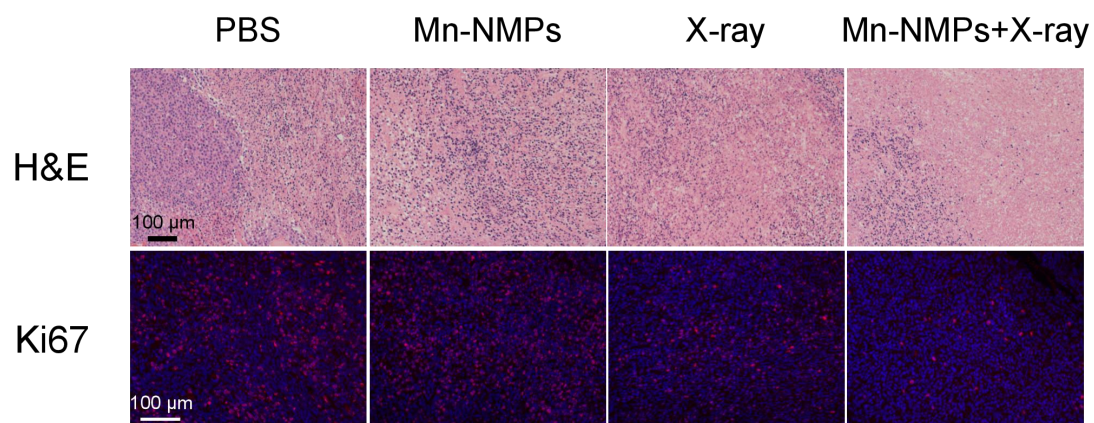


Figure S7. Related to **Figure 4.** H&E and Ki67 immunofluorescence staining of B16-F10 tumor tissues with different treatment.

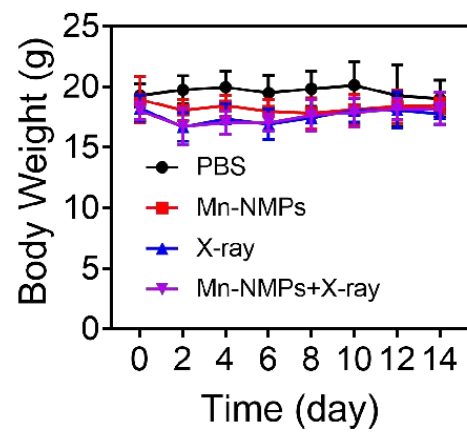


Figure S8. Related to **Figure 4.** Body weight changes of mice with different treatment.

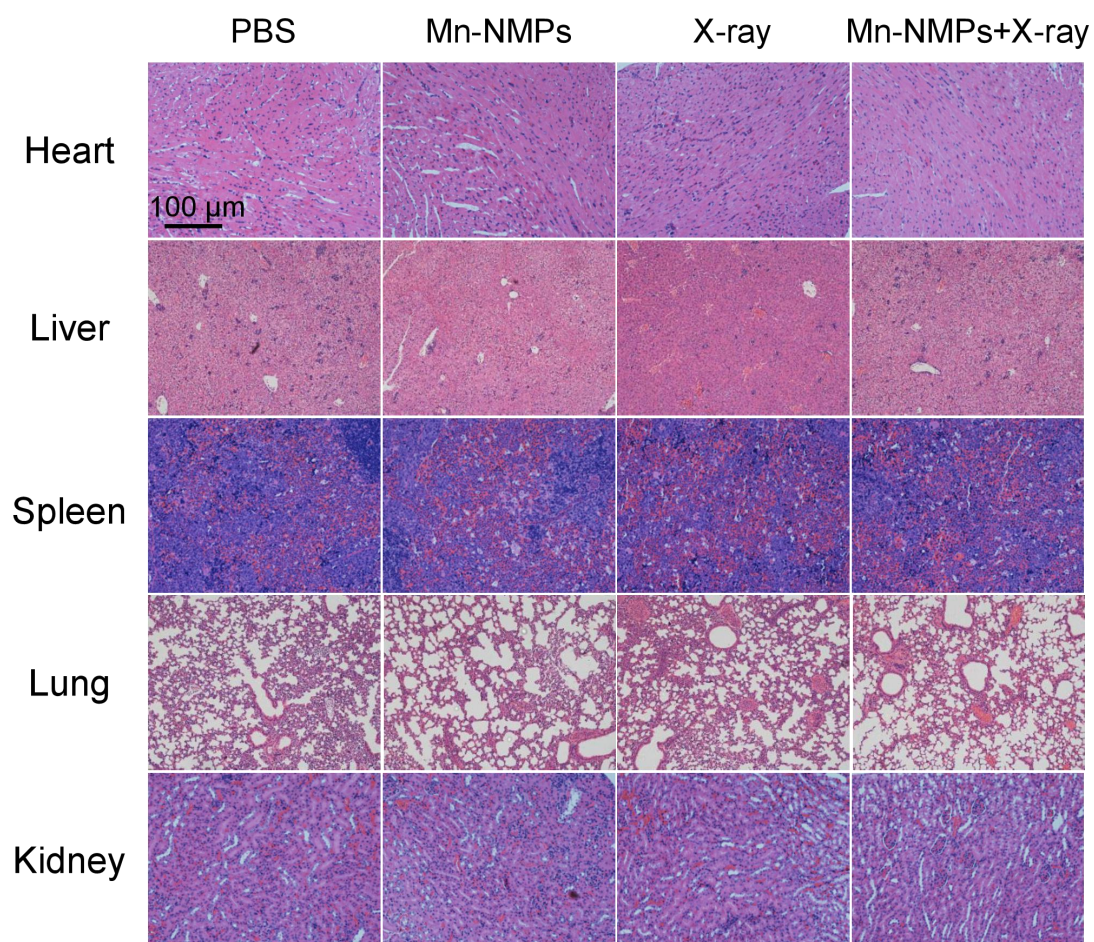


Figure S9. Related to **Figure 4.** H&E staining of mice hearts, livers, spleens, lungs and kidneys with different treatment.

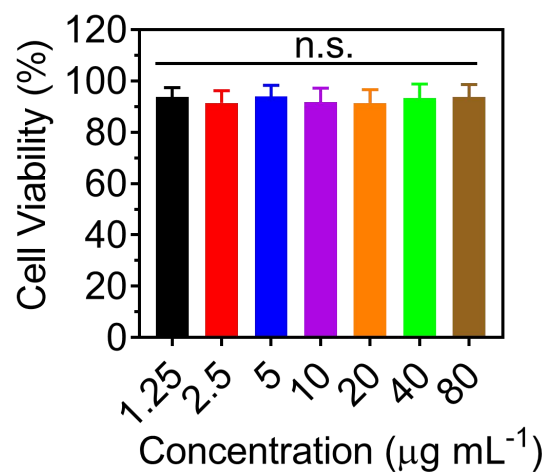


Figure S10. Related to **Figure 5.** Cell viability of RAW246.7 with the treatment of different concentration of Cu-NMPs.

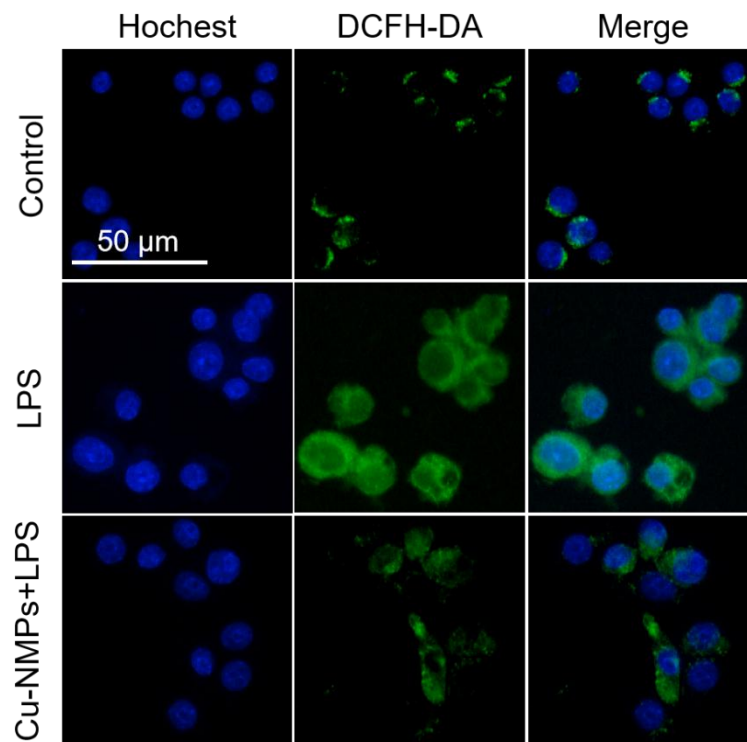


Figure S11. Related to **Figure 5.** Fluorescence microscopy images of ROS level in RAW264.7 with different treatments.

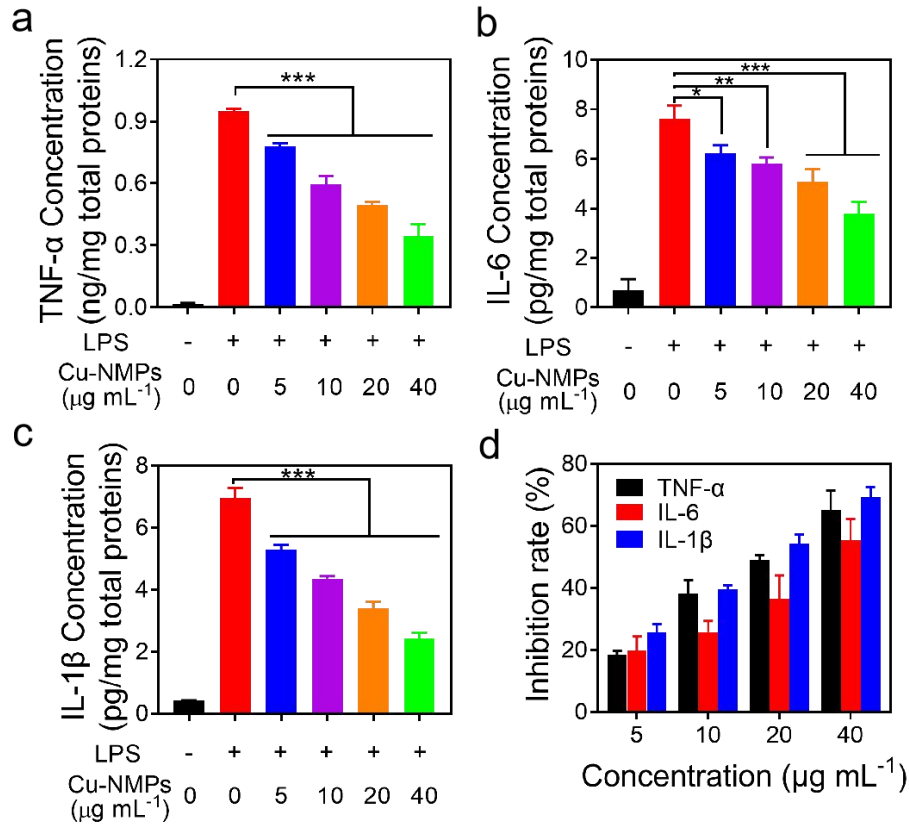


Figure S12. Related to **Figure 5**. The expression level of pro-inflammatory cytokines in LPS-stimulated RAW264.7 with different treatments. TNF- α (a), IL-6 (b) and IL-1 β (c) expression levels in LPS-stimulated RAW264.7 with different concentrations of Cu-NMPs. (d) The inhibition rate of TNF- α , IL-6 and IL-1 β expression with different concentrations of Cu-NMPs. Inhibition rate (%) = $[(C_p - C) / (C_p - C_n)] \times 100$ (C_n , C_p and C refer to the concentration of protein in negative control group (PBS treatment), positive control group (LPS treatment) and sample groups, respectively). Significance between each group was calculated using ANOVA with Tukey post hoc test. * $P < 0.05$, ** $P < 0.01$, *** $P < 0.001$. Results are expressed as the mean \pm S.D. of at least three independent experiments measured in triplicate.

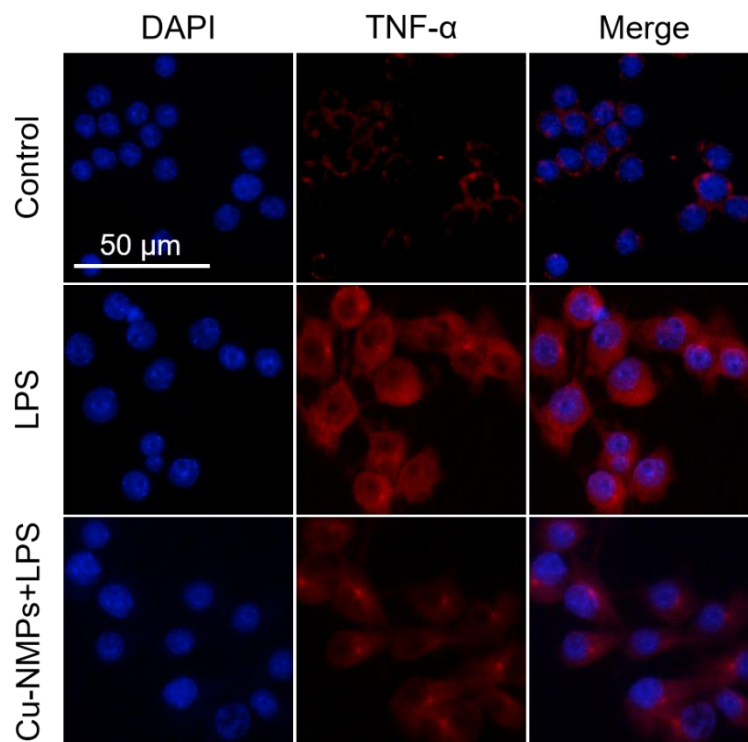


Figure S13. Related to **Figure 5**. Fluorescence microscopy images of TNF- α expression level in RAW264.7 with different treatments.

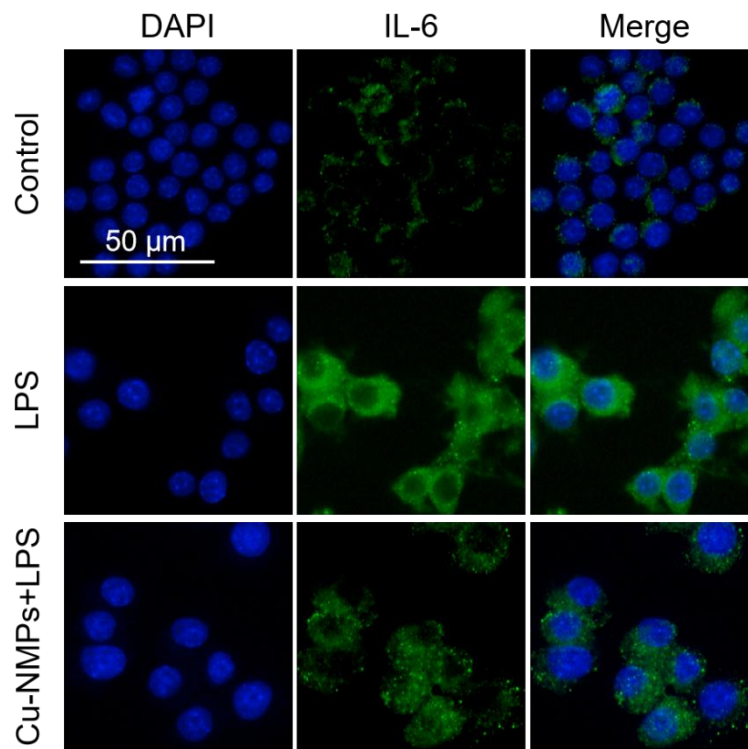


Figure S14. Related to **Figure 5.** Fluorescence microscopy images of IL-6 expression level in RAW264.7 with different treatments.

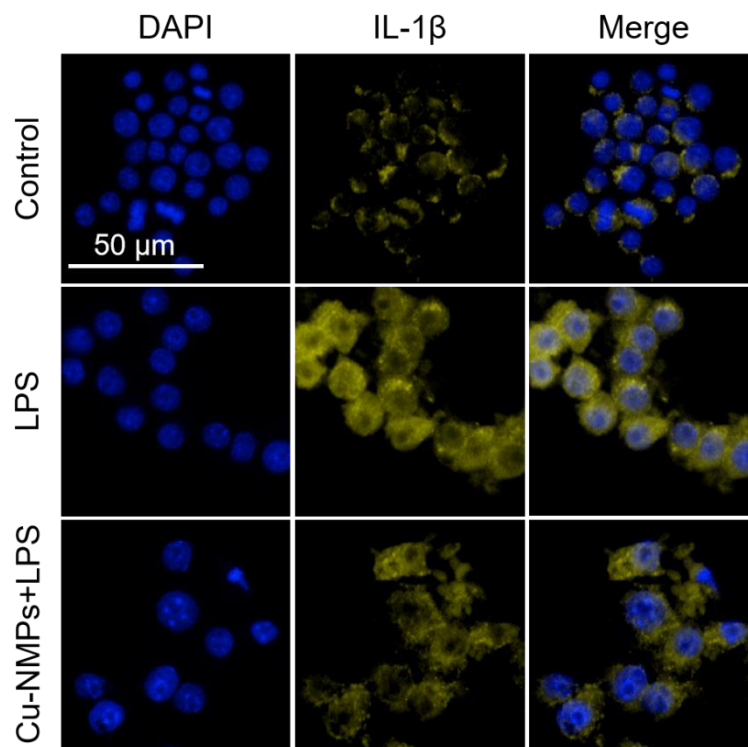


Figure S15. Related to **Figure 5**. Fluorescence microscopy images of IL-1 β expression level in RAW264.7 with different treatments.

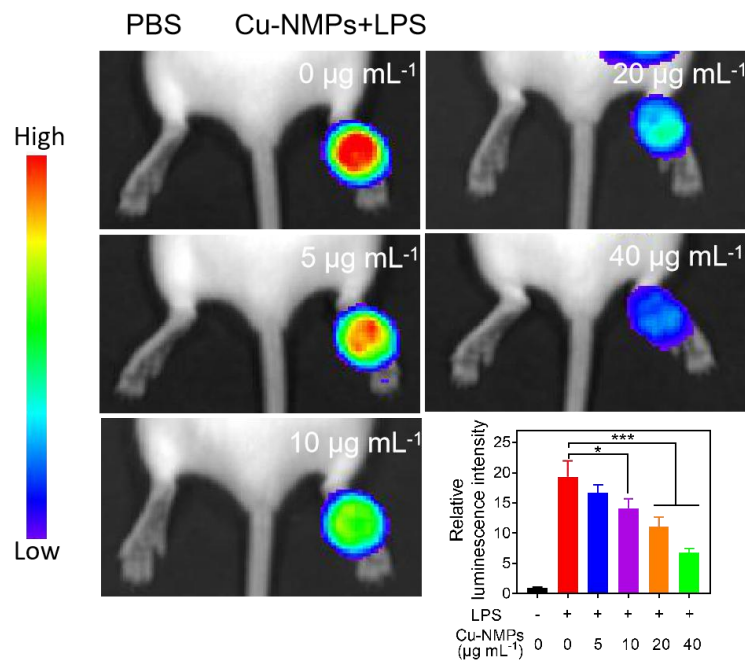


Figure S16. Related to **Figure 6.** *In vivo* bioluminescence images and corresponding luminescence intensities of ROS level in LPS-induced inflamed paws of mice with different concentrations of Cu-NMPs. Significance between each group was calculated using ANOVA with Tukey post hoc test. * $P < 0.05$, *** $P < 0.001$. Results are expressed as the mean \pm S.D. of at least three independent experiments measured in triplicate.

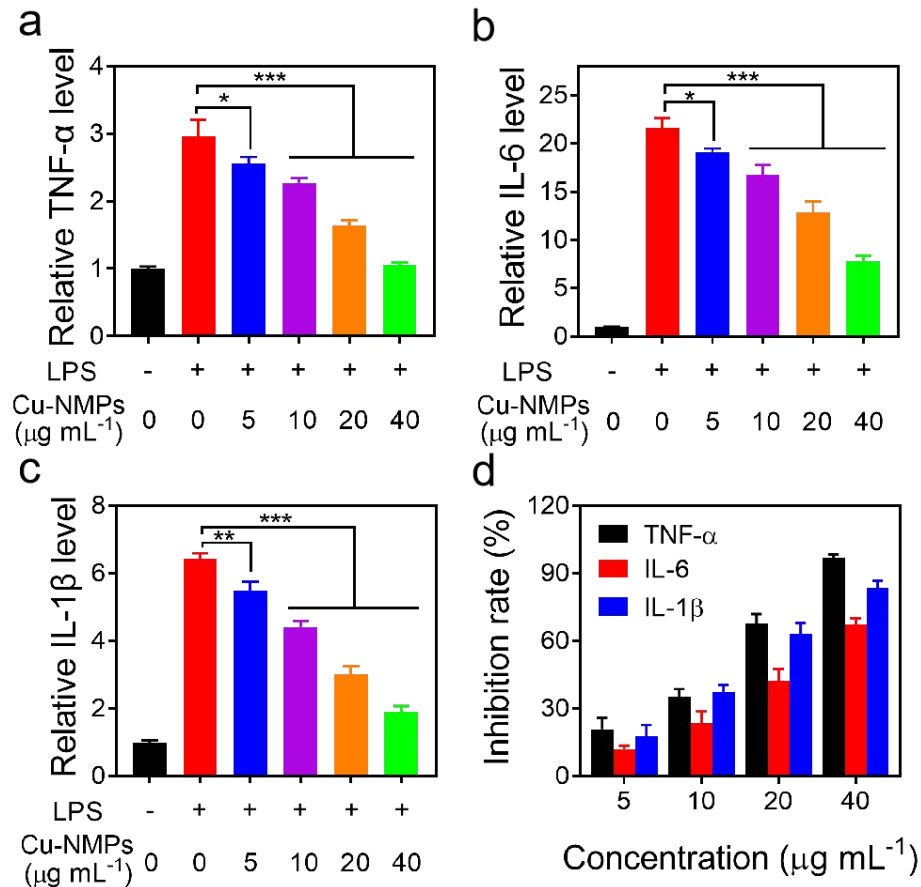


Figure S17. Related to **Figure 6.** The expression level of pro-inflammatory cytokines in LPS-induced inflamed paws with different treatment. TNF- α (a), IL-6 (b) and IL-1 β (c) expression levels in LPS-induced inflamed paws of mice with different concentrations of Cu-NMPs. (d) The inhibition rate of TNF- α , IL-6 and IL-1 β expression in LPS-induced inflamed paws of mice with different concentrations of Cu-NMPs. Inhibition rate (%) = $[(C_p - C)/(C_p - C_n)] \times 100$ (C_n , C_p and C refer to the concentration of protein in negative control group (PBS treatment), positive control group (LPS treatment) and sample groups, respectively). Significance between each group was calculated using ANOVA with Tukey post hoc test. * $P < 0.05$, ** $P < 0.01$, *** $P < 0.001$. Results are expressed as the mean \pm S.D. of at least three independent experiments measured in triplicate.

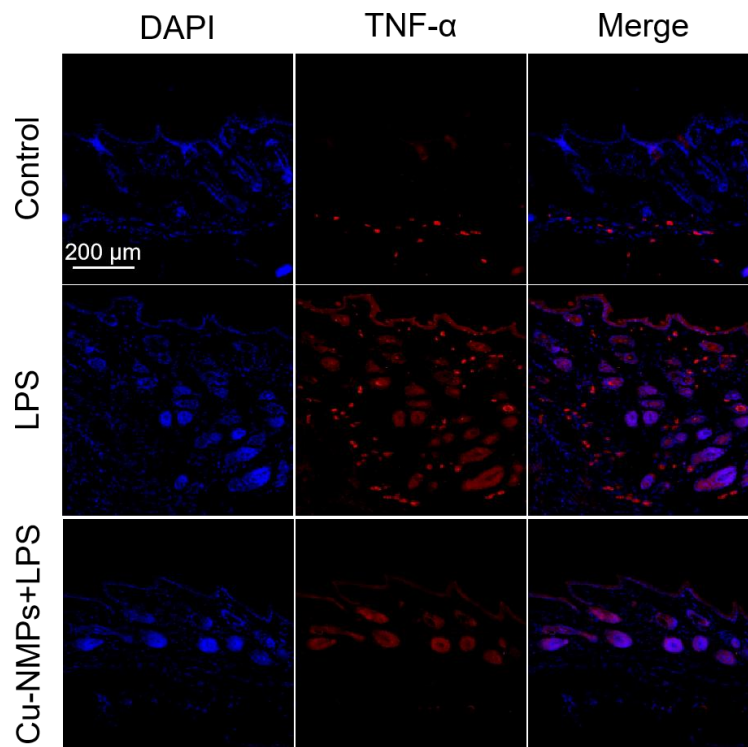


Figure S18. Related to **Figure 6.** Immunofluorescence staining of TNF- α expression in LPS-induced inflamed paws of mice with different treatment.

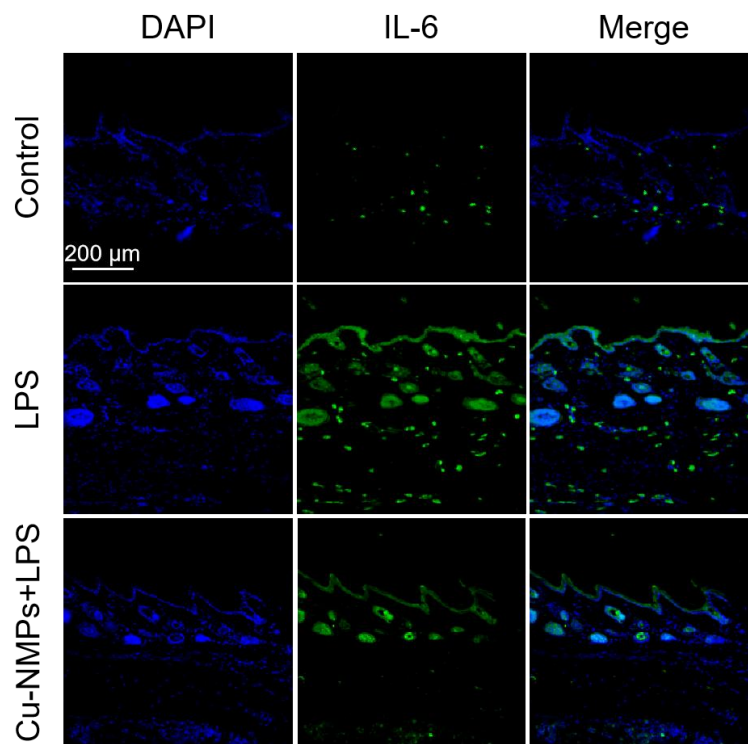


Figure S19. Related to **Figure 6.** Immunofluorescence staining of IL-6 expression in LPS-induced inflamed paws of mice with different treatment.

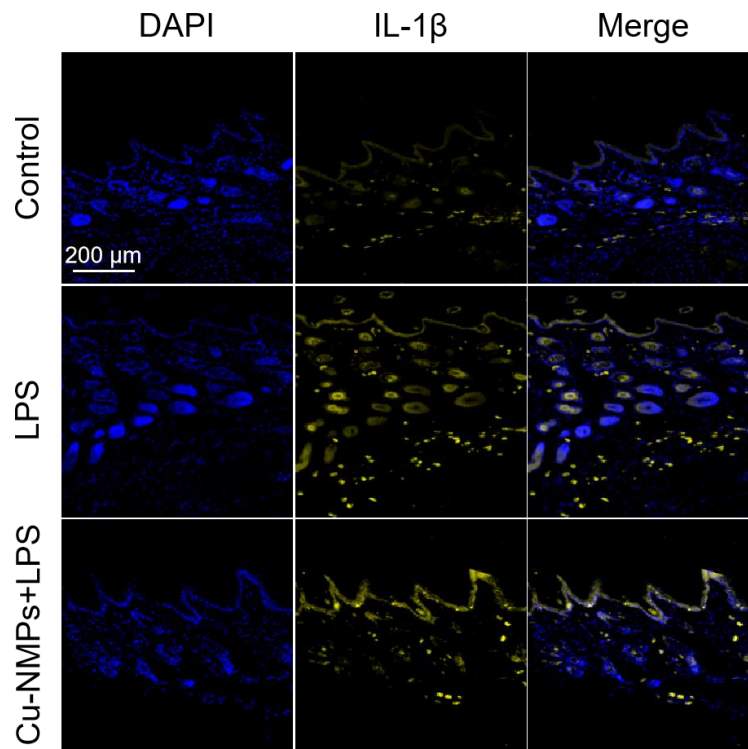


Figure S20. Related to **Figure 6.** Immunofluorescence staining of IL-1 β expression in LPS-induced inflamed paws of mice with different treatment.

Supplemental Tables

Table S1. Related to **Figure 1.** The metal ions content in its corresponding M-NMPs.

Metal	Content (%)
Fe	4.0
Cu	5.1
Mn	4.2

Table S2. Related to **Figure 2.** The Michaelis-Menten constant (K_m) and maximum reaction rate (V_{max}) of Fe-NMPs and Cu-NMPs with TMB and H_2O_2 as the substrates for POD-like catalysis activity.

Catalyst	[E] ($\mu\text{g mL}^{-1}$)	substrate	K_m (mM)	V_{max} (10^{-8} M s^{-1})
Fe-NMPs	10	TMB	0.46	2.49
Fe-NMPs	10	H_2O_2	394	4.11
Cu-NMPs	10	TMB	0.585	1.8
Cu-NMPs	10	H_2O_2	484	1.93