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## **Supplementary Material**

For

## Highly sensitive determination of serotonin by using gold nanoparticles (Au NPs) with localized surface plasmon resonance (LSPR) absorption wavelength a visible region

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The concentration of 5-HT, dopamine, and ascorbic acid were 10<sup>-7</sup> M. This sample was absorbed on our SERS substrate and measured by Raman spectroscopy. The result was shown in Fig. 1S. The spectrum of 5-HT (10<sup>-7</sup> M) was inserted for the comparison. As shown in this figure, the peaks of 5-HT were slightly shifted to 754, 833, 946, 1202, 1308, 1350, 1440, and 1547 cm<sup>-1</sup>. The additional peaks at 1370, 1479, 1622 cm<sup>-1</sup> were belonged to dopamine.<sup>80</sup> There was no peak of ascorbic acid because it was nonaffinitity for Au.<sup>81</sup> In general, 5-HT can be detected by our SERS substrate in complex mixture.



**Figure 1S.** Raman spectra of 5-HT (10<sup>-7</sup> M) and the mixture of 5-HT and dopamine in the presence of ascorbic acid.

In comparison with other reports, 5-HT detected by our Au NPs has some advantages. First, the lowest 5-HT's concentration could be detected by our Au NPs was 1000 times lower than the polycrystalline silver electrode prepared by Song et al..<sup>75</sup> The peaks of 5-HT spectra was clearer and sharper than the substrate from graphene-Au nanopyramid heterostructure fabricated by Wang et al..<sup>82</sup> Moreover, the spectra of 5-HT detected by our substrate was more reproducible than the Ag colloids synthesized by Qiu et al..<sup>83</sup> Our substrate was facilely fabricated and high efficient in 5-HT detection with the selective mechanism of Au NPs to amine group of 5-HT.



Fig. 2S. Schematic diagram of 5-HT molecules linking with the Au NPs modified on glass substrate.



Fig. 3S. Raman mapping of 5-HT (10<sup>-8</sup> M) adsorbed on our substrate.



**Fig. 4S.** Raman spectra of 5-HT at the concentration of 10<sup>-9</sup> M on Au NPs coated substrate in 30 and 60 days.

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