

## *Supplementary Materials*

### **Influence of SPIONs Surface Coating on Magnetic Properties and Theranostic Profile**

Vital Cruvinel Ferreira-Filho <sup>1</sup>, Beatriz Morais <sup>1</sup>, Bruno J. C. Vieira <sup>1</sup>, João Carlos Waerenborgh <sup>1</sup>, Maria João Carmezim <sup>2,3</sup>, Csilla Noémi Tóth <sup>4</sup>, Sandra Même <sup>4</sup>, Sara Lacerda <sup>4</sup>, Daniel Jaque <sup>5</sup>, Célia T. Sousa <sup>6</sup>, Maria Paula Cabral Campello <sup>1,\*</sup> and Laura C. J. Pereira <sup>1,\*</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Centro de Ciências e Tecnologias Nucleares, DECN, Instituto Superior Técnico, Universidade de Lisboa, E.N. 10, km 139,7, 2695-066 Bobadela LRS, Portugal; vital.filho@ctn.tecnico.ulisboa.pt (VFF); beatriz.morais@ctn.tecnico.ulisboa (BM); brunovieira@ctn.tecnico.ulisboa.pt (B.J.C.V.); jcarlos@ctn.tecnico.ulisboa.pt (J.C.W.); pcampelo@ctn.tecnico.ulisboa.pt (MPCC); lpereira@ctn.tecnico.ulisboa.pt (L.C.J.P.).

<sup>2</sup> Centro de Química Estrutural-CQE, DEQ, Instituto Superior Técnico, Universidade de Lisboa, Av. Rovisco Pais, 1049-001 Lisboa, Portugal; maria.carmezim@estsetubal.ips.pt (MJC).

<sup>3</sup> ESTSetúbal, CDP2T, Instituto Politécnico de Setúbal, Setúbal, Portugal; maria.carmezim@estsetubal.ips.pt (MJC).

<sup>4</sup> Centre de Biophysique Moléculaire, CNRS, UPR 4301, Université d'Orléans, Rue Charles Sadron, 45071 Orléans CEDEX 2, France; csilla-noemi.garda-toth@cnrs-orleans.fr (CGT); sandra.meme@cnrs-orleans.fr (SM); sara.lacerda@cnrs-orleans.fr (SL).

<sup>5</sup> Departamento de Física de Materiales, Universidad Autónoma de Madrid, Avda. Francisco Tomás y Valiente 7, 28049 Madrid, Spain; daniel.jaque@uam.es (DJ).

<sup>6</sup> Departamento de Física Aplicada, Universidad Autónoma de Madrid, Avda. Francisco Tomás y Valiente 7, 28049 Madrid, Spain; celia.tsousa@uam.es (CTS).

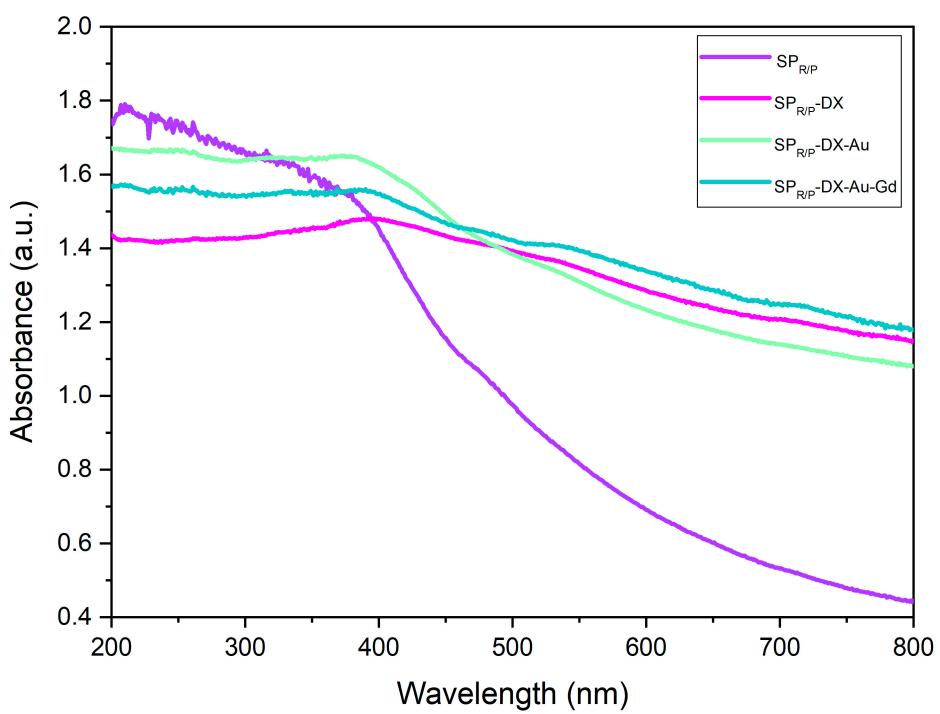
\* Correspondence: pcampelo@ctn.tecnico.ulisboa.pt (MPCC); lpereira@ctn.tecnico.ulisboa.pt (L.C.J.P.); Tel.: +351219946233 (MPCC); Tel.: +351219946259 (LCJP).

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## 1. UV-Vis Spectrophotometry

**Table S1.** Absorption peaks observed in the UV-Vis Spectra of the SPIONs

Sample	Wavelength (nm)	
SP <sub>R/P</sub>	244	326
SP <sub>R/P</sub> -DX	248	388
SP <sub>R/P</sub> -DX-Au	390	543
SP <sub>R/P</sub> -DX-Au-Gd	394	544
SP <sub>pH</sub>	251	320
SP <sub>pH</sub> -DX	229	381
SP <sub>pH</sub> -DX-Au	385	530
SP <sub>pH</sub> -DX-Au-Gd	395	540
Dextran	275	

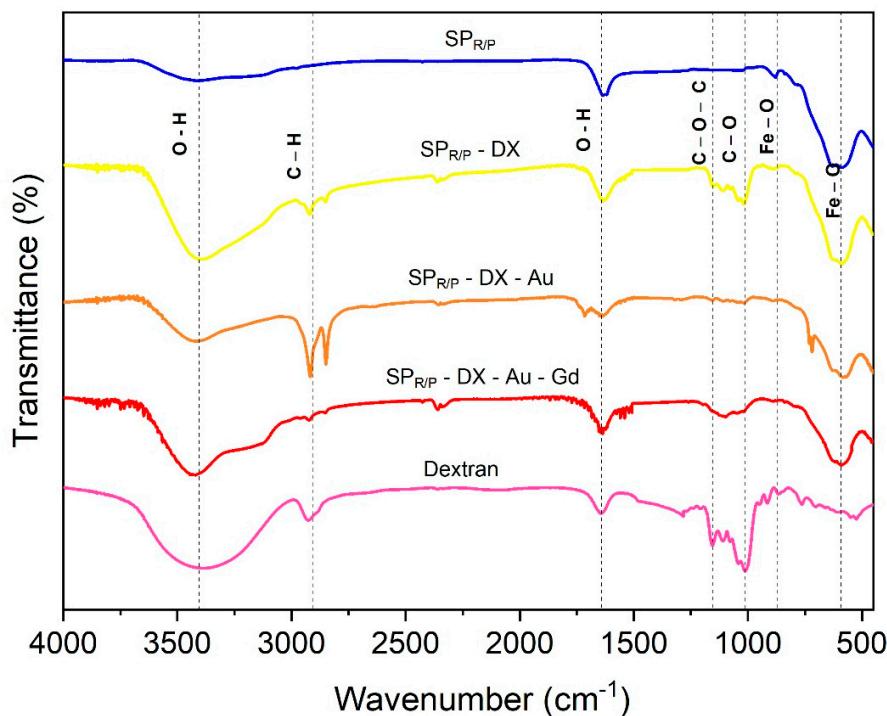


**Figure S1.** UV-Vis spectra of M<sub>R/P</sub> samples.

**2. Attenuated Total Reflectance Fourier-Transform Infrared Spectroscopy (ATR-FTIR)**

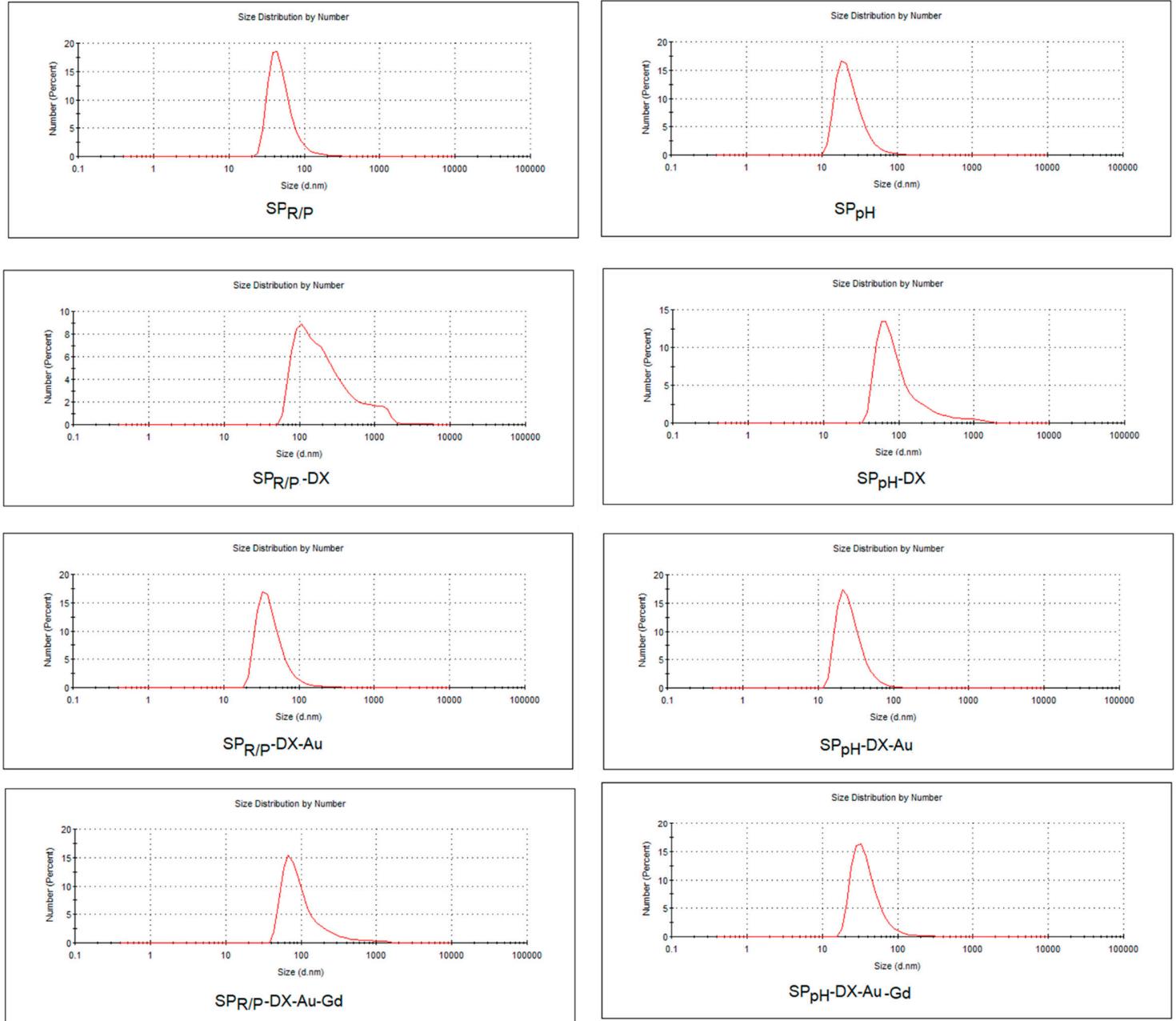
**Table S2.** Most Significant absorption bands observed in the FTIR Spectra of the SPIONs and Dextran.

Sample	Wavenumber (cm <sup>-1</sup> )								
	H <sub>2</sub> O		Dextran		H <sub>2</sub> O		Dextran	SPIONs	
SP <sub>R/P</sub>	3417			1636			879	629	587
SP <sub>R/P</sub> -Dx	3374	2922	2849	1624	1152	1018	890	620	576
SP <sub>R/P</sub> -Dx-Au	3418	2918	2849	1634	1106	1017	890	627	573
SP <sub>R/P</sub> -Dx-Au-Gd	3420	2920	2847	1635	1098	1025		625	590
SP <sub>pH</sub>	3423			1634			863		590
SP <sub>pH</sub> -Dx	3422	2923	2853	1637	1110	1016	866	617	579
SP <sub>pH</sub> -Dx-Au	3422	2922	2849	1637	1111	1013	871	617	581
SP <sub>pH</sub> -Dx-Au-Gd	3419	2928	2884	1634	1111	1051	840	618	590
Dextran	3404	2920	2881	1643	1157	1013			

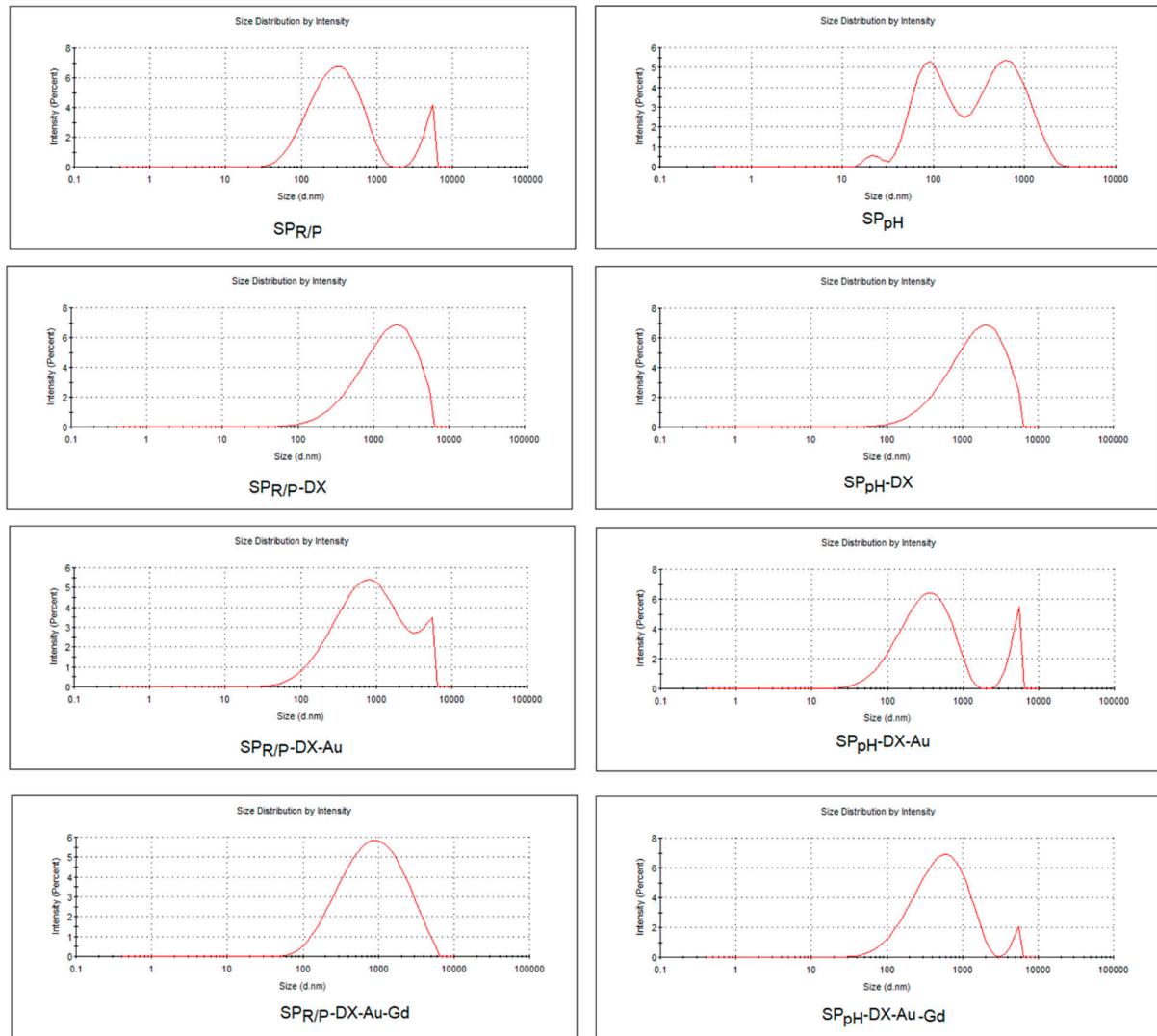


**Figure S2.** ATR-FTIR spectra of Dextran (pink) and M<sub>R/P</sub> samples, SP<sub>R/P</sub> (blue), SP<sub>R/P</sub>-Dx (yellow), SP<sub>R/P</sub>-Dx-Au (orange) SP<sub>R/P</sub>-Dx-Au-Gd (red).

### 3. Dynamic Light Scattering (DLS) and Zeta-Potential



**Figure S3.** Histograms of the size distribution by number of all samples by DLS analysis.

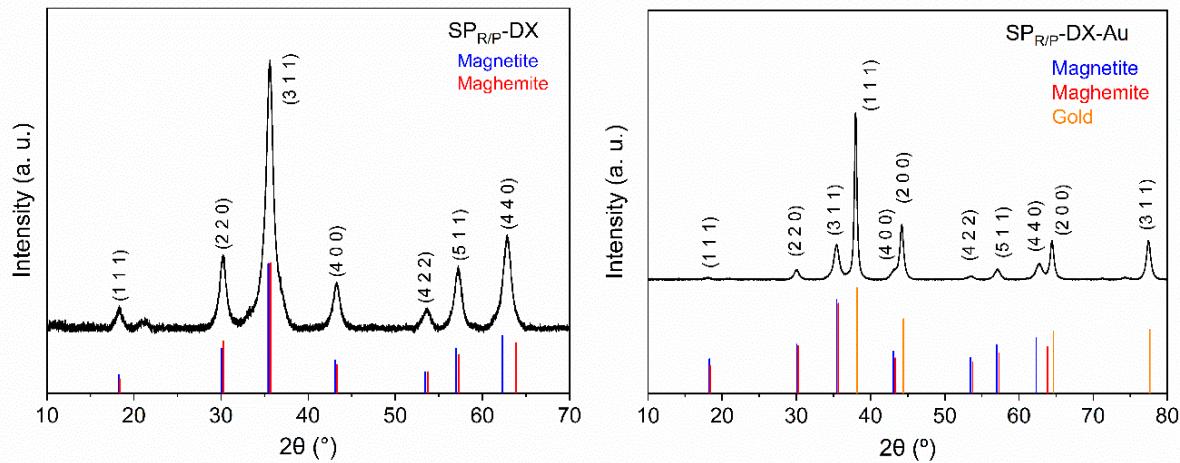


**Figure S4.** Histograms of the size distribution by intensity of all samples by DLS analysis.

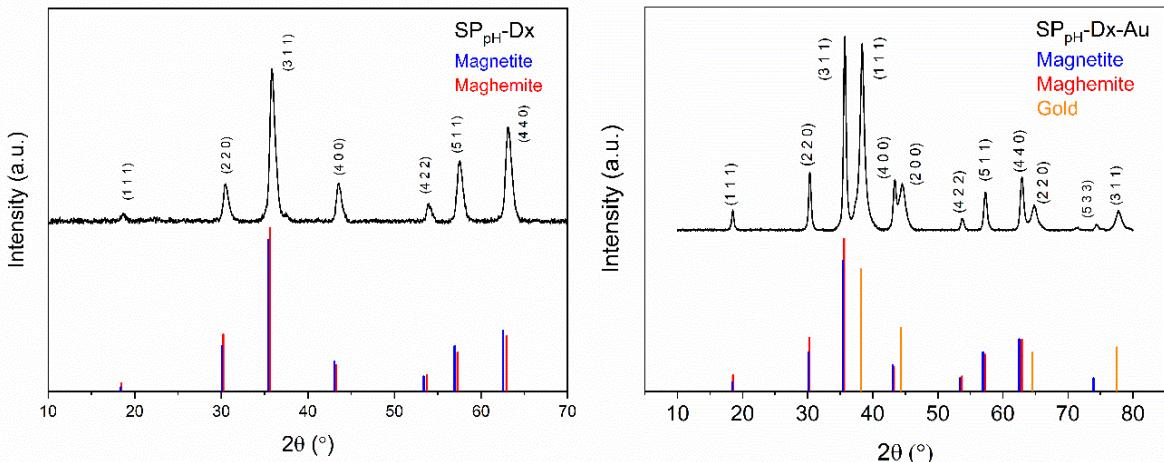
**Table S3.** Hydrodynamic size values for all samples.

Sample	Z Average (d.nm)	Hydrodynamic size			
		INTENSITY	Peak 1 (%)	Peak 2 (%)	Peak 3 (%)
SP <sub>R/P</sub>	289.4	343.3	(88.6)	4705	(11.4)
	317.6	308.6	(82.8)	4640	(17.2)
SP <sub>R/P-Dx</sub>	1087	905.9	(64.9)	4215	(35.1)
	1364	896.9	(53.0)	3974	(47.0)
SP <sub>R/P-Dx-Au</sub>	628.6	947.9	(85.3)	4321	(14.7)
	581.3	1193	(100)		
SP <sub>R/P-Dx-Au-Gd</sub>	575.8	1191	(100)		
	570.6	972.5	(100)		
SP <sub>pH</sub>	166.6	700	(54.6)	107.2	(43.2)
	159.4	414.2	(90.4)	37.87	(9.6)
SP <sub>pH-Dx</sub>	999.3	947.8	(65.6)	3985	(34.4)
	1024	1024	(65.5)	3761	(34.5)
SP <sub>pH-Dx-Au</sub>	333.0	379.9	(86.2)	4795	(13.8)
	316.3	334.3	(86.8)	4885	(13.2)
SP <sub>pH-Dx-Au-Gd</sub>	426.9	626.4	(96.0)	5047	(4.0)
	422.1	568.1	(94.1)	4971	(5.9)

**4. Powder X-ray diffraction (PXRD)**

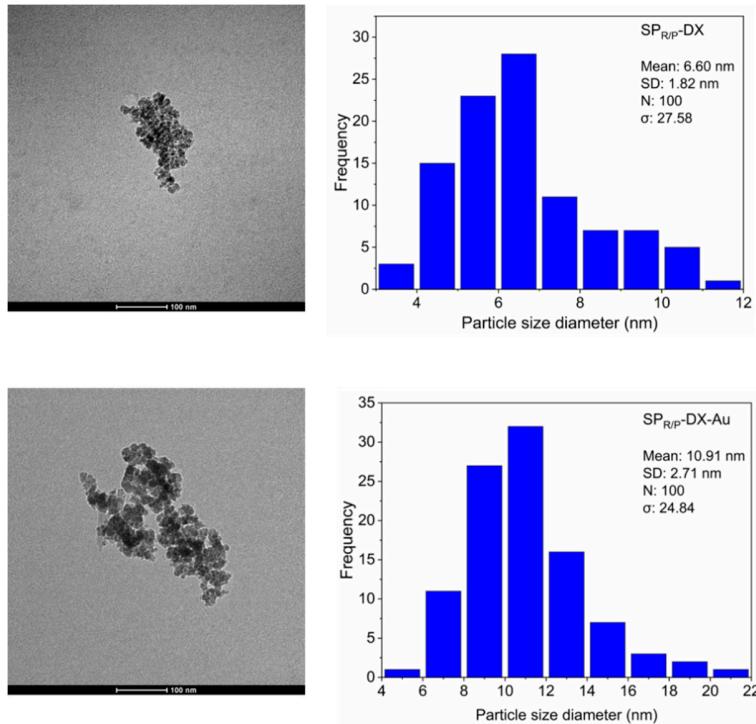


**Figure S5.** Powder diffractogram of coated samples  $\text{SP}_{\text{R/P}}\text{-Dx}$  (left) and  $\text{SP}_{\text{R/P}}\text{-Dx-Au}$  (right).

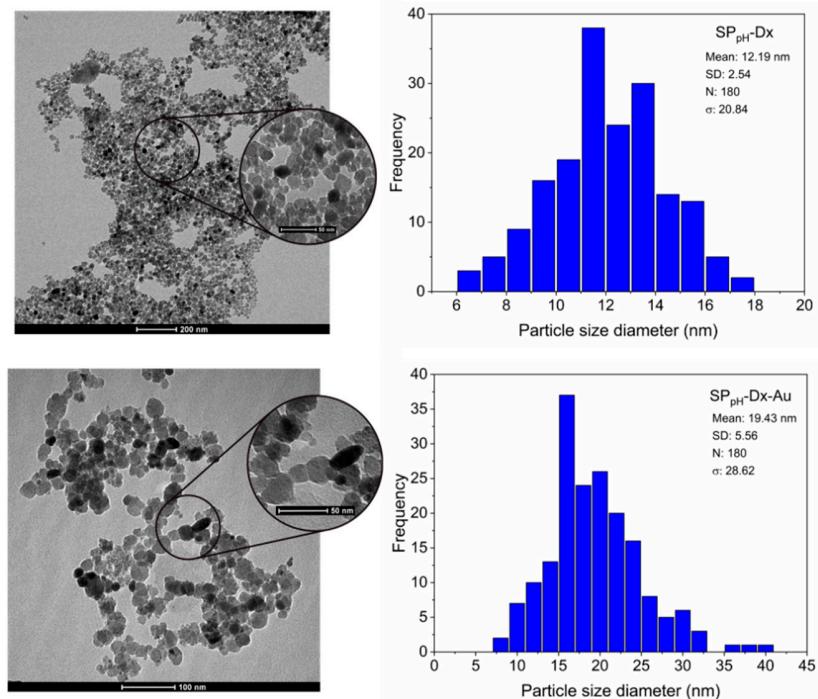


**Figure S6.** Powder diffractogram of coated samples  $\text{SP}_{\text{pH}}\text{-Dx}$  (left) and  $\text{SP}_{\text{pH}}\text{-Dx-Au}$  (right).

## 5. Transmission Electron Microscopy (TEM)

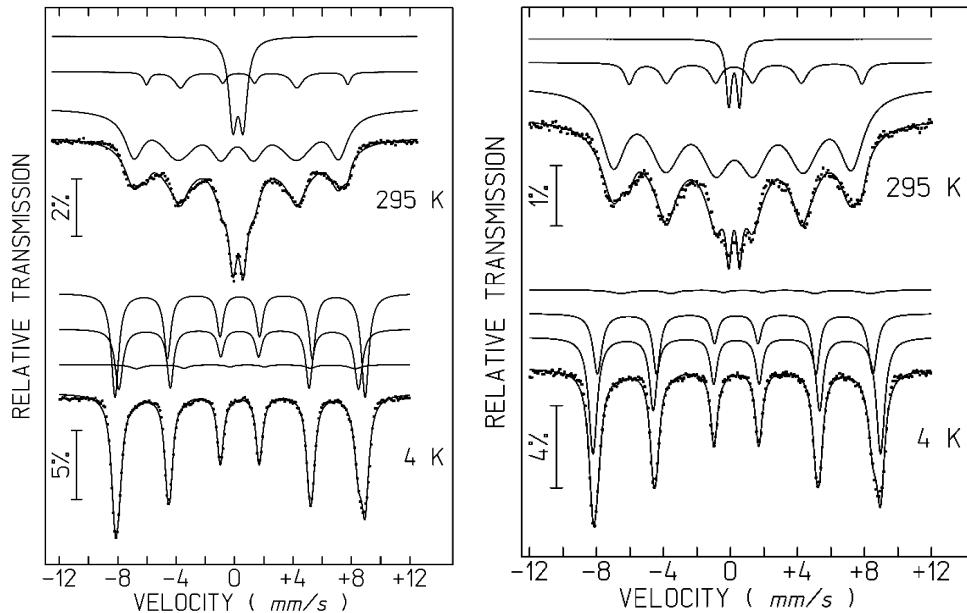


**Figure S7.** Transmission electron microscopy images of the SPIONs respective size histogram: Top:  $SP_{R/P}\text{-Dx}$ ; bottom:  $SP_{R/P}\text{-Dx-Au}$ .

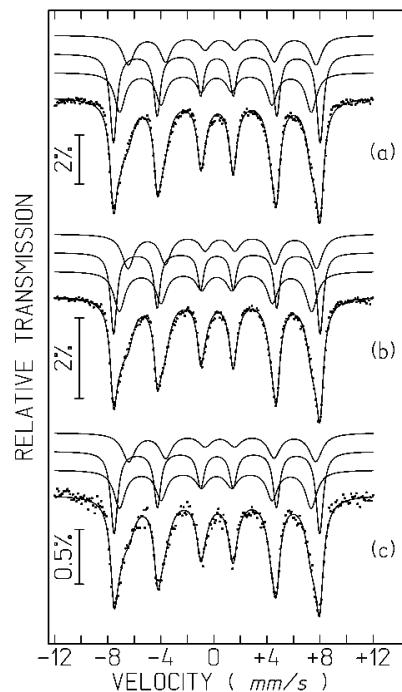


**Figure S8.** Transmission electron microscopy images of the SPIONs respective size histogram: Top:  $SP_{pH}\text{-Dx}$ ; bottom:  $SP_{pH}\text{-Dx-Au}$ .

## 6. Mössbauer Spectroscopy



**Figure S9.** Mössbauer spectra of  $\text{SP}_{\text{R/P}}$  (left) and  $\text{SP}_{\text{R/P}}\text{-Dx-Au}$  (right) taken at different temperatures. The lines over the experimental points are the calculated curves. The estimated parameters are collected in Table S3.



**Figure S10.** Room temperature Mössbauer spectra of (a)  $\text{SP}_{\text{pH}}\text{-Dx}$  (b)  $\text{SP}_{\text{pH}}\text{-Dx-Au}$  and (c)  $\text{SP}_{\text{pH}}\text{-Dx-Au-Gd}$  samples. Calculated lines on the experimental points are the sum of three sextets (see Table S3).

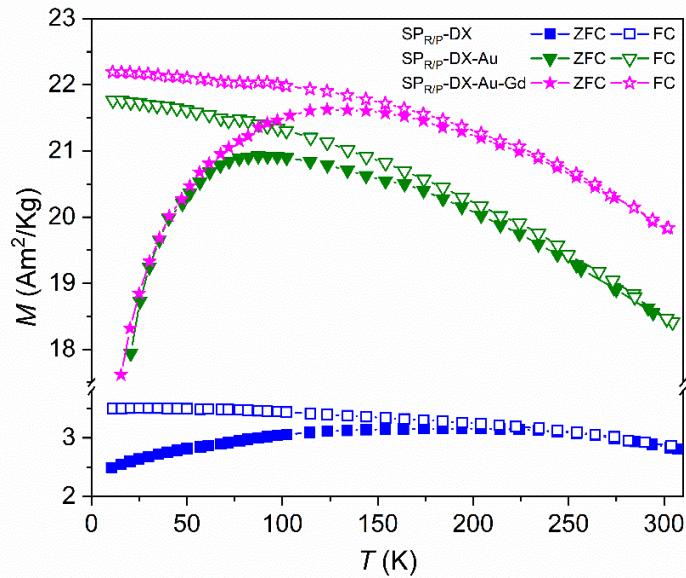
**Table S4.** Estimated parameters from the Mössbauer spectra of selected SPIONs samples at room temperature and at 4 K.

Sample	IS mm/s	$\varepsilon$ mm/s	$B_{hf}$ tesla	I (%)	Fe state	Fe in Fe <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub>
<b>SP<sub>R/P</sub></b>	0.30	-0.12	43.5	76%	Fe <sup>3+</sup> $\gamma$ Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> , Fe <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	<b>11%</b>
<b>295 K</b>	0.35	0.65	-	16%	Fe <sup>3+</sup> in the smallest NPs	
	0.69	0.66	42.7	8%	Fe <sup>2.5+</sup> CN = 6 Fe <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	
<b>4 K</b>	0.43	-0.07	50.9	39%	Fe <sup>3+</sup> CN=4 $\gamma$ Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> , Fe <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	
	0.48	0.02	53.1	57%	Fe <sup>3+</sup> CN = 6 $\gamma$ Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> , Fe <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	
	0.93	-0.10	46.4	3.8%	Fe <sup>2+</sup> CN = 6 Fe <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	
<b>SP<sub>R/P-Dx</sub></b>	0.29	-0.09	43.4	75%	Fe <sup>3+</sup> $\gamma$ Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> , Fe <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	<b>11%</b>
<b>295 K</b>	0.35	0.69	-	17%	Fe <sup>3+</sup> in the smallest NPs	
	0.68	0.63	42.1	8%	Fe <sup>2.5+</sup> CN = 6 Fe <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	
<b>4 K</b>	0.42	-0.08	50.9	38%	Fe <sup>3+</sup> CN=4 $\gamma$ Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> , Fe <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	
	0.48	0.01	53.0	58%	Fe <sup>3+</sup> CN = 6 $\gamma$ Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> , Fe <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	
	0.93	-0.45	46.8	3.8%	Fe <sup>2+</sup> CN = 6 Fe <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	
<b>SP<sub>R/P-Dx-Au</sub></b>	0.29	-0.12	44.1	86%	Fe <sup>3+</sup> $\gamma$ Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> , Fe <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	<b>13%</b>
<b>295 K</b>	0.33	0.64	-	5%	Fe <sup>3+</sup> in the smallest NPs	
	0.67	0.69	43.1	9%	Fe <sup>2.5+</sup> CN = 6 Fe <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	
<b>4 K</b>	0.43	-0.07	51.0	38%	Fe <sup>3+</sup> CN=4 $\gamma$ Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> , Fe <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	
	0.48	0.02	53.3	58%	Fe <sup>3+</sup> CN = 6 $\gamma$ Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> , Fe <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	
	0.94	0.23	46.5	4.4%	Fe <sup>2+</sup> CN = 6 Fe <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	
<b>SP<sub>pH</sub></b>	0.26	-0.09	44.3	32%	Fe <sup>3+</sup> CN=4 $\gamma$ Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> , Fe <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	<b>33%</b>
<b>295 K</b>	0.33	0.01	48.6	47%	Fe <sup>3+</sup> CN = 6 $\gamma$ Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	
	0.66	0.26	42.8	21%	Fe <sup>2.5+</sup> CN = 6 Fe <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	
<b>4 K</b>	0.43	0.00	51.6	34%	Fe <sup>3+</sup> CN=4 $\gamma$ Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> , Fe <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	
	0.51	-0.03	53.6	56%	Fe <sup>3+</sup> CN = 6 $\gamma$ Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> , Fe <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	
	0.94	-0.31	46.9	11%	Fe <sup>2+</sup> CN = 6 Fe <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	

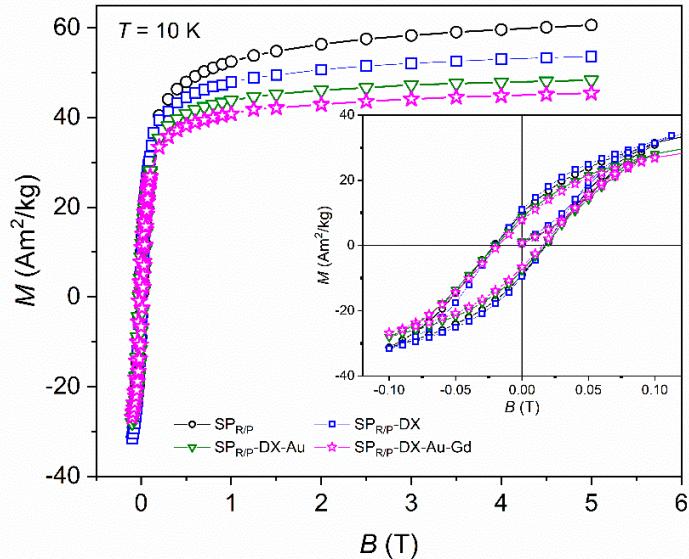
<b>SP<sub>pH</sub>-Dx</b>	0.27	-0.08	44.8	31	Fe <sup>3+</sup> CN=4 $\gamma$ Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> , Fe <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	<b>39%</b>
<b>295 K</b>	0.34	-0.01	48.3	43	Fe <sup>3+</sup> CN = 6 $\gamma$ Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	
	0.65	0.17	43.9	26	Fe <sup>2.5+</sup> CN = 6    Fe <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	
<b>SP<sub>pH</sub>-Dx-Au</b>	0.28	-0.10	44.7	33	Fe <sup>3+</sup> CN=4 $\gamma$ Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> , Fe <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	<b>45%</b>
<b>295 K</b>	0.34	-0.01	48.3	37	Fe <sup>3+</sup> CN = 6 $\gamma$ Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	
	0.66	0.17	44.1	30	Fe <sup>2.5+</sup> CN = 6    Fe <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	
<b>SP<sub>pH</sub>-Dx-Au-Gd</b>	0.27	-0.10	45.0	34	Fe <sup>3+</sup> CN=4 $\gamma$ Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> , Fe <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	<b>44%</b>
<b>295 K</b>	0.34	0.00	48.1	37	Fe <sup>3+</sup> CN = 6 $\gamma$ Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	
	<b>0.65</b>	<b>0.19</b>	<b>43.9</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>Fe<sup>2.5+</sup> CN = 6    Fe<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub></b>	

IS isomer shift relative to metallic  $\alpha$ -Fe at 298 K;  $\varepsilon = (e^2 Q V_{zz} / 4) (3 \cos^2 \theta - 1)$  quadrupole shift,  $B_{hf}$  magnetic hyperfine field. I relative area. CN coordination number. Estimated errors  $\leq 0.02$  mm/s for IS,  $\varepsilon$ ,  $\Gamma$ ,  $< 0.3$  T for  $B_{hf}$  and  $< 2\%$  for I.

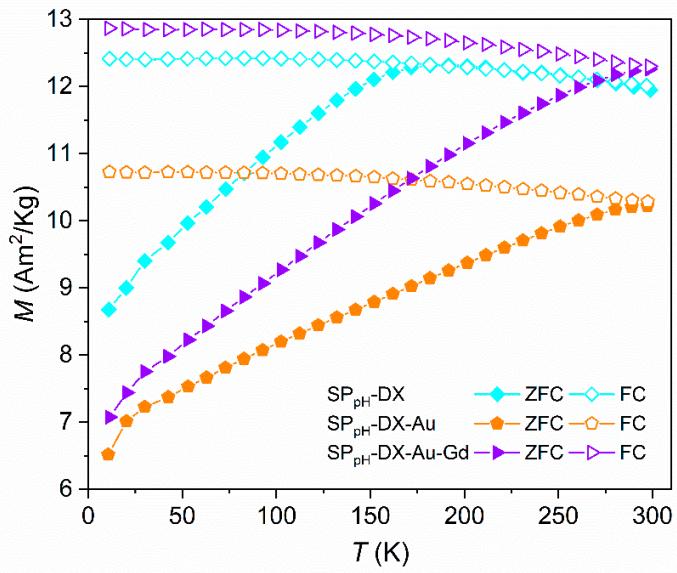
## 7. Magnetization Measurements



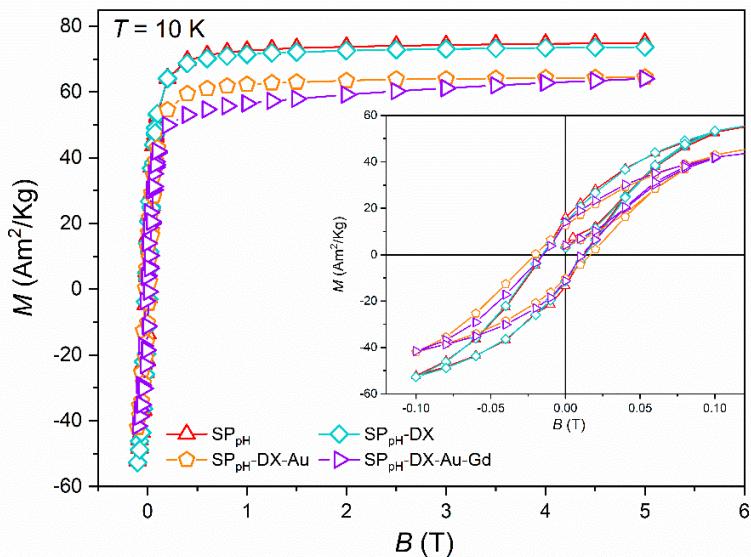
**Figure S11.** Temperature dependence of the zero-field cooling (ZFC) and field cooling (FC) magnetization for samples,  $\text{SP}_{\text{R/P}}\text{-Dx}$ , at 10 mT (squares),  $\text{SP}_{\text{R/P}}\text{-Dx-Au}$ , at 50 mT (down triangles) and  $\text{SP}_{\text{R/P}}\text{-Dx-Au-Gd}$ , at 50 mT (stars).



**Figure S12.** Magnetic field ( $B$ ) dependence of magnetization ( $M$ ) at 10 K for  $\text{SP}_{\text{R/P}}$ -based samples,  $\text{SP}_{\text{R/P}}$  (circles),  $\text{SP}_{\text{R/P}}\text{-DX}$  (squares),  $\text{SP}_{\text{R/P}}\text{-DX-Au}$  (down triangles) and  $\text{SP}_{\text{R/P}}\text{-DX-Au-Gd}$  (stars).



**Figure S13.** Temperature dependence of the zero-field cooling (ZFC) and field cooling (FC) magnetization (at 10 mT) for  $\text{SP}_{\text{pH}}$ -based samples,  $\text{SP}_{\text{pH}}$ -DX (diamonds),  $\text{SP}_{\text{pH}}$ -DX-Au (pentagons), and  $\text{SP}_{\text{pH}}$ -DX-Au-Gd (lying triangles).



**Figure S14.** Magnetic field ( $B$ ) dependence of magnetization ( $M$ ) at 10 K for  $\text{SP}_{\text{pH}}$ -based samples,  $\text{SP}_{\text{pH}}$  (triangles)  $\text{SP}_{\text{pH}}$ -DX (diamonds),  $\text{SP}_{\text{pH}}$ -DX-Au (pentagons), and  $\text{SP}_{\text{pH}}$ -DX-Au-Gd (lying triangles).

## 8. Relaxativity Studies

**Table S5.** Longitudinal ( $r_1$ ) and transverse ( $r_2$ ) relaxivity values determined for selected samples at 300 MHz, 7 T, room temperature, Fe and Gd concentrations, and  $r_2/r_1$  ratios.

Sample	7 T (300 MHz, room temp) / mM <sup>-1</sup> s <sup>-1</sup>			Concentration (measured by ICP) / M		Relaxivities considering Fe and Gd contributions, 7 T		
	$r_1$ (Gd)	$r_2$ (Fe)	$r_2/r_1$	[Fe]	[Gd]	$r_1$ (Gd + Fe)	$r_2$ (Fe + Gd)	$r_2/r_1$
SP <sub>R/P</sub>	--	122	---	1.2x10 <sup>-3</sup>	---	0.4	122	340
SP <sub>R/P-Dx-Au-Gd</sub>	5	10	2	3.5x10 <sup>-4</sup>	3.3x10 <sup>-5</sup>	0.4	9	23
SP <sub>pH</sub>	--	186	---	4.6x10 <sup>-4</sup>	---	0.8	186	240
SP <sub>pH-Dx-Au-Gd</sub>	55	56	1	7.1x10 <sup>-4</sup>	2.6x10 <sup>-6</sup>	0.2	56	282

**Table S6.** Longitudinal ( $r_1$ ) and transverse ( $r_2$ ) relaxivity values determined for selected samples at 300 MHz, 1.41 T, room temperature, Fe and Gd concentrations, and  $r_2/r_1$  ratios.

Sample	1.41 T (60 MHz, 25°C) / mM <sup>-1</sup> s <sup>-1</sup>			Concentration (measured by ICP) / M		Relaxivities considering Fe and Gd contributions, 1.41 T		
	$r_1$ (Gd)	$r_2$ (Fe)	$r_2/r_1$	[Fe]	[Gd]	$r_1$ (Gd + Fe)	$r_2$ (Fe + Gd)	$r_2/r_1$
SP <sub>R/P</sub>	---	61.8	---	6.5x10 <sup>-4</sup>	---	1.8	62.0	35
SP <sub>R/P-Dx-Au-Gd</sub>	5.5	7.7	1.4	2.7x10 <sup>-4</sup>	1.3x10 <sup>-5</sup>	0.3	7.7	29
SP <sub>pH</sub>	---	169.7	---	1.6x10 <sup>-4</sup>	---	7.7	169.7	22
SP <sub>pH-Dx-Au-Gd</sub>	23.2	11.7	0.5	5.3x10 <sup>-4</sup>	2.2x10 <sup>-6</sup>	0.1	11.8	123