**Supplementary Information for**

**Fluorescence Loss of Commercial Aqueous Quantum Dots during Preparation for Bioimaging**

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**Supplementary Figures**



**Figure S1**. (a) Photoluminescence QY wavelength dependence for QDs from 4 vendors excited at 488 nm and at the first exciton wavelength. (b) Excitation spectra for Rhodamine 6G and QDs from 4 vendors.



**Figure S2**. Photoluminescence intensity (PL) and QY of QDs from Vendor 1 as a function of diluted concentration: (A) red QDs, Lot 2 and (B) green QDs.



**Figure S3**. Photoluminescence (PL) intensity and QY of QDs from Vendor 1 after centrifugal filtration repeated up to 3 times (fixed concentration): (A) red QDs, lot 2, and (B) green QDs.



**Figure S4**. Representative images of QDs (0.1 µM) from Vendor #1 show substantial aggregation in pH 4.7, 0.1 M MES buffer. QDs from Vendor 1 (Lot 1) dispersed in (A) a compatible buffer (i.e., pH 9, 50 mM borate buffer) and (B) in an incompatible buffer (i.e., pH 4.7, 0.1 M MES buffer). QDs from Vendor #1, regardless of lot number or color, aggregated and precipitated in MES buffer.

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**Figure S5**. QY of QDs from Vendor 1 (Lot 2) (0.1 µM), Vendor 2 (0.1 µM), and Vendor 3 (0.15 µM) in pH 7.26 and pH 9, 50 mM borate buffer.