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Supplementary Information

Enhanced photodynamic therapy and fluorescence imaging using gold nanorods for porphyrin delivery in a novel *in vitro* squamous cell carcinoma 3D model

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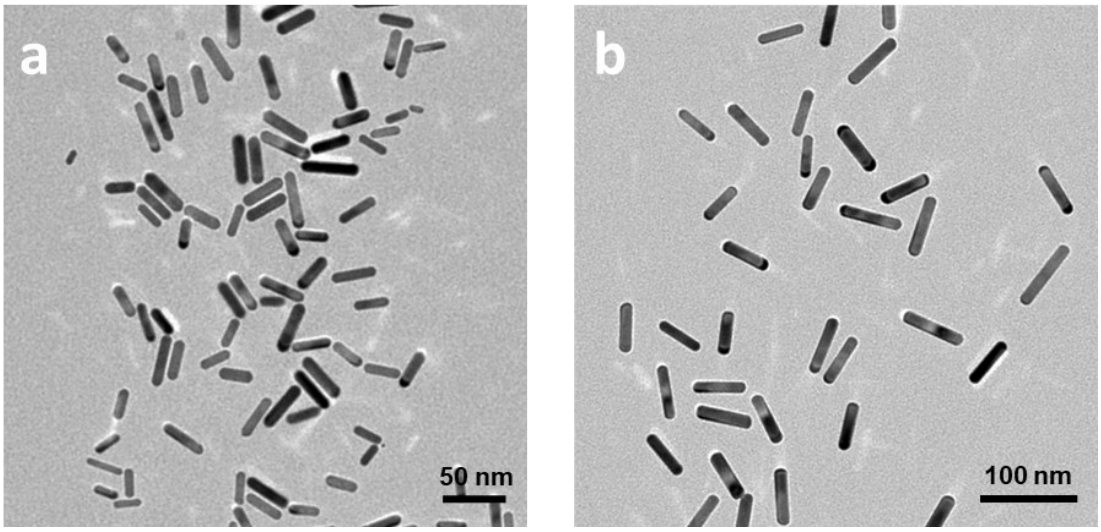

Fig. S1 TEM images of a) Au NRs and b) PAA-Au NRs.

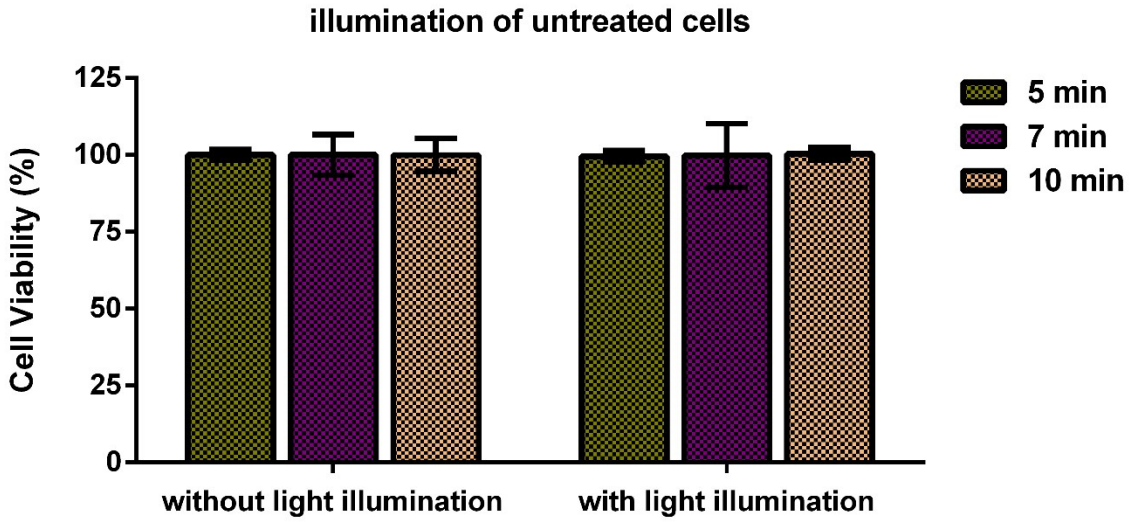

Fig. S2 The effect of light illumination to cell viability of untreated control cells with the samples. Cells were illuminated for 5, 7 and 10 min with blue LumiSource® flatbed lamp at 420 nm and 7 mW/cm^2 output. Cytotoxicity were measured by MTT assay.

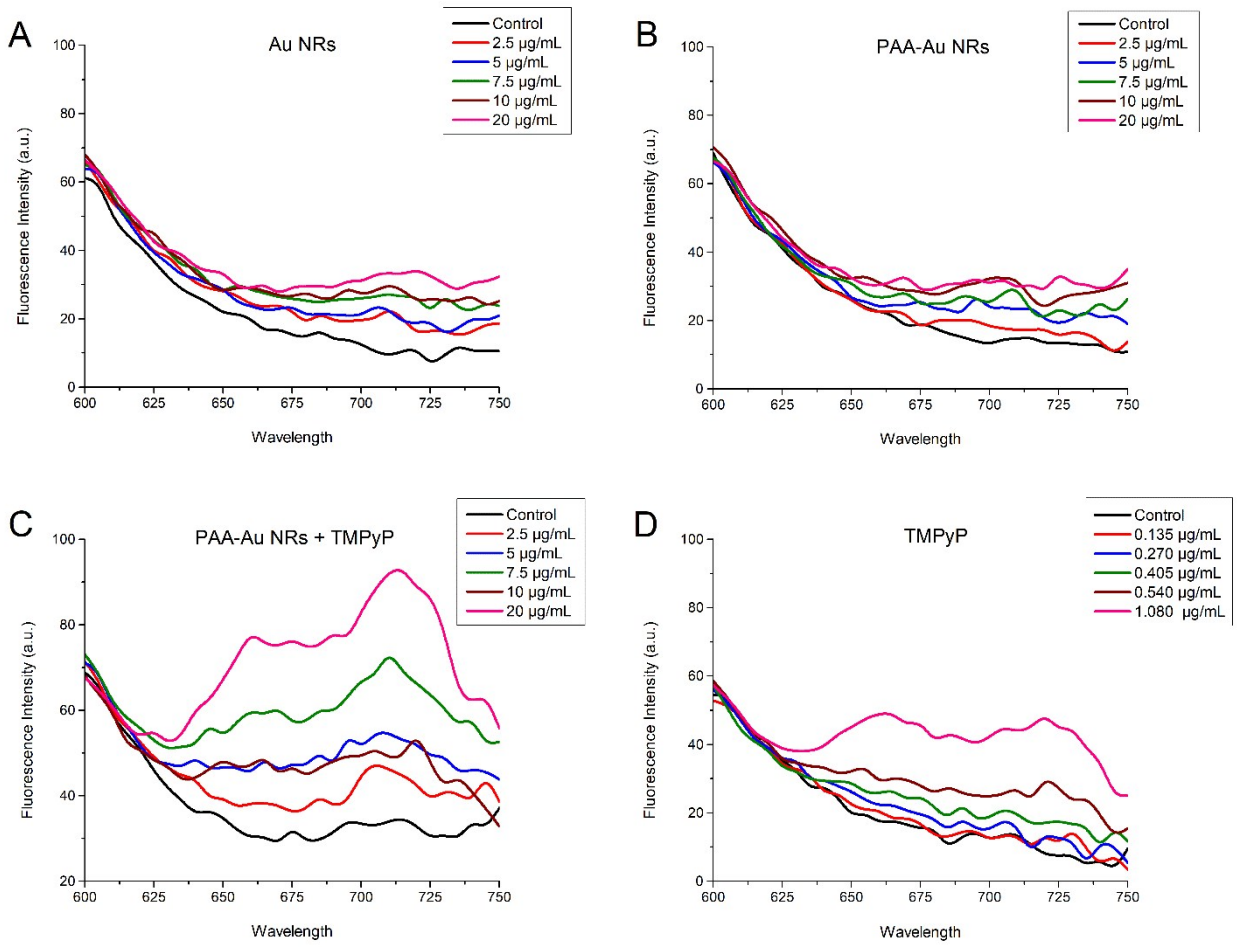

Fig. S3 Fluorescence spectra of 2D monolayer A431 models incubated with Au, PAA-Au, PAA-Au + TMPyP NRs and equivalent free TMPyP at different concentrations for 24 h, between 600-750 nm (λexc = 420 nm). Control is untreated cells for each panel.

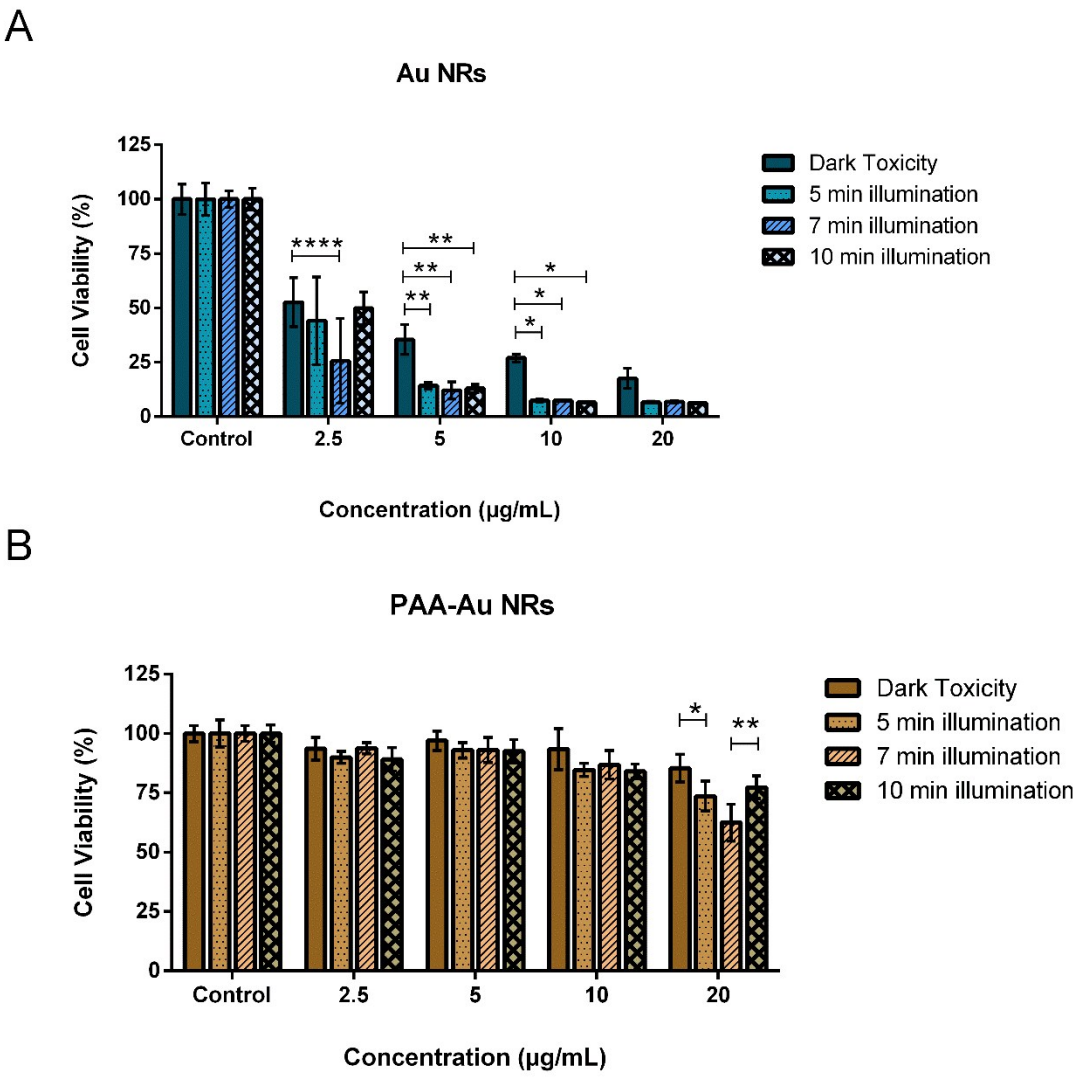

Fig. S4 Effect of light illumination on the cytotoxicity of in vitro 2D monolayer head and neck squamous cell carcinoma models treated with A) Au and B) PAA-Au NRs. The cytotoxicities were measured by MTT assay. Light illumination were carried out with a blue LumiSource® flatbed lamp at 420 nm and 7 mW/cm^2 output for 5 min, 7 min, and 10 min.