

## Chitosan Functionalized Fe<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>@Au Core-Shell Nanomaterials for Targeted Drug Delivery

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**Abstract :** Chitosan functionalized Fe<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>-Au core shell nanoparticles have been prepared using a two step wet chemical approach using NaBH<sub>4</sub> as reducing agent for formation of Au in ethylene glycol. X-ray diffraction studies shows individual phases of Fe<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub> and Au in the as prepared samples with crystallite size of 5.9 and 11.4 nm respectively. The functionalization of the core-shell nanostructure with Chitosan has been confirmed using Fourier transform infrared spectroscopy along with signatures of octahedral and tetrahedral sites of Fe<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub> below 600cm<sup>-1</sup>. Mössbauer spectroscopy shows decrease in particle-particle interaction in presence of Au shell (72% sextet) than pure oleic coated Fe<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub> nanoparticles (88% sextet) at room temperature. At 80K, oleic acid coated Fe<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub> shows only sextets whereas the Chitosan functionalized Fe<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub> and Chitosan functionalized Fe<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>@Au core shell show presence of 5 and 11% doublet, respectively.

**Keywords :** core shell, drug delivery, gold nanoparticles, magnetic nanoparticles

**Conference Title :** ICN 2015 : International Conference on Nanoparticles

**Conference Location :** San Francisco, United States

**Conference Dates :** June 07-08, 2015