

Table of contents

1. GENERAL INTRODUCTION.....	1
1.1 Nanotechnology.....	3
1.2 Organic-Inorganic Hybrid Functional Nanomaterials.....	4
1.3 Mesoporous Silica Particles as Inorganic Scaffolds.....	7
1.4 Advanced Applications of Functional Organic-Inorganic Hybrid Supports: Gated Materials.....	24
2. OBJECTIVES.....	67
3. CHAPTER II. An Aptamer-Gated Silica Mesoporous Material for Thrombin Detection	71
4. CHAPTER III. Selective fluorogenic sensing of As(III) using aptamer- capped nanomaterials.....	97
5. CHAPTER IV. Surface Enhanced Raman Scattering and Gated Materials for Sensing Applications: The Ultrasensitive Detection of Mycoplasma and Cocaine.....	123
6. CHAPTER V. Self-Regulated Glucose-Sensitive Neoglycoenzyme- Capped Mesoporous Silica Nanoparticles for Insulin Delivery	161
7. GENERAL DISCUSSION	187
8. CONCLUSIONS.....	191
9. APPENDICES.....	249
i. Publications object of this thesis.....	195
ii. Other scientific contributions.....	196