

Appendix S3. Eleven metal discs (Allgemeine Gold- und Silberscheideanstalt AG, Pforzheim, Germany) with a thickness of 1 mm and diameter of 15 mm (surface area 4 cm²) made of gold alloys frequently used for jewellery were used to study the release of gold in cysteine solution. The compositions of the metal discs were specified by the supplier. The aim was that the discs would be as similar as possible to the ones used in the previously performed study (7). The gold content varied between 8 and 18 carat (33.3–75% gold). The gold content, type of alloy and amount of other metals in the alloys are shown in Table II. One piece of gold foil (24 carat) with an area of 2.0 cm² was also included to study the release rate from pure gold.