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**COVER ILLUSTRATION** The cover image shows the structure of a YAG crystal and belongs to the manuscript of Bakhmetyev et al. dealing with the synthesis and surface characterization of nanosized  $Y_2O_3$ : Eu and YAG: Eu luminescent phosphors to be used for the photodynamic therapy of cancer. To learn more about this topic please see their contribution on pages 173–184 in this issue.

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# **Contents**

# Special Section: Nanomaterials for Medicine: Benefits and Risks

# **Guest Editorial**

Liudmyla Rieznichenko

Nanomaterials for medicine: benefits and risks — 171

# **Original Articles**

Vadim V. Bakhmetyev, Tamara S. Minakova, Sergey V. Mjakin, Lev A. Lebedev, Anna B. Vlasenko, Anna A. Nikandrova, Irina A. Ekimova, Nina S. Eremina, Maxim M. Sychov and Armelle Ringuede

Synthesis and surface characterization of nanosized  $Y_2O_3$ : Eu and YAG: Eu luminescent phosphors useful in photodynamic therapy of cancer — 173

Yurii Krutyakov, Alexey Klimov, Boris Violin, Vladimir Kuzmin, Victoria Ryzhikh, Alexander Gusev, Olga Zakharova and George Lisichkin

Benzyldimethyl[3-(miristoylamino)-propyl]ammonium chloride stabilized silver nanoparticles (Argumistin™) in medicine: results of clinical trials for treatment of infectious diseases of dogs and perspectives for humans — 185

Kseniya V. Mishchenko, Diana K. Avdeeva, Yurii M. Yukhin, Alexander I. Titkov and Olga A. Logutenko Preparation of electroconductive aluminum-silicon oxide ceramic sensors modified with silver and bismuth nanoparticles — 195

Diana Abzhanova, Anna Godymchuk, Alexander Gusev and Denis Kuznetsov

Exposure of nano- and ultrafine Ni particles to synthetic biological solutions: predicting fate-related dissolution and accumulation —— 203

# **Regular contributions**

# **Original Article**

Elena A. Shlyapnikova, Igor L. Kanev, Nadezhda N. Novikova, Elena G. Litvinova, Yuri M. Shlyapnikov and Victor N. Morozov

Exposure to bleomycin nanoaerosol does not induce fibrosis in mice —— 213

## **Short Communications**

Mohammad-Reza Nejadmoghaddam, Abdolreza Babamahmoodi, Arash Minai-Tehrani, Amir-Hassan Zarnani and Rassoul Dinarvand

The use of objective oriented project planning tools for nanosafety and health concerns: a case study in nanomedicine research project — 225

Anupam Roy, Shanker L. Shrivastava, Suman Saha, Subhasish Khamrai, Malabendu Jana and Santi M. Mandal

Crede's method in eye water finds a nanomedicine base: a potential candidate to control ophthalmia neonatorum —— 233