**Table 1.** Data relating to the dyes used in the study (**Cas. No.**=Identification number; **Cat. No.**=Catalogue number; **N/A**=not applicable).

**Dye Generic name Binding Cas. No. Cat. No. Company
(abbrevation) name capacity**

**Food Blue** Patent Blue Electrostatic 3536-49-0 74748 FLUKA, USA
**(FB)** V calcium salt

**Acid Red** Acid Red 1 Electrostatic 3734-67-6 210633 Aldrich, USA
**(AR)**

**Alexa Fluor 594** Alexa Fluor 594 Covalent **N/A** A10438 Life technologies, USA
**(AF594)** hydrazide, sodium salt Electrostatic

**Aminofluorescein** 5-(((2-(carbohydrazino) Covalent **N/A** C356 Life technologies, USA
**(AFS)** methyl)thio)acetyl)
 -aminofluorescein

**Lucifer Yellow CH** Dipotassium salt Covalent 71206-95 L0144 Sigma, USA
**(LYCH)** Electrostatic

**Food Blue + Lucifer Yellow CH**
**(FB+LYCH)**

**Food Blue + Aminofluorescein**
**(FB+AFS)**