## Supporting Information for

## Ratiometric Fluorescence Imaging of Lysosomal Zn<sup>2+</sup> Release under Oxidative Stress in Neural Stem Cells

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**Fig. S1** Fluorescence ratio ( $F_{610nm}/F_{578nm}$ ) of **LysoZn-1** (1 µM) changes as a function of pH in

ethanol/10 mM Tris-HCl = 4/6, v/v. Excitation wavelength was 545 nm.



**Fig. S2** Fluorescence spectra of 1  $\mu$ M **LysoZn-1** in the absence (black line) and presence of 200  $\mu$ M Zn<sup>2+</sup> (red line) and Cd<sup>2+</sup> (blue line) in ethanol/50 mM CH<sub>3</sub>COOH-CH<sub>3</sub>COONa = 9/1, v/v, pH 5.0.



**Fig. S3** The charge numbers of atoms on **1** (a) and **LysoZn-1** (b), respectively, calculated by method of DFT (B3LYP/6-31g(d, p)) using Gaussian 09. The arrow pointed number indicate the charge numbers of the tertiary amine nitrogen atom of DPA in **1** and **LysoZn-1**.



1+Cd<sup>2+</sup>





C)





LysoZn-1



1+Zn<sup>2+</sup>

LysoZn-1+Cd<sup>2+</sup>





Fig. S4 Frontier molecular orbital plots of 1 (a),  $1+Cd^{2+}$  (b),  $1+Zn^{2+}$  (c), LysoZn-1 (d), LysoZn-1+Cd<sup>2+</sup> (e), LysoZn-1+Zn<sup>2+</sup> (f); it is involved in the vertical excitation (UV/Vis

absorption, left column) and emission (right column). The vertical excitation related calculations are based on the optimised geometry of the ground state, and the emission related calculations were based on the optimised geometry of the excited state. B3LYP geometries and 6-31G (d, p) / LanL2DZ (for complex of 1/LysoZn-1 with Cd<sup>2+</sup> or Zn<sup>2+</sup>) basis set during the TD-DFT calculations.



**Fig. S5** a) Fluorescence spectra of 1  $\mu$ M **LysoZn-1** upon the titration of Zn<sup>2+</sup> (0-10  $\mu$ M) in ethanol/10 mM Tris-HCl = 9/1, v/v, pH 7.2. b) Fluorescence ratio ( $F_{578nm}/F_{647nm}$ ) changes as a function of Zn<sup>2+</sup> concentration (0-10  $\mu$ M). Excitation wavelength was 545 nm.



Fig. S6 Curve of fluorescence intensity at 578 nm ( $F_{578nm}$ ) of LysoZn-1 versus increasing

concentration of Zn<sup>2+</sup>. The concentration of LysoZn-1 was 1  $\mu$ M. The dissociation constant  $K_d$  is deduced to be  $6.8\pm0.4\times10^{-5}$  M.



**Fig. S7** Curve of fluorescence ratio ( $F_{578nm}/F_{680nm}$ ) of **LysoZn-1** versus increasing concentration of Zn<sup>2+</sup>. The concentration of **LysoZn-1** was 1  $\mu$ M. The dissociation constant  $K_d$  is deduced to be  $12.3\pm0.6\times10^{-5}$  M.



**Fig. S8** Fluorescence intensity at 578 nm ( $F_{578nm}$ ) of **LysoZn-1** versus increasing concentration of log[Zn<sup>2+</sup>]. The concentration of **LysoZn-1** was 1  $\mu$ M. The fluorescence response fits to a Hill coefficient of 1(1.09046). It is consistent with the formation of a 1:1 stoichiometry for the **LysoZn-1**-Zn<sup>2+</sup> complex.



Fig. S9 Fluorescence ratio ( $F_{578nm}/F_{680nm}$ ) of LysoZn-1 versus increasing concentration of

 $\log[Zn^{2+}]$ . The concentration of **LysoZn-1** was 1  $\mu$ M. The fluorescence response fits to a Hill coefficient of 1(1.08136). It is consistent with the formation of a 1:1 stoichiometry for the **LysoZn-1**-Zn<sup>2+</sup> complex.



**Fig. S10** Fluorescence spectra of 1  $\mu$ M **LysoZn-1** upon the titration of Zn<sup>2+</sup> (0, 5, 10, 20, 30, 50, 70, 90, 120, 150, 180, 200, 230, 300, 400, 500, 600 and 800  $\mu$ M) in ethanol/50 mM CH<sub>3</sub>COOH-CH<sub>3</sub>COONa = 9/1, v/v, pH 5.0. Excitation wavelength was 545 nm.



**Fig. S11** Curve of fluorescence intensity at 578 nm ( $F_{578nm}$ ) of **LysoZn-1** versus increasing concentration of Zn<sup>2+</sup> at pH 5.0. The concentration of **LysoZn-1** was 1  $\mu$ M. The dissociation constant  $K_d$  is deduced to be  $8.1\pm0.9\times10^{-5}$  M.



Fig. S12 Curve of fluorescence intensity ratio ( $F_{578nm}/F_{680nm}$ ) of LysoZn-1 versus increasing concentration of Zn<sup>2+</sup> at pH 5.0. The concentration of LysoZn-1 was 1  $\mu$ M. The dissociation

constant  $K_{\rm d}$  is deduced to be 16.0±0.7×10<sup>-5</sup> M.



Fig. S13 The time courses of fluorescence intensity (578 nm) of LysoZn-1 (1  $\mu$ M) in the presence of 200  $\mu$ M Zn<sup>2+</sup> in ethanol/10 mM Tris-HCl = 9/1, v/v, pH 7.2. Excitation wavelength was 545 nm.



**Fig. S14** Fluorescence responses of **LysoZn-1** (1  $\mu$ M) toward 200  $\mu$ M various cations in ethanol/10 mM Tris-HCl = 9/1, v/v, pH 7.2. From right to left: Ag<sup>+</sup>, Ba<sup>2+</sup>, Ca<sup>2+</sup>, Cd<sup>2+</sup>, Cu<sup>+</sup>, Co<sup>2+</sup>, Cr<sup>3+</sup>, Fe<sup>3+</sup>, Hg<sup>2+</sup>, K<sup>+</sup>, Mg<sup>2+</sup>, Mn<sup>2+</sup>, Na<sup>+</sup>, Ni<sup>2+</sup>, Pb<sup>2+</sup>, Zn<sup>2+</sup>. Excitation wavelength was 545 nm. Black bars represent the relative emission intensity (*F*/*F*<sub>0</sub>, at 578 nm) of **LysoZn-1**+cations; light gray bars represent the fluorescence intensity of **LysoZn-1**+Zn<sup>2+</sup> in the presence of other cations.



**Fig. S15** Fluorescence responses of **LysoZn-1** (1  $\mu$ M) toward various anions (200  $\mu$ M) in ethanol/50 mM CH<sub>3</sub>COOH-CH<sub>3</sub>COONa = 9/1, v/v, pH 5.0. From right to left: Br<sup>-</sup>, CH<sub>3</sub>COO<sup>-</sup>, Cl<sup>-</sup>,

ClO<sup>-</sup>, ClO<sub>4</sub><sup>-</sup>, CO<sub>3</sub><sup>2-</sup>, HPO<sub>4</sub><sup>2-</sup>, H<sub>2</sub>PO<sub>4</sub><sup>-</sup>,  $\Gamma$ , NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>, S<sup>2-</sup>, Zn<sup>2+</sup>. Excitation wavelength was 545 nm. Black bars represent the relative emission intensity (*F*/*F*<sub>0</sub>, at 578 nm) of **LysoZn-1**+anions; gray bars represent the fluorescence intensity of **LysoZn-1**+Zn<sup>2+</sup> in the presence of other anions.



**Fig. S16** Fluorescence responses of **LysoZn-1** (1  $\mu$ M) toward various anions (200  $\mu$ M) in ethanol/10 mM Tris-HCl = 9/1, v/v, pH 7.2. From right to left: Br<sup>-</sup>, CH<sub>3</sub>COO<sup>-</sup>, Cl<sup>-</sup>, ClO<sup>-</sup>, ClO<sup>+</sup>, ClO<sup>+</sup>



**Fig. S17** Fluorescence ratio images ( $F_{575-620 \text{ nm}}/F_{655-755 \text{ nm}}$ ) of **LysoZn-1** (1 µM) labelled MCF-7 cells in the presence of 100 µM chloroquine at different time points: a) 0 min; b) 5 min; c) 10 min; d) 15 min; e) 20 min; f) 25 min; g) 30 min. Excitation wavelength is 559 nm. h) Bright field. i) Plot of the emission ratios as a function of time after chloroquine was added. The ratio values are extracted from 7 regions of each image, error bars are ±sem.



**Fig. S18**  $Zn^{2+}$ -dependent ratio changes of **LysoZn-1** in NSCs. Cells were treated with 1  $\mu$ M **LysoZn-1** for 30 min, then various concentrations of  $Zn^{2+}$  was added: a) 0  $\mu$ M; b) 10  $\mu$ M; c) 20  $\mu$ M; d) 50  $\mu$ M. After 10 min incubation, confocal fluorescence images were recorded; e) bright field; f) fluorescence ratio ( $F_{575-620nm}/F_{655-755nm}$ ) changes as a function of  $Zn^{2+}$  concentration upon 559 nm excitation. The ratio values are extracted from 5 regions of each image, error bars are ±sem.



**Fig. S19**  $Zn^{2+}$ -dependent ratio changes of **LysoZn-1** in MCF-7 cells. Cells were treated with 1  $\mu$ M **LysoZn-1** for 30 min, then various concentrations of  $Zn^{2+}$  was added: a) 0  $\mu$ M; b) 10  $\mu$ M;

c) 20  $\mu$ M; d) 50  $\mu$ M. After 10 min incubation, confocal fluorescence images were recorded; e) bright field; f) fluorescence ratio ( $F_{575-620 \text{ nm}}/F_{655-755 \text{ nm}}$ ) changes as a function of Zn<sup>2+</sup> concentration upon 559 nm excitation. The ratio values are extracted from 10 regions of each image, error bars are  $\pm$ sem.



**Fig. S20** Ratiometric imaging ( $F_{575-620 \text{ nm}}/F_{655-755 \text{ nm}}$ ) of Zn<sup>2+</sup> in LysoZn-1 labeled MCF-7 cells. a) Cells were incubated with 1  $\mu$ M LysoZn-1 for 30 min; b) following a 10 min treatment of Zn<sup>2+</sup> (20  $\mu$ M); c) fluorescence ratio images of cells in b) treated further by TPEN solution (20  $\mu$ M, 10 min); d) bright field; e) statistical analyses were performed with One-Way ANOVA (n =13 fields of cells). \*\*\*P < 0.001, and error bars are ±sem.Excitation wavelength is 559 nm.



**Fig. S21** Fluorescence spectra of **LysoZn-1** (blue line) and **LysoZn-1**+H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> (red line) in ethanol/50 mM CH<sub>3</sub>COOH-CH<sub>3</sub>COONa = 9/1, v/v, pH 5.0. Excitation wavelength is 545 nm. The concentrations of **LysoZn-1** and H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> were 1  $\mu$ M and 1 mM, respectively.



Fig. S22 Cytotoxicity of LysoZn-1 on NSCs and MCF-7 cells. Cells were incubated with 1  $\mu$ M LysoZn-1 in FBS buffer for 12 h or 24 h, cell viabilities were examined using Thermo Fisher Scientific.





Fig. S24  $^{13}$ C-NMR of 2



Fig. S25 <sup>1</sup>H-NMR of 3



Fig. S26 <sup>13</sup>C-NMR of 3



Fig. S27 <sup>1</sup>H-NMR of LysoZn-1



Fig. S28 <sup>13</sup>C-NMR of LysoZn-1

Reference