

**Supplementary information for:**

**Gd(III) Complexes Intercalated into Hydroxy Double Salts as Potential MRI Contrast Agents**

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Table S1: Synthesis conditions and chemical formulae for all intercalates of  $\text{Ni}_2\text{Zn}_3\text{-NO}_3$ . The interlayer spacings listed below are those of the  $\text{Gd}^{3+}$  complex intercalates; in all cases reflections can also be seen between 7.7 and 9.7 Å corresponding to nitrate and/or carbonate intercalated HDS.

ID	Molar ratio	Reaction	Interlayer	Chemical formula
	[ $\text{Ni}_2\text{Zn}_3\text{-NO}_3$ : Gd complex]	time / day (s)	spacing / Å	
D1	5 : 1	7	/	$[\text{Ni}_2\text{Zn}_3(\text{OH})_8](\text{GdC}_{14}\text{H}_{18}\text{O}_{10}\text{N}_3)_{0.09} \cdot [(\text{NO}_3) + 0.5(\text{CO}_3)]_{1.82} \cdot \text{nH}_2\text{O}$
D2	2 : 1	7	/	$[\text{Ni}_2\text{Zn}_3(\text{OH})_8](\text{GdC}_{14}\text{H}_{18}\text{O}_{10}\text{N}_3)_{0.13} \cdot [(\text{NO}_3) + 0.5(\text{CO}_3)]_{1.74} \cdot \text{nH}_2\text{O}$
D3	1 : 1	7	/	$[\text{Ni}_2\text{Zn}_{2.3}(\text{OH})_8](\text{GdC}_{14}\text{H}_{18}\text{O}_{10}\text{N}_3)_{0.08} \cdot [(\text{NO}_3) + 0.5(\text{CO}_3)]_{0.44} \cdot \text{nH}_2\text{O}$
D4	1 : 5	7	14.6	$[\text{Ni}_2\text{Zn}_3(\text{OH})_8](\text{GdC}_{14}\text{H}_{18}\text{O}_{10}\text{N}_3)_{0.21} \cdot [(\text{NO}_3) + 0.5(\text{CO}_3)]_{1.58} \cdot \text{nH}_2\text{O}$
D5	5 : 1	3	14.7	$[\text{Ni}_2\text{Zn}_3(\text{OH})_8](\text{GdC}_{14}\text{H}_{18}\text{O}_{10}\text{N}_3)_{0.05} \cdot [(\text{NO}_3) + 0.5(\text{CO}_3)]_{1.90} \cdot \text{nH}_2\text{O}$
D6	2 : 1	3	14.8	$[\text{Ni}_2\text{Zn}_3(\text{OH})_8](\text{GdC}_{14}\text{H}_{18}\text{O}_{10}\text{N}_3)_{0.06} \cdot [(\text{NO}_3) + 0.5(\text{CO}_3)]_{1.88} \cdot \text{nH}_2\text{O}$
D7	1 : 1	3	14.8	$[\text{Ni}_2\text{Zn}_4(\text{OH})_8](\text{GdC}_{14}\text{H}_{18}\text{O}_{10}\text{N}_3)_{0.07} \cdot [(\text{NO}_3) + 0.5(\text{CO}_3)]_{3.86} \cdot \text{nH}_2\text{O}$
D8	1 : 5	3	14.8	$[\text{Ni}_2\text{Zn}_3(\text{OH})_8](\text{GdC}_{14}\text{H}_{18}\text{O}_{10}\text{N}_3)_{0.50} \cdot [(\text{NO}_3) + 0.5(\text{CO}_3)]_{1.00} \cdot \text{nH}_2\text{O}$
D9	5 : 1	1	14.8	$[\text{Ni}_2\text{Zn}_3(\text{OH})_8](\text{GdC}_{14}\text{H}_{18}\text{O}_{10}\text{N}_3)_{0.04} \cdot [(\text{NO}_3) + 0.5(\text{CO}_3)]_{1.92} \cdot \text{nH}_2\text{O}$
D10	2 : 1	1	14.8	$[\text{Ni}_2\text{Zn}_3(\text{OH})_8](\text{GdC}_{14}\text{H}_{18}\text{O}_{10}\text{N}_3)_{0.07} \cdot [(\text{NO}_3) + 0.5(\text{CO}_3)]_{1.86} \cdot \text{nH}_2\text{O}$
D11	1 : 1	1	14.7	$[\text{Ni}_2\text{Zn}_{2.5}(\text{OH})_8](\text{GdC}_{14}\text{H}_{18}\text{O}_{10}\text{N}_3)_{0.05} \cdot [(\text{NO}_3) + 0.5(\text{CO}_3)]_{0.9} \cdot \text{nH}_2\text{O}$
D12	1 : 5	1	14.6	$[\text{Ni}_2\text{Zn}_3(\text{OH})_8](\text{GdC}_{14}\text{H}_{18}\text{O}_{10}\text{N}_3)_{0.17} \cdot [(\text{NO}_3) + 0.5(\text{CO}_3)]_{1.66} \cdot \text{nH}_2\text{O}$
P1	5 : 1	3	14.6	$[\text{Ni}_2\text{Zn}_3(\text{OH})_8](\text{GdC}_9\text{H}_{23}\text{N}_3\text{O}_{15}\text{P}_5)_{0.34} \cdot [(\text{NO}_3) + 0.5(\text{CO}_3)]_{1.32} \cdot \text{nH}_2\text{O}$
P2	2 : 1	3	/	$[\text{Ni}_2\text{Zn}_{4.1}(\text{OH})_8](\text{GdC}_9\text{H}_{23}\text{N}_3\text{O}_{15}\text{P}_5)_{0.06} \cdot [(\text{NO}_3) + 0.5(\text{CO}_3)]_{4.08} \cdot \text{nH}_2\text{O}$
P3	1 : 1	3	/	$[\text{Ni}_2\text{Zn}_3(\text{OH})_8](\text{GdC}_9\text{H}_{23}\text{N}_3\text{O}_{15}\text{P}_5)_{0.10} \cdot [(\text{NO}_3) + 0.5(\text{CO}_3)]_{1.80} \cdot \text{nH}_2\text{O}$
P4	5 : 1	1	/	$[\text{Ni}_2\text{Zn}_{2.5}(\text{OH})_8](\text{GdC}_9\text{H}_{23}\text{N}_3\text{O}_{15}\text{P}_5)_{0.36} \cdot [(\text{NO}_3) + 0.5(\text{CO}_3)]_{0.28} \cdot \text{nH}_2\text{O}$
P5	2 : 1	1	/	$[\text{Ni}_2\text{Zn}_3(\text{OH})_8](\text{GdC}_9\text{H}_{23}\text{N}_3\text{O}_{15}\text{P}_5)_{0.05} \cdot [(\text{NO}_3) + 0.5(\text{CO}_3)]_{1.90} \cdot \text{nH}_2\text{O}$
P6	1 : 1	1	14.5	$[\text{Ni}_2\text{Zn}_3(\text{OH})_8](\text{GdC}_9\text{H}_{23}\text{N}_3\text{O}_{15}\text{P}_5)_{0.10} \cdot [(\text{NO}_3) + 0.5(\text{CO}_3)]_{1.80} \cdot \text{nH}_2\text{O}$

Table S2: Experimental conditions, X-ray diffraction data and chemical formulae of the Zn<sub>5</sub>-Gd(DTPA) intercalates. The reaction time is 7 days in all cases.

Sample	Molar ratio	[Gd(DTPA)] <sup>2-</sup>	NO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup>	Chemical formula
	Zn <sub>5</sub> -NO <sub>3</sub> : [Gd(DTPA)] <sup>2-</sup>	interlayer spacing / Å	interlayer spacing / Å	
ZD1	2 : 1	18.4	9.3	[Zn <sub>5</sub> (OH) <sub>8</sub> ](GdC <sub>14</sub> H <sub>18</sub> O <sub>10</sub> N <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>0.02</sub> ·[(NO <sub>3</sub> )+0.5(CO <sub>3</sub> )] <sub>1.96</sub> ·nH <sub>2</sub> O
ZD2	1 : 1	18.6	9.6	[Zn <sub>5</sub> (OH) <sub>8</sub> ](GdC <sub>14</sub> H <sub>18</sub> O <sub>10</sub> N <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>0.07</sub> ·[(NO <sub>3</sub> )+0.5(CO <sub>3</sub> )] <sub>1.86</sub> ·nH <sub>2</sub> O
ZD3	1 : 5	/	9.3	[Zn <sub>5</sub> (OH) <sub>8</sub> ](GdC <sub>14</sub> H <sub>18</sub> O <sub>10</sub> N <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>0.14</sub> ·[(NO <sub>3</sub> )+0.5(CO <sub>3</sub> )] <sub>1.72</sub> ·nH <sub>2</sub> O

Table S3: Proton relaxivities of the Zn<sub>5</sub>-Gd(DTPA) materials.

Sample	[Gd] mM	T <sub>1</sub> [ms]	T <sub>2</sub> [ms]	r <sub>1</sub> [s <sup>-1</sup> mM <sup>-1</sup> ]	r <sub>2</sub> [s <sup>-1</sup> mM <sup>-1</sup> ]
Zn <sub>5</sub> -NO <sub>3</sub>	/	2806.00	81.27		
ZD1	0.21	355.67	70.73	13.63	68.52
ZD2	0.67	151.40	49.36	9.91	30.40
ZD3	1.36	247.67	84.77	2.97	8.67

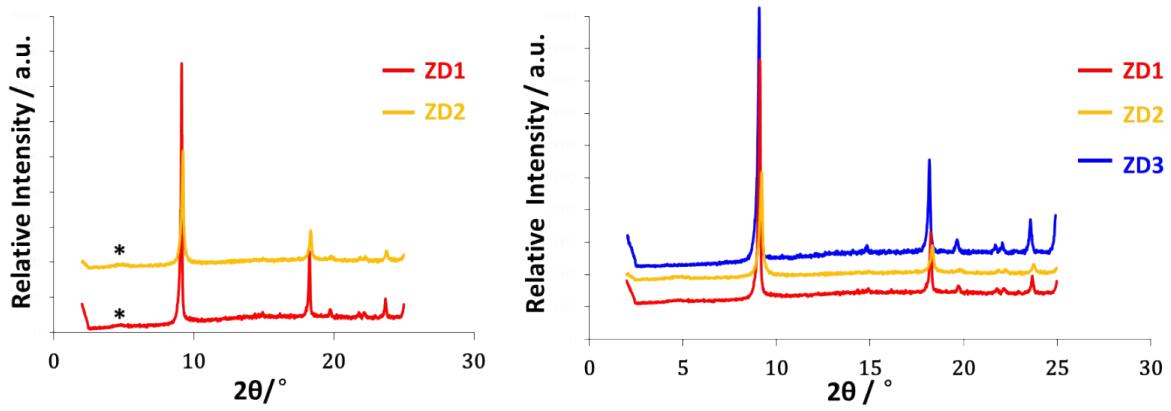


Fig. S1: X-ray diffraction patterns for the reaction products of  $\text{Zn}_5\text{-NO}_3$  and  $[\text{Gd(DTPA)}(\text{H}_2\text{O})]^{2-}$ , with intercalate reflections marked with \*.

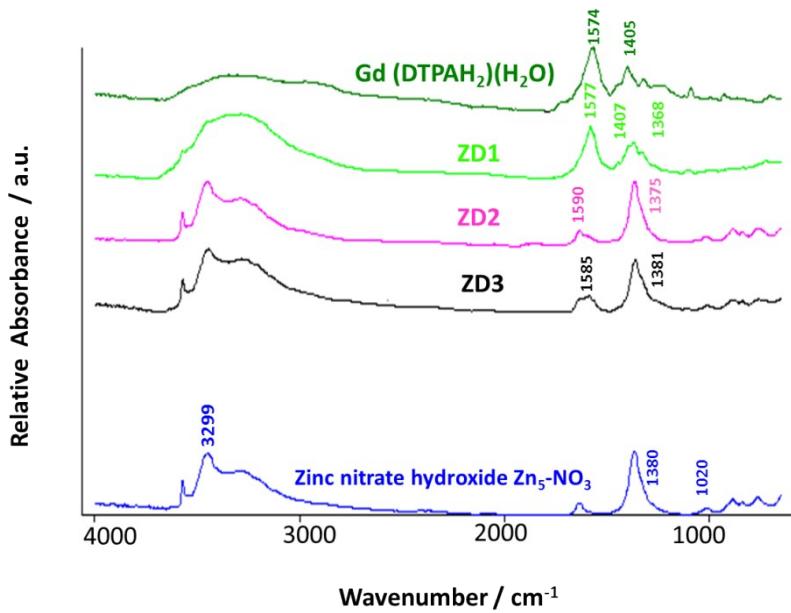


Fig. S2: IR spectra of  $\text{Zn}_5\text{-NO}_3$  and its  $[\text{Gd(DTPA)}(\text{H}_2\text{O})]^{2-}$  intercalates.

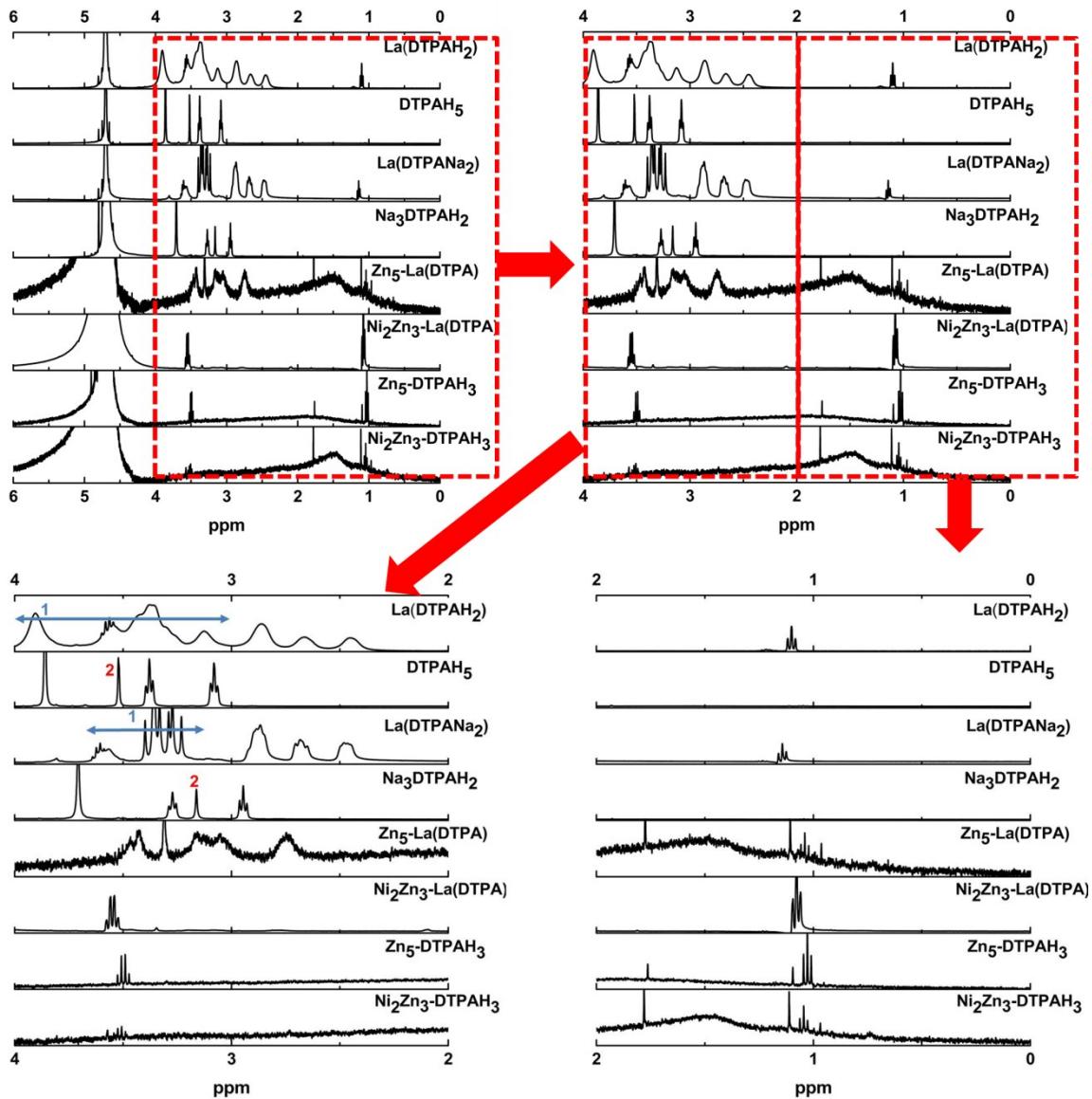


Fig. S3:  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra (different expansions) of  $\text{La}(\text{DTPAH}_2)(\text{H}_2\text{O})$ ,  $\text{DTPAH}_5$ ,  $\text{La}(\text{DTPANa}_2)$ , and  $\text{Na}_3\text{DTPAH}_2$ , and of  $[\text{La}(\text{DTPA})(\text{H}_2\text{O})]^{2-}$ , and  $[\text{DTPAH}_3]^{2-}$  after de-intercalation from HDS hosts.

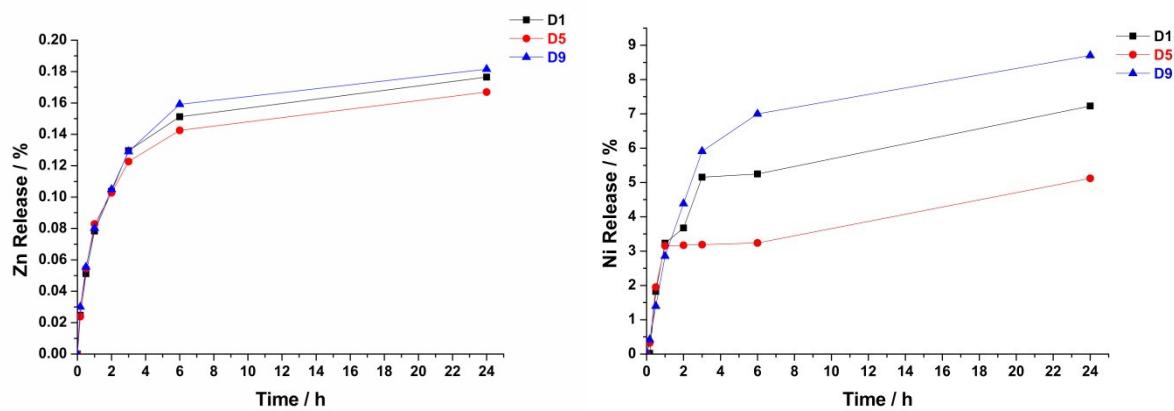


Fig. S4: Zn and Ni release profiles from selected HDSs.