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## **Supporting Information**

## Fluorinated cyclometalated iridium(III) complexes as mitochondria-targeted theranostic anticancer agents

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Fig. S1 ESI-MS spectra of Ir1 in CH<sub>3</sub>OH solutions.



Fig. S2 <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra of Ir1 in DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>, 300 MHz.





Fig. S3 ESI-MS spectra of Ir2 in CH<sub>3</sub>OH solutions.



Fig. S4 <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra of Ir2 in DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>, 300 MHz.



Fig. S5 <sup>19</sup>F NMR spectra of Ir2 in DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>, 377 MHz.



Fig. S6 ESI-MS spectra of Ir3 in CH<sub>3</sub>OH solutions.



Fig. S7 <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra of Ir3 in DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>, 300 MHz.



Fig. S8 <sup>19</sup>F NMR spectra of Ir3 in DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>, 377 MHz.



Fig. S9 ESI-MS spectra of Ir4 in CH<sub>3</sub>OH solutions.



Fig. S10 <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra of Ir4 in DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>, 300 MHz.



Fig. S11<sup>19</sup>F NMR spectra of Ir4 in DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>, 377 MHz.



Fig. S12 ESI-MS spectra of Ir5 in CH<sub>3</sub>OH solutions.



Fig. S13 <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra of Ir5 in DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>, 300 MHz.



Fig. S14 <sup>19</sup>F NMR spectra of Ir5 in DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>, 377 MHz.



Fig. S15 ESI-MS spectra of Ir6 in CH<sub>3</sub>OH solutions.



Fig. S16 <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra of Ir6 in DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>, 300 MHz.



Fig. S17<sup>19</sup>F NMR spectra of Ir6 in DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>, 377 MHz.



Fig. S18 Absorption spectra of Ir1-Ir6 (10  $\mu$ M) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> solution at 298K



Fig. S19 Emission spectra of Ir1-Ir6 (10  $\mu$ M) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> solution at 298K with an excitation wavelength of 405 nm



**Fig. S20** Confocal fluorescence microscopy images of Hela cells colabeled with iridium(III) complexes  $(0.5\mu M, 15min)$  and MTG (150nM, 0.5h). Excitation wavelength: 405 nm (for all iridium(III) complexes), 488 nm (for MTG); emission filter: 580±20nm (for all iridium(III) complexes) and 520±20nm (for MTG). Cells shown were representative images from replicate experiments Cells shown were representative images from replicate experiments (n=3). Scale bar: 20  $\mu$ m.



**Fig. S21** Confocal fluorescence microscopy images of Hela cells colabeled with iridium(III) complexes( $0.5 \ \mu$ M, 15 min) and LTG (150 nM, 0.5 h). iridium(III) complexes Excitation wavelength: 405 nm (for all iridium(III) complexes), 488 nm(for LTG); emission filter: 580±20 nm(for all iridium(III) complexes) and 510±20 nm (for LTG). Cells shown were representative images from replicate experiments (n=3). Scale bar: 20  $\mu$ m.



**Fig. S22** (a) Confocal luminescence image and bright-field images of living HeLa cells incubated with 0.5  $\mu$ M **Ir6** in DMSO–PBS (pH 7.4, 1:99,v/v) under different conditions. (b) Flow cytometry Scattergram showing the effect of the temperature on the uptake of **Ir6** (0.5  $\mu$ M) in HeLa cells for 15 min.

$\lambda_{abs}/nm$	$\lambda_{em}/nm$	τ/ns	Φ
270, 383	587	191	0.028
270, 387	588	179	0.039
270, 381	589	188	0.032
271, 381	593	187	0.029
257, 387	594	200	0.033
257, 388	600	191	0.025
	$\begin{array}{r} \lambda_{abs}/nm \\ 270, 383 \\ 270, 387 \\ 270, 381 \\ 271, 381 \\ 257, 387 \\ 257, 388 \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c $	$\begin{array}{c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c $

 Table S1 Photophysical data of Ir1-Ir6 (in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>).