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## **Electronic Supplementary Information**

## A Sequential Enzyme-activated and Light-triggered Nanosystem for Cancer Detection and Therapy

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Figure S1. Synthetic route for the prodrug (HO-COU-MTX).



**Figure S2.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of **1** (in DMSO- $d_6$ ).

Spectrum from 170630-sample L1.wiff2 (sample 1) - 1, Experiment 1, -IDA TOF MS (100 - 1000) from 0.122 min



**Figure S3.** Mass spectrum of **1.** For **1**: HR-MS (ESI): calcd for  $C_{10}H_7ClO_3$  ([M-H]<sup>-</sup>) 209.0006, found: 209.0002.



**Figure S4.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of **2** (in DMSO- $d_6$ ).



Figure S5. Mass spectrum of 2. For 2: HR-MS (ESI): calcd for  $C_{10}H_8O_4$  ([M-H]<sup>-</sup>)191.0345, found: 191.0345.



Figure S6. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of 3 (in CDCl<sub>3</sub>).





**Figure S7.** Mass spectrum of **3.** For **3**: HR-MS (ESI): calcd for  $C_{14}H_{18}O_3$  ([M-H]<sup>-</sup>) 233.1178, found: 233.1174.





Figure S8. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of 4 (in CDCl<sub>3</sub>).





**Figure S9.** Mass spectrum of **4.** For **4**: HR-MS (ESI): calcd for  $C_{14}H_{18}O_4$  ([M-H]<sup>-</sup>) 249.1127, found: 249.1125.



Figure S10. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of 5 (in CDCl<sub>3</sub>).





**Figure S11.** Mass spectrum of **5.** For **5**: HR-MS (ESI): calcd for  $C_{24}H_{24}O_7([M-H]^-)$  423.1444, found:423.1447.



Figure S12. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of pro-prodrug (DT-COU-MTX, 6 in DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>).



**Figure S13.** Mass spectrum of pro-prodrug (6). For 6: HR-MS (ESI): calcd for  $C_{44}H_{44}N_8O_{11}([M-H]^-)$  859.3052, found:859.3050.



**Figure S14.** <sup>1</sup>HNMR spectrum of prodrug (7 in DMSO- $d_6$ ).





**Figure S15.** Mass spectrum of **7** (prodrug) for **7**: HR-MS (ESI): calcd for  $C_{30}H_{38}N_8O_8$  ([M-H]<sup>-</sup>) 627.1952, found:627.1954.



**Figure S16.** Absorption spectra of the DT-COU-MTX (5  $\mu$ M), MTX (5  $\mu$ M) and coumarin (5  $\mu$ M) in pH 7.4 PBS buffered water solution (containing 1% DMSO).



**Figure S17.** Photolytic processes of the unlocked prodrug (HO-COU-MTX) were monitored by fluorescence detection.



Figure S18. The MTX release rate of the DT-COU-MTX under irradiation for 48 h.



**Figure S19.** Relationship between MTX-release percentage (as determined by HPLC) of DT-COU-MTX after enzyme activation for various cycels of irradiation(one-photon irradiation)/dark time.



Figure S20. Particle size distribution obtained from dynamic light scattering (DLS)

and images from transmission electron microscopy (TEM) for LIP-DT-COU-MTX.



**Figure S21.** Fluorescent microscopic images for HeLa Cells that has been treated with LIP-DT-COU-MTX (20  $\mu$ g/mL, with the incubation time of 1 h or 2 h respectively) or without a LIP-DT-COU-MTX (the control).



Figure S22. Flow cytometry profiles for (A) A549 cells and (B) HeLa cells in the absence (the control) and presence of the LIP-DT-COU-MTX (20  $\mu$ g/mL) for 1 or 2 h.



Figure S23. Cell viabilities of A549, HeLa and L929 cells treated with different concentrations of MTX ( $0.1\mu g/mL$  to  $30\mu g/mL$ ) for 48h.



**Figure S24.** Cell viability of the two cell lines upon exposure to blue light irradiation (or with no irradiation) but not treated with the LIP-DT-COU-MTX.



**Figure S25.** Cell viability of three groups of cells treated with LIP-DT-COU-MTX without irradiation.



Figure S26. Cell viabilities for A549, HeLa and L929 cell lines treated with the 20  $\mu$ M dicoumarol (DIC) for 48 h.



## FITC LOG

**Figure S27.** Flow cytometry diagram of HeLa cells respectively treated with the LIP-DT-COU-MTX of varied concentrations (10  $\mu$ g/mL to 100  $\mu$ g/mL) and under light irradiation.



## FITC LOG

Figure S28. Flow cytometry diagram of A549, HeLa and L929 cell lines upon being

pre-treated with 20  $\mu$ M dicoumarol (DIC) or not for 4 h and then treated with the LIP-DT-COU-MTX (70  $\mu$ g/mL) (light-irradiation conditions are the same as those for Figure 5B).