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## **Electronic Supplementary Information**

## Octahedral Molybdenum Clusters as Radiosensitizers for X-ray Induced Photodynamic Therapy

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Figure S2. Powder X-ray diffraction pattern of starting compound 1 (a) and 1NPs (b).



**Figure S3**. Selected SEM images of **1NPs** (A) and size distribution obtained by dynamic light scattering in fresh (B) and seven days old (C) dispersions in phosphate-buffered saline.





Figure S4. Zeta potentials of 1NPs in phosphate-buffered saline including data from three measurements.



Measurement	Zeta Potential / mV
1	-24.4
2	-18.9
3	-17.9
Average	-20.4
S. D.	3.5

Figure S5. Concentration-dependent uptake of 1NPs. HeLa cells were loaded with the indicated concentrations of 1NPs for 120 minutes and the fluorescence with excitation/emission wavelengths 405/655-685 nm associated with the cells was recorded with the fluorescence-activated cell sorting. Mock cells are in grey, the growing concentration of nanoparticles is represented by darkening of the tones of green: 0.3, 0.6, 1.5, 3, and 6  $\mu$ M.



Figure S6. Time-dependent uptake of 1NPs. HeLa cells were loaded with 1NPs at concentration of 6  $\mu$ M for the indicated time period and the fluorescence with excitation/emission wavelengths 405/655-685 nm associated with the cells was recorded with the fluorescence-activated cell sorting. Mock cells are in grey, the increasing uptake time is represented by the darkening of the tones of green: 30, 60, 90 and 120 min.



Figure S7. Bright field image of HeLa cells merged with a confocal image of 1NPs (red) after 2 h incubation. White bar represents 100  $\mu$ m.



Figure S8. Uptake and photodynamic effects of 1NPs on MRC fibroblast cells.

A) Concentration-dependent uptake of **1NPs** in fibroblasts. Fibroblasts were loaded with the indicated concentrations of **1NPs** for 120 minutes and the fluorescence with excitation/emission wavelengths 405/655-685 nm associated with the cells was recorded with the fluorescence-activated cell sorting. Mock cells are in grey, the growing concentration of nanoparticles is represented by darkening of the tones of green: 0.6, 1.5, 3, and 6µM.

B) Relative uptake of **1NPs**. Dose-dependent uptake of **1NPs** after 2h incubation as follows from flow cytometry analysis. The axis y represents the fluorescence intensity of cells.

C) Dark toxicity and phototoxicity of **1NPs**. MRC fibroblast cells were loaded with **1NPs** using indicated concentrations for 2 h and irradiated with 460 nm light (20 mW cm<sup>-2</sup>) for 15 minutes. The bars labeled as 0 belong to control experiments, i.e., the cells irradiated in the absence of **1NPs**.

A









**Figure S9**. Bright field image of the HeLa cell colony-forming assay. Control (A), irradiated by 4 Gy (B), and irradiated by 4 Gy after incubation with 3  $\mu$ M **1NPs** (C). HeLa cells were seeded at 10x lower density and cultured for 4 days. White bar represents 100  $\mu$ m.





В

A

С

Figure S10. Percentage of necrotic (A) and apoptotic (B) HeLa cells 48 h after X-ray irradiation was determined with FACS analysis. The cells were treated with 3  $\mu$ M 1NPs for 2 hours and subsequently irradiated with X-rays to receive the indicated dose (black bars). The empty bars are for control experiments performed in the absence of 1NPs.

