## **Supporting Information**

## Dialing in on pharmacological features for a therapeutic antioxidant small molecule

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 Table S1. Fitting parameters for cellular toxicity studies of cyclen, L1, and L2
 L1



**Figure S1**. Equilibrium distribution diagram of L1 based on ref <sup>46</sup> ( $c_L$  = 2.5 mM, I = 0.1 M KNO<sub>3</sub>, T = 298 K).



**Figure S2.** The equilibrium distribution curves for L2, calculated using the protonation constants obtained from pH-potentiometric titrations along with the molar extinction coefficients at 255 nm from UV spectrophotometric titrations ( $c_L = 0.1 \text{ mM}$ , I = 0.15 M NaCl, T = 298 K).

The large increase in molar extinction coefficients between pH 4 and 7 aligns well with the deprotonation of the hydroxyl group (log K = 5.45) and the consequent increase of electron delocalization in the 7-center 8-electron  $\pi$ -system. From pH 7 a slow decrease in absorbance can be observed which is caused by the deprotonation of the pyridine N-atom (log K = 9.05). These changes support the proposed protonation order shown in Figure 3.



**Figure S3.** pH dependence of UV spectra in aqueous solution of L2 ( $c_L = 0.1 \text{ mM}$ , pH varied between 1.683 and 10.835).





Figure S4. pH dependent resonance structures of L3.



**Figure S5.** The equilibrium distribution curves for L3, calculated using the protonation constants obtained from pH-potentiometric titrations along with the molar extinction coefficients at 245 and 305 nm from UV spectrophotometric titrations ( $c_L = 0.03 \text{ mM}$ , I = 0.15 M NaCl, T = 298 K).



**Figure S6.** pH dependence of UV spectra in aqueous solution of L3 ( $c_L = 0.03$  mM, pH varied between 1.706 and 11.000).



**Figure S7.** Equilibrium distribution diagram in the Cu<sup>2+</sup>-L2 system calculated by using 2.00 mM concentration of Cu<sup>2+</sup> ion and the ligand.



**Figure S8.** Equilibrium distribution diagram in the  $Zn^{2+}$ -L2 system calculated by using 2.00 mM concentration of  $Zn^{2+}$  ion and the ligand.



**Figure S9.** Equilibrium distribution diagram in the  $Cu^{2+}$ -L3 system calculated by using 2.00 mM concentration of  $Cu^{2+}$  ion and the ligand.



**Figure S10.** Equilibrium distribution diagram in the  $Zn^{2+}$ -L3 system calculated by using 2.00 mM concentration of  $Zn^{2+}$  ion and the ligand.

	Cyclen	L2	L1
log(inhibitor) vs. normalized response			
Best-fit values			
LogIC <sub>50</sub>	1.867	2.474	2.365
IC <sub>50</sub>	73.63	298.0	231.8
Std. Error			
LogIC <sub>50</sub>	0.05372	0.05707	0.07932
95% Confidence Intervals			
LogIC <sub>50</sub>	1.760 to 1.974	2.362 to 2.586	2.207 to 2.524
IC <sub>50</sub>	57.50 to 94.29	230.3 to 385.6	160.9 to 334.0
Goodness of Fit			
Degrees of Freedom	63	159	63
R square	0.9422	0.7962	0.9086
Absolute Sum of Squares	5788	33402	11727
Sy.x	9.585	14.49	13.64
Number of points Analyzed	64	160	64

 Table S1. Fitting parameters for cellular toxicity studies of cyclen, L1, and L2 with HT-22 cells.