Supporting Information for:

Synthesis, Characterization, and Anticancer Activity of Folate γ-ferrocenyl conjugates

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1. General Information

1.1 Materials

All chemicals were purchased from Sigma-Aldrich and used without further purification except when mentioned. Folate deficient RPMI-1640 and 0.25% trypsin–ethylenediaminetetraacetic acid (EDTA) solution were purchased from Gibco. Fetal bovine serum (FBS) and Dulbecco's modified phosphatebuffered saline (DMPBS) (pH 7.4) were purchased from Nutricell Nutrientes Celulares (Campinas, SP, Brazil). FBS was inactivated by heating at 56 °C for 30 min as described by Gibco. Reactions dealing with air and moisture sensitive compounds were carried out using the Schlenk line technique. Pteroyl azide **14** and its intermediates (compounds **15**, **16**, and **17**) were prepared according to the literature.¹ Dried tetrabutylammonium fluoride was prepared according to the literature.²

1.2 Nuclear Magnetic Resonance (NMR) Spectroscopy

One-dimensional NMR spectra (¹H and ¹³C) and two-dimensional NMR contour maps ([¹H-¹H]-COSY, and [¹H-¹³C]-HSQC) were recorded on a Bruker AVANCE 400, Bruker AVANCE 500 or a Bruker Avance-III 600 MHz spectrometer at 298 K. Deuterated solvents were used as the lock. Chemical shifts (δ) are reported in parts per million (ppm) using the deuterated solvent residual peaks as the reference. The following abbreviations were used to denote the peak multiplicities: *s* = singlet, *d* = doublet, *t* = triplet, *q* = quartet, *qui* = quintet, *m* = multiplet, and *br* = broad.

1.3 Mass Spectrometry (MS)

Mass spectra were obtained in a Waters Xevo Q-TOF (ESI-QTOF) mass spectrometer, in positive or negative mode depending on the target product. Samples solution in methanol or acetonitrile with 0.1% (v/v) of formic acid were injected into the mass spectrometer. Before each analysis, the spectrometer was externally calibrated with phosphoric acid ranging from 99 to 980 m/z.

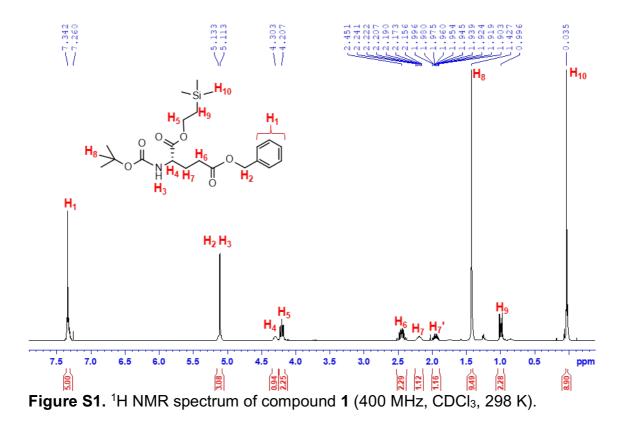
2. Syntheses

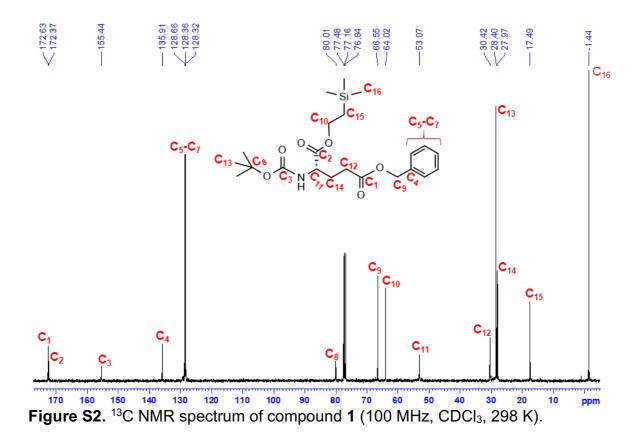
2.1 Compound 1

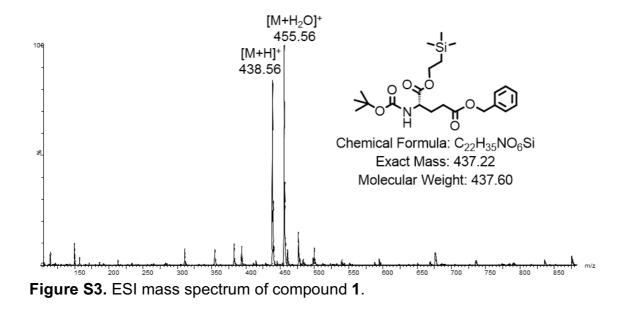
Chemical Formula: C₂₂H₃₅NO₆Si Exact Mass: 437.22 Molecular Weight: 437.61

In an air-free Schlenk flask, Boc-Glu(OBzI)-OH (4.45 mmol, 1.5 g), 4-(dimethylamino)pyridine (0.1 0.44 eq, mmol, 54.4 mg) and 2-(trimethylsilyl)ethanol (1.5 eq, 6.68 mmol, 789 mg, 957 μL) were dissolved in 100 mL of anhydrous dichloromethane. The mixture was stirred under nitrogen atmosphere at 0 °C, and N,N'-dicyclohexylcarbodiimide (1.2 eq, 5.34 mmol, 1.1 g) was added. The solution was stirred overnight at room temperature. The mixture was filtered to remove the dicyclohexylurea and further purified by column chromatography using silica gel and hexane:ethyl acetate (solvent mixture gradient from 90:10 until 30:70) as eluent. Compound 2 was obtained as a colorless oil in 90% yield (1.700 g).

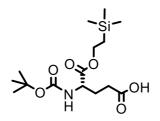
¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz), δ (ppm): 7.34 (*m*, Ar-*H*, 5H), 5.13 (*m*, N*H*Boc, OBzIC*H*₂, 3H), 4.30 (*m*, C*H*NHBoc, 1H), 4.21 (*m*, CO₂C*H*₂, 2H), 2.45 (*m*, C*H*₂CO₂, 2H), 2.24-2.16 (*m*, CHC*H*₂, 1H), 2.00-1.90 (*m*, CHC*H*₂', 1H), 1.43 (s, CO₂C(C*H*₃)₃), 9H), 1.00 (*m*, C*H*₂Si, 2H), 0.04 (s, Si(C*H*₃)₃, 9H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz), δ (ppm): 172.6 (CO₂), 172.4 (CO₂), 155.4 (HNCO), 80.0 (C_q (CH₃)₃), 66.6 (CO₂CH₂CH₂Si), 64.0 (CO₂CH₂OBzl), 53.1 (NCH), 30.4 (CH₂CO₂), 28.0 (C_q(CH₃)₃), 28.0 (CH₂CH₂CO₂), 17.5 (CH₂Si), -1.4 (Si(CH₃)₃). **ESI-MS** [M+H]⁺ m/z calcd for C₂₂H₃₅NO₆Si: 438.23, found 438.56.







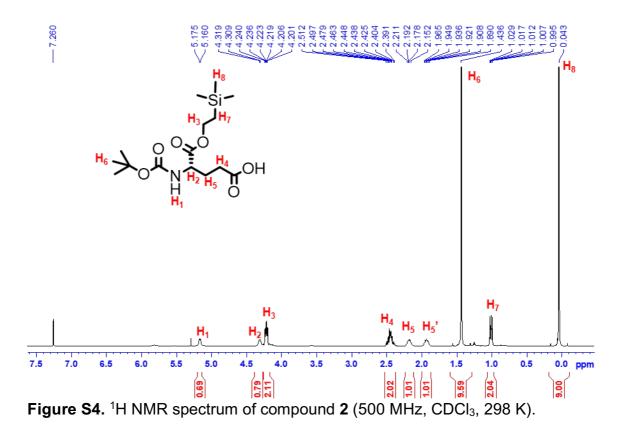
2.2 Compound 2



Chemical Formula: C₁₅H₂₉NO₆Si Exact Mass: 347.18 Molecular Weight: 347.48

Compound **1** (6.04 mmol, 2.644 g) was dissolved in 80 mL of ethanol and palladium on carbon (Pd/C 5%) catalyst (0.05 eq, 0.302 mmol, 0.643 g) was added. The solution was stirred under H₂ atmosphere at room temperature for 6 h. The solution was filtered through celite and concentrated under vacuum. The crude product was further purified by flash column chromatography using silica gel and dichloromethane:methanol (solvent mixture 95:5) as eluent. Compound **2** was obtained as a colorless oil in 83% yield (1.743g).

¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 500 MHz), δ (ppm): 5.17 (*d*, *J* = 7.3 Hz, N*H*Boc, 1H), 4.31 (*q*, *J* = 7.3 Hz, C*H*NHBoc, 1H), 4.22 (*m*, CO₂CH₂, 2H), 2.51-2.39 (*m*, CH₂CO₂H, 2H), 2.21-2.15 (*m*, CHCH₂, 1H), 1.96-1.89 (*m*, CHCH₂', 1H), 1.43 (*s*, CO₂C(CH₃)₃, 18H), 1.01 (*m*, CH₂Si, 2H), 0.04 (*s*, Si(CH₃)₃, 9H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 125 MHz), δ (ppm): 177.8 (CO₂H), 172.4 (CO₂CH₂), 155.7, (HNCO), 80.3 (C_q (CH₃)₃), 64.2 (CO₂CH₂CH₂Si), 53.0 (NCH), 30.2 (CH₂CO₂H), 28.4 (C_q (CH₃)₃), 28.0 (CH₂CH₂CO₂H), 17.5 (CH₂Si), -1.4 (Si(CH₃)₃). **ESI-MS** [M]⁻ m/z calcd for C₁₅H₂₉NO₆Si: 346.17, found 347.05.



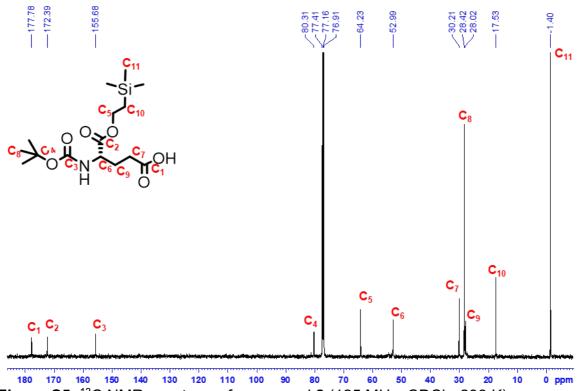
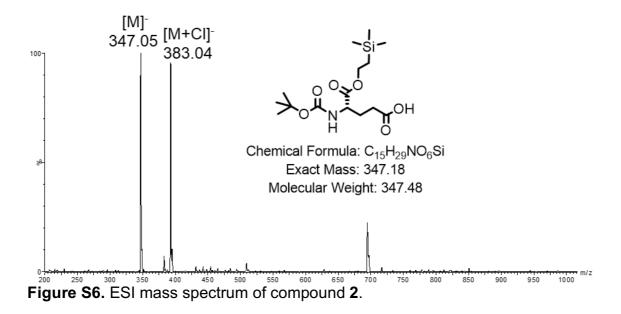
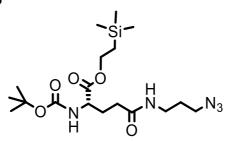


Figure S5. ¹³C NMR spectrum of compound 2 (125 MHz, CDCl₃, 298 K).



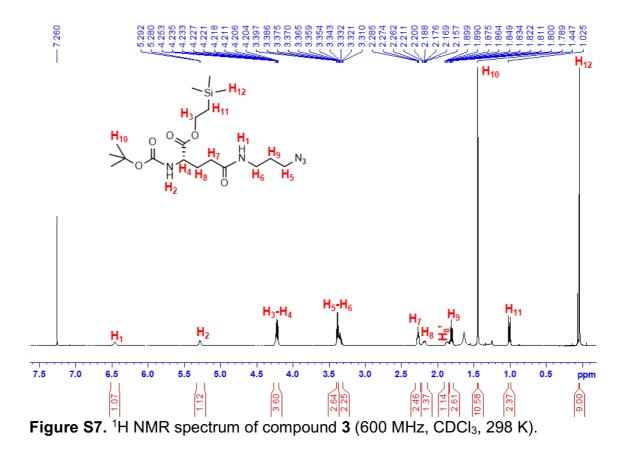
2.3 Compound 3



Chemical Formula: C₁₈H₃₅N₅O₅Si Exact Mass: 429.24 Molecular Weight: 429.59

In an air free Schlenk flask, compound **2** (0.29 mmol, 100 mg), N,Ndiisopropylethylamine (4 eq, 1.2 mmol, 149 mg, 0.2 mL), HATU (1.1 eq, 0.32 mmol, 120.4 mg) and 3-azido-1-propanamine (3 eq, 0.86 mmol, 86 mg) were dissolved in 10 mL of anhydrous N,N-dimethylformamide. The mixture was stirred for 12 h, at room temperature and under nitrogen atmosphere. The solvent was removed by rotary evaporation and the crude product was further purified by column chromatography using silica gel and hexane:ethyl acetate (solvent mixture gradient from 20:80 until 40:60) as eluent. Compound **3** was obtained as a colorless oil in 71% yield (88 mg).

¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 600 MHz), δ (ppm): 6.46 (*s*, CON*H*, 1H), 5.29 (*d*, *J* = 6.0 Hz, N*H*Boc, 1H), 4.23-4.20 (*m*, C*H*NHBoc and CO₂C*H*₂, 3H), 3.40-3.31 (*m*, C*H*₂NH and C*H*₂N₃), 2.27 (*t*, C*H*₂CON, 2H), 2.20-2.17 (*m*, CHC*H*₂, 1H), 1.87-1.83 (*m*, CHC*H*₂', 1H), 1.82 (*qui*, *J* = 6.6 Hz, CH₂C*H*₂CH₂, 2H), 1.44 (*s*, CO₂C(C*H*₃)₃, 9H), 1.00 (*m*, C*H*₂Si, 2H), 0.04 (*s*, Si(C*H*₃)₃, 9H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 150 MHz), δ (ppm): 172.4 (CO₂CH₂), 172.3 (CONH), 155.2 (HNCO), 80.4 (*C*_q(CH₃)₃, 64.3 (CO₂C*H*₂CH₂Si), 53.1 (NCH), 49.4 (CH₂N₃), 37.2 (CH₂NH), 32.9 (CH₂CONH), 29.9 (CH₂CH₂CONH), 28.9 (CH₂C*H*₂CH₂), 28.4 (C_q(CH₃)₃), 17.6 (CH₂Si), -1.4 (Si(CH₃)₃). **ESI-MS** [M+Na]⁺ m/z calcd for C₁₈H₃₅N₅O₅Si: 453.23, found 453.18.



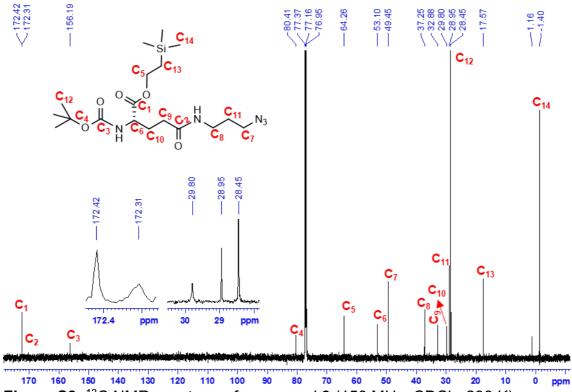
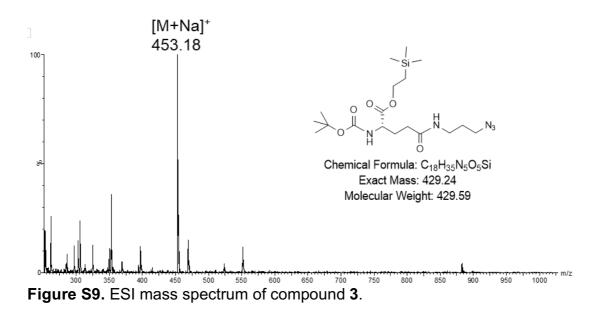
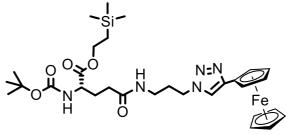


Figure S8. ¹³C NMR spectrum of compound 3 (150 MHz, CDCl₃, 298 K).



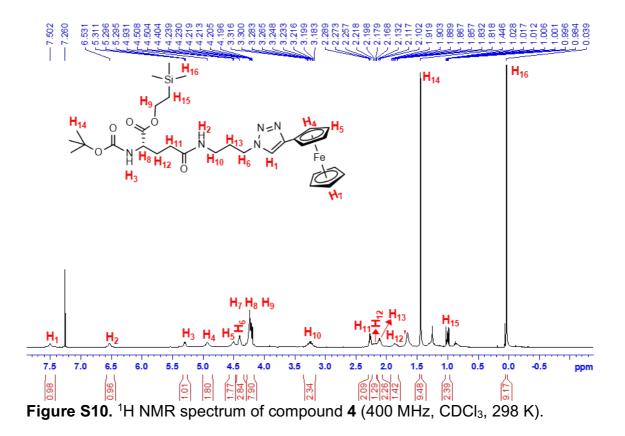
2.4 Compound 4

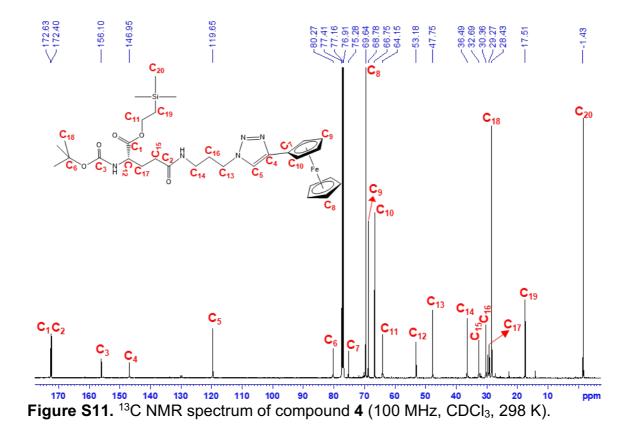


Chemical Formula: C₃₀H₄₅FeN₅O₅Si Exact Mass: 639.25 Molecular Weight: 639.65

In an air free Schlenk flask, compound 3 (0.14 mmol, 60 mg), ethenylferrocene (1 eq, 0.14 mmol, 29 mg) and copper(II) sulfate (0.05 eq, 0.1 M, 1.7 mg, 70 µL) were added into 12 mL of water and tetrahydrofuran 6/4 (v/v). After complete dissolution, sodium ascorbate (0.1 eq, 0.14 µmol, 2.8 mg) was added. The mixture was stirred for 24 h, at room temperature and under nitrogen atmosphere. The solvent was removed by rotary evaporation and the crude product was purified by flash column chromatography using silica gel and dichloromethane:methanol (solvent mixture gradient from 100:00 until 95:5) as eluent. Compound 4 was obtained as a red oil in 84% yield (75 mg).

¹**H NMR** (CDCl₃, 400 MHz), δ (ppm): 7.50 (s, triazole-*H*), 7.00 (s, CON*H*, 1H), 5.30 (*d*, *J* = 7.7 Hz, N*H*Boc, 1H), 4.93 (*br*, Fc-*H*, 2H), 4.51 (*br*, Fc-*H*, 2H), 4.40 (*m*, triazole-C*H*₂, 2H), 4.23-4.9 (*m*, C*H*NHBoc, Fc-*H*, CO₂C*H*₂, 8H), 3.28-3.21 (*m*, C*H*₂NH, 2H), 2.27 (*t*, *J* = 6.4 Hz, C*H*₂CON, 2H), 2.24-2.10 (*m*, CHC*H*₂ and CH₂C*H*₂CH₂, 3H), 1.88-1.85 (*m*, CHC*H*₂', 1H), 1.44 (*s*, CO₂C(*CH*₃)₃, 9H), 1.00 (*m*, C*H*₂Si, 2H), 0.04 (*s*, Si(C*H*₃)₃, 9H). ¹³**C NMR** (CDCl₃, 100 MHz), δ (ppm): 172.6 (CO₂CH₂), 172.4 (CONH), 155.2 (HNCO), 156.1 (*C*_q-triazole), 119.7 (triazole-CH), 80.3 (*C*_q(CH₃)₃), 75.3 (FcAr-C_q), 69.4 (FcAr-CH), 68.8 (FcAr-CH), 66.8 (FcAr-CH), 64.1 (CO₂CH₂CH₂Si), 53.2 (NCH), 47.8 (triazole-CH₂), 36.5 (CH₂NH), 32.7 (CH₂CONH), 30.4 (CH₂CH₂CH₂), 29.3 (CH₂CH₂CONH), 28.4 (C_q(CH₃)₃, 17.5 (CH₂Si), -1.4 (Si(CH₃)₃). **ESI-MS** [M+H]⁺ m/z calcd for C₃₀H₄₅FeN₅O₅Si: 640.26, found 640.34.





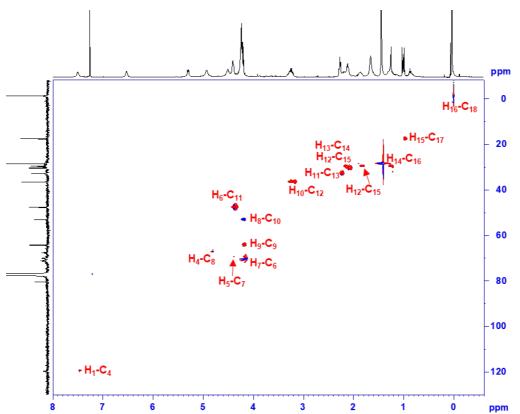
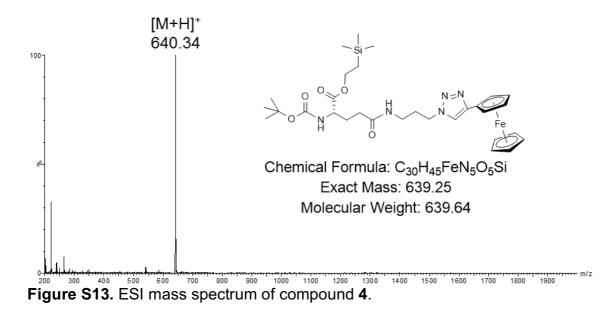
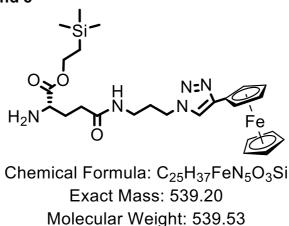


Figure S12. Two-dimensional [$^{1}H-^{13}C$]-HSQC NMR contour map of compound 4 recorded in CDCI₃ at 298 K (400 MHz).

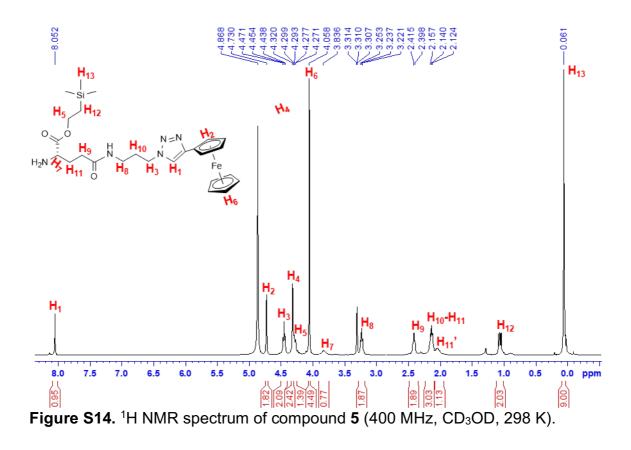


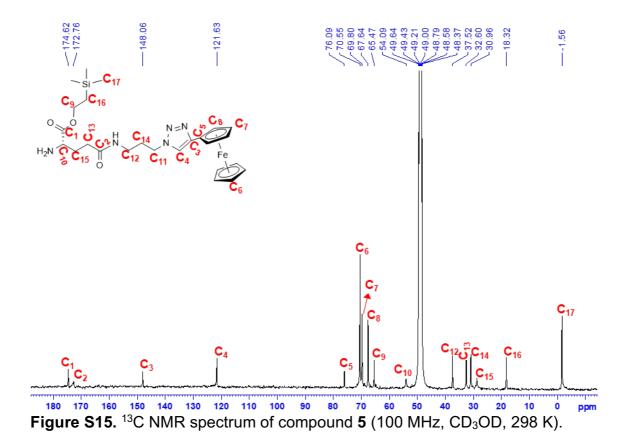
2.5 Compound 5



In an air free Schlenk flask, compound **4** (0.12 mmol, 77 mg) was dissolved in 40 mL of water and 160 mL of formic acid. The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 24 h under nitrogen atmosphere in the absence of light. The liquids were evaporated to dryness using rotary evaporation and the resulting solid was washed with diethyl ether (3 x 30 mL) and hexane (3 x 30 mL). Compound **5** was obtained as red oil in quantitative yield (65 mg).

¹H NMR (CD₃OD, 400 MHz), δ (ppm): 8.05 (*s*, triazole-*H*), 7.00, 4.73 (*br*, Fc-*H*, 2H), 4.45 (*t*, *J* = 6.7 Hz, triazole-CH₂, 2H), 4.32-4.27 (*m*, CO₂CH₂, Fc-*H*, 4H), 4.06 (*s*, Fc-*H*, 5H), 3.83 (*br*, H₂NC*H*, 1H), 3.24 (*t*, *J* = 6.4 Hz, CH₂NH, 2H), 2.41 (*t*, *J* = 6.6 Hz, CH₂CON, 2H), 2.16-2.01 (*m*, CHCH₂ and CH₂CH₂CH₂, 3H), 1.07 (*m*, CH₂Si, 2H), 0.01 (*s*, Si(CH₃)₃), 9H). ¹³C NMR (CD₃OD, 100 MHz), δ (ppm): 174.6 (CO₂CH₂), 172.8 (CONH), 148.0 (C_q-triazole), 121.6 (triazole-CH), 76.1 (FcAr-C_q), 70.5 (FcAr-CH), 69.8 (FcAr-CH), 67.6 (FcAr-CH), 65.5 (CO₂CH₂CH₂Si), 54.1 (NCH), 37.6 (CH₂NH), 32.6 (CH₂CONH), 31.0 (CH₂CH₂CH₂), 28.9 (CH₂CH₂CONH), 18.3 (CH₂Si), -1.6 (Si(CH₃)₃). ESI-MS [M+H]⁺ m/z calcd for C₂₅H₃₇FeN₅O₃Si: 540.21, found 540.22.





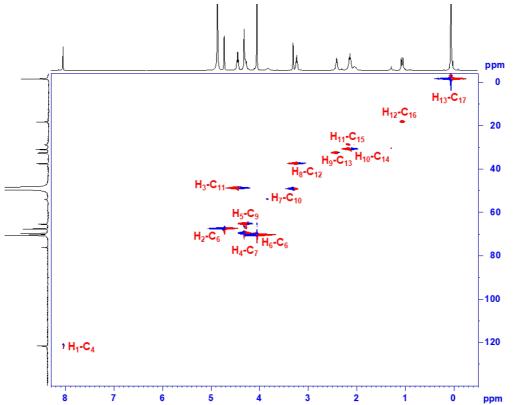
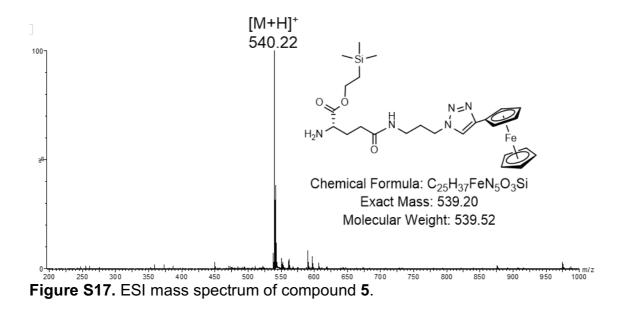
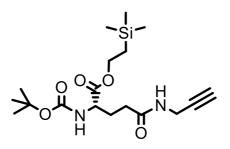


Figure S16. Two-dimensional [$^{1}H-^{13}C$]-HSQC NMR contour map of compound **5** recorded in CD₃OD at 298 K (400 MHz).



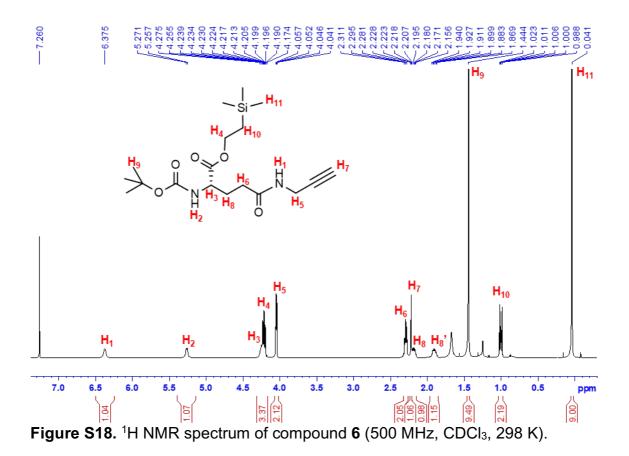
2.6 Compound 6



Chemical Formula: C₁₈H₃₂N₂O₅Si Exact Mass: 384.21 Molecular Weight: 384.55

In an air free Schlenk flask, compound **2** (0.58 mmol, 200 mg), N,Ndiisopropylethylamine (3 eq, 1.6 mmol, 202 mg, 0.273 mL), HATU (1.2 eq, 0.7 mmol, 265 mg) and propargylamine (1.5 eq, 0.87 mmol, 48 mg) were dissolved in 5 mL of anhydrous N,N-dimethylformamide. The mixture was stirred for 12 h, at room temperature and under nitrogen atmosphere. The solvent was removed by rotary evaporation and the crude product was further purified by column chromatography using silica gel and hexane:ethyl acetate (solvent mixture gradient from 100:00 until 50:50) as eluent. Compound **6** was obtained as an yellowish oil in 97% yield (215 mg).

¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 500 MHz), δ (ppm): 6.38 (*br*, CON*H*, 1H), 5.26 (*d*, *J* = 7.2 Hz, N*H*Boc, 1H), 4.27-4.17 (*m*, C*H*NHBoc and CO₂C*H*₂, 3H), 4.05 (*dd*, *J* = 5.2 Hz, *J* = 2.6 Hz, CONHC*H*₂), 2.29 (*t*, *J* = 7.5 Hz, C*H*₂CON, 2H), 2.22 (*t*, *J* = 2.6 Hz, alkyne-*H*, 1H), 2.21-2.16 (*m*, CHC*H*₂, 1H), 1.94-1.87 (*m*, CHC*H*₂', 1H), 1.44 (*s*, CO₂C(C*H*₃)₃, 9H), 1.00 (*m*, C*H*₂Si, 2H), 0.04 (*s*, Si(C*H*₃)₃), 9H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 125 MHz), δ (ppm): 172.4 (CO₂CH₂), 171.8 (CONH), 155.0 (HNCO), 80.3 (*C*_q(CH₃)₃), 79.7 (alkyne-*C*_q), 71.7 (alkyne-CH), 64.2 (CO₂CH₂CH₂Si), 53.1 (NCH), 32.6 (CH₂CONH), 29.8 (CONHC*H*₂-alkyne), 29.4 (CH₂CH₂CONH), 28.5 (C_q(CH₃)₃), 17.6 (CH₂Si), -1.4 (Si(CH₃)₃). **ESI-MS** [M+H]⁺ m/z calcd for C₁₈H₃₂N₂O₅Si: 385.22, found 385.18.



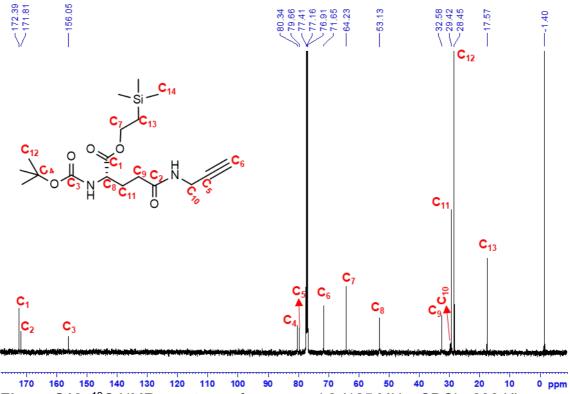
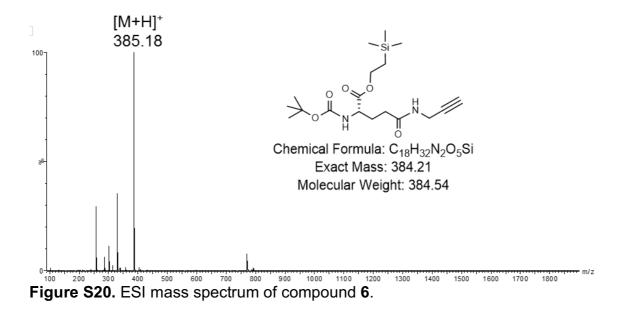
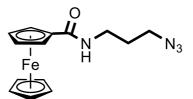


Figure S19. ¹³C NMR spectrum of compound **6** (125 MHz, CDCl₃, 298 K).



2.7 Compound 7



Chemical Formula: C₁₄H₁₆FeN₄O Exact Mass: 312.07 Molecular Weight: 312.15

In an air free Schlenk flask, ferrocenecarboxylic acid (0.43 mmol, 100 mg), N,Ndiisopropylethylamine (5 eq, 2.2 mmol, 281 mg, 0.380 mL), HATU (1.1 eq, 0.48 mmol, 182 mg) and azido-1-propanamine (1.5 eq, 0.65 mmol, 89 mg) were dissolved in 5 mL of anhydrous N,N-dimethylformamide. The mixture was stirred for 12 h, at room temperature and under nitrogen atmosphere. The solvent was removed by rotary evaporation and the crude product was purified by flash column chromatography using silica gel and hexane:ethyl acetate (solvent mixture 70:30) as eluent. Compound **7** was obtained as a red solid in 88% yield (120 mg).

¹**H NMR** (CDCl₃, 500 MHz), δ (ppm): 5.96 (CON*H*), 4.66 (*br*, Fc-*H*, 2H), 4.34 (*br*, Fc-*H*, 2H), 4.20 (*s*, Fc-*H*, 5H), 3.49-3.39 (*m*, C*H*₂NH, C*H*₂N₃, 4H), 1.88 (*q*, *J* = 6.6 Hz, NHCH₂C*H*₂CH₂N₃, 2H). ¹³**C NMR** (CDCl₃, 125 MHz), δ (ppm): 170.6 (CONH), 76.2 (ArFc-*C*_{*q*}), 70.6 (ArFc-CH), 69.9 (ArFc-CH), 68.2 (ArFc-CH), 49.8 (N₃C*H*₂), 37.5 (HNCH₂), 22.2 (NHCH₂CH₂CH₂CH₂N₃). **ESI-MS** [M+H]⁺ m/z calcd for C₁₄H₁₆FeN₄O: 313.07, found 313.70.

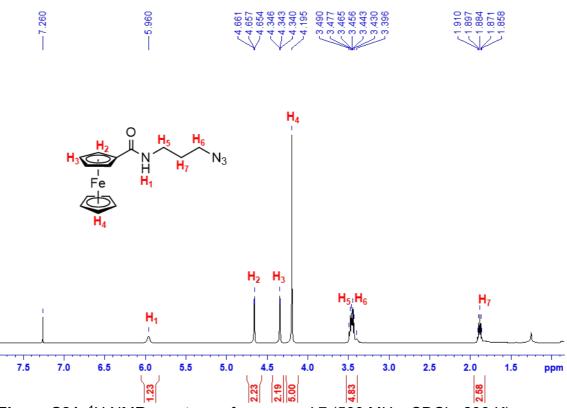


Figure S21. ¹H NMR spectrum of compound 7 (500 MHz, CDCl₃, 298 K).

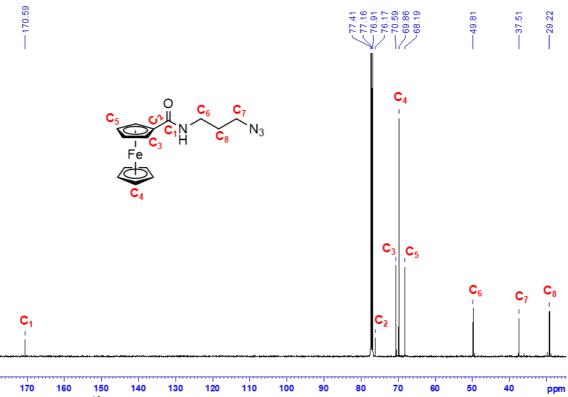
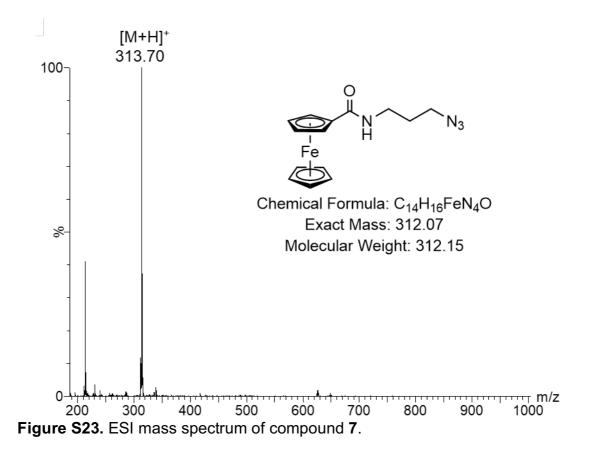
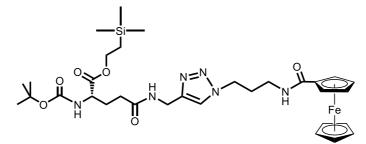


Figure S22. ¹³C NMR spectrum of compound 7 (125 MHz, CDCl₃, 298 K).



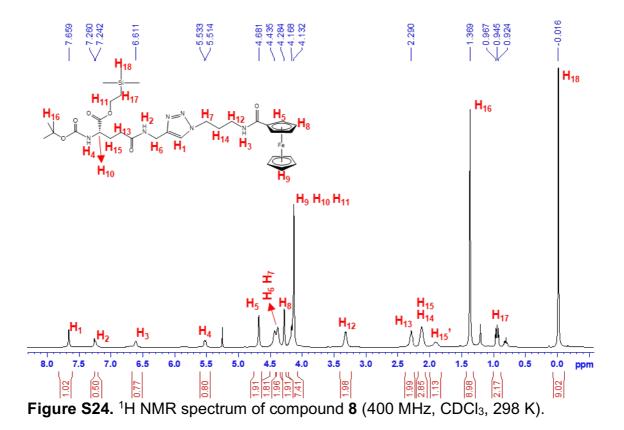
2.8 Compound 8

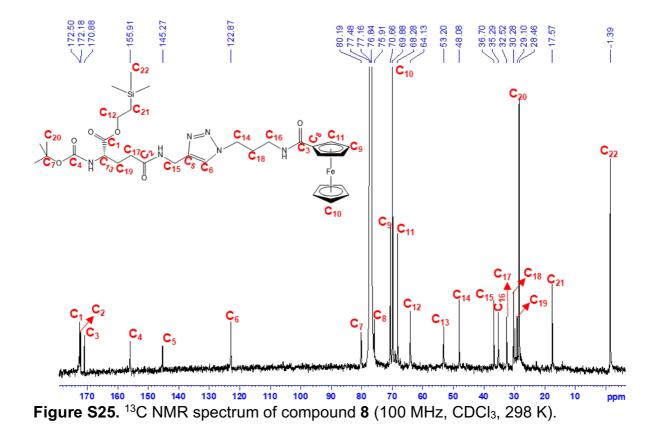


Chemical Formula: C₃₂H₄₈FeN₆O₆Si Exact Mass: 696.28 Molecular Weight: 696.70

In an air free Schlenk flask, compound **6** (0.23 mmol, 90 mg), compound **7** (1.2 eq, 0.28 mmol, 88 mg) and copper(II) sulfate (0.1 M, 0.05 eq, 11.7 μ mols, 1.9 mg, 0.117 mL) were added into 12 mL of water and tetrahydrofuran 6:4 (v/v). After complete dissolution, sodium ascorbate (0.1 eq, 23.4 μ mol, 4.6 mg) was added. The mixture was stirred for 24 h, at room temperature and under nitrogen atmosphere. The solvent was removed by rotary evaporation and the crude product was purified by flash column chromatography using silica gel and dichloromethane:methanol (solvent mixture 100:5) as eluent. Compound **8** was obtained as a red oil in 83% yield (135 mg).

¹**H NMR** (CDCl₃, 400 MHz), δ (ppm): 7.65 (s, triazole-*H*, 1H), 7.26 (*br*, CON*H*, 1H), 6.61 (*br*, CON*H*, 1H), 5.52 (*d*, *J* = 7.6 Hz, N*H*Boc, 1H), 4.68 (*br*, Fc-*H*, 2H), 4.43-4.38 (*m*, C*H*₂-trazole-C*H*₂, 4H), 4.28 (*br*, Fc-*H*, 2H), 4.13 (*br*, NHC*H*, CO₂C*H*₂, Fc-*H*, 8H), 3.32 (*m*, C*H*₂NH, 2H), 2.29 (*t*, *J* = 6.5 Hz, C*H*₂CON, 2H), 2.13 (*m*, CHC*H*₂ and CH₂C*H*₂CH₂, 3H), 1.90 (*m*, CHC*H*₂', 1H), 1.40 (s, CO₂C(C*H*₃)₃, 9H), 0.94 (*m*, C*H*₂Si, 2H), -0.01 (*s*, Si(C*H*₃)₃, 9H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz), δ (ppm): 172.5 (CO₂CH₂), 172.4 (CONH), 170.9 (CONH), 155.9 (HNCO), 145.3 (*C*_q-triazole), 122.9 (triazole-CH), 80.2 (*C*_q(CH₃)₃), 75.9 (FcAr-C_q), 70.7 (FcAr-CH), 69.8 (FcAr-CH), 68.3 (FcAr-CH), 64.1 (CO₂CH₂CH₂Si), 53.2 (NCH), 48.1 (triazole-CH₂), 36.7 (triazole-CH₂NH), 35.3 (CH₂NH), 32.5 (CH₂CONH), 30.3 (CH₂CH₂CH₂), 29.1 (CH₂CH₂CONH), 28.5 (C_q(CH₃)₃), 17.6 (CH₂Si), -1.4 (Si(CH₃)₃). **ESI-MS** [M+H]⁺ m/z calcd for C₃₂H₄₈FeN₆O₆Si: 697.28, found 697.28.





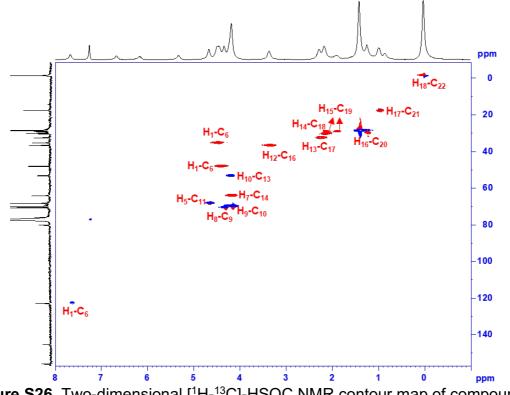
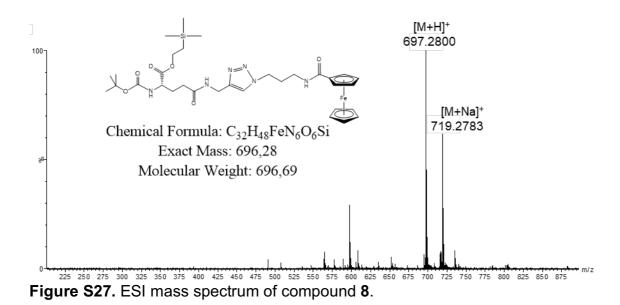
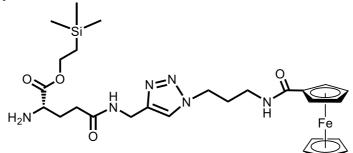


Figure S26. Two-dimensional [$^{1}H-^{13}C$]-HSQC NMR contour map of compound **8** recorded in CDCl₃ at 298 K (400 MHz).



S26

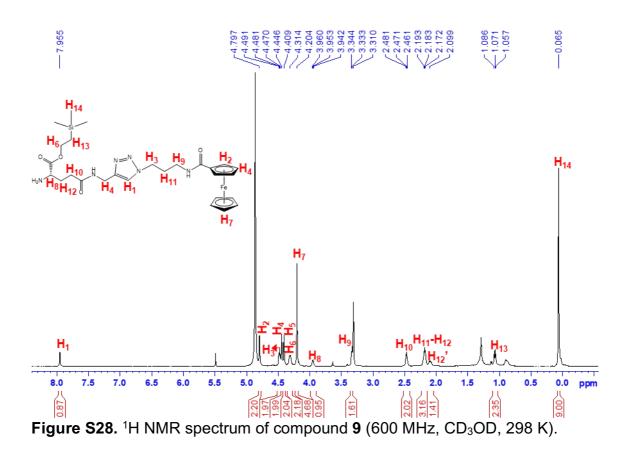
2.9 Compound 9

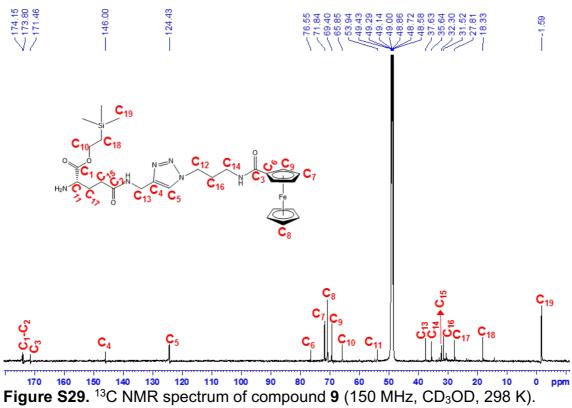


Chemical Formula: C₂₇H₄₀FeN₆O₄Si Exact Mass: 596.22 Molecular Weight: 596.59

In an air free Schlenk flask, compound **8** (0.13 mmol, 90 mg) was dissolved in 40 mL of water and 160 mL of formic acid. The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 24 h under nitrogen atmosphere in the absence of light. The liquids were evaporated to dryness using rotary evaporation and the resulting solid was washed with diethyl ether (3 x 30 mL) and hexane (3 x 30 mL). Compound **9** was obtained as red oil in quantitative yield (77 mg).

¹H NMR (CD₃OD, 600 MHz), δ (ppm): 7.95 (s, triazole-*H*, 1H), 4.80 (*br*, Fc-*H*, 2H), 4.48 (*t*, *J* = 6.5 Hz, triazole-*CH*₂, 2H), 4.45 (*s*, NHC*H*₂-triazole, 2H), 4.41 (*br*, Fc-H, 2H), 4.31 (*br*, CO₂C*H*₂, 2H), 4.20 (s, Fc-*H*, 5H), 3.95 (*br*, H₂NC*H*, 1H), 3.34-3.33 (*m*, C*H*₂NH, 2H), 2.47 (*t*, *J* = 6.4 Hz, C*H*₂CON, 2H), 2.18 (*m*, CHC*H*₂ and CH₂C*H*₂CH₂, 3H), 2.10 (*m*, CHC*H*₂', 1H), 1.07 (*m*, C*H*₂Si, 2H), 0.06 (*s*, Si(C*H*₃)₃, 9H). ¹³C NMR (CD₃OD, 150 MHz), δ (ppm): 172.5 (CO₂CH₂), 172.4 (CONH), 170.9 (CONH), 155.9 (HNCO), 145.3 (*C*_q-triazole), 122.9 (triazole-CH), 80.2 (*C*_q(CH₃)₃), 75.9 (FcAr-C_q), 70.7 (FcAr-CH), 69.8 (FcAr-CH), 68.3 (FcAr-CH), 64.1 (CO₂CH₂CH₂Si), 53.2 (NCH), 48.1 (triazole-CH₂), 36.7 (triazole-CH₂NH), 35.3 (CH₂NH), 32.5 (CH₂CONH), 30.3 (CH₂CH₂CH₂), 29.1 (CH₂CH₂CONH), 28.5 (C_q(CH₃)₃, 17.6 (CH₂Si), -1.4 (Si(CH₃)₃). ESI-MS [M+H]⁺ m/z calcd for C₂₇H₄₀FeN₆O₄Si: 597.23, found 597.22.





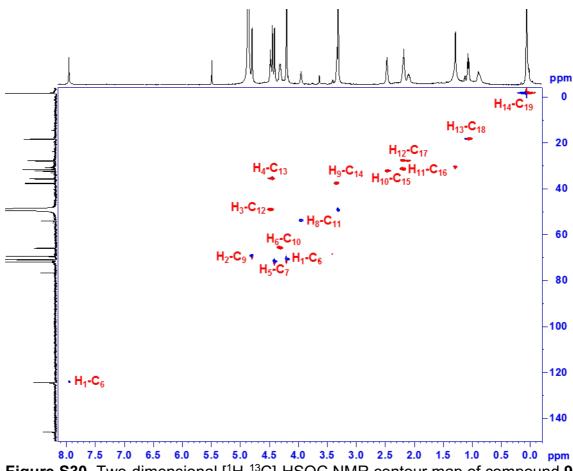
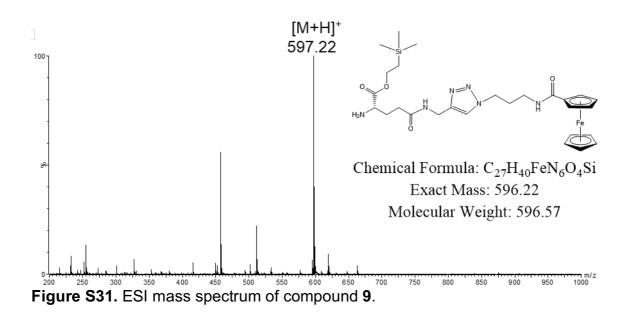
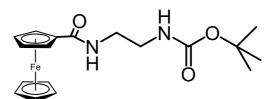


Figure S30. Two-dimensional [¹H-¹³C]-HSQC NMR contour map of compound **9** recorded in CD₃OD at 298 K (600 MHz).



S29

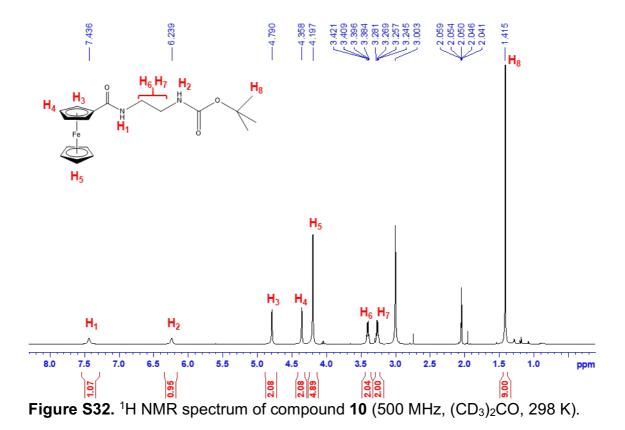
2.10 Compound 10

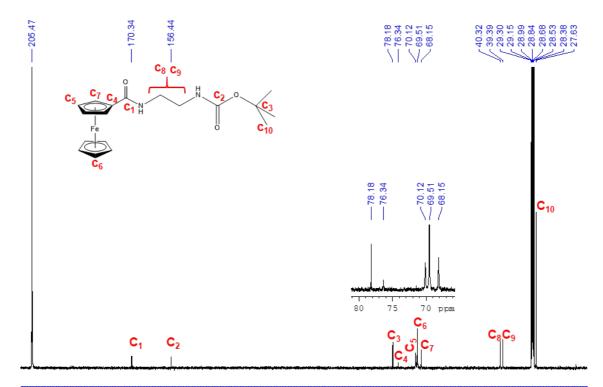


Chemical Formula: C₁₈H₂₄FeN₂O₃ Exact Mass: 372.11 Molecular Weight: 372.25

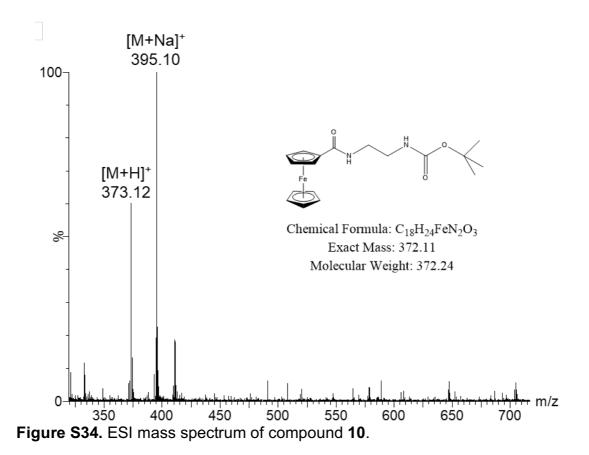
In an air free Schlenk flask, ferrocenecarboxylic acid (0.43 mmol, 100 mg), N,Ndiisopropylethylamine (3 eq, 1.3 mmol, 169 mg, 0.227 mL), HATU (1.1 eq, 0.48 mmol, 182 mg) and N-Boc-ethylenediamine (1.4 eq, 0.65 mmol, 104 mg, 103 μ L) were dissolved in 5 mL of anhydrous N,N-dimethylformamide. The mixture was stirred for 12 h, at room temperature and under nitrogen atmosphere. The solvent was removed by rotary evaporation and the crude product was purified by flash column chromatography using silica gel and hexane:ethyl acetate (solvent mixture gradient from 100:00 until 70:30) as eluent. Compound **7** was obtained as a red solid in 84% yield (137 mg).

¹H NMR ((CD₃)₂CO, 500 MHz), δ (ppm): 7.34 (*s*, CON*H*, 1H), 6.24 (*s*, CON*H*, 1H), 4.79 (*br*, Fc-*H*, 2H), 4.36 (*br*, Fc-*H*, 2H), 4.20 (*s*, Fc-*H*, 5H), 3.40 (*q*, *J* = 6.1 Hz, C*H*₂NH, 2H), 3.26 (*q*, *J* = 6.1 Hz, C*H*₂NH, 2H), 1.42 (*s*, C(C*H*₃)₃, 9H). ¹³C NMR ((CD₃)₂CO, 125 MHz), δ (ppm): 170.3 (CONH), 156.4 (CONH), 78.2 (C(CH₃)₃), 76.3 (ArFc-C_q), 70.1 (ArFc-CH), 69.5 (ArFc-CH), 68.2 (ArFc-CH), 40.3 (NHC*H*₂), 39.4 (HNC*H*₂), 27.5 (C(CH₃)₃). ESI-MS [M+Na]⁺ m/z calcd for C₁₈H₂₄FeN₂O₃: 395.10, found 395.10.



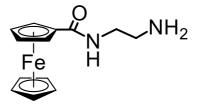


²⁰⁰ 190 180 170 160 150 140 130 120 110 100 90 80 70 60 50 40 30 20 ppm **Figure S33.** ¹³C NMR spectrum of compound **10** (125 MHz, (CD₃)₂CO, 298 K).



S32

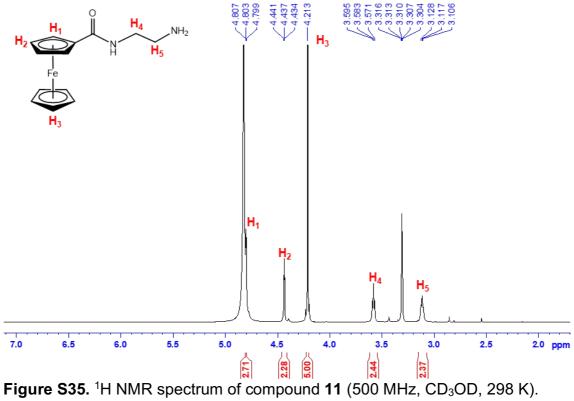
2.11 Compound 11

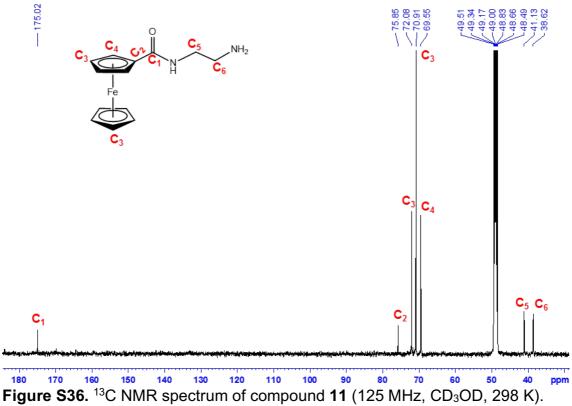


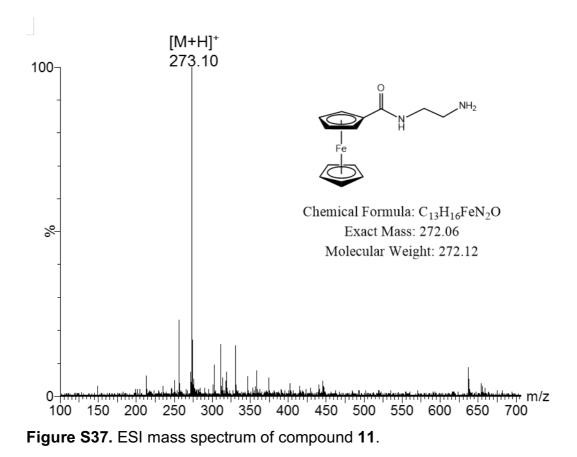
Chemical Formula: C₁₃H₁₆FeN₂O Exact Mass: 272.06 Molecular Weight: 272.13

In an air free Schlenk flask, compound **10** (0.27 mmol, 100 mg) was dissolved in 40 mL of water and 160 mL of formic acid. The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 24 h under nitrogen atmosphere in the absence of light. The liquids were evaporated to dryness using rotary evaporation and the resulting solid was washed with diethyl ether (3 x 30 mL) and hexane (3 x 30 mL). Compound **11** was obtained as red oil in quantitative yield (73 mg).

¹**H NMR** (CD₃OD, 500 MHz), δ (ppm): 4.80 (*t*, *J* = 1.9 Hz, Fc-*H*, 2H), 4.44 (*t*, *J* = 1.9 Hz, Fc-*H*, 2H), 4.21 (*s*, Fc-*H*, 5H), 3.58 (*t*, *J* = 6.0 Hz, C*H*₂NH, 2H), 3.1 (*t*, *J* = 6.0 Hz, C*H*₂NH, 2H) ¹³**C NMR** ((CD₃OD, 125 MHz), δ (ppm): 175.0 (CONH), 75.8 (ArFc-C_q), 72.1 (ArFc-CH), 70.9 (ArFc-CH), 69.5 (ArFc-CH), 41.1 (NHC*H*₂), 38.6 (HNCH₂). **ESI-MS** [M+H]⁺ m/z calcd for C₁₃H₁₆FeN₂O: 273.07, found 273.10.

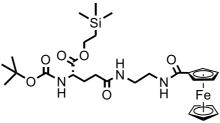






S35

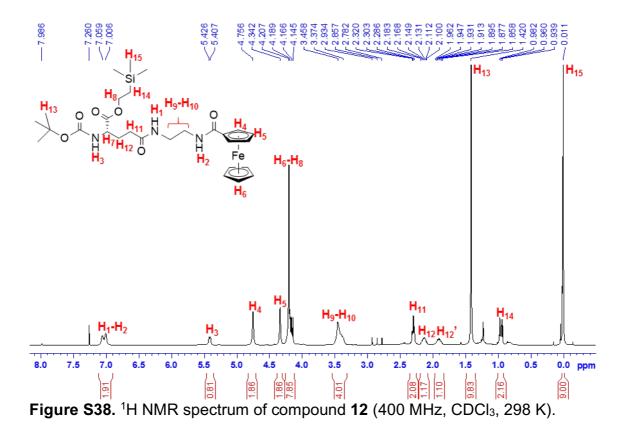
2.12 Compound 12

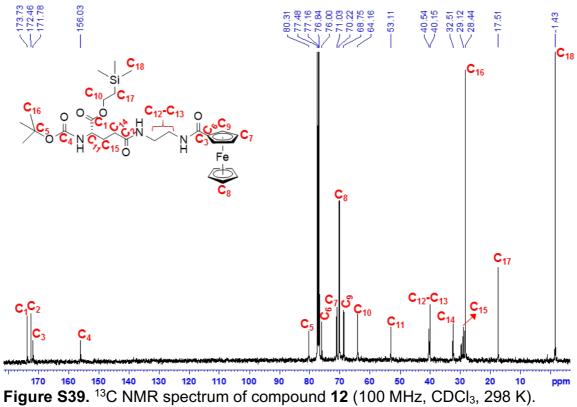


Chemical Formula: $C_{28}H_{43}FeN_3O_6Si$ Exact Mass: 601.23 Molecular Weight: 601.60

In an air free Schlenk flask, compound **2** (0.24 mmol, 85 mg), N,Ndiisopropylethylamine (6 eq, 1.47 mmol, 181 mg, 0.256 mL), HATU (1.1 eq, 0.27 mmol, 102 mg) and compound **11** (1.2 eq, 0.29 mmol, 0.080 mg) were dissolved in 5 mL of anhydrous N,N-dimethylformamide. The mixture was stirred for 12 h, at room temperature and under nitrogen atmosphere. The solvent was removed by rotary evaporation and the crude product was further purified by column chromatography using silica gel and hexane:ethyl acetate (solvent mixture gradient from 20:80 until 0:100) as eluent. Compound **12** was obtained as a red oil in 88% yield (156 mg).

¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz), δ (ppm): 7.06 (*s*, CON*H*, 1H), 7.01 (*s*, CON*H*, 1H), 5.41 (*d*, *J* = 7.7 Hz, N*H*, 1H), 4.76 (*br*, Fc-*H*, 2H), 4.34 (*br*, Fc-*H*, 2H), 4.21 (*br*, NHC*H*, CO₂C*H*₂, Fc-*H*, 8H), 3.46 (*m*, NHC*H*₂C*H*₂NH, 4H), 2.23 (*t*, *J* = 6.9 Hz, C*H*₂CON, 2H), 2.18-2.10 (*m*, CHC*H*₂, 1H), 1.96-1.86 (*m*, CHC*H*₂', 1H), 1.42 (*s*, CO₂C(C*H*₃)₃, 9H), 0.96 (*m*, CH₂Si, 2H), 0.01 (*s*, Si(C*H*₃)₃, 9H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz), δ (ppm): 173.7 (CO₂CH₂), 172.5 (CONH), 171.8 (CONH), 156.0 (HNCO), 80.3 (*C*_q(CH₃)₃), 76.0 (FcAr-*C*_q), 71.0 (FcAr-CH), 70.2 (FcAr-CH), 68.7 (FcAr-CH), 64.2 (CO₂CH₂CH₂Si), 53.1 (NCH), 40.5 (NHCH₂), 40.1 (NHCH₂), 32.5 (CH₂CONH), 29.1 (CH₂CH₂CONH), 28.4 (C_q(CH₃)₃, 17.5 (CH₂Si), -1.4 (Si(CH₃)₃). **ESI-MS** [M+H]⁺ m/z calcd for C₂₈H₄₃FeN₃O₆Si: 602.23, found 602.23.





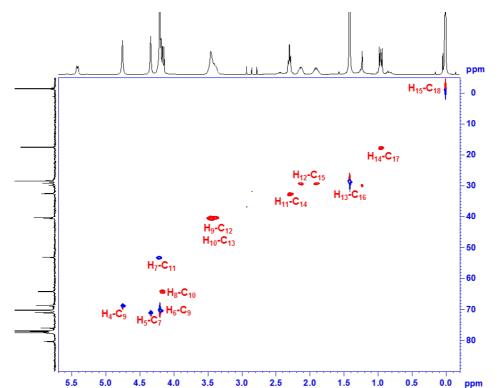
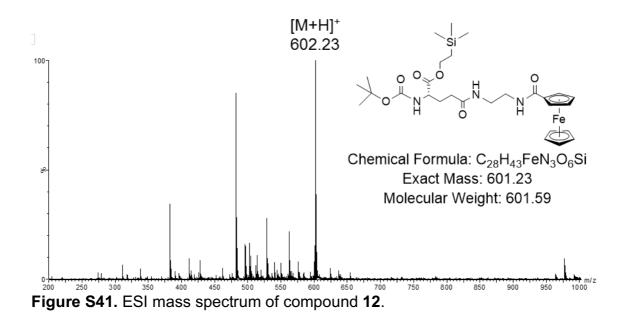
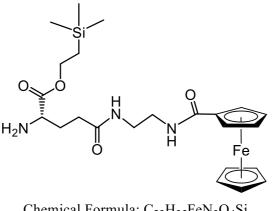


Figure S40. Two-dimensional [¹H-¹³C]-HSQC NMR contour map of compound **12** recorded in CDCl₃ at 298 K (400 MHz).



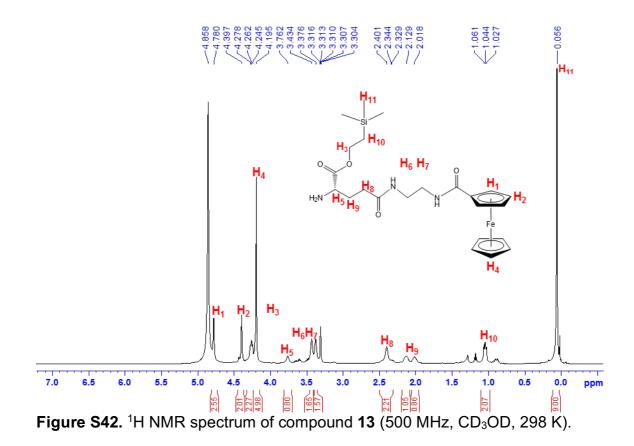
2.13 Compound 13

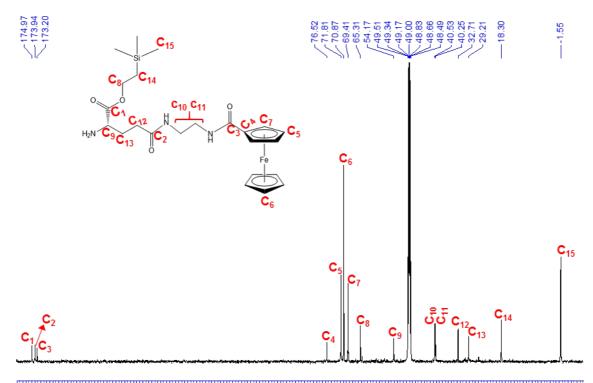


Chemical Formula: C₂₃H₃₅FeN₃O₄Si Exact Mass: 501.17 Molecular Weight: 501.48

In an air free Schlenk flask, compound **12** (0.27 mmol, 100 mg) was dissolved in 20 mL of water and 80 mL of formic acid. The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 24 h under nitrogen atmosphere in the absence of light. The liquids were evaporated to dryness using rotary evaporation and the resulting solid was washed with diethyl ether (3 x 30 mL) and hexane (3 x 30 mL). Compound **13** was obtained as red oil in quantitative yield (73 mg).

¹H NMR (CD₃OD, 500 MHz), δ (ppm): 4.78 (*br*, Fc-*H*, 2H), 4.40 (*br*, Fc-*H*, 2H), 4.26 (*br*, OCOC*H*₂, 2H), 4.19 (*s*, Fc-*H*, 5H), 3.76 (*br*, NHC*H*, 1H), 3.43 (*m*, C*H*₂NH, 2H), 3.38 (*m*, C*H*₂NH, 2H), 2.40 (*br*, C*H*₂CON, 2H), 2.13 (*m*, CHC*H*₂, 1H), 2.02 (*m*, CHC*H*₂', 1H), 1.04 (*m*, C*H*₂Si, 2H), 0.06 (*s*, Si(C*H*₃)₃, 9H). ¹³C NMR (CD₃OD, 125 MHz), δ (ppm): 175.0 (CO₂CH₂), 173.9 (CONH), 173.2 (CONH), 76.5 (FcAr-C_q), 71.8 (FcAr-CH), 70.9 (FcAr-CH), 69.4 (FcAr-CH), 65.3 (CO₂CH₂CH₂Si), 54.2 (NCH), 40.5 (NHCH₂), 40.2 (NHCH₂), 32.7 (CH₂CONH), 29.2 (CH₂CH₂CONH), 18.3 (CH₂Si), -1.5 (Si(CH₃)₃). ESI-MS [M+H]⁺ m/z calcd for C₂₃H₃₅FeN₃O₄Si: 502.18, found 502.18.





170 160 150 140 130 120 110 100 90 80 70 60 50 40 30 20 10 0 ppm **Figure S43.** ¹³C NMR spectrum of compound **13** (125 MHz, CD₃OD, 298 K).

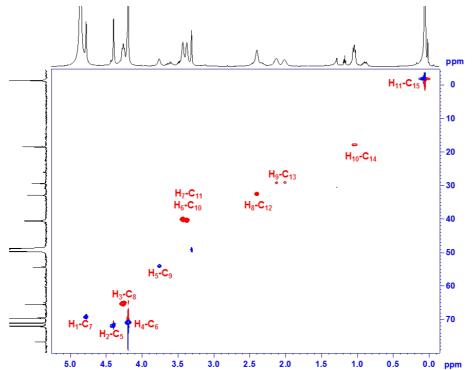
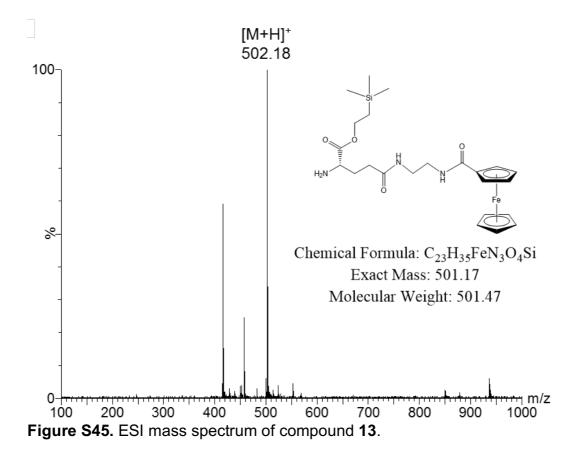
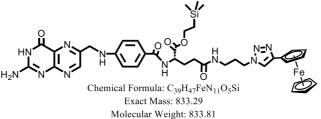


Figure S44. Two-dimensional [$^{1}H-^{13}C$]-HSQC NMR contour map of compound **13** recorded in CD₃OD at 298 K (500 MHz).



2.14 Protected folate γ-Fc 18



In a Schlenk flask, Pte-N₃ **14** (50 mg, 0.14 mmol), Glu γ -Fc **5** (1.5 eq, 128 mg, 0.22 mmol) were dissolved in 7.5 mL of anhydrous dimethyl sulfoxide (DMSO). After complete dissolution. 7-methyl-1,5,7triazabicyclo[4.4.0]dec-5-ene (MTBD) (3 eq, 0.445 mmol, 68 mg, 64 μ L) was slowly added. The mixture was stirred in the dark under nitrogen gas atmosphere for 12 h. The solution was precipitated in a mixture of diethyl ether and acetone (2:1, 100 mL). The solids was purified by column chromatography on silica gel with dichloromethane:methanol:trimethylamine (solvent mixture gradient from 99:0:1 until 79:20:1). Folate γ -Fc **18** was obtained as a brown solid in 60% yield (74 mg).

¹H NMR (DMSO-D₆, 500 MHz), δ (ppm): 8.65 (s, C(7)-H, 1H), 8.28 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, C(7')ONH, 1H), 8.14 (s, triazole-H, 1H), 7.94 (t, J = 5.4 Hz, CONH, 1H), 7.66 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, Ar(6'-2')-H, 2H), 6.93 (br, CON(3)H and N(2)H₂, 4H), 6.64 (*d*, *J* = 8.6 Hz, Ar(5'-3')-*H*, 2H), 4.96 (*t*, *J* = 1.5 Hz, Fc-*H*, 2H), 4.49 (d, J = 5.7 Hz, N(9)CH₂, 2H), 4.33 (m, CH and triazole-CH₂, 2H), 4.28 (t, J = 1.5 Hz, Fc-H, 2H), 4.11 (m, CO₂CH₂, 2H), 4.02 (s, Fc-H, 5H), 3.05 (m, CONHCH₂, 2H), 2.22 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, COCH₂, 2H), 2.08 (m, COCH₂CH₂', 1H), 1.98-1.91 (*m*, COCH₂CH₂" and NHCH₂CH₂, 3H), 0.93 (*m*, SiCH₂, 2H), 0.00 (s, Si(CH₃)₃, 9H). ¹³C NMR (DMSO-D₆, 125 MHz), δ (ppm): 172.4 (CO₂CH₂), 171.5 (CONH), 166.4 (C(7')ONH), 160.8 (C(4)ONH), 156.6 (Ar- $C_q(2)$), 153.7 (Ar- $C_q(8a)$), 150.8 (Ar- $C_q(8')$), 148.7 (Ar-C(7)), 145.1 (C_q triazole), 131.1 (Ar-C_q(6)), 129.0 (Ar-C(6'-2')), 127.9 (Ar-C_q(4a)), 121.2 (Ar- $C_q(1')$), 120.7 (C-triazole), 111.2 (Ar-C(3'-5')), 76.1 (Ar-C_qFc), 69.2 (Ar-CFc), 66.2 (Ar-CFc), 69.3 (ArCFc), 62.4 (CO₂CH₂), 52.3 (HNCH), 47.1 (CH₂-triazole), 45.9 (C(9)H₂NH), 35.7 (CH₂NH), 31.8 (HNCOCH₂), 29.8 (CH₂ CH₂CH₂), 26.4 (CHCH₂), 16.8 (SiCH₂), -1.5 (Si(CH₃)₃). **ESI-QTOF-MS** [M+H]⁺ m/z calcd for C₃₉H₄₇FeN₁₁O₅Si: 834.2960, found 834.2935.

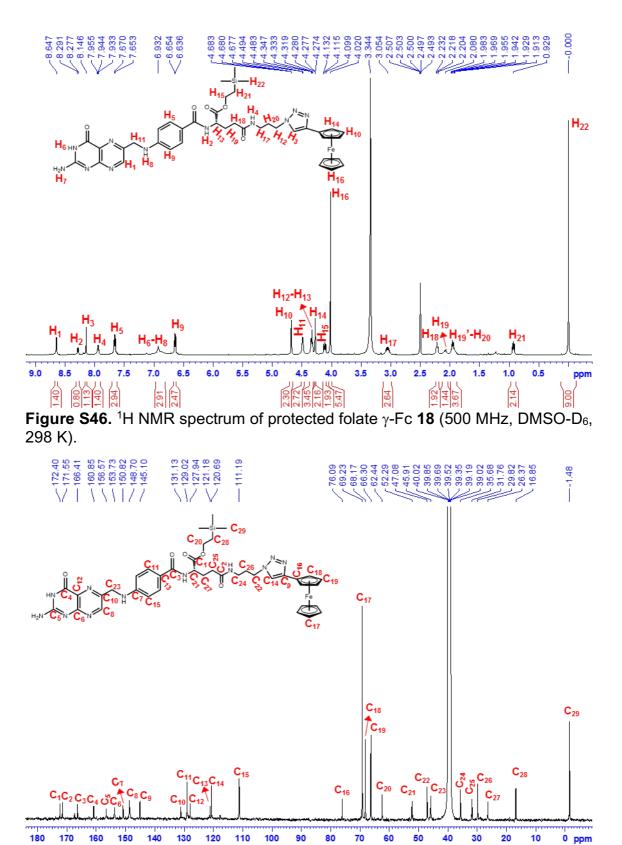


Figure S47. ¹³C NMR spectrum of protected folate γ -Fc **18** (125 MHz, DMSO-D₆, 298 K).

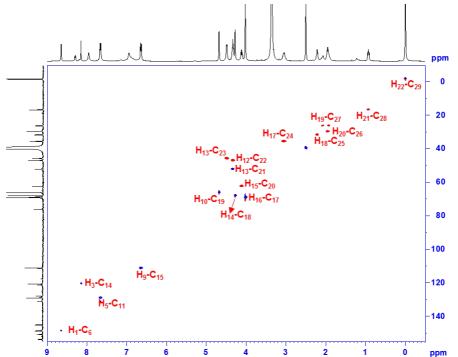
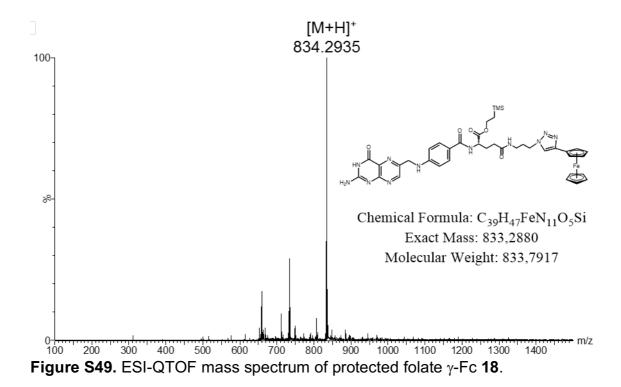


Figure S48. Two-dimensional [¹H-¹³C]-HSQC NMR contour map of protected folate γ -Fc **18** recorded in DMSO-D₆ at 298 K (500 MHz).



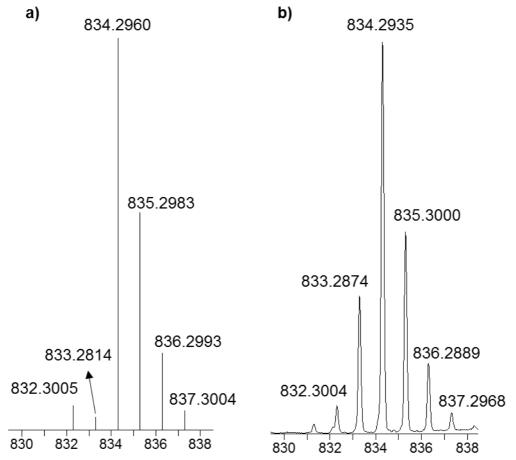
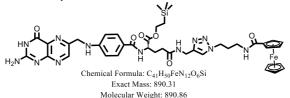


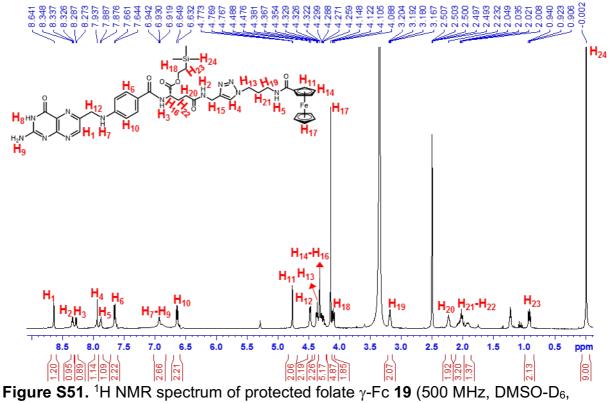
Figure S50. A zoom on the ESI-QTOF mass spectrum of protected folate γ -Fc **18**. Left: theoretical isotopic distribution for [M+H]⁺. Right: experimental isotopic distribution for [M+H]⁺.

2.15 Protected folate γ-Fc 19



In a Schlenk flask, Pte-N₃ **14** (70 mg, 0.21 mmol), Glu γ -Fc **9** (1.3 eq, 0.27 mmol, 161 mg) were dissolved in 1.4 mL of anhydrous DMSO. After complete dissolution, MTBD (2 eq, 0.42 mmol, 64 mg, 60 μ L) was slowly added. The reaction mixture was stirred in the dark, under nitrogen gas atmosphere, for 12 h. The mixture was precipitated in a mixture of diethyl ether and acetone (2:1; 100 mL). The solid was purified by column chromatography on silica gel and dichloromethane:methanol:trimethylamine (solvent mixture gradient from 99:0:1 until 79:20:1) as eluent. Folate γ -Fc **19** was obtained as a brown solid in 56% yield (104 mg).

¹**H NMR** (DMSO-D₆, 500 MHz), δ (ppm): 8.64 (s, C(7)-H, 1H), 8.33 (t, J =7.2 Hz, CONH, 1H), 8.28 (d, J = 5.5 Hz, CONH), 7.94 (s, triazole-H, 1H), 7.88 (t, J = 5.5 Hz, CONH, 1H), 7.65 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, Ar(6'-2')-H, 2H), 6.93 $(br, CON(3)H \text{ and } N(2)H_2, 4H), 6.64 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, Ar(5'-3')-H, 2H), 4.77$ (br, Fc-H, 2H), 4.48 (d, J = 5.8 Hz, N(9)CH₂, 2H), 4.37 (t. J = 6.9 Hz, triazole-CH₂, 2H), 4.33-4.23 (m, NHCH, CONH-CH₂-triazole, Fc-H, 5H), 4.15 (s, Fc-H, 5H), 4.10 (m, CO_2CH_2 , 2H), 3.19 (q, J = 6.4 Hz, $CONHCH_2$, 2H), 2.23 (br, COCH₂, 2H), 2.00-1.98 (m, CH₂CH₂CH₂NH, COCH₂CH₂', 3H), 1.95-1.88 (*m*, COCH₂CH₂'', 1H), 0.92 (*m*, SiCH₂, 2H), 0.00 (s, Si(CH₃)₃, 9H). ¹³C **NMR** (DMSO-D₆, 125 MHz), δ (ppm): 172.4 (CO₂CH₂), 171.4 (CONH), 169.2 (CONH), 166.5 (C(7')ONH), 160.8 (C(4)ONH), 156.6 (Ar- $C_q(2)$), 153.8 (Ar- $C_q(8a)$), 150.8 (Ar- $C_q(8')$), 148.7 (Ar-C(7)), 145.0 (C_q -triazole), 128.0 (Ar-C(6'-2') and Ar-C_q(6)), 128.0 (Ar-C_q(4a)), 122.8 (C-triazole), 121.2 (Ar- $C_q(1')$), 111.2 (Ar-C(3'-5')), 76.5 (Ar- C_qFc), 69.9 (Ar-CFc), 69.3 (Ar-CFc), 68.1 (Ar-CFc), 62.4 (CO₂CH₂), 52.3 (HNCH), 47.1 (CH₂-triazole), 45.9 (C(9)H₂NH), 36.8 (CH₂NH), 34.3 ((CH₂NH)), 31.6 (HNCOCH₂), 30.3 (CH₂CH₂CH₂), 26.3 (CHCH₂), 16.8 (SiCH₂), -1.5 (Si(CH₃)₃). ESI-QTOF-MS [M+H]⁺ m/z calcd for C₄₁H₅₀FeN₁₂O₆Si: 891.3174, found 891.3109.



298 K).

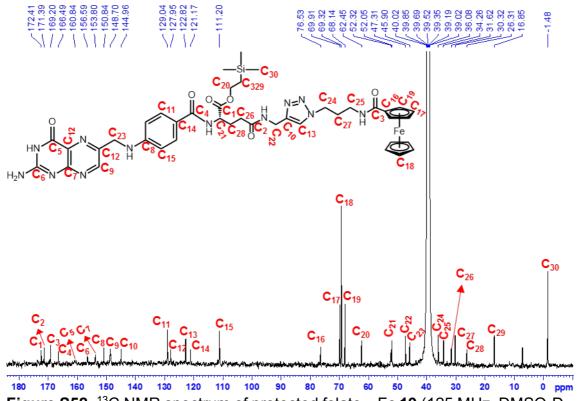
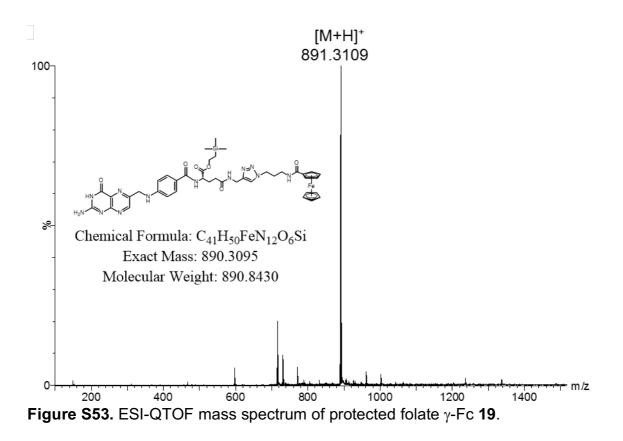


Figure S52. ¹³C NMR spectrum of protected folate γ -Fc **19** (125 MHz, DMSO-D₆, 298 K).



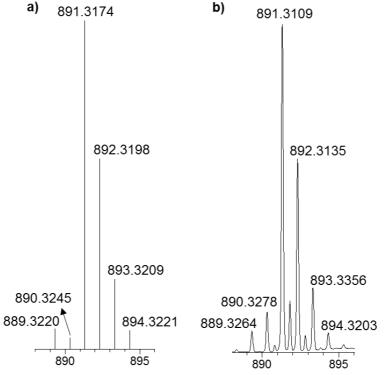
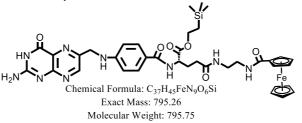


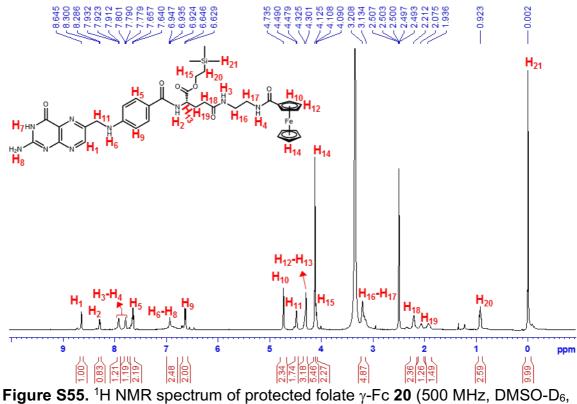
Figure S54. A zoom on the ESI-QTOF mass spectrum of protected folate γ -Fc **19**. Left: theoretical isotopic distribution for [M+H]⁺. Right: experimental isotopic distribution for [M+H]⁺.

2.16 Protected folate γ-Fc 20

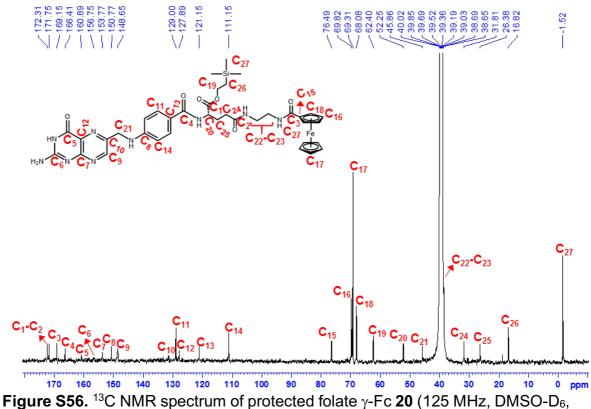


In an air-free Schlenk flask, Pte-N₃ **14** (53 mg, 0.16 mmol), Glu γ -Fc **13** (1.3 eq, 0.2 mmol, 103 mg) were dissolved in 1 mL of anhydrous DMSO. After complete dissolution, 7-methyl-1,5,7-triazabicyclo[4.4.0]dec-5-ene (MTBD) (2 eq, 0.32 mmol, 48 mg, 45 μ L) was slowly added. The reaction mixture was stirred in the dark, under nitrogen gas atmosphere, for 12 h. The reaction mixture was precipitated in a cold mixture of diethyl ether and acetone (2:1; 100 mL). The crude product was purified by column chromatography using silica gel and dichloromethane:methanol:trimethylamine (solvent mixture gradient from 99:0:1 until 79:20:1) as eluent. Folate γ -Fc **20** was obtained as a brown solid in 58% yield (74 mg).

¹**H NMR** (DMSO-D₆, 500 MHz), δ (ppm): 8.64 (*s*, C(7)-*H*, 1H), 8.30 (*br*, N*H*, 1H), 7.92 (*br*, CON*H*, 1H), 7.80 (*br*, CON*H*, 1H), 7.65 (*d*, *J* = 8.5 Hz, Ar(6'-2')-*H*, 2H), 6.94 (*br*, CON(3)*H* and N(2)*H*₂, 4H), 6.64 (*d*, *J* = 8.5 Hz, Ar(5'-3')-*H*, 2H), 4.74 (*br*, Fc-*H*, 2H), 4.49 (*br*, N(9)C*H*₂, 2H), 4.31 (*m*, C*H* and Fc-*H*, 3H), 4.12-4.09 (*m*, Fc-*H* and CO₂C*H*₂, 7H), 3.21-3.13 (*m*, CONHC*H*₂, 4H), 2.20 (*br*, COC*H*₂, 2H), 2.01 (*m*, COCH₂C*H*₂', 1H), 1.94 (*m*, COCH₂C*H*₂'', 1H), 0.92 (*m*, SiC*H*₂, 2), 0.00 (*s*, Si(C*H*₃)₃, 9H). ¹³**C** NMR (DMSO-D₆, 125 MHz), δ (ppm): 172.3 (CO₂CH₂), 171.8, (CONH), 169.2 (CONH), 166.4 (C(7')ONH), 160.9 (C(4)ONH), 156.8 (Ar-C_q(2)), 153.8 (Ar-C_q(8a)), 150.8 (Ar-C_q(8')), 148.7 (Ar-C(7)), 131.1 (Ar-C_q(6)), 129.0 (Ar-C(6'-2')), 127.9 (Ar-C_q(4a)), 121.2 (Ar-C_q(1')), 111.2 (Ar-C(3'-5')), 76.5 (Ar-C_qFc), 69.8 (Ar-CFc), 69.3 (Ar-CFc), 68.1 (Ar-CFc), 62.4 (CO₂C*H*₂), 52.2 (HNCH), 45.9 (C(9)H₂NH), 38.9 (CH₂NH), 38.6 (CH₂NH), 31.8 (HNCOC*H*₂), 26.4 (CHC*H*₂), 16.8 (CH₂Si), -1.52 (Si(CH₃)₃). **ESI-QTOF-MS** [M+H]⁺ m/z calcd for C₃₇H₄₅FeN₉O₆Si: 796.2690, found 796.2601.



298 K).



298 K).

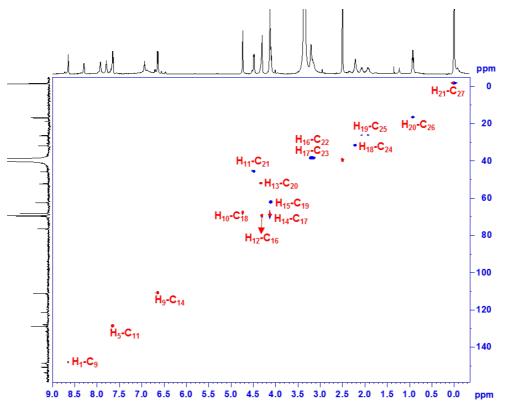
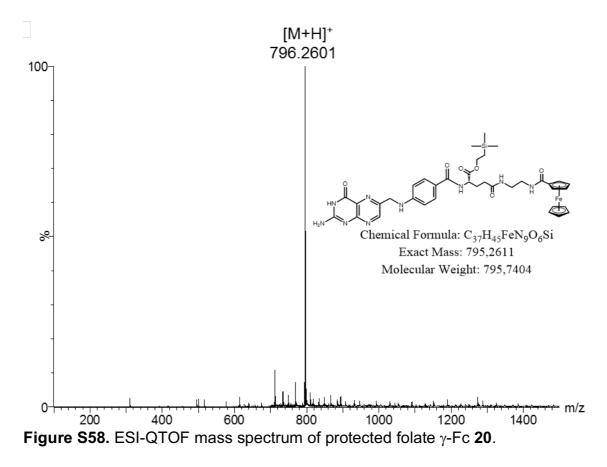


Figure S57. Two-dimensional [¹H-¹³C]-HSQC NMR contour map of protected folate γ -Fc **20** recorded in DMSO-D₆ at 298 K (500 MHz).



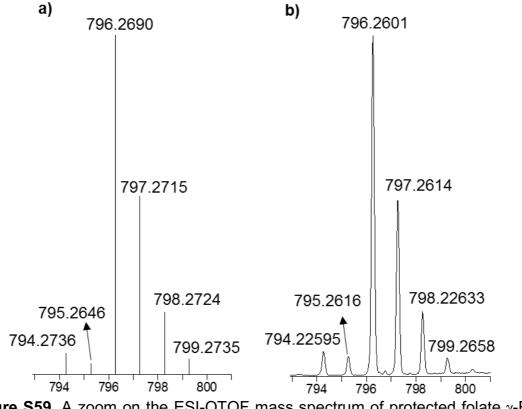
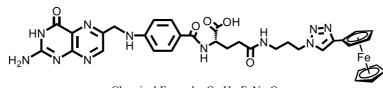


Figure S59. A zoom on the ESI-QTOF mass spectrum of protected folate γ -Fc **20**. Left: theoretical isotopic distribution for [M+H]⁺. Right: experimental isotopic distribution for [M+H]⁺.

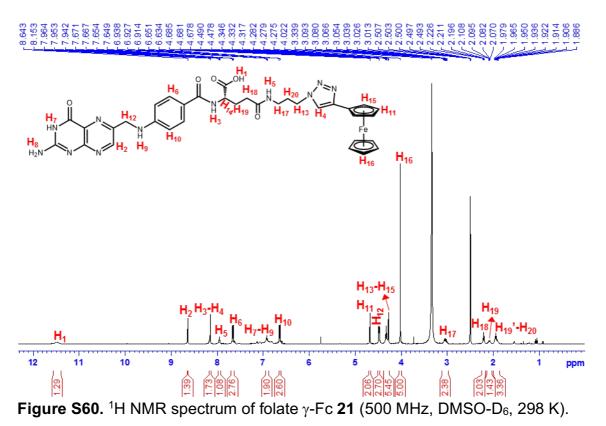
2.17 Folate γ-Fc 21

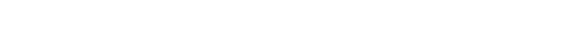


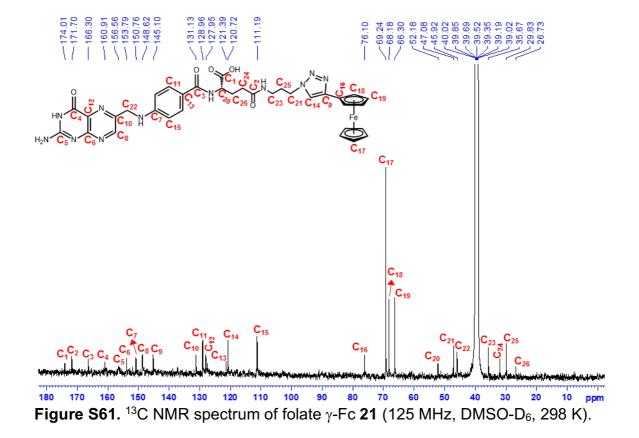
Chemical Formula: C₃₄H₃₅FeN₁₁O₅ Exact Mass: 733.22 Molecular Weight: 733.57

Protected folate γ -Fc **18** (75 mg, 90 μ mol) was dissolved in 1.5 mL of anhydrous DMSO and dried tetra-n-butylammonium fluoride (TBAF) solution in tetrahydrofuran (1.0 M, 4 eq, 36 mmol, 360 μ L) was added. The reaction mixture was stirred for 4 hours under nitrogen gas atmosphere. The reaction mixture was precipitated in 100 mL of a cold mixture of diethyl ether and acetone (2:1) and the solids were collected after decantation. The solids were washed with cold HCI solution pH 2 (3×10 mL), cold water (3×10 mL) and cold acetonitrile (3×10 mL). folate γ -Fc **21** was obtained as a brown solid in 68% of yield (45 mg).

¹H NMR (DMSO-D₆, 500 MHz), δ (ppm): 11.48 (CO₂H), 8.64 (s, C(7)-H, 1H), 8.16 (*m*, triazole-*H* and C(7')ON*H*, 2H), 7.95 (*t*, *J* = 5.4 Hz, CON*H*, 1H), 7.66 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, Ar(6'-2')-H, 2H), 6.92 (br, CON(3)H and N(2)H₂, 4H), 6.64 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, Ar(5'-3')-H, 2H), 4.68 (t, J = 1.6 Hz, Fc-H, 2H), 4.47 (d, J = 5.8 Hz, N(9)CH₂, 2H), 4.33 (*m*, CH and triazole-CH₂, 2H), 4.28 (*t*, J =1.6 Hz, Fc-H, 2H), 4.02 (s, Fc-H, 5H), 3.10-2.98 (m, CONHCH₂, 2H), 2.21 $(t, J = 7.5 \text{ Hz}, \text{COCH}_2, 2\text{H}), 2.12-2.07 (m, \text{COCH}_2\text{CH}_2', 1\text{H}), 1.98-1.88 (m, 1.98-1.88)$ COCH₂CH₂" and NHCH₂CH₂, 3H). ¹³C NMR (DMSO-D₆, 125 MHz), δ (ppm): 174.0 (CO₂H), 171.7, (CONH), 166.3 (C(7')ONH), 160.9 (C(4)ONH), 156.6 (Ar- $C_q(2)$), 153.8 (Ar- $C_q(8a)$), 150.8 (Ar- $C_q(8')$), 148.6 (Ar-C(7)), 145.1 (*C*_q-triazole), 131.1 (Ar-*C*_q(6)), 128.9 (Ar-*C*(6'-2')), 127.9 (Ar-*C*_q(4a)), 121.4 (Ar-C_q(1')), 120.7 (C-triazole), 111.2 (Ar-C(3'-5')), 76.1 (Ar-C_qFc), 69.2 (Ar-CFc), 68.2 (Ar-CFc), 66.3 (Ar-CFc), 52.2 (HNCH), 47.1 (CH₂triazole), 45.9 (C(9)H₂NH), 35.7 (CH₂NH), 33.0 (HNCOCH₂), 29.8 (CH₂CH₂CH₂), 26.7 (CHCH₂). ESI-QTOF-MS [M+H]⁺ m/z calcd for C₃₄H₃₅FeN₁₁O₅:734.2245, found 734.2252.







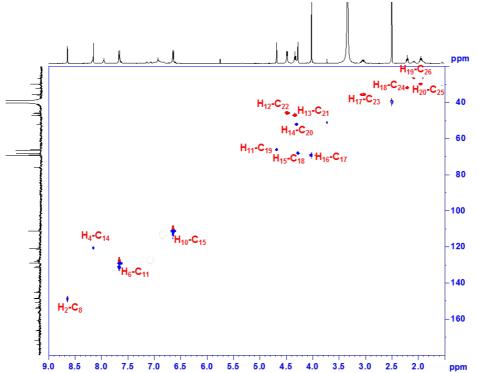
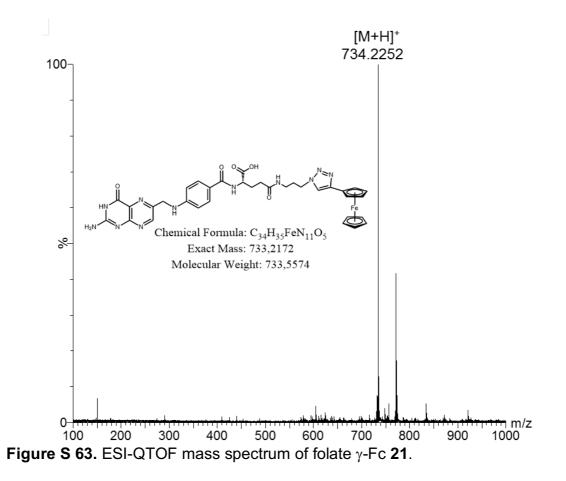


Figure S62. Two-dimensional [¹H-¹³C]-HSQC NMR contour map of folate γ -Fc **21** recorded in DMSO-D₆ at 298 K (500 MHz).



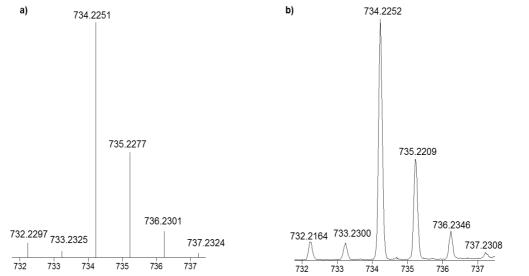
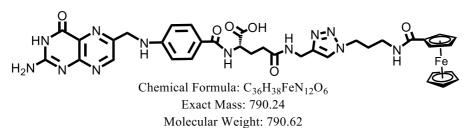


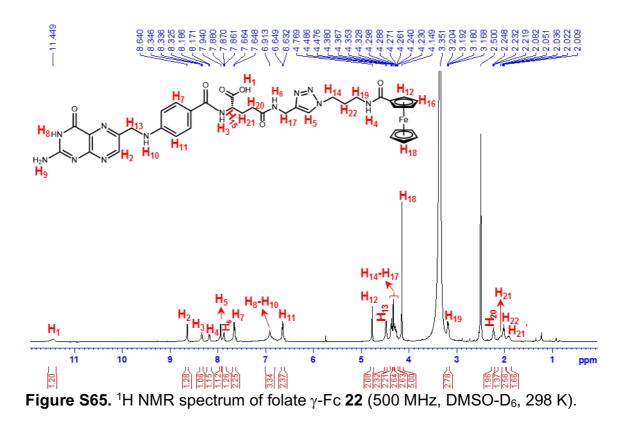
Figure S64. A zoom on the ESI-QTOF mass spectrum of folate γ -Fc **21**. Left: theoretical isotopic distribution for [M+H]⁺. Right: experimental isotopic distribution for [M+H]⁺.

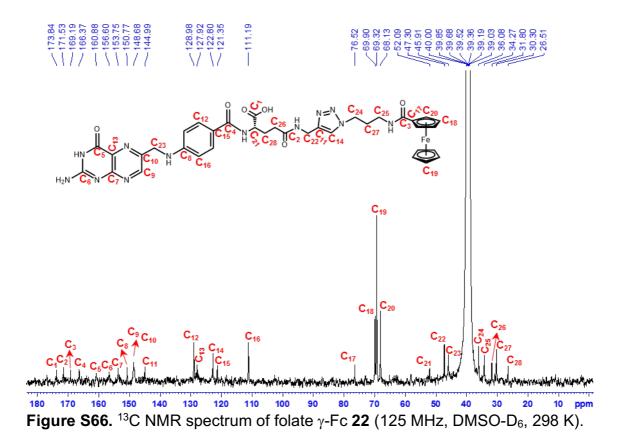
2.18 Folate γ-Fc 22



Protected folate γ -Fc **19** (70 mg, 79 µmol) was dissolved in 1.5 mL of anhydrous DMSO and dried tetra-n-butylammonium fluoride (TBAF) solution in tetrahydrofuran (1.0 M, 3 eq, 24 mmol, 62 mg, 236 µL) was added. The reaction mixture was stirred for 4 hours under nitrogen gas atmosphere. The reaction mixture was precipitated in 50 mL of a cold mixture of diethyl ether and acetone (2:1) and the solids were collected after decantation. The solids were washed with cold HCI solution pH 2 (3×10 mL), cold water (3×10 mL) and cold acetonitrile (3×10 mL). folate γ -Fc **22** was obtained as a brown solid in 68% of yield (45 mg).

¹H NMR (DMSO-D₆, 500 MHz), δ (ppm): 11.43 (s, CO₂H, 1H), 8.64 (s, C(7)-H, 1H), 8.34 (br, CONH, 1H), 8.19 (d, J = 6.8 Hz, CONH), 7.94 (s, triazole-*H*,1H), 7.87 (*br*, CON*H*, 1H), 7.65 (*d*, J = 8.1 Hz, Ar(6'-2')-*H*, 2H), 6.91 (*br*, CON(3)H and $N(2)H_2$, 4H), 6.64 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, Ar(5'-3')-H, 2H), 4.77 (br, Fc-H, 2H), 4.48 (br, N(9)CH₂, 2H), 4.38 (t. J = 6.3 Hz, triazole-CH₂, 2H), 4.33-4.24 (m, NHCH, CONH-CH2-triazole, Fc-H, 5H), 4.15 (s, Fc-H, 5H), 3.18 (m, CONHCH₂, 2H), 2.23 (br, COCH₂, 2H), 2.10-2.01 (m, CH₂CH₂CH₂NH, COCH₂CH₂', 3H), 1.92 (*m*, COCH₂CH₂'', 1H). ¹³C NMR (DMSO-D₆, 125 MHz), δ (ppm): 173.9 (CO₂H), 171.5 (CONH), 169.2 (CONH), 166.4 (C(7')ONH), 160.9 (C(4)ONH), 156.6 (Ar-Cq(2)), 153.7 (Ar- $C_q(8a)$), 150.8 (Ar- $C_q(8')$), 148.8 (Ar-C(7)), 145.0 (C_q -triazole), 129.0 (Ar-C(6'-2') and Ar- $C_q(6)$), 128.0 (Ar- $C_q(4a)$), 122.8 (C-triazole), 121.4 (Ar- $C_q(1')$), 111.2 (Ar-C(3'-5')), 76.5 (Ar-C_qFc), 69.9 (Ar-CFc), 69.3 (Ar-CFc), 68.1 (Ar-CFc), 52.1 (HNCH), 47.3 (CH₂-triazole), 45.9 (C(9)H₂NH), 36.1 (CH₂NH), 34.3 ((CH₂NH)), 31.8 (HNCOCH₂), 30.3 (CH₂CH₂CH₂), 26.5 (CHCH₂). **ESI-QTOF-MS** [M+H]⁺ m/z calcd for C₃₆H₃₈FeN₁₂O₆: 791.2466, found 791.2253.





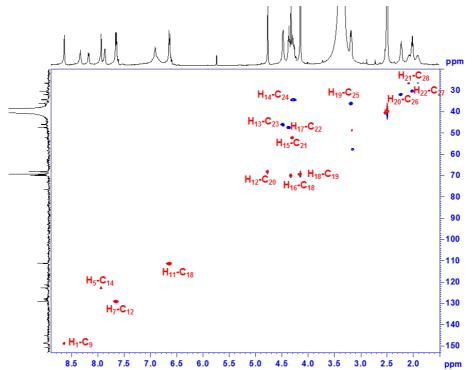
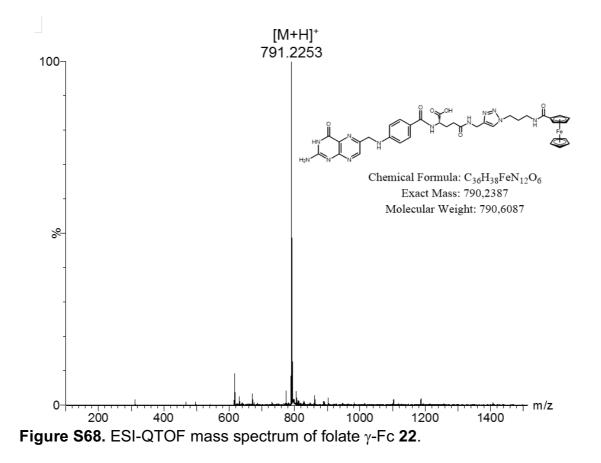


Figure S67. Two-dimensional [¹H-¹³C]-HSQC NMR contour map of folate γ -Fc **22** recorded in DMSO-D₆ at 298 K (500 MHz).



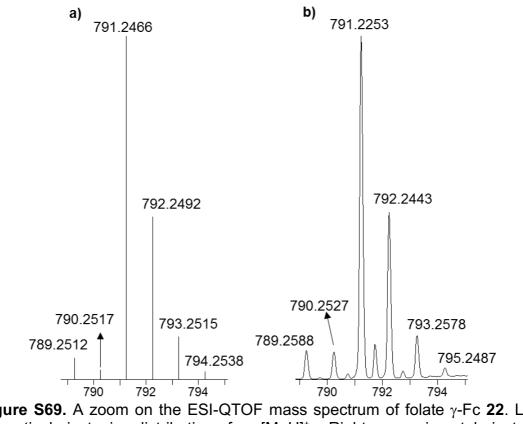
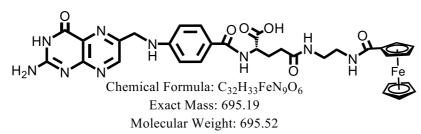


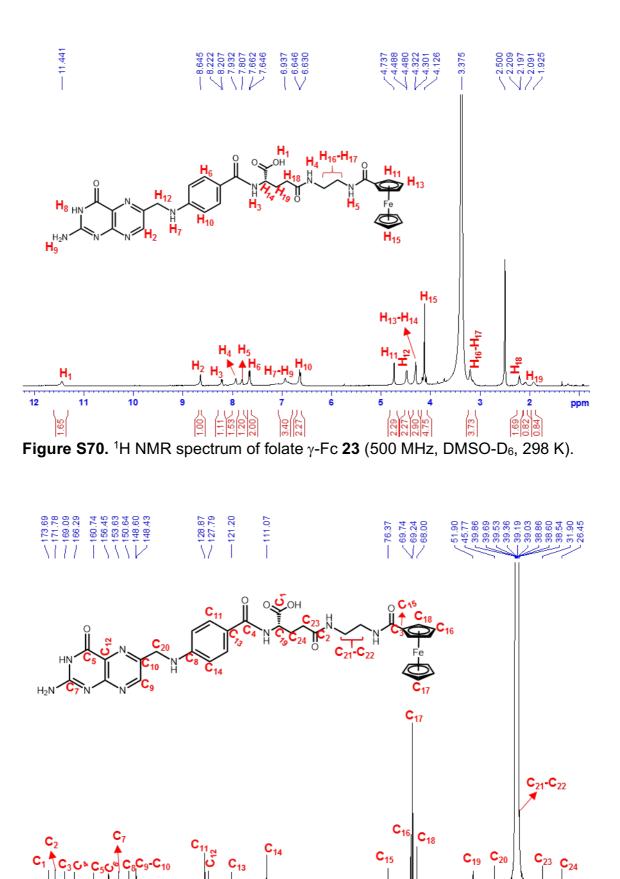
Figure S69. A zoom on the ESI-QTOF mass spectrum of folate γ -Fc **22**. Left: theoretical isotopic distribution for [M+H]⁺. Right: experimental isotopic distribution for [M+H]⁺.

2.19 Folate γ-Fc 23



Protected folate γ -Fc **20** (50 mg, 63 µmol) was dissolved in 1 mL of anhydrous DMSO and dried tetra-n-butylammonium fluoride (TBAF) solution in tetrahydrofuran (1.0 M, 3 eq, 0.19 mmol, 189 µL) was added. The reaction mixture was stirred for 4 hours under nitrogen gas atmosphere. The reaction mixture was precipitated in 50 mL of a cold mixture of diethyl ether and acetone (2:1) and the solids were collected after decantation. The solids were washed with cold HCI solution pH 2 (3×10 mL), cold water (3×10 mL) and cold acetonitrile (3×10 mL). folate γ -Fc **23** was obtained as a brown solid in 78% of yield (34 mg).

¹**H NMR** (DMSO-D₆, 500 MHz), δ (ppm): 11.44 (CO₂*H*), 8.64 (s, C(7)-*H*, 1H), 8.21 (*d*, *J* = 7.4 Hz, N*H*, 1H), 7.93 (*br*, CON*H*, 1H), 7.81 (*br*, CON*H*, 1H) 7.66 (*d*, *J* = 8.3 Hz, Ar(6'-2')-*H*, 2H), 6.94 (*br*, CON(3)*H* and N(2)*H*₂, 4H), 6.64 (*d*, *J* = 8.3 Hz, Ar(5'-3')-*H*, 2H), 4.74 (*br*, Fc-*H*, 2H), 4.48 (*br*, N(9)C*H*₂, 2H), 4.33 (*m*, C*H* and Fc-*H*, 3H), 4.12 (s, Fc-*H*, 5H), 3.20 (*m*, CONHC*H*₂, 4H), 2.21 (*t*, *J* = 6.13 Hz, COC*H*₂, 2H), 2.01 (*m*, COCH₂C*H*₂', 1H), 1.92 (*m*, COCH₂C*H*₂'', 1H). ¹³**C** NMR (DMSO-D₆, 125 MHz), δ (ppm): 173.4 (CO₂H), 171.8 (CONH), 169.1 (CONH), 166.1 (C(7')ONH), 160.7 (C(4)ONH), 156.4 (Ar-C_q(2)), 153.6 (Ar-C_q(8a)), 150.6 (Ar-C_q(8')), 148.6 (Ar-C(7)), 131.1 (Ar-C_q(6)), 128.9 (Ar-C(6'-2')), 127.8 (Ar-C_q(4a)), 121.2 (Ar-C_q(1')), 111.1 (Ar-C(3'-5')), 76.4 (Ar-C_qFc), 69.7 (Ar-CFc), 69.2 (Ar-CFc), 68.0 (Ar-CFc), 51.9 (HNCH), 45.8 (C(9)H₂NH), 38.6 (CH₂NH), 38.5 (CH₂NH), 31.9 (HNCOCH₂), 26.4 (CHCH₂). **ESI-QTOF-MS** [M]⁻ m/z calcd for C₃₂H₃₃FeN₉O₆: 694.1826, found 694.1859.



ppm Figure S71. ¹³C NMR spectrum of folate γ -Fc 23 (125 MHz, DMSO-D₆, 298 K).

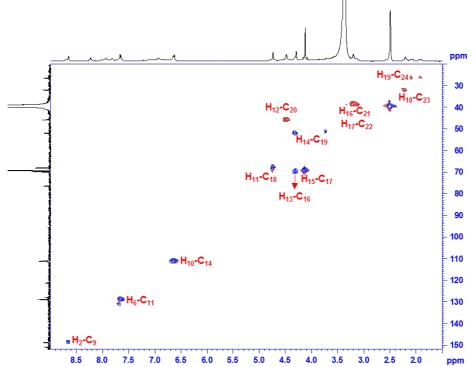
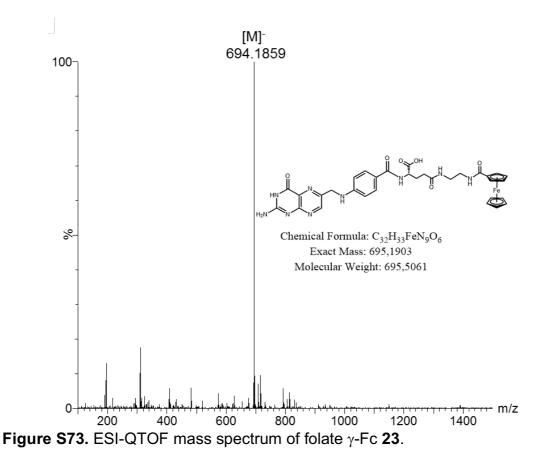


Figure S72. Two-dimensional [¹H-¹³C]-HSQC NMR contour map of folate γ -Fc **23** recorded in DMSO-D₆ at 298 K (500 MHz).



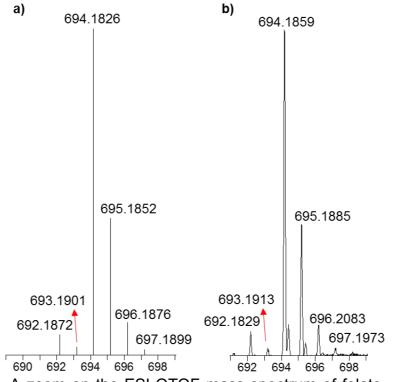
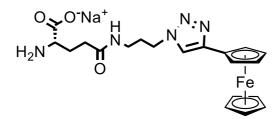


Figure S74. A zoom on the ESI-QTOF mass spectrum of folate γ -Fc **23**. Left: theoretical isotopic distribution for [M]⁻. Right: experimental isotopic distribution for [M]⁻.

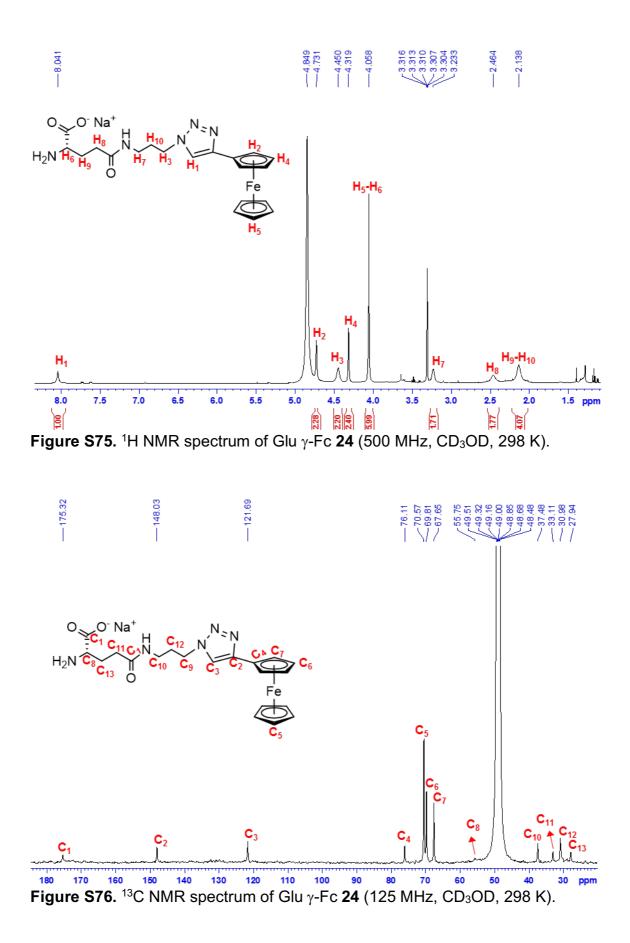
2.20 Unprotected Glu γ-Fc 24



Chemical Formula: C₂₀H₂₄FeN₅NaO₃ Exact Mass: 461.11 Molecular Weight: 461.28

Compound **4** (0.12 mmol, 80 mg) was dissolved in 5 mL of anhydrous DMF and and dried TBAF solution in tetrahydrofuran (1.0 M, 3eq, 0.37 mmol, 98 mg, 0.375 mL) was added. The reaction mixture was stirred for 2 hours under nitrogen atmosphere. The solvents were evaporated to dryness and redissolved in 200 mL of ethyl acetate. The organic phase was washed with water (3×200 mL), brine (4×50 mL), dried over Na₂SO₄ and filtered. The crude intermediate was stirred at room temperature for 24 h under nitrogen atmosphere in the absence of light. The liquids were evaporated to dryness using rotary evaporation and the resulting solid was washed with diethyl ether (3×30 mL) and hexane (3×30 mL). Compound **24** was obtained as a red oil in 93% of yield (55 mg).

¹H NMR (CD₃OD, 500 MHz), δ (ppm): 8.04 (s, triazole-*H*), 4.73 (*br*, Fc-*H*, 2H), 4.45 (*br*, triazole-C*H*₂, 2H), 4.32 (*br*, Fc-*H*, 2H), 4.06 (s, NHC*H*, Fc-*H*, 6H), 3.23 (*m*, C*H*₂NH, 2H), 2.46 (*br*, C*H*₂CON, 2H), 2.14 (*m*, CHC*H*₂ and CH₂C*H*₂CH₂, 4H), ¹³C NMR (CD₃OD, 125 MHz), δ (ppm): 175.3 (CO₂, CONH), 148.0 (C_q-triazole), 121.7 (triazole-CH), 76.1 (FcAr-C_q), 70.6 (FcAr-CH), 69.8 (FcAr-CH), 67.6 (FcAr-CH), 55.8 (NCH), 37.5 (CH₂NH), 33.1 (CH₂CONH), 31.0 (CH₂C*H*₂CH₂), 27.9 (CH₂CH₂CONH). ESI-MS [M]⁻ m/z calcd for C₂₀H₂₅FeN₅O₃: 438.1229, found 438.1233.



S66

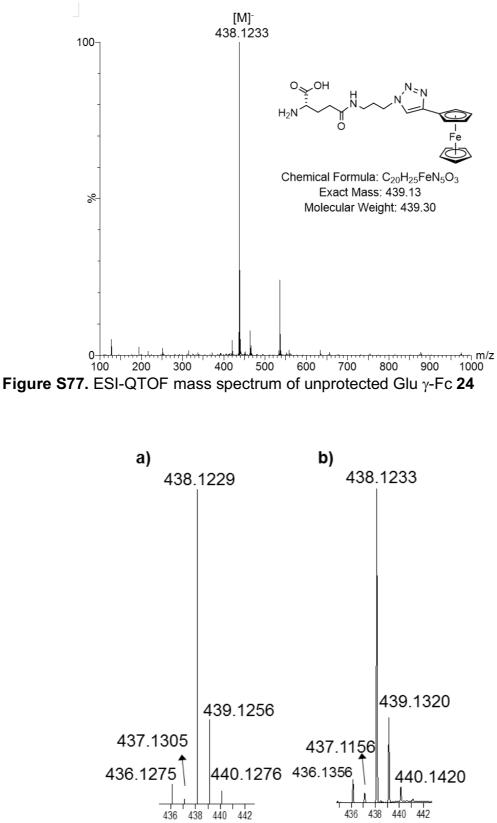
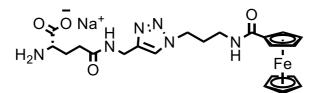


Figure S78. A zoom on the ESI-QTOF mass spectrum of Glu γ -Fc **24**. Left: theoretical isotopic distribution for [M]⁻. Right: experimental isotopic distribution for [M]⁻.

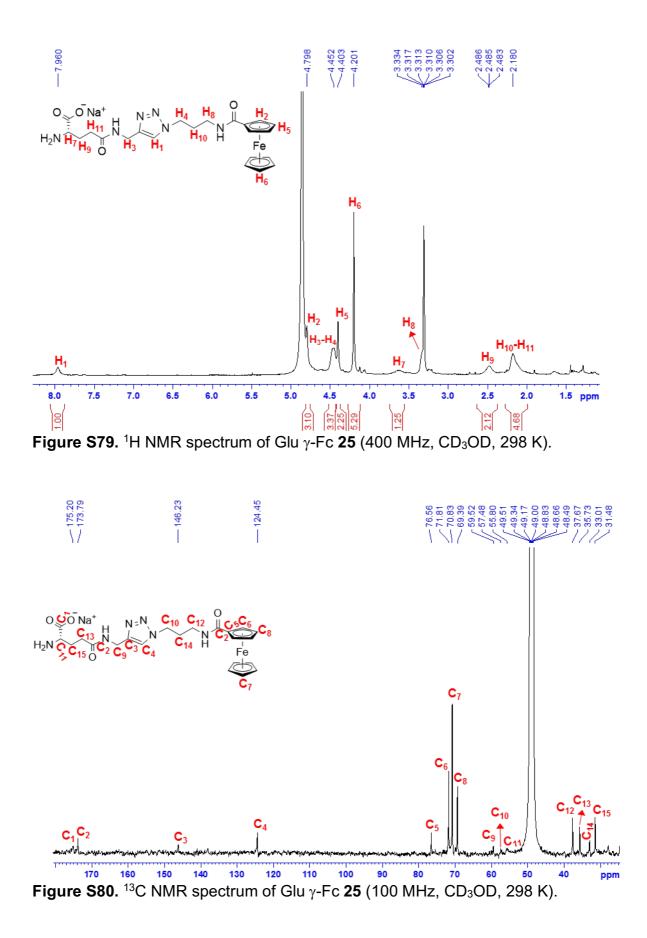
2.21 Unprotected Glu γ-Fc 25

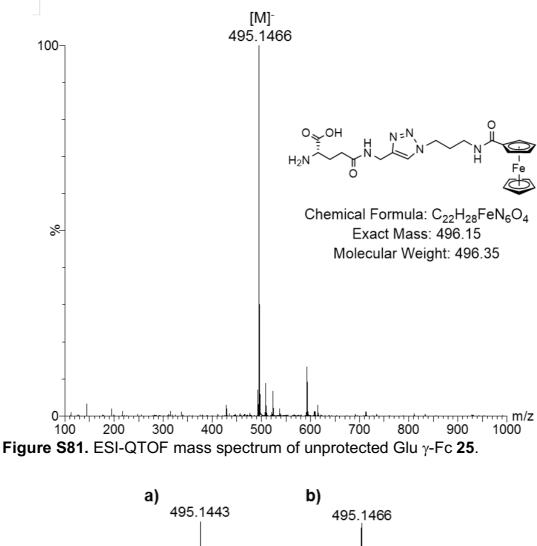


Chemical Formula: C₂₂H₂₇FeN₆NaO₄ Exact Mass: 518.13 Molecular Weight: 518.33

Compound **8** (0.15 mmol, 80 mg) was dissolved in 5 mL of anhydrous DMF and and dried TBAF solution in tetrahydrofuran (1.0 M, 3eq, 0.34 mmol, 90 mg, 0.344 mL) was added. The reaction mixture was stirred for 2 hours under nitrogen atmosphere. The solvents were evaporated to dryness and redissolved in 200 mL of ethyl acetate. The organic phase was washed with water (3×200 mL), brine (4×50 mL), dried over Na₂SO₄ and filtered. The crude intermediate was stirred at room temperature for 24 h under nitrogen atmosphere in the absence of light. The liquids were evaporated to dryness using rotary evaporation and the resulting solid was washed with diethyl ether (3×30 mL) and hexane (3×30 mL). Compound **25** was obtained as a red oil in 68% of yield (45 mg).

¹H NMR (CD₃OD, 400 MHz), δ (ppm): 7.96 (s, triazole-*H*, 1H), 4.80 (*br*, Fc-*H*, 2H), 4.47-4.45 (*br*, NHC*H*₂-triazole, triazole-C*H*₂, 4H), 4.40 (*br*, Fc-H, 2H), 4.20 (s, Fc-*H*, 6H), 3.64 (*m*, NHC*H*, 1H), 3.34 (*br*, HNC*H*₂, 1H), 2.48 (*br*, C*H*₂CON, 2H), 2.18 (*m*, CHC*H*₂ and CH₂C*H*₂CH₂, 4H). ¹³C NMR (CD₃OD, 100 MHz), δ (ppm): 175.2 (CO₂), 173.8 (CONH), 146.2 (C_q-triazole), 124.5 (triazole-CH), 76.6 (FcAr- C_q), 71.8 (FcAr-CH), 70.8 (FcAr-CH), 69.4 (FcAr-CH), 59.7 (NHCH₂-triazole), 57.5 (triazole-CH₂), 56.1 (NCH), 48.1 (triazole-CH₂), 37.7 (CH₂NH), 35.7 (CH₂CONH), 33.1 (CH₂CH₂CH₂), 27.9 (CH₂CH₂CONH). **ESI-MS** [M]⁻ m/z calcd for C₂₂H₂₈FeN₆O₄: 495.1443, found 495.1466.





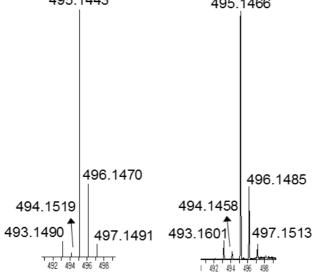
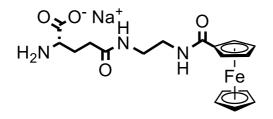


Figure S82. A zoom on the ESI-QTOF mass spectrum of Glu γ -Fc **25**. Left: theoretical isotopic distribution for [M]⁻. Right: experimental isotopic distribution for [M]⁻.

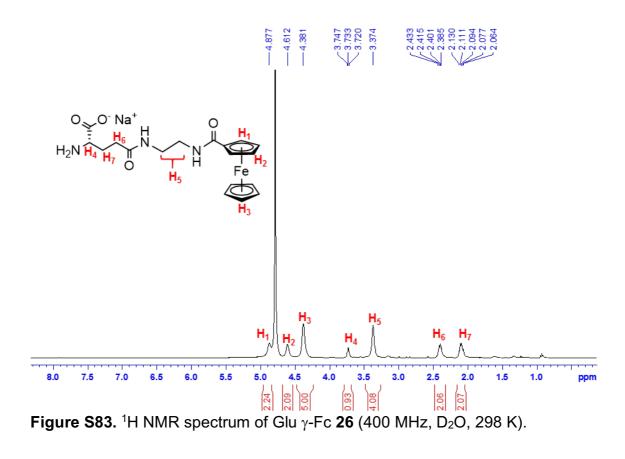
2.22 Unprotected Glu γ-Fc 26

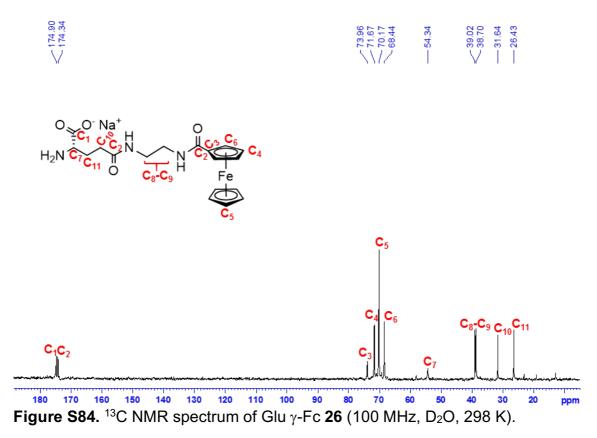


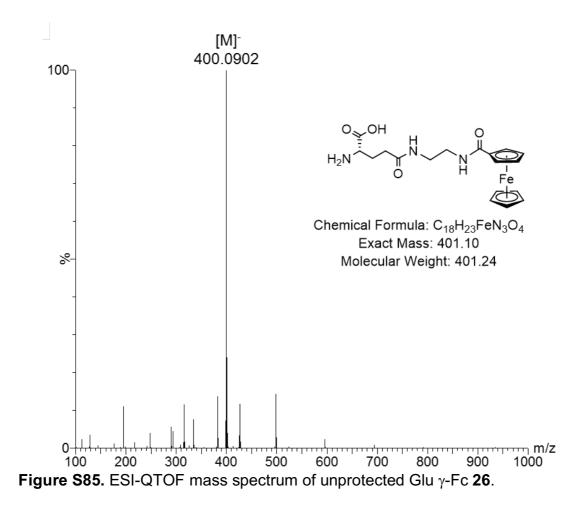
Chemical Formula: C₁₈H₂₂FeN₃NaO₄ Exact Mass: 423.09 Molecular Weight: 423.23

Compound **12** (0.13 mmol, 80 mg) was dissolved in 5 mL of anhydrous DMF and and dried TBAF solution in tetrahydrofuran (1.0 M, 3 eq, 0.4 mmol, 104 mg, 0.400 mL) was added. The reaction mixture was stirred for 2 hours under nitrogen atmosphere. The solvents were evaporated to dryness and redissolved in 200 mL of ethyl acetate. The organic phase was washed with water (3×200 mL), brine (4×50 mL), dried over Na₂SO₄ and filtered. The crude intermediate was stirred at room temperature for 24 h under nitrogen atmosphere in the absence of light. The liquids were evaporated to dryness using rotary evaporation and the resulting solid was washed with diethyl ether (3×30 mL) and hexane (3×30 mL). Compound **26** was obtained as a red oil in 80% of yield (45 mg).

¹H NMR (D₂O, 400 MHz), δ (ppm): 4.88 (*br*, Fc-*H*, 2H), 4.61 (*br*, Fc-*H*, 2H), 4.38 (*s*, Fc-*H*, 5H), 3.73 (*t*, *J* = 5.2 Hz, NHC*H*, 1H), 3.37 (*br*, C*H*₂NH, 4H), 2.43-2.39 (*br*, C*H*₂CON, 2H), 2.13-2.06 (*m*, CHC*H*₂, 2H). ¹³C NMR (D₂O, 100 MHz), δ (ppm): 174.9 (CO₂), 174.3 (CONH), 74.0 (FcAr-C_q), 71.7 (FcAr-CH), 70.2 (FcAr-CH), 68.4 (FcAr-CH), 54.3 (NCH), 39.0 (NHCH₂), 38.7 (NHCH₂), 31.6 (CH₂CONH), 26.4 (CH₂CH₂CONH). **ESI-MS** [M]⁻ m/z calcd for C₁₈H₂₃FeN₃O₄: 400.0960, found 400.0902.







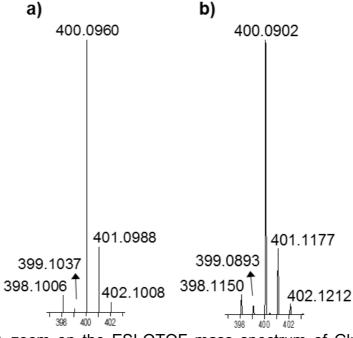


Figure S86. A zoom on the ESI-QTOF mass spectrum of Glu γ -Fc **26**. Left: theoretical isotopic distribution for [M]⁻. Right: experimental isotopic distribution for [M]⁻.

3. In vitro cytotoxicity supplementary data

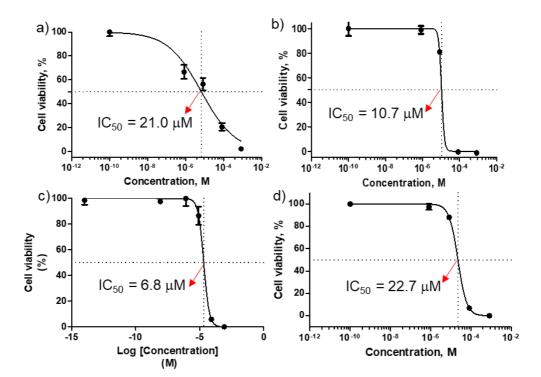


Figure S87. Dose-response curves of cisplatin on (a) HeLa, (b) MCF7, (c) PC-3 and (d) PNT2 cell line.

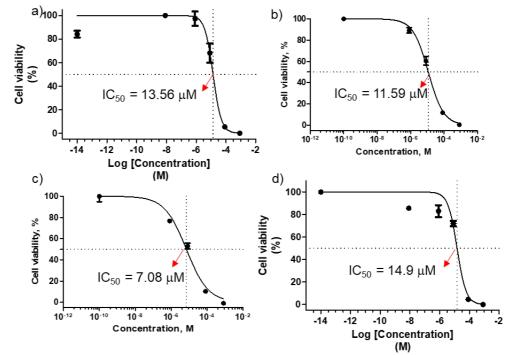


Figure S88. Dose-response curves of cisplatin on (a) HeLa, (b) MCF7, (c) PC-3 and (d) PNT2 cell line (duplicate).

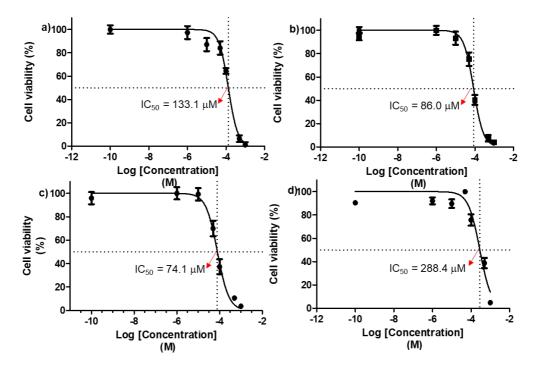


Figure S89. Dose-response curves of Glu γ -Fc 24 on (a) HeLa, (b) MCF7, (c) PC-3 and (d) PNT2 cell line.

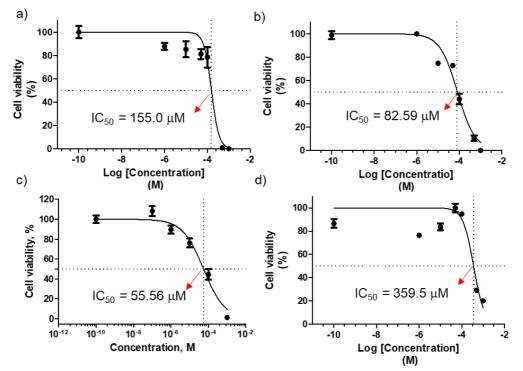


Figure S90. Dose-response curves of Glu γ -Fc **24** on **(a)** HeLa, **(b)** MCF7, **(c)** PC-3 and **(d)** PNT2 cell line (duplicate).

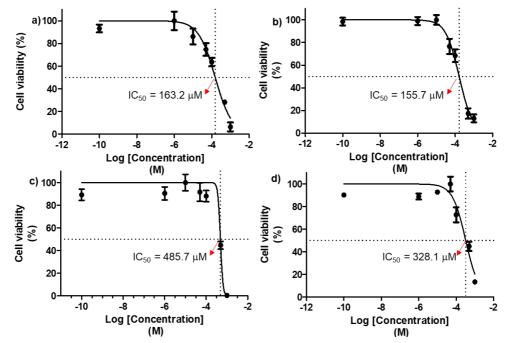


Figure S91. Dose-response curves of Glu γ -Fc 25 on (a) HeLa, (b) MCF7, (c) PC-3 and (d) PNT2 cell line.

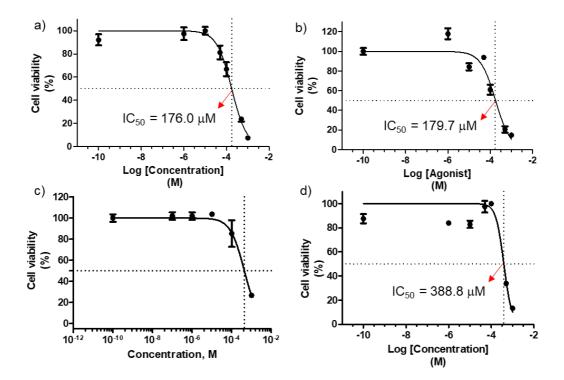


Figure S92. Dose-response curves of Glu γ -Fc **25** on **(a)** HeLa, **(b)** MCF7, **(c)** PC-3 and **(d)** PNT2 cell line (duplicate).

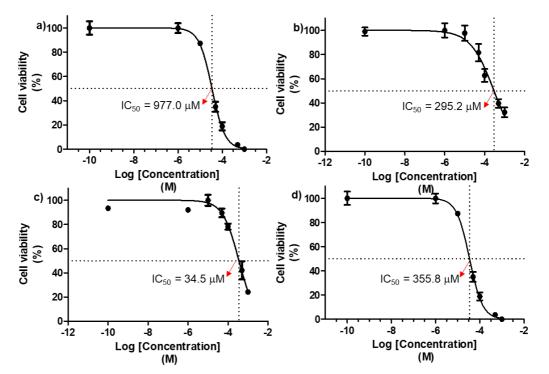


Figure S93. In vitro cell viability of Glu γ -Fc 26 on (a) HeLa, (b) MCF7, (c) PC-3 and (d) PNT2 cell line.

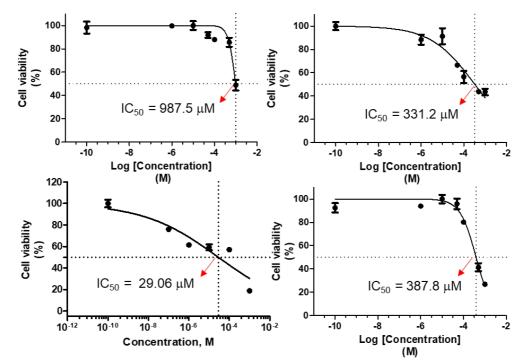


Figure S94. Dose-response curves of Glu γ -Fc **26** on **(a)** HeLa, **(b)** MCF7, **(c)** PC-3 and **(d)** PNT2 cell line (duplicate).

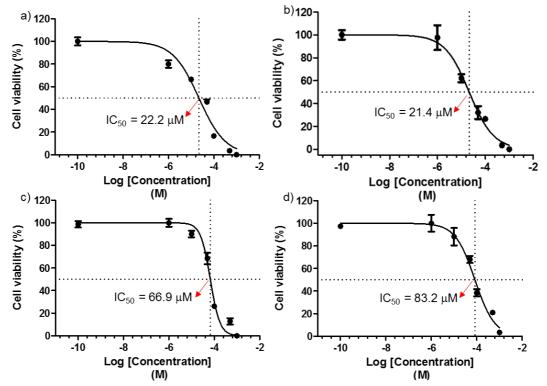


Figure 95. Dose-response curves of folate γ -Fc 21 on (a) HeLa, (b) MCF7, (c) PC-3 and (d) PNT2 cell line.

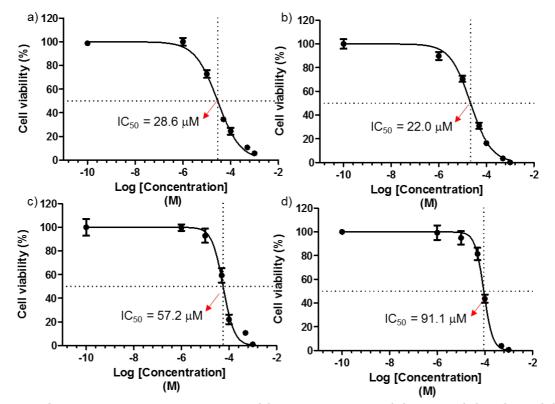


Figure S96. Dose-response curves of folate γ -Fc **21** on **(a)** HeLa, **(b)** MCF7, **(c)** PC-3 and **(d)** PNT2 cell line (duplicate).

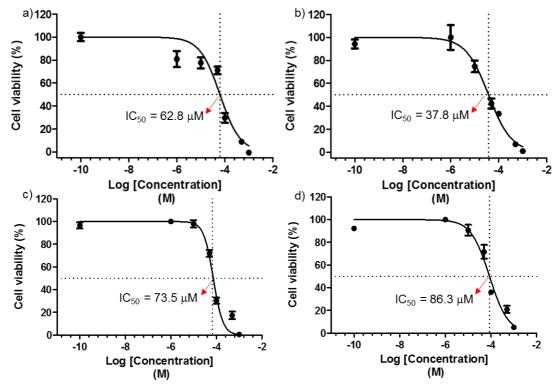


Figure S97. Dose-response curves of folate γ -Fc 22 on (a) HeLa, (b) MCF7, (c) PC-3 and (d) PNT2 cell line.

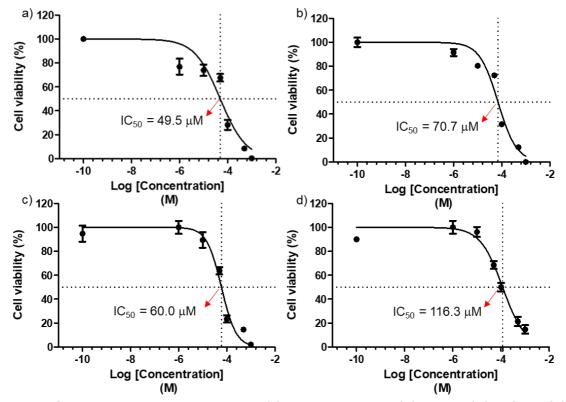


Figure S98. Dose-response curves of folate γ -Fc **22** on **(a)** HeLa, **(b)** MCF7, **(c)** PC-3 and **(d)** PNT2 cell line (duplicate).

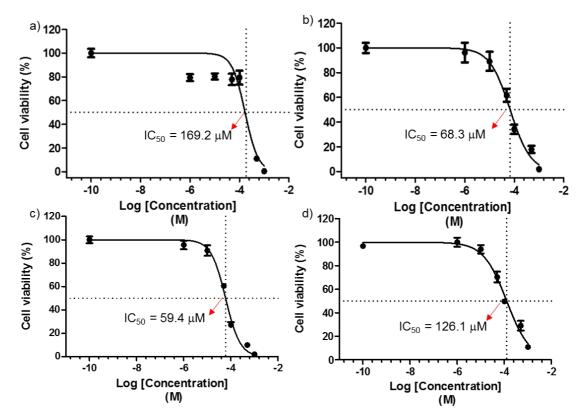


Figure S99. Dose-response curves of folate γ -Fc **23** on **(a)** HeLa, **(b)** MCF7, **(c)** PC-3 and **(d)** PNT2 cell line.

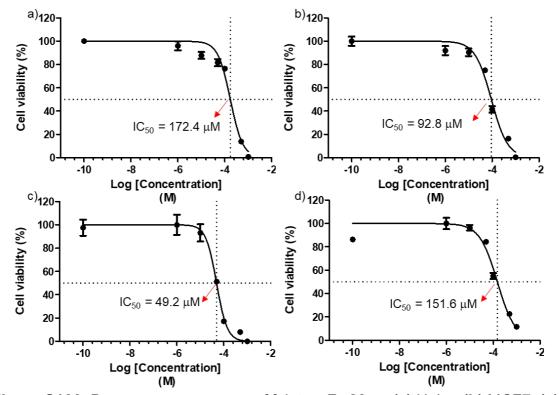


Figure S100. Dose-response curves of folate γ -Fc **23** on **(a)** HeLa, **(b)** MCF7, **(c)** PC-3 and **(d)** PNT2 cell line (duplicate).

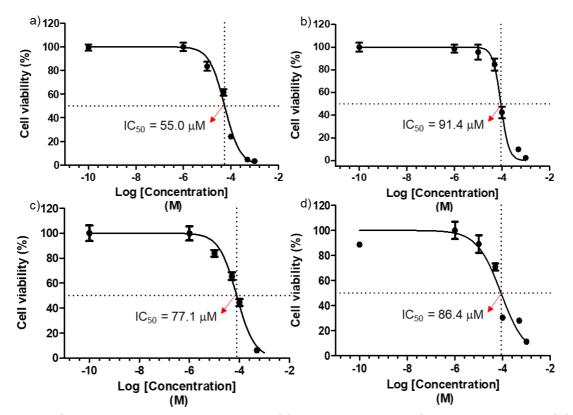


Figure S101. Dose-response curves of folate γ -Fc **21** with folic acid 1 mM on (a) HeLa, (b) MCF7, (c) PC-3 and (d) PNT2 cell line.

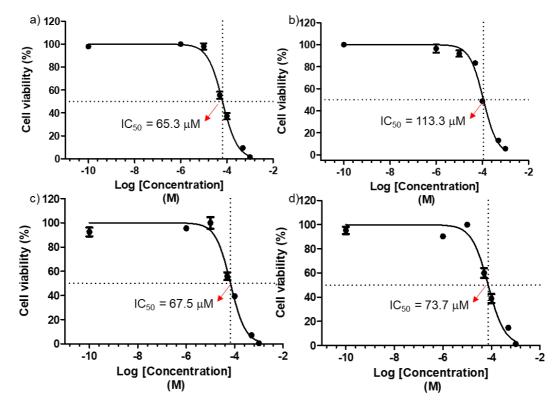


Figure S 102. Dose-response curves of folate γ -Fc **21** with folic acid 1 mM on **(a)** HeLa, **(b)** MCF7, **(c)** PC-3 and **(d)** PNT2 cell line (duplicate).

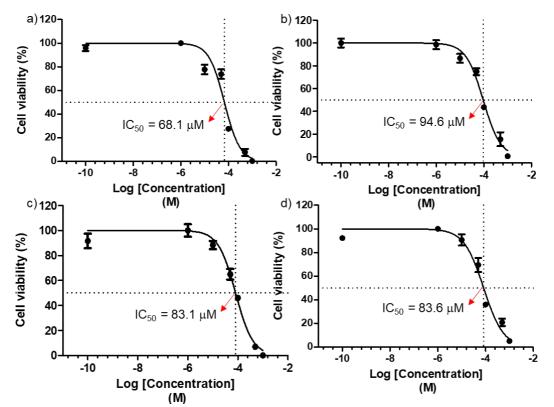


Figure S103. Dose-response curves of folate γ -Fc **22** with folic acid 1 mM on (a) HeLa, (b) MCF7, (c) PC-3 and (d) PNT2 cell line.

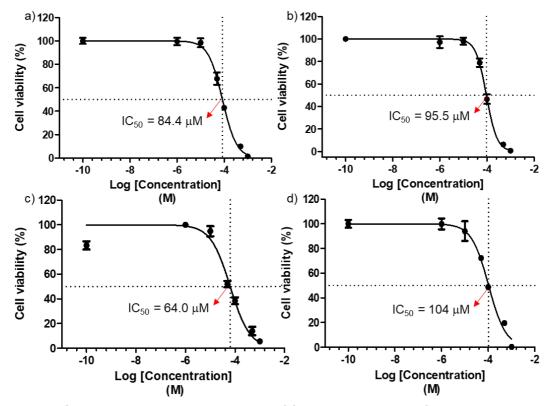


Figure S104. Dose-response curves of folate γ -Fc **22** with folic acid 1 mM on **(a)** HeLa, **(b)** MCF7, **(c)** PC-3 and **(d)** PNT2 cell line (duplicate).

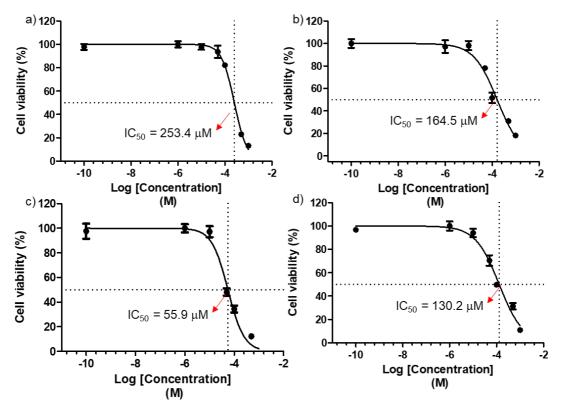


Figure S105. Dose-response curves of folate γ -Fc **23** with folic acid 1 mM on **(a)** HeLa, **(b)** MCF7, **(c)** PC-3 and **(d)** PNT2 cell line.

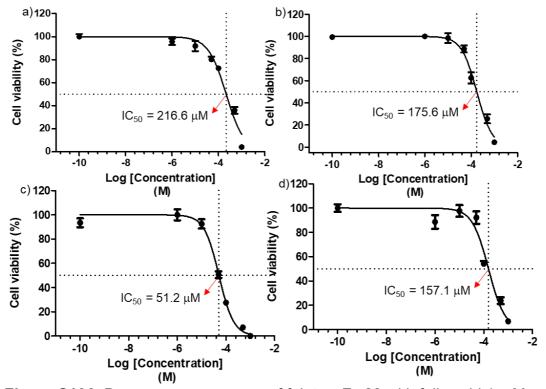


Figure S106. Dose-response curves of folate γ -Fc **23** with folic acid 1 mM on **(a)** HeLa, **(b)** MCF7, **(c)** PC-3 and **(d)** PNT2 cell line (duplicate).

4. References

- 1. J. Luo, M. D. Smith, D. A. Lantrip, S. Wang and P. L. Fuchs, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, 1997, **119**, 10004-10013.
- 2. D. P. Cox, J. Terpinski and W. Lawrynowicz, *J. Org. Chem.*, 1984, **49**, 3216-3219.