## **Supporting figures for**

# Supramolecular adducts between macrocyclic Gd (III) complexes and polyaromatic systems: a route to enhance the relaxivity through the formation of hydrophobic interactions.

Enza Di Gregorio<sup>1</sup>, Luciano Lattuada<sup>2</sup>, Alessandro Maiocchi<sup>2</sup>, Silvio Aime<sup>1</sup>, Giuseppe Ferrauto<sup>1,‡,\*</sup>, Eliana Gianolio<sup>1,‡,\*</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Molecular Imaging Center, Department of Molecular Biotechnologies and Health Sciences, University of Torino, Via Nizza 52, 10126, Torino (It)

<sup>2</sup> Bracco Imaging Spa, Bracco Research Centre, Via Ribes 5, 10010, Colleretto Giacosa (TO), Italy.

\* Dr. Giuseppe Ferrauto, Molecular Imaging Center, Department of Molecular Biotechnologies and Health Sciences, University of Torino, Via Nizza 52, 10126, Torino (It)- Phone: 0039 0116708459; mail: giuseppe.ferrauto@unito.it

<sup>‡</sup> These authors equally contributed

#### **Supplementary figures**



Figure S1. Chemical structure of linear Gd-based contrast agents.



**Figure S2.** Zinc transmetallation experiment for Gd-HPDO3A and Gd-HPDO3A/HPTS (1:3 *mol/mol*) in the presence of an excess (10 fold) of  $ZnCl_2$ : assessment by measuring of  $r_1$  over time (up to t=8 days).



**Figure S3.** <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectra and shift of HPTS protons resonances at variable concentration of HPTS ([Yb-HPDO3A]=20 mM). Arrows indicate splitting of peaks ( $T=15^{\circ}C$ ,  $B_{0}=14.1T$ ).



**Figure S4.** Ratio of transversal relaxation rates ( $R_2$ ) of selected peaks measured from <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectra of Yb-HPDO3A + HPTS with respect to free Yb-HPDO3A. ([Yb-HPDO3A]=20 mM, T=15°C, B<sub>0</sub>=14.1T).



**Figure S5.**  $r_{1p}$  of Gd-HPDO3A and Gd-HPDO3A/HPTS in hepes/NaCl or in human serum (T=25°C, B<sub>0</sub>=0.5T).

### Mouse n°2









Mouse n°3



**Figure S6.** Representative *in vivo* axial MR images of tumor region in two additional Balb/c mouse bearing subcutaneous TS/A tumor. (A)  $T_{2w}$  MR image, (B) uncontrasted (*pre*)  $T_{1w}$  MR image without Gd-CA, (C)  $T_{1w}$  MR image after 2 min from injection of Gd-HPDO3A (0.15 mmol/kg) (D)  $T_{1w}$  MR image after 2 min from the injection of Gd-HPDO3A (0.15 mmol/kg) and HPTS (0.45 mmol/Kg). B<sub>0</sub>=7.1T, room temperature.



**Figure S7.** Morphological  $T_{2w}$  MR images of the three analyzed mice showing the label of the most important organs.



**Figure S8.** Enh%, of MRI Signal Intensity in the kidneys after injection of ProHance (0.15mmol/Kg) or injection of ProHance/HPTS (0.15mmol/kg ProHance+ 0.45mmol/Kg HPTS) (N=3).

#### **Calculation of Enh%**

$$Enh\% = \frac{SI_{post} - SI_{pre}}{SI_{pre}} \times 100$$

Where  $SI_{post}$  is the signal intensity in the  $T_{1w}$  MR image sfter injection of the GBCA, normalized for signal intensity in the reference tube and  $SI_{pre}$  is the signal intensity in the  $T_{1w}$  MR image before injection of the GBCA, normalized for signal intensity in the reference tube.



**Figure S9.** <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectrum of HPTS in D<sub>2</sub>O, pH 6.0, T=15°C,  $B_0=14.1$  T.