# **Supporting Information**

# Mechanochemistry for the synthesis of non-classical *N*-metalated palladium(II) pincer complexes

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# **Table of contents**

Experimental section	S5	
Fig. S1. Extended fragment of the NOESY spectrum of ligand 3 (aliphatic proton region;		
500.13 MHz, CDCl <sub>3</sub> )		
Fig. S2. <sup>1</sup> H NMR spectrum of ligand 2 (500.13 MHz, CDCl <sub>3</sub> )	S20	
Fig. S3. Extended fragment of the <sup>1</sup> H NMR spectrum of ligand 2 (aliphatic proton region;	S21	
500.13 MHz, CDCl <sub>3</sub> )		
Fig. S4. Extended fragments of the <sup>1</sup> H NMR spectrum of ligand 2 (aromatic and NH proton	S22	
regions; 500.13 MHz, CDCl <sub>3</sub> )		
Fig. S5. ${}^{13}C{}^{1}H$ NMR spectrum of ligand 2 (125.76 MHz, CDCl <sub>3</sub> )	S23	
Fig. S6. Extended fragment of the ${}^{13}C{}^{1}H$ NMR spectrum of ligand 2 (aliphatic carbon nuclei;	S24	
125.76 MHz, CDCl <sub>3</sub> )		
Fig. S7. Extended fragment of the ${}^{13}C{}^{1}H$ NMR spectrum of ligand 2 (aromatic and	S25	
(thio)carbonyl carbon nuclei; 125.76 MHz, CDCl <sub>3</sub> )		
Fig. S8. $^{1}H^{-1}H$ COSY spectrum of ligand 2 (500.13 MHz, CDCl <sub>3</sub> )	S26	
<b>Fig. S9.</b> Extended fragment of the ${}^{1}H{}^{-1}H$ COSY spectrum of ligand 2 (aliphatic proton region;	S27	
500.13 MHz, CDCl <sub>3</sub> )		

<b>Fig. S10.</b> Extended fragment of the ${}^{1}\text{H}{-}^{1}\text{H}$ COSY spectrum of ligand 2 (aromatic and NH	S28			
proton regions; 500.13 MHz, CDCl <sub>3</sub> )				
<b>Fig. S11.</b> HMQC spectrum of ligand <b>2</b> (CDCl <sub>3</sub> )				
Fig. S12. Extended fragment of the HMQC spectrum of ligand 2 (aliphatic carbon and	<b>S</b> 30			
hydrogen nuclei; CDCl <sub>3</sub> )				
Fig. S13. Extended fragment of the HMQC spectrum of ligand 2 (aromatic carbon and	<b>S</b> 31			
hydrogen nuclei; CDCl <sub>3</sub> )				
Fig. S14. $^{1}H^{-13}C$ HMBC spectrum of ligand 2 (CDCl <sub>3</sub> )				
Fig. S15. Extended fragment of the ${}^{1}H{-}^{13}C$ HMBC spectrum of ligand 2 (aliphatic carbon	S33			
nuclei; CDCl <sub>3</sub> )				
Fig. S16. Extended fragment of the ${}^{1}H-{}^{13}C$ HMBC spectrum of ligand 2 (aromatic and	<b>S</b> 34			
(thio)carbonyl carbon nuclei; CDCl <sub>3</sub> )				
Fig. S17. <sup>1</sup> H– <sup>15</sup> N HMBC spectrum of ligand 2 (CDCl <sub>3</sub> )	S35			
Fig. S18. <sup>1</sup> H NMR spectrum of complex 9 (600.22 MHz, CDCl <sub>3</sub> )	S36			
Fig. S19. Extended fragment of the <sup>1</sup> H NMR spectrum of complex 9 (aliphatic proton region;	S37			
600.22 MHz, CDCl <sub>3</sub> )				
Fig. S20. Extended fragments of the <sup>1</sup> H NMR spectrum of complex 9 (aromatic proton region;	S38			
600.22 MHz, CDCl <sub>3</sub> )				
Fig. S21. ${}^{13}C{}^{1}H$ NMR spectrum of complex 9 (150.93 MHz, CDCl <sub>3</sub> )	S39			
Fig. S22. Extended fragment of the ${}^{13}C{}^{1}H$ NMR spectrum of complex 9 (aliphatic carbon	S40			
nuclei; 150.93 MHz, CDCl <sub>3</sub> )				
Fig. S23. Extended fragments of the ${}^{13}C{}^{1}H$ NMR spectrum of complex 9 (aromatic and	S41			
(thio)carbonyl carbon nuclei; 150.93 MHz, CDCl <sub>3</sub> )				
Fig. S24. <sup>1</sup> H <sup>-1</sup> H COSY spectrum of complex 9 (600.22 MHz, CDCl <sub>3</sub> )	S42			
Fig. S25. Extended fragment of the ${}^{1}H{}^{-1}H$ COSY spectrum of complex 9 (aliphatic proton	S43			
region; 600.22 MHz, CDCl <sub>3</sub> )				
Fig. S26. Extended fragment of the ${}^{1}H{}^{-1}H$ COSY spectrum of complex 9 (aromatic proton	S44			
region; 600.22 MHz, CDCl <sub>3</sub> )				
Fig. S27. HMQC spectrum of complex 9 (CDCl <sub>3</sub> )	S45			
Fig. S28. Extended fragment of the HMQC spectrum of complex 9 (aliphatic carbon and	S46			
hydrogen nuclei; CDCl <sub>3</sub> )				
Fig. S29. Extended fragment of the HMQC spectrum of complex 9 (aromatic carbon and	S47			
hydrogen nuclei; CDCl <sub>3</sub> )				
Fig. S30. Extended fragment of the ${}^{1}H{-}^{13}C$ HMBC spectrum of complex 9 (aliphatic carbon	S48			
nuclei; CDCl <sub>3</sub> )				
Fig. S31. Extended fragments of the ${}^{1}H{-}^{13}C$ HMBC spectrum of complex 9 (aromatic and	S49			
(thio)carbonyl carbon nuclei; CDCl <sub>3</sub> )				
Fig. S32. <sup>1</sup> H– <sup>15</sup> N HMBC spectrum of complex 9 (CDCl <sub>3</sub> )	S50			
Fig. S33. IR spectrum of complex 15 (dark-red crystals)	S51			
Fig. S34. IR spectrum of complex 15 (beige powder)	S52			

**S**2

Fig. S35. Solid-phase cyclopalladation of functionalized monothiooxamide 2 under the action	S53
of $PdCl_2(NCPh)_2$ : (a) a mixture of the reactants immediately after grinding in a mortar; (b)	
reaction mixture in 1 day	
Fig. S36. IR spectrum of ligand 1	S54
Fig. S37. IR spectrum of complex 8	S55
Fig. S38. IR spectrum of the residue obtained after a solid-phase reaction of ligand 1 with	S56
PdCl <sub>2</sub> (NCPh) <sub>2</sub> promoted by manual grinding of the reactants in a mortar	
Fig. S39. IR spectrum of ligand 2	S57
Fig. S40. IR spectrum of complex 9	S58
Fig. S41. IR spectrum of the residue obtained after a solid-phase reaction of ligand 2 with	S59
PdCl <sub>2</sub> (NCPh) <sub>2</sub> promoted by manual grinding of the reactants in a mortar	
Fig. S42. IR spectrum of ligand 4	<b>S</b> 60
Fig. S43. IR spectrum of complex 12	S61
Fig. S44. IR spectrum of the residue obtained after a solid-phase reaction of ligand 4 with	S62
PdCl <sub>2</sub> (NCPh) <sub>2</sub> promoted by manual grinding of the reactants in a mortar	
Fig. S45. <sup>1</sup> H NMR spectrum of the residue obtained after a solid-phase reaction of ligand 4	S63
with PdCl <sub>2</sub> (NCPh) <sub>2</sub> promoted by manual grinding of the reactants in a mortar and rinsed with	
hexane (400.13 MHz, CDCl <sub>3</sub> )	
Fig. S46. IR spectrum of ligand 6	S64
Fig. S47. IR spectrum of complex 14	S65
Fig. S48. IR spectrum of the residue obtained after a solid-phase reaction of ligand 6 with	S66
PdCl <sub>2</sub> (NCPh) <sub>2</sub> promoted by manual grinding of the reactants in a mortar	
Fig. S49. IR spectrum of ligand 3	S67
Fig. S50. IR spectrum of complex 10	S68
Fig. S51. IR spectrum of the residue obtained after a solid-phase reaction of ligand 3 with	S69
PdCl <sub>2</sub> (NCPh) <sub>2</sub> in a mortar	
Fig. S52. IR spectrum of ligand 5	S70
Fig. S53. IR spectrum of complex 13	S71
Fig. S54. IR spectrum of the paste-like residue obtained after a solid-phase reaction of ligand 5	S72
with PdCl <sub>2</sub> (NCPh) <sub>2</sub> in a mortar (registered in 30 min after the grinding cessation)	
Fig. S55. IR spectrum of the powder obtained after a solid-phase reaction of ligand 5	S73
with PdCl <sub>2</sub> (NCPh) <sub>2</sub> in a mortar (registered in 2 h after the grinding cessation)	
Fig. S56. <sup>1</sup> H NMR spectrum of the residue obtained after a solid-phase reaction of ligand 5	S74
with PdCl <sub>2</sub> (NCPh) <sub>2</sub> in a mortar and rinsed with hexane (400.13 MHz, CDCl <sub>3</sub> )	
Fig. S57. Narva DDR GM 9458 vibration ball mill with a custom-built agate insert	S75
Fig. S58. IR spectrum of the residue obtained after a solid-phase reaction of ligand 1 with	S76
PdCl <sub>2</sub> (NCPh) <sub>2</sub> in a vibration ball mill (registered in 30 min after the grinding cessation)	
<b>Fig. S59.</b> IR spectrum of the residue obtained after a solid-phase reaction of ligand <b>1</b> with	S77
PdCl <sub>2</sub> (NCPh) <sub>2</sub> in a vibration ball mill (registered in 2 weeks after the experiment)	
Fig. S60. IR spectrum of the residue obtained after a solid-phase reaction of ligand 2 with	S78

**S**3

PdCl <sub>2</sub> (NCPh) <sub>2</sub> in a vibration ball mill (registered in 1 h after the grinding cessation)	
Fig. S61. IR spectroscopic monitoring of the reaction of ligand 2 with PdCl <sub>2</sub> (NCPh) <sub>2</sub> in a	S79
vibration ball mill (the registration of all the spectra was completed in 2.5 h after the grinding	
cessation)	
Fig. S62. Solid-phase reaction between ligand 2 and $PdCl_2(NCPh)_2$ in a vibration ball mill: a	<b>S</b> 80
mixture of the reactants before grinding $(a)$ ; grinding for 0.5 $(b)$ , 1 $(c)$ , 2 $(d)$ , 3 $(e)$ , and 5 $(f)$	
min	
Fig. S63. IR spectrum of complex 15 isolated from a solid-phase reaction of ligand 2 with	<b>S</b> 81
PdCl <sub>2</sub> (NCPh) <sub>2</sub> in a vibration ball mill	
Fig. S64. IR spectrum of complex 9 after grinding in a vibration ball mill for 7 min	S82
Fig. S65. <sup>1</sup> H NMR spectrum of complex 9 after grinding in a vibration ball mill for 7 min	S83
(400.13 MHz, CDCl <sub>3</sub> )	
Fig. S66. IR spectrum of the residue obtained after a solid-phase reaction of ligand 4 with	<b>S</b> 84
PdCl <sub>2</sub> (NCPh) <sub>2</sub> in a vibration ball mill (registered in 35 min after the grinding cessation)	
Fig. S67. IR spectrum of the residue obtained after a solid-phase reaction of ligand 4 with	S85
PdCl <sub>2</sub> (NCPh) <sub>2</sub> in a vibration ball mill (registered in 3 days after the experiment)	
Fig. S68. IR spectrum of the residue obtained after a solid-phase reaction of ligand 3 with	<b>S</b> 86
PdCl <sub>2</sub> (NCPh) <sub>2</sub> in a vibration ball mill (registered in 30 min after the grinding cessation)	
Fig. S69. IR spectrum of the orange paste obtained after grinding ligand 5 with PdCl <sub>2</sub> (NCPh) <sub>2</sub>	<b>S</b> 87
in a vibration ball mill for 60 s (registered in 20 min after the grinding cessation)	
Fig. S70. IR spectrum of the orange paste (more fluidic) obtained after grinding ligand 5 with	S88
PdCl <sub>2</sub> (NCPh) <sub>2</sub> in a vibration ball mill for 90 s (registered in 20 min after the grinding cessation)	
Fig. S71. IR spectrum of the residue obtained after a solid-phase reaction of ligand 5 with	S89
PdCl <sub>2</sub> (NCPh) <sub>2</sub> in a vibration ball mill and rinsed with hexane	
Fig. S72. <sup>1</sup> H NMR spectrum of the residue obtained after a solid-phase reaction of ligand 5	<b>S</b> 90
with PdCl <sub>2</sub> (NCPh) <sub>2</sub> in a vibration ball mill and rinsed with hexane (400.13 MHz, CDCl <sub>3</sub> )	
Fig. S73. Extended fragments of the <sup>1</sup> H NMR spectra of the neat residue obtained after a solid-	<b>S</b> 91
phase reaction of ligand 5 with PdCl <sub>2</sub> (NCPh) <sub>2</sub> in a vibration mill (top) and that with specially	
added PhCN (bottom) (400.13 MHz, CDCl <sub>3</sub> )	
Fig. S74. IR spectrum of the mixture of ligand 3 with PdCl <sub>2</sub> (COD) obtained by manual	S92
grinding in a mortar and left under ambient conditions for 6 days	
Fig. S75. IR spectrum of the mixture of ligand 3 with PdCl <sub>2</sub> (COD) after heating at 80–175 °C	S93
for 20 min	
Fig. S76. EDS elemental distribution maps for complex 13 obtained by grinding in a mortar	<b>S</b> 94
(100× magnification, 30kV)	
Fig. S77. EDS elemental distribution maps for ligand 5 (100× magnification, 30kV)	S94
Table S1. Selected bond lengths (Å) and angles (°) for complexes 12 and 14	S95
<b>Table S2.</b> Cytotoxic properties of the functionalized monothiooxamides and their palladium(II)	S96
pincer complexes (IC <sub>50</sub> $\pm$ SD, $\mu$ M)	

#### **Experimental section**

# **General remarks**

If not mentioned otherwise, all manipulations were carried out without taking precautions to exclude air and moisture. Dichloromethane was distilled from  $P_2O_5$ . The functionalized chloroacetamides [1, 2] and ligand **6** [3] were synthesized according to the published or analogous procedures. All other chemicals and solvents were used as purchased.

The NMR spectra were recorded on Bruker Avance 400, Avance 500, and Avance 600 spectrometers, and the chemical shifts ( $\delta$ ) were referenced internally by the residual (<sup>1</sup>H) or deuterated (<sup>13</sup>C) solvent signals relative to tetramethylsilane or externally to H<sub>3</sub>PO<sub>4</sub> (<sup>31</sup>P) or MeNO<sub>2</sub> (<sup>15</sup>N). The <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR spectra were registered using the *J*MODECHO mode; the signals for the *C* nuclei bearing odd and even numbers of protons have opposite polarities. The <sup>15</sup>N chemical shifts were extracted from the <sup>1</sup>H–<sup>15</sup>N HMBC spectra. The NMR peak assignments for compounds 1–3, 7–12 were based on the analysis of <sup>1</sup>H–<sup>1</sup>H-COSY, HMBC, HMQC (1–3, 7, 9–11) or HSQC (8, 12), and NOESY (3) spectra. Along with the previously reported data for the related derivatives [3], the results obtained were used to assign the NMR spectra of the other compounds from this study.

The IR spectra were recorded on a Nicolet Magna-IR750 FT spectrometer (resolution 2 cm<sup>-1</sup>, 128 scans). The assignment of absorption bands in the IR spectra was made according to Ref. 4. Column chromatography was carried out using Macherey-Nagel silica gel 60 (MN Kieselgel 60, 70–230 mesh). Melting points were determined with an MPA 120 EZ-Melt automated melting point apparatus (Stanford Research Systems).

#### **Syntheses**

# General procedure for the synthesis of ligands 1, 2

A suspension of elemental sulfur (0.29 g) and morpholine (7.84 g, 90.00 mmol) in 5 mL of DMF was stirred at room temperature for 1 h. Then, a solution of the corresponding chloroacetamide (3.00 mmol) in 7 mL of DMF was added. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 12 h and poured into 50 mL of distilled water. The target product was extracted with chloroform. The organic layer was separated, dried over anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, and evaporated to dryness. The resulting precipitate was purified by column chromatography (eluent: CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>–MeOH (75:1)) to give the target compounds as beige (1) or light-gray (2) crystalline solids.

# 2-Morpholin-4-yl-N-(pyridin-2-ylmethyl)-2-thioxoacetamide, 1



Yield: 0.67 g (84%). Mp: 108–110 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500.13 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 3.78–3.79 (m, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>O), 3.84–3.86 (m, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>O), 3.90–3.92 (m, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>N), 4.24–4.26 (m, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>N), 4.66 (d, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>Py, <sup>3</sup>*J*<sub>HH</sub> = 5.4 Hz), 7.22–7.25 (m, 1H, H(C4)), 7.33 (d, 1H, H(C2), <sup>3</sup>*J*<sub>HH</sub> = 7.9 Hz), 7.65 (br s, 1H, NH), 7.69–7.72 (m, 1H, H(C3)), 8.56 (d, 1H, H(C5), <sup>3</sup>*J*<sub>HH</sub> = 4.9 Hz) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (125.76 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 44.67 (s, CH<sub>2</sub>Py), 48.82 and 52.57 (both s, CH<sub>2</sub>N), 66.23 and 66.87 (both s, CH<sub>2</sub>O), 121.85 (s, C2), 122.64 (s, C4), 137.02 (s, C3), 149.16 (s, C5), 155.45 (s, C1), 164.59 (s, C=O), 192.30 (s, C=S) ppm. <sup>15</sup>N NMR (60.85 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ –269.0 (C(O)NH), –226.0 (Morph), –77.4 (Py) ppm. IR (KBr,  $\nu/cm^{-1}$ ): 538(w), 605(vw), 646(vw), 693(br, vw), 756(w), 886(w), 993(w), 1032(w), 1064(w), 1095(w), 1109(m), 1151(vw), 1239(m), 1274(m), 1301(w), 1353(w), 1439(m), 1480(m), 1498(m), 1542(br, m) (C(O)NH), 1570(w), 1591(w), 1648(s) ( $\nu$ C=O), 2861(w), 2921(w), 2976(w), 3065(w), 3268(br, m) ( $\nu$ NH). Anal. Calcd for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>15</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>2</sub>S: C, 54.32; H, 5.70; N, 15.84. Found: C, 54.38; H, 5.51; N, 15.69%. **2-Morpholin-4-yl-***N***-(2-pyridin-2-ylethyl)-2-thioxoacetamide, 2** 



Yield: 0.45 g (54%). Mp: 118–119 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500.13 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 3.09 (t, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>Py,  ${}^{3}J_{HH} = 6.4$  Hz), 3.73–3.83 (m, 8H, CH<sub>2</sub>NHC(O) + 2CH<sub>2</sub>O +CH<sub>2</sub>N), 4.20–4.22 (m, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>N), 7.20 (dd, 1H, H(C4),  ${}^{3}J_{HH} = 7.7$  Hz,  ${}^{3}J_{HH} = 4.9$  Hz), 7.25 (d, 1H, H(C2),  ${}^{3}J_{HH} = 7.7$  Hz), 7.39 (br s, 1H, NH), 7.67 (dt, 1H, H(C3),  ${}^{3}J_{HH} = 7.7$  Hz,  ${}^{4}J_{HH} = 1.9$  Hz), 8.56 (dd, 1H, H(C5),  ${}^{3}J_{HH} = 4.9$  Hz,  ${}^{4}J_{HH} = 1.9$  Hz, 8.56 (dd, 1H, H(C5),  ${}^{3}J_{HH} = 4.9$  Hz,  ${}^{4}J_{HH} = 1.9$  Hz) ppm.  ${}^{13}C{}^{1}H{}$  NMR (125.76 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 36.41 (s, CH<sub>2</sub>Py), 39.08 (s, CH<sub>2</sub>NHC(O)), 48.75 and 52.44 (both s, CH<sub>2</sub>N), 66.21 and 66.84 (both s, CH<sub>2</sub>O), 121.86 (s, C4), 123.71 (s, C2), 136.99 (s, C3), 149.09 (s, C5), 158.88 (s, C1), 164.53 (s, C=O), 192.83 (s, C=S) ppm.  ${}^{15}N$  NMR (60.85 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ –264.0 (C(O)NH), –225.1 (Morph), –77.1 (Py) ppm. IR (KBr,  $\nu/cm^{-1}$ ): 413(w), 512(vw), 533(w), 584(w), 626(w), 722(br, m), 792(m), 843(w), 870(vw), 920(w), 1003(w), 1023(m), 1041(m), 1065(m), 1112(s), 1148(w), 1192(w), 1221(w), 1244(m), 1278(m), 1303(m), 1352(w), 1387(w), 1437(m), 1479(m), 1497(s), 1568(br, m) (C(O)NH), 1589(m), 1625(br, s) and 1652(m) (both  $\nu$ C=O) 2870(m), 2921(m), 2968(w), 3068(w), 3209(br, m) ( $\nu$ NH). Anal. Calcd for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>17</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>2</sub>S: C, 55.89; H, 6.13; N, 15.04. Found: C, 55.38; H, 6.33; N, 14.90%.

# General procedure for the synthesis of ligands 3–5

A suspension of elemental sulfur (0.29 g) and morpholine (7.84 g, 90.00 mmol) in 5 mL of DMF was stirred at room temperature for 1.5 h. Then, a solution of the corresponding chloroacetamide (3.00 mmol) in 7 mL of DMF was added. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 12 h and poured into 75 mL of distilled water. The resulting precipitate was filtered off, rinsed with an additional portion of water, and dried under vacuum. To remove residual sulfur, the solid obtained was dissolved in acetone and filtered. The solvent was removed under reduced pressure. In the case of compounds **3**, **4**, the resulting residue was recrystallized from ethanol to give the target ligand as yellow (**3**) or light-yellow (**4**) crystalline solids. In the case of compound **5**, the resulting brown viscous oil was left to solidify in air to give the target ligand as a light-brown solid.

# 2-Morpholin-4-yl-N-quinolin-8-yl-2-thioxoacetamide, 3



Yield: 0.59 g (65%). Mp: 165–167 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500.13 MHz, (CD<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>SO):  $\delta$  3.72–3.74 (m, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>O), 3.80–3.82 (m, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>O), 3.83–3.85 (m, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>N), 4.16–4.18 (m, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>N), 7.62–7.65 (m, 1H, H(C3)), 7.67 (dd, 1H, H(C7), <sup>3</sup>*J*<sub>HH</sub> = 8.4 Hz, <sup>3</sup>*J*<sub>HH</sub> = 4.3 Hz), 7.78 (dd, 1H, H(C4), <sup>3</sup>*J*<sub>HH</sub> = 8.3 Hz, <sup>4</sup>*J*<sub>HH</sub> = 1.4 Hz), 8.46 (dd, 1H, H(C6), <sup>3</sup>*J*<sub>HH</sub> = 8.4 Hz, <sup>4</sup>*J*<sub>HH</sub> = 1.7 Hz), 8.58 (dd, 1H, H(C2), <sup>3</sup>*J*<sub>HH</sub> = 7.8 Hz, <sup>4</sup>*J*<sub>HH</sub> = 1.3 Hz), 8.95 (dd, 1H, H(C8), <sup>3</sup>*J*<sub>HH</sub> = 4.3 Hz, <sup>4</sup>*J*<sub>HH</sub> = 1.7 Hz), 10.71 (br s, 1H, NH) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (125.76 MHz, (CD<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>SO):  $\delta$  48.12 and 52.78 (both s, CH<sub>2</sub>N), 65.81 and 66.35 (both s, CH<sub>2</sub>O), 117.77 (s, C2), 122.88 (s, C7), 123.68 (s, C4), 127.37 (s, C3), 128.41 (s, C5), 134.05 (s, C1), 137.19 (s, C6), 138.74 (s, C9), 149.79 (s, C8), 163.23 (s, C=O), 190.84 (s, C=S) ppm. <sup>15</sup>N NMR (60.85 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  –257.8 (C(O)NH), – 221.2 (Morph), –88.7 (Qui) ppm. IR (KBr, *v*/cm<sup>-1</sup>): 423(vw), 472(w), 493(w), 529(w), 577(w), 632(w), 645(w), 670(m), 753(m), 793(m), 826(m), 859(w), 923(m), 958(w), 1021(m), 1040(m), 1062(w), 1110(m), 1175(w), 1209(m), 1227(m), 1239(m), 1258(m), 1272(m), 1299(w), 1326(m), 1390(m), 1430(m), 1464(m), 1487(s), 1504(s), 1529(br, s) (C(O)NH), 1578(w), 1595(w), 1663(s) (*v*C=O), 2858(w), 2923(w), 2970(w), 3031(br, m) (*v*NH). Anal. Calcd for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>15</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>2</sub>S: C, 59.78; H, 5.02; N, 13.94. Found: C, 59.67; H, 5.09; N, 14.01%.

N-[2-(1,3-Benzothiazol-2-yl)phenyl]-2-morpholin-4-yl-2-thioxoacetamide, 4



Yield: 0.78 g (66%). Mp: 192–194 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400.13 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  3.81–3.83 (m, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 3.92–3.94 (m, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 3.97–4.00 (m, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 4.35–4.38 (m, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 7.25 (dt, 1H, H<sub>Ar</sub>, <sup>3</sup>*J*<sub>HH</sub> = 7.7 Hz, <sup>4</sup>*J*<sub>HH</sub> = 1.1 Hz), 7.45 (dt, 1H, H<sub>Ar</sub>, <sup>3</sup>*J*<sub>HH</sub> = 7.6 Hz, <sup>4</sup>*J*<sub>HH</sub> = 1.2 Hz), 7.50–7.56 (m, 2H, H<sub>Ar</sub>), 7.90–7.95 (m, 2H, H<sub>Ar</sub>), 8.05 (d, 1H, H<sub>Ar</sub>, <sup>3</sup>*J*<sub>HH</sub> = 8.0 Hz), 8.80 (dd, 1H, H<sub>Ar</sub>, <sup>3</sup>*J*<sub>HH</sub> = 8.4 Hz, <sup>4</sup>*J*<sub>HH</sub> = 1.2 Hz), 13.56 (br s, 1H, NH) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100.61 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  48.85 and 52.54 (both s, CH<sub>2</sub>N), 66.26 and 66.81 (both s, CH<sub>2</sub>O), 119.86 (s, C2), 120.69 (s, C6), 121.26 and 123.00 (both s, C9 and C12), 124.08 (s, C4), 125.85 and 126.61 (both s, C10 and C11), 129.80 and 131.73 (both s, C3 and C5), 133.24 (s, C13), 137.00 (s, C1), 152.65 (s, C8), 162.74 (s, C7), 167.76 (s, C=O), 192.43 (s, C=S) ppm. IR (KBr, *v*/cm<sup>-1</sup>): 456(vw), 518(w), 557(vw), 645(vw), 695(w), 724(m), 742(m), 753(s), 781(w), 858(w), 923(w), 967(m), 1027(m), 1064(m), 1110(s), 1217(m), 1245(m), 1262(m), 1276(m), 1302(m), 1313(m), 1436(m), 1444(m), 1454(s), 1496(s), 1533(br, m) (C(O)NH), 1591(s), 1615(m), 1665(s) (*v*C=O), 2864(w), 2962(w), 3061(vw). Anal. Calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>17</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>·0.5H<sub>2</sub>O: C, 58.14; H, 4.62; N, 10.71. Found: C, 57.86; H, 4.26; N, 10.52%.

# N-[2-(Methylthio)phenyl]-2-morpholin-4-yl-2-thioxoacetamide, 5



Yield: 0.60 g (67%). Mp: 107–109 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400.13 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  2.44 (s, 3H, SMe), 3.80–3.83 (m, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 3.86–3.90 (m, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 4.00–4.03 (m, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 4.27–4.30 (m, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 7.11–7.16 (m, 1H, H<sub>Ar</sub>), 7.30–7.35 (m, 1H, H<sub>Ar</sub>), 7.52–7.55 (m, 1H, H<sub>Ar</sub>), 8.26–8.29 (m, 1H, H<sub>Ar</sub>), 9.50 (br s, 1H, NH) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100.61 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  18.98 (s, SMe), 49.25 and 52.56 (both s, CH<sub>2</sub>N), 66.06 and 66.70 (both s, CH<sub>2</sub>O), 120.29 (s, C6), 125.16 (s, C4), 126.58 (s, C2), 128.65 (s, C3), 133.00 (s, C5), 137.33 (s, C1), 161.17 (s, C=O), 191.29 (s, C=S) ppm. IR (KBr,  $\nu/cm^{-1}$ ): 518(w), 632(w), 744(m), 760(w), 841(vw), 923(w), 1028(m), 1063(w), 1110(m), 1211(w), 1228(w), 1242(m), 1265(m), 1274(m), 1301(w), 1312(w), 1386(vw), 1434(m), 1448(m), 1466(w), 1497(s), 1509(s), 1539(br, s) (C(O)NH), 1573(m), 1590(w), 1638(s) and 1664(m) (both  $\nu$ C=O), 2858(w), 2922(w), 2969(w), 3057(w), 3221(br, w) (vNH). Anal. Calcd for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>16</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>: C, 52.68; H, 5.44; N, 9.45. Found: C, 52.71; H, 5.44; N, 9.58%.

2-(Dimethylamino)-N-quinolin-8-yl-2-thioxoacetamide, 7



A suspension of elemental sulfur (0.05 g, 1.56 mmol) and 2-chloro-*N*-quinolin-8ylacetamide (0.34 g, 1.54 mmol) in 10 mL of DMF was refluxed for 5 h. After cooling to room temperature, the reaction mixture was poured into 50 mL of distilled water. The target product was extracted with chloroform. The organic layer was separated, dried over anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, and evaporated to dryness. The resulting residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>–MeOH (100:1)) to give the target product as a beige crystalline solid. Yield: 0.04 g (10%). Mp: 172–175 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500.13 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 3.53 and 3.55 (both s, 3H + 3H, NMe<sub>2</sub>), 7.50 (dd, 1H, H(C7),  ${}^{3}J_{HH} = 8.3$  Hz,  ${}^{3}J_{HH} = 4.3$  Hz), 7.56–7.61 (m, 2H, H(C3) + H(C4)), 8.20 (dd, 1H, H(C6),  ${}^{3}J_{HH} = 8.3$  Hz,  ${}^{4}J_{HH} = 1.7$  Hz), 8.77 (dd, 1H, H(C2),  ${}^{3}J_{HH} = 6.3$  Hz,  ${}^{4}J_{\rm HH} = 2.7$  Hz), 8.87 (dd, 1H, H(C8),  ${}^{3}J_{\rm HH} = 4.3$  Hz,  ${}^{4}J_{\rm HH} = 1.7$  Hz), 10.74 (br s, 1H, NH) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (125.76 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 42.65 and 43.56 (both s, NMe<sub>2</sub>), 116.93 (s, C2), 121.86 (s, C7), 122.64 (s, C4), 127.19 (s, C3), 128.04 (s, C5), 133.87 (s, C1), 136.46 (s, C6), 138.55 (s, C9), 148.65 (s, C8), 162.48 (s, C=O), 192.45 (s, C=S) ppm. <sup>15</sup>N NMR (60.85 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ – 257.1 (C(O)NH), -236.0 (NMe<sub>2</sub>), -92.4 (Qui) ppm. IR (KBr, v/cm<sup>-1</sup>): 444(w), 592(w), 683(w), 754(w), 788(m), 822(m), 852(w), 926(w), 1100(w), 1154(m), 1221(w), 1261(w), 1330(m), 1390(m), 1411(w), 1427(m), 1487(m), 1526(br, s) (C(O)NH), 1578(w), 1597(w), 1670(s) (vC=O), 2852(w), 2922(m), 3047(vw), 3317(br, m) (vNH). Anal. Calcd for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>13</sub>N<sub>3</sub>OS: C, 60.21; H, 5.05; N, 16.20. Found: C, 60.00; H, 5.57; N, 16.71%.

#### General procedure for the synthesis of Pd(II) complexes 8–14

A solution of  $PdCl_2(NCPh)_2$  (77 mg, 0.200 mmol) in 3 mL of  $CH_2Cl_2$  was slowly added dropwise to a solution of the corresponding ligand (0.200 mmol) and  $Et_3N$  (28 µL, 0.200 mmol) in 3 mL of  $CH_2Cl_2$ . The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 30 min and left under ambient conditions for 12 h. Evaporation of the mixture to dryness afforded the residue which was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (eluent:  $CH_2Cl_2$ –MeOH (50:1)) to give the target complexes as yellow (**8**, **9**) or orange (**10–14**) crystalline solids.

Complex [ $\kappa^3$ -S,N,N-(L)Pd(II)Cl], 8



Yield: 53 mg (65%). Mp: >225 °C (dec.). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500.13 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 3.84–3.86 (m, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>O), 3.96–3.98 (m, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>O), 4.26–4.28 (m, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>N), 4.94 (s, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>Py), 5.05– 5.07 (m, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>N), 7.36–7.39 (m, 1H, H(C4)), 7.42 (d, 1H, H(C2), <sup>3</sup>*J*<sub>HH</sub> = 7.8 Hz), 7.89 (dt, 1H, H(C3), <sup>3</sup>*J*<sub>HH</sub> = 7.8 Hz, <sup>4</sup>*J*<sub>HH</sub> = 1.7 Hz), 8.97 (d, 1H, H(C5), <sup>3</sup>*J*<sub>HH</sub> = 5.6 Hz) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (125.76 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 49.73 and 53.57 (both s, CH<sub>2</sub>N), 57.20 (s, CH<sub>2</sub>Py), 66.37 and 67.59 (both s, CH<sub>2</sub>O), 121.37 (s, C2), 123.18 (s, C4), 138.99 (s, C3), 148.67 (s, C5), 164.78 (s, C1), 165.99 (s, C=O), 190.75 (s, C=S) ppm. <sup>15</sup>N NMR (50.67 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ –242.8 (C(O)N), –206.5 (Morph), –143.4 (Py) ppm. IR (KBr,  $\nu/cm^{-1}$ ): 496(w), 639(vw), 708(vw), 762(m),

858(w), 934(w), 1027(m), 1052(w), 1091(w), 1105(m), 1159(w), 1177(w), 1214(w), 1252(m), 1269(m), 1301(w), 1372(m), 1438(m), 1484(w), 1528(s), 1567(w), 1612(sh, m) and 1626(s) (vC=O), 2858(w), 2925(w), 3039(w). Anal. Calcd for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>14</sub>ClN<sub>3</sub>O<sub>2</sub>PdS: C, 35.48; H, 3.47; N, 10.34. Found: C, 34.84; H, 3.55; N, 10.04%.

Complex [ $\kappa^3$ -S,N,N-(L)Pd(II)Cl], 9



Yield: 71 mg (84%). Mp: > 250 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600.22 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  3.17–3.19 (m, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>Py), 3.34 (br s, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>NC(O)), 3.81–3.83 (m, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>O), 3.94–3.96 (m, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>O), 4.23–4.24 (m, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>N), 5.01–5.03 (m, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>N), 7.33–7.36 (m, 2H, H(C2) + H(C4)), 7.84 (dt, 1H, H(C3), <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 7.7 Hz, <sup>4</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 1.1 Hz), 9.26 (d, 1H, H(C5), <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 5.7 Hz) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (150.93 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  40.03 (s, CH<sub>2</sub>Py), 41.60 (s, <u>C</u>H<sub>2</sub>NC(O)), 50.44 and 53.98 (both s, CH<sub>2</sub>N), 66.40 and 67.57 (both s, CH<sub>2</sub>O), 123.09 (s, C4), 124.65 (s, C2), 139.38 (s, C3), 152.66 (s, C5), 159.15 (s, C1), 168.22 (s, C=O), 190.19 (s, C=S) ppm. <sup>15</sup>N NMR (60.85 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  –240.0 (C(O)N), –211.1 (Morph), –147.6 (Py) ppm. IR (KBr, *v*/cm<sup>-1</sup>): 432(vw), 529(w), 584(vw), 642(w), 758(w), 769(m), 778(w), 850(w), 913(w), 1030(m), 1062(w), 1111(m), 1148(w), 1232(m), 1250(m), 1270(m), 1305(m), 1356(w), 1442(m), 1482(m), 1530(s), 1608(s) (*v*C=O), 2842(w), 2923(w), 3037(w). Far IR (nujol, *v*/cm<sup>-1</sup>): 205(m), 244(m), 281(m), 319(s), 353(w), 392(w), 416(w), 432(w), 454(w), 528(m), 584(m). Anal. Calcd for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>16</sub>ClN<sub>3</sub>O<sub>2</sub>PdS: C, 37.16; H, 3.84; N, 10.00. Found: C, 37.29; H, 3.81; N, 10.06%.

Complex [ $\kappa^3$ -S,N,N-(L)Pd(II)Cl], 10



Yield: 77 mg (87%). Mp: >250 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500.13 MHz, (CD<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>SO): δ 3.84–3.86 (m, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>O), 3.91–3.93 (m, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>O), 4.26–4.28 (m, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>N), 4.90–4.92 (m, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>N), 7.63 (t, 1H, H(C3),  ${}^{3}J_{HH} = 8.0$  Hz), 7.75 (dd, 1H, H(C4),  ${}^{3}J_{HH} = 8.0$  Hz,  ${}^{4}J_{HH} = 1.1$  Hz), 7.78 (dd, 1H, H(C7),  ${}^{3}J_{HH} = 8.3$  Hz,  ${}^{3}J_{HH} = 5.0$  Hz), 8.69 (dd, 1H, H(C6),  ${}^{3}J_{HH} = 8.3$  Hz,  ${}^{4}J_{HH} = 1.6$  Hz), 8.88–8.90 (m, 2H, H(C2) + H(C8)) ppm.  ${}^{13}C{}^{1}H$  NMR (125.76 MHz, (CD<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>SO): δ 51.45 and 54.07 (both s, CH<sub>2</sub>N), 66.14 and 66.98 (both s, CH<sub>2</sub>O), 123.02 and 123.10 (both s, C2 and C4), 123.45 (s, C7), 129.51 (s, C3), 130.63 (s, C5), 140.13 (s, C6), 146.24 (s, C1), 146.60 (s, C9), 148.41 (s, C8), 164.52 (s, C=O), 188.33 (s, C=S) ppm.  ${}^{15}N$  NMR (60.85 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ –199.9 (Morph), –152.9 (Qui) ppm. IR (KBr,  $\nu/cm^{-1}$ ): 532(w), 651(vw), 753(m), 779(w), 826(m),

872(w), 921(w), 955(w), 1034(m), 1060(m), 1111(m), 1168(w), 1255(m), 1271(m), 1332(m), 1382(s), 1438(m), 1462(s), 1503(s), 1527(m), 1571(w), 1622(s) ( $\nu$ C=O), 2854(w), 2924(m), 3049(w). Anal. Calcd for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>14</sub>ClN<sub>3</sub>O<sub>2</sub>PdS: C, 40.74; H, 3.19; N, 9.50. Found: C, 40.62; H, 3.14; N, 9.34%.

Complex [ $\kappa^3$ -S,N,N-(L)Pd(II)Cl], 11



Yield: 66 mg (82%). Mp: >250 °C (dec.). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600.22 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 3.63 and 4.04 (both s, 3H + 3H, NMe<sub>2</sub>), 7.50–7.53 (m, 3H, H(C3) + H(C4) + H(C7)), 8.31 (dd, 1H, H(C6),  ${}^{3}J_{HH} = 8.3$  Hz,  ${}^{4}J_{HH} = 1.6$  Hz), 8.94–8.97 (m, 1H, H(C2)), 9.07 (dd, 1H, H(C8),  ${}^{3}J_{HH} = 5.0$  Hz,  ${}^{4}J_{HH} = 1.6$  Hz) ppm.  ${}^{13}C{}^{1}H{}$  NMR (150.93 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 43.61 and 47.03 (both s, NMe<sub>2</sub>), 121.60 (s, C7), 122.32 (s, C4), 123.12 (s, C2), 129.08 (s, C3), 130.22 (s, C5), 138.61 (s, C6), 146.60 (s, C1), 147.25 (s, C9), 147.92 (s, C8), 164.68 (s, C=O), 191.11 (s, C=S) ppm.  ${}^{15}N$  NMR (50.67 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ –218.3 (NMe<sub>2</sub>), –148.4 (Qui) ppm. IR (KBr,  $\nu/cm^{-1}$ ): 472(w), 583(w), 634(w), 755(m), 783(m), 825(m), 948(w), 1043(w), 1095(w), 1163(w), 1210(w), 1233(w), 1254(w), 1333(m), 1381(m), 1406(m), 1462(m), 1502(m), 1551(m), 1571(m), 1636(s) ( $\nu$ C=O), 2851( $\nu$ w), 2921(w), 3014(w), 3063(w). Anal. Calcd for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>12</sub>ClN<sub>3</sub>OPdS: C, 39.02; H, 3.02; N, 10.50. Found: C, 39.04; H, 2.97; N, 10.51%.

Complex [ $\kappa^3$ -S,N,N-(L)Pd(II)Cl], 12



Yield: 74 mg (70%). Mp: >240 °C (dec.). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500.13 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  3.89–3.91 (m, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>O), 4.02–4.04 (m, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>O), 4.30–4.31 (m, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>N), 4.56–4.58 (m, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>N), 7.20 (ddd, 1H, H(C4), <sup>3</sup>*J*<sub>HH</sub> = 7.9 Hz, <sup>3</sup>*J*<sub>HH</sub> = 7.3 Hz, <sup>4</sup>*J*<sub>HH</sub> = 1.2 Hz), 7.46–7.50 (m, 2H, H(C5) + H(C10)), 7.59 (ddd, 1H, H(C11), <sup>3</sup>*J*<sub>HH</sub> = 8.6 Hz, <sup>3</sup>*J*<sub>HH</sub> = 7.3 Hz, <sup>4</sup>*J*<sub>HH</sub> = 1.3 Hz), 7.75 (dd, 1H, H(C3), <sup>3</sup>*J*<sub>HH</sub> = 7.9 Hz, <sup>4</sup>*J*<sub>HH</sub> = 1.6 Hz), 7.85 (dd, 1H, H(C9), <sup>3</sup>*J*<sub>HH</sub> = 8.1 Hz, <sup>4</sup>*J*<sub>HH</sub> = 1.3 Hz), 8.29 (dd, 1H, H(C6), <sup>3</sup>*J*<sub>HH</sub> = 8.5 Hz, <sup>4</sup>*J*<sub>HH</sub> = 1.2 Hz), 9.36 (dd, 1H, H(C12), <sup>3</sup>*J*<sub>HH</sub> = 8.6 Hz, <sup>4</sup>*J*<sub>HH</sub> = 1.2 Hz) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (125.76 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  51.93 and 53.47 (both s, CH<sub>2</sub>N), 66.42 and 67.02 (both s, CH<sub>2</sub>O), 121.34 (s, C9), 124.71 and 124.74 (both s, C4 and C6), 125.56 (s, C12), 126.17 (s, C2), 126.60 (s, C10), 127.31 (s, C11), 131.04 (s, C3), 132.69 (s, C5), 133.22 (s, C13), 141.45 (s, C1), 151.04 (s, C8), 166.22 (s, C=O), 166.67 (s, C7), 193.20 (s, C=S) ppm. IR (KBr,

 $v/cm^{-1}$ ): 508(w), 644(w), 668(vw), 728(w), 755(s), 892(w), 949(w), 987(w), 1029(m), 1053(m), 1105(m), 1118(m), 1168(w), 1231(m), 1251(m), 1270(s), 1305(m), 1323(m), 1387(w), 1440(m), 1458(m), 1478(s), 1496(m), 1542(s), 1560(w), 1592(m), 1627(s) (vC=O), 2853(w), 2923(w), 3074(w), 3095(w). Anal. Calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>16</sub>ClN<sub>3</sub>O<sub>2</sub>PdS<sub>2</sub>: C, 43.52; H, 3.08; N, 8.01. Found: C, 43.59; H, 3.04; N, 7.97%.

Complex [ $\kappa^3$ -S,N,S-(L)Pd(II)Cl], 13



Yield: 82 mg (93%). Mp: >240 °C (dec.). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400.13 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  2.91 (s, 3H, SMe), 3.89–3.92 (m, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 3.98–4.00 (m, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 4.26–4.29 (m, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 4.80–4.90 (m, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 7.11–7.15 (m, 1H, H<sub>Ar</sub>), 7.29–7.33 (m, 1H, H<sub>Ar</sub>), 7.39 (dd, 1H, H<sub>Ar</sub>, <sup>3</sup>*J*<sub>HH</sub> = 7.8 Hz, <sup>4</sup>*J*<sub>HH</sub> = 1.5 Hz), 8.80 (dd, 1H, H<sub>Ar</sub>, <sup>3</sup>*J*<sub>HH</sub> = 8.6 Hz, <sup>4</sup>*J*<sub>HH</sub> = 1.2 Hz) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100.61 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  27.67 (s, SMe), 51.81 and 53.23 (both s, CH<sub>2</sub>N), 66.12 and 67.23 (both s, CH<sub>2</sub>O), 124.66 (s, C4 or C6), 125.22 (s, C2), 125.43 (s, C6 or C4), 130.59 and 132.44 (both s, C3 and C5), 152.13 (s, C1), 165.37 (s, C=O), 191.08 (s, C=S) ppm. IR (KBr, *v*/cm<sup>-1</sup>): 419(w), 528(w), 650(w), 762(s), 890(m), 946(m), 1035(m), 1060(w), 1119(s), 1178(m), 1208(w), 1249(s), 1267(s), 1302(m), 1321(m), 1419(m), 1437(m), 1466(s), 1498(s), 1579(w), 1611(s) (*v*C=O), 2867(w), 2927(w), 3063(w). Anal. Calcd for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>15</sub>ClN<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>PdS<sub>2</sub>: C, 35.71; H, 3.46; N, 6.41. Found: C, 35.57; H, 3.44; N, 6.29%.

Complex [ $\kappa^3$ -S,N,S-(L)Pd(II)Cl], 14



Yield: 100 mg (82%). Mp: >250 °C. <sup>31</sup>P{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (161.98 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  38.65 ppm. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400.13 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  3.61–3.63 (m, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>O), 3.86–3.88 (m, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>O), 4.08– 4.13 (m, 4H, CH<sub>2</sub>N), 6.81 (dd, 1H, H(C3), <sup>3</sup>*J*<sub>HP</sub> = 14.8 Hz, <sup>3</sup>*J*<sub>HH</sub> = 7.8 Hz), 7.05–7.09 (m, 1H, H<sub>Ar</sub>), 7.56–7.61 (m, 6H, H<sub>Ar</sub>), 7.64–7.68 (m, 2H, H<sub>Ar</sub>), 7.77–7.82 (dd, 4H, *o*-H in P(S)Ph<sub>2</sub>, <sup>3</sup>*J*<sub>HP</sub> = 13.6 Hz, <sup>3</sup>*J*<sub>HH</sub> = 7.7 Hz) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100.61 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  51.37 and 52.86 (both s, CH<sub>2</sub>N), 65.97 and 66.62 (both s, CH<sub>2</sub>O), 123.20 (d, C2, <sup>1</sup>*J*<sub>CP</sub> = 86.5 Hz), 124.23 (d, C4, <sup>3</sup>*J*<sub>CP</sub> = 13.1 Hz), 128.84 (d, *m*-C in P(S)Ph<sub>2</sub>, <sup>3</sup>*J*<sub>CP</sub> = 13.1 Hz), 128.9 (d, C6, <sup>3</sup>*J*<sub>CP</sub> = 8.0 Hz), 130.75 (d, C3, <sup>2</sup>*J*<sub>CP</sub> = 9.1 Hz), 132.57 (d, *o*-C in P(S)Ph<sub>2</sub>, <sup>2</sup>*J*<sub>CP</sub> = 11.1 Hz), 132.59 (d, *p*-C in P(S)Ph<sub>2</sub>, <sup>4</sup>*J*<sub>CP</sub> = 2.2 Hz), 133.09 (d, C5, <sup>4</sup>*J*<sub>CP</sub> = 2.0 Hz), 148.27 (d, C1, <sup>2</sup>*J*<sub>CP</sub> = 3.0 Hz), 167.07 (s, C=O), 192.98 (s, C=S) ppm (the signals of *ipso*-C carbon nuclei in P(S)Ph<sub>2</sub> were not observed). IR (KBr, *v*/cm<sup>-1</sup>): 467(w), 515(m), 523(m), 600(m) (vP=S), 620(w), 691(m), 713(m), 755(m), 789(s), 848(w), 895(w), 938(w), 951(w), 998(w), 1033(w), 1069(w), 1107(m), 1184(w), 1208(w), 1271(m), 1307(w), 1341(m), 1437(s), 1464(m), 1480(w), 1561(m), 1579(m), 1624(s) (vC=O), 2864(w), 2928(w), 2960(w), 3047(w). Anal. Calcd for C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>22</sub>ClN<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>PPdS<sub>2</sub>: C, 47.46; H, 3.65; N, 4.61. Found: C, 47.61; H, 3.74; N, 4.35%.

# General procedure for the reactions of ligands 1–4 with PdCl<sub>2</sub>(NCPh)<sub>2</sub> in dichloromethane in the absence of a base

A solution of  $PdCl_2(NCPh)_2$  (33 mg, 0.086 mmol) in 3.5 mL of  $CH_2Cl_2$  was slowly added dropwise to a solution of the corresponding ligand (0.086 mmol) in 2 mL of  $CH_2Cl_2$ . The reaction mixture was left under ambient conditions for 1 day. The resulting mixture was filtered; the filtrate was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (eluent: neat  $CH_2Cl_2$ , then  $CH_2Cl_2$ -EtOH (100:1 (1, 2) or 200:1 (3, 4)) followed by recrystallization from  $CH_2Cl_2/Et_2O$ /hexane (1:2:2) to give the corresponding pincer-type complexes in 59% (8), 47% (9), 94% (10), and 85% (12) yields. In the case of ligand 9, the dark-red crystals and beige powder precipitated from the reaction mixture were collected by filtration, rinsed with  $CH_2Cl_2$ and  $Et_2O$ , and dried under vacuum to give 17 mg of complex 15, which was characterized by IR spectroscopy, elemental and single-crystal X-ray diffraction analyses.

Complex  $[\kappa^{1}-S-(LH)]^{+}[PdCl_{3}]^{-}, 15$ 



Yield: 40%. IR (KBr,  $\nu/cm^{-1}$ ): 529(w), 569(w), 627(w), 734(w), 756(m), 863(vw), 892(vw), 913(vw), 1027(m), 1061(w), 1109(m), 1182(vw), 1243(m), 1270(m), 1295(w), 1384(w), 1445(m), 1468(w), 1535(br, s) (C(O)NH), 1618(m), 1627(m), 1682(s) ( $\nu$ C=O), 2858(w), 2903(w), 2956(w), 3055(w), 3091(vw), 3157(vw), 3245(w) and 3293(br, w) (both  $\nu$ NH). Anal. Calcd for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>18</sub>Cl<sub>3</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>2</sub>PdS: C, 31.66; H, 3.68; N, 8.52. Found: C, 31.45; H, 3.77; N, 8.22%.

#### Solid-phase cyclopalladation promoted or accomplished by grinding in a mortar

PdCl<sub>2</sub>(NCPh)<sub>2</sub> (33 mg, 0.086 mmol) and the corresponding ligand (0.086 mmol) were manually ground in a mortar for several minutes. In the case of ligands **1**, **2**, **4**, and **6**, the resulting slightly oily powders were collected in glass test tubes and left under ambient conditions for 2 days. During this period, the reaction mixtures converted to semi-solids (amorphous masses), which then slowly solidified and lightened to give free-flowing powders. The latter were analyzed by IR spectroscopy without any workup (Figs. S38, S41, S44, and S48

in the Supporting Information). In the case of ligands 1 and 2, the resulting residues were purified by column chromatography on silica gel (eluent: CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/EtOH (100:1), 150–170 mL) to give complexes 8 and 9 in 80% and 46% yields, respectively. The IR spectroscopic analysis of the residues obtained with ligands 4 and 6 revealed the quantitative formation of the target pincer products which required no further purification (in the case of complex 14) or simple rinsing with hexane to remove residual benzonitrile (in the case of complex 12; for the  $^{1}H$  NMR spectrum of the pure product, see Fig. S45 in the Supporting Information). Analyses found for complex 12 after rinsing with hexane and drying under vacuum: C, 43.67; H, 3.21; N, 8.07% (cf. with the calculated values: C, 43.52; H, 3.08; N, 8.01). Analyses found for complex 14 without any workup: C, 47.70; H, 3.72; N, 4.56% (the calculated values: C, 47.46; H, 3.65; N, 4.61%). In the case of ligands 3 and 5, already manual grinding using a pestle afforded target pincer complexes which were recovered in quantitative yields after simple rinsing with hexane (for the IR spectra registered before workup, see Figs. S51, S54, and S55 in the Supporting Information; for the <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of complex 13 after rinsing with hexane, see Fig. S56 in the Supporting Information). Analyses found for complex 10 after rinsing with hexane and drying under vacuum: C, 40.41; H, 3.29; N, 9.41% (the calculated values: C, 40.74; H, 3.19; N, 9.50%). Analyses found for complex 13 after rinsing with hexane and drying under vacuum: C, 35.75; H, 3.58; N, 6.51% (the calculated values: C, 35.71; H, 3.46; N, 6.41%).

#### Solid-phase reactions in a vibration ball mill

The reactions were carried out by shaking PdCl<sub>2</sub>(NCPh)<sub>2</sub> (33 mg, 0.086 µmol) and the corresponding ligand (0.086 µmol) in a Narva DDR GM 9458 electrically powered vibration ball mill equipped with a custom-built agate insert and two agate milling balls. The grinding for 1.5 (for ligand 5), 3 (for 3) or 7 (for 1, 2, 4) min afforded dark yellow (in the case of ligands 1 and 2) or orange (in the case of ligands 3 and 4) powders, or an orange paste (in the case of ligand 5), which were analyzed by IR spectroscopy prior to any workup (Figs. S57–S59, S65, S67–S69 in the Supporting Information). In the case of ligands 1, 2, and 3, the crude product was collected by washing the insert and milling balls with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (100–170 mL). The resulting mixture was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (eluent:  $CH_2Cl_2/EtOH = 100:1, 130-200 \text{ mL}$ ) to give the target pincer complexes as yellow or orange solids. Yields: 91% (8), 66% (9), 93% (10). Note that, in the case of ligand 2, passing the resulting  $CH_2Cl_2$  mixture through a filter before purification by column chromatography afforded several crystals of complex 15 (for the IR spectrum of the product, see Fig. S62 in the Supporting Information). In the case of ligand 4, the mixture obtained after grinding was left under ambient conditions for 3 days. According to the IR spectroscopic analysis (Fig. S66 in the Supporting Information), the cyclopalladation was completed over this period of time and thus afforded neat complex 12 in a quantitative yield.

Anal. Calcd for  $C_{19}H_{16}ClN_3O_2PdS_2$ : C, 43.52; H, 3.08; N, 8.01. Found: C, 43.54; H, 3.11; N, 7.97%. In the case of ligand **5**, the target pincer product was isolated in a quantitative yield after treatment of the insert and milling balls with hexane followed by filtration and drying under vacuum (for the corresponding IR and NMR spectra, see Fig. S70–S72 in the Supporting Information). Anal. Calcd for  $C_{13}H_{15}ClN_2O_2PdS_2$ : C, 35.71; H, 3.46; N, 6.41. Found: C, 35.80; H, 3.70; N, 6.29%.

### **Cytotoxicity studies**

The cytotoxicities of the functionalized monothiooxamides and their Pd(II) complexes were studied against human colon (HCT116), breast (MCF7), and prostate (PC3) cancer cell lines as well as non-cancer human embryonic kidney cells (HEK293). All the cell lines were obtained from American Type Culture Collection (ATCC). RPMI-1640 and DMEM media were obtained from Gibco. Fetal bovine serum (FBS) was purchased from HyClone. Cells were cultured in RPMI-1640 (in the case of PC3) or DMEM (in the other cases) media supplemented with 10% FBS and 50 µg/mL gentamicin in a humidified incubator with 5% CO<sub>2</sub> atmosphere. The effect of the compounds on cell viability was estimated using the standard MTT assay (ICN Biomedicals, Germany). Cells were seeded in triplicate at a cell density of  $5 \times 10^3$ /well in 96-well plates in 100 µL complete medium and preincubated for 24 h. The tested compounds were initially dissolved in DMSO. Then the compounds at various concentrations were added to the media. The well plates were incubated for 48 h followed by addition of MTT solution (Sigma) (20 µL, 5 mg/mL). The cells were incubated at 37 °C for further 3 h; then the culture medium was removed, and formazan crystals were dissolved in DMSO (70 µL). The absorbance of the resulting solutions was measured on a multi-well plate reader (Multiskan FC, Thermo scientific) at 540 nm to determine the percentage of surviving cells. The reported values of IC<sub>50</sub> are the averages of three independent experiments (Table S1 in the Supporting Information). Cisplatin from a commercial source (in the initial form of an infusion concentrate in natural saline solution) was used as a reference.

#### **X-ray diffraction**

Single crystals of the compounds explored were obtained by slow crystallization from CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>–EtOAc–Et<sub>2</sub>O (**12**), CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>–Et<sub>2</sub>O (**14**), and CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> reaction mixture (**15**). The X-ray diffraction data for **12** and **14** were collected using graphite monochromated Mo-K $\alpha$  radiation ( $\lambda = 0.71073$  Å,  $\omega$ -scans) with a Bruker APEX2 DUO CCD diffractometer at 120 K; those for **15**—with a Bruker D8 Quest diffractometer at 296 K. Using Olex2 [5], the structures were solved with the ShelXT [6] structure solution program *via* Intrinsic Phasing and refined with the XL

refinement package [7] using Least-Squares minimization. The hydrogen atom of the NH group was found in the difference Fourier synthesis, the positions of the other hydrogen atoms were calculated, and they all were refined in the isotropic approximation in a riding model. Crystal data and structure refinement parameters are given in the following table. CCDC 1999306, 1999307, and 2091974 contain the supplementary crystallographic data for **12**, **14**, and **15**, respectively.

	12	14	15
Empirical formula	$C_{20}H_{18}Cl_{3}N_{3}O_{2}PdS_{2}$	$C_{24}H_{22}ClN_2O_2PPdS_2$	$C_{13}H_{18}Cl_3N_3O_2PdS$
Formula weight	609.24	607.37	493.11
Temperature, K	120	120	296
Crystal system	Monoclinic	Triclinic	Monoclinic
Space group	$P2_1/c$	P-1	$P2_1/c$
Z	4	2	4
a, Å	14.1861(11)	9.1078(10)	14.3859(7)
b, Å	12.4176(10)	9.9172(11)	9.6988(4)
c, Å	13.8527(11)	14.3625(16)	14.1556(6)
α, °	90	109.013(2)	90
β, °	116.8300(10)	98.691(2)	112.584(2)
γ, °	90	95.893(2)	90
V, Å <sup>3</sup>	2177.6(3)	1196.3(2)	1823.62(14)
$D_{\text{calc}}$ (g cm <sup>-1</sup> )	1.858	1.686	1.796
Linear absorption, $\mu$ (cm <sup>-1</sup> )	14.37	11.55	15.82
F(000)	1216	612	984
$2\theta_{\rm max},^{\circ}$	56	56	54
Reflections measured	23702	13879	28576
Independent reflections	5265	5752	3983
Observed reflections $[I > 2\sigma(I)]$	4078	5099	3204
Parameters	280	298	208
R1	0.0321	0.0284	0.0410
wR2	0.0660	0.0687	0.1092
GOF	1.025	1.031	1.062
$\Delta ho_{ m max}$ / $\Delta ho_{ m min}$ (e Å <sup>-3</sup> )	0.652/-0.673	0.607/-0.403	1.061/0.581

Crystal data and structure refinement parameters for 12, 14, and 15.

#### **SEM and EDS analysis**

The samples of complex **13** obtained by grinding in a mortar or vibration ball mill (dry powders) were placed onto electro-conductive carbon tape adhered to SEM sample holder and then installed in a vacuum chamber of a Prisma E (Thermo Fisher) scanning electron microscope. SEM imaging of the samples was performed at low voltage settings (~1kV) in order to provide surface geometry at a number of magnifications. Energy-dispersive X-ray spectroscopy (EDS) was applied to the samples in color SEM imaging mode to resolve elemental anisotropy of the samples. EDS imaging voltage was set at 30kV to yield elemental composition through whole sample depth at 100x magnification.

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Fig. S1. Extended fragment of the NOESY spectrum of ligand 3 (aliphatic proton region; 500.13 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)



Fig. S2. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of ligand 2 (500.13 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ )



**Fig. S3.** Extended fragment of the <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of ligand **2** (aliphatic proton region; 500.13 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)



Fig. S4. Extended fragments of the <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of ligand 2 (aromatic and NH proton regions; 500.13 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)





Fig. S6. Extended fragment of the <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR spectrum of ligand 2 (aliphatic carbon nuclei; 125.76 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)





Fig. S8. <sup>1</sup>H<sup>-1</sup>H COSY spectrum of ligand 2 (500.13 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)



Fig. S9. Extended fragment of the <sup>1</sup>H<sup>-1</sup>H COSY spectrum of ligand 2 (aliphatic proton region; 500.13 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)





Fig. S11. HMQC spectrum of ligand 2 (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)



Fig. S12. Extended fragment of the HMQC spectrum of ligand 2 (aliphatic carbon and hydrogen nuclei; CDCl<sub>3</sub>)



Fig. S13. Extended fragment of the HMQC spectrum of ligand 2 (aromatic carbon and hydrogen nuclei; CDCl<sub>3</sub>)



**Fig. S14.** <sup>1</sup>H–<sup>13</sup>C HMBC spectrum of ligand **2** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)



Fig. S15. Extended fragment of the <sup>1</sup>H–<sup>13</sup>C HMBC spectrum of ligand 2 (aliphatic carbon nuclei; CDCl<sub>3</sub>)



Fig. S16. Extended fragment of the <sup>1</sup>H–<sup>13</sup>C HMBC spectrum of ligand 2 (aromatic and (thio)carbonyl carbon nuclei; CDCl<sub>3</sub>)



Fig. S17. <sup>1</sup>H–<sup>15</sup>N HMBC spectrum of ligand 2 (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)



Fig. S18. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of complex 9 (600.22 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)


Fig. S19. Extended fragment of the <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of complex 9 (aliphatic proton region; 600.22 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)



Fig. S20. Extended fragments of the <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of complex 9 (aromatic proton region; 600.22 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)



Fig. S21.  ${}^{13}C{}^{1}H$  NMR spectrum of complex 9 (150.93 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)



Fig. S22. Extended fragment of the <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR spectrum of complex 9 (aliphatic carbon nuclei; 150.93 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)



(aromatic and (thio)carbonyl carbon nuclei; 150.93 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)



**Fig. S24.** <sup>1</sup>H<sup>-1</sup>H COSY spectrum of complex **9** (600.22 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)



Fig. S25. Extended fragment of the <sup>1</sup>H<sup>-1</sup>H COSY spectrum of complex 9 (aliphatic proton region; 600.22 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)



Fig. S26. Extended fragment of the <sup>1</sup>H<sup>-1</sup>H COSY spectrum of complex 9 (aromatic proton region; 600.22 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)



Fig. S27. HMQC spectrum of complex 9 (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)



Fig. S28. Extended fragment of the HMQC spectrum of complex 9 (aliphatic carbon and hydrogen nuclei; CDCl<sub>3</sub>)



Fig. S29. Extended fragment of the HMQC spectrum of complex 9 (aromatic carbon and hydrogen nuclei; CDCl<sub>3</sub>)



Fig. S30. Extended fragment of the <sup>1</sup>H–<sup>13</sup>C HMBC spectrum of complex 9 (aliphatic carbon nuclei; CDCl<sub>3</sub>)



(aromatic and (thio)carbonyl carbon nuclei; CDCl<sub>3</sub>)



Fig. S32. <sup>1</sup>H–<sup>15</sup>N HMBC spectrum of complex 9 (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)

**S**50



Fig. S33. IR spectrum of complex 15 (dark-red crystals)



Fig. S34. IR spectrum of complex 15 (beige powder)



Fig. S35. Solid-phase cyclopalladation of functionalized monothiooxamide 2 under the action of PdCl<sub>2</sub>(NCPh)<sub>2</sub>: (*a*) a mixture of the reactants immediately after grinding in a mortar; (*b*) reaction mixture in 1 day



Fig. S36. IR spectrum of ligand 1



Fig. S37. IR spectrum of complex 8



Fig. S38. IR spectrum of the residue obtained after a solid-phase reaction of ligand 1 with  $PdCl_2(NCPh)_2$  promoted by manual grinding of the reactants in a mortar



Fig. S39. IR spectrum of ligand 2



Fig. S40. IR spectrum of complex 9



**Fig. S41.** IR spectrum of the residue obtained after a solid-phase reaction of ligand **2** with PdCl<sub>2</sub>(NCPh)<sub>2</sub> promoted by manual grinding of the reactants in a mortar



Fig. S42. IR spectrum of ligand 4



Fig. S43. IR spectrum of complex 12



**Fig. S44.** IR spectrum of the residue obtained after a solid-phase reaction of ligand **4** with PdCl<sub>2</sub>(NCPh)<sub>2</sub> promoted by manual grinding of the reactants in a mortar



**Fig. S45.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of the residue obtained after a solid-phase reaction of ligand **4** with PdCl<sub>2</sub>(NCPh)<sub>2</sub> promoted by manual grinding of the reactants in a mortar and rinsed with hexane (400.13 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)



Fig. S46. IR spectrum of ligand 6



Fig. S47. IR spectrum of complex 14



**Fig. S48.** IR spectrum of the residue obtained after a solid-phase reaction of ligand **6** with  $PdCl_2(NCPh)_2$  promoted by manual grinding of the reactants in a mortar



Fig. S49. IR spectrum of ligand 3



Fig. S50. IR spectrum of complex 10



Fig. S51. IR spectrum of the residue obtained after a solid-phase reaction of ligand 3 with  $PdCl_2(NCPh)_2$  in a mortar



Fig. S52. IR spectrum of ligand 5



Fig. S53. IR spectrum of complex 13



**Fig. S54.** IR spectrum of the paste-like residue obtained after a solid-phase reaction of ligand **5** with PdCl<sub>2</sub>(NCPh)<sub>2</sub> in a mortar (registered in 30 min after the grinding cessation)


**Fig. S55.** IR spectrum of the powder obtained after a solid-phase reaction of ligand **5** with  $PdCl_2(NCPh)_2$  in a mortar (registered in 2 h after the grinding cessation)



**Fig. S56.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of the residue obtained after a solid-phase reaction of ligand **5** with PdCl<sub>2</sub>(NCPh)<sub>2</sub> in a mortar and rinsed with hexane (400.13 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)



Fig. S57. Narva DDR GM 9458 vibration ball mill with a custom-built agate insert



**Fig. S58.** IR spectrum of the residue obtained after a solid-phase reaction of ligand 1 with  $PdCl_2(NCPh)_2$  in a vibration ball mill (registered in 30 min after the grinding cessation)



**Fig. S59.** IR spectrum of the residue obtained after a solid-phase reaction of ligand 1 with  $PdCl_2(NCPh)_2$  in a vibration ball mill (registered in 2 weeks after the experiment)



**Fig. S60.** IR spectrum of the residue obtained after a solid-phase reaction of ligand **2** with  $PdCl_2(NCPh)_2$  in a vibration ball mill (registered in 1 h after the grinding cessation)



**Fig. S61.** IR spectroscopic monitoring of the reaction of ligand **2** with PdCl<sub>2</sub>(NCPh)<sub>2</sub> in a vibration ball mill (the registration of all the spectra was completed in 2.5 h after the grinding cessation)

S79



**Fig. S62.** Solid-phase reaction between ligand **2** and  $PdCl_2(NCPh)_2$  in a vibration ball mill: a mixture of the reactants before grinding (*a*); grinding for 0.5 (*b*), 1 (*c*), 2 (*d*), 3 (*e*), and 5 (*f*) min



Fig. S63. IR spectrum of complex 15 isolated from a solid-phase reaction of ligand 2 with  $PdCl_2(NCPh)_2$  in a vibration ball mill



**Fig. S64.** IR spectrum of complex **9** after grinding in a vibration ball mill for 7 min (Anal. Calcd for  $C_{13}H_{16}ClN_3O_2PdS$ : C, 37.16; H, 3.84; N, 10.00. Found: C, 37.11; H, 3.91; N, 10.08%)



Fig. S65. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of complex 9 after grinding in a vibration ball mill for 7 min (400.13 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)



**Fig. S66.** IR spectrum of the residue obtained after a solid-phase reaction of ligand **4** with  $PdCl_2(NCPh)_2$  in a vibration ball mill (registered in 35 min after the grinding cessation)



**Fig. S67.** IR spectrum of the residue obtained after a solid-phase reaction of ligand **4** with PdCl<sub>2</sub>(NCPh)<sub>2</sub> in a vibration ball mill (registered in 3 days after the experiment)



**Fig. S68.** IR spectrum of the residue obtained after a solid-phase reaction of ligand **3** with PdCl<sub>2</sub>(NCPh)<sub>2</sub> in a vibration ball mill (registered in 30 min after the grinding cessation)



**Fig. S69.** IR spectrum of the orange paste obtained after grinding ligand **5** with  $PdCl_2(NCPh)_2$  in a vibration ball mill for 60 s (registered in 20 min after the grinding cessation)



**Fig. S70.** IR spectrum of the orange paste (more fluidic) obtained after grinding ligand **5** with  $PdCl_2(NCPh)_2$  in a vibration ball mill for 90 s (registered in 20 min after the grinding cessation)



**Fig. S71.** IR spectrum of the residue obtained after a solid-phase reaction of ligand **5** with  $PdCl_2(NCPh)_2$  in a vibration ball mill and rinsed with hexane



**Fig. S72.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of the residue obtained after a solid-phase reaction of ligand **5** with  $PdCl_2(NCPh)_2$  in a vibration ball mill and rinsed with hexane (400.13 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)



Fig. S73. Extended fragments of the <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra of the neat residue obtained after a solid-phase reaction of ligand 5 with  $PdCl_2(NCPh)_2$  in a vibration mill (top) and that with specially added PhCN (bottom) (400.13 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ )



**Fig. S74.** IR spectrum of the mixture of ligand **3** with  $PdCl_2(COD)$  obtained by manual grinding in a mortar and left under ambient conditions for 6 days



Fig. S75. IR spectrum of the mixture of ligand 3 with PdCl<sub>2</sub>(COD) after heating at 80–175 °C for 20 min



**Fig. S76.** EDS elemental distribution maps for complex **13** obtained by grinding in a mortar (100× magnification, 30kV)



Fig. S77. EDS elemental distribution maps for ligand 5 (100× magnification, 30kV)

12			
Pd1–N1	1.982(2)	C15–S1	1.722(3)
Pd1–Cl1	2.3205(7)	N3-C7	1.308(4)
Pd1–S1	2.2687(7)	Cl1–Pd1–N1	171.30(7)
Pd1–N3	2.056(2)	S1–Pd1–N3	166.15(6)
N1C1	1.408(3)	Cl1–Pd1–S1	93.55(3)
N1-C14	1.356(3)	S1–Pd1–N1	85.26(7)
C14–O1	1.222(3)	N1-Pd1-N3	87.78(9)
C14–C15	1.537(4)	Cl1-Pd1-N3	95.09(7)
14			
Pd1–N1	2.0292(19)	C20–S1	1.716(2)
Pd1–Cl1	2.3123(6)	P1-S2	2.0160(8)
Pd1–S1	2.2922(6)	Cl1–Pd1–N1	170.35(6)
Pd1–S2	2.3526(6)	S1–Pd1–S2	164.98(2)
N1C1	1.422(3)	Cl1–Pd1–S1	89.21(2)
N1-C19	1.346(3)	S1–Pd1–N1	85.36(6)
C19–O1	1.232(3)	N1–Pd1–S2	98.58(5)
C19–C20	1.523(3)	Cl1–Pd1–S2	88.70(2)

Table S1. Selected bond lengths (Å) and angles (°) for complexes 12 and 14

Compound	<b>Cell lines</b>				
	HCT116	MCF7	PC3	HEK293	
1	>200.0 <sup>a</sup>	>200.0 <sup>a</sup>	>200.0ª	>200.0ª	
2	>200.0 <sup>a</sup>	>200.0 <sup>a</sup>	>200.0 <sup>a</sup>	>200.0 <sup>a</sup>	
3	$35.0\pm5.0$	$38.0\pm8.0$	$51.0 \pm 14.0$	$24.5\pm1.5$	
4	>40.0 <sup>b</sup>	>40.0 <sup>b</sup>	>40.0 <sup>b</sup>	$28.0\pm3.0$	
5	>200.0 <sup>a</sup>	>200.0 <sup>a</sup>	>200.0 <sup>a</sup>	>200.0 <sup>a</sup>	
8	$25.5\pm4.5$	$37.0\pm9.0$	$19.5\pm2.5$	$75.0\pm12.0$	
9	$74.0\pm8.0$	$> 80.0^{c}$	$28.5\pm4.5$	$36.0\pm6.0$	
11	$72.0\pm4.0$	$> 80.0^{c}$	$67.0\pm5.0$	$44.0\pm4.0$	
12	$65.0\pm11$	$61.5\pm3.5$	$32.0\pm4.0$	$67.0\pm5.0$	
13	$52.5\pm5.5$	$> 80.0^{c}$	$40.0\pm10.0$	>100 <sup>d</sup>	
14	$28.0\pm8.0$	$58.0 \pm 14.0$	$20.5\pm4.5$	$14.0\pm2.5$	
cisplatin	$18.0\pm2.0$	$25.0 \pm 4.0$	$16.0 \pm 3.0$	$12.5 \pm 1.5$	

**Table S2.** Cytotoxic properties of the functionalized monothiooxamides and their palladium(II) pincer complexes (IC<sub>50</sub>  $\pm$  SD,  $\mu$ M)

SD is the standard deviation of the value;

<sup>*a*</sup> the percentages of live cells at the compound concentration of 200.0  $\mu$ M were above 90%;

<sup>*b*</sup> the percentages of live cells at the compound concentration of 40  $\mu$ M were as follows: 71% (HCT116), 68% (MCF7), 82% (PC3).

<sup>*c*</sup> the percentages of live cells at the compound concentration of 80  $\mu$ M were as follows: 100% (9), 70% (11), 66% (13);

<sup>*d*</sup> the percentage of live cells at the compound concentration of 100  $\mu$ M was 70%.