## Electronic Supplementary Information

## Ultrasensitive two-dimensional material-based MCF-7 cancer cell sensor driven by perturbation processes

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**Figure S1.** Computational analysis of  $MoS_2$  and cancer lipid bilayer system. (a) Plot of atom count (black) and van der Waal (vdW) interaction energy (red, kJmol<sup>-1</sup>) and (b) center of mass (CoM) distance (nm) plotted as a function of time (ns) for the interaction between  $MoS_2$  nanosheet and cancer lipid bilayer system.



**Figure S2.** Normalised resistance for control (cells only,  $3 \times 10^3$  cells) and MCF-7 cells at varying cell populations ( $n = 4 \times 10^3$  cells and  $5 \times 10^3$  cells). Data represents mean  $\pm$  SEM, (n = 6 from 3 independent experiments). Significance was calculated using a Student's t-test: non-significant (ns).



**Figure S3.** Normalised resistance for MCF-7 media only and MCF-7 media with 75  $\mu$ M of MoS<sub>2</sub> (Media/MS). Data represents mean  $\pm$  SEM, (*n* = 3). Significance was calculated using a Student's t-test: *p* < 0.05 (\*)

**Table S1** Significance for MCF-7 cytotoxicity for different concentrations of MoS<sub>2</sub> compared to control, different concentrations of MoS<sub>2</sub> and different incubation times. Significance was calculated using a Student's t-test: p < 0.05 (\*), p < 0.01 (\*\*\*), p < 0.001 (\*\*\*).

		Concentrations (µM)			
		25	50	75	100
MCF-7 ( <i>t</i> = 24 h)	Compared to Control			*	***
	Compared to 25 $\mu$ M			*	**
	Compared to 50 $\mu$ M				**
	Compared to 75 $\mu$ M				*
MCF-7 ( <i>t</i> = 48 h)	Compared to $t = 24$ h				
	Compared to Control				*
	Compared to 25 $\mu$ M				
	Compared to 50 $\mu$ M				*
	Compared to 75 $\mu$ M				*

**Table S2** Force field parameters for  $MoS_2$ ,<sup>1</sup> where  $\sigma$  is the finite distance (where interparticle potential is zero),  $\varepsilon$  is the Lennard-Jones parameter referring to the depth of the potential well and *e* is the partial atomic charge.

Atom	σ/Å	ε /kJmol <sup>-1</sup>	е
Мо	2.55	0.543	-0.76
S	3.50	1.045	-0.38

**Table S3** Lipid composition for the inner and outer leaflet of cancer lipid bilayer systems based

 on lipids built by Klähn & Zacharias.<sup>2</sup>

	Inner Leaflet		Outer Leaflet	
	DOPC	DOPS	DOPC	DOPS
Cancer	91	30	99	22

**Table S4** Full references for Fig. 3d. State-of-the-art electrical-based biosensors detecting an adherent monolayer of cells.

Ref No.	Reference
1	Yea, C. H., Jeong, H. C., Moon, S. H., Lee, M. O., Kim, K. J., Choi, J. W., Cha, H. J., In situ label-free quantification of human pluripotent stem cells with electrochemical potential. <i>Biomaterials</i> <b>75</b> , 250–259 (2016).
2	Jeong, H. C., Choo, S. S., Kim, K. T., Hong, K. S., Moon, S. H., Cha, H., J., Kim, T. H., Conductive hybrid matrigel layer to enhance electrochemical signals of human embryonic stem cells. <i>Sensors Actuators, B Chem.</i> <b>242</b> , 224–230 (2017).
3	Suhito, I. R., Kang, W. S., Kim, D. S., Baek, S., Park, S. J., Moon, S. H., Luo, Z., Lee, D., Min, J., Kim, T. H., High density gold nanostructure composites for precise electrochemical detection of human embryonic stem cells in cell mixture. <i>Colloids Surfaces B Biointerfaces</i> <b>180</b> , 384–392 (2019).
4	Angeline, N., Choo, S. S., Kim, C. H., Bhang, S. H. & Kim, T. H. Precise Electrical Detection of Curcumin Cytotoxicity in Human Liver Cancer Cells. <i>Biochip J.</i> <b>15</b> , 52–60 (2021).

## References

- 1 B. Luan and R. Zhou, *Appl. Phys. Lett.*, DOI:10.1063/1.4944840.
- 2 M. Klähn and M. Zacharias, *Phys. Chem. Chem. Phys.*, 2013, **15**, 14427–14441.