

## Supporting information

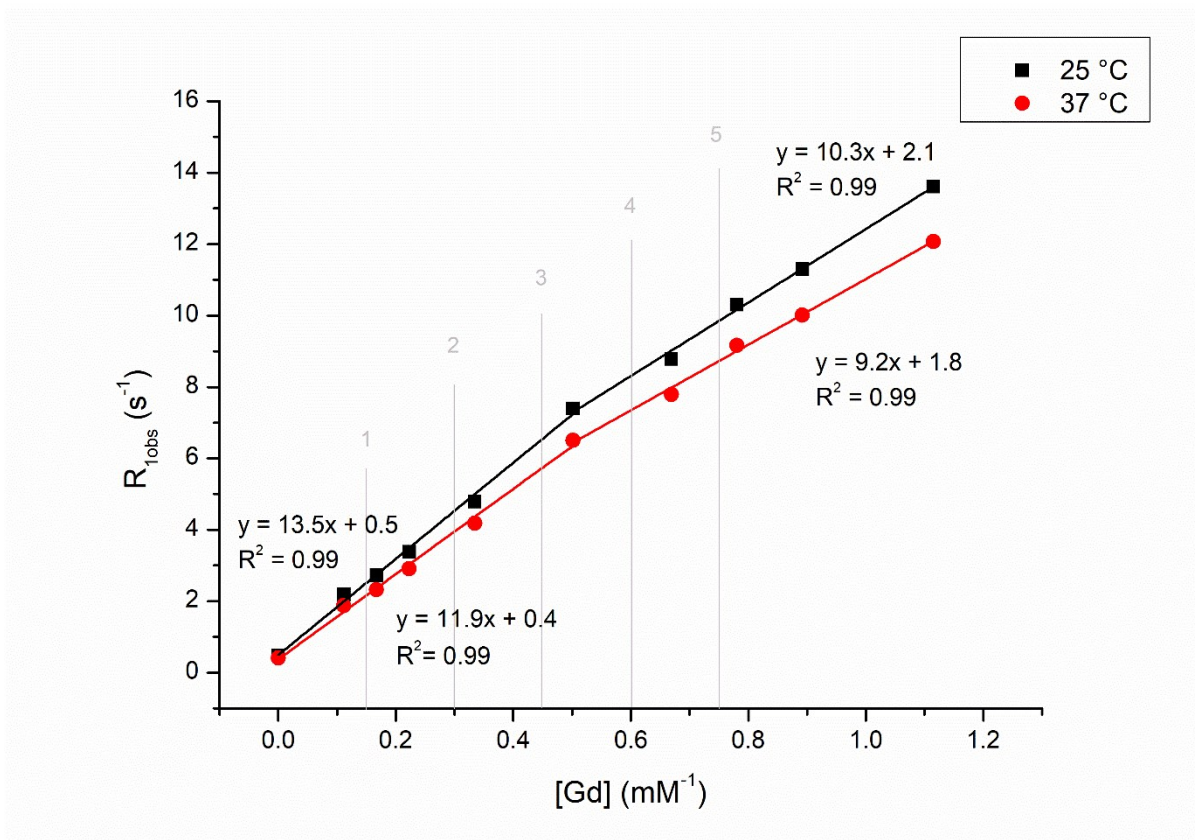
for

### **An albumin-binding Gd-HPDO3A contrast agent for improved intravascular retention**

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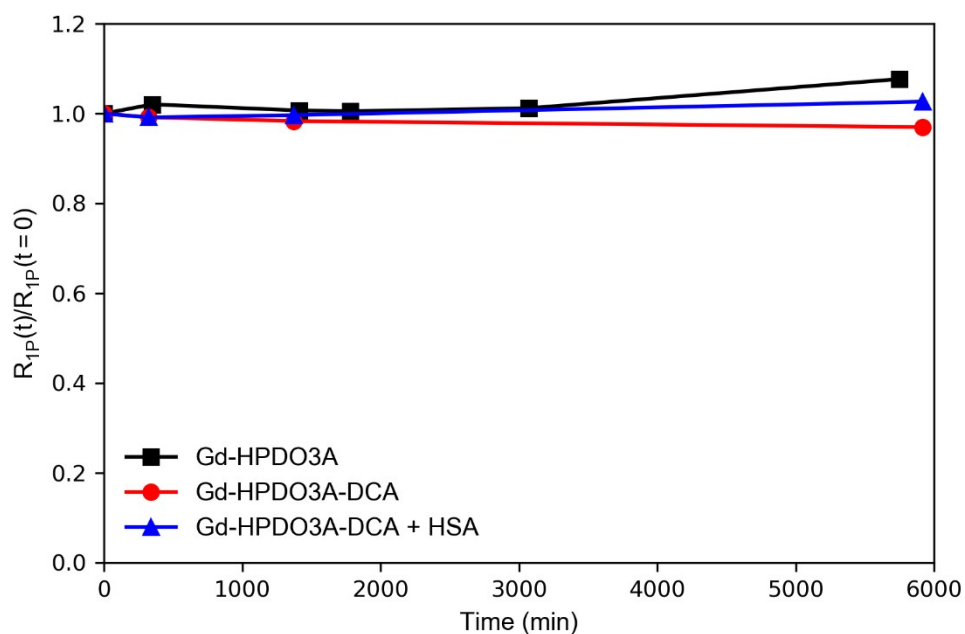
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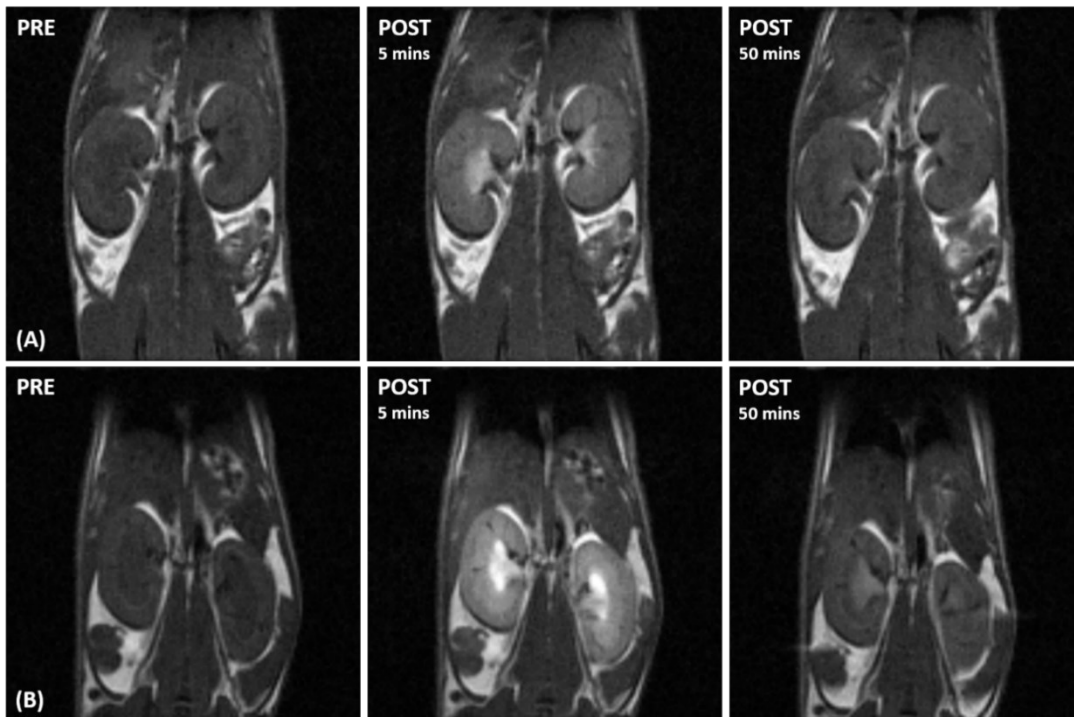
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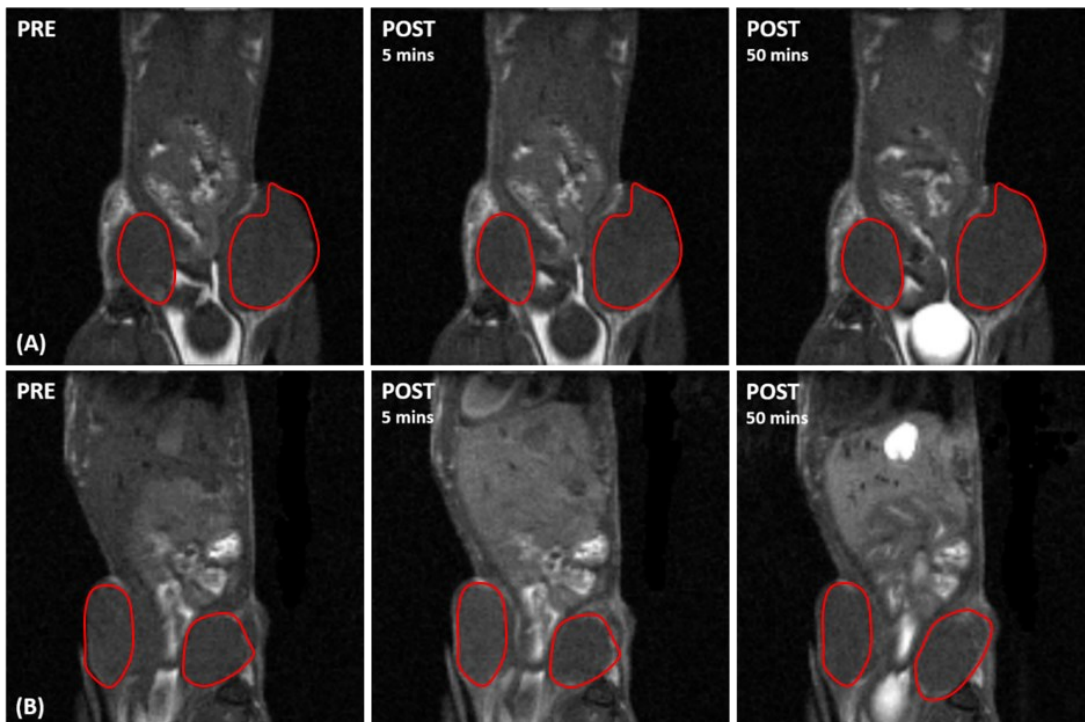
**Figure S1:** Proton relaxation rate ( $R_{1\text{obs}}$ ) of 0.15 mM HSA in 50 mM PBS as a function of increasing Gd-HPDO3A-DCA concentration. Measured at 0.47 T, pH 7.4 at 298K and 310 K.

**Figure S2:** Transmetalation of Gd complexes with 1 eq. Zinc in 67 mM phosphate buffer at 310 K and pH 7.4, measured at 0.47 T.

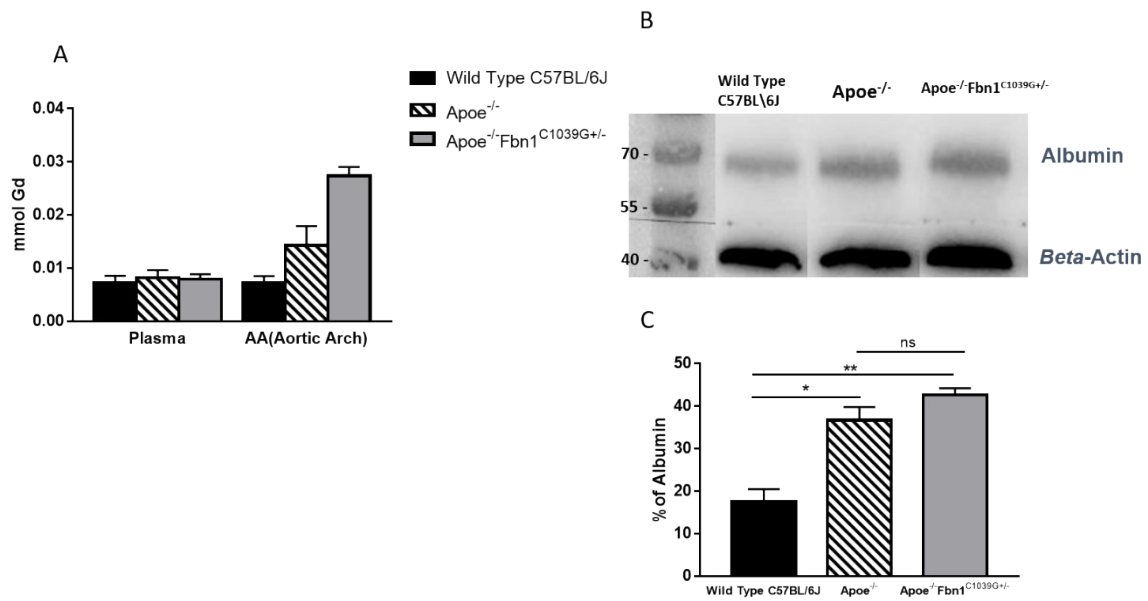




**Figure S3:** Representative T1-weighted MSME for healthy tissues: kidneys and liver (partially observable) obtained pre and after injection with A) Gd-HPDO3A and B) Gd-HPDO3A-DCA, images show left to right pre-contrast, and post-contrast at 5 and 50 min.



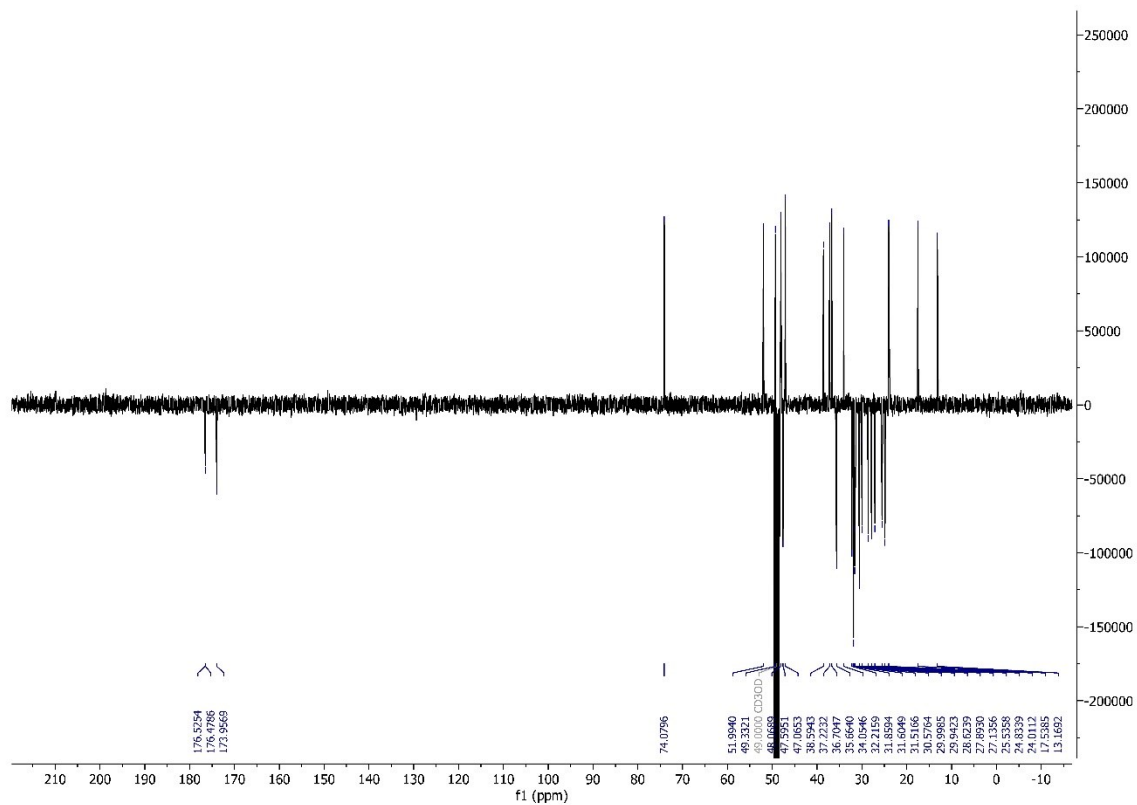
**Figure S4:** Representative T1-weighted MSME for healthy tissues: tumours (red lines) and liver obtained pre and after injection with A) Gd-HPDO3A and B) Gd-HPDO3A-DCA, images show left to right pre-contrast, and post-contrast at 5 and 50 min.



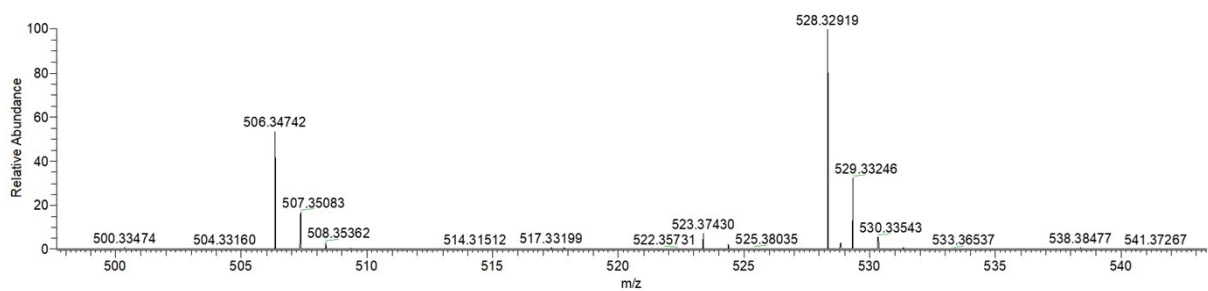
**Figure S5:** A) Quantification of gadolinium concentration by ICP-MS in plasma and in the aortic arch of three species of mouse models. B) Western Blot (n=2 per group) and C) percentage of albumin deposition in the vessel wall in the three species of mouse models.

\*P<0.05; \*\*P<0.01; \*\*\*P<0.001





**Figure S7:**  $^{13}\text{C}$  APT NMR spectrum of compound A in  $\text{CD}_3\text{OD}$  at 400 MHz and 298 K.



**Figure S8:** HRMS spectrum of compound A.

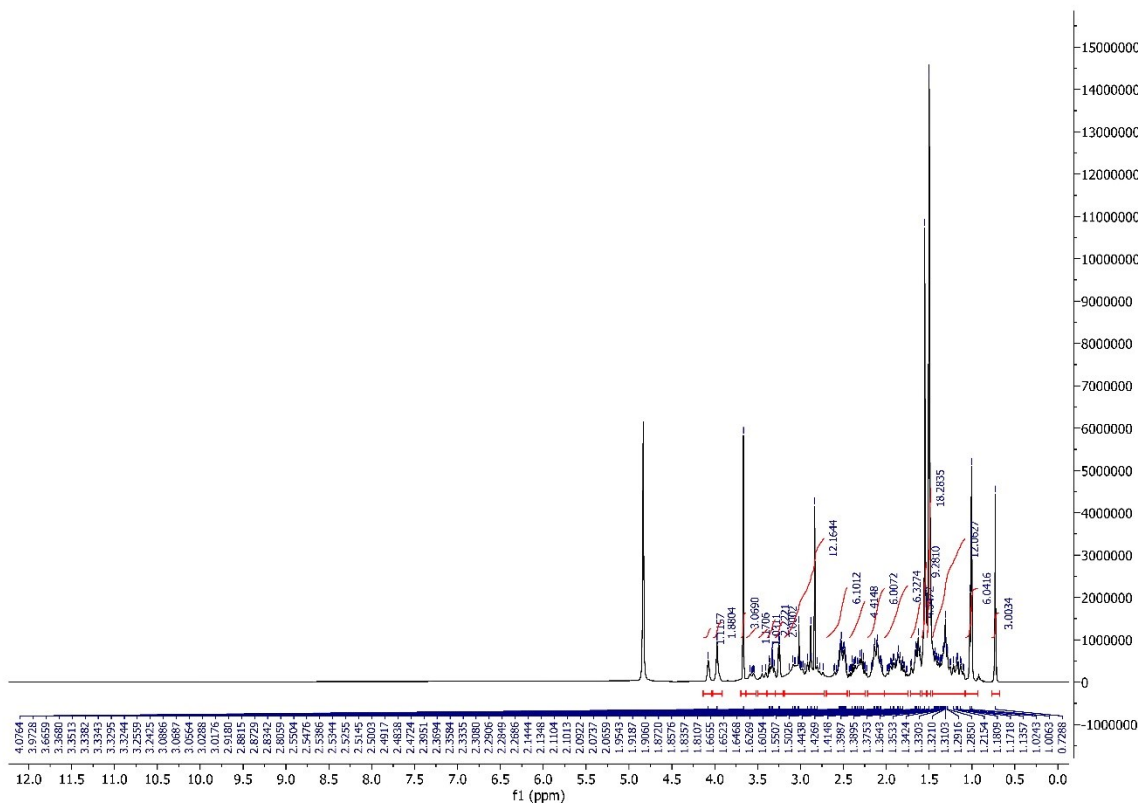
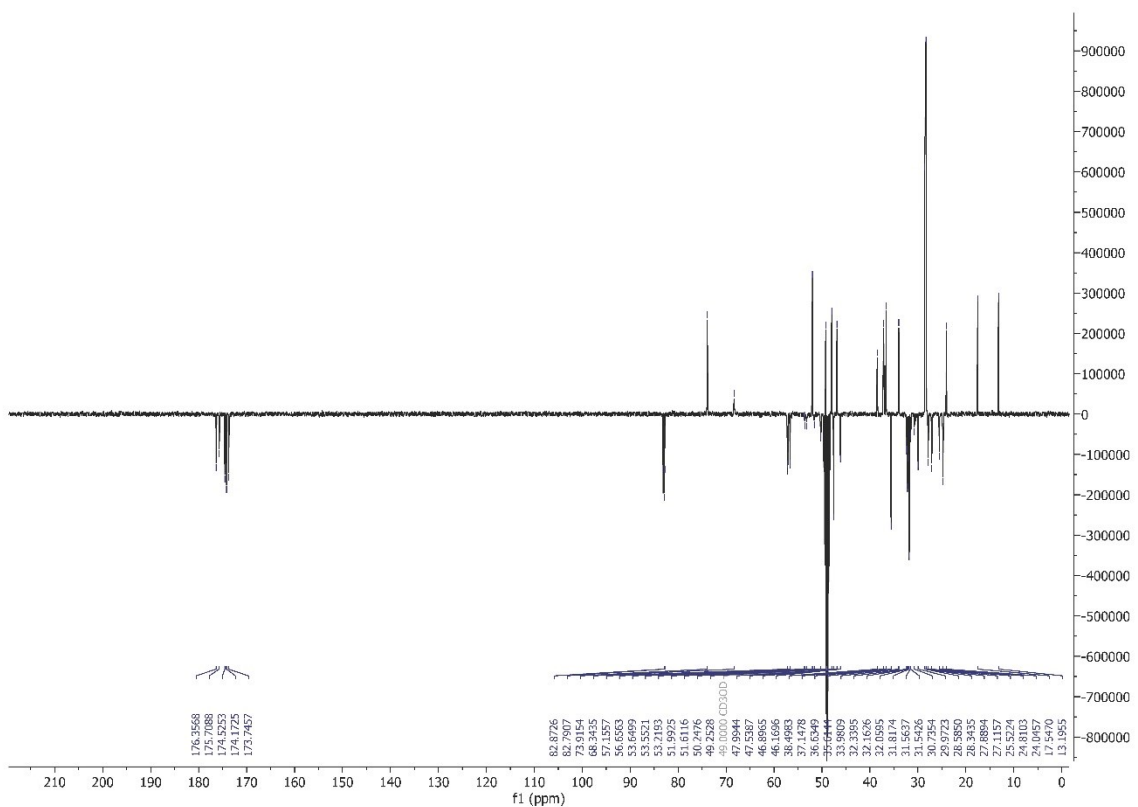
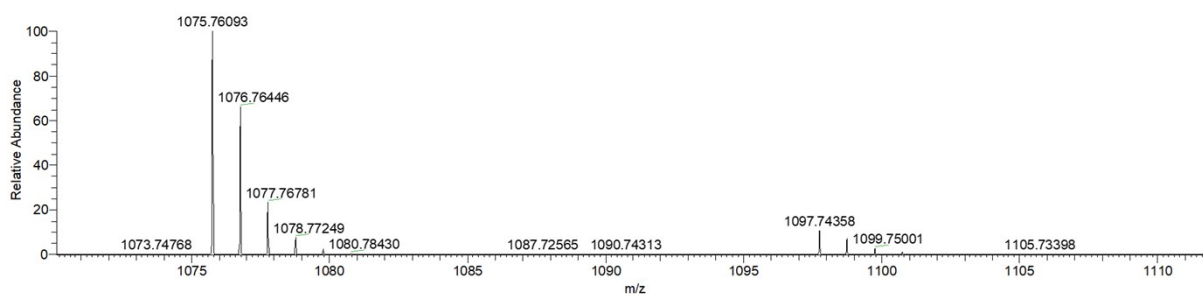


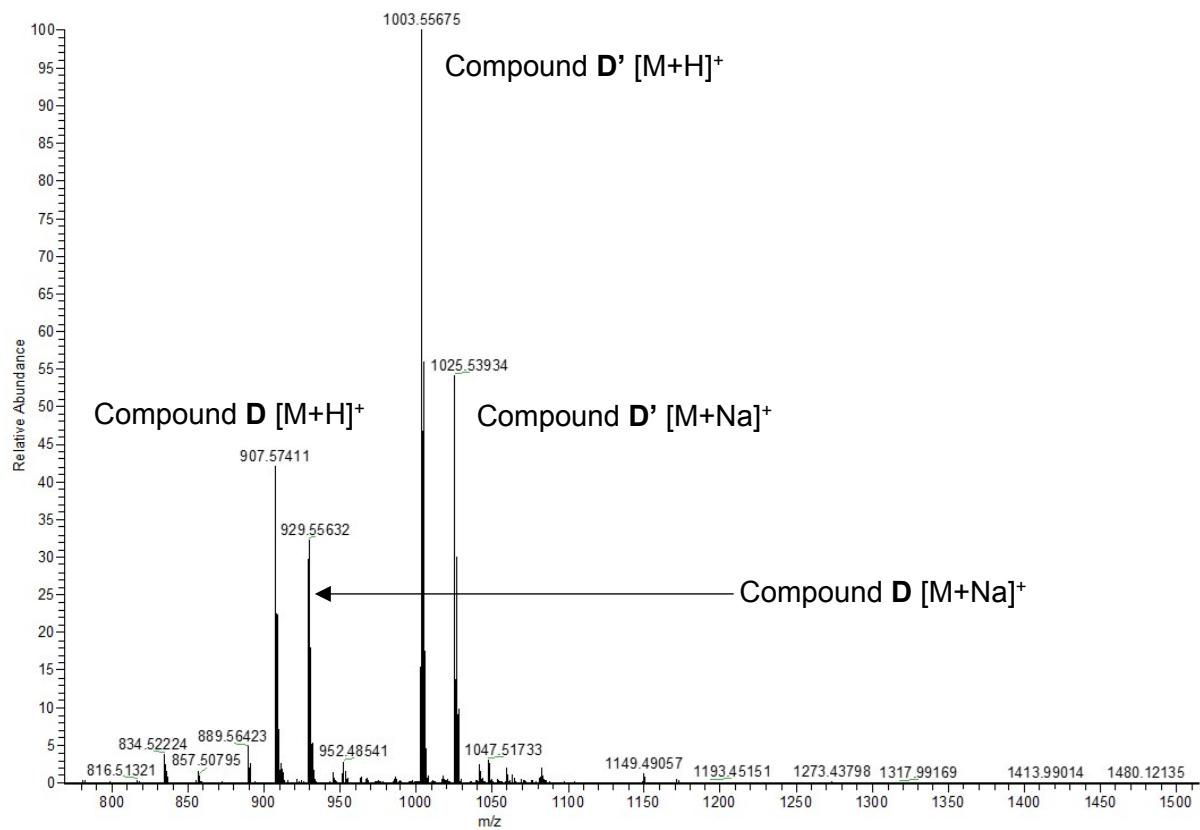
Figure S9:  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of compound C in  $\text{CD}_3\text{OD}$  at 400 MHz and 298 K.



**Figure S10:**  $^{13}\text{C}$  APT NMR spectrum of compound **C** in  $\text{CD}_3\text{OD}$  at 400 MHz and 298 K.



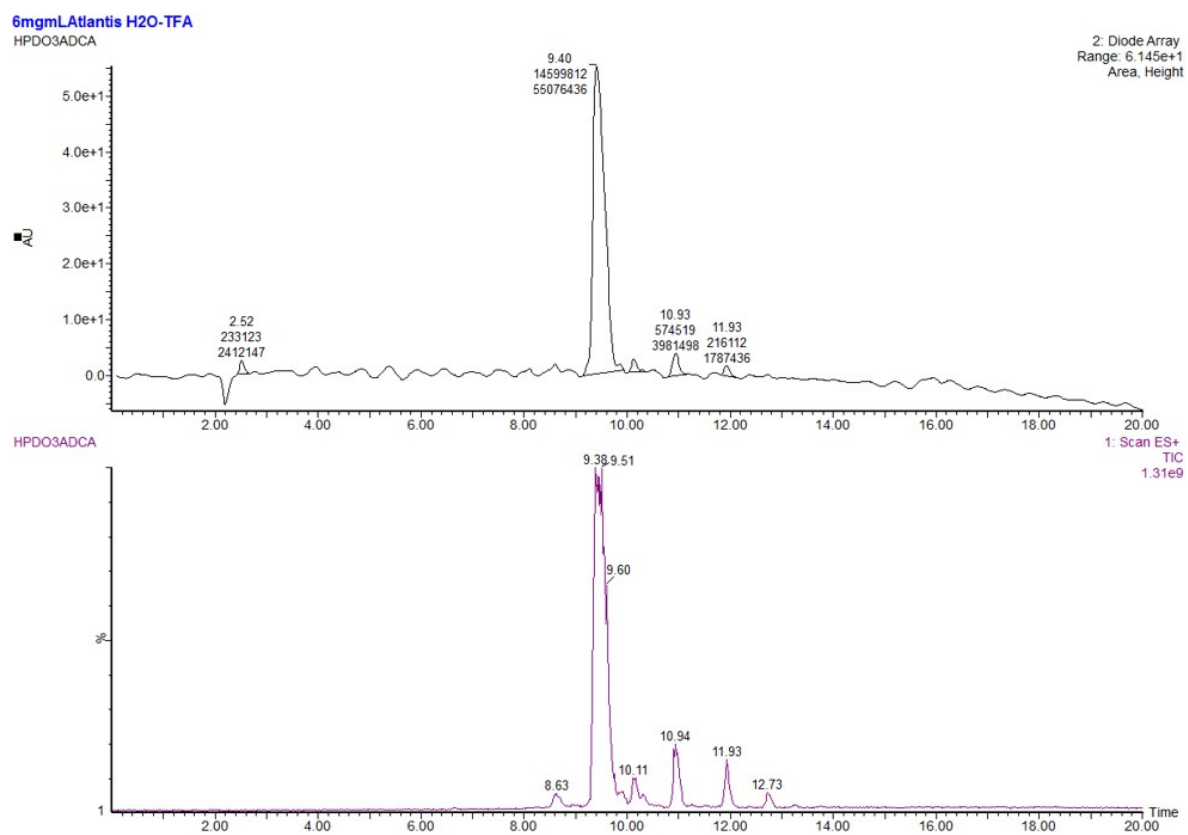
**Figure S11:** HRMS spectrum of compound **C**.



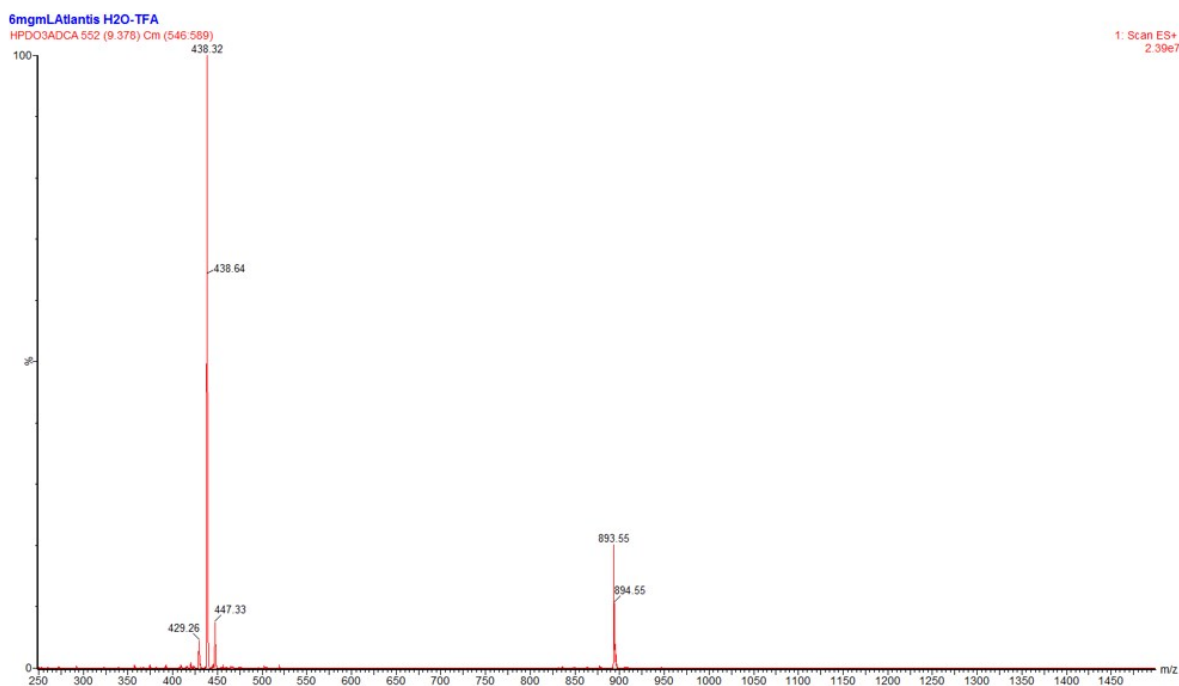
**Figure S12:** HRMS spectrum of compound **D** and **D'**.



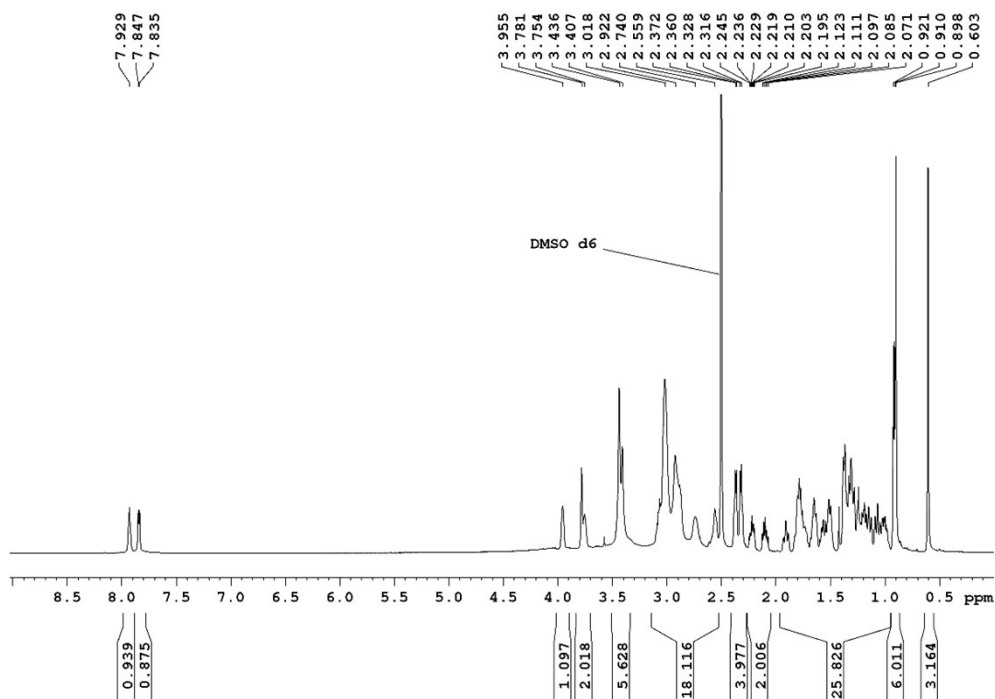
a)



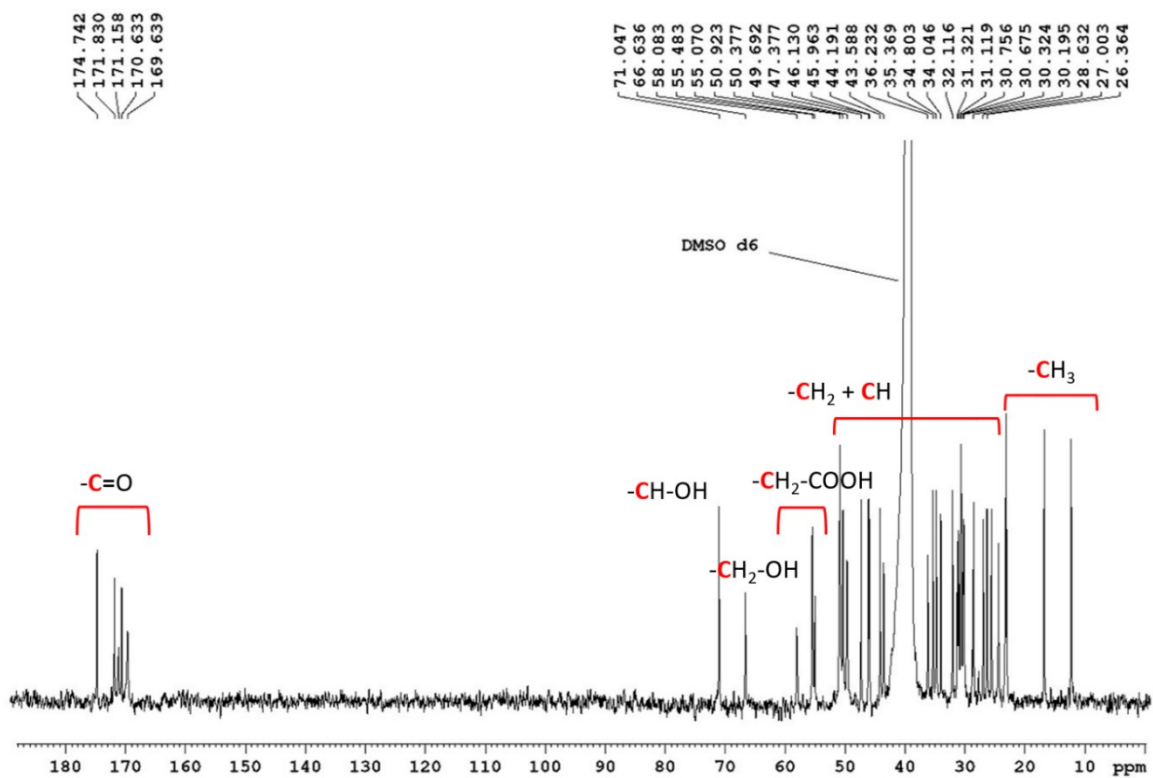
b)



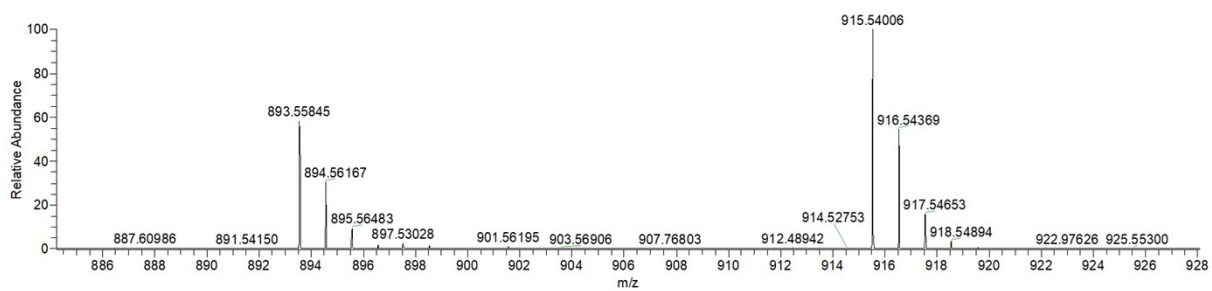
**Figure S13:** a) Chromatogram Diode Array (200-400 nm) and TIC ESI+, purity >90% and b) Mass spectrum in ESI+ of peak at 9.4 min of compound **E**.



**Figure S14:**  $^1\text{H}$ -NMR spectrum of compound **E** in  $\text{DMSO } d_6$  at 600 MHz and 298 K.

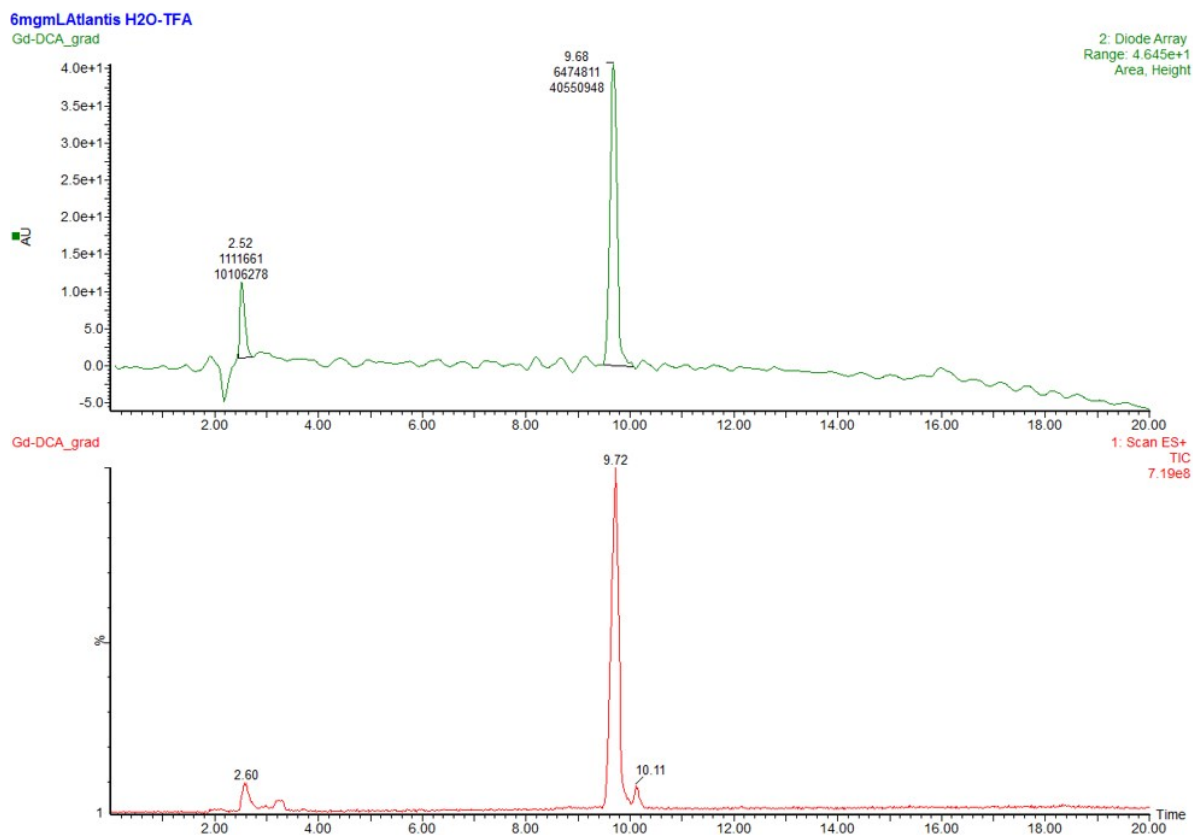


**Figure S15:**  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR spectrum of compound **E** in  $\text{DMSO } d_6$  at 600 MHz and 298 K.



**Figure S16:** HRMS spectrum of compound E.

a)



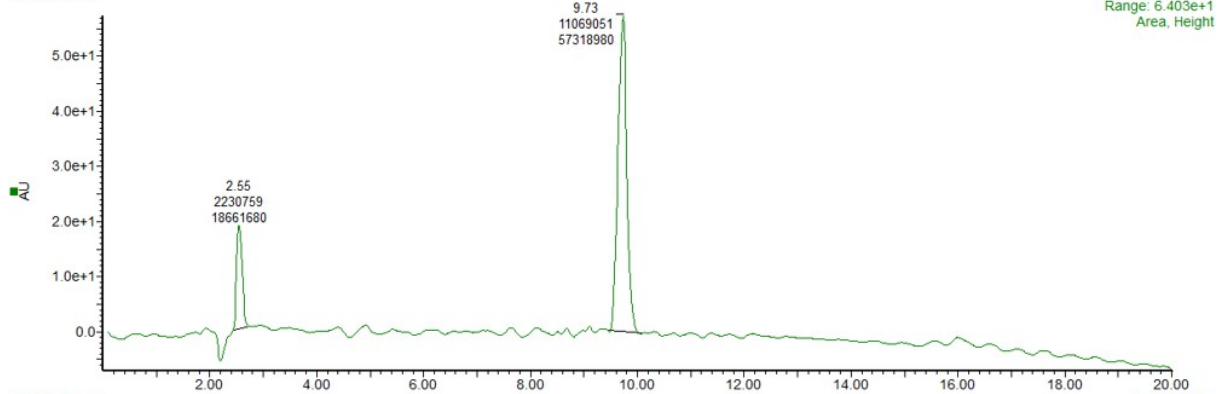
b)



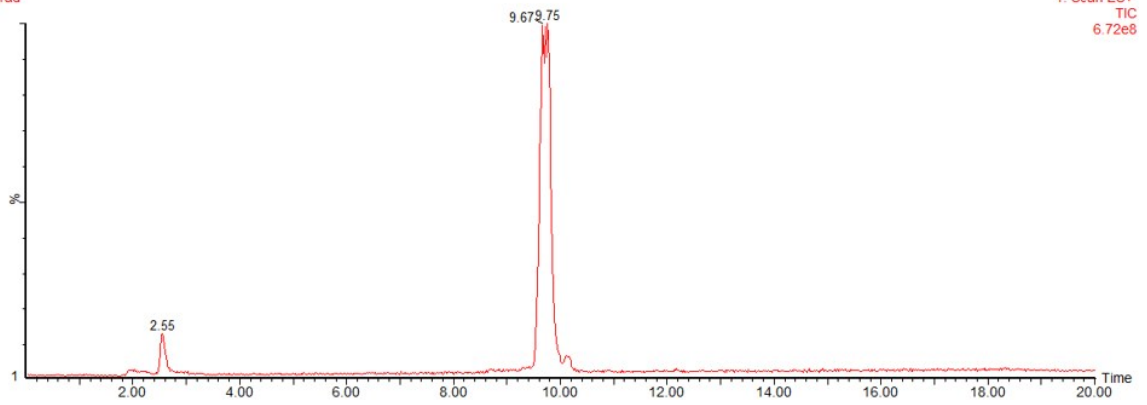
**Figure S17:** a) Chromatogram Diode Array (200-400 nm) and TIC ESI+ and b) Mass spectrum in ESI+ of peak at 9.72 min of **Gd-HPDO3A-DCA**.

a)

6mgmLAtlantis H2O-TFA  
Eu-DCA\_grad

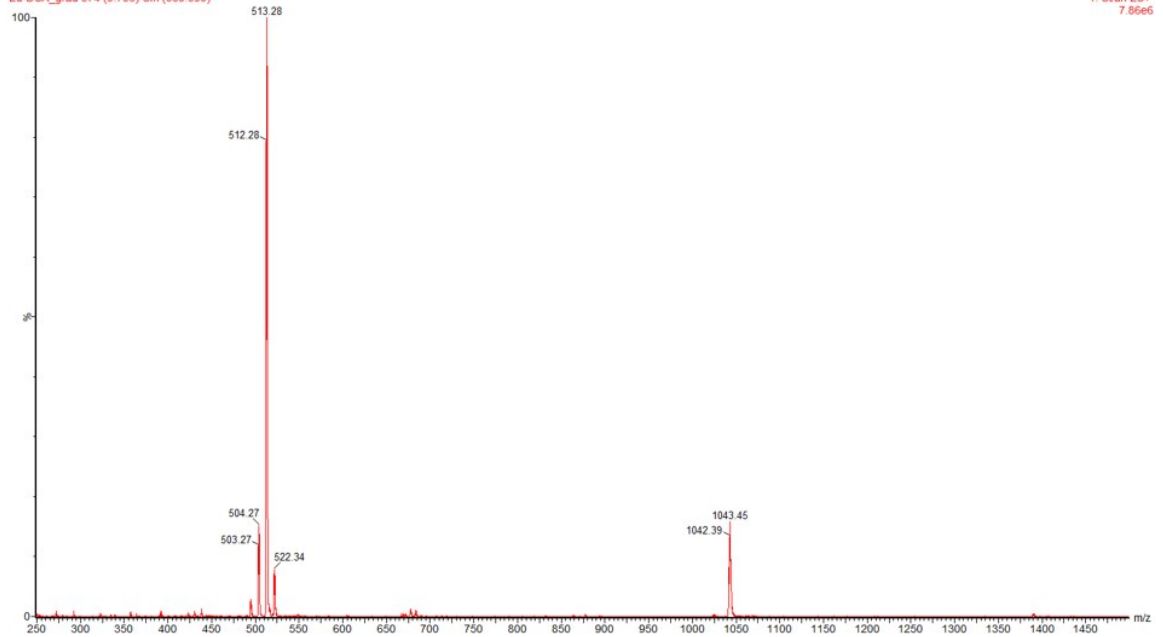


Eu-DCA\_grad



b)

6mgmLAtlantis H2O-TFA  
Eu-DCA\_grad 574 (9.753) Cm (560-590)



**Figure S18:** a) Chromatogram Diode Array (200-400 nm) and TIC ESI+ and b) Mass spectrum in ESI+ of peak at 9.68 min of **Eu-HPDO3A-DCA**.

### Proton relaxation enhancement fitting equations

HSA binding parameters were determined using the proton relaxation enhancement method. The water proton relaxation rate ( $R_1^{\text{obs}}$ ) of Gd-HPDO3A-DCA (0.1 mM) was measured as a function of increasing HSA concentration (0-1mM) in 50 mM PBS at 298 K and 310 K, 21.5 MHz, pH 7.4.  $R_1^{\text{obs}}$  was defined as the following:

$$R_{1obs} = r_{1A}[Gd - L] + r_{1B}[Gd - L - HSA] + R_{1d} \quad (1)$$

The diamagnetic contribution ( $R_{1d}$ ) was determined as a function of increasing HSA concentration and subtracted from the observed relaxation rate to give the paramagnetic relaxation rate ( $R_{1p}$ ). The data were then fitted to the following equilibrium, with the association constant defined as follows:



$$K_a = [Gd - L - HSA]/[Gd - L][nHSA] \quad (3)$$

where  $n$  is the number of independent binding sites and  $K_a$  the apparent binding constant. A second titration was carried out to estimate  $n$ , where the concentration of HSA was constant (0.2 mM) and the concentration of the Gd complex was increased from 0 – 1 mM.

For competitive binding experiments, a solution of equimolar Gd complex and HSA in 50 mM PBS was prepared. Increasing concentrations of the drug were added up to 40-50 times excess, maintaining a constant Gd and HSA concentration. For ibuprofen and warfarin, 0.2 mM Gd and HSA were used, with a maximum drug concentration of 10 mM. Due to the low aqueous solubility of mitoxantrone, a maximum drug concentration of 4 mM was used with 0.1 mM Gd and HSA. Proton relaxation measurements on the solutions were performed at 21.5 MHz and 310 K.