Supplementary Information

Reassessing CORM-A1: redox chemistry and idiosyncratic CO-releasing characteristics of the

widely used carbon monoxide donor

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Experimental

General Information. All reagents and solvents were of reagent grade from commercial suppliers (Sigma-Aldrich, etc.). Absorption spectra were measured and observed at 340 nm (NADH) and 260 nm (NAD⁺) on Varian Cary 100 Bio UV-visible spectrophotometer (UV-Vis). Liquid chromatography-mass spectrometry (LC-MS/MS) data were collected on an API 3200 LC/MS/MS system, a triple quadruple mass spectrometer coupled with an Agilent 1200 series HPLC and UV-DAD. Gas chromatography studies were performed on an Agilent 7820A system equipped with flame ionization detector (FID) coupled with a methanizer (CH4izer, Restek, USA). Column: Packed; 80/100 5A molecular sieve solid support, $L \times I.D.$ 2m $\times 0.53$ mm (Restek). Carrier gas: Helium (Airgas). Gas tanks (Helium, H₂, CO, and Air) were purchased from Airgas.. CORM-A1, nicotinamide adenine dinucleotide (NAD⁺), reduced nicotinamide adenine dinucleotide (NADH), nicotinamide adenine dinucleotide phosphate (NADP⁺), reduced nicotinamide adenine dinucleotide phosphate (NADPH), 1-methylnicotinamide chloride, NaBH₄ and 1M BH₃-THF were purchased from Sigma-Aldrich and were used without purification. Boric acid, phosphate buffer saline (1×, 10×, 20×), DMEM (Corning, New York, USA), and RPMI 1640 (Corning, New York, USA) culture medium were purchased from Fischer Scientific. Sodium chloride (NaCl) and ODQ (1H-[1,2,4]oxadiazolo[4,3-a]quinoxalin-1-one) were purchased from VWR. Hydrogen peroxide $(35\%, H_2O_2)$ was purchased from Oakwood Chemicals. N-Methylpyridine and methylated DABCO were synthesized using literature procedures.^{1, 2} Lithium phosphate buffer was made using phosphoric acid and lithium hydroxide. Pure CO gas was purchased from Airgas Company.

UV-Vis Analysis. Absorption spectra were measured and observed at 340 nm (NADH) and 260 nm (NAD+) on Varian Cary 100 Bio UV–visible spectrophotometer (UV-Vis) using a 1-mL cuvette. Standard curves for NADH and NADPH were established to calculate the approximate concentration of NADH produced in each reaction (Fig 2 (and Fig. S2). The reactions were either incubated at higher concentrations, specified for each experiment as described in the main text, and then diluted with PBS to 100-200 μM to maintain an absorbance under 1.0 au or conducted at 100-200 μM. For reactions conducted at higher concentrations (e.g., 2 mM CORM-A1: 2 mM NAD⁺), CORM-A1 was weighed and the solid was placed into a glass vial. The necessary volume to obtain the reported concentration of CORM-A1 was added through a solution of NAD⁺ or NADP⁺. The glass vial was then incubated at 37 °C using a water bath and diluted to 1-mL at each designated time point. For reactions conducted at 100-200 μM, CORM-A1 was weighed and the solid was directly added to solution in cuvette (heated to 37 °C) and reaction was monitored. *Hence, a stock solution of CORM-A1 was not used in any UV-Vis experiments, since the CORM-A1 solid was directly added to all solutions*.



Figure S1A. NADH Standard Curve in PBS



Figure S1B. NADPH Standard Curve in PBS

LC-MS/MS Analysis. LC-MS/MS Data was obtained using an API 3200 triple quadruple mass spectrometer coupled with an Agilent 1200 series HPLC and UV-DAD spectrometer. Methods used a reversed-phase analytical column (Kromasil 100-3.5-C18) and electrospray ionization source in a negative mode with positive polarity. Selected ion mode was used for the detection of ions at m/z 662 and 540 for NAD⁺ and m/z 664, 408, and 397 for

NADH. A 10-μL sample solution was delivered through automatic injection to the HPLC. The mobile phase was ACN and 0.1% formic acid (in water) used for gradient elution from 0-95-0% over 15 min at 500 μL/min flow rate. The CDL temperature was 200 °C and the heat block temperature was 250 °C. Nebulizing gas flow was 4.5 L/min. NAD⁺: DP=50; EP=-10; CE=-26; CXP=-5; IS=4500; CAP=12; TEM=250; NADH: DP=-50; EP=-10; CE=-50; CXP=-5; IS=-4500.

General Protocol. Using a microbalance, NAD⁺, NADH, CORM-A1, boric acid, and NaBH₄ were weighed and dissolved to create stock solutions in HPLC grade water (filtered and degassed via Barnstead NanoPure, pH: 5.5). Each were diluted using degassed and filtered water to desired concentrations. Solutions of BH₃-THF were measured via pipette and prepared in anhydrous THF solvent. For reactions, equal volumes of NAD⁺ (either 4 mM or 2 mM) and boron-based compounds (either 4 mM or 20 mM) were added to HPLC-specific vials and incubated at 37 °C for either 15 or 30 minutes. For 1:1 molar ratio, 4 mM of each were added in equal volume to give a final concentration of 2 mM. For 10:1 molar ratio, 2 mM of NAD⁺ and 20 mM of a boron-based compound were added in equal volume to give final concentrations of 1 mM and 10 mM, respectively. The ratio of NADH and NAD⁺ is calculated by using AUC provided by the LC-MS, which included negligible background noise or impurity in the multi-reaction monitoring (MRM) spectra detecting for NADH, making up <2% of NADH achievable in reactions (Fig. S3b, S4b, S5b).

¹¹**B** NMR analysis. ¹¹B NMR spectra were recorded on Bruker-400 spectrometers (128 MHz for ¹¹B NMR). 100 mM CORM-A1 in D_2O and reaction of CORM-A1 and NAD⁺ at 3:1 (100mM:33.3mM) and 1:1 (100mM:100mM) ratios are seen at the end of the SI in figure S19.

Quantitative CO Analysis. An Agilent 7820A GC System equipped with a methanizer-FID (CH4izer, Restek, USA) was used to quantify CO release yield of CORM-A1. Because of CORM-A1's originally reported fast CO release, along with our data describing degrading stock solutions of CORM-A1, it is important to emphasize *that stock solutions of CORM-A1 were not be used in any GC experiments*. Instead, CORM-A1 was weighed using a microbalance, and the solid was then sealed in a gas tight headspace glass vial. The designated solution, including solvent and added reagent (e.g. NAD⁺, NADP⁺, etc.), was then added to sealed vial via a syringe. Using a gas tight syringe, 100 μ L of the headspace of 6-mL (actually 8.8-mL) Supelco headspace vials were sampled and transferred to the injector port maintained at 150 °C. Helium was used as the carrier gas with a flow rate of 30 mL/min. Gaseous components of the headspace were separated by passing through a packed column with 80/100 5A molecular sieve solid support, L × I.D. 2m × 0.53 mm (Restek). The column was heated at 100 °C for 5 min then 250 °C for 10 min while the detector was held at 300 °C. To calculate the CO release yield from CORM-A1, a standard curve was established using pre-made CO gas of 10, 20, 50, 100, and 10,000 ppm (Figure S2a). Over the course of the study, the catalyst in the methanizer required replacement and another standard curve was generated under the same condition (Figure S2b) after catalyst replacement to ensure the system suitability. The AUC observed was used in a

linear equation to solve for concentration of CO released from CORM-A1. CO yield was calculated using Equation S1.



Figure S2a. CO standard curve using 100 µL injections



Figure S2b. CO standard curve (after catalyst replacement) using 100 µL injections

$$CO (PPM) = \frac{AUC}{slope} (simplified by using CO (PPM) = AUC x 2)$$

$$CO (mol) = \frac{(CO (PPM) \times 10^{-6}) \times L \text{ headspace}}{22.4}$$

CO Yield % =
$$\left(\frac{\text{mol of CO experimental}}{\text{mol of CO theoretical}}\right) x 100$$

Equation S1. Equations used to calculate CO yield from CORM-A1. L headspace is calculated by subtracting the amount of solvent added from the total volume of the vial (8.8-mL)

Table S1. CO Production from 1 mM CORM-A1 in 100mM PBS at room temperature

Entry	[CORM-A1]	Solvent	Added Reagent:	Initial CO Yield % (15	Total CO Yield %
				min)	(20+h)
S1	1 mM	10× PBS (at RT)		13 ± 3.2	54 ± 4.0



Figure S3. Reactions of 1-methylnicotinamide (1 mM) and CORM-A1 (5 mM) or NaBH₄ (10 mM) in PBS, monitored by UV-Vis after 10-fold dilution of the reaction solution. PBS sample shown to represent no change in absorbance from the blank and mNAM control.

LC-MS Chromatographs



Figure S4a. XIC of 1mM NAD⁺ standard in water detecting for NAD⁺



Figure S4b. XIC of 1mM NAD⁺ standard in water detecting for NADH



Figure S5a. XIC of 2mM NAD⁺ standard in water detecting for NAD⁺



Figure S5b. XIC of 2mM NAD⁺ standard in water detecting for NADH



Figure S6a. XIC of 1mM NAD⁺ standard in THF detecting for NAD⁺



Figure S6b. XIC of 1mM NAD⁺ standard in THF detecting for NADH



Figure S7a. XIC of 1:1 CORM-A1:NAD⁺ at 15min detecting for NAD⁺



Figure S7b. XIC of 1:1 CORM-A1:NAD+ at 15min detecting for NADH



Figure S8a. XIC of 1:1 CORM:NAD+ (2nd) at 15min detecting for NAD⁺



Figure S8b. XIC of 1:1 CORM:NAD⁺(2nd) at 15min detecting for NADH



Figure S9a. XIC of 1:1 CORM-A1:NAD⁺ at 30min detecting for NAD⁺



Figure S9b. XIC of 1:1 CORM-A1:NAD+ at 30min detecting for NADH



Figure S10a. XIC of 1:1 CORM-A1:NAD⁺ (2nd) at 30min detecting for NAD⁺



Figure S10b. XIC of 1:1 CORM-A1:NAD⁺ (2nd) at 30min detecting for NADH



Figure S11a. XIC of 10:1 CORM-A1:NAD⁺ at 15min detecting for NAD⁺



Figure S11b. XIC of 10:1 CORM-A1:NAD⁺ at 15min detecting for NADH



Figure S12a. XIC of 10:1 CORM-A1:NAD+ (2nd) at 15min detecting for NAD+



Figure S12b. XIC of 10:1 CORM-A1:NAD⁺ (2nd) at 15min detecting for NADH



Figure S13a. XIC of 10:1 Boric Acid:NAD⁺ at 15min detecting for NAD⁺



Figure S13b. XIC of 10:1 Boric Acid:NAD⁺ at 15min detecting for NADH



Figure S14a. XIC of 10:1 Boric Acid:NAD⁺ (2nd) at 15min detecting for NAD⁺



Figure S14b. XIC of 10:1 Boric Acid:NAD⁺ (2nd) at 15min detecting for NADH



Figure S15a. XIC of 10:1 BH₃-THF:NAD⁺ at 15min detecting for NAD⁺



Figure S15b. XIC of 10:1 BH₃-THF:NAD⁺ at 15min detecting for NADH



Figure S16a. XIC of 10:1 BH₃-THF:NAD⁺ (2nd) at 15min detecting for NAD⁺



Figure S16b. XIC of 10:1 BH₃-THF:NAD⁺ (2nd) at 15min detecting for NADH



Figure S17a. XIC of 2 mL CO Gas in 1mM NAD⁺ at 15min detecting for NAD⁺



Figure S17b. XIC of 2 mL CO Gas in 1mM NAD⁺ at 15min detecting for NADH



Figure S18a. XIC of 2 mL CO Gas in 1mM NAD⁺ (2nd) at 45 min detecting for NAD⁺



Figure S18b. XIC of 2 mL CO Gas in 1mM NAD⁺ (2nd) at 45min detecting for NADH

¹¹B NMR Spectra



Figure S19. ¹¹B NMR of (from top to bottom): 100 mM CORM-A1 in D_2O , the reaction of 100 mM CORM-A1 and 33.3 mM NAD⁺ at 10 minutes and 35 minutes, the preceeding reaction with an additional 66.6 mM NAD⁺ added at 10 minutes and overnight

SI References

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