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### **Supporting Information**

# A new class of teraryl-based AIEgen for highly selective imaging of intracellular lipid droplets and its detection in advanced-stage human cervical cancer tissues

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Fig. S1. Normalized UV and fluorescence spectra of 6a (10µM) in DMSO.



Fig. S2. Normalized UV and fluorescence spectra of 6b (10µM) in DMSO.



Fig. S3. Normalized UV and fluorescence spectra of 6c (10µM) in DMSO.



Fig. S4. Normalized UV and fluorescence spectra of 6d (10µM) in DMSO.



Fig. S5. Normalized UV and fluorescence spectra of 6e (10µM) in DMSO.



Fig. S6. Normalized UV and fluorescence spectra of 6f (10µM) in DMSO.



Fig. S7. Normalized UV and fluorescence spectra of 6g (10µM) in DMSO.



Fig. S8. Normalized UV and fluorescence spectra of 6h (10µM) in DMSO.



Fig. S9. Normalized UV and fluorescence spectra of 6i (10µM) in DMSO.



Fig. S10. Normalized UV and fluorescence spectra of 6j (10 $\mu$ M) in DMSO.



Fig. S11. Normalized UV and fluorescence spectra of 6k (10µM) in DMSO.



Fig. S12. Normalized UV and fluorescence spectra of 6I (10µM) in DMSO.

Table S1.	Solvatochro	mic data	of <b>6a</b> in	various	solvents.
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Entry	Polarity	Solvents	$\lambda_{max}$ , abs	$\lambda_{max}$ , em	Stokes shift	CIE	
	Index (Δf)		(nm) <sup>a</sup>	(nm) <sup>b</sup>	(nm) <sup>c</sup>	( <b>x</b> , <b>y</b> )	
	0.0134	Toluene	350	442	90	0.14, 0.07	
6a	0.0231	Dioxane	350	454	105	0.14, 0.11	
	0.201	EA	352	493	140	0.19, 0.36	
	0.2096	THF	353	516	160	0.27, 0.48	
	0.286	Acetone	356	535	180	0.35, 0.52	
	0.2745	DMF	363	553	190	0.41, 0.52	
	0.2640	DMSO	365	560	195	0.41, 0.51	

<sup>*a*</sup>Absorption maxima, <sup>*b*</sup>Fluorescence maxima in different solvents. <sup>*c*</sup>Stokes shift (nm) = ( $\lambda_{em} - \lambda_{abs}$ )



**Fig. S13.** CIE representation of the solvatochromic effect for compound **6a** using color calculator software.

Fluorescence life time decay of all the synthesized derivatives (6a-I)





Fig. S14. Fluorescence life time spectrum of 6a (~10<sup>-5</sup> M) in DMSO.

Fig. S15. Fluorescence life time spectrum of **6b** ( $^{-10^{-5}}$  M) in DMSO.



**Fig. S16.** Fluorescence life time spectrum of **6c** ( $^{-10^{-5}}$  M) in DMSO.



Fig. S17. Fluorescence life time spectrum of 6d ( $^{10-5}$  M) in DMSO.





Fig. S18. Fluorescence life time spectrum of 6e (~10<sup>-5</sup> M) in DMSO.

Fig. S19. Fluorescence life time spectrum of 6f (~10<sup>-5</sup> M) in DMSO.





**Fig. S20.** Fluorescence life time spectrum of **6g** ( $^{-10^{-5}}$  M) in DMSO.

Fig. S21. Fluorescence life time spectrum of **6h** ( $^{-10^{-5}}$  M) in DMSO.





**Fig. S22.** Fluorescence life time spectrum of **6i** ( $^{-1}0^{-5}$  M) in DMSO.

Fig. S23. Fluorescence life time spectrum of 6j (~10<sup>-5</sup> M) in DMSO.





Fig. S24. Fluorescence life time spectrum of 6k (~10<sup>-5</sup> M) in DMSO.

Fig. S25. Fluorescence life time spectrum of 6I (~10<sup>-5</sup> M) in DMSO.

Entry	Average Life time	Solvent
	(ns)	
6a	1.57	DMSO
6a	12.67	99:1Water: DMSO
6b	4.59	DMSO
6с	5.76	DMSO
6d	6.29	DMSO

Table S2: Average life time (ns) of synthesized derivatives 6a-l.

6e	3.24	DMSO
<b>6f</b>	6.41	DMSO
6g	4.49	DMSO
6h	7.12	DMSO
6i	4.03	DMSO
6j	4.6	DMSO
6k	7.38	DMSO
61	6.18	DMSO

Solid State Fluorescence Spectra of all the Synthesized Compounds



**Fig. S26.** Solid state fluorescence spectrum of compound **6a** and image in day light and UV light (hand held UV lamp 365 nm).



**Fig. S27.** Solid state fluorescence spectrum of compound **6b** and image in day light and UV light (hand held UV lamp 365 nm).



**Fig. S28.** Solid state fluorescence spectrum of compound **6c** and image in day light and UV light (hand held UV lamp 365 nm).



**Fig. S29.** Solid state fluorescence spectrum of compound **6d** and image in day light and UV light (hand held UV lamp 365 nm).



**Fig. S30.** Solid state fluorescence spectrum of compound **6e** and image in day light and UV light (hand held UV lamp 365 nm).



**Fig. S31.** Solid state fluorescence spectrum of compound **6f** and image in day light and UV light (hand held UV lamp 365 nm).



**Fig. S32.** Solid state fluorescence spectrum of compound **6g** and image in day light and UV light (hand held UV lamp 365 nm).



**Fig. S33.** Solid state fluorescence spectrum of compound **6h** and image in day light and UV light (hand held UV lamp 365 nm).



**Fig. S34.** Solid state fluorescence spectrum of compound **6i** and image in day light and UV light (hand held UV lamp 365 nm).



**Fig. S35.** Solid state fluorescence spectrum of compound **6j** and image in day light and UV light (hand held UV lamp 365 nm).



**Fig. S36.** Solid state fluorescence spectrum of compound **6k** and image in day light and UV light (hand held UV lamp 365 nm).



**Fig. S37.** Solid state fluorescence spectrum of compound **6I** and image in day light and UV light (hand held UV lamp 365 nm).

### DFT Study (HOMO-LUMO images) of all the compounds



Fig. S38. Computed molecular orbital HOMO, LUMO, HOMO-1 and LUMO+1 for 6a.



Fig. S39. Computed molecular orbital HOMO, LUMO, HOMO-1 and LUMO+1 for 6b.



Fig. S40. Computed molecular orbital HOMO, LUMO, HOMO-1 and LUMO+1 for 6c.



Fig. S41. Computed molecular orbital HOMO, LUMO, HOMO-1 and LUMO+1 for 6d.



Fig. S42. Computed molecular orbital HOMO, LUMO, HOMO-1 and LUMO+1 for 6e.



Fig. S43. Computed molecular orbital HOMO, LUMO, HOMO-1 and LUMO+1 for 6f.



Fig. S44. Computed molecular orbital HOMO, LUMO, HOMO-1 and LUMO+1 for 6g.



Fig. S45. Computed molecular orbital HOMO, LUMO, HOMO-1 and LUMO+1 for 6h.



Fig. S46. Computed molecular orbital HOMO, LUMO, HOMO-1 and LUMO+1 for 6i.



Fig. S47. Computed molecular orbital HOMO, LUMO, HOMO-1 and LUMO+1 for 6j.



Fig. S48. Computed molecular orbital HOMO, LUMO, HOMO-1 and LUMO+1 for 6k.



Fig. S49. Computed molecular orbital HOMO, LUMO, HOMO-1 and LUMO+1 for 6I.

**Table S3.** Computed values of vertical excitations, oscillator strength (*f*), assignment,HOMO, LUMO and energy band gap for **6a-l**.

Entry	$\lambda_{max}$	f	Assignment (%)	НОМО	LUMO	Eg
	( <b>nm</b> )			(eV)	(eV)	(eV)
6a	408	0.4489	HOMO →LUMO (96%)	-5.41	-1.99	3.42
6b	394	0.1224	HOMO→LUMO (96%)	-5.90	-2.16	3.74

6с	395	0.1143	HOMO→LUMO (98%)	-5.92	-2.18	3.74
6d	391	0.1072	HOMO→LUMO (97%)	-5.87	-2.08	3.79
6e	398	0.1022	HOMO→LUMO (98%)	-5.90	-2.18	3.72
6f	407	0.4616	HOMO→LUMO (90%)	-5.70	-2.28	3.42
6g	398	0.1118	HOMO →LUMO (97%)	-5.82	-2.11	3.71
6h	390	0.1345	HOMO→LUMO (98%)	-5.89	-2.14	3.75
6i	386	0.1395	HOMO→LUMO (90%)	-6.10	-2.28	3.82
6ј	392	0.1429	HOMO→LUMO (97%)	-5.87	-2.16	3.71
6k	393	0.1022	HOMO →LUMO (98%)	-5.98	-2.11	3.87
61	381	0.1485	HOMO→LUMO (90%)	-5.78	-1.97	3.81





Fig. S50. Cell viability assessment of 6a-I in 3T3-L1 adipocytes at different concentration.

<sup>1</sup>H & <sup>13</sup>C NMR Spectra of Compounds 6a-l



Fig S52. <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of 6a in CDCl<sub>3</sub>



Fig. S54. <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of 6b in CDCl<sub>3</sub>



Fig. S56. <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of 6c in CDCl<sub>3</sub>



Fig. S58. <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of 6d in CDCl<sub>3</sub>



Fig. S60. <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of 6e in CDCl<sub>3</sub>



Fig. S62. <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of 6f in CDCl<sub>3</sub>



Fig. S64. <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of 6g in CDCl<sub>3</sub>



Fig. S66. <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of 6h in CDCl<sub>3</sub>



Fig. S68. <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of 6i in CDCl<sub>3</sub>



Fig. S70. <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of 6j in CDCl<sub>3</sub>



Fig.S72. <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of 6k in CDCl<sub>3</sub>



Fig. S74. <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of 6l in CDCl<sub>3</sub>