

Supporting information

General Procedures

All experimental manipulations were carried out under a dry nitrogen or argon atmosphere, using standard Schlenk techniques unless otherwise stated. Solvents were dried and distilled prior to use by conventional methods. The precursors *cis*-[(^tBuNH)₂(μ-N^tBuP)₂],¹ *cis*-[(MeNC₄H₈N)₂(μ-N^tBuP)₂],² *cis*-[(μ-N^tBuP)₂(OCH₂CH₂NMe₂)₂],³ *trans*-[(μ-N^tBuPO)₂(SeCH₂CH₂NMe₂)₂]⁴ and [(Me₂S)AuCl]⁵ were prepared according to the literature procedures. The ¹H and ³¹P{¹H} NMR (δ in ppm) spectra were obtained on a Varian VXR 400 spectrometer operating at frequencies of 400 and 162 MHz, respectively. The tetramethylsilane and 85% H₃PO₄ were used as internal and external standards for ¹H and ³¹P{¹H} NMR respectively. Positive shifts lie downfield of the standard in all the cases. Microanalyses were carried out on a Carlo Erba Model 1106 elemental analyzer. Melting points of all compounds were determined on Veego melting point apparatus and are uncorrected.

Synthesis of *cis*-[{^tBuN(H)P(μ-N^tBu)₂P(CH₃)N(H)^tBu}(I)] (2).

To a solution of *cis*-[(^tBuNH)₂(μ-N^tBuP)₂] (0.50 g, 1.43 mmol) in petroleum ether (10 mL) added 1 mL of MeI also in petroleum ether (15 mL) dropwise over a period of 10 minutes at room temperature during which time the solution turns turbid. The reaction mixture was heated under reflux condition for 2 h. The solution was brought to room temperature and the product was separated by filtration. The product was washed several times with cold petroleum ether and dissolved in dichloromethane, layered with 2 mL of petroleum ether, and placed at -25 °C for 18 h to afford **1** as white crystalline compound. Yield: 90% (0.633 g, 1.29 mmol). Mp: 198-200 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, δ):

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7.05 (d, $^2J_{\text{PH}} = 14.4$ Hz, *NH*, 1H), 2.30 (d, $^2J_{\text{PH}} = 13.2$ Hz, *NH*, 1H), 1.65 (s, *CH*₃, 3H), 1.60 (s, *tBu*, 9H), 1.34 (s, *tBu*, 18H), 1.32 (s, *tBu*, 9H). $^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (161.8 MHz, CDCl_3 , δ): 80.4 (s), 19.6 (s). Anal. Calcd. for $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{41}\text{N}_4\text{P}_2\text{I}$: C, 41.63; H, 8.42; N, 11.42%. Found: C, 41.47; H, 8.58; N, 11.72%.

Synthesis of *cis*-[$\{(\text{Me}_2\text{NC}_4\text{H}_8\text{N})\text{P}(\mu\text{-N}^t\text{Bu})_2\text{P}(\text{CH}_3)(\text{NC}_4\text{H}_8\text{NMe}_2)\}(\text{I})_3$] (4).

Added 2 mL of MeI in 15 mL of dichloromethane to a stirred solution of *cis*-[$(\mu\text{-N}^t\text{BuP})_2(\text{NC}_4\text{H}_8\text{NMe}_2)_2$] (0.90 g, 2.23 mmol) in 10 mL of dichloromethane over a period of 10 min. The clear solution turns turbid immediately after the addition of methyl iodide. The reaction mixture was allowed to stir at room temperature for further 4 h during which time the compounds get precipitated. The residue was separated by filtration, was washed several times with dichloromethane and dried under vacuum to afford **2** as white crystalline solid. Yield: 85% (1.57 g, 1.90 mmol). Mp: 212-214 °C. ^1H NMR (400 MHz, D_2O , δ): 3.80-3.29 (m, *C*₄*H*₈, 16H), 3.27 (s, *NMe*₂, 6H), 3.19 (s, *NMe*₂, 6H), 1.38 (s, *tBu*, 18H), 1.37 (s, *CH*₃, 3H). $^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (161.8 MHz, D_2O , δ): 87.1 (s), 35.1 (s). Anal. Calcd. for $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{49}\text{P}_2\text{N}_6\text{I}_3$: C, 30.45; H, 5.96; N, 10.15%. Found: C, 30.86; H, 5.68; N, 10.72%.

Synthesis of *cis*-[$\{(\mu\text{-N}^t\text{BuP})_2(\text{OCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{NMe}_3)_2\}(\text{I})_2$] (6).

In a manner identical to that used for the synthesis of **7**, *cis*-[$(\mu\text{-N}^t\text{BuP})_2(\text{OCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{NMe}_2)_2$] (1.12 g, 2.94 mmol) and MeI of 3 mL were allowed to react. Yield: 95% (1.86 g, 2.79 mmol). Mp: 148-150 °C. ^1H NMR (400 MHz, D_2O , δ): 4.35 (t, $J_{\text{HH}} = 9.8$ Hz, *OCH*₂, 4H), δ 3.62 (t, $J_{\text{HH}} = 8.4$ Hz, *NCH*₂, 4H), 3.21 (s, *Nme*, 18H), 1.31 (s, *tBu*, 18H). $^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$ NMR (161.8 MHz, D_2O , δ): 132.9 (s). Anal. Calcd. for $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{44}\text{N}_4\text{P}_2\text{O}_2\text{I}_2$: C, 32.54; H, 6.67; N, 8.43%. Found: C, 32.86; H, 6.86; N, 8.72%.

Synthesis of *cis*-[^tBuN(H)P(AuI)(μ -N^tBu)₂P(CH₃)N(H)^tBu}(Cl)] (7).

To a solution of *cis*-[^tBuN(H)P(μ -N^tBu)₂P(CH₃)N(H)^tBu}(I)] (0.034 g, 0.069 mmol) in 4 mL of dichloromethane added a solution of [(Me₂S)AuCl] (0.020 g, 0.069 mmol) also in dichloromethane (8 mL) at room temperature. The reaction mixture was stirred for 4 h. The clear solution obtained was concentrated to a small bulk under reduced pressure and layered with petroleum ether to get **11** as colorless crystalline solid. Yield: 85% (0.043 g, 0.059 mmol). Mp: 190-192 °C (dec). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, δ): 8.11 (d, ²J_{PH} = 9.6 Hz, NH, 1H), 2.23 (d, ²J_{PH} = 15.2 Hz, NH, 1H), 1.69 (s, CH₃, 3H), 1.63 (s, ^tBu, 18H), 1.60 (s, ^tBu, 9H), 1.52 (s, ^tBu, 9H). ³¹P{¹H} NMR (161.8 MHz, CDCl₃, δ): 82.4 (s), 30.0 (d, ²J_{PP} = 5.5 Hz). ES (EI): 687.1 (m/e – Cl). Anal. Calcd. for C₁₇H₄₁N₄P₂AuCl : C, 28.24; H, 5.71; N, 7.75%. Found: C, 27.91; H, 5.88; N, 7.43%.

Synthesis of *cis*-[^t(Me₂NC₄H₈N)P(AuI)(μ -N^tBu)₂P(CH₃)(NC₄H₈NMe₂)}(I)₂(Cl)] (8).

To a solution of *cis*-[^t(Me₂NC₄H₈N)P(μ -N^tBu)₂P(CH₃)(NC₄H₈NMe₂)}(I)₃] (0.034 g, 0.041 mmol) in 6 mL of methanol was added a solution of [(Me₂S)AuCl] (0.012 g, 0.041 mmol) in dichloromethane (4 mL). The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 4 h. All the volatiles were removed under vacuum and the residue obtained was extracted with 5 mL dichloromethane and cooled to 0 °C to afford **6** as analytically pure crystalline solid. Yield: 78% (0.034 g, 0.0319 mmol). Mp: 190-192 °C (dec). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d₆): δ 3.66-3.44 (m, C₄H₈, 16H), 2.44 (s, NMe₂, 6H), 2.43 (s, NMe₂, 6H), 1.52 (s, CH₃, 3H), 1.36 (s, ^tBu, 18H). ³¹P{¹H} NMR (161.8 MHz, DMSO-d₆): δ 88.5 (s), 37.7 (s). Anal. Calcd. for C₂₁H₄₉P₂N₆AuClI₃: C, 23.77; H, 4.65; N, 7.92%. Found: C, 23.58; H, 5.96; N, 8.51%.

Synthesis of *cis*-[$\{\mu\text{-N}^t\text{BuP}\}_2(\text{OCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{NMe}_3)_2\text{Au}_2\text{I}_2\}\text{(Cl)}_2$] (9**).**

In a manner identical to that used for the synthesis of **12**, *cis*-[$\{\mu\text{-N}^t\text{BuP}\}_2(\text{OCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{NMe}_3)_2\}\text{(I)}_2$] (0.025 g, 0.038 mmol) and [(Me₂S)AuCl] (0.022 g, 0.075 mmol) were allowed to react. Yield: 88% (0.038 g, 0.034 mmol). Mp: 168-170 °C (dec). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, D₂O, δ): 4.70 (t, *J*_{HH} = 8.2 Hz, *OCH*₂, 4H), 3.82 (t, *J*_{HH} = 9.6 Hz, *NCH*₂, 4H), 3.18 (s, *Nme*, 18H), 1.57 (s, *tBu*, 18H). ³¹P{¹H} NMR (161.8 MHz, DMSO-d₆, δ): 110.3 (s). Anal. Calcd. for C₁₈H₄₄N₄P₂O₂Au₂Cl₂I₂: C, 19.14; H, 3.92; N, 4.96%. Found: C, 19.25; H, 3.78; N, 4.72%.

Cell culture and cell proliferation assay.

HeLa cells were grown in minimal essential medium (Hi Media, Mumbai) supplemented with 10 % (v/v) fetal bovine serum and sodium bicarbonate (2.0 mg/mL) in the presence of antibiotics.⁶ HCT-116 (Human colon carcinoma cell line containing wild type p53) cells were grown in DMEM containing 10% (v/v) fetal bovine serum and sodium bicarbonate (2.0 mg/mL) in the presence of antibiotics. The effects of different compounds on HeLa cell proliferation were determined in 96-well tissue culture plates by SRB assay. DMSO (0.1 %) alone was used as a vehicle control.

Immunofluorescence microscopy.

HCT-116 cells (6 X 10⁴ cells/mL) were seeded on glass coverslips in 24- well tissue culture plates and treated with different drugs dissolved in 100 % DMSO. The final DMSO concentration in all the experiments was 0.1 %. After 24 h of the drug treatment, cells were fixed in 3.7 % formaldehyde for 30 minutes at 25 °C and processed for immunofluorescence microscopy to visualize p53.⁷ The processed coverslips were observed by using a 40 X objective in a Nikon Eclipse TE 2000U microscope

(Kanagawa, Japan). The images were analyzed by using Image Pro-Plus software (Media Cybernetics, Silver Spring, MD).

Annexin V/Propidium iodide staining.

HeLa cells (6×10^4 cells/mL) were seeded on glass coverslips in 24- well tissue culture plates. Twenty four hours after seeding the old media was replaced with fresh media containing no compound or 20 μ M of compound 411 and 320 and incubated for an additional 24 h. The cells were then centrifuged in a Labofuge 400R cytospin (Heraeus, Hanau/Germany) for 10 min to attach the floating cells on the coverslips. The cells were stained using the annexin V apoptosis kit (Santa Cruz Biotechnology, CA, USA) according to the instructions provided with the kit and observed immediately using the Nikon Eclipse TE-2000 U microscope.⁸

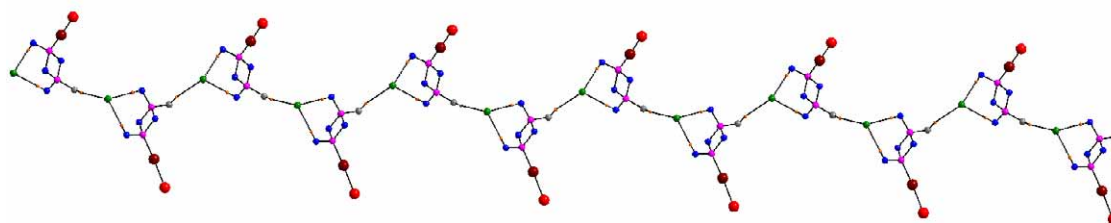


Fig 1. Ball and stick representation of one-dimensional polymeric sheet like structure of **7** due to inter- and intramolecular hydrogen bonding.

Table 1 Crystallographic Data for **2** and **7**

	2	7
formula	C ₁₇ H ₄₁ N ₄ P ₂ , I	C ₁₇ H ₄₁ AuIN ₄ P ₂ , Cl
fw	490.38	722.80
crystal system	Orthorhombic	Monoclinic
space group	Pbca (No. 61)	P2 ₁ /a (No. 14)
<i>a</i> , Å	14.090(3)	15.5625(7)
<i>b</i> , Å	25.9449(18)	11.9084(13)
<i>c</i> , Å	27.452(3)	15.895(2)
<i>α</i> , deg	90	90
<i>β</i> , deg	90	118.376(3)
<i>γ</i> , deg	90	90
<i>V</i> , Å ³	10036(3)	2591.9(5)
<i>Z</i>	16	4
<i>ρ</i> _{calc} , g cm ⁻³	1.298	1.852
<i>μ</i> (MoKa), mm ⁻¹	1.411	7.104
<i>F</i> (000)	4064	1400
crystal size mm ³	0.09 × 0.16 × 0.33	0.21 × 0.26 × 0.33
<i>T</i> , K	150	293
2 <i>θ</i> range, deg	3.0, 25.0	3.1, 25.0
Total no. reflns	61951	14699
No. of indep. reflns	8818, [R _(int) = 0.060]	4359, [R _(int) = 0.085]
R1 ^a	0.0296	0.0432
wR2 ^b	0.0606	0.1229
GOF (F ²)	0.831	1.071

$$^a R = \sum |F_o| - |F_c| / \sum |F_o|$$

$$^b wR_2 = \{ [\sum w(F_o^2 - F_c^2) / \sum w(F_o^2)^2] \}^{1/2}; w = 1 / [\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (xP)^2] \text{ where } P = (F_o^2 + 2F_c^2) / 3$$

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