

## Supplementary Materials

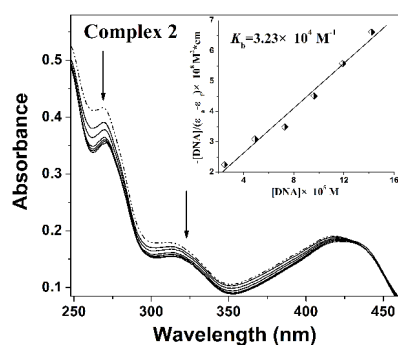
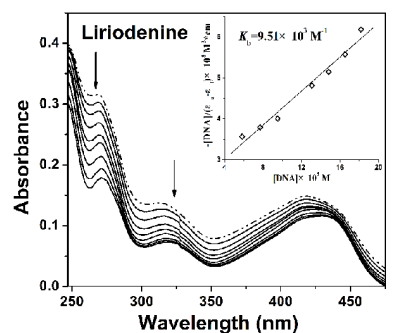
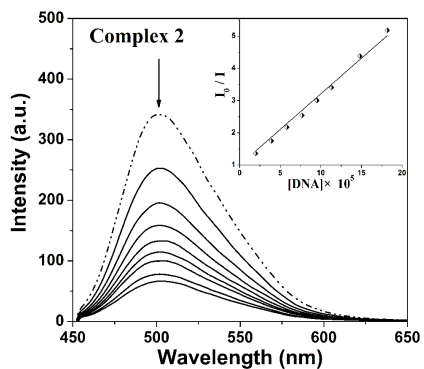
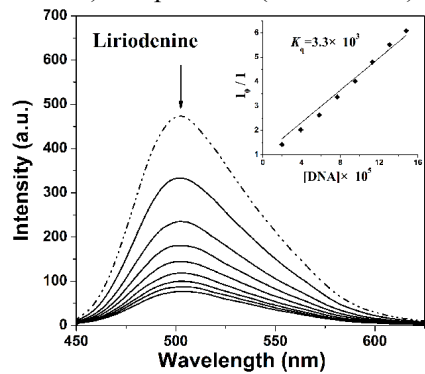


Fig.S1 UV-Vis absorption spectra of liriodenine (**L**) and complex **2**, **3** in the absence (dashed line ----) and presence (solid line —) of ct-DNA with increasing concentrations.



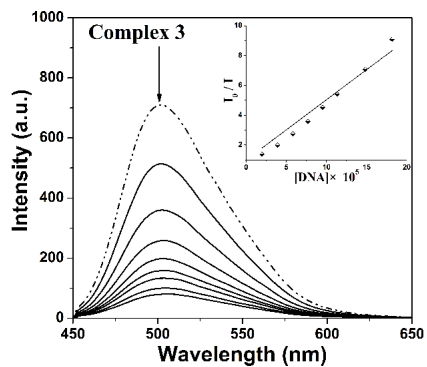


Fig.S2 Fluorescence emission spectra of **L** and complex **2**, **3** in the absence (dashed line ----) and presence (solid line —) of ct-DNA with increasing concentrations

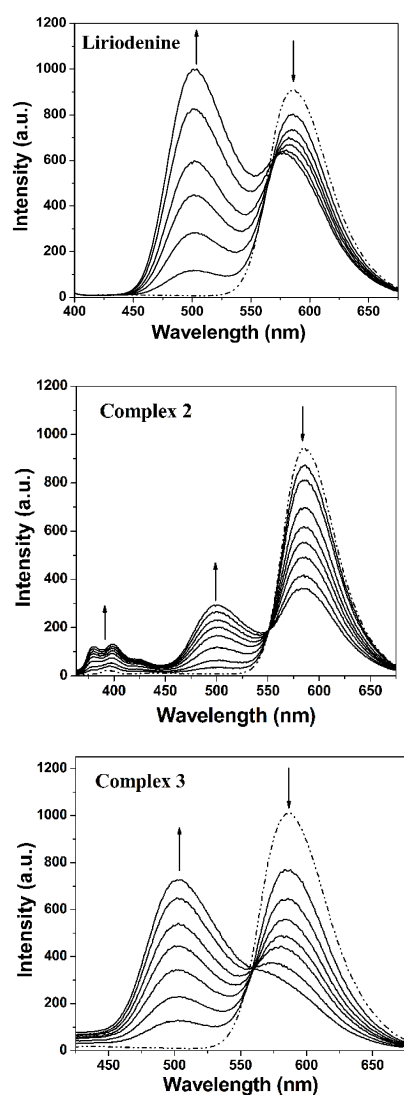


Fig.S3 Fluorescence emission spectra of EB binding with ct-DNA in the absence (dashed line ----) and presence (solid line —) of **L** and complex **2**, **3** as competitive agents.

Table S1 Inhibition rate of four metallic salts as starting materials against 10 tumor cell lines

	Inhibition rate (%) <sup>a</sup>									
	CNE1	CNE2	HT29	HCT116	NIC-460	7860	BEL7404	HePG2	MCF-7	MGC803
MnCl <sub>2</sub> ·4H <sub>2</sub> O	-4.63 <sup>b</sup>	14.12	14.65	15.43	12.45	9.72	1.92	15.65	18.15	39.25
FeCl <sub>2</sub> ·4H <sub>2</sub> O	-32.57	-52.45	24.38	40.93	7.29	12.81	47.06	48.81	36.36	2.38
CoCl <sub>2</sub> ·6H <sub>2</sub> O	81.11	21.75	41.88	40.57	7.01	25.31	28.94	48.23	46.7	40.7
ZnCl <sub>2</sub>	21.60	34.90	23.63	20.32	10.11	25.26	28.16	26.96	36.91	43.67

<sup>a</sup> Inhibition rates of all metallic salts were identically tested at 10 µg/mL;

<sup>b</sup> negative value means no cell growth inhibition, but refers to cell growth promotion rate.