

Supporting Information

3-Hydroxyflavones vs. 3-Hydroxyquinolinones: Structure-Activity Relationships and Stability Studies on Ru^{II}(arene) Anticancer Complexes with Biologically Active Ligands

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1.1. Solution equilibria: General formulae and definitions of formation equilibria

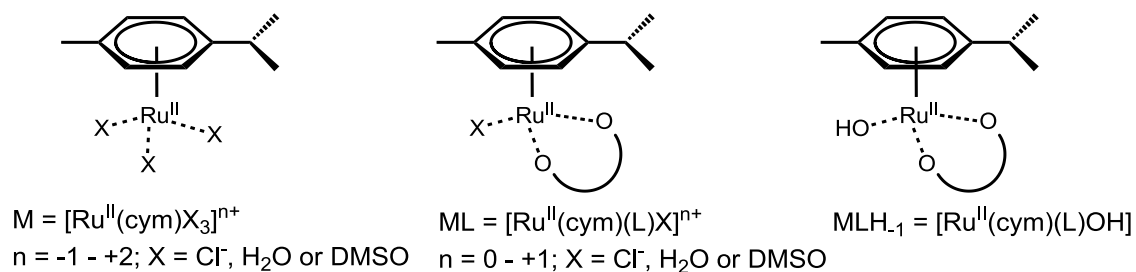


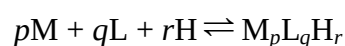
Figure S1. General formulae of the ruthenium(II)- η^6 -*p*-cymene complexes

Definition of the stability constants of the metal complexes and equilibria

General formula:

$M = [Ru^{II}(cym)X_3]^{n+}$; L = deprotonated form of the ligand (L^-); $H = H^+$ (charges were omitted for simplicity).

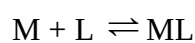
$$\beta(M_pL_qH_r) = [M_pL_qH_r]/[M]^p[L]^q[H]^r$$



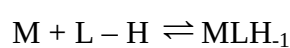
Constant:

Equilibrium:

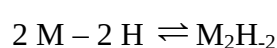
$$\beta(ML \text{ or } [Ru^{II}(cym)(L)X]) = [ML]/[M][L]$$



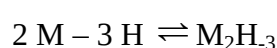
$$\beta(MLH_{-1} \text{ or } [Ru^{II}(cym)(L)OH]) = [MLH_{-1}]/[M][L][H]^{-1}$$



$$\beta(M_2H_2 \text{ or } [(Ru^{II}(cym))_2(OH)_2]) = [M_2H_2]/[M]^2[H]^{-2}$$



$$\beta(M_2H_3 \text{ or } [(Ru^{II}(cym))_2(OH)_3]) = [M_2H_3]/[M]^2[H]^{-3}$$



(H_x = deprotonation of a coordinated water molecule)

1.2. Fluorescence spectra of ligand **b** and complex **2** in aqueous solution

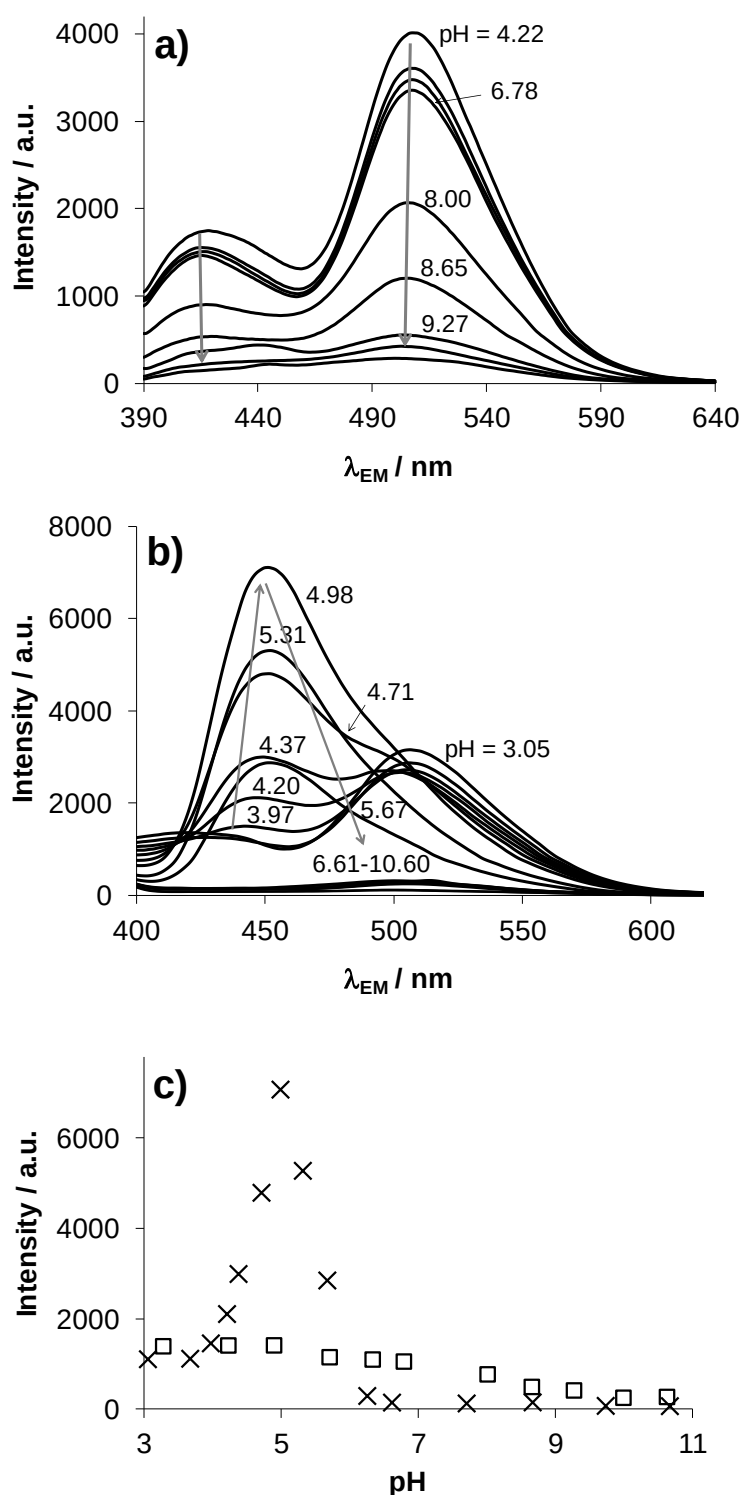


Figure S2. (a) pH-Dependent fluorescence emission spectra of ligand **b** ($c = 1.5 \times 10^{-5}$ M) and (b) of complex **2** ($c = 1.5 \times 10^{-5}$ M). (c) pH-dependent intensity changes at 448 nm of the ligand ($\square$) and the complex ($\times$) { $T = 25$ °C; $I = 0.20$ M (KCl); $\lambda_{EX} = 342$ nm; PTM = 700 V; Slits: 10/10 nm, in H_2O }.

1.3. Measured and calculated UV-vis absorbance spectra and concentration distribution curves of the $\text{Ru}^{\text{II}}(\text{cym})/\text{ligand b}$ system

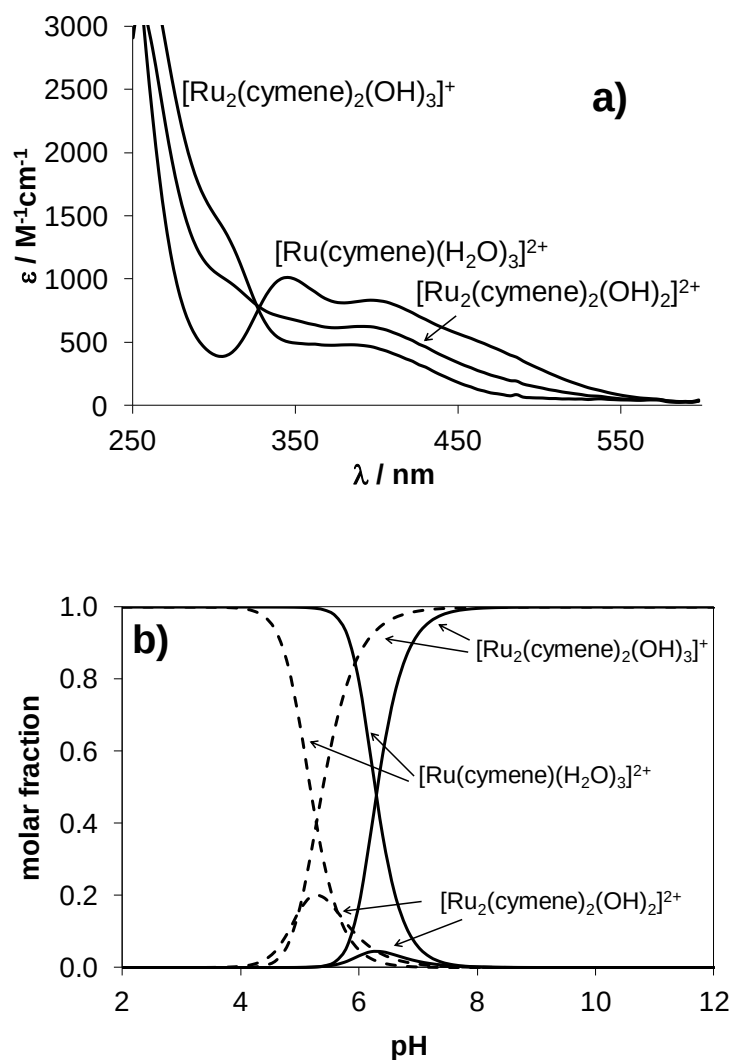


Figure S3. (a) Calculated individual UV-vis absorbance spectra of the species of $[\text{Ru}^{\text{II}}(\text{cym})\text{X}_3]^{n+}$ divided by the number of Ru^{II} in each species in the DMSO/H₂O mixture; (b) Concentration distribution curves of the $[\text{Ru}^{\text{II}}(\text{cym})\text{X}_3]^{n+}$ system at a wide range of pH values in the DMSO/H₂O mixture at $c_{\text{Ru}} = 1.8 \times 10^{-4} \text{ M}$ and for comparison speciation in pure aqueous solution (dashed lines) $\{T = 25 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}; I = 0.20 \text{ M (KCl); 20\% (w/w) DMSO/H}_2\text{O}\}$.

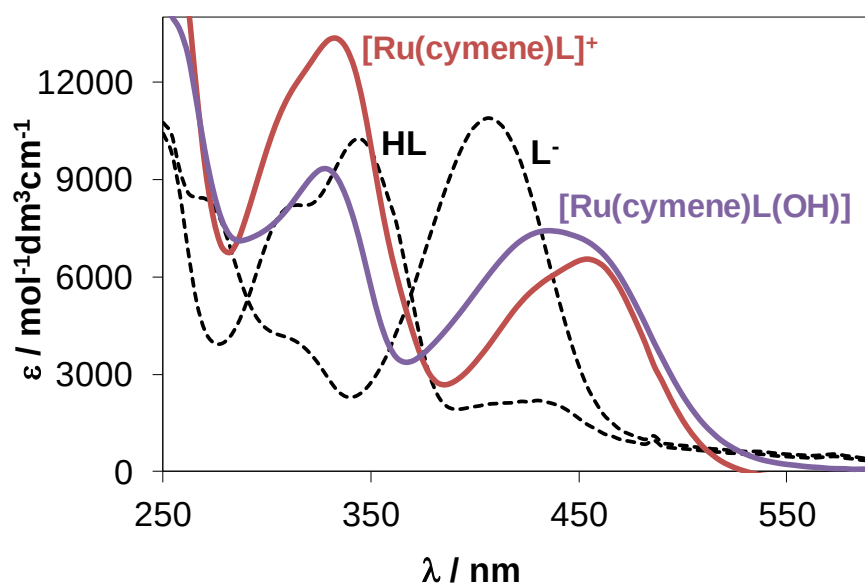


Figure S4. Calculated individual UV-vis absorbance spectra of the species formed in the $\text{Ru}^{\text{II}}(\text{cym})$ -ligand **b** system $\{T = 25\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}; I = 0.20\text{ M (KCl)}; 20\% \text{ (w/w) DMSO/H}_2\text{O}\}$.

1.4. NMR studies on the stability of **12** in aqueous solution

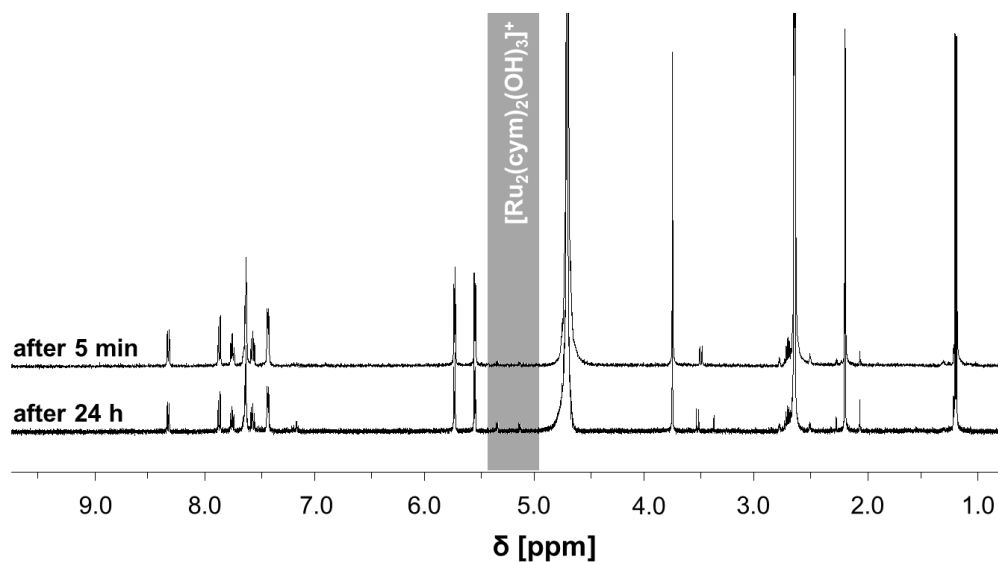


Figure S5. ^1H NMR spectra of **12** in 10% d_6 -DMSO/ D_2O after 5 min and 24 h.

1.5. ^1H NMR spectroscopy studies on the interaction of **12'** with 5'-GMP

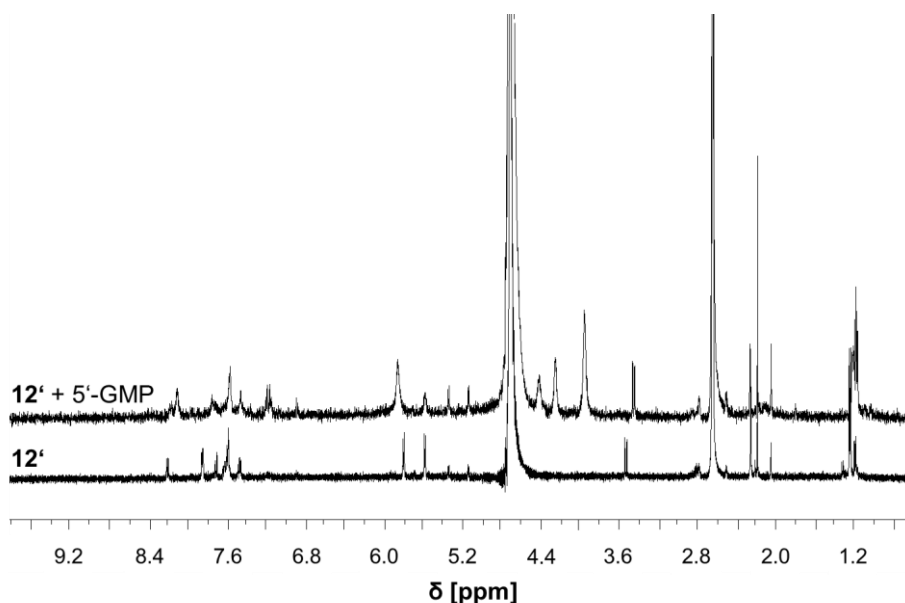


Figure S6. ^1H NMR spectra of **12'** and **12'** incubated with an excess of 5'-GMP in 10% d_6 -DMSO/ D_2O . The reaction of **12'** with 5'-GMP is indicated by the upfield shift of the N7 atom of 5'-GMP from approximately $\delta = 8.1$ (free 5'-GMP) to 7.6 ppm (bound 5'-GMP) after addition of 5'-GMP in excess.

1.6. Reactions of **1'**, **12'** and **13'** with amino acids

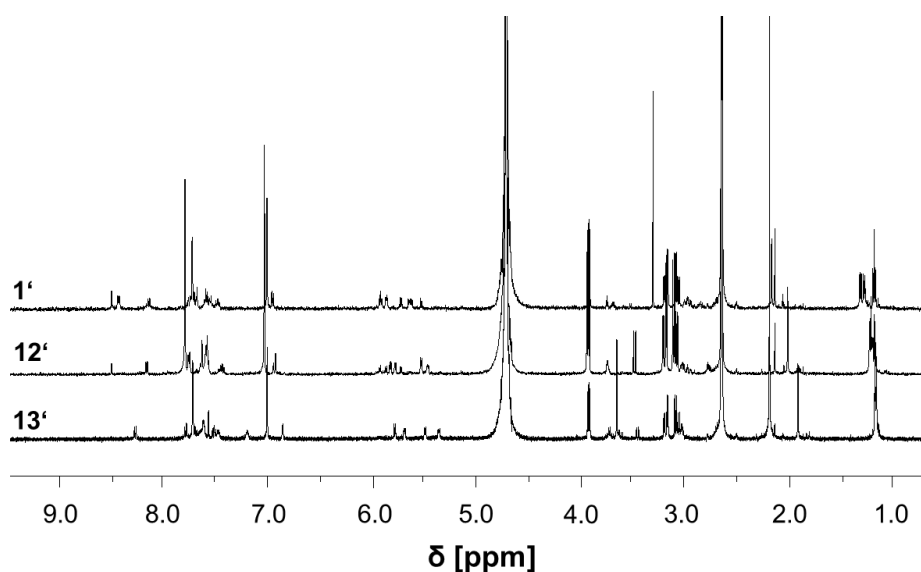


Figure S7. ^1H NMR spectra of the reactions of **1'**, **12'** and **13'** with an equimolar amount of L-histidine after 5 min.

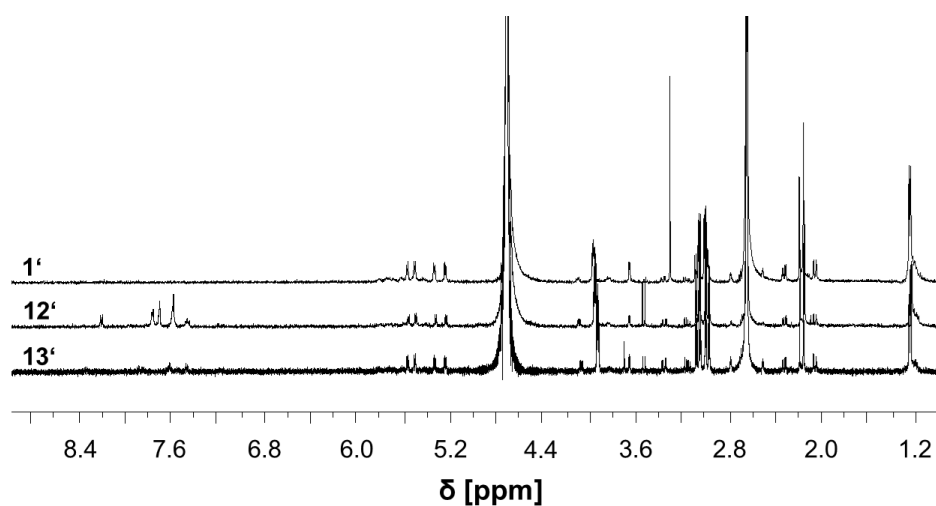


Figure S8. ^1H NMR spectra of the reactions of 1', 12' and 13' with an equimolar amount of L-cysteine after 5 min.

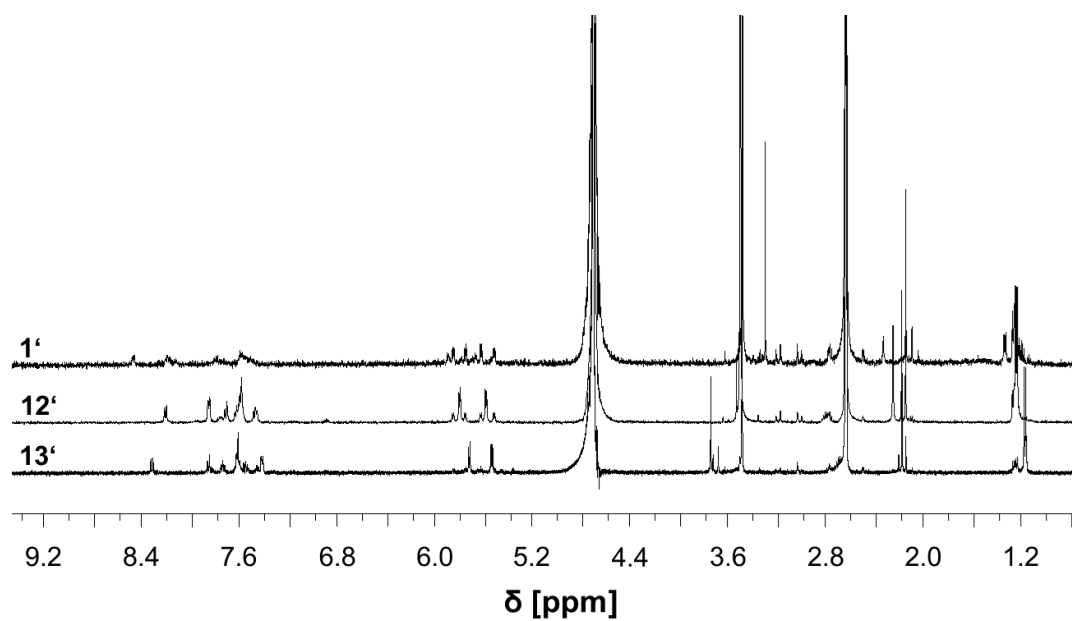


Figure S9. ^1H NMR spectra of the reactions of 1', 12' and 13' with an equimolar amount of glycine after 5 min.

1.7. The reactions of 12' with amino acids

1.7.1 Reaction of 12' with an equimolar amount of L-methionine

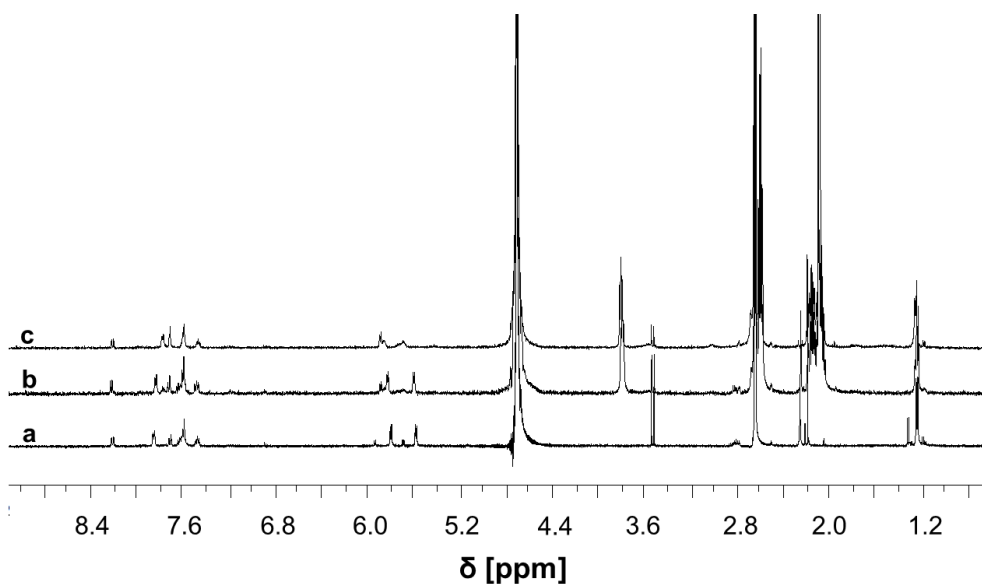


Figure S10. ¹H NMR spectra of a) 12', b) 12' + 1 eq L-methionine after 5 min and c) after 24 h.

1.7.2 Reaction of 12' with an equimolar amount of L-histidine

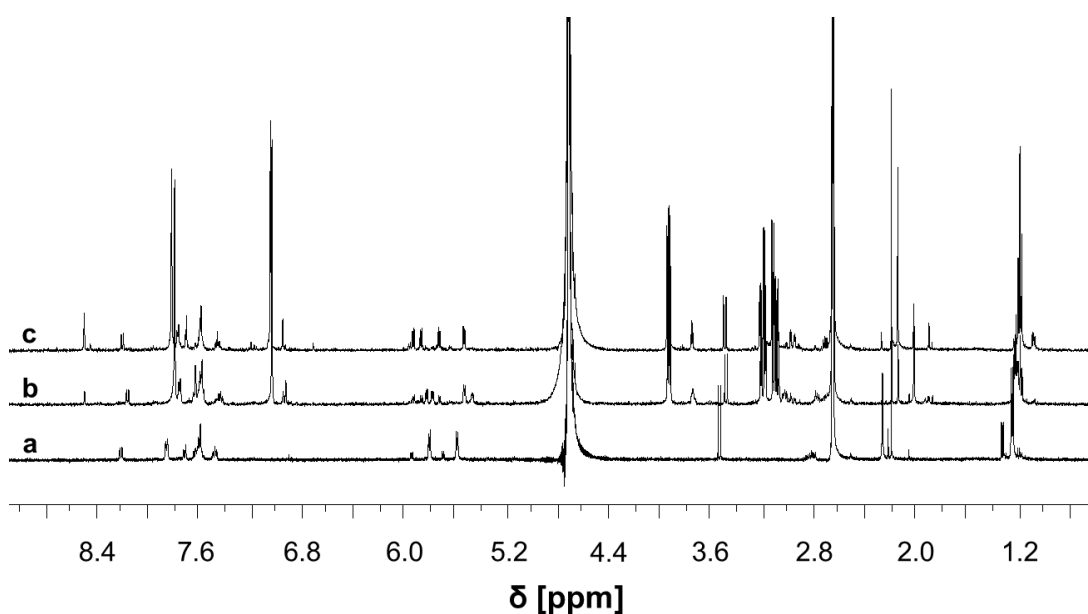


Figure S11. ¹H NMR spectra of a) 12', b) 12' + 1 eq L-histidine after 5 min and c) after 24 h.

1.7.3 Reaction of 12' with an equimolar amount of glycine

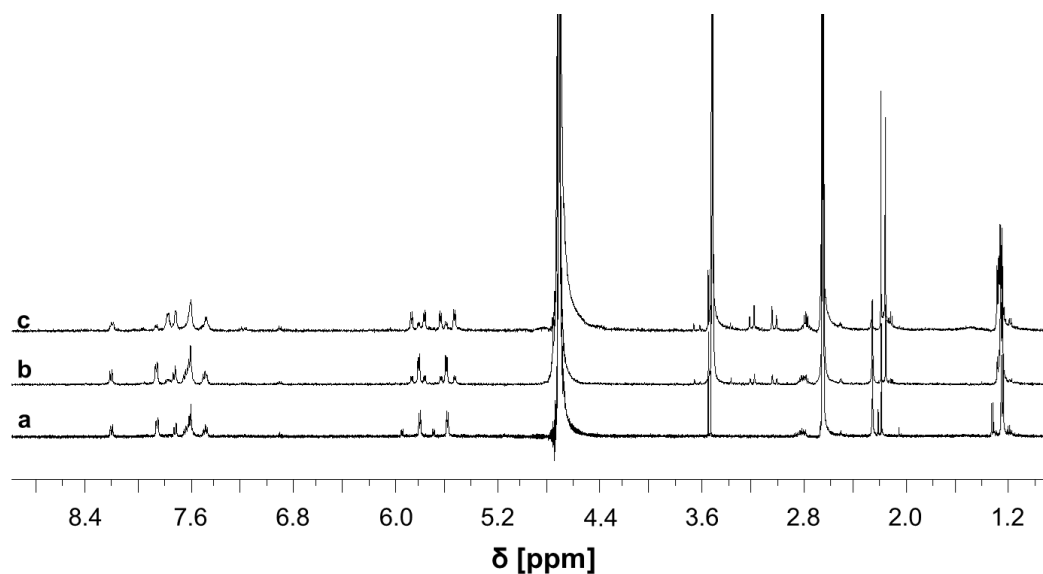


Figure S12. ¹H NMR spectra of a) 12', b) 12' + 1 eq glycine after 5 min and c) after 24 h.

1.7.4 Reaction of 12' with an equimolar amount of L-cysteine

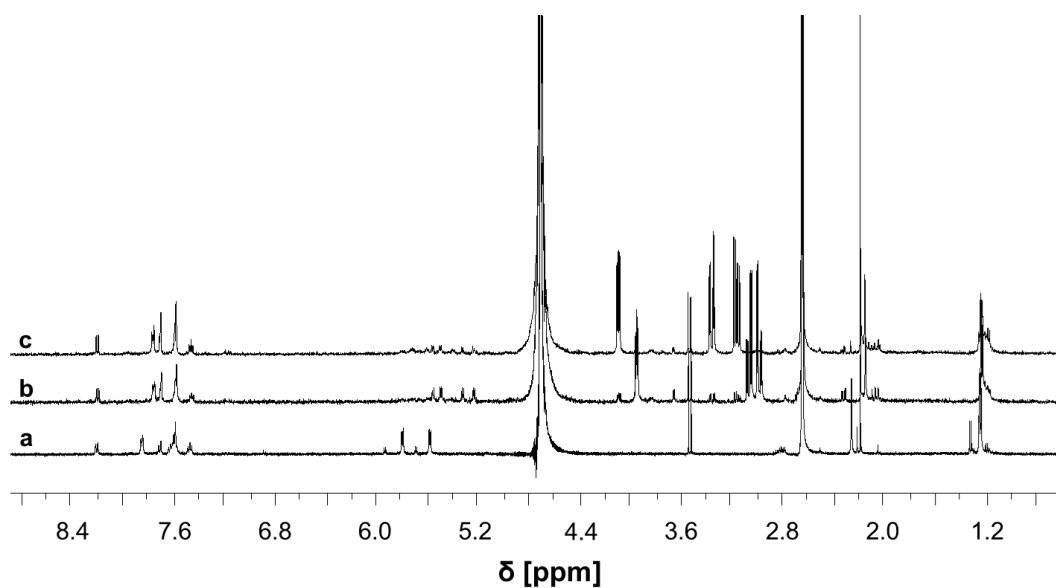


Figure S12. ¹H NMR spectra of a) 12', b) 12' + 1 eq L-cysteine after 5 min and c) after 24 h.