Electronic Supplementary Information for:

## Selective recognition of anionic cell membranes using targeted

#### liposomes coated with zinc(II)-bis(dipicolylamine) affinity units

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# **1. Spectroscopic Data for Prepared Compounds**

# 1.1. (5-hydroxy-1,3-phenylene)dimethanol (2)





## 1. 3. Ethyl 4-(3,5-Bis(bromomethyl)phenoxy)butanoate (4)



# 1.4. Ethyl 4-(3,5-Bis((bis(pyridin-2-ylmethyl)amino)methyl)phenoxy)butanoate (5)



1.5. 4-(3,5-Bis((bis(pyridin-2-ylmethyl)ammonio)methyl)phenoxy)butanoate chloride (6)













# **2. DLS Intensity PSD Plots**



**Figure ESI-1:** Intensity PSD plot for  $Zn_2BDPA-PEG_{2000}$ -DSPE:Chol:POPC (2.5:30:67.5 mol:mol:mol) liposomes. Measurements done in triplicate.



**Figure ESI-2:** Intensity PSD plot for  $Zn_2BDPA-PEG_{500}$ -DSPE:Chol:POPC (2.5:30:67.5 mol:mol:mol) liposomes. Measurements done in triplicate.

# **3. Supplemental Photographs of Cuvette Experiments**

**Figure ESI-3:** Photograph for: **A**: 250  $\mu$ l Zn<sub>2</sub>BDPA-PEG<sub>2000</sub>-DSPE:Cholesterol:POPC (2.5:30:67.5) liposome stock dispersion + 750  $\mu$ l HEPES buffer; **K**: 250  $\mu$ l DPPG:Cholesterol:POPC (10:30:60) liposome stock dispersion + 730  $\mu$ l HEPES buffer + 20  $\mu$ l 10 mM Zn(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub> in HEPES; **L**: 250  $\mu$ l Zn<sub>2</sub>BDPA-PEG<sub>2000</sub>-DSPE:Cholesterol:POPC (2.5:30:67.5) liposome stock dispersion + 250  $\mu$ l DPPG:Cholesterol:POPC (10:30:60) liposome stock dispersion + 500  $\mu$ l HEPES buffer.



**Figure ESI-4:** Photograph for: **A**: 250  $\mu$ l Zn<sub>2</sub>BDPA-PEG<sub>2000</sub>-DSPE:Cholesterol:POPC (2.5:30:67.5) liposome stock dispersion + 750  $\mu$ l HEPES buffer; **M**: 250  $\mu$ l Cholesterol:POPC (30:70) liposome stock dispersion + 730  $\mu$ l HEPES buffer + 20  $\mu$ l 10 mM Zn(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub> in HEPES; **N**: 250  $\mu$ l Zn<sub>2</sub>BDPA-PEG<sub>2000</sub>-DSPE:Cholesterol:POPC (2.5:30:67.5) liposome stock dispersion + 250  $\mu$ l Cholesterol:POPC (30:70) liposome stock dispersion + 500  $\mu$ l HEPES buffer.



**Figure ESI-4:** Photograph for: **A**: 250  $\mu$ l Zn<sub>2</sub>BDPA-PEG<sub>2000</sub>-DSPE:Cholesterol:POPC (2.5:30:67.5) liposome stock dispersion + 750  $\mu$ l HEPES buffer; **L**: 250  $\mu$ l Zn<sub>2</sub>BDPA-PEG<sub>2000</sub>-DSPE:Cholesterol:POPC (2.5:30:67.5) liposome stock dispersion + 250  $\mu$ l DPPG:Cholesterol:POPC (10:30:60) liposome stock dispersion + 500  $\mu$ l HEPES buffer; **N**: 250  $\mu$ l Zn<sub>2</sub>BDPA-PEG<sub>2000</sub>-DSPE:Cholesterol:POPC (2.5:30:67.5) diposome stock dispersion + 250  $\mu$ l Cholesterol:POPC (2.5:30:67.5) liposome stock dispersion + 250  $\mu$ l Cholesterol:POPC (2.5:30:67.5) liposome stock dispersion + 250  $\mu$ l Cholesterol:POPC (30:70) liposome stock dispersion + 500  $\mu$ l HEPES buffer.



**Figure ESI-5**: Photograph for: **D**: 250 µl Zn<sub>2</sub>BDPA-PEG<sub>2000</sub>-DSPE:mPEG<sub>2000</sub>-DSPE:Cholesterol:POPC (2.5:7.5:30:60) liposome stock dispersion + 750 µl HEPES buffer; **B**: 250 µl POPS:Cholesterol:POPC (10:30:60) liposome stock dispersion + 750 µl HEPES buffer; **E**: 250 µl Zn<sub>2</sub>BDPA-PEG<sub>2000</sub>-DSPE:mPEG<sub>2000</sub>-DSPE:Cholesterol:POPC (2.5:7.5:30:60) liposome stock dispersion + 250 µl POPS:Cholesterol:POPC (10:30:60) liposome stock dispersion + 500 µl HEPES buffer



E. Coli UTI89



S. Aureus Xen 29

**Figure ESI-6**: Representative fluorescence microscopy images of bacteria after treatment with fluorescent untargeted liposomes. No fluorescence staining of bacterial cells was observed.

# 4. Human Cell Toxicity



**Figure ESI-7:** MTT cell vitality assay. MDA-MB-231 human breast cancer cells were treated with untargeted liposomes (Cholesterol:POPC, 30:70) and Zn<sub>2</sub>BDPA coated liposomes (Zn<sub>2</sub>BDPA-PEG<sub>2000</sub>-DSPE: Cholesterol:POPC, 2:30:68) and incubated for 18 h at 37 °C.