Supplementary Information

Shining light on the stability of metal thiosemicarbazonate complexes in living cells by FLIM

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SI1: Experimental data

<u>L1</u>

¹H:



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MS:

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¹³C:



MS:







<u>CuL1</u>









EPR:

Figure S1_1: EPR of CuLI at 295K at X-band and 1mmol concentration in DMSO/ethylene glycol (4:1).







HPLC:







HPLC:



EPR

Figure S1_2 EPR of CuL2 at 210K at X-band and 1mmol concentration in DMSO/ethylene glycol (4:1).



S2 a: Fluorescence quantum yields:

Standard plots used for calculating quantum yields of L1, CuL1, NiL1, ZnL1, L2 and CuL2 in DMSO, MeOH and H₂O by relating fluorescence intensity to UV absorption (λ_{ex} = 496nm), relative to fluorescein (Φ = 0.95) as a reference

<u>L1</u>



CuL1

























H₂O



14





Figure S2_1: Overlay of UV/Vis spectra of **CuL1** in human serum after 0 (black), 1, 2, 4 and 24 h (blue) incubation in human serum. (Control: **L1** incubated in human serum for 24 h (pink))



Figure S2_2: Overlay of UV/Vis spectra of **CuL2** in human serum after 0 (black), 1, 2, 4 and 24 h (blue) incubation in human serum. (Control: **L2** incubated in human serum for 24 h (pink))

S3: Confocal Fluorescence Colocalisation studies

<u>NiL1</u>



Figure S3_1: Confocal fluorescence images of uptake of a) **NiL1** in HeLa cell line, at 10 μ M, 20 min incubation, $\lambda_{ex} = 488$ nm and b) Hoescht nucleic acid stain, 1 μ g/mL, 30 min, $\lambda_{ex} = 405$ nm with c) overlay of **NiL1** and Hoescht and d) DIC image. Confocal fluorescence images of uptake of e) **NiL1** in HeLa cell line, at 10 μ M, 20 min incubation, $\lambda_{ex} = 488$ nm and f) Lysotracker® Red DND-99, 200 nM, 60 min, $\lambda_{ex} = 543$ nm with g) overlay of **NiL1** and Lysotracker® Red and h) DIC image. Confocal fluorescence images of uptake of i) **NiL1** in HeLa cell line, at 10 μ M, 20 min incubation, $\lambda_{ex} = 488$ nm and j) ER-trackerTM Red (BODIPY® TR Glibenclamide), 1 μ M, 20 min, $\lambda_{ex} = 543$ nm; with k) overlay of **NiL1** and ER-trackerTM Red and l) DIC image.



ZnL1

Figure S3_2: Confocal fluorescence images of uptake of a) **ZnL1** in HeLa cell line, at 10 μ M, 20 min incubation, $\lambda_{ex} = 488$ nm and b) Hoescht nucleic acid stain, 1 μ g/mL, 30 min, $\lambda_{ex} = 405$ nm with c) overlay of **ZnL1** and Hoescht and d) DIC image. Confocal fluorescence images of uptake of e) **ZnL1** in HeLa cell line, at 10 μ M, 20 min incubation, $\lambda_{ex} = 488$ nm and f) Lysotracker® Red DND-99, 200 nM, 60 min, $\lambda_{ex} = 543$ nm with g) overlay of **ZnL1** and Lysotracker® Red and h) DIC image. Confocal fluorescence images of uptake of i) **ZnL1** in HeLa cell line, at 10 μ M, 20 min incubation, $\lambda_{ex} = 488$ nm and j) ER-trackerTM Red (BODIPY® TR Glibenclamide), 1 μ M, 20 min, $\lambda_{ex} = 543$ nm; with k) overlay of **ZnL1** and ER-trackerTM Red and l) DIC image.

<u>L2</u>



Figure S3_3: Confocal fluorescence images of uptake of a) **L2** in HeLa cell line, at 10 μ M, 20 min incubation, $\lambda_{ex} = 488$ nm and b) Hoescht nucleic acid stain, 1 μ g/mL, 30 min, $\lambda_{ex} = 405$ nm with c) overlay of **L2** and Hoescht and d) DIC image. Confocal fluorescence images of uptake of e) **L2** in HeLa cell line, at 10 μ M, 20 min incubation, $\lambda_{ex} = 488$ nm and f) Lysotracker® Red DND-99, 200 nM, 60 min, $\lambda_{ex} = 543$ nm with g) overlay of **L2** and Lysotracker® Red and h) DIC image. Confocal fluorescence images of uptake of i) **L2** in HeLa cell line, at 10 μ M, 20 min incubation, $\lambda_{ex} = 488$ nm and f) Lysotracker® Red and h) DIC image. Confocal fluorescence images of uptake of i) **L2** in HeLa cell line, at 10 μ M, 20 min incubation, $\lambda_{ex} = 488$ nm and j) ER-trackerTM Red (BODIPY® TR Glibenclamide), 1 μ M, 20 min, $\lambda_{ex} = 543$ nm; with k) overlay of **L2** and ER-trackerTM Red and l) DIC image.

CuL2



Figure S3_4: Confocal fluorescence images of uptake of a) **CuL2** in HeLa cell line, at 10 μ M, 20 min incubation, $\lambda_{ex} = 488$ nm and b) Hoescht nucleic acid stain, 1 μ g/mL, 30 min, $\lambda_{ex} = 405$ nm with c) overlay of **CuL2** and Hoescht and d) DIC image. Confocal fluorescence images of uptake of e) **CuL2** in HeLa cell line, at 10 μ M, 20 min incubation, $\lambda_{ex} = 488$ nm and f) Lysotracker® Red DND-99, 200 nM, 60 min, $\lambda_{ex} = 543$ nm with g) overlay of **CuL2** and Lysotracker® Red and h) DIC image. Confocal fluorescence images of uptake of i) **CuL2** in HeLa cell line, at 10 μ M, 20 min incubation, $\lambda_{ex} = 488$ nm and j) ER-trackerTM Red (BODIPY® TR Glibenclamide), 1 μ M, 20 min, $\lambda_{ex} = 543$ nm; with k) overlay of **CuL2** and ER-trackerTM Red and l) DIC image.

S4: 2P FLIM solution lifetime data

Table S1: Solution lifetime decay values for L1, ZnL1, CuL1, NiL1, L2 and CuL2 in range of solvents. Lifetimes given are an average of three separate measurements and expressed as mean average with SD. χ^2 values and % weightings are mean values of three separate measurements.

	DMSO		МеОН		DCM		Medium	
	χ ² 1.17		χ ² 1.22		$\chi^2 1.30$		χ ² 1.31	
L1	$(\tau_1) 2.47 {\pm}~ 0.13~ns$	100%	$(\tau_1)2.01 \pm 0.04 \text{ ns}$	100 %	($\tau_{l})2.52\pm0.24$ ns	100 %	$(\tau_3) 8.49 \pm 0.56 \ ns$	21.4 %
	-	-	-	-	-	-	$(\tau_2)2.41 \pm 0.21 \text{ ns}$	38.5 %
	-	-	-	-	-	-	(τ_1)0.37 ± 0.17 ns	40.1 %
	χ ² 1.27		χ ² 1.25		$\chi^2 1.31$		$\chi^2 1.24$	
ZnL1	(τ_2)1.91± 0.18 ns	65.7 %	$(\tau_2)1.79 \pm 0.07 \text{ ns}$	68.5 %	(τ_2)2.19 ± 0.03 ns	59.6 %	$(\tau_3)7.18 \pm 0.42$ ns	19.9 %
	$(\tau_1)0.65 \pm 0.12$ ns	34.3 %	$(\tau_1)0.51 \pm 0.11 \text{ ns}$	31.5 %	(τ_1)0.78 ± 0.09 ns	41.4 %	$(\tau_2)2.04 \pm 0.22 \text{ ns}$	35.2 %
	-	-	-	-	-	-	$(\tau_1)0.32 \pm 0.08 \text{ ns}$	44.9 %
	χ ² 1.28		χ ² 1.27		$\chi^2 1.31$		χ ² 1.29	
CuL1	$(\tau_2)2.89 \pm 0.31 \text{ ns}$	16.0 %	$(\tau_2)2.39 \pm 0.11$ ns	21.5 %	(τ_2)2.49 ± 0.10 ns	21.6 %	$(\tau_3)7.49 \pm 0.26$ ns	12.4 %
	(τ_1)0.11± 0.04 ns	84.0 %	(τ_1)0.091± 0.02 ns	78.5 %	(τ_1)0.078 ± 0.02 ns	79.4 %	$(\tau_2)2.18 \pm 0.41$ ns	17.7 %
	-	-	-	-	-	-	(τ_1)0.11 ±0.02 ns	69.9 %
NiL1	χ^{2} 1.08		χ ² 1.17		χ ² 1.15		-	
	(τ_2)3.22 ± 0.12 ns	14.0 %	$(\tau_2)3.17 \pm 0.15 \text{ ns}$	15.6 %	$(\tau_2)3.76\pm 0.25 \text{ ns}$	9.8 %	-	-
	(τ_1)0.19 ± 0.01 ns	86.0 %	(τ_1)0.17 ± 0.02 ns	84.4 %	(τ_1)0.19 \pm 0.02 ns	90.2 %	-	-
$\chi^2 1.04$ χ^2		$\chi^2 1.06$		-		$\chi^2 1.31$		
L2	$(\tau_1)2.84 \pm 0.24 \text{ ns}$	100 %	$(\tau_1)2.13 \pm 0.15 \text{ ns}$	100 %	-	-	$(\tau_3)8.76\pm 0.41ns$	14.2 %
	-	-	-	-	-	-	$(\tau_2)2.98\pm 0.25ns$	41.3 %
	-	-	-	-	-	-	(τ_1)0.52 ± 0.11 ns	44.6 %
CuL2	χ ² 1.10		χ ² 1.21		-		χ ² 1.27	
	$(\tau_2)3.23 \pm 0.17$ ns	14.6 %	$(\tau_2)2.67 \pm 0.41 \text{ ns}$	11.8 %	-	-	$(\tau_3)8.17 \pm 0.35 \text{ ns}$	5.4 %
	(τ_1)0.18 ± 0.01ns	85.4 %	$(\tau_1)0.11 \pm 0.04 \text{ ns}$	88.2 %	-	-	$(\tau_2)2.01 \pm 0.11 \text{ ns}$	10.4 %
	-	-	-	-	-	-	(τ_1)0.07 ± 0.02 ns	84.2 %

Example screen shots of solution lifetime decay curves for each compound in each solvent are given below in Figures S4_1-S4_21:

<u>L1</u>



Figure S4_1: Solution lifetime decay plot and data fit for L1 (10 µM) in DMSO:

Figure S4_2: Solution lifetime decay plot and data fit for L1 (10 µM) in MeOH:



Figure S4_3: Solution lifetime decay plot and data fit for L1 (10 µM) in DCM:



Figure S4_4: Solution lifetime decay plot and data fit for L1 (10 µM) in Cell Medium:



ZnL1



Figure S4_5: Solution lifetime decay plot and data fit for ZnL1 (10 µM) in DMSO:





Figure S4_7: Solution lifetime decay plot and data fit for ZnL1 (10 µM) in DCM:



Figure S4_8: Solution lifetime decay plot and data fit for ZnL1 (10 µM) in Cell Medium:



<u>NiL1</u>



Figure S4_9: Solution lifetime decay plot and data fit for NiL1 (10 µM) in DMSO:

Figure S4_10: Solution lifetime decay plot and data fit for NiL1 (10 µM) in MeOH:



Figure S4_11: Solution lifetime decay plot and data fit for NiL1 (10 µM) in DCM:



CuL1



Figure S4_12: Solution lifetime decay plot and data fit for CuL1 (10 µM) in DMSO:





Figure S4_14: Solution lifetime decay plot and data fit for CuL1 (10 µM) in DCM:



Figure S4_15: Solution lifetime decay plot and data fit for CuL1 (10 µM) in Cell Medium:



<u>L2</u>



Figure S4_16: Solution lifetime decay plot and data fit for L2 (10 µM) in DMSO:

Figure S4_17: Solution lifetime decay plot and data fit for L2 (10 µM) in MeOH:



Figure S4_18: Solution lifetime decay plot and data fit for L2 (10 µM) in Cell Medium:



CuL2



Figure S4_19: Solution lifetime decay plot and data fit for CuL2 (10 µM) in DMSO:





Figure S4_21: Solution lifetime decay plot and data fit for CuL2 (10 µM) in Cell Medium:



SI5: 2P FLIM cell image data

Example screen shots of *in vitro* lifetime decay curves for each compound are given below along with GLD maps

Figure S5_1: Cellular fluorescence intensity and lifetime maps, selected lifetime decay plot with data fit and GLD for L1 (10 μ M) after 20 min incubation in HeLa cells:



Figure S5_2: Cellular fluorescence intensity and lifetime maps, selected lifetime decay plot with data fit and GLD for **ZnL1** (10 μ M) after 20 min incubation in HeLa cells:



Figure S5_3: Cellular fluorescence intensity and lifetime maps, selected lifetime decay plot with data fit and GLD for **NiL1** (10 μ M) after 20 min incubation in HeLa cells:



Figure S5_4: Cellular fluorescence intensity and lifetime maps, selected lifetime decay plot with data fit and GLD for **CuL1** (10 μ M) after 20 min incubation in HeLa cells (Point 1):

Figure S5_5: Cellular fluorescence intensity and lifetime maps, selected lifetime decay plot with data fit and GLD for **CuL1** (10 μ M) after 20 min incubation in HeLa cells (Point 2):

Figure S5_6: Cellular fluorescence intensity and lifetime maps, selected lifetime decay plot with data fit and GLD for **CuL1** (10 μ M) after 20 min incubation in HeLa cells (Point 3):

Figure S5_7: Cellular fluorescence intensity and lifetime maps, selected lifetime decay plot with data fit and GLD for **CuL1** (10 μ M) after 20 min incubation in HeLa cells (Point 4):

Figure S5_8: Cellular fluorescence intensity and lifetime maps, selected lifetime decay plot with data fit and GLD for **CuL1** (10 μ M) after 20 min incubation in HeLa cells (Point 5):

Figure S5_9: Cellular fluorescence intensity and lifetime maps, selected lifetime decay plot with data fit and GLD for **CuL1** (10 μ M) after 20 min incubation in HeLa cells (Point 6):

Figure S5_10: Cellular fluorescence intensity and lifetime maps, selected lifetime decay plot with data fit and GLD for **CuL1** (10 μ M) after 1 h incubation in HeLa cells:

Figure S5_11: Cellular fluorescence intensity and lifetime maps, selected lifetime decay plot with data fit and GLD for L2 (10 μ M) after 20 min incubation in HeLa cells:

Figure S5_12: Cellular fluorescence intensity and lifetime maps, selected lifetime decay plot with data fit and GLD for **CuL2** (10 μ M) after 20 min incubation in HeLa cells:

Figure S5_13: Cellular fluorescence intensity and lifetime maps, selected lifetime decay plot with data fit and GLD for 1:1 mix of **L1:CuL1** (10 μ M) after 20 min incubation in HeLa cells:

Figure S5_14: Cellular fluorescence intensity and lifetime maps, selected lifetime decay plot with data fit and GLD for 1:3 mix of L1:CuL1 ($10 \mu M$) after 20 min incubation in HeLa cells:

