

Supporting Information

For

Zn²⁺–Triggered Amide Tautomerization Produces a Highly Zn²⁺–Selective, Cell–Permeable and Ratiometric Fluorescent Sensor

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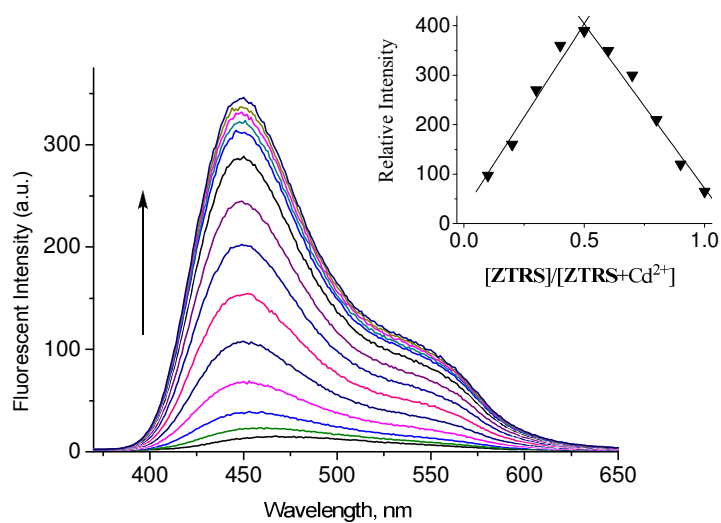


Figure S1. Fluorescence spectra of **ZTRS** in the presence of different concentrations of Cd^{2+} in aqueous solution ($\text{CH}_3\text{CN}:\text{HEPES} = 50:50$) (HEPES, 0.5 M, pH 7.4). Excitation at 360 nm. $[\text{ZTRS}] = 10 \mu\text{M}$. The inset shows the Job plot evaluated from the fluorescence with a total concentration of $10 \mu\text{M}$.

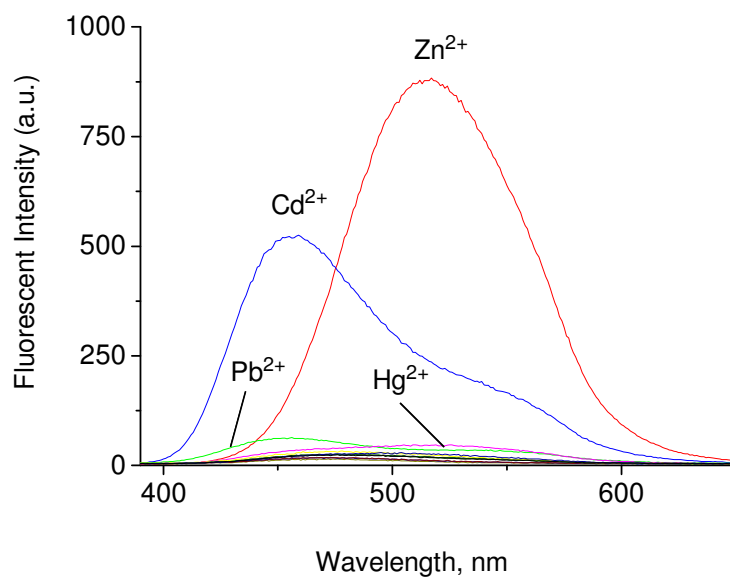


Figure S2. Fluorescence spectra of **ZTRS** in the presence of metal ions in aqueous solution ($\text{DMSO}:\text{HEPES} = 10:90$) (HEPES, 0.5 M, pH 7.4). Excitation at 360 nm. $[\text{ZTRS}] = 10 \mu\text{M}$.

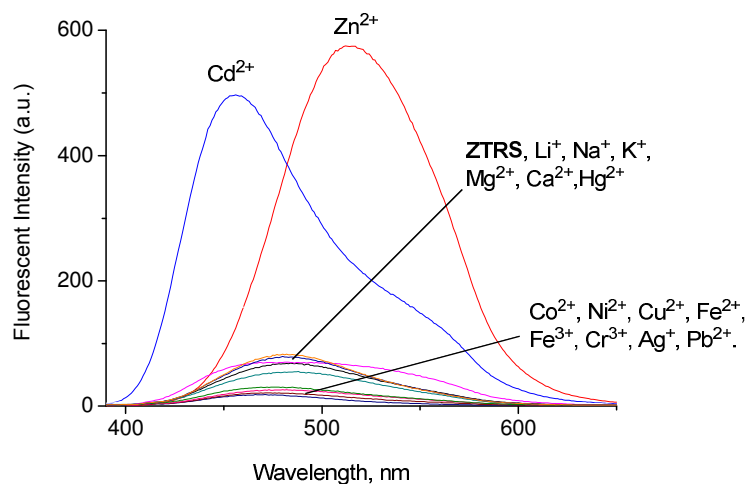


Figure S3. Fluorescence spectra of 10 μM **ZTRS** in the presence of various metal ions in HEPES buffer solutions (0.5 M, pH 7.4). Excitation at 360 nm.

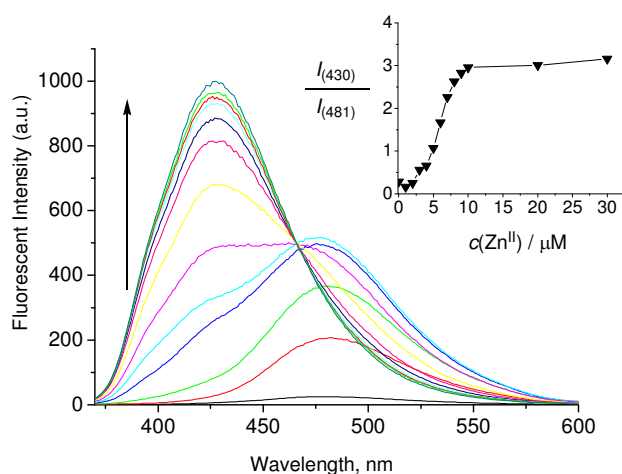


Figure S4. Fluorescence spectra of **ZTRS** in the presence of different concentrations of Zn^{2+} in CH_3CN . Excitation at 360 nm. $[\text{ZTRS}] = 10 \mu\text{M}$. Inset: Ratiometric calibration curve I_{430}/I_{481} as a function of Zn^{2+} concentration.

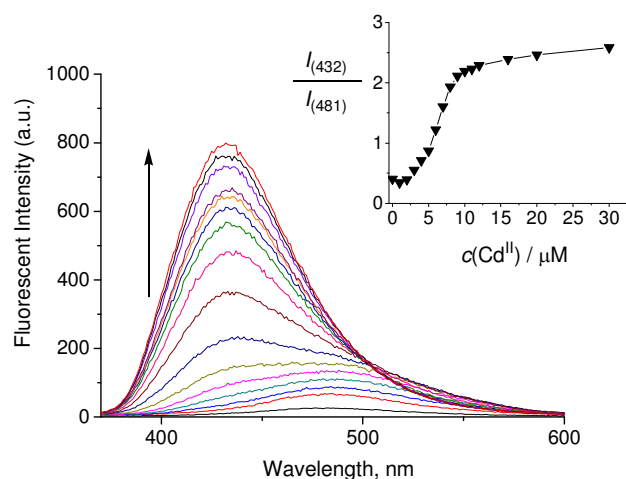


Figure S5. Fluorescence spectra of **ZTRS** in the presence of different concentrations of Cd^{2+} in CH_3CN . Excitation at 360 nm. $[\text{ZTRS}] = 10 \mu\text{M}$. Inset: Ratiometric calibration curve I_{432}/I_{481} as a function of Cd^{2+} concentration.

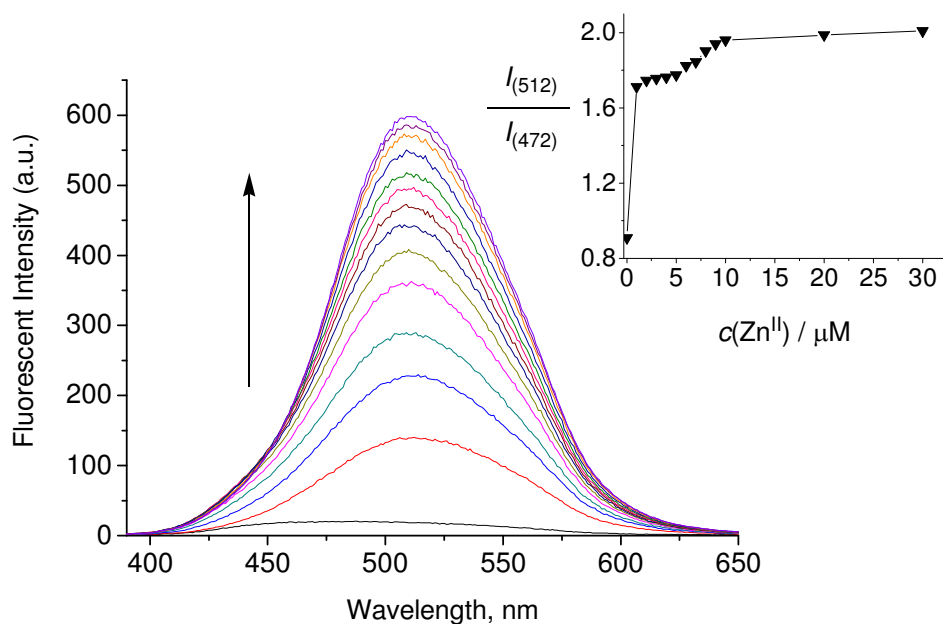


Figure S6. Fluorescence spectra of **ZTRS** in the presence of different concentrations of Zn^{2+} in DMSO . Excitation at 360 nm. $[\text{ZTRS}] = 10 \mu\text{M}$. Inset: Ratiometric calibration curve I_{512}/I_{472} as a function of Zn^{2+} concentration.

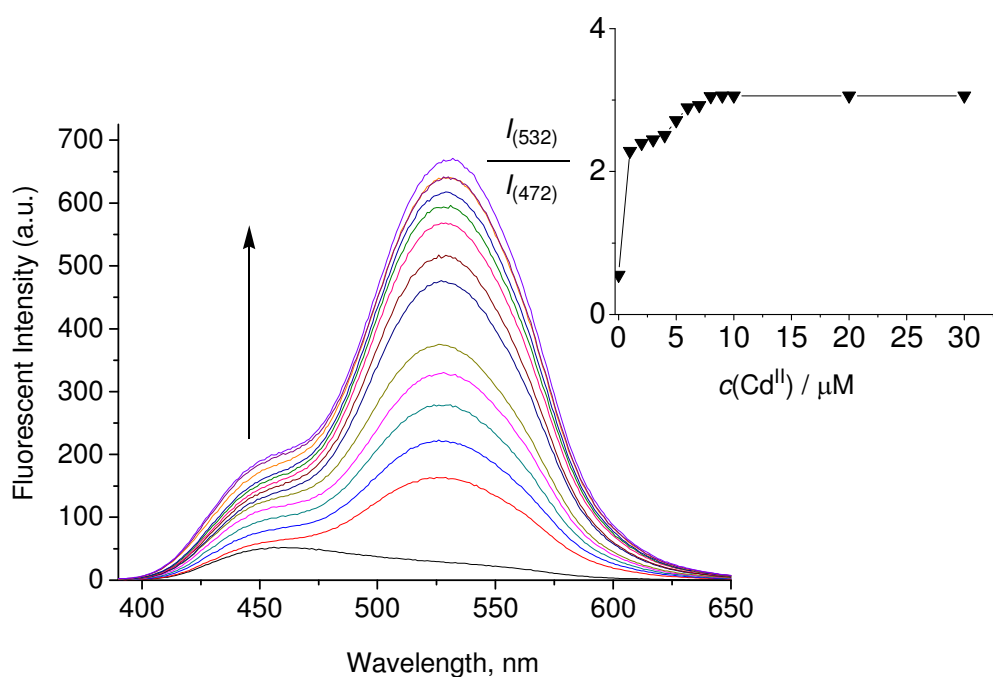


Figure S7. Fluorescence spectra of **ZTRS** in the presence of different concentrations of Cd^{2+} in DMSO. Excitation at 360 nm. $[\text{ZTRS}] = 10 \mu\text{M}$. Inset: Ratiometric calibration curve I_{532}/I_{472} as a function of Cd^{2+} concentration.

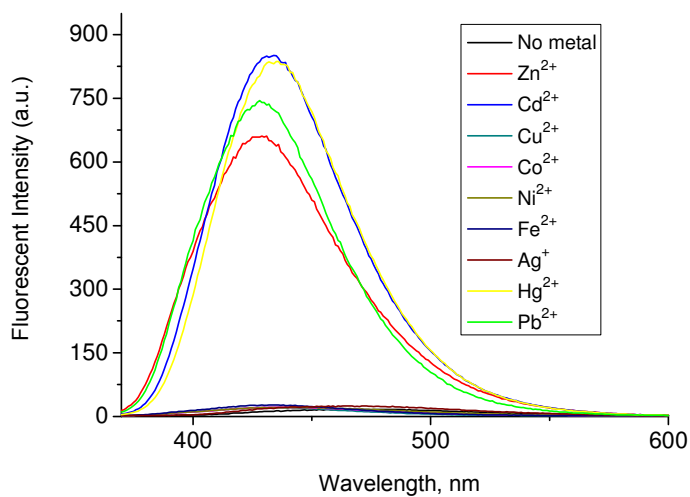


Figure S8. Fluorescence spectra of **ZTRS** in the presence of different metal ions in CH_3CN . Excitation at 360 nm. $[\text{ZTRS}] = 10 \mu\text{M}$.

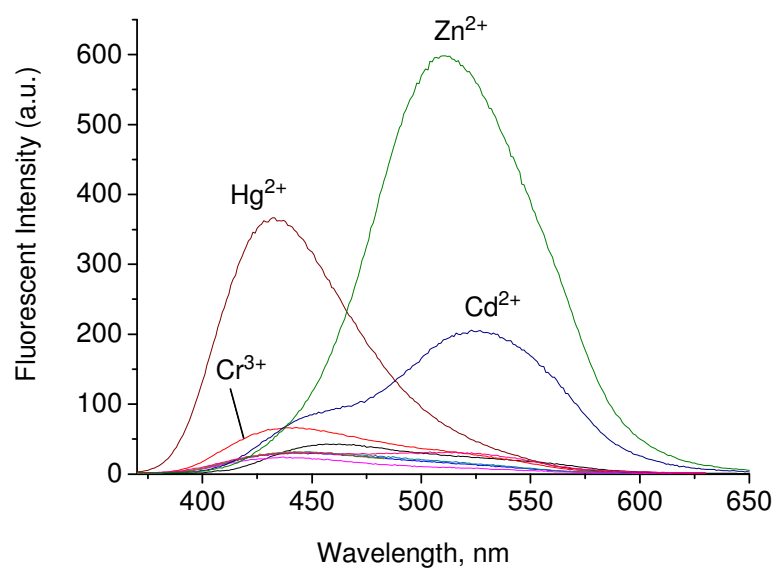


Figure S9. Fluorescence spectra of **ZTRS** in the presence of different metal ions in DMSO. Excitation at 360 nm. [**ZTRS**] = 10 μ M.

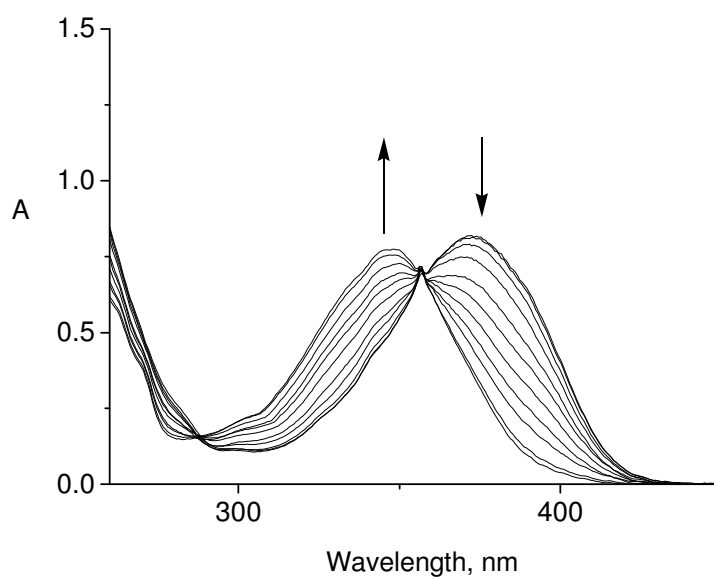


Figure S10. UV-Vis absorption spectra of **ZTRS** in the presence of different concentrations of Zn^{2+} in acetonitrile. [**ZTRS**] = 10 μ M, [Zn^{2+}] = 0-10 μ M.

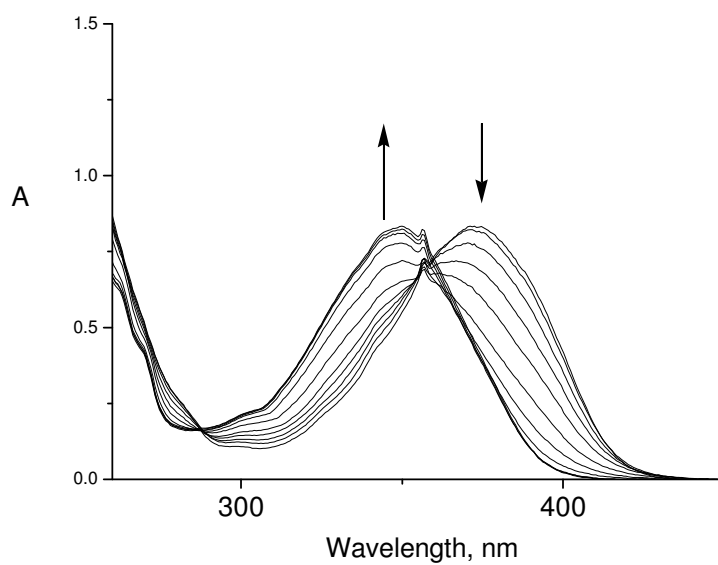


Figure S11. UV-Vis absorption spectra of **ZTRS** in the presence of different concentrations of Cd^{2+} in acetonitrile. $[\text{ZTRS}] = 10 \mu\text{M}$, $[\text{Cd}^{2+}] = 0\text{-}10 \mu\text{M}$.

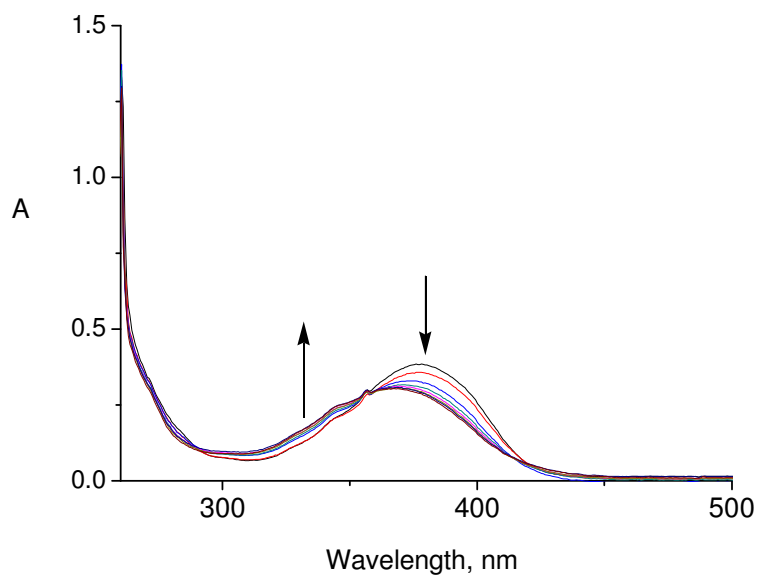


Figure S12. UV-Vis absorption spectra of **ZTRS** in the presence of different concentrations of Zn^{2+} in DMSO. $[\text{ZTRS}] = 10 \mu\text{M}$, $[\text{Zn}^{2+}] = 0\text{-}10 \mu\text{M}$.

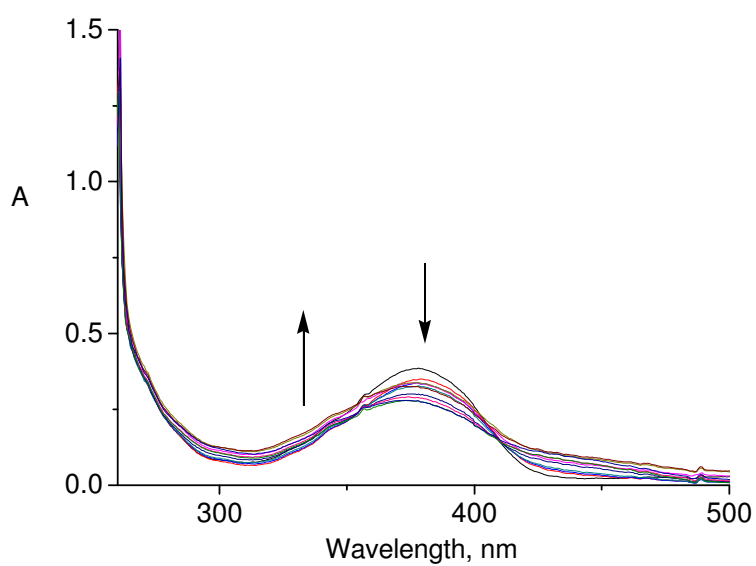


Figure S13. UV-Vis absorption spectra of **ZTRS** in the presence of different concentrations of Cd^{2+} in DMSO. $[\text{ZTRS}] = 10 \mu\text{M}$, $[\text{Cd}^{2+}] = 0\text{-}10 \mu\text{M}$.

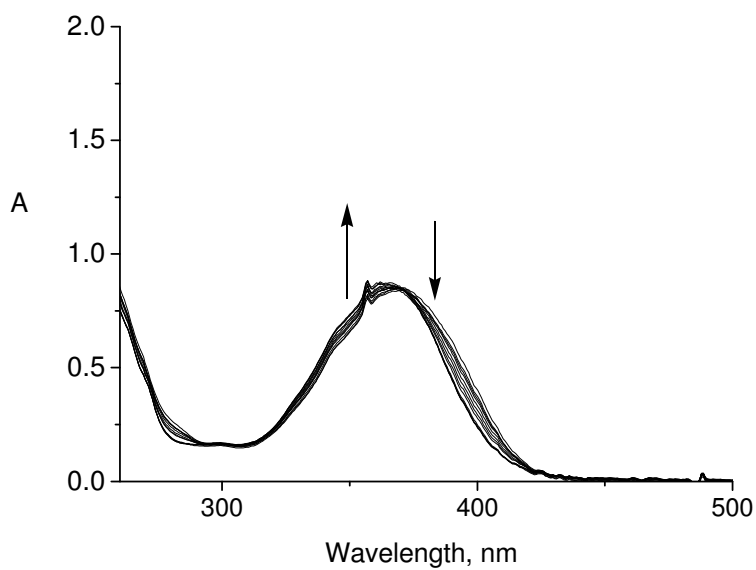


Figure S14. UV-Vis absorption spectra of **ZTRS** in the presence of different concentrations of Zn^{2+} in aqueous solution ($\text{CH}_3\text{CN}:\text{HEPES} = 50:50$) (HEPES, 0.5 M, pH 7.4). $[\text{ZTRS}] = 10 \mu\text{M}$, $[\text{Zn}^{2+}] = 0\text{-}10 \mu\text{M}$.

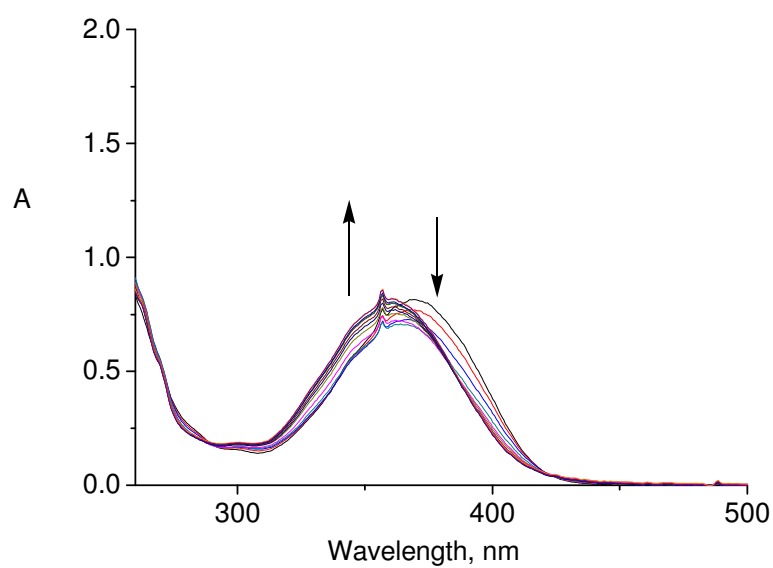


Figure S15. UV-Vis absorption spectra of **ZTRS** in the presence of different concentrations of Cd^{2+} in aqueous solution ($\text{CH}_3\text{CN}:\text{HEPES} = 50:50$) (HEPES, 0.5 M, pH 7.4). [**ZTRS**] = 10 μM , [Cd^{2+}] = 0-10 μM .

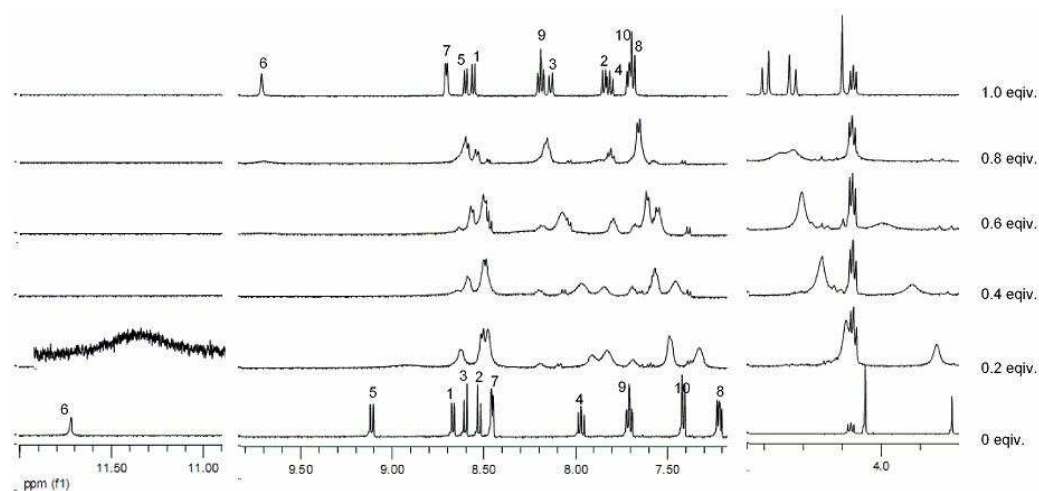


Figure S16. ^1H -NMR spectra of **ZTRS** in the presence of a different amount of Zn^{2+} in CD_3CN .

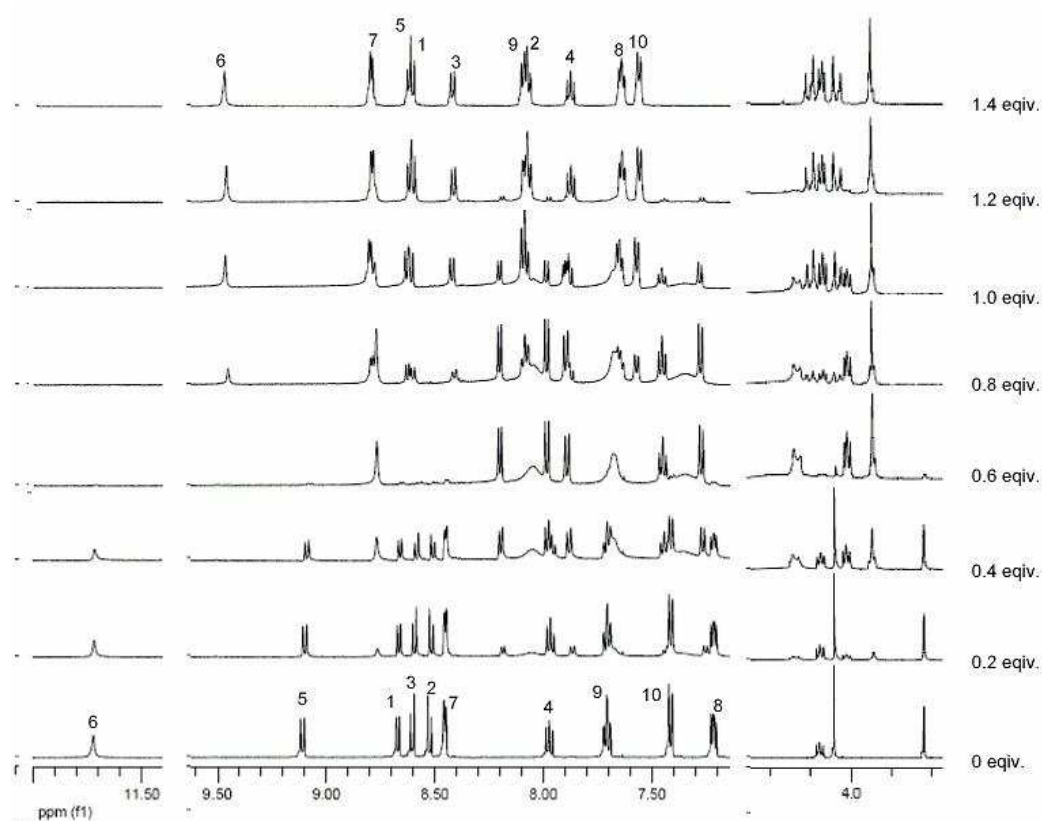


Figure S17. ^1H -NMR spectra of **ZTRS** in the presence of a different amount of Cd^{2+} in CD_3CN .

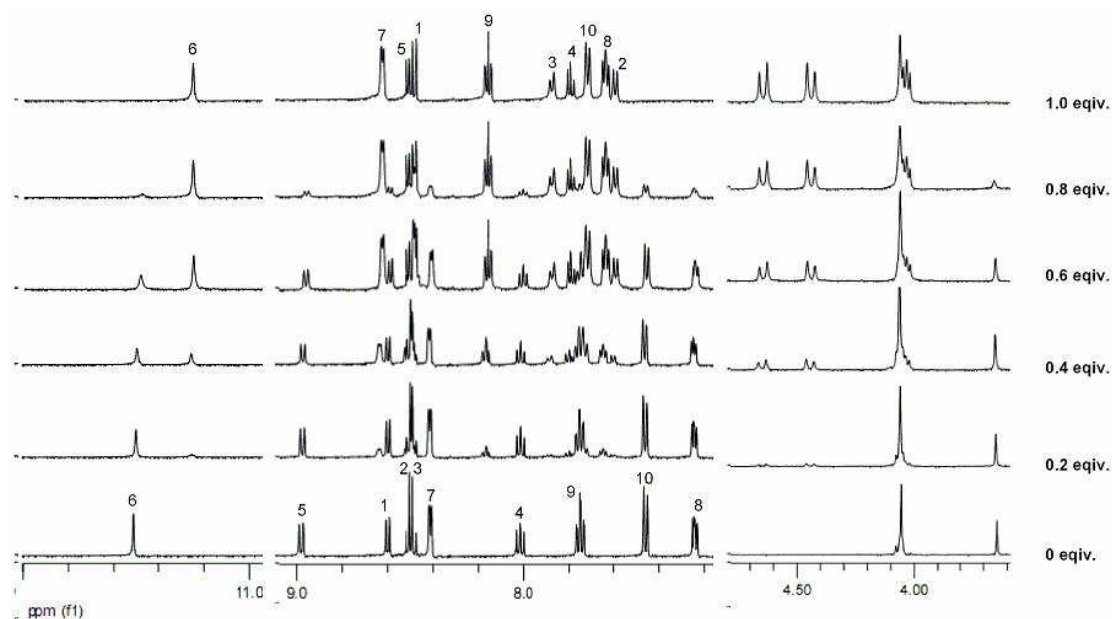


Figure S18. ^1H -NMR spectra of **ZTRS** in the presence of a different amount of Zn^{2+} in $\text{DMSO}-d_6$.

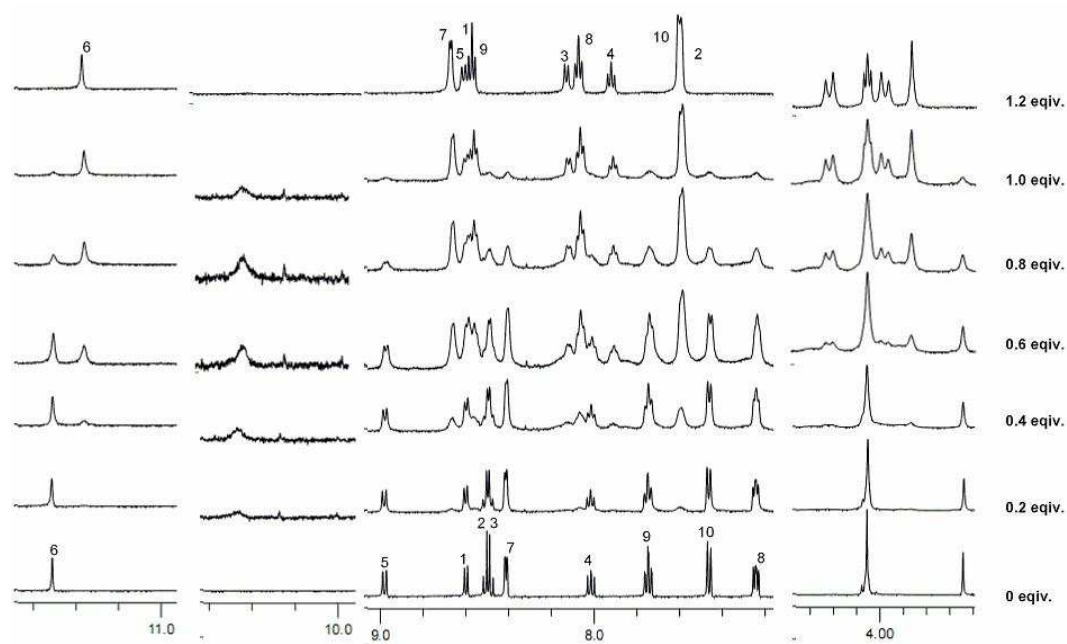


Figure S19. ^1H -NMR spectra of **ZTRS** in the presence of a different amount of Cd^{2+} in $\text{DMSO-}d_6$.

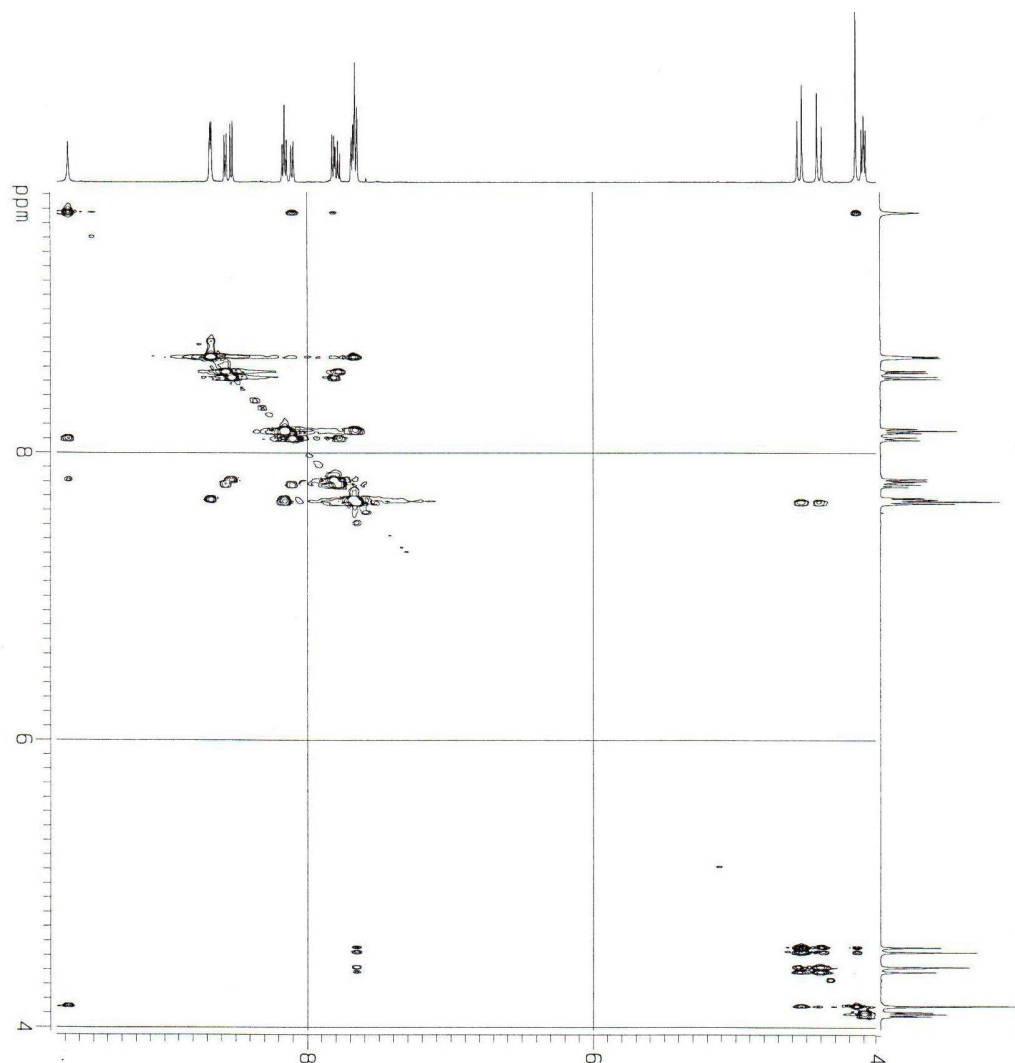


Figure S20. 500 MHz ¹H-¹H NOESY spectrum of **ZTRS** with 1 eq. of Zn²⁺ in CD₃CN.

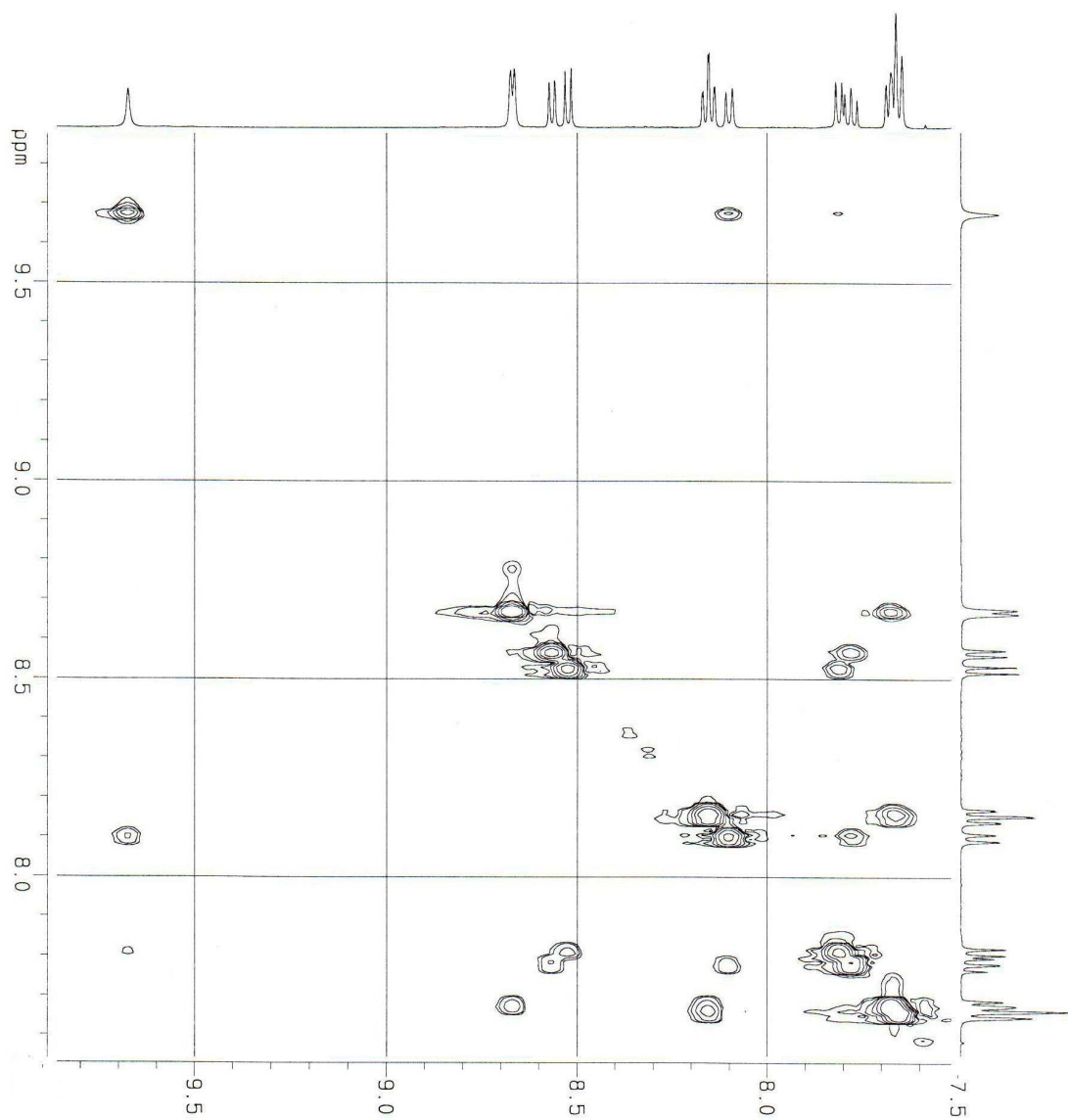


Figure S21. Partial 500 MHz ^1H - ^1H NOESY spectrum of **ZTRS** with 1 eq. of Zn^{2+} in CD_3CN .

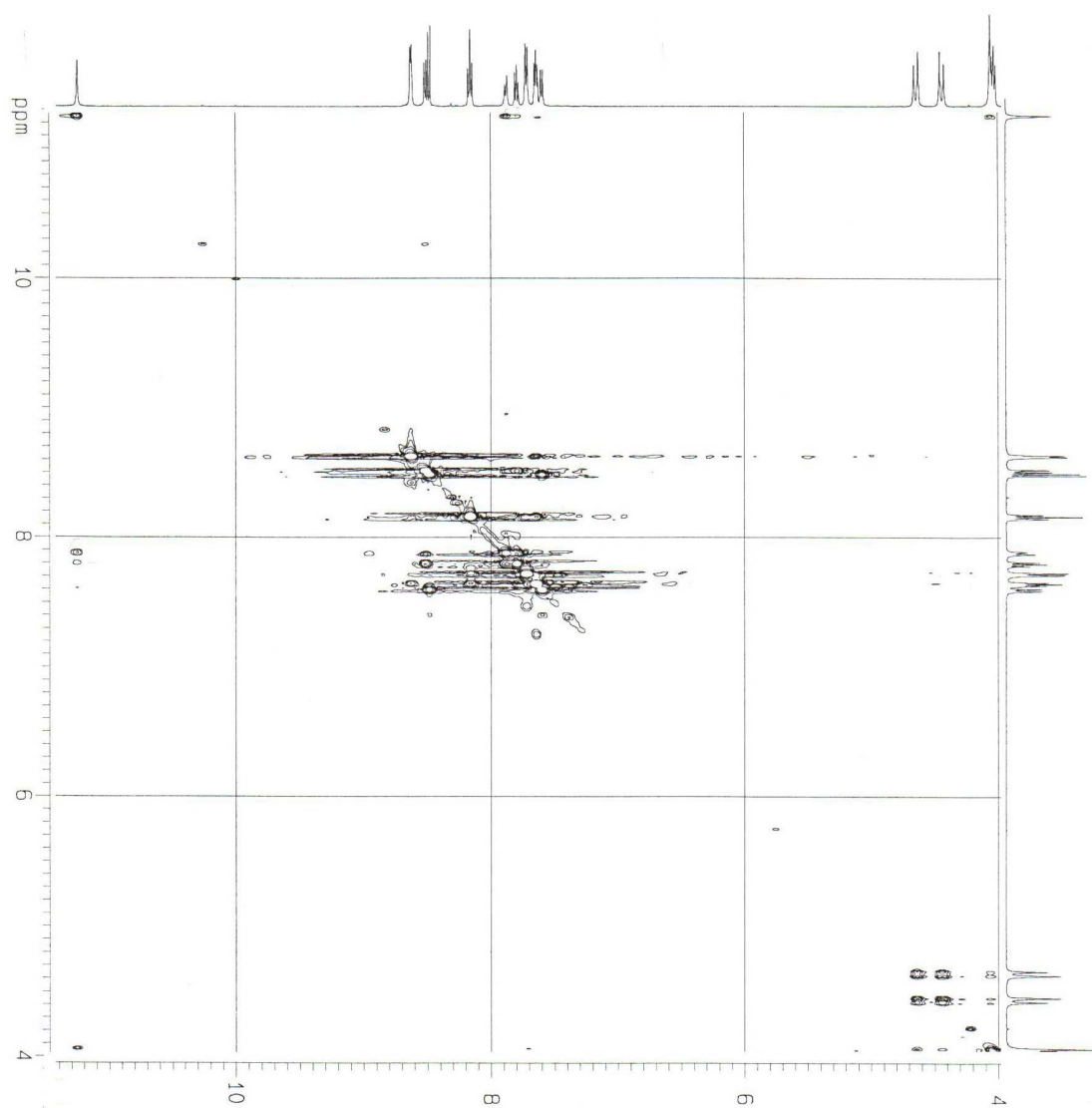


Figure S22. 500 MHz ¹H-¹H NOESY spectrum of **ZTRS** with 1 eq. of Zn²⁺ in DMSO-*d*₆.

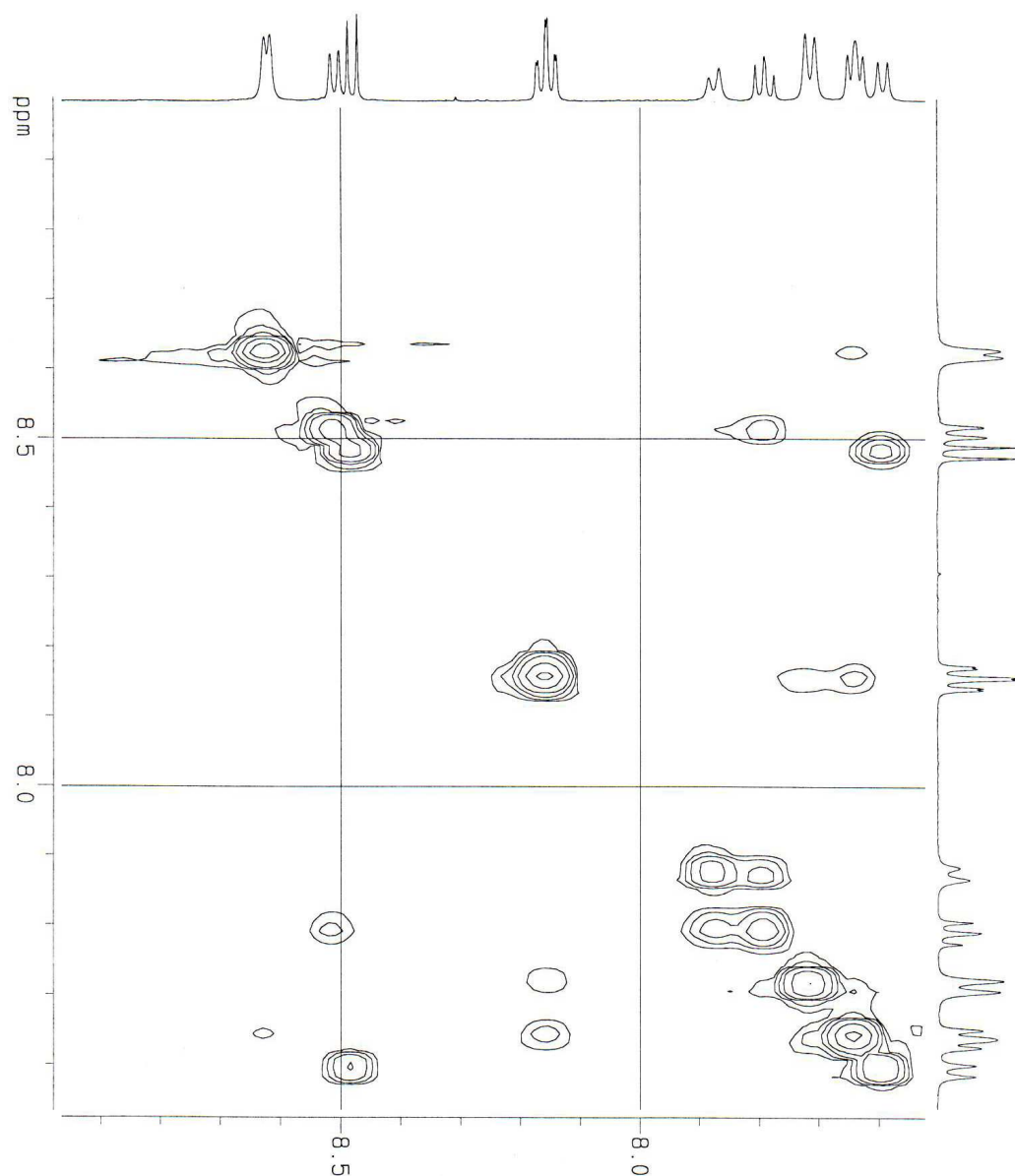


Figure S23. Partial ^1H - ^1H 500 MHz NOESY spectrum of **ZTRS** with 1 eq. of Zn^{2+} in $\text{DMSO-}d_6$.

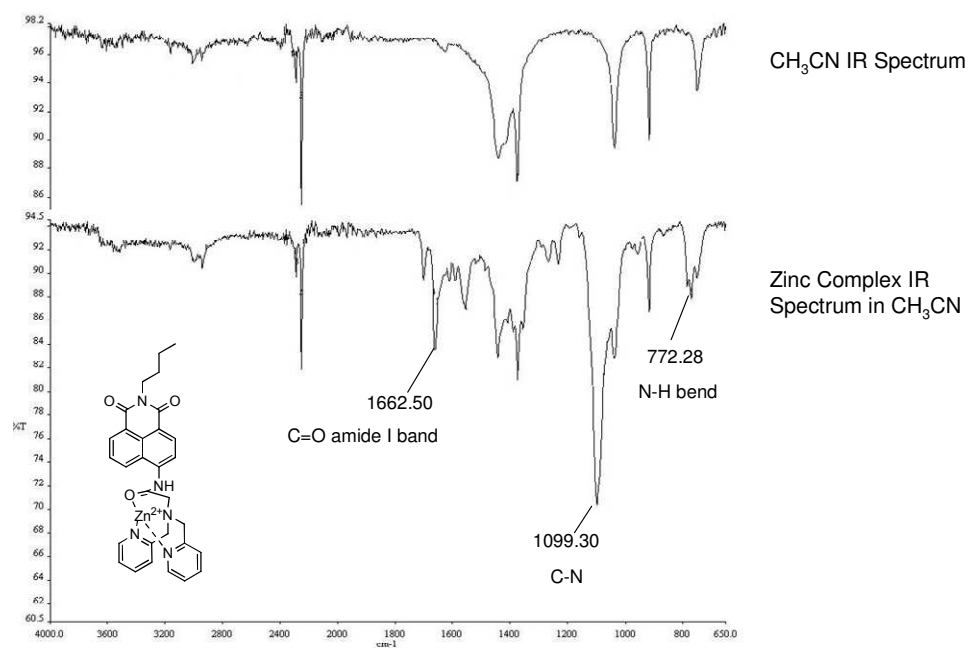


Figure S24. IR spectrum of **ZTRS** /Zn²⁺ (1:1) complex in CH₃CN.

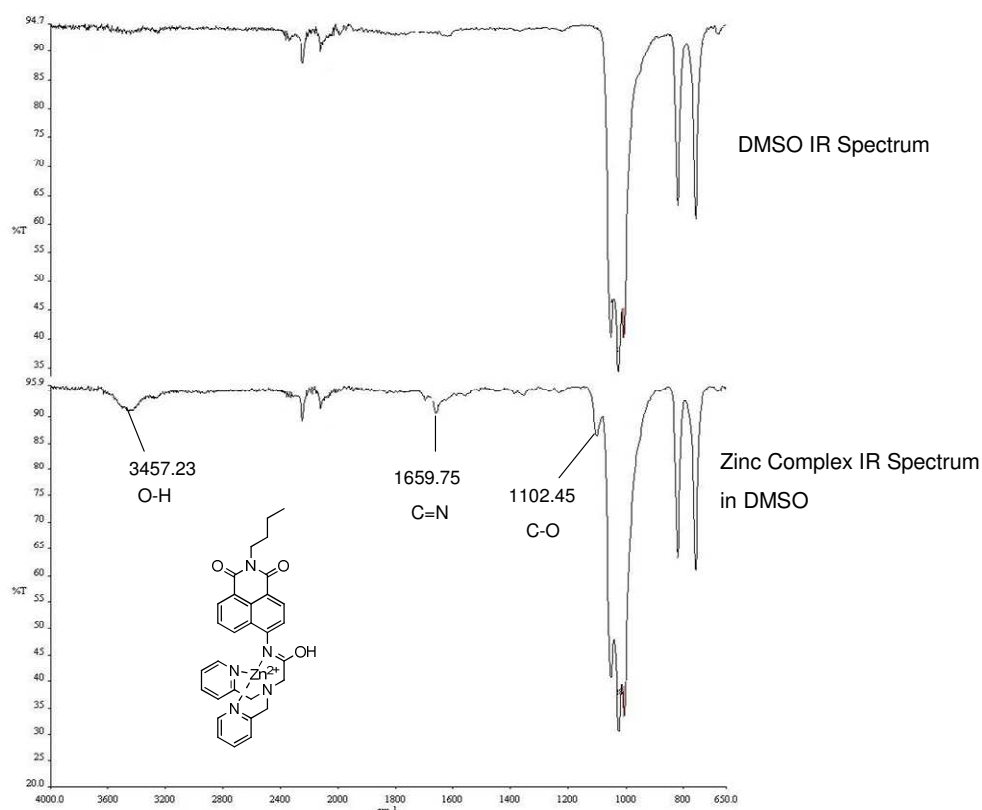


Figure S25. IR spectrum of **ZTRS** /Zn²⁺ (1:1) complex in DMSO.

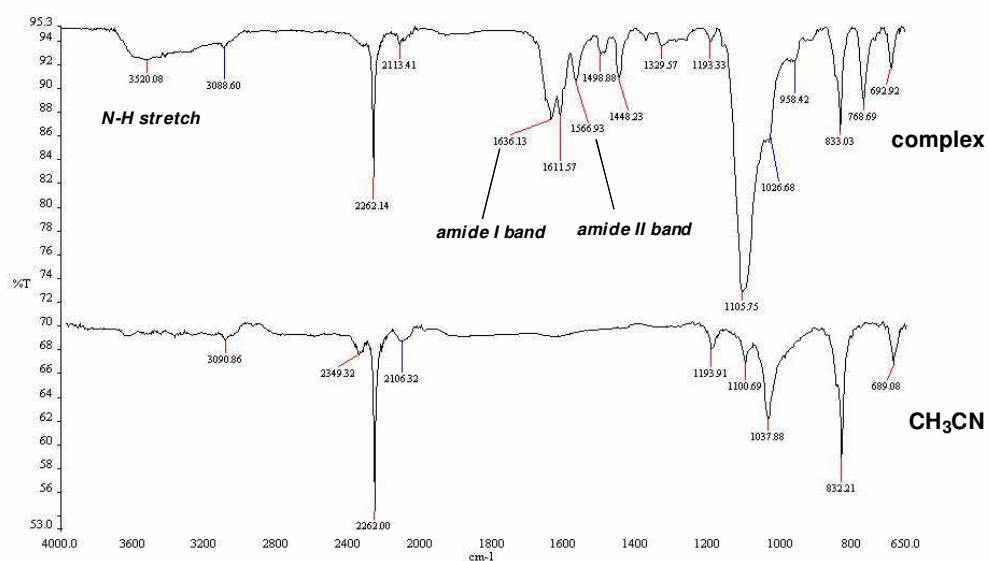


Figure S26. IR spectrum of **ZTF/Zn²⁺ (1:1) complex** in **CD₃CN**.

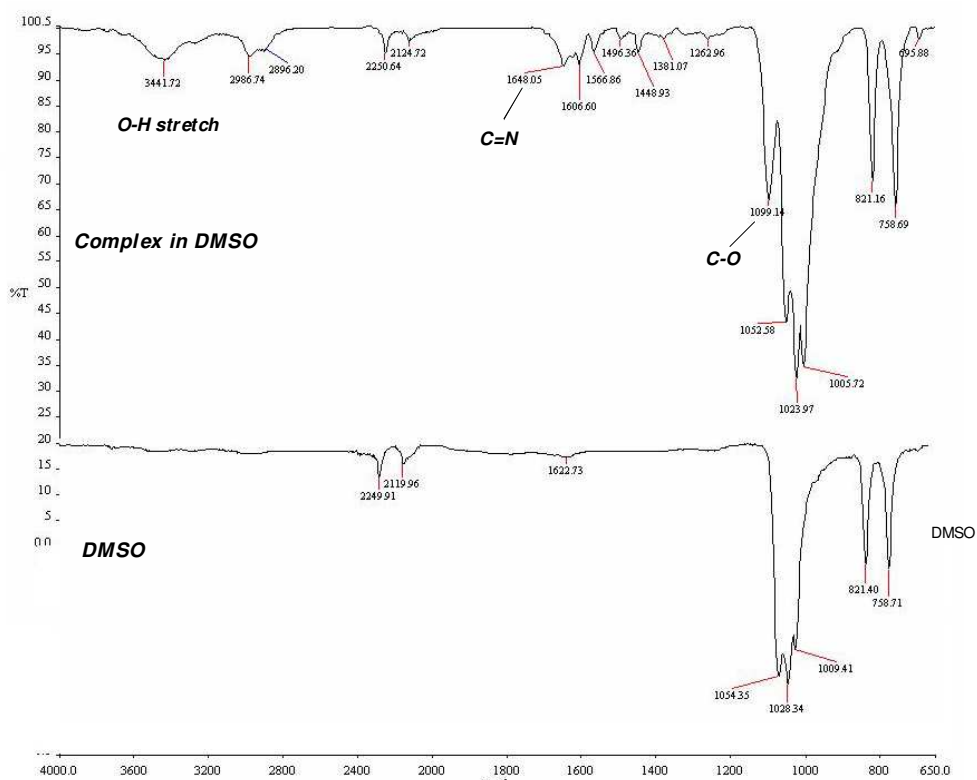


Figure S27. IR spectrum of **ZTF/Zn²⁺ (1:1) complex** in **DMSO**.

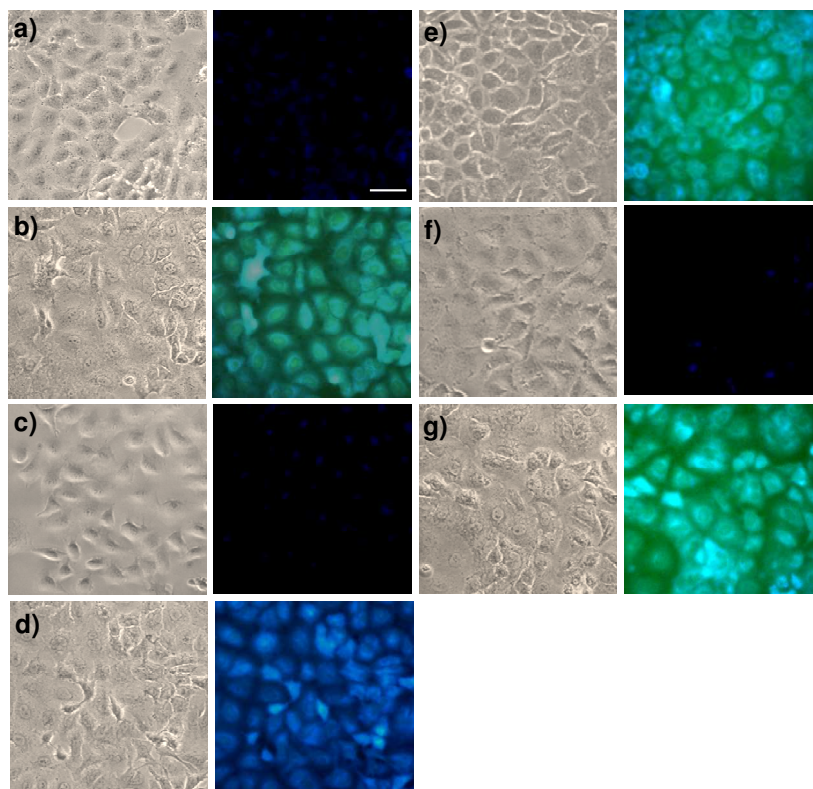


Figure S28. Fluorescence images of A549 cells incubated with 5 μM **ZTRS** and ions. Cells treated with **ZTRS** a) in the absence and b) presence of 1 μM of external zinc ions, and c) after treatment with **ZTRS** and 1 μM ZnCl_2 and subsequent treatment of the cells with 25 μM TPEN. d) Cells treated with **ZTRS** and 5 μM CdCl_2 and e) after treatment with **ZTRS** and 5 μM CdCl_2 and subsequent treatment of the cells with 1 μM ZnCl_2 . f) Cells treated with **ZTRS** and 5 μM $\text{Fe}(\text{ClO}_4)_2$ and g) after treatment with **ZTRS** and 5 μM $\text{Fe}(\text{ClO}_4)_2$ and subsequent treatment of the cells with 1 μM ZnCl_2 (bar = 50 μm) (left: bright field images, right: fluorescence images).

Table 1. Crystal data and structure refinement for **ZTF-Zn²⁺**

Empirical formula	C ₂₂ H ₂₅ Cl ₂ N ₅ O ₁₀ Zn		
Formula weight	655.74		
Temperature	180(2) K		
Wavelength	0.71073 Å		
Crystal system	Monoclinic		
Space group	C2/c		
Unit cell dimensions	a = 21.3422(3) Å	α = 90°.	
	b = 13.3525(2) Å		β =
	102.279(1)°.		
	c = 19.5085(3) Å	γ = 90°.	
Volume	5432.19(14) Å ³		
Z	8		
Density (calculated)	1.604 Mg/m ³		
Absorption coefficient	1.165 mm ⁻¹		
F(000)	2688		
Crystal size	0.28 × 0.23 × 0.12 mm ³		
Theta range for data collection	3.58 to 33.76°.		
Index ranges	-33 ≤ h ≤ 33, -20 ≤ k ≤ 20, -30 ≤ l ≤ 30		
Reflections collected	22556		
Independent reflections	10755 [R(int) = 0.0333]		
Completeness to theta = 33.76°	98.9%		
Absorption correction	Semi-empirical from equivalents		
Max. and min. transmission	0.958 and 0.858		
Refinement method	Full-matrix least-squares on F ²		
Data / restraints / parameters	10755 / 0 / 368		

Goodness-of-fit on F^2	1.039
Final R indices [$I > 2\sigma(I)$]	$R_1 = 0.0438$, $wR_2 = 0.1009$
R indices (all data)	$R_1 = 0.0621$, $wR_2 = 0.1120$
Largest diff. peak and hole	0.558 and -0.510 e.Å ⁻³