

Supporting information

Influence of a Basic Side Chain on the Properties of Hypoxia-Selective Nitro Analogues of the Duocarmycins – Demonstration of Substantial Anticancer Activity in Combination with Irradiation or Chemotherapy

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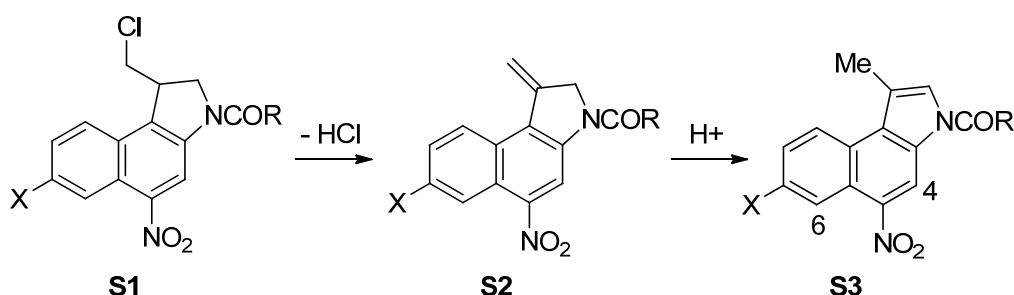
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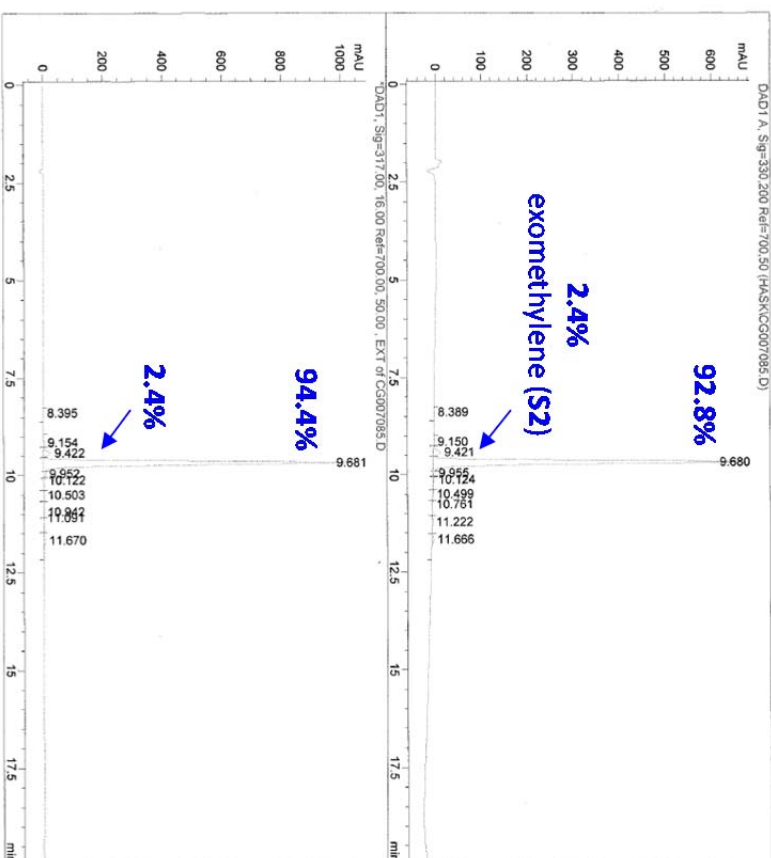
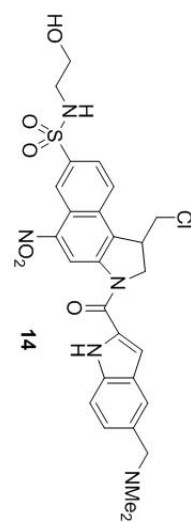
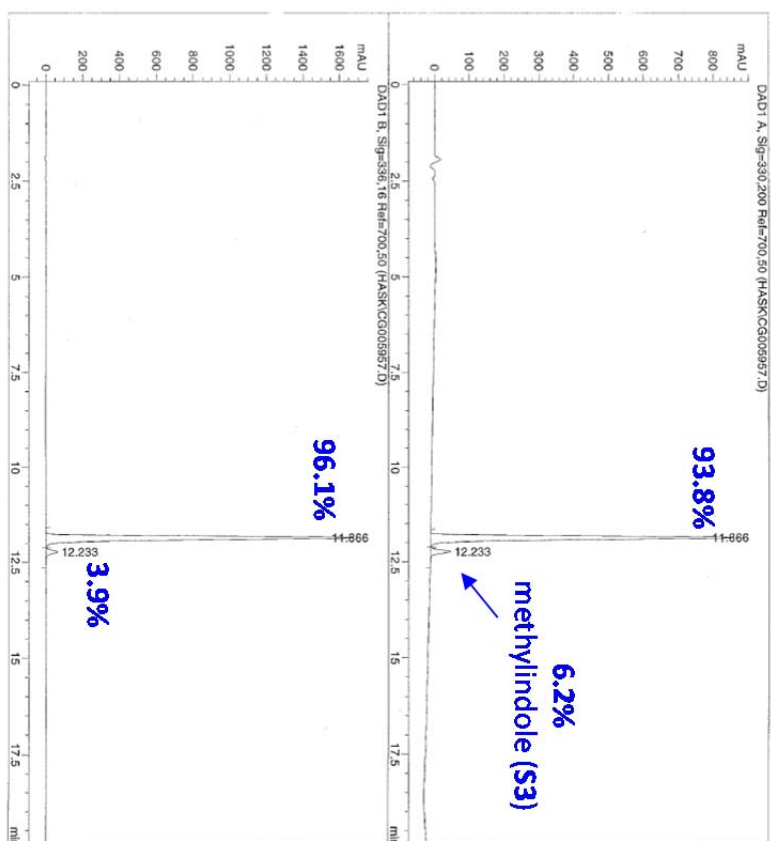
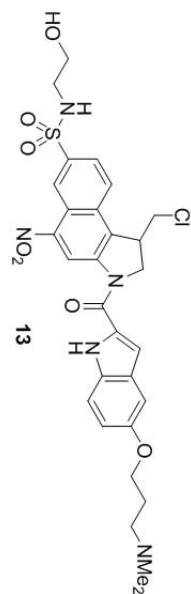
Purity of final products

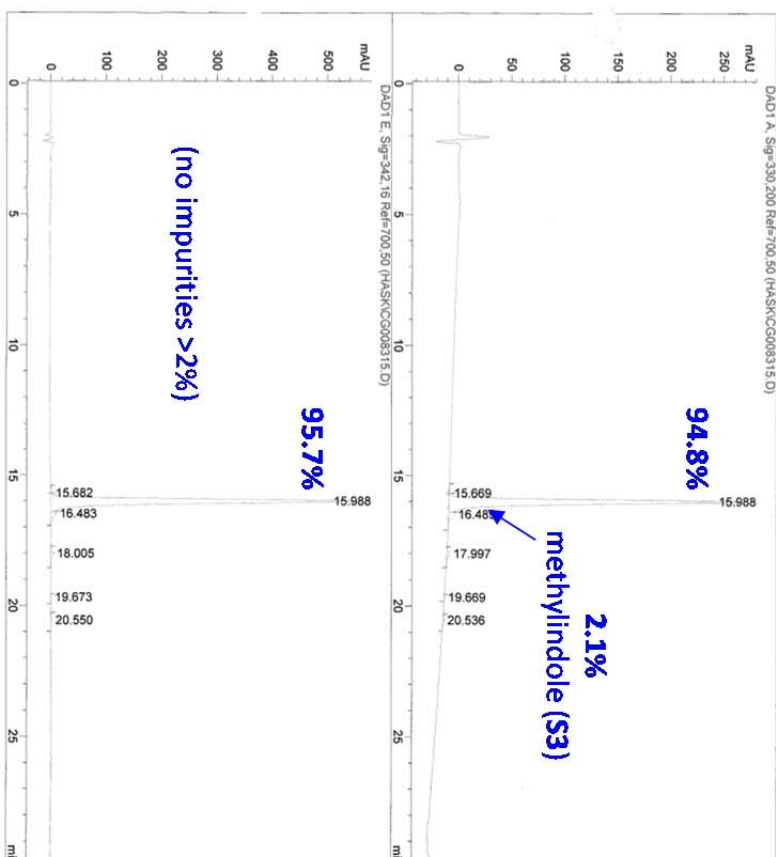
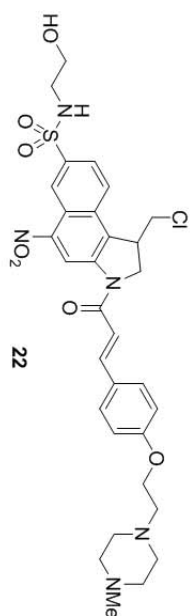
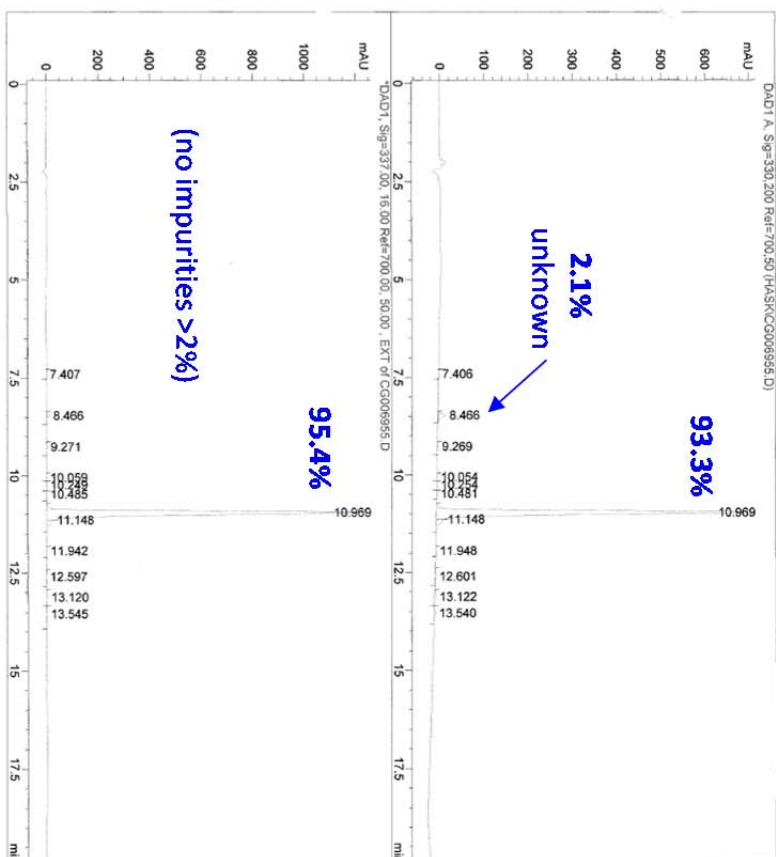
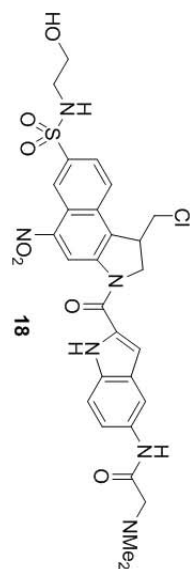
NitroCBIs (**S1** in Scheme S1), particularly those bearing strong electron-withdrawing substituents X, are susceptible to base-induced elimination of HCl to give the corresponding exomethylene compound (**S2**). This is a common impurity found after introduction of the side chain R, even if very weakly basic conditions are used to wash away excess side chain acid RCO₂H. The exomethylene byproduct exhibits diagnostic signals in the ¹H NMR spectrum (in d₆-DMSO signals centred at δ 6.3, 5.8, and 5.5 in a 1:1:2 integral ratio) and is generally very slightly faster running than the desired chloromethyl compound under the HPLC conditions used. Subsequent acid treatment (e.g. in the formation of an HCl salt or the deprotection of TBDMS or t-Bu protecting groups) causes isomerization to the corresponding 1-methylindole (**S3**), which shows down-field shifts of some aromatic protons (H-4 and H-6 are the most easily detected) and is generally very slightly slower running than the chloromethylindoline compound under the HPLC conditions used. Since these byproducts are incapable of forming a spirocyclic intermediate their presence at low levels was considered of little consequence to the measured biological properties of the final products. In support of this interpretation the largest single impurity of 6.2% (tentatively identified as the corresponding 1-methylindole) was found for **13** yet the cytotoxicity of this nitroCBI under hypoxia was not compromised and in fact **13** generated very similar IC₅₀s to the more pure close analogue **12**.

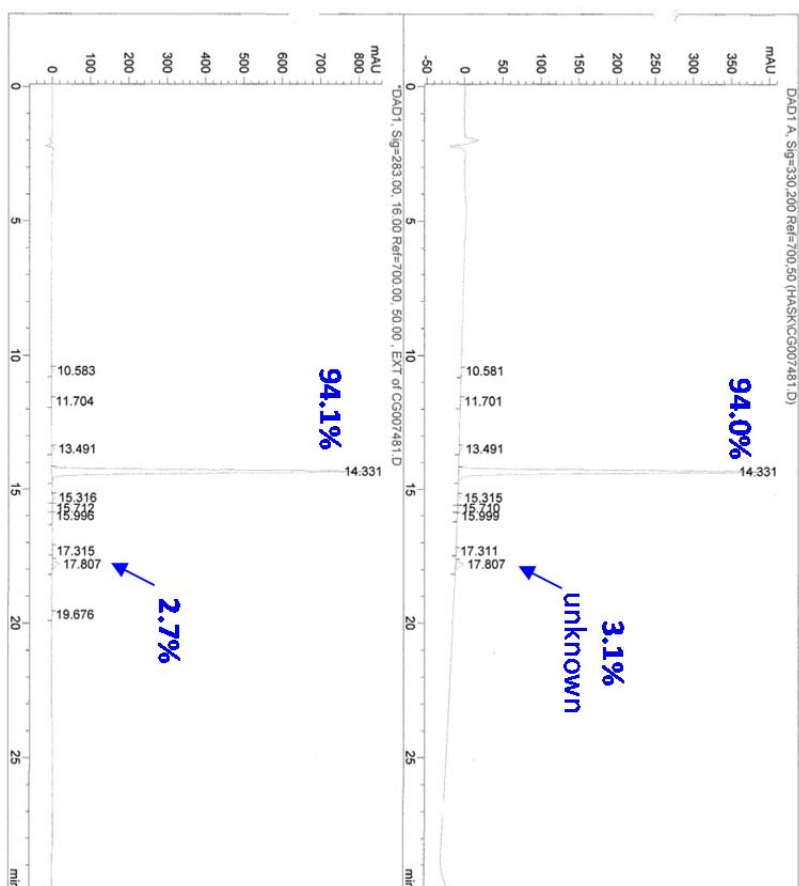
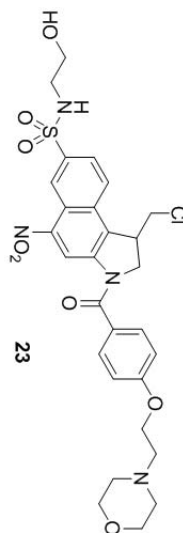


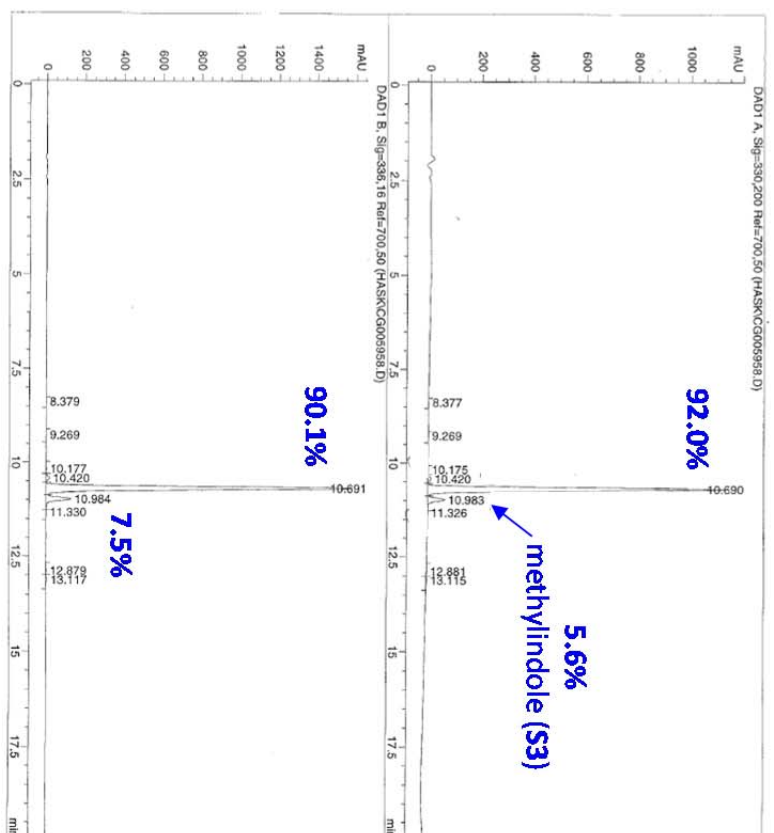
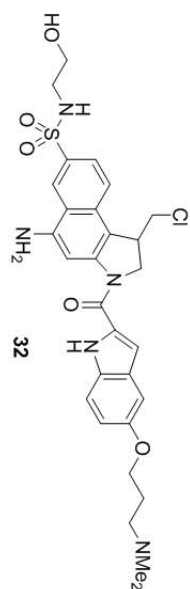
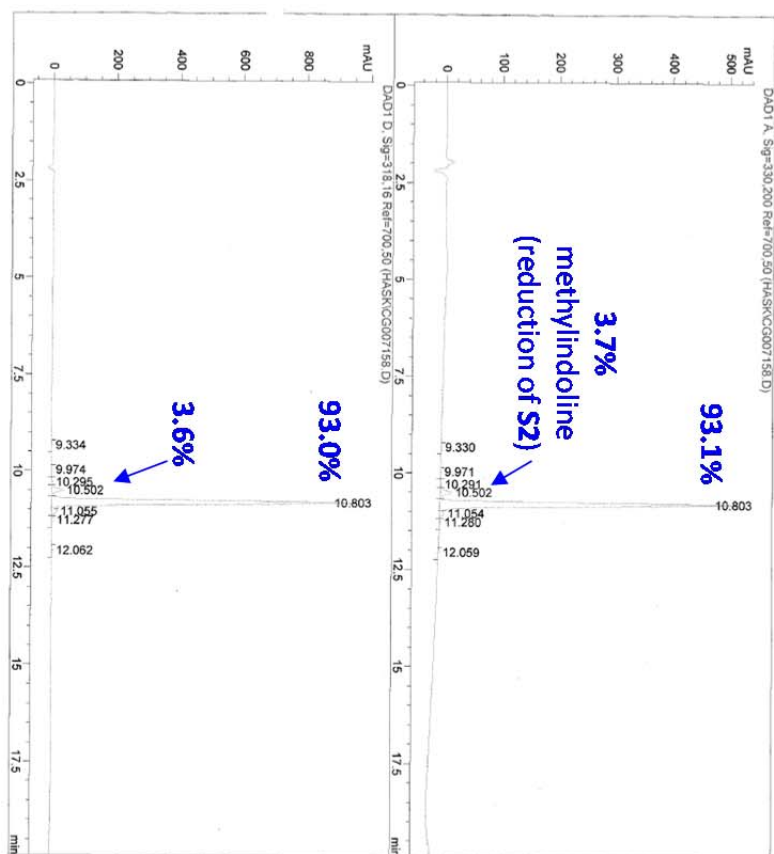
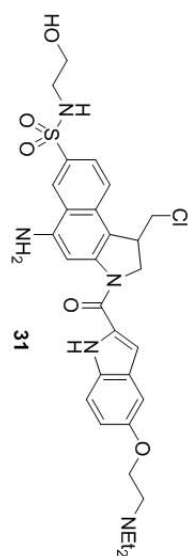
Scheme S1. Formation of exomethylene and 1-methylindole nitroCBI byproducts.

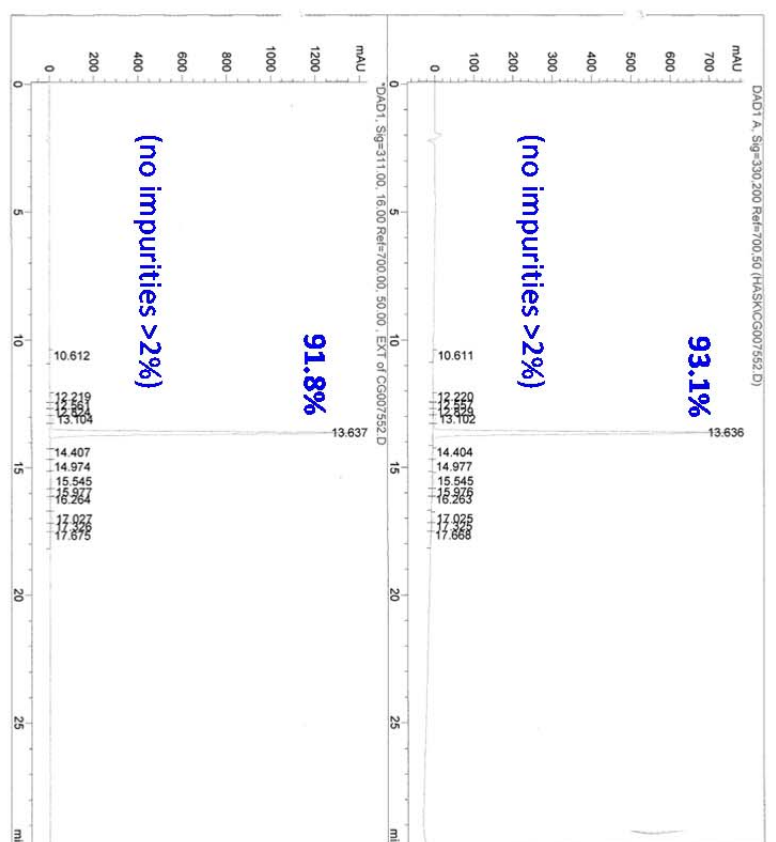
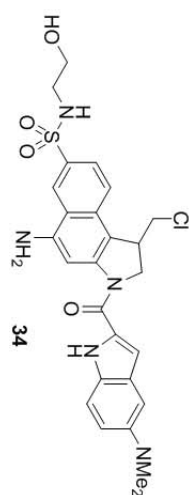
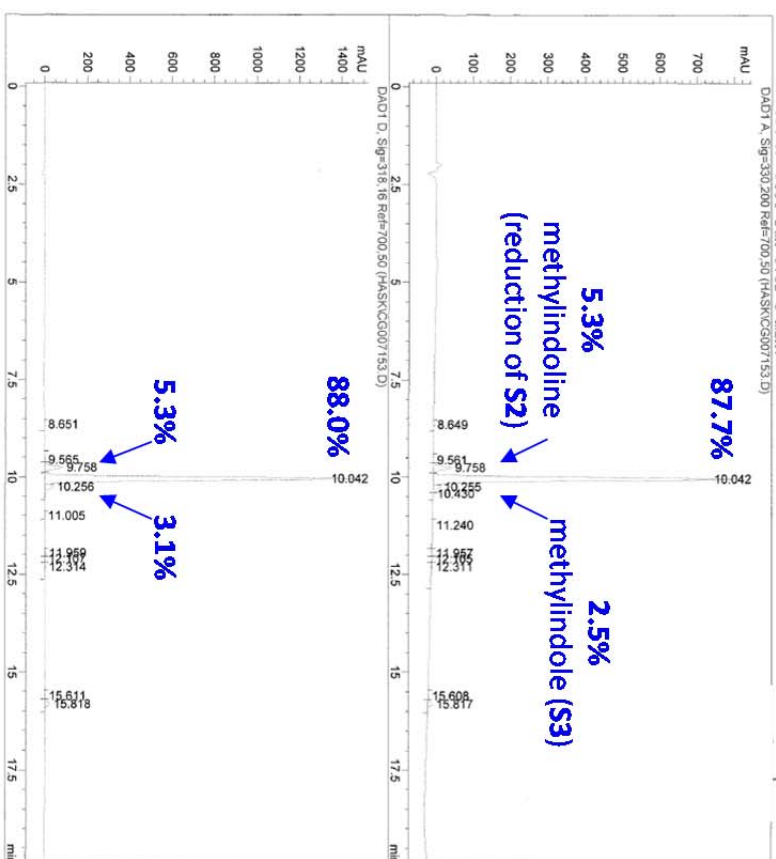
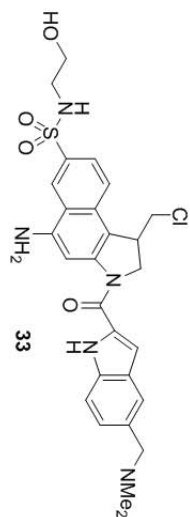
Figure S1. HPLC chromatograms of all final products with a purity of <95%. Chromatograms are reproduced on the following 8 pages. For each compound the upper panel shows chromatograms at 330 ± 200 nm (used for determining the reported purity) and the lower panel at λ_{max} ± 16 nm. For impurities >2% tentative identities are indicated.

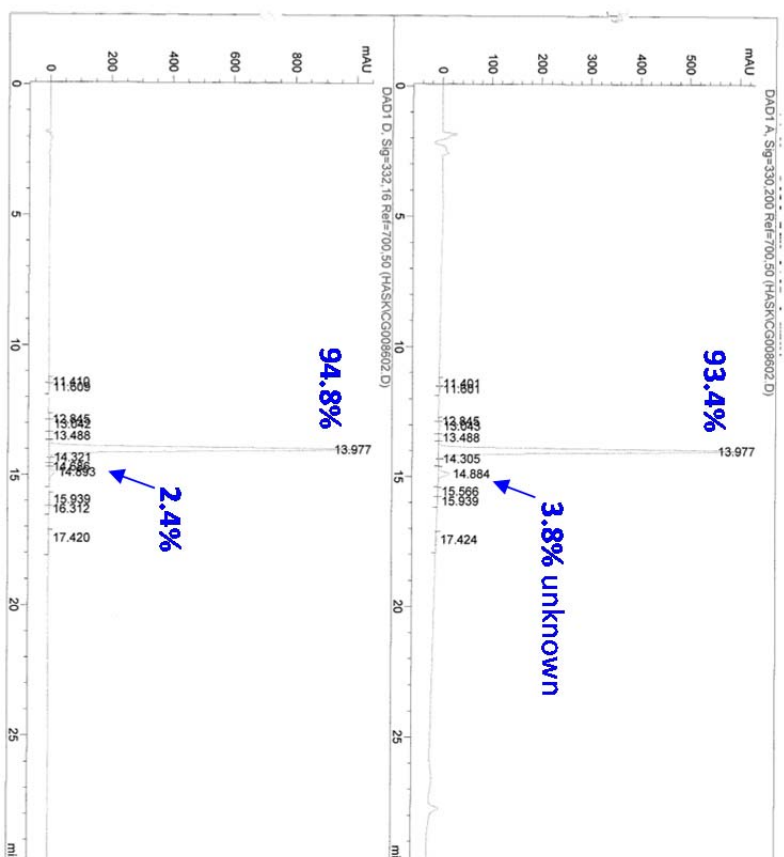
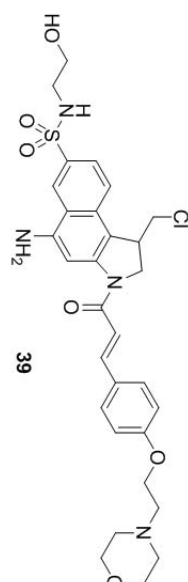
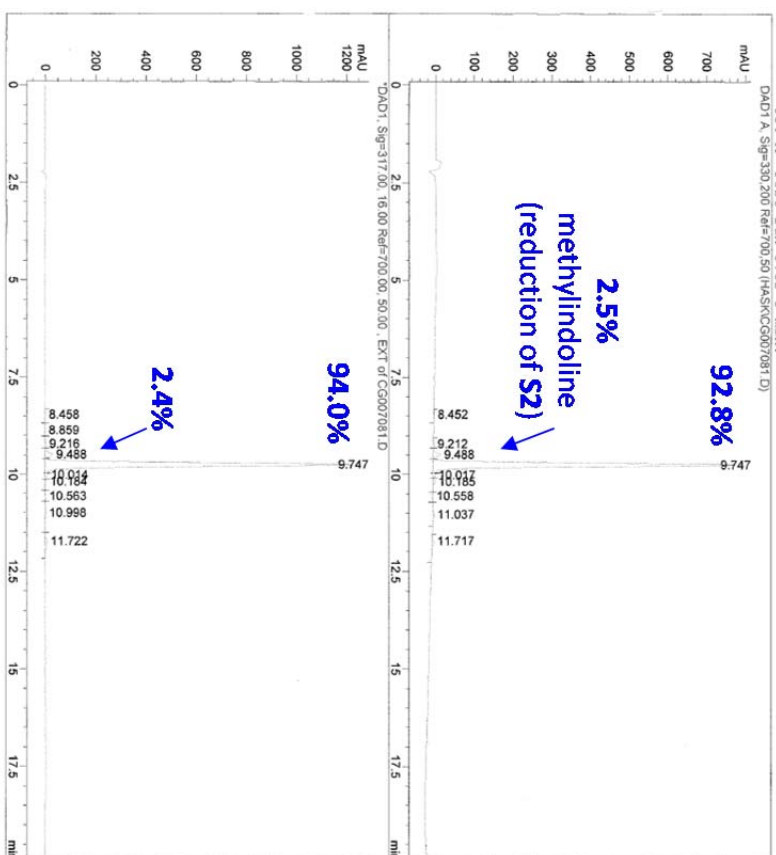
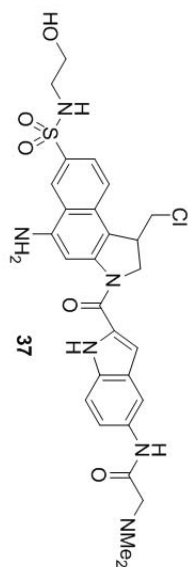


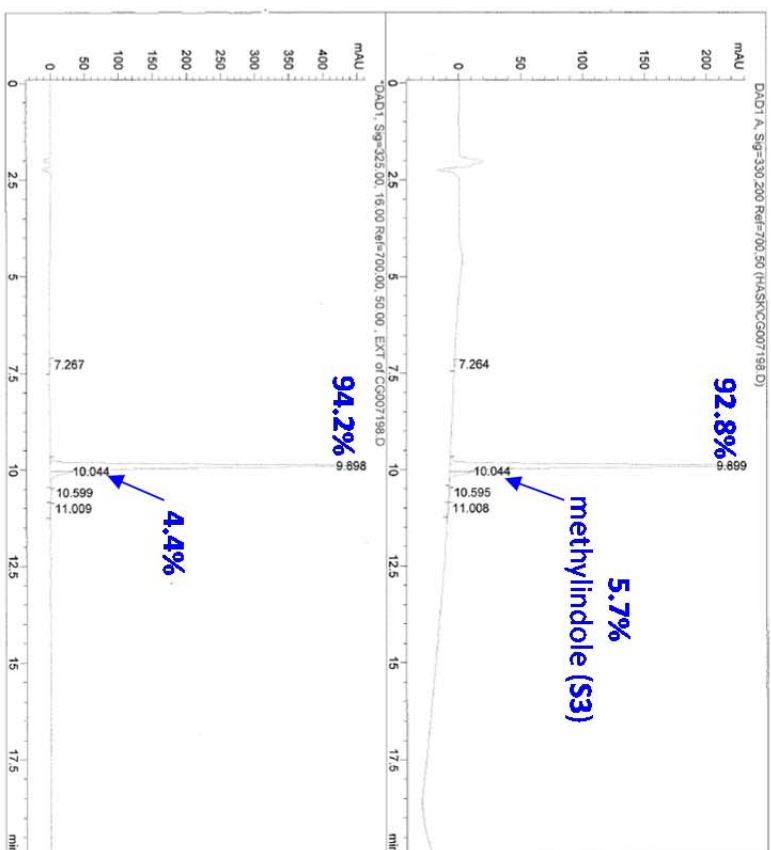
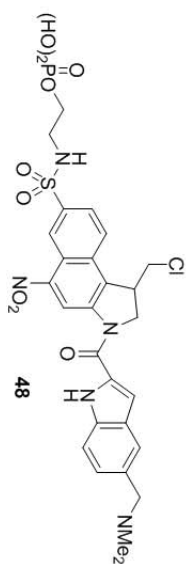
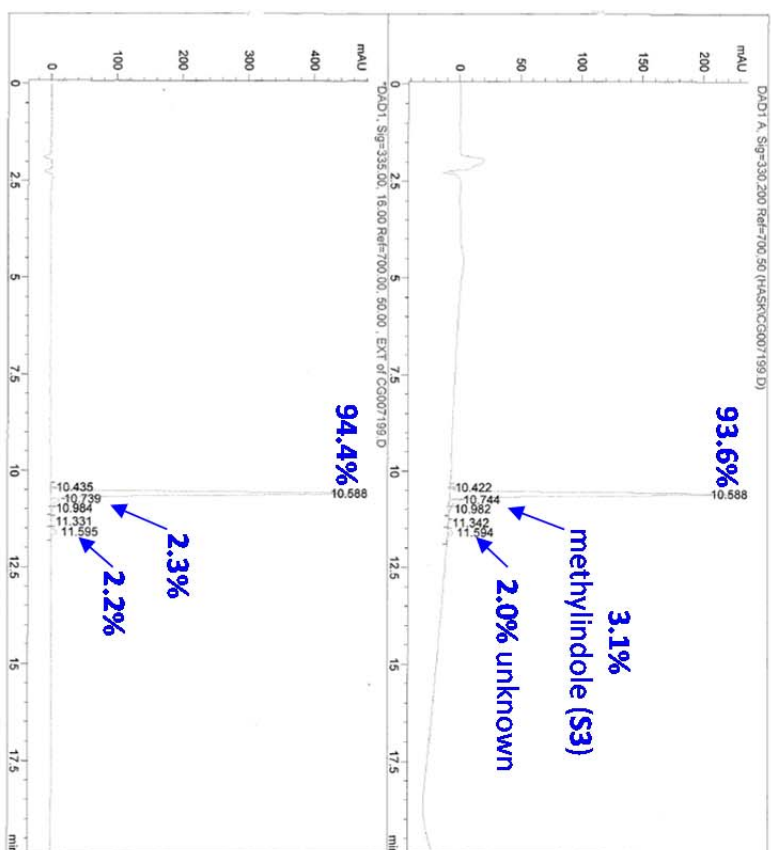
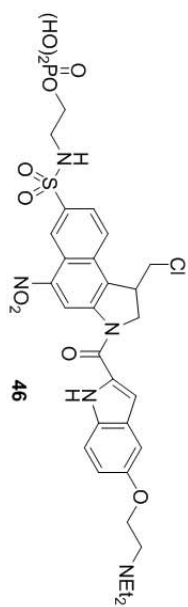












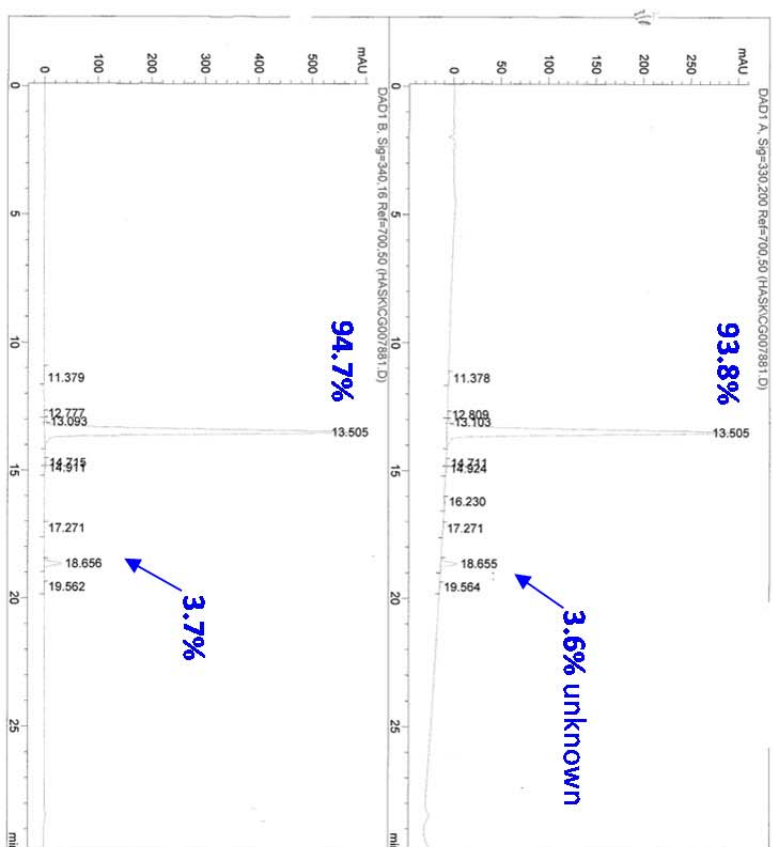
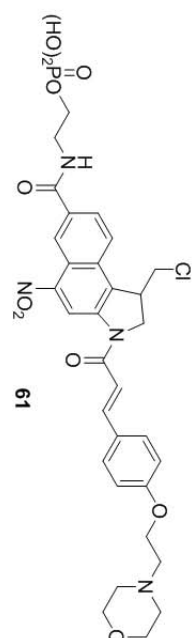
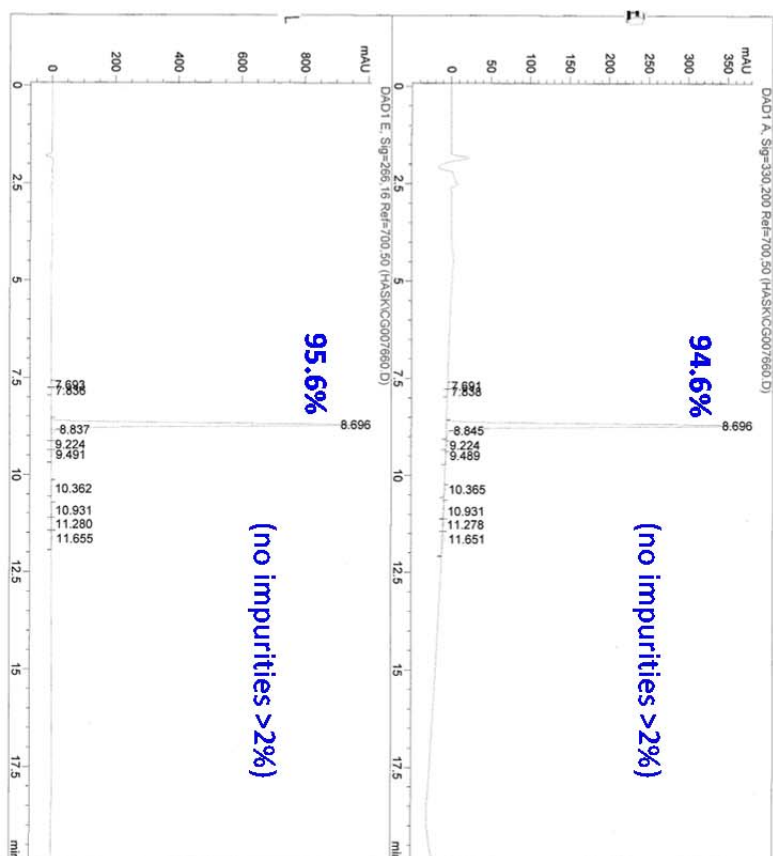
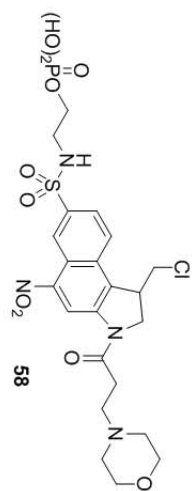


Table S1. In Vitro Cytotoxicity Data for NitroCBIs.

	HT29			SiHa		
	IC ₅₀ (μM) ^[a]		HCR ^[b]	IC ₅₀ (μM) ^[a]		HCR ^[b]
	oxic	hypoxic		oxic	Hypoxic	
10 ^[c]	28 ± 2	11 ± 2	2.1 ± 0.1	13 ± 1	3.5 ± 2.5	16 ± 4
11 ^[c]	9.3 ± 1.4	0.090 ± 0.020	160 ± 40	2.0 ± 0.2	0.065 ± 0.013	46 ± 10
12	4.2 ± 1.2	0.073 ± 0.019	59 ± 5	1.3 ± 0.6	0.044 ± 0.005	35 ± 19
13	3.1 ± 0.3	0.064 ± 0.009	50 ± 7	1.1 ± 0.1	0.043 ± 0.011	27 ± 5
14	20 ± 2	0.63 ± 0.25	42 ± 14	14 ± 4	0.21 ± 0.03	68 ± 13
15	24 ± 3	10 ± 2	2.6 ± 0.1	22 ± 3	1.8 ± 0.7	20 ± 8
16	21 ± 1	2.5 ± 0.1	8.9 ± 0.1	11 ± 1	0.53 ± 0.12	27 ± 5
17	4.3 ± 0.5	0.96 ± 0.06	4.4 ± 0.5	1.2 ± 0.2	0.39 ± 0.14	4.1 ± 1.6
18	5.8 ± 1.9	0.75 ± 0.12	7.6 ± 1.7	6.8 ± 1.1	0.45 ± 0.06	16 ± 3
19	25 ± 4	1.3 ± 0.2	21 ± 4	6.1 ± 1.2	0.29 ± 0.05	22 ± 5
20	9.1 ± 0.9	3.2 ± 0.5	2.9 ± 0.3	6.0 ± 1.8	1.2 ± 0.4	5.5 ± 0.8
21	3.3 ± 0.1	2.3 ± 0.2	1.4 ± 0.1	1.6 ± 0.3	0.74 ± 0.16	2.2 ± 0.1
22	3.1 ± 0.3	0.71 ± 0.17	4.9 ± 1.1	3.1 ± 0.7	0.29 ± 0.04	10 ± 1
23	16 ± 2	14 ± 4	1.1 ± 0.2	17 ± 1	5.7 ± 1.4	3.3 ± 0.8
24	43 ± 2	27 ± 5	1.9 ± 0.5	47 ± 3	21 ± 2	2.3 ± 0.3
25 ^[c]	5.7 ± 1.8	3.2 ± 0.2	1.7 ± 0.5	ND	ND	ND
26 ^[c]	12 ± 2	0.11 ± 0.07	490 ± 200	4.2 ± 1.1	0.24 ± 0.14	20 ± 4
27	8.3 ± 1.2	6.4 ± 2.6	0.96 ± 0.22	6.8 ± 0.7	0.36 ± 0.07	23 ± 7
28	4.1 ± 0.3	6.0 ± 0.2	0.68 ± 0.04	3.5 ± 0.3	1.6 ± 0.8	2.2 ± 0.7

^[a]Drug concentration to reduce cell density to 50% of that of controls following 4 h of exposure.

Values are the means ± SEM for two to fourteen experiments. ^[b]Hypoxic cytotoxicity ratio = IC₅₀(oxic)/IC₅₀(hypoxic). Values are the mean of intra-experiment ratios ± SEM for two to fourteen experiments. ^[c]Data previously reported.¹ ND = not determined.

Table S2. In Vitro Cytotoxicity Data for AminoCBIs.

	HT29			SiHa		
	IC ₅₀ (μM) ^[a]		HCR ^[b]	IC ₅₀ (μM) ^[a]		HCR ^[b]
	oxic	hypoxic		oxic	Hypoxic	
29 ^[c]	0.18 ± 0.01	0.27 ± 0.03	0.68 ± 0.03	0.053 ± 0.009	0.041 ± 0.009	1.3 ± 0.2
30 ^[c]	0.086 ± 0.006	0.072 ± 0.008	1.3 ± 0.2	0.017 ± 0.002	0.013 ± 0.001	1.3 ± 0.1
31	0.13 ± 0.03	0.090 ± 0.026	1.7 ± 0.4	0.036 ± 0.014	0.014 ± 0.001	2.9 ± 1.3
32	0.042 ± 0.025	0.049 ± 0.016	0.87 ± 0.52	0.014 ± 0.005	0.0091 ± 0.0026	1.5 ± 0.1
33	0.36 ± 0.07	0.19 ± 0.08	2.6 ± 1.0	0.078 ± 0.024	0.024 ± 0.001	3.3 ± 1.1
34	0.17 ± 0.01	0.18 ± 0.05	1.0 ± 0.2	0.057 ± 0.013	0.043 ± 0.006	1.3 ± 0.2
35	0.11 ± 0.01	0.12 ± 0.04	0.90 ± 0.08	0.024 ± 0.004	0.024 ± 0.005	1.1 ± 0.2
36	0.070 ± 0.003	0.064 ± 0.023	1.1 ± 0.1	0.016 ± 0.001	0.017 ± 0.002	1.0 ± 0.1
37	0.51 ± 0.09	0.48 ± 0.02	1.1 ± 0.2	0.11 ± 0.02	0.078 ± 0.015	1.5 ± 0.4
38	0.50 ± 0.03	0.47 ± 0.08	1.1 ± 0.3	0.16 ± 0.01	0.073 ± 0.015	2.3 ± 0.5
39	0.13 ± 0.02	0.12 ± 0.02	1.1 ± 0.1	0.034 ± 0.004	0.041 ± 0.004	0.85 ± 0.17
40	0.092 ± 0.031	0.081 ± 0.009	1.1 ± 0.4	0.029 ± 0.006	0.031 ± 0.002	0.94 ± 0.17
41	4.1 ± 0.5	4.8 ± 1.3	0.90 ± 0.14	1.6 ± 0.1	1.3 ± 0.1	1.2 ± 0.2
42	12 ± 2	14 ± 3	0.88 ± 0.01	4.4 ± 0.4	3.5 ± 0.1	1.3 ± 0.1
43 ^[c]	0.23 ± 0.04	0.21 ± 0.03	1.2 ± 0.2	0.031 ± 0.006	0.048 ± 0.008	0.64 ± 0.06
44	0.25 ± 0.03	0.28 ± 0.03	0.91 ± 0.15	0.035 ± 0.007	0.040 ± 0.008	0.79 ± 0.08

^[a]Drug concentration to reduce cell density to 50% of that of controls following 4 h of exposure.

Values are the means ± SEM for two to twelve experiments. ^[b]Hypoxic cytotoxicity ratio = IC₅₀(oxic)/IC₅₀(hypoxic). Values are the mean of intra-experiment ratios ± SEM for two to twelve experiments. ^[c]Data previously reported.¹

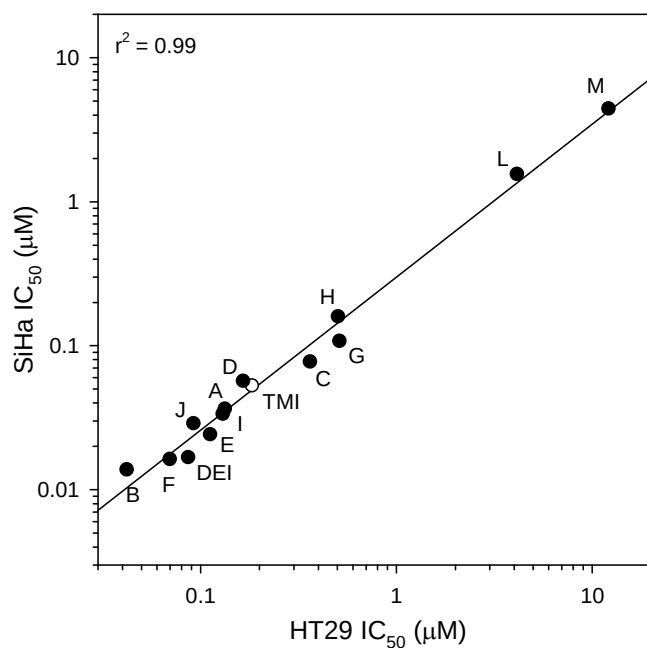


Figure S2. Correlation of cytotoxicity of aminoCBIs in two human carcinoma cell lines. IC_{50} s for all sulfonamide aminoCBIs (**29-42**) determined under oxic conditions. The letters refer to the side chain structures illustrated in Table 1. A similar analysis of IC_{50} s for the same compounds under hypoxic conditions gives an equally high correlation ($r^2 = 0.99$).

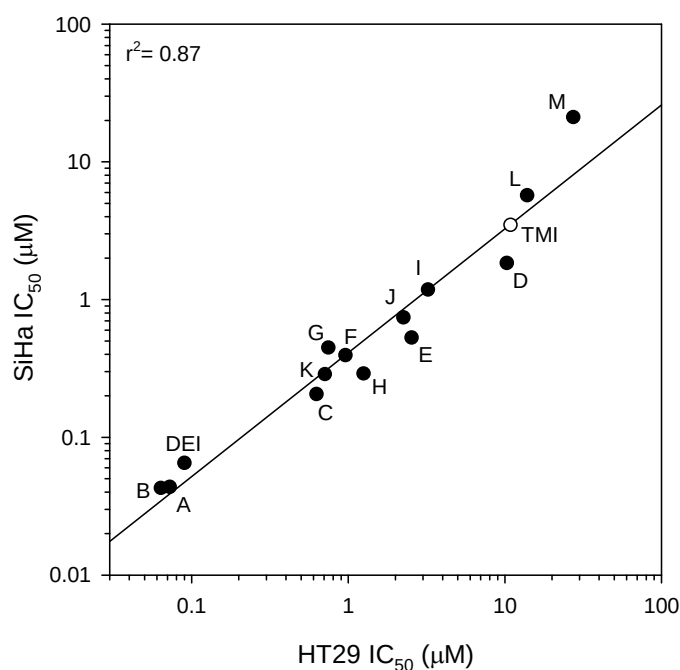


Figure S3. Correlation of hypoxic cytotoxicity of nitroCBIs in two human carcinoma cell lines. IC_{50} s for all sulfonamide nitroCBIs (**10-24**) determined under hypoxic conditions. The letters refer to the side chain structures illustrated in Table 1.

Table S3. Activity of nitroCBI phosphates against SiHa xenografts.

Compound ^[a]	Log ₁₀ Cell Kill ^[b]		
	Compound Alone (vs Control)	Radiation Alone (vs Control)	Radiation + Compound (vs Radiation Alone)
9 ^[c,d]	0.63 ± 0.20*	2.01**	1.36 ± 0.09**
	1.05 ± 0.04**	2.03**	1.63 ± 0.12**
	0.63 ± 0.26*	1.79**	1.83 ± 0.18**
	0.65 ± 0.21*	1.91**	1.56 ± 0.17**
45 ^[c]	0.34 ± 0.31	2.11**	0.55 ± 0.14*
46	0.31 ± 0.14	1.79**	0.57 ± 0.08**
47	0.92 ± 0.05**	2.03**	1.77 ± 0.29**
48	0.26 ± 0.09	1.79**	0.86 ± 0.12**
49	0.21 ± 0.04	1.91**	1.46 ± 0.31**
50 ^[e]	1.16 ± 0.05**	2.03**	2.41 ± 0.12**
	1.34 ± 0.37*	1.78**	1.73 ± 0.21**
	0.68 ± 0.40	2.33**	2.19 ± 0.15 ^[f] **
51	1.26 ± 0.06**	2.03**	2.26 ± 0.10**
52	0.27 ± 0.15	1.79**	1.36 ± 0.13**
54	1.05 ± 0.09**	1.91**	2.58 ± 0.13 ^[f] **
55	0.15 ± 0.05	1.69**	0.33 ± 0.24
56	-0.01 ± 0.01	1.69**	1.54 ± 0.35**
57	0.08 ± 0.04	1.91**	0.32 ± 0.11
58	0.17 ± 0.03	1.91**	0.30 ± 0.09
59 ^[c,g]	ND	2.01**	2.04 ± 0.11**
	0.79 ± 0.20**	2.03**	2.21 ± 0.22 ^[h] **
60	1.49 ± 0.32**	2.37**	1.47 ± 0.20**
61	0.36 ± 0.23	2.37**	1.72 ± 0.22**

^[a]All compounds were dosed at 42 µmolkg⁻¹ except for **46** (23.7 µmol/kg). ^[b][Log₁₀ clonogens(g tumor tissue)⁻¹ for specified comparator] minus [log₁₀ clonogens(g tumor tissue)⁻¹ for specified treatment]. ^[c]This data previously reported. ^[d]Tested in 4 separate experiments. ^[e]Tested in 3 separate experiments. ^[f]No clonogens detected in 3/5 treated tumors (excluded from calculation of mean). ^[g]Tested in 2 separate experiments. ^[h]No clonogens detected in 1/5 treated tumors (excluded from calculation of mean). ND = Not determined. All groups within a given experiment

were pairwise compared for statistical differences against the appropriate control group using one way ANOVA with the Holm-Sidak method for post hoc testing with SigmaPlot v13 (Systat Software, Inc.). *, $p < 0.05$; **, $p < 0.01$.

Table S4. Activity of nitroCBI phosphates against H460 xenografts.

Compound ^[a]	Log ₁₀ Cell Kill ^[b]		
	Compound Alone (vs Control)	Radiation Alone (vs Control)	Radiation + Compound (vs Radiation Alone)
9 ^[c]	-0.07 ± 0.01	1.03**	0.41 ± 0.10*
	0.24 ± 0.05	1.43**	0.27 ± 0.14
	0.47 ± 0.02*	1.45**	0.17 ± 0.15
	0.27 ± 0.05	1.26**	0.43 ± 0.16
46	0.03 ± 0.09	1.45**	-0.03 ± 0.10
47	0.14 ± 0.04	1.43**	0.12 ± 0.06
48	-0.03 ± 0.05	1.45**	0.07 ± 0.07
49	0.12 ± 0.05	1.26**	0.27 ± 0.08
50	0.13 ± 0.02	1.43**	0.76 ± 0.15**
51	0.61 ± 0.01**	1.43**	0.79 ± 0.12**
52	0.24 ± 0.08	1.45**	0.32 ± 0.04
54	0.48 ± 0.14**	1.26**	1.11 ± 0.22**
55	-0.18 ± 0.22	0.97**	0.25 ± 0.11
56	0.09 ± 0.05	0.97**	0.44 ± 0.13
57	0.12 ± 0.01	1.26**	0.05 ± 0.06
58	-0.13 ± 0.13	1.26**	0.09 ± 0.06
59	0.11 ± 0.08	1.43**	0.38 ± 0.21
60	0.25 ± 0.04**	1.16**	0.12 ± 0.08
61	ND	1.16**	0.54 ± 0.12**

^[a]All compounds were dosed at 75 $\mu\text{mol kg}^{-1}$ except for **46** (23.7 $\mu\text{mol/kg}$), **49** (42.2 $\mu\text{mol/kg}$), **54** (56.3 $\mu\text{mol/kg}$), and **57** (13.3 $\mu\text{mol/kg}$). ^[b][Log₁₀ clonogens(g tumor tissue)⁻¹ for specified comparator] minus [log₁₀ clonogens(g tumor tissue)⁻¹ for specified treatment]. ^[c]Tested in 4 separate experiments, one of which previously reported.¹ ND = Not determined. All groups within a given experiment were pairwise compared for statistical differences against the appropriate control group

using one way ANOVA with the Holm-Sidak method for post hoc testing with SigmaPlot v13 (Systat Software, Inc.). *, $p < 0.05$; **, $p < 0.01$.

Table S5. Activity of nitroCBI phosphates against H1299 xenografts.

Compound ^[a]	Log ₁₀ Cell Kill ^[b]		
	Compound Alone (vs Control)	Radiation Alone (vs Control)	Radiation + Compound (vs Radiation Alone)
9^[c]	0.85 ± 0.16**	1.26**	1.82 ± 0.21**
47	0.62 ± 0.03**	1.26**	1.40 ± 0.37**
50	1.06 ± 0.01**	1.26**	2.89 ± 0.17 ^[d] **
51	1.39 ± 0.31**	1.26**	2.24 ± 0.30**
59	1.05 ± 0.05**	1.26**	2.16 ± 0.27**

^[a]All compounds were dosed at 75 $\mu\text{mol kg}^{-1}$. ^[b][Log₁₀ clonogens(g tumor tissue)⁻¹ for specified comparator] minus [log₁₀ clonogens(g tumor tissue)⁻¹ for specified treatment]. ^[c]This data previously reported.¹ ^[d]No clonogens detected in 1/5 treated tumors (excluded from calculation of mean). All groups within a given experiment were pairwise compared for statistical differences against the appropriate control group using one way ANOVA with the Holm-Sidak method for post hoc testing with SigmaPlot v13 (Systat Software, Inc.). *, $p < 0.05$; **, $p < 0.01$.

Table S6. Activity of nitroCBI phosphates against HCT116 xenografts.

Compound ^[a]	Log ₁₀ Cell Kill ^[b]		
	Compound Alone (vs Control)	Radiation Alone (vs Control)	Radiation + Compound (vs Radiation Alone)
9^[c]	0.92 ± 0.08*	2.21**	0.97 ± 0.18**
47	ND	2.21**	1.34 ± 0.19**
50	ND	2.21**	2.60 ± 0.06 ^[d] **
51	1.79 ± 0.21**	2.21**	2.40 ± 0.34 ^[e] **
59	0.72 ± 0.07*	2.21**	1.36 ± 0.20**

^[a]All compounds were dosed at 56.3 $\mu\text{mol kg}^{-1}$. ^[b][Log₁₀ clonogens(g tumor tissue)⁻¹ for specified comparator] minus [log₁₀ clonogens(g tumor tissue)⁻¹ for specified treatment]. ^[c]This data previously reported.¹ ^[d]No clonogens detected in 3/5 treated tumors (excluded from calculation of mean). ^[e]No clonogens detected in 4/5 treated tumors (excluded from calculation of mean). ND = Not

determined. All groups within a given experiment were pairwise compared for statistical differences against the appropriate control group using one way ANOVA with the Holm-Sidak method for post hoc testing with SigmaPlot v13 (Systat Software, Inc.). *, $p < 0.05$; **, $p < 0.01$.

Table S7. Activity of **50** against 22Rv1 xenografts.

Compound^[a]	Log₁₀ Cell Kill^[b]		
	Compound Alone (vs Control)	Radiation Alone (vs Control)	Radiation + Compound (vs Radiation Alone)
50	ND	2.30**	1.18 ± 0.23**

^[a]**50** was dosed at 30 $\mu\text{mol kg}^{-1}$. ^[b][Log₁₀ clonogens(g tumor tissue)⁻¹ for specified comparator] minus [log₁₀ clonogens(g tumor tissue)⁻¹ for specified treatment]. ND = Not determined. All groups within a given experiment were pairwise compared for statistical differences against the appropriate control group using one way ANOVA with the Holm-Sidak method for post hoc testing with SigmaPlot v13 (Systat Software, Inc.). *, $p < 0.05$; **, $p < 0.01$.

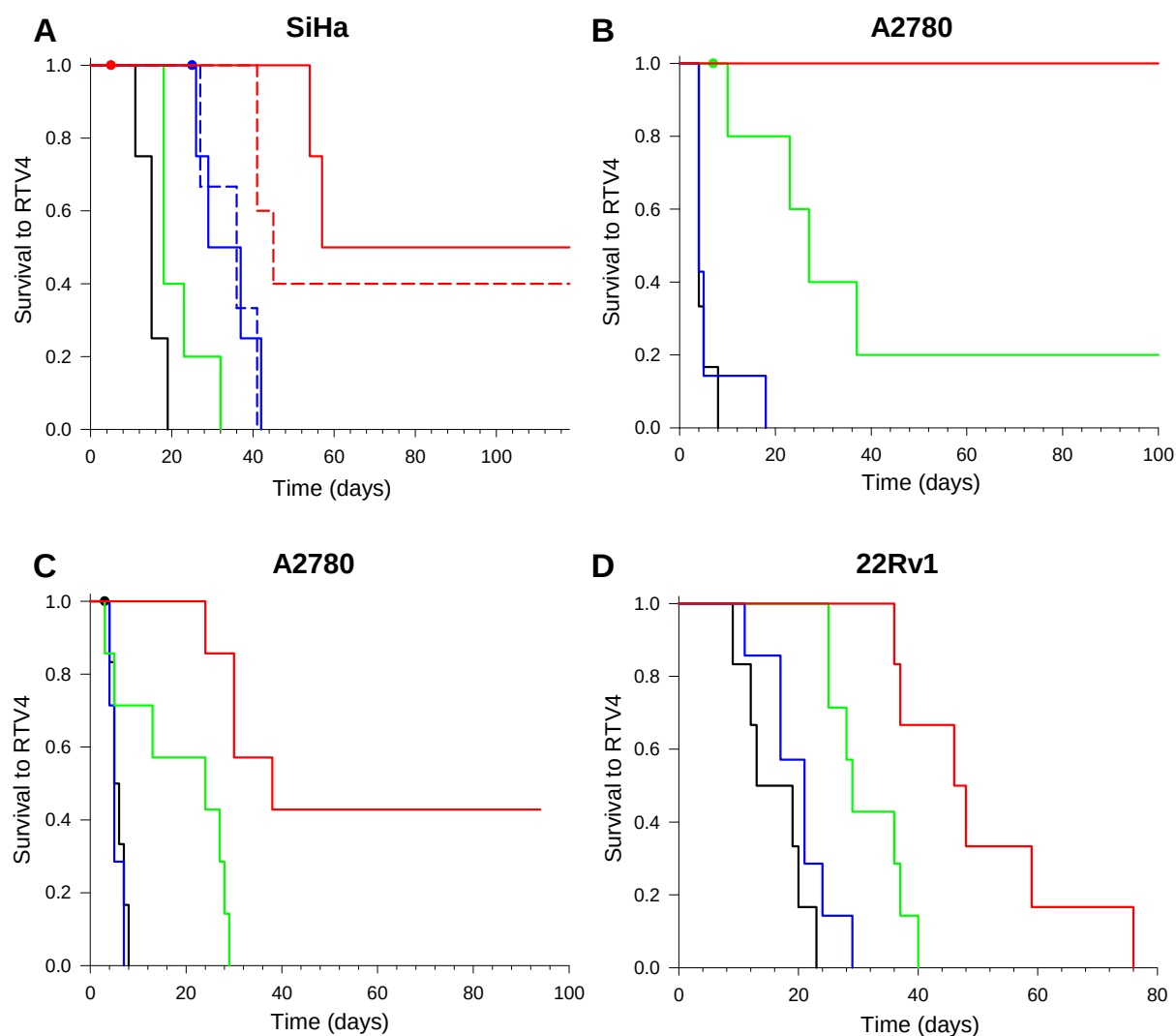


Figure S4. Kaplan-Meier survival curves for growth delay experiments. Conditions and groups are as described in Figure 5. Survival is measured as time to quadrupling of the initial tumor volume. Censored events marked with circles are as follows: A, one in **9** only group (42 $\mu\text{mol/kg}$) with average tumor diameter >15 mm, and one in combination group (56 $\mu\text{mol/kg}$) with body weight loss >15%; B, one in gemcitabine only group with body weight loss >15%; C, one in control group with tumor ulceration.

Table S8. Statistical analysis of Kaplan-Meier survival curves.

Xenograft	Dose ($\mu\text{mol/kg}$)		Median RTV4 Growth Delay in Days ($p^{[a]}$)		
	NitroCBI	Chemotherapy	NitroCBI ^[b]	Chemotherapy ^[c]	Combination ^[d]
SiHa	9 (42)	gemcitabine (237)	21 (0.007)	3 (ns)	27 (0.002)
	9 (56)	gemcitabine (237)	14 (0.007)		39 (0.004)
A2780	9 (56)	gemcitabine (133)	0 (ns)	23 (<0.001)	>73 (0.007)
A2780	50 (15)	gemcitabine (100)	0 (ns)	19 (0.03)	14 (0.001)
22Rv1	50 (14)	docetaxel (32)	8 (ns)	16 (<0.001)	17 (0.007)

^[a]Groups were pairwise compared for statistical significance using Log-Rank with SigmaPlot v13 (Systat Software, Inc.); ns, $p \geq 0.05$. ^[b]NitroCBI alone compared to control. ^[c]Chemotherapy alone compared to control. ^[d]NitroCBI plus chemotherapy compared to chemotherapy alone.

Table S9. Body weight nadirs for growth delay experiments.

Xenograft	Schedule	Dose ($\mu\text{mol/kg}$)		Maximum body weight loss	
		NitroCBI	Chemotherapy	Mean $\pm$ SE (%)	p vs control ^[a]
SiHa	q3d $\times$ 4	-	-	-2.5 ± 1.4	-
		-	gemcitabine (237)	-2.3 ± 0.8	ns
		9 (42)	-	-3.3 ± 1.4	ns
		9 (56)	-	0.0 ± 0.4	ns
		9 (42)	gemcitabine (237)	-5.7 ± 1.2	ns
		9 (56)	gemcitabine (237)	-7.9 ± 2.1	ns
A2780	q3d $\times$ 4	-	-	-2.3 ± 0.3	-
		-	gemcitabine (133)	-5.0 ± 2.3	ns
		9 (56)	-	-3.3 ± 0.8	ns
		9 (56)	gemcitabine (133)	-5.6 ± 1.6	ns
A2780	q3d $\times$ 4	-	-	-0.3 ± 0.1	-
		-	gemcitabine (100)	-1.8 ± 0.7	ns
		50 (15)	-	-0.6 ± 0.4	ns
		50 (15)	gemcitabine (100)	-1.4 ± 0.5	ns
22Rv1	qw $\times$ 2	-	-	-0.8 ± 0.3	-
		-	docetaxel (32)	-8.3 ± 1.1	<0.001
		50 (14)	-	-1.3 ± 0.3	ns
		50 (14)	docetaxel (32)	-4.8 ± 1.2	0.005

^[a]All treatment groups were pairwise compared with control for statistical significance using one way ANOVA with the Holm-Sidak method for post hoc testing with SigmaPlot v13 (Systat Software, Inc.); ns, $p \geq 0.05$.

Reference

1. Tercel, M.; Atwell, G. J.; Yang, S.; Ashoorzadeh, A.; Stevenson, R. J.; Botting, K. J.; Gu, Y.; Mehta, S. Y.; Denny, W. A.; Wilson, W. R.; Pruijn, F. B. Selective treatment of hypoxic tumor cells in vivo: phosphate pre-prodrugs of nitro analogues of the duocarmycins. *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2011**, *50*, 2606–2609.