# Intrinsic proteolytic activities from cancer cells are sufficient to activate alkoxyamine prodrugs and induce cell death

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## Figure S1: 1-c (<sup>1</sup>H NMR)



Figure S3: 1-c (<sup>13</sup>C DEPT NMR)





Figure S6: 2-c (<sup>13</sup>C NMR)



Figure S8: 2-c (HRMS)



855.5013

1: TOF MS ES+ 1.96e6



Figure S9: 1-b (<sup>1</sup>H NMR)



Figure S10: 1-b (<sup>13</sup>C NMR)



Figure S12: 1-b (HRMS)



Figure S13: 2-b (<sup>1</sup>H NMR)



Figure S14: 2-b (13C NMR)



Figure S15: 2-b (<sup>13</sup>C DEPT 135 NMR)



Figure S16: 2-b (HRMS)



Figure S17: 1-a (<sup>1</sup>H NMR)



Figure S18: 1-a (<sup>13</sup>C NMR)



Figure S19: 1-a (<sup>13</sup>C DEPT 135 NMR)



Figure S20: 1-a (HRMS)



Figure S21: 2-a (<sup>1</sup>H NMR)



Figure S22: 2-a (<sup>13</sup>C NMR)



Figure S23: 2-a (<sup>13</sup>C DEPT 135 NMR)



Figure S24: 2-a (HRMS)





1: TOF MS ES+ 6.02e6



Figure S25: HPLC traces of pGlu-Gly-Lys-Anilide-TEMPO 1.a (Black) Succinyl-Ala-Ala-pro-Val-anilide-TEMPO (blue) pGlu-Gly-Arg-Anilide-TEMPO 2.a (green) for purity check. Detection at 214 nm. Column x-bridge BEH C-18 46x50 mm. Gradient: Solvent A (0.05% TFA in water) to solvent B (0.05% TFA in acetonitrile) in 20 minutes.

Kinetic Analysis of Alkoxyamine Bond Homolysis.

The kinetic homolysis for peptide-alkoxyamines reported in Table 1 was recorded in EPR using water as solvent. Table S1. Experimental temperatures (T), homolysis rate constants  $k_d$ , activation energies  $E_a$  in H<sub>2</sub>O for peptidealkoxyamine **1a** and **2a**.

Peptide-Alkoxyamine	T (∘C) ª	<i>k</i> <sub>d</sub> (10 <sup>−4</sup> s <sup>−1</sup> ) <sup>a,b,c</sup>	E <sub>a</sub> (KJ.mol⁻¹) <sup>b,d</sup>
1a	95	4.6	124.8
<b>2</b> a	95	2.7	126.5

<sup>o</sup>In water <sup>b</sup>Values measured for a mixture of diastereosisomers. <sup>c</sup>Given by Equation (1). <sup>d</sup>Given by Equation (2), and an averaged frequency factor was used A = 2.4.10<sup>-14</sup> s<sup>-1</sup>, R = 8.314 J.K<sup>-1</sup>.mol<sup>-1</sup>, k<sub>d</sub>, and T are given in columns 2, 3 in Table 1.

The growth of nitroxide was recorded in the presence of an alkyl radical scavenger, i.e.,  $O_2$  here, to suppress the back reaction ( $k_c$  in Scheme 1), as already reported [1].

$$\begin{array}{c} R_1 \\ R_2 \end{array} \xrightarrow{R_3} \underbrace{k_d}_{k_c} \\ R_c \end{array} \begin{array}{c} R_1 \\ R_2 \end{array} \xrightarrow{R_1} N - 0 \cdot + \cdot R_3 \end{array}$$

Scheme S1. Dynamic covalent bond in alkoxymines:  $k_d$  stands for the homolysis rate constant and  $k_c$  stands for the re-formation reaction.

Homolysis rate constants kd are given by Equation S1 ([nitroxide] $\infty$  = [alkoxyamine]0 = 0.1 mM), and the subsequent activation energy values Ea are given by Equation S2, as follows [1]:

$$ln\left(\frac{[nitroxide]_{\infty} - [nitroxide]_{t}}{[nitroxide]_{\infty}}\right) = -k_{d} \cdot t \tag{1}$$
$$E_{a} = -RTln\left(\frac{k_{d}}{A}\right) \tag{2}$$

### Figure S26: Proof for the inactivity of MMP-2 on suc-AAPV-Anilide-TEMPO.

Activity of MMP-2 sample was first verified by incubation the enzyme overnight at 37°C with a commercial substrate (M-1855, BACHEM) and running reverse phase HPLC:



The HPLC trace shows complete hydrolysis of the substrate.



Then suc-AAPV-Anilide-TEMPO was incubated overnight at 37 °C in the presence or absence of MMP-2.

No significant loss of the alkoxyamine is visible thus showing that MMP-2 does not hydrolyze the peptide from the prodrug.

### References

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