

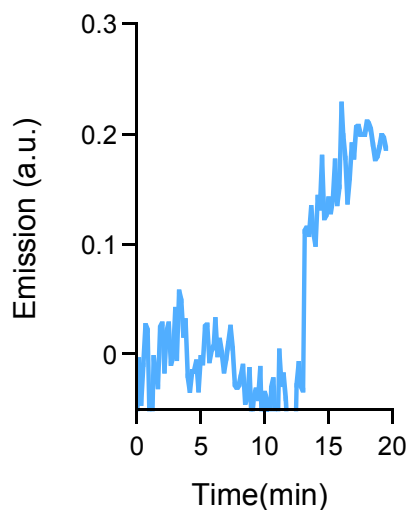
## Supporting Information

### **Intracellular reduction/activation of a disulfide switch in thiosemicarbazone iron chelators**

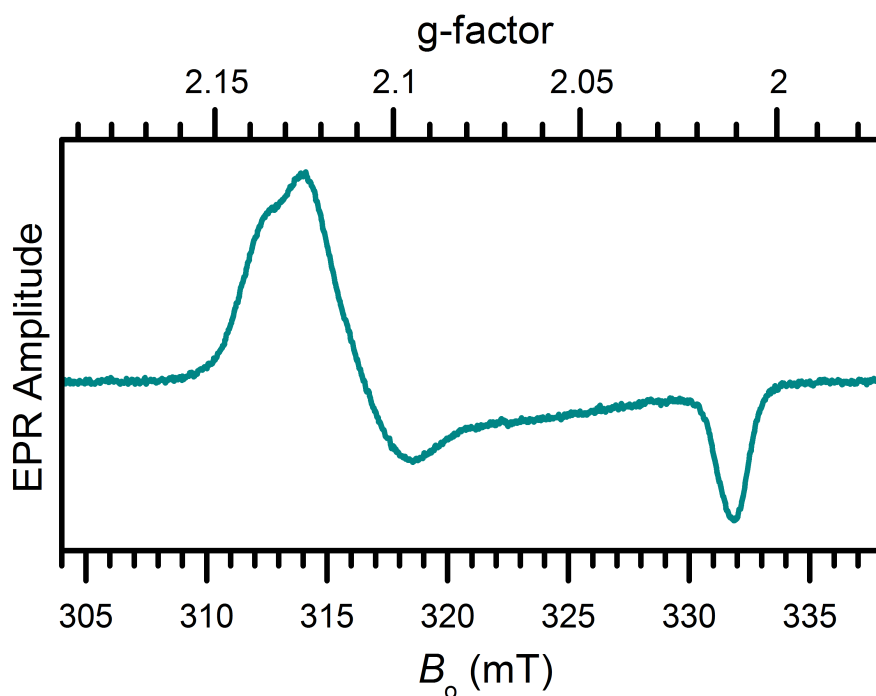
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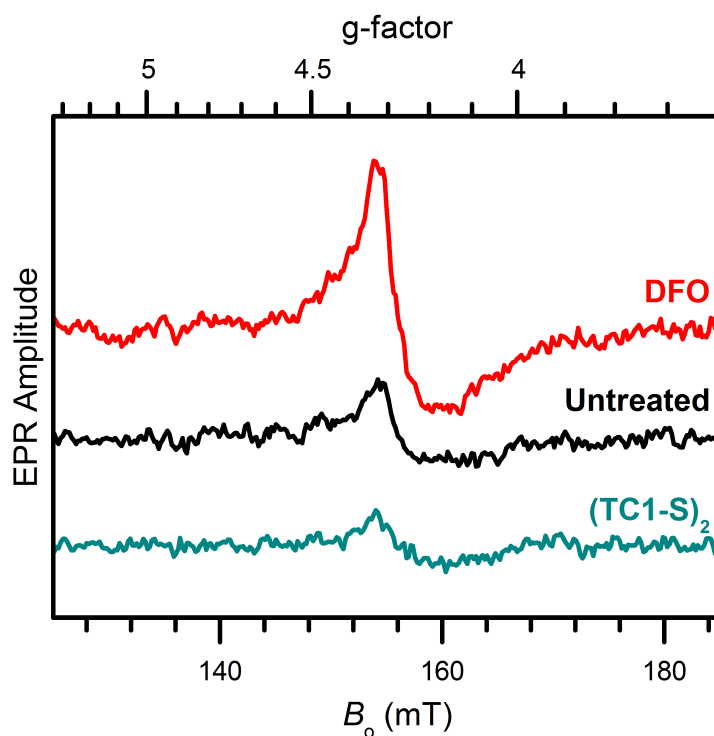
Fig. S1	Control experiment for calcein displacement assay
Fig. S2–S3	Whole-cell EPR supplementary data
Table S1	Cytotoxicity of iron complex [(TC1-S) <sub>2</sub> Fe][BF <sub>4</sub> ] in SK-N-MC and MDA-MB-231 cells



**Fig. S1.** Calcein fluorescence emission upon addition of DMSO at 5 min and then SIH (50  $\mu$ M) at 13 min in suspended Jurkat cell cultures. Fluorescence intensity at 517 nm (excitation, 488 nm) is plotted as the difference from the initial values before any addition.



**Fig. S2.** EPR spectrum of the synthetic complex  $[(TC1-S)_2Fe^{III}][BF_4]$  in DMSO. Experimental conditions: microwave frequency, 9.339 GHz; microwave power, 20  $\mu$ W; magnetic field modulation amplitude, 0.2 mT; temperature, 6 K.



**Fig. S3.**  $g \sim 4$  region of the EPR spectra of intact Jurkat cells. Black, untreated cells; red, after treatment with 50  $\mu\text{M}$  DFO for 3 hours; green, after treatment with 50  $\mu\text{M}$  (TC1-S)<sub>2</sub> for 1 hour. Experimental conditions: microwave frequency, 9.338 GHz; microwave power, 20 mW; magnetic field modulation amplitude, 0.5 mT; temperature, 10 K.

Compound	IC <sub>50</sub> ( $\mu\text{M}$ ), 48 h	
	SK-N-MC	MDA-MB-231
(TC1-S) <sub>2</sub> <sup>a</sup>	6.81 $\pm$ 0.17	4.59 $\pm$ 0.06
TC1-SH <sup>a</sup>	5.19 $\pm$ 0.17	15.01 $\pm$ 0.05
[(TC1-S) <sub>2</sub> Fe] <sup>+</sup>	42.07 $\pm$ 0.14	30.63 $\pm$ 0.05

**Table S1.** Antiproliferative activity of iron complex [(TC1-S)<sub>2</sub>Fe]<sup>+</sup> compared to the free prochelator and chelator systems in SK-N-MC (neuroepithelioma) and MDA-MB-231 (breast adenocarcinoma) cell cultures. IC<sub>50</sub> values were determined from MTT assays after exposure to tested compounds for 48 h; (a) data from: T. M. Chang and E. Tomat, *Dalton Trans.*, 2013, **42**, 7846-7849.