### **Supplementary Information**

# Small Bifunctional Chelators that Do Not Disaggregate Amyloid Fibrils Exhibit Reduced Cellular Toxicity

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## I. Synthetic schemes for L1 and L2.



#### II. UV-vis Spectra of L1 and L2.



Figure S1. Absorption spectrum of L1 in MeCN.



Figure S2. Absorption spectrum of L2 in MeCN.

#### III. Fluororescence Spectra of L1 and L2.



**Figure S3.** Emission spectrum of L1 in PBS ( $\lambda_{ex} = 380$  nm).



**Figure S4.** Emission spectrum of L2 and 2-(2-hydroxyphenyl)benzothiazole (HPB) in PBS ( $\lambda_{ex}$  = 320 nm).

### IV. Job's Plot Analysis of L1 and Metal Ions.



**Figure S5.** Job's plot for L1 and Cu<sup>2+</sup> in MeCN.



**Figure S6.** Job's plot for L1 and  $Zn^{2+}$  in MeCN.

### V. UV-vis Spectra of Metal Complexes.



**Figure S7**. Absorption spectrum of  $[(L1)_2Cu^{II}]$  in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>.



**Figure S8**. Absorption spectrum of [(L2)<sub>2</sub>Cu<sup>II</sup>] in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>.

#### VI. Inhibition of Aβ<sub>40</sub> Aggregation by L1 and L2.



**Figure S9**. TEM images of the inhibition of A $\beta_{40}$  aggregation by L1 and L2, in the presence or absence of metal ions ([A $\beta_{42}$ ] = [M<sup>2+</sup>] = 25  $\mu$ M, [compound] = 50  $\mu$ M, PBS, 37 °C, 24 h, scale bar = 500 nm). Panels are as follows: (1) A $\beta_{40}$ ; (2) A $\beta_{40}$  + Cu<sup>2+</sup>; (3) A $\beta_{40}$  + Zn<sup>2+</sup>; (4) A $\beta_{40}$  + L1; (5) A $\beta_{40}$  + L1 + Cu<sup>2+</sup>(inset is an enlarged image to show fibrillar structures) (6) A $\beta_{40}$  + L1 + Zn<sup>2+</sup>; (7) A $\beta_{40}$  + L2; (8) A $\beta_{40}$  + L2 + Cu<sup>2+</sup> (inset is an enlarged image to show fibrillar structures); (9) A $\beta_{40}$  + L2 + Zn<sup>2+</sup>.



**Figure S10.** Native gel electrophoresis/Western blot analysis of the inhibition of A $\beta_{40}$  aggregation by L1 and L2, in the presence or absence of metal ions. Panels and lanes are as follows: (1) A $\beta_{40}$  + L1; (2) A $\beta_{40}$  + Cu<sup>2+</sup> + L1; (3) A $\beta_{40}$  + Zn<sup>2+</sup> + L1; (4) A $\beta_{40}$  + L2; (5) A $\beta_{40}$  + Cu<sup>2+</sup> + L2; (6) A $\beta_{40}$  + Zn<sup>2+</sup> + L2.

#### VII. Cellular Toxicity of Compounds.



Figure S11. Cell viability (% control) of Neuro2A cells incubated with various amounts of ligands ranging from 0.2 to 20  $\mu$ M.

# VIII. X-ray Data for 1, 2, and-3.

 Table S1. Crystal data and structure refinement for complex 1.

Identification code	13010/lt//lt/AS-NEt2-0	13010/lt//lt/AS-NEt2-Cu		
Empirical formula	C34 H34 Cu N4 O2 S2			
Formula weight	658.31			
Temperature	100(2) K			
Wavelength	0.71073 Å			
Crystal system	Monoclinic			
Space group	C2/c			
Unit cell dimensions	a = 19.8642(16) Å	$\alpha = 90^{\circ}$		
	b = 13.1133(11) Å	$\beta = 116.072(4)^{\circ}$		
	c = 12.7539(10)  Å	$\gamma = 90^{\circ}$		
Volume	2984.1(4) Å <sup>3</sup>			
Z	4			
Density (calculated)	1.465 Mg/m <sup>3</sup>			
Absorption coefficient	0.911 mm <sup>-1</sup>			
F(000)	1372			
Crystal size	0.30 x 0.19 x 0.16 mm <sup>3</sup>			
Theta range for data collection	1.93 to 27.90°.			
Index ranges	-26≤h≤25, -17≤k≤17,	-26≤h≤25, -17≤k≤17, -16≤l≤16		
Reflections collected	43481	43481		
Independent reflections	3472 [R(int) = 0.084]	3472 [R(int) = 0.084]		
Completeness to theta = $25.00^{\circ}$	99.6 %	99.6 %		
Absorption correction	Semi-empirical from e	Semi-empirical from equivalents		
Max. and min. transmission	0.8686 and 0.7691			
Refinement method	Full-matrix least-squar	Full-matrix least-squares on F <sup>2</sup>		
Data / restraints / parameters	3472 / 4 / 205			
Goodness-of-fit on F <sup>2</sup>	1.031			
Final R indices [I>2sigma(I)]	R1 = 0.0493, wR2 = 0	R1 = 0.0493, wR2 = 0.1206		
R indices (all data)	R1 = 0.0723, wR2 = 0	R1 = 0.0723, wR2 = 0.1378		
Largest diff. peak and hole	0.984 and -0.932 e.Å-	3		

Identification code	135409/lt/AKS-1-Zn	
Empirical formula	C <sub>23</sub> H <sub>33</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub> N <sub>3</sub> O S Zn	
Formula weight	535.85	
Temperature	100(2) K	
Wavelength	0.71073 Å	
Crystal system	Tetragonal	
Space group	$I4_1/a$	
Unit cell dimensions	a = 25.5583(11) Å	$\alpha = 90^{\circ}$
	b = 25.5583(11) Å	$\beta = 90^{\circ}$
	c = 15.3021(7)  Å	$\gamma = 90^{\circ}$
Volume	9995.7(8) Å <sup>3</sup>	
Ζ	16	
Density (calculated)	1.424 Mg/m <sup>3</sup>	
Absorption coefficient	1.300 mm <sup>-1</sup>	
F(000)	4480	
Crystal size	0.38 x 0.16 x 0.15 mm	3
Theta range for data collection	2.22 to 27.57°.	
Index ranges	-33≤h≤33, -33≤k≤33,	-19 <u>≤</u> 1≤19
Reflections collected	185322	
Independent reflections	5779 [R(int) = 0.0516]	
Completeness to theta = $25.00^{\circ}$	100.0 %	
Absorption correction	Semi-empirical from e	quivalents
Max. and min. transmission	0.8268 and 0.6364	
Refinement method	Full-matrix least-square	res on F <sup>2</sup>
Data / restraints / parameters	5779 / 0 / 285	
Goodness-of-fit on F <sup>2</sup>	1.056	
Final R indices [I>2sigma(I)]	R1 = 0.0230, wR2 = 0	.0553
R indices (all data)	R1 = 0.0305, $wR2 = 0.0594$	
Largest diff. peak and hole	0.935 and -0.211 e.Å <sup>-3</sup>	

**Table S2.** Crystal data and structure refinement for 2.

Identification code	l2013/rt/smart/AS-L6-Cu		
Empirical formula	C28 H20 Cu N2 O4 S2		
Formula weight	576.12		
Temperature	298(2) K		
Wavelength	0.71073 Å		
Crystal system	Monoclinic		
Space group	P 2 <sub>1</sub> /n		
Unit cell dimensions	a = 8.3782(3) Å	$\alpha = 90^{\circ}$	
	b = 22.6181(8) Å	$\beta=91.914(2)^\circ$	
	c = 12.9135(4)  Å	$\gamma = 90^{\circ}$	
Volume	2445.73(14) Å <sup>3</sup>		
Ζ	4		
Density (calculated)	1.565 Mg/m <sup>3</sup>		
Absorption coefficient	1.104 mm <sup>-1</sup>		
F(000)	1180		
Crystal size	0.127 x 0.078 x 0.059 mm	l <sup>3</sup>	
Theta range for data collection	1.801 to 24.999°.		
Index ranges	-9≤h≤9, -26≤k≤26, -15≤l≤15		
Reflections collected	45293		
Independent reflections	4299 [R(int) = 0.1176]		
Completeness to theta = $25.000^{\circ}$	99.9 %		
Absorption correction	Semi-empirical from equivalents		
Max. and min. transmission	0.9377 and 0.8726		
Refinement method	Full-matrix least-squares on F <sup>2</sup>		
Data / restraints / parameters	4299 / 1 / 341		
Goodness-of-fit on F <sup>2</sup>	1.010		
Final R indices [I>2sigma(I)]	R1 = 0.0534, $wR2 = 0.1142$		
R indices (all data)	R1 = 0.1264, WR2 = 0.1474		
Extinction coefficient	n/a		
Largest diff. peak and hole	0.821 and -0.353 e.Å <sup>-3</sup>		

 Table S3. Crystal data and structure refinement for 3.