## Multi-target heteroleptic palladium bisphosphonate complexes

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## Supplementary material

## Drug screening in MG-63 and A549 tumor cell lines

**Cell line and growth conditions:** Tissue culture materials were purchased from Corning (Princeton, NJ, USA), Dulbecco's modified Eagle's medium (DMEM) and TrypLE<sup>TM</sup> were purchased from Gibco (Gaithersburg, MD, USA), and fetal bovine serum (FBS) was purchased from Internegocios (Argentina). The 3-(4,5-dimethylthiazol-2-yl)-2,5-diphenyltetrazolium bromide (MTT) was purchased from Invitrogen. The MG-63 and A549 cell lines were purchased from ATCC. MG-63 human osteosarcoma cells (CRL-1427<sup>TM</sup>) and A549 human lung carcinoma (CCL-185<sup>TM</sup>) were grown in DMEM containing 10 % FBS, 100 U/mL penicillin, and 100  $\mu$ g/mL streptomycin at 37 °C in a 5 % CO<sub>2</sub> atmosphere. Cells were seeded in a 75-cm<sup>2</sup> flask, and when 70–80 % of confluence was reached, cells were grown in 96 multiwell plates. When cells reached the desired confluence, the monolayers were washed with DMEM and were incubated with the palladium complexes.

**3-(4,5-Dimethylthiazol-2-yl)-2,5-diphenyltetrazolium bromide assay:** The 3-(4,5-dimethylthiazol-2-yl)-2,5-diphenyltetrazolium bromide (MTT) assay was performed according to Mosmann [50]. Briefly, cells were seeded in a 96-well dish, allowed to attach for 24 h, and treated with different concentrations of palladium complexes at 37 °C for 24 h. Afterwards, the medium was changed and the cells were incubated with 0.5 mg/mL MTT under normal culture conditions for 3 h. Cell viability was marked by the conversion of the tetrazolium salt MTT to colored formazan by mitochondrial dehydrogenases. Color development was measured spectrophotometrically with a microplate reader (model 7530, Cambridge Technology, USA) at 570 nm after cell lysis in DMSO (100  $\mu$ L per well). Cell viability was plotted as the percentage of the control value.



**Fig. S1.** Molecular models of two isomers of pamidronate (zwitterion form at right) studied at the B3LYP/6-31+G\* level of theory (T = 298 K).



**Fig. S2.** Experimental FTIR spectra of Pd-pam-bpy (top, blue line) and Pd-ale-bpy (top, green line); Pd-pam-phen (bottom, red line) and Pd-ale-phen (bottom, black line).



**Fig. S3.** Vibrational IR spectra of system Pd-pam-phen: experimental result (top, red line), theoretical spectrum of  $\{[Pd(phen)(N-pam)_2](Na^+)_2(H_2O)_8\}^{2+}$  (middle, blue line), and of  $\{[Pd(phen)(O-PAM)](H_2O)_4\}^{2+}$  (bottom, green line) as calculated at B3LYP/LANL2DZ/6-31+G\* level (T = 298 K). Absorption bands only in the range from 1800 to 500 cm<sup>-1</sup> are exhibited.



Fig. S4.  $^{1}$ H-RMN spectra in D<sub>2</sub>O of the obtained complexes.



Fig. S5. <sup>31</sup>P-RMN spectra in D<sub>2</sub>O of the obtained complexes



**Fig. S6.** Evaluation of the mitochondrial succinate dehydrogenase activity by the 3-(4,5dimethylthiazol- 2-yl)-2,5-diphenyltetrazolium bromide (MTT) assay in MG-63 and A549 cells in culture. Osteosarcoma and lung carcinoma cells were incubated with different doses of palladium complexes for 24 h at 37 ° C. After incubation, cell viability was determined by the MTT assay. Results are expressed as the percentage of the basal level and represent the mean  $\pm$  SEM (n = 18). \*p<0.05. In A549 cells a concentration dependent inhibition was observed for all the obtained complexes from 25 to 50 µM. For a given dose, Pd-ale-phen and Pd-pam-phen showed the highest cytotoxic activities. In MG-63 cells, only Pd-pam-phen showed a cytotoxic effect in a concentration-dependent manner up to 50 µM with statistically significant differences versus control conditions (without complex addition) (p < 0.05). For this complex, the inhibitory effect showed a plateau in the highest concentrations (50 to 100 µM). On the other hand, Pd-pam-bpy did not show any effects and Pd-ale-phen and Pd-ale-bpy only provoked a slight effect in the cell viability in the 5–100 µM concentration range.



**Fig. S7.** (a) Fluorescence emission quenching ( $\lambda_{exc.} = 510 \text{ nm}$ ) observed upon binding of Pd-ale-phen. (b) Relative fluorescence intensity (%) at  $\lambda_{em.} = 594 \text{ nm}$  with increasing complex concentration obtained for Pd-ale-NN complexes ( $C_{DNA} = 20 \mu M$ ,  $C_{EB} = 10 \mu M$ , samples prepared in TRIS-HCl medium, 30 min incubation at 37 °C).



**Fig. S8.** Fluorescence intensity normalized at  $\lambda_{em.} = 594$  nm of the adduct {DNA-EB} at different concentrations of the complex Pd-ale-phen. Black: 0  $\mu$ M, Blue: 100  $\mu$ M



**Fig. S9.** Fluorescence emission quenching ( $\lambda$  exc. = 510 nm) observed upon binding of (a) Pd-pam-phen and (b) Pd-pam-bpy.