Supporting Information

Bioorthogonal activation of prodrugs, for the potential treatment of breast cancer, using the Staudinger reaction

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Figure *S1*: a) HPLC chromatograph of doxorubicin **11** release from prodrug **12** by 9-azido sialic acid **4** at 37 C° in aqueous MeCN (1:1) as a function of time. b) HPLC chromatogram of *N*-Mustard release from prodrug **10** by 9-azido sialic acid **4** at 37 C° in aqueous MeCN (1:1) as a function of time. Legend: *: azido-sialic acid **4**; •: Dox prodrug **12**; 0: Dox **11**; **x**: phosphine-oxide ligation product; ◊: *N*-Mustard prodrug **10**.



Figure S2: a) Viability of MCF-7 cells after incubation with Ac₄ManNAz, **4** or **5** at various concentrations (1-100 μ M) determined by the MTT assay. b) Viability of L929 cells after incubation with 50 μ M Ac₄ManNAz, **4** or **5** determined by the MTT assay. Data are presented as mean ± SEM (n = 3).



Figure S3: a) Determined IC_{50} for Dox prodrug **12** activation against **4**, **5** and $Ac_4ManNAz$ -engineered MCF-7 cells. b) Determined IC_{50} for *N*-Mustard prodrug **10** activation against **4**, **5** and $Ac_4ManNAz$ -engineered MCF-7 cells. c) Determined IC_{50} of Dox **11** and Dox prodrug **12** against MCF-7 cells and L929 cells. d) Determined IC_{50} of *N*-Mustard prodrug **10** against MCF-7 cells and L929 cells. e) Determined IC_{50} for Dox prodrug **12** activation against **4**, **5** and $Ac_4ManNAz$ -engineered L929 cells. f) Determined IC_{50} for *N*-Mustard prodrug **10** activation against **4**, **5** and $Ac_4ManNAz$ -engineered L929 cells. f) Determined IC_{50} for *N*-Mustard prodrug **10** activation against **4**, **5** and $Ac_4ManNAz$ -engineered L929 cells. f) Determined IC_{50} for *N*-Mustard prodrug **10** activation against **4**, **5** and $Ac_4ManNAz$ -engineered L929 cells. f) Determined IC_{50} for *N*-Mustard prodrug **10** activation against **4**, **5** and $Ac_4ManNAz$ -engineered L929 cells. f)



Figure S4: Confocal fluorescence microscopy images of Ac₄ManNAz, **4**, **5**-treated and untreated control breast cancer cells (MCF-7) (50 μ M for 72 h). Arrows indicate higher fluorescence at cell membranes and cell membrane junctions between cells.

¹H and ¹³C NMR Spectra



 ^1H NMR spectrum (400 MHz, D2O) of compound $\boldsymbol{2}$



 ^{13}C NMR spectrum (100 MHz, D2O) of compound $\boldsymbol{2}$



 ^1H NMR spectrum (400 MHz, D_2O) of compound $\boldsymbol{3}$



 $^{\rm 13}C$ NMR spectrum (100 MHz, D_2O) of compound ${\bf 3}$



¹H NMR spectrum (400 MHz, D₂O) of compound **4**



 ^{13}C NMR spectrum (100 MHz, D₂O) of compound **4**



¹H NMR spectrum (400 MHz, D_2O) of compound **5**



 $^{\rm 13}C$ NMR spectrum (100 MHz, $D_2O)$ of compound ${\bf 5}$



¹H NMR spectrum (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) of compound **7**



¹³C NMR spectrum (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) of compound **7**



¹H NMR spectrum (400 MHz, DMSO- d_6) of compound **8**



 ^{13}C NMR spectrum (100 MHz, CDCl_3) of compound ${\bf 8}$



¹H NMR spectrum (400 MHz, DMSO- d_6) of compound **9**



 ^{13}C NMR spectrum (100 MHz, DMSO- $d_6)$ of compound ${\bf 9}$



¹H NMR spectrum (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) of compound **10**



¹³C NMR spectrum (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) of compound **10**



 ^{31}P NMR spectrum (162 MHz, DMSO- $d_6)$ of compound 10



¹H NMR spectrum (700 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) of compound **12**



¹³C NMR spectrum (176 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) of compound **12**



 ^{31}P NMR spectrum (162 MHz, DMSO- $d_6)$ of compound 12

HPLC traces of final compounds 4, 5, 10 and 12



The HPLC trace of compound 4



The HPLC trace of compound 5



The HPLC trace of compound 10



The HPLC trace of compound 12