Supporting Information

## Mitochondria-localized dinuclear iridium(III) complexes for

## two-photon photodynamic therapy

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**Fig. S1** Synthetic route of the **Ir(III)** complexes. (a) NH<sub>4</sub>OAc, HOAc, 120 °C, 12 h; (b) Pd/C, EtOH, H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>, 65°C, 12 h; (c) DCM/MeOH(1:1, v/v), Ar, 85 °C, 6 h; (d) NH<sub>4</sub>OAc, HOAc, 135 °C, 12 h; (e) DCM/MeOH(1:1, v/v), Ar, 85 °C, 6 h.



Fig. S2 Size distribution of (a) N-Ir1, (b) N-Ir2, (c) N-Ir3 determined by dynamic light scattering.



**Fig. S3** Long-term stability evaluation for different nanoparticles. (a) **N-Ir1**, (b) **N-Ir2**, (c) **N-Ir3**, (d) **N-Ir4**.



Fig. S4 Zeta potentials of N-Ir1-4 in physiological pH aqueous solution.



Fig. S5 UV–Vis spectra of the N-Ir1-4 in PBS for 48 h.



**Fig. S6** (a) Two-photon absorption cross section of **Ir1-4** in dichloromethane ( $c \sim 1.0 \times 10^{-2}$  M). (b) OA Z-scan data of **Ir1-4**. Open scattered symbols represent experimental data and solid lines are fits resulting from 2PA, The solid lines represent the fits for 2PA.



Fig. S7 ESR spectra of Ir1-4 in the presence of TEMP.



**Fig. S8** Plots of the cumulative decrease in optical density of ABDA (100  $\mu$ M) at 378 nm along irradiation time ( $\lambda_{irr}$ =405 nm) in the presence of the indicated complexes. [Ru(bpy)<sub>3</sub>]<sup>2+</sup> as the standard.



Fig. S9 Partition coefficient (log Po/w) of the indicated complexes. All the experiments were performed as duplicates of triplicates (n = 3 independent experiments). The error bars represent the standard deviation (SD).



Fig. S10 Time-dependent ICP-MS of A375 cells pre-incubated with Ir1-4 and N-Ir1-4 (4  $\mu M).$ 



Fig. S11 MS spectrum of the ligand tbpip- $NO_2$ 



Fig. S12 MS spectrum of the ligand tbpip- $NH_2$ 



Fig. S13 MS spectrum of Ir-tbpip-NH<sub>2</sub>



Fig. S14 MS spectrum of Ir1



Fig. S15 <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of Ir1



Fig. S16 MS spectrum of Ir2



Fig. S17 <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of Ir2



Fig. S18 MS spectrum of Ir3



Fig. S19 <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of Ir3



Fig. S20 MS spectrum of Ir4



Fig. S21 <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of Ir4

Compd	$\lambda_{abs}/nm (\epsilon, \times 10^3 \mathrm{M}^{-1})$	$\lambda_{em/nm}$	$\Phi_u(air)$	τ/ns
Ir1	275, 385, 404	568	0.0198	203
Ir2	274, 385, 404	569	0.0182	201
Ir3	275, 383, 401	570	0.0187	201
Ir4	273, 385, 403	570	0.0193	200

Table S1 Photophysical properties of designed compounds

Wavelength/nm	690	700	710	720	730	740	750	760	770	780	790	800
Ir1 $\delta_{2PA}$ /GM	100	81	84	82	135	83	81	40	55	31	45	34
Ir2 $\delta_{\rm 2PA}/{ m GM}$		115	162	166	120	155	142	139	83	99	100	94
Ir3 $\delta_{\rm 2PA}/{ m GM}$			41	66	29	29	28	22	11			
Ir4 $\delta_{2PA}$ /GM	100	73	80	107	69	79						

 Table S2. 2PA cross sections of Ir1-4 with different excitation wavelengths.

Table 55 Single oxygen quantum yreas of complexes.							
Compd	Ru(bpy) <sub>3</sub> <sup>2+</sup>	Ir1	Ir2	Ir3	Ir4		
$\Phi_{\Delta}$	0.81	0.31	0.22	0.32	0.31		

Table S3 Single oxygen quantumn yields of complexes.