

## Supporting Information

### Cyclometalated half-sandwich iridium(III) and rhodium(III) complexes as efficient agents against cancer stem-cell mammospheres

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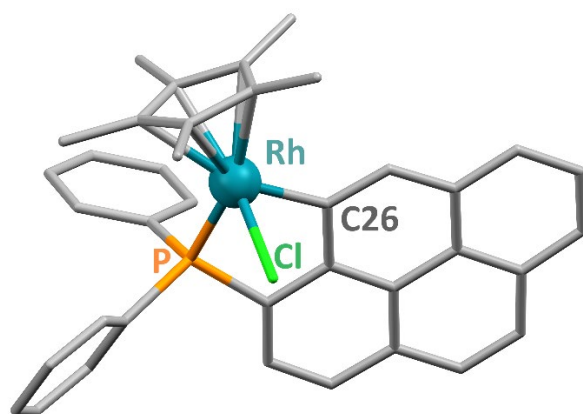
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**Table S1.** Crystal data and structure refinement for compounds **1** and **1**·DMSO (CCDC 2390209 and 2390210, respectively).

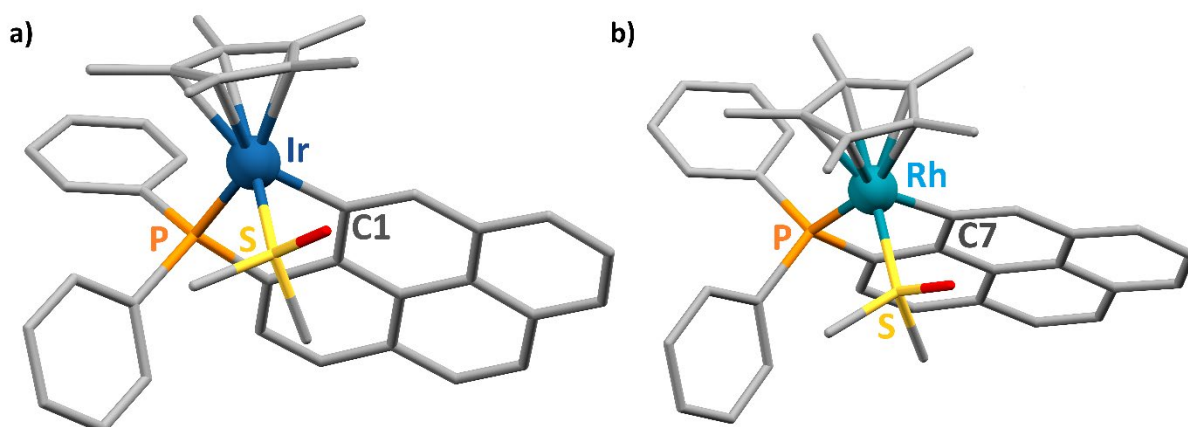
Compound	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b> ·DMSO
Empirical formula	C <sub>38</sub> H <sub>33</sub> ClIrP, CH <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub>	C <sub>40</sub> H <sub>39</sub> IrOPS, F <sub>6</sub> P, CH <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub>
Formula weight (g mol <sup>-1</sup> )	833.19	1020.84
Temperature (K)	298	100
Crystal system	monoclinic	monoclinic
Space group	<i>P</i> 2 <sub>1</sub> / <i>c</i>	<i>P</i> 2 <sub>1</sub> / <i>c</i>
Crystal size (mm <sup>3</sup> )	0.55 × 0.55 × 0.2	0.07 × 0.04 × 0.03
<i>a</i> (Å)	10.0487(2)	9.6150(19)
<i>b</i> (Å)	15.4228(4)	16.708(3)
<i>c</i> (Å)	21.9385(5)	24.477(5)
$\alpha$ (°)	90	90
$\beta$ (°)	102.3600(10)	90.22(3)
$\gamma$ (°)	90	90
<i>V</i> (Å <sup>3</sup> )	3321.20(13)	3932.1(14)
<i>Z</i>	4	4
$\rho_{\text{calcd}}$	1.666	1.724
$\mu$ (mm <sup>-1</sup> )	4.338	3.967
<i>F</i> (000)	1648	2024
$\vartheta$ for data collection (°)	1.627– 28.725	1.514– 29.522
Reflections collected / unique	32794 / 8593	62263 / 9527
Completeness to theta	1.000	0.953
Data / restraints / parameters	8593 / 42 / 421	9527 / 0 / 467
Goodness-of-fit on <i>F</i> <sup>2</sup>	1.058	1.086
Final <i>R</i> indices [ <i>I</i> > 2 $\sigma$ ( <i>I</i> )]	R1 = 0.0258, wR2 = 0.0609	R1 = 0.0226, wR2 = 0.0612
<i>R</i> indices (all data)	R1 = 0.0314, wR2 = 0.0630	R1 = 0.0231, wR2 = 0.0615
largest diff. peak and hole ( <i>e</i> Å <sup>3</sup> )	0.445 and –1.754	1.000 and –1.998

**Table S2.** Selected bond distances (Å) and angles (°) for compounds **1**, **1·DMSO** and **2·DMSO**. Representations of the solid-state structures of these compounds are shown in Figures 1 and S2, respectively. C stands for the centroid of the Cp\* ligand.

<b>1</b>			
Ir–Cl1	2.4074(7)	Cl1–Ir–P1	89.86(3)
Ir–P1	2.2585(7)	P1–Ir–C1	81.60(7)
Ir–C1	2.070(2)	C1–Ir–Cl1	82.37(7)
Ir–C	1.8725(13)	Cl1–Ir–C	122.56(5)
		P1–Ir–C	132.84(5)
		C1–Ir–C	131.34(9)
<b>1·DMSO</b>			
Ir–S1	2.2897(8)	S1–Ir–P1	96.47(3)
Ir–P1	2.2963(8)	P1–Ir–C1	82.18(6)
Ir–C1	2.076(2)	C1–Ir–S1	82.54(6)
Ir–C	1.9057(11)	S1–Ir–C	123.96(4)
		P1–Ir–C	130.49(4)
		C1–Ir–C	126.17(7)
<b>2·DMSO</b>			
Rh–S1	2.3141(7)	S1–Rh–P1	97.08(3)
Rh–P1	2.3054(8)	P1–Rh–C7	82.47(6)
Rh–C7	2.064(2)	C7–Rh–S1	82.40(6)
Rh–C	1.8968(11)	S1–Rh–C	124.07(4)
		P1–Rh–C	129.91(4)
		C7–Rh–C	126.07(7)



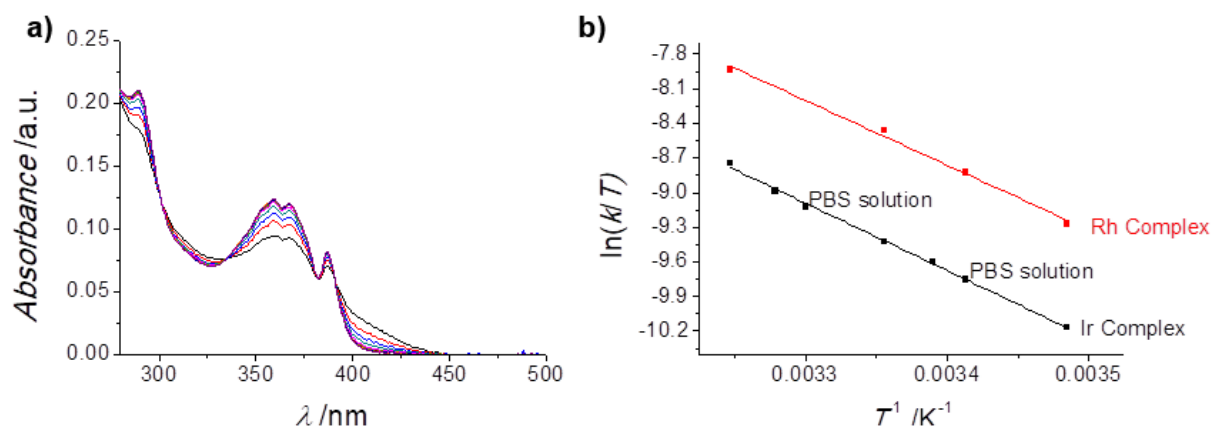
**Figure S1.** Representation of the solid-state structure of **2**.<sup>1</sup> The donor atoms coordinated to the metal centre are labelled. Hydrogen atoms are omitted for clarity.



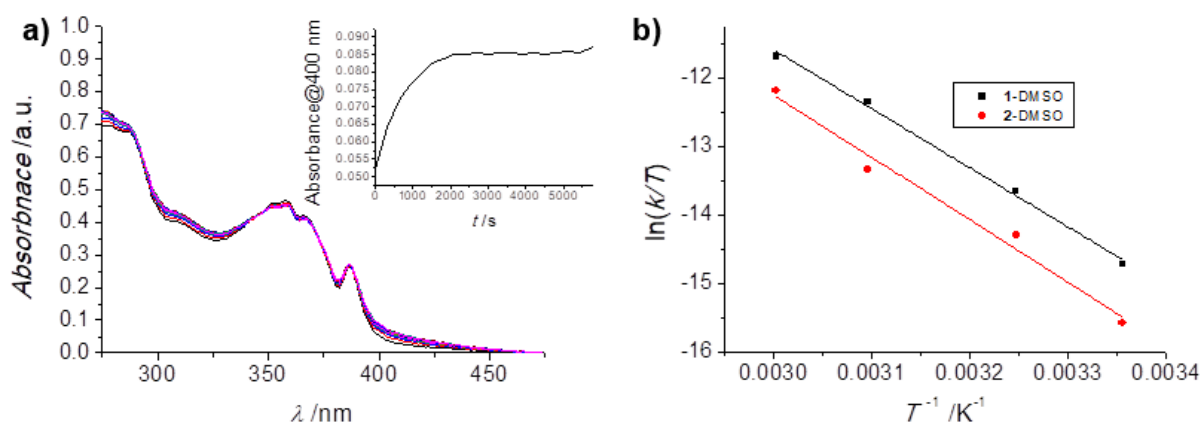
**Figure S2.** Representations of the solid-state structures of a) **1**·DMSO and b) **2**·DMSO. The donor atoms coordinated to the metal centre are labelled. Hydrogen atoms are omitted for clarity.

**Table S3.** Crystal data and structure refinement for compound **2**·DMSO (CCDC 2390211).

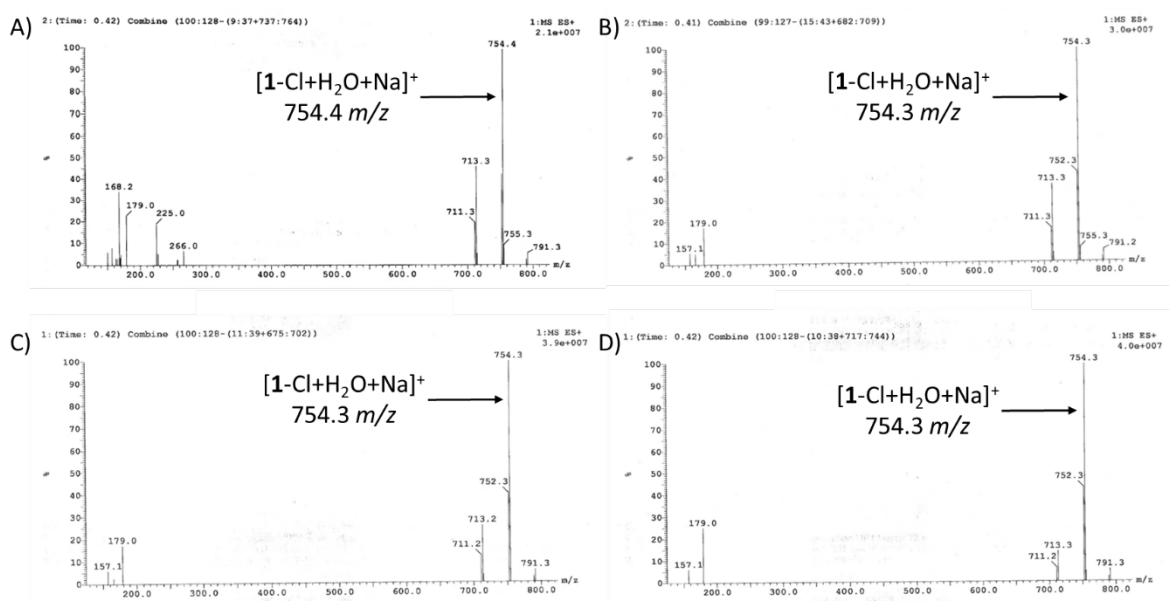
Compound	<b>2</b> ·DMSO
Empirical formula	C <sub>40</sub> H <sub>39</sub> OPRhS, F <sub>6</sub> P, CH <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub>
Formula weight (g mol <sup>-1</sup> )	931.55
Temperature (K)	100
Crystal system	monoclinic
Space group	<i>P2<sub>1</sub>/c</i>
Crystal size (mm <sup>3</sup> )	0.13 × 0.05 × 0.05
<i>a</i> (Å)	9.6550(19)
<i>b</i> (Å)	16.670(3)
<i>c</i> (Å)	24.415(5)
$\alpha$ (°)	90
$\beta$ (°)	90.21(3)
$\gamma$ (°)	90
<i>V</i> (Å <sup>3</sup> )	3929.5(14)
<i>Z</i>	4
$\rho_{\text{calcd}}$	1.575
$\mu$ (mm <sup>-1</sup> )	0.816
<i>F</i> (000)	1896
$\vartheta$ for data collection (°)	1.518– 29.520
Reflections collected / unique	64275 / 9548
Completeness to theta	0.954
Data / restraints / parameters	9548 / 0 / 467
Goodness-of-fit on <i>F</i> <sup>2</sup>	1.160
Final <i>R</i> indices [ <i>I</i> > 2 $\sigma$ ( <i>I</i> )]	<i>R</i> 1 = 0.0427, <i>wR</i> 2 = 0.1215
<i>R</i> indices (all data)	<i>R</i> 1 = 0.0428, <i>wR</i> 2 = 0.1216
largest diff. peak and hole (e Å <sup>-3</sup> )	1.304 and –1.826



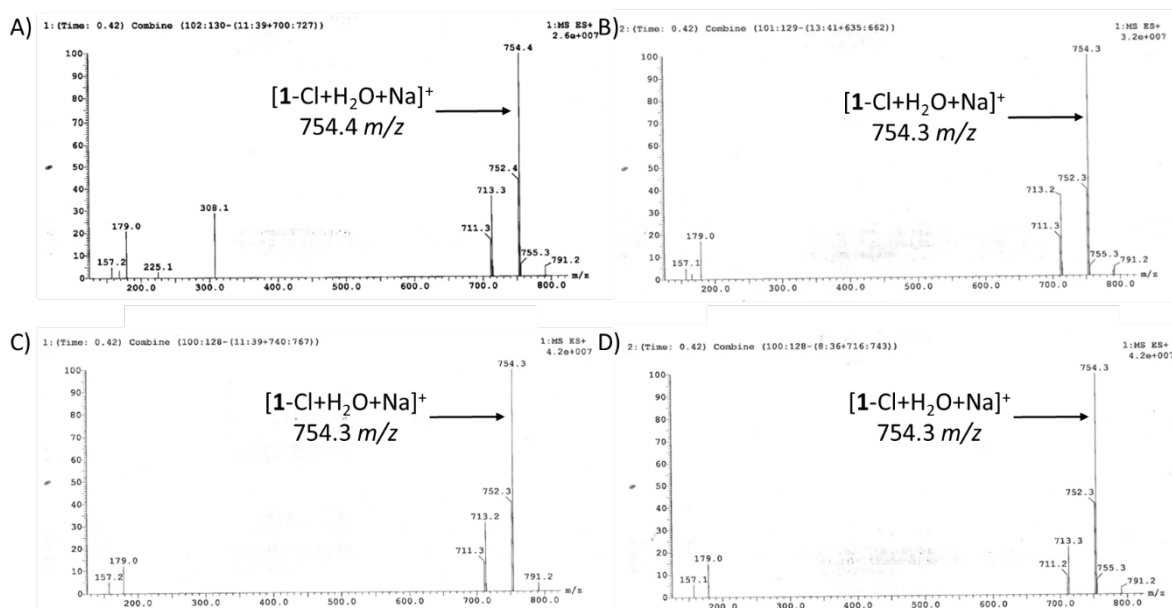
**Figure S3.** a) UV-Vis time-resolved spectral changes of a 20% DMSO aqueous solution of **2** (10  $\mu$ M) recorded at 25  $^{\circ}$ C for 4 minutes, in the range 600–280 nm. b) Eyring plots for the temperature dependence of the reactions of 10  $\mu$ M 20 % DMSO aqueous solution of **1** and **2**.



**Figure S4.** a) UV-Vis time-resolved spectral changes of a 20% DMSO aqueous solution of **1**-DMSO at 50  $^{\circ}$ C. b) Eyring plots for the temperature dependence of the reactions of 5-10  $\mu$ M 20 % DMSO aqueous solution of **1**-DMSO and **2**-DMSO.

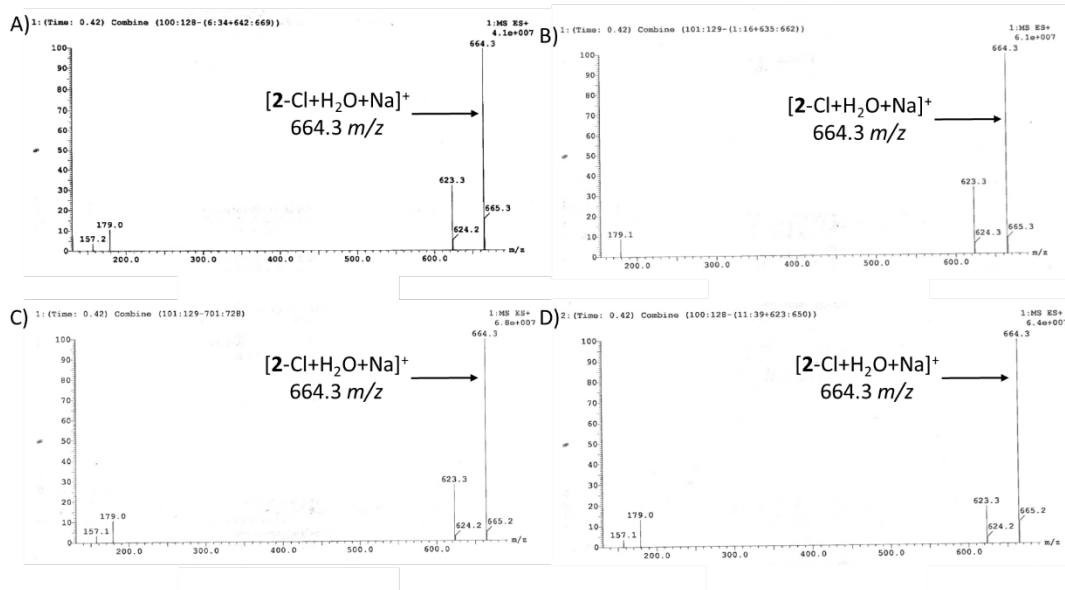


**Figure S5.** ESI mass spectra (positive mode) of **1** (500  $\mu$ M) in H<sub>2</sub>O:DMSO (5:1) after incubation for (A) 0 h, (B) 24 h, (C) 48 h or (D) 72 h at 37 °C.

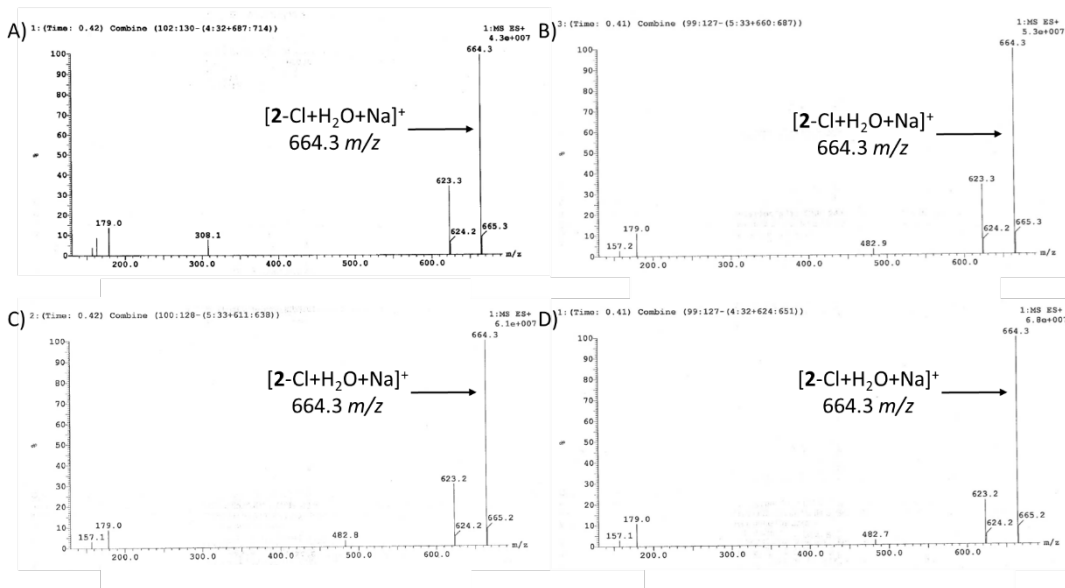


**Figure S6.** ESI mass spectra (positive mode) of **1** (500  $\mu$ M) in H<sub>2</sub>O:DMSO (5:1) in the presence of glutathione (500  $\mu$ M) after incubation for (A) 0 h, (B) 24 h, (C) 48 h or (D) 72 h at 37 °C.

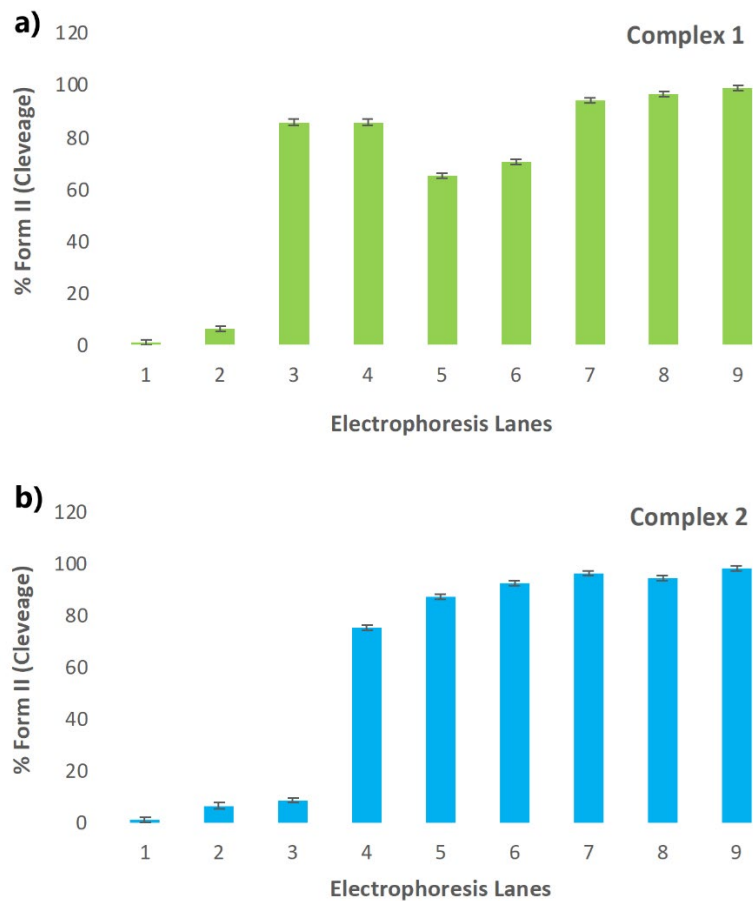




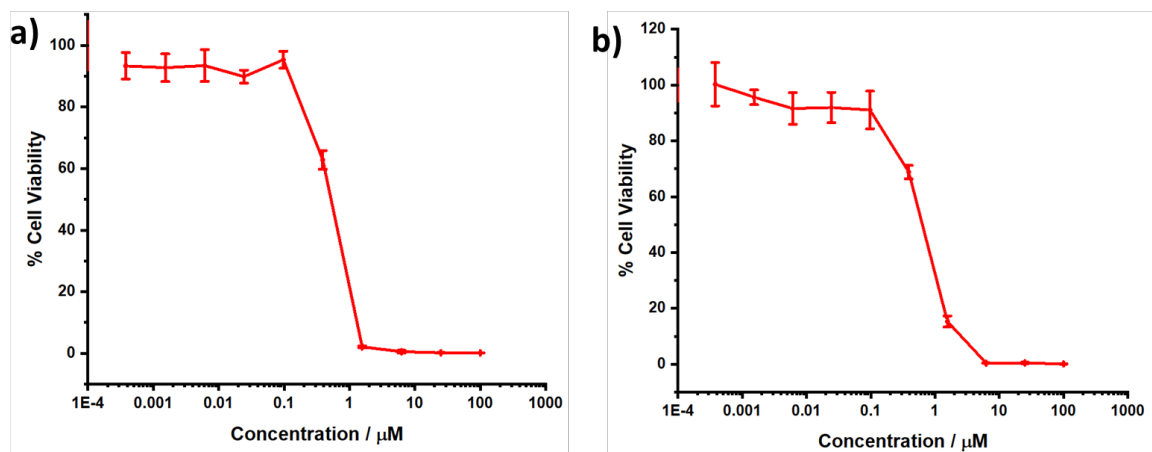
**Figure S7.** ESI mass spectra (positive mode) of **2** (500  $\mu\text{M}$ ) in  $\text{H}_2\text{O}:\text{DMSO}$  (5:1) after incubation for (A) 0 h, (B) 24 h, (C) 48 h or (D) 72 h at 37  $^\circ\text{C}$ .



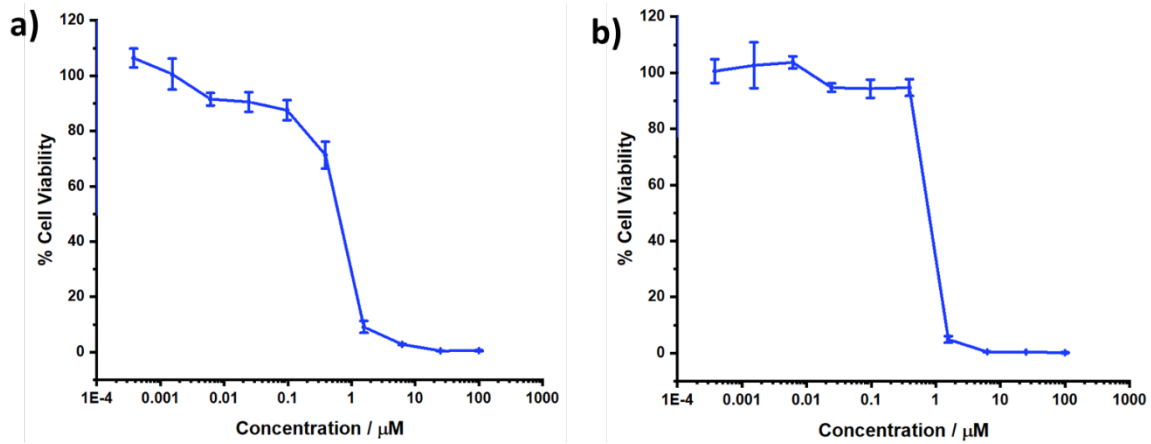
**Figure S8.** ESI mass spectra (positive mode) of **2** (500  $\mu\text{M}$ ) in  $\text{H}_2\text{O}:\text{DMSO}$  (5:1) in the presence of glutathione (500  $\mu\text{M}$ ) after incubation for (A) 0 h, (B) 24 h, (C) 48 h or (D) 72 h at 37  $^\circ\text{C}$ .



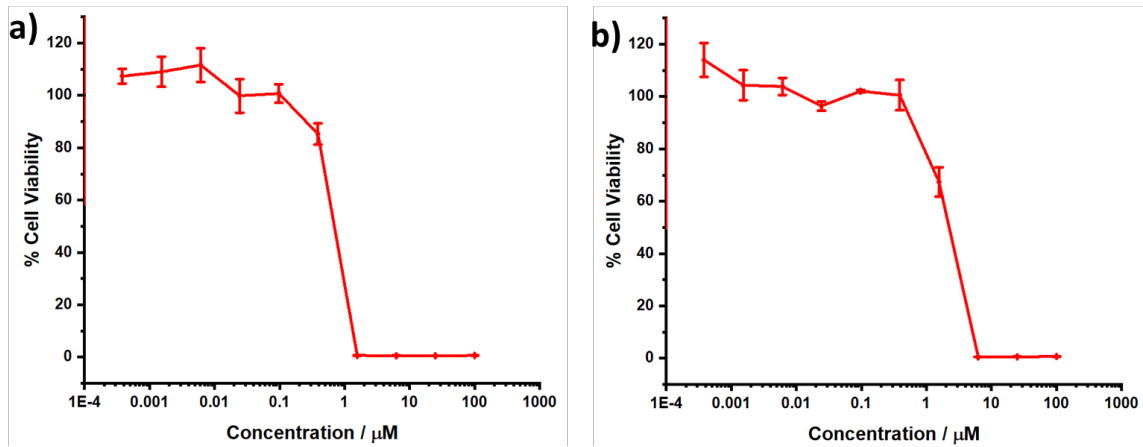
**Figure S9.** Percentages of DNA Form II (nicked/open circle) detected in the different gel electrophoresis lanes (see caption of Figure 2 in the main text for the conditions used in each lane) for a) complex 1 (in green) and b) complex 2 (in blue).



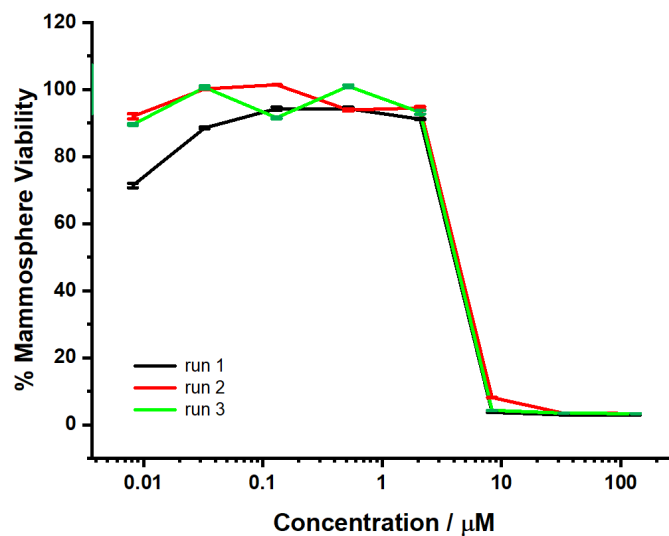
**Figure S10.** Representative dose-response curves for the treatment of HMLER cells with a) 1 and b) 2 after 72 h incubation.



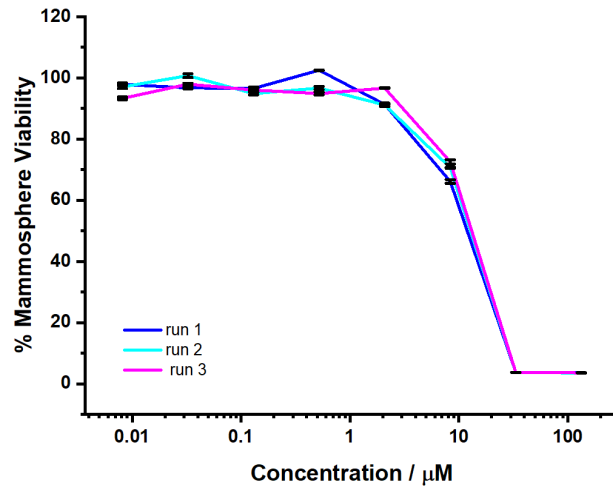
**Figure S11.** Representative dose-response curves for the treatment of HMLER-shEcad cells with a) 1 and b) 2 after 72 h incubation.



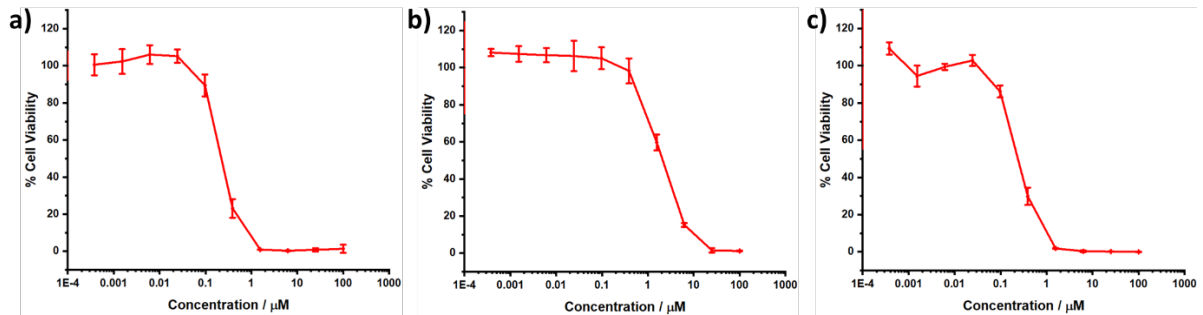
**Figure S12.** Representative dose-response curves for the treatment of BEAS-2B cells with a) 1 and b) 2 after 72 h incubation.



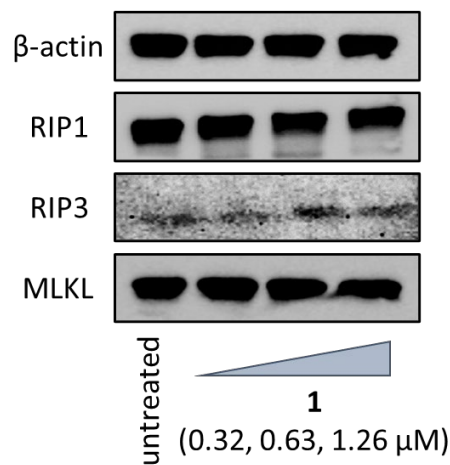
**Figure S13.** Representative dose-response curves for the treatment of HMLER-shEcad mammospheres with 1 after 5 days incubation.



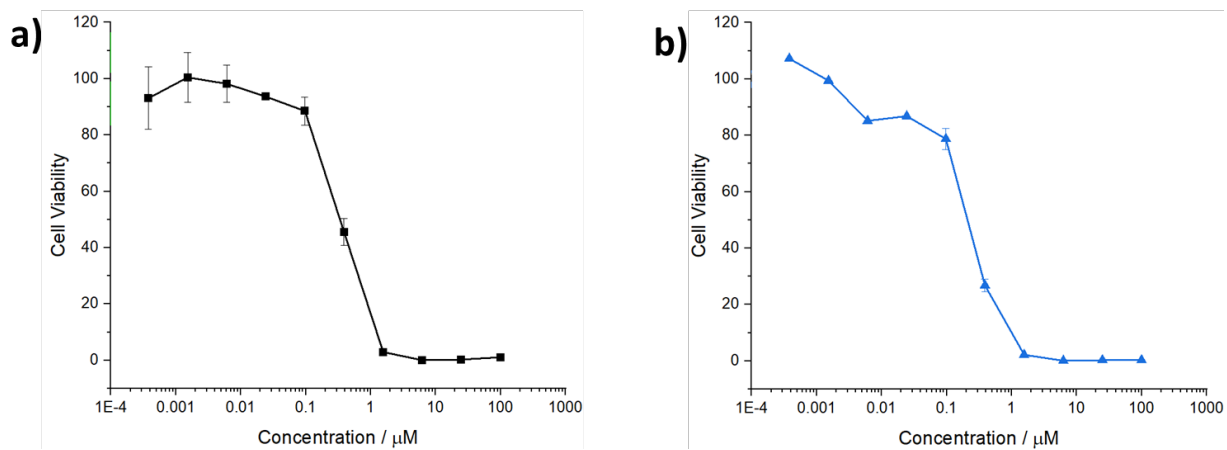
**Figure S14.** Representative dose-response curves for the treatment of HMLER-shEcad mammospheres with **2** after 5 days incubation.



**Figure S15.** Representative dose-response curves for the treatment of HMLER-shEcad cells with **1** in the presence of a) IM-54 (10  $\mu\text{M}$ ), b) necrostatin-1 (20  $\mu\text{M}$ ) or c) z-VAD-FMK (5  $\mu\text{M}$ ).



**Figure S16.** Immunoblotting analysis of proteins related to the necroptosis pathway. Protein expression in HMLER-shEcad cells following treatment with **1** (0.32, 0.63, and 1.26  $\mu\text{M}$ ) after 72 h incubation.



**Figure S17.** Representative dose-response curves for the treatment of HMLER-shEcad cells with **1** in the presence of a) ABT-888 (10  $\mu\text{M}$ ) or b) ANA (10  $\mu\text{M}$ ).

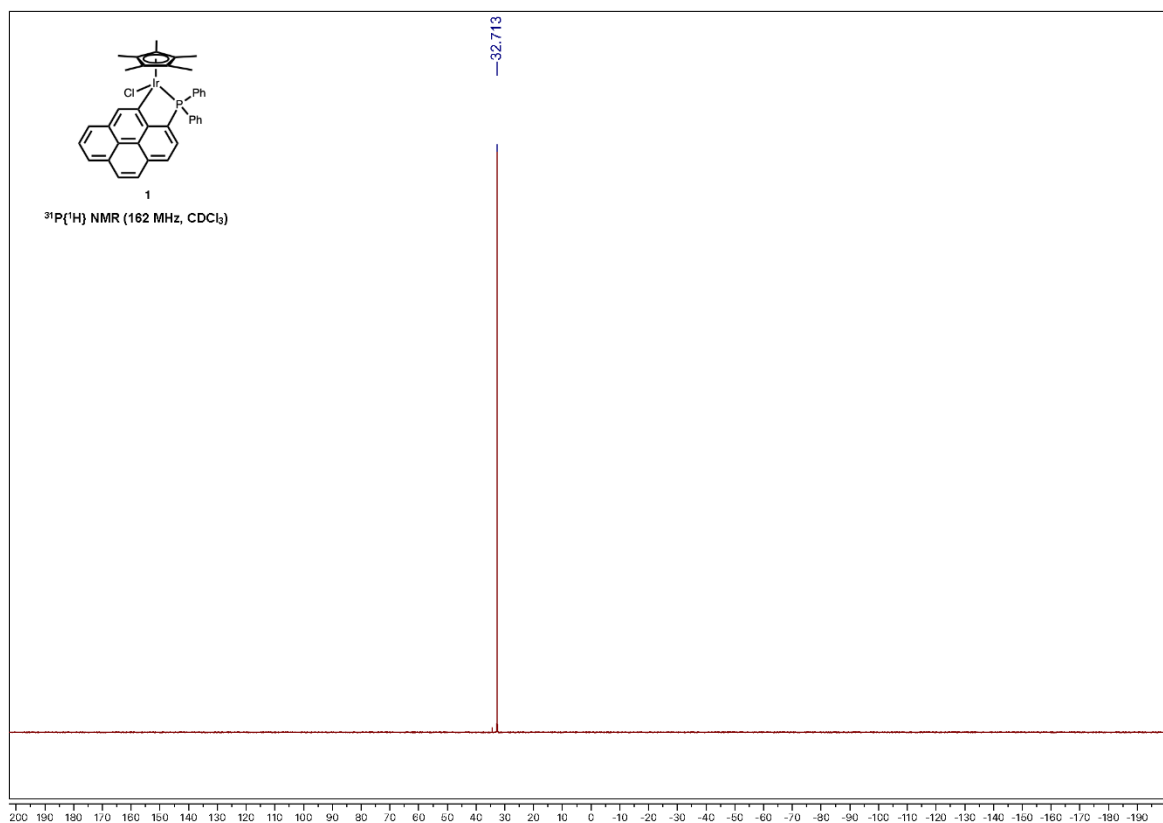


Figure S18.  $^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR spectrum of **1** in  $\text{CDCl}_3$ .

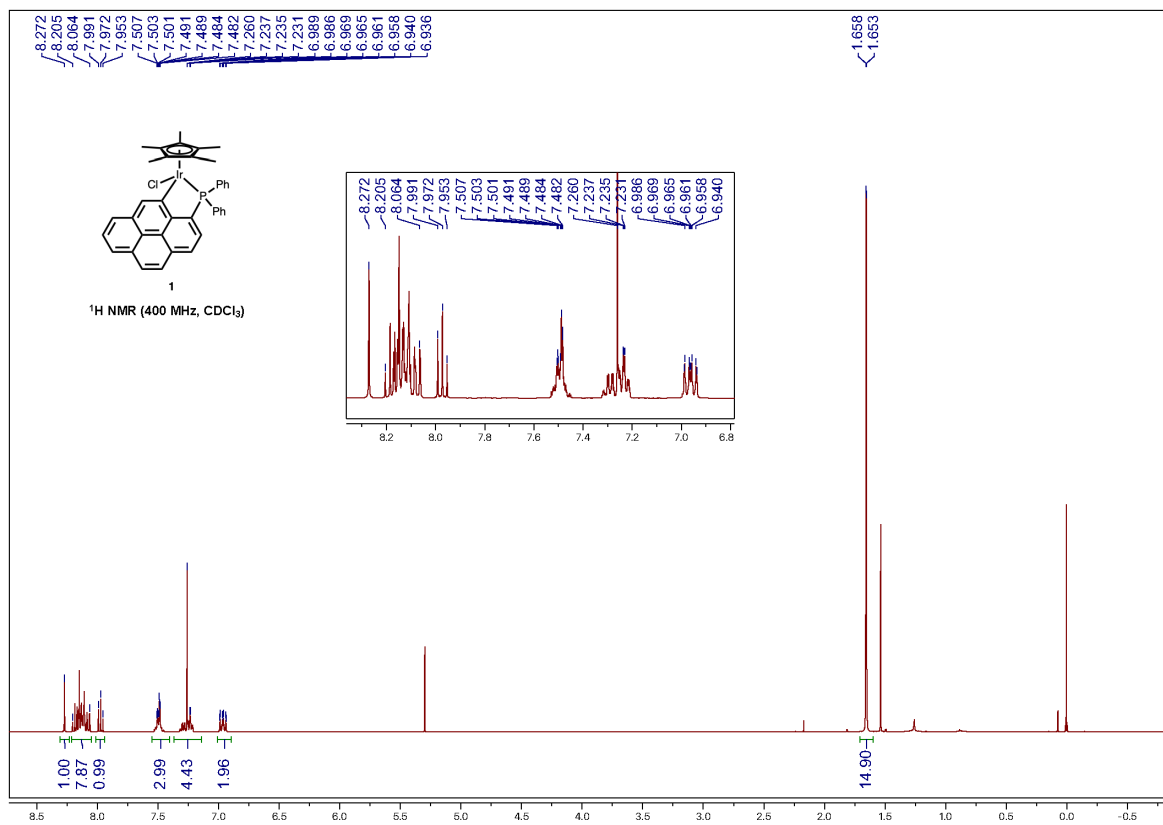


Figure S19.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of **1** in  $\text{CDCl}_3$ .

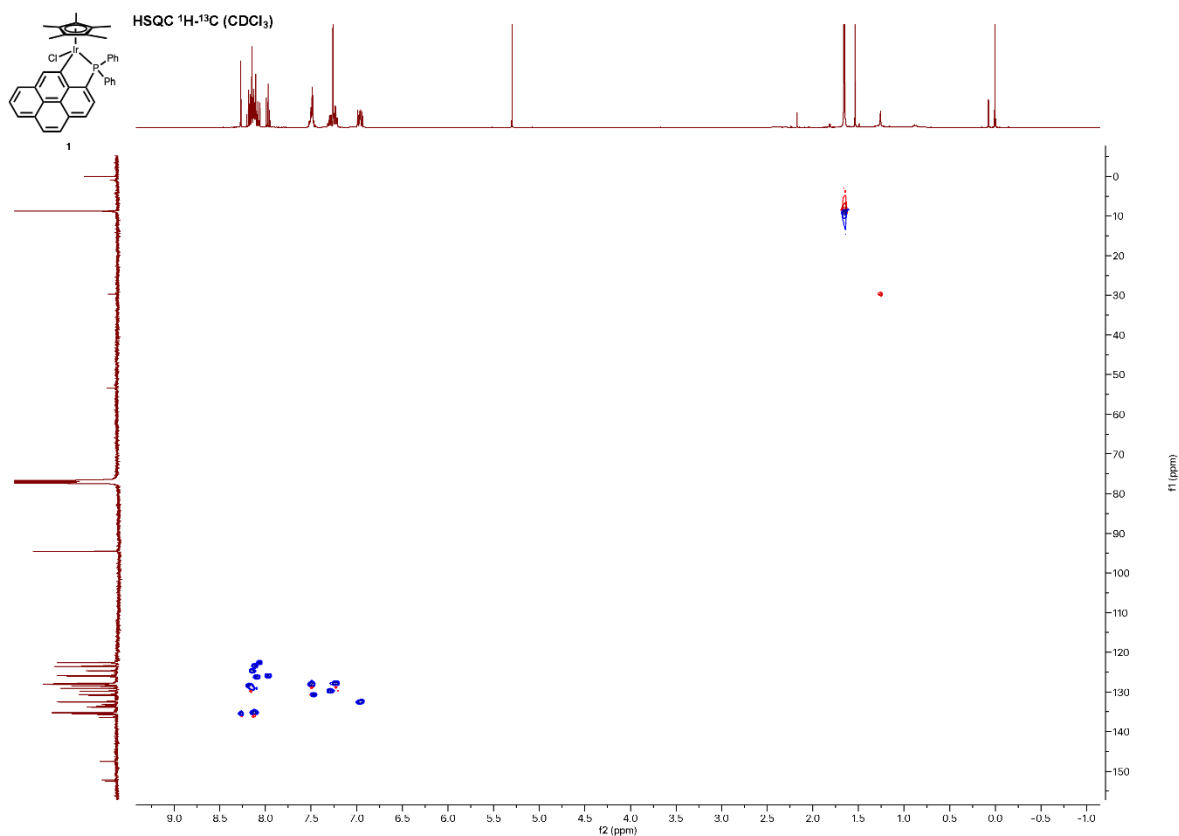


Figure S20.  $^1\text{H}$ - $^{13}\text{C}$  HSQC NMR spectrum of **1** in  $\text{CDCl}_3$ .

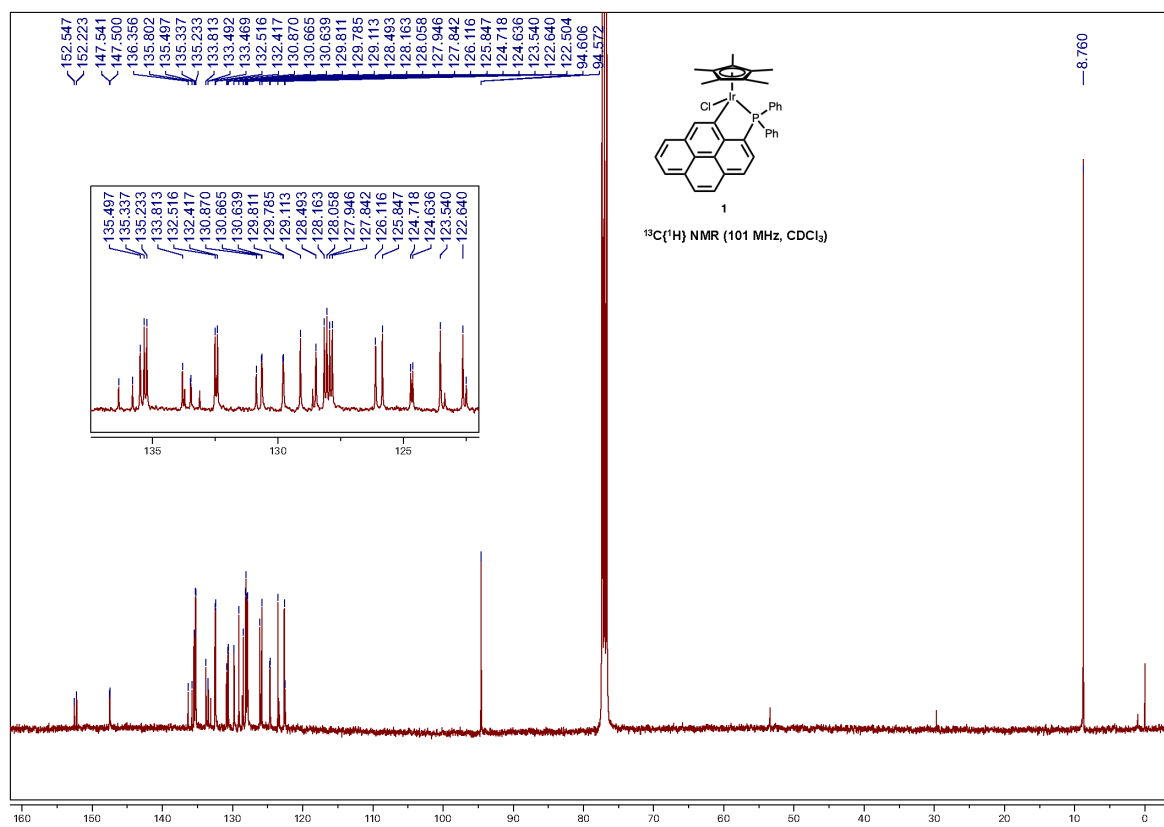
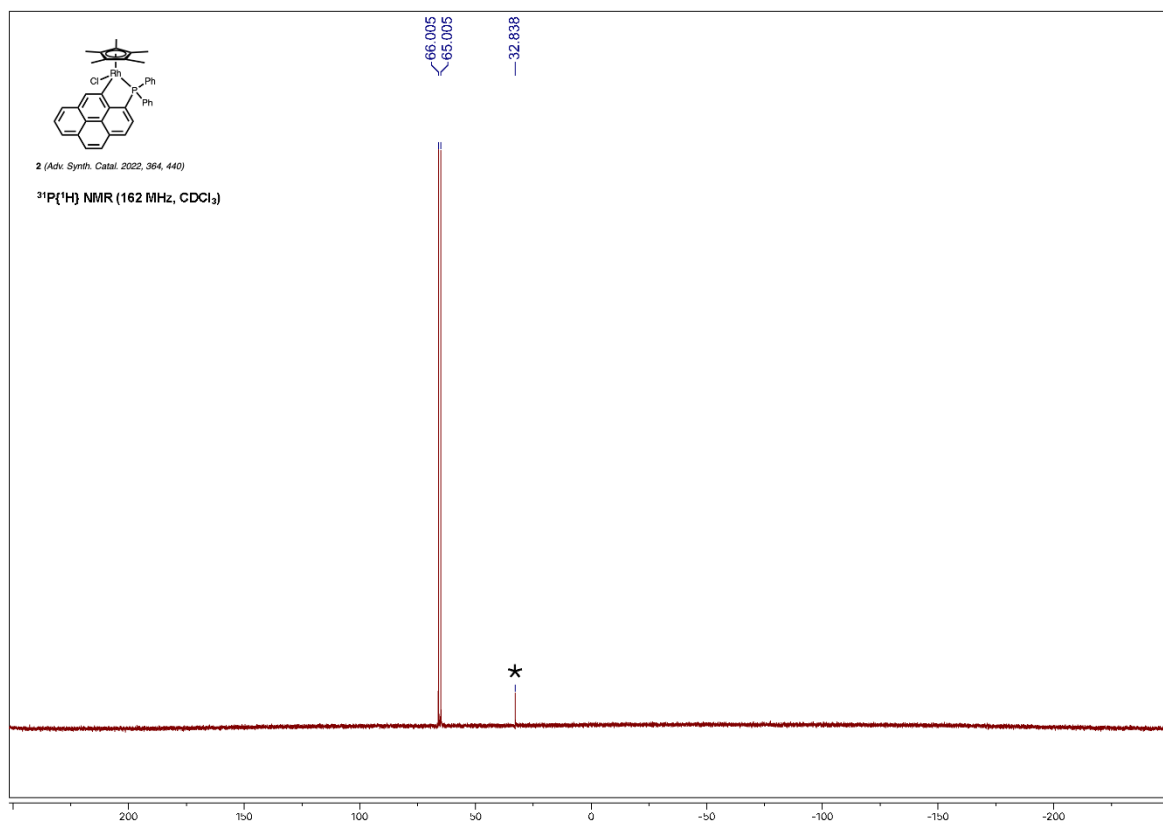
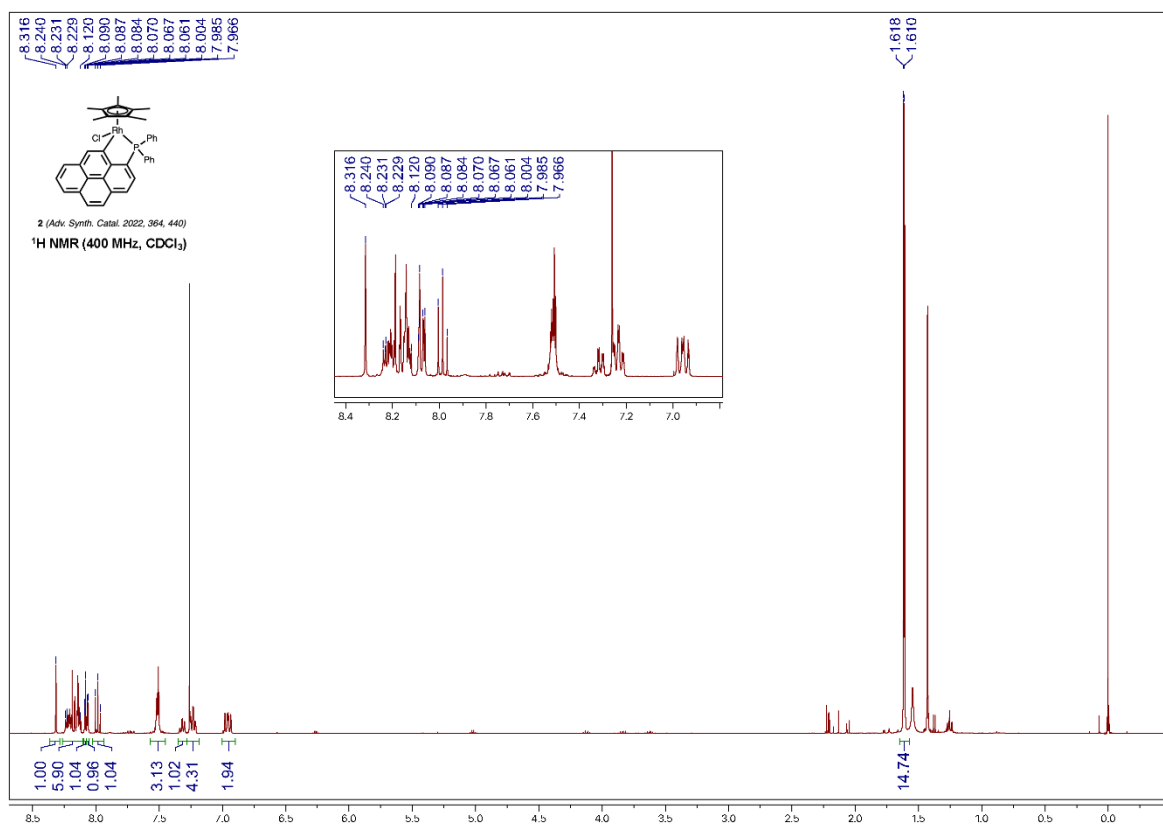


Figure S21.  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum of **1** in  $\text{CDCl}_3$ .



**Figure S22.**  $^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR spectrum of **2** in  $\text{CDCl}_3$ . \*: traces of the oxide of the free phosphane ligand.



**Figure S23.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of **2** in  $\text{CDCl}_3$ .



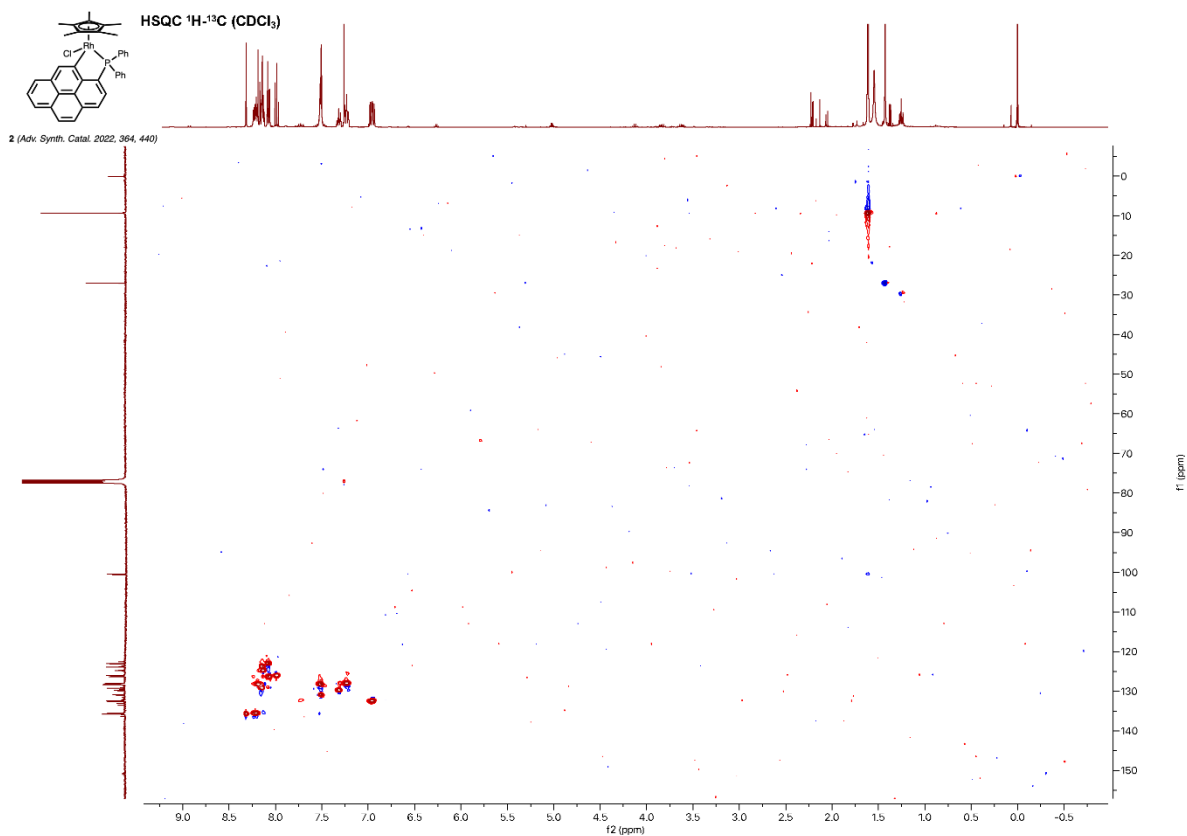


Figure S24.  $^1\text{H}$ - $^{13}\text{C}$  HSQC NMR spectrum of **2** in  $\text{CDCl}_3$ .

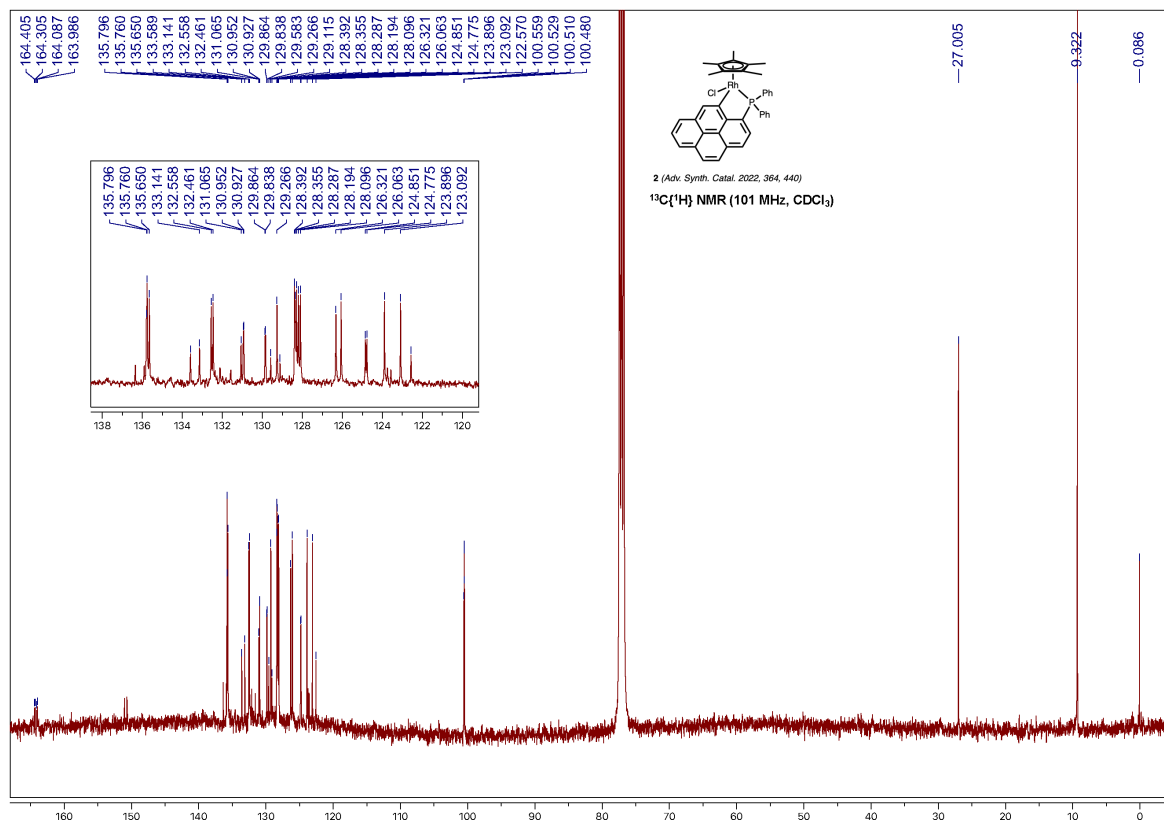


Figure S25.  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum of **2** in  $\text{CDCl}_3$ .

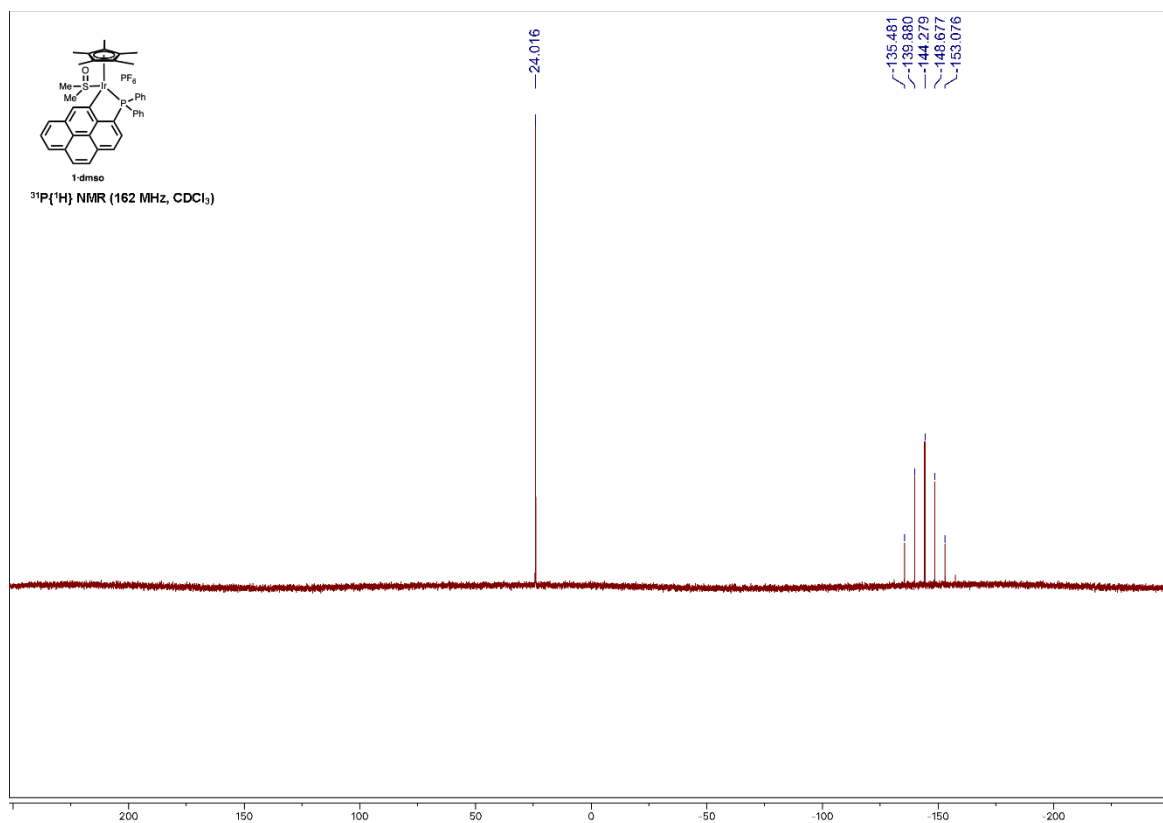


Figure S26.  $^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR spectrum of **1**-DMSO in  $\text{CDCl}_3$ .

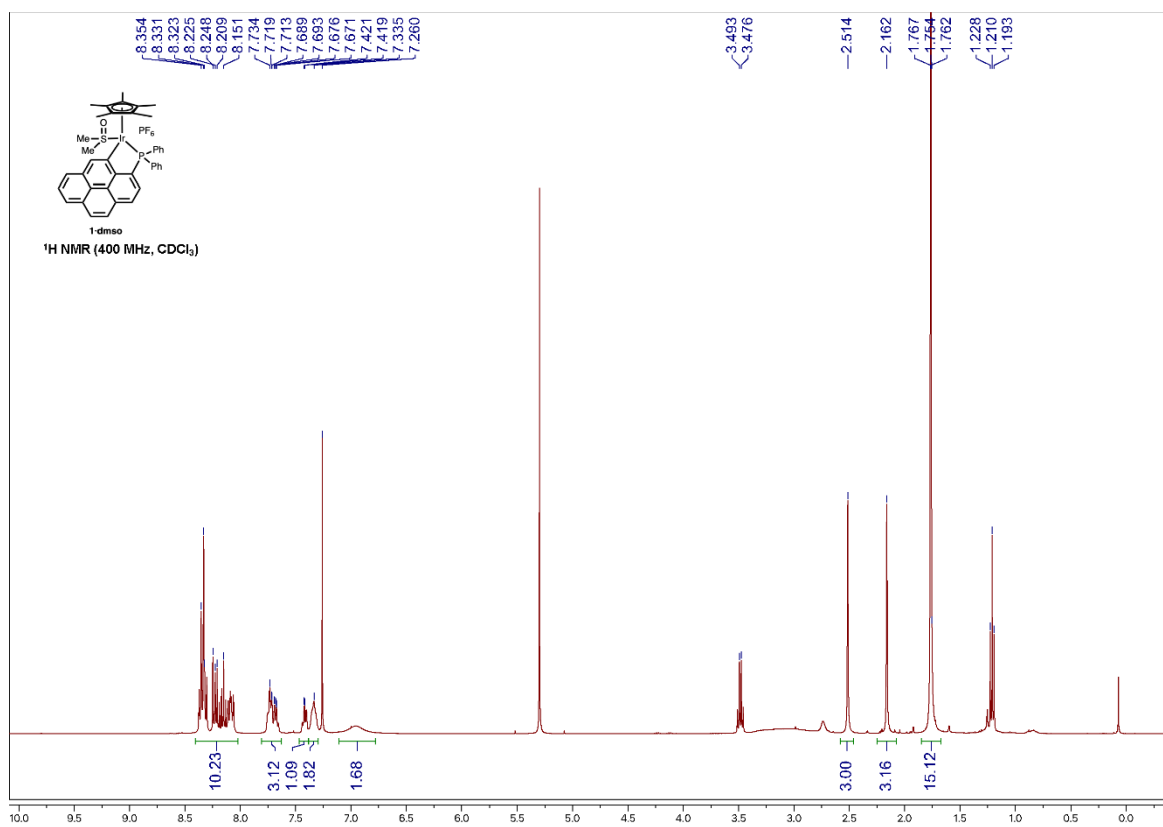


Figure S27.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of **1**-DMSO in  $\text{CDCl}_3$ .

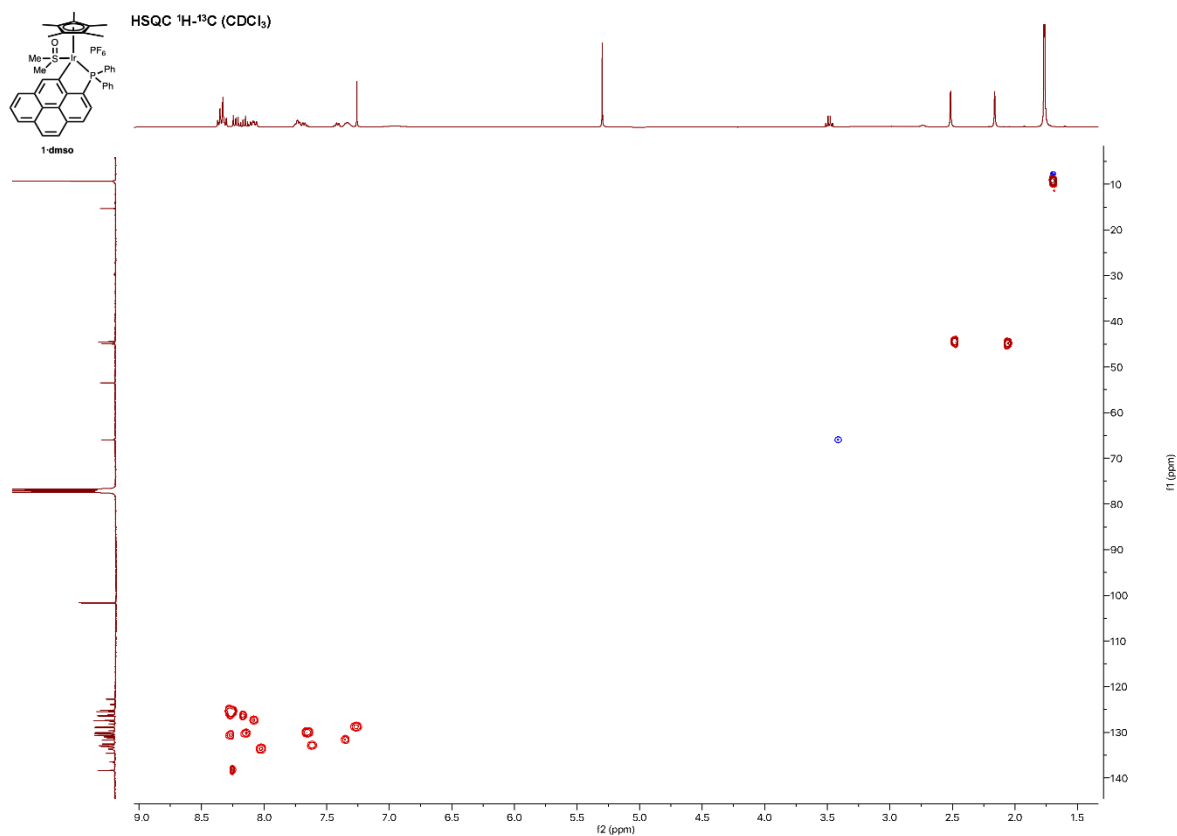


Figure S28.  $^1\text{H}$ - $^{13}\text{C}$  HSQC NMR spectrum of **1**·DMSO in  $\text{CDCl}_3$ .

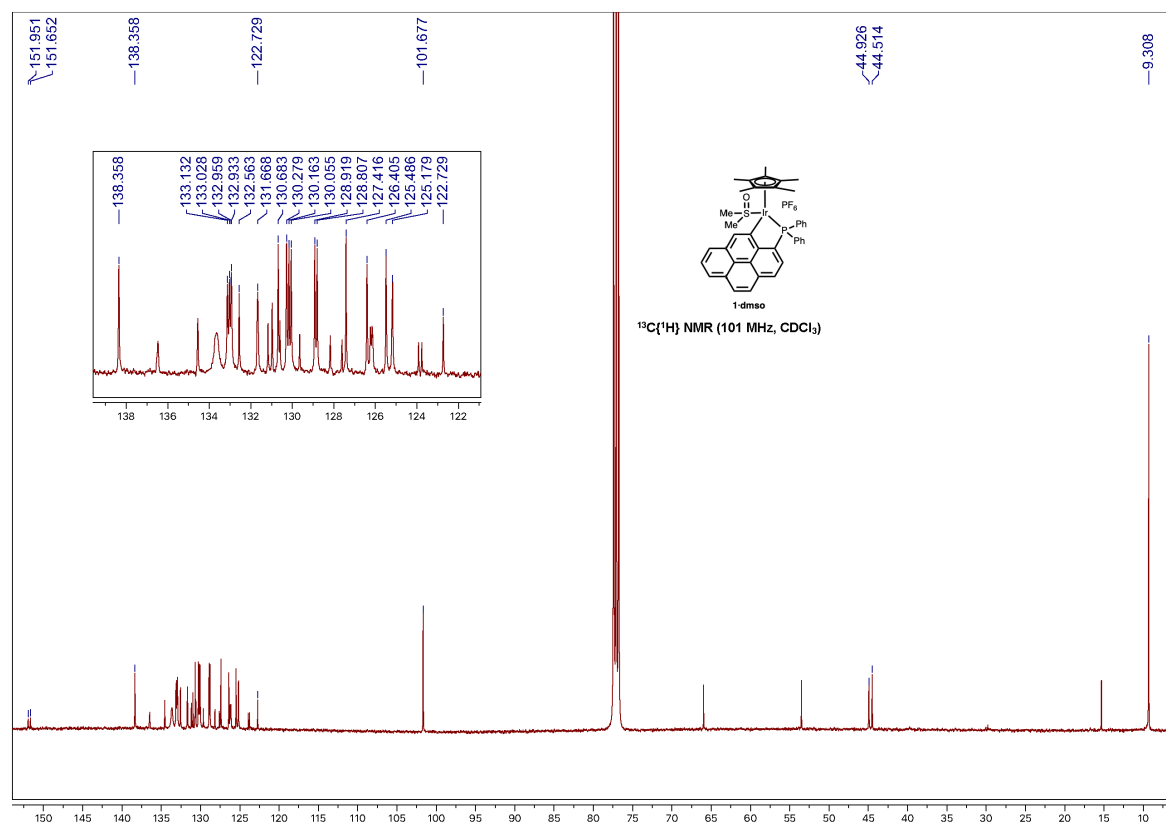
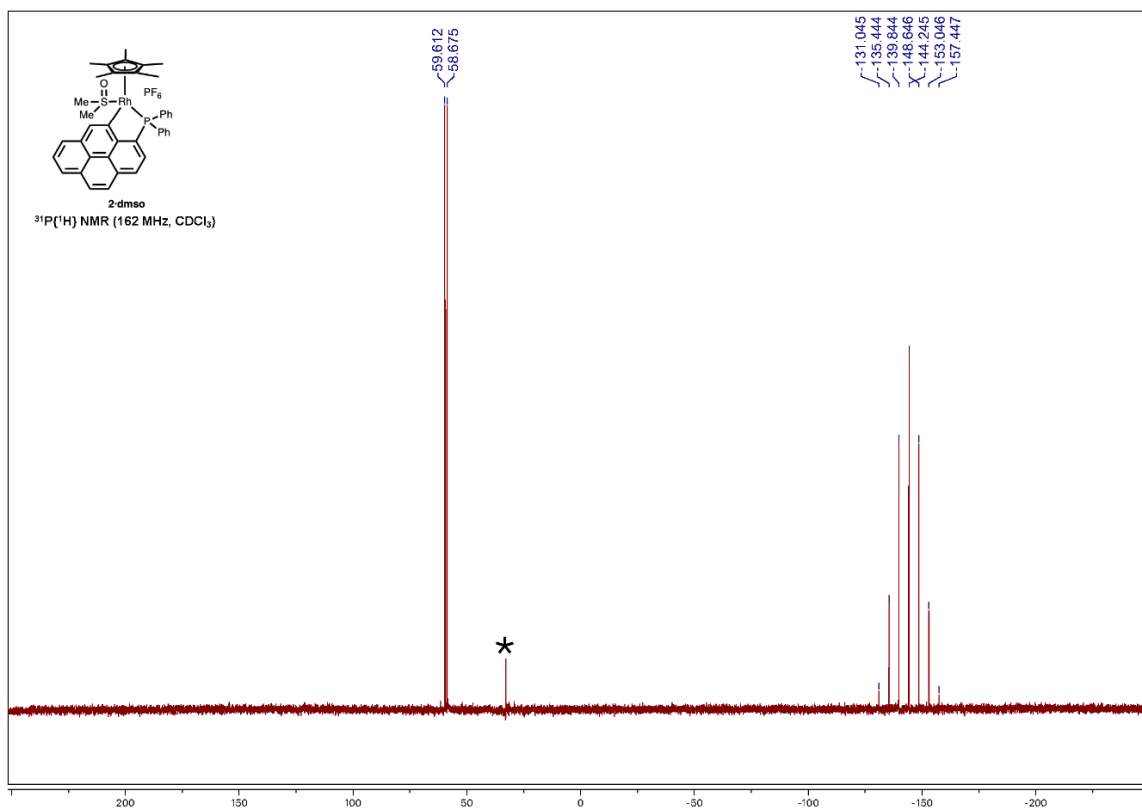
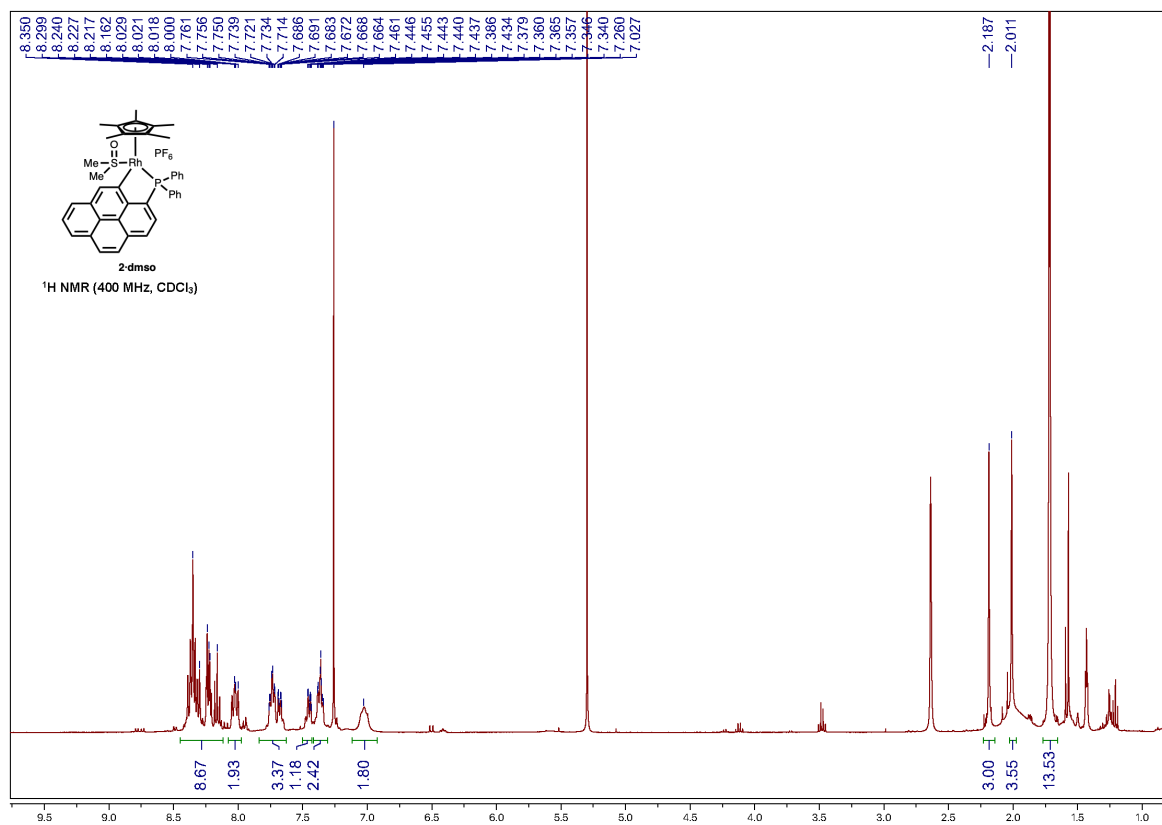


Figure S29.  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum of **1**·DMSO in  $\text{CDCl}_3$ .



**Figure S30.**  $^{31}\text{P}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR spectrum of **2**-DMSO in  $\text{CDCl}_3$ . \*: traces of the oxide of the free phosphane ligand.



**Figure S31.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of **2**-DMSO in  $\text{CDCl}_3$ .

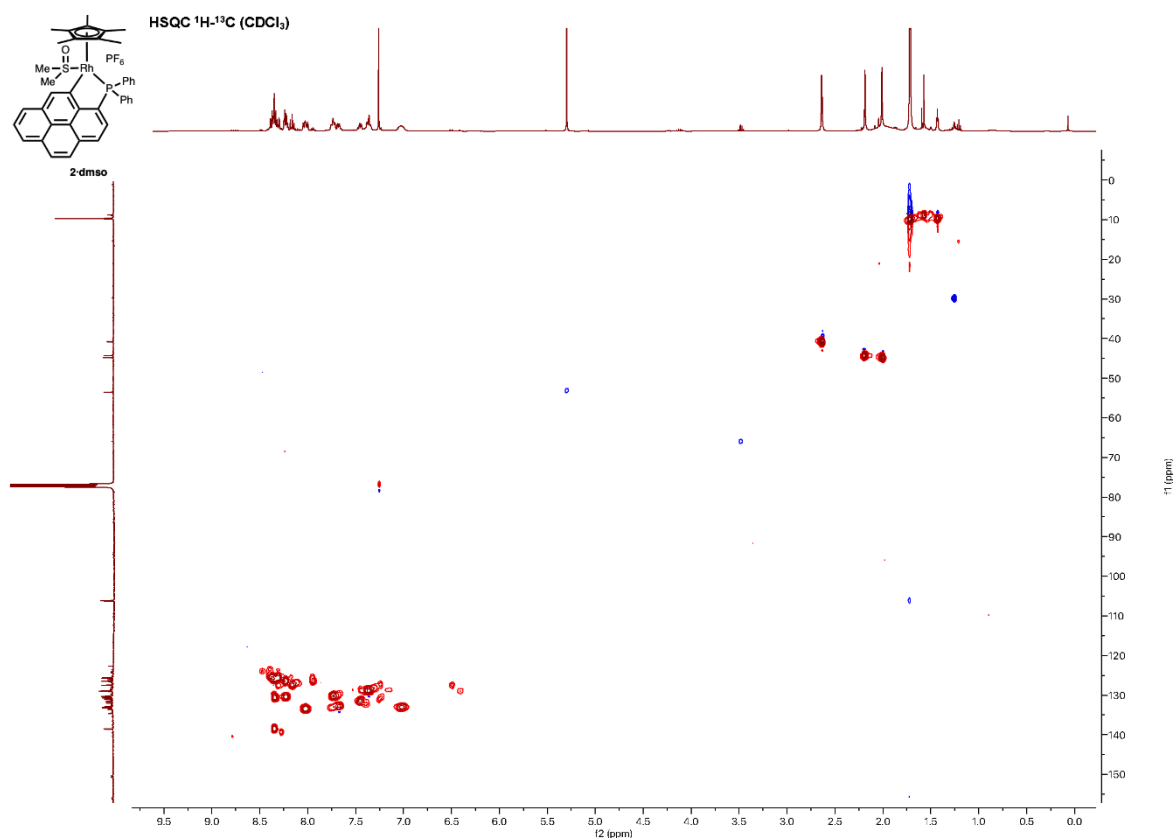


Figure S32.  $^1\text{H}$ - $^{13}\text{C}$  HSQC NMR spectrum of 2·DMSO in  $\text{CDCl}_3$ .

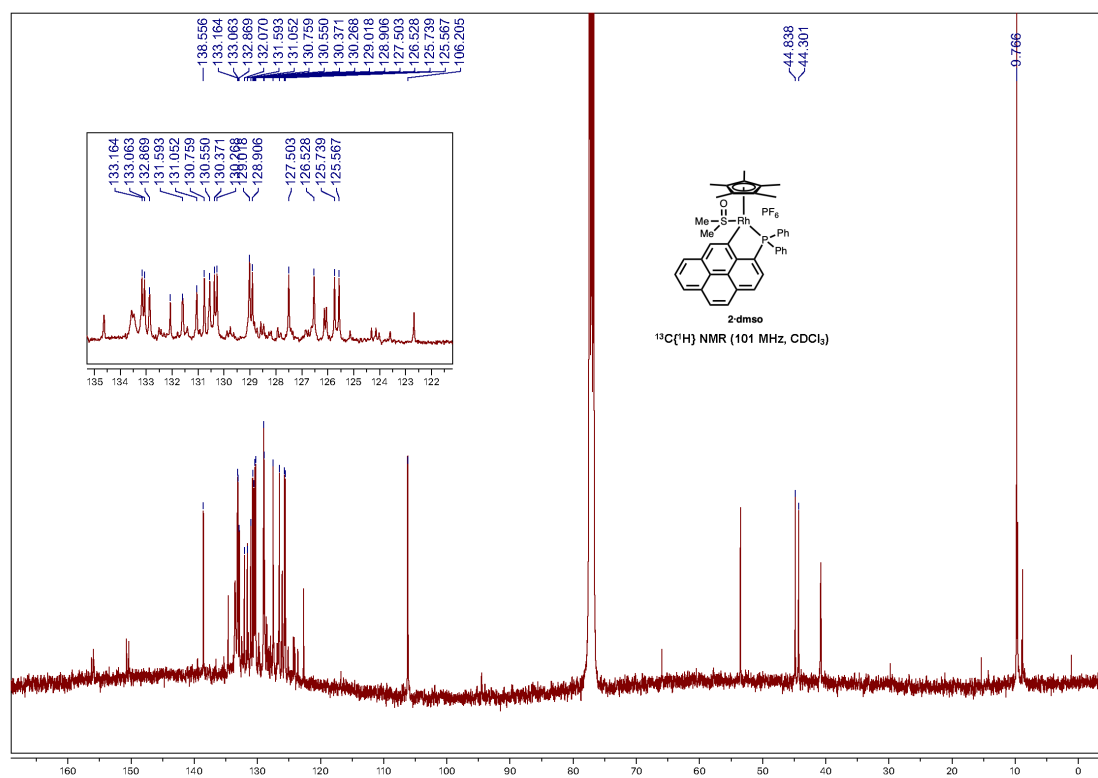


Figure S33.  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum of 2·DMSO in  $\text{CDCl}_3$ .

## References

1. C. Sire, H. Cattey, A. Tsivory, J. C. Hierso and J. Roger, Phosphorus-Directed Rhodium-Catalyzed C-H Arylation of 1-Pyrenylphosphines Selective at the *K*-Region, *Adv. Synth. Catal.*, 2022, **364**, 440-452.