## Supplementary data for article:

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### SUPPLEMENTARY DATA

# Selenotriapine – an isostere of the most studied thiosemicarbazone with pronounced pro-apoptotic activity, low toxicity and ability to challenge phenotype reprogramming of 3-D mammary adenocarcinoma tumors

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# Content

Experimental	3
HSA binding experiments.	3
Figure S1. UV/vis spectrum of Se-3-AP	4
Figure S2. Fluorescence spectrum of Se-3-AP	4
<b>Figure S3</b> . <sup>1</sup> H-NMR spectrum of Se-3-AP	5
<b>Figure S4</b> . <sup>13</sup> C-NMR spectrum of Se-3-AP	5
Figure S5. COSY spectrum of Se-3-AP	6
<b>Figure S6</b> . <sup>1</sup> H- <sup>13</sup> C HSQC spectrum of Se-3-AP	6
<b>Figure S7</b> . <sup>1</sup> H- <sup>13</sup> C HMBC spectrum of Se-3-AP	7
<b>Figure S8</b> . <sup>77</sup> Se-NMR spectrum of Se-3-AP	7
<b>Figure S9</b> . Cyclic voltammograms of Se-3-AP and 3-AP	8
Figure S10. Concentration-response curves	9
<b>Figure S11</b> . Changes in distribution of MCF-7 cells within phases of mitotic division	.10
<b>Figure S12</b> . Stern-Volmer plot of $F_0/Fvs$ [Q] at three different temperatures	.11
Figure S13. Modified Stern-Volmer plot	.11
<b>Figure S14</b> . The plot of $\ln K_b vs \ 1/T$ for the interaction of Se-3-AP with HSA	.12
<b>Figure S15</b> . Double-log plot for determination of binding constants $K_b$ , and the number of binding sites $n$ at three temperatures	.12
References	.13

### **Experimental**

**HSA binding experiments.** A ligand (quencher) can absorb energy at both the HSA excitation (280 nm) and emission (340 nm) wavelengths. In order to overcome the inner-filter effect, the absorbance values of the ligand used were measured and corresponding corrections were made during calculation of binding parameters according to the eq. (S1)<sup>S1</sup>:

$$F_c = F_u \times 10^{(Aex \times dex + Aem \times dem)/2}$$
 (eq. S1)

where  $F_{\rm u}$  is the measured emission fluorescence intensity,  $F_{\rm c}$  is the corrected fluorescence intensity that would be measured in the absence of any inner-filter effects,  $d_{\rm ex}$  and  $d_{\rm em}$  are the cell path lengths in the excitation and emission direction (1 cm),  $A_{\rm ex}$  and  $A_{\rm em}$  are the absorbance values of the quencher measured at the excitation and peak emission wavelength.

Fluorescence quenching data were processed using the Stern–Volmer eq. (S2):

$$F_0/F = 1 + K_{sv}[Q] = 1 + k_q \tau_0[Q]$$
 (eq. S2)

where  $F_0$  and F are the HSA fluorescence intensities at 340 nm before and after addition of the quencher (Se-3-AP),  $K_{sv}$  is the Stern-Volmer quenching constant,  $k_q$  stands for the fluorescence quenching rate constant,  $\tau_0$  is the average fluorescence lifetime of the fluorophore (7.09 ns for HSA)<sup>S2</sup> and [Q] is the concentration of the quencher<sup>S3</sup>. The quenching process was additionally analyzed using a modified Stern-Volmer eq. (S3)<sup>S3</sup>:

$$F_0/F_0-F = 1/f_a K_a [Q] + 1/f_a$$
 (eq. S3)

where  $F_0$  and F are the HSA fluorescence intensities before and after addition of the quencher at concentration [Q].  $K_a$  represents the effective quenching constant for the accessible fluorophores, and  $f_a$  is the fraction of accessible fluorophore.

Thermodynamic parameters of binding, the enthalpy ( $\Delta H$ ) and entropy change ( $\Delta S$ ), during the binding of Se-3-AP to HSA were determined by measuring the binding constants at three temperatures, and following the Van't Hoff eq. (S4):

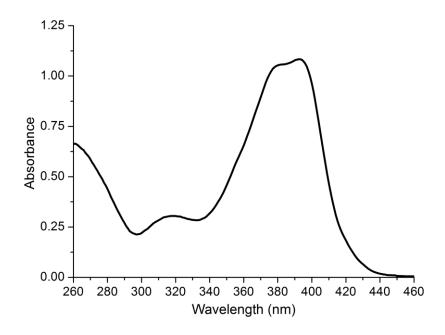
$$lnK_a = -\Delta H/RT + \Delta S/R$$
 (eq. S4)

where R is the universal gas constant, T is the temperature (in K), and  $K_a$  is the effective quenching constant at the corresponding temperature.

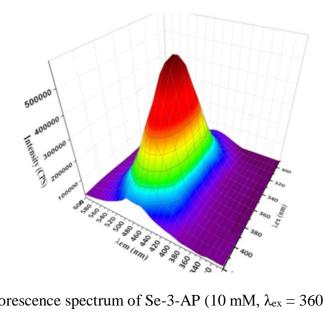
The estimations of association (binding) constants ( $K_b$ ) and number of binding sites (n) of HSA and Se-3-AP were done using eq. (S5)<sup>S4</sup>:

$$\log(F_0 - F)/F = -n\log(1/([Q] - [P] \times (F_0 - F)/F_0) + n\log K_b$$
 (eq. S5)

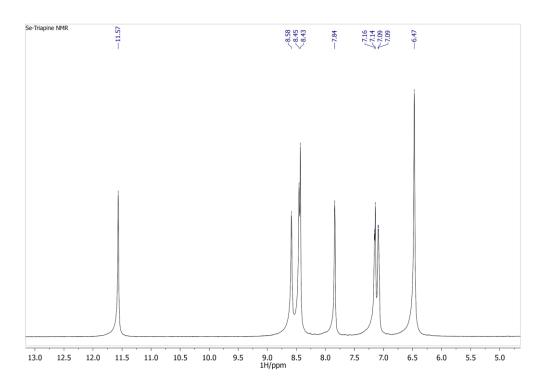
where [Q] and [P] are total concentrations of ligand (Se-3-AP) and protein (HSA), respectively.



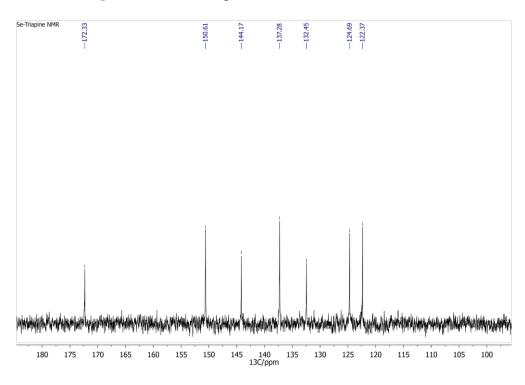
**Figure S1.** UV/vis spectrum of Se-3-AP (51  $\mu$ M) in DMSO.



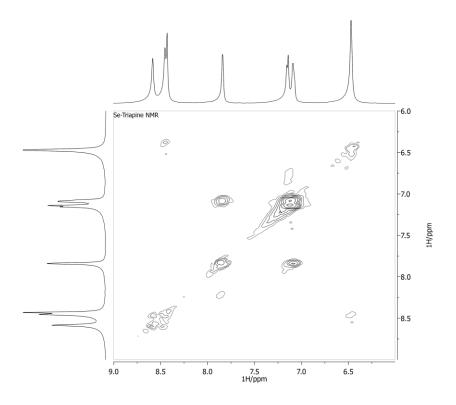
**Figure S2.** Fluorescence spectrum of Se-3-AP (10 mM,  $\lambda_{ex} = 360$  nm) in DMSO.



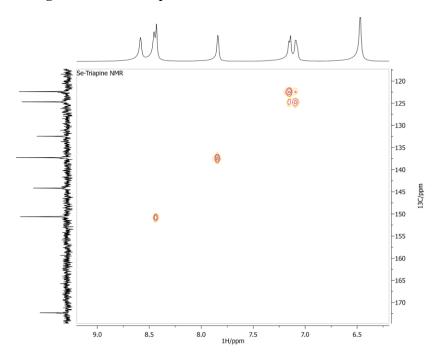
**Figure S3.**<sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectrum of Se-3-AP in DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>.



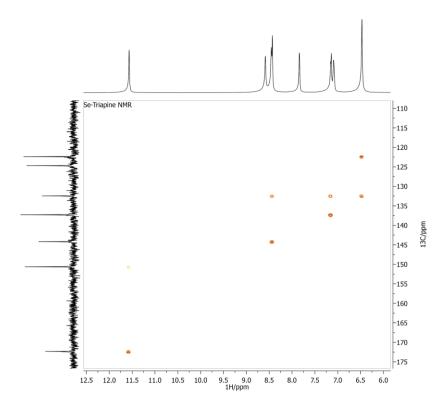
**Figure S4.**  $^{13}$ C-NMR spectrum of Se-3-AP in DMSO- $d_6$ .



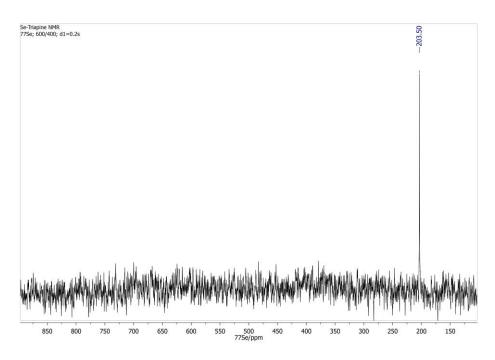
**Figure S5.** COSY spectrum of Se-3-AP in DMSO- $d_6$ .



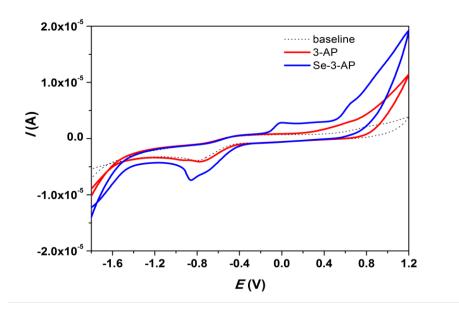
**Figure S6.**  ${}^{1}\text{H-}{}^{13}\text{C}$  HSQC spectrum of Se-3-AP in DMSO- $d_{6}$ .



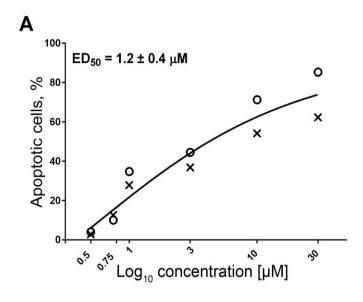
**Figure S7.**  ${}^{1}\text{H-}{}^{13}\text{C HMBC}$  spectrum of Se-3-AP in DMSO- $d_6$ .

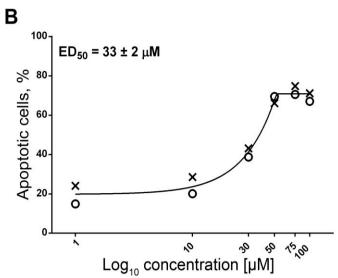


**Figure S8.** <sup>77</sup>Se-NMR spectrum of Se-3-AP in DMSO- $d_6$ .

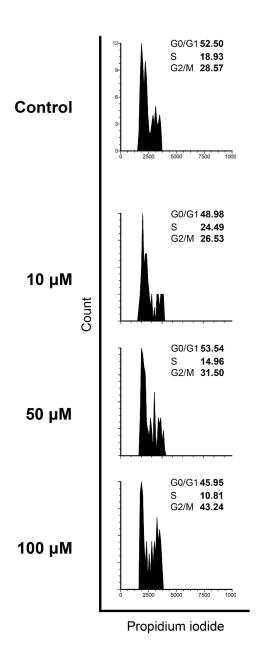


**Figure S9.** Cyclic voltammograms of Se-3-AP and 3-APin 0.10 M [*n*-Bu<sub>4</sub>N]PF<sub>6</sub>/DMSO, GC electrode.

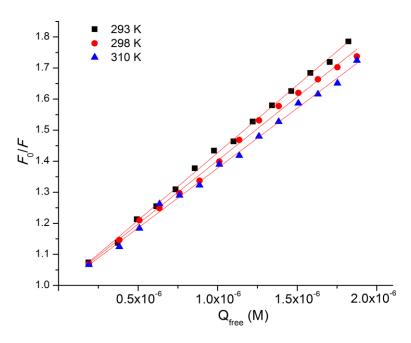




**Figure S10.** Concentration-response curves and ED<sub>50</sub> values for Se-3-AP on THP-1 (A) and MCF-7 cells (B) after 24 h treatment. Results are presented as percentages of apoptotic cells determined by means of Annexin V/propidium iodide double staining method for two independent experiments (circles and crosses), with asymmetric five-parameter sigmoidal curve computed for both replicates in GraphPad Prism software.



**Figure S11.** Changes in distribution of MCF-7 cells within phases of mitotic division induced by 24 h treatment with 3-AP. Analysis has been performed on the same cell samples represented in Figure 2A (right panel) on the remaining cells after Annexin V/PI read out. Incidences of cells found at the G0/G1, S and G2/M phases were determined according to non-treated control population. Results represent percentages of cells within phases of cell cycle obtained from a single experiment considering additional replicates have not been acquired due to 3-AP lack of activity.



**Figure S12**. Stern-Volmer plot of  $F_0/Fvs$  [Q] at three different temperatures, where  $F_0$  and F represent HSA fluorescence intensities in absence  $(F_0)$  and in the presence of the quencher (F), and [Q] is the concentration of the quencher (Se-3-AP).

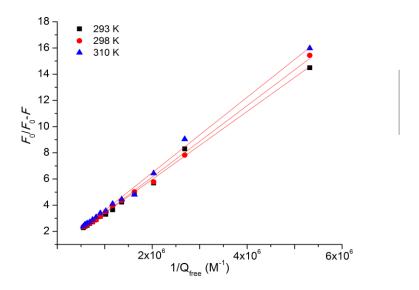
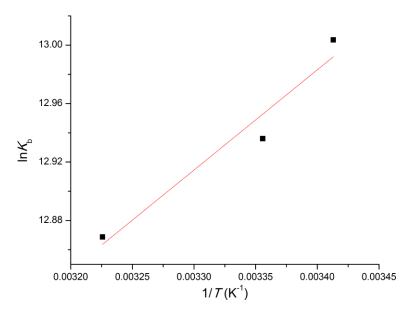
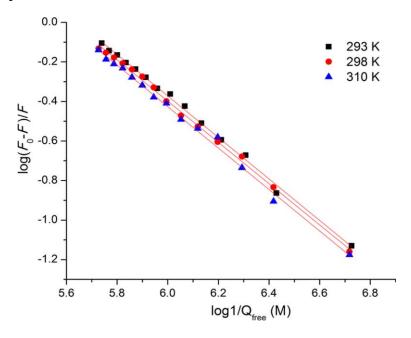


Figure S13. Modified Stern-Volmer plot for binding of Se-3-AP to HSA at three temperatures.



**Figure S14.** The plot of  $\ln K_b vs 1/T$  for the interaction of Se-3-AP with HSA.  $K_b$  is given in M<sup>-1</sup>.



**Figure S15.** Double-log plot for determination of binding constants  $K_b$ , and the number of binding sites n at three temperatures; concentration of the quencher [Q] is given in M.

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