## **Supporting Information**

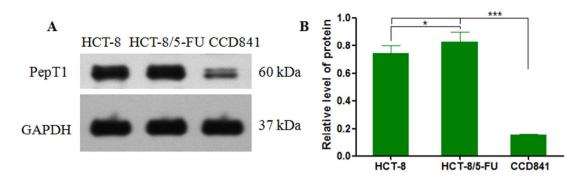
Synthesis of CDDO-Amino Acid-Nitric Oxide Donor Trihybrids as Potential Antitumor Agents against Both Drug-sensitive and Drug-resistant Colon Cancer

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### 1. Expressing profile of PepT1 in colon cancer and noncancer cells



**Figure S1.** Expression profiles of PepT1 protein in HCT-8, HCT-8/5-FU, and CCD841 cell lines. Cell lysates of HCT-8, HCT-8/5-FU, and CCD841 cells were analyzed by Western blot. The expression of the house keeping protein GAPDH was used as a control of equal protein loading. Data are representative images and expressed as the means  $\pm$  SD

of each group of cells from three separate experiments. A. Western blot analysis of the relative levels of PepT1 expression. B. Quantitative analysis. \*P < 0.05 vs. the HCT-8/5-FU group, \*\*P < 0.001 vs. the CCD841 group.

#### 2. Procedure for the preparation of compound 5

Figure S2. Synthetic Route for Compound 5.

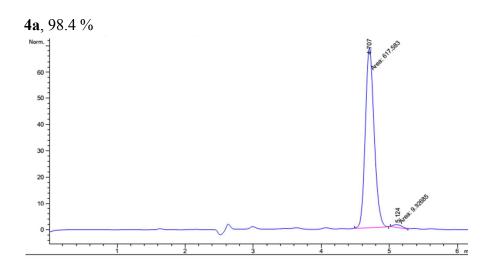
Compound **6** was prepared according to the method described previously.<sup>1</sup> The crude product was used without further purification. Thus, a mixture of **6** (0.2 g, 0.36 mmol), KOH (0.08 g, 2.4 mmol) in methenol was stirred at room temperature until the starting material was totally consumed as indicated by TLC. The mixture was then poured into  $CH_2Cl_2$  (50 mL), and washed sequentially with 1 N HCl (3 × 25 mL) and saturated NaCl solution, and the organic fraction was dried over sodium sulfate. After removal of the solvent, the crude product was purified by column chromatography (PE : AcOEt = 2:1-1:1 v/v) to afford the title product **5** in 82 % yield as a white solid: mp 165-167 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 M Hz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 25 °C, TMS):  $\delta$  8.10 (s, 1H, C<sub>1</sub>-H), 6.66 (br s, 1H, CONH), 6.02 (s, 1H, C<sub>11</sub>-H), 4.04 (m, 2H, NH<u>CH<sub>2</sub></u>CO), 3.08 (d, J = 4.2 Hz, 1H, C<sub>13</sub>-H), 2.96-2.92 (m, 1H, C<sub>18</sub>-H), 1.49 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.34 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.26 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.17 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.02 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 0.98 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 0.91 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 M Hz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 25 °C, TMS):  $\delta$  199.2, 196.1, 178.0, 172.7, 169.2, 165.5, 123.4, 117.9, 114.0, 49.1, 47.1, 46.1, 45.5, 44.5, 42.1, 41.6, 35.6, 34.0, 33.5, 32.7, 31.3, 31.2, 30.1, 29.2, 28.8, 27.1, 26.5, 26.1, 24.4, 22.6, 21.3, 21.1, 17.7; ESI-MS: 549 [M+H]<sup>+</sup>.

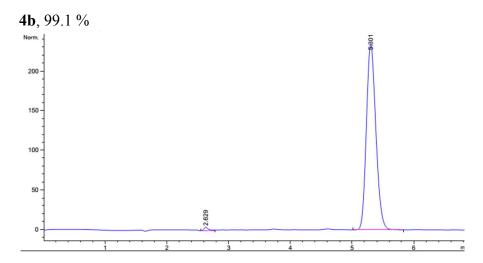
### 3. HPLC assessment of compound purity.

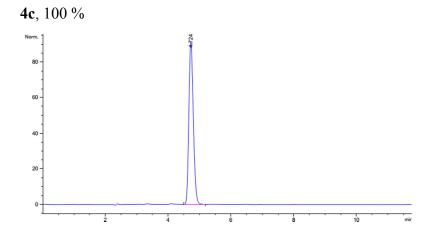
All tested compounds (4a-i) with a purity of > 95% were used for subsequent biological assays. We provided the spectra of HPLC assays as below.

Column: Inertex C18 (150 mm  $\times$  4.6 mm  $\times$  5  $\mu$ m); Mobile phase: Methanol-Water (80:20 to 95:5, v/v);

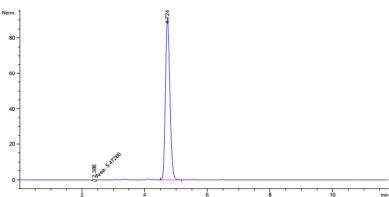
Wavelength: 244 nm; Rate: 0.8 mL/min; Temperature: 25 °C;



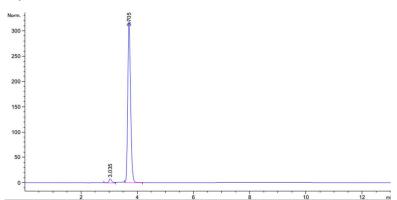




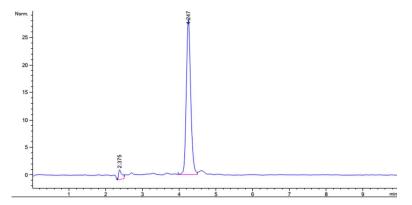




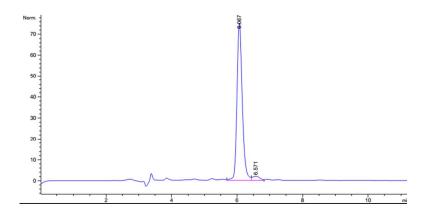
# **4e**, 97.7 %



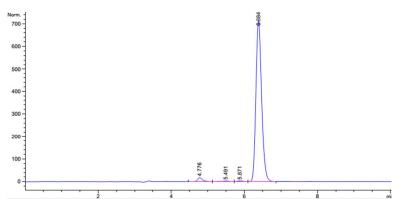
# **4f**, 95.7 %



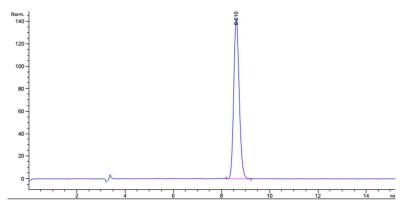
**4g**, 96.4 %



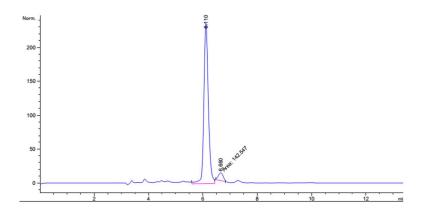




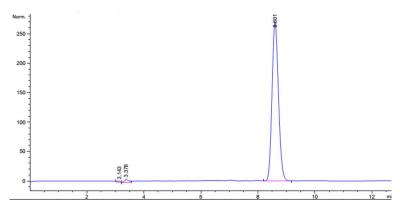




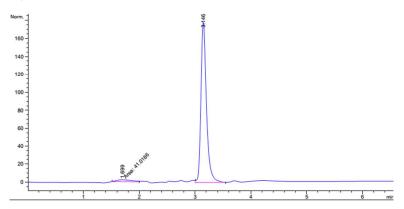
**4j**, 95.0 %



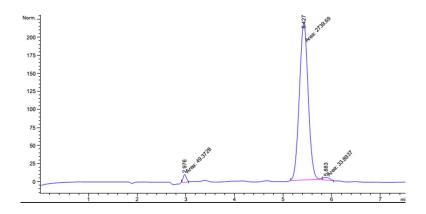


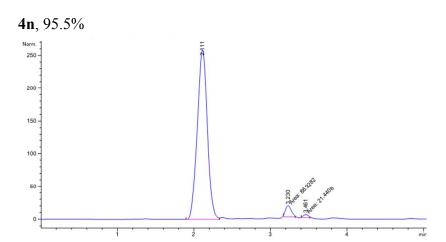


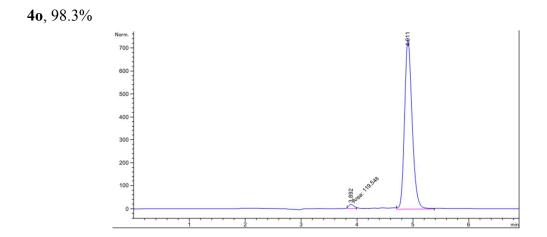




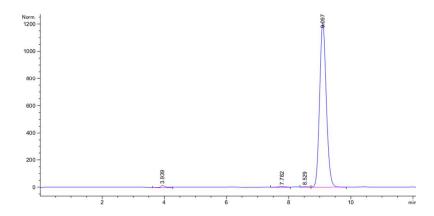
**4m**, 97.1 %



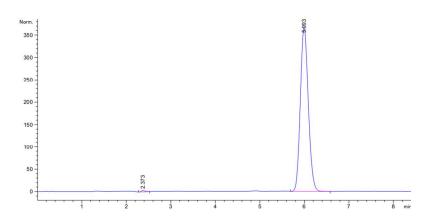




**4q**, 98.0 %



## **4p**, 99.6%



## References

(1) Onyango, E. O.; Fu, L.; Cao, M.; Liby, K. T.; Sporn, M. B.; Gribble, G. W. Synthesis and biological evaluation of amino acid methyl ester conjugates of 2-cyano-3,12-dioxooleana-1,9(11)-dien-28-oic acid against the production of nitric oxide (NO). *Bioorg. Med. Chem. Lett.* **2014**, *24*, 532-534.