## **Clickable Shiga Toxin B Subunit for Drug Delivery in Cancer Therapy**

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## 1 Supplementary





Supplementary 2. SDS-PAGE gel of STxB<sub>wt</sub> expression optimization. (a). Expression of BL21 (DE3) versus enGenes-X-press (V1) strain
 in μ-bioreactor cultivations (800 μL scale). (b). Expression of enGenes-X-press (V1) strain in benchtop bioreactor (1L) fed-batch process.







(c)



Supplementary 3. SEC-MALS stability measurement of STxB<sub>wt</sub>. (a) STxB<sub>wt</sub> measured upon defrosting (-80°C). (b) STxB<sub>wt</sub> measured upon 2 weeks storage (4°C). Degraded STxB<sub>wt</sub> removed upon filtration and analysis shown in (c), where STxB<sub>wt</sub> was measured upon 2 weeks storage (4°C). (d) STxB<sub>wt</sub> defrosted 5 times (-20°C).



Supplementary 4. ITC measurement of STxB<sub>wt/AzK</sub> binding to Gb3 receptor. (a) Duplicate measurement of STxB<sub>wt</sub> binding to Gb3. (b)
 Duplicate measurement of STxB<sub>AzK</sub> binding.







Supplementary 5. Expression of Gb3 antigens at the surface of HT-29 and LS-174 tumour cells. (a) Representative histograms of flow cytometry analysis of gated living HT-29 cells stained with increasing concentrations of STxB obtained from commercial sources. Cells were treated with fluorescently labelled STxB-Cy5 for 30 min on ice. (b) Histograms of fluorescence intensity of gated living LS-174 cells incubated with increasing concentrations of STxB-Cy5 available for commercial use, for 30 min on ice.



(c)



Supplementary 6. Intact protein MS analysis of STxB<sub>AzK</sub> (8959 Da) and DBCO-PEG4-Cit-PAB-MMAE drug attachment (10615 Da). The sample of (a) not coupled STxB<sub>AzK</sub>, (b) coupled with the drug to ratio 1:5, (c) coupled with the drug to ratio 1:10 and (d) coupled with drug to ratio 1:20. 8959 MW is measured STxB<sub>AzK</sub>, and 10615.6 MW is mesured STxB<sub>AzK</sub> attached to DBCO-PEG4-Cit-PAB-MMAE. The remaining peaks are not identified and will require further research.

## DBCO-PEG4-Val-Cit-PAB-MMAE



- DBCO-PEG4 enables click-chemistry to STxB<sub>AzK</sub>
- Valine-citrulline-PAB-linker is enzymatically cleaved by intracellular cathepsin B
- · Monomethyl Auristatin E (MMAE) is the toxic payload released into the cytosol after cleveage

43 Supplementary 7. Composition of DBCO-PEG4-Val-Cit-PAB-MMAE toxic payload delivered to Gb3-expressing cancer cells by
 44 STxB<sub>AZK</sub>.

45

(a)







47 Supplementary 8. Fluorescence imaging of HT-29 cells incubated with STxB<sub>wt/AzK</sub>. (a) Immunofluorescence studies of HT-29 cells treated
48 with STxB<sub>wt</sub> AF647 (red) for 30 min on ice (0 h) or 3 h at 37°C. Lysosomes were stained with antibodies directed against LAMP1 (green).
49 Nuclei were counterstained by DAPI (blue). Scale bars: 10 μM. (b) Immunofluorescence studies of HT-29 cells incubated with STxB<sub>AzK</sub>
50 AF647 (red) for 30 min on ice (0 h) or 3 h at 37°C. Lysosomes were stained with antibodies directed against LAMP1 (green). Nuclei were
51 counterstained by DAPI (blue). Scale bars: 10 μM. Images reveal intracellular uptake and accumulation of STxB<sub>wt/AzK</sub> in HT-29 cells.
52 White arrows in the lower panel (3 h) highlight a potential accumulation of STxB<sub>AzK</sub> in the lysosomes of target cells, visible as overlap of red (STxB<sub>AzK</sub> AF647) and green (LAMP1) fluorescent signals.

(b)



(a)



STxB<sub>AzK</sub>-DBCO-PEG4-Val-Cit-PAB-MMAE (1:20)



55 Supplementary 9. STxBAzk-MMAE conjugates (1:5) and (1:20) mediate cytotoxic drug delivery to HT-29 tumour cells and the in vitro-56 specific killing. Quantification of specific killing activity upon incubation of Gb3+ HT-29 target cells with STxBAZK after conjugation to 57 MMAE in two different reactions with 1:5 or 1:20 molar ratios. (a) Cytotoxicity assay of HT-29 cells incubated with 1.3, 6.5, 26 or 52 nM 58 STxBAzk-DBCO-PEG4-Val-Cit-PAB-MMAE (1:5) for 72 h. (b) Cytotoxicity assay of HT-29 cells incubated with 1.3, 6.5, 26 or 52 nM 59 STxB<sub>AzK</sub>-DBCO-PEG4-Val-Cit-PAB-MMAE (1:20) for 72 h. Percent viability was calculated relative to the luminescence from an equal 60 number of input control cells and used to calculate percent specific killing. Results are expressed as a mean  $\pm$  SD (n = 3) from 3 separate 61 experiments. Statistical differences in independent, identical samples were determined with a two-tailed, unpaired t-test for control and 62 treatment groups, at each time point. Tests with a p-value  $\leq 0.05$  are considered statistically significant and marked with an asterisk (\*). 63 Non-significant results are not highlighted.







