

## Electronic Supplementary Material

Enhancement of photoactivity and cellular uptake of  $(\text{Bu}_4\text{N})_2[\text{Mo}_6\text{I}_8(\text{CH}_3\text{COO})_6]$  complex by loading on porous MCM-41 support.

Photodynamic studies as an anticancer agent

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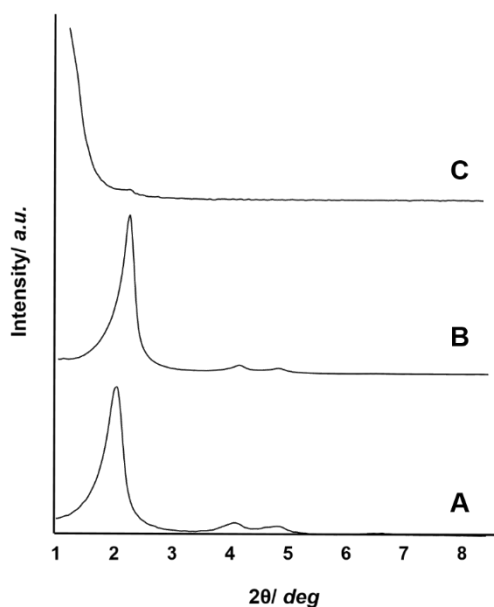
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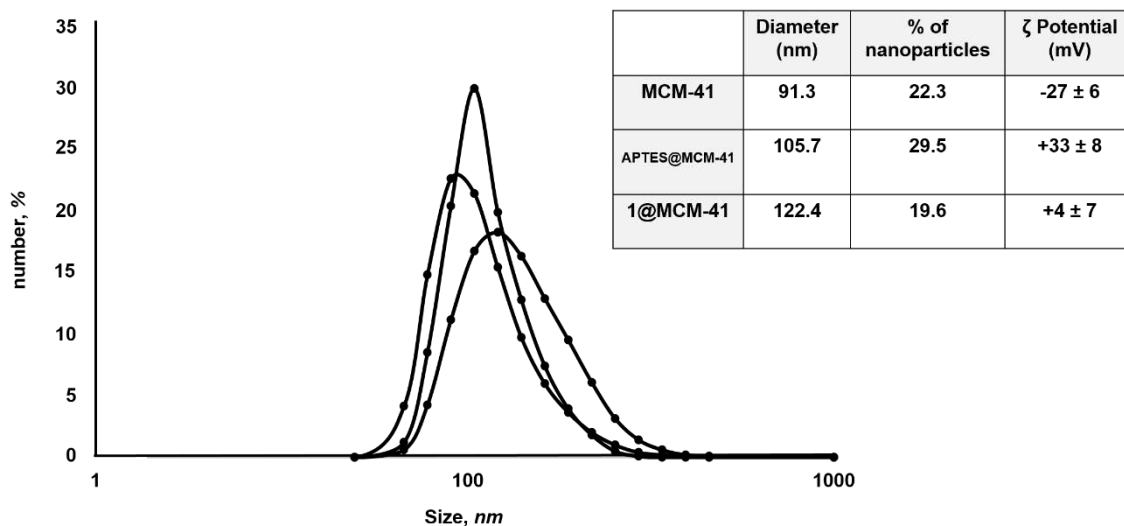
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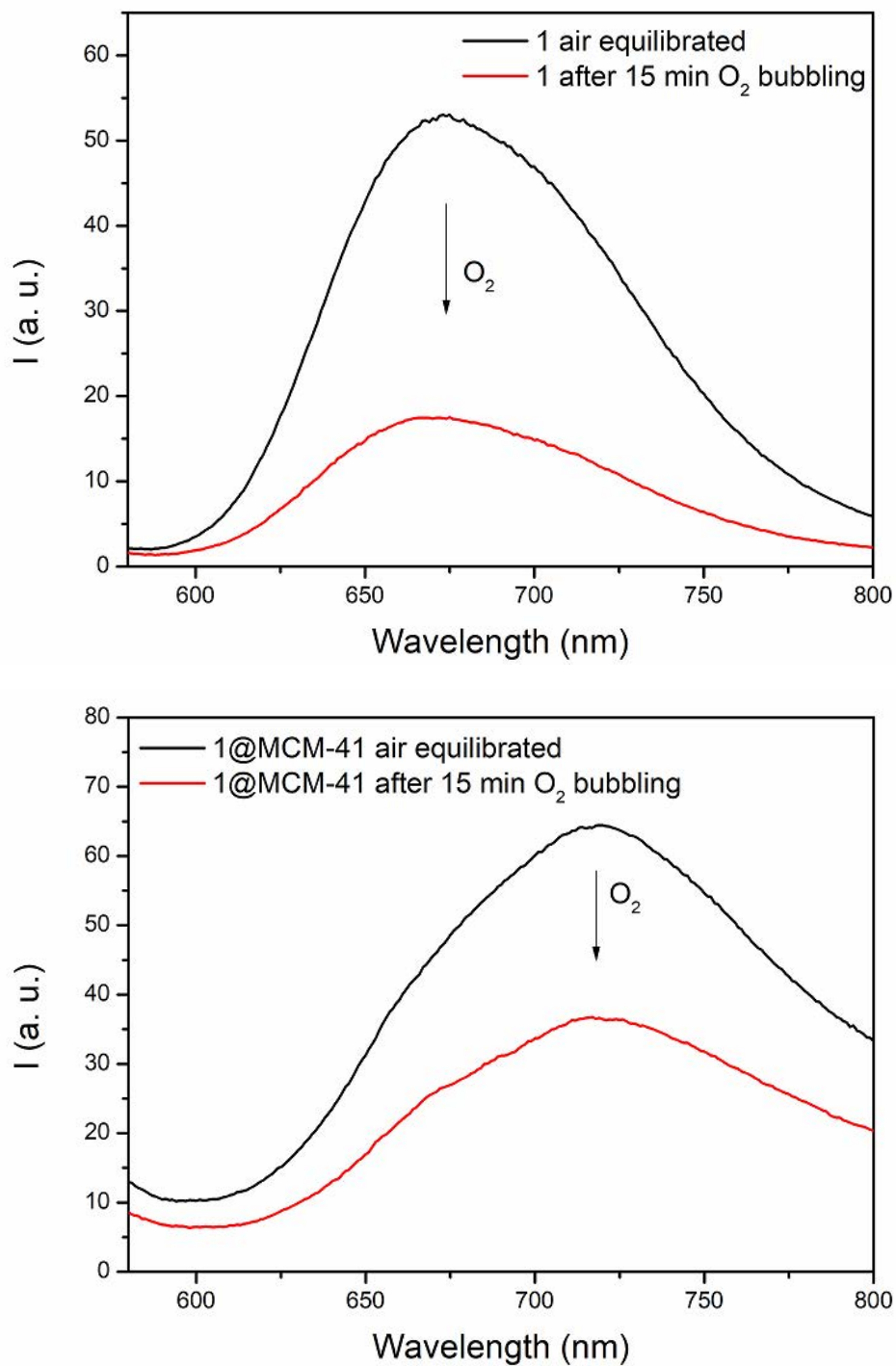
<sup>f</sup> Unidad Mixta de Investigación en Nanomedicina y Sensores. Universitat Politècnica de València, IIS La Fe, Valencia, Spain.



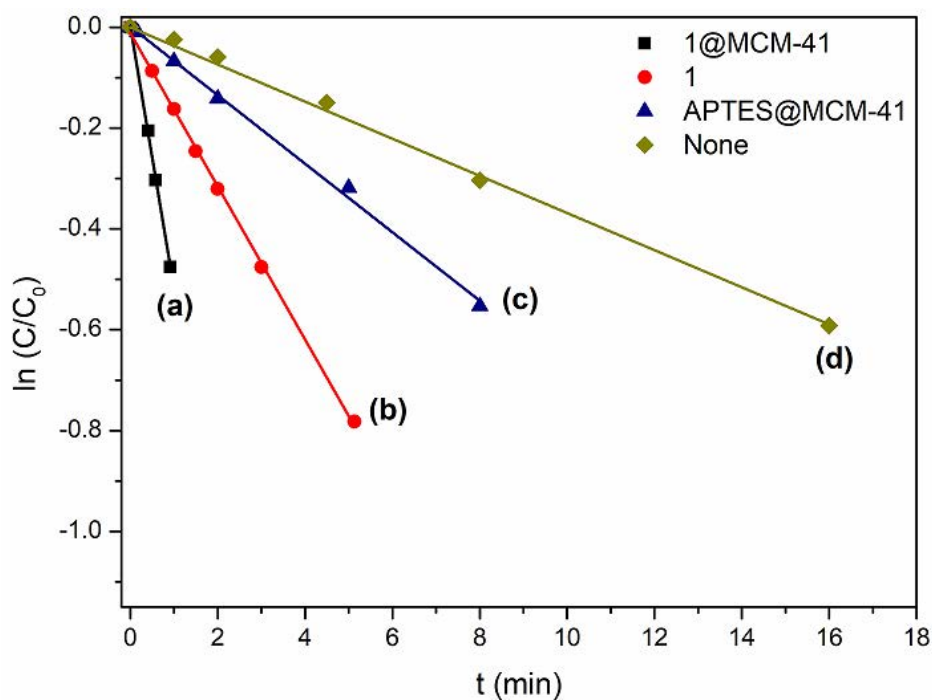
**Figure S1.** Powder X-ray diffraction pattern of **MCM-41** before calcination (a), calcined **MCM-41** (b) and final solid **1@MCM-41** (c) showing the typical reflections of the MSNs hexagonal array.



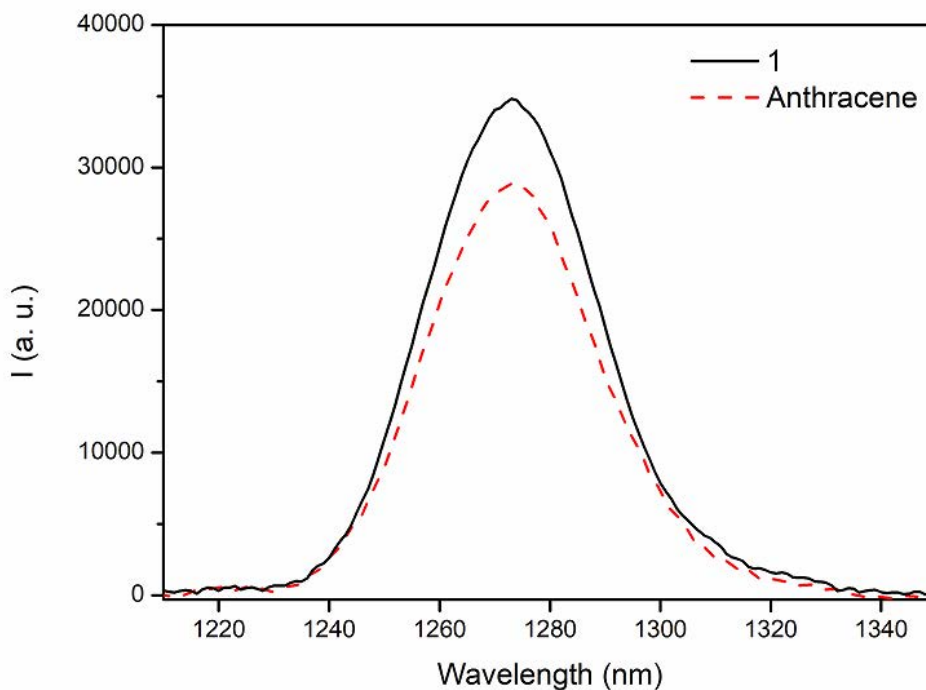
**Figure S2.** Hydrodynamic size and  $\zeta$  Potential of **MCM-41**, **APTES@MCM-41** and **1@MCM-41**.



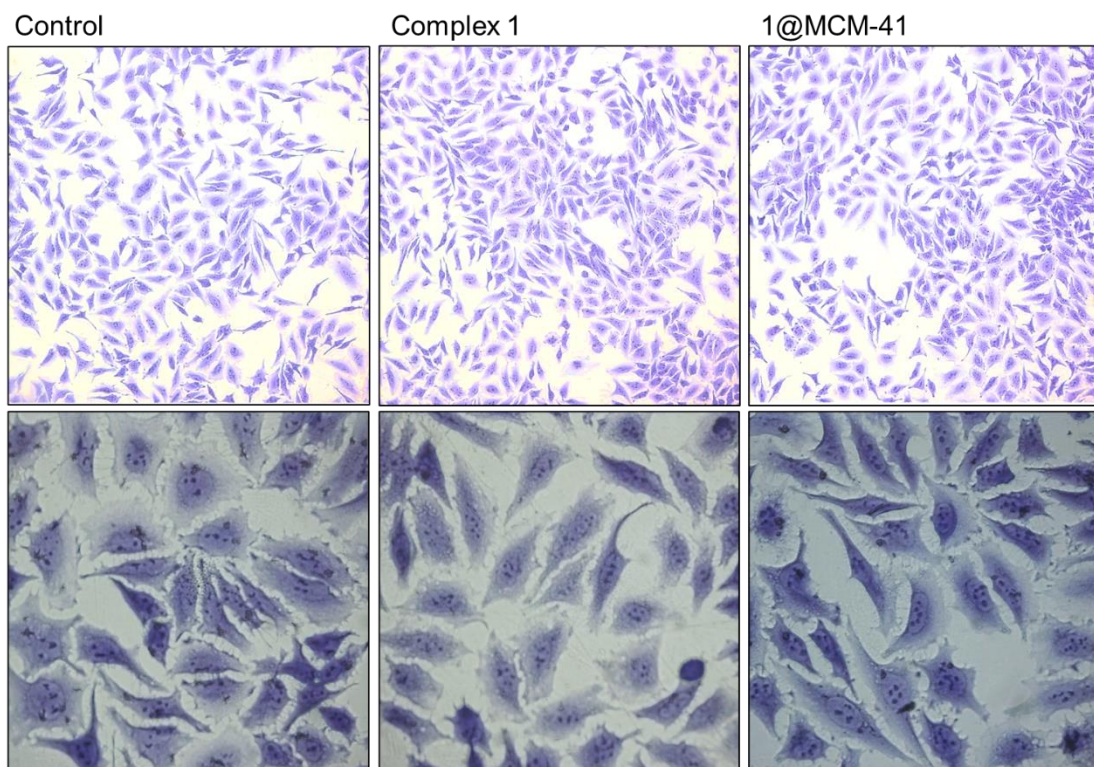
**Figure S3.** Up: Emission spectra corresponding to a solution of **1** (0.07 mg/mL) in water (10 mM PBS, pH = 7) air-equilibrated (black line) and after bubbling oxygen for 15 minutes (red line). Bottom: analogous spectra for **1@MCM-41** (0.1 mg/mL).



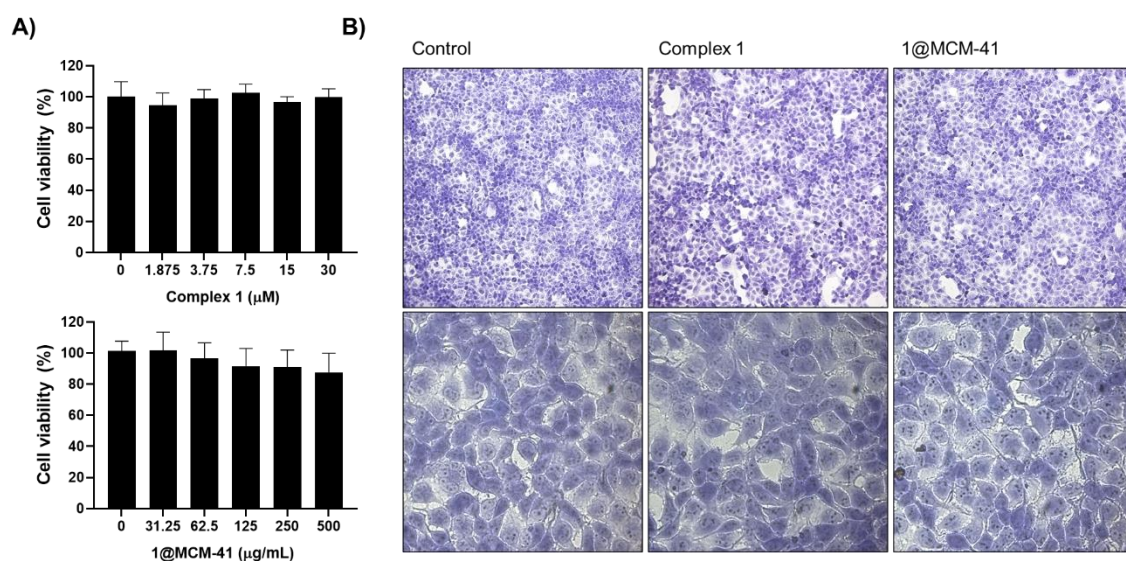
**Figure S4.** Pseudo-first order fittings ( $\ln C/C_0$  vs. time) for the photooxidation reaction of ABDA ( $3.3 \times 10^{-5}$  M) in water (PBS 10 mM, pH = 7) by: (a) **1@MCM-41** ( $0.1 \text{ mg mL}^{-1}$ ), (b) **1** ( $2.9 \times 10^{-5}$  M), (c) **APTES@MCM-41** ( $0.1 \text{ mg mL}^{-1}$ ) and (d) autooxidation.



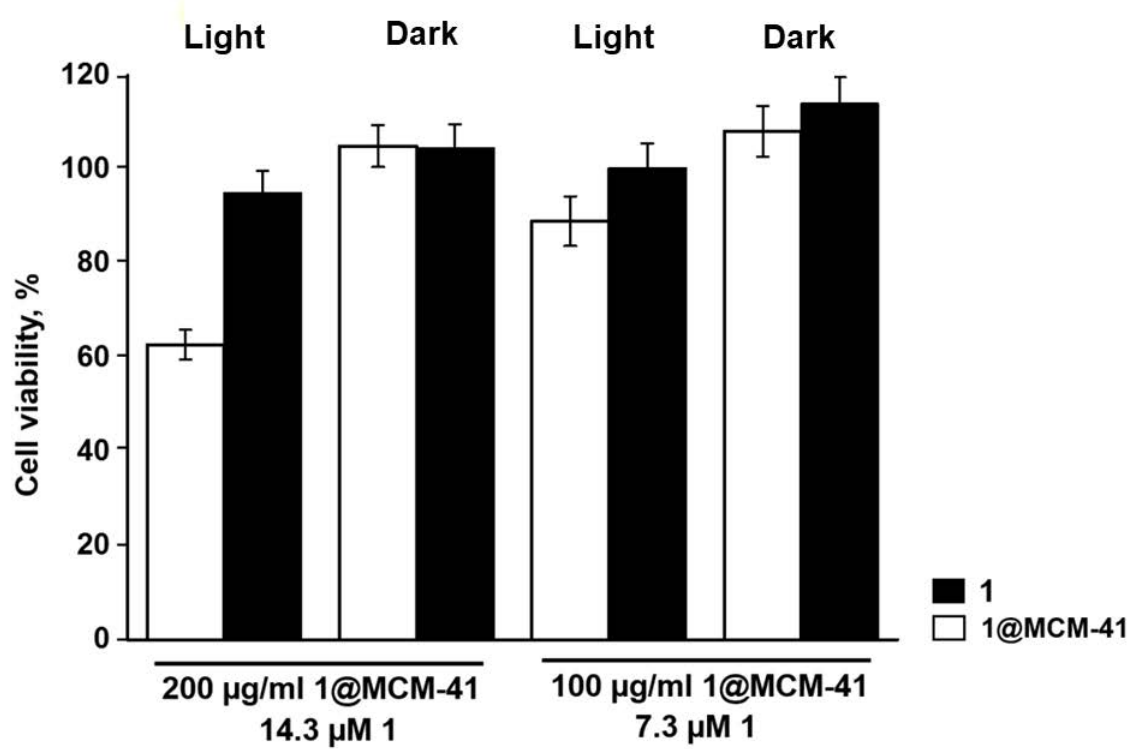
**Figure S5.** Singlet oxygen phosphorescence ( $\lambda_{\text{exc}} = 308 \text{ nm}$ ) recorded for oxygen saturated  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$  solutions of **1** (full line) and anthracene (dashed line). The quantum yield calculated for **1** is  $\phi_{\Delta} = 0.86$ .



**Figure S6.** Crystal violet staining of HeLa cells in the presence of **1@MCM-41** and **1** complex at different magnifications 10X (up) and 40X (down).



**Figure S7.** (A) Cell viability assays at different concentrations of complex **1** (up) and **1@MCM-41** nanoparticles (down) at 24h in SK-Mel-103 cells. Data represent the mean  $\pm$  SEM of at least three independent experiments. (B) Crystal violet staining of SK-Mel-103 cells in the presence of **1@MCM-41** and **1** complex at different magnifications 10X (up) and 40X (down).



**Figure S8.** Toxicity and phototoxicity of 1@MCM-41 and 1 against Sk-mel cells.