

# Supporting Information

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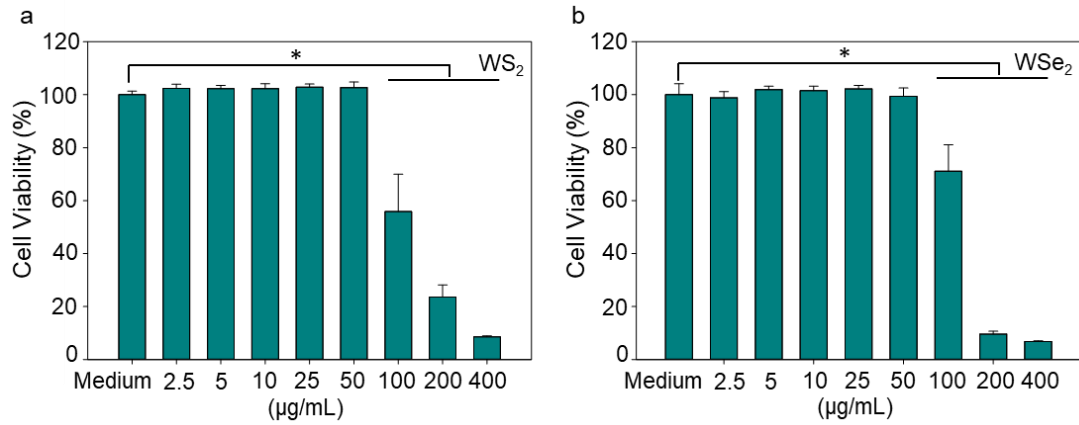


Figure S1. Dose-dependent cytotoxicity of WS<sub>2</sub> (a) or WSe<sub>2</sub> (b) in A549 cells after incubation under different concentrations for 24 h. Data were shown as mean  $\pm$  s.d., n = 5. \*P < 0.05.

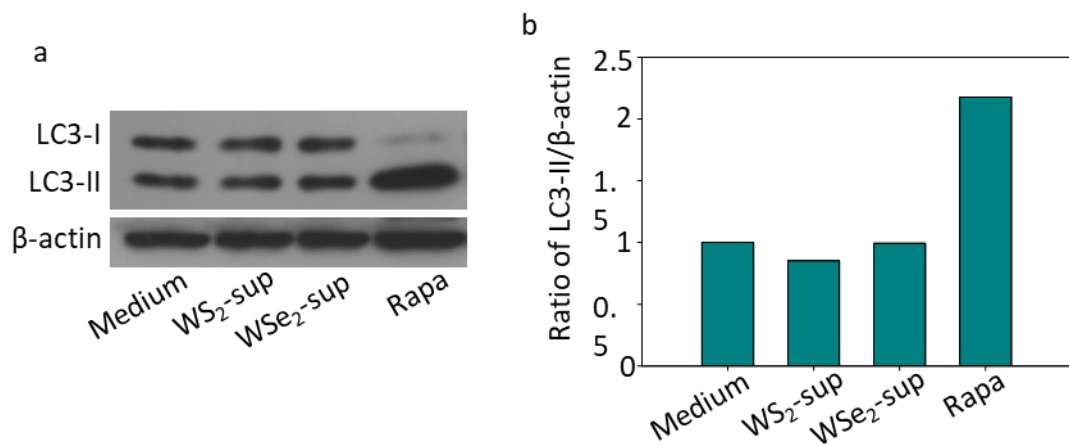


Figure S2. Supernatant of WS<sub>2</sub> or WSe<sub>2</sub> did not contribute to autophagy induction. (a) LC3-II formation in A549 cells after treatment with supernatant of WS<sub>2</sub> or WSe<sub>2</sub> as determined by Western blotting against LC3B antibody. A549 Cells treated with rapamycin (4  $\mu$ M) for 12h was used as positive control. (b) LC3-II formation induced by the supernatant of WS<sub>2</sub> or WSe<sub>2</sub> was quantified by determining the ration of band intensities of LC3-II over  $\beta$ -actin using ImageJ.

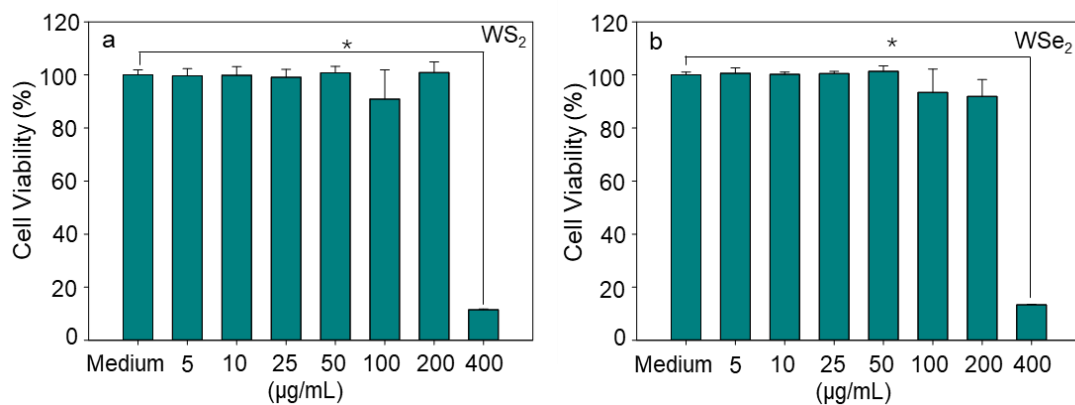


Figure S3. Dose-dependent cytotoxicity of WS<sub>2</sub> (a) or WSe<sub>2</sub> (b) in U87 cells after incubation under different concentrations for 24 h. Data were shown as mean  $\pm$  s.d., n = 5. \*P < 0.05.

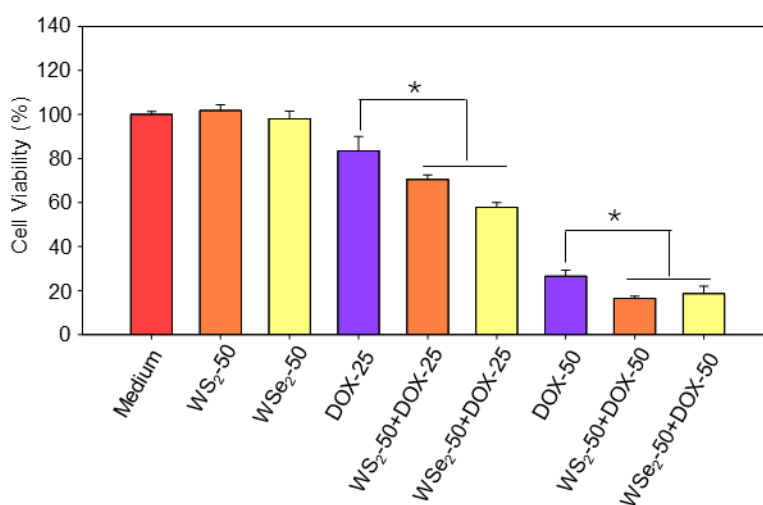


Figure S4. WS<sub>2</sub> and WSe<sub>2</sub> sensitized U87 cells to DOX treatment. (a) Pre-treatment with WS<sub>2</sub> or WSe<sub>2</sub> nanosheets enhanced the DOX-induced toxicity in U87 cells. Data are shown as the mean  $\pm$  s.d.; n = 5; \*P < 0.05.

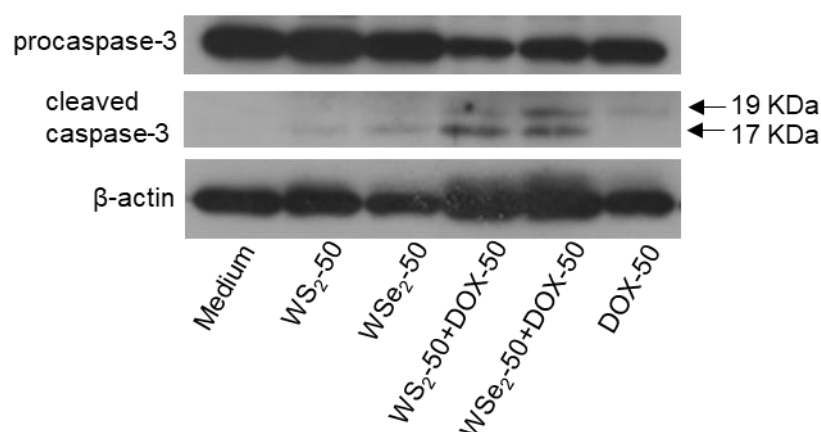


Figure S5. Pre-treatment with WS<sub>2</sub> or WSe<sub>2</sub> induced more obvious cleavage of caspase 3 compared to cells treated with DOX.

Table S1. Zeta potentials of WS<sub>2</sub> and WSe<sub>2</sub>.

|                               | WS <sub>2</sub> | WSe <sub>2</sub> |
|-------------------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| Zeta potential in water (mV)  | -39.0 ± 1.9     | -41.2 ± 1.5      |
| Zeta potential in 10%FBS (mV) | -11.3 ± 1.2     | -11.7 ± 0.9      |

Table S2. Fold up- or down-regulation of 84 autophagic genes by super array.

| Genes   | WS <sub>2</sub> /control | WSe <sub>2</sub> /control |
|---------|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| AKT1    | 0.74                     | 0.60                      |
| AMBRA1  | 0.76                     | 0.64                      |
| APP     | 0.50                     | 0.32                      |
| ATG10   | 0.57                     | 0.48                      |
| ATG12   | 0.69                     | 0.57                      |
| ATG16L1 | 0.66                     | 0.75                      |
| ATG16L2 | 1.34                     | 0.81                      |
| ATG3    | 0.82                     | 0.66                      |
| ATG4A   | 0.53                     | 0.38                      |
| ATG4B   | 1.06                     | 0.77                      |
| ATG4C   | 0.64                     | 0.49                      |
| ATG4D   | 0.62                     | 0.43                      |

|           |      |      |
|-----------|------|------|
| ATG5      | 0.70 | 0.49 |
| ATG7      | 0.80 | 0.60 |
| ATG9A     | 0.72 | 0.54 |
| ATG9B     | 2.06 | 0.81 |
| BAD       | 0.50 | 0.28 |
| BAK1      | 0.68 | 0.58 |
| BAX       | 0.65 | 0.55 |
| BCL2      | 1.75 | 2.34 |
| BCL2L1    | 0.61 | 1.18 |
| BECN1     | 0.80 | 0.55 |
| BID       | 0.55 | 0.58 |
| BNIP3     | 0.58 | 0.55 |
| CASP3     | 0.65 | 0.59 |
| CASP8     | 0.73 | 0.52 |
| CDKN1B    | 0.69 | 0.51 |
| CDKN2A    | 0.81 | 0.81 |
| CLN3      | 0.59 | 0.35 |
| CTSB      | 0.78 | 0.34 |
| CTSD      | 0.93 | 0.59 |
| CTSS      | 1.01 | 0.71 |
| CXCR4     | 0.81 | 0.81 |
| DAPK1     | 3.05 | 1.52 |
| DRAM1     | 0.45 | 0.44 |
| DRAM2     | 0.52 | 0.28 |
| EIF2AK3   | 0.75 | 0.46 |
| EIF4G1    | 0.81 | 0.74 |
| ESR1      | 0.92 | 0.31 |
| FADD      | 0.56 | 0.55 |
| FAS       | 0.52 | 0.67 |
| GAA       | 0.85 | 1.07 |
| GABARAP   | 0.67 | 0.41 |
| GABARAPL1 | 0.77 | 0.22 |
| GABARAPL2 | 0.63 | 0.48 |
| HDAC1     | 0.66 | 0.48 |
| HDAC6     | 1.14 | 0.59 |
| HGS       | 5.91 | 6.47 |
| HSP90AA1  | 0.44 | 0.48 |
| HSPA8     | 0.47 | 0.62 |
| HTT       | 0.89 | 0.63 |
| IFNG      | 0.81 | 0.81 |
| IGF1      | 1.77 | 0.81 |
| INS       | 0.81 | 0.81 |
| IRGM      | 0.81 | 0.81 |

|          |      |      |
|----------|------|------|
| LAMP1    | 0.80 | 0.59 |
| MAP1LC3A | 0.22 | 0.10 |
| MAP1LC3B | 0.93 | 0.63 |
| MAPK14   | 0.64 | 0.42 |
| MAPK8    | 0.58 | 0.43 |
| MTOR     | 0.79 | 0.60 |
| NFKB1    | 1.36 | 1.39 |
| NPC1     | 0.97 | 0.74 |
| PIK3C3   | 0.59 | 0.46 |
| PIK3CG   | 0.81 | 0.81 |
| PIK3R4   | 0.70 | 0.71 |
| PRKAA1   | 0.68 | 0.59 |
| PTEN     | 0.96 | 0.57 |
| RAB24    | 1.00 | 0.91 |
| RB1      | 0.71 | 0.50 |
| RGS19    | 1.01 | 1.06 |
| RPS6KB1  | 0.70 | 0.53 |
| SNCA     | 0.33 | 0.15 |
| SQSTM1   | 0.97 | 0.46 |
| TGFB1    | 0.77 | 0.76 |
| TGM2     | 0.71 | 1.01 |
| TMEM74   | 1.00 | 0.39 |
| TNF      | 3.06 | 0.81 |
| TNFSF10  | 0.85 | 0.06 |
| TP53     | 1.01 | 0.72 |
| ULK1     | 2.55 | 1.37 |
| ULK2     | 0.81 | 0.60 |
| UVRAG    | 0.70 | 0.58 |
| WIP1     | 0.91 | 0.69 |
| ACTB     | 1.00 | 1.23 |
| B2M      | 0.68 | 0.61 |
| GAPDH    | 1.39 | 1.44 |
| HPRT1    | 0.59 | 0.60 |
| RPLP0    | 0.72 | 0.57 |