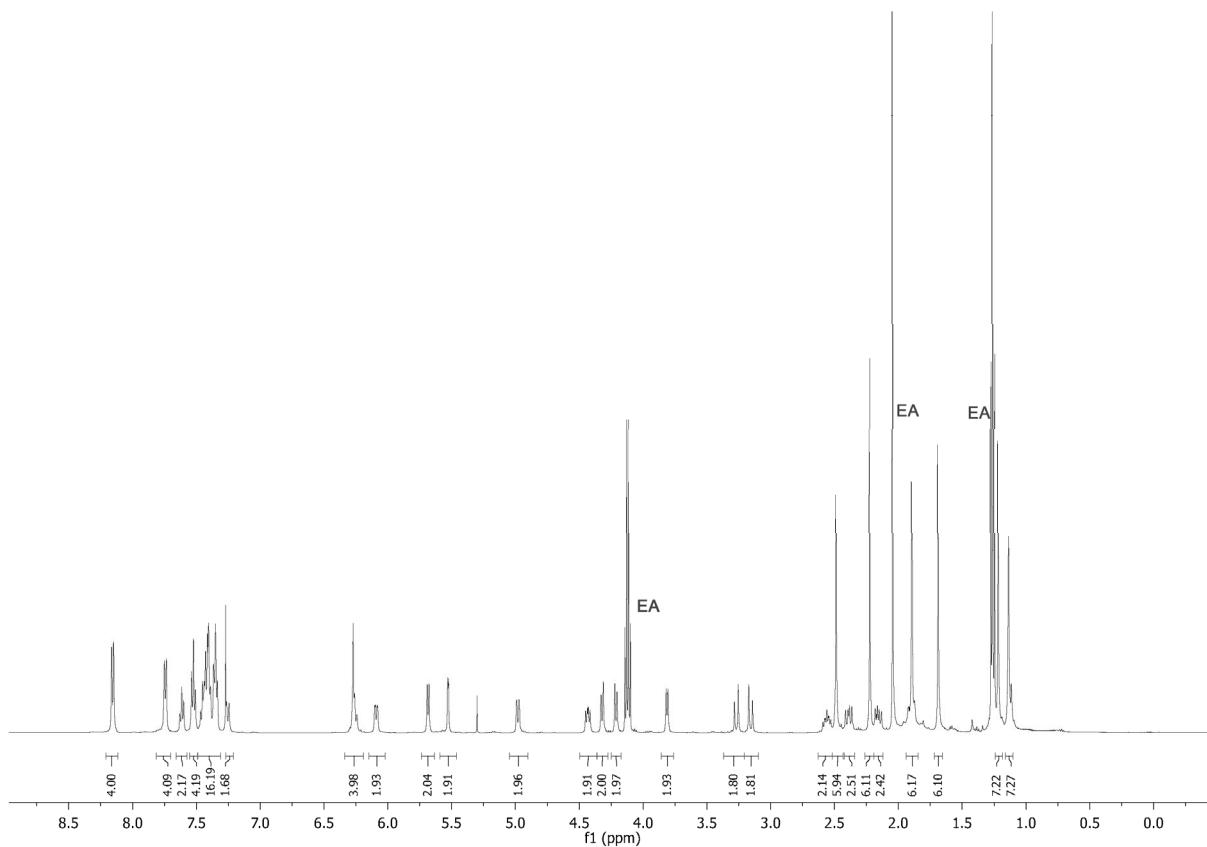


# Supporting Information: Pheophorbide A and Paclitaxel biore-sponsive nanoparticles as double-punch platform for cancer therapy

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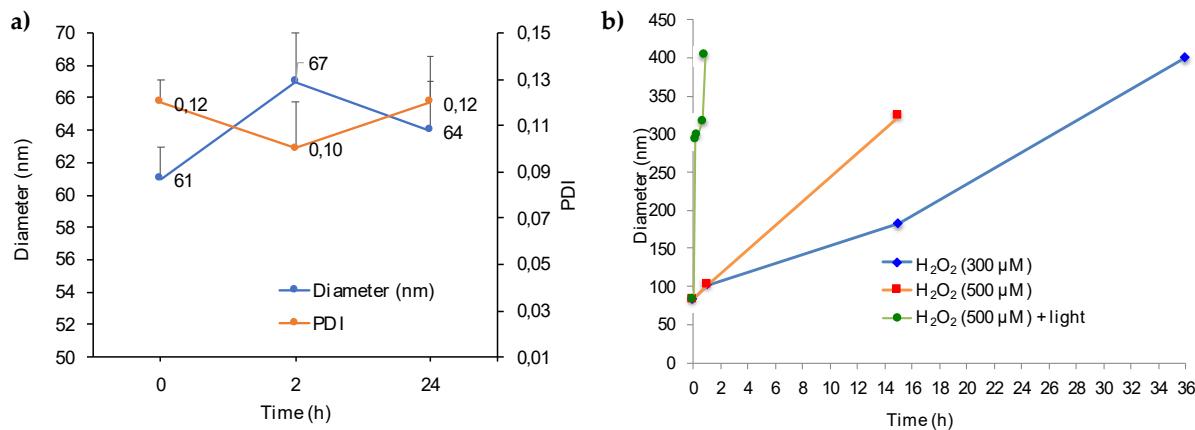
**Table S1.** Optimization studies on PheoA@PTX<sub>2</sub>S nanoparticles using different PheoA/PTX<sub>2</sub>S ratio and different concentrations of PheoA in DMSO. 2.

| [PTX <sub>2</sub> S]<br>(mg/mL <sub>DMSO</sub> ) | [PheoA]<br>(mg/mL <sub>DMSO</sub> ) | % PheoA<br>(W <sub>PheoA</sub> /W <sub>PTX2S</sub> ) | Hydrodynamic Diameter<br>(nm) | PDI         |
|--|-------------------------------------|--|-------------------------------|-------------|
| 10   | 0.5                                 | 15   | 147 ± 1                       | 0.17 ± 0.02 |
|  |                                     | 20   | 157 ± 1                       | 0.14 ± 0.01 |
|  |                                     | 25   | 142 ± 6                       | 0.15 ± 0.01 |
|  | 1.5                                 | 30   | 61 ± 2                        | 0.12 ± 0.03 |
|  |                                     | 35   | 93 ± 3                        | 0.11 ± 0.01 |
|  |                                     | 40   | 78 ± 2                        | 0.10 ± 0.02 |

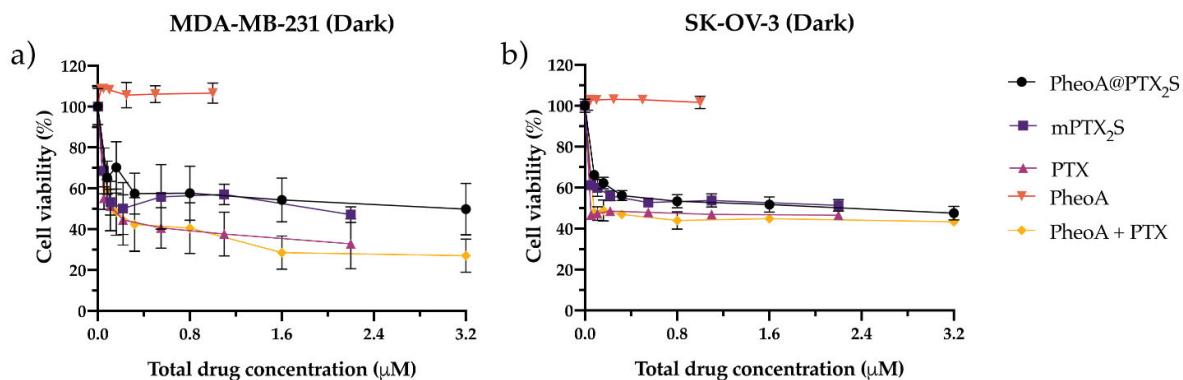


**Figure S1.** <sup>1</sup>H-NMR of PTX<sub>2</sub>S in CDCl<sub>3</sub> recorded on 500 MHz Varian spectrometer. 2.

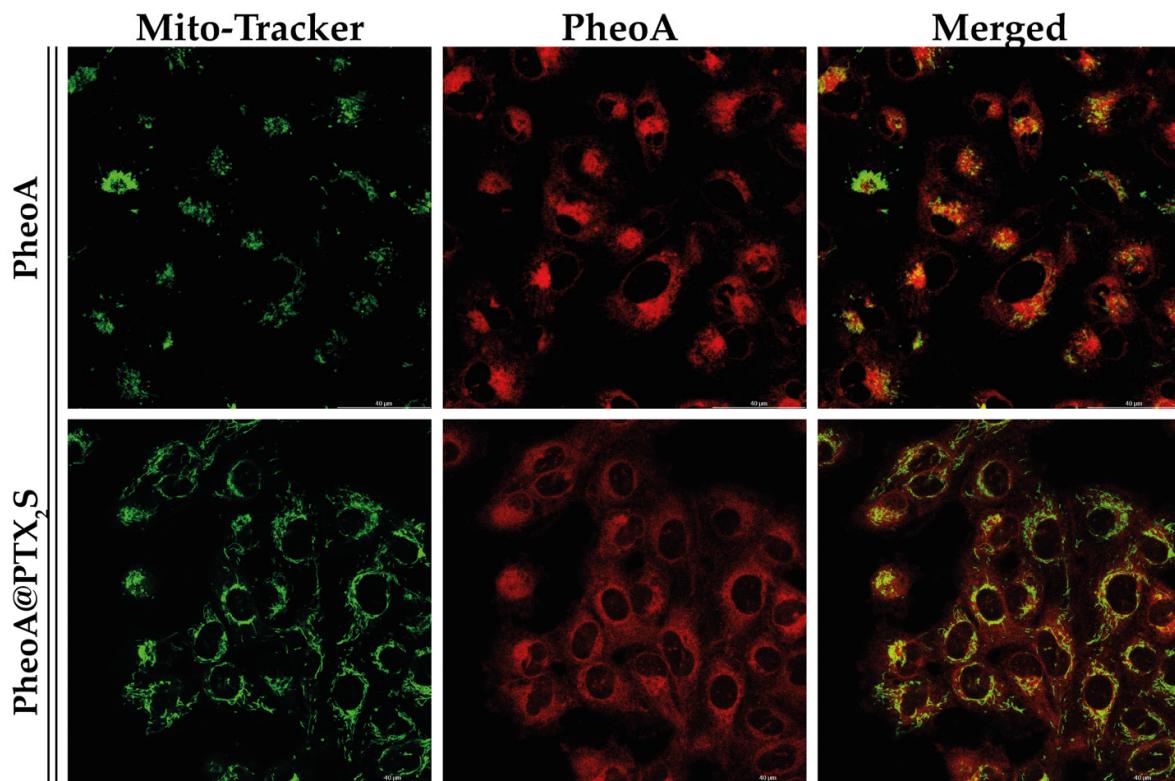
**Figure S2.** PheoA@PTX<sub>2</sub>S nanoparticles disassembly studies under different conditions: **a)** in the presence of 10 mM GSH at 37 °C for 24 h and **b)** in the presence of different H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> concentrations and plus light irradiation. 3.



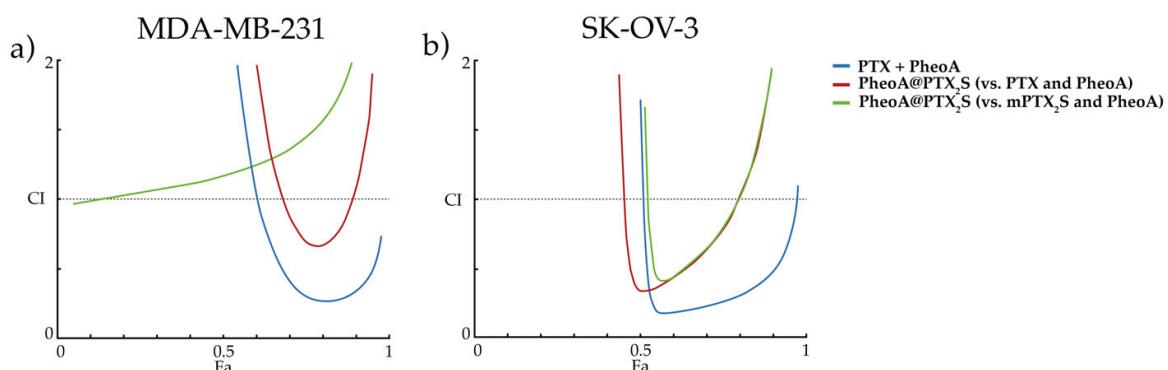
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**Figure S3.** Dark cytotoxicity in vitro. Dose-response curves of MDA-MB-231 **a)** or SK-OV-3 **b)** cells incubated in the dark for 24 h with single drugs or their combination delivered free or in nanoparticles and released for additional 24 h in drug-free medium before cell viability measurement with MTS assay. Total drug concentration is referred to PTX + PheoA concentration. Data are expressed as mean percentage ± SD of at least three independent experiments, carried out in triplicate.



**Figure S4.** In vitro intracellular localization studies. Confocal microscopy images of MDA-MB-231 cells showing only slight co-localization between the red fluorescence of PheoA (delivered in the standard solvent or loaded in PheoA@PTX<sub>2</sub>S) and the green fluorescence of MitoTracker used as specific probe for mitochondria. Scale bars: 40  $\mu$ m.



**Figure S5.** Combination index analysis. Plots of Combination Index vs. Fa (Fa-CI plot) relative to MDA-MB-231 **a)** and SK-OV-3 **b)** cells treated with the combination of PTX and PheoA. Data reported in Fig. 5 of the main text were analyzed with the CompuSyn software and Fa-CI plots derived.