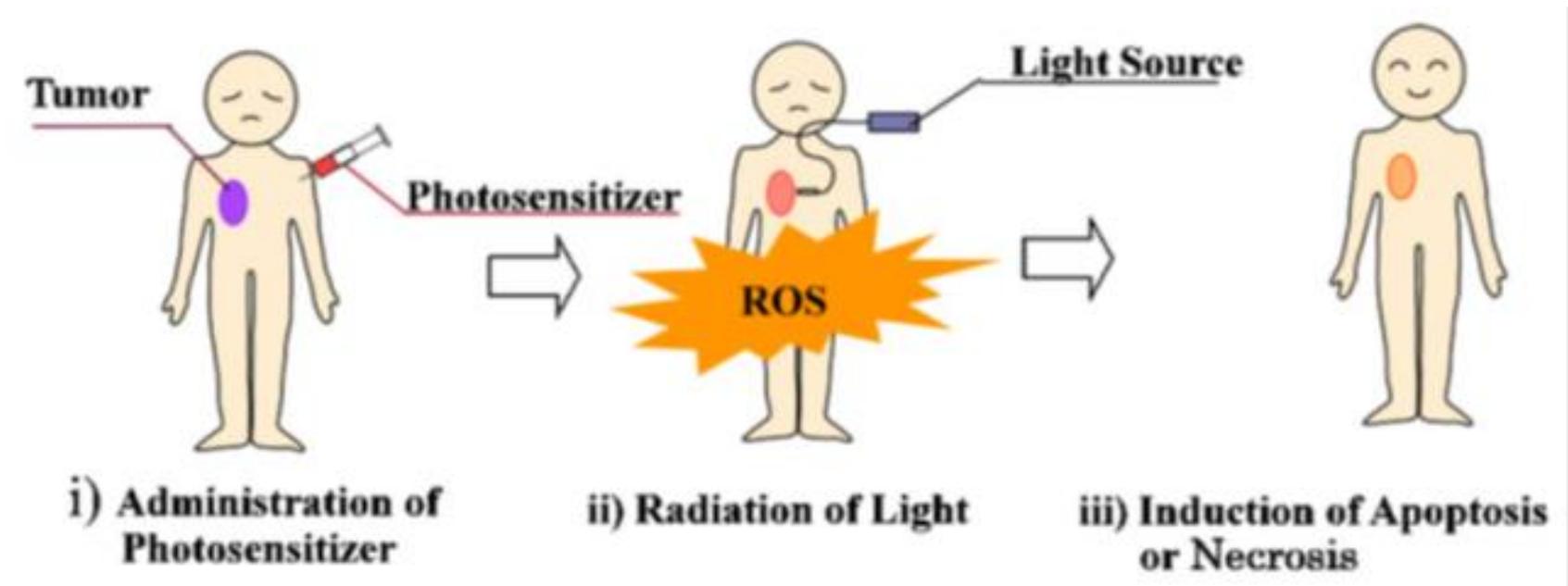


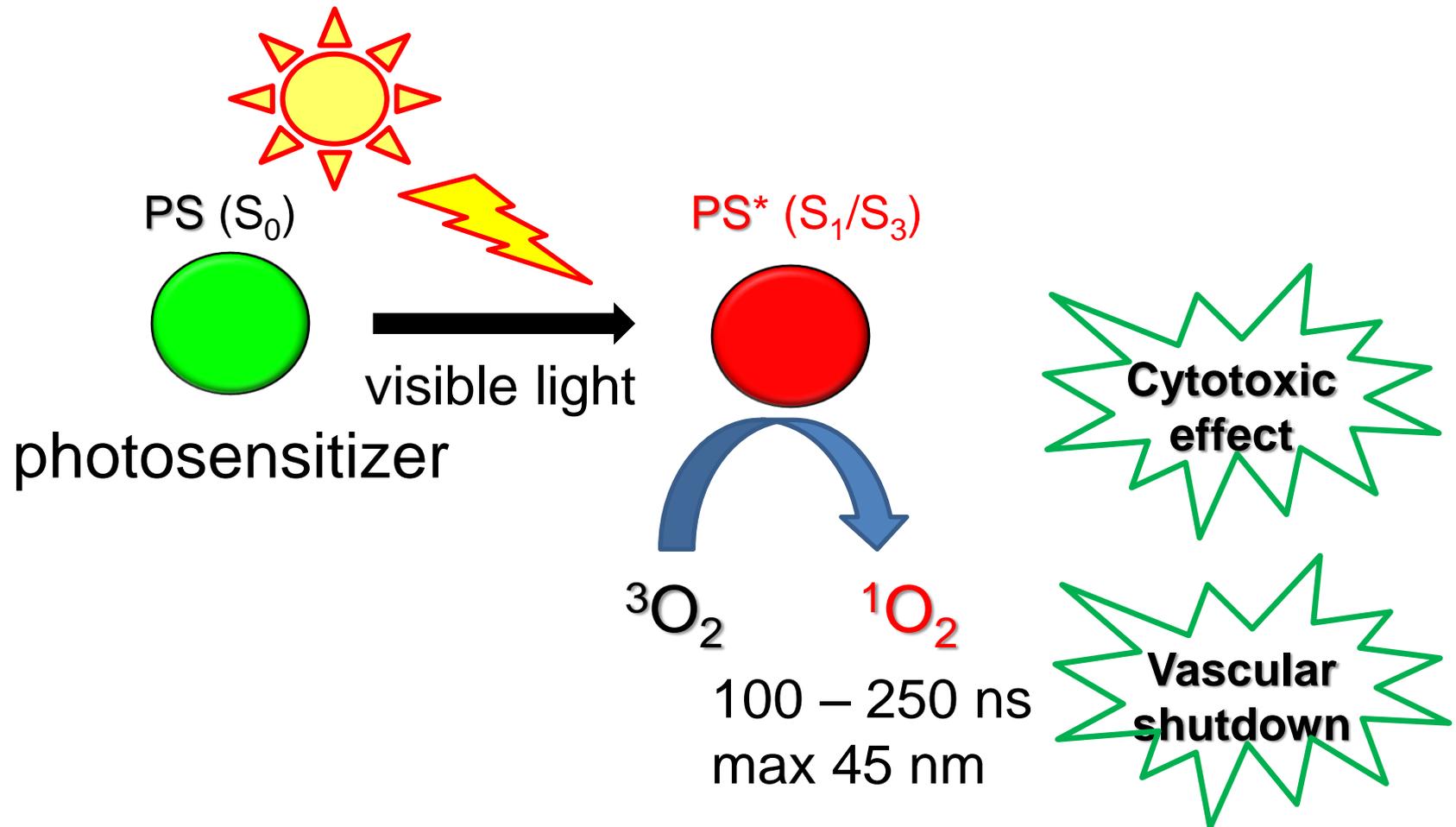
# Photodynamic Therapy (PDT)

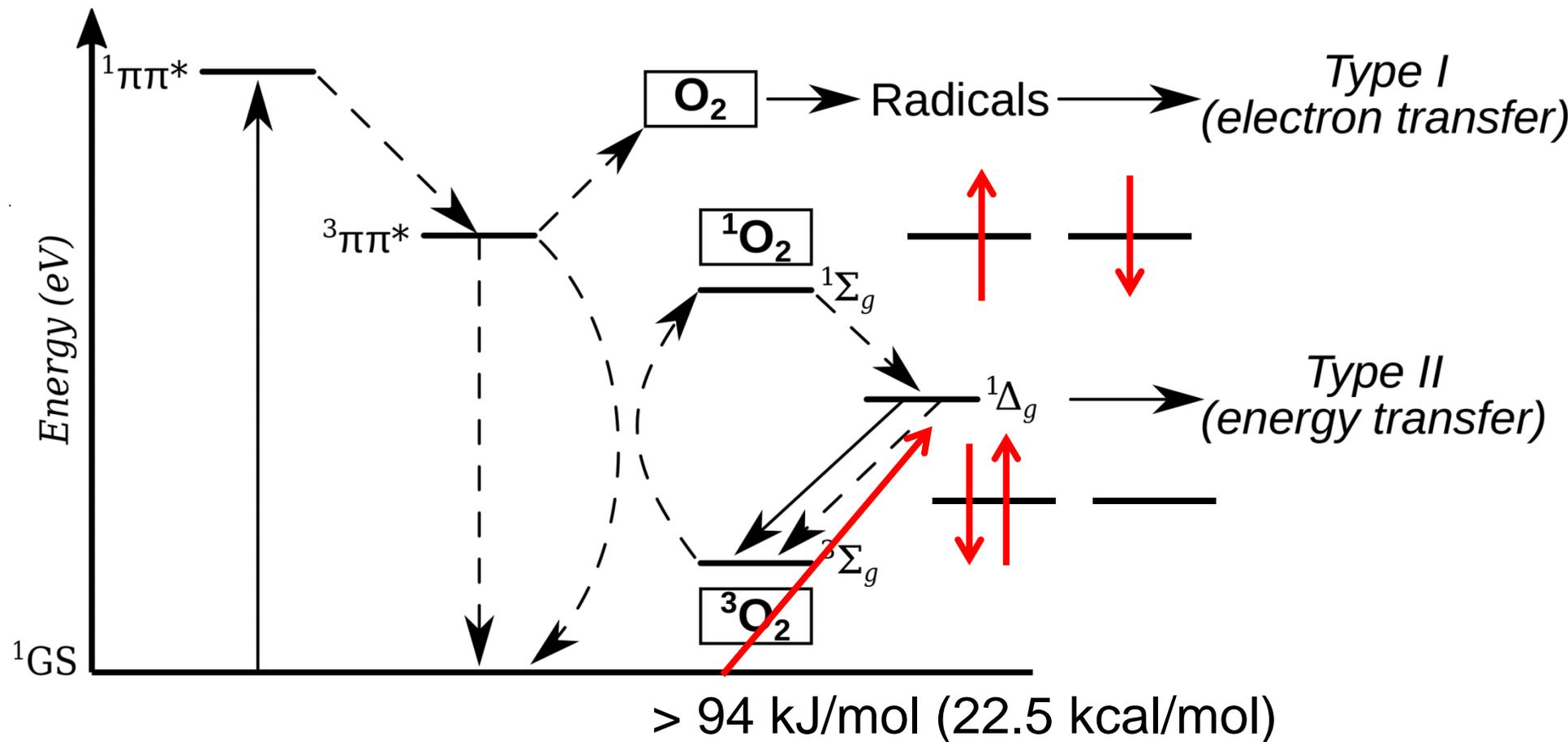
Localized and rather superficial solid tumors (mm deep)



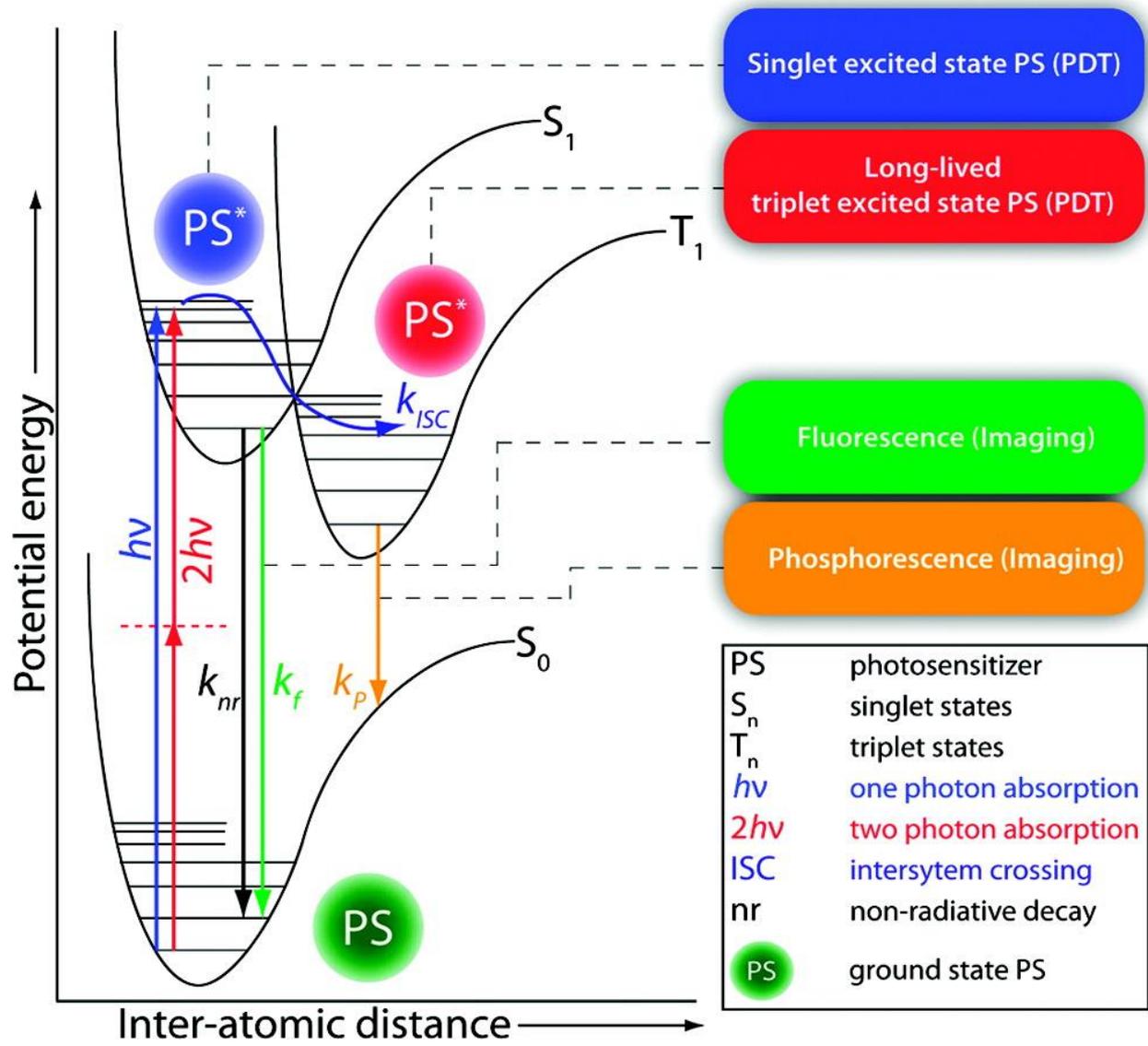
Spatio-temporal control on the active species

# Ternary therapy: photosensitizer, light, oxygen

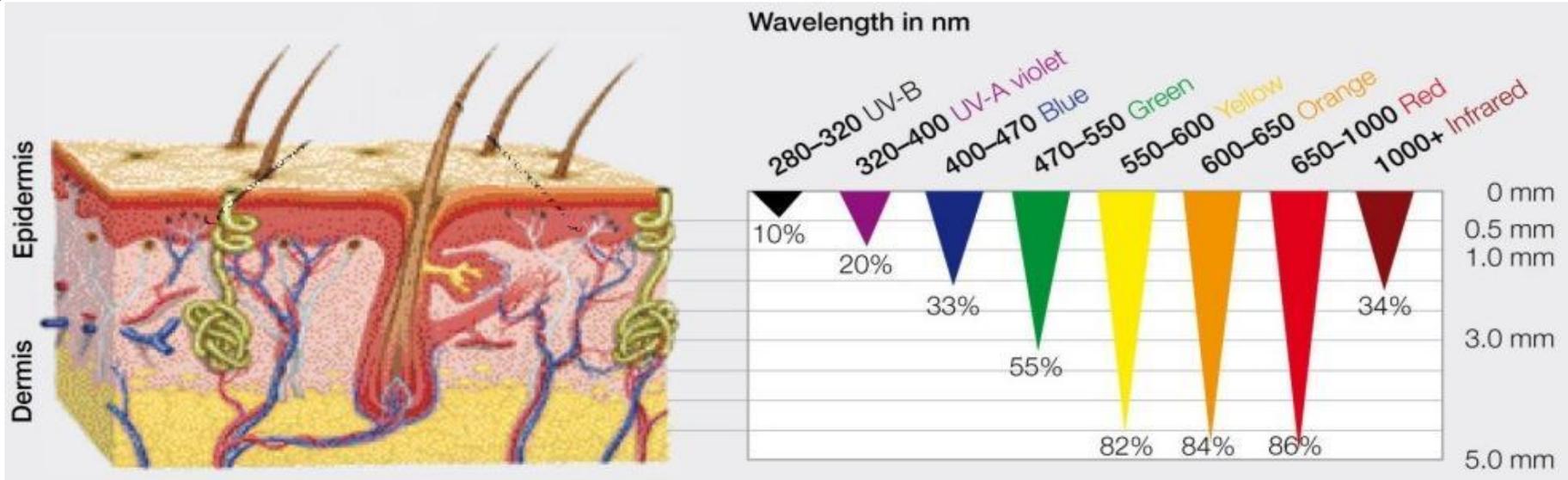




It is estimated that  $^1O_2$  can diffuse for ca. 45 nm from the point where it is generated (lifetime: 100 – 250 ns).



# Tissue penetration of light



PDT window

$\Delta E$  between  $^1O_2$  and  $^3O_2 = 94$  kJ/mol

This energy gap is compatible with photosensitizers that have absorption maxima up to over 800 nm (their triplet excited state is still higher in energy than the ground state of  $^3O_2$ ).

# The ideal photosensitizer

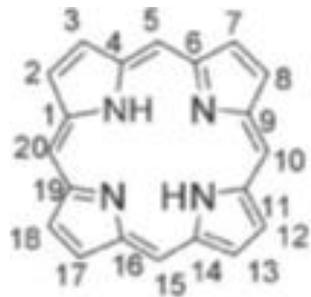
- Absorbs strongly in the PDT window (600 – 900 nm)
- Has a high  $^1\text{O}_2$  quantum yield
- Is photostable (no photo-bleaching)
- Is non-toxic in the dark
- Localizes selectively in the diseased tissue
- Has a rapid clearance

# Tetrapyrrole macrocycles as photosensitizers

$22\pi$  600 – 650nm

$18\pi$  700 – 800nm

$20\pi$  630 – 700nm



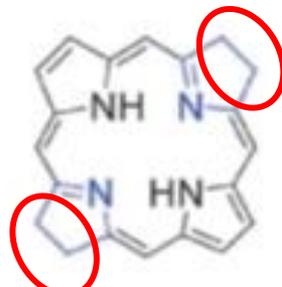
**Porphyrin**

a



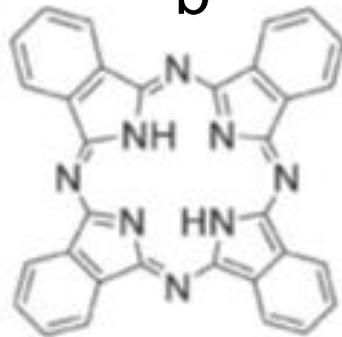
**Chlorin**

b



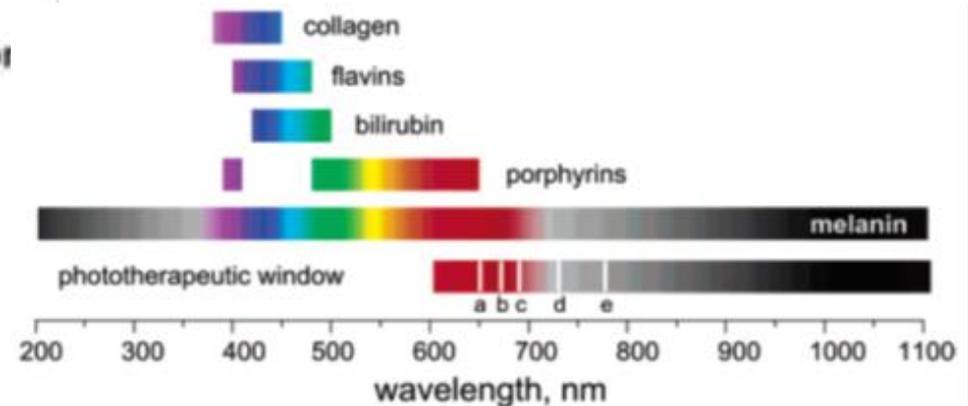
**Bacteriochlorin**

c

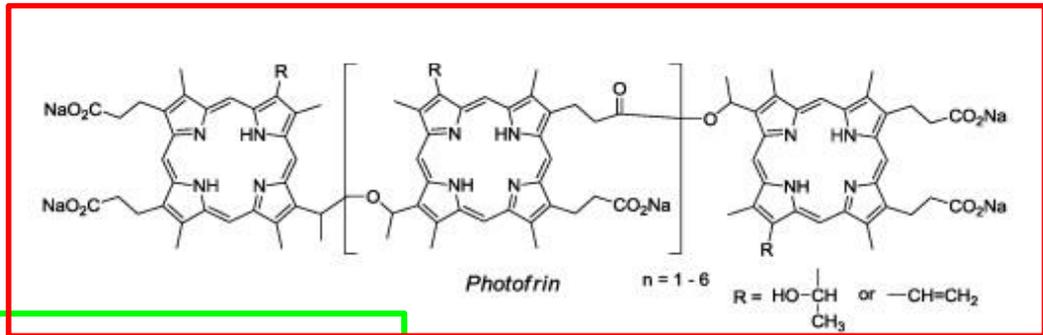


**Phthalocyanine**

d

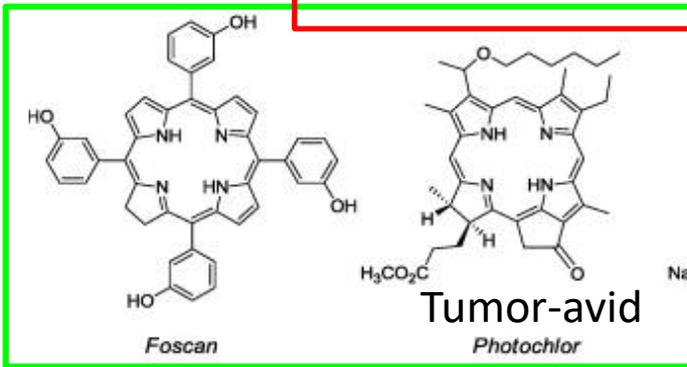


# 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> generation photosensitizers for PDT

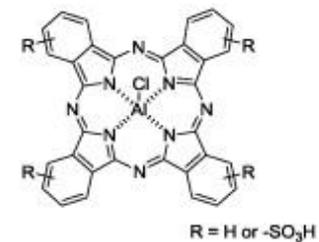
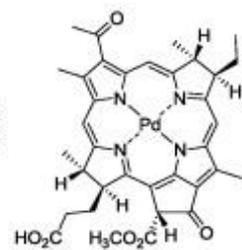
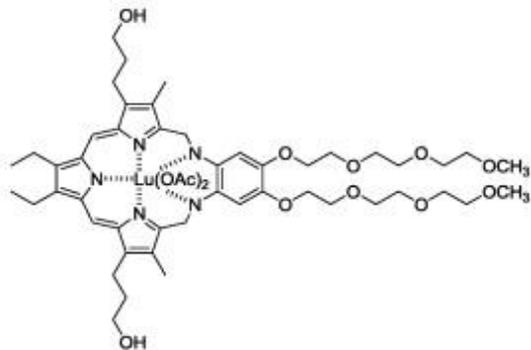
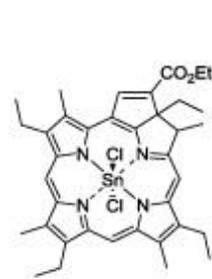
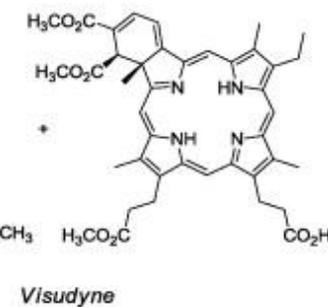
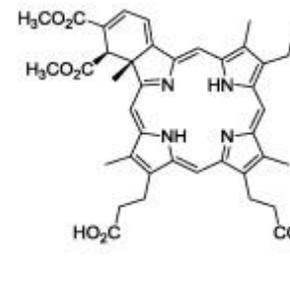
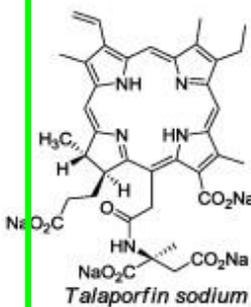


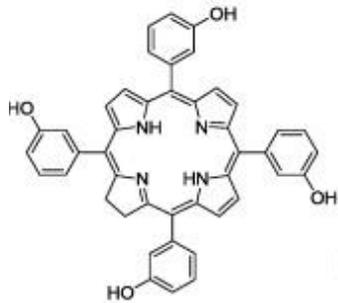
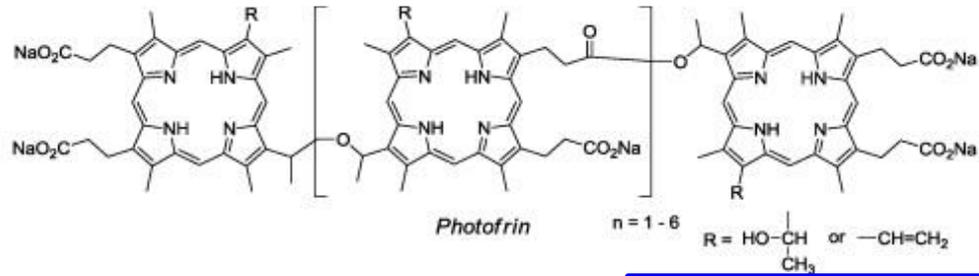
$\lambda = 630$   
 $\epsilon = 1170 \text{ M}^{-1}\text{cm}^{-1}$

$\lambda = 652$   
 $\epsilon = 3 \times 10^4 \text{ M}^{-1}\text{cm}^{-1}$

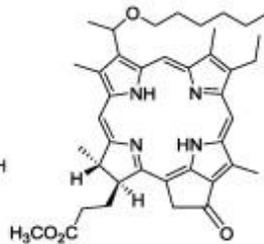


**Tumor-avid**

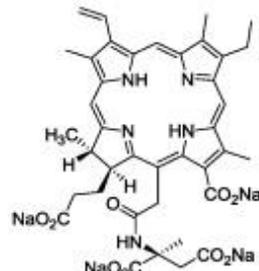




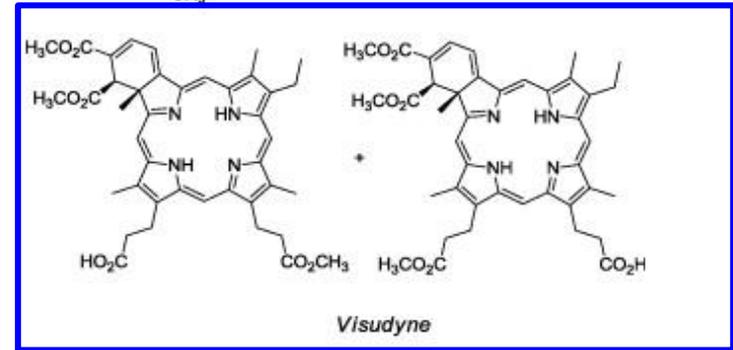
*Foscan*



*Photochlor*

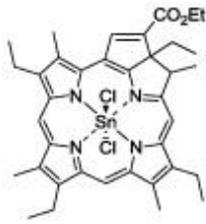


*Talaporfin sodium*

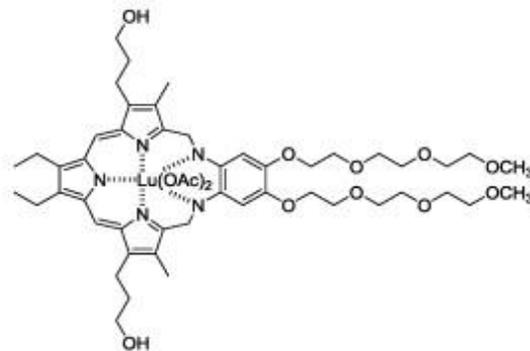


age-related macular degeneration (AMD)

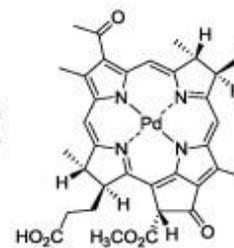
*First line treatment*



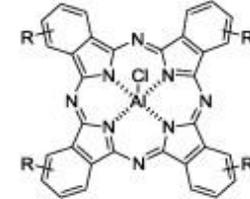
*Purlytin*



*Lutrin*



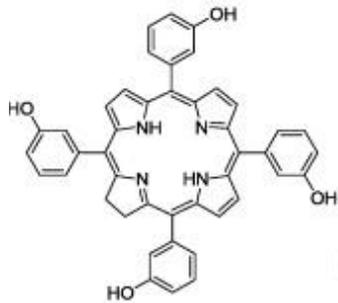
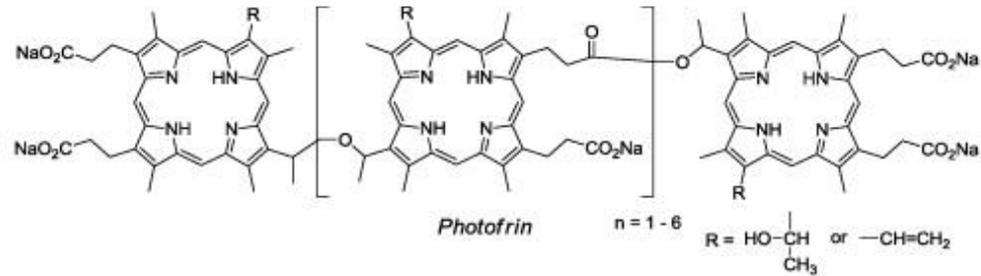
*Tookad*



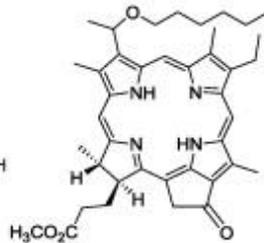
*Photosens*

$R = \text{H or } -\text{SO}_3\text{H}$

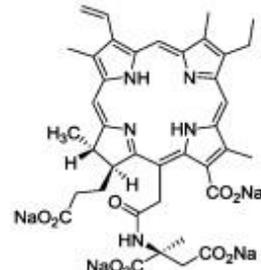
Currently AMD is the most important application of PDT, with millions of patients treated.



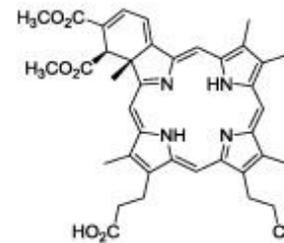
*Foscan*



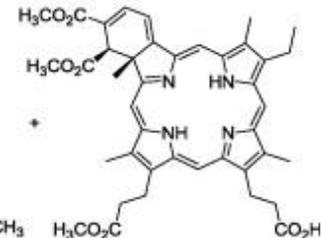
*Photochlor*



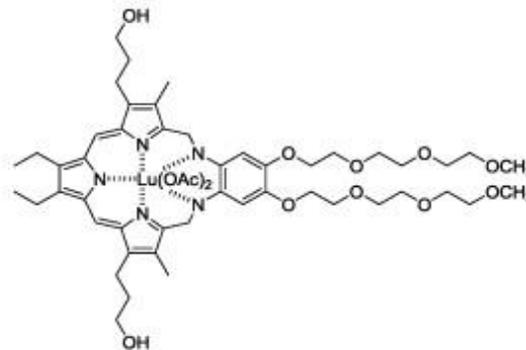
*Talaporfin sodium*



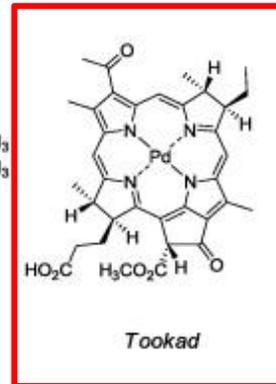
*Visudyne*



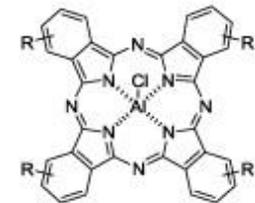
*Purlytin*



*Lutrin*



*Tookad*



*Photosens*

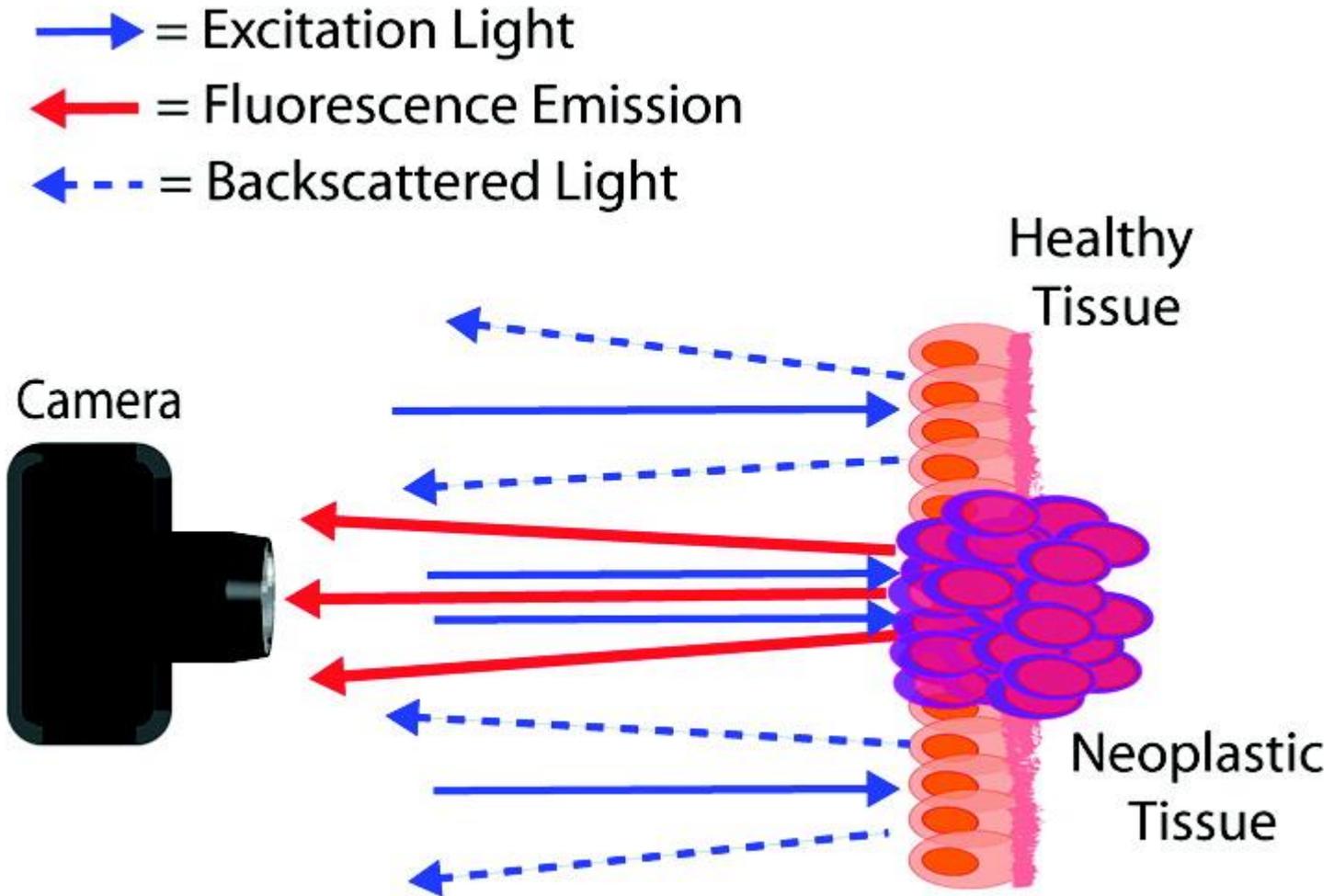
$R = \text{H or } -\text{SO}_3\text{H}$

Pd favors intersystem crossing to the triplet state of the excited PS

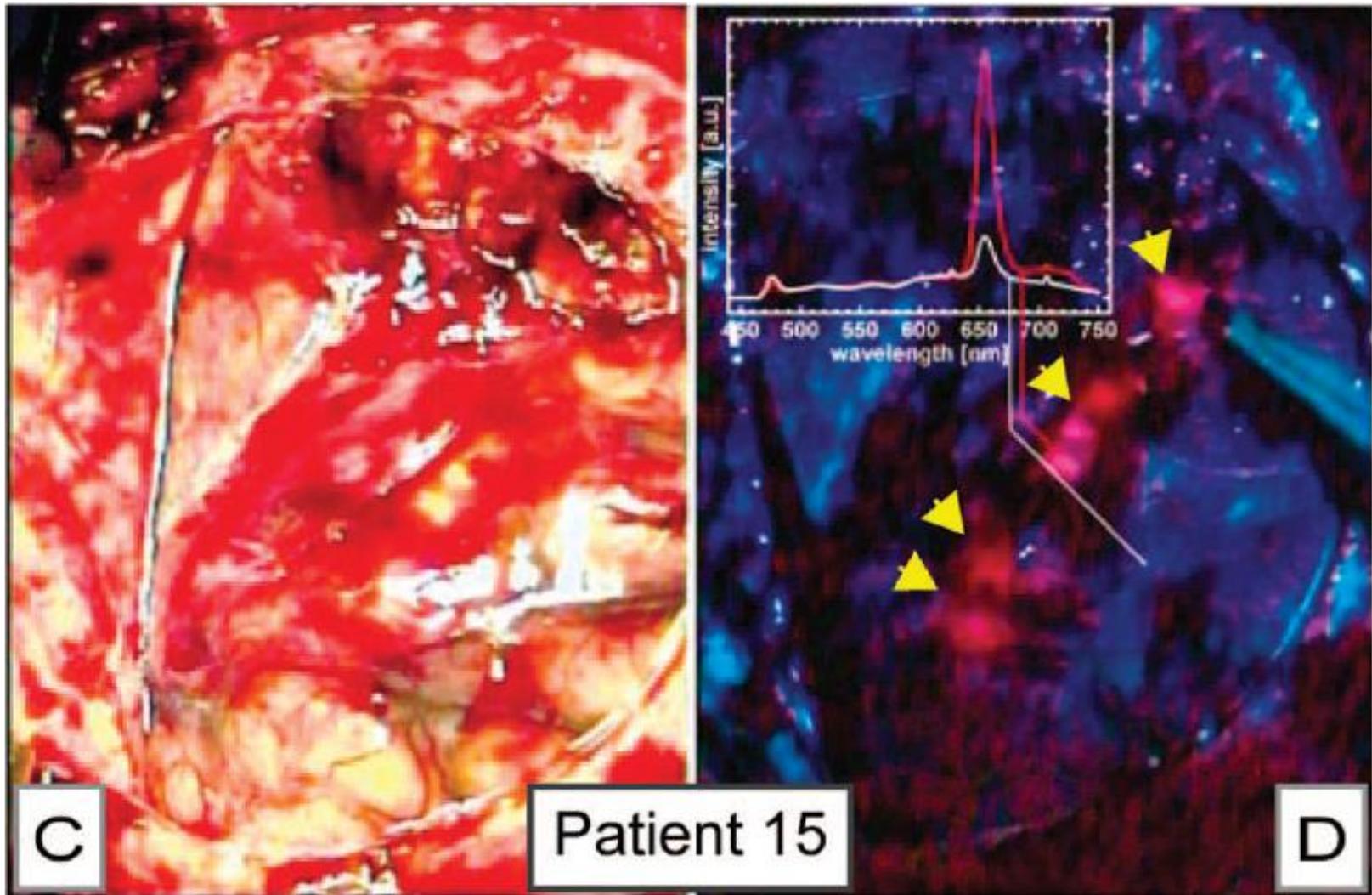




# Tumor margin resection with *tumor avid* PS's

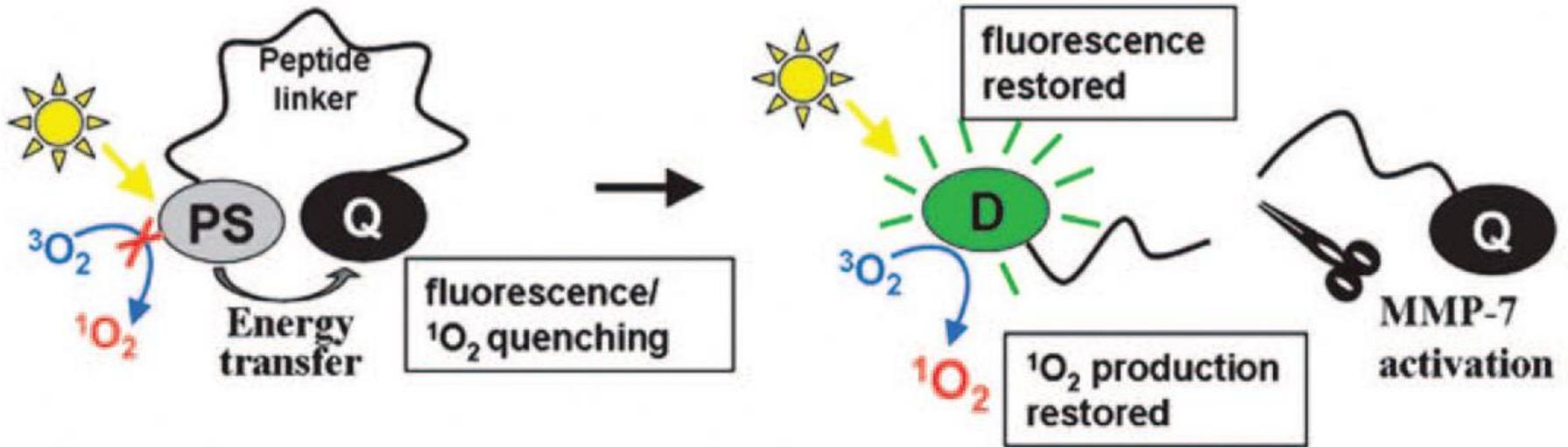


# Brain tumor, patient treated with Foscan



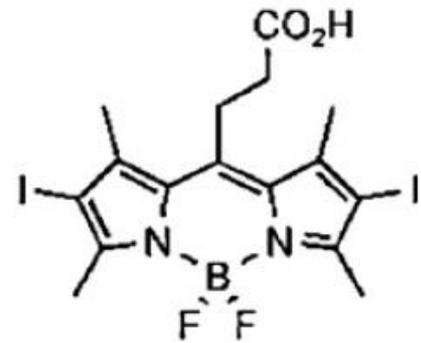
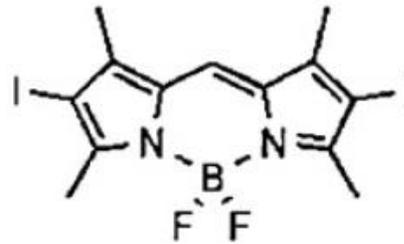
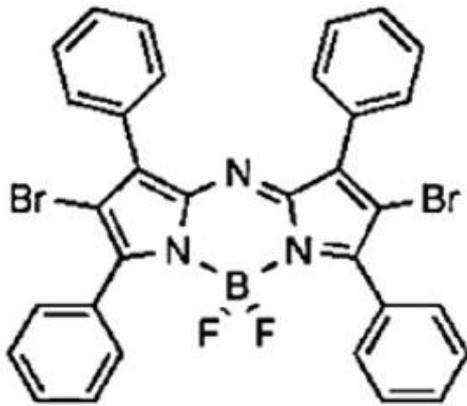
Blue light

# Site-activated constructs

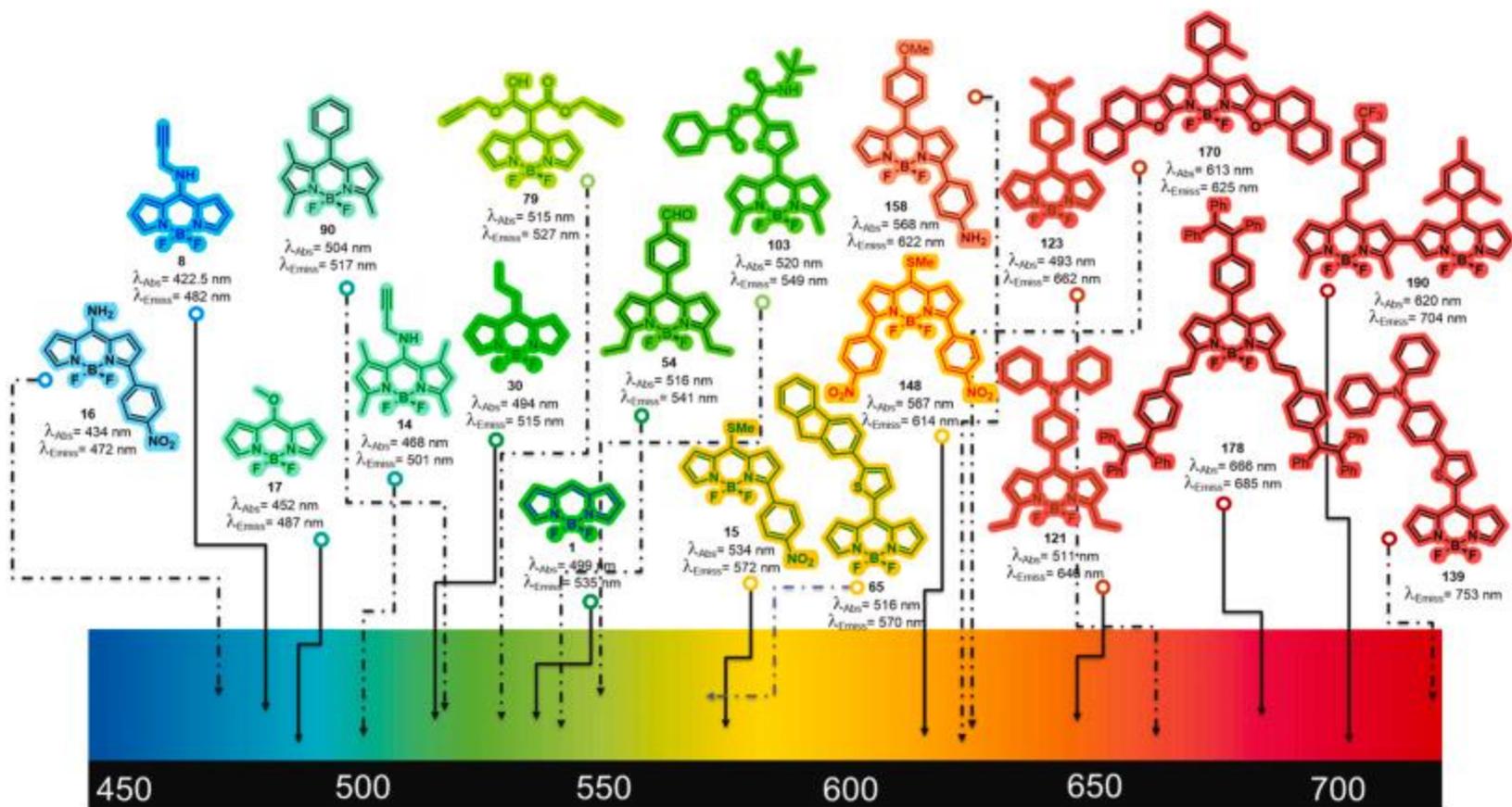


The activating enzyme might be overexpressed in the tumor cells, or be expressed by bacteria and not by cells...

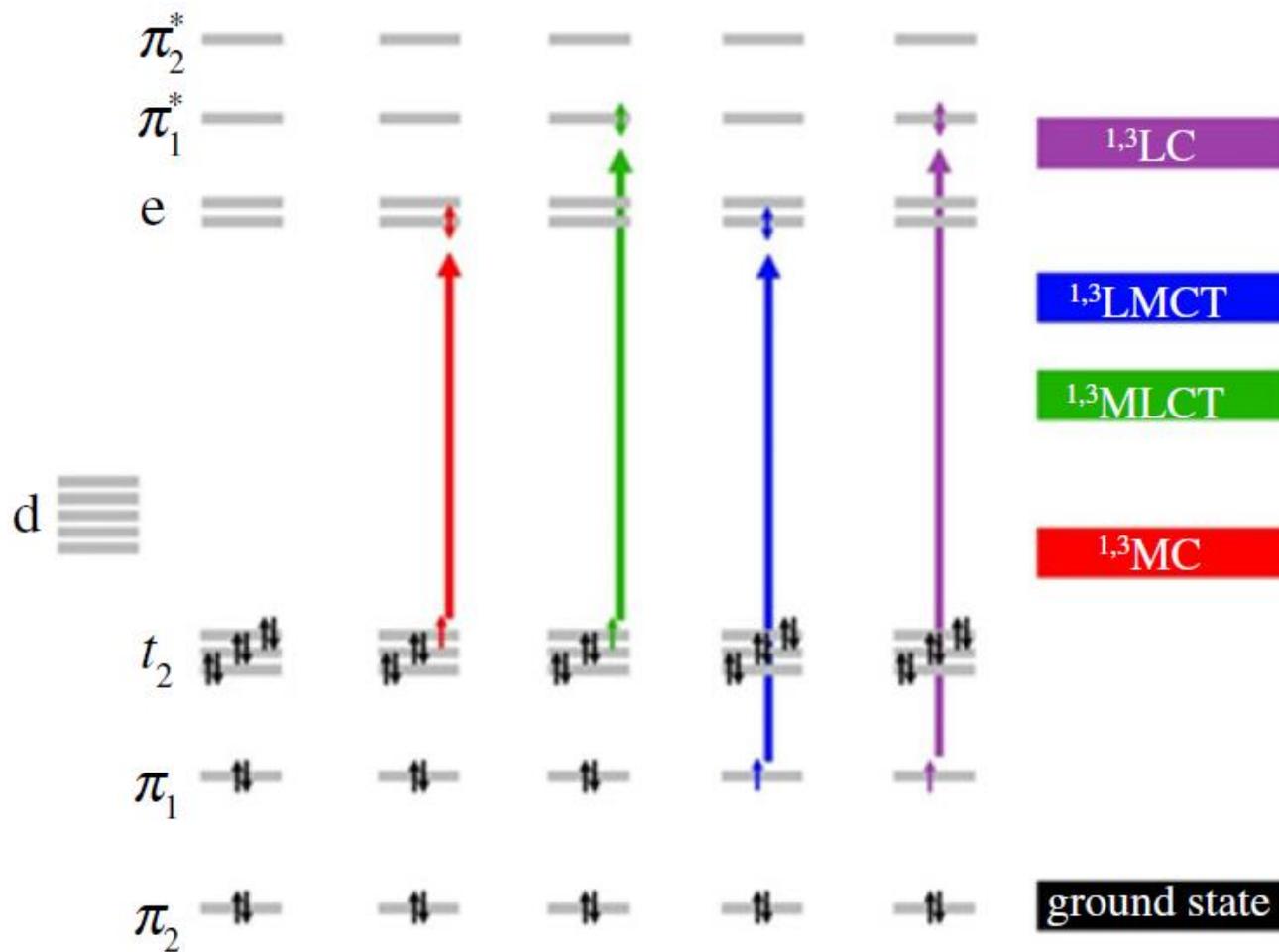
# Derivati del BODIPY (*boron-dipyrromethene*)



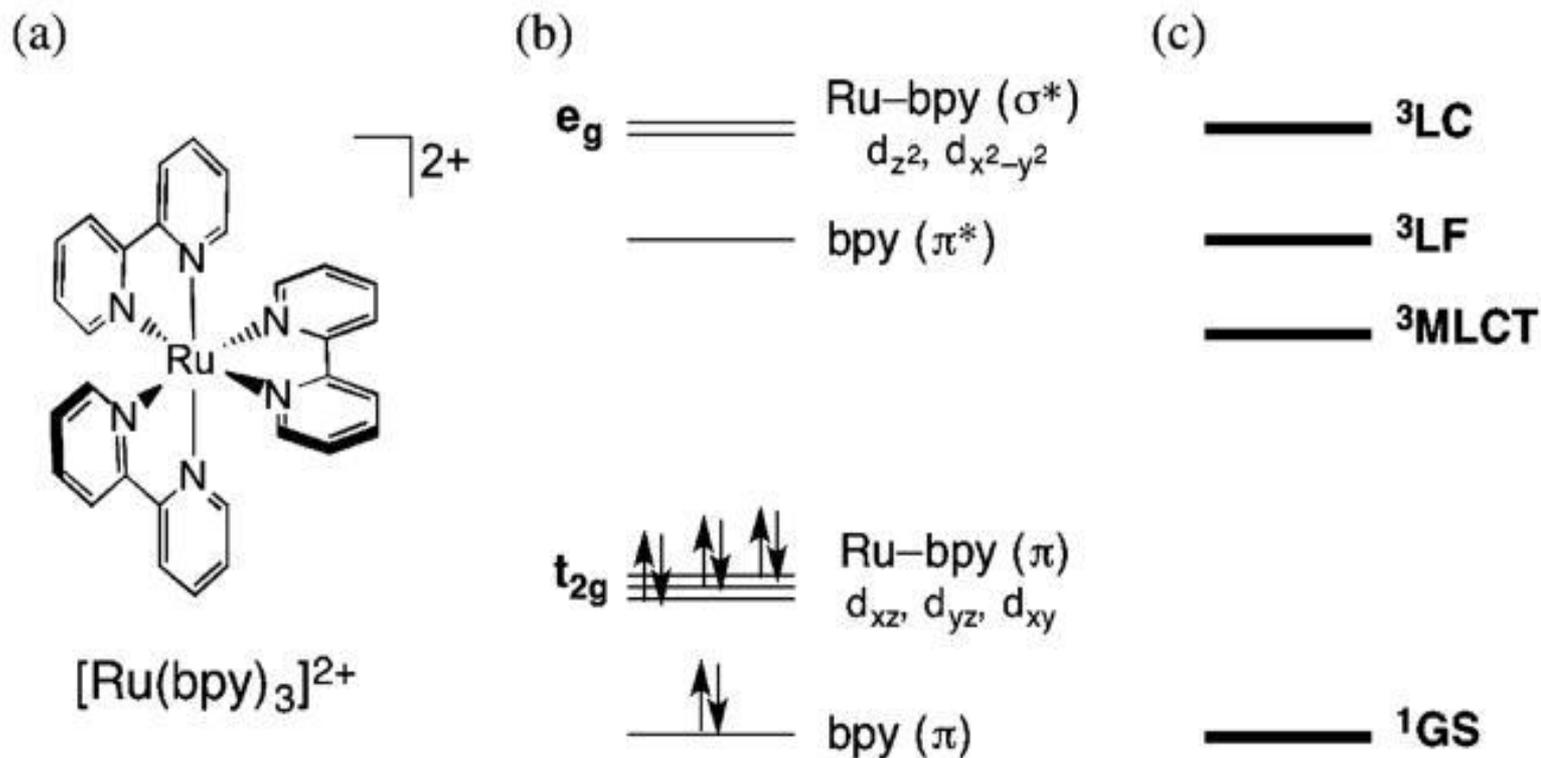
# Tuning the absorption of BODIPY



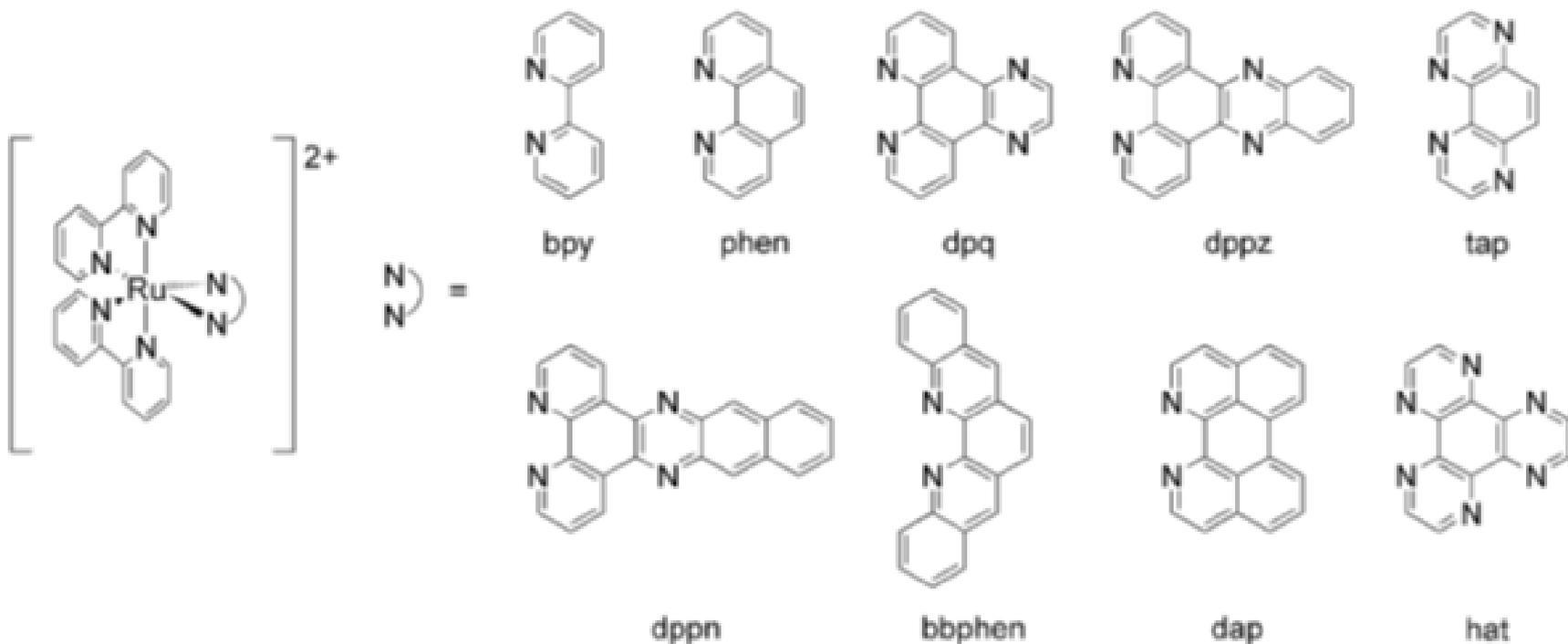
# Photoactivatable metal compounds



Diagrammi semplificati degli MO di frontiera e degli stati di  $[\text{Ru}(\text{bpy})_3]^{2+}$

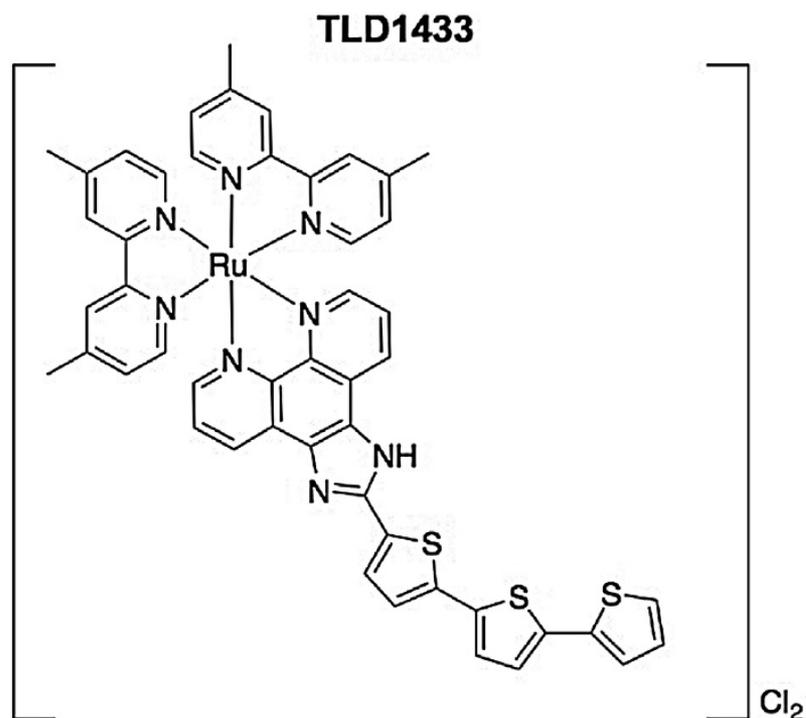


# Metal complexes for PDT

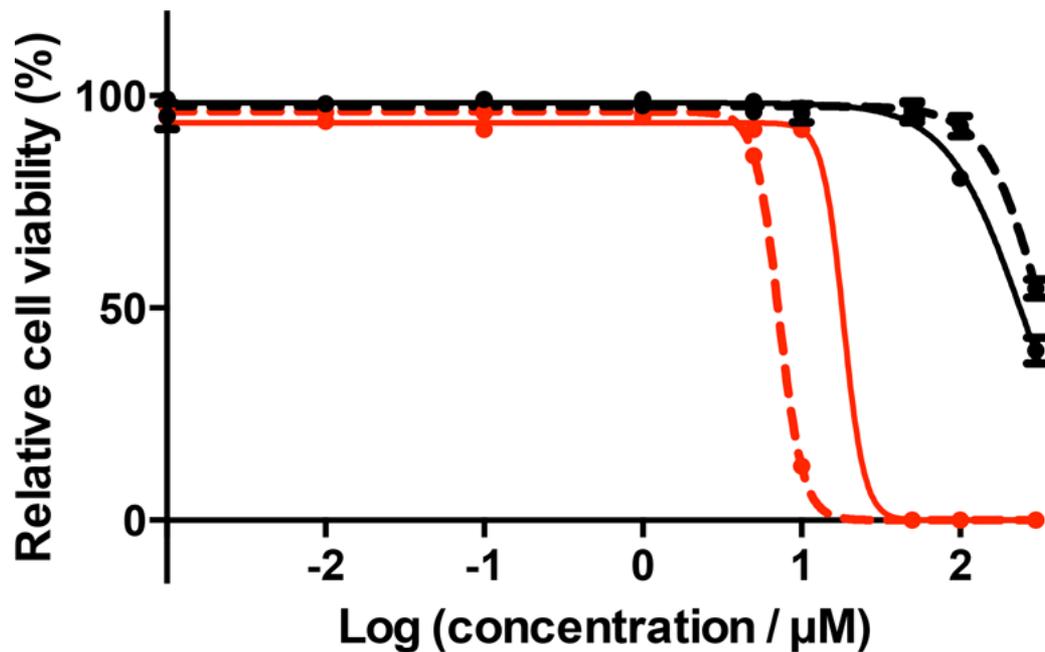


# Health Canada Approves Clinical Trial Application for Anti-Cancer Drug

Toronto, Ontario – December 17, 2015, Theralase Technologies Inc. (“Theralase” or the “Company”) (TLT:TSXV) (TLFF:OTC), a leading biotechnology manufacturer focused on commercializing medical technologies to eliminate pain and destroy cancer, announced today that Health Canada has approved its next generation anti-cancer drug, TLD-1433, under Clinical Trial Application (“CTA”) for evaluation in a Phase Ib clinical trial for patients inflicted with Non-Muscle Invasive Bladder Cancer (“NMIBC”).

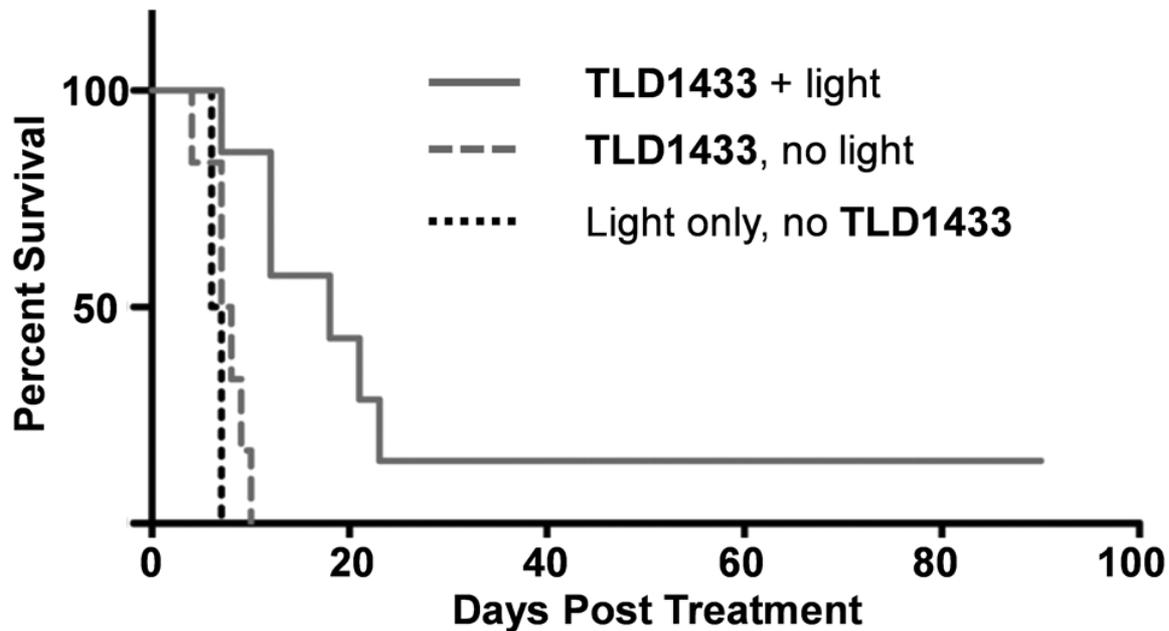
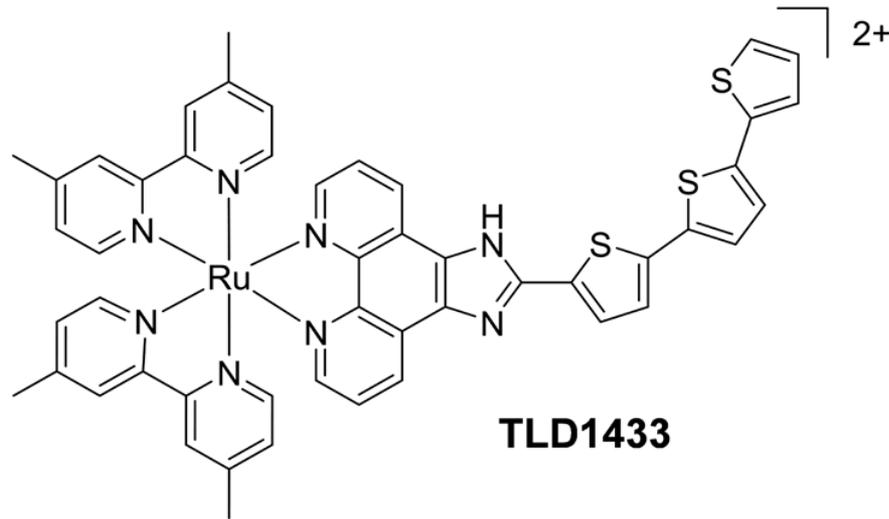


# *In vitro* studies

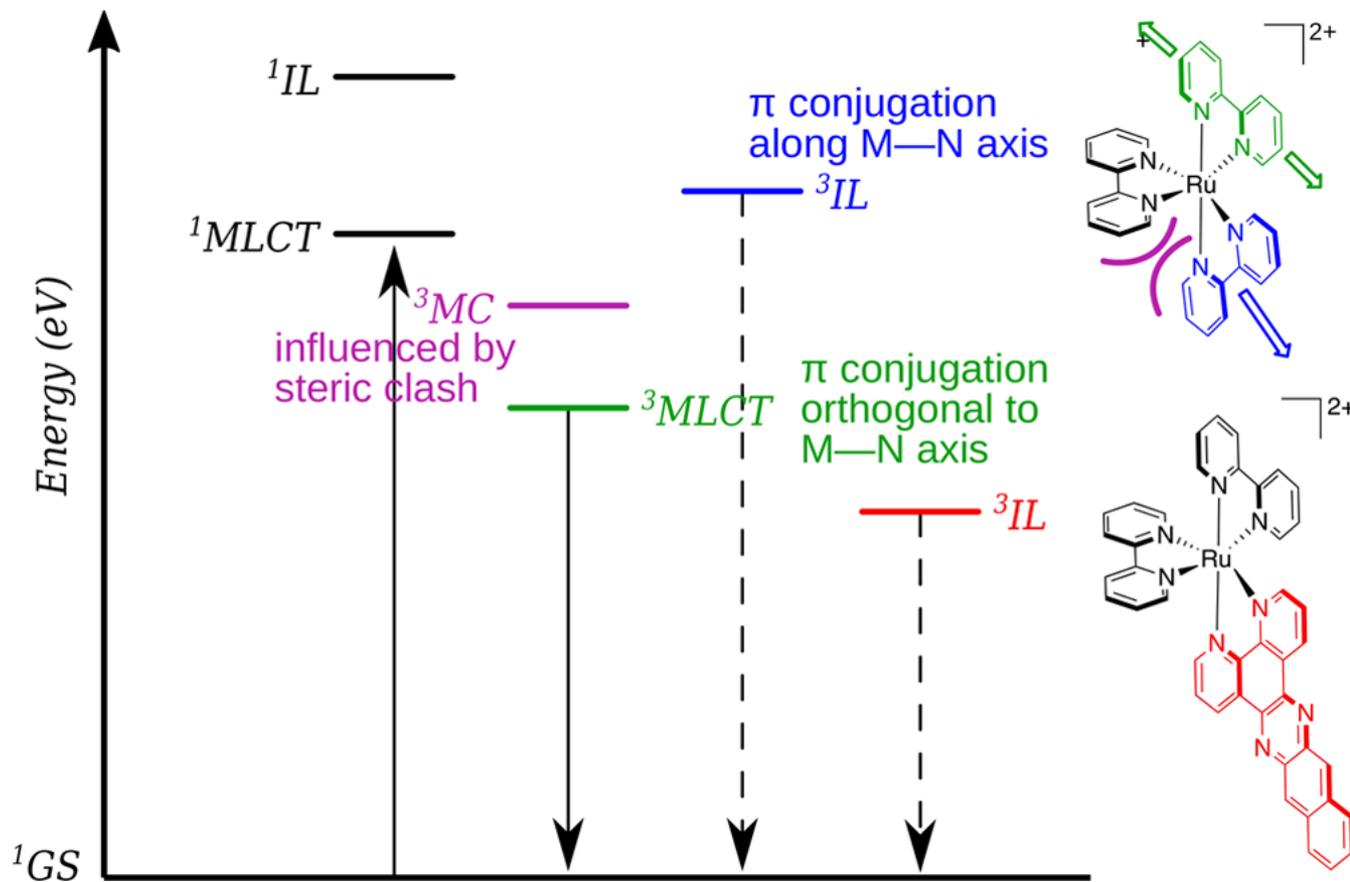


- TLD1433, Dark EC<sub>50</sub> > 300 μM
- TLD1433, Red EC<sub>50</sub> = 7.20 ± 1.10 μM
- [Os(dmb)<sub>2</sub>(IP-3T)]Cl<sub>2</sub>, Dark EC<sub>50</sub> = 242 ± 3 μM
- [Os(dmb)<sub>2</sub>(IP-3T)]Cl<sub>2</sub>, Red EC<sub>50</sub> = 18.4 ± 0.1 μM

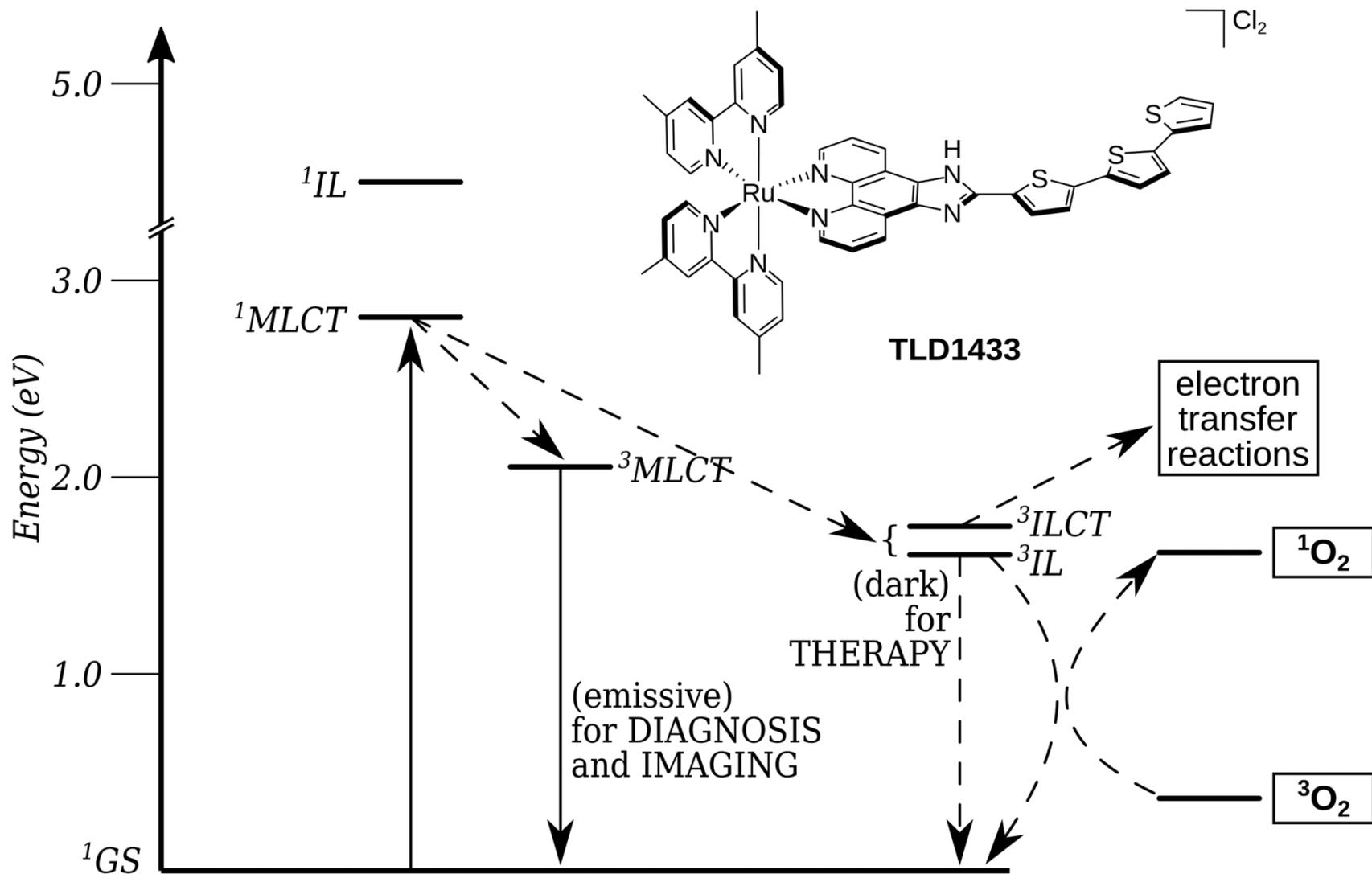
# *In vivo* studies



# Molecular design



Increasing the  $\pi$ -conjugation of a diimine ligand decreases the energy of the excited state  $^3IL$  (*intra*ligand), resulting in an increase in its lifetime and greater production of  $^1O_2$ .



# Data 2020

**Table 1.** PDT agents in clinical use or in clinical trials<sup>a</sup>.

| Class                       | PDT agent  | Metal | Stage         | Excitation (nm)     | Area     | Cancer type                                  |
|-----------------------------|--|-------|---------------|---------------------|----------|--|
| Protoporphyrin IX precursor | 5-Aminolevulinic acid (Levulan <sup>®</sup> )        |       | FDA approved  | 635                 | Global   | Skin, brain, oesophagus                      |
|                             | Methyl aminolevulinate (Metvix <sup>®</sup> )        |       | FDA approved  | 635                 |          | Skin   |
|                             | Hexyl 5-aminolevulinate (Hexvix <sup>®</sup> )       |       | FDA approved  | 380–450 (diagnosis) |          | Bladder                                      |
| Porphyrin derivatives       | Porfimer sodium (Photofrin <sup>®</sup> )            |       | FDA approved  | 630                 | Global   | Lung, bladder, oesophagus, bile duct, brain  |
|                             | Photogem   |       | MHRF approved | 660                 | Russia   | Respiratory and digestive tracts, urogenital |
| Chlorin derivatives         | Temoporfin (Foscan <sup>®</sup> )                    |       | EMA approved  | 652                 | EU       | Head and neck, bile duct, lung               |
|                             | Ce6-PVP (Fotolon <sup>®</sup> )                      |       | Phase 2       | 660–670             | Germany  | Lung   |
|                             | Radachlorin <sup>®</sup>                             |       | MHRF approved | 662                 | Russia   | Skin   |
|                             | Talaporfin sodium (Laserphyrin <sup>®</sup> )        |       | MHLW approved | 664                 | Japan    | Lung, brain                                  |
|                             | HPPH (Photochlor <sup>®</sup> )                      |       | Phase 2       | 665                 | USA      | Lung, oral cavity, oesophagus                |
| Bacteriochlorin derivatives | Redaporfin   |       | Phase 2       | 749                 | Portugal | Head and neck                                |
| Phthalocyanine derivatives  | Silicon phthalocyanine (Pc4)                         |       | Phase 1       | 672                 | USA      | Skin   |
| Metal complex               | Padoporfin (TOOKAD <sup>®</sup> )                    | Pd    | Terminated    | 763                 | EU       | Prostate                                     |
|                             | Padeliporfin potassium (TOOKAD <sup>®</sup> Soluble) | Pd    | EMA approved  | 753                 | EU       | Prostate                                     |
|                             | TLD-1433   | Ru    | Phase 2       | 520                 | Canada   | Bladder, brain                               |
|                             | Motexafin lutetium (Antrin <sup>®</sup> )            | Lu    | Terminated    | 732                 | USA      | Breast, prostate                             |
|                             | Rostaporfin (Purlytin <sup>®</sup> )                 | Sn    | Phase 2/3     | 664                 | USA      | Breast, bile duct, ovarian, colon            |

<sup>a</sup>Data from clinicaltrials.gov.