Supporting Information

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Figure S1. Al-¹⁸F-NODA-MP-C4 radiochemical conversion as function of reaction time. Radiolabeling conditions: 0.1M AcOH/Na buffer pH 4.0, [NODA-MP-C4] = 550 μ M, NODA-MP-C4/Al ratio = 1/1, reflux, reaction time = 2, 5, 10, 15 and 25 min.



Figure S2. Al-¹⁸F-NODA-MP-C4 radiochemical conversion as percentage of ethanol. Radiolabeling conditions: 0.1M AcOH/Na buffer pH 4.0, [NODA-MP-C4] = 215 μ M, NODA-MP-C4/Al ratio = 1/1, reflux, reaction time = 25 min, ethanol rate = 10, 20, 30, 40, 50 and 60 %.

	Estimated Coefficient	Square Error	t-statistic	<i>p</i> -value
Intercept	-3233.84	410.2	-7.883568991	3.51832E-09
NODA-MP-C4/Al ratio	-14.9918	3.1	-4.836064516	2.79932E-05
[NODA-MP-C4]	0.331589	0.0517	6.413713733	2.51241E-07
рН	1446.88	182.2	7.941163557	2.9899E-09
[NODA-MP-C4] ²	-0.00036138	8.29E-05	-4.360769881	0.000113853
рН²	-160.413	20.24	-7.925543478	3.1247E-09

Table S1. Estimated coefficients for the mathematical model and corresponding statistical values like square error, t-statistic and p-value.



Figure S3. ¹H and ¹³C{¹H} NMR of **NODA-MP-C4 (di-Na form)** in D₂O (*pH* 12); for ¹H: $c \approx 26$ mM; for ¹³C{¹H}: $c \approx 79$ mM.





Figure S4. ¹H and ¹³C{¹H} NMR of **NODA-MP-C4 (di-Na form)** in DMSO-*d6*; for ¹H: $c \approx 54$ mM; for ¹³C{¹H}: $c \approx 75$ mM, 6000 scans.





Figure S5. ¹⁹F{¹H} NMR of **AI-F-NODA-MP-C4**, $c \approx 40$ mM: *(up)*: in D₂O (*pH* 4, saturated solution: at such concentration, material not completely soluble in D₂O); *(down)*: in DMSO-*d6*.





Figure S6. ¹H and ¹³C{¹H} NMR of **AI-OH-NODA-MP-C4** in DMSO-*d6*, $c \approx 40$ mM. Note: at such concentration, material not completely soluble in D₂O.



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Figure S7. ¹⁹F{¹H} NMR of **AI-F-NODA-MP(O)-C4**, $c \approx 25$ mM: (*up*) in D₂O (*pH* 6-7); (*down*) in DMSO-*d6*.





Figure S8. RP-HPLC chromatograms: *(up)*: mixture of **AI-F-NODA-MP(O)-C4** and **AI-OAc-NODA-MP(O)-C4**; *(down):* mixture of **AI-OH-NODA-MP-C4** and **AI-OH-NODA-MP(O)-C4** together with the respective residual free chelators **NODA-MP-C4** and **NODA-MP(O)-C4**. Analytical conditions: column: Phenomenex Kinetex Evo C18 100 mm x 4.6 mm – 5 μ m; mobile phase: acetate buffer pH 4.5 / MeCN 85/15, isocratic mode, flow rate: 1 mL/min; detector: PDA (254 nm).

Experimental section

NCS-MP-NODA (CAS RN 1374994-81-6) and NO2AtBu (CAS RN 174137-97-4) were purchased from Chematech (ref C110 and C065 respectively; formula $C_{18}H_{24}N_4O_4S.H_2O$ and $C_{18}H_{35}N_3O_4$ respectively). Aluminum chloride hexahydrate (AlCl₃.6H₂O), sodium acetate and acetic acid were purchased from Sigma Aldrich. Free metals trace products were purchased, and synthesis were prepared in metal free containers to avoid metal contamination. Ultrapure H₂O (resistivity 18.2 M Ω .cm at 25 °C) was obtained from a water purification system.

Thin-layer chromatography (TLC) were performed on pre-coated aluminum sheets RP-18W / UV₂₅₄ (Macherey-Nagel, ref. 818146), and visualized under an UV lamp at 254 nm and/or developed with phosphomolybdic acid stain in ethanol.

Purifications on preparative RP-TLC glass plates were conducted on 20x20 cm RP-18 W UV254 glass plates coated with C18-modified silica layer purchased from Macherey-Nagel, (ref 811074). Desorption of the eluted compounds was obtained by washing the recovered silica band with a solution of H₂O/MeCN 1/1 v/v, concentration to dryness; the matter obtained was then taken up in pure water and the solution filtered through a PolyEtherSulfone (PES) membrane 0.22 μ m (33 mm syringe filter unit, Millex®-GP, Merck, ref SLGP033RS).

Proton (¹H), carbon (¹³C) and fluorine (¹⁹F) NMR spectra were recorded at 400 MHz (¹H) on a Bruker spectrometer Avance 400. Carbon NMR (¹³C{¹H}) spectra were recorded using a broadband decoupled mode with the multiplicities obtained from a DEPT sequence. Chemical shifts (δ) are reported in parts per million (ppm) using the deuterated solvent signals as an internal reference: for D₂O: ¹H: 4.80 ppm. For ¹⁹F{¹H} NMR, NaF was used as internal reference: D₂O: -121.1 ppm.^[1] All spectra were recorded at 298 K. The following abbreviations are used for the proton spectra: s: singlet, d: doublet, t: triplet, q: quartet, m: multiplet, br: broad. For some aromatic protons, second order systems can be observed. The ratio $\Delta\delta/J$ has been used to distinguish between systems AB or AX: if the ratio is less than 10, the spin system is designed « system AB », otherwise the spin system is designed « system AX ». Coupling constants (*J*) are reported in Hertz (Hz).

Mass spectroscopy analyses were performed using ElectroSpray Ionization in positive mode (ESI+).

Low-resolution mass spectroscopy analyses (LRMS) were done on an analytic system composed of an LC2030 injection system (Shimadzu) coupled to a Micromass ZQ2000 detector (Waters[®]). Injections were operated by flow injection mode (FIA) with mobile phase being a mixture of MeCN and water at a flow rate of 0.5 mL/min. Data were collected in the full scan mode at m/z 200–1500. Detection was done at a cone voltage (CV) giving the least amount of fragmentations (5 to 40 V); mobile phase and CV value are given for each compound.

High-resolution mass spectroscopy analyses (HRMS) were performed by direct sample introduction on a LTQ Orbitrap[®] XL High Definition mass spectrometer (Thermo Scientific[®]). Data were collected in the full scan mode at m/z 150–1000. The source parameters were as follows: ion spray voltage 4000 V, capillary voltage -35 V, capillary temperature 275 °C, sheath gas flow 10 (a.u.). Data were acquired in high-resolution mode (100,000 FWHM a m/z 500). Data acquisition was managed using Xcalibur[™] software (version 2.1.0; Thermo Scientific[®]).

HPLC analyses were carried out on a ThermoFisher[®] Dionex Ultimate 3000 HPLC system equipped with LPG-3400SD pump, WPS-3000SL/TSL autosampler, TCC-3000SD column oven, DAD-3000 detector. Separations were obtained using a Kinetex 5 μ m EVO C18 100 mm x 4.6 mm LC column purchased from Phenomenex[®] (ref 00D-4633-E0).

<u>Method</u>: Phase A: AcONa/H buffer, pH 4.5 (5 mM). Phase B: MeCN. Mobile Phase: isocratic; Phase A/Phase B: 85/15; flow: 1 mL/min. Sample: solution in water, ca 0.1-0.5 mg/mL. In such conditions, the dead volume of the system was evaluate by injection of AcONa/H buffer: R_t 0.95 min.



Scheme S1. Syntheses of NODA chelating agent and of AI-F-NODA complex.

NODA (Na form). Prepared according to reported procedure from commercially available NO2AtBu (78 mg, 0.218 mmol).^[2] The crude material was alkalinized up to *pH* 7.5 by addition of an aqueous solution of NaOH then purified by flash chromatography on RP C18 silica gel (H₂O/MeCN 9/1 v/v). The title compound was obtained as a whitish solid (58 mg, 0.218 mmol, 100%). ¹H NMR (D₂O, *pH* 5): Conform to reported data.^[3]

Al-F-NODA. Two stock solutions were prepared in advance, both of them diluted in a 0.5 *M* AcONa/H buffer solution at *pH* 4.45: *i*) *a* 0.100 *M* solution of AlCl₃ (resulting *pH* 3.6); *ii*) *a* 0.100 *M* solution of NaF (resulting *pH* 4.45). The previously prepared chelating agent NODA (19.5 mg, *ca* 70 µmol) was solubilized in a 0.5 *M* AcONa/H buffer solution at *pH* 4.45 (3.1 mL). AlCl₃ (0.100 *M* stock solution previously prepared, 2.1 mL, 210 µmol; 3 equiv) followed by NaF (0.100 *M* stock solution previously prepared, 1.1 mL, 110 µmol; 1.5 equiv) were added. Ethanol was then added in order to represent 10% *v/v* of the reactional volume (700 µL). The resulting reaction mixture (*pH* 4.4) was warmed at reflux for 30 min, cooled, and freeze-dried. The crude material was purified on preparative RP-TLC glass plate (H₂O/MeCN 95/5 *v/v*); the title compound was recovered from a silica strip corresponding to *Rf* 0.4-0.6 ranges (20 mg, 100%). ¹⁹F{¹H} NMR (D₂O, *pH* 7, *c* ≈ 0.10 M, *Figure S11*): δ - 161.2. LRMS (MeCN/H₂O 5/5 *v/v*, 20 V): *m/z* 312 [M + Na]⁺, 353 [M + Na + MeCN]⁺, 601 [2M + Na]⁺. HRMS: calculated for [C₁₀H₁₇AlFN₃O₄ + Na]⁺, *m/z*: 312.091618, found, *m/z*: 312.09096 with *z* = 1; error: 0.11 ppm. HPLC: *Rt* 0.9 min (dead volume).



Scheme S2. Syntheses of NODA-MP-NH₂ chelating agent and of Al-OH-NODA complex.

NODA-MP-NH₂ (di-Na form). NCS-MP-NODA (21.0 mg, 51.2 µmol) was suspended in ultrapure H₂O (800 µL). An aqueous solution of NaOH (1 M, 160 µL, 160 µmol, *ca* 3 equiv) was then added that gave a clear solution that was gently heated (oil bath temperature 50°C) for 1 hour. The mixture was concentrated to dryness by freezedrying to give the title compound as a very pale yellow solid (25 mg, 100%). TLC (H₂O/MeCN 8/2 *v/v*): R_f 0.55. ¹H NMR (D₂O, *pH* > 12, *c* ≈ 0.13 M, *Figure S9*):^[4] δ (ppm) 7.46-7.30 (3H, m, CH_{ar}), 7.25 (0.5H, part A of AX system, ³J = 8.4 Hz, CH_{ar}), 6.84 (0.5H, part X of AX syst, ³J = 8.4 Hz, CH_{ar}), 3.92-3.80 (2H, m, CH₂-Ar), 3.34-3.19 (2H, m, CH₂-CO₂), 2.93-2.66 (12H, m, N-CH₂). LRMS (MeCN/H₂O 8/2 *v/v*, 20 V): *m/z* 293 [M-CH₂CO₂ + H]⁺, 351 [M + H]⁺, 373 [M + Na]⁺, 395 [M - H + 2Na]⁺. HPLC: R_t 1.0-1.2 min.

Al-OH-NODA. The previously prepared chelating agent NODA-MP-NH₂, di-Na-form (31 mg, *ca* 78 µmol) was solubilized in ultrapure H₂O (1.5 mL), giving a light yellow solution. AlCl₃.6H₂O (20 mg, 83 µmol, 1.3 equiv) was added as a single solid portion, dropping the *pH* from >12 to 4.7 and giving a cloudy solution. The *pH* was adjusted to *pH* 4.0 by the careful addition of a 1 *M* aqueous solution of HCl (100 µL, 100 µmol, *ca* 1.2 equiv) leading to a clear solution. The resulting reaction mixture was first left to react at room temperature for 6 hours, after which MS monitoring revealed traces of Al(III) complexation as well as traces of derivated chelator NODA (resulting from methylphenyl acid-assisted hydrolysis). The reaction medium was then refluxed for 30 min. The light yellow solution turned into a heterogeneous medium with non-soluble suspended matter and an orange liquid phase. Heating was stopped. The final *pH* had dropped to *pH* 3.0. The precipitate formed was filtered, and the orange aqueous filtrate was lyophilized. MS analysis of the lyophilisate revealed total conversion to **Al-OH-NODA** resulting from cleavage of the methylphenyl moiety (acid-assisted hydrolysis). The methylphenyl part was recovered in the filtered solid (¹H NMR in DMSO-*d6*). LRMS (MeCN/H₂O 5/5 *v/v*, 20 V): *m/z* 270 [Al-L]⁺, 288 [Al-OH-L + H]⁺, 310 [Al-OH-L + Na]⁺311 [Al-L + ACN]⁺. HPLC: *Rt* 1.1-1.3 min.



Scheme S3. Syntheses of NODA-MP-NHCSNH₂ chelating agent and of the corresponding Al(III) complexes.

NODA-MP-NHCSNH₂. NCS-MP-NODA (20.5 mg, 49.9 µmol) was suspended in ultrapure H₂O (800 µL). An aqueous solution of NH₃ (20% min, 16 µL, *ca* 176 µmol, *ca* 3.5 equiv) was then added that gave a clear solution that was gently heated (oil bath temperature 50°C) for 1 hour. The mixture was concentrated to dryness by freeze-drying to give the title compound as a white solid (21 mg, 100%). TLC (H₂O/MeCN 8/2 *v/v*): R_f 0.60. ¹H NMR (D₂O, *pH* 5.4, *c* ≈ 0.13 M, *Figure S10*): δ (ppm) 7.55 (2H, part A of AX system, ³J = 8.4 Hz, CH_{ar}), 7.32 (2H, part X of AX syst, ³J = 8.4 Hz, CH_{ar}), 4,12 (2H, s, *CH*₂-Ar), 3.48 (4H, s, *CH*₂-CO₂), 3.35-2.71 (12H, m, N-*CH*₂). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (D₂O, *pH* 5.4, *c* ≈ 0.13 M, *Figure S10*): δ (ppm) 179.6 (CS), 175.7 (CO), 137.2 (*C*quat_{ar}-NH), 133.3 (*C*quat_{ar}-CH₂), 131.4 (*C*H_{ar}-Cquat_{ar}CH₂), 125.5 (*C*H_a-Cquat_{ar}NH), 59.2 (*C*H₂-Ar), 57.7 (*C*H₂-CO₂), 50.1 (N-*C*H₂), 49.7 (N-*C*H₂), 49.0 (N-*C*H₂). LRMS (MeCN/H₂O 8/2 *v/v*, 20 V): *m/z* 410 [M + H]⁺, 432 [M + Na]⁺, 454 [M - H + 2Na]⁺. HPLC: *Rt* 1.2-1.3 min.

AI-X-NODA-MP-NHCSNH₂ (X = OH, OAc). The previously prepared chelating agent NODA-MP-NHCSNH₂ (32 mg, ca 78 µmol) was solubilized in ultrapure H₂O (1.5 mL), giving a slightly cloudy solution. AlCl₃.6H₂O (20 mg, 83 μmol, 1.0-1.1 equiv) was added as a single solid portion, dropping the *pH* from 5.1 to 3.5. The *pH* was adjusted to pH 4.0 by the careful addition of a 1 M aqueous solution of NaOH (95 µL, 95 µmol, ca 1.2 equiv). The resulting reaction mixture was fisrt left to react at room temperature for 5 hours, after which MS monitoring revealed trace of Al(III) complexation. The reaction medium was then refluxed for 30 min, resulting in a clear transparent solution and a drop in pH from 4.0 to 3.8. MS monitoring revealed incomplete conversion: presence of the desired AI-OH-NODA-MP-NHCSNH₂ complex together with starting chelator. The *pH* was adjusted from 3.80 to 4.06 with careful addition of a 1 M aqueous solution of NaOAc (50 µL, 50 µmol, ca 0.65 equiv). The reaction medium was refluxed for a further 30 min; pH and MS monitoring revealed i) a drop in pH from 4.06 to 3.67, and ii) the persistence of incomplete conversion, with the presence of starting chelator together with a mixture of the desired complexes AI-OH-NODA-MP-NHCSNH₂ and AI-OAc-NODA-MP-NHCSNH₂. A second portion of a 1 M aqueous solution of NaOAc (50 µL, 50 µmol, ca 0.65 equiv) was added to adjust the pH from 3.67 to 4.22. After a further 30 min reflux, the solution changed from transparent to slightly yellow. Heating was stopped. The final pH had dropped to pH 4.0 and the medium had become slightly cloudy. The aqueous mixture was filtered through a 0.22 µm PES membrane (syringe filter unit) and then lyophilized (93 mg of solid material recovered). MS analysis revealed a mixture of residual NODA-MP-NHCSNH₂ (LH₂) and of the corresponding desired Al(III) complexes. LRMS (MeCN/H₂O 5/5 v/v, 20 V): m/z 410 [LH₂ + H]⁺, 432 [LH₂ + Na]⁺, 474 [Al-OH-L + Na]⁺, 490 [Al-OH-L + K]⁺, 516 [Al-OAc-L + Na]⁺, 532 [Al-OAc-L + K]⁺. HPLC: *R*^{*t*} 1.0-1.3 min.



Figure S9. ¹H NMR of **NODA-MP-NH**₂ in D₂O ($c \approx 0.13$ M, pH > 12).



Figure S10. ¹H and ¹³C{¹H} NMR of **NODA-MP-NHCSNH**₂ in D₂O ($c \approx 0.13$ M, pH 5.4).



Figure S11. ¹⁹F{¹H} NMR of **AI-F-NODA** in D₂O ($c \approx 0.10$ M, *pH* 7).

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