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Update on metal *N*-heterocyclic carbene complexes as potential anti-tumor metallodrugs

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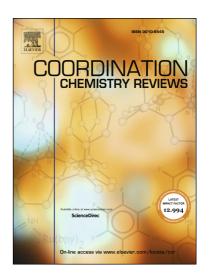
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## **ACCEPTED MANUSCRIPT**

#### Update on metal N-heterocyclic carbene complexes

#### as potential anti-tumor metallodrugs

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Acknowledgments

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#### **Keywords**

Metal N-heterocyclic carbene complexes, Anti-tumor, Metallodrugs, Mode of action, Structure-activity relationships

#### **Highlights**

Transition metal (Ag, Au, Pt, Pd, Cu, Hg, Ru, Os, Rh and Ir) complexes containing NHC ligands as anti-tumor agents are reviewed since the publication of our previous review.

The anti-tumor properties of these complexes as well as possible structure-activity relationships are discussed.

The mechanisms of action of metal-NHC complexes at the cellular lever are discussed.

The advantage of NHCs as ligands for metal complexes is highlighted.

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