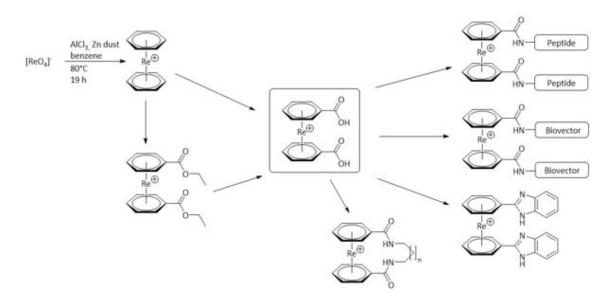
## Synthesis and Derivatisations of $[Re(\eta^6-C_6H_5COOH)_2]^+$

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Functionalised bis-arene complexes of transition metals are used as precursors for numerous reactions with applications in different fields, including medicinal inorganic chemistry and bioorganometallic chemistry. Recently, functionalised  $[M(\eta^6\text{-arenes})_2]^{n+}$  sandwich complexes, containing the  $d^6\text{-}\{Ru\}^{2+}$  and  $\{Os\}^{2+}$  cores attracted attention as potential anti-cancer agents. The introduction of functionalities in  $d^6\text{-metal}$  bis-arene complexes with chromium and molybdenum has also been described but studies with those complexes are comparably rare in bioorganometallic chemistry. Studies with group 7 bis-arene compounds (Re and Tc) are very rare in any respect, although their syntheses were already described in the 1960s.

Searching for new organometallic building blocks for imaging ( $^{99m}$ Tc) and therapy (Re) in the context of theranostics, our group introduced a new synthetic route for the synthesis of the precursor complex [Re( $\eta^6$ -C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>6</sub>)<sub>2</sub>]<sup>+</sup> directly from [ReO<sub>4</sub>]<sup>-</sup>.[1,6]



This work focuses on an improved synthetic pathway to  $[Re(\eta^6-C_6H_5COOH)_2]^+$ . Beside the high chemical stability of these complexes and its inertness towards oxidation and hydrolysis, the carboxylic groups represent a core feature for derivatisations with targeting moieties via amid bond formation. Amino acids, peptides or other biomolecules can conveniently be introduced along this approach.

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