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Schottky Junction Nanozyme Based on Mn-Bridged Co-Phthalocyanines and Ti₃C₂T_x Nanosheets Boosts Integrative Type I and II Photosensitization for Multimodal Cancer Therapy

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nanozyme has been established between a manganese-bridged cobalt-phthalocyanines complex and $Ti_3C_2T_x$ MXene nanosheets (CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x), which can serve as an integrative type I and II photosensitizer for enhancing cancer therapeutic efficacy *via* a photoacoustic imaging-guided multimodal chemodynamic/photothermal/photodynamic therapy strategy under near-infrared (808 nm) light irradiation. The Schottky junction



not only possessed a narrow-bandgap, enhanced electron-hole separation ability and exhibited a potent redox potential but also enabled improved H_2O_2 and O_2 supplying performances *in vitro*. Accordingly, the AS1411 aptamer-immobilized CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x nanozyme illustrated high accuracy and excellent anticancer efficiency through a multimodal therapy strategy in *in vitro* and *in vivo* experiments. This work presents a valuable method for designing and constructing a multifunctional nanocatalytic medicine platform for synergistic cancer therapy of solid tumors.

KEYWORDS: multimodal cancer therapy, Schottky junction nanozyme, $Ti_3C_2T_x$ nanosheets, cobalt phthalocyanine, supply of O_2 and H_2O_2

ancer remains one of the most serious diseases that causes death in the world. Unfortunately, the current methods used to detect and treat cancer leave much to be desired. Theranostic platforms, which can be used to both accurately diagnose and treat cancer, have the potential to significantly prolong the survival of patients with cancer.^{1–3} Phototherapies, such as photodynamic therapy (PDT) and photothermal therapy (PTT), are attractive on account of their noninvasiveness and ability to act locally and thereby avoid systemic toxicity.^{4–6} PDT selectively produces reactive oxygen species (ROSs) from oxygen (O₂) utilizing photosensitizers (PSs) under light irradiation. These ROSs can become cytotoxic after reacting with proteins, DNAs, lipids, and other biological molecules, causing cancer cell death *via* distinct pathways.^{7,8} There are two mechanisms for PDT: the type II PDT pathway of

singlet oxygen (${}^{1}O_{2}$) production by energy transfer⁹ and the type I PDT pathway *via* the electron transfer or hydrogen abstraction to generate superoxide radical (${}^{\cdot}O_{2}^{-}$) and hydroxyl radical (${}^{\cdot}OH$). Also, the generated ${}^{\cdot}O_{2}^{-}$ and ${}^{\cdot}OH$ species *via* the type I PDT mechanism not only can serve as oxidants for killing tumor cells but also can yield O_{2} for recycling.¹⁰ The type II PDT mechanism, which is feasibly performed in most current PDT

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PSs, is highly dependent on the O_2 level in the tissue environment,^{11,12} whereas the type I pathway is less dependent on O_{2i}^{13} rendering it largely unaffected by hypoxia within the tumor microenvironment (TME). To date, only a few photocatalysts, such as C_3N_4/MnO_2 , ¹⁴ UMOF-Ti O_2 , ¹⁵ W₂C nanoparticles (NPs), ¹⁶ and Ti O_2 -N₃, ⁷ have demonstrated outstanding PDT performance via type I and II mechanisms. Thus, there is a need to identify multifunctional nanocatalysts that can overcome the PDT limitations to enhance PDT efficacy for tumors.¹⁷ However, tumors are difficult to completely treat using a monotherapy due to low PDT efficiency in the hypoxic TME and the decreased immune response caused by the heat shock response of a mono-PTT method. In addition, cancer cells can also be killed via the chemodynamic therapy (CDT) mechanism via the generation of ·OH through the decomposition of hydrogen peroxide (H₂O₂) during in situ Fenton/ Fenton-like reaction in the TME in the presence of metal ions,¹ while this strategy often suffers from a low H₂O₂ concentration in the TME, resulting in limited •OH production.^{19,20} To address this point and increase the efficiency of treatment,² different methods have been employed, such as catalyzing glucose to produce H_2O_2 by loading glucose oxidase (GO_x) to boost the H_2O_2 content in TME^{22–24} or by loading antibody of vascular endothelial growth factor to restrain tumor angiogenesis to weaken the tumor nutrient supply.² Besides these biomolecules, different nanomedicines, such as a Au₂Pt-PEG-Ce6 nanoformulation (PEG: polyethylene glycol),²⁵ MCMnH/ CaO₂,²⁶ and ICG@Mn/Cu/Zn-MOF@MnO₂,²⁷ have been exploited for multimodal imaging-guided synergistic PTT/ PDT/CDT. To most effectively treat tumors, it would be beneficial to establish an all-in-one photocatalyst-based bioplatform for cancer therapy via PTT/type I and II PDT/CDT to leverage the synergistic effect of multimodal therapy.

Most recently, Schottky junctions prepared by integrating inorganic metals and semiconductors via tight contact have demonstrated value for applications including optoelectronics, energy storage, and nanomedicine due to the high photoabsorption ability and superior separation of photoinduced charges.²⁸⁻³⁰ However, only a few Schottky junctions such as Ti₃C₂@chitosan-MnFe₂O₄³¹ and Ag/AgCl NPs³² have been used as multimodal bioplatforms for antitumor therapy. As an important category of PSs, phthalocyanine (Pc) molecules, with electronic delocalization of 18 electrons, possess distinct and high-efficiency near-infrared (NIR) light absorption, low phototoxicity, and high extinction owing to their highly conjugated planar structures and ability to coordinate with a diversity of metal ions.³³ Various transition metal ions can be coordinated with nitrogen atoms on Pc rings to form metallophthalocyanine (MPc) complexes with M-N₄ structures (e.g., M = Zn, Ni, Fe), which are outstanding active sites for driving photocatalytic reactions, especially type I and II PDT, PTT PSs, or nanozymes.^{34,35} In addition, MXenes, twodimensional (2D) transition metal carbides, carbon nitrides, and nitrides have been extensively utilized as PTT agents in the NIR region for the treatment of different cancers.^{36–38} Among MXenes, titanium carbide $(Ti_3C_2T_x, T = F, O, and OH group)$ exhibits high photothermal conversion efficiency (PCE) for tumor ablation, thus showing appealing potential for photoinduced cancer therapy.³⁹ Ti₃C₂T_x MXene⁴⁰ and composites such as Ti₃C₂T_x-Pt-PEG,⁴¹ 2D Ti₃C₂/g-C₃N₄ heterostructure,³⁹ Ti₃C₂@chitosan-MnFe₂O₄,³¹ and CD@Ti₃C₂T_x heterojunctions⁴² have demonstrated PTT performance in the NIR I biological window for anticancer therapy.^{21,43} On account of the

superior photocatalytic ability of Pcs and high photothermal performance of $Ti_3C_2T_x$ MXene, the establishment of the Schottky junctions between MPcs and $Ti_3C_2T_x$ MXene is promising as a multimodal platform between the conjugated CoPc-Mn complex and ultrathin $Ti_3C_2T_x$ nanosheets (NSs). A variety of MXene@Pc junctions have been developed as electrocatalysts or electronics,^{44–46} but rarely as nanozymes for tumor therapy. Also, even though some $Ti_3C_2T_x$ -based composites or hybrids have been used as multimodal anticancer agents,⁴⁷ the combination of type I and type II PDT with PTT and CDT has yet to be realized. Moreover, based on the investigation of the catalytic mechanism of these now-available Schottky junctions, the relative value of each component for multimodal cancer therapy based on the MPcs/Ti₃C₂T_x.

Herein, we demonstrate a Schottky junction based on a manganese-bridged cobalt-phthalocyanines complex and $Ti_3C_2T_x$ NSs (CoPc-Mn/Ti_3C_2T_x) and explore its value as an "all-in-one" photoacoustic imaging-guided PTT/PDT/CDT multimodal therapeutic platform (Scheme 1). The CoPc-Mn complex and $Ti_3C_2T_x$ NSs were assembled through $\pi-\pi$ stacking and hydrogen bonding,^{48,49} creating a Schottky junction due to their ultrathin NS-like structure. Further, PEG was used to modify CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_r (represented as CoPc- $Mn/Ti_3C_2T_r$ -PEG) to enhance water solubility and biocompatibility.5 ^D This Schottky junction substantially enhanced electron-hole separation and exhibited potent redox potential for self-supplying H_2O_2 and O_2 . Benefiting from the superior photocatalytic abilities of the two components, the proposed CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG Schottky junction not only showed substantially high photothermal performance under NIR light irradiation and outstanding photoacoustic imaging (PAI) capability, but also exhibited synergistic type I PDT and type II PDT performance, resulting in the production of $\cdot O_2^-$, H_2O_2 , and \cdot OH through electron transfer and the generation of $^{1}O_{2}$ through energy transfer. The enhanced PCE of the CoPc-Mn/ $Ti_3C_2T_x$ -PEG Schottky junction stimulated the production of • OH through Fenton-like reactions of two redox pairs $(Co^{2+}/$ Co^{3+} and Mn^{2+}/Mn^{3+}). Given the good biocompatibility and high stability of the junction in combination with the tumortargeting ability of the AS1411 aptamer strand, the CoPc-Mn/ Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG/AS1411 nanozyme demonstrated a high therapeutic efficacy in vivo, with an almost complete inhibition of tumor growth. Consequently, the developed MPc/Ti₃C₂T_x Schottky junction is a potential multifunctional nanoplatform for cancer therapy.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Synthesis and Characterizations of the CoPc-Mn/ Ti₃C₂T_x Nanozyme. As depicted in Scheme 1, the CoPc-Mn complex was first prepared by the aggregation of CoPc-Mn sheets (Figure S1), and ultrathin Ti₃C₂T_x NSs were obtained by HF etching of Ti₃AlC₂ powders and exfoliation (Figure S2). CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x composite was formed by assembly of the CoPc-Mn complex and the exfoliated ultrathin Ti₃C₂T_x NSs *via* $\pi-\pi$ stacking interaction and hydrogen bonds.^{48,49} Thus, the CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x Schottky junction exhibits a layer-on-layer structure. Field emission scanning electron microscopy (FE-SEM) (Figure S3a and b) and transmission electron microscopy (TEM) (Figure 1a, b, and c) images of CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x confirm this finding, suggesting the successful integration of the two components. The TEM and FE-SEM images indicated the average size of the CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x composite is about 200 Scheme 1. Schematic illustration of the preparation procedure used to create CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG/AS1411 and the *in vivo* PTT/PDT/CDT synergistic antitumor mechanism.



nm. The high-resolution TEM (HR-TEM) image (Figure 1c) exhibits a clear lattice spacing of 0.248 nm, corresponding to the (106) crystal plane of $Ti_3C_2T_x$ NSs (JCPDS 52–0875).⁵¹ The selective-area electron diffractometry (SAED) pattern of CoPc- $Mn/Ti_3C_2T_x$ (Figure 1c, inset) demonstrates a ring pattern, suggesting its low crystallinity. Notably, the high-angle annular dark-field scanning TEM (HAADF-STEM) image of CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x shows some bright dots highlighted by yellow circles, which can be attributed to the atomically dispersed M-N sites (Figure 1d). The HAADF-STEM result manifests the homogeneous dispersion of isolated dual single atoms of Co–N and Mn-N in the CoPc-Mn complex, improving the photocatalytic and chemical catalytic abilities and therapeutic efficacy.⁵² Moreover, the energy dispersive X-ray spectroscopy (EDS) mapping images of CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x (Figure 1e) illustrates that Co, Mn, C, O, and N are homogeneously dispersed in the whole horizon. In contrast, Ti is only present in the $Ti_3C_2T_x$ region. According to the EDS spectrum, the Co, Mn, and Ti atomic % in CoPc-Mn/Ti $_3\mathrm{C}_2\mathrm{T}_x$ are around 2.45%, 1.57%, and 4.90%, respectively. Moreover, CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG (Figure S3c and d) comprises larger particles, revealing the coverage of PEG layer. The further modification of the target aptamer AS1411 exhibits no significant influence on the morphology of CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG (Figure S4). Further-

more, the atomic force microscopy (AFM) images (Figure S5) indicate that the thicknesses of the CoPc-Mn complex and $Ti_3C_2T_x$ NSs are 1.5 and 1.5 nm, respectively. After being assembled into a CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x Schottky junction, the thickness increased to 3 nm. To further elucidate the layer-onlayer structure of CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x, the chemical distributions of all ingredients in the CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x were investigated using the depth profiling time-of-flight secondary ion mass spectrometry (ToF-SIMS). The primary chemical species in $Ti_3C_2T_x$ NSs layers is Ti^+ . Meanwhile, Co^+ , Co_2CN^+ , and Mn^+ are selected as the dominating chemical species in CoPc-Mn complex layers. As shown in Figure S6, the distributions of Ti⁺, Co⁺, Co₂CN⁺, and Mn⁺ are estimated as constant except at the premier pre-equilibrium stage, indicating that the concentration ratio of $Ti^+/Co^+/Mn^+$ remains constant in the z-plane.⁵³ Therefore, $Ti_3C_2T_r$ NSs layers and CoPc-Mn complex layers of CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x exhibited a relatively uniform distribution.

The X-ray absorption fine structure spectrum was then collected to determine the local coordination structures of Co and Mn atoms in the CoPc-Mn complex. Representative metallic substances (i.e., Co foil and Mn foil) and MPc-TA (M = Co, Mn) containing Co-N₄ or Mn-N₄ moieties were used as reference samples. The X-ray absorption near-edge



Figure 1. (a, b, and c) Low-magnification, high-magnification, and high-resolution TEM images of CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x (inset: SAED pattern of CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x). (d) HAADF-STEM image of CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x and (e) corresponding EDS mapping images of CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x: C (red), N (blue), O (amaranth), Co (green), Mn (cyan), and Ti (orange). (f) Co K-edge XANES spectra and (g) Fourier-transformed EXAFS spectra of Co foil, CoPc-TA, and CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x. (h) Mn K-edge XANES spectra and (i) Fourier-transformed EXAFS spectra of Mn foil, MnPc-TA, and CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x. (j) High-resolution XPS spectra of C 1s, N 1s, Co 2p, and Mn 2p of CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x. (k) The process of interface charge transfer in CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x.

structure spectra (XANES; Figure 1f) show the pre-edge feature of cobalt tetraaminophthalocyanine (CoPc-TA) and the CoPc-Mn complex at 7693 eV due to the 1s \rightarrow 3d transition. Meanwhile, a shoulder peak, i.e., well-resolved double absorption-edge peak at 7709 eV owing to $1s \rightarrow 4p$ transition, is observed. $^{5\breve{4}}$ The pre-edge absorption of the CoPc-Mn complex is higher than that of CoPc-TA, indicating a high centrosymmetric coordination structure.⁵⁵ Next, the structural parameters of the Co-N₄ configuration was obtained through Fourier transform of the extended X-ray absorption fine structure (FT-EXAFS) fitting in *k* and *R* space (Figure S7), in which similar spectra are gained. Co-N and Co-C bonds in the CoPc-Mn complex (Table S1) exhibit the lengths of 1.93 and 2.97 (Å), respectively. The coordination number of Co-N is 4, suggesting the coordination modes of the Co atom in the center of Pc rings. In addition, the edge position of the Mn K-edge indicates that Mn is located between Mn foil and MnPc-TA (Figure 1h), while a peak at 1.44 Å is observed in the Mn FT-EXAFS of the CoPc-Mn complex due to Mn–N (Figure 1i). Notably, the structural parameter of the Mn–N₄ configuration in the CoPc-Mn complex is absent according to the FT-EXAFS. Consequently, Mn²⁺ ions appear to be coordinated with the amino group on CoPc-TA, rather than replacing Co atoms in Pc rings. Additionally, Co–Co and Mn–Mn bonds are not found in CoPc-Mn, further verifying the coexistence of Co–N and Mn–N atomic sites generated in the CoPc-Mn complex. This finding is in line with the above HAADF-STEM result of the CoPc-Mn complex.

The X-ray diffraction (XRD) patterns of the CoPc-Mn complex and CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x (Figure S8a) display diffraction peaks at 2θ = 7.54°, 9.45°, 14.24°, 17.42°, 27.17°, and 29.03°, similar to those of CoPc-TA.⁵⁶ No significant changes are present between the two samples, suggesting the full overlap of $Ti_3C_2T_r$ NSs with the CoPc-Mn complex. CoPc-Mn/ $Ti_3C_2T_x$ -PEG (curve *iv*, Figure S8a) demonstrates low and relatively broad peaks, apparently showing an amorphous feature due to the coverage of PEG. A detailed description of the Fourier transform infrared spectroscopy (FT-IR) spectra, ultraviolet visible (UV-vis) absorption in dimethylformamide (DMF), and fluorescence spectra of the CoPc-Mn complex, Ti₃C₂T_x NSs, CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x, and CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG is offered in the Supporting Information (Figure S8b-d). The chemical components of all samples were investigated by X-ray photoelectron spectroscopy (XPS) (Figure S9). The highresolution C 1s XPS spectra of the CoPc-TA and CoPc-Mn complex (Figure S10a) were composed of bulk sp² carbon

(283.7 eV), sp³ carbon (284.5 eV), C–C (285.3 eV), N–C=O (286.5 eV), and COO (288.6 eV). The presence of sp^2 carbon reveals a highly conjugated structure, whereas C-N emanates from the Pc rings. An additional peak of a $\pi - \pi^*$ moiety (290.6) eV) is observed in CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x (Figure 1j) due to the introduction of $Ti_3C_2T_x$ MXene. CoPc-Mn/ $Ti_3C_2T_x$ -PEG (curve *iii*, Figure S10a) has similar deconvoluted groups but without a $\pi - \pi^*$ moiety, possibly due to the coverage of the PEG layer. Further, the O 1s XPS spectra of the CoPc-TA and CoPc-Mn complex (curves *i* and *ii*, Figure S10b) include an oxygen vacancy (O_v, 530.1 eV), C-O (531.9 eV), and adsorbed O (533.2 eV). The presence of O_v can be further verified by the electron paramagnetic resonance (EPR) spectra of the samples. The electrons or holes can be trapped by O_v sites on the catalyst surface bearing the typical defect states to suppress their recombination.⁵⁷ With regard to CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x and CoPc- $Mn/Ti_3C_2T_x$ -PEG, an additional Ti-O peak (529.9 eV) originating from $Ti_3C_2T_x$ MXene was observed (curves *iii* and *iv*, Figure S10b). The N 1s XPS spectra of the CoPc-TA and CoPc-Mn complex (curves i and ii, Figure S10c) involve pyridinic N (398.2 eV) and metal-N (M-N; 399.3 eV). Two additional weak peaks of pyrrolic N (400.2 eV) and N-O (402.4 eV) appear in CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x (Figure 1j), indicating that the nitrogen-related group of CoPc-TA was weakly oxidized during the combination of the two components. Notably, the position of M–N in CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x (398.16 eV) is positively shifted relative to that of the CoPc-Mn complex (398.09 eV), suggesting a decrease in electron density around the metal-N.⁵⁸ Further, the Co 2p XPS spectra of all samples comprise the mixed valence states of Co^{3+}/Co^{2+} species (Figures 1j and S10d). In contrast, the Co $2p_{3/2}$ of CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x is negatively shifted to 779.2 eV (Figure 1j) relative to that of the CoPc-Mn complex (779.9 eV, curve ii, Figure S10d). The integration of the CoPc-Mn complex and $Ti_3C_2T_x$ can drive electron transfer from a nitrogen-related group to Co (Figure 1k). Moreover, the Mn 2p XPS spectra also include the mixed valence states of Mn²⁺/Mn³⁺ (Figures 1j and S10e).⁵⁹ The redox of Mn^{2+}/Mn^{3+} and Co^{2+}/Co^{3+} in the CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x can markedly enhance CDT efficiency.⁶⁰ Furthermore, the Ti 2p XPS spectra of CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x and CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG are analyzed in Figure S10f. Two peaks located at 458.2 and 458.8 eV are related to the Ti³⁺ signal and Ti–OH of Ti₃C₂T_x NSs, respectively. In addition, the peak at 464.4 eV corresponds to the Ti–O bond. The Ti– $(OH)_x$ peak area of CoPc-Mn/ $Ti_3C_2T_x$ -PEG (curve *ii*) was decreased compared with the CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x hybrid (curve *i*) due to the reaction of Ti– $(OH)_x$ with PEG-epoxide, indicating the successful modification of PEG. It can further be confirmed by thermogravimetric analysis (TGA) of CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG (Figure S8e), with the weight losses of CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x and CoPc-Mn/ Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG as 14.13% and 30.8% at 325 °C, respectively. A detailed description of the FT-IR, XPS, and dynamic light scattering (DLS) spectra of CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG/AS1411 is provided in the Supporting Information (Figure S11). This FT-IR and XPS data confirm that AS1411 strands can be efficiently anchored over CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG to enhance tumor cell targeting.

Figure S12 shows signals at g = 1.998 in the EPR spectra of all samples without or under NIR light irradiation, which can be attributed to defects or element vacancies.⁶¹ It is obvious that CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x exhibits a higher g signal intensity, compared with either the CoPc-Mn complex or Ti₃C₂T_x NSs. Accordingly, the defects and vacancies caused by the formation

of Schottky junctions at the interfaces between the CoPc-Mn complex and $Ti_3C_2T_x$ NSs can regulate the electronic structure of the CoPc-Mn complex. Notably, the signal at g = 1.998 in the CoPc-Mn complex is enhanced by irradiation with NIR laser light (Figure S12). Alternatively, no significant change is observed in the g signal intensity of $Ti_3C_2T_x$ NSs before and after NIR laser irradiation. Further, the g signal in CoPc-Mn/ $Ti_3C_2T_r$ is substantially increased under the illumination with an NIR laser, revealing the delocalization of electrons and generation of a greater number of oxygen vacancies. Thereby, the CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x Schottky junction is significantly more sensitive for stimulating the generation of defects and vacancies under NIR irradiation than its individual components, boosting its photocatalytic ability. The UV-vis absorption spectra of CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x and CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG dispersed into DMF (Figure S8c) showed an obvious 12 nm red shift of the Qband compared to the CoPc-Mn complex due to the strong $\pi - \pi$ interaction between the CoPc-Mn complex and $Ti_3C_2T_x$ NSs, which can reduce the aggregation of the CoPc-Mn complex. Furthermore, CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x demonstrated enhanced absorbance in the NIR range, facilitating photothermal conversion. The UV-vis absorption spectra of the catalysts (100 μ g mL⁻¹, Figure S13) displayed characteristic peaks at around 808 nm in water, showing an obvious red shift of the Qband compared to CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x in DMF, suggesting their strong potential for photothermal heating when exposed to NIR light in an aqueous environment.

In Vitro Photothermal Performance. Considering the broad absorption of CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x tailed up to the NIR region, the photothermal performance of all samples in water is shown in Figures 2 and S14. The temperature increases rapidly for the first 5 min and then slowly approaches an equilibrium (Figure S14a), which is consistent with the corresponding infrared thermal images (Figure S14b). By contrast, no substantial temperature elevation is observed for water under NIR irradiation. These results strongly support the idea that the catalyst is solely responsible for the temperature increase. After irradiation with an 808 nm laser for 10 min, CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x achieves a temperature of 68.0 °C, which is higher than that achieved by the CoPc-Mn complex (61.9 °C), but lower than Ti₃C₂T_x NSs (70.2 °C). CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG achieves a comparatively lower temperature of 53.6 °C, indicating that the PEG layer marginally weakens photothermal conversion. Notably, CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG/AS1411 shows a temperature of 52.6 °C, indicating that AS1411 has a negligible effect on the PTT property of CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG/AS1411. Distinctly, the integration of the CoPc-Mn complex and $Ti_3C_2T_x$ NSs can modulate the photothermal property, making the junction favorable as a PTT agent. Furthermore, the CoPc-Mn/ $Ti_3C_2T_x$ and CoPc-Mn/Ti_3C_2T_x-PEG showed increasingly elevated temperatures at increasing concentrations (Figures S14c and 2b) and irradiation power density (Figures S14e and S15). These findings are in line with corresponding infrared thermal images (Figures S14d, 2c, and S14f). Given that lower dosages of catalyst can potentially decrease side effects, 100 μ g mL^{-1} of CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x and CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG were used in subsequent experiments, achieving temperatures of 68.0 and 53.6 °C (808 nm laser, 1 W cm⁻²), respectively. According to eqs S1–S6, the PCEs of each sample, η , were determined and used to evaluate their PTT abilities (Figure S16a-e, Figure 2d, and Table S2). Clearly, the CoPc-Mn complex has a smaller η (56.6%, Figure S16b) than that of $Ti_3C_2T_x$ NSs (78.6%, Figure S16c), but higher than those of some Pc-related nanomaterials



Figure 2. (a) In vitro photothermal performance of CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG. (b) Temperature elevation curves of CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG at various concentrations irradiated with 808 nm laser for 10 min (0–200 μ g mL⁻¹). (c) Infrared thermal images of CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG aqueous solutions at different concentrations under irradiation with a NIR laser (808 nm) for 10 min. (d) Heating and cooling curves of CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG (red). (e) Photothermal profile of the CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG solution over five on/off cycles under 808 nm laser irradiation (100 μ g mL⁻¹, 1 W cm⁻²). (f) In vitro PA values of CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG at different concentrations (20, 40, 80, 100, and 200 μ g mL⁻¹).

such as Pc NPs (31.3%),⁶² Pc-based nanodots (ZnPc-NDs) (45.7%),⁶³ Pc-based polymeric micelles (47.0%),⁶⁴ and albumin-iron(II) FePc NPs (HSA-FePc NPs; 44.4%).⁶⁵ The η of CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x was 66.2% (Figure S16d), falling between the PTT effects of the CoPc-Mn complex and Ti₃C₂T_{*}. Further, comparable η values of CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_r-PEG (63.5%, Figure 2d) and CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG/AS1411 (59.8%, Figure S16e) are obtained, suggesting the PEG layer and AS1411 aptamers do not substantially alter the PTT effects. Notably, the PCE of CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG/AS1411 outperforms most widely reported photothermal agents such as metallic Mo₂C@N-carbon@PEG NPs (52.7%),⁶⁶ MOFderived composites (29.15%),⁶⁷ and Ni₃S₂/Cu₁₈S nanoheterostructures (49.5%). $^{\acute{68}}$ After five on–off cycles of NIR laser exposure, the maximum temperatures of CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x, CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG, and CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG/ AS1411 remain unchanged (Figures 2e and S17a and b), confirming their excellent photostability. Moreover, the photoacoustic signals in aqueous solutions containing different concentrations of CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG (Figure 2f) linearly increase with increasing the dosage of CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG $(R^2 = 0.988)$, which even can be detected at a low dosage of 20 μ g mL⁻¹. This finding suggests that the CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG junction has exciting potential as an *in vivo* PAI contrast agent.

Optical and Photoelectrochemical Properties of CoPc-Mn, Ti₃C₂T_x NSs, and CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x. The UV–vis diffuse reflectance spectroscopy (DRS) spectra of CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x, the CoPc-Mn complex, and Ti₃C₂T_x NSs (Figure 3a) suggest strong photoabsorption within the NIR region due to the absorption at 200–1000 nm. Further, the photocurrents of all catalysts (Figure 3b) display reversible responses during NIR irradiation. CoPc-Mn complexes as an excellent semiconductor can easily transfer light energy to electrochemical energy, thus generating photocurrent signals.⁶⁹ It demonstrates that Ti₃C₂T_x NSs, as cocatalysts, can more efficiently receive photoexcited

electrons,⁷⁰ which enables improved NIR photocatalytic performance. Therefore, the recombination of photogenerated electrons and holes of CoPc-Mn was efficiently inhibited by the Schottky junction formed between Ti₃C₂T_x NSs and CoPc-Mn.⁷¹ The photocurrent intensity of the CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x electrode is higher than the intensities of the CoPc-Mn complex and $Ti_3C_2T_x$ (Figure 3b), revealing its high separation and transfer capability of photogenerated carriers. The photoluminescence (PL) spectrum measurements (Figure 3c) illustrate that the fluorescence intensities of the CoPc-Mn complex and CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x significantly decrease at an excitation wavelength of 350 nm relative to $Ti_3C_2T_r$ NSs. Given that a low fluorescence intensity of one catalyst indicates its low recombination rate,⁶³ the recombination rate of electrons and holes in CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x decreases. Consequently, CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x, which exhibits slow electron-hole recombination, possesses superior photocatalytic activity.

The catalytic mechanism of the Schottky junction nanozyme we have developed was studied by calculating its band structures through UV-vis DRS and ultraviolet photoelectron spectroscopy (UPS) analysis. Figure 3d depicts the energy band gaps (E_{o}) calculated from eq S7 for the CoPc-Mn complex and CoPc- $Mn/Ti_3C_2T_x$ within the two regions. Given that a catalyst with an E_{σ} lower than 1.53 eV can be excited under NIR light irradiation,⁷² the E_{σ} values (Q-band) of the CoPc-Mn complex and CoPc-Mn/Ti₃ C_2T_x are 1.50 and 1.52 eV, respectively, and the E_g value of $Ti_3C_2T_x$ NSs is 2.12 eV. The energy band structures of the samples were studied through UPS. Figure 3e shows the calculated work functions $(W_{\rm F}, \Phi)$ of the CoPc-Mn complex, $Ti_3C_2T_x$ NSs, and CoPc-Mn/ $Ti_3C_2T_x$ are 3.84, 4.11, and 4.23 eV (vs vac), respectively, after subtracting the excitation energy of He I (21.22 eV). The low binding energy tails (E_{edge}) of the CoPc-Mn complex, Ti₃C₂T_x NSs, and CoPc- $Mn/Ti_{3}\tilde{C}_{2}T_{x}$ are around 1.35, 0.98, and 1.21 eV (vs vac), respectively. Consequently, the Fermi levels $(E_{\rm F})$ of the CoPc-Mn complex, $Ti_3C_2T_x$ NSs, and CoPc-Mn/ $Ti_3C_2T_x$ are -3.84,



Figure 3. (a) UV-vis DRS absorption spectra, (b) transient photocurrent responses, (c) PL spectra of the CoPc-Mn complex, $Ti_3C_2T_x$, NSs, and CoPc-Mn/ $Ti_3C_2T_x$, and (d) the corresponding $[\alpha h\nu]^2$ vs $h\nu$ curves with the inset showing the enlarged sections of CoPc-Mn and CoPc-Mn/ $Ti_3C_2T_x$. (e) UPS spectra and (f) M-S plots of the CoPc-Mn complex, $Ti_3C_2T_x$, NSs, and CoPc-Mn/ $Ti_3C_2T_x$. (g) Schematic diagram of the change in energy band structure near the interface between $Ti_3C_2T_x$ NSs and the CoPc-Mn complex under different conditions (before contact, after contact, and under NIR irradiation) and the specific process of ROS production during photocatalysis.

-4.11, and -4.23 eV (vs vac), respectively. Given that the $E_{\rm g}$ of the CoPc-Mn complex and CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x are 1.5 and 1.52 eV, respectively, the UPS can be used for the verification of the position of the valence band (VB) according to eqs 1 and 2.⁷³

$$E_{\rm F} - E_{\rm V} = E_{\rm edge} \tag{1}$$

$$E_{\rm C} = E_{\rm g} + E_{\rm V} \tag{2}$$

Thus, the E_V and conduction band (E_C) of the CoPc-Mn complex are around -5.19 and -3.69 eV (vs vac), respectively, higher than those of CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x ($E_V = -5.44$ eV and $E_C = -3.92$ eV vs vac). The flat band potentials of the CoPc-Mn complex, Ti₃C₂T_x NSs, and CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x are approximately -0.91, 0.50, and -0.71 V (vs Ag/AgCl), respectively, as shown by the Mott–Schottky (M-S) plots in Figure 3f. The CB potentials of the CoPc-Mn complex and CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x are -0.81 and -0.61 V (vs NHE, E(vs NHE) = E(vs Ag/AgCl) + 0.197 eV), respectively, which coincide with the results of the UPS curves (-3.69 and -3.92 eV; vs vac). Thereby, the VB top

of the CoPc-Mn complex is 0.69 V [vs NHE; -5.19 eV (vs vac)] according to eq 2. Collectively, the schematic illustration of the energy band of CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x before and after contact is presented in Figure 3g. The $E_{\rm F}$ value of the CoPc-Mn complex (-3.84 eV vs vac) is more positive than that of $\text{Ti}_3\text{C}_2\text{T}_x$ NSs; therefore, electrons flow from the CoPc-Mn complex to the $Ti_3C_2T_x$ NS (Figure 3g, before contact). When the CoPc-Mn complex and $Ti_3C_2T_x$ NSs are directly in contact, electrons flow from CoPc-Mn to $Ti_3C_2T_x$ NSs until Fermi equilibrium can be achieved (Figure 3g, after contact). During NIR light irradiation, a positively charged layer on the CoPc-Mn surface is generated owing to the electrons being pumped from VB to CB of the CoPc-Mn complex, resulting in an electron depletion zone and an upward bend in the band edge. Meanwhile, Ti₃C₂T_x NSs, as the cocatalyst and electron sink, accept electrons from the CoPc-Mn complex. Accordingly, a Schottky junction can be generated at the interface between the CoPc-Mn complex and $Ti_3C_2T_x$ NSs, thus gaining appropriate band bending. The Schottky barrier nearly impedes the backflow of electrons, efficiently



Figure 4. (a) H_2O_2 produced by CoPc-Mn, $Ti_3C_2T_x$ NSs, CoPc-Mn/ $Ti_3C_2T_x$, and CoPc-Mn/ $Ti_3C_2T_x$ -PEG (100 μ g mL⁻¹) under 808 nm irradiation for 10 min (1 W cm⁻²). (b) ESR spectra of CoPc-Mn/ $Ti_3C_2T_x$ -PEG in the dark and upon 808 nm NIR irradiation for 5 and 10 min in the presence of DMPO- $\cdot O_2^-$. (c) O_2 generation by CoPc-Mn/ $Ti_3C_2T_x$ -PEG under different conditions. (d) UV-vis absorption spectra of MB caused by CoPc-Mn/ $Ti_3C_2T_x$ -PEG (30 μ g mL⁻¹). (e) Time-dependent degradation of MB caused by CoPc-TA, CoPc-Mn, $Ti_3C_2T_x$ NSs, CoPc-Mn/ $Ti_3C_2T_x$ -DEG, and CoPc-Mn/ $Ti_3C_2T_x$ -PEG/AS1411. (f) ESR spectra of CoPc-Mn/ $Ti_3C_2T_x$ and CoPc-Mn/ $Ti_3C_2T_x$ -PEG upon the addition of DMPO·. (g) DPBF absorption of the CoPc-Mn/ $Ti_3C_2T_x$ -PEG (30 μ g mL⁻¹) dispersion under 808 nm irradiation (1 W cm⁻²). (h) Absorbance evolution of DPBF at 417 nm (C/C_0). C₀ is the original absorbance of DPBF, and C is the absorbance of DPBF against irradiation time. (i) ESR spectra of ¹O₂ trapped by TEMP· in a CoPc-Mn/ $Ti_3C_2T_x$ -PEG solution with or without 808 nm irradiation (1 W cm⁻², 5 and 10 min). (j) Schematic diagram of ROS production process. (k) DCF fluorescence images of DCFH-DA-stained B16 cells treated with CoPc-Mn/ $Ti_3C_2T_x$ -PEG (100 μ g mL⁻¹) at different treatments (materials: CoPc-Mn/ $Ti_3C_2T_x$ -PEG).

separating the photogenerated electron-hole pairs and increasing the free carrier concentration. As a result, it leads to an electron reservoir of $Ti_3C_2T_x$ NSs, facilitating the separation of photoinduced electrons and holes, prolonging charge carrier lifetime and enhancing CDT and PDT performance.⁷⁰

Generation of ROS and O₂. Based on the previous calculation, the E_{CB} of the CoPc-Mn complex (i.e., -0.81 V vs NHE) is more negative than the reduction potential of O₂/•O₂⁻ (-0.046 V vs NHE), suggesting that \cdot O₂⁻ could be generated in this system.⁷⁴ The corresponding process can be summarized as follows:

$$CoPc-Mn@Ti_{3}C_{2}T_{x} \xrightarrow{h\nu} h^{+} + e^{-}$$
(3)

$$O_2 + e^- \to \cdot O_2^- \tag{4}$$

In fact, CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x closely mimics superoxide dismutase (SOD) activity upon NIR light irradiation since it can catalyze the \cdot O₂⁻ species that are generated into H₂O₂ (eq 5).

$$\cdot O_2^- + 2H^+ + e^- \to H_2O_2 \tag{5}$$

Based on the standard curve (Figure S18), the concentration of H_2O_2 was determined (Figure 4a). The concentration of the H_2O_2 produced by CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x increases during the first 6 min of irradiation, indicating the continuous generation of H_2O_2 . After that time, the concentration of H_2O_2 declines, suggesting its consumption. One possible hypothesis is that H_2O_2 can react with $\cdot O_2^-$ and be further converted into \cdot OH and O_2 *via* the mechanism shown in eq 6.

$$\cdot O_2^- + H_2 O_2 \rightarrow \cdot OH + OH^- + O_2 \tag{6}$$

Interestingly, CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG exhibits outstanding SOD-mimicking activity. Also, both the CoPc-Mn complex and $Ti_3C_2T_x$ NSs can generate H_2O_2 . However, the conversion rate of H_2O_2 to •OH and O_2 is slower than that of CoPc-Mn/ $Ti_3C_2T_x$. To clarify the above mechanism, the category of ROSs produced by catalysts was verified by electron spin resonance (ESR) under an 808 nm laser exposure for 10 min (Figure S19). Figure 4b indicates that the peak intensity of the 5,5-dimethyl-1pyrroline N-oxide (DMPO)-·O2⁻ signal increases during irradiation from 5 to 10 min, verifying that $\cdot O_2^-$ species can be produced by catalysis of CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG through electron transfer under NIR irradiation. CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG shows the strongest ESR signal among all samples, suggesting more $\cdot O_2^-$ is generated *via* the catalysis of CoPc-Mn/ $Ti_3C_2T_x$ -PEG (Figure S19a). The efficiency of $\cdot O_2^-$ conversion into \cdot OH and O₂ by reacting with the *in situ*-formed H₂O₂ can be confirmed by the increased DMPO- OH signals produced by CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG under NIR irradiation without adding H_2O_2 (Figure S19b). The generated $\cdot OH$ can also be indirectly shown by determining the concentration of supervenient O_2 in the CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG suspension under 808 nm laser irradiation with a dissolved oxygen meter (Figure 4c). Since the dissolved O_2 generated by the *in situ*-formed H_2O_2 is too low to be detected within 10 min, the additional H_2O_2 (100 μ M) was added into the CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG suspension. As expected, the presence of H_2O_2 in the CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG (100 μ g mL⁻¹) catalytic systems could generate adequate dissolved O₂ under NIR light irradiation. The above hypothesis is also supported by the photographs of O₂ bubbles in the CoPc- $Mn/Ti_3C_2T_x$ -PEG suspension after different treatments (Figure S20). Also, the production of O_2 can be recycled in these

bioreactions, facilitate the amelioration of hypoxia, and boost CDT and PDT effects.⁷⁵ Accordingly, the production of H_2O_2 can compensate for the intracellular low H_2O_2 level after treatment with CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x, thereby improving CDT

efficacy. CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x contains single atomic Co $-N_4$, Mn-N, and Ti³⁺ active sites and can react with H_2O_2 to generate \cdot OH according to eqs 7–9.⁶⁰

$$\operatorname{Co}^{2+} + \operatorname{H}_2\operatorname{O}_2 \to \operatorname{Co}^{3+} + \cdot\operatorname{OH} + \operatorname{OH}^-$$
(7)

$$Mn^{2+} + H_2O_2 \rightarrow Mn^{3+} + \cdot OH + OH^-$$
(8)

$$\mathrm{Ti}^{3+} + \mathrm{H}_2\mathrm{O}_2 \to \mathrm{Ti}^{4+} + \cdot\mathrm{OH} + \mathrm{OH}^- \tag{9}$$

To determine the CDT effect of CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x and $CoPc-Mn/Ti_3C_2T_r$ -PEG, methylene blue (MB) was used as an indicator to capture ·OH radicals. Figures S21b,d-f and 4d illustrate that the absorbance of MB for the CoPc-Mn complex and CoPc-Mn-based catalysts substantially decreases with increasing reaction time in the presence of H₂O₂ because MB is efficiently degraded by ·OH species. No significant degradation of MB could be found in the CoPc-TA + H_2O_2 and $Ti_3C_2T_x + H_2O_2$ groups (Figure S21a and c), properly caused by the less exposed active sites on the surface. The introduction of Mn ions into CoPc-TA substantially improves the Fenton-like catalytic ability. Figure 4e indicates that the degradation rate of MB against CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG (25 μ g mL^{-1}) is the highest (97.55%) within 30 min. On the one hand, the enhanced dispersibility of CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG provided more catalytic active sites, promoting the CDT performance of CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG. On the other hand, the PEGylation of CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x resulted in the declination of the effective components $(CoPc-Mn/Ti_3C_2T_x)$;⁶ the same degradation trend of MB can be obtained when the concentration of CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG increased to 30 μ g mL⁻¹ according to the TGA results. Similar tendencies were also measured in the apparent rate constants (k_a) of the MB degradation (Figure S21g) and ESR measurements (Figure 4f) with the characteristic 1:2:2:1 signal peaks, where the largest $k_{\rm a}$ value (0.13238 min⁻¹) and sharp peaks' intensity of DMPO--OH were detected in the presence of CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_r-PEG. These results reflect the outstanding CDT performance of CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG. Figure S21i and j show the enhanced Fenton-like activity of CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG is the highest (97.55%) in acidic medium (pH 5.4), which is in line with the intensity of peak signals of DMPO-·OH in the ESR spectra of CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG with different pH values (Figure S21k).

Herein, we show that $CoPc-Mn/Ti_3C_2T_r$ -PEG exhibits excellent photocatalytic abilities under NIR light, generating a spatiotemporally synchronized H₂O₂ and O₂ supply, which overcomes O₂ limitations that typically reduce PDT efficacy. The type II PDT property of all catalysts was measured using 1,3-diphenylisobenzopyran (DPBF) as an indicator. Figure S22a-c show that the pure DPBF and $Ti_3C_2T_x$ NSs + DPBF are not substantially degraded in the dark and with NIR irradiation, suggesting an inferior ability to generate ¹O₂. However, Figures S22d-h and 4g demonstrate that the DPBF peak intensities against CoPc-TA-based catalysts substantially decrease under NIR irradiation within 10 min, verifying the efficient generation of ¹O₂. In fact, the PDT effects of the CoPc-Mn complex involve type II PDT as energy transfer occurs.¹⁴ The peak intensity of DPBF against the CoPc-Mn complex is considerably lower than that of CoPc-TA under light irradiation. However, Figure 4h



Figure 5. (a) B16 cell uptake and viability when incubated with different concentrations of CoPc-Mn complex, $Ti_3C_2T_x$, NSs, CoPc-Mn/ $Ti_3C_2T_x$, and CoPc-Mn/ $Ti_3C_2T_x$ -PEG (0, 20, 50, 80, 100, and 200 μ g mL⁻¹). (b) Cell viabilities of B16 cells treated with different conditions of CoPc-Mn/ $Ti_3C_2T_x$ -PEG (materials: CoPc-Mn/ $Ti_3C_2T_x$ -PEG). (c) Fluorescence images of calcein-AM/PI-costained B16 cells under different conditions. (d) Flow cytometry apoptosis assay with B16 cells after different treatments followed by staining with Annexin-FITC and PI. The groups studied included a control, CoPc-Mn/ $Ti_3C_2T_x$ -PEG, CoPc-Mn/ $Ti_3C_2T_x$ -PEG + H₂O₂, CoPc-Mn/ $Ti_3C_2T_x$ -PEG + NIR, and CoPc-Mn/ $Ti_3C_2T_x$ -PEG + H₂O₂ + NIR. (e) The targeting behaviors of CoPc-Mn/ $Ti_3C_2T_x$ -PEG/AS1411 in B16 and L929 cells. Data are presented as means \pm SD (n = 5). ***P < 0.001.

shows the degradation capacity of CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x (67.96%) is higher than that of the CoPc-Mn complex (54.56%) and Ti₃C₂T_x NSs (9.63%), indicating its superior photodegradation activity. This could be ascribed to the Schottky junction of CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x NSs, which dramatically boosts PDT

efficiency.³⁹ Additionally, the k_a of DPBF photodegradation of CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x is the highest (0.1109 min⁻¹) at the same concentration (Figure S22i and Table S3). However, the degradation capacity and k_a of CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG are slightly smaller than those of CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x which can

largely be attributed to the cover of some active sites by the PEG layer, hindering the ${}^{1}O_{2}$ generation. To confirm this, the DPBF degradation experiment with the same active component content (30 μ g mL⁻¹ of CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG) was performed according to the TGA results. The similar degradation trends and rates were observed at 25 μ g mL⁻¹ of CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x and 30 μ g mL⁻¹ of CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG (Figure 4g and h). In contrast, the degradation trend (Figure 4h) and k_a of CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG/AS1411 (0.0744 min⁻¹) resemble those of CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG (0.0630 min⁻¹), which indicates that the AS1411 aptamer has a negligible influence on the PDT performance of CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG/ AS1411. Collectively, CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x can not only promote the generation of ${}^{1}O_{2}$ (type II PDT) through energy transfer but also activate hypoxia-resistant type I PDT by electron transfer under NIR irradiation, which also enhances the synergistic PTT/PDT/CDT effect of CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x. Also, the generated ¹O₂ was detected by the ESR during illumination with an 808 nm laser using 2,2,6,6-tetramethylpiperidine (TEMP) as a trapping agent. Three typical characteristic peaks (intensity ratio of 1:1:1) of TEMP-¹O₂ were found under NIR light irradiation, while the peak intensity increases along with the irradiation time (Figure 4i). Figure S22j shows obvious TEMP-¹O₂ signals of the catalysts containing CoPc-TA under light irradiation, indicating the crucial effect of CoPc-TA components for the production of ${}^{1}O_{2}$.

In accordance with the discussions above, the CoPc-Mn/ $Ti_3C_2T_x$ nanozyme-mediated photocatalytic mechanisms that enhance PDT and CDT are proposed (Figure 4j). The formation of a Schottky junction successfully tunes the band of CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x, benefiting electron-hole separation and transfer, thus exhibiting excellent NIR photocatalytic enhanced therapeutic ability. (i) Type I PDT of CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x nanozyme produces O_2^- by electron transfer under the NIR 808 nm laser irradiation. (ii) The generated $\cdot O_2^-$ species was further converted to H₂O₂ due to the SOD-mimicking activity of CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x upon NIR light irradiation and further converted H_2O_2 to $\cdot OH$ and O_2 . (iii) This self-supplying H_2O_2 and O_2 ability of the CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x nanozyme can compensate the intracellular H2O2 level for enhanced CDT efficacy and alleviate the tumor hypoxia to improve the oxygendependent type II PDT efficiency. By integrating type I and type II PDT into one nanoplatform, the effective PDT efficiency can be guaranteed. The superior PCE of $Ti_3C_2T_x$ NSs can be utilized as PTT agents for effective photoacoustic-imaging guided therapy.³⁹ Such a Schottky junction-associated PDT/CDT enhancement effect can greatly enhance the therapeutic efficacy via the synergy between PTT, CDT, and PDT.

Intracellular ROS generation was performed in mouse melanoma B16 cells using 2',7'-dichlorodiacetate (DCFH-DA), which can be oxidized by ROS to generate green fluorescent 2,7-dichlorofluorescein, as a fluorescent probe (Figure 4k). No green fluorescence was observed in the control and CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG groups without NIR irradiation. The CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG + H₂O₂ group exhibits weak green fluorescence, suggesting minimal production of ·OH, which is mainly attributed to the Fenton-like reaction mediated by Co-N₄ and Mn-N active sites containing in the CoPc-Mn complex. The group of CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG + NIR also shows a weak green fluorescence signal, which can be attributed to ROS generated *via* the PDT effect. By contrast, a strong green fluorescence signal distinctly appears in the CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x- $PEG + H_2O_2 + NIR$ group, demonstrating increased production of ROSs by promoted CDT and PDT effects.

In Vitro Cytotoxicity. The cytotoxicity of CoPc-Mn/ $Ti_3C_2T_x$ -PEG was first accessed by the metal ions leaking experiment under different pH values (Figure S23). The results showed that Co ions were hardly released due to its stable Co-N₄ structure formed with Pc. A similar results was observed for Ti ions, which was ascribed to the strong bond between the Ti atom and C atom in $Ti_3C_2T_x$ NSs. Notably, Mn as an essential trace element for the human body exhibited a pH-dependent leaking behavior with a fast release of over 70% of Mn within 4 h at pH 5.5, while less than 35% Mn was released at pH 7.4 within 48 h. The biocompatibility of all samples was further assessed in L929 and B16 cells at 24 and 48 h using the 3-[4,5-dimethylthiazol-2y1]-2,5-diphenyltetrazolium bromide (MTT) assay. Figure S24a shows that the survival rate of L929 cells treated with CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG (200 μ g mL⁻¹) was the highest (90.8%), suggesting reduced cytotoxicity under 24 h. Likewise, the CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG (200 μ g mL⁻¹) group shows a higher survival rate (90%) than that of the CoPc-Mn complex (80.7%) toward B16 cells under 24 h (Figure 5a). As a comparison, the survival rates of B16 cells and L929 cells at high concentrations (100 and 200 μ g mL⁻¹) decreased at 48 h, indicating the increased cytotoxicity against concentration. Besides, the survival rate for the CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG (200 μ g mL⁻¹) group was higher that of the CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x group, indicating the enhanced biocompatibility upon PEGylation. The cytotoxicity of CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG treated by single- or multitreatment strategies was assessed in vitro to differentiate the contributions. Figure 5b indicates that the cell viability of B16 cells declines with increasing the concentration of CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG treated by different methods, as expected. The cell viability of B16 cells for the CoPc-Mn/ $Ti_3C_2T_r$ -PEG + NIR and CoPc-Mn/ $Ti_3C_2T_r$ -PEG + H_2O_2 groups is 30.5% and 38.6%, respectively, at a CoPc-Mn/ $Ti_3C_2T_x$ -PEG dosage of 200 μ g mL⁻¹, whereas the cell viability of the CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG + NIR + H_2O_2 group is around 10.3% because of the multimodal synergistic therapeutic effects.

A LIVE/DEAD stain was used for further confirmation by a calcein AM/PI assay through confocal laser scanning microscopy (CLSM) (Figure 5c) and a flow cytometry assay (Figure 5d). Figure 5c reveals strong red fluorescence for the NIRtreated CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG + H_2O_2 group, representing dead cells. However, the experimental groups without laser irradiation or H2O2 resulted in few dead cells, which is consistent with MTT results. Figure 5d shows B16 cell apoptosis and necrosis, as evaluated by flow cytometry. After being subjected to different conditions, the NIR-treated CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG + H_2O_2 group resulted in the largest percentage of apoptotic cells (95.3%), demonstrating the excellent therapeutic effects of combining PDT, CDT, and PTT. Further, L929 and B16 cells were incubated with the CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG/ AS1411 to evaluate the targeting capability of nanozymes, and cellular uptake efficiency was monitored by measuring the intracellular fluorescence of 5'-Cy3-labeled AS1411 with CLSM. Figure 5e shows the yellow fluorescence signal in B16 cells compared with the weak fluorescence signal in L929 cells, suggesting the successful endocytosis of B16 cells toward CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG/AS1411 through active targeting. As shown in Figure S25, the cellular uptake efficiency of CoPc-Mn/ Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG/AS1411 calculated by intracellular Co and Ti ions reached the maximum at 4 and 2 h, corresponding to 42.6%



Figure 6. (a) *In vivo* blood circulation and (b) biodistributions of the CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG/AS1411 in BALB/c mice, determined by the Ti, Mn, and Co element concentrations in tissue lysates. Data are means \pm SD (n = 4). (c-f) H&E staining and immunofluorescent staining images of (g1, g2) MBP (red), (h1, h2) S100 β (red), and (i1, i2) FJB (green) of the cortex for the control and CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG/AS1411-treated groups, respectively (DAPI: blue).

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and 19.4%, respectively. Notably, the Ti ion content declines after culturing 2 h, indicating the exocytosis of Ti ions.

In Vivo Biocompatibility Evaluation. The hematology studies were conducted to access the in vivo biocompatibility of CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG/AS1411 probe at doses of 0.1, 0.2, and 0.4 mg mL⁻¹ in healthy female BABL/c mice (n = 4). After intravenous injection of CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG/AS1411 for 14 days, the blood was collected for hematological analysis. The hematology and blood biochemical assay results (Figure S26) indicated there is no abnormal up- or down-regulation of all these blood indexes in concordance with the control group. Additionally, the negligible differences in major liver function indicators, including total bilirubin (TBIL), aspartate aminotransferase (AST), alanine aminotransferase (ALT), γ -glutamyl transferase (γ -GT), and renal function indicators (such as uric acid (UA), creatinine (CREA), and blood urea nitrogen (BUN)), were revealed in both experimental and control groups. All of the above blood analysis results suggest that the CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG/AS1411 nanoenzyme at the doses studied would not impact the health status of the mice, thereby ensuring the high biosafety feature for therapeutic applications.

In vivo blood circulation and biodistribution of CoPc-Mn/ Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG/AS1411 were further disclosed with healthy mice. The levels of metal ions (Co, Mn, and Ti) in major organs and blood samples were determined by inductively coupled plasma mass spectrometry (ICP-MS) measurement after being solubilized in a HNO₃/HCl (v/v: 1/3) solution (Figure 6a). The *in vivo* circulating half-life ($\tau_{1/2}$) of CoPc-Mn/ Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG/AS1411 in the bloodstream was determined using a double-compartment pharmacokinetic model. The Co and Ti ions exhibited a $\tau_{1/2}$ of 3.48 and 3.38 h, respectively, while Mn ions illustrate a longer half-life time of 7.24 h. Therefore, their long blood circulating time was favorable for the active targeting of CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG/AS1411 composites to the tumor sites by blood circulation. The prolonged half-life time of Mn ions indicates their escape from the immune system, followed by metabolism in blood circulation. In fact, low levels of Mn element (0.5-3.6% ID/g) were observed in the major organs 14 days postinjection (Figure 6b). Notably, a high level of Ti element was observed in major organs (liver, spleen, lung, and kidney), suggesting the uptake of the CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG/ AS1411 by the mononuclear phagocyte system. Different from the fate of Ti element, a higher content of Co element was detected in the spleen than that of the liver and kidney, indicating the different fates *in vivo*.

For the long-term cytotoxicity of CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG/ AS1411 to the central nervous system, the brain tissues of mice were extracted 30 days postinjection for histological and immunohistochemical analysis. Hematoxylin and eosin (H&E) staining images (Figure 6c-f) show that the nerve cells in the cortex are densely organized with a regular morphology, and the nuclei are large and round with clear nucleoli, indicating no obvious chronic inflammation in the central nervous system. Myelin basic protein (MBP) and S100 β are used as cell markers to assess the damage to the nervous system.⁷⁷ Based on the immunofluorescence images of MBP and S100 β (Figure 6g and h), the expressions of MBP and S100 β in the CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG/AS1411-treated group are close to that of the control group. The number of degenerative neurons in the treatment and the control groups can be obtained from the Fluoro-Jade B (FJB) staining.⁷⁸ Obviously, insignificant differences of FJB-positive cells in the CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG/ AS1411-treated and control groups were observed (Figure 6i). These results indicated that the developed CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG/AS1411 nanozyme shows a negligible influence on the central nervous system.

In Vivo PAI. The *in vivo* performance of CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG/AS1411 as a PAI agent was assessed in a B16-tumorbearing mice model. Images of the tumor sites were obtained at various times after intravenous injection (Figure 7a and b). Two hours after injection, the PA signal at the tumor sites had clearly increased, indicating the accumulation of PAI agent in the tumor site. After 3 h, the PA signal intensity reached a maximum and then decreased. CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG/AS1411 showed



Figure 7. *In vivo* PAI performances and synergistic PTT/PDT/CDT therapeutic efficacy of CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG/AS1411 as a probe against B16-tumor-bearing mice. (a) Time-dependent PA images of B16-tumor-bearing mice after postinjection of CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG/AS1411 at various time points. (b) The evolution of PA signal intensity as the function of time postinjection. (c) IR thermal images and (d) tumor temperature changes of B16-tumor-bearing mice injected with PBS (as a control) and CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG/AS1411 followed by irradiating with an 808 nm NIR laser (1.0 W cm⁻², 10 min). (e) Time schedule of CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG/AS1411 administration for antitumor therapy. (f) Body weight and (g) tumor volume growth curves of mice after different treatments. (h) Photographs of tumors collected after the whole treatment regimen had been delivered to each group (red circle indicates the completely ablated tumor). (i) H&E histological staining of the main organs and tumor tissues from different treatment groups. Data are means \pm SD (n = 5). ***P < 0.001.

robust accumulation in tumors, demonstrating its potential for PAI-guided cancer therapy. The *in vivo* PA images demonstrate similar trends for oxyhemoglobin and hemoglobin signal intensities around the tumor vasculature, verifying oxygen generation and the alleviation of hypoxia within the tumor site. These collective results indicate that CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG/AS1411 can be adopted as a PAI and PTT/PDT agent. Two hours after injection, tumor sites were irradiated with an 808 nm laser for 10 min (1.0 W cm⁻²), and the temperature of each tumor site was monitored longitudinally during irradiation (Figure 7c and d). Compared with the control groups (treated with PBS and an 808 nm laser), the CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG/AS1411-treated group showed substantial temperature elevation. The maximum temperature at the tumor site reached 48.2 °C, leading to tumor cell apoptosis.

In Vivo Antitumor Treatment Study. The in vivo synergistic PTT/PDT/CDT therapeutic efficacy under 808 nm laser irradiation was further assessed on a B16-tumorbearing mice model via the tail vein injection of CoPc-Mn/ $Ti_3C_2T_x$ -PEG/AS1411 with a consecutive treatment process for 14 days with CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG/AS1411 or CoPc-Mn/ $Ti_3C_2T_x$ -PEG/AS1411 + NIR light irradiation 2 h after injection. The average body weight in the control groups slightly declined after 10 days of treatment, whereas the weights for the CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG/AS1411-treated group increased, indicating the outstanding biocompatibility of CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG/AS1411 (Figure 7f). After 14 days of treatment (Figure 7g), the tumor volume in the group receiving NIR light rapidly grew, suggesting that laser irradiation alone was unable to achieve a complete response. Mice treated with CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG/AS1411 without laser irradiation demonstrated a moderate tumor suppression effect, showing a tumor growth inhibition (TGI) rate of 47.1%. This result indicates that the CDT effect of CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG/ AS1411 is insufficient to inhibit tumor growth in the TME. Apparently, tumor suppression can be achieved for the CoPc- $Mn/Ti_3C_2T_x$ -PEG/AS1411 + NIR light group, showing a TGI rate of 95.8%. This therapeutic effect can be attributed to the type I/II-combined PDT, Co²⁺/Mn²⁺-mediated CDT, and the PTT effect of CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_r-PEG/AS1411. The photographs of tumor tissues at day 14 are consistent with the tumor growth trend. Tumor size decreased with increasing therapeutic time in the CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG/AS1411 + NIR light groups. The tumor in one mouse was completely ablated in the PTT/PDT/CDT-treated group (Figure 7h). Main organs and tumors were harvested after treatment and stained with H&E, and no obvious damage and metastases were found (Figure 7i). Tumor cells were largely eliminated by synergistic PTT/PDT/ CDT treatment. TUNEL staining for the tumor tissue confirmed enhanced apoptosis and tumor cell death after PTT/PDT/CDT treatment (Figure S27). Accordingly, the excellent therapeutic performance can be ascribed to the high efficiency of CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x/AS1411-mediated synergistic PTT/PDT/CDT therapy.

CONCLUSIONS

In summary, a Schottky junction nanozyme was constructed at the interface between the CoPc-Mn complex and $Ti_3C_2T_x$ NSs for efficient tumor treatment through PAI-guided PDT/CDT/PTT therapy. The Schottky junction exhibited a PTT-enhanced CDT/PDT effect because of the efficient CDT effect of the Co²⁺/Co³⁺ and Mn²⁺/Mn³⁺ redox-active atomic Co–N and Mn–N sites of the CoPc-Mn complex. The enhanced

photoinduced charge separation efficiency was caused by the Schottky barrier junction and high PCE of $Ti_3C_2T_x$ NSs. The integration of type I and II PDT effects and the self-supplying H_2O_2 and O_2 ability were realized. Consequently, the CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG-mediated treatment resulted in synergistic cytotoxicity and triggered B16 cell apoptosis. Moreover, the outstanding tumor-targeting accumulation of PAI-agents, excellent biocompatibility of CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG/AS1411, and effective tumor inhibition were achieved by the synergistic PDT/PTT/CDT in solid-tumor-bearing mice. This work can facilitate the exploration of the Schottky barrier junction and its application as a multifunctional nanoplatform for the synergistic antitumor therapy against solid tumors.

METHODS

Preparation of Ti₃C₂T_x NSs. Herein, 2D Ti₃C₂T_x NSs were prepared according to a previously published method.⁴¹ Typically, LiF (0.6 g) was dissolved in HCl (10 mL, 12 M). Afterward, Ti₃AlC₂ powders (0.8 g) were added in the LiF solution under the vigorous stirring at 0 °C after 30 min and kept at 40 °C for another 24 h. Subsequently, the mixture was sonicated for 1 h, followed by adding 25 mL of HCl (12 M) to the obtained solution under vigorous stirring for 40 min at 25 °C. After that, the acidic mixture was rinsed using Milli-Q water *via* centrifugal separation for multiple cycles until a pH of 7 was accomplished. A well-dispersed claylike solid suspension (aqueous solution) was gained *via* bath sonication for 2 h. Finally, Ti₃C₂T_x NSs were obtained after centrifugation at 4000 rpm.

Preparation of the CoPc-Mn Complex and the CoPc-Mn/ Ti₃C₂T_x Nanozymes. CoPc-TA was synthesized according to the previous work.⁵⁶ Afterward, the CoPc-TA suspension (63 mg, 0.1 mmol) was dispersed in Milli-Q water (4 mL), forming a homogeneous suspension. After that, Mn(NO₃)₂·6H₂O (14.35 mg, 0.05 mmol) was added into the mixed solvent containing trimethylamine (28 μ L) and acetonitrile (2 mL) under thorough stirring at 80 °C for 4 days. Subsequently, the above suspension was centrifuged and rinsed thrice with Milli-Q water. After drying under vacuum at 60 °C, a dark green powder (denoted as the CoPc-Mn complex) was obtained. In this case, Mn²⁺ ions were coordinated with abundant amino moieties on CoPc-TA to yield the CoPc-Mn complex.

In addition, a CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x hybrid was prepared by adding exfoliated Ti₃C₂T_x NSs (10 mg) into the CoPc-Mn suspension (1.6 mM, 20 mL) and stirred for 24 h. Subsequently, the CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x was post-treated using a method resembling that of the CoPc-Mn complex. Owing to π - π stacking⁴⁹ and hydrogen bonding⁴⁸ between the conjugated CoPc-Mn complex and ultrathin Ti₃C₂T_x NSs, the two components can be closely assembled together.

Preparation of CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG and CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG/AS1411. To improve dispersion and biocompatibility, CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x PEGylation was carried out according to the previous literature.⁷⁹ Typically, CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x (50 mg), PEG-epoxide (500 mg), and triphenylphosphine (12.5 mg) were dispersed in dimethyl sulfoxide (DMSO, 20 mL) and thoroughly stirred until the suspension became transparent. Afterward, the mixture reacted at 190 °C for 4 h under stirring. Finally, the resulting product was obtained by precipitating and rinsing thrice with cold diethyl ether. After drying under vacuum, a CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG hybrid was obtained.

In addition, the CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG/AS1411 hybrid was prepared by incubating CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG with the aptamer AS1411 solution (1 mL, 3 μ M) at 4 °C for 2 h. The obtained suspension was treated by centrifugal separation and then washed with PBS thrice to remove the unabsorbed AS1411 strands. Due to the highly conjugated nanostructure and rich amino group of CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG, AS1411 strands were immobilized over CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG via π - π stacking and electrostatic interaction. The resulting CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG/AS1411 was stored in a refrigerator (4 °C) for further experimentation.

In Vitro Photothermal Effect. Different concentrations of CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG suspensions (0, 20, 50, 80, 100, and 200 μ g mL⁻¹) and CoPc-Mn, Ti₃C₂T_x NSs, CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x, and CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG/AS1411 suspensions (100 μ g mL⁻¹) were prepared separately and treated with an NIR 808 nm laser for 10 min. The heat distribution and the system temperature were recorded using a thermal imaging camera and electronic thermometer, respectively, to test the photothermal performance. Different power densities (0.3, 0.65, and 1 W cm⁻²) of the laser light were also adopted to modulate the temperature.

SOD-Mimicking Catalytic H₂O₂ Production. The obtained catalyst suspension (2 mL, 100 μ g mL⁻¹) was transferred to a 4 mL centrifuge tube and subjected to a NIR 808 nm laser light for 0, 2, 4, 6, 8, or 10 min, followed by eliminating the catalyst *via* a 0.22 μ m filter. These filtrates were mixed with a Ce(SO₄)₂ solution (2 mmol L⁻¹, 200 μ L). The yellow solution became colorless when Ce⁴⁺ ions were reacted with H₂O₂ to generate Ce³⁺ according to eq 10.

$$2Ce^{4+} + H_2O_2 \rightarrow 2Ce^{3+} + 2H^+ + O_2$$
(10)

Therefore, the H_2O_2 concentration was determined by the UV–visible absorption of Ce⁴⁺ at 315 nm by eq 11.

$$C(H_2O_2) = \frac{1}{2} \times [C_0(Ce^{4+}) - C(Ce^{4+})]$$
(11)

The absorbance at $\lambda = 315$ nm of the Ce(SO₄)₂ solution was detected with UV–vis after adding a known concentration of H₂O₂ solution into the Ce(SO₄)₂ solution. The linear relationship between Ce⁴⁺ concentration and the absorption intensity was established in Figure S18.

Detection of •OH Species Generated by the Fenton-like Reaction. To evaluate the chemodynamic activity of the developed catalysts, MB was used as an indicator to indicate the production of • OH. First, a mixture solution containing CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG (250 μ g mL⁻¹, 0.2 mL), MB (100 μ g mL⁻¹, 0.1 mL), and DMF (1.5 mL) were stirred for 5 min to form a homogeneous solution. Subsequently, both H₂O₂ (0.1 mL, 50 mM) and NaHCO₃ (0.1 mL, 250 mM) were added into the mixed solution. The generation rates of •OH at different exposure durations were also detected by monitoring the absorbance changes of MB at 664 nm. In addition, the chemodynamic activities of other samples, including CoPc-TA, CoPc-Mn, CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x, and CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG/AS1411, were also investigated using the same method. Further, the degradation abilities of CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG in diverse environments with designed pH values (5.4, 6.4, and 7.4) were determined.

In Vitro Photodynamic Effect. To probe the ${}^{1}O_{2}$ generation efficiency of the samples, DPBF was employed as a probe. First, DPBF (1 mg mL⁻¹, 20 μ L) in DMF was freshly prepared, then separately added into each of the sample suspensions (2 mL, 25 μ g mL⁻¹), including CoPc-TA, CoPc-Mn, CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x, Ti₃C₂T_x NSs, CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG, and CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG/AS1411, with stirring for 5 min in the dark. For ${}^{1}O_{2}$ detection, the UV–vis absorption at 414 nm of sample suspensions was recorded with time intervals of 1 min during irradiation under an 808 nm laser (1 W cm⁻²). To further study the degradation rate of DPBF, the reaction kinetics was fitted well to a first-order kinetic equation.⁸⁰

$$\ln(C_0/C) = k_{\rm a}t\tag{12}$$

where k_a , t, C_0 , and C are the pseudo-first-order reaction rate constant, reaction time, and DPBF absorbance under a definite irradiation time, respectively.

Intracellular ROS Measurements. Intracellular ROS generation in mouse melanoma B16 cells was detected by DCFH-DA. Typically, B16 cells were seeded into a cell culture dish (1×10^5) and incubated with 2 mL of Roswell Park Memorial Institute (RPMI) 1640 medium for 24 h. Next, fresh 1640 medium containing CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG (100 μ g mL⁻¹) was added and incubated for 6 h. Wells were then washed with PBS thrice. DCFH-DA (0.1 mL, 20 μ M) was introduced to B16 cells with different treatments, including CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG, CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG + NIR, CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG + H₂O₂ (100 μ M), and CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG + NIR + H₂O₂ (100 μ M) for further incubation at 37 °C for 20 min. Finally, CLSM was used for imaging intracellular ROS generation in each well when excited by light at 488 nm.

In Vitro Biocompatibility and PDT, PTT, and CDT Performance Assessments. The cytotoxicity of the CoPc-Mn complex, $Ti_3C_2T_x$ NSs, CoPc-Mn/ $Ti_3C_2T_x$ and CoPc-Mn/ $Ti_3C_2T_x$ -PEG was evaluated using a typical MTT assay against L929 and mouse melanoma B16 cells, separately. Typically, B16 cells (1×10^{5}) were seeded on 96-well plates, incubated for 12 h (37 $^{\circ}\text{C},$ 5% $\text{CO}_2),$ and then separately incubated with different concentrations of the CoPc-Mn complex, Ti₃C₂T_x NSs, CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x, and CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG suspensions for 24 h. After rinsing gently with PBS thrice, 200 μ L of fresh 1640 medium was added and incubated for 12 h at 37 °C. Then the MTT (20 μ L, 5 mg mL⁻¹ in PBS) was added and cultured in the incubator for 4 h, followed by discharging the mixture medium and adding DMSO. Cell viability was evaluated by the absorbance at 490 and 600 nm using a microplate reader (WD-2102A). The in vitro CDT, PTT, and PDT efficiency against B16 cells was evaluated using similar MTT procedures with different treatments, including CoPc-Mn/ $Ti_{3}C_{2}T_{x}$ -PEG, CoPc-Mn/ $Ti_{3}C_{2}T_{x}$ -PEG + $H_{2}O_{2}$ (100 μ M), CoPc-Mn/ $Ti_{3}C_{2}T_{x}$ -PEG + NIR (1 W cm⁻², 10 min), and CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG + NIR (1 W cm⁻², 10 min) + $H_{2}O_{2}$ (100 μ M), and their efficacy was calculated by detecting the absorbance of each well with a microplate reader.

In Vivo and *in Vitro* PA Imaging. The increasing concentrations of suspensions of CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG/AS1411 (20, 40, 80, 100, and 200 μ g mL⁻¹) were prepared for *in vitro* PAI with 808 nm laser irradiation, in which the PA signals were obtained on a mouse photoacoustic tomographic system (iThera Medical, InVision 256-TF, Germany). For *in vivo* PAI, 200 μ L of CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG/AS1411 (200 μ g mL⁻¹) was injected intravenously into B16-tumor-bearing mice. Meanwhile, PA images were taken every 1 h postinjection (0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 h) after animals were anesthetized with isoflurane.

Evaluation of the Targeting Ability of CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG/ AS1411 with B16 Cells. B16 cells and L929 cells were first harvested from cell culture flasks, seeded into 20 mm glass-bottom culture dishes with medium (1 mL), and cultured for 24 h. After the removal of the culture medium, CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG/5'-Cy3-labeled AS1411 (100 μ g mL⁻¹, 1 mL) was added in every 20 mm glass-bottom culture dish and cultured for 4 h. After rinsing with PBS four times, 1640 medium (1 mL) containing Hoechst 33342 (300 nM, 20 μ L) was added into the glass-bottom culture dishes and cultured at 37 °C for 15 min, followed by rinsing with PBS. Finally, cells were immobilized with 4% cold paraformaldehyde for 15 min and rinsed with PBS thrice. The targeting effect of AS1411 in the cellular uptake of CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG/AS1411 was evaluated by CLSM (excited at 515 nm).

In Vivo Antitumor Treatment Study. Female BALB/C mice (4– 6 weeks) were purchased from Hunan Slaccas Jingda Laboratory Animal Co., Ltd. (Hunan, China) and raised in the SPF animal room. All animal procedures were approved by the Animal Research Ethics Committee of Yanxuan Biotechnology (Hangzhou, China) Co., Ltd. (Document HZYX-2021-011). The B16-tumor-bearing mice models were successfully established when the tumor volume attained ~ 70 mm³. The mice were randomly assigned into four groups, including PBS, PBS + NIR, CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG/AS1411, and CoPc-Mn/ $Ti_3C_2T_x$ -PEG/AS1411 + NIR. Typically, the mice were administered with PBS or CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG/AS1411 (200 μ L, 200 μ g mL⁻¹) by intravenous injection. After 2 h, the groups of PBS + NIR and CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG/AS1411 + NIR were treated with NIR laser irradiation (808 nm, 1 W cm⁻², 10 min). Body weights and tumor volumes were then measured every other day. After 2 weeks, all dissected tumors and main organs were gathered for further H&E and TUNEL staining analysis.

ASSOCIATED CONTENT

1 Supporting Information

The Supporting Information is available free of charge at https://pubs.acs.org/doi/10.1021/acsnano.2c12270.

Materials and chemicals; basic characterizations; synthesis of PEG-epoxide; preparations of all solutions; ToF- SIMS measurements; calculation of PCE; stability of CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG/AS1411; in vivo biocompatibility study of CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG/AS1411; blood serum analysis; immunohistochemical analyses; statistical analysis; FE-SEM, TEM image, and corresponding EDS element maps of the CoPc-TA complex and CoPc-Mn; FE-SEM, TEM image, and corresponding EDS element maps of $Ti_3C_2T_x$ NSs; FE-SEM images of CoPc-Mn/ Ti₃C₂T_x and CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG; FE-SEM images of CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG/AS1411; AFM images of samples; ToF-SIMS depth profiles of CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x; corresponding EXAFS fitting curves of CoPc-Mn/ $Ti_3C_2T_x$ in k space and q space; EXAFS fitting parameters at the Co K-edge; XRD patterns, FT-IR spectra, UV-vis absorption in DMF, fluorescence spectra, and TGA curves of catalysts; XPS survey scan spectra of catalysts and CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG/AS1411; high-resolution XPS spectra of catalysts; high-resolution XPS spectra, FT-IR spectra, and DLS of CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG/ AS1411; EPR spectra; UV-vis absorption of catalysts in water; temperature elevation curves and infrared thermal images; temperature elevation curves of CoPc-Mn/ $Ti_3C_2T_r$ -PEG with various power densities; material heating and cooling curve and the $t-(-\ln \theta)$ diagrams; photothermal conversion of all catalysts; photothermal profile of the CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x and CoPc-Mn/ Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG/AS1411; linear relationship between Ce⁴⁺ concentration and absorption intensity; ESR spectra of catalysts upon irradiation for 10 min in the presence of DMPO- \cdot O₂⁻ and DMPO- \cdot OH; photographs of O₂ generating phenomenon; degradation of MB by ·OH generated by catalysts; degradation curve of DPBF by catalysts; apparent rate constants of DPBF photodegradation against catalysts; metal ion release profiles of CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG at different pH values; cell viabilities of L929 cells incubated with catalysts; timedependent cellular uptake of CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG/ AS1411 in B16 cells; blood routine and liver and kidney functions indexes of mice after intravenous injection of CoPc-Mn/Ti₃C₂T_x-PEG/AS1411; TUNEL staining images of tumor tissues (PDF)

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Notes

The authors declare no competing financial interest.

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