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### **Supporting Information**

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### **Supporting Information**

for

Tubulin Photoaffinity Labeling by Biotin-Tagged Derivatives of Potent Diketopiperazine Anti-Microtubule Agents

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#### 1. Superimposition study

The superimposition study was performed using the three-dimensional (3D) structures of colchicine and NPI-2358, which were obtained from the crystallographic data of tubulin-colchicine complex (PDB ID, 1SA0) and the in-house X-ray crystallographic data of NPI-2358, respectively, using the Molecular Operating Environment modeling package (MOE 2006.08, Chemical Computing Group, Inc., Montreal, Canada) with MMFF94x force field. Both structures were superimposed at the phenyl ring of colchicine and the diketopiperazine ring of NPI-2358, and were energy minimized each other for several times. As shown in Figure S1, no favorable superimposition between NPI-2358 and colchicine was observed.



Figure S1. Superimposition study of colchicine and NPI-2358.

#### 2. Tubulin polymerization assay.

Various concentrations of drugs were mixed with MAP-rich tubulin (2 mg/mL) at 0 °C and incubated at 37 °C. Changes in turbidity were monitored at 340 nm.



Figure S2. Tubulin polymerization assay of NPI-2358 and compound 3 (KPU-244-B1).



Figure S3. Tubulin polymerization assay of compound 4 (KPU-244-B2) and compound 5.

#### 3. Tubulin binding assay based on the fluorescence quenching

For tubulin binding assay, tubulin (800  $\mu$ L, 0.5  $\mu$ M) in MES buffer (0.1 M MES, 0.5 mM MgCl<sub>2</sub>, 1 mM EGTA, 1 mM GTP, pH 6.8) was incubated with different concentration of the test compounds (0–20  $\mu$ M, 1 % DMSO) at 37 °C for 1 h. After incubation, the fluorescence of each solution was measured (excitation 295 nm, emission 300–450 nm) by FP-750 Spectrofluorometer (JASCO). The fluorescence of all samples was corrected for inner filter effects. The concentration of tubulin–compound complex were estimated from the decreased fluorescence intensity at 355 nm, and the dissociation constant between tubulin and compounds were calculated using the following binding equation of Langmuir model.

$$\Delta FL = \theta \cdot C_{t}$$

$$C_{b} = 0.5 \cdot [(C_{t} + n \cdot P_{t} + K_{d}) - \{(C_{t} - n \cdot P_{t} - K_{d})^{2} + 4 \cdot K_{d} \cdot C_{t}\}^{1/2}]$$

 $\Delta$ FL; The decreased fluorescence intensity of tubulin, C<sub>b</sub>; The concentration of tubulin-compound complex (µM),  $\theta$ ; The molar fluorescence intensity of tubulin (arbitrary unit/µM/cm), C<sub>t</sub>; The total concentration of compounds (µM), P<sub>t</sub>; The total concentration of tubuin (µM), *n*; The number of binding sites, *K*<sub>d</sub>; The dissociation constant (µM).



NPI-2358 (KPU-2), 1



Figure S4. Binding assay of compound 1 (NPI-2358/KPU-2) with tubulin at 37 °C.



Figure S5. Binding assay of compound 2 (KPU-244) with tubulin at 37°C.



Figure S6. Binding assay of compound 4 (KPU-244-B2) with tubulin at 37°C.



Figure S7. Binding assay of colchicine with tubulin at 37°C.



Figure S8. Binding assay of compound 5 with tubulin at 37°C.

#### 4. Synthesis of photoaffinity negative control compound 5



**Scheme S1.** Synthesis of compound **5** a) MeONMe•HCl, EDC•HCl, Et<sub>3</sub>N, DMF, RT, 73%; b) *n*-BuLi, 4-*N*-Boc-aminomethylbromobenzene **8**, Et<sub>2</sub>O-THF, -78 °C, 34%; c) 4 M HCl-dioxane, RT; d) *EZ*-Link<sup>™</sup>NHS-LC-LC-Biotin, Et<sub>3</sub>N, DMF, rt, then HPLC purification 25% in 2 steps.

*N*-methoxy-*N*-methylbenzamide 19: To a solution of benzoic acid 18 (1.0 g, 8.19 mmol) in DMF (80 mL) was added *N*,*O*-dimethylhydroxylamine hydrochloride (838.6 mg, 8.60 mmol), Et<sub>3</sub>N (1.6 mL, 11.5 mmol) and EDC· HCl (1.65 g, 8.60 mmol). After the mixture was stirred for 3 h at room temperature, the solvent was removed in vacuo and the residue was dissolved in EtOAc, washed with 10% citric acid, 5% NaHCO<sub>3</sub> and saturated NaCl, dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, Then the solvent was removed to give a colorless oil of compound 19; (1.0 g, 73%); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)% 3.36 (s, 3H), 3.58 (s, 3H), 7.36-7.45 (m, 3H), 7.67 (m, 2H) ; HRMS (EI) : *m/z* 165.0791 (M<sup>+</sup>) (calcd for C<sub>9</sub>H<sub>11</sub>NO<sub>2</sub>: 165.0790).

*tert*-Buthyl 4(3-cyanobenzoyl)benzylcarbamate 20: To a solution of 4-*N*-Bocaminomethylbromobenzene 8 (611 mg, 2.13 mmol) in anhydrous ether (6 mL) was added dropwise *n*-BuLi (1.58 M solution in *n*-hexane, 3.4 mL, 4.27 mmol) at 0 °C under Ar atmosphere. After the mixture was stirred for 1 h at the same temperature, the mixture was slowly added to a solution of compound **19** (288.5 mg, 2.13 mmol) in THF (6 mL) at -78 °C under Ar atmosphere, then cooling bath was removed and the reaction mixture was stirred for overnight at room temperature. The solution was poured into ice-cold 1 M HCI (30 mL), neutralized with a powder of NaHCO<sub>3</sub> and the organic phased was extracted with AcOEt, washed with brine, and dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. Then the solvent was removed under reduced pressure and the resulting brown oil was purified by silica-gel column chromatography (*n*-hexane / EtOAc = 4:1) to yield benzophenone derivative **20** as a white solid (224 mg, 34%); mp 127-130 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  1.47 (s, 9H), 4.42 (d, 2H, *J* = 6.0 Hz), 4.94 (br s, 1H), 7.39 (d, 2H, *J* = 8.3 Hz), 7.48 (t, 2H, *J* = 7.3 Hz), 7.59 (m, 1H), 7.78 (m, 4H); HRMS (EI): *m*/*z* 311.1518 (M<sup>+</sup>) (calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>21</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>: 311.1521).

4-N-(D-biotinylaminohexanoylaminohexanoyl)aminometylbenzophenone 5: For Boc-deprotecton, compound 20 (5.6 mg, 0.018 mmol) was dissolved in 4 M HCl / dioxane (0.7 mL), stirred at room temperature for 1 h. After the soluvent was removed by evaporation, the residue was washed with ether trice. To a solution of this residue in DMF (1 mL) were added EZ-Link™NHS-LC-LC-Biotin (PIERCE) (3.4 mg, 0.006 mmol) and Et<sub>3</sub>N (2.5 µL, 0.018 mmol) in turn, and the mixture was stirred at room temperature for 11 h. After the solvent was removed by evaporation in vacuo, the residue was extracted with AcOEt, washed with 10% citric acid, 5% NaHCO<sub>3</sub> and saturated NaCl, and dried over anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. Then the solvent was concentrated in vacuo and the resultant residue was purified by preparative HPLC (with a linear gradient of 20-100% CH<sub>3</sub>CN in 0.1% aqueous TFA over 40 min) to give a white powder (1.0 mg, 25%); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  1.16-1.64 (m, 18H), 2.02 (q, 4H, J = 7.1 Hz), 2.16 (t, 2H, J = 7.5 Hz), 2.57 (d, 1H, J = 12.4 Hz), 2.81 (dd, 1H, J = 5.2, 12.4 Hz), 3.00 (quintet, 5H, J = 6.4 Hz), 3.06-3.11 (m, 1H), 4.12 (dd, 1H, J = 4.4, 7.6 Hz), 4.30 (dd, 1H, J = 4.4, 7.6 Hz), 4.36 (d, 2H, J = 6.0 Hz), 6.35 (br, 1H), 6.40 (br s, 1H), 7.41 (d, 2H, J = 8.6 Hz), 7.56 (t, 2H, J = 7.5 Hz), 7.68-7.74 (m, 7H), 8.42 (t, 1H, J =6.0 Hz); HRMS (FAB) : m/z 664.3530 (M+H<sup>+</sup>) (calcd for C<sub>36</sub>H<sub>49</sub>N<sub>5</sub>O<sub>5</sub>S: 663.3454).













































D-2500 00/25/00 04:19 METHOD: TAG: 24 CH: 1 FILE: 1 CALC-METHOD: AREA% TABLE: 0 CONC: AREA NO. RT AREA CONC BC 1 28.80 354198 100.000 BB TOTAL 354198 100.000 PEAK REJ : 50000







D-2500 00/20/00 00:36 METHOD: THG: 19 CH: 1 FILE: 1 CALC-METHOD: AREA% TABLE: 0 CONC: AREA NO. RT AREA CONC BC 1 28.32 441569 100.000 BB TOTAL PEAK REJ : 20000



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