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Solid phase radiosynthesis of an olaparib derivative using 4-[¹⁸F]fluorobenzoic acid and in vivo evaluation in breast and prostate cancer xenograft models for PARP-1 expression

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Abstract

Introduction: Solid-phase synthesis and conjugation reactions of acids and amines using coupling reagents are common in organic synthesis, but rare in ¹⁸F radiochemistry. 4-[¹⁸F]Fluorobenzoic acid (FBA) is a useful building block, but is seldom used directly with coupling reagents for the preparation of ¹⁸F radiopharmaceuticals. To overcome the inconveniences associated with using [¹⁸F]FBA in conjugation reactions, we have developed a non-covalent solid-phase synthesis (SPS) strategy for the radiosynthesis of [¹⁸F]PARPi, a derivative of olaparib as a Poly (ADP-ribose) polymerase-1 (PARP-1) radioligand.

Methods: Fluoro-, bromo- and iodo-benzoic derivatives of olaparib were synthesized, and their PARP-1 affinities were measured using a recently developed cell culture-based competitive assay. To produce [¹⁸F]PARPi, [¹⁸F]FBA was radiosynthesized and purified using a cation-exchange cartridge, and then trapped by an anion-exchange resin cartridge, on which the solid-phase radiosynthesis was carried out to produce the desired product. [¹⁸F]PARPi was evaluated *in vivo* in breast and prostate xenograft tumor models by microPET imaging, biodistribution and autoradiography.

Results: The best derivatives of olaparib were identified as compound **4**, **7** and **8**. [¹⁸F]**4** ([¹⁸F]PARPi) was radiosynthesized in high radiochemical yield, high molar activity and high radiochemical purity using this SPS strategy. The *in vivo* evaluation of [¹⁸F]PARPi demonstrates the PARP-1 specific uptake of [¹⁸F]PARPi in the animal models.

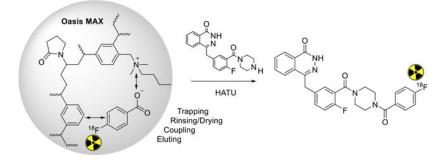
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Conclusions: This method is simple and efficient, having great potential for the synthesis of radiopharmaceuticals starting from [¹⁸F]FBA or other radiolabeled aromatic acids. Using [¹⁸F]PARPi prepared by this method, we demonstrated the promise of [¹⁸F]PARPi in the nuclear imaging of PARP-1 expression.

Graphical Abstract



Keywords

Solid phase radiosynthesis; 4-[¹⁸F]fluorobenzoic acid; PARP-1; PET imaging; olaparib

1. Introduction.

Solid-phase synthesis and conjugation reactions of acids and amines using coupling reagents are common in organic synthesis but very rare in ¹⁸F radiosynthesis [1–3]. 4-[¹⁸F]Fluorobenzoic acid ([¹⁸F]FBA) is a useful building block, commonly used as the active ester, *N*-succinimidyl 4-[¹⁸F]fluorobenzoate ([¹⁸F]SFB), which is generated from ([¹⁸F]FBA). The direct use of [¹⁸F]FBA is challenging because (a) basic conditions are required for the nucleophilic substitution reaction of [¹⁸F]fluoride; (b) strongly basic or acidic conditions are needed for the deprotection of the ester intermediates of [¹⁸F]FBA; and (c) side-products may interfere with the conjugation reactions. Recently, the direct use of [¹⁸F]FBA after labeling and deprotection was reported in the preparation of [¹⁸F]PARPi, a derivative of olaparib, for nuclear imaging of Poly (ADP-ribose) polymerase-1 (PARP-1) expression in tumors [4].

Poly (ADP-ribose) polymerase-1 (PARP-1) is an enzyme that plays a major role in repairing single-stranded DNA breaks and has been actively pursued as a therapeutic target for cancers [5] that are deficient in certain DNA repair mechanisms and thus depend on PARP-1 activity for survival [6] by inducing synthetic lethality. Olaparib, along with other PARP-1 inhibitors, has been approved by the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to treat certain cancers. Because of the important roles of PARP-1 in cancer treatment, several PARP-1 positron emission tomography (PET) imaging agents have been reported [7]. Among these, [¹⁸F]FluorThanatrace ([¹⁸F]FTT) [8] and [¹⁸F]PARPi [9] are undergoing clinical trials. The reported method for the radiosynthesis of [¹⁸F]PARPi uses a small amount of acid and base in a small volume of water, and then large quantities of the coupling reagent to overcome the challenges in the conjugation reaction in this aqueous medium. The result is satisfying but automation of the production is difficult. A one-pot

labeling of [¹⁸F]PARPi is also reported, but with low radiochemical yields [10]. In this paper, we report the conjugation reaction of [¹⁸F]FBA on a solid-support for the rapid and convenient preparation of [¹⁸F]PARPi, and the evaluation of ([¹⁸F]PARPi for imaging PARP-1 expression in breast and prostate cancer xenograft models.

2. Method and General Information

2.1. General Information

All chemicals were obtained from standard commercial sources and used without further purification. All reactions were carried out by standard air-free and moisture-free techniques under an inert atmosphere with dry solvents unless otherwise stated. No-carrier added [¹⁸F]fluoride was produced by ¹⁸O(p, n)¹⁸F reaction through proton irradiation of ¹⁸O-enriched water (95%) using a RDS111 cyclotron. High performance liquid chromatography (HPLC) SpectraSYSTEM P4000 (Thermo Fisher Scientific, Waltham, MA, USA) was performed with an ultraviolet detector and a well-scintillation NaI (Tl) detector and associated electronics for radioactivity detection. Radio-TLC was accomplished using a Bioscan AR-2000 imaging scanner (Bioscan, Inc., Washington, DC, USA). Published methods were used for the synthesis of compound **1** [11], **3** and **4** and its derivatives **5**, **6**, **7**, **8**, and **9** [12]. All animal experiments were conducted under Washington University Animal Studies Committee IACUC-approved protocols in accordance with the recommendations of the National Research Council's "Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals".

2.2. Radiosynthesis of [¹⁸F]4 ([¹⁸F]PARPi)

^{[18}F]Fluoride (1.85 GBq) in ^{[18}O]water was dried azeotropically in the presence of potassium carbonate (1 mg, 7.25 µmol) and kryptofix 222 (5.6 mg, 14.9 µmol) using typical drying protocol (3 × 1 mL acetonitrile/nitrogen/105 °C). Into the dried residue was added the labeling precursor 1 (3.5 mg, 9.8 µmol) in DMSO (300 µL) and heated at 83 °C for 6 min. For deprotection, 1N NaOH (100 µL) was added and the mixture was heated at 105 °C for 5 min. At room temperature, the mixture was neutralized with water (9 mL) and 1N HCl (125 μ L), and then loaded onto a Waters MCX cartridge (6 cc), pretreated with methanol (10 mL) and water (10 mL). The cartridge was rinsed with water (20 mL), and then the radioactivity was eluted sequentially with methanol (4 mL) and water (20 mL). The eluted radioactivity was diluted with water to 40 mL, and loaded onto an MAX cartridge, which was prepared by repacking Waters Oasis MAX resin (200 mg from a 500 mg cartridge (cat# 186000865)) in a 3cc empty cartridge and treating the cartridge sequentially with methanol (9 mL), 0.5 N HCL (9 mL) and water (9 mL). The cartridge was rinsed with water (10 mL) and acetonitrile (3 mL) and dried by air (10 mL). A solution of the amine precursor 3 (2.5 mg, 6.8 µmol) and DIPEA (10 μ L) in DMF (300 μ L) was mixed with a solution of HATU (2.5 mg, 6.6 μ mol) in DMF (100 µL) and loaded onto the MAX cartridge under gravity. After 10 min at room temperature, the product was eluted sequentially with acetonitrile (0.5 mL) and 0.2% TFA in water (4 mL). The eluted mixture was injected onto an HPLC column for purification (Column: Agilent SB-C18 250 × 9.4 mm 5 µm; Mobile phase: 31 % acetonitrile/69 % water/0.1 % TFA; Flow rate: 4 mL/min; UV: 254 nm). The radioactivity corresponding to ¹⁸F]**4** was collected at 25–27 min and diluted with water to 40 mL. The solution was passed through a Waters HLB light cartridge. After the cartridge was rinsed with water (10 mL) to

remove residual solvent, the radioactivity was eluted with ethanol in portions (0.2 mL per portion). The final dose was prepared in 10 % ethanol in saline. The molar activity and the radiochemical purity were both determined by analytical radio-HPLC (Column: Altima C18 $250 \times 4.6 \text{ mm } 10 \mu\text{m}$; Mobile phase: 40 % acetonitrile/60 % water/0.1 % TFA; Flow rate: 1.5 mL/min; UV: 254 nm), along with radio-TLC (silica gel/20 % methanol in dichloromethane) for free [¹⁸F]fluoride.

2.3. Radioactive competitive PAPR-1 affinity assay

PAPR-1 affinity assay was conducted using U251MG cell culture and using the selective PARP-1 radiotracer [³H]WC-DZ to obtain the dissociation constants (K_i values) and the pseudo-Hill coefficients (n'_H values) of the ligands as we recently published [13].

2.4. Xenograft models

Mature athymic nu/nu mice from Charles River Laboratories (Wilmington, MA, USA) are allowed to acclimate in an AALAC accredited housing facility for at least 1 week prior to tumor implantation for these imaging studies. Female nu/nu mice (7 weeks old, n = 5) were implanted in the mammary fat pads (near the axillary lymph nodes) with 8×10^6 MDA-MB-231 breast cancer cells in ~100 µL Matrigel in PBS (v/v; 1:1). Imaging studies were conducted 20–21 days post implantation. Similarly, Male nu/nu mice (7 weeks old, n = 5) were implanted subcutaneously in the right flank with 3×10^6 PC-3 prostate cancer cells. The tumors were allowed to grow for 18–19 days before the imaging studies.

2.5. MicroPET

Tumor-bearing mice (baseline n =2; blocking n = 2) were placed in an induction chamber containing ~2% isoflurane/oxygen and then secured to a custom quadruple bed for placement of tail vein catheters; anesthesia was maintained via nose-cone at ~1% isoflurane/oxygen for the dynamic imaging procedure. The mice were injected with 7.4 MBq of $[^{18}F]4$ and scanned for 60 min using Focus 220 and Inveon PET/CT scanners (Siemens, Knoxville, TN, USA). The standard uptake values (SUVs) were generated from manually drawn regions of interests for tumors and surrounding muscle and fat tissues. Visualization of specific uptake was determined by comparison of baseline scans with blocking scans where animals were pre-treated with olaparib (50 mg/kg, I.P., 5 mg/mL in 10% DMSO and 10% 2-hydroxy-propyl- β -cyclodextrin) 20 minutes before tracer administration.

2.6. Ex-vivo biodistribution and autoradiography

Biodistribution studies were also conducted to compare with microPET imaging data. At 60 min post tracer administration, the mice (baseline n = 3; blocking n = 2 for both PC-3 male and MDA-MB-231 female tumor-bearing mice) were sacrificed, and the blood, lungs, liver, spleen, kidneys, muscle, heart, brain, bone, pancreas, tumor, and fat (and prostate for male mice) were harvested, weighed, and counted in a Beckmann Gamma 8000 gamma counter (Beckman Coulter, Brea, CA, USA). The percentage of injected dose per gram of tissue (%ID/g) was determined by decay correction of the [¹⁸F]4 for each sample normalized to a standard of known weight, representing the injected dose. After radioactivity was counted, the tumors and muscles were then mounted on Superfrost Plus glass slides (Fisher Scientific,

Pittsburgh, PA, USA). Finally, autoradiography-imaging studies were performed using a Packard InstantImager (Packard Instruments, Meriden, CT, USA).

3. Results and discussion

3.1. Characterization PARP-1 potential of olaparib derivatives

The fluoro-, bromo- and iodo-benzoic derivatives of olaparib, **4** (PARPi), **5**, **6**, **7**, **8** and **9**, which are suitable for solid-phase radiolabeling, were synthesized using the conjugation reaction as reported [12](Table 1). The PARP-1 affinity of these compounds were measured using a recently developed cell-based competitive assay using [³H]WC-DZ as the radioligand [13] (Figure S1). The *K*i of fluoro-derivatives (**4** and **7**) are in the nM range, more potent than the bromo- and iodo-derivatives; The 3-substituted derivatives are more potent than the 4-substituted ones, which is consistent with the use of 3-substituted iodo-derivative (**9**) for PARP-1 targeted radiotherapy [14, 15].

3.2. Solid-phase radiosynthesis

[¹⁸F]FBA is commonly used for the preparation of ¹⁸F radiopharmaceuticals using the active ester, [¹⁸F]SFB, and great effort has been taken in the preparation of [¹⁸F]SFB to simplify the procedure, shorten the synthesis time and increase the yields[16]. However, despite the fact that [¹⁸F]SFB needs to be obtained from [¹⁸F]FBA, the reactivity of [¹⁸F]SFB is also quite low. For example, due to the obvious time constraints associated with ¹⁸F radiochemistry, heating is required for the reaction of [¹⁸F]SFB with amine **3** to form [¹⁸F]**4**. Therefore, the direct conjugation of [¹⁸F]FBA with amines using coupling reagents would be ideal, but the harsh conditions needed for the labeling reaction (acid/base and water) are not compatible with the conjugation reaction, and amine side-products from the labeling reaction. The reaction protocol reported for the preparation of [¹⁸F]PARPi ([¹⁸F]**4**) (nitroprecursor, small volume of reaction, and 10 mg HBTU) are consideration of these factors [4]. A summary of the reported synthesis of [¹⁸F]**4** is presented in Table S1.

Reported here is a novel method of the radiosynthesis of [¹⁸F]**4** on solid support, with the overall sequence shown in Scheme 1. The quaternary ammonium precursor **1** was used for the radiosynthesis of [¹⁸F]FBA **2**, but before performing the coupling reaction using [¹⁸F]FBA on solid support or in solution, it proved critical to purify the [¹⁸F]FBA as obtained from the radiolabeling reaction mixture by removing any base or acid, salts, side-products and leftover precursor. As shown in Figure 1, absorption of [¹⁸F]FBA on a Waters Oasis MCX cartridge, followed by appropriate washing, can significantly remove the unwanted materials, resulting in very pure [¹⁸F]FBA (Figure S2) that can be eluted from the cartridge with methanol. Once diluted with water, [¹⁸F]FBA can then be extracted by passage of the water-methanol solution through a Waters Oasis MAX cartridge, which retains [¹⁸F]FBA using both lipophilic and ionic interactions. Once trapped, strong ionic interactions keeps [¹⁸F]FBA retained on the MAX cartridge, even during rinsing with acetonitrile, a convenient process for removal of water, which would interfere with the coupling reagents used for the conjugation reaction (Figure 1). The MAX resin was pre-treated with 0.5 N HCl to reduce the strong basicity of the resin (hydroxide as counter ion)

to weak basicity (chloride as counter ion), a step that is essential for the success of the conjugation reaction on the MAX resin.

The void volume of the cartridge with the retained [¹⁸F]FBA is about 0.5 mL, so amine **3** and HATU in 0.5 mL DMF were loaded onto the cartridge, completely saturating the resin volume and immersing it fully in the reaction solution. After 10 min at room temperature, the reaction mixture was eluted with acetonitrile and water in sequence, resulting in a solution that can be directly injected for HPLC purification (Figure S3). About 80% of the radioactivity was eluted with the desired product [¹⁸F]**4** as the major radioactive component. Starting from [¹⁸F]FBA, the decay corrected radiochemical conversion (RCC) of HPLC purified [¹⁸F]**4** is 77.3 ± 1.5 % (n =3). The molar activity (Am) of [¹⁸F]**4** at the end of synthesis is 49.0 ± 15.4 GBq/ µmol (1325 ± 416 mCi/µmol), which is in the range of Ams that we normally obtained. [¹⁸F]**4** was confirmed by co-injection with authentic compound **4** on an analytical HPLC (Figure S4), and the radiochemical purity is >99%. The animal dose was formulated in 10% ethanol/saline.

Before concluding this section on radiosynthesis, it is worth noting that non-covalent solid-phase synthesis is a form of solid-phase synthesis whereby the organic substrate is retained on the solid phase by noncovalent interactions (such as lipophilic retention and ionic retention). In fact, the copper(I)-catalyzed alkyne-azide cycloaddition (CuAAC) "click" radiosynthesis in an Oasis HLB cartridge was reported by us previously[17]. The conjugation reaction of [¹⁸F]FBA using a coupling reagent on the MAX cartridge also falls in the same category. This cartridge is stable in organic solvents. So, once the conjugation reaction is complete, the product becomes neutral and can be readily extracted from the resin with organic solvents, while prior to the coupling step, the anionic [¹⁸F]FBA remained firmly bound by ionic interactions with the resin material.

3.3. In vivo evaluation of [¹⁸F]4 for imaging PARP-1 expression in breast and prostate xenograft tumor models

Both in vitro and in vivo studies of [¹⁸F]**4** by others have demonstrated its potential for PET imaging of PARP-1 expression in several cancers [4, 18], but not as yet in breast and prostate cancers. We previously reported on the use of the MDA-MB-231 tumor model [19] and PC-3 prostate tumor model [20] for the initial validation of [¹⁸F]FTT and [¹⁸F]WC-DZ-F, respectively, as PARP-1 PET tracers. Herein, we used both tumor models to validate [¹⁸F]**4** that has been made by this novel solid-phase method. MDA-MB-231 human breast cancer has low PARP-1 expression. Nevertheless, its xenograft tumors in nu/nu female mice were clearly visualized by microPET using [¹⁸F]**4** (Figure 2). These MDA-MB-231 tumors demonstrated increased uptake (SUV of 0.46 at 60 min) that was clearly distinguishable from background. Blocking studies with olaparib (50 mg/kg i.p., 20 min prior to tracer injection) resulted in decreased uptake of [¹⁸F]**4** by the tumors down to background tissue activity levels.

Previously We have demonstrated the PARP-1 specific uptake of $[^{18}F]4$ and $[^{18}F]FTT$ in PC-3 cell uptake assay [20]. In the microPET imaging study of PC-3 xenograft tumors using $[^{18}F]4$, it is difficult to distinguish the tumors from the gut because the tumors were implanted very close to the gut, which has high activity due to nearby fecal material (Figure

2). However, the post-PET biodistribution of $[^{18}F]$ **4 in** the PC-3 tumor-bearing mice and autoradiography of the tumors and muscles from these animals were carried out to evaluate the imaging potential of $[^{18}F]$ **4** for prostate cancer.

The tracer biodistribution of [¹⁸F]4 in MDA-MB-231 and PC-3 bearing mice post imaging (60 min post-injection) is shown in Figure 3 and Table S2. $[^{18}F]4$ showed high similarity in biodistribution in male and female mice. The highest uptake of [¹⁸F]4 was observed in liver and spleen, followed by pancreas. The uptake in liver was barely blocked by olaparib (50 mg/Kg, i.p.); however, uptake in spleen and pancreas were completely blocked by olaparib. Low uptake was observed in blood, muscle, heart, and fat in both groups, indicating no-PARP-1-mediated uptake and rapid wash-out. The fast clearance from non-target tissues/ organs results in high tumor/muscle ratios, the favorable tracer property for PET imaging. The brain uptake of $[^{18}F]4$ at 60 min post-injection is only 0.039 ± 0.001 %ID/g in female mice and 0.040 ± 0.004 %ID/g in male mice. In general, PARP-1 inhibitors are substrates of P-glycoprotein (PgP), which prevent them from crossing a functional blood-brain barrier (BBB) [21]. The significant uptake $[^{18}F]4$ in the bone (about 1 %ID/g) should not be due to the defluorination of the tracer, but to the expression of PARP-1 in the bone since the uptake is blockable by olaparib. Actually, the same uptake and blockage of $[^{18}F]4$ in the bone was previously reported in healthy nude mice [18]. The uptake in MDA-MB-231 tumors is 1.43 ± 0.19 %ID/g and was blocked by olaparib down to background tissue activity levels $(0.32 \pm 0.05 \text{ \% ID/g})$. The uptake in PC-3 tumors is $1.10 \pm 0.11 \text{ \% ID/g}$ with low blockage (0.55 ± 0.26 % ID/g), but the uptake in prostate is similar. However, since n = 2 in the blocking group, more studies are needed to see whether the difference is statistically significant between them. The uptake in MDA-MB-231 and PC-3 tumors and muscles is further showed in the autoradiograph of tumors and muscles as shown in Figure 4. Higher uptake in MDA-MB-231 than in PC-3 tumors was observed, and the uptake could be blocked down as far as background muscle level, which is low. The biodistribution data in both animal models are in agreement with that reported by others [4, 18], indicating the promise of [¹⁸F]4 as a PET tracer for imaging PARP-1 expression in breast and prostate cancers.

3.4. Potential application of solid phase radiosynthesis of other olaparib derivatives

Radiohalogen-labeled olaparib derivatives have great potential for PET imaging (¹⁸F, ⁷⁶Br and ¹²⁴I) and targeted radiotherapy (⁷⁷Br, ¹²³I, ¹³¹I and²²¹At). Other than [¹⁸F]**4**, several radiohalogen-labeled olaparib derivatives have been reported using different radiolabeling methods. For example, compound **5** and **6** have been labeled directly with ⁷⁷Br and ¹²⁵I respectively, using the copper-mediated nucleophilic radiohalogenation in very high yields and under mild conditions [22, 23]; Besides being labeled with ¹²⁴I and ¹³¹I [24] using the *N*-hydroxysuccinimide (NHS) ester intermediates, compound **6** has been labeled with ¹²³I using a solid state halogen exchange radioiodination methodology [12]; Compound **9** has been labeled with ¹²³I and ¹³¹I for targeted radiotherapy [14, 15] using a multiple-step procedure (including radiosynthesis of an NHS ester, HPLC purification and conjugation). The solid phase radiosynthesis described above may provide a simple and feasible method to label olaparib derivatives, especially for ¹⁸F-labeled derivatives **3** and **4**, which currently lack an efficient labeling method. However, this multiple-step solid-phase strategy is inferior

to the aforementioned copper-mediated radiohalogenation for radiolabeling with other radiohalogens due to their longer half-lives and different radiation safety issues. The use of this method on other radiolabeled aromatic acids, especially for ¹⁸F-labeled ones appears to be promising and worth further investigation because this method can avoid a harsh radiolabeling condition (e.g. copper-mediated radiofluorination) for some labile moieties. Finally, because of the limitation of this method (non-homogenous reaction, 0.5 mL volume, 1 : 1 ratio of coupling agent vs amine), this method should have limited application in the radiolabeling of biomolecules.

4. Conclusion

Solid Phase radiosynthesis of [¹⁸F]PARPi ([¹⁸F]**4**) from [¹⁸F]FBA on anion-exchange resins is a simple and efficient method, which is compatible with automated synthesis modules. This method has great potential in the radiosynthesis of radiopharmaceuticals starting from [¹⁸F]FBA or other ¹⁸F and radiobromine/radioiodine labeled aromatic acids. The preclinical evaluation of [¹⁸F]PARPi ([¹⁸F]**4**), prepared by this method, demonstrated the promise of using [¹⁸F]PARPi ([¹⁸F]**4**) for PET imaging of PARP-1 expression in breast and prostate cancers.

Supplementary Material

Refer to Web version on PubMed Central for supplementary material.

Acknowledgement

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Data Statement

The data supporting the findings of this article are available within the article and its supplementary materials.

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Highlights

• Solid-phase radiosynthesis (SPRS) was carried out using ion exchange resins.

- Several benzoic derivatives of olaparib show high potent for PARP-1.
- [¹⁸F]PARPi was radiosynthesized efficiently via SPRS using [¹⁸F]FBA.
- [¹⁸F]PARPi has promise for imaging PARP-1 expression in animal models.



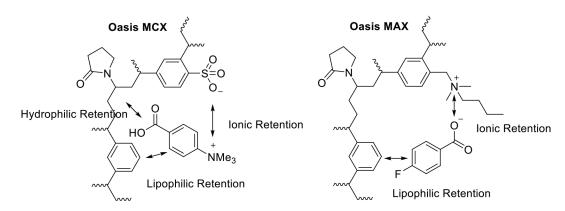


Figure 1.

Structures of Waters Oasis MCX and MAX resins and their interactions with substrates during the purification step and the coupling step, respectively. The anionic Oasis MCX retains the major by-product (4-carboxy-N, N, N-trimethylbenzenaminium salt) while allows the elution of [¹⁸F]FBA from the MCX resin by an organic solvent. The cationic Oasis MAX retains [¹⁸F]FBA on the MAX resin while allows the resin to be dried by rinsing with acetonitrile before the coupling reaction.

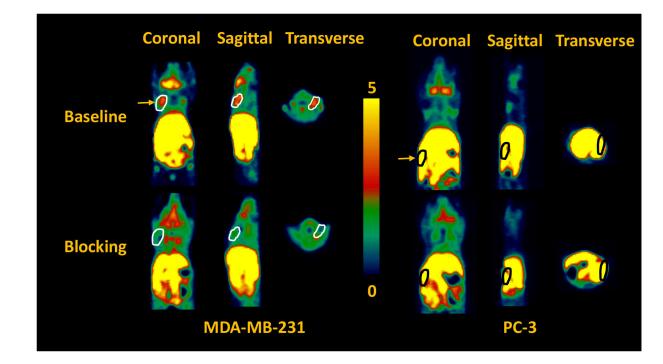
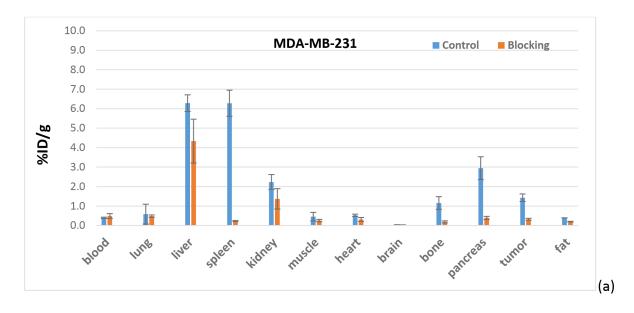


Figure 2.

Representative microPET images of baseline (top panel) and blocking (bottom panel) studies (summed from 0 to 60 min) of $[^{18}F]$ **4** in a female (left panel) and a male (right panle) athymic NCR Nu/Nu mouse subcutaneously implanted with MDA-MB-231 and PC-3 xenografts, respectively. The pseudo-color scale bar displays the relative SUV values and the tumors are circled and indicated by the yellow arrow. The MDA-MB-231 tumor uptake of $[^{18}F]$ **4** is high and can be blocked by olaparib (50 mg/kg i.p., 20 min pre-treatment). The gut overwhelms PC-3 tumor uptake signals. The liver, stomach, intestine and colon had the highest radioactivity, SUV>4.



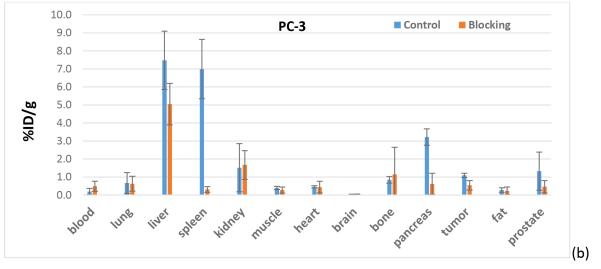


Figure 3.

Post-PET biodistribution of $[^{18}F]$ **4** in (a) MDA-MB-231 in female mice and (b) PC-3 in male mice (n = 3 in control group and n = 2 in blocking group, blocked by olaparib (50 mg/Kg, i.p.)

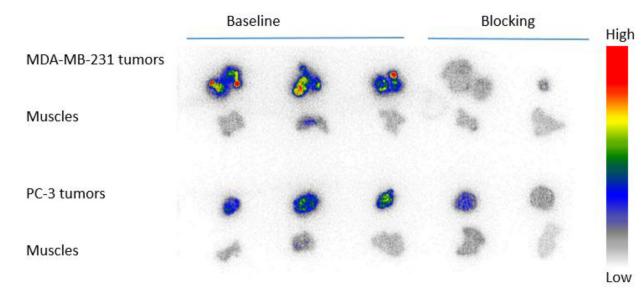
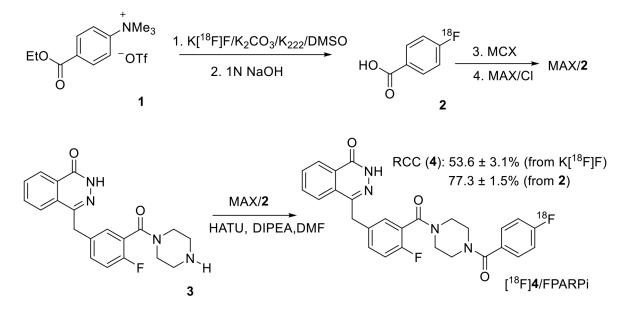


Figure 4.

Autoradiography imaging of [¹⁸F]**4** in MDA-MB-231 and PC-3 tumors collected after microPET imaging studies.



Scheme 1.

Radiosynthesis of $[^{18}F]$ **4** by coupling of $[^{18}F]$ FBA **2** with **3** on an Oasis MAX cartridge (line 2) after radiofluorination of precursor **1** to produce **2** and purification of **2** on an Oasis MCX cartridge.

Table 1.

Position: 4, 3 (4) (5) (6) (7) (8) (9) H X: NH Br I O 0 Coupling ŃН 5 6 7 8 9 Compound 4 5.74 ± 0.48 18.97 ± 4.21 39.18 ± 8.99 2.92 ± 0.22 5.30 ± 0.19 12.16 ± 0.89 $K_{i}(nM)^{a}$ $n'_{\rm H}{}^b$ 0.90 ± 0.11 0.74 ± 0.06 0.89 ± 0.05 1.00 ± 0.34 1.08 ± 0.09 1.03 ± 0.14

Summary of PARP-1 affinities of olaparib derivatives

Note:

 $^{a.}$ Competitive binding for inhibition of the [3 H]WC-DZ binding to PARP-1 in glioblastoma cells (U251MG)

^{b.}Pseudo Hill coefficient ($n'_{\rm H}$ values). Data are from three independent determinations, samples in triplicate. Mean \pm SEM.