

# Discovery of a First-in-Class Degrader for the Lipid Kinase PIKfyve

Chungen Li, Vuanyuan Qiao, Xia Jiang, Lianchao Liu, Yang Zheng, Yudi Qiu, Caleb Cheng, Fengtao Zhou, Yang Zhou, Weixue Huang, Xiaomei Ren, Yuzhuo Wang, Zhen Wang,\* Arul M. Chinnaiyan,\* and Ke Ding\*



Here, we report the discovery of a first-in-class PIKfyve degrader 12d (PIK5-12d) by employing the proteolysis-targeting chimera approach. PIK5-12d potently degraded PIKfyve protein with a  $DC_{50}$  value of 1.48 nM and a  $D_{max}$  value of 97.7% in prostate cancer VCaP cells. Mechanistic studies revealed that it selectively



induced PIKfyve degradation in a VHL- and proteasome-dependent manner. PIKfyve degradation by PIK5-12d caused massive cytoplasmic vacuolization and blocked autophagic flux in multiple prostate cancer cell lines. Importantly, PIK5-12d was more effective in suppressing the growth of prostate cancer cells than the parent inhibitor and exerted prolonged inhibition of downstream signaling. Further, intraperitoneal administration of PIK5-12d exhibited potent PIKfyve degradation and suppressed tumor proliferation in vivo. Overall, PIK5-12d is a valuable chemical tool for exploring PIKfyve-based targeted therapy.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

PIKfyve is a phosphoinositide kinase that is characterized by the presence of a FYVE finger-containing domain structure. As a lipid kinase, PIKfyve phosphorylates phosphatidylinositol-3-phosphate (PI(3)P) to produce phosphatidylinositol-3,5bisphosphate  $(PI(3,5)P_2)$ , which is crucial to maintain endomembrane homeostasis.<sup>2</sup> PIKfyve plays a critical role in regulating membrane homeostasis, endosomal trafficking, and autophagy in the endosomal and lysosomal system.<sup>3-6</sup> Accumulating evidence suggests that PIKfyve is a potential therapeutic target for various human cancers.<sup>7-9</sup> For example, shRNA knockdown of PIKfyve induced cytoplasmic vacuolization in dividing cells and suppressed cell proliferation.<sup>10</sup> Apilimod (1, Figure 1), a potent and highly selective PIKfyve inhibitor, effectively inhibited the proliferation of B-cell non-Hodgkin lymphoma cells.<sup>11</sup> Our previous work also demonstrated that the inhibition of PIKfyve could suppress autophagy and potentiate response to immune checkpoint blockade in prostate cancer.<sup>1</sup>





Several selective small-molecule inhibitors of PIKfyve have been disclosed and YM201636 (2) and 1 were the most wellcharacterized examples (Figure 1).<sup>11,13</sup> Compound 2, an initially discovered PIKfyve inhibitor, potently inhibited the kinase activity with an IC<sub>50</sub> value of 33 nM and was selective over several other lipid kinase family members.<sup>13-15</sup> Compound 1, as mentioned above, was another smallmolecule PIKfyve inhibitor with both good kinase inhibitory activity (IC<sub>50</sub> = 14 nM) and high kinome selectivity.<sup>11</sup> Compound 1 has been advanced into clinical trials for the treatment of lymphoma, autoimmune diseases, neurodegenerative diseases, and COVID-19 disease.<sup>11,16-19</sup> However, due to compound stability issues in vivo, the effects in clinical trials have been limited. Therefore, the discovery of new PIKfyve modulators is highly desirable and thus we explored the potential of PIKfyve-based targeted therapy.

Proteolysis targeting chimera (PROTAC), a heterobifunctional molecule recruiting protein-of-interest (POI) to the E3 ligase and inducing POI degradation by the ubiquitinproteasome system (UPS), has become a novel paradigm for drug discovery.<sup>20</sup> The POI degradation mediated by PROTACs is a catalytic and event-driven process, which is

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Figure 2. Design of PIKfyve PROTACs. (A) Docking model of compound 1 with PIKfyve protein (PDB: 7K2V); (B) chemical structures of compound 1 and the designed PIKfyve PROTACs.

Scheme 1. Synthesis of Compounds 7a-7j<sup>a</sup>



"Reagents and conditions: (a) *tert*-butyl-*N*-(2-hydroxyethyl)carbamate, NaH, N, N-dimethylformamide (DMF), 0 °C, and 8 h; (b) hydrazine hydrate, 1,4-dioxane, 90 °C, and 12 h; (c) *m*-tolualdehyde, acetic acid (AcOH), ethyl alcohol (EtOH), reflux, and 6 h; (d) (i) trifluoroacetic acid (TFA), dichloromethane (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>), rt., and 3 h; (ii) 2-(7-azabenzotriazol-1-yl)-N', N', N'-tetramethyluronium hexafluorophosphate (HATU), triethylamine (Et<sub>3</sub>N), DMF, rt., and 5 h; (iii) TFA, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, rt., and 3 h; (e) HATU, Et<sub>3</sub>N, DMF, rt., and 5 h.

Scheme 2. Synthesis of Compounds 12a-12j, 13a, and 12dN<sup>a</sup>



"Reagents and conditions: (a) *tert*-butyl-(4-(2-hydroxyethyl)phenyl)carbamate, NaH, DMF, 0 °C, and 6 h; (b) hydrazine hydrate, 1,4-dioxane, 90 °C, and 12 h; (c) *m*-tolualdehyde, AcOH, EtOH, reflux, and 6 h; (d) (i) TFA,  $CH_2Cl_2$ , rt., and 3 h; (ii) HATU,  $Et_3N$ , DMF, rt., and 5 h; (iii) TFA,  $CH_2Cl_2$ , rt., and 3 h; (e) HATU,  $Et_3N$ , DMF, rt., and 5 h.

usually more efficient than the inhibitor occupancy. Meanwhile, PROTACs can deplete both the catalytic and noncatalytic functions of the kinase, potentially outperforming kinase inhibitors.<sup>21</sup> Herein, we report the discovery of the first series of PIKfyve PROTAC degraders. The optimal compound **12d** (**PIK5-12d**) showed potent degradative activity against PIKfyve with a  $DC_{50}$  value of 1.48 nM and a  $D_{max}$  value of 97.7%, respectively, in prostate cancer VCaP cells. It also

exhibited promising PIKfyve degradative effects in vivo. Importantly, **PIK5-12d** exerted prolonged inhibition of PIKfyve downstream signaling and outperformed the parent PIKfyve inhibitor in the suppression of the growth of prostate cancer cells.

## 2. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

**2.1. Design of PIKfyve PROTAC Degraders.** We chose to utilize compound **1**, a PIKfyve inhibitor in Phase II clinical trials, as the "warhead" to develop PIKfyve PROTAC degraders. The computational modeling studies revealed that the pyridyl moiety of compound **1** extended to the solvent-exposed region (Figure 2A). The reported structure–activity relationship (SAR) studies on compound **1** also indicated that the pyridyl group was well tolerated to various substituents.<sup>22</sup> Based on these observations, a series of PIKfyve degraders were designed by tethering compound **1** to a ligand for the E3 ligase von Hippel–Lindau (VHL) via a diverse set of linkers (Figure 2B).

**2.2. Chemical Synthesis.** The synthesis of compounds 7a-7j is depicted in Scheme 1. The starting material 4-(2,6-dichloropyrimidin-4-yl)morpholine went through a regioselective nucleophilic substitution with *tert*-butyl-N-(2-hydroxyethyl)carbamate to produce compound 3, which reacted with hydrazine hydrate to give compound 4. The subsequent condensation reaction of compound 4 with *m*-tolualdehyde afforded compound 5, which was acylated by a series of linkers after the deprotection of *N*-Boc to yield key intermediates 6a-6j. Subsequent deprotection of *tert*-butyl ester of compounds 6a-6j and a further amide coupling reaction with the classical VHL ligand produced final compounds 7a-7j.

Compounds 12a-12j, 13a, and 12dN were synthesized by the same reactions and conditions used in the synthesis of compounds 7a-7j (Scheme 2). The major difference was that intermediate 8 was constructed from *tert*-butyl-(4-(2hydroxyethyl)phenyl) carbamate instead of *tert*-butyl-N-(2hydroxyethyl)carbamate.

2.3. Structure–Degradation Relationship Study of PIKfyve Degraders. Based on the design strategy noted above, we first obtained a set of PIKfyve degraders by connecting the VHL ligand directly to the central pyrimidine ring via linkers of different lengths (Table 1). The degradation efficiency of these degraders was assessed by immunoblotting assays in VCaP cells with high expression levels of PIKfyve.<sup>12</sup> The results showed that only compounds with longer linkers displayed good PIKfyve degradative activities. For example, compounds 7i and 7j achieved degradation rates of 72 and 67% at 0.1  $\mu$ M, respectively, for PIKfyve, while other compounds with shorter linkers were much less active. Interestingly, compounds 7i and 7j displayed decreased degradative effect on PIKfyve at 1.0  $\mu$ M, which may be due to the hook effects.<sup>23</sup>

We reasoned that although the pyridyl group of compound 1 was exposed to the solvent area, its aromatic ring structure may still contribute to its binding with PIKfyve protein. Thus, the second series of degraders were designed by connecting the VHL ligand to the phenyl ring that retained the aromatic ring character of the pyridyl group (Table 2). Investigation of the linker length revealed that compound 12d (PIK5-12d) with 4  $-CH_2-$  in the middle of the linker showed the best PIKfyve degradative activity with the degradation rates of 97 and 91% at 0.1 and 1  $\mu$ M, respectively. Interestingly, the substitution of





		% degradat	% degradation (VCaP)		
compds	linker $(n)$	$0.1 \ \mu M$	$1.0 \ \mu M$		
7a	0	0	0		
7b	1	0	0		
7c	2	0	0		
7d	3	0	10		
7e	4	3	0		
7f	5	0	51		
7g	6	30	17		
7h	7	32	31		
7i	8	72	32		
7j	9	67	21		

<sup>a</sup>Degradation efficiency was determined by immunoblotting after treatment with compounds in VCaP cells for 24 h.

Table 2. Degradation Efficiency of PIKfyve Degraders 12a-12j, 13a, and  $12dN^a$ 



				% degradation (VCaP)	
compds	$R^1$	$R^2$	linker (n)	0.1 μM	1.0 μM
12a	Н	R-hydroxy	0	0	0
12b	Н	R-hydroxy	1	0	8
12c	Н	R-hydroxy	2	0	0
12d (PIK5-12d)	Н	R-hydroxy	3	97	91
12e	Н	R-hydroxy	4	90	75
12f	Н	R-hydroxy	5	26	19
12g	Н	R-hydroxy	6	84	92
12h	Н	R-hydroxy	7	81	45
12i	Н	R-hydroxy	8	64	41
12j	Н	R-hydroxy	9	48	3
13a	S-methyl	R-hydroxy	3	47	44
12dN (PIK5-12dN)	Н	S-hydroxy	3	0	0

<sup>*a*</sup>Degradation efficiency was determined by immunoblotting after treatment with compounds in VCaP cells for 24 h.

the VHL ligand in PIK5-12d with a more potent version resulted in compound 13a with decreased activity.<sup>24</sup> We also synthesized compound 12dN (PIK5-12dN) as a negative control by using the inactive isomer of the VHL ligand,<sup>25</sup> and it turned out to have no degradative activity against PIKfyve as expected (Table 2).

2.4. Compound PIK5-12d Selectively Induced the Degradation of PIKfyve Protein in a Concentration-, Time-, VHL-, and Proteasome-Dependent Manner. PIK5-12d displayed the most potent degradative effects on



Figure 3. PIK5-12d in a concentration-dependent fashion reduced PIKfyve protein in multiple human prostate cancer cells in vitro. (A) Immunoblotting of PIKfyve and GAPDH in VCaP cells treated with increasing concentrations of PIK5-12d for 24 h (left), percent remaining PIKfyve protein was plotted for  $DC_{50}$  and  $D_{max}$  determination (right); (B) immunoblotting of PIKfyve and GAPDH in VCaP with 100 nM PIK5-12d for various timepoints (left), percent remaining PIKfyve protein was quantified (right); (C) global proteomic analysis of PIK5-12d in VCaP cells after 4 h treatment of DMSO or 300 nM PIK5-12d (left), mass-spec quantification of PIKfyve protein (middle), lipid kinase changes (right); and (D) immunoblotting of PIKfyve and GAPDH in multiple human prostate cancer cell lines with increasing concentrations of PIK5-12d for 24 h.



Figure 4. PIK5-12d mediated-PIKfyve degradation was VHL and proteasome-dependent. (A) Immunoblotting of PIKfyve and GAPDH in VCaP cells treated with increasing concentrations of 12d (PIK5-12d), 12f, or 12h in the conditions of with or without 1  $\mu$ M of proteasome inhibitor bortezomib for 24 h; (B) immunoblotting of PIKfyve and GAPDH in VCaP cells treated with increasing concentration of PIK5-12d with or without warhead 1 or VHL ligand VL285 for 24 h.

PIKfyve in the preliminary screening. To further characterize this compound, we treated VCaP cells with PIK5-12d with different concentrations for 24 h. The results showed that compound PIK5-12d dose-dependently induced PIKfyve degradation with a  $DC_{50}$  value of 1.48 nM and a  $D_{max}$  value of 97.9% (Figure 3A). The kinetics experiments revealed that PIK5-12d at a concentration of 100 nM caused fast degradation of PIKfyve protein with a  $t_{1/2}$  value of 1.5 h (Figure 3B). We further performed global proteomic analysis using tandem mass tags (TMT) labeled mass-spectrometry to unbiasedly quantify the protein change upon PIK5-12d treatment in VCaP cells. The results indicated that PIK5-12d is a very specific PIKfyve degrader with only 3 proteins significantly downregulated including PIKfyve, which accounts for the off-target rate at 2 out of 7573 detectable proteins. It is worth noting that PIK5-12d is selective for PIKfyve over other lipid kinases (Figure 3C). In addition, PIK5-12d also

effectively reduced PIKfyve in other prostate cancer PC3, LNCaP, and 22RV1 cells (Figure 3D).

We further investigated the mechanism of PIKfyve degradation by **PIK5-12d** in VCaP cells. Western blot results showed that **PIK5-12d** and its analogues (**12f** and **12h**) at 0.1 and 1  $\mu$ M can degrade PIKfyve protein to different extents, in VCaP cells after treatment for 24 h, while pretreatment with the proteasome inhibitor bortezomib completely rescued the level of PIKfyve protein (Figure 4A). In addition, both the warhead compound **1** and VHL ligand VL285 competitively blocked the PIKfyve degradation by **PIK5-12d** (Figure 4B).<sup>26</sup> These results demonstrated that **PIK5-12d** induced PIKfyve degradation in a VHL- and proteasome-dependent manner.

**2.5. PIK5-12d Induced Massive Cytoplasmic Vacuolization and Blocked Autophagy in Prostate Cancer Cells.** Previous work showed that the PIKfyve inhibition could induce cytoplasmic vacuolization and block autophagy.<sup>12</sup> Thus, we investigated the effects of PIK5-12d on these phenotypes in prostate cancer DU145 cells. The results showed that PIK5-12d has comparable vacuolization induction ability to inhibitor 1 in a dose-dependent manner in RFP-labeled DU145 cells (Figure 5A). In addition, PIK5-12d also concentrationdependently increased autophagy markers LC3A/B and p62 in different prostate cancer cell lines (Figure 5B).



Figure 5. PIK5-12d induced massive cytoplasmic vacuolization and blocked autophagy. (A) Representative images of DU145-RFP cells with treatments of DMSO, 300 nM PIK5-12d, or 1 for 24 h. The vacuole area per cell is quantified in indicated conditions; (B) immunoblotting of PIKfyve and autophagy markers in indicated human prostate cancer cells with increasing concentrations of PIK5-12d for 24 h.

2.6. PIK5-12d Decreased Prostate Cancer Cell Proliferation and Exerted Prolonged Suppression of PIKfyve Downstream Signaling. PROTACs usually have prolonged therapeutic effects due to the irreversible depletion of the target protein.<sup>27</sup> Thus, we conducted an in vitro washout experiment where VCaP cells were incubated with PIK5-12d or 1 for 24 h before compounds were removed. Cells were then cultured in compound-free media for 2 weeks. The results showed that PIK5-12d inhibited VCaP cell proliferation with an IC<sub>50</sub> of 522.3 nM, which is over twofold lower than that of compound 1 (Figure 6A). The anti-proliferative effects were significantly enhanced when VCaP cells were incubated with the compounds for 2 weeks, and PIK5-12d was found to be  $\sim$ 5 times more potent than compound 1 in this experiment. PIK5-12d also outperformed the negative control PIK5-12dN in long-term anti-proliferation assay after 4 h treatment and followed by culturing in a drug-free medium for 2 weeks (Figure 6B). We further investigated the effect of the compounds on PIKfyve and its downstream signaling using the washout approach. In the experiment, VCaP cells were incubated with PIK5-12d, PIK5-12dN, or 1 for 4 h, and compounds were then removed. Cells were further cultured in compound-free media for 72 h. It was shown that PIK5-12d significantly reduced PIKfyve and increased LC3A/B at 300 nM, while the negative control PIK5-12dN and inhibitor 1 did not show any effect on these proteins (Figure 6C). It is worth noting that the vacuolization ability triggered by PIK5-12d, negative control PIK5-12dN, and inhibitor 1 at 4 h has no

significant difference (Figure 6D). These results collectively suggested that **PIK5-12d** exerted prolonged suppression of prostate cancer cell proliferation and PIKfyve downstream signaling.

2.7. PIK5-12d Depleted PIKfyve Protein and Suppressed Tumor Proliferation In Vivo. We further performed a pharmacodynamic assessment of PIK5-12d in an LTL-331R human prostate cancer patient-derived xenograft (PDX) model. PIK5-12d was administrated by intraperitoneal (IP) injection with two doses of 4 and 10 mg/kg, respectively, for 3 days. The tumor tissues were harvested on day 4 and subjected to western blot analysis (Figure 7A). As shown in Figure 7B, PIK5-12d almost completely depleted PIKfyve protein at both doses compared to the vehicle control group, indicating its strong PIKfyve degradation efficiency in vivo. In addition, the depletion of PIKfyve protein by PIK5-12d also triggered tumor cell death (Figure 7C). Then, long-term tumor efficacy of the LTL-331R model was determined by once-daily administration of PIK5-12d at 5 days on and 2 days off regimen for 17 days. It was shown that PIK5-12d significantly suppressed tumor proliferation in vivo (Figure 7D). These results collectively suggested the promising therapeutic potential of PIKfyve degradation for prostate cancer treatment.

#### 3. CONCLUSIONS

The lipid kinase PIKfyve has been increasingly recognized as a therapeutic target for multiple types of cancer including multiple myeloma, prostate cancer, non-Hodgkin lymphoma, and other diseases such as neurodegenerative disorders and SARS-CoV-2 infection. Although a number of small-molecule inhibitors have been developed, only a few of them advanced in clinical development such as compound 1. Published data suggested that compound 1 has low plasma stability which limited its in vivo efficacy.<sup>1,11</sup> Thus, there is an urgent need for the development of other modulators to target PIKfyve.

PROTAC, as a new modulator type, has become a novel paradigm for kinase drug discovery. PROTAC often outperformed kinase inhibitors because it not only functions in a catalytic and event-driven manner but can disrupt both the enzymatic and scaffolding functions of the kinase. Here, we report the discovery of a first-in-class PIKfyve PROTAC degrader PIK5-12d. PIK5-12d effectively degraded PIKfyve with a DC<sub>50</sub> value of 1.48 nM and a  $D_{max}$  value of 97.7% in prostate cancer VCaP cells. Mechanistic studies showed that PIK5-12d induced PIKfyve degradation through the VHL- and proteasome-dependent manner. PIK5-12d also induced massive cytoplasmic vacuolization and blocked autophagy in prostate cancer cells. Importantly, PIK5-12d exerted prolonged suppression of prostate cancer cell proliferation and PIKfyve downstream signaling compared to the kinase inhibitor 1. In addition, PIK5-12d exhibited potent PIKfyve degradation effects, triggered tumor cell death, and suppressed tumor proliferation in vivo. Taken together, this study discovered a first-in-class PIKfyve degrader as the valuable tool compound for the research community and provided the proof-of-concept for the degradation of PIKfyve as a promising therapeutic approach for prostate cancer as well as other cancers.

## 4. EXPERIMENTAL SECTION

**4.1. General Methods for Chemistry.** The reagents and solvents used in chemical synthesis were obtained from



**Figure 6. PIK5-12d** decreased prostate cancer cell proliferation and exerted prolonged suppression of PIKfyve downstream signaling. (A) Longterm cell viability is visualized by crystal violet staining in VCaP either treated with **PIK5-12d** or **1** for 24 h and chased for 2 weeks, or continuous treatment for 2 weeks (top),  $IC_{50}s$  were calculated for indicated conditions (bottom); (B) long-term cell viability is determined in VCaP cells with washout in drug-free medium after 4 h treatment of **PIK5-12d** or negative control **PIK5-12dN**; and (C) immunoblotting of PIKfyve, LC3A/B, and GAPDH in whole cell lysate of VCaP cells treated with **PIK5-12d**, negative control **PIK5-12dN**, or inhibitor **1** for 4 h and chased in drug-free medium for 72 h. (D) Quantification of vacuole per cell in DU145-RFP cells for 4 h of treatment of **PIK5-12dN**, negative control **PIK5-12dN**, or inhibitor **1**.

commercial agents without further purification. All reactions were monitored by using thin-layer chromatography (TLC). All final compounds were purified by a column chromatography on silica gel (300-400 mesh). The NMR spectra were recorded on Agilent DD2 500 spectrometer (Agilent Technologies Inc., USA) or Bruker AVANCE 600 spectrometer (Bruker Company, Germany) in CDCl<sub>3</sub> or DMSO- $d_6$ . The spectra of high-resolution mass (HRMS) were monitored by Bruker MaXis 4G TOF mass spectrometer. The purities of all final compounds were identified by HPLC analysis with the Agilent 1200 system and were proved to be >95%. HPLC condition: Triart C18 reversed-phase column, 5  $\mu$ m, 4.6 mm × 250 mm, and flow rate 1.0 mL/min, starting with a 15 mingradient from 0.1% TFA in water and acetonitrile 1:9 mixture to 0.1% TFA in acetonitrile, then ending with 0.1% TFA in acetonitrile for 5 min.

4.1.1. tert-Butyl (2-((4-Chloro-6-morpholinopyrimidin-2yl)oxy)ethyl)carbamate (3). NaH (0.2 g, 7.8 mmol, 60% dispersion in mineral oil) was added into a solution of *tert*butyl-N-(2-hydroxyethyl)carbamate (0.5 g, 3.1 mmol) in anhydrous DMF (10 mL) at 0 °C. The resulting mixture was stirred at 0 °C for 30 min. Then, 4-(2,6-dichloropyrimidin-4-yl)morpholine (0.7 g, 3.1 mmol) dissolved in anhydrous DMF (5 mL) was added dropwise. The reaction solution was stirred at the same temperature for a further 8 h, then was diluted with 50 mL of water to precipitate a white solid, which was filtered and washed with water three times (50 mL per wash). The resulting solid was dried to give a mixture of isomers tert-butyl (2-((4-chloro-6-morpholinopyrimidin-2-yl)oxy)ethyl)carbamate and tert-butyl (2-((2-chloro-6-morpholinopyrimidin-4-yl)oxy)ethyl)carbamate and was purified by column chromatography [petroleum ether (PE)/ethyl acetate (EA)] to give specific intermediate 3 (600 mg, 54%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR  $(500 \text{ MHz}, \text{DMSO-}d_6) \delta 6.97 (t, J = 5.8 \text{ Hz}, 1\text{H}), 6.60 (s, 1\text{H}),$ 4.16 (t, J = 5.8 Hz, 2H), 3.66–3.55 (m, 8H), 3.22 (q, J = 5.8Hz, 2H), 1.35 (s, 9H).

4.1.2. tert-Butyl (2-((4-Hydrazineyl-6-morpholinopyrimidin-2-yl)oxy)ethyl)carbamate (4). A solution of intermediate 3 (0.5 g, 1.4 mmol) and 2.5 mL of 50% hydrazine hydrate solution dissolved in dioxane (15 mL) was stirred at 90 °C for



**Figure 7. PIK5-12d** depleted PIKfyve protein in vivo. (A) Study design of pharmacodynamic assessment on target engagement of PIKfyve PROTAC degrader in LTL-331R human prostate cancer patient-derived xenograft model; (B) immunoblotting of PIKfyve, LC3A/B, and GAPDH in the whole cell lysate of human LTL-331R tumors treated with vehicle or various concentrations of **PIK5-12d** for 4 days; (C) representative images of TUNEL signal of LTL-331R tumors treated with vehicle or 10 mg/kg **PIK5-12d** for 4 days; and (D) tumor proliferation of LTL-331R tumors treated with vehicle or 10 mg/kg **PIK5-12d** for 17 days, the *p* value was determined by two-tailed unpaired *t* test between vehicle and **PIK5-12d** groups.

12 h. Intermediate 3 was exhausted by a monitoring of TLC. The reaction solution was concentrated under reduced pressure to obtain a white solid, which was washed with 50 mL of water and dried to give the intermediate 4 (470 mg, 95%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  8.96 (brs, 2H), 7.65 (s, 1H), 6.94 (t, J = 5.7 Hz, 1H), 4.05 (t, J = 6.0 Hz, 2H), 3.64–3.58 (m, 4H), 3.38 (t, J = 4.8 Hz, 4H), 3.18 (q, J = 6.0 Hz, 2H), 1.72 (s, 3H), 1.35 (s, 9H).

4.1.3. tert-Butyl (E)-(2-((4-(2-(3-Methylbenzylidene)-hydrazineyl)-6-morpholinopyrimidin-2-yl)oxy)ethyl)carbamate (5). Intermediate 4 (400 mg, 1.1 mmol) and 3methylbenzaldehyde (142 mg, 1.2 mmol) were dissolved in anhydrous ethanol (10 mL). Then, a catalytic amount of acetic acid was added. The resulting solution was refluxed for 6 h, cooled to room temperature, and concentrated under reduced pressure to obtain a white solid, which was resuspended into a mixture solution of PE (5 mL) and CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (5 mL), then was filtered to give intermediate 5 (450 mg, 90%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$  10.82 (s, 1H), 7.99 (s, 1H), 7.48 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.46 (s, 1H), 7.27 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.15 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.96 (t, *J* = 5.6 Hz, 1H), 6.05 (s, 1H), 4.13 (t, *J* = 5.9 Hz, 2H), 3.65 (t, *J* = 4.9 Hz, 4H), 3.51 (t, *J* = 4.8 Hz, 4H), 3.23 (q, *J* = 5.9 Hz, 2H), 2.32 (s, 3H), 1.36 (s, 9H).

4.1.4. General Procedures for the Synthesis of Intermediates 6a-6j. A solution of intermediate 5 (100 mg, 0.2 mmol) dissolved in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (5 mL) was added 1 mL of TFA. The reaction solution was stirred at room temperature for 3 h and was concentrated under reduced pressure to obtain the deprotected intermediate residue, which was redissolved in anhydrous DMF (3.5 mL). Then, 3-(*tert*-butoxy)-3-oxopropanoic acid (48 mg, 0.3 mmol), Et<sub>3</sub>N (202 mg, 2.0 mmol), and HATU (190 mg, 0.5 mmol) were added in order. The resulting solution was stirred at room temperature for 5 h, diluted with 30 mL of water, and extracted with EtOAc for three times. The organic phase was dried with anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtered, and concentrated. The resulting residue was redissolved in 5 mL of CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, which was added 1 mL of TFA. The resulting mixture was stirred at room temperature for another 3 h to deprotect the *tert*-butyl ester. The reaction solution was concentrated to obtain a crude residue, which was purified by chromatography on a silica gel column with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/MeOH to give white intermediate **6a** (65 mg, 63%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$  10.97 (brs, 1H), 8.30 (t, *J* = 5.6 Hz, 1H), 8.02 (s, 1H), 7.59–7.46 (m, 2H), 7.28 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.17 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 6.03 (s, 1H), 4.22 (t, *J* = 5.6 Hz, 2H), 3.66 (t, *J* = 4.7 Hz, 4H), 3.60–3.50 (m, 4H), 3.41 (q, *J* = 5.6 Hz, 2H), 3.14 (s, 2H), 2.33 (s, 3H). Intermediates **6b**–**6j** were obtained according to the procedure of **6a**.

4.1.5. General Procedures for the Synthesis of Intermediates 7a-7j. A solution of intermediate 6a (50 mg, 0.1 mmol) dissolved in anhydrous DMF (3.5 mL) was added the classical VHL ligand (2*S*,4*R*)-1-((*S*)-2-amino-3,3-dimethylbutan oyl)-4-hydroxy-*N*-(4-(4-methylthiazol-5-yl)benzyl)pyrrolidine-2-carboxamide (42 mg, 0.1 mmol), Et<sub>3</sub>N (30 mg, 0.3 mmol), and HATU (76 mg, 0.2 mmol) in order. The resulting mixture was stirred at room temperature for 5 h, diluted with 15 mL of water, and extracted with EtOAc for two times. The organic phase was dried with anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtered, and concentrated. The resulting residue was purified by chromatography on a silica gel column with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/ MeOH to obtain the final compound 7a (40 mg, 48%). Compounds 7b-7j were obtained according to the procedure of 7a.

4.1.6.  $N^{1}$ -((S)-1-((2S,4R)-4-Hydroxy-2-((4-(4-methylthiazol-5-yl)benzyl)carbamoyl)pyrrolidin-1-yl)-3,3-dimethyl-1-oxobutan-2-yl)- $N^{3}$ -(2-((4-(2-((E)-3-methylbenzylidene)hydrazineyl)-6-morpholinopyrimidin-2-yl)oxy)ethyl)malonamide (**7a**). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, DMSO- $d_{6}$ )  $\delta$  10.85 (s, 1H), 8.98 (s, 1H), 8.59 (t, J = 6.1 Hz, 1H), 8.32 (t, J = 5.6Hz, 1H), 8.21 (d, J = 9.4 Hz, 1H), 8.02 (s, 1H), 7.51 (d, J =

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7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.48 (s, 1H), 7.43–7.38 (m, 4H), 7.29 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.17 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 6.08 (s, 1H), 5.15 (brs, 1H), 4.54 (d, J = 9.4 Hz, 1H), 4.46–4.40 (m, 2H), 4.37–4.34 (m, 1H), 4.23 (dd, J = 15.9, 5.6 Hz, 1H), 4.20 (t, J = 5.8 Hz, 2H), 3.69–3.61 (m, 6H), 3.56–3.51 (m, 4H), 3.44–3.39 (m, 2H), 3.25 (d, J = 15.0 Hz, 1H), 3.16 (d, J = 15.0 Hz, 1H), 2.45 (s, 3H), 2.34 (s, 3H), 2.08–2.01 (m, 1H), 1.94–1.87 (m, 1H), 0.94 (s, 9H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  171.25, 168.64, 166.85, 165.70, 163.71, 163.27, 162.81, 150.82, 147.11, 140.74, 138.86, 137.31, 134.12, 130.54, 129.17, 129.04, 128.04, 127.99, 126.81, 126.42, 122.95, 75.14, 68.26, 65.30, 63.90, 58.09, 55.80, 55.75, 43.61, 42.03, 41.04, 37.70, 37.32, 34.95, 25.62, 20.32, 15.32. HRMS [electrospray ionization (ESI)] calcd for C<sub>43</sub>H<sub>54</sub>N<sub>10</sub>O<sub>7</sub>S [M + H]<sup>+</sup> 855.3976, found 855.3977. HPLC purity 98.63%.

4.1.7. N<sup>1</sup>-((S)-1-((2S,4R)-4-Hydroxy-2-((4-(4-methylthiazol-5-yl)benzyl)carbamoyl)pyrrolidin-1-yl)-3,3-dimethyl-1-oxobutan-2-yl)-N<sup>4</sup>-(2-((4-(2-((E)-3-methylbenzylidene)hydrazineyl)-6-morpholinopyrimidin-2-yl)oxy)ethyl)succinimide (**7b**). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  10.84 (s, 1H), 8.98 (s, 1H), 8.57 (t, J = 6.0 Hz, 1H), 8.07 (t, J = 5.5 Hz, 1H), 8.02 (s, 1H), 7.91 (d, J = 9.3 Hz, 1H), 7.50 (d, J = 7.8Hz, 1H), 7.48 (s, 1H), 7.42 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.38 (d, J =8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.29 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.17 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.07 (s, 1H), 5.13 (brs, 1H), 4.52 (d, J = 9.4 Hz, 1H), 4.45-4.39 (m, 2H), 4.35 (s, 1H), 4.22 (dd, J = 15.9, 5.5 Hz, 1H), 4.17 (t, J = 5.8 Hz, 2H), 3.69–3.60 (m, 6H), 3.57–3.50 (m, 4H), 3.41-3.35 (m, 3H), 2.44 (s, 3H), 2.40-2.28 (m, 6H), 2.07-2.01 (m, 1H), 1.93-1.86 (m, 1H), 0.93 (s, 9H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ 171.31, 171.04, 170.64, 168.96, 163.71, 163.31, 162.82, 150.83, 147.09, 140.72, 138.88, 137.30, 134.13, 130.54, 129.16, 129.01, 128.02, 127.99, 126.80, 126.42, 122.94, 75.11, 68.26, 65.30, 63.93, 58.08, 55.80, 55.69, 43.60, 41.02, 37.60, 37.31, 34.71, 30.24, 29.87, 25.73, 20.31, 15.32. HRMS (ESI) calcd for  $C_{44}H_{56}N_{10}O_7S [M + Na]^+$  891.3952, found 891.3949. HPLC purity 98.73%.

4.1.8. N<sup>1</sup>-((S)-1-((2S,4R)-4-Hydroxy-2-((4-(4-methylthiazol-5-yl)benzyl)carbamoyl)pyrrolidin-1-yl)-3,3-dimethyl-1-oxobutan-2-yl)-N<sup>5</sup>-(2-((4-(2-((E)-3-methylbenzylidene)hydrazineyl)-6-morpholinopyrimidin-2-yl)oxy)ethyl)*qlutaramide* (**7***c*). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  10.85 (s, 1H), 8.98 (s, 1H), 8.57 (t, J = 6.1 Hz, 1H), 8.01 (s, 1H), 8.00 (t, J = 5.7 Hz, 1H), 7.93 (d, J = 9.3 Hz, 1H), 7.50 (d, J = 7.8Hz, 1H), 7.48 (s, 1H), 7.41 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.37 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.29 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.17 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.07 (s, 1H), 5.14 (brs, 1H), 4.58-4.51 (m, 1H), 4.47-4.39 (m, 2H), 4.37-4.34 (m, 1H), 4.25-4.15 (m, 3H), 3.70-3.64 (m, 6H), 3.54 (t, J = 4.9 Hz, 4H), 3.42-3.36 (m, 2H), 2.44 (s, J)3H), 2.34 (s, 3H), 2.28-2.21 (m, 1H), 2.18-2.11 (m, 1H), 2.08 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 2.06–2.01 (m, 1H), 1.94–1.87 (m, 1H), 1.75-1.67 (m, 2H), 0.94 (s, 9H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, DMSO- $d_{\delta}$ )  $\delta$  171.45, 171.31, 171.14, 169.21, 163.67, 163.25, 162.81, 150.85, 150.82, 147.08, 140.76, 138.85, 137.28, 134.12, 130.53, 129.15, 129.01, 128.00, 127.97, 126.78, 126.43, 122.95, 75.10, 68.26, 65.30, 63.87, 58.11, 55.82, 55.77, 43.60, 41.03, 37.46, 37.33, 34.55, 34.22, 33.66, 25.78, 21.15, 20.31, 15.31. HRMS (ESI) calcd for  $C_{45}H_{58}N_{10}O_7S [M + H]^+$  883.4289, found 883.4285. HPLC purity 98.43%.

4.1.9.  $N^{1}$ -((S)-1-((2S,4R)-4-Hydroxy-2-((4-(4-methylthiazol-5-yl)benzyl)carbamoyl)pyrrolidin-1-yl)-3,3-dimethyl-1-oxobutan-2-yl)- $N^{6}$ -(2-((4-(2-((E)-3-methylbenzylidene)hydrazineyl)-6-morpholinopyrimidin-2-yl)oxy)ethyl)adipamide (**7d**). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, DMSO- $d_{6}$ )  $\delta$  10.85 (s,

1H), 8.98 (s, 1H), 8.57 (t, J = 6.1 Hz, 1H), 8.04–7.98 (m, 2H), 7.88 (d, J = 9.3 Hz, 1H), 7.51 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.48 (s, 1H), 7.41 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.38 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.29 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.17 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.07 (s, 1H), 5.14 (brs, 1H), 4.54 (d, J = 9.4 Hz, 1H), 4.46–4.39 (m, 2H), 4.35 (s, 1H), 4.24-4.13 (m, 3H), 3.70-3.63 (m, 6H), 3.57-3.51 (m, 4H), 3.44–3.32 (m, 2H), 2.44 (s, 3H), 2.34 (s, 3H), 2.29-2.23 (m, 1H), 2.13-2.01 (m, 4H), 1.94-1.87 (m, 1H), 1.45 (dt, J = 11.7, 5.3 Hz, 4H), 0.93 (s, 9H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ 171.67, 171.33, 169.13, 163.66, 163.23, 162.76, 150.83, 147.09, 140.79, 138.87, 137.29, 134.11, 130.54, 129.17, 129.01, 128.01, 127.98, 126.79, 126.44, 122.96, 75.09, 68.25, 65.30, 64.03, 58.08, 55.75, 55.71, 43.61, 41.02, 37.46, 37.32, 34.57, 34.45, 34.02, 25.76, 24.53, 24.30, 20.31, 15.32. HRMS (ESI) calcd for  $C_{46}H_{60}N_{10}O_7S [M + Na]^+$  919.4265, found 919.4255. HPLC purity 99.08%.

4.1.10. N<sup>1</sup>-((S)-1-((2S,4R)-4-Hydroxy-2-((4-(4-methylthiazol-5-yl)benzyl)carbamoyl)pyrrolidin-1-yl)-3,3-dimethyl-1oxobutan-2-yl)-N<sup>7</sup>-(2-((4-(2-((E)-3-methylbenzylidene)hydrazineyl)-6-morpholinopyrimidin-2-yl)oxy)ethyl)heptanediamide (7e). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$ 10.84 (s, 1H), 8.98 (s, 1H), 8.56 (t, J = 6.1 Hz, 1H), 8.02 (s, 1H), 8.00 (t, I = 5.6 Hz, 1H), 7.86 (d, I = 9.4 Hz, 1H), 7.50 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.48 (s, 1H), 7.42 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.38 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.29 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.17 (d, J = 7.5Hz, 1H), 6.07 (s, 1H), 5.13 (brs, 1H), 4.54 (d, J = 9.4 Hz, 1H), 4.46-4.39 (m, 2H), 4.38-4.33 (m, 1H), 4.24-4.15 (m, 3H), 3.70–3.64 (m, 6H), 3.53 (t, J = 4.9 Hz, 4H), 3.44–3.38 (m, 2H), 2.44 (s, 3H), 2.34 (s, 3H), 2.27-2.21 (m, 1H),2.14-2.02 (m, 4H), 1.95-1.86 (m, 1H), 1.52-1.42 (m, 4H), 1.24-1.19 (m, 2H), 0.93 (s, 9H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>) & 171.72, 171.42, 171.31, 169.10, 163.65, 163.25, 162.75, 150.81, 147.07, 140.77, 138.86, 137.28, 134.09, 130.53, 129.16, 128.99, 127.99, 127.96, 126.77, 126.41, 122.94, 75.08, 68.23, 65.28, 63.96, 58.06, 55.72, 55.66, 43.59, 41.00, 37.49, 37.31, 34.56, 34.18, 27.73, 25.75, 24.61, 24.40, 20.30, 15.30. HRMS (ESI) calcd for  $C_{47}H_{62}N_{10}O_7S [M + Na]^+$  933.4422, found 933.4414. HPLC purity 98.54%.

4.1.11. N<sup>1</sup>-((S)-1-((2S,4R)-4-Hydroxy-2-((4-(4-methylthiazol-5-yl)benzyl)carbamoyl)pyrrolidin-1-yl)-3,3-dimethyl-1oxobutan-2-yl)-N<sup>8</sup>-(2-((4-(2-((E)-3-methylbenzylidene)hydrazineyl)-6-morpholinopyrimidin-2-yl)oxy)ethyl)octanediamide (**7f**). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  10.82 (s, 1H), 8.98 (s, 1H), 8.56 (t, J = 6.1 Hz, 1H), 8.01 (s, 1H),7.99 (t, J = 5.5 Hz, 1H), 7.85 (d, J = 9.4 Hz, 1H), 7.53-7.45 (m, 2H), 7.42 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.39-7.36 (m, 2H), 7.29 (t, J)J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.17 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.07 (s, 1H), 5.12 (brs, 1H), 4.54 (d, J = 9.4 Hz, 1H), 4.46–4.39 (m, 2H), 4.35 (s, 1H), 4.22 (dd, J = 15.9, 5.5 Hz, 1H), 4.18 (t, J = 5.7 Hz, 2H), 3.70-3.62 (m, 6H), 3.56-3.49 (m, 4H), 3.38-3.35 (m, 2H), 2.44 (s, 3H), 2.34 (s, 3H), 2.27–2.20 (m, 1H), 2.13– 2.08 (m, 1H), 2.08–2.05 (m, 2H), 2.05–2.00 (m, 1H), 1.94– 1.86 (m, 1H), 1.51–1.41 (m, 4H), 1.25–1.20 (m, 4H), 0.93 (s, 9H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  171.77, 171.47, 171.33, 169.11, 163.71, 163.33, 162.82, 150.83, 147.09, 140.71, 138.88, 137.30, 134.13, 130.54, 129.15, 129.01, 128.01, 127.98, 126.79, 126.42, 122.93, 75.11, 68.24, 65.30, 64.29, 63.94, 58.07, 55.73, 55.66, 43.59, 41.02, 37.51, 37.32, 34.67, 34.57, 34.23, 27.86, 27.84, 25.76, 24.71, 24.57, 20.31, 15.32. HRMS (ESI) calcd for  $C_{48}H_{64}N_{10}O_7S [M + Na]^+$  947.4578, found 947.4577. HPLC purity 95.55%.

4.1.12.  $N^1$ -((S)-1-((2S,4R)-4-Hydroxy-2-((4-(4-methylthiazol-5-yl)benzyl)carbamoyl)pyrrolidin-1-yl)-3,3-dimethyl-1oxobutan-2-yl)-N<sup>9</sup>-(2-((4-(2-((E)-3-methylbenzylidene)hydrazineyl)-6-morpholinopyrimidin-2-yl)oxy)ethyl)nonanediamide (**7g**). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$ 10.82 (s, 1H), 8.98 (s, 1H), 8.56 (t, J = 6.1 Hz, 1H), 8.01 (s, 1H), 8.00 (t, J = 5.7 Hz, 1H), 7.83 (d, J = 9.4 Hz, 1H), 7.50 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.48 (s, 1H), 7.42 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.38 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.29 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.17 (d, J = 7.6 Hz)Hz, 1H), 6.07 (s, 1H), 5.12 (brs, 1H), 4.54 (d, J = 9.4 Hz, 1H), 4.46–4.40 (m, 2H), 4.37–4.33 (m, 1H), 4.22 (dd, J = 15.8, 5.5 Hz, 1H), 4.18 (t, J = 5.7 Hz, 2H), 3.70–3.63 (m, 6H), 3.53 (t, J = 4.9 Hz, 4H), 3.38-3.35 (m, 2H), 2.44 (s, 3H), 2.34 (s, 3H), 2.28–2.21 (m, 1H), 2.13–2.01 (m, 4H), 1.94-1.87 (m, 1H), 1.53-1.41 (m, 4H), 1.25-1.18 (m, 6H), 0.93 (s, 9H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>) δ 170.57, 170.25, 170.10, 167.87, 162.49, 162.11, 161.59, 149.61, 145.87, 139.48, 137.66, 136.08, 132.91, 129.32, 127.93, 127.79, 126.79, 126.76, 125.57, 125.20, 121.71, 73.89, 67.01, 64.08, 63.07, 62.73, 56.84, 54.50, 54.42, 42.38, 39.80, 36.29, 36.11, 33.46, 33.35, 33.01, 26.76, 26.70, 24.53, 23.58, 23.40, 19.09, 14.10. HRMS (ESI) calcd for  $C_{49}H_{66}N_{10}O_7S [M + Na]^+$  961.4735, found 961.4713. HPLC purity 97.86%.

4.1.13. N<sup>1</sup>-((S)-1-((2S,4R)-4-Hydroxy-2-((4-(4-methylthiazol-5-yl)benzyl)carbamoyl)pyrrolidin-1-yl)-3,3-dimethyl-1oxobutan-2-yl)-N<sup>10</sup>-(2-((4-(2-((E)-3-methylbenzylidene)hydrazineyl)-6-morpholinopyrimidin-2-yl)oxy)ethyl)decanediamide (**7h**). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$ 10.82 (s, 1H), 8.98 (s, 1H), 8.56 (t, J = 6.1 Hz, 1H), 8.01 (s, 1H), 8.00 (t, J = 5.6 Hz, 1H), 7.83 (d, J = 9.4 Hz, 1H), 7.50 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.48 (s, 1H), 7.42 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.38 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.29 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.17 (d, J = 7.5Hz, 1H), 6.07 (s, 1H), 5.12 (brs, 1H), 4.54 (d, J = 9.4 Hz, 1H), 4.46–4.40 (m, 2H), 4.35 (s, 1H), 4.21 (dd, J = 15.9, 5.5 Hz, 1H), 4.18 (t, J = 5.7 Hz, 2H), 3.69-3.62 (m, 6H), 3.56-3.50 (m, 4H), 3.37-3.34 (m, 2H), 2.44 (s, 3H), 2.34 (s, 3H), 2.28–2.20 (m, 1H), 2.13–2.00 (m, 4H), 1.93–1.86 (m, 1H), 1.52-1.40 (m, 4H), 1.27-1.17 (m, 8H), 0.93 (s, 9H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ 171.77, 171.45, 171.32, 169.08, 163.70, 163.34, 162.80, 150.82, 147.08, 140.69, 138.88, 137.29, 134.12, 130.53, 129.15, 129.00, 128.00, 127.98, 126.79, 126.41, 122.92, 75.10, 68.23, 65.29, 64.29, 63.93, 58.05, 55.71, 55.63, 43.59, 41.01, 37.52, 37.32, 34.68, 34.57, 34.23, 28.13, 28.04, 25.74, 24.79, 24.64, 20.31, 15.31. HRMS (ESI) calcd for  $C_{50}H_{68}N_{10}O_7S [M + Na]^+$  975.4891, found 975.4878. HPLC purity 98.82%.

4.1.14. N<sup>1</sup>-((S)-1-((2S,4R)-4-Hydroxy-2-((4-(4-methylthiazol-5-yl)benzyl)carbamoyl)pyrrolidin-1-yl)-3,3-dimethyl-1oxobutan-2-yl)-N<sup>11</sup>-(2-((4-(2-((E)-3-methylbenzylidene)hydrazineyl)-6-morpholinopyrimidin-2-yl)oxy)ethyl)undecanediamide (**7i**). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$ 10.82 (s, 1H), 8.98 (s, 1H), 8.56 (t, J = 6.1 Hz, 1H), 8.01 (s, 1H), 8.00 (t, I = 5.6 Hz, 1H), 7.83 (d, I = 9.3 Hz, 1H), 7.50 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.48 (s, 1H), 7.42 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.38 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.29 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.17 (d, J = 7.5Hz, 1H), 6.07 (s, 1H), 5.12 (brs, 1H), 4.54 (d, J = 9.4 Hz, 1H), 4.46-4.40 (m, 2H), 4.37-4.33 (m, 1H), 4.22 (dd, J = 15.8, 5.5 Hz, 1H), 4.18 (t, J = 5.7 Hz, 2H), 3.71–3.63 (m, 6H), 3.53 (t, J = 4.9 Hz, 4H), 3.38-3.35 (m, 2H), 2.44 (s, 3H), 2.34 (s, 3H), 2.28–2.22 (m, 1H), 2.12–2.01 (m, 4H), 1.93-1.88 (m, 1H), 1.52-1.40 (m, 4H), 1.24-1.18 (m, 10H), 0.93 (s, 9H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  171.79, 171.47, 171.32, 169.09, 163.71, 163.35, 162.81, 150.83, 147.09, 140.70, 138.89, 137.30, 134.13, 130.54, 129.15, 129.01, 128.01, 127.98, 126.79, 126.41, 122.93, 75.11, 68.24, 65.30, 63.95,

58.06, 55.72, 55.64, 43.60, 41.02, 37.53, 37.33, 34.69, 34.59, 34.25, 28.25, 28.18, 28.14, 28.06, 28.04, 25.75, 24.82, 24.66, 20.31, 15.32. HRMS (ESI) calcd for  $C_{51}H_{70}N_{10}O_7S$  [M + Na]<sup>+</sup> 989.5048, found 989.5040. HPLC purity 98.36%.

4.1.15. N<sup>1</sup>-((S)-1-((2S,4R)-4-Hydroxy-2-((4-(4-methylthiazol-5-yl)benzyl)carbamoyl)pyrrolidin-1-yl)-3,3-dimethyl-1oxobutan-2-yl)-N<sup>12</sup>-(2-((4-(2-((E)-3-methylbenzylidene)hydrazineyl)-6-morpholinopyrimidin-2-yl)oxy)ethyl)dodecanediamide (**7***j*). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$ 10.82 (s, 1H), 8.98 (s, 1H), 8.56 (t, J = 6.1 Hz, 1H), 8.01 (s, 1H), 7.99 (t, J = 5.7 Hz, 1H), 7.83 (d, J = 9.4 Hz, 1H), 7.50 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.47 (s, 1H), 7.42 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.38 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.29 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.17 (d, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 6.07 (s, 1H), 5.12 (brs, 1H), 4.54 (d, J = 9.4 Hz, 1H), 4.47-4.40 (m, 2H), 4.35 (s, 1H), 4.22 (dd, J = 15.8, 5.5Hz, 1H), 4.18 (t, J = 5.7 Hz, 2H), 3.70–3.63 (m, 6H), 3.53 (t, J = 4.9 Hz, 4H), 3.38-3.35 (m, 2H), 2.44 (s, 3H), 2.34 (s, 3H), 2.27-2.21 (m, 1H), 2.12-2.00 (m, 4H), 1.94-1.87 (m, 1H), 1.52-1.40 (m, 4H), 1.25-1.18 (m, 12H), 0.93 (s, 9H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  171.78, 171.46, 171.32, 169.09, 163.71, 163.35, 162.81, 150.83, 147.09, 140.69, 138.89, 137.29, 134.13, 130.54, 129.15, 129.01, 128.01, 127.98, 126.80, 126.41, 122.92, 75.11, 68.23, 65.30, 63.94, 58.06, 55.72, 55.63, 43.60, 41.02, 37.53, 37.33, 34.69, 34.59, 34.24, 28.35, 28.30, 28.20, 28.14, 28.06, 25.75, 24.82, 24.66, 20.31, 15.32. HRMS (ESI) calcd for  $C_{52}H_{72}N_{10}O_7S [M + H]^+$  981.5384, found 981.5383. HPLC purity 99.64%.

4.1.16. tert-Butyl (4-(2-((4-Chloro-6-morpholinopyrimidin-2-yl)oxy)ethyl)phenyl)carbamate (8). Intermediate 8 was obtained according to the procedure of 3. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.28 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.19 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 6.43 (s, 1H), 6.15 (s, 1H), 4.42 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 3.86–3.68 (m, 4H), 3.59 (brs, 4H), 3.03 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 1.51 (s, 9H).

4.1.17. tert-Butyl (4-(2-((4-Hydrazineyl-6-morpholinopyrimidin-2-yl)oxy)ethyl)phenyl)carbamate (**9**). Intermediate **9** was obtained according to the procedure of 4.<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  9.27 (s, 1H), 7.67 (s, 1H), 7.37 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.14 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 5.61 (s, 1H), 4.63 (brs, 3H), 4.25 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.68–3.59 (m, 4H), 3.43–3.36 (m, 4H), 2.86 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 1.46 (s, 9H).

4.1.18. tert-Butyl (E)-(4-(2-((4-(2-(3-Methylbenzylidene)hydrazineyl)-6-morpholinopyrimidin-2-yl)oxy)ethyl)phenyl)carbamate (**10**). Intermediate **10** was obtained according to the procedure of **5**.<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  10.87 (s, 1H), 9.26 (s, 1H), 7.99 (s, 1H), 7.50 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.37 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.29 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.20–7.10 (m, 3H), 6.06 (s, 1H), 4.32 (t, J = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 3.74–3.62 (m, 4H), 3.57–3.50 (m, 4H), 2.90 (t, J = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 2.34 (s, 3H), 1.47 (s, 9H).

4.1.19. General Procedures for the Synthesis of Intermediates 11a–11j. Intermediates 11a–11j were obtained according to the procedure of 6a–6j. (*E*)-3-((4-(2-((4-(2-((4-(2-((3-methylbenzylidene)hydrazineyl)-6-morpholinopyrimidin-2-yl)oxy)ethyl)phenyl)amino)-3-oxopropanoic acid (11a) <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$  10.99 (brs, 1H), 10.07 (s, 1H), 8.00 (s, 1H), 7.55–7.46 (m, 4H), 7.28 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.22 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.16 (s, 1H), 6.01 (s, 1H), 4.38 (s, 2H), 3.66 (t, *J* = 4.8 Hz, 4H), 3.54 (s, 4H), 2.95 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 2.33 (s, 3H).

4.1.20. General Procedures for the Synthesis of Intermediates 12a-12j, 13a, and 12dN. Compounds 12a-

4.1.21. N<sup>1</sup>-((S)-1-((2S,4R)-4-Hydroxy-2-((4-(4-methylthiazol-5-yl)benzyl)carbamoyl)pyrrolidin-1-yl)-3,3-dimethyl-1oxobutan-2-yl)-N<sup>3</sup>-(4-(2-((4-(2-((E)-3-methylbenzylidene)hydrazineyl)-6-morpholinopyrimidin-2-yl)oxy)ethyl)phenyl)malonamide (**12a**). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  10.87 (s, 1H), 10.05 (s, 1H), 8.98 (s, 1H), 8.60 (t, J = 6.1 Hz, 1H),8.23 (d, J = 9.3 Hz, 1H), 7.99 (s, 1H), 7.53–7.47 (m, 4H), 7.43 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.39 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.29 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.23 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.17 (d, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 6.07 (s, 1H), 5.15 (brs, 1H), 4.57 (d, J = 9.4 Hz, 1H), 4.49-4.41 (m, 2H), 4.38–4.32 (m, 3H), 4.23 (dd, J = 15.8, 5.5 Hz, 1H), 3.70–3.62 (m, 6H), 3.53 (t, J = 4.9 Hz, 4H), 3.43 (d, J = 14.9 Hz, 1H), 3.35-3.31 (m, 2H), 2.94 (t, J = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 2.45 (s, 3H), 2.34 (s, 3H), 2.09-2.02 (m, 1H), 1.98-1.87 (m, 1H), 0.96 (s, 9H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  169.87, 167.29, 164.17, 163.75, 162.34, 161.91, 161.48, 149.44, 145.72, 139.22, 137.48, 135.90, 135.15, 132.74, 131.43, 129.15, 127.75, 127.65, 127.18, 126.64, 126.59, 125.42, 125.01, 121.54, 117.15, 73.64, 66.88, 64.49, 63.89, 56.73, 54.54, 54.47, 42.21, 42.12, 39.65, 35.93, 33.57, 32.25, 24.32, 24.27, 18.92, 13.93. HRMS (ESI) calcd for  $C_{49}H_{58}N_{10}O_7S$  [M + H]<sup>+</sup> 931.4289, found 931.4286. HPLC purity 98.68%.

4.1.22. N<sup>1</sup>-((S)-1-((2S,4R)-4-Hydroxy-2-((4-(4-methylthiazol-5-yl)benzyl)carbamoyl)pyrrolidin-1-yl)-3,3-dimethyl-1oxobutan-2-yl)-N<sup>4</sup>-(4-(2-((4-(2-((E)-3-methylbenzylidene)hydrazineyl)-6-morpholinopyrimidin-2-yl)oxy)ethyl)phenyl)succinimide (12b). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  10.86 (s, 1H), 9.88 (s, 1H), 8.98 (s, 1H), 8.57 (t, J = 6.0 Hz, 1H),7.99 (s, 1H), 7.96 (d, J = 9.3 Hz, 1H), 7.53–7.46 (m, 4H), 7.42 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.39 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.29 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.20 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.17 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.06 (s, 1H), 5.12 (d, J = 3.5 Hz, 1H), 4.55 (d, J = 9.4 Hz, 1H), 4.47-4.40 (m, 2H), 4.33 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 4.22 (dd, J= 15.8, 5.4 Hz, 1H, 3.72 - 3.60 (m, 6H), 3.55 - 3.49 (m, 4H),2.92 (t, J = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 2.63–2.56 (m, 1H), 2.56–2.52 (m, 2H), 2.49-2.42 (m, 4H), 2.34 (s, 3H), 2.06-2.01 (m, 1H), 1.93-1.87 (m, 1H), 0.94 (s, 9H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ 172.41, 171.65, 170.78, 170.05, 164.85, 164.43, 163.99, 151.93, 148.19, 141.67, 139.98, 138.40, 138.07, 135.23, 133.37, 131.64, 130.23, 130.11, 129.56, 129.12, 129.08, 127.90, 127.49, 124.01, 119.48, 76.13, 69.36, 67.01, 66.38, 59.19, 56.93, 56.82, 44.69, 42.12, 38.40, 35.86, 34.73, 32.32, 30.59, 26.84, 21.41, 16.42. HRMS (ESI) calcd for C<sub>50</sub>H<sub>60</sub>N<sub>10</sub>O<sub>7</sub>S [M + H]<sup>+</sup> 945.4445, found 945.4438. HPLC purity 99.67%.

4.1.23. N<sup>1</sup>-((S)-1-((2S,4R)-4-Hydroxy-2-((4-(4-methylthiazol-5-yl)benzyl)carbamoyl)pyrrolidin-1-yl)-3,3-dimethyl-1oxobutan-2-yl)-N<sup>5</sup>-(4-(2-((4-(2-((E)-3-methylbenzylidene)hydrazineyl)-6-morpholinopyrimidin-2-yl)oxy)ethyl)phenyl)glutaramide (12c). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  10.85 (s, 1H), 9.81 (s, 1H), 8.98 (s, 1H), 8.56 (t, J = 6.0 Hz, 1H),7.99 (s, 1H), 7.92 (d, J = 9.2 Hz, 1H), 7.54–7.45 (m, 4H), 7.42 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.40-7.36 (m, 2H), 7.29 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.20 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.17 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.06 (s, 1H), 5.14 (d, J = 3.3 Hz, 1H), 4.55 (d, J = 9.3 Hz, 1H), 4.46-4.40 (m, 2H), 4.38-4.32 (m, 3H), 4.22 (dd, J =15.8, 5.4 Hz, 1H), 3.70–3.62 (m, 6H), 3.55–3.50 (m, 4H), 2.92 (t, J = 6.9 Hz, 2H), 2.44 (s, 3H), 2.34 (s, 3H), 2.32-2.25(m, 3H), 2.24–2.18 (m, 1H), 2.07–2.00 (m, 1H), 1.95–1.87 (m, 1H), 1.84–1.75 (m, 2H), 0.95 (s, 9H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>) δ 172.41, 172.18, 171.20, 170.20, 164.84, 164.43, 163.99, 151.92, 148.19, 141.68, 139.98, 138.39, 138.05,

135.23, 133.45, 131.64, 130.23, 130.11, 129.53, 129.11, 129.08, 127.89, 127.49, 124.02, 119.63, 76.13, 69.37, 67.01, 66.38, 59.18, 56.91, 56.84, 44.68, 42.12, 38.42, 36.32, 35.66, 34.74, 34.68, 26.88, 21.99, 21.41, 16.42. HRMS (ESI) calcd for  $C_{51}H_{62}N_{10}O_7S$  [M + H]<sup>+</sup> 959.4602, found 959.4584. HPLC purity 99.28%.

4.1.24. N<sup>1</sup>-((S)-1-((2S,4R)-4-Hydroxy-2-((4-(4-methylthiazol-5-yl)benzyl)carbamoyl)pyrrolidin-1-yl)-3,3-dimethyl-1oxobutan-2-yl)-N<sup>6</sup>-(4-(2-((4-(2-((E)-3-methylbenzylidene)hydrazineyl)-6-morpholinopyrimidin-2-yl)oxy)ethyl)phenyl)adipamide (12d). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  10.86 (s, 1H), 9.81 (s, 1H), 8.98 (s, 1H), 8.57 (t, J = 6.1 Hz, 1H), 7.99 (s, 1H), 7.88 (d, J = 9.3 Hz, 1H), 7.53–7.47 (m, 4H), 7.42 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.40–7.36 (m, 2H), 7.29 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.20 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.17 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.07 (s, 1H), 5.13 (d, J = 3.6 Hz, 1H), 4.55 (d, J = 9.4 Hz, 1H), 4.47-4.41 (m, 2H), 4.33 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 4.22 (dd, J = 15.9, 5.5 Hz, 1H), 3.71–3.62 (m, 6H), 3.56–3.50 (m, 4H), 2.92 (t, J = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 2.45 (s, 3H), 2.34 (s, 3H), 2.32–2.24 (m, 3H), 2.20-2.13 (m, 1H), 2.06-2.00 (m, 1H), 1.94-1.87 (m, 1H), 1.61-1.48 (m, 4H), 0.94 (s, 9H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  172.42, 172.41, 171.45, 170.19, 164.85, 164.44, 163.99, 151.92, 148.19, 141.68, 139.98, 138.39, 138.04, 135.24, 133.46, 131.64, 130.23, 130.11, 129.55, 129.11, 129.08, 127.89, 127.49, 124.02, 119.60, 76.14, 69.35, 67.01, 66.38, 59.17, 56.85, 56.81, 44.69, 42.12, 38.42, 36.69, 35.69, 35.21, 34.74, 26.93, 26.87, 25.67, 25.44, 21.41, 16.42. HRMS (ESI) calcd for  $C_{52}H_{64}N_{10}O_7S [M + H]^+$  973.4758, found 973.4757. HPLC purity 99.00%.

4.1.25. N<sup>1</sup>-((S)-1-((2S,4R)-4-Hydroxy-2-((4-(4-methylthiazol-5-yl)benzyl)carbamoyl)pyrrolidin-1-yl)-3,3-dimethyl-1oxobutan-2-yl)-N<sup>7</sup>-(4-(2-((4-(2-((E)-3-methylbenzylidene)hydrazineyl)-6-morpholinopyrimidin-2-yl)oxy)ethyl)phenyl)heptanediamide (12e). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$ 10.85 (s, 1H), 9.79 (s, 1H), 8.98 (d, J = 5.4 Hz, 1H), 8.56 (t, J = 6.1 Hz, 1H), 7.99 (s, 1H), 7.86 (d, I = 9.3 Hz, 1H), 7.53-7.46 (m, 4H), 7.42 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.38 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.29 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.20 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.17 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.06 (s, 1H), 5.13 (d, J = 3.6 Hz, 1H), 4.54 (d, J = 9.4 Hz, 1H), 4.45-4.40 (m, 2H), 4.37-4.30 (m, 3H),4.22 (dd, J = 15.8, 5.5 Hz, 1H), 3.70–3.62 (m, 6H), 3.55–3.50 (m, 4H), 2.92 (t, J = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 2.44 (s, 3H), 2.34 (s, 3H),2.30-2.22 (m, 3H), 2.16-2.10 (m, 1H), 2.07-2.00 (m, 1H), 1.95-1.86 (m, 1H), 1.62-1.43 (m, 4H), 1.32-1.23 (m, 2H), 0.93 (s, 9H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  172.51, 172.42, 171.51, 170.19, 164.84, 164.43, 163.99, 151.93, 148.19, 141.68, 139.98, 138.39, 138.08, 135.23, 133.41, 131.64, 130.23, 130.11, 129.54, 129.11, 129.08, 127.89, 127.49, 124.01, 119.58, 76.13, 69.34, 67.01, 66.38, 59.16, 56.84, 56.76, 44.68, 42.12, 38.43, 36.75, 35.68, 35.26, 34.74, 28.84, 26.86, 25.73, 25.41, 21.41, 16.42. HRMS (ESI) calcd for  $C_{53}H_{66}N_{10}O_7S [M + H]^+$ 987.4915, found 987.4912. HPLC purity 99.85%.

4.1.26.  $N^{1}$ -((S)-1-((2S,4R)-4-Hydroxy-2-((4-(4-methylthiazol-5-yl)benzyl)carbamoyl)pyrrolidin-1-yl)-3,3-dimethyl-1oxobutan-2-yl)- $N^{8}$ -(4-(2-((4-(2-((E)-3-methylbenzylidene)hydrazineyl)-6-morpholinopyrimidin-2-yl)oxy)ethyl)phenyl)octanediamide (**12f**). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, DMSO- $d_{6}$ )  $\delta$ 10.85 (s, 1H), 9.80 (s, 1H), 8.98 (s, 1H), 8.56 (t, *J* = 6.1 Hz, 1H), 7.99 (s, 1H), 7.85 (d, *J* = 9.4 Hz, 1H), 7.53–7.46 (m, 4H), 7.42 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.40–7.36 (m, 2H), 7.29 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.20 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.17 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.06 (s, 1H), 5.13 (d, *J* = 3.6 Hz, 1H), 4.55 (d, *J* = 9.4 Hz, 1H), 4.46–4.40 (m, 2H), 4.37–4.31 (m, 3H), 4.22 (dd, *J* = 15.9, 5.5 Hz, 1H), 3.70–3.63 (m, 6H), 3.55–3.50 (m, 4H), 2.92 (t, J = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 2.44 (s, 3H), 2.34 (s, 3H), 2.29–2.22 (m, 3H), 2.15–2.10 (m, 1H), 2.06–2.01 (m, 1H), 1.93–1.88 (m, 1H), 1.60–1.42 (m, 4H), 1.32–1.24 (m, 4H), 0.94 (s, 9H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  172.56, 172.43, 171.55, 170.20, 164.84, 164.43, 163.99, 151.92, 148.19, 141.68, 139.98, 138.39, 138.07, 135.23, 133.43, 131.64, 130.23, 130.11, 129.54, 129.11, 129.08, 127.89, 127.49, 124.02, 119.59, 76.13, 69.34, 67.01, 66.38, 59.16, 56.84, 56.76, 44.68, 42.12, 38.42, 36.84, 35.68, 35.34, 34.74, 28.98, 28.94, 26.86, 25.83, 25.56, 21.41, 16.42. HRMS (ESI) calcd for C<sub>54</sub>H<sub>68</sub>N<sub>10</sub>O<sub>7</sub>S [M + H]<sup>+</sup> 1001.5071, found 1001.5063. HPLC purity 99.74%.

4.1.27. N<sup>1</sup>-((S)-1-((2S,4R)-4-Hydroxy-2-((4-(4-methylthiazol-5-yl)benzyl)carbamoyl)pyrrolidin-1-yl)-3,3-dimethyl-1oxobutan-2-yl)-N<sup>9</sup>-(4-(2-((4-(2-((E)-3-methylbenzylidene)hydrazineyl)-6-morpholinopyrimidin-2-yl)oxy)ethyl)phenyl)nonanediamide (12q). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$ 10.85 (s, 1H), 9.79 (s, 1H), 8.98 (s, 1H), 8.56 (t, J = 6.1 Hz, 1H), 7.99 (s, 1H), 7.84 (d, J = 9.4 Hz, 1H), 7.53–7.46 (m, 4H), 7.42 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.40–7.36 (m, 2H), 7.29 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.20 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.17 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.06 (s, 1H), 5.12 (d, J = 3.6 Hz, 1H), 4.54 (d, J = 9.4 Hz, 1H), 4.46–4.39 (m, 2H), 4.33 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 4.21 (dd, J = 15.8, 5.5 Hz, 1H,  $3.72 - 3.61 \text{ (m, 6H)}, 3.56 - 3.48 \text{ (m, 4H)}, 3.56 - 3.48 \text{ (m, 5H)}, 3.56 - 3.58 \text{ (m, 5H)}, 3.56 - 3.58 \text{ (m, 5H)}, 3.56 - 3.58 \text{$ 2.92 (t, J = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 2.44 (s, 3H), 2.34 (s, 3H), 2.30–2.20 (m, 3H), 2.15–2.08 (m, 1H), 2.05–1.98 (m, 1H), 1.95–1.85 (m, 1H), 1.62-1.40 (m, 4H), 1.30-1.20 (m, 6H), 0.93 (s, 9H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  170.70, 170.56, 169.71, 168.32, 162.98, 162.57, 162.13, 150.06, 146.33, 139.81, 138.12, 136.53, 136.21, 133.37, 131.56, 129.77, 128.37, 128.24, 127.68, 127.25, 127.22, 126.03, 125.63, 122.15, 117.72, 74.27, 67.47, 65.14, 64.52, 57.29, 54.96, 54.87, 42.82, 38.67, 36.56, 34.99, 33.81, 33.46, 32.87, 27.21, 27.16, 24.98, 24.03, 23.76, 19.55, 14.56. HRMS (ESI) calcd for  $C_{55}H_{70}N_{10}O_7S [M + H]^+$ 1015.5228, found 1015.5218. HPLC purity 98.87%.

4.1.28. N<sup>1</sup>-((S)-1-((2S,4R)-4-Hydroxy-2-((4-(4-methylthiazol-5-yl)benzyl)carbamoyl)pyrrolidin-1-yl)-3,3-dimethyl-1oxobutan-2-yl)-N<sup>10</sup>-(4-(2-((4-(2-((E)-3-methylbenzylidene)hydrazineyl)-6-morpholinopyrimidin-2-yl)oxy)ethyl)phenyl)decanediamide (12h). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$ 10.85 (s, 1H), 9.79 (s, 1H), 8.98 (s, 1H), 8.56 (t, J = 6.0 Hz, 1H), 7.99 (s, 1H), 7.84 (d, J = 9.4 Hz, 1H), 7.54–7.46 (m, 4H), 7.42 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.38 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.29 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.20 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.17 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.06 (s, 1H), 5.12 (d, J = 3.6 Hz, 1H), 4.54 (d, J = 9.4Hz, 1H), 4.46–4.40 (m, 2H), 4.37–4.31 (m, 3H), 4.22 (dd, J = 15.8, 5.4 Hz, 1H), 3.70-3.62 (m, 6H), 3.56-3.50 (m, 4H), 2.92 (t, J = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 2.44 (s, 3H), 2.34 (s, 3H), 2.29–2.23 (m, 3H), 2.14–2.08 (m, 1H), 2.05–1.99 (m, 1H), 1.94–1.87 (m, 1H), 1.60-1.42 (m, 4H), 1.32-1.17 (m, 8H), 0.93 (s, 9H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  172.56, 172.42, 171.56, 170.19, 164.84, 164.43, 163.99, 151.92, 148.19, 141.67, 139.98, 138.39, 138.08, 135.24, 133.41, 131.64, 130.23, 130.11, 129.54, 129.11, 129.08, 127.89, 127.49, 124.01, 119.57, 76.13, 69.33, 67.01, 66.38, 59.16, 56.82, 56.74, 44.68, 42.11, 38.43, 36.86, 35.68, 35.32, 34.74, 29.24, 29.15, 29.13, 26.85, 25.89, 25.63, 21.41, 16.42. HRMS (ESI) calcd for C<sub>56</sub>H<sub>72</sub>N<sub>10</sub>O<sub>7</sub>S [M + H]<sup>+</sup> 1029.5384, found 1029.5378. HPLC purity 99.35%.

4.1.29.  $N^1$ -((S)-1-((2S,4R)-4-Hydroxy-2-((4-(4-methylthiazol-5-yl)benzyl)carbamoyl)pyrrolidin-1-yl)-3,3-dimethyl-1oxobutan-2-yl)- $N^{11}$ -(4-(2-((4-(2-((E)-3-methylbenzylidene)hydrazineyl)-6-morpholinopyrimidin-2-yl)oxy)ethyl)phenyl)undecanediamide (**12i**). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  10.85 (s, 1H), 9.79 (s, 1H), 8.98 (s, 1H), 8.55 (t, J = 6.1 Hz, 1H), 7.99 (s, 1H), 7.84 (d, I = 9.4 Hz, 1H), 7.52–7.47 (m, 4H), 7.42 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.39–7.37 (m, 2H), 7.29 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.20 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.17 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.06 (s, 1H), 5.11 (d, J = 3.2 Hz, 1H), 4.54 (d, J = 9.4 Hz, 1H), 4.45–4.40 (m, 2H), 4.33 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 4.21 (dd, J = 15.9, 5.4 Hz, 1H, 3.68 - 3.62 (m, 6H), 3.54 - 3.50 (m, 4H),2.92 (t, J = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 2.44 (s, 3H), 2.34 (s, 3H), 2.29–2.22 (m, 3H), 2.14-2.07 (m, 1H), 2.05-1.97 (m, 1H), 1.93-1.86 (m, 1H), 1.62–1.52 (m, 2H), 1.53–1.42 (m, 2H), 1.30–1.20 (m, 12H), 0.93 (s, 9H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$ 172.56, 172.42, 171.56, 170.18, 164.84, 164.43, 163.99, 151.93, 148.19, 141.67, 139.98, 138.39, 138.08, 135.23, 133.42, 131.64, 130.23, 130.11, 129.54, 129.11, 129.08, 127.89, 127.49, 124.01, 119.58, 76.13, 69.33, 67.01, 66.38, 59.15, 56.82, 56.73, 44.68, 42.11, 38.43, 36.86, 35.68, 35.33, 34.74, 29.34, 29.27, 29.22, 29.16, 29.13, 26.85, 25.91, 25.64, 21.41, 16.42. HRMS (ESI) calcd for  $C_{57}H_{74}N_{10}O_7S$  [M + H]<sup>+</sup> 1043.5541, found 1043.5527. HPLC purity 96.81%.

4.1.30. N<sup>1</sup>-((S)-1-((2S,4R)-4-Hydroxy-2-((4-(4-methylthiazol-5-yl)benzyl)carbamoyl)pyrrolidin-1-yl)-3,3-dimethyl-1oxobutan-2-yl)-N<sup>12</sup>-(4-(2-((4-(2-((E)-3-methylbenzylidene)hydrazineyl)-6-morpholinopyrimidin-2-yl)oxy)ethyl)phenyl)dodecanediamide (12j). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$ 10.86 (s, 1H), 9.79 (s, 1H), 8.98 (s, 1H), 8.56 (t, J = 6.1 Hz, 1H), 7.99 (d, J = 1.0 Hz, 1H), 7.84 (d, J = 9.4 Hz, 1H), 7.52-7.47 (m, 4H), 7.42 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.38 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.29 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.20 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.17 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 6.06 (s, 1H), 5.12 (brs, 1H), 4.54 (d, J = 9.4Hz, 1H), 4.46–4.40 (m, 2H), 4.38–4.30 (m, 3H), 4.22 (dd, J = 15.8, 5.5 Hz, 1H, 3.68-3.63 (m, 6H), 3.53 (t, J = 4.9 Hz, 4H), 2.92 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 2.44 (s, 3H), 2.34 (s, 3H), 2.29-2.22 (m, 3H), 2.13-2.07 (m, 1H), 2.06-2.00 (m, 1H), 1.94-1.87 (m, 1H), 1.57 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 1.53–1.40 (m, 2H), 1.30-1.22 (m, 12H), 0.93 (s, 9H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  171.47, 171.32, 170.47, 169.09, 163.73, 163.31, 162.87, 150.82, 147.09, 140.60, 138.89, 137.29, 136.98, 134.13, 132.31, 130.54, 129.14, 129.01, 128.44, 128.01, 127.98, 126.79, 126.40, 122.92, 118.48, 75.03, 68.24, 65.93, 65.28, 58.06, 55.72, 55.64, 43.59, 41.02, 37.33, 35.75, 34.59, 34.24, 33.64, 28.33, 28.29, 28.18, 28.12, 28.08, 28.04, 25.75, 24.82, 24.53, 20.31, 15.32. HRMS (ESI) calcd for C<sub>58</sub>H<sub>76</sub>N<sub>10</sub>O<sub>7</sub>S [M + H]<sup>+</sup> 1057.5697, found 1057.5696. HPLC purity 98.53%.

4.1.31. N<sup>1</sup>-((S)-1-((2S,4R)-4-Hydroxy-2-(((S)-1-(4-(4-methvlthiazol-5-yl)phenyl)ethyl)carbamoyl)pyrrolidin-1-yl)-3,3dimethyl-1-oxobutan-2-yl)-N<sup>6</sup>-(4-(2-((4-(2-((E)-3methylbenzylidene)hydrazineyl)-6-morpholinopyrimidin-2yl)oxy)ethyl)phenyl)adipamide (13a). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$  10.86 (s, 1H), 9.81 (s, 1H), 8.98 (s, 1H), 8.37 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.99 (s, 1H), 7.81 (d, J = 9.2 Hz, 1H), 7.53-7.46 (m, 4H), 7.43 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.37 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.29 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.20 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.17 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.06 (s, 1H), 5.10 (s, 1H), 4.96-4.88 (m, 1H), 4.51 (d, J = 9.3 Hz, 1H), 4.43 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 4.33 (t, J = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 4.28 (s, 1H), 3.69-3.64 (m, 4H), 3.64-3.58 (m, 2H), 3.56–3.49 (m, 4H), 2.93 (t, J = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 2.45 (s, 3H), 2.34 (s, 3H), 2.31–2.25 (m, 3H), 2.19–2.12 (m, 1H), 2.04–1.97 (m, 1H), 1.83–1.75 (m, 1H), 1.60–1.48 (m, 4H), 1.37 (d, J = 7.0 Hz, 3H), 0.94 (s, 9H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>) & 171.26, 170.35, 169.99, 168.98, 163.73, 163.31, 162.87, 150.85, 147.12, 144.03, 140.59, 137.29, 136.94, 134.13, 132.35, 130.48, 129.13, 129.06, 128.46, 128.19, 127.98, 126.40, 125.74, 125.61, 122.92, 118.50, 75.02, 68.14, 65.92, 65.28,

57.92, 55.78, 55.64, 47.06, 43.59, 37.08, 35.59, 34.56, 34.13, 33.64, 25.83, 24.55, 24.32, 21.81, 20.31, 15.36. HRMS (ESI) calcd for  $C_{53}H_{66}N_{10}O_7S$  [M + Na]<sup>+</sup> 1009.4735, found 1009.4711. HPLC purity 97.91%.

4.1.32. N<sup>1</sup>-((S)-1-((2S,4S)-4-Hydroxy-2-((4-(4-methylthiazol-5-yl)benzyl)carbamoyl)pyrrolidin-1-yl)-3,3-dimethyl-1oxobutan-2-yl)-N<sup>6</sup>-(4-(2-((4-(2-((E)-3-methylbenzylidene)hydrazineyl)-6-morpholinopyrimidin-2-yl)oxy)ethyl)phenyl)adipamide (**12dN**). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  10.85 (s, 1H), 9.80 (s, 1H), 8.98 (s, 1H), 8.63 (t, J = 6.1 Hz, 1H), 7.99 (s, 1H), 7.87 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.50 (t, J = 8.2 Hz, 3H), 7.47 (s, 1H), 7.42–7.37 (m, 4H), 7.29 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.20 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.17 (d, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 6.06 (s, 1H), 5.43 (d, J = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 4.49-4.41 (m, 2H), 4.39-4.31 (m, 3H), 4.26 (dd, J = 15.8, 5.5 Hz, 1H), 4.23–4.18 (m, 1H), 3.94 (dd, I = 10.0, 5.7 Hz, 1H), 3.69-3.64 (m, 4H), 3.55-3.51 (m, 4H)4H), 3.44 (dd, J = 10.0, 5.3 Hz, 1H), 2.92 (t, J = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 2.44 (s, 3H), 2.34 (s, 4H), 2.33–2.22 (m, 4H), 2.19–2.11 (m, 1H), 1.77-1.71 (m, 1H), 1.58-1.47 (m, 4H), 0.95 (s, 9H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  172.96, 172.74, 171.44, 170.46, 164.85, 164.44, 164.00, 148.22, 141.73, 139.68, 138.40, 138.04, 135.24, 133.47, 131.61, 130.20, 129.64, 129.49, 129.24, 129.16, 129.04, 128.02, 127.92, 127.82, 119.64, 76.14, 69.57, 67.01, 66.39, 65.40, 58.99, 57.16, 56.09, 44.69, 42.26, 37.40, 36.70, 35.13, 35.10, 34.74, 26.86, 25.64, 25.40, 21.42, 16.42. HRMS (ESI) calcd for  $C_{52}H_{64}N_{10}O_7S [M + Na]^+$  995.4578, found 995.4571. HPLC purity 95.44%.

**4.2. Molecular Docking.** The only available protein structure of PIKfyve was the crystal complex of PIKfyve, Figure 4, and Vac14 (PDB:7K2V) to date. Figure 4 and Vac14 were removed before protein preparation, which was operated by assigning bond orders and adding hydrogens in the Protein Preparation Wizard section of Maestro Version 11.9 (Schrodinger, LLC, New York, 2019). The chemical structure of apilimod was constructed and prepared by using the LigPrep section with the default settings and the OPLS3e force field. The grid box of the receptor was generated as the center of residue Leu119. Molecular docking was operated in extra precision by using the Glide section of Maestro. The final images were prepared by Pymol (http://pymol.org).

**4.3. Cell Line.** Human prostate cancer cell lines VCaP, PC3, 22RV1, and LNCaP were purchased from American Type Culture Collection (ATCC) and maintained under 5%  $CO_2$  at 37 °C in a medium according to ATCC's instruction. All cell lines were tested negative for mycoplasma and authenticated by genotyping.

4.4. Western Blot Analysis. The whole cell lysate was harvested in Pierce radioimmunoprecipitation assay (RIPA) buffer (ThermoScientific) containing protease and phosphatase inhibitor cocktails. Protein concentration was measured using the detergent compatible (DC) protein assay (Bio-Rad). Denatured lysates were separated on NuPage 4-12% Bis-Tris Midi Protein gels (Novex) and transferred to 0.45  $\mu$ m polyvinylidene difluoride membrane (Immobilon) using a TransBlot Turbo dry transfer machine (Bio-Rad). The membrane was incubated in blocking buffer (5% non-fat dry milk, Tris-buffered saline with 0.1% Tween-20) for 1 h at room temperature. The membrane was then incubated with primary antibody for 1 h at room temperature, followed by overnight incubation at 4 °C. Chemiluminescent detection using ECL Prime (Amersham) and signal were visualized by an Odyssey imaging system (Li-Cor). Primary antibodies were PIKfyve (R&D, AF7885), LC3A/B (CST, 12741S), GAPDH (CST,

3683S), and vinculin (CST, 18799S). All antibodies were used at dilutions suggested by the manufacturers.

**4.5. TMT-Labeled Quantitative Proteomic Analysis.** VCaP cells were plated at  $3 \times 10^6$  cells per well in a 6-well plate overnight prior to treatment with DMSO or 300 nM **PIK5-12d** for 4 h. Whole cell lysates were collected in RIPA buffer (Thermo Fisher Scientific) without protease inhibitor. Total protein (75  $\mu$ g) per condition was labeled with TMT isobaric Label Reagent (Thermo Fisher Scientific) according to the manufacturer's protocol and subjected to 12 fractions of liquid chromatography–mass spectrometry (LC–MS)/MS analysis.

4.6. In Vivo Experiment. All in vivo experiments were approved by the University of Michigan Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee. LTL-331R tumor was kindly provided by Dr. Yuzhuo Wang's group in Vancouver Prostate Centre and maintained subcutaneously on both sides of dorsal flanks of male CB17 severe combined immunodeficiency mice. PIK5-12d was freshly dissolved in the vehicle (5% DMSO and 95% of 40% hydroxypropyl- $\beta$ -cyclodextrin) for once-daily IP injection. Pharmacodynamic assessment was performed by once-daily administration of either vehicle, 4 or 10 mg/kg PIK5-12d for 3 days, and tumor samples were collected 24 h post last dose on day 4 for protein and TUNEL in situ cell death assay assessment. Long-term tumor efficacy of the LTL-331R model was determined by once-daily administration of PIK5-12d at 5 days on and 2 days off regimen for 17 days. Tumors were measured at least twice per week using digital calipers following the formula (p/6)  $(L \times W^2)$ , where L and Ware the length and width of the tumors, respectively.

**4.7. TUNEL Assay.** Tumor tissue was fixed in formalin and embedded into paraffin. Formalin-fixed, paraffin-embedded tissue was sectioned into 5  $\mu$ m thickness and then deparaffined and rehydrated by xylene and ethanol gradients. TUNEL signal was stained using In Situ Cell Death Detection Kit TMR (Roche) according to manufacturer's instruction. TUNEL signal was visualized by a Zeiss fluorescence microscope.

#### ASSOCIATED CONTENT

#### **3** Supporting Information

The Supporting Information is available free of charge at https://pubs.acs.org/doi/10.1021/acs.jmedchem.3c00912.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra, and HPLC traces for all degraders (PDF)

Molecular formula strings (CSV)

Docking pose of compound 1 in PIKfyve (PDB)

The data set of TMT proteomics (XLSX)

### AUTHOR INFORMATION

#### **Corresponding Authors**

- Zhen Wang State Key Laboratory of Chemical Biology, Shanghai Institute of Organic Chemistry, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Shanghai 200032, People's Republic of China;
  orcid.org/0000-0001-8762-6089; Email: wangz@ sioc.ac.cn
- Arul M. Chinnaiyan Michigan Center for Translational Pathology, Department of Pathology, and Department of Urology, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48109, United States; Howard Hughes Medical Institute, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48109, United States; Email: arul@med.umich.edu

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Ke Ding – State Key Laboratory of Chemical Biology, Shanghai Institute of Organic Chemistry, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Shanghai 200032, People's Republic of China; Institute of Basic Medicine and Cancer (IBMC), Chinese Academy of Sciences, Hangzhou, Zhejiang 310022, People's Republic of China; International Cooperative Laboratory of Traditional Chinese Medicine Modernization and Innovative Drug Discovery of Chinese Ministry of Education (MOE), Guangzhou City Key Laboratory of Precision Chemical Drug Development, College of Pharmacy, Jinan University, Guangzhou 511400, People's Republic of China;
orcid.org/0000-0001-9016-812X; Phone: +86-21-5492 5100; Email: dingk@sioc.ac.cn

## Authors

- **Chungen Li** State Key Laboratory of Chemical Biology, Shanghai Institute of Organic Chemistry, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Shanghai 200032, People's Republic of China
- Yuanyuan Qiao Michigan Center for Translational Pathology and Department of Pathology, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48109, United States
- Xia Jiang Michigan Center for Translational Pathology, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48109, United States
- Lianchao Liu State Key Laboratory of Chemical Biology, Shanghai Institute of Organic Chemistry, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Shanghai 200032, People's Republic of China
- Yang Zheng Michigan Center for Translational Pathology, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48109, United States
- Yudi Qiu State Key Laboratory of Chemical Biology, Shanghai Institute of Organic Chemistry, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Shanghai 200032, People's Republic of China
- **Caleb Cheng** Michigan Center for Translational Pathology, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48109, United States; o orcid.org/0000-0003-1872-2661
- Fengtao Zhou International Cooperative Laboratory of Traditional Chinese Medicine Modernization and Innovative Drug Discovery of Chinese Ministry of Education (MOE), Guangzhou City Key Laboratory of Precision Chemical Drug Development, College of Pharmacy, Jinan University, Guangzhou 511400, People's Republic of China;
  orcid.org/0000-0003-2518-7855
- Yang Zhou International Cooperative Laboratory of Traditional Chinese Medicine Modernization and Innovative Drug Discovery of Chinese Ministry of Education (MOE), Guangzhou City Key Laboratory of Precision Chemical Drug Development, College of Pharmacy, Jinan University, Guangzhou 511400, People's Republic of China;
  orcid.org/0000-0003-4167-6413
- Weixue Huang State Key Laboratory of Chemical Biology, Shanghai Institute of Organic Chemistry, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Shanghai 200032, People's Republic of China
- Xiaomei Ren State Key Laboratory of Chemical Biology, Shanghai Institute of Organic Chemistry, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Shanghai 200032, People's Republic of China
- Yuzhuo Wang The Vancouver Prostate Centre, Vancouver General Hospital and Department of Urologic Sciences, The University of British Columbia, Vancouver, British Columbia V6H 3Z6, Canada

Complete contact information is available at: https://pubs.acs.org/10.1021/acs.jmedchem.3c00912

## Author Contributions

◆C.L. and Y.Q. contributed equally to this work.

## Notes

The authors declare the following competing financial interest(s): A patent application was filed on the PIKfyve degraders described in this study in which A.M.C., K.D., L.C., Y.Q., and Z.W. are named as inventors. This work received partially financial support from Livzon Pharmaceutical Group Inc.

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# ABBREVIATIONS

AcOH, acetic acid; ATCC, American type culture collection;  $CH_2Cl_2$ , dichloromethane;  $DC_{50}$ , the half-maximal degradation concentration;  $D_{max}$ , the maximal degradation rate; DMF, N,Ndimethylformamide; DMSO, dimethyl sulfoxide; EtOH, ethyl alcohol; Et<sub>3</sub>N, triethylamine; HATU, 2-(7-azabenzotriazol-1yl)-N,N,N',N'-tetramethyluronium hexafluorophosphate; HRMS, high-resolution mass; IP, intraperitoneal; NaH, sodium hydride; PDX, patient-derived xenograft; PI(3)P, phosphatidylinositol-3-phosphate; PI(3,5)P<sub>2</sub>, phosphatidylinositol-3,5-bisphosphate; POI, protein-of-interest; PROTAC, proteolysis-targeting chimera; SAR, structure—activity relationship; SDR, structure—degradation relationship; TFA, trifluoroacetic acid; TLC, thin-layer chromatography; TMT, tandem mass tags; UPS, ubiquitin-proteasome system; VHL, von Hippel—Lindau

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