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An imidazo[1,2-a] pyridine-pyridine derivative potently inhibits FLT3-ITD and FLT3-ITD secondary mutants, including gilteritinibresistant FLT3-ITD/F691L

Xiuqi Wanga,b, **Rosa Anna DeFilippis**^c , **Tsigereda Weldemichael**b, **Naresh Gunaganti**b, **Phuc Tran**b, **Yuet-Kin Leung**d, **Neil P. Shah**^c , **Hong-yu Li**b,*

^aDepartment of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, College of Medicine, University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, Little Rock, AR, USA

bDepartment of Pharmaceutical Sciences, College of Pharmacy, University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, Little Rock, AR, USA

^cDivision of Hematology/Oncology, University of California, San Francisco, CA, USA

^dDepartment of Pharmacology & Toxicology, College of Medicine, University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, Little Rock, AR, USA

Abstract

FLT3 activating mutations are detected in approximately 30 % of newly diagnosed acute myeloid leukemia (AML) cases, most commonly consisting of internal tandem duplication (ITD) mutations in the juxtamembrane region. Recently, several FLT3 inhibitors have demonstrated clinical activity and three are currently approved – midostaurin, quizartinib, and gilteritinib. Midostaurin is a firstgeneration FLT3 inhibitor with minimal activity as monotherapy. Midostaurin lacks selectivity and is only approved by the USFDA for use in combination with other chemotherapy agents. The second-generation inhibitors quizartinib and gilteritinib display improved specificity and selectivity, and have been approved for use as monotherapy. However, their clinical efficacies are limited in part due to the emergence of drug-resistant FLT3 secondary mutations in the tyrosine kinase domain at positions D835 and F691. Therefore, in order to overcome drug resistance and further improve outcomes, new compounds targeting FLT3-ITD with secondary mutants are urgently needed. In this study, through the structural modification of a reported compound **Ling-5e**, we identified compound **24** as a FLT3 inhibitor that is equally potent against FLT3-ITD

^{*}Corresponding author. lih1@uthscsa.edu (H.-y. Li).

Declaration of competing interest

The authors declare that they have no known competing financial interests or personal relationships that could have appeared to influence the work reported in this paper.

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and the clinically relevant mutants FLT3-ITD/D835Y, and FLT3-ITD/F691L. Its inhibitory effects were demonstrated in both cell viability assays and western blots analyses. When tested against cell lines lacking activating mutations in FLT3, no non-specific cytotoxicity effect was observed. Interestingly, molecular docking results showed that compound **24** may adopt different binding conformations with FLT3-F691L compared to FLT3, which may explain its retained activity against FLT3-ITD/F691L. In summary, compound **24** has inhibition potency on FLT3 comparable to gilteritinib, but a more balanced inhibition on FLT3 secondary mutations, especially FLT3-ITD/ F691L which is gilteritinib resistant. Compound **24** may serve as a promising lead for the drug development of either primary or relapsed AML with FLT3 secondary mutations.

Keywords

FLT3-ITD; Cancer; AML; Mutation

1. Introduction

Gain-of-function mutations in FMS-like tyrosine kinase 3 (FLT3) are detected in approximately 30 % of newly diagnosed acute myeloid leukemia (AML) cases [1,2]. Because of its high frequency and association with poor prognosis, mutant FLT3 is an attractive target for AML therapy [3].

FLT3 is composed of four domains: the extracellular portion that binds FLT3 ligand, the transmembrane (TM) domain, the juxtamembrane (JM) domain, and a highly conserved intracellular kinase domain (Fig. 1, Panel A). The 3D structure of the FLT3 kinase domain includes a smaller N-terminal lobe, a larger C-terminal lobe and a hinge region that connects the two lobes. The key structures related to kinase activity include the JM domain, which serves an autoinhibitory function, the activation loop (A-loop) and the catalytic loop (Fig. 1, Panel B). The JM domain contains several key tyrosine residues as phosphorylation sites. The A-loop also has 1–3 tyrosine residues. The A-loop is structurally flexible and has two conformations: DFG-in or DFG-out. The DFG motif refers to three highly conserved amino acid residues at the base of the A-loop (Asp829-Phe830-Gly831 in FLT3). In the DFG-in (active) conformation, the A-loop is in an open and extended state, characterized by the Asp829 residue pointing at the ATP-binding pocket and the Phe830 residue pointing to the back cleft. In this conformation, the Asp829 residue interacts with ATP and promotes kinase activation. In the DFG-out (inactive) conformation, the A-loop is in a closed state, precluding binding of ATP and substrates. Thus, the kinase domain adopts an autoinhibited conformation, characterized by the Asp829 residue pointing to the back cleft and the Phe830 residue pointing to the ATP-binding pocket [4,5]. Notably, the DFG-out conformation generates a hydrophobic pocket adjacent to the ATP-binding pocket, behind the "gatekeeper" residue F691 [6].

The native or "wild type" (WT) FLT3 is kept inactive monometrically. The JM domain binds in a strategic area of FLT3 and interacts with multiple key structural components, thus working as a wedge that stabilizes the inactive state of FLT3 [7]. The A-loop, blocked by the JM domain, and stabilized by multiple residues' interactions, is kept in

the autoinhibited DFG-out conformation (Fig. 1, Panel B). Upon binding to FLT3 ligand (FL), FLT3 dimerizes and brings the two intracellular domains into close proximity. The subsequent transphosphorylation of tyrosine residues at the JM domains forces them to wind back, exposing the A-loops; while the following phosphorylation of A-loops forces them to adopt the DFG-in conformation, promoting the further activation of FLT3 [8]. FLT3 activating mutations have two subtypes: internal tandem duplication at the juxtamembrane domain ("FLT3-ITD"), and point mutations in the activation loop of the tyrosine kinase domain ("FLT3-TKD") (Fig. 1, Panel A). FLT3-ITD disrupts the inhibitory function of the JM domain, thus promoting FLT3 activation in the absence of FLT3 ligand; FLT3-TKD mutations also enhance unregulated FLT3 activation through stabilization of the active, DFG-in conformation.

Based on their binding mode with the target kinase, inhibitors are categorized as type I or type II. Type I inhibitors bind to the ATP-binding pocket while type II inhibitors bind to both the ATP-binding pocket and the hydrophobic pocket adjacent to the ATP-binding pocket, which is only accessible when the A-loop is in the inactive DFG-out conformation. Two generations of FLT3 inhibitors have been discovered and studied in clinical trials, with three FLT3 inhibitors currently approved for clinical use (Fig. 2, Panel A). Midostaurin is a type I, first-generation FLT3 inhibitor with minimal activity as monotherapy. Midostaurin lacks selectivity and is only approved by the USFDA for use in combination with cytotoxic chemotherapy agents [9-11]. As a type II [12], second-generation FLT3 inhibitor, quizartinib [13-19] has substantially improved specificity and selectivity, and was approved in Japan as monotherapy for AML cases with FLT3-ITD mutation. Quizartinib displays substantial initial clinical efficacy, but resistant mutations rapidly emerge at residues D835 and F691 [20-22]. The D835Y mutation in the activation loop breaks the hydrogen bond between Asp835 and Ser838 which helps stabilize the DFG-out conformation [23]. Because the type II inhibitor quizartinib only binds to a DFG-out conformation, FLT3-D835Y is highly quizartinib-resistant. The F691L mutation at the "gatekeeper" residue is bulky and leads to steric clash with quizartinib, preventing its binding to the hydrophobic pocket behind this position [24-26].

Gilteritinib is a second-generation FLT3 inhibitor that was recently approved by USFDA as monotherapy for the treatment of relapsed or refractory AML with FLT3 mutations [27-29]. As a type I inhibitor, gilteritinib is not impacted by the D835Y mutation. However, its inhibitory effects are diminished by steric clash caused by the F691L mutation [30]. In order to overcome drug resistance, new compounds with balanced inhibition against FLT3-ITD and FLT3-ITD with secondary mutations are needed, especially FLT3-ITD/F691L which is gilteritinib resistant.

Imidazo [l,2-a]pyridine derivatives were previously identified to potentially have promising FLT3 inhibitory effects [31]. Our studies identified 7-(4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl)-3-(5- (pyridin-3-yl)thiophen-2-yl)imidazo [1,2-a]pyridine (**Ling-5o**) as a balanced FLT3-ITD and FLT3-ITD secondary mutants inhibitor (Fig. 2, Panel B) [32]. However, compared to quizartinib and gilteritinib, the inhibitory potency of **Ling-5o** is low, with sub-micromolar IC₅₀s on MOLM14 cells and MOLM14 cells with drug resistant secondary mutations. Therefore, new FLT3 inhibitors with balanced inhibitory effects on FLT3-ITD and FLT3-

ITD secondary mutations, that are more potent than **Ling-5o,** are needed. Here, we report that through structural modifications, 6-(7-(1-methyl-1H-pyrazol-4-yl)imidazo [1,2 a]pyridin-3-yl)-N-(4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl)pyridin-2-amine (**24**) and its analogues were identified as balanced FLT3-ITD and FLT3-ITD secondary mutants inhibitors with improved potency.

2. Results and discussion

2.1. Discovery

Our discovery strategy is to develop a scaffold with high potency on FLT3 first and then screen derivatives to identify compounds that are equally potent towards FLT3 and its drugresistant mutants. Our previous studies identified 3-(5-(3-chlorophenyl)thiophen-2-yl)-7-(1 methyl-1H-pyrazol-4-yl)imidazo [1,2-a]pyridine (**Ling-5e**) as a FLT3 inhibitor. Although there is a gap between **Ling-5e**'s cell-based inhibition of FLT3-ITD and its inhibition of FLT3-ITD/D835Y and FLT3-ITD/F691L, the potency of **Ling-5e** against FLT3 kinase is much higher than the potency of **Ling-5o** (Fig. 2, Panel B). Therefore, we chose **Ling-5e** as our lead compound for further optimization. Our initial aim was to improve the potency of this scaffold against FLT3, and then screen for compounds with a balanced potency against FLT3-ITD, FLT3-ITD/D835Y, and FLT3-ITD/F691L.

From the previously identified binding pose of Ling-5e in FLT3 model, the imidazo [1,2-a]pyridine fragment binds to the hinge region, forming hydrogen bonds with C694 residue. The connective thiophene fragment does not appear to have any crucial interactions with surrounding residues. In addition, the pocket surrounding the thiophen fragment is able to accommodate both five-member rings and six-member rings [31,32]. Finally, the binding of the chlorophenyl fragment and the gatekeeper residue F691 is stabilized by pi-pi interactions; however, this pi-pi interaction is lost when F691 is mutated into leucine (Fig. 3, Panel A). Based on these evaluations, we maintained the imidazo [1,2-a]pyridine structure, which is crucial for hinge binding. Then, we changed the thiophene fragment into six-member aromatic rings. Finally, we switched the chlorophenyl group into various fragments, including non-aromatic six-member rings and phenyl rings with different substitutes. Subsequent screenings of the derivatives led to the discovery of 6-(7-(1-methyl-1H-pyrazol-4-yl)imidazo [1,2-a]pyridin-3-yl)-N-(4- (methylsulfonyl)phenyl)pyridin-2-amine (**24**) as an improved structure for FLT3 and FLT3 mutants inhibition (Fig. 3, Panel B).

2.2. Structure-activity relationship study

MOLM14 is a patient-derived AML cell line with a FLT3-ITD mutation. MOLM14 cells and MOLM14 derivatives sublines that harbor specific secondary mutations were used to verify the compounds' activity against FLT3 and FLT3 mutants. K562 is another patientderived leukemia cell line that lacks FLT3 activating mutations that is used as a control cell line to screen for non-specific toxicity. We first compared the structures with different six-member aromatic rings and substitution positions (Table 1). Comparing **2**, **3**, and **4**, we found that compounds with a meta- and para-substitution on the six-member ring may be better than those with an ortho-substitution. The comparison between **1** and **3** also

indicates that the effects of pyridine and benzene as the six-member ring are comparable. We then chose pyridine as the six-member aromatic ring and kept exploring the different groups that are substituted at the meta-position (Table 2). The comparison between **5** and **7** indicates that a NH-group instead of a trisubstituted N, that directly connected to the six-member ring, may be beneficial for the potency. Compounds **8–12** show that phenoxy ethyl piperidine series as R_2 has very beneficial antiproliferative effects on MOLM14 cells, but not necessarily on MOLM14-F691L cells. Compounds **13–18** show that with alkyl benzene series as R_2 , the antiproliferative effects of compounds on MOLM14 cells is associated with the molecular size of the alkyl groups. Smaller alkyl groups may be more beneficial than bigger ones. Interestingly, compound **13** has high potency equally on MOLM14 and MOLM14-D835Y cells; its potency margin on MOLM14-F691L cells against MOLM14 cells is also relatively low. However, it also inhibits the proliferation of K562 cells, indicating a low selectivity margin on FLT3 against other kinases. Compounds **19–23** show that methoxy substituted benzenes as R2 positions also have beneficial effects on inhibiting MOLM14 cells. Compounds **24–32** show the effect of an electro withdrawing group substituted phenol ring as R_2 . Interestingly, 24 is observed to possess potent and balanced inhibitory effects on MOLM14 cells and MOLM14 cells with secondary FLT3 mutations without noticeable inhibition on K562 cells. Several compounds with other groups as R2 were also synthesized and screened. The results are shown as **33–39**. Finally, in order to compare methyl pyrazole and methyl sulfonic benzene at R_1 position, compounds **40–43** were synthesized. By comparison to their analogues, these compounds were observed to have weaker antiproliferative effects on MOLM14 cells, indicating that methyl pyrazole is better than methyl sulfonyl benzene at R_1 position. Interestingly, although the antiproliferative effects of compound **42** is relatively low, it has a low potency margin on MOLM14-F691L cells against MOLM14 cells.

The screenings resulted in the discovery of several compounds (**18**, **20**, **24**, and **42**) with balanced inhibition on MOLM14 cells and MOL M14 cells with secondary FLT3 mutations. Meanwhile, they largely lack antiproliferative effects on K562 cells. Interestingly, 6-(7-(1-methyl-1H-pyrazol-4-yl)imidazo [1,2-a]pyridin-3-yl)- N-(4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl)pyridin-2-amine (**24**) was observed to have a potent and balanced inhibition on MOLM14, MOLM14-D835Y, and MOLM14-F691L cells. Its inhibitory effects are more potent than **Ling-5o** and are more balanced than gilteritinib. The cell antiproliferative effects of compound **24** was verified with cell viability experiments comparing with gilteritinib. From the cell viability curve, compound **24** has comparable inhibition to gilteritinib on MOLM14 cells, but has much more balanced inhibition on MOLM14 cells with secondary FLT3 mutations (Fig. 4).

2.3. Cytotoxicity assay and kinase inhibition assay of selected compounds

We selected compounds **18**, **20**, **24**, and **42** for further studies. In addition to K562 cells, we also tested these compounds' antiproliferative effects on adherent cell lines MDA-MB-231 and HEK-293, which both lack FLT3 activating mutations. There were no profound antiproliferative effects observed in either cell line (Table 3), indicating that these compounds are not cytotoxic [33]. These compounds were also subjected to FLT3 kinase inhibition assays. Their IC₅₀ values on FLT3 kinase correspond with their IC₅₀ values on the

MOLM14 cell line (Table 3). This result strongly supports the use of the MOLM14 cell line to assess compounds' inhibition effects on FLT3 kinase.

2.4. Western blot

In order to understand the biochemical effects of compound **24** on FLT3 and its downstream targets, we performed Western blot analysis. MOLM14, MOLM14-D835Y, and MOLM14- F691L cell lines were treated for 2 h with $1/10X$, $1X$, $10X$, and $100X$ of 24 's IC_{50} on MOLM14 cells (4.5 nM). Compound **24** was observed to have inhibitory effects on the phosphorylation of FLT3 and ERK in MOLM14 cells, with noticeable signal downregulation starting at 1X IC₅₀, and nearly complete signal downregulation at $10X$ IC₅₀ (Fig. 5, Panel A). Its effects on MOLM14-D835Y and MOLM14-F691L cells are similar to that seen in MOLM14 cells. A trace phospho-ERK signal is observed in MOLM-F691L cells after 10X IC50 treatment with compound **24**; however, in general, compound **24** has comparable inhibitory effects on phospho-FLT3 and phospho-ERK in MOLM14 cells and MOLM14 cells with secondary FLT3 mutations (Fig. 5, Panel B and C). The result of Western blot verifies that **24** inhibits the proliferation of MOLM14, MOLM14-D835Y, and MOLM14- F691L by inhibiting their FLT3 phosphorylation and activation of downstream pathways.

2.5. Molecular docking

The FLT3-D835Y mutation does not induce significant conformational changes of the ATPbinding pocket in the DFG-in conformation of FLT3. Compound **24**, being a type I inhibitor that binds to FLT3 in the active conformation, maintains its inhibitory potency on the FLT3-D835Y mutation. Therefore, it is expected that MOLM14-D835Y cells are sensitive to compound **24**. Furthermore, in order to understand the structural basis of **24**'s maintained inhibitory effects on the FLT3-F691L mutation, we performed computer-aided molecular docking. The results showed that **24** bind to FLT3-WT with its methyl-pyridine warhead directed into the ATP-binding pocket, forming hydrogen bonds with amino acid residues C694 and C695, as well as aromatic - H bonds with L616, C694, C695, and F830 (Figure 6, **Panel A**). Interestingly, the predicted binding mode of 24 with FLT3-F691L is identical to that with FLT3-WT (**re 6, Panel A**).). Interestingly, the predicted binding mode of 24 with FLT3-F691L is identical to that with FLT3-WT (Figure 6, **Panel B**). The F691 residue of FLT3 is known to engage in $\pi-\pi$ stacking interactions with the majority of FLT3 inhibitors used clinically [12, 20, 34, 35]. However, the F691L mutation primarily confers resistance through two mechanisms: 1) the disruption of previous interactions with inhibitors and 2) an increase in steric clash on-site. Notably, compound **24** is predicted to lack crucial molecular interactions with F691. Consequently, the F691L mutation is unlikely to substantially reduce the binding affinity between compound **24** and FLT3. Moreover, the clash scores do not exhibit a significant increase between compound **24** and FLT3 with the F691L mutation. In conclusion, the FLT3 F691L mutation neither substantially reduces the binding affinity between FLT3 and compound 24 nor significantly increases steric clash. The results of molecular docking provide insights into the maintained potency of **24** on MOLM14-F691L cells.

2.6. Kinase selectivity profiling

To evaluate the kinase selectivity of compound **24**, we conducted a site-directed competition binding assay for 97 kinases (Fig. 7). The results revealed that at 4.5 nM concentration, compound **24** displayed interactions (>65 % wash-off) only with FLT3 and TRKA. Notably, simultaneous inhibition of FLT3 and KIT causes profound myelosuppression through a synthetic lethal mechanism, and is also the reason for multiple side effects of FLT3 inhibitors [33-35]. However, compound **24** showed minimal binding affinity with KIT, highlighting its high selectivity for FLT3 over KIT. In summary, compound **24** is a selective FLT3 inhibitor, and is only observed to bind to TRKA as a side kinase target.

3. Conclusion

Although three FLT3 inhibitors have been clinically approved, there remains an unmet need for an inhibitor with balanced inhibition of FLT3-ITD and FLT3-ITD secondary mutants, specifically on FLT3-ITD/D835Y and FLT3-ITD/F691L. Through structural modifications of **Ling-5e** and subsequent screenings, we identified 6-(7-(1-methyl-1H-pyrazol-4 yl)imidazo [1,2-a]pyridin-3-yl)-N-(4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl)pyridin-2-amine (compound **24**) as a potent FLT3-ITD and FLT3-ITD secondary mutants inhibitor. Its cell-based inhibitory effects are more potent than previously reported **Ling-5o**. It has comparable antiproliferative effects to gilteritinib on FLT3-ITD expressing cell line MOLM14; however, its inhibitory effects on MOLM14-D835Y and MOLM14-F691L cells is more balanced than gilteritinib. From the results of Western blot analysis, compound **24** inhibits the proliferation of FLT3 mutated cell lines by inhibiting the phosphorylation of FLT3 and its activation of downstream targets. No non-specific cytotoxic effect was observed with compound **24**. Interestingly, our molecular docking results indicate that it may have flexible binding modes with FLT3 and FLT3 mutants, with either methyl-pyridine or methyl-sulfonyl-benzene warhead directing inside the ATP-binding pocket; which may explain its balanced inhibitory effects on FLT3 and FLT3 mutants. Finally, the kinase selectivity profiling of compound **24** showed that it is a selective FLT3 inhibitor, with relative lower binding affinity for TRKA and other kinases. In conclusion, compound **24** is a selective FLT3 inhibitor with a balanced inhibition on FLT3-ITD, FLT3-ITD/D835Y, and FLT3-ITD/F691L, and may serve as a promising lead for the drug development of the treatment of both primary and relapsed AML with FLT3 mutations.

Recently, numerous exciting works have been reported in the discovery of FLT3 inhibitors, many of them observed inhibitory effects with their lead compounds on FLT3-ITD/F691L dependent cell lines [36-40]. However, the activities of these FLT3 inhibitors against FLT3- ITD/F691L versus FLT3-ITD are reduced, indicating possibly reduced clinical efficacy in AML patients with FLT3-ITD/F691L secondary mutations. In addition, impressive studies have been reported by the Lu group on the identification of FLT3 inhibitors with equivalent activity against artificially engineered Ba/F3-FLT3-ITD cells and Ba/F3-FLT3- ITD/F691L cells, indicating a balanced inhibition on FLT3-ITD and FLT3-ITD/F691L [41,42]. However, the Ba/F3 cells are mice-derived, and may not reflect the potential activity of these FLT3 inhibitors in AML patients. In contrast, the patient-derived MOLM14 cell line and sublines we employ are more clinically relevant, and may better reflect how FLT3

inhibitors work on AML patients. Therefore, the observation of balanced inhibition of compound **24** on MOLM14 and MOLM14-FLT3-F691L is unique and of vital importance.

4. Experimental section

4.1. Chemistry

All the starting materials were obtained from commercial suppliers and used without further purification. Thermo Finnigan LCQ Deca with Thermo Surveyor LCMS System at variable wavelengths of 254 nm and 214 nm was used to monitor the reaction and test the purity of the compounds. The purity of all the final compounds is >95 %. The water-methanol gradient buffered with 0.1 % formic acid was used as the mobile phase for the HPLC system. NMR spectra was completed on a Varian 400 MHz instrument. The ¹H NMR spectra and 13 C spectra were recorded at 400 MHz and 101 MHz, respectively. All final compounds were purified using Silica gel (0.035e0.070 mm, 60 Å) flash chromatography, unless otherwise noted. Microwave assisted reactions were completed in sealed vessels using a Biotage Initiator microwave synthesizer (Biotage, Uppsala, Sweden).

4.1.1. The general synthetic scheme—Scheme 1 depicts the general synthetic route of compounds **1–43**. The synthesis of intermediate **I, II** and compound **1** was described in another report. 4-chloro-2-amino pyridine and 2-chloroacetaldehyde were subjected to a condensation, a Suzuki reaction, and a palladium catalyzed Heck type coupling to yield compound **1**. Further Buchwald-Hartwig cross coupling reactions of compound **1** with respective nonaromatic-amines or aromatic-amines afforded compound **5–39** in 30–40 % yields, respectively. Compounds **2–4** were synthesized from **II** by the same palladium catalyzed Heck type coupling as **1** with a higher temperature and longer reaction time, because of lower reactivity of the benzene ring than pyridine. Compounds **40–43** were afforded from **III** by the same Buchwald-Hartwig cross coupling as reaction d.

4.1.2. Synthesis of 3-(2-chlorophenyl)-7-(1-methyl-1H-pyrazol-4-yl)imidazo

[1,2-a]pyridine, 2—Compound **II** (1.50 g, 7.57 mmol), 1,2-dichlorobenzene (3.34 g, 22.70 mmol), potassium carbonate (2.61 g, 18.92 mmol) were dissolved into 20 mL mixed solvent (Dioxane: $H_2O = 10:1$). The resulting reaction mixture was degassed with nitrogen for 5–10 min. After that, Pd(PPh₃)₄ (0.87 g, 757 µmol) and Pd(OAc)₂ (85 mg, 378 µmol) were added. The resulting mixture was stirred at 120 $^{\circ}$ C under N₂ atmosphere for 24 h (sealed bottle). After completion of reaction, the reaction mixture was filtered and concentrated in vacuo. Flash chromatography (MeOH/DCM 0–7 %) yielded compound 2 as a yellow solid (0.71 g, 30.39 %). MS m/z [M + 1] 309.2. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, cdcl3) δ 7.83 (d, $J = 0.7$ Hz, 1H), 7.81 (dd, $J = 7.2$, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 7.73 (dd, $J = 1.7$, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 7.71 (s, 1H), 7.68 (s, 1H), 7.60–7.55 (m, 1H), 7.50–7.46 (m, 1H), 7.43–7.39 (m, 2H), 6.94 (dd, $J = 7.2$, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 3.98 (s, 3H). 13C NMR (101 MHz, cdcl3) δ 146.58, 137.05, 134.70, 134.33, 132.85, 130.39, 130.37, 129.54, 128.28, 127.52, 127.38, 124.63, 122.88, 121.40, 112.23, 111.39, 39.43.

4.1.3. Synthesis of 3-(3-chlorophenyl)-7-(1-methyl-1H-pyrazol-4-yl)imidazo [1,2-a]pyridine, 3—Compound **II** (1.00 g, 5.04 mmol), 1,3-dichlorobenzene (2.22 g, 15.13 mmol), potassium carbonate (1.39 g, 10.09 mmol) were dissolved into 15 mL mixed solvent

(Dioxane: $H_2O = 10:1$). The resulting reaction mixture was degassed with nitrogen for 5–10 min. After that, Pd(PPh₃)₄ (0.58 g, 504 µmol) and Pd(OAc)₂ (57 mg, 252 µmol) were added. The resulting mixture was stirred at 120 $^{\circ}$ C under N₂ atmosphere for 24 h (sealed bottle). After completion of reaction, the reaction mixture was filtered and concentrated in vacuo. Flash chromatography (MeOH/DCM 0–7 %) yielded compound 3 as a yellow solid (0.52 g, 33.38 %). MS m/z [M + 1] 309.2. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, cdcl3) δ 8.34–8.27 (m, 1H), 7.83 (d, $J = 1.8$ Hz, 1H), 7.71 (d, $J = 2.0$ Hz, 2H), 7.67 (q, $J = 2.3$ Hz, 1H), 7.57–7.55 (m, 1H), 7.49–7.43 (m, 2H), 7.42–7.36 (m, 1H), 7.01–6.90 (m, 1H), 3.98 (s, 3H). 13C NMR (101 MHz, cdcl3) δ 147.13, 137.02, 133.62, 132.17, 130.69, 129.40, 128.57, 128.21, 128.01, 127.72, 127.56, 125.91, 123.43, 121.18, 112.43, 112.08, 39.44.

4.1.4. Synthesis of 3-(4-chlorophenyl)-7-(1-methyl-1H-pyrazol-4-yl)imidazo

[1,2-a]pyridine, 4—Compound **II** (1.50 g, 7.57 mmol), 1,4-dichlorobenzene (3.34 g, 22.70 mmol), potassium carbonate (2.61 g, 18.92 mmol) were dissolved into 20 mL mixed solvent (Dioxane: $H_2O = 10:1$). The resulting reaction mixture was degassed with nitrogen for 5–10 min. After that, Pd(PPh₃)₄ (0.87 g, 757 µmol) and Pd(OAc)₂ (85 mg, 378 µmol) were added. The resulting mixture was stirred at 120 $^{\circ}$ C under N₂ atmosphere for 24 h (sealed bottle). After completion of reaction, the reaction mixture was filtered and concentrated in vacuo. Flash chromatography (MeOH/DCM 0–7 %) yielded compound 2 as a yellow solid (0.73 g, 31.24 %). MS m/z [M + 1] 309.2. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, cdcl3) δ 8.34–8.22 (m, 1H), 7.83 (s, 1H), 7.71 (s, 2H), 7.66 (d, $J = 4.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.59–7.51 (m, 2H), 7.49 (s, 2H), 6.95 (td, $J = 7.5$, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 3.98 (s, 3H). 13C NMR (101 MHz, cdcl3) δ 147.01, 137.00, 134.12, 134.06, 133.34, 129.67 (2C), 129.40 (2C), 129.17, 128.23, 128.01, 127.52, 127.49, 123.35, 121.22, 112.44, 111.98, 39.44.

4.1.5. Synthesis of tert-butyl 4-(6-(7-(1-methyl-1H-pyrazol-4-yl)imidazo [1,2 a]pyridin-3-yl)pyridin-2-yl)piperazine-1-carboxylate, compound 5—Compound 1 (100 mg, 322.83 μmol), the respective amine (645.67 μmol, 2 equiv), cesium carbonate (157.78 mg, 434.25 μmol) were dissolved into 5 mL Dioxane. The resulting reaction mixture was degassed with nitrogen for $5-10$ min. After that, Pd(PPh₃)₄ (37.31 mg, 32.28) μmol) was added. The resulting mixture was stirred at 100 °C under N₂ atmosphere overnight (sealed bottle). After completion of reaction, the reaction mixture was filtered and concentrated in vacuo. Silica flash chromatography (MeOH/DCM 0–7 %) followed by C18 flash chromatography (MeOH/H₂O 10–80 %) yielded compound 2 as a yellow solid (54 mg, 36.40 %). MS m/z [M + 1] 460.1. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, dmso) δ 9.65 (d, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 8.35 (s, 1H), 8.21 (s, 1H), 8.08 (s, 1H), 7.88 (s, 1H), 7.65 (t, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.39 (d, J $= 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.26 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 6.76 (d, $J = 8.5$ Hz, 1H), 3.89 (s, 3H), 3.65–3.55 (m, 4H), 3.55–3.45 (m, 4H), 1.44 (s, 9H). 13C NMR (101 MHz, cdcl3) δ 158.84, 154.86, 148.57, 147.80, 138.42, 137.10, 135.22, 129.86, 127.64, 127.38, 124.31, 121.31, 111.93, 111.60, 110.64, 104.81, 80.15 (2C), 45.55 (2C), 39.25, 28.51 (3C).

4.1.6. Synthesis of tert-butyl 2-methyl-4-(6-(7-(1-methyl-1H-pyrazol-4 yl)imidazo [1,2-a]pyridin-3-yl)pyridin-2-yl)piperazine-1-carboxylate, compound

6—Compound 6 was synthesized according to the procedure outlined in section 4.1.5 and was isolated as a yellow compound. MS m/z [M + 1] 474.1. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, dmso) δ

9.67 (d, $J = 7.4$ Hz, 1H), 8.36 (s, 1H), 8.21 (s, 1H), 8.08 (s, 1H), 7.88 (s, 1H), 7.65–7.61 (m, 1H), 7.40 (d, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 1H), 7.22 (d, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 1H), 6.73 (d, $J = 8.6$ Hz, 1H), 4.27 (s, 1H), $4.18-4.07$ (m, $2H$), 3.89 (s, $3H$), 3.84 (s, $1H$), 3.23 (d, $J = 10.4$ Hz, $2H$), $3.06-2.98$ (m, 1H), 1.44 (s, 9H), 1.18 (d, $J = 6.7$ Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, cdcl3) δ 159.14, 154.89, 148.61, 147.85, 138.36, 137.09, 135.17, 132.27, 132.17, 129.88, 128.69, 128.57, 127.57, 127.52, 124.44, 121.41, 111.96, 111.57, 110.17, 104.25, 80.06, 49.45, 45.36, 39.41, 28.62 (3C), 16.53.

4.1.7. Synthesis of tert-butyl 4-((6-(7-(1-methyl-1H-pyrazol-4-yl)imidazo [1,2-a]pyridin-3 yl)pyridin-2-yl)amino)pipendine-1-carboxylate, compound 7

Compound 7 was synthesized according to the procedure outlined in section 4.1.5 and was isolated as a white compound. MS m/z [M + 1] 474.1. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, cdcl3) δ 9.77 (dd, $J = 7.3$, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 8.03 (s, 1H), 7.85 (d, $J = 0.7$ Hz, 1H), 7.74 (s, 1H), 7.71 (d, $J = 1.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.49–7.43 (m, 1H), 7.03 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 6.98 (dd, $J = 7.3$, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 6.27 (d, $J = 8.3$ Hz, 1H), 4.51 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 4.17 (dd, $J = 33.6$, 8.2 Hz, 2H), 3.97 (s, 3H), 3.91 (ddd, $J = 14.0$, 10.5, 5.5 Hz, 1H), 2.99 (t, $J = 11.8$ Hz, 2H), 2.13 (d, $J = 10.7$ Hz, 2H), 1.47 (s, 9H). 13C NMR (101 MHz, cdcl3) δ 157.05, 154.96, 148.81, 147.65, 138.09, 137.07, 134.71, 130.02, 127.75, 124.10, 121.29, 111.78, 111.43, 109.63, 104.94, 79.90, 50.85, 49.13 (2C), 39.39, 32.54 (2C), 29.82, 28.58 (3C).

4.1.8. Synthesis of 6-(7-(1-methyl-1H-pyrazol-4-yl)imidazo [1,2-a]pyridin-3-yl)- N-(4-(2-(piperidin-1-yl)ethoxy)phenyl)pyridin-2-amine, compound 8—Compound 8 was synthesized according to the procedure outlined in section 4.1.5 and was isolated as a white compound. MS m/z [M + 1] 494.3. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, dmso) δ 9.71 (d, J = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 8.88 (s, 1H), (s, 1H), 8.36 (s, 1H), 8.22 (s, 1H), 8.08 (s, 1H), 7.86 (s, 1H), 7.59 (t, $J = 7.9$ Hz, 1H), 7.41 (d, $J = 8.9$ Hz, 2H), 7.26 (d, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 1H), 7.14 (dd, $J = 7.3$, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 6.97 (d, $J = 8.9$ Hz, 2H), 6.61 (d, $J = 8.3$ Hz, 1H), 4.08 (t, $J = 6.1$ Hz, 2H), 3.89 (s, 3H), 2.66 (t, $J = 6.0$ Hz, 2H), 2.48–2.37 (m, 4H), 1.49 (dt, $J = 10.9$, 5.5 Hz, 4H), 1.38 (dd, J $= 10.9, 5.5$ Hz, 2H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, dmso) δ 155.90, 153.84, 147.69, 147.13, 138.04, 136.69, 135.22, 134.07, 129.69, 128.83, 128.01, 123.36, 122.10 (2C), 120.07, 114.80 (2C), 110.99, 110.55, 109.86, 106.28, 65.84, 57.51, 54.45 (2C), 38.79, 25.58 (2C), 23.94.

4.1.9. Synthesis of 6-(7-(1-methyl-1H-pyrazol-4-yl)imidazo [1,2-a]pyridin-3-yl)- N-(4-(2-morpholinoethoxy)phenyl)pyridin-2-amine, compound 9—Compound 9 was synthesized according to the procedure outlined in section 4.1.5 and was isolated as a white compound. MS m/z [M + 1] 496.3. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, dmso) δ 9.71 (d, J = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 8.89 (s, 1H), 8.36 (s, 1H), 8.22 (s, 1H), 8.08 (s, 1H), 7.86 (s, 1H), 7.59 (t, $J = 7.9$ Hz, 1H), 7.42 (d, $J = 8.9$ Hz, 2H), 7.26 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.14 (dd, $J = 7.3$, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 6.98 (d, $J = 8.9$ Hz, 2H), 6.62 (d, $J = 8.3$ Hz, lH), 4.10 (dd, $J = 10.8$, 5.4 Hz, 2H), 3.89 (s, 3H), 3.65–3.50 (m, 4H), 2.71 (t, $J = 5.8$ Hz, 2H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, dmso) δ 155.89, 153.77, 147.68, 147.13, 138.03, 136.68, 135.21, 134.14, 129.67, 128.80, 128.00, 123.36, 122.09 (2C), 120.07, 114.81 (2C), 110.98, 110.55, 109.87, 106.28, 66.16 (2C), 65.59, 57.14, 53.66 (2C), 38.78.

4.1.10. Synthesis of 6-(7-(1-methyl-1H-pyrazol-4-yl)imidazo [1,2-a]pyridin-3 yl)-N-(4-morpholinophenyl)pyridin-2-amine, compound 10—Compound 10 was synthesized according to the procedure outlined in section 4.1.5 and was isolated as a yellow compound. MS m/z [M + 1] 452.3. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, cdcl3) δ 9.70 (d, J = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 8.06 (s, 1H), 7.83 (s, 1H), 7.69 (s, 2H), 7.50 (t, $J = 7.9$ Hz, 1H), 7.34–7.27 (m, 2H), 7.13 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 6.99–6.93 (m, 2H), 6.90 (dd, $J = 7.3$, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 6.55 (d, $J = 8.2$ Hz, 1H), 6.50 (s, 1H), 3.97 (s, 3H), 3.93–3.87 (m, 4H), 3.21–3.14 (m, 4H). 13C NMR (101 MHz, cdcl3) δ 156.57, 149.01, 148.22, 147.92, 138.33, 137.06, 135.17, 132.96, 129.93, 128.37, 127.55, 124.22 (2C), 123.90, 121.46, 116.80 (2C), 111.77, 111.40, 111.02, 104.81, 67.09 (2C), 50.03 (2C), 39.40, 29.83.

4.1.11. Synthesis of 6-(7-(1-methyl-1H-pyrazol-4-yl)imidazo [1,2-a]pyridin-3 yl)-N-(4-(2-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)ethoxy)phenyl)pyridin-2-amine, compound 11— Compound 11 was synthesized according to the procedure outlined in section 4.1.5 and was isolated as a white compound. MS m/z [M + 1] 480.2. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, cdcl3) δ 9.70 (dd, $J = 7.3$, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 8.07 (s, 1H), 7.84 (d, $J = 0.7$ Hz, 1H), 7.72 (s, 1H), 7.70 $(\text{dd}, J = 1.8, 0.8 \text{ Hz}, 1\text{H}), 7.54–7.48 \text{ (m, 1H)}, 7.34–7.27 \text{ (m, 2H)}, 7.14 \text{ (d, } J = 7.6 \text{ Hz}, 1\text{H}),$ 6.99–6.93 (m, 2H), 6.91 (dd, $J = 7.3$, 1.9 Hz, 1H), 6.53 (d, $J = 8.2$ Hz, 1H), 6.43 (s, 1H), 4.15 (t, $J = 5.9$ Hz, 2H), 3.98 (s, 3H), 2.95 (t, $J = 5.9$ Hz, 2H), 2.72–2.61 (m, 4H), 1.89–1.78 (m, 4H). 13C NMR (101 MHz, cdcl3) δ 156.54, 155.77, 149.03, 147.98, 138.35, 137.10, 135.27, 133.42, 129.98, 128.39, 127.63, 124.55 (2C), 123.89, 121.47, 116.54, 115.45 (2C), 111.82, 111.44, 111.06, 104.87, 67.56, 55.31, 54.90 (2C), 39.40, 29.85, 23.66 (2C).

4.1.12. Synthesis of N-(4-(2-(diethylamino)ethoxy)phenyl)-6-(7-(1-methyl-1Hpyrazol-4-yl)imidazo [1,2-a]pyridin-3-yl)pyridin-2-amine, compound 12—

Compound 12 was synthesized according to the procedure outlined in section 4.1.5 and was isolated as a yellow compound. MS m/z [M + 1] 482.2. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, dmso) δ 9.71 (d, $J = 7.3$ Hz, 1H), 8.88 (s, 1H), 8.35 (s, 1H), 8.22 (s, 1H), 8.07 (s, 1H), 7.86 (s, 1H), 7.62–7.57 (m, 1H), 7.41 (d, $J = 8.9$ Hz, 2H), 7.26 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.13 (dd, $J = 7.4$, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 6.96 (d, $J = 8.9$ Hz, 2H), 6.61 (d, $J = 8.2$ Hz, 1H), 4.03 (t, $J = 6.2$ Hz, 2H), 3.89 (s, 3H), 2.79 (t, $J = 6.2$ Hz, 2H), 2.56 (q, $J = 7.1$ Hz, 4H), 0.98 (t, $J = 7.1$ Hz, 6H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, cdcl3) δ 156.53, 155.69, 148.91, 147.87, 138.25, 137.01, 135.12, 133.35, 129.89, 128.35, 127.55, 124.40 (2C), 123.86, 121.36, 115.27 (2C), 111.68, 111.33, 110.89, 104.83, 67.08, 51.96, 47.96 (2C), 39.31, 11.96 (2C).

4.1.13. Synthesis of 6-(7-(1-methyl-1H-pyrazol-4-yl)imidazo [1,2-a]pyridin-3 yl)-N-(p-tolyl)pyridin-2-amine, compound 13—Compound 13 was synthesized according to the procedure outlined in section 4.1.5 and was isolated as a green compound. MS m/z [M + 1] 381.3. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, cdcl3) δ 9.73 (d, J = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 8.08 (s, 1H), 7.85 (s, 1H), 7.72 (s, 1H), 7.70 (d, $J = 0.9$ Hz, 1H), 7.54 (t, $J = 7.9$ Hz, 1H), 7.29 (d, $J = 8.3$ Hz, 2H), $7.23-7.15$ (m, 3H), 6.93 (dd, $J = 7.3$, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 6.65 (d, $J = 8.2$ Hz, 1H), 6.52 (s, 1H), 3.98 (s, 3H), 2.38 (s, 3H). 13C NMR (101 MHz, cdcl3) δ 155.83, 149.04, 138.38, 137.77, 137.11, 135.30, 133.12, 129.97, 129.94 (2C), 128.37, 127.58, 121.83 (2C), 121.46, 111.83, 111.43, 105.29, 39.44, 21.05.

4.1.14. Synthesis of 6-(7-(1-methyl-1H-pyrazol-4-yl)imidazo [1,2-a]pyridin-3 yl)-N-(4-vinylphenyl)pyridin-2-amine, compound 14—Compound 14 was synthesized according to the procedure outlined in section 4.1.5 and was isolated as a yellow compound. MS m/z [M + 1] 393.2. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, cdcl3) δ 9.70 (d, J = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 8.09 (s, 1H), 7.85 (s, 1H), 7.71 (s, 2H), 7.57 (t, $J = 7.9$ Hz, 1H), 7.40 (dd, $J = 20.7$, 8.5 Hz, 4H), 7.21 (d, $J = 7.7$ Hz, 1H), 6.92 (d, $J = 7.3$ Hz, 1H), 6.78–6.68 (m, 2H), 6.65 (s, 1H), 5.71 $(d, J = 17.6 \text{ Hz}, 1\text{ H}), 5.21 (d, J = 10.8 \text{ Hz}, 1\text{ H}), 3.98 (s, 3\text{ H}).$ ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, cdcl3) δ 155.04, 149.00, 148.04, 140.14, 138.45, 137.11, 136.38, 135.37, 132.50, 130.07, 128.37, 127.61, 127.22 (2C), 123.84, 121.39, 120.76 (2C), 112.47, 111.93, 111.79, 111.50, 106.07, 39.44.

4.1.15. Synthesis of N-(4-ethylphenyl)-6-(7-(1-methyl-1H-pyrazol-4-yl)imidazo [1,2-a]pyridin-3-yl)pyridin-2-amine, compound 15—Compound 15 was synthesized according to the procedure outlined in section 4.1.5 and was isolated as a grey compound. MS m/z [M + 1] 395.3. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, cdcl3) δ 9.73 (dd, *J* = 7.3, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 8.08 $(s, 1H)$, 7.85 (d, J = 0.7 Hz, 1H), 7.72 (s, 1H), 7.71 (dd, J = 1.8, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 7.57–7.52 (m, 1H), $7.33-7.28$ (m, 2H), 7.22 (d, $J = 8.8$ Hz, 1H), 7.18 (dd, $J = 7.6$, 0.6 Hz, 1H), 6.93 (dd, J $= 7.3$, 1.9 Hz, 1H), 6.66 (d, $J = 8.2$ Hz, 1H), 6.46 (s, 1H), 3.99 (s, 3H), 2.68 (g, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 2H), 1.29 (t, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, cdcl3) δ 158.02, 155.84, 149.06, 148.00, 139.68, 138.40, 137.94, 137.11, 135.32, 129.97, 128.76 (2C), 128.43, 127.57, 122.02 (2C), 121.48, 111.84, 111.44, 110.17, 105.31, 39.46, 28.49, 16.00.

4.1.16. Synthesis of N-(4-isopropylphenyl)-6-(7-(1-methyl-1H-pyrazol-4-

yl)imidazo [1,2-a]pyridin-3-yl)pyridin-2-amine, compound 16—Compound 16 was synthesized according to the procedure outlined in section 4.1.5 and was isolated as a white compound. MS m/z [M + 1] 409.3. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, dmso) δ 9.75–9.70 (m, 1H), 9.01 $(s, 1H), 8.34 (s, 1H), 8.23 (s, 1H), 8.06 (d, J = 0.6 Hz, 1H), 7.87 (d, J = 0.9 Hz, 1H), 7.63$ (d, $J = 7.7$ Hz, 1H), 7.43 (d, $J = 8.5$ Hz, 2H), 7.29 (d, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 1H), 7.24 (d, $J = 8.5$ Hz, 2H), 7.11 (dd, $J = 7.3$, 1.9 Hz, 1H), 6.70 (d, $J = 8.2$ Hz, 1H), 3.90 (s, 3H), 2.91 (dt, $J = 13.8$, 7.0 Hz, 1H), 1.24 (d, $J = 6.9$ Hz, 6H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, dmso) δ 155.56, 147.69, 147.16, 141.77, 138.80, 138.14, 136.65, 135.28, 131.52, 131.42, 129.69, 128.81, 128.77, 128.69, 128.07, 126.54 (2C), 123.38, 120.18 (2C), 120.07, 110.93, 110.59, 110.30, 106.69, 38.83, 32.83, 24.12 (2C).

4.1.17. Synthesis of N-(4-(tert-butyl)phenyl)-6-(7-(1-methyl-1H-pyrazol-4-

yl)imidazo [1,2-a]pyridin-3-yl)pyridin-2-amine, compound 17—Compound 17 was synthesized according to the procedure outlined in section 4.1.5 and was isolated as a orange compound. MS m/z [M + 1] 423.3. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, dmso) δ 9.74 (d, J = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 9.01 (s, 1H), 8.32 (s, 1H), 8.23 (s, 1H), 8.04 (s, 1H), 7.87 (s, 1H), 7.62 (t, $J = 7.9$ Hz, 1H), 7.40 (dd, $J = 20.2$, 8.7 Hz, 4H), 7.30 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.09 (dd, $J = 7.3$, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 6.70 (d, $J = 8.3$ Hz, 1H), 3.90 (s, 3H), 1.32 (s, 9H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, dmso) δ 155.56, 147.70, 147.14, 144.04, 138.44, 138.14, 136.58, 135.26, 129.65, 128.69, 128.10, 125.41 (2C), 123.36, 120.07, 119.95 (2C), 110.88, 110.60, 110.29, 106.59, 33.98, 31.33 (3C).

4.1.18. Synthesis of N-(3-(tert-butyl)phenyl)-6-(7-(1-methyl-1H-pyrazol-4 yl)imidazo [1,2-a]pyridin-3-yl)pyridin-2-amine, compound 18—Compound 18 was synthesized according to the procedure outlined in section 4.1.5 and was isolated as a white compound. MS m/z [M + 1] 423.3. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, cdcl3) δ 9.73 (dd, J = 7.3, 0.7 Hz, 1H), 8.08 (s, 1H), 7.83 (s, 1H), 7.71–7.69 (m, 1H), 7.69 (s, 1H), 7.55 (t, $J = 7.9$ Hz, 1H), 7.33–7.28 (m, 3H), 7.18 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.16–7.13 (m, 1H), 6.91 (dd, $J = 7.3$, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 6.74–6.68 (m, 2H), 3.96 (s, 3H), 1.33 (s, 9H). 13C NMR (101 MHz, cdcl3) δ 155.67, 152.76, 149.10, 147.96, 140.16, 138.40, 137.08, 135.22, 130.02, 128.98, 128.34, 127.57, 123.88, 121.43, 120.52, 118.52, 111.78, 111.60, 111.53, 105.46, 39.39, 34.90, 31.47 (3C), 29.83.

4.1.19. Synthesis of N-(2-methoxyphenyl)-6-(7-(1-methyl-1H-pyrazol-4 yl)imidazo [1,2-a]pyridin-3-yl)pyridin-2-amine, compound 19—Compound 19 was synthesized according to the procedure outlined in section 4.1.5 and was isolated as a grey compound. MS m/z [M + 1] 397.2. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, cdcl3) δ 9.71 (d, J = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 8.04 (s, 1H), 8.00 (d, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 1H), 7.83 (s, 1H), 7.68 (s, 2H), 7.53 (t, $J = 7.9$ Hz, 1H), 7.16 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.05–6.92 (m, 4H), 6.89 (d, $J = 7.3$ Hz, 1H), 6.67 (d, $J = 8.2$ Hz, 1H), 3.94 (s, 3H), 3.91 (s, 3H). 13 C NMR (101 MHz, cdcl3) δ 154.98, 149.15, 148.55, 138.26, 137.13, 135.08, 130.03, 129.98, 128.45, 127.72, 127.43, 124.08, 122.15, 121.34, 120.71, 119.77, 111.81, 111.47, 111.37, 110.55, 107.15, 55.86, 39.39.

4.1.20. Synthesis of N-(3,4-dimethoxyphenyl)-6-(7-(1-methyl-1H-pyrazol-4 yl)imidazo [1,2-a]pyridin-3-yl)pyridin-2-amine, compound 20—Compound 20 was synthesized according to the procedure outlined in section 4.1.5 and was isolated as a brown compound. MS m/z [M + 1] 427.2. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, dmso) δ 9.73 (d, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 8.92 (s, 1H), 8.35 (s, 1H), 8.22 (s, 1H), 8.08 (s, 1H), 7.87 (s, 1H), 7.60 (t, $J = 7.9$ Hz, 1H), 7.27 (d, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 1H), 7.12 (dd, $J = 5.2$, 2.0 Hz, 2H), 7.04 (dd, $J = 8.6$, 2.3 Hz, 1H), 6.96 (d, $J = 8.6$ Hz, 1H), 6.65 (d, $J = 8.2$ Hz, 1H), 3.89 (s, 3H), 3.77 (s, 3H), 3.68 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, dmso) δ 155.76, 149.01, 147.69, 147.15, 144.11, 138.21, 136.75, 135.24, 134.66, 129.67, 128.79, 127.98, 123.41, 120.04, 112.57, 112.26, 110.91, 110.45, 110.15, 106.52, 105.61, 56.06, 55.45, 39.52, 38.68.

4.1.21. Synthesis of 6-(7-(1-methyl-1H-pyrazol-4-yl)imidazo [1,2-a]pyridin-3 yl)-N-(3,4,5-trimethoxyphenyl)pyridin-2-amine, compound 21—Compound 21 was

synthesized according to the procedure outlined in section 4.1.5 and was isolated as a yellow compound. MS m/z [M + 1] 457.2. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, dmso) δ 9.70 (d, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 9.06 (s, 1H), 8.34 (s, 1H), 8.23 (s, 1H), 8.07 (s, 1H), 7.88 (s, 1H), 7.65 (t, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.31 (d, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 1H), 7.14 (dd, $J = 7.3$, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 6.85 (s, 2H), 6.73 (d, $J = 8.2$ Hz, 1H), 3.89 (s, 3H), 3.68 (s, 6H), 3.66 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, cdcl3) δ 155.66, 153.49 (2C), 148.47, 147.62, 138.14, 136.85, 136.73, 134.66, 133.74, 132.04, 131.94, 129.99, 128.59, 128.47, 128.30, 127.58, 123.84, 120.92, 111.30, 111.13, 106.16, 98.98 (2C), 61.02, 56.04 (2C), 39.10.

4.1.22. Synthesis of N-(benzo[d][1,3]dioxol-5-yl)-6-(7-(1-methyl-1H-pyrazol-4 yl)imidazo [1,2-a]pyridin-3-yl)pyridin-2-amine, compound 22—Compound 22 was

synthesized according to the procedure outlined in section 4.1.5 and was isolated as a yellow compound. MS m/z [M + 1] 411.2. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, cdcl3) δ 9.83 (d, J = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 8.02 (s, 1H), 7.85 (s, 1H), 7.72 (s, 1H), 7.71–7.67 (m, 1H), 7.50–7.45 (m, 1H), 7.29–7.21 (m, 1H), 7.06 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.02 (dd, $J = 7.3$, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 6.92 (t, $J = 7.8$ Hz, 2H), 6.38 (d, $J = 8.2$ Hz, 1H), 4.92 (t, $J = 6.2$ Hz, 1H), 4.75 (d, $J = 6.2$ Hz, 2H), 3.97 (s, 3H). 13C NMR (101 MHz, cdcl3) δ 160.53, 157.50, 148.92, 147.86, 138.17, 137.10, 135.08, 129.89, 129.51, 128.15, 127.56, 124.12, 121.53, 111.77, 111.52, 111.41, 110.29, 104.55, 50.88, 39.38, 34.32, 29.84.

4.1.23. Synthesis of N-(2,3-dihydrobenzo[b][1,4]dioxin-6-yl)-6-(7-(1 methyl-1H-pyrazol-4-yl)imidazo [1,2-a]pyridin-3-yl)pyridin-2-amine, compound

23—Compound 23 was synthesized according to the procedure outlined in section 4.1.5 and was isolated as a white compound. MS m/z [M + 1] 425.2. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, dmso) δ 9.76 (d, $J = 7.3$ Hz, 1H), 8.90 (s, 1H), 8.36 (s, 1H), 8.23 (s, 1H), 8.09 (s, 1H), 7.87 (d, $J =$ 0.8 Hz, 1H), 7.60 (t, $J = 7.9$ Hz, 1H), 7.28 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.15 (dd, $J = 7.4$, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 7.09 (d, $J = 2.4$ Hz, 1H), 6.95 (dd, $J = 8.5$, 2.3 Hz, 1H), 6.86 (d, $J = 8.6$ Hz, 1H), 6.62 $(d, J = 8.3 \text{ Hz}, 1\text{H})$, 4.27 (dd, $J = 10.5, 5.2 \text{ Hz}, 4\text{H}$), 3.90 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, dmso) δ 155.55, 147.60, 147.13, 143.26, 138.41, 138.07, 136.69, 135.19, 134.68, 129.76, 128.81, 128.02, 123.37, 120.05, 116.87, 113.47, 111.07, 110.48, 110.06, 109.26, 106.61, 64.21, 63.98, 38.81.

4.1.24. Synthesis of 6-(7-(1-methyl-1H-pyrazol-4-yl)imidazo [1,2-a]pyridin-3 yl)-N-(4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl)pyridin-2-amine, compound 24—Compound 24

was synthesized according to the procedure outlined in section 4.1.5 and was isolated as a yellow compound. MS m/z [M + 1] 445.2. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, dmso) δ 9.77 (s, 1H), 9.57 $(d, J = 7.3 \text{ Hz}, 1\text{ H}), 8.36 \text{ (s, 1H)}, 8.27 \text{ (s, 1H)}, 8.10 \text{ (s, 1H)}, 7.92 \text{ (s, 1H)}, 7.86-7.75 \text{ (m, 4H)},$ 7.48 (d, $J = 7.7$ Hz, 1H), 7.24 (d, $J = 6.5$ Hz, 1H), 6.87 (d, $J = 8.1$ Hz, 1H), 3.90 (s, 3H), 3.19 (s, 3H). 13C NMR (101 MHz, dmso) δ 153.96, 147.62, 147.36, 146.09, 138.71, 136.74, 135.70, 131.58, 130.00, 128.85, 128.34 (2C), 127.41, 123.30, 120.00, 117.47 (2C), 112.75, 111.32, 110.66, 108.88, 44.06, 38.81.

4.1.25. Synthesis of 6-(7-(1-methyl-1H-pyrazol-4-yl)imidazo [1,2-a]pyridin-3 yl)-N-(2-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)pyridin-2-amine, compound 25—Compound 25 was synthesized according to the procedure outlined in section 4.1.5 and was isolated as

a black compound. MS m/z [M + 1] 435.1. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, cdcl3) δ 9.62 (dd, J = 7.3, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 8.11 (s, 1H), 7.93 (d, $J = 8.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.85 (d, $J = 0.7$ Hz, 1H), 7.75–7.67 (m, 3H), 7.61 (t, $J = 7.9$ Hz, 1H), 7.55 (t, $J = 7.3$ Hz, 1H), 7.30 (dd, $J = 7.7$, 0.5 Hz, 1H), 7.21 (t, $J = 7.7$ Hz, 1H), 6.90 (dd, $J = 7.3$, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 6.71 (s, 1H), 6.68 (d, $J = 8.1$ Hz, 1H), 3.99 (s, 3H). 13C NMR (101 MHz, cdcl3) δ 154.64, 149.11, 148.15, 138.65, 137.12, 135.63, 132.56, 130.16, 128.35, 127.62, 126.94, 123.97, 122.99, 121.38, 112.70, 111.86, 111.57, 106.69, 104.50, 39.45.

4.1.26. Synthesis of 6-(7-(1-methyl-1H-pyrazol-4-yl)imidazo [1,2-a]pyridin-3 yl)-N-(3-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)pyridin-2-amine, compound 26—Compound 26 was synthesized according to the procedure outlined in section 4.1.5 and was isolated as

a yellow compound. MS m/z [M + 1] 435.2. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, dmso) δ 9.54 (d, J = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 8.35 (s, 1H), 8.25 (s, 1H), 8.07 (s, 1H), 8.00 (s, 1H), 7.90 (s, 1H), 7.82 (d, $J = 7.7$ Hz, 1H), 7.73 (t, $J = 7.7$ Hz, 1H), 7.57 (t, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.42 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.28 (d, $J = 8.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.14 (d, $J = 7.4$ Hz, 1H), 6.78 (d, $J = 8.2$ Hz, 1H), 3.89 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, dmso) δ 154.47, 147.45, 147.29, 142.08, 138.57, 136.64, 135.53, 129.91, 129.85, 128.79, 127.30, 123.37, 122.19, 120.01, 117.02, 116.98, 114.31, 114.27, 111.92, 111.23, 110.58, 108.27, 38.78.

4.1.27. Synthesis of 6-(7-(1-methyl-1H-pyrazol-4-yl)imidazo [1,2-a]pyridin-3 yl)-N-(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)pyridin-2-amine, compound 27—Compound 27 was synthesized according to the procedure outlined in section 4.1.5 and was isolated as a grey compound. MS m/z [M + 1] 435.2. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, cdcl3) δ 9.63 (dd, *J* = 7.3, 0.5 Hz, 1H), 8.11 (s, 1H), 7.86 (s, 1H), 7.76–7.71 (m, 2H), 7.64 (t, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.60 (d, $J = 8.7$ Hz, 2H), 7.54 (d, $J = 8.6$ Hz, 2H), 7.30 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 6.93 (dd, $J = 7.3$, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 6.78–6.70 (m, 2H), 3.99 (s, 3H). 13C NMR (101 MHz, cdcl3) δ 154.02, 149.02, 143.82, 138.70, 137.12, 135.67, 130.29, 128.15, 127.65, 126.60, 126.56, 121.29, 119.22 (2C), 113.01, 111.90, 111.62, 107.06, 39.46.

4.1.28. Synthesis of 6-(7-(1-methyl-1H-pyrazol-4-yl)imidazo [1,2-a]pyridin-3 yl)-N-(4-(trifluoromethoxy)phenyl)pyridin-2-amine, compound 28—Compound 28 was synthesized according to the procedure outlined in section 4.1.5 and was isolated as a white compound. MS m/z [M + 1] 451.3. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, cdcl3) δ 9.63 (d, J = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 8.08 (s, 1H), 7.84 (s, 1H), 7.72 (s, 1H), 7.70 (s, 1H), 7.58 (t, $J = 7.9$ Hz, 1H), 7.45 (d, $J = 8.8$ Hz, 2H), 7.23 (d, $J = 7.7$ Hz, 2H), 6.88 (d, $J = 7.3$ Hz, 1H), 6.73 (s, 1H), 6.65 (d, J $= 8.2$ Hz, 1H), 3.98 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, dmso) δ 154.79, 151.31, 147.53, 142.11, 140.53, 138.43, 136.66, 135.38, 129.89, 128.82, 127.66, 123.35, 121.79, 120.27, 120.02, 111.39, 111.08, 110.59, 107.65, 38.80.

4.1.29. Synthesis of 6-(7-(1-methyl-1H-pyrazol-4-yl)imidazo [1,2-a]pyridin-3 yl)-N-(4-nitrophenyl)pyridin-2-amine, compound 29—Compound 29 was

synthesized according to the procedure outlined in section 4.1.5 and was isolated as a orange compound. MS m/z [M + 1] 412.1. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, cdcl3) δ 9.59 (d, J = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 8.22 (d, $J = 9.2$ Hz, 2H), 8.12 (s, 1H), 7.86 (s, 1H), 7.74 (s, 2H), 7.69 (t, $J = 7.9$ Hz, 1H), 7.58 (d, $J = 9.2$ Hz, 2H), 7.38 (d, $J = 7.7$ Hz, 1H), 7.03–6.94 (m, 2H), 6.77 (d, $J = 8.1$ Hz, 1H), 3.98 (s, 3H). 13C NMR (101 MHz, dmso) δ 153.34, 148.04, 147.73, 147.49, 139.63, 138.95, 136.82, 135.93, 130.18, 128.99, 127.37, 125.52 (2C), 123.19, 120.01, 116.80 (2C), 113.60, 111.51, 110.63, 109.62, 38.83.

4.1.30. Synthesis of N-(6-(7-(1-methyl-1H-pyrazol-4-yl)imidazo [1,2-

a]pyridin-3-yl)pyridin-2-yl)pyrazin-2-amine, compound 30—Compound 30 was synthesized according to the procedure outlined in section 4.1.5 and was isolated as a yellow compound. MS m/z [M + 1] 369.3. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, dmso) δ 10.17 (s, 1H), 10.02 (d, $J = 7.3$ Hz, 1H), 8.71 (s, 1H), 8.40 (s, 1H), 8.33 (s, 1H), 8.32 (dd, $J = 2.3$, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 8.15–8.09 (m, 2H), 7.91 (s, 1H), 7.84–7.75 (m, 2H), 7.56 (d, $J = 7.3$ Hz, 1H), 7.30 (dd, J $= 7.3, 1.6$ Hz, 1H), 3.91 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, dmso) δ 152.43, 150.97, 148.14,

147.42, 141.44, 138.69, 136.77, 135.72, 135.62, 135.41, 130.14, 128.93, 128.39, 122.81, 120.02, 113.26, 111.39, 110.48, 108.66, 38.82.

4.1.31. Synthesis of 4-((6-(7-(1-methyl-1H-pyrazol-4-yl)imidazo [1,2-

a]pyridin-3-yl)pyridin-2-yl)amino)benzonitrile, compound 31—Compound 31 was synthesized according to the procedure outlined in section 4.1.5 and was isolated as a yellow compound. MS m/z [M + 1] 392.3. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, dmso) δ 9.96 (s, 1H), 9.69 (d, J $= 7.4$ Hz, 1H), 8.71 (s, 1H), 8.59 (s, 1H), 8.27 (s, 1H), 8.06 (s, 1H), 7.92–7.84 (m, 1H), $(s, 3H), 7.71$ (dd, $J = 7.4, 1.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.55 (d, $J = 7.5$ Hz, 1H), 7.00 (d, $J = 8.3$ Hz, 1H), 3.93 (s, 3H). 13C NMR (101 MHz, dmso) δ 172.06, 154.01, 145.37, 145.19, 139.25, 137.76, 133.41 (2C), 130.53, 128.91, 124.35, 119.71, 118.70, 117.92 (2C), 114.37, 114.11, 111.30, 106.02, 102.00, 39.02.

4.1.32. Synthesis of N-(4-chlorophenyl)-6-(7-(1-methyl-1H-pyrazol-4-

yl)imidazo [1,2-a]pyridin-3-yl)pyridin-2-amine, compound 32—Compound 32 was synthesized according to the procedure outlined in section 4.1.5 and was isolated as a white compound. MS m/z [M + 1] 401.3. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, cdcl3) δ 9.64 (d, J = 7.3) Hz, 1H), 8.10 (d, $J = 4.6$ Hz, 1H), 7.86 (s, 1H), 7.73 (d, $J = 3.2$ Hz, 2H), 7.58 (t, $J =$ 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.40–7.31 (m, 3H), 7.23 (d, $J = 7.7$ Hz, 1H), 6.93 (dd, $J = 7.3$, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 6.64 (d, $J = 8.2$ Hz, 1H), 6.53 (s, 1H), 3.99 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, dmso) δ 154.74, 147.55, 147.24, 140.24, 138.36, 136.75, 135.45, 129.88, 128.89, 128.64 (2C), 127.55, 124.43, 123.37, 120.32 (2C), 120.02, 111.33, 111.20, 110.60, 107.76, 38.78.

4.1.33. Synthesis of N-(2,6-difluorobenzyl)-6-(7-(1-methyl-1H-pyrazol-4-

yl)imidazo [1,2-a]pyridin-3-yl)pyridin-2-amine, compound 33—Compound 33 was synthesized according to the procedure outlined in section 4.1.5 and was isolated as a white compound. MS m/z [M + 1] 417.2. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, dmso) δ 9.73 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 8.96 (s, 1H), 8.36 (s, 1H), 8.23 (s, 1H), 8.09 (s, 1H), 7.87 (s, 1H), 7.61 (t, $J = 7.8$ Hz, 1H), 7.29 (d, $J = 7.3$ Hz, 1H), 7.16 (s, 1H), 7.14 (s, 1H), 6.94 (s, 2H), 6.63 (d, $J = 8.3$ Hz, 1H), 6.04 (s, 2H), 3.90 (s, 3H). 13C NMR (101 MHz, dmso) δ 155.60, 147.60, 147.37, 147.17, 142.10, 138.11, 136.69, 135.42, 135.28, 129.71, 128.82, 127.95, 123.33, 120.02, 112.96, 110.99, 110.53, 110.13, 108.14, 106.61, 102.72, 100.89, 38.78.

4.1.34. Synthesis of methyl 4-methyl-3-((6-(7-(1-methyl-1H-pyrazol-4 yl)imidazo [1,2-a]pyridin-3-yl)pyridin-2-yl)amino)benzoate, compound 34—

Compound 34 was synthesized according to the procedure outlined in section 4.1.5 and was isolated as a yellow compound. MS m/z [M + 1] 439.2. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, dmso) δ 9.40 (d, $J = 7.3$ Hz, 1H), 8.59 (s, 1H), 8.29 (d, $J = 7.9$ Hz, 2H), 8.17 (d, $J = 1.5$ Hz, 1H), 8.02 $(s, 1H), 7.83$ $(s, 1H), 7.73$ $(dd, J = 7.9, 1.6$ Hz, $1H), 7.65$ $(t, J = 7.9$ Hz, $1H), 7.48$ $(d, J = 7.9)$ 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.36 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 6.80 (dd, $J = 7.4$, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 6.71 (d, $J = 8.2$ Hz, 1H), 3.89 (s, 3H), 3.72 (s, 3H), 2.34 (s, 3H). 13C NMR (101 MHz, cdcl3) δ 174.77, 167.05, 155.79, 147.20, 138.90, 138.44, 137.28, 136.90, 133.75, 132.08, 131.05, 128.81, 128.32, 127.75, 125.43, 124.82, 123.59, 120.96, 111.43, 110.87, 106.02, 52.10, 39.23, 21.61, 18.53.

4.1.35. Synthesis of tert-butyl 4-((6-(7-(1-methyl-1H-pyrazol-4-yl)imidazo [1,2 a]pyridin-3-yl)pyridin-2-yl)amino)benzoate, compound 35—Compound 35 was

synthesized according to the procedure outlined in section 4.1.5 and was isolated as a yellow compound. MS m/z [M + 1] 467.0. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, cdcl3) δ 9.69 (dd, $J = 7.3$, 0.6 Hz, 1H), 8.11 (s, 1H), 7.99 (d, $J = 8.7$ Hz, 2H), 7.86 (d, $J = 0.7$ Hz, 1H), 7.74 (s, 1H), 7.73 (d, J $= 0.9$ Hz, 1H), 7.63 (t, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.46 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 7.30 (d, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 6.98 (dd, $J = 7.3$, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 6.80 (s, 1H), 6.77 (d, $J = 8.1$ Hz, 1H), 3.99 (s, 3H), 1.61 (s, 9H). 13C NMR (101 MHz, cdcl3) δ 165.72, 153.93, 149.09, 148.18, 144.57, 138.62, 137.12, 135.64, 131.08 (2C), 130.28, 128.19, 127.70, 125.50, 123.73, 121.33, 118.15 (2C), 113.00, 111.88, 111.73, 107.20, 80.81, 39.44, 28.46 (3C).

4.1.36. Synthesis of ethyl 2-(4-((6-(7-(1-methyl-1H-pyrazol-4-yl)imidazo [1,2 a]pyridin-3-yl)pyridin-2-yl)amino)phenyl)acetate, compound 36—Compound 36 was synthesized according to the procedure outlined in section 4.1.5 and was isolated as a white compound. MS m/z [M + 1] 453.2. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, cdcl3) δ 9.68 (dd, J= 7.3, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 8.08 (s, 1H), 7.88 (d, $J = 0.7$ Hz, 1H), 7.76 (s, 1H), 7.69 (dd, $J = 1.8$, 0.8 Hz, 1H), $7.57-7.52$ (m, 1H), $7.39-7.27$ (m, 4H), 7.19 (dd, $J = 7.6$, 0.5 Hz, 1H), 6.97 (dd, $J = 7.3$, 1.9 Hz, 1H), 6.68 (s, 1H), 6.64 (d, $J = 7.8$ Hz, 1H), 4.19 (q, $J = 7.1$ Hz, 2H), 3.96 (s, 3H), 3.63 (s, 2H), 1.28 (t, $J = 7.1$ Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, cdcl3) δ 172.02, 155.41, 148.93, 148.00, 139.46, 138.37, 137.15, 135.18, 130.17 (2C), 128.97, 128.59, 127.76, 123.79, 121.80 (2C), 121.43, 111.54, 105.86, 61.04, 40.89, 39.35, 29.83, 14.38.

4.1.37. Synthesis of N-(3-(tert-butyl)-1-methyl-1H-pyrazol-5-yl)-6-(7-(1 methyl-1H-pyrazol-4-yl)imidazo [1,2-a]pyridin-3-yl)pyridin-2-amine, compound

37—Compound 37 was synthesized according to the procedure outlined in section 4.1.5 and was isolated as a white compound. MS m/z [M + 1] 427.2. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, cdcl3) δ 9.41 (dd, J = 7.3, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 8.09 (d, J = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.82 (d, J = 0.7 Hz, 1H), 7.71–7.65 (m, 2H), 7.56 (t, $J = 7.9$ Hz, 1H), 7.22 (dd, $J = 7.7$, 0.5 Hz, 1H), 6.93 (dd, J $= 7.3, 1.9$ Hz, 1H), 6.45–6.40 (m, 1H), 6.29 (s, 1H), 6.04 (s, 1H), 3.96 (s, 3H), 3.73 (s, 3H), 1.36 (s, 9H). 13C NMR (101 MHz, cdcl3) δ 161.15, 156.04, 149.22, 148.12, 138.74, 138.47, 137.08, 135.37, 130.23, 128.27, 127.56, 121.33, 111.84, 111.64, 111.58, 104.70, 97.34, 39.40, 35.33, 32.48, 30.75 (3C).

4.1.38. Synthesis of N-(3-(tert-butyl)-1-(4-fluorophenyl)-1H-pyrazol-5-

yl)-6-(7-(1-methyl-1H-pyrazol-4-yl)imidazo [1,2-a]pyridin-3-yl)pyridin-2-amine, compound 38—Compound 38 was synthesized according to the procedure outlined in section 4.1.5 and was isolated as a yellow compound. MS m/z [M + 1] 507.3. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, cdcl3) δ 9.58 (d, J = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 8.09 (s, 1H), 7.83 (s, 1H), 7.75 (s, 1H), 7.72 (s, 1H), 7.62–7.53 (m, 3H), 7.13–7.06 (m, 2H), 7.01–6.97 (m, 1H), 6.56 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 6.31 (s, 1H), 6.13 (s, 1H), 3.98 (s, 3H), 1.40 (s, 9H). 13C NMR (101 MHz, cdcl3) δ 162.72, 162.48, 160.26, 155.27, 149.02, 147.92, 138.80, 138.60, 136.91, 135.18, 130.12, 128.27, 127.47, 126.07, 125.98, 123.41, 121.16, 116.14, 115.92, 111.85, 111.65, 111.48, 105.32, 97.64, 39.28, 32.63, 30.53 (3C).

4.1.39. Synthesis of N-(3-(tert-butyl)-1-(p-tolyl)-1H-pyrazol-5-yl)-6-(7-(1 methyl-1H-pyrazol-4-yl)imidazo [1,2-a]pyridin-3-yl)pyridin-2-amine, compound

39—Compound 39 was synthesized according to the procedure outlined in section 4.1.5 and was isolated as a white compound. MS m/z [M + 1] 503.3. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, cdcl3) δ 9.61 (d, $J = 7.3$ Hz, 1H), 8.07 (s, 1H), 7.81 (s, 1H), 7.69 (s, 1H), 7.67 (s, 1H), 7.57 (t, $J = 7.9$ Hz, 1H), 7.47 (s, 1H), 7.45 (s, 1H), 7.25–7.18 (m, 3H), 6.94 (dd, $J = 7.3$, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 6.57 (d, $J = 8.2$ Hz, 1H), 6.34 (s, 1H), 6.32 (s, 1H), 3.97 (s, 3H), 2.35 (s, 3H), 1.40 (s, 9H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, cdcl3) δ 162.26, 154.91, 149.17, 148.09, 138.67, 138.45, 137.42, 137.07 (2C), 136.42, 135.45, 130.17, 130.02, 128.32, 127.53, 124.39 (2C), 123.57, 121.38, 112.16, 111.77, 111.74, 105.44, 96.51, 39.42, 32.68, 30.63 (3C), 21.21.

4.1.40. Synthesis of N-(3-(tert-butyl)-1-methyl-1H-pyrazol-5-yl)-6-(7-(4- (methylsulfonyl)phenyl)imidazo [1,2-a]pyridin-3-yl)pyridin-2-amine, compound

40—Compound III (124 mg, 322.83 μmol), 3-(tert-butyl)-1-methyl-1H-pyrazol-5-amine (99 mg, 645.67 μmol, 2 equiv), cesium carbonate (157.78 mg, 434.25 μmol) were dissolved into 5 mL Dioxane. The resulting reaction mixture was degassed with nitrogen for 5–10 min. After that, $Pd(PPh_3)_4$ (37.31 mg, 32.28 µmol) was added. The resulting mixture was stirred at 100 °C under N_2 atmosphere overnight (sealed bottle). After completion of reaction, the reaction mixture was filtered and concentrated in vacuo. Silica flash chromatography (MeOH/DCM 0–7 %) followed by C18 flash chromatography (MeOH/H₂O 10–80 %) yielded compound 2 as a green solid (58 mg, 35.86 %). MS m/z [M + 1] 501.2. ¹H NMR $(400 \text{ MHz}, \text{cdcl}3)$ δ 9.54 (d, $J = 7.4 \text{ Hz}, 1\text{ H}$), 8.19 (s, 1H), 8.08–8.01 (m, 2H), 7.90 (d, $J =$ 1.9 Hz, 1H), 7.83 (dq, $J = 8.3$, 2.1 Hz, 2H), 7.60 (t, $J = 7.9$ Hz, 1H), 7.30–7.25 (m, 1H), 7.08 $(dt, J = 7.0, 1.8 \text{ Hz}, 1H), 6.48 \text{ (d, } J = 8.2 \text{ Hz}, 1H), 6.26 \text{ (s, 1H)}, 6.05 \text{ (s, 1H)}, 3.73 \text{ (s, 3H)},$ 3.11 (s, 3H), 1.36 (s, 9H). 13C NMR (101 MHz, cdcl3) δ 161.19, 156.11, 148.84, 147.53, 144.14, 140.08, 138.90, 138.33, 136.06, 135.67, 128.62, 128.37 (2C), 127.71 (2C), 123.80, 115.46, 112.16, 111.91, 105.33, 97.43, 44.73, 35.37, 32.50, 30.77 (3C).

4.1.41. Synthesis of N-(3-(tert-butyl)-1-(p-tolyl)-1H-pyrazol-5-yl)-6-(7-(4- (methylsulfonyl)phenyl)imidazo [1,2-a]pyridin-3-yl)pyridin-2-amine, compound 41—Compound 41 was synthesized according to the procedure outlined in section 4.1.40 and was isolated as a green compound. MS m/z [M + 1] 577.3. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, cdcl3) δ 9.75 (dd, J = 7.3, 0.5 Hz, 1H), 8.18 (s, 1H), 8.08–8.00 (m, 2H), 7.92 (d, J = 1.1 Hz, 1H), 7.87–7.81 (m, 2H), 7.61 (t, $J = 7.9$ Hz, 1H), 7.46 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 2H), 7.27 $(d, J = 7.6 \text{ Hz}, 1\text{ H}), 7.21 (d, J = 8.1 \text{ Hz}, 2\text{ H}), 7.11 (dd, J = 7.4, 2.0 \text{ Hz}, 1\text{ H}), 6.61 (d,$ $J = 8.2$ Hz, 1H), 6.33 (s, 1H), 6.29 (s, 1H), 3.11 (s, 3H), 2.35 (s, 3H), 1.40 (s, 9H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, cdcl3) δ 162.29, 155.02, 148.81, 147.52, 144.20, 140.14, 138.84, 138.29, 137.49, 136.41, 136.16, 135.66, 130.05 (2C), 128.66, 128.41 (2C), 127.72 (2C), 124.36 (2C), 115.58, 112.51, 112.11, 106.03, 96.68, 44.74, 32.71, 30.65 (3C), 21.22.

4.1.42. Synthesis of 6-(7-(4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl)imidazo [1,2-a]pyridin-3 yl)-N-(3,4,5-trimethoxyphenyl)pyridin-2-amine, compound 42—Compound 42 was synthesized according to the procedure outlined in section 4.1.40 and was isolated as a yellow compound. MS m/z [M + 1] 531.1. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, cdcl3) δ 9.86 (d, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 8.18 (s, 1H), 8.03 (dd, $J = 8.5$, 1.7 Hz, 2H), 7.91 (d, $J = 1.1$ Hz, 1H), 7.82 (dd, $J = 8.5, 1.8$ Hz, 2H), 7.59 (t, $J = 7.9$ Hz, 1H), 7.24 (dd, $J = 10.9, 4.3$ Hz, 1H), 7.07 (dd, J $= 7.4, 1.9$ Hz, 1H), 6.74–6.58 (m, 4H), 3.87 (s, 3H), 3.81 (s, 6H), 3.10 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR

(101 MHz, cdcl3) δ 155.86, 153.82 (2C), 148.60, 147.38, 144.11, 140.09, 138.62, 136.36, 135.95, 135.61, 134.58, 128.71, 128.36 (2C), 127.76 (2C), 124.30, 115.58, 111.84, 106.32, 99.85 (2C), 61.21, 56.30 (2C), 44.74, 29.82.

4.1.43. Synthesis of N-(4-(tert-butyl)phenyl)-6-(7-(4-

(methylsulfonyl)phenyl)imidazo [1,2-a]pyridin-3-yl)pyridin-2-amine, compound 43—Compound 43 was synthesized according to the procedure outlined in section 4.1.40 and was isolated as a yellow compound. MS m/z [M + 1] 497.2. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, cdcl3) δ 9.85 (dd, $J = 7.4$, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 8.17 (s, 1H), 8.08–8.02 (m, 2H), 7.92 (dd, $J = 1.9$, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 7.87–7.80 (m, 2H), 7.59–7.54 (m, 1H), 7.45–7.38 (m, 2H), 7.37–7.30 (m, 2H), 7.21 (d, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.04 (dd, $J = 7.4$, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 6.71 (d, $J = 8.1$ Hz, 1H), 6.63 (s, 1H), 3.11 (s, 3H), 1.37 (s, 9H). 13C NMR (101 MHz, cdcl3) δ 155.96, 148.60, 147.35, 146.70, 144.28, 140.04, 138.49, 137.63, 135.89, 135.45, 128.84, 128.37 (2C), 127.70 (2C), 126.20 (2C), 124.37, 121.77 (2C), 115.52, 111.69, 111.67, 105.99, 44.73, 34.56, 31.62 (3C).

4.2. Cell cultures and viability assay

MOLM14, MOLM14-D835Y and MOLM14-F691L cell lines were obtained from the laboratory of Dr. Shah in University of California San Francisco and cultured in RPMI (Gibco, USA) containing 10 % fetal bovine serum (FBS) (Gibco, USA). All media contained 100 units/mL penicillin (Gibco, USA), and 100 μg/mL streptomycin (Gibco, USA). Other cell lines were cultured in appropriate media according to provider's instructions. Cells were incubated at 37 $\mathrm{^{\circ}C}$ in a humidified atmosphere of 5 % CO₂.

For the viability assays, cells in logarithmic phase were seeded into 96-well culture plates at densities of (5000) cells per well. Then, after 24 h of incubation, cells were treated in triplicate with various concentrations of compounds for 72 h in final volumes of 200 μL. Upon end point, 20 μL Resazurin solution (Biotium, USA) was added to each well, and the cells were incubated for an additional 4–6 h. Fluorescence values at a wavelength of 590 nM were taken on a spectrophotometer (BioTek, USA). $GI₅₀$ values were calculated using percentage of growth versus vehicle (DMSO) treated control. The data were finally fitted in GraphPad Prism V9.0 software to obtain IC_{50} (half-1ife) values using [inhibitor] vs. normalized response (variable slope) model. Each compound was tested at least three times.

4.3. FLT3 kinase activity assay

Kinase assays was conducted using the bioluminescent ADP-Glo[™] kinase assay (Promega, USA), following the manufacturer's instructions. Assay was performed with the test compounds at 8-point half log dilutions (1 μM to 0.316 nM). Luminescence signal was measured on a spectrophotometer (BioTek, USA), and IC_{50} values reported are based on the dose-response curve fitted in GraphPad Prism V9.0 using [inhibitor] vs. normalized response model. Each compound was tested at least three times.

4.4. Western blot

MOLM14, MOLM14-D835Y and MOLM14-F691L cells, at 5×10^5 cells/ml, were exposed to compound 24 for 2 h at 37° at the indicated doses. Total cell lysates were resolved by SDS-polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis and transferred to nitrocellulose membranes.

The membranes were then probed with primary antibodies purchased from Cell Signaling (Danvers, MA, USA) [pFLT3 Y842 (#4577), FLT3 (#3462), pERK (#4370), ERK (#9107) and GAPDH (#5174)] followed by secondary antibodies purchased from Licor (Lincoln, NE, USA). Immunoblots were then visualized by a Biorad ChemiDoc MP Imaging System (Hercules, CA, USA).

4.5. Molecular docking

The molecular docking studies were completed using Maestro 11.8 (released 2018-4). The ligand was prepared by the LigPrep tool. The crystal structure of FLT3 bound to gilteritinib (PDB ID: 6JQR) was used as template. The structure of FLT3-F691L was generated by 3D builder tool – mutate residue. The protein preparation was done in Maestro using the protein preparation wizard tool. A grid box around the ATP binding site was created. The ligands were docked in this grid using Ligand Docking. The results were visualized and analyzed with the Maestro suite.

4.6. Kinase selectivity profiling

Compound 24 was dissolved in DMSO to required concentrations and sent to Eurofins DiscoverX Corporation located in San Diego, CA USA for KINOMEscan™ Profiling Service.

The kinases were tagged with DNA for qPCR detection. Streptavidin-coated magnetic beads were treated with biotinylated small molecule ligands for 30 min at room temperature to generate affinity resins for kinase assays. The liganded beads were blocked with excess biotin and washed with blocking buffer (SeaBlock (Pierce), 1 % BSA, 0.05 % Tween 20, 1 mM DTT) to remove unbound ligand and to reduce non-specific phage binding. Binding reactions were assembled by combining kinases, liganded affinity beads, and test compounds in 1x binding buffer (20 % SeaBlock, 0.17x PBS, 0.05 % Tween 20, 6 mM DTT). Test compounds were prepared as 100x stocks in 100 % DMSO and directly diluted into the assay. All reactions were performed in polypropylene 384-well plates in a final volume of 0.02 mL. The assay plates were incubated at room temperature with shaking for 1 h and the affinity beads were washed with wash buffer (1x PBS, 0.05 % Tween 20). The beads were then re-suspended in elution buffer (1x PBS, 0.05 % Tween 20, 0.5 μM non-biotinylated affinity ligand) and incubated at room temperature with shaking for 30 min. The kinase concentration in the eluates was measured by qPCR.

The TREEspot[™] Interaction Maps was generated online based on the testing results.

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Data availability

Data will be made available on request.

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The structure of FLT3. (A) Illustration of FLT3 structure and mutation positions. (B) The crystal structure of FLT3 tyrosine kinase domain (DFG-out conformation, PDB: 1RJB).

Fig. 2.

Illustration of FLT3 inhibitors. (A) The structure of midostaurin, gilteritinib, and quizartinib. (B) The structure Ling-5o and Ling-5e as previously reported.

Fig. 3.

The molecular design rationale from the view of protein-1igand interactions. (A) Binding pose of Ling-5e in FLT3 model. Yellow dashes depict for hydrogen bonds. Blue dash depicts for pi-pi stacking. (B) Structural modification of Ling-5e led to the discovery of compound 24.

Fig. 4. Cell-based viability curve of gilteritinib and Compound 24.

Fig. 5.

Western blot analysis of MOLM14 (A), MOLM14-D835Y (B), and MOLM14-F691L (C) cells treated with compound 24 for 2 h. DMSO diluent was used as a treatment control in each experiment, and GAPDH as a loading control.

Fig. 6.

Computer-aided molecular modeling of compound 24 bound to FLT3 (A) and FLT3-F691L (B). The ribbons representing hinges are colored in blue. The hydrogen bonds and Aromatic - H bonds are depicted as dashed lines in yellow and in blue, respectively. The FLT3 crystal structure (in complex with gilteritinib) was applied from PDB: 6JQR.

Scheme 1.

A general synthetic scheme. Reagents and conditions: (a) 2-chloroacetaldehyde, n-Butanol, 130 °C, 12 h; (b) 1-methyl-4-(4,4,5,5-tetramethyl-1,3,2-dioxaborolan-2-yl)-1H-pyrazole, Pd₂ (dba)₃, PCy₃, CH₃COOK, DMF/H₂O (4:1), 130 °C, 1 h, M/W; (c) 2,6-dichloropyridine, Pd(PPh₃)₄, Pd(OAc)₂, K₂CO₃, 1,4-Dioxane/H2O (10:1), 100 °C, 14 h; (d) respective amines, Pd(PPh₃)₄, Cs₂CO₃, 1,4-Dioxane, 100 °C, 14 h; (e) respective dichlorobenzene, Pd(PPh₃)₄, Pd(OAc)₂, K₂CO₃, 1,4-Dioxane/H2O (10:1), 120 °C, 24 h; (f) respective amines, Pd(PPh₃)₄, Cs₂CO₃, 1,4-Dioxane, 100 °C, 14 h.

Table 1

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Structure-activity study of the six-member aromatic ring. Structure-activity study of the six-member aromatic ring.

Table 2

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Table 3

Cell antiproliferative effects and FLT3 kinase inhibition of selected compounds.

