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## A general chemical principle for creating closure-stabilizing integrin inhibitors

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### SUMMARY

Integrins are validated drug targets with six approved therapeutics. However, small molecule inhibitors to three integrins failed in late-stage clinical trials for chronic indications. Such unfavorable outcomes may in part be caused by partial agonism, i.e., stabilization of the high-affinity, extended-open integrin conformation. Here we show that failed, small molecule inhibitors of integrins  $\alpha$ IIb $\beta$ 3 and  $\alpha$ 4 $\beta$ 1 stabilize the high-affinity conformation. Furthermore, we discovered

Author contributions. Jq.Z. found that UR-2922 was a closing compound in gel filtration and grew crystals with UR-2922, tirofiban, eptifibatide, and EF-5154 in  $Mg^{2+}$  with which Jh.Z. collected data and refined structures. Jq.Z. later as an independent investigator supervised T.T.H.N and they collected and analyzed data on LIBS epitope induction on platelets and inhibition of clot retraction and platelet aggregation by compounds and wrote methods and figure legends. FY.L. found BMS4 in the literature and later gantofiban, GR144508, DS 13d, DS 13g, and BMS4-2, and other control compounds. Y.Z. supervised Y.X. in synthesizing these and related compounds including clinically tested  $\alpha$ IIb $\beta$ 3 inhibitors. FY.L. determined which of these compounds were closing and opening by gel filtration and LIBS exposure and crystallized, collected data, and refined the other 17  $\alpha$ IIb $\beta$ 3 - compound complex structures in  $Mg^{2+}$  and  $Mn^{2+}$ . FY.L. first observed that closing compounds uniquely hydrogen bonded to water 1 or 2 to stabilize the closed conformation. Together, Jh.Z. and FY.L. deposited 21 crystal structures. FY.L. extended closing compounds to integrin  $\alpha$ 4 $\beta$ 1. J.L. quantitatively measured affinities of  $\alpha$ 4 $\beta$ 1 inhibitors for the EO state, BC+EC ensemble, and basal ensemble and measured their ability to induce LIBS epitopes for the extended, closed, and open conformations. J.L. also measured affinities of  $\alpha$ 1Ib $\beta$ 3 inhibitors for WT and mutant activated  $\alpha$ 1Ib $\beta$ 3, assessed the induction of LIBS epitopes, and the effect of serum on affinity, and wrote equations and analyzed data. Jq.Z. and FY.L. each drafted separate earlier manuscripts with T.A.S. T.A.S. supervised the overall project and drafted a new manuscript. All authors contributed portions of writing, figures, or tables.

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**Declaration of interests**. T.A.S. is a founder, stock owner, and director of Morphic Therapeutic. FY.L. is an employee of Morphic Therapeutic.

Quantification and statistical analysis.

All of the statistical analyses and how significance was defined are described in Figure legends. Equations and software used are described in the Methods.

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

Data S1. Equation 4, related to Fig. 6, Fig. S3.

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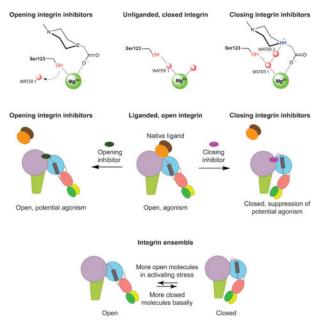
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a simple chemical feature present in multiple  $\alpha IIb\beta 3$  antagonists that stabilizes integrins in their bent-closed conformation. Closing inhibitors contain a polar nitrogen atom that stabilizes, via hydrogen bonds, a water molecule that intervenes between a serine residue and the metal in the metal ion-dependent adhesion site (MIDAS), expulsion of which is requisite for transition to the open conformation. This change in metal coordination is general to integrins, suggesting broad applicability of the drug-design principle to the integrin family, as validated with a distantly related integrin,  $\alpha 4\beta 1$ .

### **Graphical Abstract**



### In brief:

The design principle for integrin inhibitors.

### Keywords

integrins; drug discovery; conformational change; thrombosis; autoimmune disease; membrane receptors

### INTRODUCTION

In time and with water, everything changes. —Leonardo da Vinci

Integrins are attractive therapeutic targets with central functions in multiple diseases (Cox et al., 2010; Ley et al., 2016; Shimaoka and Springer, 2003). The 24 integrin  $\alpha\beta$  heterodimers have evolved highly specialized functions. Antibodies to integrin  $\alpha4\beta7/\alpha4\beta1$  and specific for  $\alpha4\beta7$  are approved for multiple sclerosis and ulcerative colitis, respectively. Integrin ligand binding pockets are unusually good binding sites for small molecules. Small molecules to the leukocyte integrin LFA-1 ( $\alphaL\beta2$ ), and the fibrinogen receptor on

platelets, integrin  $\alpha \text{IIb}\beta 3$ , are approved topically for dry eye disease and acutely to prevent thrombosis, respectively. However, despite emergence of new targets, including integrins  $\alpha V\beta 6$  and  $\alpha V\beta 8$  in fibrosis and immuno-oncology, there are no approved chronic (oral) small molecule integrin antagonists.

An intense pharmaceutical effort to develop oral antagonists of  $\alpha IIb\beta 3$  following the success of parenteral ligand mimetics (Scarborough and Gretler, 2000) was fueled by anticipation of "the dawn of a new era in antithrombotic therapy, the era of  $\alpha IIb\beta 3$  antagonism" (Topol et al., 1999). However, oral integrin antagonists (Chew et al., 2001; Topol et al., 2003), as well as longer-term dosing of parenteral inhibitors (Théroux et al., 1998), were beset with massive failure. Five phase III trials of oral  $\alpha IIb\beta 3$  inhibitors in a total of 42,530 patients failed (Chew et al., 2001; Topol et al., 2003). In all trials, mortality was significantly higher in treated patients than in the placebo control, even though the need for urgent revascularization was significantly reduced. Mortality was lessened by concurrent aspirin treatment, suggesting that platelet-mediated events were responsible for the bad outcome. The contrast between the benefit of short-term and harm of long-term  $\alpha IIb\beta 3$  therapy was striking, and suggested "the presence of clinically relevant 'toxic' mechanisms" (Chew et al., 2001).

The reason for these failures appeared to stem, at least in part, from agonism derived from integrin conformational change (Aga et al., 2004; Cox et al., 2000; Murphy et al., 1998; Peter et al., 2001). Most integrins, including  $\alpha$ IIb $\beta$ 3, are present predominantly in a low-affinity, bent-closed (BC) conformation on cell surfaces but change to a high-affinity extended-open (EO) state when bound to their biological ligands (Frelinger et al., 1988; Li et al., 2017; Takagi et al., 2002) (Fig. 1A). A known complication of  $\alpha$ IIb $\beta$ 3 antagonism is pre-existing or drug exposure-stimulated production of antibodies to integrin conformational epitopes or ligand-induced binding sites (LIBS) (Bosco et al., 2005; Bougie et al., 2012; Onitilo, 2006; Topol et al., 1999). After the Phase III failures,  $\alpha$ IIb $\beta$ 3 antagonist research and development was shut down and publications in the field greatly declined.

Thus, the story of how a just-emerging class of  $\alpha$ IIb $\beta$ 3 antagonist worked—which did not induce LIBS—was never told. Several inhibitors were published as non-LIBS inducers, but how they were discovered and the chemical properties that differentiated them from LIBS inducers were not described (Aga et al., 2004; Baba et al., 2001; Breth et al., 2005; Dickfeld et al., 2001). Furthermore, development of  $\alpha$ IIb $\beta$ 3 antagonists was stopped prior to their first structures bound to  $\alpha$ IIb $\beta$ 3, which were all with LIBS inducers (Xiao et al., 2004). A subsequently developed LIBS-inducing integrin  $\alpha$ V $\beta$ 3 inhibitor also failed in clinical trials in cancer, and was suggested to be agonistic (Ley et al., 2016; Li et al., 2019; Reynolds et al., 2009). Although non-LIBS inducing  $\alpha$ IIb $\beta$ 3 and  $\alpha$ V $\beta$ 3 inhibitors have been reported by academic investigators, they have not been extended to integrins with other  $\beta$ -subunits (Adair et al., 2020; Kereiakes et al., 2020; Li et al., 2019; Zhu et al., 2012).

A principle for inhibiting integrin conformational change by small molecule antagonists that could be extended to integrins with other  $\beta$ -subunits would be desirable. Consider a dangerous safety signal with firategrast, a dual  $\alpha 4\beta 1/\alpha 4\beta 7$  integrin antagonist, in a phase 2 trial in multiple sclerosis (Miller et al., 2012). High doses were significantly beneficial, a

medium dose had no significant effect, and a low dose was significantly harmful, a profile consistent with action of a partial agonist and induction of the active conformation of the integrin. However, little is known about firategrast, including whether it induces the high affinity state of  $\alpha 4\beta 1$ .

Here, we hypothesized that the rich chemical matter developed for  $\alpha IIb\beta 3$  antagonism could be used to uncover a chemical principle by which inhibitors could bind but not induce the high affinity integrin state, and that this principle might be broadly transferable to integrin targets of current clinical interest. We determined high resolution structures of  $\alpha IIb\beta 3$  bound to opening-stabilizing (LIBS-inducing) and closure-stabilizing (non-LIBS-inducing) compounds. The key chemical principle to emerge, a hydrogen bond to a water molecule of importance in integrin conformational change, is elegant in its simplicity. Drug molecules that stabilize this water not only do not induce LIBS epitope expression, but also suppress LIBS expression by stabilizing the closed, low affinity integrin conformation.

To challenge our understanding of the chemical features required for closing inhibitors, we extrapolated what we learned from  $\alpha IIb\beta 3$  to the highly dissimilar integrin  $\alpha 4\beta 1$ . We found that firategrast, which is no longer in pharmaceutical development, stabilizes the open, high-affinity integrin conformation. Searching the chemical literature for  $\alpha 4\beta 1$  antagonists, we found a pair of two compounds that were similar but differed in one position by the presence of a nitrogen atom able to hydrogen bond to water or a carbon atom lacking this ability; these compounds stabilized the closed and open states, respectively. This success and the invariance in integrin  $\beta$ -subunits of the metal ion dependent adhesion site (MIDAS)  $Mg^{2+}$  ion and the MIDAS serine sidechain, between which the key water locates, suggest that the closing principle described here is likely extendable to all integrins.

### **RESULTS**

### allbβ3 inhibitors stabilize distinct integrin conformations.

Integrins on cell surfaces and as soluble ectodomain fragments equilibrate between three conformational states, bent-closed (BC), extended-closed (EC) and extended-open (EO) (Fig. 1A, B). In the absence of ligand binding, the BC state predominates on cell surfaces: >99.8% for  $\alpha 5\beta 1$  and >97.7% for  $\alpha 4\beta 1$  (Li and Springer, 2018). Integrin  $\alpha IIb\beta 3$  is also predominately in the BC state in absence of ligand, as shown by lack of reactivity with LIBS antibodies (Frelinger et al., 1988). LIBS antibodies to  $\alpha IIb\beta 3$  map to regions of the upper and lower legs (Fig. 1A) that become exposed upon extension (Byron et al., 2009; Zhang et al., 2013).

Using multiple assays that extend to the end of Results, we found that inhibitors either stabilized integrin headpiece opening, closure, or were conformationally neutral. Initially, we tested the effect of compounds on the integrin headpiece fragment, which is truncated at the knees (Fig. 1A). The headpiece responds similarly to ligand-mimetic drugs as the ectodomain and intact integrins, but has only two states, closed and open, and thus can directly demonstrate opening in the absence of extension. The integrin headpiece, as demonstrated with  $\alpha.5\beta1$ , is more stable in the closed state than the ectodomain, and is thus more difficult to activate (Li and Springer, 2017). In 1 mM Mg<sup>2+</sup>/1 mM Ca<sup>2+</sup> (Mg<sup>2+</sup>),

the clinically tested oral antagonists roxifiban (Pieniaszek et al., 2002) (BMS / DuPont) and lotrafiban (Mould et al., 2001; Topol et al., 2003) (Glaxo), like parenteral tirofiban, caused the headpiece to elute earlier in gel filtration, showing its hydrodynamic radius was increased by opening (Fig. 1C). Drugs studied here are shown in Fig. 2; for convenience we use oral prodrug names for their active forms.  $Mn^{2+}$  increases integrin intrinsic affinity for ligand and also increases the population of the open state (Anderson et al., 2022; Li et al., 2017). As shown by negative stain electron microscopy of detergent soluble, intact  $\alpha$ IIb $\beta$ 3,  $Mn^{2+}$  increases population of the extended-closed and extended-open states, and in presence of a ligand that binds to the open headpiece conformation, enhances population of the extended-open state (Eng et al., 2011).

In gel filtration of the  $\alpha$ IIb $\beta$ 3 headpiece in absence of compound, 2 mM Mn<sup>2+</sup>/0.2 mM Ca<sup>2+</sup> (Mn<sup>2+</sup>) increased the hydrodynamic radius slightly, from 4.77 in Mg<sup>2+</sup> to 4.88 nm in Mn<sup>2+</sup>, which suggested a slight increase in population in the ensemble of the open conformation (Fig. 1C&D and Fig. 1I). While clinically tested lotrafiban, roxifiban, and tirofiban varied in the extent to which they shifted headpiece elution in Mg<sup>2+</sup>, they uniformly increased the hydrodynamic radius to ~5.36 nm in Mn<sup>2+</sup>. Other clinical stage compounds, lamifiban (Muller et al., 1997; Weller et al., 1996) (Roche, Ro 44–9883), sibrafiban (Weller et al., 1996; Wittke et al., 1999) (Roche, Ro 44–3888), and fradafiban (Muller et al., 1997) (Karl Thomae) did not cause headpiece opening in Mg<sup>2+</sup> (Fig. 1E), consistent with reports that lamifiban did not induce exposure of LIBS epitopes on  $\alpha$ IIb $\beta$ 3 on platelets (Murphy et al., 1998). However, in activating Mn<sup>2+</sup> buffer, these three compounds induced headpiece opening as completely as tirofiban (Fig. 1F). We term these "opening" inhibitors because they increase the proportion of the open state in conformational ensembles.

Another class of compounds did not induce opening in buffer with  $Mg^{2+}$  or  $Mn^{2+}$ . We found UR-2922 (Ube Pharmaceuticals), reported not to induce LIBS epitopes on platelets in  $Mg^{2+}$  (Baba et al., 2001), in a review on integrin antagonists (Cox et al., 2010). We later found BMS4, also reported not to induce LIBS on platelets in  $Mg^{2+}$  (Breth et al., 2005), during a serendipitous search for LIBS antibodies. We found that neither UR-2922 nor BMS4 increased the hydrodynamic radius of the  $\alpha$ IIb $\beta$ 3 headpiece in  $Mg^{2+}$  or  $Mn^{2+}$  (Fig. 1G,H). Furthermore, in  $Mn^{2+}$  these inhibitors shifted the headpiece to a smaller hydrodynamic radius than the control, which was indistinguishable from the control in  $Mg^{2+}$  (Fig. 1G–I). These results are consistent with the suggestion above that a small population of the  $\alpha$ IIb $\beta$ 3 headpiece is in the open conformation in  $Mn^{2+}$  and that these compounds preferentially bind to the closed conformation and increase its population. We term these "closing" inhibitors.

### Structural features of opening integrin inhibitors.

In the absence of ligand in  $Mg^{2+}/Ca^{2+}$ ,  $\alpha IIb\beta 3$  headpiece–Fab complexes crystallize in the closed state with two molecules per asymmetric unit, giving two independent structural snapshots (Zhu et al., 2013). The key early step in headpiece opening is movement of the loop between the  $\beta I$  domain  $\beta 1$ -strand and  $\alpha 1$ -helix ( $\beta 1$ - $\alpha 1$  loop, Fig. 1A,B), which bears three sidechains that coordinate the MIDAS metal ion in an Asp-Xaa-Ser-Xaa-Ser (DXSXS) motif that is conserved in all integrin  $\beta$ -subunits. In previous work, we soaked Arg-Gly-Asp (RGD) peptide at different concentrations with  $Mg^{2+}$  or  $Mn^{2+}$  into  $\alpha IIb\beta 3$ 

crystals, and trapped  $\alpha IIb\beta 3$  in closed state 1, intermediate states 2–7, or open state 8 (Zhu et al., 2013). In state 1, the sidechain oxygen of Ser-123 in the MIDAS motif hydrogen bonds to water molecule 1 (W1 in Fig. 3A, B), whereas in states 3–8, movement of the  $\beta 1-\alpha 1$  loop repositions the Ser-123 sidechain oxygen to take the place of water 1 (Fig. 1B, Fig. 3C).

To test whether differences would emerge from comparisons of crystal structures of opening and closing inhibitors bound to  $\alpha IIb\beta 3$ , we determined structures of 16 compounds soaked in the presence of  $Mg^{2+}$  or  $Mn^{2+}$ , including 5 compounds soaked in both metal ion conditions. The 21 structures diffracted to  $2.52 \pm 0.26$  Å and were refined to  $R_{free}$  values of  $23.21 \pm 1.46$  (mean  $\pm$  s.d.) with excellent electron density for all drug atoms (Fig. 3, Fig. S1, Fig. S2, and Table S1).

Tirofiban, eptifibatide (Xiao et al., 2004), lotrafiban, and EF-5154 in Mg<sup>2+</sup> and roxifiban in Mn<sup>2+</sup> bound in the aIIbβ3 groove with their Arg-mimetic nitrogen hydrogen-bonded to αIIb residue Asp-224 and their Asp-mimetic carboxyl group coordinated to the β3 MIDAS metal ion (Fig. 3D-G and Supplemental Figs. S1A-E and S2A). Furthermore, β1-α1 loop movement brought the Tyr-122 backbone into position to hydrogen-bond to the drug carboxyl group and Ser-123 displaced water 1 to coordinate directly to the MIDAS metal ion. These opening compounds thus acted similarly to RGD peptides. Three other opening compounds, lamifiban, sibrafiban, and fradafiban, did not cause any conformational change in Mg<sup>2+</sup> (Fig. 1I, Fig. 3H, and Figs. S1F,H,J and S2B&D). In contrast, in Mn<sup>2+</sup> they induced a 2 Å movement in the β1-α1 loop at the Cα atom of Ser-123 toward ligand, and brought its sidechain oxygen within 2.3 to 2.7 Å of the MIDAS Mn<sup>2+</sup> ion, thus displacing and occupying the position of water 1 (Fig. 1I, Fig. 3I,J; Fig. S1G,I,K and Fig. S2C). Moreover, movement also brought the backbone of Tyr-122 into position to form a hydrogen bond to the non-MIDAS coordinating carboxyl oxygen of the drug. 2Fo-Fc density maps at 1.5  $\sigma$  near the  $\beta$ I domain MIDAS region clearly document displacement of the water by the Ser-123 sidechain (Fig. S1F-K). These results agreed with increased headpiece hydrodynamic radius with lamifiban, sibrafiban, and fradafiban in solution in Mn<sup>2+</sup> but not in Mg<sup>2+</sup> (Fig. 1I). We could identify no chemical properties or interactions such as hydrogen bonds with αIIbβ3 that uniquely distinguished the compounds that opened the headpiece in Mn<sup>2+</sup> and not in Mg<sup>2+</sup> (Fig. 3D–J and Fig. S2A–D).

### A fundamental chemical principle that defines closing integrin inhibitors.

In contrast to the results with opening integrin inhibitors, soaking with UR-2922 and BMS4 caused no structural perturbation of the closed  $\alpha$ IIb $\beta$ 3 headpiece in Mg<sup>2+</sup> or Mn<sup>2+</sup> (Fig. 3K,L, Figs. S1L–O and S2E–F). Seeing no unique structural contacts between the integrin and the closing inhibitors, we at first were puzzled by how they stabilized the closed state. During opening, integrin  $\beta$ 1- $\alpha$ 1 loop movement is linked to sliding of the entire RGD ligand in its binding groove toward Asp-224 in the  $\alpha$ IIb subunit (Fig. 1B and Fig. 3B,C) (Zhu et al., 2013). We wondered if closing inhibitors might be longer and more rigid than RGD and block this movement. Pursuing this hypothesis, we synthesized a shorter BMS4 analogue, BMS4–1, and the even shorter BMS4–3 (Fig. 2). Gel filtration showed that BMS4–1 and BMS4–3 were closure stabilizing (Fig. 1G–I). Crystal structures showed that

 $\alpha IIb\beta 3$  remained in the closed state in Mn<sup>2+</sup> and bound to BMS4–1 and BMS4–3 essentially identically to BMS4, except that BMS4–3 was so shortened that its piperidine group did not reach  $\alpha IIb$  Asp-244 and interacted with it through a network of water molecules (Fig. 3M,N and Fig. S1P,Q). These results falsified the hypothesis that closing propensity of the BMS series was a function of compound length.

The inspirational moment finally came when we noticed that closing compounds either directly hydrogen bonded water 1 (W1), which bridges the MIDAS metal ion to the sidechain of MIDAS residue Ser-123 (UR-2922, Fig. 3K); or indirectly hydrogen bonded to water 1 through water 2 (W2) as in the case of BMS4, BMS4–3, and BMS4–1 (Fig. 3L–N). As water 1 is displaced by the Ser-123 sidechain early in integrin opening and in the final open state (Xiao et al., 2004; Zhu et al., 2013), stabilizing water 1 specifically stabilizes the closed conformation.

UR-2922 has a pyrazole ring with two nitrogens, one of which (N2) hydrogen bonds to water 1 (Fig. 2, Fig. 3K, and Fig. 4A). Neither nitrogen has a hydrogen. Thus, one of the hydrogens of water 1 donates a hydrogen bond to the electron lone pair of N2; in turn, one water 1 oxygen electron lone pair forms a partially covalent (2.1 Å) coordination to the MIDAS metal ion. The UR-2922 complex structures are virtually identical in Mn<sup>2+</sup> and Mg<sup>2+</sup> (Fig. 3K and Supplemental Fig. S2F) and have strong electron density for water 1 (Fig. 4A and Fig. S1L, M).

The BMS4-bound structures in  $Mn^{2+}$  and  $Mg^{2+}$  and the BMS4-3 and BMS4-1 complexes in  $Mn^{2+}$  all show strong density for both water 1 and water 2 (Fig. 4B-D and Fig. S1N-Q). Density for water in a similar location to water 2 was not observed in any of the complexes with opening-stabilizing inhibitors or in UR-2922 complexes (Fig. 4A, Fig. S1A-K). The piperazine N1 atom is highly basic and is protonated (positively charged) at neutral pH. Thus, water 2 serves as a polarized hydrogen bond acceptor for the protonated piperazine nitrogen N1. Among the BMS4, BMS4-1, and BMS4-3 complex structures, three in  $Mn^{2+}$  and one in  $Mg^{2+}$ , each with two independent molecules in the crystal lattice, the strength of the piperazine N-water 2 and water 2-water 1 hydrogen bonds is evidenced by their short heavy atom distances of  $2.79\pm0.18$  and  $2.64\pm0.11$  (mean $\pm$ sd, n=6), respectively.

These results define a fundamental chemical principle for designing closing integrin inhibitors: they include a polar atom in the compound that is positioned i) to accept a hydrogen bond from water 1 or ii) to donate a hydrogen bond to water 2, which in turn accepts a hydrogen bond from water 1. The net effect is to stabilize water 1 and prevent its expulsion in integrin opening. These features are specific to closing inhibitors, since no hydrogen bond donors or acceptors, including water, are within 3.5 Å of the position occupied by water 1 in crystal structures of opening inhibitors including RGD (Fig. 3B–J, Figs. S1A–K and S2A–D).

### Testing the chemical hypothesis and its ability to identify further closing αllbβ3 inhibitors.

We challenged the chemical hypothesis by synthesizing BMS4–2, which substituted the piperazine N1 atom in BMS4–1 with a carbon atom (Fig. 2). BMS4–2 soaked into closed  $\alpha$ IIb $\beta$ 3 headpiece crystals in Mn<sup>2+</sup> shifted the molecules in the crystal lattice to state 2,

in contrast to all closing inhibitors (Fig. 1I). Water 1 remained between the MIDAS and Ser-123 sidechain (Fig. 3O); however, Ser-123 moved closer to the MIDAS  $Mn^{2+}$  ion with a distance of  $3.7\pm0.1$  Å, whereas all closing inhibitors showed Ser-123 -  $Mn^{2+}$  distances of 4.2 to 4.4 Å (Fig. 1I). Furthermore, there was no density for water 2 with BMS4–2 (Fig. 4E). In gel filtration, BMS4–2 stabilized headpiece opening in  $Mn^{2+}$  and not in  $Mg^{2+}$  (Fig. 1E,F,I). As BMS4–1 and BMS4–2 differ by a single atom (Fig. 2), these results demonstrated that the piperazine N1 atom is essential for stabilizing the closed integrin state and for positioning water 2 to hydrogen bond to water 1.

Further αIIbβ3 inhibitors with piperazine or piperidine acetic acid moieties were found in review articles and using SciFinder (scifinder.cas.org). Gantofiban (EMD 122347, Merck KGA) is optimized for blocking platelet functions and oral bioavailability in guinea pigs (Gante et al., 1995) (Fig. 2). Coincidentally, we later found that EMD 122347 had been reported to decrease LIBS exposure on platelets (Dickfeld et al., 2001). Although no results were published, gantofiban entered Phase II clinical trials in Europe (Merck KGA) and Japan (Yamanouchi) (https://adisinsight.springer.com). We synthesized gantofiban, which is most active as the (R)-stereoisomer, and its analog with a one carbon longer carboxylic acid, which is most active as the (S)-stereoisomer (Gante et al., 1995) (Fig. 2). Gantofiban does not induce headpiece opening in Mn<sup>2+</sup> (Fig. 1H); however, its analog does in both Mg<sup>2+</sup> and Mn<sup>2+</sup> (Fig. 1C, D). Crystal soaking in Mn<sup>2+</sup> showed that gantofiban bound to αIIbβ3 without perturbing its structure and that its piperazine nitrogen hydrogen bonded to water 2 which in turn hydrogen bonded to water 1 (Fig. 3P and Supplementary Fig. S1S). In contrast, the gantofiban analog induced movement of the β1-α1 loop and Ser-123 sidechain oxygen into the position of water 1 and had no equivalent of water 2 (Fig. 3Q and Fig. S1T). Compared to gantofiban, the one-carbon extension of the acid group in its analog displaced the piperazine nitrogen only 1.3 Å further away from the carboxyl group. These results demonstrate the precision with which the hydrogen bond donor for water 2 must be located to stabilize the closed integrin state.

GR144053 (Fig. 2) was selected at Glaxo for potency and long duration of action after oral administration in the cynomolgus monkey (Eldred et al., 1994). Size-exclusion chromatography showed that GR144053 was indeed closing in Mg<sup>2+</sup> and Mn<sup>2+</sup> (Fig. 1G–I). Crystal structures of  $\alpha$ IIb $\beta$ 3 bound to GR144053 with Mn<sup>2+</sup> showed that the headpiece remained in state 1 (Fig. 1I, Fig. 3R). Strong 2F $_{\rm o}$ -F $_{\rm c}$  electron density showed the presence of waters 1 and 2 and the piperidine N1 of GR144053 in a strong hydrogen bond network (Fig. 4F and Fig. S1U). Thus, the chemical principles required for closing compounds survived key tests with chemical substitutions and enabled identification of further  $\alpha$ IIb $\beta$ 3 closing compounds.

#### Transferring the chemical principle of antagonistic inhibitors to a dissimilar integrin.

SciFinder substructure searches for VLA-4 ( $\alpha 4\beta 1$ ) inhibitors found the Daiichi Sankyo compound 13g (DS 13g) (Fig. 2). We synthesized DS 13g and purchased commercially available DS 13d, which was described in the same publication (Chiba et al., 2005) and is similar but contains a carbon atom in place of the nitrogen shown to be essential for stabilizing closure of  $\alpha$ IIb $\beta$ 3 (Fig. 2). We also tested the potent  $\alpha$ 4 $\beta$ 1 antagonist Ro 29

(compound 29 of (Tilley et al., 2013)) and in later experiments firategrast, which had partial agonist-like properties in Phase II clinical trials (Miller et al., 2012) (Fig. 2). Gel filtration in  $Mn^{2+}$  showed that both DS13d and Ro 29 induced opening of the  $\alpha 4\beta 1$  headpiece, whereas DS13g did not (Fig. 5A).

The effect of these  $\alpha 4\beta 1$  inhibitors on cell surface  $\alpha 4\beta 1$  conformation was examined using HUTS-21 mAb, which binds to the same epitope in the hybrid domain as HUTS-4 (Luque et al., 1996), which is specific for the open conformation (Li et al., 2017). DS 13d and Ro 29 strongly induced HUTS-21 epitope exposure on Jurkat T cells in Mg<sup>2+</sup>, while DS 13g did not (Fig. 5B). Moreover, exposure of the HUTS-21 epitope by Mn<sup>2+</sup> was strongly inhibited by DS 13g, but not by DS 13d or Ro 29.

In the ensemble theory of conformational states (Li et al., 2017), compounds stabilize particular states by having higher affinity for them than alternative states. We therefore measured compound affinities for the closed and open conformations of  $\alpha 4\beta 1$  on Jurkat cells. Conformations were stabilized with large excesses of conformation-specific Fab (Li and Springer, 2018). The biological ligand VCAM bound with >1900-fold higher affinity to the open than closed state, while firategrast, DS 13d, and the FITC-diphenylurea LDVP probe (Li and Springer, 2018) bound 175, and 52, and 680-fold better to the open state, respectively (Fig. 5C–F). In contrast, DS 13g bound 2.8-fold better to the closed than the open state.

Conversely, we measured the ability of compounds to shift the basal  $\alpha 4\beta 1$  conformational ensemble on Jurkat cells toward the states that they stabilize using fluorescent, conformation-specific antibodies that report the closed, open, and extended conformations (Fig. 5G–I). Firategrast and DS 13d increased the population of the EO state on Jurkat cells while DS 13g decreased its population (Fig. 5G). The compounds had cognate effects on the extended conformations (EC+EO), in agreement with the finding that the open state is always extended (Fig. 5H). In contrast, firategrast and DS 13d decreased the population of the closed states (BC+EC), while DS 13g had no measurable effect (Fig. 5I). The latter result is consistent with the finding that the BC+EC states are 98.9% basally populated on Jurkat cells (Fig. 4D in (Li and Springer, 2018)). The greater decrease of closed states by firategrast than DS 13d (Fig. 5I) is explicated by the greater selectivity of firategrast than DS 13d for the open state, 175-fold versus 52-fold, respectively (Fig. 5F). In summary, a chemical principle for creating closing integrin inhibitors was transferrable from  $\alpha$ IIb $\beta$ 3 to a distant integrin relative and allowed us to identify a closing  $\alpha$ 4 $\beta$ 1 integrin inhibitor, DS 13g, that was "hiding" in plain view in the chemical literature.

## Quantifying affinities and conformational preferences of $\alpha IIIb\beta 3$ antagonists, comparisons to recently described inhibitors, and studies on platelets.

As antibodies are lacking to stabilize the closed and open conformations of  $\beta 3$  integrins, we measured affinity for WT  $\alpha IIb\beta 3$  on the surface of Expi293F transfectants, where it is predominantly in the BC state as shown by little LIBS exposure, or with an activating glycan wedge ( $\beta 3$  N305T) mutation (Luo et al., 2003) that increases the proportion of the EO state. After measuring affinity of FITC-echistatin (Fig. 6A), we measured its competition by  $\alpha IIb\beta 3$  inhibitors (Fig. 6B,C and Fig. S3) and determined inhibitor affinity (Fig. 6D).

The affinity of FITC-echistatin for  $\alpha IIb\beta 3$  was increased approximately 6-fold in the  $\alpha IIb\beta 3$  N305T ensemble. Similarly, all inhibitors characterized in other assays as opening showed higher affinity for the activated mutant than WT  $\alpha IIb\beta 3$  (lotrafibin, eptifibatide, tirofiban, roxifiban, gantofiban analog, EF-5154, sibrafiban, lamifiban, fradafiban, and BMS4–2). The concentration of cell surface  $\alpha IIb\beta 3$  in the assays, which was estimated by the ligand depletion effect, was higher than the  $K_D$  values of the two highest affinity inhibitors, roxifiban and UR-2922 (Methods), which made the error large for UR-2922. Other closing compounds showed higher affinities for the WT than the activated mutant  $\alpha IIb\beta 3$  (GR144053, gantofiban, BMS4, and BMS4–1).

To extend beyond industrial  $\alpha$ IIb $\beta$ 3 antagonists, we examined academic  $\alpha$ IIb $\beta$ 3 antagonists reported not to induce LIBS, RUC-4 (Kereiakes et al., 2020; Li et al., 2014; Zhu et al., 2012) and M-tirofiban (Adair et al., 2020) (Fig. 2). We synthesized both M-tirofiban stereoisomers and both were opening as shown by higher affinity for activated mutant than WT  $\alpha$ IIb $\beta$ 3 ensembles (Fig. 6D). By contrast, RUC-4 had affinities for the WT and mutant ensembles that were indistinguishable.

Conformational preferences of the inhibitors were independently examined by induction of the LIBS epitope recognized by MBC319.4 antibody, specific for the extended states of  $\beta 3$  integrins (Zhang et al., 2013). On WT  $\alpha IIb\beta 3$  transfectants, lotrafiban and eptifibatide strongly induced LIBS exposure and tirofiban was the next strongest (Fig. 6E). Weaker but significant induction was given by the fibrinogen  $\gamma$  C-terminal dodecapeptide, roxifiban, and EF-5154. High epitope exposure was related to a large increase in affinity for mutationally activated compared to WT  $\alpha IIb\beta 3$  (Fig. 6E). With the  $\alpha IIb\beta 3$  N305T ensemble, all compounds that showed significant LIBS induction on the WT  $\alpha IIb\beta 3$  ensemble gave even higher induction (Fig. 6F). Furthermore, all compounds that were characterized as opening in other assays, as well as M-tirofiban and M-tirofiban isomer, showed significant epitope induction. Conversely, all compounds characterized as closing in other assays, i.e. UR-2922, GR144053, Gantofiban, BMS4, and BMS4–1, significantly suppressed LIBS induction. Closing compounds also suppressed LIBS epitope exposure induced by Mn<sup>2+</sup> and mutation of a GFFKR motif in the  $\alpha IIb$ - $\beta 3$  transmembrane domain interface (Fig. S4). RUC-4 had no effect on LIBS epitope expression and thus appears to be conformationally neutral.

We next tested compounds for effect on LIBS epitopes on washed platelets with or without activation by thrombin (Fig. 7A). In the absence of thrombin, lamifiban, sibrafiban, and fradafiban modestly but significantly induced integrin extension. Stronger extension was induced by roxifiban, lotrafiban, eptifibatide, and tirofiban. M-tirofiban and RUC-4 had no significant effect, while M-tirofiban isomer showed modest but significant enhancement of epitope exposure. After activation with thrombin, epitope exposure was increased in the absence of compounds. All opening compounds including M-tirofiban and its isomer enhanced LIBS exposure, with all showing significant induction except for BMS4–2 (p=0.06). LIBS exposure was decreased by all closing compounds (UR-2922, BMS4, BMS4–1 and GR144053), but did not reach significance. RUC-4 showed no effect on integrin extension.

Clot retraction, which follows conversion of fibrinogen to fibrin during clotting, is largely mediated by binding of platelet  $\alpha IIb\beta 3$  to fibrin (Jansen and Hartmann, 2021). Representatives of all classes of  $\alpha IIb\beta 3$  inhibitors inhibited clot retraction (Fig 7B,C and Fig. S5). Both opening inhibitors (tirofiban, BMS4–2, sibrafiban, roxifiban, M-tirofiban, and M-tirofiban isomer) and closing inhibitors (BMS4–1 and UR-2922), as well as conformationally neutral RUC-4, were effective.

An important pharmacologic property of drugs is binding to proteins in the blood stream such as serum albumin. Therefore, we measured the effect of serum on  $K_D$  values for a representative set of  $\alpha$ IIb $\beta$ 3 inhibitors (Fig. 7D and Fig. S6). In 95% serum M-tirofiban and its isomer showed greatly decreased affinities of 80- and 70-fold, respectively, compared to much smaller decreases by other drugs, such as 1.8-fold by tirofiban. Clot retraction assays are done in the presence of plasma. These results explain the previous failure to find inhibition of clot retraction by M-tirofiban (Adair et al., 2020). We confirmed that M-tirofiban inhibited platelet aggregation in whole blood (Fig. 7E).

### **DISCUSSION**

The previous obscurity of closure-stabilizing integrin inhibitors and the lack of any previous information on their mechanism of action is emphasized by a docking study in a prominent review (Cox et al., 2010) which suggested that the UR-2922 carboxyl group was not in the  $\alpha$ IIb $\beta$ 3 binding pocket and thus could not coordinate with the MIDAS metal ion and induce the active conformation of  $\alpha$ IIb $\beta$ 3. Instead, our crystal structure and structure-function studies led to an unexpected conclusion. We discovered a general chemical mechanism by which closing inhibitors can harness water to stabilize the resting, closed conformation of integrins. Closing compounds must have polar atoms in precisely the correct position to hydrogen bond directly, or indirectly through a water molecule, to a specific MIDAS water molecule that must be expelled in order for the integrin to convert from the closed to the open conformation. Closing inhibitors have no potential for agonism since their binding does not induce integrin conformational change toward the open state. Additionally, and in contrast to both conformationally neutral RUC-4 and opening inhibitors, they stabilize the closed conformation by suppressing conformational change toward the active integrin state.

The relationship between affinity of ligand for integrin conformational states and the ability of ligand binding to alter the populations of these states obeys the laws of classical thermodynamics as previously demonstrated for integrins  $\alpha 4\beta 1$  and  $\alpha 5\beta 1$  (Li and Springer, 2018; Li et al., 2017). Although the integrin field typically uses only antibodies specific for the extended or open states as reporters for integrin conformational change, we showed that, as predicted by ensemble theory, antibodies to the closed state can also be used as reporters. Several subtleties and implications of integrin ensembles and thermodynamics should be pointed out. Because the open conformation is not stable in the bent integrin conformation, drugs that stabilize opening and closing stabilize the extended and bent states, respectively, as shown explicitly here for integrin  $\alpha 4\beta 1$ . Thus the studies using Fabs to epitopes in extended  $\alpha IIb\beta 3$  in cellular assays in transfectants and platelets also reported the ability of compounds to stabilize the open or closed conformations. These Fab-based conformational measurements were in excellent agreement with explicit

measurements of effects of compounds on opening of the headpiece by hydrodynamic radius in gel filtration and in crystal structures in Mg<sup>2+</sup> and Mn<sup>2+</sup>. RUC-2, a compound similar to RUC-4, was previously shown not to shift the elution of the aIIbB3 headpiece in gel filtration or its structure in crystals, in agreement with its lack of effect on LIBS expression as confirmed here (Zhu et al., 2012). As required by thermodynamics, the relative affinities of the compounds for WT and mutant, more open α.IIbβ3 ensembles on transfectants also showed an excellent rank order correlation to ability to induce or suppress an extension-reporting epitope on transfectants and platelets. It appears to have been previously unappreciated in the integrin field that opening ligands can vary widely in their ability to induce LIBS, with closing ligands being an extreme example that suppress LIBS and perhaps warrant a change in nomenclature away from LIBS to name epitopes after the type of conformation they report. Equations and their graphical representation in Figure S7 provide guidance on use of reporter antibodies and explain why opening inhibitors with stronger conformational preferences are stronger LIBS inducers. The chemical features that define opening propensity, i.e. affinity for the open relative to the closed conformation, are complex; however, the peptidomimetics eptifibatide, lotrafiban, tirofiban, and roxifiban were among the most strongly opening compounds.

For comparison to small molecules, VCAM, a biological ligand for  $\alpha 4\beta 1$  was found to have >1,900 fold higher affinity for the open than the closed conformation. This large difference, and that of 6,000-fold for  $\alpha 5\beta 1$  binding to fibronectin (Li et al., 2017), contrast with the lower, but wide ranging, differences in affinity for open and closed states found among opening  $\alpha 4\beta 1$  inhibitors. Such comparisons will not be possible for  $\alpha IIb\beta 3$  inhibitors until methods are developed to obtain pure closed and open  $\alpha IIb\beta 3$  integrin states. However, the findings on  $\alpha 4\beta 1$  already raise the interesting possibility that the large affinity difference for biological ligands is an evolved trait that makes the integrin high and low affinity states on and off-like.

Previously, lamifiban (Ro-44-9883) and sibrafiban (Ro 48–3657) were found not to induce LIBS epitopes on platelets in platelet-rich plasma (Baba et al., 2001; Murphy et al., 1998), which could be consistent with differing assay sensitivities or a more activated  $\alpha$ IIb $\beta$ 3 ensemble on washed platelets than on platelets in platelet-rich plasma. Roche disclosed that it took lamifiban forward in clinical trials because of its potency and low induction of LIBS compared to other inhibitors (Scarborough and Gretler, 2000).

Two academically developed drugs were interesting comparators. M-tirofiban has a large hydrophobic substituent relative to tirofiban that was designed to block movement of the  $\beta I$  domain toward the open state and was reported to not induce opening and to block thrombosis without inhibiting hemostasis or clot retraction (Adair et al., 2020). We found that M-tirofiban showed a lesser preference for activated mutant  $\alpha IIb\beta 3$  than tirofiban but remained an opening compound, albeit a weak one, and induced statistically significant LIBS exposure both on activated mutant  $\alpha IIb\beta 3$  transfectants and thrombin-stimulated platelets. The original report showed LIBS exposure by ADP-stimulated platelets that was increased with M-tirofiban but did not reach significance (Adair et al., 2020); thrombin is a stronger platelet stimulator than ADP. The previous report tested only a single concentration of M-tirofiban, and a single, 10-fold lower concentration of tirofiban for inhibition of clot

retraction in 20% plasma (Adair et al., 2020). However, we found that in 20% serum the apparent affinity of M-tirofiban is 175-fold lower than tirofiban, and that M-tirofiban completely inhibited clot retraction at the appropriate concentration. The lower potency of M-tirofiban may result from binding of its bulky aromatic modification relative to tirofiban (Figure 2) to hydrophobic binding sites on serum albumin. Our results also call into question the finding that hemostasis was significantly inhibited by tirofiban and not M-tirofiban at 10-fold higher doses in mice with 40% human platelets, since M-tirofiban is 470-fold lower in affinity than tirofiban in 95% serum. All other tested  $\alpha IIb\beta 3$  inhibitors have been found to inhibit hemostasis as well as thrombosis (Scarborough and Gretler, 2000), and no significant difference in relative potency of inhibition of platelet aggregation versus bleeding time was found between the closing inhibitor UR-2922, sibrafiban (which resembles M-tirofiban in its opening propensity), and xemilofiban, which is a stronger LIBS inducer (Baba et al., 2001). Additionally, we find that M-tirofiban is less efficacious in inhibiting platelet aggregation in whole blood (IC50 of 3140±1040 nM, 420-fold less potent than tirofiban) than originally reported (IC50 of 18±5 nM, 13-fold less potent than tirofiban).

RUC-4 is an academically developed  $\alpha IIb\beta 3$  inhibitor in clinical trials for first point-of-care treatment of myocardial infarction (Kereiakes et al., 2020; Li et al., 2014). Like the earlier described compound pentamidine (Cox et al., 1996), RUC compounds are specific  $\alpha IIb\beta 3$  inhibitors that lack a carboxyl group and do not induce LIBS epitopes or integrin headpiece opening (Zhu et al., 2012). RUC-4 occupied a unique intermediate position in our study between opening and closing compounds as a conformationally neutral compound. It had equal affinity for WT and mutant activated  $\alpha IIb\beta 3$  transfectants and neither enhanced nor suppressed LIBS epitope exposure.

An aspirational goal in the integrin field has been to create small molecule integrin inhibitors that do not induce integrin conformational change or activation. We now have taken this concept one step further, by discovering that closing compounds can suppress integrin opening by shifting the conformational ensemble towards the low affinity closed states. This feature may offer additional clinical benefit. For example, platelets of patients with acute coronary syndrome are significantly more activated than healthy controls even after clinical stabilization (Ault et al., 1999; Davi and Patrono, 2007; Fitzgerald et al., 1986; Trip et al., 1990). Furthermore, treatment of such patients with the α.IIbβ3 inhibitor orbofiban increased α.IIbβ3 conformational change, antibody-stimulated thromboxane B2 production, and CD63 expression (Cox et al., 2000). Many α.IIbβ3 closing compounds with excellent drug-like properties are currently available. These include gantofiban, which entered Phase II clinical trials, and UR-2922. Moreover, GR144053 is commercially available and has been used without knowledge of its closing property in animals with tissue plasminogen activator or losartan after thrombotic injury to suppress neointima formation (Matsuno et al., 1998; Matsuno et al., 1997).

Our results demonstrated that the phase II trial of firategrast in relapsing remitting multiple sclerosis was conducted with an opening inhibitor (Miller et al., 2012). The significant increase in gadolinium-enhanced lesions at the lowest dose, lack of effect at the middle dose and significant decrease at the highest dose are consistent with partial agonism. Drug blood concentrations were measured but not reported. This is unfortunate, because we could have

used the data reported here on firategrast binding affinity to cells and opening propensity to estimate at each drug concentration the percentage of drug-bound  $\alpha 4\beta 1$  and the percentage of  $\alpha 4\beta 1$  that transitioned from bent-closed to extended and open conformations.

It is common for companies and academic investigators alike to measure the potency of integrin inhibitors and biological ligands in  $Mn^{2+}$ .  $Mn^{2+}$  increases affinity by two mechanisms: replacing  $Mg^{2+}$  at the MIDAS increases integrin affinity independently of conformation, and replacing  $Ca^{2+}$  at the ADMIDAS stabilizes the open conformation (Anderson et al., 2022). The latter mechanism artefactually inflates the affinity of opening compared to closing inhibitors. Thus, we caution against using  $Mn^{2+}$  to measure drug potency, which might have been one factor that influenced Daiiichi Sanko to put an  $\alpha 4\beta 1$  inhibitor into patients that based on its structure is opening (Muro et al., 2009).

Many other closing compound scaffolds can be created based on the essential chemical features that we have established here. Compounds must have carboxyl groups and nearby polar atoms in positions to either accept a hydrogen bond from water 1 or donate a hydrogen bond to water 2. Water 1 in the UR-2922 structure is polarized because one of its hydrogens must orient toward the N atom in UR-2922 and one of its lone electron pairs must orient toward the MIDAS metal ion. Notably, hydrogen bond donation by the protonated piperazine or piperidine nitrogen in the other compound class to relay water 2 may result in the same proposed polarity of water 1 as deduced from first chemical principles from the UR-2922 structure. The importance of donating rather than accepting a hydrogen bond to water 2 is emphasized by comparison to sibrafiban and lamifiban. These opening inhibitors have an oxygen two atoms away from the carboxyl group, in the same position as the nitrogen in closing compounds such as BMS4 (Fig. 2), yet such an ether oxygen cannot donate a hydrogen bond. Not only are sibrafiban and lamifiban not closing but they also do not have a bound water 2, suggesting that proper hydrogen bond polarity is important for forming a water network around the MIDAS metal ion. In contrast to the ether oxygen, it might be possible to create a closing compound with a suitably positioned hydroxyl oxygen. Although the hydrogen bond donor for water 2 is in piperidine or piperazine rings in the structures identified here, linear structures or rings of other size also should be possible.

The integrin family may be divided into five subfamilies with distinct ligand specificities. Despite their distant relationship in different subfamilies, we were able to extend the discovery of closing compounds from integrin  $\alpha IIb\beta3$  to integrin  $\alpha4\beta1$ . Unlike  $\alpha IIb\beta3$ ,  $\alpha4\beta1$  inhibitors to the best of our knowledge had not been examined for their ability to induce LIBS epitopes. Our ability to use the chemical principles we had discovered with  $\alpha IIb\beta3$  to discover a closing inhibitor of  $\alpha4\beta1$  validates the generality of these principles. The DSXSX MIDAS motif is invariant in integrin  $\beta$  subunits. Furthermore, the movement of Ser<sub>2</sub> in this motif into the position of water 1 has been seen in all structurally characterized integrins, including the  $\beta3$  integrins  $\alpha IIb\beta3$  and  $\alpha V\beta3$  (Xiao et al., 2004; Xiong et al., 2002; Zhu et al., 2013), the  $\beta1$  integrins  $\alpha5\beta1$  and  $\alpha6\beta1$  (Arimori et al., 2021; Nagae et al., 2012; Schumacher et al., 2021; Xia and Springer, 2014), the  $\beta2$  integrin  $\alpha X\beta2$  (Sen et al., 2013), the  $\beta6$  integrin  $\alpha V\beta6$  (Dong et al., 2014), the  $\beta7$  integrin  $\alpha4\beta7$  (Yu et al., 2012), and even in the atypical  $\beta8$  integrin  $\alpha V\beta8$  (Campbell et al., 2020; Wang et al., 2019). Thus, the general design principles reported here for building closure-stabilizing integrin inhibitors

can serve to guide designs of antagonists for other integrins, many of which are currently being pursued in biopharma in challenging diseases including ulcerative colitis, fibrosis, and cancer. Closing integrin inhibitors should not have paradoxical activating effects since they not only potently block ligand binding, but also stabilize the resting integrin conformation against activating stress. This property is distinct from their ability to inhibit ligand binding, which for both closing and opening inhibitors is controlled by their concentrations relative to their IC<sub>90</sub> values. The efficacy of closing inhibitors will need to be further tested in animal studies, as well as in clinical trials.

### Limitations of the Study.

The molecular mechanisms by which opening integrin inhibitors cause partial agonism remain to be fully defined. Many other factors besides partial agonism may have contributed to clinical failure of parenteral and oral integrin antagonists (Aga et al., 2004). For αIIbβ3, these included the development of antibodies specific for the drug-integrin complex and the difficulty of achieving the desired percentage inhibition of αIIbβ3 in the face of short drug half-lives and causing bleeding at high αIIbβ3 inhibition. Such factors could also lead to the failure of closing antagonists. The ratios of affinities of inhibitors for WT and glycan wedge α IIbβ3 transfectants are for multi-state ensembles and underestimate the difference in affinity between the open and closed states of  $\alpha IIb\beta 3$ . Intact integrins on the cell surface and ectodomain and headpiece fragments differ in free energy difference between open and closed conformations, and therefore differ in sensitivity to the effects of opening and closing inhibitors on their conformations. Although we have established principles for creating closure-stabilizing inhibitors that should be applicable to all integrins, successful oral drugs require many other attributes. These include specificity, adsorption, resistance to metabolism and excretion, and long half-life. The breadth of chemical scaffolds that can hydrogen bond to stabilize water 1 directly or through water 2 is likely to be large and not to require that the hydrogen bonding moiety be in a ring, but remains to be explored, and thus the full scope for adding further desirable chemical features to closing compounds remains unknown.

### **STAR**\*METHODS

### Resource Availability.

### **Lead Contact**

Further information and requests for resources and reagents should be directed to and will be fulfilled by the Lead Contact, Timothy Springer (springer@crystal.harvard.edu).

### **Materials Availability**

- Plasmids made in this study have been deposited at AddGene:
  - PD2529 CAG αIIb full length: Addgene Plasmid #189796
  - PD2529 CAG β3 full length: Addgene Plasmid #189797
  - PD2529 CAG β3\_N305T full length: Addgene Plasmid #189798
- Compounds can be made by following the published synthetic procedures.

• Other materials are available from the Lead Contact.

### Data and code availability

- All structural data has been deposited at the Protein Data Bank.
- Diffraction images have been deposited at SBGRID. Datasets for Figures 5C–E and 5G–I, 6A–C and E–F, and Figures S3, S6 and S7 have been deposited at Harvard Dataverse.
- Executable Mathematica code for fitting competitive binding data in Fig. 6B— C and Fig. S3, entitled "Data S1-Equation 4.nb" is available in this paper's supplemental information.
- Other data is available on request from the Lead Contact for 3 years.

### **Experimental Model and Subject Details.**

Cell lines were tested for mycoplasma every 60 days and were not authenticated.

### Method Details.

**Preparation of integrin headpiece samples.**—Expression and purification of α IIbβ3 headpiece was as described (Xiao et al., 2004; Zhu et al., 2010). The α4 construct contains the β-propeller and thigh domains, from residue Y1 to R587, with a R558A mutation to eliminate a furin cleavage site in the thigh domain (Yu et al., 2012). The α4 headpiece cDNA fused with a tobacco etch virus (TEV) cleavage site, an ACID coiled-coil, and a StrepII tag was inserted into the pcDNA3.1/Hygro vector. The β1 construct contains PSI, hybrid, βI, and EGF1 domains, from Q1 to E481. The β1 headpiece cDNA fused with a TEV site, a BASE coiled-coil, and a His6 Tag was inserted into the pEF1/Puro vector. The α4β1 headpiece construct was stably expressed in CHO lec 3.2.1.8 cells. Culture supernatant was concentrated and buffer exchanged to TBS buffer (20 mM Tris, 150 mM NaCl, pH 7.4) using a tangential flow concentrator. The α4β1 headpiece was purified using a Ni-NTA column followed by a Strep-Tactin column. The coiled-coils and tags were then removed by TEV digestion as described (Yu et al., 2013), but without the presence of Fab. Finally, the α4β1 headpiece was subjected to Superdex 200 chromatography in TBS buffer with 1 mM Mg<sup>2+</sup> and 1 mM Ca<sup>2+</sup>.

Measuring drug-induced integrin headpiece opening by size-exclusion chromatography.—For size-exclusion chromatography of α IIbβ3 headpiece, a Superdex 200 column was equilibrated with 10 μM of inhibitor in HEPES buffered saline (HBS) plus either 1 mM  $Mg^{2+}$ , 1 mM  $Ca^{2+}$  or 2 mM  $Mn^{2+}$ , 0.2mM  $Ca^{2+}$ . The α IIbβ3 headpiece samples (30 μg) were pre-incubated with 60 μM of drug in corresponding buffers for 30 minutes at room temperature prior to chromatography.  $R_h$  values were calculated from peak elution volumes using ovalbumin, BSA, catalase, and aldolase as standards of known  $R_h$  (Zhu et al., 2010). Conditions were identical for α4β1 headpiece, except a Zenix-C SEC300 size-exclusion column (Sepax Technologies, Newark, DE) was used, 10 μg of α4β1 headpiece was used, and data was from 3 or more runs.

Crystallization of closed αllbβ3 headpiece, compound soaking, and structure determination.—Expression and crystallization of αIIbβ3 headpiece-10E5 Fab complex in the closed conformation was as reported (Zhu et al., 2010). Prior to compound soaking, headpiece crystals were stabilized at a higher PEG concentration (15% PEG 8000, 0.2 M ammonium sulfate, 0.1M Tris-HCl, pH 8.9), and glycerol was added in 5% increments to 15%. Compound was added (0.1–1 mM; see Table S1) together with 1 mM MgCl<sub>2</sub> and 1 mM CaCl<sub>2</sub> or 2 mM MnCl<sub>2</sub> and 0.2 mM CaCl<sub>2</sub>, in the final cryo increment to 20% glycerol. After 4 h crystals were plunge frozen in liquid N<sub>2</sub>. Diffraction data was collected in GM/CA-CAT at APS. Refinements were with Phenix (Adams et al., 2010). Ligand geometry and protonation states were calculated using Prime (with OPLS2005 force field) and Epik packages from Schrödinger (New York, NY). Geometry-optimized (with hydrogens) ligand coordinates were input to eLBOW (Adams et al., 2010) to generate restraint files for Phenix refinement. Ligands were manually fit to initial F<sub>o</sub>-F<sub>c</sub> difference maps using Coot and complexes were further refined.

**Antibodies.**—Hybridomas were AP3 (Newman et al., 1985), AP5 (Kekomaki et al., 1991), LIBS1 (Frelinger et al., 1990), MBC319.4 (Zhang et al., 2013), 12G10 (Mould et al., 1995), 9EG7 (Lenter et al., 1993), SG/19 (Miyake et al., 1992), HUTS4 and HUTS-21 (Luque et al., 1996) and mAb16 (Akiyama et al., 1989). IgG produced from hybridoma was purified by protein G. For Fab fragments, antibodies were digested with papain (500:1 IgG:papain) in PBS with 10 mM EDTA and 10 mM L-Cys at 37°C for 18 h. After buffer exchange with 50 mM Tris (pH 9), the Fab was purified by anion exchange chromatography (HiTrap Q HP, GE Healthcare), after which the fractions containing Fab were concentrated, flash frozen, and stored at -80°C for future use. Antibodies and Fabs were fluorescently labeled with Alexa Fluor 647 NHS Ester or Alexa Fluor 488 NHS Ester (ThermoFisher Scientific) in PBS.

Quantitative fluorescent flow cytometry for a4\beta1 inhibitor affinity and conformational preference measurements.—Jurkat cells (10<sup>6</sup> cells/ml in RPMI-1640 medium and 10% FBS) were washed twice with assay medium (Leibovitz's L-15 medium and 1% BSA) containing 5 mM EDTA, twice with assay medium alone, and resuspended in assay medium. For competitive binding experiments, each 50-µl sample contained 10<sup>6</sup> cells/ml, the indicated concentration of FITC-LDVP (Tocris Bioscience), the indicated Fabs, and varying concentrations of α4β1 inhibitors or VCAM D1D2 (Li and Springer, 2018) in assay medium. For LIBS antibody epitope exposure assays, each 50-µl sample contained 10<sup>6</sup> cells/ml, the indicated concentration of fluorescently labeled antibody or Fab, and indicated concentrations of  $\alpha 4\beta 1$  inhibitors. Mixtures were allowed to equilibrate at 22°C for 2 h before flow cytometry (BD FAC SCanto II) without washing (Li and Springer, 2018; Li et al., 2017). Binding of FITC-LDVP or fluorescently labeled LIBS antibodies were measured as mean fluorescence intensity ( $MFI_{obs}$ ) at each indicated inhibitor concentration ( $C_{inhibitor}$ ). Competitive binding curves and LIBS antibody exposure curves were both fitted with a 3-parameter dose response curve (Eq.1) with MFI in absence of inhibitor (MFI<sub>0</sub>), MFI at saturating concentration of inhibitor (MFI<sub>sat</sub>), and half maximal effective concentration of the inhibitor ( $EC_{50}$ ), as fitting parameters. Affinity of inhibitors ( $K_d^{inhibitor}$ ) was derived (Eq.2) from the fitted  $EC_{50}$  value in competitive binding curve, the concentration of FITC-

LDVP probe ( $C_{\text{LDVP}}$ ), and the binding affinity of the FITC-LDVP probe ( $K_{\text{d}}^{\text{LDVP}}$ ). Error for  $K_{\text{d}}^{\text{inhibitor}}$  was propagated from the errors of  $EC_{50}$  and  $K_{\text{d}}^{\text{LDVP}}$ .

$$MFI_{\text{obs}} = MFI_0 - \frac{MFI_0 - MFI_{\text{sat}}}{1 + EC_{50}/C_{\text{inhibitor}}}$$
(Eq.1)

$$K_{\rm d}^{\rm inhibitor} = EC_{50}/(1 + C_{\rm LDVP}/K_{\rm d}^{\rm LDVP})$$
 (Eq.2)

**Expi293F αV & α5 knock-out cell line.**—αV and α5 subunits were sequentially knocked out from Expi293F cells using CRISPR double nicking (Ran et al., 2013). To make the single-guide RNA (sgRNA) expressing plasmids, double stranded DNA oligos, 5'-CACCGGCCCTTCAAGGATTTGAGATGTTT-3' (αV\_guide A), 5'-CACCGCGAAGCATGCCACCAAGCTTGTTT-3' (αV\_guide B), 5'-CACCGGTACAGTGGAGCGCATGCCTGTTT-3' (α5\_guide A), and 5'-CACCGGTACAGTGGAGCGCATGCCTGTTT-3' (α5\_guide B), were cloned into the BbSI site of the pSpCas9n(BB)-2A-puro vector (Addgene: 48141). To create the Expi293F αV knock-out, the pair of sgRNA expressing plasmids targeting αV were transfected into Expi293F cells and knock-out cells were selected by two rounds of panning (Wysocki and Sato, 1978) and one round of FACS sorting, both with αV-specific antibody 17E6 (Mitjans et al., 1995). To create the Expi293F αV & α5 double knock-out, the pair of sgRNA expressing plasmids targeting α5 were transfected into Expi293F αV knock-out cells and the double knock-out cells were selected by two rounds of panning and one round of FACS sorting, both with α5 specific antibody mAb16 (Akiyama et al., 1989).

Quantitative fluorescent flow cytometry for allb\( \beta \) inhibitor affinity and conformational preference measurements.—Measurements were done on Expi293F cells with the integrin a5 and aV subunits knocked out (Expi293F a5&aV KO) transiently transfected with a IIb and \( \beta \) expression plasmids, or with a IIb and \( \beta \) N305T expression plasmids. For transfection, 0.5ug plasmid coding a IIb subunit in PD2529 vector (Atum) and 0.5ug plasmid coding β3 or β3\_N305T in PD2529 vector were incubated with 1 μL FectoPro (Polyplus) in 100 uL Opti-MEM (Gibco) for 10 min at room temperature were added per ml of Expi293F α5&αV KO cells (3\*10<sup>6</sup>/mL) in Expi293 expression medium (Thermo Fisher Scientific). 24 hrs after transfection, valproic acid and glucose were added to the culture to final concentrations of 3 mM and 0.4%, respectively. 48 hours post transfection, cells were washed twice with assay medium (Leibovitz's L-15 medium and 0.1% BSA) containing 5 mM EDTA, twice with assay medium alone, and resuspended in assay medium or L15 supplemented with the indicated concentration of serum and 50 mM HEPES, pH7.4. For measuring the affinity of FITC-echistatin probe (United States Biological) to a IIb\( \beta \) WT or a IIb\( \beta \) N305T mutant, each 50-\( \mu \) sample contained 10<sup>6</sup> cells/ml, 5 nM Alexa647 labeled MBC319.4 Fab (AF647-MBC319.4), and varying concentrations of FITC-echistatin. For competitive binding experiments, each 50-ul sample contained 10<sup>6</sup> cells/ml, indicated concentrations of FITC-echistatin, and varying

concentrations of  $\alpha$ IIb $\beta$ 3 inhibitors. For LIBS antibody epitope exposure assays, each 50- $\mu$ l sample contained  $10^6$  cells/ml, 20 nM Alexa647 labeled MBC319.4 Fab, and  $\alpha$ IIb $\beta$ 3 inhibitors at concentrations equaling 100x their  $K_d$  values for  $\alpha$ IIb $\beta$ 3 wild type reported in Fig.5D. The mixture was allowed to equilibrate at 22°C for 2 h before flow cytometry (BD FAC SCanto II) without washing.

FITC-echistatin concentration ( $C_{\text{echistatin}}$ ) dependent binding of 5nM AF647-MBC319.4 Fab ( $MFI_{\text{obs}}$ ) was fitted to Eq.3 with binding affinity of FITC-echistatin ( $K_{\text{d}}^{\text{echistatin}}$ ), MFI in absence of FITC-echistatin ( $MFI_0$ ), and MFI at saturating concentration of FITC-echistatin ( $MFI_{\text{sat}}$ ) as fitting parameters.

$$MFI_{\text{obs}} = MFI_0 - \frac{MFI_0 - MFI_{\text{sat}}}{1 + K_d^{\text{echistatin}}/C_{\text{echistatin}}}$$
 (Eq.3)

The competitive binding curves of the high affinity a IIb\(\beta\) inhibitors, UR-2922 and roxifban), cannot be reliably fitted with the 3-parameter dose response curve (Eq.1) because their  $K_d$  values are smaller than the concentration range of integrins in the cell suspension. Under these conditions, binding to cells can significantly deplete the competitor from solution when used at low concentration, and the total concentration of competitor could not be used as an approximation of its free concentration. To solve this problem, we fit the competitive binding curves considering the competitor depletion effect. In detail,  $\alpha$ IIb $\beta$ 3 inhibitor concentration ( $C_{\text{inhibitor}}$ ) dependent binding of FITC-echistatin ( $MFI_{\text{obs}}$ ), for two inhibitors with high binding affinity, UR-2922 and Roxifiban, was fitted with affinity of inhibitor  $(K_d^{\text{inhibitor}})$ , MFI in absence of inhibitor  $(MFI_0)$ , MFI at saturating concentration of inhibitor ( $MFI_{sat}$ ) and the integrin concentration ( $C_{integrin}$ ) expressed on transfectants as fitting parameters, with previously determined FITC-echistatin affinity  $(K_d^{\text{echistatin}})$ , inhibitor concentration  $(C_{\text{inhibitor}})$  and FITC-echistatin concentration  $(C_{\text{echistatin}})$ as known parameters (Eq.4). Eq.4 was derived based on the definition of affinity and law of mass conservation detailed in Eqs. 5-10. Function F in Eq. 4 and its derivation are described in the Mathematica file Equation 4.nb.

$$\begin{aligned} MFI_{\text{obs}} &= \text{F} \Big( C_{\text{echistatin}} \,, K_{\text{d}}^{\text{echistatin}} \,, C_{\text{inhibitor}} \,, C_{\text{integrin}} \,, K_{\text{d}}^{\text{inhibitor}} \,, MFI_0, \\ MFI_{\text{sat}} \, \Big) \end{aligned} \tag{Eq.4}$$

$$K_{\rm d}^{\rm inhibitor} = C_{\rm unbound\ integrin} \times C_{\rm unbound\ inhibitor} / C_{\rm integrin\ inhibitor}$$
 (Eq.5)

$$K_{\rm d}^{\rm echistatin} = C_{\rm unbound\ integrin} \times C_{\rm unbound\ echistatin} / C_{\rm integrin\ echistatin}$$
 (Eq.6)

$$C_{\text{integrin}} = C_{\text{unbound integrin}} + C_{\text{integrin-inhibitor}} + C_{\text{integrin-echistatin}}$$
 (Eq.7)

$$C_{\text{inhibitor}} = C_{\text{unbound inhibitor}} + C_{\text{integrin-inhibitor}}$$
 (Eq.8)

$$C_{\text{echistatin}} = C_{\text{unbound echistatin}} + C_{\text{integrin-echistatin}}$$
 (Eq.9)

$$MFI_{\text{obs}} = MFI_0 - (MFI_0 - MFI_{\text{sat}}) \times C_{\text{integrin-echistatin}} / C_{\text{integrin}}$$
 (Eq.10)

Global fitting of the competitive binding curves of UR-2922 and roxifiban, with  $K_{\rm d}^{\rm inhibitor}$ ,  $MFI_0$ , and  $MFI_{\rm sat}$  as individual fitting parameters, and  $C_{\rm integrin}$  as a shared fitting parameter, showed that the effective integrin  $\alpha$ IIb $\beta$ 3 or  $\alpha$ IIb $\beta$ 3\_N305T concentration,  $C_{\rm integrin}$ , at  $10^6$  cells/ml of transfectants could be confidently fitted as  $15.3 \pm 0.6$  nM for the WT  $\alpha$ IIb $\beta$ 3 transfectant and  $10.2 \pm 0.3$  nM for the  $\alpha$ IIb $\beta$ 3\_N305T transfectant. The competitive binding curves of other  $\alpha$ IIb $\beta$ 3 inhibitors were fitted to Eq.4 in the same way, except that the  $C_{\rm integrin}$  determined using UR-2922 and roxifiban was used as a known parameter.

α4β1 LIBS antibody binding assays with secondary anti-lgG.—Jurkat cells were incubated with 10 μM compound, together with 10 μg/ml of HUTS-21 IgG or control mAb (mouse IgG) at  $4^{\circ}$ C in buffer that contained 20 mM HEPES, pH 7.2, 150 mM NaCl and 1% BSA, plus 1 mM MgCl<sub>2</sub> and 1 mM CaCl<sub>2</sub> or 1 mM MnCl<sub>2</sub>. After 30 min, cells were washed 3 times in buffers containing the same compound and metal ions, and FITC-conjugated goat anti-mouse IgG (Caltag Laboratories, Burlingame, CA) was used to detect HUTS-21 binding using flow cytometry.

Platelets LIBS exposure assay.—The study with human blood samples was approved by the Institutional Review Board of Medical College of Wisconsin. Blood samples anticoagulated with acid-citrate-dextrose were collected from healthy donors who had not taken any medication known to inhibit platelet function for at least a week. Platelet-rich plasma (PRP) was obtained by spinning the blood samples at 140×g for 12 min at RT. After adding prostaglandin E1 (Sigma, #P5515) to a final concentration of 50 ng/ml, the PRP was centrifuged at 1900×g for 10 min at RT. The platelet pellet was washed in Ringer's citrate-dextrose buffer (108 mM NaCl, 3.8 mM KCl, 1.7 mM NaHCO3, 21.2 mM sodium citrate, 27.8 mM glucose, 1.1 mM MgCl2, pH 6.5) and resuspended in Tyrode's buffer (137 mM NaCl, 2.7 mM KCl, 11.9 mM NaHCO3, 0.43 mM NaHPO4, 5.5 mM glucose, 20 mM Hepes, pH 7.4) supplemented with 1% BSA, 1mM CaCl<sub>2</sub>, and 1 mM MgCl<sub>2</sub>. 36 µl of washed platelets at 0.2×10<sup>8</sup>/ml were mixed with 4 μl of buffer control or α.IIbβ3 inhibitors and incubated for 20 min at RT. Subsequently, 5 µl of thrombin at 5 U/ml and 5 µl of Alexa647-conjugated MBC319.4 Fab at 250 nM were added to 40 µl of treated platelets for 30 min at RT. Final inhibitor concentrations were >70x  $K_D$  measured in 0.1% BSA with WT α.Πbβ3 transfectants. Platelet fluorescence without washing was measured by flow cytometry using LSRII (BD Biosciences). The assay was done on three different days with blood samples from two different donors.

**Clot retraction.**—261  $\mu$ l of citrated-PRP was mixed with 29  $\mu$ l of buffer control or  $\alpha$ IIb $\beta$ 3 inhibitors at different concentrations prepared in Tyrode's buffer supplemented with 1%

BSA for 20 min at RT. Clot retraction was initiated by the addition of 30  $\mu$ l of 7.5 U/ml thrombin prepared in Tyrode's buffer supplemented with 1% BSA to a glass tube containing 270  $\mu$ l inhibitor-treated PRP. The clots were allowed to retract at 37°C. Images were taken at 15-min intervals. The whole reaction and clot areas were calculated with ImageJ software. The clot retraction was presented as 1–(clot area/whole reaction area). The IC<sub>50</sub> for 30 and 90 mins of clot retraction was calculated by fitting the data with the function of inhibitor vs response (three parameters) in Prism 8. The assay was done three times with PRP from three donors.

Platelet aggregation.—Whole blood platelet aggregation was measured by impedance aggregometry using a Chrono-log Model 700 aggregometer. Sodium citrate anticoagulated blood was left at RT for 30min before testing and used within 3h. 0.5 ml of whole blood was incubated with 0.5 ml physiologic saline supplemented with different concentrations of α IIbβ3 inhibitors (stock solutions prepared in saline) for 5 min at 37°C without stirring. Aggregation was induced by adding 10 μl ADP (final concentration: 20μM). Platelet aggregation was recorded for 6 min with stirring at 1200rpm at 37°C. Data were presented as the relative aggregation by calculating the background-subtracted impedance (Ohms) as a percentage of impedance in absence of inhibitors.  $IC_{50}$  was calculated by fitting the data with the function of inhibitor vs response (three parameters) in Prism 8. The assay was done three times with whole blood from three different donors.

Integrin inhibitors.—Lamifiban (CAS 144412-49-7), sibrafiban (CAS 144412-18-0), and α4β1/α4β7 inhibitor compound Ro 29 (CAS 1421673-59-7) were generous gifts from Dr. Paul Gillespie (Roche, Nutley, NJ). RUC-4 was a generous gift of Barry Coller (Rockefeller U., NY, NY). EF-5154 (Nomoto et al., 2009) was provided by Meiji Seika Pharma Co. (Yokohama, Japan). Firategrast (CAS 402567-16-2) was purchased from ApexBio Technology (Houston, TX). UR-2922 (CAS 220386-56-1) was synthesized by HDH Pharma (Morrisville, NC). GR144053 (CAS 1215333-48-4) was purchased from Sigma-Aldrich. DS 13d (CAS 317353-73-4) (Chiba et al., 2005) was purchased as TCS 2314 from R&D Systems (Minneapolis, MN). DS 13g (CAS 819078-63-2) was synthesized using the reagents and conditions described in Schemes 1 and 2 and the text in (Chiba et al., 2005). Other compounds were synthesized as described in the protocols below, based on the following references: BMS4 (CAS 270593-59-4), BMS4-1 (CAS 270593-50-5), BMS4-2 (CAS 270088-87-4), and BMS4-3, (Smallheer et al., 2001); fradafiban (CAS 148396-36-5), (Himmelsbach et al., 1996); roxifiban (CAS 170902-52-0), (Zhang Lh et al., 1997); lotrafiban (CAS 171049-14-2), (Ma and Xia, 2001); gantofiban (CAS 167364-04-7) and the gantofiban analog (CAS 167364-14-9) (Gante et al., 1996). The synthetic route to M-tirofiban and its isomer were not published and were as described below. Purity of all compounds was greater than 95%, as confirmed by NMR, LC-MS, and/or elemental analyses.)

**Synthetic protocols.**—All solvents and reagents obtained from commercial sources were used without further purification. The final products were purified on Agela Cheetah purification system MP200 equipped with Hilic column (4g) with CH<sub>3</sub>CN/H<sub>2</sub>O as eluent. The <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra at 400 MHz were performed on a Bruker Avance DRX-400

spectrometer with the chemical shifts ( $\delta$  in ppm) in the solvent CD<sub>3</sub>OD referenced at 3.31 ppm and D<sub>2</sub>O at 4.79 ppm, and coupling constants (J) were given in hertz. The <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra at 101 MHz were performed on the Bruker Avance DRX-400 spectrometer with the chemical shifts ( $\delta$  in ppm) in the solvent CD<sub>3</sub>OD referenced at 49.0 ppm. The high resolution mass spectra (HRMS) were measured by Waters Xevo G2 QTof equipped with ESI.

### Synthetic scheme of BMS4 (compound 2) (CAS 270593-59-4):

**4-Cyanobenzaldoxime (2–1)**—To a solution of 4-benzaldehyde (13.13 g, 100 mmol) in EtOH/pyridine (1:1, 200 mL) was added hydroxylamine hydrochloride portion-wise (7.64 g, 110 mmol) under  $N_2$  protection. After overnight stirring at room temperature, the solvent was removed half volume and ice water (200 mL) was added to obtain the precipitation, which was washed with ice water and dried to afford the title compound (9.76 g, 83%).

**4-Cyanobenzaldoximinochloride (2–2)**—To a solution of 4-cyanobenzaldoxime (10.96 g, 75 mmol) in anhydrous DMF (200 mL) was added N-chlorosuccimide (11.93 g, 90 mmol) in portion-wise at room temperature under  $N_2$  protection for 16 h. The reaction mixture was poured into ice water (250 mL) and the precipitation was collected by filtration, washed with water and dried in vacuo to afford the title compound (9.88 g, 73%).

tert-Butyl 4-((3-(4-cyanophenyl)-4,5-dihydroisoxazol-5-yl)methyl)piperazine-1-carboxylate (2–3)—Potassium carbonate (18.66 g, 135 mmol) was added to a solution of tert-butyl piperazine-1-carboxylate (10.0 g, 54 mmol) in anhydrous DMF (100 mL) under N<sub>2</sub> protection. The mixture was allowed to stir at room temperature for half an hour, followed by addition of allyl bromide (5.0 mL, 59.4 mmol) and 4 h stirring. Saturated sodium bicarbonate solution (50 mL) was then added and the mixture was extracted by ethyl acetate (150 mL×3). The organic layers were combined, washed by brine, dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, and concentrated to offer tert-butyl 4-allylpiperazine-1-carboxylate (10.02 g, 82%).

To a solution of 4-cyanobenzaldoximinochloride (5.42 g, 30 mmol) and *tert*-butyl 4-allylpiperazine-1-carboxylate (6.79 g, 30 mmol) in dry CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (150 mL) was dropwise added Et<sub>3</sub>N (3.33 g, 33 mmol) in dry CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (50 mL) in 2 h at room temperature. After stirring at room temperature for 16 h, saturated Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> solution (100 mL) was added and the organic phase was separated, dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, concentrated under vacuum and purified by silica gel chromatography (ethyl acetate/petroleum ether, 1:1) to offer the title product (6.89 g, 62%).

product (2.03g, 57%).

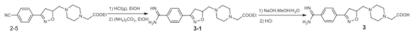
# **Ethyl 2-(4-((3-(4-cyanophenyl)-4,5-dihydroisoxazol-5-yl)methyl)piperazin-1-yl)acetate (2–5)**—To a solution of *tert*-butyl 4-((3-(4-cyanophenyl)-4,5-dihydroisoxazol-5-yl)methyl)piperazine-1-carboxylate (3.70 g, 10 mmol) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (10 mL) was added trifluoroacetic acid (10 mL) at 0 °C. After stirring at room temperature for 2 h, the mixture was concentrated and dried. The residue was dissolved in DMF (50 mL), followed by the addition of anhydrous K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (4.14 g, 30 mmol) and ethyl bromoacetate (1.46 mL, 12 mmol) at room temperature under N<sub>2</sub> protection. After stirring overnight, the mixture was diluted with ethyl acetate (100 mL) and successively washed with saturated NaHCO<sub>3</sub> solution and brine. The organic phase was dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, filtered, concentrated, and purified by silica gel chromatography (ethyl acetate/petroleum ether, 5:1) to offer the title

Ethyl 2-(4-((3-(4-(imino(4-methylpiperazin-1-yl)methyl)phenyl)-4,5-dihydroisoxazol-5-yl)methyl)piperazin-1-yl)acetate (2–6)—Acetyl chloride (3.5 mL) was added dropwise to dry EtOH (6.5 mL) at 0°C under  $N_2$  protection to produce 35% HCl/EtOH/EtOAc solution. To this freshly prepared solution was added 2-(4-((3-(4-cyanophenyl)-4,5-dihydroisoxazol-5-yl)methyl)piperazin-1-yl)acetate(0.36 g, 1 mmol) at 0°C. After an additional 2 h stirring at 0°C, the mixture was stirred at room temperature for another 48 h, and then concentrated and dried in vacuo. The residue was dissolved in EtOH (5 mL), treated with N-methyl piperazine (1.00 g, 10 mmol) at room temperature under  $N_2$  protection for 16 h. The reaction mixture was concentrated, purified by silica gel chromatography (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>:MeOH, 50:1 to 10:1) to offer the title product (0.22 g, 48%).

## 2-(4-((3-(4-(imino(4-methylpiperazin-1-yl)methyl)phenyl)-4,5-dihydroisoxazol-5-yl)methyl)piperazin-1-yl)acetic acid (compound 2, BMS4)—

Ethyl 2-(4-((3-(4-(imino(4-methylpiperazin-1-yl)methyl)phenyl)-4,5-dihydroisoxazol-5-yl)methyl)piperazin-1-yl)acetate (91 mg, 0.2 mmol) was hydrolyzed in methanol (1 mL) and  $\rm H_2O$  (1 mL), followed by the addition of NaOH (24 mg, 0.6 mmol) at room temperature. After stirring for 3 h, the resulting mixture was added 1N HCl (0.6 mL), and then concentrated, purified by hilic column chromatography to offer BMS4 (30 mg, 35%).  $^{1}\rm H$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\rm D_2O$ )  $\delta$  (ppm): 7.82(d, J= 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.61(d, J= 7.2 Hz, 2H), 5.05(m, 1H), 3.93(s, 2H), 3.63(m, 5H), 3.29–2.77(m, 15H), 2.71(s, 3H);  $^{13}\rm C$  NMR (101 MHz,  $\rm D_2O$ )  $\delta$  (ppm): 170.1, 165.4, 158.3, 132.8, 129.3, 128.9, 127.7, 78.9, 60.2, 58.3, 52.7, 51.7, 49.7, 47.4, 43.3, 38.5; HRMS (m/z): [M+H] $^+$  calcd. for  $\rm C_{22}H_{33}N_6O_3$ : 429.2614; found 429.2613.

### Synthetic scheme of BMS4–1 (compound 3) (CAS 270593-50-5):



Ethyl 2-(4-((3-(4-carbamimidoylphenyl)-4,5-dihydroisoxazol-5-yl)methyl)piperazin-1-yl)acetate (3–1)—To freshly prepared HCl/EtOH/EtOAc solution (35%, 10 mL) was added 2-(4-((3-(4-cyanophenyl)-4,5-dihydroisoxazol-5-yl)methyl)piperazin-1-yl)acetate (2–5) (0.36 g, 1 mmol). After 2 h at 0°C, the mixture was further stirred at room temperature for 48 h, and then concentrated and dried in vacuo. The residue was dissolved in EtOH (5 mL), treated with ammonium carbonate (1.01 g, 10 mmol)

at room temperature under  $N_2$  protection for 16 h, concentrated, and purified by silica gel chromatography (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>:MeOH, 50:1 to 10:1) to give the title product (0.29 g, 78%).

**3-(4-((3-(4-carbamimidoylphenyl)-4,5-dihydroisoxazol-5-yl)methyl)piperazin-1-yl)acetic acid (BMS4–1, compound 3)**—Ethyl 2-(4-((3-(4-carbamimidoylphenyl)-4,5-dihydroisoxazol-5-yl)methyl)piperazin-1-yl)acetate (**3–1**, 0.07 g, 0.2 mmol) was hydrolyzed in MeOH/H<sub>2</sub>O (1/1, 2 mL) with NaOH (24 mg, 0.6 mmol) at room temperature for 3 h. The reaction was then quenched by 1N HCl (0.6 mL), concentrated and purified by silica column chromatography to offer BMS4–1 (29 mg, 42%).  $^{1}$ H NMR (400 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD)  $\delta$  (ppm): 7.94(d, J= 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.89(d, J= 8.4 Hz, 2H), 5.28(m, 1H), 3.79(s, 2H), 3.72(m, 1H), 3.39–3.31(m, 11H);  $^{13}$ C NMR (101 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD)  $\delta$  (ppm):170.6, 167.8, 157.8, 135.7, 130.8, 129.6, 128.7, 78.7, 60.8, 57.4, 52.3, 51.3, 39.6; HRMS (m/z): [M+H] $^{+}$  calcd. for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>24</sub>N<sub>5</sub>O<sub>3</sub>: 346.1879; found 346.1870.

### Synthetic scheme of BMS4-2 (CAS 270088-87-4) (compound 5):

**4-(5-(hydroxymethyl)-4,5-dihydroisoxazol-3-yl)benzonitrile (5-1)**—To a vigorously stirred solution of 4-cyano-N-hydroxybenzimidoyl chloride (3.6g, 20 mmol) and allyl alcohol (2.32g, 40 mmol) in  $CH_2Cl_2$  (100 mL) at 0°C was added 8% aqueous solution of NaOCl (37.3 mL, 40 mmol) dropwise, with the temperature below 5°C. The mixture was stirred at room temperature for an additional 15 min. Then the aqueous phase was separated and extracted with  $CH_2Cl_2$  (100 mL×2). The combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, and concentrated, and purified by silica gel chromatography (ethyl acetate/petroleum ether, 1:2) to offer the title compound (2.75g, 68%).

## (3-(4-cyanophenyl)-4,5-dihydroisoxazol-5-yl)methyl methanesulfonate (5-2)—To a solution of 4-(5-(hydroxymethyl)-4,5-dihydroisoxazol-3-yl)benzonitrile(1.01 g, 5

To a solution of 4-(5-(hydroxymethyl)-4,5-dihydroisoxazol-3-yl)benzonitrile(1.01 g, 5 mmol) and  $Et_3N$  (0.84 mL, 6 mmol) in dry  $CH_2Cl_2$  (20 mL), methanesulfonyl chloride (0.48 mL, 6.00 mmol) was added dropwise at 0°C. The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 2 h, and then quenched with water (10 mL). The aqueous layer was extracted with  $CH_2Cl_2$  (20 mL×2), and the combined organic phases were successively washed with 1N HCl, saturated NaHCO<sub>3</sub> solution, brinedried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, and concentrated in vacuo to offer the crude title product (1.21 g, 86%).

**Ethyl 2-(1-((3-(4-cyanophenyl)-4,5-dihydroisoxazol-5-yl)methyl)piperidin-4-yl)acetate (5-3)**—To a solution of *tert*-butyl 4-(2-ethoxy-2-oxoethyl)piperidine-1-carboxylate(1.36 g, 5 mmol) in dry CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (10 mL) was added TFA (10 mL) at 0°C.

The resulting mixture was stirred at room temperature for 2 h, and then concentrated and dried in vacuo without further purification. To a solution of (3-(4-cyanophenyl)-4,5-dihydroisoxazol-5-yl)methyl methanesulfonate (1.12 g, 4 mmol) in acetonitrile was added  $\text{CsCO}_3$  (6.51 g, 20 mmol)and ethyl 2-(piperidin-4-yl)acetate (1.72 g, 5 mmol) at room temperature under  $N_2$  protection. The resulting mixture was refluxed for 16 h and then concentrated. The residue was purified by silica gel chromatography (ethyl acetate/petroleum ether, 1:1) to offer the title compound (0.82 g, 46%).

Ethyl 2-(1-((3-(4-carbamimidoylphenyl)-4,5-dihydroisoxazol-5-yl)methyl)piperidin-4-yl)acetate (5–4)—Ethyl 2-(1-((3-(4-cyanophenyl)-4,5-dihydroisoxazol-5-yl)methyl)piperidin-4-yl)acetate (0.36 g, 1 mmol) was added to freshly prepared HCl/EtOH/EtOAc solution (35%, 10 mL) at 0°C over 2 h, followed by stirring at room temperature for 48 h. The reaction mixture was then concentrated and dissolved in EtOH (5 mL), followed by the addition of ammonium carbonate (1.01 g, 10 mmol). After stirring at room temperature under  $N_2$  protection for 16 h, the mixture was concentrated in vacuo, purified by silica gel chromatography (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/MeOH, 50:1 to 10:1) to offer the title product (0.25 g, 68%).

**2-(1-((3-(4-carbamimidoylphenyl)-4,5-dihydroisoxazol-5-yl)methyl)piperidin-4-yl)acetic acid (compound 5, BMS 4.2)**—To a solution of ethyl 2-(1-((3-(4-carbamimidoylphenyl)-4,5-dihydroisoxazol-5-yl)methyl)piperidin-4-yl)acetate(74 mg, 0.2 mmol) in methanol/ $H_2O$  (1:1, 2 mL) was added NaOH (24 mg, 0.6 mmol). After stirring at room temperature for 3 h, the mixture was quenched by 1N HCl (0.6 mL), concentrated and purified by silica column chromatography to offer BMS4–2 (26 mg, 38%).  $^1H$  NMR (400 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD)  $\delta$  (ppm): 7.95(d, J= 8.8 Hz, 2H), 7.89(d, J= 8.4 Hz, 2H), 5.34(m, 1H), 3.74(m, 1H), 3.68(m, 2H), 3.44(d, J= 6.2Hz, 2H),3.34(m, 1H), 3.14(t, J= 12.4Hz, 2H), 2.34(d, J= 6.4 Hz, 2H), 2.06(m, 3H), 1.65(m, 2H);  $^{13}C$  NMR (101 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD)  $\delta$  (ppm):175.7, 167.9, 157.7, 135.6, 131.0, 129.6, 128.7, 77.3, 60.7, 54.8, 54.0, 39.9, 31.6, 29.8; HRMS (m/z): [M+H]<sup>+</sup> calcd. for  $C_{18}H_{25}N_4O_3$ : 345.1927; found 345.1927.

### **Synthetic scheme of BMS4–3 (compound 10):**

*tert*-Butyl 4-(2-ethoxy-2-oxoethyl)piperazine-1-carboxylate (10–1)—To a solution of *tert*-butyl piperazine-1-carboxylate (10.23 g, 55 mmol) in DMF (100 mL) was added  $K_2CO_3$  (18.66 g, 135 mmol). After stirring at room temperature for 0.5 h, to the mixture was added ethyl bromoacetate (6.6 mL, 59.4mmol). The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 4 h, quenched by saturated NaHCO<sub>3</sub> solution (200 mL), and extracted

with EtOAc (100 mL×3). The combined organic phases were washed with brine, dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated to offer the title product (12.94 g, 88%).

**Ethyl 2-(4-allylpiperazin-1-yl)acetate (10–3)**—To a solution of *tert*-butyl 4-(2-ethoxy-2-oxoethyl)piperazine-1-carboxylate (5.74 g, 20 mmol) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (20 mL) was added TFA (20 mL) at 0°C. After stirring at room temperature for 2 h, the mixture was concentrated and dried in vacuo. The residue was dissolved in DMF (100 mL), followed by the addition of anhydrous K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (5.52 g, 40 mmol) and 3-bromopropene (2.03 mL, 24 mmol) at room temperature under N<sub>2</sub> protection. After stirring overnight, the mixture was diluted with EtOAc (100 mL) and washed with H<sub>2</sub>O (100 mL), followed by the addition of saturated NaHCO<sub>3</sub> solution and brine. The organic phase was dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, filtered, concentrated, and purified by silica gel chromatography (ethyl acetate/petroleum ether, 2:1) to offer the title product (3.31g, 78%).

*tert*-Butyl (E)-4-((hydroxyimino)methyl)piperidine-1-carboxylate (10–4)—To a solution of *tert*-butyl 4-formylpiperidine-1-carboxylate (10.67 g, 50 mmol) in 1:1 EtOH/ pyridine (100 mL) was added hydroxylamine hydrochloride (3.83 g, 55 mmol) portion-wise under N<sub>2</sub> atmosphere. After stirring overnight at room temperature, the solvent was removed half volume and ice water (100 mL) was added to obtain the precipitation, which was washed with ice water and dried to offer the title compound (8.68 g, 76%).

### tert-Butyl (Z)-4-(chloro(hydroxyimino)methyl)piperidine-1-carboxylate (10-5)—

To a solution of *tert*-butyl (E)-4-((hydroxyimino)methyl)piperidine-1-carboxylate (6.85 g, 30 mmol) in anhydrous DMF (100 mL) was added N-chlorosuccimide (3.01 g, 36 mmol) in portion-wise at room temperature under  $N_2$  protection for 16 h. The reaction mixture was poured into ice water (250 mL) and the precipitation was collected by filtration, washed with water and dried in vacuo to afford the title compound (5.44 g, 69%).

*tert*-Butyl 4-(5-((4-(2-ethoxy-2-oxoethyl)piperazin-1-yl)methyl)-4,5-dihydroisoxazol-3-yl)piperidine-1-carboxylate (10–6)—To a solution of *tert*-butyl ( $\mathbb{Z}$ )-4-(chloro(hydroxyimino)methyl)piperidine-1-carboxylate (2.62 g, 10 mmol) and ethyl 2-(4-allylpiperazin-1-yl)acetate (2.12 g, 10 mmol) in dry CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (100 mL) was added dropwise Et<sub>3</sub>N (3.33 g, 33 mol) in dry CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (50 mL) in 2 h at room temperature. After stirring at room temperature for 16 h, saturated Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> solution (150 mL) was added into the mixture and the organic phase was dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, concentrated in vacuo and purified by silica gel chromatography (ethyl acetate/petroleum ether, 5:1) to offer the title product containing **10–3** (1.67 g).

## Ethyl 2-(4-((3-(piperidin-4-yl)-4,5-dihydroisoxazol-5-yl)methyl)piperazin-1-yl)acetate trifluoroacetic acid salt (10–7)—To a solution

of crude *tert*-butyl 4-(5-((4-(2-ethoxy-2-oxoethyl)piperazin-1-yl)methyl)-4,5-dihydroisoxazol-3-yl)piperidine-1-carboxylate (0.8 g) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (5 mL) was added TFA (5 mL) at 0 °C. After stirring at room temperature for 2 h, the mixture was concentrated and purified by silica column chromatography (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>:MeOH, 50:1 to 10:1) to offer the title product (0.36 g).

**2-(4-((3-(piperidin-4-yl)-4,5-dihydroisoxazol-5-yl)methyl)piperazin-1-yl)acetic acid, BMS4–3 (10)**—To a solution of ethyl 2-(4-((3-(piperidin-4-yl)-4,5-dihydroisoxazol-5-yl)methyl)piperazin-1-yl)acetate trifluoroacetic acid salt (81 mg, 0.2 mmol) in methanol (1 mL) and  $H_2O$  (1 mL) was added NaOH (32 mg, 0.8 mmol). After stirring at room temperature for 3 h, to the mixture was added 1N HCl (0.8 mL). The resulting mixture was concentrated and purified by hilic column chromatography to offer BMS4–3 (11 mg, 18%).  $^1H$  NMR (400 MHz,  $D_2O$ )  $\delta$  (ppm): 4.97 (m, 1H), 3.75 (s, 2H), 3.53 to 3.31 (m, 7H), 3.12 (m, 6H), 2.87 (m, 4H), 2.22(m, 2H), 1.84 (m, 2H);  $^{13}C$  NMR (101 MHz,  $D_2O$ )  $\delta$  (ppm):170.2, 163.3, 76.8, 59.9, 51.4, 49.7, 43.3, 39.4, 32.5, 27.6, 25.5; HRMS (m/z):  $[M+H]^+$  calcd. for  $C_{15}H_{27}N_4O_3$ : 311.2083; found 311.2076.

### Synthetic scheme of Fradafiban (CAS 148396-36-5):

(S)-5-(Hydroxymethyl)-2-pyrrolidone (F-1)—SOCl<sub>2</sub> (8.52 mL, 120 mmol) was added dropwise to a solution of (S)-5-oxopyrrolidine-2-carboxylic acid (12.91 g, 100 mmol) in MeOH (100 mL) at 0°C. The resulting mixture was stirred at room temperature for 16 h, concentrated in vacuo, and purified by silica gel chromatography (ethyl acetate/petroleum ether, 1:5) to offer intermediate methyl (S)-5-oxopyrrolidine-2-carboxylate (9.88 g, 69%). To this intermediate (7.16 g, 50 mmol) in MeOH (20 mL) was portion-wise added sodium borohydride (2.08 g, 55 mmol) under N<sub>2</sub> protection. The mixture was stirred overnight, quenched by saturated NH<sub>4</sub>Cl (50 mL), and concentrated in vacuo. The residue was then dissolved in water (100 mL) and extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (100 mL×5). The combined organic phases were washed with brine, dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, and concentrated to offer the crude title compound (3.01 g, 52%).

**(5S)-5-Trithloxymethyl-2-pyrrolinone (F-2)**—To a solution of (*S*)-5-hydroxymethyl-2-pyrrolidinone (2.30 g, 20.0 mmol), Et<sub>3</sub>N (4.2 mL, 30.0 mmol), DMAP (300 mg, 2.67 mmol) in dry CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (200 mL) was added triphenylmethyl chloride (8.40 g, 30.0 mmol) over 5 min at room temperature. After stirring overnight, the mixture was washed with water, dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, concentrated and purified by silica gel chromatography (ethyl acetate/petroleum ether, 1:5) to offer the title product (8.25 g, 75%).

**(S)-Benzyl 2-oxo-5-((trityloxy)methyl)pyrrolidine-1-carboxylate (F-3)**—To a solution of (5S)-5-trityloxymethyl-2-pyrrolinone (7.55 g, 20 mmol) in dry THF (100 mL) was added a 2.5N solution of n-butyllithium in n-hexane(8.4 mL, 21 mmol) at -78 °C. After stirring for 30 min, a solution of benzyl chloroformate (2.86 mL, 21 mmol) was added dropwise. The reaction mixture was stirred at -78 °C for 8 h, then quenched with saturated NH<sub>4</sub>Cl (20 mL). The mixture was concentrated to remove THF, and extracted with diethyl

ether (30 mL×3). The combined organic phases were washed with brine, dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, concentrated in vacuo and purified by silica gel chromatography (ethyl acetate/petroleum ether, 1:10) to offer the title compound (4.12 g, 89%).

### (3S,5S)-Benzyl 3-(2-(tert-butoxy)-2-oxoethyl)-2-oxo-5-

((trityloxy)methyl)pyrrolidine-1-carboxylate (F-4)—To a solution of (S)-benzyl 2-oxo-5-((trityloxy)methyl)pyrrolidine-1-carboxylate (4.92 g, 10 mmol) in THF (50 mL) was added dropwise lithium hexamethyldisilazide in THF (1 M, 10.5 mL) at -65°C under N<sub>2</sub> protection. After 20 min, a solution of *tert*-butyl bromoacetate (1.70 mL, 10.5 mmol) in THF (5 mL) was added dropwise. After stirring at -65°C for 2 h, the mixture was warmed to 0°C, followed by the addition of a saturated NH<sub>4</sub>Cl solution (20 mL). The mixture was concentrated in vacuo to remove THF, and extracted with EtOAc (20 mL×3). The organic phases were combined and washed with brine, dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, concentrated and purified by silica gel chromatography (ethyl acetate/petroleum ether, 1:4) to afford the title product (5.01 g, 76%).

### tert-Butyl 2-((3S,5S)-5-(hydroxymethyl)-2-oxopyrrolidin-3-yl)acetate (F-5)—

To a solution of (*3S*,*5S*)-benzyl 3-(2-(tert-butoxy)-2-oxoethyl)-2-oxo-5- ((trityloxy)methyl)pyrrolidine-1-carboxylate (3.03 g, 5 mmol) in *t*-butanol (30 mL) was added 10% Pd/C (0.45 g) under a hydrogen pressure of 5 bars. The resulting mixture was stirred for 1.5 days at 50°C. Then the mixture was filtered off and the filtrate was concentrated in vacuo. The residue was purified by silica gel chromatography (ethyl acetate/petroleum ether, 5:1) to offer the title product (0.66 g, 58%).

**tert-Butyl 2-((3S,5S)-5-(((4'-cyano-[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)oxy)methyl)-2-oxopyrrolidin-3-yl)acetate (F-7)**—Methylsulfonyl chloride (0.21 mL, 2.65 mmol) was added dropwise to a solution of *tert*-butyl 2-((*3S,5S*)-5-(hydroxymethyl)-2-oxopyrrolidin-3-yl)acetate (0.57 g, 2.5 mmol) and Et<sub>3</sub>N (0.35 mL, 2.65 mmol) in dry DMF (15 mL) at 0°C. After stirring at room temperature for 8 h, the mixture was quenched with water (20 mL), extracted by CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (20 mL×3), dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, and concentrated to offer crude intermediate **F-6** (0.66 g, 86%).

*t*-BuOK (0.34g, 3 mmol) was added to a solution of 4'-cyano-4-hydroxybiphenyl (0.59g, 3 mmol) in DMF (15 mL). After stirring at room temperature for 1 h, **F-6** (0.46 g, 1.5 mmol) was added under  $N_2$  protection. The resulting mixture was stirred for 2 days at room temperature. The reaction was quenched by water (20 mL) and extracted by CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (20 mL×3). The combined organic phases were washed with brine, dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, concentrated in vacuo and purified by silica gel chromatography (ethyl acetate/petroleum ether, 10:1) to provide the title product (0.35 g, 58%).

**Ethyl 2-((3S,5S)-5-(((4'-carbamimidoyl-[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)oxy)methyl)-2-oxopyrrolidin-3-yl)acetate (F-8)**—*tert*-Butyl 2-((*3S,5S*)-5-(((4'-cyano-[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)oxy)methyl)-2-oxopyrrolidin-3-yl)acetate (0.20 g, 0.5 mmol) was added to freshly prepared HCl/EtOH/EtOAc solution (35%, 5 mL) at 0°C over 2 h, and the resulting mixture was stirred at room temperature for 48 h. The mixture was then concentrated, dried and dissolved in EtOH (5 mL), followed by the addition of ammonium carbonate (0.50 g,

5 mmol). After stirring at room temperature under  $N_2$  protection for 16 h, the mixture was concentrated and purified by silica gel chromatography (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/MeOH, 50:1 to 10:1) to offer the title product (0.15 g, 73%).

**2-((3S,5S)-5-(((4'-carbamimidoyl-[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)oxy)methyl)-2-oxopyrrolidin-3-yl)acetic acid (Fradafiban)**—To a solution of ethyl 2-((*3S,5S*)-5-(((4'-carbamimidoyl-[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)oxy)methyl)-2-oxopyrrolidin-3-yl)acetate (79 mg, 0.2 mmol) in methanol (1 mL) and H<sub>2</sub>O (1 mL) was added NaOH (24 mg, 0.6 mmol). After stirring at room temperature for 3 h, to the mixture was added NH<sub>4</sub>Cl (64 mg, 1.2 mmol), followed by 1 mL of water and stirring for 45 min in an ice/water bath. The precipitate was suction filtered, washed with methanol and water/methanol (2:1), and dried to give Fradifiban (43 mg, 58%).  $^{1}$ H NMR (400 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD)  $\delta$  (ppm): 7.87 (dd, JI = 8.8 Hz, J2 = 8.8 Hz, 4H), 7.69 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 7.11 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 4.11 (m, 1H), 4.03 (m, 2H), 3.02 (m, 1H), 2.81 (dd, JI = 16.8 Hz, J2 = 4.1 Hz, 1H), 2.47 (dd, JI = 16.8 Hz, J2 = 8.9 Hz, 1H), 2.39 (m, 1H), 2.15 (m, 1H);  $^{13}$ C NMR (101 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD)  $\delta$  (ppm):175.4, 168.2, 160.9, 147.8, 133.0, 130.8, 129.6, 129.5, 128.2, 127.3, 116.3, 71.9, 53.2, 38.7, 36.3, 31.0; HRMS (m/z): [M+H]<sup>+</sup> calcd. for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>22</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>: 368.1610; found 368.1603.

### Synthetic scheme of Roxifiban (CAS 170902-52-0):

 $N_{\alpha}$ -n-Boc-L-asparagine (R-1)—To a solution of L-asparagine (6.60 g, 50 mmol) in water (100 mL) was added Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (6.62 g, 62.5 mol) and THF (50 mL). The mixture was heated to 50–55°C, and a solution of n-butyl chloroformate (8.19 g, 60 mmol) in THF (50 mL) was added over a period of 1 h. The reaction was held at 50–55 °C for an additional 1 h and then cooled to 15°C. The pH of the reaction mixture was adjusted to 2.5–3.5 with 11% aqueous HCl. The crude product was isolated by filtration, and dried in vacuo to offer the crude title product (8.83 g, 76%).

(S)-3-amino-2-((butoxycarbonyl)amino)propanoic acid (R-2)—To a solution of n-propanol (24 mL), EtOAc (24 mL) and water (12 mL) at 5°C was added  $N_{\alpha}$ -n-Boc-L-asparagine (6.97 g, 30 mmol) and iodosobenzene diacetate (11.12 g, 34.5 mmol) under  $N_2$  protection. The mixture was warmed to 25°C over 1 h and stirred at the same temperature for an additional 2 h, then slowly heated to 50°C over 90 min and cooled to 5°C. The reaction mixture was held at 5°C for 30 min, filtered, washed with EtOAc and dried in vacuo to offer the crude title product (4.24 g, 69%).

### (S)-methyl 3-amino-2-((butoxycarbonyl)amino)propanoate hydrochloride (R-3)

—To a solution of (S)-3-amino-2-((butoxycarbonyl)amino)propanoic acid (3.06 g, 15 mmol) in methanol (50 mL) was dropwise added thionyl chloride (1.30 mL, 18 mmol) at 0°C. The

resulting mixture was stirred at room temperature for 4 h, then concentrated in vacuo. The residue was used without further purification in the subsequent reaction.

**Isobutyl 2-(3-(4-cyanophenyl)-4,5-dihydroisoxazol-5-yl)acetate (R-4)**—To a solution of 4-cyanobenzaldoximinochloride(1.80 g, 10 mmol) and isobutyl vinylacetate (1.42 g, 10 mmol) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (50 mL) was added Et<sub>3</sub>N (1.66 mL, 12 mmol) over a period of 2 h at room temperature. After stirring for 16 h, saturated NaHCO<sub>3</sub> solution (50 mL) was added into the mixture. The resulting mixture was extracted by CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (50 mL), washed with water, dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, filtered, concentrated and purified by silica gel chromatography (ethyl acetate/petroleum ether, 1:5) to offer the title compound (1.89 g, 66%).

**2-(3-(4-cyanophenyl)-4,5-dihydroisoxazol-5-yl)acetic acid (R-5)**—To a solution of isobutyl 2-(3-(4-cyanophenyl)-4,5-dihydroisoxazol-5-yl)acetate (1.43 g, 5 mmol) in THF (10 mL) and  $\rm H_2O$  (10 mL) was added NaOH (360 mg, 9 mmol) at room temperature. After stirring for 3 h, to the mixture was added 12 mL of 1N HCl and extracted with EtOAc (15 mL×3). The combined organic phases were washed with brine, dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, filtered, concentrated in vacuo to offer the crude title product (0.99 g, 88%) without further purification.

(2S)-methyl 2-((butoxycarbonyl)amino)-3-(2-(3-(4-cyanophenyl)-4,5-dihydroisoxazol-5-yl)acetamido)propanoate (R-6)—The crude product 2-(3-(4-cyanophenyl)-4,5-dihydroisoxazol-5-yl)acetic acid (0.92 g, 4 mmol) was dissolved in DMF (15 mL), followed by the addition of EDCI (0.59 g, 4.4 mmol) and HOBt (0.74 g, 4.4 mmol) at 0°C. After stirring for half an hour, to the resulting mixture was added DIEA (1.03 g, 8 mmol) and (S)-methyl 3-amino-2-((butoxycarbonyl)amino)propanoate hydrochloride (1.40 g, 4.4 mmol) at 0°C. After stirring at room temperature for 16 h, water (20 mL) was added, and the mixture was extracted with EtOAc (20 mL  $\times$  3). The combined organic phases were washed with brine, dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, concentrated and purified by silica gel chromatography (ethyl acetate/petroleum ether, 1:3) to offer the title compound 0.53 g (28%).

(2S)-ethyl 2-((butoxycarbonyl)amino)-3-(2-(3-(4-carbamimidoylphenyl)-4,5-dihydroisoxazol-5-yl)acetamido)propanoate (R-7)—To freshly prepared HCl/EtOH/EtOAc solution (35%, 10 mL) was added (2S)-methyl 2-((butoxycarbonyl)amino)-3-(2-(3-(4-cyanophenyl)-4,5-dihydroisoxazol-5-yl)acetamido)propanoate (0.43 g, 1 mmol) at 0°C for 2 h, and the resulting mixture was stirred at room temperature for 48 h and then concentrated in vacuo. The residue was dried in vacuo, dissolved in EtOH (5 mL), followed by the addition of ammonium carbonate (1.01 g, 10 mmol). After stirring at room temperature under N<sub>2</sub> for 16 h, the mixture was concentrated in vacuo, purified by silica gel chromatography (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/MeOH, 50:1 to 10:1) to offer the title product (0.32 g, 70%).

(2S)-2-((butoxycarbonyl)amino)-3-(2-(3-(4-carbamimidoylphenyl)-4,5-dihydroisoxazol-5-yl)acetamido)propanoic acid (Roxifiban)—To a solution of (2S)-ethyl 2-((butoxycarbonyl)amino)-3-(2-(3-(4-carbamimidoylphenyl)-4,5-

dihydroisoxazol-5-yl)acetamido)propanoate (92 mg, 0.2 mmol) in methanol/ $H_2O$  (1:1, 2 mL) was added NaOH (24 mg, 0.6 mmol). After stirring at room temperature for 3 h, 1N HCl (0.6 mL) was added to the mixture. The resulting mixture was concentrated in vacuo and purified by hilic column chromatography to offer Roxifiban (31 mg, 38%).  $^1H$  NMR (400 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD)  $\delta$  (ppm): 7.86(s, 4H), 5.18(m, 1H), 4.36(t, J= 6.5 Hz, 1H), 4.03(m, 2H), 3.67(m, 2H), 3.57–3.50(m, 1H), 3.37–3.30(m, 1H), 2.70(m, 2H), 1.55(m, 2H), 1.31(m, 2H), 0.86(m, 3H);  $^{13}C$  NMR (101 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD)  $\delta$  (ppm):172.8, 166.1, 163.1, 162.8, 158.3, 133.6, 129.5, 128.3, 127.5, 135.7, 130.8, 129.6, 128.7, 78.6, 65.8, 53.8, 40.5, 40.0, 39.1, 30.3, 18.4; 12.8. HRMS (m/z): [M+H] $^+$  calcd. for  $C_{20}H_{28}N_5O_6$ : 434.2040; found 434.2040.

### Synthetic scheme of Lotrafiban (CAS 171049-14-2):

*tert*-Butyl 4-fluoro-3-methylbenzoate (L-1)—To a solution of 4-fluoro-3-methylbenzoic acid (3.08 g, 20 mmol), *di-tert*-butyl dicarbonate (8.75 g, 40 mmol) in 50 mL of 2-methylpropan-2-ol was added N,N-dimethylpyridin-4-amine (1.23 g, 10mmol). The resulting mixture was stirred at 25°C for 12 h. Then the mixture was concentrated to give a residue and purified by silica gel chromatography (ethyl acetate/petroleum ether, 1:40) to offer the title compound (3.2 g, 76%).

*tert*-Butyl 4-fluoro-3-methylaminomethylbenzoate (L-2)—To a solution of *tert*-butyl 4-fluoro-3-methylbenzoate (3.15 g, 15 mmol) in CCl<sub>4</sub> (50 mL) was added (PhCO<sub>2</sub>)<sub>2</sub> (1.37 g, 5.7 mmol) and NBS (12.1 g, 18 mmol). The resulting mixture was refluxed for 2 days under N<sub>2</sub> protection. After cooling to room temperature, the mixture was washed with water (50 mL), and dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>. The solvent was removed and the residue was dissolved in THF (25 mL). A solution of 33% CH<sub>3</sub>NH<sub>2</sub> (4.89 mL, 52.5 mmol) in THF (25 mL) and H<sub>2</sub>O (12.5 mL) was added dropwise to the mixture. The resulting mixture was stirred for 1 h at room temperature and then concentrated in vacuo. The residue was dissolved by water (50 mL) and extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (50 mL×3). The combined organic phases were washed with brine, dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, concentrated and purified by silica gel chromatography (ethyl acetate/petroleum ether, 5:1) to offer the title compound (1.51 g, 42%).

## (S)-tert-butyl 3-((2-(((benzyloxy)carbonyl)amino)-4-methoxy-N-methyl-4-oxobutanamido)methyl)-4-fluorobenzoate (L-3)—To a solution of

tert-butyl-4-fluoro-3-methylaminomethylbenzoate (1.20 g, 5 mmol), (S)-2- (((benzyloxy)carbonyl)amino)-4-methoxy-4-oxobutanoic acid (1.41 g, 5 mmol) and HOBt (0.74 g, 5.5 mmol) in dry CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (25 mL) was added a solution of DCC (1.13 g, 5.5 mmol) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (10 mL) at room temperature. After stirring for 1 h, the insoluble solid was filtered off, and the filtrate was washed with brine, dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, concentrated in vacuo

and purified by silica gel chromatography (ethyl acetate/petroleum ether, 1:3) to offer the title compound (1.73 g, 69%).

## (S)-tert-butyl 3-((2-amino-4-methoxy-N-methyl-4-oxobutanamido)methyl)-4-fluorobenzoate (L-4)—To a solution

of (*S*)-tert-butyl 3-((2-(((benzyloxy)carbonyl)amino)-4-methoxy-N-methyl-4-oxobutanamido)methyl)-4-fluorobenzoate in methanol (1.51 g, 3 mmol) was added 10% Pd/C (0.15 g) with  $\rm H_2$  balloon at room temperature for 4 h. The catalyst was filtered off, and the filtrate was concentrated to offer the crude title product (0.98 g, 89%).

(S)-tert-butyl 2-(2-methoxy-2-oxoethyl)-4-methyl-3-oxo-2,3,4,5-tetrahydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepine-7-carboxylate (L-5)—A mixture of (S)-tert-butyl 3-((2-amino-4-methoxy-N-methyl-4-oxobutanamido)methyl)-4-fluorobenzoate (0.39 g, 1.06 mmol) in DMSO (10 mL) was stirred at 125°C for 12 h under N<sub>2</sub> protection. The resulting mixture was dissolved in water (20 mL) and extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (20 mL×3). The combined organic phases were washed with brine, dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, filtered, concentrated and purified by silica gel chromatography (ethyl acetate/petroleum ether, 1:1) to offer the title compound (0.19 g, 49%).

# (*S*)-*tert*-butyl 1'-(2-(2-methoxy-2-oxoethyl)-4-methyl-3-oxo-2,3,4,5-tetrahydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepine-7-carbonyl)-[4,4'-bipiperidine]-1-carboxylate (L-7)—To a solution of

(*S*)-*tert*-butyl 2-(2-methoxy-2-oxoethyl)-4-methyl-3-oxo-2,3,4,5-tetrahydro-1H-benzo[e] [1,4]diazepine-7-carboxylate(120mg, 0.35mmol) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (10 mL) was added TFA (5 mL) and anisole (0.2 mL). After stirring for 3 h, the solvent was evaporated and the residue was purified by silica gel chromatography (ethyl acetate/petroleum ether, 5:1) to give the intermediate acid, which was dissolved in dry CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (5 mL). To this solution was added *tert*-butyl (4,4'-bipiperidine)-1-carboxylate (103 mg, 0.38 mmol), HOBt (52 mg, 0.38 mmol) and EDCI (73 mg, 0.38 mmol). The resulting mixture was stirred for 1 h at room temperature, and diluted with water (10 mL), then extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (10 mL×3). The combined organic phases were washed with brine, dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, concentrated and purified by silica gel chromatography (ethyl acetate/petroleum ether, 1:3) to offer the title compound (56 mg, 30%).

## (S)-2-(7-([4,4'-bipiperidine]-1-carbonyl)-4-methyl-3-oxo-2,3,4,5-tetrahydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-2-yl)acetic acid (Lotrafiban)—To a solution of

(*S*)-*tert*-butyl 1'-(2-(2-methoxy-2-oxoethyl)-4-methyl-3-oxo-2,3,4,5-tetrahydro-1H-benzo[e] [1,4]diazepine-7-carbonyl)-[4,4'-bipiperidine]-1-carboxylate (33 mg, 0.06 mmol) in methanol (1 mL) and  $H_2O$  (1 mL) was added NaOH (12 mg, 0.3 mmol). After stirring at room temperature for 8 h, the mixture was concentrated in vacuo. The residue was dissolved in dioxane (2 mL) and then treated with 4 N HCl/dioxane (1 mL) solution for 3 h. The resulting mixture was concentrated in vacuo and purified by hilic column chromatography to offer Lotrafiban (11 mg, 39%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD)  $\delta$  (ppm): 7.11(m, 2H), 6.62(d, J= 8.8 Hz, 1H), 5.58(d, J= 16.4 Hz, 1H), 3.89(d, J= 16.6 Hz, 1H), 3.41(m, 2H), 3.09(s, 3H), 2.95(m, 4H), 2.65(m, 1H), 2.41 – 2.31 (m, 2H), 1.99(m,

2H), 1.80(m, 2H), 1.48(m, 5H), 1.25(m, 3H);  $^{13}$ C NMR (101 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD)  $\delta$  (ppm):174.7, 172.6, 172.2, 149.5, 130.7, 129.5, 124.3, 119.5, 116.8, 53.8, 51.9, 45.5, 41.8, 39.7, 36.3, 34.5, 27.2; HRMS (m/z): [M+H]<sup>+</sup> calcd. for  $C_{23}H_{33}N_4O_4$ : 429.2502; found 429.2490.

### **Synthetic scheme of compound 11 (Gantofiban analog) (CAS 167364-14-9):**

*tert*-Butyl 4-(3-Ethoxy-3-oxopropyl)-1-piperazinecarboxylate (11–1)—To a solution of *tert*-butyl-1-piperazine carboxylate (1.86 g, 10 mmol) in DMF (30 ml) was added potassium carbonate (4.86 g, 20 mmol). After 0.5 h, ethyl 3-bromopropanoate (1.29 ml, 10 mmol) was added to the suspension, and the reaction mixture was stirred overnight at room temperature, quenched by saturated NaHCO<sub>3</sub> solution (60 mL), extracted with EtOAc (30 mL×3). The combined organic phases were washed with brine, dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated to offer the crude title product (2.43 g, 85%).

**Ethyl 3-(piperazin-1-yl)propanoate trifluoroacetic acid salt (11–2)**—To a solution of *tert*-Butyl 4-(3-Ethoxy-3-oxopropyl)-1-piperazinecarboxylate (1.43 g, 5 mmol) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (10 mL) was added TFA (10 mL) at 0°C. After stirring at room temperature for 2 h, the mixture was concentrated in vacuo, dried in vacuo to offer the crude title compound (1.45 g).

(*R*)-4-((2,3-dihydroxypropyl)amino)benzonitrile (11–3)—A mixture of 4-aminobenzonitrile (11.8 g, 100 mmol) and (*S*)-oxiran-2-ylmethanol (3.76 mL, 56 mmol) in MeOH (80 mL) in a sealed tube was heated at 110°C for 3 h. The resulting mixture was concentrated in vacuo, the residue was dissolved in water (300 mL) and extracted with ethyl acetate (300 mL×3). The combined organic phases were dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, filtered, concentrated, and purified by silica gel chromatography (ethyl acetate/petroleum ether, 3:1) to offer the title product (2.86 g, 15%).

(*R*)-4-(5-(hydroxymethyl)-2-oxooxazolidin-3-yl)benzonitrile (11–4)—To a mixture of (*R*)-4-((2,3-dihydroxypropyl)amino)benzonitrile (2.30 g, 12 mmol) in diethyl carbonate (30 mL, 208 mmol) was added 25% sodium methoxide in methanol (1 mL). After the mixture was stirred overnight at 105°C, additional 25% sodium methoxide in methanol (1 mL) was added. After stirring for 5 h, the reaction was quenched by saturated NaHCO<sub>3</sub> solution (60 mL), and extracted with EtOAc (60 mL×3). The combined organic phases were washed with brine, dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated, purified by silica column chromatography (ethyl acetate/petroleum ether, 1:1) to offer the title product (1.75 g, 67%).

**5)**—To a solution of (*R*)-4-(5-(hydroxymethyl)-2-oxooxazolidin-3-yl)benzonitrile (1.10 g, 5 mmol) in MeOH (50 mL) was added NH<sub>2</sub>OH·HCl (1.04 g, 15 mmol) and Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (2.12 g, 20 mmol). After stirring for 10 min at room temperature, the reaction mixture was heated to

(R)-N'-hydroxy-4-(5-(hydroxymethyl)-2-oxooxazolidin-3-yl)benzimidamide (11-

20 mmol). After stirring for 10 min at room temperature, the reaction mixture was heated to 80 °C and stirred for 6 h. The solvent was removed in vacuo, and the residue was dissolved in water (30 mL), extracted with  $CH_2Cl_2$  (30 mL×3). The combined organic phases were washed by saturated NaHCO<sub>3</sub>, dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, and concentrated to offer the crude title compound (0.58 g, 46%).

(*R*)-5-(hydroxymethyl)-3-(4-(5-methyl-1,2,4-oxadiazol-3-yl)phenyl)oxazolidin-2-one (11–6)—(*R*)-N'-hydroxy-4-(5-(hydroxymethyl)-2-oxooxazolidin-3-yl)benzimidamide (0.50 g, 2 mmol) was dissolved in  $Ac_2O$  (20 mL), and the mixture was refluxed for 4 h. Then the solvent was removed under the vacuum. The intermediate was dissolved in MeOH (20 mL), to the mixture was added  $K_2CO_3$  (0.35 g, 2.5 mmol) and refluxed for 6 h. The solvent was removed in vacuo, and the residue was purified by silica gel chromatography (ethyl acetate/petroleum ether, 2:1) to obtain the title compound (0.39 g, 73%).

(*R*)-(3-(4-(5-methyl-1,2,4-oxadiazol-3-yl)phenyl)-2-oxooxazolidin-5-yl)methyl methanesulfonate (11–7)—To a solution of (*R*)-5-(hydroxymethyl)-3-(4-(5-methyl-1,2,4-oxadiazol-3-yl)phenyl)oxazolidin-2-one (0.33 g, 1.2 mmol) and  $Et_3N$  (0.20 mL, 1.44 mmol) in dry  $CH_2Cl_2$  (10 mL), methanesulfonyl chloride (0.12 mL, 1.44 mmol) was added dropwise at 0°C. The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 2 h and then quenched with water (10 mL). The aqueous layer was extracted with  $CH_2Cl_2$  (10 mL×2), and the combined organic phases were successively washed with 1N HCl, saturated NaHCO<sub>3</sub> solution, brine, dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, and concentrated in vacuo to offer the crude title product (0.36 g, 86%).

Ethyl (*S*)-3-(4-((3-(4-(5-methyl-1,2,4-oxadiazol-3-yl)phenyl)-2-oxooxazolidin-5-yl)methyl)piperazin-1-yl)propanoate (11–8)—To a solution of (R)-(3-(4-(5-methyl-1,2,4-oxadiazol-3-yl)phenyl)-2-oxooxazolidin-5-yl)methyl methanesulfonate (0.22 g, 0.6 mmol) in acetonitrile was added CsCO<sub>3</sub> (0.98 g, 3 mmol) and ethyl 3-(piperazin-1-yl)propanoate trifluoroacetic acid salt (11–2) (0.21 g, 0.75 mmol) at room temperature under N<sub>2</sub> protection. The resulting mixture was refluxed for 16 h and then concentrated. The residue was purified by silica gel chromatography (ethyl acetate/petroleum ether, 10:1) to offer the title compound (0.16 g, 38%).

(S)-3-(4-((3-(4-carbamimidoylphenyl)-2-oxooxazolidin-5-yl)methyl)piperazin-1-yl)propanoic acid (11, Gantofiban analog)—To a solution

of ethyl (S)-3-(4-((3-(4-(5-methyl-1,2,4-oxadiazol-3-yl)phenyl)-2-oxooxazolidin-5-yl)methyl)piperazin-1-yl)propanoate (0.088 g, 0.2 mmol) in MeOH (5 mL) was added 10% Pd/C (20% w/w). The suspension was vigorously stirred under H<sub>2</sub> atmosphere overnight. The mixture was filtered through a pad of Celite, and the filtrate was concentrated in vacuo to obtain the crude intermediate To the intermediate dissolved in methanol/H<sub>2</sub>O (1:1, 2 mL) was added NaOH (24 mg, 0.6 mmol). After stirring at room temperature for 3 h, the mixture was quenched by 1N HCl (0.6 mL), concentrated and purified

by hilic column chromatography to offer the Gantofiban analog (5.6 mg, 6%).  $^{1}$ H NMR (400 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD)  $\delta$  (ppm): 7.86(s, 4H), 4.98 – 4.92(m, 1H), 4.25(t, J= 8.0Hz, 1H), 3.98 – 3.88(m, 1H), 3.35 – 3.21(m, 8H), 2.92 – 2.88 (m, 4H), 2.67(t, J= 8.0Hz, 2H).

### Synthetic scheme of Gantofiban (CAS 167364-04-7):

**(S)-4-((2,3-dihydroxypropyl)amino)benzonitrile (G-1)**—A mixture of 4-aminobenzonitrile (11.8 g, 100 mmol) and (*R*)-oxiran-2-ylmethanol (3.76 mL, 56 mmol) in MeOH (80 mL) in a sealed tube was heated at 110°C for 3 h. The resulting mixture was concentrated in vacuo, the residue was dissolved in water (300 mL) and extracted with ethyl acetate (300 mL×3). The combined organic phases were dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, filtered, concentrated, and purified by silica gel chromatography (ethyl acetate/petroleum ether, 3:1) to offer the title product (2.38 g, 12%).

**(S)-4-(5-(hydroxymethyl)-2-oxooxazolidin-3-yl)benzonitrile (G-2)**—To a mixture of (*S*)-4-((2,3-dihydroxypropyl)amino)benzonitrile (2.30 g, 12 mmol) in diethyl carbonate (30 mL, 208 mmol) was added 25% sodium methoxide in methanol (1 mL). After the mixture was stirred overnight at 105°C, additional 25% sodium methoxide in methanol (1 mL) was added. After stirring for 5 h, the reaction was quenched by saturated NaHCO<sub>3</sub> solution (60 mL), extracted with EtOAc (60 mL×3). The combined organic phases were washed with brine, dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated, purified by silica column chromatography (ethyl acetate/petroleum ether, 1:1) to offer the title product (1.85 g, 70%).

### (S)-N'-hydroxy-4-(5-(hydroxymethyl)-2-oxooxazolidin-3-yl)benzimidamide (G-3)

—To a solution of ( $\mathcal{S}$ )-4-(5-(hydroxymethyl)-2-oxooxazolidin-3-yl)benzonitrile (1.10 g, 5 mmol) in MeOH (50 mL) was added NH<sub>2</sub>OH·HCl (1.04 g, 15 mmol), Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (2.12 g, 20 mmol). After stirring for 10 min at room temperature, the reaction mixture was heated to 80°C and stirred for 6 h. The solvent was removed in vacuo, and the residue was dissolved in water (30 mL) and extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (30 mL×3). The combined organic phases were washed by saturated NaHCO<sub>3</sub>, dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, and concentrated to offer the crude title compound (0.61 g, 48%).

(S)-5-(hydroxymethyl)-3-(4-(5-methyl-1,2,4-oxadiazol-3-yl)phenyl)oxazolidin-2-one (G-4)—(S)-N'-hydroxy-4-(5-(hydroxymethyl)-2-oxooxazolidin-3-yl)benzimidamide (0.50 g, 2 mmol) was dissolved in Ac<sub>2</sub>O (20 mL), and the mixture was refluxed for 4 h. Then the solvent was removed under the vacuum. The intermediate was dissolved in MeOH (20 mL), to the mixture was added K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (0.35 g, 2.5 mmol) and refluxed for 6 h. The

solvent was removed in vacuo, and the residue was purified by silica gel chromatography (ethyl acetate/petroleum ether, 2:1) to obtain the title compound (0.44 g, 78%).

**(S)-(3-(4-(5-methyl-1,2,4-oxadiazol-3-yl)phenyl)-2-oxooxazolidin-5-yl)methyl methanesulfonate (G-5)**—To a solution of (*R*)-5-(hydroxymethyl)-3-(4-(5-methyl-1,2,4-oxadiazol-3-yl)phenyl)oxazolidin-2-one (0.33 g, 1.2 mmol) and Et<sub>3</sub>N (0.20 mL, 1.44 mmol) in dry CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (10 mL), methanesulfonyl chloride (0.12 mL, 1.44 mmol) was added dropwise at 0°C. The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 2 h, and then quenched with water (10 mL). The aqueous layer was extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (10 mL×2), and the combined organic phases were successively washed with 1N HCl, saturated NaHCO<sub>3</sub> solution, brine, dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, and concentrated in vacuo to offer the crude title product (0.35 g, 85%).

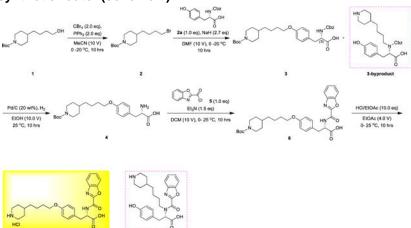
Ethyl (R)-3-(4-((3-(4-(5-methyl-1,2,4-oxadiazol-3-yl)phenyl)-2-oxooxazolidin-5-yl)methyl)piperazin-1-yl)acetate (G-6)—To a solution of (S)-(3-(4-(5-methyl-1,2,4-oxadiazol-3-yl)phenyl)-2-oxooxazolidin-5-yl)methyl methanesulfonate (0.22 g, 0.6 mmol) in acetonitrile was added CsCO<sub>3</sub> (0.98 g, 3 mmol) and ethyl 3-(piperazin-1-yl)acetate trifluoroacetic acid salt (10–2) (0.20 g, 0.75 mmol) at room temperature under N<sub>2</sub> protection. The resulting mixture was refluxed for 16 h and then concentrated. The residue was purified by silica gel chromatography (ethyl acetate/petroleum ether, 10:1) to offer the title compound (0.17 g, 41%).

(*R*)-3-(4-((3-(4-carbamimidoylphenyl)-2-oxooxazolidin-5-yl)methyl)piperazin-1-yl)acetic acid (Gantofiban)—To a solution of ethyl (*S*)-3-(4-((3-(4-(5-methyl-1,2,4-oxadiazol-3-yl)phenyl)-2-oxooxazolidin-5-yl)methyl)piperazin-1-yl)acetate (0.085 g, 0.2 mmol) in MeOH (5 mL) was added 10% Pd/C (20% w/w). The suspension was vigorously stirred under  $H_2$  atmosphere overnight. The mixture was filtered through a pad of Celite, and the filtrate was concentrated in vacuo to obtain the crude intermediate. To the intermediate dissolved in methanol/ $H_2O$  (1:1, 2 mL) was added NaOH (24 mg, 0.6 mmol). After stirring at room temperature for 3 h, the mixture was quenched by 1N HCl (0.6 mL), concentrated and purified by hilic column chromatography to offer Gantofiban (5.8 mg, 8%).  $^1H$  NMR (400 MHz,  $D_2O$ )  $\delta$  (ppm): 7.87(d, J= 8.0Hz, 2H), 7.74(d, J= 8.0Hz, 2H), 5.27 – 5.20 (m, 1H), 4.41 (t, J= 8.0Hz, 1H), 3.98 – 3.94 (m, 1H), 3.84 (s, 2H), 3.55 (br, 4H), 3.46 – 3.30 (m, 6H).  $^{13}C$  NMR (101 MHz,  $D_2O$ )  $\delta$  (ppm):168.9, 167.5, 155.9, 144.9, 130.0, 123.9, 119.2, 72.6, 60.4, 56.9, 53.1, 51.7, 50.1; HRMS (m/z):  $[M+H]^+$  calcd. for  $C_{17}H_{24}N_5O_4$ : 362.1828; found 362.1823.

**M-tirofiban and M-tirofiban isomer**—Synthesis of M-tirofiban was delayed by lack of publication of its synthetic route (Adair et al., 2020). Our first attempt of stereo-specific synthesis resulted in a major product with a small amount of side product. A second synthesis resulted in M-tirofiban and its stereo-isomer, M-tirofiban isomer. Neither the side-product nor the stereoisomers would be distinguished by the reported mass spectrometry results (Adair et al., 2020).

Final synthetic route (scheme 1)—

# Initial synthetic route: (scheme 2)—



## Summary:

In scheme 2, the title compound was obtained after prep-HPLC separation. However, there were two sets of <sup>1</sup>H NMR peaks. We analyzed the HNMR and the synthetic route carefully again. The suspected impurity was the M-tirofiban-byproduct which would be difficult to remove by prep-HPLC due to the very close polarity.

The impurity should have been formed during synthesis of compound 3 due to the excess NaH. Thus, a new batch was synthesized using scheme 1.

In scheme 1, two peaks of target compound were detected by chiral HPLC. Racemization would have occurred in the alkylation reaction of step 2. The HCl salt of the final product

could not be separated by chiral chromatography i.e., supercritical fluid chromatography (SFC). Therefore, Boc was re-added to the amine and then the isomers were separated by SFC. Finally, M-tirofiban and M-tirofiban isomer were obtained after Boc removal.

#### Compound 2—

Compound **1** (700 mg, 2.72 mmol, 1.00 eq) was added to a round bottom flask charged with ACN (3.0 mL), then PPh<sub>3</sub> (1.07 g, 4.08 mmol, 1.50 eq) and CBr<sub>4</sub> (1.35 g, 4.08 mmol, 1.50 eq) were added at 0°C. The mixture was stirred at 20°C for 12 hour. TLC (petroleum ether: ethyl acetate = 5:1, R<sub>f</sub> = 0.43) indicated compound **1** was consumed completely and one new main spot formed. The reaction was quenched by ice-water (10 mL) at 0°C, and then extracted with MTBE (20 mL and 10 mL). The combined organic layers were concentrated under reduced pressure to give a residue. The crude product was purified by column chromatography (SiO<sub>2</sub>, petroleum ether/ethyl acetate= 20/1 to 5/1) to give compound **2** (800 mg, 2.50 mmol, 91.8% yield) as a colorless oil. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  4.03 – 4.07 (m, 2H), 3.39 (t, J = 6.8 Hz, 2H), 2.61 – 2.68 (m, 2H), 1.80 – 1.86 (m, 2H), 1.61 – 1.65 (m, 2H), 1.42 – 1.43 (m, 11H), 1.22 – 1.26 (m, 2H), 1.06 – 1.07 (m, 2H)

To a solution of compound 2a (400 mg, 1.98 mmol, 1.00 eq) in DCM (2 mL) was added dropwise (COCl)<sub>2</sub> (301 mg, 2.37 mmol, 207 uL, 1.20 eq) at 0°C. The resulting mixture was stirred at 20°C for 3 hrs. TLC (petroleum ether: ethyl acetate = 3:1,  $R_f$  = 0.43) indicated intermediate (quenched by MeOH) was consumed completely and one new spot formed. The reaction mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure below 40°C to give compound 2b (350 mg, 1.93 mmol, 97.5% yield) as purple solid, which was used in the next step without further purification.

#### Compound 2d—

To a solution of compound 2c (400 mg, 1.69 mmol, 1.00 eq) in DCM (5 mL) was added dropwise DIEA (436 mg, 3.37 mmol, 587 uL, 2.00 eq) and compound 2b (306 mg, 1.69 mmol, 1.00 eq) at 0°C. The resulting mixture was stirred at 20 °C for 3 hrs. LCMS showed no compound 2c remained, and one major new peak (Rt = 1.888 min, m/z -55 = 327.3) with desired product was detected. The reaction was quenched by ice-water (10 mL) at 0°C, and then extracted with EtOAc (20 mL, then 10 mL). The combined organic layers were concentrated under reduced pressure to give compound 2d (500 mg, 1.31 mmol, 77.6% yield) as a red oil, which was used in the next step without purification.

## Compound 3—

To a solution of compound **2d** (500 mg, 1.31 mmol, 1.00 *eq*) and compound **2** (419 mg, 1.31 mmol, 1.00 *eq*) in DMF (8 mL) was add  $K_2CO_3$  (271 mg, 1.96 mmol, 1.50 *eq*) at 25°C. The resulting mixture was stirred at 60°C for 20 hrs. LCMS showed no compound **2d** remained, and one major new peak (Rt = 1.058, m/z = 466.1) with desired product was detected. The reaction was quenched by ice-water (30 mL) at 0°C, and then extracted with EtOAc (20 mL, 10 mL). The combined organic layers were concentrated under reduced pressure to give a residue. The residue was purified by column chromatography (SiO<sub>2</sub>, petroleum ether/ethyl acetate = 4/1 to 2/1,  $R_f$  = 0.43) to give compound **3** (350 mg, 563 µmol, 43.1% yield) as a light-yellow solid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ 7.85 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.68 – 7.77 (m, 2H), 7.47 – 7.54 (m, 2H), 7.16 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 6.84 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 4.95 – 5.00 (m, 1H), 4.06 – 4.08 (m, 2H), 4.10 – 4.19 (m, 2H), 3.95 (t, J = 6.4 Hz, 2H), 3.16 – 3.28 (m, 2H), 1.67 – 1.80 (m, 2H), 1.30 – 1.49 (m, 27H), 1.07 – 1.30 (m, 2H)

#### Compound 4—

To a solution of compound **3** (350 mg, 563 µmol, 1.00 *eq*) in EtOAc (2.0 mL) was added dropwise HCl/EtOAc (4 M, 1.41 mL, 10.0 *eq*) at 0°C. The resulting mixture was stirred at 20°C for 4 hrs. LCMS showed no compound **3** remained, and one major new peak (Rt = 2.047, m/z = 466) with desired mass was detected. The reaction mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure to give a residue. The residue was purified by prep-HPLC (HCl condition). Column: Phenomenex Luna C18 200×40mm×10um; mobile phase: [water (0.04% HCl)-ACN]; B%: 10%–50% ACN, 8 min). The fractions after prep-HPLC were lyophilized directly to give Compound **4** (150 mg, 322 µmol, 57.2% yield) as a white solid.  $^{1}$ H NMR (400 MHz DMSO)  $\delta$  13.01 (br s, 1H), 9.34 (d, J= 8.0 Hz, 1H), 8.92 (br s, 1H), 8.66 (br s, 1H), 7.83 – 7.90 (m, 2H), 7.53 – 7.56 (m, 2H), 7.16 (d, J= 8.8 Hz, 1H), 6.77 (d, J= 8.4 Hz, 2H), 4.58 – 4.64 (m, 1H), 3.85 (t, J= 6.4 Hz, 2H), 3.07 – 3.17 (m, 4H), 2.73 – 2.76 (m, 2H), 1.70 – 1.73 (m, 4H), 1.30 – 1.34 (m, 1H), 1.19 – 1.25 (m, 6H)

#### Compounds 5A&5B—

To a solution of compound **4** (150 mg, 299 μmol, 1.00 *eq*, HCl) in DCM (3 mL) was added Boc2O (78.3 mg, 359 μmol, 82.4 uL, 1.20 *eq*) and Et3N (45.3 mg, 448 μmol, 62.4 uL, 1.50 *eq*) at 0°C. The resulting mixture was stirred at 20 °C for 4 hrs. LCMS showed no compound **4** remained, and one major new peak (Rt = 0.873, m/z = 466) with desired product was detected. The reaction mixture was poured into 20% citric acid (~ 5 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (~ 20 mL, 10 mL), the organic layers were washed with brine (10 mL), dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated to give the product. The product was separated further by chiral SFC (Thar SFC 80) using a DAICEL Chiralpak AD column (250mm×30mm, 10um); mobile phase: A: CO<sub>2</sub> and isocratic elution with B: 38% 0.1% NH3H2O ETOH for 6 min at 40°C with a system back pressure of 100 bar. The fractions after SFC were concentrated to give compound **5A** (65.0 mg, 115 μmol, 76.9% yield) as a light-yellow solid and Compound **5B** (70.0 mg, 123. μmol, 82.8% yield) as a light-yellow solid. Comparison of the elution in SFC of the 95% pure, chiral M-tirofiban synthesized in scheme 1 showed that peak 2 in SFC was compound 5A, the desired (*S*)-M-tirofiban; peak 1 was compound 5B, the undesired (*R*)-M-tirofiban isomer.

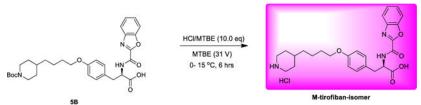
#### (S)-M-tirofiban-



To a solution of compound **5A** (65.0 mg, 115  $\mu$ mol, 1.00 eq) in MTBE (2.0 mL) was added dropwise HCl/MTBE (4.0 M, 287 uL, 10.0 eq) at 0°C. The resulting mixture was stirred at 15°C for 6 hrs. TLC (petroleum ether: ethyl acetate = 0:1,  $R_f$  = 0.01) indicated the

intermediate was consumed completely and one new spot formed. The reaction mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure below  $40^{\circ}\text{C}$  to give a residue. The crude product was triturated with MTBE (2 mL) at  $20^{\circ}\text{C}$  for 20 min, and then lyophilized to remove the solvent residue. Compound (*S*)-M-tirofiban (22.0 mg, 43.8 µmol, 38.1% yield, HCl) was obtained as a thick white solid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz DMSO)  $\delta$  12.98 (br s, 1H), 9.30 (d, J= 8.4 Hz, 1H), 8.92 (br s, 1H), 8.66 (br s, 1H), 7.83 – 7.90 (m, 2H), 7.53 – 7.56 (m, 2H), 7.16 (d, J= 8.8 Hz, 1H), 6.77 (d, J= 8.4 Hz, 2H), 4.60 – 4.64 (m, 1H), 3.85 (t, J= 6.4 Hz, 2H), 3.07 – 3.17 (m, 4H), 2.73 – 2.76 (m, 2H), 1.70 – 1.73 (m, 4H), 1.19 – 1.35 (m, 7H)

### (R)-M-tirofiban isomer—



To a solution of compound **5B** (70.0 mg, 124 µmol, 1.00 eq) in MTBE (2.0 mL) was added dropwise HCl/MTBE (4.0 M, 309 uL, 10.0 eq) at 0°C. The resulting mixture was stirred at 15°C for 6 hrs. TLC (petroleum ether: ethyl acetate = 0:1,  $R_f$  = 0.01) indicated the intermediate was consumed completely and one new spot formed. The reaction mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure below 40°C to give a residue. The crude product was triturated with MTBE (2 mL) at 20°C for 20 min, and then lyophilized to remove the solvent residue. Compound (*R*)-M-tirofiban-isomer (58.0 mg, 115. µmol, 93.4% yield, HCl) was obtained as a white solid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  12.99 (br s, 1H), 9.28 (d, J= 8.0 Hz, 1H), 8.57 (br s, 2H), 7.83 – 7.90 (m, 2H), 7.53 – 7.56 (m, 2H), 7.16 (d, J= 8.8 Hz, 1H), 6.77 (d, J= 8.4 Hz, 2H), 4.59 – 4.60 (m, 1H), 3.85 (t, J= 6.4 Hz, 2H), 3.07 – 3.17 (m, 4H), 2.73 – 2.76 (m, 2H), 1.70 – 1.73 (m, 4H), 1.22 – 1.35 (m, 8H)

# **Supplementary Material**

Refer to Web version on PubMed Central for supplementary material.

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- Integrin inhibitors in failed clinical trials stabilized the open conformation.
- Inhibitor designs were discovered that stabilize the closed integrin conformation.
- Inhibitor design principles were transferrable from integrin  $\alpha$ IIb $\beta$ 3 to  $\alpha$ 4 $\beta$ 1.
- Closing inhibitors may lack partial agonism seen with opening inhibitors.

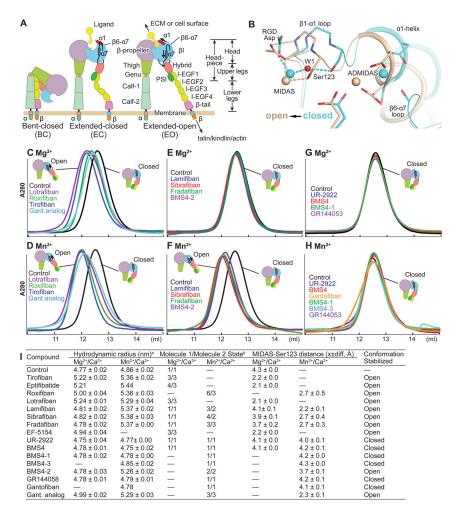
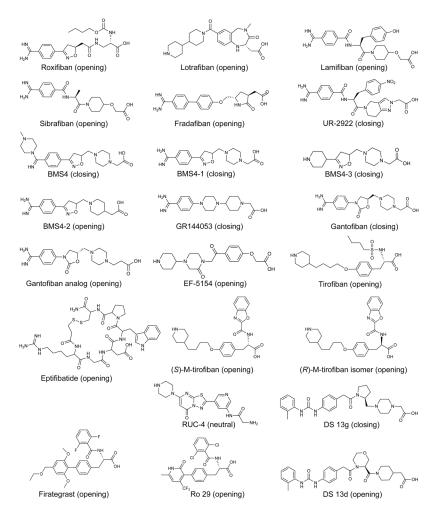


FIGURE 1. Integrin domains, conformational change, and effect of drugs on the  $\alpha IIb\beta 3$  headpiece.

(A) Integrin domain organization and conformational states. In integrin headpiece opening, which increases affinity for biological ligands, pistoning of the  $\alpha$ 7-helix (purple bar) of the βI domain is linked to α1-helix pistoning (red bar), swing-out of the hybrid domain (curved arrow) and (B) rearrangement of loops at the ligand-binding site. (B) Shows α IIbβ3 bound to RGD in the closed (cyan carbons and metals) and open (wheat carbons and metals) conformations from PDB codes 3ZDY and 3ZE2 chains C+D+J, respectively. Loops and helices are thin and thicker tubes. Key metal coordinating sidechains, backbone and the RGD Asp sidechain are shown in stick. Oxygens are red and nitrogens blue. Metal ions and water 1 are shown as spheres. (C-H) Overlaid Superdex 200 chromatograms in absence (control, black) and presence of 10 µM drug in running buffer with curves in same color as the name of the drug. Running buffer contained 1 mM Mg<sup>2+</sup>, 1 mM Ca<sup>2+</sup> or 2 mM Mn<sup>2+</sup> 0.2 mM Ca<sup>2+</sup> as indicated. Open and closed headpieces are shown in cartoon in insets (I) Summary of effects of drugs in gel filtration and when soaked into closed αIIbβ3 headpiece crystals. <sup>a</sup>Hydrodynamic radii from Superdex 200 gel filtration. Control and tirofiban measurements are mean and s.d. of 3 experiments; other measurements are mean and difference from mean of two experiments, except for eptifibatide and gantofiban which were run once. <sup>b</sup>Conformational states (Zhu et al., 2013). MIDAS metal ion - Ser-123

sidechain oxygen atom distances are shown as mean and difference for the two headpiece molecules in the asymmetric unit.



 ${\bf FIGURE~2.~Chemical~structures~of~integrin~inhibitors.}$ 

Drawings show the active form used here in the case of prodrugs. Compounds are  $\alpha IIb\beta 3$  inhibitors, except for four  $\alpha 4\beta 1$  inhibitors, shown to the right and below of RUC-4.

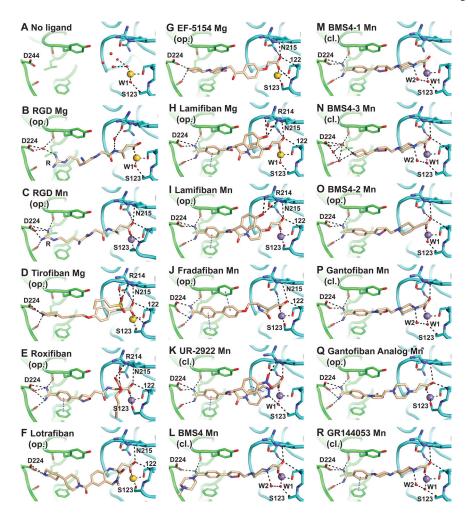


FIGURE 3. Crystal structures of the a IIb  $\beta$ 3 headpiece in complex with inhibitors in  $Mg^{2+}$  or  $Mn^{2+}$ .

**A-R**. Structures of molecule 1 in the asymmetric unit (chains A and B) after soaking indicated compounds (0.1–1 mM) (D-R) in 1 or 5 mM Mg<sup>2+</sup> and 1 mM Ca<sup>2+</sup> or 2 mM Mn<sup>2+</sup> and 0.2 mM Ca<sup>2+</sup> as indicated into closed α.IIbβ3 crystals (Table S1). Opening (op.) or closing (cl.) propensity is noted below each compound name. Comparisons show an unsoaked control (A) PDB ID: 3T3P and 10 mM RGD soaked in presence of 5 mM Mg<sup>2+</sup> and 1 mM Ca<sup>2+</sup> (B) or 2 mM Mn<sup>2+</sup> and 0.1 mM Ca<sup>2+</sup> (C) (chains C, D, and J of PDB IDs 3ZDY and 3ZE2, respectively). Structures are superimposed on the β-propeller and βI domains. α.IIb,  $\beta_3$ , and compounds or RGD are shown with carbons in green, cyan, and wheat, respectively. MIDAS Mg<sup>2+</sup> and Mn<sup>2+</sup> ions are shown as spheres in yellow and purple, respectively. Water molecule oxygens are shown as smaller red spheres. Backbone is shown as worm trace or sticks for residues that hydrogen bond to ligand. Sidechains that interact with ligand are shown in stick. Black dashes represent metal coordination, hydrogen, and  $\pi$ - $\pi$  bonds. Relevant residues are labeled. See also Table S1 and Figures S1 and S2.

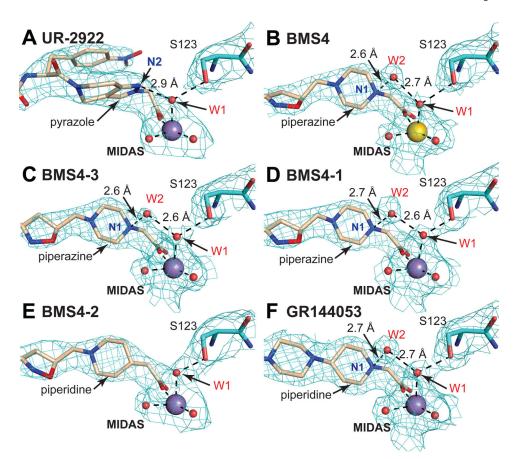


FIGURE 4. Stabilization of the water between the MIDAS metal ion and Ser-123 sidechain by closing antagonists.

(A-F) The environment around the indicated compound substructures near the MIDAS metal ion, waters, and Ser-123 is shown after superposition on the  $\beta$ I domain.  $2F_0$ - $F_c$  electron density (cyan mesh) is contoured around atoms at 1.5  $\sigma$ . Colors are as in Fig. 2 including Mg<sup>2+</sup> and Mn<sup>2+</sup> ions as gold and purple spheres, respectively, and waters as smaller red spheres. Black dashes represent coordination and hydrogen bonds.

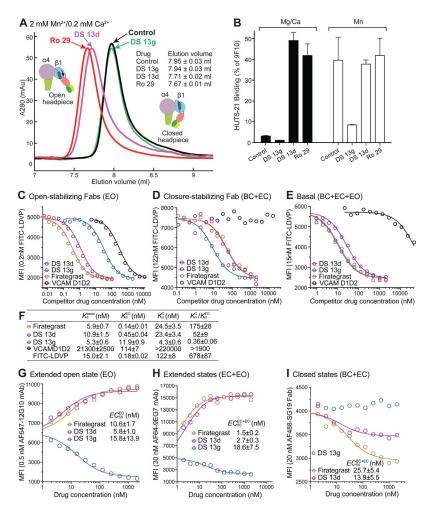


FIGURE 5. Closing and opening α4β1 inhibitors and their conformational preferences. (A) Overlaid size exclusion chromatograms of the  $\alpha 4\beta 1$  headpiece in absence (control) and presence of 10 µM drug in running buffer with Mn<sup>2+</sup>. (**B**) Drug-induced HUTS-21 LIBS epitope exposure in Jurkat T lymphoma cells in 1 mM Mg<sup>2+</sup> and 1 mM Ca<sup>2+</sup> (closed bars) or in 1 mM Mn<sup>2+</sup> (open bars). Mean fluorescence intensity is shown as % of that with antibody 9F10 to the a4 subunit. (C-E) Competition with FITC-LDVP binding by α4β1 inhibitors and VCAM D1D2 (concentration on the y axis) to Jurkat cells in L15 medium with 1% BSA. Mean fluorescence intensity (MFI) was determined by flow cytometry without washing. (C) EO state stabilized with 4µM 9EG7 Fab and 15nM HUTS4 Fab; (D) Closed states stabilized with 5µM SG19 Fab; (E) basal ensemble. Competition experiments were done multiple times with similar results. (F)  $K_d$  and preference for the EO state  $(K_d^c/K_d^{EO})$  from C-E and for FITC-LDVP from (Li and Springer, 2018).  $K_d$  determined from competitive binding assays with nonlinear least square fits and error propagation (Eq.2, Methods). (G-I) Effect of inhibitors on the binding of conformation-specific antibodies to the  $\beta$ 1 subunit. Binding of fluorescently labeled antibodies defined on the y axis was measured by flow cytometry without washing.  $EC_{50}$  values are from fits to Eq.1 with errors from nonlinear least square fits (Methods). No fits are shown when the error was large (one condition each in D and I).

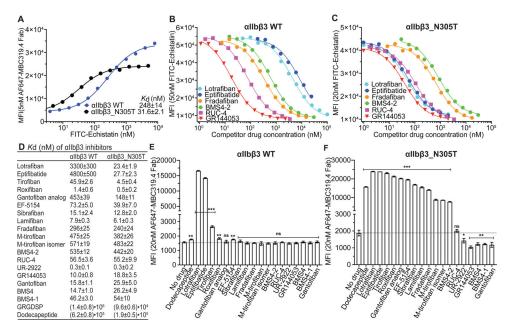


FIGURE 6. Binding affinity and conformational preference of αIIbβ3 inhibitors.

(A) Binding affinity of FITC-echistatin for αIIbβ3 wild type (WT) and αIIbβ3\_N305T transfectants determined using 5 nM Alexa647-MBC319.4 Fab in L15 medium with 0.1% BSA.  $K_d$  was obtained by fitting to Eq. 3 (Methods). Errors are standard fitting errors from the nonlinear least square fits. (B-C) Competition of representative αIIbβ3 inhibitors with FITC-echistatin (concentration on y axis) for binding to αIIbβ3 WT (B) and to αIIbβ3\_N305T (C) on transfectants in L15 medium with 0.1% BSA. Binding assays shown here and in Fig. S3 with other inhibitors were determined multiple times with similar results. Inhibitor concentration range used in the experiment shown was designed based on previous competitive binding curves. (D) Binding affinities determined from competitive binding assays with nonlinear least square fits and error propagation (Eq.4, Methods). (E-F) Effect of αIIbβ3 inhibitors on integrin extension measured with the binding of 20 nM Alexa647-MBC319.4 Fab to α IIbβ3 WT (E) and α IIbβ3\_N305T (F) transfectants by flow cytometry without washing in L15 medium with 0.1% BSA. Inhibitors were used at 100x their K<sub>d</sub> values for α.IIbβ3 WT reported in Panel D. Background MFI of 20 nM Alexa647-MBC319.4 Fab in presence of 2 µM unlabeled MBC319.4 antibody was subtracted from the MFI values of cells treated with or without inhibitors. Binding was measured three times; data show mean and standard deviation. Unpaired two-tailed student's t-test was between the inhibitor and no drug groups: \*: p<0.05; \*\*: p<0.01; \*\*\*: p<0.001. See also Figures S3 and S4.

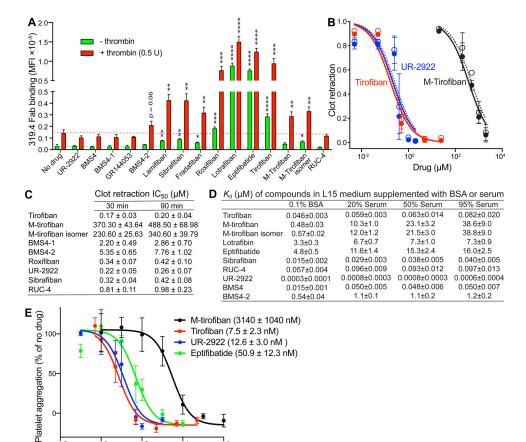


FIGURE 7. Platelet assays and effect of serum on the affinity of aIIbb3 inhibitors.

10<sup>4</sup>

100

102 Drug (nM)

(A) Platelet LIBS exposure. Washed human platelets were pre-incubated with buffer control or αIIbβ3 inhibitors and then treated with or without 0.5 U/ml thrombin and 25 nM Alexa647-conjugated MBC319.4 Fab. Binding was measured by flow cytometry and shown as MFI. Data are mean  $\pm$  s.d. from three independent experiments. Unpaired two-tailed t test was between the inhibitor and control groups; \* p < 0.05; \*\* p < 0.01; \*\*\* p < 0.001; \*\*\*\* p < 0.0001. (**B**) Plots of inhibition of clot retraction (1 - (clot area/whole reaction))area)) for three representative α IIbβ3 inhibitors measured at 30 mins (closed circles) and 90 mins (open circles). (C)  $IC_{50}$  values for inhibition of clot retraction by  $\alpha IIb\beta 3$  inhibitors. (**D**) Binding affinities of αIIbβ3 inhibitors determined by competing with FITC-echistatin binding to WT αIIbβ3 transfectant in L15 medium supplemented with 0.1% BSA (from Fig. 6) or with different concentrations of serum (Supplementary Fig.S5 B, C). K<sub>d</sub><sup>inhibitor</sup> values were determined from nonlinear least square fits (Eq.4, Methods). Errors are standard fitting errors from nonlinear least square fits. Experiments were repeated multiple times with similar results. (E) Inhibition of whole blood platelet aggregation by selected α.Πbβ3 inhibitors measured by impedance aggregometry. Data are mean  $\pm$  s.e.m. (n = 3 different donors). See also Figures S5, S6, and S7.

# KEY RESOURCES TABLE

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REAGENT or RESOURCE	SOURCE	IDENTIFIER
Antibodies	•	
12G10	(Mould et al., 1995) Hybridoma from Martin Humphries	Produced from hybridoma in lab
9EG7	(Lenter et al., 1993) Hybridoma from Dietmar Vestweber	Produced from hybridoma in lab
SG/19	(Miyake et al., 1992) Hybridoma from Jun Takagi	Produced from hybridoma in lab
MBC319.4	(Zhang et al., 2013) Hybridoma from Richard Aster	Produced from hybridoma in lab
LIBS1	(Frelinger et al., 1990) Hybridoma from Mark Ginsberg	Produced from hybridoma in lab
AP5	(Kekomaki et al., 1991) Antibody from Dan Bougie, Versiti	Cat#153747
HUTS4, HUTS-21	(Luque et al., 1996) Hybridoma from Carlos Cabamas	Produced from hybridoma in lab
mAb16	(Akiyama et al., 1989) Hybridoma from Kenneth Yamada	Produced from hybridoma in lab
17E6	(Mitjans et al., 1995) Antibody from Simon Goodman, Merck KGA	
Chemicals, Peptides, and Recombinant Proteins		
Thrombin	Sigma-Aldrich	Cat#10602400001
Prostaglandin E1	Sigma-Aldrich	Cat#P5515
FITC-echistatin	US Biological	Cat#E0256-01A.1
FITC-LDVP	Tocris Bioscience	Cat#4577
Alexa Fluor <sup>™</sup> 647 NHS Ester	Thermo Fisher Scientific	Cat#A20006
Alexa Fluor <sup>™</sup> 488 NHS Ester	Thermo Fisher Scientific	Cat#A20000
Dodecapeptide (HHLGGAKQAGDV)	Phoenix Pharmaceuticals	Cat#025-35
Tirofiban	Merck	CAS 144494-65-5
Eptifibatide	Sigma-Aldrich	SML1042; CAS 188627-80-7
Orbofiban (active form)	Pfizer	CAS 199530-77-3
Roxifiban (active form)	This paper	CAS 170725-15-2
Lotrafiban (active form)	This paper	CAS 171049-14-2
Lamifiban	Roche	CAS 144412-49-7
Sibrafiban (active form)	Roche	CAS 144412-18-0
Fradafiban (active form)	This paper	CAS 148396-36-5
EF-5154	Meiji Seika Pharma	CAS 177276-17-4
UR-2922	This paper	CAS 220386-56-1
BMS4	This paper	CAS 270593-59-4
BMS4-1	This paper	CAS 270088-90-9
BMS4–3	This paper	N/A

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REAGENT or RESOURCE	SOURCE	IDENTIFIER
BMS4-2	This paper	CAS 270088-87-4
GR144058	Sigma-Aldrich	G6418; CAS 150040-23-6
Gantofiban	This paper	CAS 167364-04-7
Gantofiban analog	This paper	CAS 167364-14-9
RUC-4	Barry Coller	CAS 1448313-27-6
M-tirofiban (both isomers)	This paper	(S)-isomer: CAS 2410607-77-9; (R)-isomer: N/A
Firategrast	Apexbio	Cat#A3415 CAS 402567-16-2
Ro 29	Roche	CAS 1421673-59-7
DS 13d	Tocris Bioscience	Cat#TCS 2314 CAS 317353-73-4
DS 13g	This paper	CAS 819078-63-2
Deposited Data		
Drug-bound αIIbβ3 structures	This paper	PDB accession IDs for structures are in Table S1
Drug-bound α.IIbβ3 structure diffraction images		SBGRID accession IDs for diffraction images are in Table S1: https://data.sbgrid.org/data/
Experimental Models: Cell Lines		
Jurkat	ATCC	Cat#TIB-152
Expi293F	Thermo Fisher Scientific	Cat# A14527
Expi293F a5&aV knock-out cells	This paper	N/A
HEK293 expression αllbβ3 with GAAKR mutant	(Luo et al., 2004)	N/A
Recombinant DNA		
PD2529 CAG a.IIb full length	This paper	Addgene Plasmid #189796
PD2529 CAG β3 full length	This paper	Addgene Plasmid #189797
PD2529 CAG β3_N305T full length	This paper	Addgene Plasmid #189798
pSpCas9n(BB)-2A-puro	(Ran et al., 2013)	Addgene Plasmid #4814
Software and Algorithms		
Mathematica	Wolfram Mathematica version 12	https://www.wolfram.com/mathematica/
Function F in Eq. 4 and its derivation	This paper	Mathematica file Equation4.nb
Phenix	(Adams et al., 2010)	http://www.phenix-online.org
XDS	(Kabsch, 2010)	xds.mpimf-heidelberg.mpg.de
COOT	(Emsley et al., 2010)	http://www2.mrc-lmb.cam.ac.uk/personal/ pemsley/coot
Maestro, Prime, and Epik	Schrödinger Inc.	https://www.schrodinger.com
PyMOL	Schrödinger Inc.	https://pymol.org/2/
SciFinder	https://scifinder-n.cas.org	https://scifinder-n.cas.org
Plot2	Apple Inc. App store	https://plotdoc.micw.org
Prism9	GraphPad	https://www.graphpad.com/scientific-software/ prism/

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