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Selective and Cell-Active PBRM1 Bromodomain Inhibitors Discovered through NMR Fragment Screening

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S.S synthesized compounds; S.S. optimized and performed AlphaScreen; S.S. and M.E.B. performed DSF assays; R.N. and K.L.B. optimized and performed ITC assays; D.R.J. performed fragment screening and NMR titrations; M.D.O. analyzed fragment screen and NMR titration data; F.C.P. performed NMR protein backbone assignments; M.D.O. and T.G.F. performed computational docking; R.N., C.J.G., K.L.B., M.E.B., and S.S. performed protein purification; B.P.S. performed cellular assays with PBRM1 ligands with assistance from M.K.R.; S.C.O. performed cellular assays with PBRM1 knockdown; C.J.G. and B.C.S. conceived and initiated the study. S.S., K.L.B., and B.C.S. wrote the manuscript with contributions from E.C.D.; B.C.S., E.C.D., and B.F.V. supervised the study and obtained funding; All authors reviewed and approved the final version of the manuscript.

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Supporting Information

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IC₅₀ curves, supplementary figures, supplementary synthesis schemes, supplementary tables, titration data of compounds (PDF) Molecular formula strings of compounds (CSV)

Crystal structure of PBRM1-BD2 (6ZN6) (Figure 6C) (PDB)

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Abstract

PBRM1 is a subunit of the PBAF chromatin remodeling complex that uniquely contains six bromodomains. PBRM1 can operate as a tumor suppressor or tumor promoter. PBRM1 is a tumor promoter in prostate cancer, contributing to migratory and immunosuppressive phenotypes. Selective chemical probes targeting PBRM1 bromodomains are desired to elucidate the association between aberrant PBRM1 chromatin binding and cancer pathogenesis and the contributions of PBRM1 to immunotherapy. Previous PBRM1 inhibitors unselectively bind SMARCA2 and SMARCA4 bromodomains with nanomolar potency. We used our proteindetected NMR screening pipeline to screen 1968 fragments against the second PBRM1 bromodomain, identifying 17 hits with K_d values from 45 μ M to >2 mM. Structure–activity relationship studies on the tightest-binding hit resulted in nanomolar inhibitors with selectivity for PBRM1 over SMARCA2 and SMARCA4. These chemical probes inhibit the association of full-length PBRM1 to acetylated histone peptides and selectively inhibit growth of a PBRM1dependent prostate cancer cell line.

Graphical Abstract



INTRODUCTION

Post-translational modification of histones and other nuclear proteins epigenetically regulates gene expression without altering the underlying genomic sequence. Lysine acetylation is a particularly abundant epigenetic modification with widespread influence over transcription.¹ Bromodomains bind acetyl-lysine residues on histone tails and other nuclear proteins to facilitate acetylation-dependent protein–protein interactions. The human genome encodes 61 bromodomains distributed across 46 different proteins.² Based on similarities in sequence and structure, bromodomains are further divided into eight subfamilies.² Polybromo-1 (PBRM1) is a member of the bromodomain family VIII.^{2,3} PBRM1 uniquely contains six consecutive bromodomains.^{2,3} PBRM1 is a subunit of the PBRM1-BRG1/BRM-associated factors (PBAF) complex, a member of the ATP-dependent SWItch/sucrose nonfermenting (SWI/SNF) chromatin remodeling complex family.³

Bromodomains are implicated in the pathogenesis of various disease states, including cancer,⁴ inflammation,^{4,5} autoimmune,^{4,5} and neurological disorders.⁶ Canonically, PBRM1 is characterized as a tumor suppressor and gene regulator via the chromatin-targeting function of PBAF.⁷ To this end, mutations in the *PBRM1* gene are frequently observed in cancer, specifically in clear cell renal cell carcinoma (ccRCC),⁸ suggesting a tumorsuppressive role. However, patients with metastatic ccRCC and loss of PBRM1 gene function show improved response to anti-PD1 cancer immunotherapy compared to patients with PBRM1 gene function intact.9 Also, the expression of T-cell cytotoxicity genes is inversely correlated with PBRM1 expression in many human cancers.^{9,10} Mice inoculated with Pbrm1-deficient B16F10 tumor cells exhibited delayed tumor growth and extended survival rate after treatment with anti-PD1 cancer immunotherapy.¹⁰ PBRM1 is tumorpromoting in prostate cancer, where it increases the expression of antioxidant genes to mitigate oxidative stress and contributes to a migratory and invasive phenotype via expression of genes that regulate the epithelial-mesenchymal transition.¹¹⁻¹³ Furthermore, PBRM1 induces immunosuppressive IRF1 target genes in prostate cancer, including those that inhibit the function of cytotoxic T lymphocytes.¹⁴ Taken together, PBRM1 inhibitors may be useful clinically for prostate cancer, especially because they have the potential to be used in combination with cancer immunotherapies as sensitizing agents. However, the role

of PBRM1 in cancer is context-dependent, which emphasizes the need for selective PBRM1 inhibitors as chemical probes or for further development into clinical candidates.

A few pan-inhibitors of the bromodomain family VIII have been reported. The first chemical probe reported was PFI-3 (1, Figure 1),^{15,16} developed from a salicylic acid fragment. PFI-3 shows selectivity for family VIII bromodomains and unusual binding mode by displacing structural water molecules, otherwise conserved in other bromodomains. Other inhibitors targeting the fifth bromodomain of PBRM1 (PBRM1-BD5) include quinazolinones (2),^{17,18} isochromanones (3),¹⁹ and 6-aminopyrazines (4) (Figure 1);²⁰ however, none of these previously reported compounds are selective toward PBRM1 bromodomains, especially within family VIII bromodomains. PFI-3 (1),^{15,16} fused quinazolines (2),¹⁸ and 6-aminopyrazines (4)²⁰ exhibit nanomolar binding toward the PBRM1-BD5, SMARCA2, and SMARCA4 bromodomains. Fused isochromanones (3)¹⁹ exhibit moderate binding affinities toward PBRM1-BD5 and limited stability and solubility. The development of fused guinazolines into LM146¹⁷ selective to PBRM1 was recently published; however, LM146 still binds the SMARCA2B bromodomain with low micromolar affinity. Thus, there is an unmet need for a selective chemical probe for PBRM1 over closely related bromodomains to investigate the biological function of PBRM1 and as a starting point for clinical development.

As detailed above, previous studies demonstrated that targeting PBRM1-BD5 results in off-target effects also binding to bromodomains of SMARCA2 and SMARCA4;15,16,18,20 We hypothesized that targeting one of the other five PBRM1 bromodomains that are less homologous to the SMARCA2 and SMARCA4 bromodomains would improve PBRM1 selectivity. PBRM1-BD1 does not have the conserved Asn residue necessary for acetyllysine binding in its pocket and therefore is not critical for chromatin binding and not a preferred target;^{2,21} PBRM1-BD3 and PBRM1-BD6 are not thought to bind histone acetyl-lysine residues and therefore inhibiting these bromodomains is not predicted to displace the PBAF complex from acetylated chromatin.⁷ Our previous studies showed that PBRM1 function as a growth and gene expression regulator is dependent on the second bromodomain mediating PBAF binding to chromatin.⁷ and an NMR structure of PBRM1-BD2 was solved previously,²¹ indicating PBRM1-BD2 is amenable to NMR studies. Therefore, we targeted PBRM1-BD2 by using a protein-detected NMR-based fragment screen with the overall goal of selective inhibition of PBRM1 function. The fragment screen identified five unique scaffolds not previously reported to bind bromodomains. We report detailed structure-activity relationship (SAR) studies of the tightest binding fragment hit, resulting in a series of nanomolar-potent and selective inhibitors of PBRM1 that inhibit the growth of PBRM1-dependent prostate cancer cell lines. Partial SAR studies on the second-tightest binding hit are also reported. The reported compounds exhibit excellent selectivity for PBRM1 bromodomains compared to other bromodomains within the family VIII and the broader bromodomain superfamily.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Protein-Detected NMR Fragment Screening of the Second Bromodomain of PBRM1.

Protein-detected NMR-based fragment screening provides information about both binding affinity and the amino acid residues involved in binding. Our recent success with the second bromodomain of BRD4²² prompted us to adopt the same biophysical technique to develop inhibitors of the second bromodomain of PBRM1 (PBRM1-BD2). The available solution structure (PDB 2KTB) of PBRM1-BD2 indicated that PBRM1-BD2 is amenable to protein-detected NMR approaches.²¹ Commercial libraries from Maybridge and Zenobia consisting of 1968 total fragments, all following the "rule of three"²³ and an average molecular weight of 154 Da, ranging from 94-286 Da, were screened against PBRM1-BD2 using protein-detected NMR. 1H-15N SOFAST-HMQC NMR spectra were recorded with uniformly ¹⁵N-labeled PBRM1-BD2 with mixtures of 12 fragments (12-plex). In each screening step, "hit" samples were identified using a combination of difference intensity analysis (DIA), principal component analysis (PCA), and manual inspection of spectral overlays as we recently described.²² The hit 12-plex samples were then parsed into four pools of 3 compounds (3-plex), followed by individual fragments from the 3-plex mixture hits to identify the fragment responsible for the observed chemical shift perturbations in the HMQC spectra. The screen identified 27 12-plex hits, which gave 24 3-plex hits, which subsequently yielded 17 individual fragment hits (Figure 2, Supporting Information (SI) Figure S1), with a hit rate of 1.2% (Figure 2) and 0.7% (SI, Figure S1) for the Maybridge and Zenobia libraries, respectively. The fragment hits manifested varied K_{d} values ranging from 45 μ M to >2 mM, calculated by plotting chemical shift perturbations of amino acid residues of PBRM1-BD2 against increasing concentrations of the fragment (Table 1, Figure 3, SI, Figures S2–S11). Varied scaffolds were identified as hits, including quinazolinones, acridones, chromanones, tetrazoles, indenones, indoles, thiazoles, and thioamides.

The tightest binding inhibitor was a 2-phenyldihydroquinazolinone (**5**), giving a K_d value of 45.3 μ M (Table 1, Figure 3), as determined by NMR titrations and ligand efficiency (LE) of 0.31. With a K_d value of 79 μ M (Table 1, SI, Figure S2), the second-tightest binder was an acridone scaffold containing carboxylic acid (**6**) and an LE of 0.33. Fragment binding to PBRM1 was also supported by differential scanning fluorimetry (DSF) with measured positive thermal shifts (T_m) of 1.0 ± 0.2 °C for **5** and 1.5 ± 1.0 °C for **6** (Table 1) compared to the apoprotein. DSF measures protein unfolding by monitoring the fluorescence of the SYPRO Orange dye as a function of temperature as the dye binds to exposed hydrophobic regions of the unfolding protein; positive thermal shifts indicate ligand binding-induced stabilization of the protein. Displaying the tightest affinity of the fragment hits, the dihydroquinazolinone (**5**) and acridone (**6**) scaffolds were selected for further optimization.

Structure–Activity Relationship Studies of the Tightest-Binding Fragment.

In the previous development of PBRM1-BD5 inhibitors,¹⁸ the introduction of chlorine at the C-5 position of quinazolinone scaffold (Figure 4A) improved binding affinity by >10-fold. On crystallization of **2** with PBRM1-BD5, the chlorine of **2** was observed to form a halogen bond with the backbone carbonyl of Met731.¹⁸ The homologous residue is Leu255

in PBRM1-BD2. Superposition of PBRM1-BD5 bound to **2** (PDB 5FH7; quinazolinone scaffold) and PBRM1-BD2 bound to **4** (PDB 6ZN6; aminopyridazine scaffold) indicated the backbone carbonyl of Leu255 is within 3 Å of the chlorine of **2**. Therefore, we hypothesized that PBRM1-BD2 would form a similar halogen bond between the chlorine on the quinazolinone scaffold and the carbonyl oxygen of Leu255 in PBRM1-BD2.

To test this hypothesis, we synthesized the previously reported 7 and its nonchlorine analogue 8 by following a published synthetic route (SI, Scheme S1).¹⁸ Compound 7 was previously reported to bind PBRM1-BD2 solely based on a DSF assay without further biophysical characterization or development of 7.18 One reason could be the promiscuity of 7, as 7 also showed a $T_{\rm m}$ of >2.5 °C with the SMARCA2/4 bromodomains in DSF assays. The *in vitro* inhibitory activity of 7 and 8 was tested using our optimized competition-based amplified luminescent proximity homogeneous assay (AlphaScreen), a bead-based assay to quantify biomolecular interactions. In this AlphaScreen assay, the interaction between a biotinylated histone H3K14acetyl peptide and His₆-tagged PBRM1-BD2 brings the streptavidin-coated donor and the Ni²⁺-chelate acceptor beads in close proximity, increasing the Alpha count signal; inhibition of this bromodomain:acetyllysine interaction via small molecules was quantified by the loss in Alpha counts in a concentration-dependent manner. A >30-fold increase in potency of 7 (IC₅₀ = $0.2 \pm 0.02 \mu$ M, Figure 4B) relative to 8 $(IC_{50} = 6.3 \pm 1.4 \mu M, Figure 4B)$ was observed toward PBRM1-BD2. Isothermal titration calorimetry (ITC) was used to further assess the binding affinity of the compounds to the bromodomains of PBRM1-BD2, PBRM1-BD5, and SMARCA4, giving K_d values of 0.7 μ M, 0.35 μ M, and 5.0 μ M for 7, and 6.9 μ M, 3.3 μ M, and no detectable binding for 8 (Figure 4C, Table 2), respectively. In DSF assays using the PBRM1-BD2, PBRM1-BD5, SMARCA2B, and SMARCA4 bromodomains, **7** showed a $T_{\rm m}$ of 7.7 °C, 11.0 °C, 3.0 °C, and 3.1 °C (Figure 4A, SI, Table S1), respectively, compared to the apoprotein. Compounds 7 and 8 did not bind to the ASH1L bromodomain, as evaluated by ITC (Table 2). Overall, the binding affinity toward PBRM1-BD2 improved by at least 10-fold by introducing chlorine at the C-5 position of the quinazolinone scaffold.

Based on the halogen bond observed in the previous structure of PBRM1-BD5 bound to 2¹⁸ and our binding studies (Figure 4), SAR studies of our tightest binding hit (5) were initiated by first introducing chlorine to the C-5 position. To access analogues of the dihydroquinazolinone scaffold, the synthetic route depicted in Scheme 1 was used. Basic hydrolysis of 2-aminobenzonitriles (9a–f) resulted in 2-aminobenzamides (10a–f). Condensation of 2-aminobenzamides with benzaldehydes to form dihydroquinazolinones (11–26, 31–35) required added base; absence of base resulted in imine formation (27–28, SI, Scheme S2).

Chlorine substitution at the C-5 position of dihydroquinazolinone scaffold of **5** (IC₅₀ = 4.2 \pm 1.3 μ M, Table 3, SI, Figure S12), resulting in **11** (IC₅₀ = 1.0 \pm 0.2 μ M, Table 3, SI, Figure S12), displayed >4-fold increase in potency toward PBRM1-BD2, as determined by AlphaScreen assays. As assessed by ITC, the binding affinity of **11** to the bromodomains of PBRM1-BD2, PBRM1-BD5, and SMARCA4 was >2-fold tighter than **5**, as displayed by *K*_d values of 9.3 μ M, 10.1 μ M, and 69 μ M for **11**, and 18.4 μ M, 179 μ M, and 142 μ M for **5** (Table 2), respectively. Although the potency/binding affinity of **11** was 2-fold

better than **5** for PBRM1-BD2, **5** and **11** also bound to the bromodomains of SMARCA2B and SMARCA4 (Table 2); thus, we initiated additional SAR studies to improve inhibitor selectivity within the members of bromodomain family VIII.

SAR Studies on the Phenyl Ring Substituted at the 2-Position of the Quinazolinone Fragment.

Analogues **12–14** were synthesized to investigate the importance of halogen substitution on the phenyl ring substituted at the 2-position (hereafter referred to as ring A; Scheme 1) of the quinazolinone scaffold of **5**. The inhibitory potency of this series (**12**, IC₅₀ = 1.1 \pm 0.2 μ M; **13**, IC₅₀ = 1.7 \pm 0.3 μ M; **14**, IC₅₀ = 2.1 \pm 0.4 μ M; Table 3, SI, Figure S12) toward PBRM1-BD2, as determined by AlphaScreen, was equivalent to **11** (IC₅₀ = 1.0 \pm 0.2 μ M). Similarly, in DSF assays using PBRM1-BD2, **12–14** showed similar positive *T*_m shifts (Table 3). These AlphaScreen and DSF results indicate that the halogens substituted on ring A of **11** do not improve potency toward PBRM1-BD2.

Based on the similarity in the structures of second and fifth bromodomains of PBRM1, we hypothesized that the carbonyl of the dihydroquinazolinone scaffold interacts with the conserved Asn263 of PBRM1-BD2 and the residues on the ZA and BC loops form a hydrophobic pocket. Therefore, we evaluated the introduction of methyl groups at different positions of ring A, resulting in the synthesis of compounds 15–17. Substitution of a methyl group at ortho or meta position of ring A, as in 15 (IC₅₀ = $0.2 \pm 0.04 \mu$ M) and 16 $(IC_{50} = 0.26 \pm 0.04 \mu M)$ (Table 3, SI, Figure S12), resulted in >4-fold improvement in PBRM1-BD2 inhibition. The concentration of the PBRM1-BD2 protein in the AlphaScreen assay was $0.2 \,\mu$ M, thus for **15** and **16**, we were reaching the detection limit of the assay. Compounds 15 and 16 displayed equivalent inhibition as the previously reported unselective compound 7^{18} (IC₅₀ = 0.2 ± 0.02 μ M; Figure 4A/B). Importantly, **15** and **16** did not exhibit detectable thermal stabilization or binding affinity toward the SMARCA2B and SMARCA4 bromodomains as assessed by DSF and ITC (Figure 5A, Table 2, SI, Table S1). Substitutions of methyl or methoxy at the para position of ring A, as in 17 (IC₅₀ = $0.87 \pm 0.14 \mu$ M) and 18 (IC₅₀ = $2.3 \pm 0.3 \mu$ M), did not improve PBRM1-BD2 inhibition with 17 having potency equivalent to the unsubstituted phenyl analogue 11 (IC₅₀ = $1.0 \pm 0.2 \mu$ M). Compound 19 $(IC_{50} = 50 \pm 11 \,\mu M)$, an analogue of **15** without the -Cl substitution at the C-5 position, showed a 250-fold decrease in potency toward PBRM1-BD2 relative to 15 (IC₅₀ = $0.2 \pm$ 0.04 μ M), emphasizing the importance of halogen bond formation. Compound 20 (IC₅₀ = $5.6 \pm 1.0 \,\mu$ M), with substitution of trifluoromethyl at the meta position of ring A, resulted in a 22-fold decrease in potency relative to the meta methyl analogue 16 (IC $_{50}$ = 0.26 \pm 0.04 μ M) toward PBRM1-BD2. In DSF assays with PBRM1-BD2, **15** and **16** showed $T_{\rm m}$ shifts of 5.4 °C, while 17 and 18 showed $T_{\rm m}$ shifts of 3.4 °C, consistent with the AlphaScreen results. As assessed by ITC, compound 16 exhibited K_d values of $1.5 \pm 0.9 \,\mu$ M and 3.9 \pm 2.6 μ M toward PBRM1-BD2 and PBRM1-BD5 (Figure 5B, Table 2), respectively, and no detectable binding toward the SMARCA2B and SMARCA4 bromodomains (Figure 5C, Table 2). Importantly, compound 16 ($K_d = 1.5 \mu M$) manifested binding affinity within error of the literature reported value for 7 ($K_d = 0.7 \,\mu M$)¹⁸ with significantly improved selectivity for the PBRM1 bromodomains over the SMARCA2B and SMARCA4 bromodomains, as assessed by ITC and DSF (Table 2, Figure 5A/C). Compound 16, to our knowledge, is

the most selective inhibitor of PBRM1 reported in the literature and serves as an excellent starting point for the further design of selective PBRM1 chemical probes.

Encouraged by the inhibition data of 15 and 16, analogues 21–26 with multiple methyl substituents on ring A were synthesized and evaluated for inhibition of acetyl-lysine histone peptide binding to PBRM1-BD2. Substitution of methyl group at the ortho position(s) of ring A of the para methyl analogue 17 (IC₅₀ = $0.87 \pm 0.14 \mu$ M), resulting in 21 (IC₅₀ = 0.86 $\pm 0.15 \,\mu$ M) and 22 (IC₅₀ = 1.3 $\pm 0.3 \,\mu$ M), did not improve potency toward PBRM1-BD2. Compound 22 exhibited solubility issues in the AlphaScreen assay, perhaps resulting in apparent weaker potency toward PBRM1-BD2. Compound 23 (IC₅₀ > 70 μ M), with methyl groups substituted at both meta positions of ring A, resulted in no detectable binding toward PBRM1-BD2. Compounds 24–26 (24, IC₅₀ = $0.43 \pm 0.04 \mu$ M; 25, IC₅₀ = $0.22 \pm 0.02 \mu$ M; **26**, IC₅₀ = $0.29 \pm 0.05 \mu$ M) had similar potencies to **16** (IC₅₀ = $0.26 \pm 0.04 \mu$ M) against PBRM1-BD2, as determined by AlphaScreen, and did not improve the IC₅₀ values. This is potentially because the concentration of PBRM1-BD2 used in the AlphaScreen assay was $0.2 \,\mu$ M, and therefore we may have reached the detection limit of the AlphaScreen assay. In DSF assays using PBRM1-BD2, 21–26 (except 23) showed positive $T_{\rm m}$ shifts of 3.9 °C relative to apoprotein. Through these SAR studies of the phenyl ring, we obtained a series of inhibitors (11-18, 21-22, 24-26) that exhibited up to 21-fold improved potency compared to the initial hit, 5, identified by the protein-detected NMR fragment screen.

SAR Studies of the Dihydropyrimidone Ring of the Quinazolinone Scaffold.

We next investigated the importance of the dihydropyrimidinone ring for the potency of the compounds against PBRM1-BD2. The ring-opened analogue of **5** (IC₅₀ = 4.2 ± 1.3 μ M), compound **27** (IC₅₀ = 119 ± 3 μ M; SI, Scheme S2), and the ring-opened analogue of **11** (IC₅₀ = 1.0 ± 0.2 μ M), compound **28** (IC₅₀ = 17 ± 4 μ M; SI, Scheme S2), displayed 17-fold decrease in potency toward PBRM1-BD2, however **28** was >4-fold more potent than **27** (IC₅₀ = 119 ± 3 μ M), further validating the halogen bond formation hypothesis. Compound **29** (benzoxazinone; SI, Scheme S3) and **30** (quinazolinone; SI, Scheme S3) displayed IC₅₀ > 70 μ M against PBRM1-BD2, emphasizing the importance of the dihydropyrimidone aniline –NH for potency. Also, in DSF assays using PBRM1-BD2, compounds **27**, **28**, **29**, and **30** (Table 3) did not show thermal stabilization, consistent with our AlphaScreen results. Hence, the dihydropyrimidinone ring is critical for the potency toward PBRM1-BD2.

SAR Studies at the C-5 Position of Quinazolinone Scaffold.

As detailed above, chlorine introduction at the C-5 position of 5 (IC₅₀ = $4.2 \pm 1.3 \mu$ M), resulting in **11** (IC₅₀ = $1.0 \pm 0.2 \mu$ M), led to a 4-fold increase in potency toward PBRM1-BD2. Substitutions, except at the C-5 position, on the benzene ring of the quinazolinone structure are reported to be detrimental to potency toward PBRM1-BD2.¹⁷ To further determine the best substituent at the C-5 position of the dihydroquinazolinone scaffold, analogues **31–35** were synthesized. Methoxy substitution at C-5 (**31**, IC₅₀ > 70 μ M) was detrimental to PBRM1-BD2 binding, which may be explained by a steric clash between the larger methoxy group and the amide backbone of the protein and a loss in halogen bonding. Substitution of methyl at the C-5 position (**33**, IC₅₀ = $1.3 \pm 0.4 \mu$ M) was preferred over fluorine (**32**, IC₅₀ = $5.6 \pm 1.5 \mu$ M) for inhibition of PBRM1-BD2; bromine substitution at

the C-5 position (**34**, IC₅₀ = 0.16 ± 0.02 μ M; **35**, IC₅₀ = 0.29 ± 0.04 μ M) showed equivalent potency to **16** (IC₅₀ = 0.26 ± 0.04 μ M) or **15** (IC₅₀ = 0.2 ± 0.04 μ M), as determined by AlphaScreen. In DSF assays using PBRM1-BD2, **31** did not show thermal stabilization, **32–33** showed a $T_{\rm m}$ of 1.8 °C, and **34–35** showed a $T_{\rm m}$ of 4.0 °C, consistent with our AlphaScreen results. Thus, the substitution of chlorine or bromine at the C-5 position of the quinazolinone was preferred to improve potency and may halogen bond with the amide backbone of PBRM1. Fluorine substitution did not improve the potency, consistent with fluorine not being capable of forming halogen bonds.²⁴

Selectivity Profiling Against Other Bromodomains.

Using DSF assays, we evaluated the selectivity profile of selected compounds exhibiting $T_{\rm m}$ 3.9 °C toward PBRM1-BD2 against a panel of up to 30 bromodomains, depending on the compound, in seven bromodomain subfamilies. We tested nine bromodomains from family VIII, including all six PBRM1 bromodomains, SMARCA2B, SMARCA4, and ASH1L; TAF1L-BD2 from family VII; BAZ2B and TRIM33B from family V; ATAD2B, BRD1, BRD7 (a subunit of the PBAF complex), and BRPF1B from family IV; BRWD1-BD2, CREBBP, PHIP-BD2, and p300 from family III; six members from bromodomain and extraterminal domain (BET) family (BRD2-BD2, BRD3-BD1, BRD3-BD2, BRD4-BD1, BRD4-BD2, and BRDT-BD1) from family II; and BPTF, CECR2, GCN5, and PCAF from family I. Compound 15 showed a $T_{\rm m}$ of 5.4 °C toward PBRM1-BD2 and $T_{\rm m}$ of >2 °C toward PBRM1-BD3 and PBRM1-BD5 and no significant thermal stabilization (<1 °C) of the other tested bromodomains (Figure 5A, SI, Table S1). Compound 16 showed a $T_{\rm m}$ of 5.4 °C toward PBRM1-BD2 and moderate $T_{\rm m}$ shifts of 1.8 °C toward PBRM1-BD3 and PBRM1-BD5 (Figure 5A/D, SI, Table S1) with complete selectivity for the PBRM1 bromodomains among the tested bromodomains. Compound 26 was broadly selective for PBRM1, depicting a $T_{\rm m}$ of 5.2 °C for PBRM1-BD2 and a $T_{\rm m}$ of >4 °C for PBRM1-BD3 and PBRM1-BD5 (Figure 5A, SI, Table S1); compound 26 could be developed to simultaneously target multiple bromodomains of PBRM1. Compound 34 showed an excellent $T_{\rm m}$ of 6.4 °C toward PBRM1-BD2 and $T_{\rm m}$ of ~1.5 °C for PBRM1-BD1 and PBRM-BD5 (Figure 5A, SI, Table S1). In contrast, the previously reported 2^{18} (SI, Scheme S4) and 7^{18} showed $T_{\rm m}$ values of 3.3 and 7.7 °C for PBRM1-BD2 and 7.7 and 11 °C for PBRM1-BD5 and also a significant $T_{\rm m}$ of 2 °C for both the SMARCA2B and SMARCA4 bromodomains (Figure 5A/D, SI, Table S1), as previously reported.¹⁸ In summary, all tested compounds developed herein were selective to the PBRM1 bromodomains over other tested bromodomains; the previously reported 2^{18} and 7^{18} were unselective and exhibited positive thermal stabilization toward other family VIII bromodomains, as shown previously.¹⁸

Molecular Modeling and Correlation with NMR Chemical Shift Perturbation.

Slow intermediate exchange was observed when **16** was titrated against PBRM1-BD2, leading to peak intensity loss of protein residues at lower concentrations of **16** (25 μ M, 50 μ M, 100 μ M) (Figure 6A). To correlate chemical shift perturbations (CSPs) with predicted binding poses, we performed Glide docking of **16** using the XP precision setting (which parses individual residue contribution to the overall Glide score) into a recent crystal

structure of PBRM1-BD2 with the small molecule ligand removed (PDB 6ZN6 chain A). We found a close correlation (Figure 6B) between the observed interaction of 16 with PBRM1-BD2, as measured by protein-detected NMR CSPs, and the per residue interaction scores, as generated by the XP precision scoring algorithm,²⁵ for our best pose (Figure 6C). In our best pose, the Asn263 ($E_{int} = -2.2$ kcal/mol) amide hydrogen-bonds to carbonyl oxygen of dihydropyrimidone ring of 16 (Figure 6D), consistent with the line broadening observed for the neighboring Glu264 and the corresponding favorable per residue interaction scores.²⁵ As discussed above, the Leu255 carbonyl oxygen likely forms a halogen bond with the chlorine at the C-5 position of the quinazolinone scaffold of 16 (Figure 6D), as supported by the observed CSP of >1 σ from the mean for Leu255 and the line broadening observed for the neighboring Ala256. Our docked model also suggests that Leu255 participates in stabilizing van der Waals interactions with 16 ($E_{vdw} = -1.9$ kcal/mol). Leu207 ($E_{int} = -3.1$ kcal/mol), Phe208 ($E_{int} = -4.8$ kcal/mol), Leu211 ($E_{int} = -3.0$ kcal/mol), Ile228 ($E_{int} = -1.4$ kcal/mol), and Val269 ($E_{int} = -1.5$ kcal/mol) likely form a hydrophobic core interacting with bound 16 (Figure 6D), as supported by observed CSPs (> 2σ or line broadening) and the E_{int} in our docked model for these residues. Tyr217 (CSP > 1 σ , $E_{\text{int}} = -2.4$ kcal/mol) and Tyr262 (line broadening; $E_{int} = -3.4$ kcal/mol) also manifested large CSPs and E_{int} energies, suggesting formation of π -CH interactions between Tyr phenyl rings with the meta methyl group on the phenyl ring of 16 (Figure 6D).

SAR Studies of the Second-Tightest Binding Fragment Hit.

Preliminary SAR studies on the second-best fragment, **6**, consisting of an acridone scaffold, were also performed. Compounds **36–39** (SI, Scheme S5) were synthesized to assess their improvements in potency toward PBRM1-BD2. **37** (IC₅₀ = 7 μ M; SI, Table S2), with chlorine substituted at the C-8 position of acridone ring, manifested a 17-fold increase in potency toward PBRM1-BD2 compared to **6** (IC₅₀ = 127 ± 30 μ M; SI, Table S2). Compound **37** also exhibited a $T_{\rm m}$ of 3.0 °C compared to 1.5 °C for **6**. The improved potency of **37** compared to **6** further supports the hypothesis of chlorine participating in the halogen-bond formation with the protein backbone. Compound **36** (IC₅₀ = 26 μ M; SI, Table S2), the ring-opened analogue of **37**, had ~4-fold decreased potency toward PBRM1-BD2. The introduction of chlorine at the C-1 position of **6**, resulting in **39** (IC₅₀ > 250 μ M; SI, Table S2) and the ring-opened analogue **38** (IC₅₀ > 250 μ M; SI, Table S2), was detrimental to PBRM1-BD2 binding of the acridone scaffold. Overall, chlorine substitution at the C-8 position of **6** and planarity of the acridone scaffold favored inhibition of PBRM1-BD2. We speculate that the presence of a carboxylic acid at the 4'-position of **6** offers a promising handle to develop **6** into a more potent and soluble compound.

Activity of PBRM1-BD2-Selective Inhibitors Against PBRM1-Dependent Prostate Cancer Cells.

To determine which PBRM1-BD2 inhibitor is the best chemical probe for use in cellular contexts, we searched for a cell line selectively dependent on PBRM1 for viability. In prostate cancer patient tumors and cell lines, increased expression of PBRM1 correlates with aggressiveness,¹² facilitates cancer cell survival under oxidative stress conditions,^{11,13} and promotes an immunosuppressive phenotype.¹⁴ Using lentiviral delivery of two distinct

shRNAs targeting PBRM1, the viability dependence on PBRM1 was determined for a panel of prostate and other cell lines including the androgen receptor (AR) positive prostate cancer cell line LNCaP, the AR-negative prostate cancer cell line PC3, the prostate epithelial cell line RWPE-1, and the embryonic kidney cell line HEK293T (Figure 7A, SI, Figure S13A). LNCaP cells were the only cell line with decreased viability upon PBRM1 knockdown with both shRNAs targeting PBRM1 consistent with an on-target effect (Figure 7B, SI, Figure S13B). Because LNCaP cells are highly dependent on AR signaling, this PBRM1 dependence is consistent with the observed positive correlation between PBRM1 protein levels and the AR target prostate specific antigen in tumors¹² and the observed decrease in AR target gene expression upon PBAF subunit knockout in a male leukemia line.²⁶ In contrast, the viability of AR-negative prostate cancer cell line PC3 and noncancerous cell lines RWPE-1 and HEK293T were not consistently altered with both shRNAs targeting PBRM1. Next, the ability of the best PBRM1-BD2 ligands to selectively inhibit growth of the human prostate cell lines LNCaP, PC3, and RWPE-1 was tested at three doses 0.1, 1, and 10 μ M (Figure 7C, SI, Figure S13C). All of the compounds tested inhibited LNCaP growth at higher concentrations, consistent with their ability to inhibit PBRM1-BD2. The most potent compound tested, 25, inhibited LNCaP cells with submicromolar potency (IC₅₀ = $0.66 \,\mu$ M) but also inhibited the PC3, RWPE-1, and HEK293T cells with similar nanomolar potency (Figure 7C, SI, Figure S13C/D), indicating off-target toxicity and unsuitability as a chemical probe for PBRM1 function. Compound 26, which is structurally similar to 25, differing only in the placement of one methyl group, also displayed similar IC_{50} values of ~2 μ M toward both LNCaP and PC3 cells and off-target toxicity at 10 μ M concentrations in RWPE-1 and HEK293T cells (Figure 7C, SI, Figure S13C/D), indicating unsuitability as a chemical probe. Based on the biochemical properties and the selectivity and potency against LNCaP cells, the next most promising compounds were 16 and 34, which differ only in the halogen substitution at C-5 (chlorine for 16 and bromine for 34). Both compounds exhibited similar potency against LNCaP cells (IC₅₀ ~ 9 μ M) (Figure 7D) and do not inhibit the growth of PC3 and RWPE-1 cells at tested concentrations up to 10 μ M (Figure 7C). Although compound 7, which also binds PBRM1-BD5 and the SMARCA2 and SMARCA4 bromodomains, displayed similar growth inhibition of LNCaP cells as the PBRM1-selective ligand 16 (Figure 7C), compound 7 also displayed more substantial inhibition of the PBRM1-independent prostate cancer cell line PC3 at higher concentrations up to 100 µM (SI, Figure S13F), potentially indicating off-target effects from inhibiting SMARCA2 and/or SMARCA4, which also contributes to prostate cancer viability through the cBAF and GBAF chromatin remodeling complexes.^{27,28}

To provide further supporting evidence that the activity of **16** in LNCaP cells is through PBRM1, we compared the activity of **16** in LNCaP cells with and without *PBRM1* knockdown (Figure 7E, SI, Figure S13G). We found that 10μ M of **16** has a more significant effect on LNCaP viability in cells with native PBRM1 levels than in cells with PBRM1 knockdown, consistent with on-target action. We also found that **16** reduces the binding of full-length PBRM1 within the PBAF complex in cell lysates to acetylated histone peptides. The addition of PBRM1-BD2 inhibitor **16** to LNCaP cell lysates reduced the association of full-length PBRM1 to H3 peptides with multiple acetylation marks (Figure 7F) or H3K14Ac alone (SI, Figure S13H).

CONCLUSIONS

We described SAR studies on a fragment hit identified by protein-detected NMR fragment screening of PBRM1-BD2 and optimized the tightest-binding fragment into a series of cell-active inhibitors that display unprecedented selectivity toward PBRM1, especially over bromodomains of SMARCA2 and SMARCA4 and other bromodomain-containing proteins. Our sequential SAR studies observed that the modifications on the phenyl ring substituted at the 2-position (ring A) of dihydroquinazolinone scaffold of 5 were more forgiving. The best substituent was a methyl at the meta or ortho position of ring A. Compounds 15 (IC_{50}) = $0.2 \pm 0.04 \mu$ M), **16** (IC₅₀ = $0.26 \pm 0.04 \mu$ M), **25** (IC₅₀ = $0.22 \pm 0.02 \mu$ M), **26** (IC₅₀ = $0.29 \pm 0.05 \,\mu\text{M}$), **34** (IC₅₀ = 0.16 ± 0.02 μ M), and **35** (IC₅₀ = 0.29 ± 0.04 μ M) showed inhibitory activities comparable to the previously described unselective 7 (IC₅₀ = 0.2 ± 0.02 μ M) (Table 3); importantly, the compounds reported here demonstrated improved selectivity especially within family VIII bromodomains, as assessed by DSF (Figure 5A/D, Table S1). The dihydropyrimidinone ring was critical for the inhibitory activity of compounds toward PBRM1-BD2. Compounds 29 and 30 with $IC_{50} > 70 \mu M$ toward PBRM1-BD2 emphasize the importance of the dihydropyrimidone aniline -NH for inhibition. Only bromine substitution, as in 34 (IC₅₀ = $0.16 \pm 0.02 \,\mu$ M) or 35 (IC₅₀ = $0.29 \pm 0.04 \,\mu$ M), could replace chlorine at the C-5 position of 16 (IC₅₀ = 0.26 \pm 0.04 μ M) or 15 (IC₅₀ $= 0.2 \pm 0.04 \,\mu$ M). Compound 16 showed promising inhibition toward PBRM1-dependent prostate cancer cell line LNCaP (IC₅₀ ~ 9 μ M). Given its cellular activity and favorable properties, 16 warrants further cellular and *in vivo* studies. Compounds 15, 16, 25, 26, and 34 exhibited inhibition in vitro and in cells (Table 3, Figure 7, Figure S13), and we generated a likely binding pose of 16 using Glide docking guided by our NMR data (Figure 6D). The calculated per residue interaction scores for this pose correlated well with the observed NMR chemical shift perturbations, indicating interactions that can be further exploited through future SAR studies of 16.

Overall, multiple lines of evidence detailing selective binding and inhibition of PBRM1-BD2 were obtained. Importantly, to our knowledge, this study provides inhibitors with the highest reported selectivity for PBRM1, making them potentially suitable chemical probes for future biological studies. Additionally, given the overall importance of PBRM1 in multiple types of cancer, the availability of such small-molecule inhibitors provides an important avenue for investigating the cancer-specific roles of PBRM1 and for further development of novel PBRM1-targeted cancer therapies. Because PBRM1 contributes to an immunosuppressive cellular phenotype in prostate cancer, inhibition of PBRM1 is an attractive target to sensitize prostate cancer patients to immunotherapy. We envision that these chemical probes will advance our understanding of the underlying biological mechanisms of PBRM1 function in health and disease. With further testing and improvements in selectivity, potency, and pharmacological properties and additional testing in animal models, we anticipate these chemical probes can be developed into compounds with clinical potential for the treatment of PBRM1-driven cancers.

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EXPERIMENTAL SECTION

Protein Purification.

Expression and Purification of Recombinant ¹⁵N- and ¹³C/¹⁵N-Labeled

PBRM1-BD2 Protein.—Recombinant ¹⁵N-labeled PBRM1-BD2 and ¹³C/¹⁵N-labeled PBRM1-BD2 (pNIC28-Bsa4) were transformed into and purified from BL21(DE3) Escherichia coli cells using nickel-affinity chromatography. ¹⁵N-Labeled PBRM1-BD2 was grown at 37 °C in minimal media which contained 100 mL of Medium P salts (500 mM Na₂HPO₄, 500 mM KH₂PO₄, 50 mM Na₂SO₄, 30 g/L ¹⁵N-labeled NH₄Cl, 5g/L NaCl), 40 mL of 20% (w/v) glucose (sterile filtered), 2 mL vitamin solution (1 centrum vitamin dissolved in 20 mL of 50% (v/v) EtOH in ddH₂O), and 120 µL of 250 mM CaCl₂ (sterile filtered) per 1 L of media. ¹³C/¹⁵N-labeled PBRM1-BD2 was grown at 37 °C in minimal media supplemented with 2 g of U-13C-glucose (instead of natural abundance glucose) per 1 L of media. All cultures were supplemented with 50 mg/L kanamycin and grown to an OD of ~0.5–0.7 at 600 nm. Protein expression was induced overnight with 0.1 mM IPTG at 18 °C. Cells were harvested via centrifugation at 5000g, and cell pellets were frozen at -80 °C until lysis. Frozen cells were thawed on ice and resuspended in lysis buffer (50 mM HEPES pH 7.5 at 20 °C, 500 mM NaCl, 5% v/v glycerol, 5 mM imidazole). Resuspended cells were immediately lysed via sonication, and lysates were cleared by centrifugation for 30 min at 30 000g. Cleared lysates were then applied to Ni-NTA resin (0.75 mL resin/L culture) at 4 °C for at least 1 h while rocking. The protein-bound Ni-NTA resin was applied to a column and washed twice with 15 mL of lysis buffer and eluted using increasing concentrations of imidazole in lysis buffer (5 mL each of 50, 100, 150, 200, and 250 mM imidazole). Fractions were resolved by SDS-PAGE, and those containing PBRM1-BD2 were pooled and the *N*-terminal His₆ tag was removed using tobacco etch virus (TEV) protease. Protein sample was reapplied to the Ni-NTA column, and the flow-through was concentrated to a volume of 1 mL and applied to an Enrich SEC 70 10×300 mm column (Bio-Rad) into a storage buffer (100 mM Na₂PO₄ pH 6.5, 100 mM NaCl, and 1 mM DTT). Concentrations of purified proteins were determined by the method of Bradford using BSA as a standard,²⁹ aliquoted, flash-frozen, and stored at -80 °C.

Expression and Purification of Recombinant Bromodomains.—Recombinant His₆-tagged PBRM1-BD1 (Addgene plasmid #39027), PBRM1-BD2 (Addgene plasmid #39013), PBRM1-BD3 (Addgene plasmid #39030), PBRM1-BD4 (Addgene plasmid #39103), PBRM1-BD5 (Addgene plasmid #38999), PBRM1-BD6 (Addgene plasmid #39028), SMARCA2B (Addgene plasmid #73250), SMARCA4 (Addgene plasmid #39116), ASH1L (Addgene plasmid #39051), TAF1L-BD2 (Addgene plasmid #39014), BAZ2B (Addgene plasmid #39000), TRIM33B (Addgene plasmid #98243), ATAD2B (Addgene plasmid #39046), BRD1 (Addgene plasmid #39095), BRD7 (Addgene plasmid #98245), BRPF1B (Addgene plasmid #53620), BRWD1-BD2 (Addgene plasmid #39073), CREBBP (Addgene plasmid #38977), PHIP-BD2 (Addgene plasmid #39049), p300 (Addgene plasmid #39018), BRD2-BD2 (Addgene plasmid #39074), BRD3-BD1 (Addgene plasmid #38940), BRD3-BD2 (Addgene plasmid #38941), BRD4-BD1 (Addgene plasmid #38942), BRD4-BD2 (Addgene plasmid #38943), BRDT-BD1 (Addgene plasmid #38988), BPTF (Addgene plasmid #39111), CECR2 (Addgene plasmid #39066), GCN5 (Addgene plasmid #38914),

and PCAF (Addgene plasmid #39002) were gifts from Nicola Burgess-Brown and were purified from BL21(DE3) Escherichia coli cells using nickel affinity chromatography. BL21(DE3) cells were transformed and grown at 37 °C in 2XYT or TB media with 50 mg/L kanamycin to an OD of ~0.6-0.8 at 600 nm. Protein expression was induced overnight with 0.1 mM IPTG at 18 °C. Cells were harvested via centrifugation at 5000g, and cell pellets were frozen at -80 °C until lysis. Frozen cells were thawed on ice and resuspended in lysis buffer (100 mM Na₂PO₄ pH 7.5 at 20 °C, 100 mM NaCl, 5% v/v glycerol, and 5 mM imidazole for PBRM1-BD2; 50 mM HEPES pH 7.5 at 20 °C, 500 mM NaCl, 5% v/v glycerol, and 5 mM imidazole for all other bromodomains). Cells were lysed via sonication for 10 min (pulsed, amplitude 3.5, 50% work cycle), and lysates were cleared by centrifugation for 30 min at 30 000g. Cleared lysates were then applied to Ni-NTA resin (1 mL resin/L culture) at 4 °C for a minimum of 1 h while rocking. The supernatant was discarded, and the Ni-NTA resin was applied to a column and washed with 15 mL fractions of lysis buffer until absorbance at 280 nm was below 0.1 as determined by Nanodrop. The protein was eluted using increasing concentrations of imidazole in lysis buffer (5 mL of 50, 100, 150, 200, and 250 mM imidazole, then a final 10 mL of 250 mM imidazole). Fractions were monitored by SDS-PAGE, and those containing recombinant bromodomain were pooled. Protein samples were further purified and exchanged into a storage buffer (100 mM Na₂PO₄ pH 7.5 at 20 °C, 100 mM NaCl, and 5% v/v glycerol for PBRM1-BD2; 50 mM HEPES pH 7.5 at 20 °C, 500 mM NaCl, and 5% v/v glycerol for all other bromodomains) via size exclusion chromatography using an Enrich SEC 70 10 × 300 mm column (Bio-Rad). Concentrations of purified proteins were determined by the method of Bradford using BSA as a standard,²⁹ aliquoted, flash-frozen, and stored at -80 °C.

Protein-Detected NMR Based Fragment Screening.

Library Selection.—The Maybridge Core Library (Maybridge Ltd., Thermo Fisher Scientific, UK) and Zenobia Therapeutics Library 1 (Zenobia Therapeutics, San Diego, CA) contain 1000 and 968 fragments, respectively, with an average molecular weight of 154 Da, ranging from 94–286 Da. Fragments were received in 96-well plates and solubilized to 200 mM in DMSO- d_6 . All fragments were soluble to 200 mM in DMSO and 1 mM in H₂O. For both libraries, each compound (10 μ L; 1000 or 968 each in 200 mM DMSO- d_6) was mixed into 84 or 81 wells of a 96-well v-bottom plate, with each well containing 12 fragments at 16.67 mM each. An 85th or 82nd well contained DMSO only. This step was performed manually resulting in a mother matrix plate with 85 or 82 wells containing a total of 120 μ L of fragments (or DMSO) in DMSO- d_6 . Then, 2.1 μ L of each fragment mixture (or DMSO) from the mother matrix plate was transferred to single-use daughter plate 96-well v-bottom plates. Mother and daughter plates were sealed and stored at -80 °C. Chemicals for subsequent NMR titration experiments were purchased from Enamine, AK Scientific, or Sigma-Aldrich. For individual titration experiments, compounds were initially solubilized to 200 mM in DMSO- d_6 and stored at -80 °C until further use.

Fragment Screening and Semiautomated Preparation of NMR Samples.²²—

For NMR-based screening, 100 μ M ¹⁵N-labeled PBRM1-BD2 in 100 mM Na₂HPO₄, 100 mM NaCl, 0.02% NaN₃, and pH 6.5 with 8% (v/v) D₂O was used. In each well, ¹⁵N-labeled protein (67.9 μ L, 100 μ M) was added to fragment mixture (2.1 μ L) to give

final concentrations of 3% (v/v) DMSO- d_6 , 500 μ M of each fragment, and 97 μ M protein. Subsequent steps used a PAL liquid handling robot (LEAP Technologies), configured inhouse for solution mixing and loading of 1.7 mm diameter NMR sample tubes. To avoid cross-contamination, the syringe was washed with acetonitrile and water between samples. Each NMR sample was mixed and transferred from the 96-well v-bottomed plate to 1.7 mm NMR tubes. Upon completion of sample preparation, NMR tubes were capped, and any signs of precipitation/aggregation were noted. Total time spent for sample preparation for NMR screening was ~4 h (2.5 min/sample).

Primary screening identified a subset of NMR samples containing fragment(s) with affinity to the protein target. To identify these, 12 fragments from the hit sample were divided into four groups each consisting of three fragments, and 2.1 μ L of each sample was aliquoted into a 96-well v-bottom plate. Then, ¹⁵N-labeled protein (67.9 μ L, 100 μ M) was added, and the solution was gently mixed and transferred into 1.7 mm NMR tubes by using the PAL liquid-handling robot to give final concentrations of 3% (v/v) DMSO-*d*₆, 500 μ M fragment, and 97 μ M protein.

The three fragments from the samples that exhibited an affinity for the protein were further aliquoted individually into three wells of a 96-well v-bottom plate. Then, ¹⁵N-labeled protein (67.9 μ L, 100 μ M) was added, and the solution was gently mixed and transferred into 1.7 mm NMR tubes by using the PAL liquid-handling robot to give final concentrations of 3% (v/v) DMSO-*d*₆, 500 μ M fragment, and 97 μ M protein. To determine binding affinities of fragments against protein targets, titration experiments by NMR were performed as previously described.²² Briefly, the PAL robot was used to set up one DMSO control (3% v/v) and eight titration points per fragment at 47 μ M, 94 μ M, 188 μ M, 375 μ M, 750 μ M, 1500 μ M, and 6000 μ M with ¹⁵N-labeled protein (97 μ M).

NMR Spectroscopy.—Automated NMR data collection was performed on ¹⁵N-labeled PBRM1-BD2 (100 μ M) by using ¹H,¹⁵N SOFAST-HMQC experiments.³⁰ Data was collected at 25 °C on a Bruker Avance II 600 MHz spectrometer equipped with a triple resonance *z*-axis gradient cryoprobe and SampleJet autosampler, which allowed automatic tuning, matching, and shimming for each sample. ¹H,¹⁵N SOFAST-HMQC experiments consisted of 32 scans with 1024 and 210 complex points in the ¹H and ¹⁵N dimensions, respectively. The total time for screening 85 or 82 samples each containing 12 fragments or DMSO by ¹H,¹⁵N SOFAST-HMQC was ~46 h (~32 min/sample). NMR samples of ¹⁵N-PBRM1-BD2 (100 μ M) contained Na₂HPO₄ (100 mM) pH 6.5, NaCl (100 mM), with 8% v/v D₂O. Spectra were processed using NMRPipe and spectra visualizations were created by using the nmrglue and matplotlib python packages.³¹ Total ¹H/¹⁵N chemical shift perturbations and equilibrium dissociation constants (*K*_d) were calculated as previously reported.²²

Backbone amide resonance assignments (BMRB ID 51472) for apo-PBRM1-BD2 were obtained using a 15 N/ 13 C-labeled PBRM1-BD2 (600 μ M) in a buffer containing Na₂HPO₄ (100 mM) pH 6.5, NaCl (100 mM), with 8% v/v D₂O. Data was collected at 25 °C on a Bruker Avance III-HD 600 MHz spectrometer equipped with a triple resonance *z*-axis gradient 5 mm cryoprobe. NMR data were processed using NMRPipe,³² peak picking

was performed using XEASY,³³ and resonance assignments were made using GARANT.³⁴ Resonances from ¹⁵N HSQC, HNCA, HNCACB, HN(CA)CO, HNCO, HN(CO)CA, HN(CO)CACB, and (H)C(CO)NH spectra were used to assign 96% of the assignable backbone amide resonances (SI, Figure S14). Backbone amide assignments (BMRB ID 51450) for PBRM1-BD2 (600 μ M) bound to **16** (750 μ M) were transferred by inspection and verified using resonances from HNCA, HNCACB, HN(CO)CA, and HN(CO)CACB. Assignments for 86% of the backbone amides for **16** bound PBRM1-BD2 were successfully transferred (SI, Figure S15).

Principal Component Analysis (PCA) and k-Means Clustering.²²—2D NMR spectra of 1024 and 512 complex points in proton and nitrogen dimensions, respectively, were used as input data for PCA.³² The spectral regions 6–10 ppm ¹H and 105–135 ppm ¹⁵N were included for analysis. The first three principles components were used as input for *k*-means clustering. PCA and *k*-means clustering analyses were carried out using the Scikit-learn python package.³⁵

Difference Intensity Analysis (DIA).²²—By using the addNMR module (or in-house Python scripts) of NMRPipe,³² 2D difference spectra were generated from heteronuclear data from each fragment mixture compared to the DMSO control. Total cross peak intensities were calculated from 2D difference spectra in NMRPipe using in-house python scripts. Only crosspeak intensities >300 000 were included. The resulting 2D difference spectra for each fragment mixture were condensed into a single positive (and negative) value representing the total sum of all positive (and negative) crosspeak intensities. Accordingly, each NMR sample gave two values. NMR samples containing fragments that gave rise to total (positive and negative) crosspeak intensity value(s) greater than one standard deviation from the mean across all 1000 samples were considered as either potential binders ($+1\sigma$ and -1σ) or compounds that induce nonspecific NMR crosspeak broadening (-1σ only).

Computational Fragment Docking.—The crystal structure of PBRM1-BD2 in apo conformation (PDB 3LJW)²¹ was obtained from the Protein Data Bank and imported into the Schroödinger (release 2017–3) Maestro suite using the Protein Preparation Wizard and subjected to restrained minimization within the OPLS3e force field.³⁶ Fragment structures were prepared for docking using the LigPrep application in Maestro, and ligand ionization states at pH 7.0 \pm 2.0 were generated using Epik.³⁷ Fragments were flexibly docked into a 30 \times 30 \times 30 Å³ grid centered on the centroid of the minimized PBRM1-BD2 structure coordinates using Glide in extra-precision (XP) mode.²⁵ Output poses were ranked according to the Emodel score.

Molecular Modeling.—Docking was performed using the Schroödinger (Release 2021– 1) Maestro suite. The receptor ensemble for docking **16** was assembled by aligning the three structures obtained from the PBRM1-BD2 crystal structures bound to inhibitors (PDB 6ZN6 and 6ZNV).²⁰ All standard options were used unless otherwise noted. A receptor grid was generated for each structure centered around the crystal-bound ligand. Compound **16** was prepared from the SMILES code in LigPrep to give both possible enantiomers. Glide docking was then performed with extended sampling and the precision set to XP. The output

was configured to include the per residue interaction scores for any residue located within 12 Å of the ligand's centroid. The top pose for each receptor were found to be nearly identical so the ligand–receptor pair generated from 6ZN6 chain A was used for the CSP correlation analysis.

AlphaScreen.—AlphaScreen beads and 96-well 1/2-area light-gray plates (part number 6002350) were purchased from PerkinElmer. A biotinylated H3K14Ac(1-20) peptide (NH₂-ARTKQTARKSTGGK(acetyl)APRKQLK(biotin)-CONH₂) was purchased from Peptide 2.0. All reagents were diluted in Epigenetic Buffer (5×), 2 μ M TCEP, and 0.5% v/v Tween-20. The assay used a final volume of 40 μ L. Stock solutions of inhibitors in DMSO were made at eight different concentrations (100 mM, 10 mM, 1 mM, 300 μ M, 100 μ M, 30 μ M, 10 μ M, 3 μ M). Then 0.4 μ L of inhibitor DMSO stocks were further diluted to 10 μ L in the buffer. To a 17.5 μ L mixture consisting of 400 nM of His₆-tagged PBRM1-BD2, 200 nM of the biotinylated H3K14Ac peptide, 2.5 µL of 0-4 mM of inhibitors (0.25% v/v final DMSO) were titrated and the mixture (20 μ L) was incubated for 30 min. Then 20 μ L of AlphaScreen beads (20 µg/mL Streptavidin Donor beads, 5 µg/mL Nickel-Chelate Acceptor beads) were added to achieve the final concentration of 200 nM His-tagged protein, 100 nM biotinylated H3K14Ac, and 0–250 μ M of inhibitors. The mixture (40 μ L) was further incubated for 1 h in a dark room, and the luminescence was read on a BioTek Cytation5 imaging reader using an AlphaScreen detection filter cube. Data was plotted in GraphPad Prism using nonlinear regression log(inhibitor) vs response (three parameters).

$$y = y_{\min} + \frac{y_{\max} - y_{\min}}{1 + 10^{(\log(\text{conc}) - \log(\text{IC}_{50}))}}$$

where y = AlphaScreen count, $y_{max} =$ maximum AlphaScreen count, and $y_{min} =$ minimum AlphaScreen count.

Differential Scanning Fluorimetry (DSF).—Bromodomain DSF $T_{\rm m}$ assays were performed using an Mx3005P (Stratagene) PCR detection system and low profile 96-well PCR plates (UltraFlux, Flat Top, SSI 3400–00S). Bromodomains were buffered in 100 mM Na₂HPO₄, 500 mM NaCl, pH 6.5, and assayed at a concentration of 10 μ M with 100 μ M inhibitor and 5× SyproOrange (Invitrogen). Excitation and emission filters were set to 492 and 610 nm, respectively. The temperature was raised by 1 °C/min from 25–95 °C, and fluorescence readings were taken at each interval. Melting curves were analyzed using our online interactive fitting tool for DSF experiments (https://dsf-analysis.herokuapp.com/ DSF-analysis) and plotted using GraphPad Prism.

Isothermal Titration Calorimetry.—Binding affinities of inhibitors toward PBRM1-BD2, PBRM1-BD5, SMARCA2B, SMARCA4, and ASH1L were determined by using a VP-ITC instrument (MicroCal). For each inhibitor, PBRM1-BD2, PBRM1-BD5, SMARCA2B, SMARCA4, or ASH1L was injected $(1 \times 2 \mu L$ injection followed by $30 \times 10 \mu L$ injections) into the cell containing inhibitor with a 7:1 protein:inhibitor stoichiometry (typically 210 μM protein and 30 μM inhibitor but ranging from 210 to 420 μM protein and 30–60 μM inhibitor), and heats of binding were measured. Protein concentrations were

determined *via* the method of Bradford.²⁹ The buffer used for all ITC experiments consisted of 50 mM HEPES (pH 7.5 at 20 °C), 500 mM NaCl, 5% v/v glycerol, and 1% v/v DMSO; except for experiments involving PBRM1-BD2 whose buffer consisted of 100 mM Na₂PO₄ (pH 7.5 at 20 °C), 100 mM NaCl, 5% v/v glycerol, and up to 2% v/v DMSO. K_d values were determined by least-squares fitting to the raw data using Origin (OriginLab).

Cell Culture.—LNCaP (clone FGC) (RRID:CVCL_1379), PC3 (RRID:CVCL_0035), RWPE-1 (RRID:CVCL_3791), and HEK293T (RRID:CVCL_0063) cells were purchased from American Type Culture Collection (ATCC, Manassas, VA). Media and supplements were obtained from Corning Mediatech, Inc., unless otherwise noted. HEK293T cells were cultured in DMEM media supplemented with 10% v/v fetal bovine serum, 100 units/mL penicillin, and 100 μ g/mL streptomycin, 1 mM sodium pyruvate, and 2 mM L-alanyl-L-glutamine (Glutagro) and 1:10000 Plasmocin (Invivogen, San Diego, CA). PC3 cells were cultured in F12K media with the same supplements as above. LNCaP cells were cultured in RPMI-1640 with 1× MEM nonessential amino acids and the same supplements as above, and RWPE-1 cells were cultured in Keratinocyte SFM (Gibco 17005–042, Thermo Scientific). All cultures were used up to passage number 20 and tested monthly for *Mycoplasma* contamination with MycoAlert *Mycoplasma* detection kit (Lonza, Switzerland).

Lentivirus Preparation.—HEK293T cells were transfected with lentivirus constructs along with packaging vectors pMD2.G and psPAX2. After 48 h, the supernatant was collected and concentrated by ultracentrifugation (17 300 rpm for 2 h) and resuspended in 200 µL of PBS.

PBRM1 Knockdown and Viability Measurement.—First, 500 000–600 000 cells were seeded in 6 cm plates. When cells reached 50–80% confluency, (24–72 h) lentivirus containing pLKO.1 vector control or shPBRM1 was added to cells. shRNA was designed by The RNAi Consortium and sold by Horizon, a PerkinElmer company (shPBRM1–3, clone ID TRCN0000015993, sequence ATTTGCTGGTAATAATCAGGG; shPBRM1–4, clone ID TRCN0000015994, sequence TTTGTAGATCAAAGACTCCGG). After 24 h incubation, the cells were selected by treatment with puromycin (2 μ g/mL) for 48 h. The cells (5000 cells per well) were reseeded in a 96-well plate and grown for 4 days. Cell viability was measured with a CellTiter-Glo kit at day 0 and day 4 and calculated as a percentage of vector control cells.

Nuclear Lysate Preparation.—Cells (5×10^5) were lysed in 500 μ L of buffer A (20 mM HEPES, pH 7.9, 25 mM KCl, 10% v/v glycerol, 0.1% v/v Nonidet P-40 with protease inhibitors for 10 min on ice. Nuclei were pelleted at 600*g* for 10 min and resuspended in lysis buffer (20 mM HEPES, pH 7.5, 200 mM KOAc, 0.2% v/v Nonidet P-40, 2 mM MgCl₂) containing protease inhibitors. Nuclei were rotated for 30 min at 4 °C, and the lysate was cleared at 21 000*g* for 10 min.

Immunoblot Analysis.—Nuclear lysates were quantified using BCA Assay (Pierce, Rockford, IL). Equal amounts of protein were electrophoresed on a Novex 4–12% precast gel, transferred onto 0.45 μ m PVDF membrane, and blocked 1 h in 5% w/v BSA in

TBST. After overnight incubation in primary antibodies, the membrane was incubated with infrared-dye labeled Li-Cor goat antimouse or antirabbit antibodies. The images were acquired using a Li-Cor imaging system.

Cell Viability Assays.—Cells were seeded in a 96-well plate and incubated for 12–24 h prior to initial treatment. The number of cells per well was chosen empirically based on cell growth rates (LNCaP, 5000 cells/well; PC3 and RWPE-1, 3000 cells per well; HEK293T, 1000 cells/well). Cells were treated with either DMSO control or serial dilutions of inhibitors, and media with compound was refreshed every 48 h. Cells were harvested when control samples reached confluence (293T cells, 5 days; PC3 cells, 6 days; and RWPE-1 and LNCaP cells, 7 days), and cell viability was measured *via* CellTiter-Glo (Promega).

Knockdown with compound treatment: LNCaP cells were transfected with either PBRM1 knockdown or vector control and treated for 48 h with (1:1000) puromycin. Cells (5000) were seeded in a 96-well plate for 12 h. Cells were treated with **16** or DMSO control for 5 days, with media changes every 48 h, and cell viability was measured *via* CellTiter-Glo (Promega).

Peptide Pulldown.—LNCaP cells (1×10^7) were harvested and lysed in 5 mL of buffer A (25 mM HEPES, pH 7.6, 25 mM KCl, 5 mM MgCl₂, 0.05 mM EDTA, 0.1% v/v Nonidet P-40, 10% v/v glycerol, protease inhibitors) for 10 min on ice. Nuclei were pelleted at 600g for 10 min and resuspended in 2 mL of binding buffer 1 (25 mM Tris, pH 8, 250 mM NaCl, 1% v/v Nonidet P-40, 1 mM EDTA, and protease inhibitors) for multiply acetylated peptidebinding analysis or binding buffer 2 (25 mM Tris, pH 8, 150 mM NaCl, 1% v/v Nonidet P-40, 1 mM EDTA, and protease inhibitors) for singly acetylated peptide binding analysis, and rotated at 4 °C for 10 min. The lysate was cleared at 21 000g for 10 min. The lysate was split and 50 μ M inhibitor was added to one-half while an equal volume of DMSO was added to the other half, and both tubes were incubated 10 min on ice. Lysate (200 μ L) was added to 2 μ g of biotin-labeled peptide (AnaSpec), and samples were rotated at 4 °C for 1 h. The following peptides were used: H3(1-30), H3K14Ac(1-30), and H3K14/18/23/27Ac(1-30)30). Streptavidin Agarose Ultra Performance Resin (15 µL) (Solulink, San Diego, CA) was washed three times with binding buffer and added to lysates for 30 min to capture peptides. The beads were washed for 3×5 min in their appropriate binding buffer and resuspended in $1 \times$ Bolt LDS sample buffer (Invitrogen) and boiled for 5 min. Nuclear lysate input and the samples were processed for immunoblotting analysis.

Statistics.—Statistics were performed using GraphPad Prism 9. Statistical details are provided in figure legends and within the text.

Synthesis.

General Experimental.—Reagents were from Sigma-Aldrich, AA Blocks, TCI, or Ambeed unless otherwise stated. Anhydrous solvents used in reactions were either analytical grade as obtained commercially (Sigma-Aldrich) or were dried *via* Grubbs apparatus. HPLC grade solvents were employed for workup and chromatography. Reagents were used as

supplied (analytical or HPLC grade) without prior purification. Anhydrous $MgSO_4$ was used as a drying agent.

Thin-layer chromatography was performed using glass plates coated with 60 F254 silica. Plates were visualized using UV light (254 nm) or 1% (w/v) aq KMnO₄ stain. MPLC was performed using Biotage Sfär HC-Duo or SNAP Ultra columns on a Biotage Isolera in series with a Biotage Dalton 2000 mass spectrometer. Retention factors (R_f) are quoted to a precision of 0.05.

Microwave reactions were carried out using a Biotage Initiator+.

Deuterated solvents were from Sigma. ¹H NMR and ¹³C NMR spectra were recorded using a Bruker AVIII500 NMR spectrometer equipped with a TCI cryoprobe. Fields were locked by external referencing to the relevant residual deuterium resonance. Chemical shifts (δ) are reported in ppm; coupling constants (*J*) are recorded in Hz to the nearest 0.5 Hz; when peak multiplicities are reported, the following abbreviations are used: s = singlet, d = doublet, t = triplet, q = quartet, m = multiplet, br = broadened, dd = doublet of doublets, dt = doublet of triplets, td = triplet of doublets. Spectra were recorded at room temperature unless otherwise stated.

Low-resolution mass spectra (m/z) were recorded using a Biotage Dalton 2000 by using either an APCI or ESI probe. High-resolution mass spectra were recorded at the Indiana University Mass Spectrometry Facility on a Thermo Scientific Orbitrap XL spectrometer by use of the indicated ionization method. A postacquisition gain correction was applied using reserpine as a lock mass.

For compounds, purity is >95%. Analytical high-performance liquid chromatography (HPLC) was used to assess the purity of key compounds (SI, Figure S16). Analytical HPLC was carried out on a Hypersil GOLD column (C18, 250×4.6 mm) using a flow rate of 1 mL/min with detection at 235, 254, and 280 nm. A 30 min gradient of 5–95% MeOH with 0.1% v/v trifluoroacetic acid in H₂O with 0.1% v/v trifluoroacetic acid followed by 5 min of 95% MeOH with 0.1% v/v trifluoroacetic acid was used.

General Procedure A: Synthesis of Aminobenzamides (SI, Scheme S6).¹⁸—The desired compound was obtained according to the reported procedure.¹⁸ The appropriate aminobenzonitrile (1 mmol) and K_2CO_3 (0.2 mmol) were added to deionized water (8.5 mL/mmol substrate) in a 20 mL microwave vial charged with a stir bar. The reaction was irradiated under microwave at 150 °C for 1.5 h. After the consumption of the starting material (as assessed by TLC), the reaction was cooled to room temperature and then extracted with ethyl acetate (3 × 10 mL). The combined organic layer was dried (anhydrous MgSO₄) and concentrated under vacuum. The resulted residue was purified *via* flash chromatography.

General Procedure B: Synthesis of 2,3-Dihydroquinazalinones (SI, Scheme

S7).³⁸—To a stirred solution of the appropriate aminobenzamide (1 mmol) in DMSO (1 mL/mmol) and 0.2 M KOH (2 mL/mmol) was added the appropriate benzaldehyde (1.2 mmol) dropwise, and the mixture was heated to the required temperature (rt to 80 °C). After

the consumption of the starting material (as assessed by TLC), the reaction was cooled to room temperature and the crude product mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure, then diluted with ethyl acetate and washed with water (3×10 mL). The organic layer was dried (anhydrous MgSO₄) and concentrated under vacuum. The resulted residue was purified *via* flash chromatography.

Compound Characterization.

2-Aminobenzamide (9a).—2-Aminobenzonitrile (1.4 g, 12.7 mmol) was hydrolyzed according to general procedure A. Purification by MPLC (1% EtOAc/hexanes to 60% EtOAc/hexanes) gave a white solid (1.4 g, 88%). TLC $R_{\rm f}$ 0.35 (50% EtOAc/hexanes). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 7.68 (s, 1H), 7.49 (d, J= 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.10 (t, J= 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.02 (s, 1H), 6.64 (d, J= 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.53 (s, 2H), 6.45 (t, J= 7.5 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 171.2, 150.1, 131.8, 128.7, 116.3, 114.3, 113.6. LRMS (APCI) m/z: calculated for C₇H₉N₂O [M + H]⁺ 137.1; observed 137.1. Analytical data are consistent with those reported.¹⁸

2-Amino-6-chlorobenzamide (9b).—2-Amino-6-chlorobenzonitrile (2 g, 13.2 mmol) was hydrolyzed according to general procedure A. Purification by MPLC (1% EtOAc/hexanes to 80% EtOAc/hexanes) gave a white solid (1.8 g, 81%). TLC R_f 0.65 (50% EtOAc/hexanes). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 7.79 (s, 1H), 7.56 (s, 1H), 6.99 (t, J= 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.61 (d, J= 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.56 (d, J= 8.0 Hz, 1H), 5.19 (s, 2H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 167.5, 147.0, 129.9, 129.8, 121.6, 116.1, 113.6. LRMS (APCI) m/z: calculated for C₇H₈³⁵ClN₂O [M + H]⁺ 171.0; observed 171.0. Analytical data are consistent with those reported.¹⁸

2-Amino-6-methoxybenzamide (9c).—2-Amino-6-methoxybenzonitrile (740 mg, 5 mmol) was hydrolyzed according to general procedure A. Purification by MPLC (1% EtOAc/hexanes to 80% EtOAc/hexanes) gave white solid (720 mg, 87%). TLC R_f 0.2 (50% EtOAc/hexanes). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 7.51 (s, 1H), 7.24 (s, 1H), 6.99 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.33 (s, 2H), 6.28 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.15 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 3.74 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 169.2, 158.4, 151.0, 131.0, 109.3, 105.1, 97.9, 55.5. LRMS (APCI) m/z: calculated for C₈H₁₁N₂O₂ [M + H]⁺ 167.1; observed 167.1. Analytical data are consistent with those reported.¹⁸

2-Amino-6-methylbenzamide (9d).—2-Amino-6-methylbenzonitrile (132 mg, 1 mmol) was hydrolyzed according to general procedure A. Purification by MPLC (1% EtOAc/ hexanes to 40% EtOAc/hexanes) gave a white solid (133 mg, 89%). TLC R_f 0.7 (50% EtOAc/hexanes). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 7.61 (s, 1H), 7.40 (s, 1H), 6.90 (t, J= 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.49 (d, J= 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.37 (d, J= 7.5 Hz, 1H), 4.88 (s, 2H), 2.19 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 171.0, 145.9, 134.7, 129.2, 123.5, 118.4, 113.2, 20.4. LRMS (APCI) m/z: calculated for C₈H₁₁N₂O [M + H]⁺ 151.1; observed 151.1. Analytical data are consistent with those reported.³⁹

2-Amino-6-bromobenzamide (9e).—2-Amino-6-bromobenzonitrile (500 mg, 2.6 mmol) was hydrolyzed according to general procedure A. Purification by MPLC (1%

EtOAc/hexanes to 100% EtOAc/hexanes) gave a white solid (480 mg, 87%). TLC $R_{\rm f}$ 0.1 (50% EtOAc/hexanes). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 7.79 (s, 1H), 7.53 (s, 1H), 6.92 (t, J= 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.71 (d, J= 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.64 (d, J= 8.0 Hz, 1H), 5.13 (s, 2H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 168.3, 146.7, 144.5, 130.0, 124.0, 119.2, 114.0. LRMS (APCI) m/z: calculated for C₇H₈⁷⁹BrN₂O [M + H]⁺ 215.0; observed 215.0. Analytical data are consistent with those reported.¹⁸

2-(2-Chloro-6-fluorophenyl)-2,3-dihydroquinazolin-4(1H)-one (5).—2-

Aminobenzamide (**9a**; 136 mg, 1 mmol) and 2-chloro-6-fluorobenzaldehyde (187 mg, 1.2 mmol) were reacted according to general procedure B. Purification by MPLC (1% EtOAc/ hexanes to 60% EtOAc/hexanes) gave a white solid (90 mg, 32%). TLC $R_{\rm f}$ 0.65 (50% EtOAc/hexanes). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 8.21 (s, 1H), 7.60 (dd, J= 8.0, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.44 (td, J= 8.0, 5.5 Hz, 1H), 7.34 (d, J= 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.27–7.18 (m, 2H), 7.05 (s, 1H), 6.64 (t, J= 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.60 (d, J= 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.43 (s, 1H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 162.8, 161.9 (d, ¹ $J_{\rm CF}$ = 253.0 Hz), 147.5, 133.4 (d, ³ $J_{\rm CF}$ = 6.0 Hz), 133.2, 131.1 (d, ³ $J_{\rm CF}$ = 10.0 Hz), 127.1, 125.9 (d, ⁴ $J_{\rm CF}$ = 3.0 Hz), 125.5 (d, ² $J_{\rm CF}$ = 13.5 Hz), 116.7, 115.7 (d, ² $J_{\rm CF}$ = 23.0 Hz), 113.8, 113.6, 62.0 (br s). HRMS (APCI) *m/z*: calculated for C₁₄H₁₁³⁵Cl¹⁹FN₂O [M + H]⁺ 277.0538; observed 277.0541. HPLC R_t 28.91 min, purity 95.9%. Analytical data are consistent with those reported.³⁸

2-Chloro-6-(4-chlorobutanamido)benzamide (7b).—The desired compound was obtained according to the reported procedure.¹⁸ To a stirred solution of 6-chloro-2-aminobenzamide (**9b**; 170 mg, 1 mmol) in THF (2.5 mL/mmol) at 0 °C were added triethylamine (0.3 mL, 2 mmol) and 4-chlorobutanoyl chloride (0.15 mL, 1.2 equiv) in THF (2 mL/mmol). After the completion of the reaction (as assessed by TLC), the reaction mixture was extracted with ethyl acetate and washed with water (3×10 mL). The combined organic layer was dried (anhydrous MgSO₄) and concentrated under vacuum. The residue was purified *via* MPLC (1% EtOAc/hexanes to 50% EtOAc/hexanes), resulting in a white amorphous solid (220 mg, 80%). TLC *R*f 0.40 (50% EtOAc/hexanes). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 9.32 (s, 1H), 7.88 (s, 1H), 7.72 (s, 1H), 7.59 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.33 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.26 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 3.66 (t, *J* = 6.5 Hz, 2H), 2.45 (d, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 174.4, 170.7, 166.0, 135.8, 129.7, 129.4, 125.5, 123.9, 44.7, 32.9, 28.1. LRMS (APCI) *m/z*: calculated for C₁₁H₁₃³⁵Cl₂N₂O₂ [M + H]⁺ 275.0; observed 275.0. Analytical data are consistent with those reported.¹⁸

6-Chloro-2,3-dihydropyrrolo[1,2-a]quinazolin-5(1H)-one (7c).—The desired compound was obtained according to the reported procedure.¹⁸ To a stirred solution of 2-chloro-6-(4-chlorobutanamido)benzamide (**7b**; 180 mg, 0.7 mmol) in THF (10 mL/mmol) was added *t*-BuOK (147 mg, 1.3 mmol). After the completion of the reaction (as assessed by TLC), the solvent was removed under reduced pressure. The crude mixture was diluted with CH₂Cl₂ and washed with NaHCO₃ (15 mL), then water and finally with brine. The combined organic layer was dried (anhydrous MgSO₄) and concentrated under vacuum. Purification of the resulted residue *via* MPLC (1% MeOH/DCM to 5% MeOH/DCM) gave the title compound as a white amorphous solid (70 mg, 50%). TLC *R*f 0.3 (5% MeOH/DCM). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 7.69 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.46 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H),

7.40 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 4.18 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 2.99 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 2.22 (p, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 166.7, 166.0, 141.1, 133.7, 133.4, 127.8, 115.1, 114.8, 49.3, 32.0, 18.0. LRMS (APCI) *m*/*z*: calculated for C₁₁H₁₀³⁵ClN₂O [M + H]⁺ 221.0; observed 221.0. Analytical data are consistent with those reported.¹⁸

(E)-6-Chloro-3-((dimethylamino)methylene)-2,3-dihydropyrrolo[1,2-

a]quinazolin-5(1H)-one (2).—The desired compound was

obtained according to the reported procedure.¹⁸

To a stirred solution of 6-chloro-2,3-dihydropyrrolo[1,2-*a*]quinazolin-5(1*H*)one (**7c**; 54 mg, 0.24 mmol) in anhydrous DMF (2 mL) was added phosphoryl trichloride (0.5 mL, 0.5 mmol). The reaction was heated to 70 °C until the completion of the reaction (as assessed by TLC). The reaction was then cooled to room temperature, and the solvent was removed under reduced pressure. The crude mixture was diluted with CH₂Cl₂ and washed with NaHCO₃ (15 mL), and the aqueous layer was extracted with CH₂Cl₂. The combined organic layer was dried (anhydrous MgSO₄) and concentrated under vacuum. The residue was purified *via* MPLC (1% MeOH/DCM to 5% MeOH/ DCM), which resulted in a tan amorphous solid (41 mg, 94%). TLC *R*_f 0.3 (5% MeOH/ DCM). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 7.54 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.37 (s, 1H), 7.24 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.16 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 4.10–4.01 (m, 2H), 3.18 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 3.09 (s, 6H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 177.0, 163.0, 144.3, 141.9, 133.5, 132.7, 126.1, 115.1, 113.5, 93.6, 46.1, 22.5 (2C). HRMS (ESI) *m/z*: calculated for C₁₄H₁₅³⁵ClN₃O [M + H]⁺ 276.0898; observed 276.0899. Analytical data are consistent with those reported.¹⁸

(E)-6-Chloro-3-(2-ethylbutylidene)-2,3-dihydropyrrolo[1,2-a]quinazolin-5(1H)-

one (7).—The desired compound was obtained according to the reported procedure.¹⁸ To a stirred solution of 6-chloro-2.3-dihydropyrrolo[1,2-a]quinazolin-5(1H)-one (7c; 100 mg, 0.45 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (10 mL/mmol) was added *t*-BuOK (61 mg, 0.54 mmol). After 5 min, 2-ethylbutyraldehyde (61 µL, 0.54 mmol) was added. After completion of the reaction (approximately 1 h, as assessed by TLC), the crude mixture was diluted with CH₂Cl₂ and washed with NaHCO₃ (15 mL), and the aqueous layer extracted with CH_2Cl_2 (3 × 10 mL). The combined organic layer was dried (anhydrous MgSO₄) and concentrated under vacuum. The resulted residue was purified via MPLC (1% MeOH/DCM to 5% MeOH/DCM) and gave title compound as a white amorphous solid (80 mg, 60%). TLC $R_{\rm f}$ 0.3 (4% MeOH/DCM). ¹H NMR $(500 \text{ MHz}, \text{DMSO-}d_6) \delta 7.69 (t, J = 8.0 \text{ Hz}, 1\text{H}), 7.46 (d, J = 8.0 \text{ Hz}, 1\text{H}), 7.43 (d, J = 8.0 \text{ Hz})$ Hz, 1H), 6.52 (dt, *J* = 10.5, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 4.25 (t, *J* = 7.5, 2H), 2.95 (ddd, *J* = 8.5, 6.5, 2.5 Hz, 2H), 2.21 (ddq, J = 13.5, 9.0, 5.0 Hz, 1H), 1.53 (ddd, J = 13.0, 7.5, 5.0 Hz, 2H), 1.35 (dt, J = 13.0, 7.5, 5.0 Hz, 2H) 13.5, 8.0 Hz, 2H), 0.85 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 6H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 166.8, 158.9, 141.3, 139.3, 133.7, 133.4, 132.8, 128.1, 115.7, 115.1, 46.4, 42.8, 26.9, 22.4 (2C), 11.7 (2C). HRMS (APCI) m/z: calculated for C₁₇H₂₀³⁵ClN₂O [M + H]⁺ 303.1259; observed 303.1261. HPLC R_t 26.97 min, purity 100%. Analytical data are consistent with those reported.¹⁸

2-(4-Chlorobutanamido)benzamide (8b).—The desired compound was obtained according to the reported procedure.¹⁸ To a stirred solution of 2-aminobenzamide (1 g, 7.35 mmol) in THF (20 mL) at 0 °C were added triethylamine (2 mL, 14.7 mmol) and

4-chlorobutanoyl chloride (1 mL, 8.8 mmol) in THF (18 mL). After the completion of the reaction (as assessed by TLC), the reaction mixture was extracted with ethyl acetate and washed with water (3 × 10 mL). The combined organic layer was dried (anhydrous MgSO₄) and concentrated under vacuum. The residue was purified *via* MPLC (1% EtOAc/hexanes to 100% EtOAc/hexanes), which resulted in the title compound (1.4 g, 80%). TLC *R*_f 0.6 (5% MeOH/DCM). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 11.68 (s, 1H), 8.41 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 8.24 (s, 1H), 7.77 (dd, *J* = 8.0, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.70 (s, 1H), 7.46 (td, *J* = 8.0, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.09 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 3.68 (t, *J* = 6.5 Hz, 2H), 2.48 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 2.03 (p, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 170.7, 169.9, 139.4, 132.1, 128.5, 122.3, 120.1, 119.6, 44.6, 34.3, 27.8. LRMS (APCI) *m/z*: calculated for C₁₁H₁₄³⁵ClN₂O₂ [M + H]⁺ 241.1; observed 241.1. Analytical data are consistent with those reported.¹⁸

2,3-Dihydropyrrolo[1,2-a]quinazolin-5(1H)-one (8c).—The desired compound was obtained according to the reported procedure.¹⁸ To a stirred solution of 6-(4-chlorobutanamido)benzamide (**8b**; 1.4 g, 5.8 mmol) in THF (30 mL) was added *t*-BuOK (1.3 g, 11.7 mmol). After the completion of the reaction (as assessed by TLC), the solvent was removed under reduced pressure. The crude mixture was diluted with CH₂Cl₂ and washed with NaHCO₃ (15 mL), then water, and finally with brine. The combined organic layer was dried (anhydrous MgSO₄) and concentrated under vacuum. The resulted residue was purified *via* MPLC (1% MeOH/DCM to 5% MeOH/DCM) which gave the title compound (0.6 g, 50%). TLC *R*_f 0.3 (5% MeOH/DCM). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 8.03 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.78 (td, *J* = 7.5, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.45 (dd, *J* = 8.0, 7.5 Hz, 2H), 4.25–4.19 (m, 2H), 3.01 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 2.23 (p, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 169.0, 166.8, 138.7, 133.6, 127.3, 125.3, 118.1, 115.8, 48.5, 32.3, 18.2. LRMS (APCI) *m/z*: calculated for C₁₁H₁₁N₂O [M + H]⁺ 187.1; observed 187.1. Analytical data are consistent with those reported.¹⁸

(E)-3-(2-Ethylbutylidene)-2,3-dihydropyrrolo[1,2-a]quinazolin-5(1H)-one (8).-

The desired compound was obtained according to the reported procedure.¹⁸ To a stirred solution of 2,3-dihydropyrrolo[1,2-a]quinazolin-5(1H)-one (8c; 200 mg, 1.1 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (5 mL) was added *t*-BuOK (145 mg, 1.3 mmol). After 5 min, 2-ethylbutyraldehyde (0.15 mL, 1.2 mmol) was added. After completion of the reaction (approximately 1 h, as assessed by TLC), the crude mixture was diluted with CH₂Cl₂ and washed with NaHCO₃ (15 mL), and the aqueous layer was extracted with CH_2Cl_2 (3 × 10 mL). The combined organic layer was dried (anhydrous MgSO₄) and concentrated under vacuum. The resulted residue was purified via MPLC (1% MeOH/DCM to 5% MeOH/DCM) and gave the title compound (100 mg, 34%). TLC Rf 0.70 (10% MeOH/DCM). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO d_{6}) δ 8.04 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.78 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.56–7.41 (m, 2H), 6.53 (dd, J = 1.010.5, 3.0 Hz, 1H), 4.26 (t, J = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 2.96 (td, J = 7.0, 2.5 Hz, 2H), 2.21 (tt, J = 9.0, 4.5 Hz, 1H), 1.53 (dp, J=13.0, 7.0 Hz, 2H), 1.34 (dp, J=15.0, 7.5 Hz, 2H), 0.85 (t, J=7.5 Hz, 6H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 169.0, 159.6, 138.9, 138.8, 133.6, 133.2, 127.3, 125.7, 119.1, 115.8, 45.7, 42.8, 27.0, 22.6 (2C), 11.7 (2C). HRMS (APCI) m/z: calculated for $C_{17}H_{21}N_2O [M + H]^+$ 269.1648; observed 269.1651. HPLC R_t 20.90 min, purity 100%. Analytical data are consistent with those reported.¹⁸

5-Chloro-2-(2-chloro-6-fluorophenyl)-2,3-dihydroquinazolin-4(1H)-one (11).—2-Amino-6-chlorobenzamide (**9b**; 170 mg, 1 mmol) and 2-chloro-6-fluorobenzaldehyde (187 mg, 1.2 mmol) were reacted according to general procedure B. Purification by MPLC (1% EtOAc/hexanes to 40% EtOAc/hexanes) gave a white solid (100 mg, 32%). TLC $R_{\rm f}$ 0.70 (50% EtOAc/hexanes). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 8.34 (s, 1H), 7.45 (td, J = 8.0, 5.5 Hz, 1H), 7.39–7.34 (m, 2H), 7.27 (dd, J = 10.5, 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.14 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.67 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.62 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.31 (s, 1H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 161.9 (d, ¹ $J_{\rm CF}$ = 253.0 Hz), 160.8, 150.4, 133.7, 133.5 (d, ³ $J_{\rm CF}$ = 6.0 Hz), 132.9, 131.3 (d, ³ $J_{\rm CF}$ = 10.0 Hz), 126.0 (d, ⁴ $J_{\rm CF}$ = 3.0 Hz), 124.5 (d, ² $J_{\rm CF}$ = 14.0 Hz), 120.0, 115.7 (d, ² $J_{\rm CF}$ = 23.0 Hz), 113.3, 111.0, 61.3 (br s). HRMS (APCI) *m/z*: calculated for C₁₄H₁₀³⁵Cl₂¹⁹FN₂O [M + H]⁺ 311.0149; observed 311.0152. HPLC R_t 28.46 min, purity 98.5%.

5-Chloro-2-phenyl-2,3-dihydroquinazolin-4(1H)-one (12).—2-Amino-6chlorobenzamide (**9b**; 100 mg, 0.6 mmol) and benzaldehyde (0.07 mL, 0.7 mmol) were reacted according to general procedure B. Purification by MPLC (1% EtOAc/hexanes to 50% EtOAc/hexanes) gave a white solid (90 mg, 65%). TLC $R_{\rm f}$ 0.65 (50% EtOAc/hexanes). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 8.40 (bs, 1H), 7.49–7.41 (m, 3H), 7.38 (app t, J = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 7.34 (d, J = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 7.14 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.74 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.66 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 5.65 (s, 1H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 161.2, 150.6, 140.6, 133.7, 133.0, 128.5, 128.3, 126.9, 120.2, 113.9, 112.0, 65.5. HRMS (APCI) m/z: calculated for C₁₄H₁₂³⁵ClN₂O [M + H]⁺ 259.0633; observed 259.0635. HPLC R_t 25.56 min, purity 98.7%.

5-Chloro-2-(2-fluorophenyl)-2,3-dihydroquinazolin-4(1H)-one (13).—2-Amino-6-chlorobenzamide (**9b**; 100 mg, 0.6 mmol) and 2-fluorobenzaldehyde (0.07 mL, 0.7 mmol) were reacted according to general procedure B. Purification by MPLC (1% EtOAc/hexanes to 60% EtOAc/hexanes) gave a white solid (70 mg, 42%). TLC $R_{\rm f}$ 0.75 (50% EtOAc/hexanes). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 8.37 (s, 1H), 7.54–7.48 (m, 1H), 7.43–7.41 (m, 1H), 7.35 (s, 1H), 7.26–7.20 (m, 2H), 7.16 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.74 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.69 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 5.93 (s, 1H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 161.2, 159.8 (d, ¹ $J_{\rm CF} = 247.5$ Hz), 150.4, 133.8, 133.0, 130.6 (d, ³ $J_{\rm CF} = 8.0$ Hz), 128.4 (d, ³ $J_{\rm CF} = 3.5$ Hz), 127.2 (d, ² $J_{\rm CF} = 12.5$ Hz), 124.4 (d, ⁴ $J_{\rm CF} = 3.5$ Hz), 120.4, 115.6 (d, ² $J_{\rm CF} = 22.0$ Hz), 113.8, 111.8, 60.1 (d, ³ $J_{\rm CF} = 3.5$ Hz). LRMS (APCI) m/z: calculated for C₁₄H₁₁³⁵Cl¹⁹FN₂O [M + H]⁺ 277.1; observed 277.1. HPLC R_t 25.56 min, purity 98.4%.

5-Chloro-2-(2-chlorophenyl)-2,3-dihydroquinazolin-4(1H)-one (14).—2-Amino-6-chlorobenzamide (**9b**; 100 mg, 0.6 mmol) and 2-chlorobenzaldehyde (0.08 mL, 0.7 mmol) were reacted according to general procedure B. Purification by MPLC (1% EtOAc/hexanes to 40% EtOAc/hexanes) gave a white solid (60 mg, 34%). TLC $R_{\rm f}$ 0.7 (50% EtOAc/hexanes). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 8.33 (s, 1H), 7.66–7.61 (m, 1H), 7.51–7.46 (m, 1H), 7.42–7.38 (m, 2H), 7.31 (s, 1H), 7.17 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.75 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.72 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.00 (s, 1H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 161.2, 150.5, 136.8, 133.8, 133.1, 132.0, 130.4, 129.6, 128.7, 127.4, 120.5, 114.0, 111.8, 62.8. HRMS (APCI) m/z: calculated for C₁₄H₁₁³⁵Cl¹⁹FN₂O [M + H]⁺ 293.0243; observed 293.0247.

5-Chloro-2-(2-methylphenyl)-2,3-dihydroquinazolin-4(1H)-one (15).—2-Amino-6-chlorobenzamide (**9b**; 100 mg, 0.6 mmol) and 2-methylbenzaldehyde (0.07 mL, 0.7 mmol) were reacted according to general procedure B. Purification by MPLC (1% EtOAc/hexanes to 70% EtOAc/hexanes) gave a white solid (100 mg, 62%). TLC $R_{\rm f}$ 0.7 (50% EtOAc/ hexanes). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 8.18 (s, 1H), 7.53 (dd, J = 7.5, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.29–7.18 (m, 3H), 7.18–7.13 (m, 2H), 6.74 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.70 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 5.86 (s, 1H), 2.40 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 161.6, 151.4, 136.9, 136.2, 133.8, 132.8, 130.6, 128.5, 127.4, 125.8, 120.2, 113.9, 112.1, 63.7, 18.7. HRMS (APCI) m/z: calculated for C₁₅H₁₄³⁵ClN₂O [M + H]⁺ 273.0789; observed 273.0792. HPLC R_t 27.64 min, purity 96.2%.

5-Chloro-2-(3-methylphenyl)-2,3-dihydroquinazolin-4(1H)-one (16).—2-Amino-6chlorobenzamide (**9b**; 100 mg, 0.6 mmol) and 3-methylbenzaldehyde (0.1 mL, 0.7 mmol) were reacted according to general procedure B. Purification by MPLC (1% EtOAc/hexanes to 60% EtOAc/hexanes) gave a white solid (40 mg, 25%). TLC $R_{\rm f}$ 0.4 (50% EtOAc/hexanes). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 8.34 (s, 1H), 7.37 (s, 1H), 7.30–7.23 (m, 3H), 7.17–7.12 (m, 2H), 6.73 (d, J= 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.66 (d, J= 8.0 Hz, 1H), 5.60 (s, 1H), 2.30 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 161.2, 150.6, 140.5, 137.4, 133.7, 132.9, 129.1, 128.2, 127.5, 124.0, 120.1, 113.9, 112.0, 65.6, 21.0. HRMS (APCI) *m/z*: calculated for C₁₅H₁₄³⁵ClN₂O [M + H]⁺ 273.0789; observed 273.0790. HPLC purity 95.4%.

5-Chloro-2-(4-methylphenyl)-2,3-dihydroquinazolin-4(1H)-one (17).—2-Amino-6-chlorobenzamide (**9b**; 100 mg, 0.6 mmol) and 4-methylbenzaldehyde (0.07 mL, 0.7 mmol) were reacted according to general procedure B. Purification by MPLC (1% EtOAc/hexanes to 70% EtOAc/hexanes) gave a white solid (115 mg, 71%). TLC R_f 0.8 (50% EtOAc/hexanes). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 8.35 (s, 1H), 7.39–7.31 (m, 3H), 7.18 (d, J= 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.13 (t, J= 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.72 (d, J= 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.65 (d, J= 8.0 Hz, 1H), 5.59 (s, 1H), 2.27 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 161.2, 150.6, 137.8, 137.6, 133.7, 132.9, 128.8, 126.8, 120.1, 113.9, 112.1, 65.3, 20.6. HRMS (APCI) m/z: calculated for C₁₅H₁₄³⁵ClN₂O [M + H]⁺ 273.0789; observed 273.0792.

5-Chloro-2-(4-methoxyphenyl)-2,3-dihydroquinazolin-4(1H)-one (18).—2-Amino-6-chlorobenzamide (**9b**; 100 mg, 0.6 mmol) and 4-methoxybenzaldehyde (0.07 mL, 0.7 mmol) were reacted according to general procedure B. Purification by MPLC (1% EtOAc/hexanes to 60% EtOAc/hexanes) gave a white solid (108 mg, 62%). TLC $R_{\rm f}$ 0.8 (50% EtOAc/hexanes). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 8.30 (bs, 1H), 7.38 (d, J= 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.32 (s, 1H), 7.14 (t, J= 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.93 (d, J= 8.5 Hz, 2H), 6.72 (d, J= 8.0 Hz, 1H), 5.59 (s, 1H), 3.73 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 161.2, 159.4, 150.7, 133.7, 132.9, 132.4, 128.2, 120.1, 113.9, 113.6, 112.1, 65.2, 55.1. HRMS (APCI) m/z: calculated for C₁₅H₁₄³⁵ClN₂O₂ [M + H]⁺ 289.0738; observed 289.074.

2-(2-Methylphenyl)-2,3-dihydroquinazolin-4(1H)-one (19).—2-Aminobenzamide (**9a**; 100 mg, 0.6 mmol) and 2-methylbenzaldehyde (0.2 mL, 0.7 mmol) were reacted according to general procedure B. Purification by MPLC (1% EtOAc/hexanes to 50% EtOAc/hexanes) gave a white solid (40 mg, 28%). TLC $R_{\rm f}$ 0.35 (50% EtOAc/hexanes). ¹H

NMR (500 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 8.04 (bs, 1H), 7.64 (dd, J=7.5, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.55 (dd, J=7.5, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.30–7.15 (m, 4H), 6.85 (bs, 1H), 6.78–6.65 (m, 2H), 5.99 (s, 1H), 2.42 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 164.0, 148.5, 138.0, 136.0, 133.1, 130.6, 128.4, 127.4, 125.9, 117.1, 114.8, 114.4, 64.6, 18.7. HRMS (APCI) m/z: calculated for C₁₅H₁₅N₂O [M + H]⁺ 239.1179; observed 239.1180. HPLC R_t 25.82 min, purity 97.2%.

5-Chloro-2-(3-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)-2,3-dihydroquinazolin-4(1H)-one (20).-

2-Amino-6-chlorobenzamide (**9b**; 100 mg, 0.6 mmol) and 3-trifluoromethylbenzaldehyde (0.12 mL, 0.7 mmol) were reacted according to general procedure B. Purification by MPLC (1% EtOAc/hexanes to 50% EtOAc/hexanes) gave a white solid (60 mg, 30%). TLC $R_{\rm f}$ 0.4 (50% EtOAc/hexanes). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 8.53 (s, 1H), 7.82 (s, 1H), 7.77 (q, J = 6.5 Hz, 2H), 7.75–7.69 (m, 1H), 7.63 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.53 (s, 1H), 6.75 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.69 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 5.79 (s, 1H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO- d_6) major peaks are listed. δ 161.1, 150.4, 142.2, 133.8, 133.2, 131.1, 129.6, 125.3 (q, $^{3}J_{\rm CF} = 4.0$ Hz), 129.0 (q, $^{2}J_{\rm CF} = 32.0$ Hz), 124.1 (q, $^{1}J_{\rm CF} = 272.0$ Hz), 123.7 (q, $^{3}J_{\rm CF} = 4.0$ Hz), 120.6, 114.1, 112.1, 64.8. HRMS (APCI) *m/z*: calculated for C₁₅H₁₁³⁵Cl¹⁹F₃N₂O [M + H]⁺ 327.0507; observed 327.0508.

5-Chloro-2-(2,4-dimethylphenyl)-2,3-dihydroquinazolin-4(1H)-one (21).-2-

Amino-6-chlorobenzamide (**9b**; 100 mg, 0.6 mmol) and 2,4-dimethylbenzaldehyde (0.1 mL, 0.7 mmol) were reacted according to general procedure B. Purification by MPLC (1% EtOAc/hexanes to 60% EtOAc/hexanes) gave a white solid (30 mg, 18%). TLC R_f 0.4 (50% EtOAc/hexanes). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 8.12 (s, 1H), 7.39 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.15 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.11 (s, 1H), 7.05–7.00 (m, 2H), 6.74 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.69 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 5.81 (s, 1H), 2.35 (s, 3H), 2.26 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 161.6, 151.4, 137.7, 136.0, 134.0, 133.8, 132.8, 131.2, 127.4, 126.3, 120.2, 113.9, 112.1, 63.6, 20.5, 18.6. HRMS (APCI) m/z: calculated for C₁₆H₁₆³⁵ClN₂O [M + H]⁺ 287.0946; observed 287.0948.

5-Chloro-2-(2,4,6-trimethylphenyl)-2,3-dihydroquinazolin-4(1H)-one (22).—2-Amino-6-chlorobenzamide (**9b**; 100 mg, 0.6 mmol) and 2,4,6-trimethylbenzaldehyde (0.1 mL, 0.7 mmol) were reacted according to general procedure B. Purification by MPLC (1% EtOAc/hexanes to 50% EtOAc/hexanes) gave a white solid (20 mg, 11%). TLC R_f 0.55 (50% EtOAc/hexanes). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 8.03 (s, 1H), 7.13 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.04 (s, 1H), 6.86 (s, 2H), 6.68 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 6.09 (s, 1H), 2.41 (s, 6H), 2.22 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 161.8, 152.0, 137.8, 137.6, 133.9, 132.6, 130.3, 129.7, 120.0, 113.8, 111.9, 62.9, 20.44, 20.36. LRMS (APCI) *m/z*: calculated for C₁₇H₁₈³⁵ClN₂O [M + H]⁺ 301.1; observed 301.2. HPLC R_t 28.82 min, purity 95.7%.

5-Chloro-2-(3,5-dimethylphenyl)-2,3-dihydroquinazolin-4(1H)-one (23).—2-

Amino-6-chlorobenzamide (**9b**; 100 mg, 0.6 mmol) and 3,5-dimethylbenzaldehyde (0.1 mL, 0.7 mmol) were reacted according to general procedure B. Purification by MPLC (gradient 1% DCM/hexanes to 20% EtOAc/DCM) gave a white solid (30 mg, 18%). TLC $R_{\rm f}$ 0.45 (50% EtOAc/hexanes). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, acetone- d_6) δ 7.27–7.12 (m, 4H), 7.01 (s, 1H), 6.88–6.81 (m, 1H), 6.77 (d, J= 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.41 (s, 1H), 5.72 (s, 1H), 2.29 (s, 6H).

¹³C NMR (126 MHz, acetone- d_6) δ 160.8, 150.5, 139.2, 137.5, 134.4, 132.3, 129.9, 127.8, 124.5, 120.6, 113.4, 66.7, 19.8 (2C). HRMS (ESI) *m*/*z*: calculated for C₁₆H₁₄³⁵ClN₂O [M – H]⁻ 285.0789; observed 285.0793.

5-Chloro-2-(2,5-dimethylphenyl)-2,3-dihydroquinazolin-4(1H)-one (24).-2-

Amino-6-chlorobenzamide (**9b**; 100 mg, 0.6 mmol) and 2,5-dimethylbenzaldehyde (0.1 mL, 0.7 mmol) were reacted according to general procedure B. Purification by MPLC (gradient 1% DCM/hexanes to 20% EtOAc/DCM) gave white solid (60 mg, 35%). TLC R_f 0.35 (50% EtOAc/hexanes). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 8.11 (s, 1H), 7.37 (s, 1H), 7.15 (d, J= 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.12 (s, 1H), 7.09 (s, 2H), 6.74 (d, J= 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.70 (d, J= 8.0 Hz, 1H), 5.82 (s, 1H), 2.33 (s, 3H), 2.27 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 162.2, 152.1, 137.0, 135.2, 134.4, 133.7, 133.4, 131.1, 129.7, 128.6, 120.8, 114.5, 112.7, 64.6, 21.2, 18.8. HRMS (APCI) m/z: C₁₆H₁₆³⁵ClN₂O [M + H]⁺ 287.0946; observed 287.0948.

5-Chloro-2-(2,3-dimethylphenyl)-2,3-dihydroquinazolin-4(1H)-one (25).-2-

Amino-6-chlorobenzamide (**9b**; 100 mg, 0.6 mmol) and 2,3-dimethylbenzaldehyde (0.1 mL, 0.7 mmol) were reacted according to general procedure B. Purification by MPLC (1% EtOAc/hexanes to 60% EtOAc/hexanes) gave a white solid (42 mg, 24%). TLC R_f 0.45 (50% EtOAc/hexanes). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 8.14 (s, 1H), 7.37 (d, J= 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.22–7.08 (m, 4H), 6.74 (d, J= 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.70 (d, J= 8.0 Hz, 1H), 5.90 (s, 1H), 2.28 (s, 3H), 2.25 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 162.1, 151.9, 137.4, 137.2, 135.4, 134.4, 133.4, 130.6, 125.9, 125.8, 120.8, 114.5, 112.7, 64.7, 20.7, 15.1. HRMS (APCI) m/z: C₁₆H₁₆³⁵ClN₂O [M + H]⁺ 287.0946; observed 287.0948.

5-Chloro-2-(2,6-dimethylphenyl)-2,3-dihydroquinazolin-4(1H)-one (26).—2-Amino-6-chlorobenzamide (**9b**; 100 mg, 0.6 mmol) and 2,6-dimethylbenzaldehyde (100 mg, 0.7 mmol) were reacted according to general procedure B. Purification by MPLC (gradient 1% DCM/hexanes to 20% EtOAc/DCM) gave a white solid (20 mg, 12%). TLC $R_{\rm f}$ 0.4 (50% EtOAc/hexanes). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, acetone- d_6) δ 7.20 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.14 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.07–6.98 (m, 3H), 6.82 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.78 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.38 (s, 1H), 6.22 (s, 1H), 2.53 (s, 6H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, acetone- d_6) δ 151.6, 137.8, 134.6, 132.6, 132.2, 128.9, 128.7, 128.3, 120.5, 113.4, 113.3, 63.4, 19.6 (2C). HRMS (APCI) m/z calculated for C₁₆H₁₆³⁵ClN₂O [M + H]⁺ 287.0946; observed 287.0948. HPLC R_t 27.02 min, purity 95.8%.

(E)-2-((2-Chloro-6-fluorobenzylidene)amino)benzamide (27).—*o*-Aminobenzamide (9a; 200 mg, 1.5 mmol) and 2-chloro-6-fluorobenzaldehyde (232 mg, 1.5 mmol) were added to toluene (20 mL) in a 20 mL microwave vial charged with a stir bar. The reaction was irradiated under microwave at 150 °C for 1 h. After the consumption of the starting material (as assessed by TLC), the reaction was cooled to room temperature and the crude product mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure, then diluted with ethyl acetate and washed with water (3×10 mL). The combined organic layer was dried (anhydrous MgSO₄) and concentrated under vacuum. The resulted residue was purified *via* MPLC (1% EtOAc/hexanes to 40% EtOAc/hexanes), which gave the title compound (100 mg, 25%). TLC *R*f 0.55 (50% EtOAc/hexanes). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 8.78 (s, 1H), 8.36

(s, 1H), 7.99 (dd, J = 8.0, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.70 (dt, J = 4.0, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.65–7.56 (m, 2H), 7.51 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.45–7.38 (m, 2H), 7.25 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 166.5, 161.1 (d, ¹ J_{CF} = 257.0 Hz), 155.6 (d, ³ J_{CF} = 2.0 Hz), 149.0, 135.2 (d, ³ J_{CF} = 4.5 Hz), 133.7 (d, ² J_{CF} = 10.5 Hz), 132.3, 130.1, 127.6, 126.9, 126.6 (d, ⁴ J_{CF} = 3.0 Hz), 121.1 (d, ³ J_{CF} = 11.5 Hz), 118.9, 116.0 (d, ² J_{CF} = 22.0 Hz). HRMS (APCI) m/z: calculated for C₁₄H₁₁³⁵Cl¹⁹FN₂O [M + H]⁺ 277.0538; observed 277.0541.

(E)-2-Chloro-6-((2-chloro-6-fluorobenzylidene)amino)-benzamide (28).-2-

Amino-6-chlorobenzamide (**9b**; 93 mg, 0.5 mmol) and 2-chloro-6-fluorobenzaldehyde (86 mg, 0.5 mmol) were added to toluene (20 mL) in a 20 mL microwave vial charged with a stir bar. The reaction was irradiated under microwave at 150 °C for 1 h. After the consumption of the starting material (as assessed by TLC), the reaction was cooled to room temperature and the crude product mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure, then diluted with ethyl acetate and washed with water (3 × 10 mL). The combined organic layer was dried (anhydrous MgSO₄) and concentrated under vacuum. The purification *via* MPLC (1% EtOAc/hexanes to 40% EtOAc/hexanes) resulted in a white solid (100 mg, 60%). TLC *R*f 0.40 (50% EtOAc/hexanes). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 8.65 (s, 1H), 7.80 (s, 1H), 7.57 (q, 1H), 7.50 (s, 1H), 7.48–7.32 (m, 4H), 7.11 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 166.7, 161.4 (d, ¹*J*_{CF} = 259.0 Hz), 156.6 (d, ³*J*_{CF} = 2.0 Hz), 150.5, 135.3 (d, ³*J*_{CF} = 4.0 Hz), 133.8 (d, ²*J*_{CF} = 10.0 Hz), 132.4, 130.7, 130.4, 126.9, 126.7 (d, ⁴*J*_{CF} = 3.5 Hz), 122.1 (d, ³*J*_{CF} = 12.0 Hz), 117.7, 116.2 (d, ²*J*_{CF} = 22.0 Hz). HRMS (ESI) *m*/*z*: calculated for C₁₄H₉³⁵Cl₂¹⁹FN₂ONa [M + Na]⁺ 332.9968; observed 332.9970.

5-Chloro-2-(3-methylphenyl)-4H-benzo[d][1,3]oxazin-4-one (29).—The compound was prepared according to a modified procedure.⁴⁰ 3-Methylbenzoyl chloride (0.8 mL, 2 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (2 mL) was added into a solution of 2-amino 5-chlorobenzoic acid (0.17 g, 1 mmol) and diisopropylethylamine (0.3 mL) in dichloromethane (2 mL) at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was stirred overnight at room temperature and then condensed *in vacuo*. The residue was dissolved in anhydrous DMF (2 mL), followed by addition of diisopropylethylamine (0.3 mL) and HATU (0.4 g, 1 mmol). After stirring for 1 h at room temperature, the reaction was quenched with cold water (100 mL) at 0 °C. The precipitate was collected and purified by MPLC (1% EtOAc/hexanes to 20% EtOAc/hexanes) to give the title compound (0.1 g, 37%). TLC *R*_f 0.65 (50% EtOAc/hexanes). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 7.99–7.94 (m, 2H), 7.84 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.64 (dd, *J* = 8.0, 2.0 Hz, 2H), 7.47 (d, *J* = 5.0 Hz, 2H), 2.41 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 157.6, 156.2, 149.4, 139.0, 137.1, 134.6, 134.2, 131.0, 130.1, 129.5, 128.7, 126.8, 125.7, 115.3, 21.4. HRMS (APCI) *m/z*: calculated for C₁₅H₁₁³⁵ClN₂O [M + H]⁺ 272.0473; observed 272.0475.

5-Chloro-2-(3-methylphenyl)quinazolin-4(3H)-one (30).—5-Chloro-2-(3-methylphenyl)-4*H*-benzo[*d*][1,3]oxazin-4-one (**29**; 100 mg, 0.37 mmol) was suspended in 3 mL of an ammonium hydroxide solution (30–33% NH₃ in H₂O) and heated to 100 °C for 4 h. The crude mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure, and the resulting precipitate was filtered and dried. The crude products were subsequently recrystallized from methanol and gave the title compound as a white solid (60 mg, 60%). TLC *R*_f 0.6 (50% EtOAc/hexanes). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 12.46 (s, 1H), 8.00 (s, 1H), 7.94 (d, *J*=

7.0 Hz, 1H), 7.72 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.66 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.49 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.41 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 2.39 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 160.8, 153.6, 151.8, 138.4, 134.9, 133.0, 132.8, 132.5, 129.3, 129.0, 128.8, 127.6, 125.5, 118.4, 21.4. HRMS (APCI) m/z: calculated for C₁₅H₁₂³⁵ClN₂O [M + H]⁺ 271.0633; observed 271.0635.

5-Methoxy-2-(2-methylphenyl)-2,3-dihydroquinazolin-4(1H)-one (31).—2-

Amino-6-methoxybenzamide (**9c**; 332 mg, 2 mmol) and 2-methylbenzaldehyde (0.1 mL, 0.7 mmol) were reacted according to general procedure B. Purification by MPLC (gradient 1% DCM/hexanes to 20% EtOAc/DCM) gave a white solid (200 mg, 37%). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 7.74 (s, 1H), 7.52 (dd, *J*= 7.5, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.27–7.16 (m, 3H), 7.13 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.83 (s, 1H), 6.37 (d, *J*= 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.29 (d, *J*= 8.0 Hz, 1H), 5.75 (s, 1H), 3.70 (s, 3H), 2.38 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO) δ 162.4, 160.6, 151.0, 137.5, 136.1, 133.2, 130.5, 128.3, 127.3, 125.8, 107.3, 104.5, 101.2, 63.8, 55.3, 18.7. HRMS (ESI) *m/z*: calculated for C₁₆H₁₆N₂O₂Na [M + Na]⁺ 291.1104; observed 291.1105.

5-Fluoro-2-(3-methylphenyl)-2,3-dihydroquinazolin-4(1H)-one (32).—2-Amino-6-fluorobenzamide (200 mg, 1.3 mmol) and 3-methylbenzaldehyde (0.2 mL, 1.6 mmol) were reacted according to general procedure B. Purification by MPLC (1% EtOAc/hexanes to 60% EtOAc/hexanes) gave a white solid (65 mg, 20%). TLC $R_{\rm f}$ 0.5 (50% EtOAc/hexanes). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 8.24 (s, 1H), 7.39 (s, 1H), 7.30–7.23 (m, 3H), 7.18 (ddd, J = 19.5, 10.0, 6.0 Hz, 2H), 6.56 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.37 (dd, J = 11.5, 8.0 Hz, 1H), 5.64 (s, 1H), 2.30 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 162.2 (d, ¹ $J_{\rm CF} = 259.0$ Hz), 160.8 (d, ³ $J_{\rm CF} = 2.5$ Hz), 150.2 (d, ³ $J_{\rm CF} = 2.5$ Hz), 140.8, 137.4, 133.9 (d, ² $J_{\rm CF} = 11.5$ Hz), 129.2, 128.2, 127.5, 124.0, 110.4 (d, ⁴ $J_{\rm CF} = 3.5$ Hz), 104.5 (d, ² $J_{\rm CF} = 21.5$ Hz), 103.6 (d, ³ $J_{\rm CF} = 9.0$ Hz), 66.0, 21.0. HRMS (APCI) m/z: calculated for C₁₅H₁₄¹⁹FN₂O [M + H]⁺ 257.1085; observed 257.1086.

5-Methyl-2-(3-methylphenyl)-2,3-dihydroquinazolin-4(1H)-one (33).—2-Amino-6-methylbenzamide (**9d**; 100 mg, 0.7 mmol) and 3-methylbenzaldehyde (0.1 mL, 0.8 mmol) were reacted according to general procedure B. Purification by MPLC (gradient 1% DCM/ hexanes to 20% EtOAc/DCM) gave a white solid (80 mg, 53%). TLC $R_{\rm f}$ 0.5 (50% EtOAc/ hexanes). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 8.07 (s, 1H), 7.30 (s, 1H), 7.28–7.22 (m, 2H), 7.17–7.11 (m, 1H), 7.05 (t, J= 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.92 (s, 2H), 6.61 (d, J= 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.44 (d, J = 7.45 Hz, 1H), 2.50 (s, 3H), 2.30 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 164.9, 149.8, 141.7, 140.8, 137.8, 132.6, 129.5, 128.7, 128.1, 124.6, 121.4, 114.0, 113.4, 66.6, 22.5, 21.6. HRMS (APCI) m/z: calculated for C₁₆H₁₇N₂O [M + H]⁺ 253.1335; observed 253.1336.

5-Bromo-2-(3-methylphenyl)-2,3-dihydroquinazolin-4(1H)-one (34).—2-Amino-6bromobenzamide (**9e**; 100 mg, 0.5 mmol) and 3-methylbenzaldehyde (0.1 mL, 0.6 mmol) were reacted according to general procedure B. Purification by MPLC (1% EtOAc/hexanes to 50% EtOAc/hexanes) gave a white solid (40 mg, 25%). TLC $R_{\rm f}$ 0.6 (50% EtOAc/ hexanes). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 8.37 (s, 1H), 7.37 (s, 1H), 7.33–7.22 (m, 3H), 7.16 (d, J= 6.5 Hz, 1H), 7.05 (t, J= 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.87 (d, J= 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.78 (d, J= 8.0 Hz, 1H), 5.60 (s, 1H), 2.30 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO) δ 161.8, 151.2, 141.0, 138.0, 133.8, 129.7, 128.8, 128.1, 124.6, 124.3, 122.4, 115.1, 113.6, 66.0, 21.5. HRMS

(APCI) m/z: calculated for C₁₅H₁₄⁷⁹BrN₂O [M + H]⁺ 317.0284; observed 317.0287. HPLC R_t 27.52 min, purity 95.9%.

5-Bromo-2-(o-tolyl)-2,3-dihydroquinazolin-4(1H)-one (35).—2-Amino-6bromobenzamide (**9e**; 100 mg, 0.5 mmol) and 2-methylbenzaldehyde (0.1 mL, 0.6 mmol) were reacted according to general procedure B. Purification by MPLC (1% EtOAc/hexanes to 50% EtOAc/hexanes) gave a white solid (38 mg, 25%). TLC $R_{\rm f}$ 0.6 (50% EtOAc/ hexanes). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 8.28 (bs, 1H), 7.57 (d, J= 7.5, 1H), 7.38–7.24 (m, 3H), 7.23 (s, 1H), 7.13 (t, J= 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.97 (d, J= 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.84 (d, J= 8.0 Hz, 1H), 5.91 (bs, 1H), 2.44 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO- d_6) δ 161.8, 151.4, 136.9, 136.3, 133.3, 130.7, 128.7, 127.4, 126.0, 123.9, 122.0, 114.7, 113.2, 63.6, 18.8. HRMS (ESI) m/z: calculated for C₁₅H₁₃BrN₂NaO [M + Na]⁺ 339.0103; observed 339.0105.

2-((2-Carboxyphenyl)amino)-6-chlorobenzoic Acid (36).—The desired compound was obtained according to the reported procedure.⁴¹ To a stirred suspension of 2-amino-6-chlorobenzoic acid (860 mg, 5 mmol), 2-bromobenzoic acid (1.1 mg, 5.5 mmol), and K₂CO₃ (1.4 g, 10 mmol) was added copper powder (63 mg, 1 mmol) in EtOH (10 mL/mmol). The suspension was refluxed for 1.5 h. After completion of the reaction (as assessed by TLC), the mixture was filtered on Celite to remove the copper. The filter bed was washed with H₂O, and the resulting solution was acidified with concentrated HCl to a pH of 2–3. The resulting suspension was recrystallized in EtOH/H₂O and dried under vacuum. The title product was obtained as a white solid (1.2 g, 83%). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 13.80 (bs, 1H), 13.20 (bs, 1H), 9.89 (s, 1H), 7.89 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.45–7.34 (m, 3H), 7.19 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.16 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.84 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 169.5, 166.6, 145.8, 139.2, 134.0, 131.7, 130.8, 130.1, 128.3, 123.9, 120.0, 118.6, 114.7, 113.7. HRMS (ESI) *m*/*z*: calculated for C₁₄H₉³⁵ClNO₄ [M – H]⁻ 290.0226; observed 290.0220.

8-Chloro-9-oxo-9,10-dihydroacridine-4-carboxylic Acid (37).—The desired compound was obtained according to the reported procedure.⁴¹ To a stirred suspension of 2-((2-carboxyphenyl)amino)-6-chlorobenzoic acid (**36**; 1.45 g, 5 mmol) in CH₃CN at reflux was added phosphorus(V)oxychloride (1 mL, 11 mmol) over a period of 1 h. The solution was refluxed until the consumption of starting material (approximately 2 h, as assessed by TLC) and then cooled to 10–15 °C. H₂O (10 mL) was added, and the mixture was refluxed for an additional 2.5 h. The suspension was cooled to 10 °C and filtered. The solid was washed with H₂O and CH₃CN and then dried under vacuum. The title product was obtained as white solid (1.0 g, 73%). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 13.82 (bs, 1H), 11.87 (s, 1H), 8.47–8.35 (m, 2H), 7.72–7.58 (m, 2H), 7.38–7.24 (m, 2H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 175.4, 168.9, 142.3, 140.3, 136.7, 133.5, 132.9, 132.5, 124.8, 122.7, 120.6, 118.1, 116.7, 114.7. HRMS (ESI) *m/z*: calculated for C₁₄H₇³⁵ClNO₃ [M – H]⁻ 272.0120; observed 272.0114.

2-((2-Carboxyphenyl)amino)-4-chlorobenzoic Acid (38).—The desired compound was obtained according to the reported procedure.⁴¹ To a stirred suspension of 2-

aminobenzoic acid (1.3 g, 10 mmol), 2-bromo-4-chloro-benzoic acid (2.5 g, 11 mmol), and K₂CO₃ (2.77 g, 20 mmol) was added copper powder (0.125 g, 2 mmol) in EtOH (20 mL). The suspension was refluxed for 1.5 h. After completion of the reaction (as assessed by TLC), the mixture was filtered on Celite to remove the copper. The filter bed was washed with H₂O, and the resulting solution was acidified with concentrated HCl to a pH of 2–3. The resulting suspension was stirred for 1 h at 10 °C, the solid was filtered and washed with H₂O. The product was recrystallized in EtOH/H₂O and dried under vacuum. The title product was obtained as a white solid (1.6 g, 28%). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 7.89 (app t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.54–7.46 (m, 2H), 7.34 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.06–6.99 (m, 1H), 6.91 (dd, *J* = 8.5, 2.0 Hz, 1H), –COO*H* protons were not observed. ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 168.1, 167.8, 145.4, 142.1, 137.8, 133.6, 133.2, 131.7, 121.2, 119.5, 119.0, 118.8, 115.7, 115.3. HRMS (ESI) *m*/*z*: calculated for C₁₄H₉³⁵ClNO₄ [M – H]⁻ 290.0226; observed 290.0219

1-Chloro-9-oxo-9,10-dihydroacridine-4-carboxylic Acid (39).—The desired compound was obtained according to the reported procedure.⁴¹ To a stirred suspension of 2-((2-carboxyphenyl)amino)-4-chlorobenzoic acid (**38**; 400 mg, 1.4 mmol) in CH₃CN at reflux was added phosphorus(V)oxychloride (0.3 mL, 3 mmol) over a period of 1 h. The solution was refluxed until the consumption of starting material (approximately 2 h, as assessed by TLC) and then cooled to 10–15 °C. H₂O (10 mL) was added, and the mixture was refluxed for an additional 2.5 h. The suspension was cooled to 10 °C and filtered. The solid was washed with H₂O and CH₃CN and then dried under vacuum. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 13.82 (bs, 1H), 11.87 (s, 1H), 8.47–8.35 (m, 2H), 7.72–7.58 (m, 2H), 7.38–7.24 (m, 2H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆) δ 175.4, 168.9, 142.3, 140.3, 136.7, 133.5, 132.9, 132.5, 124.8, 122.7, 120.6, 118.1, 116.7, 114.7. HRMS (ESI) *m/z*: calculated for C₁₄H₇³⁵ClNO₃ [M – H]⁻ 272.0120; observed 272.0115.

Supplementary Material

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ABBREVIATIONS

APCI	atmospheric pressure chemical ionization
AR	androgen receptor
ASH1L	ASH1 like histone lysine methyltransferase

ATAD2B	ATPase family AAA domain-containing protein 2B
BAF	BRG1/BRM associated factor
BAZ2B	bromodomain adjacent to zinc finger domain protein 2B
BCA	bicinchoninic acid
BD1	bromodomain 1
BD2	bromodomain 2
BD3	bromodomain 3
BD4	bromodomain 4
BD5	bromodomain 5
BD6	bromodomain 6
BET	bromodomain and extra terminal domain
BPTF	bromodomain PHD finger transcription factor
BRD1	bromodomain containing protein 1
BRD2	bromodomain containing protein 2
BRD3	bromodomain containing protein 3
BRD4	bromodomain containing protein 4
BRDT	bromodomain testis-specific protein
BRD7	bromodomain containing protein 7
BRG1	brahma-related gene-1
BRM	brahma
BRPF1B	bromodomain and PHD finger-containing protein 1B
BRWD1	bromodomain and WD repeat-containing protein 1
cBAF	canonical BRG1/BRM associated factor
ccRCC	clear cell renal cell carcinoma
CECR2	cyclin E repressor complex 2
CREBBP	cAMP-response element binding protein binding protein
CSP	chemical shift perturbation
Da	Dalton
DIA	difference intensity analysis

DSF	differential scanning fluorimetry
GBAF	GLTSCR1/like-containing BAF complex
GCN5	general control of amino acid synthesis protein 5
H3K14Ac	histone 3 acetylated at lysine14
HEPES	(4-(2-hydroxyethyl)-1-piperazineethanesulfonic acid)
ITC	isothermal titration calorimetry
K _d	dissociation constant
LE	ligand efficiency
LNCaP	androgen receptor positive prostate cancer cell line
LRMS	low-resolution mass spectrometry
MPLC	medium pressure flash liquid chromatography
NB	not binding
ND	not determined
PBRM1	polybromo-1
Pbrm1	polybromo-1 gene
PBAF	polybromo-associated BAF complex
PC3	androgen receptor negative prostate cancer cell line
PCAF	p300/CBP-associated factor
PHIP	PH-interacting protein
RWPE-1	prostate epithelial cell line
SAR	structure-activity relationship
shRNA	short hairpin RNA
SMARCA2	SWI/SNF related, matrix associated, actin dependent regulator of chromatin, subfamily A, member 2
SMARCA4	SWI/SNF related, matrix associated, actin dependent regulator of chromatin, subfamily A, member 4
SOFAST	selective optimized flip angle short transient
SWI/SNF	switch/sucrose nonfermenting
TAF1L	transcription initiation factor TFIID subunit 1-like

TRIM33	tripartite motif-containing 33

 $T_{\rm m}$ melting temperature

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Figure 1.

Selected pan-inhibitors of bromodomain family VIII. Atoms expected to interact with proteins through specific hydrogen or halogen bonds are highlighted in brown.



Figure 2.

Summary of protein-detected NMR-based fragment screen of Maybridge Library targeting PBRM1-BD2. The 1000 fragments were screened in pools of 12, 3, or individual compounds, and hits were identified through stepwise parsing of selected samples, yielding a final hit rate of 1.2% (left column). At each stage of parsing, identification of hit samples was aided by principal component analysis (middle column) and difference intensity analysis (right column) of the 2D HMQC spectra. Samples are colored according to *k*-means clustering of principal components. Throughout the screening process, samples selected as hits are represented as solid circles and bars, control samples in the PCA plots as gray circles outlined in black, and samples containing **5** are marked with a red star.

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Figure 3.

(A) ¹H, ¹⁵N SOFAST-HMQC overlays of PBRM1-BD2 titrated with increasing concentrations of **5** (structure in insert). (B) Quantification of total chemical shift perturbations (CSPs) (¹H/¹⁵N δ chemical shift) manifested by **5** (6 mM) for individual amino acid residues of PBRM1-BD2. (C) Mapping of substantially perturbed residues on the crystal structure of PBRM1-BD2 (PDB 3LJW). The *in silico* docked pose of **5** into the acetyl-lysine binding site of PBRM1-BD2 is included. Residues displaying CSPs > 2σ (red), between 1σ and 2σ (pink), or $<1\sigma$ (white) are indicated. (D) Concentration–response curves of indicated residues used to calculate binding affinity ($K_d = 45.3 \pm 8.1 \mu$ M) of **5** for PBRM1-BD2 using GraphPad Prism.



Figure 4.

(A) Compounds synthesized to evaluate potential halogen bond formation between **7** and PBRM1-BD2 backbone. The brown dashed box highlights the quinazolinone scaffold. IC₅₀ values were obtained using the AlphaScreen assay. $T_{\rm m}$ shift values were obtained using the DSF assay. The values shown are the average of three replicates ± the standard deviation. The $K_{\rm d}$ value for each compound was obtained from ITC measurements. (B) Concentration–response curve giving IC₅₀ values for **7** (0.2 ± 0.02 μ M, blue) and **8** (6.3 ± 1.4 μ M, black), as tested by the AlphaScreen assay. (C) Overlaid ITC data for **7** (blue) and **8** (black).

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Figure 5.

(A) Heat maps showing the selectivity profile of selected compounds against the members of the bromodomain family. Inhibitors were screened at 100 μ M concentration against 10 μ M of the indicated bromodomains by the DSF assay. (B) Representative ITC data for **16** with PBRM1-BD2. (C) Overlay of ITC binding curves of SMARCA4 bromodomain with **7** (blue) and **16** (red). (D) DSF selectivity profile of **16** (red) and the previously reported **7**¹⁸ (blue) and plotted on the phylogenetic tree of bromodomain family. Roman numerals

indicate the eight bromodomain subfamilies. Bromodomains shown in black were tested. Bromodomains shown in gray were not tested.

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Figure 6.

(A) ¹H, ¹⁵N SOFAST-HMQC overlays of PBRM1-BD2 (100 μ M) titrated with 0–500 μ M of **16** (structure in insert). (B) (top) Quantification of total chemical shift perturbations (¹H/¹⁵N δ chemical shift) manifested by **16** (500 μ M) for individual amino acid residues of PBRM1-BD2. Prolines and unobserved residues have a value of zero, while amino acids whose amide cross peak broadened beyond detection during the titration were assigned a value of 5 and are colored dark red. (bottom) Internal energy (*E*_{int}) values from the per residue interaction scoring (XP Glide docking) for residues located within 12 Å of the centroid of the docked ligand **16**. (C) Mapping of perturbed residues to the crystal structure of PBRM1-BD2 (PDB 6ZN6). The *in silico* docked pose of **16** into the acetyl-lysine binding site of PBRM1-BD2 is included. (D) Binding site view of the pose displayed in (C). Residues are colored as displaying line broadening (dark red) and CSPs > 2 σ (red), between 1σ and 2σ (pink), or <1 σ (white).

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Figure 7.

Cellular activity of PBRM1-BD2 inhibitors. (A) Immunoblot of lysates from human cell lines with lentiviral expression of two shRNAs against *PBRM1* (shPBRM1–3 and shPBRM1–4) or vector control. Cell lines include LNCaP (AR-positive prostate cancer cell line), PC3 (AR-negative prostate cancer cell line), RWPE-1 (prostate epithelial cell line), and HEK293T (transformed human embryonic kidney cell line). (B) Cell viability after 6 days incubation of cell lines expressing lentiviral shPBRM1 or vector control. (C) Prostate cell line viability after 5 days treatment with 0, 0.1, 1, or 10 μ M of indicated PBRM1 bromodomain inhibitors. Viability was measured as luminescence units using CellTiter-Glo. *n* = 3 for compound treatments; *n* = 6 for DMSO alone. (D) Concentration curve measurement for **16** and **34** in LNCaP cells treated as described in (A). IC₅₀ was calculated from the variable slope concentration curve generated using GraphPad Prism. (E) The viability of LNCaP cells expressing shRNA against *PBRM1* (shPBRM1–4) or vector control after 5 days treatment with 0, 1, or 10 μ M compound **16**. Viability was

measured as luminescence units using CellTiter-Glo. n = 9-12; **** = p < 0.0001. Significance calculated using Student's *t* test. (F) Immunoblot analysis of streptavidinmediated enrichment of biotinylated H3 or H3K14/18/23/K27Ac tetraacetylated peptides added to LNCaP nuclear lysate containing 250 mM NaCl. Enrichment of PBRM1 and TATA-binding protein (TBP) was determined using immunoblot analysis.



Scheme 1. General Synthetic Route to Dihydroquinazolinone Analogues

Table 1.

Compound	Structure	PBRM1-BD2 NMR K _d (µM)	LE ^b	PBRM1-BD2 $T_{\rm m}$ (°C) ^{<i>a</i>}
5		45.3 ± 8.1	0.31	1.0 ± 0.2
6	O OH HN O	79 ± 35	0.33	1.5 ± 1.0
6a	Br O	170 ± 35	0.4	1.0 ± 0.1
6b	HO	902 ± 270	0.4	ND ^C
6с	O NH ₂	709 ± 211	0.29	ND ^C
6d	S N	1387 ± 262	0.23	ND ^c
6e	O E E	1195 ± 250	0.33	ND ^C

Hits Using Protein-Detected NMR Fragment Screening of PBRM1-BD2

Compound	Structure	PBRM1-BD2 NMR K _d (µM)	LE ^b	PBRM1-BD2 $T_{\rm m} (^{\circ}{\rm C})^{a}$
6f	Br N-N	1446 ± 599	0.32	ND ^C
6g		1210 ± 267	0.3	ND ^C
6h	F NH2	>2000	N/A	ND ^C
6i	CN O_CF3	>2000	N/A	ND ^C
6j		>2000	N/A	ND ^C

^{*a*}Values are the average \pm standard deviation of three replicates.

^bLE represents Ligand Efficiency.

 $^{C}T_{\rm m}$ shift not determined/tested by DSF assay.

Table 2.

Binding Affinities of Selected PBRM1-BD2 Inhibitors Determined by ITC

		II	C K _d (μM)		
compd	PBRM1-BD2	PBRM1-BD5	SMARCA2B	SMARCA4	ASHIL
2	18.4 ± 3.7	179 ± 92	15.9 ± 9.7	~142	${}^{NB}{}^{c}$
7	0.7 ± 0.2	0.35 ± 0.04	8.1 ± 4.4	5.0 ± 0.7	NB
×	6.9 ± 3.1	3.3 ± 0.4	ND^{p}	NB	NB
11	9.3 ± 1.1	10.1 ± 1.2	18.4 ± 9.9	69 ± 34	NB
15	5.5 ± 1.0	11.1 ± 1.2	NB	NB	ΩN
16	1.5 ± 0.9	3.9 ± 2.6	NB	$N\!B$	ND
34	4.4 ± 1.3	25 ± 17	NB	NB	Ŋ

he data points to a sigmoidal curve. The errors were calculated by standard deviation or error of the fit.

 ^{b}ND indicates that the value was not determined.

 ^{C}NB indicates the compound did not bind to the bromodomain, as demonstrated by generated heat below 0.15 μ cal per second in the ITC traces.

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Table 3.

Inhibition and Thermal Shift of Compound 5 Analogues against PBRM1-BD2 as Determined by AlphaScreen and DSF Assays $a^{a,b}$

PBRM1-BD2 $T_{m} (^{\circ}C)^{d}$	1.0 ± 0.2	4.4 ± 0.4	3.8 ± 0.4	3.3 ± 0.5	3.7 ± 0.2
IC_{50} values $(\mu M)^{a}$	4.2 ± 1.3	1.0 ± 0.2	1.1 ± 0.2	1.7 ± 0.3	2.1 ± 0.4
Structure	HN HN E	CI HN HN HN HN HN HN HN HN HN HN HN HN HN	HN H	HN HN CI	HN HN CI
Compound	N	11	12	13	14

PBRM1-BD2 $T_m (^{\circ}C)^d$	5.4 ± 0.1	5.4 ± 0.2	2.8 ± 0.2	3.4 ± 0.3	1.5 ± 0.8	2.9 ± 0.3
IC ₅₀ values (μM) ^{<i>a</i>}	0.2 ± 0.04	0.26 ± 0.04	0.87 ± 0.14	2.3 ± 0.3	50 ± 11	5.6 ± 1.0
Structure	U U U U U U U U U U U U U U U U U U U	HN NH		CI O H H H H	HNNH	CI O HN NH HN OF3
Compound	IS	16	17	18	61	20

PBRM1-BD2 $T_m (^{\circ}C)^d$	4.5 ± 0.9	5.5 ± 0.3	0.23 ± 0.03	5.4 ± 1.2	3.9 ± 0.3	5.2 ± 0.3
IC ₅₀ values (μM) ^a	0.86 ± 0.15	1.3 ± 0.3^{b}	0/<	0.43 ± 0.04	0.22 ± 0.02	0.29 ± 0.05
Structure		HZ H	CI O HN HN HH	L L L L L L L L L L L L L L L L L L L	CI O HH HH	TZ TZ TZ TZ TZ TZ TZ TZ TZ TZ TZ TZ TZ T
Compound	21	22	23	5	25	26

PBRM1-BD2 $T_m (^{\circ}C)^d$	0.0	0.3 ± 0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.8 ± 0.2
IC ₅₀ values (μM) ^{<i>a</i>}	119±3	17 ± 4	236 ± 38	89.9 ± 14.8	0/<	5.6 ± 1.5
Structure	CI NH2 F	CI O NH2 F		HN HN	HN H	HN HH
Compound	27	28	29	30	31	32

PBRM1-BD2 $T_m (^{\circ}C)^a$	2.6 ± 0.3	6.4 ± 0.2	4.0 ± 0.5	
IC ₅₀ values (μM) ^a	1.3 ± 0.4	0.16 ± 0.02	0.29 ± 0.04	
Structure	CH3 O HN HN HN	R O HR NH	Br O H H H H	
Compound	33	34	35	a., 1

Values shown are the average of three replicates \pm the standard devi

 b Compound was partially insoluble at tested concentrations.

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