Supplementary Information

Thiol-specific linkers for the synthesis of oligonucleotide conjugates via metal-free thiol-ene click reaction

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General Experimental Methods

All reactions were carried out under an atmosphere of argon. Reactions were monitored by TLC using aluminium backed silica gel 60 (F254) plates, visualised using UV 254 nm and vanillin dips. Flash column chromatography was carried out with silica gel (60-120 mesh). Reagents were used as received from commercial sources unless otherwise stated. All commercial amino alcohols were a mixture of cis and trans isomers unless indicated otherwise in structures or write up. Dry solvents were purchased and used as received. ¹H NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker Avance 400 Spectrometer (400 MHz) at room temperature. ¹³C NMR spectra were recorded at a frequency of 101 MHz. Chemical shifts are reported in δ units (parts per million) and coupling constants (J) are measured in Hertz (Hz). The residual solvent signals were used as references. ³¹P NMR spectra (decoupled) were recorded at a frequency of 162 MHz and chemical shifts were reported in ppm. ¹⁹F NMR spectra (decoupled) were recorded at a frequency of 376 MHz and chemical shifts were reported in ppm. Mass spectra were recorded on Waters LCMS system with Acquity QDa detector in positive ion detection mode (ESI⁺) and analysed as m/z $[M+H]^+$. EtOAc = ethyl acetate, DIPEA = N,N -Diisopropylethylamine, CIP(OCE)N(iPr)₂ = 2-Cyanoethyl N,N-diisopropylchlorophosphoramidite, CH₂=CHBF₃K = Potassium vinyltrifluoroborate, $Pd(dppf)Cl_2.DCM = [1,1'-Bis(diphenylphosphino)ferrocene]dichloropalladium (II), complex with$ dichloromethane, DCC = N,N'-Dicyclohexylcarbodiimide, DMAP = 4-(Dimethylamino)pyridine, DMF = *N*,*N*-Dimethylformamide, THF = Tetrahydrofuran, DCM = Dichloromethane, rt = room temperature, eq = equivalents.

General method for synthesis of linkers

Representative Examples

Method A

Step 1

3-((2-chloropyrimidin-4-yl)(methyl)amino)cyclobutan-1-ol (2)



To a solution of 2,4-dichloro-pyrimidine 1 (1.00 g, 6.7 mmol) in THF (10 mL) was added Et₃N (16.75 mmol, 0.43 mL) and commercially available 3-(methylamino)cyclobutan-1-ol (cis/trans 5:1) (1.02 g, 10.05 mmol). The mixture was stirred at ambient temperature for 7 hours and concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was dissolved in DCM (20 mL) and the solution was poured into saturated aqueous sodium bicarbonate solution (5 mL). The two layers were separated, and the aqueous layer was extracted with DCM (2 x 20 mL). The combined organic layer was dried over Na₂SO₄, filtered, concentrated under reduced pressure and purified by flash column chromatography using Hexane/EtOAc (0-100%) to afford 3-((2-chloropyrimidin-4-yl)(methyl)amino)cyclobutan-1-ol 2 (major product) (925 mg, 64.6%) as а pale yellow gum and 3-((4-chloropyrimidin-2yl)(methyl)amino)cyclobutan-1-ol 2' (minor product) (140 mg, 9.8%) as a yellow viscous oil.

¹H NMR for 3-((2-chloropyrimidin-4-yl)(methyl)amino)cyclobutan-1-ol **2** (major product)

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) (Cis/Trans Mixture) δ 7.86 (dd, J = 7.4, 5.9 Hz, 1H), 6.32 – 6.16 (m, 1H), 4.67 – 4.33 (m, 1H), 4.09 – 4.01 (m, 1H), 2.97 – 2.94 (m, 3H), 2.73 – 2.33 (m, 2H), 2.32 – 1.92 (m, 2H). (One exchangeable proton of OH was not observed).

¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) (Cis/Trans mixture) δ 162.95, 162.90, 160.24, 160.19, 156.68, 156.60, 102.04, 63.82, 60.60, 60.54, 42.66, 38.60, 37.16, 30.68, 30.57.

LCMS (ESI-MS) m/z calculated for: C₉H₁₃ClN₃O⁺: 214.074; found 214.079 [M+H]⁺.

¹H NMR for 3-((4-chloropyrimidin-2-yl)(methyl)amino)cyclobutan-1-ol **2'** (minor product) ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) (Cis/Trans mixture) δ 8.08 (d, *J* = 5.1 Hz, 1H), 6.43 (dd, *J* = 5.0, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 4.55 (tt, *J* = 9.7, 7.5 Hz, 1H), 4.11 – 3.97 (m, 1H), 3.05 (d, *J* = 6.7 Hz, 3H), 2.66 - 2.58 (m, 2H), 2.21 – 1.97 (m, 3H).

LCMS (ESI-MS) m/z calculated for: C₉H₁₃ClN₃O⁺:214.074; found 214.078 [M+H]⁺.

Step 2

3-(methyl(2-vinylpyrimidin-4-yl)amino)cyclobutan-1-ol (7)



To a solution of 3-((2-chloropyrimidin-4-yl)(methyl)amino)cyclobutan-1-ol **2** (141 mg, 0.66 mmol) and vinylboronic acid pinacol ester (0.34 mL, 1.98 mmol) in dioxane (4 mL) and water (1 mL) under argon atmosphere was added Na₂CO₃ (245 mg, 2.31 mmol). The mixture was degassed for 5 min. Then, the catalyst Pd(dppf)Cl₂.DCM (54 mg, 0.66 mmol) was added to the mixture and further degassed for 5 min. The reaction mixture was warmed up to 85 °C and stirred at this temperature for 18 hours. The reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature, diluted with DCM and filtered through a bed of celite, washing several times with DCM (3 x 15 mL). Solvent was removed under vacuum. The residue was subjected to flash column chromatography using Heptane/Ethyl acetate (0-100%) to afford the product 3-(methyl(2-vinylpyrimidin-4-yl)amino)cyclobutan-1-ol **7** (130 mg, 96.7%) as a pale yellow gum.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) (Cis/Trans Mixture) δ 8.09 (t, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 1H), 6.67 (dd, *J* = 17.3, 10.4 Hz, 1H), 6.56 - 6.40 (m, 1H), 6.32 - 6.15 (m, 1H), 5.59 (dd, *J* = 10.4, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 4.55 - 4.30 (m, 1H), 4.10 (tt, *J* = 7.6, 6.5 Hz, 1H), 3.17 - 2.83 (m, 4H), 2.73 - 2.62 (m, 2H), 2.15 - 2.06 (m, 2H).

¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) (Cis/Trans Mixture) δ 163.19, 163.16, 161.81, 161.77, 155.36, 155.32, 137.48, 137.45, 122.44, 122.40, 101.96, 101.90, 60.94, 60.55, 42.25, 38.89, 37.39, 30.26, 30.23. LCMS (ESI-MS) m/z calculated for: $C_{11}H_{16}N_3O^+$: 206.129; found 206.128 [M+H]⁺.

Step 3

2-cyanoethyl (3-(methyl(2-vinylpyrimidin-4-yl)amino)cyclobutyl) diisopropylphosphoramidite (10)



A stirred solution of 3-(methyl(2-vinylpyrimidin-4-yl)amino)cyclobutan-1-ol **7** (128 mg, 0.62 mmol) (dried overnight in high vacuum) in DCM (8 mL) was degassed by bubbling with argon for 5 min. The solution was cooled to 0 °C in an ice bath and DIPEA (0.32 mL, 1.86 mmol) was added, followed by dropwise addition of 2-Cyanoethyl *N*,*N*-diisopropylchlorophosphoramidite (0.21 mL, 0.93 mmol). The reaction mixture was allowed to gradually warm to room temperature and stirred for 6 hours. Solvent was removed under vacuum. The residue was subjected to flash column chromatography using Heptane/(1% Et₃N)/EtOAc (0-100%) to afford product 2-cyanoethyl (3-(methyl(2-vinylpyrimidin-4-yl)amino)cyclobutyl) diisopropylphosphoramidite (diastereomeric mixture) **10** (136 mg, 54.1%) as a colourless gum.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CD_2CI_2) (Mixture of diastereoisomers) δ 8.14 (d, *J* = 6.1 Hz, 0.79H), 7.98 (d, *J* = 6.1 Hz, 0.24H), 6.80 – 6.63 (m, 1H), 6.60 – 6.43 (m, 1H), 6.43 – 6.19 (m, 1H), 5.58 (dd, *J* = 10.4, 2.3 Hz, 1H), 4.67 – 4.41 (m, 1H), 4.27 – 4.09 (m, 1H), 3.92 – 3.73 (m, 2H), 3.70 – 3.60 (m, 2H), 3.05 (d, *J* = 5.6 Hz, 3H), 2.91 – 2.53 (m, 4H), 2.39 – 2.16 (m, 2H), 1.27 – 1.17 (m, 12H).

 ^{31}P NMR (162 MHz, CD₂Cl₂) (Mixture of diastereoisomers) δ 146.51, 145.59.

Method B

Step 1

2-chloro-4-vinylpyrimidine (17)



To a solution of 2,4-dichloropyrimidine **1** (519 mg, 3.48 mmol) in anhydrous 2-propanol (10 mL), potassium trifluorovinyl borate (500 mg, 3.83 mmol) and Et₃N (0.97 mL, 10.4 mmol) were added under argon atmosphere in a microwave tube. The mixture was degassed for 5 min. Then, the catalyst Pd(dppf)Cl₂.DCM (142 mg, 0.174 mmol) was added to the mixture and further degassed for 5 min. The tube was sealed and the reaction mixture was warmed up to 90 °C and stirred at this temperature for 5 hours. The reaction mixture was then cooled to room temperature, diluted with ethyl acetate (25 mL), filtered through a bed of celite and washed several times with ethyl acetate (3 x 10 mL). Solvent was removed under vacuum. Flash column chromatography using Heptane/EtOAc (0-100%) afforded product 2-chloro-4-vinylpyrimidine **17** (296 mg, 60.5%) as a pale-yellow oil. ¹H NMR data was consistent with the literature dataⁱ.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.57 (dd, *J* = 5.1, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 7.23 (dd, *J* = 5.1, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 6.71 (ddd, *J* = 17.4, 10.6, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 6.54 (ddd, *J* = 17.4, 1.7, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 5.80 (dt, *J* = 10.5, 1.3 Hz, 1H).

Step 2

1-(4-vinylpyrimidin-2-yl)piperidin-4-ol (22)



A solution of 2-chloro-4-vinylpyrimidine **17** (100 mg, 0.711 mmol), piperidin-4-ol (86.3 mg, 0.853 mmol) and anhydrous DIPEA (0.35 mL, 1.78 mmol) in anhydrous DMF (1.5 mL) was stirred at 100 °C in a sealed tube for 18 hours. The reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature and solvent was removed under vacuum. Flash column chromatography using Heptane/Ethyl acetate (0-100%) afforded product 1-(4-vinylpyrimidin-2-yl)piperidin-4-ol **22** (49 mg, 34%) as a pale brown gum.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.28 (d, *J* = 5.0 Hz, 1H), 6.59 (dd, *J* = 17.4, 10.5 Hz, 1H), 6.48 (d, *J* = 5.0 Hz, 1H), 6.37 (dd, *J* = 17.4, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 5.57 (dd, *J* = 10.5, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 4.62 – 4.40 (m, 2H), 3.94 (tt, *J* = 8.7, 4.0 Hz, 1H), 3.31 (ddd, *J* = 13.4, 10.0, 3.3 Hz, 2H), 2.00 – 1.92 (m, 3H), 1.59 – 1.50 (m, 2H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 162.89, 161.80, 158.42, 136.27, 121.48, 107.09, 68.57, 41.51, 34.37. LCMS (ESI-MS) m/z calculated for C₁₁H₁₆N₃O⁺: 206.129; found 206.122 [M+H]⁺.

Step 3 – same as in Method A

2-cyanoethyl (1-(4-vinylpyrimidin-2-yl)piperidin-4-yl) diisopropylphosphoramidite (27)



Starting from 1-(4-vinylpyrimidin-2-yl)piperidin-4-ol **22**, compound 2-cyanoethyl (1-(4-vinylpyrimidin-2-yl)piperidin-4-yl) diisopropylphosphoramidite **27** (mixture of diastereoisomers) was synthesised in 67% yield as a colourless gum, following same synthetic procedure as mentioned in **Method A Step 3**. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CD_2Cl_2) (Mixture of diastereoisomers) δ 8.29 (d, *J* = 5.0 Hz, 1H), 6.61 (dd, *J* = 17.3, 10.5 Hz, 1H), 6.50 (d, *J* = 5.0 Hz, 1H), 6.40 (dd, *J* = 17.3, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 5.58 (dd, *J* = 10.5, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 4.24 – 4.10 (m, 3H), 3.91 – 3.76 (m, 2H), 3.75 – 3.60 (m, 4H), 2.67 (t, *J* = 6.3 Hz, 2H), 2.02 – 1.87 (m, 2H), 1.76 – 1.66 (m, 2H), 1.23 (dd, *J* = 6.8, 1.2 Hz, 12H).

 ^{31}P NMR (162 MHz, CD₂Cl₂) (Mixture of diastereoisomers) δ 146.14.

Remaining compounds

3-((2-chloropyrimidin-4-yl)(methyl)amino)cyclopentan-1-ol (3)



Method A Step 1 was followed to synthesise 3-((2-chloropyrimidin-4-yl)(methyl)amino)cyclopentan-1-ol 3 (Cis/Trans mixture) starting from commercially available compounds 2,4-dichloropyrimidine 1 and 3-(methylamino)cyclopentan-1-ol (Cis/Trans mixture). Flash column chromatography using Heptane/EtOAc (0-100%) afforded compounds 3-((2-chloropyrimidin-4yl)(methyl)amino)cyclopentan-1-ol 3 (major product) in 68% yield as a sticky white solid and 3-((4chloropyrimidin-2-yl)(methyl)amino)cyclopentan-1-ol 3' (minor product) in 5% yield as a yellow solid.

¹H NMR for 3-((2-chloropyrimidin-4-yl)(methyl)amino)cyclopentan-1-ol **3** (major product)
¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) (Cis/Trans mixture) δ 7.96 (dd, J = 6.2, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 6.39 – 6.36 (m, 1H), 4.99 (brs, 1H), 4.49 – 4.34 (m, 1H), 2.99 (s, 1.65H), 2.89 (s, 1.33H) 2.78 (brs, 0.6H), 2.49 (brs, 0.4H), 2.33 – 1.42 (m, 6H).

¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) (Cis/Trans mixture) δ 163.09, 162.84, 160.31, 160.13, 156.66, 156.64, 101.78, 101.60, 72.02, 71.81, 55.62, 54.78, 38.12, 37.82, 34.60, 34.10, 31.43, 29.89, 26.41, 26.32. LCMS (ESI-MS) m/z calculated for: $C_{10}H_{15}CIN_3O^+$: 228.089; found 228.090 [M+H]⁺.

¹H NMR for 3-((4-chloropyrimidin-2-yl)(methyl)amino)cyclopentan-1-ol **3'** (minor product) ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) (Cis/Trans Mixture) δ 8.12 (t, *J* = 5.2 Hz, 1H), 6.46 (dd, *J* = 7.5, 5.1 Hz, 1H), 5.49 – 5.40 (m, 0.42H), 4.78 – 4.69 (m, 0.62H), 4.47 – 4.42 (m, 0.44H), 4.34 – 4.30 (m, 0.63H), 3.15 (s, 1.84H), 2.98 (s, 1.25H), 2.24 (ddd, *J* = 14.3, 10.3, 5.9 Hz, 0.65H), 2.14 – 2.02 (m, 1.56H), 1.98 – 1.55 (m, 5H).

LCMS (ESI-MS) m/z calculated for: C₁₀H₁₅ClN₃O⁺: 228.089; found 228.086 [M+H]⁺.

(1R,4R)-4-((2-chloropyrimidin-4-yl)(methyl)amino)cyclohexan-1-ol (4)



yl)(methyl)amino)cyclohexan-1-ol **4**, starting from commercially available compounds 2,4-dichloropyrimidine **1** and trans-4-(methylamino)cyclohexanol. Flash column chromatography using DCM/MeOH (0-50%) afforded compounds (1R,4R)-4-((2-chloropyrimidin-4yl)(methyl)amino)cyclohexan-1-ol **4** (major product) in 57.1% yield as a yellow gum and (1R,4R)-4-((4chloropyrimidin-2-yl)(methyl)amino)cyclohexan-1-ol **4'** (minor product) in 10% yield as a yellow oil.

¹H NMR for (1*R*,4*R*)-4-((2-chloropyrimidin-4-yl)(methyl)amino)cyclohexan-1-ol **4** (major product) ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.96 (d, *J* = 6.2 Hz, 1H), 6.29 (d, *J* = 6.2 Hz, 1H), 3.65 – 3.58 (m, 1H), 2.87 (s, 3H), 2.78 – 2.64 (m, 1H), 2.20 – 1.97 (m, 2H), 1.81 – 1.64 (m, 2H), 1.66 – 1.36 (m, 4H). (One exchangeable proton of OH was not observed).

¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 162.71, 160.33, 156.65, 101.49, 69.62, 34.34, 29.54, 27.41. LCMS (ESI-MS) m/z calculated for $C_{11}H_{17}CIN_3O^+$: 242.105; found 242.104 [M+H]⁺.

¹H NMR for (1*R*,4*R*)-4-((4-chloropyrimidin-2-yl)(methyl)amino)cyclohexan-1-ol **4'** (minor product) ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.12 (d, *J* = 5.1 Hz, 1H), 6.44 (d, *J* = 5.1 Hz, 1H), 4.66 – 4.45 (m, 1H), 3.63 – 3.55 (m, 1H), 2.96 (s, 3H), 2.05 – 2.02 (m, 3H), 1.80 – 1.67 (m, 2H), 1.68 – 1.41 (m, 4H).

¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 161.67, 160.97, 158.64, 108.51, 77.48, 77.16, 76.84, 70.18, 53.33, 34.64, 29.12, 27.53.

LCMS (ESI-MS) m/z calculated for C₁₁H₁₇ClN₃O⁺: 242.105; found 242.109 [M+H]⁺.

1-(2-chloropyrimidin-4-yl)azetidin-3-ol (5)



Method A Step 1 was followed to synthesise 1-(2-chloropyrimidin-4-yl)azetidin-3-ol **5**, starting from commercially available compounds 2,4-dichloro-pyrimidine **1** and 3-hydroxyazetidine hydrochloride. Flash column chromatography using DCM/MeOH (0-50%) afforded compounds 1-(2-chloropyrimidin-4-yl)azetidin-3-ol **5** (major product) in 78% yield as a yellow gum and 1-(4-chloropyrimidin-2-yl)azetidin-3-ol **5'** (minor product) in 4% yield as a yellow oil.

¹H NMR for 1-(2-chloropyrimidin-4-yl)azetidin-3-ol 5 (major product)

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.02 (d, *J* = 5.8 Hz, 1H), 6.10 (d, *J* = 5.9 Hz, 1H), 4.84 (brs, 1H), 4.49 – 4.27 (m, 2H), 4.11 – 3.97 (m, 2H), 2.54 (brs, 1H).

 ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 163.33, 159.04, 156.46, 100.86, 62.58, 59.96, 59.69.

LCMS (ESI-MS) m/z calculated for C₇H₉ClN₃O⁺: 186.043; found 186.049 [M+H]⁺.

¹H NMR for 1-(4-chloropyrimidin-2-yl)azetidin-3-ol **5'** (minor product)

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.18 (d, *J* = 5.2 Hz, 1H), 6.58 (d, *J* = 5.1 Hz, 1H), 4.81 (dtd, *J* = 10.7, 6.4, 4.3 Hz, 1H), 4.44 (ddd, *J* = 10.0, 6.6, 1.4 Hz, 2H), 4.05 (ddd, *J* = 10.0, 4.3, 1.3 Hz, 2H), 2.40 (brs, 1H). LCMS (ESI-MS) m/z calculated for C₇H₉ClN₃O⁺: 186.043; found 186.042 [M+H]⁺.

1-(2-chloropyrimidin-4-yl)piperidin-4-ol (6)



Method A Step 1 was followed to synthesise 1-(2-chloropyrimidin-4-yl)piperidin-4-ol **6** starting from commercially available compounds 2,4-dichloropyrimidine **1** and piperidin-4-ol. Flash column chromatography using Heptane/EtOAc (0-100%) afforded compounds 1-(2-chloropyrimidin-4-yl)piperidin-4-ol **6** (major product) in 65% yield as a white solid and 1-(4-chloropyrimidin-2-yl)piperidin-4-ol **6** (minor product) in 8% yield as a pale yellow gum.

¹H NMR for 1-(2-chloropyrimidin-4-yl)piperidin-4-ol **6** (major product)

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CD₃OD) δ 7.96 (d, *J* = 6.3 Hz, 1H), 6.71 (d, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 1H), 4.28 – 3.98 (m, 2H), 3.93 (tt, *J* = 8.3, 3.9 Hz, 1H), 3.43 – 3.33 (m, 2H), 2.00 – 1.87 (m, 2H), 1.62 – 1.44 (m, 2H). (One exchangeable proton of OH was not observed).

¹³C NMR (101 MHz, MeOD) δ 162.94, 160.59, 156.77, 156.45, 102.33, 102.03, 101.71, 66.99, 33.91. LCMS (ESI-MS) m/z calculated for: C₉H₁₃ClN₃O⁺:214.074; found 214.077 [M+H]⁺.

¹H NMR of 1-(4-chloropyrimidin-2-yl)piperidin-4-ol **6'** (minor product)

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CD₃OD) δ 8.18 (d, J = 5.1 Hz, 1H), 6.56 (d, J = 5.1 Hz, 1H), 4.49 – 4.25 (m, 2H), 3.88 (tt, J = 8.7, 4.0 Hz, 1H), 3.33 (dt, J = 10.2, 3.3 Hz, 2H), 2.04 – 1.82 (m, 2H), 1.47 (dtd, J = 13.2, 9.4, 4.0 Hz, 2H). (One exchangeable proton of OH was not observed).

LCMS (ESI-MS) m/z calculated for: C₉H₁₃ClN₃O⁺: 214.074; found 214.071 [M+H]⁺.

3-(methyl(2-vinylpyrimidin-4-yl)amino)cyclopentan-1-ol (8)



Method A Step 2 was followed to synthesise 3-(methyl(2-vinylpyrimidin-4-yl)amino)cyclopentan-1-ol **8** from 3-((2-chloropyrimidin-4-yl)(methyl)amino)cyclopentan-1-ol **3** in 30% yield as a pale yellow gum.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) (Cis/Trans mixture) δ 8.07 (dd, J = 6.1, 2.6 Hz, 1H), 6.66 – 6.59 (m, 1H), 6.53 – 6.35 (m, 1H), 6.31 – 6.11 (m, 1H), 5.54 – 5.41 (m, 1H), 5.24 – 4.93 (m, 1H), 4.42 – 4.27 (m, 1H), 2.89 (s, 3H), 2.29 – 2.13 (m, 1H), 2.08 – 1.97 (m, 1H), 1.96 – 1.46 (m, 5H).

¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) (Cis/Trans mixture) δ 163.20, 161.78, 155.59, 137.53, 122.37, 101.66, 72.18, 55.33, 38.10, 34.79, 31.28, 26.37.

LCMS (ESI-MS) m/z calculated for: C₁₂H₁₈N₃O⁺: 220.144; found 220.146 [M+H]⁺.

(1R,4R)-4-(methyl(2-vinylpyrimidin-4-yl)amino)cyclohexan-1-ol (9)



To a solution of (1R,4R)-4-((2-chloropyrimidin-4-yl)(methyl)amino)cyclohexan-1-ol **4** (140 mg, 0.58 mmol) and potassium trifluorovinyl borate (130 mg, 0.97 mmol) in ethanol (8 mL) under argon atmosphere was added Et₃N (0.17 mL, 1.22 mmol). The mixture was degassed for 5 min. Then, the catalyst Pd(dppf)Cl₂ (43 mg, 0.058 mmol) was added to the mixture and further degassed for 5 min. The reaction mixture was warmed up to 80 °C and stirred at this temperature for 6 hours. The reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature, diluted with DCM (10 mL), filtered through a bed of celite and washed several times with DCM (25 mL). Solvent was removed under vacuum. The residue was subjected to flash column chromatography using Heptane/Ethyl acetate (0-100%) to afford the product (1*R*,4*R*)-4-(methyl(2-vinylpyrimidin-4-yl)amino)cyclohexan-1-ol **9** (128 mg, 94.6%) as a colourless gum.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CD₃OD) δ 8.23 (d, *J* = 5.0 Hz, 1H), 6.67 – 6.50 (m, 2H), 6.37 (dd, *J* = 17.4, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 5.57 (dd, *J* = 10.5, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 4.63 (tt, *J* = 10.1, 4.9 Hz, 1H), 3.56 (tt, *J* = 11.0, 4.3 Hz, 1H), 2.99 (s, 3H), 2.13 – 1.95 (m, 2H), 1.85 – 1.55 (m, 4H), 1.55 – 1.37 (m, 2H). (One exchangeable proton of OH was not observed).

¹³C NMR (101 MHz, MeOD) δ 163.85, 162.84, 155.32, 137.74, 123.04, 102.78, 70.50, 61.51, 35.37, 29.56, 28.35.

LCMS (ESI-MS) m/z calculated for $C_{13}H_{20}N_3O^+$: 234.160; found 234.161 [M+H]⁺.

2-cyanoethyl (3-(methyl(2-vinylpyrimidin-4-yl)amino)cyclopentyl) diisopropylphosphoramidite (11)



Method A Step 3 was followed to synthesise 2-cyanoethyl (3-(methyl(2-vinylpyrimidin-4-yl)amino)cyclopentyl) diisopropylphosphoramidite **11** (mixture of diastereoisomers) from 3-(methyl(2-vinylpyrimidin-4-yl)amino)cyclopentan-1-ol **8** in 50% yield as a colourless gum.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CD_2Cl_2) (Mixture of diastereoisomers) δ 8.16 – 7.96 (m, 1H), 6.69 – 6.50 (m, 1H), 6.50 – 6.28 (m, 1H), 6.30 – 6.11 (m, 1H), 5.47 – 5.37 (m, 1H), 5.31 – 5.11 (m, 1H), 4.44 – 4.27 (m, 1H), 3.82 – 3.62 (m, 2H), 3.59 – 3.49 (m, 2H), 2.89 – 2.79 (m, 3H), 2.64 – 2.45 (m, 2H), 2.22 – 2.14 (m, 1H), 2.03 – 1.89 (m, 1H), 1.85 – 1.57 (m, 4H), 1.13 – 1.09 (m, 12H).

 ^{31}P NMR (162 MHz, CD_2Cl_2) (Mixture of diastereoisomers) δ 146.78, 146.53.

2-cyanoethyl ((1*R*,4*R*)-4-(methyl(2-vinylpyrimidin-4-yl)amino)cyclohexyl) diisopropylphosphoramidite (12)



A stirred solution of (1R,4R)-4-(methyl(2-vinylpyrimidin-4-yl)amino)cyclohexan-1-ol **9** (128 mg, 0.55 mmol) (dried overnight in high vacuum) in DCM (8 mL) was degassed by bubbling with argon for 5 min. The solution was cooled to 0 °C in ice bath and DIPEA (0.29 mL, 1.65 mmol) was added followed by dropwise addition of 2-cyanoethyl *N*,*N*-diisopropylchlorophosphoramidite (0.18 mL, 0.83 mmol). The reaction mixture was allowed to gradually warm to room temperature and stirred for 6 hours. Solvent was removed under vacuum. The residue was subjected to flash column chromatography using Heptane/(1% Et₃N)/EtOAc (0-100%) to afford product 2-cyanoethyl ((1*R*,4*R*)-4-(methyl(2-vinylpyrimidin-4-yl)amino)cyclohexyl) diisopropylphosphoramidite (diastereomeric mixture) **12** (136 mg, 57%) as a colourless gum.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CD₃CN) (Mixture of diastereoisomers) δ 8.29 (d, *J* = 4.9 Hz, 1H), 6.62 (dd, *J* = 17.4, 10.5 Hz, 1H), 6.54 (d, *J* = 4.9 Hz, 1H), 6.42 (dd, *J* = 17.4, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 5.57 (dd, *J* = 10.5, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 4.76

-4.63 (m, 1H), 3.84 - 3.72 (m, 3H), 3.68 - 3.59 (m, 2H), 3.01 (s, 3H), 2.70 - 2.65 (m, 2H), 2.16 - 2.11 (m, 1H), 2.08 - 2.04 (m, 1H), 1.75 - 1.66 (m, 4H), 1.60 - 1.48 (m, 2H), 1.20 (dd, *J* = 6.8, 2.2 Hz, 12H). ³¹P NMR (162 MHz, CD₃CN) (Mixture of diastereoisomers) δ 145.45.

1-(4-vinylpyrimidin-2-yl)azetidin-3-ol (13)



Method A Step 2 was followed to synthesise 1-(4-vinylpyrimidin-2-yl)azetidin-3-ol **13** from 1-(2-chloropyrimidin-4-yl)azetidin-3-ol **5** in 70% yield as a pale brown gum. Flash column chromatography was performed for purification using DCM/MeOH (0-50%) solvent system.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CD₃OD) δ 8.08 (d, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 1H), 6.64 (dd, *J* = 17.3, 10.5 Hz, 1H), 6.46 (dd, *J* = 17.3, 2.1 Hz, 1H), 6.25 (d, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 1H), 5.64 (dd, *J* = 10.5, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 4.76 – 4.67 (m, 1H), 4.35 (dd, *J* = 9.7, 6.6 Hz, 2H), 3.91 (dd, *J* = 9.8, 4.3 Hz, 2H). (One exchangeable proton of OH was not observed). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, MeOD) δ 164.37, 163.82, 154.94, 137.30, 123.62, 102.06, 62.93, 60.42. LCMS (ESI-MS) m/z calculated for C₉H₁₂N₃O⁺: 178.097; found 178.099 [M+H]⁺.

1-(2-vinylpyrimidin-4-yl)piperidin-4-ol (14)



Method A Step 2 was followed to synthesise 1-(2-vinylpyrimidin-4-yl)piperidin-4-ol **14** from 1-(2-chloropyrimidin-4-yl)piperidin-4-ol **6** in 52% yield as a pale brown gum.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CD₃OD) δ 8.08 (t, J = 6.2 Hz, 1H), 6.60 – 6.51 (m, 2H), 6.47 (dd, J = 17.3, 2.1 Hz, 1H), 5.76 – 5.55 (m, 1H), 4.23 – 4.20 (m, 2H), 3.55 – 3.07 (m, 3H), 1.98 – 1.91 (m, 2H), 1.61 – 1.41 (m, 2H). (One exchangeable proton of OH was not observed).

¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CD₃OD) δ 162.74, 161.16, 154.14, 136.11, 122.00, 101.23, 66.79, 41.10, 33.32. LCMS (ESI-MS) m/z calculated for: $C_{11}H_{16}N_3O^+$: 206.129; found 206.125 [M+H]⁺.

2-cyanoethyl (1-(2-vinylpyrimidin-4-yl)azetidin-3-yl) diisopropylphosphoramidite (15)



Method A Step 3 was followed to synthesise 2-cyanoethyl (1-(2-vinylpyrimidin-4-yl)azetidin-3-yl) disopropylphosphoramidite **15** (diastereomeric mixture) from 1-(4-vinylpyrimidin-2-yl)azetidin-3-ol **13** in 51% yield as a colourless gum.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CD₃CN) (Mixture of diastereoisomers) δ 8.17 (d, *J* = 5.8 Hz, 1H), 6.64 (dd, *J* = 17.3, 10.4 Hz, 1H), 6.46 (dd, *J* = 17.3, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 6.20 (d, *J* = 5.9 Hz, 1H), 5.59 (dd, *J* = 10.4, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 4.89 – 4.81 (m, 1H), 4.37 – 4.32 (m, 2H), 4.03 – 3.97 (m, 2H), 3.90 – 3.75 (m, 2H), 3.70 – 3.62 (m, 2H), 2.69 (t, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 2H), 1.21 (dd, *J* = 6.8, 2.1 Hz, 12H).

³¹P NMR (162 MHz, CD₃CN) (Mixture of diastereoisomers) δ 147.25.

2-cyanoethyl (1-(2-vinylpyrimidin-4-yl)piperidin-4-yl) diisopropylphosphoramidite (16)



Method A Step 3 was followed to synthesise 2-cyanoethyl (1-(2-vinylpyrimidin-4-yl)piperidin-4-yl) disopropylphosphoramidite **16** (diastereomeric mixture) from 1-(2-vinylpyrimidin-4-yl)piperidin-4-ol **14** in 78% yield as a colourless gum.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CD_2Cl_2) (Mixture of diastereoisomers) δ 8.08 – 7.93 (m, 1H), 6.61 – 6.40 (m, 1H), 6.36 – 6.18 (m, 2H), 5.46 – 5.34 (m, 1H), 4.06 – 3.92 (m, 1H), 3.79 – 3.33 (m, 8H), 2.47 (t, *J* = 6.2 Hz, 2H), 1.79 – 1.68 (m, 2H), 1.66 – 1.47 (m, 2H), 1.04 (d, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 12H).

³¹P NMR (162 MHz, CD₂Cl₂) (Mixture of diastereoisomers) δ 146.39.

3-(methyl(4-vinylpyrimidin-2-yl)amino)cyclobutan-1-ol (18)



Method B Step 2 was followed to synthesise 3-(methyl(4-vinylpyrimidin-2-yl)amino)cyclobutan-1-ol **18** (mixture of Cis/Trans) from 2-chloro-4-vinylpyrimidine **17** and commercially available 3- (methylamino)cyclobutan-1-ol (mixture of Cis/Trans 5:1) in 44% yield as a yellow gum.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) (Mixture of Cis/Trans) δ 8.30 (dd, *J* = 5.0, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 6.67 – 6.58 (m, 1H), 6.50 (d, *J* = 5.0 Hz, 1H), 6.39 (ddd, *J* = 17.4, 4.7, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 5.65 – 5.51 (m, 1H), 4.70 (tt, *J* = 9.7, 7.4 Hz, 1H), 4.21 – 4.06 (m, 1H), 3.17 (d, *J* = 5.6 Hz, 3H), 2.79 – 2.52 (m, 2H), 2.40 – 2.11 (m, 3H).

¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) (Mixture of Cis/Trans) δ 162.65, 162.61, 162.14, 162.09, 158.14, 158.09, 157.11, 137.88, 136.29, 121.45, 115.15, 108.80, 107.13, 107.09, 64.58, 61.48, 48.30, 42.21, 38.78, 37.38, 32.31, 30.12.

LCMS (ESI-MS) m/z calculated for C₁₁H₁₆N₃O⁺: 206.129; found 206.121 [M+H]⁺.

3-(methyl(4-vinylpyrimidin-2-yl)amino)cyclopentan-1-ol (19)



Method B Step 2 was followed to synthesise 3-(methyl(4-vinylpyrimidin-2-yl)amino)cyclopentan-1-ol **19** (mixture of Cis/Trans) from 2-chloro-4-vinylpyrimidine **17** and commercially available 3methylamino-cyclopentan-1-ol (mixture of Cis/Trans) in 61% yield as a pale brown gum.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) (Mixture of Cis/Trans) δ 8.26 (dd, *J* = 16.3, 5.0 Hz, 1H), 6.74 – 6.26 (m, 3H), 5.57 (td, *J* = 10.6, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 4.76 – 4.25 (m, 2H), 3.23 (s, 1.5H), 3.03 (s, 1.5H), 2.37 – 1.99 (m, 3H), 1.98 – 1.62 (m, 4H).

¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) (Mixture of Cis/Trans) δ 163.05, 162.62, 162.22, 160.98, 158.13, 157.34, 136.40, 136.19, 121.70, 121.28, 106.61, 106.33, 72.60, 72.42, 58.16, 54.09, 38.14, 38.04, 34.89, 34.45, 34.38, 29.32, 26.56, 25.76.

LCMS (ESI-MS) m/z calculated for $C_{12}H_{18}N_3O^+$: 220.144; found 220.146 [M+H]⁺.

(1R,4R)-4-(methyl(4-vinylpyrimidin-2-yl)amino)cyclohexan-1-ol (20)



To a solution of (1R,4R)-4-((4-chloropyrimidin-2-yl)(methyl)amino)cyclohexan-1-ol **4'** (140 mg, 0.58 mmol) and vinylboronic acid pinacol ester (0.3 mL, 1.74 mmol) in dioxane (4 mL) and water (1 mL) under argon atmosphere was added Na₂CO₃ (215 mg, 2.03 mmol). The mixture was degassed for 5 min. Then the catalyst Pd(dppf)Cl₂.DCM (49 mg, 0.058 mmol) was added to the mixture and further degassed for 5 min. The reaction mixture was warmed up to 85 °C and stirred at this temperature for 18 hours. The reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature, diluted with DCM and filtered through a bed of celite and washed several times with DCM. Solvent was removed under vacuum. The residue was subjected to flash column chromatography using Heptane/Ethyl acetate (0-100%) to afford the product (1*R*,4*R*)-4-(methyl(4-vinylpyrimidin-2-yl)amino)cyclohexan-1-ol **20** (130 mg, 96%) as a pale yellow gum.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CD₃OD) δ 8.08 (d, *J* = 6.3 Hz, 1H), 7.67 – 7.46 (m, 1H), 6.65 (dd, *J* = 17.4, 10.4 Hz, 1H), 6.60 – 6.37 (m, 2H), 5.63 (dd, *J* = 10.4, 2.1 Hz, 1H), 3.60 (tt, *J* = 11.1, 4.4 Hz, 1H), 2.95 (s, 3H), 2.18 – 1.97 (m, 2H), 1.75 – 1.66 (m, 4H), 1.54 – 1.42 (m, 2H). (One exchangeable proton of OH was not observed).

¹³C NMR (101 MHz, MeOD) δ 162.45, 161.45, 153.92, 136.34, 130.86, 128.47, 121.70, 101.42, 69.11, 33.99, 28.20, 26.97, 23.66.

LCMS (ESI-MS) m/z calculated for C₁₃H₂₀N₃O⁺: 234.160; found 234.168 [M+H]⁺.

(R)-1-(4-vinylpyrimidin-2-yl)pyrrolidin-3-ol (21)



Method A Step 2 was followed to synthesise (R)-1-(4-vinylpyrimidin-2-yl)pyrrolidin-3-ol **21** from commercially available (R)-1-(4-chloropyrimidin-2-yl)pyrrolidin-3-ol **17a** in 45% yield as a yellow gum.

Flash column chromatography was performed for purification using Hexane/EtOAc (0-100%) solvent system.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.18 (d, *J* = 5.1 Hz, 1H), 6.50 (dd, *J* = 17.4, 10.5 Hz, 1H), 6.40 (d, *J* = 5.1 Hz, 1H), 6.28 (dd, *J* = 17.4, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 5.48 (dd, *J* = 10.5, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 4.62 – 4.37 (m, 1H), 3.77 – 3.48 (m, 4H), 2.79 (brs, 1H), 2.12 – 1.84 (m, 2H).

¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 162.94, 160.53, 158.12, 136.18, 121.55, 106.70, 70.90, 55.09, 44.48, 34.04.

LCMS (ESI-MS) m/z calculated for: $C_{10}H_{14}N_3O^+$: 192.113; found 192.119 [M+H]⁺.

2-cyanoethyl (3-(methyl(4-vinylpyrimidin-2-yl)amino)cyclobutyl) diisopropylphosphoramidite (23)



Method B Step 3 was followed to synthesise 2-cyanoethyl (3-(methyl(4-vinylpyrimidin-2-yl)amino)cyclobutyl) diisopropylphosphoramidite (diastereomeric mixture) **23** from 3-(methyl(4-vinylpyrimidin-2-yl)amino)cyclobutan-1-ol **18** in 72% yield as a colourless gum.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CD₂Cl₂) (Mixture of diastereoisomers) δ 8.30 (t, *J* = 4.7 Hz, 1H), 6.62 (ddd, *J* = 17.3, 10.5, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 6.52 (d, *J* = 5.0 Hz, 1H), 6.47 – 6.36 (m, 1H), 5.58 (dd, *J* = 10.5, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 4.87 – 4.76 (m, 1H), 4.17 (dddd, *J* = 14.3, 9.2, 7.6, 6.6 Hz, 1H), 3.94 – 3.76 (m, 2H), 3.76 – 3.54 (m, 2H), 3.17 (s, 3H), 2.82 – 2.54 (m, 4H), 2.51 – 2.23 (m, 2H), 1.23 (ddd, *J* = 6.8, 3.3, 1.5 Hz, 12H). ³¹P NMR (162 MHz, CD₂Cl₂) (Mixture of diastereoisomers) δ 146.26, 145.38.

2-cyanoethyl (3-(methyl(4-vinylpyrimidin-2-yl)amino)cyclopentyl) diisopropylphosphoramidite (24)



Method B Step 3 was followed to synthesise 2-cyanoethyl (3-(methyl(4-vinylpyrimidin-2-yl)amino)cyclopentyl) diisopropylphosphoramidite (diastereomeric mixture) **24** from 3-(methyl(4-vinylpyrimidin-2-yl)amino)cyclopentan-1-ol **19** in 70% yield as a colourless gum.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CD₂Cl₂) (Mixture of diastereoisomers) δ 8.28 – 8.10 (m, 1H), 6.49 (ddd, *J* = 17.4, 10.5, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 6.41 – 6.22 (m, 2H), 5.51 – 5.40 (m, 1H), 4.59 – 4.20 (m, 1H), 3.80 – 3.65 (m, 2H), 3.59 – 3.49 (m, 2H), 2.99 (d, *J* = 3.2 Hz, 1.5H), 2.92 (d, *J* = 1.9 Hz, 1.5H), 2.59 – 2.50 (m, 2H), 2.23 – 1.51 (m, 7H), 1.13 – 1.08 (m, 12H).

³¹P NMR (162 MHz, CD₂Cl₂) (Mixture of diastereoisomers) δ 146.62, 146.54, 146.43.

2-cyanoethyl ((1*R*,4*R*)-4-(methyl(4-vinylpyrimidin-2-yl)amino)cyclohexyl) diisopropylphosphoramidite (25)



Method A Step 3 was followed to synthesise 2-cyanoethyl ((1R,4R)-4-(methyl(4-vinylpyrimidin-2-yl)amino)cyclohexyl) diisopropylphosphoramidite (diastereomeric mixture) **25** from (1R,4R)-4-(methyl(4-vinylpyrimidin-2-yl)amino)cyclohexan-1-ol **20** in 68% yield as a colourless gum.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CD₃CN) (Mixture of diastereoisomers) δ 8.15 (d, *J* = 6.2 Hz, 1H), 6.65 (dd, *J* = 17.3, 10.4 Hz, 1H), 6.48 – 6.33 (m, 1H), 5.57 (dd, *J* = 10.4, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 3.88 – 3.72 (m, 3H), 3.69 – 3.59 (m, 2H), 2.90 (s, 3H), 2.67 (t, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 2H), 2.17 – 2.12 (m, 1H), 2.09 – 2.04 (m, 1H), 1.78 – 1.63 (m, 4H), 1.62 – 1.44 (m, 2H), 1.35 – 1.24 (m, 2H), 1.21 (dd, *J* = 6.8, 2.3 Hz, 12H).

 ^{31}P NMR (162 MHz, CD_3CN) (Mixture of diastereoisomers) δ 145.49.

2-cyanoethyl ((R)-1-(4-vinylpyrimidin-2-yl)pyrrolidin-3-yl) diisopropylphosphoramidite (26)



Method A Step 3 was followed to synthesise 2-cyanoethyl ((R)-1-(4-vinylpyrimidin-2-yl)pyrrolidin-3-yl) diisopropylphosphoramidite (diastereomeric mixture) **26** from (R)-1-(4-vinylpyrimidin-2-yl)pyrrolidin-3-ol **21** in 74% yield as a colourless gum.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CD₃CN) (Mixture of diastereoisomers) δ 8.29 (dd, *J* = 5.0, 2.7 Hz, 1H), 6.76 – 6.54 (m, 2H), 6.41 (ddd, *J* = 17.4, 4.5, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 5.58 (ddd, *J* = 10.5, 2.4, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 3.98 – 3.43 (m, 9H), 2.73 – 2.59 (m, 2H), 2.18 – 2.10 (m, 2H), 1.21 – 1.14 (m, 12H).

 ^{31}P NMR (162 MHz, CD_3CN) (Mixture of diastereoisomers) δ 147.05, 146.98.

(3-(6-vinyl-9H-purin-9-yl)phenyl)methanol (29)



To a solution of commercially available (3-(6-chloro-9*H*-purin-9-yl)phenyl)methanol **28** (120 mg, 0.46 mmol) and vinylboronic acid pinacol ester (0.25 mL, 1.38 mmol) in dioxane (5 mL) and water (0.5 mL) in microwave tube under argon atmosphere was added K_2CO_3 (262 mg, 1.84 mmol). The mixture was degassed for 5 min. Then the catalyst Pd(dppf)Cl₂.DCM (38 mg, 0.46 mmol) was added to the mixture and further degassed for 5 min. The tube was sealed and the reaction mixture was warmed up to 120 °C and stirred at this temperature for 18 hours. The reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature, diluted with DCM (5 mL) and filtered through a bed of celite washing several times with DCM (3 x 10 mL). Solvent was removed under vacuum. The residue was subjected to flash column chromatography using Heptane/Ethyl acetate (0-100%) to afford the product (3-(6-vinyl-9*H*-purin-9-yl)phenyl)methanol **29** (60 mg, 51.7%) as a pale yellow gum.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CD₃OD) δ 8.86 – 8.84 (m, 1H), 8.77 – 8.76 (m, 1H), 7.84 (brs, 1H), 7.73 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.58 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.50 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.33 (dd, *J* = 17.5, 11.0 Hz, 1H), 7.03 (dd, *J* = 17.5, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 6.00 (dd, *J* = 11.0, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 4.74 (s, 2H). (One exchangeable proton of OH was not observed).

¹³C NMR (101 MHz, MeOD) δ 154.71, 153.66, 153.16, 146.50, 145.24, 135.74, 132.39, 130.81, 127.81, 127.32, 123.56, 123.08, 116.01, 64.49.

LCMS (ESI-MS) m/z calculated for: C₁₄H₁₃N₄O⁺: 253.108; found 253.109 [M+H]⁺.

2-cyanoethyl (3-(6-vinyl-9H-purin-9-yl)benzyl) diisopropylphosphoramidite (30)



Method A Step 3 was followed to synthesise 2-cyanoethyl (3-(6-vinyl-9*H*-purin-9-yl)benzyl) disopropylphosphoramidite (diastereomeric mixture) **30** from (3-(6-vinyl-9*H*-purin-9-yl)phenyl)methanol **29** in 76% yield as a colourless gum.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CD₂Cl₂) (Mixture of diastereoisomers) δ 8.92 (s, 1H), 8.39 (s, 1H), 7.81 (s, 1H), 7.73 - 7.62 (m, 1H), 7.62 - 7.52 (m, 1H), 7.47 (dt, J = 7.9, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.35 (dd, J = 17.5, 10.9 Hz, 1H), 7.07 (dd, J = 17.5, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 5.96 (dd, J = 10.9, 1.9 Hz, 1H), 4.96 - 4.71 (m, 2H), 3.95 - 3.80 (m, 2H), 3.73 - 3.62 (m, 2H), 2.65 (t, J = 6.2 Hz, 2H), 1.22 (dd, J = 6.8, 1.3 Hz, 12H). ³¹P NMR (162 MHz, CD₂Cl₂) (Mixture of diastereoisomers) δ 148.79.

2-((1R,4R)-4-hydroxycyclohexyl)(methyl)amino)pyrimidine-5-carbaldehyde (33)



Method B Step 2 was followed to synthesise 2-((1*R*,4*R*)-4-hydroxycyclohexyl)(methyl)amino)pyrimidine-5-carbaldehyde **33** from commercially available 2-chloropyrimidine-5-carbaldehyde **31** and commercially available trans-4-(methylamino)cyclohexan-1-ol **32** in 65% yield as a yellow gum. Flash column chromatography was performed for purification using Hexane/EtOAc (0-100%) solvent system.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.70 (s, 1H), 8.67 (s, 2H), 4.75 (tt, *J* = 11.7, 4.0 Hz, 1H), 3.60 (tt, *J* = 10.8, 4.3 Hz, 1H), 3.07 (s, 3H), 2.65 (s, 1H), 2.12 – 2.01 (m, 2H), 1.81 – 1.40 (m, 6H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 187.86, 162.53, 160.46, 160.16, 119.37, 69.76, 53.96, 34.39, 29.49, 27.48.

LCMS (ESI-MS) m/z calculated for: $C_{12}H_{18}N_3O_2^+$: 236.139; found 236.142 [M+H]⁺.

(1R,4R)-4-((5-(2,2-difluorovinyl)pyrimidin-2-yl)(methyl)amino)cyclohexan-1-ol (34)



Aldehyde **33** (165 mg, 0.70 mmol) and triphenylphosphine (368 mg, 1.4 mmol) were dissolved in DMF (2.5 mL) under argon atmosphere and heated to 100 °C. Sodium chlorodifluoroacetate (314 mg, 1.47 mmol) was added portion-wise at 100 °C and the reaction mixture was stirred at this temperature for 24 hours. The reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature and solvent was removed under vacuum. The residue was dissolved in DCM (10 mL) and washed with water (2.5 mL), 3% H₂O₂ in water (2.5 mL) and brine (2.5 mL). The organic layer was dried over sodium sulphate and solvent was removed under vacuum. Flash column chromatography using Heptane/Ethyl acetate (0-100%) afforded (1*R*,4*R*)-4-((5-(2,2-difluorovinyl)pyrimidin-2-yl)(methyl)amino)cyclohexan-1-ol **34** (76 mg, 41%) as a pale brown oil.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.21 (s, 2H), 4.99 (dd, *J* = 27.3, 2.8 Hz, 1H), 4.56 (tt, *J* = 11.7, 4.0 Hz, 1H), 3.55 (tt, *J* = 10.6, 4.3 Hz, 1H), 2.93 (s, 3H), 2.07 – 1.80 (m, 3H), 1.78 – 1.60 (m, 2H), 1.59 – 1.33 (m, 4H). ¹⁹F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃) δ -83.19 (d, *J* = 36.1 Hz), -85.40 (d, *J* = 36.1 Hz). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 160.39, 156.19 (dd, *J* = 6.3, 3.2 Hz), 155.88 (dd, *J* = 296.4, 288.5 Hz), 152.98, 112.15 (t, *J* = 6.2 Hz), 76.58 (dd, *J* = 31.2, 16.6 Hz), 70.17, 53.12, 34.66, 28.88, 27.52. LCMS (ESI-MS) m/z calculated for: C₁₃H₁₈F₂N₃O⁺: 270.141; found 270.148 [M+H]⁺.

2-cyanoethyl ((1*R*,4*R*)-4-((5-(2,2-difluorovinyl)pyrimidin-2-yl)(methyl)amino)cyclohexyl) diisopropylphosphoramidite (35)



Method B Step 3 was followed to synthesise 2-cyanoethyl ((1R,4R)-4-((5-(2,2-difluorovinyl)pyrimidin-2-yl)(methyl)amino)cyclohexyl) diisopropylphosphoramidite **35** from (1R,4R)-4-((5-(2,2difluorovinyl)pyrimidin-2-yl)(methyl)amino)cyclohexan-1-ol (diastereometric mixture) **34** in 75% yield as a colourless gum.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CD₂Cl₂) (Mixture of diastereoisomers) δ 8.18 (s, 2H), 5.01 (dd, *J* = 27.6, 3.0 Hz, 1H), 4.54 (tt, *J* = 11.3, 4.1 Hz, 1H), 3.80 – 3.61 (m, 3H), 3.57 – 3.48 (m, 2H), 2.90 (s, 3H), 2.55 (t, *J* = 6.3 Hz, 2H), 2.15 – 1.87 (m, 2H), 1.67 – 1.40 (m, 6H), 1.10 (dd, *J* = 6.9, 1.2 Hz, 12H).

 ^{31}P NMR (162 MHz, CD₂Cl₂) (Mixture of diastereoisomers) δ 145.90.

¹⁹F NMR (376 MHz, CD₂Cl₂) (Mixture of diastereoisomers) δ -84.17 (d, *J* = 38.1 Hz), -86.61 (d, *J* = 38.1 Hz).

Synthesis of mercaptoethyl-D- α -tocopheryl succinate (37)



Under argon atmosphere, DCC (933 mg, 4.52 mmol), DMAP (92.1 mg, 0.753 mmol) and D- α -Tocopheryl succinate **36** (2.00 g, 3.77 mmol) were added and dissolved in anhydrous DCM (15 mL). After stirring at room temperature for 10 min, β -mercaptoethanol (0.4 mL, 4.60 mmol) was added to the mixture and the reaction mixture was stirred at 35 °C for 3 days away from light. The solution was then filtered and washed thrice with 0.05 M aqueous HCl, thrice with saturated aqueous sodium bicarbonate solution and thrice with water. The resultant solution was washed with saturated brine solution (3 x 10 mL). After drying over Na₂SO₄, the organic phase was filtered and the solvent was removed under reduced pressure to afford the crude mercaptoethyl-D- α -tocopheryl succinate (TocoSH) **37** reported below corresponds to that of the ¹H NMR reported in the literature.ⁱⁱ

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 4.24 (t, *J* = 6.7 Hz, 2H), 2.94 (t, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 2H), 2.82 – 2.72 (m, 3H), 2.58 (t, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 2H), 2.08 (s, 3H), 2.01 (s, 3H), 1.97 (s, 3H), 1.87 – 1.69 (m, 4H), 1.64 – 1.47 (m, 5H), 1.45 – 1.24 (m, 12H), 1.18 – 1.01 (m, 7H), 0.85 (dd, *J* = 9.3, 6.8 Hz, 12H).

Oligonucleotide synthesis

General method for the synthesis of oligonucleotides containing novel linkers

Solid phase oligonucleotide synthesis

Oligonucleotides were synthesised on a 1 µmol scale with the MM12 synthesiser (LGC Biosearch Technologies) using 1000 Å Universal Controlled Pore Glass (CPG) (loading 47.7 µmol/g, LGC Biosearch Technologies). Cleavage of the 4,4'-dimethoxytrityl (DMTr) group was performed with 3% trichloroacetic acid in dichloromethane (DCM) (LGC Biosearch Technologies). DNA and LNA phosphoramidites were prepared as 0.1 M solutions in dry acetonitrile (ACN) (LGC Biosearch Technologies). Linker phosphoramidites were dissolved in a 50:50 THF:DCM mixture (0.08 M). Solvents were moisture controlled with less than 30 ppm water content. 0.25 M solution of 5-ethylthio-1*H*-tetrazole in dry ACN (LGC Biosearch Technologies) was used as an activator. Failed sequences were capped with a 1:1 mixture of Capping Mix A (Tetrahydrofuran/Lutidine/Acetic anhydride, 8:1:1, v/v/v, LGC Biosearch Technologies). The oxidising step was performed with 0.02 M iodine in tetrahydrofuran/pyridine/water (7:2:1, v/v/v, LGC Biosearch Technologies).

Oligonucleotide synthesis parameters:

Deblock: 2×60 s, coupling times: 3×180 s (standard DNA phosphoramidites), 3×480 s (LNA phosphoramidites) capping: 2×60 s, oxidation: 1×60 s. For modified phosphoramidites (linker at the 5'-end of oligonucleotide) the coupling time was 4×360 s and the capping step was removed.

Oligonucleotides (**ON**) with linkers $\mathbf{a} - \mathbf{I}$ at the 5'-end were synthesised with the following sequences:

ON1: 5'-dCdGdAdCdGdCdTdTdGdCdAdGdCdT-3'

ON2: 5'-dCdTdAdCdAdCdTdTdCdCdAdTdCdT-3'

ON3: 5'-dGd^mCdAdTdTd^mCdTdAdAdTdAdGd^mCdAdGd^mC-3'

ON4: 5'-IGI^mCIAdTdTd^mCdTdAdAdTdAdGd^mCIAIGI^mC-3'

Capital letter is base code: G = guanine, A = adenine, C = cytosine, ^mC = 5-methylcytosine, T = thymine. Small letters are sugar codes: I = locked nucleic acid (LNA) sugar, d = deoxyribose sugar.

General method for cleavage and deprotection of linker-containing oligonucleotides

Method I:

5 mg of the CPG containing linker-modified oligonucleotide was placed in a vial, treated with 100 μL of 0.4 M sodium hydroxide (NaOH) in methanol/water (4:1) solution and shaken (Eppendorf ThermoMixerC) for 20 min at 80 °C. The sample was left to cool down to room temperature, spun down and filtered. The filtrate was frozen and freeze-dried. The sample was desalted on Glen Gel-Pak[™] 0.2 Desalting Column (catalogue no 61-5002-50, Glen Research) following the manufacturer's protocol. The collected sample was frozen and freeze-dried.

Method II:

5 mg of the CPG containing linker-modified oligonucleotide was placed in vial, treated with 100 μ L of 32% aqueous ammonia solution and shaken (Eppendorf ThermoMixerC) overnight at 23 °C. Sample was spun down and filtered. The filtrate was frozen and freeze-dried.

General method for oligonucleotide purification

Sample was purified on the Waters preparative high-performance liquid chromatography (HPLC) system (XBridge BEH C18 OBD Prep Column; 130 Å; 10 mm x 250 mm, 5 μ m; Waters) with a flow rate of 4 mL/min. Eluent A: 0.1 M triethylammonium acetate (TEAA) in water; eluent B: 0.1 M TEAA in 50% ACN; gradient 15 - 45% B in 20 min. Collected fractions were directly desalted on Glen Gel-PakTM 1.0 Desalting Column (catalogue no 61-5010-50, Glen Research) following the manufacturer's protocol. The collected sample was frozen and freeze-dried. The sample was dissolved in water and analysed by liquid chromatography mass spectrometry (LCMS) (Waters LCMS system with Acquity QDa detector, ACQUITY PREMIER Oligonucleotide BEH C18 column (130 Å; 2.1 x 50 mm, 1.7 μ m; Waters)) at 65 °C with a flow rate of 0.3 mL/min. Eluent A: 7 mM triethylamine (TEA), 80 mM hexafluoroisopropanol (HFIP) in water; eluent B: 3.5 mM TEA, 40 mM HFIP in 50% ACN; gradient 5 - 30% B in 8 min. Samples were run in the negative mode (ESI⁻) and analysed as m/z [M]⁻ or [M-H]⁻. The purity of the oligonucleotides was auto measured using the integration function on MassLynx software V4.2 (Waters).

General method for analysis of the oligonucleotide conjugates

Unless stated otherwise, oligonucleotide conjugates were analysed on liquid chromatography mass spectrometry (Waters LCMS system with Acquity QDa detector, ACQUITY PREMIER Oligonucleotide BEH C18 column (130 Å; 2.1 x 50 mm, 1.7 μ m; Waters)) at 65 °C with a flow rate of 0.3 mL/min. Eluent A: 7 mM TEA, 80 mM HFIP in water; eluent B: 3.5 mM TEA, 40 mM HFIP in 50% ACN; gradient 5 - 30% B in 8 min. Samples were run in the negative mode (ESI⁻) and analysed as m/z [M]⁻ or [M-H]⁻.

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Thiolation experiments

General method for Thiol-Ene Click Reactions

Conjugation with β -mercaptoethanol

• General method

A solution of 100 mM β -mercaptoethanol (β -ME) in the phosphate-buffered saline (PBS) (pH = 7.45) was freshly prepared: 1.4 μ L of β -mercaptoethanol was added to 200 μ L of 5x PBS. Then, the oligonucleotide sample (1 nmol dissolved in 50 μ L of water) was mixed with 25 μ L of conjugation buffer (containing β -mercaptoethanol) and incubated for 2 h at 37 °C. LCMS analysis (conditions as in general method) was performed immediately after mixing (0 h), and then after 2 h (by mixing 5-10 μ L of sample with 10 μ L of water) to verify formation of the conjugated product.

For **ON3-b**, analogous experiment was also performed using 20 eq of β -ME (time points: 0 h, 2 h, 4 h and 22 h).

In case of reactivity assay with **ON1-b** and **ON1-c**, LCMS analysis was performed after 0 h, 1 h and 2 h.

• Method for the conjugation of linker i

A solution of 100 mM β -mercaptoethanol in water was freshly prepared: 1.4 μ L of β -mercaptoethanol was added to 200 μ L of water. Then, the oligonucleotide sample (2 nmol dissolved in 50 μ L of water) was mixed with 25 μ L of β -mercaptoethanol solution and incubated for 6 h at 65 °C. LCMS analysis (conditions as in general method) was performed immediately after mixing (0 h), and then after 2 h, 4 h and 6 h (by mixing 5 μ L of sample with 10 μ L of water) to verify formation of the conjugated product.

• Method for the conjugation of linker **j**

2 nmol of the oligonucleotide sample was dissolved in 10 μ L of water. Then, 65 μ L of β mercaptoethanol was added and reaction mixture was incubated at 65 °C for 6 h. LCMS analysis (conditions as in general method) was performed immediately after mixing (0 h), and then after 2 h, 4 h and 6 h (by mixing 5 μ L of sample with 10 μ L of water) to verify formation of the conjugated product.

Conjugation with glutathione

A stock solution of 200 mM reduced glutathione (GSH) in water was freshly prepared: 12.3 mg (40 μ mol) of GSH was added to 200 μ L of water. Then, the oligonucleotide sample (2 nmol dissolved in 50 μ L of water) was mixed with 25 μ L of the stock solution (containing GSH) and incubated for 6 h

at 37 °C. LCMS analysis (conditions as in general method) was performed immediately after mixing (0 h), and then every 2 h (for 6 h in total) to verify formation of the conjugated product (by mixing 5 μ L of sample with 5 μ L of water).

Conjugation with peptide

Peptide P1 sequence (P1): NH₂- SYQGWC -COOH

Peptide P2 sequence (P2): NH₂- SYQGWA -COOH

100 nmol of **P1/P2** was dissolved in 50 μ L of 5x PBS buffer. Then, the oligonucleotide sample (1 nmol dissolved in 50 μ L of water) was mixed with 25 μ L of the buffer solution (containing **P1** or **P2**) and incubated at 37 °C. LCMS analysis (conditions as in general method) was performed immediately after mixing (0 h), and then after 1 h, 2 h, 3 h, 4 h, 6 h and 22 h (for conjugation with **P1**) or 1 h, 2 h and 4 h (for control experiment with **P2**) to verify formation of the conjugated product (by mixing 5-10 μ L of sample with 10 μ L of water).

For **ON4-b**, analogous experiment was also performed using 20 eq of P1 (time points: 0 h, 2 h, 18 h and 25 h) or 3 eq of P1 (time points: 0 h, 3 h, 21 h and 27 h).

In a control experiment, 3 nmol of **P1** was dissolved in 25 μ L of 5x PBS buffer. Then, 50 μ L of water was added and the solution was incubated at 37 °C. LCMS analysis (conditions as in general method) was performed immediately after mixing (0 h), and then after 3 h, 5 h and 23 h.

Conjugation with lipid

A 4 mM stock solution of mercaptoethyl-D- α -tocopheryl succinate (**37**) in acetonitrile was freshly prepared: 23.6 mg (40 μ mol) of **37** was dissolved in 10 mL of acetonitrile. Oligonucleotide sample (1 nmol dissolved in 50 μ L of water) was mixed with 25 μ L (100 nmol) of the stock solution containing lipid-thiol and incubated at 37 °C. LCMS analysis (conditions as described below) was performed immediately after mixing (0 h), and then after 2 h and 4 h to verify formation of the conjugated product (by mixing 5 μ L of sample with 5 μ L of water).

In a control experiment, 100 nmol of **37** was dissolved in 25 μ L of acetonitrile. Then, 50 μ L of water was added and the solution was incubated at 37 °C. LCMS analysis (conditions as described below) was performed immediately after mixing (0 h), and then after 2 h, and 4 h.

LCMS analysis conditions:

Eluent A: 7 mM TEA, 80 mM HFIP in water; eluent B: 3.5 mM TEA, 40 mM HFIP in 90% ACN; gradient 0 - 20% B 1 to 6 min, then 20 - 85% 6 to 13 min. Samples were run in the negative mode (ESI⁻) and analysed as m/z [M]⁻ or [M-H]⁻.

Conjugation with GalNAc

A 4 mM stock solution of commercially available α -GalNAc-PEG3-Thiol in water was freshly prepared: 1.48 mg (4 µmol) of α -GalNAc-PEG3-Thiol was dissolved in 1 mL of water. Oligonucleotide sample (1 nmol dissolved in 50 µL of water) was mixed with 25 µL (100 nmol) of the GalNAc-thiol-containing stock solution and incubated at 37 °C for 4 h. LCMS analysis (conditions as in general method) was performed immediately after mixing (0 h), and then after 2 h and 4 h to verify formation of the conjugated product (by mixing 5 µL of sample with 5 µL of water).

For **ON3-b**, analogous experiment was also performed using 20 eq (time points: 0 h, 2 h, 4 h and 23 h) or 3 eq of α -GalNAc-PEG3-Thiol (time points: 0 h, 3 h, 5 h, 24 h, 28 h, 33 h and 50 h).

LCMS chromatograms

Oligonucleotide synthesis

| Oligonucleotide | Linker | Deprotection method | Mass calc. | Mass found | Purity [%] |
|-----------------|--------|------------------------|----------------------------|------------|------------|
| ON1-a | а | I | 4478.96 [M] ⁻ | 4478.99 | 91.8 |
| ON1-b | b | I | 4535.07 [M] ⁻ | 4535.07 | 91.5 |
| ON1-c | С | I | 4535.07 [M] ⁻ | 4535.50 | 91.0 |
| ON1-d | d | I | 4507.02 [M] ⁻ | 4507.12 | 89.6 |
| ON1-e | е | I | 4521.05 [M] ⁻ | 4521.32 | 88.5 |
| ON1-f | f | I | 4507.02 [M] ⁻ | 4507.50 | 83.5 |
| ON1-g | g | I | 4507.02 [M] ⁻ | 4507.00 | 89.0 |
| ON1-h | h | I | 4492.99 [M] ⁻ | 4493.19 | 91.2 |
| ON1-i | i | II | 4553.03 [M-H] ⁻ | 4571.00* | 89.0 |
| ON1-j | j | II | 4571.05 [M] ⁻ | 4571.23 | 96.7 |
| ON1-k | k | Ι | 4507.02 [M] ⁻ | 4507.00 | 88.0 |
| ON1-I | I | I | 4521.05 [M] ⁻ | 4521.73 | 93.7 |
| ON2-a | а | I | 4372.92 [M] ⁻ | 4373.42 | 90.8 |
| ON2-b | b | I | 4429.03 [M] ⁻ | 4429.00 | 90.4 |
| ON2-c | С | I | 4429.03 [M] ⁻ | 4429.52 | 94.0 |
| ON2-d | d | I | 4400.98 [M] ⁻ | 4401.69 | 96.5 |
| ON2-e | е | I | 4415.01 [M] ⁻ | 4415.53 | 95.8 |
| ON2-j | j | II | 4465.01 [M] ⁻ | 4466.05 | 96.0 |
| ON3-b | b | I | 5215.61 [M-H] ⁻ | 5215.52 | 95.0 |
| ON4-b | b | I | 5384.67 [M] | 5384.85 | 96.3 |

Table 1: Summary of the synthesised linker-modified oligonucleotides.

*mass identified as [M-H+H₂O]⁻





ON1-b







ON1-d







ON1-f







ON1-h











ON1-k



ON1-I






















ON2-j



ON3-b



ON4-b



Thiolation experiments

| Oligonucleotide | Linker | Conjugation with | Product | Mass calc. | Mass found | Yield ¹ |
|-----------------|--------|------------------|--------------|----------------------------|---------------|---------------------------------|
| ON1-a | а | β-ΜΕ | ON1-a' | 4557.09 [M] ⁻ | 4557.66 | full conversion ^{2, 3} |
| ON1-b | b | β-ΜΕ | ON1-b' | 4613.20 [M] ⁻ | 4613.40 | full conversion ^{2, 3} |
| ON1-c | с | β-ΜΕ | ON1-c' | 4613.20 [M] ⁻ | 4613.00 | 93% ² |
| ON1-d | d | β-ΜΕ | ON1-d' | 4585.15 [M] ⁻ | 4585.20 | 86% |
| ON1-e | е | β-ΜΕ | ON1-e' | 4599.17 [M] ⁻ | 4599.34 | 98% ² |
| ON1-f | f | β-ΜΕ | ON1-f' | 4585.15 [M] ⁻ | 4585.70 | 94% |
| ON1-g | g | β-ΜΕ | ON1-g' | 4584.15 [M-H] ⁻ | 4584.50 | 83% ² |
| ON1-h | h | β-ΜΕ | ON1-h' | 4571.12 [M] ⁻ | 4571.60 | 89% |
| ON1-i | i | β-ΜΕ | ON1-i' | 4631.16 [M-H] ⁻ | 4631.90 | 4% |
| ON1-j | j | β-ΜΕ | ON1-j′ | 4648.18 [M-H] ⁻ | 4648.70 | 33% |
| ON1-k | k | β-ΜΕ | ON1-k' | 4584.15 [M-H] ⁻ | 4584.00 | 94%² |
| ON1-I | I | β-ΜΕ | ON1-ľ | 4599.17 [M] ⁻ | 4599.49 | full conversion ^{2, 3} |
| ON2-a | а | β-ΜΕ | ON2-a' | 4451.04 [M] ⁻ | 4451.44 | 98% ² |
| ON2-b | b | β-ΜΕ | ON2-b' | 4507.15 [M] ⁻ | 4507.45 | full conversion ^{2, 3} |
| ON2-c | С | β-ΜΕ | ON2-c' | 4507.15 [M] ⁻ | 4507.40 | full conversion ^{2, 3} |
| ON2-d | d | β-ΜΕ | ON2-d' | 4479.10 [M] ⁻ | 4479.55 | 93% |
| ON2-e | е | β-ΜΕ | ON2-e' | 4493.12 [M] ⁻ | 4493.45 | 80% ² |
| ON3-b | b | β-ΜΕ | ON3-b' | 5294.74 [M] ⁻ | 5295.00 | 90% |
| ON4-b | b | β-ΜΕ | ON4-b' | 5462.80 [M] ⁻ | 5463.40 | full conversion ^{2, 3} |
| ON1-a | а | GSH | ON1-a" | 4786.29 [M]⁻ | 4786.87 | full conversion ^{2, 3} |
| ON1-b | b | GSH | ON1-b" | 4842.39 [M]⁻ | 4842.79 | full conversion ^{2, 3} |
| ON1-c | С | GSH | ON1-c'' | 4842.39 [M]⁻ | 4843.15 | 80% ² |
| ON2-d | d | GSH | ON2-d" | 4708.29 [M] ⁻ | 4708.89 | full conversion ^{2, 3} |
| ON2-e | е | GSH | ON2-e'' | 4722.31 [M] ⁻ | 4723.07 | full conversion ^{2, 3} |
| ON3-b | b | P1 | ON3-b-P1 | 5959.42 [M] ⁻ | 5959.00 | 79% |
| ON4-b | b | P1 | ON4-b-P1 | 6127.48 [M] ⁻ | 6127.30 | 92% |
| ON3-b | b | P2 | ON3-b | 5216.61 [M] ⁻ | 5217.50 | n/a |
| ON4-b | b | P2 | ON4-b | 5384.67 [M] ⁻ | 5385.60 | n/a |
| ON3-b | b | GalNAc-PEG3-SH | ON3-b-GalNAc | 5586.04 [M] ⁻ | 5586.45 | full conversion ³ |
| ON3-b | b | Toco-SH, 37 | ON3-b-TF | 5807.52 [M] ⁻ | 5807.45 | 13% |

Table 2: Summary of the conjugation experiments.

In all thiolation experiments, crude samples were injected on the LCMS.

¹The conjugation yield was calculated based on the measured AUC (260 nm) for peaks corresponding to the starting material (0 h) and conjugated product (final time point). Due to the potential variability between injections (samples prepared manually), these results should be treated as rough estimation.

²For some of the compounds, a significant amount of the conjugated product was detected already at 0 h. In these cases, product AUC value at 0 h was subtracted from the product AUC value at final time point and the yield was calculated for the remaining product.

³Calculated yield was quantitative.



















*Peak eluting at 3.10 min has a mass corresponding to the starting material.



































ON4-b'



ON1-i'

20240424 SB46 WT BME A1 T3 6 HRS 1059 (3.527) M1 [Ev-39999,lt15] (Gs,2.000,441:1223,0.05,L30,R30); Cm (103: 4631.90 2.89e4















ON2-d"







ON3-b' - 20 eq experiment



Estimated conversion¹: 84%.

Reactivity comparison

ON1-b' vs ON1-c'



Peptide conjugation

ON3-b-P1



ON3-b (conjugation with P2)



ON4-b-P1



ON4-b (conjugation with P2)





ON4-b-P1 – 20 eq experiment



Estimated conversion¹: 22%.

ON4-b-P1 – 3 eq experiment



Estimated conversion¹: 27%.

P1 – control experiment



GalNAc conjugation

ON3-b-GalNAc



ON3-b-GalNAc - 20 eq experiment



Estimated conversion¹: 70%.

ON3-b-GalNAc – 3 eq experiment



Estimated conversion¹: 49%.

Lipid conjugation

ON3-b-TF



TF – control experiment



NMR spectra

3-((2-chloropyrimidin-4-yl)(methyl)amino)cyclobutan-1-ol (Cis/Trans Mixture) (2)



3-((2-chloropyrimidin-4-yl)(methyl)amino)cyclobutan-1-ol (Cis/Trans Mixture) (2)



3-((4-chloropyrimidin-2-yl)(methyl)amino)cyclobutan-1-ol (Cis/Trans Mixture) (2')

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃)



3-((2-chloropyrimidin-4-yl)(methyl)amino)cyclopentan-1-ol (Cis/Trans Mixture) (3)

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃)





3-((2-chloropyrimidin-4-yl)(methyl)amino)cyclopentan-1-ol (Cis/Trans Mixture) (3)

¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃)



3-((4-chloropyrimidin-2-yl)(methyl)amino)cyclopentan-1-ol (Cis/Trans Mixture) (3')

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃)







(1R,4R)-4-((2-chloropyrimidin-4-yl)(methyl)amino)cyclohexan-1-ol (4)

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃)


(1R,4R)-4-((2-chloropyrimidin-4-yl)(methyl)amino)cyclohexan-1-ol (4)



(1R,4R)-4-((4-chloropyrimidin-2-yl)(methyl)amino)cyclohexan-1-ol (4')

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃)





(1R,4R)-4-((4-chloropyrimidin-2-yl)(methyl)amino)cyclohexan-1-ol (4')



1-(2-chloropyrimidin-4-yl)azetidin-3-ol (5)

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃)



1-(2-chloropyrimidin-4-yl)azetidin-3-ol (5)

¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃)



1-(4-chloropyrimidin-2-yl)azetidin-3-ol (5')

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃)







1-(2-vinylpyrimidin-4-yl)piperidin-4-ol (6)

¹H NMR (400 MHz, Methanol-d4)





1-(2-vinylpyrimidin-4-yl)piperidin-4-ol (6)

¹³C NMR (101 MHz, Methanol-d4)



1-(4-chloropyrimidin-2-yl)piperidin-4-ol (6')

¹H NMR (400 MHz, Methanol-d4)



3-(methyl(2-vinylpyrimidin-4-yl)amino)cyclobutan-1-ol (Cis/Trans Mixture) (7)

¹H NMR (400 MHz, Methanol-d4)







3-(methyl(2-vinylpyrimidin-4-yl)amino)cyclobutan-1-ol (Cis/Trans Mixture) (7)

¹³C NMR (101 MHz, Methanol-d4)



3-(methyl(2-vinylpyrimidin-4-yl)amino)cyclopentan-1-ol (Cis/Trans Mixture) (8)







3-(methyl(2-vinylpyrimidin-4-yl)amino)cyclopentan-1-ol (Cis/Trans Mixture) (8)



¹³C NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃)

(1R,4R)-4-(methyl(2-vinylpyrimidin-4-yl)amino)cyclohexan-1-ol (9)

¹H NMR (400 MHz, Methanol-d4)



(1R,4R)-4-(methyl(2-vinylpyrimidin-4-yl)amino)cyclohexan-1-ol (9)

¹³C NMR (101 MHz, Methanol-d4)



2-cyanoethyl (3-(methyl(2-vinylpyrimidin-4-yl)amino)cyclobutyl) diisopropylphosphoramidite (Mixture of Diastereoisomers) (10)

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CD₂Cl₂)





2-cyanoethyl (3-(methyl(2-vinylpyrimidin-4-yl)amino)cyclobutyl) diisopropylphosphoramidite (Mixture of Diastereoisomers) (10)

³¹P NMR (162 MHz, CD₂Cl₂)

146.51 145.59



290 280 270 260 250 240 230 220 210 200 190 180 170 160 150 140 130 120 110 100 90 80 70 60 50 40 f1 (ppm)

2-cyanoethyl (3-(methyl(2-vinylpyrimidin-4-yl)amino)cyclopentyl) diisopropylphosphoramidite (Mixture of Diastereoisomers) (11)

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CD₂Cl₂)



2-cyanoethyl (3-(methyl(2-vinylpyrimidin-4-yl)amino)cyclopentyl) diisopropylphosphoramidite (Mixture of Diastereoisomers) (11)

³¹P NMR (162 MHz, CD₂Cl₂)

 $<^{146.78}_{146.53}$



2-cyanoethyl ((1*R*,4*R*)-4-(methyl(2-vinylpyrimidin-4-yl)amino)cyclohexyl) diisopropylphosphoramidite (Mixture of Diastereoisomers) (12)



2-cyanoethyl ((1*R*,4*R*)-4-(methyl(2-vinylpyrimidin-4-yl)amino)cyclohexyl) diisopropylphosphoramidite (Mixture of Diastereoisomers) (12)

³¹P NMR (162 MHz, CD₃CN)





1-(4-vinylpyrimidin-2-yl)azetidin-3-ol (13)

¹H NMR (400 MHz, Methanol-d4)

ĝ <8.07 8.05





1-(4-vinylpyrimidin-2-yl)azetidin-3-ol (13)

¹³C NMR (101 MHz, Methanol-d4)



1-(2-vinylpyrimidin-4-yl)piperidin-4-ol (14)

¹H NMR (400 MHz, Methanol-d4)



1-(2-vinylpyrimidin-4-yl)piperidin-4-ol (14)

¹³C NMR (101 MHz, Methanol-d4)



2-cyanoethyl (1-(2-vinylpyrimidin-4-yl)azetidin-3-yl) diisopropylphosphoramidite (Mixture of Diastereoisomers) (15)

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CD₃CN)



2-cyanoethyl (1-(2-vinylpyrimidin-4-yl)azetidin-3-yl) diisopropylphosphoramidite (Mixture of Diastereoisomers) (15)

³¹P NMR (162 MHz, CD₃CN)



2-cyanoethyl (1-(2-vinylpyrimidin-4-yl)piperidin-4-yl) diisopropylphosphoramidite (Mixture of Diastereoisomers) (16)

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CD₂Cl₂)



2-cyanoethyl (1-(2-vinylpyrimidin-4-yl)piperidin-4-yl) diisopropylphosphoramidite (Mixture of Diastereoisomers) (16)

³¹P NMR (162 MHz, CD₂Cl₂)



3-(methyl(4-vinylpyrimidin-2-yl)amino)cyclobutan-1-ol (18) (Mixture of Cis/Trans)

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃)



3-(methyl(4-vinylpyrimidin-2-yl)amino)cyclobutan-1-ol (18) (Mixture of Cis/Trans)

¹³C NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃)



3-(methyl(4-vinylpyrimidin-2-yl)amino)cyclopentan-1-ol (19) (Mixture of Cis/Trans)

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃)



3-(methyl(4-vinylpyrimidin-2-yl)amino)cyclopentan-1-ol (19) (Mixture of Cis/Trans)

¹³C NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃)



(1R,4R)-4-(methyl(4-vinylpyrimidin-2-yl)amino)cyclohexan-1-ol (20)

¹H NMR (400 MHz, Methanol-d4)



(1R,4R)-4-(methyl(4-vinylpyrimidin-2-yl)amino)cyclohexan-1-ol (20)

¹³C NMR (101 MHz, Methanol-d4)



(R)-1-(4-vinylpyrimidin-2-yl)pyrrolidin-3-ol (21)

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃)






(R)-1-(4-vinylpyrimidin-2-yl)pyrrolidin-3-ol (21)

¹³C NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃)



1-(4-vinylpyrimidin-2-yl)piperidin-4-ol (22)

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃)



1-(4-vinylpyrimidin-2-yl)piperidin-4-ol (22)

¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃)







Ч

0.90

5.5

6.0

Ч

0.72

4.5

5.0

f1 (ppm)

 $\frac{1}{2}$

0.85 1.09 0.92

6.5

7.0

Ч

0.81

8.0

7.5

8.5

10.0

9.5

9.0

4.0

0.92

2.09 2.18

3.5

 \square

2.91

3.0

4.34

2.5

2.0

12.00 - I

1.0

0.5

0.0

1.5

2-cyanoethyl (3-(methyl(4-vinylpyrimidin-2-yl)amino)cyclobutyl) diisopropylphosphoramidite (Mixture of Diastereoisomers) (23)

³¹P NMR (400 MHz, CD₂Cl₂)

 $< \frac{146.26}{145.38}$





2-cyanoethyl (3-(methyl(4-vinylpyrimidin-2-yl)amino)cyclopentyl) diisopropylphosphoramidite (Mixture of Diastereoisomers) (24)



2-cyanoethyl (3-(methyl(4-vinylpyrimidin-2-yl)amino)cyclopentyl) diisopropylphosphoramidite (Mixture of Diastereoisomers) (24)

³¹P NMR (162 MHz, CD₂Cl₂)





290 280 270 260 250 240 230 220 210 200 190 180 170 160 150 140 130 120 110 100 90 80 70 60 50 40 30 20 f1 (ppm) 2-cyanoethyl ((1*R*,4*R*)-4-(methyl(4-vinylpyrimidin-2-yl)amino)cyclohexyl) diisopropylphosphoramidite (Mixture of Diastereoisomers) (25)

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CD₃CN)



2-cyanoethyl ((1*R*,4*R*)-4-(methyl(4-vinylpyrimidin-2-yl)amino)cyclohexyl) diisopropylphosphoramidite (Mixture of Diastereoisomers) (25)

³¹P NMR (400 MHz, CD₃CN)

....O_P^N. _o 25 NC



2-cyanoethyl ((R)-1-(4-vinylpyrimidin-2-yl)pyrrolidin-3-yl) diisopropylphosphoramidite (Mixture of Diastereoisomers) (26)

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CD₃CN)



2-cyanoethyl ((R)-1-(4-vinylpyrimidin-2-yl)pyrrolidin-3-yl) diisopropylphosphoramidite (Mixture of Diastereoisomers) (26)

³¹P NMR (400 MHz, CD₃CN)

(O−Ŕ 0 NĆ 26

 $<^{147.13}_{146.98}$

290 280 270 260 250 240 230 220 210 200 190 180 170 160 150 140 130 120 110 100 90 80 70 60 50 40 30 20 f1 (ppm)

2-cyanoethyl (1-(4-vinylpyrimidin-2-yl)piperidin-4-yl) diisopropylphosphoramidite (Mixture of Diastereoisomers) (27)

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CD₂Cl₂)







2-cyanoethyl (1-(4-vinylpyrimidin-2-yl)piperidin-4-yl) diisopropylphosphoramidite (Mixture of Diastereoisomers) (27)

³¹P NMR (400 MHz, CD₂Cl₂)





(3-(6-vinyl-9H-purin-9-yl)phenyl)methanol (29)

¹H NMR (400 MHz, Methanol-d4)







(3-(6-vinyl-9H-purin-9-yl)phenyl)methanol (29)

¹³C NMR (101 MHz, Methanol-d4)



2-cyanoethyl (3-(6-vinyl-9*H*-purin-9-yl)benzyl) diisopropylphosphoramidite (Mixture of Diastereoisomers) (30)

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CD₂Cl₂)







2-cyanoethyl (3-(6-vinyl-9*H*-purin-9-yl)benzyl) diisopropylphosphoramidite (Mixture of Diastereoisomers) (30)

³¹P NMR (400 MHz, CD₂Cl₂)



2-((1R,4R)-4-hydroxycyclohexyl)(methyl)amino)pyrimidine-5-carbaldehyde (33)



2-((1R,4R)-4-hydroxycyclohexyl)(methyl)amino)pyrimidine-5-carbaldehyde (33)



S-127

(1R,4R)-4-((5-(2,2-difluorovinyl)pyrimidin-2-yl)(methyl)amino)cyclohexan-1-ol (34)



(1R,4R)-4-((5-(2,2-difluorovinyl)pyrimidin-2-yl)(methyl)amino)cyclohexan-1-ol (34)

¹⁹F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl₃)



(1R,4R)-4-((5-(2,2-difluorovinyl)pyrimidin-2-yl)(methyl)amino)cyclohexan-1-ol (34)

¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃)



2-cyanoethyl ((1*R*,4*R*)-4-((5-(2,2-difluorovinyl)pyrimidin-2-yl)(methyl)amino)cyclohexyl) diisopropylphosphoramidite (Mixture of Diastereoisomers) (35)

¹H NMR (400 MHz, CD₂Cl₂)



2-cyanoethyl ((1R,4R)-4-((5-(2,2-difluorovinyl)pyrimidin-2-yl)(methyl)amino)cyclohexyl) diisopropylphosphoramidite (35)

³¹P NMR (400 MHz, CD₂Cl₂)



2-cyanoethyl ((1*R*,4*R*)-4-((5-(2,2-difluorovinyl)pyrimidin-2-yl)(methyl)amino)cyclohexyl) diisopropylphosphoramidite (35)

¹⁹F NMR (376 MHz, CD₂Cl₂)





References

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ⁱⁱ Vanslambrouck, S.; Riva, R.; Ucakar, B.; Préat, V.; Gagliardi, M.; Molin, D.G.M.; Lecomte, P.; Jérôme, C. *Molecules* **2021**, *26*, 1750.