

## Supporting Information:

# How to Deal with Low-Resolution Target Structures: Using SAR, Ensemble Docking, Hydrophobic Analysis, and 3D-QSAR to Definitively Map the $\alpha\beta$ -Tubulin Colchicine Site

Chenxiao Da,<sup>1</sup> Susan L. Mooberry,<sup>2</sup> John T. Gupton<sup>3</sup> and Glen E. Kellogg<sup>1,\*</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Medicinal Chemistry & Institute for Structural Biology and Drug Discovery, Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, Virginia, USA; <sup>2</sup>Department of Pharmacology, University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio, San Antonio, Texas, USA;

<sup>3</sup>Department of Chemistry, University of Richmond, Richmond, Virginia, USA.

**Table S1.** Activity data, as reported, for compounds in study.

Cmpd.	Antiproliferation	Microtubule Depolymerization
1	0.014	0.03 $\mu$ M
2	0.036 $\pm$ 0.002	100% loss at 500 nM
3	0.618 $\pm$ 0.07	50% loss at 5 $\mu$ M, 100% loss at 30 $\mu$ M
4	0.067 $\pm$ 0.002	75% loss at 5 $\mu$ M
5	0.109 $\pm$ 0.008	70% loss at 5 $\mu$ M
6	1.82 $\pm$ 0.3	20% loss at 10 $\mu$ M
7	1.30 $\pm$ 0.04	15% loss at 10 $\mu$ M
8	3.3 $\pm$ 0.3	20% loss at 5 $\mu$ M, 35% at 10 $\mu$ M
9	5.3 $\pm$ 0.3	No MT effect up to 10 $\mu$ M
10	4.6 $\pm$ 0.2	10% loss at 10 $\mu$ M
11	5.2	10% loss at 10 $\mu$ M
12	8.0 $\pm$ 0.3	No MT effects up to 10 $\mu$ M
13	10.7 $\pm$ 0.4	No MT effects up to 10 $\mu$ M
14	18.3 $\pm$ 2.7	No MT effects up to 10 $\mu$ M
15	10.3 $\pm$ 1.3	15% loss at 50 $\mu$ M
16	2.24 $\pm$ 0.2	20% loss at 30 $\mu$ M
17	0.919 $\pm$ 0.020	30% loss at 50 $\mu$ M
18	0.312 $\pm$ 0.020	20% loss at 20 $\mu$ M; 30% loss at 30 and 50 $\mu$ M
19	0.843	7.0 $\mu$ M; 65% loss at 5 $\mu$ M; 80% loss at 10 $\mu$ M
20	0.633 $\pm$ 0.01	2.4 $\mu$ M; 90% loss at 5 $\mu$ M
21	12.9 $\pm$ 1.9	35% loss at 50 $\mu$ M
22	2.64 $\pm$ 0.30	14 $\mu$ M; 20% loss at 5 $\mu$ M; 75% loss at 10 $\mu$ M
23	3.24 $\pm$ 0.20	7.0 $\mu$ M; 50% loss at 5 $\mu$ M; 95% loss at 10 $\mu$ M
24	1.98 $\pm$ 0.20	17.8 $\mu$ M
25	1.70 $\pm$ 0.10	27.1 $\mu$ M; 50% MT loss at 30 $\mu$ M
26	0.626 $\pm$ 0.020	18.5 $\mu$ M

<b>27</b>	0.806±0.060	9.9 µM
<b>28</b>	0.539±0.040	14.1 µM
<b>29</b>	1.99±0.20	15% MT loss at 10 µM
<b>30</b>	1.80±0.20	20.9 µM; 40% MT loss at 30 µM
<b>31</b>	4.36±0.3	20.9 µM; 50% MT loss at 20 µM
<b>32</b>	5	20% loss at 30 µM; cells dead at 50 µM
<b>33</b>	10	No MT effect up to 50 µM
<b>34</b>	>10	No MT effect up to 50 µM
<b>35</b>	3	25% loss at 50 µM
<b>36</b>	4	No MT effect up to 50 µM
<b>37</b>	100	No MT effect up to 50 µM
<b>38</b>	2	No MT effect up to 50 µM
<b>39</b>	10	No MT effect up to 50 µM
<b>40</b>	0.003±0.0002	0.007 µM
<b>41</b>	0.9	4.5 µM
<b>42</b>	0.35	18.6 µM
<b>43</b>	0.095	5.6 µM
<b>44</b>	0.182	1.8 µM
<b>45</b>	0.183±0.0034	5.8 µM
<b>46</b>	>10	> 40 µM
<b>47</b>	0.0966	1.2 µM
<b>48</b>	0.193	1.4 µM
<b>49</b>	0.0303	0.22 µM
<b>50</b>	0.298	8.4 µM
<b>51</b>	0.0427	0.23 µM
<b>52</b>	0.012±0.0008	0.023 µM
<b>53</b>	>10	> 40 µM
<b>54</b>	0.0945	1.6 µM
<b>55</b>	2.7	> 40 µM
<b>56</b>	0.051±0.004	0.278 µM
<b>57</b>	>10	> 40 µM
<b>58</b>	0.402	6.9 µM
<b>59</b>	2.7	> 40 µM

**Table S2.** Experimental and predicted activities for all models in internal training and test sets.

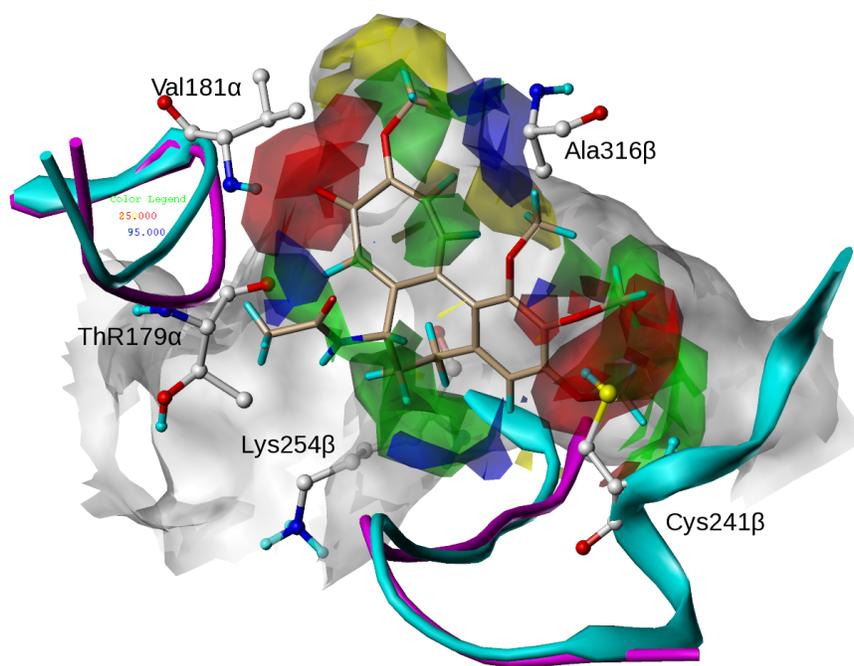
Cmpd.	Exptl. pIC <sub>50</sub>	Exptl. pEC <sub>50</sub>	Docking Alignment				Semi-ligand Align.		Naïve Align.	
			CoMFA	CoMFA+ HINT	CoMSIA	CoMFA (pEC <sub>50</sub> )	CoMFA	CoMSIA	CoMFA	CoMSIA
1	7.70	7.52	7.82	7.41	8.29	7.36	7.62	8.15	7.96	8.34
2	7.44	6.31	6.82	6.82	6.35	5.77	6.76	6.36	6.55	5.83
3	6.21	5.30	6.49	6.43	6.43	5.64	6.50	6.29	6.34	5.87
4	7.17	5.48	6.37	6.51	6.34	5.47	6.45	6.33	6.06	5.73
5	6.96	5.44	6.93	6.99	6.59	5.90	6.89	6.44	6.62	5.85
6	5.74	4.60	5.97	5.89	5.79	4.70	5.82	5.52	6.21	5.83
7	5.89	4.48	5.95	5.84	5.47	4.57	5.72	5.43	5.87	5.66
8	5.48	4.85	5.68	5.56	5.67	4.95	5.72	5.48	5.56	5.63
9	5.28	4.00	5.32	5.26	5.38	4.16	5.52	5.38	5.15	5.39
10	5.34	4.30	5.20	5.34	5.37	4.09	5.57	5.32	5.23	5.47
11	5.28	4.30	5.35	5.35	5.47	4.26	5.52	5.34	5.20	5.52
12	5.10	4.00	5.21	5.14	4.79	3.86	4.89	5.16	5.21	4.88
13	4.97	4.00	4.73	4.79	4.85	4.02	4.83	5.05	4.94	4.85
14	4.74	4.00	5.08	5.31	5.28	4.09	5.20	5.78	5.26	5.80
15	4.99	3.78	4.62	4.81	4.88	3.23	5.12	5.70	5.66	5.86
16	5.65	4.12	5.58	5.75	5.77	4.32	5.57	5.83	6.03	5.92
17	6.04	4.08	5.78	5.95	5.82	4.16	5.71	5.91	6.11	6.02
18	6.51	4.03	5.91	6.14	5.89	4.25	5.74	5.99	6.16	6.09
19	6.07	5.15	5.75	6.01	6.03	4.56	5.62	5.63	5.95	5.66
20	6.20	5.62	6.16	6.24	6.37	5.13	5.94	6.34	5.84	6.15
21	4.89	4.15	4.88	4.75	5.05	4.35	5.48	5.08	4.84	5.62
22	5.58	4.85	5.65	5.69	5.81	5.27	6.32	6.17	5.98	5.92
23	5.49	5.15	5.88	5.93	5.91	4.89	5.73	5.89	5.36	5.88
24	5.70	4.75	6.05	5.87	5.75	4.99	5.97	5.57	6.00	5.75
25	5.77	4.57	5.84	5.83	5.94	4.52	5.79	6.10	6.11	6.07
26	6.20	4.73	5.96	6.12	6.03	4.66	5.89	5.86	6.23	5.85
27	6.09	5.00	6.23	6.41	5.92	4.84	6.16	6.02	6.39	6.09
28	6.27	4.85	6.00	6.16	5.91	4.59	5.91	5.80	5.92	5.68
29	5.70	4.48	5.63	5.80	5.95	4.83	5.68	5.72	5.56	5.81
30	5.74	4.53	5.78	5.92	6.16	4.52	5.72	5.96	5.78	5.92
31	5.36	4.68	5.49	5.52	5.99	4.71	5.66	5.91	5.74	5.81
32	5.30	4.12	5.74	5.65	6.13	4.81	5.85	5.69	5.49	5.79
33	4.00	3.30	3.87	3.87	3.85	2.80	3.29	4.09	4.46	3.50
34	4.00	3.30	4.00	3.99	4.01	2.79	3.86	4.30	4.20	4.61
35	5.52	4.00	5.70	5.71	5.49	4.15	5.85	5.56	5.46	5.65
36	4.00	3.30	3.90	3.95	4.10	3.38	4.03	4.10	3.91	4.32
37	4.00	3.30	4.12	4.09	4.31	3.78	4.34	4.07	3.99	4.30
38	4.00	3.30	4.66	4.68	4.34	3.80	5.31	5.26	4.96	5.43
39	4.00	3.30	4.32	4.01	4.21	2.97	3.78	3.67	3.70	4.06

<b>40</b>	8.52	8.15	8.45	8.39	7.88	7.75	7.45	8.06	8.71	7.90
<b>41</b>	6.46	4.73	6.59	5.26	6.57	5.97	6.01	7.13	6.48	6.41
<b>42</b>	7.02	5.25	6.62	6.65	6.61	5.19	7.07	7.00	6.40	6.80
<b>43</b>	6.74	5.74	6.85	6.96	6.86	5.36	6.90	6.78	6.94	6.62
<b>44</b>	6.06	5.35	6.74	6.70	7.17	5.64	7.45	7.64	6.84	7.33
<b>45</b>	6.74	5.24	5.76	6.03	5.83	4.91	6.09	6.42	6.23	6.23
<b>46</b>	4.70	4.10	4.64	4.41	4.41	4.13	4.82	4.38	4.26	4.44
<b>47</b>	7.02	5.92	7.19	7.13	6.89	5.94	6.95	7.06	6.97	7.19
<b>48</b>	6.71	5.85	6.87	7.02	6.78	5.64	6.81	6.75	6.65	6.97
<b>49</b>	7.52	6.66	7.35	7.56	7.20	5.98	7.33	7.24	7.17	7.28
<b>50</b>	6.53	5.08	7.16	7.01	6.69	5.89	7.29	5.87	6.95	6.56
<b>51</b>	7.37	6.64	7.00	7.29	7.35	5.77	6.53	6.97	6.49	7.17
<b>52</b>	7.92	7.64	7.44	7.35	7.09	6.69	6.76	6.99	7.41	6.68
<b>53</b>	4.92	4.37	4.78	4.65	4.50	4.15	5.42	4.95	5.07	4.88
<b>54</b>	7.02	5.80	6.98	6.90	6.98	5.89	6.87	6.64	7.27	6.48
<b>55</b>	5.78	4.37	5.41	5.65	5.74	4.15	6.19	6.46	5.71	6.50
<b>56</b>	7.29	6.56	7.08	6.89	6.97	6.31	6.26	6.83	6.87	6.58
<b>57</b>	4.29	3.28	4.56	4.28	4.62	3.99	4.94	4.79	4.59	4.79
<b>58</b>	6.40	5.16	6.43	6.43	6.68	5.47	6.32	6.48	6.70	6.39
<b>59</b>	5.15	3.28	6.01	5.90	6.49	5.16	5.75	6.30	5.32	6.40

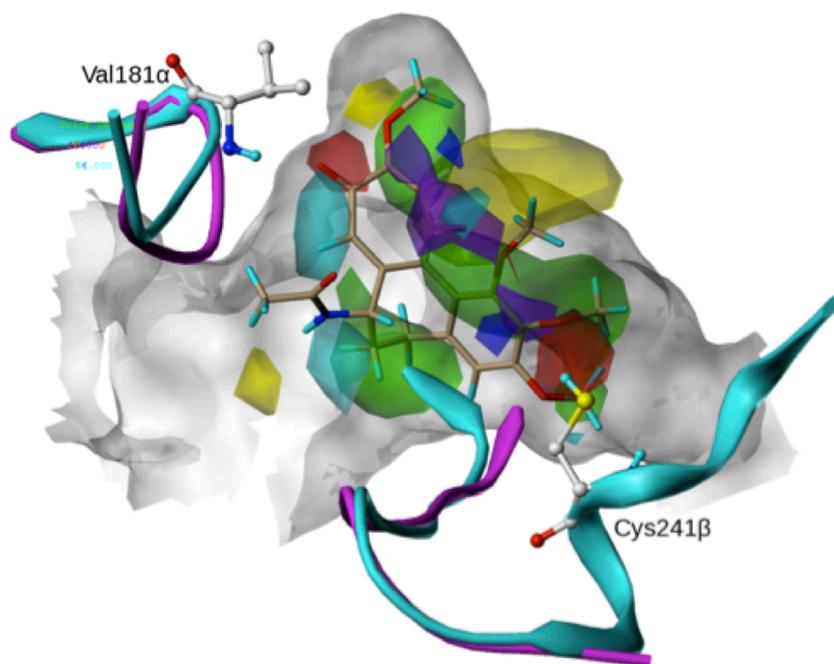
**Table S3.** Experimental and predicted activities for Semi-ligand and Naive models in external test set.

Cmpd.	Experimental		Semi-Ligand Align.		Naïve Align.	
	Activity: IC <sub>50</sub> or K <sub>d</sub> (μM)	pActivity	CoMFA	CoMSIA	CoMFA	CoMSIA
60a	2.13	5.67	5.93	7.24	6.28	7.37
60b	4.76	5.32	5.44	6.66	5.88	7.10
60c	47	4.33	4.93	6.45	5.07	7.03
61a	0.001	9.00	7.31	7.62	6.87	7.24
61b	0.31	6.51	6.88	7.06	6.58	6.90
61c	5	5.30	5.70	6.19	5.57	6.65
62a	0.02	7.70	6.75	7.38	6.69	7.10
62b	0.1	7.00	5.23	6.12	5.32	6.45
62c	2	5.70	4.79	5.74	4.65	6.09
63a	0.007	8.15	6.17	6.98	5.80	6.33
63b	0.59	6.23	6.15	7.22	6.00	6.65
63c*	> 10	4.70	4.62	6.12	4.51	6.30
64a	0.013	7.89	6.39	6.78	5.67	6.70
64b	0.025	7.60	5.98	6.63	4.82	6.76
64c	2.5	5.60	5.06	5.82	4.57	6.63
65a	0.00021	9.68	5.72	6.69	5.32	6.05
65b	1.9	5.72	5.46	6.65	5.21	6.25
65c*	>25	4.30	5.78	6.14	5.46	5.93
66a	0.13	6.89	5.87	7.02	5.72	6.69
66b	6	5.22	5.93	7.00	6.03	6.70
66c*	> 100	3.70	4.41	5.89	3.93	5.56
67a	0.001	9.00	5.36	5.42	5.61	5.70
67b	19	4.72	5.00	6.12	4.68	6.17
67c*	> 50	4.00	4.86	5.58	4.99	5.93
<b>r<sup>2</sup> for correlation</b>			0.38	0.16	0.23	0.03
<b>Ranking performance</b>			6/8	6/8	4/8	3/8

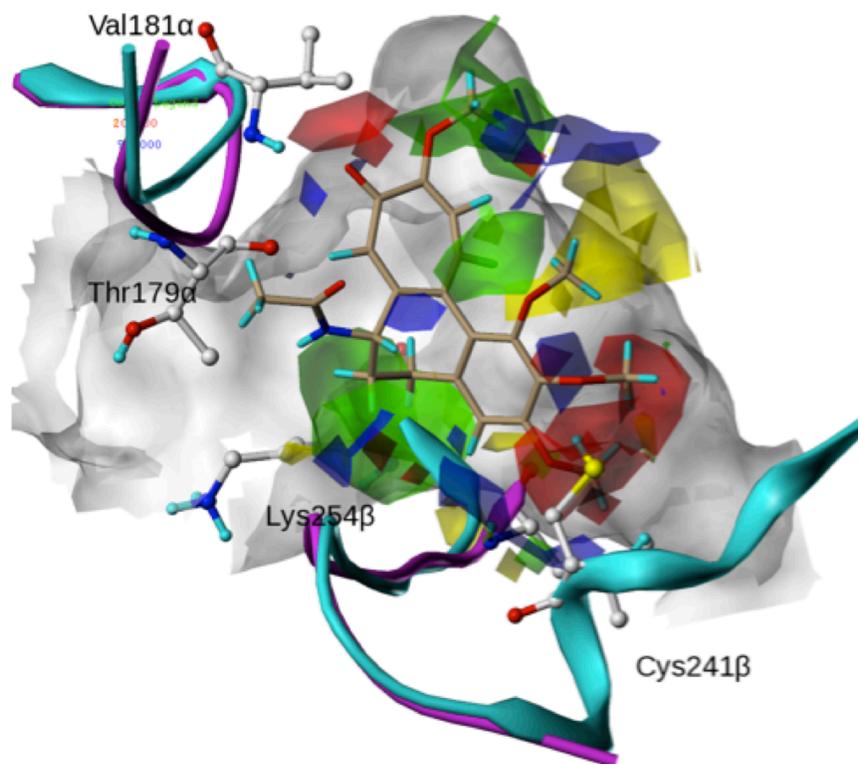
\*Literature report was IC<sub>50</sub> or K<sub>d</sub> > x μM. We used IC<sub>50</sub> or K<sub>d</sub> = 2x for modeling.



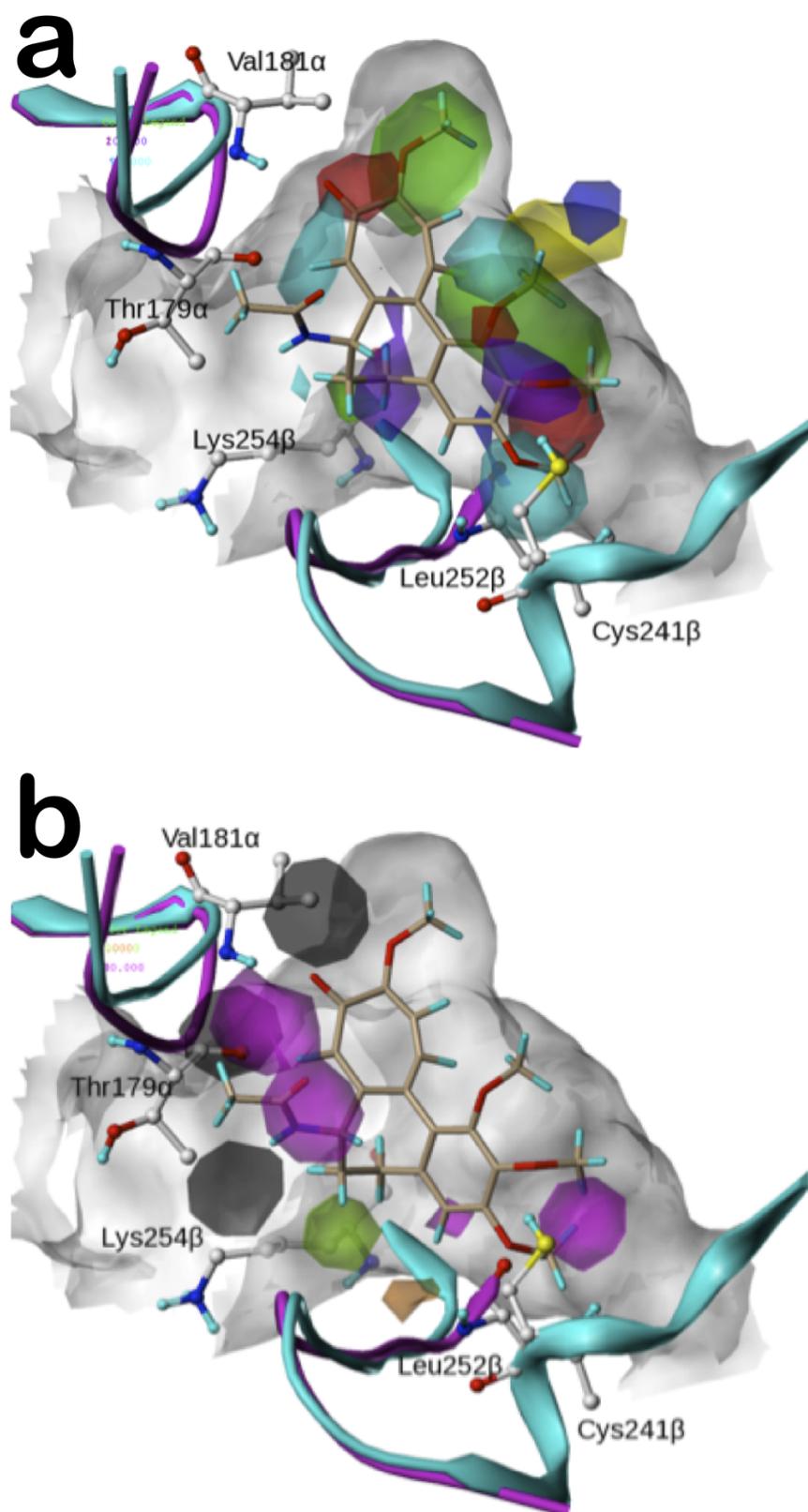
**Figure S1.** CoMFA model contour maps based on docked poses for  $EC_{50}$  target variable. For reference, colchicine is shown in beige. Green and yellow contours indicate favorable and unfavorable steric interactions, respectively. Blue regions favor electropositive groups and red regions favor electronegative groups.



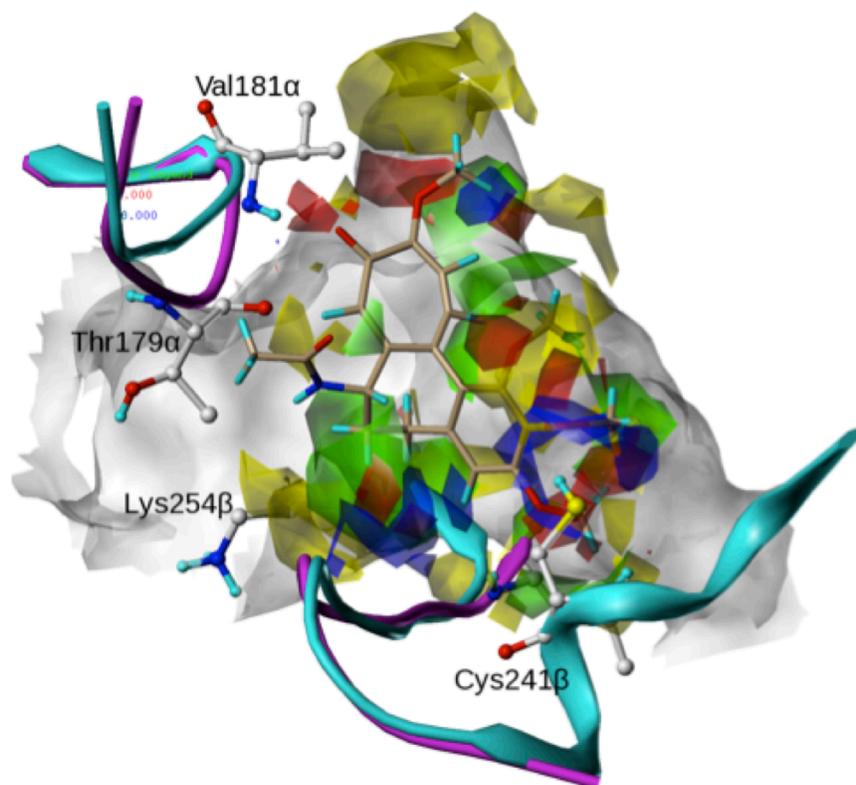
**Figure S2.** CoMSIA model contour maps based on docked poses for  $IC_{50}$  target variable. For reference, colchicine is shown in beige. Green and yellow contours indicate favorable and unfavorable steric interactions, respectively. Blue regions favor electropositive groups and red regions favor electronegative groups. Cyan regions favor hydrophobic groups and purple regions favor polar groups.



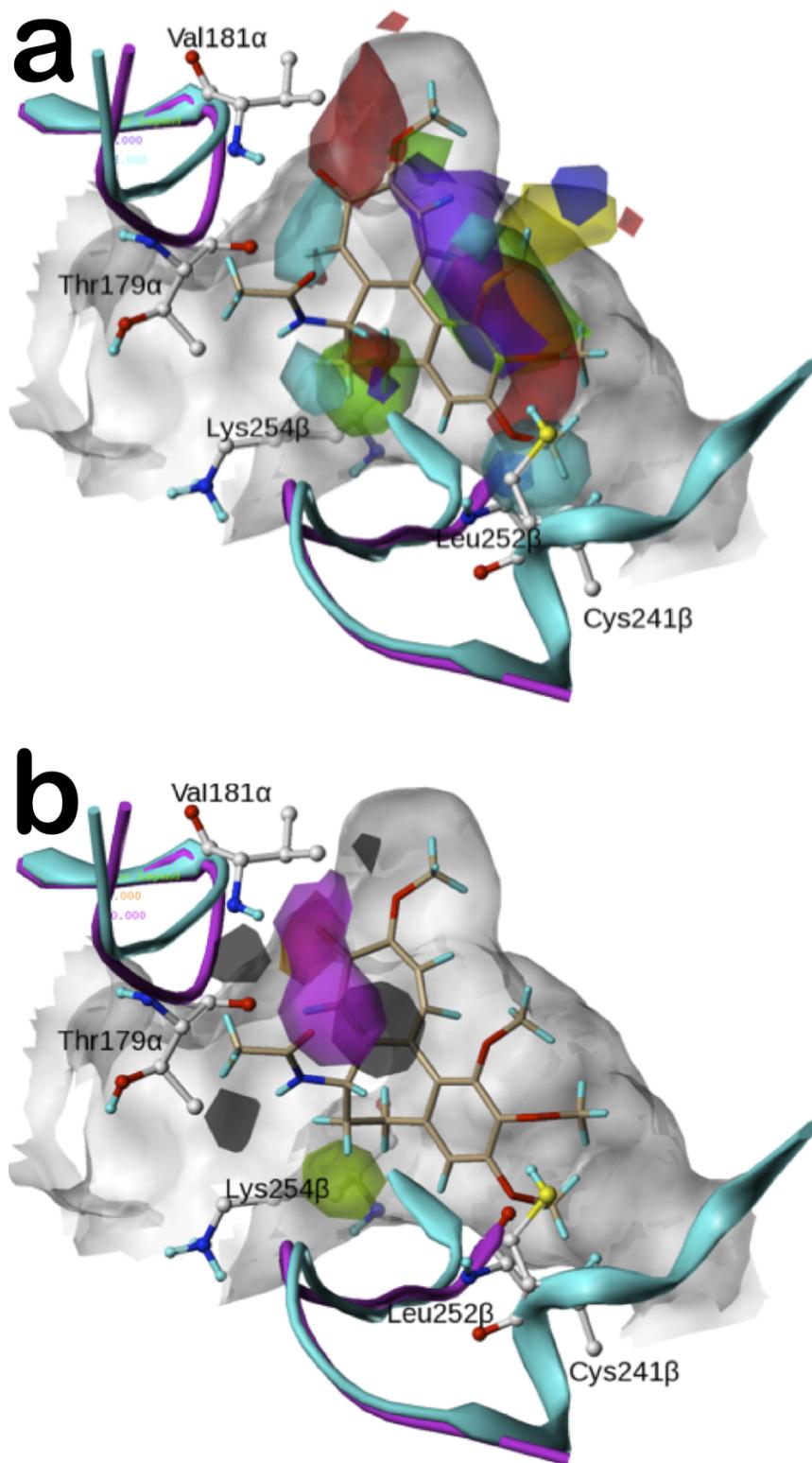
**Figure S3.** CoMFA model contour maps based on semi-ligand alignment poses for IC<sub>50</sub> target variable. For reference, colchicine is shown in beige. Green and yellow contours indicate favorable and unfavorable steric interactions, respectively. Blue regions favor electropositive groups and red regions favor electronegative groups.



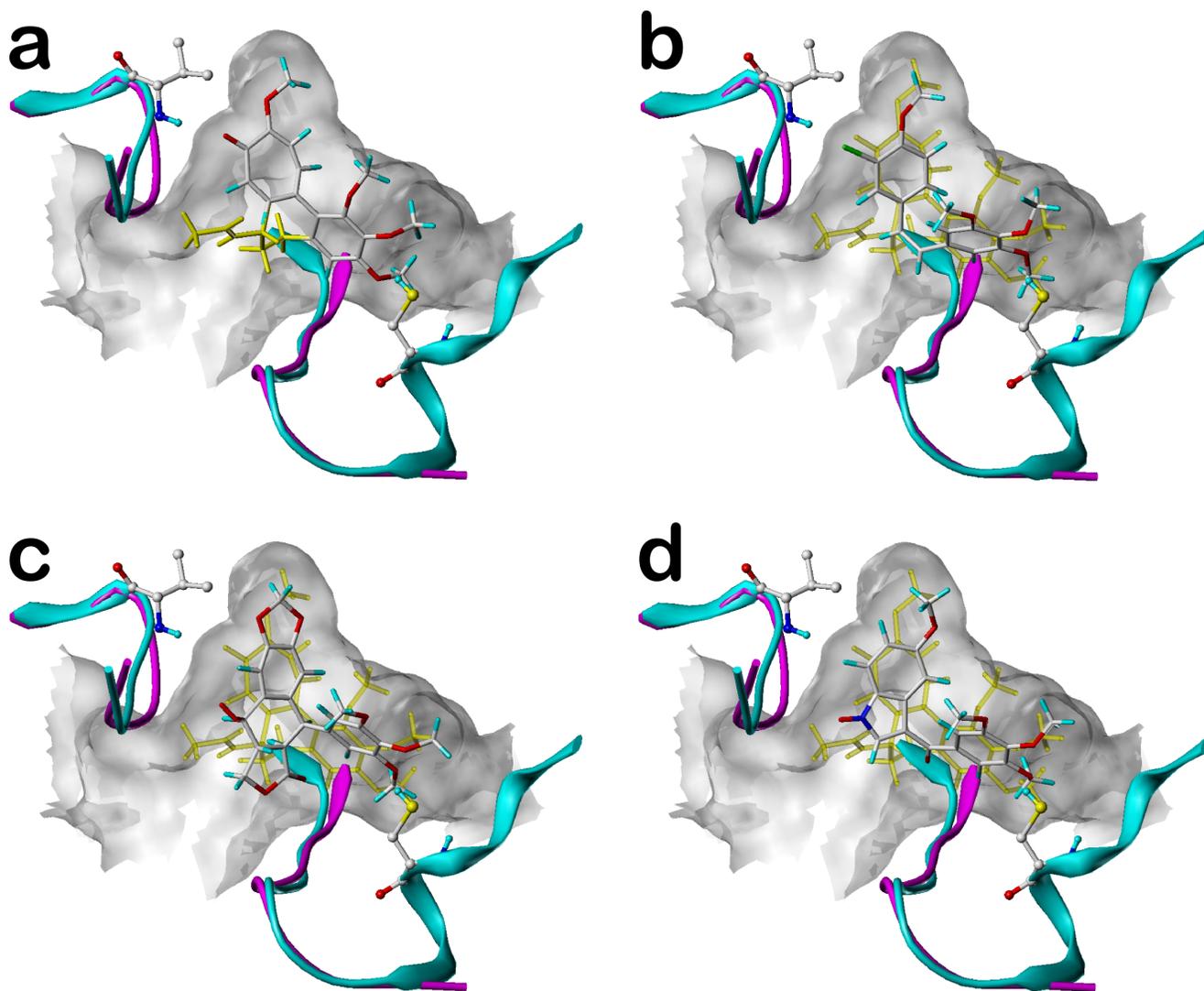
**Figure S4.** CoMSIA model contour maps based on semi-ligand alignment poses for IC<sub>50</sub> target variable. For reference, colchicine is shown in beige. a) Green and yellow contours indicate favorable and unfavorable steric interactions, respectively. Blue regions favor electropositive groups and red regions favor electronegative groups. Cyan regions favor hydrophobic groups and purple regions favor polar groups. b) Black and light green represent regions that favor and disfavor hydrogen bond donors. Magenta and orange represent regions that favor and disfavor hydrogen bond acceptors.



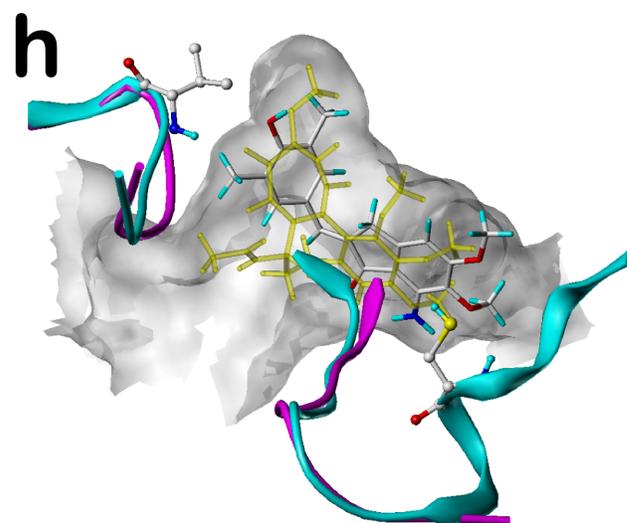
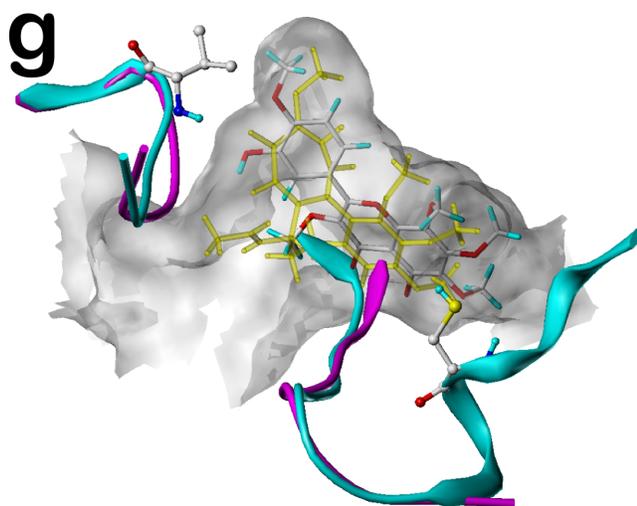
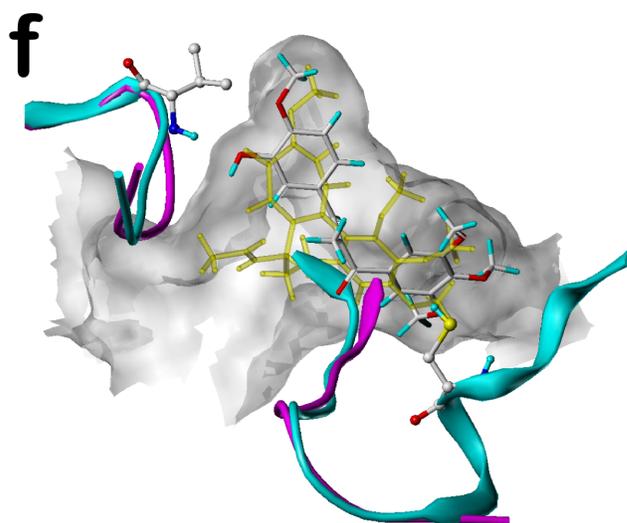
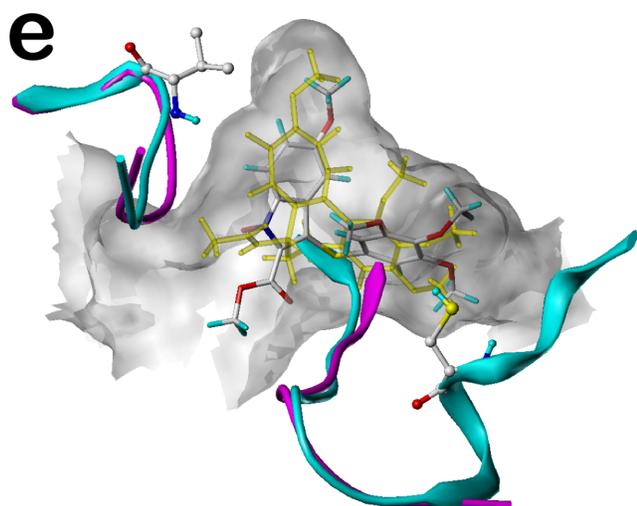
**Figure S5.** CoMFA model contour maps based on naïve alignment poses for IC<sub>50</sub> target variable. For reference, colchicine is shown in beige. Green and yellow contours indicate favorable and unfavorable steric interactions, respectively. Blue regions favor electropositive groups and red regions favor electronegative groups.



**Figure S6.** CoMSIA model contour maps based on naïve alignment poses for IC<sub>50</sub> target variable. For reference, colchicine is shown in beige. a) Green and yellow contours indicate favorable and unfavorable steric interactions, respectively. Blue regions favor electropositive groups and red regions favor electronegative groups. Cyan regions favor hydrophobic groups and purple regions favor polar groups. b) Black and light green represent regions that favor and disfavor hydrogen bond donors. Magenta and orange represent regions that favor and disfavor hydrogen bond acceptors.



**Figure S7.** Docking models for external test set representatives (most active compounds). a) Compound **60a**; b) Compound **61a**; c) Compound **62a**; and d) Compound **63a**. Colchicine (yellow) is included for reference.



**Figure S7 (continued).** Docking models for external test set representatives (most active compounds). e) Compound **64a**; f) Compound **65a**; g) Compound **66a**; and h) Compound **67a**. Colchicine (yellow) is included for reference.