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**Supporting information for article:** 

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# **Supporting Information**

# Structural Insights into Activity Enhancement and Inhibition of H64A Carbonic Anhydrase II by Imidazoles

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#### S1. Methods

### S1.1. Enzyme kinetics measurements

 $^{18}$ O exchange assay was carried out to study the kinetics of the catalyzed reaction of the hydration and dehydration of  $CO_2$  and  $HCO_3$  -and how these small imidazoles (I, 1MI, 2MI and 4MI) affect the activity of H64A CA II. The pH values were chosen based on the pK<sub>a</sub> of these imidazoles.

The method (Tu et al., 1989) relies on the depletion of  $^{18}$ O from species of  $CO_2$  as measured by membrane inlet mass spectrometry using an Extrel EXM-200 mass spectrometer (Pastorek et al., 1994). In the first stage of catalysis, the dehydration of labeled bicarbonate has a probability of labeling the active site with  $^{18}$ O (eq 1). In a following step, protonation of the zinc-bound  $^{18}$ O-labeled hydroxide results in the release of  $H_2^{18}$ O to the solvent and loss of signal from the isotopic species (eq 2).

$$HCOO^{18}O^{-} + EZnH_{2}O \rightleftharpoons EZnHCOO^{18}O^{-} \rightleftharpoons COO + EZn^{18}OH^{-}$$
 (1)

$$H^{+}His64-EZn^{18}OH^{-} \rightleftharpoons His64-EZnH_{2}^{18}O \rightarrow His64-EZnH_{2}O + H_{2}^{18}O$$
 (2)

This approach yields two rates: The  $R_1$ , the rate of  $CO_2$  and  $HCO_3^-$  interconversion at chemical equilibrium (eq 1), as shown in Equation 3, and  $R_{\rm H2O}$ , the rate of release from the enzyme of water with labeled substrate oxygen (eq 2).

$$R_1/[E] = k_{cat}^{ex} [CO_2]/(K_{eff}^{CO2} + [CO_2])$$
 (3)

In Equation 3,  $k_{cat}^{ex}$  is a rate constant for maximal interconversion of  $CO_2$  and bicarbonate,  $K_{eff}^{CO2}$  represents a binding constant for the substrate to enzyme. The ratio  $k_{cat}^{ex}/K_{eff}^{CO2}$  is considered equivalent in value to  $k_{cat}/K_{M}$  from steady state experiments, and is a measure of the successful binding and interconversion of substrate and product.

The second rate,  $R_{H2O}$ , is the component of the <sup>18</sup>O exchange that is dependent upon the donation of protons to the <sup>18</sup>O-labeled zinc-bound hydroxide. In such a step, His64 as a predominant proton donor in the catalysis provides a proton (Equation 2). The value of  $R_{H2O}$  can be determined and considered as the rate constant for proton transfer from His64 to the zinc-bound hydroxide according eq 4, in which  $k_B$ 

is the rate constant for proton transfer to the zinc-bound hydroxide and  $(K_a)_{donor}$  and  $(K_a)_{ZnH2O}$  are ionization constants of the proton donor, His64, and zinc-bound water. The least-squares determination of kinetic constants of Equation 3 and Equation 4 was carried out using Enzfitter (Biosoft).

$$R_{H2O}/[E] = k_B/([1 + (K_a)_{donor}/[H^+])[1 + [H^+]/(K_a)_{ZnH2O}])$$
(4)

The uncatalyzed and carbonic-anhydrase-catalyzed exchanges of  $^{18}\text{O}$  between  $\text{CO}_2$  and water at chemical equilibrium were measured in the absence of buffer (to prevent interference from the second intermolecular proton transfer reaction) at a total substrate concentration of 25 mM and 25 °C.

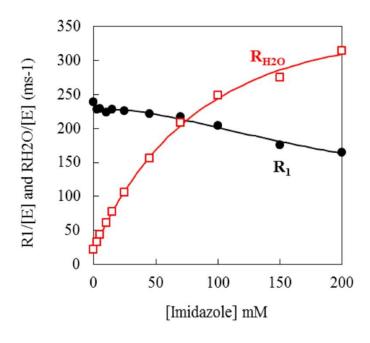
## References

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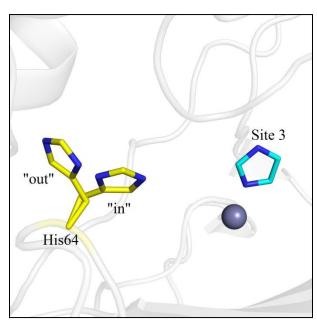
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**Figure S1** (a) The effect of imidazole (I) on R1/[E] (black) and  $R_{\rm H2O}$ /[E] (red) catalyzed by H64A CA II. (b) Crystal structure of H64A CA II in complex with imidazole, showing the site of inhibition (site 3). His64 from wt-CA II is superposed and shown as yellow sticks for orientation perspective.

(a)

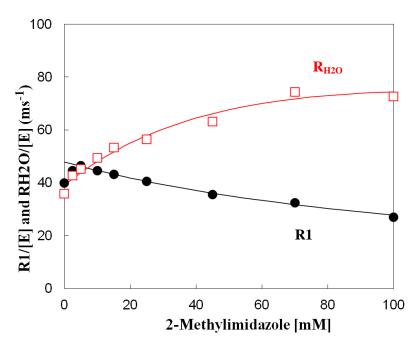


(b)

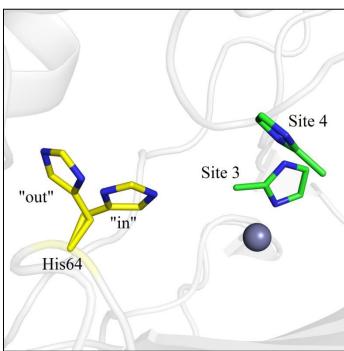


**Figure S2** (a) The effect of 2-methyl imidazole (2MI) on R1/[E] (black) and  $R_{\rm H2O}$ /[E] (red) catalyzed by H64A CA II. (b) Crystal structure of H64A CA II in complex with 2-methyl imidazole, showing the sites of inhibition (site 3 and most likely also site 4). His64 from wt-CA II is superposed and shown as yellow sticks for orientation perspective.

(a)



(b)



**Figure S3** The activity enhancement by exogenous proton donors of  $R_{H2O}/[E]$  (s<sup>-1</sup>) catalyzed by H64A CA II. The proton donors were I (black) at pH 6.7, 1MI (red) at pH 7.3, 2MI (blue) at pH 8.1, and 4MI (green) at pH 7.7. The data were obtained at 25 °C using solutions maintained at a minimal ionic strength of 0.2 M by addition of  $Na_2SO_4$ .

