### **SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

# Synthesis, Binding and Antiviral Properties of Potent Core-Extended Naphthalene Diimide Targeting the HIV-1 Long Terminal Repeat Promoter G-quadruplexes

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Table S1. Oligonucleotides used in this study

Application	Name	Sequence 5'-3'
	LTR-III	FAM-TGGGAGGCGTGGCCTGGGCGGGACTGGGGT-TAMRA
FRET assay	LTR-IV	FAM-TGGGCGGGGACTGGGGAGTGGT-TAMRA
	F21T	FAM-GGGTTAGGGTTAGGGTTAGGG-TAMRA
	dsDNA	FAM-CTATAGCGCGCTATAG-TAMRA
	LTR-III	GGGAGGCGTGGCCTGGGCGGGACTGGGG
CD and MS	LTRIV	TGGGCGGGACTGGGGAGTGGT
assavs	hTel	GGGTTAGGGTTAGGGTTAGGG
	c-kit2	CGGGCGGGCGCGAGGGAGGGG
	c-myc	TGGGGAGGGTGGGGAGGGTGGGGAAGG
	<i>Taq</i> Primer	GGCAAAAAGCAGCTGCTTATATGCAG
	No G4	TTGTCGTTAAAGTCTGACTGCGAGCTCTCAGATCCTGCAT
Taq		ATAAGCAGCTGCTTTTTGCC
polymerase	hTel	TTTTTGGGTTAGGGTTAGGGTTAGGGTTTTTCTGCATATA
stop assay		AGCAGCTGCTTTTTGCC
	LTR III	TTTTTGGGAGGCGTGGCCTGGGGGGGACTGGGGAGTGGT
		TTTTCTGCATATAAGCAGCTGCTTTTTGCC
	LTR IV	TTTTTGGGCGGGACTGGGGAGTGGTTTTTCTGCATATAAG
		CAGCTGCTTTTTGCC

FAM: 6-carboxyfluorescein, TAMRA: 6-carboxy-tetramethylrhodamine

**Table S2.** C-exNDIs  $\Delta T_m$  values obtained in the FRET melting assay. Equimolar amounts of the compounds were added to each FAM (6-carboxyfluorescein) 5'-end- and TAMRA (6-carboxy-tetramethylrhodamine) 3'-end-labelled oligonucleotide (0.25  $\mu$ M) folded in the lithium cacodylate buffer supplemented with potassium (100 mM).

c-exNDIs	LTR-III	LTR-IV	hTel	dsDNA
2	$10.5 \pm 0.1$	$11.7 \pm 0.6$	$6.0 \pm 0.1$	$1.5 \pm 0.1$
3	$7.0 \pm 0.7$	$10.3 \pm 1.1$	$3.5 \pm 0.7$	$1.6 \pm 0.4$
4	$7.0 \pm 0.7$	$12.0 \pm 1.7$	$5.3 \pm 1.1$	$1.6 \pm 0.5$
5	$2.5 \pm 0.1$	$5.0 \pm 0.1$	$2.0 \pm 0.1$	$1.1 \pm 0.6$
6	$5.0 \pm 0.7$	$6.3 \pm 0.6$	$4.2 \pm 0.3$	$1.8 \pm 0.6$
7	$3.7 \pm 1.0$	$4.7 \pm 0.6$	$3.0 \pm 0.1$	$1.5 \pm 0.1$
8	$1.5 \pm 0.1$	$3.0 \pm 0.1$	$1.5 \pm 0.7$	$1.1 \pm 0.6$
9	$1.2 \pm 1.1$	$3.0 \pm 1.0$	$0.5 \pm 0.7$	$0.5 \pm 0.1$
10	$12.4 \pm 0.1$	$16.0 \pm 1.7$	$8.5 \pm 0.6$	$4.1 \pm 0.6$
11	$5.5 \pm 0.1$	$11.7 \pm 1.2$	$3.8 \pm 0.3$	$1.5 \pm 0.6$

**Table S2.** Cartesian coordinates of the **c-exNDI** core (Scheme 1,  $R_2$ =CH<sub>3</sub>,  $R_3$ =Y=H) optimised at B3LYP/6-31+G(d,p) level of theory, in gas phase, using Gaussian 09, Revision B.01 software package.

Center	Atomic	Atomic	Coor	dinates (Ang	 stroms)
Number	Number	Туре	X	Y	Z
1	6	0	-0.217903 -0.210573	-2.890097	-0.0000003
2	6	0	-1 450603	-0 710875	-0 000178
4	6	0	-2 679294	-1 396967	-0 000121
5	6	0	-2.701691	-2.872757	-0.000130
6	6	0	1.002582	-0.725637	-0.000164
7	6	0	-1.450606	0.710875	-0.000252
8	6	0	-0.210578	1.429200	-0.000288
9	6	0	1.002583	0.725650	-0.000206
10	6	0	-0.217978	2.890104	-0.000228
11	6	0	-2.701709	2.872749	-0.000221
12	6	0	-2.679301	1.396959	-0.000203
13	6	0	-3.893181	0.694469	-0.000050
14	6	0	-3.893178	-0.694485	-0.000060
15	1	0	-4.818044	1.260047	0.000021
16	8	0	-3.735670	3.532525	0.000780
17	8	0	0.829008	3.567832	0.000517
18	8	0	-3.735646	-3.532542	-0.000082
19	8	0	0.829030	-3.567819	-0.000101
20	7	0	-1.458036	-3.528911	0.000183
21	1	0	-1.458059	3.528909	-0.000463
22	6	0	-1.503535	-4.998420	0.000408
23	6	0	-1.503570	4.998420	-0.000160
24	1	0	-2.044109	5 267210	-0.001309
25	1	0	-0.401047 -2.042154	-5 246457	-0.004398
20	1	0	-2.042134	-5 367338	0.004197
28	1	0	-2 036402	5 346903	0.002020
29	1	0	-2 038288	-5 347048	-0 885535
30	1	0	2 141728	-2 381023	0 000014
31	1	0	2.141735	2.381033	-0.000273
32	6	0	3.440486	0.703687	-0.000125
33	6	0	3.440486	-0.703676	-0.000075
34	6	0	4.650709	1.403085	-0.000087
35	1	0	4.639964	2.489027	-0.000115
36	6	0	4.650706	-1.403079	-0.000011
37	1	0	4.639958	-2.489020	-0.000004
38	6	0	5.856171	-0.699850	0.00007
39	1	0	6.794033	-1.245446	0.000026
40	6	0	5.856173	0.699852	-0.000019
41	1	0	6.794035	1.245449	0.000036
42	1	0	-4.818040	-1.260064	-0.000019
43	7	0	2.211187	-1.356421	-0.000088
44	7	0	2.211189	1.356433	-0.000195

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**Figure S1**. Size comparison between a) the **NDI** and b) **c-exNDI** cores. The size of the NDI, as well as the G4 size [reported in c) and d)], have been evaluated from the crystal structure of the intramolecular human telomeric DNA G-quadruplex bound by the di-substituted NDI BMSG-SH-3 (3SC8.pdb, from Reference: Collie, G.W., Promontorio, R., Hampel, S.M., Micco, M., Neidle, S., Parkinson, G.N. Structural basis for telomeric G-quadruplex targeting by naphthalene diimide ligands. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2012**, *134*, 2723-2731). The size of the **c-exNDI** core was evaluated from DFT calculations in gas phase, at B3LYP/6-31+G(d,p) level of theory. Overlap of the c) **NDI** and d) **c-exNDI** cores to the intramolecular human telomeric DNA G-quartet, for an estimation of the ligand-quartet overlap extension.



**Figure S2.** CD analysis of LTR-III (A), LTR-IV (B) and hTel (C) G4 oligonucleotides in the absence (lower panels) and in the presence of compound **2** (upper panels). The left panels show CD spectra variation in function of the temperature; arrows indicate the spectral change from low to high temperatures. The right panels show the molar ellipticity at the peak wavelength as a function of the temperature.



A





С



Figure S3. CD analysis of G4-folded oligonucleotides in MS buffer conditions.

**Figure S4**. ESI/MS competition analysis. Equimolar amounts of LTR-III/hTel (A), LTR-IV/hTEl (B), LTR-III/LTR-IV (C) were incubated with 2-fold excess of **2** (left panels) or **4** (right panels) and analysed by ESI/MS. The identity of m/z signals is shown above each signal. RI stands for relative intensity.



**Figure S5**. ESI/MS analysis of **c-exNDI 2** binding stoichiometry at saturating concentration (10-fold molar excess) towards the G4 structures. Representative spectrum of **c-exNDI 2** and LTR-III G4.



**Figure S6**. SPR analysis of **2** binding towards LTR-IV (upper panel) and hTel (lower panel) G4s. Biosensor data were collected at 25°C; the compound was injected at increasing concentrations (50, 100, 200, 300 nM). Sensograms are shown as grey lines. Dotted black lines represent local 1:1 binding fits obtained for a calculated  $R_{max}$  of 33.6 (LTR-IV) and 34.8 (hTel) RU (Response Units).



Figure S7. Assessment of 2 cell entry by fluorescence microscopy. TZM-bl cells were seeded (15000 cells/well) in µClear black 96 well plate (CELLSTAR®, Greiner Bio-One GmbH, Frickenhausen, Germany) and treated with 2 (12.5  $\mu$ M). After 30 min, the medium was replaced with PBS 1X and cells were observed with the fluorescence microscope Leica DFC 420C (Leica Microsystems Srl, Milano, Italy) equipped with a mercury AC lamp (Leistungselektronik JENA GmbH, Jena, Germany) and an appropriate filter to visualize the red fluorescence of the compound with a 20X ocular objective. Images were acquired with Leica Application Suite V3.8 program (Leica Microsystems Srl, Milano, Italy).



#### Phase contrast Fluorescence

Treated

## **HPLC PURITY DATA:**

mAU

70

60

50-

40-

30-

20

10

0-



 $2 \cdot 2 HC1$ 

10 12.5 7.5 **3**·2HCl

15

17.5

20

Analytical Method-A



Area



4·2HCl Analytical Method-A



6·2HCl Analytical Method-A



60 -

40-

20-

0-



8·2HCl Analytical Method-A

9·3HCl Analytical Method-A



**10** Analytical Method-A



11 Analytical Method-A



# NMR Spectra:







5-2HC1



6-2HCl



7·2HCl



8·3HC1







