

Small molecule covalent inhibition of MCL-1∆N∆C

(a) Fluorescence polarization dilutional binding assay of FITC-BID BH3 and MCL-1 Δ N Δ C in the presence and absence of N-(4-hydroxy-1-naphthalenyl)-benzenesulfonamide (CAS# 36942-42-4), a small molecule screening hit that exhibited irreversible inhibition of the BH3-binding activity of MCL-1 Δ N Δ C. (b) Chemical structures of MAIM1 analogs that emerged from our competitive MCL-1 SAHB_A-MCL-1 Δ N Δ C screen. Competitive potency corresponded to compound reactivity, based on the nature of the leaving group (R1) and electron withdrawing capacity (R2). Data are mean ± s.e.m. (*n* = 3 technical replicates). (c) Chemical synthesis of MAIM1. (d-e) Trypsin digestion and LC-MS/MS of unmodified (d) and MAIM1-conjugated (e) MCL-1 Δ N Δ C. Full scan spectra (left) demonstrate the peptide containing unmodified C286 (mass: 2329.18 Da) and the MAIM1 conjugate (mass: 2483.19 Da), reflecting the added mass of cleaved MAIM1 adduct (i.e. minus tosyl). MS/MS spectra (right) further confirm MAIM1 conjugation at position C286. Whereas the masses of ions y3, y4, y5, y6, and y12 are shared between the peptides, there is a discrete mass shift for ion y15, which contains C286. For clarity, only the y ions are labeled.



presence of MAIM1 and BID BH3 minus the relative deuterium incorporation of MCL-1 Δ N Δ C C286S in the presence of MAIM1 (orange). Changes in deuterium exchange above a stringent significant threshold of 0.8 Da are shaded light purple (0.8 – 2 Da), purple (2 – 3.5 Da), and dark purple (> 3.5 Da). HXMS data are for deuterium labeling at 10 seconds and represent the average of at least two independent experiments using distinct preparations of protein, protein conjugates, and peptide and protein mixtures.



(**a-d**) MS spectra of BID BH3 peptide at (**a**) 0, (**b**) 10, (**c**) 20, and (**d**) 40 seconds for peptide alone (black) or the peptide combined with MCL-1∆N∆C (red) or MCL-1∆N∆C C286W (purple).



The indicated MEFs were maintained in **(a)** full media or **(b)** serum-free media for 16 h, followed by phase contrast microscopic imaging. Exemplary apoptotic bodies are indicated by the black arrows. Bar, 25 μm.



*, p < 0.01 by two-tailed student's t test; n.s., not statistically significant.



(a-c) An overlay of the unliganded human (grey, PDB ID 2MHS) and murine (blue, PDB ID 1WSX) forms of MCL-1 demonstrate a similar structural disposition of C286 and F267 (a), with C286 (orange) pointing toward the surface (b) and F267 (green) juxtaposed to a confluence of internal hydrophobic residues (yellow) (c). (d-f) In contrast, an overlay of BH3-liganded forms of human (grey, PDB ID 2PQK) and murine (blue, PDB ID 2ROC) MCL-1 demonstrate differential orientations of C286 and F267 (d), with the location of C286 (orange) shifted within a relatively more unfolded region of the protein but still pointing toward the surface (e), and F267 (green) slightly torqued but with similar orientation and adjacency to internal hydrophobic residues (yellow) (f).



(a-b) Western blots of streptavidin pull-downs from lysates of the indicated MEFs treated with biotinylated MCL-1 SAHB_D, a selective stapled BH3 inhibitor of MCL-1 (left). See also **Supplementary Data Set 1.** The relative amount of precipitated MCL-1 vs. MCL-1 C286W was quantitated by densitometry of immunoreactive MCL-1 bands in the pull-down as ratioed to input control (right). Two independent streptavidin pull-down (SAP) experiments from treated lysates of the MEF cultures are shown.