

Supporting Information

Disarming the virulence arsenal of *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* by blocking two-component system signaling

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MATERIALS AND METHODS

Protein Production

HK853 overexpression and purification. HK853 in the pHis-parallel vector was prepared as described previously.¹ DNA was transformed into competent BL21(DE3)-pLysS Rosetta *E. coli* cells. Transformed *E. coli* cells were plated overnight on lysogeny broth (LB) agar containing 100 $\mu\text{g mL}^{-1}$ ampicillin (amp) and 34 $\mu\text{g mL}^{-1}$ chloramphenicol (Cm). A single colony was transferred to 100 mL sterile LB media in a 250-mL flask supplemented with antibiotics and incubated at 37 °C overnight at 220 rpm. At OD₆₂₀ of 0.4–0.6, 15 mL was transferred to 1 L sterile LB broth containing antibiotics in 2.8-L baffled flasks. Cultures were grown by shaking at 220 rpm at 37 °C to an OD₆₀₀ ~0.6. After equilibrating to 20 °C for 3 h, HK853 overexpression was induced with 0.22 mM of isopropyl β -D-1-thiogalactopyranoside (IPTG; Calbiochem) and incubation at 20 °C for 16 h at 220 rpm. Cells were collected by centrifugation at 8000 $\times g$ for 20 min, resuspended in 10 mL of buffer (25 mM Tris-HCl, pH 8, 500 mM NaCl, 10% glycerol, and 2 mM DTT), and quickly frozen on dry ice for storage at –80 °C.

For purification, each pellet from 1 L of culture was resuspended in a total volume of ~50 mL lysis buffer (25 mM Tris-HCl, pH 8, 500 mM NaCl, 10% glycerol, and 2 mM DTT) containing 20 units Deoxyribonuclease I (Sigma) and four Complete Mini EDTA-free protease inhibitor tablets (Roche). Resuspended cells were lysed by a Branson Sonifier 250 with 1/8-inch tapered microtip (power setting 3.5, duty cycle 30%) for 1 h 20 min on ice. Lysate was centrifuged at 14,000 $\times g$ for 40 min at 4 °C. The supernatant was collected and filtered (0.22 μm). Using an ÄKTApurifier (GE Healthcare) at 4 °C, HK853 was purified from lysate by nickel affinity on a nickel-nitriloacetic acid column (Ni-NTA; Qiagen). Ni-NTA buffer was 25 mM Tris-HCl, pH 8, 500 mM NaCl, 10% glycerol, and 2 mM DTT. An elution gradient of 5 mM imidazole (buffer A) to 1 M imidazole (buffer B) was used to elute His-tagged protein. Eluted HK853 was concentrated for size exclusion chromatography on a HiLoad 16/600 Superdex 75 pg column (GE Healthcare) using 10 mM Tris-HCl, pH 7.6, 0.1 mM EDTA, 0.5 M NaCl, 12% glycerol, and 2 mM DTT. This buffer was also used for storage of protein at –80 °C, in which protein was flash frozen on dry ice/isopropanol. Protein concentration was determined using the DC Protein Assay (Bio-Rad).

Reaction buffer. Used in all assays, the reaction buffer was composed of 50 mM Tris-HCl, pH 7.8, 200 mM KCl, 5 mM MgCl₂.

Protein Storage Buffer. Buffer for the storage of protein was prepared as 10 mM Tris-HCl, pH 8, 0.1 mM EDTA, 0.5 M NaCl, 12% glycerol, 2 mM DTT.

Determination of protein concentration. Protein stock concentrations were determined by a DC Protein Assay (Bio-Rad) according to the instruction manual and with BSA as a standard. The concentrations of at least two dilutions of protein stock were determined and averaged. Where indicated, protein concentration was also determined using an Implen's Nanophotometer spectrophotometer (Thermo Fisher Scientific) at 280 nm and Beer's Law,

$$A = \epsilon c \ell \quad (\text{Equation 1})$$

where A is absorbance, ϵ is the protein extinction coefficient ($\text{M}^{-1}\text{cm}^{-1}$), c is concentration (M), and ℓ is pathlength (cm).

SDS-PAGE. 2X SDS-PAGE sample loading buffer contained 125 mM Tris, pH 6.8, 20% glycerol, 4% SDS (w/v), 5% 2-mercaptoethanol, and 0.2% bromophenol blue (w/v). Tris-glycine stacking gels were prepared with a 10% polyacrylamide resolving gel and 4.5% polyacrylamide stacking gel. Running parameters were 180 V, 400 mA, and 60 W for 1 h 20 min. SDS-PAGE running buffer was diluted ten-fold from Novex 10X Tris-Glycine SDS Running buffer (Invitrogen) and pre-chilled prior to electrophoresis.

Native-polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis (Native-PAGE). Native-PAGE sample loading buffer contained 40 mM Tris, pH 7.5, 8% glycerol, and 0.08% Bromophenol blue (w/v). Native-PAGE gels were 7.5% polyacrylamide Tris-glycine resolving gels. Running parameters were 180 V, 400 mA, and 60 W for 1 h 20 min. The pre-chilled electrophoresis running buffer was 83 mM Tris, pH 9.4, and 33 mM glycine.

Gel fluorescence detection. After SDS-PAGE, gels were washed three times with MQ water. They were scanned on a Typhoon Variable Mode Imager 9500 (GE) using 526-nm (short-pass filter) detection for BODIPY (λ_{ex} : 504 nm, λ_{em} : 514 nm).

Coomassie staining. Each step was carried out at room temperature (RT) with an orbital shaker. After SDS-PAGE, gels were washed three times with MQ water and submerged in enough coomassie stain (0.1% (w/v) Coomassie Brilliant Blue R-250, 10% acetic acid, 40% methanol) to cover the gel and incubated for 10 min. Stain was removed, and destain (10% acetic acid, 40% methanol) was added to gel and incubated 30 min. After removing destain, gel was washed in water overnight. After staining, they were scanned on a Typhoon Variable Mode Imager 9500 (GE) using the coomassie stain settings.

Silver staining. Native-PAGE gels were silver stained. All steps were carried out at RT with an orbital shaker. The gels were stained using a Pierce™ Silver Stain Kit (ThermoFisher Scientific) following manufacture's protocol. After staining/destaining, they were scanned on a Typhoon Variable Mode Imager 9500 (GE) using silver stain settings.

Inhibition of HK853 Activity

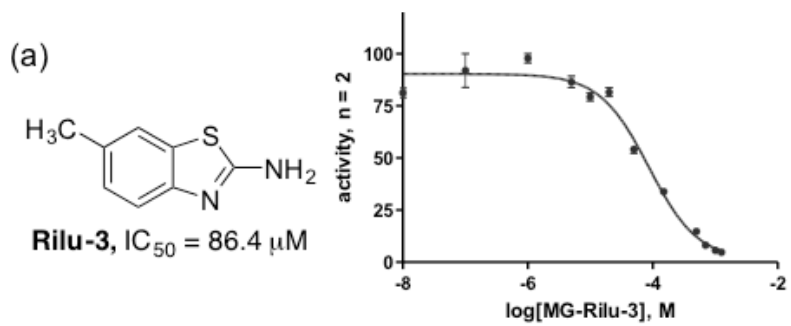
Commercially available probes (BODIPY-ATP γ S) and inhibitors (**Rilu-1-12**) were obtained from Sigma-Aldrich, Thermo Fisher Scientific, Alfa Aesar and TCI America at >97% purity. Unless otherwise indicated, all commercially available chemicals were used without further purification.

BODIPY-ATP γ S competition screening was performed at inhibitor concentrations that did not cause aggregation. Triton X-100 was premixed with reaction buffer to yield 0.1% (v/v) in final 25- μ L reactions. In reaction buffer, 1 μ M HK853 was preincubated with test compounds (final concentration, 0.01–1250 μ M) in 24 μ L for 30 min. 1 μ L BODIPY-ATP γ S was added to bring the final 25- μ L reactions to 0.96 μ M HK853 and 2 μ M BODIPY-ATP γ S in the presence of competitors and 5% DMSO. Samples were mixed and incubated in the dark at RT for 1 h before quenching with 8.6 μ L 4 \times SDS-PAGE sample loading buffer and loading 15 μ L on a 10% stacking gel. After SDS-PAGE, in-gel fluorescence detection elucidated HK853 activity, and coomassie staining of the gels ensured even protein loading. Integrated density values of the fluorescent gel bands were normalized as “% Activity” with respect to a control that contained no inhibitor. Data were plotted in GraphPad Prism with relation to the log of molar inhibitor to determine IC₅₀ values (Equation 2).

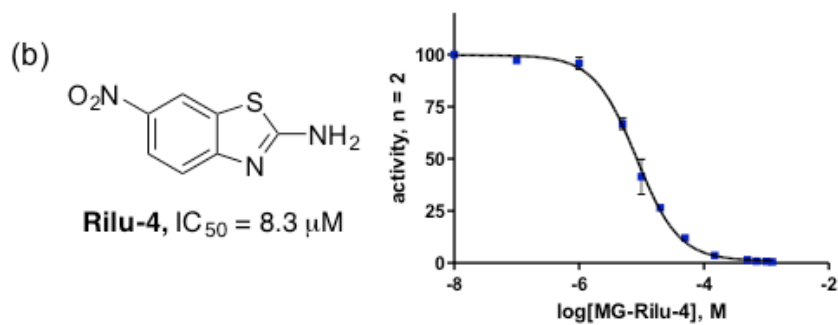
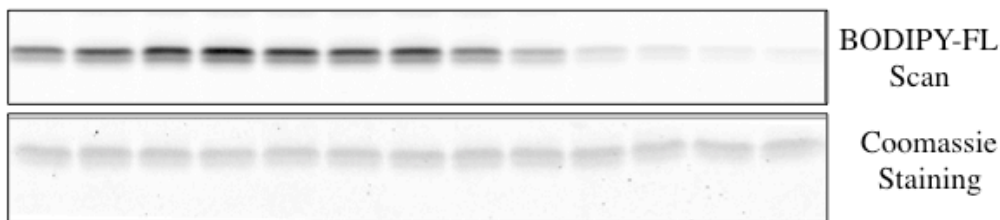
Data analysis. Integrated density measurements of in-gel fluorescence and phosphorescence were performed in ImageJ.² Data were prepared and analyzed in GraphPad Prism (version 7.0 for Mac, GraphPad Software, San Diego, California USA, www.graphpad.com). For all DRCs (control FP competition and activity assays), data were fit to a four-parameter logistic equation,

$$y = Bottom + \frac{(Top - Bottom)}{1 + 10^{((LogIC_{50} - x) * HillSlope)}} \quad (\text{Equation 2})$$

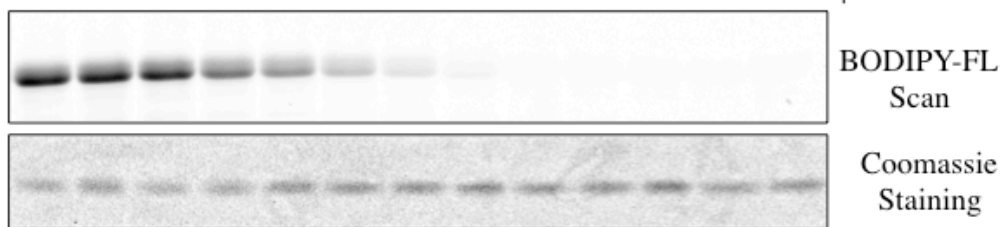
where y is the response, *Bottom* and *Top* are plateaus in the units of the y-axis, x is the log of the molar concentration of inhibitor, *HillSlope* is the slope of the curve, and IC₅₀ is the concentration of compound required for 50% inhibition (a response half way between *Bottom* and *Top*). Some compounds exhibited incomplete DRCs because going to higher concentrations would increase the required DMSO or cause protein aggregation. Visually, this meant there was no curve plateau for the “Bottom” value. However, IC₅₀ values were desirable for purposes of comparison to other compounds. As a result, IC₅₀ values were estimated by constraining the bottom of the curve to “0.”



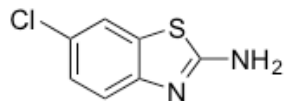
0 0.01 0.1 1 5 10 20 50 150 500 700 1000 1250 μM



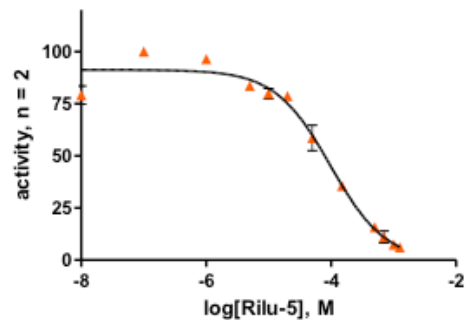
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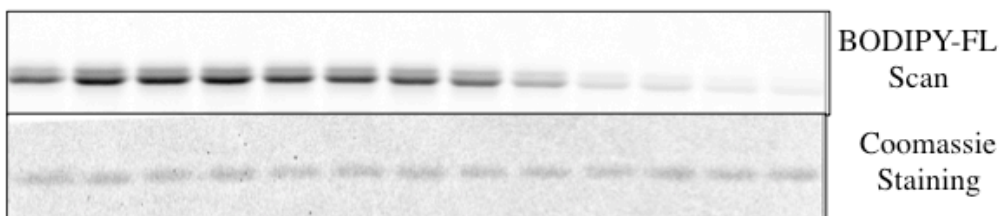
(c)



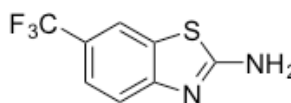
Rilu-5, $IC_{50} = 97.5 \mu\text{M}$



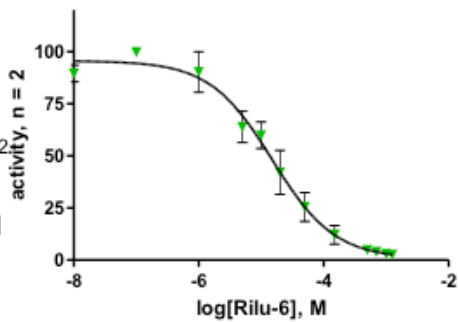
0 0.01 0.1 1 5 10 20 50 150 500 700 1000 1250 μM



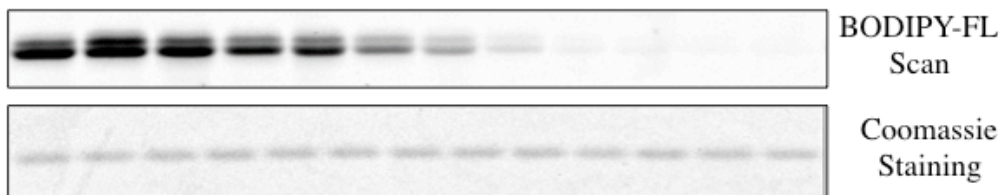
(d)



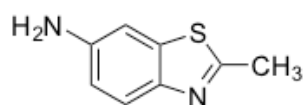
Rilu-6, $IC_{50} = 15.1 \mu\text{M}$



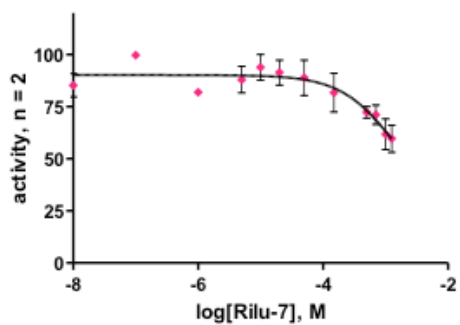
0 0.01 0.1 1 5 10 20 50 150 500 700 1000 1250 μM



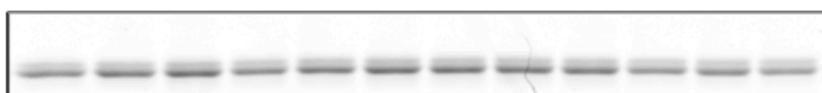
(e)



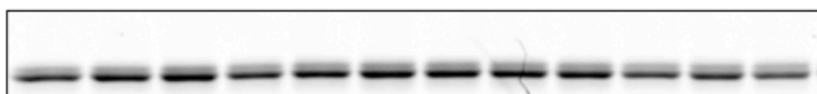
Rilu-7, $IC_{50} = 1.39 \text{ mM}$



0 0.01 0.1 1 5 10 20 50 150 500 700 1000 1250 μM

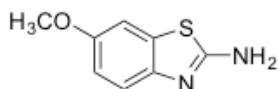


BODIPY-FL
Scan

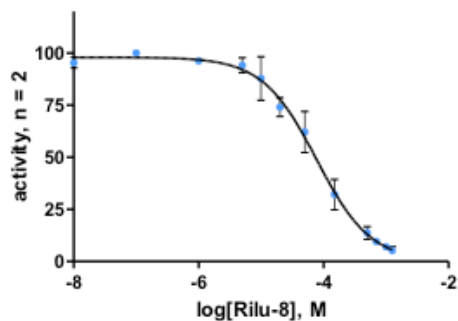


Coomassie
Staining

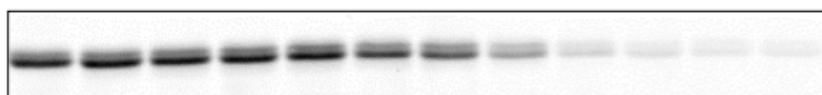
(f)



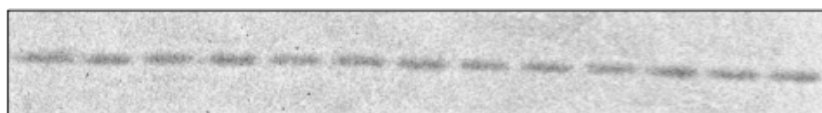
Rilu-8, $IC_{50} = 77.4 \text{ }\mu\text{M}$



0 0.01 0.1 1 5 10 20 50 150 500 700 1000 1250 μM

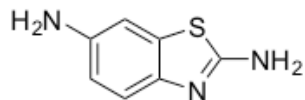


BODIPY-FL
Scan

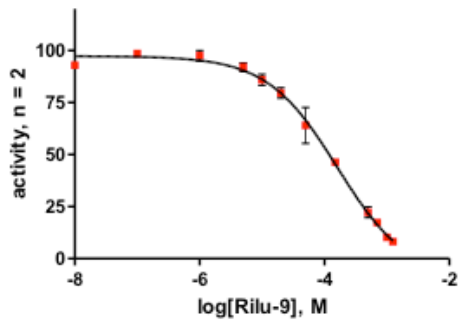


Coomassie
Staining

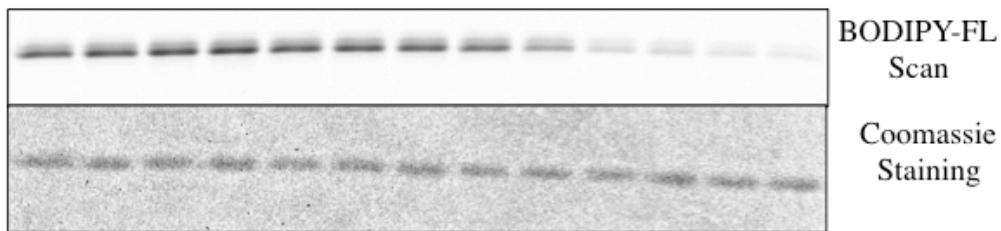
(g)



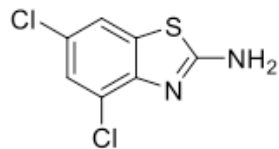
Rilu-9, $IC_{50} = 161 \mu\text{M}$



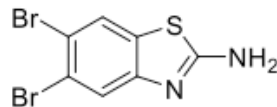
0 0.01 0.1 1 5 10 20 50 150 500 700 1000 1250 μM



(h)

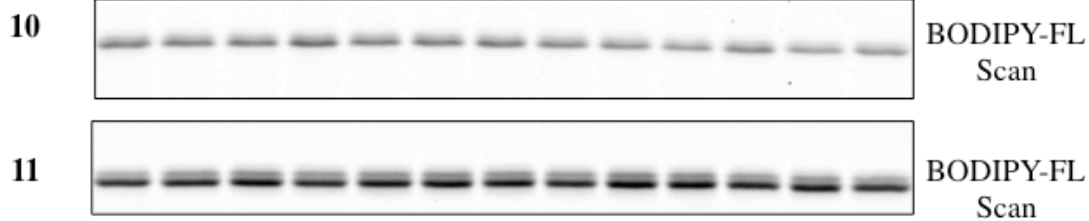


Rilu-10, No inhibition



Rilu-11, No inhibition

0 0.01 0.1 1 5 10 20 50 150 500 700 1000 1250 μM



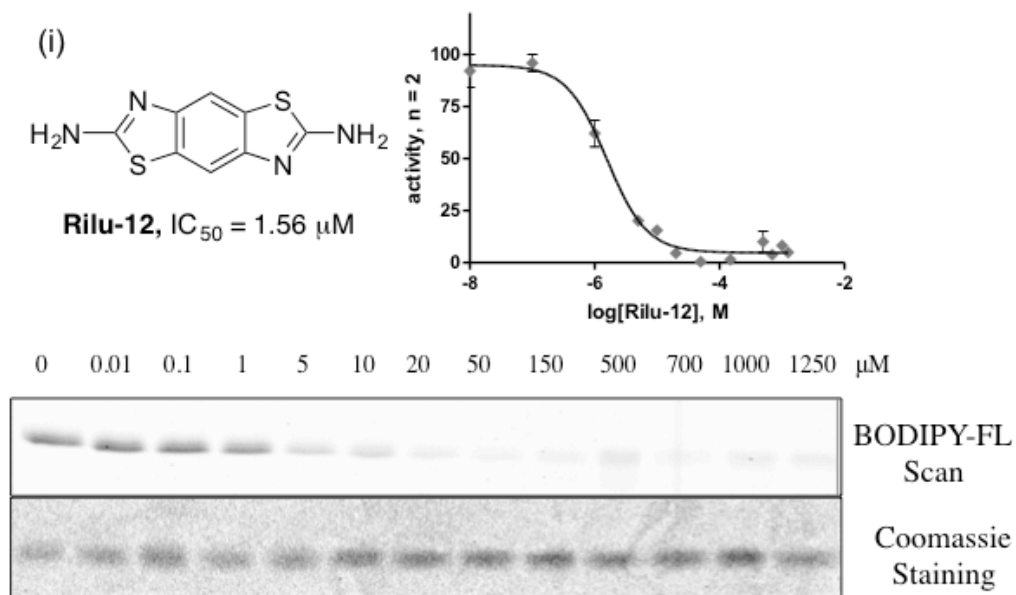


Figure S1: (a-i) Inhibition of HK853 activity with various **Rilu**-inhibitors.

Table S1. IC_{50} values of **Rilu**-compounds on HK853 inhibition.

Cmpd #	IC_{50} values (μM) (95% confidence interval), $n = 2$	Cmpd #	IC_{50} values (μM) (95% confidence interval), $n = 2$
Rilu-3	86.4 (5.81 to 128.3)	Rilu-8	77.4 (50.7 to 118.1)
Rilu-4	8.30 (7.27 to 9.47)	Rilu-9	161 (88.15 to 295.6)
Rilu-5	97.5 (57.5 to 165.2)	Rilu-10	No Inhibition
Rilu-6	15.1 (9.98 to 22.7)	Rilu-11	No Inhibition
Rilu-7	1394 (150 to 12940)	Rilu-12	1.56 (1.17 to 2.06)

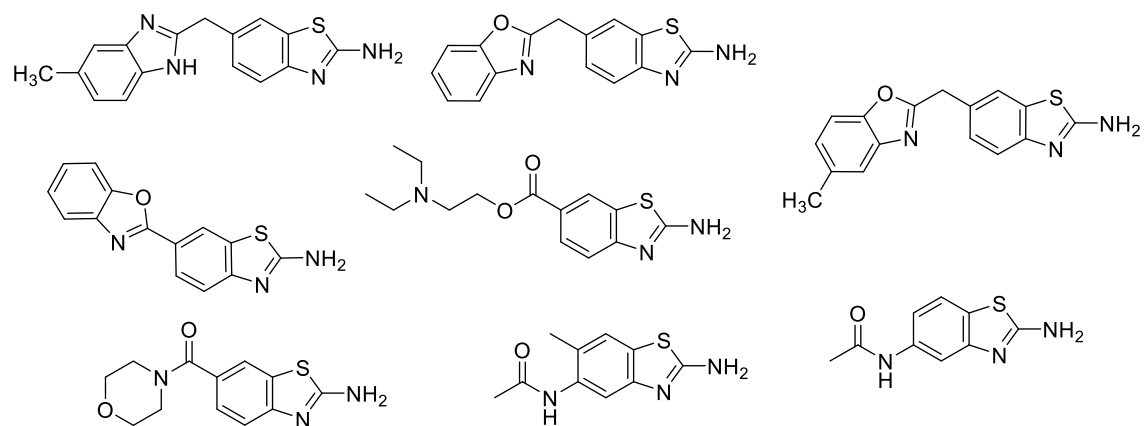


Figure S2. Structures of non-leads from the HTS that contain the benzothiazole scaffold. These compounds were found to be protein aggregators and were not pursued further (100 μ M-1250 μ M).³

HK853 Aggregation Analysis

To analyze the propensity for compounds to cause aggregation, each was mixed at six concentrations (0–1250 μM) with purified 0.5 μM HK853 in 25 μL of 20 mM HEPES buffer (5% (v/v) DMSO final). After incubating at RT for 30 min, 8.6 μL native-PAGE sample loading buffer was added, and 15 μL was loaded onto a 7.5% polyacrylamide gel. Proteins were resolved by native-PAGE and silver staining. Compound-induced aggregation was detected by the disappearance of the dimeric HK853 band. NH125 (Tocris Bioscience) was used as a positive aggregation control.

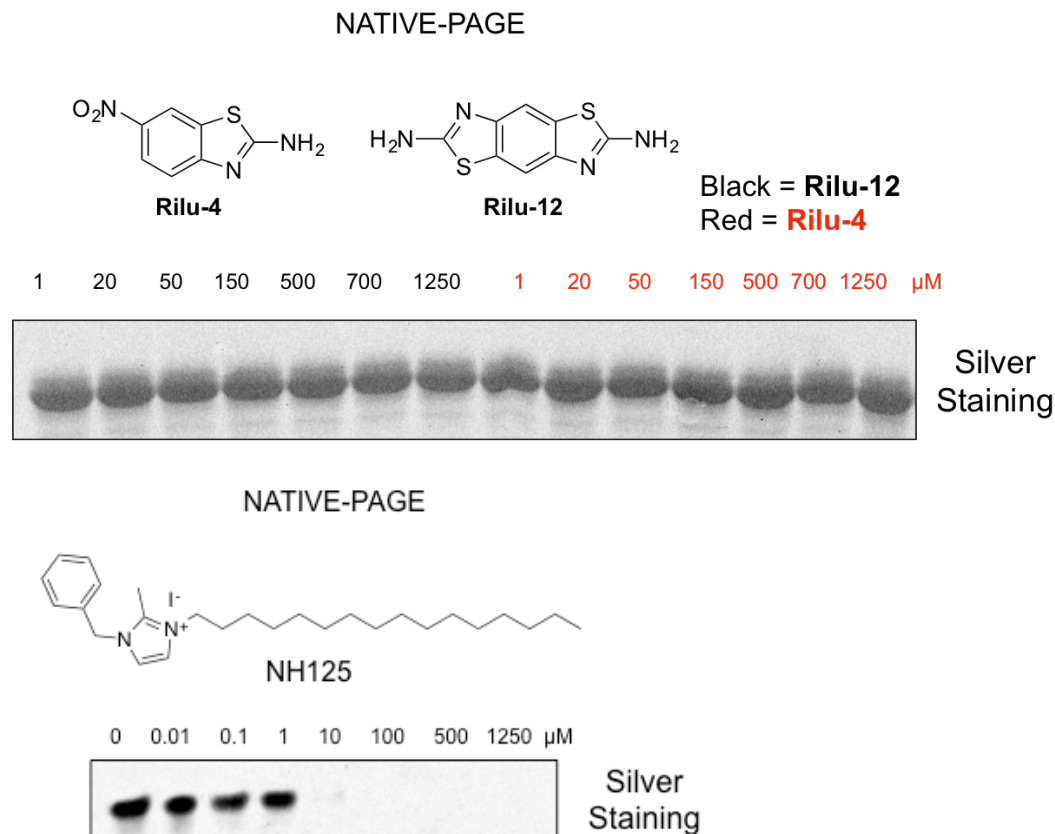


Figure S3: Native-PAGE of HK853 in presence of **Rilu-4**, **12** and known HK aggregator, NH125 (for comparison). Protein aggregation with NH-125 causes disappearance of the protein dimer band at ≥ 10 μM .

Growth of PA14 cultures with inhibitors

P. aeruginosa PA14 strain was grown overnight (~16 h) in LB media at 37 °C and 200 RPM. The overnight culture was diluted 1:100 in fresh LB media. 4 mL of this culture was then put into a 15 mL borosilicate glass tube, to which **Rilu**-inhibitors in DMSO were added to a final concentration of 200 μ M and 500 μ M (for the control experiments, the same amount of DMSO was added). These cultures were grown for 24 h at 37 °C and 200 RPM, and their OD₆₂₀ values were measured using a spectrophotometer at various time points. These experiments were done in triplicate.

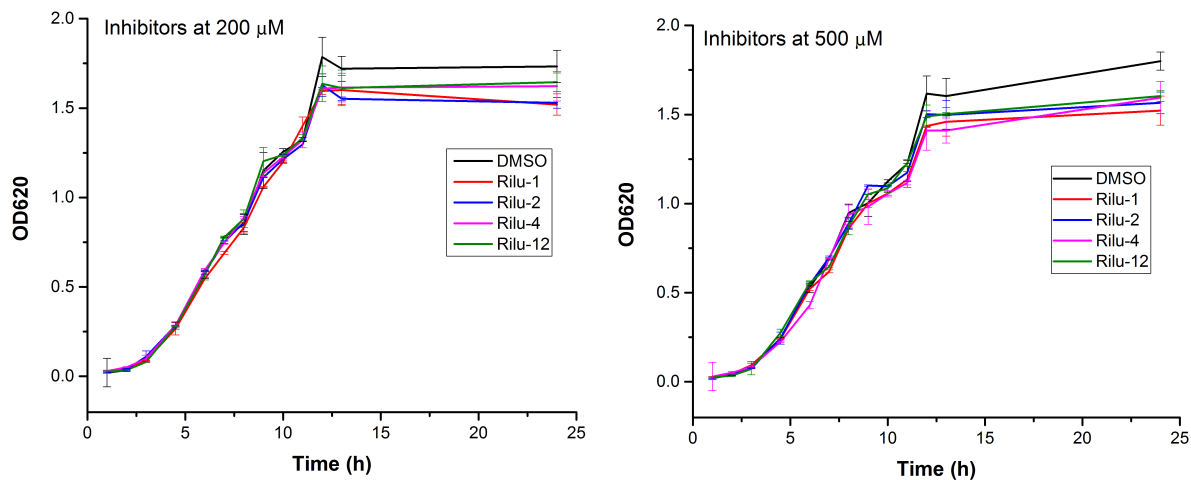


Figure S4: OD₆₂₀ measurements of PA14 grown in the presence of different **Rilu**-compounds at 200 μ M and 500 μ M after 16 h at 37 °C. Error bars represent the standard error of three independent experiments (n = 3).

Heat-shock protein (HSP90) inhibition assay with inhibitors

Commercially available BPS Bioscience kit was used for HSP90 α inhibition analysis at different concentrations of inhibitors (0.00001 – 1.25 mM) and in triplicates (n=3). For the positive control, geldanamycin, a known HSP90 inhibitor was used (IC_{50} ~50 nM).

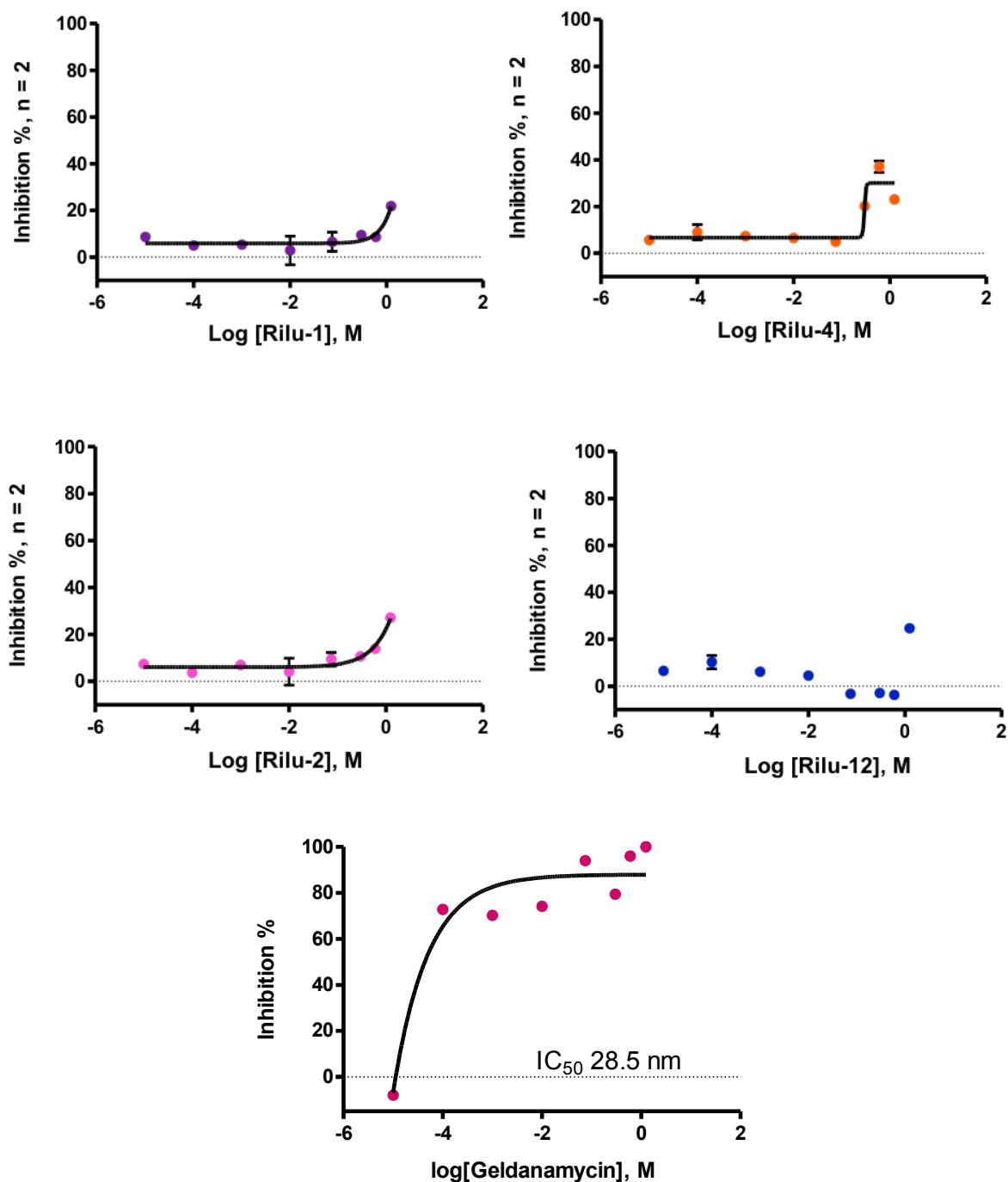


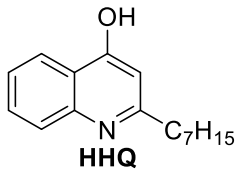
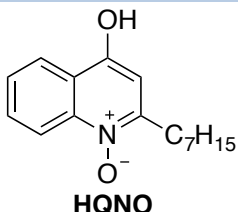
Figure S5. HSP90 α inhibition assay results with various benzothiazole compounds and HSP90 inhibitor, Geldanamycin, and their dose-response curves.

LC-MS analyses of metabolites

P. aeruginosa PA14 strain was grown overnight (~16 h) in LB media at 37 °C and 200 RPM. The overnight culture was diluted 1:100 in fresh LB media. 4 mL of this culture was added into a 15 mL borosilicate glass tube, to which **Rilu**-inhibitors in DMSO were added to a final concentration of 200 μ M (for the control experiments, same amount of DMSO was added). These cultures were grown for 9 h (late exponential phase) or 24 h (stationary phase) at 37 °C and 200 RPM. The OD₆₂₀ values were measured using a spectrophotometer. 1 mL of each culture was placed in a 1.7 mL Eppendorf tube, centrifuged at 5,000 *g* for 5 min and the supernatant was removed from the cell pellets. The supernatants were directly analyzed on an ESI-LC-MS/MS instrument for metabolites and the cell pellets (from 9 h cultures) were further used for RNA extraction in q-PCR experiments.

ESI-LC-MS/MS analysis was performed on an Agilent 1290 Infinity/MS Agilent 6540 instrument. Injections of 2 μ L were separated on Zorbax Eclipse plus C18 column (2.1 mm x 50 mm) and with mobile phases A (5% MeOH:95% water with 0.1% formic acid) and B (95% MeOH:5% water with 0.1% formic acid). The metabolites were separated using an isocratic elution of 100% for 0-3 min, then a 3-17 min linear gradient to 100% B, and 17-20 min of 100% B at a constant flow rate of 0.4 ml/min. Samples were measured in positive ion mode and data was collected in triplicate. Data were analyzed using the Agilent MassHunter Quantitative Analysis suite. From the extracted ion chromatograms (EICs) of the respective metabolite signals, the peak areas were normalized to the OD₆₂₀ growth values of the respective cultures. All of the peak areas of the treated samples were plotted by considering the DMSO-control sample to be 100% abundance. The following ions were analyzed:

Table S2. Metabolites examined using LC-MS. Elution times and mass data are provided.

Metabolite	Retention Time (RT, min)	Expected [M+H] ⁺	Observed [M+H] ⁺	PPM difference
 HHQ	12.8-13.1	244.1696	244.1684	-4.9
 HQNO	13.3-13.7	260.1645	260.1628	-6.5

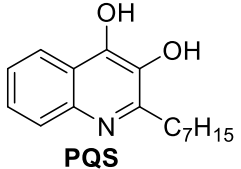
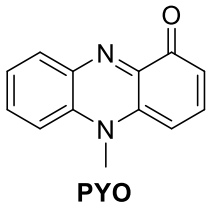
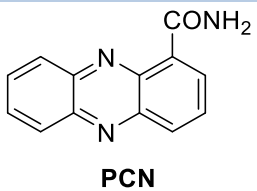
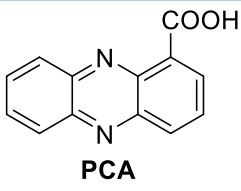
 <p>PQS</p>	13.8-14.0	260.1645	260.1630	-5.7
 <p>PYO</p>	5.15-5.30	211.0866	211.0855	-5.2
 <p>PCN</p>	10.30-10.45	224.0818	224.0809	-4.2
 <p>PCA</p>	10.57-10.75	225.0659	225.0645	-6.6

Table S3. OD₆₂₀ values for metabolomics

Compound	t = 9 h, OD₆₂₀	t = 24 h, OD₆₂₀
DMSO	0.860	1.72
Rilu-1	0.817	1.63
Rilu-2	0.851	1.60
Rilu-4	0.842	1.65
Rilu-12	0.883	1.65

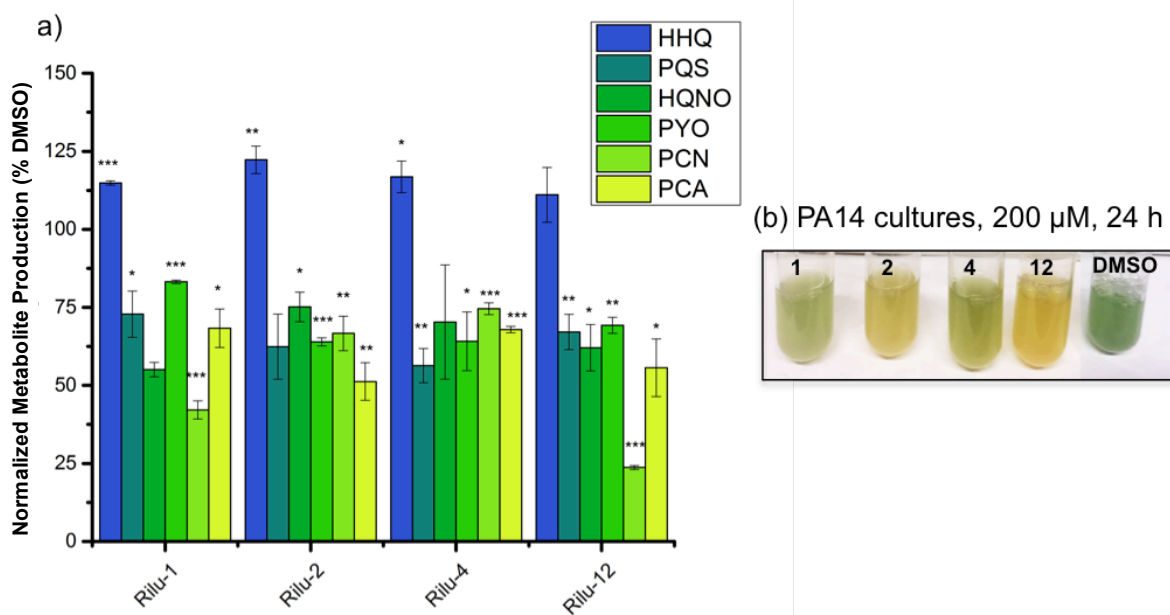


Figure S6. (a) Effects of **Rilu**-compounds at 200 μM on the production of metabolites in PA14 after 24 h of incubation at 37 $^{\circ}\text{C}$ and 200 RPM. All values are plotted relative to a DMSO-treated control and normalized to the final cell density (OD_{620}). Error bars represent the standard error of three independent experiments. Statistical analysis performed with non-parametric one-way ANOVA ($\alpha = 0.05$; *** $p < 0.001$; ** $p < 0.02$, * $p < 0.05$). (b) PA14 cultures after 24 h ($\text{OD}_{620} \sim 1.8$) in presence of **Rilu**- compounds and DMSO at 200 μM .

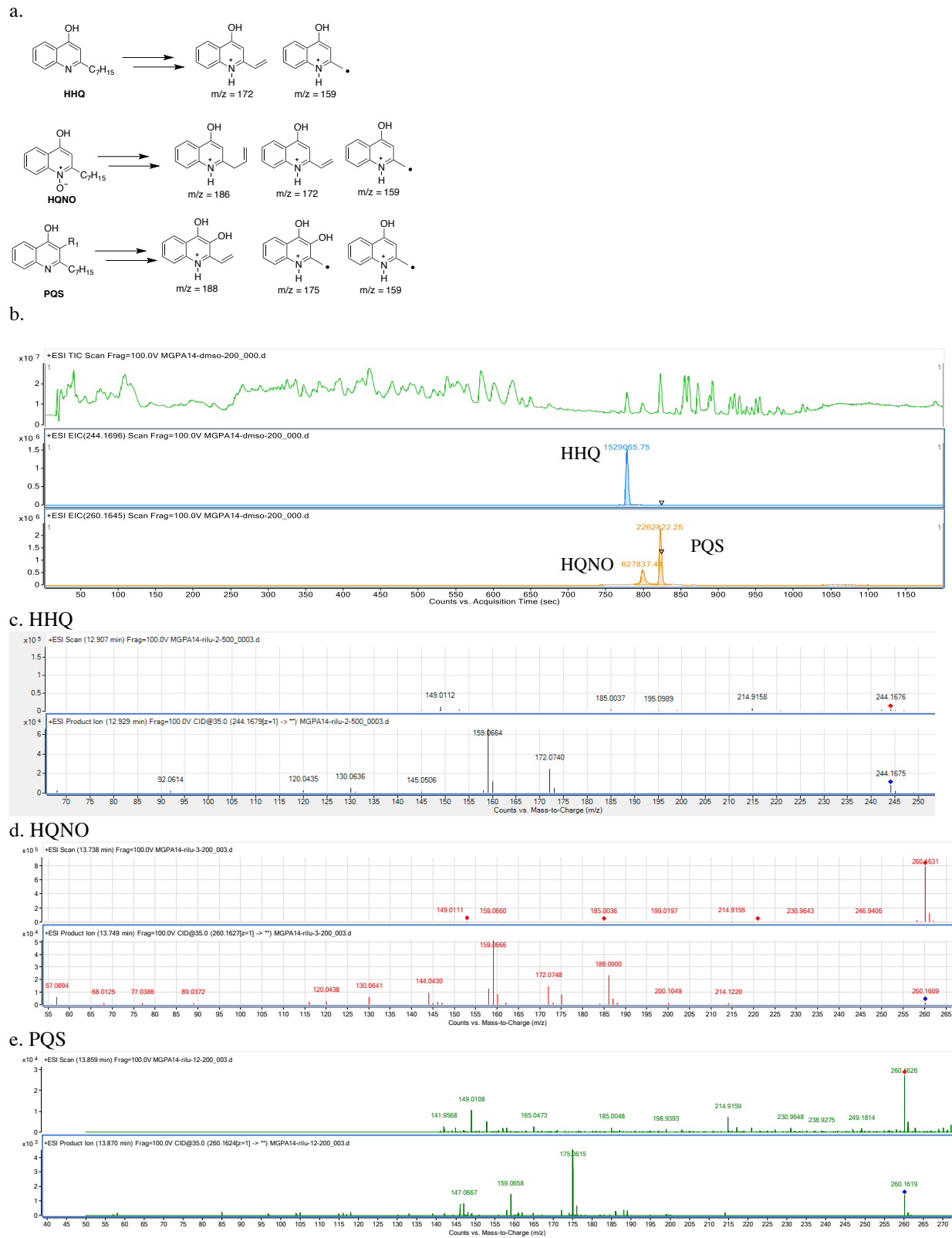


Figure S7. Quinolones (a) were analyzed by mass spectrometry and their identities confirmed by LC-MS elution time (b) and mass spectral data, including fragmentation patterns (MS^2) [HHQ (c), HQNO (d), PQS (e)] as previously published by Rahme *et al.*⁴

Biofilm assays

P. aeruginosa PA14 strain was grown overnight (~16 h) in LB media at 37 °C and 200 RPM. The overnight culture was diluted 1:100 in fresh LB media. 200 μ L of this culture was then used to inoculate each well of a microtiter plate, to which **Rilu**-inhibitors were added in DMSO to final concentration of 200 μ M or 500 μ M (for the control experiments, same amount of DMSO was added). Eight wells per plate were used for each sample. These cultures were grown for 24 h at 37 °C without shaking. After growth, the planktonic cultures were carefully removed to a new microtitre plate to measure the OD₆₂₀ values. The adhered cells were washed carefully three times with sterile PBS buffer, and then the cells were fixed with MeOH for 20 min. After removing the MeOH, the wells were allowed to dry for 10 min, followed by addition of 0.1% crystal violet. After 15 min of incubation, the stain was carefully removed without touching the rest of the plate. The excess stain was washed away 3 times from the wells with distilled water and the plate was allowed to dry for ~1 h. Finally, the adhered stain was redissolved in 30% acetic acid solution (for 1 h) and absorbance was measured at 595 nm. Assays were repeated in triplicate.

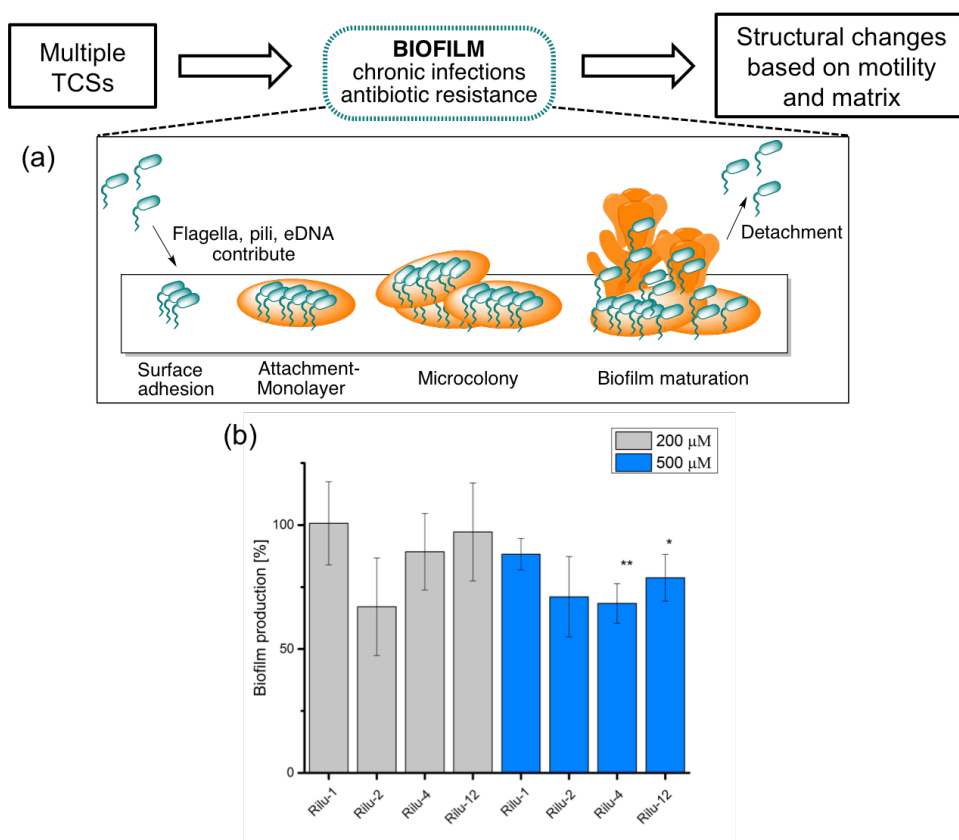


Figure S8. (a) Different stages of biofilm formation. (b) Biofilm formation assessment. All values are plotted relative to a DMSO-treated control and normalized to the final cell density (OD₆₂₀). Error bars represent the standard error of three independent experiments. Statistical analysis performed with non-parametric one-way ANOVA ($\alpha=0.05$; ** $p < 0.02$, * $p < 0.05$).

Rapid attachment assays⁵

P. aeruginosa PA14 strain was grown overnight (~16 h) in LB media at 37 °C and 200 RPM. The overnight cultures were washed and diluted in LB medium to an OD₆₂₀ value of 1.0. 100 μL of this suspension was used to inoculate each well of a microtiter plate in presence of **Rilu**-inhibitors in DMSO at 200 μM or 500 μM (for the control experiments, same amount of DMSO was added). Eight wells per plate were used for each sample. Cells were allowed to adhere for 60 min at 37 °C and 200 RPM. After the planktonic cells were removed, staining with crystal violet was carried out, as described in the biofilm assay procedure. Assays were repeated in triplicate.

Swarming assays and quantification of rhamnolipids in swarm-plates

We followed the revised protocol developed by Trembley *et al.* for *P. aeruginosa* swarm assays.⁶ Plates consisted of modified M9 medium [20 mM NH₄Cl; 12 mM Na₂HPO₄; 22 mM KH₂PO₄; 8.6 mM NaCl; 1 mM MgSO₄; 1 mM CaCl₂·2H₂O; 11 mM dextrose; 0.5% casamino acids (Difco)] solidified with Bacto-agar (Difco). The M9 media without MgSO₄ and CaCl₂·2H₂O was autoclaved, which were added after cooling the media ~60 °C. The pH was adjusted after autoclaving with HCl and NaOH (pH = 7.5). Then, a 1-in-100 dilution of filter-sterile stock containing 1 mg/mL Nile red (Sigma Aldrich) dissolved in 85% ethylene glycol and added (prepared the day of use to limit photoinactivation).⁷ Twenty mL of this media was poured into Petri dishes, along with the **Rilu**-inhibitors in DMSO at final concentrations, 125 μM or 200 μM (for the control experiments, same amount of DMSO was added). Plates were allowed to dry for 60 min, with the first 20 min under UV light to ensure plates were sterile following pH adjustment. *P. aeruginosa* PA14 strain was grown overnight (~16 h) in LB media at 37 °C and 200 RPM. Five μl of bacteria were spotted at the center of each plate, which were incubated at 30 °C in the dark and ~20% humidity. The plates were intermittently taken out for fluorescence scanning [scan settings: GE Typhoon Variable Mode Imager 9500, using 532-nm laser with DY-520XL (λ_{ex}: 520 nm, λ_{em}: 664 nm)]. The scans were visualized and integrated density measurements of whole-plate fluorescence was measured using ImageJ software. Images of these plates were also taken with a Nikon D5200 DSLR camera, which were processed in Adobe Photoshop Lightroom 5 (Mac version) for phase-contrast.

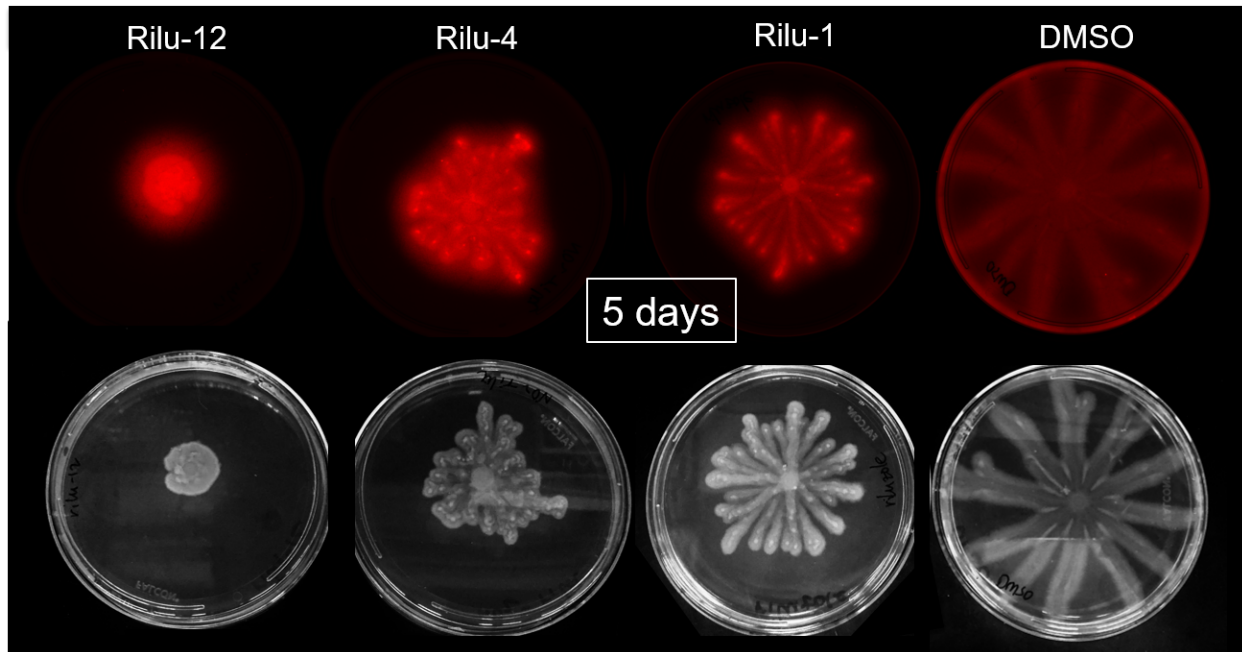


Figure S9. Swarming motility of PA14 in the presence of **Rilu**-inhibitors at 200 μM after 5 days. The top images are fluorescence scans for detecting Nile Red and the bottom images were taken with a digital camera.

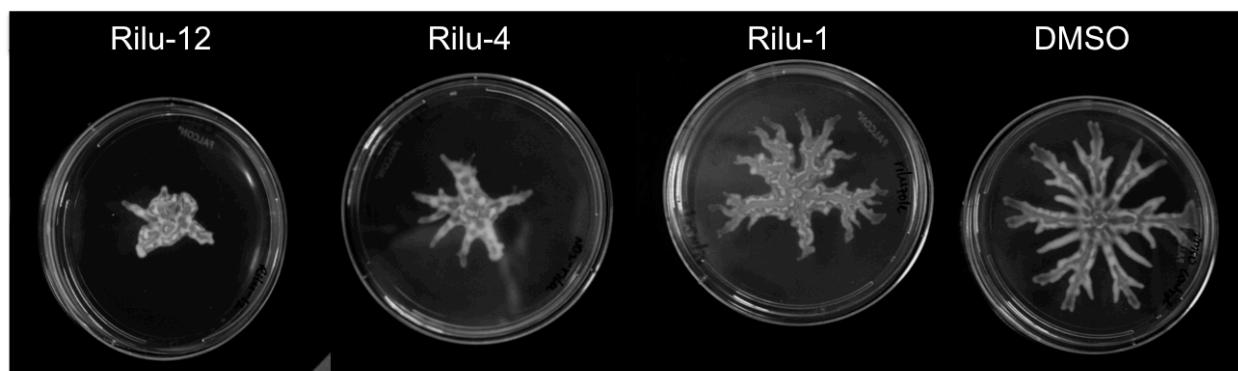


Figure S10: Images of the swarm plates with inhibitors at 125 μM or DMSO after 48 h.

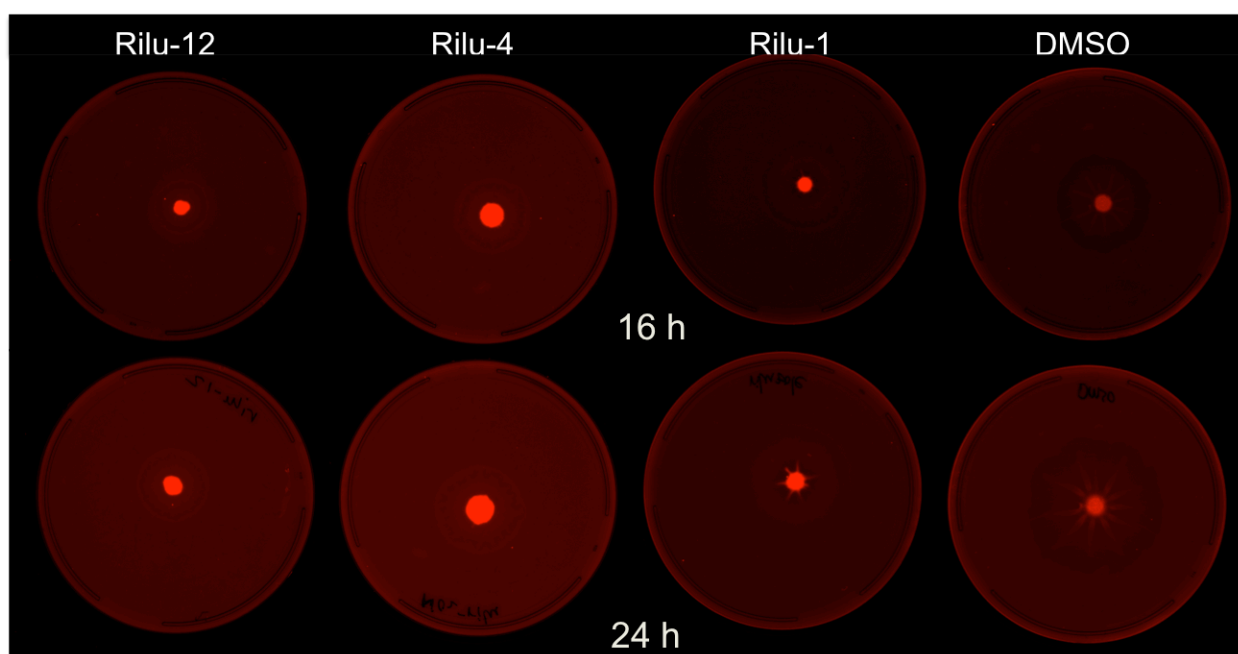


Figure S11: Fluorescence scans of the swarm plates with inhibitors at 200 μM or DMSO at 16 h and 24 h.

RNA isolation, Reverse Transcriptase -qPCR experiments

P. aeruginosa PA14 strain was grown overnight (~16 h) in LB media at 37 °C and 200 RPM. The overnight culture was diluted 1:100 in fresh LB media. Four mL of this culture was then taken in a 15 mL borosilicate glass tube, to which **Rilu**-inhibitors in DMSO were added to a final concentration of 200 μ M or 500 μ M (for the control experiments, same amount of DMSO was added). These cultures were then grown for 9 h (late exponential phase) at 37 °C and 200 RPM, OD₆₂₀ ~0.7. Total RNA was extracted from ~2 mL cell pellet using an RNAEasy Mini kit (Qiagen), according to the manufacturer's instructions, including exogenous DNase treatment with Ambion Turbo-DNase Kits. RNA integrity was confirmed by native gel electrophoresis and the quantities were measured using a nanophotometer. cDNA was generated using the DNA-free total RNA using (Applied Biosystems High Capacity cDNA Reverse Transcription Kits) random-primed reverse transcriptase reaction following the manufacturer's protocol. The cDNA was used as template for quantitative PCR (BioRad MyiQ2 dual-color system) using the SYBR Green detection system (BioRad) on white 96-well PCR plates. Melt curves were obtained for every run, and any wells with multiple peaks were excluded from analysis. Signal was standardized to 2 housekeeping genes, *recA*, *rpoD* using the $\Delta\Delta C_T$ method equation:⁸ Relative expression = $2^{(C_T \text{ standard} - C_T \text{ sample})}$, where C_T (cycle time) was determined automatically by the Real Time iQ5 PCR software (BioRad). Primers (Integrated DNA Technologies) for RT-qPCR were designed using NCBI Primer-Blast software. Criteria for primer design were a melting temperature = 59–61 °C; primer size = 18–22 bp; product size = 80–130 bp; product T_m = 60–90 °C. Samples were assayed in triplicate and statistical analyses was done with one-way ANOVA (Origin 9.1 software).

Table S5. List of primer pairs used in qPCR

Target gene	Forward	Reverse
PA14_17530 (<i>recA</i>)	TCACCGGCAATATCAAGAAC	CGAGGCGTAGAACTTCAGTG
PA14_07520 (<i>rpoD</i>)	CAAGATCCGCAAGGTACTGA	GGTGGAGTCCTCGATGAAAT
PA14_45940 (<i>lasI</i>)	GCCCCTACATGCTGAAGAAC	TCCAGAGTTGATGGCGAAA
PA14_45960 (<i>lasR</i>)	TCAAGTGGAAAATTGGAGTGG	TCGT AGTCCTGGCTGTCCTT
PA14_51430 (<i>pqsA</i>)	ACCTGACCGAGGTTCTGTTC	TGGCCTGGGAGAGAATGTAG
PA14_51340 (<i>pqsR</i>)	TCGTTCTGCGATACGGTGAG	TTGATCGTCGCCAGGCTATC
PA14_19130 (<i>rhII</i>)	AGTTCGACCATCCGCAAA	CTGCACAGGTAGGCGAAGA
PA14_19120 (<i>rhIR</i>)	GAGCGATACCAGATGCAGAAC	GCTCCAGACCACCA TTTCC
PA14_30650 (<i>gacA</i>)	TCGTCCTGATGGACGTGAAG	CTCTTCGCAGACGGTGACTA
PA14_06875 (<i>rsmY</i>)	GAAGCGCCAAAGACATACGG	GCAGACCTCTATCCTGACATCC

PA14_52570 (<i>rsmA</i>)	ACGGTACTGGGTGTCAAAGG	GCTGGTAAATTTCTCCCGGT
PA14_50220 (<i>fleQ</i>)	GCAACAAGACGCAGAACGTC	AGAGGTCTTCGCGGAAAGTG
PA14_58730 (<i>pilA</i>)	CAAACCGAGAAGGTCGGACT	AAGCATCTTGCATGCCAACC

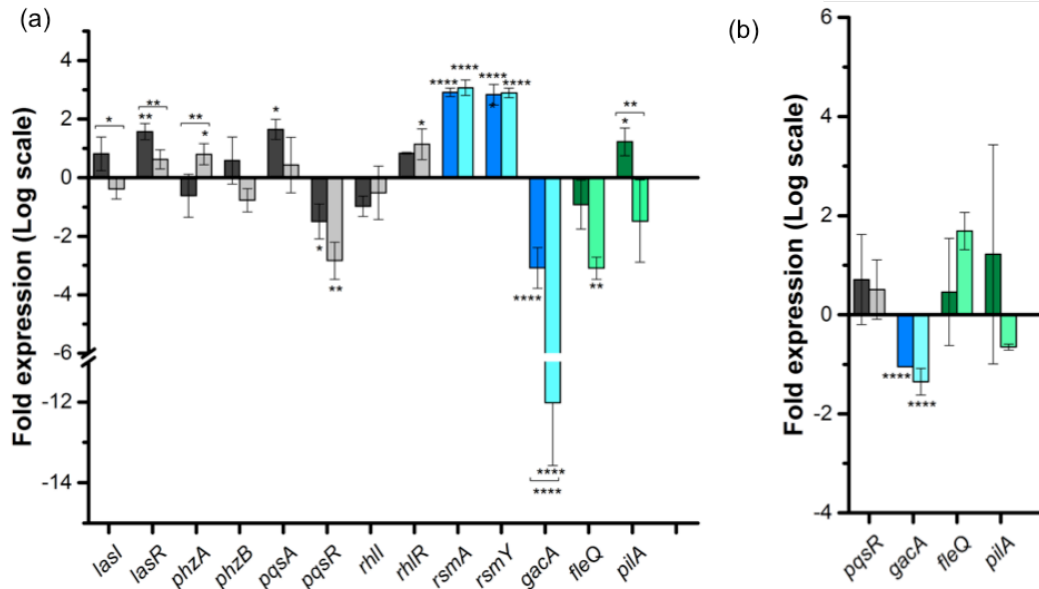


Figure S12. qPCR analysis of various genes in PA14 upon exposure to (a) **Rilu-4** and (b) **Rilu-7**, fold expression is shown in log 2 scale. Genes are colored based on three categories: QS-related (grey), TCS GacSA-related (blue) and motility-related (green). Darker and lighter bars (grey, blue and green) are measurements for **Rilu-4** or **7** at 200 μ M and 500 μ M, respectively. Error bars represent the standard error of three independent experiments ($n = 3$). Statistical analysis performed with non-parametric one-way ANOVA ($\alpha = 0.05$; **** $p < 0.0001$; *** $p < 0.001$; ** $p < 0.02$, * $p < 0.05$). Asterisks closest to the bars denote the significance of the difference between inhibitor-treated samples and the DMSO-treated sample, while the asterisks outside the bracket denote the significance of the difference between the two inhibitor concentrations.

Quantification of rhamnolipids in liquid cultures

Rhamnolipid was quantified according to the method of Welsh *et al.* with minor modifications.⁹ Briefly, *P. aeruginosa* PA14 strain was grown overnight (~16 h) in LB media at 37 °C and 200 RPM. This cultures was diluted 1:100 into fresh Minimal Medium (49.3 mM Na₂HPO₄, 50 mM KH₂PO₄, 4.8 mM MgSO₄, 7.6 mM (NH₄)₂SO₄, 0.6 mM CaCl₂, 25 μM FeSO₄, 0.162 μM (NH₄)₆Mo₇O₂₄, 38 μM ZnSO₄, 14 μM MnCl₂, 1.6 μM CuSO₄, 0.86 μM CoCl₂, 1.9 μM boric acid, 5.5 μM NiCl₂, 6.72 μM EDTA, 0.6% glycerol). 4 mL of this culture was taken in a 15 mL borosilicate glass tube, to which **Rilu**-inhibitors in DMSO were added to a final concentration of 200 μM (for the control experiments, same amount of DMSO was added). These cultures were grown for 20 h at 37 °C and 200 RPM. The final OD₆₂₀ was measured, and the cells were pelleted at 5000 g for 5 min. 1 mL of the supernatant was taken and extracted twice with 1 mL of diethyl ether. The pooled organic extracts were dried over anhydrous magnesium sulfate, evaporated to dryness and then reconstituted in 200 μL deionized water. Then, 50 μL of this extract was diluted into 450 μL of a solution of 0.19% (w/v) orcinol in 50% (v/v) concentrated H₂SO₄. The tubes were briefly vortexed and incubated in an 80 °C heating block for 45 min. After briefly cooling to room temperature, 200 μL of the resulting solution was transferred to a clear 96-well microtiter plate and the absorbance at 421 nm measured. Data were normalized to the final OD₆₂₀ values and plotted relative to a DMSO control.

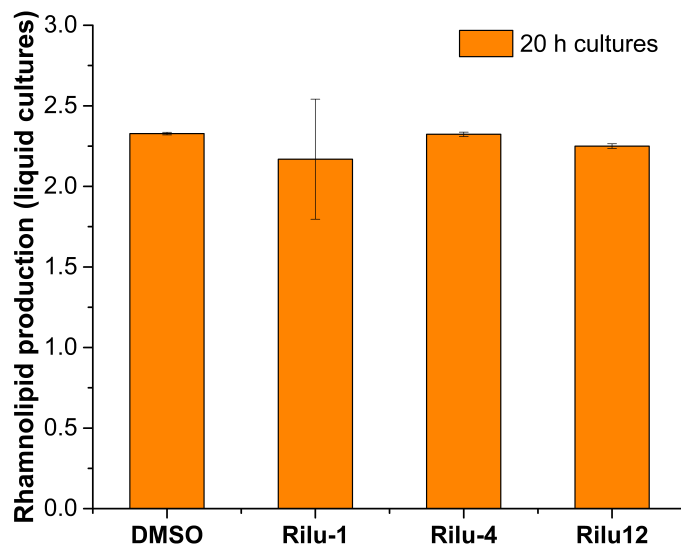


Figure S13. Rhamnolipid production of PA14 in liquid minimal media. Error bars represent the standard error of three independent experiments (n = 3).

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