

Table S6: Comparison of the receptor-ligand contacts in complexes of MC4R with the agonists NDP- α -MSH and setmelanotide as well as the antagonist SHU9119. Interactions of all relevant amino acids of the MC4R the calcium ion (Ca^{2+}) and water molecules within the ligand binding pocket towards the binding peptides NDP- α -MSH, setmelanotide and SHU9119 were summarized based on the Tables S2-4. Amino acids were abbreviated as one letter code, capital numbers display the position within the receptor or peptide (in the pdb file), and superscripted numbering refers to the conserved *HxRW* motif of the binding peptides. D-Nal corresponds to (2R)-2-amino-3-(naphthalene-2-YL)propanoic acid abbreviated as 4J2 in the protein database (PDB ID: 6w25). D-phenylalanine, D-alanine and norleucine are abridged as three letter code Dpn, Dal and Nle, respectively.

MC4R	NDP- α -MSH (agonist); (PDB ID: 7PIV, this study)	Setmelanotide (agonist); (PDB ID: 7PIU, this study)	SHU9119 (antagonist); (PDB ID: 6w25)
F51	H6 ⁰	H4 ⁰	-
N97 (L97 - antagonized structure)	-	-	Dnal4 ¹
E100	Nle4 ⁻² , E5 ⁻¹	A: Dpn5 ¹ B: Dal3 ⁻¹	H3 ⁰ , Dnal4 ¹ , D2 ⁻¹
T101	H6 ⁰	H4 ⁰	H3 ⁰
V103	-	-	Nle1 ⁻²
I104	Nle4 ⁻²	Dal3 ⁻¹	Nle1 ⁻² , D2 ⁻¹ , H3 ⁰
T118	-	-	Nle1 ⁻²
D122	Nle4 ⁻²	R1 ⁻³ , R6 ²	Nle1 ⁻² , D2 ⁻¹ , R5 ²
N123	-	R6 ²	R5 ²
D126	Dpn7 ¹ , R8 ²	Dpn5 ¹ , Arg6 ²	Dnal4 ¹ , Arg5 ²
I129	Dpn7 ¹	Dpn5 ¹	Dnal4 ¹
C130	-	-	Dnal4 ¹
L133*	-	Dpn5 ¹	Dnal4 ¹
I185*	R8 ²	-	Dnal4 ¹ , R5 ²
S188	R8 ² , W9 ³	R6 ² , W7 ³	R5 ² , W6 ³
V193	W9 ³	-	-
I194	W9 ³	W7 ³	W6 ³
L197	W9 ³	W7 ³	Dnal4 ¹ , W6 ³
F261	-	Dpn5 ¹	Dnal4 ¹
H264	W9 ³ , G10 ⁴	W7 ³ , C8 ⁴	W6 ³ , K7 ⁴ , NH ₂ 8 ⁵
L265	-	-	W6 ³
Y268	W9 ³ , K11 ⁵ , P12 ⁶	W7 ³	W6 ³ , K7 ⁴
M281	-	-	NH ₂ 8 ⁵
F284	H6 ⁰ , R8 ² , G10 ⁴	H4 ⁰ , R6 ² , C8 ⁴	H3 ⁰ , R5 ² , K7 ⁴
N285	-	H4 ⁰	-
L288	H6 ⁰ , Dpn7 ¹	H4 ⁰	H3 ⁰ , Dnal4 ¹
Ca²⁺	MC4R: E100, D122, D126; Ligand: E5 ⁻¹ , Dpn7 ¹	MC4R: E100, D122, D126; Ligand: Dpn5 ¹	MC4R: E100, D122, D126; Ligand: D2 ⁻¹ , Dnal4 ¹
water 30	-	Dal3 ⁻¹ , H4 ⁰ , C8 ⁴ , Q43, F284, N285	-
water 43	Nle4 ⁻²	-	-

water 63	-	R1 ⁻³ , R6 ²	-
water 101	-	-	D2 ⁻¹ , H3 ⁰ , K7 ⁴ ,
water 102	-	-	R5 ² , W6 ³ , Y268, water 103, water 104
water 103	-	-	W6 ³ , K7 ⁴ , Y268, water102, water 105
water 104	-	-	Dna14 ⁻¹ , R5 ² , W6 ³ , K7 ⁴ , water 102, water 105
water 105	-	-	D2 ⁻¹ , K7 ⁴ , water 103, water 104