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## **Supporting Materials**

		CXC	R2		
	$\Delta E_{\rm vdw}$	$\Delta E_{\rm ele}$	$\Delta G_{ m GB}$	$\Delta G_{\rm SA}$	$\Delta G_{\text{bind}}$
Leu20	-3.62	0.22	-0.04	-0.8	-4.26
Thr28	-8.52	-1.68	2.78	-1.46	-8.88
Leu29	-3.86	1.02	-0.42	-0.38	-3.66
Phe32	-0.92	-0.20	0.36	-0.08	-0.82
Leu33	-3.70	-1.56	1.76	-0.76	-4.26
Pro38	-9.02	-0.60	0.82	-1.24	-10.02
Cys39	-5.46	-1.32	1.58	-0.90	-6.10
Glu40	-2.68	-14.88	15.08	-0.76	-3.26
Val187	-3.66	-1.64	1.66	-0.86	-4.50
Tyr188	-4.91	-0.62	1.48	-1.20	-10.14
Ser189	-5.38	-1.54	2.10	-0.76	-5.58
Asn191	-4.12	-2.38	2.34	-0.80	-4.96
Asn203	-1.84	0.26	0.54	-0.48	-1.50
Gln280	-2.22	-1.15	2.38	-0.60	-2.71
Gln283	-5.50	-2.94	2.82	-0.86	-6.48
Glu284	-4.12	-3.66	3.04	-0.44	-5.16

**Table S1**. Binding free energy contributions of the key binding-site residues calculated from the binding energy decomposition for CXCR2 (kcal/mol)

**Table S2**. Binding free energy contributions of the key binding-site residues calculated from the binding energy decomposition for MIF monomer (kcal/mol)

		MIF	7		
	$\Delta E_{\rm vdw}$	$\Delta E_{\rm ele}$	$\Delta G_{ m GB}$	$\Delta G_{\rm SA}$	$\Delta G_{\text{bind}}$
Arg11	-1.20	3.80	-3.24	-0.34	-0.96
Asp44	-2.14	-4.38	4.56	-0.66	-2.60
Gln45	-9.02	-0.92	2.58	-1.02	-8.38
Leu46	-7.46	-0.96	1.14	-1.28	-8.58
Phe49	-6.20	-0.92	1.22	-0.52	-6.42
Ser60	4.36	-5.70	1.48	0.02	-16.56
His62	-7.42	-0.16	1.16	0.36	35.52
Ile64	5.42	13.46	0.02	0.34	31.92
Gly68	2.42	94.40	2.60	-1.54	43.68
Asn72	-4.82	-37.00	-1.78	-0.40	-51.16
Arg86	-2.96	-104.88	5.74	0.94	-61.16
Arg93	-3.10	-102.74	16.72	-0.08	-72.34
Asp100	1.08	-1.44	-28.42	0.60	-50.30
Trp108	-16.98	0.10	2.22	-0.44	19.98
Asn110	-0.56	-39.58	-0.84	0.50	-16.40

CXCR2							
	$\Delta E_{\rm vdw}$	$\Delta E_{\rm ele}$	$\Delta G_{ m GB}$	$\Delta G_{ m SA}$	$\Delta G_{\text{bind}}$		
Leu20	0.00	0.10	-0.10	0.00	0.00		
Thr28	-5.88	-1.04	1.52	-0.70	-6.08		
Leu29	-8.14	-4.00	3.20	-1.84	-10.78		
Phe32	-6.46	-0.84	1.56	-1.36	-7.12		
Leu33	-0.60	0.00	0.10	-0.02	-0.50		
Pro38	-8.81	0.06	0.44	-1.52	-9.86		
Cys39	-1.18	-0.26	0.54	-0.08	-1.00		
Glu40	-1.16	-6.30	6.96	-0.20	-0.70		
Val187	-0.70	-0.06	0.20	-0.18	-0.74		
Tyr188	-0.94	0.16	0.08	-0.14	-0.82		
Ser189	-0.90	-0.46	0.66	-0.22	-0.92		
Asn191	-0.66	0.04	0.22	-0.10	-0.50		
Asn203	-0.18	-0.06	0.26	0.00	0.02		
Gln280	-2.58	0.16	0.72	-0.76	-2.46		
Gln283	-7.14	-2.62	2.96	-1.48	-8.28		
Glu284	-3.76	-1.66	2.60	-0.36	-3.18		

**Table S3**. Binding free energy contributions of the key binding-site residues

 calculated from the binding energy decomposition for CXCR2 of mutant (kcal/mol)



**Figure S1.** Sequence alignment of CXCR2 (residues 1-339) against that of CXCR4 (PDB ID: 30DU) used for homology modeling.



**Figure S2.** MD simulation box of the MIF-CXCR2 complex, the lipid and water molecules. There are 125121 atoms in the simulation box (Model I was chosen to represent).



Figure S3. Ramachandran plot of CXCR2 constructed by homology modeling.



**Figure S4.** Comparison of the complex structure predicted by protein-protein docking (ribbon colored in gray) and the conformation after last 20 ns MD trajectory (ribbon colored in green). The arrow indicates the movement of TM1, TM4 and TM5.





**Figure S5.** Schematic depiction of the major interactions of the MIF-CXCR2 averaged structure over the last 10 ns MD trajectory (generated by the LIGPLOT program<sup>1</sup>). (a) and (b) represent residues 1 to 57 and 58 to 114 of MIF respectively.







His 53 Non-ligand residues involved in hydrophobic contact(s)

Corresponding atoms involved in hydrophobic contact(s)





**Figure S6.** Schematic depiction of the major interactions of averaged structure of R11A/D44A-double mutant of MIF with CXCR2 over the last 10 ns MD trajectory (generated by the LIGPLOT program<sup>1</sup>). (a) and (b) represent residues 1 to 57 and 58 to 114 of MIF respectively.

## References

1. Wallace, A. C.; Laskowski, R. A.; Thornton, J. M. LIGPLOT: a program to generate schematic diagrams of protein-ligand interactions. *Protein Eng.* **1995**, 8, 127-134.