# **Supplementary Information**

# Transcription activation by the resistance protein AlbA as a tool to evaluate derivatives of the antibiotic albicidin

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# 1. Supplementary methods

#### 1.1. General experimental details

Commercially available reagents (Carl Roth GmbH and Co. KG, Karlsruhe, Germany; Sigma-Aldrich, Taufkirchen, Germany; Iris Biotech GmbH, Marktredwitz, Germany; Orpegen, Heidelberg, Germany; ABCR, Karlsruhe, Germany; Alfa Aesar, Karlsruhe, Germany; Merck, Darmstadt; Germany and Acros, Geel, Belgium) and solvents (Fisher Scientific-Acros, Schwerte, Germany) were used without further purification. If necessary, reactions were carried out under an atmosphere of argon or nitrogen and in dry solvents. Analytical thin layer chromatography was carried out using aluminium-backed plates coated with Macherey-Nagel silica gel (60, F254). Analysis was performed by visualizing under UV light ( $\lambda$ = 254 nm) and by staining with KMnO<sub>4</sub> solution (3 g KMnO<sub>4</sub>, 20 g K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>, 300 mL dist. water, 5ml NaOH solution (5 %)) and with ninhydrin-solution (ninhydrin (0.3 g), AcOH (3 mL), nBuOH (100 mL). Flash chromatography was carried out with silica gel (particle size 40-63 µm, VWR Chemicals, Darmstadt, Germany). Preparative HPLC was carried out on a 1260 Infinity (Agilent Technologies, Waldbronn, Germany) system with a polymeric reversed phase column (PLRP-S 100A) 300 x 50 mm, particle size 10 µm, Agilent Technologies, Waldbronn, Germany). <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C spectra were recorded at 298 K using Bruker Avance-II 400 MHz, Bruker Avance-III, 500 MHz or Bruker Avance-III 700 MHz instruments (Bruker, Karlsruhe, Germany). The chemical shifts are reported in ppm using the residual solvent peak (DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>, CDCl<sub>3</sub> or THF-d<sub>8</sub>) as an internal reference. Multiplicity (br = broad singlet, s = singlet, d = doublet, dd = doublet of doublet, t = triplet, g = quartet, m = multiplet) and coupling constants (J = Hz) are quoted where possible. PLC-HRMS spectra were recorded on a QTrap LTQ XL (Thermo Fisher Scientific, Waltham, Massachusetts, USA) with an Agilent 1200 Series HPLC-System (Agilent) Technologies, Waldbronn, Germany) with a C18 column (50 x 2 mm, particle size 3 µm). Luminescence measurements were carried out on a TECAN Infinite 200 Microplate Reader.

### 1.2. Bacteria, media and antibiotics

*E. coli* DSM1116, *E. coli* BW25113, *S.* Typhimurium TA100, *B. subtilis* DSM10, *M. luteus* DSM1790, *M. phlei* DSM750 were used for minimal inhibitory concentration (MIC) assays. *E. coli* strain DSM 1116 was used for all susceptibility testing. *E. coli* TOP10 or BL21 Star (DE3) cells (Invitrogen) were used for cloning and protein expression. The plasmids used in this study are listed in table S1. LB medium (Lysogeny broth: 10 g/L peptone, 5 g/L yeast extract, 5 g/L NaCl) was used as broth or in agar plates for all experiments with the exception of MIC assays where MHBII (BBLTM Mueller-Hinton Broth II, Becton, Dickinson and Company, New Jersey, USA) was used. Incubation steps took place at 37°C and 180 rpm shaking if not stated otherwise. Throughout the study, aza-His albicidin (compound **2**) was used as albicidin standard due to its better stability and similar activity compared to natural albicidin<sup>1</sup>. All oligonucleotides and restriction enzymes were purchased from Thermo Scientific and all DNA sequencing reactions were performed by Microsynth AG.

## 1.3. Experimental Methods

#### Electrophoretic mobility shift assay (EMSA)

The EMSA assays were performed with purified AlbA and the 41 bp oligonucleotide sequence pAlbA, which represents the sequence between the -35 and -10 promoter regions. To obtain the pAlbA region, 41 bases long complementary oligonucleotides were purchased and hybridized in hybridization buffer (10 mM Tris-HCI, 50 mM NaCl, 1 mM EDTA, pH 7.5) in a PCR thermocycler to obtain double stranded oligonucleotide by following the protocol of Merck KGaA. As negative control, a randomized region of 41 bp was selected in the Klebsiella oxytoca genome, hybridized and used in the same experiments (Figure S1), Purified AlbA with TEV-cleaved His-tag was added in varying concentrations (from 0 to 54 µM) to 0.54 µM of the 41 bp fragments and incubated for 2 h on ice in the dark in reaction buffer (5% glycerol, 40 mM Tris-HCl, 20 mM sodium acetate, 1 mM EDTA, pH 7.8). In case of albicidin addition, the protein-albicidin ratio was set to 1:1.5 to ensure albicidin saturation on the protein (final concentration of 5% (v/v) DMSO in samples). For analysis, 10 µL of each reaction mixture was directly loaded on polyacrylamide gels (separating gel: 9 % acrylamide/5 % bis-acrylamide; stacking gel: 4 % acrylamide/2 % bis-acrylamide). The separation was performed at 250 V over 15 min at 4°C in EMSA running buffer (40 mM Tris-HCI, 20 mM sodium acetate, 1 mM EDTA, pH 7.8). Afterwards, the gels were directly incubated for 30 min in an EtBr solution. Analyzation and documentation of the EtBr gels was performed under UV light at the gel documentation station. To determine the intensity of DNA-bands and to calculate the binding affinity, the gel pictures were evaluated with the software Fiji ImageJ 1.53q using the gel band analysis tool to quantify the intensity for all free DNA bands and background signal. The normalized change of intensity upon addition of protein was plotted and fitted with the Hill equation (1) to determine the binding affinity,

$$Y = B_{max} \frac{[P]^n}{K_d^n + [P]^n} \tag{1}$$

[P] is the protein concentration used in the reaction mixture and n was set to 1. The uncertainty of each measurement point was determined from the normalized background signals in each gel lane.

#### Cloning of the transcription reporter system

For the reporter plasmid backbone, we chose the vector pCS-PesaRlux<sup>2</sup> which was a gift from Cynthia Collins (Addgene plasmid #47640). Using Gibson assembly<sup>3</sup> the PesaR promoter was removed and the lux reporter gene cassette was replaced with the improved ilux<sup>4</sup> operon from the vector pGEX-iluxCDABE-frp, which was generous gift from Carola Gregor. The ilux operon contains a FMN reductase to faster recycle the necessary co-factor to generate a strongly enhanced luminescence signal<sup>4</sup>. The pCS vector backbone was amplified by PCR using the primers pCS-fw and pCS-rev (Table S5) and the ilux cluster was amplified using the primer pair Ilux-fw and Iluxrev at annealing temperatures of 64.5 °C and 63.6 °C respectively. The two resulting fragments were purified from gel and incubated at a 1:4 ratio (backbone to ilux cluster fragment) in Gibson mix for one hour at 50°C before transformation of TOP10 cells and selection on LB agar plates with 50 µg/mL kanamycin. A cloning site and ribosomal binding site (RBS) were inserted in the new vector pCS-ilux via site-directed ligase-independent mutagenesis<sup>5</sup> using the primer pairs pCS-MCS-RBS-fwt/pCS-MCS-RBS-rev and pCS-MCS-RBS-fw/pCS-MCS-RBS-revt (annealing temperatures of 61.9 °C and 67.3 °C, respectively), yielding the construct pCS-MCS-RBSilux which contained restriction sites for the enzymes BamHI and XhoI upstream of the RBS and ilux cassette (vector map Figure S2A). To generate the reporter plasmids, we then inserted the pAlbA promoter or, as a test system, the T7 promoter. The promoters were obtained as oligonucleotides with BamHI and XhoI restriction sites adjacent to the promoter regions (see Table S5). The promoter oligonucelotides were dissolved in buffer (10 mM Tris, 50 mM NaCl, 1 mM EDTA, pH 7.5) to reach a concentration of 100 µM and annealed at 95 °C for 5 min followed by slow cooling to RT to yield double-stranded DNA. The promoter fragments and pCS-MCS-RBS-ilux were treated with BamHI and XhoI according to the manufacturer's protocol, purified using a DNA purification kit (Thermo) and ligated with T4 ligase to yield the plasmids pCS-pAlbA-ilux and pCS-T7-ilux (Figure S2B). The ligation mixtures were added to TOP10 cells and positive clones were selected on LB agar plates with 50 µg/mL kanamycin.

For co-expression with the reporter plasmid, AlbA was cloned into pET15b (Novagen) with an N-terminal His-tag. The AlbA gene was amplified from the expression vector pET28a-AlbAL<sup>6</sup> using the primers AlbA\_Xhol\_fw and AlbA\_BamHI\_rev containing the corresponding restriction sites. Restriction cloning was performed as described above and positive clones were on LB agar plates with 100  $\mu$ g/ml ampicillin. After test measurements suggested that the N-terminal His-tag might affect DNA binding of AlbA, site-directed ligase-independent mutagenesis with the primer pairs deltaHis-AlbA-fwt/deltaHis-AlbA-rev and deltaHis-AlbA-fw/deltaHis-AlbA-revt was performed to yield the expression construct pET15b- $\Delta$ HisAlbA. The correct sequence of all constructs was confirmed by plasmid sequencing.

# Mutagenesis

All AlbAL mutants were generated using the site-directed ligase-independent mutagenesis strategy<sup>5</sup> with either pET28a-AlbAL<sup>6</sup> or pET15b- $\Delta$ His-AlbA as PCR template. Primer pairs with overhangs containing the mutations were designed for each mutant (Table S6). The ligation mixtures were added to TOP10 cells and positive clones were selected on LB agar plates with 50 µg/mL kanamycin for pET28a constructs and 100 µg/mL ampicillin in case of pET15b based constructs. The correct sequence of all constructs was confirmed by plasmid sequencing.

# Protein expression and purification

N-terminally His-tagged AlbA was expressed using a pET28a vector as described previously<sup>6</sup>. In brief, *E. coli* BL21(DE3) cells were transformed with pET28-AlbA plasmid and grown in LB medium with kanamycin. LB broth supplemented with 50 µg/mL kanamycin was inoculated from over-night cultures and grown at 37 °C until an OD<sub>600</sub> of 0.6 was reached. After induction with 0.2 mM isopropyl β-D-1-thiogalactopyranoside (IPTG) the proteins were expressed at 18 °C for 20 hrs. The cells were harvested by centrifugation (4,000 x G, 20 min), resuspended in lysis buffer (50 mM Tris, pH 8.0, 500 mM NaCl, 10% glycerol) and processed in a cell disruptor (Constant Systems Ltd) at 25 kPsi before centrifugation at 50,000 x G, at 4 °C for 45 min. The lysate was incubated with Pure Cube Ni-NTA agarose (Cube Biotech, Germany) at 4 °C for 20 min while shaking. The slurry was transferred to empty gravity-flow columns (ThermoFisher) and after a washing step with lysis buffer, the protein was eluted in two steps with 250 mM imidazole and 500 mM imidazole in the lysis buffer, respectively. His<sub>6</sub>-AlbA was buffer exchanged on PD10 Desalting Columns in assay buffer (50 mM sodium phosphate, pH 7.0, 100 mM NaCl) and the purity of the proteins was assessed on SDS-PAGE (Figure S7). All AlbA mutants were purified following the same protocol. Concentrations were determined with a nano-photometer P330 (Implen, Munich, Germany) spectrophotometer using extinction coefficients calculated with the ProtParam tool<sup>7</sup> before storage at -80 °C.

# Transcription activation assay

E. coli BL21(DE3) were transformed with pET15b-AlbA or pET15b-ΔHisAlbA and pCS-pAlbA-ilux. An over-night culture was grown in LB medium with kanamycin and ampicillin to inoculate three 50 mL cultures of BL21(DE3):pET15b-AlbA + pCS-pAlbA-ilux or BL21(DE3):pET15b-ΔHisAlbA + pCS-pAlbA-ilux in LB medium with 50 µg/ml kanamycin and 100 µg/ml ampicillin. The cultures were grown to OD<sub>600</sub> 0.4-0.6 and transferred to white, clear bottom 96-well plates (Corning Inc.). To 190 µL culture in each well, 10 µl DMSO with albicidin or one of its derivatives were added. In assays to test concentration dependence of the promoter, aza-His albicidin (2) was added to reach final concentrations of 0, 0.5, 1.0, 1.5, 2.0 and 5 µM. In transcription response assays with albicidin fragments and albicidin derivatives, 1.5 µM or 2.0 µM final concentration was added of each compound. In assays with ciprofloxacin, novobiocin, acridin orange, Azid MegaStokes, tunicamycin, tetracycline and reserpine, each compound was dissolved in DMSO and added to cultures at final concentrations of 15 µM. Bisbenzimide (Hoechst 33342) was dissolved in DMSO and added to cultures at a final concentration of 5 µM. Sixty points were measured on a TECAN Infinite 200 microplate reader, after orbital shaking for 10 min, with an amplitude of 3 mm, and a wait time of one minute between each measurement. At each time point, the absorbance at 600 nm (9 mm bandwidth and 25 flashes) and the luminescence (500 ms integration time, no attenuation) were measured. Each assay was measured in triplicate at 30 °C. The luminescence data was normalized to the OD before the background signal (wells with no albicidin added) was subtracted and the mean and standard deviation of each measurement point was calculated. Each measurement series was normalized to 2 as a standard, yielding relative luminescence curves of which the maximum within the first five hours of measurement was extracted to compare the luminescence output for each compound.

To compare the transcription activation of AlbA mutants, pET15b- $\Delta$ His-constructs of each mutant together with pCS-pAlbA-ilux were used to transform *E. coli* BL21(DE3). BL21(DE3):pET15b- $\Delta$ HisAlbA-mutants + pCS-pAlbA-ilux were grown over-night in 250 µL cultures in 96-well round bottom plates with LB medium with kanamycin and ampicillin (4 replica per mutant per plate) to inoculate an equal number of 250 µL cultures with a starting OD<sub>600</sub> of 0.02. After six hours, 2 x 100 µL of each culture were transferred to a clear bottom plate and **2** dissolved in 100% DMSO or DMSO was added to a concentration of 1.5 µM (1% DMSO final concentration). Luminescence and absorbance were measured as described above but with 40 time points instead of 60 time points. The measurement was repeated with four more plates, yielding data of 20 biological replica. For each well, the luminescence data was normalized to the OD before the background signal (wells with no albicidin added) was subtracted. The maxima of all twenty luminescence curves of each mutant were determined and differences between the transcription activity of the AlbA mutants and AlbA wild-type were analysed in Origin2022, academic version 9.9.0.225. Wilcoxon-Mann-Whitney tests for statistical evaluation of the data were performed using the Triola Statdisk 13.0 package using the Wilcoxon test for independent samples with a significance of p ≤ 0.01 or p ≤ 0.05.

## E. coli growth inhibition assay

To test the antibacterial activity of albicidin derivatives in presence and absence of AlbA, susceptibility assays in liquid culture were conducted. An overnight culture of *E. coli* DSM 1116 was used to inoculate 50 mL LB which was grown to an OD ~1.0. The culture was diluted in LB medium to using 0.5 McFarland standard (1.5 x 10<sup>8</sup> cells/mL) and added to a clear round bottom 96-well plate (microdilution tray) with LB to obtain 1 x 10<sup>6</sup> cells/mL. Each well contained 85 µL inocolum to which either 10 µL AlbA (final concentration 10 µM) or buffer (50 mM sodium phosphate pH 7.0, 100 mM NaCl) were added. The albicidin derivatives were dissolved in 100% DMSO and 5 µL were added to the wells to obtain a final concentration of 10 µM compound and 5% (v/v) DMSO in a final culture volume of 100 µL. For the assays with mutants, 10 µM of the mutant proteins were added instead of wild-type AlbA and *E. coli* growth in presence of 10 µM aza-His albicidin (**2**) was measured. All assays were set up in triplicates. The plates were incubated at 37 °C in the dark without shaking for 20 h before documentation using a biostep scanner (Epson) with argusX.

# MIC determination

Minimal inhibitory concentration (MIC) values were determined according to the ninth edition of the Approved Standard M07-A9 in microdilution assays. The test was carried out for six different bacterial strains (Gram-negative: E. coli DSM1116, E. coli BW25113, S. Typhimurium TA100; Gram-postive: B. subtilis DSM10, M. luteus DSM1790, M. phlei DSM750). 20 mL LB medium were inoculated with 20 µL of cryo stock of each strain and incubated overnight at 37 °C. 200 rpm shaking. The test inoculum was adjusted by the 0.5 McFarland Standard (OD625 from 0.08 to 0.1). Within 15 min of preparation, the adjusted inoculum suspension was diluted in MHBII medium so that each well contained approximately 5 × 10<sup>5</sup> cells/mL in a final volume of 100 µL. 95 µL of the inoculum were applied per well and 5 µL of the albicidin derivative solutions were added. Previously, the dry antibiotic compounds were dissolved in DMSO (100%) with a concentration of 2560 µg/mL and then further diluted in DMSO (100%) for testing. 5 µL of each antibiotic dilution were applied to the microdilution tray to reach final concentrations of 8 µg/mL to 0.016 µg/mL. One row of each 96-well plate served as a growth control without antibiotic substances and another row of the microdilution tray served as sterility control (only MHB II-media). The antimicrobial effect of the solvent (DMSO) was tested by adding 5 µL DMSO to several wells. Purity checks and cell titer controls were performed according to International Standard M07-A9 on Mueller-Hinton II Agar. Both microdilution trays and agar plates were incubated at 37 °C for 20 h and subsequently analyzed by naked eye and documented using a biostep scanner (Epson) with argusX.

# DNA-Gyrase inhibition testing

DNA-supercoiling experiments with DNA-gyrase were performed using an *E. coli* gyrase supercoiling kit (Inspiralis Limited, Norwich, UK) following the manufacturer's instructions. A total volume of 30  $\mu$ L gyrase buffer contained 0.5  $\mu$ g relaxed pBR322 plasmid DNA (inspiralis Limited), 1 U DNA-gyrase (6 U/ $\mu$ L) (Inspiralis Limited) and the albicidin derivatives **1**, **2** and **10–22** at a final concentration of 45 nM. The final DMSO concentration was 3%. Samples were incubated at 37 °C for 30 min and subsequently loaded on an agarose gel. Electrophoretic analysis was performed using a 1% agarose gel (100 V, 90 min). DNA bands were stained with ethidium bromide, visually analyzed and documented with a Biostep BioView transilluminator and INTAS GelDoc.

# CD spectroscopy

The native fold of the purified AlbA mutants was evaluated using CD spectroscopy. The measurements were conducted on a J-815 CD spectrometer (Jasco, Groß-Umstadt, Germany). AlbA and its mutants were diluted in buffer (25 mM sodium hydrogen phosphate, pH 7.0) to reach a concentration of 5  $\mu$ M. Far-UV spectra were acquired at 20 °C and 30 °C between 190-260 nm with a path length of 0.1 cm and a bandwidth of 1 nm at a scanning speed of 50 nm/min in 5 accumulations. The data pitch was set to 0.1 nm. The spectra were processed with Spectra Manager (JASCO) and the mean residue ellipticity (MRE) was calculated

$$MRE = \frac{\theta * 0.1}{l * c * n} \quad (2)$$

Where  $\theta$  is the ellipticity and *I*, *c*, and *n* denote the path length, molar concentration and number of amino acids.

# Tryptophan fluorescence quenching

Purified His-tagged AlbA and mutant proteins were diluted to a concentration of 50 nM in 200  $\mu$ l binding assay buffer (50 mM sodium phosphate pH 6.8, 150 mM NaCl). Aza-His albicidin (**2**) solutions with concentrations of 78 nM, 156 nM, 312.5 nM, 625 nM, 2.5  $\mu$ M, 5  $\mu$ M, 20  $\mu$ M and 40  $\mu$ M were prepared in 100% DMSO. Of each dilution, 2  $\mu$ l were added to the protein samples (1% DMSO final concentration) before incubation for 20 min at RT in the

dark. The samples were transferred to a Hellma quartz fluorescence cuvette with a path length of 10 mm and tryptophane fluorescence was measured on a PerkinElmer LS 55 fluorescence spectrometer. The excitation was set to  $\lambda_{ex}$  = 282 nm and emission was recorded between 300 nm and 450 nm with a scanning speed of 60 nm s<sup>-1</sup>. The slit width was set to 8 nm for excitation and 4 nm for emission, respectively. All measurements were performed in triplicate and standard deviations are given for the *K*<sub>d</sub> and Hill factor n. The quenching was determined from the normalized integrated emission band (300-400 nm) of each titration step subtracted from the emission band of the protein without ligand. The normalized tryptophan fluorescence emission was fitted to the equation (3) using Excel Solver 21 and Origin2022:

$$y = B_{max} \frac{[L]^n}{K_D^n + [L]^n} \qquad (3)$$

[L] is the total ligand concentration, n is the Hill coefficient, and  $B_{max}$  is the maximum binding capacity of the protein.

To test the binding of the compounds **10-22** to AlbA, 50 nM compound were combined with 50 nM AlbA in 200  $\mu$ l binding assay buffer (with 1% DMSO final concentration). Compound **2** was measured as a control. Tryptophan fluorescence quenching was measured in triplicate as described above after incubation for 20 min at RT in the dark. The quenching was determined from the integrated emission bands (300-400 nm) and calculated as the ratio between free AlbA (I<sub>0</sub>) and liganded AlbA (I).

#### Molecular docking

Using UCSF Chimera<sup>8</sup> and AutoDock Vina<sup>9</sup>, AlbAS<sup>6</sup> (PDB-ID: 6et8) was docked with the bisbenzimide structure calculated by pubchem (CID:1464, simulated according to Kim et al.<sup>10</sup>). A monomer molecule of AlbAS without albicidin was prepared as the receptor and docking was conducted using standard parameters with the receptor search volume covering the albicidin binding pocket. The docking results were manually inspected and the highest scoring complex was selected for comparison to the albicidin-AlbA complex.

#### AlbA structure modelling

AlphaFold v2.1.0<sup>11,12</sup> was used to predict the structure of full-length AlbA. The program was run in the ColabFold<sup>13</sup> notebook (AlphaFold.ipynb) with MMseqs2 and HHsearch to generate sequence alignments and templates and the implemented Amber software to relax the best-ranked structure. For modelling of full-length AlbA monomers, default parameters were used. For modelling dimers, the program was run using template\_mode pdb70, the multiple sequence alignments were set to unpaired\_paired mode and alphafold2\_multimer\_v3 was chosen as modelling type with auto settings on recycling parameters.

#### 1.4. Synthesis of albicidin derivatives

Details of the synthesis routes for albicidin and the described albicidin analogues and the identifying MS and NMR spectra are given in the following publications and patents. The total synthesis of albicidin has been described by Kretz et al.<sup>14</sup>. The syntheses of compounds **2**, and **18** have been described by Grätz et al.<sup>15</sup> and compounds **12**, **14**, **15**, **19**, **21** have been described by Behroz et al.<sup>1</sup>. Procedures for the synthesis of albicidin fragments **3**, **4**, **6**, **7** and **9** have been described in Vieweg et al.<sup>16</sup>, and compounds **10**, **11** and **13** are described in Michalczyk et al.<sup>17</sup>. The syntheses of the AB-PCP ester and C-terminally allyl-protected tripeptide are described in Behroz et al.<sup>1</sup>. Compounds **5**, **8**, **16**, **17**, **20** and **22** were synthesized as follows:

#### ABCD fragment (5)



Scheme 1: Synthesis scheme of ABCD fragment **5** via the coupling of activated AB building block **5a** and dipeptide **5b**.



The dipeptide **5b** (101 mg, 250 µmol, 1.00 eq.) and PCP activated AB building block<sup>1</sup> (**5a**, 150 mg, 275 µmol, 1.10 eq.) were dissolved in anhydrous DMF and Et<sub>3</sub>N (174 µL, 5.0 eq.) was added. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 16 h. All volatiles were removed in vacuo and the residue was taken up in a mixture of THF and MeOH (1:1 v/v), and 3 M KOH<sub>(aq.)</sub> was added dropwise at 0 °C. The ice bath was removed and after 15 min of stirring the suspension was acidified to pH  $\approx$  2 by the addition of 3 M HCl<sub>(aq.)</sub>. The resulting suspension was concentrated under reduced pressure and the crude material was dissolved in DMSO and purified by HPLC (PLRP-S column, CH<sub>3</sub>CN in H<sub>2</sub>O). BCD fragment **5** (11.2 mg, 7 % over two steps) was obtained as white powder.

<sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>, 500 MHz):  $\delta$  = 2.11 (1H, s), 2.95 (1H, s), 3.27 (1H, s), 4.89 (1H, s), 6.84 (1H, d, *J* = 7.00 Hz), 7.26 (1H, s), 7.34 (1H, d, *J* = 6.44 Hz), 7.78 (1H, dd, *J* = 16.69 Hz), 7.87 (1H, dd, *J* = 16.00 Hz), 8.72 (1H, s), 9.80 (1H, s), 10.09 (1H, s), 10.57 (1H, s)

**H,C-HSQC** (DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>, 126 MHz): δ = 134.2, 131.8, 131.0, 130.7, 128.7, 128.7, 128.2, 119.5, 119.5, 119.1, 119.0, 115.9, 54.9, 45.9, 27.6, 14.9 ppm.

**HRMS** (ESI): m/z calculated for C<sub>29</sub>H<sub>27</sub>N<sub>6</sub>O<sub>6</sub> (M+H)<sup>+</sup> 555.1987, found 555.1986.

# **BCD fragment (8)**



Scheme 2. Synthesis scheme of BCD fragment 8 starting from the azaHis-C building block 8a.





To a solution of the amino acid **8a** (800 mg, 2.16 mmol, 1.50 eq.) in dry THF was added EEDQ (570 mg, 2.30 mmol, 1.60 eq.) and the reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 15 min. A premixed solution of methyl 4-aminobenzoate (218 mg, 1.44 mmol, 1.00 eq.) in dry THF was added slowly and the reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 72 h. The organic solvent was evaporated under reduced pressure and the residue was partitioned between EtOAc and 1 M HCl<sub>(aq.)</sub>. The organic layer was washed with 1 M HCl<sub>(aq.)</sub> (2x), brine, dried over anhydr. Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, and concentrated *in vacuo* to afford the crude product, which was purified by column chromatography (SiO<sub>2</sub>, Hexane/EtOAc – 5:1). Compound **8b** (310 mg, 43 %) was obtained as yellow solid.

<sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>, 500MHz): δ = 1.09 (1H, s), 1.36 (1H, s), 3.00 (1H, t, *J* = 7.30 Hz), 3.10 (1H, d, *J* = 4.85 Hz), 3.83 (1H, s), 4.40 (1H, d, *J* = 5.17 Hz), 6.28 (1H, s), 7.20 (1H, d, *J* = 7.92 Hz), 7.74 (1H, d, *J* = 8.79 Hz), 7.92 (1H, d, *J* = 8.80 Hz), 7.97 (1H, s), 10.44 (1H, s)

<sup>13</sup>**C NMR** (DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>, 126 MHz): δ = 176.9, 171.3, 166.3, 155.8, 143.7, 130.7, 124.5, 119.2, 78.8, 70.3, 55.4, 52.3,

28.6, 26.9 ppm.

HRMS (ESI): m/z calculated for C<sub>43</sub>H<sub>42</sub>N<sub>9</sub>O<sub>12</sub> (M+H)<sup>+</sup> 504.2453, found 504.2446.

# **BCD fragment (8)**



The dipeptide **8b** (250 mg, 497 µmol, 1.00 eq.) was dissolved in 4  $\mbox{M}$  HCl in 1,4-dioxane and stirred at room temperature for 2.5 h. Subsequently, all volatiles were removed under reduced pressure to obtain the crude product, which was taken up in H<sub>2</sub>O/CH<sub>3</sub>CN and freeze-dried to afford the Boc-deprotected product as slightly yellow powder. The unprotected dipeptide (114 mg, 284 µmol, 1.00 eq.) and Fmoc-protected acid chloride (150 mg, 397 µmol, 1.40 eq.) were dissolved in anhydrous THF and Et<sub>3</sub>N (395 µL, 10.0 eq.) was added. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 16 h. All volatiles were removed *in vacuo* and the residue was taken up in a mixture of THF and MeOH (1:1 v/v), and 3  $\mbox{M}$  KOH<sub>(aq.)</sub> was added dropwise at 0 °C. The ice bath was removed and after 15 min of stirring the suspension was acidified to pH ≈ 2 by the addition of 3  $\mbox{M}$  HCl<sub>(aq.)</sub>. The resulting suspension was concentrated under reduced pressure and the crude material was dissolved in DMSO and purified by HPLC (PLRP-S column, CH<sub>3</sub>CN in H<sub>2</sub>O). BCD fragment **8** (7.53 mg, 7 % over three steps) was obtained as white powder.

<sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>, 500MHz):  $\delta$  = 3.23 (1H, s), 4.63 (1H, s), 4.84 (1H, d, J = 0.69 Hz), 6.68 (1H, d, J = 0.38 Hz),

7.66 (1H, s), 7.73 (1H, s), 7.87 (1H, s), 8.40 (1H, s), 10.51 (1H, s)

**H,C-HSQC** (DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>, 126 MHz): δ = 130.6, 129.4, 118.9, 114.4, 54.7, 27.6 ppm.

HRMS (ESI): m/z calculated for  $C_{19}H_{19}N_6O_4$  (M+H)<sup>+</sup> 395.1462, found 395.1458.

### Bipyridyl-iso-propoxy-albicidin (16)



Scheme 3: Synthesis of derivative **16** from tetrapeptide **16b** with activated AB building block**16a**.

# B(Pyr)-C(azaHis)-D(Pyr)-E(*i*Pr)-F(pABA) (16)



The Tetrapeptide **16b**<sup>17</sup> (100 mg, 135 µmol, 1.00 eq.) and PCP activated AB building block<sup>18</sup> (**16a**, 81.3 mg, 149 µmol, 1.10 eq.) were dissolved in anhydrous DMF and Et<sub>3</sub>N (132 µL, 7.0 eq.) was added. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 16 h. All volatiles were removed *in vacuo* and the residue was taken up in a mixture of THF and MeOH (1:1 v/v), and 3 M KOH<sub>(aq.)</sub> was added dropwise at 0 °C. The ice bath was removed and after 15 min of stirring the suspension was acidified to pH  $\approx$  2 by the addition of 3 M HCl<sub>(aq.)</sub>. The resulting suspension was concentrated under reduced pressure and the crude material was dissolved in DMSO and purified by HPLC (PLRP-S column, CH<sub>3</sub>CN in H<sub>2</sub>O). Derivative **16** (9.98 mg, 8% over two steps) was obtained as white powder.

<sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>, 500MHz):  $\delta$  = 1H-NMR (DMSO) 1.35 (6H, d, *J* = 1.36 Hz), 2.14 (3H, s), 3.37 (3H, d, *J* = 6.08 Hz), 4.68 (1H, t, *J* = 6.06 Hz), 5.00 (1H, d, *J* = 7.24 Hz), 6.85 (2H, d, *J* = 8.56 Hz), 7.36 (3H, t, *J* = 10.22 Hz), 7.86 (2H, d, *J* = 8.68 Hz), 7.93 (1H, s), 7.97 (2H, d, *J* = 8.64 Hz), 8.02 (1H, d, *J* = 8.56 Hz), 8.11 (1H, d, *J* = 8.92 Hz), 8.20 (1H, d, *J* = 8.60 Hz), 8.27 (1H, d, *J* = 1.92 Hz), 8.34 (1H, dd, *J* = 3.60 Hz), 8.87 (1H, d, *J* = 7.96 Hz), 8.99 (2H, d, *J* = 2.84 Hz), 9.83 (1H, s), 10.38 (2H, s), 10.62 (1H, s), 10.76 (1H, s), 10.85 (1H, s), 12.46 (1H, s) **H,C-HSQC** (DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>, 126 MHz):  $\delta$  = 140.4, 135.1, 132.1, 131.9, 130.7, 128.0, 127.8, 127.6, 124.2, 124.0, 123.5,

**H,C-HSQC** (DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>, 126 MHz): o = 140.4, 135.1, 132.1, 131.9, 130.7, 128.0, 127.8, 127.6, 124.2, 124.0, 123.5, 123.2, 122.8, 122.8, 121.3, 121.3, 116.0, 109.0, 75.2, 53.6, 28.0, 22.7, 14.8 ppm.

*HRMS* (ESI): *m*/*z* calculated for C<sub>44</sub>H<sub>41</sub>N<sub>10</sub>O<sub>10</sub> (*M*+*H*)<sup>+</sup> 869.3002, found 869.2996

# Ether-C-D-Isostere (17)



Scheme 4: A) Synthesis of tosylate 17c starting from Boc-propargylglycine (17a) B) Synthesis of fragment 17m starting from picolinic acid 17d.



Scheme 5: Final coupling of activated AB building block 5a with fragment 17m giving ether-C-D-isostere 17.

# tert-Butyl-(S)-(1-hydroxypent-4-yn-2-yl)carbamate (17b)



Lithium aluminium hydride (3.56 g, 93.8 mmol, 2.00 eq.) was added to dry THF (100 mL) at 0°C under a N<sub>2</sub>atmosphere. To the reaction mixture was added a solution of (*S*)-2-((*tert*-butoxycarbonyl)amino)pent-4-inic acid (**17a**, 10.0 g, 46.9 mmol, 1.00 eq.) in THF (20 mL) over a period of 20 min. The mixture was stirred for 12 h at room temperature until the reaction was completed. The reaction mixture was diluted with ethyl acetate (50 mL), quenched by the addition of water (50 mL) and filtrated over Celite<sup>®</sup>. The mixture was extracted by ethyl acetate (3 x 30 mL) and washed by water (30 mL). The combined organic phases were dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtered and the solvent was removed by rotary evaporation. The product **17b** (7.78 g, 77.9 mmol, 83 %) was obtained as white solid and used in the next step without further purification. The protocol was based on a literature known procedure used for the synthesis of a similar product<sup>19</sup>.

<sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (500 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ 6.57 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 4.69 (t, J = 5.7 Hz, 1H), 3.37 - 3.41 (m, 1H), 3.30 - 3.34 (m, 1H), 2.73 (s, 1H), 2.36 (ddd, J = 16.6, 6.1, 2.7 Hz, 1H), 2.21 (ddd, J = 16.7, 7.1, 2.7 Hz, 1H), 1.38 (s, 9H). <sup>13</sup>**C NMR** (126 MHz, DMSO) δ 155.1, 81.9, 77.7, 72.0, 62.1, 51.6, 28.2, 20.6.

HRMS (ESI-ORBITRAP): *m*/*z* [M+H]<sup>+</sup> calc. for C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>18</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>: 200.1281; found: 200.1285.

# (S)-2-((tert-butoxycarbonyl)amino)pent-4-yn-1-yl4-methylbenzene sulfonate (17c)

BocHN

Triethylamine (9.12 mL, 65.2 mmol, 2.00 eq.) and *p*-toluenesulfonyl chloride (7.46 g, 39.1 mmol, 1.20 eq.) were added to a solution of alcohol **17b** (6.50 g, 32.6 mmol, 1.00 eq.) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (50 mL) at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was stirred for 3 h at room temperature and after completion of the reaction the volatiles were removed by rotary evaporation. The residue was taken up by CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (50 mL) and washed by an aqueous solution of HCl (1 M, 2 x 30 mL) and a saturated aqueous solution of NaCl (30 mL). The organic phase was dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtered and concentrated by rotary evaporation. The crude product was purified by column chromatography (SiO<sub>2</sub>, 20:1  $\rightarrow$  7:1, cyclohexane:ethyl acetate) and the product (**17c**, 7.11 g, 20.2 mmol, 62 %) was obtained as a yellow solid. The protocol was based on a literature known procedure used for the synthesis of a similar product<sup>20</sup>.

<sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (500 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$  7.78 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.48 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.00 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 3.98 (d, *J* = 5.3 Hz, 2H), 3.71 (m, 1H), 2.81 (s, 1H), 2.42 (s, 3H), 2.28 - 2.31 (m, 2H), 1.35 (s, 9H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ 154.9, 145.0, 132.0, 130.1, 127.6, 80.3, 78.1, 72.9, 70.1, 50.1, 48.7, 28.1, 21.1.

HRMS (ESI-ORBITRAP): *m*/*z* [M+H]<sup>+</sup> calc. for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>24</sub>NO<sub>5</sub>S: 354.1370; found 354.1372.

# AllyI-5-(allyloxy)picolinate (17e)



To a suspension of potassium carbonate (2.61 g, 21.6 mmol, 3.00 eq.) in DMF (10 mL) was added allyl bromide (1.86 mL, 21.6 mmol, 3.00 eq.) and a solution of 5-hydroxypicolinic acid (**17d**, 1.00 g, 7.19 mmol, 1.00 eq.) in DMF (5 mL) was added dropwise at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was stirred for 16 h at room temperature, after completion of the reaction diluted by water (50 mL) and extracted by diethyl ether (4 x 30 mL). The combined organic phases were concentrated by rotary evaporation and the product (**17e**, 1.23 g, 16.8 mmol, 78 %) was obtained as orange oil and used without further purification in the next step.

<sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (500 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$  8.41 (d, *J* = 2.9 Hz, 1H), 8.05 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 7.53 (dd, *J* = 8.8, 3.0 Hz, 1H), 6.12 - 5.98 (m, 2H), 5.42 (ddd, *J* = 18.9, 17.2, 1.7 Hz, 2H), 5.32 (ddd, *J* = 10.6, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 5.27 (ddd, *J* = 10.5, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 4.80 (dt, *J* = 5.5, 1.5 Hz, 2H), 4.75 (dt, *J* = 5.3, 1.5 Hz, 2H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ 163.9, 156.9, 139.6, 138.6, 132.6, 132.6, 126.4, 121.0, 118.4, 118.0, 68.8, 65.1.

HRMS (ESI-ORBITRAP): *m*/*z* [M+H]<sup>+</sup> calc. for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>14</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>: 220.0968; found: 220.0961.

# 5-(Allyloxy)picolinic acid (17f)



To a solution of allylester (**17e**, 1.23 g, 5.63 mmol, 1.00 eq.) in THF (10 mL) was added a solution of lithium hydroxide (943 mg, 39.4 mmol, 7.00 eq.) in water (10 mL) and the reaction mixture was stirred for 16 h at room temperature. After completion of the reaction the organic solvent was removed by rotary evaporation and the residue was extracted by  $CH_2Cl_2$  (5 x 10 mL). The combined organic phases were concentrated by rotary evaporation and the product (**17f**, 757 mg, 4.22 mmol, 75 %) was obtained as orange solid.

<sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (500 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$  12.84 (s, 1H), 8.38 (d, *J* = 2.9 Hz, 1H), 8.01 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 7.51 (dd, *J* = 8.7, 2.9 Hz, 1H), 6.06 (ddt, *J* = 17.2, 10.5, 5.3 Hz, 1H), 5.44 (ddd, *J* = 17.3, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 5.31 (ddd, *J* = 10.5, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 4.74 (dt, *J* = 5.3, 1.5 Hz, 2H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ 165.7, 156.7, 140.5, 138.0, 132.7, 126.1, 121.1, 118.4, 68.8.

**HRMS (ESI-ORBITRAP)**: *m*/*z* [M+H]<sup>+</sup> calc. for C<sub>9</sub>H<sub>10</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>: 180.0655; found: 180.0659.

### Allyloxy-D(N)-E(OBn)-F(OBn, OBn) (17h)



Carboxylic acid (**17f**, 525 mg, 2.93 mmol, 1.20 eq.) was suspended in thionyl chloride (5 mL) and stirred for 2 h at 90 °C. The reaction mixture was allowed to cool down to room temperature and the volatiles were removed by rotary evaporation. The residue was taken up in dry THF (5 mL) and added to a cooled solution of benzyl protected dipeptide **17g**<sup>1</sup> (1.51 g, 2.44 mmol, 1.00 eq.) and triethylamine (680 µL, 4.88 mmol, 2.00 eq.) in dry THF (5 mL) at 0 °C and stirred for 16 h at room temperature. To the reaction mixture was added diethyl ether (70 mL), the precipitated product was filtered and the solid was dissolved in  $CH_2Cl_2$  (30 mL). The organic phase was washed by an aqueous solution of HCl (1 M, 2 x 30 mL) and a saturated aqueous solution of NaCl (30 mL). The organic phase was dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtered and concentrated by rotary evaporation. Tripeptide (**17h**, 1.80 g, 2.78 mmol, 95 %) was obtained as yellowish solid.

**DC:** (cyclohexane/ethyl acetate = 2:1, v/v), R<sub>f</sub> = 0.55.

<sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (500 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ 10.58 (s, 1H), 10.55 (s, 1H), 9.58 (s, 1H), 8.49 (d, J = 2.8 Hz, 1H), 8.39 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 8.27 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 8.19 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.81 (d, J = 8.9 Hz, 1H), 7.67 (dd, J = 8.8, 2.8 Hz, 1H), 7.58 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.43 (td, J = 6.0, 3.2 Hz, 4H), 7.41 – 7.32 (m, 8H), 7.30 (dd, J = 4.9, 1.9 Hz, 3H), 6.09 (ddt, J = 17.4, 10.7, 5.3 Hz, 1H), 5.47 (ddd, J = 17.2, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 5.38 – 5.28 (m, 5H), 4.95 (s, 2H), 4.80 (dt, J = 5.3, 1.6 Hz, 2H), 4.03 (s, 3H), 3.62 (m, 4H).

**HRMS (ESI-ORBITRAP)**: *m*/*z* [M+H]<sup>+</sup> calc. for C<sub>46</sub>H<sub>42</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>9</sub>: 780.2916; found: 780.2928.

# Hydroxy-D(N)-E(OBn)-F(OBn, OBn) (17i)

To a solution of allyl-protected alcohol (**17h**, 1.81 g, 2.32 mmol, 1.00 eq.) in dry THF (10 mL), morpholine (4.00 mL, 46.2 mmol, 20.0 eq.) and Pd(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub> (536 mg, 464 µmol, 0.20 eq.) were added and the reaction was stirred for 3 h at room temperature. After completion of the reaction the volatiles were removed by rotary evaporation and the residue was taken up with ethyl acetate. The organic phase was washed by an aqueous solution of HCl (1 M, 2 x 30 mL) and a saturated aqueous solution of NaCl (30 mL). The organic phase was dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtered and concentrated by rotary evaporation. The crude product was purified by column chromatography (SiO<sub>2</sub>, 10 %  $\rightarrow$  40 % ethyl acetate in cyclohexane) alcohol (**17i**, 1.13 g, 1.53 mmol, 66 %) was obtained as yellowish solid.

**DC:** (cyclohexane/ethyl acetate = 2:1, v/v), R<sub>f</sub> = 0.29.

<sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (500 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ 10.96 – 10.92 (m, 1H), 10.55 (s, 2H), 8.39 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 8.27 (d, J = 8.9 Hz, 2H), 8.09 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.81 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.58 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 7.44 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 5H), 7.39 – 7.35 (m, 8H), 7.30 (d, J = 4.0 Hz, 3H), 7.29 (s, 1H), 5.31 (d, J = 6.6 Hz, 4H), 4.94 (s, 2H), 4.03 (s, 3H), 3.63 (d, J = 3.2 Hz, 3H).

<sup>13</sup>**C NMR** (126 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ 164.6, 162.3, 161.8, 157.2, 151.1, 149.4, 142.5, 141.7, 140.0, 137.2, 136.8, 136.1, 136.1, 135.5, 129.0, 128.6, 128.5, 128.3, 128.3, 128.2, 128.1, 128.0, 126.4, 124.0, 121.9, 114.9, 114.3, 76.3, 75.3, 66.2, 61.3, 60.7.

HRMS (ESI-ORBITRAP): *m*/*z* [M+H]<sup>+</sup> calc. for C<sub>43</sub>H<sub>38</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>9</sub>: 740.2603; found: 740.2606.

# BocHN-CH(propargyI)-CH<sub>2</sub>O-D(N)-E(OBn)-F(OBn, OBn) (17j)



Exact Mass: 920.3633

To a solution of phenol (**17i**, 621 mg, 839  $\mu$ mol, 1.00 eq.) in DMF (10 mL) was added potassium carbonate (232 mg, 1.68 mmol, 2.00 eq.) and amino acid (**17c**, 1.48 g, 4.20 mmol, 5.00 eq.). The reaction mixture was stirred for 3 h at 60 °C and then 12 h at room temperature. The volatiles were removed by rotary evaporation and the crude product was purified with column chromatography (SiO<sub>2</sub>,10 %  $\rightarrow$  25 % ethyl acetate in cyclohexane). The product (**17j**, 470 mg, 512  $\mu$ mol, 61 %) was obtained as yellowish solid.

**DC:** (cyclohexane/ethyl acetate = 2:1, v/v), R<sub>f</sub> = 0.26.

<sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (500 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ 10.57 (s, 1H), 10.55 (s, 1H), 8.46 (d, *J* = 2.8 Hz, 1H), 8.39 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 8.27 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 8.18 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 7.81 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.67 (dd, *J* = 8.7, 2.8 Hz, 1H), 7.58 (d, *J* = 8.9 Hz, 1H), 7.47 – 7.43 (m, 3H), 7.27 - 7.43 (m, 15H), 7.12 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 5.31 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 4H), 4.95 (s, 2H), 4.18 (dt, *J* = 9.7, 5.5 Hz, 2H), 4.03 (s, 3H), 3.95 (h, *J* = 8.4, 7.4 Hz, 1H), 3.63 (s, 3H), 2.89 (d, *J* = 2.6 Hz, 1H), 1.39 (s, 9H).

(<sup>1</sup>H,<sup>13</sup>C)-HSQC\_ed NMR (126 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ 137.7, 114.8, 115.3, 124.2, 127.0, 122.7, 126.9, 129.2, 128.8, 128.9, 76.7, 66.7, 75.8, 69.8, 61.7, 49.5, 61.1, 51.9, 62.7, 73.8, 28.8.

HRMS (ESI-ORBITRAP): *m*/*z* [M+H]<sup>+</sup> calc. for C<sub>53</sub>H<sub>53</sub>N<sub>4</sub>O<sub>11</sub>; 921.3705 found: 921.3705.

# Boc-azaHis(POM)-D(N)-E(OBn)-F(OBn, OBn) (17k)



To a solution of alkyne (**17***j*, 470 mg, 510 µmol, 1.00 eq.) in *tert*-butanol (30 ml), THF (20 mL) und water (10 ml) was added copper(II)-sulfate-pentahydrate (12.7 mg, 51.0 mmol, 0.100 eq.). A stream of N<sub>2</sub>-gas was bubbled through the solution for 5 min. Sodium ascorbate (40.4 mg, 204 µmol, 0.40 eq.) was added to the reaction mixture which was stirred for 16 h at room temperature. After completion of the reaction, the solvent was removed by rotary evaporation and the residue was diluted with water (30 mL). The mixture was extracted by ethyl acetate (3 x 50 mL) and the combined organic phases were washed by a saturated aqueous solution of NaCl (30 mL). The organic phase was dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtered and concentrated by rotary evaporation. The crude product was purified by column chromatography (SiO<sub>2</sub>, 25 %  $\rightarrow$  50 % ethyl acetate in cyclohexane). The product was obtained as colorless solid (**17k**, 442 mg, 459 µmol, 90 %).

**DC:** (cyclohexane/ethyl acetate = 1:1, v/v),  $R_f = 0.29$ .

<sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (500 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$  10.57 (s, 1H), 10.55 (s, 1H), 8.45 (d, *J* = 2.9 Hz, 1H), 8.39 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 8.27 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 8.18 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 7.99 (d, *J* = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.81 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.65 (dd, *J* = 8.7, 2.9 Hz, 1H), 7.58 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.47 – 7.27 (m, 19H), 7.07 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 6.28 (s, 2H), 5.32 (s, 2H), 5.30 (s, 2H), 4.95 (s, 2H), 4.16 (d, *J* = 5.8 Hz, 2H), 4.12 – 4.07 (m, 1H), 4.03 (s, 3H), 3.63 (s, 3H), 3.02 (dd, *J* = 14.7, 5.4 Hz, 1H), 2.89 (dd, *J* = 14.8, 8.5 Hz, 1H), 1.35 (s, 9H), 1.11 (s, 9H).

(<sup>1</sup>H,<sup>13</sup>C)-HSQC\_ed NMR (126 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ 137.6, 114.9, 115.3, 124.2, 124.1, 127.1, 122.8, 126.9, 129.0, 128.8, 128.9, 76.8, 66.7, 75.9, 70.4, 50.0, 61.7, 61.1, 27.6, 28.6, 26.9.

HRMS (ESI-ORBITRAP): *m*/*z* [M+H]<sup>+</sup> calc. for C<sub>59</sub>H<sub>64</sub>N<sub>7</sub>O<sub>13</sub>: 1078.4557; found: 1078.4564.

# Boc-azaHis(POM)-D(N)-E-F (17I)



Tetrapeptide (**17k**, 442 mg, 410  $\mu$ mol, 1.00 eq.) was dissolved in THF (10 mL) and a stream of N<sub>2</sub>-gas was bubbled through the solution for 5 min. Palladium on charcoal (10 wt. %, 44.2 mg) was added to the reaction mixture which was stirred for 16 h at room temperature. After completion of the reaction the mixture was filtered over Celite® and the filtrate was concentrated by rotary evaporation. The product (**17I**, 311 mg, 385  $\mu$ mol, 94 %) was obtained as colorless solid.

<sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$  11.72 (s, 2H), 11.13 (s, 1H), 10.44 (s, 1H), 8.44 (d, *J* = 2.8 Hz, 1H), 8.17 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 8.11 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 1H), 8.02 (d, *J* = 8.9 Hz, 2H), 7.99 (s, 1H), 7.87 (d, *J* = 8.9 Hz, 1H), 7.65 (dd, *J* = 8.9, 2.9 Hz, 1H), 7.59 (d, *J* = 8.9 Hz, 1H), 7.20 (dd, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 27.2, 2H), 7.09 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 6.28 (s, 2H), 4.18 - 4.05 (m, 3H), 3.91 (s, 3H), 3.86 (s, 3H), 3.02 (dd, *J* = 14.7, 5.3 Hz, 1H), 2.88 (dd, *J* = 14.7, 8.3 Hz, 1H), 1.35 (s, 9H), 1.10 (s, 9H).

(<sup>1</sup>H,<sup>13</sup>C)-HSQC\_ed NMR (101 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ 137.5, 124.1, 110.7, 124.1, 126.9, 122.8, 125.9, 70.2, 70.2, 49.6, 60.6, 61.2, 29.0, 29.0, 26.9.

HRMS (ESI-ORBITRAP): *m*/*z* [M+H]<sup>+</sup> calc. for C<sub>38</sub>H<sub>46</sub>N<sub>7</sub>O<sub>13</sub>: 808.3148; found: 808.3148.

# AzaHis-C(POM)-D(N)-E-F (17m)



Exact Mass: 707.2551

Tetrapeptide (**17I**, 331 mg, 410 µmol, 1.00 eq) was suspended in a solution of 4 M HCl in 1,4-dioxane (5 mL) and the reaction mixture was stirred for 3 h at room temperature. After completion of the reaction, the volatiles were removed by rotary evaporation, the residue was taken up by water and acetonitrile and lyophilized. The amine (**17m**, 281 mg, 398 µmol, 97 %) was obtained as white solid.

<sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (500 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ 11.72 (br. S, 1H), 11.11 (s, 1H), 10.44 (s, 1H), 8.74 – 8.71 (m, 1H), 8.67 (s, 1H), 8.49 (d, *J* = 2.8 Hz, 1H), 8.23 – 8.16 (m, 1H), 8.15 – 8.07 (m, 1H), 8.01 (d, *J* = 8.9 Hz, 1H), 7.87 (d, *J* = 8.9 Hz, 1H), 7.82 (d, *J* = 32.0 Hz, 1H), 7.68 (dd, *J* = 8.8, 2.8 Hz, 1H), 7.58 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 5.56 (s, 2H), 4.43 (dt, *J* = 9.7, 3.3 Hz, 1H), 4.31 (dt, *J* = 11.9, 5.9 Hz, 1H), 3.91 (s, 3H), 3.86 (s, 3H), 3.81 – 3.59 (m, 1H), 3.28 – 3.15 (m, 2H), 1.10 (s, 9H).

<sup>13</sup>**C-DEPT NMR** (126 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ 137.1, 134.1, 126.2, 125.4, 124.7, 123.5, 122.4, 110.2, 110.0, 75.5, 67.2, 66.1, 60.6, 60.0, 49.1, 30.2, 26.8, 26.6, 26.2, 24.9.

HRMS (ESI-ORBITRAP): *m*/*z* [M+H]<sup>+</sup> calc. for C<sub>33</sub>H<sub>38</sub>N<sub>7</sub>O<sub>11</sub>: 708.2624; found: 708.2623.



Exact Mass: 872.2766

To a solution of tetrapeptide (**17m**, 200 mg, 269  $\mu$ mol, 1.00 eq.) in DMF (1 mL) was added triethylamine (375  $\mu$ L, 2.69 mmol, 10.0 eq.) and activated AB building block<sup>1</sup> (147 mg, 269  $\mu$ mol, 1.00 eq.) and the reaction mixture was stirred under exclusion of light for 2 d at room temperature. After completion of the reaction the reaction mixture was cooled to 0 °C and potassium hydroxide (3 M, 1 mL) was added. The reaction mixture was stirred for 30 min after which an aqueous solution of HCl (3 M, 1 mL) was added. The volatiles were removed by rotary evaporation and the residue was taken up by DMSO (1 mL). The mixture was centrifuged, decanted and the supernatant was subjected to RP-HPLC purification. The product (**17**, 40.3 mg, 40.4  $\mu$ mol, 15 %) was obtained as white solid.

**RP-HPLC:** 43-55 % MeCN (+ 0.1% TFA) in milliQ H<sub>2</sub>O (+0.1% TFA); 30 min; 70 mL/min.

<sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (700 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ 11.71 (s, 1H), 11.58 (s, 1H), 11.12 (s, 1H), 10.44 (s, 1H), 10.05 (s, 1H), 9.75 (s, 1H), 8.48 (d, *J* = 2.8 Hz, 1H), 8.44 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 8.17 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 8.11 (dd, *J* = 8.9, 3.3 Hz, 1H), 8.05 – 7.99 (m, 1H), 7.87 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.79 (s, 4H), 7.71 (dd, *J* = 8.7, 2.9 Hz, 1H), 7.67 (s, 1H), 7.59 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.34 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.25 (s, 1H), 6.83 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 4.64 (h, *J* = 6.5 Hz, 1H), 4.34 (dd, *J* = 10.1, 6.2 Hz, 1H), 4.30 (dd, *J* = 10.1, 5.4 Hz, 1H), 3.91 (s, 3H), 3.85 (s, 3H), 3.17 (dd, *J* = 14.8, 5.7 Hz, 1H), 3.10 (dd, *J* = 14.9, 8.4 Hz, 1H), 2.10 (s, 3H).

(<sup>1</sup>H,<sup>13</sup>C)-HSQC\_ed NMR (176 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ 137.7, 124.2, 110.7, 110.9, 127.0, 119.5, 128.4, 122.8, 126.2, 131.8, 134.3, 115.8, 49.0, 70.2, 60.6, 61.3, 15.0, 15.0, 29.4.

HRMS (ESI-ORBITRAP): *m*/*z* [M+H]<sup>+</sup> calc. for C<sub>44</sub>H<sub>41</sub>N<sub>8</sub>O<sub>12</sub>: 873.2838, found: 873.2839, *R*<sub>T</sub> = 8.17 min.

# Guanidino-Albicidin (20)



Scheme 6: A) Synthesis route of guanidino tetrapeptide 20g. B) Final coupling of tetrapeptide 20g with activated AB building block 5a to obtain derivative 20.

#### Cbz/Boc/Allyl-protected amino tetrapeptide precursor (20c)



To a solution of the amino acid **20a** (100 mg, 296  $\mu$ mol, 2.00 eq.) in dry THF was added EEDQ (73.1 mg, 296  $\mu$ mol, 2.00 eq.) and the reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 15 min. A premixed solution of the tripeptide **20b**<sup>18</sup> (87.0 mg, 148  $\mu$ mol, 1.00 eq.) in dry THF was added slowly and the reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 72 h. The organic solvent was evaporated under reduced pressure and the residue was partitioned between EtOAc and 1 M HCl<sub>(aq.)</sub>. The organic layer was washed with 1 M HCl<sub>(aq.)</sub> (2x), brine, dried over anhydr. Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, and concentrated *in vacuo* to afford the crude product, which was purified by column chromatography (SiO<sub>2</sub>, Hexane/EtOAc – 8:1).

<sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>, 500MHz):  $\delta = 1.32$  (1H, s), 3.94 (1H, s), 4.01 (1H, s), 4.31 (1H, dd, J = 9.84 Hz), 4.55 (1H, d, J = 5.70 Hz), 4.78 (1H, d, J = 5.50 Hz), 4.85 (1H, d, J = 6.25 Hz), 5.08 (1H, t, J = 9.90 Hz), 5.28 (1H, m, J = 2.58 Hz), 5.41 (1H, m, J = 3.76 Hz), 6.09 (1H, m, J = 2.90 Hz), 6.89 (1H, d, J = 12.00 Hz), 7.25 (1H, d, J = 1.10 Hz), 7.34 (1H, dd, J = 4.38 Hz), 7.38 (1H, s), 7.51 (1H, d, J = 7.25 Hz), 7.58 (1H, d, J = 8.75 Hz), 7.88 (1H, d, J = 8.85 Hz), 8.21 (1H, s), 8.34 (1H, d, J = 8.75 Hz), 8.40 (1H, d, J = 8.85 Hz), 8.94 (1H, s), 10.60 (1H, s), 10.64 (1H, s), 10.69 (1H, s)

<sup>13</sup>**C NMR** (DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>, 126 MHz): δ = 164.9, 162.0, 151.6, 149.8, 143.7, 142.9, 142.2, 134.4, 133.1, 133.1, 128.8, 128.4, 128.3, 127.0, 122.3, 120.8, 120.7, 118.6, 118.3, 115.3, 75.7, 75.0, 66.2, 65.6, 61.6, 61.5, 28.5 ppm.

#### Cbz/Allyl-protected amino tetrapeptide precursor (20d)



A solution of the Boc-protected tetrapeptide **20c** (500 mg, 550  $\mu$ mol, 1.00 eq.) in 4  $\mu$  HCl in 1,4-dioxane (10 mL) was stirred at room temperature for 2 h. Subsequently, all volatiles were removed under reduced pressure to obtain the crude product, which was taken up in H<sub>2</sub>O/CH<sub>3</sub>CN and freeze-dried to afford the Boc-deprotected amine **20d** (465 mg, quant) as yellow/orange powder.

<sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (Dioxane-d<sub>8</sub>, 500MHz): δ = 4.42 (1H, s), 4.74 (1H, m, *J* = 4.80 Hz), 4.86 (1H, m, *J* = 6.48 Hz), 4.98 (1H, s), 5.04 (1H, s), 5.40 (1H, dd, *J* = 5.92 Hz), 5.59 (1H, d, *J* = 5.60 Hz), 5.82 (1H, d, *J* = 5.35 Hz), 5.89 (1H, d, *J* = 6.05 Hz), 6.11 (1H, dd, *J* = 11.90 Hz), 6.32 (1H, m, *J* = 7.33 Hz), 6.45 (1H, m, *J* = 4.57 Hz), 7.13 (1H, m, *J* = 3.64 Hz), 7.92 (1H, s), 8.26 (1H, d, *J* = 26.41 Hz), 8.42 (1H, d, *J* = 4.10 Hz), 8.62 (1H, d, *J* = 8.75 Hz), 8.89 (1H, s), 8.92 (1H, d, *J* = 8.85 Hz), 9.06 (1H, d, *J* = 6.80 Hz), 9.24 (1H, d, *J* = 8.50 Hz), 9.34 (1H, d, *J* = 8.45 Hz), 9.38 (1H, d, *J* = 8.90 Hz), 9.44 (1H, d, *J* = 8.90 Hz), 9.60 (1H, d, *J* = 5.05 Hz), 9.97 (1H, s), 11.64 (1H, s), 11.68 (1H, s), 11.78 (1H, s), 12.52 (1H, s).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (Dioxane-d<sub>8</sub>, 126MHz): δ = 187.3, 162.8, 156.3, 142.9, 137.0, 133.1, 128.8, 128.3, 120.8, 120.7, 118.6, 118.3, 103.8, 78.7, 75.0, 69.6, 66.3, 65.6, 61.6, 61.5, 28.3, 28.2, 28.0 ppm.

# Cbz/Boc/allyl-protected guanidino tetrapeptide (20e)



The amine **20d** (465 mg, 574 µmol, 1.00 eq.) and 1-[*N*,*N*'-(Di-Boc)amidino]pyrazole (187 mg, 604 µmol, 1.05 eq.) were dissolved in anhydrous THF and Et<sub>3</sub>N (240 µL, 3.00 eq.) was added. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 12 h. All volatiles were removed *in vacuo*, the residue was taken up in ethyl acetate and washed with 1 M HCl<sub>(aq.)</sub> (2x), water (2x) and brine. The organic phase was dried over anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated *in vacuo* to obtain the crude product **20e** (600 mg, quant). The product was used in the next reaction without further purification.

HRMS (ESI): m/z calculated for  $C_{53}H_{62}N_8O_{15}$  (M+H)<sup>+</sup> 1051.4407, found 1051.4414.

Unprotected guanidino tetrapeptide (20f)



The tetrapeptide **20e** (150 mg, 205  $\mu$ mol, 1.00 eq.) was dissolved in 4 M HCl in 1,4-dioxane and stirred at room temperature for 3 h. Subsequently, all volatiles were removed under reduced pressure to obtain the crude product, which was taken up in H<sub>2</sub>O/CH<sub>3</sub>CN and freeze-dried to afford the Boc-deprotected product as yellow powder. HRMS (ESI): m/z calculated for C<sub>34</sub>H<sub>35</sub>N<sub>8</sub>O<sub>11</sub> (M+H)<sup>+</sup> 731.2420, found 731.2417. Boc deprotected tetrapeptide (115 mg, 124  $\mu$ mol, 1.00 eq.) was dissolved in dry THF (5 mL) and the solution was purged with argon for 10 min. Palladium (10 wt. % on activated carbon, 17 mg) was added, the reaction mixture was saturated with H<sub>2</sub> and stirred at room temperature for 5 h under hydrogen atmosphere. The suspension was filtered over Celite®, concentrated under reduced pressure, and freeze-dried to afford the Cbz-Boc-deprotected tetrapeptide **20f** (90 mg, quant over two steps) as yellow powder.

#### Cbz/Boc-protected guanidino tetrapeptide (20g)



The allyl-protected tetrapeptide **20f** (500 mg, 476  $\mu$ mol, 1.00 eq.) was dissolved in dry THF and morpholine (0.821 mL, 20.0 eq.) was added, followed by either Pd(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub> (220 mg, 190  $\mu$ mol, 0.400 eq.) The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 16 h under the exclusion of light (aluminum wrap). After removing all volatiles under reduced pressure, the residue was taken up in EtOAc and washed with 1 M HCl<sub>(aq.)</sub> (3x) and brine. The organic phase was dried over anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated *in vacuo* to obtain the crude product, which was purified by column chromatography (SiO<sub>2</sub>, 5-10 % MeOH in DCM). The allyl-deprotected tetrapeptide **20g** (162 mg, 37 %) was obtained as an orange solid.

<sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>, 500MHz):  $\delta$  = 1H-NMR (DMSO) 1.31 (1H, s), 1.47 (1H, s), 1.92 (1H, s), 3.51 (1H, s), 3.68 (1H, t, *J* = 6.98 Hz), 3.82 (1H, t, *J* = 6.49 Hz), 3.88 (1H, s), 3.89 (1H, s), 4.35 (1H, dd, *J* = 5.98 Hz), 5.07 (1H, dd, *J* = 11.68 Hz), 7.22 (1H, t, *J* = 13.96 Hz), 7.33 (1H, m, *J* = 4.16 Hz), 7.38 (1H, d, *J* = 4.31 Hz), 7.51 (1H, d, *J* = 8.66 Hz), 7.77 (1H, d, *J* = 8.63 Hz), 7.88 (1H, d, *J* = 8.92 Hz), 8.02 (1H, d, *J* = 6.88 Hz), 8.10 (1H, d, *J* = 8.96 Hz), 8.20 (1H, d, *J* = 8.50 Hz), 8.29 (1H, dd, *J* = 3.48 Hz), 8.56 (1H, s), 8.93 (1H, d, *J* = 1.70 Hz), 10.50 (1H, s), 10.73 (1H, s), 10.92 (1H, s), 11.48 (1H, s), 11.78 (1H, s) ppm.

HRMS (ESI): m/z calculated for C<sub>44</sub>H<sub>55</sub>N<sub>8</sub>O<sub>15</sub> (M+H)<sup>+</sup> 931.3468, found 931.3471.

#### Guanidino-Albicidin (20)



The tetrapeptide **20g** (135 mg, 226  $\mu$ mol, 1.00 eq.) and PCP active ester (124 mg, 226  $\mu$ mol, 1.00 eq.) were dissolved in a mixture of anhydrous DMF and Et<sub>3</sub>N (47.3  $\mu$ l, 340  $\mu$ mol). The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 16 h under the exclusion of light. All volatiles were removed *in vacuo* and the crude material was dissolved in DMSO and purified by HPLC (PLRP-S column, CH<sub>3</sub>CN in H<sub>2</sub>O). The final derivative **20** (14 mg, 7 %) was obtained as a colorless solid.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>, 500MHz):  $\delta$  = 2.12 (10H, s), 3.66 (17H, d, *J* = 61.42 Hz), 3.90 (22H, d, *J* = 22.51 Hz), 4.88 (2H, d, *J* = 6.65 Hz), 6.85 (8H, d, *J* = 8.15 Hz), 7.28 (4H, s), 7.36 (9H, d, *J* = 8.05 Hz), 7.59 (4H, d, *J* = 8.75 Hz), 7.69 (2H, s), 7.87 (12H, dd, *J* = 7.60 Hz), 7.94 (7H, d, *J* = 8.35 Hz), 8.02 (4H, d, *J* = 8.95 Hz), 8.11 (4H, d, *J* = 8.85 Hz), 8.23 (4H, d, *J* = 8.05 Hz), 8.37 (3H, d, *J* = 8.15 Hz), 8.84 (3H, d, *J* = 7.25 Hz), 9.01 (3H, s), 9.80 (1H, t, *J* = 1.28 Hz), 10.11 (3H, s), 10.49 (3H, s), 10.97 (2H, s), 11.12 (3H, s), 11.75 (2H, s)

<sup>13</sup>**C NMR** (DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>, 126 MHz): δ = 140.1, 134.5, 131.8, 128.8, 128.0, 127.0, 127.0, 126.1, 126.1, 123.4, 119.6, 115.8, 115.8, 110.9, 110.9, 110.7, 110.7, 61.3, 60.8, 53.9, 14.9 ppm.

HRMS (ESI): m/z calculated for C<sub>43</sub>H<sub>42</sub>N<sub>9</sub>O<sub>12</sub> (M+H)<sup>+</sup> 876.2947, found 876.2950.

Sulfonamide-E-F-isostere (21) Synthesis conducted as previously reported.[18]





Scheme 7: Synthesis route of L-trans-hydroxyproline-albicidin 22 starting from hydroxy-proline methyl ester 22a.

# 1-(tert-Butyl)-2-methyl (2S,4R)-4-hydroxypyrrolidin-1,2-dicarboxylat (22b)



To a solution of methyl-(2*S*,4*R*)-4-hydroxy-pyrrolidin-2-carboxylate (**22a**, 2.22 g, 15.3 mmol, 1.00 eq) in a mixture of 1,4-dioxane/water (100 mL, 1:1) was added potassium carbonate (4.30 g, 31.1 mmol, 2.03 eq), di-*tert*-butyldicarbonate (3.67 g, 16.8 mmol, 1.10 eq) and 4-(dimethylamino)-pyridine (93.4 mg, 0.770 mmol, 0.050 eq). The reaction mixture was stirred for 72 h at 50 °C. The volatiles were removed by rotary evaporation and the residue was acidified by 1 M HCl<sub>(aq.)</sub> to pH 2. The aqueous phase was extracted by ethyl acetate (3 x 30 mL). The combined organic phases were washed by distilled water (30 mL) und a saturated solution of sodium chloride (30 mL), dried over sodium sulphate and filtered. After evaporation of the solvent, product (**22b**, 1.51 g, 6.16 mmol, 40 %) was obtained as colorless oil.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>, 400 MHz, mixture of rotamers):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 5.10 (d, J = 3.5 Hz, 1 H), 4.16 - 4.21 (m, 1 H),

3.65 (s, 3 H), 3.57 (s, 1 H), 3.37 - 3.43 (m, 1 H), 3.23 - 3.30 (m, 1 H), 2.11 (d, *J* = 9.5 Hz, 1 H), 1.82 - 1.93 (m, 1 H), 1.30 - 1.41 (m, 9 H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>, 101 MHz, mixture of rotamers):  $\delta$  (ppm) = 173.3, 172.9, 153.8, 153.0, 79.1, 79.0, 68.5, 67.8, 66.4, 57.7, 57.4, 54.7, 54.5, 51.8, 51.8, 37.9, 28.1, 27.9.

**HRMS (ESI):** *m*/*z* calc. for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>19</sub>NO<sub>5</sub> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 268.1156; found: 246.1149.

# (2S,4*R*)-1-(*tert*-Butoxycarbonyl)-4-hydroxypyrrolidine-2-carbonic acid (22c)

CO<sub>2</sub>H NBoc HO,

A solution of 1-(*tert*-butyl)-2-methyl-(2*S*,4*R*)-4-hydroxypyrrolidine-1,2-dicarboxylate (**22b**, 315 mg, 1.28 mmol, 1.00 eq) in a mixture of THF/methanol (6 mL, 1:1) was cooled to 0 °C. To this solution was added an aqueous solution of KOH (5 M, 3 mL) and the reaction mixture was stirred for 2 h at room temperature. After completion of the reaction the solvent was removed by rotary evaporation, the residue was diluted by water, acidified with 1 M HCl<sub>(aq,)</sub> to pH 1 and extracted with ethyl acetate (3 × 15 mL). The combined organic phases were washed by a saturated solution of sodium chloride (30 mL), dried over sodium sulphate and filtered. The solvent was removed by rotary evaporation and the product (**22c**, 213.8 mg, 0.92 mmol, 72 %) was isolated as a white powder.

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>, 400 MHz, mixture of rotamers): δ (ppm) = 12.51 (br. s, 1 H), 5.06 (br. s, 1 H), 4.24 (br. s, 1 H), 4.09 - 4.13 (m, 1 H), 3.38 - 3.41 (m, 1 H), 3.23 - 3.26 (m, 1 H), 2.06 - 2.15 (m, 1 H), 1.84 - 1.91 (m, 1 H), 1.34, 1.39 (2s, 9 H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>, 101 MHz): δ (ppm) = 174.4, 153.8, 78.8, 68.5, 67.8, 59.8, 57.7, 28.1, 27.9.

HRMS (ESI): *m*/*z* calc. for C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>17</sub>NO<sub>5</sub> [M-H]<sup>-</sup>: 230.1034; found: 230.1031.

# Boc-Hyp-pABA-HMpABA(Allyl)-HMpABA(Allyl)-OAllyl (22e)



Carboxylic acid (**22b**, 218 mg, 0.940 mmol, 4.81 eq) was dissolved in absolute DCM (20 mL), cooled to -15 °C and *N*-ethoxycarbonyl-2-ethoxy-1,2-dihydrochinoline (235 mg, 0.950 mmol, 4.85 eq) was added. The reaction mixture was stirred for 15 min after which the allyl-protected tripeptide<sup>21</sup> (**22d**, 115 mg, 0.200 mmol, 1.00 eq) was added. The resulting mixture was stirred for 16 h at room temperature and after completion of the reaction the solvent was removed by rotary evaporation. The residue was taken up by ethyl acetate (20 mL), washed by a saturated solution of sodium bicarbonate (30 mL), a solution of sodium chloride (30 mL), dried over sodium sulphate and filtered. The solvent was removed by rotary evaporation and the crude product was purified by column chromatography (SiO<sub>2</sub>, 1 %  $\rightarrow$  10 % MeOH in DCM). The product (**22e**, 152 mg, 0.190 mmol, 97 %) was obtained as a yellow oil.

<sup>1</sup>**H NMR (CDCI<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz):**  $\delta$  (ppm) = 10.65 (s, 1 H), 9.92 (s, 1 H), 8.63 (s, 1 H), 8.32 - 8.43 (m, 2 H), 7.92 - 7.99 (m, 1 H), 7.72 - 7.79 (m, 2 H), 7.64 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2 H), 6.08 - 6.20 (m, 2 H), 5.99 - 6.08 (m, 1 H), 5.33 - 5.44 (m, 3 H), 5.22 - 5.31 (m, 3 H), 4.79 (d, 2 H), 4.76 (d, 2 H), 4.64 (m, 1 H), 4.56 (d, 2 H), 4.55 (m, 1 H), 4.02 (s, 3 H), 3.98 (s, 3 H), 3.57 - 3.63 (m, 1 H), 3.49 - 3.57 (m, 1 H), 3.48 - 3.57 (m, 1 H), 3.26 - 3.44 (m, 1 H), 2.49 - 2.60 (m, 1 H), 2.06 - 2.15 (m, 1 H), 1.42 - 1.55 (m, 9 H).

<sup>13</sup>**C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 101 MHz):**  $\delta$  (ppm) = 165.2, 164.8, 163.0, 151.8, 149.3, 142.8, 141.5, 137.1, 136.5, 134.0, 132.4, 128.2, 127.5, 127.4, 122.1, 120.7, 120.3, 119.5, 118.5, 118.2, 115.5, 115.4, 81.5, 75.8, 75.2, 65.7, 61.3, 61.2, 50.8, 28.5.

HRMS (ESI): *m*/z calc. for C<sub>42</sub>H<sub>48</sub>N<sub>4</sub>O<sub>12</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 801.3341; found: 801.3332.

# Boc-Hyp-pABA-HMpABA-HMpABA-OH (22f)



The allyl-protected tetrapeptide (**22e**, 148 mg, 0.15 mmol, 1.00 eq) was dissolved in absolute THF (8 mL) and phenyl silane (146  $\mu$ L, 1.18 mmol, 8.02 eq) was added. After addition of Pd(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub> (17.6 mg, 0.015 mmol, 0.100 eq) the reaction mixture was stirred for 16 h at room temperature. The solvent was removed by rotary evaporation and the crude product was purified by column chromatography (SiO<sub>2</sub>, 1 %  $\rightarrow$  40 % MeOH in DCM). The product (**22f**, 44.0 mg, 0.065 mmol, 34 %) was obtained as brownish solid.

<sup>1</sup>**H NMR (DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>, 400 MHz):**  $\delta$  (ppm) = 11.62 (br. s, 1 H), 10.90 (s, 1 H), 10.50 (s, 1 H), 9.63 (s, 1 H), 7.96 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2 H), 7.78 - 7.81 (m, 3 H), 7.65 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 1 H), 7.54 (d, J = 9.0 Hz, 1 H), 7.46 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 1 H), 5.16 (br. s., 1 H), 4.37 - 4.45 (m, 1 H), 4.31 (br. s., 1 H), 3.86 (s, 3 H), 3.79 (s, 3 H), 2.14 - 2.19 (m, 1 H), 1.92 - 1.98 (m, 1 H), 1.11 - 1.38 (m, 9 H).

HRMS (ESI): *m*/*z* calc. for C<sub>33</sub>H<sub>36</sub>N<sub>4</sub>O<sub>12</sub> [M-H]<sup>-</sup>: 679.2257; found: 679.2250.

Due to the low amount of product no <sup>13</sup>C-NMR spectrum was recorded.

# HCI\*H-Hyp-pABA-HMpABA-HMpABA-OH (22g)



The protected amine (**22f**, 35.0 mg, 0.051 mmol, 1.00 eq) was dissolved in absolute DCM (5 mL), trifluoroacetic acid (2 mL) was added and the reaction mixture was stirred for 3 h at room temperature. The volatiles were removed by rotary evaporation and the residue was taken up with acetonitrile and an aqueous solution of HCl (1 M). The product (**22g**, 31.2 mg, 0.051 mmol, 98 %) was obtained after freeze drying as yellowish solid and used in the next step without further purification.

HRMS (ESI): *m*/z calc. for C<sub>28</sub>H<sub>28</sub>N<sub>4</sub>O<sub>10</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 581.1878; found: 581.1888.

# L-Hyp-Albicidin (22)



To a solution of tetrapeptide (**22g**, 31.2 mg, 0.051 mmol, 1.00 eq) in absolute DMF (2 mL) was added triethylamine and activated AB building block<sup>1</sup> (**5a**, 30.7 mg, 0.056 mmol, 1.11 eq) and the reaction mixture was stirred for 16 h at room temperature. The resulting mixture was diluted with acetonitrile and filtered. The solid was dissolved in a mixture of THF/H<sub>2</sub>O/acetonitrile (3:1:3) and concentrated under reduced pressure. After freeze-drying and preparative RP-HPLC the final product (**22**, 25.0 mg, 0.029 mmol, 57 %) was obtained.

<sup>1</sup>**H NMR (DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>, 400 MHz):**  $\delta$  (ppm) = 10.46 (s, 1 H), 10.09 (m, 1 H), 9.86 (m, 1 H), 9.10 (br. s, 1 H), 7.95 (s, 1 H), 7.91 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2 H), 7.76 - 7.85 (m, 3 H), 7.64 - 7.75 (m, 1 H), 7.59 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2 H), 7.50 - 7.56 (m, 1 H), 7.39 - 7.44 (m, 1 H), 7.35 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 2 H), 7.26 (s., 1 H), 7.00 - 7.17 (m, 1 H), 6.85 (br. s., 2 H), 5.08 - 5.17 (m, 1 H), 4.71 - 4.80 (m, 1 H), 4.31 - 4.39 (m, 1 H), 3.86 - 3.94 (m, 1 H), 3.38 - 3.45 (m, 1 H), 2.89 (s, 3 H), 2.73 (s, 3 H), 2.15 - 2.35 (m, 2 H), 2.11 (s, 3 H), 1.95 - 2.07 (m, 2 H).

**HRMS (ESI):** m/z calc. for C<sub>45</sub>H<sub>41</sub>N<sub>5</sub>O<sub>13</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 860.2774; found: 860.2773. Due to the low product amount no <sup>13</sup>C-NMR spectrum was recorded.

## 2. Supplementary figures



**Figure S1. Binding affinity of AlbA to the promoter pAlbA**. A) EMSA in absence (top) and presence of albicidin (bottom). Lane 1: *pAlbA* with 10  $\mu$ M AlbAS (short AlbA without DBD); lane 2: 18.4  $\mu$ M AlbA without *pAlbA*; lanes 3-13 *pAlbA* with increasing concentrations of AlbA. B) EMSA bands of the free DNA fitted with Hill function (n = 1) and fitting parameters. Error bars represent the signal to noise in gel band quantifications. C) EMSA with AlbA and control 41-bp DNA fragment. Lane 1: control DNA with 10  $\mu$ M AlbAS (short AlbA with increasing concentrations of AlbA.



**Figure S2. Vector maps of reporter vectors.** (A) pCS-RBS-MCS-ilux and (B) pCS-pAlbA-ilux. The genes that are part of the ilux cassette are highlighted in cyan, the ribosome binding site (RBS) and restriction cloning site are shown in red and blue, respectively, and the pAlbA promoter region is coloured in purple.



**Figure S3. Transcription activation control measurements.** A) Comparison of luminescence measurement of *E. coli* BL21 cells transformed with the reporter vector pCS-pAlbA-ilux and pET15b- $\Delta$ HisAlbA with (red triangles) and without (black triangles) 0.25 mM albicidin (1). B) *E. coli* cells transformed with either only the reporter vector pCS-pAlbA-ilux or the reporter vector and pET15b- $\Delta$ HisAlbA in absence and presence of 1.5  $\mu$ M aza-His albicidin (2). Only when both vectors and 2 are present, luminescence is detected. C) Time curves of luminescence intensities in reporter assay after addition of 0, 0.05, 0.1, 0.2, 0.4, 0.8, 1.6 and 3.0  $\mu$ M aza-His albicidin (2). D) Maxima of the luminescence time curves shown in C. E) OD<sub>600</sub> measurements in presence of 0, 0.5, 1.0, 1.5, 2.0 and 5.0  $\mu$ M of 2, acquired in parallel to light emission measurements shown in Figure 2E. F) Control measurements to bisbenzimide transcription induction. *E. coli* cells transformed with either only the reporter vector pCS-pAlbA-ilux or the reporter vector and pET15b- $\Delta$ HisAlbA in absence and presence of 5  $\mu$ M bisbenzimide. E) All measurements were conducted in triplicate and error bars represent the standard deviation of each data point.



**Figure S4. Structure of AlbA and AlbAS**. A) Alphafold model of full AlbA. The DNA-binding domain is shown in violet, the coiled-coil dimerization domain is coloured blue and the ligand binding domain is teal. RMSD of the ligand binding domain in the model and the crystal structure of AlbAS is 0.93 Å (193 atoms). B) Crystal structure (PDB-ID: 6ET8) with the pseudodimeric fold of the ligand binding domain of a repeat TipAS fold. The N-terminal

half is shown in dark teal (NTD) and the C-terminal sub-domain (CTD) is shown in light cyan. C) Conformational change from an open, flexible structure to a more rigid, closed structure in the binding mechanism of AlbA suggested by Rostock et al<sup>6</sup>. D) Hydrogen bonds and  $\pi$ - $\pi$  interactions of albicidin with the subdomains of AlbA. Amino acid residues of the NTD are shown in cyan and residues of the CTD in light cyan. E) Alphafold model of AlbA dimers with one monomer in grey and one monomer depicted in the same colour scheme as in (A). The location of bound DNA (according to structures of other MerR family members) is indicated as a dashed black circle. F) Model of albicidin (pink) in the dimer obtained by alignment of the crystal structure 6ET8. Albicidin building blocks are indicated by magenta labels and mutated residues are shown in yellow.



Figure S5. Chemical structures of albicidin fragments.



**Figure S6. Mutated residues in the ligand binding domain of AlbA**. A) Mutated residues in the ligand binding domain of AlbA are shown in gold as sticks with amino acid labels corresponding to their position in the full didomain protein. The  $\alpha$ -helices are numbered sequentially with roman numerals (helices I-VI in the NTD and helices I'-VI' in the CTD). Albicidin is shown in magenta. B) Microdilution tray with liquid cultures of *E. coli* DSM 1116 after incubation with **2** and different purified AlbA mutants and the C) sample loading scheme. The assay was performed in triplicates. AlbA variants with mutations that led to less protection from albicidin are shown in shades of red (darker colours indicate less protection from albicidin). The control contains **2** together with buffer. D) Repeat of growth inhibition assays with mutants AlbA-P209G and AlbA-R308A.



wave length (nm)

**Figure S7. Expression and purification of AlbA mutants.** A) SDS-PAGE of Ni-affinity purified His-tagged proteins. B) Soluble fractions of cell lysates from *E. coli* BL21 (DE3) cells with mutant proteins expressed from pet15b without induction with IPTG as used in reporter assays. C) CD spectra of AlbA mutants at 20°C (black line) and 30°C (red line).



**Figure S8. Tryptophan fluorescence quenching of AlbA mutant proteins with aza-His albicidin.** Shown are the normalized loss in fluorescence (black squares) and Hill fits (black line) of tryptophane fluorescence quenching titration experiments of AlbA and its mutants with compound **2**. The resulting dissociation constants are listed in Table S2. RFU = relative fluorescence units. Error bars show the standard deviation, n = 3.



Figure S9. Chemical structures of compounds tested in AlbA transcription activation assays.



**Figure S10. Docking model of AlbA and bisbenzimide**. A) Best scoring model (score -12.4) of bisbenzimide (orange) docked to AlbAS (grey, PDB-ID: 6ET8) with Docking Vina. H-bonds to amino acid side-chains (stick representation) are highlighted in blue. B) Surface representation of the albicidin binding pocket with albicidin (magenta) in the crystal structure and docked bisbenzimide (orange). Oxygen atoms on protein side-chains are shown in red.







| 1- | 1 2 3     | 4 5 6     | 7 8 9     | 10 11 1   |
|----|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| A  | 2-        | - 22 -    | - 19 -    | -12-      |
| В  | 2 + AlbA  | 22 + AlbA | 19 + AlbA | 12 + AlbA |
| C  | -11-      | - 21 -    | - 16 -    | - 10 -    |
| D  | 1 + AlbA  | 22 + AlbA | 16 + AlbA | 10 + AlbA |
| E  | - 13 -    | -17-      | - 15 -    | DMSO      |
| F  | 13 + AlbA | 17 + AlbA | 15 + AlbA | AlbA      |
| G  | - 18 -    | - 20 -    | - 14 -    | 000       |
| H  | 8 + AlbA  | 20 + AlbA | 14 + AlbA | OO(       |



**Figure S12.** *E. coli* growth inhibition assays with albicidin derivatives. A) Microdilution tray with liquid cultures of *E. coli* DSM1116 after incubation with purified AlbA and albicidin derivatives **2**, **10-22** and the B) sample loading scheme. The assay was performed in triplicates. C) Repeat of growth inhibition assay with compound **22**.

В



**Figure S13.** AlbA tryptophan fluorescence quenching by albicidin derivatives. Ratio of fluorescence intensities of AlbA alone ( $I_0$ ) and AlbA incubated with an equimolar amount of albicidin derivative (I) are shown. Error bars represent the standard deviations, n = 3.

# 3. Supplementary tables

| Mutated residues  | Residue in full<br>length AlbA                              | Effect on albicidin binding  | Assay                           | Citation                     |
|---|---|--|---------------------------------|------------------------------|
| H78G, H141G and<br>H189G                                    | H205, H268, H316  | no effect  | Agar diffusion                  | Weng et al <sup>22</sup>     |
| H125G/A/ L  | H252  | 30% reduced binding  | Agar diffusion                  | Weng et al <sup>22</sup>     |
| H125Y/R   | H252  | no effect  | Agar diffusion                  | Weng et al <sup>22</sup>     |
| E81-E178<br>Alanine scan                                    | E208-E305   | K106A, W110A,<br>Y113A, L114A, H125A, P134A<br>and W162A showed an effect<br>(see next line) | Agar diffusion                  | Weng et al <sup>23</sup>     |
| K106A, W110A,<br>Y113A, L114A,<br>H125A, P134A and<br>W162A | K233A, W237A,<br>Y240A, L141A,<br>H252A, P261A and<br>W289A | 20-30% reduced binding   | Agar diffusion                  | Weng et al <sup>23</sup>     |
| Y126A   | Y253A   | 60% reduced binding  | Agar diffusion                  | Weng et al <sup>23</sup>     |
| triple mutant<br>N75A/R181A/Q205A                           | N202A, R308A,<br>Q332A                                      | reduced albicidin neutraliza-<br>tion in agar diffusion assay                                | Agar diffusion                  | Rostock et al <sup>6</sup>   |
| T99V and T99G   | T226A   | affects cyclization (V acceler-<br>ated and G reduced)                                       | Conversion moni-<br>tored by MS | Sikandar et al <sup>24</sup> |
| 195G  | I222G   | reduced cyclization  | Conversion moni-<br>tored by MS | Sikandar et al <sup>24</sup> |
| triple mutant<br>M131A/Q/K                                  | M258A/Q/K   | faster cyclization   | Conversion moni-<br>tored by MS | Sikandar et al <sup>24</sup> |

# Table S1 AlbA mutants in literature.

**Table S2** Tryptophane fluorescence quenching derived dissociation constants ( $K_d$ ) and fitting variables of aza-Hisalbicidin (2) binding to AlbA mutants.

| Protein    | <i>K</i> d[nM] | B <sub>max</sub> | n               | R^2   |
|------------|----------------|------------------|-----------------|-------|
| AlbA       | 9.4 ± 1.7      | $0.91 \pm 0.01$  | $1.34 \pm 0.13$ | 0.981 |
| AlbA-N202A | 3.7 ± 0.4      | $0.92 \pm 0.01$  | 0.98 ± 0.08     | 0.991 |
| AlbA-P209A | 12.6 ± 1.7     | 0.93 ± 0.02      | 0.95 ± 0.11     | 0.993 |
| AlbA-P209G | 15.6 ± 1.7     | 0.95 ± 0.02      | 1.05 ± 0.11     | 0.994 |
| AlbA-P219A | 4.8 ± 0.3      | $0.77 \pm 0.01$  | $1.24 \pm 0.08$ | 0.996 |
| AlbA-P219G | 26.8 ± 5.0     | 0.85 ± 0.03      | 1.13 ± 0.15     | 0.995 |
| AlbA-H252A | 10.9 ± 3.5     | 0.86 ± 0.07      | $0.89 \pm 0.21$ | 0.951 |
| AlbA-W260A | 11.2 ± 0.9     | $0.94 \pm 0.01$  | $1.13 \pm 0.10$ | 0.993 |
| AlbA-W289A | 27.8 ± 0.2     | 0.93 ± 0.02      | 0.95 ± 0.09     | 0.996 |
| AlbA-Y296A | 18.1 ± 1.8     | $0.90 \pm 0.02$  | 0.73 ± 0.05     | 0.999 |
| AlbA-R308A | 2.5 ± 0.7      | $0.99 \pm 0.01$  | $1.07 \pm 0.21$ | 0.951 |
| AlbA-Q332A | 14.4 ± 2.5     | 0.96 ± 0.02      | 0.91 ± 0.09     | 0.993 |

|          |               | MIC [mg L <sup>-1</sup> ] |                        |                           |                                 |                      |                             |                           |                      |
|----------|---------------|---------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------|
| Compound | Name          | <i>E. coli</i><br>BW25113 | <i>E. coli</i><br>DH5α | <i>E. coli</i><br>DSM1116 | <i>S</i> . Typhimurium<br>TA100 | B. subtilis<br>DSM10 | <i>M. Luteus</i><br>DSM1790 | <i>M. Phlei</i><br>DSM750 | gyrase<br>inhibition |
| 1        | albicidin     | 0.063                     | ≤0.016                 | 0.063                     | 0.063                           | 0.25                 | 2                           | 2                         | 0                    |
| 2        | AF-C-014      | ≤0.016                    | n.d.                   | ≤0.016                    | ≤0.016                          | 0.125                | 0.5                         | 4                         | 0                    |
| 3        | AE-001        | n.d.                      | >128                   | n.d.                      | n.d.                            | n.d.                 | >128                        | n.d.                      | n.d.                 |
| 4        | BF-001        | n.d.                      | >128                   | >8.0                      | >8.0                            | >8.0                 | >128                        | n.d.                      | n.d.                 |
| 5        | KH-602-AD     | n.d.                      | n.d.                   | n.d.                      | n.d.                            | n.d.                 | n.d.                        | n.d.                      | n.d.                 |
| 6        | DF-001        | n.d.                      | >128                   | n.d.                      | n.d.                            | n.d.                 | >128                        | n.d.                      | n.d.                 |
| 7        | CF-001        | n.d.                      | >128                   | n.d.                      | n.d.                            | n.d.                 | >128                        | n.d.                      | n.d.                 |
| 8        | KH-599-BD     | n.d.                      | n.d.                   | n.d.                      | n.d.                            | n.d.                 | n.d.                        | n.d.                      | n.d.                 |
| 9        | BE-001        | n.d.                      | >128                   | n.d.                      | n.d.                            | n.d.                 | >128                        | n.d.                      | n.d.                 |
| 10       | AF-ABCD-006   | ≤0.016                    | n.d.                   | ≤0.016                    | ≤0.016                          | 0.125                | 0.16                        | 0.25                      | +                    |
| 11       | AF-ABCDEF-001 | ≤0.016                    | n.d.                   | ≤0.016                    | 0.016                           | 0.031                | ≤0.016                      | 0.25                      | +                    |
| 12       | AF-DE-001     | 1                         | n.d.                   | 0.5                       | 0.125                           | 1                    | n.d.                        | n.d.                      | -                    |
| 13       | AF-ACDE-001   | 4                         | n.d.                   | 2                         | 0.5                             | >8                   | >8                          | >8                        | n.d.                 |
| 14       | AF-CEF-009    | 0.063                     | n.d.                   | 0.25                      | 0.125                           | >8                   | >8                          | >8                        | +                    |
| 15       | AF-CEF-001    | 0.016                     | n.d.                   | 0.016                     | 0.016                           | 0.031                | 0.5                         | 0.5                       | -                    |
| 16       | AF-CDEF-001   | 0.031                     | n.d.                   | 0.031                     | ≤0.016                          | ≤0.016               | 0.063                       | 0.25                      | +                    |
| 17       | AF-CD-011     | 0.063                     | n.d.                   | 0.063                     | 0.03                            | 1                    | 0.5                         | 1                         | 0                    |
| 18       | AF-C-005      | 0.5                       | n.d.                   | 0.5                       | -                               | 4                    | 1                           | 2                         | +                    |
| 19       | AF-CDE-001    | >8                        | n.d.                   | >8                        | >8                              | >8                   | >8                          | >8                        | -                    |
| 20       | AF-CD-013     | 1                         | n.d.                   | 4                         | 0.063                           | >8                   | >8                          | >8                        | +                    |
| 21       | AF-CD-006     | >8                        | n.d.                   | >8                        | 2                               | >8                   | >8                          | >8                        | -                    |
| 22       | AF-C-008      | n.d.                      | n.d.                   | >8                        | >8                              | >8                   | >16                         | >16                       | -                    |

Abbreviations: gyrase inhibitory activity is shown as 0, equal to the activity of albicidin, -, lower than the activity of albicidin or +, higher than the activity of albicidin. n.d., not determined.

# Table S4 List of plasmids in this study

| Plasmid name       | Origin                                | Purpose                              |
|--------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| pET28a-AlbAL       | Rostock et al. <sup>6</sup>           | protein expression                   |
| pET15b-AlbA        | this study                            | protein expression                   |
| pET15b-∆HisAlbA    | this study                            | protein expression in reporter assay |
| pCS-PesaRlux       | Shong et al. <sup>2</sup> via Addgene | template                             |
| pGEX-iluxCDABE-frp | Gregor et al. <sup>4</sup>            | template                             |
| pCS-ilux           | this study                            | reporter plasmid                     |
| pCS-MCS-RBS-ilux   | this study                            | reporter plasmid                     |
| pCS-T7-ilux        | this study                            | reporter plasmid                     |
| pCS-pAlbA-ilux     | this study                            | reporter plasmid                     |
| pET28a-AlbA-N202A  | this study                            | protein expression                   |
| pET28a-AlbA-P209A  | this study                            | protein expression                   |
| pET28a-AlbA-P209G  | this study                            | protein expression                   |
| pET28a-AlbA-P219A  | this study                            | protein expression                   |

| pET28a-AlbA-P219G     | this study | protein expression                   |
|-----------------------|------------|--------------------------------------|
| pET28a-AlbA-H252A     | this study | protein expression                   |
| pET28a-AlbA-W260A     | this study | protein expression                   |
| pET28a-AlbA-W289A     | this study | protein expression                   |
| pET28a-AlbA-Y296A     | this study | protein expression                   |
| pET28a-AlbA-R308A     | this study | protein expression                   |
| pET28a-AlbA-Q332A     | this study | protein expression                   |
| pET15b-∆HisAlbA-N202A | this study | protein expression in reporter assay |
| pET15b-∆HisAlbA-P209A | this study | protein expression in reporter assay |
| pET15b-∆HisAlbA-P209G | this study | protein expression in reporter assay |
| pET15b-∆HisAlbA-P219A | this study | protein expression in reporter assay |
| pET15b-∆HisAlbA-P219G | this study | protein expression in reporter assay |
| pET15b-∆HisAlbA-H252A | this study | protein expression in reporter assay |
| pET15b-∆HisAlbA-W260A | this study | protein expression in reporter assay |
| pET15b-∆HisAlbA-W289A | this study | protein expression in reporter assay |
| pET15b-∆HisAlbA-Y296A | this study | protein expression in reporter assay |
| pET15b-∆HisAlbA-R308A | this study | protein expression in reporter assay |
| pET15b-∆HisAlbA-Q332A | this study | protein expression in reporter assay |

Table S5 Primers and oligonucleotides used for cloning of the transcription reporter system.

| Vector construct          | oligonucleotide<br>name | Sequence 5'-3'  |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|---|
| pCS-ilux                  | pCS-fw                  | CCGAAGCGTTTGATAGTTGA  |
|                           | pCS-rev                 | GACGTCGGAATTGCCAGCTG  |
|                           | llux-fw                 | CGCCCCAGCTGGCAATTCCGACGTCATGACTAAAAAAATTTCATTCA                               |
|                           | llux-rev                | GATATCAACTATCAAACGCTTCGGTTACCTTCTGGCAAGGCCCTTG                                |
| pCS-MCS-RBS- ilux         | pCS-MCS-RBS-fwt         | CTCGAGTTAGGATCCTTTCACACAGGAAACTTAGTCCATGACTAAAAAAATTTCATT-<br>CATTATTACCGGCCA |
|                           | pCS-MCS-RBS-fw          | ATGACTAAAAAAATTTCATTCATTATTACCGGCCA   |
|                           | pCS-MCS-RBS-revt        | GGACTAAGTTTCCTGTGTGAAAGGATCCTAACTCGAGGACGTCGGAATTGCCAGCTG                     |
|                           | pCS-MCS-RBS-rev         | GACGTCGGAATTGCCAGCTGGGGC  |
| pCS-pAlbA- ilux           | pAlbA-fw                | CTTCACCTCGAGTTAGCGCTTGACCCTGACGTCACGTCA                                       |
|                           |                         | GATCCTCTAGT   |
|                           | pAlbA-rev               | ACTAGAGGATCCACGACTCTGCTGCCTGACGTGACGTCAGGGTCA-                                |
|                           |                         | AGCGCTAACTCGAGGTGAAG  |
| pCS-pT7- ilux             | pT7-fw                  | CTTCACCTCGAGTGCACGTCGGCATTGGTACCTAATACGACTCACTATAGG-                          |
|                           |                         | GATCCTCTAGT   |
|                           | pT7-rev                 | ACTAGAGGATCCCTATAGTGAGTCGTATTAGGTACCAAT-                                      |
|                           |                         | GCCGACGTGCACTCGAGGTGAAG   |
| pET-15b-AlbA              | AlbA_XhoI_fw            | TTATAT <mark>CTCGAG</mark> ATGCTGATTCAGGTTGGT                                 |
|                           | AlbA_BamHI_rev          | TTATAT <mark>GGATCC</mark> TTATTCTGCGGCAGGA                                   |
| pET-15b-deltaHis-<br>AlbA | deltaHis-AlbA-fwt       | TTGTTTAACTTTAAGAAGGAGATATACCATGCTGATTCAGGTTGGTGAA                             |
|                           | deltaHis-AlbA-fw        | ATGCTGATTCAGGTTGGTGAACTGG   |
|                           | deltaHis-AlbA-revt      | GGTATATCTCCTTCTTAAAGTTAAACAAAATTATTTCTAGAGGGGAATT                             |
|                           | deltaHis-AlbA-rev       | AATTATTTCTAGAGGGGAATTGTTATCCGCT   |

Mutant Name Sequenz 5'-3' AlbA N202A GAA TTT CTG ACC CGT CTG GCT GAA ATG CAT GCA GCA GAA CCG CAG ATG CG fw t fw GCA GCA GAA CCG CAG ATG CG ATG CAT TTC AGC CAG ACG GGT CAG AAA TTC CGG ACG ACC TGC GGT ATC CT rev t rev CGG ACG ACC TGC GGT ATC CT AlbA P209A GAA TGA AAT GCA TGC AGC AGA AGC TCA GAT GCG TGA ACA GAC CGG TGT TAC TCC G fw t GCG TGA ACA GAC CGG TGT TAC TCC G fw rev t ATC TGA GCT TCT GCT GCA TGC ATT TCA TTC AGA CGG GTC AGA AAT TCC GGA CG rev AGA CGG GTC AGA AAT TCC GGA CG AlbA P209G GAA TGA AAT GCA TGC AGC AGA AGG TCA GAT GCG TGA ACA GAC CGG TGT TAC TCC G fw t GCG TGA ACA GAC CGG TGT TAC TCC G fw rev\_t ATC TGA CCT TCT GCT GCA TGC ATT TCA TTC AGA CGG GTC AGA AAT TCC GGA CG AGA CGG GTC AGA AAT TCC GGA CG rev AlbA P219A fw t TGT TAC TGC TGA AAT GAT TGA TTT TAT CAC CCG TGC ATT TGC CGA AAG CA CCG TGC ATT TGC CGA AAG CAA ACT GG fw GTG ATA AAA TCA ATC ATT TCA GCA GTA ACA CCG GTC TGT TCA CGC ATC TG rev t rev CCG GTC TGT TCA CGC ATC TGC GGT AlbA P219G TGT TAC TGG TGA AAT GAT TGA TTT TAT CAC CCG TGC ATT TGC CGA AAG CA fw t CCG TGC ATT TGC CGA AAG CAA ACT GG fw rev t GTG ATA AAA TCA ATC ATT TCA CCA GTA ACA CCG GTC TGT TCA CGC ATC TG CCG GTC TGT TCA CGC ATC TGC GGT rev AlbA H252A AGG AAC TGG CAT TTA CCC GTC AGG CTT ATT TTG ATC GTC TGA TGG AAT GG fw t TTG ATC GTC TGA TGG AAT GGC CTG C fw AAT AAG CCT GAC GGG TAA ATG CCA GTT CCT CTG CAT TCA GAT AAC GTG CC rev t rev CTG CAT TCA GAT AAC GTG CCC AAA TTG CC AlbA W260A fw t ATT TTG ATC GTC TGA TGG AAG CTC CTG CAC TGG TTG CCG ATC TGC ATC TGG TTG CCG ATC TGC ATC GTG C fw GTG CAG GAG CTT CCA TCA GAC GAT CAA AAT AAT GCT GAC GGG TAA ATG CC rev t rev AAT GCT GAC GGG TAA ATG CCA GTT CCT C AlbA W289A GCG TGC TCT GGC ACT GTT TCA GAG CTA TG CAG GTA AAG ATG CAC AGA CC fw t fw CAG GTA AAG ATG CAC AGA CCC AGC A CAT AGC TCT GAA ACA GTG CCA GAG CAC GC TGG GCC AGC TGC TGA CCT TC rev t TGG GCC AGC TGC TGA CCT TC rev AlbA Y296A fw\_t GGC ACT GTT TCA GAG CGC TGC AGG TAA AGA TGC ACA GAC CCA GCA GAA AT fw TGC ACA GAC CCA GCA GAA AT TTC G rev t TCT TTA CCT GCA GCG CTC TGA AAC AGT GCC AGC CAA CGC TGG GCC rev AGC CAA CGC TGG GCC AGC GCA GAA ATT TGC TTA TGC AAT GGA ACA AGA ACC GCA TCT GAT GAA AGG CA AlbA R308A fw t fw ACC GCA TCT GAT GAA AGG CAC CT TCT TGT TCC ATT GCA TAA GCA AAT TTC TGC TGG GTC TGT GCA TCT TTA CCT rev\_t rev TGG GTC TGT GCA TCT TTA CCT GCA AGC TGG CTG GCT CAG GCA ATT GGT GTT ATG ATG CGT CAG GCA CAG GGT AlbA Q332A fw t fw ATG CGT CAG GCA CAG GGT CC CAT AAC ACC AAT TGC CTG AGC CAG CCA GCT CAG CAC TTC GCT GGT CA rev t CAG CAC TTC GCT GGT CAT CCA GG rev

**Table S6** Primers used for mutagenesis. Triplets containing mutations for amino acid exchange are highlighted in pink.









<sup>13</sup>C-NMR









# B(Pyr)-C(azaHis)-D(Pyr)-E(*i*Pr)-F(*p*ABA) derivative 16 <sup>1</sup>H-NMR



# (<sup>1</sup>H,<sup>13</sup>C)-HSQC NMR



# *tert*-Butyl-(*S*)-(1-hydroxypent-4-yn-2-yl)carbamate (17b)

<sup>1</sup>H-NMR



# (S)-2-((tert-butoxycarbonyl)amino)pent-4-yn-1-yl4-methylbenzene sulfonate (17c)



Allyl-5-(allyloxy)picolinate (17e)

## <sup>1</sup>H-NMR





# 5-(Allyloxy)picolinic acid (17f)

<sup>1</sup>H-NMR



# Allyloxy-D(N)-E(OBn)-F(OBn, OBn) (17h)

<sup>1</sup>H-NMR



# Hydroxy-D(N)-E(OBn)-F(OBn, OBn) (17i)

<sup>1</sup>H-NMR



ppm



(<sup>1</sup>H,<sup>13</sup>C)-HSQC ed NMR



# BocHN-CH(propargyl)-CH<sub>2</sub>O-D(N)-E(OBn)-F(OBn, OBn) (17j)



<sup>1</sup>H-NMR





# Boc-AzaHis(POM)-D(N)-E-F (17I)

# AzaHis-C(POM)-D(N)-E-F (17m)

<sup>1</sup>H-NMR





<sup>1</sup>H-NMR



(<sup>1</sup>H,<sup>13</sup>C)-HSQC ed NMR



Cbz/Boc/AllyI-protected amino tetrapeptide precursor (20c) <sup>1</sup>H-NMR







Cbz/AllyI-protected amino tetrapeptide precursor (20d) <sup>1</sup>H-NMR



<sup>13</sup>C-NMR



Cbz/Boc-protected guanidino tetrapeptide (20f) <sup>1</sup>H-NMR





# (<sup>1</sup>H,<sup>13</sup>C)-HSQC ed NMR



1-(*tert*-Butyl)-2-methyl (2*S*,4*R*)-4-hydroxypyrrolidin-1,2-dicarboxylat (22a) <sup>1</sup>H-NMR





# Boc-Hyp-pABA-HMpABA(Allyl)-HMpABA(Allyl)-OAllyl (22c) <sup>1</sup>H-NMR



Boc-Hyp-pABA-HMpABA-HMpABA-OH (22d) <sup>1</sup>H-NMR



L-Hyp-Albicidin (22) <sup>1</sup>H-NMR



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