Letters

Structure-Guided Design and In-Cell Target Profiling of a Cell-Active Target Engagement Probe for PARP Inhibitors

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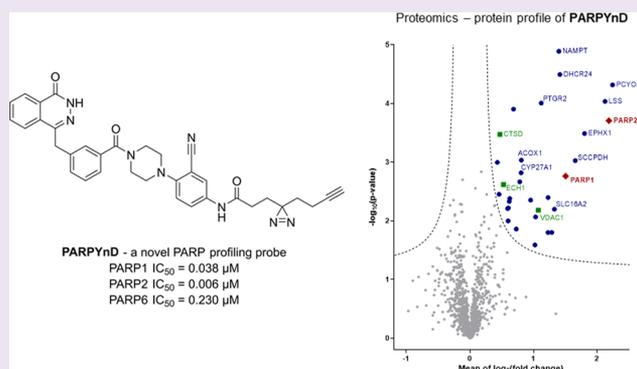Read Online

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ABSTRACT: Inhibition of the poly(ADP-ribose) polymerase (PARP) family of enzymes has become an attractive therapeutic strategy in oncology and beyond; however, chemical tools to profile PARP engagement in live cells are lacking. Herein, we report the design and application of **PARPYnD**, the first photoaffinity probe (AfBP) for PARP enzymes based on triple PARP1/2/6 inhibitor **AZ9482**, which induces multipolar spindle (MPS) formation in breast cancer cells. **PARPYnD** is a robust tool for profiling PARP1/2 and is used to profile clinical PARP inhibitor olaparib, identifying several novel off-target proteins. Surprisingly, while **PARPYnD** can enrich recombinant PARP6 spiked into cellular lysates and inhibits PARP6 in cell-free assays, it does not label PARP6 in intact cells. These data highlight an intriguing biomolecular disparity between recombinant and endogenous PARP6. **PARPYnD** provides a new approach to expand our knowledge of the targets of this class of compounds and the mechanisms of action of PARP inhibitors in cancer.

PARPYnD - a novel PARP profiling probe
PARP1 IC$_{50}$ = 0.038 μM
PARP2 IC$_{50}$ = 0.006 μM
PARP6 IC$_{50}$ = 0.230 μM

Proteomics – protein profile of **PARPYnD**

INTRODUCTION

Poly(ADP-ribose) polymerases (PARPs) represent an important enzyme family that catalyzes protein ADP-ribosylation, transferring one or more units of ADP-ribose from an NAD$^+$ cofactor to specific biomolecular substrates.[1] Of these 17 human enzymes, PARPs 1 and 2 and the tankyrases (PARP5a/5b) can catalyze transfer of longer/branched chains of poly(ADP-ribose) (PARylation), while the remaining family members transfer a single unit of ADP-ribose to their molecular targets (mono ADP-ribosylation, MARylation), with the exception of PARP13 which appears to be catalytically inactive.[2,3]

PARPs are implicated in a variety of cellular metabolic processes including DNA-damage repair,[4] transcriptional regulation,[5] cell death,[6] immune responses,[7] and mitotic spindle formation.[8] In particular, PARP1 is essential in repairing DNA single- and double-strand breaks, and pharmacological inhibition of PARP1 with agents such as olaparib (Figure 1A) has been demonstrated to be an effective synthetic lethal strategy in certain tumors deficient in homologous recombination-mediated DNA repair.[9] Since the approval of olaparib in 2014, multiple PARP1 inhibitors have been introduced in the clinic including niraparib, talazoparib, and rucaparib, and there is growing interest in targeting other members of the PARP family.[10]

We recently reported a triple PARP1/2/6 inhibitor, **AZ0108** (Figure 1A), which elicited therapeutic effects in breast cancer models *in vivo* by generating a cytotoxic multipolar spindle (MPS) phenotype in cancer cells but not in somatic tissue.[11,12] The mechanism of action of **AZ0108** is proposed to be via cellular inhibition of PARP6 MARylation of downstream substrates, one of which was identified as checkpoint kinase 1 (CHK1). MARylation of CHK1 by PARP6 was proposed to regulate the phosphorylation of CHK1; **AZ0108** treatment prevented CHK1 MARylation and induced hyperphosphorylation of CHK1, contributing to MPS formation and dysregulation of the cell cycle. However, **AZ0108** also displayed toxicity *in vivo*, the molecular basis of which is currently undefined,[11] limiting pharmacological evaluation of **AZ0108**. Furthermore, while substantial *in vitro* evidence of the mechanism of action has been presented, *bona fide* target engagement of PARP6 by **AZ0108** has not been reported in intact cells, and limited literature reports on alternative pharmacological modulators of PARP6 have restricted orthogonal validation of this mechanism of action.[13−15] Therefore, generation of a complete cellular target profile of **AZ0108** would

Molecule	AZ9482	AZ0108	Olaparib	PARPYnD
PARP1 IC$_{50}$ (μM)	0.001	0.03	0.001	0.038[a]
PARP2 IC$_{50}$ (μM)	0.001	<0.03	0.003	0.006[a]
PARP6 IC$_{50}$ (μM)	0.64	0.083	1.8	0.23[a]
MPS EC$_{50}$ (μM)	0.018	0.053	>11	0.012[a]
Cytotox. EC$_{50}$ (μM)	0.024[a]	0.14[a]	8.6[b]	0.30[a]
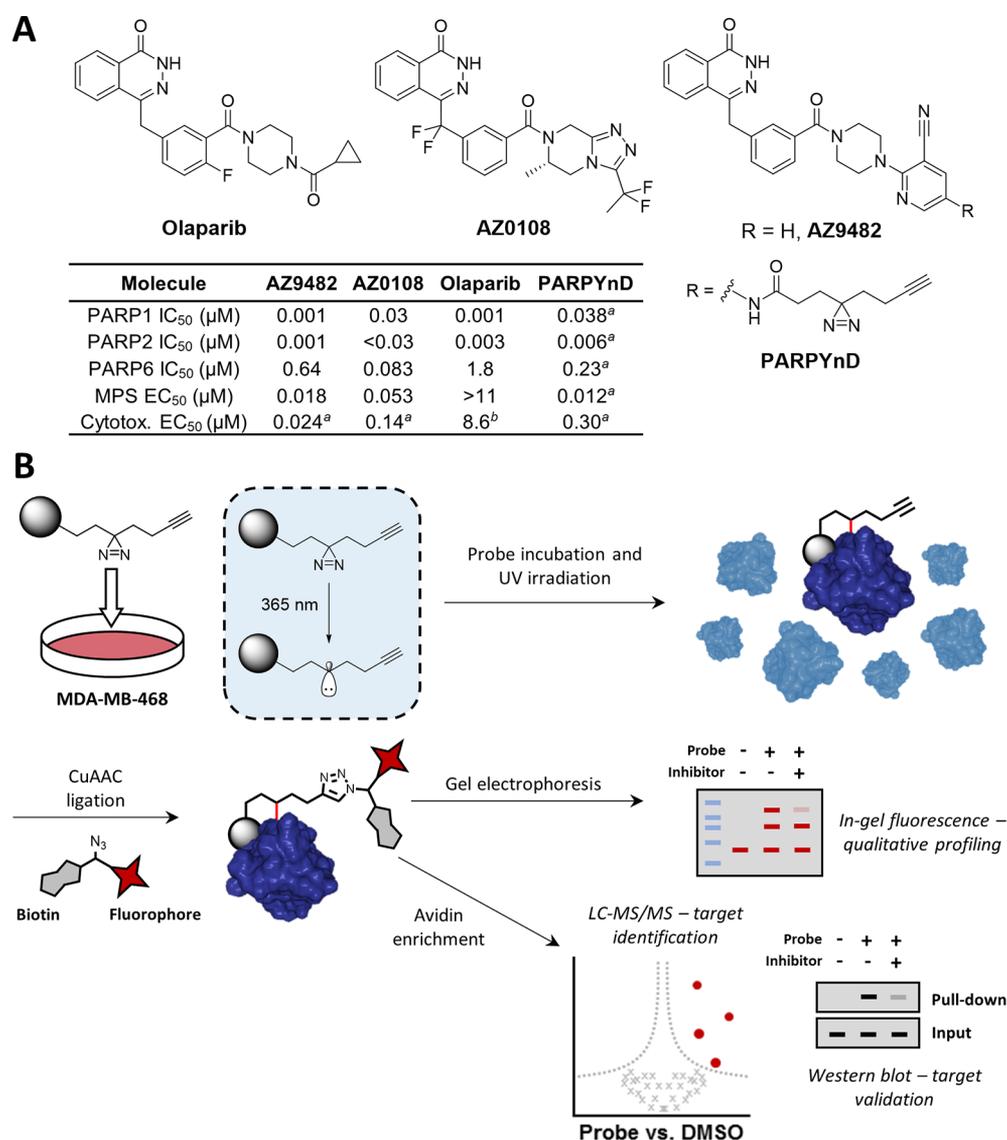
Figure 1. A photoaffinity-based probe (AfBP) **PARPYnD** was designed and synthesized for target profiling of **AZ9482** and **AZ0108**. (A) Top: structures of clinical PARP1/2 inhibitor olaparib and MPS-inducing agents **AZ0108** and **AZ9482**, the latter of which was diversified into the AfBP used in this study. Bottom: table showing the biochemical and biophysical parameters associated with olaparib, **AZ9482**, **AZ0108**, and **PARPYnD**.[11,12] Table footnote a: data generated in this work, experiments performed in triplicate (±SEM); graphical analysis can be seen in Figure 2, and Supporting Information Figures S1 and S2 for multipolar spindle (MPS) induction data, PARP binding data, and cytotoxicity data (MDA-MB-468 cells), respectively. Table footnote b: cytotoxicity value represents a GI$_{50}$ value previously generated in MDA-MB-468 cells.[12] (B) Schematic of the photoaffinity labeling (PAL) workflow used for target profiling. The gray ball represents the recognition element of the probe that is designed based on the parent compound.

be beneficial for both target validation and off-target identification.

Photoaffinity labeling (PAL) is a robust and increasingly popular strategy to profile the cellular interactome of a molecule with a noncovalent binding profile (Figure 1B).[16−18] The methodology utilizes a photoaffinity-based probe (AfBP) that retains the binding profile and phenotypic properties of the parent compound but is modified with a photoreactive group activated with a specific wavelength of light to generate a covalent bond directed by the probe's reversible, noncovalent interaction(s). Incorporation of a bioorthogonal handle allows downstream attachment of a capture reagent to probe tagged proteins via bioorthogonal ligation chemistry, resulting in an AfBP.[17] The reporter can include a fluorophore for gel-based visualization of the probe interactome, or an enrichment handle

such as biotin allowing for *de novo* target identification by tandem mass spectrometry or specific target interrogation by immunoblot.[19] Ideally the photoaffinity group and bioorthogonal handle should be small and structurally discrete, allowing retention of biological mode of action, cell permeability, and live cell target protein profiling.

Herein, we describe the design and synthesis of a novel AfBP **PARPYnD** for phthalazinone PARP inhibitors. We show that **PARPYnD** retains an MPS phenotype and *in vitro* PARP binding profile comparable to parent compounds **AZ9482** and **AZ0108**. **PARPYnD** enriches PARP1 following crosslinking in intact cells by both proteomics and immunoblot, and PARP1 and PARP2 binding can be efficiently competed *in cellulo* by **AZ9482**, **AZ0108**, and olaparib in proteomics studies. **PARPYnD** thus constitutes the first cell-active AfBP for the
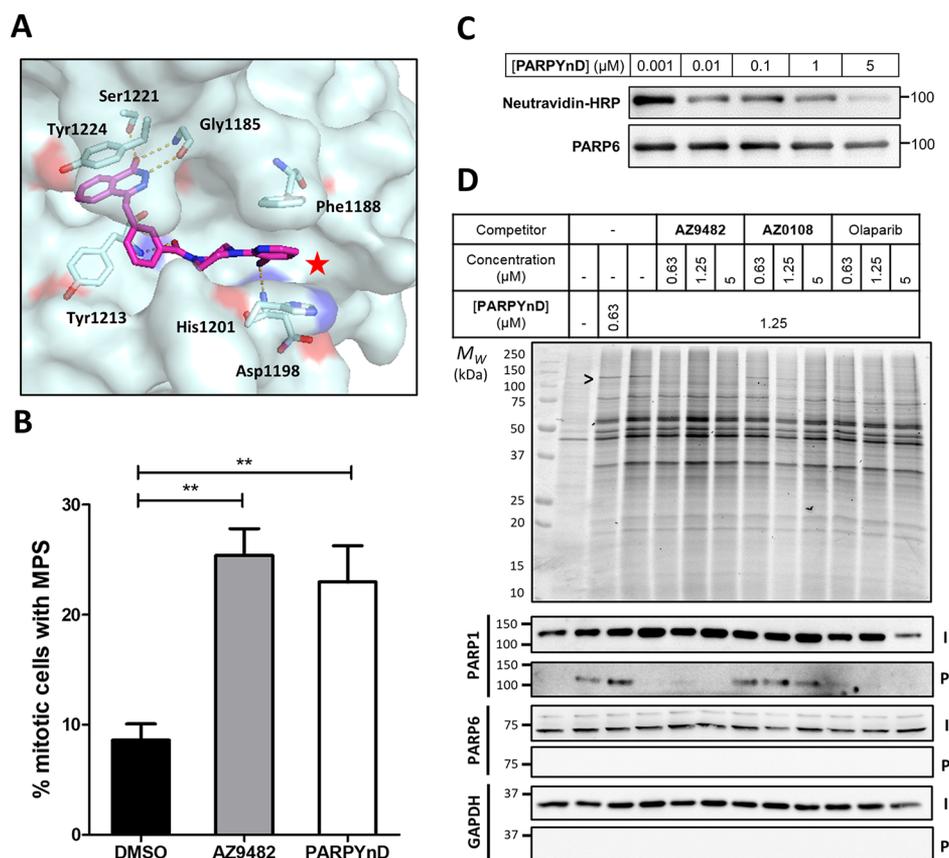
Figure 2. Validation of **PARPYnD** as a suitable probe for parent molecule profiling. (A) Crystal structure of parent molecule **AZ9482** bound in the NAD$^+$-binding pocket of PARP5a (PDB ID: 5ECE), with key interactions highlighted in orange. The red star highlights the solvent exposed position at which modification is expected to minimally perturb the binding of a probe into this pocket of the PARP enzymes. (B) Quantification of the percentage of mitotic cells with MPS phenotype (>2 spindle poles per cell) after treatment with **AZ9482** ($N = 2$) and **PARPYnD** ($N = 2$), both at 41 nM, versus DMSO ($N = 4$); double asterisk (**) represents raw P value <0.001 in unpaired Student's t test; raw data found in the Supporting Information, Extended Data S1. (C) PARP6 activity assay: recombinant GST-tagged PARP6 was incubated with biotinylated NAD$^+$ and varying concentrations of **PARPYnD**. GST-PARP6 auto-MARylation was measured by immunoblotting against NeutrAvidin-HRP; decreased signal with increasing **PARPYnD** concentration indicated catalytic inhibition of PARP6. (D) Gel and Western blot analysis of live cells labeled with **PARPYnD** and ligated to AzTB (Figure S3A) with/without cotreatment with various competitor molecules. In-gel fluorescence was used to qualitatively assess TAMRA-tagged proteins, and streptavidin-based enrichment and immunoblot analysis was used to validate specific targets. I = input (whole lysate); P = pull down (enriched fraction); > indicates competition seen on gel, validated as PARP1 by immunoblot. Uncropped gels and immunoblots associated with all figures can be found in Figure S7.

PARP protein class, and we demonstrate its utility in profiling novel off-target interactions of both **AZ0108** and the clinical PARP inhibitor olaparib. Furthermore, we show that **PARPYnD** can be applied to probe the potential mode of action of PARP6 inhibitors, generating novel hypotheses for future investigation.

■ RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Lead compound **AZ9482** was found to be a potent MPS-inducing agent (Figure 1A) discovered via a high-content screen of the AstraZeneca collection of phthalazinone-based NAD$^+$ mimetics.[12] Due to the poor pharmacokinetic properties of **AZ9482**, we previously performed a lead optimization study which resulted in **AZ0108**, a molecule with comparable cellular effects to **AZ9482** (Figure 1A) but with greatly improved *in vivo* characteristics; however, we chose to adopt the more synthetically tractable **AZ9482** scaffold over **AZ0108** as the basis for a novel AfBP. While there is currently no structural information available for PARP6, we previously crystallized **AZ9482** with PARP5a (Figure 2A), and given the structural similarity of the NAD$^+$-binding pocket throughout the family,[1] this model was used to design an AfBP. As with all olaparib-like molecules, the

AZ9482 phthalazinone core mimics the adenine of NAD$^+$ and is essential for PARP family binding; this moiety was retained in our AfBP design, along with the central phenyl ring present in all potent compounds in our published series. During the pharmacokinetic optimization of **AZ9482**, we demonstrated that altering the pyridine group is tolerated in MPS assays, and while the 3-nitrile is a key backbone hydrogen bond acceptor, the 5-position (Figure 2A, red star) represents a convenient point from which to build out into a solvent channel with a small photocrosslinkable clickable moiety.[12,20] This resulted in probe **PARPYnD** (Figure 1A), the synthesis of which is described in the Supplementary Methods section; briefly, commercially available 2-(piperazin-1-yl)pyridine-3-carbonitrile was Boc protected and brominated, and a copper-catalyzed amination[21] was used to install the key aniline group that allowed coupling of the photoaffinity molecule.[18] Boc deprotection and coupling to the phthalazinone core generated AfBP **PARPYnD**.

PARPYnD was first tested for its MPS activity in the same fluorescence microscopy assay used in the original high-content library screen[12] and was found to induce the MPS phenotype with comparable potency to **AZ9482** (Figure 2B) or **AZ0108**.[11]
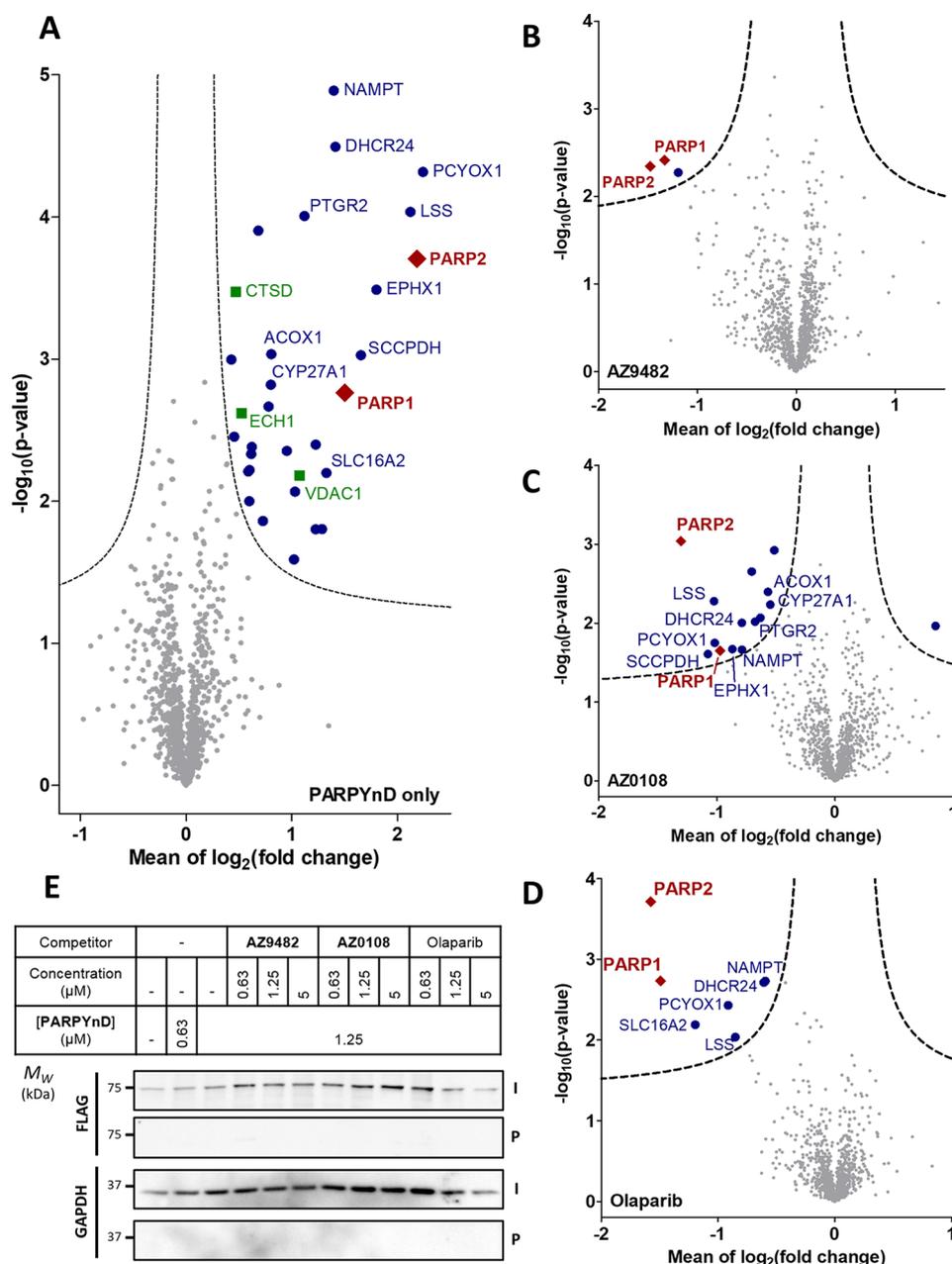
Figure 3. Target engagement profiles of **PARPYnD**, **AZ9482**, **AZ0108**, and olaparib. (A−D) Proteomics analysis of live cells labeled with **PARPYnD** and ligated to AzRB (Figure S3B) with/without cotreatment with parent competitor molecules. Tagged proteins were enriched on NeutrAvidin agarose, digested into peptides, and tandem mass tag (TMT) labeled for identification and quantification by LC-MS/MS. Volcano plots demonstrate enrichment (x axis) of one sample versus another and the associated significance (y axis), determined by pairwise Student's t test (cut off: A, $S_0 = 0.1$, false discovery rate (FDR) = 5%; B−D, $S_0 = 0.1$, FDR = 15%). Red diamonds = PARP family, blue dots = other significantly enriched/depleted hits, green squares = known background photocrosslinking binders,[26] gray dots = nonsignificant proteins. Significant hits are annotated with their gene names only when they are appear significantly enriched/depleted across more than one pairwise comparison, with the exception of the known background binders. Larger, fully annotated plots can be found in Figure S5A−D, and complete raw data can be found in the Supporting Information, Extended Data S2. (A) **PARPYnD** (1 μM) versus DMSO. (B) **PARPYnD** (1 μM) and **AZ9482** (5 μM) versus **PARPYnD** (1 μM) *only*. (C) **PARPYnD** (1 μM) and **AZ0108** (5 μM) versus **PARPYnD** (1 μM) *only*. (D) **PARPYnD** (1 μM) and olaparib (5 μM) versus **PARPYnD** (1 μM) *only*. (E) Transient overexpression of FLAG-PARP6 and attempted enrichment of the overexpressed protein and identification by Western blot. I = input (whole lysate); P = pull down (enriched fraction).

Furthermore, it possesses a similar profile to **AZ9482** in fluorescence polarization competition-based binding assays with recombinant PARPs 1, 2, and 6 (Figure 1A, Figure S1), with **PARPYnD** being an even more potent PARP6 binder than **AZ9482**. **PARPYnD** also displayed similar cytotoxic properties to the parent compounds against the triple negative breast cancer cell line MDA-MB-468 previously used in **AZ0108** target

validation studies (Figure 1A, Figure S2).[11] Finally, recombinant glutathione *S*-transferase (GST)-tagged PARP6 was incubated with a biotinylated analogue of NAD⁺ and increasing concentrations of **PARPYnD**. The reactions were separated by gel electrophoresis, transferred to nitrocellulose, and immunoblotted with NeutrAvidin-HRP (Figure 2C);[22] dose-dependent inhibition of PARP6 auto-MARylation was observed, indicating
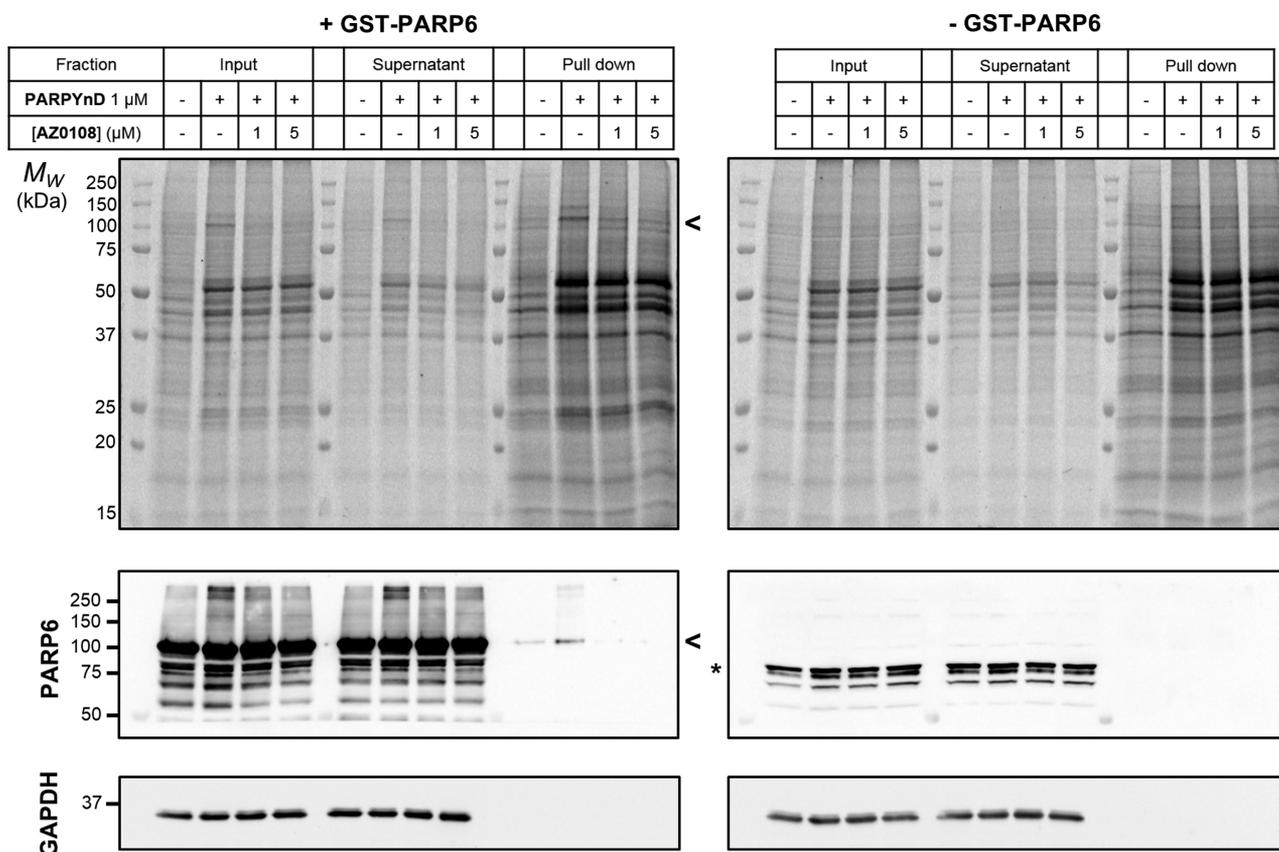
Figure 4. Successful engagement of recombinant but not endogenous PARP6 in lysate-based crosslinking experiments. In-gel fluorescence (top) and immunoblot (bottom) analysis of lysates labeled with **PARPYnD** and ligated to AzTB with/without cotreatment with **AZ0108**. Left panel—lysates were spiked with recombinant GST-PARP6 before treatment. Ligated samples were further enriched on streptavidin beads and all samples analyzed as above: > GST-PARP6 (98 kDa); * PARP6 (71 kDa). More recombinant protein is labeled/enriched compared to vehicle (DMSO) control, where residual signal can be observed through nonspecific interaction of the recombinant protein with the beads. No enrichment of endogenous PARP6 is observed.

that **PARPYnD** binds to PARP6 and inhibits its catalytic activity.

These data support the proposal that **PARPYnD** is an effective tool to interrogate the biomolecular profile of **AZ9482** and **AZ0108**, and therefore, the molecule was taken forward to preliminary live cell profiling studies. MDA-MB-468 cells were cultured in 6-well plates and treated with either DMSO, **PARPYnD** alone, or cotreated with **PARPYnD** and either **AZ9482**, **AZ0108**, or olaparib at various concentrations (Figure 2D). After 3 h of treatment, cells were irradiated with 365 nm UV light, lysed, and subjected to copper(I)-catalyzed alkyne–azide cycloaddition (CuAAC) to an azido-TAMRA/biotin capture reagent previously reported by our laboratories (AzTB, Figure S3A).[19] Qualitative assessment of **PARPYnD**-labeled proteins by in-gel fluorescence revealed a dose-dependent profile (Figure 2D, lanes 1−3), indicating robust labeling efficiency and cell permeability. **PARPYnD** competition against the parent compounds **AZ9482** or **AZ0108** was used to identify targets against the background of nonspecific probe interactions, characterized experimentally by dose-dependent reduction in band labeling intensity as a result of target-specific blockade of probe binding. One band (Figure 2D) appeared to be depleted in a dose-dependent manner by **AZ9482**, and to a lesser extent **AZ0108**, at around 110 kDa, corresponding to the molecular weight of PARP1. Further competition experiments with PARP1 inhibitor olaparib also resulted in depletion of this band (Figure 2D, lanes 10−12).

To validate target engagement with PARP1, the labeled proteome was enriched on streptavidin beads and the pull-down fraction interrogated by immunoblotting (Figure 2D).[23,24] PARP1 was enriched by **PARPYnD** but not in the vehicle (DMSO) control, and dose-dependent reduction in enrichment by competition against **AZ9482**, **AZ0108**, or olaparib was in line with what was observed in-gel. These results demonstrate the utility of **PARPYnD** as the first AfBP for the PARP enzymes, providing a useful tool molecule that can assess *bona fide* target engagement for PARP1 by a molecule of interest in a live cell setting. Surprisingly, **PARPYnD** did not enrich PARP6 in a similar fashion (Figure 2D), even when cells were treated with up to 10 μM probe, a concentration >10-fold the IC$_{50}$ of **PARPYnD** for PARP6 as determined by the *in vitro* binding assay (Figure S4). We hypothesized that antibody efficiency or low expression may render immunoblotting insufficient to detect PARP6, and so **PARPYnD** was taken on to unbiased proteomics studies.

MDA-MB-468 cells were treated with either DMSO, **PARPYnD** alone (1 μM), or cotreated with **PARPYnD** (1 μM) and either **AZ9482** (5 μM), **AZ0108** (5 μM), or olaparib (5 μM). Cells were irradiated at 365 nm, lysed, and subjected to CuAAC with AzRB (Figure S3B), a biotin-containing reporter molecule with a trypsin-cleavable linker previously developed in our laboratories.[25] Labeled proteins were enriched on NeutrAvidin agarose resin, reduced and alkylated, digested into constituent peptides using trypsin, and

labeled with tandem mass tag (TMT) reagents for quantification. Samples were combined, fractionated, and analyzed by nanoscale liquid chromatography tandem mass spectrometry on a high-resolution QExactive orbitrap mass spectrometer (nanoLC-MS/MS). Comparing **PARPYnD**-treated samples to untreated samples revealed the probe–protein interaction profile (Figure 3A), the diverse enrichment of proteins corresponding to the variety of bands observed by in-gel fluorescence (Figure 2D). Enrichment of these proteins was found to be entirely dependent on UV irradiation and was not the result of any unanticipated covalent reactivity of **PARPYnD** (Figure S5E–G). Furthermore, we observed significant enrichment of PARP1, confirming the results from immunoblotting, and also PARP2. Of the other proteins enriched, many are well-known targets of the diazirine motif which previous work has shown tend to be strongly enriched regardless of the core probe scaffold.[26] These include voltage-dependent anion-gated channel 1 (VDAC1), cathepsin D (CTSD), and enoyl-CoA hydratase 1 (ECH1); enrichment of these proteins provides a useful internal control for successful intracellular diazirine-based photoaffinity labeling. Competition studies confirmed that these proteins are targets of the probe rather than the parent molecules, since no significant depletion of these proteins was observed upon cotreatment with any competitor molecule (Figure 3B–D).

As expected, PARP1 and PARP2 labeling were significantly depleted by **AZ9482**, **AZ0108**, and olaparib (Figure 3B–D), demonstrating the utility of **PARPYnD** for assessing target engagement of purported PARP1/2 inhibitors in a live cell setting. Strikingly, several other proteins enriched by **PARPYnD** were outcompeted by both **AZ0108** and olaparib and represent potentially important off-target interactions for both molecules. Among these identified proteins, nicotinamide phosphoribosyltransferase (NAMPT) stands out as an off-target for both **AZ0108** and olaparib as it is a key enzyme in the biosynthetic pathway for NAD$^+$ and a promising anticancer target in its own right, with drug discovery campaigns already reported in the literature.[27,28] Proteins involved in sterol biosynthesis and metabolism are also significantly competed by both molecules, including lanosterol synthase (LSS),[29] the NADPH-dependent reductase Δ(24)-sterol reductase (DHCR24),[30] and the NAD(P)-independent oxidases prenylcysteine oxidase (PCYOX1)[31] and mitochondrial sterol 26-hydroxylase (CYP27A1—engaged by **AZ0108** only).[32] These proteins represent novel off-targets for both **AZ0108** and olaparib and, for the latter, have not been reported in previous protein profiling campaigns.[33,34]

PARP6 was not enriched in these proteomics experiments, confirming the results obtained from immunoblotting. To investigate whether the expression level of this protein precluded detection by Western blot and LC-MS/MS, a FLAG-tagged version of PARP6 was transiently overexpressed in MDA-MB-468 cells, and target engagement experiments with **PARPYnD** were repeated. After transfection with the corresponding construct, cells were treated with **PARPYnD** with/without competition, irradiated, lysed, and ligated to AzTB. The labeled proteome was once again incubated with streptavidin beads, and the enriched fraction was immunoblotted against the FLAG epitope, with no FLAG-PARP6 enrichment detected (Figure 3E). Given that **PARPYnD** binds strongly to PARP6 in *in vitro* binding assays, the failure of **PARPYnD** to engage the corresponding endogenous protein was unanticipated. To investigate this disparity, recombinant GST-tagged PARP6

used in *in vitro* binding assays was spiked into MDA-MB-468 lysates and the lysate treated with **PARPYnD** with or without competitor **AZ0108**, irradiated with 365 nm UV light and ligated to AzTB. In-gel fluorescence showed clear labeling of a band corresponding to the molecular weight of GST-PARP6 (98 kDa) which was depleted by PARP6 inhibitor **AZ0108** (Figure 4). Confirming these results, the same samples were enriched on streptavidin and immunoblotted against PARP6, demonstrating significant enrichment of recombinant protein by **PARPYnD** compared to DMSO control, which could be depleted in the presence of **AZ0108**. Importantly, labeling of *endogenous* PARP6 in lysate lacking recombinant GST-PARP6 protein was again not observed, reinforcing the results from live cell experiments. Finally, to rule out the possibility that the GST-fusion tag influences binding of **PARPYnD** and **AZ0108** to the recombinant protein, the same lysate-based photocrosslinking experiment was performed before and after cleavage of the GST tag from the protein using an internal HRV3C cleavage site present in the linker between PARP6 and GST tag (Figure S6). In both cases, labeling of the 71 kDa band corresponding to the intact PARP6 protein was demonstrated, showing that the GST tag is neither the site of probe binding, nor does it bias the conformation of PARP6 in such a way that artificially promotes binding. These results imply that **PARPYnD** can bind to and label recombinant but not endogenous PARP6, raising interesting questions regarding the activity and inhibitor binding affinity for PARP6 *in cellulo*.

■ CONCLUSION

In this work we have developed **PARPYnD** as the first photoaffinity-based probe (AfBP) for the PARP family and have shown that it can effectively label PARP1/2 in a live cell setting, highlighting this AfBP as a useful tool molecule to validate target engagement of PARP inhibitors *in cellulo*. Previous studies using the label-free approach of the cellular thermal shift assay (CETSA) have similarly measured target engagement of PARP1 by drug molecules in live cell systems;[35,36] photoaffinity labeling with **PARPYnD** complements this work while additionally being able to identify and quantify interactions of PARP inhibitors with other proteins. In particular, we highlight that **PARPYnD** is able to covalently engage several non-PARP proteins in intact cells, and competitive affinity-based protein profiling experiments have identified several of these proteins as novel off-targets of olaparib and **AZ0108**. Further investigation is required to demonstrate that these proteins are truly engaged by **PARPYnD** and are not enriched due to an orthogonal interaction between the protein and PARP1/2 that brings the identified protein in close proximity to the photoaffinity element of the probe while bound to the PARP enzyme. However, this is unlikely since none of the identified proteins reported in Figure 3 are known binding partners of PARP1 or PARP2.[37,38] These proteins may therefore represent novel biomolecular interactions for phthalazinone-based PARP inhibitors,[33,34] and engagement of these targets may be significant for the polypharmacology of phthalazinone-based PARP inhibitors in the clinic, leading to deeper understanding of toxicology or novel indications. It has been discussed that the off-target interactions identified may have an impact on sterol metabolism, and further network analysis[37] demonstrated that off-target binding to CYP27A1 and NAMPT may affect the peroxisome proliferator-activated receptor (PPAR) axis and therefore disrupt lipid biosynthesis and

metabolism.[39] This could be of importance when addressing questions of safety and efficacy of these compounds.

Furthermore, examining the full list of proteins labeled by the probe but not necessarily depleted in competition experiments (Figure S5A), many are known binders of nucleoside analogues, suggesting that **PARPYnD** may have potential as a tool to profile nucleoside mimicking drugs outside of the PARP inhibitor family.[40] These include NAD(P) binding proteins prostaglandin reductase (PTGR2), NADPH-cytochrome P450 reductase (POR), squalene synthase (FDFT1), retinal dehydrogenase (ALDH1A1); Coenzyme A binding proteins peroxisomal acyl-coenzyme A oxidase 1 (ACOX1), carnitine *O*-palmitoyltransferase 2, mitochondrial (CPT2), nuclear receptor coactivator 3 (NCOA3); and ATP binding proteins adenosine kinase (ADK), methionine adenosyltransferase 2 subunit beta (MAT2B), and ribosomal protein S6 kinase alpha-1 (RPS6KA1).

AZ0108 has been reported to be a cellular PARP6 inhibitor, and this activity is thought to be responsible for MPS formation and subsequent cytotoxicity.[11] However, despite the fact that **PARPYnD** efficiently enters cells (based on PARP1/2 labeling), generates an MPS phenotype, and inhibits PARP6 *in vitro* with comparable potency to the parent compounds, it fails to bind or photocrosslink to endogenous PARP6, even when transiently overexpressed. This suggests that cellular PARP6 inhibition may not be the only mechanism that contributes to MPS induction by these molecules. Furthermore, **PARPYnD** can label recombinant but not endogenous PARP6, implying that access to the PARP6 NAD$^+$ binding site may be restricted in the endogenous protein, for example as a result of endogenous post-translational modification of PARP6, or complex formation with another biomolecule, that restricts compound binding. Given the current lack of structural and biophysical characterization of PARP6, further work is required to understand the molecular basis for regulated access to the NAD$^+$-binding site.

In summary, **PARPYnD** constitutes a novel and useful probe for on- and off-target profiling of PARP inhibitor interactions and has been used to identify the need for future investigation of the purported mechanism of action of these compounds and associated off-target pharmacology. More generally, this work highlights the importance of assessing target engagement in a biological system at the earliest stages of the drug discovery and development pipeline, and photoaffinity labeling with an AfBP provides a complementary approach to uncover the interactome of a molecule in intact, living cells.

■ ASSOCIATED CONTENT

ⓢ Supporting Information

The Supporting Information is available free of charge at https://pubs.acs.org/doi/10.1021/acschembio.9b00963.

> Methods and materials used and additional figures including schemes, assay results, volcano and profile plots, and NMR spectra (PDF)
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> Extended Data S1 (XLSX)
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> Extended Data S2 (XLSX)

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Notes

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