

Sulfonamide Inhibitors of Human Carbonic Anhydrases Designed through a Three-Tails Approach: Improving Ligand/Isoform Matching and Selectivity of Action

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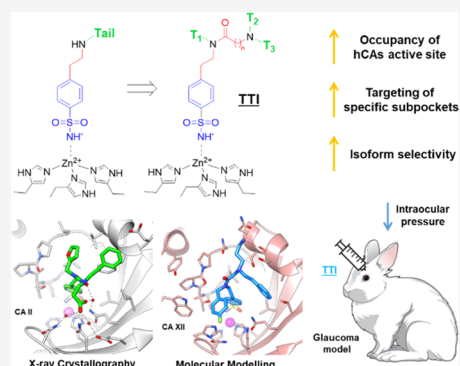


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ABSTRACT: The “tail approach” has become a milestone in human carbonic anhydrase inhibitor (hCAI) design for various therapeutics, including antiglaucoma agents. Besides the classical hydrophobic/hydrophilic division of hCAs active site, several subpockets have been identified at the middle/outer active sites rim, which could be targeted to increase the CAI isoform selectivity. This postulate is explored here by three-tailed benzenesulfonamide CAIs (TTI) to fully exploit such amino acid differences among hCAs. In this proof-of-concept study, an extensive structure–activity relationship (SAR) study was carried out with 32 such benzenesulfonamides differing in tails combination that were assayed for hCAs I, II, IV, and XII inhibition. A structural study was undertaken by X-ray crystallography and *in silico* tools to assess the ligand/target interaction mode. The most active and selective inhibitors against isoforms implicated in glaucoma were assessed in a rabbit model of the disease achieving an intraocular pressure-lowering action comparable to the clinically used dorzolamide.



INTRODUCTION

Carbonic anhydrases (CAs, EC 4.2.1.1) are among the most efficient catalysts, speeding up the simple yet physiologically essential reaction in all kingdoms: the reversible hydration of carbon dioxide to bicarbonate and protons.¹ Among the eight genetically unrelated CA families α , β , γ , δ , η , ζ , θ , and ι ,^{2–9} α -CAs are uniquely present in higher vertebrates.^{2,10} In particular, humans express 15 α -CA isoforms (hCAs) which differ in catalytic activity, subcellular/tissue localization, and physiological role.¹¹ Therefore, hCAs are involved in multiple physiological processes and their levels of activities are linked to many human disorders such as glaucoma, retinal/cerebral edema, retinitis pigmentosa, other retinopathies, stroke, epilepsy, sterility, osteoporosis, altitude sickness, cariogenesis, neurodegeneration, obesity, and cancer.^{12–14} As a result, almost all catalytically active hCAs have generated great interest for the design of inhibitors (carbonic anhydrase inhibitors, CAIs) or activators (CAAs) with biomedical applications.¹⁵ Although initially CAIs were used as diuretics, antiglaucoma agents, antiepileptics, and for the management of altitude sickness,² a new generation of CAIs are being developed for the treatment of cancers, obesity, inflammation, neuropathic pain, infections, and neurodegenerative disorders.^{16–21} CAAs are also of interest in the field of cognition, aging, and neurodegeneration.²²

Nevertheless, the use as antiglaucoma agents is still the main therapeutic application of CAIs. In fixed-drugs combinations (mainly with prostaglandin analogues and β -blockers), CAIs continue to be marketed worldwide and widely used.²³ Acetazolamide (AAZ), methazolamide (MTZ), and dichlorophenamide (DCP) are first-generation CAIs used as systemic drugs for the management of this disease (Figure 1). Dorzolamide (DRZ) and brinzolamide (BRZ) represent second-generation inhibitors used topically, as eye drops, with less side effects compared to first-generation drugs.²⁴ However, none of these drugs possess a selective inhibition profile against the hCA isoforms mainly implicated in the disease that are hCA II (main isoform), IV, and XII. Considering that the current therapies are overall often inadequate given that multiple classes of medications have to be coadministered to control intraocular pressure (IOP) efficiently,²⁵ it might be of crucial importance to optimize the single CAI agents, by increasing their efficacy (against the

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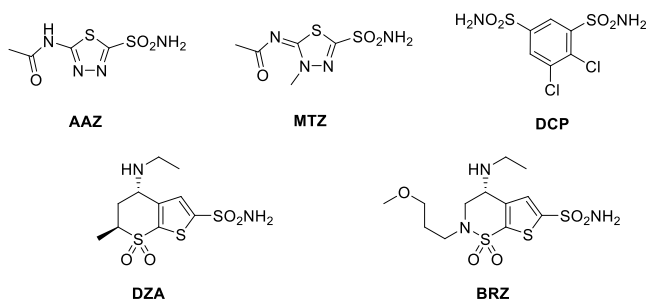


Figure 1. Clinically used antiglaucoma CAIs.

target CAs) and decreasing adverse events (improving their selectivity of action).

The 12 catalytically active hCAs (isoforms VIII, X, and XI are catalytically inactive) are characterized by a Zn(II) ion, which is tetrahedrally coordinated by three histidine residues and a solvent molecule that are situated at the base of a 13 Å deep conical cavity portioned into hydrophobic and hydrophilic sides.^{11,15,26} As the hCAs catalytic domains are structurally homologous and conserved in amino acid sequence identity, it is rather challenging to achieve targeted inhibition of a specific hCA isoform over others. Despite this, many new approaches have been developed for this purpose, especially over the last two decades.¹⁵

So far, four unique CA inhibition mechanisms have been validated by both kinetic and structural assessments:^{15,27} (1) zinc binding, which consists of the direct coordination of a catalytical Zn(II) ion with a tetrahedral or trigonal bipyramidal coordination geometry (sulfonamides, sulfamides, sulfonates, anions, mono-dithiocarbamates, xanthates, thio-xanthates, carboxylates, hydroxamates, benzoxaboroles, selenols); (2) anchorage to the zinc-bound water molecule/hydroxide ion (phenols, thiophenols, polyphenols, carboxylates, polyamines, 2-thioxocoumarins, sulfocoumarins); (3) occlusion of the active site entrance (coumarins and bioisosters); and (4) binding out of the active site (a unique carboxylic acid derivative exhibited this inhibition mode to date).

Undoubtedly, zinc binders, such as sulfonamides and their bioisosters sulfamates and sulfamides in a prominent position, are among the most effective and investigated derivatives in the field of CA inhibition as well as in the related clinical context.^{11,15}

In fact, most efforts have been made on this class of CAIs to achieve isozyme selectivity of action, to lower the side effects consequent to promiscuous inhibition.²⁸ As simple as effective, the so-called “tail approach” made its appearance in the field of CA inhibition in 1999 and led to the development of a large number of studies and compounds that expanded the database of CA isoform-selective inhibitors by appending a wide spectrum of chemical functionalities, named tails, to the main zinc-binding scaffold.^{29–35} The original aim was to increase the water solubility²⁹ and subsequently membrane (im)permeability of aromatic sulfonamide derivatives.³² Afterward, the design was shifted toward the modulation of the interactions between the ligand and the middle and outer rims of the hCAs active sites, which contain the most variable polypeptide regions among the various isoforms, to increase isoform specificity. Simple tailed CAIs are composed of the following elements: (i) a zinc-binding function, (ii) a main scaffold that can include a linker, and (iii) the tail (Figure 2A).

An extension of this approach was proposed in 2015 by Tanpure et al.,³⁶ with the simultaneous inclusion of two tails of diverse nature onto aromatic sulfonamide scaffolds, at a nitrogen atom branching point, allowing distinct binding to the hydrophobic and hydrophilic sections of the hCAs active site (Figure 2B). However, a limited number of compounds were reported (three), and an *in vitro* assay was performed solely on hCA II, which makes this pioneering study rather unfulfilled. More recently, Fares et al. have used a similar approach proposing a diverse type of dual tails to benzenesulfonamide CAIs.³⁷

The detailed knowledge of the active site composition and architecture of hCAs (mostly available by X-ray crystallographic studies, except for CAs VA and VB) derived from many previous studies^{38–40} led to the conclusion that the simple hydrophobic/hydrophilic division of the isoforms binding pocket may no longer be sufficient. In fact, some CA isozymes do not exhibit such a precise distinction as originally noted in hCA I, II, and IX,¹³ and a bulk of accessory subpockets exist, which differentiate the various CA isoforms. Here, the inclusion of a third tail is proposed as an approach to improve the matching and fitting of the target–ligand interaction within the different hCAs active sites (Figure 2C).

As a first proof of concept of this improved approach, a diverse array of tail combinations were investigated with the aim of identifying suitable isoform imprints. Described here is the screening of hCA isozymes I, II, IV, and XII with 32

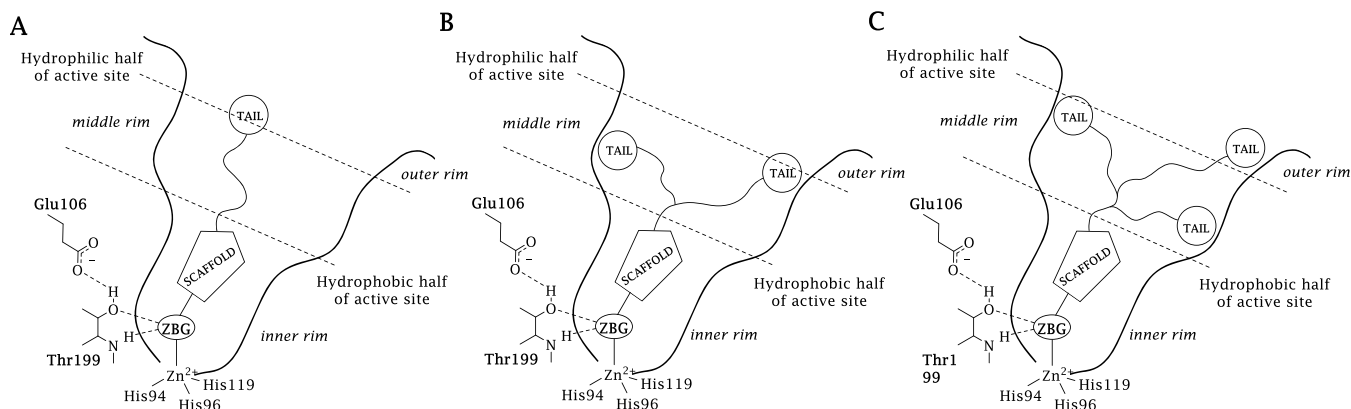


Figure 2. Schematic representation of the (A) “tail”, (B) “two-tails”, and (C) “three-tails” approach for the design of zinc-binding CAIs.

benzenesulfonamide derivatives incorporating three tails. In the context of the antiglaucoma CAI application, hCA I is the main off-target isoform as it is widespread in red blood cells and many other tissues.² A comprehensive structural study was also undertaken by X-ray crystallography with hCA II and *in silico* with isozymes hCA I, IV, and XII, to assess the ligand–target interaction modes. A selection of the three-tailed inhibitors most active against hCAs implicated in glaucoma was assessed *in vivo* in a rabbit model of the diseases and compared to classical clinically used CAIs.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Drug Design and Chemistry. Currently, the tail approach has been a focus of CAIs research area with most design studies adopting the *p*-substituted benzenesulfonamide scaffold as a main foothold to include a variety of chemical frameworks.¹⁵ In fact, avoiding heteroaromatic sulfonamide scaffolds markedly eases the synthesis procedures, moving the focus on the inclusion of pendants on the inhibitor structure.³⁶ Likewise, to converge efforts and attention on studying the three-tailing effects on CA inhibition, a *p*-substituted benzenesulfonamide was here adopted as a CAI scaffold.

It should be stressed that it is not possible to easily include three chemically diverse tails on a single branching atom (e.g., a nitrogen atom, as proposed by Tanpure et al. in the two-tails approach),³⁶ unless obtaining an ammonium salt or a chiral center. As a result, among several identified alternatives to branch a spacer attached to the main scaffold into three tails, the general structure **TTI** (Figure 3) was selected to combine

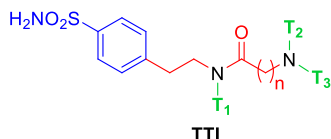


Figure 3. General structure of the designed three-tailed inhibitors (TTIs).

easy and versatile chemistry with the possibility to extend it to many diverse chemical groups, which is relevant for producing a range of tail combinations. As a result, **TTI** was designed in the following manner: (i) a benzenesulfonamide scaffold (blue), which assures the interaction with the zinc ion and the bottom of the active site; (ii) an ethylene spacer (red), which has the function to allow sufficient space between the main scaffold and the tails; (iii) a first ramification point (N atom, in black) from which the first tail T_1 (green) branches off; (iv) an amide-based spacer (red); and (v) a second intersection point (N atom, in black) by which T_2 and T_3 (green) branch off. Having the benzenesulfonamide bound to the Zn(II) at the bottom of the active site, the linkers in red (Figure 3) were chosen in such a way as to explore a vast chemical space at the middle and outer rims of the binding clefts.

The synthesis strategies adopted to yield the **TTI** derivatives are reported in Schemes 1–3. T_1 was introduced on the 4-(2-aminoethyl)benzenesulfonamide by reductive amination with the proper aromatic aldehyde and sodium borohydride in MeOH or, alternatively, by nucleophilic substitution with the appropriate halides in anhydrous *N,N*-dimethylformamide (DMF) and in the presence of tetraethylammonium (TEA) to furnish secondary amines 1–5 and 6

and 7, respectively. The latter were reacted with chloroacetyl chloride or chloropropionyl chloride in acetone and in the presence of K_2CO_3 to provide amides 8–17. T_2 and T_3 were finally included through a nucleophilic substitution with commercially available or synthesized secondary amines in anhydrous ACN and TEA as a base to produce **TTIs** 18–33. The nitrile derivatives 33–37 were further converted to the corresponding amines 40–44 through a Ni/Raney-catalyzed hydrogenation or hydrolyzed in $NaOH_{(aq)}$ into the corresponding carboxylic acids 45–49 (Scheme 2). Additionally, the markedly hydrophobic oleylamide derivative 50 was yielded by coupling the carboxylic acid 46 with oleylamine in the presence of EDC and 4-dimethylaminopyridine (DMAP) in anhydrous DMF.

All derivatives were purified by silica gel chromatography eluting with MeOH/DCM gradients and fully characterized by 1H NMR, ^{13}C NMR, and high-resolution mass spectrometry (HRMS) (Supporting Information).

Carbonic Anhydrase Inhibition. In this first screening, mono-tailed (1–7) and three-tailed (18–50) compounds were analyzed by a stopped-flow kinetic assay with hCA isoforms I, II, IV, and XII.⁴¹ hCAs II, IV, and XII are involved in glaucoma with the last isoform being reported to be upregulated in the eyes of glaucoma patients. Thus, all of them are involved in this disease, both in the elevation of intraocular pressure (IOP) and the decrease of blood flow and oxygen supply within the hypoxic neovascular retinal tissues.⁴² HCA IV was reported to be involved in stroke, glaucoma, retinitis pigmentosa, astrocytomas, and gliomas.¹² HCA XII is also validated as an anticancer target (being overexpressed on the membrane of hypoxic tumor cells),¹⁷ and recently, overexpression of this isoform has also been linked to inflammation.¹⁹ HCA I is a main off-target isoform for the therapeutic application of CAIs in ocular diseases, as this isoform is widespread in red blood cells and many other tissues.²

Generally, the inhibition data reported in Table 1 highlighted that mono-tailed compounds 1–7 were medium to high nanomolar inhibitors of hCA I ($K_i = 68.4$ – 458.1 nM), II ($K_i = 62.8$ – 153.7 nM), and XII ($K_i = 55.4$ – 113.2 nM), and weak inhibitors of hCA IV with inhibition constant (K_i) values in the low micromolar range (1.1– 6.2 μM).

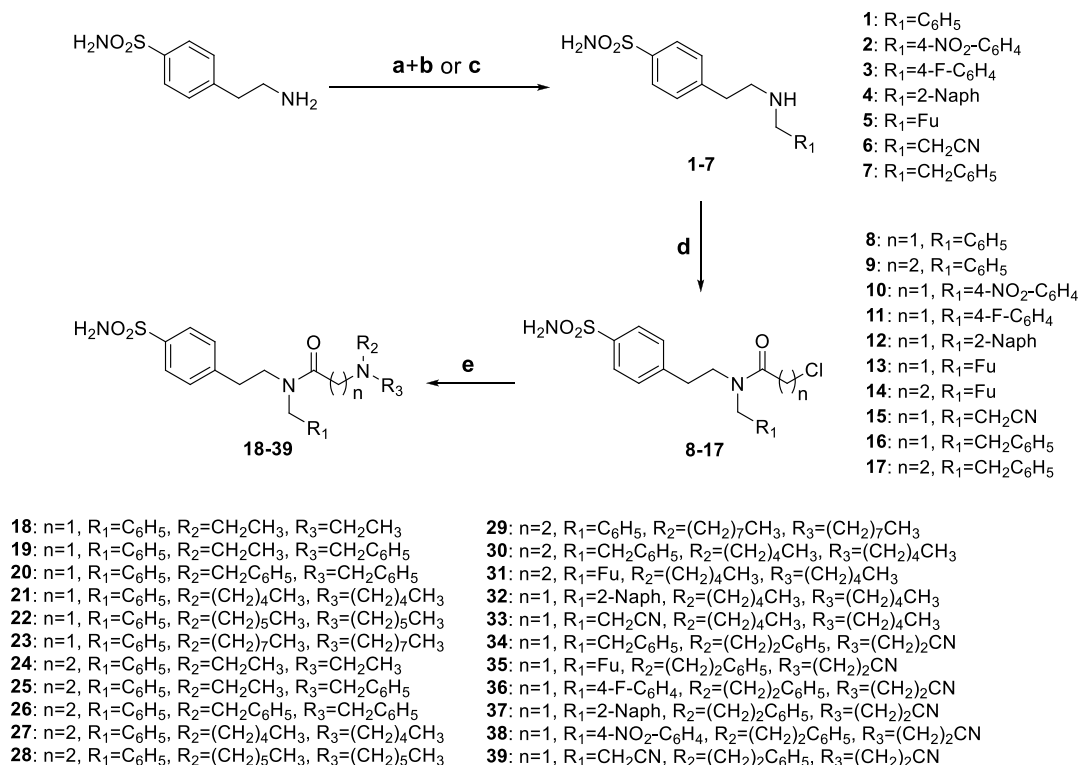
In detail, compounds 1 ($R_1 = C_6H_5$) and 5 ($R_1 = Fu$) inhibited the off-target hCA I in the medium nanomolar range ($K_i = 95.3$ and 68.4 nM, respectively), while compounds 2, 4, and 7 acted as weaker inhibitors ($K_i = 224.3$ – 458.1 nM). In fact, the introduction of bulky substituents (2 and 4, K_i s of 224.3 and 458.1 nM) or the elongation of the chain (7, K_i of 278.4 nM) in R_1 decreased the action against hCA I compared to compound 1.

The aryl-tailed compounds 1–6 acted as medium nanomolar inhibitors ($K_i = 62.8$ – 120.9 nM) against hCA II, with compound 5 ($R_1 = Fu$) being the single-tail isoform inhibitor. Compound 7 ($R_1 = CH_2CN$) reported instead the worst inhibition of action against hCA II ($K_i = 153.7$ nM).

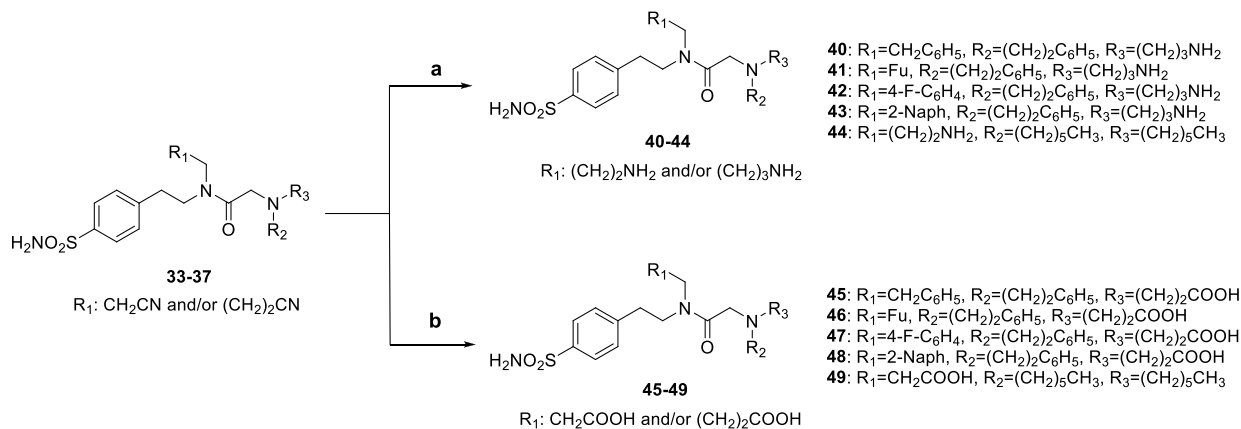
HCA IV was the least inhibited by compounds 1–7. In this context, derivatives 2 ($K_i = 1.6$ μM), 3 ($K_i = 1.1$ μM), and 5 ($K_i = 1.5$ μM) resulted to be significantly better inhibitors than the bulkier derivative 4 ($R_1 = 2-Naph$, K_i value of 6.2 μM).

HCA XII was inhibited almost similarly by the single-tail compounds 1–7. Nonetheless, again derivative 5 ($R_1 = Fu$) stood out as the best inhibitor ($K_i = 55.4$ nM), whereas the

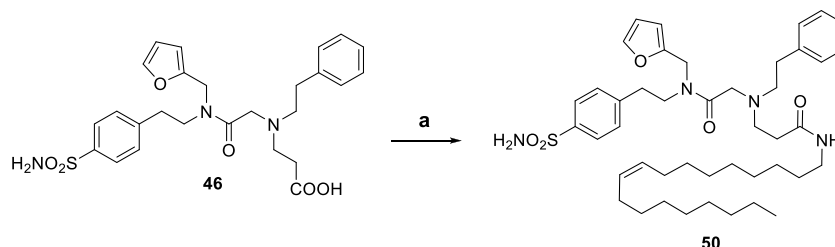
Scheme 1. Reagents and Conditions: (a) $R_1\text{CHO}$, Anhydrous MeOH, Reflux, 4 h; (b) NaBH_4 , Anhydrous MeOH, Reflux, 0.5–2 h; (c) $R_1\text{CH}_2\text{X}$, TEA, Anhydrous DMF; (d) $\text{ClCO}(\text{CH}_2)_n\text{Cl}$, K_2CO_3 , Acetone, Room Temperature (r.t.), 1 h; (e) $R_2R_3\text{NH}$, TEA, Anhydrous ACN, Reflux, 4–24 h



Scheme 2. Reagents and Conditions: (a) H_2 , Ni/Raney, NaOH, EtOH, r.t., Overnight (o.n.); (b) NaOH, EtOH, Reflux, o.n



Scheme 3. Reagents and Conditions: (a) Oleylamine, EDC·HCl, DMAP, Anhydrous DMF, r.t., o.n



cianoalkyl- and phenethyl-tailed compounds **6** and **7** exhibit K_{iS} above 100 nM.

Data in Table 1 showed that the development of **1–7** upon inclusion of two other tails to synthesize compounds **18–50**

significantly affected the inhibition profiles against the panel of CA isoforms. In fact, TTIs showed lightly decreased or markedly improved inhibition of hCA XII ($K_{iS} = 0.6\text{--}302.5$ nM). HCA IV remained the less inhibited isozyme, though

Table 1. Inhibition Data of Human CA Isoforms CA I, II, IV, and XII with Sulfonamides 1–7, 18–50 Reported Here and the Standard Sulfonamide Inhibitor Acetazolamide (AAZ) by a Stopped-Flow CO₂ Hydrase Assay⁴¹

compd	n	R ₁	R ₂	R ₃	K _i ^a (nM)			
					CA I	CA II	CA IV	CA XII
1		C ₆ H ₅			95.3	98.4	2854.4	65.4
2		4-NO ₂ -C ₆ H ₄			224.3	120.9	1685.3	77.4
3		4-F-C ₆ H ₄			112.8	78.5	1196.7	60.1
4		2-Naph			458.1	87.1	6248.1	78.6
5		Fu			68.4	62.8	1584.5	55.4
6		CH ₂ CN			105.3	153.7	5547.2	113.2
7		CH ₂ C ₆ H ₅			278.4	89.1	3587.4	104.3
18	1	C ₆ H ₅	CH ₂ CH ₃	CH ₂ CH ₃	786.6	8.3	4147.5	43.9
19	1	C ₆ H ₅	CH ₂ CH ₃	CH ₂ C ₆ H ₅	4210.4	391.6	>10000	82.6
20	1	C ₆ H ₅	CH ₂ C ₆ H ₅	CH ₂ C ₆ H ₅	865.9	412.3	>10000	98.8
21	1	C ₆ H ₅	(CH ₂) ₄ CH ₃	(CH ₂) ₅ CH ₃	506.1	124.5	>10000	69.4
22	1	C ₆ H ₅	(CH ₂) ₅ CH ₃	(CH ₂) ₅ CH ₃	878.7	237	>10000	92.8
23	1	C ₆ H ₅	(CH ₂) ₇ CH ₃	(CH ₂) ₇ CH ₃	946.7	843.8	>10000	99.4
24	2	C ₆ H ₅	CH ₂ CH ₃	CH ₂ CH ₃	184.7	8.9	3928.8	61.1
25	2	C ₆ H ₅	CH ₂ CH ₃	CH ₂ C ₆ H ₅	544.3	79.6	>10000	90.4
26	2	C ₆ H ₅	CH ₂ C ₆ H ₅	CH ₂ C ₆ H ₅	692.3	559.2	4640.8	302.5
27	2	C ₆ H ₅	(CH ₂) ₄ CH ₃	(CH ₂) ₄ CH ₃	563.6	522.6	3244.8	100.3
28	2	C ₆ H ₅	(CH ₂) ₅ CH ₃	(CH ₂) ₅ CH ₃	308.2	578.4	3455.4	77.8
29	2	C ₆ H ₅	(CH ₂) ₇ CH ₃	(CH ₂) ₇ CH ₃	209.3	778.8	>10000	280
30	2	CH ₂ C ₆ H ₅	(CH ₂) ₅ CH ₃	(CH ₂) ₅ CH ₃	518.4	780.8	3413.2	62.5
31	2	Fu	(CH ₂) ₅ CH ₃	(CH ₂) ₅ CH ₃	220.1	60.4	3153.7	9.7
32	1	2-Naph	(CH ₂) ₅ CH ₃	(CH ₂) ₅ CH ₃	541.4	4562.9	>10000	61.7
33	1	CH ₂ CN	(CH ₂) ₅ CH ₃	(CH ₂) ₅ CH ₃	395.9	52.5	3478.3	8.6
34	1	CH ₂ C ₆ H ₅	(CH ₂) ₂ C ₆ H ₅	(CH ₂) ₂ CN	777.3	368.5	>10000	75.5
35	1	Fu	(CH ₂) ₂ C ₆ H ₅	(CH ₂) ₂ CN	300.8	73.2	457.4	8.7
36	1	4-F-C ₆ H ₄	(CH ₂) ₂ C ₆ H ₅	(CH ₂) ₂ CN	676.4	133	4133.8	9.8
37	1	2-Naph	(CH ₂) ₂ C ₆ H ₅	(CH ₂) ₂ CN	685	247.5	3812.9	64.9
38	1	4-NO ₂ -C ₆ H ₄	(CH ₂) ₂ C ₆ H ₅	(CH ₂) ₂ CN	407.5	264.2	2421.5	89.5
39	1	CH ₂ CN	(CH ₂) ₂ C ₆ H ₅	(CH ₂) ₂ CN	61.6	0.7	726.6	8.9
40	1	CH ₂ C ₆ H ₅	(CH ₂) ₂ C ₆ H ₅	(CH ₂) ₃ NH ₂	242.4	367.3	2149.2	83.7
41	1	Fu	(CH ₂) ₂ C ₆ H ₅	(CH ₂) ₃ NH ₂	246.7	57	374.1	42.7
42	1	4-F-C ₆ H ₄	(CH ₂) ₂ C ₆ H ₅	(CH ₂) ₃ NH ₂	451.4	30.4	365.3	0.6
43	1	2-Naph	(CH ₂) ₂ C ₆ H ₅	(CH ₂) ₃ NH ₂	506.7	5.6	819.2	10.5
44	1	(CH ₂) ₂ NH ₂	(CH ₂) ₅ CH ₃	(CH ₂) ₅ CH ₃	435.8	2924.8	913.9	32.5
45	1	CH ₂ C ₆ H ₅	(CH ₂) ₂ C ₆ H ₅	(CH ₂) ₂ COOH	203.5	72	2330.5	29.7
46	1	Fu	(CH ₂) ₂ C ₆ H ₅	(CH ₂) ₂ COOH	79.5	2.4	335.5	7.1
47	1	4-F-C ₆ H ₄	(CH ₂) ₂ C ₆ H ₅	(CH ₂) ₂ COOH	95.8	23.5	419.3	8.8
48	1	2-Naph	(CH ₂) ₂ C ₆ H ₅	(CH ₂) ₂ COOH	197	72.5	680.6	6.8
49	1	CH ₂ COOH	(CH ₂) ₅ CH ₃	(CH ₂) ₅ CH ₃	285.5	585.7	45.8	9.9
50	1	Fu	(CH ₂) ₂ C ₆ H ₅	(CH ₂) ₂ CONHoleyl	737.9	132	1807.1	5.5
AAZ					250	12	74	5.7

^aMean from three different assays, by a stopped-flow technique (errors were in the range of ± 5 –10% of the reported values). Fu = furyl; Naph = naphthyl.

inhibition improvement of 1 or 2 orders of magnitude were testified for some compounds ($K_{iS} = 45.8$ –>10 000 nM). On the whole, no significant improvement of hCA I inhibition was detected with TTIs ($K_{iS} = 79.5$ –4210.4 nM). HCA II showed that the inhibition profiles most affected, both positively and negatively, upon inclusion of additional tails on the scaffold of 1–7 ($K_{iS} = 0.7$ –4562.9 nM).

To better discuss TTIs' structure–activity relationship (SAR) from Table 1, compounds and related data were distinguished in five subsets: (i) 18–29 (with R₁ = C₆H₅); (ii) 30–33, 44, 49 (with R₂ = R₃ = (CH₂)₅CH₃); (iii) 34–39 (R₂ = (CH₂)₂C₆H₅ and R₃ = (CH₂)₂CN); (iv) 40–43 (R₂ = (CH₂)₂C₆H₅ and R₃ = (CH₂)₃NH₂); and (v) 45–48 (R₂ = (CH₂)₂C₆H₅ and R₃ = (CH₂)₂COOH).

(i) In the first subset, compounds 18 and 20–29 were high nanomolar inhibitors of the ubiquitous off-target hCA I with K_i values between 184.7 and 946.7 nM, while derivative 24 (R₂ = R₃ = CH₂CH₃) showed the best inhibitory profile (K_i = 184.7 nM). Instead, compound 19 (R₂ = CH₂CH₃ and R₃ = CH₂C₆H₅) resulted in the worst hCA I inhibitor among all synthesized compounds (K_i = 4210.4 nM).

The glaucoma-implicated isoform hCA II was inhibited in the nanomolar range (K_i = 8.3–843.8 nM) and, in particular, the introduction of R₂ = R₃ = CH₂CH₃ for compounds 18 (n = 1) and 24 (n = 2) and R₂ = CH₂CH₃ and R₃ = CH₂C₆H₅ for derivative 25 (n = 2) increased the inhibition profile against this isoform (K_i = 8.3, 8.9, and 79.6 nM, respectively).

Thus, derivative **18** is the most hCA II selective compound (CA I/CA II = 94).

Only compounds **18**, **24**, and **26–28** inhibited hCA IV with K_1 values in the range of 3.2–4.6 μM , while the other compounds of this series showed no activity below 10 μM .

All derivatives potently inhibited the other glaucoma-associated isoform, hCA XII, with K_1 values below 100 nM, except for compounds **26** and **29** that were also the worst inhibitors among all of the synthesized compounds against this isoform ($K_1 = 280.0$ and 302.5 nM). Compound **18** showed the best inhibitory profile of this series ($K_1 = 43.9$ nM).

The importance of the linker length ($n = 1, 2$) is pointed out from the activity analysis of this first subset. In fact, the elongation of the chain between R_1 and R_2/R_3 increased the activity against hCA I, II and IV, which possess the smallest binding cavities, as a longer linker ($n = 2$) can shift the tails R_2/R_3 toward the rim of the active site, removing the ligand–target steric encumbrance. On the other hand, the larger active sites of hCA XII are able to host bulky substituents and the introduction of the linker $n = 2$, which drives the tails R_2/R_3 out from the active site, may decrease the activity by weakening the ligand–target interactions.

(ii) Comparing the second subset (**30–33**, **44**, **49** with $R_2 = R_3 = (\text{CH}_2)_5\text{CH}_3$ compounds) with the first subset R_2/R_3 -analogues **22** and **28**, it was highlighted that the introduction of Fu and CH_2CN in R_1 increased the activity against the off-target hCA I and hCA II, such as observed in compounds **31** (hCA I $K_1 = 220.1$ nM; hCA II $K_1 = 60.4$ nM) and **33** (hCA I $K_1 = 395.9$ nM; hCA II $K_1 = 52.5$ nM). On the other hand, for $R_1 = \text{CH}_2\text{C}_6\text{H}_5$ (**30**) and 2-Naph (**32**), the activity on hCA II strongly decreased for both substituents ($K_1 = 780.8$ nM and 4.5 μM , respectively), while a weak increase in inhibition was observed for compound **30** ($K_1 = 518.4$ nM) and a decrement for **32** ($K_1 = 541.4$ nM) against hCA I.

HCA IV was weakly inhibited by **30–32** with K_1 values in the micromolar range of 3.1–3.4 μM . Furthermore, the tail $R_1 = \text{CH}_2\text{CN}$ reduction of compounds **33** into amine **44** decreased the activity on hCA II by 55 times ($K_1 = 2.9$ μM) and increased the activity on hCA IV by 3 times ($K_1 = 913.9$ nM). Instead, the swap of **33** nitrile into carboxylic acid **49** worsened the activity against hCA II by 11 times ($K_1 = 585.7$ nM), but increased the inhibition profile against hCA IV by 76 times ($K_1 = 45.8$ nM), obtaining the most potent and selective compounds against this isozyme (CA I/CA IV = 6.2).

In the case of hCA XII, all compounds showed a good activity against the target and, in particular, compounds **31** ($K_1 = 9.7$ nM), **33** ($K_1 = 8.6$ nM), and **49** ($K_1 = 9.9$ nM) inhibited this isoform with K_1 in the low nanomolar range while **30**, **32**, and **44** acted as medium nanomolar inhibitors ($K_1 = 32.5$ –62.5 nM).

Generally, for this subset, it was observed that the concomitant presence of $R_2 = R_3 = (\text{CH}_2)_5\text{CH}_3$ with a 2-Naph in R_1 (**32**) worsened the activity by 19 times against hCA II ($K_1 = 4.5$ μM) and increased the activity by 1.5 times against hCA XII ($K_1 = 61.7$ nM) with respect to the analogue **22** ($R_1 = \text{C}_6\text{H}_5$), improving the CA II/CA XII selectivity from 2.5 to 74 times. Of note, the presence of a potentially charged moiety in R_1 such as $(\text{CH}_2)_2\text{NH}_2$ (**44**) or better CH_2COOH (**49**) increased the activity against hCA IV, which possesses a wider hydrophilic half in the active site with respect to the

other hCAs with many acidic/basic residues at the middle rim of the cavity.

(iii) The third subset (**34–39**) is characterized by the introduction of a hydrophobic tail $R_2 = (\text{CH}_2)_2\text{C}_6\text{H}_5$, a polar one $R_3 = (\text{CH}_2)_2\text{CN}$, and a variable pendant R_1 . Only compound **39** ($R_1 = \text{CH}_2\text{CN}$) was a medium nanomolar inhibitor ($K_1 = 61.6$ nM), which resulted to be the most potent agent against the off-target hCA I, whereas **34–38** acted in the high nanomolar range ($K_1 = 300.8$ –777.3 nM).

The glaucoma-associated hCA II was potently inhibited by derivative **39** with K_1 in the subnanomolar range (0.7 nM), resulting the most potent and third selective inhibitor against this isozyme (CA I/CA II = 88.0), while **35** ($R_1 = \text{Fu}$) acted in the medium nanomolar range with $K_1 = 73.2$ nM and derivatives **34** and **36–38** showed K_1 values between 133.0 and 368.5 nM.

The best inhibitors against hCA IV within this subset were **35** and **39** with K_1 in the high nanomolar range (457.4 and 726.6 nM, respectively), whereas **36–38** were low micromolar inhibitors with K_1 values between 2.4 and 4.1 μM and derivative **34** ($R_1 = \text{CH}_2\text{C}_6\text{H}_5$) acted with $K_1 > 10$ μM .

The target hCA XII was strongly inhibited by all compounds of the subset with compounds **35**, **36**, and **39** acting in a low nanomolar range ($K_1 = 8.7$, 9.8, and 8.9 nM, respectively), while **34**, **37**, and **38** were medium nanomolar inhibitors ($K_1 = 75.5$, 64.9, and 89.5 nM, respectively). In this case, derivative **36** resulted in the third most selective inhibitor against hCA XII (CA I/CA XII = 69.8).

The comparison of compounds **37** and **39** from subset (iii) with the second subset analogues **32** and **33** ($R_2 = R_3 = (\text{CH}_2)_5\text{CH}_3$) pointed out that the substitution of R_2 and R_3 with the tails $(\text{CH}_2)_2\text{C}_6\text{H}_5$ and $(\text{CH}_2)_2\text{CN}$, respectively, generally increased the activity against hCA II and IV, with the opposite effect against hCA I and no significant effect against hCA XII.

(iv) The fourth series (**40–43**) was obtained by reducing $R_3 = (\text{CH}_2)_2\text{CN}$ to obtain primary amine tails in the aforesaid derivatives **34–37**, introducing a potentially positively charged pendant. This structural modification led to a general increment of the activity against hCA I, II, IV, and XII, suggesting that a strong polar interaction is favorable for the binding and might take place in all five active sites.

In detail, the four compounds resulted to be high nanomolar inhibitors of hCA I with K_1 in the 242.4–506.7 nM range. Moreover, it is observed that **40** ($R_1 = \text{CH}_2\text{C}_6\text{H}_5$) and **41** ($R_1 = \text{Fu}$) inhibited this isoform with a 2-fold potency ($K_1 = 242.4$ and 246.7 nM, respectively) with respect to **42** ($R_1 = 4\text{-F-C}_6\text{H}_5$) and **43** ($R_1 = 2\text{-Naph}$), which showed a K_1 of 451.4 and 506.7 nM, respectively.

Derivatives **40–43** were good inhibitors of the glaucoma-associated hCA II with K_1 s in the high nanomolar range for **40** ($K_1 = 367.3$ nM), medium nanomolar range for **41** and **42** ($K_1 = 57.0$ and 30.4 nM, respectively), and low nanomolar range for **43** ($K_1 = 5.6$ nM), which was the second most selective obtained inhibitor against this isoform (CA I/CA II = 90.5).

Interestingly, it was observed that the introduction of a positively charged tail increased the activity against hCA IV at least 4 times for **40** ($K_1 = 2.1$ μM), 1.2 times for **41** ($K_1 = 374.1$ nM), 11 times for **42** ($K_1 = 365.3$ nM), and 4.5 times for **43** ($K_1 = 819.2$ nM) with respect to their analogues of the third subset (**34–37**).

The glaucoma-related hCA XII was strongly inhibited by **42** with a subnanomolar K_1 of 0.6 nM that makes it the most

potent and selective compound against this isoform (selectivity ratio CA I/CA XII = 752.3), whereas **40** ($K_i = 83.7$ nM), **41** ($K_i = 42.7$ nM), and **43** ($K_i = 10.5$ nM) acted with a K_i in the medium nanomolar range.

(v) The fifth subset (**45–48**) obtained by the introduction of a potentially negatively charged tail in R_3 showed a general increment of the inhibition activity against hCA I, II, IV, and XII compared to their analogues **34–37**.

In detail, compounds **46** ($K_i = 79.5$ nM) and **47** ($K_i = 95.8$ nM) acted as medium nanomolar inhibitors against the off-target CA I, whereas the introduction of a more encumbering R_1 ($\text{CH}_2\text{C}_6\text{H}_5$ and 2-Naph), such as in **45** and **48**, lightly decreased the activity to the high nanomolar range ($K_i = 203.5$ and 197.0 nM, respectively).

The target hCA II was inhibited in the low nanomolar range by compound **46** ($K_i = 2.4$ nM), the second most potent inhibitor against this isozyme, and in the medium nanomolar range by **45** ($K_i = 72.0$ nM), **47** ($K_i = 23.5$ nM), and **48** ($K_i = 72.5$ nM).

The inhibition profile against hCA IV was in the high nanomolar range for derivatives **46–47** ($K_i = 335.5$, 419.3, and 680.6 nM, respectively) and decreased for compound **45** with a K_i value of 2.3 μM .

Moreover, derivatives **46–48** were low nanomolar inhibitors of hCA XII ($K_i = 7.1$, 8.8, and 6.8 nM, respectively), whereas **48** and **46** resulted to be the second and third most potent inhibitors of this glaucoma-associated isoform, while compound **45** acted with a K_i of 29.7 nM.

Comparing the fourth (**40–43**) and fifth subsets (**45–48**), it was detected that the presence of $R_3 = (\text{CH}_2)_2\text{COOH}$ in place of amine tails shifted the activity against hCA I.

Finally, the loss of the hydrophilic tail R_3 in **50** decreased the activity against hCA I ($K_i = 737.9$ nM), II ($K_i = 132.0$ nM), and IV ($K_i = 1.8$ μM) without effects against hCA XII ($K_i = 5.5$ nM), obtaining the second most potent and selective compound against this isoform (CA I/CA XII = 134.2).

As pointed out by data in Table 1, single-tail inhibitors **1–7** showed rather flat inhibition profiles against all tested hCAs and no marked isoform selectivity was detected. In contrast, the selectivity of action is often enhanced with TTIs **18–50** (selectivity index, SI, in Table S1, Supporting Information).

For instance, starting from compound **1** ($R_1 = \text{C}_6\text{H}_5$; SI CA I/CA II = 1.0; CA I/CA XII = 1.5; CA II/CA XII = 1.5; CA IV/CA XII = 43.6), the introduction of various lipophilic pendants in R_2 and R_3 (as in **18–29**) decreased the activity against all isoforms, except for derivatives **18** and **24** where the inhibition profile against hCA II and XII was increased. Interestingly, CA I/CA II selectivity of **18–27** was improved up to an SI of 94.8 for compound **18**. Compounds **28** and **29** (CA I/CA II = 0.5 and 0.3, respectively) were instead the most selective hCA I inhibitors of this subset.

Derivatives **18–28** also exhibited improved selectivity for hCA XII over hCA I (SI 2.3–51.0), whereas **29** showed a greater action against hCA I (SI I/XII = 0.7). Moreover, derivatives **19–23** and **26–29** showed an increased selectivity for hCA XII over CA II (SI 1.8–9.5), in contrast to **24** and **25** more active against hCA II (SI 0.14 and 0.9). Within this subset, improved selectivity profiles for hCA IV over hCA I and II were not detected. CA IV/XII selectivity increased up to 64.3–>144.1 for the subset **18–25**.

In comparison to the single-tail derivative **2**, compound **38** ($R_1 = 4\text{-NO}_2\text{-C}_6\text{H}_4$, $R_2 = (\text{CH}_2)_2\text{C}_6\text{H}_5$, $R_3 = (\text{CH}_2)_2\text{CN}$)

showed an increased selectivity for hCA XII over hCA I, II and IV (SI I/XII 4.6, II/XII 3.0, IV/XII 27.1), while I/II selectivity showed a decrease (SI 1.5).

While derivative **3** ($R_1 = 4\text{-F-C}_6\text{H}_4$) showed SIs equal to I/II 1.4, I/IV 0.1, I/XII 1.9, II/XII 1.3, and IV/XII 19.9, the addition of $(\text{CH}_2)_2\text{C}_6\text{H}_5$ and $(\text{CH}_2)_2\text{CN}$ (**36**) in R_2 , and $(\text{CH}_2)_3\text{NH}_2$ (**42**) and $(\text{CH}_2)_2\text{COOH}$ (**47**) in R_3 led to remarkable results in terms of selectivity of action. In detail, selectivity was increased for hCA II over hCA I and for hCA XII over hCA I, II, and IV for compounds **36** (I/II = 5.1, I/XII = 69.8, II/XII = 13.6, IV/XII = 421.8), **47** (I/II = 4.1, I/XII = 10.9, II/XII = 2.7, IV/XII = 47.6), and even more in derivative **42** (I/II = 14.9, I/XII = 753.3, II/XII = 50.7, IV/XII = 608.8). Notably, the introduction of an amine moiety in R_3 significantly shifted the selectivity toward hCA XII, making compound **42** 752.3 times more active against the glaucoma-associated isoform hCA XII than the off-target hCA I. **42** also showed the best CA IV/CA XII selectivity index with a ratio of 608.8. The nature of R_3 can also be assumed to be responsible for a >1 SI for hCA IV over I.

Variable outcomes in terms of selectivity of action were observed appending R_2 and R_3 tails on the 2-Naph single-tail **4** (SIs CA I/CA II = 5.3, CA I/CA XII = 5.8, CA II/CA XII = 1.1, CA IV/CA XII = 79.5) yielding **32** ($R_2 = R_3 = (\text{CH}_2)_5\text{CH}_3$, R_3), **37** ($R_2 = (\text{CH}_2)_2\text{C}_6\text{H}_5$, $R_3 = (\text{CH}_2)_2\text{CN}$), **43** ($R_2 = (\text{CH}_2)_2\text{C}_6\text{H}_5$, $R_3 = (\text{CH}_2)_3\text{NH}_2$), and **48** ($R_2 = (\text{CH}_2)_2\text{C}_6\text{H}_5$, $R_3 = (\text{CH}_2)_2\text{COOH}$). In fact, I/II selectivity decreased for derivative **37** (I/II SI 2.8) and **48** (I/II SI 2.7) up to the inversion displayed by **32** (SI 0.1). In contrast, it strongly increased with amine **43** (I/II SI 90.5). I/XII selectivity was improved for all of these derivatives in the order **32** (I/XII SI = 8.8), **37** (I/XII SI = 10.6), **48** (I/XII SI = 29.0), **43** (I/XII SI = 48.3). The lipophilic TTI **32** showed great selectivity for hCA XII over hCA II and hCA IV (SI = 74.0 and >162.1, respectively). Carboxylic acid **48** (SI II/XII = 10.7, IV/XII = 100.1) acted likewise. A low II/XII SI increase was observed for nitrile **37** (SI 3.8), while an inversion was detected for amine **43** (SI II/XII = 0.5). The latter also showed an improved I/IV SI value (0.6) with respect to **4** (0.07).

The TTI development of derivative **5** (SIs I/II = 1.1, I/IV = 0.04, I/XII = 1.2, II/XII = 1.1, IV/XII = 28.6), to give **31** ($R_2 = R_3 = (\text{CH}_2)_5\text{CH}_3$, R_3), **35** ($R_2 = (\text{CH}_2)_2\text{C}_6\text{H}_5$, $R_3 = (\text{CH}_2)_2\text{CN}$), **41** ($R_2 = (\text{CH}_2)_2\text{C}_6\text{H}_5$, $R_3 = (\text{CH}_2)_3\text{NH}_2$), **46** ($R_2 = (\text{CH}_2)_2\text{C}_6\text{H}_5$, $R_3 = (\text{CH}_2)_2\text{COOH}$), and **50** ($R_2 = (\text{CH}_2)_2\text{C}_6\text{H}_5$, $R_3 = (\text{CH}_2)_2\text{CONHoleyl}$), overall increased the selectivity for hCA II over hCA I (3.6, 4.1, 4.3, 33.1, and 5.6, respectively). CA I/IV SIs were overall improved (0.2–0.7) with respect to **5** (except **31**) but not reversed. Interestingly, the reduction of nitrile **35** into amine **41** did not lead to variations in the I/IV selectivity, while the hydrolysis to carboxylic acid **46** decreased it by 3 times. I/IV SI increased instead twice upon formation of amide **50**.

The selective index for hCA XII over hCA I increased for all five derivatives, greatly with **31** (SI 22.7), nitrile **35** (SI 34.6), and amide **50** (SI 134.1), and less with amine **41** (SI 5.8) and carboxylic acid **46** (I/XII = 11.2). These compounds also showed selectivity for hCA XII over hCA II with SIs of 6.2 (**31**), 8.4 (**35**), 1.3 (**41**), and 24.0 (**24**), except for the carboxylic acid **46** (SI 0.3).

Except for derivative **41** (SI 8.8), selectivity for hCA XII over IV ratio was enhanced for compounds **31** (SI 325.1), **35** (SI 52.6), **46** (SI 47.3), and **50** (SI 328.6) with respect to the lead **5**.

The functionalization of **6** (I/II = 0.7, I/IV = 0.02, II/IV = 0.03, I/XII = 0.9, II/XII = 1.4, IV/XII = 49.0) with R₂ and R₃ produced derivatives **33** (R₂ = R₃ (CH₂)₅CH₃) and **39** (R₂ = (CH₂)₂C₆H₅, R₃ = (CH₂)₂CN) that acted 7.5 and 88.0 times more efficiently against hCA II over hCA I. Moreover, compound **33** showed an increment of SI I/XII (46.0), II/XII (6.1), and IV/XII (404.5). Instead, derivative **39** showed a drastically improved action against hCA II over hCA XII (CA II/CA XII = 0.1) and improved SIs I/XII (6.9) and IV/XII (81.6). The reduction and hydrolysis of the nitrile of derivative **33** to give amine **44** and carboxylic acid **49** led to a selectivity against hCA I over hCA II (CA I/CA II = 0.2 and 0.5, respectively). Interestingly, **49** was the first-in-class selective hCA IV inhibitor over CA I (SI 6.2) and hCA II (SI 12.8) and also showed the lowest IV/XII SI (4.6). Finally, amine and carboxylic acid **44** and **49** showed increased II/XII SI (90.0 and 59.2, respectively).

The R₂/R₃ development of compound **7** (R₁ = CH₂C₆H₅, I/II = 3.1, I/XII = 2.7, II/XII = 0.9, IV/XII = 34.4) to give **30** (R₂ = R₃ (CH₂)₅CH₃, R₃), **34** (R₂ = (CH₂)₂C₆H₅, R₃ = (CH₂)₂CN), **40** (R₂ = (CH₂)₂C₆H₅, R₃ = (CH₂)₃NH₂), and **45** (R₂ = (CH₂)₂C₆H₅, R₃ = (CH₂)₂COOH) decreased I/II selectivity up to a total inversion with derivatives **30** (SI 0.7) and **40** (SI 0.7). On the contrary, an improvement was detected in the selectivity against hCA XII over hCA I (SI 12.9–10.3), hCA II (SI 2.4–12.5), and hCA IV (SI 54.6–>137.5), except for compound **45** that showed a worsening in the IV/XII selectivity (SI 25.9) compared to the lead **7**.

X-ray Crystallography. Co-crystallization of hCA II with selected three-tailed inhibitors resulted in solved structures with resolutions between 1.35 and 1.62 Å (Figures 4–6 and

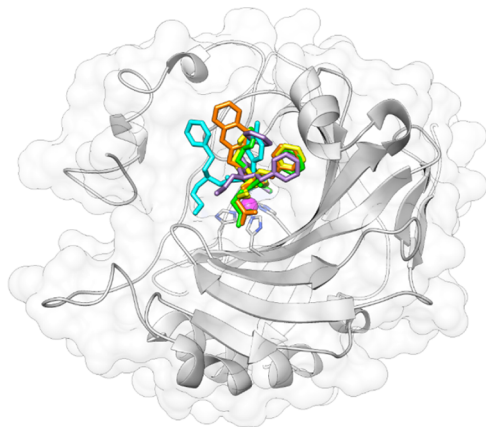


Figure 4. X-ray crystallography: surface representation of hCA II with inhibitors **34** (purple), **41** (yellow), **42** (cyan), **46** (green), and **48** (orange) bound within the active site (PDBs 6WQ4, 6WQ5, 6WQ7, 6WQ8, and 6WQ9, respectively).

Table 2). For all of the inhibitors studied, the benzenesulfonamide was orientated with the zinc-binding group displacing the active site zinc-bound water (ZBW) and forming a hydrogen bond between the amide backbone of Thr199 and oxygen of sulfonamide (2.8–3.0 Å). Therefore, with the benzenesulfonamide binding in an identical manner, any differences in observed binding affinity most likely result from differences in the tail regions.

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Compound **34** showed a well-observed omit map electron density, indicating good binding with a high binding

Table 2. X-ray Crystallography Data Collection and Refinement Statistics of Inhibitors Bound hCA II Crystal Structures^e

inhibitor	34	41	42	46	48
PDB	6WQ4	6WQ5	6WQ7	6WQ8	6WQ9
space group	P21				
cell dimensions:	42.4, 41.5,	42.3, 41.4,	42.1, 41.3	42.4, 41.3,	42.3, 41.3,
a, b, c, β (Å, deg)	72.3, 104.3	72.3, 104.4	72.1, 104.3	72.4, 104.4	72.3, 104.4
resolution (Å)	29.19– 1.35	25.34– 1.30	25.28– 1.30	28.75– 1.41	21.13– 1.30
highest-resolution shell (Å)	(1.40– 1.35)	(1.35– 1.30)	(1.35– 1.30)	(1.46– 1.41)	(1.35– 1.30)
total reflections	9536	8627	8885	14 181	8927
I/σ(I)	16.3 (2.7)	14.5 (1.6)	15.5 (1.7)	12.5 (2.4)	20.6 (2.5)
redundancy	3.1 (2.2)	3.1 (2.2)	3.1 (1.9)	3.3 (3.1)	3.2 (2.3)
completeness (%)	98.0 (82.5)	95.8 (68.1)	97.4 (81.5)	99.4 (97.8)	94.0 (66.6)
R _{sym} ^a	4.10 (25.6)	4.33 (49.0)	3.87 (40.7)	5.44 (39.3)	3.29 (35.7)
R _{crys} ^b	15.4 (22.7)	16.0 (29.3)	16.0 (26.9)	14.6 (20.5)	14.9 (22.8)
R _{f, free} ^c	17.3 (25.2)	18.1 (31.7)	18.1 (30.5)	17. (22.4)	17.3 (28.5)
R _{pin} ^d	2.67 (19.2)	2.82 (37.1)	2.53 (34.6)	3.52 (26.0)	2.12 (26.5)
# of atoms: protein, ligand, water	2049, 52, 209	2075, 44, 239	2076, 46, 239	2073, 87, 235	2080, 56, 248
protein residues	257	257	257	258	257
Ramachandran stats (%): favored, allowed	96.1, 3.9	96.9, 3.1	96.9, 3.1	96.1, 3.9	96.5, 3.5
avg. B-factors (Å ²): main-,	13.9, 14.7	15.4, 16.5	16.4, 17.4	15.1, 16.5	14.9, 16.4
side chain, inhibitor, solvent	16.7, 21.9	25.7, 24.0	27.5, 24.5	29.3, 24.1	31.5, 25.2
RMSD for bond lengths, angles (Å, deg)	0.008, 1.05	0.008, 1.04	0.008, 1.04	0.009, 1.09	0.008, 1.07

^aR_{sym} = (Σ||I - ⟨I⟩|/Σ⟨I⟩) × 100. ^bR_{crys} = (Σ|F_o - F_c|/Σ|F_o|) × 100. ^cR_{f, free} is calculated in the same way as R_{crys} except it is for data omitted from refinement (5% of reflections for all data sets). ^dR_{pin} = [(Σ√1/(N - 1)|I - ⟨I⟩|/Σ⟨I⟩) × 100]. ^eValues in parentheses correspond to those of the highest-resolution shell.

occupancy (PDB 6WQ4 and Figure 5B). The T₁ phenethyl was accommodated in the lipophilic pocket lined by Val135, Leu198, Pro202, and Leu204, whereas the phenethyl in T₂ lied above Phe131, forming contacts with the α-helix portion constituted by residues 130–136 (Figure 6B). A water-bridged H-bond took place between the ligand amide carbonyl group and Gln92 side chain NH₂. The hydrophilic CN tail extended into bulk solvent.

Compound **41** exhibited a weaker observed omit map electron density around the phenethyl and aminopropyl tails (PDB 6WQ5 and Figure 5C). While the furyl ring took the place occupied by the T₁ benzene ring of compound **34**, the phenethyl tail in T₂ formed again interactions with Phe131 and residues nearby (Figure 6C). The amino group in T₃ protonated at physiological pH was exposed to bulk solvent.

Compound **42** showed a weak observed omit map electron density at the end of the aminopropyl tail (PDB 6WQ7 and Figure 5D). The switch from a furyl (**41**) to a 4-F-benzyl (**42**) in T₁ markedly shifted the tails of the ligand within the CA II active site, probably because the pocket hosting the furyl ring

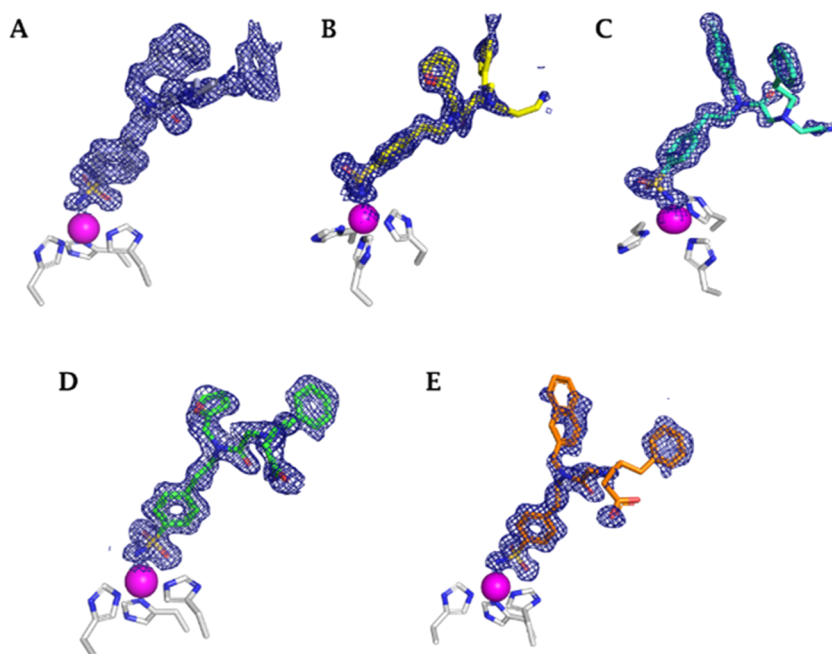


Figure 5. Electron densities of (A) 34, (B) 41, (C) 42, (D) 46, and (E) 48 in hCA II active site with a sigma of 1.0.

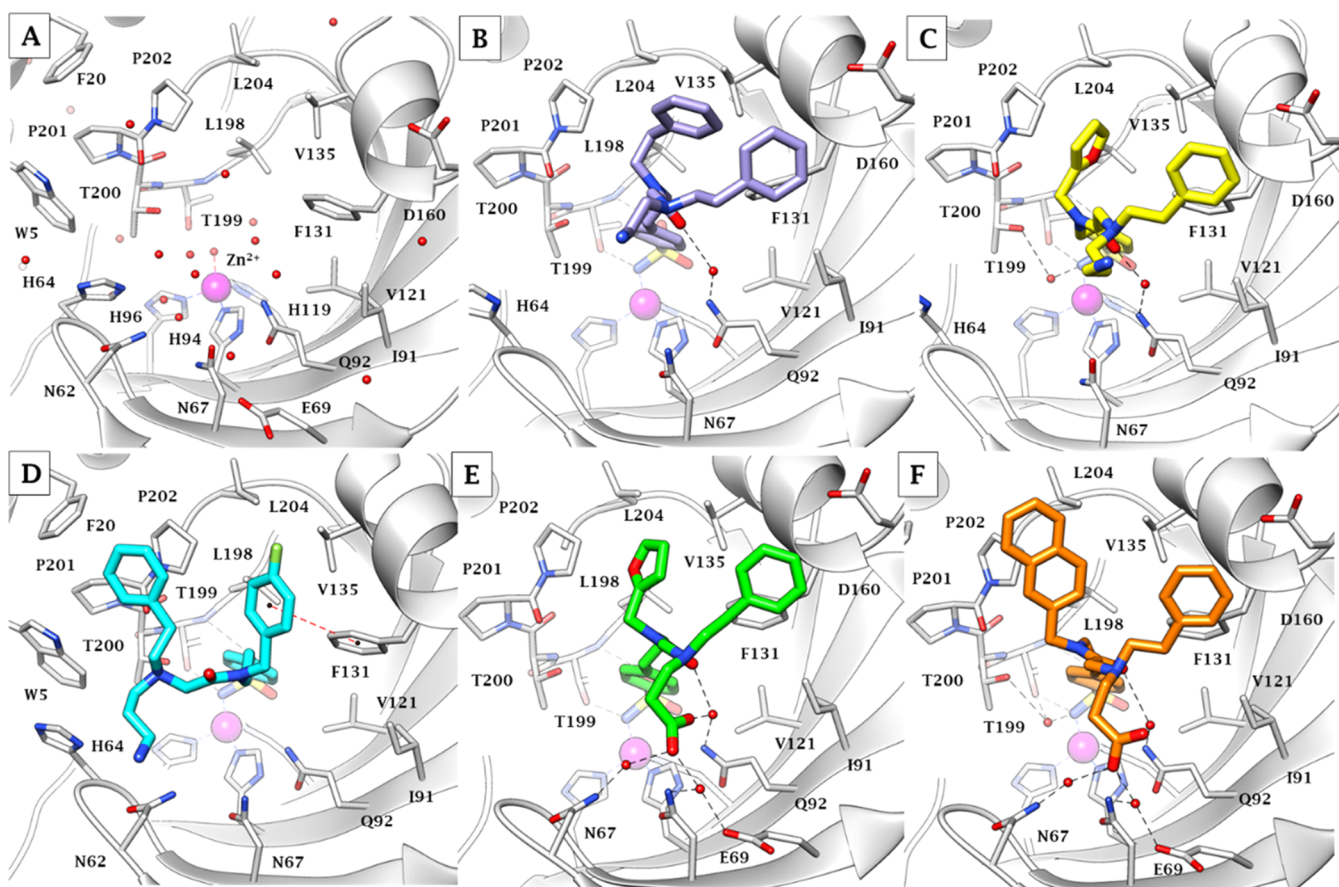


Figure 6. X-ray crystallography: active site view of hCA II in adduct with (A) no inhibitor (PDB 3KKX), (B) 34 (PDB 6WQ4), (C) 41 (PDB 6WQ5), (D) 42 (PDB 6WQ7), (E) 46 (PDB 6WQ8), and (F) 48 (PDB 6WQ9). H-bonds and π - π stackings are represented as black and red dashed lines, respectively. Water molecules involved in water-bridged H-bonds are shown as red spheres. Amino acids are labeled with one-letter symbols: D, Asp; E, Glu; F, Phe; H, His; I, Ile; L, Leu; N, Asn; P, Pro; Q, Gln; T, Thr; V, Val; W, Trp.

cannot accommodate additional steric hindrance. This did not occur with the T₁ phenethyl group of 34 as the presence of an

additional carbon unit allowed a torsion preserving a 41-like binding mode. The 4-F-benzyl formed hydrophobic contacts

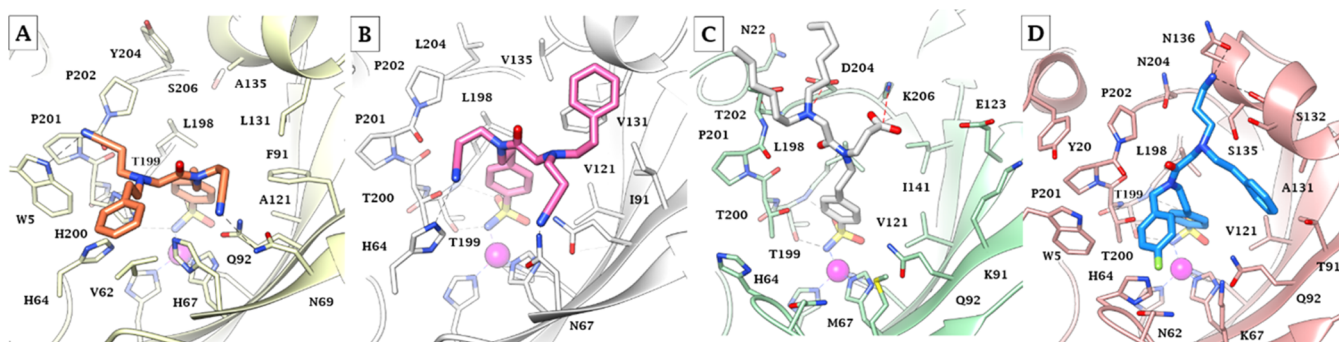


Figure 7. *In silico* predicted binding conformations for the adducts (A) 39/hCA I, (B) 39/hCA II, (C) 49/hCA IV, and (D) 42/hCA XII. H-bond and salt bridge interactions are depicted as black and red dashed lines, respectively.

with Val135, Leu198, and Phe131, and an edge-to-face π - π stacking with the latter residue benzene ring (Figure 6D). The T₂ phenethyl of 42 lodged over the lipophilic portion composed of Trp5, Phe20, Pro201, and Pro202, while the protonated amino group in T₃ was again exposed to bulk solvent.

Compound 46 showed a strong observed omit map electron density, which is indicative of a high binding occupancy (PDB 6WQ8 and Figure 5E). The T₁ and T₂ tails of the ligand adopted analogue positions within the active site to those of compound 41 (Figure 6E). The carboxylic tail was oriented toward the hydrophilic region within the active site, where the COOH, presumably as COO⁻, is involved in a water-mediated H-bond network with Asn62, Asn67, Glu69, and Gln92.

Compound 48 had a weaker observed omit map electron density near the carboxylic acid tail (PDB 6WQ9 and Figure 5F). As it occurred with compound 42, the additional steric hindrance in T₁ moved the naphthyl ring away from the pocket occupied by the furyl core of 41 (Figure 6F). Nonetheless, the intense H-bond network between the COO⁻ moiety in T₃ and Asn62, Asn67, Glu69, and Gln92 prevented the T₂/T₃ branching N atom to move toward Trp5. This produced a switch between the positioning of T₁ and T₂ tails for 48 with respect to 42. The naphthyl portion in T₁ accommodated above the lipophilic pocket lined by Leu198, Pro201, Pro202, and Leu204, whereas the phenethyl in T₂ interacted with Phe131 and other α -helix composing residues by van der Waals contacts.

It can be noted that the binding mode exhibited by compound 46 was the most efficient for promoting hCA II inhibition because of a 10-fold higher K_i (2.4 nM) than the second-best derivative among those co-crystallized (42, K_i of 30.4 nM). Considering the similar interactions observed for tails T₁ and T₂ with respect to compounds 34 and 41, this enhanced efficacy might be consequent of the extended water-mediated H-bond network the carboxyethyl pendant formed with the hydrophilic portion of the binding cleft. Interestingly, the binding mode exhibited by 42, though most departed from those of the other co-crystallized ligands, produced the second-best inhibition of hCA II. Swapping the furyl ring of 46 with the naphthyl of 48 significantly lowered the efficiency of the binding mode, as the bi-cycle cannot be accommodated in the Leu198, Pro201, Pro202, and Leu204 pocket and was partially exposed to bulk solvent. The exposure of the markedly less hydrophilic cyanoethyl tails of 34 to bulk solvent is the presumable reason for the drop of CA II inhibition exhibited by the ligand.

In Silico Study. The crystallographic screening was complemented with docking calculations to also study hCA isoforms not included in the crystallographic study; hCA I (PDB 2NMX),⁴³ hCA IV (PDB 1ZNC),⁴⁴ and hCA XII (PDB 1JD0).⁴⁵ The *in silico* study was performed on the single-tail derivatives 1–7 and, among TTIs, the most potent compounds against each isoform and co-crystallized ligands assembling a subset of seven derivatives (34, 39, 41, 42, 46, 48, and 49) and predicting their binding to hCAs I, IV and XII as well as CA II (PDB 5LJT)⁴⁶ when missing (Figures S1–S6, Supporting Information). The binding orientations resulting from docking were refined with an MM-GBSA method simulating a water media (VSGB method) for improving the comparison with the crystallographic outcomes. The efficiency of the adopted protocol with three-tail compounds was validated by application to the crystallographic target/inhibitor adducts described above. Despite the absence of water molecules, crystallographic/simulated ligand RMSDs were computed below 1.0 Å, with the main deviation at the level of aliphatic tails (e.g., the carboxylate pendant in compound 46; Figure S1, Supporting Information).

Predictably, derivatives 1–7 showed interactions within the hCA I, II, and XII active sites limited to a portion of the hydrophobic half of the cavity (Figure S2, Supporting Information). As a result, this produces inhibition profiles devoid of selectivity and thus promiscuous. The absence of a hydrophobic half in the active site of hCA IV led the tails of 1–7 toward alternative pockets according to the nature of the pendants, and on the whole, reduces the inhibition efficacy up to a micromolar range.

Figure 7A,B depicts the predicted binding modes of 39 to hCA I and II, respectively, as the most active inhibitor against these two isoforms. HCA I shows a narrower active site than hCA II because of specific amino acid mutations such as Thr/His200, Asn/His67, Leu/Tyr204, and, mostly, Ile/Phe91 (Figure S3, Supporting Information). As the main result of the latter mutation, T₂ and T₃ are shifted toward the lipophilic pocket lined by Trp5, Val62 (solely present in hCA I), His64, and Pro201, where the cyanoethyl moiety receives a H-bond by Trp5 NH. The cyanoethyl in T₁ engages interactions with the hydrophilic half of the binding cavity, among which forms a H-bond with Asn69 side chain NH₂. As for hCA II, the tail of the ligand occupies on the whole a region nearer to the hydrophobic half of the active site. In fact, the phenethyl in T₂, as observed in crystallography with similar ligands, lies above Phe131 interacting with residues 13–135 of the α -helix. The position of the two cyanoethyl portions is almost inverted compared to hCA I: the moiety in T₁ receives H-bond by

His64 NH, whereas the nitrile group in T3 is in H-bond distance with Asn67. As compound **39** uniquely possesses, among the selected derivatives (Figure S4, Supporting Information), two aliphatic, partially polar but nonprotic tails (cyanoethyl), it can be supposed a favorable complementarity with the narrow and rather lipophilic active sites of hCA I and II, which drives the most potent action here reported against the two ubiquitous isoforms (K_i 's of 61.6 and 0.7 nM, respectively).

In fact, the greater steric hindrance produced by another phenethyl in T₁ (compound **34**, Figures 6B and S4A, Supporting Information) lowered the inhibition potency by 10 and 500 times against hCA I and II, respectively. Solely the presence of a carboxyethyl tail in T₃ of compound **46** (but not **48**, presumably because of the unwieldy naphthyl ring in T₁) leads the inhibitor action against isoform I (K_i of 79.5 nM) and II (K_i of 2.4 nM) to the level of compound **39**, likely because of the interactions of the carboxylate with the hydrophilic portion of the binding cavity (Figures 6E,F and S4B, Supporting Information).

The active site of hCA IV is the most particular among those of hCAs as largely losing the hydrophobic/hydrophilic division common to most other catalytically active isoforms. In fact, α -helix 130–135 is absent and replaced by an extended loop which protrudes to bulk solvent. At the same time, the hydrophobic half of the binding cavity is replaced by a region rich in polar amino acids such as Lys91, Glu123, Thr202, Asp204, Lys206, and Glu138 (Figures 7C and S5, Supporting Information). As a result, this isoform is less inhibited by TTIs, with K_i s above 100 nM, except for derivative **49**, that solely possesses a carboxylate function in T₁. As shown in Figure 7C, the latter forms a salt bridge with Lys206, and this conformation also leads the protonated T₂/T₃ N branching atom in salt bridge with Asp204. Other ligands, such as **41**, **42**, and **48**, were also predicted to form salt bridges within the hCA IV active site (Figure S5, Supporting Information), but involving carboxylate or amine moieties in T₃. As a result, the ligands adopt conformation, which do not allow the formation of two salt bridges with the polar pocket of the active site, as observed for **49**. As the latter shows a K_i of 45.8 nM despite two hexyl groups protruding to bulk solvent (Figure 7C), it can be supposed that their replacement with less lipophilic groups might even increase the inhibition efficiency of this membrane-associated CA.

Isoform hCA XII maintains an overall hydro/lipophilic partition in its wide active site (Phe/Ala131 with respect to hCA II), but specific mutations with respect to CA II, that are Asn/Lys67, Ile/Thr91, Gly/Ser132, Val/Ser135, and Leu/Asn204, significantly enhance the hydrophilicity of the binding cavity (Figures 7D and S6, Supporting Information). It should be noted that compound **42** shows the unique subnanomolar K_i value against a tumor-associated CA (K_i of 0.6 nM against CA XII). The peculiar active site architecture of hCA XII indeed drives a favorable disposition of the three tails of the ligands: the T₁ 4-F-phenyl accommodates in the pocket lined by Trp5, His64, Asn62, and Lys67; the T₂ phenethyl lies over the most lipophilic cleft of the binding pocket, made by Val121, Thr91, and Ala131; and the propylamine pendant in T₃ is involved in a bifurcated H-bond system with the side-chain Asn136 and Ser132 backbone CO (Figure 7D). In contrast, compound **41**, having a furyl ring in place of the 4-F-phenyl of **42**, exhibits a very different binding orientation in

the hCA XII active site (Figure S6, Supporting Information), as it occurred with CA II as well (Figures 6 and 7).

Intraocular Pressure-Lowering Activity. For a first pharmacological application of the proposed approach, we selected the inhibitors showing the best concomitant action against hCA II, IV, and XII (**39**, **46**, and **47**) for evaluating their intraocular pressure (IOP)-lowering activity in a rabbit model of glaucoma (Figure 8). The compounds showed

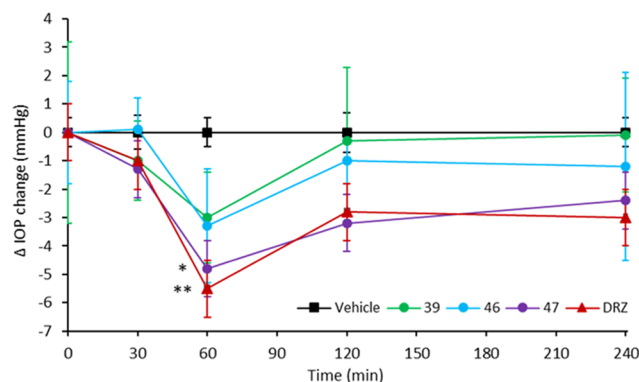


Figure 8. Drop of intraocular pressure (Δ IOP, mmHg) versus time (min) in hypertonic saline-induced ocular hypertension in rabbits, treated with 50 μ L of 1% solution of compounds **39**, **46**, and **47**, and **DRZ** as the standard. Hydroxypropylcellulose at 0.05% was used as vehicle. Data are analyzed with two-way analysis of variance (ANOVA) followed by Bonferroni multiple comparison test. * $p < 0.05$ **47** vs vehicle at 60'; ** $p < 0.01$ **DRZ** vs vehicle at 60'.

sufficient water solubility to be formulated as 1% eye drops and **DRZ** hydrochloride 1% were used as reference compound and hydroxypropylcellulose 0.05% as vehicle in the experimental setting. The compounds were formulated and administered as 1% eye drops to rabbits with high IOP, induced by the injection of 0.05 mL of hypertonic saline solution (5% in distilled water) into the vitreous of both eyes. As depicted in Figure 4, at 30 min post-instillation, only compounds **39** and **47** decreased the IOP by 1.0 and 1.3 mmHg, respectively, such as **DRZ** (−1.0 mmHg), while **46** was inactive. At 60 min after administration, all compounds triggered the maximum IOP reduction, where **39** and **46** showed maximal IOP-lowering activities of 3.0 and 3.3 mmHg, respectively. Instead, compound **47** resulted the most effective, decreasing the IOP of 4.8 mmHg in a comparable manner of **DRZ** (−5.4 mmHg). After 120 min, a decrease of the effect was observed for all compounds with **39** and **46** that decreased IOP by 0.3 and 1.0 mmHg, while the standard **DRZ** showed to be less effective than **47** (−3.2 mmHg) with an IOP reduction of 2.8 mmHg. Uniquely, compounds **46** (−1.2 mmHg) and **47** (−2.4 mmHg) protracted their action at 240 min post-instillation, whereas compound **39** was inactive. In particular, **47** showed a similar profile to the standard **DRZ** (−3.0 mmHg).

CONCLUSIONS

The tail approach was proposed already in 1999 and progressively developed with a variety of chemical scaffolds up to the first report of dual-tail design in 2015 to target both the hydrophobic and hydrophilic halves of hCAs active sites. Such an undoubtedly favorable approach in the field of hCAs is still the main strategy used for obtaining CAIs and led us to propose its further development by the incorporation of three

tails onto a benzenesulfonamide CA inhibitory scaffold. In fact, we deem the simple hydrophobic/hydrophilic division of hCAs binding pocket not totally sufficient anymore because of many accessory pockets existing in each hCA isoform. This proof-of-concept study reported here was carried out by the design and synthesis of 32 benzenesulfonamide derivatives of the TTI type (Figure 3) screened against a first set of hCAs that are I, II, IV, and XII, and comparing the results with the corresponding single-tail derivatives 1–7 (Table 1).

Our results showed that the development of 1–7 upon inclusion of two other tails to give compounds 18–50 significantly affected the inhibition profiles in terms of potency and selectivity of action. On the whole, it should be noted that the inclusion of three lipophilic tails in the TTI structure, such as in compounds 18–32, did not produce noteworthy outcomes in terms of potency and selectivity against the tested hCAs, with very flat SAR within the subset, except for a few exceptions. In contrast, increasing the polarity of at least one tail (starting from compound 33) resulted in a great variability of potencies and selectivities according to the type of tails included in T_1 , T_2 , and T_3 .

The structural study made by X-ray crystallography with hCA II and *in silico* tools with the other isozymes pointed out the limited and almost superimposable interactions that the tail of 1–7 can establish within the CAs active site. In contrast, we demonstrated that the TTI derivatives show a greater occupancy of the binding cavities with a great variability among isoforms that contribute to the development of improved selectivity of action.

Structural studies and SAR analysis showed how different tail combinations can distinctly promote the binding of benzenesulfonamide derivatives to the various hCAs active site. As an outcome of this preliminary investigation, we can infer that inhibition of hCA I and II, possessing narrow and markedly lipophilic active sites, can be promoted by inclusion of a lipophilic tail and two small half-polarity pendants in the TTI structure (e.g., compound 39) or alternatively two not too bulky tails and a polar one (e.g., compound 46). The marked polarity of hCA IV active site makes a significantly polar tail in T_1 (nearby the main CA inhibitory scaffold) necessary to attain a low nanomolar inhibition (e.g., compound 49). hCA XII and its wide hydrophobic binding pocket better accommodate almost all ligands with respect to hCA II, and thus most tail combinations produce efficient inhibition of the isozyme. The combination of lipophilic and polar tails coexisting with a medium polarity one even led to a subnanomolar hCA XII inhibitor (compound 42).

For a first pharmacological application of the proposed approach, three TTIs were selected because of their potent and concomitant inhibition of hCA II, IV, and XII (CAs implicated in glaucoma) and were assessed *in vivo* in a rabbit model of the disease. Compound 47 showed the capability of lowering IOP as efficiently as the clinically used DRZ up to 120 min post-administration.

The outcomes of this proof-of-concept study represent a firm starting point for optimizing the general TTI design as well as to produce a wider set of tail combinations to even improve the ligand/isoforms matching in search of new CAI candidates in the treatment of spreading diseases such as glaucoma, tumors, neuropathic pain, and inflammation. It should be stressed that an analogous approach might be extended to other multi-isoform metalloenzymes to improve the outcomes in terms of selectivity of action.

EXPERIMENTAL SECTION

Chemistry. Anhydrous solvents and all reagents were purchased from Sigma-Aldrich, Fluorochem, and TCI Chemicals. All reactions involving air- or moisture-sensitive compounds were performed under a nitrogen atmosphere using dried glassware, and syringes were used to transfer solutions. Nuclear magnetic resonance (^1H NMR, ^{13}C NMR) spectra were recorded using a Bruker Advance III 400 MHz spectrometer in $\text{DMSO-}d_6$. Chemical shifts are reported in parts per million (ppm), and the coupling constants (J) are expressed in hertz (Hz). Splitting patterns are designated as follows: s, singlet; d, doublet; t, triplet; q, quadruplet; m, multiplet; bs, broad singlet; dd, double of doublets. The assignment of exchangeable protons (OH and NH) was confirmed by the addition of D_2O . Two tautomeric forms of the amide bond were detected for compounds 8–50, which partially double the signals in the ^1H and ^{13}C NMR spectra. Analytical thin-layer chromatography (TLC) was carried out on Sigma-Aldrich silica gel F-254 plates. Flash chromatography purifications were performed on Sigma-Aldrich silica gel 60 (230–400 mesh ASTM) as the stationary phase, and ethyl acetate/n-hexane or MeOH/DCM was used as eluents. Melting points (mp) were measured in open capillary tubes with a Gallenkamp MPD350.BM3.5 apparatus and are uncorrected.

Compounds 1–7 and 18–50 were $\geq 95\%$ pure. The purity of the final compounds was determined by HPLC analysis performed using an Agilent 1200 Series equipped with an autosampler, a binary pump system, and a diode array detector (DAD). The column used was a Luna PFP with 30 mm length, 2 mm internal diameter, and 3 μm particle size (Phenomenex, Bologna, Italy) at a constant flow of 0.25 mL min^{-1} , employing a binary mobile phase elution gradient. The eluents used were 10 mM formic acid and 5 mM ammonium formate in an mQ water solution (solvent A) and 10 mM formic acid and 5 mM ammonium formate in methanol (solvent B) according to the elution gradient as follows: initial at 90% solvent A, which was then decreased to 10% in 8 min, kept for 3 min, returned to initial conditions in 0.1 min, and maintained for 3 min for reconditioning, to a total run time of 14 min. The stock solution of each analyte was prepared in methanol at 1.0 mg mL^{-1} and stored at 4 $^\circ\text{C}$. The sample solution of the analyte was freshly prepared by diluting its stock solution up to a concentration of 10 $\mu\text{g mL}^{-1}$ in a mixture of mQ water:methanol 50:50 (v/v), and 5 μL was injected into the HPLC system. The solvents used in HPLC measurements were methanol (Chromasolv grade), purchased from Sigma-Aldrich (Milan, Italy), and mQ water 18 M Ω cm, obtained from Millipore's Simplicity system (Milan, Italy).

The high-resolution mass spectrometry (HRMS) analysis was performed with a Thermo Finnigan LTQ Orbitrap mass spectrometer equipped with an electrospray ionization (ESI) source. The analysis was carried out by introducing, via a syringe pump at 10 $\mu\text{L min}^{-1}$, the sample solution (1.0 $\mu\text{g mL}^{-1}$ in mQ water/acetoneitrile 50:50), and it acquired the signal of the positive ions. These experimental conditions allow the monitoring of protonated molecules of the studied compounds ($[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$ species) that were measured with a proper dwell time to achieve 60 000 units of resolution at full width at half-maximum (FWHM). Elemental compositions of compounds were calculated on the basis of their measured accurate masses, accepting only results with an attribution error less than 2.5 ppm and a noninteger RDB (double bond/ring equivalents) value, to consider only the protonated species.⁴⁷ None of the screened derivatives reported PAINS alerts determined by SwissADME server (www.swissadme.ch).

General Synthesis Procedures for Preparation of 4-(2-(arylalkyl)aminoethyl)benzenesulfonamides (1–7). *Procedure 1:* To a solution of 4-(2-aminoethyl)benzenesulfonamide (9.99 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in dry MeOH (40 mL), the appropriate aldehyde (1.1 equiv) was added and the mixture was heated at reflux temperature under stirring for 0.5–4 h. Sodium borohydride (1.6 equiv) was added portionwise at 0 $^\circ\text{C}$, and the reaction mixture was stirred at reflux temperature for 0.5–3 h. The solvent was evaporated under vacuum, and water was added (25 mL). pH was taken to 7

with 1 M HCl. The suspension was filtered, and the collected powder was purified by flash silica chromatography (5% MeOH in DCM) to give compounds 1–5.

Procedure 2: To a solution of 4-(2-aminoethyl)benzenesulfonamide (9.99 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in dry DMF (5 mL), triethylamine (1.2 equiv) and the appropriate halide (1.1 equiv) were added at room temperature, and the mixture was stirred at room temperature for 0.5 h (6) or 60 °C for 8 h (7). The reaction mixture was quenched by addition of water (20 mL) and extracted with DCM (30 mL × 3). The organic layer was collected, washed with brine (40 mL × 3), dried over Na₂SO₄, filtered, and evaporated under vacuum to give compounds 6–7 as powders.

4-(2-(Benzylamino)ethyl)benzenesulfonamide (1).⁴⁸ Compound 1 was obtained according to the general procedure 1 earlier reported using 4-(2-aminoethyl)benzenesulfonamide (9.99 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and benzaldehyde (1.1 equiv) in dry MeOH (40 mL). The reaction mixture was initially stirred at reflux temperature for 4 h, and after the addition of sodium borohydride (1.6 equiv), it was stirred at reflux temperature for another 2 h. Yield 96%; mp 173–175 °C; silica gel TLC *R_f* 0.08 (TFA/MeOH/DCM 3/5/92% v/v). δH (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆): 7.76 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H, Ar-*H*), 7.42 (m, 7H, Ar-*H*), 7.32 (s, 2H, exchange with D₂O, SO₂NH₂, overlap with signal at 7.42), 4.04 (s, 2H, CH₂), 3.07 (m, 2H, CH₂), 2.97 (m, 2H, CH₂). δC (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆): 145.87, 142.74, 141.80, 129.99, 129.05, 128.86, 127.46, 126.55, 53.77, 50.91, 36.50. ESI-MS (*m/z*) [M + H]⁺: calcd for C₁₅H₁₉N₂O₂S 291.1; found 291.2.

4-(2-((4-Nitrobenzyl)amino)ethyl)benzenesulfonamide (2). Compound 2 was obtained according to the general procedure 1 earlier reported using 4-(2-aminoethyl)benzenesulfonamide (9.99 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and 4-nitrobenzaldehyde (1.1 equiv) in dry MeOH (40 mL). The reaction mixture was initially stirred at reflux temperature for 1 h, and after the addition of sodium borohydride (1.6 equiv), it was stirred at reflux temperature for 3 h. Yield 94%; mp 166–168 °C; silica gel TLC *R_f* 0.17 (TFA/MeOH/DCM 3/5/92% v/v). δH (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆): 8.16 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H, Ar-*H*), 7.72 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H, Ar-*H*), 7.57 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H, Ar-*H*), 7.39 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H, Ar-*H*), 7.26 (s, 2H, exchange with D₂O, SO₂NH₂), 3.84 (s, 2H, CH₂), 2.82 (m, 2H, CH₂), 2.73 (m, 2H, CH₂), 2.40 (bs, 1H, exchange with D₂O, NH). δC (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆): 150.49, 147.34, 145.84, 142.88, 130.12, 129.84, 126.69, 124.29, 53.05, 51.00, 36.63. ESI-MS (*m/z*) [M + H]⁺: calcd for C₁₅H₁₈N₃O₄S 336.1; found 336.1.

4-(2-((4-Fluorobenzyl)amino)ethyl)benzenesulfonamide (3). Compound 3 was obtained according to the general procedure 1 earlier reported using 4-(2-aminoethyl)benzenesulfonamide (9.99 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and 4-fluorobenzaldehyde (1.1 equiv) in dry MeOH (40 mL). The reaction mixture was initially stirred at reflux temperature for 2 h, and after the addition of sodium borohydride (1.6 equiv), it was stirred at reflux temperature for another 2 h. Yield 95%; mp 145–147 °C; silica gel TLC *R_f* 0.21 (TFA/MeOH/DCM 3/5/92% v/v). δH (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆): 7.73 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H, Ar-*H*), 7.38 (m, 4H, Ar-*H*), 7.28 (s, 2H, exchange with D₂O, SO₂NH₂, overlap with signal at 7.38), 7.12 (t, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H, Ar-*H*), 3.73 (s, 2H, CH₂), 2.79 (m, 4H, 2 × CH₂). δF (376 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆): -116.18. δC (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆): 145.61, 142.94, 131.06, 130.98, 130.10, 126.73, 115.96, 115.75, 52.74, 50.62, 36.18. ESI-MS (*m/z*) [M + H]⁺: calcd for C₁₅H₁₈FN₂O₂S 309.1; found 309.1.

4-(2-((Naphthalen-2-ylmethyl)amino)ethyl)benzenesulfonamide (4). Compound 4 was obtained according to the general procedure 1 earlier reported using 4-(2-aminoethyl)benzenesulfonamide (9.99 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and 2-naphthaldehyde (1.1 equiv) in dry MeOH (40 mL). The reaction mixture was initially stirred at reflux temperature for 0.5 h, and after the addition of sodium borohydride (1.6 equiv), it was stirred at reflux temperature for another 0.5 h. Yield 86%; mp 186–188 °C; silica gel TLC *R_f* 0.04 (TFA/MeOH/DCM 3/5/92% v/v). δH (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆): 7.85 (m, 2H, Ar-*H*), 7.76 (s, 1H, Ar-*H*), 7.70 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H, Ar-*H*), 7.48 (m, 4H, Ar-*H*), 7.38 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H, Ar-*H*), 7.19 (s, 2H, exchange with D₂O, SO₂NH₂), 3.87 (s, 2H, CH₂), 2.79 (m, 4H, 2 × CH₂), 2.21 (bs, 1H, exchange with D₂O, NH). δC (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆): 145.85,

142.88, 142.83, 139.55, 133.94, 133.08, 130.05, 128.57, 128.48, 127.73, 126.97, 126.88, 126.58, 126.40, 53.85, 51.01, 36.57. ESI-MS (*m/z*) [M + H]⁺: calcd for C₁₉H₂₁N₂O₂S 341.1; found 341.1.

4-(2-((Furan-2-ylmethyl)amino)ethyl)benzenesulfonamide (5). Compound 5 was obtained according to the general procedure 1 earlier reported using 4-(2-aminoethyl)benzenesulfonamide (9.99 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and 2-furaldehyde (1.1 equiv) in dry MeOH (40 mL). The reaction mixture was initially stirred at reflux temperature for 4 h, and after the addition of sodium borohydride (1.6 equiv), it was stirred at reflux temperature for another 3h. Yield 88%; mp 133–135 °C; silica gel TLC *R_f* 0.19 (TFA/MeOH/DCM 3/5/92% v/v). δH (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆): 7.71 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 2H, Ar-*H*), 7.56–7.49 (m, 1H, Ar-*H*), 7.37 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 2H, Ar-*H*), 7.24 (s, 2H, exchange with D₂O, SO₂NH₂), 6.35 (dd, *J* = 3.1, 1.9 Hz, 1H, Ar-*H*), 6.20 (d, *J* = 3.1 Hz, 1H, Ar-*H*), 3.67 (s, 2H, CH₂), 2.75 (m, 4H, 2 × CH₂), 2.04 (bs, 1H, exchange with D₂O, NH). δC (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆): 155.36, 145.73, 142.62, 129.93, 126.49, 126.48, 111.13, 107.47, 50.67, 46.21, 36.29. ESI-MS (*m/z*) [M + H]⁺: calcd for C₁₃H₁₇N₂O₃S 281.1; found 281.1.

4-(2-((2-Cyanoethyl)amino)ethyl)benzenesulfonamide (6). Compound 6 was obtained according to the general procedure 2 earlier reported using 4-(2-aminoethyl)benzenesulfonamide (9.99 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and 3-chloropropionitrile (1.1 equiv) in dry DMF (5 mL) and at rt stirring for 0.5 h. Yield 85%; mp 85–87 °C; silica gel TLC *R_f* 0.15 (TFA/MeOH/DCM 3/5/92% v/v). δH (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆): 7.72 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H, Ar-*H*), 7.41 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H, Ar-*H*), 7.27 (s, 2H, exchange with D₂O, SO₂NH₂), 2.76 (m, 6H, 3 × CH₂), 2.57 (t, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 2H, CH₂). δC (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆): 145.72, 142.88, 130.14, 126.68, 121.19, 50.83, 45.66, 36.59, 18.88. ESI-MS (*m/z*) [M + H]⁺: calcd for C₁₁H₁₆N₃O₂S 254.1; found 254.0.

4-(2-(Phenethylamino)ethyl)benzenesulfonamide (7). Compound 7 was obtained according to the general procedure 2 earlier reported using 4-(2-aminoethyl)benzenesulfonamide (9.99 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and (2-bromoethyl)benzene (1.1 equiv) in dry DMF (5 mL) and at 60 °C stirring for 8 h. Yield 73%; mp 213–215 °C; silica gel TLC *R_f* 0.02 (TFA/MeOH/DCM 3/5/92% v/v). δH (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆): 7.78 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H, Ar-*H*), 7.44 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H, Ar-*H*), 7.34 (m, 4H, Ar-*H*), 7.26 (s, 2H, exchange with D₂O, SO₂NH₂, overlap with signal at 7.25), 7.25 (m, 1H, Ar-*H*), 2.89 (m, 8H, 4 × CH₂). δC (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆): 145.71, 142.27, 141.02, 130.04, 129.47, 129.26, 126.88, 126.59, 51.35, 50.91, 36.29, 36.05. ESI-MS (*m/z*) [M + H]⁺: calcd for C₁₆H₂₁N₂O₂S 305.1; found 305.1.

General Synthesis Procedure of Chloro-amides (8–17). To a suspension of 4-(2-(arylalkyl)aminoethyl)benzenesulfonamide 1–7 (6.89 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and K₂CO₃ (1.2 equiv) in acetone (40 mL) cooled to 0 °C, the appropriate chloroacetylchloride (1.2 equiv) was added dropwise and the mixture was stirred for 0.5 h. The solvent was evaporated under vacuum, then slush (50 mL) was added, and the basic suspension was neutralized with 1 M HCl. The precipitate was collected by filtration and purified with flash chromatography (1% MeOH in DCM) to give compounds 8–17.

***N*-Benzyl-2-chloro-*N*-(4-sulfamoylphenethyl)acetamide (8).** Compound 8 was obtained according to the general procedure earlier reported using 4-(2-(benzylamino)ethyl)benzenesulfonamide 1 and 2-chloroacetyl chloride (1.2 equiv). Yield 91%; mp 122–124 °C; silica gel TLC *R_f* 0.32 (TFA/MeOH/DCM 3/5/92% v/v). δH (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆): 7.74 (t, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2H, Ar-*H*), 7.35 (m, 7H, Ar-*H*), 7.27 (s, 2H, exchange with D₂O, SO₂NH₂, overlap with signal at 7.35), 4.58 (s, 2H, CH₂), 4.42 (s, 1.2H, CH₂), 4.40 (s, 0.8H, CH₂), 3.46 (m, 2H, CH₂), 2.96 (m, 1H, CH₂), 2.82 (m, 1H, CH₂). δC (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆): 167.23, 144.15, 143.63, 143.50, 143.28, 138.55, 137.89, 130.43, 130.15, 129.83, 129.55, 128.62, 128.23, 128.14, 126.89, 49.33, 49.08, 48.26, 43.19, 43.11, 34.80, 33.62. ESI-MS (*m/z*) [M + H]⁺: calcd for C₁₇H₂₀ClN₂O₃S 367.1; found 367.0.

***N*-Benzyl-3-chloro-*N*-(4-sulfamoylphenethyl)propanamide (9).** Compound 9 was obtained according to the general procedure earlier reported using 4-(2-(benzylamino)ethyl)benzenesulfonamide 1 and 3-chloropropionyl chloride (1.2 equiv). Yield 93%; mp 151–153 °C; silica gel TLC *R_f* 0.36 (TFA/MeOH/DCM 3/5/92% v/v).

δ H (400 MHz, DMSO- d_6): 7.73 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H, Ar-H), 7.32 (m, 7H, Ar-H), 7.25 (s, 2H, exchange with D₂O, SO₂NH₂, overlap with signal at 7.32), 4.56 (s, 2H, CH₂), 3.79 (m, 2H, CH₂), 3.47 (m, 3H, 2 × CH₂), 2.86 (m, 3H, 2 × CH₂). δ C (100 MHz, DMSO- d_6): 170.61, 170.55, 144.41, 143.79, 143.39, 143.13, 138.89, 138.40, 130.43, 130.19, 129.82, 129.52, 128.65, 128.43, 128.16, 127.65, 126.89, 126.85, 51.60, 48.93, 48.76, 48.41, 41.94, 41.68, 36.60, 36.05, 34.93, 34.05. ESI-MS (m/z) [$M + H$]⁺: calcd for C₁₈H₂₂ClN₂O₃S 381.1; found 381.0.

2-Chloro-N-(4-nitrobenzyl)-N-(4-sulfamoylphenethyl)acetamide (10). Compound 10 was obtained according to the general procedure earlier reported using 4-(2-((4-nitrobenzyl)amino)ethyl)benzenesulfonamide 2 and 2-chloroacetyl chloride (1.2 equiv). Yield 89%; mp 204–206 °C; silica gel TLC R_f 0.28 (TFA/MeOH/DCM 3/5/92% v/v). δ H (400 MHz, DMSO- d_6): 8.20 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 2H, Ar-H), 7.77 (m, 3H, Ar-H), 7.49 (m, 4H, Ar-H), 7.31 (s, 2H, exchange with D₂O, SO₂NH₂), 4.76 (s, 0.6 H, CH₂), 4.71 (s, 1.4 H, CH₂), 4.47 (s, 1.4 H, CH₂), 4.38 (s, 0.6 H, CH₂), 3.55 (m, 2H, CH₂), 2.97 (m, 1.5H, CH₂), 2.84 (m, 0.5H, CH₂). δ C (100 MHz, DMSO- d_6): 166.50, 164.81, 146.66, 145.78, 144.58, 142.46, 142.41, 140.51, 131.32, 131.13, 129.42, 129.13, 128.40, 128.17, 125.99, 125.82, 123.81, 123.57, 50.32, 49.22, 48.96, 48.16, 47.53, 44.25, 42.06, 33.84. ESI-MS (m/z) [$M + H$]⁺: calcd for C₁₇H₁₉ClN₃O₅S 412.1; found 412.0.

2-Chloro-N-(4-fluorobenzyl)-N-(4-sulfamoylphenethyl)acetamide (11). Compound 11 was obtained according to the general procedure earlier reported using 4-(2-((4-fluorobenzyl)amino)ethyl)benzenesulfonamide 3 and 2-chloroacetyl chloride (1.2 equiv). Yield 86%; mp 167–169 °C; silica gel TLC R_f 0.30 (TFA/MeOH/DCM 3/5/92% v/v). δ H (400 MHz, DMSO- d_6): 7.74 (t, J = 8.6 Hz, 2H, Ar-H), 7.32 (m, 6H, Ar-H), 7.30 (s, 2H, exchange with D₂O, SO₂NH₂, overlap with signal at 7.32), 4.56 (s, 2H, CH₂), 4.41 (s, 2H, CH₂), 3.45 (m, 2H, CH₂), 2.95 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 1.2H, CH₂), 2.78 (m, 0.8H, CH₂). δ F (376 MHz, DMSO- d_6): -114.96, -115.41. δ C (100 MHz, DMSO- d_6): 167.31, 143.60, 143.47, 142.79, 134.74, 130.74, 130.66, 130.44, 130.15, 129.80, 126.89, 116.68, 116.39, 116.18, 51.23, 49.32, 48.44, 48.10, 43.15, 43.07, 34.79, 33.57. ESI-MS (m/z) [$M + H$]⁺: calcd for C₁₇H₁₉ClFN₂O₃S 385.0; found 385.0.

2-Chloro-N-(naphthalen-2-ylmethyl)-N-(4-sulfamoylphenethyl)acetamide (12). Compound 12 was obtained according to the general procedure earlier reported using 4-(2-((naphthalen-2-ylmethyl)amino)ethyl)benzenesulfonamide 4 and 2-chloroacetyl chloride (1.2 equiv). Yield 54%; mp 181–183 °C; silica gel TLC R_f 0.34 (TFA/MeOH/DCM 3/5/92% v/v). δ H (400 MHz, DMSO- d_6): 7.91 (m, 3H, Ar-H), 7.73 (m, 3H, Ar-H), 7.40 (m, 5H, Ar-H), 7.30 (s, 2H, exchange with D₂O, SO₂NH₂, overlap with signal at 7.40), 4.75 (s, 2H, CH₂), 4.47 (s, 1.2H, CH₂), 4.46 (s, 0.8H, CH₂), 3.52 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H, CH₂), 3.01 (m, 2H, CH₂), 2.84 (m, 2H, CH₂). δ C (100 MHz, DMSO- d_6): 167.33, 144.15, 143.64, 143.50, 143.29, 136.15, 135.55, 134.99, 134.01, 133.95, 133.44, 133.32, 130.44, 130.17, 129.50, 129.24, 128.80, 128.62, 127.49, 127.35, 127.09, 126.98, 126.87, 126.49, 126.41, 52.08, 49.33, 49.27, 48.35, 43.29, 43.21, 34.83, 33.67. ESI-MS (m/z) [$M + H$]⁺: calcd for C₂₁H₂₂ClN₂O₃S 417.1; found 417.0.

2-Chloro-N-(furan-2-ylmethyl)-N-(4-sulfamoylphenethyl)acetamide (13). Compound 13 was obtained according to the general procedure earlier reported using 4-(2-((furan-2-ylmethyl)amino)ethyl)benzenesulfonamide 5 and 2-chloroacetyl chloride (1.2 equiv). Yield 75%; mp 141–143 °C; silica gel TLC R_f 0.27 (TFA/MeOH/DCM 3/5/92% v/v). δ H (400 MHz, DMSO- d_6): 7.74 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H, Ar-H), 7.67 (s, 0.5H, Ar), 7.61 (s, 0.5H, Ar-H), 7.44 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H, Ar-H), 7.37 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 1H, Ar-H), 7.30 (s, 2H, exchange with D₂O, SO₂NH₂), 6.45 (m, 1.5H, Ar-H), 6.38 (m, 0.5H, Ar-H), 4.57 (s, 2H, CH₂), 4.51 (s, 1H, CH₂), 4.38 (s, 1H, CH₂), 3.48 (dd, J = 14.0, 6.3 Hz, 2H, CH₂), 2.90 (t, J = 7.7 Hz, 1H, CH₂), 2.75 (m, 1H, CH₂). δ C (100 MHz, DMSO- d_6): 166.74, 166.66, 151.48, 151.18, 151.07, 144.24, 144.11, 143.97, 143.86, 143.66, 143.50, 143.36, 143.13, 130.33, 130.05, 126.78, 126.74, 111.62, 111.54, 110.64, 109.83, 109.70, 49.13, 48.21, 45.07, 43.19,

43.09, 42.37, 34.57, 33.47. ESI-MS (m/z) [$M + H$]⁺: calcd for C₁₅H₁₈ClN₂O₄S 357.0; found 357.0.

3-Chloro-N-(furan-2-ylmethyl)-N-(4-sulfamoylphenethyl)propanamide (14). Compound 14 was obtained according to the general procedure earlier reported using 4-(2-((furan-2-ylmethyl)amino)ethyl)benzenesulfonamide 5 and 3-chloropropionyl chloride (1.2 equiv). Yield 71%; mp 113–115 °C; silica gel TLC R_f 0.31 (TFA/MeOH/DCM 3/5/92% v/v). δ H (400 MHz, DMSO- d_6): 7.74 (m, 2H, Ar-H), 7.64 (s, 0.5H, Ar-H), 7.60 (s, 0.5H, Ar-H), 7.40 (m, 2H, Ar-H), 7.29 (s, 2H, exchange with D₂O, SO₂NH₂), 6.42 (m, 1.5H, Ar-H), 6.34 (s, 0.5H, Ar-H) 4.55 (s, 1H, CH₂), 4.54 (s, 1H, CH₂), 3.81 (t, J = 6.5 Hz, 1H, CH₂), 3.76 (t, J = 6.4 Hz, 1H, CH₂), 3.48 (m, 2H, CH₂), 2.97 (t, J = 6.5 Hz, 1H, CH₂), 2.79 (m, 3H, 2 × CH₂). δ C (100 MHz, DMSO- d_6): 170.08, 169.94, 151.94, 151.67, 144.21, 144.03, 143.61, 143.50, 143.33, 143.07, 130.29, 130.04, 126.77, 126.73, 111.54, 111.52, 109.47, 109.28, 48.75, 47.96, 44.98, 41.87, 41.59, 41.43, 36.49, 35.98, 34.73, 33.82. ESI-MS (m/z) [$M + H$]⁺: calcd for C₁₆H₂₀ClN₂O₄S 371.1; found 371.1.

2-Chloro-N-(2-cyanoethyl)-N-(4-sulfamoylphenethyl)acetamide (15). Compound 15 was obtained according to the general procedure earlier reported using 4-(2-((2-cyanoethyl)amino)ethyl)benzenesulfonamide 6 and 2-chloroacetyl chloride (1.2 equiv). Yield 71%; mp 199–201 °C; silica gel TLC R_f 0.04 (TFA/MeOH/DCM 3/5/92% v/v). δ H (400 MHz, DMSO- d_6): 7.77 (d, J = 7.4 Hz, 2H, Ar-H), 7.51 (d, 7.3 Hz, 2H, Ar-H), 7.29 (s, 2H, exchange with D₂O, SO₂NH₂), 4.46 (s, 1H, CH₂), 4.36 (s, 1H, CH₂), 3.59 (s, 4H, 2 × CH₂), 2.86 (m, 4H, 2 × CH₂). δ C (100 MHz, DMSO- d_6): 167.37, 167.13, 144.04, 143.50, 143.24, 130.54, 130.29, 126.85, 124.09, 120.03, 95.68, 49.92, 47.96, 44.16, 43.20, 43.02, 42.82, 34.99, 33.62, 18.01, 16.44. ESI-MS (m/z) [$M + H$]⁺: calcd for C₁₃H₁₇ClN₃O₃S 330.0; found 330.0.

2-Chloro-N-phenethyl-N-(4-sulfamoylphenethyl)acetamide (16). Compound 16 was obtained according to the general procedure earlier reported using 4-(2-(phenethylamino)ethyl)benzenesulfonamide 7 and 2-chloroacetyl chloride (1.2 equiv). Yield 92%; mp 178–180 °C; silica gel TLC R_f 0.29 (TFA/MeOH/DCM 3/5/92% v/v). δ H (400 MHz, DMSO- d_6): 7.75 (d, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H, Ar-H), 7.44 (dd, J = 15.3, 8.2 Hz, 2H, Ar-H), 7.29 (s, 2H, exchange with D₂O, SO₂NH₂, overlap with signal at 7.26), 7.26 (m, 5H, Ar-H), 4.29 (s, 0.9H, CH₂), 4.18 (s, 1.1H, CH₂), 3.47 (m, 4H, 0.9H, CH₂), 2.92 (m, 1H, CH₂), 2.85 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H, CH₂), 2.77 (m, 1H, CH₂). δ C (100 MHz, DMSO- d_6): 167.49, 144.74, 144.06, 143.60, 143.25, 140.38, 139.73, 130.85, 130.66, 130.32, 130.12, 129.92, 129.81, 127.94, 127.67, 127.18, 127.12, 50.73, 50.37, 48.96, 48.41, 43.08, 43.05, 35.57, 35.33, 34.26, 33.98. ESI-MS (m/z) [$M + H$]⁺: calcd for C₁₈H₂₂ClN₂O₃S 381.1; found 381.0.

3-Chloro-N-phenethyl-N-(4-sulfamoylphenethyl)propanamide (17). Compound 17 was obtained according to the general procedure earlier reported using 4-(2-(phenethylamino)ethyl)benzenesulfonamide 7 and 3-chloropropionyl chloride (1.2 equiv). Yield 54%; mp 181–183 °C; silica gel TLC R_f 0.34 (TFA/MeOH/DCM 3/5/92% v/v). δ H (400 MHz, DMSO- d_6): 7.74 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 2H, Ar-H), 7.43 (dd, J = 12.1, 8.2 Hz, 2H, Ar-H), 7.30 (s, 2H, exchange with D₂O, SO₂NH₂, overlap with signal at 7.24), 7.24 (m, 5H, Ar-H), 3.75 (t, J = 6.4 Hz, 1H, CH₂), 3.70 (t, J = 6.4 Hz, 1H, CH₂), 3.46 (s, 4H, 2 × CH₂), 2.85 (m, 5H, 3 × CH₂), 2.64 (t, J = 6.4 Hz, 1H, CH₂). δ C (100 MHz, DMSO- d_6): 169.88, 169.79, 144.48, 143.65, 143.32, 143.01, 140.18, 139.57, 130.32, 130.08, 129.88, 129.64, 129.35, 129.28, 127.32, 127.09, 126.66, 49.89, 49.53, 48.28, 47.81, 41.71, 36.00, 35.43, 35.17, 34.28, 33.98. ESI-MS (m/z) [$M + H$]⁺: calcd for C₁₉H₂₄ClN₂O₃S 395.1; found 395.1.

Synthesis of 3-(Phenethylamino)propanenitrile. To a solution of phenethylamine (16.5 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in dry DMF (5 mL), triethylamine (1.2 equiv) and 3-chloropropionitrile (1.1 equiv) were added, and the mixture was stirred at room temperature for 0.5 h. The reaction was quenched by addition of water (20 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (30 mL × 3). The organic layer was collected, washed with brine (40 mL × 3), dried over Na₂SO₄, filtered off, and evaporated under vacuum to give 3-(phenethylamino)propanenitrile as an orange oil. Yield 92%; silica gel TLC R_f 0.42 (TFA/MeOH/

DCM 1.5/1.5/97% v/v). 7.23 (m, 5H, Ar-H), 2.85 (m, 6H, 3 × CH₂), 2.57 (t, J = 6.6 Hz, 2H, CH₂), 1.89 (bs, 1H, exchange with D₂O, NH). δC (100 MHz, DMSO-d₆): 141.30, 129.64, 129.28, 126.90, 120.99, 51.41, 45.80, 37.04, 18.99. ESI-MS (m/z) [M + H]⁺: calcd for C₁₁H₁₅N₂ 175.1; found 175.0.

General Synthesis Procedure of Three-Tail Compounds 18–39. To a solution of chloroalkylamide 8–17 (0.69 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and triethylamine (1.2 equiv) in MeCN dry (5 mL), the proper secondary amine (1.1 equiv) was added, and the mixture was heated at reflux temperature for 4–24 h under stirring. The solvent was evaporated under vacuum, and the crude was treated with NaHCO₃ saturated solution (5 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (10 mL × 3). The organic layer was dried over Na₂SO₄, filtered, and evaporated under vacuum. The obtained residue was purified by flash chromatography (1% MeOH in DCM) to give compounds 18–39 as an oil or powder.

N-Benzyl-2-(diethylamino)-N-(4-sulfamoylphenethyl)acetamide (18). Compound 18 was obtained according to the general procedure earlier reported using N-benzyl-2-chloro-N-(4-sulfamoylphenethyl)acetamide 8 and diethylamine (1.1 equiv) in dry MeCN (5 mL) and stirring for 4 h at reflux temperature. The sticky residue was purified by flash chromatography (1% MeOH in DCM) to give 18 as a powder. Yield 71%; mp 93–95 °C; silica gel TLC R_f 0.12 (TFA/MeOH/DCM 3/5/92% v/v). δH (400 MHz, DMSO-d₆): 7.74 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H, Ar-H), 7.31 (m, 7H, Ar-H), 7.27 (s, 2H, exchange with D₂O, SO₂NH₂), 4.70 (s, 0.9H, CH₂), 4.56 (s, 1.1H, CH₂), 3.57 (m, 1H, CH₂), 3.44 (m, 1H, CH₂), 3.16 (s, 1H, CH₂), 3.13 (s, 1H, CH₂), 2.94 (m, 1H, CH₂), 2.78 (m, 1H, CH₂), 2.46 (m, 4H, 2 × CH₂), 0.90 (m, 6H, 2 × CH₃). δC (100 MHz, DMSO-d₆): 170.22, 143.34, 143.10, 142.34, 142.13, 138.18, 137.82, 129.25, 129.09, 128.69, 128.42, 127.54, 127.19, 127.00, 126.77, 125.80, 125.72, 56.33, 56.25, 50.03, 47.71, 47.15, 46.76, 46.72, 46.42, 33.89, 32.72, 11.38. ESI-HRMS (m/z) [M + H]⁺: calcd for C₂₁H₃₀N₃O₃S 404.2007; found 404.2012.

N-Benzyl-2-(benzyl(ethyl)amino)-N-(4-sulfamoylphenethyl)acetamide (19). Compound 19 was obtained according to the general procedure earlier reported using N-benzyl-2-chloro-N-(4-sulfamoylphenethyl)acetamide 8 and N-ethylbenzylamine (1.1 equiv) in dry MeCN (5 mL) and stirring for 16 h at reflux temperature. The sticky residue was purified by flash chromatography (1% MeOH in DCM) to give 19 as an oil. Yield 65%; silica gel TLC R_f 0.27 (TFA/MeOH/DCM 3/5/92% v/v). δH (400 MHz, DMSO-d₆): 7.75 (t, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H, Ar-H), 7.37 (m, 11H, Ar-H), 7.28 (s, 2H, exchange with D₂O, SO₂NH₂, overlap with signal at 7.37), 7.13 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H, Ar-H), 4.62 (s, 1H, CH₂), 4.60 (s, 1H, CH₂), 3.64 (s, 1H, CH₂), 3.60 (s, 1H, CH₂), 3.55 (m, 1H, CH₂), 3.45 (m, 1H, CH₂), 3.25 (s, 1H, CH₂), 3.15 (s, 1H, CH₂), 2.84 (m, 2H, CH₂), 2.47 (m, 2H, CH₂), 0.98 (m, 3H, CH₃). δC (100 MHz, DMSO-d₆): 171.12, 144.35, 143.83, 143.39, 143.22, 139.72, 139.03, 138.56, 130.40, 130.26, 130.12, 129.67, 129.42, 129.25, 129.22, 128.62, 128.20, 128.09, 127.69, 126.80, 126.78, 58.40, 56.64, 55.97, 51.10, 48.37, 48.12, 47.70, 34.76, 33.82, 16.77, 13.76, 12.53. ESI-HRMS (m/z) [M + H]⁺: calcd for C₂₆H₃₂N₃O₃S 466.2164; found 466.2169.

N-Benzyl-2-(dibenzylamino)-N-(4-sulfamoylphenethyl)acetamide (20). Compound 20 was obtained according to the general procedure earlier reported using N-benzyl-2-chloro-N-(4-sulfamoylphenethyl)acetamide 8 and dibenzylamine (1.1 equiv) in dry MeCN (5 mL) and stirring for 15 h at reflux temperature. The sticky residue was purified by flash chromatography (MeOH 1%/DCM) to give 20 as a white powder. Yield 68%; mp 98–100 °C; silica gel TLC R_f 0.38 (TFA/MeOH/DCM 3/5/92% v/v). δH (400 MHz, DMSO-d₆): 7.67 (t, J = 8.1 Hz, 2H, Ar-H), 7.28 (m, 15H, Ar-H), 7.24 (s, 2H, exchange with D₂O, SO₂NH₂, overlap with signal at 7.28), 6.94 (m, 2H, Ar-H), 4.54 (s, 1.1H, CH₂), 4.43 (s, 0.9H, CH₂), 3.68 (s, 2.3H, 2 × CH₂), 3.59 (s, 1.7H, 2 × CH₂), 3.41 (m, 2H, CH₂), 3.23 (s, 1H, CH₂), 3.08 (s, 1H, CH₂), 2.79 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 0.9H, CH₂), 2.61 (t, J = 6.8 Hz, 1.1H, CH₂). δC (100 MHz, DMSO-d₆): 170.96, 170.84, 144.38, 143.48, 143.28, 143.16, 139.69, 139.61, 139.04, 138.39, 130.13, 129.98, 129.91, 129.57, 129.44, 129.36, 129.29, 128.64, 128.22, 128.10, 127.45, 126.79, 126.71, 58.48, 58.42,

55.73, 55.42, 50.99, 48.13, 47.99, 34.58, 33.91. ESI-HRMS (m/z) [M + H]⁺: calcd for C₃₁H₃₄N₃O₃S 528.2321; found 466.528.2317.

N-Benzyl-2-(dipentylamino)-N-(4-sulfamoylphenethyl)acetamide (21). Compound 21 was obtained according to the general procedure earlier reported using N-benzyl-2-chloro-N-(4-sulfamoylphenethyl)acetamide 8 and dipentylamine (1.1 equiv) in dry MeCN (5 mL) and stirring for 16 h at reflux temperature. The sticky residue was purified by flash chromatography (1% MeOH in DCM) to give 21 as an oil. Yield 70%; silica gel TLC R_f 0.14 (TFA/MeOH/DCM 3/5/92% v/v). δH (400 MHz, DMSO-d₆): 7.73 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 2H, Ar-H), 7.34 (m, 7H, Ar-H), 7.28 (s, 2H, exchange with D₂O, SO₂NH₂, overlap with signal at 7.34), 4.73 (s, 0.7H, CH₂), 4.58 (s, 1.3H, CH₂), 3.61 (m, 0.9H, CH₂), 3.46 (m, 1.1H, CH₂), 3.15 (m, 2H, CH₂), 2.95 (m, 1.1H, CH₂), 2.81 (m, 0.9H, CH₂), 2.43 (m, 4H, 2 × CH₂), 1.21 (m, 12H, 6 × CH₂), 0.81 (m, 6H, 2 × CH₃). δC (100 MHz, DMSO-d₆): 167.34, 144.32, 144.01, 143.73, 143.45, 143.22, 138.70, 130.29, 130.08, 129.73, 129.40, 128.79, 128.62, 128.22, 128.14, 127.68, 126.82, 54.91, 54.85, 51.87, 51.13, 49.31, 48.49, 48.24, 47.90, 43.11, 34.74, 33.88, 30.18, 22.95, 22.75, 16.34, 15.05, 14.73. ESI-HRMS (m/z) [M + H]⁺: calcd for C₂₇H₄₂N₃O₃S 488.2947; found 488.2942.

N-Benzyl-2-(dihexylamino)-N-(4-sulfamoylphenethyl)acetamide (22). Compound 22 was obtained according to the general procedure earlier reported using N-benzyl-2-chloro-N-(4-sulfamoylphenethyl)acetamide 8 and dihexylamine (1.1 equiv) in dry MeCN (5 mL) and stirring for 16 h at reflux temperature. The sticky residue was purified by flash chromatography (1% MeOH in DCM) to give 22 as an oil. Yield 72%; silica gel TLC R_f 0.34 (TFA/MeOH/DCM 3/5/92% v/v). δH (400 MHz, DMSO-d₆): 7.73 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H, Ar-H), 7.33 (m, 7H, Ar-H), 7.26 (s, 2H, exchange with D₂O, SO₂NH₂, overlap with signal at 7.33), 4.73 (s, 0.9H, CH₂), 4.56 (s, 1.1H, CH₂), 3.62 (m, 1H, CH₂), 3.42 (m, 1H, CH₂), 3.14 (m, 1H, CH₂), 2.94 (m, 1.1H, CH₂), 2.82 (m, 0.9H, CH₂), 2.41 (m, 4H, 2 × CH₂), 1.26 (m, 16H, 8 × CH₂), 0.83 (m, 6H, 2 × CH₃). δC (100 MHz, DMSO-d₆): 170.65, 170.49, 143.73, 143.43, 142.85, 142.63, 138.61, 138.23, 129.62, 129.41, 129.07, 128.74, 128.18, 127.58, 127.46, 127.04, 126.21, 65.33, 58.19, 57.91, 54.32, 54.21, 50.55, 47.89, 47.69, 47.35, 47.31, 34.32, 33.32, 31.63, 31.17, 27.03, 26.99, 26.80, 26.75, 26.11, 26.00, 22.52, 22.32, 15.65, 14.32, 14.27. ESI-HRMS (m/z) [M + H]⁺: calcd for C₂₉H₄₆N₃O₃S 516.3260; found 516.3264.

N-Benzyl-2-(dioctylamino)-N-(4-sulfamoylphenethyl)acetamide (23). Compound 23 was obtained according to the general procedure earlier reported using N-benzyl-2-chloro-N-(4-sulfamoylphenethyl)acetamide 8 and dioctylamine (1.1 equiv) in dry MeCN (5 mL) and stirring for 16 h at reflux temperature. The sticky residue was purified by flash chromatography (MeOH 1%/DCM) to give 23 as a powder. Yield 67%; mp 62–64 °C; silica gel TLC R_f 0.16 (TFA/MeOH/DCM 3/5/92% v/v). δH (400 MHz, DMSO-d₆): 7.72 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H, Ar-H), 7.32 (m, 7H, Ar-H), 7.27 (s, 2H, exchange with D₂O, SO₂NH₂, overlap with signal at 7.32), 4.74 (s, 0.9H, CH₂), 4.56 (s, 1.1H, CH₂), 3.61 (m, 1H, CH₂), 3.38 (m, 1H, CH₂), 3.14 (m, 1H, CH₂), 2.95 (m, 1.1H, CH₂), 2.81 (m, 0.9H, CH₂), 2.37 (m, 4H, 2 × CH₂), 1.28 (m, 24H, 12 × CH₂), 0.83 (m, J = 6.2 Hz, 6H, 2 × CH₃). δC (100 MHz, DMSO-d₆): 170.23, 170.10, 143.27, 143.01, 142.38, 142.17, 138.18, 137.82, 129.20, 128.99, 128.63, 128.31, 127.74, 127.14, 127.01, 126.60, 125.76, 64.93, 57.81, 57.59, 53.78, 53.70, 50.04, 47.41, 47.14, 46.88, 33.84, 32.86, 31.27, 31.23, 28.91, 28.70, 28.68, 26.93, 26.88, 26.42, 26.35, 22.09, 15.18, 13.94. ESI-HRMS (m/z) [M + H]⁺: calcd for C₃₃H₅₄N₃O₃S 572.3886; found 572.3881.

N-Benzyl-3-(diethylamino)-N-(4-sulfamoylphenethyl)propanamide (24). Compound 24 was obtained according to the general procedure earlier reported using N-benzyl-3-chloro-N-(4-sulfamoylphenethyl)propanamide 9 and diethylamine (1.1 equiv) in dry MeCN (5 mL) and stirring for 16 h at reflux temperature. The sticky residue was purified by flash chromatography (1% MeOH in DCM) to give 24 as an oil. Yield 72%; silica gel TLC R_f 0.04 (TFA/MeOH/DCM 3/5/92% v/v). δH (400 MHz, DMSO-d₆): 7.74 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 2H, Ar-H), 7.33 (m, 7H, Ar-H), 7.30 (s, 2H, exchange with D₂O, SO₂NH₂, overlap with signal at 7.33), 4.58 (s, 0.9H, CH₂), 4.56 (s, 1.1H, CH₂), 3.49 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 2H, CH₂), 3.38 (m, 2H, CH₂),

2.92 (t, $J = 7.3$ Hz, 1H, CH_2), 2.85 (m, 0.9H, CH_2), 2.72 (m, 2H, CH_2), 2.45 (m, 4H, $2 \times \text{CH}_2$), 0.96 (m, 6H, $2 \times \text{CH}_3$). δC (100 MHz, $\text{DMSO}-d_6$): 172.42, 172.16, 144.45, 143.90, 143.42, 143.17, 139.17, 138.88, 130.37, 130.15, 129.76, 129.43, 128.68, 128.28, 128.02, 127.57, 126.84, 126.80, 55.97, 51.78, 49.67, 49.40, 49.00, 48.40, 48.29, 47.39, 47.35, 34.96, 34.30, 34.11, 30.56, 12.48. ESI-HRMS (m/z) $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$: calcd for $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{32}\text{N}_3\text{O}_3\text{S}$ 418.2164; found 418.2170.

***N*-Benzyl-3-(benzyl(ethyl)amino)-*N*-(4-sulfamoylphenethyl)propanamide (25).** Compound 25 was obtained according to the general procedure earlier reported using *N*-benzyl-3-chloro-*N*-(4-sulfamoylphenethyl)propanamide 9 and *N*-ethylbenzylamine (1.1 equiv) in dry MeCN (5 mL) and stirring for 20 h at reflux temperature. The sticky residue was purified by flash chromatography (1% MeOH in DCM) to give 25 as a powder. Yield 69%; mp 77–79 °C; silica gel TLC R_f 0.12 (TFA/MeOH/DCM 3/5/92% v/v). δH (400 MHz, $\text{DMSO}-d_6$): 7.73 (t, $J = 7.8$ Hz, 2H, Ar-H), 7.35 (m, 12H, Ar-H), 7.33 (s, 2H, exchange with D_2O , SO_2NH_2 , overlap with signal at 7.35), 4.53 (s, 2H, CH_2), 4.11 (s, 1H, CH_2), 3.53 (m, 3H, $2 \times \text{CH}_2$), 2.86 (m, 3H, $2 \times \text{CH}_2$), 2.67 (m, 1H, CH_2), 2.39 (m, 2H, CH_2), 1.21 (t, $J = 7.2$ Hz, 2H, CH_2), 0.95 (m, 3H, $1 \times \text{CH}_3$). δC (100 MHz, $\text{DMSO}-d_6$): 172.27, 171.59, 144.43, 143.82, 143.43, 143.17, 139.16, 138.99, 138.81, 133.37, 130.99, 130.38, 130.12, 129.86, 129.76, 129.68, 129.45, 129.25, 128.71, 128.31, 128.05, 127.63, 126.83, 126.82, 58.05, 51.74, 50.52, 48.99, 48.42, 48.24, 47.94, 47.76, 42.70, 34.95, 34.09, 11.96. ESI-HRMS (m/z) $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$: calcd for $\text{C}_{27}\text{H}_{34}\text{N}_3\text{O}_3\text{S}$ 480.2321; found 480.2315.

***N*-Benzyl-3-(dibenzylamino)-*N*-(4-sulfamoylphenethyl)propanamide (26).** Compound 26 was obtained according to the general procedure earlier reported using *N*-benzyl-3-chloro-*N*-(4-sulfamoylphenethyl)propanamide 9 and dibenzylamine (1.1 equiv) in dry MeCN (5 mL) and stirring for 22 h at reflux temperature. The sticky residue was purified by flash chromatography (1% MeOH in DCM) to give 26 as an oil. Yield 64%; silica gel TLC R_f 0.32 (TFA/MeOH/DCM 3/5/92% v/v). δH (400 MHz, $\text{DMSO}-d_6$): 7.67 (m, 2H, Ar-H), 7.30 (s, 2H, exchange with D_2O , SO_2NH_2 , overlap with signal at 7.29), 7.29 (m, 15H, Ar-H), 6.93 (m, 2H, Ar-H), 4.53 (s, 1.1H, CH_2), 4.41 (s, 0.9H, CH_2), 3.67 (s, 0.9H, CH_2), 3.59 (s, 1.1H, CH_2), 3.45 (m, 6H, $3 \times \text{CH}_2$), 3.23 (s, 0.9H, CH_2), 3.08 (s, 1.1H, CH_2), 2.77 (m, 1H, CH_2), 2.60 (t, $J = 7.1$ Hz, 1H, CH_2). δC (100 MHz, $\text{DMSO}-d_6$): 170.99, 170.87, 144.38, 143.48, 143.28, 143.17, 139.68, 139.61, 139.02, 138.36, 130.53, 130.21, 130.11, 129.97, 129.90, 129.55, 129.42, 129.34, 129.28, 128.64, 128.20, 128.09, 127.46, 126.79, 126.71, 58.50, 58.45, 55.73, 55.45, 51.03, 49.65, 48.15, 48.05, 47.94, 34.60, 33.91, 22.08. ESI-HRMS (m/z) $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$: calcd for $\text{C}_{32}\text{H}_{36}\text{N}_3\text{O}_3\text{S}$ 542.2477; found 542.2473.

***N*-Benzyl-3-(dipentylamino)-*N*-(4-sulfamoylphenethyl)propanamide (27).** Compound 27 was obtained according to the general procedure earlier reported using *N*-benzyl-3-chloro-*N*-(4-sulfamoylphenethyl)propanamide 9 and dipentylamine (1.1 equiv) in dry MeCN (5 mL) and stirring for 16 h at reflux temperature. The sticky residue was purified by flash chromatography (1% MeOH in DCM) to give 27 as an oil. Yield 73%; silica gel TLC R_f 0.16 (TFA/MeOH/DCM 3/5/92% v/v). δH (400 MHz, $\text{DMSO}-d_6$): 7.72 (m, 2H, Ar-H), 7.29 (m, 7H, Ar-H), 7.27 (s, 2H, exchange with D_2O , SO_2NH_2 , overlap with signal at 7.29), 4.57 (s, 1.1H, CH_2), 4.54 (s, 0.9H, CH_2), 3.46 (m, 2H, CH_2), 2.89 (m, 1H, CH_2), 2.82 (m, 1H, CH_2), 2.63 (s, 4H, $2 \times \text{CH}_2$), 2.32 (m, 4H, $2 \times \text{CH}_2$), 1.27 (m, 12H, $6 \times \text{CH}_2$), 0.84 (m, 6H, $2 \times \text{CH}_3$). δC (100 MHz, $\text{DMSO}-d_6$): 172.97, 172.71, 144.46, 143.82, 143.41, 143.13, 139.21, 138.96, 130.27, 130.13, 129.71, 129.39, 128.66, 128.23, 128.00, 127.39, 126.83, 126.80, 65.98, 54.42, 54.36, 51.91, 51.00, 50.60, 49.18, 49.09, 48.54, 48.42, 35.12, 34.17, 32.30, 32.26, 32.04, 31.23, 30.93, 28.41, 27.78, 27.68, 27.62, 27.57, 27.13, 23.18, 23.04, 16.21, 14.97, 14.94. ESI-HRMS (m/z) $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$: calcd for $\text{C}_{28}\text{H}_{44}\text{N}_3\text{O}_3\text{S}$ 502.3103; found 502.3098.

***N*-Benzyl-3-(dihexylamino)-*N*-(4-sulfamoylphenethyl)propanamide (28).** Compound 28 was obtained according to the general procedure earlier reported using *N*-benzyl-3-chloro-*N*-(4-sulfamoylphenethyl)propanamide 9 and dipentylamine (1.1 equiv) in

dry MeCN (5 mL) and stirring for 16 h at reflux temperature. The sticky residue was purified by flash chromatography (1% MeOH in DCM) to give 28 as an oil. Yield 74%; silica gel TLC R_f 0.20 (TFA/MeOH/DCM 3/5/92% v/v). δH (400 MHz, $\text{DMSO}-d_6$): 7.73 (m, 2H, Ar-H), 7.32 (m, 7H, Ar-H), 7.30 (s, 2H, exchange with D_2O , SO_2NH_2 , overlap with signal at 7.32), 4.60 (s, 0.9H, CH_2), 4.56 (s, 1.1H, CH_2), 3.47 (m, 2H, CH_2), 3.17 (m, 2H, CH_2), 2.85 (m, 8H, $4 \times \text{CH}_2$), 1.55 (m, 4H, $2 \times \text{CH}_2$), 1.27 (m, 12H, $6 \times \text{CH}_2$), 0.87 (m, 6H, $2 \times \text{CH}_3$). δC (100 MHz, $\text{DMSO}-d_6$): 172.90, 172.65, 144.47, 143.82, 143.44, 143.16, 139.27, 139.03, 130.27, 130.12, 129.71, 129.39, 128.66, 128.21, 127.99, 127.40, 126.83, 126.81, 54.44, 54.37, 54.09, 51.89, 51.02, 50.62, 49.73, 49.16, 48.53, 48.43, 36.03, 35.15, 34.20, 32.32, 32.27, 32.19, 31.69, 31.26, 30.95, 30.24, 29.40, 27.84, 27.72, 27.63, 27.59, 27.36, 23.20, 23.11, 14.99. ESI-HRMS (m/z) $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$: calcd for $\text{C}_{30}\text{H}_{48}\text{N}_3\text{O}_3\text{S}$ 530.3416; found 530.3421.

***N*-Benzyl-3-(dioctylamino)-*N*-(4-sulfamoylphenethyl)propanamide (29).** Compound 29 was obtained according to the general procedure earlier reported using *N*-benzyl-3-chloro-*N*-(4-sulfamoylphenethyl)propanamide 9 and dioctylamine (1.1 equiv) in dry MeCN (5 mL) and stirring for 16 h at reflux temperature. The sticky residue was purified by flash chromatography (1% MeOH in DCM) to give 29 as an oil. Yield 73%; silica gel TLC R_f 0.22 (TFA/MeOH/DCM 3/5/92% v/v). δH (400 MHz, $\text{DMSO}-d_6$): 7.73 (m, 2H, Ar-H), 7.31 (m, 7H, Ar-H), 7.30 (s, 2H, exchange with D_2O , SO_2NH_2 , overlap with signal at 7.31), 4.60 (s, 0.9H, CH_2), 4.56 (s, 1.1H, CH_2), 3.47 (m, 2H, CH_2), 2.93 (m, 4H, $2 \times \text{CH}_2$), 2.82 (m, 4H, $2 \times \text{CH}_2$), 2.66 (m, 1H, CH_2), 2.57 (m, 1H, CH_2), 1.58 (m, 4H, $2 \times \text{CH}_2$), 1.27 (m, 20H, $5 \times \text{CH}_2$), 0.85 (m, 6H, $2 \times \text{CH}_3$). δC (100 MHz, $\text{DMSO}-d_6$): 171.86, 171.61, 143.40, 142.75, 142.41, 142.12, 138.19, 137.95, 129.19, 129.05, 128.64, 128.33, 127.62, 127.16, 126.92, 126.37, 125.79, 125.75, 53.36, 53.31, 50.87, 49.99, 49.63, 49.15, 48.11, 47.47, 47.41, 34.12, 33.15, 31.27, 30.28, 29.91, 29.12, 28.96, 28.95, 28.92, 28.74, 28.73, 28.70, 26.88, 26.85, 26.81, 26.80, 26.72, 22.09, 13.94, 13.92. ESI-HRMS (m/z) $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$: calcd for $\text{C}_{34}\text{H}_{56}\text{N}_3\text{O}_3\text{S}$ 586.4042; found 586.4036.

3-(Dihexylamino)-*N*-phenethyl-*N*-(4-sulfamoylphenethyl)propanamide (30). Compound 30 was obtained according to the general procedure earlier reported using 3-chloro-*N*-phenethyl-*N*-(4-sulfamoylphenethyl)propanamide 17 and dihexylamine (1.1 equiv) in dry MeCN (5 mL) and stirring for 16 h at reflux temperature. The sticky residue was purified by flash chromatography (1% MeOH in DCM) to give 30 as an oil. Yield 68%; silica gel TLC R_f 0.21 (TFA/MeOH/DCM 3/5/92% v/v). δH (400 MHz, $\text{DMSO}-d_6$): 7.75 (m, 2H, Ar-H), 7.35 (m, 7H, Ar-H), 7.30 (s, 2H, exchange with D_2O , SO_2NH_2 , overlap with signal at 7.35), 4.11 (m, 2H, CH_2), 3.49 (m, 2H, CH_2), 3.16 (m, 4H, $2 \times \text{CH}_2$), 2.90 (m, 4H, $2 \times \text{CH}_2$), 2.08 (m, 4H, $2 \times \text{CH}_2$), 1.60 (m, 4H, $2 \times \text{CH}_2$), 1.29 (m, 12H, $6 \times \text{CH}_2$), 0.87 (m, 6H, $2 \times \text{CH}_3$). δC (100 MHz, $\text{DMSO}-d_6$): 170.21, 170.08, 144.37, 143.78, 143.42, 143.22, 140.21, 139.72, 130.56, 130.50, 130.19, 130.05, 129.75, 129.66, 129.44, 127.45, 127.12, 126.82, 65.98, 55.92, 53.01, 49.69, 49.64, 49.07, 48.24, 47.79, 35.36, 35.12, 34.47, 34.14, 31.78, 26.80, 26.39, 23.90, 22.98, 16.22, 14.95, 14.90. ESI-HRMS (m/z) $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$: calcd for $\text{C}_{31}\text{H}_{50}\text{N}_3\text{O}_3\text{S}$ 544.3573; found 544.3578.

3-(Dihexylamino)-*N*-(furan-2-ylmethyl)-*N*-(4-sulfamoylphenethyl)propenamide (31). Compound 31 was obtained according to the general procedure earlier reported using 3-chloro-*N*-(furan-2-ylmethyl)-*N*-(4-sulfamoylphenethyl)propenamide 14 and dihexylamine (1.1 equiv) in dry MeCN (5 mL) and stirring for 16 h at reflux temperature. The sticky residue was purified by flash chromatography (1% MeOH in DCM) and to give 31 as a powder. Yield 68%; mp 118–120 °C; silica gel TLC R_f 0.26 (TFA/MeOH/DCM 3/5/92% v/v). δH (400 MHz, $\text{DMSO}-d_6$): 7.73 (d, $J = 8.3$ Hz, 2H, Ar-H), 7.60 (m, 1H, Ar-H), 7.36 (d, $J = 8.3$ Hz, 2H, Ar-H), 7.30 (s, 2H, exchange with D_2O , SO_2NH_2), 6.40 (m, 2H, Ar-H), 4.57 (s, 0.9H, CH_2), 4.54 (s, 1.1H, CH_2), 3.47 (m, 2H, CH_2), 3.16 (m, 2H, CH_2), 2.82 (m, 8H, $4 \times \text{CH}_2$), 1.56 (m, 4H, $2 \times \text{CH}_2$), 1.27 (m, 12H, $6 \times \text{CH}_2$), 0.85 (m, 6H, $2 \times \text{CH}_3$). δC (100 MHz, $\text{DMSO}-d_6$): 152.21, 151.98, 144.38, 144.00, 143.75, 143.51, 143.45, 143.16, 130.30, 130.09, 126.84, 111.62, 111.59, 109.50, 109.25,

54.06, 50.19, 49.65, 49.14, 48.04, 47.80, 45.36, 41.86, 34.96, 33.98, 32.17, 31.91, 31.77, 27.41, 26.71, 26.48, 23.15, 22.94, 14.97, 14.91. ESI-HRMS (m/z) [$M + H$]⁺: calcd for C₂₈H₄₆N₃O₄S 520.3209; found 520.3215.

2-((Dihexylamino)-N-(naphthalen-2-ylmethyl)-N-(4-sulfamoylphenethyl)acetamide (32). Compound 32 was obtained according to the general procedure earlier reported using 2-chloro-N-(naphthalen-2-ylmethyl)-N-(4-sulfamoylphenethyl)acetamide 12 and dihexylamine (1.1 equiv) in dry MeCN (5 mL) and stirring for 16 h at reflux temperature. The sticky residue was purified by flash chromatography (1% MeOH in DCM) to give 32 as an oil. Yield 61%; silica gel TLC R_f 0.16 (TFA/MeOH/DCM 3/5/92% v/v). δ H (400 MHz, DMSO- d_6): 7.89 (m, 3H, Ar-H), 7.71 (m, 3H, Ar-H), 7.41 (m, 7H, Ar-H), 7.29 (s, 2H, exchange with D₂O, SO₂NH₂, overlap with signal at 7.41), 4.92 (s, 0.9H, CH₂), 4.73 (s, 1.1H, CH₂), 3.68 (m, 1H, CH₂), 3.51 (m, 1H, CH₂), 3.23 (m, 1.1H, CH₂), 3.14 (m, 0.9H, CH₂), 2.99 (m, 1H, CH₂), 2.85 (m, 1H, CH₂), 2.37 (m, 4H, 2 × CH₂), 1.29 (m, 4H, 2 × CH₂), 1.14 (m, 12H, 6 × CH₂), 0.78 (t, $J = 6.4$ Hz, 6H, 2 × CH₃). δ C (100 MHz, DMSO- d_6): 170.44, 170.23, 143.32, 143.08, 142.36, 142.15, 135.81, 135.53, 133.05, 132.89, 132.22, 129.24, 129.04, 128.27, 127.99, 127.58, 127.46, 126.37, 126.34, 126.24, 126.20, 126.16, 125.85, 125.76, 125.02, 124.61, 64.93, 57.91, 57.48, 53.86, 53.76, 50.17, 47.61, 47.38, 47.08, 34.03, 32.82, 31.17, 26.61, 26.56, 26.38, 22.06, 15.18, 13.89, 13.86. ESI-HRMS (m/z) [$M + H$]⁺: calcd for C₃₃H₄₈N₃O₃S 566.3416; found 566.3410.

N-(2-Cyanoethyl)-2-(dihexylamino)-N-(4-sulfamoylphenethyl)acetamide (33). Compound 33 was obtained according to the general procedure earlier reported using 2-chloro-N-(2-cyanoethyl)-N-(4-sulfamoylphenethyl)acetamide 15 and dihexylamine (1.1 equiv) in dry MeCN (5 mL) and stirring for 16 h at reflux temperature. The sticky residue was purified by flash chromatography (1% MeOH in DCM) to give 33 as an oil. Yield 66%; silica gel TLC R_f 0.08 (TFA/MeOH/DCM 3/5/92% v/v). δ H (400 MHz, DMSO- d_6): 7.75 (d, $J = 7.9$ Hz, 2H, Ar-H), 7.44 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 2H, Ar-H), 7.29 (s, 2H, exchange with D₂O, SO₂NH₂), 3.74 (m, 2H, CH₂), 3.50 (m, 2H, CH₂), 3.27 (s, 1H, CH₂), 3.07 (s, 1H, CH₂), 2.95 (m, 1H, CH₂), 2.85 (m, 2H, CH₂), 2.71 (m, 1H, CH₂), 2.37 (m, 4H, 2 × CH₂), 1.36 (m, 4H, 2 × CH₂), 1.22 (m, 12H, 6 × CH₂), 0.84 (m, 6H, 2 × CH₃). δ C (100 MHz, DMSO- d_6): 171.58, 171.22, 144.28, 143.93, 143.50, 143.44, 143.24, 130.36, 130.19, 126.81, 126.78, 120.18, 59.14, 58.70, 54.81, 49.27, 47.39, 43.72, 42.10, 35.16, 34.82, 33.81, 32.25, 32.23, 27.66, 27.61, 27.32, 27.23, 23.15, 23.13, 17.86, 16.46, 14.99, 14.96. ESI-HRMS (m/z) [$M + H$]⁺: calcd for C₂₅H₄₃N₄O₃S 479.3055; found 479.3049.

2-((2-Cyanoethyl)(phenethyl)amino)-N-phenethyl-N-(4-sulfamoylphenethyl)acetamide (34). Compound 34 was obtained according to the general procedure earlier reported using 2-chloro-N-phenethyl-N-(4-sulfamoylphenethyl)acetamide 16 and 3-(phenethylamino)propanenitrile (1.1 equiv) in MeCN dry (5 mL) and stirring for 18 h at reflux temperature. The sticky residue was purified by flash chromatography (1% MeOH in DCM) to give 34 as a powder. Yield 68%; mp 118–120 °C; silica gel TLC R_f 0.26 (TFA/MeOH/DCM 3/5/92% v/v). δ H (400 MHz, DMSO- d_6): 7.74 (d, $J = 6.8$ Hz, 2H, Ar-H), 7.42 (d, $J = 8.1$ Hz, 2H, Ar-H), 7.29 (s, 2H, exchange with D₂O, SO₂NH₂, overlap with signal at 7.23), 7.23 (m, 10H, Ar-H), 3.46 (m, 4H, 2 × CH₂), 3.28 (s, 0.9H, CH₂), 3.16 (s, 1.1H, CH₂), 2.71 (m, 12H, 6 × CH₂). δ C (100 MHz, DMSO- d_6): 170.49, 170.33, 144.45, 143.98, 143.23, 143.02, 141.07, 140.19, 139.84, 135.53, 130.30, 130.07, 129.95, 129.61, 129.60, 129.57, 129.52, 129.30, 129.25, 129.13, 127.27, 127.05, 126.77, 126.63, 121.05, 56.31, 56.13, 56.06, 55.91, 55.83, 51.24, 50.06, 49.20, 48.93, 47.63, 47.22, 45.60, 36.82, 35.15, 34.98, 34.36, 34.15, 34.10, 33.86, 18.75, 16.72, 16.56. ESI-HRMS (m/z) [$M + H$]⁺: calcd for C₂₉H₃₅N₄O₃S 519.2430; found 519.2434.

2-((2-Cyanoethyl)(phenethyl)amino)-N-(furan-2-ylmethyl)-N-(4-sulfamoylphenethyl)acetamide (35). Compound 35 was obtained according to the general procedure earlier reported using 2-chloro-N-(furan-2-ylmethyl)-N-(4-sulfamoylphenethyl)acetamide 13 and 3-(phenethylamino)propanenitrile (1.1 equiv) in dry MeCN (5 mL)

and stirring for 16 h at reflux temperature. The sticky residue was purified by flash chromatography (1% MeOH in DCM) to give 35 as an oil. Yield 70%; silica gel TLC R_f 0.20 (TFA/MeOH/DCM 3/5/92% v/v). δ H (400 MHz, DMSO- d_6): 7.69 (m, 3H, Ar-H), 7.27 (m, 7H, Ar-H), 7.22 (s, 2H, exchange with D₂O, SO₂NH₂, overlap with signal at 7.27), 6.39 (m, 2H, Ar-H), 3.57 (s, 1H, CH₂), 3.49 (m, 2H, CH₂), 3.45 (s, 1H, CH₂), 2.72 (m, 12H, 6 × CH₂). δ C (100 MHz, DMSO- d_6): 169.56, 169.50, 151.07, 150.90, 143.25, 143.03, 142.96, 142.49, 142.34, 142.12, 140.12, 140.08, 129.33, 129.06, 128.69, 128.67, 128.61, 128.26, 128.22, 125.87, 125.84, 125.77, 120.14, 110.61, 110.54, 108.49, 108.40, 55.52, 55.36, 55.16, 54.96, 49.26, 49.16, 46.74, 44.63, 43.49, 33.64, 33.25, 33.09, 32.76, 30.71, 15.74, 15.63. m/z (ESI positive) 495.3 [$M + H$]⁺.

2-((2-Cyanoethyl)(phenethyl)amino)-N-(4-fluorobenzyl)-N-(4-sulfamoylphenethyl)acetamide (36). Compound 36 was obtained according to the general procedure earlier reported using 2-chloro-N-(4-fluorobenzyl)-N-(4-sulfamoylphenethyl)acetamide 11 and 3-(phenethylamino)propanenitrile (1.1 equiv) in dry MeCN (5 mL) and stirring for 17 h at reflux temperature. The sticky residue was purified by flash chromatography (1% MeOH in DCM) to give 36 as an oil. Yield 73%; silica gel TLC R_f 0.24 (TFA/MeOH/DCM 3/5/92% v/v). δ H (400 MHz, DMSO- d_6): 7.73 (t, $J = 9.7$ Hz, 2H, Ar-H), 7.30 (s, 2H, exchange with D₂O, SO₂NH₂, overlap with signal at 7.29), 7.29 (m, 11H, Ar-H), 4.52 (s, 1.1H, CH₂), 4.41 (s, 0.9H, CH₂), 3.43 (m, 2H, CH₂), 2.74 (m, 12H, 6 × CH₂). δ F (376 MHz, DMSO- d_6): -115.54, -115.71. δ C (100 MHz, DMSO- d_6): 170.92, 170.41, 144.33, 143.98, 143.40, 143.19, 141.13, 130.87, 130.79, 130.47, 130.40, 130.32, 130.12, 130.01, 129.91, 129.84, 129.71, 129.27, 126.91, 126.81, 121.20, 116.30, 116.09, 56.50, 56.26, 56.12, 55.93, 55.52, 50.47, 50.34, 50.21, 49.50, 48.69, 47.81, 34.77, 34.29, 34.08, 33.88, 16.72. ESI-HRMS (m/z) [$M + H$]⁺: calcd for C₂₈H₃₂FN₄O₃S 523.2179; found 523.2183.

2-((2-Cyanoethyl)(phenethyl)amino)-N-(naphthalen-2-ylmethyl)-N-(4-sulfamoylphenethyl)acetamide (37). Compound 37 was obtained according to the general procedure earlier reported using 2-chloro-N-(4-fluorobenzyl)-N-(4-sulfamoylphenethyl)acetamide 12 and 3-(phenethylamino)propanenitrile (1.1 equiv) in dry MeCN (5 mL) and stirring for 20 h at reflux temperature. The sticky residue was purified by flash chromatography (1% MeOH in DCM) to give 37 as an oil. Yield 73%; silica gel TLC R_f 0.38 (TFA/MeOH/DCM 3/5/92% v/v). δ H (400 MHz, DMSO- d_6): 7.89 (m, 3H, Ar-H) 7.73 (t, $J = 9.7$ Hz, 3H, Ar-H), 7.30 (m, 10H, Ar-H), 7.28 (s, 2H, exchange with D₂O, SO₂NH₂, overlap with signal at 7.30), 4.75 (m, 2H, CH₂), 3.49 (m, 4H, 2 × CH₂), 2.84 (m, 8H, 4 × CH₂), 2.58 (m, 2H, CH₂). δ C (100 MHz, DMSO- d_6): 171.13, 171.01, 167.33, 144.40, 144.18, 144.04, 143.68, 143.51, 143.44, 143.41, 143.29, 143.16, 141.30, 141.14, 141.09, 136.74, 136.45, 136.16, 135.55, 134.10, 134.00, 133.95, 133.36, 133.25, 130.46, 130.42, 130.18, 130.14, 129.72, 129.67, 129.31, 129.28, 129.23, 129.18, 129.16, 128.71, 128.62, 127.44, 127.36, 127.29, 127.14, 127.08, 126.98, 126.93, 126.90, 126.87, 126.83, 126.48, 126.39, 126.24, 125.90, 121.24, 55.98, 51.34, 50.26, 48.68, 45.71, 43.23, 37.03, 34.77, 34.27, 33.95, 33.64, 31.76, 18.84, 16.79, 16.74, 16.70. ESI-HRMS (m/z) [$M + H$]⁺: calcd for C₃₂H₃₅N₄O₃S 555.2430; found 555.2425.

2-((2-Cyanoethyl)(phenethyl)amino)-N-(4-nitrobenzyl)-N-(4-sulfamoylphenethyl)acetamide (38). Compound 38 was obtained according to the general procedure earlier reported using 2-chloro-N-(4-nitrobenzyl)-N-(4-sulfamoylphenethyl)acetamide 10 and 3-(phenethylamino)propanenitrile (1.1 equiv) in dry MeCN (5 mL) and stirring for 24 h at reflux temperature. The sticky residue was purified by flash chromatography (1% MeOH in DCM) to give 38 as a powder. Yield 51%; mp 108–110 °C; silica gel TLC R_f 0.09 (TFA/MeOH/DCM 3/5/92% v/v). δ H (400 MHz, DMSO- d_6): 8.14 (m, 3H, Ar-H), 7.71 (m, 3H, Ar-H), 7.32 (m, 7H, Ar-H), 7.27 (s, 2H, exchange with D₂O, SO₂NH₂, overlap with signal at 7.32), 4.67 (s, 1.1H, Ar-H), 4.62 (s, 0.9H, CH₂), 3.49 (s, 1H, CH₂), 3.46 (m, 2H, CH₂), 3.26 (s, 1H, CH₂) 2.81 (m, 6H, 3 × CH₂). δ C (100 MHz, DMSO- d_6): 170.81, 170.36, 144.67, 144.48, 143.87, 142.53, 141.34, 130.88, 130.68, 130.41, 130.29, 130.15, 129.21, 128.43, 126.82, 126.64, 124.73, 124.60, 124.30, 124.26, 121.61, 116.46, 116.17,

56.32, 56.21, 56.07, 55.84, 55.41, 50.59, 50.33, 50.04, 49.72, 48.65, 47.29, 34.72, 34.24, 34.11, 33.66, 16.43. ESI-HRMS (m/z) [$M + H$]⁺: calcd for C₂₈H₃₂N₅O₃S 550.2124; found 550.2119.

N-(2-cyanoethyl)-2-((2-cyanoethyl)(phenethyl)amino)-*N*-(4-sulfamoylphenethyl)acetamide (**39**). Compound **39** was obtained according to the general procedure earlier reported using 2-chloro-*N*-(2-cyanoethyl)-*N*-(4-sulfamoylphenethyl)acetamide **15** and 3-(phenethylamino)propanenitrile (1.1 equiv) in MeCN dry (5 mL) and stirring for 14 h at reflux temperature. The sticky residue was purified by flash chromatography (1% MeOH in DCM) to give **39** as an oil. Yield 75%; silica gel TLC R_f 0.24 (TFA/MeOH/DCM 3/5/92% v/v). δ H (400 MHz, DMSO- d_6): 7.76 (m, 2H, Ar-H), 7.35 (m, 7H, Ar-H), 7.30 (s, 2H, exchange with D₂O, SO₂NH₂, overlap with signal at 7.35), 3.55 (m, 6H, 3 × CH₂), 2.82 (m, 10H, 5 × CH₂). δ C (100 MHz, DMSO- d_6): 167.38, 167.09, 144.29, 144.09, 143.83, 143.50, 143.47, 143.24, 138.62, 130.54, 130.50, 130.43, 130.28, 130.23, 129.77, 129.33, 129.10, 126.84, 126.82, 126.58, 120.21, 120.04, 56.21, 50.23, 49.92, 49.14, 47.96, 47.42, 44.10, 43.46, 43.21, 43.03, 42.82, 42.17, 34.99, 33.84, 21.84, 18.01, 17.88, 16.59, 16.43. ESI-HRMS (m/z) [$M + H$]⁺: calcd for C₂₄H₃₀N₅O₃S 468.2069; found 468.2073.

General Synthesis Procedure of Amine Derivatives 40–44.

To a solution of nitrile derivatives **33–39** (0.5 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and 5 M NaOH_(aq) (3.0 equiv) in EtOH (10 mL), Ni/Raney (0.5 mL) was added, and the mixture was stirred o.n. under H₂ pressure (50 psi). The solution was filtered off, and the solvent was evaporated under vacuum. The residue was purified by flash chromatography (5–15% MeOH in DCM) to give compounds **40–44**.

2-((3-Aminopropyl)(phenethyl)amino)-*N*-phenethyl-*N*-(4-sulfamoylphenethyl)acetamide (**40**). Compound **40** was obtained according to the general procedure earlier reported using 2-((2-cyanoethyl)(phenethyl)amino)-*N*-phenethyl-*N*-(4-sulfamoylphenethyl)acetamide **34**. The obtained residue was purified by flash chromatography to give **40** as an oil. Yield 26%; silica gel TLC R_f 0.38 (TFA/MeOH/DCM 3/5/92% v/v). δ H (400 MHz, DMSO- d_6): 7.76 (m, 4H, Ar-H), 7.44 (m, 4H, Ar-H), 7.23 (s, 2H, exchange with D₂O, SO₂NH₂, overlap with signal at 7.20), 7.20 (m, 11H, Ar-H), 3.50 (m, 4H, 2 × CH₂), 3.19 (s, 1.1H, CH₂), 3.09 (s, 0.9H, CH₂), 2.75 (m, 10H, 5 × CH₂), 2.34 (m, 2H, CH₂), 1.60 (m, 2H, CH₂). δ C (100 MHz, DMSO- d_6): 171.90, 171.75, 144.45, 143.88, 143.51, 143.24, 141.28, 141.22, 140.24, 139.80, 130.54, 130.26, 130.16, 129.78, 129.75, 129.50, 129.42, 129.31, 127.49, 127.24, 126.95, 126.81, 126.77, 56.63, 56.40, 55.82, 52.80, 52.70, 49.06, 48.74, 47.95, 47.42, 39.56, 35.12, 34.89, 34.16, 33.88, 33.29, 33.23, 24.57, 23.08. ESI-HRMS (m/z) [$M + H$]⁺: calcd for C₂₉H₃₉N₄O₃S 523.2743; found 523.2748.

2-((3-Aminopropyl)(phenethyl)amino)-*N*-(furan-2-ylmethyl)-*N*-(4-sulfamoylphenethyl)acetamide (**41**). Compound **41** was obtained according to the general procedure earlier reported using 2-((2-cyanoethyl)(phenethyl)amino)-*N*-(furan-2-ylmethyl)-*N*-(4-sulfamoylphenethyl)acetamide **35**. The obtained residue was purified by flash chromatography to give **41** as an oil. Yield 33%; silica gel TLC R_f 0.42 (TFA/MeOH/DCM 3/5/92% v/v). δ H (400 MHz, DMSO- d_6): 7.75 (t, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 2H, Ar-H), 7.67 (s, 0.5H, Ar-H), 7.62 (s, 0.5H, Ar-H), 7.29 (m, 7H, Ar-H), 7.20 (s, 2H, exchange with D₂O, SO₂NH₂, overlap with signal at 7.29), 6.44 (m, 2H, Ar-H), 4.60 (m, 2H, CH₂), 3.57 (s, 2H, CH₂), 3.49 (m, 2H, CH₂), 3.26 (s, 2H, CH₂), 2.75 (m, 7H, 4 × CH₂), 2.34 (m, 1H, CH₂), 1.65 (m, 2H, CH₂). δ C (100 MHz, DMSO- d_6): 172.04, 171.99, 151.83, 151.55, 144.24, 144.20, 143.77, 143.69, 143.56, 143.25, 141.15, 130.50, 130.16, 129.75, 129.34, 129.31, 127.00, 126.88, 126.82, 111.71, 111.67, 109.73, 109.69, 56.71, 56.51, 55.85, 55.67, 53.17, 52.75, 48.22, 47.96, 44.39, 42.03, 39.64, 34.47, 33.78, 33.30, 33.19, 24.31, 24.22. ESI-HRMS (m/z) [$M + H$]⁺: calcd for C₂₆H₃₅N₄O₄S 499.2379; found 499.2373.

2-((3-Aminopropyl)(phenethyl)amino)-*N*-(4-fluorobenzyl)-*N*-(4-sulfamoylphenethyl)acetamide (**42**). Compound **42** was obtained according to the general procedure earlier reported using 2-((2-cyanoethyl)(phenethyl)amino)-*N*-(4-fluorobenzyl)-*N*-(4-sulfamoylphenethyl)acetamide **36**. The obtained solid was purified by

flash chromatography to give **42** as an oil. Yield 28%; silica gel TLC R_f 0.37 (TFA/MeOH/DCM 3/5/92% v/v). δ H (400 MHz, DMSO- d_6): 7.77 (m, 2H, Ar-H), 7.30 (m, 11H, Ar-H), 7.21 (s, 2H, exchange with D₂O, SO₂NH₂, overlap with signal at 7.30), 4.60 (m, 2H, CH₂), 3.48 (m, 6H, 3 × CH₂), 2.83 (m, 7H, 4 × CH₂), 2.42 (m, 1H, CH₂), 1.68 (m, 2H, CH₂). δ F (376 MHz, DMSO- d_6): -115.42, -115.62. δ C (100 MHz, DMSO- d_6): 172.31, 163.69, 161.11, 144.28, 143.76, 143.58, 143.26, 141.22, 141.13, 134.99, 134.97, 134.43, 134.41, 130.79, 130.71, 130.50, 130.18, 129.97, 129.89, 129.75, 129.71, 129.31, 126.96, 126.88, 126.82, 116.73, 116.52, 116.40, 116.19, 56.82, 56.47, 55.73, 53.01, 52.80, 50.21, 48.21, 48.00, 39.62, 39.61, 34.52, 33.84, 33.23, 24.54, 24.39. ESI-HRMS (m/z) [$M + H$]⁺: calcd for C₂₈H₃₆FN₄O₃S 527.2492; found 527.2488.

2-((3-Aminopropyl)(phenethyl)amino)-*N*-(naphthalen-2-ylmethyl)-*N*-(4-sulfamoylphenethyl)acetamide (**43**). Compound **43** was obtained according to the general procedure earlier reported using 2-((2-cyanoethyl)(phenethyl)amino)-*N*-(naphthalen-2-ylmethyl)-*N*-(4-sulfamoylphenethyl)acetamide **37**. The obtained solid was purified by flash chromatography to give **43** as an oil. Yield 34%; silica gel TLC R_f 0.42 (TFA/MeOH/DCM 3/5/92% v/v). δ H (400 MHz, DMSO- d_6): 7.91 (m, 3H, Ar-H), 7.76 (m, 3H, Ar-H), 7.28 (m, 10H, Ar-H), 7.20 (s, 2H, exchange with D₂O, SO₂NH₂, overlap with signal at 7.28), 4.79 (m, 2H, CH₂), 3.52 (m, 4H, 2 × CH₂), 2.91 (m, 4H, 2 × CH₂), 2.66 (m, 6H, 3 × CH₂), 1.70 (m, 2H, CH₂). δ C (100 MHz, DMSO- d_6): 172.58, 172.30, 163.07, 161.66, 144.37, 143.97, 143.60, 143.32, 141.33, 134.21, 134.00, 133.51, 133.34, 130.55, 130.22, 130.16, 129.77, 129.68, 129.57, 129.31, 129.27, 129.19, 128.73, 128.63, 127.53, 127.35, 127.10, 126.96, 126.91, 126.81, 126.17, 126.13, 126.02, 125.27, 56.76, 56.41, 55.89, 55.76, 53.20, 52.91, 52.69, 51.09, 49.69, 49.25, 48.60, 39.62, 33.93, 33.27, 32.59, 32.46, 28.12, 21.21. ESI-HRMS (m/z) [$M + H$]⁺: calcd for C₃₂H₃₉N₄O₃S 559.2743; found 559.2737.

N-(3-Aminopropyl)-2-(dihexylamino)-*N*-(4-sulfamoylphenethyl)acetamide (**44**). Compound **44** was obtained according to the general procedure earlier reported using *N*-(2-cyanoethyl)-2-(dihexylamino)-*N*-(4-sulfamoylphenethyl)acetamide **33**. The obtained solid was purified by flash chromatography to give **44** as an oil. Yield 31%; silica gel TLC R_f 0.43 (TFA/MeOH/DCM 3/5/92% v/v). δ H (400 MHz, DMSO- d_6): 7.78 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 2H, Ar-H), 7.49 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 2H, Ar-H), 7.35 (s, 2H, exchange with D₂O, SO₂NH₂), 3.48 (m, 2H, CH₂), 3.20 (m, 2H, CH₂), 2.88 (m, 8H, 4 × CH₂), 1.85 (m, 4H, 2 × CH₂), 1.45 (m, 4H, 2 × CH₂), 1.25 (m, 12H, 6 × CH₂), 0.86 (m, 6H, 2 × CH₃). δ C (100 MHz, DMSO- d_6): 169.55, 169.26, 143.81, 143.54, 135.94, 133.31, 131.36, 130.47, 130.20, 126.81, 55.06, 55.00, 48.79, 47.51, 37.69, 37.45, 37.41, 34.96, 34.74, 33.94, 33.80, 31.96, 31.94, 28.69, 27.89, 27.31, 27.17, 27.03, 26.88, 26.30, 23.05, 23.02, 14.93, 14.92. ESI-HRMS (m/z) [$M + H$]⁺: calcd for C₂₅H₄₇N₄O₃S 483.3369; found 483.3374.

General Synthesis Procedure of Carboxylic Acid Derivatives 45–49. To a solution of the appropriate nitrile derivatives **33–39** (0.5 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in EtOH (5 mL), 5 M NaOH_(aq) (3.0 equiv) was added, and the mixture was heated at reflux temperature under stirring o.n.. The solution was cooled to 0 °C and 12 M HCl (2.0 equiv) was added dropwise until precipitation of a powder that was collected by filtration. The solid was purified by flash chromatography (5–15% MeOH in DCM) to give the compounds **45–49**.

3-((2-Oxo-2-(phenethyl(4-sulfamoylphenethyl)amino)ethyl)(phenethyl)amino)propanoic acid (**45**). Compound **45** was obtained according to the general procedure earlier reported using 2-((2-cyanoethyl)(phenethyl)amino)-*N*-phenethyl-*N*-(4-sulfamoylphenethyl)acetamide **34**. The obtained solid was purified by flash chromatography to give **45** as a powder. Yield 31%; mp 74–76 °C; silica gel TLC R_f 0.35 (TFA/MeOH/DCM 3/5/92% v/v). δ H (400 MHz, DMSO- d_6): 12.05 (brs, 1H, exchange with D₂O, COOH), 7.72 (m, 3H, Ar-H), 7.27 (m, 16H, Ar-H), 7.23 (s, 2H, exchange with D₂O, SO₂NH₂, overlap with signal at 7.27), 3.46 (m, 4H, 2 × CH₂), 3.14 (s, 0.9H, CH₂), 3.09 (s, 1.1H, CH₂), 2.72 (m, 10H, 5 × CH₂), 2.25 (s, 2H, CH₂). δ C (100 MHz, DMSO- d_6): 175.20, 175.13, 170.64, 170.52, 167.24, 143.38, 143.18, 142.84,

142.84, 141.41, 141.31, 141.31, 130.43, 130.19, 130.11, 130.05, 129.74, 129.67, 129.65, 129.45, 129.41, 129.29, 127.40, 127.21, 126.89, 126.81, 126.78, 126.65, 57.46, 57.04, 56.40, 51.81, 51.39, 50.34, 49.51, 49.15, 47.86, 47.58, 36.78, 36.48, 35.36, 35.14, 34.17, 33.92, 33.33. ESI-HRMS (m/z) [$M + H$]⁺: calcd for C₂₉H₃₆N₃O₅S 538.2376; found 538.2381.

3-((2-((Furan-2-ylmethyl)(4-sulfamoylphenethyl)amino)-2-oxoethyl)(phenethyl)amino)propanoic acid (**46**). Compound **46** was obtained according to the general procedure earlier reported using 2-((2-cyanoethyl)(phenethyl)amino)-N-(furan-2-ylmethyl)-N-(4-sulfamoylphenethyl)acetamide **35**. The obtained solid was purified by flash chromatography to give **46** as a powder. Yield 35%; mp 33–35 °C; silica gel TLC R_f 0.39 (TFA/MeOH/DCM 3/5/92% v/v). δH (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆): 12.01 (brs, 1H, exchange with D₂O, COOH), 7.74 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 2H, Ar-*H*), 7.64 (s, 0.5H, Ar-*H*), 7.57 (s, 0.5H, Ar-*H*), 7.25 (m, 7H, Ar-*H*), 7.21 (s, 2H, exchange with D₂O, SO₂NH₂, overlap with signal at 7.25), 6.39 (m, 2H, Ar-*H*), 4.54 (m, 2H, CH₂), 3.48 (s, 2H, CH₂), 3.38 (m, 2H, CH₂), 3.27 (s, 2H, CH₂), 2.76 (m, 6H, 3 × CH₂), 2.35 (m, 2H, CH₂). δC (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆): 174.69, 174.67, 170.58, 152.17, 152.06, 144.35, 144.06, 144.03, 143.49, 143.38, 143.18, 141.33, 141.22, 130.33, 130.06, 129.70, 129.66, 129.28, 126.86, 111.65, 111.59, 109.46, 109.37, 57.46, 57.32, 56.26, 50.31, 50.16, 48.59, 47.95, 44.57, 41.76, 34.77, 33.80, 33.60, 32.95, 32.87, 31.76. ESI-HRMS (m/z) [$M + H$]⁺: calcd for C₂₆H₃₂N₃O₆S 514.2012; found 514.2008.

3-((2-((4-Fluorobenzyl)(4-sulfamoylphenethyl)amino)-2-oxoethyl)(phenethyl)amino)propanoic acid (**47**). Compound **47** was obtained according to the general procedure earlier reported using 2-((2-cyanoethyl)(phenethyl)amino)-N-(4-fluorobenzyl)-N-(4-sulfamoylphenethyl)acetamide **36**. The obtained solid was purified by flash chromatography to give **47** as a powder. Yield 33%; mp 64–66 °C; silica gel TLC R_f 0.41 (TFA/MeOH/DCM 3/5/92% v/v). δH (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆): 11.82 (brs, 1H, exchange with D₂O, COOH), 7.73 (m, 2H, Ar-*H*), 7.24 (m, 11H, Ar-*H*), 7.21 (s, 2H, exchange with D₂O, SO₂NH₂, overlap with signal at 7.24), 4.53 (m, 2H, CH₂), 3.39 (s, 6H, 3 × CH₂), 2.80 (m, 6H, 3 × CH₂), 2.36 (m, 2H, CH₂). δF (376 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆): -115.43, -115.60. δC (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆): 174.66, 174.63, 173.07, 170.88, 163.52, 161.23, 144.37, 144.02, 143.38, 143.19, 141.24, 141.16, 135.44, 134.93, 131.42, 130.84, 130.76, 130.36, 130.20, 130.07, 129.94, 129.67, 129.65, 129.28, 126.93, 126.89, 126.82, 126.63, 116.59, 116.38, 116.28, 116.07, 65.98, 57.24, 56.27, 56.19, 50.23, 50.10, 48.62, 47.81, 34.83, 33.84, 33.52, 32.84, 22.12, 16.23. ESI-HRMS (m/z) [$M + H$]⁺: calcd for C₂₈H₃₃FN₃O₅S 542.2125; found 542.2131.

3-((2-((Naphthalen-2-ylmethyl)(4-sulfamoylphenethyl)amino)-2-oxoethyl)(phenethyl)amino)propanoic acid (**48**). Compound **48** was obtained according to the general procedure earlier reported using 2-((2-cyanoethyl)(phenethyl)amino)-N-(naphthalen-2-ylmethyl)-N-(4-sulfamoylphenethyl)acetamide **37**. The obtained solid was purified by flash chromatography to give **48** as a powder. Yield 37%; mp 96–98 °C; silica gel TLC R_f 0.43 (TFA/MeOH/DCM 3/5/92% v/v). δH (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆): 12.34 (brs, 1H, exchange with D₂O, COOH), 7.88 (m, 3H, Ar-*H*), 7.72 (m, 3H, Ar-*H*), 7.32 (m, 10H, Ar-*H*), 7.22 (s, 2H, exchange with D₂O, SO₂NH₂, overlap with signal at 7.32), 3.48 (m, 3.1H, 2 × CH₂), 3.17 (s, 0.9H, CH₂), 2.75 (m, 8H, 4 × CH₂), 2.32 (m, 2H, CH₂). δC (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆): 175.33, 175.19, 171.15, 171.11, 144.40, 144.12, 143.40, 143.18, 141.34, 141.22, 136.77, 136.44, 134.12, 133.95, 133.32, 133.25, 130.38, 130.10, 129.65, 129.41, 129.28, 129.25, 129.15, 128.71, 128.64, 128.61, 127.42, 127.29, 127.14, 127.10, 126.96, 126.83, 126.28, 125.95, 57.54, 57.38, 56.29, 56.26, 51.41, 50.52, 50.34, 49.67, 48.66, 48.64, 48.13, 48.12, 34.93, 33.97, 33.48, 33.35, 33.31. ESI-HRMS (m/z) [$M + H$]⁺: calcd for C₃₂H₃₆N₃O₅S 574.2376; found 574.2371.

3-(2-(Dihexylamino)-N-(4-sulfamoylphenethyl)acetamido)propanoic Acid (**49**). Compound **49** was obtained according to the general procedure earlier reported using N-(2-cyanoethyl)-2-(dihexylamino)-N-(4-sulfamoylphenethyl)acetamide **33**. The obtained solid was purified by flash chromatography to give **49** as a powder. Yield 33%; mp > 300 °C; silica gel TLC R_f 0.36 (TFA/MeOH/DCM 3/5/

92% v/v). δH (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆): 12.14 (brs, 1H, exchange with D₂O, COOH), 7.73 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H, Ar-*H*), 7.40 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H, Ar-*H*), 7.31 (s, 2H, exchange with D₂O, SO₂NH₂), 3.66 (m, 2H, CH₂), 3.48 (m, 2H, CH₂), 3.25 (s, 1.1H, CH₂), 2.99 (s, 0.9H, CH₂), 2.91 (m, 1H, CH₂), 2.79 (m, 1H, CH₂), 2.42 (m, 2H, CH₂), 2.32 (m, 2H, CH₂), 2.10 (m, 2H, CH₂), 1.30 (m, 16H, 8 × CH₂), 0.84 (m, 6H, 2 × CH₃). δC (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆): 175.95, 175.28, 170.94, 170.61, 144.84, 144.49, 143.37, 143.20, 130.27, 130.11, 126.80, 126.76, 59.22, 57.99, 54.91, 54.80, 48.91, 47.61, 38.89, 35.54, 34.23, 32.27, 32.20, 27.67, 27.64, 27.52, 27.35, 25.62, 23.19, 23.14, 14.99, 14.95. ESI-HRMS (m/z) [$M + H$]⁺: calcd for C₂₅H₄₄N₃O₅S 498.3001; found 498.2997.

Synthesis of (Z)-3-((2-((furan-2-ylmethyl)(4-sulfamoylphenethyl)amino)-2-oxoethyl)(phenethyl)amino)-N-(octadec-9-en-1-yl)propanamide (**50**). To a solution of **46** (0.5 mmol, 1.0 eq) in DMF dry (1 mL), oleylamine (1.1 eq), EDC-HCl (1.2 eq), and DMAP (catalytic) were added, and the reaction mixture was stirred at r.t. for 6 h. The reaction was quenched with water and extracted with EtOAc (15 mL × 3). The organic layers were washed with brine (20 mL × 4), dried over Na₂SO₄, filtered off, and evaporated under vacuum. The obtained residue was purified by flash chromatography (3% MeOH in DCM) to give compound **50** as an oil. Yield 73%; silica gel TLC R_f 0.29 (TFA/MeOH/DCM 3/5/92% v/v). δH (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆): 7.93 (s, 1H, exchange with D₂O, CONH), 7.73 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H, Ar-*H*), 7.63 (s, 0.5H, Ar-*H*), 7.57 (s, 0.5H, Ar-*H*), 7.27 (m, 7H, Ar-*H*), 7.21 (s, 2H, exchange with D₂O, SO₂NH₂, overlap with signal at 7.27), 6.39 (m, 2H, Ar-*H*), 5.31 (m, 2H, 2 × =CH), 4.55 (s, 2H, CH₂), 3.48 (m, 3.1 H, 2 × CH₂), 3.21 (s, 0.9H, CH₂), 2.99 (m, 2H, CH₂), 2.73 (m, 10H, 5 × CH₂), 2.21 (m, 2H, CH₂), 1.97 (m, 4H, 2 × CH₂), 1.29 (m, 22H, 11 × CH₂), 0.83 (m, 3H, CH₃). δC (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆): 171.94, 171.93, 171.89, 171.88, 170.88, 170.76, 170.75, 170.69, 152.29, 152.07, 144.44, 144.16, 143.40, 143.12, 141.47, 141.33, 131.14, 130.69, 130.34, 130.04, 129.68, 129.63, 129.23, 126.84, 126.81, 111.61, 111.57, 109.42, 109.39, 65.97, 57.81, 57.55, 56.03, 55.96, 55.41, 50.91, 50.82, 48.61, 47.91, 44.54, 39.49, 34.27, 34.20, 34.18, 33.81, 33.55, 33.52, 33.49, 32.94, 32.32, 30.17, 30.14, 30.13, 30.08, 30.05, 29.94, 29.88, 29.82, 29.73, 29.63, 29.51, 27.67, 27.61, 27.50, 23.13, 16.23, 15.00. ESI-HRMS (m/z) [$M + H$]⁺: calcd for C₄₄H₆₇N₄O₅S 763.4832; found 763.4826.

Carbonic Anhydrase Inhibition. An Applied Photophysics stopped-flow instrument has been used for assaying the CA-catalyzed CO₂ hydration activity.³⁴ Phenol red (at a concentration of 0.2 mM) has been used as an indicator, working at the absorbance maximum of 557 nm, with 20 mM Hepes (pH 7.5) as a buffer and 20 mM Na₂SO₄ (for maintaining the ionic strength constant), following the initial rates of the CA-catalyzed CO₂ hydration reaction for a period of 10–100 s. The CO₂ concentrations ranged from 1.7 to 17 mM for the determination of the kinetic parameters and inhibition constants. For each inhibitor, at least six traces of the initial 5–10% of the reaction have been used for determining the initial velocity. The uncatalyzed rates were determined in the same manner and subtracted from the total observed rates. Stock solutions of inhibitor (0.1 mM) were prepared in distilled–deionized water, and dilutions up to 0.01 nM were done thereafter with the assay buffer. Inhibitor and enzyme solutions were preincubated together for 15 min at room temperature prior to assay to allow the formation of the E–I complex. The inhibition constants were obtained by nonlinear least-squares methods using PRISM 3 and the Cheng–Prusoff equation, as reported earlier,³⁶ and represent the mean from at least three different determinations. All hCA isoforms were recombinant ones obtained in-house as reported earlier.⁴⁹

X-ray Crystallography. Protein Expression and Purification. Competent BL21 *Escherichia coli* cells were transformed separately with plasmid DNA containing the hCA II gene using standard protocols.^{50,51} An overnight culture in LB was started with large-scale growth the following day until OD₆₀₀ reached ~0.6. Isopropyl β-D-1-thiogalactoside (IPTG, 0.5 mM) and zinc sulfate (1 mM) were used to induce protein expression for 3 h. The cells were pelleted and lysed via a microfluidizer set to 18 000 PSI. Supernatant was filtered

with a 0.4 μm filter before being run through an affinity column with *p*-aminomethyl-benzenesulfonamide agarose. Enzyme was eluted with azide and buffer-exchanged into storage buffer (50 mM Tris pH 7.8) to remove azide. The purity of the protein was determined by a 12% sodium dodecyl sulfate polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis (SDS-PAGE) and UV/vis spectroscopy at a 280 nm measured protein concentration.

Crystallization. Inhibitors were successfully co-crystallized with hCA II via the hanging-drop vapor diffusion method. Mother liquor (500 μL) consisting of 1.6 M sodium citrate and 50 mM Tris at pH 7.8 was used in setting up crystal trays for each well. Each drop contained a 1:1 ratio of 10 mg/mL protein to mother liquor. DMSO was used to dissolve inhibitors to 1 mM, with the drops' final concentration $\sim 100 \mu\text{M}$. Co-crystals of hCA II formed within a week.

Data Collection and Processing. Diffraction data were collected via the F1 beamline at Cornell High Energy Synchrotron Source (CHESS) at 0.977 Å wavelength. A Pilatus 6M detector collected data sets with a crystal-to-detector distance of 270 mm, 1° oscillation, and 4 s image exposure, for a total of 180 images. Diffraction data were indexed and integrated with XDS.⁵² Data were scaled in space group $P2_1$ via AIMLESS⁵³ from the CCP4 program suite.⁵⁴ Phases were determined via molecular replacement using PDB: 3KS3⁵⁵ as a search model. Modifications to the model such as addition of inhibitor, ligand (glycerol), zinc, and water to the active site were executed in Coot⁵⁶ along with ligand PDB file modifications. Refinements were completed and ligand restraint files were created in Phenix.⁵⁷ Figures were generated with PyMol (Schrödinger). Protein–ligand bond lengths and active site interactions were observed with LigPlot Plus.⁵⁸

Computational Study. HCA I (PDB: 2NMX),⁴³ hCA II (PDB: 5LJT),⁴⁶ hCA IV (PDB: 1ZNC),⁴⁴ and hCA XII (PDB: 1JD0)⁴⁵ crystal structures were prepared according to the Protein Preparation module in Maestro–Schrödinger suite, assigning bond orders, adding hydrogens, deleting water molecules, and optimizing H-bonding networks.⁵⁹ Finally, energy minimization with a root-mean-square deviation (RMSD) value of 0.30 was applied using an Optimized Potentials for Liquid Simulation (OPLS-3) force field. Input 3D ligand structures were prepared by Maestro^{59a} and evaluated for their ionization states with Epik.^{59b} Sulfonamides were considered in their deprotonated form on the basis of evidence from neutron crystallography. OPLS-3 force field in Macromodel^{59c} was used for energy minimization for a maximum number of 2500 conjugate gradient iteration and setting a convergence criterion of 0.05 kcal mol⁻¹ Å⁻¹. The docking grid was generated using Glide^{59d} with default settings, with the center located on the center of mass of the co-crystallized ligand. Ligands were docked with the standard precision (SP) mode of Glide and the five top-scoring poses of each molecule retained as output. The best pose for each compound, evaluated in terms of coordination, hydrogen-bond interactions, and hydrophobic contacts, was refined by Prime MM-GBSA methods using a VSGB solvation model.^{60–63}

Hypertensive Rabbit IOP Lowering Studies. Male New Zealand albino rabbits weighing 1500–2000 g were used in these studies. Animals were anesthetized using Zoletil (tiletamine chloride plus zolazepam chloride, 3 mg/kg body weight, im), and elevated IOP was induced by the injection of 0.05 mL of hypertonic saline solution (5% in distilled water) into the vitreous of both eyes. IOP was determined using a pneumo-tonometer Reichert, model 30 (Reichert, Inc., Depew, NY) prior to hypertonic saline injection (basal), and at 1, 2, 3, and 4 h after administration of the different drugs. Vehicle (hydroxypropylcellulose at 0.05%) or drugs were instilled immediately after the injection of hypertonic saline. Eyes were randomly assigned to different groups. Vehicle or drug (0.05 mL) was directly instilled into the conjunctive pocket at the desired doses (1–2%).⁶⁴ Four different animals were used for each tested compound. All animal manipulations were carried out according to the European Community guidelines for animal care [DL 116/92, application of the European Communities Council Directive of 24 November 1986 (86/609/EEC)]. The ethical policy of the University of Florence

complies with the Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals of the US National Institutes of Health (NIH Publication no. 85–23, revised 1996; University of Florence assurance number A5278-01). Formal approval to conduct the experiments described was obtained from the Animal Subjects Review Board of the University of Florence and upon authorization of the National Ethics Committee of the Italian Ministry of Health (number 1179/2015-PR). Experiments involving animals have been reported according to ARRIVE, Animal Research: Reporting of in Vivo Experiments, guidelines.⁶⁵ All efforts were made to minimize animal suffering and to reduce the number of animals used.

■ ASSOCIATED CONTENT

Supporting Information

The Supporting Information is available free of charge at <https://pubs.acs.org/doi/10.1021/acs.jmedchem.0c00733>.

¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra, selectivity index (SI) of carbonic anhydrases inhibition, supplemental molecular modeling figures, and HPLC chromatograms (PDF) SMILES representation for compounds 18–50 (CSV)

Accession Codes

The atomic coordinates of the complexes have been deposited in the Protein Data Bank with accession codes 6WQ4, 6WQ5, 6WQ7, 6WQ8, and 6WQ9.

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Notes

The authors declare no competing financial interest.

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ABBREVIATIONS USED

MeOH, Methanol; NaBH₄, sodium borohydride; r.t., room temperature; Et₃N, triethylamine; MeCN, acetonitrile; NaOH, sodium hydroxide; EtOH, ethanol; o.n., overnight; EDC·HCl, *N*-(3-dimethylaminopropyl)-*N*'-ethylcarbodiimide hydrochloride; DMAP, 4-dimethylaminopyridine; DMF, *N,N*-dimethylformamide; DCM, dichloromethane; TFA, trifluoroacetic acid; DMSO, dimethylsulfoxide; EtOAc, ethyl acetate; Et₂O, diethyl ether

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