Discovery of a Pyrimidinedione Derivative as a Potent and Orally Bioavailable Axl Inhibitor

Hefeng Zhang,^{\perp} Xia Peng,^{\perp} Yang Dai, Jingwei Shao, Yinchun Ji, Yiming Sun, Bo Liu, Xu Cheng, Jing Ai,* and Wenhu Duan*



ABSTRACT: The receptor tyrosine kinase Axl plays important roles in promoting cancer progression, metastasis, and drug resistance and has been identified as a promising target for anticancer therapeutics. We used molecular modeling-assisted structural optimization starting with the low micromolar potency compound **9** to discover compound **13c**, a highly potent and orally bioavailable Axl inhibitor. Selectivity profiling showed that **13c** could inhibit the well-known oncogenic kinase Met with equal potency to its inhibition of Axl superfamily kinases. Compound **13c** significantly inhibited cellular Axl and Met signaling, suppressed Axl- and Met-driven cell proliferation, and restrained Gas6/Axl-mediated cancer cell migration or invasion. Furthermore, **13c** exhibited significant antitumor efficacy in Axl-driven and Met-driven tumor xenograft models, causing tumor stasis or regression at well-tolerated doses. All these favorable data make **13c** a promising therapeutic candidate for cancer treatment.

INTRODUCTION

Axl is a receptor tyrosine kinase (RTK) that belongs to the TAM (Tyro3, Axl, and Mer) subfamily. Upon binding to its endogenous ligand growth arrest specific protein 6 (Gas6),¹ Axl dimerizes and gets autophosphorylated, resulting in the activation of downstream signaling pathways.^{2–5} Gas6/Axl signaling regulates various biological processes, such as proliferation, differentiation, migration, apoptosis, angiogenesis, and immune response.^{6,7}

Since the first identification of Axl in chronic myeloid leukemia (CML),⁸ aberrant Axl signaling has been detected in many other cancers.^{9–15} Overexpression of Axl closely correlates with poor prognosis.^{3,16–21} Axl can heterodimerize with many other RTKs, including Met,^{22–24} cooperating to promote tumor growth and metastasis. Moreover, Axl, as a key inducer of epithelial-to-mesenchymal transition (EMT), is potentially required for the metastatic feature of tumors, and blockading Axl could decrease tumor metastasis.^{10,15,25–27} Recent evidence has shown the potential important regulatory role of Gas6/Axl in the interaction between cancer cells and stromal/immune cells in the tumor microenvironment, promoting tumor progression and metastasis.²⁸ Besides, Axl could mediate de novo and acquire resistance to chemotherapy, immunotherapy, molecular-targeted therapy, and radiation therapy.^{21,26,29,30}

Thus, targeting Axl is a promising strategy for anticancer therapeutics.

Several type I and type II ATP-competitive inhibitors that target Axl have been reported (Figure 1). Type I inhibitors such as 1 (gilteritinib)³¹ and 2 (bemcentinib, BGB324)³² bind to the active conformation of Axl, where the aspartate-phenylalanine-glycine (DFG) motif is oriented toward the ATP binding site. The potent FLT3/Axl inhibitor 1 has been approved by FDA to treat acute myeloid leukemia (AML) with FLT3 mutations. BGB324, which is disclosed as the first selective Axl inhibitor, ³² has advanced into phase I and II clinical trials against different types of cancers. Type II inhibitors bind to the inactive conformation of Axl, in which the DFG motif is oriented outward such that the protein could enable additional allosteric interactions. Compound 3 (cabozantinib)³³ is an FDA-approved multikinase inhibitor for treating various cancers, and the inhibitory potency of 3 against Axl is 200-fold less active than against VEGFR2.34 Some other type II Axl

Received: December 3, 2020 Published: March 18, 2021





© 2021 American Chemical Society

pubs.acs.org/jmc

Article



Figure 1. Chemical structures of representative Axl inhibitors.



Figure 2. Analysis of the structural features of the type II Axl inhibitor from the cocrystal structure of Met in complex with the Axl inhibitor 4: (A) binding mode of Met with the representative type II Axl inhibitor 4 (PDB ID: 3LQ8). (B) Compound 4 was used to display the structural features of classic type II Axl inhibitors. (C) Sequence alignment of Axl and Met kinase domains, where the identical residues are colored in red and the binding pocket residues of the Met DFG-out conformation are boxed.

inhibitors, such as 4 (foretinib),³⁵ 5,³⁶ 6 (merestinib),³⁷ and 7 (CEP-40783),³⁸ are currently in different phases of clinical trials. Compound 8 is another potent type II Axl inhibitor with an IC₅₀ value of 4.0 nM.³⁹ The imaging probes derived from 8 have been

successfully applied in proteome profiling and bioimaging of cancer cells and tumor tissues. $^{\rm 40}$

Here, we describe the discovery of the orally active pyrimidinedione **13c** as a type II Axl inhibitor.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Design Rationale and Structure–Activity Relationship (SAR) Exploration. A validated sandwich enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA)⁴¹ was used to determine the kinase inhibitory activities of new derivatives. Gilteritinib and BGB324 served as positive controls and displayed IC₅₀ values of 4.6 and 4.8 nM, respectively, which are consistent with previously reported data.^{32,42} The classic gain-of-function model cell line BaF3/TEL-AXL was used to evaluate the antiproliferative effect of new derivatives.

No crystal structure is available for the Axl kinase domain in complex with a type II inhibitor to date. To elucidate the interactions between Axl and type II inhibitors, we obtained the Axl kinase domain sequence from the UniProt database (http:// www.uniprot.org/) and performed a BLAST search (http:// blast.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov) of the obtained sequence in the PDB database. The results demonstrated that except for the TAM subfamily members, Met had the highest sequence identity to the Axl kinase domain, with an identity value of 45.90%. In addition, 24 out of 28 residues in the DFG-out binding pocket of Met and Axl were identical (Figure 2C), which indicated that a type II inhibitor might bind to Met and Axl with similar binding modes. The binding mode of Met with the representative type II Axl/Met inhibitor 4 has been reported³⁵ (Figure 2A). It revealed that type II Axl inhibitors may have the following structural features: (1) a hinge-binding moiety "head", which is commonly a nitrogen-containing heterocycle as a hydrogen bond acceptor and may be decorated with substituents that stretch into the solvent region; (2) a "tail" containing a dual hydrogen bond acceptor (DHBA) segment and a hydrophobic aryl, where the active conformation of the tail moiety could be constrained by introducing a rigid ring; and (3) an aminophenoxyl linker that joins the head and the tail (Figure 2B). On the basis of this information, we initially designed and synthesized compound 9 (see Figure 3), which features a five-membered ring in the tail



Figure 3. Chemical structure of compound 9.

moiety for constraining the active conformation of the tail moiety and a flexible pyrazole-substituted pyridine in the head moiety. As a type II inhibitor, **9** also has a relatively low molecular weight (480.5) and has good potential for structural modification. Biochemical assays showed that compound **9** displayed moderate activity with an IC₅₀ value of 253.9 nM for Axl.

Our first step in optimizing the inhibitory potency of 9 involved the tail moiety. We adopted a hybrid design strategy by replacing the tail moiety of 9 with different known DHBA-containing fragments^{39,43–49} to generate compounds **10a–n** (Table 1). Ethoxy-substituted pyrazole **10a** exhibited no activity on Axl, whereas pyrimidine-4-one **10b** displayed a significant increase in potency, with an IC₅₀ value of 20.5 nM for Axl. The

installation of a methyl at the 6'-position of the pyrimidine-4one moiety of 10b led to a sharp loss in activity (10c), whereas replacement of pyrimidine-4-one of 10b with pyrimidine-2,4dione led to a slight increase in potency (10d, with an IC_{50} of 13.0 nM). Given the improved potency of 10d, variations at the 1'-position of the pyrimidine-2,4-dione fragment of 10d were explored with four selected substituents to form compounds 10e-h, among which ethyl and isopropyl substitutions led to a slight increase in potency with IC_{50} values of 8.8 and 8.7 nM for 10f and 10g, respectively. Replacing pyrimidine-2,4-one with its bioisoster 1,2,4-triazine-3,5-dione resulted in a sharp drop in potency (10i). We also synthesized a set of compounds featuring fused heterocyclic moieties (10j-n); replacement of the tail moiety with 7,8-dihydroquinoline-2,5-dione and 1,7-naphthyridin-2-one moieties led to improved activities (10l and 10m vs 9), whereas replacement with the inden-1-one moiety (10j), 6,7dihydroisoquinoline-3,8-dione moiety (10k), and quinolin-4one moiety (10n) led to a complete loss of activity. As a result, 10g was identified as the optimal compound for further investigation.

A better understanding of the binding mode of 10g with Axl could pave the way for further rational design; therefore, we carried out an in silico molecular modeling study. As mentioned above, there is no available crystal structure for Axl in complex with a type II inhibitor, and Met has the highest sequence identity to the Axl kinase domain; in addition, 24 out of 28 residues in the DFG-out binding pocket of Met and Axl are identical (Figure 2C); thus, a Met DFG-out crystal structure can serve as a template for generating an Axl DFG-out homology model. We first constructed an Axl DFG-out homology model based on a reported DFG-out Met kinase crystal structure (PDB ID: 3F82).⁵⁰ The predicted Axl DFG-out homology model was highly similar to the Met crystal structure in both the overall folding and binding pockets (Figure S1). Next, we docked 10g to the Axl DFG-out model. The result showed that 10g adopted a canonical type II binding mode and could fit well into the DFG-out pocket (Figure 4). The tail moiety occupied the allosteric binding site, and the DHBA fragment formed two hydrogen bonds with residues Lys567 and Asp690. The isopropyl and 4-fluorophenyl stretched to two different hydrophobic pockets. A critical hydrogen bond was formed in the hinge region between the nitrogen atom of the pyridine moiety and the backbone NH of the residue Met623. The aminophenoxyl moiety acted as a linker and occupied the hydrophobic tunnel. This simulated result provided useful information for further rational design: (1) as the 1-methyl pyrazole moiety of 10g did not present strong interactions with the binding pocket, we envisioned that shifting this moiety to the ortho-position of the pyridine nitrogen might allow the inhibitor to approach the pocket surface more closely to enhance van der Waals interactions; (2) the hydrophobic tunnel occupied by the aminophenoxyl linker could only tolerate small substituents; and (3) the carbonyl oxygen of Met623 might be a potential hydrogen bond acceptor, and the potency could presumably be improved by installing an additional hydrogen bond donor at the ortho-position of the pyridine nitrogen.

First, the effect of shifting the 1-methyl pyrazole moiety to the ortho-position of the pyridine nitrogen was examined, and the result showed that *ortho*-pyrazole-substituted pyridine **11a** (IC_{50} : 1.9 nM) exhibited a significant increase in potency compared to its metasubstituted analogue **10g** (IC_{50} : 8.7 nM), as shown in Table 2. Then, selected SAR from substitution on the aminophenoxyl linker is summarized as in Table 2. Fluoro

Table 1. SAR of the Tail Moiety^a



		/			
Compds	R^1	Axl Kinase Inhibitory IC50 (nM)	Compds	\mathbb{R}^1	Axl Kinase Inhibitory IC50 (nM)
	,	1030 (1111)		~	1030 (1111)
9	N N N O	253.9 ± 13.7	10i		178.6 ± 18.6
10a	O X ₂ N-(-)-F	>1000	10j	*** ***	>1000
10b		20.5 ± 4.6	10k		>1000
10c		395.7 ± 21.3	101		16.8 ± 1.4
10d		13.0 ± 2.5	10m		150.0 ± 17.5
10e		184.8 ± 8.1	10n		>1000
10f		8.8 ± 2.1	1		4.6 ± 0.6
10g		8.7 ± 5.0	2		4.8 ± 0.8
10h		58.3 ± 4.2			

^aThe Axl kinase inhibitory IC₅₀ values are the mean \pm SD of two or more independent assays or estimated values.

substitution is more favorable at the R^2 -position than at the R^3 -position (IC₅₀: 0.8 nM for 11b vs 5.5 nM for 11c). Chloro and methyl substitutions resulted in 27- and 57-fold decreases in potency for 11d and 11e, respectively. Methoxy substitution, as in 11f, resulted in a complete loss of activity. Difluoro-substituted derivatives 11g, 11h, and 11i displayed a slight decrease in potency compared to the monofluoro derivative 11b. The monofluoro derivative 11b represented the optimal substitution pattern on the aminophenoxyl linker, and the narrow SAR is consistent with expectations, given the limited space available for the linker in this region.

We next explored the effect of substituents on the pyrazole fragment (Table 3). The introduction of a methyl group at the R^{5} -position (12a) resulted in a 32-fold loss in potency for Axl kinase, while a slight increase in cellular potency (BaF3/TEL-

AXL IC₅₀: 1 nM for **12a** vs 1.9 nM for **11b**). The derivatives substituted with three selected larger groups at the R⁶-position (**12b**-d) were less active than the methyl-substituted derivative **11b** in both enzymatic and cellular assays. According to the concept of "heteroatom release", ⁵¹ the group on the heteronitrogen atom, as the methyl group in **11b** at the R⁶-position, is potentially metabolically labile; consequently, a methyl-free compound **12e** was synthesized. Compound **12e** displayed a slight decrease in potency for kinase inhibitory activity, but significantly improved potency in the BaF3/TEL-AXL assay (IC₅₀ < 0.2 nM). On account of their in vitro potencies and metabolic labile site, compound **12e** was identified as the optimal pyrazole derivatives.

Finally, we attempted to add an additional hydrogen bond donor at the ortho-position of the pyridine fragment, as



Figure 4. Schematic illustration of the proposed binding mode of **10g** with the Axl DFG-out homology model (generated from PDB ID: 3F82): (A) Type II binding model of compound **10g**. (B) Compound **10g** with the hinge region.





^{*a*}Unless otherwise specified, the Axl kinase inhibitory IC_{50} values are the mean \pm SD of two or more independent assays or estimated values. ^{*b*}The result is obtained from a single assay.

Table 3. SAR of the Pyrazole Fragment^a

indicated in the docking studies, to form bidentate hydrogen bonds with Met623 in the hinge region of Axl. The results showed that replacement of the pyrazole fragment with amide or urea fragments was successful; as summarized in Table 4, almost all new derivatives displayed high potency in both enzymatic and cellular assays, with the exception of 13d, which showed moderate cellular activity. The most potent compound 13c was docked to the Axl DFG-out homology model, as shown in Figure 5, and 13c shared the same allosteric interactions with 10g and formed bidentate hydrogen bonds with Met623 at the hinge region as expected.

Pharmacokinetic Study. Compounds 12e and 13c were chosen for in vivo pharmacokinetic studies because of their excellent enzymatic and cellular activities. Preliminary pharmacokinetic evaluations were conducted in male Sprague–Dawley (SD) rats. The pharmacokinetic parameters are summarized in Table 5. Both compounds displayed good maximum concentrations and oral exposures; 13c had a favorable half-life of 13.8 h, whereas compound 12e exhibited a long half-life of 18.2 h, which may bring about a potential risk of cumulative toxicity. Consequently, compound 13c was selected for subsequent pharmacokinetics assessment in male Institute of Cancer Research (ICR) mice. Table 6 shows the good pharmacokinetic parameters displayed by 13c in the ICR mice.



			ir	hibitory IC ₅₀ (nM)
compds	\mathbb{R}^5	\mathbb{R}^{6}	Axl kinase	BaF3/TEL-AXL proliferation
11b	Н	Me	0.8 ± 0.3	1.9 ± 0.4
12a	Me	Me	25.6 ± 4.5	1.0 ± 0.4
12b	Н	Cyclopropyl	10.5 ± 1.1	6.3 ± 0.2
12c	Н	2-hydroxy-2-methylpropyl	17.4 ± 6.2	2.8 ± 1.6
12d	Н	2-(4-methylpiperazin-1-yl)ethyl	26.0 ± 3.1	19.5 ± 8.9
12e	Н	Н	3.1 ± 0.3	<0.2
1			4.6 ± 0.6	7.6 ± 4.9
2			4.8 ± 0.8	117.2 ± 8.1

^{*a*}The IC₅₀ values are the mean \pm SD of two or more independent assays or estimated values.

Table 4. Axl Inhibitory Activities of Inhibitors 13a-e^a



		inhibitory IC ₅₀ (nM)		
compds	\mathbb{R}^7	Axl kinase	BaF3/TEL-AXL proliferation	
13a	Me	6.7 ± 0.3	<0.2	
13b	Et	5.8 ± 1.1	<0.2	
13c	cyclopropyl	0.9 ± 0.1	<0.005	
13d	cyclobutyl	8.0 ± 0.9	43.2 ± 1.8	
13e	pyrrolidin-1-yl	1.7 ± 0.2	<0.2	
13f	morpholino	8.6 ± 2.8	<0.2	
1		4.6 ± 0.6	7.6 ± 4.9	
2		4.8 ± 0.8	117.2 ± 8.1	

^{*a*}The IC₅₀ values are the mean \pm SD of two or more independent assays or estimated values.

Kinase Selectivity Profile of 13c. The kinase selectivity of **13c** was further evaluated over a panel of 41 kinases, including the TAM subfamily members Mer and Tyro3 and the highly homologous kinase Met. Compound **13c** also significantly inhibited the kinases activity of Mer, Tyro3, and Met. The potency of **13c** against Met was equal to that against Axl (Met $IC_{50}: 0.8 \pm 0.1 \text{ nM}$). In contrast, no obvious inhibitory effect was observed in the other 38 tested tyrosine kinases belonging to different families ($IC_{50} > 1 \ \mu\text{M}$ or 100 nM) (Table 7). These results indicated that **13c** was a potent TAM and Met inhibitor. Next, we used representative Axl- and Met-driven in vitro and in vivo scenarios to evaluate the antitumor effect of **13c** against Axl and Met.

Compound 13c Inhibited Cellular Axl and Met Signaling. We evaluated the cellular effects of **13c** against Axl and Met signaling for Axl-driven or Met-dependent scenarios, respectively. First, the classic gain-of-function model cell BaF3/TEL-AXL, in which proliferation is driven by *AXL* fusion, was used. Treatment with **13c** led to a robust decrease in the phosphorylation of Axl and its key downstream molecule Akt¹⁰ in BaF3/TEL-AXL cells (Figure 6A). Furthermore, we extended to Gas6-stimulated Axl activation context. The nonsmall cell lung cancer cell line NCI-H1299 is sensitive to Gas6 stimulation, as evidenced by the markedly enhanced phosphorylation of Axl

Table 5. Pharmacokinetic Data of 12e and 13c in Rats^a

	12e	13c
parameter	po 3 mg/kg	po 3 mg/kg
$AUC_{0-t} (ng \cdot h/mL)$	31,641	32,647
$AUC_{0-\infty}$ (ng·h/mL)	52,165	43,931
$T_{1/2}$ (h)	18.2	13.8
$T_{\rm max}$ (h)	1.67	1.17
$C_{\rm max} ({\rm ng/mL})$	2573	4557

 ${}^{a}\mathrm{Three}$ animals were used for each dose group. The data shown are mean values.

Гable	6. P	harmaco	kinetic	Data	of	13c	in	Mice	ı
I ubic	U • I	marmaco	unctic	Dutu	UI.	100	***	THICC	

	1;	3c
parameter	po 3 mg/kg	iv 1 mg/kg
AUC_{0-t} (ng·h/mL)	24,044	7006
$AUC_{0-\infty}$ (ng·h/mL)	25,106	7356
$T_{1/2}$ (h)	5.20	5.57
$T_{\rm max}$ (h)	1.67	
$C_{\rm max} (\rm ng/mL)$	2990	
CL (mL/h/kg)		2.29
F %	114.4	
^a Three animals were used for	each group. The da	ta are mean values.

and the downstream molecule Akt. Treatment with 13c inhibited the Gas6-induced upregulation of Axl and Akt phosphorylation. The activity of 13c was more potent than that of BGB324 (Figure 6B). Next, we determined whether 13c could inhibit the Met signaling pathway in the Met-driven context using MKN45 and EBC-1 cells, both with *MET* amplification. The reported Met inhibitor crizotinib⁵² served as a positive control. As shown, 13c suppressed the phosphorylation of Met and downstream signaling molecules of Met (ERK and Akt) in a dose-dependent manner (Figure 6C,D). These data demonstrated that 13c inhibited both cellular Axl and Met signaling pathways.

Compound 13c Restrained Axl/Met-Driven Cell Proliferation with Selectivity. Table 4 shows that 13c exhibited high potency against Axl-mediated cell proliferation. Given the activity of 13c against c-Met kinase, we next evaluated the activity of 13c against EBC-1 and MKN45 cell proliferation driven by *MET* amplification. Compound 13c inhibited the proliferation of MKN45 and EBC-1 cells with IC₅₀ values of 64.0 \pm 5.4 and 106.8 \pm 19.4 nM, respectively.



Figure 5. Schematic illustration of the proposed binding mode of 13c with the Axl DFG-out homology model (generated from PDB ID: 3F82): (A) Type II binding model of compound 13c. (B) Compound 13c with the hinge region.

pubs.acs.org/jmc

Article

Table 7. Kinase Selectivity Profile of $13c^a$

kinase	inhibitory IC_{50} (nM)	kinase	inhibitory IC_{50} (nM)	kinase	inhibitory IC_{50} (nM)
Axl	0.9 ± 0.1	HER4(ErbB4)	>1000	mTOR	>1000
Met	0.8 ± 0.1	Src	>1000	PKA	>1000
Mer	<10	Abl	>1000	Ret	>1000
Tyro3	1-10	EphA2	>100	p90RSK	>1000
ALK	>1000	IGF1R	>1000	Syk	>100
FGFR1	>1000	A-Raf	>1000	ZAK	>100
VEGFR1	>1000	BTK	>1000	CaMK1	>1000
VEGFR2	>1000	CLK1	>1000	CDK1/cyclinB	>1000
PDGFR α	>1000	FAK	>1000	CDK2/cyclinA	>1000
PDGFR β	>1000	GCK	>1000	CDK4/cyclinD3	>1000
Kit	>1000	JAK1	>1000	CDK6/cyclinD3C	>1000
Flt-1	>1000	JAK3	>1000	CDK12/cyclinK	>1000
Flt-3	>1000	ERK2	>1000	PI3K(p110d/p85a)	>1000
EGFR	>1000	MEK1	>1000		

^{*a*}The IC₅₀ values are presented as the mean \pm SD or estimated values.



Figure 6. Compound 13c suppressed Axl/Met phosphorylation and downstream signaling in BaF3/TEL-AXL cells (A), NCI-H1299 cells (B), MKN45 cells (C), and EBC-1 cells (D). BaF3/TEL-AXL, MKN45, and EBC-1 cells were treated with compounds at different concentrations for 2 h; NCI-H1299 cells were serum-deprived for 24 h prior to 2 h of treatment with compounds and then stimulated with Gas6 for 15 min. Then, the cells were lysed and subjected to western blot analysis.

Furthermore, we extended to 14 other cancer cell lines without *MET* or *AXL* aberrations. We found that **13c** exerted little antiproliferative effect in these cell lines ($IC_{50} > 10 \mu M$, see Table 8). The cell line inhibitory profile results, together with the biochemical kinase profile results, confirmed that **13c** selectively inhibited Axl/Met.

Compound 13c Attenuated Gas6/Axl-Mediated Cancer Cell Migration and Invasion. Given the critical role of Axl in the tumor metastatic phenotype, we evaluated the effect of **13c** on Gas6/Axl axis-mediated tumor cell migration and invasion. A cell migration assay using NCI-H1299 cells was first performed. Gas6 stimulation strongly enhanced the motility of NCI-H1299 cells, whereas **13c** markedly decreased the NCI-H1299 cell motility induced by Gas6. We observed a similar trend in the cell invasion assay. The invasion of the SNU449 cell line was enhanced by the addition of Gas6. Treatment with **13c** inhibited cell invasion (Figure 7). The activity of **13c** was more potent than that of BGB324. In addition, 13c showed no effect on cell proliferation under the same conditions (data not shown), largely excluding the possibility that the inhibitory effect of 13c on cell movement was caused by inhibition of cell proliferation. Therefore, 13c could inhibit the motility of cancer cells driven by the activation of the Axl pathway in vitro, indicating the therapeutic potential of 13c for tumor metastasis.

Compound 13c Inhibited AxI-Driven or Met-Driven Tumor Growth In Vivo. We investigated the antitumor activity of **13c** in vivo against established xenograft models derived from BaF3/TEL-AXL. Once the tumor volume reached 150–200 mm³, tumor-bearing BALB/c nude mice were randomly assigned to five groups and treated with a vehicle or the indicated compound for 14 consecutive days. Figure 8A shows that **13c** significantly suppressed tumor growth. The tumor growth inhibition (TGI) rates of **13c** were 106.4, 105.9, and 90.9% at doses of 25, 5, and 1 mg/kg, respectively; four out of six

Table 8. Cell Line Proliferation Inhibitory and SelectivityProfile of $13c^a$

cell line	inhibitory IC_{50} (nM)
BT474	>10,000
HCC78	>10,000
JHH7	>10,000
MDA-MB-231	>10,000
NCI-H1975	>10,000
NCI-H1299	>10,000
HT29	>10,000
HCC827	>10,000
BT549	>10,000
KMS11	>10,000
RT112	>10,000
MM.1S	>10,000
HL60	>10,000
HCC4006	>10,000

^aThe IC₅₀ values are estimated values.



Figure 7. Compound 13c inhibited Axl-dependent neoplastic phenotypes of metastasis: (A) Compound 13c suppressed Gas6-induced NCI-H1299 cell migration. (B) Compound 13c inhibited Gas6-induced SNU449 cell invasion. Representative images are shown (scale bars, $10 \ \mu$ m).

mice exhibited complete tumor regression in both the 25 and 5 mg/kg treatment groups. The efficacy of 5 mg/kg 13c was comparable to that of 50 mg/kg BGB324. These results indicated that 13c is a potent Axl inhibitor with potential for further development. Encouraged by the high activity of 13c to reverse the Met-dependent tumor phenotype in vitro, we evaluated the antitumor efficacy of 13c in vivo. The U87MG model driven by dysregulation of Met was used. Compound 13c

significantly inhibited tumor growth of the U87MG model in a dose-dependent manner, where the TGI rates of 100, 25, and 5 mg/kg were 99.1, 89.8, and 62.3% respectively (Figure 8B). Additionally, 13c was well tolerated, with no substantial body weight loss in all the treated groups, even at the highest dose of 100 mg/kg (data not shown).

Chemistry. The syntheses of 9 and 10a-n are illustrated in Scheme 1. The starting compound 3-chloro-4-bromopyridine (14) was reacted with 4-aminophenol to provide 15. Suzuki coupling of 15 with 1-methyl-4-pyrazole boronic acid pinacol ester afforded amine 16, which was condensed with acids 17a-o to produce amides 9 and 10a-n.

The syntheses of 11a-g, 11i, and 12a-e were similar to those described for 9, as illustrated in Scheme 2. The reaction of 2,4-dichloropyridine (18) with various 4-aminophenols produced 19a-h, which were further coupled with different boronic acid pinacol esters to afford amines 20a-m. Condensation of 20a-m with 17h provided 11a-g, 11i, and 12a-e.

Compound **11h** was synthesized according to the procedures outlined in Scheme 3. The starting compound 2-chloro-4hydroxypyridine (**21**) was reacted with 1,2,4-trifluoro-5-nitrobenzene, and the resulting nitrobenzene **22** was then reduced to provide amine **23**, which was reacted with 1-methyl-4-pyrazole boronic acid pinacol ester by Suzuki coupling to afford amine **24**. Finally, acid **17h** was condensed with amine **24** to produce **11h**.

Compounds 13a-c were synthesized according to the procedures outlined in Scheme 4. Amine 25 was condensed with appropriate acid chlorides, and the resulting amides 26a-c were then reacted with 2-fluoro-4-nitrophenol to afford nitro compounds 27a-c, which were reduced to amines 28a-c with iron powder. Amines 28a-c were condensed with acid 17h to yield 13a-c.

Compounds 13d-f were synthesized according to the procedures outlined in Scheme 5. 4-Chloropicolinamide (29) was reacted to yield amine 30, which was then condensed with acid 17h to afford amide 31. Amide 31 was converted to amine 32 by a Hoffman rearrangement reaction. Compound 13d was synthesized by coupling amine 32 with cyclobutane carboxylic acid. Compounds 13e and 13f were synthesized by reaction of 32 with pyrrolidine and morpholine, respectively.

CONCLUSIONS

In summary, we designed and synthesized a series of Axl inhibitors of the type II class. Molecular modeling-assisted optimization led to the identification of 13c, which was highly potent in both biochemical and cellular assays (Axl IC₅₀: 0.9 nM,



Figure 8. Compound 13c significantly inhibited Axl/Met-mediated tumor growth in vivo: (A) Tumor growth was inhibited after 13c treatment in BaF3/TEL-AXL xenografts. (B) Tumor growth was inhibited after 13c treatment in U87MG xenografts. The tumor volumes are expressed as the mean \pm SEM. Significant differences from the vehicle group were determined using a *t*-test, ****P* < 0.001 and ***P* < 0.01.

pubs.acs.org/jmc

Article

Scheme 1. Syntheses of 9 and $10a-n^a$



^{*a*}Reagents and conditions: (a) 4-aminophenol, potassium *tert*-butoxide, dimethylacetamide (DMA), room temperature (RT) to 85 °C; (b) 1methyl-4-pyrazole boronic acid pinacol ester, Pd(PPh₃)₄, 1,4-dioxane/water, 90 °C; and (c) *O*-(7-aza-1*H*-benzotriazol-1-yl)-*N*,*N*,*N'*,*N'*tetramethyluronium hexafluorophosphate (HATU), triethylamine (TEA), *N*,*N*-dimethylformamide (DMF), RT.

Scheme 2. Syntheses of 11a-g, 11i, and 12a-e^a



^{*a*}Reagents and conditions: (a) appropriate 4-aminophenol, potassium *tert*-butoxide, DMA, RT to 85 °C; (b) 1-methyl-4-pyrazole boronic acid pinacol ester, $Pd(PPh_{3})_{4}$, 1,4-dioxane/water, 90 °C; and (c) acid 17h, HATU, TEA, DMF, RT.

BaF3/TEL-AXL $IC_{50} < 0.005 \text{ nM}$). Compound 13c displayed good pharmacokinetic parameters in both rats and mice. Further evaluation revealed that 13c exhibited kinase selectivity for

TAM subfamily members and the homologous kinase Met. Compound **13c** significantly suppressed cellular Axl and Met signaling and inhibited the proliferation of cells driven by *AXL*-

pubs.acs.org/jmc

Scheme 3. Synthesis of 11h^a



[&]quot;Reagents and conditions: (a) K_2CO_3 , 1,2,4-trifluoro-5-nitrobenzene, DMF, RT; (b) $SnCl_2$, EtOH, 80 °C; (c) 1-methyl-4-pyrazole boronic acid pinacol ester, Pd(PPh₃)₄, 1,4-dioxane/water, 90 °C; and (d) acid 17h, HATU, TEA, DMF, RT.



"Reagents and conditions: (a) appropriate acid chloride, TEA, dichloromethane, 0 °C to RT; (b) 2-fluoro-4-nitrophenol, chlorobenzene, 140 °C; (c) iron powder, acetic acid, ethyl acetate, 80 °C; and (d) acid 17h, HATU, TEA, DMF, RT.

Scheme 5. Syntheses of $13d-f^a$



"Reagents and conditions: (a) 4-amino-2-fluorophenol, potassium *tert*-butoxide, dimethyl sulfoxide (DMSO), RT to 80 °C; (b) acid 17h, HATU, TEA, DMF, RT; (c) iodobenzene diacetate, ethyl acetate/acetonitrile/water, 0 °C to RT; (d) cyclobutane carboxylic acid, HATU, TEA, DMF, RT; and (e) appropriate amine, phenyl chloroformate, TEA, tetrahydrofuran (THF), 0 °C to RT.

fusion or *MET* amplification. In contrast, **13c** had almost no influence on cell proliferation in cell lines without *AXL* or *MET* aberration, even at high concentrations, confirming the selectivity of **13c** against Axl and Met. Compound **13c** also restrained Gas6/Axl-mediated cancer cell migration or invasion. Furthermore, **13c** exhibited significant antitumor activity in vivo in Axl-driven or Met-driven tumor xenografts, causing tumor stasis or regression at well-tolerant doses. Compound **13c** may serve as a potential Axl/Met dual inhibitor for further drug development.

EXPERIMENTAL SECTION

Chemistry. Unless otherwise noted, all starting materials, reagents, and solvents were commercially available and used without further purification. Chemical reactions were monitored by thin-layer chromatography (TLC) or liquid chromatography (LC)/mass spectrometry (MS). TLC was performed using silica gel plates with fluorescence F254 and UV light visualization. LC/MS was performed on an Agilent 1200 HPLC/6110 MSD system (column: ZORBAX Eclipse Plus column, C18, 4.6 mm \times 100 mm, 3.5 μ m). Column chromatography was performed by automated flash chromatography on a Biotage Isolera One instrument using silica gel (300-400 mesh). ¹H NMR and ¹³C NMR spectra were obtained using CDCl₃, DMSO-d₆, CD₃OD, or acetone-d₆ on Varian Mercury Plus 300 M or 400 M or Bruker AVANCE III 400 M, 500 M, or 600 M NMR spectrometers. In the tabulated NMR results, multiplicities are indicated by s (singlet), br s (broad singlet), d (doublet), dd (doublet of doublet), ddd (doublet of doublet of doublet), t (triplet), dt (doublet of triplets), q (quartet), p (pentet), and m (multiplet). High-resolution ESI-MS was performed on an Agilent G6520 Q-TOF spectrometer. The purity of all the final compounds was confirmed to be >95% as determined by HPLC on an Agilent infinity 1260 HPLC system (column: ZORBAX Eclipse Plus column, C18, 4.6 mm \times 150 mm, 5 μ m; detector: diode array detector). The mobile phase of methanol and water was used with a flow rate of 1.0 mL/min.

1,5-Dimethyl-N-(4-((3-(1-methyl-1H-pyrazol-4-yl)pyridin-4-yl)oxy)phenyl)-3-oxo-2-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-pyrazole-4-carboxa-mide (9). The compound was prepared from 16 and 17a by following a similar procedure as described for 13c. Light yellow solid, 86% yield. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO- d_6): δ 10.82 (s, 1H), 8.86 (s, 1H), 8.29–8.19 (m, 2H), 8.03 (d, *J* = 0.8 Hz, 1H), 7.74–7.66 (m, 2H), 7.63–7.48 (m, 3H), 7.48–7.38 (m, 2H), 7.21–7.11 (m, 2H), 6.73–6.64 (m, 1H), 3.89 (s, 3H), 3.36 (s, 3H), 2.71 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 164.03, 161.69, 161.00, 155.14, 149.41, 148.78, 148.47, 137.71, 136.42, 133.17, 129.91, 129.87 (s, 2C), 129.15, 126.60 (s, 2C), 121.59 (s, 2C), 121.33 (s, 2C), 118.95, 114.89, 110.76, 99.78, 39.16, 33.60, 12.02. HRMS: (M + H)⁺ calcd for C₂₇H₂₅N₆O₃, 481.1983; found, 481.1989.

4-Ethoxy-1-(4-fluorophenyl)-N-(4-((3-(1-methyl-1H-pyrazol-4-yl)pyridin-4-yl)oxy)phenyl)-1H-pyrazole-3-carboxamide (**10a**). The compound was prepared from **16** and **17b** by following a similar procedure as described for **13c**. Light yellow solid, 88% yield. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- d_6): δ 9.99 (s, 1H), 8.87 (s, 1H), 8.50 (s, 1H), 8.26 (d, *J* = 5.8 Hz, 2H), 8.07–7.98 (m, 3H), 7.94–7.86 (m, 2H), 7.42 (t, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 7.24–7.19 (m, 2H), 6.71 (d, *J* = 5.6 Hz, 1H), 4.11 (q, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 3.90 (s, 3H), 1.40 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 161.74 (d, *J* = 247.5 Hz, 1C), 160.80, 159.05, 150.21, 149.10, 148.66, 146.42, 137.89, 136.16 (d, *J* = 2.8 Hz, 1C), 135.60, 134.93, 129.87, 121.73 (s, 2C), 121.49 (s, 2C), 121.17 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2C), 119.13, 116.52 (d, *J* = 23.2 Hz, 2C), 114.98, 112.82, 110.95, 68.85, 39.25, 14.99. HRMS: (M + H)⁺ calcd for C₂₇H₂₄FN₆O₃, 499.1888; found, 499.1886.

1-(4-Fluorophenyl)-2-methyl-N-(4-((3-(1-methyl-1H-pyrazol-4-yl)pyridin-4-yl)oxy)phenyl)-6-oxo-1,6-dihydropyrimidine-5-carboxamide (10b). The compound was prepared from 16 and 17c by following a similar procedure as described for 13c. Light yellow solid, 50% yield. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO- d_6): δ 11.17 (s, 1H), 8.86 (s, 1H), 8.82 (s, 1H), 8.30–8.22 (m, 2H), 8.02 (d, J = 0.8 Hz, 1H), 7.80 (d, J = 8.9 Hz, 2H), 7.61 (dd, J = 8.9, 5.1 Hz, 2H), 7.47 (t, J = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 7.19 (d, J = 8.9 Hz, 2H), 6.70 (d, J = 5.6 Hz, 1H), 3.88 (s, 3H), 2.23 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 163.37, 163.31 (d, J = 251.7 Hz, 1C), 162.81, 160.74, 160.60, 158.47, 150.36, 148.96, 148.51, 137.83, 135.51, 132.23 (d, J = 3.4 Hz), 129.83, 129.05 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 2C), 122.17 (s, 2C), 121.36 (s, 2C), 119.15, 117.88 (d, J = 23.1 Hz, 2C), 115.89, 114.86, 110.97, 39.18, 24.73. HRMS: (M + H)⁺ calcd for C₂₇H₂₂FN₆O₃, 497.1732; found, 497.1732.

1-(4-Fluorophenyl)-2,4-dimethyl-N-(4-((3-(1-methyl-1H-pyrazol-4-yl)pyridin-4-yl)oxy)phenyl)-6-oxo-1,6-dihydropyrimidine-5-carboxamide (**10c**). The compound was prepared from **16** and **17d** by following a similar procedure as described for **13c**. Light yellow solid, 69% yield. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆): δ 10.73 (s, 1H), 8.85 (s, 1H), 8.23 (d, *J* = 5.6 Hz, 2H), 8.02 (s, 1H), 7.77 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 7.44 (q, *J* = 8.8, 7.1 Hz, 4H), 7.17 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 6.68 (d, *J* = 5.7 Hz, 1H), 3.89 (s, 3H), 2.41 (s, 3H), 2.14 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 171.26, 163.37, 163.16 (d, *J* = 251.5 Hz, 1C), 162.51, 160.84, 159.02, 149.99, 148.87, 148.47, 137.77, 135.88, 132.50 (d, *J* = 3.5 Hz, 1C), 129.84, 129.13 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2C), 121.35 (s, 2C), 121.28 (s, 2C), 119.01, 117.72 (d, *J* = 23.2 Hz, 2C), 114.85, 113.51, 110.82, 39.17, 26.11, 24.31. HRMS: (M + H)⁺ calcd for C₂₈H₂₄FN₆O₃, 511.1888; found, 511.1886.

3-(4-Fluorophenyl)-N-(4-((3-(1-methyl-1H-pyrazol-4-yl)pyridin-4-yl)oxy)phenyl)-2,4-dioxo-1,2,3,4-tetrahydropyrimidine-5-carboxamide (10d). The compound was prepared from 16 and 17e by following a similar procedure as described for 13c. Light yellow solid, 69% yield. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO- d_6): δ 12.37 (s, 1H), 10.86 (s, 1H), 8.84 (s, 1H), 8.41 (s, 1H), 8.26–8.20 (m, 2H), 8.03–7.99 (m, 1H), 7.78–7.72 (m, 2H), 7.45–7.29 (m, 4H), 7.19–7.11 (m, 2H), 6.67 (d, *J* = 5.7 Hz, 1H), 3.86 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO- d_6): δ 163.79, 161.77 (d, *J* = 245.0 Hz, 1C), 160.17, 159.59, 150.32, 149.59, 148.87, 148.42, 147.68, 137.33, 135.31, 131.00 (d, *J* = 3.0 Hz, 1C), 130.91 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 2C), 130.09, 121.47 (s, 2C), 121.02 (s, 2C), 118.76, 115.87 (d, *J* = 22.9 Hz, 2C), 113.83, 110.84, 104.19, 38.60. HRMS: (M + H)⁺ calcd for C₂₆H₂₀FN₆O₄, 499.1525; found, 499.1519.

3-(4-Fluorophenyl)-1-methyl-N-(4-(i3-(1-methyl-1H-pyrazol-4-yl)pyridin-4-yl)oxy)phenyl)-2,4-dioxo-1,2,3,4-tetrahydropyrimidine-5-carboxamide (**10e**). The compound was prepared from **16** and **17**f by following a similar procedure as described for **13c**. Light brown solid, 47% yield. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO- d_6): δ 10.90 (s, 1H), 8.85 (s, 2H), 8.25 (d, J = 2.8 Hz, 2H), 8.04–7.98 (m, 1H), 7.77 (dd, J = 8.9, 2.0 Hz, 2H), 7.46–7.30 (m, 4H), 7.22–7.12 (m, 2H), 6.70 (dd, J = 5.6, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 3.88 (s, 3H), 3.53 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 163.56, 162.95 (d, J = 249.6 Hz, 1C), 160.68, 159.84, 150.70 (s, 2C), 150.50, 149.11, 148.62, 137.90, 135.32, 130.08 (d, J = 3.3 Hz, 1C), 130.00 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2C), 129.80, 122.19 (s, 2C), 121.41 (s, 2C), 119.19, 117.02 (d, J = 22.9 Hz, 2C), 114.93, 111.02, 105.59, 39.23, 38.31. HRMS: (M + H)⁺ calcd for C₂₇H₂₂FN₆O₄, 513.1681; found, 513.1686.

1-*E*thyl-3-(4-fluorophenyl)-*N*-(4-((3-(1-methyl-1H-pyrazol-4-yl)pyridin-4-yl)oxy)phenyl)-2,4-dioxo-1,2,3,4-tetrahydropyrimidine-5carboxamide (**10f**). The compound was prepared from **16** and **17g** by following a similar procedure as described for **13c**. Light yellow solid, 72% yield. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆): δ 10.90 (s, 1H), 8.86 (s, 2H), 8.26-8.22 (m, 2H), 8.04-7.99 (m, 1H), 7.82-7.73 (m, 2H), 7.48-7.30 (m, 4H), 7.18 (d, *J* = 8.9 Hz, 2H), 6.70 (d, *J* = 5.7 Hz, 1H), 4.01 (q, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 2H), 3.88 (s, 3H), 1.29 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 163.48, 162.87 (d, *J* = 249.6 Hz, 1C), 160.75, 159.95, 150.39, 150.26, 149.69, 148.93, 148.45, 137.87, 135.36, 130.13 (d, *J* = 3.3 Hz, 1C), 130.02 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2C), 129.79, 122.16 (s, 2C), 121.39 (s, 2C), 119.20, 116.93 (d, *J* = 23.1 Hz, 2C), 114.84, 110.99, 105.70, 46.58, 39.19, 14.51. HRMS: (M + H)⁺ calcd for C₂₈H₂₄FN₆O₄, 527.1838; found, 527.1837.

3-(4-Fluorophenyl)-1-isopropyl-N-(4-((3-(1-methyl-1H-pyrazol-4-yl)pyridin-4-yl)oxy)phenyl)-2,4-dioxo-1,2,3,4-tetrahydropyrimidine-5-carboxamide (**10g**). The compound was prepared from **16** and **17h** by following a similar procedure as described for **13c**. White solid, 75% yield. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO- d_6): δ 10.90 (s, 1H), 8.84 (s, 1H), 8.64 (s, 1H), 8.25–8.20 (m, 2H), 8.01 (d, J = 0.8 Hz, 1H), 7.76 (d, J = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 7.47–7.29 (m, 4H), 7.16 (d, J = 8.9 Hz, 2H), 6.69 (d, J = 5.6 Hz, 1H), 4.76 (p, J = 6.7 Hz, 1H), 3.86 (s, 3H), 1.40 (d, J = 6.7 Hz, 6H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 163.07, 162.82 (d, J = 249.2 Hz, 1C), 160.64, 160.02, 150.44, 150.38, 149.06, 148.58, 146.28, 137.84, 135.39, 130.32 (d, *J* = 3.0 Hz, 1C), 130.00 (d, *J* = 8.9 Hz, 2C), 129.76, 122.06 (s, 2C), 121.35 (s, 2C), 119.13, 116.89 (d, *J* = 23.1 Hz, 2C), 114.87, 110.96, 105.74, 50.52, 39.17, 21.64 (s, 2C). HRMS: $(M + H)^+$ calcd for $C_{29}H_{26}FN_6O_4$, 541.1994; found, 542.0000.

3-(4-Fluorophenyl)-N-(4-((3-(1-methyl-1H-pyrazol-4-yl)pyridin-4-yl)oxy)phenyl)-2,4-dioxo-1-((tetrahydro-2H-pyran-4-yl)methyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydropyrimidine-5-carboxamide (**10h**). The compound was prepared from **16** and **17i** by following a similar procedure as described for **13c**. White solid, 71% yield. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, DMSOd₆): δ 10.93 (s, 1H), 8.86 (s, 1H), 8.80 (s, 1H), 8.28–8.22 (m, 2H), 8.02 (d, *J* = 0.8 Hz, 1H), 7.77 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 7.47–7.32 (m, 4H), 7.18 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 6.70 (d, *J* = 5.7 Hz, 1H), 3.95–3.81 (m, 7H), 3.26 (t, *J* = 11.4 Hz, 2H), 1.99 (s, 1H), 1.59 (d, *J* = 11.8 Hz, 2H), 1.35– 1.20 (m, 2H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 163.34, 162.93 (d, *J* = 249.8 Hz, 1C), 160.72, 159.79, 150.64, 150.52, 150.16, 149.12, 148.61, 137.93, 135.30, 130.08–129.92 (m, 3C), 129.78, 122.18 (s, 2C), 121.42 (s, 2C), 119.25, 117.00 (d, *J* = 23.1 Hz, 2C), 114.88, 111.04, 105.51, 67.29 (s, 2C), 56.69, 39.24, 34.98, 30.35 (s, 2C). HRMS: (M + H)⁺ calcd for C₃₂H₃₀FN₆O₅, 597.2256; found, 597.2262.

4-(4-Fluorophenyl)-2-isopropyl-N-(4-((3-(1-methyl-1H-pyrazol-4-yl)pyridin-4-yl)oxy)phenyl)-3,5-dioxo-2,3,4,5-tetrahydro-1,2,4-triazine-6-carboxamide (**10i**). The compound was prepared from **16** and **17** j by following a similar procedure as described for **13c**. Yellow solid, 60% yield. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- d_6): δ 10.70 (s, 1H), 8.85 (s, 1H), 8.27–8.20 (m, 2H), 8.01 (s, 1H), 7.83–7.73 (m, 2H), 7.47–7.32 (m, 4H), 7.20 (d, J = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 6.70 (d, J = 5.6 Hz, 1H), 4.88 (p, J = 6.6 Hz, 1H), 3.87 (s, 3H), 1.36 (d, J = 6.6 Hz, 6H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 163.16 (d, J = 250.7 Hz, 1C), 160.53, 156.85, 156.63, 150.94, 149.12, 148.60, 147.59, 137.89, 134.88, 132.50, 129.77, 129.66 (d, J = 8.9 Hz, 2C), 128.26 (d, J = 3.4 Hz, 1 C), 122.22 (s, 2C), 121.40 (s, 2C), 119.24, 117.13 (d, J = 23.2 Hz, 2C), 114.85, 111.10, 54.01, 39.20, 20.81 (s, 2C). HRMS: (M + H)⁺ calcd for C₂₈H₂₅FN₇O₄, 542.1947; found, 542.1951.

N-(4-((3-(1-*Methyl*-1*H*-*pyrazol*-4-*yl*)*pyridin*-4-*yl*)*oxy*)*phenyl*)-1*oxo*-3-*phenyl*-1*H*-*indene*-2-*carboxamide* (**10***j*). The compound was prepared from **16** and **17k** by following a similar procedure as described for **13c**. Red solid, 36% yield. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆): δ 10.44 (s, 1H), 8.86 (s, 1H), 8.27–8.22 (m, 2H), 8.02 (s, 1H), 7.73–7.47 (m, 10H), 7.38 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.21–7.13 (m, 2H), 6.68 (d, *J* = 5.6 Hz, 1H), 3.89 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 197.19, 169.87, 160.70, 159.27, 150.11, 148.90, 148.46, 143.92, 137.73, 135.51, 134.56, 131.58, 131.48, 130.64, 130.28, 129.74, 128.50 (s, 2C), 128.11 (s, 2C), 124.26, 123.79, 122.11 (s, 2C), 122.07, 121.24 (s, 2C), 118.95, 114.82, 110.74, 39.11. HRMS: (M + H)⁺ calcd for C₃₁H₂₃N₄O₃, 499.1765; found, 499.1764.

N-(4-((3-(1-*Methyl*-1*H*-*pyrazol*-4-*yl*)*pyridin*-4-*yl*)*oxy*)*phenyl*)-3,8*dioxo*-2-*phenyl*-2,3,5,6,7,8-*hexahydroisoquinoline*-4-*carboxamide* (**10k**). The compound was prepared from **16** and **171** by following a similar procedure as described for **13c**. Light brown solid, 58% yield. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 11.29 (s, 1H), 8.77 (s, 1H), 8.50 (s, 1H), 8.24 (d, *J* = 5.5 Hz, 1H), 7.93 (d, *J* = 13.7 Hz, 2H), 7.72 (d, *J* = 8.9 Hz, 2H), 7.63−7.50 (m, 3H), 7.38 (dd, *J* = 7.8, 1.8 Hz, 2H), 7.07 (d, *J* = 8.9 Hz, 2H), 6.65 (d, *J* = 5.7 Hz, 1H), 3.95 (s, 3H), 3.63 (t, *J* = 6.2 Hz, 2H), 2.65 (t, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 2H), 2.12 (p, *J* = 6.3 Hz, 2H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 195.03, 162.96, 162.33, 161.47, 160.94, 150.20, 148.99, 148.56, 143.24, 139.58, 137.89, 135.81, 130.04, 129.99 (s, 2C), 129.87, 126.40 (s, 2C), 122.51 (s, 2C), 121.36 (s, 2C), 119.17, 118.53, 116.59, 114.90, 110.95, 39.24, 38.18, 29.72, 21.68. HRMS: (M + H)⁺ calcd for C₃₁H₂₆N₅O₄, 532.1979; found, 532.1979.

1-(4-Fluorophenyl)-N-(4-((3-(1-methyl-1H-pyrazol-4-yl))pyridin-4-yl)oxy)phenyl)-2,5-dioxo-1,2,5,6,7,8-hexahydroquinoline-3-carboxamide (**10l**). The compound was prepared from **16** and **17m** by following a similar procedure as described for **13c**. Light yellow solid, 23% yield. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 11.38 (s, 1H), 9.33 (s, 1H), 8.78 (d, *J* = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 8.25 (d, *J* = 5.8 Hz, 1H), 7.93 (d, *J* = 14.8 Hz, 2H), 7.77 (d, *J* = 9.1 Hz, 2H), 7.40–7.28 (m, 4H), 7.07 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 6.65 (d, *J* = 5.7 Hz, 1H), 3.96 (d, *J* = 1.7 Hz, 3H), 2.67–2.53 (m, 4H), 2.19–2.07 (m, 2H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 192.86, 163.56, 163.18 (d, *J* = 251.6 Hz, s, 1C), 160.77, 160.71, 159.71, 150.21, 148.90, 148.48, 142.09, 137.78, 135.67, 132.71 (d, *J* = 3.2 Hz, 1C), 129.86, 129.43 (d, *J* = 8.9 Hz, 2C), 122.16 (s, 2C), 121.32 (s, 2C), 119.96, 119.11, 117.77 (d, J = 23.1 Hz, 2C), 115.78, 114.85, 110.92, 39.18, 36.51, 29.44, 21.15. HRMS: (M + H)⁺ calcd for C₃₁H₂₅FN₅O₄, 550.1885; found, 550.1881.

1-(4-Fluorophenyl)-N-(4-((3-(1-methyl-1H-pyrazol-4-yl)pyridin-4-yl)oxy)phenyl)-2-oxo-1,2-dihydro-1,7-naphthyridine-3-carboxamide (**10m**). The compound was prepared from **16** and **17n** by following a similar procedure as described for **13c**. Yellow solid, 80% yield. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆): δ 11.78 (s, 1H), 9.13 (s, 1H), 8.87 (s, 1H), 8.56 (d, *J* = 5.1 Hz, 1H), 8.30–8.23 (m, 2H), 8.10 (d, *J* = 4.7 Hz, 1H), 8.07–8.01 (m, 2H), 7.87 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 7.65–7.51 (m, 4H), 7.22 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 6.72 (d, *J* = 5.7 Hz, 1H), 3.89 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 163.31 (d, *J* = 251.3 Hz, 1C), 162.11, 160.71, 159.94, 150.66, 149.07, 148.59, 143.87, 143.66, 139.07, 137.89, 136.34, 135.33, 131.34 (d, *J* = 3.3 Hz, 1C), 130.34 (d, *J* = 8.9 Hz, 2C), 129.82, 126.75, 123.94, 122.42 (s, 2C), 121.89, 121.42 (s, 2C), 119.23, 118.10 (d, *J* = 23.2 Hz, 2C), 114.85, 111.05, 39.24. HRMS: (M + H)⁺ calcd for C₃₀H₂₂FN₆O₃, 533.1732; found, 533.1729.

6-Ethyl-1,2-dimethyl-N-(4-((3-(1-methyl-1H-pyrazol-4-yl)pyridin-4-yl)oxy)phenyl)-4-oxo-1,4-dihydroquinoline-3-carboxamide (10n). The compound was prepared from 16 and 17o by following a similar procedure as described for 13c. Light yellow solid, 50% yield. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- d_6): δ 10.81 (s, 1H), 8.84 (s, 1H), 8.29–8.19 (m, 2H), 8.06 (d, J = 2.2 Hz, 1H), 8.02 (s, 1H), 7.81 (dd, J = 9.0, 3.8 Hz, 3H), 7.65 (dd, J = 8.9.2 Hz, 1H), 7.17 (d, J = 8.9 Hz, 2H), 2.68 (d, J = 5.6 Hz, 1H), 3.89 (s, 3H), 3.82 (s, 3H), 2.75 (q, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 2.62 (s, 3H), 1.23 (t, J = 7.7 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 176.55, 165.08, 161.00, 157.96, 149.60, 148.88, 148.55, 141.43, 138.71, 137.75, 136.83, 133.60, 129.94, 126.37, 125.28, 122.43 (s, 2C), 121.30 (s, 2C), 118.92, 115.89, 114.99, 113.98, 110.79, 39.19, 35.79, 28.36, 20.42, 15.42. HRMS: (M + H)⁺ calcd for C₂₉H₂₈N₅O₃, 494.2187; found, 494.2189.

3-(4-Fluorophenyl)-1-isopropyl-N-(4-((2-(1-methyl-1H-pyrazol-4-yl)pyridin-4-yl)oxy)phenyl)-2,4-dioxo-1,2,3,4-tetrahydropyrimidine-5-carboxamide (**11a**). The compound was prepared from **20a** and **17h** by following a similar procedure as described for **13c**. White solid, 87% yield. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆): δ 10.92 (s, 1H), 8.66 (s, 1H), 8.36 (d, *J* = 5.7 Hz, 1H), 8.25 (s, 1H), 7.96 (d, *J* = 0.8 Hz, 1H), 7.77 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 7.47–7.31 (m, 4H), 7.23 (d, *J* = 2.3 Hz, 1H), 7.18 (d, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 6.63 (dd, *J* = 5.7, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 4.77 (p, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 1H), 3.85 (s, 3H), 1.42 (d, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 6H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 165.62, 163.09, 162.87 (d, *J* = 249.5 Hz, 1C), 160.06, 153.95, 151.19, 150.50, 150.44, 146.30, 137.66, 135.35, 130.35 (d, *J* = 3.5 Hz, 1C), 130.03 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2C), 129.16, 123.38, 122.01 (s, 2C), 121.45 (s, 2C), 116.94 (d, *J* = 23.1 Hz, 2C), 109.78, 107.68, 105.80, 50.55, 39.26, 21.68 (s, 2C). HRMS: (M + H)⁺ calcd for C₂₉H₂₆FN₆O₄, 541.1994; found, 541.1993.

N-(3-Fluoro-4-((2-(1-methyl-1H-pyrazol-4-yl)pyridin-4-yl)oxy)phenyl)-3-(4-fluorophenyl)-1-isopropyl-2,4-dioxo-1,2,3,4-tetrahydropyrimidine-5-carboxamide (11b). The compound was prepared from 20b and 17h by following a similar procedure as described for 13c. White solid, 95% yield. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 10.93 (s, 1H), 8.68 (s, 1H), 8.37 (dd, J = 5.7, 0.6 Hz, 1H), 7.92–7.80 (m, 3H), 7.31– 7.22 (m, 5H), 7.12 (t, J = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 6.97 (d, J = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 6.61 (dd, J = 5.8, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 4.95 (p, J = 6.8 Hz, 1H), 3.92 (s, 3H), 1.49 (d, I = 6.8 Hz, 6H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 165.13, 163.10, 162.89 (d, J = 249.5 Hz, 1C), 160.21, 154.44 (d, J = 249.3 Hz, 1C), 154.05, 151.27, 150.42, 146.52, 137.68, 137.04 (d, J = 12.5 Hz, 1C), 136.62 (d, J = 9.6 Hz, 1C), 130.26 (d, J = 3.3 Hz, 1C), 130.00 (d, J = 8.9 Hz, 2C), 129.18, 123.64, 123.40, 116.97 (d, J = 23.2 Hz, 2C), 116.39 (d, *J* = 3.6 Hz, 1C), 109.77 (d, *J* = 23.3 Hz, 1C), 108.75, 106.83, 105.50, 50.65, 39.26, 21.69 (s, 2C). HRMS: (M + H)⁺ calcd for C₂₉H₂₅F₂N₆O₄, 559.1900; found, 559.1902.

N-(2-Fluoro-4-((2-(1-methyl-1H-pyrazol-4-yl)pyridin-4-yl)oxy)phenyl)-3-(4-fluorophenyl)-1-isopropyl-2,4-dioxo-1,2,3,4-tetrahydropyrimidine-5-carboxamide (11c). The compound was prepared from **20c** and **17h** by following a similar procedure as described for **13c**. White solid, 76% yield. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆): δ 11.16 (s, 1H), 8.69 (s, 1H), 8.45 (t, *J* = 9.1 Hz, 1H), 8.38 (d, *J* = 5.5 Hz, 1H), 8.26 (s, 1H), 7.97 (s, 1H), 7.48–7.24 (m, 6H), 7.07 (d, *J* = 9.1 Hz, 1H), 6.75–6.67 (m, 1H), 4.78 (p, *J* = 6.5 Hz, 1H), 3.86 (s, 3H), 1.42 (d, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 6H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 165.01, 162.85 (d, *J* = 249.4 Hz, 1C), 162.83, 160.31, 154.16, 153.44 (d, J = 248.8 Hz, 1C), 151.34, 150.53, 150.45, 146.37, 137.66, 130.29 (d, J = 3.3 Hz, 1C), 130.08 (d, J = 8.9 Hz, 2C), 129.20, 123.91 (d, J = 10.4 Hz, 1C), 123.29–123.18 (m, 2C), 116.89 (d, J = 23.0 Hz, 2C), 116.48 (d, J = 3.6 Hz, 1C), 109.93, 108.47 (d, J = 21.8 Hz, 1C), 107.90, 105.73, 50.55, 39.26, 21.67 (s, 2C). HRMS: (M – H)⁻ calcd for C₂₉H₂₃F₂N₆O₄, 557.1754; found, 557.1757.

N-(3-Chloro-4-((2-(1-methyl-1H-pyrazol-4-yl)pyridin-4-yl)oxy)phenyl)-3-(4-fluorophenyl)-1-isopropyl-2,4-dioxo-1,2,3,4-tetrahydropyrimidine-5-carboxamide (11d). The compound was prepared from 20d and 17h by following a similar procedure as described for 13c. White solid, 59% yield. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, acetone-*d*₆): δ 11.05 (s, 1H), 8.66 (s, 1H), 8.37 (d, *J* = 5.7 Hz, 1H), 8.23 (d, *J* = 2.5 Hz, 1H), 8.11 (s, 1H), 7.93 (d, *J* = 0.8 Hz, 1H), 7.66 (dd, *J* = 8.8, 2.6 Hz, 1H), 7.50–7.40 (m, 2H), 7.39–7.26 (m, 3H), 7.14 (d, *J* = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 6.59 (dd, *J* = 5.7, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 4.93 (p, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 1H), 3.90 (s, 3H), 1.50 (d, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 6H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 164.88, 163.13, 162.93 (d, *J* = 249.7 Hz, 1C), 160.25, 154.10, 151.31, 150.44, 146.54, 145.89, 137.72, 136.46, 130.26 (d, *J* = 3.7 Hz, 1C), 130.02 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2C), 129.20, 127.65, 123.44, 123.38, 122.63, 119.96, 117.00 (d, *J* = 23.3 Hz, 2C), 109.00, 107.08, 105.53, 50.67, 39.29, 21.73 (s, 2C). HRMS: (M + H)⁺ calcd for C₂₉H₂₅ClFN₆O₄, 575.1604; found, 575.1603.

3-(4-Fluorophenyl)-1-isopropyl-N-(3-methyl-4-((2-(1-methyl-1Hpyrazol-4-yl)pyridin-4-yl)oxy)phenyl)-2,4-dioxo-1,2,3,4-tetrahydropyrimidine-5-carboxamide (**11e**). The compound was prepared from **20e** and **17h** by following a similar procedure as described for **13c**. White solid, 70% yield. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆): δ **10.91** (s, 1H), 8.66 (s, 1H), 8.33 (d, *J* = 5.8 Hz, 1H), 8.24 (s, 1H), 7.95 (s, 1H), 7.71–7.62 (m, 2H), 7.47–7.32 (m, 4H), 7.18 (d, *J* = 2.5 Hz, 1H), 7.09 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 6.51 (dd, *J* = 5.7, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 4.78 (p, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 1H), 3.85 (s, 3H), 2.10 (s, 3H), 1.42 (d, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 6H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 165.53, 163.08, 162.86 (d, *J* = 249.5 Hz, 1C), 160.03, 153.91, 151.17, 150.50, 148.34, 146.23, 137.66, 135.57, 131.54, 130.36 (d, *J* = 3.4 Hz, 1C), 130.03 (d, *J* = 8.9 Hz, 2C), 129.16, 123.48, 123.39, 121.96, 119.40, 116.93 (d, *J* = 23.1 Hz, 2C), 108.97, 106.91, 105.86, 50.50, 39.25, 21.69 (s, 2C), 16.33. HRMS: (M + H)⁺ calcd for C₃₀H₂₈FN₆O₄, 555.2151; found, 555.2155.

3-(4-Fluorophenyl)-1-isopropyl-N-(3-methoxy-4-((2-(1-methyl-1H-pyrazol-4-yl)pyridin-4-yl)oxy)phenyl)-2,4-dioxo-1,2,3,4-tetrahydropyrimidine-5-carboxamide (11f). The compound was prepared from 20f and 17h by following a similar procedure as described for 13c. White solid, 72% yield. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, acetone-*d*₆): δ 10.96 (s, 1H), 8.66 (s, 1H), 8.30 (d, *J* = 5.7 Hz, 1H), 8.08 (s, 1H), 7.90 (s, 1H), 7.70 (d, *J* = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 7.52–7.38 (m, 3H), 7.38–7.28 (m, 2H), 7.13 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 7.06 (d, *J* = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 6.53 (dd, *J* = 5.7, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 4.94 (p, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 1H), 3.90 (s, 3H), 3.81 (s, 3H), 1.51 (d, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 6H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 165.69, 163.14, 162.91 (d, *J* = 249.5 Hz, 1C), 160.11, 153.75, 151.94, 151.03, 150.50, 146.27, 138.40, 137.68, 136.76, 130.35 (d, *J* = 3.4 Hz, 1C), 130.03 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2C), 129.10, 123.58, 122.99, 117.00 (d, *J* = 23.2 Hz, 2C), 112.53, 108.79, 106.87, 105.79, 105.47, 56.02, 50.51, 39.26, 21.72 (s, 2C). HRMS: (M + H)⁺ calcd for C₃₀H₂₈FN₆O₅, 571.2100; found, 571.2106.

N-(2,3-Difluoro-4-((2-(1-methyl-1H-pyrazol-4-yl)pyridin-4-yl)oxy)phenyl)-3-(4-fluorophenyl)-1-isopropyl-2,4-dioxo-1,2,3,4-tetrahydropyrimidine-5-carboxamide (11g). The compound was prepared from 20g and 17h by following a similar procedure as described for 13c. Off-white solid, 52% yield. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- d_6): δ 11.27 (s, 1H), 8.71 (s, 1H), 8.40 (d, J = 5.7 Hz, 1H), 8.31–8.19 (m, 2H), 7.99 (s, 1H), 7.48–7.32 (m, 4H), 7.32–7.22 (m, 2H), 6.77 (dd, J = 5.9, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 4.78 (p, J = 6.9 Hz, 1H), 3.86 (s, 3H), 1.43 (d, J = 6.7 Hz, 6H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 164.76, 162.88 (d, J = 249.3 Hz, 1C), 162.85, 160.56, 154.21, 151.38, 150.46, 146.60, 144.25 (dd, J = 99.4, 12.6 Hz, 1C), 142.25 (dd, J = 97.9, 12.5 Hz, 1C), 138.13 (d, J = 9.5 Hz 1C), 137.68, 130.19 (d, J = 3.3 Hz, 1C), 130.06 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 2C), 129.25, 125.72 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1C), 123.26, 117.57 (d, J = 3.8 Hz, 2C), 116.93 (d, J = 23.2 Hz, 1C), 116.64 (d, J = 3.9 Hz, 1C), 108.85, 106.97, 105.45, 50.65, 39.26, 21.67 (s, 2C). HRMS: $(M - H)^-$ calcd for C₂₉H₂₂F₃N₆O₄, 575.1660; found, 575.1667.

N-(2,5-Difluoro-4-((2-(1-methyl-1H-pyrazol-4-yl)pyridin-4-yl)oxy)phenyl)-3-(4-fluorophenyl)-1-isopropyl-2,4-dioxo-1,2,3,4-tetra*hydropyrimidine-5-carboxamide* (**11***h*). The compound was prepared from **24** and **17h** by following a similar procedure as described for **13c**. Light brown solid, 56% yield. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- d_6): δ 11.34 (s, 1H), 8.72 (s, 1H), 8.48 (dd, *J* = 12.5, 7.2 Hz, 1H), 8.39 (d, *J* = 5.7 Hz, 1H), 8.28 (s, 1H), 7.99 (s, 1H), 7.61 (dd, *J* = 11.1, 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.47–7.33 (m, 4H), 7.27 (d, *J* = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 6.74 (dd, *J* = 5.7, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 4.78 (p, *J* = 6.7 Hz, 1H), 3.86 (s, 3H), 1.43 (d, *J* = 6.7 Hz, 6H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 164.66, 162.86 (d, *J* = 249.4 Hz, 1C), 162.82, 160.40, 154.20, 151.36, 150.45, 149.56–147.46 (m, 2C), 146.61, 137.68, 136.10 (dd, *J* = 14.3, 10.2 Hz, 1C), 130.19 (d, *J* = 3.6 Hz, 1C), 130.05 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2C), 129.23, 124.82 (t, *J* = 11.2 Hz, 1C), 123.28, 116.91 (d, *J* = 23.2 Hz, 2C), 110.58 (d, *J* = 26.2 Hz, 1C), 110.17 (d, *J* = 23.3 Hz, 1C), 108.76, 106.86, 105.40, 50.68, 39.26, 21.67 (s, 2C). HRMS: (M + H)⁺ calcd for C₂₉H₂₄F₃N₆O₄, 577.1806; found, 577.1812.

N-(3,5-Difluoro-4-((2-(1-methyl-1H-pyrazol-4-yl)pyridin-4-yl)oxy)phenyl)-3-(4-fluorophenyl)-1-isopropyl-2,4-dioxo-1,2,3,4-tetrahydropyrimidine-5-carboxamide (11i). The compound was prepared from 20h and 17h by following a similar procedure as described for 13c. Off-white solid, 62% yield. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d₆): δ 11.11 (s, 1H), 8.69 (s, 1H), 8.39 (d, *J* = 5.7 Hz, 1H), 8.29 (s, 1H), 8.00 (d, *J* = 0.7 Hz, 1H), 7.79 (d, *J* = 10.3 Hz, 2H), 7.48–7.28 (m, 5H), 6.74 (dd, *J* = 5.8, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 4.78 (p, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 1H), 3.86 (s, 3H), 1.43 (d, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 6H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 164.60, 163.07, 162.89 (d, *J* = 249.7 Hz, 1C), 160.39, 155.70 (dd, *J* = 249.7, 5.9 Hz, 2C), 154.13, 151.31, 150.34, 146.73, 137.69, 136.28 (t, *J* = 12.3 Hz, 1C), 130.15 (d, *J* = 3.5 Hz, 1C), 129.96 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2C), 129.23, 125.69 (t, *J* = 15.6 Hz, 1C), 123.29, 116.96 (d, *J* = 23.2 Hz, 2C), 107.96, 106.23, 105.15, 104.73–104.45 (m, 2C), 50.74, 39.24, 21.65 (s, 2C). HRMS: (M + H)⁺ calcd for C₂₉H₂₄F₃N₆O₄, 577.1806; found, 577.1809.

N-(4-((2-(1,3-Dimethyl-1H-pyrazol-4-yl)pyridin-4-yl)oxy)-3-fluorophenyl)-3-(4-fluorophenyl)-1-isopropyl-2,4-dioxo-1,2,3,4-tetrahydropyrimidine-5-carboxamide (12a). The compound was prepared from 20i and 17h by following a similar procedure as described for 13c. Off-white solid, 97% yield. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- d_6): δ 11.01 (s, 1H), 8.66 (s, 1H), 8.39 (d, *J* = 5.8 Hz, 1H), 8.12 (s, 1H), 7.97 (dd, *J* = 12.9, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 7.53-7.30 (m, 6H), 7.04 (d, *J* = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 6.67 (dd, *J* = 5.7, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 4.76 (p, *J* = 6.7 Hz, 1H), 3.75 (s, 3H), 2.35 (s, 3H), 1.41 (d, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 6H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 164.88 (d, *J* = 249.1 Hz, 1C), 151.12, 150.37, 146.66, 146.48, 137.00 (d, *J* = 12.6 Hz, 1C), 136.58 (d, *J* = 9.5 Hz, 1C), 130.87, 130.23 (d, *J* = 3.3 Hz, 1C), 129.97 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2C), 123.61, 120.54, 116.91 (d, *J* = 23.1 Hz, 2C), 116.30 (d, *J* = 3.4 Hz, 1C), 109.64 (d, *J* = 23.3 Hz, 1C), 108.17, 107.80, 105.44, 50.61, 38.80, 21.63 (s, 2C), 14.03. HRMS: (M + H)⁺ calcd for C₃₀H₂₇F₂N₆O₄, 573.2056; found, 573.2062.

N-Í4-((2-(1-Cyclopropyl-1H-pyrazol-4-yl)pyridin-4-yl)oxy)-3-fluo-rophenyl)-3-(4-fluorophenyl)-1-isopropyl-2,4-dioxo-1,2,3,4-tetrahydropyrimidine-5-carboxamide (12b). The compound was prepared from 20j and 17h by following a similar procedure as described for 13c. Off-white solid, 73% yield. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 10.94 (s, 1H), 8.69 (s, 1H), 8.38 (d, J = 5.7 Hz, 1H), 7.97 (s, 1H), 7.89-7.81 (m, 2H), 7.26–7.23 (m, 5H), 7.13 (t, J = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 6.97 (d, J = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 6.62 (dd, J = 6.0, 2.3 Hz, 1H), 4.97 (p, J = 6.8 Hz, 1H), 3.70-3.57 (m, 1H), 1.50 (d, J = 6.8 Hz, 6H), 1.19–1.12 (m, 2H), 1.07–1.00 (m, 2H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 165.13, 163.09, 162.89 (d, J = 249.5 Hz, 1C), 160.20, 154.43 (d, J = 249.1 Hz, 1C), 154.00, 151.26, 150.41, 146.52, 137.66, 137.04 (d, *J* = 12.5 Hz, 1C), 136.62 (d, *J* = 9.6 Hz, 1C), 130.25 (d, J = 3.6 Hz, 1C), 130.00 (d, J = 8.9 Hz, 2C), 128.62, 123.62, 122.85, 116.96 (d, J = 23.2 Hz, 1C), 116.38 (d, J = 3.4 Hz, 2C), 109.76 (d, J = 23.3 Hz, 1C), 108.79, 106.86, 105.50, 50.65, 33.08, 21.69 (s, 2C), 6.66 (s, 2C). HRMS: (M + H)⁺ calcd for C₃₁H₂₇F₂N₆O₄, 585.2056; found, 585.2060.

N-(3-Fluoro-4-((2-(1-(2-hydroxy-2-methylpropyl)-1H-pyrazol-4-yl)pyridin-4-yl)oxy)phenyl)-3-(4-fluorophenyl)-1-isopropyl-2,4-dioxo-1,2,3,4-tetrahydropyrimidine-5-carboxamide (**12c**). The compound was prepared from **20k** and **17h** by following a similar procedure as described for **13c**. Off-white solid, 89% yield. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- d_6): δ 11.03 (s, 1H), 8.68 (s, 1H), 8.37 (d, J = 5.7 Hz, 1H), 8.22 (s, 1H), 8.05–7.92 (m, 2H), 7.59–7.20 (m, 7H), 6.65 (dd, J = 5.8, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 4.78 (p, J = 6.6 Hz, 1H), 4.72 (s, 1H), 4.03 (s, 2H), 1.42 (d, J = 6.7 Hz, 6H), 1.07 (s, 6H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 165.19,

163.09, 162.89 (d, J = 249.6 Hz, 1C), 160.21, 154.42 (d, J = 249.1 Hz, 1C), 153.79, 151.29, 150.41, 146.53, 138.08, 136.97 (d, J = 12.5 Hz, 1C), 136.67 (d, J = 9.9 Hz, 1C), 130.25 (d, J = 3.6 Hz, 1C), 130.06 (d, J = 5.1 Hz, 2C), 129.97, 123.64, 122.94, 116.96 (d, J = 23.2 Hz, 2C), 116.40 (d, J = 3.3 Hz, 1C), 109.78 (d, J = 23.2 Hz, 1C), 108.90, 106.98, 105.48, 70.77, 62.28, 50.66, 26.96 (s, 2C), 21.68 (s, 2C). HRMS: (M + H)⁺ calcd for C₃₂H₃₁F₂N₆O₅, 617.2319; found, 617.2325.

N-(3-Fluoro-4-((2-(1-(2-(4-methylpiperazin-1-yl)ethyl)-1H-pyrazol-4-yl)pyridin-4-yl)oxy)phenyl)-3-(4-fluorophenyl)-1-isopropyl-2,4-dioxo-1,2,3,4-tetrahydropyrimidine-5-carboxamide (12d). The compound was prepared from 20l and 17h by following a similar procedure as described for 13c. Tan solid, 75% yield. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CD_3OD): δ 8.72 (s, 1H), 8.34 (d, J = 5.8 Hz, 1H), 8.19 (s, 1H), 7.97 (s, 1H), 7.93 (dd, J = 12.6, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 7.39-7.32 (m, 3H), 7.30-7.23 (m, 3H), 7.20 (d, J = 2.5 Hz, 1H), 6.72 (dd, J = 5.9, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 4.95-4.89 (m, 1H), 4.30 (t, J = 6.0 Hz, 2H), 3.08-2.91 (m, 4H), 2.89 (t, J = 6.0 Hz, 2H), 2.79–2.55 (m, 7H), 1.48 (d, J = 6.8 Hz, 6H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ 165.11, 162.96, 162.73 (d, J = 249.4 Hz, 1C), 160.13, 154.22 (d, J = 248.6 Hz, 1C), 153.66, 150.93, 150.30, 146.49, 137.55, 136.75 (d, J = 12.6 Hz, 1C), 136.53 (d, J = 9.6 Hz, 1C), 130.17 (d, J = 3.2 Hz, 1C), 129.91 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2C), 128.89, 123.52, 122.78, 116.80 (d, J = 23.1 Hz, 2C), 116.32 (d, J = 2.5 Hz, 1C), 109.61 (d, J = 23.1 Hz, 1C), 108.66, 106.85, 105.29, 56.82, 54.04 (s, 2C), 50.71 (s, 2C), 50.59, 49.83, 44.21, 21.51 (s, 2C). HRMS: (M + H)⁺ calcd for C35H37F2N8O4, 671.2900; found, 671.2909.

N-(4-((2-(1*H*-Pyrazol-4-yl)pyridin-4-yl)oxy)-3-fluorophenyl)-3-(4fluorophenyl)-1-isopropyl-2,4-dioxo-1,2,3,4-tetrahydropyrimidine-5-carboxamide (**12e**). The compound was prepared from **20m** and **17h** by following a similar procedure as described for **13c**. Light brown solid, 26% yield. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆): δ 13.07 (s, 1H), 11.03 (s, 1H), 8.68 (s, 1H), 8.40–8.31 (m, 2H), 8.07–7.94 (m, 2H), 7.54–7.31 (m, 7H), 6.62 (dd, *J* = 5.7, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 4.78 (p, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 1H), 1.42 (d, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 6H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, acetone-*d*₆): δ 165.98, 164.11, 163.33 (d, *J* = 245.7 Hz, 1C), 161.39, 155.49, 155.03 (d, *J* = 246.0 Hz, 1C), 152.11, 151.27, 147.80, 138.24 (d, *J* = 9.9 Hz, 1C), 137.85, 137.31 (d, *J* = 12.5 Hz, 1C), 132.66 (d, *J* = 3.2 Hz, 1C), 131.69 (d, *J* = 8.9 Hz, 2C), 125.81, 124.59, 123.40, 117.14 (d, *J* = 3.3 Hz, 1C), 116.71 (d, *J* = 23.2 Hz, 2C), 109.63 (d, *J* = 23.6 Hz, 1C), 108.97, 107.40, 105.67, 51.53, 21.28 (s, 2C). HRMS: (M + H)⁺ calcd for C₂₈H₂₃F₂N₆O₄, 545.1743; found, 545.1747.

N-(4-((2-Acetamidopyridin-4-yl)oxy)-3-fluorophenyl)-3-(4-fluorophenyl)-1-isopropyl-2,4-dioxo-1,2,3,4-tetrahydropyrimidine-5-carboxamide (**13a**). The compound was prepared from **28a** and **17h** by following a similar procedure as described for **13c**. Off-white solid, 40% yield. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- d_6): δ 11.03 (s, 1H), 10.58 (s, 1H), 8.68 (s, 1H), 8.18 (d, *J* = 5.8 Hz, 1H), 7.98 (dd, *J* = 12.9, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 7.65 (d, *J* = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 7.56–7.31 (m, 6H), 6.68 (dd, *J* = 5.7, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 4.77 (p, *J* = 6.7 Hz, 1H), 2.03 (s, 3H), 1.42 (d, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 6H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 168.86, 166.41, 163.07, 162.91 (d, *J* = 249.8 Hz, 1C), 160.13, 154.39 (d, *J* = 249.1 Hz, 1C), 153.31, 150.48, 149.04, 146.49, 137.04 (d, *J* = 12.5 Hz, 1C), 136.71 (d, *J* = 9.6 Hz, 1C), 130.30 (d, *J* = 3.7 Hz, 1C), 130.04 (d, *J* = 8.9 Hz, 2C), 123.64, 116.97 (d, *J* = 23.1 Hz, 2C), 116.35 (d, *J* = 3.4 Hz, 1C), 109.72 (d, *J* = 23.4 Hz, 1C), 107.87, 105.60, 101.28, 50.66, 24.79, 21.71 (s, 2C). HRMS: (M + H)⁺ calcd for C₂₇H₂₄F₂N₅O₅, 536.1740; found, 536.1742.

N-(3-Fluoro-4-((2-propionamidopyridin-4-yl)oxy)phenyl)-3-(4fluorophenyl)-1-isopropyl-2,4-dioxo-1,2,3,4-tetrahydropyrimidine-5-carboxamide (13b). The compound was prepared from 28b and 17h by following a similar procedure as described for 13c. Off-white solid, 30% yield. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- d_6): δ 11.03 (s, 1H), 10.51 (s, 1H), 8.68 (s, 1H), 8.18 (d, J = 5.7 Hz, 1H), 7.98 (dd, J = 12.9, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 7.66 (d, J = 2.5 Hz, 1H), 7.55–7.30 (m, 6H), 6.70 (dd, J = 5.8, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 4.78 (p, J = 6.7 Hz, 1H), 2.34 (q, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 1.42 (d, J = 6.7 Hz, 6H), 1.00 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 172.56, 166.40, 163.07, 162.89 (d, J = 249.6 Hz, 1C), 160.12, 154.38 (d, *J* = 249.6 Hz, 1C), 153.37, 150.48, 149.01, 146.49, 137.03 (d, *J* = 12.6 Hz, 1C), 136.68 (d, J = 9.8 Hz, 1C), 130.30 (d, J = 3.6 Hz, 1C), 130.04 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2C), 123.63, 116.95 (d, J = 23.1 Hz, 2C), 116.36 (d, J = 3.3 Hz, 1C), 109.72 (d, J = 23.3 Hz, 1C), 107.92, 105.59, 101.10, 50.65, 30.84, 21.69 (s, 2C), 9.36. HRMS: (M + H)⁺ calcd for C₂₈H₂₆F₂N₅O₅, 550.1897; found, 550.1901.

N-(4-((2-(Cyclopropanecarboxamido)pyridin-4-yl)oxy)-3-fluorophenyl)-3-(4-fluorophenyl)-1-isopropyl-2,4-dioxo-1,2,3,4-tetrahydropyrimidine-5-carboxamide (13c). A mixture of 28c (634 mg, 1.89 mmol), 17h (553 mg, 1.89 mmol), HATU (863 mg, 2.27 mmol), and TEA (383 mg, 3.78 mmol) in DMF (18 mL) was stirred at RT overnight. The reaction mixture was poured into water (100 mL) and extracted with ethyl acetate (3×80 mL). The combined organic layer was washed with brine $(5 \times 100 \text{ mL})$, dried over anhydrous sodium sulfate, and evaporated under reduced pressure to give a residue. The residue was purified by silica gel chromatography (dichloromethane/ methanol 98:2) to afford the title compound 13c (778 mg, 73%) as a light yellow solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, acetone- d_6): δ 11.07 (s, 1H), 9.77 (s, 1H), 8.66 (s, 1H), 8.14 (d, J = 5.7 Hz, 1H), 8.05 (dd, J = 13.0, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 7.84 (d, J = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 7.52-7.40 (m, 3H), 7.36-7.25 (m, 3H), 6.64 (dd, J = 5.7, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 4.93 (p, J = 6.8 Hz, 1H), 2.02-1.94 (m, 1H), 1.50 (d, J = 6.8 Hz, 6H), 0.91–0.77 (m, 4H). ¹³C NMR $(126 \text{ MHz}, \text{CDCl}_3)$: δ 172.58, 166.25, 162.94, 162.75 (d, *J* = 249.4 Hz, 1C), 160.00, 154.21 (d, J = 249.0 Hz, 1C), 153.63, 150.37, 148.76, 146.39, 136.88 (d, J = 12.5 Hz, 1C), 136.52 (d, J = 9.7 Hz, 1C), 130.20 (d, J = 3.3 Hz, 1C), 129.93 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2C), 123.47, 116.81 (d, J = 23.1 Hz, 2C), 116.24 (d, J = 3.4 Hz, 1C), 109.58 (d, J = 23.3 Hz, 1C), 107.68, 105.45, 101.17, 50.55, 21.54 (s, 2C), 15.66, 8.31 (s, 2C). HRMS: $(M + H)^+$ calcd for $C_{29}H_{26}F_2N_5O_5$, 562.1897; found, 562.1894.

N-(4-((2-(Cyclobutanecarboxamido)pyridin-4-yl)oxy)-3-fluorophenyl)-3-(4-fluorophenyl)-1-isopropyl-2,4-dioxo-1,2,3,4-tetrahydropyrimidine-5-carboxamide (13d). A mixture of 32 (70 mg, 0.14 mmol), cyclobutanecarboxylic acid (142 mg, 1.41 mmol), HATU (647 mg, 1.7 mmol), and TEA (394 mg, 2.84 mmol) in DMF (1.5 mL) was stirred at 35 °C overnight. The reaction mixture was poured into water (15 mL) and extracted with ethyl acetate (3 \times 15 mL). The combined organic layer was washed with brine $(5 \times 30 \text{ mL})$, dried over anhydrous sodium sulfate, and evaporated under reduced pressure to give a residue. The residue was purified by silica gel chromatography (dichloromethane/methanol 98:2) to afford the title compound 13d (27 mg, 34%) as an off-white solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- d_6): δ 11.04 (s, 1H), 10.40 (s, 1H), 8.68 (s, 1H), 8.18 (d, J = 5.8 Hz, 1H), 7.99 (dd, J = 12.9, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 7.69 (d, J = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 7.56–7.32 (m, 6H), 6.71 (dd, J = 5.7, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 4.78 (p, J = 6.8 Hz, 1H), 3.32–3.26 (m, 1H), 2.23–1.98 (m, 4H), 1.96–1.81 (m, 1H), 1.81–1.69 (m, 1H), 1.43 (d, J = 6.7 Hz, 6H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 173.71, 166.39, 163.07, 162.89 (d, J = 249.5 Hz, 1C), 160.12, 154.39 (d, J = 249.0 Hz, 1C), 153.34, 150.48, 149.03, 146.49, 137.03 (d, J = 12.5 Hz, 1C), 136.68 (d, J = 9.6 Hz, 1C), 130.30 (d, J = 3.3 Hz, 1C), 130.04 (d, J = 8.8Hz, 2C), 123.64, 116.96 (d, J = 23.2 Hz, 2C), 116.37 (d, J = 3.3 Hz, 1C), 109.74 (d, *J* = 23.2 Hz, 1C), 107.97, 105.60, 100.95, 50.65, 40.92, 25.20 (s, 2C), 21.70 (s, 2C), 18.06. HRMS: (M + H)⁺ calcd for C30H28F2N5O5, 576.2053; found, 576.2049.

N-(3-Fluoro-4-((2-(pyrrolidine-1-carboxamido)pyridin-4-yl)oxy)phenyl)-3-(4-fluorophenyl)-1-isopropyl-2,4-dioxo-1,2,3,4-tetrahydropyrimidine-5-carboxamide (13e). To a stirred solution of 32 (100 mg, 0.20 mmol) and TEA (41 mg, 0.41 mmol) in THF (7 mL) under argon was slowly added phenyl chloroformate (34 mg, 0.22 mmol) at 0 °C. The resulting mixture was warmed up to RT and stirred for 2 h. Then, pyrrolidine (43 mg, 0.60 mmol) was added, and the resulting mixture was stirred at RT overnight. The reaction mixture was poured into saturated aq ammonium chloride (50 mL) and extracted with dichloromethane $(3 \times 50 \text{ mL})$. The combined organic layer was washed with brine (100 mL), dried over anhydrous sodium sulfate, and evaporated under reduced pressure to give a residue. The residue was purified by silica gel chromatography (dichloromethane/methanol 99:1) to afford the title compound 13e (29 mg, 24%) as a yellow solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, acetone- d_6): δ 11.07 (s, 1H), 8.66 (s, 1H), 8.08– 8.01 (m, 2H), 7.75 (d, J = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 7.62 (s, 1H), 7.49-7.41 (m, 3H), 7.35–7.25 (m, 3H), 6.53 (dd, *J* = 5.7, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 4.93 (p, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 1H), 3.45 (s, 4H), 1.92 (s, 4H), 1.50 (d, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 6H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 166.22, 163.04, 162.88 (d, J = 249.7 Hz, 1C), 160.07, 154.67, 154.39 (d, J = 249.2 Hz, 1C), 153.01, 150.48, 148.76, 146.45, 137.26 (d, J = 12.5 Hz, 1C), 136.44 (d, J = 9.5 Hz, 1C), 130.30, 130.04 (d, J = 8.9 Hz, 2C), 123.60, 116.94 (d, J = 23.1 Hz, 2C), 116.35 (d, J = 3.5 Hz, 1C), 109.73 (d, J = 23.3 Hz, 1C), 106.90, 105.62, 99.77,

50.63 (s, 2C), 45.91 (s, 2C), 25.65, 21.68 (s, 2C). HRMS: $(M + H)^+$ calcd for $C_{30}H_{29}F_2N_6O_5$, 591.2162; found, 591.2162.

N-(4-(2-Fluoro-4-(3-(4-fluorophenyl)-1-isopropyl-2,4-dioxo-1,2,3,4-tetrahydropyrimidine-5-carboxamido)phenoxy)pyridin-2yl)morpholine-4-carboxamide (13f). To a stirred solution of 32 (100 mg, 0.20 mmol) and TEA (41 mg, 0.41 mmol) in THF (7 mL) under argon was slowly added phenyl chloroformate (34 mg, 0.22 mmol) at 0 °C. The resulting mixture was warmed up to RT and stirred for 2 h. Then, morpholine (52 mg, 0.60 mmol) was added. The resulting mixture was stirred at RT overnight and further heated at 75 °C for 1.5 h. The reaction mixture was poured into saturated aq ammonium chloride (30 mL) and extracted with dichloromethane $(3 \times 30 \text{ mL})$. The combined organic layer was washed with brine (100 mL), dried over anhydrous sodium sulfate, and evaporated under reduced pressure to give a residue. The residue was purified by silica gel chromatography (dichloromethane/methanol 99:1) to afford the title compound 13f (31 mg, 25.5%) as an off-white solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- d_6): δ 11.03 (s, 1H), 9.31 (s, 1H), 8.68 (d, J = 1.0 Hz, 1H), 8.13 (d, J = 5.7 Hz, 1H), 7.98 (dd, J = 12.9, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 7.56-7.29 (m, 7H), 6.63 (dd, J = 5.9, 2.3 Hz, 1H), 4.78 (p, J = 6.8 Hz, 1H), 3.55 (t, J = 4.7 Hz, 4H), 3.40 (t, J = 4.8 Hz, 4H), $1.4\overline{3}$ (d, J = 6.7 Hz, 6H). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 166.30, 163.06, 162.88 (d, J = 249.4 Hz, 1C), 160.13, 154.56, 154.36 (d, J = 249.1 Hz, 1C), 154.00, 150.47, 148.66, 146.48, 137.13 (d, J = 12.5 Hz, 1C, 136.53 (d, J = 9.6 Hz, 1C), 130.29 (d, J = 3.3 Hz, 1C), 130.02 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2C), 123.60, 116.94 (d, J = 23.0 Hz, 2C), 116.38 (d, J = 3.3 Hz, 1C), 109.75 (d, J = 23.3 Hz, 1C), 107.06, 105.56, 100.32,66.56 (s, 2C), 50.64 (s, 2C), 44.26, 21.67 (s, 2C). HRMS: (M + H)⁺ calcd for C₃₀H₂₉F₂N₆O₆, 607.2111; found, 607.2113.

4-((3-Chloropyridin-4-yl)oxy)aniline (15). To a solution of 4aminophenol (2.65 g, 24.3 mmol) in DMA (40 mL) was added potassium *tert*-butoxide (2.8 g, 24.9 mmol). The resulting mixture was stirred at RT for 0.5 h. Then, 4-bromo-3-chloropyridine (4.0 g, 20.7 mmol) was added, and the resulting mixture was stirred at 85 °C for 4 h. The reaction mixture was poured into water (400 mL) and extracted with ethyl acetate (4 × 100 mL). The combined organic layer was washed with brine (5 × 400 mL), dried over anhydrous sodium sulfate, and evaporated under reduced pressure to afford the title compound **15** (5.8 g, 100%) as a black solid. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆): δ 8.65 (s, 1H), 8.31 (d, *J* = 5.6 Hz, 1H), 6.86 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 6.74–6.51 (m, 3H), 5.21 (s, 2H). LC/MS (ESI, *m*/*z*): 265.0 [M + H]⁺, 267.0 [M + 2 + H]⁺.

4-((3-(1-Methyl-1H-pyrazol-4-yl)pyridin-4-yl)oxy)aniline (16). A mixture of 15 (1.2 g, 4.4 mmol), 1-methyl-4-pyrazole boronic acid pinacol ester (1.15 g, 5.55 mmol), and tetrakis(triphenylphosphine) palladium (0.5 g, 0.4 mmol) in 1,4-dioxane (20 mL)/water (4 mL) under argon was stirred at 90 °C for 9 h. After cooling, the resulting mixture was poured into saturated aq sodium bicarbonate (150 mL) and extracted with ethyl acetate (3 × 100 mL). The combined organic layer was washed with brine (200 mL), dried over anhydrous sodium sulfate, and evaporated under reduced pressure to give a residue. The residue was purified by silica gel chromatography (dichloromethane/methanol 97:3) to afford the title compound 16 (1.1 g, 97%) as a brown solid. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆): δ 8.79 (s, 1H), 8.23 (s, 1H), 8.18 (d, *J* = 5.6 Hz, 1H), 8.02–8.01 (m, 1H), 6.86 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 6.63 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 6.56 (d, *J* = 5.7 Hz, 1H), 5.15 (s, 2H), 3.89 (s, 3H). LC/MS (ESI, *m/z*): 267.1 [M + H]⁺.

4-((2-Chloropyridin-4-yl)oxy)aniline (**19a**). The compound was prepared from **18** and 4-aminophenol by following a similar procedure as described for **15**. Black solid, 96% yield. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO- d_6): δ 8.23 (d, J = 5.5 Hz, 1H), 6.91–6.80 (m, 4H), 6.67–6.58 (m, 2H), 5.20 (s, 2H). LC/MS (ESI, m/z): 221.1 [M + H]⁺.

4-((2-Chloropyridin-4-yl)oxy)-3-fluoroaniline (**19b**). The compound was prepared from **18** and 4-amino-2-fluorophenol by following a similar procedure as described for **15**. Black solid, 100% yield. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO- d_6): δ 8.26 (d, J = 5.7 Hz, 1H), 7.01 (t, J = 9.0 Hz, 1H), 6.96–6.88 (m, 2H), 6.55–6.39 (m, 2H), 5.53 (br s, 2H). LC/ MS (ESI, m/z): 239.1 [M + H]⁺.

4-((2-Chloropyridin-4-yl)oxy)-2-fluoroaniline (19c). The compound was prepared from 18 and 4-amino-3-fluorophenol by following a similar procedure as described for 15. Beige solid, 83% yield. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- d_6): δ 8.25 (d, J = 5.7 Hz, 1H), 7.02 (dd, J = 11.9, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 6.94–6.87 (m, 2H), 6.87–6.75 (m, 2H), 5.23 (br s, 2H). LC/MS (ESI, m/z): 239.0 [M + H]⁺.

3-Chloro-4-((2-chloropyridin-4-yl)oxy)aniline (19d). The compound was prepared from 18 and 4-amino-2-chlorophenol by following a similar procedure as described for 15. Black solid, 97% yield. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.19 (d, J = 6.5 Hz, 1H), 6.92 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 6.78 (d, J = 2.7 Hz, 1H), 6.75–6.70 (m, 2H), 6.59 (dd, J = 8.7, 2.7 Hz, 1H), 3.84 (br s, 2H). LC/MS (ESI, m/z): 255.0 [M + H]⁺.

4-((2-Chloropyridin-4-yl)oxy)-3-methylaniline (19e). The compound was prepared from 18 and 4-amino-2-methylphenol by following a similar procedure as described for 15. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- d_6): δ 8.23 (d, J = 6.0 Hz, 1H), 6.84–6.74 (m, 3H), 6.55–6.42 (m, 2H), 5.12 (s, 2H), 1.93 (s, 3H). LC/MS (ESI, m/z): 235.1 [M + H]⁺.

4-((2-Chloropyridin-4-yl)oxy)-3-methoxyaniline (**19f**). The compound was prepared from **18** and 4-amino-2-methoxyphenol by following a similar procedure as described for **15**. Black solid, 91% yield. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.17−8.13 (m, 1H), 6.84 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 6.74−6.71 (m, 2H), 6.33 (d, *J* = 2.5 Hz, 1H), 6.25 (dd, *J* = 8.4, 2.6 Hz, 1H), 3.78 (s, 2H), 3.70 (s, 3H). LC/MS (ESI, *m*/*z*): 251.1 [M + H]⁺.

4-((2-Chloropyridin-4-yl)oxy)-2,3-difluoroaniline (**19g**). The compound was prepared from **18** and 4-amino-2,3-difluorophenol by following a similar procedure as described for **15**. Light brown solid, 94% yield. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- d_6): δ 8.87 (d, *J* = 5.8 Hz, 1H), 7.65 (s, 1H), 7.60–7.48 (m, 2H), 7.22 (t, *J* = 8.9 Hz, 1H), 6.21 (s, 2H). LC/MS (ESI, *m*/*z*): 257.0 [M + H]⁺.

4-((2-Chloropyridin-4-yl)oxy)-3,5-difluoroaniline (**19h**). The compound was prepared from **18** and 4-amino-2,6-difluorophenol by following a similar procedure as described for **15**. Pale beige solid, 90% yield. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- d_6): δ 8.30 (d, J = 5.8 Hz, 1H), 7.10 (d, J = 2.3 Hz, 1H), 7.00 (dd, J = 5.8, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 6.44–6.33 (m, 2H), 5.86 (br s, 2H). LC/MS (ESI, m/z): 257.0 [M + H]⁺. LC/MS (ESI, m/z): 257.0 [M + H]⁺.

4-((2-(1-Methyl-1H-pyrazol-4-yl)pyridin-4-yl)oxy)aniline (**20a**). The compound was prepared from **19a** and 1-methyl-4-pyrazole boronic acid pinacol ester by following a similar procedure as described for **16**. Light yellow solid, 75% yield. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆): δ 8.30 (d, *J* = 5.7 Hz, 1H), 8.21 (s, 1H), 7.96–7.88 (m, 1H), 7.12 (d, *J* = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 6.90–6.80 (m, 2H), 6.67–6.57 (m, 2H), 6.53 (dd, *J* = 5.7, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 5.15 (br s, 2H), 3.85 (s, 3H). LC/MS (ESI, *m*/*z*): 267.1 [M + H]⁺.

3-Fluoro-4-((2-(1-methyl-1H-pyrazol-4-yl)pyridin-4-yl)oxy)aniline (**20b**). The compound was prepared from **19b** and 1-methyl-4pyrazole boronic acid pinacol ester by following a similar procedure as described for **16**. Brown solid, 100% yield. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.32 (dd, J = 5.8, 0.5 Hz, 1H), 7.86–7.81 (m, 2H), 6.95– 6.87 (m, 2H), 6.57 (ddd, J = 5.8, 2.5, 0.6 Hz, 1H), 6.48 (dd, J = 11.9, 2.6 Hz, 1H), 6.42 (ddd, J = 8.6, 2.7, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 3.88 (s, 3H), 2.64 (br s, 2H). LC/MS (ESI, m/z): 285.1 [M + H]⁺.

2-Fluoro-4-((2-(1-methyl-1H-pyrazol-4-yl)pyridin-4-yl)oxy)aniline (**20c**). The compound was prepared from **19c** and 1-methyl-4pyrazole boronic acid pinacol ester by following a similar procedure as described for **16**. Dark brown solid, 94% yield. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- d_6): δ 8.32 (d, J = 5.7 Hz, 1H), 8.23 (s, 1H), 7.94 (s, 1H), 7.14 (d, J = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 6.97 (dd, J = 11.9, 2.6 Hz, 1H), 6.88–6.73 (m, 2H), 6.58 (dd, J = 5.8, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 5.17 (br s, 2H), 3.86 (s, 3H). LC/MS (ESI, m/z): 285.1 [M + H]⁺.

3-Chloro-4-((2-(1-methyl-1H-pyrazol-4-yl)pyridin-4-yl)oxy)aniline (**20d**). The compound was prepared from **19d** and 1-methyl-4pyrazole boronic acid pinacol ester by following a similar procedure as described for **16**. Brown solid, 91% yield. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.35 (d, *J* = 5.8 Hz, 1H), 7.86 (d, *J* = 4.2 Hz, 2H), 6.98–6.90 (m, 2H), 6.79 (d, *J* = 2.7 Hz, 1H), 6.60 (dd, *J* = 8.6, 2.7 Hz, 1H), 6.55 (dd, *J* = 5.7, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 3.92 (s, 3H), 3.81 (br s, 2H). LC/MS (ESI, *m*/*z*): 301.1 [M + H]⁺.

3-Methyl-4-((2-(1-methyl-1H-pyrazol-4-yl)pyridin-4-yl)oxy)aniline (**20e**). The compound was prepared from **19e** and 1-methyl-4pyrazole boronic acid pinacol ester by following a similar procedure as described for **16**. Tan solid, 71% yield. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO*d*₆): δ 8.29 (d, *J* = 5.7 Hz, 1H), 8.21 (s, 1H), 7.92 (d, *J* = 0.7 Hz, 1H), 7.10 (d, *J* = 2.3 Hz, 1H), 6.76 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 6.53–6.42 (m, 3H), 5.06 (br s, 2H), 3.86 (s, 3H), 1.96 (s, 3H). LC/MS (ESI, *m*/*z*): 281.2 [M + H]⁺.

3-Methoxy-4-((2-(1-methyl-1H-pyrazol-4-yl)pyridin-4-yl)oxy)aniline (**20f**). The compound was prepared from 19f and 1-methyl-4pyrazole boronic acid pinacol ester by following a similar procedure as described for 16. Dark brown solid, 64% yield. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.32 (d, J = 5.8 Hz, 1H), 7.88–7.84 (m, 2H), 6.95 (d, J = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 6.89 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 6.57 (dd, J = 5.8, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 6.37 (d, J = 2.5 Hz, 1H), 6.29 (dd, J = 8.4, 2.6 Hz, 1H), 3.93 (s, 3H), 3.74 (s, 3H), 3.72 (br s, 2H). LC/MS (ESI, m/z): 297.1 [M + H]⁺.

2,3-Difluoro-4-((2-(1-methyl-1H-pyrazol-4-yl)pyridin-4-yl)oxy)aniline (**20g**). The compound was prepared from **19g** and 1-methyl-4pyrazole boronic acid pinacol ester by following a similar procedure as described for **16**. Light brown solid, 80% yield. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆): δ 8.33 (d, *J* = 5.7 Hz, 1H), 8.25 (s, 1H), 7.95 (s, 1H), 7.19 (d, *J* = 1.9 Hz, 1H), 6.89 (t, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 6.66–6.58 (m, 2H), 5.54 (br s, 2H), 3.85 (s, 3H). LC/MS (ESI, *m*/z): 303.1 [M + H]⁺.

3,5-Difluoro-4-((2-(1-methyl-1H-pyrazol-4-yl)pyridin-4-yl)oxy)aniline (**20h**). The compound was prepared from **19h** and 1-methyl-4pyrazole boronic acid pinacol ester by following a similar procedure as described for **16**. Beige solid, 94% yield. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO d_6): δ 8.36 (d, J = 5.7 Hz, 1H), 8.27 (s, 1H), 7.97 (s, 1H), 7.23 (d, J = 2.5 Hz, 1H), 6.64 (dd, J = 5.7, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 6.42–6.33 (m, 2H), 5.80 (br s, 2H), 3.86 (s, 3H). LC/MS (ESI, m/z): 303.1 [M + H]⁺.

4-((2-(1,3-Dimethyl-1H-pyrazol-4-yl)pyridin-4-yl)oxy)-3-fluoroaniline (**20**i). The compound was prepared from **19b** and 1,3dimethylpyrazole-4-boronic acid pinacol ester by following a similar procedure as described for **16**. Light brown solid, 72% yield. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- d_6): δ 8.37 (d, J = 5.7 Hz, 1H), 8.10 (s, 1H), 7.14– 6.86 (m, 2H), 6.68–6.33 (m, 3H), 5.47 (br s, 2H), 3.77 (s, 3H), 2.35 (s, 3H). LC/MS (ESI, m/z): 299.1 [M + H]⁺.

4-((2-(1-Cyclopropyl-1H-pyrazol-4-yl)pyridin-4-yl)oxy)-3-fluoroaniline (**20***j*). The compound was prepared from **19b** and 1cyclopropylpyrazole-4-boronic acid pinacol ester by following a similar procedure as described for **16**. Pale yellow solid, 89% yield. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.34 (d, J = 5.8 Hz, 1H), 7.95 (s, 1H), 7.83 (s, 1H), 6.98–6.90 (m, 2H), 6.59 (dd, J = 5.7, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 6.51 (dd, J = 11.9, 2.7 Hz, 1H), 6.44 (ddd, J = 8.6, 2.7, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 3.85 (br s, 2H), 3.64–3.58 (m, 1H), 1.15–1.10 (m, 2H), 1.05–0.99 (m, 2H). LC/MS (ESI, m/z): 311.1 [M + H]⁺.

1-(4-(4-(A-Amino-2-fluorophenoxy)pyridin-2-yl)-1H-pyrazol-1yl)-2-methylpropan-2-ol (**20k**). The compound was prepared from **19b** and 1-(2-hydroxy-2-methylpropyl)pyrazole-4-boronic acid pinacol ester by following a similar procedure as described for **16**. Pale pink solid, 51% yield. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- d_6): δ 8.33 (d, J = 5.7 Hz, 1H), 8.18 (s, 1H), 7.96 (s, 1H), 7.17 (d, J = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 7.00 (t, J = 9.0 Hz, 1H), 6.59–6.40 (m, 3H), 5.46 (br s, 2H), 4.73 (s, 1H), 4.04 (s, 2H), 1.07 (s, 6H). LC/MS (ESI, m/z): 343.2 [M + H]⁺.

3-Fluoro-4-((2-(1-(2-(4-methylpiperazin-1-yl)ethyl)-1H-pyrazol-4-yl)pyridin-4-yl)oxy)aniline (**20***l*). The compound was prepared from **19b** and 1-(2-(4-methylpiperazin-1-yl)ethyl)pyrazole-4-boronic acid pinacol ester by following a similar procedure as described for **16**. Brown oil, 56% yield. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.35 (d, *J* = 5.7 Hz, 1H), 7.96 (s, 1H), 7.86 (s, 1H), 7.00–6.91 (m, 2H), 6.64–6.44 (m, 3H), 4.25 (t, *J* = 6.7 Hz, 2H), 3.82 (s, 2H), 2.86 (t, *J* = 6.7 Hz, 2H), 2.66–2.40 (m, 8H), 2.31 (s, 3H). LC/MS (ESI, *m*/*z*): 397.3 [M + H]⁺. 4-((2-(1H-Pyrazol-4-yl)pyridin-4-yl)oxy)-3-fluoroaniline (**20m**).

4-((2-(1*H*-*Pyrazo*)-4-*y*)/*pyriain*-4-*y*)/*oxy*)-3-*πuoroan*ii*me* (20*m*). The compound was prepared from **19b** and 4-pyrazoleboronic acid pinacol ester by following a similar procedure as described for **16**. Tan solid, 44% yield. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆): δ 13.06 (s, 1H), 8.36–8.28 (m, 2H), 8.01 (s, 1H), 7.26 (d, *J* = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 7.00 (t, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 1H), 6.56–6.47 (m, 2H), 6.46–6.39 (m, 1H), 5.46 (s, 2H). LC/MS (ESI, *m*/*z*): 271.1 [M + H]⁺.

2-Chloro-4-(2,5-difluoro-4-nitrophenoxy)pyridine (22). To a solution of 21 (1.0 g, 7.7 mmol) in DMF (20 mL) was added potassium carbonate (1.28 g, 9.3 mmol) in one portion. After stirring at RT for 5 min, 1,2,4-trifluoro-5-nitrobenzene (1.37 g, 7.7 mmol) was slowly

added with stirring. Then, the resulting mixture was stirred at RT for 0.5 h. The reaction mixture was poured into ice water (250 mL) and filtered. The filter cake was dried and purified by silica gel chromatography (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 90:10) to afford the title compound **22** (1.24 g, 73%) as a yellow solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- d_6): δ 8.48 (dd, J = 10.2, 7.1 Hz, 1H), 8.42 (d, J = 5.7 Hz, 1H), 7.90 (dd, J = 11.5, 6.7 Hz, 1H), 7.41 (d, J = 2.3 Hz, 1H), 7.27 (dd, J = 5.7, 2.3 Hz, 1H). LC/MS (ESI, m/z): 287.0 [M + H]⁺.

4-((2-Chloropyridin-4-yl)oxy)-2,5-difluoroaniline (23). A mixture of 22 (2.00 g, 6.98 mmol) and stannous chloride (5.29 g, 27.91 mmol) in ethanol (144 mL) under argon was stirred at 80 °C for 8 h. Then, the reaction mixture was poured into saturated aq sodium bicarbonate (300 mL)/ethyl acetate (200 mL). The mixture was stirred and filtered. The filtrate was separated, and the aqueous layer was extracted with ethyl acetate (3 × 100 mL). The combined organic layer was washed with brine (2 × 300 mL), dried over anhydrous sodium sulfate, and evaporated under reduced pressure to give a residue. The residue was purified by silica gel chromatography (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 90:10) to afford the title compound 23 (1.19 g, 66%) as a dark brown solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- d_6): δ 8.29 (d, J = 5.8 Hz, 1H), 7.25 (dd, J = 11.2, 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.04 (d, J = 2.3 Hz, 1H), 6.96 (dd, J = 5.8, 2.3 Hz, 1H), 6.75 (dd, J = 12.3, 8.3 Hz, 1H), 5.58 (br s, 2H). LC/MS (ESI, m/z): 257.0 [M + H]⁺.

2,5-Difluoro-4-((2-(1-methyl-1H-pyrazol-4-yl)pyridin-4-yl)oxy)aniline (24). The compound was prepared from 23 and 1-methyl-4pyrazole boronic acid pinacol ester by following a similar procedure as described for 16. Tan solid, 84% yield. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO d_6): δ 8.35 (d, J = 5.7 Hz, 1H), 8.27 (s, 1H), 7.97 (d, J = 0.8 Hz, 1H), 7.25–7.16 (m, 2H), 6.74 (dd, J = 12.3, 8.3 Hz, 1H), 6.62 (dd, J = 5.8, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 5.52 (br s, 2H), 3.87 (s, 3H). LC/MS (ESI, m/z): 303.1 [M + H]⁺.

N-(4-Chloropyridin-2-yl)acetamide (**26a**). To a solution of **25** (1.30, 10 mmol) and TEA (4.0 g, 40 mmol) in dichloromethane (45 mL) was slowly added acetyl chloride (0.9 g, 12 mmol) at 0 °C. The resulting mixture was warmed up to RT and stirred for 17 h. The reaction mixture was poured into 200 mL of water and extracted with dichloromethane (3×100 mL). The combined organic layer was washed with brine (200 mL), dried over anhydrous sodium sulfate, and evaporated under reduced pressure to give a residue. The residue was purified by silica gel chromatography (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 83:17) to afford the title compound **26a** (342 mg, 20%) as a rose red solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆): δ 10.76 (s, 1H), 8.29 (d, *J* = 5.4 Hz, 1H), 8.16 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.22 (dd, *J* = 5.4, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 2.10 (s, 3H). LC/MS (ESI, *m/z*): 171.0 [M + H]⁺.

N-(4-Chloropyridin-2-yl)propionamide (**26b**). The compound was prepared from **25** and propionyl chloride by following a similar procedure as described for **26a**. Light brown semi-solid, 14% yield. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- d_6): δ 10.70 (s, 1H), 8.29 (d, *J* = 5.3 Hz, 1H), 8.19 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.21 (dd, *J* = 5.4, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 2.40 (q, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 1.06 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 3H). LC/MS (ESI, *m*/*z*): 185.1 [M + H]⁺.

N-(4-*Chloropyridin-2-yl)cyclopropanecarboxamide* (**26***c*). The compound was prepared from **25** and cyclopropanecarbonyl chloride by following a similar procedure as described for **26a**. Light yellow solid, 74% yield. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆): δ 11.07 (s, 1H), 8.30 (d, *J* = 5.3 Hz, 1H), 8.16 (d, *J* = 1.9 Hz, 1H), 7.22 (dd, *J* = 5.3, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 2.01 (p, *J* = 6.2 Hz, 1H), 0.83 (d, *J* = 6.2 Hz, 4H). LC/MS (ESI, *m/z*): 197.1 [M + H]⁺.

N-(4-(2-Fluoro-4-nitrophenoxy)pyridin-2-yl)acetamide (**27a**). A mixture of **26a** (300 mg, 1.76 mmol) and 2-fluoro-4-nitrophenol (691 mg, 4.40 mmol) in chlorobenzene (4.4 mL) was heated in a sealed tube at 140 °C for 40 h. The resulting mixture was evaporated under reduced pressure to give a residue. The residue was purified by silica gel chromatography (dichloromethane/methanol 98:2) to afford the title compound **27a** (286 mg, 56%) as a brown solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- d_6): δ 10.71 (s, 1H), 8.44 (dd, J = 10.5, 2.7 Hz, 1H), 8.29 (d, J = 5.7 Hz, 1H), 8.24–8.16 (m, 1H), 7.78 (d, J = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 7.61 (t, J = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 6.84 (dd, J = 5.8, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 2.06 (s, 3H). LC/MS (ESI, m/z): 292.1 [M + H]⁺.

N-(4-(2-Fluoro-4-nitrophenoxy)pyridin-2-yl)propionamide (**27b**). The compound was prepared from **26b** and 2-fluoro-4-nitrophenol by

following a similar procedure as described for **27a**. Yellow solid, 51% yield. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- d_6): δ 10.65 (s, 1H), 8.44 (dd, *J* = 10.3, 2.7 Hz, 1H), 8.28 (d, *J* = 5.8 Hz, 1H), 8.20 (d, *J* = 9.1 Hz, 1H), 7.79 (d, *J* = 2.3 Hz, 1H), 7.62 (t, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 6.89–6.82 (m, 1H), 2.37 (q, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 1.01 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 3H). LC/MS (ESI, *m*/*z*): 306.1 [M + H]⁺.

N - (4 - (2 - Fluoro - 4 - nitrophenoxy) pyridin - 2 - yl)cyclopropanecarboxamide (27c). The compound was prepared from 26c and 2-fluoro-4-nitrophenol by following a similar procedure as described for 27a. Yellow solid, 44% yield. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d₆): δ 11.02 (s, 1H), 8.43 (dd, J = 10.5, 2.7 Hz, 1H), 8.30 (d, J =5.7 Hz, 1H), 8.19 (ddd, J = 9.0, 2.7, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 7.76 (d, J = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 7.66–7.57 (m, 1H), 6.86 (dd, J = 5.7, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 2.04–1.93 (m, 1H), 0.84–0.72 (m, 4H). LC/MS (ESI, m/z): 318.1 [M + H]⁺.

N-(4-(4-Amino-2-fluorophenoxy)pyridin-2-yl)acetamide (**28a**). A mixture of **27a** (100 mg, 0.34 mmol), iron powder (96 mg, 1.72 mmol), and acetic acid (206 mg, 3.43 mmol) in ethyl acetate (1.8 mL)/water (0.36 mL) under argon was stirred at 80 °C for 2 h. The resulting mixture was filtered and washed with ethyl acetate ($3 \times 5 \text{ mL}$) and water ($3 \times 10 \text{ mL}$). The filtrate was extracted with ethyl acetate ($3 \times 20 \text{ mL}$). The combined organic layer was washed with saturated aq sodium bicarbonate (50 mL), dried over anhydrous sodium sulfate, and evaporated under reduced pressure to afford the title compound **28a** (86 mg, 96%) as a brown solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- d_6): δ 10.50 (s, 1H), 8.13 (d, J = 5.7 Hz, 1H), 7.63–7.58 (m, 1H), 6.96 (t, J = 9.0 Hz, 1H), 6.61 (dd, J = 5.7, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 6.49 (dd, J = 13.2, 2.6 Hz, 1H), 6.44–6.37 (m, 1H), 5.45 (br s, 2H), 2.03 (s, 3H). LC/MS (ESI, m/z): 262.1 [M + H]⁺.

N-(4-(4-*Amino*-2-*fluorophenoxy*)*pyridin*-2-*yl*)*propionamide* (**28b**). The compound was prepared from **27b** by following a similar procedure as described for **28a**. Black solid, 96% yield. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- d_6): δ 10.43 (s, 1H), 8.13 (d, *J* = 5.8 Hz, 1H), 7.62 (d, *J* = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 6.96 (t, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 1H), 6.62 (dd, *J* = 5.7, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 6.50 (dd, *J* = 13.2, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 6.41 (dd, *J* = 8.9, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 5.46 (br s, 2H), 2.33 (q, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 1.00 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 3H). LC/MS (ESI, *m*/*z*): 276.1 [M + H]⁺.

N - (4 - (A − A m i n o - 2 - flu o r o p h e n o xy) p y r i d i n - 2 - yl)cyclopropanecarboxamide (**28c**). The compound was prepared from 27c by following a similar procedure as described for **28a**. Brown solid, 94% yield. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- d_6): δ 10.79 (s, 1H), 8.14 (d, *J* = 5.8 Hz, 1H), 7.59 (d, *J* = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 6.95 (t, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 1H), 6.64 (dd, *J* = 5.7, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 6.48 (dd, *J* = 13.2, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 6.40 (dd, *J* = 8.7, 2.2 Hz, 1H), 5.45 (br s, 2H), 1.98–1.91 (m, 1H), 0.80–0.73 (m, 4H). LC/MS (ESI, *m*/z): 288.1 [M + H]⁺.

4-(4-Amino-2-fluorophenoxy)picolinamide (**30**). To a solution of 4-amino-2-fluorophenol (1.91 g, 15.0 mmol) in DMSO (19 mL) was added potassium *tert*-butoxide (1.795 g, 16 mmol). The resulting mixture was stirred at RT for 15 min. Then, 4-chloropicolinamide (1.57 g, 10.0 mmol) was added, and the resulting mixture was stirred at 80 °C for 1 h. The reaction mixture was poured into 0.5 M aq NaOH (38 mL) and stirred for 2 h. The precipitate was filtered and washed with water, and the cake was dried to afford the title compound **30** (2.14 g, 86%) as a brown solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆): δ 8.49 (d, *J* = 5.6 Hz, 1H), 8.12 (s, 1H), 7.72 (s, 1H), 7.34 (s, 1H), 7.15 (dd, *J* = 5.6, 2.7 Hz, 1H), 7.02 (t, *J* = 9.0 Hz, 1H), 6.53 (d, *J* = 12.4 Hz, 1H), 6.44 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 5.53 (s, 2H). LC/MS (ESI, *m*/z): 248.1 [M + H]⁺.

N-(4-((2-Carbamoylpyridin-4-yl)oxy)-3-fluorophenyl)-3-(4-fluorophenyl)-1-isopropyl-2,4-dioxo-1,2,3,4-tetrahydropyrimidine-5carboxamide (**31**). The compound was prepared from **30** and **17h** by following a similar procedure as described for **13c**. Light yellow solid, 32% yield. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- d_6): δ 11.06 (s, 1H), 8.69 (s, 1H), 8.54 (d, *J* = 5.6 Hz, 1H), 8.15 (d, *J* = 1.8 Hz, 1H), 8.01 (dd, *J* = 12.9, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 7.74 (d, *J* = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.58–7.52 (m, 1H), 7.47– 7.32 (m, 6H), 7.23 (dd, *J* = 5.6, 2.7 Hz, 1H), 4.78 (p, *J* = 6.7 Hz, 1H), 1.42 (d, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 6H). LC/MS (ESI, *m*/*z*): 522.4 [M + H]⁺.

N-(4-((2-Aminopyridin-4-yl)oxy)-3-fluorophenyl)-3-(4-fluorophenyl)-1-isopropyl-2,4-dioxo-1,2,3,4-tetrahydropyrimidine-5-carboxamide (**32**). To a mixture of **31** (170 mg, 0.33 mmol) in ethyl acetate (3 mL)/acetonitrile (3 mL)/water (1.5 mL) under argon was added iodobenzene diacetate (315 mg, 0.98 mmol) at 0 °C, and the resulting mixture was stirred at RT for 15 h. The reaction mixture was evaporated under reduced pressure to give a residue. The residue was purified by silica gel chromatography (dichloromethane/methanol 95:5) to afford the title compound **32** (57 mg, 36%) as a brown solid. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆): δ 11.01 (s, 1H), 8.68 (s, 1H), 7.96 (dd, *J* = 12.9, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.82 (d, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 1H), 7.52–7.28 (m, 6H), 6.22 (dd, *J* = 5.9, 2.5 Hz, 3H), 5.85 (d, *J* = 1.8 Hz, 1H), 4.78 (p, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 1H), 1.42 (d, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 6H). LC/MS (ESI, *m*/*z*): 494.3 [M + H]⁺.

Kinase Inhibition Assay. The activity of Axl and Met kinases was tested using ELISA as previously reported.⁴¹ The IC_{50} values were calculated from inhibition curves obtained from two separate experiments using a modified four-parameter logistic model. If the inhibitory rate is above 50% at the minimum tested compound concentration, the conclusion is that the IC_{50} is lower than the tested minimum compound concentration. Moreover, if the inhibitory rate is below 50% at the maximum tested drug concentration, it shows that the IC_{50} is higher than the tested maximum compound concentration. The kinase selectivity profile of **13c** (1000, 100, and 10 nmol/L) was screened against the abovementioned 40 other kinases by ELISA in local or radiometric protein kinase assays performed by Eurofins (UK) according to the manufacturer's instructions.

Western Blot Analysis. Cells were cultured under regular growth conditions to the exponential growth phase. The cells were then treated with the indicated dose of 13c for 2 h and lysed in 1× sodium dodecyl sulfate (SDS) sample buffer. If Gas6 treatment was required, cells were serum-deprived for 24 h prior to 2 h of treatment with compounds and then stimulated with Gas6 for 15 min. The cell lysates were resolved by 10% SDS-PAGE and transferred to nitrocellulose membranes. Proteins were first probed with specific antibodies [against p-Axl(Y702), Axl, p-Met(Y1234/1235), p-Akt(S473), Akt, p-ERK1/2(T202/Y204), ERK1/2, β -actin, GAPDH (all from Cell Signaling Technology, USA), and Met (Santa Cruz Biotechnology, USA)], followed by a secondary horseradish peroxidase-conjugated antibody. Finally, immunoreactive proteins were detected using an enhanced chemiluminescence detection reagent (Thermo Fisher Scientific, USA).

Cell Proliferation Assays. Cells were seeded in 96-well plates at a low density in growth media. The next day, appropriate controls or designated concentrations of compounds were added to each well, and the cells were incubated for 72 h. Finally, cell proliferation was determined using a sulforhodamine B assay (SRB, Sigma-Aldrich, USA) or a cell counting kit (CCK-8, Dojindo, Japan) assay. The IC₅₀ values were calculated by concentration–response curve fitting using a SoftMax pro-based four-parameter method (SoftMax Pro Software, version 5.4.1).

Cell Migration and Matrigel Invasion Assays. For the migration assay, cells suspended in a serum-free medium $(1.5 \times 10^5$ cells per well) were seeded in 24-well transwell plates (pore size, 8 μ m; Corning). The bottom chambers were filled with the serum-free medium supplemented with Gas6 (500 ng/mL) or cocultured cells, and appropriate controls or designated concentrations of compounds were added to both sides of the membrane. The cultures were maintained for 24 h, after which the nonmotile cells at the top of the filter were removed using a cotton swab. The migrating cells were fixed in paraformaldehyde (4%) and stained with crystal violet (0.1%) for 15 min at RT. For the invasion assay, cells were cultured in the top chambers containing Matrigel-coated membrane inserts. The ensuing procedure was identical to that of the migration assay. The assay was performed in triplicate. Images were obtained using an Olympus BX51 microscope.

In Vivo Antitumor Activity Studies. Animal procedures were approved by the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee of the Shanghai Institute of Materia Medica (approval no. 2019-05-DJ-48). Cells at a density of $5-10 \times 10^6$ in 200 μ L were first implanted subcutaneously (sc) into the right flank of a nude mice and allowed to grow to 700-800 mm³, which was defined as a well-developed tumor volume. The well-developed tumors were cut into 1.5 mm³ fragments and transplanted sc into the right flank of nude mice. When the tumor volume reached 100-200 mm³, the mice were randomly assigned into vehicle and treatment groups (n = 6 in the treated group and n = 12 in the vehicle group). The vehicle groups were given the vehicle alone, and the treatment groups received compounds at the indicated doses via po

administration once daily for the indicated days. The tumor sizes were measured twice a week using a microcaliper. The tumor volume (TV) was calculated as TV = (length × width²)/2. The percent (%) TGI rates were measured on the final day of the study for the compound-treated mice relative to the vehicle-treated mice and were calculated as $100 \times \{1 - [(TV_{Treated Final day} - TV_{Treated Day 0})/(TV_{Vehicle Final day} - TV_{Vehicle Day 0})]\}$. Significant differences between the treated versus the vehicle groups ($P \le 0.05$) were determined using Student's *t*-test.

Determination of Pharmacokinetic Parameters in Rats. Male rats (SD rats, body-weight range of 330-390 g, n = 3) were administered compounds **12e** or **13c** by oral gavage at 3 mg/kg. A mixed solvent of 2.5% DMSO/97.5% [0.5% hydroxypropyl methyl cellulose (HPMC)] was used as the medium. Blood samples were collected at 0.25, 0.5, 1, 2, 4, 8, and 24 h after dosing. The plasma was separated by centrifugation, and the serum was collected in vials. The serum samples were frozen and stored at -70 °C before analysis. The test sample concentrations were determined by LC/MS. Animal procedures were performed according to the institutional ethical guidelines on animal care and approved by the Institute Animal Care and Use Committee at Shanghai Institute of Materia Medica (approval no. 2019-02-YY-07). The pharmacokinetic parameters were calculated using WinNonlin (version 6.4) software.

Determination of Pharmacokinetic Parameters in Mice. Male mice (ICR mice, body-weight range of 18-22 g, iv, n = 3, po, n = 3) were administered compound 13c intravenously via the tail vein at 1 mg/kg or by oral gavage at 3 mg/kg. A mixed solvent of 5% DMSO/5% ethanol/40% PEG-300/50% (0.9% NaCl) was used as the injection medium. A mixed solvent of 2.5% DMSO/97.5% (0.5% HPMC) was used as the oral administration medium. For the po group, blood samples were collected at 0.25, 0.5, 1, 2, 4, 8, and 24 h after dosing. For the iv group, blood samples were collected at 0.25, 0.5, 0.75, 2, 4, 8, and 24 h after dosing. The plasma was separated by centrifugation, and the serum was collected in vials. The serum samples were frozen and stored at -70 °C before analysis. The test sample concentrations were determined by LC/MS. Animal procedures were performed according to the institutional ethical guidelines on animal care and approved by the Institute Animal Care and Use Committee at Shanghai Institute of Materia Medica (approval no. 2019-02-YY-08). The pharmacokinetic parameters were calculated using WinNonlin (version 6.4) software.

Molecular Modeling. The template Met crystal structure (PDB ID: 3F82) lacks residues Leu1225 to Ala1243. Thus, we decided to exclude this segment. The Axl/Met aligned sequences (as in Figure 2C) were taken out as two parts (part one: Val536 to Gly692 of Axl and Val1078 to Gly1224 of Met; part two: Lys710 to Leu799 of Axl and Lys1224 to Leu1333 of Met). We performed homology modeling of these two parts separately using the "Target/Template Alignment" method in SWISS-MODEL workspace via the ExPASy web server.⁵³ The two predicted structures were combined into one portion using Discovery Studio Visualizer (version 4.5.0, BIOVIA).

The docking study was performed using AutoDock (version 4.2) and AutoDockTools.⁵⁴ The predicted Axl DFG-out homology model was defined as the receptor. The docking site was defined using a grid box size of $35 \times 61 \times 60$, spacing of 0.375 Å, and grid center of 0, 9, and 5. The Lamarckian genetic algorithm (GA) method was used in the docking protocol. Figures 2A, 4, and 5 were obtained from PyMOL (The PyMOL Molecular Graphics System, version 2.5, http://www.pymol.org) and Adobe Photoshop (version 2015.1.2).

ASSOCIATED CONTENT

Supporting Information

The Supporting Information is available free of charge at https://pubs.acs.org/doi/10.1021/acs.jmedchem.0c02093.

Preparation of intermediate compounds, NMR spectra, and HPLC determination of compound **13c** (PDF)

Table of molecular formula strings (CSV)

Axl DFG-out homology model in the PDB format and docking poses for 10g and 13c (ZIP)

AUTHOR INFORMATION

Corresponding Authors

- Jing Ai Division of Antitumor Pharmacology, State Key Laboratory of Drug Research, Shanghai Institute of Materia Medica (SIMM), Chinese Academy of Sciences, Shanghai 201203, P. R. China; University of Chinese Academy of Sciences, Beijing 100049, P. R. China; Phone: +86-21-50806600-2426; Email: jai@simm.ac.cn
- Wenhu Duan Department of Medicinal Chemistry, Shanghai Institute of Materia Medica (SIMM), Chinese Academy of Sciences, Shanghai 201203, P. R. China; University of Chinese Academy of Sciences, Beijing 100049, P. R. China;
 orcid.org/0000-0002-5084-6026; Phone: +86-21-50806032; Email: whduan@simm.ac.cn

Authors

- Hefeng Zhang Department of Medicinal Chemistry, Shanghai Institute of Materia Medica (SIMM), Chinese Academy of Sciences, Shanghai 201203, P. R. China; University of Chinese Academy of Sciences, Beijing 100049, P. R. China
- Xia Peng Division of Antitumor Pharmacology, State Key Laboratory of Drug Research, Shanghai Institute of Materia Medica (SIMM), Chinese Academy of Sciences, Shanghai 201203, P. R. China
- Yang Dai Division of Antitumor Pharmacology, State Key Laboratory of Drug Research, Shanghai Institute of Materia Medica (SIMM), Chinese Academy of Sciences, Shanghai 201203, P. R. China
- Jingwei Shao Department of Medicinal Chemistry, Shanghai Institute of Materia Medica (SIMM), Chinese Academy of Sciences, Shanghai 201203, P. R. China; University of Chinese Academy of Sciences, Beijing 100049, P. R. China
- Yinchun Ji Division of Antitumor Pharmacology, State Key Laboratory of Drug Research, Shanghai Institute of Materia Medica (SIMM), Chinese Academy of Sciences, Shanghai 201203, P. R. China
- Yiming Sun Division of Antitumor Pharmacology, State Key Laboratory of Drug Research, Shanghai Institute of Materia Medica (SIMM), Chinese Academy of Sciences, Shanghai 201203, P. R. China
- Bo Liu Division of Antitumor Pharmacology, State Key Laboratory of Drug Research, Shanghai Institute of Materia Medica (SIMM), Chinese Academy of Sciences, Shanghai 201203, P. R. China
- Xu Cheng Division of Antitumor Pharmacology, State Key Laboratory of Drug Research, Shanghai Institute of Materia Medica (SIMM), Chinese Academy of Sciences, Shanghai 201203, P. R. China; University of Chinese Academy of Sciences, Beijing 100049, P. R. China

Complete contact information is available at: https://pubs.acs.org/10.1021/acs.jmedchem.0c02093

Author Contributions

 $^{\perp}$ H.Z. and X.P. contributed equally.

Notes

The authors declare no competing financial interest.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

This work was supported by the funds from the Science and Technology Commission of Shanghai Municipality (no. 18431907100), the National Science & Technology Major Project "Key New Drug Creation and Manufacturing Program"

of China (no. 2018ZX09711002-011-016), the Natural Science Foundation of China for Innovation Research Group (no. 81821005), and the Collaborative Innovation Cluster Project of Shanghai Municipal Commission of Health and Family Planning (no. 2020CXJQ02).

ABBREVIATIONS

RTK, receptor tyrosine kinase; TAM, Tyro3, Axl, and Mer; Gas6, growth arrest specific protein 6; CML, chronic myeloid leukemia; EMT, epithelial-to-mesenchymal transition; DFG, aspartate-phenylalanine-glycine; AML, acute myeloid leukemia; SAR, atructure-activity relationship; ELISA, enzymelinked immunosorbent assay; DHBA, dual hydrogen bond acceptor; SD, Sprague-Dawley; po, oral; iv, intravenous; ICR, Institute of Cancer Research; TGI, tumor growth inhibition; DMA, dimethylacetamide; RT, room temperature; HATU, O-(7-aza-1H-benzotriazol-1-vl)-N.N.N'.N'-tetramethyluronium hexafluorophosphate; TEA, triethylamine; DMF, N,N-dimethylformamide; DMSO, dimethyl sulfoxide; THF, tetrahydrofuran; TLC, thin-layer chromatography; LC, liquid chromatography; MS, mass spectrometry; SDS, sodium dodecyl sulfate; SRB, sulforhodamine B; MTT, thiazolyl blue tetrazolium bromide; sc, subcutaneously; TV, tumor volume; HPMC, hydroxypropyl methyl cellulose; GA, genetic algorithm

REFERENCES

(1) Varnum, B. C.; Young, C.; Elliott, G.; Garcia, A.; Bartley, T. D.; Fridell, Y.-W.; Hunt, R. W.; Trail, G.; Clogston, C.; Toso, R. J.; Yanagihara, D.; Bennett, L.; Sylber, M.; Merewether, L. A.; Tseng, A.; Escobar, E.; Liu, E. T.; Yamane, H. K. Axl receptor tyrosine kinase stimulated by the vitamin-K-dependent protein encoded by growtharrest-specific gene 6. *Nature* **1995**, *373*, 623–626.

(2) Fridell, Y. W.; Jin, Y.; Quilliam, L. A.; Burchert, A.; McCloskey, P.; Spizz, G.; Varnum, B.; Der, C.; Liu, E. T. Differential activation of the Ras/extracellular-signal-regulated protein kinase pathway is responsible for the biological consequences induced by the Axl receptor tyrosine kinase. *Mol. Cell. Biol.* **1996**, *16*, 135–145.

(3) Sen, T.; Tong, P.; Diao, L.; Li, L.; Fan, Y.; Hoff, J.; Heymach, J. V.; Wang, J.; Byers, L. A. Targeting Axl and mTOR pathway overcomes primary and acquired resistance to Wee1 inhibition in small-cell lung cancer. *Clin. Cancer Res.* **2017**, *23*, 6239–6253.

(4) Linger, R. M. A.; Keating, A. K.; Earp, H. S.; Graham, D. K. TAM receptor tyrosine kinases: biologic functions, signaling, and potential therapeutic targeting in human cancer. In *Advances in Cancer Research, Vol. 100*; VandeWoude, G. F., Klein, G., Eds.; Elsevier Academic Press Inc.: San Diego, 2008; Vol. *100*, pp 35–83.

(5) Zhu, C. J.; Wei, Y. Q.; Wei, X. W. Axl receptor tyrosine kinase as a promising anti-cancer approach: functions, molecular mechanisms and clinical applications. *Mol. Cancer* **2019**, *18*, 153.

(6) Brown, M.; Black, J. R. M.; Sharma, R.; Stebbing, J.; Pinato, D. J. Gene of the month: Axl. J. Clin. Pathol. 2016, 69, 391–397.

(7) Ramjiawan, R. R.; Griffioen, A. W.; Duda, D. G. Anti-angiogenesis for cancer revisited: is there a role for combinations with immunotherapy? *Angiogenesis* **2017**, *20*, 185–204.

(8) O'bryan, J. P.; Frye, R. A.; Cogswell, P. C.; Neubauer, A.; Kitch, B.; Prokop, C.; Espinosa, R.; Lebeau, M. M.; Earp, H. S.; Liu, E. T. Axl, a transforming gene isolated from primary human myeloid leukemia cells, encodes a novel receptor tyrosine kinase. *Mol. Cell. Biol.* **1991**, *11*, 5016–5031.

(9) Myers, S. H.; Brunton, V. G.; Unciti-Broceta, A. Axl Inhibitors in cancer: a medicinal chemistry perspective. *J. Med. Chem.* **2016**, *59*, 3593–3608.

(10) Gjerdrum, C.; Tiron, C.; Hoiby, T.; Stefansson, I.; Haugen, H.; Sandal, T.; Collett, K.; Li, S.; McCormack, E.; Gjertsen, B. T.; Micklem, D. R.; Akslen, L. A.; Glackin, C.; Lorens, J. B. Axl is an essential epithelial-to-mesenchymal transition-induced regulator of breast cancer metastasis and patient survival. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U.S.A. 2010, 107, 1124–1129.

(11) Okimoto, R. A.; Bivona, T. G. Axl receptor tyrosine kinase as a therapeutic target in NSCLC. *Lung Cancer* **2015**, *6*, 27–34.

(12) Reichl, P.; Dengler, M.; van Zijl, F.; Huber, H.; Führlinger, G.; Reichel, C.; Sieghart, W.; Peck-Radosavljevic, M.; Grubinger, M.; Mikulits, W. Axl activates autocrine transforming growth factor-beta signaling in hepatocellular carcinoma. *Hepatology* **2015**, *61*, 930–941.

(13) Koorstra, J.-B. M.; Karikari, C.; Feldmann, G.; Bisht, S.; Leal-Rojas, P.; Offerhaus, G. J. A.; Alvarez, H.; Maitra, A. The Axl receptor tyrosine kinase confers an adverse prognostic influence in pancreatic cancer and represents a new therapeutic target. *Cancer Biol. Ther.* **2009**, *8*, 618–626.

(14) Yu, H.; Liu, R.; Ma, B.; Li, X.; Yen, H.-y.; Zhou, Y.; Krasnoperov, V.; Xia, Z.; Zhang, X.; Bove, A. M.; Buscarini, M.; Parekh, D.; Gill, I. S.; Liao, Q.; Tretiakova, M.; Quinn, D.; Zhao, J.; Gill, P. S. Axl receptor tyrosine kinase is a potential therapeutic target in renal cell carcinoma. *Br. J. Cancer* **2015**, *113*, 616–625.

(15) Rankin, E. B.; Fuh, K. C.; Taylor, T. E.; Krieg, A. J.; Musser, M.; Yuan, J.; Wei, K.; Kuo, C. J.; Longacre, T. A.; Giaccia, A. J. Axl is an essential factor and therapeutic target for metastatic ovarian cancer. *Cancer Res.* **2010**, *70*, 7570–7579.

(16) Zhang, S.; Xu, X. S.; Yang, J. X.; Guo, J. H.; Chao, T. F.; Tong, Y. The prognostic role of Gas6/Axl axis in solid malignancies: a metaanalysis and literature review. *OncoTargets Ther.* **2018**, *11*, 509–519.

(17) Brand, T. M.; Iida, M.; Stein, A. P.; Corrigan, K. L.; Braverman, C. M.; Luthar, N.; Toulany, M.; Gill, P. S.; Salgia, R.; Kimple, R. J.; Wheeler, D. L. Axl mediates resistance to cetuximab therapy. *Cancer Res.* **2014**, *74*, 5152–5164.

(18) Elkabets, M.; Pazarentzos, E.; Juric, D.; Sheng, Q.; Pelossof, R. A.; Brook, S.; Benzaken, A. O.; Rodon, J.; Morse, N.; Yan, J. J.; Liu, M.; Das, R.; Chen, Y.; Tam, A.; Wang, H.; Liang, J.; Gurski, J. M.; Kerr, D. A.; Rosell, R.; Teixidó, C.; Huang, A.; Ghossein, R. A.; Rosen, N.; Bivona, T. G.; Scaltriti, M.; Baselga, J. Axl mediates resistance to PI3Kalpha inhibition by activating the EGFR/PKC/mTOR axis in head and neck and esophageal squamous cell carcinomas. *Cancer Cell* **2015**, *27*, 533– 546.

(19) Bansal, N.; Mishra, P. J.; Stein, M.; DiPaola, R. S.; Bertino, J. R. Axl receptor tyrosine kinase is up-regulated in metformin resistant prostate cancer cells. *Oncotarget* **2015**, *6*, 15321–15331.

(20) Lin, J.-Z.; Wang, Z.-J.; De, W.; Zheng, M.; Xu, W.-Z.; Wu, H.-F.; Armstrong, A.; Zhu, J.-G. Targeting Axl overcomes resistance to docetaxel therapy in advanced prostate cancer. *Oncotarget* **2017**, *8*, 41064–41077.

(21) Hugo, W.; Zaretsky, J. M.; Sun, L.; Song, C.; Moreno, B. H.; Hu-Lieskovan, S.; Berent-Maoz, B.; Pang, J.; Chmielowski, B.; Cherry, G.; Seja, E.; Lomeli, S.; Kong, X.; Kelley, M. C.; Sosman, J. A.; Johnson, D. B.; Ribas, A.; Lo, R. S. Genomic and transcriptomic features of response to anti-PD-1 therapy in metastatic melanoma. *Cell* **2016**, *165*, 35–44.

(22) Paul, M. D.; Hristova, K. The RTK interactome: overview and perspective on RTK heterointeractions. *Chem. Rev.* **2019**, *119*, 5881–5921.

(23) Salian-Mehta, S.; Xu, M.; Wierman, M. E. Axl and Met crosstalk to promote gonadotropin releasing hormone (GnRH) neuronal cell migration and survival. *Mol. Cell. Endocrinol.* **2013**, *374*, 92–100.

(24) Belfiore, A.; Busico, A.; Bozzi, F.; Brich, S.; Dallera, E.; Conca, E.; Capone, I.; Gloghini, A.; Volpi, C. C.; Cabras, A. D.; Pilotti, S.; Baratti, D.; Guaglio, M.; Deraco, M.; Kusamura, S.; Perrone, F. Molecular signatures for combined targeted treatments in diffuse malignant peritoneal mesothelioma. *Int. J. Mol. Sci.* **2019**, *20*, 13.

(25) Mak, M. P.; Tong, P.; Diao, L.; Cardnell, R. J.; Gibbons, D. L.; William, W. N.; Skoulidis, F.; Parra, E. R.; Rodriguez-Canales, J.; Wistuba, I. I.; Heymach, J. V.; Weinstein, J. N.; Coombes, K. R.; Wang, J.; Byers, L. A. A patient-derived, pan-cancer EMT signature identifies global molecular alterations and immune target enrichment following epithelial-to-mesenchymal transition. *Clin. Cancer Res.* **2016**, *22*, 609– 620.

(26) Byers, L. A.; Diao, L.; Wang, J.; Saintigny, P.; Girard, L.; Peyton, M.; Shen, L.; Fan, Y.; Giri, U.; Tumula, P. K.; Nilsson, M. B.; Gudikote,

J.; Tran, H.; Cardnell, R. J. G.; Bearss, D. J.; Warner, S. L.; Foulks, J. M.; Kanner, S. B.; Gandhi, V.; Krett, N.; Rosen, S. T.; Kim, E. S.; Herbst, R. S.; Blumenschein, G. R.; Lee, J. J.; Lippman, S. M.; Ang, K. K.; Mills, G. B.; Hong, W. K.; Weinstein, J. N.; Wistuba, I. I.; Coombes, K. R.; Minna, J. D.; Heymach, J. V. An epithelial-mesenchymal transition gene signature predicts resistance to EGFR and PI3K inhibitors and identifies Axl as a therapeutic target for overcoming EGFR inhibitor resistance. *Clin. Cancer Res.* **2013**, *19*, 279–290.

(27) Nakamichi, S.; Seike, M.; Miyanaga, A.; Chiba, M.; Zou, F.; Takahashi, A.; Ishikawa, A.; Kunugi, S.; Noro, R.; Kubota, K.; Gemma, A. Overcoming drug-tolerant cancer cell subpopulations showing Axl activation and epithelial-mesenchymal transition is critical in conquering ALK-positive lung cancer. *Oncotarget* **2018**, *9*, 27242–27255.

(28) Tanaka, M.; Siemann, D. W. Gas6/Axl signaling pathway in the tumor immune microenvironment. *Cancers* **2020**, *12*, 1850.

(29) Wang, C.; Jin, H.; Wang, N.; Fan, S.; Wang, Y.; Zhang, Y.; Wei, L.; Tao, X.; Gu, D.; Zhao, F.; Fang, J.; Yao, M.; Qin, W. Gas6/Axl axis contributes to chemoresistance and metastasis in breast cancer through Akt/GSK- $3\beta/\beta$ -catenin signaling. *Theranostics* **2016**, *6*, 1205–1219.

(30) Aguilera, T. A.; Rafat, M.; Castellini, L.; Shehade, H.; Kariolis, M. S.; Hui, A. B.-Y.; Stehr, H.; von Eyben, R.; Jiang, D.; Ellies, L. G.; Koong, A. C.; Diehn, M.; Rankin, E. B.; Graves, E. E.; Giaccia, A. J. Reprogramming the immunological microenvironment through radiation and targeting Axl. *Nat. Commun.* **2016**, *7*, 13898.

(31) Mori, M.; Kaneko, N.; Ueno, Y.; Tanaka, R.; Cho, K.; Saito, R.; Kondoh, Y.; Shimada, I.; Kuromitsu, S. ASP2215, a novel FLT3/Axl inhibitor: preclinical evaluation in acute myeloid leukemia (AML). *J. Clin. Oncol.* **2014**, *32*, 7070.

(32) Holland, S. J.; Pan, A.; Franci, C.; Hu, Y.; Chang, B.; Li, W.; Duan, M.; Torneros, A.; Yu, J.; Heckrodt, T. J.; Zhang, J.; Ding, P.; Apatira, A.; Chua, J.; Brandt, R.; Pine, P.; Goff, D.; Singh, R.; Payan, D. G.; Hitoshi, Y. R428, a selective small molecule inhibitor of axl kinase, blocks tumor spread and prolongs survival in models of metastatic breast cancer. *Cancer Res.* **2010**, *70*, 1544–1554.

(33) Hart, C. D.; De Boer, R. H. Profile of cabozantinib and its potential in the treatment of advanced medullary thyroid cancer. *OncoTargets Ther.* **2013**, *6*, 1–7.

(34) You, W.-K.; Sennino, B.; Williamson, C. W.; Falcón, B.; Hashizume, H.; Yao, L.-C.; Aftab, D. T.; McDonald, D. M. VEGF and c-Met blockade amplify angiogenesis inhibition in pancreatic islet cancer. *Cancer Res.* **2011**, *71*, 4758–4768.

(35) Qian, F.; Engst, S.; Yamaguchi, K.; Yu, P.; Won, K.-A.; Mock, L.; Lou, T.; Tan, J.; Li, C.; Tam, D.; Lougheed, J.; Yakes, F. M.; Bentzien, F.; Xu, W.; Zaks, T.; Wooster, R.; Greshock, J.; Joly, A. H. Inhibition of tumor cell growth, invasion, and metastasis by EXEL-2880 (XL880, GSK1363089), a novel inhibitor of HGF and VEGF receptor tyrosine kinases. *Cancer Res.* **2009**, *69*, 8009–8016.

(36) Xi, N. Substituted quinoline compounds and methods of use. U.S. Patent 20,120,219,522 A1, 2012.

(37) Yan, S. B.; Peek, V. L.; Ajamie, R.; Buchanan, S. G.; Graff, J. R.; Heidler, S. A.; Hui, Y.-H.; Huss, K. L.; Konicek, B. W.; Manro, J. R.; Shih, C.; Stewart, J. A.; Stewart, T. R.; Stout, S. L.; Uhlik, M. T.; Um, S. L.; Wang, Y.; Wu, W.; Yan, L.; Yang, W. J.; Zhong, B.; Walgren, R. A. LY2801653 is an orally bioavailable multi-kinase inhibitor with potent activity against Met, Mst1r, and other oncoproteins, and displays antitumor activities in mouse xenograft models. *Invest. New Drugs* 2013, 31, 833–844.

(38) Angeles, T. S.; Ator, M. A.; Cheng, M. M.; Dorsey, B.; Hudkins, R. L.; Ruggeri, B. A. Methods of treating various cancers using an Axl/ cMet inhibitor alone or in combination with other agents. WO 2015017607 A2, 2015.

(39) Tan, L.; Zhang, Z.; Gao, D.; Luo, J.; Tu, Z.-C.; Li, Z.; Peng, L.; Ren, X.; Ding, K. 4-0x0-1,4-dihydroquinoline-3-carboxamide derivatives as new Axl kinase inhibitors. *J. Med. Chem.* **2016**, *59*, 6807–6825.

(40) Zheng, B.; Guo, H.; Ma, N.; Ni, Y.; Xu, J.; Li, L.; Hao, P.; Ding, K.; Li, Z. Cell- and tissue-based proteome profiling and bioimaging with probes derived from a potent Axl kinase inhibitor. *Chem.*–*Asian J.* **2018**, *13*, 2601–2605.

(41) Yan, W.; Wang, X.; Dai, Y.; Zhao, B.; Yang, X.; Fan, J.; Gao, Y.; Meng, F.; Wang, Y.; Luo, C.; Ai, J.; Geng, M.; Duan, W. Discovery of 3-(5'-Substituted)-benzimidazole-5-(1-(3,5-dichloropyridin-4-yl)ethoxy)-1H-indazoles as potent fibroblast growth factor receptor inhibitors: design, synthesis, and biological evaluation. *J. Med. Chem.* **2016**, 59, 6690–6708.

(42) Mori, M.; Kaneko, N.; Ueno, Y.; Yamada, M.; Tanaka, R.; Saito, R.; Shimada, I.; Mori, K.; Kuromitsu, S. Gilteritinib, a FLT3/Axl inhibitor, shows antileukemic activity in mouse models of FLT3 mutated acute myeloid leukemia. *Invest. New Drugs* **2017**, *35*, 556–565.

(43) Schultz-Fademrecht, C.; Klebl, B.; Choidas, A.; Koch, U.; Eickhoff, J.; Wolf, A.; Ullrich, A. Preparation of quinoline carboxamide compounds as Axl inhibitors. WO 2012028332 A1, 2012.

(44) Barvian, M. R.; Panek, R. L.; Lu, G. H.; Kraker, A. J.; Amar, A.; Hartl, B.; Hamby, J. M.; Showalter, H. D. H. 1-oxo-3-aryl-1H-indene-2carboxylic acid derivatives as selective inhibitors of fibroblast growth factor receptor-1 tyrosine kinase. *Bioorg. Med. Chem. Lett.* **1997**, *7*, 2903–2908.

(45) Kovacs, P. R.; Patel, K. M.; Selby, T. P.; Smith, B. T.; Taggi, A. E. Herbicidal pyrimidone derivatives. WO 2011031658 A1, 2011.

(46) Inukai, T.; Takeuchi, J.; Yasuhiro, T. Quinoline derivatives. WO 2016104617 A1, 2016.

(47) Inukai, T.; Takeuchi, J.; Yasuhiro, T. Quinoline derivative. WO 2015012298 A1, 2015.

(48) Tang, Q.; Duan, Y.; Xiong, H.; Chen, T.; Xiao, Z.; Wang, L.; Xiao, Y.; Huang, S.; Xiong, Y.; Zhu, W.; Gong, P.; Zheng, P. Synthesis and antiproliferative activity of 6,7-disubstituted-4-phenoxyquinoline derivatives bearing the 1,8-naphthyridin-2-one moiety. *Eur. J. Med. Chem.* **2018**, *158*, 201–213.

(49) Dandu, R.; Hudkins, R. L.; Josef, K. A.; Prouty, C. P.; Tripathy, R. Uracil derivatives as axl and c-met kinase inhibitors. WO2013074633A1, 2013.

(50) Schroeder, G. M.; An, Y.; Cai, Z.-W.; Chen, X.-T.; Clark, C.; Cornelius, L. A. M.; Dai, J.; Gullo-Brown, J.; Gupta, A.; Henley, B.; Hunt, J. T.; Jeyaseelan, R.; Kamath, A.; Kim, K.; Lippy, J.; Lombardo, L. J.; Manne, V.; Oppenheimer, S.; Sack, J. S.; Schmidt, R. J.; Shen, G.; Stefanski, K.; Tokarski, J. S.; Trainor, G. L.; Wautlet, B. S.; Wei, D.; Williams, D. K.; Zhang, Y.; Zhang, Y.; Fargnoli, J.; Borzilleri, R. M. Discovery of N-(4-(2-amino-3-chloropyridin-4-yloxy)-3-fluorophenyl)-4-ethoxy-1-(4-fluorophenyl)-2-oxo-1,2-dihydropyridine-3-carboxamide (BMS-777607), a selective and orally efficacious inhibitor of the Met kinase superfamily. *J. Med. Chem.* **2009**, *52*, 1251–1254.

(51) Guengerich, F. P.; Macdonald, T. L. Chemical mechanisms of catalysis by cytochromes P-450: a unified view. *Acc. Chem. Res.* **1984**, *17*, 9–16.

(52) Zou, H. Y.; Li, Q.; Lee, J. H.; Arango, M. E.; McDonnell, S. R.; Yamazaki, S.; Koudriakova, T. B.; Alton, G.; Cui, J. J.; Kung, P.-P.; Nambu, M. D.; Los, G.; Bender, S. L.; Mroczkowski, B.; Christensen, J. G. An orally available small-molecule inhibitor of c-Met, PF-2341066, exhibits cytoreductive antitumor efficacy through antiproliferative and antiangiogenic mechanisms. *Cancer Res.* **2007**, *67*, 4408–4417.

(53) Waterhouse, A.; Bertoni, M.; Bienert, S.; Studer, G.; Tauriello, G.; Gumienny, R.; Heer, F. T.; de Beer, T. A. P.; Rempfer, C.; Bordoli, L.; Lepore, R.; Schwede, T. SWISS-MODEL: homology modelling of protein structures and complexes. *Nucleic Acids Res.* **2018**, *46*, W296–W303.

(54) Morris, G. M.; Huey, R.; Lindstrom, W.; Sanner, M. F.; Belew, R. K.; Goodsell, D. S.; Olson, A. J. AutoDock4 and AutoDockTools4: automated docking with selective receptor flexibility. *J. Comput. Chem.* **2009**, *30*, 2785–2791.