

Benzoquinazoline Inhibitors of Thymidylate Synthase: Enzyme Inhibitory Activity and Cytotoxicity of Some Sulfonamidobenzoylglutamate and Related Derivatives

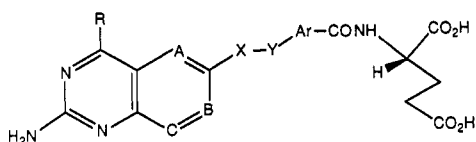
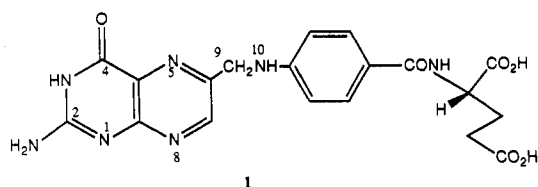
William Pendergast,* Scott H. Dickerson, Jay V. Johnson, Inderjit K. Dev, Robert Ferone, David S. Duch, and Gary K. Smith

Wellcome Research Laboratories, Research Triangle Park, North Carolina 27709

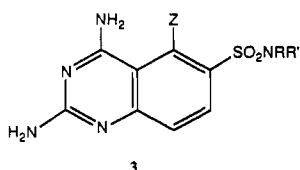
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Several folate-like thymidylate synthase inhibitors are described in which the pteridine nucleus of the folic acid molecule is replaced by a benzoquinazoline moiety, which in turn is attached to the benzoylglutamate side chain by a sulfonamide link. The most potent compounds had K_i values as low as 2.5 nM against the human enzyme, were good substrates for the cellular reduced folate transport system and for folylpolyglutamate synthetase, and had IC_{50} values for growth inhibition of tumor cell lines as low as 70 nM.

Variation of the C9-N10 link in analogues of folic acid (1) has been a fertile area for generating inhibitors of a number of folate-utilizing enzymes including dihydrofolate reductase (DHFR), thymidylate synthase (TS), and glycineamide ribonucleotide transformylase (GAR-T).¹ Thus in folate analogues of general type 2, the homo ($X-Y = CH_2CH_2NR$),²⁻⁴ iso ($X-Y = NRCH_2$),⁵⁻¹⁰ and 10-deaza ($X-Y = CH_2CH_2$)¹¹⁻¹³ linkages, along with oxa^{3,4,14,15} and thia variants^{3,4,16,17} of these have often been profitably employed in attachment of a variety of heterocycles to the benzoylglutamate side chain. The sulfonamido (SO_2NR) link, however, has received relatively little attention, despite a report of the antimalarial activity of a series of 2,4-diamino-6-quinazolinesulfonamides 3,¹⁸ some of which were at least equipotent with cycloguanil or pyrimethamine; glutamate derivatives were not examined in the latter study, presumably because of the lack of any active folate transport mechanism in the target organisms.¹⁹



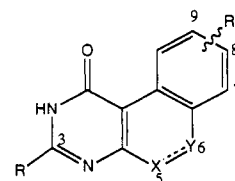
2: R = OH, NH₂;
A, B, C = CH, N;
X-Y = CH₂CH₂NR', NR'CH₂,
CH₂CH₂, CH₂O, CH₂S.



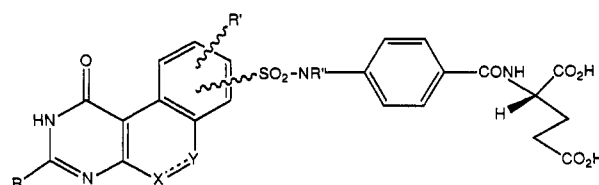
The enzyme thymidylate synthase (TS) catalyzes the transfer of a one-carbon unit from the pteridine cofactor 5,10-methylenetetrahydrofolic acid during the conversion

of deoxyuridine monophosphate (dUMP) to deoxythymidine monophosphate (dTMP) and represents the only *de novo* pathway for the synthesis of this essential component of DNA. We have previously shown that a series of unusual analogs of the cofactor, simple substituted benzoquinazoline derivatives of type 4, had I_{50} values as low as 0.020 μ M against human TS, but were relatively poor *in vitro* cytotoxic agents due to inefficient cell penetration.²⁰ The compounds were extremely insoluble, making them difficult to formulate for *in vivo* testing, and were poorly bioavailable. Therefore we set out to synthesize the sulfonamide-linked folate analogs 5 for the following reasons: (a) as part of a general strategy to improve the physical properties of the benzoquinazolines by substitution in the benzene moiety by hydrophilic groups; (b) to probe any specific (*p*-aminobenzoyl)-glutamate binding area at the enzyme active site, possibly in synergy with the already-potent binding ability of the benzoquinazoline moiety; and (c) to exploit the active folate transport processes of human tumor cells, and the activation and retention of the inhibitors via polyglutamylation, both of which mechanisms require a folate-like side chain in the substrate.²¹

Chlorosulfonylation of benzoquinazolines 4 followed by amidation with (*p*-aminobenzoyl)glutamate derivatives offered a convenient synthetic entry into this area. We here report the synthesis of several ((benzo[*f*]quinazolinesulfonamido)benzoyl)glutamates of general structure 5, with potent thymidylate synthase activity, which, due to their ability to act as substrates for the reduced folate



4: X-Y = CH₂CH₂ or CH=CH



5: X-Y = CH₂CH₂ or CH=CH

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transport system and for folylpolyglutamate synthetase, also showed significant activity against human tumor cell lines.

Chemistry

The required (chlorosulfonyl)benzoquinazolines were prepared by reaction of the appropriate benzoquinazoline (4a–e) with chlorosulfonic acid. The chlorosulfonyl intermediates (6a–e) were treated with a diethyl L-(4-aminobenzoyl)glutamate derivative (7a–c), either by fusion with an excess of the amine, or in pyridine as solvent, followed by hydrolysis of the diesters (8a–i) in aqueous base to yield the free glutamic acid derivatives (5a–i) (Scheme I).

Chlorosulfonylation of the 3-amino-5,6-dihydrobenzoquinazoline 4a yielded exclusively the 8-substituted derivative 6a, which was elaborated into the sulfonamidobenzoylglutamates 5a and 5b as shown in Scheme I. A 9-substituted derivative 5d was obtained by blocking the 8-position with a bromo substituent, which was subsequently removed from the glutamate diester intermediate 8c by hydrogenolysis over palladium, prior to hydrolysis of the diethyl glutamate 8d to the free acid. In the 3-methyl-5,6-dihydro derivative 4c the weaker electron-donating ability of the methyl substituent was considerably attenuated at the 8-position; consequently the 6-methylene group directed electrophilic attack exclusively to the 9-position to yield 6c, ultimately leading to derivatives 5e and 5f by the sequence described above.

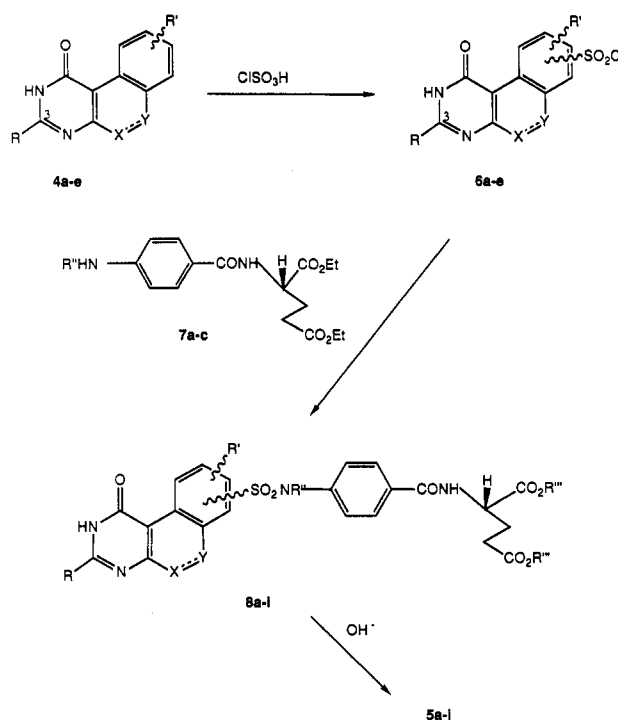
Preferably chlorosulfonation was carried out on the 5,6-dihydro compounds 4 rather than on the fully aromatic derivatives 5, which were much less soluble and less selective in their substitution behavior.²⁰ However this lack of selectivity offered an opportunity in one case to obtain a 7-isomer which was not accessible via the dihydro route. Thus reaction of the fully aromatic 3-methyl compound 4d with chlorosulfonic acid gave a mixture of chlorosulfonyl derivatives from which 6d was not separated but treated directly with diethyl (*p*-aminobenzoyl)glutamate; multiple chromatographic separations of the resulting mixture of glutamate diester derivatives gave a low yield of the 7-isomer 8g. Although the corresponding 9-isomer 8h was present in the mixture, the preferred route to this derivative was via catalytic dehydrogenation of the dihydro diester 8e over a palladium–carbon catalyst in diglyme. The 9-bromo-8-sulfonamido derivative 5i was also prepared through chlorosulfonylation of a fully aromatic derivative, 9-bromobenzoquinazoline 4e.

Treatment of the 3-(pivaloylamino)-9-aminoquinazolinone 9²⁰ with 4-(chlorosulfonyl)benzoic acid gave the pteric acid analogue 10; the acid was not purified but heated with methanolic hydrogen chloride solution which both esterified the carboxylate and removed the pivaloyl protecting group to yield 11. Hydrolysis to the free acid 12, coupling with L-diethyl glutamate to yield the diester 13, followed by alkaline hydrolysis as above gave the desired 9-substituted "reversed-bridge" analogue 14 (Scheme II).

Biological Testing

The target diacids (5a–i and 14) were tested as inhibitors of purified human thymidylate synthase (TS) isolated from an *Escherichia coli* harboring a plasmid with *thy A* gene cloned from SV40 transformed human fibroblast cells.²² The enzyme was assayed, and the extent of inhibition of

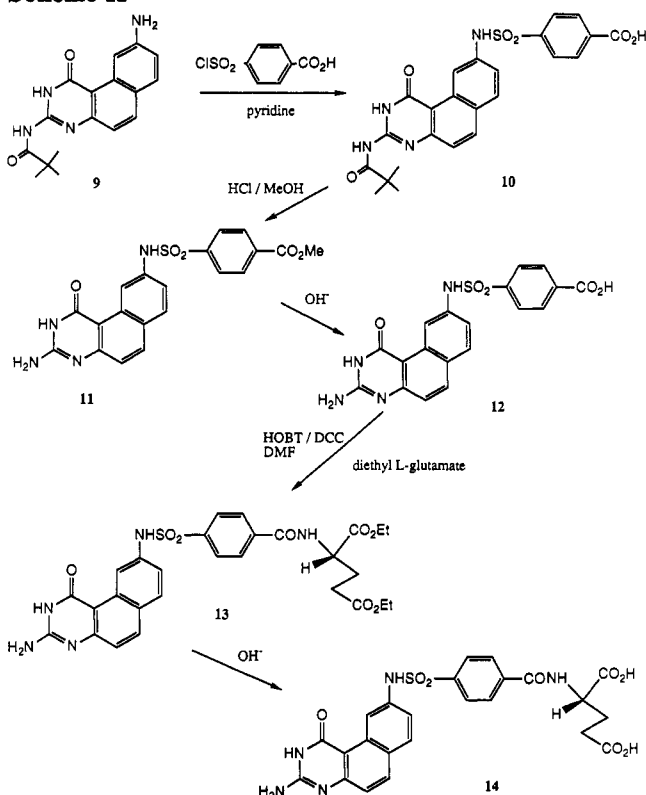
Scheme I



Cpd #	R	R'	R''	R'''	Position -SO ₂ -	X-Y
4a	NH ₂	H	—	—	—	CH ₂ CH ₂
4b	NH ₂	8-Br	—	—	—	CH ₂ CH ₂
4c	CH ₃	H	—	—	—	CH ₂ CH ₂
4d	CH ₃	H	—	—	—	CH=CH
4e	NH ₂	9-Br	—	—	—	CH=CH
5a	NH ₂	H	H	H	8	CH ₂ CH ₂
5b	NH ₂	H	propargyl	H	8	CH ₂ CH ₂
5c	NH ₂	8-Br	H	H	9	CH ₂ CH ₂
5d	NH ₂	H	H	H	9	CH ₂ CH ₂
5e	CH ₃	H	H	H	9	CH ₂ CH ₂
5f	CH ₃	H	CH ₃	H	9	CH ₂ CH ₂
5g	CH ₃	H	H	H	7	CH=CH
5h	CH ₃	H	H	H	9	CH=CH
5i	NH ₂	9-Br	H	H	8	CH=CH
6a	NH ₂	H	—	—	8	CH ₂ CH ₂
6b	NH ₂	8-Br	—	—	9	CH ₂ CH ₂
6c	CH ₃	H	—	—	9	CH ₂ CH ₂
6d	CH ₃	H	—	—	7	CH=CH
6e	NH ₂	9-Br	—	—	8	CH=CH
7a	—	—	H	Et	—	—
7b	—	—	propargyl	Et	—	—
7c	—	—	Me	Et	—	—
8a	NH ₂	H	H	Et	8	CH ₂ CH ₂
8b	NH ₂	H	propargyl	Et	8	CH ₂ CH ₂
8c	NH ₂	8-Br	H	Et	9	CH ₂ CH ₂
8d	NH ₂	H	H	Et	9	CH ₂ CH ₂
8e	CH ₃	H	H	Et	9	CH ₂ CH ₂
8f	CH ₃	H	CH ₃	Et	9	CH ₂ CH ₂
8g	CH ₃	H	H	Et	7	CH=CH
8h	CH ₃	H	H	Et	9	CH=CH
8i	CH ₃	9-Br	H	Et	8	CH=CH

the enzyme by the various compounds was determined by the tritium release assay of Roberts²³ as modified by Dev et al.²⁴ Values of the inhibition constant (*K_i*) were estimated by the method of Henderson²⁵ for tight-binding noncompetitive inhibitors.

Scheme II



For growth inhibition studies, SW480 colon adenocarcinoma, MCF-7 breast adenocarcinoma, and MOLT-4 T-cell leukemia cells were maintained in folic acid-free RPMI 1640 (Gibco) containing (6*R,S*)-5-formyltetrahydrofolic acid (10 nM) as the folate source and 10% charcoal-dialyzed fetal bovine serum (JRH Biosciences). Determinations of cell culture cytotoxicity were carried out in 96-well plates using the 3-(4,5-dimethylthiazol-2-yl)-2,5-diphenyltetrazolium bromide dye reduction assay as described previously.²⁶

The ability of the compounds to enter tumor cells by the reduced folate transport system was assessed by measurement of their inhibition of the uptake by MOLT-4 T-cell leukemia cells of [³H]methotrexate, itself a substrate for this transport system.²⁷ The compounds were also examined for their ability to function as substrates for partially purified hog liver folylpolyglutamate synthetase (FPGS)²⁸ to provide an estimate of their relative capacity for intracellular polyglutamylation. Dihydrofolate reductase inhibitory activity of 5e was determined as previously described.²⁸

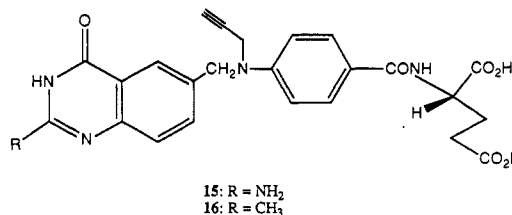
Discussion

Attachment of the sulfonamidobenzoylglutamate side chain to the benzoquinazoline nucleus gave significant enhancements of aqueous solubility of these molecules. For example while the solubilities of precursor molecules 4c and 4d in 0.05 M phosphate buffer (pH 7) were each less than 0.1 mg/mL, solubilities of the corresponding sulfonamides 5e and 5h were 9.0 and 10.0 mg/mL, respectively.

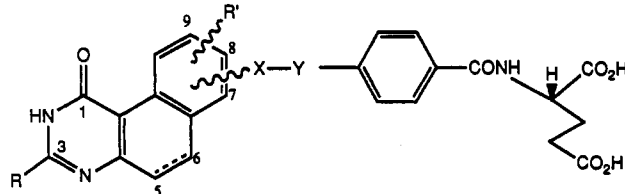
In vitro activities of the benzoquinazoline inhibitors 5a-i and 14 are shown in Table I. With the exception of the fully aromatic 9-bromo compound 5i, introduction of the N-4'-unsubstituted sulfonamidobenzoylglutamate side chain into this series of benzoquinazolines gave significant

increases in thymidylate synthase inhibitory activity (up to 2800-fold) compared with the precursor heterocycles; thus these inhibitors seem to probe an area of the enzyme capable of binding a folate cofactor-like (*p*-aminobenzoyl)-glutamate residue. The greater activity of the 9-substituted derivatives 5d and 5h compared with the 8- and 7-isomers 5a and 5g, respectively, paralleled the greater activity of the 9-substituted isomers in a series of compounds of type 4a bearing compact lipophilic substituents in the corresponding benzene ring.²⁰ However an attempt to enhance the activity of an 8-sulfonamido compound by addition of a small lipophilic substituent in the 9-position was unsuccessful; TS inhibition by the 9-bromo-8-sulfonamido compound 5i was 820-fold lower than that of the precursor benzoquinazoline (4e) and 290-fold lower than that of the 8-sulfonamido compound 5a. In the absence of any X-ray data on the enzyme-inhibitor complex, it is not clear whether this is due to a constraint by the bromo substituent of an obligatory conformation of the side chain, an overcrowded pocket on the enzyme close to the 8- and 9-positions, or a reflection of a generally different mode of binding for the simple heterocycles from that of the derivatives with the folate-like side chain. In a detailed study, which will be published elsewhere,²⁹ of the kinetics of inhibition and equilibrium binding with various folate analogs, it was shown how the two catalytic sites of the TS dimer may each exhibit different binding affinities depending on the state of ligation of the other, and how this differential binding affects the observed kinetics. Inhibition of TS by compounds of type 5a-i was noncompetitive with the folate cofactor, while inhibition by the simple derivatives of type 4 was mixed competitive/noncompetitive.

Replacement of the 3-amino group of 5d by 3-methyl (5e) resulted in a 7-fold decrease in enzyme inhibitory activity. Cytotoxic potency, however, held steady (MCF-7) or showed a slight increase (2-fold on SW480, 12-fold on MOLT-4), a qualitatively similar result to that observed in a related series of quinazoline inhibitors (for 15, $I_{50}(\text{TS}) = 0.02 \mu\text{M}$; IC_{50} (L1210 cells) = $3.4 \mu\text{M}$; for 16, $I_{50}(\text{TS}) = 0.04 \mu\text{M}$; IC_{50} (L1210 cells) = $0.09 \mu\text{M}$).³⁰ The greater cytotoxic potency of 2-methylquinazolines of type 16 relative to the corresponding 2-amino derivatives 15 has been attributed to an increased affinity for the cellular reduced folate active transport system and/or enhanced intracellular polyglutamylation.⁵ A greater affinity of the 3-methylbenzoquinazoline 5e for this transporter relative to that of the corresponding amino compound 5d was confirmed in this case; however, the lower activity of 5e as a substrate for FPGS (4-fold decrease in V/K compared with that of 5d) would suggest that intracellular polyglutamylation makes less of a contribution to the cytotoxicity of these dihydrobenzoquinazolines.



Aromatization of the 3-methyl-5,6-dihydro derivative 5e to 5h resulted in a 3-fold increase in TS activity, a trend we had previously found in many of the simple

Table I. *In Vitro* Activities of Sulfonamidobenzoquinazolines: Inhibition of Human Thymidylate Synthase (TS), Cell Culture Cytotoxicity (CCCT), Methotrexate Uptake (MTXupt), and Substrate Activity for Folylpolyglutamate Synthetase (FPGS)


compd	R	R'	bridge X-Y	K_i^a (TS) (μ M)	CCCT ^b (μ M)			MTXupt ^c K_i (μ M) or % [at μ M]	V_m rel %	FPGS ^d	
					MCF-7	SW480	MOLT-4			K_m (μ M)	V/K
5,6-Dihydro											
5a	NH ₂	H	8-SO ₂ NH	0.057	25	nd ^e	nd	23 [30]	102	1.8	56.5
5b	NH ₂	H	8-SO ₂ Npropargyl	0.66	>50	>50	>50	30 [30]	nd	nd	
5c	NH ₂	8-Br	9-SO ₂ NH	0.079	>100	>100	nd	0 [10]	28.9	nd	
5d	NH ₂ ^f	H	9-SO ₂ NH	0.0025	0.65	7.9	2.4	42	115	7.0	16.4
5e	CH ₃ ^f	H	9-SO ₂ NH	0.018	0.65	4.1	0.2	15	109	26.8	4.1
5f	CH ₃	H	9-SO ₂ NMe	16.7	>50	>50	nd	1.8	nd	nd	
Fully Aromatic											
5g	CH ₃	H	7-SO ₂ NH	7.37	50	>100	nd	72 [30]	55.2	7.6	7.3
5h	CH ₃ ^f	H	9-SO ₂ NH	0.0055	0.07	2.4	0.12	4.9	185	3.11	59.6
5i	NH ₂	9-Br	8-SO ₂ NH	16.4	>50	>50	nd	45 [30]	nd	nd	
Reversed Bridge											
14	NH ₂	H	9-NHSO ₂	0.1	nd	>100	nd	42 [30]	nd	nd	
Parent Benzoquinazolines (for Comparison)											
4a	NH ₂	H		7 ^g	>100						
4b	NH ₂	8-Br		9 ^g							
4c	CH ₃	H		35.6 ^g	>100						
4d	CH ₃ ^h	H		5.4 ^g	>100						
4e	NH ₂ ^h	9-Br		0.02 ^g	10						

^a Inhibition constant *vs* purified recombinant human TS. ^b Concentration for 50% reduction in the growth rate upon continuous drug exposure for 72 h (SW480 and MOLT-4) or 96 h (MCF-7). ^c Inhibition constant *vs* the transport of [³H]MTX by MOLT-4 cells. ^d Substrate activity for hog liver folypolyglutamate synthetase. V_m (rel %) is velocity compared to a control 50 μ M aminopterin run on each test. ^e nd = not determined. ^f Reference 33. ^g I_{50} values from ref 20. ^h Fully aromatic.

benzoquinazolines.²⁰ The even greater increase in cytotoxicity (up to 9.5-fold) suggested that there might also be a positive effect of aromatization on cellular uptake, and indeed the greater affinity for the transporter and the enhanced substrate activity for FPGS (15-fold increase in V/K) support this.

Alkyl substitution on the *p*-ABA nitrogen (5a *vs* 5b and 5e *vs* 5f) was detrimental to both enzymic and cytotoxic activity, which contrasts sharply with observations in the aforementioned series of quinazoline inhibitors; similar substitutions in compounds of type 15 and 16 resulted in increases in TS activity of up to 120-fold relative to the corresponding bridge-NH derivatives,^{5,31} though gains in cytotoxicity were much less.^{30,31}

In those cases where an $IC_{50} < 50 \mu$ M was determined (Table I), cytotoxicity in purine- and pyrimidine-free media was shown to be completely reversed by thymidine alone (20 μ M), indicating TS as the sole locus of action. One of the compounds (5e) was shown to be a poor inhibitor of human dihydrofolate reductase ($I_{50} = 8.4 \times 10^{-4}$ M).

TS inhibitory activities of the more potent compounds in Table I are comparable with that of *N*-((5-((3,4-dihydro-2-methyl-4-oxo-6-quinazolinyl)methyl)methylamino)-2-thienyl)carbonyl-L-glutamic acid³² (ICI D1694 ($K_i = 60$ nM)), but the latter was up to 7000-fold more inhibitory of cell growth than the most potent of the sulfonamides, 5h. A comparison of 5d, 5e, and 5h with the aminomethylene-linked benzoquinazoline derivative (*S*)-2-(5-((1,2-dihydro-3-methyl-1-oxobenzo[*f*]quinazolin-9-yl)methyl)-amino)-1-oxo-2-isoindolinylglutaric acid (BW1843U89) showed that the latter was not only a more potent inhibitor of TS (I_{50} (TS) = 0.09 nM), but by virtue of its superior

uptake was also a more potent inhibitor of cell growth (IC_{50} (MCF-7) = 0.2 nM; SW480 = 0.7 nM).³³ Synthetic studies directed toward optimization of the side-chain structure of benzoquinazolines of the latter type will be described in the next paper in this series.

Conclusions

Attachment of the sulfonamidobenzoylglutamate side chain onto the benzoquinazoline nucleus resulted in significant increases in TS inhibitory activity and tumor cell growth inhibition compared with the parent heterocycle.²⁰ Though some attenuation of TS inhibition in these sulfonamides was observed on exchanging a 3-amino substituent for 3-methyl, the effect on cytotoxicity was more than offset by enhanced cellular uptake. Alkylation of the sulfonamide nitrogen was detrimental to TS and cell growth inhibition, in contrast with recent observations in a series of quinazoline-based folate analogs.^{5, 31} Oxidation of a 3-methyl-5,6-dihydro derivative (5e) to the corresponding fully aromatic compound 5h enhanced not only TS inhibition, but also uptake by the reduced folate transporter, and intracellular polyglutamylation, resulting in an IC_{50} for tumor cell growth inhibition (MCF-7 cells) of 70 nM.

Experimental Section

¹H NMR spectra were recorded on Varian XL-200 and XL-300 spectrometers; chemical shifts are in parts per million downfield from tetramethylsilane, and coupling constants (*J*) are measured in hertz. Mass spectra were determined by Oneida Research Services, Whitesboro, NY, on a Finnegan 4500 instrument. Analytical samples of intermediates moved as single spots on TLC and were run on Whatman MK6F silica gel plates. The

diesters **8a-i** and **13** were rigorously purified prior to hydrolysis in dilute sodium hydroxide, allowing the corresponding free acids to be isolated without further purification. Column chromatography was carried out on silica gel 60 (E. Merck, Darmstadt, Germany). The sulfonamides generally did not have sharp melting points, but decomposed gradually above 220 °C. They were also very tenacious of water and alcohols of crystallization, and in cases where the analysis indicated the presence of these solvents, the ¹H NMR spectrum in rigorously-dried DMSO-*d*₆ also showed the presence of these substances. Analyses were performed by Atlantic Microlab, Inc.; all values were within 0.4 % of theory.

3-Amino-1,2,5,6-tetrahydro-1-oxobenzo[f]quinazoline-8-sulfonyl Chloride (6a). Chlorosulfonic acid (25 mL, Aldrich), cooled to 5 °C in ice, was stirred during its addition to 3-amino-1,2,5,6-tetrahydro-1-oxobenzo[f]quinazoline (**4a**) (5 g, 0.025 mol) contained in a beaker immersed in an ice bath. The solution was removed from the ice bath, stirred for a further 20 min, and then poured onto ice (1000 g). The solid product was removed by filtration, washed with water, and dried under high vacuum at room temperature. The sulfonyl chloride (5.1 g) was used without further purification.

3-Amino-8-bromo-1,2,5,6-tetrahydro-1-oxobenzo[f]quinazoline-9-sulfonyl Chloride (6b). Chlorosulfonic acid (100 g) was added to 3-amino-8-bromo-1,2,5,6-tetrahydro-1-oxobenzo[f]quinazoline (**4b**) (5.20 g, 17.8 mmol), and the solution was stirred overnight at room temperature. The reaction mixture was poured over ice, and the collected solid was washed with water and dried under high vacuum to give the sulfonyl chloride **6b** (7.25 g, 90 %). ¹H NMR (DMSO-*d*₆, 200 MHz): δ 2.67–2.75 (m, 2H, Ar CH₂), 2.81–2.88 (m, 2H, Ar CH₂), 7.43 (s, 1H, Ar), 8.23 (br s, 2H, NH₂), 8.91 (s, 1H, Ar), 9.90–10.50 (v br s, 1H, NH). Anal. (C₁₂H₉N₃O₃S · 0.5H₂O · 0.45H₂SO₄) C, H, N.

1,2,5,6-Tetrahydro-3-methyl-1-oxobenzo[f]quinazoline-9-sulfonyl Chloride (6c). 1,2,5,6-tetrahydro-3-methyl-1-oxobenzo[f]quinazoline (**4c**) (5 g, 0.024 mol) was added to chlorosulfonic acid (50 mL, Aldrich) and stirred for 12 h at room temperature. The reaction mixture was poured over ice (750 g), and the dark brown solid was collected by filtration. The solid was washed with water and suspended in water (500 mL), and the pH of the suspension was adjusted to 5.00 by addition of sodium bicarbonate. The suspension was filtered, and the product was washed with water and dried under high vacuum at room temperature to give 1,2,5,6-tetrahydro-3-methyl-1-oxobenzo[f]quinazoline-9-sulfonyl chloride as a light brown solid (3.054 g, 41 %). ¹H NMR (DMSO-*d*₆, 300 MHz): δ 2.60 (s, 3H, CH₃), 2.90 (s, 4H, Ar CH₂), 7.22 (d, *J* = 9 Hz, 1H, Ar), 7.53 (d, *J* = 9 Hz, 1H, Ar), 8.75 (s, 1H, Ar).

Diethyl N-(4-(3-Amino-1,2,5,6-tetrahydro-1-oxobenzo[f]quinazoline-8-sulfonamido)benzoyl)-L-glutamate (8a). Diethyl *N*-(4-aminobenzoyl)-L-glutamate (**7a**) (3.2 g, 0.01 mol) (Aldrich) and 3-amino-1,2,5,6-tetrahydro-1-oxobenzo[f]quinazoline-8-sulfonyl chloride (**6a**) (0.62 g, 0.002 mol) were fused at 150 °C until a clear melt was obtained (~10 min). A solution of the crude product in methylene chloride was subjected to chromatography on silica, eluting with methanol-methylene chloride (1:4). Fractions containing the product were evaporated, and the residue was recrystallized from ethanol and dried under high vacuum to yield the diethyl ester **8a** (0.48 g, 40.2 % based on sulfonyl chloride). ¹H NMR (DMSO-*d*₆, 200 MHz): δ 1.00–1.2 (overlapping t, 6H, CH₂CH₃), 1.88–2.15 (m, 2H, Glu CH₂), 2.32–2.45 (m, 2H, Glu CH₂), 2.45–2.60 (m, 2H, ArCH₂), 2.72–2.86 (m, 2H, ArCH₂), 3.92–4.12 (overlapping q, 4H, CH₂CH₃), 4.26–4.11 (m, 1H, Glu CH), 6.66–7.00 (br s, 2H, NH₂), 7.16 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H, Ar), 7.52–7.63 (m, 2H, Ar), 7.71 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 1H, Ar), 8.54 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H, Glu NH), 8.54 (d, *J* = 9 Hz, 1H, Ar), 10.55 (br s, 1H, SO₂NH), 11.03 (br s, 1H, N²H). Anal. (C₂₈H₃₁N₅O₈S) C, H, N, S.

N-(4-(3-Amino-1,2,5,6-tetrahydro-1-oxobenzo[f]quinazoline-8-sulfonamido)benzoyl)-L-glutamic Acid (5a). A solution of the diester **8a** (0.15 g, 7.6 mmol) in a mixture of 2 N NaOH (3 mL) and ethanol (6 mL) was stored at room temperature for 14 h. The ethanol was evaporated and the pH of the solution adjusted to 2 with 1 N HCl. The solid was collected by filtration, washed with water, and dried at 60 °C under vacuum. The product was crystallized from ethanol and redried as above to

yield a white solid (0.12 g, 85 %). ¹H NMR (DMSO-*d*₆, 200 MHz): δ 1.75–2.18 (m, 2H, Glu CH₂), 2.20–2.40 (m, 2H, Glu CH₂), 2.54–2.64 (m, 2H, ArCH₂), 2.70–2.89 (m, 2H, ArCH₂), 4.23–4.40 (m, 1H, Glu CH), 6.70–7.08 (br s, 2H, NH₂), 7.16 (d, *J* = 8.64 Hz, 2H, Ar), 7.56–7.61 (m, 2H, Ar), 7.72 (d, *J* = 8.63 Hz, 2H, Ar), 8.42 (d, *J* = 7.81 Hz, 1H, Glu NH), 8.54 (d, *J* = 8.99 Hz, 1H, Ar), 10.55 (s, 1H, SO₂NH), 10.91–11.24 (br s, 1H, N²H), 11.98–12.63 (v br s, 2H, CO₂H), shows presence of water and EtOH. Anal. (C₂₄H₂₃N₅O₈S · 0.6H₂O · 0.2EtOH) C, H, N, S.

A similar reaction of diethyl *N*-(4-(prop-2-ynylamino)-benzoyl)-L-glutamate (**7b**)³⁴ with the sulfonyl chloride (**7a**) and subsequent hydrolysis of the diester intermediate (**8b**) gave *N*-(4-(((3-amino-1,2,5,6-tetrahydro-1-oxobenzo[f]quinazolin-8-yl)sulfonyl)(prop-2-ynyl)amino)benzoyl)-L-glutamic acid (**5b**) (8.3 % from sulfonyl chloride). ¹H NMR (DMSO-*d*₆, 200 MHz): δ 1.82–2.20 (m, 2H, Glu CH₂), 2.30–2.38 (m, 2H, Glu CH₂), 2.56–2.65 (m, 2H, ArCH₂), 2.83–2.87 (m, 2H, ArCH₂), 3.23 (t, *J* = 2 Hz, 1H, propynyl CH), 4.34–4.40 (m, 1H, Glu CH), 4.53 (d, *J* = 2 Hz, 2H, propynyl CH₂), 7.03 (br s, 2H, NH₂), 7.29 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H, Ar), 7.37 (dd, *J* = 2.5, 8.6 Hz, 1H, Ar), 7.45 (d, *J* = 2.5 Hz, 1H, Ar), 7.83 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H, Ar), 8.56 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 1H, Ar), 8.64 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H, Glu NH), 10.94–11.56 (v br s, 1H, N²H), 11.80–12.90 (v br s, 1H, CO₂H), shows presence of H₂O. Anal. (C₂₇H₂₅N₅O₈S · 2.3H₂O) C, H, N.

Diethyl N-(4-(((3-Amino-8-bromo-1,2,5,6-tetrahydro-1-oxobenzo[f]quinazolin-9-yl)sulfonyl)amino)benzoyl)-L-glutamate (8c). A mixture of the sulfonyl chloride (**6b**) (2.00 g, 4.50 mmol) and the amine **7a** (7.26 g, 22.5 mmol) (Aldrich) was melted at 175 °C. The mixture was heated for 80 min, and the cooled residue was suspended in methylene chloride and filtered to remove undissolved solid. The filtrate was evaporated to dryness, and the residue was subjected to chromatography on a Waters Prep 500 instrument (silica column, eluting with methanol/methylene chloride (1:24)). The combined fractions containing product were evaporated, and the residue was dried under high vacuum. The solid was suspended in boiling ethanol (900 mL), and the suspension was cooled to room temperature and filtered to give **8c** (0.794 g, 26 %). Mp > 250 °C. ¹H NMR (DMSO-*d*₆, 200 MHz): δ 1.12 (t, *J* = 7 Hz, 3H, ester CH₃), 1.14 (t, *J* = 7 Hz, 3H, ester CH₃), 1.89–2.09 (m, 2H, Glu CH₂), 2.37 (t, *J* = 7 Hz, 2H, Glu CH₂), 2.48–2.59 (m, 2H, Ar CH₂), 2.77–2.85 (m, 2H, Ar CH₂), 3.99 (q, *J* = 7 Hz, 2H, ester CH₂), 4.05 (q, *J* = 7 Hz, 2H, ester CH₂), 4.29–4.40 (m, 1H, Glu CH), 6.84 (br s, 2H, NH₂), 7.14 (d, *J* = 9 Hz, 2H, Ar), 7.54 (s, 1H, Ar), 7.69 (d, *J* = 9 Hz, 2H, Ar), 8.48 (d, *J* = 8 Hz, 1H, NH), 9.37 (s, 1H, Ar), 10.87 (br s, 1H, NH), 11.04 (br s, 1H, NH). Anal. (C₂₈H₃₀BrN₅O₈S · 0.25H₂O) C, H, Br, N, S.

Diethyl N-(4-(((3-Amino-1,2,5,6-tetrahydro-1-oxobenzo[f]quinazolin-9-yl)sulfonyl)amino)benzoyl)-L-glutamate (8d). The foregoing bromo derivative (**8c**) (0.3 g, 0.44 mmol) was dissolved in boiling ethanol (250 mL), the solution was cooled to room temperature, and 10 % palladium on carbon (0.20 g) was added. The mixture was shaken under a hydrogen atmosphere for 35 h. Additional 10 % palladium on carbon (0.20 g) was added to the reaction mixture which was shaken under hydrogen for a further 15 h. Ethanol (750 mL) was added, and the reaction mixture was heated to reflux and filtered while hot through Celite. Water (33 mL) was added, and the solution was neutralized with ammonium hydroxide. The solvent was removed in vacuo, the solid suspended in water, and the pH of the mixture adjusted to 7 with dilute acetic acid and dilute ammonium hydroxide. The resulting solid was collected by filtration and air-dried. The crude product was passed through a pad of silica gel, eluting with methanol-methylene chloride. Combined fractions containing product were evaporated, and the solid residue was suspended in a small amount of methanol, filtered, and dried under high vacuum to give the diester **8d** (0.095 g). ¹H NMR (DMSO-*d*₆, 200 MHz): δ 1.12 (t, *J* = 7 Hz, 3H, CH₃), 1.14 (t, *J* = 7 Hz, 3H, CH₃), 1.85–2.15 (m, 2H, Glu CH₂), 2.38 (t, *J* = 7 Hz, 2H, Glu CH₂), 2.48–2.61 (m, 2H, Ar CH₂), 2.75–2.87 (m, 2H, Ar CH₂), 4.00 (q, *J* = 7 Hz, 2H, ester CH₂), 4.06 (q, *J* = 7 Hz, 2H, ester CH₂), 4.28–4.42 (m, 1H, Glu CH), 6.78 (br s, 2H, NH₂), 7.16 (d, *J* = 9 Hz, 2H, Ar), 7.27 (d, *J* = 8 Hz, 1H, Ar), 7.46 (dd, *J* = 8, 2 Hz, 1H, Ar), 7.70 (d, *J* = 9 Hz, 2H, Ar), 8.52 (d, *J* = 7 Hz, 1H, Glu NH), 9.06 (d, *J* = 2 Hz, 1H, Ar), 10.66 (br s, 1H, SO₂NH), 11.03 (br s, 1H, N²H). Anal. (C₂₈H₃₁N₅O₈S) C, H, N.

***N*-(4-(3-Amino-1,2,5,6-tetrahydro-1-oxobenzo[*f*]quinazoline-9-sulfonamido)benzoyl)-L-glutamic acid (5d)** (0.043 g, 52%) was obtained by hydrolysis of the foregoing diester (0.088 g, 0.15 mmol) in sodium hydroxide as described for **5a** above. ¹H NMR (DMSO-*d*₆, 200 MHz): δ 1.74–2.16 (m, 2H, Glu CH₂), 2.29 (t, *J* = 7 Hz, 2H, Glu CH₂), 2.48–2.60 (m, 2H, ArCH₂), 2.72–2.86 (m, 2H, ArCH₂), 4.23–4.38 (m, 1H, Glu CH), 6.78 (br s, 2H, NH₂), 7.16 (d, *J* = 9 Hz, 2H, Ar), 7.26 (d, *J* = 8 Hz, 1H, Ar), 7.45 (dd, *J* = 8, 2 Hz, 1H, Ar), 7.70 (d, *J* = 9 Hz, 2H, Ar), 8.42 (br d, *J* = 8 Hz, 1H, Glu NH), 9.06 (d, *J* = 2 Hz, 1H, Ar), 10.65 (br s, 1H, SO₂NH), 11.05 (br s, 1H, N²H), 12.33 (br s, 2H, CO₂H). Anal. (C₂₄H₂₈N₆O₈S·H₂O) C, H, N.

Diethyl *N*-(4-(1,2,5,6-Tetrahydro-3-methyl-1-oxobenzo[*f*]quinazoline-9-sulfonamido)benzoyl)-L-glutamate (8e). *N*-(4-Aminobenzo[*f*]quinazolin-9-yl)sulfonyl-L-glutamic acid diethyl ester (6.06 g, 0.0188 mol) (Aldrich) and the sulfonyl chloride **6c** (5.84 g, 0.0188 mol) were dissolved in pyridine (55 mL), and the reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 3.5 h. The pyridine was removed *in vacuo*, the residue was washed with water, and the pink solid was collected by filtration. The crude product was dried under high vacuum, and then subjected to chromatography on a Waters Prep 500 instrument (silica cartridge, eluting with methanol-methylene chloride (1:4)). The product was recrystallized from ethanol and dried under high vacuum to yield the diethyl ester **8e** (5.68 g, 51%). ¹H NMR (DMSO-*d*₆, 300 MHz): δ 1.14 (t, *J* = 7 Hz, 3H, CH₃CH₂), 1.16 (t, *J* = 7 Hz, 3H, CH₃CH₂), 1.88–2.13 (m, 2H, Glu CH₂), 2.32 (s, 3H, CH₃), 2.40 (t, *J* = 8 Hz, 2H, Glu CH₂), 2.71 (m, 2H, Ar CH₂), 2.89 (m, 2H, Ar CH₂), 4.02 (q, *J* = 7 Hz, 2H, CH₂CH₃), 4.08 (q, *J* = 7 Hz, 2H, CH₂CH₃), 4.33–4.41 (m, 1H, CH), 7.20 (d, *J* = 9 Hz, 2H, Ar), 7.39 (d, 1H, *J* = 8 Hz, Ar), 7.62 (dd, *J* = 8, 2 Hz, Ar), 7.73 (d, *J* = 9 Hz, 2H, Ar), 8.55 (d, *J* = 8 Hz, 1H, Glu NH), 9.21 (d, 2 Hz, 1H, Ar), 10.74 (s, 1H, NH), 12.72 (s, 1H, NH). Anal. (C₂₉H₃₂N₄O₈S·0.1EtOH·0.75H₂O) C, H, N, S.

***N*-(4-(1,2,5,6-Tetrahydro-3-methyl-1-oxobenzo[*f*]quinazoline-9-sulfonamido)benzoyl)-L-glutamic Acid (5e).** The diester **9e** (4.53 g, 7.6 mmol) was dissolved in 1 N NaOH (64 mL), and the solution was stirred at room temperature for 4 h. The pH of the solution was adjusted to 3.00 with 1 N HCl, and the solid was collected by filtration, washed with water, and dried under high vacuum to yield **10e** as an off-white solid (3.94 g, 96%). ¹H NMR (DMSO-*d*₆, 300 MHz): δ 1.84–1.96 (m, 1H, Glu CH), 2.00–2.10 (m, 1H, Glu CH), 2.32 (s, 3H, CH₃, superimposed over t, 2H, Glu CH₂), 2.71 (m, 2H, Ar CH₂), 2.89 (m, 2H, Ar CH₂), 4.28–4.36 (m, 1H, Glu CH), 7.20 (d, *J* = 9 Hz, 2H, Ar), 7.39 (d, *J* = 8 Hz, 1H, Ar), 7.62 (dd, *J* = 8, 2 Hz, 1H, Ar), 7.74 (d, *J* = 9 Hz, 2H, Ar), 8.44 (d, *J* = 8 Hz, 1H, Glu NH), 9.21 (d, *J* = 2 Hz, 1H, Ar), 10.73 (s, 1H, SO₂NH), 12.36 (br s, 2H, CO₂H), 12.72 (br s, 1H, NH). Anal. (C₂₅H₂₄N₄O₈S·1.5H₂O) C, H, N, S.

A similar sequence of reactions using diethyl *N*-(4-(methylamino)benzoyl)glutamate (**7c**)³⁵ (2.0 g, 6.0 mmol) with the sulfonyl chloride **6c** (2.0 g, 6.4 mmol) gave the corresponding product bearing a methyl substituent on the sulfonamido nitrogen atom; data on the product and intermediate are given below.

Diethyl *N*-(4-(methyl(1,2,5,6-tetrahydro-3-methyl-1-oxobenzo[*f*]quinazolin-9-yl)sulfonyl)amino)benzoyl)-L-glutamate (8f) (1.47 g, 40%). Mp: 168–170.5 °C. ¹H NMR (DMSO-*d*₆, 200 MHz): δ 1.14 (t, *J* = 7 Hz, 3H, ester CH₃), 1.16 (t, *J* = 7 Hz, 3H, ester CH₃), 1.85–2.20 (m, 2H, Glu CH₂), 2.30 (s, 3H, C³-CH₃), 2.42 (t, *J* = 7 Hz, 2H, Glu CH₂), 2.67–2.80 (m, 2H, ArCH₂), 2.85–2.99 (m, 2H, ArCH₂), 3.17 (s, 3H, NCH₃), 4.02 (q, *J* = 7 Hz, 2H, ester CH₂), 4.08 (q, *J* = 7 Hz, 2H, ester CH₂), 4.32–4.48 (m, 1H, Glu CH), 7.22 (dd, *J* = 8, 2 Hz, 1H, Ar), 7.28 (d, *J* = 9 Hz, 2H, Ar), 7.38 (d, *J* = 8 Hz, 1H, Ar), 7.82 (d, *J* = 9 Hz, 2H, Ar), 8.73 (d, *J* = 7 Hz, 1H, Glu NH), 9.00 (d, *J* = 2 Hz, 1H, Ar), 12.68 (br s, 1H, N²H). Anal. (C₃₀H₃₄N₄O₈S·0.33H₂O) C, H, N, S.

***N*-(4-(Methyl(1,2,5,6-tetrahydro-3-methyl-1-oxobenzo[*f*]quinazolin-9-yl)sulfonyl)amino)benzoyl)-L-glutamic Acid (5f)** (0.89 g, 99% from diester **9f** (1.0 g, 1.6 mmol)). ¹H NMR (DMSO-*d*₆, 200 MHz): δ 1.80–2.20 (m, 2H, Glu CH₂), 2.31 (s, 3H, C³-CH₃), 2.34 (t, *J* = 7 Hz, 2H, Glu CH₂), 2.67–2.80 (m, 2H, ArCH₂), 2.85–2.98 (m, 2H, ArCH₂), 3.17 (s, 3H, NCH₃), 4.30–4.43 (m, 1H, Glu CH), 7.22 (dd, *J* = 8, 2 Hz, 1H, Ar), 7.28 (d, *J* = 9 Hz, 2H, Ar), 7.38 (d, *J* = 8 Hz, 1H, Ar), 7.83 (d, *J* = 9 Hz, 2H, Ar), 8.62 (d, *J* = 8 Hz, 1H, Glu NH), 9.00 (d, *J* = 2 Hz, 1H, Ar), 12.39 (br

s, 2H, CO₂H's), 12.69 (br s, 1H, N²H). Anal. (C₂₆H₂₆N₄O₈S·0.15H₂O) C, H, N, S.

Diethyl *N*-(4-(1,2-Dihydro-3-methyl-1-oxobenzo[*f*]quinazoline-9-sulfonamido)benzoyl)-L-glutamate (8h). A solution of diethyl *N*-(4-(1,2,5,6-tetrahydro-3-methyl-1-oxobenzo[*f*]quinazoline-9-sulfonamido)benzoyl)-L-glutamate (0.50 g, 0.84 mmol) in diglyme (10 mL) was stirred with 10% palladium on carbon (0.25 g) (Aldrich) under nitrogen at reflux for 3 h. The solution was diluted with diglyme (20 mL), filtered hot through Celite, and concentrated under high vacuum. The resulting solid was suspended in hot methanol (50 mL), stirred overnight at room temperature, filtered, and dried under high vacuum to give the fully aromatic derivative **8h** as a white solid (0.25 g). ¹H NMR (DMSO-*d*₆, 200 MHz): δ 1.10 (t, *J* = 7 Hz, 3H, ester CH₃), 1.12 (t, *J* = 7 Hz, 3H, ester CH₃), 1.78–2.15 (m, 2H, Glu CH₂), 2.35 (t, *J* = 7 Hz, 2H, Glu CH₂), 2.43 (s, 3H, C³-CH₃), 3.98 (q, *J* = 7 Hz, 2H, ester CH₂), 4.04 (q, *J* = 7 Hz, 2H, ester CH₂), 2.35–4.39 (m, 1H, Glu CH), 7.21 (d, *J* = 9 Hz, 2H, Ar), 7.69 (d, *J* = 9 Hz, 2H, Ar), 7.76 (d, *J* = 9 Hz, 1H, Ar), 7.91 (dd, *J* = 9, 2 Hz, 1H, Ar), 8.19 (d, *J* = 9 Hz, 1H, Ar), 8.29 (d, *J* = 9 Hz, 1H, Ar), 8.51 (d, *J* = 7 Hz, 1H, Glu NH), 10.44 (d, *J* = 2 Hz, 1H, Ar), 10.88 (br s, 1H, SO₂NH), 12.75 (br s, 1H, N²H). Mass spectrum (CI-CH₄): *m/z* 595 ((*M* + 1)⁺, 24.1). Anal. (C₂₆H₃₀N₄O₈S) C, H, N, S.

***N*-(4-(1,2-Dihydro-3-methyl-1-oxobenzo[*f*]quinazoline-9-sulfonamido)benzoyl)-L-glutamic Acid (5h).** A solution of the foregoing diester **8h** (0.22 g, 0.37 mmol) in ethanol (3 mL) and 0.25 N NaOH (12 mL) was stirred at room temperature for 3 h. The solution was slowly acidified to pH 3 with 1 N HCl, and the resulting precipitate was filtered, washed with water, and dried under high vacuum to give the diacid **5h** as a white solid (0.20 g). ¹H NMR (DMSO-*d*₆, 200 MHz): δ 1.73–2.15 (m, 2H, Glu CH₂), 2.27 (t, *J* = 7 Hz, 2H, Glu CH₂), 2.43 (s, 3H, CH₃), 4.22–4.36 (m, 1H, Glu CH), 7.20 (d, *J* = 9 Hz, 2H, Ar), 7.69 (d, *J* = 9 Hz, 2H, Ar), 7.76 (d, *J* = 9 Hz, 1H, Ar), 7.90 (dd, *J* = 9, 2 Hz, 1H, Ar), 8.18 (d, *J* = 9 Hz, 1H, Ar), 8.28 (d, *J* = 9 Hz, 1H, Ar), 8.39 (d, *J* = 8 Hz, 1H, Glu NH), 10.44 (d, *J* = 2 Hz, 1H, Ar), 10.86 (br s, 1H, SO₂NH), 12.32 (br s, 2H, CO₂H's), 12.75 (br s, 1H, N²H). Anal. (C₂₆H₂₂N₄O₈S·0.8H₂O) C, H, N, S.

Diethyl *N*-(4-(1,2-Dihydro-3-methyl-1-oxobenzo[*f*]quinazoline-7-sulfonamido)benzoyl)-L-glutamate (8g). 3-Methylbenzo[*f*]quinazolin-1(2*H*)-one (**4d**) (2.6 g, 12.4 mmol) was treated with chlorosulfonic acid (15 mL) essentially as described for the analogous 3-amino-5,6-dihydro compound (**4a**) above to obtain a mixture of 1,2-dihydro-3-methyl-1-oxobenzo[*f*]quinazoline-7-, 8-, and 9-sulfonyl chlorides (2.91 g). The crude sulfonyl chlorides were added to a solution of *N*-(4-aminobenzo[*f*]quinazolin-9-yl)sulfonyl-L-glutamic acid diethyl ester (3.85 g, 11.9 mmol) in dry pyridine (30 mL) and stirred under a nitrogen atmosphere at room temperature for 19 h. The solvent was evaporated under reduced pressure to leave a gummy residue which was suspended in water (100 mL) with vigorous stirring and sonication, filtered, and dried. The crude mixture of products was subjected to six successive silica gel column chromatography separations using methanol-methylene chloride (1:24 to 3:47) to obtain the 7-isomer **8g** as an off-white solid (0.22 g, 3%). ¹H NMR (DMSO-*d*₆, 200 MHz): δ 1.10 (t, *J* = 7 Hz, 3H, ester CH₃), 1.12 (t, *J* = 7 Hz, 3H, ester CH₃), 1.80–2.15 (m, 2H, Glu CH₂), 2.35 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H, Glu CH₂), 2.43 (s, 3H, pyr CH₃), 3.98 (q, *J* = 7 Hz, 2H, ester CH₂), 4.03 (q, *J* = 7 Hz, 2H, ester CH₂), 4.32 (m, 1H, Glu CH), 7.08 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H, Ar), 7.64 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H, Ar), 7.83 (t, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H, Ar), 7.86 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 1H, Ar), 8.33 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H, Glu-NH), 8.48 (d, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 1H, Ar), 9.06 (d, *J* = 9.3 Hz, 1H, Ar), 10.18 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 1H, Ar), 11.15 (br s, 1H, NH), 12.73 (br s, 1H, NH). Anal. (C₂₉H₃₀N₄O₈S·0.25H₂O) C, H, N, S.

***N*-(4-(1,2-Dihydro-3-methyl-1-oxobenzo[*f*]quinazoline-7-sulfonamido)benzoyl)-L-glutamic Acid (5g).** A solution of diethyl *N*-(4-(1,2-dihydro-3-methyl-1-oxobenzo[*f*]quinazoline-7-sulfonamido)benzoyl)-L-glutamate (0.16 g, 0.3 mmol) in 0.1 N NaOH (10 mL) was stirred at room temperature under a nitrogen atmosphere for 48 h, and then the solution was acidified (pH 3.5) with acetic acid. The precipitate was collected, washed with water, and dried to give *N*-(4-(1,2-dihydro-3-methyl-1-oxobenzo[*f*]quinazoline-7-sulfonamido)benzoyl)-L-glutamic acid as an off-white solid (0.12 g, 86%). ¹H NMR (DMSO-*d*₆, 200 MHz): δ

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