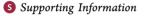
# Journal of Medicinal Chemistry

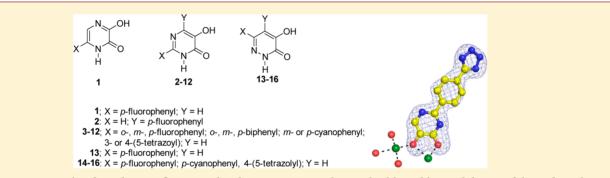
# Phenyl Substituted 4-Hydroxypyridazin-3(2*H*)-ones and 5-Hydroxypyrimidin-4(3*H*)-ones: Inhibitors of Influenza A Endonuclease

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**ABSTRACT:** Seasonal and pandemic influenza outbreaks remain a major human health problem. Inhibition of the endonuclease activity of influenza RNA-dependent RNA polymerase is attractive for the development of new agents for the treatment of influenza infection. Our earlier studies identified a series of 5- and 6-phenyl substituted 3-hydroxypyridin-2(1H)-ones that were effective inhibitors of influenza endonuclease. These agents identified as bimetal chelating ligands binding to the active site of the enzyme. In the present study, several aza analogues of these phenyl substituted 3-hydroxypyridin-2(1H)-one compounds were synthesized and evaluated for their ability to inhibit the endonuclease activity. In contrast to the 4-aza analogue of 6-(4-fluorophenyl)-3-hydroxypyridin-2(1H)-one, the 5-aza analogue (5-hydroxy-2-(4-fluorophenyl)pyrimidin-4(3H)-one) did exhibit significant activity as an endonuclease inhibitor. The 6-aza analogue of 5-(4-fluorophenyl)-3-hydroxypyridin-2(1H)-one (6-(4-fluorophenyl)-4-hydroxypyridazin-3(2H)-one) also retained modest activity as an inhibitor. Several varied 6-phenyl-4-hydroxypyridazin-3(2H)-ones and 2-phenyl-5-hydroxypyrimidin-4(3H)-ones were synthesized and evaluated as endonuclease inhibitors. The SAR observed for these aza analogues are consistent with those previously observed with various phenyl substituted 3-hydroxypyridin-2(1H)-ones.

# ■ INTRODUCTION

Two classes of agents, those targeting the M2 ion-channel and those targeting neuramindase, are available to treat or prevent influenza infection. The emergence of resistance to the M2 ion-channel inhibiting drugs, amantadine and rimantadine, has limited their clinical utility.<sup>1,2</sup> Resistance to neuraminidase inhibitors, including oseltamivir, has also been observed in several seasonal influenza A strains.<sup>3,4</sup> Drug resistance mutations can emerge in almost all influenza A subtypes/ strains, including the pandemic 2009 H1N1 virus,<sup>5</sup> limiting the clinical efficacy of the currently approved drugs.

Influenza A contains eight negative-stranded RNA genomic segments. The three largest genomic RNA segments encode the viral RNA-dependent RNA polymerase (RdRP) consisting of the polymerase acidic protein (PA) and polymerase basic proteins 1 (PB1) and 2 (PB2). The PA subunit: (i) has

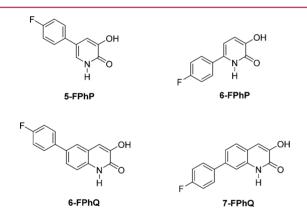
endonuclease activity, (ii) is involved in viral RNA (vRNA)/ complementary RNA (cRNA) promoter binding, and (iii) interacts with the PB1 subunit.<sup>6</sup> PA has two domains, PA<sub>N</sub> (a ~25 kDa N-terminal domain; residues 1–197) and PA<sub>C</sub> (~55 kDa C-terminal domain; residues 239–716). Crystal structures of PA<sub>C</sub> have been determined in complexes with N-terminal fragments of PB1.<sup>7</sup> The structure of PA<sub>N</sub> has been solved in several crystal forms both unliganded and with various ligands.<sup>8–13</sup>

Influenza RdRP is responsible for the replication and transcription of the segmented viral RNA genes. Viral mRNA transcription involves a cap-snatching mechanism in which the polymerase binds to the host cellular mRNA via the 5'-cap and

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cleaves the mRNA 12–13 nucleotides downstream. This cleaved RNA fragment, which contains the 5' cap, acts as a primer for viral mRNA synthesis.<sup>14</sup> Cap-snatching is an important event in the life cycle of all members of the Orthomyxoviridae family of viruses, including influenza A, B, and C viruses. Because the host cell has no analogous activity, inhibitors of cap-snatching may be selective against all influenza subtypes and strains, including oseltamivir-resistant influenza A viruses, without interfering with the host cell.

Several small molecules have been identified as influenza endonuclease inhibitors. These include 2,4-dioxobutanoic acid derivatives,<sup>10,11,15,16</sup> 5-hydroxy-1,6-dihydropyrimidine-4-carboxylic acid derivatives,<sup>11</sup> and flutimide and its deriva-tives,<sup>10,11,15–18</sup> 2-hydroxyphenyl amide derivatives,<sup>19</sup> as well as tetramic acid derivatives.<sup>20</sup> Recently, in silico screening with in vitro and ex vivo follow up studies identified hexanetetrones and trihydroxyphenyls as endonuclease inhibitors with antiinfluenza activity.<sup>21</sup> As correctly hypothesized, the endonuclease activity of influenza polymerase belongs to the two metal ion group of phosphate-processing enzymes.<sup>20</sup> From an X-ray crystallographic screening campaign of a fragment library targeting the influenza A endonuclease enzyme, we identified the 5-chloro-3-hydroxypyridin-2(1H)-one as a bimetal chelating ligand at the active site of the enzyme.<sup>13</sup> Using this information, we have reported the structure-activity relationships for two new series of compounds, 3-hydroxypyridin-2(1H)-ones and 3-hydroxyquinolin-2(1H)-ones, as endonuclease inhibitors (Figure 1).22,23



**Figure 1.** Structures and of 5-(*p*-fluorophenyl-3-hydroxypyridin-2(1*H*)-one (**5-FPhP**), 6-(*p*-fluorophenyl)-3-hydroxypyridin-2(1*H*)-one (**6-FPhP**), 6-(*p*-fluorophenyl)-3-hydroxyquinolin-2(1*H*)-one (**6-FPhQ**), and 7-(*p*-fluorophenyl)-3-hydroxyquinolin-2(1*H*)-one (**7-FPhQ**).

Phenyl substituted derivatives of 3-hydroxypyridin-2(1*H*)ones are among the more potent inhibitors of influenza A endonuclease. While 4-(4-fluorophenyl)-3-hydroxypyridin-2-(1*H*)one did not exhibit significant activity, both 5-(4fluorophenyl)-3-hydroxypyridin-2(1*H*)one and 6-(4-fluorophenyl)-3-hydroxypyridin-2(1*H*)one had IC<sub>50</sub> values <1.0  $\mu$ M. The present study was undertaken to determine the relative effects of aza substitution at various positions of phenyl substituted 3-hydroxypyridin-2(1*H*)-ones on their potential to inhibit influenza A endonuclease.

# CHEMISTRY

The synthesis of 5-(4-fluorophenyl)-1,4-dihydropyrazine-2,3dione, 1a, is outlined in Scheme 1. This dione can tautomerize to either 5- or 6-(4-fluorophenyl)-3-hydroxypyrazin-2(1*H*)-one (**1b**, **1c**). The 2,3-dichloropyrazine was treated with excess sodium methoxide to form 2,3-dimethoxypyrazine as previously described.<sup>24</sup> Bromination of 2,3-dimethoxypyrazine with *N*-bromosuccimide in DMF provided the 5-bromo derivative,<sup>24</sup> which under Suzuki coupling conditions with 4-fluorophenyl-boronic acid gave 5-(4-fluorophenyl)-2,3-dimethoxypyrazine. Treatment of this dimethoxypyrazine with a (1:1) mixture of dioxane and 2 N HCl provided 1.<sup>25</sup>

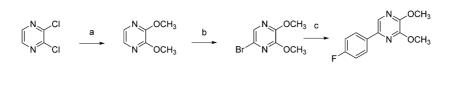
The method used to prepare 6-(4-fluorophenyl)-5-hydroxypyrimidin-4(3*H*)-one **2** is outlined in Scheme 2. 4,5-Dimethoxy-6-chloropyrimidine was prepared from 4,6-dichloro-5-methoxypyrimidine by treatment with sodium methoxide.<sup>26</sup> Suzuki coupling of this intermediate with 4fluorophenylboronic acid provided 6-(*p*-fluorophenyl)-4,5dimethoxypyrimidine, which in a 1:1 mixture of dioxane and 2 N HCl produced 5-methoxy-6-(4-fluorophenyl)pyrimidin-4(3*H*)-one. Treatment of this 5-methoxypyrimidin-4(3*H*)-one with BBr<sub>3</sub> in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> provided **2**.

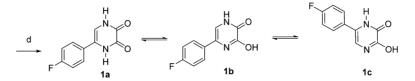
The synthetic approach employed for the preparation of various substituted 2-phenyl 5-hydroxypyrimidin-4(3H)-ones is outlined in Scheme 3. 2-Chloro-4,5-dimethoxypyrimidine, prepared from 2,4-dichloro-5-methoxypyrimidine,<sup>27</sup> was a common intermediate for these 2-phenyl 5-hydroxypyrimidin-4(3H)-ones. Suzuki coupling with the appropriate phenylboronic acid provided the desired 2-phenyl 4,5-dimethoxypyrimidine derivative, which was initially hydrolyzed with 1:1 dioxane and 2 N HCl to provide the requisite 2-phenyl 5methoxypyrimidin-4(3H)-one. Further treatment of these 5methoxypyrimidin-4(3H)-ones with BBr<sub>3</sub> in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> provided the 2-(fluorophenyl) derivatives 3-5 as well as the various 2biphenyl derivatives 6-8. In a similar manner, the 2-(4cyanophenyl) and 2-(3-cyanophenyl) 5-methoxypyrimidin-4(3H)-ones were prepared and treated with and BBr<sub>3</sub> in  $CH_2Cl_2$  to form the 5-hydroxypyrimidin-4(3H)-ones 9 and 10. Treatment of 9 or 10 with sodium azide in DMF in the presence of a catalytic amount of acetic acid gave the 5-tetrazoyl derivatives 11 and 12, respectively.

The preparation of 5-(4-fluorophenyl)-4-hydroxypyridazin-3(2H)-one is summarized in Scheme 4. Formation of the 2-methoxymethyl derivative of 4,5-dichloropyridazin-3(2H)-one, followed by selective replacement of the 4-chloro substituent with a methoxyl group, provided 2-methoxymethyl-5-chloro-4-methoxypyridazin-3(2H)-one.<sup>28</sup> This MOM-protected chloropyridazin-3(2H)-one was reacted with 4-fluorophenylboronic acid under Suzuki coupling conditions to provide 2-methoxymethyl-5-(4-fluorophenyl)-4-methoxypyridazin-3(2H)-one. Treatment of this 5-(4-fluorophenyl)pyridazin-3(2H)-one with BBr<sub>3</sub> in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> gave **13** in good yield.

The synthesis of various 6-phenyl substituted pyridazin-3(2H)-ones was accomplished as outlined in Scheme 5. Commercially available 3,4,6-trichloropyridazine was converted to 6-chloro-3,4-dimethoxypyridazine,<sup>29</sup> which was subsequently used with either 4-fluorophenylboronic acid or 4-cyanophe-nylboronic acid under Suzuki coupling conditions to form the 6-phenyl-3,4-dimethoxypyridazine intermediates. Treatment of these dimethoxypyridazines with a 1:1 mixture of dioxane and 2 N HCl provided the 4-methoxypyridazine-3(2H)-ones, which were subsequently treated with BBr<sub>3</sub> in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> to provide 14 and 15. Treatment of 15 with sodium azide in DMF in the presence of a catalytic amount of acetic acid provided the 6-(4-(tetrazol-5-yl)phenyl) derivative, 16 (Table 1).

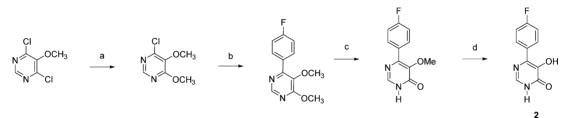
Scheme 1<sup>a</sup>





<sup>*a*</sup>Reagents and conditions: (a) NaOMe (10 mol equiv), MeOH under Ar; (b) NBS (1.05 mol equiv), DMF under Ar; (c) *p*-fluorophenylboronic acid, Pd(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub>, Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>, dioxane/H<sub>2</sub>O (3:1) under Ar; (d) dioxane/2 N HCl (1:1) under Ar.

#### Scheme 2<sup>*a*</sup>



"Reagents and conditions: (a) NaOMe (1.1 mol equiv), MeOH under Ar; (b) *p*-fluorophenylboronic acid,  $Pd(PPh_3)_4$ ,  $Na_2CO_3$ , dioxane/H<sub>2</sub>O (3:1) under Ar; (c) dioxane/2 N HCl (1:1) under Ar; (d) BBr<sub>3</sub> in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 0 °C to rt under Ar.

### RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The tautomeric forms of 5-(4-fluorophenyl)-1,4-dihydropyrazine-2,3-dione, **1b** and **1c** (5- and 6-(4-fluorophenyl)-3hydroxypyrazin-2(1*H*)-one), represent the 4-aza derivatives of both 5- and 6-(4-fluorophenyl)-3-hydroxypyridin-2(1*H*)-one, respectively. Upon the basis of its NMR spectra, however, the most dominant tautomeric form of **1** is the 1,4-dihydropyrazine-2,3-dione, **1a**, with only minor amounts of tautomers **1b** and **1c**. This may explain the comparatively weak activity of **1** as an endonuclease inhibitor. Alternatively, should **1b** or **1c** form to an appreciable extent under the enzyme assay conditions, the presence of a 4-aza substituent adjacent to the 3-hydroxyl group of either tautomer **1b** or **1c** may be associated with reduced intrinsic activity as an inhibitor.

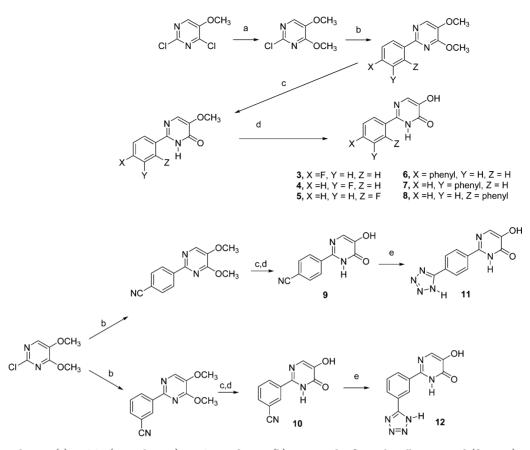
Compound 2 is the 5-aza analogue of 4-(4-fluorophenyl)-3hydroxypyridin-2(1H)-one. The lack of activity observed for 2 is consistent with previous structure-activity relationships observed with various 4-substituted 3-hydroxypyridin-2-ones. The presence of a phenyl group or other relatively large substituents at the 4-position of various 3-hydroxypyridin-2ones is associated with a dramatic loss in potency as an inhibitor. It is noteworthy that when the 4-fluorophenyl substituent is at the 2-postion of 5-hydroxypyrimidin-4(3H)ones, which is comparable to the 6-position of 3-hydroxypyridin-2-ones, significant activity in terms of endonuclease inhibition is observed (IC<sub>50</sub> = 0.58  $\mu$ M).<sup>13,23</sup> This 4fluorophenyl derivative is more than twice as potent as either of the 3- or 2-fluorophenyl isomers, 4 and 5. A series of 2biphenyl 5-hydroxypyrimidin-4(3H)-ones 6-8 was also evaluated. Steric factors may be responsible for the decreased activity observed for the 4- and 2-biphenyl derivatives 6 and 8, relative to 7.

The structure–activity studies performed with 3-hydroxypyridin-2-ones indicated 6-[(4-tetrazoyl)phenyl]-3-hydroxypyridin-2-one had pronounced activity as an endonuclease inhibitor (IC<sub>50</sub> = 0.085  $\mu$ M).<sup>23</sup> On the basis of this observation, 2-[(tetrazoyl)phenyl] derivatives of 5-hydroxypyrimidin-4(3*H*)-one and their 2-(cyanophenyl) precursors were targeted for synthesis and evaluation as endonuclease inhibitors. The 3-cyanophenyl derivative **10** is approximately twice as potent compared to the 4-cyanophenyl isomer **9**. However, the 4-(tetrazoly)phenyl derivative **11** is the most potent of 5-hydroxypyrimidin-4(3*H*)-ones evaluated (IC<sub>50</sub> = 0.15  $\mu$ M) with 3-fold greater potency than the 3-(tetrazoly)phenyl derivative **12**.

Previously formed crystals of apo pandemic 2009 influenza endonuclease were soaked in a solution containing **11** as described previously (Supporting Information, Table 1S).<sup>13</sup> The crystal structure revealed that **11** chelates to the two active site metal ions in a mode similar to the 3-hydroxypyridin-2(1H)-one containing compounds (Figure 2). The N1 atom of the pyrimidine ring forms hydrogen bond interactions with a network of water molecules present near the active site. N3 interacts with Tyr130 through two bridging waters. Similar to the 5-[4-(tetrazoly)phenyl] containing pyridinone compounds, the 2-[4-(tetrazoly)phenyl] makes bidentate hydrogen bond interactions with Arg124.<sup>23</sup> The 2-phenyl ring is rotated ~90° relative to the 5-phenyl seen previously and is coplanar with the pyrimidine ring due to the lack of steric restraint from additional ring substitutions as seen previously.<sup>13</sup>

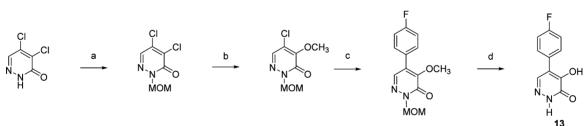
5-(4-Fluorophenyl)-4-hydroxypyridazin-3(2H)-one 13 is the 6-aza analogue of 4-(4-fluorophenyl)-3-hydroxypyridin-2(1H)-one. Consistent with the structure-activity relationships observed with 4-phenyl substituted 3-hydroxy-pyridin-2(1H)-

#### Scheme 3<sup>*a*</sup>



"Reagents and conditions: (a)  $K_2CO_3$  (10 mol equiv), MeOH under Ar; (b) 4-, 3-, and 2-fluorophenylboronic acid (for 3-5) and 4-, 3-, and 2-biphenylboronic acid (for 6-8), Pd(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub>, Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>, dioxane/H<sub>2</sub>O (3:1), 4-cyanophenylboronic acid (for 9), 3-cyanophenylboronic acid (for 10), under Ar; (c) dioxane/2 N HCl (1:1) under Ar; (d) BBr<sub>3</sub> in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 0 °C to rt under Ar; (e) NaN<sub>3</sub> (4.0 mol equiv), DMF and a catalytic amount of AcOH under Ar.

Scheme 4<sup>*a*</sup>

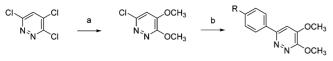


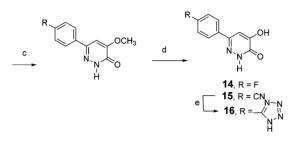
<sup>*a*</sup>Reagents and conditions: (a) MOMCl (1.2 mol equiv), DMAP (0.1 mol equiv), NEt<sub>3</sub> (1.4 mol equiv), CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 0 °C to rt under Ar; (b) NaOMe (1.1 mol equiv), MeOH under Ar; (c) 4-fluorophenylboronic acid, Pd(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub>, Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>, dioxane/H<sub>2</sub>O (3:1) under Ar; (d) BBr<sub>3</sub> in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 0 °C to rt under Ar.

ones, **13** did not exhibit significant activity as an endonuclease inhibitor. The various 6-(phenyl)-4-hydroxypyridazin-3(2*H*)ones evaluated in this study are the 6-aza analogues of 5-(phenyl)-3-hydroxypyridin-2(1*H*)-ones. These 6-phenylpyridazin-3(2*H*)-ones **14–16** are more active than the 4-fluorophenylpyrazine derivative **1** but are at least an order of magnitude less active than analogous 2-phenyl-5-hydroxypyrimidin-4(3*H*)ones. The most active derivative was the 6-(4-tetrazoyl)phenyl-4-hydroxypyridazin-3(2*H*)-one **16** (IC<sub>50</sub> = 3.0  $\mu$ M). Interestingly, 5-substituted 3-hydroxypyridin-2(1*H*)-ones and 6-substituted 4-hydroxypyridazin-3(2*H*)ones as well as variously substituted 3-hydroxyquinolin-2(1*H*)ones have been previously established as D-amino acid oxidase (DAAO) inhibitors.<sup>30,31</sup> However, none of these similarly structured aza-analogues of 3-hydroxypyridin-2(1H)-ones that were synthesized in the present study were evaluated for their relative activity as DAAO inhibitors.

Data on the relative activity of these aza 3-hydroxypyridin-2(1H)-one derivatives indicate that 2-phenyl-5-hydroxypyrimidin-4(3H)-ones, which are the 5-aza analogues of 6-phenyl-3hydroxypyridin-2(1H)-ones, can exhibit comparable activity as inhibitors of endonuclease. However, 6-phenyl-4-hydroxypyridazin-3(2H)-ones, which are the 6-aza analogues of 5-phenyl-3-hydroxypyridin-2(1H)-ones, are 2.3–8.2-fold less active. Although the tautomers of 5-(4-fluorophenyl)-1,4-dihydropyrazine-2,3-dione can be viewed as 4-aza-analogues either 5- or 6-

### Scheme 5<sup>*a*</sup>





<sup>*a*</sup>Reagents and conditions: (a) NaOMe (2 mol equiv), MeOH under Ar; (b) 4-fluorophenylboronic acid (for 14),  $Pd(PPh_3)_{4}$ ,  $Na_2CO_3$ , dioxane/H<sub>2</sub>O (3:1), 4-cyanophenylboronic acid (for 15) under Ar; (c) dioxane/2 N HCl (1:1) under Ar; (d) BBr<sub>3</sub> in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 0 °C to rt under Ar; (e) NaN<sub>3</sub> (4.0 mol equiv), DMF, and a catalytic amount of AcOH under Ar.

Table 1. Inhibition Assay of Influenza A Endonuclease by Phenyl Substituted 3-Hydroxypyrazin-2(1H)-ones, 5-Hydroxypyrimidin-4(3H)-ones, and 4-Hydroxypyridazin-3(2H)-ones

	OH O R <sub>2</sub>	R₁ OH N OH H 2-12	$R_2 \xrightarrow[N]{H} OH$ N H 13-16
compd	IC <sub>50</sub> (µM)	R <sub>1</sub>	R <sub>2</sub>
1	59.0	4-FC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>5</sub>	
2	>193	4-FC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>5</sub>	Н
3	0.58	Н	$4-FC_6H_4$
4	1.56	Н	3-FC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub>
5	1.67	Н	$2-FC_6H_4$
6	2.24	Н	4-[1,1']-biphenyl
7	0.40	Н	3-[1,1']-biphenyl
8	1.10	Н	2-[1,1']-biphenyl
9	0.52	Н	4-CNC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub>
10	0.25	Н	3-CNC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub>
11	0.15	Н	4-(CN <sub>4</sub> H)phenyl
12	0.48	Н	3-(CN <sub>4</sub> H)phenyl
13	177	$4-FC_6H_4$	Н
14	6.0	Н	$4-FC_6H_4$
15	9.3	Н	4-CNC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub>
16	3.0	Н	4-(CN <sub>4</sub> H)phenyl
5-FPhP	0.73		
6-FPhP	0.43		

(4-fluorophenyl)-3-hydroxypyridin-2(1*H*)-one, they were more than 80 times less potent than either of these 3-hydroxypyridin-2(1*H*)-ones. The relative ranking of comparable phenyl substituted pyridin-2(1*H*)-ones and their aza derivatives in terms of endonuclease inhibition is 3-hydroxypyridin-2(1*H*)one  $\approx$  5-hydroxypyrimidin-4(3*H*)-ones >4-hydroxypyridazin-3(2*H*)-ones  $\gg$ 1,4-dihydropyrazine-2,3-dione.

# EXPERIMENTAL SECTION

Chemistry: General Methods. All reactions, unless otherwise stated, were done under nitrogen atmosphere. Reaction monitoring and follow-up were done using aluminum backed Silica G TLC plates with UV254 (Sorbent Technologies), visualizing with ultraviolet light. Flash column chromatography was done on a Combi Flash Rf Teledyne ISCO using hexane, ethyl acetate, dichloromethane, and methanol. The <sup>1</sup>H (400 MHz) and <sup>13</sup>C (100 MHz) NMR spectra were done in  $CDCl_3$ , methanol- $d_4$ , and  $DMSO-d_6$  and recorded on a Bruker Avance III (400 MHz) multinuclear NMR spectrometer. Data is expressed in parts per million relative to the residual nondeuterated solvent signals, spin multiplicities are given as s (singlet), d (doublet), dd (doublet of doublets), t (triplet), dt (doublet of triplets), q (quartet), m (multiplet), and bs (broad singlet), and coupling constants (J) are reported in hertz. Melting points were determined using Mel-temp II apparatus and are uncorrected. Analytical HPLC was performed on a Shimadzu LC-20AT Prominence liquid chromatograph using a 150 mm × 4.6 mm Princeton SPHER-100 RP C18 1000A 5  $\mu$  column using 0% water for 2 min and a 0–100% water/methanol gradient over a 5 min period and 5 min at 100% methanol at a 2.0 mL/min flow rate monitoring UV absorbance at 254 and 296 nm. Using this method of analysis, the purity of all compounds used in bioassays was determined to be ≥95%. HRMS experiments were conducted by Washington University Resource for Biomedical and Bioorganic Mass Spectrometry Department of Chemistry.

5-(4-Fluorophenyl)pyrazine-2,3(1H,4H)-dione (1). 5-(4-Fluorophenyl)-2,3-dimethoxypyrazine (100 mg, 0.43 mmol) was dissolved in a mixture of dioxane (5 mL) and 2 N HCl (5 mL). The reaction mixture was then refluxed for 21 h. After the reaction was completed, it was cooled to room temperature. Then solvent was removed under reduced pressure. The resulting white solid was dissolved in satd NaHCO<sub>3</sub>. The white suspension was filtered and solid was collected and dried to give 5-(4-fluorophenyl)pyrazine-2,3(1H,4H)-dione as a white solid (75 mg, 85%); mp 285–287 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ 11.55 (s, 1H), 11.46 (s, 1H), 7.57, (dd, *J* = 9 Hz, *J* = 5 Hz, 2H), 7.23–7.19 (m, 2H), 6.59 (d, *J* = 3 Hz, 1H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ 161.8 ( $J_{C,F}J_{C,F}$  = 243 Hz), 156.9, 155.7, 128.1, 127.6 ( $J_{C,F}$  = 9 Hz), 121.0, 115.5 ( $J_{C,F}$  = 21 Hz), 107.1. <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ –114.0. HRMS (ESI) calculated for C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>7</sub>FN<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>Na (M + Na)<sup>+</sup> 229.0384, found 229.0382.

5-(4-Fluorophenyl)-2,3-dimethoxypyrazine. 5-Bromo-2,3-dimethoxypyrazine (150 mg, 0.69 mmol), (4-fluorophenyl)boronic acid (144 mg, 1.03 mmol), Pd(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub> (80 mg, 0.069 mmol), and Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (218 mg, 2.06 mmol) were dissolved in a mixture of dioxane (6 mL) and water (2 mL). The air was evacuated and replaced with N<sub>2</sub>. Then, the reaction mixture was refluxed for 5 h. Because the reaction was not completed, additional (4-fluorophenyl)boronic acid (48 mg, 0.34 mmol) was added. It was then again refluxed for 16 h. It was cooled to room temperature, and it was diluted with EtOAc and washed with satd NH4Cl, followed by brine. The organic layer was dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated under reduced pressure, and the resulting residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel, eluting with 0-10% EtOAc/hexane. This afforded 5-(4-fluorophenyl)-2,3-dimethoxypyrazine as a white solid (123 mg, 77%); mp 108–110  $^\circ$ C.  $^1$ H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.03 (s, 1H), 7.90 (dd, J = 9 Hz, J = 5 Hz, 2H), 7.15-7.10 (m, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 163.06 (J<sub>C.F.</sub> = 247 Hz), 149.43, 149.41, 140.29, 132.66 ( $J_{C,F}$  = 3 Hz), 127.77, 127.73, 127.69 ( $J_{C,F}$  = 8 Hz), 115. 68 ( $J_{C,F}$  = 21 Hz), 54.09, 53.81. <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  –113.7. HRMS (ESI) calculated for  $C_{12}H_{12}FN_2O_2$  (M + H)<sup>+</sup> 235.0877, found 235.0880.

5-Bromo-2,3-dimethoxypyrazine. 2,3-Dimethoxypyrazine (565 mg, 4.03 mmol) and NBS (754 mg, 4.23 mmol) were dissolved in DMF (5 mL). The mixture was stirred for 29 h at room temperature. After the reaction was completed, DMF was removed by Kugelrohr distillation. Then, the resulting residue was diluted with DCM, and the organic layer was washed with satd NaHCO<sub>3</sub>, followed by brine. The organic layer was dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated under reduced pressure to provide 5-bromo-2,3-dimethoxypyrazine as a white solid

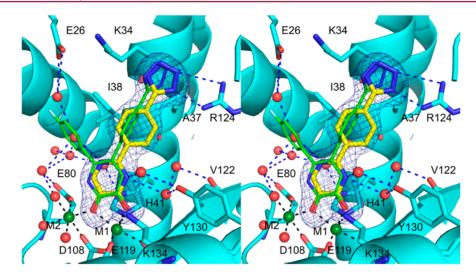


Figure 2. Stereoview image of a crystal structure of 11 (yellow) bound to  $PA_N(cyan)$  superposed with a previously published structure (PDB ID: 4M5U) of 5-(4-(1*H*-tetrazol-5-yl)phenyl)-6-(4-fluorophenyl)-3-hydroxypyridin-2(1*H*)-one (green). Metal-coordinating bonds are depicted as black dashed lines whereas hydrogen or electrostatic bonds are depicted in blue. Electron density calculated from an omit map is contoured at 4.0 $\sigma$  (blue mesh).

(384 mg, 43%); mp 54–56 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.86 (s, 1H), 4.03 (s, 3H), 3.88 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  161.2, 150.0, 141.7, 138.1, 56.6, 55.1.

2,3-Dimethoxypyrazine. 2,3-Dichloropyrazine (1.04 mL, 10 mmol) was added to MeOH (10 mL). Then the reaction mixture was cooled to 0 °C. It was treated with NaOMe (5.4 g, 100 mmol) and allowed to warm to room temperature. The reaction mixture was then stirred for 22 h at room temperature. After the reaction was completed, it was diluted with DCM. The resulting white suspension was filtered, and the filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was diluted with DCM and washed with water, followed by brine. The organic layer was dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated under reduced pressure to reveal a colorless liquid. 2,3-Dimethoxypyrazine was crystallized as a white solid (1.13 g, 81%); mp 21–23 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.47 (s, 2H), 3.88 (s, 6H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  150.3, 131.7, 53.4.

6-(4-Fluorophenyl)-5-hydroxypyrimidin-4(3H)-one (2). 6-(4-Fluorophenyl)-5-methoxypyrimidin-4(3H)-one (107 mg, 0.49 mmol) was dissolved in anhydrous DCM (5 mL). The reaction mixture was cooled to 0 °C, and the 1 M in DCM BBr<sub>3</sub> (5 mL, 5 mmol) was added. It was then allowed to warm to room temperature and stirred for 24 h. Then the solvent was removed under reduced pressure. The resulting residue was diluted with EtOAc, which was washed with satd NaHCO<sub>3</sub>, followed by brine. The organic layer was dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, followed by concentration under the vacuum. The resulting residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel, eluting with 0-10% MeOH/DCM to provide 6-(4-fluorophenyl)-5-hydroxypyrimidin-4(3H)-one as a white solid (50 mg, 50%); mp 285-287 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>) δ 12.67 (bs, 1H), 9.83 (bs, 1H), 8.20 (dd, J = 9 Hz, J = 6 Hz, 2H), 7.87 (s, 1H), 7.29–7.25 (m, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  161.9 ( $J_{C,F}$  = 245 Hz), 158.7, 141.1, 138.5, 136.0, 132.3, 130.7 ( $J_{C,F}$  = 8 Hz), 114.8 ( $J_{C,F}$  = 21 Hz). <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  –113.0. HRMS (ESI) calculated for  $C_{10}H_8FN_2O_2$  (M + H)<sup>+</sup> 207.0564, found 207.0568.

6-(4-Fluorophenyl)-5-methoxypyrimidin-4(3H)-one. 4-(4-Fluorophenyl)-5,6-dimethoxypyrimidine (134 mg 0.57 mmol) was dissolved in a mixture of 2 N HCl (5 mL) and dioxane (5 mL). The reaction mixture was then refluxed for 12 h. It was then cooled to room temperature. The reaction mixture was put under the vacuum to remove the solvent, which gave white residue. This residue was diluted with water and filtered. The solid was collected and gave 6-(4-fluorophenyl)-5-methoxypyrimidin-4(3H)-one as a white solid (109 mg, 87%); mp 204–206 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$  12.76 (s, 1H), 8.07 (s, 1H), 8.04 (dd, J = 9 Hz, J = 6 Hz, 2H), 7.33–7.28 (m, 2H), 3.34 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$  162.5 ( $J_{CF} =$ 

246 Hz), 158.8, 147.4, 143.7, 142.9, 131.7, 131.2 ( $J_{C,F} = 8$  Hz), 115.0 ( $J_{C,F} = 21$  Hz), 58.8. <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  –111.8. HRMS (ESI) calculated for  $C_{11}H_{10}FN_2O_2$  (M + H)<sup>+</sup> 221.0721, found 221.0721.

4-(4-Fluorophenyl)-5.6-dimethoxypyrimidine. 4-Chloro-4.5-dimethoxypyrimidine (165 mg, 0.95 mmol), (4-fluorophenyl)boronic acid (99 mg, 1.42 mmol), Pd(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub> (110 mg, 0.095 mmol), and Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (300 mg, 2.84 mmol) were dissolved in a mixture of dioxane (9 mL) and water (3 mL). The air was evacuated and replaced with N<sub>2</sub>. Then the reaction mixture was refluxed for 19 h. After the reaction was completed, it was cooled to room temperature and it was diluted with EtOAc and washed with satd NH<sub>4</sub>Cl, followed by brine. The organic layer was dried over Na2SO4 and concentrated under reduced pressure, and the resulting residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel, eluting with 0-10% EtOAc/hexane. This afforded 4-(4-fluorophenyl)-5,6-dimethoxypyrimidine as a white solid (181 mg, 82%); mp 62-64 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.53 (s, 1H), 8.07 (dd, J = 9 Hz, J = 6 Hz, 2H), 7.17–7.11 (m, 2H), 4.07 (s, 3H), 3.73 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  163.7 ( $J_{C,F}$  = 249 Hz), 164.0, 154.3, 152.0,139.4, 131.4 ( $J_{C,F} = 8 \text{ Hz}$ ), 131.3, 115.3 ( $J_{C,F} = 21$ Hz), 60.2, 54.2. <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ –111.0. HRMS (ESI) calculated for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>12</sub>FN<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> (M + H)<sup>+</sup> 235.0877, found 235.0882.

4-Chloro-5,6-dimethoxypyrimidine. 4,6-Dichloro-5-methoxypyrimidine (300 mg, 1.68 mmol) was added to MeOH (10 mL). Then the reaction mixture was cooled to 0 °C. It was treated with NaOMe (99 mg, 1.85 mmol) and allowed to warm to room temperature. The reaction mixture was then stirred for 19 h at room temperature. After the reaction was completed, it was put under the vacuum to remove MeOH. The resulting residue was diluted with EtOAc, which was then washed with satd NH<sub>4</sub>Cl, followed by brine. The organic layer was dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and then concentrated. The residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel, eluting with 0–10% EtOAc/hexane to provide 4-chloro-5,6-dimethoxypyrimidine as a white solid (168 mg, 57%); mp 53–55 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.27 (s, 1H), 4.03 (s, 3H), 3.88 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  163.6, 151.6, 151.3, 138.2, 60.7, 54.8.

2-(4-Fluorophenyl)-5-hydroxypyrimidin-4(3H)-one (3). 2-(4-Fluorophenyl)-5-methoxypyrimidin-4(3H)-one (58 mg, 0.26 mmol) was dissolved in anhydrous DCM (5 mL). The reaction mixture was cooled to 0  $^{\circ}$ C, and the 1 M in DCM BBr<sub>3</sub> (3 mL, 3 mmol) was added. It was then allowed to warm to room temperature and stirred for 24 h. Then the solvent was removed under reduced pressure. The resulting residue was suspended in water. It was filtered, and the solid was collected and dried under vacuum to provide 2-(4-fluorophenyl)-5-hydroxypyrimidin-4(3H)-one as a white solid (23 mg, 42%); mp

252–254 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ) δ 12.88 (bs, 1H), 9.64 (bs, 1H), 8.05 (dd, J = 9 Hz, J = 5 Hz, 2H), 7.54 (s, 1H), 7.33–7.29 (m, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ) δ 163.4 ( $J_{C,F} = 246$  Hz), 159.0, 146.9, 143.4, 131.7, 129.4 ( $J_{C,F} = 9$  Hz), 129.1, 115.5 ( $J_{C,F} = 22$  Hz). <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ) δ –110.5. HRMS (ESI) calculated for C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>8</sub>FN<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> (M + H)<sup>+</sup> 207.0564, found 207.0566.

2-(4-Fluorophenyl)-5-methoxypyrimidin-4(3H)-one. 2-(4-Fluorophenyl)-4,5-dimethoxypyrimidine (187 mg, 0.799 mmol) was dissolved in a mixture of 2 N HCl (5 mL) and dioxane (5 mL). The reaction mixture was then refluxed for 12 h. It was then cooled to room temperature. The reaction mixture was diluted with EtOAc and washed with satd NaHCO<sub>3</sub>, followed by brine. The organic layer was dried over Na2SO4 and concentrated. The resulting residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel, eluting with 50-100% EtOAc/hexane to give 2-(4-fluorophenyl)-5-methoxypyrimidin-4(3H)-one as a white solid (41 mg, 23%); mp 229-231 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>) δ 12.79 (s, 1H), 7.68 (s, 1H), 8.08 (dd, J = 9 Hz, J = 5 Hz, 2H), 7.35–7.30 (m, 2H), 3.79 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  163.6 ( $J_{C,F}$  = 247 Hz), 158.1, 148.4, 145.4, 130.4, 129.6 ( $J_{C,F}$  = 9 Hz), 129.1, 115.5 ( $J_{C,F}$  = 22 Hz), 56.0. <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  –110.2. HRMS (ESI) calculated for  $C_{11}H_9FN_2O_2Na (M + Na)^+$  243.0540, found 243.0546.

2-(4-Fluorophenyl)-4,5-dimethoxypyrimidine. 2-Chloro-4,5-dimethoxypyrimidine (500 mg, 2.86 mmol), (4-fluorophenyl)boronic acid (601 mg, 4.30 mmol), Pd(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub> (330 mg, 0.29 mmol), and Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (910 mg, 8.59 mmol) were dissolved in a mixture of dioxane (12 mL) and water (4 mL). The air was evacuated and replaced with N<sub>2</sub>. Then, the reaction mixture was refluxed for 5 h. After the reaction was completed, it was cooled to room temperature and it was diluted with EtOAc and washed with satd NH<sub>4</sub>Cl, followed by brine. The organic layer was dried over Na2SO4 and concentrated under reduced pressure, and the resulting residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel, eluting with 0-10% EtOAc/hexane. This afforded 2-(4-fluorophenyl)-4,5-dimethoxypyrimidine as a white solid (123 mg, 77%); mp 114–116 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.37 (dd, J = 9 Hz, J = 6 Hz, 2H), 8.12 (s, 1H), 7.16-7.12 (m, 2H), 4.17 (s, 3H), 3.98 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  163.1 ( $J_{CF}$  = 248 Hz), 159.7, 155.3, 141.0, 137.2, 133.6 ( $J_{C,F}$  = 3 Hz), 129.6 ( $J_{C,F}$  = 8 Hz), 115.3 ( $J_{C,F}$  = 22 Hz), 56.4, 54.0. <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ -111.9. HRMS (ESI) calculated for  $C_{12}H_{12}FN_2O_2$  (M + H)<sup>+</sup> 235.0877, found 235.0878.

2-Chloro-4,5-dimethoxypyrimidine. 2,4-Dichloro-5-methoxypyrimidine (2.37 g, 13.2 mmol) and K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (1.8 g, 13.2 mmol) were dissolved in MeOH (50 mL) and stirred for 19 h at room temperature. The solvent was removed under reduced pressure. The resulting residue was dissolved in EtOAc and washed with distilled water, followed by brine. The organic layer was dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated. The resulting residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel, eluting with 0–20% EtOAc/hexane to give 2-chloro-4,5-dimethoxypyrimidine as a white solid (1.70 g, 73%); mp 65–67 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.84 (s, 1H), 4.03 (s, 3H), 3.88 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  161.2, 150.0, 141.7, 138.2, 56.6, 55.0.

2-(3-Fluorophenyl)-5-hydroxypyrimidin-4(3H)-one (4). 2-(3-Fluorophenyl)-5-methoxypyrimidin-4(3H)-one (100 mg, 0.45 mmol) was dissolved in anhydrous DCM (5 mL). The reaction mixture was cooled to 0 °C, and then 1 M in DCM  $BBr_{3}$  (4.54 mL, 4.54 mmol) was added. It was then allowed to warm to room temperature and stirred for 18 h. Then the solvent was removed under reduced pressure. The resulting residue was diluted with EtOAc, which was washed with 2 N HCl, followed by brine. The organic layer was dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, followed by concentration under the vacuum. The resulting residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel, eluting with 0-10% MeOH/DCM to give 2-(3-fluorophenyl)-5hydroxypyrimidin-4(3H)-one as a white solid (87 mg, 93%); mp 210-212 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  7.89 (d, J = 8 Hz, 1H), 7.84 (dd, J = 10 Hz, J = 2 Hz, 1H), 7.61 (s, 1H), 7.57–7.52 (m, 1H), 7.36 (td, J = 8 Hz, J = 2 Hz, 1H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$ 162.1 ( $J_{C,F}$  = 243 Hz), 158.9, 146.5, 143.8, 134.7, 131.5, 130.6 ( $J_{C,F}$  = 8 Hz), 123.0, 117.2 ( $J_{CF}$  = 20 Hz), 113.6 ( $J_{CF}$  = 24 Hz). <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  –112.5. HRMS (ESI) calculated for C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>8</sub>FN<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> (M + H)<sup>+</sup> 207.0564, found 207.0565.

2-(3-Fluorophenyl)-5-methoxypyrimidin-4(3H)-one. 2-(3-Fluorophenyl)-4,5-dimethoxypyrimidine (390 mg, 1.67 mmol) was dissolved in a mixture of 2 N HCl (10 mL) and dioxane (10 mL). The reaction mixture was then refluxed for 18 h. It was then cooled to room temperature. The reaction mixture was diluted with EtOAc and washed with water, followed by brine. The organic layer was dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated. The resulting residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel, eluting with 0-100% EtOAc/hexane to give 2-(3-fluorophenyl)-5-methoxypyrimidin-4(3H)-one as a white solid (237 mg, 63%); mp 122-124 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO $d_6$ )  $\delta$  12.86 (bs, 1H), 7.91 (d, J = 8 Hz, 1H), 7.87–7.83 (m, 1H), 7.71 (s, 1H), 7.58–7.53 (m, 1H), 7.37 (td, J = 8 Hz, J = 2 Hz, 1H), 3.81 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  162.1 ( $J_{CF}$  = 242 Hz), 157.9, 147.8, 145.5, 134.7, 130.7 ( $J_{C,F} = 9$  Hz), 130.1, 123.2 ( $J_{C,F} = 9$  Hz), 117.5 ( $J_{C,F}$  = 22 Hz), 113.8 ( $J_{C,F}$  = 24 Hz), 56.1. <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  –112.5. HRMS (ESI) calculated for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>10</sub>FN<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> (M + H)<sup>+</sup> 221.0721, found 227.0722.

2-(3-Fluorophenyl)-4,5-dimethoxypyrimidine. 2-Chloro-4,5-dimethoxypyrimidine (300 mg, 1.72 mmol), (3-fluorophenyl)boronic acid (343 mg, 2.58 mmol), Pd(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub> (199 mg, 0.17 mmol), and Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (546 mg, 5.15 mmol) were dissolved in a mixture of dioxane (12 mL) and water (4 mL). The air was evacuated and replaced with  $N_2$ . Then the reaction mixture was refluxed for 8 h. After the reaction was completed, it was cooled to room temperature and it was diluted with EtOAc and washed with satd NH<sub>4</sub>Cl, followed by brine. The organic layer was dried over Na2SO4 and concentrated under reduced pressure, and the resulting residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel, eluting with 0-10% EtOAc/hexane. This afforded 2-(3-fluorophenyl)-4,5-dimethoxypyrimidine as a white solid (393 mg, 98%); mp 83-85 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.09 (dt, J = 8 Hz, J = 1 Hz, 1H), 8.03 (s, 1H), 8.01–7.98 (m, 1H), 7.38–7.33 (m, 1H), 7.07 (tdd, *J* = 8 Hz, *J* = 3 Hz, *J* = 1 Hz, 1H), 4.09 (s, 3H), 3.90 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  163.1 ( $J_{C,F}$  = 242 Hz), 159.5, 154.6 ( $J_{C,F}$  =3 Hz), 141.3, 139.8 ( $J_{C,F}$  = 8 Hz), 136.9, 129.7 ( $J_{C,F}$  = 8 Hz), 123.1 ( $J_{C,F}$  = 3 Hz), 116.4 ( $J_{C,F}$  = 22 Hz), 114.3 ( $J_{C,F}$  = 23 Hz), 56.2, 53.9. <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  –113.5. HRMS (ESI) calculated for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>12</sub>FN<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> (M + H)<sup>+</sup> 235.0877, found 235.0879.

2-(2-Fluorophenyl)-5-hydroxypyrimidin-4(3H)-one (5). 2-(2-Fluorophenyl)-5-methoxypyrimidin-4(3H)-one (100 mg, 0.45 mmol) was dissolved in anhydrous DCM (5 mL). The reaction mixture was cooled to 0 °C, and then 1 M in DCM BBr<sub>3</sub> (4.54 mL, 4.54 mmol) was added. It was then allowed to warm to room temperature and stirred for 18 h. Then the solvent was removed under reduced pressure. The resulting residue was diluted with EtOAc, which was washed with 2 N HCl, followed by brine. The organic layer was dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, followed by concentration under the vacuum. The resulting residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel, eluting with 0-10% MeOH/DCM to give 2-(2-fluorophenyl)-5hydroxypyrimidin-4(3H)-one as a white solid (89 mg, 96%); mp 187– 189 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  12.80 (bs, 1H), 9.73 (bs, 1H), 7.65 (t, J = 7 Hz, 1H), 7.59 (s, 1H), 7.55 (t, J = 7 Hz, 1H), 7.36-7.30 (m, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  159.3 ( $J_{CF}$  = 248 Hz), 158.2, 144.6, 143.9, 132.2 ( $J_{C,F}$  = 8 Hz), 132.1, 130.8, 124.5 ( $J_{C,F}$ = 3 Hz), 121.8 ( $J_{C,F}$  = 12 Hz), 116.1 ( $J_{C,F}$  = 21 Hz). <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  –115.2. HRMS (ESI) calculated for C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>8</sub>FN<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>  $(M + H)^+$  207.0564, found 207.0565.

2-(2-Fluorophenyl)-5-methoxypyrimidin-4(3H)-one. 2-(2-Fluorophenyl)-4,5-dimethoxypyrimidine (400 mg, 1.71 mmol) was dissolved in a mixture of 2 N HCl (10 mL) and dioxane (10 mL). The reaction mixture was then refluxed for 18 h. It was then cooled to room temperature. The reaction mixture was diluted with EtOAc and washed with water, followed by brine. The organic layer was dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated. The resulting residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel, eluting with 0–100% EtOAc/hexane, followed by 0–10% MeOH/DCM to give 2-(2-fluorophenyl)-5-methoxypyrimidin-4(3H)-one as a white solid (300 mg, 80%); mp 159–161 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  12.81 (bs, 1H), 7.70 (s, 1H), 7.66 (t, J = 8 Hz, 1H), 7.60–7.55 (m, 1H), 7.37–7.31 (m,

1H), 3.80 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$  159.3 ( $J_{C,F}$  = 248 Hz), 157.3, 145.9, 132.4 ( $J_{C,F}$  = 9 Hz), 130.8 ( $J_{C,F}$  = 8 Hz), 130.2, 124.5 ( $J_{C,F}$  = 3 Hz), 121.8, 121.6, 116.1 ( $J_{C,F}$  = 22 Hz), 56.0. <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$  –115.2. HRMS (ESI) calculated for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>10</sub>FN<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> (M + H)<sup>+</sup> 221.0721, found 221.0721.

2-(2-Fluorophenyl)-4,5-dimethoxypyrimidine. 2-Chloro-4,5-dimethoxypyrimidine (300 mg, 1.72 mmol), (2-fluorophenyl)boronic acid (343 mg, 2.58 mmol), Pd(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub> (199 mg, 0.17 mmol), and Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (546 mg, 5.15 mmol) were dissolved in a mixture of dioxane (12 mL) and water (4 mL). The air was evacuated and replaced with N<sub>2</sub>. Then, the reaction mixture was refluxed for 18 h. After the reaction was completed, it was cooled to room temperature and it was diluted with EtOAc and washed with satd NH<sub>4</sub>Cl, followed by brine. The organic layer was dried over Na2SO4 and concentrated under reduced pressure, and the resulting residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel, eluting with 0-30% EtOAc/hexane. This afforded 2-(2-fluorophenyl)-4,5-dimethoxypyrimidine as a white solid (402 mg, 100%); mp 72–74 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.11 (s, 1H), 7.97 (td, J = 8 Hz, J = 2 Hz, 1H), 7.34–7.29 (m, 1H), 7.15 (td, J = 8 Hz, J = 1 Hz, 1H), 7.11–7.06 (m, 1H), 4.06 (s, 3H), 3.90 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  161.0 ( $J_{C,F}$  = 253 Hz), 159.5, 154.2 ( $J_{C,F}$  = 4 Hz), 140.9, 137.0, 131.4 ( $J_{C,F}$  = 2 Hz), 130.9 ( $J_{C,F}$  = 8 Hz), 126. 0  $(J_{C,F} = 9 \text{ Hz})$ , 123.8  $(J_{C,F} = 4 \text{ Hz})$ , 116.7  $(J_{C,F} = 22 \text{ Hz})$ , 56.2, 54.1. <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  –114.6. HRMS (ESI) calculated for  $C_{12}H_{12}FN_2O_2$  (M + H)<sup>+</sup> 235.0877, found 235.0877.

2-(4-Biphenyl)-5-hydroxypyrimidin-4(3H)-one (6). 2-(4-Biphenyl)-5-methoxypyrimidin-4(3H)-one (50 mg, 0.18 mmol) was dissolved in anhydrous DCM (5 mL). The reaction mixture was cooled to 0 °C, and then 1 M in DCM BBr<sub>3</sub> (1.80 mL, 1.80 mmol) was added. It was then allowed to warm to room temperature and stirred for 18 h. Then the solvent was removed under reduced pressure. The resulting residue was diluted with EtOAc, which was washed with 2 N HCl, followed by brine. The organic layer was dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, followed by concentration under the vacuum. The resulting residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel, eluting with 0-10% MeOH/ DCM to give 2-(4-biphenyl)-5-hydroxypyrimidin-4(3H)-one as a white solid (46 mg, 96%); dec 259-261 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  12.85 (bs, 1H), 9.68 (bs, 1H), 8.13 (d, J = 8 Hz, 2H), 7.80 (d, J = 8 Hz, 2H), 7.75 (d, J = 7 Hz, 2H), 7.62 (s, 1H), 7.50 (t, J = 8 Hz, 2H), 7.41 (t, J = 7 Hz, 1H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$ 159.1, 147.5, 143.5, 141.9, 139.0, 131.7, 131.3, 129.0, 128.0, 128.5, 126.7, 126.7. HRMS (ESI) calculated for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>13</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> (M + H)<sup>+</sup> 265.0972, found 265.0973.

2-(4-Biphenyl)-5-methoxypyrimidin-4(3H)-one. 2-(4-Biphenyl)-4,5-dimethoxypyrimidine (343 mg, 1.73 mmol) was dissolved in a mixture of 2 N HCl (15 mL) and dioxane (15 mL). The reaction mixture was then refluxed for 18 h and became a white suspension. It was then cooled to room temperature. The suspension was filtered and solid was collected to give 2-(4-biphenyl)-5-methoxypyrimidin-4(3H)-one as white solid (256 mg, 78%); mp 292–294 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$  12.83 (bs, 1H), 8.14 (d, *J* = 8 Hz, 2H), 7.81 (d, *J* = 8 Hz, 2H), 7.77–7.72 (m, 3H), 7.50 (t, *J* = 8 Hz, 2H), 7.42 (t, *J* = 7 Hz, 1H), 3.81 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$  158.0, 148.8, 145.6, 142.1, 139.0, 131.2, 130.4, 129.0, 128.0, 127.7, 126.74, 126.70, 56.1. HRMS (ESI) calculated for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>15</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> (M + H)<sup>+</sup> 279.1128, found 279.1128.

2-(4-Biphenyl)-4,5-dimethoxypyrimidine. 2-Chloro-4,5-dimethoxypyrimidine (400 mg, 2.29 mmol), 4-biphenylboronic acid (681 mg, 3.44 mmol), Pd(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub> (264 mg, 0.23 mmol), and Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (728 mg, 6.87 mmol) were dissolved in a mixture of dioxane (12 mL) and water (4 mL). The air was evacuated and replaced with N<sub>2</sub>. Then the reaction mixture was refluxed for 8 h. After the reaction was completed, it was cooled to room temperature and it was diluted with EtOAc and washed with satd NH<sub>4</sub>Cl, followed by brine. The organic layer was dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated under reduced pressure, and the resulting residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel, eluting with 0–30% EtOAc/hexane. This afforded 2-(4-biphenyl)-4,5-dimethoxypyrimidine as a white solid (670 mg, 100%); mp 115–117 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.43 (d, *J* = 8 Hz, 2H), 8.15 (s, 1H), 7.70 (d, *J* = 8 Hz, 2H), 7.67 (*J* = 7 Hz, 2H),

7.47 (t, J = 8 Hz, 2H), 7.37 (t, J = 7 Hz, 1H), 4.19 (s, 3H), 3.98 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  159.7, 156.0. 142.5, 141.1, 140.7, 137.3, 136.4, 128.8, 128.1, 127.5, 126.1, 56.4, 54.0. HRMS (ESI) calculated for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>17</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> (M + H)<sup>+</sup> 293.1285, found 293.1286.

2-(3-Biphenyl)-5-hydroxypyrimidin-4(3H)-one (7). 2-(3-Biphenyl)-5-methoxypyrimidin-4(3H)-one (100 mg, 0.36 mmol) was dissolved in anhydrous DCM (5 mL). The reaction mixture was cooled to 0 °C, and the 1 M in DCM BBr<sub>3</sub> (3.60 mL, 3.60 mmol) was added. It was then allowed to warm to room temperature and stirred for 6 h. Then the solvent was removed under reduced pressure. The resulting residue was diluted with EtOAc, which was washed with 2 N HCl, followed by brine. The organic layer was dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, followed by concentration under the vacuum. The resulting residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel, eluting with 0-10% MeOH/ DCM to give 2-(3-biphenyl)-5-hydroxypyrimidin-4(3H)-one as a white solid (34 mg, 36%); mp 221-223 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  8.30 (s, 1H), 7.99 (d, J = 7 Hz, 1H), 7.88 (d, J = 8 Hz, 1H), 7.81 (d, J = 8 Hz, 2H), 7.66 (s, 1H), 7.63 (t, J = 8 Hz, 1H), 7.52 (t, J = 8 Hz, 2H), 7.43 (t, J = 7 Hz, 1H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$  158.9, 147.5, 143.7, 140.4, 139.5, 133.1, 132.3, 129.2, 128.9, 128.5, 127.7, 126.8, 126.0, 125.0. HRMS (ESI) calculated for  $C_{16}H_{13}N_2O_2$  (M + H)<sup>+</sup> 265.0972, found 265.0973.

2-(3-Biphenyl)-5-methoxypyrimidin-4(3H)-one. 2-(3-Biphenyl)-4,5-dimethoxypyrimidine (670 mg, 2.29 mmol) was dissolved in a mixture of 2 N HCl (15 mL) and dioxane (15 mL). The reaction mixture was then refluxed for 18 h. It was then cooled to room temperature. The reaction mixture was diluted with EtOAc and washed with water, followed by brine. The organic layer was dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated. The resulting residue was suspended in hot chloroform and was filtered. The solid was collected to give 2-(3biphenyl)-5-methoxypyrimidin-4(3H)-one as a white solid (493 mg, 77%); mp 209–211 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  12.97 (br s, 1H), 8.34 (s, 1H), 8.04 (d, J = 8 Hz, 1H), 7.83-7.80 (m, 3H), 7.73 (s, 1H), 7.59 (t, J = 8 Hz, 1H), 7.51 (t, J = 8 Hz, 2H), 7.41 (t, J = 7 Hz, 1H), 3.82 (s, 3H).  $^{13}\mathrm{C}$  NMR (100 MHz, DMSO- $d_6)$   $\delta$  157.9, 148.9, 145.8, 140.4, 139.4, 132.9, 130.5, 129.3, 128.9, 128.8, 127.8, 126.9, 126.2, 125.2, 56.1. HRMS (ESI) calculated for  $C_{17}H_{15}N_2O_2$  (M + H)<sup>+</sup> 279.1128, found 279.1129.

2-(3-Biphenyl)-4,5-dimethoxypyrimidine. 2-Chloro-4,5-dimethoxypyrimidine (400 mg, 2.29 mmol), 3-biphenylboronic acid (681 mg, 3.44 mmol), Pd(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub> (264 mg, 0.23 mmol), and Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (728 mg, 6.87 mmol) were dissolved in a mixture of dioxane (12 mL) and water (4 mL). The air was evacuated and replaced with N2. Then the reaction mixture was refluxed for 8 h. After the reaction was completed, it was cooled to room temperature and it was diluted with EtOAc and washed with satd NH<sub>4</sub>Cl, followed by brine. The organic layer was dried over Na2SO4 and concentrated under reduced pressure, and the resulting residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel, eluting with 0-30% EtOAc/hexane. This afforded 2-(3-biphenyl)-4,5-dimethoxypyrimidine as a white solid (670 mg, 100%); mp 72–74 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.62 (s, 1H), 8.36 (d, J = 8 Hz, 1H), 8.15 (s, 1H), 7.71 (d, J = 7 Hz, 2H), 7.67 (d, J = 8 Hz, 1H), 7.54 (t, J = 8 Hz, 2H), 7.49-7.45 (m, 3H), 7.37 (t, J = 7 Hz, 1H), 4.18 (s, 3H), 3.97 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>2</sub>)  $\delta$ 159.7, 156.1, 141.4, 141.17, 141.15, 137.9, 137.2, 128.9, 128.8, 128.6, 127.4, 127.3, 126.6, 126.4, 56.4, 54.0. HRMS (ESI) calculated for  $C_{18}H_{17}N_2O_2 (M + H)^+$  293.1285, found 293.1286.

2-(2-Biphenyl)-5-hydroxypyrimidin-4(3H)-one (8). 2-(2-Biphenyl)-5-methoxypyrimidin-4(3H)-one (50 mg, 0.18 mmol) was dissolved in anhydrous DCM (5 mL). The reaction mixture was cooled to 0 °C, and the 1 M in DCM BBr<sub>3</sub> (1.80 mL, 1.80 mmol) was added. It was then allowed to warm to room temperature and stirred for 18 h. Then the solvent was removed under reduced pressure. The resulting residue was diluted with EtOAc, which was washed with 2 N HCl, followed by brine. The organic layer was dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, followed by concentration under the vacuum. The resulting residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel, eluting with 0–10% MeOH/ DCM to give 2-(2-biphenyl)-5-hydroxypyrimidin-4(3H)-one as a white solid (31 mg, 64%); mp 271–273 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  7.70–7.65 (m, 2H), 7.56 (t, J = 8 Hz, 2H), 7.48 (s, 1H), 7.39 (t, J = 7 Hz, 2H), 7.33 (t, J = 7 Hz, 1H), 7.23 (d, J = 7 Hz, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  158.6, 156.9, 148.3, 140.8, 140.5, 139.4, 131.9, 130.4, 130.1, 129.9, 128.6, 128.2, 127.2. HRMS (ESI) calculated for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>13</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> (M + H)<sup>+</sup> 265.0972, found 265.0974.

2-(2-Biphenyl)-5-methoxypyrimidin-4(3H)-one. 2-(2-Biphenyl)-4,5-dimethoxypyrimidine (309 mg, 1.06 mmol) was dissolved in a mixture of 2 N HCl (15 mL) and dioxane (15 mL). The reaction mixture was then refluxed for 18 h. It was then cooled to room temperature. The reaction mixture was diluted with EtOAc and washed with water, followed by brine. The organic layer was dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated. The resulting residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel, eluting with 0–10% MeOH/DCM to give 2-(2-biphenyl)-5-methoxypyrimidin-4(3H)-one as colorless oil (158 mg, 54%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$  12.51 (bs, 1H), 7.59 (t, *J* = 8 Hz, 1H), 7.55–7.47 (m, 4H), 7.36 (t, *J* = 7 Hz, 2H), 7.30 (t, *J* = 7 Hz, 1H), 7.23 (d, *J* = 7 Hz, 2H), 3.72 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$  157.1, 151.0, 145.4, 140.3, 139.8, 133.0, 131.5, 131.4, 130.03, 130.01, 129.8, 128.6, 128.2, 127.2, 55.8. HRMS (ESI) calculated for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>15</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> (M + H)<sup>+</sup> 279.1128, found 279.1129.

2-(2-Biphenyl)-4,5-dimethoxypyrimidine. 2-Chloro-4,5-dimethoxypyrimidine (500 mg, 2.86 mmol), 2-biphenylboronic acid (851 mg, 4.30 mmol), Pd(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub> (266 mg, 0.29 mmol), and Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (909 mg, 8.58 mmol) were dissolved in a mixture of dioxane (21 mL) and water (7 mL). The air was evacuated and replaced with N2. Then the reaction mixture was refluxed for 8 h. After the reaction was completed, it was cooled to room temperature and it was diluted with EtOAc and washed with satd NH<sub>4</sub>Cl, followed by brine. The organic layer was dried over  $Na_2SO_4$  and concentrated under reduced pressure, and the resulting residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel, eluting with 0-30% EtOAc/hexane. This afforded 2-(2-biphenyl)-4,5-dimethoxypyrimidine as colorless oil (377 mg, 45%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  8.26 (s, 1H), 7.84 (dd, J = 7Hz, J = 1 Hz, 1H), 7.54–7.45 (m, 2H), 7.40 (dd, J = 7 Hz, J = 1 Hz, 1H), 7.30-7.24 (m, 3H), 7.08 (d, J = 7 Hz, 2H), 3.85 (s, 3H), 3.30 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>) 158.1, 157.2, 142.2, 141.1, 140.0, 137.7, 137.3, 130.4, 130.2, 128.9, 128.6, 127.8, 127.2, 126.2, 56.0, 52.9. HRMS (ESI) calculated for  $C_{18}H_{17}N_2O_2$  (M + H)<sup>+</sup> 293.1285, found 293.1290.

4-(5-Hydroxy-6-oxo-1,6-dihydropyrimidin-2-yl)benzonitrile (9). 4-(5-Methoxy-6-oxo-1,6-dihydropyrimidin-2-yl)benzonitrile (50 mg, 0.22 mmol) was dissolved in anhydrous DCM (5 mL). The reaction mixture was cooled to 0 °C, and then 1 M in DCM BBr<sub>3</sub> (2.2 mL, 2.2 mmol) was added. It was then allowed to warm to room temperature and stirred for 18 h. Then the solvent was removed under reduced pressure. The resulting residue was suspended in water. It was filtered, and the solid was collected and dried under vacuum to provide 4-(5-hydroxy-6-oxo-1,6-dihydropyrimidin-2-yl)benzonitrile as a white solid (15 mg, 32%); mp 324–326 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ 13.05 (bs, 1H), 9.91 (bs, 1H), 8.18 (d, *J* = 8 Hz, 2H), 7.95 (d, *J* = 8 Hz, 2H), 7.64 (s, 1H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ 158.8, 132.5, 129.4, 127.6, 127.2, 127.1, 126.7, 118.4, 112.5. HRMS (ESI) calculated for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>8</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>2</sub> (M + H)<sup>+</sup> 214.0611, found 214.0618.

4-(5-Methoxy-6-oxo-1,6-dihydropyrimidin-2-yl)benzonitrile. 4-(4,5-Dimethoxypyrimidin-2-yl)benzonitrile (53 mg, 0.22 mmol) was dissolved in a mixture of 2 N HCl (5 mL) and dioxane (5 mL). The reaction mixture was then refluxed for 5 h. It was then cooled to room temperature. The reaction mixture was diluted with EtOAc and washed with satd NaHCO<sub>3</sub>, followed by brine. The organic layer was dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated. The resulting residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel, eluting with 0–5% MeOH/DCM to give 4-(5-methoxy-6-oxo-1,6-dihydropyrimidin-2yl)benzonitrile as a white solid (50 mg, 100%); mp 297–299 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ 12.99 (bs, 1H), 8.19 (d, *J* = 8 Hz, 2H), 7.96 (d, *J* = 8 Hz, 2H), 7.75 (s, 1H), 3.81 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) 157.8, 147.4, 146.2, 136.5, 132.5, 130.0, 127.8, 118.4, 112.8, 56.1. HRMS (ESI) calculated for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>10</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>2</sub> (M + H)<sup>+</sup> 228.0768, found 228.0770.

4-(4,5-Dimethoxypyrimidin-2-yl)benzonitrile. 2-Chloro-4,5-dimethoxypyrimidine (100 mg, 0.57 mmol), (4-cyanophenyl)boronic acid (126 mg, 0.86 mmol),  $Pd(PPh_3)_4$  (66 mg, 0.06 mmol), and

Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>(182 mg, 1.72 mmol) were dissolved in a mixture of dioxane (9 mL) and water (3 mL). The air was evacuated and replaced with N<sub>2</sub>. Then the reaction mixture was refluxed for 4 h. After the reaction was completed, it was cooled to room temperature and it was diluted with EtOAc and washed with satd NH<sub>4</sub>Cl, followed by brine. The organic layer was dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated in vacuo, and the resulting residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel, eluting with 0–20% EtOAc/hexane. This afforded 4-(4,5-dimethoxypyrimidin-2-yl)benzonitrile as a white solid (69 mg, 74%); mp 170–172 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.49 (d, *J* = 9 Hz, 2H), 8.18 (s, 1H), 7.76 (d, *J* = 9 Hz, 2H), 4.20 (s, 3H), 4.02 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  159.8, 154.0, 141.8, 141.5, 137.0, 132.3, 128.0, 119.0, 113.0, 56.4, 54.2. HRMS (ESI) calculated for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>12</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>2</sub> (M + H)<sup>+</sup> 242.0924, found 242.0929.

3-(5-Hydroxy-6-oxo-1,6-dihydropyrimidin-2-yl)benzonitrile (10). 3-(5-Methoxy-6-oxo-1,6-dihydropyrimidin-2-yl)benzonitrile (50 mg, 0.22 mmol) was dissolved in anhydrous DCM (5 mL). The reaction mixture was cooled to 0 °C, and then 1 M in DCM BBr<sub>3</sub> (2.2 mL, 2.2 mmol) was added. It was then allowed to warm to room temperature and stirred for 18 h. Then the solvent was removed under reduced pressure. The resulting residue was suspended in water. It was filtered, and the solid was collected and dried under vacuum to provide 3-(5-hydroxy-6-oxo-1,6-dihydropyrimidin-2-yl)benzonitrile as a white solid (27 mg, 58%); mp 294–296 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  8.44 (s, 1H), 8.35 (d, J = 8 Hz, 1H), 7.93 (d, J = 8 Hz, 1H), 7.68 (t, J = 8 Hz, 1H), 7.61 (s, 1H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  159.3, 146.4, 143.9, 134.3, 133.4, 131.9, 131.5, 130.4, 129.8, 118.4, 111.7. HRMS (ESI) calculated for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>8</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>2</sub> (M + H)<sup>+</sup> 214.0611, found 214.0613.

3-(5-Methoxy-6-oxo-1,6-dihydropyrimidin-2-yl)benzonitrile. 3-(4,5-Dimethoxypyrimidin-2-yl)benzonitrile (138 mg, 0.57 mmol) was dissolved in a mixture of 2 N HCl (5 mL) and dioxane (5 mL). The reaction mixture was then refluxed for 6 h. It was then cooled to room temperature. The reaction mixture was diluted with EtOAc and washed with satd NaHCO<sub>3</sub>, followed by brine. The organic layer was dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated. The resulting residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel, eluting with 0–10% MeOH/DCM to give 3-(5-methoxy-6-oxo-1,6-dihydropyrimidin-2-yl)benzonitrile as a white solid (56 mg, 43%); mp 255–257 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ 12.93 (bs, 1H), 8.44 (s, 1H), 8.34 (d, *J* = 8 Hz, 1H), 7.99 (d, *J* = 8 Hz, 1H), 7.74–7.70 (m, 2H), 3.82 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ 157.9, 147.5, 145.9, 133.9, 133.7, 131.7, 130.7, 130.4, 129.9, 118.3, 111.7, 56.1. HRMS (ESI) calculated for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>10</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>2</sub> (M + H)<sup>+</sup> 228.0768, found 228.0767.

3-(4,5-Dimethoxypyrimidin-2-yl)benzonitrile. 2-Chloro-4,5-dimethoxypyrimidine (100 mg, 0.57 mmol), (3-cyanophenyl)boronic acid (126 mg, 0.86 mmol), Pd(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub> (66 mg, 0.06 mmol), and Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>(182 mg, 1.72 mmol) were dissolved in a mixture of dioxane (9 mL) and water (3 mL). The air was evacuated and replaced with N2. Then the reaction mixture was refluxed for 5 h. After the reaction was completed, it was cooled to room temperature and it was diluted with EtOAc and washed with satd NH4Cl, followed by brine. The organic layer was dried over Na2SO4 and concentrated in vacuo, and the resulting residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel, eluting with 0-20% EtOAc/hexane. This afforded 3-(4,5-dimethoxypyrimidin-2-yl)benzonitrile as a white solid (138 mg, 100%); mp 134–136 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.61 (s, 1H), 8.54 (d, J =8 Hz, 1H), 8.09 (s, 1H), 7.65 (d, J = 8 Hz, 1H), 7.51 (t, J = 8 Hz, 1H), 4.13 (s, 3H), 3.95 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  159.8, 153.6, 141.7, 138.5, 137.0, 132.8, 131.6, 131.3, 129.2, 118.9, 112.6, 56.4, 54.2. HRMS (ESI) calculated for  $C_{13}H_{12}N_3O_2$  (M + H)<sup>+</sup> 242.0924, found 242.0928.

2-(4-(1H-Tetrazol-5-yl)phenyl)-5-hydroxypyrimidin-4(3H)-one(11). 4-(5-Hydroxy-6-oxo-1,6-dihydropyrimidin-2-yl)benzonitrile (68 mg, 0.32 mmol) and NaN<sub>3</sub> (79 mg, 1.21 mmol) were dissolved in anhydrous DMF (1 mL). The reaction mixture was treated with 2 drops of acetic acid. It was sealed, and then it was heated at 130 °C for 17 h. The reaction was cooled to room temperature and gave a brownish suspension. DMF was removed by Kugelrohr distillation. The resulting residue was suspended in water and filtered to give 2-(4(1*H*-tetrazol-5-yl)phenyl)-5-hydroxypyrimidin-4(3*H*)-one as a darkbrown solid (42 mg, 51%); dec 290–292 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  8.08 (d, J = 9 Hz, 2H), 8.03 (d, J = 8 Hz, 2H), 7.55 (s, 1H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  161.0, 160.2, 148.9, 143.3, 133.8, 132.4, 131.6, 126.9, 125.5. HRMS (ESI) calculated for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>9</sub>N<sub>6</sub>O<sub>2</sub> (M + H)<sup>+</sup> 257.0781, found 257.0791.

2-(3-(1H-Tetrazol-5-yl)phenyl)-5-hydroxypyrimidin-4(3H)-one (12). 3-(5-Hydroxy-6-oxo-1,6-dihydropyrimidin-2-yl)benzonitrile (108 mg, 0.50 mmol) and NaN<sub>3</sub> (131 mg, 2.02 mmol) were dissolved in anhydrous DMF (1 mL). The reaction mixture was treated with 2 drops of acetic acid. It was sealed, and then it was heated at 130 °C for 18 h. The reaction was cooled to room temperature and gave a brownish suspension. It was filtered, and a greenish solid was obtained. The greenish solid was suspended in 2 N HCl, followed by second filtration to provide 2-(3-(1H-tetrazol-5-yl)phenyl)-5-hydroxypyrimidin-4(3H)-one as a beige solid (32 mg, 25%); dec 295–297 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$  8.67 (s, 1H), 8.11 (d, *J* = 8 Hz, 1H), 7.97 (d, *J* = 8 Hz, 1H), 7.63 (s, 1H), 7.56 (t, *J* = 8 Hz, 1H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$  162.3, 159.1, 158.7, 148.0, 143.4, 133.1, 130.4, 128.9, 127.9, 126.5, 125.1. HRMS (ESI) calculated for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>9</sub>N<sub>6</sub>O<sub>2</sub> (M + H)<sup>+</sup> 257.0781, found 257.0785.

5-(4-Fluorophenyl)-4-hydroxypyridazin-3(2H)-one (13). 5-(4-Fluorophenyl)-4-methoxy-2-(methoxymethyl)pyridazin-3(2H)-one (55 mg, 0.21 mmol) was dissolved in anhydrous DCM (10 mL). The reaction mixture was cooled to 0 °C, and then 1 M in DCM BBr<sub>3</sub> (2.1 mL, 2.1 mmol) was added. It was then allowed to warm to room temperature and stirred for 24 h. Then the solvent was removed under reduced pressure. This gave 5-(4-fluorophenyl)-4-methoxypyridazin-3(2H)-one, which was again recharged with 1 M in DCM BBr<sub>3</sub> (2.1 mL, 2.1 mmol). The reaction mixture was stirred for 24 h at room temperature. Then the solvent was again removed under reduced pressure. The resulting residue was suspended with water and filtered. The filtered solid was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel, eluting with 0-10% MeOH/DCM. This gave 5-(4-fluorophenyl)-4hydroxypyridazin-3(2H)-one as a white solid (6.2 mg, 14%); mp 274-276 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  12.70 (s, 1H), 7.76 (s, 1H), 7.58 (J = 8 Hz, J = 5 Hz, 2H), 7.21–7.17 (m, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  161.2 ( $J_{C,F}$  = 243 Hz), 161.9, 154.6, 132.7, 132.4 ( $J_{C,F}$  = 8 Hz), 127.2 ( $J_{C,F}$  = 4 Hz), 115.8, 114.2 ( $J_{C,F}$  = 21 Hz). <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  –114.1. HRMS (ESI) calculated for  $C_{10}H_8FN_2O_2$  (M + H)<sup>+</sup> 207.0564, found 207.0575.

5-(4-Fluorophenyl)-4-methoxy-2-(methoxymethyl)pyridazin-3(2H)-one. 5-Chloro-4-methoxy-2-(methoxymethyl)pyridazin-3(2H)one (58 mg, 0.28 mmol), (4-fluorophenyl)boronic acid (140 mg, 0.43 mmol), Pd(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub> (32 mg, 0.028 mmol), and Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (90 mg, 0.85 mmol) were dissolved in a mixture of dioxane (9 mL) and water (3 mL). The air was evacuated and replaced with N<sub>2</sub>. Then the reaction mixture was refluxed for 14 h. After the reaction was completed, it was cooled to room temperature, and it was diluted with EtOAc and washed with satd NH4Cl, followed by brine. The organic layer was dried over Na2SO4 and concentrated in vacuo, and the resulting residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel, eluting with 0-30% EtOAc/hexane. This afforded 5-(4-fluorophenyl)-4-methoxy-2-(methoxymethyl)pyridazin-3(2H)-one as a white solid (56 mg, 74%); mp 123–125 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.95 (s, 1H), 7.53 (dd, J = 9 Hz, J = 6 Hz, 2H), 7.11–7. 07 (m, 2H), 5.48 (s, 2H), 3.93 (s, 3H), 3.49 (s, 3H).  $^{13}\mathrm{C}$  NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  162.6 ( $J_{\mathrm{C,F}}$ = 247 Hz), 161.6, 154.8, 132.3 ( $J_{C,F}$  = 8 Hz), 128.5, 125.7, 120.7, 112.9 ( $J_{C,F}$  = 22 Hz), 81.6, 57.9, 57.3. <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ -112.6. HRMS (ESI) calculated for  $C_{13}H_{14}FN_2O_3$  (M + H)<sup>+</sup> 265.0983, found 265.0992.

5-Chloro-4-methoxy-2-(methoxymethyl)pyridazin-3(2H)-one. 4,5-Dichloro-2-(methoxymethyl)pyridazin-3(2H)-one (84 mg, 0.40 mmol) was added to MeOH (10 mL). Then the reaction mixture was cooled to 0 °C. It was treated with NaOMe (24 mg, 0.44 mmol) and allowed to warm to room temperature. The reaction mixture was then stirred for 18 h at room temperature. After the reaction was completed, it was put under the vacuum to remove MeOH. The resulting residue was diluted with EtOAc, which was then washed with satd NH<sub>4</sub>Cl, followed by brine. The organic layer was dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and then concentrated. The residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel, eluting with 0–30% EtOAc/hexane to provide 5-chloro-4-methoxy-2-(methoxymethyl)pyridazin-3(2*H*)-one as a white solid (59 mg, 72%); mp 101–103 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.85 (s, 1H), 5.45 (s, 2H), 4.08 (s, 3H), 3.44 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  159.1, 155.1, 127.1, 116.9, 81.9, 57.9, 57.8. HRMS (ESI) calculated for C<sub>7</sub>H<sub>10</sub>ClN<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> (M + H)<sup>+</sup> 205.0374, found 205.0384.

4,5-Dichloro-2-(methoxymethyl)pyridazin-3(2H)-one. 4,5-Dichloropyridazin-3(2H)-one (200 mg, 1.21 mmol) and 4-dimethylaminopyridine (15 mg, 0.12 mmol) were dissolved in anhydrous DCM (20 mL). Then the reaction mixture was cooled to 0 °C and treated with NEt<sub>3</sub> (0.29 mL, 1.70 mmol), followed by MOMCl (0.110 mL, 1.454 mmol). The reaction mixture was allowed to warm to room temperature and stirred for 17 h. It was then poured into DCM, and it was washed with satd NH<sub>4</sub>Cl, followed by brine. The organic layer was dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, which was concentrated. The resulting residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel, eluting with 0–30% EtOAc/hexane to provide 4,5-dichloro-2-(methoxymethyl)pyridazin-3(2H)-one as a white solid (84 mg, 33%); mp 65–67 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.78 (s, 1H), 5.41 (s, 2H), 3.43 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  156.9, 137.0, 136.0, 134.9, 82.4, 58.1.

6-(4-Fluorophenyl)-4-hydroxypyridazin-3(2H)-one (14). 6-(4-Fluorophenyl)-4-methoxypyridazin-3(2H)-one (16 mg, 0.074 mmol) was dissolved in anhydrous DCM (5 mL). The reaction mixture was cooled to 0 °C, and then 1 M in DCM BBr<sub>3</sub> (0.74 mL, 0.74 mmol) was added. It was then allowed to warm to room temperature and stirred for 36 h. Then the solvent was removed under reduced pressure. The resulting residue was suspended in water. It was filtered, and the solid was collected and dried under vacuum to provide 6-(4fluorophenyl)-4-hydroxypyridazin-3(2H)-one as a white solid (5 mg, 35%); mp 281–283 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  13.10 (bs, 1H), 11.02 (bs, 1H), 7.87 (dd, J = 9 Hz, J = 5 Hz, 2H), 7.30–7.26 (m,2H), 7.19 (s, 1H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  162.6 ( $J_{C,F}$ = 245 Hz), 157.6, 155.4, 145.2, 132.0 ( $J_{C,F}$  = 3 Hz), 128.0 ( $J_{C,F}$  = 9 Hz), 115.6 ( $J_{C,F}$  = 22 Hz), 106.0. <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$ -113.0. HRMS (ESI) calculated for C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>8</sub>FN<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> (M + H)<sup>+</sup> 207.0564, found 207.0567.

6-(4-Fluorophenyl)-4-methoxypyridazin-3(2H)-one. 6-(4-Fluorophenyl)-3,4-dimethoxypyridazine (122 mg 0.52 mmol) was dissolved in a mixture of 2 N HCl (5 mL) and dioxane (5 mL). The reaction mixture was then refluxed for 11 h. It was then cooled to room temperature. The reaction mixture was diluted with EtOAc and washed with satd NaHCO<sub>3</sub>, followed by brine. The organic layer was dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated. The resulting residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel, eluting with 0–10% MeOH/DCM to give 6-(4-fluorophenyl)-4-methoxypyridazin-3(2H)-one as a white solid (41 mg, 36%); mp 211–213 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>) δ 13.05 (br s, 1H), 7.96 (dd, *J* = 9 Hz, *J* = 6 Hz, 2H), 7.34–7.29 (m, 2H), 7.28 (s, 1H), 3.92 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>) δ 162.7 (*J*<sub>C,F</sub> = 245 Hz), 156.2, 155.7, 144.3, 132.0 (*J*<sub>C,F</sub> = 3 Hz), 128.2 (*J*<sub>C,F</sub> = 8 Hz), 115.6 (*J*<sub>C,F</sub> = 22 Hz), 104.4, 56.2. <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>) δ –112.9. HRMS (ESI) calculated for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>10</sub>FN<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> (M + H)<sup>+</sup> 221.0721, found 221.0727.

6-(4-Fluorophenyl)-3,4-dimethoxypyridazine. 6-Chloro-3,4-dimethoxypyridazine (101 mg, 0.58 mmol), (4-fluorophenyl)boronic acid (122 mg, 0.87 mmol), Pd(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub> (67 mg, 0.06 mmol), and Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>(184 mg, 1.74 mmol) were dissolved in a mixture of dioxane (15 mL) and water (5 mL). The air was evacuated and replaced with N<sub>2</sub>. Then the reaction mixture was refluxed for 3 h. After the reaction was completed, it was cooled to room temperature and it was diluted with EtOAc and washed with satd NH4Cl, followed by brine. The organic layer was dried over Na2SO4 and concentrated under reduced pressure, and the resulting residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel, eluting with 0-20% EtOAc/hexane. This afforded 6-(4-fluorophenyl)-3,4-dimethoxypyridazine as a white solid (109 mg, 80%); mp 103–105 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.88 (dd, J = 9 Hz, J = 5 Hz, 2H), 7.10-7. 06 (m, 2H), 7.00 (s, 1H), 4.14 (s, 3H), 3.93 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  163.7 ( $J_{C,F}$  = 247 Hz), 156.5, 155.7, 148.9, 132.9 ( $J_{CF}$  = 3 Hz), 128.5 ( $J_{CF}$  = 9 Hz), 115.8 ( $J_{CF}$ 

= 21 Hz), 104.7, 55.7, 55.2.  $^{19}F$  NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  –112.2. HRMS (ESI) calculated for  $C_{12}H_{12}FN_2O_2~(M$  + H)^+ 235.0877, found 235.0885.

6-Chloro-3,4-dimethoxypyridazine. 3,4,6-Trichloropyridazine (200 mg, 1.09 mmol) was added to MeOH (15 mL). Then the reaction mixture was cooled to 0 °C. It was treated with NaOMe (117 mg, 2.17 mmol) and allowed to warm to room temperature. The reaction mixture was then stirred for 10 h at room temperature. After the reaction was completed, it was put under the vacuum to remove MeOH. The resulting residue was diluted with EtOAc, which was then washed with satd NH<sub>4</sub>Cl, followed by brine. The organic layer was dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and then concentrated. The residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel, eluting with 0–30% EtOAc/hexane to provide 4-chloro-5,6-dimethoxypyrimidine as a white solid (101 mg, 53%); mp 117–119 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 6.71 (s, 1H), 4.08 (s, 3H), 3.88 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 156.9, 151.1, 149.8, 108.4, 56.2, 55.3.

4-(5-Hydroxy-6-oxo-1,6-dihydropyridazin-3-yl)benzonitrile (15). 4-(5-Methoxy-6-oxo-1,6-dihydropyridazin-3-yl)benzonitrile (109 mg, 0.48 mmol) was dissolved in anhydrous DCM (5 mL). The reaction mixture was cooled to 0 °C, and then 1 M in DCM BBr<sub>3</sub> (4.8 mL, 4.8 mmol) was added. It was then allowed to warm to room temperature and stirred for 20 h. Then the solvent was removed under reduced pressure. The resulting residue was suspended in water. It was filtered, and the solid was collected. The solid was dry loaded on silica gel and was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel, eluting with 0-10% MeOH/DCM. This afforded 4-(5-hydroxy-6-oxo-1,6-dihydropyridazin-3-yl)benzonitrile as a white solid (75 mg, 73%); mp 305-307 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>) δ 13.29 (s, 1H), 11.15 (bs, 1H), 8.03 (d, J = 9 Hz, 2H), 7.92 (d, J = 9 Hz, 2H), 7.29 (s, 1H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>) δ 157.7, 154.6, 144.4, 139.8, 132.7, 126.5, 118.6, 111.4, 106.0. HRMS (ESI) calculated for  $C_{11}H_8N_3O_2$  (M + H)<sup>+</sup> 214.0611, found 214.0615.

4-(5-Methoxy-6-oxo-1,6-dihydropyridazin-3-yl)benzonitrile. 4-(5,6-Dimethoxypyridazin-3-yl)benzonitrile (125 mg, 0.52 mmol) was dissolved in a mixture of 2 N HCl (5 mL) and dioxane (5 mL). The reaction mixture was then refluxed for 4 h. It was then cooled to room temperature and then put under reduced pressure. The resulting residue was suspended in water and filtered. The product 4-(5methoxy-6-oxo-1,6-dihydropyridazin-3-yl)benzonitrile was collected as a white solid (82 mg, 70%); mp 271–273 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>) δ 13.97 (bs, 1H), 8.02 (d, *J* = 8 Hz, 2H), 7.94 (d, *J* = 8 Hz, 2H), 6.62 (s, 1H), 3.96 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>) δ 156.3, 155.9, 143.5, 139.7, 132.7, 126.7, 118.6, 111.4, 104.3, 56.3. HRMS (ESI) calculated for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>10</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>2</sub> (M + H)<sup>+</sup> 228.0768, found 228.0774.

4-(5,6-Dimethoxypyridazin-3-yl)benzonitrile. 6-Chloro-3,4-dimethoxypyridazine (298 mg, 1.71 mmol), (4-cyanophenyl)boronic acid (376 mg, 2.56 mmol), Pd(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub> (198 mg, 0.17 mmol), and Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>(543 mg, 5.12 mmol) were dissolved in a mixture of dioxane (15 mL) and water (5 mL). The air was evacuated and replaced with N<sub>2</sub>. Then the reaction mixture was refluxed for 15 h. After the reaction was completed, it was cooled to room temperature and it was diluted with EtOAc and washed with satd NH<sub>4</sub>Cl, followed by brine. The organic layer was dried over Na2SO4 and concentrated under reduced pressure, and the resulting residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel, eluting with 0-30% EtOAc/hexane. This afforded 4-(5,6-dimethoxypyridazin-3-yl)benzonitrile as a white solid (130 mg, 31%); mp 187–189 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.10 (d, J = 8 Hz, 2H), 7.77 (d, J = 8 Hz, 2H), 7.14 (s, 1H), 4.23 (s, 3H), 4.03 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 157.1, 154.7, 149.1, 140.9, 132.6, 127.3, 118.5, 113.0, 104.9, 55.9, 55.3. HRMS (ESI) calculated for  $C_{13}H_{12}N_3O_2$  (M + H)<sup>+</sup> 242.0924, found 242.0931.

6-(4-(1H-Tetrazol-5-yl)phenyl)-4-hydroxypyridazin-3(2H)-one(16). 4-(5-Methoxy-6-oxo-1,6-dihydropyridazin-3-yl)benzonitrile (56 mg, 0.26 mmol) and NaN<sub>3</sub> (69 mg, 1.06 mmol) were dissolved in anhydrous DMF (1 mL). The reaction mixture was treated with 2 drops of acetic acid. It was sealed, and then it was heated at 130 °C for 21 h. The reaction was cooled to room temperature and gave a brownish suspension. The suspension was filtered and gave a white solid, which was treated with 2 N HCl and filtered again. This afforded 6-(4-(1*H*-tetrazol-5-yl)phenyl)-4-hydroxypyridazin-3(2*H*)-one as a white solid (33 mg, 48%); dec 273–275 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ) δ 11.13 (s, 1H), 8.09 (d, *J* = 8 Hz, 2H), 7.95 (d, *J* = 7 Hz, 2H), 7.25 (s, 1H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ) δ 158.0, 157.7, 154.9, 145.7, 135.8, 128.9, 126.6, 126.2, 105.9. HRMS (ESI) calculated for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>9</sub>N<sub>6</sub>O<sub>2</sub> (M + H)<sup>+</sup> 257.0781, found 257.0791.

**Expression, Purification, and Crystallization.** Pandemic H1N1 endonuclease (residues 1–204) was expressed and purified as described previously.<sup>13</sup> The BL21 (RIL) cells (Stratagene) were grown to an OD<sub>600</sub> of 0.8 and induced with 0.15 mM IPTG at 17 °C for 17 h. Cells were harvested by centrifugation and purified on Ni-NTA (Qiagen) according to manufacturers recommendations, except the final elution was completed with 500 mM imidazole containing buffer. The dual hexahis tag was then removed by HRV14 3C protease cleavage. The endonuclease was further purified by size exclusion chromatography using HiLoad 26/60 Superdex 75 (GE Healthcare). The buffer used for size exclusion and the final buffer for storage of the protein was 100 mM NaCl and 20 mM Tris pH 8.0. The protein was concentrated to 5 mg/mL using an Ultrafree 10K (Millipore), aliquoted, and stored at -80 °C.

Crystals are formed by mixing in a 1:1 ratio endonuclease (5 mg/ mL) with crystallization buffer containing 200 mM MES pH 6.7, 27% PEG8000, 200 mM ammonium sulfate, 1 mM manganese chloride, 10 mM magnesium acetate, 10 mM taurine, and 50 mM sodium fluoride. Crystals form within a few hours and grow to maximum size in 1-2 weeks at 20 °C.

**Compound Soaking, Data Collection, and Processing.** Crystal structures of compounds **11** were determined in complex with endonuclease as previously described.<sup>11</sup> **11** was soaked into preformed crystals by stepwise gradient shifting the surrounding crystallization solution to 1 mM manganese sulfate, 200 mM HEPES pH 7.7, 25% (w/v) PEG 8000, 50 mM ammonium sulfate, 5 mM magnesium acetate, 80 mM L-arginine, 10% DMSO containing 100 mM **11**, and 10% (v/v) ethylene glycol. Crystals were then soaked with the ligand for 2 h at 20 °C before being placed into liquid nitrogen for storage. X-ray diffraction data collection was performed at the Cornell High Energy Synchrotron Source (CHESS) F1 beamline. The diffraction data were indexed, processed, scaled, and merged using HKL2000.<sup>32</sup> The structure was solved and refined using the software PHENIX.<sup>33</sup>

**Endonuclease Assay.** A high throughput endonuclease assay was performed as described previously.<sup>11</sup> The endonuclease assay used a single-stranded DNA probe with the sequence (6-FAM)-TGGCAATATCAGCTCCACA(MGBNFQ) (Applied Biosystems). Reaction buffer contained 50 mM Tris pH 7.5, 50 mM sodium chloride, 1 mM DTT, 5 mM magnesium chloride, 0.5 mM manganese sulfate, and 1 mM CHAPS. DNA probe (50 nM), endonuclease (25 nM), and compound were mixed on ice and then placed in a Varioskan fluorimeter (Thermo Scientific) preincubated at 37 °C to detect fluorescence with an excitation of 488 nm and emission of 518 nm. Fluorescence is measured at various time points, and activity/ inhibition is calculated with GraphPad Prism 6.0b.

### ASSOCIATED CONTENT

#### Supporting Information

X-ray data and refinement statistics for the analysis performed with **11**. The atomic coordinates and structure factors are deposited in the Protein Data Bank (PDB) with ID 4W9S. This material is available free of charge via the Internet at http:// pubs.acs.org.

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#### Notes

The authors declare the following competing financial interest(s): Prof. LaVoie is a co-founder, together with Dr. Bauman, Dr. Das and Prof. Arnold, of Prodaptics Pharmaceuticals, Inc..

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