Discovery of an in Vivo Chemical Probe of the Lysine Methyltransferases G9a and GLP

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Ⓢ *Supporting Information*

ABSTRACT: Among epigenetic "writers", "readers", and "erasers", the lysine methyltransferases G9a and GLP, which catalyze mono- and dimethylation of histone H3 lysine 9 (H3K9me2) and nonhistone proteins, have been implicated in a variety of human diseases. A "toolkit" of well-characterized chemical probes will allow biological and disease hypotheses concerning these proteins to be tested in cell-based and animal models with high confidence. We previously discovered potent and selective G9a/GLP inhibitors including the cellular chemical probe UNC0638, which displays an excellent separation of functional potency and cell toxicity. However, this inhibitor is not suitable for animal studies due to its poor pharmacokinetic (PK) properties. Here, we report the discovery of the first G9a and GLP in vivo chemical probe UNC0642, which not only maintains high in vitro and cellular potency, low cell toxicity, and excellent selectivity, but also displays improved in vivo PK properties, making it suitable for animal studies.
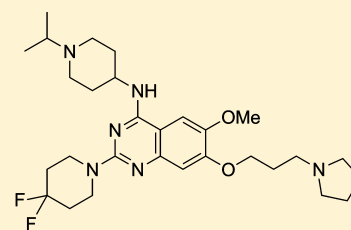
G9a and GLP: IC$_{50}$ < 2.5 nM
> 2,000-fold selective over other methyltransferases
Improved in vivo PK properties

■ INTRODUCTION

Protein lysine methylation catalyzed by protein lysine methyltransferases [PKMTs, also known as histone methyl-transferases (HMTs)] has been increasingly recognized as a major signaling mechanism in eukaryotic cells.[1−5] PKMTs target both histone and nonhistone substrates and display significant variation in their ability to catalyze mono-, di-, and/or trimethylation.[1,3,5−8] In the context of epigenetic gene regulation, the different states of histone lysine methylation encode distinct signals and are recognized by a host of proteins and protein complexes. More than 50 PKMTs have been identified to date and many of them have been implicated in various human diseases.[1,3,9,10] During the last several years, the PKMT target class has received considerable attention from the drug discovery and medicinal chemistry community. A number of selective small-molecule inhibitors that target the PKMT substrate binding groove,[11−17] cofactor binding site,[18−31] and a PRMT (protein arginine methyltransferase) allosteric binding site[32,33] have been reported. However, well-characterized chemical probes[34−36] of PKMTs that are suitable for cell-based and animal studies are still rare. Such probes are invaluable tools for testing biological and therapeutic hypotheses concerning the PKMTs and for their validation as drug targets.

G9a [also known as KMT1C (lysine methyltransferase 1C) or EHMT2 (euchromatic histone methyltransferase 2)] and GLP [also known as KMT1D (lysine methyltransferase 1D) or EHMT1 (euchromatic histone methyltransferase 1)] are two closely related proteins and were initially identified as H3K9 (histone H3 lysine 9) methyltransferases.[37,38] They share 80% sequence identity in their respective SET (suppressor of variegation 3−9, enhancer of zeste and trithorax) domains.[38] In addition to H3K9, G9a and GLP methylate many nonhistone proteins.[39,40] For example, G9a and GLP catalyze dimethyla-tion of the tumor suppressor p53, resulting in inactivation of the transcriptional activity of p53.[6] G9a is overexpressed in leukemia,[6] prostate carcinoma,[6,41] hepatocellular carcinoma,[42] and lung cancer.[43] Knockdown of G9a inhibits prostate, lung, and leukemia cancer cell growth.[41,43,44] Moreover, G9a and/or GLP play a role in cocaine addiction,[45,46] mental retardation,[47] maintenance of HIV-1 (human immunodeficiency virus type 1) latency,[48] and stem cell function, maintenance, differentiation, and reprogramming.[49−54] In addition, GLP has been implicated in Kleefstra syndrome,[55,56] a disorder affecting intellectual ability.

BIX01294 (**1**), the first selective inhibitor of G9a and GLP, was discovered via high-throughput screening (Figure 1).[11] Optimization of this chemical series based on the cocrystal structure of GLP in complex with inhibitor **1**[57] led to the
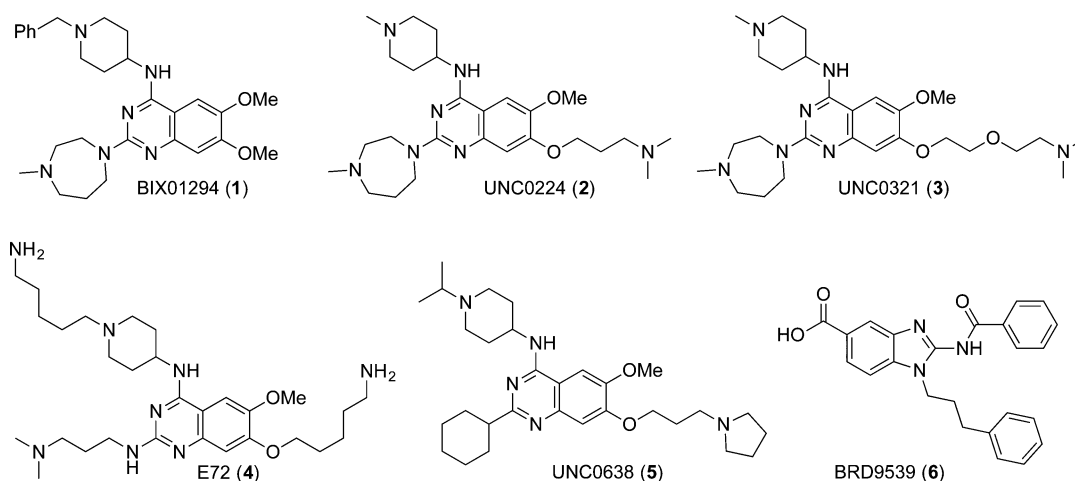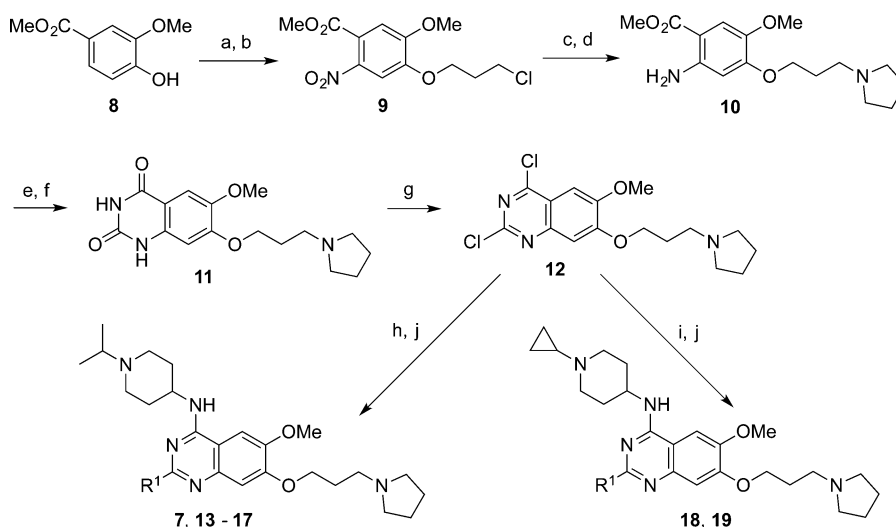
Figure 1. Known small-molecule inhibitors of G9a/GLP.[11−15,20]
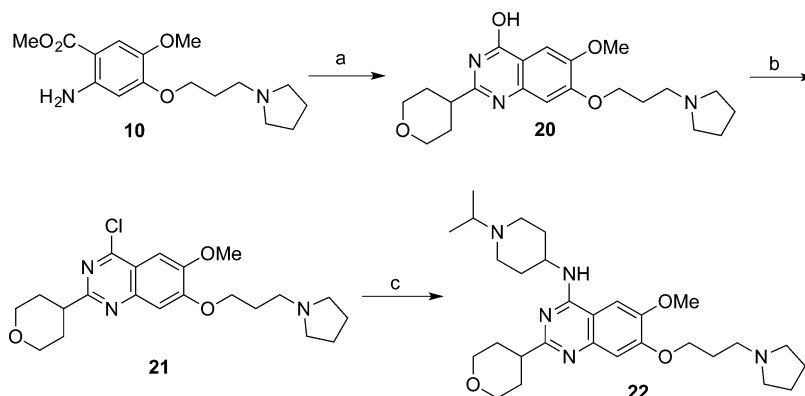
Scheme 1. Synthesis of Compounds 7 and 13−19[a]

[a]Reagents and conditions: (a) 1-chloro-3-iodopropane, K₂CO₃, CH₃CN, reflux; (b) HNO₃, Ac₂O, 0 °C to rt, 75% over two steps; (c) pyrrolidine, K₂CO₃, NaI, cat. tetrabutylammonium iodide, CH₃CN, reflux, 81%; (d) Fe dust, NH₄OAc, AcOEt, H₂O, reflux, 63%; (e) NaOCN, AcOH, H₂O, rt; (f) NaOH, H₂O, MeOH, reflux; (g) *N,N*-diethylaniline, POCl₃, reflux, 50% over three steps; (h) 1-isopropylpiperidin-4-amine, DIEA, THF, rt, 94%; (i) 1-cyclopropylpiperidin-4-amine, DIEA, THF, rt, 89%; (j) various amines, TFA, *i*-PrOH, 160 °C, microwave, 74−82%.

discovery of the potent and selective G9a/GLP inhibitors UNC0224 (**2**), UNC0321 (**3**), and E72 (**4**) (Figure 1).[12−14] Further optimization of this quinazoline scaffold resulted in the discovery of the G9a and GLP cellular chemical probe UNC0638 (**5**), which displays balanced in vitro potency, aqueous solubility, and cell membrane permeability (Figure 1).[15,16] Inhibitor **5** is highly selective for G9a and GLP over a broad range of epigenetic and nonepigenetic targets and exhibits robust on-target activities in cells and low cell toxicity.[15] More recently, BRD9539 (**6**), a structurally distinct inhibitor of G9a, was reported (Figure 1).[20] Although inhibitor **5** is an excellent chemical probe for cell-based studies,[54,58] it is not suitable for animal studies due to its poor in vivo pharmacokinetic (PK) properties.[15] We therefore endeavored to optimize the PK properties of the quinazoline series. Here we report the discovery of UNC0642 (**7**), the first in vivo chemical probe of G9a and GLP. This inhibitor not only displays high in vitro and cellular potency, low cell toxicity, and excellent selectivity, but also exhibits greatly improved in vivo PK properties as compared to inhibitor **5**. We describe (1) the

synthesis of novel compounds aimed at improving PK properties of this series; (2) structure−activity relationships (SAR) of these compounds in biochemical and cell-based assays; (3) in vitro and in vivo PK properties of selected inhibitors; and (4) further characterization of inhibitor **7** in a number of biochemical and cell-based studies, including mechanism of action, selectivity, and phenotypic effect studies.

■ RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Synthesis. We hypothesized that the 2-cyclohexyl group of inhibitor **5** could contribute to its poor metabolic stability due to cytochrome P450 mediated oxidation of the cyclohexyl ring. Because modifications to the 2-substituent of the quinazoline scaffold are well-tolerated,[14,16] we extensively explored this region and designed a number of novel analogs aimed at improving metabolic stability while maintaining high in vitro and cellular potency. We also conducted limited exploration of the 4-amino and 7-aminoalkoxy regions.

Scheme 2. Synthesis of Compound 22[a]

[a]Reagents and conditions: (a) 4 N HCl, dioxane, tetrahydro-2H-pyran-4-carbonitrile, 100 °C; (b) N,N-diethylaniline, POCl₃, reflux, 48% over two steps; (c) 1-isopropylpiperidin-4-amine, K₂CO₃, DMF, 60 °C, 78%.

Scheme 3. Synthesis of Compounds 26a and 26b[a]
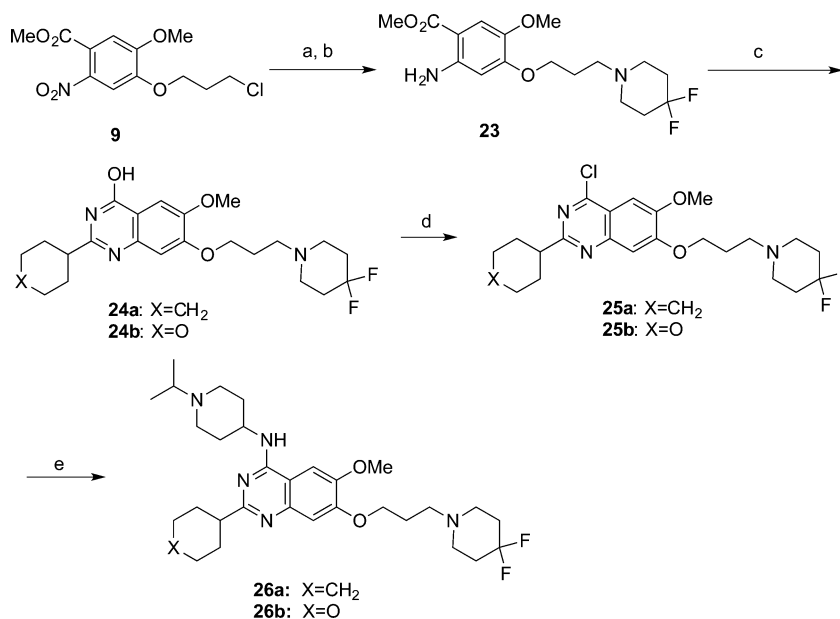
[a]Reagents and conditions: (a) 4,4-difluoropiperidine, K₂CO₃, NaI, cat. tetrabutylammonium iodide, CH₃CN, reflux, 81%; (b) Fe dust, NH₄OAc, AcOEt–H₂O, reflux, 60%; (c) 4 N HCl, dioxane, cyclohexanecarbonitrile or tetrahydro-2H-pyran-4-carbonitrile, 100 °C; (d) N,N-diethylaniline, POCl₃, reflux, 49–53% over two steps; (e) 1-isopropylpiperidin-4-amine, K₂CO₃, DMF, 60 °C, 75–77%.

We previously developed an efficient synthetic route for preparing 2-aminoquinazolines, which allows various 2-amino groups to be installed at the last step of the synthetic sequence.[16] Using this efficient route, we synthesized the 2-aminoquinazolines **7** and **13−17** from commercially available methyl 4-hydroxy-3-methoxybenzoate (**8**) in nine steps in good yields (Scheme 1 and Table 1). Briefly, compound **8** was reacted with 1-chloro-3-iodopropane, followed by nitration, to afford the chloride **9**. Substitution of the chloride with pyrrolidine and subsequent reduction of the nitro group yielded the aniline **10**. Urea formation and subsequent ring closure afforded the intermediate **11**, which was then converted to the 2,4-dichloroquinazoline **12**. Two consecutive displacement reactions yielded the desired final products **7** and **13−17**. It is worth noting that 5 g of inhibitor **7** was produced in 14.8% overall yield using this synthetic route. We also synthesized compounds **18** and **19**, which contain a cyclopropyl group

instead of an isopropyl group as the N-capping group of the upper piperidine moiety, following the same synthetic route.

Compound **22**, which contains a tetrahydropyran-4-yl group at the 2-position, was prepared according to the synthetic route[15] developed for synthesis of inhibitor **5** (Scheme 2). In brief, the aniline **10** was reacted with tetrahydro-2H-pyran-4-carbonitrile to yield the cyclization product **20**, which was then converted to the 4-chloroquinazoline **21**. Subsequent displacement of the chloride with 1-isopropylpiperidin-4-amine afforded the desired product **22**.
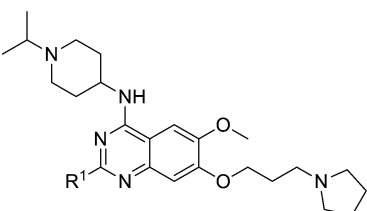
Finally, compounds **26a** and **26b**, which were designed to explore the 7-aminoalkoxy moiety, were synthesized according to Scheme 3. Substitution of the chloride **9** with 4,4-difluoropiperidine and subsequent reduction of the nitro group afforded the aniline **23**, which was reacted with cyclohexanecarbonitrile or tetrahydro-2H-pyran-4-carbonitrile to yield the quinazolines **24**. Similarly to synthesis of compound **22**, the intermediates **24** were converted to the 4-

chloroquinazolines **25**, which were subsequently converted to the desired products **26a** and **26b**.

SAR in a G9a Biochemical Assay. The synthesized compounds were evaluated in a radioactive biochemical assay that measures the transfer of the tritiated methyl group from the cofactor ^{3}H-S-adenosyl methionine (SAM) to a peptide substrate catalyzed by G9a. IC$_{50}$ values of these compounds in this biochemical assay are summarized in Tables 1−3.

We were pleased to find that the 2-cyclohexyl group (**5**) can be replaced by a variety of 2-substituents without a significant loss of potency (Table 1). In particular, compounds possessing

Table 1. SAR of the 2-Amino Moiety

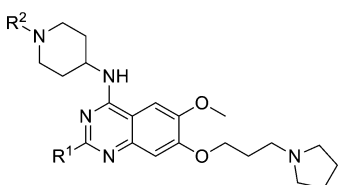| Compound	R^1	G9a IC$_{50}$ (nM)^a
5	cyclohexyl	< 2.5
7 (UNC0642)	4,4-difluoropiperidin-1-yl	< 2.5
13 (UNC1479)	morpholin-4-yl	< 2.5
14	1,1-dioxidothiomorpholin-4-yl	14 ± 0.6
15	3,3,4,4-tetrafluoropyrrolidin-1-yl	26 ± 1
16	piperidin-1-yl	< 2.5
17	azepan-1-yl	< 2.5
22	tetrahydropyran-4-yl	9.0 ± 0.1

^{a}IC$_{50}$ determination experiments were performed in triplicate.

a 2-(4,4-difluoropiperidin-1-yl) (**7**), 2-(morpholin-4-yl) (**13**), 2-(piperidin-1-yl) (**16**), or 2-(azepan-1-yl) (**17**) maintained high in vitro potency (IC$_{50}$ < 2.5 nM). Although compounds **14**, **15**, and **22**, which contain a 2-(1,1-dioxidethiomorpholin-4-yl), 2-(3,3,4,4-tetrafluoropyrrolin-1-yl), or 2-(tetrahydropyran-4-yl) group, were not as potent as compound **5**, the in vitro potency of these inhibitors is still quite good (IC$_{50}$ < 30 nM). These SAR findings are consistent with our previous

results,[14,16] further demonstrating that modifications to the 2-amino region of the quinazoline scaffold are well-tolerated.

For the *N*-capping group of the upper piperidine moiety, we found that the isopropyl group can be replaced by a cyclopropyl group (**7** versus **18**, and **14** versus **19**) without a significant change in potency (Table 2). Although we previously showed

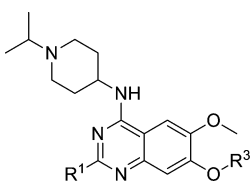**Table 2. SAR of the *N*-Capping Group of the Upper Piperidine Moiety**

Compound	R^1	R^2	G9a IC$_{50}$ (nM)^a
7	4,4-difluoropiperidin-1-yl	*i*-propyl	< 2.5
18		*c*-propyl	3.0 ± 0.1
14	1,1-dioxidothiomorpholin-4-yl	*i*-propyl	14 ± 0.6
19		*c*-propyl	4.0 ± 0.2

^{a}IC$_{50}$ determination experiments were performed in triplicate.

that a large *N*-capping group such as cyclohexylmethyl is tolerated in this region,[16] we thought that such a large lipophilic group might increase metabolic liability and, therefore, did not explore this region further. In addition, we attempted to replace the 7-(3-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)propoxy) group with the 7-(3-(4,4-difluoropiperidin-1-yl)propoxy) group (Table 3). To our surprise, this replacement resulted in a complete loss of potency (**5** versus **26a**, and **22** versus **26b**). Because a basic nitrogen in this region is required for maintaining high in vitro

Table 3. SAR of the 7-Aminoalkoxy Moiety

Compound	R^1	R^3	G9a IC$_{50}$ (nM)^a
5	cyclohexyl	propyl-pyrrolidin-1-yl	< 2.5
26a (UNC1152)		propyl-(4,4-difluoropiperidin-1-yl)	> 26,000
22	tetrahydropyran-4-yl	propyl-pyrrolidin-1-yl	9.0 ± 0.1
26b		propyl-(4,4-difluoropiperidin-1-yl)	> 50,000

^{a}IC$_{50}$ determination experiments were performed in triplicate.

potency and few modifications are tolerated,[14,16] we did not further investigate this region.

Assessment of Functional Potency and Cell Toxicity. The inhibitors that displayed $IC_{50} < 10$ nM in the biochemical assay were next evaluated in an H3K9me2 cell immunofluorescence in-cell Western (ICW) assay, for assessing their cellular potency, and a standard resazurin (Alamar Blue) reduction assay, for assessing their cell toxicity. MDA-MB-231 cells were used in this study because this cell line possesses robust H3K9me2 levels.

We were pleased to find that all eight inhibitors exhibited good potency at reducing cellular levels of H3K9me2 (IC_{50} = 100−600 nM), low cell toxicity ($EC_{50} > 5000$ nM), and a good separation of functional potency and cell toxicity with a ratio of toxicity to functional potency (tox/function ratio, which is determined by dividing the EC_{50} value of the observed toxicity by the IC_{50} value of the functional potency) >45 (Table 4). In particular, inhibitors **7**, **13**, and **22** displayed high cellular potency and an excellent tox/function ratio (>130), similar to that of our G9a/GLP cellular chemical probe **5**.

Table 4. Functional Potency and Cell Toxicity of Selected Inhibitors in MDA-MB-231 Cells[a]

compd	H3K9me2 IC_{50} (nM)	cell toxicity EC_{50} (nM)	tox/function ratio
5	81	11 000	136
7	110	16 700	152
13	180	23 700	132
16	150	7 000	47
17	100	5 700	57
18	310	14 700	47
19	590	>50 000	>85
22	310	>50 000	>161

[a]IC_{50} or EC_{50} values are the average of experimental triplicates with standard deviation (SD) values that are about 3-fold less than the average.

Assessment of in Vitro and in Vivo PK Properties. We next evaluated in vitro metabolic stability of selected inhibitors using mouse liver microsomes. As shown in Table 5, inhibitors

Table 5. In Vitro Metabolic Stability of Selected Inhibitors

compd	CL_{int} (mL/min/g liver)	$T_{1/2}$ (min)
5	1.0	73
7	0.5	>90
13	0.7	>90
15	<0.5	>90
22	4.7	16
26	7.4	10

7 and **13** displayed improved intrinsic clearance (CL_{int}) and half-life ($T_{1/2}$) compared with inhibitor **5**. Interestingly, inhibitor **15**, which possesses a 2-(3,3,4,4-tetrafluoropyrrolin-1yl) group, exhibited the best in vitro metabolic stability, although this inhibitor was significantly less potent than inhibitors **5**, **7**, and **13** (see Table 1). On the other hand, compounds **22** and **26b**, which contain a 2-(tetrahydropyran-4-yl) group, displayed a significant decrease in metabolic stability. Surprisingly, inhibitor **26b**, which has a 7-(3-(4,4-difluoropiperidin-1-yl)propoxy) group, was not only less potent than compound **22**, which contains a 7-(3-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)propoxy) group (see Table 3), but also metabolically less stable

compared with inhibitor **22**. Taken together, these results indicate that modifications aimed at preventing CYP450-mediated oxidation of the 2-substituent of the quinazoline scaffold can lead to improved in vitro metabolic stability.

On the basis of high in vitro and cellular potencies, low cell toxicity, and good in vitro metabolic stability, we selected inhibitors **7** and **13** for evaluation of their in vivo PK properties in male Swiss Albino mice. A single intraperitoneal (ip) injection (5 mg/kg) of inhibitor **7** resulted in a plasma C_{max} (maximum concentration) of 947 ng/mL, which is more than 10-fold higher than that of inhibitor **5**, and an AUC (area under the curve) of 1265 h·ng/mL, which is also much higher than that of inhibitor **5** (Table 6). Similarly, a single 5 mg/kg ip

Table 6. In Vivo PK Properties of Selected Inhibitors[a]

compd	matrix	C_{max} (ng/mL)	AUC_{0-24h} (h·ng/mL)	brain/plasma ratio
5	plasma	66	404	
7	brain[b]	68	412	0.33
	plasma	947	1265	
13	brain[b]	99	721	0.68
	plasma	731	1061	

[a]Plasma and brain concentrations were measured at eight time points with three animals per time point. Clearance, half-life, and volume distribution values are not reported because only ip administration was performed. [b]The density of brain homogenate was considered as 1, which is equivalent to plasma density (1); brain concentrations and exposures are expressed as ng/g and h·ng/g, respectively.

injection of inhibitor **13** gave a much improved C_{max} and AUC in plasma compared with inhibitor **5**. In addition, while inhibitor **7** displayed modest brain penetration with a brain/plasma ratio of 0.33, inhibitor **13** exhibited increased CNS (central nervous system) penetration with a brain/plasma ratio of 0.68. These encouraging PK results suggest that inhibitors **7** and **13** could be used for animal studies and **13** might be suitable for studies to explore the role of G9a/GLP in the CNS. These results also indicate that appropriate modifications to the 2-substituent of the quinazoline scaffold can improve in vivo PK properties, thus validating our probe design hypothesis.

Further Characterization of Inhibitor 7. We next carried out a number of probe characterization studies. First, we studied the MOA (mechanism of action) of inhibitor **7** by determining Michaelis−Menten kinetic parameters associated with both the peptide substrate and cofactor SAM. As shown in Figure 2, the apparent K_m of the peptide (K_m^{app}) increased linearly with inhibitor concentration, whereas the K_m^{app} of SAM remained constant in the presence of increasing concentrations of the inhibitor. These results indicate that inhibitor **7** is competitive with the peptide substrate and noncompetitive with the cofactor SAM, the same MOA as inhibitor **5**.[15] The K_i of inhibitor **7** was determined to be 3.7 ± 1 nM ($n = 3$).

We next determined the selectivity of inhibitor **7** versus 15 methyltransferases and a broad range of nonepigenetic targets. We expected this inhibitor to be highly potent for GLP on the basis of the high sequence identity between G9a and GLP.[10] Indeed, inhibitor **7** displayed high in vitro potency for GLP ($IC_{50} < 2.5$ nM), similar to G9a (Figure 3A, Table 1). This result is consistent with the selectivity profile of our cellular chemical probe **5**.[15] Importantly, inhibitor **7** was more than 20 000-fold selective for G9a and GLP over 13 other methyltransferases ($IC_{50} > 50 000$ nM) and more than 2000-fold selective over PRC2−EZH2 (polycomb repressive
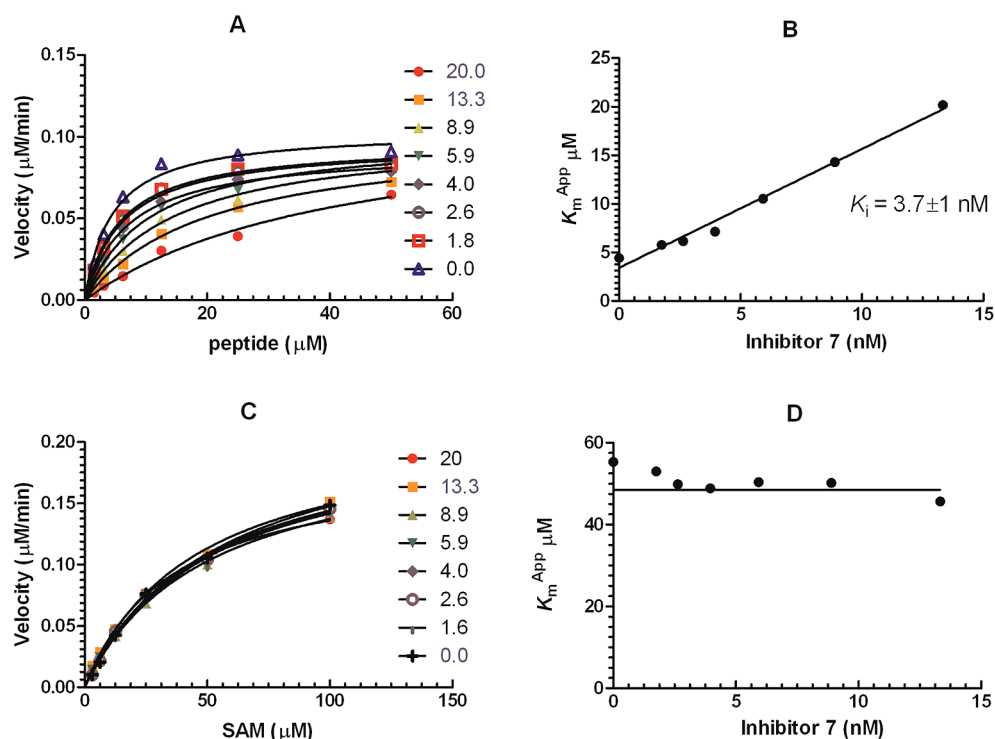
Figure 2. MOA studies of inhibitor 7. (A and B) The competition of inhibitor 7 and the H3K9 peptide indicates that 7 is competitive with the peptide substrate. The K_m^{app} of the peptide increased linearly with compound concentration. (C and D) Inhibitor 7 is noncompetitive with the cofactor SAM. The K_m^{app} of SAM was not affected by inhibitor concentration.
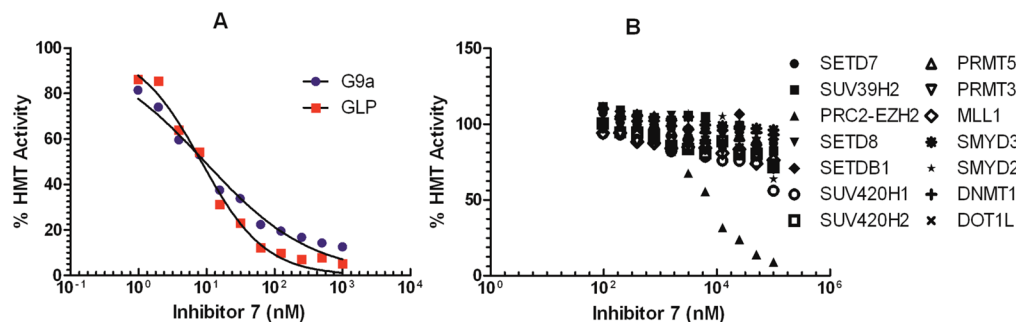

Figure 3. Selectivity of inhibitor 7 versus 15 other methyltransferases.

complex 2−enhancer of zeste homologue 2, $IC_{50} > 5000$ nM) (Figure 3B). In addition, inhibitor 7 showed no appreciable inhibition (less than 20% inhibition at 10 000 nM) against a panel of 50 representative kinases (Table S1, Supporting Information). We also tested inhibitor 7 against 44 GPCRs (G protein-coupled receptors), transporters, and ion channels in the National Institute of Mental Health Psychoactive Drug Screen Program Selectivity Panel. This inhibitor was found to show less than 50% inhibition at 1000 nM against 39 targets and >50% inhibition at 1000 nM against 5 targets in the panel (Table S2, Supporting Information), and K_i values for each of the 5 interacting targets were then determined in radioligand binding assays. Inhibitor 7 had K_i values of 4500, >10 000, 45, >10 000, and 900 nM for α_{1D}, α_{2C}, histamine H_3, μ opioid, and σ_2 receptors, respectively (Table S3, Supporting Information). Therefore, with the exception of the histamine H_3 receptor, inhibitor 7 was more than 300-fold selective for G9a and GLP over a broad range of kinases, GPCRs, transporters, and ion channels.

In addition to MDA-MB-231 cells, we assessed functional potency and cell toxicity of inhibitor 7 in several other cell lines (Table 7). Inhibitor 7 displayed high potency ($IC_{50} < 150$ nM) in reducing cellular levels of H3K9me2 and low cell toxicity ($EC_{50} > 3000$ nM), resulting in a good separation of functional potency and cell toxicity with a tox/function ratio of >45 in U2OS, PC3, and PANC-1 cells. In particular, this inhibitor

Table 7. Functional Potency and Cell Toxicity of Inhibitor 7 in Various Cell Lines[a]

cell line	H3K9me2 IC_{50} (nM)	cell toxicity EC_{50} (nM)	tox/function ratio
MDA-MB-231	110	16700	152
U2OS	130	6000	46
PC3	130	8900	68
PANC-1	40	3500	88

[a]IC_{50} or EC_{50} values are the average of experimental triplicates with SD values that are about 3-fold less than the average.
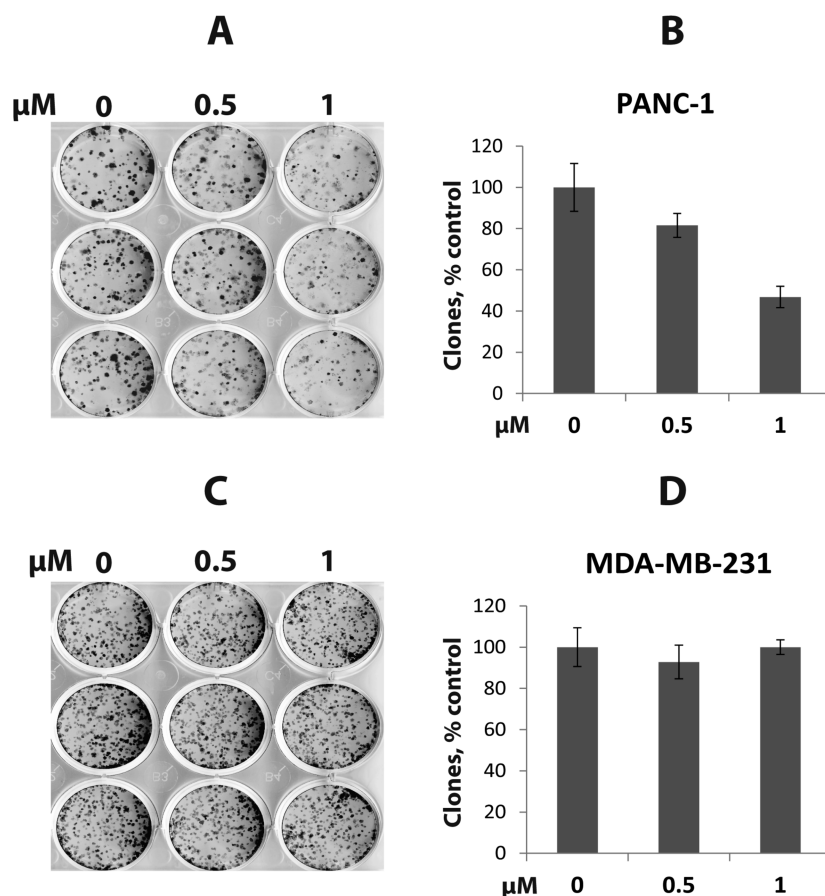
Figure 4. Inhibitor **7** affects the clonogenicity of PANC-1 cells but not MDA-MB-231 cells. (A) PANC-1 cell colonies after 2 weeks of growth in the presence of inhibitor **7** at 0, 0.5, or 1 μM. (B) Graphical representation of data in part A. (C) MDA-MB-231 cell colonies after 2 weeks of growth in the presence of inhibitor **7** at 0, 0.5, or 1 μM. (D) Graphical representation of data in part C.

exhibited excellent potency (IC$_{50}$ = 40 nM) in PANC-1 cells with a good tox/function ratio of 88.

Lastly, we evaluated effects of inhibitor **7** on clonogenicity in PANC-1 and MDA-MB-231 cells. As shown in Figure 4, inhibitor **7** reduced clonogenicity in PANC-1 cells in a concentration-dependent manner while it had no effect on clonogenicity in MDA-MB-231 cells. These results are consistent with the previous report that PANC-1 cells are highly sensitive to G9a inhibitors[20] and our previous finding that MDA-MB-231 cells are insensitive to G9a/GLP inhibitors.[15] These observations suggest that pharmacological inhibition of G9a and GLP can have differential phenotypic effects depending on the cell type and/or disease setting.

CONCLUSIONS

We designed, synthesized, and biologically evaluated a set of novel compounds aimed at improving the in vivo PK properties of our previously reported G9a/GLP cellular chemical probe **5**. From these studies, we discovered inhibitor **7**, which is the first in vivo chemical probe of G9a and GLP. This inhibitor (1) displayed high in vitro potency for G9a and GLP (IC$_{50}$ < 2.5 nM); (2) was >2000-fold selective for G9a and GLP over PRC2−EZH2 and >20 000-fold selective over 13 other methyltransferases; (3) was >300-fold selective for G9a and GLP over a broad range of kinases, GPCRs, ion channels, and transporters with the exception of the histamine H3 receptor; (4) was competitive with the peptide substrate and non-competitive with the cofactor SAM; (5) exhibited high potency

at reducing the H3K9me2 mark, low cell toxicity, and good separation of functional potency and cell toxicity in a number of cell lines; (6) reduced clonogenicity in PANC-1 cells, a pancreatic carcinoma cell line; and (7) importantly, displayed improved in vitro and in vivo PK properties. We also discovered inhibitor **13**, which had better brain penetration than inhibitor **7** and might be suitable for CNS studies. These two inhibitors are valuable additions to our G9a/GLP inhibitor toolbox and are freely available to the research community for investigating the role of G9a and GLP in health and disease.

EXPERIMENTAL SECTION

Chemistry General Procedures. HPLC spectra for all compounds were acquired using an Agilent 6110 Series system with UV detector set to 254 nm. Samples were injected (5 μL) onto an Agilent Eclipse Plus 4.6 × 50 mm, 1.8 μM, C18 column at room temperature. A linear gradient from 10% to 100% B (MeOH + 0.1% acetic acid) in 5.0 min was followed by pumping 100% B for another 2 min with A being H$_2$O + 0.1% acetic acid. The flow rate was 1.0 mL/min. Mass spectra (MS) data were acquired in positive ion mode using an Agilent 6110 single quadrupole mass spectrometer with an electrospray ionization (ESI) source. High-resolution (positive ion) mass spectra (HRMS) for compounds **7** and **13** were acquired using a Thermo LTqFT mass spectrometer under FT control at 100 000 resolution. Nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) spectra were recorded with a Varian Mercury spectrometer at 400 MHz for proton (^{1}H NMR), 100 MHz for carbon (^{13}C NMR), and 376 MHz for fluorine (^{19}F NMR). Chemical shifts are reported in ppm (δ). Preparative HPLC was performed on Agilent Prep 1200 series with UV detector set to 220 nm. Samples were injected onto a Phenomenex Luna 75 × 30 mm, 5

μM, C18 column at room temperature. The flow rate was 30 mL/min. A linear gradient was used with 10% of MeOH (A) in 0.1% TFA in H$_2$O (B) to 100% of MeOH (A). HPLC was used to establish the purity of target compounds. All compounds had >95% purity using the HPLC methods described above.

Compound 5. Synthesis of compound **5** was reported previously.[15]

2-(4,4-Difluoropiperidin-1-yl)-N-(1-isopropylpiperidin-4-yl)-6-methoxy-7-(3-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)propoxy)quinazolin-4-amine (7). A mixture of compound **12** (0.72 g, 2.02 mmol) [prepared from commercially available methyl 3-methoxyl-4-hydroxybenzoate (**8**) according to the procedures described previously[15]], 1-isopropylpiperidin-4-amine·2TFA salt (2.3 g, 6.06 mmol) (this amine and other noncommercially available amines were prepared according to previously reported procedures[59]), and DIEA (0.67 mL, 4.04 mmol) in THF (10 mL) was stirred overnight at rt. After concentration in vacuo, the crude product was purified by silica gel chromatography [0−20% MeOH (1% NH$_3$)/CH$_2$Cl$_2$] to afford the desired product 2-chloro-N-(1-isopropylpiperidin-4-yl)-6-methoxyl-7-(3-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)propoxyl)quinazolin-4-amine as a yellow solid (0.88 g, 94% yield). ^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl$_3$): δ 7.12 (s, 1H), 6.78 (s, 1H), 5.36 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 4.31−4.20 (m, 1H), 4.17 (t, J = 6.7 Hz, 2H), 3.96 (s, 3H), 2.90 (d, J = 11.9 Hz, 2H), 2.84−2.73 (m, 1H), 2.67−2.59 (m, 2H), 2.57−2.46 (m, 4H), 2.45−2.34 (m, 2H), 2.22−2.05 (m, 4H), 1.84−1.74 (m, 4H), 1.07 (d, J = 6.6 Hz, 6H). MS (ESI): 462 [M + H]$^+$. A mixture of this intermediate (55 mg, 0.12 mmol), 4,4-difluoropiperidine hydrochloride salt (37 mg, 0.24 mmol), and TFA (55 mg, 0.48 mmol) in i-PrOH (0.25 mL) was heated by microwave irradiation at 160 °C for 15 min in a sealed tube. After concentration in vacuo, the crude product was purified by preparative HPLC with a gradient from 10% MeOH (A) in 0.1% TFA in H$_2$O (B) to 100% of MeOH (A). The resulting product was basified with saturated aq NaHCO$_3$ and extracted with CH$_2$Cl$_2$ to afford the title compound **7** as a white solid (52 mg, 80% yield). ^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl$_3$): δ 6.91 (s, 1H), 6.70 (s, 1H), 4.97 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 4.18 (t, J = 6.8 Hz, 2H), 4.13−4.03 (m, 1H), 4.02−3.94 (m, 4H), 3.92 (s, 3H), 2.97−2.86 (m, 2H), 2.83−2.72 (m, 1H), 2.63 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 2.58−2.46 (m, 4H), 2.34 (td, J = 11.6, 2.2 Hz, 2H), 2.21−2.14 (m, 2H), 2.14−2.07 (m, 2H), 2.07−1.94 (m, 4H), 1.82−1.74 (m, 4H), 1.58 (ddd, J = 14.9, 11.8, 3.7 Hz, 2H), 1.08 (d, J = 6.5 Hz, 6H). ^{19}F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl$_3$): δ −96.10 to −97.04 (m, 2F). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl$_3$): δ 158.49, 158.32, 154.23, 149.33, 146.00, 122.95 (t, J = 241.4 Hz), 107.18, 103.18, 101.34, 67.47, 56.69, 54.59, 54.28 (2C), 53.01 (2C), 48.77, 47.85, 41.25 (t, J = 4.9 Hz) (2C), 34.00 (t, J = 22.4 Hz) (2C), 32.72 (2C), 28.62 (2C), 23.57, 18.58 (2C). HPLC: 100%, t_R 2.37 min. MS (ESI): 547 [M + H]$^+$. HRMS (ESI): calcd for C$_{29}$H$_{44}$F$_2$N$_6$O$_2$Na [M + Na]$^+$ 569.3392, found 569.3384.

N-(1-Isopropylpiperidin-4-yl)-6-methoxy-2-morpholino-7-(3-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)propoxy)quinazolin-4-amine (13). The procedure used for preparation of compound **7** was followed for synthesis of compound **13**. The title compound **13** was obtained as a white solid (55 mg, 78% yield). ^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl$_3$): δ 6.90 (s, 1H), 6.72 (s, 1H), 5.04 (d, J = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 4.15 (t, J = 6.8 Hz, 2H), 4.12−4.02 (m, 1H), 3.89 (s, 3H), 3.85−3.72 (m, 8H), 2.95−2.85 (m, 2H), 2.81−2.71 (m, 1H), 2.61 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 2.55−2.44 (m, 4H), 2.32 (td, J = 11.6, 2.1 Hz, 2H), 2.21−2.12 (m, 2H), 2.12−2.02 (m, 2H), 1.82−1.71 (m, 4H), 1.57 (ddd, J = 14.9, 11.8, 3.7 Hz, 2H), 1.06 (d, J = 6.6 Hz, 6H). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl$_3$): δ 159.06, 158.35, 154.21, 149.23, 145.96, 107.19, 103.38, 101.40, 67.47, 67.23 (2C), 56.71, 54.63, 54.29 (2C), 53.04 (2C), 48.68, 47.90, 44.80 (2C), 32.71 (2C), 28.63 (2C), 23.59, 18.58 (2C). HPLC: 100%, t_R 2.19 min. MS (ESI): 513 [M + H]$^+$. HRMS (ESI): calcd for C$_{28}$H$_{45}$N$_6$O$_3$ [M + H]$^+$ 513.3553, found 513.3550.

4-(4-((1-Isopropylpiperidin-4-yl)amino)-6-methoxy-7-(3-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)propoxy)quinazolin-2-yl)thiomorpholine 1,1-Dioxide (14). The procedure used for preparation of compound **7** was followed for synthesis of compound **14**. The title compound **14** was obtained as a white solid (47 mg, 81% yield). ^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl$_3$): δ 6.88 (s, 1H), 6.79 (s, 1H), 5.32 (d, J = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 4.42−4.24 (m, 4H), 4.14 (t, J = 6.8 Hz, 2H), 4.07−3.94 (m, 1H), 3.88 (s, 3H), 3.09−2.96 (m, 4H), 2.93−2.82 (m, 2H), 2.79−2.68 (m, 1H),

2.59 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 2.55−2.41 (m, 4H), 2.34−2.22 (m, 2H), 2.14−2.01 (m, 4H), 1.81−1.68 (m, 4H), 1.58 (ddd, J = 14.9, 12.0, 3.7 Hz, 2H), 1.03 (d, J = 6.6 Hz, 6H). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl$_3$): δ 158.69, 157.01, 154.25, 148.86, 146.47, 107.18, 103.50, 101.25, 67.40, 56.61, 54.56, 54.19 (2C), 52.89 (2C), 51.55 (2C), 48.80, 47.74, 42.96 (2C), 32.46 (2C), 28.46 (2C), 23.49, 18.44 (2C). HPLC: 98%, t_R 1.97 min. MS (ESI): 561 [M + H]$^+$.

N-(1-Isopropylpiperidin-4-yl)-6-methoxy-7-(3-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)propoxy)-2-(3,3,4,4-tetrafluoropyrrolidin-1-yl)quinazolin-4-amine (15). The procedure used for preparation of compound **7** was followed for synthesis of compound **15**. The title compound **15** was obtained as a white solid (46 mg, 75% yield). ^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl$_3$): δ 6.94 (s, 1H), 6.73 (s, 1H), 5.12 (d, J = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 4.25−4.01 (m, 7H), 3.91 (s, 3H), 2.98−2.85 (m, 2H), 2.83−2.71 (m, 1H), 2.66−2.58 (m, 2H), 2.56−2.45 (m, 4H), 2.34 (td, J = 11.6, 2.1 Hz, 2H), 2.20−2.04 (m, 4H), 1.84−1.71 (m, 4H), 1.58 (qd, J = 11.8, 3.7 Hz, 2H), 1.07 (d, J = 6.6 Hz, 6H). ^{19}F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl$_3$): δ −77.18. ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl$_3$): δ 158.49, 156.76, 154.46, 148.92, 146.37, 118.61 (m, 2C), 107.17, 103.61, 101.22, 67.59, 56.70, 54.65, 54.32 (2C), 53.02 (2C), 50.76 (t, J = 28.8 Hz) (2C), 48.90, 47.87, 32.74 (2C), 28.62 (2C), 23.61, 18.57 (2C). HPLC: 99%, t_R 2.49 min. MS (ESI): 569 [M + H]$^+$.

Compounds 16 and 17. Compounds **16** and **17** were synthesized according to previously reported procedures.[16]

N-(1-Cyclopropylpiperidin-4-yl)-2-(4,4-difluoropiperidin-1-yl)-6-methoxy-7-(3-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)propoxy)quinazolin-4-amine (18). The procedure used for preparation of compound **7** was followed for synthesis of compound **18**. The title compound **18** was obtained as a yellowish solid (47 mg, 82% yield). ^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl$_3$): δ 6.90 (s, 1H), 6.73 (s, 1H), 5.08 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 4.21−4.05 (m, 3H), 4.02−3.93 (m, 4H), 3.88 (s, 3H), 3.08−2.98 (m, 2H), 2.68−2.57 (m, 2H), 2.57−2.46 (m, 4H), 2.38 (td, J = 11.7, 2.2 Hz, 2H), 2.16−2.06 (m, 4H), 2.06−1.92 (m, 4H), 1.82−1.72 (m, 4H), 1.65−1.59 (m, 1H), 1.52 (ddd, J = 14.9, 12.2, 3.8 Hz, 2H), 0.49−0.43 (m, 2H), 0.43−0.37 (m, 2H). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl$_3$): δ 158.49, 158.29, 154.18, 149.30, 145.97, 122.93 (t, J = 4.8 Hz), 107.17, 103.19, 101.34, 67.39, 56.66, 54.24 (2C), 52.99 (2C), 52.81, 48.54, 41.24 (t, J = 241.4 Hz) (2C), 38.61, 33.99 (t, J = 22.4 Hz) (2C), 32.21 (2C), 28.50 (2C), 23.56, 6.15 (2C). HPLC: 99%, t_R 2.45 min. MS (ESI): 545 [M + H]$^+$.

4-(4-((1-Cyclopropylpiperidin-4-yl)amino)-6-methoxy-7-(3-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)propoxy)quinazolin-2-yl)thiomorpholine 1,1-Dioxide (19). The procedure used for preparation of compound **7** was followed for the synthesis of compound **19**. The title compound **19** was obtained as a yellowish solid (42 mg, 76% yield). ^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl$_3$): δ 6.90 (s, 1H), 6.76 (s, 1H), 5.21 (d, J = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 4.44−4.26 (m, 4H), 4.16 (t, J = 6.8 Hz, 2H), 4.13−4.01 (m, 1H), 3.90 (s, 3H), 3.10−2.96 (m, 6H), 2.66−2.58 (m, 2H), 2.57−2.46 (m, 4H), 2.43−2.29 (m, 4H), 2.15−2.01 (m, 4H), 1.83−1.69 (m, 4H), 1.66−1.48 (m, 3H), 0.49−0.43 (m, 2H), 0.42−0.36 (m, 2H). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl$_3$): δ 158.72, 157.06, 154.35, 148.94, 146.57, 107.28, 103.50, 101.17, 67.45, 56.68, 54.25 (2C), 52.96 (2C), 52.73, 51.61 (2C), 48.67, 43.01 (2C), 38.57, 32.17 (2C), 28.49 (2C), 23.55, 6.17 (2C). HPLC: 98%, t_R 1.97 min. MS (ESI): 559 [M + H]$^+$.

4-Chloro-6-methoxy-2-(phosphinan-4-yl)-7-(3-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)propoxy)quinazoline (21). In a sealed tube, a mixture of compound **10** (0.61 g, 2.0 mmol) (prepared according to the procedures described previously[15]), tetrahydro-2H-pyran-4-carbonitrile (2.2 g, 19.8 mmol), and HCl (4 N solution in dioxane, 8 mL, 32 mmol) was stirred overnight at 100 °C. The reaction mixture was poured into water and neutralized with NaHCO$_3$. The resulting precipitate was collected and dried to provide the desired crude product **20** (0.58 g, 1.5 mmol). A mixture of this crude compound **20** (0.58 g, 1.5 mmol) and N,N-diethylaniline (0.24 mL, 1.5 mmol) in POCl$_3$ (10 mL) was heated at reflux for 4 h. The reaction mixture was concentrated in vacuo and saturated aq NaHCO$_3$ (15 mL) was added. The resulting mixture was extracted with chloroform (15 mL × 3). The combined organic layers were dried, concentrated, and purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (0−10% MeOH/CH$_2$Cl$_2$) to afford the title compound **21** as a yellow solid (0.38 g, 48% over two

steps). ^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl$_3$): δ 7.26 (s, 1H), 7.23 (s, 1H), 4.22 (t, J = 6.4 Hz, 2H), 4.07−4.02 (m, 2H), 3.96 (s, 3H), 3.50 (td, J = 11.2, 2.8 Hz, 2H), 3.12−3.06 (m, 1H), 2.65 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 2.55−2.53 (m, 4H), 2.15−2.09 (m, 2H), 2.05−1.92 (m, 4H), 1.77−1.74 (m, 4H).

N-(1-Isopropylpiperidin-4-yl)-6-methoxy-7-(3-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)propoxy)-2-(tetrahydro-2H-pyran-4-yl)quinazolin-4-amine (22). A suspension of compound **21** (95 mg, 0.23 mmol), 1-isopropylpiperidin-4-amine·2TFA salt (0.24 g, 0.72 mmol), and K$_2$CO$_3$ (0.33 g, 2.4 mmol) in DMF (3.0 mL) was stirred overnight at 60 °C. The reaction mixture was cooled to rt, water (10 mL) was added, and the mixture was extracted with CH$_2$Cl$_2$. The combined organic layers were concentrated and purified by preparative HPLC. The resulting product was basified with saturated aq NaHCO$_3$ and extracted with CH$_2$Cl$_2$ to afford the desired product **22** as a white solid (91 mg, 78% yield). ^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl$_3$): δ 7.14 (s, 1H), 6.81 (s, 1H), 5.20 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 4.26−4.12 (m, 3H), 4.12−4.02 (m, 2H), 3.91 (s, 3H), 3.54 (td, J = 11.9, 1.9 Hz, 2H), 3.00−2.85 (m, 3H), 2.83−2.71 (m, 1H), 2.65−2.55 (m, 2H), 2.55−2.42 (m, 4H), 2.42−2.31 (m, 2H), 2.25−2.14 (m, 2H), 2.13−1.97 (m, 4H), 1.93−1.83 (m, 2H), 1.81−1.68 (m, 4H), 1.56 (ddd, J = 23.4, 11.9, 3.7 Hz, 2H), 1.06 (d, J = 6.6 Hz, 6H). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl$_3$): δ 167.45, 158.00, 153.85, 148.68, 147.34, 108.53, 106.83, 100.04, 68.19 (2C), 67.64, 56.50, 54.63, 54.28 (2C), 52.95 (2C), 48.74, 47.85, 44.82, 32.76 (2C), 31.63 (2C), 28.52 (2C), 23.58, 18.56 (2C). HPLC: 98%, t_R 2.31 min. MS (ESI): 512 [M + H]$^+$.

Methyl 2-Amino-4-(3-(4,4-difluoropiperidin-1-yl)propoxy)-5-methoxybenzoate (23). The procedure used for preparation of compound **10** was followed for the synthesis of compound **23**. The title compound **23** was obtained as a yellow oil (2.1 g, 49% yield over two steps). ^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl$_3$): δ 7.30 (s, 1H), 6.17 (s, 1H), 5.58 (br, 2H), 4.10 (t, J = 6.4 Hz, 2H), 3.85 (s, 3H), 3.79 (s, 3H), 3.17−2.81 (m, 6H), 2.48−2.19 (m, 6H).

4-Chloro-2-cyclohexyl-7-(3-(4,4-difluoropiperidin-1-yl)propoxy)-6-methoxyquinazoline (25a). In a sealed tube, a mixture of compound **23** (1.1 g, 3.0 mmol), cyclohexanecarbonitrile (3.3 g, 30.0 mmol), and HCl (4 N solution in dioxane, 15 mL, 60 mmol) was stirred overnight at 100 °C. The reaction mixture was poured into water and neutralized with NaHCO$_3$. The resulting precipitate was collected and dried to provide the intermediate **24a** (1.0 g, 2.3 mmol). A mixture of the crude compound **24a** (1.0 g, 2.3 mmol) and N,N-diethylaniline (0.37 mL, 2.3 mmol) in POCl$_3$ (20 mL) was heated at reflux for 4 h. The reaction mixture was concentrated in vacuo and saturated aq NaHCO$_3$ (30 mL) was added. The resulting mixture was extracted with chloroform (30 mL × 3). The combined organic layers were dried, concentrated, and purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (0−10% MeOH/CH$_2$Cl$_2$) to afford the **25a** as a yellowish solid (0.72 g, 53% yield over two steps). ^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl$_3$): δ 7.35 (s, 1H), 7.28 (s, 1H), 4.28 (t, J = 6 Hz, 2H), 4.02 (s, 3H), 2.93 (tt, J = 11.6, 3.6 Hz, 1H), 2.83−2.41 (m, 6H), 2.27−1.96 (m, 6H), 1.93−1.84 (m, 4H), 1.81−1.64 (m, 3H), 1.51−1.29 (m, 3H).

7-(3-(4,4-Difluoropiperidin-1-yl)propoxy)-N-(1-isopropylpiperidin-4-yl)-6-methoxy-2-cyclohexylquinazolin-4-amine (26a). The procedure used for preparation of compound **5** was then followed for the synthesis of compound **26a**. The title compound **26a** was obtained as a yellowish solid from intermediate **25a** (46 mg, 77% yield). ^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl$_3$): δ 7.15 (s, 1H), 6.81 (s, 1H), 5.18 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 4.24−4.13 (m, 3H), 4.13−4.02 (m, 2H), 3.90 (s, 3H), 2.90 (d, J = 12 Hz, 2H), 2.80−2.66 (m, 2H), 2.55−2.50 (m, 6H), 2.36 (td, J = 11.6, 2 Hz, 2H), 2.22−2.19 (m, 2H), 2.05−1.90 (m, 8H), 1.85−1.81 (m, 2H), 1.73−1.51 (m, 5H), 1.45−1.27 (m, 3H), 1.06 (d, J = 6.0 Hz, 6H). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl$_3$): δ 169.42, 157.82, 153.44, 148.25, 147.26, 122.06 (t, J = 240 Hz), 108.44, 106.68, 99.89, 67.11, 56.28, 54.48, 53.94 (2C), 49.99 (t, J = 5 Hz) (2C), 48.56, 47.88, 47.74, 33.99 (t, J = 23 Hz) (2C), 33.76, 32.67 (2C), 26.61 (2C), 26.39 (2C), 26.21, 18.49 (2C). HPLC: 97%, t_R 2.74 min. MS (ESI): 560 [M + H]$^+$.

4-Chloro-7-(3-(4,4-difluoropiperidin-1-yl)propoxy)-6-methoxy-2-(piperidin-1-yl)quinazoline (25b). The procedure used

for preparation of compound **25a** was then followed for the synthesis of compound **25b**. The title compound **25b** was obtained as a yellowish solid (0.39 g, 49% yield over two steps). ^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl$_3$): δ 7.36 (s, 1H), 7.29 (s, 1H), 4.29 (t, J = 6 Hz, 2H), 4.13−4.09 (m, 2H), 4.03 (s, 3H), 3.57 (td, J = 11.6, 2.4 Hz, 2H), 3.21−3.14 (m, 1H), 2.74−2.43 (m, 6H), 2.16−1.96 (m, 10H).

7-(3-(4,4-Difluoropiperidin-1-yl)propoxy)-N-(1-isopropylpiperidin-4-yl)-6-methoxy-2-(tetrahydro-2H-pyran-4-yl)-quinazolin-4-amine (26b). The procedure used for preparation of compound **26a** was followed for the synthesis of compound **26b**. The title compound **26b** was obtained as a yellowish solid from compound **25b** (48 mg, 75% yield). ^{1}H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl$_3$): δ 7.15 (s, 1H), 6.80 (s, 1H), 5.16 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 4.28−4.13 (m, 3H), 4.13−4.02 (m, 2H), 3.93 (s, 3H), 3.55 (td, J = 11.9, 2.0 Hz, 2H), 3.01−2.85 (m, 3H), 2.83−2.71 (m, 1H), 2.63−2.47 (m, 6H), 2.36 (td, J = 11.6, 2.2 Hz, 2H), 2.26−2.14 (m, 2H), 2.14−1.82 (m, 10H), 1.56 (qd, J = 11.8, 3.7 Hz, 2H), 1.07 (d, J = 6.6 Hz, 6H). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl$_3$): δ 167.56, 158.00, 153.75, 148.65, 147.32, 122.17 (t, J = 241.4 Hz), 108.53, 106.88, 99.95, 68.20 (2C), 67.29, 56.47, 54.63, 54.08 (2C), 50.15 (t, J = 5.4 Hz) (2C), 48.78, 47.86, 44.86, 34.13 (t, J = 22.9 Hz) (2C), 32.82 (2C), 31.64 (2C), 26.75, 18.59 (2C). HPLC: 97%, t_R 1.63 min. MS (ESI): 562 [M + H]$^+$.

Methyltransferase Activity Assays. Methyltransferase activity assays were performed by monitoring the incorporation of tritium-labeled methyl group to biotinylated peptide substrates using a scintillation proximity assay (SPA) for G9a, GLP, PRMT3, SETD7, SETDB1, SETD8, SUV420H1, SUV420H2, SUV39H2, PRC2 trimeric complex (EZH2:EED:SUZ12), MLL1 tetrameric complex (MLL:WDR5:RbBP5:ASH2L), PRMT5-MEP50 complex, and SMYD2. Assay components for all assays are summarized in Table S4 of the Supporting Information. The following reaction buffers were used: for SMYD2 and SMYD3, 50 mM Tris, pH 9.0, 5 mM DTT, 0.01% TritonX-100; for G9a, GLP, and SUV39H2, 25 mM potassium phosphate, pH 8.0, 1 mM EDTA, 2 mM MgCl$_2$, and 0.01% Triton X-100; and for other HMTs, 20 mM Tris, pH 8.0, 5 mM DTT, 0.01% TritonX-100. To stop the enzymatic reactions, 10 μL of 7.5 M guanidine hydrochloride was added, followed by 180 μL of buffer, and the reaction was mixed and transferred to a 96-well FlashPlate (Cat.# SMP103; Perkin-Elmer; www.perkinelmer.com). After mixing, the reaction mixtures were incubated and the cpm (counts per minute) were measured using a Topcount plate reader (Perkin-Elmer, www.perkinelmer.com). The cpm counts in the absence of compound for each data set were defined as 100% activity. In the absence of the enzyme, the cpm counts in each data set were defined as background (0%). IC$_{50}$ values were determined using compound concentrations ranging from 100 nM to 100 μM. The IC$_{50}$ values were determined using SigmaPlot software.

For DNMT1, the assay was performed as described above using hemimethylated dsDNA as a substrate. The dsDNA substrate was prepared by annealing two complementary strands (biotinylated forward strand, B-GAGCCCGTAAGCCCGTTCAGGTCG; reverse strand, CGACCTGAACGGGCTTACGGGCTC), synthesized by an Eurofins MWG Operon. Reaction buffer was 20 mM Tris-HCl, pH 8.0, 5 mM DTT, 0.01% Triton X-100.

Methyltransferase activity assays for DOT1L and SMYD3 were performed using filter plates (Millipore; cat.# MSFBN6B10; www.millipore.com). Reaction mixtures in 20 mM Tris-HCl, pH 8.0, 5 mM DTT, 2 mM MgCl$_2$, and 0.01% Triton X-100 were incubated at room temperature for 1 h, 100 μL 10% TCA was added, and the reactions were mixed and transferred to the filter plates. Plates were centrifuged at 2000 rpm for 2 min followed by two additional 10% TCA washes and one ethanol wash (180 μL) followed by centrifugation. Plates were dried, 100 μL MicroO was added, and the plates were centrifuged. Finally, 70 μL of MicroO was added and cpm were measured using the Topcount plate reader.

K_i Determination for Inhibitor 7. A competition between inhibitor **7** and the peptide was measured using microfluidic capillary electrophoresis to monitor the methylation status of peptide substrates. Reactions (15 μL) were set up in Nunc polypropylene shallow low-volume 384-well microplates containing a 5 μL spot of the

compound in 1.5% DMSO and 1× assay buffer (20 mM Tris-HCl pH 8, 25 mM NaCl, 0.05% Tween 20, and 2 mM DTT) and a 5 μL spot of the peptide substrate[60] in 1× assay buffer arrayed in a 6 × 8 grid pattern. Inhibitor **7** was titrated from 20 to 1.76 nM using 1.5-fold dilution, and peptide was titrated from 50 to 1.6 μM using a 2-fold dilution scheme. A total of four grids for each assay time point were set up. Five microliters of G9a and SAM cocktail was added to initiate the reaction (to final concentration of 5 nM and 200 μM, respectively). The reactions were allowed to proceed for 20, 30, 40, and 60 min at 25 °C, and 10 μL of Endo-LysC (40 pg/μL) and inhibitor **5** (10 μM) mix were added to stop the reaction and digest remaining unmethylated peptide. After 1 h, peptide concentrations over 10 μM were diluted to 10 μM in 1× reaction buffer (to avoid saturation of the optics) and the plate was read on a Caliper Life Sciences EZR II, using upstream voltage = −500 V, downstream voltage = −1200 V, and pressure = 1.5 psi. Predigested peptide was used as the marker. The steady-state velocity was analyzed by linear regression of the peptide methylation versus time and plotted to determine Michaelis−Menten kinetics (GraphPad Prism 5.0). K_m and k_{cat} values were plotted to determine the relationship of the peptide and the inhibitor on enzyme kinetics. The K_i value is an average of three replicates ± SD.

Competition of Inhibitor 7 with SAM. This assay was performed as described previously.[15]

Kinase Selectivity Assays. Selectivity of inhibitor **7** against a panel of 50 kinases was conducted using a standard off-chip mobility shift assay technology. The full list of the 50 kinases is included in Table S1 (Supporting Information).

GPCRs, Ion Channels, and Transporters Selectivity Assays. Selectivity of inhibitor **7** against 44 GPCRs, ion channels, and transporters was determined in standard radioligand binding assays. The full list of the 44 targets is included in Table S2 (Supporting Information).

Cellular Assays. MDA-MB-231, PC3, and U2OS cells were cultured in RPMI with 10% FBS, PANC-1 cells in DMEM with 10% FBS. Cells were treated with inhibitors for 48 h. Cell viability assays were performed by incubating cells with 0.1 mg/mL of resazurin (Sigma) for 3−4 h. Resazurin reduction was monitored with 544 nm excitation, measuring fluorescence at 590 nm. In-cell Western assay was performed as described previously.[15]

For clonogenicity assays, PANC-1 and MDA-MB-231 cells were cultured in the presence of the inhibitor for 2 days and seeded in 12-well plates at the density of 200−300 cells per well in triplicates. The cells were cultured for 2 weeks until colonies were visible. Cell media and the inhibitor were changed every 3−4 days. Colonies were stained with 1% methylene blue in 50% methanol and counted. The experiments repeated twice with consistent results. Colonies were scored using a Clono-Counter.

In Vitro Metabolic Stability Studies. Standard in vitro metabolic stability studies were conducted. Compound concentrations were measured after 0, 5, 15, 30, and 45 min incubation of test compounds with mouse liver microsomes.

Mouse PK studies. Standard PK studies were performed using male Swiss albino mice. Plasma and brain concentrations were measured at 0.08, 0.25, 0.5, 1, 2, 4, 8, and 24 h following a single ip injection of inhibitor **7** or **13** at 5 mg/kg. The compound concentration at each time point in plasma or brain is the average value from three test animals.

ASSOCIATED CONTENT

Ⓢ Supporting Information

Kinases, GPCRs, ion channels, and transporters selectivity assay results of inhibitor **7**; methyltransferase assay components and conditions; and ^{1}H and ^{13}C NMR spectra of compounds **7** and **13**. This information is available free of charge via the Internet at http://pubs.acs.org.

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Notes

The authors declare no competing financial interest.

ABBREVIATIONS USED

H3K9me2, dimethylated lysine 9 on histone H3; PK, pharmacokinetic; PKMTs, protein lysine methyltransferases; HMTs, histone methyltransferases; PRMT, protein arginine methyltransferase; KMT1C, lysine methyltransferase 1C; EHMT2, euchromatic histone methyltransferase 2; KMT1D, lysine methyltransferase 1D; EHMT1, euchromatic histone methyltransferase 1; H3K9, histone H3 lysine 9; SET, suppressor of variegation 3−9, enhancer of zeste and trithorax; HIV-1, human immunodeficiency virus type 1; SAR, structure−activity relationships; CYP450, cytochrome P450; SAM, S-adenosyl-L-methionine; ICW, in-cell Western; tox/function ratio, ratio of toxicity to functional potency; CL_{int}, intrinsic clearance; $T_{1/2}$, half-life; ip, intraperitoneal; C_{max}, maximum concentration; AUC, area under the curve; MOA, mechanism of action; K_m^{app}, apparent K_m; PRC2−EZH2, polycomb repressive complex 2−enhancer of zeste homologue 2; GPCRs, G-protein-coupled receptors

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