Synthesis of carboxamides tranylcypromine analogues as LSD1 (KDM1A) inhibitors for AML

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ABSTRACT: Lysine-specific demethylase 1 (LSD1/KDM1A) oxidatively removes methyl groups from histone proteins and its aberrant activity has been correlated with cancers including acute myeloid leukemia (AML). We report a novel series of tranylcypromine analogues containing a carboxamide at the 4-position of the aryl ring and novel carbamates. These compounds were potent submicromolar LSD1 inhibitors in enzyme assays and were anti-proliferative against a panel of AML cell lines. LSD1 target engagement in cells was demonstrated through the effects on H3K4me2 protein expression, CD86, CD11b and CD14 levels.

Lysine residues in proteins undergo a variety of epigenetic post-translational modifications through alkylation and acylation. 1 Alkylation involves the addition of one, two or three methyl groups catalysed by lysine methyltransferases (KMTs) and is dynamically reversible by the action of lysine demethylases (KDMs). The KDMs, approximately twenty-five in number in humans, are further subdivided into KDM1-7 based on catalytic mechanism.² KDM1 or lysine-specific demethylase was the first demethylase to be discovered in 2004 and comprises two isoforms LSD1 and LSD2, also known as KDM1A and KDM1B respectively. The LSDs are flavin-dependent enzymes that utilize the FAD cofactor for oxidation while the remaining KDMs 2-7, also known as Jumonji C (JmjC) demethylases, are mechanistically distinct 2-oxoglutarate and iron(II)-dependent dioxygenases. Regardless of the mechanism, all KDMs oxidize the methyl group to a carbinolamine that undergoes spontaneous hydrolysis to formaldehyde and the demethylated lysine product.

In addition to its catalytic amine oxidase subunit, LSD1 contains protein-protein interaction domains that promote its association with a variety of binding partners. Through the resulting multi-protein complexes, LSD1 demethylates the nucleosome at histone H3K4, H3K9 and H4K20 residues. LSD1 has an activating or repressive effect on transcription depending on the context.^{3,4} H3K4 demethylation is associated with gene silencing and the maintenance of leukemic stem cells in an undifferentiated and proliferative state. Meanwhile, association with androgen or oestrogen receptors promotes H3K9 demethylation and drives hormone-dependent gene transcription that promotes cell proliferation. Moreover, the enzyme's high expression in

sarcomas, neuroblastoma, bladder, gastric and lung cancer point out LSD1 as a target for cancer chemotherapy. Both the reversible and irreversible inhibition of LSD1 can be accomplished by a diverse set of small molecule scaffolds.⁵⁻⁷ A particularly successful approach has taken advantage of LSD1's homology with other FAD-dependent amine oxidases that are well-established therapeutic targets. Some monoamine oxidase (MAO) inhibitors also inhibit LSD1, among which the most important is the approved drug (±)-tranyleypromine (1).8 Tranyleypromine binds reversibly to the LSD1 or MAO active site and transfers a single electron to the FAD cofactor. The resulting radical cation 2 rapidly undergoes strain induced ring opening to generate reactive intermediate 3 which covalently modifies FAD and irreversibly inactivates the enzyme. The LSD1 inhibitory activity of tranyleypromine has led to reinvestigation of the drug in cancer clinical trials as well as the synthesis of second-generation analogues to improve target affinity. 9-14 One class of tranylcypromine analogues 4 (Figure 2) reported by Mai¹⁵⁻¹⁹ and Takeda^{20,21} feature a 4-anilinoamide substituent display high activity with examples that are submicromolar LSD1 inhibitors. Our interest lay in exploring the analogous 'reverse amide' isosteres 5 that would potentially avoid toxicity issues due to hydrolysis of the aniline amide. While our studies were in progress, a patent by Takeda also disclosed reverse amide structures.²² Nevertheless, only compound 5a below was described in the patent and the rest are unique to this work.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Chemical synthesis. A number of methods have been reported for the generation of the translycypromine scaffold. The most popular sequence involves the synthesis of a cyclopropane

carboxylic acid that is converted to the amine by a Curtius rearrangement. The precursor cyclopropane carboxylic acid is assembled in [2 + 1] fashion employing either the union of a styrene and a carbenoid or a cinnamate and a carbanion. In our synthesis, we selected the cinnamate route starting with 4formylbenzaldehyde (6, Scheme 1). Protection as the methyl ester 7 and a Horner-Wadsworth-Emmons olefination with tbutyl diethylphosphonoacetate provided the differentially protected cinnamate diester 8.^{23,24} A Johnson-Corey-Chaykovsky cyclopropanation installed the three member ring in 9 with the trans configuration as confirmed by the ¹H-¹H coupling constants of the cyclopropyl moiety ($J_{ab} = 4.2-4.5$ Hz). Selective acidic removal of the tert-butyl ester afforded the monoacid 10 which was reacted with diphenylphosphoryl azide followed by Curtius rearrangement and trapping of the resulting isocyanate with *tert*-butanol to give Boc carbamate 11. The methyl ester was then hydrolysed to give the common intermediate 12 which was coupled with diverse primary and secondary amines. Boc deprotection of the resulting amides 13a-r completed the synthesis of the desired tranyleypromine analogues (±) 5a-r. LSD1 enzyme assays and AML cell growth inhibition. We performed a fluorescence-based LSD1 enzymatic assay using a synthetic histone H3 peptide dimethylated at K4 as substrate and AmplexRed® detection of the H₂O₂ byproduct according to our previously published procedure.²⁵ The results (**Table 1**) confirmed that all the analogues were significantly superior to tranyleypromine as LSD1 inhibitors with the exception of 5g and 5i. Compounds 5a-c containing an aryl or heteroaryl substituent linked by a one or two carbon spacer to the carboxamide were submicromolar inhibitors of the enzyme. Furthermore, this was achieved with simple low MW amides, unlike the more elaborate substitution observed with potent examples of the earlier reverse amide series 4. Switching to the non-aromatic cyclohexyl isosteres 5d-e led to a loss of activity suggesting that π - π interactions might be important within the enzyme active site. In the benzyl compound 5a, para substitution as in 5f-5j led to reduced activity, most dramatically with the bromo and methoxy analogues. We additionally synthesized the tertiary amides 51 with a dibenzyl group and 5m-5r containing a 4-aminopiperazine moiety. The tertiary amides, however, did not exhibit any gain in potency compared to the simpler secondary amides.

The most active analogues were tested for their growth inhibitory effects against the Kasumi-1 and MV4-11 AML cell lines. After 72 h treatment, the analogues typically arrested cell proliferation at submicromolar concentrations (**Table 2**). The rank order in the enzyme and cell-based assay had some differences that are likely to reflect changes in lipophilicity and cell uptake. The most active compounds were tested in additional AML cell lines. Overall, analogues **5a–c** exhibited a combination of submicromolar potency in both enzyme and growth inhibition assays and were selected for further profiling.

Mechanistic and target engagement studies. We verified that analogues 5a-c, like tranylcypromine, act by an irreversible mechanism of action through a washout experiment. ²⁶ Cells were treated with the analogues for a period of 6 h after which the medium containing the drug was washed out and replaced by inhibitor-free medium. Following 72 h incubation, survival rates of the samples exposed to the drugs for this short time course were compared with the effect of continuous drug treatment. The analysis revealed that the antiproliferative effects

were maintained, confirming irreversible inhibition that was unaffected by the drug washout (**Figure 3**).

To demonstrate LSD1 target engagement, we investigated the effects of inhibitors on H3K4 methylation levels. Kasumi-1 cells were incubated with **5b** (200 nM) for various time courses (2, 4, 6, 48 and 72 h). After 48 and 72 h we observed a time dependent selective increase of H3K4 dimethylation whereas shorter time points showed a less pronounced increase of this biomarker (Figure 4). Further evidence for target engagement came from the reactivation of myeloid-differentiation associated cell surface cluster of differentiation proteins CD86. CD11b and CD14. CD86, a linker of the co-inhibitory immune response of the CTL4 and CD28 receptor, is among the most highly upregulated genes following LSD1 inhibition and a convenient biomarker.^{27,28} The selected inhibitors **5a–c** (200 nM) were incubated with AML cell lines for 72 h and found to have a significant effect on the expression of CD86 (Figure 5). In addition, we examined the levels of CD11b and CD14, glycoproteins on the myeloid cell surface that are exclusively expressed in mature leucocytes and not in undifferentiated cells.²⁹ As anticipated, the LSD1 inhibitors triggered cell differentiation as confirmed by increased CD11b and CD14 expression in AML derived cell lines after 48 h of treatment (Figure 6-7).

CONCLUSIONS

A series of tranylcypromine analogues containing a carbox-amide substituent at the *para* position of the phenyl ring were synthesized. These compounds are reverse amide isosteres of previous LSD1 inhibitors and our results demonstrate that the new analogues retain potent enzyme inhibition. Analogues 5a—c were submicromolar inhibitors of cell proliferation against a panel of AML cell lines. Mechanistic studies indicate these tranylcypromine analogues are irreversible in action and exhibit the biomarker profile expected for LSD1 inhibition viz. increased H3K4me2 levels and expression of CD86, CD11b and CD14.

EXPERIMENTAL SECTION

Chemistry. General procedures. All chemicals were purchased from Sigma Aldrich, Lancaster Synthesis GmbH, Alfa Aesar, and Novabiochem and used without further purification. Flash chromatography TLC was used to monitor the reaction and performed on aluminium-backed silica gel coated plates (Merck DC, Alufolien Kieselgel 60 F₂₅₄) with spots visualized by UV-light (λ 254 nm). Product concentration after reactions and extractions involved the use of a rotary evaporator operating at reduced pressure of ca. 20 Torr and the term in vacuo refers to solvent concentration at reduced pressure. When necessary products were purified by flash chromatography using silica gel (MN Kieselgel 60, 40-63 µm, 230-400 mesh ASTM). NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker AC 400 spectrometer and the spectra were calibrated to the residual deuterated solvent peak (CDCl₃, CD₃OD or DMSO-d6). The chemical shifts are reported in δ (ppm) units followed by brackets for protons containing spectral details in this order: multiplicity (s: singlet, d: doublet, t: triplet, q: quartet, m: multiplet, br: broad), coupling constants (reported in Hz), number of protons (from integration). HRMS were acquired through the EPSRC National Mass Spectrometry Service Centre, Swansea. Melting points were determined with a STUART Melting point SMP10. IR spectra were determined with Perkin Elmer, Spectrum GX, FT- IR system. RP-HPLC analyses were performed with an Agilent Technologies 1200 series chromatograph with an Agilent Technologies ZORBAX Eclipse XDB-C18 (5 µm, 4.6×150 mm) column. Gradient used: 95:5 water: methanol with 0.05% TFA additive to 5:95 water: methanol over 15 min returning to 95:5 water: methanol over 5 min at a flow rate of 1 mL/min. Complete characterisation was carried out on all final compounds. Purity was monitored at 220 nm and found to be at least 95% for all compounds that were tested in biological assays.

(±)-trans-4-methyl[2-(tert-butoxycarbonyl) cyclopropyl)]benzoate (9).

Trimethylsulfoxonium iodide (15 g, 68.1 mmol, 1.2 equiv.) was added in small portions to a suspension of NaH (2.27 g, 68.1 mmol, 60 wt% in mineral oil, 1.21 equiv.) in dry DMSO (60 mL). The solution was stirred for 45 min. The olefin 8 (14.9 g. 56.8 mmol, 1 equiv.) dissolved in DMSO (60 mL), was then added dropwise to the formed ylide and the reaction stirred overnight at rt. After completion, the reaction mixture was poured into iced water (100 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (70 mL×10). The organic phases (700 mL) were combined and washed with sat. NaHCO3 (200 mL), H2O (200 mL) and brine (200 mL) and dried over MgSO4. Purification of the crude vellow oil by silica gel column chromatography (petroleum ether/ EtOAc 8.9:1.9) afforded 11 (3.7 g, 23%) as a white crystalline solid; R=0.66 (petroleum ether /EtOAc 8:2); mp 40 °C; IR 1715, 1609, cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ : 1.26 (ddd, J=4.8, 6.4, 8.5 Hz, 1H), 1.46 (s, 9H), 1.57 (m, 1H), 1.88 (ddd, J=4.4, 5.5, 8.6 Hz, 1H), 2.4 (ddd, J=4.1, 5.4, 9.5 Hz, 1H), 3.9 (s, 3H), 7.1 (d, J=8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.9 (d, J=8.4 Hz, 2H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ 16.5, 24.6, 24.8, 27.1, 50.9, 79.8, 124.9, 127.6, 128.7, 145.07, 165.8, 171.0; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd. for $C_{16}H_{24}O_4N [M+NH_4]^+ 294.1700$, found 294.1704.

(\pm) -trans-[2-(4-

(methoxycarbonyl)phenyl]cyclopropanecarboxylic acid (10).

Trifluoroacetic acid (19.7 g, 13.2 mL, 0.17 mol, 13 equiv.) and triethylsilane (3.86 g, 5.3 mL, 33.25 mmol, 2.5 equiv.) were added to a solution of **8** (3.7 g, 13.4 mmol) in DCM (40 mL). The reaction mixture was stirred at rt and monitored by TLC. After completion, the reaction mixture was co-evaporated with acetonitrile (15 mL×3) to give **10** (2.1 g, 72%) as a white crystalline solid that was used without further purification: mp 123 °C; IR 3307, 1716, 1608, 1476.5, cm-1; ¹H NMR (CD₃OD, 400 MHz) δ 1.43 (ddd, J=4.6, 6.5, 8.5 Hz, 1H), 1.60 (ddd, J=4.6, 5.3, 9.4 Hz, 1H), 1.92 (ddd, J=4.1, 5.4, 8.5 Hz, 1H), 2.51 (ddd, J=4.0, 6.3, 9.2 Hz, 1H), 3.90 (s, 3H), 7.25 (d, J=8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.93 (d, J=8.44 Hz, 2H); ¹³C NMR (CD₃OD, 100 MHz,) δ 17.9, 25.6, 26.9, 52.5, 127.1, 129.4, 130.7, 147.6, 168.7, 176.4; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd. for $C_{12}H_{11}O_4$ [M-H] $^-$ 219.0663, found 219.0659.

(±)-trans-4-methyl-2-[(tert-butoxycarbonyl)amino]cyclopropyl benzoate (11).

The acid 12 (2.1 g, 9.5 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), diphenylphosphoryl azide (2.86 g, 2.27 mL, 10.5 mmol, 1.1 equiv.) and triethylamine (1.44 g, 1.98 mL, 14.3 mmol, 1.5 equiv.) were combined in *tert*-butanol (11 mL) under argon, heated at reflux and allowed to react for 72 h. After that time, the reaction mixture was cooled to rt, diluted with EtOAc (20 mL) and washed with saturated Na₂CO₃ solution (20 mL×3). The organic layer was separated and the aqueous layer further extracted with EtOAc (20 mL). The organic layers were combined (40 mL), washed with sat. NaHCO₃ (10 mL), H₂O (10

mL) and brine (10 mL) and dried over MgSO₄. Concentration *in vacuo* afforded a yellow oil which was purified by silica gel column chromatography (Hexane/EtOAc 8:2) affording **11** (1.6 g, 42%) as a white crystalline solid: R_f=0.57 (Hexane /EtOAc 8:2); mp 45 °C; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 400 MHz) δ 1.20-1.24 (m, 2H), 1.43 (s, 9H), 2.07 (td, *J*=3.1, 7.6 Hz, 1H), 2.70-2.78 (m, 1H) 3.9, (s, 3H), 7.15 (d, *J*=8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.9 (d, *J*=8.4 Hz, 2H); 13 C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ 14.8, 26.3, 28.0, 28.1, 28.4, 55.3, 113.8, 127.8, 130.6, 132.7, 157.9; 168.7; HRMS (ESI) *m/z* calcd. for C₁₅H₁₈N₁O₄ [M–H]⁻276.1241, found 276.1243.

(±)-trans-4-2-[(tert-butoxycarbonyl) amino)cyclopropyl|benzoic acid (12).

To a suspension of 11 (1.6 g, 5.7 mmol, 1 equiv.) in THF:H₂O: (3:1 ratio), LiOH (0.4 g, 17.32 mmol, 3 equiv.) was added and the reaction mixture heated to 50 °C and stirred for 3 h. The reaction progress was monitored by TLC and after completion, the reaction mixture was diluted with water (10 mL) and acidified to pH 1-2 with sat. KHSO₄. The aqueous layer was extracted with EtOAc (20 mL×3) and the combined organic layers (60 mL) were washed with sat. NaHCO₃(10 mL), H₂O (10 mL) and brine H₂O (10 mL) and dried over MgSO₄. Solvent concentration in vacuo afforded 12 (1.3 g, 82%) as a white solid that was used without further purification. IR 3314. 2873, 1681, 1453 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (CD₃OD, 400 MHz) δ 1.21-1.25 (m, 1H), 1.43 (s, 9H), 2.04 (td, *J*=3.9, 7.9 Hz, 1H), 2.69-2.65 (m, 1H), 7.19 (d, *J*=8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.91 (d, *J*=8.3 Hz, 2H); ¹³C NMR (CD₃OD, 100 MHz) δ 17.1, 25.8, 28.7, 35.0, 80.3, 126.9, 129.4, 130.7, 148.5, 158.9, 169.9; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd. for C₁₇H₂₅NO₄ [M+H]⁺ 273.1961, found 273.1962.

Amide coupling (13a-r) and Boc deprotection (5a-r).

To a stirring suspension of 12 in DCM, 2 equiv. of DIPEA were added and the mixture stirred until obtaining a clear solution. Subsequently, HOBt (0.2 equiv.) and EDCI (1.5 equiv.) were added and stirred for 30 min. The desired amine was added to the stirring mixture and the reaction mixture further stirred at rt overnight. After that time, the reaction mixture was diluted with DCM and washed with 2 N HCl and 1 N NaOH. The organic layers were combined, washed with sat. NaHCO₃, H₂O and brine and dried over MgSO₄. Concentration *in vacuo* afforded amides 13a-r. Acid hydrolysis to remove the Boc protecting group was carried out by stirring the carbamate in 0.5 mL of THF and 0.5 mL of 4M HCl in 1,4 dioxane at rt overnight to give amines 5a-r.

4-((±)-trans-2- aminocyclopropyl)-*N***-benzylbenzamide hydrochloride (5a)**. Yield 71%, yellow crystalline solid; mp 200 °C; IR 3336, 3289, 3075, 1674, 1437 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (CD₃OD) δ 1.36-1.42 (m, 1H), 1.46-1.51 (m, 1H), 2.46 (ddd, J=3.3, 6.6, 9.9 Hz, 1H), 2.90-2.92, (m, 1H), 4.6 (s, 2H), 7.11-7.19 (m, 3H), 7.22-7.35 (m, 4H), 7.81 (d, J=8.2 Hz, 2H); ¹³C NMR (CD₃OD) δ 14.3, 22.4, 32.2, 44.4, 127.5, 128.2, 128.5,129.7, 129.5, 134.1, 140.2, 143.9, 169.6; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd. for C₁₇H₁₉N₂O₁ [M+H]⁺267.1492, found 267.1495.

4-(±)-*trans* **-2-aminocyclopropyl)-***N***-phenethylbenzamide hydrochloride (5b).** Yield 67%, yellow solid; mp 180 °C; IR 3283, 1637, 1545 cm⁻¹; ¹HNMR (CD₃OD) δ 1.36-1.42 (m, 1H), 1.48 (ddd, J=4.2, 6.7, 10.3 1H), 2.42 (ddd, J=3.5, 6.3 Hz, 10.3 1H), 2.90 (t, J=7.7 Hz, 3H), 3.58 (t, J=7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.17-7.20 (m, 1H), 7.24-7.29 (m, 6H) 7.72 (d, J=7.7 Hz, 2H); ¹³CNMR (CD₃OD) δ 14.3, 22.4, 32.3, 36.3, 42.6, 127.3,127.4, 128.6, 129.5, 129.9, 134.3, 140.6, 143.8, 169.7; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd. for C₁₈H₂₁N₂O [M+H]⁺ 281.1648, found 281.1648.

- **4-**(±)-*trans* -2-aminocyclopropyl)-*N*-(2-(thiophen-2-yl)ethyl)benzamide hydrochloride (5c). Yield 47%, yellow solid; mp 218 °C; IR 3318, 2775, 2977, 1626, 1505 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (CD₃OD) δ 1.37-1.42 (m, 1H), 1.48 (ddd, J=4.56, 6.7, 10.2 Hz, 1H), 2.43 (ddd, J=3.6, 6.0, 9.0 Hz, 1H), 2.90-2.94 (m, 1H), 3.13 (t, J=7.0 Hz, 2H), 3.61 (t, J=7.0 Hz, 2H), 6.88 (dd, J=1.0, 3.4 Hz, 1H), 6.91-6.94 (m, 1H) 7.20 (dd, J=1.0, 4.8 Hz, 1H), 7.25 (d, J=8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.75 (d, J=8.4 Hz, 2H); ¹³C NMR (CD₃OD) δ 14.3, 22.4, 30.1, 32.2, 42.7, 124.7, 126.3, 127.4, 127.8, 128.6, 134.1, 142.5, 143.7, 169.7.
- **4-**(±)-*trans*-2-aminocyclopropyl)-*N*-(cyclohexylmethyl)benzamide hydrochloride (5d). Yield 58%, yellow solid; mp 198 °C; IR 3335, 1712, 1696, 1459 cm⁻¹, ¹H NMR (CD₃OD, 400 MHz), δ 0.94-1.03 (m, 2H), 1.18-1.31 (m, 4H), 1.33-1.44 (m, 1H), 1.48-1.52 (m, 1H), 1.58-1.69 (m, 2H), 1.71-1.82 (m, 3H), 2.41-2.49 (m, 1H), 2.88-2.92 (m, 1H) 3.20 (d, J=6.9 Hz, 2H), 7.26 (d, J=8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.76 (d, J=8.2 Hz, 2H); ¹³C NMR (CD₃OD, 100 MHz) δ 14.3, 22.4, 26.9, 27.6, 32.3, 39.2, 39.4, 47.2, 127.4, 128.6, 134.3, 143.6, 169.8; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd. for C₁₇H₂₅N₂O [M+H]⁺, 273.1961, found 273.1962.
- **4-(±)-***trans***-2-aminocyclopropyl)**-*N***-(2-cyclohexylethyl)benzamide hydrochloride (5e).** Yield 33%, yellow solid; mp 79 °C; IR 3318, 1632, 1539, 1449 cm⁻¹; ¹HNMR (DMSO-*d*6, 400 MHz) δ 0.84-0.96 (m, 2H), 1.08-1.31 (m, 5H), 1.36-1.44 (m, 2H), 1.45-1.51 (m, 1H), 1.64-1.80 (m, 5H), 2.43 (ddd, J=3.5, 5.5, 10.1 Hz, 1H), 2.81-2.89 (m, 1H), 3.22-3.29 (m, 2H), 7.25 (d, J=8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.75 (d, J=8.3 Hz, 2H), 8.39 (t, J=6.0 Hz, 1H), 8.64 (br s, 2H); ¹³CNMR (CD₃OD, 100 MHz) δ 14.3, 22.4, 27.4, 27.6, 32.2, 34.3, 36.8, 37.9, 38.8, 127.4, 128.6, 134.3, 143.6, 169.6; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd. for C₁₈H₂₇N₂O [M+H]⁺ 287.2118, found 287.2119.
- **4-((±)-trans-2-aminocyclopropyl)-***N***-(4-fluorobenzyl)benzamide hydrochloride (5f).** Yield 45%, yellow solid; mp 98 °C; IR 335, 2486, 1620, 1516, 1458 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (CD₃OD, 400 MHz) & 1.37-1.42 (m, 1H), 1.49 (ddd, J=4.7, 7.0, 10.2 Hz, 1H), 2.43 (ddd, J=3.6, 6.5, 10.0 Hz, 1H), 2.89-2.96 (m, 1H), 4.53, (s, 2H), 7.0 (t, J=8.7 Hz, 2H), 7.26 (d, J=8.2, 2H), 7.36 (m, 2H), 7.81 (d, J=8.3 Hz, 2H); ¹³C NMR (CD₃OD, 100 MHz) & 14.3, 22.4, 32.3, 43.8, 116.2, 127.5, 128.5, 130.4, 133.9, 136.3, 143.9, 163.5 (d, J_{F-C}=220 Hz), 169.6; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd. for C₁₇H₁₈F₁N₂O [M+H]⁺ 285.1398, found 285.1402.
- **4-((±)-trans-2-aminocyclopropyl)-***N***-(4-chlorobenzyl)benzamide hydrochloride (5g).** Yield 15%, yellow solid; mp 102 °C IR 3301, 2354, 1637, 1556, 1515 cm⁻¹; ¹HNMR (CD₃OD, 400 MHz) δ 1.36-1.41 (m, 1H), 1.48 (ddd, J=4.2, 6.7, 10.2 Hz, 1H), 2.43 (ddd, J=3.1, 6.2, 9.9 Hz, 1H), 2.90-2.94 (m, 1H), 4.5 (s, 2H), 7.27 (d, J=8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.32 (s, 4H), 7.81 (d, J=8.3 Hz, 2H); ¹³CNMR (CD₃OD, 100 MHz) δ 14.7, 22.8, 32.4, 43.9, 123.4, 127.4, 128.8, 129.7, 130.2, 132.9, 139.0, 144.1, 172.1; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd. for C₁₇H₁₈ClN₂O [M+H]⁺ 301.1102, found 301.1102.
- **4-((±)-trans -2-aminocyclopropyl)-***N***-(4-bromobenzyl)benzamide hydrochloride (5h).** Yield 65 %, white solid; mp 97 °C; IR 3320, 3035, 2665, 1637, 1533, 14893 cm⁻¹; ¹HNMR (CD₃OD, 400 MHz) δ 1.37-1.42 (m, 1H), 1.46-1.51 (m, 1H), 2.44 (ddd, *J*=3.2, 6.3, 9.7 Hz, 1H), 2.90-2.93 (m, 1H), 4.52 (s, 2H), 7.26 (d, *J*=8.0 Hz, 4H), 7.47 (d, *J*=8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.83 (d, *J*=8.3 Hz, 2H); ¹³CNMR (CD₃OD, 100 MHz) δ 14.4, 22.4, 32.3, 43.9, 121.8, 127.5, 128.8, 130.5, 132.6, 133.9, 139.6, 144.00, 169.7; HRMS (ESI) *m/z* calcd. for C₁₇H₁₈BrN₂O [M+H]⁺ 345.0597, found 345.0602.

- **4-((±)-trans-2-aminocyclopropyl)-***N***-(4-methoxybenzyl)benzamide hydrochloride (5i).** Yield 52%, yellow solid; mp 123 °C; IR 3364, 1672, 1528 cm⁻¹; ¹HNMR (CD₃OD, 400 MHz) δ 1.36-1.41 (m, 1H), 1.49 (ddd, J=4.6, 6.7, 10.5 Hz, 1H), 2.44 (ddd, J=3.4, 6.3, 9.8 Hz, 1H), 2.91, (ddd, J=4.0, 7.9, 11.7 Hz, 1H), 3.76 (s, 3H), 4.48 (s, 2H), 6.87 (d, J=8.6 Hz, 2H), 7.25 (d, J=8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.26 (d, J=8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.79 (d, J=8.1 Hz, 2H); ¹³CNMR (CD₃OD, 100 MHz) δ 14.3, 22.4, 32.3, 43.9, 55.7, 114.9, 127.5, 128.7, 129.8, 132.2, 134.1, 143.9, 160.4, 169.5; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd. for $C_{18}H_{21}N_2O_2$ [M+H]⁺ 297.1598, found 297.1595.
- *N*-([1,1'-biphenyl]-4-ylmethyl)-4- (± *trans* -2 -aminocyclopropyl) benzamide hydrochloride (5j). Yield 34% yellow solid; IR 3402, 3045, 1715, 1632, 1540 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (CD₃OD, 400 MHz) δ 1.38-1.43 (m, 1H), 1.46-1.50 (m, 1H), 2.43 (ddd, J=3.5, 6.3, 10.2 Hz, 1H), 2.92 (ddd, J=3.7, 7.9, 11.6 Hz, 1H), 4.61 (s, 2H), 7.26-7.29 (m, 2H), 7.30-7.34 (m, 1H), 7.39-7.45 (m, 4H), 7.56-7.60 (m, 4H), 7.83 (d, J=8.4 Hz, 2H); ¹³C NMR (CD₃OD, 100 MHz) δ 14.3, 22.4, 32.2, 44.1, 127.4, 127.8, 128.0,128.2, 128.7, 128.9, 129.7, 134.0, 139.2, 141.3, 142.0, 143.8, 169.6.
- **4-(±)-trans-2-aminocyclopropyl)-***N***-(2-amino-2-oxoethyl)- benzamide hydrochloride (5k).** Yield 15%, yellow oil; 1 H NMR (CD₃OD, 400 MHz) δ 1.38-1.42 (m, 1H), 1.47-1.52 (m, 1H), 2.43-2.48 (m, 1H), 2.91-2.94 (m, 1H), 3.74 (s, 1H), 4.02 (s, 1H), 4.08, (s, 1H), 7.31 (dd, J=2.7, 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.85 (t, J=7.60 Hz, 2H); 13 C NMR (CD₃OD, 100 MHz) δ 14.6, 22.3, 32.3, 42.3, 127.5, 128.9, 133.5, 144.3, 169.2, 172.8; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd. C_{12} H₁₆N₃O₂ [M+H] $^{+}$ 234.1237, found 234.12068.
- **4-(±)-***trans***-2-aminocyclopropyl)-***N,N***-dibenzylbenzamide hydrochloride (5l).** Yield 52%, yellow solid; IR 3214, 1645.7, 1620, 1452 cm⁻¹, ¹HNMR (CD₃OD, 400 MHz) δ 1.37-1.38 (m, 1H), 1.49-1.56 (m, 1H), 2.43 (ddd, J=3.2, 6.4, 9.8 Hz, 1H), 2.96-2.90 (m, 1H), 4.43 (br s, 2H), 4.66 (br s, 2H), 7.12 (br s, 2H), 7.24-7.30 (m, 7H), 7.32-7.39 (m, 5H), 7.43-7.50 (m, 2H); ¹³CNMR (CD₃OD, 100 MHz) δ 14.1, 22.3, 32.3, 53.7, 127.6, 128.0, 128.2, 128.7, 129.8, 129.9, 135.5, 142.2, 174.2; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd. for $C_{24}H_{25}N_2O_1$ [M+H]⁺, 357.1961, found 357.1960.
- **4-((±)-trans-2-aminocyclopropyl) phenyl)4-(2-fluorophenyl)piperazin-1-yl)methanone hydrochloride (5m).** Yield 44%, yellow solid; IR 3387, 1603, 1505, 1470 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (CD₃OD, 400 MHz) δ 1.37-1.42 (m, 1H), 1.44 1.49 (m, 1H), 2.42 (ddd, J=3.2, 6.3, 9.7 Hz, 1H), 2.89-2.93 (m, 1H), 3.16 (br s, 4H), 3.66 (br s 2H), 3.94 (br s 2H), 7.03-7.13 (m, 4H), 7.28 (d, J=7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.42 (d, J=7.8 Hz, 2H); ¹³C NMR (CD₃OD, 100 MHz) δ 14.5, 22.4, 32.4, 54.9, 68.0, 117.7, 122.3, 126.6, 127.9, 128.4, 128.9, 134.3, 135.9, 142.6, 156.6 (d, J_{F-C}=245.8 Hz), 172.19; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd. for C₂₀H₂₃F₁N₃O [M+H]⁺ 340.1820, found 340.1821.
- **2-(4-(4-(±)-trans-2-aminocyclopropyl)benzoyl)piperazin-1-yl)benzonitrile hydrochloride (5n).** Yield 39%, white solid; IR 3353, 2856, 2221, 1632, 1562 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (CD₃OD, 400 MHz) δ 1.38-1.42 (m, 1H), 1.44-1.51 (m, 1H), 2.40-2.45 (m, 1H), 2.92 (ddd, *J*=4.2, 8.0, 11.0 Hz, 1H), 3.18 (br s, 2H), 3.56-3.59 (m, 1H), 3.64-3.68 (m, 3H), 3.71-3.74 (m, 2H), 3.95 (br s, 1H), 7.14 (t, *J*=7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.19 (d, *J*=8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.29 (d, *J*=8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.43 (d, *J*=8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.57-7.61 (m, 1H), 7.65 (dd, *J*=2.07, 9.06 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (CD₃OD, 100 MHz) δ 14.2, 22.4, 32.2, 43.7, 62.2, 107.7, 119.1, 120.6, 124.0, 127.7, 128.7, 135.1, 135.3, 135.4, 142.3,

156.6, 172.3; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd. for $C_{21}H_{23}N_4O$ [M+H]⁺, 347.1866, found 347.1869.

4-((±)-*trans* -**2-**aminocyclopropyl)phenyl)**4-(pyridin-2-yl)piperazin-1-yl)methanone hydrochloride (50).** Yield 13%, orange oil; IR 3358, 1603, 1545, 1435 cm⁻¹; 1 HNMR (CD₃OD, 400 MHz) δ 1.37-1.43 (m, 1H), 1.51 (ddd, J=4.4, 6.6, 11.1 Hz, 1H), 2.48 (ddd, J=3.5, 6.3, 10.0 Hz, 1H), 2.93 (ddd, J=4.4, 7.6, 11.2 Hz, 1H), 3.8 (br s, 8H), 7.06 (t, J=6.5 Hz, 1H), 7.32 (d, J=8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.42 (d, J=9.2 Hz, 1H), 7.48 (d, J=8.0 Hz, 2H), 8.0 (dd, J=1.24, 7.9 Hz, 1H), 8.05 (dt, J=1.6, 8.5 Hz, 1H); 13 CNMR (CD₃OD, 100 MHz) δ 14.3, 22.4, 32.2, 44.8, 47.2, 114.3, 127.8, 128.8, 131.1, 134.5, 137.5, 142.8, 145.7, 153.7, 172.6; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd. for C₁₉H₂₃N₄O [M+H]⁺ 323.1866, found 323.1869.

4-(±)-*trans*-2-aminocyclopropyl-phenyl)-(4-(pyrimidin-2-yl)piperazin-1-yl)methanone hydrochloride (5p). Yield 22 %, red oil; IR 3353,1678, 1632, 1551 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (CD₃OD, 400 MHz) δ 1.39-1.45 (m, 1H), 1.47 (ddd, J=4.5, 6.9, 10.1 Hz, 1H), 2.44 (ddd, J=3.6, 6.4, 10.2 Hz, 1H), 2.92-2.96 (m, 1H), 3.53 (br s, 2H), 3.82 (br s, 4H), 3.94 (br s, 2H), 6.66 (t, J=4.7, Hz, 1H), 7.29 (d, J=8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.42 (d, J=8.3 Hz, 2H), 8.35 (d, J=4.8 Hz, 2H); ¹³C NMR (CD₃OD, 100 MHz) δ 14.2, 22.4, 32.1, 40.4, 41.7, 111.8, 127.7, 128.6, 135.2, 142.3, 159.1, 162.8, 172.45; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd. for C₁₈H₂₂N₅O [M+H]⁺324.1819, found 324.1824.

4-((±)-trans-2-aminocyclopropyl)phenyl)(4-(phenylsulfonyl) piperazin-1-yl)methanone hydrochloride (5q). Yield 25%, white solid; IR 3392, 1637, 1652, 1551 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (CD₃OD, 400 MHz) δ 1.33-1.38 (m, 1H), 1.45-1.50 (m, 1H), 2.41-2.43 (m, 1H), 2.45 (s, 3H), 2.87-2.89 (m, 1H), 3.00 (br s, 4H), 3.56 (br s, 2H), 3.77 (br s, 2H), 7.22 (d, J=7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.30, (d, J=7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.44 (d, J=7.8 Hz, 2H), 7.65 (d, J=7.9 Hz, 2H); ¹³C NMR (CD₃OD, 200 MHz) δ 14.2, 21.5, 22.3, 32.2, 44.2, 47.2, 127.7, 128.6, 128.9, 130.9, 133.8, 134.5, 142.4, 145.6, 172.2; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd. for C₂₁H₂₆N₃O₃S [M+H]⁺ 400.1689, found 400.1687.

4-(±)-*trans*-2-aminocyclopropyl)phenyl(4-(methylsulfonyl)piperazin-1-yl)methanone hydrochloride (5r). Yield 37%, white solid; IR 3387, 1614, 1562 cm⁻¹; ¹HNMR (CD₃OD, 400 MHz) δ 1.37-1.42 (m, 1H), 1.47 (ddd, J=4.5, 6.8, 10.3 Hz, 1H), 2.42 (ddd, J=3.6, 6.6, 10.2 Hz, 1H), 2.87 (s, 3H), 2.89-2.93 (m, 1H), 3.26 (br s, 4H), 3.57 (br s, 2H), 3.8, (br s, 2H), 7.28 (d, J=8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.41 (d, J=8.3 Hz, 2H); ¹³CNMR (CD₃OD, 100 MHz) δ 14.2, 22.4, 32.0, 34.8, 46.7, 68.0, 127.8, 128.6, 134.7, 142.4, 172.3; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for C₁₅H₂₄N₃O₃S [M+H]+ 324.1380, found 324.1380.

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ABBREVIATIONS

CCR2, CC chemokine receptor 2; CCL2, CC chemokine ligand 2; CCR5, CC chemokine receptor 5; TLC, thin layer chromatography.

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Figure 1. Mechanism of action of tranylcypromine.

$$(\pm)\text{-tranylcypromine} \\ 1 \\ covalent \\ FAD adducts \\ FAD containing \\ enzymes \\ NH_2 \\ strain induced \\ ring opening \\ NH_2 \\ 3$$

Figure 2. Carboxamide containing tranylcypromine analogues.

Scheme 1. Synthesis of novel KDM1A inhibitors

HO₂C
$$\stackrel{A}{\longrightarrow}$$
 $\stackrel{A}{\longrightarrow}$ $\stackrel{A}{\longrightarrow}$

Reagents and conditions: (a) AcCl, MeOH, 0 °C to rt, overnight, 91%; (b) *t*-Butyl diethylphosphonoacetate, KO*t*-Bu, THF, -5 °C to rt, overnight, 98%; (c) Me₃S(O)⁺I⁻, NaH, DMSO, rt, overnight, 23%; (d) TFA, Et₃SiH, CH₂Cl₂, rt, overnight, 72%;

(e) Diphenylphosphoryl azide, Et₃N, t-BuOH, reflux, 72 h, 42%; (f) LiOH, aq THF, 50 °C, 2 h, 82%; (g) R₁R₂NH, EDCI, HOBt, Hünig's base, rt, overnight, 36-67%; (h) HCl, THF, 13-71%.

Table 1. LSD1 enzyme inhibition assay with compounds 5a-r with translcypromine 1 as a reference.

Compound	R_1R_2N	$IC_{50} (\mu M \pm SEM, n=3)$	
1		21	
5a	H	0.3 ± 0.008	
5b	N sor	0.4 ± 0.004	
5c	S H N seed	0.6 ± 0.08	
5d	HN	2.4 ± 0.99	
5e	N zv.	5.8 ± 0.47	
5f	F H N sors	1.3 ± 0.26	
5g	CI H N Jord	>50	
5h	Br H N sor	0.9 ± 0.18	
5i	MeO H N Social	32 ± 0.25	
5j	H N Serve	17.4 ± 3.9	

5k	H ₂ N N s ²	20.0 ± 0.3
51	N _{sro} s	0.7 ± 0.09
5m	N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N	0.5 ± 0.04
5n	CN N Z	1.8 ± 0.3
50	N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N	1.5 ± 0.2
5p	N N SZZ	1.8 ± 0.05
5q	O S N N ZZZ	0.5 ± 0.01
5r	0 0 N N	0.9 ± 0.01

Table 2. : In vitro anti-proliferative results of selected tranyleypromine analogues in AML cell lines, with tranyleypromine as a standard. Values are reported in μ M \pm SEM (n=5), nt = not tested.

$IC_{50}(\mu M \pm SEM, n=5)$						
Compound						
	KASUMI-1	U937	HL-60	OCI-AML3	THP-1	MV4-11
1	32±1.8	> 100	84±15.0	89±13.0	81±3.9	63±8.4
5a	0.03±1.3	1.6±42.3	1.7±14.5	1.8±7.6	0.1±17.5	0.18±7.2
5b	0.7±0.3	1.2±2.1	0.09±0.7	0.06±4.2	0.2±2.1	0.19±3.6
5c	0.4±8.2	0.6±0.1	0.6±0.1	nt	1.0±0.1	0.1 ± 0.8
5d	0.4±2.7	0.6±0.8	nt	nt	nt	1.2±4.7
5 e	0.3±2.7	nt	nt	nt	nt	0.1±0.2
5f	0.06±0.8	nt	nt	nt	0.4±0.1	0.2±7.3
5h	0.02±0.1	nt	nt	nt	nt	0.2±2.3
5m	nt	nt	0.1±0.02	0.2±0.01	nt	nt
5n	nt	nt	0.3±0.01	nt	nt	nt
5p	2.3±1.4	nt	0.6±0.3	nt	nt	nt
5r	nt	nt	nt	nt	nt	0.2 ± 0.7

Figure 3. Washout experiments with TCP derivatives 5a–c. Cells were treated with 200 nM of compound 7a-c respectively for 72 h continuously or intermittently (6 h and then washout). Survival rates were measured with CellTiter-Glo® and RLU was normalised to control (Vehicle-DMSO). Statistical significance was determined with two-way ANOVA and corrected for multiple comparisons using Bonferoni's test. Data are shown as means \pm SEM (n=5). Results showed no significant differences in survival rates between the two populations. (A) Schematic of representative workflow for wash out experiment. (B) Washout results.

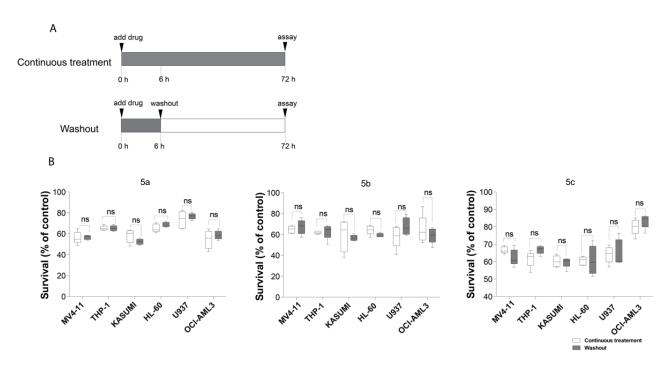


Figure 4. Effects of 5b on the expression of H3K4me2 and H3 (total, loading control) in KASUMI-1 cells (200 nM) after 2, 4, 6, 48 and 72 h

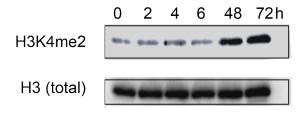


Figure 5. Effects on the expression of CD86 in THP1 cells after treatment with 5b (200 nM, 72 h). From Top to bottom DMSO control cells sample stained with IgG1-FITC (isotype control) (plots A-C) or stained with CD86-FITC antibody (D-F); THP-1 treated with 200 nM of 5b (72h) stained with IgG1-FITC (isotype control) plots G-I or CD86-FITC antibody (J-L). Forward scatter (FSC)/side scatter (SSC) used to gate the population of interest (R1) plots (A, D, G, J). In the X-axis are reported the mean fluorescence intensities of treated cells stained with FITC conjugated Ab and the fluorescent increase of control (untreated cells-IgG Isotype-FITC). The Y-axis is the cell count

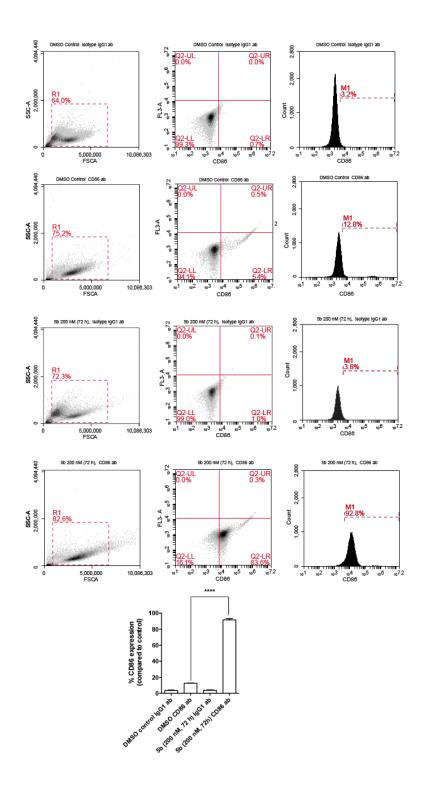


Table 3. Increase (%) of CD86 expression induced by 5a-c in AML cell lines (200 nM, 72 h).

Compound (200 nM)	Cell line	72 h
5a		92.9 ± 1.2%
5b	THP-1	$92.4 \pm 3.3\%$
5c		$40.3 \pm 1.9\%$

5a		$79.5 \pm 3.2\%$
5b	MV4-11	81.2±2.5%
5c		94.1±0.3%
5a		65.5±4.3%
5b	OCI-AML3	69.8±5.7%
5c		78.3±3.7%
5a		$81.7 \pm 3.1\%$
5b	5b KASUMI-1	73.8±3.4%
5c	69.0±1.7%	

Figure 6. Effects of 5a (200 nM, 48 h) on the expression of CD14 and CD11b in MV4-11.

FSC and SSC profiles were applied for the initial gating by selecting cell size and distribution and remove cell debris. Plots A, B, C show the Isotype controls. Plots D, E, F show the experimental conditions. Plots A and D show the gated population: in the X-axis is reported the mean fluorescence intensities for FITC-CD14 Ab; in the Y-axis is reported the mean fluorescence increase for PE-CD11b Ab. Plots B and C (black histograms) report the fluorescence increase of Isotype controls (untreated cells); E shows the fluorescence increase of the monocytic marker CD14; F shows the fluorescence increase of the myeloid marker CD11b. Numbers shown in each box are the % of cells expressing CD14 or CD11b. (G) Shown are results graphically summarised for three independent experiments. Statistical significance was determined with two-way ANOVA and corrected for multiple comparisons with Bonferroni's test. Values are expressed as means % of CD14-CD11b increase \pm STD (n=3); *** p < 0.001.

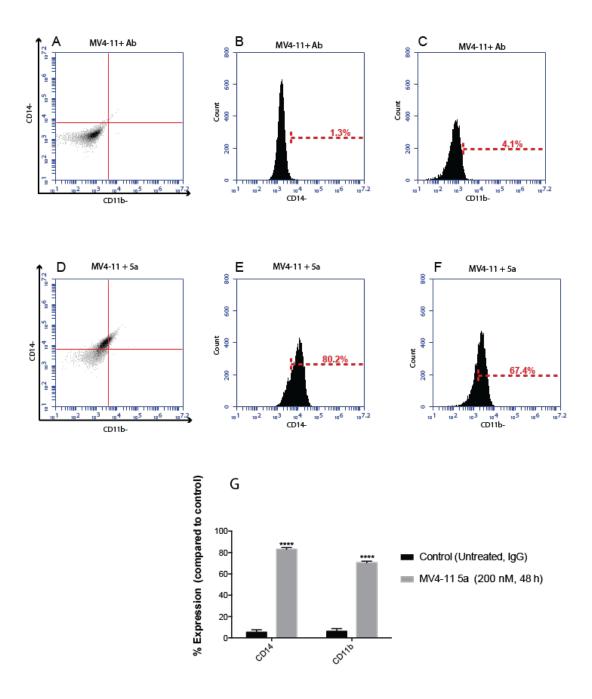


Figure 7. Effects of 5b (200 nM, 48 h) on the expression of differentiation markers CD14 and CD11b in MV4-11 cells compared to control.

FSC and SSC profiles were applied for the initial gating by selecting cell size and distribution and remove cell debris. Plots A, B, C show the Isotype controls. Plots D, E, F show the experimental conditions. Plots A and D show the gated population: in the X-axis is reported the mean fluorescence intensities for FITC-CD14 Ab; in the Y-axis is reported the mean fluorescence increase for PE-CD11b Ab. Plots B and C (black histograms) report the fluorescence increase of Isotype controls (untreated cells); E shows the fluorescence increase of the monocytic marker CD14; F shows the fluorescence increase of the myeloid marker CD11b. Numbers shown in each box are the % of cells expressing CD14 or CD11b. (G) Shown are results graphically summarised for three independent experiments. Statistical significance was determined with two-way ANOVA and corrected for multiple comparisons with Bonferroni's test. Values are expressed as means % of CD14-CD11b increase \pm STD (n=3); *** p < 0.001.

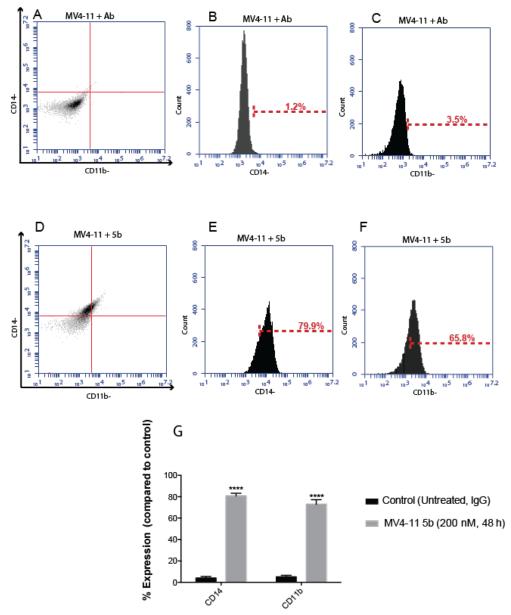


Table 4. Increase (%) of CD14 and CD11b expression induced by 5a in AMLs (200 nM, 48 h). Results are expressed as % of increase normalised to pre-treatment level (DMSO-vehicle control) ± STD (n=3).

Cells line	CD14 increase	CD11b increase
Cens inic	(%± STD, n=3)	$(\% \pm STD, n=3)$
U937	24.2±1.5	94.2±1.2
HL-60	20.8±3.0	68.3±11.8
OCI-AML3	69.7±12.3	70.4±13.9
MV4-11	83.0±1.51	70.4±1.5
KASUMI	2.7±0.7	17.9±3.5
THP-1	97.0±0.9	93.6±5.3

Table 5. Increase (%) of CD14 and CD11b expression induced by TCP derivative 5b in AMLs (200 nM, 48 h). Results are expressed as % of increase normalised to pre-treatment level (DMSO-vehicle control) ± STD (n=3).

Cell lines treated with 5b (200 nM, 48 h)	CD14 increase (% ± STD, n=3)	CD11b increase (% ± STD, n=3)
U937	14.1±0.9	90.6±2.6
HL-60	29.1±4.7	66.1±11.0
OCI-AML3	84.4±5.6	72.5±9.3
MV4-11	80.5±2.8	72.9±4.4
KASUMI	3.8±0.1	23.4±0.9
THP-1	97.1±1.2	98.4±0.4