

Title: The Role of PHOSPHO1 in the Initiation of Skeletal Calcification **Authors:** Dereck Stonich, Ying Su, Shakeela Dad, Santhi Reddy, Yalda Mostofi, Dahl Russell, Thomas Chung, Nicholas Michael Hedrick, Justin Rascon, Xochella Garcia, Eduard

Sergienko, Jose Luis Millan, Derek Stonich, Nicholas Cosford

Assigned Assay Grant #: 1 R03 MH084086-01

Screening Center Name & PI: *Conrad Prebys* Center for Chemical Genomics (*formerly Burnham Center for Chemical Genomics*) & Dr. John C. Reed

Chemistry Center Name & PI: *Conrad Prebys* Center for Chemical Genomics (*formerly Burnham Center for Chemical Genomics*) & Dr. John C. Reed

Assay Submitter & Institution: Dr Jose Luis Millan & Sanford-Burnham Medical Research Institute (*formerly Burnham Institute for Medical Research*)

PubChem Summary Bioassay Identifier (AID): 1574

Probe Structure & Characteristics:



CID/ML	Target Name	IC50/EC50 (nM) [SID, AID]	Anti- target Name(s)	IC50/EC50 (μΜ) [SID, AID]	Select- ivity	Secondary Assay(s) Name: IC50/EC50 (nM) [SID, AID]
16749996	PHOSPHO1	139 nM IC50 SID-57287582	TNAP	>100 µM IC50 SID-57287582	>719	PMM2: >100.000 nM IC50
ML086		AID-1666		AID-1056		SID-57287582 AID-1655
						PMI: >50,000 nM IC50 SID-57287582 AID-1535

Recommendations for the scientific use of this probe:

A newly identified soluble phosphatase, PHOSPHO1, with specificity for phosphoethanolamine (PEA) and phosphoserine (PS) present in matrix vesicles (MVs), is responsible for increasing the local concentration of Pi inside MVs to change the Pi/PPi ratio to favor precipitation of hydroxyapatite (HA) seed crystals. As tissue non-specific alkaline phosphatase (TNAP) is also in the same biological compartment, PHOSPHO1-specific inhibitors will enable us to probe and clarify the functional involvement of this enzyme in skeletal mineralization and soft tissue ossification abnormalities. This will help to elucidate the mechanism of action for diseases such as osteoarthritis, osteoporosis, and arterial calcification.



1. Scientific Rationale for Project

Specific Aims

The main aim of this project was to screen large comprehensive chemical libraries to identify lead compounds for PHOSPHO1-specific inhibitors that will enable the elucidation of the functional involvement of this enzyme in skeletal mineralization and related biological phenomena.

Background and Significance

During the process of endochondral bone formation, osteoblasts mineralize the extracellular matrix (ECM) by promoting the initial formation of crystalline hydroxyapatite in the sheltered interior of membrane-limited matrix vesicles (MVs) and by modulating matrix composition to further promote propagation of apatite outside of the MVs. All available data indicate that controlled bone mineralization depends on a regulated balance of the following factors: the concentrations of Ca^{2+} and inorganic phosphate (Pi), the presence of fibrilar collagens (e.g., type I in bone; Types II and X in cartilage) and the presence of adequate concentrations of mineralization inhibitors, *i.e.*, inorganic pyrophosphate (PPi), and osteopontin (OPN). Three molecules present in osteoblasts have so far been identified as affecting the controlled deposition of bone mineral by regulating the extracellular levels of PPi, and in turn of OPN, *i.e.*, tissue-nonspecific alkaline phosphatase (TNAP); NPP1 (a nucleotide pyrophosphatase/phosphodiesteraseisozyme) and the ANK gene product. A deficiency in the TNAP isozyme causes the inborn-error-of-metabolism known as hypophosphatasia and the study of this disease has provided the best evidence of the importance of TNAP for bone mineralization. TNAP is the only tissue-nonrestrictedisozyme of a family of four homologous human alkaline phosphatase (AP) genes (EC. 3.1.3.1)¹ that additionally includes the placental (PLAP), germ cell (GCAP) and intestinal (IAP) AP genes. Expressed as an ecto-enzyme anchored *via* a phosphatidylinositolglycan moiety, TNAP has been demonstrated to play an essential physiological role during bone matrix mineralization. Specifically, defective bone mineralization (osteomalacia) occurs in TNAP deficiency (hypophosphatasia)². The severity of hypophosphatasia is variable and modulated by the nature of the TNAP mutation³⁻⁶. Unlike most types of rickets or osteomalacia neither calcium nor inorganic phosphate levels in serum are subnormal in hypophosphatasia. In fact hypercalcemia and hyperphosphatemia may exist and hypercalciuria is common in infantile hypophosphatasia⁷. The clinical severity in hypophosphatasia patients varies widely. The different syndromes, listed from the most severe to the mildest forms, are: perinatalhypophosphatasia, infantile hypophosphatasia, childhood hypophosphatasia, adult hypophosphatasia, odontohypophosphatasia pseudohypophosphatasia⁷. These and phenotypes range from complete absence of bone mineralization and stillbirth to spontaneous fractures and loss of decidual teeth in adult life. Inactivation of the mouse TNAP gene (Akp2) phenocopies the infantile form of human hypophosphatasia^{8,9}. In bone, TNAP is confined to the cell surface of osteoblasts and chondrocytes, including the membranes of their shed MVs^{10,11}. In fact, by an unknown mechanism, MVs are markedly enriched in TNAP compared to both whole cells and the plasma membrane¹². It has been proposed that the role of TNAP in the bone matrix is to generate the inorganic phosphate needed for hydroxyapatite crystallization¹³⁻¹⁵. However, TNAP has also been hypothesized to hydrolyze the mineralization inhibitor PPi¹⁶ to facilitate mineral precipitation and growth¹⁷⁻¹⁹. Electron microscopy revealed that TNAP-deficient MVs, in both humans and mice, contain apatite crystals, but that extravesicular crystal propagation is retarded²⁰. This growth retardation could be due to either the lack of TNAP'spyrophosphatase function or the lack of inorganic phosphate-generation. Our recent studies have provided compelling proof that the function of TNAP in bone tissue consists of hydrolyzing PPi to maintain a proper concentration of this mineralization inhibitor to ensure normal bone mineralization. PPi is primarily generated by the members of the nucleotide pyrophosphatase/phosphodiesterase (NPP) family of isozymes. Plasma cell membrane glycoprotein-1 (PC-1; more correctly

termed NPP1) is plasma membrane-bound, whereas autotaxin (NPP2) is secreted and B10 (NPP3) is abundant in intracellular spaces²¹. All three isozymes are expressed in a wide variety of tissues, including bone and cartilage²², and they all have the common ability to hydrolyze diesters of phosphoric acid into phosphomonoesters. NPPs have been implicated in various processes, including bone mineralization, signaling by insulin and by nucleotides, and the differentiation and motility of cells²³. However, NPPs are known primarily as suppliers of intra- and extracellular PPi²⁴. Similar to skeletal TNAP expression, NPP1 is highly abundant on the surfaces of osteoblasts and chondrocytes as well as on the membrane of their MVs^{25,26}. NPP1 has a role in inhibiting hydroxyapatite precipitation by its PPi-generating property. This proposed function has been supported by *in vitro* studies where cells transfected with the NPP1 cDNA resulted in elevated levels of PPi in osteoblast-derived MVs, accompanied by decreased matrix mineralization²⁷. It is also thought that glycoprotein-1 participates in osteblastic mineralization²⁸.Moreover, Enpp1-/mice develop hypermineralization abnormalities such as ossification of the posterior longitudinal ligament of the spine, diffuse idiopathic skeletal hyperostosis, ankylosing spinal hyperostosis and pathological soft-tissue ossification, including arterial calcification^{29,30}. Conversely, while NPP1 deficiency results in hypermineralization, elevated expression of NPP1 is associated with MV-mediated calcium pyrophosphate dihydrate (CPPD) matrix calcification in the knee meniscal cartilage during aging^{31,32}. Interestingly, as in NPP1 overexpressing tissues, abnormal CPPD precipitation has also been observed in association with TNAP deficiency. While the excess of PPi in hypophosphatasia patients is primarily linked with rickets and osteomalacia, subjects with the disease may also develop pathological CPPD mineralization of the articular cartilage³³.

Similar to NPP1, the ankylosis protein (ANK) has a role in mineralization by contributing to the extracellular supply of PPi. However, unlike NPP1, ANK appears to function as a transmembrane PPi-channeling protein, allowing PPi molecules to passage through the plasma membrane from the cytoplasm to the outside of the cell³⁴. ANK protein is detectable in many tissues, yet its expression is particularly strong in the cartilage of joints³⁴. Cell surfaces of osteoblasts and chondrocytes appear to be abundant in ANK protein³⁶, but in contrast to NPP1 and TNAP, it is not present in the membranes of MVs. ANK was identified in a naturally occurring mutant mouse strain that had characteristics of progressive ankylosis, thus the designation *ank/ank*mice³⁵. These animals develop hydroxyapatite crystals in articular surfaces and synovial fluids. As *Enpp1-/-* mice, *ank/ank*mice display pathological abnormalities that mimic several arthritic diseases, including ectopic calcification, cartilage erosion and osteophyte formation seen in osteoarthritis, and vertebral fusion observed in ankylosisspondylitis patients³⁷⁻⁴⁰.

It has also been shown that normalizing calcium and Pi concentrations corrects the hyperosteoidosis of rickets patients⁴¹. Since extracellular calcium is more tightly regulated than extracellular Pi concentrations, Pi may be the critical element in the induction of mineral crystals in a given ECM. The production by osteoblasts of an inhibitor of ECM mineralization like PPi is counter-intuitive. It suggests a model whereby the removal of an inhibitor rather than the synthesis of an inducer of mineralization would explain why ECM mineralization occurs in bone. Consistent with this model we have shown that removal of PPi via TNAP action and the presence of a fibrilar collagen-rich scaffold are two conditions necessary to induce mineralization of bone or any ECM. Our data also indicate that the Pi/PPi ratio is of fundamental significance for bone ECM mineralization. This is in agreement with the observation that Akp2^{-/-}mice that have abnormally high extracellular PPi levels have hyperosteoidosis, while [Akp2^{-/-}; Enpp1^{-/-}] and [Akp2^{-/-}; ank/ank] mice have normal mineralization of the skull and normal extracellular PPi concentration^{42,43}. Thus, in the bone ECM, while the extracellular Pi concentration is fairly constant, TNAP's enzymatic degradation of PPi controls the Pi/PPi ratio to favor crystallization of HA outside the MVs along collagen fibrils. But, why are Akp2-/- mice born with a mineralized skeleton and still contain HA crystals inside their MVs? As TNAP sits on the outer surface of the MV membrane there is no TNAP-mediated hydrolysis of PPi inside the MVs. Therefore, it is likely that

another enzyme is responsible for either cleaving PPi or elevating the intravesicular concentration of Pi so as to achieve a Pi/PPi ratio conducive for crystallization. We proposed and tested our hypothesis in this research that PHOSPHO1, a soluble phosphatase^{44,45} that has specificity for phosphoethanolamine and phosphocholine⁴⁶, plays the important role of increasing the Pi/PPi ratio inside MVs and thus controls the first step of initiation of HA crystal deposition inside MVs.

2. Project Description

a. The original goal for probe characteristics. The original goal was to find compounds that had minimally less that 1 uM potency, but were selective against tissue specific alkaline phosphatase. None of the existing three inhibitors (SCH-20676, lansoprazole, ebselen) from the original CPDP met the 1 uM potency barrier.

b.

i. PubChem Bioassay Name(s), AID(s), Assay-Type (Primary, DR, Counterscreen, Secondary)

PubChemBioAssay Name	AIDs	Probe Type	Assay Type	Assay Format	Assay Detection & wellformat
uHTS absorbance assay for the identification of compounds that inhibit	1565	Inhibitor	Primary	biochemical	Absorbance (@ 620 nm
PHOSPHO1.					BIOMOL)1536
SAR assay for compounds that inhibit PHOSPHO1	1666	Inhibitor	SAR	biochemical	Absorbance at 630 nm, 384
Anti-target in Vitro TNAP Dose Response Luminescent Assay for SAR Study	1056	Inhibitor	Anti-target Counterscn	biochemical	Luminescence, 384
Counter screen SAR assay for PMM2	1655	Inhibitor	Secondary	biochemical	Fluorescence
inhibitors via a fluorescence intensity			Assay for		384
assay			specificity		
Confirmation of compounds inhibiting	1535	Inhibitor	Secondary	biochemical	Fluorescence
phosphomannoseisomerase (PMI) via a			Assay for		384
fluorescence intensity assay			specificity		

ii. Assay Rationale & Description.

This biochemical assay employs a colorimetric readout based on the enzyme's ability to liberate phosphate from phosphoethanolamine and its reaction with the Biomol Green reagent. The primary screening protocol is described below.

Assay materials:

1) PHOSPHO1 was obtained from the assay provider's laboratory. The construct was designed to express PHOSPHO1 fused to a V5 epitope and 6 His-tag at the C-terminus.

2) Assay Buffer: 20mM MES-NaOH pH 6.7, 2mM MgCl₂, 0.0125% Tween-20, 0.01% BSA.

Table 1. Reagents used for the uHTS experiments				
Reagent	Vendor			
Recombinant human PHOSPHO1 produced in <i>E. coli</i> from an arabinose inducible obtained expression clone	Invitrogen pBAD TOPO TA vector from a cDNA corresponding to Met19-Cys267 of human PHOSPHO1			
BIOMOL Green (AK-111)	BIOMOL			
SCH-202676: previously identified as an inhibitor of PHOSPHO1 as positive control	Calbiochem, Cat No. 565645			

The following uHTS protocol was developed:

 1. 5ul of assay buffer (20mM MES-NaOH, 2mM MgCl₂, 0.0125% Tween 20, 0.01% BSA) are added to each well in columns 1 and 2 of a black/clear bottom Corning assay plate (cat # 3891).

- 2. 1.5ul of assay buffer containing 2.5ng/ul PHOSPHO1 are added to the wells in columns 3-48.
- 3. Using a 1536 pintool, 20nl of 2mM compound are added to each well in columns 5-48.
- 4. 20nl of DMSO are added to the wells in columns 1-4.
- 5. 1.5ul of assay buffer containing 450uM PEA is added to all wells.
- 6. The plate is centrifuged and incubated at room temperature for 1 hour.
- 7. 3ul of Biomol Green is added to each well.
- 8. The plate is centrifuged and incubated for 30 min at room temperature.
- 9. The plate is read on a Viewlux plate reader in absorbance mode @630nm.

The average Z' for the screen was 0.56, the signal-to-background was 11.5, signal-to-noise was 21.8 and signal-to-window was 6.6.

Rationale for confirmatory, counter and selectivity assays:

Compounds that looked promising based on their selectivity profile were then tested in dose-response secondary assays using 10-point serial dilution in duplicate. The assay was based on detection of phosphate release from phosphoethanolamine using the Biomol reagent. We also developed another secondary assay for PHOSPHO1 which was based on the detection of choline released in the dephosphorylation of phosphocholine, an endogenous substrate for PHOSPHO1. Phosphate was also detected with the Biomol reagent (see Table 2).

Assay Name	AID	Assay Type
Full Dose Response	1666	DR -Confirmatory assay
Full Dose Response TNAP	1056	DR- Counter assay /Antitarget
Full Dose Response PMM2	1655	DR- Secondary/Specificity
Detection of product choline released in dephosphorylation of phosphocholine	No AID	Secondary

Table 2. Assays used in PHOSPHO1 studies.

Knowledge of specificity is important for the delineation of PHOSPHO1 biological functions, specifically the selectivity of inhibitors for PHOSPHO1 versus TNAP present in the same tissue and participating in similar biological processes.

iii. Center Summary of Results

The uHTS assay was developed and implemented in 1536-well plates. After successful implementation the assay underwent uHTS with a library of ~55K compounds. Approximately 5000 compounds showed >50% activity in the assay at that point. This gave a hit rate of ~ 3%, which was unexpectedly high and difficult to follow up. Interestingly, more than 50% of the hits on two representative plates that were cherry-picked using our acoustic Echo dispenser confirmed in both single-concentration and dose-response modes.

During the preparation for this probe project we realized that PHOSPHO1, an orphan phosphatase with little information available, belongs to a family of halo-acid dehydrogenases. Thus, it was expected to share some common features with other members of the same family, including phosphomannomutase-2 (PMM2). We had already developed an assay for PMM2 and utilized it as a counter screen for phosphomannoseisomerase (PMI), an MLSCN probe project. We also noticed that in the PHOSPHO1RO3 grant application three compounds had previously been identified as potential hits. We had already demonstrated that one of them (ebselen) inhibits both PMI

and PMM2. Since we had previously generated analogues by purchase and synthesis we had a large number of dry powder compounds based on this scaffold available for testing. We therefore decided to test these compounds against PHOSPHO1 and found that several of them were very potent and selective for PHOSPHO1, not PMM or PMI active, but also satisfyingly not active against TNAP, the original anti-target of most concern for PHOPHOSPHI activity.

c. Probe Optimization i. SAR & chemistry strategy that the probe.

led to

Table 3 Representative PHOSPHO1 inhibitors: SAR and selectivity -						
Structure/ID	PubChem CID	PubChem SID	PHOSPHO1 IC ₅₀ (uM)	PMM2 IC ₅₀ (uM)	PMI IC 50 (uM)	TNAP IC ₅₀ (uM)
MLS-0390838	16749996	57287582	0.14	76.40	>100	>100
	4089709	56373872	0.81	5.17	0.71	>100
	2325813	56373857	1.07	62.8	8.58	>100
	25067463	56405542	0.82	12.2	4.93	>100
	5040456	56373499	0.50	13.2	2.79	
С С С С С С С С С С С С С С С С С С С	25181200	57287554	1.14	52.5	3.29	>100
MLS-0315922	2467794	56373877	1.24	>100	23.6	>100
MLS-0315805	2381612	56373874	0.56	>100	61.90	>100
	16749997	57287581	2.33	17.8	2.25	>100
	2327953	56373866	1.84	11.5	3.06	>100

he goals for optimization of the PHOSPHO1 hit compounds from the primary HTS screen were two-fold: (1) find analogues with increased potency in the PHOSPHO1 enzyme inhibition assay and (2) optimize the potent PHOSPHO1 inhibitors for selectivity against TNAP. Additionally, as it realized was that PHOSPHO1 was а relative of the haloacid dehydrogenases, PMM2 and PMI, therefore, we also included 2 specifity assays for the class of ebselen-like inhibitors we had previously tested for: PMM and PMI enzyme inhibition, and indeed we used these to actually select and define the final desired compound, since TNAP activity was minimal for these series (see below and Table 3). HTS revealed multiple potent hits in the benzoisothiazolone compound class, with a majority of the inhibitors containing a sulfonamide group as in CID-4089709 (MLS-CID-0315803), 2325813 (MLS-

0315794), CID-5040456 (MLS-0263839),

and CID-2327953 (MLS-0022297) (Table 3). Select representatives of these potent hits were re-synthesized in house and activity was confirmed with synthesized analogues. All of

the data for these analogs and the probe were obtained from powder samples from the same batch for each replicate experiments. While the sulfonamide compounds were indeed potent PHOSPHO1 inhibitors, counterscreening against TNAP, PMM and PMI enzymes showed most to be non-selective. For example, CID-4089709 (MLS-0315803) showed an IC₅₀ of 0.81 uM against PHOSPHO1. However, this compound inhibited PMM with an IC₅₀ of 5.17 uM and was even more potent against PMI with an IC₅₀ of 0.71 uM. Thus, the SAR strategy for medicinal chemistry included variations of the sulfonamide moiety on the aryl ring as well as replacing the sulfonamide with suitable, drug-like isosteres, specifically amide and ester analogues. Regarding the SAR around the sulfonamide analogues, it was observed that large sulfonamide substituents, as in CID-4089709 (MLS-0315803), whilst proving to be potent at inhibiting PHOSPHO1, also showed activity against PMM and PMI. Thus, the focus shifted to smaller substituents. Selectivity began to emerge as these smaller, less polar substituents were incorporated, as in CID-5040456 (MLS-0263839), CID-2327953 (MLS-0022297), and CID-2325813 (MLS-0315794), all of which had PHOSPHO1 selectivities from 4- to 100-fold over both PMM and PMI. However, additional selectivity for PHOSPHO1 was sought. Gratifyingly, CID-2381612 (MLS-0315805), which had an IC_{50} of 0.56 uM against PHOSPHO1, showed no inhibition against TNAP and PMM up to 100 uM, and a PMI IC₅₀ of 61.9 uM. While this compound demonstrated desirable potency and selectivity, we envisaged that potency could be further increased since we had previously observed non-selective compounds that were 2- to 3-fold more potent against PHOSPHO1. Encouraging potency and selectivity results were seen when the sulfonamide group was replaced with either an amide or ester isostere. As was previously observed with the sulfonamide series, larger substituents, as in CID-16749997 (MLS-0390837), were potent (PHOSPHO1 IC₅₀ = 2.33 uM), yet lacked the required selectivity against PMM and PMI. Subsequent synthesis of esters and amides containing smaller substituents facilitated a means to achieve the required selectivity while maintaining potency, as shown in CID-2381612 (MLS-0315805). Thus, a final round of synthesis of amides afforded the probe compound. CID-16749996 MLS-0390838) proved to be the most potent and selective PHOSPHO1 compound synthesized, having an IC_{50} of 0.14 uM and negligible inhibition of PMM (IC₅₀ = 76.4 uM) or TNAP and PMI (IC₅₀ > 100 uM).

3. Probe

a. Chemical name

N,N-dimethyl-3-(3-oxo-1,2-benzothiazol-2-yl)benzamide [ML086]

b. Probe chemical structure



c. Structural Verification Information of probe SID SID-57287582



BCCG CPR PHOSPHO1 Inhibitors CID 16749996

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d. PubChem CID (corresponding to the SID)

16749996.

e. Availability from a vendor.

This probe is not commercially available from vendors.

f. MLS# that verifies the submission of probe molecule and five related samples that were submitted to the SMR collection:

Probe /Analog	MLS-# (BCCG#)	CID	SID	Source (vendor or BCCG syn)	Amt (mg)	Date ordered/ submitted
Probe	0390838	16749996	57287582	BCCG syn	20	4/15/09
Analog 1	0390837	16749997	57287581	BCCG syn	20	4/15/09
Analog 2	0315861	25067463	56405542	BCCG syn	20	4/15/09
Analog 3	0263839	5040456	56373499	Enamine	20	4/15/09
Analog 4	0022297	2327953	56373866	Enamine	20	Backorder
Analog 5	0315803	4089709	56373872	Enamine	20	Backorder

g. Mode of action for biological activity of probe

CID-16749996 is a biochemical inhibitor of PHOSPHO1. The biological mode of action of this probe has not yet been elucidated.

h. Detailed synthetic pathway for making probe



Synthesis of CID-16749996.*N*,*N*-dimethyl-3-(3-oxobenzo[*d*]isothiazol-2(3H)-yl)benzamide.

i. Center summary of probe properties (solubility, absorbance/fluorescence, reactivity, toxicity, etc.) No obvious reactivities or toxicities.

Property	Value
Molecular Weight	298.35956 [g/mol]
Molecular Formula	C ₁₆ H ₁₄ N ₂ O ₂ S
XLogP3-AA	2.5
H-Bond Donor	0
H-Bond Acceptor	2
Rotatable Bond Count	2
Exact Mass	298.077598
Monolsotopic Mass	298.077598
Topological Polar Surface Area	65.9
Heavy Atom Count	21
Formal Charge	0
Complexity	427
Isotope Atom Count	0
Defined Atom StereoCenter Count	0
Undefined Atom StereoCenter Count	0
Defined Bond StereoCenter Count	0
Undefined Bond StereoCenter Count	0
Covalently-Bonded Unit Count	1

j. Properties Computed from Structure

4. Appendices

Α.

a. Comparative data on (1) probe, (2) similar compound structures



SCH-202676 HYDROBROMIDE





(establishing SAR) and (3) prior probes

The three compounds (Fig. 1A) on the left were obtained during pilot screening of two well-known chemical libraries, LOPAC and Spectrum. Their calculated IC50 values against PHOSPHO1mediated hydrolysis of PEA were 1.97 ± 0.01 µM (SCH 202676), 4.71 \pm 0.1 μ M (Lansoprazole) and 2.81 \pm 0.04 µM (Ebselen) (Fig. 1B).

None of these meet the current minimal definition of less than 1 uM potency for a biochemical assay. The nominated probe meets the potency requirement and also meets the original need for TNAP selectivity. It also exceeds the specification with the added selectivity against two related infamily enzyme members. However, the biological relevance of these homologous enzyme to calcification is not known. The probe provided has however does have this added selectivity, which presumably

minimize potential off-target effects.

b. Comparative data showing probe specificity for target

See Table 3 above for selectivity.

5. Bibliography

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