## Supplementary Material

## Conformers, Properties of the Anticancer Drug Plocabulin, and its Binding Mechanism with P-Glycoprotein: DFT and MD Studies

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Figure S1 The conformations 2 and 3 of plocabulin. The important hydrogen bonds are represented by dotted lines.


Figure S2 Explicit solvent model of conformer 1 (A), conformer 2 (B), and conformer 3 (C).


HOMO-10


HOMO-6


HOMO-2



HOMO-1



НОМÖ-8

HOMO-4



Figure $\mathbf{S 3}$ The orbitals involved (except for HOMO and LUMO) in the lowest five excited states for the most stable plocabulin conformation at the TD CAM-B3LYP/6-311+G(2df,p) level.


Figure S4 Quality assessment of p-glycoprotein homology model by PROCHECK (A), QMEAN (B) and ERRAT (C). A: A Ramachandran plot confirms good stereochemical quality of our model of p-glycoprotein. Results from PROCHECK: residues in most favoured regions: 93.9\%; residues in additional allowed regions: $5.4 \%$; residues in generously allowed regions: $0.5 \%$; residues in disallowed regions: $0.2 \%$. B: QMEAN is a composite scoring function which is able to derive both global and local absolute quality estimates on the basis of one single model. The QMEAN4 score of our model shown as a red pentacle, and the background is a score of high-quality crystal structures of similar size. C: ERRAT is a so-called "overall quality factor" for non-bonded atomic interactions. The calculated Error value of 82.3 confirms that our model is a high-quality model.


Figure S5 Plocabulin (red) and paclitaxel (blue) and THR76 centroid distance change graph with simulation time.During the whole process, PM060184 gradually moved away, and the change fluctuated greatly, and paclitaxel gradually approached, and the change was relatively mild.


Figure S6 The number of hydrogen bonds formed between the ligand and P-glycoprotein varies with the simulation time. During the simulation, the number of hydrogen bonds between PM060184 (red) and protein is currently less than 1-2, and after 30ns, it gradually rises to $4-5$; the number of hydrogen bonds between paclitaxel (blue) and protein has been maintained 4-5.


Figure S7 Comparison of the MD equilibrium conformation (green) with the global minimum of plocabulin (pink) predicted by the DFT.

Table S1 Harmonic vibrational frequencies ( $\mathrm{F} ; \mathrm{cm}^{-1}$ ) scaled by $0.96{ }^{[28]}$ and the infrared intensities $(\mathrm{I} ; \mathrm{km} / \mathrm{mol})$ for the typical vibrational modes of plocabulin conformers in aqueous solution.

| Conformer <br> Vibration mode | 1 |  | 2 |  | 3 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | F | I | F | I | F | I |
| $\mathrm{C} 11=\mathrm{C} 12$ | 1657 | 220 | 1653 | 236 | 1642 | 212 |
| $\mathrm{C} 2=\mathrm{C} 3$ | 1683 | 207 | 1685 | 200 | 1683 | 212 |
| $\mathrm{C} 13=\mathrm{O}$ | 1606 | 741 | 1606 | 576 | 1603 | 895 |
| C18 $=$ C19 | 1728 | 114 | 1725 | 84 | 1726 | 98 |
| C16=O | 1677 | 548 | 1667 | 413 | 1677 | 197 |
| $\mathrm{C} 33=\mathrm{O}$ | 1697 | 837 | 1682 | 1184 | 1703 | 964 |
| $\mathrm{C} 1=\mathrm{O}$ | 1717 | 920 | 1716 | 910 | 1715 | 899 |
| sym N34-H | 3548 | 289 | 3595 | 227 | 3588 | 338 |
| N17-H | 3564 | 179 | 3611 | 76 | 3618 | 94 |
| N14-H | 3630 | 160 | 3615 | 127 | 3621 | 126 |
| asym N34-H | 3683 | 143 | 3714 | 117 | 3689 | 120 |

Table S2 Docking energy and the amino acids residue that interact in the 5 set docking regions and the hydrogen bonds formed.

| region | conformation | Binding energy (kcal/mol) | Related amino acid residues |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | H-bond |  | Others |  |  |  |  |
| 1 | 1 | -5.24 | SER180 | TYR920 | ASP177 | ARG148 | LEU924 | LEU890 | GLU891 |
|  |  |  |  |  | LEU175 | GLY894 | LYS895 | ASN172 | THR898 |
|  |  |  |  |  | THR176 | THR173 |  |  |  |
|  | 2 | -4.16 | SER180 |  | ASP177 | THR176 | ASN172 | THR898 | LYS895 |
|  |  |  |  |  | GLY894 | LYS887 | GLU891 | LEU890 |  |
|  | 3 | -4.01 | LYS887 |  | LEU175 | THR176 | ASP177 | GLU184 | SER180 |
|  |  |  |  |  | VAL179 | SER180 | THR176 |  |  |
|  | 4 | -4.42 | ARG148 |  | THR898 | LYS895 | GLU891 | LEU890 | ASN172 |
|  |  |  |  |  | THR173 | LEU175 | VAL179 | SER180 | THR176 |
|  | 5 | -3.63 | ASN183 |  | SER180 | ASP177 | THR176 | ARG148 | ASP886 |
|  |  |  |  |  | LEU890 | LYS887 | GLU891 |  |  |
|  | 1 | -6.33 | TYR950 |  | ALA985 | ALA869 | ILE868 | MET949 | GLY872 |
|  |  |  |  |  | THR945 | GLN946 | HIS61 | PHE942 | MET192 |
|  |  |  |  |  | GLN195 |  |  |  |  |
|  | 2 | -5.99 | GLN946 |  | GLN347 | SER344 | SER196 | MET192 | GLN195 |
|  |  |  |  |  | THR199 | THR945 | MET949 | LEU65 | MET986 |
|  |  |  |  |  | ILE340 | ILE868 | VAL982 |  |  |
| 2 | 3 | -5.83 | GLN347 |  | TYR950 | MET949 | TYR953 | MET68 | MET69 |
|  |  |  |  |  | LEU65 | GLN195 | THR199 | ILE340 | PHE343 |
|  |  |  |  |  | SER344 |  |  |  |  |
|  | 4 | -6.36 | GLN946 | TYR950 | VAL873 | GLY872 | ILE868 | MET986 | VAL982 |
|  |  |  | ALA869 |  | LEU65 |  |  |  |  |
|  | 5 | -5.8 | GLN946 | TYR950 | MET876 | GLU875 | PHE938 | ASP188 | GLY872 |
|  |  |  |  |  | PHE942 | GLN195 | GLN946 | HIS61 | GLY62 |
|  |  |  |  |  | THR199 | LEU65 |  |  |  |
|  | 1 | -5.05 | GLN824 | ASN820 | ALA248 | GLY251 | TYR277 | ARG789 | TYR247 |
|  |  |  |  |  | GLU243 | ALA823 | ALA819 | THR816 | THR815 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | MET101 |
|  | 2 | -5.25 | ASN809 | ASN820 | ASP821 | ALA813 | ARG817 | ILE1011 | 0 |
|  |  |  | HIS1007 |  | LYS808 | TRP803 |  |  |  |
|  | 3 | -4.23 | HIS1007 |  | LYS808 | ALA813 | THR810 | LEU814 | ASN809 |
| 3 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | MET101 |
|  |  |  |  |  | TRP803 | ARG817 | ILE1011 | LYS1014 | 0 |
|  | 4 | -4.71 | TRP803 |  | THR816 | ASN820 | ASP821 | ARG817 | ALA813 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | MET101 |
|  |  |  |  |  | HIS1007 | ASN809 | LYS1014 | ILE1011 | 0 |
|  |  |  |  |  | LYS808 |  |  |  |  |
|  | 5 | -4.43 | HIS1007 |  | met1010 | LYS1014 | ILE1011 | TRP803 | ASN809 |



