1	
2	
3	Title:
4	A new Virtual Screening approach for Protein Disulfide Isomerase inhibitors reveals
5	potential candidates for antithrombotic agents
6	
7	
8	Authors
9	
10	Noureddine Ben Khalaf ^{1*} and Moiz Bakhiet ¹
11	
12	
13	
14	Authors affiliation
15	
16	¹ HH Al-Iawhara Centre for Molecular Medicine and Inherited Diseases The Arabian Gulf
17	University Manama Rahrain
18	
19	
20	
20	
21	
22 73	*Corresponding author:
25	corresponding aution.
24	Dr. Noureddine Ben Khalaf, Al-Jawhara Centre for Molecular Medicine and Inherited Diseases,
25	Building 61 King Abdulaziz Avenue Block 328 Manama Bahrain E-mail
26	nouraddinak@agu adu hh
20	noureuumek@agu.euu.bh
27	
27	
28	
_0	
29	
30	
31	
32	
22	
33	
34	

35 Abstract

36 Background: Arterial thrombosis causes heart attacks and strokes and constitutes one of the 37 leading causes of morbidity and mortality in the world and few therapies are available for its treatment. Thus, new therapeutic approaches in the prevention and treatment of arterial 38 39 thrombosis are needed. Protein disulfide isomerase (PDI) has been shown to be expressed on 40 vascular cells following injury and to be involved in regulating thrombus formation in vivo. Since inhibition of PDI prevents platelet accumulation and fibrin generation, it makes it a 41 valuable target for the development of new antithrombotics. Rutin, a flavonol glycoside 42 derivative of Quercetin, was previously described for displaying decent potency against PDI, and 43 it inhibited the agonist-induced platelets aggregation in vivo, however its utility is limited by its 44 low solubility and its off-target activity. Rutin was recently reported to bind specifically to the b' 45 domain of PDI affecting protein flexibility which results in the inhibition of its reductase 46 activity. To investigate Rutin inhibitory mechanism we used docking and molecular dynamics 47 simulation and we observed that Rutin binds to a specific hydrophobic pocket of the b' domain 48 which reduces PDI flexibility. Methods: In an attempt to identify more potent, soluble and 49 specific PDI inhibitors, we established an in silico approach based on similarity search in Zinc 50 Drug-like library composed of more than 17 million compounds satisfying Lipiniski's rule of 51 five. A KNIME workflow was established for selecting Rutin-similar compounds based on 52 Tanimoto coefficients. Then, a virtual screening of selected compounds was performed using 53 54 Autodock Vina on PDI target pocket. In order to select PDI specific probes, a counter-screen was run to eliminate hits binding Erp57 thioredoxin active site. Hits were then submitted to 55 druglikeness prediction using Quantitative Estimate of Druglikeness (QED). A total of 5 56 compounds were selected and submitted to re-docking with Autodock Vina. Complexes were 57 subject to Molecular Dynamics simulation using NAMD. Results and Discussion: a total of 4 58 59 compounds were shown to form stable complexes with PDI binding pocket and then could constitute promising candidates for lead optimization. In conclusion, our in silico approach lead 60 to the identification of potential novel PDI inhibitors that may form suitable candidates for 61 Arterial thrombosis drug discovery. 62

Keywords: Protein Disulfide Isomerase, Thrombosis, Virtual Screening, Molecular docking,
Molecular Dynamics

65 Introduction

66 Arterial thrombosis causes heart attacks and strokes and is one of the leading causes of morbidity and mortality in the world. However, few adequate therapies are available for treating arterial 67 thrombosis. Protein Dislufide Isomerase (PDI), the founding member of a large family of thiol 68 69 oxydoreductases, was shown to be required for thrombosis, hemostasis and vascular inflammation (Cho 2013). PDI was discovered 50 years ago as the first folding catalyst. Since its 70 discovery, it was demonstrated that PDI acts as a dithiol-disulfide oxidoreductase capable of 71 reducing, oxidizing and isomerizing disulfide bonds. Independently of its redox activity, PDI can 72 also act as a chaperone both in vitro (Cai et al. 1994) and in vivo (McLaughlin & Bulleid 1998). 73

Thioredoxin family comprises 20 members that vary in length and domain arrangement. Most PDI family members share in common catalytic and non-catalytic thioredoxin-like domains. PDI is organized in four thioredoxin-like domains, a, a', b and b', in addition to a linker domain; x. The catalytic domains a and a' contain catalytic CGHC motifs reacting with thiol groups in substrate proteins. Non catalytic domains b and b' were shown to be involved in substrate recognition and recruitment (Kozlov et al. 2010).

Although PDI is assisting newly synthesized proteins to fold in the endoplasmic reticulum (ER) of majority of cells (Vaux et al. 1990), extracellular roles for PDI have been reported by previous studies, namely in the initiation of thrombus formation (Cho et al. 2008). Upon vascular injury, endothelial cells and platelets are activated and secrete PDI and other thiol isomerases. PDI, ERp5 and ERp57 have been shown to be involved in the initiation of thrombus formation in vivo (Furie & Flaumenhaft 2014). Following laser-induced vascular injury, PDI was demonstrated to be secreted from activated endothelial cells, then secreted from the bound platelets, to be finally

associated with thrombus growth. Inhibition of PDI with a blocking antibody completely
inhibited both platelet thrombus formation and fibrin generation (Cho et al. 2008; Jasuja et al.
2010). All these data point towards PDI as valuable and emerging drug target for thrombosis.

90 Quercetin-3-Rutinoside, known also as Rutin, a flavonol glycoside derivative of Quercetin, was 91 previously described for displaying decent potency against PDI (IC₅₀=6 μ M), and it inhibited the 92 agonist-induced platelets aggregation at 30 μ M (Jasuja et al. 2012), however its utility is limited 93 by its low solubility and its off-target activity. Interestingly, a recent study demonstrated that 94 Rutin inhibits PDI by binding directly to its b'x domain and not to the catalytic domains as 95 expected (Lin et al. 2015), which revealed new insights into PDI inhibition mechanisms.

96 In an attempt to identify more potent, soluble and specific PDI inhibitors, we established an *in silico* approach based on similarity search for Quercetin-similar compounds. A virtual screening followed by Molecular Dynamics Simulation allowed the identification of 4 compounds that were shown to form specific and stable complexes with PDI b'x domain and then could constitute promising candidates for lead optimization in preventing arterial thrombosis.

101 Material and Methods

102 Ligand library preparation

A subset of 17,900,742 Drug-like compounds was obtained in SDF format from ZINC database (http://zinc.docking.org/). The compounds were filtered according to Lipinsky's rule of five (MW <= 500, MW >= 150, XlogP <= 5, Rb <=7 and PSA < 150, Hbond_donors <= 5 , Hbond_acceptors <= 10) (Lipinski 2000). Rutin structures were sketched and obtained from Pubchem database (PubChem CID:5280805). Quercetin was obtained from the ZINC database (http://zinc.docking.org/; ZINC03869685). A KNIME (Nicola et al. 2015) workflow was set to

filter compounds with similarity to Quercetin according to Figure 1. In brief, compounds in SDF format were read and Morgan fingerprints were generated using RDKit KNIME node. A Tanimoto index (Bajusz et al. 2015) for similarity was calculated and a total number of 9533 compounds showing a similarity index more than 0.3 to Quercetin were selected for virtual screening.

114 **Target Preparation**

Reduced human Protein Disulfide Isomerase (PDI) and ERp57 crystal structure (PDB ID: 4EKZ (Wang et al. 2013) and PDB ID: 3F8U (Dong et al. 2009)) were obtained from RCSB database (http://www.rcsb.org/). Residues numbers were edited in the pdb file and input structure was prepared by removing all water molecules, adding and merging non polar Hydrogen, and computing Gasteiger charges, using Autodock tools (Morris et al. 2009). Structures were converted to PDBQT format for docking with Autodock Vina (Morris et al. 2009).

121 **Pocket analysis**

Binding sites on PDI and Erp57 were analyzed using Pockets plugin for Vegazz software. 122 123 Pockets is the graphic interface for fpocket developed by Vincent Le Guilloux and Peter Schmidtke to detect protein cavities. This program uses an optimized algorithm based on 124 Voronoi tessellation that is very fast and allows to analyze large molecules waiting for a 125 reasonable time. Parameters were set as follows: radius of a-sphere ranging from 0.3 to 0.6, 126 127 minimum number of a-sphere = 30, minimum apolar neighboring = 3, maximum distance for clustering = 1.73, maximum distance for single linkage = 2.5, maximum distance between 128 spheres = 4.5, and 2500 iterations for volume calculation. A score for each pocket was calculated 129 using a scoring function of different pocket descriptors including Number of alpha spheres, 130

Density of the cavity, Polarity Score, Mean local hydrophobic density, Proportion of apolar alpha
spheres, Composition of amino acids, Maximum distance between two alpha sphere,
Hydrophobicity, Charge, Volume and B-factor scores. Output pdb result were visualized and
analyzed by Pymol.

135 Rutin Docking and Pose prediction

Rutin structure was converted to pdbqt format using OpenBabel (O'Boyle et al. 2011) and docked to PDI using Autodock Vina (Trott & Olson 2010). Grid boxes were centered on PDI binding pockets at the b' domain and box size was set to 13824 Å³. Docking was performed with exhaustiveness=48 and 9 poses/run. Best Rutin conformation (E=-8 Kcal/mol) was saved to generate protein-ligand complexes for molecular dynamics study and protein-ligand interactions. A docking on ERp57 equivalent site was also performed for Rutin using the same approach as for PDI.

143 Virtual Screening

Filtered compounds were subject to a first round docking to PDI b' domain using Autodock Vina (Trott & Olson 2010) with an exhaustiveness of 12 and an affinity cutoff of -8.8 Kcal/mol (Average affinity + 2SD). Selected compounds (69 conformations were selected) were subject to a counter screening on ERp57 b' domain for target selectivity. All docking were performed using Autodock Vina (Trott & Olson 2010) with an exhaustiveness of 12 and a grid box of 13824 Å³ centered on b' domain. A scoring function was established for compound ranking as follows:

150
$$Score = E_{PDI}^* (1 + ((E_{Rutin_Erp57} - E_{Erp57})/E_{Rutin_Erp57}))$$

151 Where E_{PDI} are compound affinities for PDI b' domain, E_{Erp57} is compound affinity for Erp57 is 152 compound affinity, and $E_{Rutin Erp57}$ is Rutin affinity for Erp57.

Compounds were ranked according to the scoring function, a total of 23 were selected with 153 respective score higher than Rutin's score. Selected Hits were subject to Drug-likeness filtering 154 using DruLito(Bickerton et al. 2012) by applying Unweighted Quantitative estimate of drug-155 likeness filter with a cut-off of 0.5 (QED)). A total of five molecules were shown to satisfy those 156 filters and were subject to a second round docking to PDI using Autodock Vina. Grid boxes were 157 centered on b' domain and box size was set to 13824 Å³. Docking was performed with 158 exhaustiveness=48 and 9 poses/run. Best conformations for were saved to generate protein-159 ligand complexes used for protein-ligand interaction analysis by lig-Inetraction plugin of 160 Maestro (Schrödinger Release 2015-4: Maestro, version 10.4, Schrödinger, LLC, New York, 161 NY, 2015). 162

163 Molecular Dynamics Simulation

Based on the docking results, molecular dynamics simulations were performed for PDI alone or 164 165 in complex with a total of 6 ligands; five of them were issued from the virtual screening workflow, in addition to the previously described PDI inhibitor; Rutin (Jasuja et al. 2012). 166 Swissparam server (Zoete et al. 2011) was used to generate ligand topology and parameters files 167 based on the Merck molecular force field (MMFF) and compatible with the CHARMM force 168 field. PDI alone or in complex with ligand was solvated in a cubic Waterbox with periodic 169 boundary condition and a 2.4 Å layer of water for each direction of the coordinate structure using 170 the VMD solvation plugin (Humphrey et al. 1996). All MD simulation were performed using 171 NAMD (NAnoscale Molecular Dynamics program; v 2.9) (Phillips et al. 2005). Structures were 172

relaxed through 50000 steps of steepest descent energy minimization followed by 1 ns NVT. For
the production run, we used 1 fs time step, switching distance of 9 Å, cutoff of 10 Å, electrostatic
contribution evaluated every 2 steps, Particle Mesh Ewald with 1 Å spacing, NVT ensemble and
Langevin thermostat with 310 K as target temperature and pressure of 1.013 bar. Trajectories
were analyzed by VMD and VegaZZ software.

178 **Results**

179 **Docking Analysis**

180 Human Protein Disulfide Isomerase (PDI) and ERp57 crystal structure were prepared for docking with Autodock Vina (Morris et al. 2009). Pocket analysis showed the presence of 31 181 potential binding sites on PDI, among them, a pocket lying in the b' domain showed the highest 182 overall score of 34.5714 according to fpocket scoring function with a total volume of 1526.7041 183 $A^{\circ 3}$. Figure 2 shows the pocket surface representation with a hydrophobic cavity surrounded by 184 charged (E239 and D297) and polar (N298 and T428) residues. This pocket was selected for 185 docking analysis of Rutin binding mode. Ligands were prepared and docked using 186 AutodockVina using a Grid of 13824 A^{°3} centered on the considered pocket. Docking poses 187 fitting to the considered pocket were selected and were analyzed manually, the one with the 188 lowest binding energy (-8.0 kcal/mol) were selected for building protein-ligand complex for 189 molecular dynamics simulations. The same approach was applied to Erp57 (lowest energy = -7.3190 Kcal/mol). 191

192 Similarity Search and Virtual Screening

A subset of 17,900,742 Drug-like compounds filtered according to Lipinsky's rule of five from
the ZINC database was analyzed by a KNIME workflow (see Figure 1) to filter compounds

showing a similarity Tanimoto index above 0.3 comparing to Quercetin structure. A total number
of 9533 compounds were selected and were subject to a first round docking to PDI b' domain
then to a counter screening on ERp57 b' domain for target selectivity.

Compounds were ranked according to the scoring function, a total of 23 were selected with respective score higher than Rutin's score (see Table 1). Drug-likeness filtering was performed using DruLito(Bickerton et al. 2012) and identified five molecules, listed in Table 3. Selected compounds were subject to a second round docking to PDI b'domain and best conformations for were used to generate protein-ligand complexes for protein-ligand interactions and molecular dynamics study.

204 Ligand-protein Interaction analysis

Ligand-protein interaction analysis Rutin fitting into the hydrophobic cavity in the b' domain pocket through its Quercetin backbone as shown by Figure 3. Rutin forms H-bonds between hydroxyl groups and PDI charged residues E239 and D297 and displays a significant exposure to solvent mainly through the Rutinoside' hydroxyl groups.

Similar poses were predicted to the selected ligands. Figure 4 shows the superposition of all compounds inside the pocket. Figure 5 showed all the compounds having important surface interaction with the hydrophobic cavity with a partial exposure to solvent and a proximity to charged residues. No polar bonds were predicted. Except for ZINC19928318, all the compounds established Pi-Pi stacking interaction with F304.

214

216 Molecular Dynamics Simulation

217 For Molecular Dynamics Simulations, PDI alone or in complex with ligand was solvated in a cubic Waterbox with periodic boundary condition Structures were relaxed through 50000 steps 218 219 of steepest descent energy minimization followed by 500 ps NVT with 310 K as target 220 temperature and pressure of 1.013 bar. Trajectories were analyzed by VMD and MD simulation results are summaraized in Table 2. Trajectory analysis for PDI alone showed an average RMSD 221 of 4.91 Å \pm 0.37 for the total protein. Rutin was shown to form a more stable complex with PDI 222 as shown by Figure 6 with an average RMSD of 4.76 Å ± 0.35 . Among selected ligands, four 223 224 were shown to stabilize PDI structure; ZINC19928318, ZINC24834252, ZINC24601822 and ZINC24601767 with RMSDs values of 4.78±0.36, 4.77±0.37, 4.76±0.365 and 4.75±0.36, 225 respectively in a similar manner to Rutin. Only one compound ZINC19632922 showed an 226 increase in RMSD average comparing to PDI alone (4.97±0.38). 227

228 Discussion

PDI is secreted by platelets and endothelium cells following vascular injury and is shown 229 230 to bind to β 3 integrins on activated cells causing thrombus initiation (Cho et al. 2008). Blocking of PDI by a specific antibody reduced significantly both platelet thrombus formation and fibrin 231 generation in mouse thrombosis model (Flaumenhaft et al. 2015). Ouercetin-3-Rutinoside; Rutin, 232 was reported as PDI reductase activity inhibitor and a potent anti-thrombotic agent in vitro and in 233 vivo (Jasuja et al. 2012). In a recent study published by Lin et al. (Wang et al. 2013), Rutin was 234 reported to directly bind to the b' domain of PDI with a 1:1 stoichiochemistry restricting 235 conformational flexibility of the protein allowing a more compact conformation. PDI b' 236 fragment was shown to contain the major binding site of Rutin and the infusion of the b'x 237

fragment in mouse thrombus model reversed Rutin inhibition of platelet thrombus formation(Wang et al. 2013).

In an attempt to investigate the structural insights of PDI inhibition by Rutin, we 240 analyzed pocket distribution in the full length protein structure of reduced human Protein 241 242 Disulfide Isomerase (PDI), PDB ID: 4EKZ (4), and we identified a pocket with significant score that can be used for Rutin binding prediction in the b' domain of the protein (see Figure 2). The 243 pocket contains a cavity with a hydrophobic environment surrounded by charged and polar 244 residues, as shown by figure 2. We used docking simulation to predict the best conformation for 245 246 Rutin binding (see Figure 3) in the considered pocket. Interaction analysis showed Rutin partial interaction with the hydrophobic cavity of the binding site and significant exposure to solvent, 247 mainly through the Rutinoside hydroxyl groups. H-bonds were predicted between Rutin 248 hydroxyl groups and PDI charged residues E239 and D297. In the study of Jasuja et al. (Jasuja et 249 250 al. 2012). the evaluation of structure activity relationships demonstrated that a sugar at 3' 251 position in the C ring of quercetin-3-Rutinoside is critical for its ability to inhibit PDI (see Table 3). All analogs tested with a sugar in this position inhibited PDI, while analogs lacking this sugar 252 failed to demonstrate inhibition. 253

In order to investigate the binding effect of Rutin on PDI stability, we carried Molecular Dynamics simulation. MD simulation showed PDI to have a significant flexibility with an average RMSD of 4.91 Å \pm 0.37. The Interdomain flexibility was previously reported in several studies, namely on Yeast PDI (Tian et al. 2008; Tian et al. 2006) where interdomain flexibility was reported to be essential for protein catalytic activity and this may be the main reason why PDI was resistant to crystallization efforts for a long time. Among all PDIs with x-linker, mobility between the b' and the a' domain was reported to be more pronounced than between a

261 and b domains (Kozlov et al. 2010). Although, a and a' domains are essential for the catalytic activity of the enzyme, b' domain constitutes the major binding site for unfolded substrate 262 proteins and plays a central role in substrate recognition. Indeed, homology analysis showed 263 significant divergence of b' domain among PDI superfamily allowing substrate specificity 264 (Kozlov et al. 2010). Structural investigation showed b' hydrophobic cavity located between 265 helices $\alpha 1$ and $\alpha 3$ and formed by several residues; Phe223, ala228, Phe232, Ile284, Phe287, 266 Phe288, Leu303 and Met307 side chains, is involved in substrate recognition and binding (Byrne 267 et al. 2009). In our study, Rutin displayed predicted hydrophobic exposure to many of these 268 269 residues, in addition, Rutin was able to establish polar contact with charged residues surrounding the cavity and to be exposed to the solvent. We hypothesize that the binding mode of Rutin to the 270 b' domain pocket allows stability of the protein-ligand complex and hence limits protein 271 272 interdomain flexibility between b' and a' domains. This hypothesis was confirmed in silico by Molecular Dynamics simulation. In fact, Rutin was shown to form a more stable complex with 273 an average RMSD of 4.76 Å ±0.35 comparing to PDI alone. In addition to the hydrophobic 274 275 interaction with the protein b' cavity, solvent exposure of the ligand and polar contacts with surrounding residues appear to be essential to stabilize the complex and reduce protein flexibility 276 which results in catalytic activity inhibition. 277

Despite its potency, the low solubility and off-target activity of Rutin limited its further use as antithrombotic agent. In order to identify potential novel PDI Inhibitors with interesting pharmacological properties, we used Quercetin structure to search for analog compounds that could satisfy binding mode constraints for PDI catalytic activity inhibition, in a similar way to Rutin. A Morgan Fingerprint filtering workflow allowed the identification of 9533 compounds with a similarity Tanimoto coefficient above 0.3. Compounds were docked to the binding pocket

284 of PDI b' domain using a virtual screening approach. A counter screen was run using Erp57 as target since equivalent b' pocket is divergent with human PDI' one (20% homology) and 285 contains negatively charged residues (Kozlov et al. 2010). Following screening workflow, 286 compounds were ranked according to the scoring function and a total of 23 were selected for 287 Drug-likeness filtering. Five compounds were selected and re-docked to PDI b' domain. The 288 289 compounds are listed in Table 3. Interaction analysis showed all the compounds displaying 290 surface exposure to the hydrophobic cavity through the benzo-furan group of ZINC19928318, ZINC24601822; ZINC24601767 as well as the naphthalene group of ZINC24834252. The 291 292 benzyl residue attached to the piperazin allows partial exposure to solvent and a proximity to charged residues despite that no polar bonds was predicted. Except for ZINC19928318, all the 293 compounds established Pi-Pi stacking interaction with F304, a residue part of the hydrophobic 294 295 cavity of b' domain. These structural features are coherent with the Rutin inhibitory binding mode. Selected compounds were finally used for MD simulation in complex with PDI. As 296 297 expected, four compounds were shown to stabilize PDI structure and reduce protein flexibility; ZINC19928318, ZINC24834252, ZINC24601822 and ZINC24601767 with respective RMSDs 298 lower than PDI alone, in a similar way to Rutin (see Table 2). We believe that adding charged 299 300 groups on the benzyl group attached to piperazin may increase protein-ligand stability by establishing polar bonds with charged residues harboring the binding pocket, and hence limits 301 protein flexibility and catalytic activity. Only one compound ZINC19632922 showed an increase 302 303 in RMSD (see Table 2) which can be due to benzo-furan group solvent exposure (see Figure 5). This compound is a drug known as Befuraline, it was previously reported as inhibitor of 304 305 Proteinase-activated receptor 1, and Anandamide amidohydrolase (Planty et al. 2010; Vincent et 306 al. 2009).

307 Conclusion

308

309	through structure-activity relationship and molecular dynamics simulation of a reported PDI
310	inhibitor; Rutin. We have successfully established a new virtual screening workflow to identify
311	novel and pharmacologically relevant compounds that can constitute potential leads in targeting
312	PDI-catalyzed thrombus formation and a new class of anti-thrombotic agents.
313	References
314 315	Bajusz D, Racz A, and Heberger K. 2015. Why is Tanimoto index an appropriate choice for fingerprint-based similarity calculations? <i>J Cheminform</i> 7:20. 10.1186/s13321-015-0069-
316	3
317	Bickerton GR, Paolini GV, Besnard J, Muresan S, and Hopkins AL. 2012. Quantifying the chemical
310	Byrne LL Sidhu A Wallis AK Ruddock LW Freedman RB Howard ML and Williamson RA 2009
320	Mapping of the ligand-binding site on the b' domain of human PDI: interaction with
321	peptide ligands and the x-linker region. <i>Biochem J</i> 423:209-217. 10.1042/BJ20090565
322	Cai H, Wang CC, and Tsou CL. 1994. Chaperone-like activity of protein disulfide isomerase in the
323	refolding of a protein with no disulfide bonds. <i>J Biol Chem</i> 269:24550-24552.
324	Cho J. 2013. Protein disulfide isomerase in thrombosis and vascular inflammation. J Thromb
325	Haemost 11:2084-2091. 10.1111/jth.12413
326	Cho J, Furie BC, Coughlin SR, and Furie B. 2008. A critical role for extracellular protein disulfide
327	isomerase during thrombus formation in mice. <i>J Clin Invest</i> 118:1123-1131.
328	10.1172/JCl34134
329	Dong G, Wearsch PA, Peaper DR, Cresswell P, and Reinisch KM. 2009. Insights into MHC class I
330	peptide loading from the structure of the tapasin-ERp57 thiol oxidoreductase
331	neteroaimer. Immunity 30:21-32. 10.1016/J.Immuni.2008.10.018
332 222	isomerase inhibition in thromhotic disease. Arterioscler Thromh Vasc Biol 35:16-23
333	10 1161/ATVBAHA 114 303410
335	Furie B, and Flaumenhaft R. 2014. Thiol isomerases in thrombus formation. <i>Circ Res</i> 114:1162-
336	1173. 10.1161/CIRCRESAHA.114.301808
337	Humphrey W, Dalke A, and Schulten K. 1996. VMD: visual molecular dynamics. J Mol Graph
338	14:33-38, 27-38.
339	Jasuja R, Furie B, and Furie BC. 2010. Endothelium-derived but not platelet-derived protein
340	disulfide isomerase is required for thrombus formation in vivo. <i>Blood</i> 116:4665-4674.
341	10.1182/blood-2010-04-278184

In conclusion, we reported in this study new insights into PDI inhibition mechanism

342	Jasuja R, Passam FH, Kennedy DR, Kim SH, van Hessem L, Lin L, Bowley SR, Joshi SS, Dilks JR,
343	Furie B, Furie BC, and Flaumenhaft R. 2012. Protein disulfide isomerase inhibitors
344	constitute a new class of antithrombotic agents. <i>J Clin Invest</i> 122:2104-2113.
345	10.1172/JCI61228
346	Kozlov G, Maattanen P, Thomas DY, and Gehring K. 2010. A structural overview of the PDI
347	family of proteins. <i>FEBS J</i> 277:3924-3936. 10.1111/j.1742-4658.2010.07793.x
348	Lin L, Gopal S, Sharda A, Passam F, Bowley SR, Stopa J, Xue G, Yuan C, Furie BC, Flaumenhaft R,
349	Huang M, and Furie B. 2015. Quercetin-3-rutinoside Inhibits Protein Disulfide Isomerase
350	by Binding to Its b'x Domain. <i>J Biol Chem</i> 290:23543-23552. 10.1074/jbc.M115.666180
351	Lipinski CA. 2000. Drug-like properties and the causes of poor solubility and poor permeability. J
352	Pharmacol Toxicol Methods 44:235-249.
353	McLaughlin SH, and Bulleid NJ. 1998. Thiol-independent interaction of protein disulphide
354	isomerase with type X collagen during intra-cellular folding and assembly. <i>Biochem J</i> 331
355	(Pt 3):793-800.
356	Morris GM, Huey R, Lindstrom W, Sanner MF, Belew RK, Goodsell DS, and Olson AJ. 2009.
357	AutoDock4 and AutoDockTools4: Automated docking with selective receptor flexibility. J
358	Comput Chem 30:2785-2791. 10.1002/jcc.21256
359	Nicola G, Berthold MR, Hedrick MP, and Gilson MK. 2015. Connecting proteins with drug-like
360	compounds: Open source drug discovery workflows with BindingDB and KNIME.
361	Database (Oxford) 2015. 10.1093/database/bav087
362	O'Boyle NM, Banck M, James CA, Morley C, Vandermeersch T, and Hutchison GR. 2011. Open
363	Babel: An open chemical toolbox. <i>J Cheminform</i> 3:33. 10.1186/1758-2946-3-33
364	Phillips JC, Braun R, Wang W, Gumbart J, Tajkhorshid E, Villa E, Chipot C, Skeel RD, Kale L, and
365	Schulten K. 2005. Scalable molecular dynamics with NAMD. J Comput Chem 26:1781-
366	1802. 10.1002/jcc.20289
367	Planty B, Pujol C, Lamothe M, Maraval C, Horn C, Le Grand B, and Perez M. 2010. Exploration of
368	a new series of PAR1 antagonists. <i>Bioorg Med Chem Lett</i> 20:1735-1739.
369	10.1016/j.bmcl.2010.01.050
370	Tian G, Kober FX, Lewandrowski U, Sickmann A, Lennarz WJ, and Schindelin H. 2008. The
371	catalytic activity of protein-disulfide isomerase requires a conformationally flexible
372	molecule. <i>J Biol Chem</i> 283:33630-33640. 10.1074/jbc.M806026200
373	Tian G, Xiang S, Noiva R, Lennarz WJ, and Schindelin H. 2006. The crystal structure of yeast
374	protein disulfide isomerase suggests cooperativity between its active sites. Cell 124:61-
375	73. 10.1016/j.cell.2005.10.044
376	Trott O, and Olson AJ. 2010. AutoDock Vina: improving the speed and accuracy of docking with
377	a new scoring function, efficient optimization, and multithreading. J Comput Chem
378	31:455-461. 10.1002/jcc.21334
379	Vaux D, Tooze J, and Fuller S. 1990. Identification by anti-idiotype antibodies of an intracellular
380	membrane protein that recognizes a mammalian endoplasmic reticulum retention
381	signal. Nature 345:495-502. 10.1038/345495a0
382	Vincent F, Nguyen MT, Emerling DE, Kelly MG, and Duncton MA. 2009. Mining biologically-
383	active molecules for inhibitors of fatty acid amide hydrolase (FAAH): identification of
384	phenmedipham and amperozide as FAAH inhibitors. <i>Bioorg Med Chem Lett</i> 19:6793-
385	6796. 10.1016/j.bmcl.2009.09.086

386 387 388 389 390 391	 Wang C, Li W, Ren J, Fang J, Ke H, Gong W, Feng W, and Wang CC. 2013. Structural insights into the redox-regulated dynamic conformations of human protein disulfide isomerase. <i>Antioxid Redox Signal</i> 19:36-45. 10.1089/ars.2012.4630 Zoete V, Cuendet MA, Grosdidier A, and Michielin O. 2011. SwissParam: a fast force field generation tool for small organic molecules. <i>J Comput Chem</i> 32:2359-2368. 10.1002/jcc.21816
392	
393	
394	
395	
396	
397	
398	
399	
400	
401	
402	
403	
404	
405	
406	

407 Figures Legends

Figure 1. KNIME workflow for database filtering. ZINC Drug-like database is read in SDF
format and molecule descriptors are calculated. Morgan fingerprint is generated for each
molecule and compared to Rutin fingerprint using RDkit Fingerprint similarity node.
Compounds showing a Tanimoto coefficient above 0.3 are selected and written in SDF format.

412

Figure 2. Surface representation of the target pocket in b' domain. The pocket is organized in a
hydrophobic cavity (Green) surrounded by charged residues (Red) and polar residues (Light
Blue).

416

Figure 3. Ligand-protein interaction analysis for PDI-Rutin complex. A. Rutin is fitting into the
hydrophobic cavity in the b' domain pocket through its Quercetin backbone. B. Rutin displays a
significant exposure to solvent mainly through the Rutinoside' hydroxyl groups which form Hbonds with PDI charged residues E239 and D297 harboring the binding pocket.

421

Figure 4. Superposition of docking poses of selected compounds inside the b'domain binding pocket. The hydrophobic cavity is represented in green, by charged residues in red and polar residues in light blue.

425

426 Figure 5. Protein Ligand Interaction Plot.

427

Figure 6. RMSD variation for PDI alone and in complex with Rutin. Rutin forms a stable complex with PDI reducing the protein flexibility.

430

431

432

434 Figure 1



436 Figure 2



438 Figure 3



440 Figure 4



442 Figure 5



444 Figure 6



Number	Name	Energy PDI	Energy Erp57	Score
		(KCal/III0I)	(KCal/Inol)	
1	ZINC20464669	-9.4	-7.3	-9.4
2	ZINC23460729	-10	-7.8	-9.31507
3	ZINC24834252	-9.2	-7.4	-9.07397
4	ZINC19928318	-9.4	-7.6	-9.0137
5	ZINC13687653	-9.1	-7.4	-8.97534
6	ZINC19632922	-9.2	-7.5	-8.94795
7	ZINC24601822	-9.2	-7.5	-8.94795
8	ZINC23909252	-9.5	-7.9	-8.71918
9	ZINC24601767	-8.8	-7.4	-8.67945
10	ZINC23957133	-8.9	-7.6	-8.53425
11	ZINC21868339	-9.2	-7.9	-8.44384
12	ZINC11771953	-8.8	-7.6	-8.43836
13	ZINC14977925	-9	-7.8	-8.38356
14	ZINC22830797	-9.6	-8.3	-8.28493
15	ZINC12385770	-9.2	-8.1	-8.19178
16	ZINC13678813	-8.9	-7.9	-8.16849
17	ZINC16474806	-8.9	-7.9	-8.16849
18	ZINC19889230	-8.9	-7.9	-8.16849
19	ZINC20731042	-9.3	-8.2	-8.15342
20	ZINC20045482	-9.1	-8.1	-8.10274
21	ZINC77200565	-9.1	-8.1	-8.10274
22	ZINC19700487	-8.8	-7.9	-8.07671
23	ZINC12439199	-8.9	-8	-8.04658
24	Rutin	-8	-7.3	-8

Table 1. Ranking of docking energies of selected compounds against PDI and Erp57.

Table 2. Average RMSD for Protein-Ligand complexes

Protein	Ligand	RMSD (Å)	SD
PDI	-	4.91	0.37
PDI	Rutin	4.76	0.35
PDI	ZINC19928318	4.78	0.36
PDI	ZINC24834252	4.77	0.37
PDI	ZINC24601822	4.76	0.36
PDI	ZINC24601767	4.74	0.36
PDI	ZINC19632922	4.97	0.37

-

467

Compound Id	Chemical name	Structure
ZINC03869685	Quercetin	
Pubchem CID 5280805	Rutin	
ZINC19928318	(4-benzylpiperazin-1-yl)-(3- methylbenzofuran-2-yl)methanone	
ZINC24834252	methyl 4-[[4-(naphthalene-2- carbonyl)piperazin-1- yl]methyl]benzoate	
ZINC24601822	[4-[(3-fluoro-4-methoxy- phenyl)methyl]piperazin-1-yl]-(3- methylbenzofuran-2-yl)methanone	
ZINC24601767	[4-[(3,4- dimethoxyphenyl)methyl]piperazin- 1-yl]-(3-methylbenzofuran-2- yl)methanone	
ZINC19632922	BEFURALINE	

Table 3. Compounds Chemical names and Structure

468