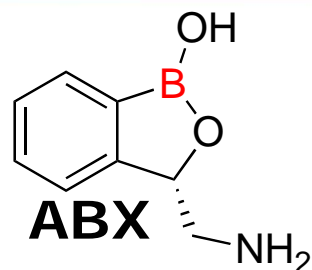


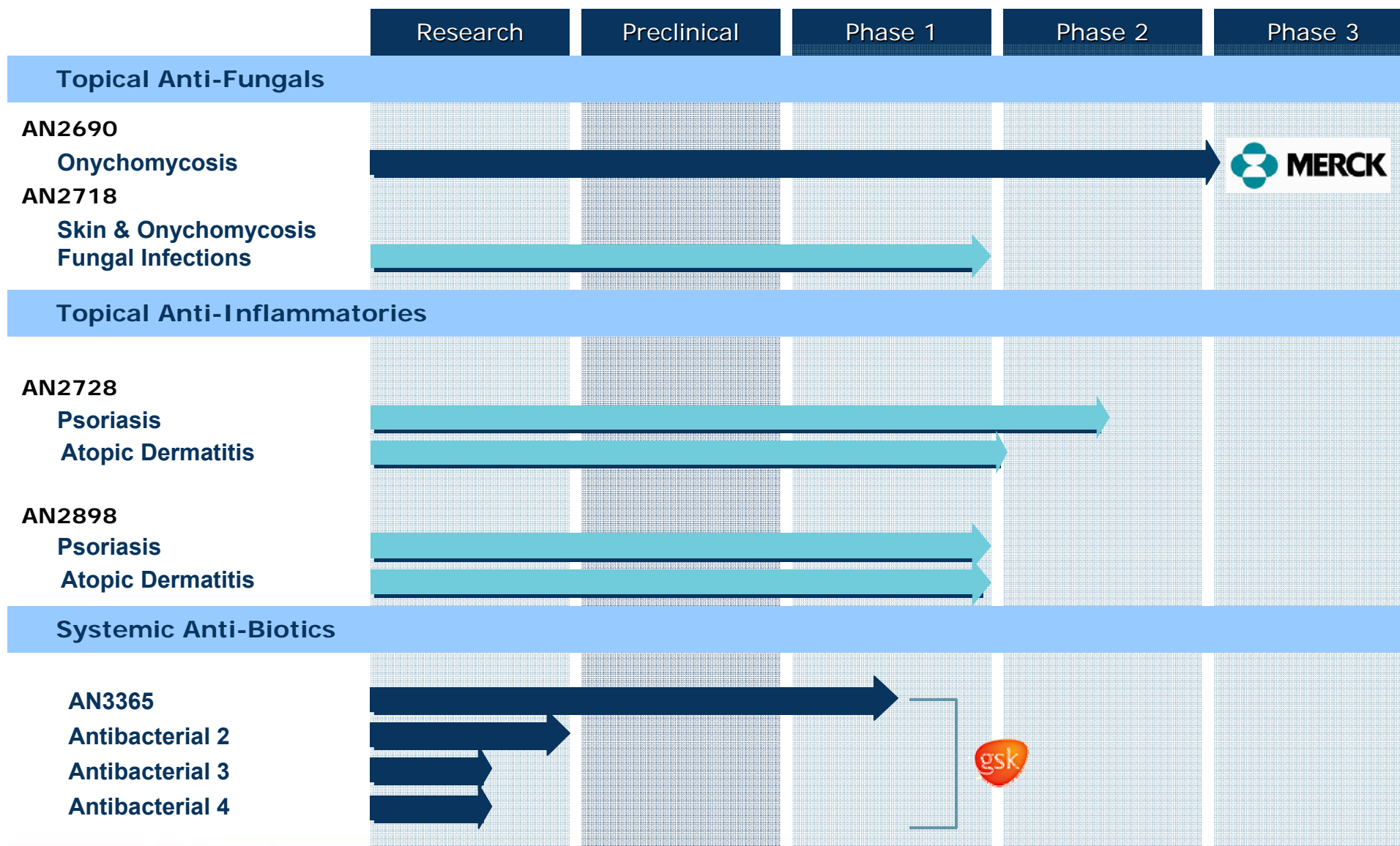
## Structure-Guided Discovery of (S)-3-(aminomethyl)benzo[c][1,2]oxaborol-1(3H)-ol hydrochloride (ABX): A First in Class Gram-negative Antibacterial

Vincent Hernandez  
Senior Scientist, Medicinal Chemistry  
Anacor Pharmaceuticals, Inc. Palo Alto, CA, USA  
[vhernandez@anacor.com](mailto:vhernandez@anacor.com)



- Anacor Pharmaceuticals has a rich pipeline of boron-containing therapeutics in the clinic
- Boron is underexploited in medicinal chemistry and has tremendous potential in drug discovery
- ABX inhibits bacterial Leucyl tRNA synthetase and represents a new class of Gram-negative antibacterial agents
- This novel mechanism of action means ABX is not affected by existing modes of bacterial resistance
- ABX is efficacious *in vivo* against *E. coli* and *Pseudomonas* in mouse models of infection
- AN3365 has advanced to Phase I clinical development for the treatment of Gram-negative bacterial infections

# Anacor Has a Large Pipeline of Novel Boron-containing Candidates

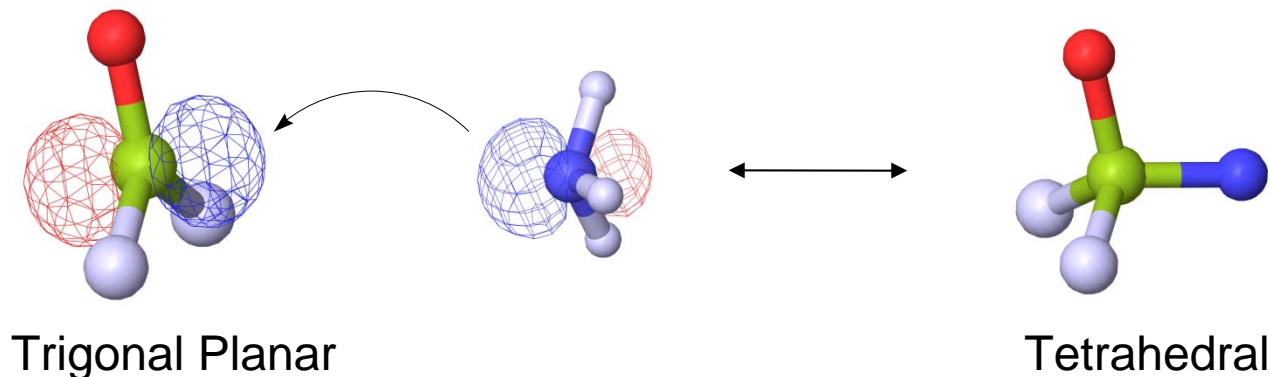


# Boron is Commonly Found in Our Environment

- In nature, boron is present as boric acid
- Boric acid is the main ingredient of Goop
  - Children's brightly colored toy, that they squeeze through their fingers
- Boric acid is used as a preservative in eye wash and vaginal creams
- Boric acid has an LD<sub>50</sub> similar to regular table salt (~3000 mg/kg)
- Boron is an essential plant nutrient
- We consume up to 4 mg of boron a day, primarily from fruits, vegetables and nuts
- At Anacor, we found background levels of 200 ng/mL of boron in mouse plasma



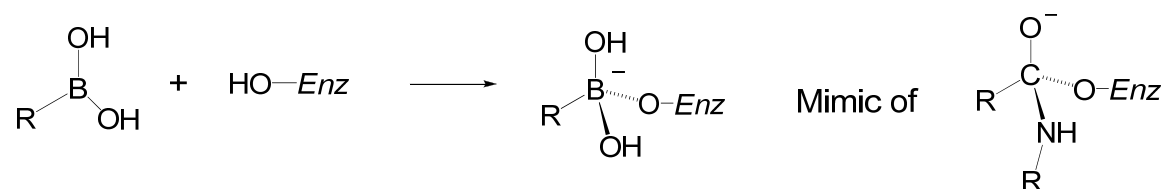
# Boron has a Unique Bonding Orbital Configuration: An Empty P-Orbital



- Boron has an empty *p*-orbital & can form a dative bond under specific conditions
- The dative bond forms a tetrahedral structure
- Exploitation of *p*-orbital expands drug design possibilities

# History and Overview of Organo-boron Drug Discovery Efforts

- Design of boronic acid protease inhibitors initiated in 1990s

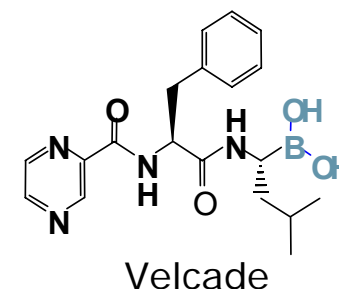


- Multiple disease targets have been pursued

- Thrombin
- Factor Xa
- Bacterial  $\beta$ -lactamases
- HCV protease
- DPP4
- Arginase

- Only Velcade has reached FDA approval

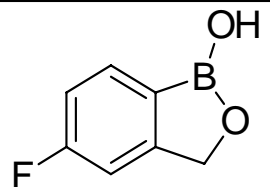
- Lack of success despite substantial efforts attributed to poor drug-like properties of boronic acids



Baker *et al.* (2009) *Future Medicinal Chemistry*, 1(7), 1275-1288

# AN2690 was Found to be a Broad Spectrum Antifungal Agent

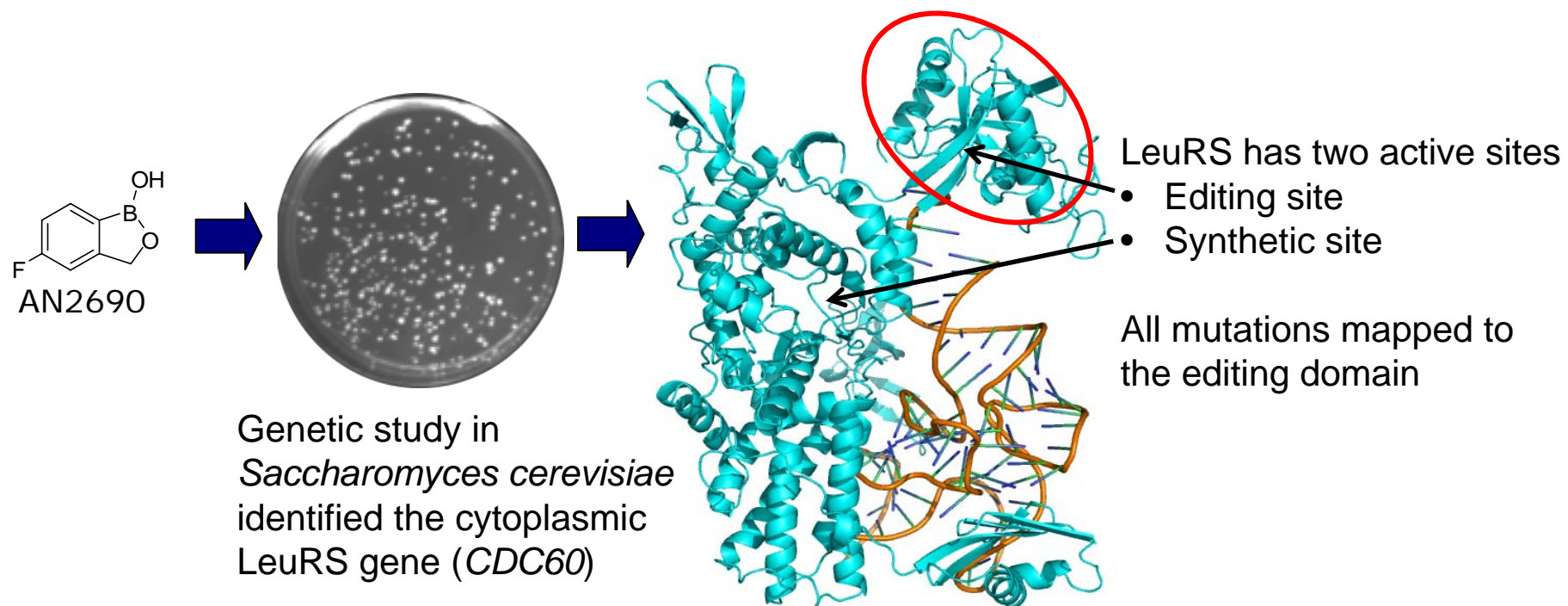
## Minimum Inhibitory Concentration Against Fungal Pathogens (µg/mL)

AN2690	<i>T. rubrum</i>	<i>T. mentagrophytes</i>	<i>C. albicans</i>	<i>C. neoformans</i>	<i>A. fumigatus</i>
	1	1	0.5	0.25	0.25

- AN2690 has shown good efficacy, safety and tolerability in Phase I and II clinical trials
- AN2690 is scheduled to begin Phase III



# Antifungal Validated the LeuRS Editing Site as a Novel Drug Target



Rock *et al.* (2007) Science 316:1759-1761

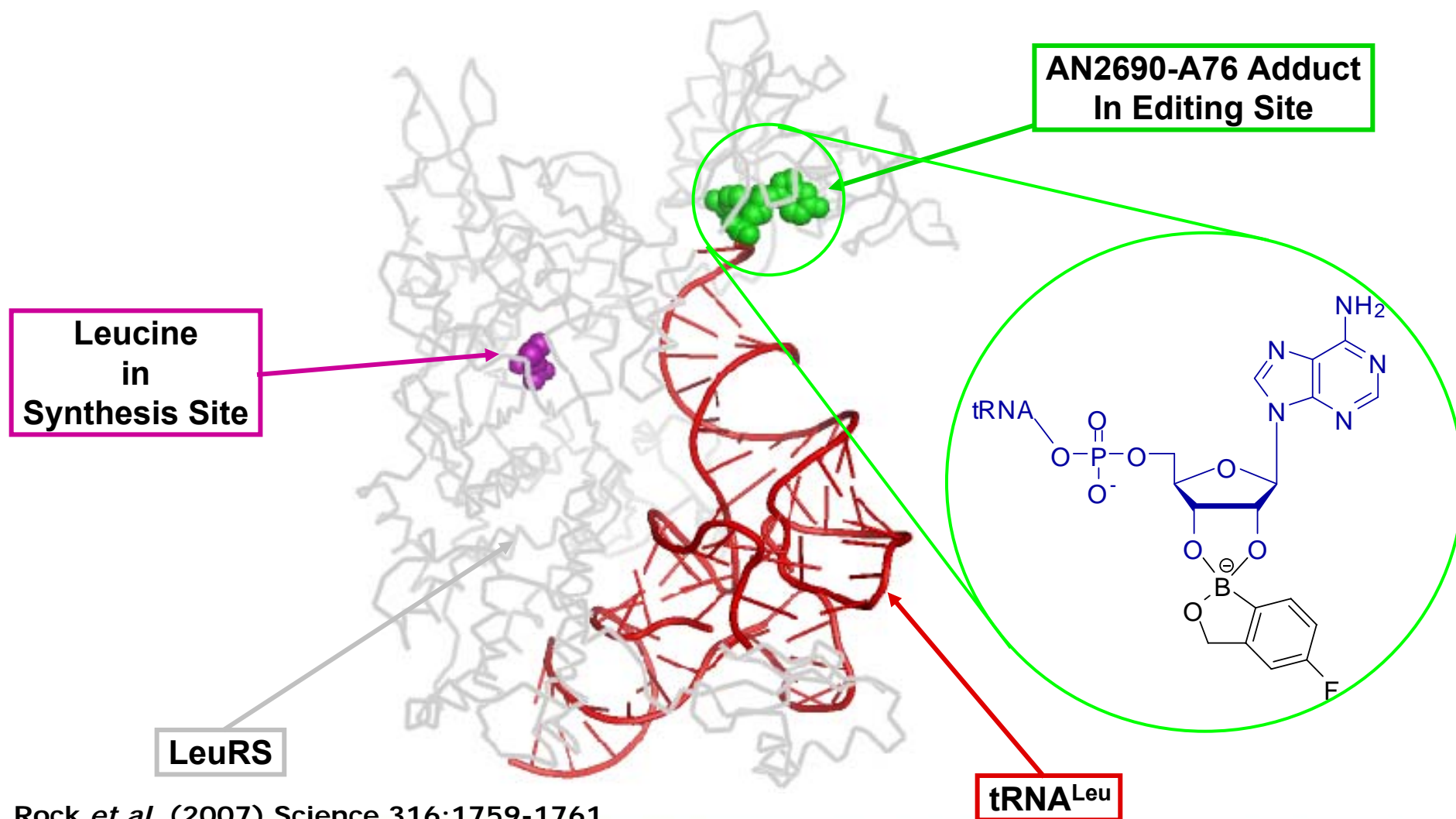


# The Target: Leucyl-tRNA Synthetase (LeuRS)



- Aminoacyl-tRNA synthetase
  - Structurally related to isoleucyl-tRNA synthetase and valyl-tRNA synthetase
- Leucyl-tRNA synthetase attaches leucine to the 3' end of tRNA<sup>Leu</sup>
- Essential enzyme in protein synthesis
- Enzyme has two active sites
  - Aminoacylation active site
  - Editing active site (proofreading)
- Editing activity ensures fidelity of protein synthesis
  - Editing mutants are supersensitive to leucine analogues, like norvaline

# X-ray Structure Revealed A tRNA<sup>Leu</sup> Adduct in the Editing Site of Leucyl tRNA Synthetase

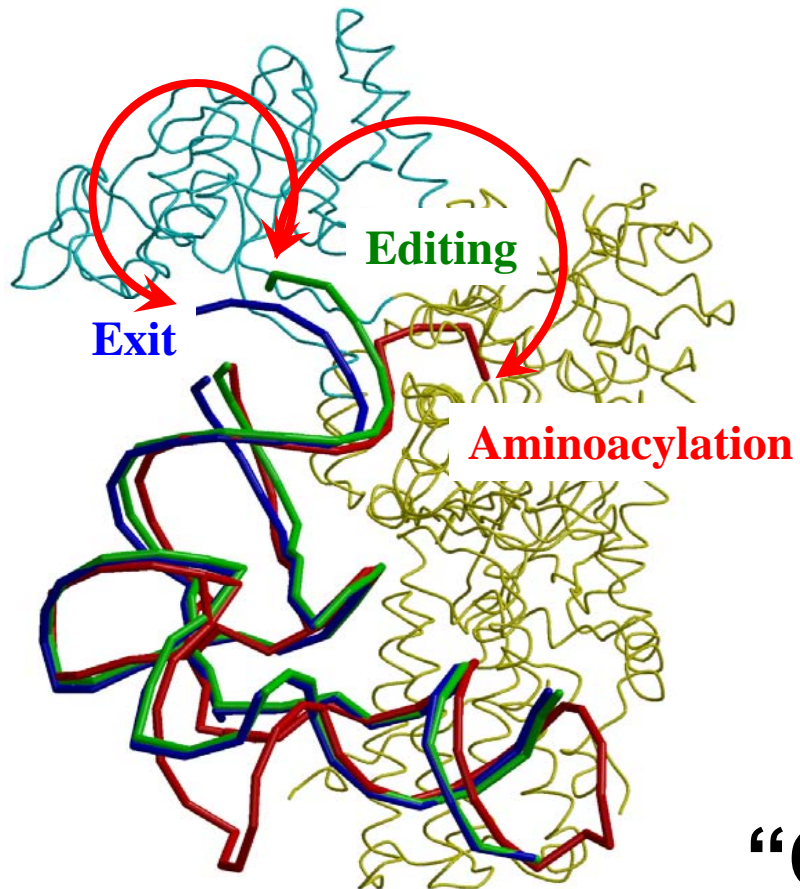


Rock *et al.* (2007) Science 316:1759-1761

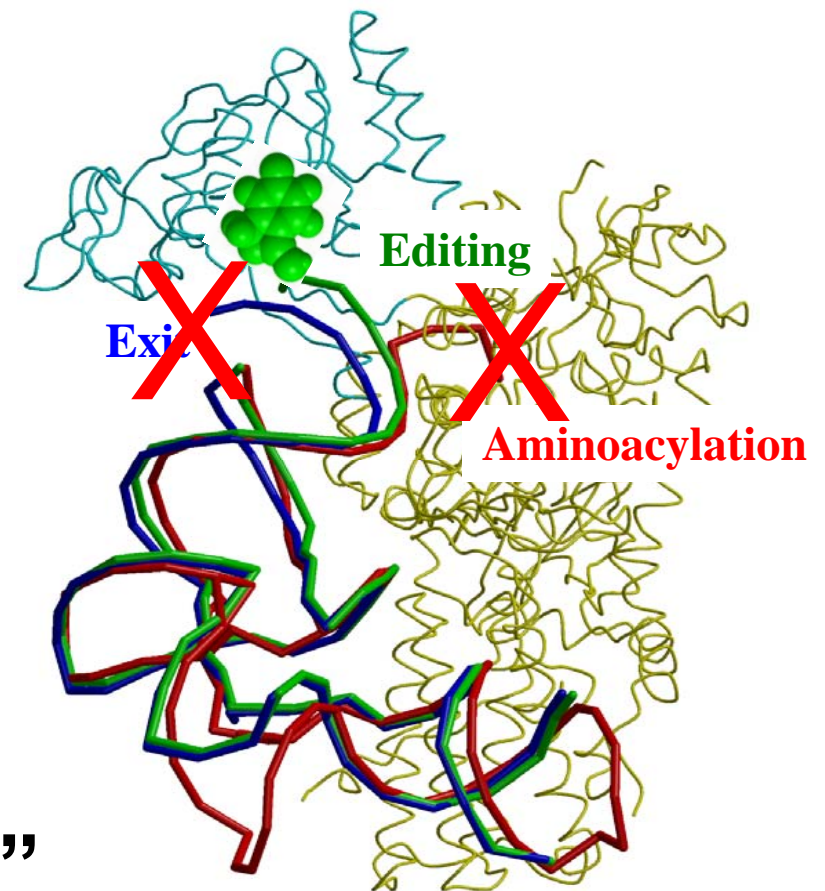
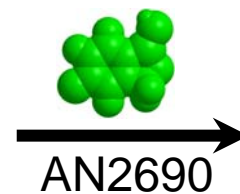
# AN2690 Traps tRNA<sup>Leu</sup> In The Editing Site Thus Inhibiting Aminoacylation And Editing



Under normal conditions tRNA is free to move through domains

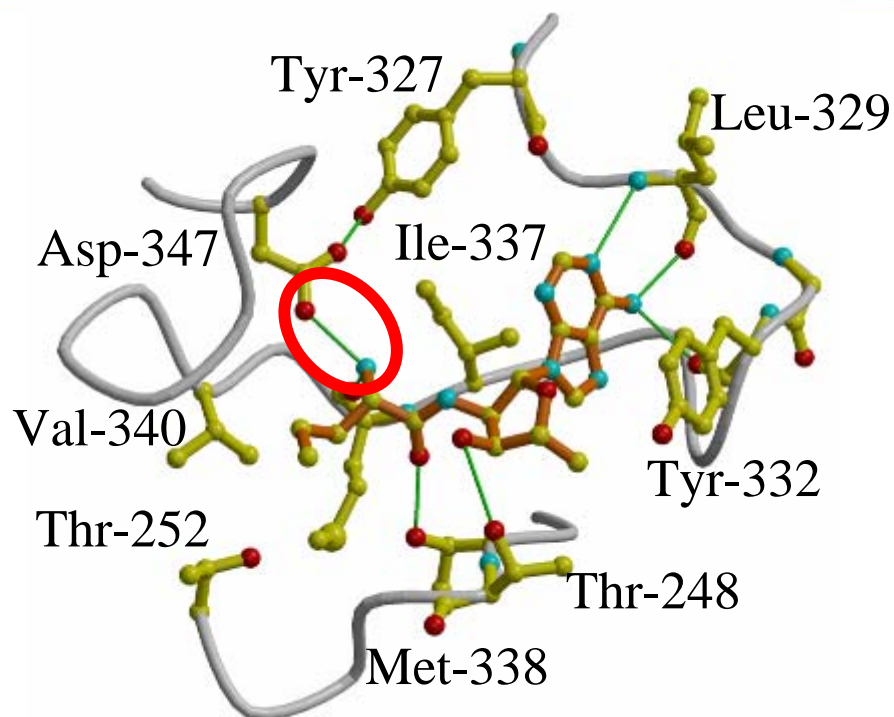


Oxaborole tRNA trapping in editing domain

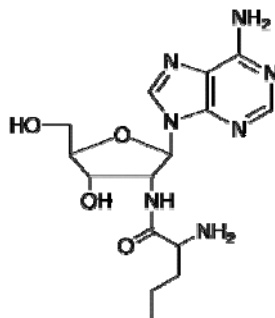


**“OBORT”**

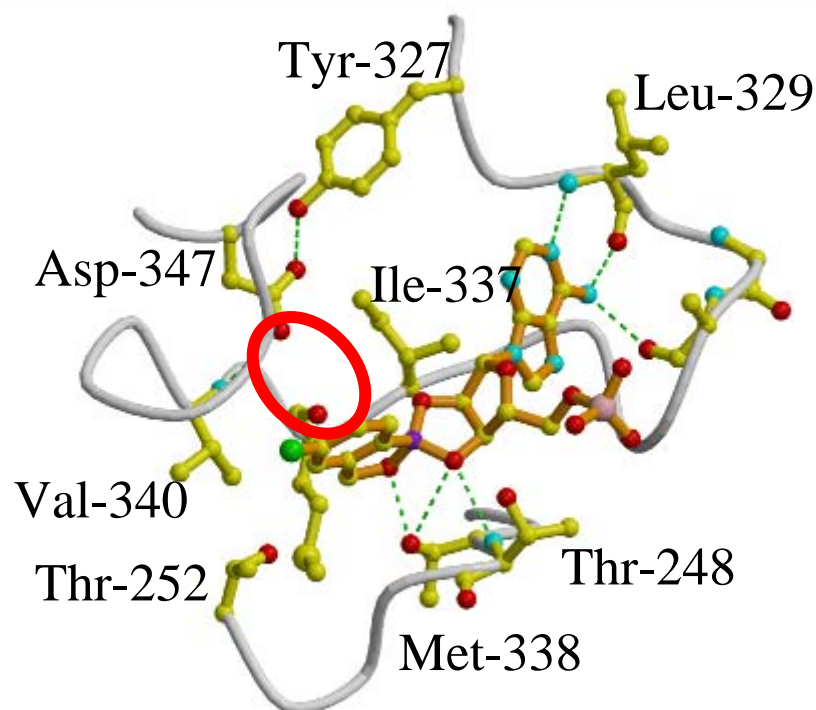
# X-ray Structure of AN2690 in LeuRS Revealed a Key Binding Site was not Utilized



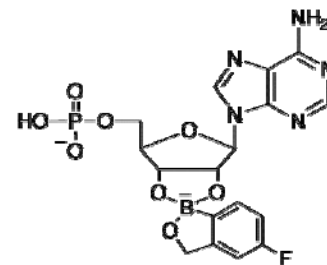
**Norvaline post-transfer substrate analogue**



Lincecum et al. (2003) *Molecular Cell* **11**: 951-963



**AN2690-AMP**



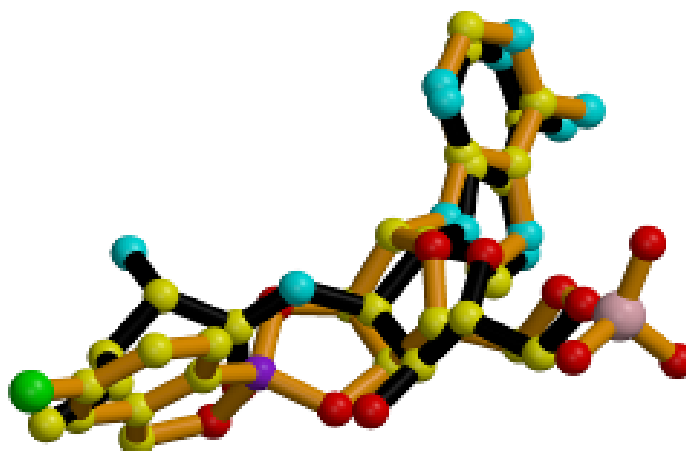
Rock et al. (2007) *Science* **316**:1759-1761



# 3-Aminomethyl Substitution was Added to Gain These Key H-bonds

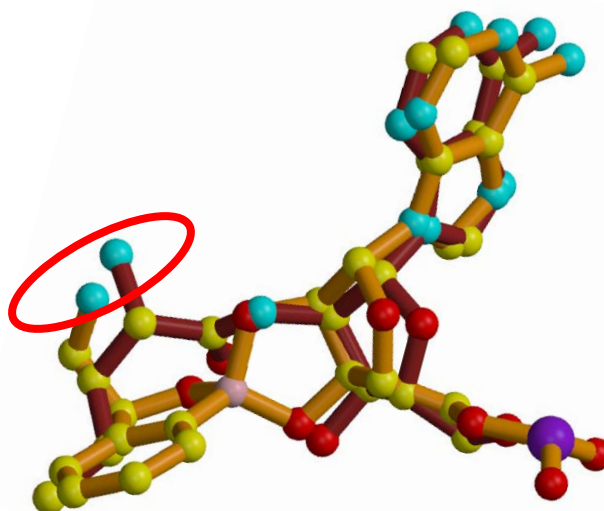
Nva2aa

AN2690

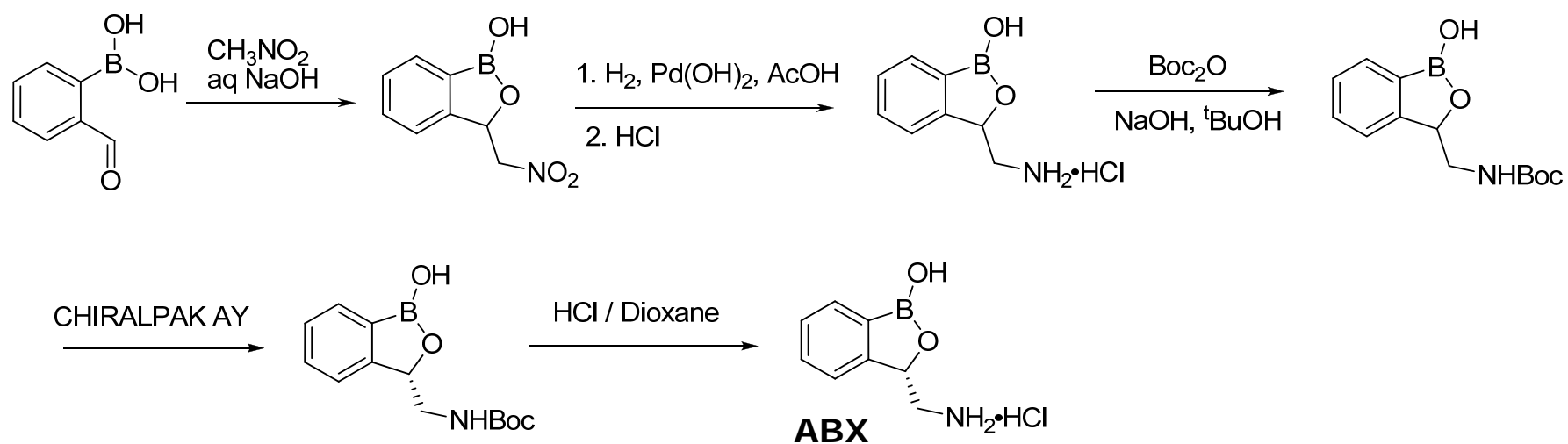


Nva2aa

ABX

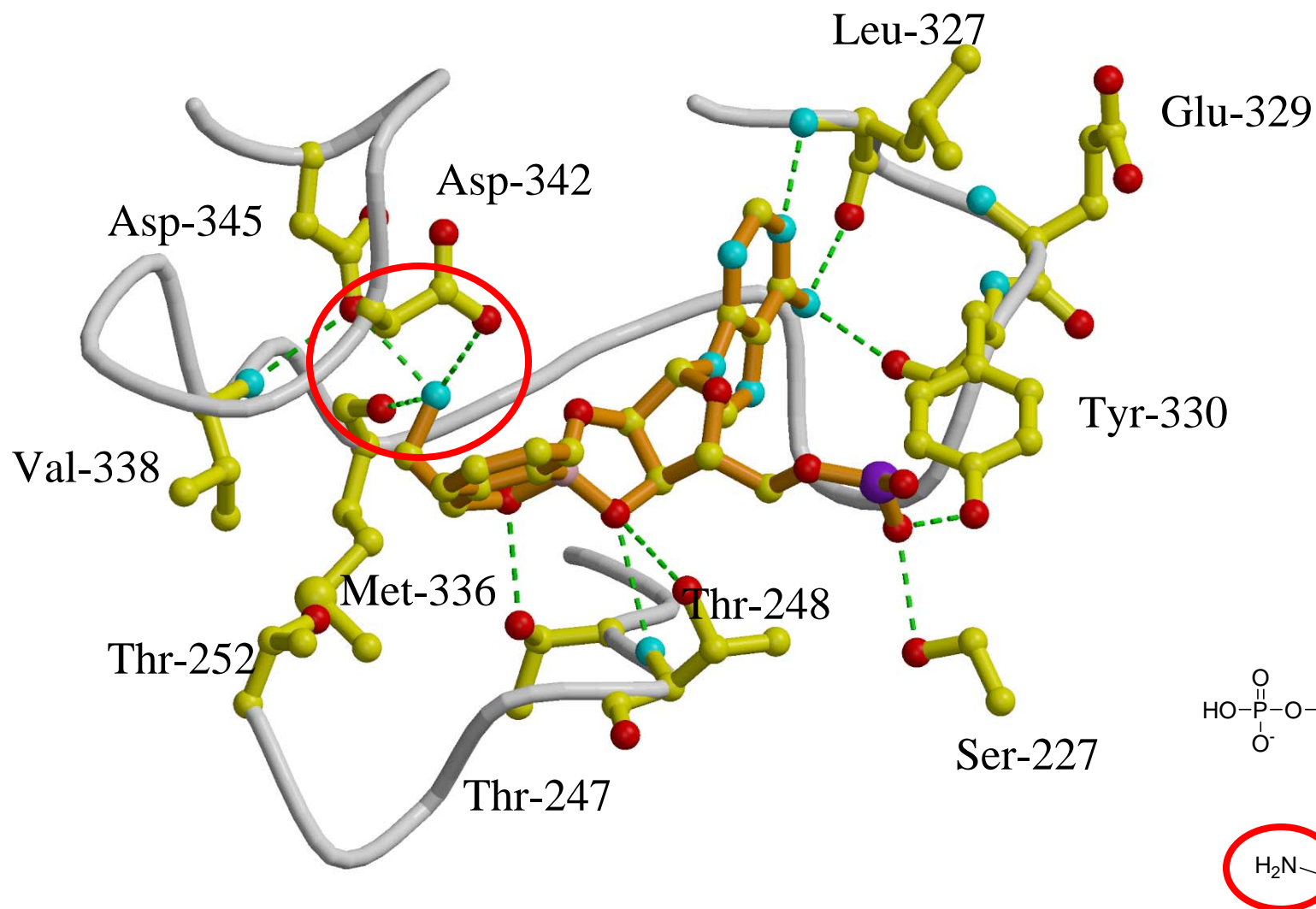


# Synthesis of ABX

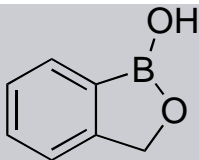
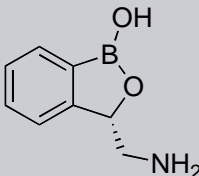
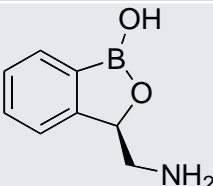




# Aminomethyl Group of ABX Makes Three Hydrogen Bonds with LeuRS

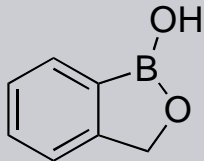
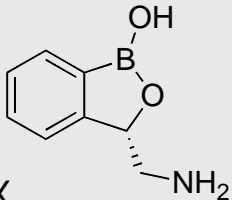


# Addition of Aminomethyl Group Provided Greatly Improved Inhibition For the S-Isomer

Compound	IC <sub>50</sub> * (μM)		MIC (μg/mL)		
	E. coli	P. aeruginosa	E. coli K12	E. coli K12 toIC	P. aeruginosa ATCC 27853
	27.5	22.3	16	16	>64
ABX 	1.0	2.8	2	2	1
	48.0	>100	16	32	16

\* IC<sub>50</sub> determined after 20 minutes pre-incubation with enzyme and tRNA

# Enzyme Kinetics Shows Slow Tight Binding Inhibition and Slow Off-Rate

Compound	IC <sub>50</sub> (20 mins)	IC <sub>50</sub> (60 mins)	Enzyme Recovery (t <sub>1/2</sub> , hr)
	27.5 $\mu$ M	26.3 $\mu$ M	0.2
 ABX	1.0 $\mu$ M	0.4 $\mu$ M	5.5

# Gram-negative MIC<sub>90</sub> Panel Demonstrates Broad-spectrum Activity



Strain	No. of strains	ABX	Tigecycline	Imipenem	Cefepime	Levofloxacin	Gentamycin	Ceftazidime	Piperacillin/tazobactam	Amoxycillin/clavulanate	Ampicillin
<i>P. aeruginosa</i> (WT)	50	1	16	1	8	2	4	16	32	>64	>64
<i>P. aeruginosa</i> (MbL-)	25	1	>16	32	>32	>16	>16	>32	>128	>64	>64
<i>P. aeruginosa</i> (MbL+)	26	1	>16	>64	>32	>16	>16	>32	>128	>64	>64
<i>A. baumannii</i> (WT)	25	>128	1	0.25	8	4	2	16	8	32	32
<i>Acinetobacter</i> spp. (MDR)	26	>128	8	64	>32	>16	>16	>32	>128	>64	>64
<i>S. maltophilia</i> (WT)	50	1	1	>64	>32	4	>16	>32	>128	>64	>64
<i>B. cepacia</i>	50	4	4	16	32	8	>16	16	32	>64	>64
<i>E. coli</i> (WT)	27	1	0.25	0.12	≤1	>16	2	≤1	8	32	>64
<i>E. coli</i> (ESBL)	25	2	0.25	0.25	>32	>16	>16	>32	128	64	>64
<i>Klebsiella</i> spp. (WT)	25	1	0.5	0.25	≤1	≤0.5	1	≤1	16	8	>64
<i>Klebsiella</i> spp. (ESBL)	15	1	2	1	>32	16	>16	>32	>128	64	>64
<i>Klebsiella</i> spp. (KPC)	10	2	1	>64	>32	>16	16	>32	>128	>64	>64
<i>Enterobacter</i> spp. (WT)	25	1	0.5	1	≤1	≤0.5	≤0.5	2	8	>64	>64
<i>Enterobacter</i> spp. (AmpC)	26	1	4	0.5	8	>16	>16	>32	>128	>64	>64
<i>Citrobacter</i> spp. (WT)	36	1	0.5	1	≤1	1	>16	2	16	>64	>64
<i>Citrobacter</i> spp. (AmpC)	16	0.5	0.5	1	2	16	2	>32	128	>64	>64
<i>P. mirabilis</i> (WT)	42	128	4	2	≤1	2	2	≤1	0.5	8	>64
<i>P. mirabilis</i> (ESBL)	11	>128	4	2	>32	>16	>16	>32	4	64	>64
<i>P. vulgaris</i> (WT)	20	>128	2	2	≤1	≤0.5	1	≤1	0.5	16	>64
<i>M. morganii</i> (WT)	17	2	2	4	≤1	4	2	4	2	>64	>64
Indole positive <i>Proteae</i>	14	16	2	2	≤1	16	4	≤1	4	>64	>64
<i>S. marcescens</i> (WT)	38	0.5	1	1	≤1	1	1	2	32	>64	>64
<i>S. marcescens</i> (AmpC)	16	0.5	2	1	4	4	>16	>32	64	>64	>64

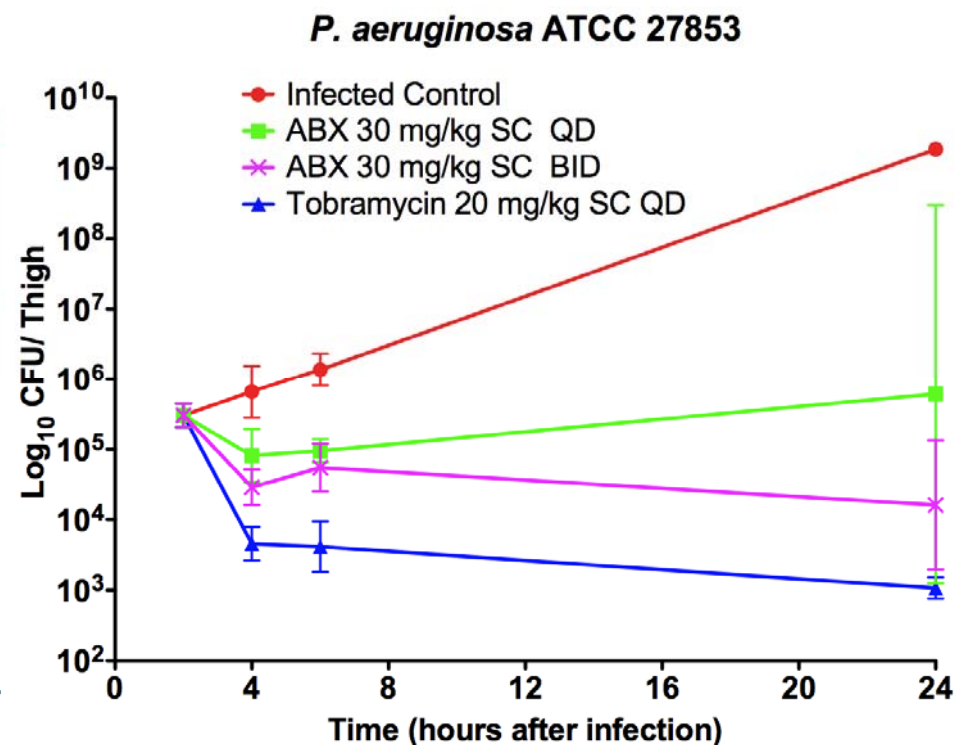
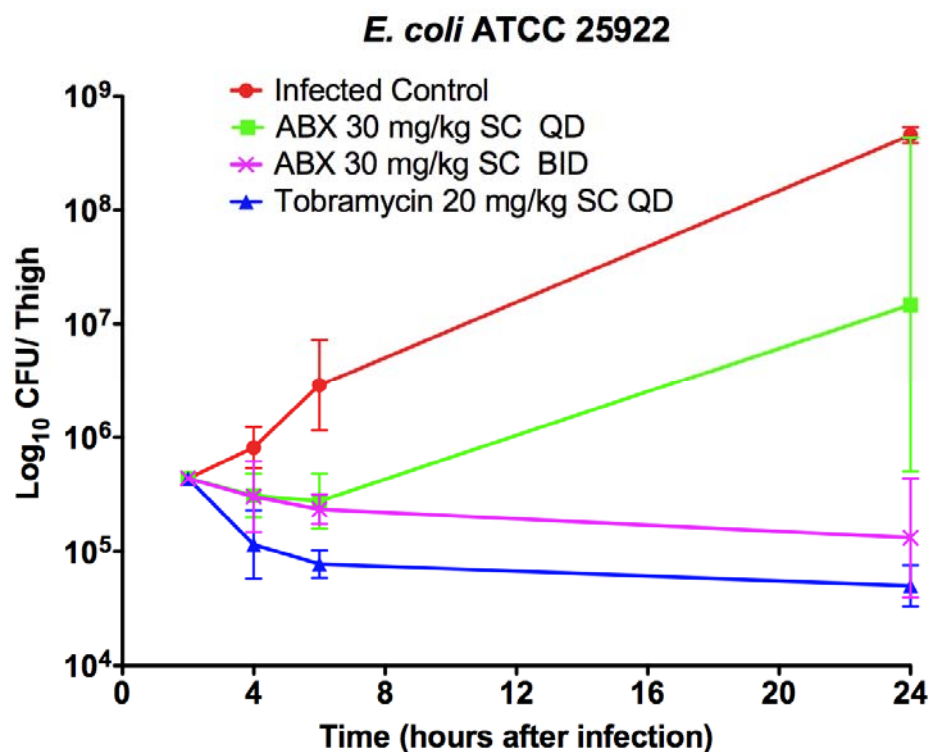
# ABX is Active Against Problematic Multi-drug Resistant (MDR) Enterobacteriaceae



	ABX	Aztreonam	Cefotaxime	Ceftazidime	Piperacillin/ Tazobactam	Imipenem	Meropenem	Ciprofloxacin	Tobramycin	Amikacin	Gentamicin	Colistin
MIC90	4	>128	>256	>256	>128	128	128	128	>32	>128	>128	1
MIC50	2	128	256	>256	>128	16	32	8	16	4	2	<=0.5

- Panel of 94 strains of MDR Enterobacteriaceae were tested by the Antibiotic Resistance Monitoring and Reference Laboratory, Health Protection Agency Centre for Infections
- ABX is not affected by existing modes of bacterial resistance

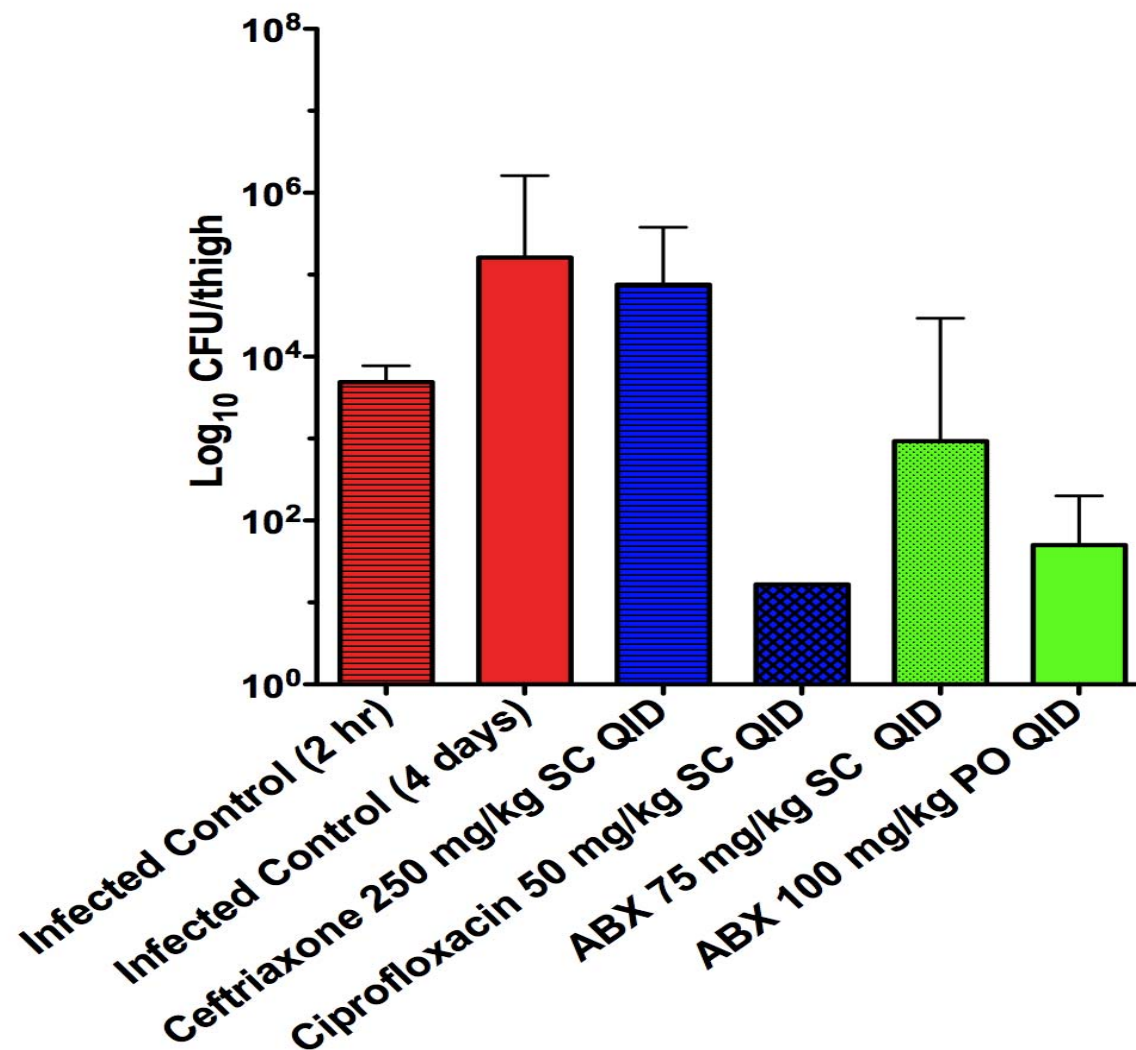
# ABX Efficacy in a Neutropenic Mouse Thigh Infection model of *E. coli* and *P. aeruginosa*





# Oral Efficacy in an Immuno-competent Mouse Thigh Infection Model

***P. aeruginosa* 1161927**



# Interspecies Pharmacokinetics of ABX Scales Well from Mouse to Monkey



Species	IV parameters					
	Dose (mg/kg)	C <sub>max</sub> (µg/mL) @ 5 min	CL (mL/hr/kg)	V <sub>ss</sub> (mL/kg)	Mean Retention Time (hr)	AUC (µg/mL*hr)
Mouse	10	4.52	3510	2711	0.77	2.85
Rat	10	3.15	3500	5130	1.4	3.68
Dog	10	13	327	1499	4.6	31
Monkey	15	15	339	2975	8.9	47

- ABX is stable to incubation with liver microsomes and simulated gastric fluid
- ABX does not inhibit CYP450 enzymes
- Plasma protein binding range 4-13%
- Good oral bioavailability
  - 29% Rat
  - 100% Dog
  - 79% Monkey

- *In vivo* rat micronucleus study was negative
- *In vitro* mouse lymphoma was negative up to 2000 µg/mL
- ABX showed  $IC_{50} \geq 10 \mu M$  for all receptors except 5HT<sub>7</sub>
  - $IC_{50}$  of 5HT<sub>7</sub> is 1 µM, is neither an agonist or antagonist
- hERG  $IC_{50} > 100 \mu M$
- Not hemolytic at concentrations up to 45 mg/mL in rat RBC
- In the 7-day rat safety study no significant toxicity was observed up to 600 mg/Kg/d, IV

## ABX Represents a Novel Drug Class with Promising Activity against Gram Negative Bacteria



- ABX is the first member of a new class of boron-containing anti-bacterial agents
- ABX is a selective inhibitor of Leucyl tRNA synthetase and has broad spectrum activity against Gram Negative bacteria
- MIC<sub>90</sub> of ABX is 1-4 µg/mL against a panel of *Enterobacteriaceae* (276)
  - With the exception of Proteae (MIC<sub>90</sub> >64 µg/mL)
- ABX is not affected by pre-existing clinical resistance to established drug classes
- ABX is efficacious *in vivo* and is orally bioavailable
- ABX has good interspecies scaling from mouse to monkey
- ABX has a good safety profile and proved to be safe in repeat dose studies in rats at up to and including 600 mg/kg/d, IV
- AN3365 has advanced to Phase I clinical development

# Acknowledgements



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