

Identification and Molecular Interaction studies of Thyroid Hormone Receptor Disruptors among Household Dust Contaminants

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Ligand parameter generation and optimization. Initial parameters of the three dust compounds (BP2, 2,4,5-T, and BADGE-HCl-H₂O) were generated by the CGenFF program (<https://cgenff.paramchem.org/>).^{1, 2} The partial charges and the angle/dihedral/improper angles parameters with the penalty values larger than 10 were optimized against the reference density functional theory (DFT) data determined at the B3LYP/6-31+G(d) level of theory. All DFT calculations were performed using the Gaussian 09 suite of programs. The angle and the improper torsional parameters were obtained directly from the B3LYP potential energy surface around the fully optimized structure of each compound. To determine the dihedral parameters, a scan of potential energy was performed for each dihedral angle to be optimized using the B3LYP level of theory. The MM dihedral parameters were then adjusted manually to best reproduce the DFT results. The optimized parameters are presented in Figures S6 and Tables S8-10. All other parameters not listed in Tables S8-10 were the same as the CGenFF36 force field parameters.^{1, 2}

For atomic charges, only few atoms were with penalty > 10. Those atomic charges were determined by the following procedure. First, we have decomposed each target molecule into several (small) model compounds, for example, by replacing functional groups that are remote from a given atomic site to be optimized to either methyl or hydrogen atoms. Those model compounds were designed such that the CGenFF program produced their charges without high penalty. Then, full geometry optimizations were performed for each molecule at the B3LYP/6-31+G(d) level of theory, and their CHelpG³ and NBO charges were determined in water using the PCM solvation model.⁴ The same calculations were carried out for the target molecules to determine how much their charges would be perturbed between the actual target molecule and each model compound. In this analysis, we found that the CHelG charges were more systematic and thus used in the charge determination. Finally, the perturbed amount of charge was added to each atom of the model compound, and after partial adjustment of their charges to reproduce the total charge of target molecules, the final atomic charges were determined. In the final step, we also considered the partial atomic charges of the OPLS force field generated by the Maestro interface of the Schrödinger suite of programs, to determine the range of charge perturbation between the model compounds and the target molecules.

Analyses of MD trajectories. During the 50 ns MD simulation, atomic coordinates were saved at every 2 ps intervals for their analysis. The comparison of RMSD fluctuations of the apo and holo systems showed that ligand binding reduces the RMSD fluctuation of THR β 1 LBD. Whereas the backbone RMSD of the apo system has increased slowly from 1.1 Å around 1 ns to 2.1 Å near the 50 ns, the three holo systems showed relatively low and stable RMSD values (mostly below 2 Å) during the entire 50 ns MD simulations (Figure S7A).

Whereas all three ligands displayed relatively large RMSD fluctuations (Figure S7B), which are mainly due to the small size of the ligands, two ligands (i.e., BP2 and BADGE-HCl-H₂O) showed large RMSD values (Figure S7B) compared to their protein backbone RMSDs. Our analysis suggested that the large RMSDs are caused by the rotation of the two benzene moieties of BP2 and BADGE-HCl-H₂O relative to each other during MD simulations. In Figure S5, we present the distribution of the two rotatable dihedral angles for BP2 and BADGE-HCl-H₂O. The distribution shows clearly two well-resolved stable conformations. Nevertheless, they bound stably in the binding pocket of THR β 1 during the entire 50 ns MD simulations, despite their orientations slightly displaced relative to their corresponding docking poses (Figures 3B and C).

For 2,4,5-T, the salt bridges between Arg282 and Arg320 with the ligand's carboxyl group were maintained during the 50 ns MD simulation. The comparison of 16 THR β 1 crystal structures in complex with different co-ligands showed that the salt bridge interaction with Arg282 is found in 13 structures (Figure S8), suggesting the importance of the electrostatic interaction with Arg282 for the specificity of negatively charged ligands, such as 2,4,5-T.⁵

Explanations for differences in binding affinities. It has been observed that the affinity of T3 for TR differs between different assays. This could be due to that the monomer of THR was used for the ITC measurement,⁶ whereas the radio ligand binding assay uses the dimeric form.⁷ T3 has shown a lower affinity to the monomer as compared with the dimeric form.^{6, 8} Secondly, only the ligand binding domain (LBD) of THR was used in our ITC experiments. The T3 binding affinity measured using the truncated system (i.e., LBD without the DNA binding domain and the thyroid response elements) has been reported to be lower than that collected from the complete system.⁶ Although ITC has a relatively lower sensitivity, there are advantages of using ITC; for instance, the costly recombinant baculovirus expression system⁹ was replaced with commonly used *Escherichia coli* host cell. In addition, we avoided aggregation of the protein by introducing a reducing agent.

Table S1. Information of the seven THR β 1 X-ray structures used in the present virtual docking model development.

PDB ID	Resolutions (Å)	Co-ligand
1N46	2.20	[4-(4-Hydroxy-3-isopropyl-phenoxy)-3,5-dimethyl-phenyl]-6-azauracil ¹⁰
1NAX	2.70	3,5-Dichloro-4-[4-hydroxy-3-(propan-2-yl)phenoxy]phenyl acetic acid ⁷
1Q4X	2.80	[4-(3-Benzyl-4-hydroxybenzyl)-3,5-dimethylphenoxy]acetic acid ¹¹
1R6G	3.00	2-[3,5-Dibromo-4-(4-hydroxy-3-hydroxy[(2-phenylethyl)amino]methyl phenoxy)phenyl]ethane-1,1-diol ¹²
1XZX	2.50	3,5,3'-Triiodothyronine ¹³
2J4A	2.20	3,5-Dibromo-4-(3-isopropyl-phenoxy)benzoic acid ¹⁴
3IMY	2.55	4-[4-hydroxy-3-(1-methylethyl)benzyl]-3,5- dimethylphenoxy acetic acid ¹⁵

Table S2. Results of the single structure docking under the standard precision.

PDB ID ^a	No. actives identified ^b	RMSD ^c (Å)	AUC	EF1%	EF10%
1N46-nW	69	1.48	0.8042	26.993	6.106
1NAX-W	52	1.32	0.7543	23.415	5.969
1NAX-nW	70	1.47	0.7834	21.889	6.295
1Q4X-W	92	1.21	0.8639	32.410	7.180
1Q4X-nW	99	1.38	0.8080	29.393	5.561
1R6G-nW	94	1.59	0.7883	17.295	4.688
1XZX-W	72	1.21	0.7962	22.654	6.048
1XZX-nW	63	1.29	0.7582	16.841	5.287
2J4A-W	60	1.43	0.8078	27.050	6.345
2J4A-nW	68	1.55	0.7769	28.221	6.353
3IMY-W	74	1.68	0.7884	21.177	5.690
3IMY-nW	83	1.79	0.7372	19.285	5.062

^aPDB ID-W/-nW refers to the docking structure model with/without co-crystallized water (see Materials and Methods for details); ^bThe total number of active THR binders identified by the given single structure model;

^cThe root-mean-squared-deviation between docking poses and co-crystalized poses of the co-ligands found in each X-ray structure.

Table S3. Results of the best ensemble model for each given number of structures incorporated.

No. structures	Ensemble of structures ^a	No. actives identified ^b
2	1N46-nW, 1R6G-nW	88
3	1N46-nW, 1R6G-nW, 1XZX-nW	92
4	1N46-nW, 1Q4X-nW, 1R6G-nW, 1XZX-nW	95
5	1N46-nW, 1Q4X-nW, 1R6G-nW, 1XZX-nW, 3IMY-W	96
12	All	96

^aPDB ID with “-W” or “-nW” refer to including or excluding crystal waters in the ligand binding site of the PDB structure, respectively; ^bThe total number of active THR binders identified by each ensemble model.

Table S4. Results of the single best structure docking, the ‘best’ ensemble model docking, and the MM-GBSA rescoring of the ‘best’ ensemble model.¹⁶

Model ID ^a	No. actives identified ^b	AUC	EF1%	EF10%
ssDock (1Q4X-W)	75 (Top 20%) ^c	0.8639	32.410	7.180
esDock	95	0.8043	25.358	6.109
esDock with MM-GBSA	95	0.8647	19.018	7.478

^assDock, esDock, esDock with MM-GBSA refer to the docking results using 1Q4X and its crystal waters, the docking results of the selected ‘best’ ensemble model, and the MM-GBSA rescoring results of the selected ‘best’ ensemble model, respectively; ^bThe total number of active THR binders identified by each docking model; ^cFor 1Q4X-W, the docking result was based on the top 20 % of the single structure docking results.

Table S5. Interactions of the refined hits with the four hydrophilic residues of THR β 1.

Chemical Name	CAS No.	Classification ^a	Interaction with the four hydrophilic residues ^b
2,4-Dichlorophenoxyacetic acid	94-75-7	X-Ph acid	Arg282-HAccep Arg320-HAccep Asn331-HAccep Arg320-Salt
2,4,5-Trichlorophenoxyacetic acid	93-76-5	X-Ph acid	Arg282-HAccep Arg320-HAccep Asn331-HAccep Arg320-Salt
1-((2,4-dichlorophenyl)carbamoyl)cyclopropanecarboxylic acid (Cyclanilide)	113136-77-9	X-Ph acid	Arg282-HAccep Arg282-Salt Arg320-Salt
Perfluorotetradecanoic acid	376-06-7	PFAS	Arg282-HAccep Arg282-HAccep Arg320-HAccep Arg282-Salt Arg320-Salt
Perfluoroundecanoic acid	2058-94-8	PFAS	Arg282-HAccep Arg282-HAccep Arg320-HAccep Asn331-HAccep Arg320-Salt
Perfluorodecane phosphonate	52299-26-0	PFAS	Arg282-HAccep Arg320-HAccep Asn331-HAccep Arg282-Salt Arg320-Salt
Perfluorooctane sulfonate	1763-23-1	PFAS	Arg320-HAccep Arg320-HAccep Arg320-Salt Arg282-HAccep
Perfluorooctane phosphonate	70887-88-6	PFAS	Arg320-HAccep Asn331-HAccep Asn331-HAccep Arg320-Salt
Perfluorononanoic acid	375-95-1	PFAS	Asn331-HAccep Arg282-HAccep Arg282-Salt Arg320-Salt
Perfluoroheptanoic acid	375-85-9	PFAS	Arg320-HAccep Arg320-HAccep Asn331-HAccep
Perfluorodecanesulfonate	335-77-3	PFAS	Asn331-HAccep Arg282-HAccep

			Arg282-Salt
Perfluorododecanoic acid	307-55-1	PFAS	Arg282-HAccep Arg282-Salt
8:2 Fluorotelomer unsaturated carboxylic acid	70887-84-2	PFAS	Arg320-HAccep Asn331-HAccep
Bisphenol A bis(2,3-dihydroxypropyl) ether	5581-32-8	OH/X Aromatic	Asn331-HAccep Arg320-HAccep Arg320-HAccep
Bisphenol A (3-chloro-2-hydroxypropyl) (2,3-dihydroxypropyl) ether	227947-06-0	OH/X Aromatic	Asn331-HAccep Arg320-HAccep Arg320-HAccep
Bisphenol AF	1478-61-1	OH/X Aromatic	Asn331-HAccep Asn331-HDonor
Bisphenol A (2,3-dihydroxypropyl) glycidyl ether	76002-91-0	OH/X Aromatic	Arg320-HAccep Arg282-HAccep
Bisphenol Z	843-55-0	OH/X Aromatic	His435-HDonor
Bisphenol A	80-05-7	OH/X Aromatic	Asn331-HDonor
Tetrabromobisphenol A	79-94-7	OH/X Aromatic	Asn331-HAccep
4,4'-Biphenyldiol	92-88-6	OH/X Aromatic	Asn331-HDonor
Bisphenol S	80-09-1	OH/X Aromatic	Asn331-HDonor
4-Hydroxybenzophenone	1137-42-4	OH/X Aromatic	Asn331-HAccep Asn331-HDonor
2,4,2',4'-Tetrahydroxybenzophenone	131-55-5	OH/X Aromatic	Asn331-HDonor His435-HDonor
4,4'-Methylenediphenol	620-92-8	OH/X Aromatic	His435-HDonor
Benzyl paraben	94-18-8	OH/X Aromatic	Asn331-HDonor
2,4-Dihydroxybenzophenone	131-56-6	OH/X Aromatic	Asn331-HDonor
Nonylphenol ethoxycarboxylate	3115-49-9	Miscellaneous	Asn331-HAccep Arg320-HAccep Arg282-HAccep Arg282-Salt Arg320-Salt
Carbaryl	63-25-2	Miscellaneous	Arg320-HAccep Asn331-HAccep
Musk ketone	81-14-1	Miscellaneous	Asn331-HAccep
Musk moskene	116-66-5	Miscellaneous	Asn331-HAccep

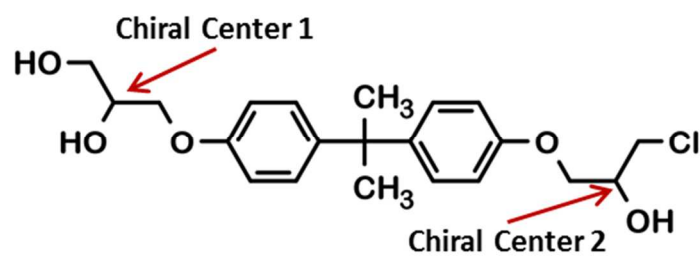
^aX-Ph acid, PFASs, and OH/X Aromatic refer to halogenated phenoxyacetic acids, per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances, and hydroxylated and/or halogenated aromatic compounds, respectively; ^b Interactions with the four hydrophilic residues refers to the number of electrostatic interactions with the four key hydrophilic residues (Arg282, Arg320, Asn331, and His435). HDonor, HAccep, and Salt refer to hydrogen bond donor, hydrogen bond acceptor, and salt bridge, respectively.

Table S6. Information of the dust contaminants tested using the isothermal titration calorimetry (ITC).

Compounds (Abbreviations)	CAS No.	pKa ^a	Purity	Provider
Triiodothyronine (T3)	6893-02-3	2.13	98%	Sigma-Aldrich Sweden AB (Stockholm, Sweden)
2,4,5-Trichlorophenoxyacetic acid (2,4,5-T)	93-76-5	2.88	95%	Sigma-Aldrich Sweden AB (Stockholm, Sweden)
Bisphenol A (3-chloro-2-hydroxypropyl) (2,3-dihydroxypropyl) ether (BADGE-HCl-H ₂ O)	227947-06-0	13.13	95%	Sigma-Aldrich Sweden AB (Stockholm, Sweden)
2,2',4,4'-Tetrahydroxybenzophenone (BP2)	131-55-5	6.98	97%	Sigma-Aldrich Sweden AB (Stockholm, Sweden)
2,4-Dichlorophenoxyacetic acid (2,4-D)	94-75-7	2.98	97%	Sigma-Aldrich Sweden AB (Stockholm, Sweden)
1-((2,4-dichlorophenyl)carbamoyl)cyclopropanecarboxylic acid (Cyclanilide)	113136-77-9	3.39	95%	Sigma-Aldrich Sweden AB (Stockholm, Sweden)
5-Chloro-2-(2,4-dichlorophenoxy)phenol (Triclosan)	3380-34-5	7.80	97%	Sigma-Aldrich Sweden AB (Stockholm, Sweden)

^apKa values of the compounds were collected using the SciFinder database¹⁷.

Table S7. The docking scores of different stereoisomers forms of BADGE-HCl-H₂O.



Chiral Center 1	Chiral Center 2	Docking Scores
R	R	-10.196
R	S	-10.066
S	R	-10.071
S	S	-9.943

Table S8. The energy penalties and docking score of different protonation forms of triclosan.

Protonation State	Energy Penalty ^a (kcal/mol)	Docking Scores
Protonated form	0.3096	-7.955
Deprotonated form	0.5326	-7.578

^aThe energy penalties of different pronation states were estimated based on the population for each state (P) using the standard thermodynamic relationship, i.e., Penalty = $-RT\ln(P)$. The Schrödinger Epik module¹⁸ was used to estimate the population of each protonated form.

Table S9. Thermodynamic parameters of the four active compounds and T3 for binding to THR β 1.^a

Compounds ^b	CAS No.	K _d (μ M)	Δ H (kcal/mol)	T Δ S (kcal/mol)	Δ G (kcal/mol)	N
T3	6893-02-3	1.6 \pm 0.6	-12.1 \pm 7.9	-4.2	-7.9	0.9 \pm 0.2
2,4,5-T	93-76-5	60 \pm 6.6	-3.9 \pm 0.2	1.9	-5.8	1
BADGE-HCl-H ₂ O	227947-06-0	87.5 \pm 4.9 ^c	-14.2 \pm 0.9	-8.6	-5.5	1
BP2	131-55-5	200 \pm 12.5	-5.2 \pm 0.2	-0.1	-5.0	1
2,4-D	94-75-7	463 \pm 49.3	-3.0 \pm 0.2	1.6	-4.6	1

^aThe full name of the parameters in the table are disassociation constant (K_d), enthalpy changes (Δ H), binding stoichiometry (N), Gibbs free energy changes (Δ G), and entropy changes (Δ S); ^bThe full name of each compound is presented in Table S6; ^cFor BADGE-HCl-H₂O, the dissociation constant was an approximate value mainly due to its poor solubility in the ITC buffer.

Table S10. Optimized angle force field parameters^a.

Compound	Angle	K _θ (kcal/mol/radian ²)	θ ₀ (degree)
BP2	C6-C7-C8	35.00	120.40
BADGE-HCl-H2O	C4-C2-C13	99.37	109.90

^aThe angle term in the potential energy function is formulated as $V = K_{\theta} (\theta - \theta_0)^2$.

Table S11. Optimized dihedral parameters^a.

Compound	Dihedral angle	K _χ (kcal/mol)	n	δ (degree)
2,4,5-T	C1-O1-C7-C8	1.1000	1	0.00
2,4,5-T	C1-O1-C7-C8	0.6000	3	180.00
BP2	C6-C7-C8-C9	0.9600	2	180.00
BADGE-HCl-H2O	C12-C4-C2-C13	0.2300	2	180.00
BADGE-HCl-H2O	C17-C18-C19-Cl1	1.4000	3	0.00
BADGE-HCl-H2O	O5-C18-C19-Cl1	1.0000	3	0.00
BADGE-HCl-H2O	H22-C18-C19-Cl1	0.2000	4	0.00

^aThe dihedral term in the potential energy function is formulated as $V = K_{\chi} [1 + \cos(n\chi - \delta)]$.

Table S12. Optimized improper angle parameters^a.

Compound	Improper angle	K_{ψ} (kcal/mol/radian ²)	ψ_0 (degree)
BP2	C6-C7-C8-O1	97.0000	0.00

^aThe improper dihedral term in the potential energy function is formulated as $V = K_{\psi} (\psi - \psi_0)^2$.

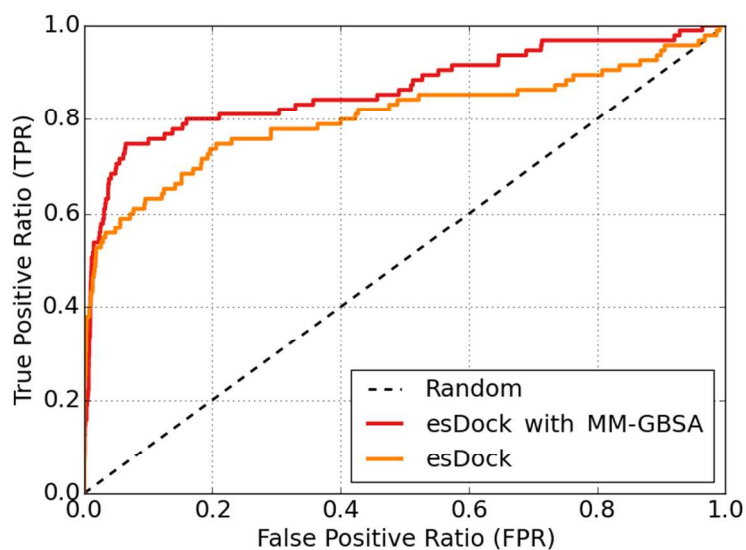


Figure S1. The receiver operating characteristic (ROC) curves of molecular docking and MM-GBSA rescoring results of the ‘best’ ensemble model. In the ensemble docking, four X-ray structures (i.e., 1N46-nW, 1Q4X-nW, 1R6G-nW, and 1XZX-nW) were selected as the optimal ensemble model in the present structure. “esDock” and “esDock with MM-GBSA” refer to the ROC curves of the selected ensemble docking model and the MM-GBSA rescoring results, respectively (See Table S4).

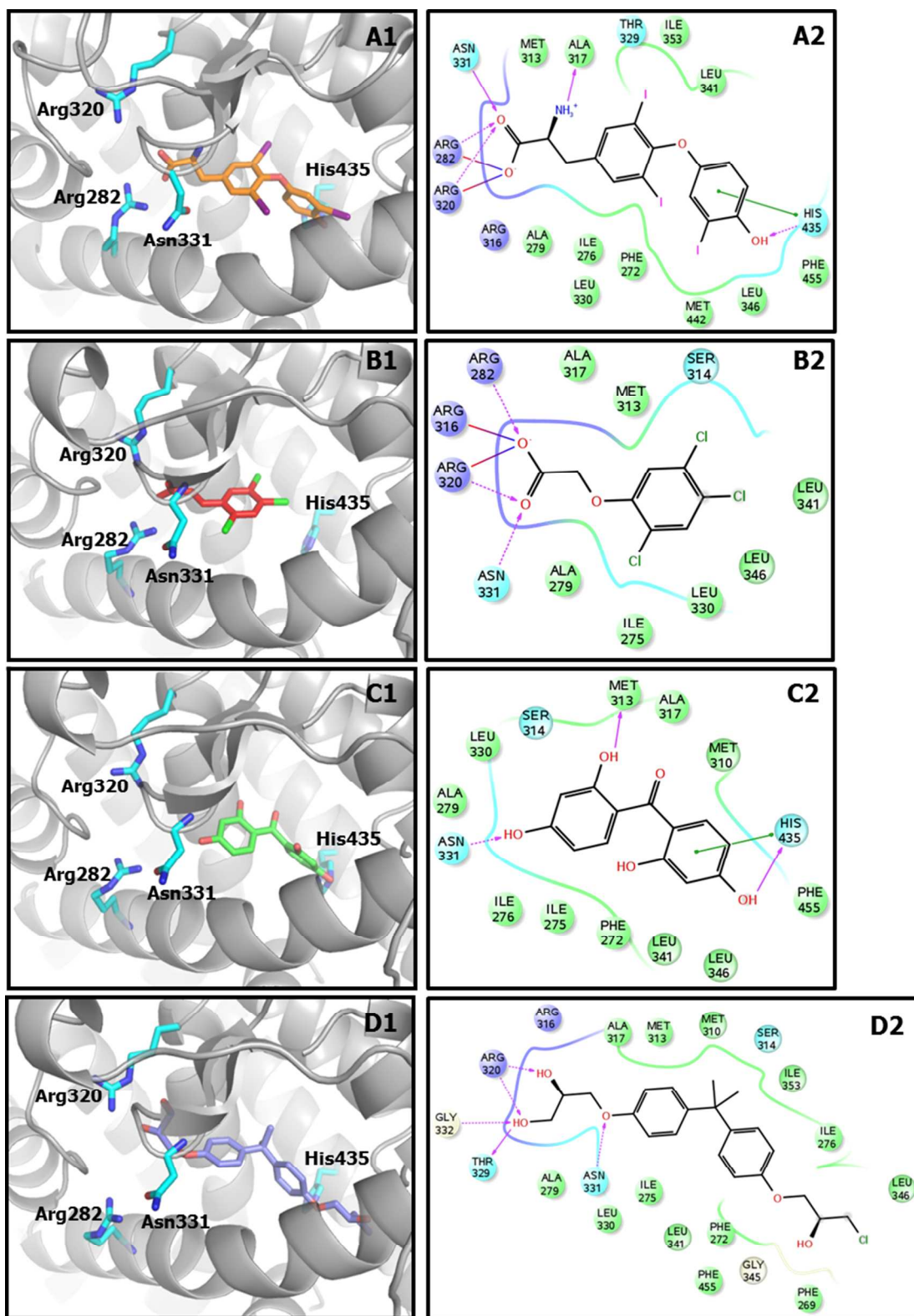


Figure S2. Comparison of docking poses and ligand-THR interactions of potential THR disrupters and co-crystallized pose of T3 (PDB ID: 1XZX). Docking poses: (A1)T3, (B1) 2,4,5-T, (C1) BP2, and (D1) BADGE-HCl-H2O. Ligand-THR interactions: (A2)T3, (B2) 2,4,5-T, (C2) BP2, and (D2) BADGE-HCl-H2O.

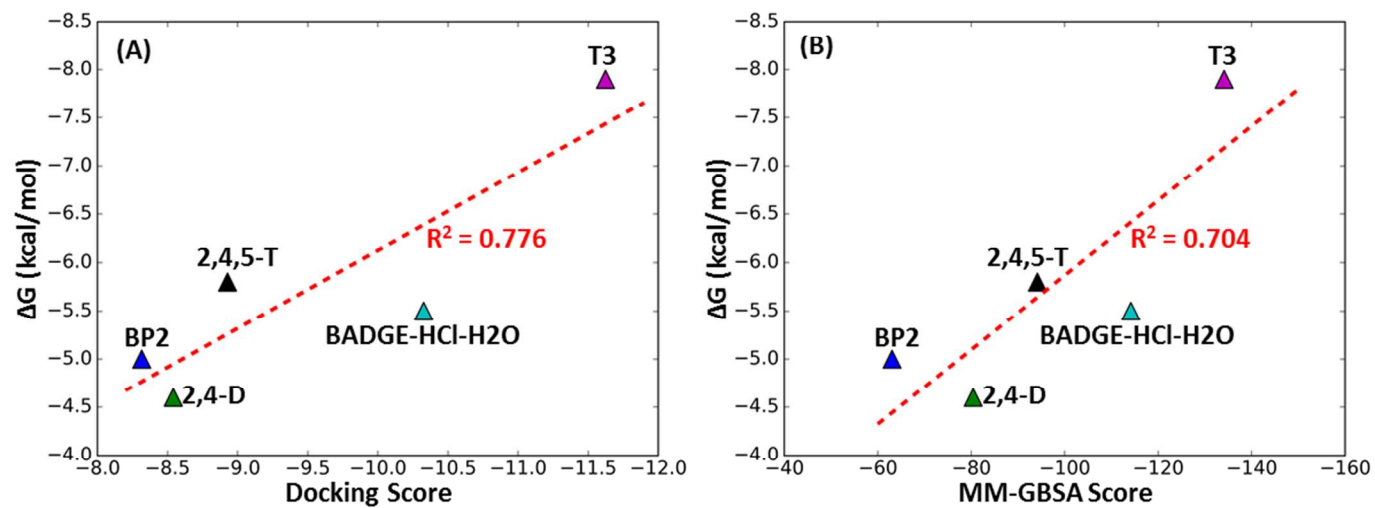
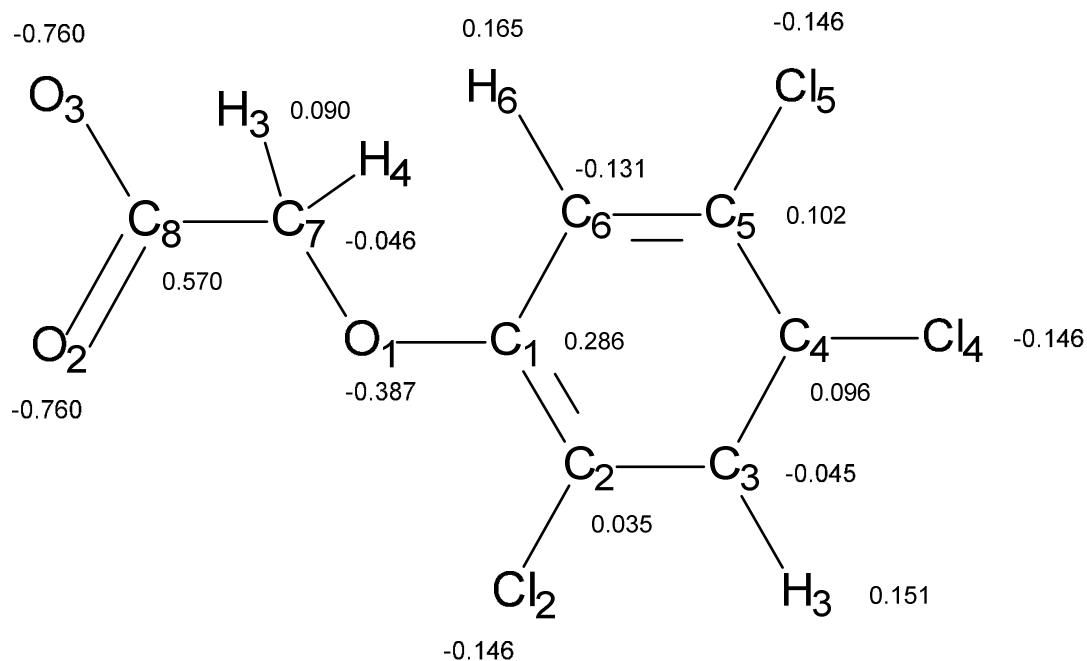
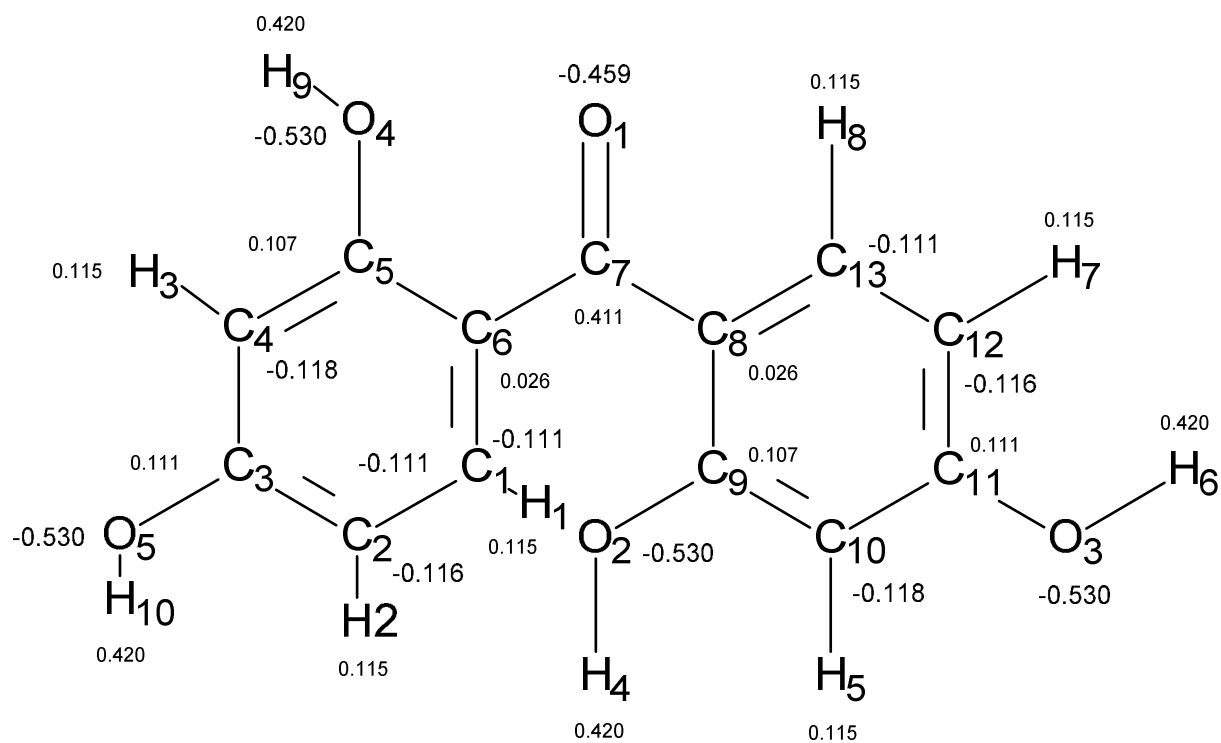


Figure S3. Correlations between ITC measured binding free energy of the bioactive compounds and their (A) docking and (B) MM-GBSA scores.

(A)



(B)



(C)

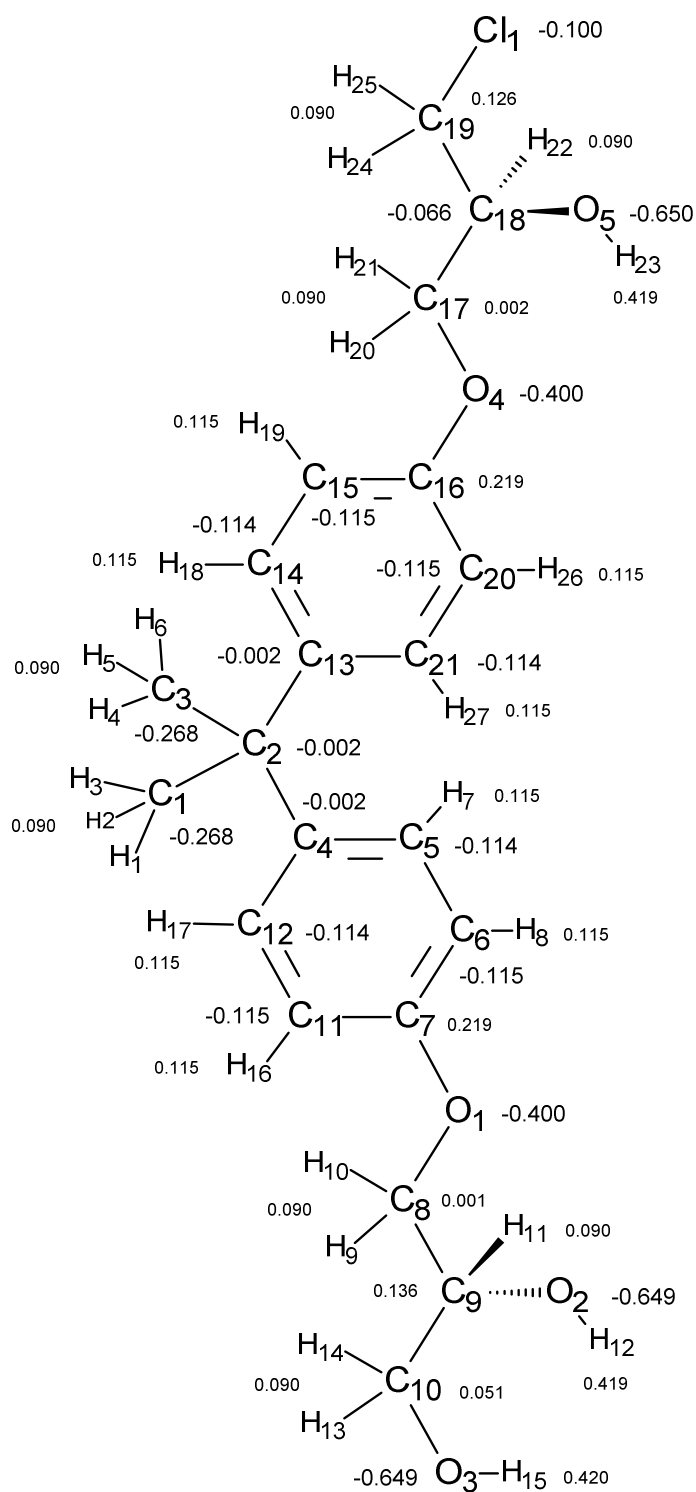


Figure S4. Partial atomic charges of (A) 2,4,5-T, (B) BP2, (C) BADGE-HCl-H2O. For methylene and methyl hydrogens, we only show one value as they share the same charge.

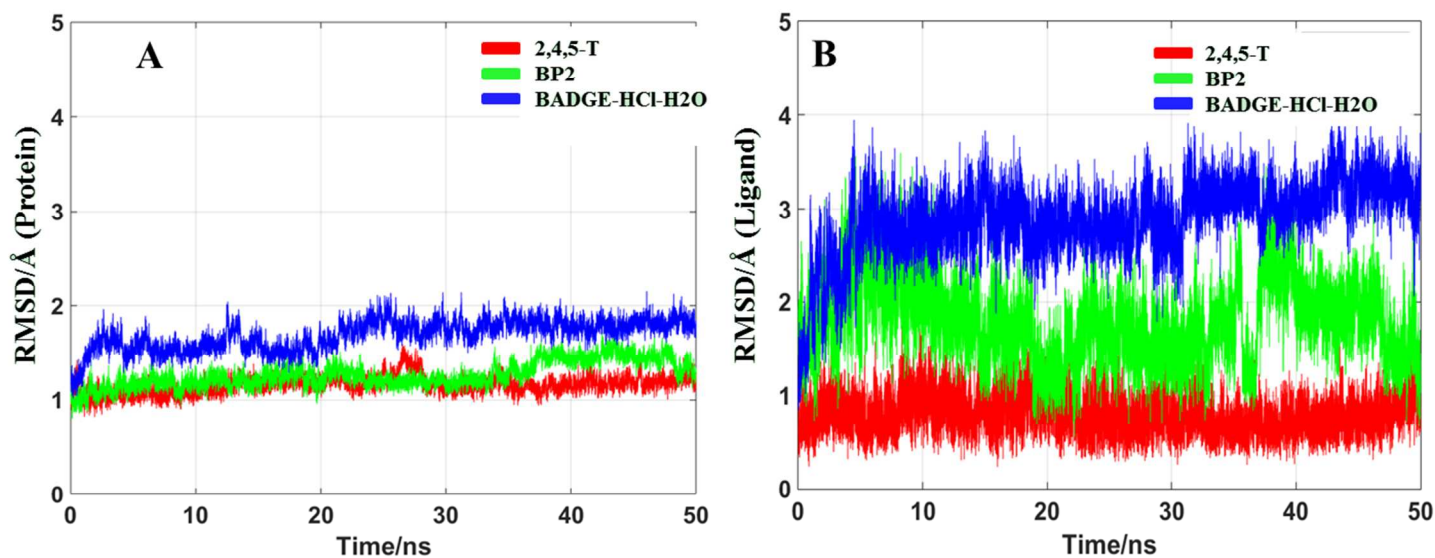


Figure S5. RMSDs of (A) THR β 1 LBD backbone and (B) the ligands. In the backbone RMSD calculation, only heavy atoms were considered and highly mobile loops (residues 232 to 266, 211 to 216, 379 to 399 and 410 and 417) were excluded.

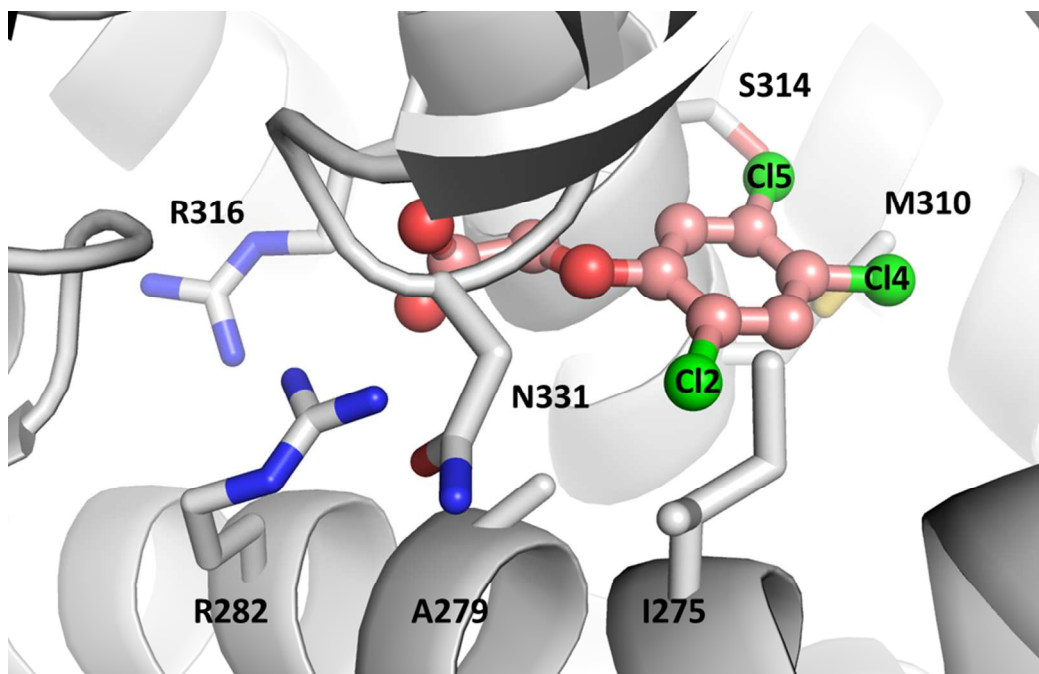


Figure S6. Interactions between 2,4,5-T and THRβ1 binding pocket residues. Protein backbone and binding pocket residues are shown in gray, and 2,4,5-T is shown in pink, respectively.

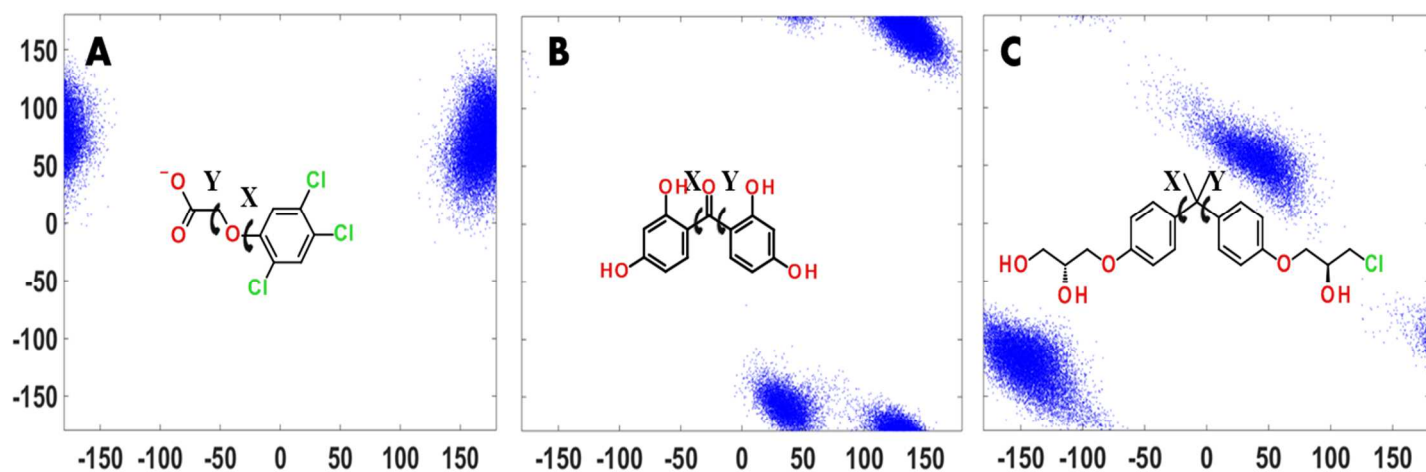


Figure S7. Distributions of the two rotatable dihedral angles for the ligands, (A) 2,4,5-T, (B) BP2, and (C) BADGE-HCl-H₂O. To present the variations of the binding poses, two dihedrals on each molecule are chosen, which are indicated by the two arrows on the 2D structures. The dihedral angle along the bond indicated with “X” is shown in the X-axis, and the angle indicated with “Y” is shown in the Y-axis of the distribution plot, in which the blue dots show the distributions of these two dihedral pairs.

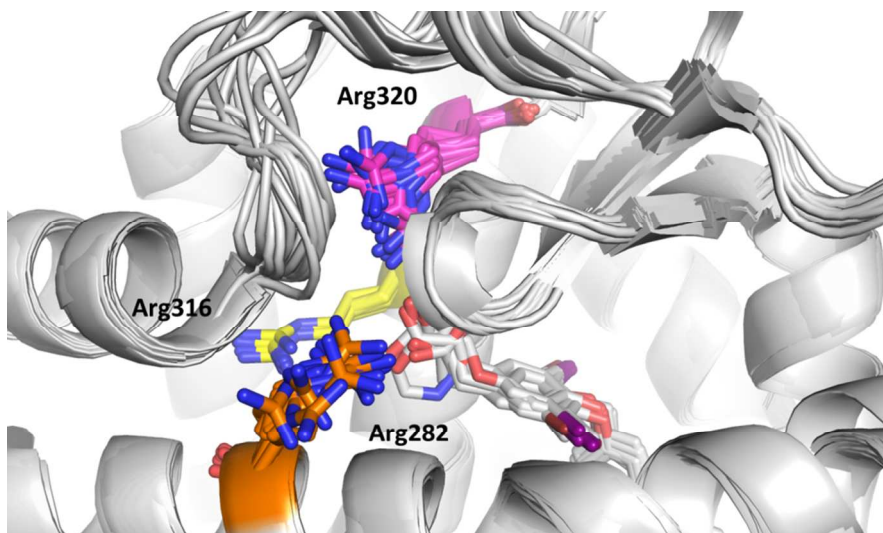


Figure S8. Structural superposition of 15 THR β 1 LBD crystal structures (1Q4X¹¹, 1N46¹⁰, 2PIN¹⁹, 2J4A¹⁴, 3IMY¹⁵, 3JZC⁵, 1BSX²⁰, 1XZX¹³, 3GWS²¹, 1NQ2²², 1R6G¹², 4ZO1²³, 1NQ1²⁴, 1NAX⁷, and 3D57²⁵). Arg282, Arg316 and Arg320 are colored in orange, yellow and pink, respectively. Ligands in the binding pocket are shown in stick and proteins are shown in gray cartoon.

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