## Supplementary Information

# Biocatalytic Synthesis of Ribonucleoside Analogues Using Nucleoside Transglycosylase-2

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## 1. General information

### 1.1 Reagents and Solvents

All reagents and solvents were used as supplied from commercial sources and used without any further purification unless otherwise specified. Solvents were all HPLC grade and used without any further purification, unless otherwise specified. Thin layer chromatography (TLC) was performed using Merck silica plates coated with fluorescent indicator UV254. TLC plates were analysed under 254 nm UV light or developed in p-Anisaldehyde. Normal-phase column chromatography was carried out using Fluorochem Silicagel 60 Å 40-63 µm. Normal phase auto column chromatography was carried out using Silicycle silicagel on an interchim puriflash XS520 plus.

### 1.2 NMR Spectroscopy

NMR spectroscopy was carried out using a Bruker 400 UltraShieldTM "Avance I" spectrometer and Bruker Avance III-HD-400 and Varian VNMRS-600 spectrometer. All chemical shifts ( $\delta$ ) in CDCl<sub>3</sub> were referenced at 7.26 ppm (<sup>1</sup>H) and 77.16 ppm (<sup>13</sup>C), in (CD<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>SO at 2.50 ppm (<sup>1</sup>H) and 39.52 ppm (<sup>13</sup>C), in CD<sub>3</sub>CN at 1.94 ppm (<sup>1</sup>H) and 118.26 ppm (<sup>13</sup>C), in D<sub>2</sub>O at 4.79 ppm (<sup>1</sup>H), and in CD<sub>3</sub>OD at 3.31 ppm (<sup>1</sup>H) and 49.00 ppm (<sup>13</sup>C). Chemical shifts are reported in parts per million (ppm) and coupling constants are quoted in hertz (Hz). Abbreviations for splitting patterns are s (singlet), d (doublet), t (triplet), q (quartet) and m (multiplet). App (apparent) denotes signals in which similar *J* values have resulted in false equivalence. All NMR data was processed using MestRenova 11.0.3 software.

### 1.3 Liquid Chromatography-Mass Spectrometry (LC-MS)

LC-MS was carried out on an Agilent 1200 series HPLC instrument in conjunction with an Agilent Quadrupole mass detector 9 (HPLC Agilent Technologies 6130 Quadrupole), using an agilent Infinity Lab Poroshell 120, 4.6 x 100 mm, 2.7  $\mu$  C18 column. A combination of electrospray ionization (ESI) and atmospheric pressure chemical ionization (APCI) was used in all cases (MM-ES+APCI). The solvent system used was Acetonitrile/Water with 5 mM Ammonium Acetate buffer pH 7.0.

## 1.4 High-Pressure Liquid Chromatography (HPLC)

HPLC analysis was performed on a Dionex Ultimate 300 instrument utilising the VWD3400 variable wavelength detector. Analytical reversed-phase HPLC (RP-HPLC) was carried out on a Shimadzu Prominence instrument utilising a PDA Detector scanning from 190-600 nm. Semi-preparative RP-HPLC purification was carried out on a Dionex Ultimate 3000 series instrument using a 150 x 21.2 mm Kinetex 5 µm C18 column.

## 2. General experimental techniques and procedures

## 2.1 Preparation of stock solutions

### 100 mM Phosphate buffer solution pH 6

 $Na_2HPO_4 \cdot 7H_2O$  (1.84 g) and  $NaH_2PO_4 \cdot H_2O$  (5.96 g) were dissolved in 500 mL of mQ H<sub>2</sub>O, adjusted using 0.2 mL of 1M HCl obtaining a final pH of 6.

## 10 mM Phosphate buffer solution pH 7

 $Na_2HPO_4 \cdot 7H_2O$  (1.549 g) and  $NaH_2PO_4 \cdot H_2O$  (0.582 g) were dissolved in 1 L of mQ H<sub>2</sub>O, adjusted using 0.2 mL of 1M HCl obtaining a final pH of 7.

## Preparation of stock solutions of nucleoside donors

5-Methyluridine **7** (775 mg) was dissolved in 30 mL of mQ  $H_2O$  to prepare a 100 mM solution. Solution was shaken by hand for 1 min to ensure full solubility of 5-methyluridine. Cytidine **8** (730 mg) was dissolved in 30 mL of mQ  $H_2O$  to prepare a 100 mM solution. Solution was shaken for 1 min to ensure full solubility of cytidine. Sugar donor stock solutions were stored at rt.

#### Preparation of stock solutions of nucleobase acceptors

As an example, 26 mg of 6-bromo-deazapurine were dissolved by sonication in 2626  $\mu$ L of chosen solvent to form a 50 mM solution. Nucleobase solution was stored at rt.

#### Preparation of stock solutions of LINDT

*Lactobacillus Leichmanii* NDT (*LI*NDT, N2665 Sigma-Aldrich, expressed in *E. coli*) stock solution was prepared by dissolving 0.921 mg of powder enzyme in 0.921  $\mu$ L of 100 mM Na<sub>2</sub>HPO<sub>4</sub> pH 7 and 20% glycerol (1 mg/mL). Solution stored in -18 °C.

#### 2.2 General Procedures

#### General Enzymatic Nucleoside Transglycosylation Procedure

A 50 mM nucleobase stock solution in mQ H<sub>2</sub>O (10.0 µmol, 200 µL, 1 equiv) was mixed with a 100 mM 5-methyluridine or cytidine solution dissolved in mQ H<sub>2</sub>O (50.0 µmol, 500 µL, 5 equiv) Next, 100 µL of NDT stock solution (0.1 mg/mL) were added as well as 200 µL extra of mQ H<sub>2</sub>O to afford a final reaction volume of 1 mL. The resulting reaction mixture was shaken at 950 rpm at 40 °C for 24 h. Then, an aliquot of 100 µL of reaction mixture was transferred to a 1 mL HPLC vial, quenched with 100 µL of HFIP or Proteinase K (5 mg/mL) and diluted with 800 µL of 100 mM Na<sub>2</sub>HPO<sub>4</sub> buffer. The crude was analysed by analytical RP-HPLC, and conversion of the target nucleoside was calculated by monitoring the ratio of the peak area of starting material to peak area of product. Reactions were carried out in triplicate and conversions were expressed as the average with the corresponding standard deviation.

#### 2.3 Analytical RP-HPLC method parameters

#### Method A

Column specification: Luna C18 Polar Omega 3 µ (100 x 4.6 mm) Column temperature: 40 °C Mobile phase A: 0.1% v/v TFA in water Mobile phase B: 0.1% v/v TFA in Acetonitrile Flow rate 1.5 mL/min Gradient profile:

Time (min)	% A	% B
0	99	1
0.5	99	1
4	88	12
6.5	50	50
7	5	95
8	5	95
9	99	1
11.30	99	1

Detection wavelength of 254 nm.

## Method B

3 Polar Omega 3 μ (100 x 4.6 m	ım)
n water	
% A	% D
95	5
40	60
5	95
5	95
95	5
95	5
3	Polar Omega 3 μ (100 x 4.6 m n water % A 95 40 5 5 95 95

Detection wavelength of 254 nm.

## Method C

Column specification: Phenomenex Luna C18 3 µ phenyl-hexyl (150 x 4.6 mm) Column temperature: 40 °C Mobile phase A: 0.1% v/v TFA in water Mobile phase B: 0.1% v/v TFA in Acetonitrile Flow rate 1.2 mL/min Gradient profile: Time (min) % A % B 0 99 1

8	70	30
9	5	95
11	5	95
11	99	1
13	99	1

Detection wavelength of 254 nm.

### 2.4 RP-HPLC semi preparatory method parameters:

#### Method D

Column specification: Kinetex 5 µm XB-C18 100 Å, 150 x 21.2 mm Column temperature: 40 °C Mobile phase A: Water Mobile phase B: Acetonitrile Flow rate: 12 mL/min % A % B Time (min) 0 5 95 82 18 18 19 5 95 23 5 95 24 95 5 28 95 5 Detection wavelength of 254 nm.

#### 3. Ribose scope characterisation

### 3.1 Scaled up preparation of ribonucleosides

#### 6-bromo-1-deaza-ribosyl-purine (10)



Cytidine **8** (1.22 g, 5.0 mmol, 5 equiv) and 6-bromo-deazapurine **9** (198 mg, 1.0 mmol, 1 equiv) were dissolved in 5 mL of mQ H<sub>2</sub>O. The solution was left stirring for an hour at 40 °C followed by addition of 5 mL of *LINDT* (from a 1 mg/mL stock solution). The reaction was stirred for 72 h at 40 °C. The crude residue was concentrated *in vacuo*, dry loaded onto silica and purified

by flash column chromatography (silica gel, 0-20%  $CH_2CI_2/MeOH$ ) to obtain the nucleoside **10** in 67% yield as a brown solid (220 mg, 0.67 mmol).

<sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (400 MHz,  $(CD_3)_2$ SO, ppm)  $\delta$  8.82 (s, 1H, *H*<sup>8</sup>), 8.25 (d, *J* = 5.2 Hz, 1H, *H*<sup>2</sup>), 7.63 (d, *J* = 5.2 Hz, 1H, *H*<sup>1</sup>), 6.06 (d, *J* = 5.6 Hz, 1H, *H*<sup>1</sup>), 5.50 (d, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 1H, OH<sup>2</sup>), 5.20 (d, *J* = 5.0 Hz, 1H, OH<sup>3</sup>), 5.14 (dd, *J* = 6.2, 5.0 Hz, 1H, OH<sup>5</sup>), 4.63 (*app* q, *J* = 5.6 Hz, 1H, *H*<sup>2</sup>), 4.19 (*app* td, *J* = 4.9, 3.7 Hz, 1H, *H*<sup>3</sup>), 3.98 (*app* q, *J* = 3.8 Hz, 1H, *H*<sup>4</sup>), 3.70 (ddd, *J* = 12.0, 5.0, 3.9 Hz, 1H, *H*<sup>5</sup> or *H*<sup>5</sup>), 3.58 (ddd, *J* = 12.0, 6.2, 3.9 Hz, 1H *H*<sup>5</sup> or *H*<sup>5</sup>)

<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H}-NMR (101 MHz, (CD<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>SO, ppm)  $\delta$  146.4(*C*<sup>4</sup>), 144.6(*C*<sup>8</sup>), 144.4(*C*<sup>2</sup>), 134.8(*C*<sup>5</sup>), 123.2(*C*<sup>6</sup>), 121.8(*C*<sup>1</sup>), 87.9(*C*<sup>1</sup>), 85.5(*C*<sup>4</sup>), 73.6(*C*<sup>2</sup>), 70.3(*C*<sup>3</sup>), 61.3(*C*<sup>5</sup>).

**RP-HPLC** (Method A):  $t_R = 6.09 \text{ min}$ , 75% conversion.

**HRMS** (ESI) m/z: [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>12</sub><sup>79</sup>BrN<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>Na 351.9903; found 351.9906.

5-iodo-uridine (18)



Cytidine **7** (2.43 g, 10.0 mmol, 10 equiv) and 5-iodouracil **17** (238 mg, 1.0 mmol, 1 equiv) were dissolved in 5 mL of mQ H<sub>2</sub>O. The solution was left stirring for an hour at 40 °C followed by addition of 5 mL of *LINDT* (from a 1 mg/mL stock solution). The reaction was stirred for 72 h at 40 °C. The crude residue was concentrated *in vacuo*, dry loaded onto silica and purified by flash column chromatography (silica gel, 0-30% CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/MeOH) to obtain the nucleoside **18** in 27% yield as a white solid (100 mg, 0.27 mmol).

<sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (400 MHz,  $(CD_3)_2SO$ , ppm)  $\delta$  11.67 (s, 1H, N*H*), 8.48 (s, 1H, *H*<sup>6</sup>), 5.73 (d, *J* = 4.6 Hz, 1H, *H*<sup>1</sup>), 5.40 (d, *J* = 5.4 Hz, 1H, OH<sup>2</sup>), 5.25 (t, *J* = 4.7 Hz, 1H, OH<sup>5</sup>), 5.06 (d, *J* = 5.3 Hz, 1H, OH<sup>3</sup>), 4.04 (*app* q, *J* = 5.0 Hz, 1H, H<sup>2</sup>), 3.99 (*app* q, *J* = 4.9 Hz, 1H H<sup>3</sup>), 3.87 (*app* dt, *J* = 4.9, 2.8 Hz, 1H, H<sup>4</sup>), 3.68 (ddd, *J* = 12.0, 4.8, 2.9 Hz, 1H H<sup>5'</sup> or H<sup>5''</sup>), 3.57 (ddd, *J* = 12.0, 4.7, 2.7 Hz, 1H H<sup>5'</sup> or H<sup>5''</sup>).

<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H}-NMR (101 MHz, (CD<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>SO, ppm)  $\delta$  160.4(*C*<sup>4</sup>), 150.3(*C*<sup>5</sup>), 145.1(*C*<sup>6</sup>), 88.3(*C*<sup>1</sup>), 84.7(*C*<sup>4</sup>), 73.9(*C*<sup>2'</sup>), 69.3(*C*<sup>3'</sup>), 69.2 (*C*<sup>2</sup>), 60.2(*C*<sup>5'</sup>).

NMR values in agreement with literature.<sup>1</sup>

**RP-HPLC** (Method A):  $t_R = 3.49 \text{ min}$ , 31 % conversion.

**HRMS** (ESI) *m/z*: [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>9</sub>H<sub>11</sub>IN<sub>2</sub>O<sub>6</sub>Na 392.9554; found, 392.9545.

#### 3.2 Small scale

#### 6-bromo-1-deaza-ribosyl-purine (10)



Prepared using the general enzymatic nucleoside transglycosylation procedure A. A 50 mM nucleobase stock solution (15 mg dissolved in 1515  $\mu$ L) in DMSO (10.0  $\mu$ mol, 200  $\mu$ L, 1 equiv) was mixed with a 100 mM cytidine solution (243 mg in 10 mL), which was dissolved in mQ H<sub>2</sub>O (50.0  $\mu$ mol, 500  $\mu$ L, 5 equiv). Next, 100  $\mu$ L of NDT stock solution (0.1 mg/mL) was added alongside 200  $\mu$ L of mQ H<sub>2</sub>O to afford a final volume of 1 mL and the resulting reaction mixture was shaken at 950 rpm at 40 °C for 24 h. The crude reaction mixture was purified by preparative HPLC (method D) affording the target nucleoside **10**.

**RP-HPLC** (Method A):  $t_R = 6.09 \text{ min}$ , 96% conversion (std = 1).

Characterisation of the target nucleoside was confirmed through <sup>1</sup>H NMR in comparison with the large-scale characterisation.

#### 6-chloro-1-deaza-ribosyl-purine (11)



Prepared using the general enzymatic nucleoside transglycosylation procedure A. A 50 mM nucleobase stock solution (9.6 mg dissolved in 1250  $\mu$ L) in mQ H<sub>2</sub>O (10.0  $\mu$ mol, 200  $\mu$ L, 1 equiv) was mixed with a 100 mM cytidine solution (243 mg in 10 mL), which was dissolved in mQ H<sub>2</sub>O (50.0  $\mu$ mol, 500  $\mu$ L, 5 equiv). Next, 100  $\mu$ L of NDT stock solution (0.1 mg/mL) was added alongside 200  $\mu$ L of mQ H<sub>2</sub>O to afford a final volume of 1 mL and the resulting reaction

mixture was shaken at 950 rpm at 40 °C for 24 h. The crude reaction mixture was purified by preparative HPLC (method D) affording the target nucleoside **11**.

<sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (400 MHz,  $(CD_3)_2$ SO, ppm)  $\delta$  8.82 (s, 1H, *H*<sup>8</sup>), 8.35 (d, *J* = 5.2 Hz, 1H, *H*<sup>1</sup> or *H*<sup>2</sup>), 7.51 (d, *J* = 5.3 Hz, 1H, *H*<sup>1</sup> or *H*<sup>2</sup>), 6.07 (d, *J* = 5.6 Hz, 1H, *H*<sup>1</sup>), 5.50 (d, *J* = 5.9 Hz, 1H, OH<sup>2</sup>), 5.21 (d, *J* = 5.0 Hz, 1H, OH<sup>3</sup>), 5.15 (dd, *J* = 6.2, 5.0 Hz, 1H, OH<sup>5</sup>), 4.63 (*app* q, *J* = 5.4 Hz, 1H, *H*<sup>2</sup>), 4.19 (*app* q, *J* = 4.7 Hz, 1H, *H*<sup>3</sup>), 3.99 (*app* q, *J* = 3.8 Hz, 1H, *H*<sup>4</sup>), 3.70 (ddd, *J* = 12.0, 5.0, 3.9 Hz, 1H, *H*<sup>5</sup> or *H*<sup>5</sup>), 3.58 (ddd, *J* = 12.0, 6.1, 3.9 Hz, 1H, *H*<sup>5</sup> or *H*<sup>5</sup>).

NMR in agreement with literature.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H}-NMR (101 MHz,  $(CD_3)_2SO$ , ppm)  $\delta$  147.3(*C*<sup>4</sup>), 144.7(*C*<sup>2</sup> or *C*<sup>1</sup>), 144.6(*C*<sup>8</sup>), 133.3(*C*<sup>5</sup> or *C*<sup>6</sup>), 133.0(*C*<sup>5</sup> or *C*<sup>6</sup>), 118.8(*C*<sup>2</sup> or *C*<sup>1</sup>), 87.8(*C*<sup>1</sup>), 85.6(*C*<sup>4</sup>), 73.6(*C*<sup>2</sup>), 70.3(*C*<sup>3</sup>), 61.3(*C*<sup>5</sup>).

**RP-HPLC** (Method A):  $t_R = 5.86 \text{ min}$ , 97% conversion (std = 1).

HRMS (ESI) *m/z*: [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>12</sub>ClN<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>Na 308.0409; found 308.0406.

2-fluoro-ribosyl-adenosine (12)



Prepared using the general enzymatic nucleoside transglycosylation procedure A. A 50 mM nucleobase stock solution (10 mg dissolved in 1306  $\mu$ L) in mQ H<sub>2</sub>O (10.0  $\mu$ mol, 200  $\mu$ L, 1 equiv) was mixed with a 100 mM cytidine solution (243 mg in 10 mL), which was dissolved in mQ H<sub>2</sub>O (50.0  $\mu$ mol, 500  $\mu$ L, 5 equiv). Next, 100  $\mu$ L of NDT stock solution (0.1 mg/mL) was added alongside 200 uL of mQ H<sub>2</sub>O to afford a final volume of 1 mL and the resulting reaction mixture was shaken at 950 rpm at 40 °C for 24 h. The crude reaction mixture was purified by preparative HPLC (method D) affording the target nucleoside (**12**).

<sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (400 MHz,  $(CD_3)_2SO$ , ppm)  $\delta$  8.35 (s, 1H,  $C^8$ ), 7.86 (s, 2H,  $NH_2$ ), 5.79 (d, J = 5.9 Hz, 1H,  $H^1$ ), 5.47 (dd, J = 6.1, 3.0 Hz, 1H,  $OH^2$ ), 5.19 (dd, J = 4.9, 3.0 Hz, 1H,  $OH^3$ ), 5.05 (t, J = 5.6 Hz, 1H,  $OH^5$ ), 4.52 (*app* q, J = 5.6 Hz, 1H,  $H^2$ ), 4.17 – 4.09 (m, 1H,  $H^3$ ), 3.94 (*app* q, J = 3.9 Hz, 1H,  $H^4$ ), 3.67 (*app* dt, J = 12.0, 4.3 Hz, 1H,  $H^5$  or  $H^5$ "), 3.55 (ddd, J = 11.9, 6.1, 4.0 Hz, 1H  $H^5$  or  $H^5$ ").

<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H}-NMR (101 MHz, (CD<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>SO, ppm)  $\delta$  158.6(d, *J* = 180.5, *C*<sup>2</sup>), 157.62(*C*<sup>6</sup>), 150.55(d, *J* = 20.0 Hz, *C*<sup>4</sup>), 139.9(*C*<sup>8</sup>), 117.5(*C*<sup>5</sup>), 87.4(*C*<sup>1</sup>), 85.6(*C*<sup>4</sup>), 73.5(*C*<sup>2</sup>), 70.3(*C*<sup>3</sup>), 61.3(*C*<sup>5</sup>). 146.4(*C*<sup>4</sup>), 144.4(*C*<sup>8</sup>), 134.7(*C*<sup>5</sup>), 130.7(*C*<sup>6</sup>), 122.2(*C*<sup>1</sup>), 87.2(*C*<sup>1</sup>), 85.6(*C*<sup>4</sup>), 73.5(*C*<sup>2</sup>), 70.4(*C*<sup>3</sup>), 61.3(*C*<sup>5</sup>)

<sup>19</sup>F{<sup>1</sup>H}- NMR (376 MHz, (CD<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>SO, ppm) δ -52.1.

NMR values in agreement with literature.<sup>5</sup>

**RP-HPLC** (Method A):  $t_R = 4.20 \text{ min}$ , 92% conversion (std = 5).

**HRMS** (ESI) *m/z*: [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>12</sub>FN<sub>5</sub>O<sub>4</sub>Na 308.0766; found 308.0762.

#### N-6-methyl-adenosine (13)



Prepared using the general enzymatic nucleoside transglycosylation procedure A. A 50 mM nucleobase stock solution (20 mg dissolved in 2682  $\mu$ L) in mQ H<sub>2</sub>O (10.0  $\mu$ mol, 200  $\mu$ L, 1 equiv) was mixed with a 200 mM cytidine solution (243 mg in 5 mL), which was dissolved in mQ H<sub>2</sub>O (100.0  $\mu$ mol, 500  $\mu$ L, 10 equiv). Next, 300  $\mu$ L of NDT stock solution (0.3 mg/mL) was added to afford a final volume of 1 mL and the resulting reaction mixture was shaken at 950 rpm at 40 °C for 24 h. The crude reaction mixture was purified by preparative HPLC (method D) affording the target nucleoside (**13**).

<sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (400 MHz,  $(CD_3)_2$ SO, ppm)  $\delta$  8.34 (s, 1H, *H*<sup>8</sup>), 8.23 (s, 1H, *H*<sup>2</sup>), 7.81 (s, 1H, *NH*), 5.89 (d, *J* = 6.2 Hz, 1H, *H*<sup>1</sup>), 5.44 – 5.39 (m, 2H, OH<sup>2</sup>' and OH<sup>5</sup>'), 5.20 (s, 1H, OH<sup>3</sup>'), 4.61 (dd, *J* = 6.2, 4.9 Hz, 1H, *H*<sup>2</sup>), 4.15 (dd, *J* = 5.0, 3.0 Hz, 1H, *H*<sup>3</sup>), 3.97 (*app* q, *J* = 3.4 Hz, 1H, *H*<sup>4</sup>), 3.68 (*app* dd, *J* = 12.1, 3.6 Hz, 1H, *H*<sup>5'</sup> or *H*<sup>5''</sup>), 3.56 (*app* d, *J* = 11.0 Hz, 1H, *H*<sup>5'</sup> or *H*<sup>5''</sup>), 2.97 (s, 3H, NHC*H*<sub>3</sub>).

<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H}-NMR (101 MHz, (CD<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>SO, ppm)  $\delta$  155.1(*C*<sup>6</sup>), 152.4(*C*<sup>2</sup>), 148.1(*C*<sup>4</sup>), 139.6(*C*<sup>8</sup>), 119.9(*C*<sup>5</sup>), 87.9(*C*<sup>1</sup>), 85.9(*C*<sup>4</sup>), 73.5(*C*<sup>2</sup>), 70.6(*C*<sup>3</sup>), 61.6(*C*<sup>5</sup>), 26.9(*C*H<sub>3</sub>).

NMR values in agreement with literature.<sup>4</sup>

**RP-HPLC** (Method A):  $t_R = 3.04 \text{ min}, 99\%$  conversion (std = 1).

**HRMS** (ESI) m/z: [M+H]<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>16</sub>N<sub>5</sub>O<sub>4</sub> 282.1197; found 282.1194.

#### 6-dimethylamino-adenosine (14)



Prepared using the general enzymatic nucleoside transglycosylation procedure A. A 50 mM nucleobase stock solution (12 mg dissolved in 1471  $\mu$ L) in mQ H<sub>2</sub>O (10.0  $\mu$ mol, 200  $\mu$ L, 1 equiv) was mixed with a 100 mM cytidine solution (243 mg in 10 mL), which was dissolved in mQ H<sub>2</sub>O (50.0  $\mu$ mol, 500  $\mu$ L, 5 equiv). Next, 200  $\mu$ L of NDT stock solution (0.2 mg/mL) was added alongside 100 uL of mQ H<sub>2</sub>O to afford a final volume of 1 mL and the resulting reaction mixture was shaken at 950 rpm at 40 °C for 24 h. The crude reaction mixture was purified by preparative HPLC (method D) affording the target nucleoside (**14**).

<sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (400 MHz,  $(CD_3)_2SO$ , ppm)  $\delta$  8.33 (s, 1H,  $H^2$  or  $H^8$ ), 8.21 (s, 1H,  $H^2$  or  $H^8$ ), 5.92 (d, J = 5.9 Hz, 1H,  $H^1$ ), 5.35 - 5.29 (m, 1H,  $OH^2$ ), 5.22 (dd, J = 6.8, 4.7 Hz, 1H  $OH^5$ ), 5.05 (d, J = 4.5 Hz, 1H,  $OH^3$ ), 4.58 (*app* q, J = 5.1 Hz, 1H,  $H^2$ ), 4.20 - 4.13 (*m*, 1H,  $H^3$ ), 3.97 (*app* q, J = 3.6 Hz, 1H,  $H^4$ ), 3.68 (ddd, J = 12.1, 4.5, 3.6 Hz, 1H,  $H^5$  or  $H^5$ "), 3.57 (ddd, J = 12.0, 6.7, 3.8 Hz, 1H,  $H^5$  or  $H^5$ "), 3.46 (s, 6H, CH<sub>3</sub>).

<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H}-NMR (101 MHz,  $(CD_3)_2$ SO, ppm)  $\delta$  154.3( $C^4$  or  $C^5$  or  $C^6$ ), 151.7( $C^2$  or  $C^8$ ), 149.9 ( $C^4$  or  $C^5$  or  $C^6$ ), 138.6( $C^2$  or  $C^8$ ), 119.8( $C^4$  or  $C^5$  or  $C^6$ ), 87.8( $C^1$ ), 85.7( $C^4$ ), 73.5( $C^2$ ), 70.5( $C^3$ ), 61.5( $C^5$ ), 37.8 (NCH<sub>3</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>).

NMR values in agreement with literature.<sup>3</sup>

**RP-HPLC** (Method A):  $t_R = 4.2 \text{ min}$ , 97% conversion (std = 1).

**HRMS** (ESI) m/z: [M+H]<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>18</sub>N<sub>5</sub>O<sub>4</sub> 296.1353; found 296.1350.

#### 2-bromo-1-deaza-ribosyl-purine (15)



Prepared using the general enzymatic nucleoside transglycosylation procedure A. A 50 mM nucleobase stock solution (14.2 mg dissolved in 1434  $\mu$ L) in mQ H<sub>2</sub>O (10.0  $\mu$ mol, 200  $\mu$ L, 1 equiv) was mixed with a 100 mM cytidine solution (243 mg in 10 mL), which was dissolved in mQ H<sub>2</sub>O (50.0  $\mu$ mol, 500  $\mu$ L, 5 equiv). Next, 100  $\mu$ L of NDT stock solution (0.1 mg/mL) was added alongside 200 uL of mQ H<sub>2</sub>O to afford a final volume of 1 mL and the resulting reaction mixture was shaken at 950 rpm at 40 °C for 24 h. The crude reaction mixture was purified by preparative HPLC (method D) affording the target nucleoside (**15**).

<sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (400 MHz, (CD<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>SO, ppm)  $\delta$  8.76 (s, 1H, *C*<sup>8</sup>), 8.12 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H, *H*<sup>6</sup>), 7.62 – 7.49 (m, 1H, *H*<sup>1</sup>), 6.01 (d, *J* = 5.9 Hz, 1H, *H*<sup>1</sup>), 5.51 (s, 1H, OH<sup>2</sup>), 5.25 (s, 1H OH<sup>3</sup>), 5.02 (t, *J* = 5.5 Hz, 1H, OH<sup>5</sup>), 4.61 (*app* t, *J* = 5.5 Hz, 1H, H<sup>2</sup>), 4.17 (*app* t, *J* = 4.2 Hz, 1H H<sup>3</sup>), 3.97 (*app* q, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 1H, H<sup>4</sup>), 3.68 (*app* dd, *J* = 10.6, 5.9 Hz, 1H, H<sup>5</sup> or H<sup>5</sup>), 3.62 – 3.49 (m, 1H, H<sup>5</sup> or H<sup>5</sup>).

<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H}-NMR (101 MHz, (CD<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>SO, ppm)  $\delta$  146.4(*C*<sup>4</sup>), 144.4(*C*<sup>8</sup>), 134.7(*C*<sup>5</sup>), 130.7(*C*<sup>6</sup>), 122.2(*C*<sup>1</sup>), 87.2(*C*<sup>1</sup>), 85.6(*C*<sup>4</sup>), 73.5(*C*<sup>2</sup>), 70.4(*C*<sup>3</sup>), 61.3(*C*<sup>5</sup>). Missing C2 due to poor signal strength.

**RP-HPLC** (Method A):  $t_R = 6.10 \text{ min}$ , 96% conversion (std = 1).

**HRMS** (ESI) *m/z*: [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>12</sub>BrN<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>Na 351.9903; found 351.9902.

#### 8-bromo-1-deaza-N3-ribosyl-purine (16)



Prepared using the general enzymatic nucleoside transglycosylation procedure A. A 50 mM nucleobase stock solution (20 mg dissolved in 2020  $\mu$ L) in DMSO (10.0  $\mu$ mol, 200  $\mu$ L, 1 equiv) was mixed with a 200 mM cytidine solution (486 mg in 10 mL), which was dissolved in mQ

 $H_2O$  (50.0 µmol, 500 µL, 10 equiv). Next, 300 µL of NDT stock solution (0.3 mg/mL) was added to afford a final volume of 1 mL and the resulting reaction mixture was shaken at 950 rpm at 40 °C for 24 h. The crude reaction mixture was purified by preparative HPLC (method D) affording the target nucleoside **16**.

<sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (400 MHz,  $(CD_3)_2$ SO, ppm)  $\delta$  8.70 (dd, J = 6.6, 1.1 Hz, 1H,  $H^2$ ), 8.31 (dd, J = 7.7, 1.0 Hz, 1H,  $H^6$ ), 7.35 (dd, J = 7.7, 6.6 Hz, 1H,  $H^1$ ), 6.42 (d, J = 4.1 Hz, 1H,  $H^1$ ), 5.73 (d, J = 5.7 Hz, 1H,  $OH^2$ ), 5.49 (dd, J = 5.8, 4.7 Hz, 1H,  $OH^5$ ), 5.29 – 5.21 (m, 1H,  $OH^3$ ), 4.39 (*app* qd, J = 4.1, 1.8 Hz, 1H,  $H^2$ ), 4.13 (m, 2H,  $H^3$ ' and  $H^4$ ), 3.84 (ddd, J = 12.3, 4.8, 2.2 Hz, 1H,  $H^5$ ' or  $H^5$ ), 3.70 (ddd, J = 12.3, 6.0, 2.3 Hz, 1H,  $H^5$ ' or  $H^5$ ).

<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H}-NMR (101 MHz, (CD<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>SO, ppm)  $\delta$  151.0(*C*<sup>4</sup>), 148.6(*C*<sup>8</sup>), 143.6(*C*<sup>5</sup>), 128.9(*C*<sup>6</sup>), 128.3(*C*<sup>2</sup>), 113.6(*C*<sup>1</sup>), 94.3(*C*<sup>1</sup>), 86.1(*C*<sup>4</sup>), 75.3(*C*<sup>2</sup>), 69.4(*C*<sup>3</sup>), 60.3(*C*<sup>5</sup>).

**RP-HPLC** (Method A):  $t_R = 4.21 \text{ min}$ , 61% conversion (std = 4).

**HRMS** (ESI) m/z: [M+H]<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>13</sub><sup>79</sup>BrN<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub> 330.0084; found 330.0079.

5-iodo-uridine (18)



Prepared using the general enzymatic nucleoside transglycosylation procedure A. A 50 mM nucleobase stock solution (12 mg dissolved in 1008  $\mu$ L) in DMSO (10.0  $\mu$ mol, 200  $\mu$ L, 1 equiv) was mixed with a 200 mM cytidine solution (486 mg in 10 mL), which was dissolved in mQ H<sub>2</sub>O (100.0  $\mu$ mol, 500  $\mu$ L, 10 equiv). Next, 300  $\mu$ L of NDT stock solution (0.3 mg/mL) to afford a final volume of 1 mL and the resulting reaction mixture was shaken at 950 rpm at 40 °C for 24 h. The crude reaction mixture was purified by preparative HPLC (method D) affording the target nucleoside **18**.

**RP-HPLC** (Method A):  $t_R = 3.75$  min, 29% conversion (std = 1).

Characterisation of the target nucleoside was confirmed through <sup>1</sup>H NMR in comparison with the large-scale characterisation.

#### 5-fluorouridine (19)



Prepared using the general enzymatic nucleoside transglycosylation procedure A. A 50 mM nucleobase stock solution (11 mg dissolved in 1691  $\mu$ L) in H<sub>2</sub>O (10.0  $\mu$ mol, 200  $\mu$ L, 1 equiv) was mixed with a 200 mM 5-methyluridine solution (516 mg in 10 mL), which was dissolved in mQ H<sub>2</sub>O (100.0  $\mu$ mol, 500  $\mu$ L, 10 equiv). Next, 300  $\mu$ L of NDT stock solution (0.3 mg/mL) to afford a final volume of 1 mL and the resulting reaction mixture was shaken at 950 rpm at 40 °C for 24 h. The crude reaction mixture was purified by preparative HPLC (method D) affording the target nucleoside (**19**).

<sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (400 MHz, (CD<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>SO, ppm)  $\delta$  11.83 (s, 1H, *NH*), 8.14 (s, 1H, *H*<sup>6</sup>), 5.73 (dd, *J* = 4.6, 1.9 Hz, 1H, *H*<sup>1</sup>), 5.35 (d, *J* = 5.2 Hz, 1H, OH<sup>2</sup>), 5.21 (t, *J* = 4.9 Hz, 1H, OH<sup>5</sup>), 5.04 (s, 1H, OH<sup>3</sup>), 4.00 (*app* dq, *J* = 9.6, 4.8 Hz, 2H, H<sup>3</sup> and H<sup>2</sup>), 3.83 (*app* q, *J* = 3.2 Hz, 1H, H<sup>4</sup>), 3.71 – 3.62 (m, 1H, H<sup>5</sup> or H<sup>5</sup>), 3.56 (ddd, *J* = 12.1, 4.9, 3.0 Hz, 1H, H<sup>5</sup> or H<sup>5</sup>).

<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H}-NMR (101 MHz, (CD<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>SO, ppm)  $\delta$  164.9(*C*<sup>4</sup> or *C*<sup>2</sup>), 151.5(*C*<sup>4</sup> or *C*<sup>2</sup>), 137.7(*C*<sup>6</sup>), 107.6, 88.3(*C*<sup>1</sup>), 84.6(*C*<sup>4</sup>), 73.7(*C*<sup>2</sup>), 69.4(*C*<sup>3</sup>), 60.4(*C*<sup>5</sup>). Missing C5 due to poor signal strength.

<sup>19</sup>**F**{<sup>1</sup>**H**}-**NMR** (376 MHz, (CD<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>SO, ppm) δ –167.5.

NMR values in agreement with literature.<sup>6</sup>

**RP-HPLC** (Method A):  $t_R = 1.83 \text{ min}$ , 18% conversion (std = 2).

**HRMS (ESI)** *m/z*: [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>9</sub>H<sub>11</sub>FN<sub>2</sub>O<sub>6</sub>Na 285.0493; found, 285.0489.

#### 5-trifluorouridine (20)



Prepared using the general enzymatic nucleoside transglycosylation procedure A. A 50 mM nucleobase stock solution (15 mg dissolved in 1666  $\mu$ L) in DMSO (10.0  $\mu$ mol, 200  $\mu$ L, 1 equiv)

was mixed with a 200 mM cytidine solution (486 mg in 10 mL), which was dissolved in mQ  $H_2O$  (100.0 µmol, 500 µL, 10 equiv). Next, 300 µL of NDT stock solution (0.3 mg/mL) to afford a final volume of 1 mL and the resulting reaction mixture was shaken at 950 rpm at 40 °C for 24 h. The crude reaction mixture was purified by preparative HPLC (method D) affording the target nucleoside (**20**).

<sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (400 MHz,  $(CD_3)_2SO$ , ppm)  $\delta$  11.83 (s, 1H, N*H*), 8.83 (s, 1H, *H*<sup>6</sup>), 5.72 (d, *J* = 3.1 Hz, 1H, *H*<sup>1</sup>), 5.48 (d, *J* = 4.9 Hz, 1H, OH<sup>2</sup>), 5.31 (t, *J* = 4.4 Hz, 1H, OH<sup>5</sup>), 5.04 (d, *J* = 5.8 Hz, 1H, OH<sup>3</sup>), 4.06 (*app* q, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 1H, H<sup>2</sup>), 4.00 (*app* q, *J* = 5.0 Hz, 1H, H<sup>3</sup>), 3.90 (*app* dt, *J* = 6.2, 2.3 Hz, 1H, H<sup>4</sup>), 3.74 (*app* dt, *J* = 12.2, 3.3 Hz, 1H, H<sup>5</sup> or H<sup>5</sup>), 3.64 – 3.55 (m, 1H, H<sup>5</sup> or H<sup>5</sup>).

<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H}-NMR (101 MHz, (CD<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>SO, ppm)  $\delta$  160.0(*C*<sup>4</sup> or *C*<sup>2</sup>), 149.9(*C*<sup>4</sup> or *C*<sup>2</sup>), 142.3(*C*<sup>6</sup>), 89.4(*C*<sup>1</sup>), 84.2(*C*<sup>4</sup>), 74.3(*C*<sup>2</sup>), 68.5(*C*<sup>3</sup>), 59.3(*C*<sup>5</sup>). Missing C5 due to poor signal strength.

<sup>19</sup>F{<sup>1</sup>H}-NMR (376 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>SO, ppm) δ -61.5.

NMR values in agreement with literature.<sup>1</sup>

**RP-HPLC** (Method A):  $t_R = 3.80 \text{ min}$ , 29% conversion (std = 1).

HRMS (ESI) *m*/*z*: [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>11</sub>F<sub>3</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>6</sub>Na 335.0459; found, 335.0456

#### 5-ethynyluridine (21)



Prepared using the general enzymatic nucleoside transglycosylation procedure A. A 50 mM nucleobase stock solution (15 mg dissolved in 2204  $\mu$ L) in DMSO (10.0  $\mu$ mol, 200  $\mu$ L, 1 equiv) was mixed with a 200 mM cytidine solution (486 mg in 10 mL), which was dissolved in mQ H<sub>2</sub>O (100.0  $\mu$ mol, 500  $\mu$ L, 10 equiv). Next, 300  $\mu$ L of NDT stock solution (0.3 mg/mL) to afford a final volume of 1 mL and the resulting reaction mixture was shaken at 950 rpm at 40 °C for 24 h. The crude reaction mixture was purified by preparative HPLC (method D) affording the target nucleoside (**21**).

<sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (400 MHz,  $(CD_3)_2SO$ , ppm)  $\delta$  11.63 (s, 1H, N*H*), 8.38 (s, 1H, *H*<sup>6</sup>), 5.75 (d, *J* = 4.6 Hz, 1H, *H*<sup>1</sup>), 5.42 (d, *J* = 5.3 Hz, 1H, OH<sup>2</sup>), 5.23 (t, *J* = 4.8 Hz, 1H, OH<sup>5</sup>), 5.06 (d, *J* = 5.3 Hz, 1H, OH<sup>3</sup>), 4.10 (s, 1H, C*H*), 4.05 (*app* q, *J* = 5.0 Hz, 1H, *H*<sup>2</sup>), 3.99 (*app* q, *J* = 4.9 Hz, 1H, *H*<sup>3</sup>), 3.87 (dd, *J* = 4.8, 2.7 Hz, 1H, *H*<sup>4</sup>), 3.69 (ddd, *J* = 12.1, 4.9, 3.0 Hz, 1H, *H*<sup>5'</sup> or *H*<sup>5''</sup>), 3.58 (ddd, *J* = 12.1, 4.8, 2.7 Hz, 1H, *H*<sup>5''</sup>).

<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H}-NMR (101 MHz, (CD<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>SO, ppm)  $\delta$  161.6(*C*<sup>4</sup> or *C*<sup>2</sup>), 149.6(*C*<sup>4</sup> or *C*<sup>2</sup>), 144.6(*C*<sup>6</sup>), 97.6(*C*CH), 88.4(*C*<sup>1</sup>), 84.7(*C*<sup>5</sup>*C*), 83.6(*C*<sup>4</sup>), 76.3(*C*<sup>5</sup>), 73.9(*C*<sup>2</sup>), 69.3(*C*<sup>3</sup>), 60.2(*C*<sup>5</sup>).

NMR values in agreement with literature.8

**RP-HPLC** (Method A):  $t_R = 3.1 \text{ min}$ , 39% conversion (std = 2).

HRMS (ESI) *m/z*: [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>12</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>6</sub>Na 291.0588; found, 291.0584

#### 5-azidouridine (22)



Prepared using the general enzymatic nucleoside transglycosylation procedure A. A 50 mM nucleobase stock solution (11 mg dissolved in 1316  $\mu$ L) in DMSO (10.0  $\mu$ mol, 200  $\mu$ L, 1 equiv) was mixed with a 200 mM cytidine solution (486 mg in 10 mL), which was dissolved in mQ H<sub>2</sub>O (100.0  $\mu$ mol, 500  $\mu$ L, 10 equiv). Next, 300  $\mu$ L of NDT stock solution (0.3 mg/mL) to afford a final volume of 1 mL and the resulting reaction mixture was shaken at 950 rpm at rt for 24 h. The crude reaction mixture was purified by preparative HPLC (method D) affording the target nucleoside (**22**).

<sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (400 MHz,  $(CD_3)_2$ SO, ppm)  $\delta$  11.54 (s, 1H, N*H*), 8.08 (s, 1H, *H*<sup>6</sup>), 5.77 (d, *J* = 5.2 Hz, 1H. *H*<sup>1</sup>), 5.39 (d, *J* = 5.6 Hz, 1H, OH<sup>2</sup>), 5.16 – 5.02 (m, 2H, OH<sup>3</sup> and OH<sup>5</sup>), 4.08 – 4.00 (m, 3H, *H*<sup>2</sup> and *CH*), 3.97 (*app* q, *J* = 4.9 Hz, 1H, , *H*<sup>3</sup>), 3.88 – 3.80 (m, 1H, *H*<sup>4</sup>), 3.66 (ddd, *J* = 12.0, 5.3, 3.4 Hz, 1H, , *H*<sup>5</sup> or *H*<sup>5</sup>), 3.60 – 3.49 (m, 1H, , *H*<sup>5</sup> or *H*<sup>5</sup>).

<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H}-NMR (101 MHz, (CD<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>SO, ppm)  $\delta$  164.0(*C*<sup>4</sup>), 150.7(*C*<sup>2</sup>), 140.1(*C*<sup>6</sup>), 108.4(*C*<sup>5</sup>), 88.4(*C*<sup>1</sup>), 85.3(*C*<sup>4</sup>), 74.0(*C*<sup>2</sup>), 70.1(*C*<sup>3</sup>), 61.2(*C*<sup>5</sup>), 47.4(*C*<sup>5</sup>*C*H).

NMR values in agreement with literature.9

**RP-HPLC** (Method A):  $t_R = 3.2 \text{ min}$ , 35% conversion (std = 1).

**HRMS (ESI)** *m/z*: [M-H]<sup>-</sup> calcd for C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>12</sub>N<sub>5</sub>O<sub>6</sub> 298.0793; found, 298.0792

#### 5-fluorocytidine (23)



Prepared using the general enzymatic nucleoside transglycosylation procedure A. A 50 mM nucleobase stock solution (14 mg dissolved in 2169  $\mu$ L) in H<sub>2</sub>O (10.0  $\mu$ mol, 200  $\mu$ L, 1 equiv) was mixed with a 200 mM 5-methyluridine solution (516 mg in 10 mL), which was dissolved in mQ H<sub>2</sub>O (100.0  $\mu$ mol, 500  $\mu$ L, 10 equiv). Next, 300  $\mu$ L of NDT stock solution (0.3 mg/mL) to afford a final volume of 1 mL and the resulting reaction mixture was shaken at 950 rpm at 40 °C for 24 h. The crude reaction mixture was purified by preparative HPLC (method D) affording the target nucleoside (**23**).

<sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (500 MHz, (CD<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>SO, ppm)  $\delta$  8.21 (d, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H, *H*6), 7.73 (s, 1H, N*H*), 7.50 (s, 1H, N*H*), 5.72 (dd, *J* = 3.9, 1.9 Hz, 1H, *H*<sup>1</sup>), 5.33 (d, *J* = 5.2 Hz, 1H, OH<sup>3'</sup> or OH<sup>2'</sup>), 5.19 (t, *J* = 5.0 Hz, 1H OH<sup>5'</sup>), 4.98 (d, *J* = 5.5 Hz, 1H, OH<sup>3'</sup> or OH<sup>2'</sup>), 3.95 (*app* tt, *J* = 9.4, 5.1 Hz, 2H, H<sup>3'</sup> and H<sup>2'</sup>), 3.84 (*app* dt, *J* = 5.6, 2.9 Hz, 1H, H<sup>4'</sup>), 3.74 – 3.67 (m, 1H, H<sup>5'</sup> or H<sup>5''</sup>), 3.62 – 3.54 (m, 1H, H<sup>5'</sup> or H<sup>5''</sup>).

<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H}-NMR (126 MHz, (CD<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>SO, ppm)  $\delta$  157.3 (d, J = 13.3 Hz, C<sup>4</sup>), 154.0(C<sup>2</sup>), 136.0 (d, J = 240.1 Hz, C<sup>5</sup>), 125.7(d, J = 32.3, C<sup>6</sup>), 89.7(C<sup>1</sup>), 84.5(C<sup>4</sup>), 74.7(C<sup>2</sup>), 69.5(C<sup>3</sup>), 60.6(C<sup>5</sup>).

<sup>19</sup>F{<sup>1</sup>H}-NMR (471 MHz, (CD<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>SO, ppm) δ -167.7.

NMR values in agreement with literature.7

**RP-HPLC** (Method A):  $t_R = 1.50$  min, 18% conversion (std = 1).

**HRMS (ESI)** *m/z*: [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>9</sub>H<sub>12</sub>FN<sub>3</sub>O<sub>5</sub>Na 284.0653; found, 284.0650.

#### 5-methylcytosine (24)



Prepared using the general enzymatic nucleoside transglycosylation procedure A. A 50 mM nucleobase stock solution (8 mg dissolved in 1279  $\mu$ L) in H<sub>2</sub>O (10.0  $\mu$ mol, 200  $\mu$ L, 1 equiv) was mixed with a 200 mM 5-methyluridine solution (516 mg in 10 mL), which was dissolved in mQ H<sub>2</sub>O (100.0  $\mu$ mol, 500  $\mu$ L, 10 equiv). Next, 300  $\mu$ L of NDT stock solution (0.3 mg/mL) to afford a final volume of 1 mL and the resulting reaction mixture was shaken at 950 rpm at 40 °C for 24 h. The crude reaction mixture was purified by preparative HPLC (method D) affording the target nucleoside (**24**).

<sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (400 MHz, (CD<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>SO, ppm)  $\delta$  7.68 (s, 1H, *H*<sup>6</sup>), 7.25 (s, 1H, *NH*), 6.78 (s, 1H, *NH*), 5.80 – 5.74 (m, 1H, *H*<sup>1</sup>), 5.26 – 5.19 (m, 1H, OH<sup>2</sup>), 5.06 (t, *J* = 5.3 Hz, 1H, OH<sup>5</sup>), 4.97 – 4.91 (m, 1H, OH<sup>3</sup>), 4.00 – 3.90 (m, 2H, *H*<sup>3</sup> and *H*<sup>2</sup>), 3.80 (*app* q, *J* = 3.6 Hz, 1H, *H*<sup>4</sup>), 3.66 (ddd, *J* = 12.0, 5.2, 3.1 Hz, 1H, *H*<sup>5</sup> *or H*<sup>5</sup>'), 3.54 (ddd, *J* = 12.0, 5.5, 3.5 Hz, 1H, *H*<sup>5'</sup> *or H*<sup>5''</sup>).

<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H}-NMR (101 MHz, (CD<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>SO, ppm)  $\delta$  165.8(*C*<sup>4</sup> or *C*<sup>5</sup>), 139.3(*C*<sup>6</sup>), 101.5(*C*<sup>4</sup> or *C*<sup>5</sup>), 89.5(*C*<sup>1</sup>), 84.5(*C*<sup>4</sup>), 74.3(*C*<sup>2</sup>), 69.9(*C*<sup>3</sup>), 61.2(*C*<sup>5</sup>), 13.8(*C*<sup>5</sup>*C*). C2 missing due to poor signal strength.

**RP-HPLC** (Method A):  $t_R = 1.97$  min, 15% conversion (std = 1).

**HRMS (ESI)** *m*/*z*: [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>16</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>5</sub> 258.1085; found, 258.1082.

#### 3.3 2'-Fluoro Nucleoside Analogues

6-Bromo-1-deazapurine-2'-arabino-fluoro-ribose (29)



Prepared using the general enzymatic nucleoside transglycosylation procedure A. A 50 mM nucleobase stock solution (20 mg dissolved in 2020  $\mu$ L) in mQ H<sub>2</sub>O (5.0  $\mu$ mol, 200  $\mu$ L, 1 equiv) was mixed with a 100 mM 1-(2-Deoxy-2-fluoro-b-D-arabinofuranosyl)uracil solution (246 mg in 10 mL), which was dissolved in mQ H<sub>2</sub>O (40.0  $\mu$ mol, 800  $\mu$ L, 8 equiv). Next, 1 mL of NDT stock solution (2 mg/mL) was added to afford a final volume of 2 mL and the resulting reaction mixture was shaken at 950 rpm at 40 °C for 24 h. The crude reaction mixture was purified by preparative HPLC (method D) affording the target nucleoside (**29**).

<sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (400 MHz, (CD<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>SO, ppm)  $\delta$  8.70 (d, *J* = 1.9 Hz, 1H, *H*<sup>8</sup>), 8.27 (d, *J* = 5.2 Hz, 1H, *H*<sup>2</sup>), 7.65 (d, *J* = 5.2 Hz, 1H, *H*<sup>1</sup>), 6.58 (dd, *J* = 13.8, 4.6 Hz, 1H, *H*<sup>1</sup>), 5.98 (d, *J* = 4.9 Hz, 1H, OH<sup>3</sup>), 5.27 (ddd, *J* = 52.6, 4.6, 3.9 Hz, 1H, *H*<sup>2</sup>), 5.13 (t, *J* = 5.6 Hz, 1H, OH<sup>5</sup>), 4.47 (*app* dq, *J* = 18.8, 4.6 Hz, 1H, *H*<sup>3</sup>), 3.90 (*app* tdd, *J* = 5.1, 4.1, 0.9 Hz, 1H, *H*<sup>4</sup>), 3.77 – 3.60 (m, 2H, *H*<sup>5'</sup> or *H*<sup>5''</sup>).

<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H}-NMR (101 MHz, (CD<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>SO, ppm)  $\delta$  146.1(*C*<sup>4</sup>), 144.8(*C*<sup>2</sup>), 144.5 (d, *J* = 3.9 Hz, *C*<sup>8</sup>), 134.0(*C*<sup>5</sup>), 123.1(*C*<sup>6</sup>), 122.0(*C*<sup>1</sup>), 95.3 (d, *J* = 192.3 Hz, *C*<sup>2</sup>), 83.6 (d, *J* = 5.6 Hz, *C*<sup>4</sup>), 81.8 (d, *J* = 16.9 Hz, *C*<sup>1</sup>), 72.5 (d, *J* = 23.2 Hz, *C*<sup>3</sup>), 60.3(*C*<sup>5</sup>).

<sup>19</sup>**F NMR** (471 MHz,  $(CD_3)_2SO$ , ppm)  $\delta$  –197.95 (ddd, J = 52.8, 19.0, 13.8 Hz).

**RP-HPLC** (Method A):  $t_R = 6.56$  min, 25% conversion (std = 2).

**HRMS** (ESI) *m/z*: [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>11</sub>O<sub>3</sub>N<sub>3</sub>BrFNa 353.9860; found 353.9854.

6-Bromo-1-deazapurine-2'-fluoro-ribose (27)



Prepared using the general enzymatic nucleoside transglycosylation procedure A. A 50 mM nucleobase stock solution (20 mg dissolved in 2020  $\mu$ L) in mQ H<sub>2</sub>O (5.0  $\mu$ mol, 200  $\mu$ L, 1 equiv) was mixed with a 200 mM 2-deoxyfluorocytidine solution (246 mg in 10 mL), which was dissolved in mQ H<sub>2</sub>O (80.0  $\mu$ mol, 800  $\mu$ L, 16 equiv). Next, 1 mL of NDT stock solution (2 mg/mL) was added to afford a final volume of 2 mL and the resulting reaction mixture was shaken at 950 rpm at 40 °C for 24 h. The crude reaction mixture was purified by preparative HPLC (method D) affording the target nucleoside (**27**).

<sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (400 MHz,  $(CD_3)_2$ SO, ppm)  $\delta$  8.82 (s, 1H,  $H^8$ ), 8.27 (d, J = 5.2 Hz, 1H,  $H^2$ ), 7.66 (d, J = 5.2 Hz, 1H,  $H^1$ ), 6.39 (dd, J = 17.2, 2.4 Hz, 1H,  $H^{1'}$ ) 5.73 (d, J = 6.1 Hz, 1H,  $OH^{3'}$ ), 5.46 (ddd, J = 52.9, 4.5, 2.4 Hz, 1H,  $H^{2'}$ ), 5.17 (t, J = 5.4 Hz, 1H,  $OH^{5'}$ ), 4.52 (*app* dtd, J = 20.1, 6.6, 4.4 Hz, 1H,  $H^{3'}$ ), 4.01 (*app* dt, J = 6.8, 3.2 Hz, 1H,  $H^{4'}$ ), 3.79 (ddd, J = 12.4, 5.1, 2.7 Hz, 1H,  $H^{5'}$  or  $H^{5''}$ ), 3.61 (ddd, J = 12.4, 5.7, 3.9 Hz, 1H  $H^{5'}$  or  $H^{5''}$ ).

<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H}-NMR (101 MHz,  $(CD_3)_2$ SO, ppm)  $\delta$  145.9(*C*<sup>4</sup>), 144.4 (d, *J* = 50.4, *C*<sup>8</sup>), 134.8(*C*<sup>5</sup>), 123.2(*C*<sup>6</sup>), 122.0(*C*<sup>1</sup>), 93.5 (d, *J* = 186.4 Hz, *C*<sup>2</sup>), 86.2 (d, *J* = 33.5 Hz, *C*<sup>1</sup>), 83.8(*C*<sup>4</sup>), 68.1 (d, *J* = 16.1 Hz, *C*<sup>3</sup>), 60.0(*C*<sup>5</sup>).

<sup>19</sup>**F NMR** (471 MHz, (CD<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>SO) δ –202.8 – –204.2 (m).

**RP-HPLC** (Method A):  $t_R = 6.50 \text{ min}$ , 22% conversion (std = 6).

**HRMS** (ESI) *m/z*: [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>12</sub>O<sub>3</sub>N<sub>3</sub>BrFNa 353.9860; found 353.9869.

2-chloro-adenosine-2'-fluoro-ribose (28)



Prepared using the general enzymatic nucleoside transglycosylation procedure A. A 50 mM nucleobase stock solution (9 mg dissolved in 1068  $\mu$ L) in mQ H<sub>2</sub>O (5.0  $\mu$ mol, 200  $\mu$ L, 1 equiv) was mixed with a 200 mM 2-deoxyfluorocytidine solution (246 mg in 10 mL), which was dissolved in mQ H<sub>2</sub>O (80.0  $\mu$ mol, 800  $\mu$ L, 16 equiv). Next, 1 mL of NDT stock solution (2 mg/mL) was added to afford a final volume of 2 mL and the resulting reaction mixture was

shaken at 950 rpm at 40 °C for 24 h. The crude reaction mixture was purified by preparative HPLC (method D) affording the target nucleoside (**28**).

<sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (500 MHz, (CD<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>SO, ppm)  $\delta$  8.31 (s, 1H, *H*<sup>8</sup>), 7.80 (s, 2H, N*H*), 6.10 (dd, *J* = 16.8, 2.6 Hz, 1H, *H*<sup>1</sup>), 5.64 (d, *J* = 6.2 Hz, 1H, OH<sup>3</sup>), 5.30 (ddd, *J* = 52.7, 4.5, 2.7 Hz, 1H, H<sup>2</sup>), 5.04 (t, *J* = 5.5 Hz, 1H, OH<sup>5</sup>), 4.42 – 4.31 (m, 1H, H<sup>3</sup>), 3.90 (*app* dd, *J* = 6.8, 3.4 Hz, 1H, H<sup>4</sup>), 3.68 (ddd, *J* = 12.4, 5.2, 2.8 Hz, 1H, H<sup>5</sup> or H<sup>5</sup>), 3.52 (ddd, *J* = 12.3, 5.8, 4.0 Hz, 1H, H<sup>5</sup> or H<sup>5</sup>).

<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H}-NMR (126 MHz, (CD<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>SO, ppm)  $\delta$  157.3, 153.6, 150.3, 140.0(*C*<sup>8</sup>), 118.6, 93.9 (d, *J* = 187.4 Hz, *C*<sup>2</sup>), 86.2 (d, *J* = 33.1 Hz, *C*<sup>1</sup>), 84.5(*C*<sup>4</sup>), 68.6 (d, *J* = 15.8 Hz, *C*<sup>3</sup>), 60.7(*C*<sup>5</sup>).

NMR in agreement with literature values.<sup>10</sup>

<sup>19</sup>F{<sup>1</sup>H}-NMR (471 MHz, (CD<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>SO, ppm) δ – 204.0.

**RP-HPLC** (Method A):  $t_R = 5.63 \text{ min}$ , 73% conversion (std = 4).

HRMS (ESI) *m/z*: [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>11</sub>O<sub>3</sub>N<sub>5</sub>CIFNa 326.0427; found 326.0429.

#### 2-chloro-adenosine-2'-arabino-fluoro-ribose (30)



Prepared using the general enzymatic nucleoside transglycosylation procedure A. A 50 mM nucleobase stock solution (9 mg dissolved in 1068  $\mu$ L) in mQ H<sub>2</sub>O (5.0  $\mu$ mol, 200  $\mu$ L, 1 equiv) was mixed with a 100 mM 1-(2-Deoxy-2-fluoro-b-D-arabinofuranosyl)uracil solution (246 mg in 10 mL), which was dissolved in mQ H<sub>2</sub>O (40.0  $\mu$ mol, 800  $\mu$ L, 8 equiv). Next, 1 mL of NDT stock solution (2 mg/mL) was added to afford a final volume of 2 mL and the resulting reaction mixture was shaken at 950 rpm at 40 °C for 24 h. The crude reaction mixture was purified by preparative HPLC (method D) affording the target nucleoside (**30**).

<sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (400 MHz,  $(CD_3)_2$ SO, ppm)  $\delta$  8.27 (d, J = 2.1 Hz, 1H,  $H^8$ ), 7.88 (s, 2H, N $H_2$ ), 6.33 (dd, J = 13.8, 4.6 Hz, 1H,  $H^1$ ), 5.96 (d, J = 5.1 Hz, 1H,  $OH^3$ ), 5.37 – 5.13 (m, 1H,  $H^2$ ), 5.08 (t, J =

5.7 Hz, 1H, OH<sup>5</sup>), 4.43 (*app* dq, J = 18.9, 4.8 Hz, 1H, H<sup>3</sup>), 3.90 – 3.81 (m, 1H, H<sup>4</sup>), 3.75 – 3.59 (m, 2H, H<sup>5</sup> and H<sup>5</sup>).

<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H}-NMR (101 MHz, (CD<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>SO, ppm)  $\delta$  157.3 (*C*<sup>2</sup> or *C*<sup>6</sup>), 153.7 (*C*<sup>2</sup> or *C*<sup>6</sup>), 150.6 (*C*<sup>5</sup> or *C*<sup>4</sup>), 140.5 (d, *J* = 4.4 Hz, *C*<sup>8</sup>), 117.8 (*C*<sup>5</sup> or *C*<sup>4</sup>), 95.8 (d, *J* = 192.1 Hz, *C*<sup>2</sup>), 84.0 (d, *J* = 5.6 Hz, *C*<sup>4</sup>), 81.9 (d, *J* = 16.9 Hz, *C*<sup>1</sup>) 73.0 (d, *J* = 23.0 Hz, *C*<sup>3</sup>), 60.8(*C*<sup>5</sup>).

NMR values in agreement with literature.<sup>11</sup>

<sup>19</sup>**F NMR** (471 MHz, (CD<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>SO, ppm) δ – 198.0

**RP-HPLC** (Method A):  $t_R = 5.63$  min, conversion 25% (std = 1).

**HRMS** (ESI) *m/z*: [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>11</sub>O<sub>3</sub>N<sub>5</sub>CIFNa 326.0427; found 326.0432.

HPLC trace – non-acceptance of 5-trifluoromethyluracil with fluorinated nucleoside donors



**Figure S1a –** HPL chromatogram showing no formation of the corresponding fluorinated pyrimidine nucleosides. Retention times; 2.20 min = Nucleobase **37**, 2.71 min = 2'-fluoro-arabino-uridine, 1.62 min = 2'-fluoro-cytidine.

HPLC trace – non-acceptance of 6-dimethyladenine with fluorinated nucleoside donors



**Figure S1b –** HPL chromatogram showing no formation of the corresponding fluorinated purine nucleosides. Retention times; 2.30 min = Nucleobase **38**, 2.71 min = 2'-fluoro-arabinose-uridine, 1.62 min = 2'-fluoro-cytidine.

## 4. Protein Expression and Crystallisation

### 4.1 Expression

The coding sequence for the mutants of *Lactobacillus leichmannii* NDT (Uniprot: Q9R5V5) with an N-terminal 6-His tag, was synthesized by GenScript (with codon optimization for *Escherichia coli*) and subcloned into a pET29a+ plasmid. The plasmids were received from GenScript in the lyophilised form. Plasmid DNA was resuspended in nuclease-free water (6  $\mu$ L) according to manufacturer protocol.

Amino acid sequence of protein used in this work:

## L/NDT-WT

GSSHHHHHHSSGLEVLFQGPAMPKKTIYFGAGWFTDRQNKAYKEAMEALKENPTIDLENS YVPLDNQYKGIRVDEHPEYLHDKVWATATYNNDLNGIKTNDIMLGVYIPDEEDVGLGMELG YALSQGKYVLLVIPDEDYGKPINLMSWGVSDNVIKMSQLKDFNFNKPRFDFYEGAVY

NDT-Mutant (Tyr7 $\rightarrow$  Phe & Asp72  $\rightarrow$  Asn)

# GSSHHHHHHSSGLEVLFQGPAMPKKTI**F**FGAGWFTDRQNKAYKEAMEALKENPTIDLENS YVPLDNQYKGIRVDEHPEYLHDKVWATATYNN**N**LNGIKTNDIMLGVYIPDEEDVGLGMELG YALSQGKYVLLVIPDEDYGKPINLMSWGVSDNVIKMSQLKDFNFNKPRFDFYEGAVY

Plasmid (0.8  $\mu$ L) containing target gene pET29a+-NDT was transformed into BL21 (DE3) *E. coli* competent cells (Invitrogen) using the heat shock method. Transformants harbouring the plasmid were plated on LB agar containing 50  $\mu$ g/ mL kanamycin and incubated at 37 °C overnight. Colonies were inoculated into 10 mL LB media containing 50  $\mu$ g/ mL kanamycin and grown overnight at 37 °C while shaking gently at 200 rpm. Overnight transformants were used to inoculate 450 mL of LB media supplemented with 50  $\mu$ g/ mL kanamyc into an OD of 0.01 and incubated at 37 °C, 200 rpm until reaching an OD of ~0.4. When OD reached ~0.4 cells were induced with IPTG (0.5 mM, 2.5 mL) solution for 3 hours. The cells were harvested by centrifugation (10,000 x g for 20 min at 4 °C) and the supernatant was discarded. The cell pellet was resuspended in 10 mM sodium phosphate buffer pH 7 (~10 mL buffer per 1 g of cell pellet). The resuspended cell pellets were lysed using a French press. The resulting cell lysate was separated by centrifugation (10,000 g, 30 mins, 4 °C) and the supernatant collected.

### 4.2 Purification of *LI*NDT-WT

Binding Buffer (Buffer A): 10 mM sodium phosphate, 10 mM imidazole, 100 mM NaCl, pH 7.0 Binding Buffer (Buffer B): 10 mM sodium phosphate, 500 mM imidazole, 100 mM NaCl, pH 7.0.

The collected supernatant was filtered through a 0.45  $\mu$ M PES filter and the proteins were purified by affinity chromatography. A 5 mL His trap FF column (GE Healthcare 17525501) was fitted on an Akta Pure protein purification system and equilibrated with 5 column volumes (CV) of binding buffer A before the supernatant of the cell lysate was loaded on to the column. The flow-through was collected as the non-absorbed fraction (NAF). The column was then washed with binding buffer A for 13 CV and when the UV absorbance was stable the protein was eluted with a gradient of imidazole (Buffer B 0-100%) over 17 CV. The fractions were analysed by SDS-PAGE.

General SDS-PAGE conditions involved mixing the sample with appropriate amount of 4X SDS dye and loaded into wells of NovexTM 4-20% Tris-Glycine Mini-Gels 50:50. Gels were

run in 1x running buffer for 60 minutes at 140 V. SDS-PAGE gels were stained in Coomassie Blue for 1 hour prior to de-staining overnight at room temperature, on a shaking-platform.



**Figure S2a –** HisTRAP FF SDS PAGE gel – lane order, 1 = Marker, 2 = flow through, 3 = flow through, 4 = column wash, 5 = pure NDT fraction, 6 = pure NDT fraction, 7 = post fraction wash out.

Appropriate fractions were pooled together, and 200  $\mu$ L (400 units) of HRV 3C protease was added and dialysed over 48 hours at 4 °C into 20 mM sodium phosphate, 100 mM NaCl, pH 7.0 for his tag removal. His tag cleavage was monitored and analysed by SDS-PAGE. Once his cleavage was complete, fractions were pooled and loaded onto a 5 mL His trap FF column (GE Healthcare 17525501) using a Akta Pure protein purification system. The system was once again equilibrated with 5 column volumes of binding buffer A before loading of the pooled fractions. The flow-through was collected as the non-absorbed fraction containing the cleaved LINDT protein. This was confirmed once again by SDS-PAGE, before appropriate fractions were applied to a 5,000 MW Amicon Centrifugal filter unit to be concentrated (10 mg/mL) and calculated by nanodrop.



**Figure S2b –** SDS PAGE gel – lane order: 1 = ladder, 2 = HRV 3C protease histag removal after 24 hours, 3 = HRV 3C protease histag removal after 48 hours, 4 = pooled fractions after the second IMAC following histag removal, 5= HRV 3C protease histag removal after 30 hours.

For crystallization studies, pooled fractions were additionally purified by SEC using the following protocol (SEC buffer: 20 mM sodium phosphate, 100 mM NaCl, pH 7.0). A Superdex 200 prep grade 16/60 Size Exclusion chromatography (SEC) column was equilibrated with SEC buffer and loaded with 2.5 mL aliquots of the His Trap concentrate (10 mg/mL). The column was eluted with SEC buffer with 1 mL fractions collected and analysed by SDS-PAGE. Fractions containing NDT were concentrated using a 5,000 MW Amicon Centrifugal filter unit to 1.5 mL at a concentration of 21 mg/mL, with 0.75 mL in 10 % glycerol (20 mM sodium phosphate, 100 mM NaCl, pH 7.0) and an alternative 0.75 mL in 20 mM sodium phosphate, 100 mM NaCl, pH 7.0. This was flash frozen with N<sub>2</sub> (I) and stored at 20°C.



**Figure S2c** - Size exclusion chromatography (SEC) SDS PAGE gel – lane order, blank, HisTrap flow through, blank, HisTrap elution, blank, SEC pure fraction, SEC pure fraction, blank, SEC pure fraction.

#### 4.3 Purification of NDT-Y7F/D72N

Binding Buffer (Buffer A): 10 mM sodium phosphate, 10 mM imidazole, 100 mM NaCl, pH 7.0 Binding Buffer (Buffer B): 10 mM sodium phosphate, 500 mM imidazole, 100 mM NaCl, pH 7.0. The collected supernatant was filtered through a 0.45  $\mu$ M PES filter and the proteins were purified by affinity chromatography. A 5 mL Histrap FF column (GE Healthcare 17525501) was fitted on an Akta Pure protein purification system and equilibrated with 5 column volumes (CV) of binding buffer A before the supernatant of the cell lysate was loaded on to the column. The flow-through was collected as the non-absorbed fraction (NAF). The column was then washed with binding buffer A for 13 CV and when the UV absorbance was stable the protein was eluted with a gradient of imidazole (Buffer B 0-100%) over 17 CV. The fractions were analysed by SDS-PAGE.

Appropriate fractions were pooled together, and 500  $\mu$ L (400 units) of HRV 3C protease was added and dialysed over 24 hours at 4 °C into 20 mM sodium phosphate, 100 mM NaCl, pH 7.0 for his tag removal. His tag cleavage was monitored and analysed by SDS-PAGE. Once his tag cleavage was complete, fractions were pooled and loaded onto a 5 mL His trap FF column (GE Healthcare 17525501) using a Akta Pure protein purification system. The system was once again equilibrated with 5 column volumes of binding buffer A before loading of the pooled fractions. The flow-through was collected as the non-absorbed fraction containing the cleaved LINDT protein. This was confirmed once again by SDS-PAGE, before appropriate fractions were applied to a 5,000 MW Amicon Centrifugal filter unit to be concentrated (10 mg/mL) and calculated by nanodrop.

For crystallization studies, pooled fractions were additionally purified by SEC using the following protocol (SEC buffer: 20 mM sodium phosphate, 100 mM NaCl, pH 7.0). A Superdex 200 prep grade 16/60 Size Exclusion chromatography (SEC) column was equilibrated with SEC buffer and loaded with 10 mL of the His Trap concentrate (10 mg/mL). The column was eluted with SEC buffer with 1 mL fractions collected and analysed by SDS-PAGE. Fractions containing NDT were concentrated using a 5,000 MW Amicon Centrifugal filter unit to 4 mL at a concentration of 12 mg/mL, with 2 mL in 10 % glycerol (20 mM sodium phosphate, 100 mM NaCl, pH 7.0) and an alternative 2 mL in 20 mM sodium phosphate, 100 mM NaCl, pH 7.0. This was flash frozen with N<sub>2</sub> (I) and stored at 20°C.

General SDS-PAGE conditions involved mixing the sample with appropriate amount of 4X SDS dye and loaded into wells of NovexTM 4-20% Tris-Glycine Mini-Gels 50:50. Gels were run in 1x running buffer for 60 minutes at 140 V. SDS-PAGE gels were stained in Coomassie Blue for 1 hour prior to de-staining overnight at room temperature, on a shaking-platform.



**Figure S3** – SDS PAGE gel of the three mutants expressed. Lane 1 = ladder, lane 2 = empty, lane 3 = NDT-C lysate, lane 4 = NDT-C Histrap flow through, lane 5 = Histrap wash, lane 6 = NDT-C histrap fraction pooled, lane 7 = NDT-C cleaved with HRVC 3C, lane 8 = NDT-C following histrap cleavage, IMAC and SEC

#### 4.4 Crystallisation

*LI*NDT-2 and the Y7F/D72N mutant were concentrated to 21 mg mL<sup>-1</sup> and 12 mg mL<sup>-1</sup> respectively, in 20 mM NaH<sub>2</sub>PO<sub>4</sub> pH 7.0 buffer with 100 mM NaCl. Crystals were grown in drops containing 500 nL protein and 500 nL mother liquor. Crystals of *LI*NDT-2 were obtained in drops containing 35 % Tacsimate pH 7.0, and crystals of the Y7F/D72N mutant were obtained in drops containing 25 % Tacsimate pH 7.0. Crystals were soaked in their mother liquor containing 10 % ethylene glycol and 10 mM cytidine, which had been derived from a 100 mM stock solution in DMSO.

#### 4.5 Data Collection and Refinement

The datasets described were collected at the Diamond Light Source, Didcot, Oxfordshire U.K. on beamline I03. Data were processed and integrated using XDS<sup>12</sup> and scaled using SCALA<sup>13</sup> included in the Xia2 processing system<sup>14</sup>. Data collection statistics are provided in Table S1. Crystals for all Datasets were obtained in space group *I*2<sub>1</sub>3, with approximately the same cell dimensions and with two molecules in the asymmetric unit that constituted one third of the *LI*NDT-2 hexamer. The structures of *LI*NDT-2 were solved by molecular replacement using MOLREP<sup>15</sup> with the monomer of LLNDT (PDB code 1F8Y<sup>16</sup>) as the model. The structures were built and refined using iterative cycles in Coot<sup>17</sup> and REFMAC<sup>18</sup>, employing local NCS restraints in the refinement cycles. Following building and refinement of the protein and water

molecules in the structural complexes, residual density was observed in the omit maps at the active sites. For the WT enzyme, this could be modelled as the ribosylated enzyme with cytosine; modelling and refinement with intact cytidine gave rose to negative density between these species. For the Y7F/D72N mutant, the density was successfully modelled as cytidine.

The final structures of the ribosylated-WT/cytosine and Y7F/D72N-cytidine complexes gave  $R_{cryst}/R_{free}$  values of 0.19/0.22 and 0.16/0.19 respectively. Refinement statistics for the structures are presented in Table S1. The coordinates and structure factors have been deposited in the Protein Databank as **ribosylated-WT-***L***/NDT-**2**/cytosine (PDB code 9GN2**), and *L*/NDT-2-Y7F/D72N-cytidine (**PDB code 9GN4**) respectively.

Table	S1: Data	collection	and r	refinement	statistics	for	datasets	in this	manuscript.
Numb	ers in bra	ckets refer	to dat	a for highe	st resoluti	on s	shells.		

	LLNDT-2 ribosylated with	LLNDT-2 Y7F/D72N with		
	cytosine	cytidine		
Beamline	103	103		
Wavelength (Å)	0.976269	0.976277		
Resolution (Å)	60.82-2.41 (2.50-2.41)	61.29 – 2.48 (2.58-2.48)		
Space Group	I2 <sub>1</sub> 3	I2 <sub>1</sub> 3		
Unit cell (Å)	a = b = c = 148.98; α = β = γ	a = b = c = 150.13; α = β = γ		
	= 90.00°	= 90.00°		
No. of molecules in the	2	2		
asymmetric unit				
Unique reflections	21394 (2231)	20103 (2256)		
Completeness (%)	100.0 (100.0)	100.0 (100.0)		
R <sub>merge</sub> (%)	0.07 (1.65)	0.16 (1.56)		
R <sub>p.i.m.</sub>	0.02 (0.37)	0.04 (0.34)		
Multiplicity	40.5 (40.6)	41.6 (43.5)		
/o(l)	35.0 (3.0)	26.1 (3.9)		
Overall <i>B</i> from Wilson plot	68	47		
(Å <sub>2</sub> )				
CC <sub>1/2</sub>	1.00 (0.87)	1.00 (0.90)		
R <sub>cryst</sub> / R <sub>free</sub> (%)	0.19/0.22	0.16/0.19		
r.m.s.d 1-2 bonds (Å)	0.007	0.008		
r.m.s.d 1-3 angles (°)	1.69	1.70		

Avge main chain B (Ų)	69	51
Avge side chain B (Ų)	76	57
Avge waters B (Å <sup>2</sup> )	69	54
Avge Ligand B (Ų)	87	67

### 5. Mutant NDT-Y7F/D72N Tranglycosylation conversions

### 5.1 Ribose transglycosylations using NDT-Y7F/D72N

**Pyrimidine Modifications** 



Figure S4 – Scope reactions using mutant L/NDT-Y7F/D72N

*LI*NDT-Y7F/D72N reaction conditions were replicated using existing conditions for *LI*NDT-WT. General reaction conditions: **7** or **8** (5-10 equiv.), nucleobase (1 equiv.), solvent (DMSO:H<sub>2</sub>O,1:4), *LI*NDT-2 (100 to 300  $\mu$ g/mL).

- 6. Synthesis of 2' and 3' modified nucleosides for substrate scope transglycosylation investigations
- 6.1 Synthesis of 2',3' -dideoxy-3'-thiothymidine (31)

Intermediate **38** was synthesized according to literature protocols<sup>19</sup> followed by deprotection in acidic conditions yielding the intermediate **39** (Scheme S1). Deacylation by aminolysis with 40 % methylamine afforded **31**.



**Scheme S1.** Synthesis of **31**. Conditions: i) PPh<sub>3</sub>, EtOAc, DIAD, r.t., 16 h; ii) NaSBz, DMF, 100 °C, 24 h; iii) conc. HCl/MeOH, HO(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>2</sub>SH, DCM, rt 5 min; iv) 40 % MeNH<sub>2</sub> (aq), rt, 16 h.

5'-O-(4,4'-dimethoxytrityl)-2,3'-anhydrothymidine (**37**). To a solution of 5'-O-(4,4'-dimethoxytrityl)-thymidine (9.0 g, 16.5 mmol) and PPh<sub>3</sub> (4.8 g, 18.2 mmol) in EtOAc (45 mL) was added dropwise diisopropyl azodicarboxylate (3.6 mL, 18.2 mmol) over 12 min and the resulting solution was stirred at rt for 16 h. The reaction solution was concentrated under a vacuum and the residue was purified by flash silica column chromatography eluting with a gradient of 2 % to 20 % MeOH: EtOAc in affording **37** (6.8 g, 78 %) as a white solid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, (CD<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>SO) δ 7.63 (d, *J* = 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.41 – 7.33 (m, 2H), 7.32 – 7.15 (m, 7H), 6.88 – 6.83 (m, 4H), 5.89 (d, *J* = 3.8 Hz, 1H), 5.33 – 5.28 (m, 1H), 4.41 (ddd, *J* = 7.7, 4.9, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 3.73 (s, 3H), 3.72 (s, 3H), 3.16 – 3.03 (m, 2H), 2.62 – 2.54 (m, 1H), 2.49 – 2.42 (m, 1H), 1.78 (d, *J* = 1.2 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (101 MHz, (CD<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>SO) δ 170.7, 158.1, 158.0, 153.3, 144.6, 136.7, 135.2, 135.0, 129.6 (4C), 127.8 (2C), 127.6 (2C), 126.6, 116.1, 113.2 (2C), 113.2 (2C), 86.8, 85.8, 83.5, 77.1, 62.3, 55.0 (2C), 32.7, 13.0. HRMS (ESI): *m/z* [M+H]<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>31</sub>H<sub>31</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>6</sub><sup>+</sup> 527.2177, found 527.2170.

*3'-deoxy-3'-α-benzylthio-5'-O-(4,4'-dimethoxytrityl)thymidine* (**38**). Sodium thiobenzoate (15.0 g, 93.7 mmol) was added to a solution of **37** (6.7 g, 12.7 mmol) in anhydrous DMF (38 mL) and the reaction solution was stirred at 100 °C for 24 h. The reaction mixture was cooled to rt and diluted with EtOAc (100 mL). The solution was washed with saturated NaHCO<sub>3</sub> (2 x 90 mL) and brine (2 x 90 mL), dried with Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and evaporated to dryness under a vacuum. The crude material was purified by flash silica column chromatography eluting with a gradient of 0 % to 2 % MeOH in DCM affording **38** (3.9 g, 46 %) as a pale-yellow solid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>CN)  $\delta$  9.22 (s, 1H), 7.94 – 7.87 (m, 2H), 7.71 – 7.62 (m, 1H), 7.58 (d, *J* = 1.3 Hz, 1H), 7.54 – 7.43 (m, 4H), 7.35 – 7.15 (m, 7H), 6.84 – 6.78 (m, 4H), 6.18 (dd, *J* = 7.2, 4.7 Hz,

1H), 4.44 (q, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 4.13 – 4.09 (m, 1H), 3.71 (s, 3H), 3.70 (s, 3H), 3.44 – 3.32 (m, 2H), 2.70 (ddd, J = 13.7, 8.8, 4.7 Hz, 1H), 2.48 (ddd, J = 14.1, 8.2, 7.2 Hz, 1H), 1.56 (d, J = 1.3 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (101 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>CN)  $\delta$  190.2, 163.8, 158.8, 158.7, 150.4, 144.9, 136.4, 135.8, 135.7, 135.6, 134.1, 130.1 (2C), 129.0 (2C), 128.0 (2C), 127.9 (2C), 127.1 (4C), 126.9, 113.1 (4C), 110.3, 86.5, 84.5, 83.6, 62.6, 54.9 (2C), 39.6, 38.3, 11.5. HRMS (ESI): m/z [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>38</sub>H<sub>36</sub>N<sub>2</sub>NaO<sub>7</sub>S<sup>+</sup> 687.2135, found 687.2139.

3'-deoxy-3'-α-benzylthio-thymidine (**39**). **38** (3.8 g, 5.7 mmol) and mercaptoethanol (600 μl, 8.5 mmol) were dissolved in DCM (40 mL) and the solution was titrated with conc. HCl/MeOH (1:9) (200 μl) until complete detritylation was observed on TLC (10 % MeOH in DCM). The reaction solution was diluted with DCM (100 mL) and the organic phase was washed with saturated NaHCO<sub>3</sub> (80 mL) and brine (80 mL), dried with Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and evaporated to dryness under a vacuum. The crude material was purified by flash silica column chromatography eluting with a gradient of 0 % to 3 % MeOH in DCM to afford **39** (2.0 g, 86 %) as pale-yellow solid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, (CD<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>SO) δ 11.33 (s, 1H), 7.95 – 7.89 (m, 2H), 7.85 (d, *J* = 1.3 Hz, 1H), 7.76 – 7.66 (m, 1H), 7.61 – 7.54 (m, 2H), 6.16 (dd, *J* = 6.8, 5.6 Hz, 1H), 5.24 (app t, *J* = 5.3 Hz, 1H), 4.26 – 4.18 (m, 1H), 4.07 – 3.99 (m, 1H), 3.78 – 3.69 (m, 1H), 3.69 – 3.59 (m, 1H), 2.66 – 2.56 (m, 1H), 2.44 – 2.34 (m, 1H), 1.81 (d, *J* = 1.2 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (101 MHz, (CD<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>SO) δ 190.8, 164.2, 150.9, 136.6, 136.4, 134.7, 129.7 (2C), 127.4 (2C), 109.9, 85.0, 84.3, 61.3, 40.3, 38.5, 12.8. HRMS (ESI): *m/z* [M+H]<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>19</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>S<sup>+</sup> 363.1009, found 363.1015.

*3'-deoxy-3'-α-thiothymidine* (**31**). **39** (1.9 g, 5.2 mmol) was dissolved in 40 % aqueous methylamine (45 mL) under nitrogen and the reaction solution was stirred at r.t. for 16 h. Ethanol (20 mL) was added, and the resulting mixture was concentrated under a vacuum. The crude material was purified by flash silica column chromatography eluting with gradient of 0 % to 10 % MeOH in DCM affording **31** (1.1 g, 81 %) as a white solid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, MeOD) δ 7.95 (d, *J* = 1.2 Hz, 1H), 6.13 (dd, *J* = 7.2, 2.9 Hz, 1H), 3.95 (m, 1H), 3.90 – 3.76 (m, 3H), 3.44 (ddd, *J* = 10.2, 8.8, 7.8 Hz, 1H), 2.55 (ddd, *J* = 13.7, 7.8, 2.9 Hz, 1H), 2.37 (ddd, *J* = 13.8, 10.2, 7.2 Hz, 1H), 1.89 (d, *J* = 1.2 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (101 MHz, MeOD) δ 166.5, 152.3, 138.3, 111.0, 90.6, 85.7, 60.4, 44.1, 34.6, 12.5. HRMS (ESI): *m/z* [M+H]<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>15</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub>S<sup>+</sup> 259.0747, found 259.0755.

#### 6.2 Synthesis of 2'-amino-2',3'-dideoxyuridine (32)

The intermediate **43** was synthesized form 5'-(4,4'-dimethoxytrityl)uridine using a reported procedure<sup>20</sup> followed by Staudinger reduction to afford **32** (Scheme S2).



**Scheme S2.** Synthesis of 32. Conditions: i) (1) pivaloyl chloride, pyridine, 0 °C, 1h, (2) MsCl, 0 °C, 1 h, (3) NaBH<sub>4</sub>, KOH, MeOH, 0 °C, 16 h; ii) MsCl, pyridine, rt 16 h; iii) NaN<sub>3</sub>, DMF, 110 °C, 16 h; iv) conc. HCl/MeOH, HO(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>2</sub>SH, DCM, rt 30 min; v) PPh<sub>3</sub>, 1,4-dioxane/H<sub>2</sub>O, rt, 16 h.

 $1-(3-deoxy-5-O-(4,4'-dimethoxytrityl)-\beta-D-threo-pentofuranosyl)-uracil$ (40). 5'-(4,4'dimethoxytrityl)uridine (5.9 g, 10.8 mmol) was dissolved in anhydrous pyridine (64 mL) under nitrogen and the resulting solution was cooled to 0 °C. To this solution, pivaloyl chloride (2.3 mL, 18.4 mmol) was added dropwise, and the resulting mixture was stirred at 0 °C for 1 h. Methanesulfonyl chloride (3.4 mL, 43.3 mmol) was added and stirring was continued at 0 °C for 1h and then at rt for further 3 h. The reaction was guenched by adding 50 % agueous pyridine (4.3 mL) at 0 °C and the mixture was partitioned between chloroform (300 mL) and water (100 mL). The organic phase was washed with saturated NaHCO<sub>3</sub> (80 mL) and brine (80 mL), dried with Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and evaporated to dryness under a vacuum. The crude material was dissolved in MeOH (43 mL), and the solution was cooled to 0 °C followed by addition of a 1 M solution of KOH in MeOH (32 ml, 32 mmol) and NaBH<sub>4</sub> (820 mg, 21.7 mmol). The reaction mixture was stirred at rt for 16 h and quenched by adjusting the pH to 7 - 8 with MeOH/conc. HCI (9:1 v/v). To the mixture was added DCM (200 mL) and the organic phase was washed with water (3 x 50 mL), dried with Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and evaporated to dryness under a vacuum. The crude material was purified by flash silica column chromatography eluting with a gradient of 1 % to 5 % MeOH in DCM containing 0.2 % triethylamine to afford 40 (3.7 g, 64 %) as a white solid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO) δ 11.25 (s, 1H), 7.56 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.44 -7.17 (m, 9H), 6.93 - 6.87 (m, 3H), 5.91 (d, J = 4.9 Hz, 1H), 5.37 (d, J = 4.6 Hz, 1H), 5.35 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 4.37 - 4.29 (m, 1H), 4.19 - 4.11 (m, 1H), 3.74 (s, 6H), 3.28 - 3.22 (m, 1H), 3.21 – 3.13 (m, 1H), 2.33 – 2.23 (m, 1H), 1.78 – 1.68 (m, 1H). <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (101 MHz, DMSO) δ 163.2, 158.1 (2C), 150.5, 144.8, 142.0, 135.5, 135.4, 129.7 (2C), 129.7 (2C), 127.9 (2C), 127.7 (2C), 126.7, 113.2 (4C), 99.8, 85.6, 85.5, 75.8, 69.2, 65.0, 55.0 (2C), 34.6. HRMS (ESI): m/z [M+H]<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>30</sub>H<sub>31</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>7</sub><sup>+</sup> 531.2126, found 531.2112.

1-(3-deoxy-5-O-(4,4'-dimethoxytrityl)-2-O-mehanesulfonyl-b-D-erythro-pentofuranosyl)-uracil (41). Under nitrogen, methanesulfonyl chloride (1.6 mL, 20.5 mmol) was added to a solution of 40 (3.6 g, 6.8 mmol) in anhydrous pyridine (20 mL) and the mixture was stirred at rt for 16 h. The reaction was quenched at 0 °C with 50 % aqueous pyridine (7 mL). The mixture was partitioned between DCM (50 mL) and water (30 mL) and the organic phase was washed with saturated NaHCO<sub>3</sub> (30 mL) and brine (30 mL), dried with Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and evaporated to dryness under a vacuum. The crude material was purified by flash silica column chromatography eluting with a gradient from 0 % to 2 % MeOH in DCM containing 0.2 % triethylamine to afford **41** (3.58 g, 86 %) as a pale-yellow solid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO)  $\delta$  11.39 (d, J = 2.2 Hz, 1H), 7.53 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.44 – 7.30 (m, 4H), 7.30 – 7.22 (m, 5H), 6.96 – 6.86 (m, 4H), 6.12 (d, J = 4.8 Hz, 1H), 5.44 (dd, J = 8.1, 2.2 Hz, 1H), 5.34 (dt, J = 6.9, 4.9 Hz, 1H), 4.30 -4.21 (m, 1H), 3.74 (s, 6H), 3.26 (d, J = 4.5 Hz, 2H), 3.13 (s, 3H), 2.65 – 2.54 (m, 1H), 2.16 – 2.05 (m, 1H). <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (101 MHz, DMSO) δ 162.9, 158.1 (2C), 150.2, 144.7, 140.6, 135.4, 135.3, 129.8 (2C), 129.7 (2C), 127.9 (2C), 127.7 (2C), 126.8, 113.3 (4C), 101.0, 85.7, 83.6, 77.7, 75.7, 64.2, 55.0 (2C), 37.5, 32.5. HRMS (ESI): *m/z* [M+H]<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>31</sub>H<sub>33</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>9</sub>S<sup>+</sup> 609.1901, found 609.1910.

1-(2-Azido-2,3-dideoxy-5-O-(4,4'-dimethoxytrityl)-β-D-erythro-pentofuranosyl)-uracil (42). Under nitrogen, sodium azide (1.1 g, 17.2 mmol) was added to a solution of **41** (3.5 g, 5.7 mmol) in anhydrous DMF (50 mL), and the resulting mixture was stirred at 110 °C for 16 h. After cooling to rt, the mixture was diluted with a mixture of Et<sub>2</sub>O (300 mL) and DCM (60 mL). The organic solution was washed with water (5 x 100 mL) and dried with Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and evaporated to dryness under a vacuum. The crude material was purified by flash silica column chromatography eluting with a gradient of 0 % to 1.4 % MeOH in DCM containing 0.2 % triethylamine to afford **42** (2.9 g, 90 %) as a pale-yellow solid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO) δ 11.42 (s, 1H), 7.75 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.44 – 7.18 (m, 9H), 6.93 – 6.88 (m, 4H), 5.76 (d, *J* = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 5.23 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 4.55 (dt, *J* = 6.3, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 4.38 – 4.28 (m, 1H), 3.74 (s, 6H), 3.34 – 3.24 (m, 2H), 2.26 – 2.16 (m, 1H), 2.02 – 1.93 (m, 1H). <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (101 MHz, DMSO) δ 163.6, 158.6 (2C), 150.7, 145.1, 140.1, 135.8, 135.5, 130.2, 128.4 (2C), 128.2 (2C), 127.3, 113.8 (2C), 113.7 (2C), 101.5, 90.2, 86.4, 80.2, 66.1, 63.7, 55.5 (2C), 31.2. HRMS (ESI): *m/z* [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>30</sub>H<sub>29</sub>N<sub>5</sub>NaO<sub>6</sub><sup>+</sup> 578.2010, found 578.2057.

1-(2-Azido-2,3-dideoxy-β-D-erythro-pentofuranosyl)-uracil (43). 42 (2.7 g, 4.86 mmol) was dissolved in DCM and treated with mercaptoethanol (445 μl, 6.3 mmol) and MeOH/conc. HCl (9:1 *v*:*v*, 400 μl). The reaction solution was stirred at r.t. for 30 min, and then diluted with DCM (45 mL). The organic phase was extracted with H<sub>2</sub>O (5 x 50 mL), and the aqueous phase was

concentrated under a vacuum. The crude material was dry loaded to flash silica column and purified by eluting with a gradient of 1 % to 10 % MeOH in DCM to afford **43** (740 mg, 60 %) as a white solid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO)  $\delta$  11.37 (s, 1H), 7.99 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 5.74 (d, *J* = 1.9 Hz, 1H), 5.60 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 5.18 (t, *J* = 5.2 Hz, 1H), 4.48 (dt, *J* = 6.4, 2.3 Hz, 1H), 4.25 – 4.17 (m, 1H), 3.80 – 3.71 (m, 1H), 3.58 – 3.50 (m, 1H), 2.16 – 2.04 (m, 1H), 1.94 – 1.84 (m, 1H). <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (101 MHz, DMSO)  $\delta$  163.3, 150.3, 139.8, 101.1, 89.3, 81.4, 65.7, 60.9, 30.0. HRMS (ESI): *m*/*z* [M+H]<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>9</sub>H<sub>12</sub>N<sub>5</sub>O<sub>4</sub><sup>+</sup> 254.0884, found 254.0899.

2'-amino-2',3'-dideoxyuridine (**32**). Triphenylphosphine (1.38 g, 5.25 mmol) was added to a solution of **43** (700 mg, 2.8 mmol) in a mixture of 1,4-dioxane (12 mL) and H<sub>2</sub>O (3 mL) and the reaction mixture was stirred at rt for 16 h. The mixture was partitioned between DCM and H<sub>2</sub>O, and the aqueous phase was concentrated under a vacuum. The crude material was purified by flash C18 column chromatography eluting with gradient of 5 % to 20 % MeCN in H<sub>2</sub>O affording **32** (281 mg, 42 %) as a colourless oil. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, D<sub>2</sub>O)  $\delta$  7.89 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 5.87 (d, *J* = 8.1, 1H), 5.76 (d, *J* = 3.6 Hz, 1H), 4.50 (m, 1H), 3.87 (dd, *J* = 12.5, 3.1 Hz, 1H), 3.75 – 3.66 (m, 2H), 2.13 (dt, *J* = 13.2, 7.8 Hz, 1H), 2.00 – 1.92 (m, 1H). <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (151 MHz, D<sub>2</sub>O)  $\delta$  166.8, 152.1, 141.5, 101.7, 92.0, 80.5, 62.7, 56.0, 32.8. HRMS (ESI): *m*/z [M+H]<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>9</sub>H<sub>14</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub><sup>+</sup> 228.0979, found 228.0984.

#### 6.3 Synthesis of 2'-amino-2'-deoxyuridine (33)

Intermediate **45** was synthesized from 2'-anhydrouridine according to literature protocol.<sup>21</sup> Deprotection of **45** in acidic conditions afforded **33** (Scheme S3).



**Scheme S3.** Synthesis of **33**. Conditions: i) (1) DMTrCl, DMAP, Py/DMF, rt, 16 h, (2) CCl<sub>3</sub>CN, TEA, 95 °C, 18 h, ii) (1) NaOH, EtOH, 100 °C, 16 h, iii) TCA, HO(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>2</sub>SH, DCM, rt 1 h.

#### 5'-O-(4,4'-dimethoxytrityl)-2'-N,3'-O-(2-(trichloromethyl)oxazolino-2'-deoxy-1-(β-D-

*ribofuranosyl)uracil* (**44**). Under nitrogen, 2,2'-anhydrouridine (13.1 g, 57.8 mmol), 4,4'dimethoxytrityl chloride (20.6 g, 60.7 mmol) and DMAP (0.7 g, 5,8 mmol) were dissolved in a mixture of anhydrous pyridine (44 mL) and anhydrous DMF (35 mL) and the resulting mixture was stirred at rt for 16 h. The reaction mixture was concentrated under a vacuum and the residue was partitioned between DCM (75 mL) and water (75 mL). The organic phase was separated and washed with saturated NaHCO<sub>3</sub> (2 x 60 mL) and brine (2 x 60 mL), dried with Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated to dryness under a vacuum and co-evaporated from toluene. Under nitrogen, the residue was dissolved in trichloroacetonitrile (40 mL) and triethylamine (1.1 mL, 7.5 mmol) was added. After refluxing the reaction solution at 95 °C for 18 h, the mixture was concentrated to a dark oil, which was dry loaded to a flash silica gel column. The product was purified by eluting with a gradient of 40 % to 60 % ethyl acetate in hexane containing 0.2 % triethylamine to afford **44** (16.3 g, 42 %) as pale-yellow solid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, (CD<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>SO)  $\delta$  11.42 (s, 1H), 7.83 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.50 – 7.34 (m, 2H), 7.29 – 7.18 (m, 7H), 6.94 – 6.81 (m, 4H), 5.91 (d, *J* = 2.2 Hz, 1H), 5.63 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 5.45 (dd, *J* = 8.4, 4.5 Hz, 1H), 5.29 (dd, *J* = 8.4, 2.2 Hz, 1H), 4.14 (app dt, *J* = 8.1, 4.1 Hz, 1H), 3.73 (s, 3H), 3.72 (s, 3H), 3.48 (dd, *J* = 10.2, 7.7 Hz, 1H), 3.19 (dd, *J* = 10.2, 3.8 Hz, 1H).<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (101 MHz, (CD<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>SO)  $\delta$  163.2, 161.5, 158.1, 158.1, 150.2, 144.8, 143.6, 135.3, 135.3, 129.7 (2C), 129.6 (2C), 127.8 (2C), 127.6 (2C), 126.7, 113.2 (4C), 101.8, 93.3, 86.7, 86.2, 85.7, 76.5, 63.9, 55.1, 55.0, 54.9. HRMS (ESI): *m/z* [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>32</sub>H<sub>28</sub><sup>35</sup>Cl<sub>3</sub>N<sub>3</sub>NaO<sub>7</sub><sup>+</sup> 694.0891, found 694.0888 (see figure S143 for isotopic pattern).

2'-amino-5'-O-(4,4'-dimethoxytrityl)-2'-deoxyuridine (45). 6 M NaOH solution (30 mL, 180 mmol) was added dropwise to a solution of 44 (16.3 g, 24.2 mmol) in ethanol (60 mL), and the resulting mixture was refluxed at 100 °C for 16 h. The reaction solution was cooled to rt and evaporated to dryness under a vacuum. The residue was taken up in DCM (240 mL) and saturated ammonium chloride (150 mL). The organic phase was separated, and the aqueous phase was extracted with DCM (2 x 100 mL). The combined organic phases were dried with Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and evaporated to dryness under a vacuum. The crude material was purified by flash silica column chromatography eluting with 1-5 % MeOH in DCM containing 0.2 % triethylamine, affording the product 45 (12.6 g, 95 %) as white solid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, MeOD)  $\delta$  7.81 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.44 – 7.37 (m, 2H), 7.35 – 7.18 (m, 7H), 6.91 – 6.83 (m, 4H), 5.86 (d, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 1H), 5.32 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 4.29 (dd, *J* = 5.5, 2.9 Hz, 1H), 4.11 (q, *J* = 3.1 Hz, 1H), 3.77 (s, 6H), 3.53 (dd, *J* = 6.9, 5.5 Hz, 1H), 3.46 – 3.34 (m, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (101 MHz, MeOD)  $\delta$  166.1, 160.3 (2C), 152.7, 146.0, 142.2, 136.8, 136.6, 131.4 (4C), 129.4 (2C), 128.9 (2C), 128.1, 114.2 (2C), 114.2 (2C), 102.8, 90.3, 88.3, 86.4, 72.7, 64.7, 59.8, 55.7 (2C). HRMS (ESI): *m/z* [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>30</sub>H<sub>32</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>7</sub><sup>+</sup> 546.2235, found 546.2270.

*2'-amino-2'-deoxyuridine* (**33**). **45** (500 mg, 0.9 mmol) was dissolved in DCM containing 3 % trichloroacetic acid (12 mL) and mercaptoethanol (65  $\mu$ l, 0.9 mmol) was added. The mixture was stirred at rt for 1 h. The mixture was diluted with DCM (20 mL), neutralized with triethylamine and concentrated under a vacuum. The residue was partitioned between DCM (15 mL) and H<sub>2</sub>O (15 mL) and the separated aqueous phase was washed with DCM (2 x 5
mL). Evaporating the aqueous phase to dryness under a vacuum afforded **33** (183 mg, 82 %) as white solid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, D2O)  $\delta$  7.89 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 6.22 (d, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 1H), 5.94 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 4.58 (dd, *J* = 6.3, 3.4 Hz, 1H), 4.29 (app q, *J* = 3.6 Hz, 1H), 4.12 (t, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 1H), 3.99 – 3.75 (m, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, D2O)  $\delta$  166.0, 151.7, 141.3, 102.7, 86.6, 86.5, 68.9, 60.7, 55.9. HRMS (ESI): *m/z* [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>9</sub>H<sub>14</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>5</sub><sup>+</sup> 244.0928, found 244.0934.

# 7. Appendix



Figure S5 – <sup>1</sup>H NMR of compound 10.



Figure S7- HSQC of compound 10.

S38



Figure S8 – HMBC of compound 10.



Figure S9 – HRMS of compound 10.

Sample Name	: m		
Sample ID	1		
Data Filename	: runs_23032024_008.lcd		
Method Filename	: Admir Trans glyco Run.lcm		
Batch Filename	: runs.lcb		
Vial #	: 1-23	Sample Type	: Unknown
Injection Volume	: 10 uL		
Date Acquired	: 23/03/2024 15:14:09	Acquired by	: Shimadzu
Date Processed	: 23/03/2024 15:25:29	Processed by	: Shimadzu



Figure S10 – HPLC trace of the reaction forming compound 10.

5-lodouridine (18)







Figure S14 – HMBC of compound 18.



Figure S15 – HRMS of compound 18.

Sample Name	:6		
Sample ID			
Data Filename	: runs_25032024_004.lcd		
Method Filename	: Admir Trans glyco Run.lcm		
Batch Filename	: runs.lcb		
Vial #	: 1-64	Sample Type	: Unknown
Injection Volume	: 10 uL		
Date Acquired	: 25/03/2024 11:34:50	Acquired by	: Shimadzu
Date Processed	: 25/03/2024 11:46:10	Processed by	: Shimadzu



Figure S16 – HPLC trace of the reaction forming compound 18.

# 8-bromo-deaza-ribosyl-purine (16)



Figure S17 – <sup>1</sup>H NMR of compound 16



Figure S19 – HMBC of compound 16.



Figure S20 – HSQC of compound 16.



Figure S21 – HRMS of compound 16.



Figure S22 – HPLC trace of the reaction forming compound 16.

### 6-chloro-deaza-ribosyl-purine (11)







Figure S26 – HMBC of compound 11.



Figure S27 – HRMS of compound 11.



10



Height

509525

2672410

ID#

*Figure S28 – HPLC trace of the reaction forming compound 11.* 

5

#### 6-dimethylamino-adenosine (14)

0

Ó



S54



Figure S32 – HMBC of compound 14.



min

2.129 2.726 3.454 3.545 3.632 3.730 3.967 4.231 4.784 5.978 6.718 6.786 7.727 8.128 8.248 8.414 8.647 9.838 Total 

Height

ID#

Figure S33 – HPLC trace of the reaction forming compound 14.



Figure S34 – HRMS of compound 14.

2-bromo-deaza-ribosyl-purine (15)



Figure S36 – 13C NMR of compound 15.



Figure S38 – HMBC of compound 15.



Figure S39 – HRMS of compound 15.



Figure S40 – HPLC trace of the reaction forming compound 15.

# N-6-methyl-adenosine (13)



Figure S42 – 13C NMR of compound 13.



Figure S43 – HRMS of compound 13.





Figure S44 – HPLC trace of the reaction forming compound 13.

## 2-fluoro-ribosyl-adenosine (12)





Figure S48 – HSQC of compound 12.

13C (ppm)



Figure S49 -HMBC of compound 12.



Figure S50 – HRMS of compound 12.



Figure S51 – HPLC trace of the reaction forming compound 12.

### 5-trifluorouridine (20)



Figure S53 – 19F NMR of compound 20.



Figure S55 – HSQC of compound 20.



Figure S56 – HMBC of compound 20 showing the cross peaks from C6H to C4 and C6.



Figure S57 – HRMS of compound 20.



*Figure S58 – HPLC trace of the reaction forming compound 20.* 

### 5-fluorouridine (19)



S71



Figure S62 – HSQC NMR of compound 19.

13C (ppm)


Figure S64 – HPLC trace of the reaction forming compound 19.



Figure S65 – HRMS of compound 19.

## 5-fluorocytidine (23)



Figure S66 – 1H NMR of compound 23.



Figure S68 – 19F NMR of compound 23.



1H (ppm)

-1

Figure S70 – HSQC of compound 23.

S76

-2 -3



Figure S71 – HRMS of compound 23.



*Figure S72 – HPLC trace of the reaction to form compound 23.* 

## 5-methylcytosine (24)





Figure S76 – HMBC of compound 24



Figure S77 – HRMS of compound 24

Sample Name	: 5mec
Sample ID	:
Data Filename	: runs 25032024 015.lcd
Method Filename	: Admir Trans glyco Run.lcm
Batch Filename	: runs.lcb
Vial #	: 1-75
Injection Volume	: 10 uL
Date Acquired	: 25/03/2024 13:44:34
Date Processed	: 25/03/2024 13:55:54

Sample Type	: Unknown
Acquired by	: Shimadzu
Processed by	: Shimadzu



PDA Ch1 264nm								
Peak#	Ret. Time	Area	Height	ID#				
1	1.104	1428	534					
2	1.280	1687	663					
3	1.408	1256485	420196					
4	1.580	14131	3670					
5	1.716	21834	6044					
6	1.996	220504	47941					
7	2.144	423138	102246					
8	2.663	23397647	3993146					
9	3.298	8643	2258					
10	3.833	1134	308					
11	5.319	13480	3449					
12	5.525	6481	1407					
13	7.726	6377	3509					
14	8.138	1367	404					
15	8.249	1302	284					
16	8.419	2685	1211					
17	8.656	2816	338					
18	9.829	4795	782					
Total		25385932	4588390					

Figure S78 – HPLC trace of the reaction forming compound 24.

## 5-ethynyluridine (21)





Figure S82- HMBC of compound 21.



Figure S83 – HPLC trace of the reaction forming compound 21.



Figure S84 – HRMS trace of compound 21.

#### 5-azidouridine (22)





Figure S88 – HSQC of compound 22.



Figure S89 – HRMS of compound 22.



Figure S90 – HPLC trace forming compound 22.

#### 6-Bromo-deazapurine-2'-arabino-fluoro-ribose (29)



Figure S92 – 19F NMR of compound 29 (-73.4 ppm corresponds to TFA).



Figure S94 – HSQC of compound 29.

13C (ppm)



Figure S95 – HMBC of compound 29.



Figure S96 – HRMS of compound 29.



Figure S97 – HPLC trace of the reaction forming compound 29.

# 6-Bromo-deazapurine-2'-fluoro-ribose (27)





Figure S100 – 19F NMR of compound 27 (-73.4 ppm corresponds to TFA).



Figure S101 – HSQC of compound 27.



Description:			
Sample amount:	0.000	Sample type:	Sample
Instrument:	Shimadzu LC	Location:	1:16
Injection date:	2024-06-07 12:42:01+01:00	Injection:	1 of 1
Acq. method:	Transglycosylation run-1.5ml- min.amx	Injection volume:	10.000 µL

DAD4A,Sig=254,8 Ref=370,20 DAD4B,Sig=264,8 Ref=370,20 DAD4C,Sig=310,8 Ref=370,20



Figure S103 – HPLC trace of the reaction forming compound 27.



Figure S104 – HRMS trace of compound 27.

#### 2-chloro-adenosine-2'-fluoro-ribose (28)





Figure S108 – HMBC of compound 28.







Figure S110 – HRMS of compound 28.

Sample name:	2FD		
Description:			
Sample amount:	0.000	Sample type:	Sample
Instrument:	Shimadzu LC	Location:	1:20
Injection date:	2024-06-25 11:07:40+01:00	Injection:	1 of 1
Acq. method:	Transglycosylation run-1.5ml- min.amx	Injection volume:	10.000 µL



Figure S111 – HPLC trace of the reaction forming compound 28.

# 2-chloro-adenosine-2'-arabino-fluoro-ribose (30)





Figure S115 – HSQC of compound 30.

13C (ppm)



0	325	330 m/z	330 n/z			0		500 1000 m/z		1500		2000
Peak Mass	Display For	S Fit	RDB	Delta [ppm]	Theo. mass	Rank	Combined S	# Matched I	# Missed Iso.	MS Cov. [%]	Pattern Cov	MSMS Matc
326.0432	C <sub>10</sub> H <sub>11</sub> O <sub>3</sub> N <sub>5</sub> <sup>3</sup> <sup>5</sup> CIF <sup>23</sup> Na	75.76649679 31228	6.50	1.50	326.04267	1	96.4	5	0	97.54	100	(Collection)
326.0432	C <sub>10</sub> H <sub>8</sub> O <sub>2</sub> N <sub>8</sub> <sup>35</sup> CIF	57.82727265 37054	10.00	-1.76	326.04373	2	95.45	5	0	97.54	100	(Collection)
326.0432	C <sub>9</sub> H <sub>12</sub> O <sub>6</sub> N <sub>4</sub> <sup>35</sup> CIF	51.31598067 37275	5.00	2.34	326.04239	3	94.94	5	0	97.36	99.66	(Collection)
326.0432	C <sub>11</sub> H <sub>14</sub> O <sub>7</sub> N <sup>35</sup> CIF	36.56138930 00083	4.50	-1.78	326.04373	4	94.16	5	0	97.36	99.6	(Collection)
326.0432	C <sub>12</sub> H <sub>13</sub> O <sub>4</sub> N <sub>2</sub> <sup>3</sup> <sup>5</sup> CIF <sup>23</sup> Na	15.54606532 22849	6.00	-2.62	326.04401	5	84.55	5	0	88.39	88.07	(Collection)
326.0432	C <sub>11</sub> H <sub>3</sub> O <sub>2</sub> N <sub>10</sub> F	25.20209038 37969	15.00	3.85	326.04190	6	71.1	2	1	73.65	99.15	(Collection)
326.0432	C <sub>12</sub> H <sub>9</sub> O <sub>7</sub> N <sub>3</sub> F	9.253243761 00703	9.50	3.83	326.04190	7	63.83	2	2	66.87	86.58	(Collection)

Figure S117 – HRMS of compound 30.



Figure S118 – HPLC trace of the reaction forming compound 30.

# 2',3'-dideoxy-3'-thiothymidine (31)





Figure S120 - <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (101 MHz, (CD<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>SO) spectrum of 37.



f1 (ppm)

Figure S122 -  ${}^{13}C{}^{1H}$  NMR (101 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>CN) spectrum of 38.

# 



Figure S123 - <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, (CD<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>SO) spectrum of 39.



f1 (ppm)
Figure S124 - <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (101 MHz, (CD<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>SO) spectrum of 39. (Note: chemical shift at 40.34 ppm overlaps with solvent



f1 (ppm)

Figure S126 - <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (101 MHz, MeOD) spectrum of 31.



## 2'-amino-2',3'-dideoxyuridine (32)

Figure S127 - <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, ( $CD_3$ )<sub>2</sub>SO) spectrum of 40.



Figure S129 - <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, (CD<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>SO) spectrum of 41.



Figure S131 - <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, ( $CD_3$ )<sub>2</sub>SO) spectrum of 42.



Figure S133 - <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, (CD<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>SO) spectrum of 43.



Figure S135 - <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz,  $D_2O$ ) spectrum of 32.



*Figure S136 - <sup>13</sup>C*{<sup>1</sup>*H*} *NMR (151 MHz, D*<sub>2</sub>*O) spectrum of 32.* 

2'-amino-2'-deoxyuridine (33)





*Figure S138 - <sup>13</sup>C*{<sup>1</sup>*H*} *NMR (101 MHz, (CD<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>SO) spectrum of 44.* 



Figure S140 - <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (101 MHz, MeOD) spectrum of 45.



*Figure S142 - <sup>13</sup>C*{<sup>1</sup>*H*} *NMR (101 MHz, D*<sub>2</sub>*O) spectrum of 33.* 



Figure S143 - Simulated and experimental HRMS isotopic pattern measured for 44 ion [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>.

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