

Synthesis-Enabled Studies of the amphotericin B-based ion channel

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The treatment of choice for systemic fungal infections over the past five decades has been and continues to be amphotericin B. Evidence suggests that amphotericin B inserts into sterol-rich lipid bilayers and self assembles into a membrane-spanning ion channel that can disrupt the transmembrane cellular electrochemical gradient. We have utilized a degradative synthesis from the natural product to interrogate the structure-function relationships that underlie this prototypical small-molecule based ion channel.