



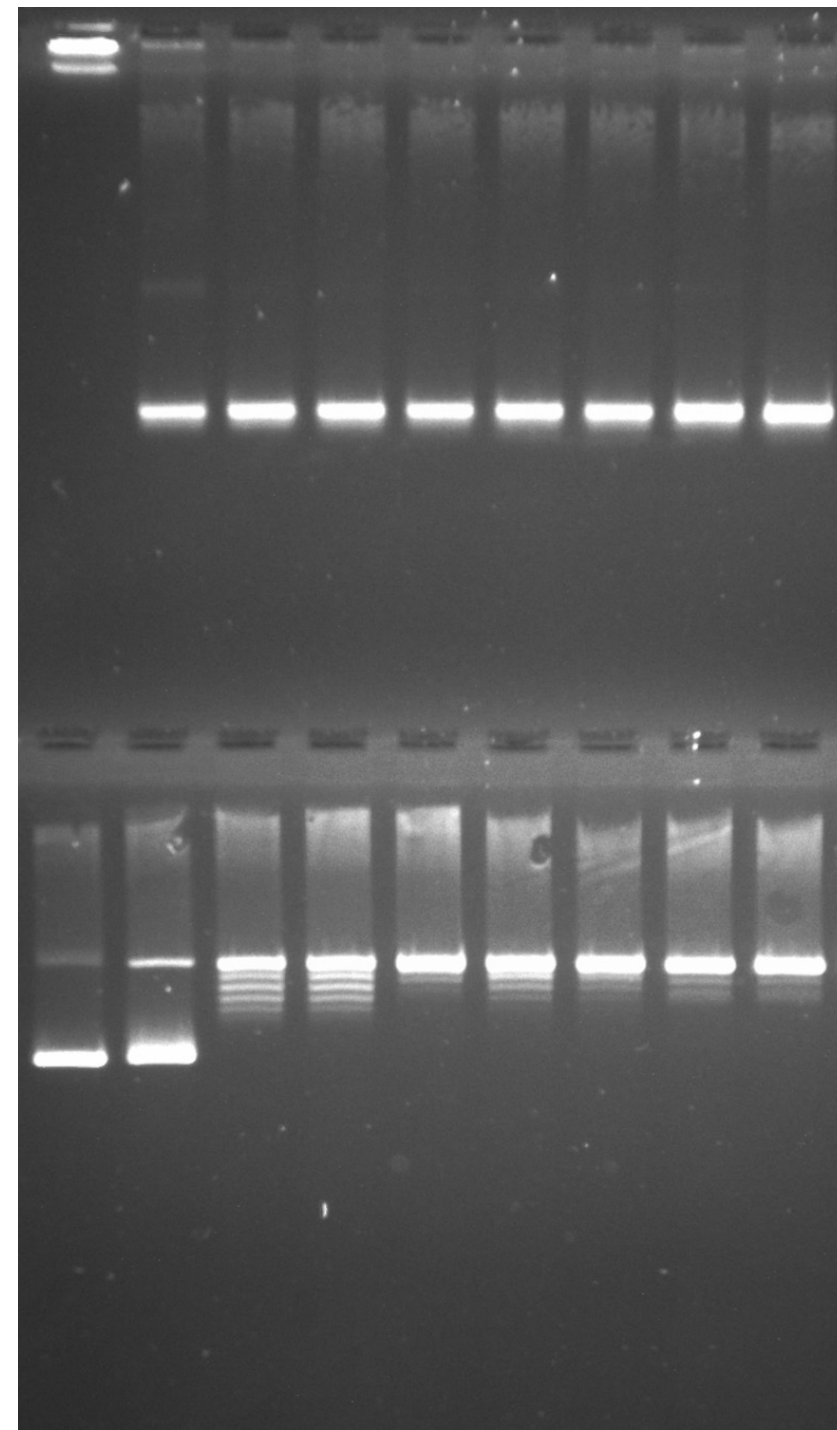
# Inspiralis

15 Years Supporting Drug Discovery

Natassja Bush

Inaphaea Lab Launch

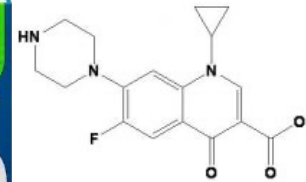
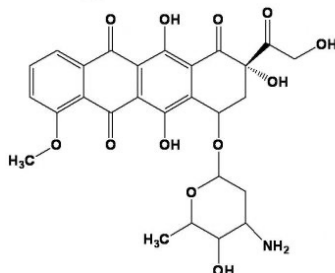
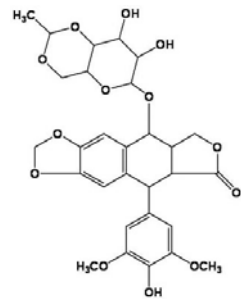
26 September 2023



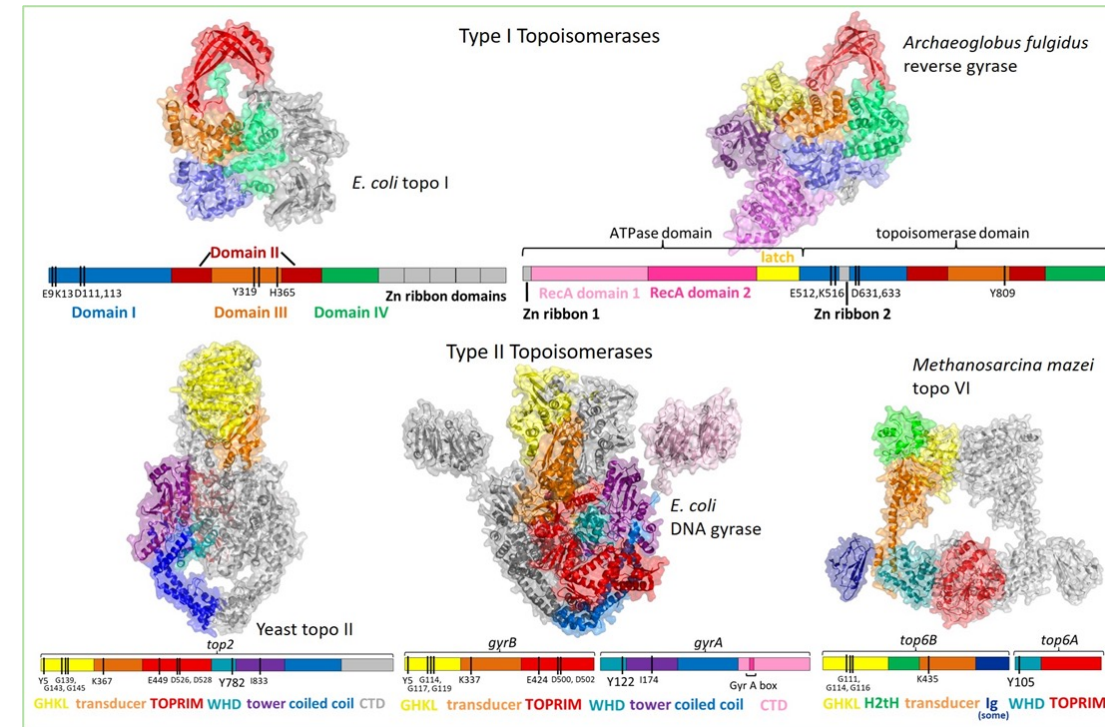
# Who are we?

- Global suppliers of DNA modifying enzymes and DNA substrates
- Supplied alone or in easy-to-use kits
- DNA topoisomerases
  - essential enzymes
  - control DNA topology
  - validated drug targets

## Cancer drugs



## Antibiotics



Bush et al. 2018



# How we support drug discovery:

- Contract research or collaborations/consortiums
- Preclinical development
  - Inhibitor screening
  - Hit to lead/lead optimisation –  $IC_{50}$ s
  - Mode of Action studies
    - Complex biochemical assays
    - Crystallography
    - Biophysical analysis
  - Custom protein production
    - Mutant protein production
    - Alternative species/other proteins

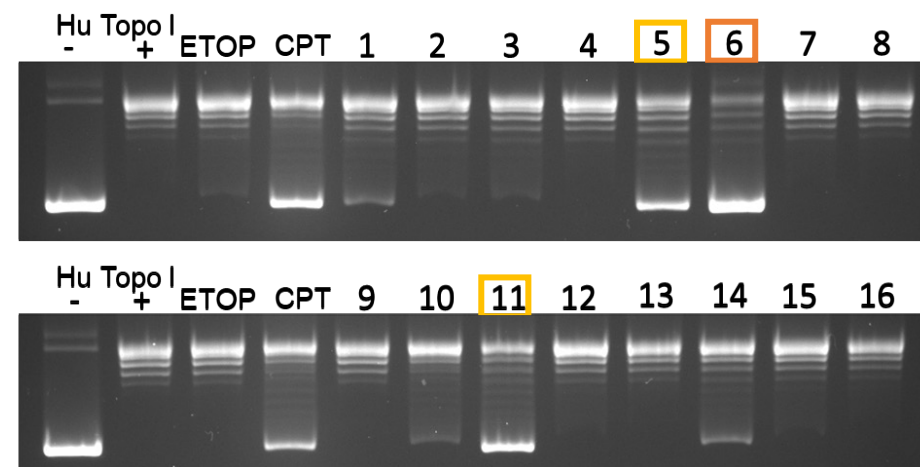
# Case Study 1 – Hit identification

- Pharmaceutical company – looking for novel human topoisomerase inhibitors

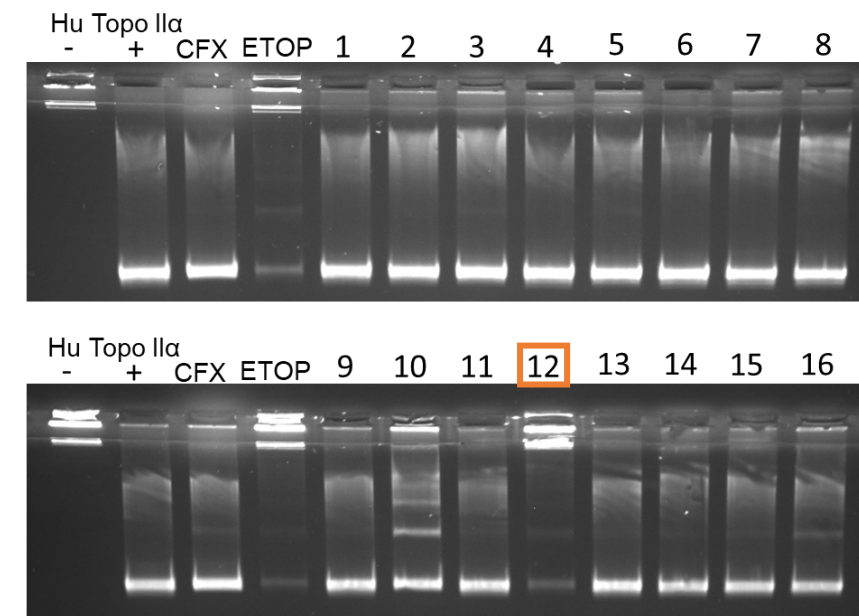
Compound	Human topo I relaxation		
	% Inhibition at 100 $\mu$ M		
	Assay 1	Assay 2	Avg
<b>Etoposide (ETOP)</b>	0.81	2.33	<b>1.57</b>
<b>Camptothecin (CPT)</b>	59.07	59.55	<b>59.31</b>
<b>1</b>	14.02	10.28	<b>12.15</b>
<b>2</b>	0.29	2.39	<b>1.34</b>
<b>3</b>	1.48	5.76	<b>3.62</b>
<b>4</b>	0.00	4.47	<b>2.23</b>
<b>5</b>	55.40	49.63	<b>52.52</b>
<b>6</b>	90.33	91.42	<b>90.88</b>
<b>7</b>	0.00	0.47	<b>0.24</b>
<b>8</b>	0.00	2.43	<b>2.00</b>
<b>9</b>	0.00	2.66	<b>1.33</b>
<b>10</b>	3.86	5.42	<b>4.64</b>
<b>11</b>	62.93	56.69	<b>59.81</b>
<b>12</b>	0.00	0.97	<b>0.48</b>
<b>13</b>	0.00	1.46	<b>0.73</b>
<b>14</b>	16.47	12.41	<b>14.44</b>
<b>15</b>	0.12	1.93	<b>1.03</b>
<b>16</b>	0.00	0.25	<b>0.13</b>

Compound	Human topo II $\alpha$ decatenation		
	% Inhibition at 100 $\mu$ M		
	Assay 1	Assay 2	Avg
<b>Ciprofloxacin (CFX)</b>	6.77	0.00	<b>3.39</b>
<b>Etoposide (ETOP)</b>	84.27	90.77	<b>87.52</b>
<b>1</b>	4.53	1.53	<b>3.03</b>
<b>2</b>	6.20	0.00	<b>3.10</b>
<b>3</b>	0.24	5.98	<b>3.11</b>
<b>4</b>	0.00	0.01	<b>0.00</b>
<b>5</b>	2.34	1.58	<b>1.96</b>
<b>6</b>	1.02	0.00	<b>0.51</b>
<b>7</b>	4.58	6.53	<b>5.56</b>
<b>8</b>	6.48	0.22	<b>3.35</b>
<b>9</b>	2.19	0.00	<b>1.09</b>
<b>10</b>	14.38	33.90	<b>24.14</b>
<b>11</b>	3.71	3.86	<b>3.78</b>
<b>12</b>	84.86	86.68	<b>85.77</b>
<b>13</b>	0.00	8.02	<b>4.01</b>
<b>14</b>	0.00	0.00	<b>0</b>
<b>15</b>	0.00	0.00	<b>0</b>
<b>16</b>	0.00	5.79	<b>2.6</b>

Human topo I relaxation assays - Test Compounds 1-16



Human topo II $\alpha$  relaxation assays - Test Compounds 1-16



# Case Study 2 – Lead Optimisation

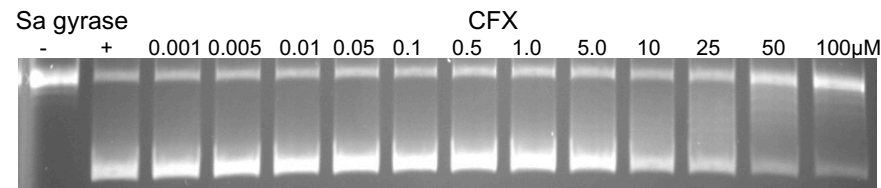
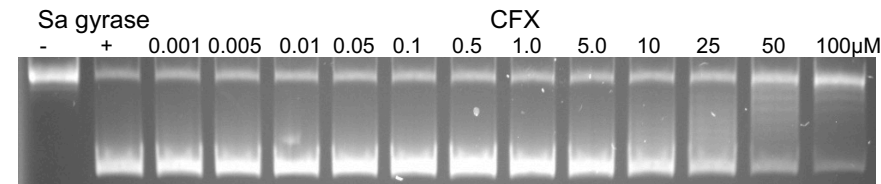
- Pharmaceutical company – looking for novel antibiotics
- Medicinal chemistry effort to improve lead compound

Compound	<i>S.aureus</i> gyrase supercoiling IC <sub>50</sub> (μM)			<i>S.aureus</i> topo IV decatenation IC <sub>50</sub> (μM)			<i>S.aureus</i> S84L gyrase supercoiling IC <sub>50</sub> (μM)		
	Assay 1	Assay 2	Avg	Assay 1	Assay 2	Avg	Assay 1	Assay 2	Avg
CFX	14.20	16.15	<b>15.18</b>	1.15	0.81	<b>0.98</b>	>500	>500	<b>&gt;500</b>
Lead compound	1.60	1.73	<b>1.67</b>	2.94	2.34	<b>2.64</b>	21.45	17.78	<b>19.61</b>
Compound 1	3.00	3.70	<b>3.35</b>	2.13	2.09	<b>2.11</b>	-	-	-
Compound 2	0.56	0.73	<b>0.65</b>	0.94	0.87	<b>0.91</b>	2.33	1.90	<b>2.11</b>

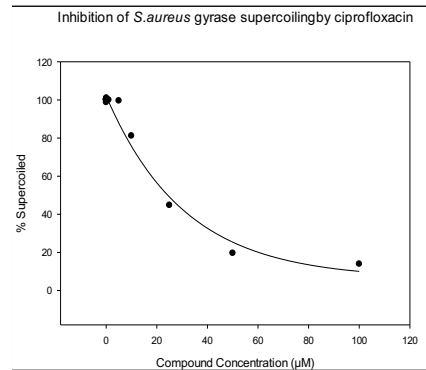
Compound	Human Topo II decatenation IC <sub>50</sub> (μM)		
	Assay 1	Assay 2	Avg
Etoposide	52.3	37.8	<b>45.05</b>
Lead compound	~250	100-250	<b>250</b>

## Gel Images: *S. aureus* gyrase supercoiling assays

### Ciprofloxacin

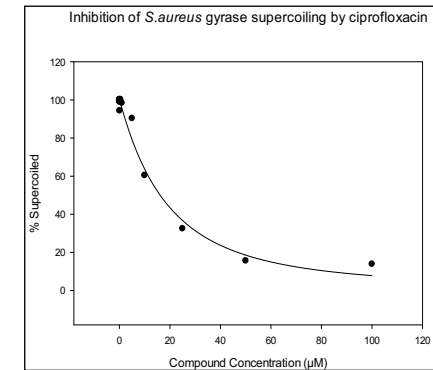


### Assay 1



Calculated IC<sub>50</sub> 14.20 μM

### Assay 2



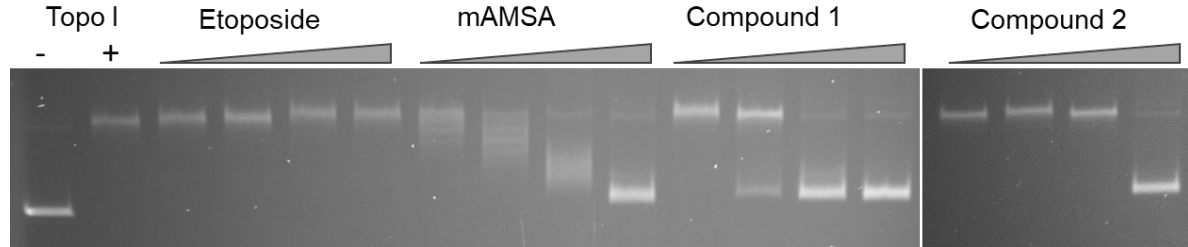
Calculated IC<sub>50</sub> 16.15 μM

# Case Study 3 – Mode of Action: Biochemical Assays

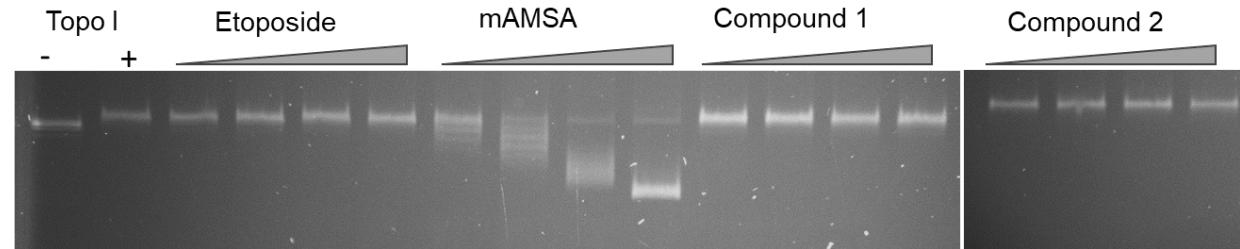
- Academic group – looking at novel Human topoisomerase inhibitors

## Assay to check for Intercalation

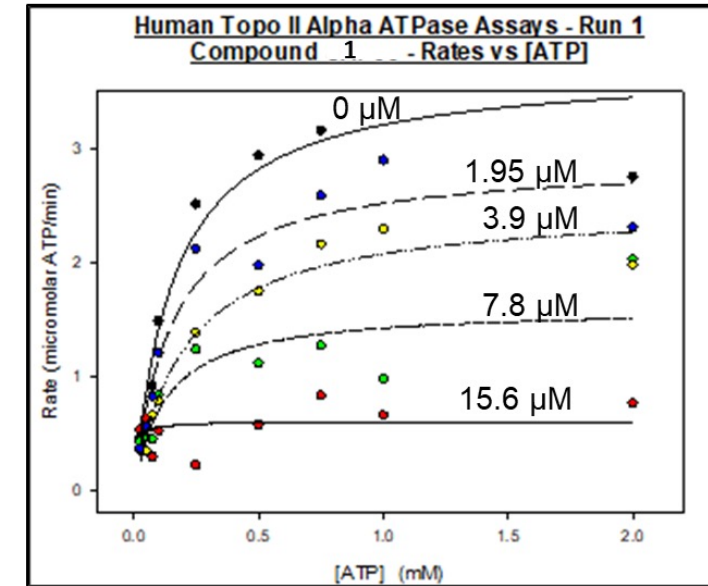
Wheatgerm Topo I Unwinding Assay with Supercoiled pBR322 Substrate



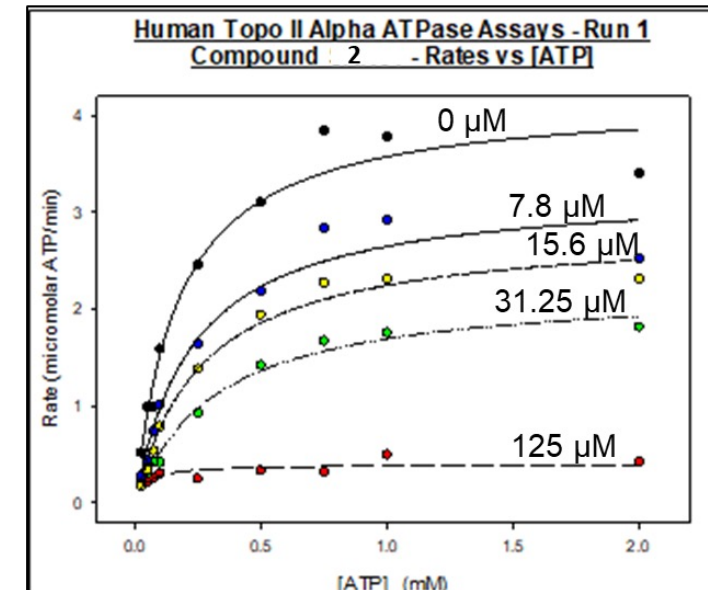
Wheatgerm Topo I Unwinding Assay with Relaxed pBR322 Substrate



ATPase inhibition Compound 1



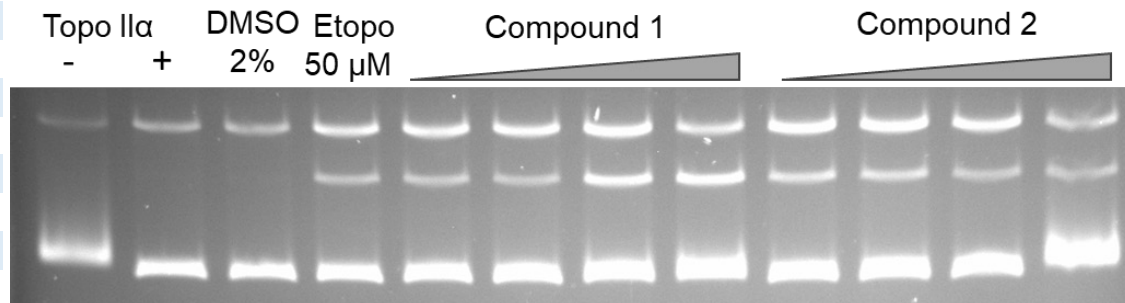
Compound 2



% Linear

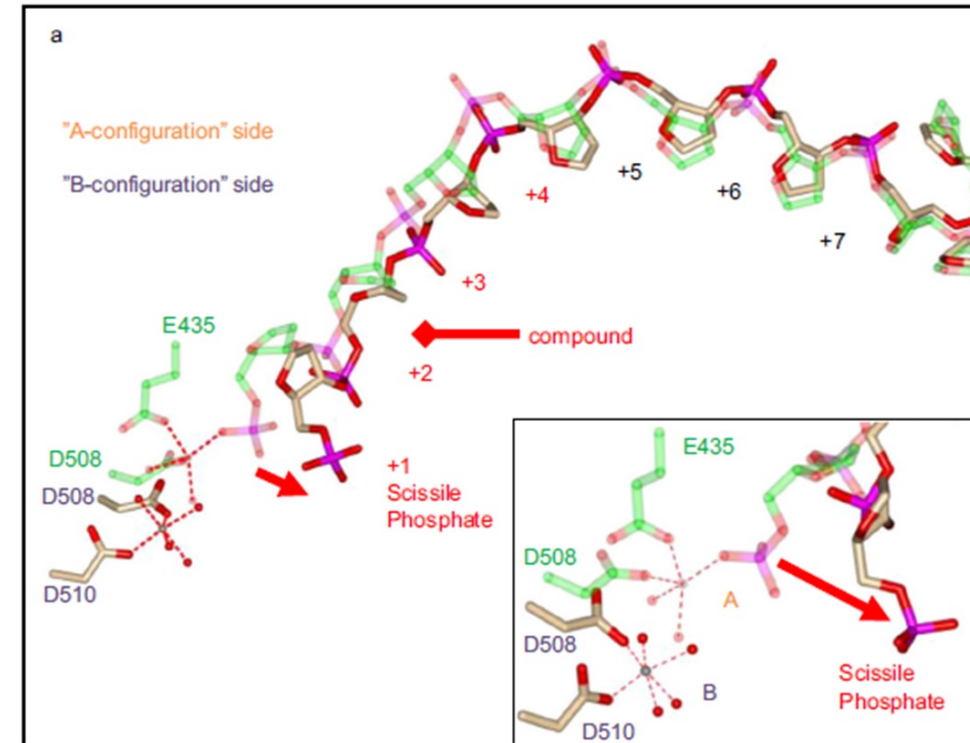
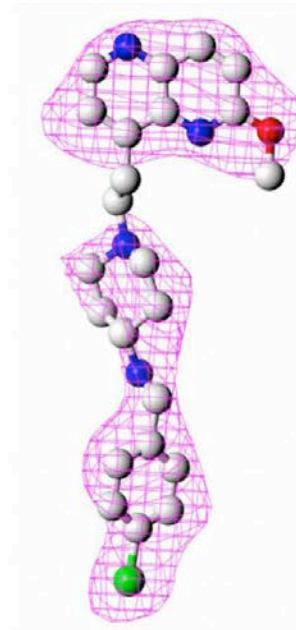
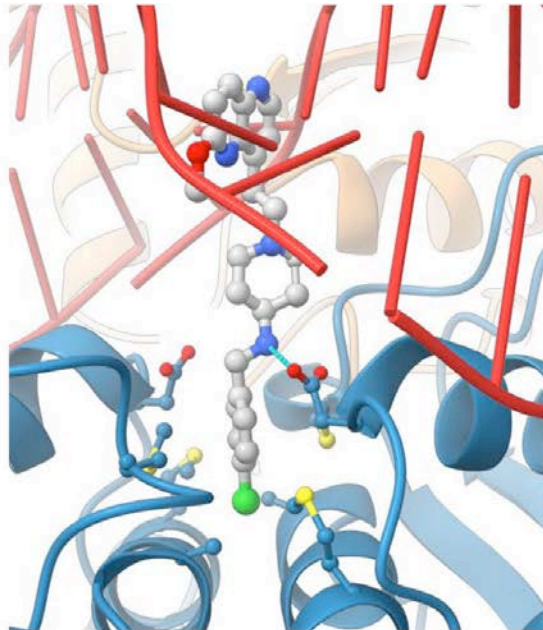
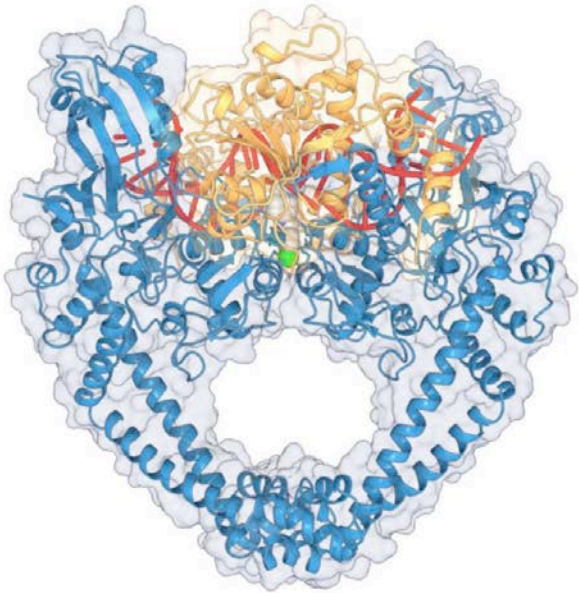
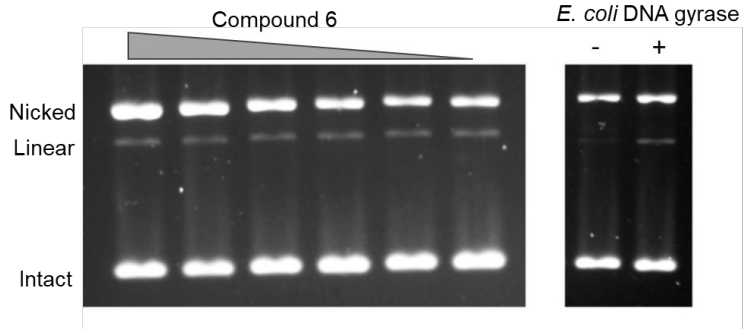
DNA alone		0
DNA + topo II $\alpha$		0
DNA + topo II + DMSO		0
Etoposide	50 $\mu$ M	13.70
Compound 1	7.8 $\mu$ M	12.14
Compound 1	15.6 $\mu$ M	10.44
Compound 1	31.25 $\mu$ M	22.80
Compound 1	125 $\mu$ M	21.84
Compound 2	7.8 $\mu$ M	16.87
Compound 2	15.6 $\mu$ M	14.86
Compound 2	1.25 $\mu$ M	10.47
Compound 2	125 $\mu$ M	10.12

## Competitive Cleavage Assay



# Case Study 4 – Mode of Action: Crystallography

- Academic groups working on novel bacterial type II topoisomerase inhibitors (NBTI's)



# Other projects of interest

- 10 000 compound screen in HTS assay – 22 hit compounds
- ENABLE (European Gram Negative AntiBacterial Engine) consortium
- Pharmaceutical company looking at Cardioprotective compounds against Doxorubicin
- Virtual Biotechs - working with in silico screening company

# What we have learned as a CRO

- Drug discovery is challenging
- Projects can be pulled at the last minute
- Expectations need to be managed from the outset





Inspiralis  
Thank You



Inspiralis values: Quality, consistency and collaboration