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Proteasome inhibition for treatment of leishmaniasis, Chagas disease and sleeping sickness

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Chagas disease, leishmaniasis, and sleeping sickness affect 20 million people worldwide and lead to more than 50,000 deaths annually1. The diseases are caused by infection with the kinetoplastid parasites *Trypanosoma cruzi*, *Leishmania* spp. and *Trypanosoma brucei* spp., respectively. These parasites have similar biology and genomic sequence, suggesting that all three diseases could be cured with drug(s) modulating the activity of a conserved parasite target2. However, no such molecular targets or broad spectrum drugs have been identified to date. Here we describe a selective inhibitor of the kinetoplastid proteasome (GNF6702) with unprecedented in vivo efficacy, which cleared parasites from mice in all three models of infection. GNF6702 inhibits the kinetoplastid proteasome through a non-competitive mechanism, does not inhibit the mammalian proteasome or growth of mammalian cells, and is well-tolerated in mice. Our data provide genetic and chemical validation of the parasite proteasome as a promising therapeutic target for treatment of kinetoplastid infections, and underscore the possibility of developing a single class of drugs for these neglected diseases.
Kinetoplastid infections affect predominantly poor communities in Latin America, Asia and Africa.

Available therapies suffer from multiple shortcomings, and new drug discovery for these diseases is limited by insufficient investment. We sought low molecular weight compounds with a growth inhibitory effect on Leishmania donovani (L. donovani), Trypanosoma cruzi (T. cruzi) and Trypanosoma brucei (T. brucei). Our approach was to test 3 million compounds in proliferation assays on all three parasites (Supplementary Information Tables 1-3), followed by triaging of active compounds (half-maximum inhibitory concentration value EC_{50}<10 \mu M) to select those with a clear window of selectivity (>5-fold) with respect to growth inhibition of mammalian cells. An azabenzoxazole, GNF5343, was identified as a hit in the L. donovani and T. brucei screens. Although GNF5343 was not identified in the T. cruzi screen, we noted potent anti-T. cruzi activity of this compound in secondary assays.

Optimization of GNF5343 involved the design and synthesis of ~3,000 compounds, and focused on improving bioavailability and potency on inhibition of L. donovani growth within macrophages (Fig. 1). A critical modification involved replacement of the azabenzoxazole center with C6-substituted imidazo- and triazolopyrimidine cores, which yielded compounds up to 20-fold more potent on intra-macrophage L. donovani (e.g. GNF2636). Replacement of the furan group with a dimethyloxazole ring reduced the risk of toxicity associated with the furan moiety, and replacement of the chlorophenyl group with a fluorophenyl improved selectivity over mammalian cell growth inhibition (e.g. GNF3849). These changes also resulted in low clearance and acceptable bioavailability. Further substitutions at the core C6 position led to GNF6702 and a 400-fold increase in intra-macrophage L. donovani potency compared to GNF5343.

L. donovani parasites cause a majority of visceral leishmaniasis (VL) cases in East Africa and India. In mice infected with L. donovani, oral dosing with GNF6702 effected a more pronounced reduction in
liver parasite burden than miltefosine, the only oral anti-leishmanial drug available in clinical practice. The miltefosine regimen for VL efficacy studies was chosen to approximate the drug plasma concentration of the clinical regimen. We noted a greater than three log reduction in parasite load after eight day treatment with 10 mg/kg of GNF6702 twice-daily with the free concentration of GNF6702 (fraction unbound in plasma=0.063) staying above the *L. donovani* EC99 value (the concentration inhibiting 99% of intra-macrophage parasite growth *in vitro*) for the duration of the dosing period (Extended Data Fig. 1a). Characterization of efficacy of ten analogues in the series at various doses revealed a significant correlation (*r*²=0.89, *p*<0.01) between i) the ratio of mean free plasma compound concentration to the *L. donovani* EC90 value and ii) reduction of the liver parasite burden. We found that 90% parasite burden reduction in the mouse model was achieved when the mean free compound plasma concentration during treatment equaled a 0.94-fold multiple of the *L. donovani* EC90 value (Fig. 2b).

Cutaneous leishmaniasis (CL) affects about a million people per year, causing skin lesions that can resolve into scar tissue. In parts of the Middle East, CL has reached epidemic proportions. After footpad infection of BALB/c mice with the dermatotropic *L. major* strain, treatment with GNF6702 at 10 mg/kg twice-daily caused a 5-fold decrease in footpad parasite burden and a reduction in footpad swelling (Fig. 2c). Both 3 mg/kg and 10 mg/kg twice-daily regimens of GNF6702 were superior to 30 mg/kg once-daily miltefosine regimen (*p*<0.01), which translates into ~2-fold higher miltefosine plasma concentration in mice than observed in clinical dosing.

We further tested if GNF6702 can cure additional kinetoplastid parasite infections. An estimated 25% of the 8 million people infected with *T. cruzi* will develop chronic Chagas disease, manifesting as cardiac or intestinal dysfunction. Benznidazole is broadly used for treatment of acute and indeterminate stages of Chagas disease in Latin America. However, benznidazole has side-effects that frequently lead to treatment interruption and a better tolerated drug is needed. To model treatment in the
indeterminate disease stage, we infected mice with T. cruzi parasites and began treatment 35 days after infection, when the immune system of the mice had controlled parasite burden\textsuperscript{23}. We increased the parasite detection sensitivity by immunosuppressing the mice after 20 days of treatment\textsuperscript{23,24}. In this model, GNF6702 dosed twice-daily at 10 mg/kg matched the efficacy of benznidazole at 100 mg/kg once-daily; all but one treated mice had no detectable parasites in blood, colon or heart tissue, even after 4 weeks of immunosuppression (Fig. 2d).

Finally, we tested GNF6702 in a mouse model of stage II sleeping sickness (human African trypanosomiasis - HAT)\textsuperscript{25}. Mortality of stage II HAT is caused by infection of the CNS and, in this mouse model, luciferase-expressing T. brucei parasites establish a CNS infection by day 21 post-infection. GNF6702 was administered at 100 mg/kg once-daily to account for low exposure in the brain relative to the plasma (~10%, Extended Data Fig. 1b). Diminazene aceturate, a stage I drug that poorly crosses the blood-brain barrier, effected apparent clearance of parasites from the blood after a single dose, but did not prevent parasite recrudescence 21 days later. By contrast, treatment with GNF6702 for seven days caused a sustained clearance of parasites (days 42 and 92 post-infection in Fig. 2e, Extended Data Fig. 2a, Supplementary Information Tables 4 and 5). Significantly, mice treated with GNF6702 had no detectable parasites in the brain at termination of the experiment, though parasites were clearly detected in the brains of mice treated with diminazene aceturate (Extended Data Fig. 2b, Supplementary Information Table 6).

As GNF6702 showed compelling efficacy in four mouse models of kinetoplastid infections: VL, CL, Chagas disease and stage II HAT, we reasoned that mechanistic studies of GNF6702 might identify a pan-kinetoplastid drug target that could inform target-based drug discovery efforts. We attempted to evolve L. donovani strains resistant to GNF3943 and GNF8000 (early analogues from the series, Extended Data Fig. 3) through 12 months of parasite culture under drug pressure without success.
However, we were able to select two drug-resistant *T. cruzi* epimastigote isolates, one resistant to GNF3943, and another to GNF8000. Both *T. cruzi* lines exhibited at least 40-fold lower susceptibility to GNF6702 than wild type *T. cruzi* (Extended Data Fig. 4a and 4b). Using whole genome sequencing, we found that the GNF3943-resistant line had a homozygous mutation encoding a substitution of isoleucine for methionine at amino acid 29 in the proteasome beta 4 subunit (*PSMB4*\textsuperscript{*\textasciitilde29M/\textasciitilde29M}) and a heterozygous mutation P82L in dynein heavy chain gene. The GNF8000-resistant line had a heterozygous F24L mutation in *PSMB4*, and four other heterozygous mutations (Extended Data Table 1). We focused our attention on the proteasome as a likely target for the compound series because we found two independent mutations in the *PSMB4* gene, and because the proteasome is an essential enzyme in eukaryotic cells. We also note that the *Plasmodium falciparum* proteasome has recently been the target of promising drug discovery efforts for malaria\textsuperscript{26}.

We first asked whether two prototypic inhibitors of mammalian proteasome, bortezomib and MG132, could also block *T. cruzi* growth. Indeed, both compounds inhibited *T. cruzi* epimastigote proliferation with sub-micromolar potency. However, in contrast to GNF6702, bortezomib and MG132 inhibited proliferation of the two resistant lines (\textit{PSMB4*\textasciitilde29M/\textasciitilde29M}, \textit{PSMB4}\textit{wt/F24L}) with comparable potency to the wild type parasites. Additionally, the *PSMB4* mutant lines were not resistant to nifurtimox, an anti-kinetoplastid drug with an unrelated mechanism of action (Extended Data Fig. 4a and 4b). To determine whether the F24L mutation was sufficient to confer resistance to GNF6702, we engineered *T. cruzi* epimastigote lines that ectopically expressed either wild type or F24L-mutated PSMB4. Overexpression of PSMB4\textit{WT} had little effect on the EC\textsubscript{50} value for GNF6702, whereas overexpression of PSMB4\textit{F24L} caused a greater than 10-fold reduction in GNF6702 potency, but not in that of bortezomib (Fig. 3a, Extended Data Fig. 4c). Previously, bortezomib was also shown to inhibit the growth of *T. brucei*, suggesting that proteasome activity is essential for growth in this parasite as well\textsuperscript{27}. To test whether
PSMB4^{F24L} can rescue growth inhibition by GNF6702 in *T. brucei*, we engineered two parasite strains that ectopically expressed wild type and F24L-mutated PSMB4, respectively. Similar to *T. cruzi*, overexpression of PSMB4^{F24L} in *T. brucei* conferred a high level of resistance to GNF6702 (~70-fold shift in EC_{50} value), while having no effect on parasite susceptibility to bortezomib (Fig. 3b, Extended Data Fig. 4c).

We next asked whether GNF6702 could inhibit any of three *T. cruzi* proteasome proteolytic activities in biochemical assays. As predicted from the *T. cruzi* genome^{28}, mass spectrometry analysis of purified *T. cruzi* proteasome identified seven alpha and seven beta proteasome subunits, including PSMB4 (Supplementary Tables 7 and 8). Using substrates that are specific for each of the chymotrypsin-like, trypsin-like and caspase-like proteolytic activities, we found that only the chymotrypsin-like activity of the *T. cruzi* proteasome was inhibited by GNF6702 (IC_{50}=35 nM), while the other two activities were not affected (IC_{50}>10 µM). In contrast, bortezomib inhibited the chymotrypsin-like (IC_{50}=91 nM), the caspase-like (IC_{50}=370 nM) and the trypsin-like (IC_{50}=1.7 µM) activities. We further found that the chymotrypsin-like activity of the PSMB4^{I29M} *T. cruzi* proteasome was at least 300-fold less susceptible to GNF6702 (IC_{50}>10 µM) and ~3-fold less susceptible to bortezomib (IC_{50}=0.26 µM), while susceptibility of the other two mutant proteasome proteolytic activities to the two inhibitors were not affected (Fig. 4a, Extended Data Table 2).

We reasoned that if the primary mechanism of parasite growth inhibition by the compound series was through inhibition of the proteasome chymotrypsin-like activity, then the IC_{50} values for this proteolytic activity should correlate with EC_{50} values for parasite proliferation. Indeed, a tight correlation between the two parameters was observed for *L. donovani* axenic amastigotes and *T. brucei* bloodstream form trypomastigotes (r^2=0.78 and r^2=0.67, respectively) over a 2,000-fold potency range for 317 analogues, thus indicating that inhibition of parasite proteasome activity was driving the anti-parasitic activity of
these compounds. We observed a weaker correlation between IC$_{50}$ and EC$_{50}$ values for intracellular
*Trypanosoma cruzi* ($r^2=0.36$, p<0.01), perhaps reflecting more complex cellular pharmacokinetics resulting from compounds having to access *T. cruzi* parasites within the cytosol of mammalian cells (Fig. 4b, Extended Data Fig. 5).

Both resistant *T. cruzi* lines retained sensitivity to bortezomib, which is a substrate-competitive inhibitor, suggesting that GNF6702 might have an alternative mode of inhibition. A Lineweaver-Burk plot of chymotrypsin-like activity at increasing concentrations of peptide substrate showed that GNF6702 has a non-competitive mode of inhibition clearly distinct from the competitive mechanism described for MG132 and bortezomib$^{29,30}$. We were also able to extend these observations to proteasome from *Leishmania donovani* (Fig. 4c, Extended Data Table 3). We further note that GNF6702 had no measurable activity on the human proteasome (Fig. 4d, Extended Data Table 2). Interestingly, human proteasome beta 4 subunit has a methionine at the 29$^{th}$ amino acid position, mirroring the I29M mutation in the GNF3943-resistant *T. cruzi* line (Extended Data Fig. 6a).

In summary, GNF6702 blocks the chymotrypsin-like activity harbored by the beta 5 subunit without competing with substrate binding, and mutations in the beta 4 subunit, which is in direct physical contact with the beta 5 subunit, confer resistance to this inhibition. Next we used homology modeling of the *T. cruzi* proteasome to look for evidence of an allosteric inhibitor binding site. In the *T. cruzi* proteasome model, the F24 and I29 beta 4 residues are positioned at the interface between the beta 4 and beta 5 subunits, on the outer limit of the beta 5 active site. Adjacent to these two beta 4 residues and the beta 5 active site is a plausible binding pocket for GNF6702 (Extended Data Fig. 6b and 6c).

Finally, we tested whether GNF6702 can inhibit proteasome activity in intact *T. cruzi* cells. Cellular proteins entering the proteasome degradation pathway are first tagged with ubiquitin, and proteasome inhibition results in intracellular accumulation of ubiquitylated proteins. Treatment of *T. cruzi*
epimastigotes with GNF6702 led to significant buildup of ubiquitylated proteins (Extended Data Fig. 7a) with the half-maximal effect (EC$_{50}$) achieved at 130 nM compound concentration (Extended Data Fig. 7c). This EC$_{50}$ value correlated well with the half-maximal growth inhibitory concentration of GNF6702 on *T. cruzi* epimastigotes (EC$_{50}$=150 nM; Extended Data Fig. 4b). For comparison, similar experiments with bortezomib yielded comparable inhibitor potencies in the two *T. cruzi* assays (ubiquitylation EC$_{50}$=62 nM vs growth inhibition EC$_{50}$=160 nM; Extended Data Fig. 4b and 7c). We did not observe any detectable accumulation of ubiquitylated proteins in mammalian 3T3 cells treated with GNF6702 (Extended Data Fig. 7b and 7c), further confirming high selectivity of this compound.

Validation of the parasite proteasome as the target of GNF6702 is supported through several lines of evidence: i) point mutations in the *PSMB4* gene are sufficient to confer resistance to biochemical proteasome inhibition and cellular *T. cruzi* growth inhibition; ii) GNF6702 is a selective inhibitor of parasite proteasome activity and does not inhibit the human proteasome, mirroring the selective inhibition of parasite growth over mammalian cell growth; and iii) potency of GNF6702 and analogues in parasite proteasome assays predict potency in parasite growth inhibition assays.

In this work we show that in mouse disease models, GNF6702 was able to eradicate parasites from diverse niches that included the cytosol (*T. cruzi*), phagolysosome (*L. donovani, L. major*) of infected host cells, and brain (*T. brucei*). GNF6702 has also good pharmacokinetic properties, and the compound did not show activity in panels of human receptor, enzyme and ion channel assays (Supplementary Tables 9-11). Going forward, GNF6702, or analogues thereof, has potential to yield a new treatment for several kinetoplastid infections and it is currently being evaluated in preclinical toxicity studies. It is unclear if the clinical utility of GNF6702 could extend to the treatment of stage II HAT as GNF6702 was tested in the HAT mouse model only at one high dose (100 mg/kg once-daily). We also note that identification of a broadly active pan-kinetoplastid drug might not be feasible (or desirable) as such a
drug would need to reach high concentrations in varied tissues/subcellular compartments, and might carry increased toxicity risk. Instead, alternative analogues from this series with different pharmacological profiles might be needed for treatment of different kinetoplastid infections. Nevertheless, there are only scarce resources for drug development in these diseases, and identification of a common target and chemical scaffold with potential across multiple indications provides new hope for improved treatment options for some of the world’s poorest people.

REFERENCES


**References to the Methods section**


FIGURE LEGENDS

Figure 1: Chemical evolution of GNF6702 from the phenotypic hit GNF5343. L. donovani: amastigotes proliferating within primary mouse macrophages; T. brucei: the bloodstream form trypomastigotes; T. cruzi: amastigotes proliferating in 3T3 fibroblast cells; macrophage: mouse primary peritoneal macrophages; EC\textsubscript{50} and CC\textsubscript{50}: half-maximum growth inhibition concentration; F: oral bioavailability in mouse after administering single compound dose (20 mg/kg) as a suspension; CL: plasma clearance in mouse after single iv bolus dose (5 mg/kg); N.D.: not determined; all EC\textsubscript{50} and CC\textsubscript{50} values correspond to means ± s.e.m. (n=4 technical replicates).

Figure 2: GNF6702 clears parasites in mouse models of kinetoplastid infections. a, Post-treatment L. donovani liver burdens in mouse model of VL as assessed by qPCR (n=5 mice). b, PK/PD relationship for ten GNF6702 analogues, each administered at several doses; circles: mean liver burdens associated with individual compound regimens (30 regimens in total; n=5 mice per regimen) relative to vehicle; horizontal dotted line: 90\% reduction in the liver L. donovani burden; vertical dotted line: 0.94-fold multiple of the mean free compound plasma concentration/ the L. donovani EC\textsubscript{90} value ratio. c, Post-treatment L. major footpad burdens in the BALB/c mouse model of CL as assessed by qPCR (n= 6 mice);
the p values (two-tailed distribution) relate parasite burdens in compound-treated mice with those from vehicle-treated mice; left inset picture: a representative mouse footpad after treatment with vehicle; right inset picture: a representative mouse footpad after treatment with GNF6702 10 mg/kg twice-daily regimen. d, *T. cruzi* burden in mouse blood (circles), colon (triangles) and heart (diamonds) as assessed by qPCR after 20 days of treatment and four weeks of immunosuppression (n=8 mice). e, Whole body *in vivo* imaging of bioluminescent *T. brucei* before and after treatment; *Trypanosoma brucei*-infected mice were treated by a single intraperitoneal injection of diminazene aceturate (n=3 mice) or by oral administration of GNF6702 once-daily for 7 days (n=6 mice); filled symbols show whole body bioluminescence values for individual mice; several mice from the untreated and diminazene aceturate-treated groups were euthanized between days 28 and 56 due to CNS infection symptoms; background bioluminescence values shown for uninfected mice (grey-filled squares; n=4) were collected independently from mice aged-matched for day 0 using the same acquisition settings. Red dotted lines in a, c and d plots show limit of parasite detection by qPCR; plot symbols below the red dotted line: mice with no detectable parasites; data points below the limit of detection are ‘jittered’ to show number of animals in a group; thick horizontal lines: means of the treatment groups; RU: relative units (parasite burden relative to the mean burden of the vehicle-treated group).

**Figure 3:** F24L mutation in proteasome beta 4 subunit confers selective resistance to GNF6702. a, growth inhibition of *T. cruzi* epimastigote strains ectopically expressing PSMB4<sup>WT</sup> or PSMB4<sup>F24L</sup> protein by GNF6702 and bortezomib; non-induced/induced: culture medium without/with tetracycline to modulate expression of tetracycline-inducible PSMB4 genes. b, growth inhibition of *T. brucei* bloodstream form trypomastigotes constitutively overexpressing PSMB4<sup>WT</sup> or PSMB4<sup>F24L</sup> protein by GNF6702 and bortezomib. EC<sub>50</sub> values for each strain/compound pair are listed inside a and b plot panels next to corresponding strain/compound symbol (defined in plot legends); means from n=3
technical replicates are shown; error bars represent s.e.m. values; for data points lacking error bars, s.e.m. values are smaller than circles representing means; due to limited aqueous solubility, the highest tested GNF6702 concentration was 10 µM. RU (relative units) in a and b corresponds to parasite growth relative to the DMSO control (%).

Figure 4: Compounds from GNF6702 series inhibit growth of kinetoplastid parasites by inhibiting parasite proteasome chymotrypsin-like activity. a, Inhibition of three proteolytic activities of purified wild type (PSMB4WT) and PSMB4129M T. cruzi proteasomes by GNF6702 and bortezomib; IC50 values for proteasome proteolytic activities are listed inside plots. b, Correlation between inhibition of chymotrypsin-like activity of purified L. donovani proteasome (IC50) and L. donovani axenic amastigote growth inhibition (EC50; data points correspond to means of 2 technical replicates); red circles: IC50>20 µM; blue circles: EC50>25 µM; yellow circles: IC50>20 µM and EC50>25 µM; data for 317 analogues are shown. c, Lineweaver-Burk plot of inhibition of T. cruzi proteasome chymotrypsin-like activity by GNF6702 at increasing concentrations of a peptide substrate. d, Effect of GNF6702 and bortezomib on three proteolytic activities of human constitutive proteasome; IC50 values for proteasome proteolytic activities are listed inside plots. Data shown in a, c and d represent means ± s.e.m. (n=3 technical replicates; for data points lacking error bars, s.e.m. values are smaller than circles representing means). Due to limited aqueous solubility, the highest tested GNF6702 concentration in experiments shown in a and d was 10 µM.

METHODS

Ethics statement for animal models. All procedures involving mice were performed in accordance with AAALAC standards or under UK Home Office regulations, and were reviewed and approved in accordance with the Novartis Animal Welfare Policy. Sample size was determined on the basis of the
minimum number of animals required for good data distribution and statistics. Blinding was not possible in these experiments but animals were selected randomly for each group.

**Determination of IC\textsubscript{50}, EC\textsubscript{50} and CC\textsubscript{50} values, and data correlation.** Reported IC\textsubscript{50}/ EC\textsubscript{50}/ CC\textsubscript{50} values were calculated by averaging IC\textsubscript{50}/ EC\textsubscript{50}/ CC\textsubscript{50} values obtained from individual technical replicate experiments (n; specified in relevant Figure captions and Methods sub-sections). Each technical replicate experiment was performed on a different day with freshly prepared reagents. Reported standard errors of mean (s.e.m.) were calculated using IC\textsubscript{50}/ EC\textsubscript{50}/ CC\textsubscript{50} values determined in individual technical replicate experiments. To calculate IC\textsubscript{50}/ EC\textsubscript{50}/ CC\textsubscript{50} values, measured dose response values were fitted with 4-parameter logistic function \( y = A + (B - A)/(1+(x/C)^D) \) (model 201, XLfit, IDBS), where \( x \) refers to compound concentration and \( y \) corresponds to an assay readout value.

VL efficacy data for ten GNF6702 analogues (Fig. 2a) were fitted with 4-parameter logistic function \( y = A + (B - A)/(1+(x/C)^D) \) (model 201, XLfit, IDBS), where \( x \) values correspond to free mean compound plasma concentrations and \( y \) values correspond to \( \log_{10}(L. \text{ donovani} \text{ liver burden}) \).

To correlate parasite proteasome inhibition with parasite growth inhibition (Fig. 4b and Extended data Fig. 5), we fitted data with \( y = a*x + b \) function using the least square method (\( x \) corresponds to \( \log_{10}(\text{IC}_{50}) \); \( y \) corresponds to \( \log_{10}(\text{EC}_{50}) \)).

**Leishmania donovani axenic amastigote growth inhibition assay.** RPMI 1640 medium (HyClone) was supplemented with 20% heat-inactivated fetal bovine serum (Omega Scientific), 23 \( \mu \)M folic acid (Sigma-Aldrich), 100 \( \mu \)M adenosine (Sigma-Aldrich), 22 mM D-glucose (Sigma-Aldrich), 4 mM L-glutamine (Hyclone), 25 mM 2-(4-morpholino) ethanesulfonic acid (Sigma-Aldrich) and 100 IU penicillin/ 100 \( \mu \)g/mL streptomycin (HyClone), and adjusted to pH= 5.5 with 6 M hydrochloric acid (Fisher Scientific) at 37 °C. *Leishmania donovani* MHOM/SD/62/1S-CL2D axenic amastigotes were
cultured in 10 mL of this medium (Axenic Amastigote Medium) in T75 CELL-STAR flasks (Greiner Bio-One) at 37 °C/ 5% CO$_2$ and passaged once a week.

To determine compound growth inhibitory potency on *L. donovani* axenic amastigotes, 100 nL of serially diluted compounds in DMSO were transferred to the wells of white, solid bottom 384-well plates (Greiner Bio-One) by Echo 555 acoustic liquid handling system (Labcyte). Then, 1 x 10$^3$ of *L. donovani* axenic amastigotes in 40 µL of Axenic Amastigote Medium were added to each well, and plates were incubated for 48 hours at 37 °C/ 5% CO$_2$. Parasite numbers in individual plate wells were determined through quantification of intracellular ATP. The CellTiter-Glo luminescent cell viability reagent (Promega) was added to plate wells, and ATP-dependent luminescence signal was measured on an EnVision MultiLabel Plate Reader (Perkin Elmer). Luminescence values in wells with compounds were divided by the average luminescence value of the plate DMSO controls, and used for calculation of compound EC$_{50}$ values as described above.

Axenic amastigote EC$_{50}$ values shown in Fig. 4b correspond to means of 2 technical replicates.

**Isolation and maintenance of *Leishmania donovani* splenic amastigotes.** Female BALB/cJ mice (Envigo) infected with *L. donovani* MHOM/ET/67/HU3 (ATCC) for 50-80 days were euthanized, and infected spleens were removed and weighed. The weight of an infected spleen ranged from 300 to 600 mg. For comparison, spleens from non-infected age-matched BALB/cJ mice weighed ~100 mg. Infected spleens were washed in Axenic Amastigote Medium (composition described above) and placed into Falcon 50 mL conical centrifuge tubes (Fisher Scientific) containing ice-cold Axenic Amastigote Medium (15 mL per infected spleen). Spleens were homogenized on ice in a Dounce homogenizer and centrifuged at 200 x g for 15 minutes at 4 °C to remove tissue debris. *Leishmania donovani* amastigotes present in the supernatant were pelleted by centrifugation at 1,750 x g for 15 min at 4 °C and re-suspended either in Axenic Amastigote Medium (when used for *in vitro* macrophage infections) or in
Hanks’ Balanced Salt Solution (when used for mouse infections; Hyclone). Suspensions of splenic amastigotes were kept on ice and used for in vitro or in vivo infections within 2-3 hours. To propagate *L. donovani* amastigotes in vivo, 6 to 7 weeks old female BALB/cJ mice were infected with $8 \times 10^7$ purified splenic amastigotes in 200 µL of Hanks’ Balanced Salt Solution by tail vein injection.

**Leishmania donovani** intra-macrophage amastigote growth inhibition assay. In vitro compound potencies on intra-macrophage *L. donovani* MHOM/ET/67/HU3 were determined using primary murine peritoneal macrophages infected with *L. donovani* splenic amastigotes. Primary macrophages were elicited in female BALB/c mice for 72 hours following the injection of 500 µL of sterile aqueous 2% starch (J. T. Baker) solution into the mouse peritoneal cavity. The protocol used for isolation of peritoneal macrophages was described in detail previously. The isolated macrophages were re-suspended in Macrophage Infection Medium (RPMI-1640 medium supplemented with 2 mM L-glutamine, 10% heat-inactivated fetal bovine serum, 10 mM sodium pyruvate (Hyclone), and 100 IU penicillin/ 100 µg/mL streptomycin), and 50 µL of macrophage suspension ($8 \times 10^5$ macrophages/mL) were added to microscopy-grade, clear-bottom, black 384-well plates (Greiner Bio-One). Following overnight incubation at 37 °C/ 5% CO$_2$, plate wells were washed with Macrophage Infection Medium to remove non-adherent cells using ELx405 Select microplate washer (BioTek), and then filled with 40 µL of Macrophage Infection Medium. *Leishmania donovani* HU3 splenic amastigotes isolated from infected spleens were re-suspended in Macrophage Infection Medium at a concentration of $6 \times 10^7$ cells/mL, and 10 µL of the suspension were added to assay plate wells containing adherent macrophages. After a 24-hour infection period at 37 °C/ 5% CO$_2$, plate wells were washed with Macrophage Infection Medium to remove residual extracellular parasites and re-filled with 50 µL of the medium. *Leishmania donovani*-infected macrophages were subsequently treated with DMSO-dissolved compounds (0.5% final DMSO concentration in the assay medium) in dose response for 120 hours at 37 °C/ 5% CO$_2$. Next, treated
macrophages were washed with the phosphate-buffered saline buffer (PBS; Sigma-Aldrich)
supplemented with 0.5 mM magnesium chloride (Sigma-Aldrich) and 0.5 mM calcium chloride (Sigma-
Aldrich), fixed with 0.4% paraformaldehyde (Sigma-Aldrich) in PBS, permeabilized with 0.1% Triton X-
100 (Sigma-Aldrich) in PBS, and stained with SYBR Green I nucleic acid stain (Invitrogen, 1:100,000
dilution in PBS) overnight at 4 °C. Image collection and enumeration of macrophage cells and
intracellular *L. donovani* amastigotes was performed using the OPERA QEHS automated confocal
microscope system equipped with 20x water immersion objective (Evotec Technologies) and the OPERA
Acapella software (Evotec Technologies) as described previously.

All reported intra-macrophage *L. donovani* EC$_{50}$ values were calculated from at least 3 technical
replicates (n= 3 or n= 4; specified in relevant Figure captions).

**Trypanosoma brucei growth inhibition assay.** Bloodstream form *Trypanosoma brucei* Lister 427
parasites were continuously passaged in HMI-9 medium formulated from IMDM medium (Invitrogen),
10% heat-inactivated fetal bovine serum, 10% Serum Plus medium supplement (SAFC Biosciences), 1
mM hypoxanthine (Sigma-Aldrich), 50 μM bathocuproine disulfonic acid (Sigma-Aldrich), 1.5 mM
cysteine (Sigma-Aldrich), 1 mM pyruvic acid (Sigma-Aldrich), 39 μg/mL thymidine (Sigma-Aldrich),
and 14 μL/L beta-mercaptoethanol (Sigma-Aldrich); all concentrations of added components refer to
those in complete HMI-9 medium. The parasites were cultured in 10 mL of HMI-9 medium in T75
CELL-STAR tissue culture flasks at 37 °C/ 5% CO$_2$.

To determine compound growth inhibitory potency on *T. brucei* bloodstream form parasites, 100 nL of
serially diluted compounds in DMSO were transferred to the wells of white, solid bottom 384-well plates
(Greiner Bio-One) by Echo 555 acoustic liquid handling system. Then, 5 x 10$^3$ of *T. brucei* parasites in
40 μL of HMI-9 medium were added to each well, and the plates were incubated for 48 hours at 37 °C/ 5%
CO$_2$. Parasite numbers in individual plate wells were determined through quantification of intracellular
ATP amount. The CellTiter-Glo luminescent cell viability reagent was added to plate wells, and ATP-dependent luminescence signal was measured on an EnVision MultiLabel Plate Reader. Luminescence values in wells with compounds were divided by the average luminescence value of the plate DMSO controls, and used for calculation of compound EC$_{50}$ values as described above.

*Trypanosoma brucei* EC$_{50}$ values shown in Fig. 1 and Extended Data Fig. 3 correspond to means of 4 technical replicates.

*Trypanosoma cruzi* amastigote growth inhibition assay. NIH 3T3 fibroblast cells (ATCC) were maintained in RPMI 1640 medium (Life Technologies) supplemented with 10% heat-inactivated fetal bovine serum and 100 IU penicillin/100 µg/mL streptomycin at 37 °C/5% CO$_2$. *Trypanosoma cruzi* Tulahuen parasites constitutively expressing *Escherichia coli* beta-galactosidase$^{33}$ were maintained in tissue culture as an infection in NIH 3T3 fibroblast cells. Briefly, 2 x 10$^7$ *T. cruzi* trypomastigotes were used to infect 6 x 10$^5$ NIH 3T3 cells growing in T75 CELL-STAR tissue culture flasks and cultured at 37 °C/5% CO$_2$ until proliferating intracellular parasites lysed host 3T3 cells and were released into the culture medium (typically 6-7 days). During the infection, the tissue culture medium was changed every two days. Number of *T. cruzi* trypomastigotes present in one mL of medium was determined using a hemocytometer.

To determine compound potency on intracellular *T. cruzi* amastigotes, NIH 3T3 cells were re-suspended in phenol red-free RPMI 1640 medium containing 3% heat-inactivated fetal bovine serum and 100 IU penicillin/100 µg/mL streptomycin, seeded at 1,000 cells/ well (40 µL) in white, clear bottom 384-well plates (Greiner Bio-One), and incubated overnight at 37 °C/5% CO$_2$. The following day, 100 nL of each compound in DMSO were transferred to individual plate wells by Echo 555 acoustic liquid handling system. After one hour incubation, 1 x 10$^6$ of tissue culture-derived *T.cruzi* trypomastigotes, in 10 µL of phenol red-free RPMI 1640 medium supplemented with 3% heat-inactivated fetal bovine serum and 100
IU penicillin/100 μg/mL streptomycin were added to each well. Plates were then incubated for 6 days at 37 °C/5% CO₂. Intracellular *T. cruzi* parasites were quantified by measuring the activity of parasite-expressed beta-galactosidase. Ten microliters of a chromogenic beta-galactosidase substrate solution (0.6 mM chlorophenol red-β-D-galactopyranoside/0.6% NP-40 in PBS; both reagents from Calbiochem) were added to each well and incubated for 2 hours at room temperature. After incubation, absorption was measured at 570 nM on SpectraMax M2 plate reader (Molecular Devices). Measured absorbance values in wells with compounds were divided by the average absorbance value of the plate DMSO controls, and used for calculation of compound EC₅₀ values as described above.

*Trypanosoma cruzi* amastigote EC₅₀ values shown in Fig. 1 and Extended Data Fig. 3 correspond to means of 4 technical replicates.

**Trypanosoma cruzi epimastigote proliferation assay.** *Trypanosoma cruzi* CL epimastigotes were continuously passaged in LIT medium containing 9 g/L liver infusion broth (Difco), 5 g/L bacto-tryptose (Difco), 1 g/L sodium chloride, 8 g/L dibasic sodium phosphate (Sigma-Aldrich), 0.4 g/L potassium chloride (Sigma-Aldrich), 1 g/L D-glucose, 10% heat-inactivated fetal bovine serum and 10 ng/mL of hemin (Sigma-Aldrich). The medium was adjusted to pH=7.2 with 6 M hydrochloric acid. The parasites were cultured in 10 mL of LIT medium in T75 CELL-STAR tissue culture flasks at 27 °C.

To determine compound growth inhibitory potency on *T. cruzi* epimastigotes, 100 nL of serially diluted compounds in DMSO were transferred to the wells of white, solid bottom 384-well plates (Greiner Bio-One) by an Echo 555 acoustic liquid handling system. Then, 5 x 10³ of *T. cruzi* epimastigotes in 40 μL of LIT medium were added to each well, and the plates were incubated for 7 days at 27 °C. Parasite numbers in individual plate wells were determined through quantification of intracellular ATP amount. The CellTiter-Glo luminescent cell viability reagent was added to plate wells, and ATP-dependent luminescence signal was measured on an EnVision MultiLabel Plate Reader. Luminescence values in
wells with compounds were divided by the average luminescence value of the plate DMSO controls, and used for calculation of compound EC\(_{50}\) values as described above.

*Trypanosoma cruzi* epimastigote EC\(_{50}\) values shown in Extended Data Fig. 4 correspond to means of 3 technical replicates.

**Mouse fibroblast NIH 3T3 growth inhibition assay.** NIH 3T3 fibroblast cells were maintained in RPMI medium 1640 with glutamine (Life Technologies) supplemented with 5% heat-inactivated fetal bovine serum and 100 IU penicillin/ 100 \(\mu\)g/mL streptomycin (3T3 Medium) at 37 °C/ 5% CO\(_2\). NIH 3T3 fibroblast cells were purchased from ATCC. We did not perform cell line authentication and did not test the cells for mycoplasma contamination. This cell line is not listed in the database of commonly misidentified cell lines maintained by ICLAC and NCBI Biosample.

To determine compound potency, NIH 3T3 cells re-suspended in 3T3 medium were seeded at 1,000 cells/ well (50 \(\mu\)L) in white 384-well plates (Greiner Bio-One) and incubated overnight at 37 °C/ 5% CO\(_2\). The following day, 100 nL of each compound in DMSO were transferred to individual plate wells by Echo 555 acoustic liquid handling system and plates were incubated for five days at 37 °C/ 5% CO\(_2\). Cell numbers in individual plate wells were determined through quantification of intracellular ATP amount.

The CellTiter-Glo luminescent cell viability reagent was added to plate wells, and ATP-dependent luminescence signal was measured on an EnVision MultiLabel Plate Reader. Luminescence values in wells with compounds were divided by the average luminescence value of the plate DMSO controls, and used for calculation of compound CC\(_{50}\) values as described above.

NIH 3T3 CC\(_{50}\) values shown in Fig. 1 and Extended Data Fig. 3 correspond to means of 4 technical replicates.

**Primary macrophage cytotoxicity assay.** Primary macrophage cell viability was determined on mouse peritoneal macrophages infected with *L. donovani* and was expressed as the ratio of the number of...
macrophage cells in wells treated with a compound to those in wells treated with DMSO. The number of macrophage cells in wells was determined by high content microscopy as described previously\textsuperscript{32}. All reported macrophage CC\textsubscript{50} values were calculated from 4 technical replicates (n= 4; also specified in Figure 1 and Extended Data Figure 3 captions).

**Selection of GNF3934- and GNF8000-resistant \textit{T. cruzi} mutants.** \textit{T. cruzi} epimastigotes cultures resistant to GNF3943 and GNF8000 were generated using a methodology described previously\textsuperscript{32}. Briefly, epimastigotes were initially cultured in the presence of compound concentration equivalent to its EC\textsubscript{20} value (GNF3943 EC\textsubscript{20} = 1.5 \mu M and GNF8000 EC\textsubscript{20} = 0.2 \mu M in 0.2\% DMSO) or 0.2\% DMSO (control). Once a week, parasites were counted and growth rates were determined. If the parasite cultures exhibited a reduced growth rate compared to 0.2\% DMSO-treated parasites, epimastigotes were cultured at the same compound concentration. Once the growth rates matched that of the control epimastigote culture (0.2\% DMSO), parasites were transferred into medium containing two-fold higher compound concentration. The process was repeated until significant resistance was achieved (~10- to 20-fold increase in corresponding EC\textsubscript{50} value). The time required for generation of cultures with such a level of resistance was approximately five months. Resistant clones were isolated via cloning by limiting dilution, and two independent clones were analyzed by whole genome sequencing.

**\textit{T. cruzi} whole genome sequencing.** Chromosomal DNA isolation from GNF3943- and GNF8000-resistant \textit{T. cruzi} clones, whole genome sequencing and sequence analysis were performed as described previously\textsuperscript{32}. Sequencing reads were aligned to the \textit{T. cruzi} CL Brenner genome\textsuperscript{34}.

**Generation of \textit{T. cruzi} strains ectopically expressing proteasome beta 4 subunit variants.** \textit{PSMB4} TcCLB503891.100 was amplified from \textit{T. cruzi} CL Brenner genomic DNA using KOD Hot Start DNA Polymerase (EMD Millipore), and sense (5’- AAAGCGGCCGCATGTCGGAGACAACCATTG -3) and antisense (5’- CCATGATCTTGATGTAATATAAGGCATTCAGCCCTGCTG -3) primers. The
PSMB4<sup>F24L</sup> gene was generated from the wild type PSMB4 construct by site-directed mutagenesis using mutagenic sense (5'-CAGCAGGGCTGAATGCCTTATATTACATCAAGATCATGG-3') and antisense (5'-CCATGATCTTGATGTAATATAAGGCATTCAGCCCTGCTG-3') primers and QuikChange II Site-Directed Mutagenesis Kit (Stratagene). The sequences of the wild type and mutant PSMB4 genes were verified by sequencing and both gene versions were subcloned into the T. cruzi expression vector pTcIndex1 under control of a T7 promoter<sup>35</sup>. Trypanosoma cruzi CL Brenner epimastigotes were first transfected as described previously<sup>36</sup> with the pLEW13 plasmid<sup>37</sup> harboring a tetracycline-inducible T7 RNA polymerase gene. Transfected epimastigotes were selected in medium supplemented with neomycin (G418) at 500 µg/ml, and then transfected a second time with either pTcIndex1-PSMB4<sup>wt</sup> or pTcIndex1-PSMB4<sup>F24L</sup> plasmid. Double transfected epimastigotes were selected in the presence of 500 µg/mL of G418 (Sigma-Aldrich) and 500 µg/mL of hygromycin (Sigma-Aldrich). Susceptibility of double transfected epimastigote cell lines to compounds was assessed using induced (+5 mg/mL of tetracycline) and non-induced parasite cultures after five days of compound treatment. Parasite viability was determined with AlamarBlue (ThermoFisher Scientific).

Reported EC<sub>50</sub> values for T. cruzi epimastigotes ectopically expressing PSMB4 proteins were calculated from 3 technical replicates (n=3; also specified in the Figure 3a caption).

**Generation of T. brucei strains ectopically expressing proteasome beta 4 subunit variants.** PSMB4 (Tb927.10.4710) was amplified from T. brucei Lister 427 genomic DNA using PCR SuperMix High Fidelity (Invitrogen), sense (5'-GCAAGCTTATGGCAGAGACGACTATCGG-3) and antisense (5'-GCGGATCCCTAGCTTACAGATTGCATCGT-3') primers. The PSMB4<sup>F24L</sup> gene was generated from the wild type PSMB4 construct by site-directed mutagenesis using mutagenic sense (5'-gctgcggggttaaatgcgttatactacattaagataacgg-3'), antisense (5'-ccgttatcttaatgtagtataacgcatttaaccccgcage-3') primers and QuikChange II Site-Directed Mutagene...
and mutant PSMB4 genes were verified by sequencing and both gene versions were cloned into the T. brucei expression vector pHD1034 under control of a ribosomal RNA promoter. Transfected T. brucei Lister 427 cells were selected in medium supplemented with puromycin at 1 µg/ml. Susceptibility of transfected T. brucei cell lines to compounds were assessed after 2 days of compound treatment. Parasite viability was determined with CellTiter-Glo.

Reported EC$_{50}$ values for T. brucei parasites ectopically expressing PSMB4 proteins were calculated from 3 technical replicates (n= 3; also specified in the Figure 3b caption).

**Purification of parasite 20S proteasomes.** T. cruzi CL epimastigotes, L. donovani MHOM/SD/62/1S-CL2D axenic amastigotes and T. brucei Lister 27 bloodstream form trypanosomes were grown to log phase and harvested by centrifugation. The corresponding cell pellets were stored at -80 °C until further use. Prior to purification, 10 g of cell pellets were thawed, re-suspended in lysis buffer (50 mM Tris-HCl pH = 7.5, 1 mM TCEP, 5 mM EDTA, and 10 µM E-64), and lysed by passing cell suspension three times through a needle (22 gauge) and by subsequent three freeze/thaw cycles. The lysate was first cleared of cellular debris by two centrifugation steps (15,000 x g at 4 °C for 15 minutes followed by 40,000 x g at 4 °C for 60 minutes) and then fractionated through ammonium sulfate precipitation. The protein fraction precipitated between 45% and 65% of ammonium sulfate saturation was re-suspended in 25 mM Tris-HCl pH = 7.5, 1 mM TCEP buffer, and dialyzed overnight at 4 °C against the same buffer. Proteasomes were further purified by anion exchange chromatography (Resource Q column, GE Healthcare Life Sciences) and size exclusion chromatography (Superose 6 column, GE Healthcare Life Sciences) as described elsewhere$^{38}$. Active fractions from the latter purification step were pooled and used in proteasome biochemical assays.

**Subunit composition analysis of purified T. cruzi 20S proteasome by LC/MS/MS.** Purified T. cruzi proteasome sample was buffer-exchanged and concentrated into 100 mM trimethylamine bicarbonate-
HCl pH = 8.0, 150 mM NaCl buffer using a 10 kDa molecular weight cut-off micro-concentrator (Milipore Amicon Ultra). The resulting proteasome sample (200 µl, 1 mg/ml) was mixed with 5 µl of a TMTsixplex reagent (Pierce). After 60 second incubation to label primary amines, the reaction was stopped by adding 25 µl of 5% hydroxylamine. The labeled sample was run on 4-20% Bis-Tris PAGE gel (Invitrogen) to separate polypeptides. The gel was stained with eStain 2.0 (GenScript). Stained protein bands were cut out and in-gel digested separately with elastase (Promega) and asparaginase (Roche). Peptides generated by the digestions were resolved by HPLC using a vented column setup with a 2 cm Poros 10 R2 (Life Technologies, Carlsbad, CA) self-packed pre-column, and a PepMap Easy-Spray C18 analytical column (15 cm x 75 µm ID, Thermo Scientific). Resin-bound proteolytic fragments were eluted with 2 to 40% acetonitrile / 0.1% formic acid operated at 300 nL/min for 120 min. Spectra of eluted peptide species were determined by a column-coupled Q Exactive hybrid quadrupole orbitrap mass spectrometer (Thermo Scientific). Proteome Discoverer v1.4 software (Thermo Scientific) was used to search the T. cruzi genome with identified spectra for presence of 20S proteasome subunits (Supplementary Table 7). Search parameters included fixed carbamidomethyl modification of cysteine, and variable oxidation of methionine, deamidation of asparagine, pyro-glu of N-terminal glutamine, and TMT(6-plex) modification of lysine residues.

**Measuring proteasome proteolytic activities.** The activity of purified parasite and human 20S proteasomes was monitored by measuring cleavage of various rhodamine-labelled fluorogenic substrates. Purified 20S proteasomes were diluted in proteasome assay buffer (25 mM Tris-HCl pH 7.5, 1 mM dithiothreitol (Sigma-Aldrich), 10 mM sodium chloride, 25 mM potassium chloride, 1 mM magnesium chloride, 0.05% (w/v) CHAPS (Sigma-Aldrich) and 0.9% DMSO) at a final concentration of 162 nM (parasite proteasomes) or 25 nM (human proteasome), and pre-incubated with compound (40 nL; 0.2% final DMSO concentration) for 1 hour. Next, the following substrates (Biosynthan GmbH) were added at
3 µM final concentration to monitor specific proteolytic activities (Suc-LLVY-Rh110-dPro: chymotrypsin-like activity; Ac-RLR-Rh110-dPro: trypsin-like activity; Ac-GPLD-Rh110-dPro: caspase-like activity). The reaction was allowed to proceed for two hours at room temperature and fluorescence as a measure of purified 20S proteasome activity was monitored using the EnVision® plate reader (excitation at 485 nm/ emission at 535 nm). Km and Ki values were calculated using GraphPad Prism (GraphPad Software) ‘Non-competitive enzyme inhibition’ function.

Data shown in Fig. 4a, 4c, 4d and Extended Data Table 3 represent means of 3 technical replicates (n=3).

Data shown in Fig. 4b and Extended Data Fig. 5 represent means of 2 technical replicates (n=2).

**Monitoring accumulation of ubiquitylated proteins in intact cells.** Growing *T. cruzi* epimastigotes were seeded into 24-well tissue culture plate (1 x 10^7 cells/per well) in LIT medium and treated for 2-12 hours with DMSO (0.2%) or various concentrations of bortezomib and GNF6702 at 27 °C. Following the treatment, parasites were collected by centrifugation (3,500 g for 6 minutes) and washed twice with phosphate-buffered saline (PBS). Epimastigotes were lysed by resuspending washed cells in a buffer containing 50 mM Tris-HCl pH= 7.4, 150 mM sodium chloride, 1% CHAPS, 20 µM E-64 (Sigma-Aldrich), 10 mM EDTA (Sigma-Aldrich), 5 mM N-ethylmaleimide (Sigma-Aldrich), 1 mM phenylmethylsulfonyl fluoride (Sigma-Aldrich), 10 µg/mL leupeptin (Sigma-Aldrich), 10 µg/mL aprotinin (Sigma-Aldrich), and incubating the suspension on ice for 20 minutes. Cell lysates were cleared by centrifugation at 21,000 g for 30 min at 4 °C.

For 3T3 cells, 2 x 10^5 cells/well were seeded into 24-well tissue culture plates in RPMI medium 1640 supplemented with 10% heat-inactivated fetal bovine serum, and incubated overnight at 37 °C to allow cells to attach. Attached cells were treated for 2 hours with DMSO (0.25%) or various concentrations of bortezomib and GNF6702. Treated cells were washed twice with PBS and then lysed by incubating cells in modified RIPA buffer (50 mM Tris-HCl pH= 7.4, 1% Triton X-100, 0.2% sodium dodecylsulfate, 1
mM EDTA, 1 mM phenylmethylsulfonyl fluoride, 5 µg/mL aprotinin, 5 µg/mL leupeptin) for 30 min at 4 °C. Cell lysates were cleared by centrifugation at 21,000 g for 30 min at 4 °C.

Protein concentration in cell extracts was determined with BCA assay (ThermoFisher), and 10 µg of cell extracts were loaded on NuPAGE Novex 4-12% Bis-Tris gel (Invitrogen). After electrophoresis, resolved proteins were transferred to nitrocellulose membrane. Ubiquitylated proteins were detected with polyclonal anti-ubiquitin primary antibody (Proteintech, catalogue number 10201-2-AP) and rabbit anti-mouse IgG-peroxidase antibody (Sigma-Aldrich, catalogue number A0545), and then imaged using ECL Prime Western Blotting Detection Reagent (Amersham) on Chemidoc XR+ imaging system (BioRad).

Collected western blot images were quantified using Image Lab software (BioRad). Briefly, rectangles of identical size and shape were drawn around each blot lane to include inside the shape all ubiquitylated protein bands within 17 - 198 kDa molecular mass range. Next, integrated signal intensities within the rectangles (reported by the Image Lab software) were used for calculation of \( EC_{50} \) values. Three technical replicate experiments (\( n=3 \)) for each different dose response experiment (GNF6702 on \( T. cruzi \) epimastigotes; GNF6702 on 3T3 cells; bortezomib on \( T. cruzi \) epimastigotes; bortezomib on 3T3 cells) were performed.

**Trypanosoma cruzi proteasome modeling studies.** The homology model of \( T. cruzi \) 20S proteasome was built using ‘Prime’ protein structure prediction program (Schrödinger) and X-ray structure of bovine 20S proteasome (pdb accession code 1IRU)\(^{39} \) as the template. The model was subjected to restrained minimization to relieve inter-chain clashes. ‘SiteMap’ program (Schrödinger) was used to identify pockets on a protein surface suitable for small molecule binding. Flexible ligand docking was performed using ‘Glide 5.8’ (Schrödinger). The grid box was centered in a middle of the identified pocket and extended by 10 Å, with outer box extending additional 20 Å. The ligand was docked using the standard
precision (SP) algorithm and scored using ‘GlideScore’ (Schrödinger). The GNF6702 GlideScore is equal to -8.5.

**Receptor, enzyme and ion channel assays.** GNF6702 profiling was performed at 10 µM concentration in a selectivity panel at Eurofins (www.eurofinspanlabs.com/Catalog/AssayCatalog/AssayCatalog.aspx). Listed values % change in the assay readout relative to the DMSO control. To determine inhibition of a subset of human tyrosine kinases by GNF6702, the inhibitor was profiled on a panel of Ba/F3 cell lines expressing individual Tel-activated kinases as described previously\(^4^0\). All assays were performed as single technical repeats.

**Determination of GNF6702 thermodynamic solubility.** The solubility of GNF6702 was assessed in a high throughput thermodynamic solubility assay as described previously\(^4^1\). First, 25 µL of GNF6702 DMSO solutions were transferred to individual wells of a 96-well plate. DMSO was evaporated and 250 µL of 67 mM potassium phosphate buffer pH 6.8 were added to yield projected final compound concentrations from 1 µM to 100 µM. The plate was sealed to prevent solvent loss and shaken for 24 hours at room temperature. The plate was then filtered to remove non-dissolved material. Concentration of GNF6702 in individual plate wells was determined by measuring solution UV absorbance with reference to a GNF6702 calibration curve.

**Determination of GNF6702 permeability in Caco-2 assay.** A 96-Multiwell Insert System (BD Biosciences) was used for the Caco-2 cell culture and permeability assay as described previously\(^4^2\). Caco-2 cells were seeded onto insert wells at a density of 1.48 x 10^5 cells per ml and allowed to grow for 19-23 days before assays. To measure both absorptive (apical to basolateral [A-B]) and secretory (basolateral to apical [B-A]) compound transport, a solution of GNF6702 at 10 µM concentration in 0.5% DMSO were added to donor wells. The plate was incubated at 37°C for 2 hours, with samples taken at the beginning
and end of the incubation from both donor and acceptor wells. The concentration of GNF6702 was determined by LC-MS/MS.

Apparent drug permeability (Papp) was calculated using the following equation:

\[ Papp = \frac{dQ/dt}{A \cdot Cin} \]

where \(dQ/dt\) is the total amount of a test compound transported to the acceptor chamber per unit of time (nmol/s), \(A\) is the surface area of the transport membrane (0.0804 cm\(^2\)), \(Cin\) is the initial compound concentration in the donor chamber (10 \(\mu\)M), and Papp is expressed as cm/s).

**Determination of human CYP450 inhibition by GNF6702.** Extent of inhibition of major human CYP450 isoforms 2C9, 2D6 and 3A4 by GNF6702 was determined using pooled human liver microsomes and the known specific substrates of various CYP450 isoforms: diclofenac (5 \(\mu\)M), bufuralol (5 \(\mu\)M), midazolam (5 \(\mu\)M), and testosterone (50 \(\mu\)M). Probe substrate concentrations were used at concentrations equal to their reported Km values. The CYP450 inhibition assays with probe substrates diclofenac (2C9) or midazolam (3A4) were incubated at 37 °C for 5 to 10 minutes using a microsomal protein concentration of 0.05 mg/mL. Probe substrates bufuralol (2D6) and testosterone (3A4) were incubated at 37 °C for 20 minutes using microsomal concentration 0.5 mg/mL. The test concentrations of GNF6702 ranged from 0.5 to 25 \(\mu\)M in the presence of 1% DMSO. The reactions were initiated by adding NADPH (1 mM final concentration; Sigma-Aldrich) after a 5-min pre-incubation. Incubations were terminated by the addition of 300 \(\mu\)L of acetonitrile to 100 \(\mu\)L of a sample. No significant cytochrome P450 inhibition was observed. Extent of CYP450 isoform inhibition was determined by quantifying residual concentrations of individual CYP450 substrate probes at the end of reactions by LC/MS/MS.

**Determination of GNF6702 *in vitro* metabolic stability.** The intrinsic metabolic stability of GNF6702 was determined in mouse and human liver microsomes using the compound depletion approach and
LC/MS/MS quantification. The assay measured the rate and extent of metabolism of GNF6702 by measuring the disappearance of the compound. The assay determined GNF6702 in vitro half-life ($T^{1/2}$) and hepatic extraction ratios (ER) as described previously. GNF6702 was incubated for 30 minutes at 1.0 µM concentration in a buffer containing 1.0 mg/mL liver microsomes. Samples (50 µL) were collected at 0, 5, 15 and 30 minutes and immediately quenched by addition of 150 µL of ice-cold acetonitrile/methanol/water mixture (8/1/1). Quantification of GNF6702 in samples was performed by LC/MS/MS, and the in vitro intrinsic clearance was determined using the substrate depletion method. The intrinsic clearance, $\text{CL}_{\text{int}}$, was calculated using the following equation:

$$\text{CL}_{\text{int}} = (0.693/ T^{1/2} ) \times (V/ M),$$

where $T^{1/2}$ is the in vitro half-life, $V$ (µL) is the reaction volume, and $M$ (mg) is the microsomal protein amount. Finally the hepatic extraction ratio is calculated as:

$$\text{ER} = \text{CL}_{\text{h}} / \text{Q}_{\text{h}},$$

where $\text{CL}_{\text{h}}$ = hepatic clearance, $\text{Q}_{\text{h}}$ = hepatic blood flow.

$\text{CL}_{\text{h}}$ was calculated using the following equation:

$$\text{CL}_{\text{h}} = ( \text{Q}_{\text{h}} \times \text{fu} \times \text{CL}_{\text{int}} ) / ( \text{Q}_{\text{h}} + \text{fu} \times \text{CL}_{\text{int}} ),$$

where $\text{fu}$ = fraction unbound to protein (assumed to be 1).

**Pharmacokinetic studies.** An outline of various in vitro and in vivo DMPK assays used in this study for compound profiling was summarized previously. The pharmacokinetic properties of GNF compounds and calculation of pharmacokinetic parameters was performed as described previously. Mean compound plasma concentrations were calculated from fitted functions approximating compound plasma profile throughout 8 days of dosing. Blinding was not possible in these experiments.

**Bioanalysis of GNF6702 in plasma.** Plasma concentration of GNF6702 was quantified using a LC/MS/MS assay. Solution of 20 ng/mL of verapamil hydrochloride (Sigma-Aldrich) in
acetonitrile/methanol mixture (3/1 by volume), was used as an internal standard. Twenty microliters of plasma samples were mixed with 200 µl of internal standard solution. The samples were vortexed and then centrifuged in an Eppendorf Centrifuge 5810R (Eppendorf) at 4,000 rpm for 5 minutes at 4 °C to remove precipitated plasma proteins. The supernatants (150 µl) were transferred to a 96-well plate and mixed with 150 µl H₂O. The samples (10 µl) were then injected onto a Zorbax SB-C8 analytical column (2.1 x 30 mm, 3.5 µm; Agilent Technologies) and separated using a three step gradient (1st step: 1.5 mL of 0.05% formic acid in 10% acetonitrile; 2nd step: 0.5 mL of 0.05% formic acid in 100% acetonitrile; 3rd step: 0.5 mL of 0.05% formic acid in 10% acetonitrile) at flow rate of 700 µl/min. GNF6702 and verapamil were eluted at retention time 1.19 and 1.17 minutes, respectively. The HPLC system, consisting of Agilent 1260 series binary pump (Agilent Technologies), Agilent 1260 series micro vacuum degasser (Agilent Technologies) and CTC PAL-HTC-xt analytics autosampler (LEAP Technologies) was interfaced to a SCIEX API 4000 triple quadrupole mass spectrometer (Sciex). Mass spectrometry analysis was carried out using atmospheric pressure chemical ionization (APCI) in the positive ion mode. GNF6702 (430.07 > 333.20) and verapamil (455.16 > 164.90) peak integrations were performed using AnalystTM 1.5 software (Sciex). The lower limit of quantification (LLOQ) in plasma was 1.0 ng/mL. Samples were quantified using seven calibration standards (dynamic range 1 – 5,000 ng/mL) prepared in plasma and processed as described above.

**Formulation of study drugs for in vivo efficacy experiments.** All compounds administered to mice during efficacy experiments were formulated as suspensions in distilled water containing 0.5% methylcellulose (Sigma-Aldrich) and 0.5% Tween 80 (Sigma-Aldrich). During a treatment course, each mouse received 0.2 ml of drug suspension per dose by oral gavage.

**Mouse model of visceral leishmaniasis.** Female BALB/c mice (Envigo; 6-8 weeks old) were infected by tail vein injection with 4 x 10^7 *L. donovani* MHOM/ET/67/HU3 splenic amastigotes (protocol number
Seven days after infection, animals were orally dosed for eight days with vehicle (0.5% methylcellulose/ 0.5% Tween 80, miltefosine (12 mg/kg once-daily; Sigma-Aldrich), or a GNF compound (twice-daily). On the first day of dosing, three mice were used for collection of blood for PK determination and euthanized afterwards. On the last day of dosing, PK samples were collected from remaining five mice, which were also used for determination of compound efficacy (n= 5 mice per group). Liver samples were collected from these five mice and *L. donovani* parasite burdens were quantified by qPCR as follows. Total DNA was extracted from drug-treated mice livers using the DNeasy Blood and Tissue Kit (Qiagen). Two types of DNA were quantified in parallel using the TaqMan assay: *L. donovani* major surface glycoprotein gp63 (Ldon_GP63) and mouse GAPDH. *L. donovani* GP63 DNA was quantified with the following set of primers:

TGCGGTTCCTCTCTGAGATAT (forward), AGTCCATGAAGCGGAGATG (reverse), and TGGCAGTACTTCACGGAC (TaqMan MGB probe, 5'-FAM-labeled reporter dye, non-fluorescent quencher). Mouse GAPDH DNA was quantified with the following set of primers:

GCCGCCATGTGTGCAAAAC (forward primer), CGAGAGGAATGAGGTTAGTCAA (reverse primer), and ATGAATGAACCGCCTAT (TaqMan MGB probe, 5'-FAM-labeled reporter dye, non-fluorescent quencher). Each qPCR reaction (10 µL) included 5 µl of TaqMan Gene Expression Master Mix (Life Technologies), 0.5 µL of a 20X primer/probe mix (Life Technologies), and 4.5 µL (50 ng) of total DNA from liver samples. DNA amount was quantified using the Applied Biosystems 7900HT instrument. *L. donovani* parasite burden (RU: relative units) was expressed as the abundance of *L. donovani* GP63 DNA relative to the abundance of mouse GAPDH DNA.

**Mouse footpad model of cutaneous leishmaniasis.** *L. major* MHOM/SA/85/JISH118 metacyclic promastigotes were generated and purified by the peanut agglutinin method as described elsewhere. To establish the *L. major* footpad infection, female BALB/c mice (Envigo; 6-8 weeks old; protocol number
P11-319) were injected with suspension of *L. major* metacyclic promastigotes (1 x 10^6 parasites in 50 µL) into each hind footpad. After eight days of infection, animals were dosed with vehicle, miltefosine (30 mg/kg once-daily), or indicated regimens of GNF6702 for seven days (n=6 mice per group). The progress of infection was monitored by measuring the size (length and thickness) of hind footpad swelling using digital calipers. At the end of the study, the mice were euthanized, and the footpad tissues were extracted and used for genomic DNA isolation with the DNeasy Blood and Tissue kit (Qiagen). The *L. major* footpad burden was determined by qPCR quantification of kinetoplastid minicircle DNA (forward primer: 5’-TTTACACCTCCCCAGTTT-3’; reverse primer: 5’-CCGGTTTATAATTTCCGAAA-3’; Taqman MGB probe: 5’-AGGCCAAAAATGG-3’, 5’-FAM [6-carboxyfluorescein]-labeled reporter dye, non-fluorescent quencher). The amounts of mouse chromosomal DNA in extracted samples were quantified in parallel qPCR using a glyceraldehyde-3-phosphate dehydrogenase (GAPDH) TaqMan assay as described for mouse VL model above. *L. major* burden in footpad was expressed as the ratio of kinetoplast minicircle DNA to mouse GAPDH. P values for the between-groups differences in efficacies were calculated with a Student’s paired t test with a two-tailed distribution.

**Mouse model of Chagas disease.** Compound efficacy in mouse model of Chagas disease was determined as described previously. Female C57BL/6 mice (Envigo; 6-8 weeks old; protocol number P11-316) were infected by intraperitoneal injection with 10^3 tissue culture-derived *T. cruzi* CL trypomastigotes. Starting at 35 days after infection, the animals were dosed orally once-daily with 100 mg/kg benznidazole (Sigma-Aldrich) and indicated doses of GNF6702 (1, 3, and 10 mg/kg twice-daily, n=8 per group) for 20 days. Ten days following the end of drug treatment, the mice underwent four cycles of cyclophosphamide immunosuppression, each cycle lasting one week. During each immunosuppression cycle, mice were dosed by oral gavage once-daily with 200 mg/kg
cyclophosphamide (suspension in 0.5% methylcellulose/ 0.5% Tween80 aqueous solution) on day 1 and day 4 of the cycle. After the fourth immunosuppression cycle, blood samples were collected from the orbital venous sinus of each mouse, mice were euthanized and heart and colon samples were collected. Samples from treated mice were used for extraction of total DNA using the High Pure PCR template preparation kit (Roche). The amounts of *T. cruzi* satellite DNA (195-bp fragment) in extracted DNA samples were quantified by real-time qPCR TaqMan assay (Life Technologies) with the following set of primers: AATTATGAATGGCGGGAGTCA (forward primer), CCAGTGTGTGAACACGCAAAC (reverse primer), and AGACACTCTCTTTCAATGTA (TaqMan MGB probe, 5'-FAM [6-carboxyfluorescein]-labeled reporter dye, non-fluorescent quencher). The amounts of mouse chromosomal DNA in extracted samples were quantified in parallel qPCR reactions using a GADPH (glyceraldehyde-3-phosphate dehydrogenase) TaqMan assay as described for mouse VL model above. Each qPCR mixture (10 μl) included 5 μl of TaqMan Gene Expression master mix (Life Technologies), 0.5 μl of a 20x primer/probe mix (Life Technologies), and 4.5 μl (50 ng) of total DNA extracted from blood samples. PCRs were run on the Applied Biosystems 7900HT instrument. *T. cruzi* parasitemia was expressed as the abundance of *T. cruzi* microsatellite DNA relative to the abundance of mouse GAPDH DNA.

**Mouse model of stage II HAT.** Female CD1 (Charles River UK; ~8 weeks old; protocol number PPL 60/4442) mice were infected by injection into the peritoneum with 3 x 10⁴ *T. brucei* (GVR35-VSL2) bloodstream form parasites. Starting on day 21, mice were dosed by oral gavage once-daily with GNF6702 (n= 6) at 100 mg/kg for 7 days or a single dose of diminazene aceturate (Sigma-Aldrich) at 40 mg/kg in sterile water was administered by ip injection (n= 3). A group of untreated mice (n= 3) was included as controls.
Mice were monitored weekly for parasitemia from day 21 post-infection. *T. brucei* was quantified in blood samples from the tail vein by microscopy, and *in vivo* bioluminescence imaging of infected mice was performed before treatment on day 21 post-infection and in weeks following the treatment (day 28, 35, 42, 56, 63, 72, 84, 92 post-infection). Imaging on groups of three mice was performed 10 min after ip injection of 150 mg D-luciferin (Promega)/kg body weight (in PBS) using an IVIS Spectrum (PerkinElmer) as described previously\textsuperscript{25}. A group of uninfected mice (aged-matched for day 0 time point; n= 4) were imaged using the same acquisition settings to show the background bioluminescence (Fig. 2e, grey-filled squares) in the absence of luciferase-expressing *T. brucei* after day 92 of the experiment.

Untreated and diminazene-treated mice were euthanized on days 32 and 35, and day 42, respectively, due to high parasitemia or the development of symptoms related to CNS infection. GNF6702-treated mice were euthanized on day 92. No parasitemia or clinical symptoms were observed at this point. At the specified endpoints mice were sacrificed by cervical dislocation, after which whole brains were removed and imaged *ex vivo* within 10 minutes after administration of 100 μL of D-luciferin onto the brain surface. Data analysis for bioluminescence imaging was performed using Living Image Software. The same rectangular region of interest (ROI) covering the mouse body was used for each whole body image to show the bioluminescence in total flux (photons per second) within that region. Image panels of whole mouse bodies are composites of the original images with areas outside the ROI cropped out to save space. For *ex vivo* brain images the same oval shaped ROI was used to display the bioluminescence detected for each mouse brain at the respective endpoints.

**Chemical synthesis.** The detailed procedures for chemical synthesis are presented in Supplementary Information.

**END NOTES**

**Supplementary Information** can be found at the end of this manuscript.
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Contributions


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Competing financial interests

Patents related to this work has been filed (WO 2015/095477 A1, WO 2014/151784 A1, WO 2014/151729). Several authors own shares of Novartis.

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EXTENDED DATA LEGENDS

Extended Data Figure 1: Pharmacokinetic profile of GNF6702 in mouse. a, Time profiles of mean free plasma concentration of GNF6702 in mouse model of visceral leishmaniasis; free GNF6702 concentration values were predicted from measured total plasma concentration values collected on day 1 and day 8 of treatment. Dashed blue lines correspond to intra-macrophage L. donovani EC\textsubscript{50} of 18 ± 1.8 nM and EC\textsubscript{99} of 42 ± 5.6 nM. Circles: means ± s.d.; n=3 mice for treatment day 1; n=5 mice for treatment day 8; fraction unbound in mouse plasma=0.063. For data points lacking error bars, standard deviations are smaller than circles representing means. b, Time course of total GNF6702 concentration in mouse plasma and brain after single oral dose (20 mg/kg); n=2 mice per time point; circles: measured values; rectangles: means.
Extended Data Figure 2: GNF6702 clears parasites from mice infected with *T. brucei*. a, *In vivo* quantification of bioluminescent *T. brucei* in infected mice before and after treatment. ip: intraperitoneal; day 21: start of treatment; day 28: 24 hours after last GNF6702 dose; day 42: evaluation of early parasite recrudescence in mice treated with diminazene aceturate (n=3); day 42 and 92: absence of parasite recrudescence in mice treated with GNF6702 (n=6). Images from uninfected mice (3 mice of 4 are shown) aged-matched for day 0 were collected independently using the same acquisition settings. Parasitemia (blue font) and whole mouse total flux (black font) values of each animal are shown above the image; N.D.: not detectable. Within each group the mouse numbers in yellow (top left in each image) refer to the same mouse imaged throughout. Complete sets of parasitemia and whole mouse total flux values collected on individual mice throughout the experiment are listed in Supplementary Tables 4 and 5. b, Brains from mice shown in panel a were soaked in luciferin and imaged for presence of bioluminescent *T. brucei* at the indicated time points. For three diminazene-treated mice, two images of each brain are shown, one at a lower sensitivity (left) and the other at a high signal intensity scale.

Extended Data Figure 3: Structures and profiles of GNF3943 and GNF8000 used for selection of resistant *T. cruzi* lines. *L. donovani*: amastigotes proliferating within primary mouse macrophages; *T. brucei*: the bloodstream form trypomastigotes; *T. cruzi*: amastigotes proliferating in 3T3 fibroblast cells; macrophage: mouse primary peritoneal macrophages; EC$_{50}$ and CC$_{50}$: half-maximum growth inhibition concentration; F: oral bioavailability in mouse after administering single compound dose (20 mg/kg) as a suspension; CL: plasma clearance in mouse after single iv bolus dose (5 mg/kg); all EC$_{50}$ and CC$_{50}$ values correspond to means ± s.e.m. (n=4 technical replicates).

Extended Data Figure 4: Mutations in proteasome beta 4 subunit confer resistance to GNF6702 in *T. cruzi* and *T. brucei*. a, growth curves of wild type, GNF3943-resistant and GNF8000-resistant *T. cruzi* epimastigote strains in the presence of increasing concentrations of GNF6702, nifurtimox,
bortezomib and MG132; RU (relative units) corresponds to parasite growth relative to the DMSO control (%); for data points lacking error bars, standard errors are smaller than circles representing means; due to limited aqueous solubility, the highest tested GNF6702 concentration was 10 µM. 

**Extended Data Figure 5: Correlation between inhibition of parasite proteasome chymotrypsin-like activity and parasite growth inhibition by the GNF6702 compound series.** IC₅₀: half-maximum inhibition of indicated parasite proteasome; T. brucei EC₅₀: half-maximum growth inhibition on T. brucei bloodstream form trypomastigotes; T. cruzi EC₅₀: half-maximum growth inhibition on T. cruzi amastigotes proliferating inside 3T3 cells; data points correspond to means of 2 technical replicates; red circles: IC₅₀ >20 µM; yellow circles: IC₅₀ >20 µM and EC₅₀ >25 µM; data for 317 analogues are shown.

**Extended Data Figure 6: Hypothetical model of GNF6702 binding to T. cruzi proteasome beta 4 subunit.**

**a,** Alignment of amino acid sequences of proteasome beta 4 subunits (PSMB4) from L. donovani, T. cruzi, T. brucei and H. sapiens. Green: amino acid residues conserved between human and kinetoplastid PSMB4 proteins; blue: amino acid residues conserved only among kinetoplastid PSMB4 proteins; black: amino acids mutated in T. cruzi mutants resistant to analogues from the GNF6702 series.

**b,** Surface representation of the modeled T. cruzi 20S proteasome structure showing relative positions of the beta 5 and beta 4 subunits. Beta 4 amino acid residues F24 and I29 (colored yellow) are located at the interface of the two beta subunits. GNF6702 is depicted in a sphere representation bound into a predicted pocket on the beta 4 subunit surface with carbon, nitrogen, oxygen and hydrogen atoms colored magenta, blue, red and grey, respectively. The other T. cruzi 20S proteasome subunits are colored gray. **c,** Close-up
of the beta 5 and beta 4 subunits. The beta 5 subunit active site (pocket 1, chymotrypsin-like activity) is colored pale green. The predicted beta 4 pocket (pocket 2) with bound GNF6702 is colored blue. The inhibitor is shown in a stick representation with atoms colored as described in caption for the b panel. Beta 4 residues F24 and I29 are colored yellow. The proteasome model shown in panels b and c was produced by The PyMol Molecule Graphics System, Version 1.8, Schrodinger, LLC.

Extended Data Figure 7: Effect of GNF6702 on accumulation of ubiquitylated proteins by T. cruzi epimastigotes and 3T3 cells. a, Western blot analysis of T. cruzi whole cell extracts with anti-ubiquitin antibody after treatment with GNF6702 and bortezomib. b, Western blot analysis of 3T3 whole cell extracts with anti-ubiquitin antibody after treatment with GNF6702 and bortezomib. c, Concentrations of GNF6702 and bortezomib effecting half-maximum accumulation of ubiquitylated proteins in T. cruzi and 3T3 cells (means ± s.e.m.; n=3 technical replicates); total ubiquitin signal values in individual blot lanes shown in panels a and b were quantified and used for calculation of the listed EC$_{50}$ values. In a and b, numbers above the blot lanes indicate compound concentrations and D indicates control, DMSO-treated cells. For western blot source data, see Supplementary Figure 1.

Extended Data Table 1: Point mutations identified by whole genome sequencing in GNF3943- and GNF8000-resistant T. cruzi epimastigotes.

Extended Data Table 2: Enzyme inhibition IC$_{50}$ values of bortezomib and GNF6702 on three proteolytic activities of wild type T. cruzi, PSMB4$^{129M}$ T. cruzi, and H. sapiens proteasomes.

Extended Data Table 3: Inhibition kinetics parameters of GNF6702 on L. donovani and T. cruzi proteasomes.

SUPPLEMENTARY METHODS

1. Genomics Institute of the Novartis Research Foundation (GNF) chemical library

The GNF chemical library consists of ~3 million low molecular weight compounds.
2. High throughput screening (HTS) campaigns and hit identification

The high throughput screens were performed using 1,536 well polystyrene solid bottom white microplates (Greiner Bio-One). The GNF chemical library was tested against *L. donovani*, *T. brucei* and *T. cruzi* in whole-cell growth inhibition screens at single compound concentrations specified in sections below describing individual parasite screens. Parasite proliferation protocols described in the Methods section were optimized for 1,536 well plate assay format to provide optimal assay window and Z-factor. Primary hits included compounds that reduced growth of parasites by more than 50% relative to the relevant DMSO controls.

2.1. *Leishmania donovani* HTS

*Leishmania donovani* MHOM/SD/62/1S-CL2D axenic amastigotes in cell suspension were dispensed into 1,536-well assay plates (2,000 parasite cells in 5 µL of medium) and library compounds dissolved in DMSO were added to 4 µM final concentration (0.4% final DMSO concentration). After 48 hour incubation at 37 °C, parasite viability was assessed using the CellTiter-Glo Luminescent Cell Viability Assay (Promega) as described previously\(^3^2\). Compounds causing more than 50% reduction in parasite viability were considered hits. Identified hits were subsequently evaluated in the screening assay in triplicates at 4 µM compound concentration. Compounds that inhibited *L. donovani* growth in at least two replicates were considered confirmed hits.

2.2. *Trypanosoma brucei* HTS

*Trypanosoma brucei* Lister 427 bloodstream trypomastigotes in cell suspension were dispensed into 1,536-well assay plates (900 parasite cells in 7 µL of medium) and library compounds dissolved in DMSO were added to 7 µM final concentration (0.7% final DMSO concentration). After 48 hour incubation at 37 °C, parasite viability was assessed using the CellTiter-Glo Luminescent Cell Viability Assay (Promega) as described previously\(^3^2\). Compounds causing more than 50% reduction in parasite
viability were considered hits. Identified hits were subsequently evaluated in the screening assay in triplicates at 7 µM compound concentration. Compounds that inhibited *T. brucei* growth in at least two replicates were considered confirmed hits.

2.3. *Trypanosoma cruzi* HTS

A suspension of mouse fibroblast 3T3 cells was dispensed into 1,536-well assay plates (750 cells in 5 µL of medium). After overnight incubation at 37 °C, adhered 3T3 cells were infected with *T. cruzi* trypomastigotes (2,500 trypomastigotes per well in 3 µL of medium) and library compounds dissolved in DMSO were added to 6.3 µM final concentration (0.63% final DMSO concentration). After an additional 96 hour incubation at 37 °C, parasite viability was assessed using the BetaGlo Luminiscent Assay (Promega) as described previously. Compounds causing more than 50% reduction in parasite viability were considered hits. Because of a large number of screen hits, we further followed upon only on a small subset of hits that were also identified as confirmed hits in *L. donovani* and *T. brucei* high throughput screens. Out of 93 such hits, 77 compounds were confirmed to be selective pan-kinetoplastid inhibitors (*L. donovani*, *T. brucei*, *T. cruzi* EC$_{50}$ values < 10 µM, selectivity index relative to 3T3 CC$_{50}$ > 5).

3. Chemical synthesis

Unless otherwise noted, materials were obtained from commercial suppliers and were used without purification. Removal of solvent under reduced pressure refers to distillation using Büchi rotary evaporator attached to a vacuum pump (~3 mm Hg). Products obtained as solids or high boiling oils were dried under vacuum (~1 mm Hg). Purification of compounds by high pressure liquid chromatography was achieved using a Waters 2487 series with Ultra 120 5 µm C18Q column with a linear gradient from 10% solvent A (acetonitrile with 0.035% trifluoroacetic acid) in solvent B (water with 0.05% trifluoroacetic acid) to 90% A in four minutes, followed by two and half minute elution with 90% A.
H NMR spectra were recorded on Bruker XWIN-NMR (400 MHz or 600 MHz). Proton resonances are reported in parts per million (ppm) downfield from tetramethylsilane (TMS). H NMR data are reported as multiplicity (s - singlet, d - doublet, t - triplet, q - quartet, quint - quintet, sept - septet, dd - doublet of doublets, dt - doublet of triplets, bs - broad singlet), number of protons and coupling constant in Hertz. For spectra obtained in CDCl₃, DMSO-d₆, CD₃OD, the residual protons (7.27, 2.50 and 3.31 ppm respectively) were used as the reference.

Analytical thin-layer chromatography (TLC) was performed on commercial silica plates (Merck 60-F 254, 0.25 mm thickness); compounds were visualized by UV light (254 nm). Flash chromatography was performed either by CombiFlash® (Separation system Sg. 100c, ISCO) or using silica gel (Merck Kieselgel 60, 230-400 mesh). Agilent 1100 series liquid chromatograph/ mass selective detector (LC/MSD) was used to monitor the progress of reactions and check the purity of products using 254 nm and 220 nm wavelengths, and electrospray ionization (ESI) positive mode. Mass spectra were obtained in ESI positive mode. Elemental analyses were carried out by Midwest microlabs LLC, Indianapolis.

3.1. Synthesis of GNF5343

GNF5343 is a commercially available compound and was purchased from Chembridge laboratories (catalogue # 5840200).

3.2. Synthesis of GNF6702; N-(4-fluoro-3-(6-(pyridin-2-yl)-[1,2,4]triazolo[1,5-a]pyrimidin-2-yl)phenyl)-2,4-dimethyloxazole-5-carboxamide

3.2.1. Synthesis of 2-fluoro-5-nitrobenzoyl chloride (1)

A solution of 2-fluoro-5-nitrobenzoic acid (50 g, 270 mmol) in thionyl chloride (100 mL) was heated to 80 °C and stirred for 4 hours. The mixture was allowed to cool down to room temperature and the solvent was removed to give compound 1 (54 g, 98% yield).

3.2.2. Synthesis of 2-(2-fluoro-5-nitrobenzoyl)hydrazine-1-carboximidamide (2)
To a solution of aminoguanidine carbonate (36.2 g, 266 mmol) in dry toluene (300 mL) at 0 °C, was added compound 1 (54 g, 0.266 mol) over 30 minutes. The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 12 hours. The formed precipitate was removed by filtration, and the residue was treated with H₂O (400 mL) and made alkaline with sodium carbonate. The solid was collected and recrystallized from water to obtain compound 2 (62 g, 97% yield). M/Z 241.1 (M+1).

3.2.3. Synthesis of 5-(2-fluoro-5-nitrophenyl)-4H-1,2,4-triazol-3-amine (3)

A solution of compound 2 (62 g, 0.257 mol) in H₂O (800 mL) was stirred for 8 hours at 100 °C. After cooling, the obtained solid was filtered, and the cake was washed with H₂O (100 mL), tetrahydrofuran (100 mL), and dried to give compound 3 (34 g, 51% yield). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO) 12.42 (s, 1H), 8.74 (dd, J = 6.27, 3.01, 1H), 8.26 (dt, J = 8.97, 3.42, 1H), 7.57 (t, J = 9.54, 1H), 6.29 (s, 2H).

3.2.4. Synthesis of 2-(2-fluoro-5-nitrophenyl)-6-(pyridin-2-yl)-[1,2,4]triazolo[1,5-a]pyrimidine (4)

To a solution of compound 3 (1 g, 4.48 mmol) in acetic acid (20 mL) 2-(pyridin-2-yl)malonaldehyde (0.8 g, 5.376 mmol) was added at room temperature. The mixture was heated to 100 °C and stirred for 4 hours. The mixture was allowed to cool to room temperature before adding water (50 mL), filtered, and the filter cake was washed with saturate sodium bicarbonate solution (100 mL), H₂O (100 mL), and tetrahydrofuran (100 mL) and dried under vacuum to give compound 4 (0.9 g, 60% yield). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO) 10.13 (d, J = 2.01, 1H), 9.68 (d, J = 2.01, 1H), 9.09-9.02 (m, 1H), 8.77 (d, J = 4.27, 1H), 8.28-8.19 (m, 1H), 8.15-7.96 (m, 2H), 7.77 (t, J = 9.54, 1H), 7.56-7.43 (m, 1H).

3.2.5. Synthesis of 4-fluoro-3-(6-(pyridin-2-yl)-[1,2,4]triazolo[1,5-a]pyrimidin-2-yl)aniline (5)

To a solution of compound 4 (0.15 g, 0.443 mmol) in tetrahydrofuran (5 mL) was added Raney Nickel (0.2 g) and ZnI₂ (71 mg) at room temperature. The mixture was stirred under H₂ (50 psi) at 25 °C for 2.5 hours. The mixture was diluted with methanol (10 mL) and filtered. The solvent was removed and the crude product was washed with methanol (5 mL x 2) and dried under vacuum to give compound 5 (90...
mg, 66% yield). $^1$H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO) 10.01-10.06 (m, 1H), 9.62-9.58 (m, 1H), 8.73-8.78 (m, 1H), 8.24-8.20 (m, 1H), 8.02-7.96 (m, 1H), 7.57-7.47 (m, 2H), 7.08-7.05 (m, 1H), 6.76-6.70 (m, 1H), 5.24 (s, 2H) M/Z 307.01 (M+1).

### 3.2.6. Synthesis of N-(4-fluoro-3-(6-(pyridin-2-yl)-[1,2,4]triazolo[1,5-a]pyrimidin-2-yl)phenyl)-2,4-dimethyloxazole-5-carboxamide (GNF6702; 6)

To a solution of 2,4-dimethyloxazole-5-carboxylic acid (40.6 mg, 0.28 mmol) in dimethylformamide (5 mL) was added HATU (118.6 mg, 0.31 mmol) and DIEA (72.4 mg, 0.56 mmol) at room temperature. The mixture was stirred for 30 min, the intermediate 5 (80 mg, 0.26 mmol) was added at room temperature. The mixture was stirred for 3 hours, water (10 mL) was added, the mixture was filtered, and the filter cake was washed with H$_2$O (5 mL x 2), tetrahydrofuran (5 mL x 2) and purified by HPLC to give product 6 (33 mg, 31% yield). $^1$H NMR (400 M, MeOD) 9.84 (d, $J$ = 2.4, 1H), 9.61 (d, $J$ = 2.3, 1H), 8.76 (dt, $J$ = 4.8, 1.4, 1H), 8.54 (dd, $J$ = 6.4, 2.7, 1H), 8.12 (dt, $J$ = 8.0, 1.1, 1H), 8.00 (td, $J$ = 7.8, 1.8, 1H), 7.93 (ddd, $J$ = 8.9, 4.1, 2.7, 1H), 7.49 (ddd, $J$ = 7.5, 4.9, 1.0, 1H), 7.34 (dd, $J$ = 10.4, 9.0, 1H), 2.57 (s, 3H), 2.48 (s, 3H). M/Z= 430.13 (M+1).

### 3.3. Synthesis of GNF3943; Isopropyl (2-(2-chloro-5-(furan-2-carboxamido)phenyl)-1H-imidazo[4,5-b]pyridin-6-yl)carbamate

#### 3.3.1. Synthesis of 2-chloro-5-(furan-2-carboxamido)benzoic acid (7)

To a suspension of 5-amino-2-chlorobenzoic acid (13.7 g, 79.85 mmol, 1.00 equiv) in tetrahydrofuran (100 mL) was added furan-2-carbonyl chloride (11.5 g, 88.10 mmol, 1.10 equiv) at 0 °C. The ice bath was then removed and the reaction was stirred overnight at room temperature. The resulting mixture was concentrated under vacuum and diluted with DCM. The solid was collected by filtration to give 17 g (80%) of 2-chloro-5-(furan-2-amido)benzoic acid (7) as a gray solid.
3.3.2. Synthesis of N-(4-chloro-3-[6-nitro-1H-imidazo[4,5-b]pyridin-2-yl]phenyl)furan-2-carboxamide (8)

A mixture of 5-nitopyridine-2,3-diamine (6 g, 38.93 mmol, 1.00 equiv) and 2-chloro-5-(furan-2-amido)benzoic acid (7) (10.4 g, 39.15 mmol, 1.00 equiv) in polyphosphoric acid (PPA) (100 mL) was stirred overnight at 130 °C. The reaction was then poured into water/ice and the pH value of the mixture was adjusted to 9 with sodium carbonate. The solids were collected by filtration and applied onto a silica gel column with ethyl acetate/petroleum ether (3/1) to give 3.9 g (26%) of N-(4-chloro-3-[6-nitro-1H-imidazo[4,5-b]pyridin-2-yl]phenyl)furan-2-carboxamide (8) as a light yellow solid.

^1H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO) δ 10.50 (s, 1H), 9.19 (d, J = 2.6 Hz, 1H), 8.73 (s, 1H), 8.43 (d, J = 2.6 Hz, 1H), 8.03 – 7.90 (m, 4H), 7.61 (d, J = 8.9 Hz, 1H), 7.41 (d, J = 3.6 Hz, 1H), 6.79 – 6.67 (m, 1H). MS m/z 383.9 (M+H)^+.

3.3.3. Synthesis N-(3-[6-amino-1H-imidazo[4,5-b]pyridin-2-yl]-4-chlorophenyl)furan-2-carboxamide (9)

To a suspension of N-(4-chloro-3-[6-nitro-1H-imidazo[4,5-b]pyridin-2-yl]phenyl)furan-2-carboxamide (3.9 g, 10.16 mmol, 1.00 equiv) in ethanol (50 mL) was added SnCl₂·2H₂O (3.4 g, 15.04 mmol, 1.48 equiv) and the resulting mixture was heated to reflux overnight. The reaction mixture was concentrated under vacuum and diluted with H₂O. The pH value of the mixture was adjusted to 9 with saturated sodium carbonate. The solids were collected by filtration and applied onto a silica gel column with ethyl acetate/PE (3/1) to give 1.95 g (54%) of N-(3-[6-amino-1H-imidazo[4,5-b]pyridin-2-yl]-4-chlorophenyl)furan-2-carboxamide (9) as a yellow solid. ^1H-NMR: (CD₃OD, 400 MHz): 8.16 (d, J = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 7.97-8.10 (m, 2H), 7.78 (d, J = 0.8 Hz, 1H), 7.65 (d, J = 20.0 Hz, 1H), 7.31-7.41 (m, 2H), 6.68 (dd, J = 3.6, 2.0 Hz, 1H). MS (M+H)^+=354.

3.3.4. Synthesis of Isopropyl (2-(2-chloro-5-(furan-2-carboxamido)phenyl)-1H-imidazo[4,5-b]pyridin-6-yl)carbamate (GNF3943) (10)
To a 20 mL vial was transferred N-(3-(6-amino-1H-imidazo[4,5-b]pyridin-2-yl)-4-chlorophenyl)furan-2-carboxamide 9 (80 mg, 0.225 mmol) in dimethylformamide (4 mL) followed by addition of pyridine (2 drops), and the reaction mixture was stirred at 0 °C for 10 minutes. At this point was added isopropyl carbonochloridate (1 M solution in toluene, 1.45 mmols, 6.4 eq). The reaction mixture was stirred overnight while slowly warming up to room temperature. The presence of desired peak (M+H (440)) was confirmed by LC/MS. The reaction mixture was then quenched with saturated sodium carbonate solution to neutralize the extra acid chloride and to make the solution basic (pH 8-9). The reaction was extracted with ethyl acetate (3x10 mL), and the resulting organics were dried over sodium sulfate, filtered, and dried under vacuum. The resulting residue was purified via ISCO column chromatography using (0-100% ethyl acetate/hexane) to provide 53 mg, 0.119 mmol, 53% of the desired compound.  

$^1$H NMR (400 MHz, MeOD) $\delta$ 8.28 (d, $J = 22.1$, 2H), 8.10 (s, 1H), 7.88 (s, 1H), 7.67 (d, $J = 1.0$, 1H), 7.51 (d, $J = 8.8$, 1H), 7.24 – 7.16 (m, 1H), 6.56 (dd, $J = 1.7$, 3.5, 1H), 4.91 (dt, $J = 6.2$, 12.5, 1H), 1.24 (d, $J = 6.2$, 6H). M/Z=440.1(M+1)

3.4. Synthesis of GNF8000; isopropyl (2-(2-fluoro-5-(furan-2-carboxamido)phenyl)imidazo[1,2-a]pyrimidin-6-yl)carbamate

3.4.1. Synthesis of 1-(2-fluoro-5-nitrophenyl)ethan-1-one (11)

A 3,000 mL three necked flask equipped with a mechanic stirrer was charged with concentrated H$_2$SO$_4$ (720 mL) and cooled to -40 °C. 1-(2-fluorophenyl)ethanone (180 g, 1.3 mol) was added, followed by addition of a mixture of fuming HNO$_3$ (106.2 mL) in concentrated H$_2$SO$_4$ (260 mL) dropwise over 45 minutes. This mixture was stirred at this temperature for 15 minutes, poured into ice (8 kg), and extracted with ethyl acetate (2000 mL x 2). The combined ethyl acetate layer was washed with saturated NaHCO$_3$ solution (800 mL x 3), brine (800 mL), dried with anhydrous sodium sulfate, and concentrated under vacuum. The residue was crystallized with petroleum ether to give compound 11 (200 g, yield: 84%) as a
yellow solid. $^1$H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl$_3$) $\delta$ 7.34 (t, $J = 9.29$ Hz, 1H), 8.33-8.48 (m, 1H), 8.78 (dd, $J = 6.15, 2.89$ Hz, 1H).

3.4.2. Synthesis of 2-bromo-1-(2-fluoro-5-nitrophenyl)ethan-1-one (12)

To a solution of compound 11 (126 g, 0.688 mol) in acetic acid (860 mL) and 40% HBr solution (825.6 mL) at 0 °C, was added a solution of Br$_2$ (110 g, 0.688 mol) in acetic acid (344 mL) in one portion. This mixture was stirred at room temperature overnight, diluted with water (3000 mL), and extracted with 50% ethyl acetate/petroleum ether (1500 mL x 2). The combined organic layer was washed with a saturated NaHCO$_3$ solution (1000 mL x 2), brine (1000 mL), dried with anhydrous sodium sulfate and concentrated. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (20% EA/PE) to give the compound 12 (150 g, yield: 83%) as a white solid. $^1$H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl$_3$) $\delta$ 8.85 (dd, $J = 5.90, 2.89$ Hz, 1H), 8.42-8.58 (m, 1H), 7.42 (t, $J = 9.29$ Hz, 1H), 4.52 (d, $J = 2.01$ Hz, 2H).

3.4.3. Synthesis of Isopropyl (2-aminopyrimidin-5-yl)carbamate (13)

A suspension of 5-nitropyrimidine-2-amine (1 eq.) and Pd/C (0.05 eq.) in ethanol (0.1 mM) was stirred under hydrogen atmosphere overnight at room temperature to give of 2,5-diaminopyrimidine. The mixture was then filtered and concentrated under vacuum. The residue (1 eq.) was subjected to coupling with isopropylcarbonochloridate (1.5 eq.) in anhydrous pyridine (0.3 mM) overnight at room temperature. The mixture was concentrated under vacuum, and the residue was extracted with ethyl acetate, washed with brine, dried over anhydrous MgSO$_4$ (s), filtered and concentrated under vacuum to give 13 as a yellow solid. m/z (ESI): 196 (M + H$^+$).

3.4.4. Synthesis of isopropyl (2-(2-fluoro-5-nitrophenyl)imidazo[1,2-a]pyrimidin-6-yl)carbamate (14)

Into a 500 mL round-bottom flask, was placed 2-bromo-1-(2-fluoro-5-nitrophenyl)ethan-1-one 12 (30 g, 114.49 mmol, 1 eq.), propan-2-yl N-(2-aminopyrimidin-5-yl)carbamate (11.2 g, 57.08 mmol, 0.5 eq.) and
acetone (200 mL). The resulting solution was stirred overnight at 70 °C. The reaction mixture was cooled down and the solids were collected by filtration resulting in 15 g (36%) of propan-2-yl N-[2-(2-fluoro-5-nitrophenyl)imidazo[1,2-a]pyrimidin-6-yl]carbamate (14) as a brown solid.

3.4.5. Synthesis of isopropyl (2-(5-amino-2-fluorophenyl)imidazo[1,2-a]pyrimidin-6-yl)carbamate (15)

Into a 1 L round-bottom flask was placed tetrahydrofuran (500 mL), Raney Ni (15 g) and propan-2-yl N-[2-(2-fluoro-5-nitrophenyl)imidazo[1,2-a]pyrimidin-6-yl]carbamate 14 (8 g, 22.26 mmol, 1 eq.). The resulting solution was stirred overnight at room temperature under an atmosphere of hydrogen. The solids were filtered out, and washed with methanol (200 mL x 4). The resulting mixture was concentrated under vacuum to give 7 g (95%) of propan-2-yl N-[2-(5-amino-2-fluorophenyl)imidazo[1,2-a]pyrimidin-6-yl]carbamate (15) as a brown solid. 1H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d6) δ 9.94 (s, 1H), 9.24 (s, 1H), 8.46-8.47 (m, 1H), 8.26-8.28 (m, 1H), 7.51-7.53 (m, 1H), 6.96-7.02 (m, 1H), 6.55-6.59 (m, 1H), 4.89-4.98 (m, 1H), 3.17 (s, 2H), 1.07-1.30 (m, 6H). MS m/z= 330 (M+1).

3.4.6. Synthesis of isopropyl (2-(2-fluoro-5-(furan-2-carboxamido)phenyl) imidazo[1,2-a]pyrimidin-6-yl)carbamate (GNF8000) (16)

In a 40 mL vial, pyridine (10 mL) was added to intermediate 15 (0.5 g, 1.518 mmol) to give a yellow solution. To this solution was added furan-2-carbonyl chloride (0.198 g, 1.518 mmol) at 0 °C and the resulting mixture was stirred for 1 hour. The reaction mixture was quenched with 60 mL of water and extracted with ethyl acetate. The same step was repeated once more time to remove any extra pyridine. All organic phases were combined, dried over sodium sulfate and purified by flash chromatography to give product 16 (ethyl acetate/methanol= 0-10%). 1H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d6) δ 10.43 (s, 1H), 10.06 (s, 1H), 9.36 (s, 1H), 8.69 (dd, J = 2.8, 6.9 Hz, 1H), 8.56 (d, J = 2.7 Hz, 1H), 8.45 (d, J = 4.2 Hz, 1H), 8.02 (d, J = 1.0 Hz, 1H), 7.95-7.85 (m, 1H), 7.46 (d, J = 3.4 Hz, 1H), 7.37 (dd, J = 9.0, 10.9 Hz, 1H), 7.35-7.31 (m, 1H), 3.18 (s, 2H), 1.07-1.27 (m, 6H).
3.5. Synthesis of GNF3849; N-(4-fluoro-3-(6-phenyl-[1,2,4]triazolo[1,5-a]pyrimidin-2-yl)phenyl)-2,4-dimethyloxazole-5-carboxamide

3.5.1. Synthesis of 2-(2-fluoro-5-nitrophenyl)-6-phenyl-[1,2,4]triazolo[1,5-a]pyrimidine (17)

To a solution of compound 3 (0.5 g, 2.24 mmol) in AcOH (5 mL) was added 2-phenylmalonaldehyde (0.39 g, 2.7 mmol). The mixture was then heated to 100 °C and stirred for 4 hours. The mixture was allowed to cool to room temperature, water (10 mL) was added, the solids filtered, and the filter cake was washed with tetrahydrofuran, and dried under vacuum to give compound 17 (0.36 g, 48% yield). £H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO) 9.93 (d, J = 2.4, 1H), 9.38 (d, J = 2.8, 1H), 8.90 (s, 1H), 7.93 (d, J = 7.78, 2H), 7.69 (d, J = 8.53, 1H), 7.61-7.50 (m, 2H), 7.31 (t, J = 7.40, 1H), 6.88 (s, 1H).

3.5.2. Synthesis of 4-fluoro-3-(6-phenyl-[1,2,4]triazolo[1,5-a]pyrimidin-2-yl)aniline (18)

To a solution of compound 17 (2.5 g, 7.4 mmol) in tetrahydrofuran (200 mL) was added ZnI$_2$ (1.2 g, 3.7 mmol) and Raney Nickel (3.5 g). This mixture was stirred at room temperature for 4 hour under H$_2$ at 50 psi, then the mixture was filtrated and washed with methanol (20 mL) to give compound 18 (2.0 g, 87% yield). £H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO) 9.81 (d, J = 2.4, 1H), 9.27 (d, J = 2.8, 1H), 7.90 (d, J = 7.6, 2H), 7.58-7.53 (m, 2H), 7.45-7.50 (m, 2H), 7.09-7.05 (m, 1H), 6.74-6.70 (m, 1H), 5.22 (s, 2H). M/Z 306.1 (M+H$^+$).

3.5.3. Synthesis of N-(4-fluoro-3-(6-phenyl-[1,2,4]triazolo[1,5-a]pyrimidin-2-yl)phenyl)-2,4-dimethyloxazole-5-carboxamide (GNF3849) (19)

To a solution of 2,4-dimethyloxazole-5-carboxylic acid (0.56 g, 3.9 mmol) in dimethylformamide (30 mL) was added DIEA (0.85 g, 6.66 mmol) and HATU (1.5 g, 3.9 mmol). This mixture was stirred at room temperature for 30 minutes, then compound 18 (1.0 g, 3.28 mmol) was added. The mixture was then
stirred at room temperature for 4 hours, diluted with water (50 mL) and extracted with tetrahydrofuran/ethyl acetate (100 mL/50 mL), the organic layer was dried over sodium sulfate and concentrated to give the crude product. It was purified by HPLC to give product 19 (0.91 g, yield, 65%) as a white solid. $^1$H NMR (400 MHz, MeOD) δ 9.49 (d, $J = 2.4$, 1H), 9.22 (d, $J = 2.4$, 1H), 8.51 (dd, $J = 6.4$, 2.8, 1H), 7.90 (ddd, $J = 8.9$, 4.2, 2.8, 1H), 7.86-7.76 (m, 2H), 7.63-7.55 (m, 2H), 7.54-7.45 (m, 1H), 7.32 (dd, $J = 10.4$, 9.0, 1H), 2.56 (s, 3H), 2.47 (s, 3H). M/Z = 429.2 (M+H$^+$).

3.6. Synthesis of GNF2636; isopropyl (2-(2-chloro-5-(furan-2-carboxamido)phenyl)imidazo[1,2-a]pyrimidin-6-yl)carbamate

3.6.1. Synthesis of isopropyl (2-(2-chloro-5-nitrophenyl)imidazo[1,2-a]pyrimidin-6-yl)carbamate (20)

Into a 500-mL round-bottom flask, was placed 13 (1.75 g, 6.3 mmol, 1.2 equiv), acetone (400 mL) and 2-bromo-1-(2-chloro-5-nitrophenyl)ethan-1-one (1.0 g, 5.3 mmol). The resulting solution was stirred overnight at 70 °C. The reaction mixture was cooled, the solvent evaporated, the resulting material suspended in methanol, and then solids collected by filtration resulting in product 20 (0.75 g, 38% yield). $^1$H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-D6) δ 10.08 (s, 1H), 9.34 (s, 1H), 9.08 (s, 1H), 8.86 (s, 1H), 8.56 (s, 1H), 8.19 (d, $J = 8.7$, 1H), 7.88 (d, $J = 8.8$, 1H), 4.95 (m, 1H), 1.30 (m, 6H). MS m/z (ESI) = 377 (M + ).

3.6.2. Synthesis of isopropyl (2-(5-amino-2-chlorophenyl)imidazo[1,2-a]pyrimidin-6-yl)carbamate (21)

In a round-bottom flask, 20 (300 mg, 0.77 mmol) was taken up in methanol (20 mL) and SnCl$_2$ (3 equivalents) was added. The resulting mixture was stirred for 2 hours at reflux. The reaction mixture was concentrated under vacuum and the crude material was purified by flash column chromatography (hexane/ethyl acetate solvent system followed by DCM/methanol solvent system) resulting in 21 (265 mg, 96%) as a yellow solid. $^1$H-NMR: (300 MHz, MeOD): 9.30 (s, 1H), 8.51 (d, $J = 2.1$ Hz, 1H), 8.37 (s,
3.6.3. Synthesis of isopropyl (2-(2-chloro-5-(furan-2-carboxamido)phenyl)imidazo[1,2-a]pyrimidine-6-yl)carbamate (GNF2636) (22)

To a suspension of compound 21 (20 mg, 0.06 mmol) in pyridine (2 mL) in a vial was added 2-furoyl chloride (1.5 equivalents) at room temperature. After stirring overnight, the reaction was concentrated and the resulting residue was purified by prep HPLC to afford the product 22 (5 mg, 19% yield). 1H NMR (400 MHz, methanol-d4) δ 9.57 (s, 1H), 8.76 (d, J = 2.6 Hz, 1H), 8.52 (s, 1H), 8.31 (d, J = 2.6 Hz, 1H), 7.89 – 7.69 (m, 2H), 7.62 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 7.32 (d, J = 3.5 Hz, 1H), 6.68 (dd, J = 3.5, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 5.14 – 4.97 (m, 1H), 1.35 (d, J = 6.3 Hz, 6H). MS m/z = 440.2 (M+H).
Figure a: Plots of plasma concentration vs. time for Treatment - day 1 and Treatment - day 8 for GNF6702 at different doses (10 mg/kg b.i.d., 3 mg/kg b.i.d., 1 mg/kg b.i.d., 0.3 mg/kg b.i.d.) with EC_{50} values of 42 nM and 18 nM.

Figure b: Plots of GNF6702 PK at 20 mg/kg for plasma and brain concentrations vs. time.
### a)

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**Treatment**

- Day 21
- Day 28
- Day 42
- Day 92

### b)

- **diminazene aceturate 40 mg/kg, ip injection - day 42**
  - low sensitivity scale
  - high sensitivity scale

- **GNF6702, 100 mg/kg once-daily - day 92**
  - high sensitivity scale
GNF3943

L. donovani EC$_{50}$ = 380 ± 23 nM
T. brucei EC$_{50}$ = 33 ± 9.4 nM
T. cruzi EC$_{50}$ = 120 ± 12 nM
3T3 CC$_{50}$ = 4.5 ± 0.9 μM
Macrophage CC$_{50}$ = 9.8 ± 2.4 μM
F = 75%
CL = 17.7 mL*min$^{-1}$*kg$^{-1}$

GNF8000

L. donovani EC$_{50}$ = 320 ± 7.1 nM
T. brucei EC$_{50}$ = 73 ± 2.9 nM
T. cruzi EC$_{50}$ = 154 ± 12 nM
3T3 CC$_{50}$ > 20 μM
Macrophage CC$_{50}$ = 18 ± 2.1 μM
F = 10%
CL = 8.8 mL*min$^{-1}$*kg$^{-1}$
b

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c

|                  | | | |
|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
|                  | T. cruzi | T. cruzi | T. cruzi | T. brucei |
|                  | ectopic PSMB4\(^{WT}\) | ectopic PSMB4\(^{FL}\) | ectopic PSMB4\(^{WT}\) | ectopic PSMB4\(^{FL}\) |
|                  | non-induced | induced | non-induced | induced | constitutive | constitutive |
| GNF6702 \([\mu]M\) | 0.20 ± 0.007 | 0.20 ± 0.023 | 0.56 ± 0.029 | > 10 | 0.018 ± 0.0018 | 1.2 ± 0.013 |
| bortezomib \([\mu]M\) | 0.46 ± 0.059 | 0.40 ± 0.057 | 0.45 ± 0.008 | 0.37 ± 0.015 | 0.0019 ± 0.0005 | 0.0011 ± 0.00026 |
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*T. cruzi* epimastigotes

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**c**

<table>
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<th><em>T. cruzi</em></th>
<th>3T3</th>
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<td>GNF8702 EC₅₀ [μM]</td>
<td>0.13 ± 0.010</td>
<td>&gt; 10</td>
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<tr>
<td>bortezomib EC₅₀ [μM]</td>
<td>0.062 ± 0.001</td>
<td>0.040 ± 0.008</td>
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Supplementary Figure 1

a Western blots of three sets of cell lysates from GNF8702-treated *T. cruzi* epimastigotes

Extended Data Fig. 7a, upper panel

b Western blots of three sets of cell lysates from bortezomib-treated *T. cruzi* epimastigotes

Extended Data Fig. 7a, lower panel

c Western blots of three sets of cell lysates from GNF8702-treated 3T3 cells

Extended Data Fig. 7b, upper panel

d Western blots of three sets of cell lysates from bortezomib-treated 3T3 cells

Extended Data Fig. 7b, lower panel
Excel files
1. Supplementary Table 1
   Small molecule screening data from *Leishmania donovani* axenic amastigote growth inhibition HTS.

2. Supplementary Table 2
   Small molecule screening data from *Trypanosoma brucei* bloodstream form trypomastigote growth inhibition HTS.

3. Supplementary Table 3
   Small molecule screening data from *Trypanosoma cruzi* intracellular trypomastigote growth inhibition HTS.

4. Supplementary Table 4
   Time course of parasitemia in mice infected with bioluminescent *T. brucei* during and after treatment with diminazene aceturate and GNF6702

5. Supplementary Table 5
   Time course of whole body bioluminescence in mice infected with bioluminescent *T. brucei* during and after treatment with diminazene aceturate and GNF6702

6. Supplementary Table 6
   *Trypanosoma brucei* bioluminescence of *ex vivo* brains obtained from parasite-infected mice after treatment with diminazene aceturate and GNF6702.

7. Supplementary Table 7
   20S proteasome subunits identified in purified *T. cruzi* proteasome.

8. Supplementary Table 8
   Amino acid sequences of predicted *Trypanosoma cruzi* 20S proteasome alpha and beta subunits.

9. Supplementary Table 9
   GNF6702 profile in a panel of mammalian receptors, enzymes and ion channels.

10. Supplementary Table 10
    GNF6702 inhibition profile in a cell-based Ba/F3 panel of Tel-activated human tyrosine kinases.

11. Supplementary Table 11
    GNF6702 ADME profile.