## **Supporting Information**

### for

# A comparative study of the interactions of cationic hetarenes with quadruplex-DNA forming oligonucleotide sequences of the insulin-linked polymorphic region (ILPR)

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### Additional experimental data

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**Figure S1:** Fluorimetric DNA denaturation experiments of G-quadruplex **Fa**<sub>2</sub>**T** (0.2  $\mu$ M) in the presence of ligands **1a** (A), **1b** (B), **1c** (C), **1d** (D) and **1e** (E); *LDR*: 0, 1.25, 2.5, 5 (molar equivalents); KCI-LiCI-Na-cacodylate buffer (10 mM K<sup>+</sup>, pH 7.2);  $\lambda_{ex} = 470$  nm. The arrows indicate the evolution of the melting curve with increasing ligand concentration.



**Figure S2:** Fluorimetric DNA denaturation experiments of G-quadruplex **Fa**<sub>2</sub>**T** (0.2  $\mu$ M) in the presence of ligands **2** (A), **3** (B), **4** (C), **5** (D) and **6** (E); *LDR*: 0, 1.25, 2.5, 5 (molar equivalents); KCI-LiCI-Na-cacodylate buffer (10 mM K<sup>+</sup>, pH 7.2);  $\lambda_{ex} = 470$  nm. The arrows indicate the evolution of the melting curve with increasing ligand concentration.



**Figure S3:** Photometric titration of **1a** (A), **1b** (B), **1c** (C), **1d** (D) and **1e** (E) with **a2** in potassium phosphate buffer (95 mM, pH 7.0); A, B:  $c_{Lig} = 50 \mu$ M; C:  $c_{Lig} = 5.0 \mu$ M; D, E:  $c_{Lig} = 10.0 \mu$ M. Arrows indicate the development of the bands with increasing DNA concentration. Inset: Plot of the development of absorption bands during titration versus DNA concentration.



concentration. Inset: The fitting curve at at *LDR* = 1.1 (A) and 0.8 (B). A:  $c_{Lig} = 10 \ \mu\text{M}$ ; B:  $c_{Lig} = 5 \ \mu\text{M}$ ;  $\lambda_{ex} = 580 \ \text{nm}$ .



**Figure S5:** Photometric titration of **2** (A), **3** (B), **4** (C), **5** (D) and **6** (E) with **a2** in potassium phosphate buffer (95 mM, pH 7.0); A, B, D, E:  $c_{Lig} = 50 \mu$ M; C:  $c_{Lig} = 5.0 \mu$ M. Arrows indicate the development of the bands with increasing DNA concentration. Inset: Plot of the development of absorption bands during titration versus DNA concentration.



phosphate buffer (95 mM, pH 7.0); A-C:  $c_{Lig} = 10.0 \ \mu$ M; D:  $c_{Lig} = 5.0 \ \mu$ M. Arrows indicate the development of the bands with increasing DNA concentration. Inset: Plot of the change of the emission intensity versus DNA concentration with the corresponding fitting curves.



**Figure S7:** Plot of the intensity change (CD/CD<sub>o</sub>) of the CD signals 265 nm (**■**) and 295 nm (**○**) of ILPR-DNA **a2** in the presence of **1d** (A), **1e** (B), **2** (C), **4** (D), **5** (E) and **6** (F) at *LDR* = 0, 0.5, 1, 2;  $c_{\text{DNA}}$ = 20 µM in potassium phosphate buffer (95 mM, pH 7.0); T = 20 °C.



**Figure S8:** CD spectra of **22AG** in the presence of **1d** (A), **1e** (B) and **6** (C) at LDR = 0 (black), 0.5 (red), 1 (blue), 2 (magenta);  $c_{DNA} = 20 \mu$ M in potassium phosphate buffer (95 mM, pH 7.0); T = 20 °C. Inset: Magnified ICD signals of the bound ligands (magnification factor: ca. 10).