## **General Information**

The Fmoc-(9-fluorenylmethoxycarbonyl-) and all other protected amino acid analogues were purchased from *Bachem Inc.* (Bubendorf, Switzerland), *Merck KGaA* (Darmstadt, Germany) or *Iris Biotech GmbH* (Marktredwitz, Germany). The *H*-Rink amide ChemMatrix<sup>®</sup> resin (35-100 mesh particle size, 0.4-0.6 mmol/g loading) was purchased from *Merck KGaA* (Darmstadt, Germany). *CheMatech* (Dijon, France) delivered the chelators DOTA(<sup>4</sup>Bu)<sub>3</sub> as well as DOTAGA(<sup>4</sup>Bu)<sub>4</sub>. Peptide syringes were obtained from *VWR International GmbH* (Bruchsal, Germany).

All necessary solvents and other organic reagents were purchased from either, *Alfa Aesar*<sup>™</sup> (Karlsruhe, Germany), *Merck KGaA* (Darmstadt, Germany) or *VWR International GmbH* (Bruchsal, Germany). Solid-phase synthesis of the peptides was carried out by manual operation using a Scilogex MX-RL-E Analog Rotisserie Tube Rotator (*Scilogex*<sup>®</sup>, Rocky Hill, CT, USA). H<sub>2</sub>O was used after purification by a Barnstead MicroPure system (*Thermo Fisher Scientific Inc.*, Waltham, MA, USA).

Analytical and preparative reversed-phase high performance liquid chromatography (RP-HPLC) were performed using Shimadzu gradient systems (*Shimadzu Deutschland GmbH*, Neufahrn, Germany), each equipped with a SPD-20A UV/Vis detector (220 nm, 254 nm). Different gradients of MeCN (0.1% TFA) in H<sub>2</sub>O (0.1% TFA) were used as eluents for all RP-HPLC operations.

For analytical measurements, a Nucleosil 100 C18 (125 × 4.6 mm, 5 µm particle size) column (*CS Chromatographie Service GmbH*, Langerwehe, Germany) was used at a flow rate of 1 mL/min. Both, specific gradients and the corresponding retention times  $t_{\rm R}$  as well as the capacity factor *K* are cited in the text.

Preparative RP-HPLC purification was done with a Multospher 100 RP 18 (250  $\times$  10 mm, 5  $\mu$ m particle size) column (*CS Chromatographie GmbH*, Langerwehe, Germany) at a constant flow rate of 5 mL/min.

Analytical and preparative radio RP-HPLC was performed using a MultoKrom 100-5 C18 (5 µm, 125 × 4.6 mm) column (*CS Chromatographie GmbH*, Langerwehe, Germany).

Electrospray ionization-mass spectra for characterization of the substances were acquired on an expression<sup>L</sup> CMS mass spectrometer (*Advion Ltd.*, Harlow, UK).

For radiolabeling, <sup>177</sup>LuCl<sub>3</sub> (Molar Activity ( $A_M$ ) >3000 GBq/mg, 740 MBq/mL, 0.04 M HCl, *ITG GmbH*, Garching, Germany) was used. Radioactivity was detected through connection of the outlet of the UV-photometer to an AceMate 925-Scint Nal(Tl) well-type scintillation counter from *EG&G Ortec*<sup>®</sup> (Oak Ridge, TN, USA). Radioactive samples were measured by a WIZARD<sup>2®</sup> 2480 Automatic  $\gamma$ -Counter (*Perkin Elmer Inc.*, Waltham, MA, USA) and determination of *IC*<sub>50</sub> values was carried out using GraphPad Prism 6 (*GraphPad Software Inc.*, San Diego, CA, USA). For radio TLC, a Scan-RAM<sup>TM</sup> Scanner with Laura<sup>TM</sup> software (*LabLogic Systems Ltd.*, Broomhill, Sheffield, United Kingdom) was used.

Lyophilization was accomplished using an Alpha 1-2 LDplus lyophilizer (*Martin Christ Gefriertrocknungsanlagen GmbH*, Osterode am Harz, Deutschland) combined with a RZ-2 vacuum pump (*Vacuubrand GmbH & Co KG*, Olching, Germany).

For *in vitro* and *in vivo* studies, the used nutrition mixture Dulbecco's modified eagle's medium/Ham's F-12 (DMEM/F-12, v/v = 1/1, with stable glutamine), fetal bovine serum (FBS Superior), phosphate buffered saline (PBS Dulbecco, without Ca<sup>2+</sup>/Mg<sup>2+</sup>), trypsin/EDTA (0.05%/0.02% in PBS without Ca<sup>2+</sup>/Mg<sup>2+</sup>) solution as well as Hank's balanced salt solution (HBSS, with 0.35 g/L NaHCO<sub>3</sub> and Ca<sup>2+</sup>/Mg<sup>2+</sup>) were obtained from *Biochrom GmbH* (Berlin, Germany). Solution of purified products was applied using Tracepur<sup>®</sup> H<sub>2</sub>O (*Merck KGaA*, Darmstadt, Germany). Bovine serum albumin (BSA) was purchased from *Merck KGaA* (Darmstadt, Germany).

Cells were cultured in CELLSTAR<sup>®</sup> cell culture flasks and seeded in 24-well plates (*Greiner Bio-One GmbH*, Kremsmünster, Austria) after being counted with a Neubauer hemocytometer (*Paul Marienfeld*, Lauda-Königshofen, Germany) using Trypan Blue (0.4% in 0.81% NaCl and 0.06% potassium phosphate) solution (*Sigma-Aldrich GmbH*, Munich, Germany). Cells were handled inside a MSC Advantage laminar flow cabinet and maintained THE JOURNAL OF NUCLEAR MEDICINE • Vol. 63 • No. 9 • September 2022 Foray et al.

in a Heracell 150i incubator (*Thermo Fisher Scientific Inc.*, Waltham, MA, USA) at 37 °C in a humidified 5% CO<sub>2</sub> atmosphere.

#### **General Procedures (GP) and Execution Protocols**

*On-resin Peptide Formation (GP1).* The respective side-chain protected Fmoc-AA-OH (1.5 eq.) is dissolved in NMP and pre-activated by adding TBTU (1.5 eq.), HOAt (1.5 eq.) and DIPEA (4.5 eq.). After activation for 10 min, the solution is added to resin-bound free amine peptide and shaken for 1.5 h at rt. Subsequently, the resin is washed with NMP (6 × 20 mL/g resin) and after Fmoc deprotection (GP2), the next amino acid is coupled analogously.

*On-resin Fmoc Deprotection (GP2).* The resin-bound Fmoc-peptide is treated with 20% piperidine in NMP (v/v) for 5 min and subsequently for 15 min. Afterwards, the resin is washed with NMP (6 × 20 mL/g resin).

Conjugation of Chelator (GP3). The protected chelator DOTA( ${}^{t}Bu$ )<sub>3</sub> or DOTAGA( ${}^{t}Bu$ )<sub>4</sub> (1.5 eq.) is dissolved in NMP and pre-activated by adding TBTU (1.5 eq.), HOAt (1.5 eq.) and DIPEA (4.5 eq.). After activation for 10 min, the solution is added to resin-bound *N*-terminal deprotected peptide (1.0 eq.) and shaken for 3 h at rt. Subsequently, the resin is washed with NMP (3 × 20 mL/g resin) and DCM (3 × 20 mL/g resin).

Peptide Cleavage from the Resin with additional Deprotection of acid labile Protecting Groups (GP4). The fully protected resin-bound peptide is washed with DCM, afterwards dissolved in a mixture of TFA/TIPS/DCM (v/v, 95/2.5/2.5) and shaken for 45 min. The solution is filtered off and the resin is treated in the same way for another 45 min. Both filtrates are combined and concentrated under a stream of nitrogen. After dissolving the residue in MeOH and precipitation in diethyl ether, the liquid is decanted and the remaining solid is dried. As the deprotection of the 'Bu groups is usually not complete using this procedure (see Supplemental Fig. 11 for AMTG as an example), a further deprotection method is used (GP5).

*Complete Deprotection of 'Bu (GP5).* Removal of remaining 'Bu protecting groups after peptide cleavage from the resin (GP4) is carried out by dissolving the crude DOTA or DOTAGA

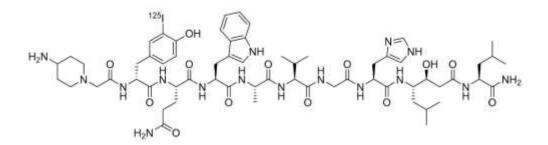
coupled product in TFA and stirring for 6 h and 16 h at rt, respectively. After removing TFA under a stream of nitrogen, the crude unprotected product is obtained.

#### **Cold Complexation**

The purified chelator-containing ligand (10<sup>-3</sup> M in Tracepur<sup>®</sup> H<sub>2</sub>O, *Merck KGaA*, Darmstadt, Germany, 1.0 eq.) and <sup>nat</sup>LuCl<sub>3</sub> (20 mM in Tracepur<sup>®</sup> H<sub>2</sub>O, 2.5 eq.) were diluted with Tracepur<sup>®</sup> H<sub>2</sub>O to a final concentration of 10<sup>-4</sup> M and heated to 95 °C for 30 min. After cooling to room temperature, the crude product was obtained and used without further purification for *IC*<sub>50</sub> studies. In order to confirm that the remaining excess of 1.5 eq. <sup>nat</sup>LuCl<sub>3</sub> did not affect the cell-based assay, a validation experiment was carried out (see *In Vitro Experiments* below).

## Radiolabeling

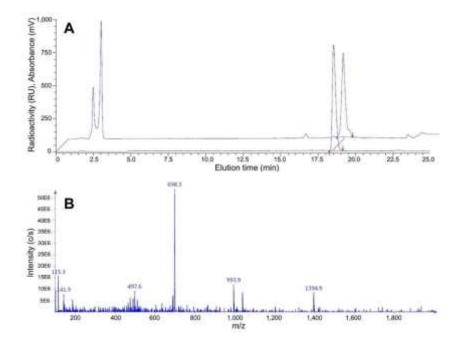
<sup>125</sup>*I-Labeling.* Briefly, 0.2 mg of D-Tyr<sup>6</sup>-MJ9 were dissolved in 20 µL Tracepur<sup>®</sup> H<sub>2</sub>O and 280 µL TRIS buffer (25 mM TRIS · HCl, 0.4 M NaCl, pH = 7.9). After solution was transferred to a vial containing 150 µg surface-bound lodo-Gen<sup>®</sup> (1,3,4,6-Tetrachloro- $3\alpha$ , $6\alpha$ diphenylglycouril, *Merck KGaA*, Darmstadt, Germany), 5.0 µL (16 MBq) <sup>125</sup>I-NaI (74 TBq/mmol, 3.1 GBq/mL, 40 mM NaOH, *Hartmann Analytic*, Braunschweig, Germany) were added. The reaction solution was incubated for 15 min at room temperature and purified by RP-HPLC. Immediately after purification, sodium ascorbate (0.1 M in Tracepur<sup>®</sup> H<sub>2</sub>O, 10 vol-%) was added to prevent radiolysis.



**SUPPLEMENTAL FIGURE 1.** Structural formula of the radiolabeled reference 3-<sup>125</sup>I-D-Tyr<sup>6</sup>-MJ9.

 $3^{-125}$ *I-D-Tyr*<sup>6</sup>-*MJ*9. RP-HPLC (20→35% MeCN in 20 min).  $t_R$  = 18.5 min, K' = 12.21.

*3-I-D-Tyr<sup>6</sup>-MJ9.* RP-HPLC (20→35% MeCN in 20 min).  $t_R$  = 18.4 min, K' = 12.14. THE JOURNAL OF NUCLEAR MEDICINE • Vol. 63 • No. 9 • September 2022 Foray et al. Calculated monoisotopic mass ( $C_{78}H_{118}N_{20}O_{19}$ ): 1394.6, found: m/z = 698.3 [M+2H]<sup>2+</sup>, 1394.9 [M+H]<sup>+</sup>.



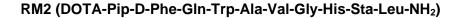
**SUPPLEMENTAL FIGURE 2.** (A) Confirmation of peptide integrity for  $3^{-125}$ I-D-Tyr<sup>6</sup>-MJ9 (black), as analyzed by analytical (radio-)RP-HPLC (MultoKrom 100-5 C18, 5 µm, 125 × 4.6 mm, *CS Chromatographie GmbH*, Langerwehe, Germany; 20 $\rightarrow$ 35% MeCN in H<sub>2</sub>O + 0.1% TFA in 20 min) *via* co-injection of the cold ligand (blue). (B) Mass spectrum of 3-I-D-Tyr<sup>6</sup>-MJ9.

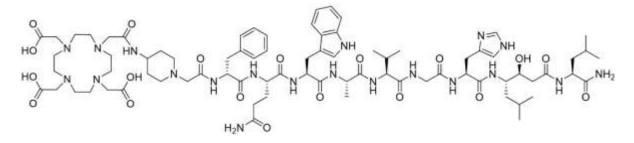
<sup>177</sup>Lu-Labeling. A solution of the purified chelator-containing ligand (10<sup>-3</sup> M in Tracepur<sup>®</sup> H<sub>2</sub>O, 1 µL), NaOAc buffer (1.0 M, pH = 5.50, 10 µL) and approximately 10-30 MBq <sup>177</sup>LuCl<sub>3</sub> (0.04 M in HCl) were diluted with HCl (0.04 M) to a total volume of 90 µL and heated to 95 °C for 10 min. Immediately after labeling, sodium ascorbate (0.1 M, 10 µL) was added to prevent radiolysis. Incorporation of <sup>177</sup>Lu was determined by radio TLC (ITLC-SG chromatography paper, mobile phase: 0.1 M trisodium citrate). Radiochemical purity of the labeled compound was determined by radio RP-HPLC.

## Characterization of RM2 Derivatives and NeoBOMB1

All mentioned compounds based on the core structure of RM2 were synthesized by standard Fmoc-based SPPS (**GP1-5**) using a *H*-Rink amide ChemMatrix<sup>®</sup> resin (35-100 mesh THE JOURNAL OF NUCLEAR MEDICINE • Vol. 63 • No. 9 • September 2022 Foray et al.

particle size, 0.4-0.6 mmol/g loading, *Merck KGaA*, Darmstadt, Germany). After finishing the peptide sequence with slightly modifications within the RM2 sequence, a chelator was coupled at the resin (**GP3**). Thereafter, the peptide was cleaved (**GP4**) and furthermore, remaining acid labile protection groups were deprotected by TFA (**GP5**) and purified by RP-HPLC.





**SUPPLEMENTAL FIGURE 3.** Structural formula of the parent compound RM2.

*RM2.* RP-HPLC (10 $\rightarrow$ 90% MeCN in 15 min):  $t_{\rm R}$  = 6.8 min, K = 3.25.

RP-HPLC (20 $\rightarrow$ 35% MeCN in 15 min): *t*<sub>R</sub> = 13.6 min, *K* = 9.46.

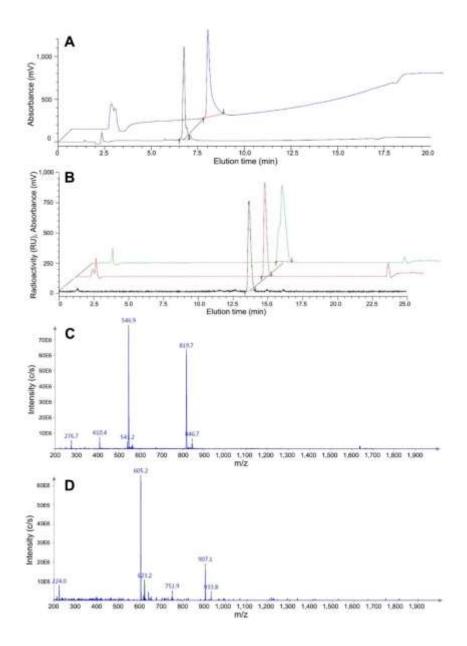
Calculated monoisotopic mass ( $C_{78}H_{118}N_{20}O_{19}$ ): 1638.9, found: m/z = 546.9 [M+3H]<sup>3+</sup>,

819.7 [M+2H]<sup>2+</sup>.

<sup>*nat*</sup>Lu-RM2. RP-HPLC (10→90% MeCN in 15 min):  $t_{R}$  = 7.3 min, K = 2.65.

RP-HPLC (20 $\rightarrow$ 35% MeCN in 15 min): *t*<sub>R</sub> = 13.6 min, *K* = 9.46.

Calculated monoisotopic mass  $(C_{78}H_{115}LuN_{20}O_{19})$ : 1810.8, found: m/z = 605.2 [M+3H]<sup>3+</sup>, 907.1 [M+2H]<sup>2+</sup>.

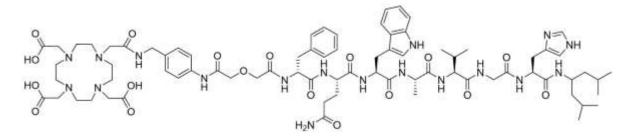


**SUPPLEMENTAL FIGURE 4.** (A) Confirmation of peptide identity and integrity for RM2 (black) and <sup>nat</sup>Lu-RM2 (blue), as analyzed by analytical RP-HPLC (MultoKrom 100-5 C18, 5  $\mu$ m, 125 × 4.6 mm, *CS Chromatographie GmbH*, Langerwehe, Germany; 10 $\rightarrow$ 90% MeCN in H<sub>2</sub>O + 0.1% TFA in 15 min). (B) Confirmation of peptide identity and integrity for <sup>177</sup>Lu-RM2 (black), <sup>nat</sup>Lu-RM2 (red) and RM2 (green), as analyzed by analytical (radio-)RP-HPLC (MultoKrom 100-5 C18, 5  $\mu$ m, 125 × 4.6 mm, *CS Chromatographie GmbH*, Langerwehe, Germany; 20 $\rightarrow$ 35% MeCN in H<sub>2</sub>O + 0.1% TFA in 20 min). Mass spectra of (C) RM2 and (D) <sup>nat</sup>Lu-RM2.

## NeoBOMB1 (DOTA-pABzA-DIG-D-Phe-GIn-Trp-Ala-Val-Gly-His-NH-CH[CH<sub>2</sub>-CH(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>]<sub>2</sub>)

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**SUPPLEMENTAL FIGURE 5.** Structural formula of the second reference compound NeoBOMB1.

*NeoBOMB1*. RP-HPLC (10→90% MeCN in 15 min):  $t_R$  = 9.5 min, K = 3.75.

RP-HPLC (20 $\rightarrow$ 35% MeCN in 15 min): *t*<sub>R</sub> = 22.4 min, *K* = 16.23.

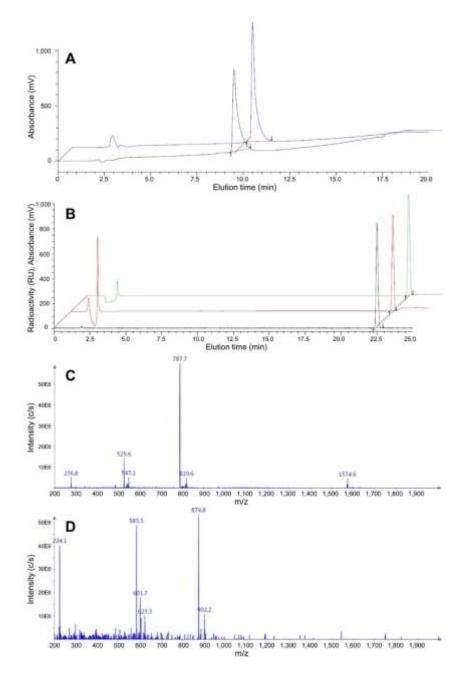
Calculated monoisotopic mass ( $C_{77}H_{110}N_{18}O_{18}$ ): 1574.8, found: m/z = 787.7 [M+2H]<sup>2+</sup>,

1574.6 [M+H]+.

<sup>*nat*</sup>Lu-NeoBOMB1. RP-HPLC (10→90% MeCN in 15 min):  $t_R$  = 9.7 min, K = 3.85.

RP-HPLC (20 $\rightarrow$ 35% MeCN in 15 min):  $t_{R}$  = 22.4 min, K = 16.23.

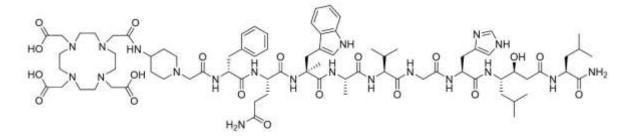
Calculated monoisotopic mass ( $C_{77}H_{107}LuN_{18}O_{18}$ ): 1746.7, found: m/z = 583.5 [M+3H]<sup>3+</sup>, 874.8 [M+2H]<sup>2+</sup>.



**SUPPLEMENTAL FIGURE 6.** (A) Confirmation of peptide identity and integrity for NeoBOMB1 (black) and <sup>nat</sup>Lu-NeoBOMB1 (blue), as analyzed by analytical RP-HPLC (MultoKrom 100-5 C18, 5  $\mu$ m, 125 × 4.6 mm, *CS Chromatographie GmbH*, Langerwehe, Germany; 10 $\rightarrow$ 90% MeCN in H<sub>2</sub>O + 0.1% TFA in 15 min). (B) Confirmation of peptide identity and integrity for <sup>177</sup>Lu-NeoBOMB1 (black), <sup>nat</sup>Lu-NeoBOMB1 (red) and NeoBOMB1 (green), as analyzed by analytical (radio-)RP-HPLC (MultoKrom 100-5 C18, 5  $\mu$ m, 125 × 4.6 mm, *CS Chromatographie GmbH*, Langerwehe, Germany; 20 $\rightarrow$ 35% MeCN in H<sub>2</sub>O + 0.1% TFA in 20 min). Mass spectra of (C) NeoBOMB1 and (D) <sup>nat</sup>Lu-NeoBOMB1.

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# AMTG (DOTA-Pip-D-Phe-GIn-α-Me-Trp-Ala-Val-Gly-His-Sta-Leu-NH<sub>2</sub>)



**SUPPLEMENTAL FIGURE 7.** Structural formula of AMTG.

*AMTG*. RP-HPLC (10 $\rightarrow$ 90% MeCN in 15 min):  $t_{\rm R}$  = 7.5 min, K = 2.75.

RP-HPLC (20 $\rightarrow$ 35% MeCN in 15 min): *t*<sub>R</sub> = 15.2 min, *K* = 10.69.

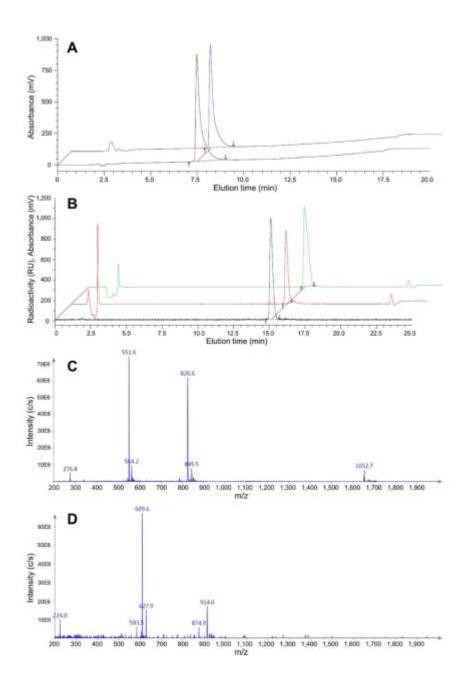
Calculated monoisotopic mass ( $C_{79}H_{120}N_{20}O_{19}$ ): 1652.9, found: m/z = 551.6 [M+3H]<sup>3+</sup>,

826.6 [M+2H]<sup>2+</sup>, 1652.7 [M+H]<sup>+</sup>.

<sup>*nat*</sup>Lu-AMTG. RP-HPLC (10→90% MeCN in 15 min):  $t_R$  = 7.5 min, K = 2.75.

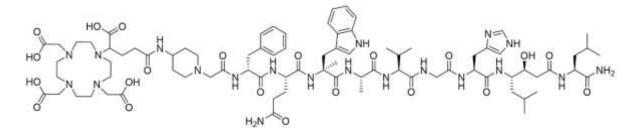
RP-HPLC (20 $\rightarrow$ 35% MeCN in 15 min): *t*<sub>R</sub> = 15.0 min, *K* = 10.54.

Calculated monoisotopic mass  $(C_{79}H_{117}LuN_{20}O_{19})$ : 1824.8, found: m/z = 609.6 [M+3H]<sup>3+</sup>, 914.0 [M+2H]<sup>2+</sup>.



**SUPPLEMENTAL FIGURE 8.** (A) Confirmation of peptide identity and integrity for AMTG (black) and <sup>nat</sup>Lu-AMTG (blue), as analyzed by analytical RP-HPLC (MultoKrom 100-5 C18, 5 µm, 125 × 4.6 mm, *CS Chromatographie GmbH*, Langerwehe, Germany; 10 $\rightarrow$ 90% MeCN in H<sub>2</sub>O + 0.1% TFA in 15 min). (B) Confirmation of peptide identity and integrity for <sup>177</sup>Lu-AMTG (black), <sup>nat</sup>Lu-AMTG (red) and AMTG (green), as analyzed by analytical (radio-)RP-HPLC (MultoKrom 100-5 C18, 5 µm, 125 × 4.6 mm, *CS Chromatographie GmbH*, Langerwehe, Germany; 20 $\rightarrow$ 35% MeCN in H<sub>2</sub>O + 0.1% TFA in 20 min). Mass spectra of (C) AMTG and (D) <sup>nat</sup>Lu-AMTG.

# AMTG2 (DOTAGA-Pip-D-Phe-GIn-α-Me-Trp-Ala-Val-Gly-His-Sta-Leu-NH<sub>2</sub>)



**SUPPLEMENTAL FIGURE 9.** Structural formula of AMTG2.

*AMTG2*. RP-HPLC (10→90% MeCN in 15 min):  $t_R$  = 7.5 min, K = 2.75.

RP-HPLC (20 $\rightarrow$ 35% MeCN in 15 min):  $t_{R}$  = 15.2 min, K = 10.69.

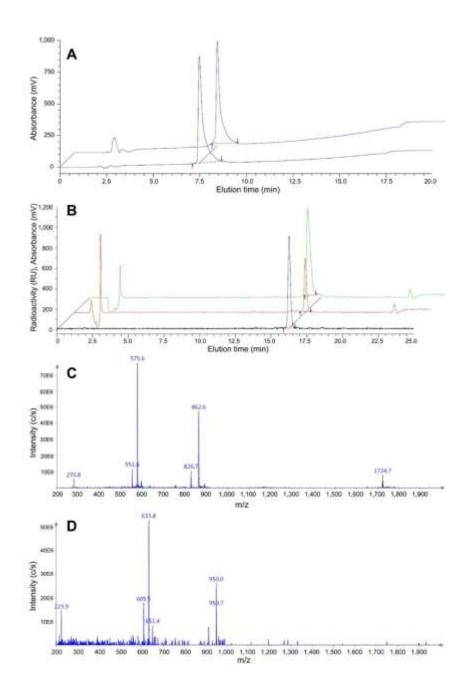
Calculated monoisotopic mass ( $C_{82}H_{124}N_{20}O_{21}$ ): 1724.9, found: m/z = 575.6 [M+3H]<sup>3+</sup>,

862.6 [M+2H]<sup>2+</sup>, 1724.7 [M+H]<sup>+</sup>.

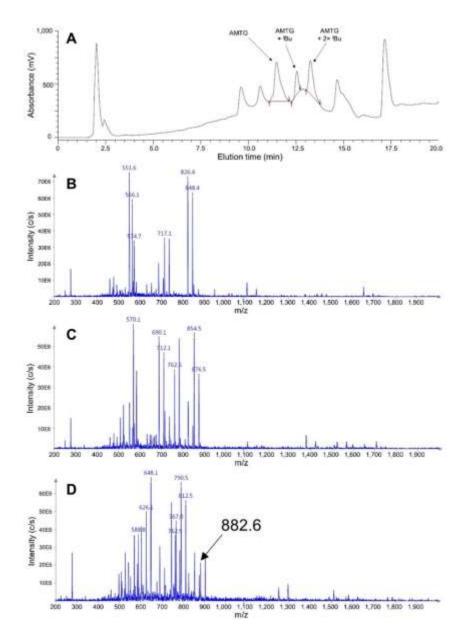
*natLu-AMTG2.* RP-HPLC (10→90% MeCN in 15 min):  $t_R$  = 7.7 min, K = 2.85.

RP-HPLC (20 $\rightarrow$ 35% MeCN in 15 min): *t*<sub>R</sub> = 16.2 min, *K* = 11.46.

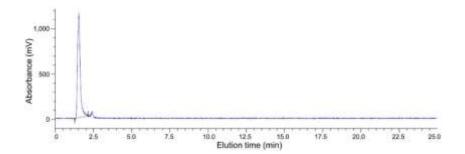
Calculated monoisotopic mass ( $C_{82}H_{121}LuN_{20}O_{21}$ ): 1896.8, found: m/z = 633.8 [M+3H]<sup>3+</sup>, 950.0 [M+2H]<sup>2+</sup>.



SUPPLEMENTAL FIGURE 10. (A) Confirmation of peptide identity and integrity for AMTG2 (black) and <sup>nat</sup>Lu-AMTG2 (blue), as analyzed by analytical RP-HPLC (MultoKrom 100-5 C18, 5 µm, 125 × 4.6 mm, *CS Chromatographie GmbH*, Langerwehe, Germany; 10 $\rightarrow$ 90% MeCN in H<sub>2</sub>O + 0.1% TFA in 15 min). (B) Confirmation of peptide identity and integrity for <sup>177</sup>Lu-AMTG2 (black), <sup>nat</sup>Lu-AMTG2 (red) and AMTG2 (green), as analyzed by analytical (radio-)RP-HPLC (MultoKrom 100-5 C18, 5 µm, 125 × 4.6 mm, *CS Chromatographie GmbH*, Langerwehe, Germany; 20 $\rightarrow$ 35% MeCN in H<sub>2</sub>O + 0.1% TFA in 20 min). Mass spectra of (C) AMTG2 and (D) <sup>nat</sup>Lu-AMTG2.



**SUPPLEMENTAL FIGURE 11.** Incomplete deprotection of 'Bu groups of the DOTA moiety in AMTG (calculated monoisotopic mass: 1652.9), as analyzed by (A) analytical RP-HPLC (MultoKrom 100-5 C18, 5 µm, 125 × 4.6 mm, CS *Chromatographie GmbH*, Langerwehe, Germany; 20 $\rightarrow$ 35% MeCN in H<sub>2</sub>O + 0.1% TFA in 15 min) and mass spectrometry (B-D). (B) Mass spectrum of the fully deprotected compound (AMTG: K' = 6.2,  $t_R = 11.5$  min, mass found: m/z = 826.4 [M+2H]<sup>2+</sup>). (C) Mass spectrum of the compound carrying one 'Bu group (AMTG + 'Bu: K' = 6.8,  $t_R = 12.5$  min, mass found: m/z = 854.5 [M+2H]<sup>2+</sup>). (D) Mass spectrum of the compound carrying two 'Bu groups (AMTG + 2× 'Bu: K' = 7.3,  $t_R = 13.2$  min, mass found: m/z = 882.6 [M+2H]<sup>2+</sup>).



**SUPPLEMENTAL FIGURE 12.** Chromatogram of <sup>177</sup>Lu-LuCl<sub>3</sub>, (elution time  $t_R = 1.54$  min) as analyzed by analytical radio-RP-HPLC (MultoKrom 100-5 C18, 5 µm, 125 × 4.6 mm, *CS Chromatographie GmbH*, Langerwehe, Germany; 20 $\rightarrow$ 35% MeCN in H<sub>2</sub>O + 0.1% TFA in 20 min).

## In Vitro Experiments

*Cell Culture.* GRPR<sup>+</sup> PC-3 cells (*Merck KGaA*, Darmstadt, Germany) were cultivated in Dulbecco's modified eagle's medium/Ham's F-12 (DMEM/F-12, v/v = 1/1, with stable glutamine, *Biochrom GmbH*, Berlin, Germany) supplemented with fetal bovine serum (10%, FBS Superior, *Biochrom GmbH*, Berlin, Germany) at 37 °C in a humidified 5% CO<sub>2</sub> atmosphere. GRPR<sup>+</sup> T-47D cells (*American Type Culture Collection*, <u>Manassas</u>, VA, USA) were cultivated in Gibco<sup>TM</sup> RPMI 1640 Medium (*Fisher Scientific GmbH*, Schwerte, Germany) supplemented with fetal bovine serum (10%, FBS Superior, *Biochrom GmbH*, Berlin, Germany) at 37 °C in a humidified 5% CO<sub>2</sub> atmosphere. A mixture of trypsin and ethylenediaminetetraacetic acid (0.05%, 0.02%) in PBS (*Biochrom GmbH*, Berlin, Germany) was used in order to harvest cells. Cells were counted with a Neubauer hemocytometer (*Paul Marienfeld*, Lauda-Königshofen, Germany).

Determination of  $IC_{50}$ . For determination of the GRPR affinity on both PC-3 and T-47D cells ( $IC_{50}$ ), cells were harvested 24 ± 2 h before the experiment and seeded in 24-well plates (1.5 × 10<sup>5</sup> cells in 1 mL/well).

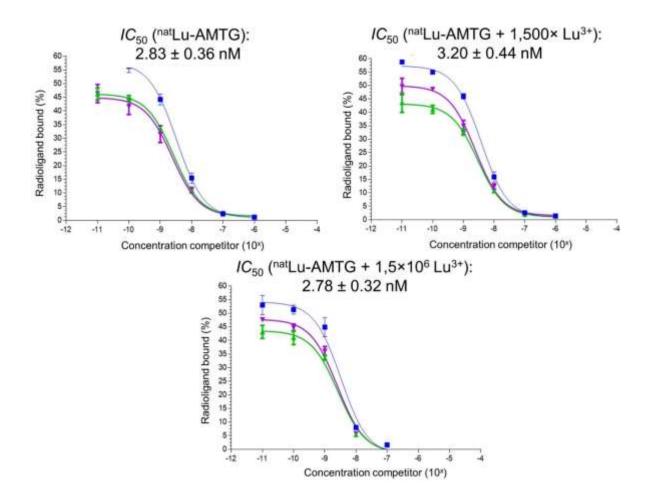
After removal of the culture medium, the cells were washed once with 500  $\mu$ L of HBSS (Hank's balanced salt solution, *Biochrom GmbH*, Berlin, Germany, with addition of 1% bovine THE JOURNAL OF NUCLEAR MEDICINE • Vol. 63 • No. 9 • September 2022 Foray et al.

serum albumin (BSA, v/v) and left in 200 µL HBSS (1% BSA, v/v) for 9 min at room temperature for equilibration. Next, 25 µL per well of solutions, containing either HBSS (1% BSA, v/v) as control or the respective compound in increasing concentration (10<sup>-10</sup>–10<sup>-4</sup> M in HBSS (1% BSA, v/v)), were added with subsequent addition of 25 µL of 3<sup>-125</sup>I-D-Tyr<sup>6</sup>-MJ9 (2.0 nM) in HBSS (1% BSA, v/v).

All experiments were performed in triplicate for each concentration. After 2 h incubation at rt, the experiment was terminated by removal of the medium and consecutive rinsing with 300 µL of HBSS (1% BSA, v/v). The media of both steps were combined in one fraction and represent the amount of free 3-<sup>125</sup>I-D-Tyr<sup>6</sup>-MJ9. Afterwards, the cells were lysed with 300 µL of 1 M NaOH for at least 15 min and united with the 300 µL NaOH of the following washing step. Quantification of bound and free 3-<sup>125</sup>I-D-Tyr<sup>6</sup>-MJ9 was accomplished in a  $\gamma$ -counter. *IC*<sub>50</sub> determination for each conjugate was repeated twice.

Brief Competition Study to validate Assay Conditions. In order to exclude an impact of free <sup>nat</sup>LuCl<sub>3</sub> (from labeling procedure, see *Cold Complexation* above) in the above-described  $IC_{50}$  assay, the study was repeated for <sup>nat</sup>Lu-AMTG applying the same conditions. However, in addition to the used dilution series ( $10^{-10}$ – $10^{-4}$  M in HBSS (1% BSA, v/v)) of <sup>nat</sup>Lu-AMTG ( $1.5^{-10}$ -fold excess of free <sup>nat</sup>Lu<sup>3+</sup> present), two further dilution series were prepared. On the one hand, a  $1.5 \times 10^{6}$ -fold excess of free <sup>nat</sup>Lu<sup>3+</sup> was added to each dilution of <sup>nat</sup>Lu-AMTG.

The study confirmed that no noticeable effect of free  $^{nat}Lu^{3+}$  on the cellular uptake or displacement of  $3^{-125}I$ -D-Tyr<sup>6</sup>-MJ9 and thus *IC*<sub>50</sub> values in the above-described assay could be determined (Supplemental Fig. 13).



**SUPPLEMENTAL FIGURE 13.** Sigmoidal binding curves and calculated mean  $IC_{50}$ 's as obtained by competitive binding studies of <sup>nat</sup>Lu-AMTG, <sup>nat</sup>Lu-AMTG with a 1,500-fold excess of free Lu<sup>3+</sup> and <sup>nat</sup>Lu-AMTG with a 1.5 × 10<sup>6</sup>-fold excess of free Lu<sup>3+</sup>. Binding studies have been carried out in triplicate, using  $1.5 \times 10^5$  PC-3 cells/ml/well, rt, 2 h; using  $3^{-125}$ I-D-Tyr<sup>6</sup>-MJ9 (0.2 nM/well) as radiolabeled reference (n = 3).

*Receptor-mediated Internalization.* For internalization studies, PC-3 cells were harvested  $24 \pm 2 \text{ h}$  before the experiment and seeded in poly-L-lysine coated 24-well plates  $(1.5 \times 10^5 \text{ cells/well}, 1 \text{ mL}, Greiner Bio-One, Kremsmünster, Austria).$  Subsequent to the removal of the culture medium, the cells were washed once with 500 µL DMEM/F-12 (5% BSA, v/v) and left to equilibrate at 37 °C for at least 15 min in 200 µL DMEM/F-12 (5% BSA, v/v). Each well was treated with either 25 µL of DMEM/F-12 (5% BSA, v/v) or 25 µL <sup>nat</sup>Lu-RM2 (10<sup>-3</sup> M) for blockade. Next, 25 µL of the <sup>177</sup>Lu-labeled GRPR analogue (10 nM) was added and the cells were incubated at 37 °C for 60 min.

The experiment was terminated by placing the 24-well plate on ice for 1 min and consecutive removal of the medium. Each well was rinsed with 300 µL ice-cold PBS and the fractions from these first two steps were combined, representing the amount of free 3-<sup>125</sup>I-D-Tyr<sup>6</sup>-MJ9. Removal of surface bound activity was accomplished by incubation of the cells with 300 µL of ice-cold Acid Wash solution (0.02 M NaOAc, pH = 5.0) for 10 min at room temperature and rinsed again with 300 µL of ice-cold PBS. The internalized activity was determined by incubation of the cells in 300 µL NaOH (1 M) and the combination with the fraction of a subsequent washing step with 300 µL NaOH (1 M).

Each experiment (control and blockade) was performed sixfold. Free, surface bound and internalized activity was quantified in a  $\gamma$ -counter. Data was corrected for non-specific internalization.

## In Vivo Experiments

Establishment of Tumor Xenografts. PC-3 cells  $(5.0 \times 10^6 \text{ cells per } 200 \,\mu\text{L})$  were suspended in a mixture (v/v = 1/1) of Dulbecco's modified eagle's medium/Ham's F-12 (DMEM/F-12) with Glutamax-I (1/1) and Cultrex<sup>®</sup> Basement Membrane Matrix Type 3 (*Trevigen Inc.*, Gaithersburg, MD, USA) and inoculated subcutaneously onto the right shoulder of 6–10 weeks old female CB17-SCID mice (*Charles River Laboratories International Inc.*, Sulzfeld, Germany). Mice were used for experiments when tumor volume was 125-500 mm<sup>3</sup> (2–3 weeks after inoculation).

## **Supplemental Data**

**SUPPLEMENTAL TABLE 1.** Preclinical data of <sup>nat</sup>Lu-RM2, <sup>nat</sup>Lu-NeoBOMBM1, <sup>nat</sup>Lu-AMTG and <sup>nat</sup>Lu-AMTG2. Affinity data were determined on PC-3 and T-47D cells  $(1.5 \times 10^5 \text{ cells/well})$  and  $3^{-125}$ I-D-Tyr<sup>6</sup>-MJ9 (c = 0.2 nM) as radiolabeled reference (2 h, rt, HBSS + 1% BSA, *v/v*). Receptor-mediated internalization (0.25 pmol/well) was determined on PC-3 cells as percent (%) of the applied activity after incubation for 1 h (37 °C, DMEM/F-12 + 5% BSA (*v/v*),  $1.5 \times 10^5$  cells/well). Data are corrected for non-specific binding ( $10^{-3}$  M <sup>nat</sup>Lu-RM2). Metabolic stability *in vitro* was determined in human plasma by incubation at 37 °C for 72 ± 2 h (n = 4). Metabolic stability *in vivo* was determined on CB17-SCID mice at 30 min p.i. (n = 3). Data are expressed as mean ± SD. Metabolic stability of the  $^{177}$ Lu-RM2 derivatives as determined *in vitro* and *in vivo*. \* <sup>nat</sup>Lu-labeled, \*\* <sup>177</sup>Lu-labeled.

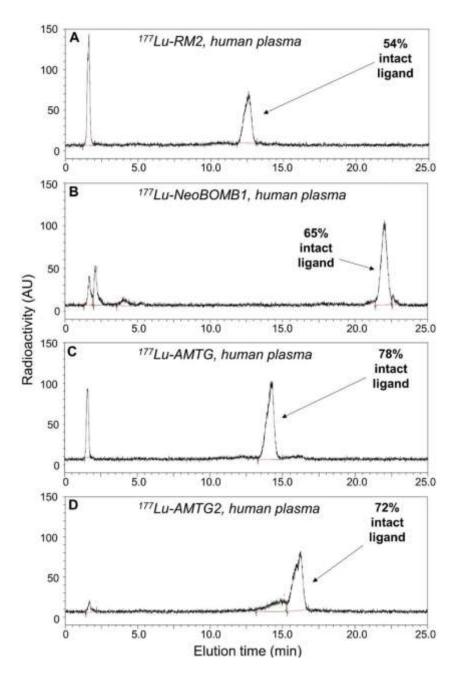
		<i>IC</i> 50 (nM)		GRPR- mediated internalization (%)	log <i>D</i> 7.4	Fraction intact tracer (%)		
	GRPR-	-	- T-47D-		-	human	murine	murine
	targeted	PC-3 cells	cells	(n = 5)**	(n = 6)**	plasma, <i>in vitro</i> at	blood, <i>in vivo</i> at	urine, <i>in vivo</i> at
	compound	(n = 3)*	(n = 3)*	(11 – 0)	(11 – 0)	$72 \pm 2 h$ (n = 4)**	30 min p.i. (n = 3)**	30  min p.i. $(n = 3)^{**}$
	RM2	$3.5 \pm 0.2$	$1.2 \pm 0.2$	$2.92 \pm 0.20$	-2.51 ± 0.02	38.7 ± 9.3	11.4 ± 3.7	0.5 ± 0.1
	NeoBOMB1	4.2 ± 0.1	1.1 ± 0.2	13.91 ± 0.64	-0.57 ± 0.03	61.9 ± 2.1	75.9 ± 0.6	3.9 ± 1.3
	AMTG	3.0 ± 0.1	1.0 ± 0.1	3.03 ± 0.18	$-2.28 \pm 0.06$	77.7 ± 8.7	92.9 ± 0.7	68.2 ± 3.1
	AMTG2	$4.7 \pm 0.2$	$4.6 \pm 0.2$	$5.88 \pm 0.33$	-2.51 ± 0.11	66.2 ± 5.1	77.6 ± 3.1	61.6 ± 1.6

# **SUPPLEMENTAL TABLE 2.** Tumor/background ratios of <sup>177</sup>Lu-RM2 and its analogues as

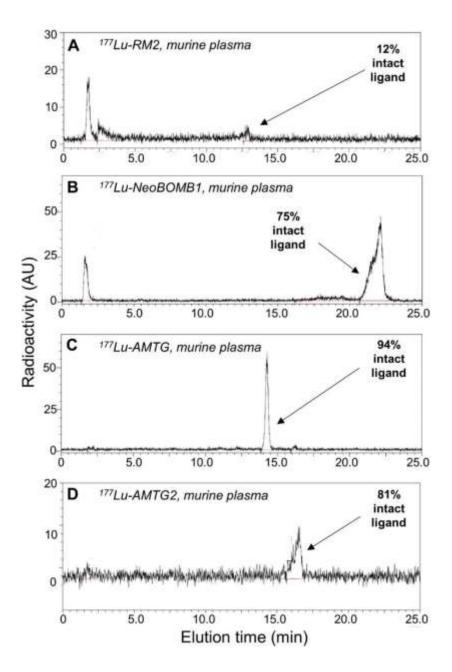
well as  $^{\rm 177}\mbox{Lu-NeoBOMB1}$  for the selected organs of PC-3 tumor-bearing CB17-SCID mice at 24 h

p.i. (n = 4).

Organ	<sup>177</sup> Lu-RM2	<sup>177</sup> Lu-AMTG	<sup>177</sup> Lu-AMTG2	<sup>177</sup> Lu-NeoBOMB1
Blood	688.7 ± 79.4	2702.0 ± 321.0	723.1 ± 109.2	175.5 ± 100.2
Heart	152.8 ± 7.4	575.3 ± 98.3	$646.9 \pm 597.4$	87.5 ± 37.0
Lung	91.4 ± 16.4	357.2 ± 107.8	181.2 ± 29.6	16.7 ± 2.0
Liver	18.8 ± 1.3	85.3 ± 19.5	$27.4 \pm 6.4$	$5.6 \pm 2.7$
Spleen	42.8 ± 5.2	114.3 ± 24.9	59.4 ± 14.2	5.3 ± 3.1
Pancreas	19.9 ± 2.5	26.1 ± 12.0	$8.4 \pm 0.8$	$0.9 \pm 0.2$
Stomach	50.8 ± 19.3	128.3 ± 47.7	64.9 ± 5.0	$5.6 \pm 0.2$
Intestine	39.7 ± 7.0	80.0 ± 49.7	27.5 ± 5.7	$8.5 \pm 0.6$
Kidney	4.7 ± 0.1	10.5 ± 2.5	$4.3 \pm 0.4$	4.7 ± 2.3
Adrenal	10.9 ± 1.7	34.3 ± 21.8	22.7 ± 2.9	2.1 ± 0.1
Muscle	1680.2 ± 978.9	2247.8 ± 687.3	4133.8 ± 2593.0	1017.0 ± 598.5
Bone	7.9 ± 3.6	$234.3 \pm 69.4$	37.9 ± 11.3	42.2 ± 17.4

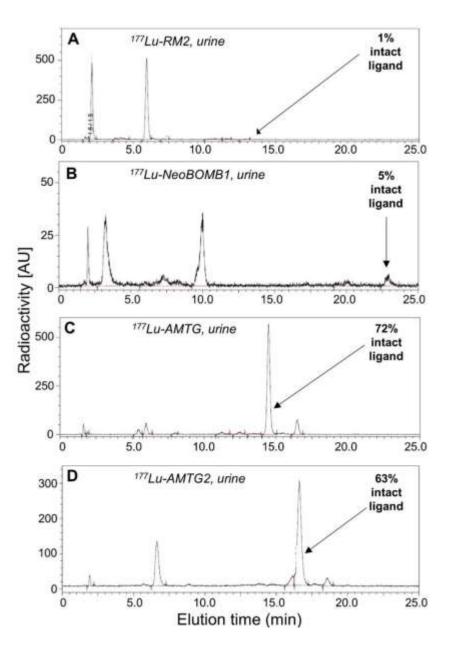


**SUPPLEMENTAL FIGURE 14.** In vitro stability of <sup>177</sup>Lu-labeled GRPR ligands incubated in human plasma at 37 °C for 72 ± 2 h, as analyzed by analytical radio-RP-HPLC (MultoKrom 100-5 C18, 5 µm, 125 × 4.6 mm, *CS Chromatographie GmbH*, Langerwehe, Germany; 20→35% MeCN in H<sub>2</sub>O + 0.1% TFA in 20 min). (A) <sup>177</sup>Lu-RM2, (B) <sup>177</sup>Lu-NeoBOMB1, (C) <sup>177</sup>Lu-AMTG and (D) <sup>177</sup>Lu-AMTG2. Fractions representing intact compounds are indicated by black arrows (<sup>177</sup>Lu-RM2: K' = 8.7,  $t_R = 12.6$  min; <sup>177</sup>Lu-NeoBOMB1: K' = 15.9,  $t_R = 22.0$  min; <sup>177</sup>Lu-AMTG: K' = 9.9,  $t_R = 14.2$  min; <sup>177</sup>Lu-AMTG2: K' = 11.5,  $t_R = 16.3$  min).



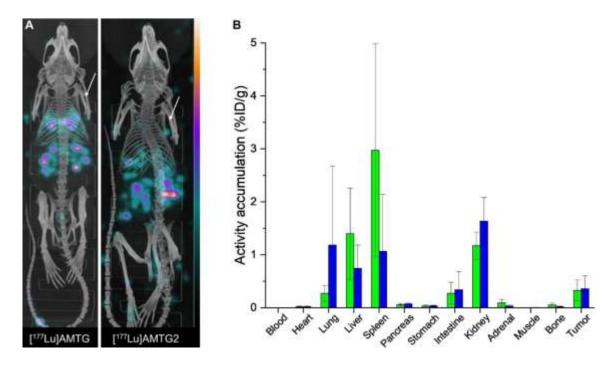
**SUPPLEMENTAL FIGURE 15.** In vivo stability of <sup>177</sup>Lu-labeled GRPR ligands in murine plasma (A-D) at 30 min p.i., as analyzed by analytical radio-RP-HPLC (MultoKrom 100-5 C18, 5 µm, 125 × 4.6 mm, CS Chromatographie GmbH, Langerwehe, Germany; 20 $\rightarrow$ 35% MeCN in H<sub>2</sub>O + 0.1% TFA in 20 min). (A) <sup>177</sup>Lu-RM2, (B) <sup>177</sup>Lu-NeoBOMB1, (C) <sup>177</sup>Lu-AMTG and (D) <sup>177</sup>Lu-AMTG2. Fractions representing intact compounds indicated by black arrows (<sup>177</sup>Lu-RM2: K' = 8.7,

 $t_{\rm R}$  = 12.8 min; <sup>177</sup>Lu-NeoBOMB1: K' = 15.9,  $t_{\rm R}$  = 22.9 min; <sup>177</sup>Lu-AMTG: K' = 9.9,  $t_{\rm R}$  = 14.5 min, <sup>177</sup>Lu-AMTG2: K' = 11.5,  $t_{\rm R}$  = 16.6 min).

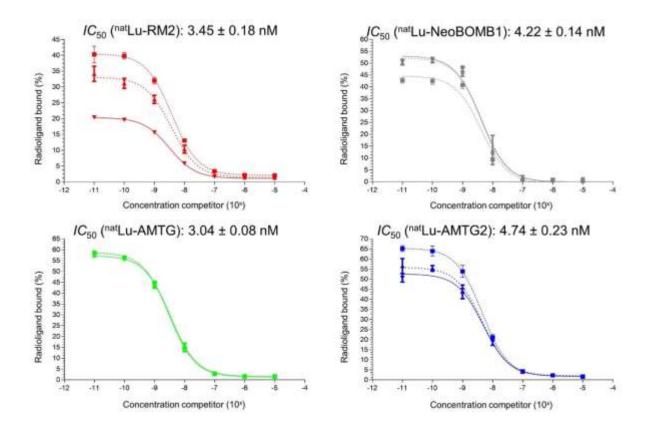


**SUPPLEMENTAL FIGURE 16.** In vivo stability of <sup>177</sup>Lu-labeled GRPR ligands in murine urine (A-D) at 30 min p.i., as analyzed by analytical radio-RP-HPLC (MultoKrom 100-5 C18, 5  $\mu$ m, 125 × 4.6 mm, CS Chromatographie GmbH, Langerwehe, Germany; 20 $\rightarrow$ 35% MeCN in H<sub>2</sub>O + 0.1% TFA in 20 min). (A) <sup>177</sup>Lu-RM2, (B) <sup>177</sup>Lu-NeoBOMB1, (C) <sup>177</sup>Lu-AMTG and (D) <sup>177</sup>Lu-AMTG2. Fractions representing intact compounds indicated by black arrows (<sup>177</sup>Lu-RM2: *K*' = 8.7, THE JOURNAL OF NUCLEAR MEDICINE • Vol. 63 • No. 9 • September 2022 Foray et al.

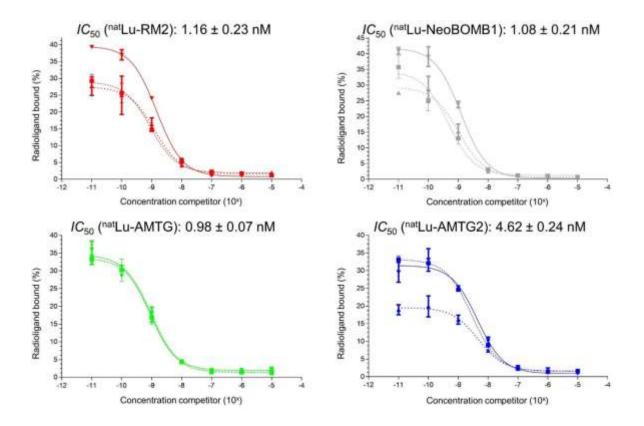
 $t_{\rm R}$  = 12.8 min; <sup>177</sup>Lu-NeoBOMB1: K' = 15.9,  $t_{\rm R}$  = 22.9 min; <sup>177</sup>Lu-AMTG: K' = 9.9,  $t_{\rm R}$  = 14.5 min, <sup>177</sup>Lu-AMTG2: K' = 11.5,  $t_{\rm R}$  = 16.6 min).



**SUPPLEMENTAL FIGURE 17.** (A) Maximum intensity projection of PC-3 tumor-bearing CB17-SCID mice injected with each 100 pmol of <sup>177</sup>Lu-AMTG (left) and <sup>177</sup>Lu-AMTG2 (right) and co-injected with an excess of <sup>nat</sup>Lu-RM2 (3.62 mg/kg). Images were acquired at 24 h p.i. PC-3 tumors are depicted by white arrows; (B) Biodistribution of <sup>177</sup>Lu-AMTG (green) and <sup>177</sup>Lu-AMTG2 (blue) co-injected with an excess of <sup>nat</sup>Lu-RM2 (3.62 mg/kg) in selected organs (in %ID/g) at 24 h p.i. in PC-3 tumor-bearing CB17-SCID mice (100 pmol each). Data is expressed as mean ± SD (n = 3).



**SUPPLEMENTAL FIGURE 18.** Sigmoidal binding curves and calculated mean  $IC_{50}$ 's as obtained by competitive binding studies of <sup>nat</sup>Lu-RM2, <sup>nat</sup>Lu-NeoBOMB1, <sup>nat</sup>Lu-AMTG and <sup>nat</sup>Lu-AMTG2. Binding studies have been carried out in triplicate, using  $1.5 \times 10^5$  PC-3 cells/ml/well, rt, 2 h; using  $3^{-125}$ I-D-Tyr<sup>6</sup>-MJ9 (0.2 nM/well) as radiolabeled reference (n = 3).



**SUPPLEMENTAL FIGURE 19.** Sigmoidal binding curves and calculated mean  $IC_{50}$ 's as obtained by competitive binding studies of <sup>nat</sup>Lu-RM2, <sup>nat</sup>Lu-NeoBOMB1, <sup>nat</sup>Lu-AMTG and <sup>nat</sup>Lu-AMTG2. Binding studies have been carried out in triplicate, using  $1.5 \times 10^5$  T-47D cells/ml/well, rt, 2 h; using  $3^{-125}$ I-D-Tyr<sup>6</sup>-MJ9 (0.2 nM/well) as radiolabeled reference (n = 3).