Supporting online material for

## An <sup>18</sup>F-Alanine Derivative Serves as An ASCT2 Marker for Cancer Imaging

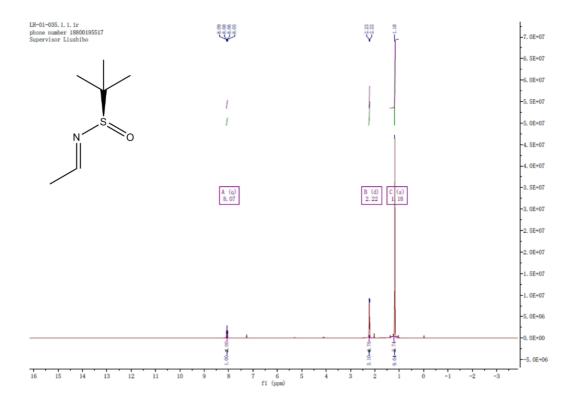
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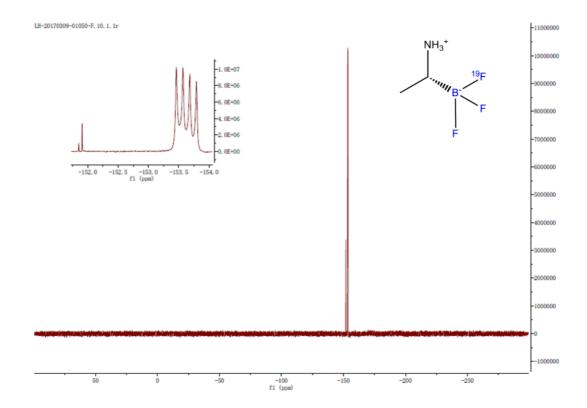
## The PDF file include:

- Fig. S1. Synthetic route of Ala-BF<sub>3</sub> and radiolabeling reaction.
- Fig. S2. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of Ala-BF<sub>3</sub> precursor (compound 1).
- Fig. S3. <sup>19</sup>F NMR spectrum of HPLC-purified Ala-BF<sub>3</sub> ( $\delta = -153.58$  ppm).
- Fig. S4. The LC-MS spectrum of HPLC-purified Ala-BF<sub>3</sub>.
- Fig. S5. In vitro stability assay of <sup>18</sup>F-Ala-BF<sub>3</sub> in PBS.
- Fig. S6. In vitro stability assay of <sup>18</sup>F-Ala-BF<sub>3</sub> in FBS.
- Fig. S7. Time-activity curves of bone and joint from female Nu/Nu mice bearing BGC-
- 823 xenografts.
- Fig. S8. High-resolution mass spectrum (HRMS) of Ala-BF<sub>3</sub>.
- Fig. S9. HPLC analysis of enantiomeric purity of L-isomer of Ala-BF<sub>3</sub>.
- Fig. S10. Competitive inhibition of BGC-823 cell uptake of <sup>18</sup>F- Ala-BF<sub>3</sub>.

Figure S1. Synthetic route of Ala-BF $_3$  and radiolabeling reaction.



**Figure S2.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of Ala-BF<sub>3</sub> precursor (compound 1).



**Figure S3.** <sup>19</sup>F NMR spectrum of HPLC-purified Ala-BF<sub>3</sub> ( $\delta = -153.58$  ppm).

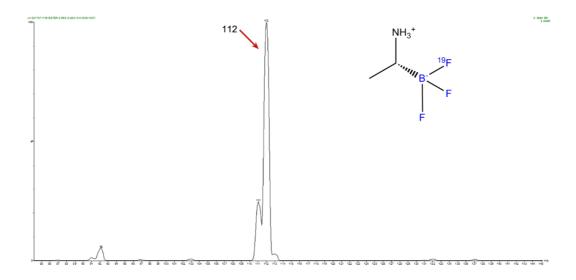
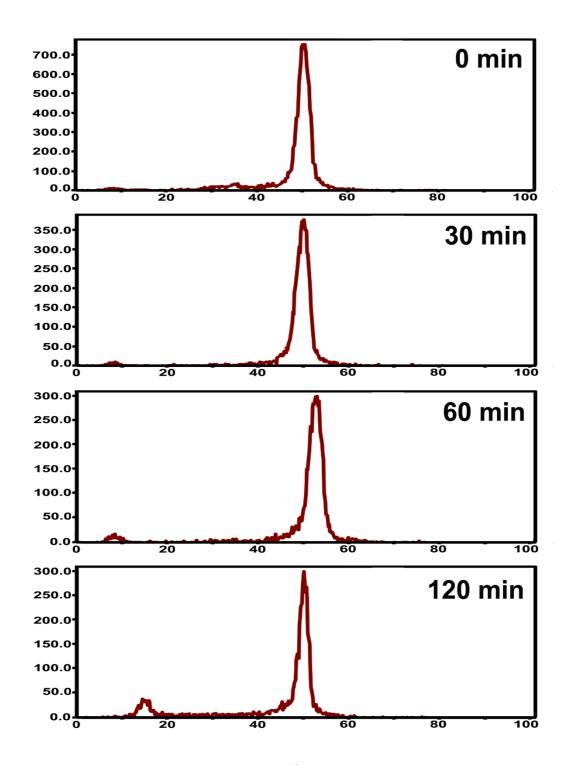
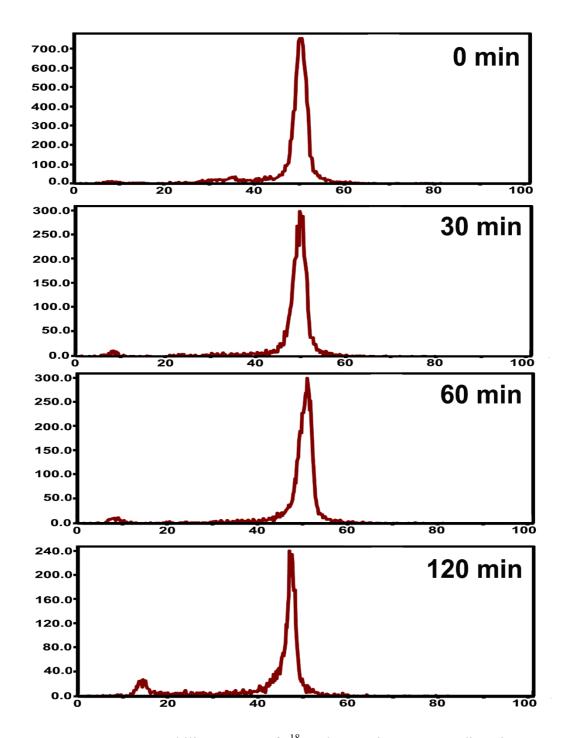


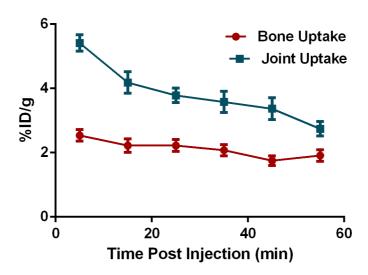
Figure S4. The LC-MS spectrum of HPLC-purified Ala-BF<sub>3</sub>.



**Figure S5.** *In vitro* stability assay of  $^{18}$ F-Ala-BF<sub>3</sub> in PBS. Radioactive TLC chromatography of Ala-BF<sub>3</sub> after incubation in PBS at 37  $^{\circ}$ C for 0, 30, 60 and 120 min, respectively. As presented, less than 5% of defluorination was found within 120 min, validating minor defluorination *in vitro*.



**Figure S6.** *In vitro* stability assay of  $^{18}$ F-Ala-BF $_3$  in FBS. Radioactive TLC chromatography of Ala-BF $_3$  after incubation in FBS at 37  $^{\circ}$ C for 0, 30, 60 and 120 min, respectively. As presented above, no more than 5% defluorination was observed within 120 min, validating that  $^{18}$ F-Ala-BF $_3$  exhibted good stability in FBS .



**Figure S7.** Time–activity curves of bone and joint from female Nu/Nu mice bearing BGC-823 xenografts. The data are from 10 min dynamic scans following intravenous injection of  $^{18}$ F-Ala-BF<sub>3</sub> (200  $\mu$ Ci/mouse).

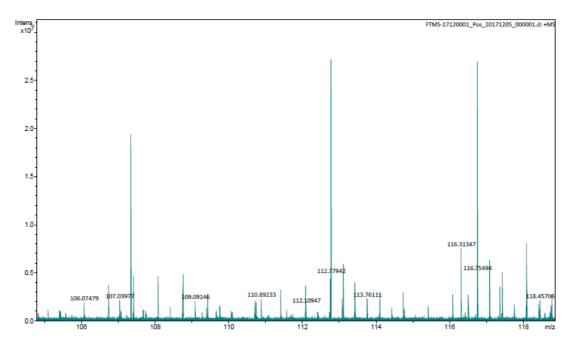
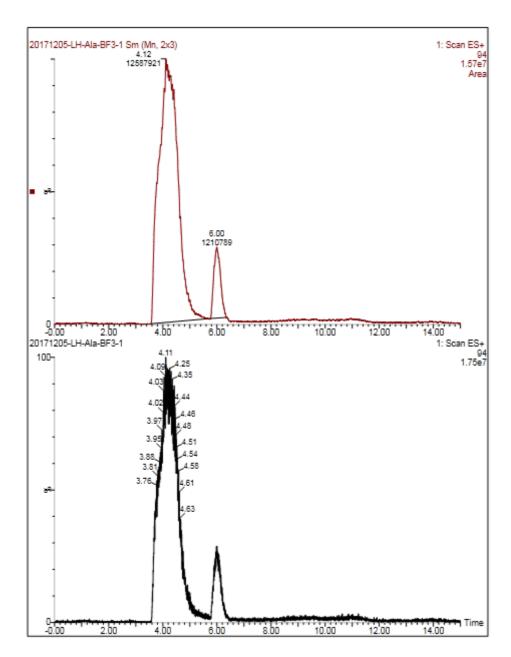
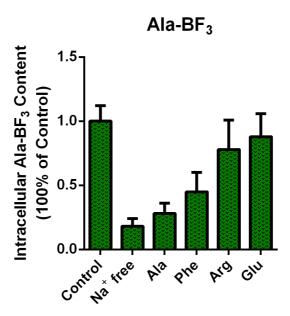


Figure S8. High-resolution mass spectrum (HRMS) of Ala-BF<sub>3</sub>.



**Figure S9.** HPLC analysis of enantiomeric purity of L-isomer of Ala-BF<sub>3</sub>. Enantiomeric purity of each compound was analyzed on a CROWNPAK column using an elution solution of Acetonitrile:water = 95.5 at a flow rate of 0.2 ml/min.



**Figure S10.** Competitive inhibition of BGC-823 cell uptake of <sup>18</sup>F- Ala-BF<sub>3</sub>. Cells are incubated in sodium-free phosphate-buffered saline (PBS) buffer or co-incubated with other AAs at 25 mM for 50 min. As shown, the entry of <sup>18</sup>F- Ala-BF<sub>3</sub> is channel-specific and can be inhibited efficiently by the natural Alanine.