Table S1. Minimal inhibitory concentration values. Values for each indicated compound shown are averages of four biological repeats.

| | Cm (µM) | TPP (mM) | Eth (mM) |
|--------------|---------|----------|----------|
| empty vector | 3 | 0.6 | 0.5 |
| MdfA | 21.7 | 0.85 | 2 |
| MdfA(Q131R) | 7.7 | 0.6 | 0.25 |

 $Table \ S2. \ Data \ collection \ and \ refinement \ statistics \ of \ MdfA(Q131R/L339E)$

| Data collection | | |
|---|-------------------------|--|
| PDB accession # | 6EUQ | |
| Space group: | <i>C</i> 2 | |
| Cell constants a; b; c (Å) | 95.19, 62.87, 100.48 | |
| α; β; γ (°) | 90.0, 110.3, 90.0 | |
| Resolution | 44.64- 2.20 (2.27-2.20) | |
| Unique reflections | 28294 (2449) | |
| Completeness overall (%) | 99.5 (99.9) | |
| Multiplicity (%) | 3.5 (3.4) | |
| < <i>l>/<σ(l)></i> | 8.0 (0.9) | |
| Rmeas | 0.183 (0.893) | |
| Rmerge | 0.135 (0.661) | |
| Rpim | 0.123 (0.596) | |
| CC(1/2) | 0.984 (0.491) | |
| Refinement | | |
| No. of reflections | 26961 | |
| Rvalue overall (%) / Rvalue free (%) | 0.2308 / 0.2483 | |
| No. atoms | | |
| Protein | 2959 | |
| Ligand/ion | 128 | |
| Water | 47 | |
| B-factors | | |
| Protein | 49.42 | |
| Ligand/ion | 70.07 | |
| Water | 48.98 | |
| r.m.s. deviations from ideal values | | |
| Bond length (Å) | 0.0070 | |
| Bond angles (º) | 1.0637 | |
| Φ , Ψ angle distribution for residues | | |
| In most favoured regions (%) | 97.3 | |
| In additional allowed regions (%) | 2.7 | |
| In generously allowed regions (%) | 0 | |
| In disallowed regions (%) | 0 | |
| | | |

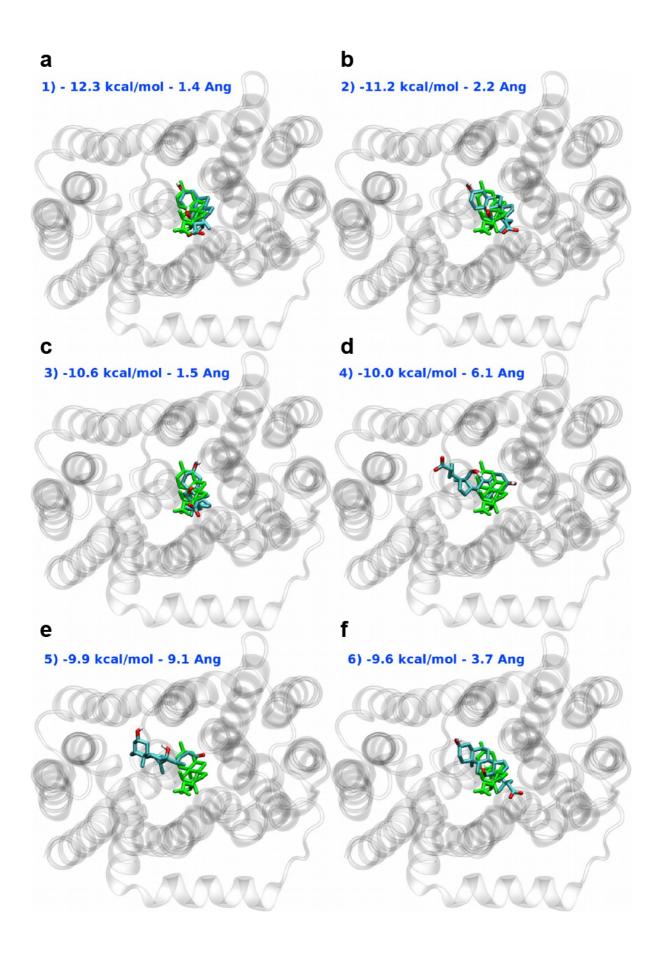


Figure S1. Re-docking deoxycholate to MdfA (Q131R).

MdfA as seen from the cytoplasmic side. Comparison between the first 6 docking poses and the experimental bound configuration of deoxycholate (shown as green sticks). The corresponding "binding affinity" and the RMSD from the experimental pose (expressed in Å) are reported in blue.

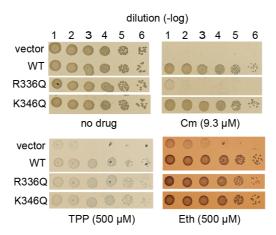


Figure S2. Multidrug resistance activity of the indicated constructs spotted on LB-agar plates containing the indicated drugs.

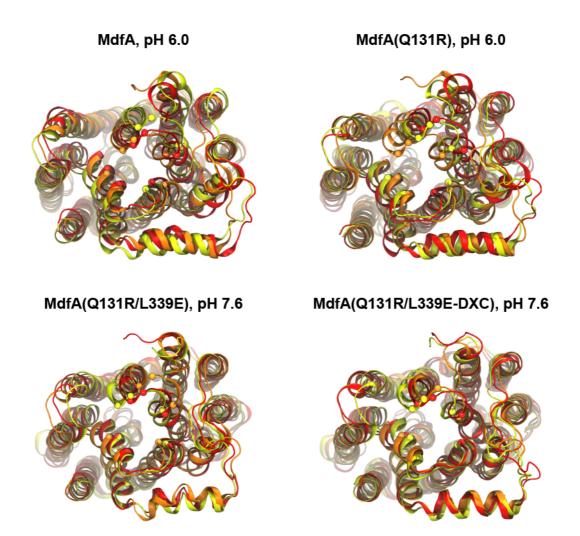


Figure S3. Conformational flexibility of wt MdfA and mutants in all-atom MD simulations. Three representative conformations extracted from the cluster analysis of MD trajectories are shown as ribbons colored red, orange, and yellow. The conformations were chosen arbitrarily from the representatives of the top ten clusters (red ribbons always show the most populated cluster representatives) in order to show maximally dissimilar conformations. Alpha carbons of residues 132, 135, 136, 336 and 346 of the rim are shown as spheres.

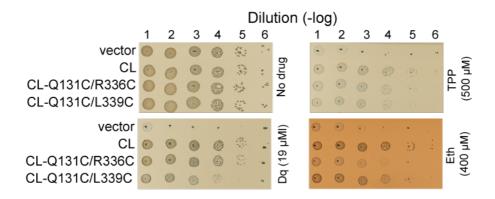


Figure S4. Multidrug resistance activity of the indicated constructs spotted on LB-agar plates containing the indicated drugs.