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Development of new chemical tools to study the cannabinoid receptor type 2

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Propositions

Part of the Thesis

Development of New Chemical Tools to Study the Cannabinoid Receptor Type 2

1. The complexity of the endocannabinoid system is becoming better understood and new details of endocannabinoid system signalling are emerging which raise the possibility of new treatment modalities. *This thesis, Chapters 1 and 5, Maccarrone, M. Expert review of clinical pharmacology, 2017, 10 (4), 443-455*
2. The endocannabinoid system is a complex system of interconnected parts, and clinical efficacy will benefit from synergy between multiple therapeutic agents. *Russo, E., Guy, G.W. Medical Hypotheses, 66 (2), 2006, 234-246*
3. X-ray crystallography or cryo-EM are not necessary to design selective ligands. High homology between CB₁R and CB₂R has made it difficult to discover how ligands can be selective, yet, many CB₂R selective ligands already exist. *This thesis, Chapter 2. Li, X., Chang, H. et al. Nature Communications, 2023, 14 (1)*
4. Selective small molecules are the future in cannabinoid research as cannabinoid antibodies are highly unreliable, just look at the controversy of whether CB₂R is expressed in neuron or not. *Manzanares J., Cabañero D. Biochem Pharmacol. 2018, 157, 108-121*
5. The unnaturally high concentrations of receptor in *in vitro* overexpression systems can cause artifacts such as spontaneous activity. *Khilnani G, Khilnani A. Indian J Pharmacol. 2011, 43 (5), 492-501*
6. A reference compound should always be included as control when testing new molecules *in vitro*. *This thesis, Chapter 6*
7. *In silico* data should always be substantiated with *in vitro/in vivo* studies. *This thesis, Chapter 2. Jean-Quartier, C., Jeanquartier, F., Jurisica, I. et al. BMC Cancer, 2018, 18, 408*
8. Fully profiled chemical probes are necessary for proper target validation. *Bunnage M.E., Chekler E.L.P. Nat Chem Biol. 2013, 9 (4), 195-199*
9. Structure-activity relationship data remain valuable not only for optimizing potency and selectivity of a ligand, but also for discovering novel and non-classical structures with improved pharmacological parameters. *This thesis, Chapter 3, Bow E.W., Rimoldi J.M. Perspectives in Medical Chemistry, 2016, 8.*
10. Propositions are an archaic element of promotions that require more time than they are worth in their occasional mentioning during a defence.

Laura de Paus
Leiden, 22-05-2024