Supporting information

Structure Activity Relationship of 2-Arylalkynyl-adenine Derivatives as Human A₃ Adenosine Receptor Antagonists

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Off-target activity, determined by the the Psychoactive Drug Screening Program (PDSP)

Unless noted in the text, no significant interactions (<50% inhibition at 10 μ M) for any of the adenine derivatives (**15-29**) were found at the following sites (human unless noted): 5HT_{1A}, 5HT_{1B}, 5HT_{1D}, 5HT_{1E}, 5HT_{2A}, 5HT_{2B}, 5HT_{2C}, 5HT₃, 5HT_{5A}, 5HT₆, 5HT₇, α_{1A} , α_{1B} , α_{1D} , α_{2A} , α_{2B} , α_{2C} , β_1 , β_2 , β_3 , BZP rat brain site, D₁, D₂, D₃, D₄, D₅, delta opioid receptor (DOR), GABA_A, H₁, H₂, H₃, H₄, M₁, M₂, M₅, mu opioid receptor (MOR), σ_1 , σ_2 , DAT, NET, SERT. Representative curves are shown.









σ₂ binding of **26** MRS7434 (PDSP 52192)





Molecular Modeling

Protein Preparation. A previously build human (h) A_3AR homology model¹ based on the highresolution inactive $A_{2A}AR^2$ (PDB ID: 4EIY) was used. The protonation state of histidine residues was determined according to H-bond patterns with surrounding residues as follows: His272 and His79/95/124/158 were protonated on the N^{δ} and the N^{ϵ}, respectively.

Ligand Docking. The ligands (**10**,**15-28**) were built using Maestro³ and docked using Glide search algorithm⁴ and OPLS3 force field. Residues Asn250 (6.55), Phe168 (EL2), Tyr265(7.36), and His272 (7.43) were selected as the center of the grid with a box size of 20 Å. Up to 10 poses per ligand were collected using the SP scoring function.

Molecular Dynamics. MD system setup, equilibration, and production were performed with the HTMD⁵ module (Acellera, Barcelona Spain, version 1.11.10). The ligand-protein complexes were embedded into an 80 x 80 Å 1-palmitoyl-2-oleoyl-sn-glycero-3-phosphocholine (POPC) membrane leaflet generated through the VMD Membrane Plugin tool. Overlapping lipids (within 0.6 Å) were removed upon protein insertion and the systems were solvated with TIP3P⁶ water and neutralized by Na⁺/Cl⁻ counter-ions (final concentration 0.154 M). MD simulations with periodic boundaries conditions were carried out with ACEMD (Acellera, version 2017.11.30)⁷ using the CHARMM36^{8,9}/CGenFF(3.0.1)^{10,11} force fields for lipid and protein, and ligand atoms, respectively. Ligand parameters were retrieved from the ParamChem service (https://cgenff.paramchem.org, accessed 03/2018, version 1.0.0). The systems were equilibrated through a 5000-step minimization followed by 40 ns of MD simulation in the NPT ensemble by applying initial constrains (0.8 for the ligand atoms, 0.85 for alpha carbon atoms, and 0.4 for the other protein atoms) that were linearly reduced after 20 ns. During the equilibration procedure, the temperature was maintained at 310 K using a Langevin thermostat with a low damping constant of 1 ps⁻¹, and the pressure was maintained at 1 atm using a Berendensen barostat. Bond lengths involving hydrogen atoms were constrained using the MSHAKE¹² algorithm. The equilibrated system was subjected to 30 ns of unrestrained MD simulation run in triplicate (NVT ensemble, timestep = 2 fs, damping constant = 0.1 ps^{-1}). Long range Coulomb interactions were handled using the particle mesh Ewald summation method (PME)¹³ with grid size rounded to the approximate integer value of cell wall dimensions. A non-bonded cutoff distance of 9 Å with a switching distance of 7.5 Å was used. All simulations were run on two NVIDIA GeForce GTX 970 and 1080.

Trajectory Analysis. MD Trajectories were visually inspected and analyzed using VMD¹⁴ v1.9.3. Ligand root-mean-square deviation and fluctuation (RMSD and RMSF, respectively) and protein alpha carbon atoms RMSD with respect to the initial frame in the production runs were computed with the RMSD trajectory tool (RSMDTT) implemented in VMD.

Modeling References

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Table S1. Parameter considered for the selection of a representative trajectory among three replicas: ligand average root-mean-square deviation (RMSD) with respect to the first frame. Values are in Å. The run selected for visualization (Video S1) is marked in bold.

Initial Docking Pose	Run Number	Average Ligand RMSD [Å]
	Run1	2.12±0.63
17 (BM1)	Run2	1.76±0.42
	Run3	1.50±0.50
	Run1	6.11±3.50
17 (BM2)	Run2	3.17±0.84
	Run3	2.92±0.98

Figure S1. Superimposition of the docking poses of the adenine antagonist **17** (magenta carbon sticks) and the adenosine agonist **10** (green carbon sticks) at the hA₃AR inactive homology model (grey carbon lines). H-bond and π - π interactions are depicted as yellow and cyan dashed lines, respectively.



Figure S2. BM2 of **17** was generated by removing the N-methanocarba ring (red cross) from the docking pose of the agonist **10**.

