Compounds acting against HIV

Imidazo[1,2-*a*]pyridines as non-nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitors (NNRTIs)

<u>Moira Bode</u>, Igle Gledhill, David Gravestock, Heinrich Hoppe, Tasmiyah Khan, Simon Moleele, Lindiwe Nkabinde, Stephen Pelly, Chris van der Westhuyzen



HIV drug targets

Viral enzymes:

- •Reverse Transcriptase
- •Protease
- Integrase







Reverse Transcriptase



Two types of inhibitors: NRTIs and NNRTIs



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Inhibitor Modes of action



NNRTIs in HIV treatment



- Non-competitive allosteric inhibitors of reverse transcriptase
- Form part of first-line treatment regimen of HAART, eg. nevirapine, efavirenz
- Potent, highly selective anti-HIV agents
- Structurally diverse
- Generally good safety profile



Imidazo[1,2-a]pyridines



Prepared by the Groebke multi-component coupling reaction



Hit compound identified from an enzymatic RT screen -

poorly active in whole cell anti-HIV assay



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Reverse transcriptase assay



streptavidincoated MTP DNA/RNA-hybrid, biotin- and DIGlabeled by RT activity

anti-D**I**G-POD Fab-fragment POD substrate (ABTS)

Compounds showing < 20% residual activity in enzymatic assay were submitted to SRI for whole-cell anti-HIV infectivity assay



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Hit to Lead Development

H halogen methyl cyano alkoxy



alkyl branched alkyl cycloalkyl phenyl halogenated phenyl

alkyl branched alkyl cycloalkyl aromatic



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Lead compound identified







Lead optimisation



Summary: Activity improvement



 $\begin{array}{l} \text{IC}_{50} = 29 \text{ uM (RT)} \\ \text{IC}_{50} = 41 \text{ uM (PBMC)} \\ \text{cf. Nevirapine} \\ \text{IC}_{50} = 0.67 \text{ uM (RT)} \\ \text{IC}_{50} = 0.033 \text{ uM (PBMC)} \end{array}$



 $IC_{50} = 4.4 \text{ uM (RT)}$ $IC_{50} = 0.16 \text{ uM (PBMC)}$ $IC_{50} = 0.41 \text{ uM (MAGI)}$ cf. Nevirapine $IC_{50} = 0.67 \text{ uM (RT)}$ $IC_{50} = 0.033 \text{ uM (PBMC)}$



 $\label{eq:constraint} \begin{array}{l} \text{IC}_{50} = 3.5 \text{ uM (RT)} \\ \text{IC}_{50} = 0.18 \text{uM (MAGI)} \\ \text{cf. Nevirapine} \\ \text{IC}_{50} = 0.67 \text{uM (RT)} \\ \text{IC}_{50} = 0.10 \text{ uM (MAGI)} \end{array}$



Conclusions

- A compound possessing anti-HIV activity similar to that of FDA-approved nevirapine was developed
- Acts as a non-nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitor
- Compound shows good cell permeability
- Quantitative structure activity relationship (QSAR) developed for the compound series

