

Neurosteroids - Neuropathic pain (NP)

Development status

Preclinical trials

IP protection status

Kudova et al.: Amphiphilic Compounds with Neuroprotective Properties. EP3260462 A, EP3260462 A, CA 2957906 A, JP 2017-511948, US 15/506318, AU 2015309371

Partnering strategy

Collaboration, licensing, spin-off

The slide is titled "STEROIDS for Neuropathic Pain Treatment" and includes the following sections:

- The Pain Pathway:** A diagram showing the interaction between Glutamate and its receptors at the first spinal synapse, and the role of NMDA antagonists.
- Efficacy:** Graphs showing "Pain Threshold after Chronic Dosing" and "Mechanisms of Action".
- Safety:** A graph showing "Activity Test - sedation 100 mg/kg" and "No CYP 450 inhibition not activation".
- Pharmacokinetics:** A graph showing "PK Study after single i.p. dosing of 1, 3 and 10 mg/kg MS-225 in mice" and "Comparative PK study (i.p. dosing of MS-225 in rat and rat)".
- IP status:** A table listing IP numbers: EP3260462 A, EP3260462 A, CA 2957906 A, JP 2017-511948, US 15/506318, AU 2015309371.
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Challenge

The NP market is rife with unmet needs. The main classes of drugs used in the treatment of NP have traditionally consisted of antidepressants, anticonvulsants, opioid analgesics, and topical analgesics. Although many of the available drugs offer some degree of efficacy in terms of pain relief, there still remains vast room for improvement in efficacy, safety, drug delivery, and dosing convenience. Market size 2017 is about 3 bil. USD, CAGR 3%

Description

Neurosteroids act as multi-target allosteric modulators of various neuro-receptors. Among others, the NMDA receptor modulators influence the ion flow in synapses. Allosteric NMDAr modulators do not reveal typical adverse effects (in animal models) like dizziness, nausea, somnolence or cognitive difficulties as the current therapeutics often acting as Ca or Na channel blockers. MS-225 shows inhibitory effect at micromolar concentrations. However, there are other receptor families involved in the pain perception. MS-225 modulates their function at nanomolar concentrations. This might be the dominant mode of action and as such is a subject of further research and a new application for extended patent protection. Besides the NP, some steroidal analogues has proven its efficacy in epilepsy or neuroprotection models.

Commercial opportunity

If the clinical trials confirm its efficacy and low adverse effects, the molecule can easily acquire 10-30% of the market counting from 300 mil. to 1 bil. USD.

Institution

**The Institute of Organic
Chemistry and Biochemistry of
CAS**