

Publishes patent on a new drug class in inflammation with a dual MOA

European Life Sciences

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Galapagos published a new patent (WO 2019/105886) covering a family of compounds inhibiting Salt-Inducible kinases (SIK) for the treatment and prophylaxis of diseases including inflammation and autoimmune. Notably, the inhibition of SIK leads to inhibition of TNF- α and other pro-inflammatory cytokines and induces anti-inflammatory IL-10, thus representing a dual mechanism of action that is fitting to a vague description of Toledo's MOA (eg the CIA experiment in the patent yielded not exact, but very similar results to the same experiment for Toledo presented at R&D day). The company declined to comment, and at this point, any connection to Toledo is merely a thought experiment. Notwithstanding, the patent covers a new class of compounds with a novel target, that seems not to be pursued by other pharma companies at the moment, and the dual mechanism of action that could provide an elaborate approach for the treatment of inflammatory/autoimmune diseases, thereby again confirming Galapagos' prowess in finding novel targets.

SIKs are the macrophage switch. SIKs (salt-inducible kinases) are a kinase family that is widely expressed in the body and in particular active in cellular energy homeostasis. The recent literature (eg articles underpinning the prior art patent covering the use of SIK inhibitors for the treatment of diseases) identify that SIK as a key molecular switch whose inhibition polarizes macrophages to an anti-inflammatory phenotype (regulatory phenotype) thus suppressing the production of TNF- α and IL-12 and inducing production of anti-inflammatory IL-10. (Clark, MakKenzie).

The patent covers a wide range of compounds. The patent covers methods for the production of the compounds for the prophylaxis and or treatment of inflammatory, autoinflammatory, autoimmune, proliferative, fibrotic, transplantation diseases, involving impairment of cartilage congenital cartilage diseases involving impairment of bone diseases, associated with hypersecretion of respiratory endocrine-metabolic cardiovascular dermatological abnormal angiogenesis-associated diseases by inhibiting SIK, specifically SIK2 and SIK3. The patent specifies more than 250 compounds with various selectivity and specificity.

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Rating	BUY
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Galapagos 12 Months Rating and Price Target history as of 7 Jun 2019



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