

POSTER PRESENTATION



De novo design of selective compounds: a fragment-based pipeline applied to the β 2 adrenergic receptor

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From 9th German Conference on Chemoinformatics Fulda, Germany. 10-12 November 2013

GPCRs play a key role in transmembrane signaling and are involved in many physiological processes, such as regulation of behavior, heart rate and the immune system. Therefore they are very important targets for pharmaceutical agents. Our project focuses on the β_2 Adrenergic Receptor [1,2] ($\beta_2 AR$). The $\beta_2 AR$ is mainly involved in vasodilation and bronchodilation in the human body. The recently solved structures of the β_2AR open up new possibilities in the design of novel specific ligands using structure-based approaches. Here, we describe a pipeline to grow an unspecific fragment-sized scaffold for the β_2AR . The protocol uses focused docking of fragments in two different zones identified within the binding site. The top ranked fragments are then computationally added to the core scaffold, filtered, minimized, evaluated by flexible ligand docking and inspected for later synthesis. Our initial results show that promising ligands can be identified by adding discriminating fragments to a core scaffold and that the generated compounds provide a reasonable synthetic accessibility.

Published: 11 March 2014

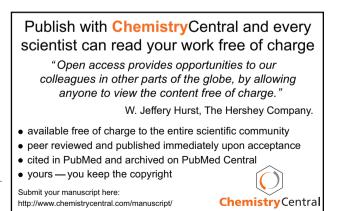
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doi:10.1186/1758-2946-6-S1-P25

Cite this article as: Chevillard and Kolb: De novo design of selective compounds: a fragment-based pipeline applied to the $\beta 2$ adrenergic receptor. *Journal of Cheminformatics* 2014 6(Suppl 1):P25.





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