APD811, a Novel and Highly Selective Non-prostanoid IP Receptor Agonist in Smooth Muscle Cells From Patients With Pulmonary Hypertension

L. Shen1, J. Patel1, D. Behan2, J. Adams2, L. Clapp1
1University College London - London/UK, 2Arena Pharmaceuticals, San Diego, CA/US

Introduction

APD811 is an oral, non-prostanoid IP receptor agonist with a long plasma half-life (~ 24 hr) in development by Arena Pharmaceuticals Inc for pulmonary arterial hypertension (PAH). Little is known about the pulmonary pharmacology of this agent. We assessed the ability of APD811 to generate cyclic AMP (cAMP) and inhibit cell proliferation in pulmonary artery smooth muscle cells (PASMCs) isolated from PAH patients. The role of the IP receptor was investigated alongside prostacyclin mimetics already licensed for PAH.

Methods

Human SMBM+ 9% FBS/PenStrep
2 x 10^5 cells/100 µl

STARVE
SMBM & Pen/Strep

RESULTS
Expressed as
absorbance
change wrt

TREAT
(1) 9% FBS
(2) FBS ± APD811

Figure 1 Proliferation was assessed using an MTS assay in PASMCs

Figure 2 Comparative concentration-response effects of the IP receptor agonists, APD811, MRE-269 (selexipag metabolite), iloprost and treprostinil on cyclic AMP levels in human PASMCs derived from 5 PAH patients (Significantly different compared to treprostinil).

Figure 3 Mean effect of the IP antagonist, RO-11384522 on cAMP generation induced by prostacyclin mimetics in human PASMCs from PAH patients.

In human PASMCs, APD811 and MRE-269 both behave as selective, but partial IP receptor agonists in cAMP and cell proliferation assays, with APD811 a more effective agonist than MRE-269. Iloprost and treprostinil inhibit proliferation through IP-receptor independent pathways. Agents stimulating cyclic GMP could work better at inhibiting cell proliferation in combination with APD-811 than endothelin receptor antagonists.

Conclusion

Funded by Arena Pharmaceuticals, San Diego, CA