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(54) **Title:** 3- (1' -ADAMANTYL) - 1 - AMINOMETHYL - 3, 4 - DIHYDRO - 5, 6 - DIHYDROXY - 1H - 2 - BENZOPYRAN FOR USE IN THE TREATMENT OF A DISEASE ASSOCIATED WITH BETA-AMYLOID INDUCED TOXICITY

(57) **Abstract:** The present invention relates to the new use of the compound 3-(1'-adamantyl)-1-aminomethyl-3,4-dihydro-5,6-dihydroxy-1H-2-benzopyran for the treatment of diseases or conditions that are associated with β -amyloid induced toxicity, such as Alzheimer's disease.



3 - (1' - ADAMANTYL) - 1 - AMINOMETHYL - 3 , 4 - DIHYDRO - 5 , 6 - DIHYDROXY - 1H - 2 - BENZOPYRAN FOR
USE IN THE TREATMENT OF A DISEASE ASSOCIATED WITH BETA - AMYLOID INDUCED TOXICITY

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

[0001] The present invention relates to a new therapeutic use of a known compound. More specifically, the present invention relates to the use of a known compound for the treatment of
5 diseases or conditions that are associated with β -amyloid induced toxicity, such as Alzheimer's disease.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

[0002] β -amyloid ($A\beta$) is a peptide comprising 39–43 amino acids that is produced by the
10 endoproteolysis of the amyloid precursor protein (APP). APP is first cleaved by β -secretase to give the membrane bound C99 peptide and then by γ -secretase to give $A\beta$.

[0003] $A\beta$ is most commonly known clinically for its association with Alzheimer's disease. Alzheimer's disease is characterised pathologically by abnormally high levels of brain lesions (senile plaques) and neurofibrillary tangles in dead and dying neurons, and by elevated numbers
15 of amyloid deposits in the walls of cerebral blood vessels. The major component of senile plaques is the $A\beta$ protein, which readily self-assembles into amyloid fibrils. Longer variants of $A\beta$ are more prone to form amyloid. Compelling evidence indicates that factors that increase the production of $A\beta$, particularly its more amyloidogenic variants, or that facilitate deposition or inhibit elimination of amyloid deposits, cause Alzheimer's or are risk factors for the disease¹.

[0004] β -Amyloid aggregation and deposition has also been implicated in other diseases or
20 conditions such as inclusion body myositis² and vascular dementia³ and cerebral amyloid angiopathy.

[0005] *In vitro* and *in vivo* evidence has shown that it is soluble, oligomeric forms of $A\beta$ that have potent neurotoxic activity and are the primary causes of neuronal injury and cell death
25 occurring in Alzheimer's disease⁴⁻⁸. It has therefore been proposed that the primary target of a $A\beta$ based therapy should therefore be $A\beta$ oligomers, rather than other less, or non-toxic, species.

[0006] There is therefore a need for new therapies capable of lowering or eliminating $A\beta$ induced toxicity.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

[0007] The present invention resides in the recognition that the compound 3-(1'-adamantyl)-1-aminomethyl-3,4-dihydro-5,6-dihydroxy-1H-2-benzopyran is a potent inhibitor of β -amyloid induced toxicity.

5 [0008] A particular form of this compound, (1R,3S) 3-(1'-adamantyl)-1-aminomethyl-3,4-dihydro-5,6-dihydroxy-1H-2-benzopyran hydrochloride, is known in the art to be a dopamine 1 (D1) receptor agonist, called "A-77636". A-77636 has been shown to have activity against Parkinson's disease in animal models⁹ and it has also been suggested to treat cocaine addiction¹⁰. A-77636 is also known to cross the blood-brain barrier, a crucial requirement for an Alzheimer's
10 drug¹⁶.

[0009] Therefore, in a first aspect, the present invention provides 3-(1'-adamantyl)-1-aminomethyl-3,4-dihydro-5,6-dihydroxy-1H-2-benzopyran, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or solvate thereof, for use in the treatment of a disease or condition associated with β -amyloid induced toxicity.

15 [0010] In a further aspect the present invention provides a pharmaceutical composition comprising 3-(1'-adamantyl)-1-aminomethyl-3,4-dihydro-5,6-dihydroxy-1H-2-benzopyran, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or solvate thereof, and one or more pharmaceutically acceptable excipients, for use in the treatment of a disease or condition associated with β -amyloid induced toxicity.

20 [0011] In a further aspect, the present invention provides the use of 3-(1'-adamantyl)-1-aminomethyl-3,4-dihydro-5,6-dihydroxy-1H-2-benzopyran, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or solvate thereof, in the manufacture of a medicament for use in the treatment of a disease or condition associated with β -amyloid induced toxicity.

[0012] In another aspect, the present invention provides a method of treating a disease or
25 condition associated with β -amyloid induced toxicity, said method comprising administering to a subject in need of such treatment a therapeutically effective amount of 3-(1'-adamantyl)-1-aminomethyl-3,4-dihydro-5,6-dihydroxy-1H-2-benzopyran, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or solvate thereof.

[0013] In another aspect, the present invention provides a method of treating a disease or
30 condition associated with β -amyloid induced toxicity, said method comprising administering to a subject in need of such treatment a therapeutically effective amount of a pharmaceutical composition comprising 3-(1'-adamantyl)-1-aminomethyl-3,4-dihydro-5,6-dihydroxy-1H-2-

benzopyran, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or solvate thereof, and one or more pharmaceutically acceptable excipients.

[0014] In a further aspect, the present invention provides 3-(1'-adamantyl)-1-aminomethyl-3,4-dihydro-5,6-dihydroxy-1H-2-benzopyran, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or solvate thereof, for use in the inhibition of β -amyloid induced toxicity.

[0015] In a further aspect, the present invention provides a method of inhibiting β -amyloid induced toxicity (*in vitro* or *in vivo*), said method comprising administering an effective amount of 3-(1'-adamantyl)-1-aminomethyl-3,4-dihydro-5,6-dihydroxy-1H-2-benzopyran, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or solvate thereof.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

Definitions

[0016] Unless otherwise stated, the following terms used in the specification and claims have the following meanings set out below.

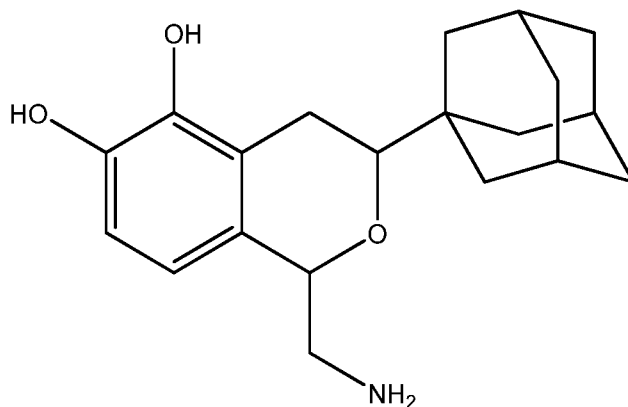
[0017] It is to be appreciated that references to "treating" or "treatment" include prophylaxis as well as the alleviation of established symptoms of a disease or condition. "Treating" or "treatment" therefore includes: (1) preventing or delaying the appearance of clinical symptoms of the disease or condition developing in a subject that may be afflicted with or predisposed to the disease or condition, but does not yet experience or display clinical or subclinical symptoms of the disease or condition, (2) inhibiting the disease or condition, *i.e.*, arresting, reducing or delaying the development of the disease or condition or a relapse thereof (in case of maintenance treatment) or at least one clinical or subclinical symptom thereof, or (3) relieving or attenuating the disease or condition, *i.e.*, causing regression of the disease or condition or at least one of its clinical or subclinical symptoms.

[0018] A "therapeutically effective amount" means the amount of the compound that, when administered to a subject for treating a disease or condition referred to herein, is sufficient to effect such treatment for the disease or condition. The "therapeutically effective amount" will vary depending on the form of the compound (e.g. the salt form), the disease or condition concerned and its severity, as well as the age, weight, etc., of the subject to be treated.

[0019] The term "subject" is used herein to mean a warm blooded mammal. Thus, the compound of the present invention may be used for human and/or veterinary applications. In a particular embodiment, the subject is a human.

The compound of the invention

[0020] The compound of the present invention is 3-(1'-adamantyl)-1-aminomethyl-3,4-dihydro-5,6-dihydroxy-1H-2-benzopyran. The structure of this compound is shown below:

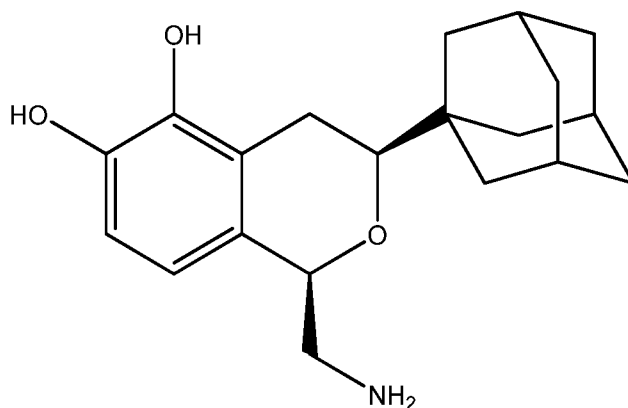


[0021] The compound of the invention may exist in one or more enantiomeric or diastereomeric forms. In particular, the compound of the invention can exist in the R or S configuration at positions 1 and 3 of the benzopyran ring.

[0022] The compound may exist as a single enantiomeric/diastereomeric form or as a mixture of enantiomeric/diastereomeric forms.

[0023] All enantiomeric/diastereomeric forms of the 3-(1'-adamantyl)-1-aminomethyl-3,4-dihydro-5,6-dihydroxy-1H-2-benzopyran compound that are capable of inhibiting β -amyloid induced toxicity are encompassed by the present invention.

[0024] In an embodiment, the compound is (1R,3S) 3-(1'-adamantyl)-1-aminomethyl-3,4-dihydro-5,6-dihydroxy-1H-2-benzopyran, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or solvate thereof. This compound has the following structure:



[0025] A suitable pharmaceutically acceptable salt of the compound of the invention is, for example, an acid-addition salt of the compound formed with an acid such as hydrochloric, hydrobromic, sulfuric, phosphoric, trifluoroacetic, formic, citric or maleic acid.

[0026] In a particular embodiment, the compound of the invention is in the form of a hydrochloride salt.

[0027] In a particular embodiment of the invention, the compound of the invention is (1R,3S) 3-(1'-adamantyl)-1-aminomethyl-3,4-dihydro-5,6-dihydroxy-1H-2-benzopyran hydrochloride.

5 [0028] It is also to be understood that the compound of the invention may also exist in solvated as well as unsolvated forms, such as, for example, hydrated forms. It is to be understood that the invention encompasses all such solvated forms that are capable of inhibiting β -amyloid induced toxicity.

10 [0029] It is also to be understood that the compound of the invention may also exhibit polymorphism, and that the invention encompasses all such polymorphic forms that are capable of inhibiting β -amyloid induced toxicity.

[0030] The compound of the invention may also be administered in the form of a pro-drug which is broken down in the human or animal body to release a compound of the invention. A pro-drug may be used to alter the physical properties and/or the pharmacokinetic properties of the compound of the invention. A pro-drug can be formed when the compound of the invention contains a suitable group or substituent to which a property-modifying group can be attached. Examples of pro-drugs include *in vivo* cleavable ester derivatives that may be formed at one of the hydroxy groups of the compound of the invention and/or *in-vivo* cleavable amide derivatives that may be formed at the amino group of the compound of the invention.

20 [0031] Accordingly, the present invention includes the compound of the invention as defined hereinbefore when made available within the human or animal body by way of cleavage of a pro-drug thereof. Accordingly, the present invention includes the compound of the invention being produced in the human or animal body by way of metabolism of a precursor compound that is the compound of the invention may be metabolically-produced.

25 [0032] A suitable pharmaceutically acceptable pro-drug of a compound of the invention is one that is based on reasonable medical judgement as being suitable for administration to the human or animal body without undesirable pharmacological activities and without undue toxicity.

[0033] Various forms of pro-drug have been described, for example in the following documents :-

- 30 a) Methods in Enzymology, Vol. 42, p. 309-396, edited by K. Widder, *et al.* (Academic Press, 1985);
- b) Design of Pro-drugs, edited by H. Bundgaard, (Elsevier, 1985);
- c) A Textbook of Drug Design and Development, edited by Krogsgaard-Larsen and H. Bundgaard, Chapter 5 "Design and Application of Pro-drugs", by H. Bundgaard p. 113-191

(1991);

d) H. Bundgaard, *Advanced Drug Delivery Reviews*, 8, 1-38 (1992);

e) H. Bundgaard, *et al.*, *Journal of Pharmaceutical Sciences*, 77, 285 (1988);

f) N. Kakeya, *et al.*, *Chem. Pharm. Bull.*, 32, 692 (1984);

5 g) T. Higuchi and V. Stella, "Pro-Drugs as Novel Delivery Systems", A.C.S. Symposium Series, Volume 14; and

h) E. Roche (editor), "Bioreversible Carriers in Drug Design", Pergamon Press, 1987.

[0034] The *in vivo* effects of the compound of the invention may be exerted in part by one or more metabolites that are formed within the human or animal body after administration of a
10 compound of the invention. As stated hereinbefore, the *in vivo* effects of a compound of the invention may also be exerted by way of metabolism of a precursor compound (a pro-drug).

Synthesis

[0035] The compound of the present invention can be sourced commercially and/or prepared by
15 synthetic techniques known in the art.

Pharmaceutical Compositions

[0036] According to a further aspect of the invention there is provided a pharmaceutical composition which comprises the compound of the invention as defined hereinbefore, or a
20 pharmaceutically acceptable salt or solvate thereof, in association with a pharmaceutically acceptable diluent or carrier, for use in the treatment of a disease or condition associated with β -amyloid induced toxicity.

[0037] The compositions of the invention may be in a form suitable for oral use (for example as tablets, lozenges, hard or soft capsules, aqueous or oily suspensions, emulsions, dispersible
25 powders or granules, syrups or elixirs), for topical use (for example as creams, ointments, gels, or aqueous or oily solutions or suspensions), for administration by inhalation (for example as a finely divided powder or a liquid aerosol), for administration by insufflation (for example as a finely divided powder) or for parenteral administration (for example as a sterile aqueous or oily solution for intravenous, subcutaneous, intramuscular, intraperitoneal or intramuscular dosing or
30 as a suppository for rectal dosing).

[0038] The compositions of the invention may be obtained by conventional procedures using conventional pharmaceutical excipients well known in the art. Thus, compositions intended for oral use may contain, for example, one or more colouring, sweetening, flavouring and/or preservative agents.

[0039] The amount of active ingredient that is combined with one or more excipients to produce a single dosage form will necessarily vary depending upon the individual treated and the particular route of administration. For example, a formulation intended for oral administration to humans will generally contain, for example, from 0.5 mg to 0.5 g of active agent (more suitably from 0.5 to 100 mg, for example from 1 to 30 mg) compounded with an appropriate and convenient amount of excipients which may vary from about 5 to about 98 percent by weight of the total composition.

[0040] The size of the dose for therapeutic or prophylactic purposes of a compound of the invention will naturally vary according to the nature and severity of the conditions, the age and sex of the animal or patient and the route of administration, according to well known principles of medicine.

[0041] In using a compound of the invention for therapeutic or prophylactic purposes it will generally be administered so that a daily dose in the range, for example, 0.1 mg/kg to 75 mg/kg body weight is received, given if required in divided doses. In general lower doses will be administered when a parenteral route is employed. Thus, for example, for intravenous or intraperitoneal administration, a dose in the range, for example, 0.1 mg/kg to 30 mg/kg body weight will generally be used. Similarly, for administration by inhalation, a dose in the range, for example, 0.05 mg/kg to 25 mg/kg body weight will be used. Oral administration may also be suitable, particularly in tablet form. Typically, unit dosage forms will contain about 0.5 mg to 0.5 g of a compound of this invention.

Diseases or conditions associated with β -amyloid induced toxicity

[0042] The biological assays described in the accompany examples demonstrate that the compound of the invention is a potent inhibitor of β -amyloid induced toxicity.

[0043] The compound of the invention is therefore suitable for the treatment (including prophylactic treatment) of a disease or condition associated with β -amyloid induced toxicity. Examples of such conditions include: Alzheimer's disease; inclusion body myositis² and vascular dementia³ and cerebral amyloid angiopathy.

[0044] In a particular embodiment, the compound of the invention can be used for the treatment (including prophylactic treatment) of Alzheimer's disease.

[0045] The compound of the invention is suitably administered in a therapeutically effective amount to a patient in need of treatment.

Mechanism of Action

[0046] As previously stated, the compound of the invention is known to be a D1 receptor agonist. However, the mechanism by which the compound of the invention inhibits β -amyloid induced toxicity is not thought to be mediated by its D1 receptor agonist activity. Data for other D1 receptor agonists is presented in Example 5 herein and this data clearly shows that the inhibition of A β toxicity is not a general property of D1 dopamine receptor agonists.

[0047] The data presented in Example 4 herein indicates that one possible mechanism by which the compound of the invention may be acting is by binding with the RACK1 protein. RACK1 is known to modulate glutamatergic and dopaminergic neurotransmitter systems as well as helping with the maintenance of Ca²⁺ homeostasis, which appears to be disrupted as a result of A β 42 aggregation^{18, 19, 21}. Down regulation of RACK1 is also a known phenomenon associated with AD²⁰. Therefore, and without wishing to be bound by any particular theory, it is possible that the compound of the invention is helping to restore the RACK1 level in the presence of β -amyloid and this may in turn indirectly improve the altered neurotransmitter systems associated with β -amyloid aggregation, and thereby possibly reducing the β -amyloid induced cytotoxicity observed.

Routes of Administration

[0048] The compound of the invention or a pharmaceutical composition comprising this compound may be administered to a subject by any convenient route of administration. Routes of administration include, but are not limited to, oral (e.g., by ingestion); buccal; sublingual; transdermal (including, e.g., by a patch, plaster, etc.); transmucosal (including, e.g., by a patch, plaster, etc.); intranasal (e.g., by nasal spray); ocular (e.g., by eye drops); pulmonary (e.g., by inhalation or insufflation therapy using, e.g., via an aerosol, e.g., through the mouth or nose); rectal (e.g., by suppository or enema); vaginal (e.g., by pessary); parenteral, for example, by injection, including subcutaneous, intradermal, intramuscular, intravenous, intra-arterial, intracardiac, intrathecal, intraspinal, intracapsular, subcapsular, intraorbital, intraperitoneal, intratracheal, subcuticular, intraarticular, subarachnoid, and intrasternal; by implant of a depot or reservoir, for example, subcutaneously or intramuscularly.

Combination Therapies

[0049] The compound of the invention may be used as a sole therapy or may involve, in addition to the compound of the invention, therapy with one or more additional therapeutic agents.

[0050] Thus, in another aspect, the present invention provides the compound of the invention as defined herein, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or solvate thereof, for use in the treatment

of a disease or condition associated with β -amyloid induced toxicity in combination with one or more additional therapeutic agents.

[0051] In another aspect, the present invention provides the use of the compound of the invention as defined herein, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or solvate thereof, in the

5 manufacture of medicament for use in the treatment of a condition associated with β -amyloid induced toxicity in combination with one or more additional therapeutic agents.

[0052] Such conjoint treatment may be achieved by way of the simultaneous, sequential or separate dosing of the individual components of the treatment. Such combination products employ the compound of this invention within the dosage range described hereinbefore and the
10 other pharmaceutically-active agent within its approved dosage range.

[0053] According to a further aspect of the invention there is provided a combination suitable for use in the treatment of β -amyloid induced toxicity comprising a compound of the invention as defined hereinbefore, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or solvate thereof, and one or more additional therapeutic agents.

15 [0054] Herein, where the term "combination" is used, it is to be understood that this refers to simultaneous, separate or sequential administration. In one aspect of the invention "combination" refers to simultaneous administration. In another aspect of the invention "combination" refers to separate administration. In a further aspect of the invention "combination" refers to sequential administration. Where the administration is sequential or separate, the delay in administering the
20 second component should not be such as to lose the beneficial effect of the combination.

[0055] According to a further aspect of the invention there is provided a pharmaceutical composition which comprises the compound of the invention, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or solvate thereof, one or more additional therapeutic agents, and a pharmaceutically acceptable diluent or carrier.

25 BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0056] The invention is described further in reference to the accompanying Figures in which:

Figure 1 shows the concentration dependent response of (1R,3S) 3-(1'-adamantyl)-1-aminomethyl-3,4-dihydro-5,6-dihydroxy-1H-2-benzopyran hydrochloride (A-77636) on
30 extracellular A β 42 aggregation using SHSY5Y cells; and

Figure 2 shows the data shown in table 3 of Example 3 in graphical form.

Figure 3 shows the in cell western assay for the analysis of RACK1 protein expression after A β 42 and A-77636 treatment. SH-SY5Y cells were seeded for 1.5×10^4 /well. The cells were treated for two conditions, A β 42 (1 μ M) only and A β 42(1 μ M):A-77636(1 μ M) for 24hr. The parallel control cells were also treated with A-77636 (1 μ M) only. (A) The in cell western assay demonstrated down regulation of RACK1 expression for the A β 42 treatment by showing 55% decrease in RACK1 expression compared to the control cells. Administration of 1 μ M A-77636 to the A β 42 (1 μ M) treated SH-SY5Y cells acts as a partial enhancer of RACK1 expression by showing 31% increase in the RACK1 levels when compared to A β 42 (1 μ M) only. (B) The difference in the levels of RACK1 expression for the SH-SY5Y cells treated with A β 42 and A-77636 is observed through the Odyssey Infrared Imaging System captured at 700nm by setting the intensity at 4.5. The data is represented as mean percentage fluorescence intensity which is proportional to RACK1 expression after normalization to loading control alpha tubulin, n=3, error bars represent standard error and p<0.05 when compared to the control cells (A β -ve). p>0.05 for A-77636(1 μ M) treated A β 42-ve cells.

Figure 4 shows the screening of further dopamine receptor agonists to identify hits for A β 42 toxicity inhibitor. Nine compounds acting as dopamine receptor agonists having selectivity towards D1 receptors were screened on the SH-SY5Y cells treated with A β 42 (1 μ M) for 24hr. The compound and target peptide were added simultaneously and incubated at 37°C followed by cellular viability measurement using MTT assay. Compound A demonstrated partial inhibition of the A β 42 toxicity by showing 81% cellular viability (p<0.05), whereas rest of the compounds were unable to rescue the SH-SY5Y cells from the extracellular A β 42 toxicity. Data are represented as mean percentage viability, with no treatment controls set as 100%, n=3 and the error bars represent standard error.

Examples

[0057] The invention will now be illustrated in the following Examples.

Materials

[0058] (1R,3S) 3-(1'-adamantyl)-1-aminomethyl-3,4-dihydro-5,6-dihydroxy-1H-2-benzopyran hydrochloride (A-77636) was sourced from the commercially available Lopac compound library (a collection of 1280 pharmacologically active compounds that have highly diverse structures and modes-of-action). The Lopac library was provided as a gift from Lumophore Ltd. and originally purchased from Sigma Ltd.

[0059] The A β 42 peptide was purchased from rPeptide (<http://www.rpeptide.com/>). SH-SY5Y cells were purchased from ATCC (<http://www.atcc.org/ATCCAdvancedCatalogSearch/ProductDetails/tabid/452/Default.aspx?ATCCNum=CRL-2266&Template=cellBiology>).

5 Stock Preparation of A β peptide:

[0060] A β 42 was dissolved in high grade 100% 1,1,1,3,3,3-hexafluoroisopropanol (HFIP) (Sigma) followed by 3 cycles of vortexing 30s each to maintain the peptide in monomeric state. This was followed by dissolution of the A β 42 in an appropriate volume of HFIP to make 1mM concentration and stored at 4°C until required. The peptide was then dried in liquid N₂ and
10 lyophilised overnight. The lyophilised form of A β 42 was then sealed with parafilm and stored at -20°C until required for further experimental assays.

Example 1 – MTT toxicity assessment of SYSHY5Y cell viability in the presence of A β 42

[0061] The MTT toxicity assay is extensively used in studies measuring A β toxicity^{11, 12}.

15

MTT assay:

[0062] The MTT (3-(4,5-dimethylthiazol-2-yl)-2,5-diphenyltetrazolium bromide) assay was conducted on the SH-SY5Y cells to observe the effects of compound on the cells treated with extracellular A β 42. The MTT assay provides a colorimetric analysis of cell viability by the
20 conversion of MTT into formazan product by the mitochondrial enzyme succinate dehydrogenase. For cytotoxicity experiments cells were washed twice with Dulbecco's PBS followed by trypsinisation of cells, centrifugation at 1800rpm and seeding the cells on 96 well flat bottom plates (Costar) in Opti-MEM media without phenol red supplemented with 1.5% FCS, 1% L-glutamine, 1% Penicillin- streptomycin (P/S) and 1% non essential amino acids
25 (NEAA).

[0063] The cells were seeded at 1x10⁵/ml density in a 96 well flat bottom plate (Costar) and incubated for 24hr in a humidified incubator at 37°C with 5% CO₂. This was followed by removal of the media and adding fresh media to the cells containing 1 μ M A β 42 and 1 μ M A-77636:

30 [0064] After 24hr; 50 μ l of the media was removed and 10 μ l of MTT (2.5mg/ml) was added to the cells. This was followed by incubation for further 4hr at 37°C and 5% CO₂. MTT reduction was characterized by adding 100 μ l solubilization solution containing 50ml isopropyl alcohol and 197 μ l of 37% HCl. The cytotoxicity was determined by measuring the absorbance at 570 nm

using Polarstar BMG labtech plate reader. The average viability for the cells without A β 42 (healthy cells) was considered to be 100% for each experiment whereas 0.1% Triton X-100 was added to the live cells to produce 0% viable cells as a control for 100% nonviable or dead cells.

5 Results

[0065] MTT results are shown in Table 1 below

Table 1

	A β 42 -ve	A β 42 +ve (1 μ M)	A-77636 (1 μ M)
Experiment 1	100%	65%	82%
Experiment 2	100%	63%	69%
Experiment 3	100%	68%	92%
Average	100%	65%	81%
Standard deviation	0%	2.5%	11.5%
p value	0		0.009

[0066] These results demonstrate that the compound of the invention (A-77636) is capable of inhibiting the toxic effects of A β 42 (when compared to A β 42 with and without A-77636).

10

Example 2 – MTT toxicity assessment of SYSHY5Y cell viability in the presence of A β 42 and varying concentrations of (1R,3S) 3-(1'-adamantyl)-1-aminomethyl-3,4-dihydro-5,6-dihydroxy-1H-2-benzopyran hydrochloride (A-77636)

[0067] Compound A-77636 was screened at varying concentrations on the SH-SY5Y cells treated with extracellular A β 42. For the MTT cytotoxicity assay, A-77636 was diluted in the Opti-MEM media supplemented with 1.5% FCS, 1% P/S, 1% L-glutamine and 1% NEAA. The target compound was added to the SH-SY5Y cells at concentrations of 100 μ M, 10 μ M, 1 μ M, 100nM, 10nM and 1nM.

[0068] The cells were seeded at 1x10⁵/ml density in a 96 well flat bottom plate (Costar) and incubated for 24hr in a humidified incubator at 37°C with 5% CO₂. This was followed by removal of the media and adding fresh media to the cells containing A β 42 and A-77636. The final concentration of the target peptide and Compound A-77636 within the cells was at 1 μ M:100 μ M, 1 μ M:10 μ M, 1 μ M:1 μ M, 1 μ M:100nM, 1 μ M:10nM and 1 μ M:1nM. The cells were then incubated for 24hr in the humidified incubator at 37°C in 5% CO₂.

[0069] After 24hr; 50 μ l of the media was removed and 10 μ l of MTT (2.5mg/ml) was added to the cells. This was followed by incubation for further 4hr at 37°C and 5% CO₂. MTT reduction

was characterized by adding 100 μ l solubilization solution containing 50ml isopropyl alcohol and 197 μ l of 37% HCl. The 96 well plates were kept at room temperature for 6hr to dissolve the formazan crystals. The cytotoxicity was determined by measuring the absorbance at 570 nm using Polarstar BMG labtech plate reader. The average viability for the cells without A β 42 (healthy cells) was considered to be 100% for each experiment whereas 0.1% Triton X-100 was added to the live cells to produce 0% viable cells as a control for 100% nonviable or dead cells.

Results

[0070] The MTT results are shown in Table 2 below and in Figure 1.

Table 2: MTT cytotoxicity assay to observe the effects of varying concentrations of Compound A-77636 on the SHSY5Y cells treated with 1 μ M A β 42.

Compound A-77636								
	100 μ M	10 μ M	1 μ M	100nM	10nM	1nM	A β 42 -ve	A β 42 (1 μ M)
Exp 1	6	86	86	81	84	68	100	64
Exp 2	9	84	87	78	80	71	100	67
Exp 3	4	81	90	74	74	67	100	62
Avg	6	83	87	77	79	68	100	64
Std Dev	2.5	2.5	2.1	3.5	5.0	2.1	0	2.5

[0071] The compound of the invention (A-77636) is toxic at 100 μ M, active from 10nM to 10 μ M and inactive at 1nM.

Example 3 – LDH toxicity assessment of SHSY5Y cell viability in the presence of A β 42 and varying concentrations of (1R,3S) 3-(1'-adamantyl)-1-aminomethyl-3,4-dihydro-5,6-dihydroxy-1H-2-benzopyran hydrochloride (A-77636)

5 Concentration dependent LDH assay on the SHSY5Y cells using Compound A-77636:

[0072] The LDH (lactate dehydrogenase) assay was conducted on the SHSY5Y cells treated with A β 42 (1 μ M) using A-77636 at varying concentrations. LDH is a ubiquitously present cytoplasmic enzyme also found abundant in the neuronal cell lines¹⁴. The LDH assay provides the measure of cytotoxicity, wherein the amount of LDH released quantifies cell membrane damage, caused either by apoptosis or necrosis^{13,15}. The commercially available Cyto Tox-One assay (Promega; G7890) was used here which provides a fluorescent measure of LDH release, wherein the reduction of resazurin dye to resofurin is coupled through enzymatic conversion involving NADH. The generation of fluorescent dye resofurin is proportional to the amount of LDH release.

15 [0073] A-77636 was screened at varying concentrations on the SHSY5Y cells treated with 1 μ M extracellular A β 42. For the LDH cytotoxicity assay, A-77636 was diluted in the Opti-MEM media supplemented with 1.5%FCS, 1% P/S, 1% L-glutamine and 1% NEAA. A-77636 was added to the SHSY5Y cells at concentrations of 100 μ M, 10 μ M, 1 μ M, 100nM, 10nM and 1nM.

[0074] The cells were seeded at 1x10⁵/ml density in a 96 well black, flat bottom plate (BD Biosciences) and incubated for 24hr in a humidified incubator at 37°C with 5% CO₂. This was followed by the removal of media and adding fresh media to the cells containing A β 42:A77636. The final concentration of the target peptide and A-77636 within the cells was 1 μ M:100 μ M, 1 μ M:10 μ M, 1 μ M:1 μ M, 1 μ M:100nM, 1 μ M:10nM and 1 μ M:1nM, respectively. The cells were then incubated for 24hr in the humidified incubator at 37°C in 5% CO₂.

25 [0075] After 24hr, the 96 well plates were removed from the incubator and equilibrated at 22°C for 30min. The Cyto Tox-One reagent was prepared according to the manufacturer's protocol by equilibrating the substrate mix at 22°C and thawing the assay buffer at 37°C in a water bath. This was followed by adding 11ml of assay buffer to each vial of substrate mix. 100 μ l of Cyto Tox-One reagent was added to each well. The preparation and addition of Cyto Tox-One reagent was undertaken in the dark to avoid increased background fluorescence and stored at -20°C until required. The cells were further incubated at 22°C for 10 min followed by addition of stop solution to the wells in the same order as that of the Cyto Tox-One reagent to avoid increased variation in the results. The stop solution stops formation of fluorescent product resofurin. The maximum LDH release (set as 100%) for each experiment was determined by adding 2 μ l of lysis

30

solution (9% triton X 100, Promega) to the cells prior to the addition of Cyto Tox-One reagent, providing a dead cell control. Cells without A β 42 (healthy cells) were considered as a control for minimum LDH release or live cell control. The 96 well plates were then kept on the shaker for 10sec and the fluorescence was measured immediately with an excitation at 560nm and emission at 590nm using a Polarstar BMG plate reader.

[0076] The LDH assay results are shown in Table 3 below and in Figure 2.

Table 3: below shows the effects of varying concentrations of Compound A-77636 on SHSY5Y cells treated with 1 μ M A β 42 through LDH assay

	100 μ M	10 μ M	1 μ M	100nM	10nM	1nM	A β -ve	A β (1 μ M)	LDH max (dead cells)
Exp1	61	33	27	20	35	35	8	95	100
Exp2	53	47	48	23	39	38	14	71	100
Exp3	64	52	43	32	56	61	5	101	100
Avg	59	44	39	25	43	45	9	89	100
Std dev	5.6	9.8	10.9	6.2	11.1	14.2	4.5	15.8	0

[0077] The SHSY5Y cells were treated with 1 μ M A β 42 and the effect of varying concentrations of Compound A-77636 was measured after 24hr using Cyto Tox-One LDH assay. The results demonstrated 9% LDH release for A β -ve or healthy cells and 89% LDH release for the cells treated with 1 μ M A β 42 i.e. demonstrating 89% cytotoxicity when treated with extracellular A β 42 (1 μ M). A-77636 reduces A β 42 toxicity at all concentrations from 100 μ M to 1nM. A-77636 is possibly toxic at 100 μ M, as shown by increased LDH release (59%), though 100 μ M A-77636 still reduces 1 μ M A β 42 toxicity, compare to 1 μ M A β 42 in isolation.

[0078] The compound of the invention (A-77636) is therefore a suitable candidate drug for the treatment of diseases of Alzheimer's disease and other diseases caused by A β toxicity.

Example 4 - Differential expression of RACK1 protein in the presence of extracellular A β 42 and A-77636 treatment

In cell western assay:

[0079] The in cell western assay (ICW) is a cell based immunofluorescence technique which provides a rapid and sensitive measure of protein expression using microplates. The SH-SY5Y cells were treated with A β 42 for the 24hr duration using the microplates followed by fixation, immunostaining of the cells with primary antibody and fluorescently labelled secondary antibody followed by scanning the plate using the Odyssey Infrared Imaging System. This assay was undertaken to observe the expression of RACK1 protein using SH-SY5Y cells in the presence of A β 42

and A-77636. Compound A-77636 belongs to the LOPAC library, which when administered to the extracellular A β 42 treated SH-SY5Y cells demonstrated an inhibition of extracellular A β 42 mediated cytotoxicity. The ICW assay demonstrated a differential expression of RACK1 for the A β 42 (1 μ M) treated and A-77636 (1 μ M) treated SH-SY5Y cells, thereby helping to elucidate the plausible mode of action through which A-77636 might act in reducing the extracellular A β 42 cytotoxicity.

Methods:

In cell western assay for the validation of RACK1 expression:

[0080] The RACK1 expression was analyzed using the ICW assay on the SH-SY5Y cells treated with A β 42 and A-77636. For the ICW assay 1.5×10^4 cells per well were inoculated in Opti-MEM without phenol red supplemented with 1.5% FCS, 1% L-glutamine and 1% Penicillin – Streptomycin using the 96 well clear flat bottom microplate (Costar). This was followed by removal of the media and adding fresh media containing A β 42 (1 μ M). In parallel cells were added with fresh media containing A β 42 (1 μ M) and compound A-77636 (1 μ M), whereas only 1 μ M A-77636 was added to the control cells. After further 24hr, the media was discarded and cells were immediately fixed with 4% formaldehyde in PBS. The fixation was undertaken overnight at 4 °C. The cells were washed 3 times with PBS and permeabilized by adding 200 μ l of 0.1% Triton X-100 in PBS. The cells were washed 3 times for 5 min each. This was followed by blocking the cells in Odyssey blocking buffer (LI-COR) for 1.5hr at room temperature with moderate shaking on the plate shaker at 70rpm. Rabbit antihuman RACK1 antibody (1:300) (ab72483) diluted in the Odyssey blocking buffer (LI-COR) was added to the cells followed by overnight incubation at 4 °C. Alpha tubulin (1:200) (ab15246) was used as a loading control for these experiments. This was followed by washing the cells 3 times with 0.1% Tween 20 in PBS for 5 min each. The 50 μ l of fluorescently labelled secondary antibody, antirabbit IRDye 680 LT (LI-COR) diluted at 1:800 in Odyssey blocking buffer were added to the cells followed by incubation for 1hr at room temperature with gentle shaking. At this stage the cells were protected from light. The cells were then washed 3 times with 0.1% Tween 20 in PBS for 5 min each. After the final wash, the wash solution containing tween 20 was removed completely; the microplate was blotted gently on the paper towel and scanned immediately using an Odyssey Infrared scanner (LI-COR). The sensitivity of 4.5 was set for 700nm channel for these experiments. The data was acquired by using Odyssey software, exported, analyzed in Excel and the values were background subtracted from the cells treated only with secondary antibody.

Results:

Differential expression of RACK1 protein in the presence of extracellular A β 42 and A-77636 treatment:

[0081] An ICW assay was undertaken on the SH-SY5Y cells treated with A β 42 (1 μ M) and A-77636 (1 μ M) to determine the expression of RACK1 protein. RACK1 is known to be required for the activation and translocation of PKC¹⁷. Moreover RACK1 is also known to modulate glutamatergic and dopaminergic neurotransmitter systems as well as help in maintaining the Ca²⁺ homeostasis, which appears to be disrupted as a result of A β 42 aggregation^{18, 19, 21}. Down regulation of RACK1 is a known phenomenon associated with AD²⁰. In this study differential expression of RACK1 protein was observed through the ICW assay for the cells treated with A β 42 (1 μ M) only and those with A-77636 (1 μ M) treatment.

[0082] The RACK1 expression was measured for the SH-SY5Y cells treated with A β 42 (1 μ M) only, those treated with A β 42:A-77636 at a final concentration of 1 μ M:1 μ M within the cells and A-77636(1 μ M) only for 24hr. The results were compared with no treatment control cells. The 24hr treatment of SH-SY5Y cells with 1 μ M A β 42 demonstrated decreased expression of RACK1 protein (81%) compared to the control cells (136%) with p<0.05, whereas 1 μ M treatment with A-77636 for the A β 42 (1 μ M) treated SH-SY5Y cells demonstrated a partial improvement in the level of RACK1 to 112%, thereby demonstrating the possible mechanism of action through which A-77636 might help in improving the A β 42 mediated cytotoxicity (Figure 3). The ICW assay further helped in validating the results from MTT and LDH cytotoxicity assays, both of which have demonstrated the potential of A-77636 as a partial inhibitor of extracellular A β 42 cytotoxicity. Moreover administration of 1 μ M A-77636 alone to the control cells was unable to demonstrate any change in the RACK1 expression (130%) with p>0.05 when compared to the control cells. This illustrates the possible role of A-77636 in reducing the extracellular A β 42 cytotoxicity, which might act by binding with the RACK1 protein and further helping in restoring the RACK1 level, thereby indirectly improving the altered neurotransmitter systems associated with A β 42 aggregation possibly reducing A β 42 cytotoxicity.

Example 5 – the effect of alternative D1 receptor agonists on A β -induced toxicity

[0083] Further D1 dopamine receptor agonists (detailed in Table 4 below) were screened in order to determine whether they act as inhibitors of extracellular A β 42 toxicity. These compounds were screened individually on the SH-SY5Y cells treated with A β 42 (1 μ M) to observe their effects on the A β 42 cytotoxicity. Nine compounds in total were screened on the SH-SY5Y cells simultaneously with A β 42 (1 μ M) treatment. Compound A demonstrated partial inhibition of A β 42 toxicity by illustrating 81% cell viability (p<0.05) whereas all the other

compounds were unable to inhibit the A β 42 toxicity demonstrated by statistically insignificant results (Figure. 4).

[0084] This data shows that inhibition of A β toxicity is not a general property of D1 dopamine receptor agonists.

5

Table 4: Properties of Dopamine receptor agonists shown in Figure 4

Compound	Name	Secondary Name	Selectivity	Description
A	R(+)-6-Bromo-APB hydrobromide	R(+)-6-Bromo-7,8-dihydroxy-3-allyl-1-phenyl-2,3,4,5-tetrahydro-1H-3-benzazepine hydrobromide	D1/D5	D1 Dopamine receptor agonist
B	Dihydroexidine hydrochloride	(\pm)-trans-10,11-Dihydroxy-5,6,6a,7,8,12b-hexahydrobenzo[a]phenanthridine hydrochloride	D1	D1 dopamine receptor agonist
C	(\pm)-Chloro-APB hydrobromide	(\pm)-SKF-82958 hydrobromide	D1	D1 dopamine receptor agonist.
D	(\pm)-SKF-38393 hydrochloride	(\pm)-1-Phenyl-2,3,4,5-tetrahydro-(1H)-3-benzazepine-7,8-diol hydrochloride	D1	D1 Dopamine receptor agonist
E	Fenoldopam bromide	SKF-82526	D1	Peripheral D1 dopamine receptor agonist
F	SKF 83959 hydrobromide	6-chloro-7,8-dihydroxy-3-methyl-1-(3-methylphenyl)-2,3,4,5-tetrahydro-1H-3-benzazepine hydrobromide	D1	Atypical D1 dopamine receptor agonist; displays antagonist activity in vitro and agonist activity in vivo
G	SKF 89626	4-(3,4-dihydroxyphenyl)-4,5,6,7-tetrahydrothieno[2,3-c]pyridine	D1	D1 dopamine receptor agonist
H	(\pm)-SKF 38393, N-allyl-, hydrobromide	(\pm)-7,8-Dihydroxy-3-allyl-1-phenyl-2,3,4,5-tetrahydro-1H-3-benzazepine hydrobromide	D1	D1 dopamine receptor agonist.
I	(\pm)-6-Chloro-PB hydrobromide	(\pm)-SKF-81297 hydrobromide	D1	D1 dopamine receptor agonist

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CLAIMS

1. The compound 3-(1'-adamantyl)-1-aminomethyl-3,4-dihydro-5,6-dihydroxy-1H-2-benzopyran, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or solvate thereof, for use in the treatment of a disease or condition associated with β -amyloid induced toxicity.
5
2. The compound according to claim 1, wherein said compound is (1R,3S) 3-(1'-adamantyl)-1-aminomethyl-3,4-dihydro-5,6-dihydroxy-1H-2-benzopyran or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or solvate thereof.
10
3. The compound according to claim 2, wherein said compound is (1R,3S) 3-(1'-adamantyl)-1-aminomethyl-3,4-dihydro-5,6-dihydroxy-1H-2-benzopyran hydrochloride.
4. A pharmaceutical composition comprising the compound defined in any one of claims 1 to 3, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or solvate thereof, and one or more pharmaceutically acceptable excipients, for use in the treatment of a disease or condition associated with β -amyloid induced toxicity.
15
5. The compound according to any one of claims 1 to 3, or the pharmaceutical composition according to claim 4, wherein the disease or condition associated with β -amyloid induced toxicity is selected from Alzheimer's disease, inclusion body myositis and vascular dementia and cerebral amyloid angiopathy.
20
6. The compound according to any one of claims 1 to 3, or the pharmaceutical composition according to claim 4, wherein the disease or condition associated with β -amyloid induced toxicity is Alzheimer's disease.
25
7. A method of treating a disease or condition associated with β -amyloid induced toxicity, said method comprising administering to a subject in need of such treatment a therapeutically effective amount of the compound defined in claims 1 to 3, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or solvate thereof, or a pharmaceutical composition according to claim 4.
30

8. The method according to claim 7, wherein the disease or condition associated with β -amyloid induced toxicity is selected from Alzheimer's disease, inclusion body myositis and vascular dementia and cerebral amyloid angiopathy.
- 5 9. The method according to claim 7, wherein the disease or condition associated with β -amyloid induced toxicity is Alzheimer's disease.
10. The compound 3-(1'-adamantyl)-1-aminomethyl-3,4-dihydro-5,6-dihydroxy-1H-2-benzopyran, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or solvate thereof, for use in the inhibition of
- 10 β -amyloid induced toxicity.
11. A method of inhibiting β -amyloid induced toxicity (*in vitro* or *in vivo*), said method comprising administering an effective amount of 3-(1'-adamantyl)-1-aminomethyl-3,4-dihydro-5,6-dihydroxy-1H-2-benzopyran, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or solvate thereof.

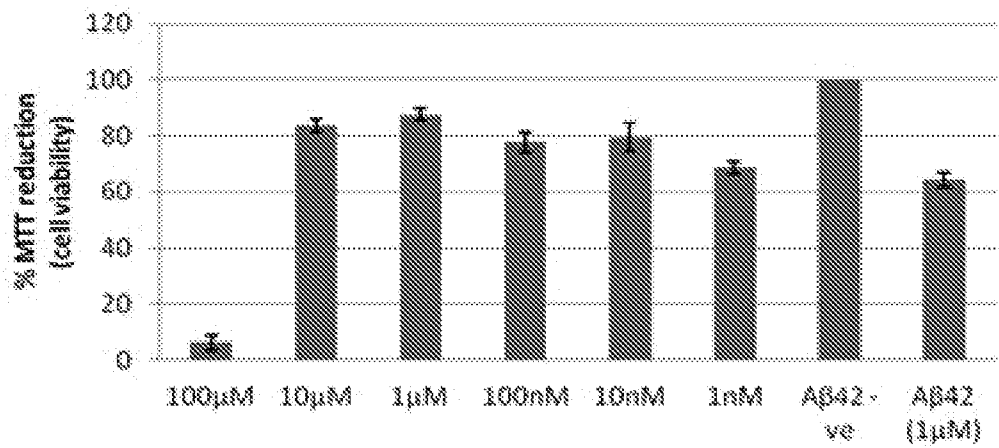


Figure 1

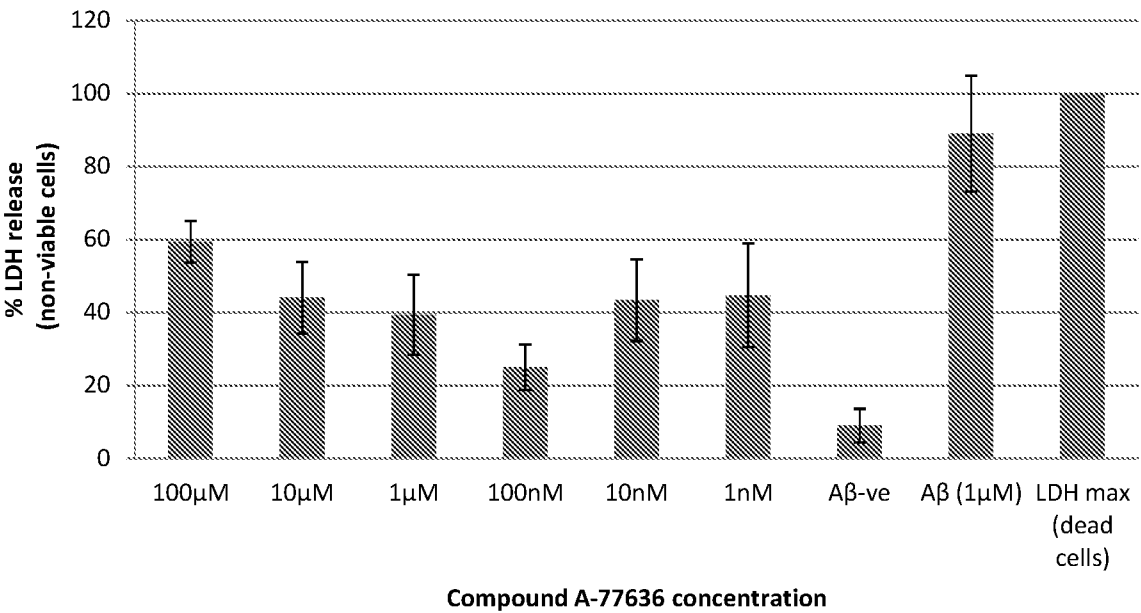
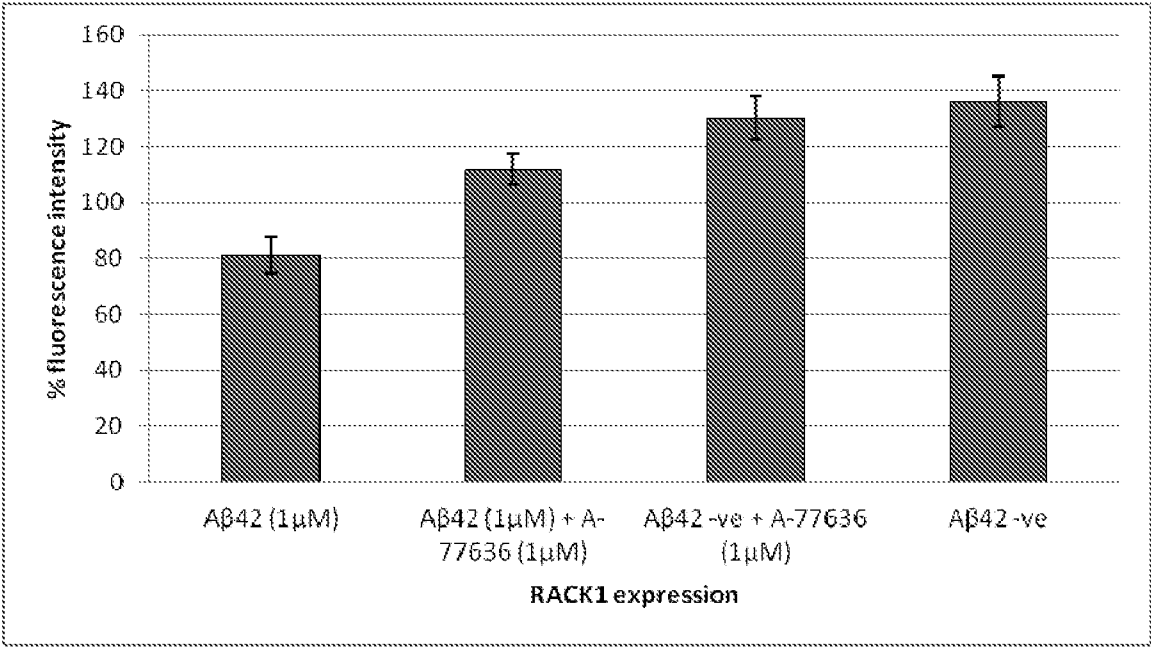
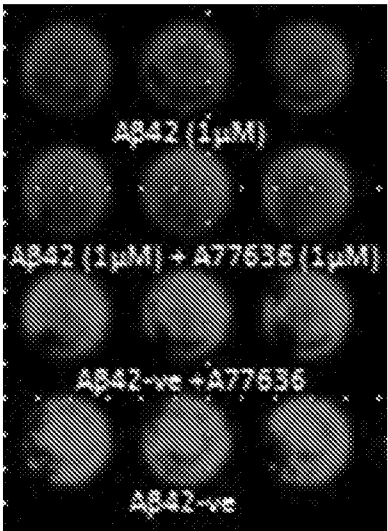


Figure 2



(A)



(B)

Figure 3

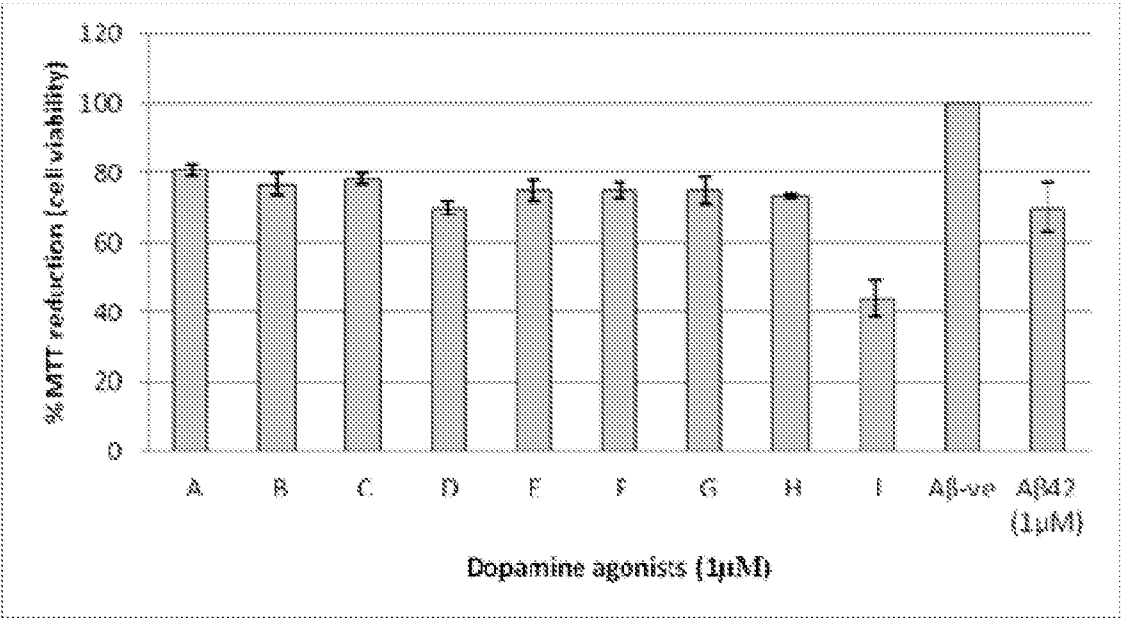


Figure 4

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No

PCT/GB2013/050985

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

INV. A61K31/353 A61P25/28
ADD.

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

A61K A61P

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, BIOSIS, WPI Data, EMBASE, FSTA

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	WO 2004/103263 A2 (YEDA RES & DEV [IL]; EISENBACH-SCHWARTZ MICHAL [IL]; KIPNIS JONATHAN []) 2 December 2004 (2004-12-02) page 7, line 21 - page 8, line 17 page 16, line 27 page 19, lines 5-7 page 20, lines 13-14 -----	1-5,7,8, 10,11
Y	CAI J X ET AL: "Dose-dependent effects of the dopamine D1 receptor agonists A77636 or SKF81297 on spatial working memory in aged monkeys", JOURNAL OF PHARMACOLOGY AND EXPERIMENTAL THERAPEUTICS, vol. 283, no. 1, 1997, pages 183-189, XP002697839, ISSN: 0022-3565 page 188, column 1, paragraph 2 ----- -/-	1-11



Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.



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Date of mailing of the international search report

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Name and mailing address of the ISA/

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No
PCT/GB2013/050985

C(Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No

PCT/GB2013/050985

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