

ALK5 inhibitor I BI-4659

BI-4659

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Summary

BI-4659 inhibits ALK5 with an IC_{50} value of 19 nM and blocks the cellular phosphorylation of SMAD2/SMAD3 with an EC_{50} of 185 nM. BI-4659 is a suitable tool for testing biological hypotheses *in vitro*.

Chemical Structure

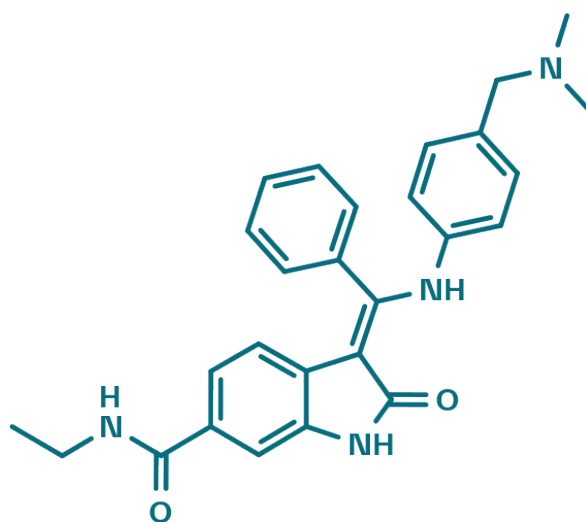


Figure 1: 2D structure of BI-4659, an ALK5 inhibitor

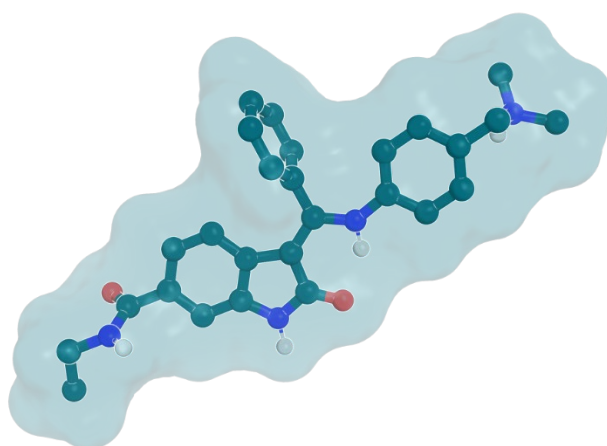


Figure 2: BI-4659, 3D conformation

Highlights

BI-4659 is a potent ALK5 (TGF β R1) inhibitor (IC_{50} = 19 nM). This compound showed good selectivity against a broad panel of other kinases. BI-4659 is able to block the phosphorylation of SMAD2 and SMAD3 in cells and is a suitable tool for in vitro studies¹. However, it is not suited for in vivo experiments due to the very high clearance observed in rats.

Target information

Transforming growth factor β (TGF β) is a pluripotent cytokine involved in the regulation of various biological processes such as cell proliferation, differentiation, migration, adhesion, apoptosis, and epithelial-to-mesenchymal transition (EMT). Therapeutic approaches to inhibit its signaling by targeting TGF β receptor I (TGF β RI/ALK5) are discussed for the treatment of diseases such as Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis (IPF) and cancer^{2,3,4}.

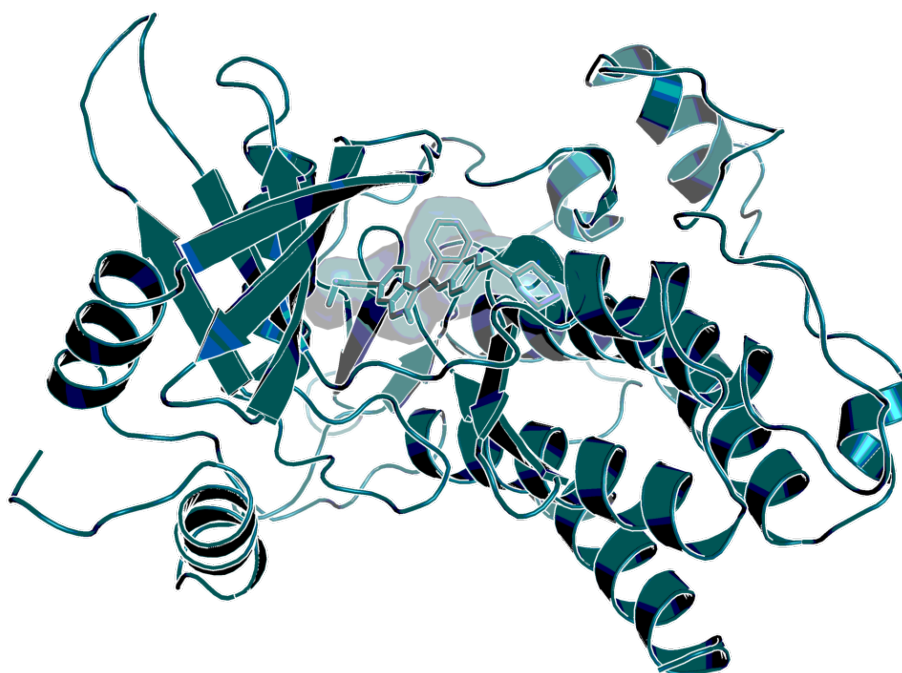


Figure 3: Crystal structure of ALK5 complexed with a close analog of BI-4659 (PDB code 2X7O)¹

In vitro activity

PROBE NAME / NEGATIVE CONTROL	BI-4659	BI-4101
MW [Da, free base] ^a	440.5	418.5
Inhibition of ALK5 (Kinase Glow assay, IC ₅₀) [nM] ^b	19	>50000
Inhibition of phosphorylation of SMAD2 and SMA3 in HaCaT cells (EC ₅₀) [nM]	185	n.d.

^a For the salt form you will get, please refer to the label on the vial and for the molecular weight of the salt, please refer to the FAQs

^b For detailed assay conditions see reference 1

In vitro DMPK and CMC parameters

PROBE NAME / NEGATIVE CONTROL	BI-4659			BI-4101
logD @ pH 2/ 11	0.7 / 3.1			n.d.
Solubility @ pH 6.8 [µg/mL]	2			n.d.
Solubility @ pH 4 [µg/mL]	84			n.d.
Solubility @ pH 2 [µg/mL]	71			n.d.
Caco-2 permeability AB @ pH 7.4 [$\times 10^{-6}$ cm/s]	8			n.d.
Caco-2 efflux ratio	6			n.d.
Microsomal stability (human/mouse/rat) [% QH]	26	23	<22	n.d.
hERG [inh. % @ 10 µM]	38.5			n.d.
hERG IC ₅₀ [µM]	>10			n.d.

CYP 3A4 (IC ₅₀) [μM]	>50	n.d.
CYP 2C8 (IC ₅₀) [μM]	>50	n.d.
CYP 2C9 (IC ₅₀) [μM]	>50	n.d.
CYP 2C19 (IC ₅₀) [μM]	>50	n.d.
CYP 2D6 (IC ₅₀) [μM]	>50	n.d.

In vivo DMPK parameters

BI-4659 showed very high clearance in rat and therefore is not suited if *in vivo* studies

BI-4659	RAT
Clearance [%Q _H] ^a	123
Mean residence time after <i>i.v.</i> dose [h] ^a	1.7
t _{max} [h] ^b	3.3
C _{max} [nM] ^b	27.7
F [%] ^b	50
V _{ss} [L/kg] ^a	9

^a *i.v.* dose: 4.5 mg/kg

^b *p.o.* dose: 45 mg/kg

Negative control

BI-4101 shows no inhibition of ALK5 in the Kinase Glow assay (IC₅₀ > 50 μM) and therefore is a suitable negative control for *in vitro* experiments (BI-4101 = Compound **48**¹)

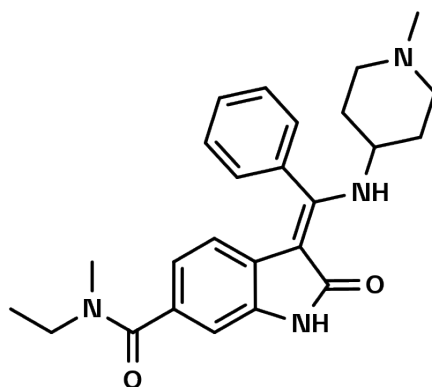


Figure 4: BI-4101 which serves as a negative control

Selectivity

BI-4659 shows good selectivity in kinase panels. The compound shows no inhibition of 218/232 kinases tested at 2 μ M. Cross-reactive kinases (%inhibition data at 0.2 μ M): ABL1 (67), BLK (85), CSF1R (FMS) (82), FGR (91), FLT3 (66), FYN (74), LCK (100), LYN A (79), LYN (78), MAP4K5 (KHS1) (77), MELK (80), NTRK3 (TRKC) (78), RET (79), SNF1LK2 (96), YES1 (90).

Selectivity data is available on [opnMe.com](https://opnme.com) for download free of charge.

SELECTIVITY DATA AVAILABLE	BI-4659	BI-4101
SafetyScreen44™ with kind support of eurofins	Yes	Yes
Invitrogen®	Yes	No
DiscoverX®	Yes	No
Dundee	Yes	No

Co-crystal structure of the Boehringer Ingelheim probe compound and the target protein

No in-house structure is available for BI-4659, but for related compound (PDB code 2x7o).

Reference molecule(s)

SB-505124, SB-525334, GK6604, SD-208, LY-2157299, EW-7197, GW788388 and others. For a review on ALK5 kinase inhibitors in oncology⁵.

Supplementary data

Selectivity data and 2D structure files can be downloaded free of charge from [openMe](#).

References

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