

GABA_A $\alpha 5$ negative allosteric modulator

BI-1030

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Summary

GABA type A receptors are chloride ion channels that drive inhibitory neurotransmission in the mammalian central nervous system upon binding of GABA, the primary inhibitory neurotransmitter in the central nervous system. BI-1030 is a potent and functionally selective GABA_A α 5 receptor negative allosteric modulator (NAM), suitable for *in vitro* as well as *in vivo* use.

Chemical Structure

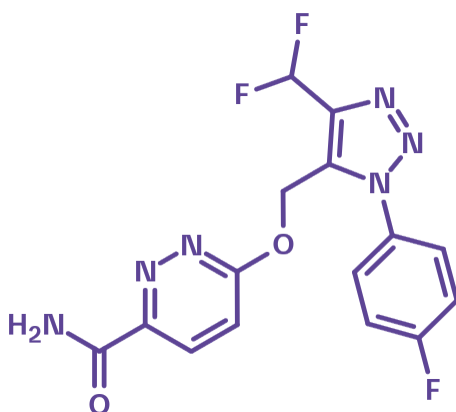


Figure 1: 2D structure of BI-1030

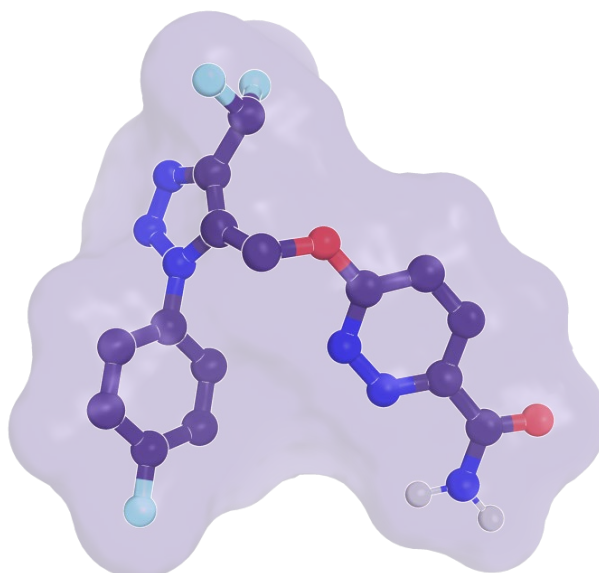


Figure 2: BI-1030, 3D conformation, as observed in a model of the complex forming the interface of the α 5 and γ 2 GABA_A receptor subunits

Highlights

GABA type A receptor subtypes containing $\alpha 5$ subunits are of particular research interest due to their specific brain distribution, unusual surface localization and key roles in synaptic plasticity, cognition and memory. Only a few molecules in the literature are showing subtype selectivity for GABA_A $\alpha 5$ receptors and Boehringer Ingelheim in collaboration with Saniona A/S, have designed a very potent, selective, and *in vivo* ready GABA_A $\alpha 5$ functionally selective negative allosteric modulator (NAM), BI-1030.

Target information

The γ -aminobutyric acid (GABA) type A receptors (GABA_ARs) are heteropentameric ligand-gated chloride ion (Cl^-) channels typically composed of two α ($\alpha 1-6$), two β ($\beta 1-3$), and one γ ($\gamma 1-3$) or δ subunits¹. Binding of the neurotransmitter GABA opens an intrinsic ion channel that permits the passage of chloride ions and drives inhibitory neurotransmission in the mammalian central nervous system. GABA_ARs play critical roles in the central nervous system (CNS) implying neuronal plasticity, and drugs targeting GABA_ARs show diverse central pharmacology². $\alpha 5$ -containing GABA_ARs in particular, are highly expressed in both the hippocampus and olfactory bulb. Characteristically, $\alpha 5$ GABA_ARs comprise close to 25% of all hippocampal GABA_ARs, and over a third of the neurons in the internal granule cell layer of the olfactory bulb¹.

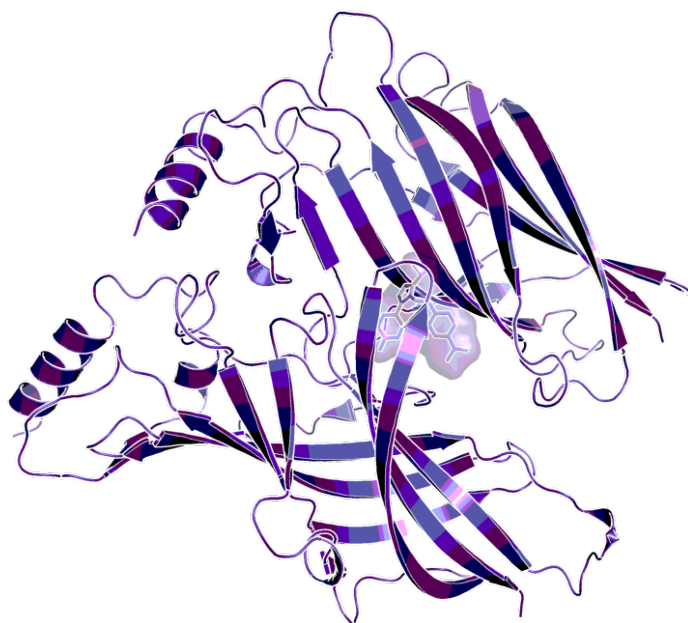


Figure 3: Model of the complex of BI-1030 bound to the interface of the $\alpha 5$ and the $\gamma 2$ GABA_A receptor subunits (only extracellular domains shown).

In vitro activity

BI-1030 displays a K_i of 57 nM on the GABA_A $\alpha 5$ receptor, and it is functionally selective for the GABA_A receptor subtypes $\alpha 1$, $\alpha 2$, and $\alpha 3$.

PROBE NAME / NEGATIVE CONTROL	BI-1030
MW [Da, free base] ^a	364.3
GABA _A $\alpha 5$ Bdg (K_i) [nM] ^b	57.1
GABA _A $\alpha 5$ EPHys (EC_{50}) [nM] ^c	114.4
GABA _A $\alpha 5$ EPHys (E_{max}) [nM] ^c	-28.5
GABA _A $\alpha 1$ EPHys (EC_{50}) [nM] ^c	-
GABA _A $\alpha 1$ EPHys (E_{max}) [nM] ^c	-2.8
GABA _A $\alpha 2$ EPHys (EC_{50}) [nM] ^c	-
GABA _A $\alpha 2$ EPHys (E_{max}) [nM] ^c	-4.3
GABA _A $\alpha 3$ EPHys (EC_{50}) [nM] ^c	-
GABA _A $\alpha 3$ EPHys (E_{max}) [nM] ^c	0.8
GABA _A $\alpha 1$ Bdg (K_i) [nM] ^b	1,100
GABA _A $\alpha 4$ Bdg (K_i) [nM] ^b	14,000
GABA _A $\alpha 6$ Bdg (K_i) [nM] ^b	>14,000

^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 In vitro inhibition of 3H-flumazenil binding HEK cells expressing the human GABA_A $\alpha 5\beta 3\gamma 2$. Details of the experiment can be found in the reference 3

^c Modulatory efficacy on GABA_A subtypes is determined by electrophysiological recordings in oocytes using the two-electrode voltage clamp (TEVC) technique. Oocytes are injected with cRNA for human GABA_A receptor subunits. Details of the experiment can be found in the references 3 and 4

In vitro DMPK and CMC parameters

BI-1030 presents good in vitro DMPK and CMC properties, being soluble and metabolically stable.

PROBE NAME / NEGATIVE CONTROL	BI-1030
logP @ pH 11	1.4
Solubility @ pH 7 [$\mu\text{g/mL}$]	<1
MDCK permeability P_{appAB} @ $1\mu\text{M}$ [10^{-6} cm/s]	45
MDCK efflux ratio	1.1
Microsomal stability (human/mouse/rat/dog/MP) [% Q_H]	<23 / <23 / <22 / <20 / <23
Hepatocyte stability (human/mouse/rat/dog) [% Q_H]	10 / 21 / 6 / 34
Plasma Protein Binding (human/mouse/rat/dog/MP) [%]	65 / 59 / 52 / 55 / 67
hERG KI [μM]	>10
CYP 3A4 (IC_{50}) [μM]	>25
CYP 2C8 (IC_{50}) [μM]	>50
CYP 2C9 (IC_{50}) [μM]	>25
CYP 2C19 (IC_{50}) [μM]	>25
CYP 2D6 (IC_{50}) [μM]	>25

In vivo DMPK parameters

BI-1030 is stable in different species, with an excellent bioavailability allowing its use *in vivo*.

BI-1030	MOUSE ^a	RAT ^b	DOG ^c
Clearance [% Q_H]	6.6	5.7	25
Mean residence time after <i>i.v.</i> dose [h]	2.6	3.3	2.7
t_{max} [h]	0.7	4	1.3

C _{max} [nM]	495	354	225
F [%]	100	65	64
V _{ss} [L/kg]	0.9	0.8	1.3

^a *i.v.* dose: 0.4 mg/kg; *p.o.* dose: 1.8 mg/kg

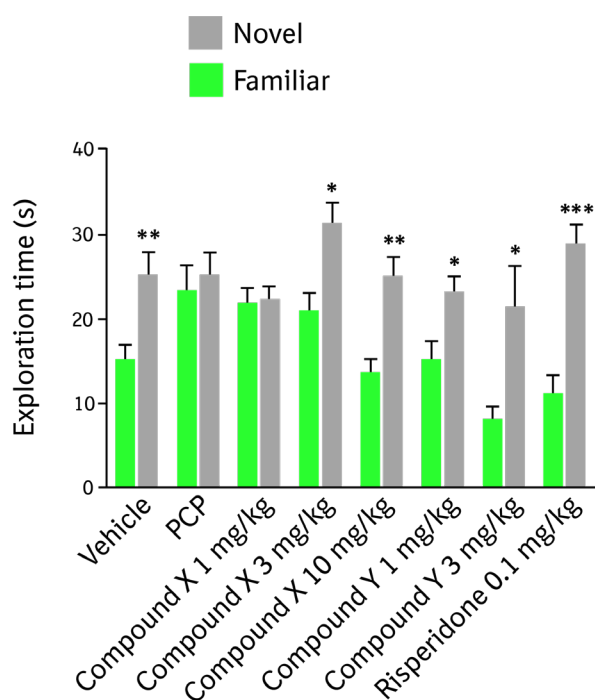
^b *i.v.* dose: 0.4 mg/kg; *p.o.* dose: 3.6 mg/kg

^c *i.v.* dose: 0.4 mg/kg; *p.o.* dose: 3.6 mg/kg

In vivo pharmacology

BI-1030 shows a very favorable *in vivo* profile in different CNS *in vivo* models showing that the GABA_A α5 NAM is a reliable mode of action to potentially address complex central disease mechanisms.

BI-1030 attenuates sub-chronic phencyclidine (PCP)-induced impairment in novel object recognition tasks in rats, indicating potential beneficial effects on episodic memory.

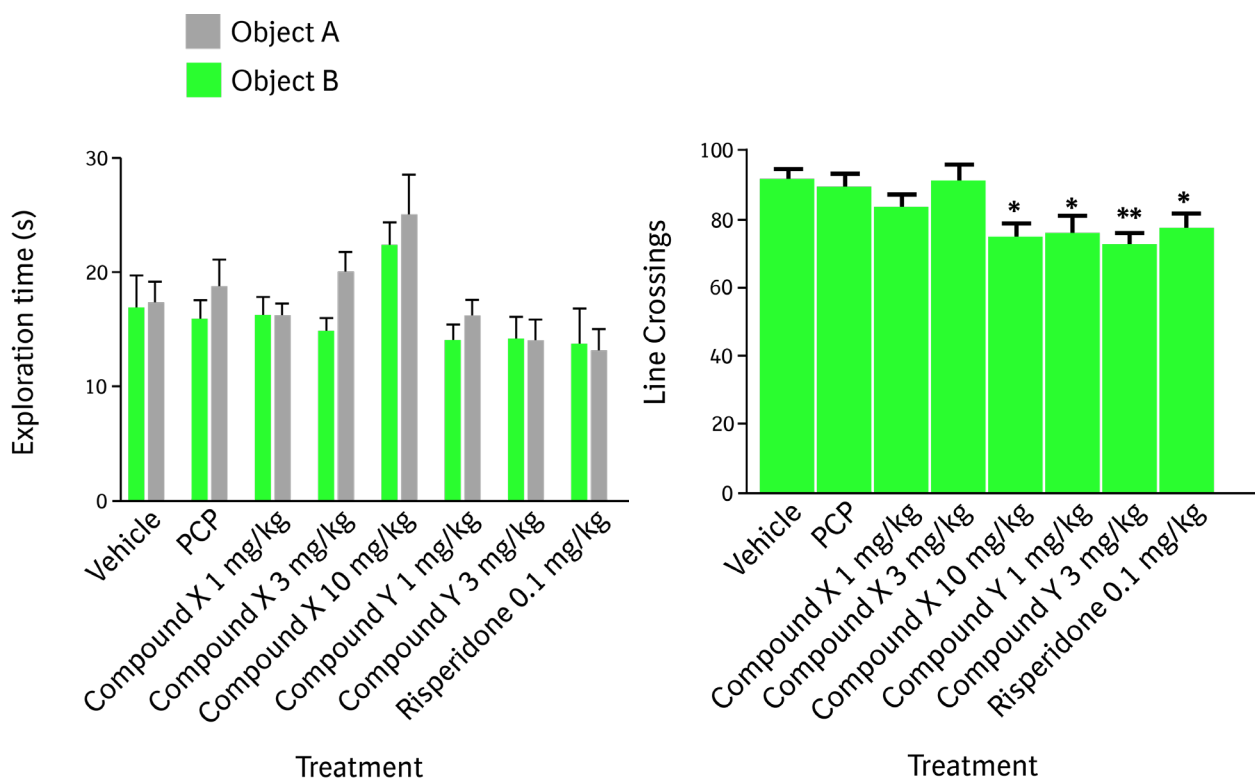


X: BI-1030: 1, 3, 10 mg/kg, *p.o.*, *t*= -60 minutes

Y: RO4938581: 1, 3 mg/kg, *p.o.*, *t*= -60 minutes

PCP: 2 mg/kg, *i.p.* BID 7 days on/7 days off prior to behavioral testing

Rats: female Lister hooded rats



Data produced by Grayson B. and Neill J., b-neuro, Faculty of Biology, Medicine & Health, The University of Manchester, Manchester, UK, 2016.

Selectivity

BI-1030 displays a $K_{i\alpha}$ of 57 nM on the GABA_A $\alpha 5$ receptor, and it is functionally selective for subtypes $\alpha 1$, $\alpha 2$, and $\alpha 3$. Otherwise, it is also clean in the SafetyScreen profile from Eurofins.

SELECTIVITY DATA AVAILABLE	BI-1030
SafetyScreen44™ with kind of support of eurofins	Yes
Invitrogen®	No
DiscoverX®	No
Dundee	No

Supplementary data

Selectivity data can be downloaded free of charge from [openMe](#).

Reference molecule

Basmisanil (RG1662, Cas No.:1159600-41-5), a highly selective GABAA- α 5 negative allosteric modulator⁵.

References

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4. Mirza N. R., Larsen J. S., Mathiasen C., Jacobsen T. A., Munro G., Erichsen H. K., Nielsen A. N., Troelsen K. B., Nielsen E. Ø., Ahring P. K. Ns11394 3'-5-(1-hydroxy-1-methyl-ethyl)-benzoimidazol-1-yl-biphenyl-2-carbonitrile, a unique subtype-selective GABAA receptor positive allosteric modulator: In vitro actions, pharmacokinetic properties and in vivo anxiolytic efficacy *J Pharmacol Exp Ther* **2008**, 327(3), 954–968. DOI: [10.1124/jpet.108.138859](#), PubMed: [18791063](#).
5. Hipp J. F., Knoflach F., Comley R., Ballard T. M., Honer M., Trube G., Gasser R., Prinssen E., Wallace T. L., Rothfuss A., Knust H., Lennon-Chrimes S., Derks M., Bentley D., Squassante L., Nave S., Nöldeke J., Wandel C., Thomas A. W., Hernandez M.-C. Basimisanil, a highly selective GABAA- α 5 negative allosteric modulator: Preclinical pharmacology and demonstration of functional target engagement in man *Sci Rep* **2021**, 11(1), 7700. DOI: [10.1038/s41598-021-87307-7](#), PubMed: [33833333](#).