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## Studies on 5-HT<sub>7</sub> / $\alpha_1$ -AR/ D<sub>2</sub>-dopamine receptors discrimination for novel (hydroxy)propylpiperazine derivatives of 5,5-dimethylhydantoin

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The 5-HT<sub>7</sub>,  $\alpha_1$ -AR, D<sub>2</sub>-dopamine receptors are important GPCRs biological targets involving in various diseases of peripheral or central nervous systems. The dopamine D<sub>2</sub> and 5-HT<sub>7</sub> receptors play an important role in neurodegenerative diseases like schizophrenia and Parkinson's disease as well as they can be used in depression and insomnia. The selective  $\alpha_1$ -adrenergic receptor antagonists have important therapeutic perspectives as they are able to improve the urodynamic parameters and reduces the symptoms of benign prostatic hypertrophy. In this context, the search for GPCRs has been, and still is, an important topic in medicinal chemistry.

In the previous studies we investigated a number of phenylpiperazine derivatives of 5,5-diphenylhydantoin [1], which possessed two additional aromatic fragments at position 5. The compounds were selective in respect to dopaminergic and serotonin receptor 5-HT<sub>7</sub> but their affinity for  $\alpha_1$ -AR was moderate only. Thus, we decided to reduce the number of aromatic moieties and moved it from position 5 into position 3 of hydantoin [2]. The current study is concentrated on design and synthesis of new arylpiperazine derivatives of 3-benzyl-5,5-dimethylhydantoin (Fig.1).

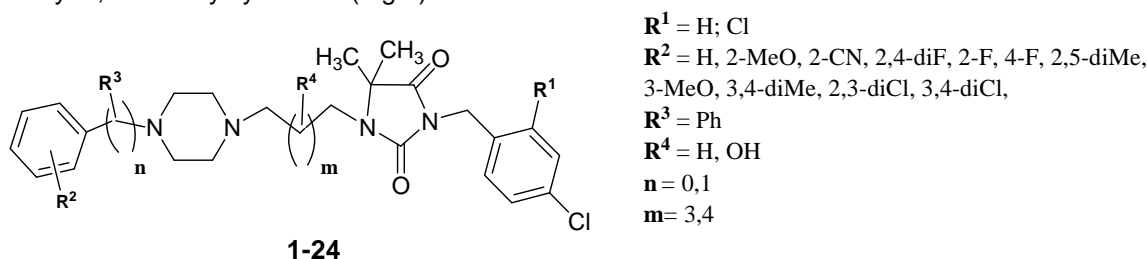


Fig. 1

The final products were obtained within three-step synthesis, using two-phase alkylation processes. The new compounds were tested on their affinity for 5-HT<sub>7</sub> receptor in comparison to other closely related GPCRs:  $\alpha_1$ -AR and dopamine D<sub>2</sub> receptors. SAR analysis indicates that the chemical modifications significantly improved the affinity for  $\alpha_1$ -AR comparing to that of 5,5-diphenylhydantoin analogues. The best activity was found for the 2-fluorophenylpiperazine derivative with hexyl linker. 4-chlorobenzyl derivative with 2-methoxy substituent at phenylpiperazine phenyl ring and pentyl linker have shown high affinity for 5-HT<sub>7</sub> and D<sub>2</sub> receptors. Compounds were evaluated on their "drugability" and toxic effects using OSIRIS program.

[1] J. Handzlik, D. Maciąg, M. Kubacka, et al. *Bioorg. Med. Chem.*, 16 (2008) 5982-5998.

[2] J. Handzlik, M. Bajda, M. Zygmunt, et al. *Bioorg. Med. Chem.* 20 (2012) 2290-2303.

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