



Scientific/Technical offer to licensing

Ref. OTRI

200907R-Blazquez, A.

Àrea de conocimiento

Pharmacology

Colaboración

Technology available to licensing

Other collaborations may be considered

Use of seconeolitsine and N-methyl-seconeolitsine for fabrication of antimicrobial drugs

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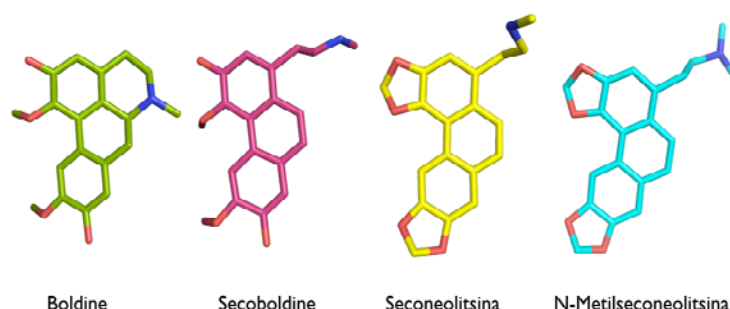
Background: *Streptococcus pneumoniae*, is the main ethyological agent of community-acquired pneumonia. Pneumococcal DNA topoisomerase complement, that control its DNA topology, consists of two type II enzymes (DNA gyrase and DNA topoisomerase IV) and a single type I enzyme (DNA topoisomerase I, TopA). While fluoroquinolone antibiotics target the type II topoisomerases, no antibiotics against TopA has yet been reported. Antibiotic resistance is a serious clinical problem all over the world. An increase in resistance to fluoroquinolones in *S. pneumoniae* it is not unexpected. Therefore, it is necessary to look for new antibiotics against new targets

The Invention: The invention refers to two phenanthrene alkaloids: seconeolitsine and N-methyl-seconeolitsine for the manufacture of drugs, preferably for the treatment of diseases caused by the Gram-positive bacteria *Streptococcus pneumoniae*. The invention has been based on the superexpression and purification of the DNA topoisomerase I (Top A), the synthesis of 18 aporphinic and phenanthrene alkaloids derived from the natural alkaloid boldine; the determination of their antibacterial activity and their effects on Top A activity. This invention characterizes for the first time a DNA topoisomerase I from a pathogenic Gram-positive bacterium. Both seconeolitsine and N-methyl-seconeolitsine might be used as new antibiotics given their antimicrobial activity. The efficacy of both compounds has been demonstrated against *S. pneumoniae*.

Applications: Antibiotics directed against the DNA topoisomerase I, will be place on the market for the first time. This represents the establishment of a new target for antimicrobial compounds.

Advantages:

- High specificity.
- Known mechanism of action.
- Absence of resistance to these compounds.



Related technologies: Difluorobenzyl ethanolamines with antimicrobial activity (Ref. OTRI: 201003R-Fustero, S.)

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