



# TARGET VALIDATION REPORT

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*RARG (Homo sapiens)*



### Gene

<b>Gene Symbol</b>	RARG
<b>Gene Name</b>	Retinoic acid receptor gamma
<b>Synonyms</b>	RARC, NR1B3
<b>Gene Family</b>	Nuclear hormone receptors
<b>Locus type</b>	protein-coding gene
<b>Chromosomal location</b>	12q13.13
<b>IDs</b>	<a href="#">HGNC</a> , <a href="#">NCBI</a> , <a href="#">Ensembl</a> , <a href="#">Vega</a>

### Protein

<b>Protein Name</b>	Retinoic acid receptor gamma
<b>Synonyms</b>	RAR-gamma, Nuclear receptor subfamily 1 group B member 3
<b>Protein Classification</b>	Transcription factor, Nuclear hormone receptor subfamily 1 group B member 3
<b>IDs</b>	<a href="#">UniProt</a> , <a href="#">ChEMBL</a>

### Biological function

<b>Molecular function</b>	DNA-binding, Receptor
<b>Biological process</b>	Transcription, Transcription regulation
<b>Ligand/substrate</b>	<a href="#">all-trans retinoic acid</a> , <a href="#">9-cis retinoic acid</a>
<b>Cofactor</b>	Zn(2+)
<b>Cellular component</b>	Nucleus (soluble protein)
<b>Functional structure</b>	Homodimer. Heterodimer with a RXR molecule (e.g. <a href="#">RXRG</a> ). Binds DNA preferentially as a RAR/RXR heterodimer.



Pathways were the target protein is involved

<a href="#">Activation of anterior HOX genes in hindbrain development during early embryogenesis</a>
<a href="#">Activation of HOX genes during differentiation</a>
<a href="#">Developmental Biology</a>
<a href="#">Endoderm Differentiation</a>
<a href="#">Gene Expression</a>
<a href="#">Generic Transcription Pathway</a>
<a href="#">Mesodermal Commitment Pathway</a>
<a href="#">Nuclear Receptor transcription pathway</a>
<a href="#">Nuclear Receptors</a>
<a href="#">Nuclear receptors in lipid metabolism and toxicity</a>
<a href="#">Retinol metabolism</a>
<a href="#">Signal Transduction</a>
<a href="#">Signaling by Retinoic Acid</a>
<a href="#">Vitamin A and Carotenoid Metabolism</a>

Source: [NCBI BioSystems](#)

# GENE EXPRESSION

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### Gene products

<b>Protein-coding transcripts</b>	<b>Length (aa)</b>	<b>Isoform</b>
<a href="#">RARG-203</a>	454	1 (canonical)
<a href="#">RARG-201</a>	443	2
<a href="#">RARG-202</a>	382	3
<a href="#">RARG-204</a>	432	4
<a href="#">RARG-213</a>	15	Protein fragment
<a href="#">RARG-215</a>	32	Protein fragment
<a href="#">RARG-207</a>	57	Protein fragment

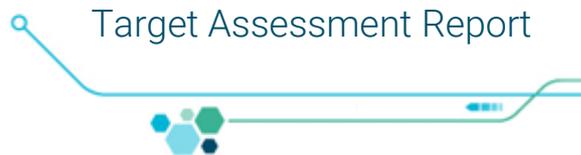


## mRNA expression (1/2)

Human cancer cell lines are valuable tools for in vitro tests in the early stages of drug discovery. This is a list of cancer cell lines expressing the target gene.

Cell line	Origin	Category	Expression Level
<a href="#">CAPAN-2</a>	Pancreas	Cancer cell line	High
<a href="#">MCF7</a>	Pleural effusion	Cancer cell line	High
<a href="#">fHDF/TERT166</a>	Foreskin	Immortalized human foreskin fibroblast cell line	High
<a href="#">HaCaT</a>	Skin	Spontaneously immortalized cell line	High
<a href="#">WM-115</a>	Skin	Cancer cell line	High
<a href="#">SiHa</a>	Cervix	Cancer cell line	Medium
<a href="#">AN3-CA</a>	Lymph node	Cancer cell line	Medium
<a href="#">hTCEpi</a>	Cornea	Telomerase immortalized cell line	Medium
<a href="#">U-87 MG</a>	Brain	Cancer cell line	Medium
<a href="#">T-47d</a>	Mammary gland; derived from metastatic site: pleural effusion	Cancer cell line	Medium
<a href="#">BJ hTERT+</a>	Foreskin	Telomerase immortalized cell line	Medium
<a href="#">PC-3</a>	Bone marrow	Cancer cell line	Medium
ASC diff	Adipose tissue	Uncategorized	Medium
<a href="#">SK-BR-3</a>	Breast adenocarcinoma	Cancer cell line	Medium
<a href="#">U-138 MG</a>	Brain	Cancer cell line	Medium
<a href="#">ASC TERT1</a>	Adipose tissue	Telomerase immortalized cell line	Medium
<a href="#">HBEC3-KT</a>	Central lung bronchiole	Telomerase immortalized cell line	Medium
<a href="#">RT4</a>	Urinary bladder	Cancer cell line	Medium

Source: [Human Protein Atlas cell line data set](#). Technique: RNA-seq



## mRNA expression (2/2)

Human cancer cell lines are valuable tools for in vitro tests in the early stages of drug discovery. This is a list of cancer cell lines expressing the target gene.

Cell line	Origin	Category	Expression Level
<a href="#">hTEC/SVTER24-B</a>	Thyroid	Transformed cell line	Medium
BJ hTERT+ SV40 Large T+	Foreskin	Uncategorized	Medium
HSkMC	Trapezius and erector spinae muscles	Uncategorized	Medium
<a href="#">SK-MEL-30</a>	Subcutis	Cancer cell line	Medium
<a href="#">SH-SY5Y</a>	Bone marrow neuroblastoma cells	Homo sapiens cell line	Medium
BJ hTERT+ SV40 Large T+ RasG12V	Foreskin	Uncategorized	Medium
<a href="#">A549</a>	Lung	Cancer cell line	Medium
<a href="#">U-2197</a>	Subcutis	Cancer cell line	Medium

Source: [Human Protein Atlas cell line data set](#). Technique: RNA-seq



### mRNA expression

Tissue	Expression level
skin 1	High
esophagus	High
urinary bladder	Medium
tonsil	Medium
thyroid gland	Medium
stomach 1	Medium
smooth muscle	Medium
seminal vesicle	Medium
prostate	Medium
placenta	Medium
parathyroid gland	Medium
ovary	Medium
lung	Medium
adipose tissue	Medium
adrenal gland	Medium
breast	Medium
cervix, uterine	Medium
endometrium 1	Medium
gallbladder	Medium
fallopian tube	Medium

Tissue	Expression level
heart muscle	Low
appendix	Low
testis	Low
bone marrow	Low
spleen	Low
kidney	Low
small intestine	Low
cerebral cortex	Low
skeletal muscle	Low
salivary gland	Low
rectum	Low
colon	Low
duodenum	Low
lymph node	Low
epididymis	Low

Source: [Human Protein Atlas](#). Technique: RNA-seq



## Protein expression (1/2)

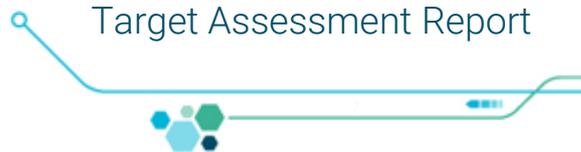
**Summary:**

Ubiquitous nuclear expression

**Details:**

Tissue	Cell type (protein expression level)
endometrium	cells in endometrial stroma (high), glandular cells (high), glandular cells (medium), cells in endometrial stroma (medium)
epididymis	glandular cells (high)
esophagus	squamous epithelial cells (high)
gallbladder	glandular cells (high)
cervix, uterine	glandular cells (high), squamous epithelial cells (medium)
cerebral cortex	neuronal cells (high), endothelial cells (medium), glial cells (medium)
kidney	cells in glomeruli (high), cells in tubules (high)
cerebellum	Purkinje cells (high), cells in molecular layer (high), cells in granular layer (high)
prostate	glandular cells (high)
parathyroid gland	glandular cells (high)
pancreas	islets of Langerhans (high), exocrine glandular cells (high)
urinary bladder	urothelial cells (high)
seminal vesicle	glandular cells (medium)
salivary gland	glandular cells (medium)
skeletal muscle	myocytes (medium)
rectum	glandular cells (medium)
skin	fibroblasts (medium), keratinocytes (medium), Langerhans (medium), epidermal cells (medium), melanocytes (medium)
placenta	trophoblastic cells (medium)
vagina	squamous epithelial cells (medium)
tonsil	squamous epithelial cells (medium), non-germinal center cells (medium), germinal center cells (medium)
thyroid gland	glandular cells (medium)
testis	Leydig cells (medium), cells in seminiferous ducts (medium)

Source: [Human Protein Atlas tissue data set](#). Technique: Immunohistochemistry (IHC)



## Protein expression (2/2)

Tissue	Cell type (protein expression level)
stomach	glandular cells (medium), glandular cells (medium)
spleen	cells in white pulp (medium), cells in red pulp (medium)
soft tissue	peripheral nerve (medium), peripheral nerve (medium), fibroblasts (medium), fibroblasts (low), adipocytes (low), chondrocytes (low)
smooth muscle	smooth muscle cells (medium)
small intestine	glandular cells (medium)
adrenal gland	glandular cells (medium)
appendix	glandular cells (medium), lymphoid tissue (medium)
bone marrow	hematopoietic cells (medium)
breast	glandular cells (medium), myoepithelial cells (medium), adipocytes (low)
bronchus	respiratory epithelial cells (medium)
caudate	neuronal cells (medium), glial cells (low)
colon	endothelial cells (medium), glandular cells (medium), peripheral nerve/ganglion (medium)
duodenum	glandular cells (medium)
ovary	ovarian stroma cells (medium)
oral mucosa	squamous epithelial cells (medium)
nasopharynx	respiratory epithelial cells (medium)
lymph node	non-germinal center cells (medium), germinal center cells (medium)
lung	pneumocytes (medium), macrophages (medium)
liver	hepatocytes (medium), bile duct cells (medium)
hippocampus	neuronal cells (medium), glial cells (medium)
heart muscle	myocytes (medium)
fallopian tube	glandular cells (medium)

Source: [Human Protein Atlas tissue data set](#). Technique: Immunohistochemistry (IHC)

# GENE-DISEASE ASSOCIATION

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## Mutations linked to disease

**Mutation**   **Description and reference**

S427L	dbSNP:rs2229774. A coding variant in RARG confers susceptibility to anthracycline-induced <b>cardiotoxicity</b> in childhood cancer. Nat Genet. 2015 Sep;47(9):1079-84
G430S	In a <b>breast cancer</b> sample; somatic mutation. The consensus coding sequences of human breast and colorectal cancers. Science. 2006 Oct 13;314(5797):268-74.

Source: [UniProt](#)

## Cancer associations (1/3)

**Publications**

Oncogenic retinoic acid receptor  $\gamma$  knockdown reverses multi-drug resistance of human colorectal cancer via Wnt/ $\beta$ -catenin pathway.

Cell Cycle (2017) 10.1080/15384101.2017.1295180

The cytoplasmic nuclear receptor RAR $\gamma$  controls RIP1 initiated cell death when cIAP activity is inhibited.

Nat Commun (2017) 10.1038/s41467-017-00496-6

RAR $\gamma$  Downregulation Contributes to Colorectal Tumorigenesis and Metastasis by Derepressing the Hippo-Yap Pathway.

Cancer Res (2016) 10.1158/0008-5472.can-15-2882

Critical role of retinoid/rexinoid signaling in mediating transformation and therapeutic response of NUP98-RARG leukemia. (Qiu JJ et al. Leukemia (2015) 29: 1153-62)

A coding variant in RARG confers susceptibility to anthracycline-induced cardiotoxicity in childhood cancer.

Nat Genet (2015) 10.1038/ng.3374

In vitro all-trans retinoic acid sensitivity of acute myeloid leukemia blasts with NUP98/RARG fusion gene.

Ann Hematol (2014) 10.1007/s00277-014-2073-5

BCL-xL/MCL-1 inhibition and RAR $\gamma$  antagonism work cooperatively in human HL60 leukemia cells.

Exp Cell Res (2014) 10.1016/j.yexcr.2014.07.024

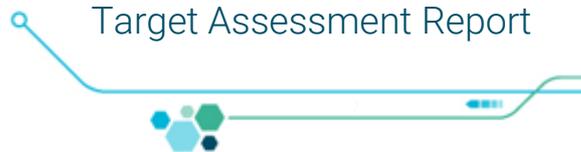
CDK1 interacts with RAR $\gamma$  and plays an important role in treatment response of acute myeloid leukemia.

Cell Cycle (2013) 10.4161/cc.24313

CDK1 links to RAR $\gamma$  in treatment response of cancer cells.

Cell Cycle (2013) 10.4161/cc.25069

Source: [Europe PMC](#)



### Cancer associations (2/3)

#### Publications

Oncogenic activity of retinoic acid receptor  $\gamma$  is exhibited through activation of the Akt/NF- $\kappa$ B and Wnt/ $\beta$ -catenin pathways in cholangiocarcinoma. (Huang GL et al. Mol. Cell. Biol. (2013) 33: 3416-25)

Reversal by RAR $\alpha$  agonist Am580 of c-Myc-induced imbalance in RAR $\alpha$ /RAR $\gamma$  expression during MMTV-Myc tumorigenesis.  
Breast Cancer Res (2012) 10.1186/bcr3247

A novel NUP98/RARG gene fusion in acute myeloid leukemia resembling acute promyelocytic leukemia.  
Blood (2011) 10.1182/blood-2010-06-291658

Detection of variable levels of RAR $\alpha$  and RAR $\gamma$  proteins in pluripotent and differentiating mouse embryonal carcinoma and mouse embryonic stem cells.  
Cell Tissue Res (2011) 10.1007/s00441-011-1247-x

Gene expression profiling elucidates a specific role for RAR $\gamma$  in the retinoic acid-induced differentiation of F9 teratocarcinoma stem cells.  
Biochem Pharmacol (2008) 10.1016/j.bcp.2007.11.006

A microenvironment-induced myeloproliferative syndrome caused by retinoic acid receptor gamma deficiency.  
Cell (2007) 10.1016/j.cell.2007.05.014

Antitumor activity of the retinoid-related molecules (E)-3-(4'-hydroxy-3'-adamantylbiphenyl-4-yl)acrylic acid (ST1926) and 6-[3-(1-adamantyl)-4-hydroxyphenyl]-2-naphthalene carboxylic acid (CD437) in F9 teratocarcinoma: Role of retinoic acid receptor gamma and retinoid-independent pathways.  
Mol Pharmacol (2006) 10.1124/mol.106.023614

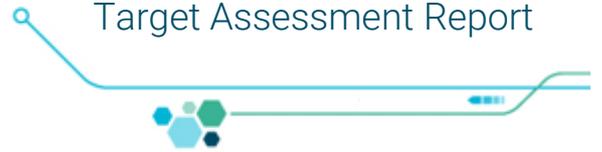
Overexpression of RAR $\gamma$  increases death of SH-SY5Y neuroblastoma cells in response to retinoic acid but not fenretinide.  
Cell Death Differ (2006) 10.1038/sj.cdd.4401824

Ligation of RAR $\gamma$  inhibits proliferation of phytohaemagglutinin-stimulated T-cells via down-regulating JAK3 protein levels.  
Immunol Lett (2005) 10.1016/j.imlet.2004.10.018

RAR $\gamma$  acts as a tumor suppressor in mouse keratinocytes.  
Oncogene (2004) 10.1038/sj.onc.1207682

Retinoids cause apoptosis in pancreatic cancer cells via activation of RAR-gamma and altered expression of Bcl-2/Bax.  
Br J Cancer (2002) 10.1038/sj.bjc.6600496

Coordinate regulation of RAR $\gamma$ 2, TBP, and TAFII135 by targeted proteolysis during retinoic acid-induced differentiation of F9 embryonal carcinoma cells.  
BMC Mol Biol (2001) 10.1186/1471-2199-2-4



### Cancer associations (3/3)

#### Publications

Expression of retinoic acid receptor gamma correlates with retinoic acid sensitivity and metabolism in head and neck squamous cell carcinoma cell lines.

Int J Cancer (2001) 10.1002/1097-0215(20010601)92:5<661::aid-ijc1251>3.0.co;2-o

The RARgamma selective agonist CD437 inhibits gastric cell growth through the mechanism of apoptosis.

Cancer Lett (1999) 10.1016/s0304-3835(98)00382-6

Retinoic acid receptor gamma1 expression determines retinoid sensitivity in pancreatic carcinoma cells.

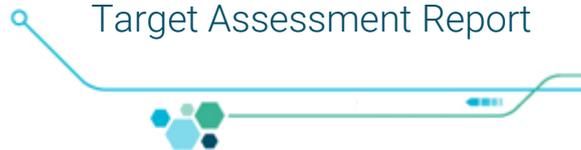
Gastroenterology (1998) 10.1016/s0016-5085(98)70269-0

Retinoic acid receptor gamma1 (RARgamma1) levels control RARbeta2 expression in SK-N-BE2(c) neuroblastoma cells and regulate a differentiation-apoptosis switch.

Mol Cell Biol (1998) 10.1128/mcb.18.11.6482

Specific activation of retinoic acid receptors (RARs) and retinoid X receptors reveals a unique role for RARgamma in induction of differentiation and apoptosis of S91 melanoma cells.

J Biol Chem (1997) 10.1074/jbc.272.30.18990



## Diseases associated to target

### Disease

-

Source: Uniprot disease terms

## Indication of drugs and clinical candidates

### Disease

acne  
neoplasm  
acute myeloid leukemia  
lymphoma  
rosacea  
multiple myeloma  
psoriasis  
alzheimers disease  
infection  
hiv-1 infection  
lung carcinoma  
neuroblastoma  
actinic keratosis  
cutaneous lupus erythematosus  
eczema  
skin disease  
carcinoma

### Associated drug

Tretinoin and 3 others  
Tretinoin and 1 others  
Tretinoin  
Tretinoin  
Tretinoin and 1 others  
Tretinoin  
Tazarotene and 3 others  
Isotretinoin  
Isotretinoin  
Isotretinoin  
Isotretinoin  
Isotretinoin  
Isotretinoin  
Alitretinoin  
Alitretinoin  
Tazarotene and 1 others  
Tazarotene

Source: analysis of MeshTerms of drugs linked to target



### Gene expression in disease

Diseases in which the target gene expression is either **up-regulated** (positive Log2-fold change) or **down-regulated** (negative Log2-fold change) compared to the normal cell type.

#### Up-regulation

Disease	Cell type	Log2-fold change
<a href="#">Osteosarcoma</a>	-	1.8
<a href="#">Atypical teratoid / rhabdoid tumor</a>	-	1.3
<a href="#">Glioblastoma</a>	-	1.3
<a href="#">Medulloblastoma, large-cell</a>	-	1.2

#### Down-regulation

Disease	Cell type	Log2-fold change
<a href="#">Malignant mesothelioma</a>	Epithelial cell	-1.8

Source: [EMBL-EBI Expression Atlas](#)

# Gene-disease association



## Conclusion and comments

The RARG gene plays an important role in the progression of several cancers. These observations makes RARG an interesting target to investigate for oncology.



# DRUGGABILITY

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### Approved drugs and clinical candidates

**1**

**Targeting  
RARG**

**11**

**Targeting  
members in sub-family  
(NR1B subfamily)**

**88**

**Targeting  
members in family  
(nuclear receptor 1 Family)**

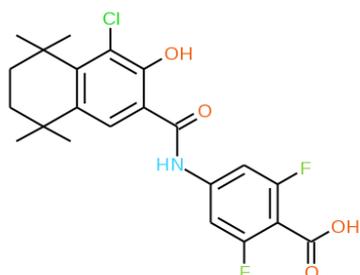
### Compounds targeting members in the NR1B subfamily

Name	Action Type	Max. clinical phase
<a href="#">Palovarotene</a>	agonist (RARG)	2
<a href="#">NRX195183</a>	agonist (RARA)	2
<a href="#">Tretinoin</a>	agonist (Protein family: Retinoic acid receptor)	Approved
<a href="#">Isotretinoin</a>	agonist (Protein family: Retinoic acid receptor)	Approved
<a href="#">Tazarotene</a>	agonist (Protein family: Retinoic acid receptor)	Approved
<a href="#">Adapalene</a>	agonist (Protein family: Retinoic acid receptor)	Approved
<a href="#">Acitretin</a>	agonist (Protein family: Retinoic acid receptor)	Approved
<a href="#">Etretinate</a>	agonist (Protein family: Retinoic acid receptor)	Withdrawn from the market
<a href="#">Alitretinoin</a>	agonist (Protein family: Retinoic acid receptor)	Approved
<a href="#">IRX4310</a>	agonist (Protein family: Retinoic acid receptor)	1
<a href="#">Mofarotene</a>	modulator (Protein family: Retinoic acid receptor)	1

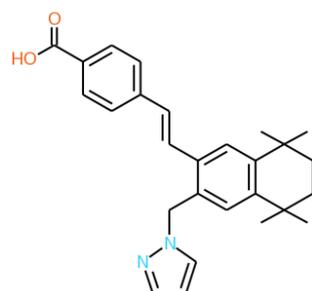
*Known molecular structures shown on next page.*



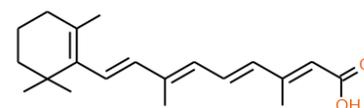
## Approved drugs and clinical candidates



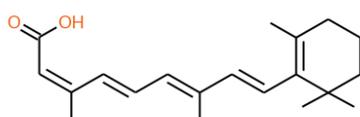
NRX195183



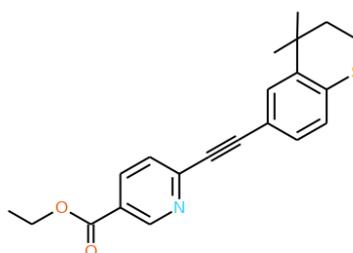
PALOVAROTENE



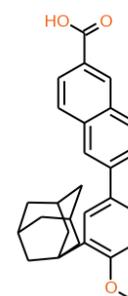
TRETINOIN



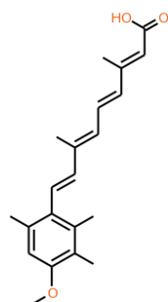
ISOTRETINOIN



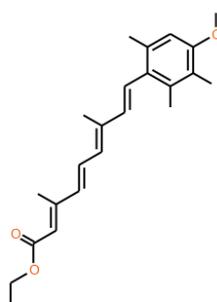
TAZAROTENE



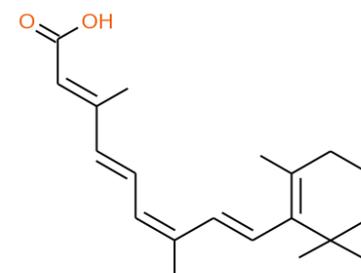
ADAPALENE



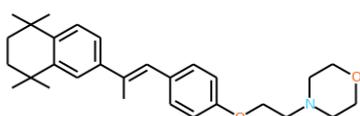
ACITRETIN



ETRETINATE



ALITRETINOIN



MOFAROTENE

### Other target inhibitors

56\*

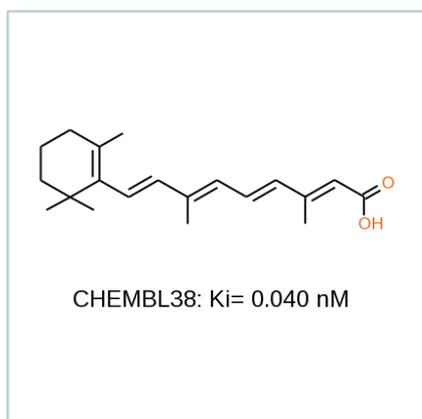
Targeting  
RARG

\* Based on [ChEMBL data](#) (release chembl\_23).

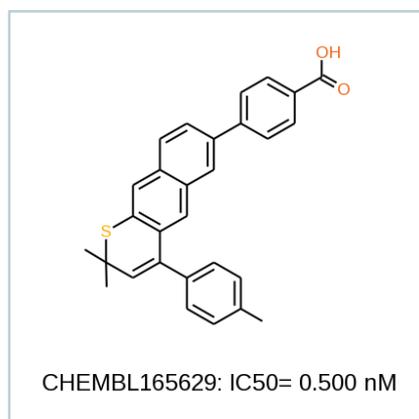
An active compounds is defined as having a residual activity <50% in the [Millipore data set](#) of kinase inhibitors or a pChEMBL value >6. pChEMBL is defined as the -log molar IC50, XC50, EC50, AC50, Ki, Kd, or potency (in M units). For example, an IC50 measurement of 1 µM would have a pChEMBL value of 6.

The data has also been filtered on the confidence score of the assigned target. Only activities with a score of 9, i.e. direct single protein target assigned, were kept.

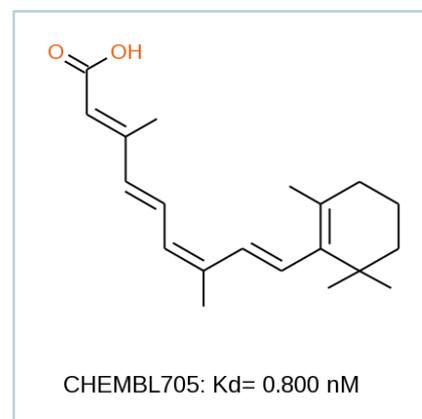
### Top 3 binders



<b>Name</b>	Tretinoin
<b>Clinical trial</b>	Approved drug
<b>Withdrawal</b>	Not withdrawn



<b>Name</b>	-
<b>Clinical trial</b>	0
<b>Withdrawal</b>	



<b>Name</b>	Alitretinoin
<b>Clinical trial</b>	Approved drug
<b>Withdrawal</b>	Not withdrawn

For the complete list, see [ligand data](#).

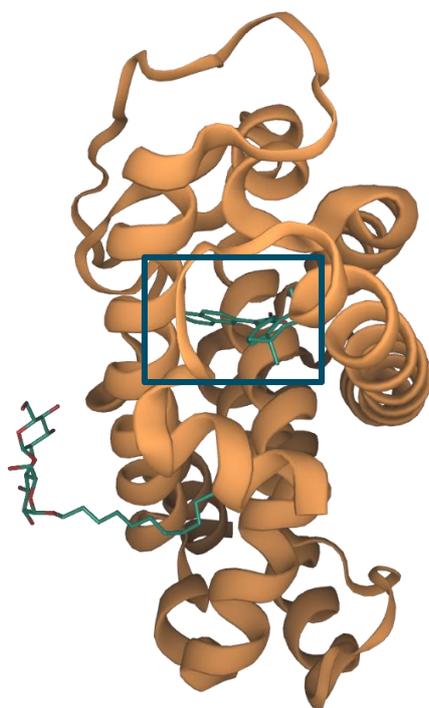
### Druggable pockets

#### Predicted druggable pockets:

1. Ligand-binding site

### Druggable pocket 1

<b>Location</b>	Ligand binding region
<b>Druggability</b>	Predicted as <u>highly druggable</u>
<b>Ligands</b>	8 confirmed binders (PDB structures)
<b>Natural variations</b> *	No variations in the binding site



Druggable pocket in RARG PDB structure (1exa)

\* Naturally occurring sequence variations/mutations, including polymorphisms and disease-associated mutations.

### Conclusion and comments

RARG has been shown to be inhibited by several small molecules. Several of these are compounds have already been approved as drugs (Tretinoin, Isotretinoin, Tazarotene, Adapalene, Acitretin, Alitretinoin), or is currently investigated (Palovarotene).

This data confirms that RARG is a druggable target.

It should be noted that one drug targeting RARG has been withdrawn from the market because of a high risk of birth defects (Etretinate).



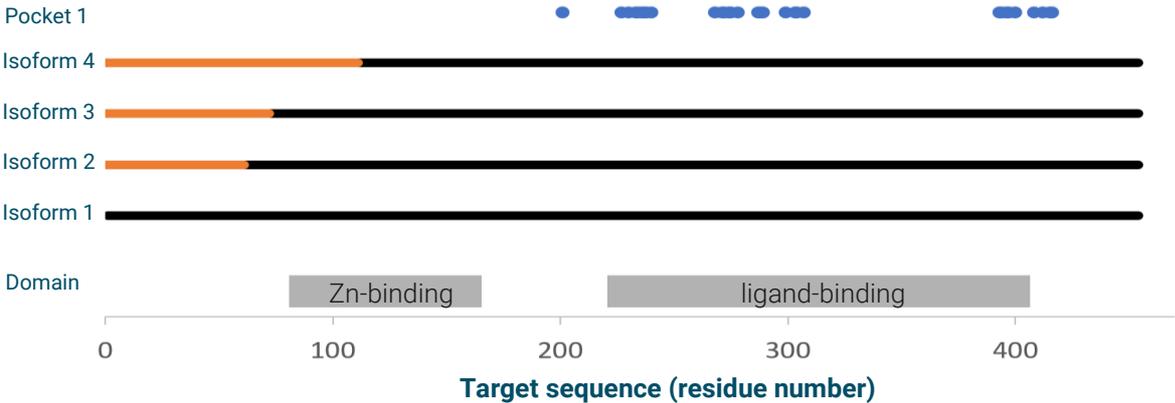
# SELECTIVITY

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### Selectivity between isoforms

The variation between the four RARG isoforms is situated at the N-terminal of the sequence. This section is highlighted in orange in the graph beneath. The druggable pocket is situated in the ligand-binding domain and is not impacted by this sequence variation.



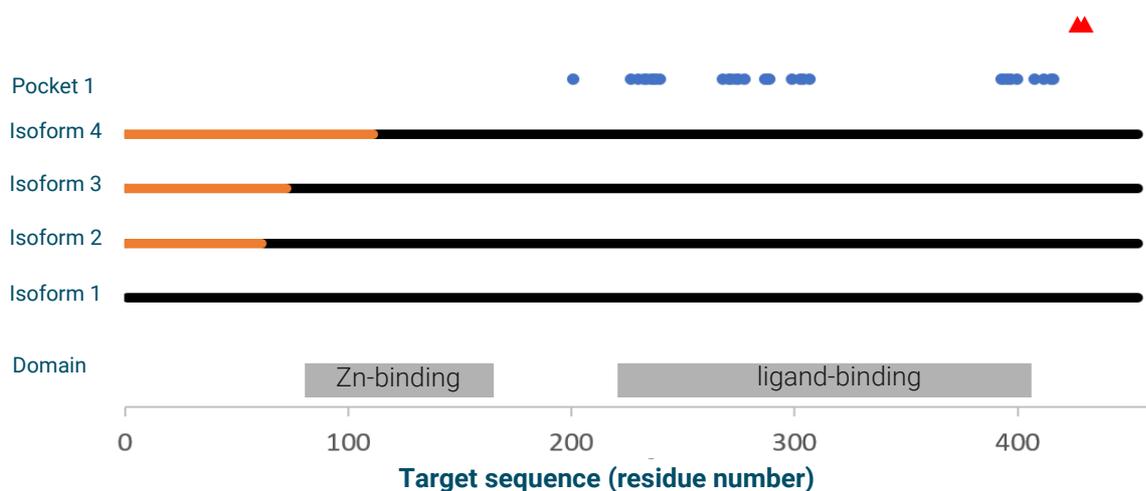


### Selectivity versus mutations in the target gene

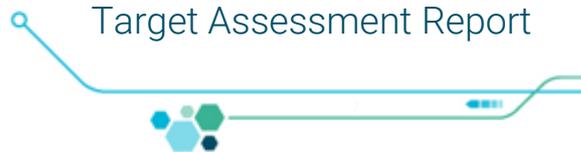
A mutation in the target gene can result in the substitution of a residue on the protein itself. If this residue is placed within the druggable pocket, it can give rise to selectivity issues and even resistance to the drug.

Bellow is a list of sequence variations and mutations, including polymorphisms and disease-associated mutations that modify the protein sequence. The mutations are indicated by red triangles in the graph underneath.

Mutation	Reference
S427L	<a href="#">dbSNP</a>
G430S	Somatic mutation in a breast cancer sample <a href="#">PubMed</a>



Source: [Uniprot](#) (February 20, 2018)



## Selectivity versus other targets

### Analysis of ChEMBL data

The ChEMBL database contains 176 compounds that are reported to inhibit RARG. RARG is the principle target of 50 of these compounds, i.e. their inhibition of RARG is stronger than for the other targets reported in ChEMBL. These 50 inhibitors are active on 0-9 other targets. In total, the 176 RARG-inhibiting compounds, inhibit\* 27 other targets.

These targets are listed beneath. For the complete list of all inhibitors, targets and activities, please consult **S11.xlsx**

Protein class	Off targets
<b>Transcription factor</b>	
nuclear receptor nr1	RARA, RARB, RORC, RORA, RORB, PPARG
nuclear receptor nr2	RXRA, RXRG, RXRB
Other	HIF1A
<b>Enzyme</b>	
protein kinase	MAPK1
cytochrome p450	CYP2C19, CYP2D6, CYP26B1, CYP26A1
Other	GCK, MTOR, BLM, HSD17B10
<b>Epigenetic regulator</b>	
Reader	SMN1
<b>Membrane receptor</b>	
Family A G protein-coupled receptor	TSHR, ADORA3, HTR2B
<b>Ion channel</b>	
ligand-gated ion channel	GLRA1
<b>Unclassified</b>	
other	RAB9A, NPC1, LMNA

\*Based on [ChEMBL data](#) (release chembl\_23).

An active compound is defined as having a pChEMBL value >5 or a residual activity <50% in the [Millipore data set](#) of kinase inhibitors.

pChEMBL is defined as the  $-\log$  molar IC<sub>50</sub>, XC<sub>50</sub>, EC<sub>50</sub>, AC<sub>50</sub>, K<sub>i</sub>, K<sub>d</sub>, or potency (in M units). For example, an IC<sub>50</sub> measurement of 1nM would have a pChEMBL value of 9.



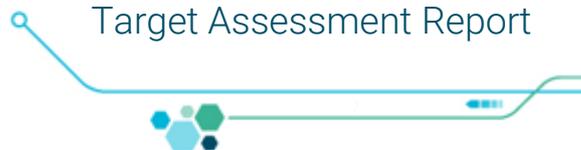
### Selectivity versus other targets

#### Analysis of sequence and structural data (pocket specific analysis)

The druggable pocket in RARG (described [here](#)) was used as query to search for similar pockets in our database of structures and sequences.

Bellow is a list of the most similar pockets identified through this analysis.

Protein class	Off targets	Pocket
<b>Transcription factor</b>		
nuclear receptor nr1	RARB	Ligand-binding pocket
	RARA	Ligand-binding pocket
nuclear receptor nr2	RXRA	Ligand-binding pocket
<b>Auxiliary transport protein</b>		
fatty acid binding protein	CRABP1	Retinoic acid binding region
	CRABP2	Retinoic acid binding region
<b>Enzyme</b>		
cytochrome p450	CYP2C8	Catalytic site
ldehyde dehydrogenase	ALDH1A3	Active site
<b>Secreted protein</b>		
other	TTR	Thyroid hormones binding site
	RBP4	Binding site



### Selectivity versus animal orthologs (for in vivo assays)

#### Sequence variability within druggable pocket 1

Species	Seq. overlap (%)	Sequence identity (%)	Mutations
Mus musculus (Mouse)	100	100	-
Rattus norvegicus (Rat)	100	100	-
Cavia porcellus (Guinea pig)	100	100	-
Canis lupus familiaris (Dog)	100	100	-
Felis catus (Cat)	100	100	-
Ovis aries (Sheep)	100	100	-
Macaca mulatta (Rhesus macaque)	100	100	-
Pan troglodytes (Chimpanzee)	100	100	-
Sus scrofa (Pig)	100	100	-
Mesocricetus auratus (Golden hamster)	100	100	-
Oryctolagus cuniculus (Rabbit)	100	84	M272V, R274Q, I275A, R278G, T287A
Danio rerio (Zebrafish)	100	97	A234S

#### No RARG ortholog sequence identified for

Gallus gallus (Chicken)

Source: [ENSEMBL](#)



### Conclusion and comments

The sequence difference between the four isoforms does not alter the druggable pockets identified on the ligand-binding domain. Drugs targeting this pocket are therefore likely to have a very similar affinity for the four isoforms.

There are no currently known sequence variation or mutation situated within in the druggable pocket. However, in order to minimize the risk of drug resistance caused by a mutation in the binding site, we recommend that you continuously verify updates on sequence variation for your target.

Several of the RARG-inhibiting compounds reported in ChEMBL also inhibit other targets (a total of 27 different targets). These potential off-targets should be considered in the design of a drug candidate.

The structural similarity search revealed 9 targets having a pocket similar to the druggable pocket identified on RARG. In all of these off-targets, the structural data can be exploited to guide the design of more selective drug candidates.

The druggable pocket in the human RARG was compared to the pockets in animal orthologs. The pockets were found to be identical in the RARG orthologs of mouse, rat, guinea pig, dog, cat, sheep, rhesus macaque, chimpanzee, pig, and golden hamster. There are several factors to be considered when choosing an in vivo model but based on the pocket similarity, these are all suitable models



# TARGET VALIDATION MODELS

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## Target validation methods

### Gene intervention: cell-based models

#### *Latest publications*

**Publication:** The cytoplasmic nuclear receptor RAR $\gamma$  controls RIP1 initiated cell death when cIAP activity is inhibited.

Nat Commun (2017) 10.1038/s41467-017-00496-6

**Technique:** shRNA

**Outcome:** RAR $\gamma$  is required for cell death initiated by RIP1

**Publication:** Oncogenic retinoic acid receptor  $\gamma$  knockdown reverses multi-drug resistance of human colorectal cancer via Wnt/ $\beta$ -catenin pathway.

Cell Cycle (2017) 10.1080/15384101.2017.1295180

**Technique:** -

**Outcome:** RAR $\gamma$  knockdown increased the sensitivity of colorectal cancer (CRC) cells to chemotherapeutics through downregulation of multi-drug resistance 1(MDR1).

**Publication:** Retinoic Acid Receptor  $\gamma$  Regulates B and T Lymphopoiesis via Nestin-Expressing Cells in the Bone Marrow and Thymic Microenvironments.

J Immunol (2016) 10.4049/jimmunol.1501246

**Technique:** Rary conditionally deleted

**Outcome:** RAR $\gamma$  is a regulator of B and T lymphopoiesis via Nes-expressing cells in the BM and thymic microenvironments, respectively.

**Publication:** RAR $\gamma$ -induced E-cadherin downregulation promotes hepatocellular carcinoma invasion and metastasis.

J Exp Clin Cancer Res (2016)

**Technique:** shRNA

**Outcome:** RAR $\gamma$  could promote HCC invasion and metastasis by regulating E-cadherin reduction, and implicate new strategies to aggressively treat HCC through targeting RAR $\gamma$ /E-cadherin signaling axis.

Source: Europe PMC



### Target validation methods

#### Gene intervention: animal models

##### *Latest publications*

**Publication:** RAR $\gamma$  is a negative regulator of osteoclastogenesis.  
J Steroid Biochem Mol Biol (2015) 10.1016/j.jsbmb.2015.03.005

**Technique:** RAR $\gamma$  null mice

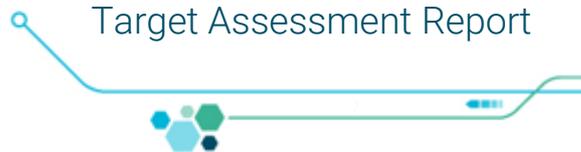
**Outcome:** RAR $\gamma$  null mice had significantly less trabecular bone at 8 weeks of age compared to wildtype littermates. Further histomorphometric analysis revealed a significantly greater osteoclast surface in bones from 8-week-old RAR $\gamma$  null male mice. Collectively, our data indicates a physiological role for RAR $\gamma$  as a negative regulator of osteoclastogenesis in vivo and in vitro, and reveals distinct influences of RAR $\alpha$  and RAR $\gamma$  in bone structure regulation.

**Publication:** Retinoic Acid Receptor  $\gamma$  Regulates B and T Lymphopoiesis via Nestin-Expressing Cells in the Bone Marrow and Thymic Microenvironments.

**Technique:** RAR $\gamma$  null mice - Cardiotoxin-Induced Muscle Injury Model and Critical Defect Muscle Injury Model

**Outcome:** muscle repair was remarkably delayed in RAR $\gamma$ -null mice in both critical defect and cardiotoxin injury models.

Source: Europe PMC



### Target validation methods

#### Pharmacological intervention: cell-based models

##### *Latest publications*

**Publication:** RAR $\alpha$  and RAR $\gamma$  reciprocally control K5+ progenitor cell expansion in developing salivary glands.

Organogenesis (2017) 10.1080/15476278.2017.1358336

**Technique:** inhibitors and agonists

**Outcome:** RAR $\gamma$  is necessary but not sufficient to positively maintain K5+ cells, as agonism of RAR $\gamma$  alone failed to significantly expand the population.

**Publication:** Suppression by an RAR- $\gamma$  Agonist of Collagen Degradation Mediated by Corneal Fibroblasts. Invest Ophthalmol Vis Sci (2017) 10.1167/iovs.15-18701

**Technique:** Primary rabbit corneal fibroblasts embedded in a three-dimensional collagen gel were incubated with or without all-trans retinoic acid (ATRA), the RAR- $\alpha$  agonist Am580, the RAR- $\beta$  agonist AC55649, or the RAR- $\gamma$  agonist R667.

**Outcome:** RAR $\alpha$  and RAR $\gamma$  reciprocally control K5+ progenitor cell expansion in developing salivary glands.

The RAR- $\gamma$  agonist R667 suppressed MMP production and thereby inhibited collagen degradation by corneal fibroblasts exposed to the proinflammatory cytokine IL-1 $\beta$ . These effects of R667 may be mediated by the NF- $\kappa$ B signaling pathway.

**Publication:** Effects of retinoic acid receptor- $\gamma$  on the Aspergillus fumigatus induced innate immunity response in human corneal epithelial cells.

Int J Ophthalmol (2016) 10.18240/ijo.2016.12.02

**Technique:** BMS961 (RAR $\gamma$  agonist)

**Outcome:** BMS961 can inhibit the expression of Dectin-1, TNF- $\alpha$  and IL-6, and play an anti-inflammatory role in innate immune responses against A. fumigatus.

Source: Europe PMC



### Target validation methods

#### Pharmacological intervention: animal models

##### *Latest publications*

**Publication:** RAR $\gamma$  is a negative regulator of osteoclastogenesis.

J Steroid Biochem Mol Biol (2015) 10.1016/j.jsbmb.2015.03.005

**Technique:** Oral administration of 5 mg/kg/day all-trans retinoic acid (ATRA) for 10 days in mice

**Outcome:** ATRA protected against bone loss induced by granulocyte colony-stimulating factor (G-CSF) by inhibiting the pro-osteoclastogenic action of G-CSF. Collectively, our data indicates a physiological role for RAR $\gamma$  as a negative regulator of osteoclastogenesis in vivo and in vitro, and reveals distinct influences of RAR $\alpha$  and RAR $\gamma$  in bone structure regulation.

**Publication:** Retinoic Acid Receptor  $\gamma$  Regulates B and T Lymphopoiesis via Nestin-Expressing Cells in the Bone Marrow and Thymic Microenvironments.

**Technique:** We generated a critical defect in the tibialis anterior muscle of 7-week-old mice with a cautery, treated them with RAR $\gamma$  agonist or vehicle corn oil, and examined the effects of RAR $\gamma$  agonist on muscle repair.

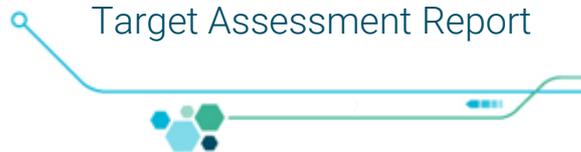
**Outcome:** The fibrous or adipose area was smaller in RAR $\gamma$  agonist-treated mice than in the control.

Source: Europe PMC



## ASSAY DATA

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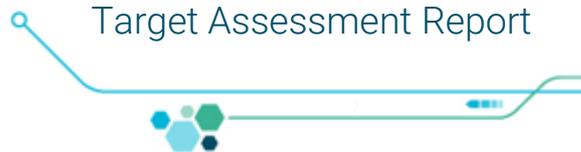


## Cell-based assays (1/2)

**Target-specific assays**

- Agonist activity at Gal4 DNA binding domain-tagged human RARgamma ligand binding domain expressed in HEK293 cells assessed as activation of receptor-mediated transcriptional activity by luciferase reporter gene assay, and 1 other assay(s)  
Discovery of biaryl carboxylamides as potent ROR inverse agonists.  
Bioorg. Med. Chem. Lett. (2015) 10.1016/j.bmcl.2015.05.026
- Antagonist activity against RARgamma ligand binding domain (unknown origin) expressed in human MCF7 cells assessed as inhibition of ATRA-induced receptor transactivation at 10 uM after 18 hrs by luciferase reporter gene based mammalian one-hybrid assay  
Identification of a New RXR Antagonist Targeting the Coregulator-Binding Site.  
ACS Med. Chem. Lett. (2014) 10.1021/ml5000405
- Transactivation of Gal4-fused RARgamma (unknown origin) expressed in African green monkey COS1 cells at 100 nM by luciferase reporter gene assay relative to DMSO-treated control  
Design, synthesis and evaluation of retinoids with novel bulky hydrophobic partial structures.  
Bioorg. Med. Chem. (2013) 10.1016/j.bmc.2013.04.053
- Activity at human RARgamma ligand binding domain expressed in COS7 cells co-transfected with Gal4-DBD assessed as transcriptional activation after 16 hrs by Gal4 response element-driven luciferase reporter gene assay, and 3 other assay(s)  
Novel non-carboxylic acid retinoids: 1,2,4-oxadiazol-5-one derivatives.  
Bioorg. Med. Chem. Lett. (2009) 10.1016/j.bmcl.2008.11.040
- Antagonist activity at human RARgamma expressed in african green monkey CV1 cells assessed as all-trans-retinoic acid-stimulated Gal4 transactivation activity by luciferase reporter gene assay, and 1 other assay(s)  
Inhibition of IkappaB kinase-beta and anticancer activities of novel chalcone adamantyl arotinoids.  
J. Med. Chem. (2008) 10.1021/jm800285f
- Agonist activity at human RARgamma expressed in human HeLa cells assessed as relative luminescence units at >=10 uM by luciferase assay relative to control  
New retinoid chemotypes: 9-cis-retinoic acid analogs with hydrophobic rings derived from terpenes as selective RAR agonists.  
Bioorg. Med. Chem. (2008) <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.bmc.2008.09.069>
- Antagonism of retinoic acid receptor gamma in ATRA treated CV-1 cells co-expressing CRBP-I-tk-CAT reporter at 10e-6 M, and 1 other assay(s)  
Determinants of retinoid X receptor transcriptional antagonism.  
J. Med. Chem. (2004) 10.1021/jm030651g
- Inhibition of 3[H]ATRA binding to retinoid acid receptor gamma expressed in CV-1 cells  
Design and synthesis of fluorinated RXR modulators.  
Bioorg. Med. Chem. Lett. (2003) 10.1016/s0960-894x(03)00703-0
- Transcriptional activation in CV-1 cells expressing human Retinoic acid receptor RAR gamma  
Retinoic acid receptor ligands based on the 6-cyclopropyl-2,4-hexadienoic acid.  
Bioorg. Med. Chem. Lett. (2003) 10.1016/s0960-894x(02)00924-1
- Transcriptional activation in COS cells expressing RAR-gamma, and 1 other assay(s)  
Discovery of novel and potent retinoic acid receptor alpha agonists: syntheses and evaluation of benzofuranyl-pyrrole and benzothiophenyl-pyrrole derivatives.  
J. Med. Chem. (2000) 10.1021/jm000098s

**Source:** ChEMBL assays data, BioAssay Ontology classification



## Cell-based assays (2/2)

**Target-specific assays**

Transcriptional activation in COS-1 cells expressing Retinoic Acid Receptor gamma (RAR gamma), and 1 other assay(s)

Syntheses and structure-activity relationships of 5,6,7, 8-tetrahydro-5,5,8,8-tetramethyl-2-quinoxaline derivatives with retinoic acid receptor alpha agonistic activity.

J. Med. Chem. (2000) 10.1021/jm990063w

Transcriptional activation in CV-1 cells expressing human Retinoic acid receptor RAR gamma  
Heteroarotinoids inhibit head and neck cancer cell lines in vitro and in vivo through both RAR and RXR retinoic acid receptors.

J. Med. Chem. (1999) 10.1021/jm990292i

Transcriptional activation in CV-1 cells expressing RAR-gamma receptor

Synthesis and characterization of heteroarotinoids demonstrate structure specificity relationships.

J. Med. Chem. (1998) 10.1021/jm980308p

Effective potency in transcriptional activation assay in CV-1 cells expressing retinoic acid receptor RAR gamma

Synthesis and structure-activity relationships of potent retinoid X receptor ligands

Bioorg. Med. Chem. Lett. (1997) 10.1016/S0960-894X(97)00437-X

**Protein family assays**

Inhibition of RAR in human STF cells at 1 uM after 24 hrs by TCF luciferase promoter reporter assay, and 1 other assay(s)

Design, Synthesis, and Biological Evaluation of a Series of Anthracene-9,10-dione Dioxime -Catenin Pathway Inhibitors.

J. Med. Chem. (2015) 10.1021/acs.jmedchem.5b00460

Activation of RAR in human HepG2 cells assessed as increase in CAR mRNA level at 10 uM after 24 hrs by RT-PCR analysis, and 1 other assay(s)

Retinoic acid receptor agonist activity of naturally occurring diterpenes.

Bioorg. Med. Chem. (2014) 10.1016/j.bmc.2014.03.047

Agonist activity at RAR (unknown origin) expressed in human HCT116 cells co-expressing RARE at 20 to 40 uM after 24 hrs by luciferase reporter gene assay

Synthesis and biological evaluation of halogenated curcumin analogs as potential nuclear receptor selective agonists.

Bioorg. Med. Chem. (2013) 10.1016/j.bmc.2012.11.033



## LIGAND DATA

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## Summary of public data

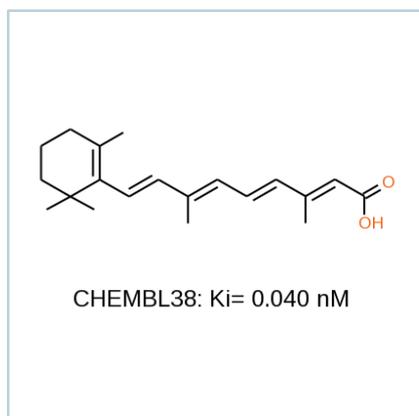
	Number of compounds
Co-crystalized with target <sup>1</sup>	9
Approved drugs and clinical candidates <sup>2</sup>	10
Known inhibitors <sup>2,3</sup>	56

<sup>1</sup> In [RCSB Protein Data Bank](#)

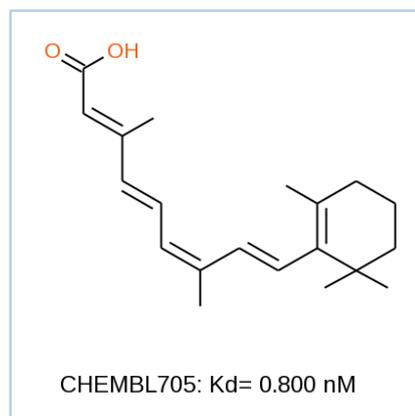
<sup>2</sup> Compounds targeting RARG specifically or its protein family, according to [ChEMBL data](#) (release chembl\_23).

<sup>3</sup> The definition of an active compound is given on the next page.

## Natural substrate of targeted pocket



all-trans retinoic acid



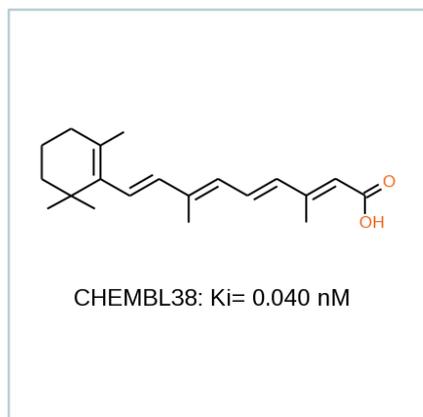
9-cis retinoic acid

## Co factor

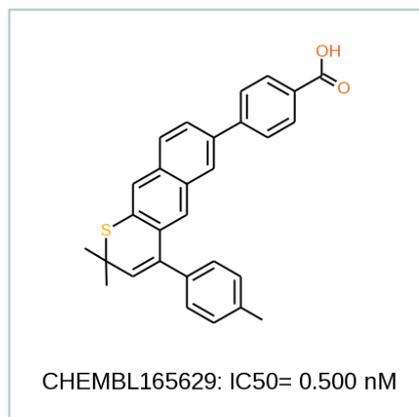
Zinc ion



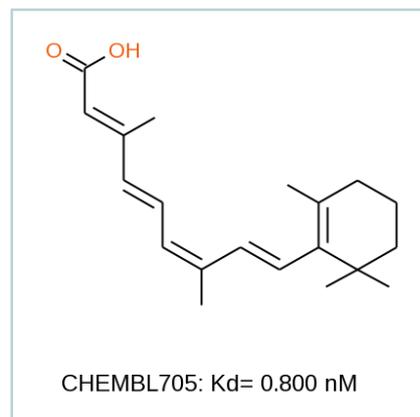
## Top 3 binders



Name	Tretinoin
------	-----------



Name	-
------	---



Name	Alitretinoin
------	--------------

## Potential tool compounds

## Analysis of ChEMBL data: known target inhibitors

The selectivity of each target inhibitor has been investigated through a complete analysis of the ChEMBL data. The results are presented on the following pages.

The analysis is based on [ChEMBL data](#) from the chembl\_23 release.

All compounds discussed in this section are summarized in the file **tool\_compounds.sdf**

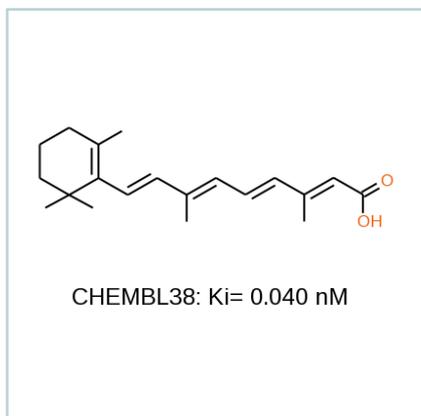
Active compounds are defined as having a **pChEMBL value**  $>6$ , or a residual activity  $<50\%$  in the [Millipore data set](#) of kinase inhibitors.

The **pChEMBL value** is defined as the  $-\log$  molar  $IC_{50}$ ,  $XC_{50}$ ,  $EC_{50}$ ,  $AC_{50}$ ,  $K_i$ ,  $K_d$ , or potency (in M units). For example, an  $IC_{50}$  measurement of  $1 \mu M$  would have a pChEMBL value of 6.

The data has also been filtered on the confidence score of the assigned target. Only activities with a score of 9, i.e. direct single protein target assigned, were kept.



## Potential tool compounds



### Active on

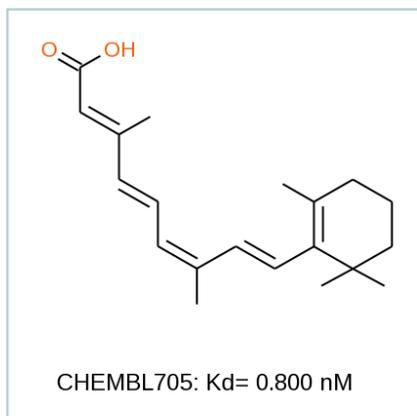
Protein family	Targets
transcription factor	10
enzyme	2
membrane receptor	1
epigenetic regulator	1

### Top activities

Target	Activity
<a href="#">RARG</a>	$K_i = 0.04$ nM
<a href="#">RARA</a>	$K_i = 0.10$ nM
<a href="#">RORB</a>	$IC_{50} = 0.15$ nM
<a href="#">RARB</a>	$K_d = 0.40$ nM
<a href="#">BLM</a>	$Potency = 22.4$ nM
<a href="#">RXRA</a>	$K_d = 53.0$ nM
<a href="#">RXRB</a>	$K_i = 54.0$ nM
<a href="#">RXRG</a>	$K_i = 120.0$ nM
<a href="#">RORC</a>	$IC_{50} = 199.5$ nM
<a href="#">RORA</a>	$IC_{50} = 199.5$ nM

### Inactive on

Target	Activity
<a href="#">CYP3A4</a>	$Potency = 39811$ nM

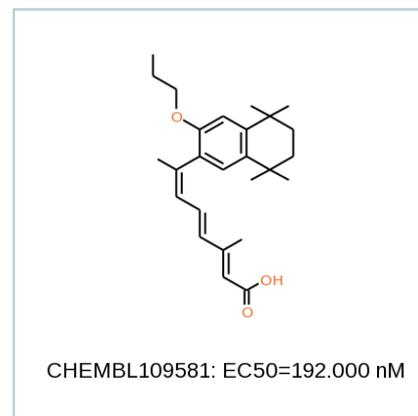


### Active on

Protein family	Targets
transcription factor	6

### Top activities

Target	Activity
<a href="#">RARG</a>	$K_d = 0.80$ nM
<a href="#">RXRA</a>	$K_d = 1.5$ nM
<a href="#">RARB</a>	$EC_{50} = 3.3$ nM
<a href="#">RXRB</a>	$K_i = 3.8$ nM
<a href="#">RXRG</a>	$K_i = 11.0$ nM
<a href="#">RARA</a>	$K_d = 93.0$ nM



### Active on

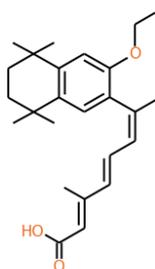
Protein family	Targets
transcription factor	6

### Top activities

Target	Activity
<a href="#">RXRA</a>	$EC_{50} = 2.0$ nM
<a href="#">RXRG</a>	$EC_{50} = 4.0$ nM
<a href="#">RARA</a>	$EC_{50} = 4.0$ nM
<a href="#">RXRB</a>	$K_i = 9.0$ nM
<a href="#">RARB</a>	$EC_{50} = 10.0$ nM
<a href="#">RARG</a>	$EC_{50} = 192.0$ nM



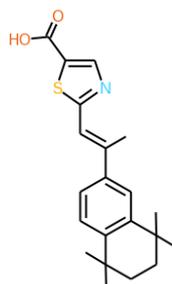
## Potential tool compounds



CHEMBL109847: EC50=121.000 nM

### Active on

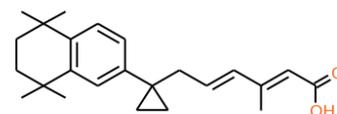
Protein family	Targets
transcription factor	6



CHEMBL93577: EC50=34.000 nM

### Active on

Protein family	Targets
transcription factor	6



CHEMBL89331: EC50=24.000 nM

### Active on

Protein family	Targets
transcription factor	5

### Top activities

Target	Activity
<a href="#">RXRA</a>	<a href="#">Ki = 4.0 nM</a>
<a href="#">RXRG</a>	<a href="#">EC50 = 7.0 nM</a>
<a href="#">RXRB</a>	<a href="#">EC50 = 9.0 nM</a>
<a href="#">RARA</a>	<a href="#">EC50 = 14.0 nM</a>
<a href="#">RARB</a>	<a href="#">EC50 = 31.0 nM</a>
<a href="#">RARG</a>	<a href="#">EC50 = 121.0 nM</a>

### Top activities

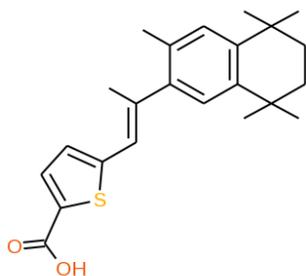
Target	Activity
<a href="#">RARG</a>	<a href="#">EC50 = 34.0 nM</a>
<a href="#">RARB</a>	<a href="#">EC50 = 46.0 nM</a>
<a href="#">RXRG</a>	<a href="#">EC50 = 160.0 nM</a>
<a href="#">RXRA</a>	<a href="#">EC50 = 210.0 nM</a>
<a href="#">RARA</a>	<a href="#">EC50 = 210.0 nM</a>
<a href="#">RXRB</a>	<a href="#">EC50 = 210.0 nM</a>

### Top activities

Target	Activity
<a href="#">RXRA</a>	<a href="#">Kd = 2.0 nM</a>
<a href="#">RXRG</a>	<a href="#">Kd = 8.0 nM</a>
<a href="#">RARB</a>	<a href="#">EC50 = 17.0 nM</a>
<a href="#">RARG</a>	<a href="#">EC50 = 24.0 nM</a>
<a href="#">RARA</a>	<a href="#">EC50 = 59.0 nM</a>



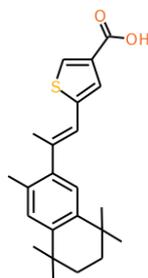
## Potential tool compounds



CHEMBL91718: EC50=37.000 nM

### Active on

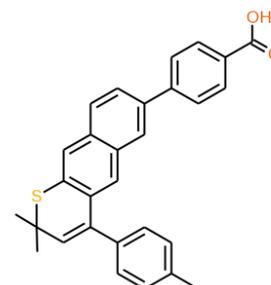
Protein family	Targets
transcription factor	5



CHEMBL93628: EC50=979.000 nM

### Active on

Protein family	Targets
transcription factor	4



CHEMBL165629: IC50= 0.500 nM

### Active on

Protein family	Targets
transcription factor	3

### Top activities

Target	Activity
<a href="#">RXRA</a>	<a href="#">EC50 = 11.0 nM</a>
<a href="#">RXRB</a>	<a href="#">EC50 = 23.0 nM</a>
<a href="#">RARB</a>	<a href="#">EC50 = 23.0 nM</a>
<a href="#">RXRG</a>	<a href="#">EC50 = 33.0 nM</a>
<a href="#">RARG</a>	<a href="#">EC50 = 37.0 nM</a>

### Top activities

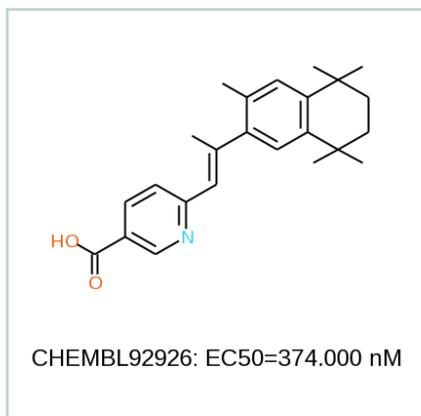
Target	Activity
<a href="#">RXRG</a>	<a href="#">EC50 = 105.0 nM</a>
<a href="#">RXRB</a>	<a href="#">EC50 = 180.0 nM</a>
<a href="#">RXRA</a>	<a href="#">EC50 = 201.0 nM</a>
<a href="#">RARG</a>	<a href="#">EC50 = 979.0 nM</a>

### Top activities

Target	Activity
<a href="#">RARG</a>	<a href="#">IC50 = 0.50 nM</a>
<a href="#">RARA</a>	<a href="#">IC50 = 1.5 nM</a>
<a href="#">RARB</a>	<a href="#">IC50 = 2.0 nM</a>



## Potential tool compounds

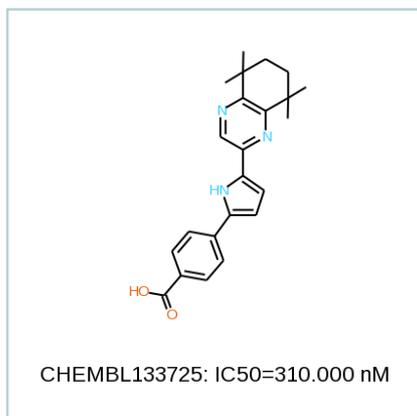


### Active on

Protein family	Targets
transcription factor	3

### Top activities

Target	Activity
<a href="#">RARB</a>	<a href="#">EC50 = 21.0 nM</a>
<a href="#">RXRA</a>	<a href="#">EC50 = 105.0 nM</a>
<a href="#">RARG</a>	<a href="#">EC50 = 374.0 nM</a>

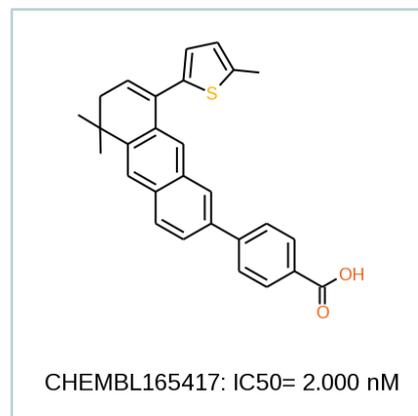


### Active on

Protein family	Targets
transcription factor	3

### Top activities

Target	Activity
<a href="#">RARA</a>	<a href="#">IC50 = 2.2 nM</a>
<a href="#">RARB</a>	<a href="#">IC50 = 230.0 nM</a>
<a href="#">RARG</a>	<a href="#">IC50 = 310.0 nM</a>



### Active on

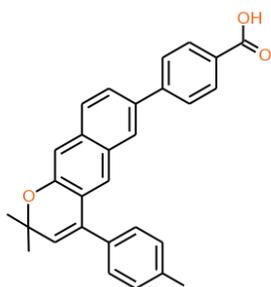
Protein family	Targets
transcription factor	3

### Top activities

Target	Activity
<a href="#">RARG</a>	<a href="#">IC50 = 2.0 nM</a>
<a href="#">RARB</a>	<a href="#">Kd = 6.0 nM</a>
<a href="#">RARA</a>	<a href="#">Kd = 15.0 nM</a>



## Potential tool compounds



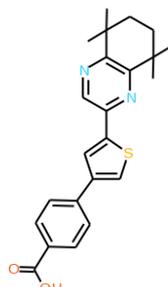
CHEMBL162345: IC50= 2.000 nM

### Active on

Protein family	Targets
transcription factor	3

### Top activities

Target	Activity
<a href="#">RARG</a>	<a href="#">IC50 = 2.0 nM</a>
<a href="#">RARA</a>	<a href="#">IC50 = 5.5 nM</a>
<a href="#">RARB</a>	<a href="#">Kd = 7.0 nM</a>



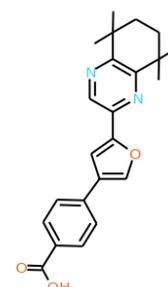
CHEMBL131850: IC50= 2.000 nM

### Active on

Protein family	Targets
transcription factor	3

### Top activities

Target	Activity
<a href="#">RARG</a>	<a href="#">IC50 = 2.0 nM</a>
<a href="#">RARA</a>	<a href="#">IC50 = 2.4 nM</a>
<a href="#">RARB</a>	<a href="#">IC50 = 4.5 nM</a>



CHEMBL131925: IC50=27.000 nM

### Active on

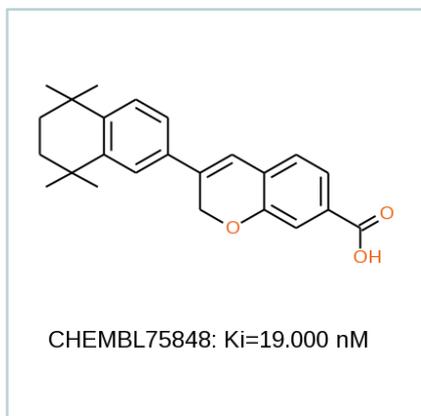
Protein family	Targets
transcription factor	3

### Top activities

Target	Activity
<a href="#">RARB</a>	<a href="#">IC50 = 2.5 nM</a>
<a href="#">RARA</a>	<a href="#">IC50 = 19.0 nM</a>
<a href="#">RARG</a>	<a href="#">IC50 = 27.0 nM</a>

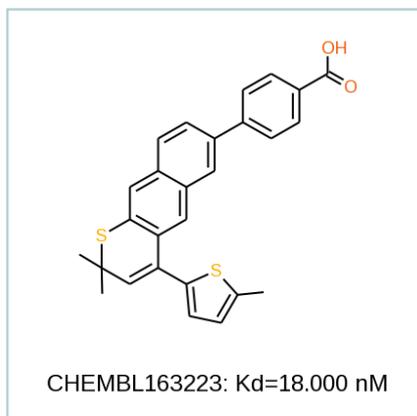


## Potential tool compounds



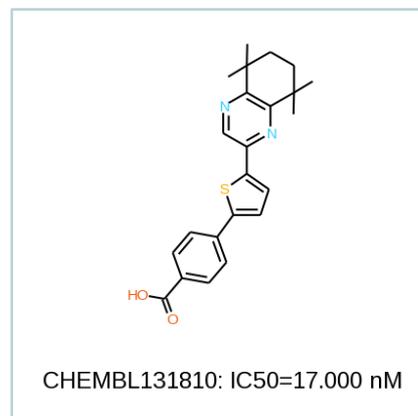
### Active on

Protein family	Targets
transcription factor	3



### Active on

Protein family	Targets
transcription factor	3



### Active on

Protein family	Targets
transcription factor	3

### Top activities

Target	Activity
<a href="#">RARG</a>	<a href="#">K<sub>i</sub> = 19.0 nM</a>
<a href="#">RARB</a>	<a href="#">K<sub>i</sub> = 36.0 nM</a>
<a href="#">RARA</a>	<a href="#">K<sub>i</sub> = 487.0 nM</a>

### Top activities

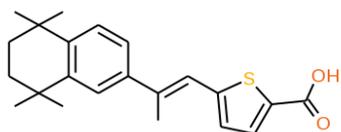
Target	Activity
<a href="#">RARA</a>	<a href="#">K<sub>d</sub> = 13.0 nM</a>
<a href="#">RARB</a>	<a href="#">K<sub>d</sub> = 13.0 nM</a>
<a href="#">RARG</a>	<a href="#">K<sub>d</sub> = 18.0 nM</a>

### Top activities

Target	Activity
<a href="#">RARG</a>	<a href="#">IC<sub>50</sub> = 17.0 nM</a>
<a href="#">RARB</a>	<a href="#">IC<sub>50</sub> = 36.0 nM</a>
<a href="#">RARA</a>	<a href="#">IC<sub>50</sub> = 130.0 nM</a>



## Potential tool compounds



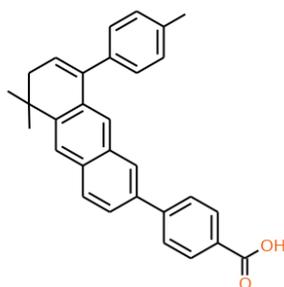
CHEMBL93538: EC50=15.000 nM

### Active on

Protein family	Targets
transcription factor	3

### Top activities

Target	Activity
<a href="#">RARG</a>	<a href="#">EC50 = 15.0 nM</a>
<a href="#">RARB</a>	<a href="#">EC50 = 29.0 nM</a>
<a href="#">RARA</a>	<a href="#">EC50 = 690.0 nM</a>



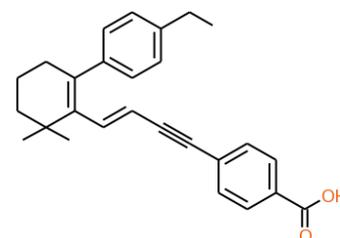
CHEMBL162393: IC50= 2.000 nM

### Active on

Protein family	Targets
transcription factor	3

### Top activities

Target	Activity
<a href="#">RARG</a>	<a href="#">IC50 = 2.0 nM</a>
<a href="#">RARB</a>	<a href="#">Kd = 4.0 nM</a>
<a href="#">RARA</a>	<a href="#">Kd = 13.0 nM</a>



CHEMBL349935: IC50= 3.000 nM

### Active on

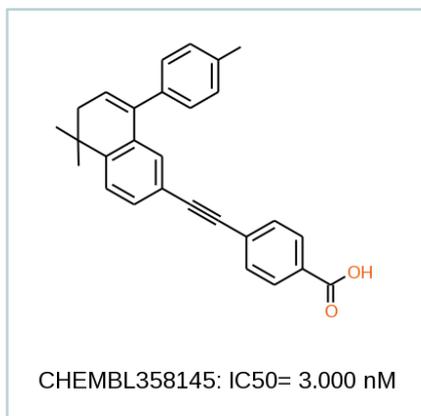
Protein family	Targets
transcription factor	3

### Top activities

Target	Activity
<a href="#">RARG</a>	<a href="#">IC50 = 3.0 nM</a>
<a href="#">RARB</a>	<a href="#">Kd = 4.0 nM</a>
<a href="#">RARA</a>	<a href="#">Kd = 136.0 nM</a>



## Potential tool compounds

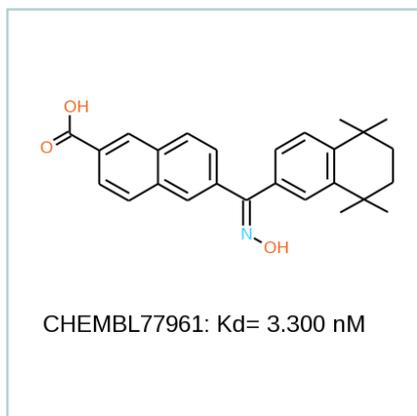


### Active on

Protein family	Targets
transcription factor	3

### Top activities

Target	Activity
<a href="#">RARG</a>	<a href="#">IC50 = 3.0 nM</a>
<a href="#">RARB</a>	<a href="#">Kd = 7.0 nM</a>
<a href="#">RARA</a>	<a href="#">Kd = 17.0 nM</a>

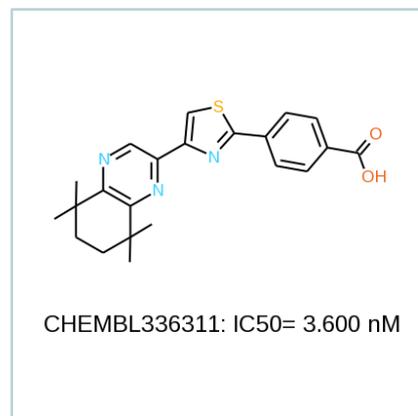


### Active on

Protein family	Targets
transcription factor	3

### Top activities

Target	Activity
<a href="#">RARG</a>	<a href="#">Kd = 3.3 nM</a>
<a href="#">RARB</a>	<a href="#">Kd = 50.0 nM</a>
<a href="#">RARA</a>	<a href="#">Kd = 700.0 nM</a>



### Active on

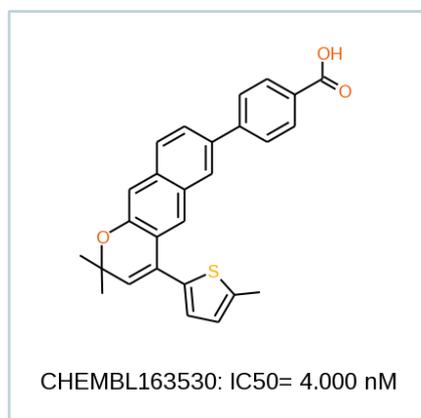
Protein family	Targets
transcription factor	3

### Top activities

Target	Activity
<a href="#">RARG</a>	<a href="#">IC50 = 3.6 nM</a>
<a href="#">RARB</a>	<a href="#">IC50 = 21.0 nM</a>
<a href="#">RARA</a>	<a href="#">IC50 = 83.0 nM</a>

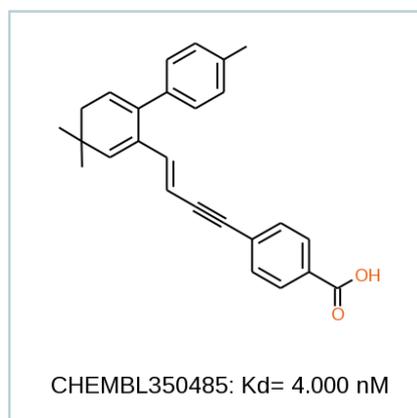


## Potential tool compounds



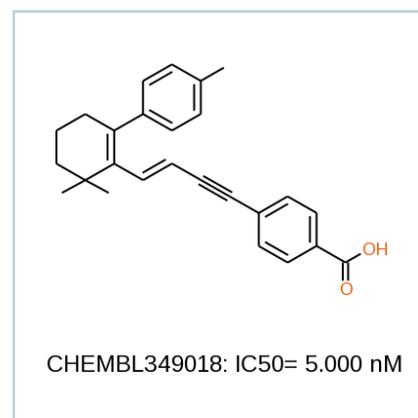
### Active on

Protein family	Targets
transcription factor	3



### Active on

Protein family	Targets
transcription factor	3



### Active on

Protein family	Targets
transcription factor	3

### Top activities

Target	Activity
<a href="#">RARG</a>	<a href="#">IC50 = 4.0 nM</a>
<a href="#">RARB</a>	<a href="#">IC50 = 6.5 nM</a>
<a href="#">RARA</a>	<a href="#">IC50 = 6.5 nM</a>

### Top activities

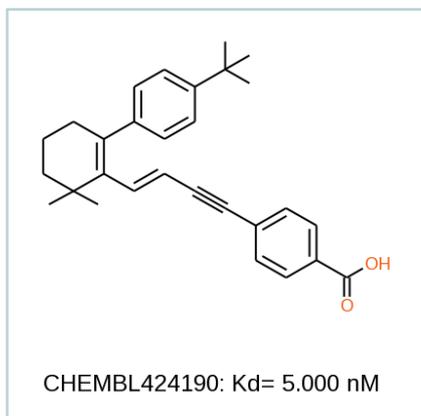
Target	Activity
<a href="#">RARG</a>	<a href="#">Kd = 4.0 nM</a>
<a href="#">RARB</a>	<a href="#">Kd = 35.0 nM</a>
<a href="#">RARA</a>	<a href="#">Kd = 129.0 nM</a>

### Top activities

Target	Activity
<a href="#">RARG</a>	<a href="#">IC50 = 5.0 nM</a>
<a href="#">RARB</a>	<a href="#">Kd = 6.0 nM</a>
<a href="#">RARA</a>	<a href="#">Kd = 148.0 nM</a>



## Potential tool compounds

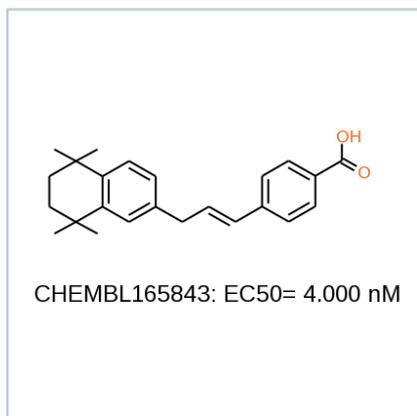


### Active on

Protein family	Targets
transcription factor	3

### Top activities

Target	Activity
<a href="#">RARG</a>	<a href="#">Kd = 5.0 nM</a>
<a href="#">RARB</a>	<a href="#">IC50 = 25.0 nM</a>
<a href="#">RARA</a>	<a href="#">Kd = 350.0 nM</a>

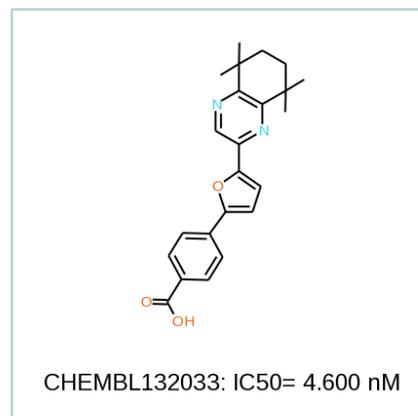


### Active on

Protein family	Targets
transcription factor	3

### Top activities

Target	Activity
<a href="#">RARG</a>	<a href="#">EC50 = 4.0 nM</a>
<a href="#">RARB</a>	<a href="#">Kd = 5.0 nM</a>
<a href="#">RARA</a>	<a href="#">EC50 = 30.0 nM</a>



### Active on

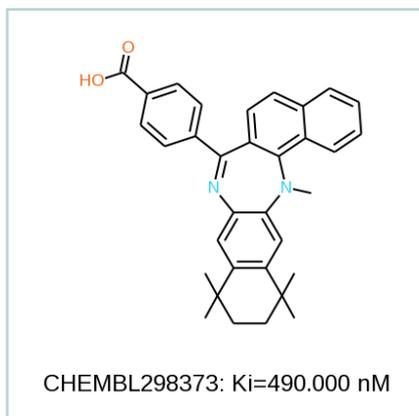
Protein family	Targets
transcription factor	3

### Top activities

Target	Activity
<a href="#">RARG</a>	<a href="#">IC50 = 4.6 nM</a>
<a href="#">RARA</a>	<a href="#">IC50 = 32.0 nM</a>
<a href="#">RARB</a>	<a href="#">IC50 = 39.0 nM</a>



## Potential tool compounds

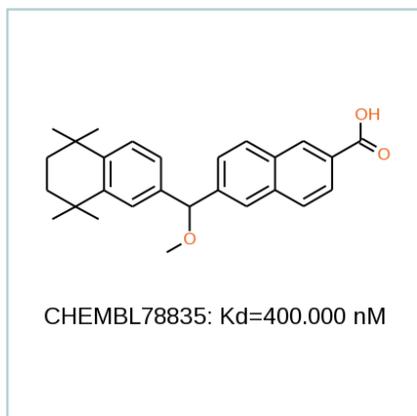


### Active on

Protein family	Targets
transcription factor	2

### Top activities

Target	Activity
<a href="#">RARG</a>	<a href="#">K<sub>i</sub> = 490.0 nM</a>
<a href="#">RARB</a>	<a href="#">K<sub>i</sub> = 500.0 nM</a>

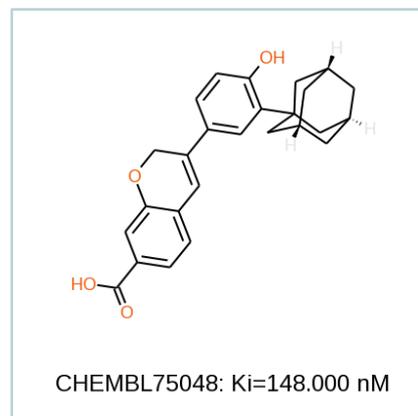


### Active on

Protein family	Targets
transcription factor	2

### Top activities

Target	Activity
<a href="#">RARB</a>	<a href="#">K<sub>d</sub> = 250.0 nM</a>
<a href="#">RARG</a>	<a href="#">K<sub>d</sub> = 400.0 nM</a>



### Active on

Protein family	Targets
transcription factor	2

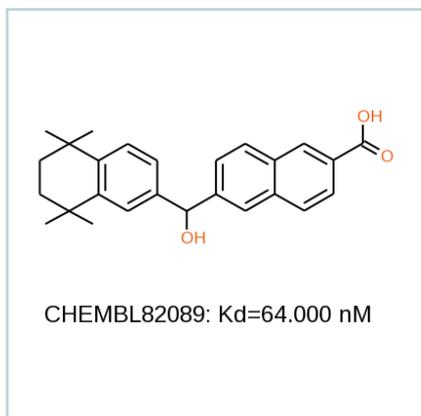
### Top activities

Target	Activity
<a href="#">RARG</a>	<a href="#">K<sub>i</sub> = 148.0 nM</a>
<a href="#">RARA</a>	<a href="#">K<sub>i</sub> = 821.0 nM</a>





## Potential tool compounds

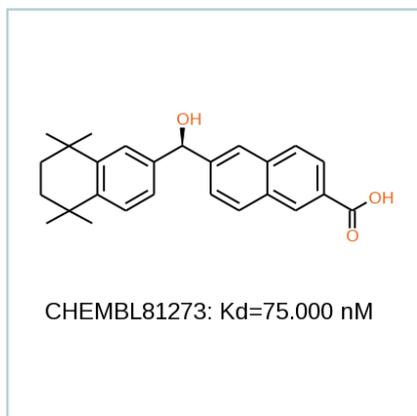


### Active on

Protein family	Targets
transcription factor	2

### Top activities

Target	Activity
<a href="#">RARG</a>	<a href="#">Kd = 64.0 nM</a>
<a href="#">RARB</a>	<a href="#">Kd = 679.0 nM</a>

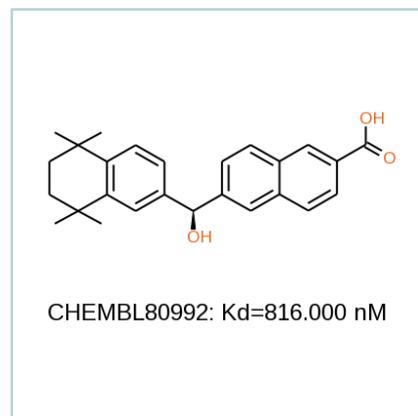


### Active on

Protein family	Targets
transcription factor	2

### Top activities

Target	Activity
<a href="#">RARG</a>	<a href="#">Kd = 75.0 nM</a>
<a href="#">RARB</a>	<a href="#">Kd = 531.0 nM</a>

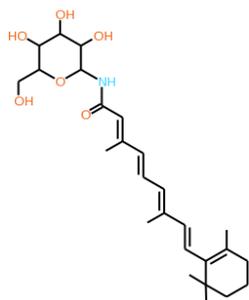


### Active on

Protein family	Targets
transcription factor	1



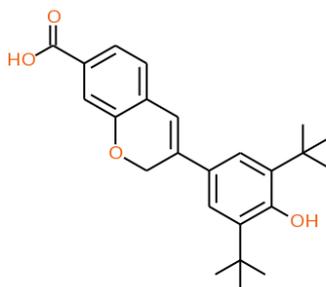
## Potential tool compounds



CHEMBL66228:  $K_i=710.000$  nM

### Active on

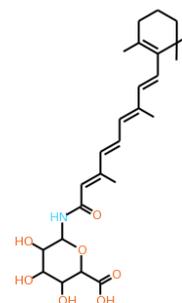
Protein family	Targets
transcription factor	1



CHEMBL308170:  $K_i=531.000$  nM

### Active on

Protein family	Targets
transcription factor	1



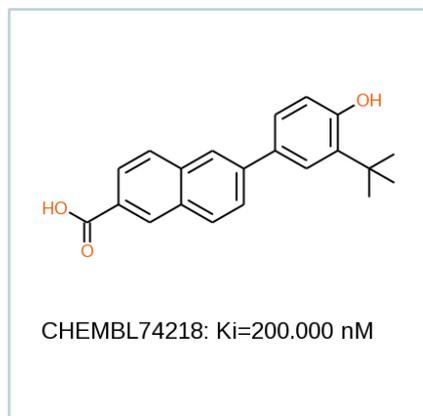
CHEMBL305760:  $K_i=280.000$  nM

### Active on

Protein family	Targets
transcription factor	1

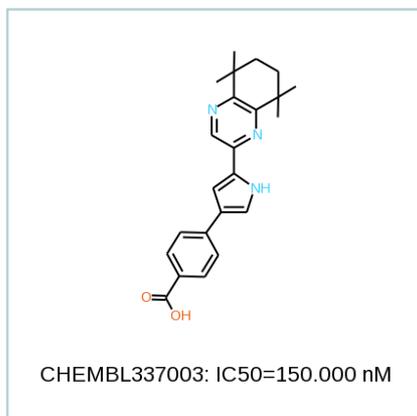


## Potential tool compounds



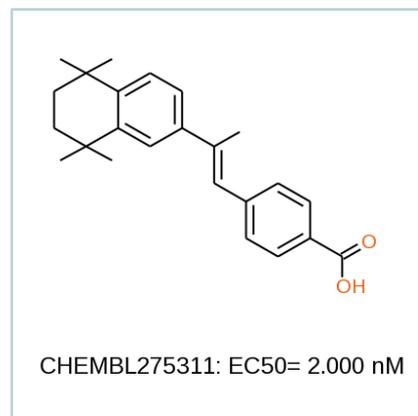
### Active on

Protein family	Targets
transcription factor	1



### Active on

Protein family	Targets
transcription factor	1



### Active on

Protein family	Targets
transcription factor	3
enzyme	2

### Top activities

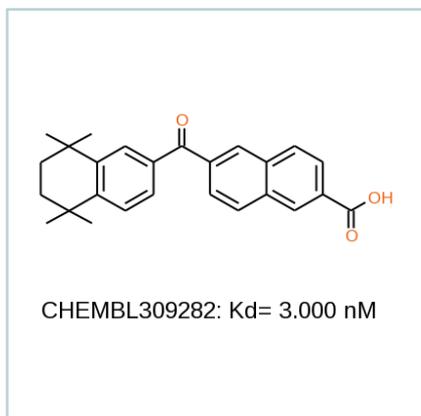
Target	Activity
<a href="#">RARA</a>	<a href="#">EC50 = 0.18 nM</a>
<a href="#">RARG</a>	<a href="#">EC50 = 2.0 nM</a>
<a href="#">RARB</a>	<a href="#">EC50 = 3.0 nM</a>
<a href="#">CYP2D6</a>	<a href="#">Potency = 12.6 nM</a>
<a href="#">MTOR</a>	<a href="#">Potency = 521.2 nM</a>

### Inactive on

Target	Activity
<a href="#">HSD17B10</a>	<a href="#">Potency=25119 nM</a>
<a href="#">CYP2C19</a>	<a href="#">Potency= 3981 nM</a>
<a href="#">TP53</a>	<a href="#">Potency=12589 nM</a>
<a href="#">NFKB1</a>	<a href="#">Potency=10000 nM</a>
<a href="#">GMNN</a>	<a href="#">Potency=11220 nM</a>
<a href="#">SMN1</a>	<a href="#">Potency= 5623 nM</a>



## Potential tool compounds

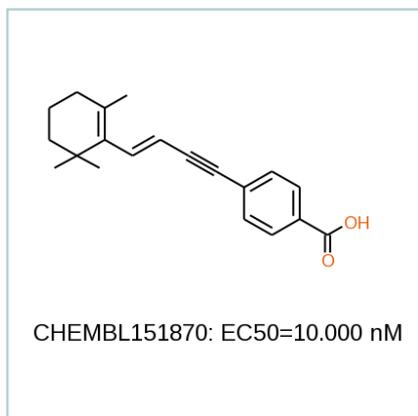


### Active on

Protein family	Targets
transcription factor	3
enzyme	1

### Top activities

Target	Activity
<a href="#">RARB</a>	$K_d = 1.2$ nM
<a href="#">RARG</a>	$K_d = 3.0$ nM
<a href="#">RARA</a>	$K_d = 118.0$ nM
<a href="#">CYP26B1</a>	$IC_{50} = 520.0$ nM

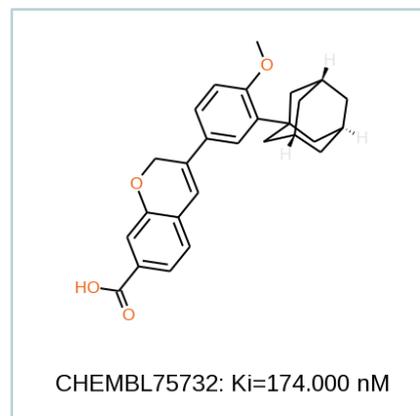


### Active on

Protein family	Targets
transcription factor	3

### Top activities

Target	Activity
<a href="#">RARB</a>	$EC_{50} = 7.0$ nM
<a href="#">RARG</a>	$EC_{50} = 10.0$ nM
<a href="#">RARA</a>	$K_d = 135.0$ nM



### Active on

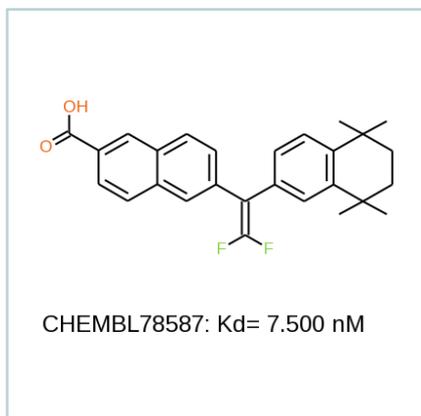
Protein family	Targets
transcription factor	3

### Top activities

Target	Activity
<a href="#">RARB</a>	$K_i = 71.0$ nM
<a href="#">RARG</a>	$K_i = 174.0$ nM
<a href="#">RARA</a>	$K_i = 764.0$ nM



## Potential tool compounds

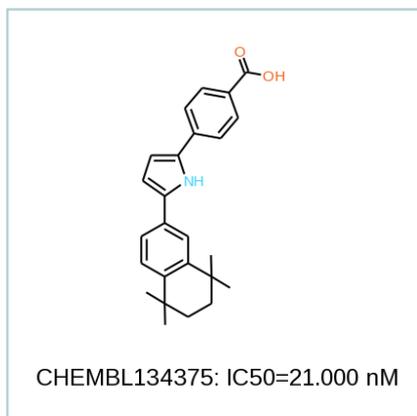


### Active on

Protein family	Targets
transcription factor	3

### Top activities

Target	Activity
<a href="#">RARB</a>	<a href="#">Kd = 1.7 nM</a>
<a href="#">RARG</a>	<a href="#">Kd = 7.5 nM</a>
<a href="#">RARA</a>	<a href="#">Kd = 73.0 nM</a>

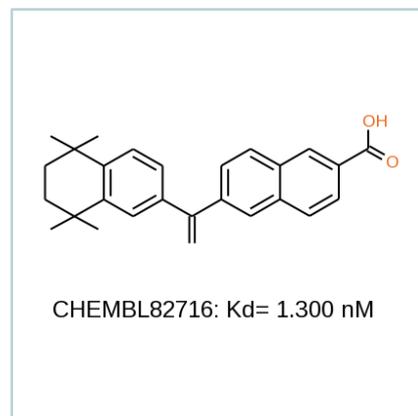


### Active on

Protein family	Targets
transcription factor	3

### Top activities

Target	Activity
<a href="#">RARA</a>	<a href="#">IC50 = 0.45 nM</a>
<a href="#">RARG</a>	<a href="#">IC50 = 21.0 nM</a>
<a href="#">RARB</a>	<a href="#">IC50 = 100.0 nM</a>



### Active on

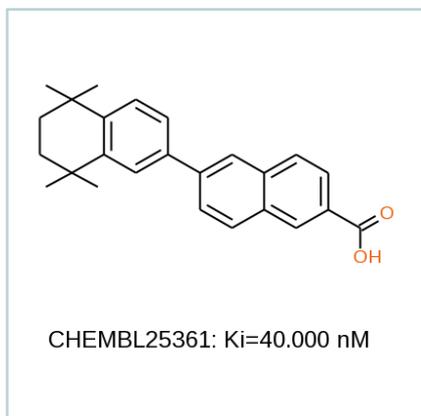
Protein family	Targets
transcription factor	3

### Top activities

Target	Activity
<a href="#">RARB</a>	<a href="#">Kd = 1.1 nM</a>
<a href="#">RARG</a>	<a href="#">Kd = 1.3 nM</a>
<a href="#">RARA</a>	<a href="#">Kd = 68.0 nM</a>

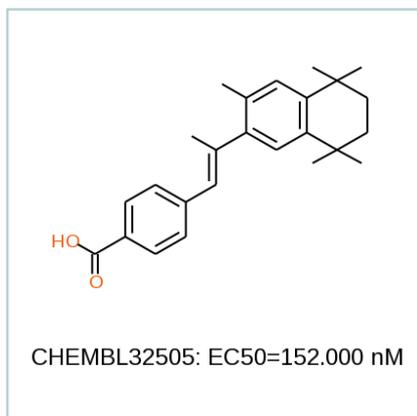


## Potential tool compounds



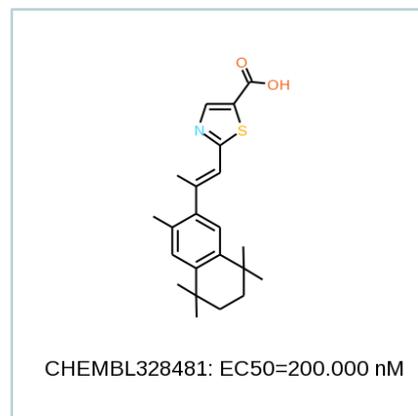
### Active on

Protein family	Targets
transcription factor	3



### Active on

Protein family	Targets
transcription factor	4



### Active on

Protein family	Targets
transcription factor	5

### Top activities

Target	Activity
<a href="#">RARB</a>	$K_i = 13.0$ nM
<a href="#">RARG</a>	$K_i = 40.0$ nM
<a href="#">RARA</a>	$K_i = 580.0$ nM

### Top activities

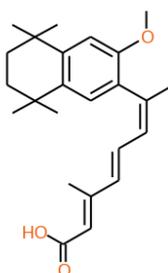
Target	Activity
<a href="#">RXRA</a>	$K_d = 32.0$ nM
<a href="#">RARB</a>	$EC_{50} = 74.0$ nM
<a href="#">RARG</a>	$EC_{50} = 152.0$ nM
<a href="#">RARA</a>	$EC_{50} = 340.0$ nM

### Top activities

Target	Activity
<a href="#">RXRB</a>	$EC_{50} = 3.0$ nM
<a href="#">RXRA</a>	$EC_{50} = 4.0$ nM
<a href="#">RXRG</a>	$EC_{50} = 4.0$ nM
<a href="#">RARG</a>	$EC_{50} = 200.0$ nM
<a href="#">RARB</a>	$EC_{50} = 220.0$ nM



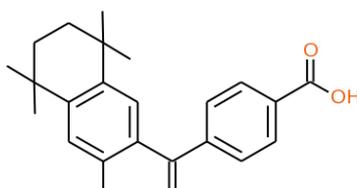
## Potential tool compounds



CHEMBL111589: EC50=17.000 nM

### Active on

Protein family	Targets
transcription factor	6



CHEMBL1023: Ki=130.000 nM

### Active on

Protein family	Targets
transcription factor	6

### Top activities

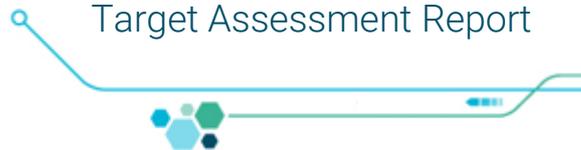
Target	Activity
<a href="#">RXRB</a>	Ki = 2.0 nM
<a href="#">RXRA</a>	Ki = 2.0 nM
<a href="#">RXRG</a>	Ki = 4.0 nM
<a href="#">RARB</a>	EC50 = 8.0 nM
<a href="#">RARG</a>	EC50 = 17.0 nM
<a href="#">RARA</a>	EC50 = 40.0 nM

### Top activities

Target	Activity
<a href="#">RXRA</a>	EC50 = 2.7 nM
<a href="#">RXRB</a>	Ki = 5.9 nM
<a href="#">RXRG</a>	Ki = 8.3 nM
<a href="#">RARB</a>	Ki = 50.0 nM
<a href="#">RARG</a>	Ki = 130.0 nM
<a href="#">RARA</a>	Ki = 180.0 nM

### Inactive on

Target	Activity
<a href="#">BLM</a>	Potency=68050 nM



### Conclusion and comments

There are a large number of known RARG inhibitors. The most efficient inhibitor reported in ChEMBL is Tretinoin with a  $K_i$  of 0.04 nM.

There is no clear evidence of a RARG selective inhibitor within the ChEMBL data. The most potent RARG inhibitors are promiscuous binders within the protein subfamily.

# STRUCTURAL DATA

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## 3D structures of target

**Methods**Experimentally resolved ([RCSB PDB](#))Homology models ([Swiss model](#))**Structures**

10

16

**Protein domains**

Ligand-binding domain

Zinc finger, C4 type (two domains)

DNA-binding region

**Experimentally resolved structures**

1fd0, 1fcy, 1exa, 2lbd, 1fcx, 4lbd, 5m24, 1fcz, 3lbd, 1exx

Not resolved

Not resolved

**Bound ligands (Name)**

156

184

254

394

564

961

9CR

LMU

REA

**Structure**

1fcz

1fcx

1fd0

1exa

1fcy

4lbd, 1exx

3lbd, 5m24

5m24, 1fd0, 1exa, 1exx, 1fcx, 1fcz, 1fcy

2lbd

**Protein-protein complexes**

None

**Structure**

-



## Relevant 3D structures of homologs

## Unresolved protein domains

## DNA-binding domain

Homolog	Structures	PDB codes
RARA	1	1dsz <sup>*</sup>
RARB	2	1hra <sup>*</sup> , 5uan
RXRA	13	1dsz <sup>*</sup> , 4cn3 <sup>*</sup> , 1by4 <sup>*</sup> , 4cn7 <sup>*</sup> , 3dzu <sup>*</sup> , 1ynw <sup>*</sup> , 4cn5 <sup>*</sup> , 4cn2 <sup>*</sup> , 3e00 <sup>*</sup> , 3dzy <sup>*</sup> , 1r0n <sup>*</sup> , 5uan <sup>*</sup> , 2nll <sup>*</sup>

## Unresolved protein complexes

## The RARG – RXRB complex

Homolog complex	Structures
NR1H2 (LBD) - RXRB (LBD)	5i4v (chain E, F), 5kya (chain A, B), 5kyj (chain E, F), 5hjp (chain D, C)
NR1H3 (LBD) - RXRB (LBD)	1uhl (chain B, A)
RXRB (LBD) - RXRB (LBD)	1h9u (chain C, D), 5kya (chain B, F)

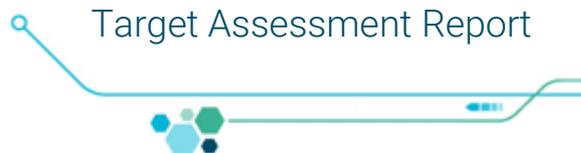
## The RARG – RXRG complex

Homolog complex	Structures
RXRG (LBD) - RXRG (LBD)	2gl8 (chain C, D)

\* Bound to DNA

LBD = Ligand-binding domain

DBD = DNA-binding domain



## Relevant 3D structures of homologs

**The RARG – RXRA complex**

Homolog complex	Structures
THRB (LBD) - RXRA (LBD)	4zo1 (chain X, B)
THRA (LBD) - RXRA (LBD)	3uvv (chain A, B)
Nr1h3 (LBD) - RXRA (LBD)	3fc6 (chain B, A), 2acl (chain H, G), 3fal (chain B, C)
RXRA (LBD) - RXRA (LBD)	1xvp (chain A, C), 1fby (chain A, B), 1xv9 (chain A, C), 3fc6 (chain A, C), 4n5g (chain A, C), 5tbp (chain B, D)
RXRA (LBD) - RXRA (LBD)	3ozj (chain A, C), 2acl (chain A, E), 5mk4 (chain A, C), 3nsq (chain A, B), 3nsp (chain A, B), 2zy0 (chain A, C), 1mzn (chain E, G), 1fm6 (chain A, U), 3r2a (chain C, D), 3r29 (chain A, B), 3r5m (chain A, C), 1xls (chain A, B), 1g5y (chain B, D), 1g1u (chain B, D), 5gym (chain D, F), 4n8r (chain A, C)
PPARG (LBD) - RXRA (LBD)	3e00 (chain D, A), 5ji0 (chain D, A), 1fm9 (chain D, A), 1k74 (chain D, A), 1fm6 (chain D, A), 1rdt (chain D, A), 3h0a (chain D, A)
NR1I3 (LBD) - RXRA (LBD)	1xvp (chain D, C), 1xv9 (chain B, A)
NR1I2 (LBD) - RXRA (LBD)	4j5w (chain A, D), 4j5x (chain A, D)
Nr1i3 (LBD) - RXRA (LBD)	1xls (chain E, A)
PPARG (LBD) - RXRA (DBD)	3dzy* (chain D, A)
RARA (DBD) - RXRA (Hinge)	1dsz* (chain A, B)
RARB (DBD) - RXRA (Hinge)	5uan (chain B, A)
PPARG (DBD) - RXRA (Hinge)	3dzu* (chain D, A)
THRB (DBD) - RXRA (DBD)	2nll* (chain B, A)
RXRA (DBD) - RXRA (Hinge)	4cn2* (chain C, D), 4cn3* (chain A, B), 1by4* (chain B, C), 4cn7* (chain A, B), 4cn5* (chain A, B)
EcR (DBD) - RXRA (DBD)	1r0n* (chain B, A)

**The RARG – NCOR2 complex**

Homolog complex	Structures
RORC (LBD) - NCOR2	5x8q (chain G, H)
RXRA (LBD) - NCOR2	3r29 (chain A, C), 3r2a (chain D, F)
PPARA (LBD) - NCOR2	1kkq (chain A, E)

\* Bound to DNA

LBD = Ligand-binding domain

DBD = DNA-binding domain



### Relevant 3D structures of homologs

#### The RARG – NCOA3 complex

Homolog complex	Structures
AR - NCOA3	3l3x (chain A, B), 1xj7 (chain A, B)

\* Bound to DNA

LBD = Ligand-binding domain

DBD = DNA-binding domain

# CONCLUSION

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## Conclusion and comments

### Gene-disease association

The RARG gene plays an important role in the progression of several cancers. These observations makes RARG an interesting target for oncology.

### Druggability

One druggable pocket was identified on the ligand-binding domain.

RARG has been shown to be inhibited by several small molecules. Several of these are compounds have already been approved as drugs (Tretinoin, Isotretinoin, Tazarotene, Adapalene, Acitretin, Alitretinoin), or is currently investigated (Palovarotene). This data confirms that RARG is a druggable target. It should be noted that one drug targeting RARG has been withdrawn from the market because of a high risk of birth defects (Etretinate).

### Selectivity

The sequence difference between the four isoforms does not alter the druggable pockets identified on the ligand-binding domain. Drugs targeting this pocket are therefore likely to have a very similar affinity for the four isoforms.

There are no currently known sequence variation or mutation situated within in the druggable pocket. However, in order to minimize the risk of drug resistance caused by a mutation in the binding site, we recommend that you continuously verify updates on sequence variation for your target.

Several of the RARG-inhibiting compounds reported in ChEMBL also inhibit other targets (a total of 27 different targets). These potential off-targets should be considered in the design of a drug candidate.

The structural similarity search revealed 9 targets having a pocket similar to the druggable pocket identified on RARG. In all of these off-targets, the structural data can be exploited to guide the design of more selective drug candidates.

The druggable pocket in the human RARG was compared to the pocket in the RARG animal orthologs. The pockets was found to be identical in the RARG ortholog of mouse, rat, guinea pig, dog, cat, sheep, rhesus macaque, chimpanzee, pig, and golden hamster. There are several factors to be considered when choosing an in vivo model but based on the pocket similarity, these are all suitable models

### Ligand data

There are a large number of known RARG inhibitors. The most efficient inhibitor reported in ChEMBL is Tretinoin with a  $K_i$  of 0.04 nM. There is no clear evidence of a RARG selective inhibitor within the ChEMBL data. The most potent RARG inhibitors are promiscuous binders within the protein subfamily.

### Structural data

There are 10 resolved 3D structures of RARG. They are all structures of a monomer of the ligand-binding domain bound to a ligand. The DNA-binding domain has been resolved for close homologs (RARA, RARB and RXRA). There are also structures of close homologs in complexes similar to those of RARG.