

Inhibitor Discovery for GLUT1 from Homology Modeling and Virtual Screening

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Small number of human SLC structures

Six structures of human SLCs were determined in atomic resolution



Arakawa et al. Science. 2015 Nov 6;350(6261):680-4.

Coleman et al. Nature. 2016 Apr 21;532(7599):334-339

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Structures of homologs reveal a highly diverse superfamily

Glt (SLC1)	XyIE (SLC2)	LeuT (SLC6)	ASBT (SLC10)
ANT1 (SLC25)	NorM (SLC47)	CNT (SLC28)	RhCG (SLC42)

Schlessinger A, Khuri N, Giacomini KM, Sali A. Current Topics in Medicinal Chemistry. 2013 Apr 1;13(7):843-56.

Many SLCs use alternating access transport





Forrest. Science. 2013 Jan 25;339(6118):399-401.

Colas C, Ung PMU, Schlessinger A. Medchemcomm. 2016 Jun 1;7(6):1069-1081

Homology modeling and virtual screening

1. Search for template PDB, OPM

2. Align target and template SALIGN, PROMALS3D

3. Construct and assess model MODELLER, DOPE



Schlessinger *et al.* PNAS 2011 Sep 20;108(38):15810-5. Schlessinger & Wittwer *et al.* JBC 2012 Nov 2;287(45):37745-56.

Carlsson et al. Nat Chem Biol. 2011 Sep 18;7(11):769-78

Structure based ligand discovery for human SLC transporters



The norepinephrine

Schlessinger et al. PNAS 2011 Sep 20;108(38):15810-5.



Ung et al. ACS Chem Bio. 2016 Jul 15;11(7): 908- Peter Man-Un Ung 16.



Schlessinger & Wittwer et al. JBC 2012 Nov 2;287(45):37745-56.

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The alanine-serine-cysteine amino



1,11(10).01004411.

The SLC13 transporters of citric acid cycle metabolites



Schlessinger et al. JBC 2014 Jun 13;289(24):16998-7008 Colas et al. Biochemistry. 2015 Aug 11;54(31):4900-8. Colas et al. Submitted.

The L-type amino acid transporter (LAT-1, SLC7A5)



Geier* and Schlessinger* et al. PNAS 2013 Apr 2;110(14):5480-5

The SLC2 family of facilitative transporters

- The family includes 14 members, divided into three classes
- 11 of the 14 SLC2 members are capable of transporting glucose under some experimental conditions (GLUT1-4: glucose, GLUT5: fructose, GLUT9: urate, GLUT13: inositol)
- One or more SLC2 members are expressed in virtually every cell type of the human body
- Contain ~500 amino acids with 12 transmembrane helices





Mueckler & Thorens. Mol Aspects Med. 2013 Apr-Jun;34(2-3):121-38.

GLUTs adopt the MFS fold and are related to SLC22



Schlessinger A, Matsson P, Shima JE, Pieper U, Yee SW, Kelly L, Apeltsin L, Stroud RM, Ferrin TE, Giacomini KM, Sali A. Protein Sci. 2010 Mar;19(3):412-28.

Function prediction based on similarity network





Schlessinger A, Matsson P, Shima JE, Pieper U, Yee SW, Kelly L, Apeltsin L, Stroud RM, Ferrin TE, Giacomini KM, Sali A. Protein Sci. 2010 Mar;19(3):412-28.

The human GLUT1

- GLUT1 transports glucose, galactose, glucosamine, and reduced ascorbate; inhibitors include cytochalasin B and phloretin
- GLUT1 is highly expressed in the endothelial cells, erythrocytes, and the blood-brain barrier
- Genetic variations are associated with GLUT1-deficiency syndrome (GLUT1-DS), an autosomal dominant haplo-insufficiency disorder characterized by a low glucose concentration in the cerebrospinal fluid
- Upregulated in multiple cancers, supporting the increased need for glycolysis and glucose uptake for ATP
 production, as well as for lactate secretion in cancer cells lacking of oxygen supply
- GLUT1 overexpression is associated with poor overall survival and tumor progression



GLUT1 structure in an inward conformation proposes the structural basis for GLUT1-sugar recognition



The 'Rocker Switch' mechanism



Different conformations of the GLUTs binding site



Different conformations capture different chemical space of ligands

Schlessinger and Wittwer et al. J Biol Chem. 2012 Nov 2;287(45):37745-56.

Is the mammalian GLUT occluded structure a better modeling template?

- Rat GLUT5: seq identity 43%
- E. Coli XyIE: seq identity 30%



XylE provides an excellent SOPEL modeling template

- Conserved topology: the transmembrane region is highly conserved
- Atomic structures of XyIE and hGLUT1 in the inward-open conformation have an RMSD of 1.5 Å
- Binding site highly conserved (i.e., 12 of the 16 binding site residues are identical; 2 are similar)
- Highly similar substrate specificity
- XyIE structures were solved with the natural substrates bound in a unique binding site conformation not available for any of the other hGLUT1 homologues





GLUT1 model reveals a putative pocket termed H-pocket



The putative H-pocket is conformation specific



H-pocket residues are tested with site-directed mutagenesis



Virtual screening of small molecule libraries targeting the H-pocket

- Virtual screening of purchasable fragments from NCI and ZINC libraries
- Visual analysis the 250 top-scoring hits
- Focus on compounds with unique scaffolds that are predicted to access the H-pocket with their hydrophobic moiety
- 19 compounds were selected for experimental testing



Cis-inhibition assays identify 8 new GLUT1 potent inhibitors





Ligong Chen (Tsinghua University)

New ligands reveal new scaffolds and have improved Ligand Efficiency



Table 1. IC₅₀ of screening hits in [³H]-2-deoxy-D-glucose uptake assay.

Different conformations of the GLUT binding site



Ung et al. ACS Chem Bio. 2016 Jul 15;11(7):1908-16.

Can disease-related mutations' effects be explained with the GLUT1 structures and models?

	Epilepsy gener	/, idiopathic alized 12 (IG12)	GLUT1 deficiency syndrome 1 (GLUT1SD1)	GLUT1 deficiency syndrome 2 (GLUT1SD2)
	T60M		N34S	R126C
JA ZA K	M77T		G91D	A275T
	R218S		R126H	Del282-285 – hemolytic anemia
	R223P		R126C	G314S
	E243V		G130S	
SSS	2 N411S		R153C	Stomatin-deficient
	R458W		Del169	cryohydrocytosis with neuro defect (SDCHCN)
A AM	GLUT1DS1		E329Q	G286D
ALL STOR	GLUT1DS2		R333W	Del435
	SDCHCN DS1/2/DYT9			

- Almost all mutations occur in the interface with the membrane or between transmembrane helices
- Mutations are usually not found in the sugar binding site except for the deletion associated with anemia

Structure-based ligand discovery for GLUT1

- The GLUT1 model is used to identify novel, potent, and efficient inhibitors
- The model characterizes an occluded-outward conformation, revealing a new binding sub pocket
- The GLUT1 model and previous structures explain some mutations' effect on function
- Future: can we design GLUT1-specific inhibitors?
- Can we apply this approach for targeting other transporters? For designing ligands with optimal ADME properties?
- Can we predict mutation effect on function for uncharacterized variants?

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