

INOFAR ANNUAL ACTIVITIES REPORT

2012

ABOUT THE COVER

"Fear is what makes you not see, or hear, because one of the effects of fear is to dull the senses, and make things look like things they are not!"

(Excerpt from Don Quixote).

"It is an integral part of the scientist's mission to not be afraid, but to be daring in the search for the truth."

(Angelo da Cunha Pinto).

INCT-INOFAR ANNUAL ACTIVITIES REPORT

2012

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INCT-INOFAR ANNUAL ACTIVITIES REPORT



ANNUAL ACTIVITIES REPORT 2012

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EDITORIAL

Professor Eliezer J. Barreiro

This edition of the Annual Activities Report (AAR) from the National Institute of Science and Technology in Drugs and Medicines (INCT-INOFAR), referent to the year 2012, tries to describe and publicize all its activities that were carried out during the second year of the second decade of the new millennium. At this age, we live at the mercy of several and always new challenges, represented by countless variables,

IEZER J. BAR

from climate phenomena that have not been fully understood and that bring us back to our social responsibility in the planet sustainability, to the management of

diplomatic crises everywhere, which threaten the apparent world peace. It is not our place to rank these threats, but at the risk of being a little simplistic, we can admit that as frontiers for thought, all the challenges that we live with, whether to be aware of the reality and relevance of the global village we are members of, whether it is to understand, even if partially, the stage of economic, social, technological, or scientific that different nations are at. We must fully commit to ensure, preserve, and enhance the health of our populations. There is a strong and urgent need to understand, finally, that the population of the planet is its biggest asset. At a time when we have not yet overcome the social differences between and within nations, the issue of health care has become important and necessary enough so that we can enter the "Century of Life".

Among many specialists, there is dialogue on the importance of health in the continuously improving quality of life we deserve, and in this subject, we must recognize that drugs, as active principles of medicines, used to prevent diseases and ensure health, are required tools. This

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way, knowing how to invent them, discover them, or create them, is consequently a theme that must be present in this future agenda.

In this context and with this understanding, **INCT-INOFAR** as a research network in drugs and medicines gathers scientists from different research institutes and Universities in Brazil, experts in some stage of the complex chain of innovation in drugs and medicines, acting in both dimensions of innovation in drugs: radical and incremental. This research network has been working jointly and achieving significant results in both innovation environments. A few myths were undone and overcome with the organization of the work of the several national institutions, distributed in eight states in Brazil, into a network, allowing for better management of the new knowledge created. Through systematic meetings, in person or otherwise, and continuous follow-up, we have ensured the necessary speed to the flow of information among the teams involved in the subprojects of **INCT-INOFAR**, so that we can meet the deadlines previously agreed upon for each of the projects. We have also achieved significant results for outreach actions concerning drug sciences, having edited booklets with content on their rational and safe use. Many of the practical results of these actions are published in the "Drugs Portal (*Portal dos Fármacos*)", the spot for publicizing **INCT-INOFAR**.

Managed by a Scientific & Governance Advisory Committee (*Comitê de Governança e Acompanhamento*, **CGA/INCT-NOFAR**) made up of six specialists from different institutions and with interests in research areas related to those of the chain of innovation in drugs, **INCT-INOFAR** has a management model capable of identifying and ordering its priorities and defining its main goals with a pre-defined schedule of deadlines for activities, always renegotiated as needed for each subproject under study. Establishing hierarchy criteria for the classification, based on the current stage of each subproject in relation to the chain of innovation

of drugs and medicines, we can establish the required dynamism desired for the actions of management and follow-up of the performance of each of the actors, optimizing them qualitatively.

Through a specific web portal, capable of assuring a notable standard of transparency to its actions, INCT-INOFAR has created a restricted access area, accessible with the use of passwords, which allows for the safe exchange of information among different research teams involved with the same current subproject. At the same time, an agile channel of communication between the Coordination and the researchers of the associated teams was created. Furthermore, when established by CGA/ **INCT-INOFAR**, theme follow-up meetings were carried out, always with the presence of experts from outside the Institute as scientific consultants, to evaluate the progress obtained in certain areas where **INCT-INOFAR** acts, for comparison with other subprojects for reviewing priorities, if necessary. In May 2012, the VI Follow-Up and Evaluation *Workshop* by **INCT-INOFAR** took place, with the presence of Dr. Simon Campbell, a prestigious drug researcher, former research director for Pfizer in Sandwich, England, responsible for the discovery of several successful innovative drugs, as a consultant. His participation enabled us to enhance the vision of the development through the eyes of a pharmaceutical company that acts in radical innovation, balancing the management of the knowledge generated by the INCT-INOFAR team.

On this fourth edition of our *Annual Activity Report*, the activities that took place throughout 2012 are described, including public results of several research subprojects aimed at radical and incremental innovation. We have included quantitative data on the productivity of researchers connected to **INCT-INOFAR** and on the associated research and graduate programs, a list of our scholars at different levels and institutions, as well as our internationalization actions that made us present at international congresses. Initiatives capable of promoting the transfer of technology for the industrial sector in drugs and medicines, public or private, whether in radical or incremental innovation, were included in this **AAR-2012**.

Good reading.

PROF. ELIEZER J. BARREIRO SCIENTIFIC COORDINATOR INCT-INOFAR

INTRODUCTION

NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

BRIEF HISTORY

In 2008, the Brazilian Government released the public announcement MCT/CNPQ n°014/2008, recruiting scientists to work in a network, in research areas strategic to the sustainable development of the country. This announcement has been so far the one with the greatest incentive to Science and Technology in Brazil.

At the time, some of the scientists associated with the Millenium Institute

of Innovation and Development of Drugs and Medicines (IM-INOFAR) took on the challenge and presented a new project. So was born the "National Institute of Science and Technology of Drugs and Medicines" (INCT-INOFAR).

Like INCT-INOFAR, a total of 122 National Institutes of Science and Technology (INCTs) were created. Connecting groups of laboratories or associate research groups from different parts of the country, INCTs have a goal of acting in areas that are strategically important for the sovereignty of the country. **INCT-INOFAR** is in charge of health research aiming at the discovery of new drugs and medicines.























INCT OF DRUGS AND MEDICINES (INCT-INOFAR)

The National Institute of Science and Technology in Drugs and Medicines (INCT-INOFAR) is a research network that brinas together renowned scientists from different research institutions and Universities in Brazil. Its mission is to act in the discovery of new drugs and medicines and in the search for new synthetic routes for generic drugs, as well as enhancing professional gualification at the undergraduate and graduate levels in Medicinal Pharmacology, Chemistry and the core disciplines involved in pharmaceutical discovery.

Made up of nearly one hundred scientists from 30 research groups focused on (radical) pharmaceutical innovation and (incremental) generic drug research, **INCT-INOFAR** is present in 15 teaching and research institutions in 8 different Brazilian states.

With the task of qualifying new human resources capable of acting in important stages of the process of discovery/ invention of new drugs – from the election of the therapeutic-target to the conclusion of bioassays at the pre-clinical stage -**INCT-INOFAR** contributes to identify and reduce important deficiencies in the chain of pharmaceutical innovation.

Parallel to laboratory research, INCT-INOFAR acts in society, increasing awareness of the Science it practices, encouraging the correct and responsible use of medicines. It maintains the Drugs Portal, a website created to publicize pharmaceutical science. In compliance with the original edict, INCT-INOFAR carries out health education actions aimed at children, among other activities that inform the population on the rational use of drugs.

MISSION

- To organize national scientific competences into an effective and productive network of pharmaceutical and medicines research;
- To support scientific research subprojects aimed at the chain of innovation in drugs and medicines;
- To act in the incremental innovation of drugs through generic drugs;
- To study and develop total synthetic routes for current and future generic drugs, as well as advanced intermediates and raw materials that are strategic to the sector;
- To contribute to the qualification and education of personnel in Medicinal Chemistry & Pharmacology;
- To promote scientific awareness of drugs and medicines, and therefore contribute effectively for their rational and safe use.



PHARMACEUTICAL INNOVATION

With the contribution of its entire research network, **INCT-INOFAR** studies and develops several subprojects in radical innovation and also acts in incremental innovation, studying new total synthesis routes for generic drugs.

In the field of radical innovation, the Institute aims at the discovery/ invention of original substances, active in *in vivo* pharmacological models, widely validated, capable of originating new pharmaceutical candidates in different therapeutic classes. The research areas of interest for **INCT-INOFAR** are: inflammation, pulmonary diseases, pain, central nervous system, cardiovascular system, and chemotherapy for cancer and for socalled neglected diseases, in particular leishmaniasis. In the area of incremental innovation, **INCT-INOFAR** leads projects that are focused on the search for new synthetic routes, efficient and accessible, for generic drugs that are already in the market – and that are important tools in health public policy and in the pharmaceutical care provided to the population – as well as for those drugs that are about to have their patents expire, which represent new business perspectives for the pharmaceutical business sector.

INCT-INOFAR Research Areas

- Inflammation;
- Pulmonary Diseases;
- Pain;
- Diabetes;
- Central Nervous System;
- Cardiovascular System;
- Chemotherapy: antineoplastic and leishmanicide;
- Generic Drugs.



GENERIC DRUGS

In spite of the advances due to the 13 years since the creation of the Generics Law (n° 9.787/1999) in Brazil, sadly, most national pharmaceutical companies still simply formulate and package active principles imported from distant markets like China, India, and Korea.

Working at trying to reverse this "Indian Route" process, **INCT-INOFAR** has made efforts in the study and development of new total synthesis routes for generic medicines, with the goal of transferring the technology acquired to local pharmaceutical industries. By studying and developing total synthesis routes for generic drugs, advanced intermediates and strategic raw materials for the sector, **INCT-INOFAR** research makes way for the production of active principles at reduced prices in Brazil.

Ever since it was created in 2009, INCT-INOFAR has developed new synthetic routes for atorvastatin, sunitinib, and fluoxetine.



Atorvastatin

At the same month when the patent for Lipitor[™]/ Pfizer expired in Brazil (December 2010), **INCT-INOFAR** researchers announced the discovery of a new synthesis route for the production of its active principle, atorvastatin. A continuous use drug to reduce cholesterol that is widely used, Lipitor[™] was the best-selling pharmaceutical in the world during its history, reaching US\$ 150 billion in sales during its patent (1991-2011).

Those responsible for the research, which had great repercussion in both local and foreign press throughout 2011, were Prof. Luiz Carlos Dias and Dr. Adriano Siqueira Vieira from the Institute of Chemistry of the State University of Campinas (Unicamp), the latter as an **INCT-INOFAR** scholar. The synthesis route for atorvastatin has been patented and it represents an important technological asset to **INCT-INOFAR**. Since then, **INCT-INOFAR** has been negotiating the production of this generic with Brazilian pharmaceutical companies.



Sunitinib

Recommended to fight certain types of stomach cancer, sunitinib is the active principle of Sutent®/ Pfizer, a high cost medication – around R\$ 11,000 per box with 28 pills – which, unfortunately, is not yet made available through the Public Health Care System (SUS) and that, due to that, is the source of many lawsuits, since it represents the primary indication in those cases.

The sunitinib synthesis route was finished in September 2011 by Prof. Angelo da Cunha Pinto and by Dr. Barbara Vasconcellos da Silva, from the Institute of Chemistry of the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro (UFRJ). With the discovery of the new synthesis route for sunitinib, Brazil can beprepared to produce the medication, reducing its production cost when the patent for the drug expires in the country, or in other circunstances, as defined by the Brazilian government.



Fluoxetine

Antidepressant medication in the class of selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors, fluoxetine was marketed by Eli Lilly Laboratories under the name of Prozac[™], until the patent for the medication expired in August 2001, allowing the production of generic versions. Fluoxetine is part of the National List of Essential Medicines (RENAME) and is available through the Popular Drugstore Program due to the technological knowledge of its synthesis, and it is an important achievement by **INCT-INOFAR**.

Considered the controlled substance with the largest demand in the public health network, most of the fluoxetine consumed in Brazil is imported. Due to the social and market impact of this medication in the country, **INCT-INOFAR** has made efforts towards the discovery of a new synthesis route for generic fluoxetine. So far, the group led by Prof. Luiz Carlos Dias from Unicamp has prepared 2g of the active principle, using a new and efficient methodology, so that the pharmaceutical can be prepared in larger quantities, in a faster, more practical, cheaper manner, with less environmental impact.

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Multidisciplinary Research Network

The process of pharmaceutical innovation has clear inter- and multidisciplinary characteristics that demand competences in distinct areas that make up the health sciences.

INCT-INOFAR articulates academic scientific research groups in different areas into a network, covering the stages of the process of invention of new drugs, which go from the election of the therapeutic target to the conclusion of bioassays in the pre-clinical trial stage, using quantitative and qualitative analytical methods, as well as clinical pharmacology.

The INCT-INOFAR research team is made up of specialists in different subjects such as medicinal chemistry, pharmacology, organic chemistry, toxicology, organic synthesis, biochemistry, computational chemistry, structural biology, spectroscopy, chemistry of natural products, among other related areas.

SCIENTIFIC EXCHANCE

INCT-INOFAR is present in 15 research and teaching institutions, in 8 different Brazilian states, cooperating actively to reduce the regional scientific imbalance in Brazil, as well as contributing to strengthen the expertise in a sector that is strategic to the country.

By enabling researchers in different institutions in several geographical areas to associate their work, **INCT-INOFAR** promotes exchange between the larger research centers and the emerging research groups.

Cooperative work is a way for INCT-INOFAR to contribute to the increase of the scientific and technological output in emerging research groups, especially in the Mid-West and Northeast regions, benefitting the qualification at undergraduate and graduate levels. Throughout these three years since INCT-INOFAR was created, the benefits for the advancement of these emerging groups in scientific terms have been notable.

INCT-INOFAR RESEARCH GROUPS: Laboratories and seniors scientists

RIO DE JANEIRO

3 - **UFRJ**

1 - FIOCRUZ Inflammation Laboratory Marco Aurelio Martins CV-Lattes

National Public Health School Francisco Jose Roma Paumgartten CV-Lattes

2 - UERJ

Department of Pharmacology Theresa Christina Barja-Fidalgo CV-Lattes Laboratory of Evaluation and Synthesis of Bioactive Substances - LASSBio Carlos Alberto Manssour Fraga CV-Lattes

Lidia Moreira Lima CV-Lattes

System of Information on the Chemical Industry – SIQUIM Adelaide Maria de Souza Antunes CV-Lattes

Laboratory of Pulmonary Investigation Patricia Rieken Macedo Rocco CV-Lattes

Laboratory of Biochemical and Molecular Pharmacology Francois Germain Noel CV-Lattes

Laboratory of Cardiovascular Pharmacology Gisele Zapata Sudo CV-Lattes Laboratory of Muscular Excitement-Contraction Coupling Roberto Takashi Sudo CV-Lattes

Laboratory of Molecular Virology I Jose Nelson dos Santos Silva Couceiro CV-Lattes

Laboratory of Natural Products and Chemical Transformations Angelo da Cunha Pinto CV-Lattes

Laboratory of Support to Technological Development Francisco Radler de Aquino Neto CV-Lattes

Laboratory of Pharmacology of Inflammation and Nitric Oxide Patricia Dias Fernandes CV-Lattes

4 - UFRRJ

Institute of Exact Sciences Carlos Mauricio Rabello de Sant'Anna CV-Lattes

5 - LNCC

Group of Molecular Modeling of Biological Systems Laurent Emmanuel Dardenne CV-Lattes

SAO PAULO

6 - **USP-RP**

Laboratory of Pain and Inflammation Fernando de Queiroz Cunha CV-Lattes

7 - UNESP ARARAQUARA

Nucleus of Bioassays, Biosynthesis, and Ecophysiology of Natural Products (NUBBe) Vanderlan da Silva Bolzani CV-Lattes

8 - UNICAMP

Laboratory of Synthetic Organic Chemistry Luiz Carlos Dias CV-Lattes

MINAS GERAIS

9 - **UFMG**

Group of Innovation in Organic and Inorganic Compounds with Pharmacological Activity Heloisa de Oliveira Beraldo CV-Lattes

10 - UNIFAL

Laboratory of Phytochemistry and Medicinal Chemistry Claudio Viegas Junior CV-Lattes Marcia Paranho Veloso CV-Lattes

RIO GRANDE DO SUL

11 - UFRGS

GENOTOX-ROYAL Unit Joao Antonio Pegas Henriques CV-Lattes

Laboratory of Experimental Psychopharmacology Stela Maris Kuze Rates CV-Lattes

GOIAS

12 - **UFG**

Laboratory of Bioconversion Valeria de Oliveira CV-Lattes Rosangela de Oliveira Alves Carvalho (contributor) CV-Lattes

Laboratory of Pharmacology and Cellular Toxicology (partner) Marize Campos Valadares Bozinis CV-Lattes

Laboratory of Medicinal Pharmaceutical Chemistry Ricardo Menegatti CV-Lattes

Laboratory of Cardiovascular Pharmacology (partner) Matheus Lavorenti Rocha CV-Lattes

ALAGOAS

13 - UFAL Laboratory of Pharmacology and Immunity Magna Suzana Alexandre Moreira CV-Lattes

CEARA

14 - **UFC**

Unit of Clinical Pharmacology Manoel Odorico de Moraes CV-Lattes

Laboratory of Pharmacology of Inflammation and Cancer Ronaldo de Albuquerque Ribeiro CV-Lattes

PARAIBA

15 - UFPB Laboratory of Toxicological Assays (LABETOX) Margareth de Fatima Formiga Melo Diniz CV-Lattes



QUALIFICATION OF HUMAN RESOURCES

So that a truly innovative drug is discovered, we must have diverse and extremely qualified personnel to carry out successfully all the stages in the chain of innovation.

Collaborating to perfect Brazilian expertise in the discovery/invention of new drugs and medicines, **INCT-INOFAR** strongly acts in the qualification of human resources in the different research centers it is associated with.

At **INCT-INOFAR**, scientific training is enhanced at all academic levels: undergraduate, graduate, doctoral, and post-doctoral. As part of this training, graduate students connected to the studied subprojects are encouraged to take part in the scientific exchange between participating laboratories with specific expertise, as to make the agreed upon goals happen within deadlines that meet the project needs. Through the scientific exchange promoted and encouraged by INCT-INOFAR, the Institute contributes not only to the high education of new researchers, but also to keep senior researchers updated. Maintaining professionals that are renowned for their talent in the country is also one of the premises for INCT-INOFAR.

Premises

- Qualification of human resources;
- Scientific-academic Exchange;
- Updating of senior researches;
- Maintenance of renowned researches in the country.

INCT-INOFAR researchers actively take part in education and qualification of human resources, through their connections to 16 Graduate Programs of renowned academic merit throughout Brazil.

Over half of the Graduate Programs with the participation of **INCT-INOFAR** are ranked 6 or 7 (out of 7).

Graduate Programs with INCT-INOFAR Researchers

Graduate Programs with INCT-INOFAR Researchers:

(USP/RP) Graduate Program in BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES (PHARMACOLOGY) M / D - CAPES - 7 http://www.radioribeirao.ccrp.usp.br/pos_graduacao.asp

(UNICAMP) Graduate Program in CHEMISTRY - M / D - CAPES 7 http://www.iqm.unicamp.br/posgraduacao/

(UFRJ) Graduate Program in CHEMISTRY M / D - CAPES 7 http://www.pgqu.net/

(UNESP/ARAR) Graduate Program in CHEMISTRY M / D- CAPES 6 http://fi.com.br/projetos/unesp/

(UERJ) Graduate Program in BIOSCIENCES - CAPES 6 http://www.pgbiologia.uerj.br/

(UFC) Graduate Program in PHARMACOLOGY - **CAPES 6** http://www.fisfar.ufc.br/posgrad/

(FIOCRUZ) Graduate Program in CELULAR AND MOLECULAR BIOLOGY M / D - CAPES 6 http://www.fiocruz.br/iocensino/cgi/cgilua.exe/sys/ start.htm?sid=6

(UFMG) Graduate Program in CHEMISTRY – M/D – **CAPES 6** http://www.qui.ufmg.br/pg

(UFRGS) Graduate Program in PHARMACEUTICAL SCIENCES M / D - CAPES 6 http://www.ufrgs.br/ppgcf/

(UFPB) Graduate Program in BIOACTIVE NATURAL AND SYNTHETIC PRODUCTS – M / D – **CAPES 5** https://sites.google.com/a/ltf.ufpb.br/pgpnsb/

(UFRJ) Graduate Program in PHARMACOLOGY AND MEDICINAL CHEMISTRY M / D - CAPES 4 http://www.farmaco.ufrj.br/posgraduacao/index.html (UNIFAL) Graduate Program in CHEMISTRY M - CAPES 4 http://www.unifal-mg.edu.br/ppgquimica/

(UFRRJ) Graduate Program in CHEMISTRY M / D - CAPES 4 http://www.ice.ufrrj.br/posgrad/

(UFAL) Graduate Program in HEALTH SCIENCES M - CAPES 3 http://www.ufal.edu.br/unidadeacademica/icbs/posgraduacao/ciencias-da-saude

(UNIFAL) Graduate Program in PHARMACEUTICAL SCIENCES M - CAPES 3 http://www.unifal-mg.edu.br/ppgcienciasfarma/ (UFG) Graduate Program in PHARMACEUTICAL SCIENCES M - **CAPES 3** http://mestrado.farmacia.ufg.br/pages/23204

Source: Triennial Evaluation Report 2010 – 2007 to 2009, CAPES.

See the full list of master and doctoral theses advised by **INCT-INOFAR** researchers and finished in 2012 at page 168.

Capes Theses Award - Chemistry

Every year, the Coordination for the Improvement of Higher Education Personnel (Capes) gives out an award for the best doctoral theses in different areas of knowledge, the Capes Theses Awards. In 2012, **INCT-INOFAR** won the Award for Chemistry.

Thesis "Synthesis of ferrocenyl oxyndoles and the study of isatin chloration with trichloroisocyanuric acid",

Author: Barbara Vasconcellos da Silva - CV-Lattes Advisor: Prof. Angelo da Cunha Pinto Institution: Institute of Chemistry at UFRJ

Aside from the Capes Theses Award in Chemistry, the research above was also awarded a prize from Paulo Gontijo Institute. (http://www.ipg.org.br/home.php).




ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE OF INCT-INOFAR

The organizational structure of **INCT-INOFAR** is made up of a Coordinator, a Vice-Coordinator, and the Scientific Advisory and Follow-Up Committee (Comitê de Governança e Acompanhamento /CGA). This committee is a deliberative and consulting collegiate, which acts on the strategic planning of **INCT-INOFAR** activities.

The Scientific Superintendence supports the Coordination, acting in the technical-scientific evaluation of projects under study, also acting on following up on previously agreed upon deadlines.

INCT-INOFAR has the participation, on a confidential basis, of specialist external consultant that provide scientific support in the evaluation of the projects under study, aiming at the optimization of its research activities. In a few projects, the consultants suggest also occasional route changes needed to fulfill the essential objective of the Institute, which is to contribute to the discovery of new national pharmaceuticals.

The network of scientific competences of **INCT-INOFAR** is made up of 30 research groups, located in 15 institutions, in 8 different Brazilian states. Each research group associated to **INCT-INOFAR** is led by a specialist, responsible for the scientific interaction of its team among itself and among the other Institute teams.

The Financial, Executive, and Media Affairs Secretaries provide the necessary support to the full development of the research and publicizing activities carried out by **INCT-INOFAR** and they are physically located in the Health Sciences Center at UFRJ, the administrative headquarters of the Institute.

With a goal of expanding its outreach actions in Pharmaceutical Sciences, on April 2012, **INCT-INOFAR** created the Extension Secretary. Acting alongside the other Secretaries, the Extension Secretary has the challenge of spreading the Health Education projects done by **INCT-INOFAR**, bringing the discussion on the correct use of medicines to public schools.



ASSOCIATED COMPANIES



INCT-INOFAR has the support, though yet informal, of pharmaceutical companies and related companies such as Cristalia Chemical Pharmaceutical Products Ltd., Royal Institute, In Vitro Cells Technological Research S.A. and Ciallyx Laboratories & Consulting. IN VITRO CELLS (Pesquisa Toxicológica) www.invitrocells.com.br

In Vitro Cells – Toxicological Research S.A. is a technology based company located at Biominas Foundation (Belo Horizonte, MG). Its founders are professors at the Federal University of Minas Gerais (UFMG) in the areas of Toxicology and Biochemistry. The company is an **INCT-INOFAR** partner to carry out *in vitro* bioassays to evaluate the safety and efficacy of new drug candidates developed by the Institute.



CRISTALIA CHEMICAL PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCTS (Cristália Produtos Químicos Farmacêuticos) www.2cristalia.com.br

Cristalia Chemical Pharmaceutical Products Ltd. is a pharmaceutical company associated with INCT-INOFAR, capable of supporting the carrying out, with an onus, the possible stages of pharmacotechnical development of new compound-prototypes that reach this advanced stage of the chain of innovation in drugs and medicines. Under terms of non-disclosure and confidentiality, Cristalia will benefit, if it is interested in doing so, of the information on the projects under study, by expressing an interest in the established deadlines in internalizing the technologies developed at INCT-INOFAR. For technological transfer to happen, the Innovation Agency at UFRJ, and its equivalent from another INCT-INOFAR research institution connected to the specific project will directly negotiate with the interested parties, including financial backers.



ROYAL INSTITUTE (Instituto Royal) www.institutoroyal.org.br

Toxicology is a very delicate stage that may absolve or condemn forever a drug candidate compound. INCT-INOFAR prioritizes cyto-, muta-, and genotoxicity studies, as well as acute toxicology, with molecules that have displayed attractive pharmacological activity, as early as possible in the chain of pharmaceutical innovation. To ensure that all the pre-clinical toxicology stages are accredited in good laboratory practices (GLP), **INCT-INOFAR** has partnered with the Royal Institute, which is the result of the merge of two toxicology laboratories located in different universities. Genotox-Royal Institute, located at UFRGS, carries out the genetic toxicity studies, while Unitox-Royal, located at the University of Santo Amaro (Unisa - SP) is responsible for animal toxicity tests.



CIALLYX LABORATORIES & CONSULTING (Ciallyx Laboratórios & Consultoria) www.ciallyx.com.br

Ciallyx Laboratories & Consulting is a company located at CIETEC (Incubating Center for Technological Companies) that carries out efficacy studies (proof of concept) and safety studies (toxicological studies and assays) for new molecules, medicines, and formulations. Ciallyx gets results by following national and international protocols under strict quality standards using as a guide the international guidelines of Good Laboratory Practices - GLP. The company is an INCT-INOFAR partner to conduct in *vivo* bioassays for the evaluation of safety and efficacy of new drug candidates developed by the Institute.



BIOTECHCELL (Toxicologia Aplicada, Desenvolvimento de Produtos e Projetos) www.biotechcell.com.br

The BiotechCell[®] is an enterprising biotechnology company in the Northeast of Brazil, rising in the scientific community through an ideal of researchers who sought to combine their extensive academic experience to the management of technological innovation and services. We operate in the market providing services on "in vivo" and "in vitro" antitumor tests, toxicology, preclinical applied toxicogenetics and human toxicogenetics biomonitoring. Our staff is highly trained to provide fast and accurate solutions to attend your needs.

As part of our working philosophy, the BiotechCell[®] has a wellestablished Quality System on which all our procedures, studies and analysis are based on.

Thereby, on this principle, the company has strived to follow the evolution of the market, as well as performing non-clinical studies required by regulatory agencies for the registration of pesticide products, their components and related products, pharmaceuticals, cosmetics, wood preservatives, food additives and feed, veterinary products, cleaning products, industrial chemicals, genetically modified organisms, remediation, among others, aiming to evaluate the environmental risk and the risks for human health.

International Agreements



INCT-INOFAR has directed efforts at internationalizing its research network, through the signing of international cooperation agreements. This internationalization is done through recommendations from the National Council for Scientific and Technological Development (CNPq) and adopts the philosophies of the Science without Borders program.

The goal is to give international visibility to Science, Technology, and Innovation activities in Brazil. From this internationalization, new cooperation networks can be established, and these networks can create training opportunities for students, at both the undergraduate and graduate level, abroad.



GERMANY

At the end of 2011, **INCT-INOFAR** through the Dean of the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro (UFRJ) signed a cooperation agreement with the Interdisciplinary Center for Pharmacogenomics and Pharmaceutical Research (ICEPHA) of the University of Tübingen, Germany, directed by Professor Stefan Laufer.

With a goal of widening the foundation for the exchange between **INCT-INOFAR** and ICEPHA, among the main goals of the agreement were the development of joint research projects, the organizing of academic and scientific activities, the exchange of researchers and/or students, as well as the exchange of materials and relevant publications.

As a fruit of this partnership, **INCT-INOFAR** sent doctoral student Maria Leticia de Castro Barbosa, from the Graduate Program in Chemistry (PGQu-UFRJ) to study in Germany at the University of Tübingen in a sandwich stay. Advised by Professors Eliezer J. Barreiro and Lidia Moreira Lima of UFRJ, from October 2011 to September 2012, Leticia Barbosa did part of her thesis research at ICEPHA, supervised by Prof. Dr. Stefan Laufer.

In September 2012, **INCT-INOFAR** was part of the 22nd International Symposium on Medicinal Chemistry (ISMC 2012) in Berlin. Aside from Leticia Barbosa, were present at the event in Germany Prof. Eliezer J. Barreiro (coordinator), Prof. Lidia Moreira Lima (Scientific Superintendent) and Prof. Angelo Pinto (CGA member).

The following month, in October 2012, it was Prof. Dr. Stefan Laufer's turn to visit Brazil. At the occasion, he met with **INCT-INOFAR** researchers at the Brazilian Symposium in Medicinal Chemistry (BrazMedChem), which took place in the city of Canela, Rio Grande do Sul. According to Laufer, Medicinal Chemistry is in full development in Brazil, and has a promising future.

Prof. Stefan Laufer, Prof. Eliezer J. Barreiro and Maria Leticia Barbosa





PORTUGAL

As far as the agreement that the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro (UFRJ) established with the University of Aveiro, Portugal, **INCT-INOFAR**, in September 2012, established a specific agreement to develop research jointly with the Department of Chemistry from the same university. The covenant was signed *in loco* by Prof. Jose A. F. Cavalheiro of the University of Aveiro and by **INCT-INOFAR** coordinator, Prof. Eliezer J. Barreiro.

On January 2012, Prof Jose Cavalheiro was in Rio de Janeiro to take part in the XVIII Summer School in Medicinal Pharmaceutical Chemistry. The event, supported by **INCT-INOFAR** researchers, has the goal of, during a week of academic summer break, gathering students from different parts of the country to discuss recent topics in Medicinal Pharmaceutical Chemistry with researchers that are experts on the subject.





INCT-INOFAR also has a covenant with the research group led by Prof. Pier G. Baraldi of the University of Ferrara, Italy. This closeness brought Prof. Baraldi to Brazil three times (2004, 2009 and 2012) to be part of the Summer School in Medicinal Pharmaceutical Chemistry and has made it possible for a doctoral exchange to take place at the University of Ferrara. The scientific exchange of INCT-INOFAR researcher Rodolfo do Couto Maia, of the Graduate Program in Chemistry (PGQu-UFRJ), took place between February and July 2011, and was supervised by Prof. Pier Baraldi, in Italy, and the advisement of Professors Carlos Alberto M. Fraga and Eliezer I. Barreiro, in Brazil.



The CAPES-UDELAR Program has the goal of promoting, through joint research projects, the exchange of professors and researchers from Brazil and from Uruguay, in several fields of knowledge. As part of this Program, INCT-INOFAR keeps a covenant with researchers from the Department of Organic Chemistry of the Faculty of Chemistry from the Universidad Nacional de La Republica (UdelaR). The research projects led by Professors Hugo Cerecetto and Mercedes Gonzalez of Udelar are related to the design, the synthesis, and the pharmacological evaluation of potential drugs.

A key part of the research covenant is the planning, synthesis, and determination of pharmacological properties of new *N*-acylhydrazone (NAH) derivates with important *in vitro* trypanocide activity. This class of bioactive substances, which has been the object of continued research efforts by LASSBio – UFRJ, is being synthesized in the Brazilian laboratory in a quantity large enough to allow its complexation by several metals. The formation of the metallic compound and the evaluation of its antiparasite properties *in vitro* are being done by the Uruguayan team.

Other Internationalization actions

Parallel to its international agreements, **INCT-INOFAR** makes efforts towards specific cooperation between its researchers and renowned foreign researchers.

Under confidentiality, **INCT-INOFAR** has the participation of international consultants that provide scientific help in the evaluation of projects under study. Prof. Antonio Monge, director of the department of pharmaceutical chemistry of the University of Navarra, Spain, and Dr. Camille G. Wermuth, founder of Prestwick Chemical and retired professor of the Faculty of Pharmacy of the Louis Pasteur University in France, are part of the permanent team of **INCT-INOFAR** consultants.

With the goal of bringing the view of the pharmaceutical industry to the evaluation of its research projects, in 2012, **INCT-INOFAR** asked renowned scientist Dr. Simon Campbell to be its international consultant. Responsible for the discovery of Viagra[™] (sildenafil) as well as for other important medicines for Pfizer pharmaceutical industries, Simon Campbell came to Brazil to be part of the VI **INCT-INOFAR** Evaluation and Follow-Up Meeting. (Read more about it on page 97)

INCT-INOFAR Subprojects in study

INCREMENTAL INNOVATION

1 - Synthesis of sunitinib

Prof. Eliezer J. Barreiro (UFRJ) CV Lattes Prof. Angelo da Cunha Pinto (UFRJ) CV Lattes Prof. Barbara Vasconcelos (UFRJ) CV Lattes

2 - Synthesis of fluoxetine

Prof. Eliezer J. Barreiro (UFRJ) CV Lattes Prof. Luiz Carlos Dias (UNICAMP) CV Lattes Dr. Adriano V. Siqueira (UNICAMP) CV Lattes

3 - Synthesis of atorvastatin

Prof. Eliezer J. Barreiro (UFRJ) CV Lattes Prof. Luiz Carlos Dias (UNICAMP) CV Lattes Dr. Adriano V. Siqueira (UNICAMP) CV Lattes

RADICAL INNOVATION

- 4 Evaluation of leishmanicide activity of a series of semicarbazone and hydrazine-N-acylhydrazone derivates
 Prof. Magna Suzana Alexandre Moreira (UFAL) CV-Lattes
- 5 New 5-aril-furfuril-N-acylhydrazone functionalized derivates with power anti-inflammatory and analgesic action: LASSBio-1609 and LASSBio-1636 Prof. Carlos Alberto Manssour Fraga (UFRJ) CV-Lattes
- 6 Discovery of new antitumor pharmaceutical candidates analog to combrestatin A4 Prof. Lidia Moreira Lima (UFRJ) CV-Lattes

7 - Development of new antiasthmatic pharmaceutical prototypes (LASSBio-596) Prof. Patricia Rieken Macedo Rocco (UFRJ) CV-Lattes Prof. Lidia Moreira Lima (UFRJ) CV-Lattes

- 8 Study of N-phenylpiperazine derivates functionalized as prototypes for the development of new atypical antipsychotics Prof. Stela Maris Kuze Rates (UFRS) CV-Lattes Prof. Carlos Alberto Manssour Fraga (UFRJ) CV-Lattes
- 9 Study of the potential anti-inflammatory effect of LASSBio 897 compound, in silicosis and asthma models
 Prof. Patricia Machado Rodrigues e Silva (FIOCRUZ - RJ) CV-Lattes
 Prof. Marco Aurelio Martins (FIOCRUZ - RJ) CV-Lattes
- 10 *Benzaldehyde semicarbazone (BS)* Prof. Heloisa de Oliveira Beraldo (UFMG) CV-Lattes
- 11 Development of anti-arthritic pharmaceutical candidates, MAPK p-38 modulators
 Prof. Lidia Moreira Lima (UFRI) -CV-Lattes
- 12 -Therapeutic potential of new vasodilator (LASSBio 1289) in arterial and pulmonary hypertension Prof. Gisele Zapata Sudo (UFRJ) CV-Lattes

- 13 Pharmacological evaluation of new neuroactive Zolpidem derivates Prof. Roberto Takashi Sudo (UFRI) CV-Lattes
- 14 Planning, synthesis, structural characterization and pharmacological evaluation of new candidates to antiinflammatory and neuroactive drugs Prof. Claudio Viegas Junior (UNIFAL) CV-Lattes
- 15 Pharmacological and toxicological evaluation of new drugs for the prevention and treatment of myocardiopathy and neuropathy caused by diabetes mellitus Prof. Gisele Zapata Sudo (UFRJ) CV-Lattes
- 16 Development of new anti-inflammatory and analgesic compound candidates from safrole Prof. Lidia Moreira Lima (UFRJ) CV-Lattes
- 17 Impact of nanoparticle therapy with the thymuline gene in a chronic allergic asthma model
 Prof. Patricia Rieken Macedo Rocco (UFRJ) CV-Lattes

- 18 Study for the identification of new sulfonamide compounds effective in the control of pulmonary inflammation caused by silica in mice Prof. Patricia Machado Rodrigues e Silva Martins (FIOCRUZ-RJ) CV-Lattes
- 19 Technological prospecting of new generics in Brazil Prof. Adelaide Maria de Souza Antunes (UFRJ) CV-Lattes
- 20 Prospecting of opportunities in new generics and innovative generics Prof. Adelaide Maria de Souza Antunes (UFRJ) CV-Lattes
- 21 Planning of structural changes aiming the optimizing of affinity of the selective inhibitor of IKK2 enzyme, LASSBio-1524 Prof. Laurent Emmanuel Dardenne (LNCC) CV-Lattes
- 22 Theoretical investigation of the action mechanism of dialkylphosphoril hydrazones as 5-phosphate isomerase ribose enzyme of Trypanosoma cruzi and plasmodium falciparum Prof. Carlos Mauricio R. de Sant'Anna (UFRRJ) CV-Lattes

- 23 Implementation and validation of pre-clinical model for the evaluation of teratogenic effect of bioactive substances: evaluation of LASSBio 468 and LASSBio 596 prototypes Prof. Aloa Machado de Souza (UFRJ) CV-Lattes
- 24 "In silico" prediction and "in vitro" production of bioconversion of human metabolites candidates to pharmaceutical prototypes Prof. Valeria de Oliveira (UFG) CV-Lattes
- 25 Planning, synthesis, and pharmacological evaluation of vectorized neuroactive and self-organized drugs Prof. Ricardo Menegatti (UFG) CV-Lattes
- 26 Evaluation of the antitumor activity of new molecules structurally planned from the imatinib prototype Prof. Patricia Dias Fernandes (UFRJ) CV-Lattes



HIGHLIGHTS

DESIGN, SYNTHESIS, AND PHARMACOLOGICAL EVALUATION OF *N*-ACYLHYDRAZONES AND NOVEL CONFORMATIONALLY CONSTRAINED COMPOUNDS AS SELECTIVE AND POTENT ORALLY ACTIVE PHOSPHODIESTERASE-4 INHIBITORS.

Arthur E. Kümmerle; Martine Schmitt; Suzana V. S. Cardozo; Claire Lugnier; Pascal Villa; Alexandra B. Lopes; Nelilma C. Romeiro; Helene Justiniano; Marco A. Martins; Carlos A. M. Fraga; Jean-Jacques Bourguignon and Eliezer J. Barreiro. **Journal of Medicinal Chemistry** *55* (2012) 7525-7545. **DOI:** 10.1021/jm300514y

Type 4 phosphodiesterase (PDE) are the major cyclic AMP metabolizing isoenzymes found in inflammatory cells^{1,2}. A number of studies have emphasized the therapeutic potential of PDE4 inhibitors for controlling inflammatory airway disorders, such as asthma and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD)^{3,4}. In the current study, we described a novel pharmacological profile for *N*-acylhydrazone (NAH) derivatives. When this important chemotype was flanked by two substituted aromatic ring systems, Ar₁ and Ar₂, a new series of PDE inhibitors was generated. Specific substituents directed the selectivity toward different PDE isoforms. It was demonstrated that the *N*-methylation and substitution at Ar₂ was critical, particularly when methoxy groups were located at both *meta* and *para* positions. These changes clearly favored the formation of compounds with selective submicromolar inhibitory activity upon the enzyme PDE4. On the other hand, substitutions at Ar₁ increased the potency towards PDE4, amplified the selectivity profile towards other isoenzymes, or completely re-oriented the selectivity profile to other PDE subtypes. The SAR analysis highlighted the most promising compounds, which confirmed anti-TNF- α properties both *in vitro* and *in vivo*.











In another set of experiments, based on the conformational analysis of *N*-methyl-NAH and thanks to the 3D modeling approach, describing the docking of a prototypical PDE4 inhibitor, zardaverine⁵, in the active site of PDE4, novel heterocyclic NAH-mimetic compounds were designed, synthesized and tested *in vitro*. Interestingly, the quinazoline derivative (**19**) appeared as a conformationally restricted NAH mimetic and showed similar PDE4-inhibitory and anti-TNF-α properties compared with the corresponding free rotating NAH derivative **8a**. In addition, the most interesting NAH derivatives were tested orally and found effective in inhibiting the LPS-induced airway hyper-reactivity and lung inflammation, emphasizing the therapeutic potential of this novel class of biologically active compounds.

Our working hypothesis was very effective, since it allowed the identification of a valuable hit (8a) originated from a versatile chemical library (NAHs), followed by rational design of a novel class of heterocyclic NAH-mimetic (19) with remarkable *in vitro* and *in vivo* activity. These compounds should be further investigated as molecular prototypes in drug discovery for asthma and COPD.



Figure 1 - Among a small series of tested *N*-acylhydrazones (NAHs), the compound **8a** was selected as a selective submicromolar PDE4 inhibitor associated with anti-TNF- α properties measured both *in vitro* and *in vivo*. The recognition pattern of compound

8a was elucidated through molecular modeling studies based on the knowledge of the 3D-structure of zardaverine, a PDE4 inhibitor resembling the structure of **8a**, cocrystallized with the PDE4. Based on further conformational analysis dealing with *N*-methyl-NAHs, a quinazoline derivative (**19**) was designed as a conformationally constrained NAH analogue and showed similar *in vitro* pharmacological profile, compared with **8a**. In addition **19** was found active when tested orally in LPS-evoked airway hyper-reactivity and fully confirmed the working hypothesis supporting this work.



Figure 2 – Effect of **19** (100 μ M/kg; i.e. 32 mg/kg) on methacholine-induced increases in lung resistance (Left panel) and lung elastance (Right panel) in A/J mice challenged with LPS. Values are mean ± SEM from 4 to 5 mice.*p <0.05 compared with sham challenged mice; *p <0.05 compared with LPS challenged mice.

COMMENT FROM THE AUTHORS

The inflammatory response can lead to several lung diseases, including chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) and severe asthma, both with increasing death rate worldwide. Such diseases are difficult to treat with the steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (the best anti-inflammatory agents available so far) probably because these drugs favor the survival of the leukocyte polymornuclear neutrophils. Another important reason for this refractoriness is that IL-17, which accounts for the neutrophil recruitment into the inflammatory focus, is resistant to glucocorticoids. The study of Kümmerle and collaborators published in the Journal of Medicinal Chemistry, in 2012, identified new N-methyl-N-acylhydrazone (NAH) derivatives as selective PDE4 inhibitors. These compounds presented selective sub-micromolar activity on PDE4 and anti-TNF- α properties in vitro and in vivo. Furthermore, as administered by the oral route, these compounds inhibited lung neutrophil accumulation and airway hyper-reactivity triggered by LPS in mice. Notably, differently from what was observed with rolipram and other PDE4 inhibitors, the NAHs did not show evidence of pro-emetic profile. These findings strongly suggest that the class of N-methyl-N-acylhydrazones shows indeed much promise as an alternative for anti-inflammatory therapy for COPD and asthma.

DISCOVERY OF NOVEL ORALLY ACTIVE ANTI-INFLAMMATORY N-PHENYLPYRAZOLYL-N-GLYCINYL-HYDRAZONE DERIVATIVES THAT INHIBIT TNF- α PRODUCTION.

Lacerda, R, B.; Silva, L. L.; Lima, C. K. F.; Miguez, E.; Miranda, A. L. P.; Laufer, S. A.; Barreiro, E. J.; Fraga, C. A. M. PLoS ONE 7 (2012) e46925. DOI: 10.1371/journal.pone.0046925

6, is a key factor in chronic inflammatory diseases, such as rheumatoid arthritis [1]. Due to the role of cytokines in various inflammatory diseases, many pharmaceutical companies have made efforts to develop new orally active substances that can modulate the production of proinflammatory cytokines. Tumor necrosis factor-alpha (TNF- α) is a pleiotropic cytokine that possesses proinflammatory and osmoregulator actions [2]. It is the major cytokine mediator of acute inflammation, it activates platelets, and it is also involved in the genesis of fever and anemia. The currently available anti-TNF- α strategies involve either administration of anti-TNF- α antibodies or soluble TNF receptors to remove circulating TNF- α [3]. Despite the approval of anti-TNF- α drugs, the appearance of side effects resulting from the debilitating actions of these drugs on the immune system highlights the necessity of identifying new alternative mechanisms to modulate the actions of pro-inflammatory cytokines [4,5]. One of the most promising targets involved in modulating the production of pro-inflammatory cytokines is

The production of proinflammatory cytokines, e.g., TNF- α , IL-1 β and IL- the mitogen-activated protein kinase (MAPK) pathway, particularly p38 MAPK, a serine-threonine protein kinase that has been identified as a molecular target of the pyridinyl-imidazole derivatives. Over the years, a large number of structurally diverse $p38\alpha$ and $p38\beta$ MAPK inhibitors have been developed with both enhanced potency and specificity. Most of the p38 MAPK inhibitors are ATP competitors [6], but a new class of allosteric inhibitors has also been reported [7]. For example, BIRB-796 [8] (3) produces a conformational reorganization of the kinase that prevents ATP binding and activation.

> In this context, the present work describes the synthesis of novel N-phenylpyrazolyl-N-glycinyl-hydrazone derivatives 4a-g, which were designed as structural analogues of the p38 MAP kinase inhibitor BIRB-796 (3), and the investigation of their anti-cytokine and anti-inflammatory properties. For the proposed derivatives (4a-g), we investigated the replacement of the urea subunit of BIRB-796 (3) by a N-acylhydrazone unit [9] (A', Figure 1), which was attached to the N-phenyl-pyrazole nucleus through an NHCH, spacer (B, Figure 1).

Furthermore, we performed a series of molecular simplifications in the functionalized naphthyl framework attached to the imine unit of the NAH group of compound 4a to better understand the structure-activity relationships (Figure 1).



Figure 1 - Design concept of novel N-phenylpyrazolyl-N-glycinylhydrazones derivatives 4a-g.

All of the novel synthesized compounds described in this study were evaluated for their in vitro capacity to inhibit tumor necrosis factor α

(TNF- α production in cultured macrophages and in vitro MAPK p38 α inhibition. The two most active anti-TNF- α derivatives (Figure 2), LASSBio-1504 (4a) and LASSBio-1506 (4f), were evaluated to determine their *in vivo* anti-hyperalgesic profiles in carrageenan-induced thermal hypernociception model in rats. Both compounds showed anti-inflammatory and antinociceptive properties comparable to SB-203580 used as a standard drug, by oral route at a dose of 100 µmol/kg (Figure 3). This bioprofile is correlated with the ability of NAH derivatives (4a) and (4f) suppressing TNF- α levels *in vivo* by 57.3 and 55.8%, respectively.



Figure 2 - Aqueous solubility and anti-TNF α properties of compounds LASSBio-1504 and LASSBio-1506.



Figure 3 - Effect of compounds LASSBio-1504 and LASSBio-1506 and SB-203580 (100 μ mol/kg, p.o.) on carrageenaninduced thermal hyperalgesia (A), and their corresponding *in vivo* anti-TNF α properties (B).

Moreover, we also evaluated the *in vitro* metabolic stability of derivatives LASSBio-1504 (4a) and LASSBio-1506 (4f) when placed in contact with preparations of liver and plasma of rats. The two *N*-acylhydrazone derivatives were resistant to oxidative microsomal metabolism, but the derivative 4a was about four times more resistant than derived 4f to plasma degradation. Taken together, these results indicate that the plasma stability associated to the better aqueous solubility are responsible for the better *in vivo* pharmacological profile shown by the NAH derivative LASSBio-1504 when given orally.

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COMMENT FROM THE AUTHORS

After the structural planning, the target NAH compounds were synthesized from a multi-step route, starting from cheap materials and applying classical synthetic methodologies, evaluated *in vitro* as TNF-alpha inhibitors and p38 MAPK inhibitors, and then, evaluated as anti-inflammatory agents with potential to treat cronic inflammatory diseases. Despite being structurally designed from a p38 MAP kinase inhibitor these compounds displayed their pharmacological profile through another mechanism of action, *i.e.* the ability to promote an expressive reduction of TNF α levels *in vitro* and *in vivo*, which is a good indicative of possible differences during the clinical trials in comparison of classical p38 inhibitors. The evaluation of some pharmacokinetic properties as aqueous solubility, lipophilicity and metabolic stability confirmed the potential for oral administration of these NAH derivatives, as evidenced by their expressive anti-inflammatory and anti-hyperalgesic activity after oral administration in rats. Moreover, their effects in *mBSA* antigen induced *arthritis* model in mice indicated that these compounds could be useful to treat cronic inflammatory diseases, where few and expensive therapeutical options are available. For example, the biotech anti-TNF derivatives, infliximab, adalimumab, etc... For this reason, the *N*-acylhydrazone prototypes LASSBio-1504 and LASSBio-1506 represent new orally active low weight drug candidates able to block TNF- α , as a low cost interesting alternative to the biotech compounds, that need to be used through parenteral route and presented a lot of side effects, as the induced-immunossupression.

DOCKING, SYNTHESIS AND ANTI-DIABETIC ACTIVITY OF NOVEL SULFONYLHYDRAZONE DERIVATIVES DESIGNED AS PPAR-GAMMA AGONISTS

Gisele Zapata-Sudo, Lídia M. Lima, Sharlene L. Pereira, Margarete M. Trachez, Filipe P. da Costa, Beatriz J. Souza, Carlos E. S. Monteiro, Nelilma C. Romeiro, Éverton D. D'Andréa, Roberto T. Sudo and Eliezer J. Barreiro. **Current Topics Med. Chem.** *12* (**2012**), 2037-2048. **DOI:** 10.2174/1568026611212190002

Diabetes is a metabolic disorder characterized by hyperglycemia. When not properly controlled, complications include neuropathy, coronary artery disease, and renal failure. This work describes the virtual screening and synthesis of a novel series of sulfonylhydrazone derivatives designed as peroxisome proliferator-activated receptor gamma (PPARy) agonists and investigation of the analogs for hypoglycemic activity in a murine model of diabetes.

After the selection of LASSBio-331(5) as the ligand with the best theoretical affinity for the target PPARy (Fig. 1), alterations in its acidic subunity were proposed to build a new series of compounds (Chart 1).



Figure 1 - The structures of PPARy ligand binding domain in complex with 1 (*S*-rosiglitazone, A) and 5 (LASSBio-331, *E*-isomer, B) (stick representations) obtained by flexible docking. Hydrogen bonds in dashed yellow lines. White legends= hydrogen bonding residues; Yellow legends= putative hydrophobic interactions. Co-crystallized rosiglitazone in blue carbon atoms. Docked ligands in gray carbon atoms.

This new series was planned using nonclassical bioisosterism [1] between carboxylic acid (5), tretrazole (16) and suphonic acid (17) functional groups; and exploring an isomerism strategy to design the regioisomers 14 and 15 (Chart 1).



Chart 1: Structural modifications proposed for prototype LASSBio-331

Male Wistar rats received an intravenous injection of streptozotocin (STZ) (60 mg/kg) to induce diabetes. A significant increase in blood glucose concentration was observed 4 weeks after diabetes induction compared to the glucose levels of nondiabetic animals. Daily intraperitoneal administration of LASSBio-1471 for 7 days produced a significant reduction in blood glucose levels compared to vehicle-treated diabetic rats, indicating the hypoglycemic activity of this compound. (Table 1).

Table 1 - Evaluation of blood glucose levels and body weight in diabetic rats treated with vehicle (DMSO) or LASSBio-1471 (20 mg/kg, i.p.) for 7 days.

	DIABETIC RATS				
	Before Treatment	+Vehicle	Before Treatment	+LASS- Bio-1471	
Blood Glucose (mg/dL)	486.2±42.8	557.0±24.9	548.4±26.0	259.6±73*#	
Body weight (g)	249.0±16.4	238.8±6.5	209.0±14.3	206.5±16.8	

STZ: streptozotocin * P < 0.05 compared to before treatment; # P < 0.05 compared to diabetic + vehicle. Values are mean ± SEM.

Four weeks after STZ injection, we evaluated the mechanical allodynia of diabetic rats after a single intraperitoneal injection of LASSBio-1471 or vehicle (DMSO). Paw withdrawal threshold was significantly reduced in diabetic rats compared to the nondiabetic group. This parameter was partially recovered in rats treated with LASSBio-1471. At 30 minutes after LASSBio-1471 administration, the paw withdrawal threshold increased from 21.9 ± 1.7 (before injection) to 34.3 ± 1.5 g (P < 0.05) (Fig. 2).



Figure 2 - Mechanical allodynia of nondiabetic rats and diabetic rats tretaed either with DMSO (diabetic + vehicle) or LASSBio-1471 (20 mg/kg, i.p.) (diabetic + LASSBio-1471) after a single dose injection. * P < 0.05 before treatment; # P < 0.05 compared to nondiabetic; † P < 0.05 compared to diabetic + vehicle. Values are mean ± S.E.M. n = 4-8 per group.

Mechanical allodynia was also observed in diabetic rats treated with vehicle (DMSO) or LASSBio-1471 (20 mg/ kg, i.p.) for 7 days. The paw withdrawal threshold was 27.1 ± 3.1 g before treatment and 16.8 ± 0.6 g at 7 days after the beginning of treatment. The paw withdrawal threshold of LASSBio-1471-treated diabetic rats was 21.9 ± 1.7 g before treatment and 36.7 ± 1.2 g after 7 days of treatment (*P* < 0.05; Table 2).

Table 2 - Evaluation of mechanical allodynia in diabetic rats treated with vehicle (DMSO) or LASSBio-1471 (20 mg/kg, i.p.) for 7 days.

PAW WITHDRAWAL THRESHOLD (G)						
	Before STZ	After STZ	STZ + treatment			
Vehicle group	35.5±2.7	27.1±3.1*	16.8±0.6*			
LASSBio-1471 group	37.9±2.0	21.9±1.7*	36.7±1.2 †			

STZ: streptozotocin, * P < 0.05 vs before STZ injection; † P < 0.05 vs diabetic + vehicle. Values are mean ± SEM.

Long-term administration of LASSBio-1471 for 7 days in diabetic rats resulted in a significant improvement in oral glucose tolerance following oral glucose loading. Rats treated with LASSBio-1471 had a significant reduction in glucose levels to $237.1 \pm 46.1 \text{ mg/dL}$ (Fig. **3**) after 120 minutes of oral glucose administration. These results indicated the anti-hyperglycemic activity of the sulfonylhydrazone derivative.





In this study, LASSBio-1471 exhibited hypoglycemic activity in rats with STZ-induced diabetes, as indicated by reduced blood glucose levels after prolonged treatment. Additionally, LASSBio-1471 exhibited analgesic effects, as demonstrated by improvement in mechanical allodynia in STZ-induced neuropathy. PPARy agonists such as LASSBio-1471 may have beneficial effects on hyperglycemic rats. Thiazolidinediones are pharmacological PPARy agonists that increase insulin sensitivity, reduce blood glucose and circulating free fatty acid levels, and inhibit inflammatory pathways [2-5]. Our results indicated that LASSBio-1471 had a hypoglycemic effect in STZ-injected rats by activating PPARy suggested by molecular docking studies.

The novel PPARy agonist LASSBio-1471 is a promising substance, with beneficial effects on reducing hyperglycemia and diabetic neuropathy.

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N⁴-PHENYL-SUBSTITUTED 2-ACETYLPYRIDINE THIOSEMICARBAZONES: CYTOTOXICITY AGAINST HUMAN TUMOR CELLS, STRUCTURE-ACTIVITY RELATIONSHIP STUDIES AND INVESTIGATION ON THE MECHANISM OF ACTION.

Soares, M.A.; Lessa, J.A.; Mendes, I.C.; Da Silva, J.; Santos, R.G.; Salum, L.B.; Daghestani, H.; Andricopulo, A. D.; Day, B.W.; Vogt ,A.; Pesquero, J. L.; Rocha W.; Beraldo, H. Bioorg. Med. Chem. 20 (2012) 3396-3409. DOI: 10.1016/j. bmc.2012.04.027

therapy [2]. Malignant gliomas are lethal cancers originating in the ribonucleotides into deoxiribonucleotides [5,6]. central nervous system. They are very common in pediatric patients. The it is important to search for novel drug candidates.

pharmacological applications [4]. α (N)-heterocyclic thiosemicarbazones have been extensively investigated as potential anticancer agents [5]. The development of new anticancer drug candidates requires the

In 2030, an estimated 12 million deaths from cancer are estimated [1]. activity of $\alpha(N)$ -heterocyclic thiosemicarbazones has been related to Breast cancer affects more than one million women every year. The their ability to inhibit ribonucleoside diphosphate reductase (RDR), a high mortality is related to resistance of breast tumor cells to current rate-limiting enzyme in DNA syntheses that catalyses the conversion of

most aggressive, astrocytoma, is referred to as glioblastoma multiforme. The cytotoxic activity of thiosemicarbazones against a variety of human [3]. The low tolerance of the central nervous system to conventional solid tumor cell lines as well as leukemic cells has been reported by chemotherapeutic agents impairs the effectiveness of the treatment. Hence, other authors [7a] and by our group. We demonstrated that N4-phenyl 2-acetylpyridine thiosemicarbazone (H2Ac4Ph) and its N^4 -ortho-, -meta- and -*para*-chlorophenyl and N^4 -ortho-, -meta- and -para-tolyl derivatives show Thiosemicarbazones are a class of compounds with wide range of cytotoxicity at nanomolar concentrations against malignant glioma [7b].

This search led to the onset of clinical studies of 3-aminopyridine-2- evaluation of the possible modes of action involved in the process carboxaldehyde thiosemicarbazone (3-AP; Triapine[®]) [6]. The antitumor of cancer cell death. Apoptotic as well as non-apoptotic mechanisms

have been identified. Autophagy is characterized by an increase in the number of autophagosomes, vesicles that surround cellular organelles. Subsequently, autophagosomes merge with lysosomes and digest the organelles, leading to cell death. Apoptosis and autophagy are predominantly distinct. However, cross-talk between them has been demonstrated. Several chemotherapeutic agents, hormonal therapies, natural compounds, cytokines, gene therapies, microtubule disturbing agents and radiotherapy have shown to trigger autophagic cell death in a panel of cancer cells [8].

We now evaluated the cytotoxicities of *N*4-phenyl 2-acetylpyridine thiosemicarbazone (H2Ac4Ph) (1) and its N4-*ortho*-, *-meta*- and *-para*-fluorophenyl- (H2Ac4*o*FPh, H2Ac4*m*FPh, H2Ac4*p*FPh) (2-4), *N*4-*ortho*-, *-meta*- and *-para*-chlorophenyl- (H2Ac4*o*ClPh, H2Ac4*m*ClPh, H2Ac4*p*ClPh) (5-7), *N*4-*ortho*-, *-meta*- and *-para*-iodophenyl- (H2Ac4*o*IPh, H2Ac4*p*ClPh) (5-7), *N*4-*ortho*-, *-meta*- and *-para*-iodophenyl- (H2Ac4*o*IPh, H2Ac4*p*ClPh) (5-7), *N*4-*ortho*-, *-meta*- and *-para*-iodophenyl- (H2Ac4*o*IPh, H2Ac4*p*IPh) (8-10) and *N*4-*ortho*-, *-meta*- and *-para*-nitrophenyl-(H2Ac4*o*NO₂Ph, H2Ac4*m*NO₂Ph, H2Ac4*p*NO₂Ph) (11-13) derivatives (Fig 1) against MCF-7 (breast adenocarcinoma), U87 (glioblastoma multiforme expressing mutant p53) human malignant tumor cells. A preliminary analysis of the compounds' mode of action was carried out. The effects of the thiosemicarbazones on tubulin assembly as well as on cellular microtubule organization and mitotic arrest were also investigated.



Figure 1 - All thiosemicarbazones were cytotoxic in a dose-dependent way against the studied tumor cell lines. The concentrations that inhibit 50% of cell survival (IC₅₀) were 52–0.16, 140–1.0, and 160–1.4 nM for MCF-7, T98G and U87 cells, respectively. MCF-7 cells proved to be more sensitive than glioma cells. However, there was no significant difference between the cytotoxic effect of the studied compounds against U87 and T98G cells, indicating that the p53 status of these cells did not interfere with the thiosemicarbazones' cytotoxic effect. In general, the *ortho* substituted derivatives were more active against all cell lines than the *meta* and *para* congeners. All studied compounds showed higher cytotoxic activity than etoposide Moreover, the thiosemicarbazones' antitumoral doses were not toxic to red blood cells (IC₅₀ >10⁻⁵ M), indicating a good therapeutic index.

were molecular surface area, theoretical octanol-water partition coefficients (log P), dipole moment, highest occupied molecular orbital (HOMO) and lowest unoccupied molecular orbital (LUMO) energies, which were correlated to plC_{so} (-log lC_{so}). Molecular surface area may offer information on stereo features required for drug-receptor interactions. Log P and dipole values may give some insights on the degree of lipophilicity of the molecules. HOMO and LUMO energies are related to ionization potential and electron affinity, respectively. These frontier orbitals are associated to the molecule's reactivity. HOMO energy is closely related to susceptibility to electrophilic attack while LUMO energy is related to susceptibility to nucleophilic attack.

¹H NMR spectra of the thiosemicarbazones indicated a mixture of the E (95-87%) and Z (13-5%) configurational isomers. Crystal structure determinations showed that the thiosemicarbazones adopt the EE conformation in relation to the C7-N2 and N3-C8 bonds.

SAR data for the *E* isomers indicated similar correlations between the chemical descriptors and cytotoxicity against MCF-7 and U87 cells. Different correlations were found between descriptors and cytotoxicity against T98G and U87 cells. The former is wild-type while the latter

In the structure-activity relationship (SAR) studies properties of interest is a p53-mutant cell. Hence the mechanisms of thiosemicarbazones' cytotoxic effect may be different in these two cell lineages. Correlations were observed between the cytotoxic activities against MCF-7 and U87 cells and the molecular surface area (R = -0.71 and -0.60 for MCF-7 and U87 cells, respectively), the HOMO energy (R = 0.69 and 0.67 for MCF-7 and U87 cells, respectively) and the charge on sulfur (R = 0.71 and 0.68 for MCF-7 and U87 cells, respectively). Thus, the smaller the molecular surface area, the higher the cytotoxic activity against MCF-7 and U87 cells. The direct correlation observed between the HOMO energies and the activities against MCF-7 and U87 cells is an interesting result since the HOMO energy is related to the molecules' reactivity. In addition, the direct correlation between cytotoxicity and the charge on sulfur indicates that the more negatively charged the sulfur atom, the higher anti-proliferative effect against MCF-7 and U87 cells. HOMO energy and negative charge on sulfur are correlated (R = 0.90) and both properties are related to the activities against MCF-7 and U87 cells. Thus, the sulfur atom may play an important role in the thiosemicarbazones' reactivity and therefore, in their cytotoxic activity. Comparison of HOMO density plots for all E isomers revealed distinct electronic delocalization among the studied thiosemicarbazones, which may partially account for the differences in activity of these compounds, although other parameters may not be excluded. Regarding correlation between the properties of E

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isomers and activity against T98G cells, only an inverse correlation was observed between cytotoxicity and molecular surface area (R = -0.60). Correlations observed for *E* isomers were also found for the *Z* isomers. In addition, for the *Z* isomers cytotoxicity against T98G cells is correlated to the LUMO energy (R = 0.63) and the dipole (R = 0.62).

Treatment with 1–13 induced membrane and nuclear alterations characteristics of programmed cell death on U87, T98G and MCF-7 cells. Morphological changes such as irregularities in cellular shape, cell shrinkage and membrane blebbing were observed. Chromatin condensation and DNA fragmentation were also noticed in all treated cells when stained with 4',6-diamidine-2-phenylindole dihydrochloride (DAPI) (Fig. 2). Hence, apoptosis induction would be at least in part responsible for the reduction of cell survival.

Acridine orange/ethidium bromide (AO/EB) staining can be used to differentiate live, apoptotic and necrotic cells. Under AO/EB staining control cells showed cytoplasm and nucleus with homogeneous green with minimal orange fluorescence indicative of healthy cells. Treated cells presented chromatin condensation (bright green fragments) and absence of EB fluorescence, indicating preserved membrane. These features are typical of early apoptosis. Moreover, treated cells presented large acidic

compartments in the cytoplasm, and visible red fluorescence, indicating the presence of autophagolysosomes, characteristic of cells engaged in autophagy. Our results suggest that the studied thiosemicarbazones were able to induce two types of programmed cell death.



Figure 2 - Since the cytotoxic thiosemicarbazones induce apoptosis, we investigated whether the mechanisms of either cytotoxicity or apoptosis were related to inhibition of tubulin assembly or microtubule stabilization. Compound 7 seemed to cause a partial concentration-dependent inhibition of tubulin assembly at high concentrations. We then investigated the effects of this compound on cellular microtubule
perturbation and mitotic arrest. Despite its ability to partially inhibit tubulin assembly at high concentrations and to provoke cellular microtubule disorganization, 7 did not appear to cause mitotic arrest. As a consequence, direct interaction with tubulin is probably not responsible for the cytotoxic and pro-apoptotic effects of this compound.

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COMMENT FROM THE AUTHORS

In previous works we had demonstrated that 2-acerylpyridine-derived thiosemicarbazones are cytotoxic to glioma cells. We now showed that a family of *N*4-phenyl-substituted 2-acerylpyridine thiosemicarbazones exhibit cytotoxicity against MCF-7 (breast cancer), and U87 and T98G (glioma) tumor cells at nanomolar doses. The mechanism of antitumor activity of thiosemicarbazones involves inhibition of ribonucleoside diphosphate reductase (RDR), an enzyme that catalyses the conversion of ribonucleotides into deoxiribonucleotides during DNA biosyntheses. However these compounds are believed to act on multiple targets. The present investigation on the modes of action of the studied thiosemicarbazones revealed that they were able to induce both apoptosis and autophagy in the tested tumor cell lineages. Despite their abilities to inhibit tubulin assembly at high doses and to provoke cellular microtubule disorganization, the compounds did not behave as mitotic arresters. We believe that the present work constitutes a contribution to the understanding of the complex modes of cytotoxic action of thiosemicarbazones. In addition, the high cytotoxic effects of the compounds, together with their good therapeutic indexes, suggest that they might constitute attractive antitumor drug candidates.

INVESTIGATION OF TRYPANOTHIONE REDUCTASE INHIBITORY ACTIVITY BY 1,3,4-THIADIAZOLIUM-2-AMINIDE DERIVATIVES AND MOLECULAR DOCKING STUDIES.

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Parasitic protozoa of the family trypanosomatidae are the causative agents of many significant tropical diseases, including African trypanosomiasis, Chagas' disease, and Leishmaniasis. *Trypanosoma cruzi* is a protozoan parasite from the order Kinetoplastida that causes Chagas' disease. Previous studies from our group have shown that mesoionic derivatives of the 1,3,4-thiadiazolium-2-aminide class inhibit the *in vitro* growth of *Leishmania amazonensis*, *L. braziliensis*, *L. chagasi* and *T. cruzi*. In the present study, we sought to elucidate the target of mesoionic derivatives on *Leishmania sp.* and *T. cruzi*. Three species of Leishmania were selected to this work, *L.* (L) *amazonensis*, *L.* (V) *braziliensis*, and *L.* (L) *infantum*. The enzyme trypanothione reductase (TryR) is a validated drug target in trypanosomatids, as it was shown to be essential for the survival of these parasites by protecting them against oxidative stress. This enzyme is dependent of NADPH and catalyzes the reduction of trypanothione disulphide $[T(S)_2]$ dithiol to trypanothione. Here, the effects of mesoionic derivatives (Fig. 1) on TryR from parasite extracts and on recombinant enzymes from *L. infantum* and *T. cruzi* were evaluated.

The effect of the derivatives was evaluated in soluble extracts from late log phase of *L. amazonensis* promastigotes (Fig. 2A). The reaction was followed by the NADPH consumption; the control was considered

the highest consumption as 100% TryR activity. Only MI-4-NO2 was able to modify NADPH consumption (76 % enzyme inhibition), so the same assay was carried out with the soluble extracts from the other parasites using MI-4-NO2 and MI-HH, as a reference (Fig. 2B).

From the results obtained in TryR activity assays in soluble extracts of parasites, NADPH consumption assays were carried out using recombinant enzymes from *L. infantum* (LiTryR) and *T. cruzi* (TcTryR). It was demonstrated that a pre-incubation with 1μ M of MI-4-NO₂ inhibited 76% LiTryR and 69% TcTryR (p<0.005) activities. Besides, the addition of 1μ M of MI-HH did not alter NADPH consumption in comparison with the control. The analysis of enzyme kinectic of LiTryR was carried out in order to confirm the mode of action of MI-4-NO₂ and MI-HH. Only MI-4-NO₂ was observed to lower values of maximum reaction rate with little or no apparent effect on the Michaelis constant, which are characteristics effects of a noncompetitive inhibitior.

A molecular docking study with the TryR of the four parasite species was implemented with the GOLD software (CCDC). For the docking into *L. infantum* and *T. cruzi* TryR, the crystal structures available in PDB were used; for *L. amazonensis* and *L. braziliensis* TryR, it was necessary the previous construction of comparative 3D models with the Swiss Model server. As TryR is a FAD-dependent oxydoreductase, which utilizes NADPH as an electron donor. The four mesoionic compounds were predicted to effectively dock into the substrate and the FAD binding sites. The docking of the compounds into the NADPH site, however, was predicted as better than into the FAD and substrate binding sites. It was observed that the MI-4-NO₂ binds differently than the other mesoionic compounds (Fig. 3A) into this site; the nitro group of MI-4-NO₂ makes a H bond with Lys60 side chain. The planar p-nitro-phenyl group makes π - π interactions with the isoalloxazine ring of the FAD cofactor, which is responsible for its redox action, so it is expected that these interactions could interfere with the enzyme activity (Fig. 3B).

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Figure 1 - Mesoionic derivatives of 1,3,4 thiadiazolium-2-aminide class synthesized and assayed.



Figure 2 - TryR inhibition in soluble extracts from parasites by mesoinic derivatives at 1 μ M concentration. A. NADPH consumption by TryR in *L. amazonensis* extract in the presence of all compounds. B. NADPH consumption by TryR in extracts of *Leishmania* promastigotes and epimastigotes of *T. cruzi* in the presence of MI-HH and MI-4-NO₂.



Figure 3 - (A) Superposition of the best poses of the 3 inactive mesoionic compounds into LiTryR NADPH binding site. (B) Superposition of the best poses of the active compound and of NADPH in the LiTryR NADPH binding site.

COMMENT FROM THE AUTHORS

In the present work, a probable molecular mechanism of action, TryR inhibition, was identified for the nitro derivative of a series of active mesoionic compounds against *Leishmania* sp. and *T. cruzi* parasites, based on enzyme inhibition and kinetic data, and theoretical results. Other mechanisms of action, independent of TryR inhibition, remain to be established for the remaining compounds of the active series. It is possible that more than one metabolic pathway in the parasites is involved. The results obtained in this work will be useful for future studies of mesoionic compounds as part of a drug discovery program against Leishmaniasis or Chagas' disease.

TOLL-LIKE RECEPTOR 9 ACTIVATION IN NEUTROPHILS IMPAIRS CHEMOTAXISAND REDUCES SEPSIS OUTCOME.

Silvia C. Trevelin, José C. Alves Filho, Fabiane Sônego, Walter Turato, Daniele C. Nascimento, Fabricio O. Souto, Thiago M. Cunha, Ricardo T. Gazzinelli, Fernando Q. Cunha. **Critical Care Medicine** *40* (**2012**) 2631-7. **DOI:** 10.1097/CCM.0b013e318258fb70.

Sepsis is the main cause of death in critically ill patients that occurs when the host reaction to infection becomes inadequate, resulting in bacteremia and a systemic inflammatory response [1,2]. In spite of neutrophils be important players in the control of microorganisms; during severe sepsis they fail in migrate to the site of infection, what was extensively correlated with poor outcome in animal sepsis models [3]. Moreover, neutrophils from septic patients have impaired response to CXCL8, chemokine recognized by CXCR2, an important receptor leading neutrophil recruitment [4].

The mechanisms that govern the failure of neutrophil recruitment are complex, involving the activation of tolllike receptors (TLRs) 2 and 4 [5,6,7], nitric oxide [8], TNF-alpha [9] and heme-oxygenase products [10]. Adding more information, we reported in Critical Care Medicine that TLR9 deficiency enhances neutrophil migration toward the focus of infection in mouse model of severe cecal ligation and puncture (S-CLP)-induced sepsis (Figure 1a). TLR9 is an intracellular receptor that recognizes unmethylated cytosine-phosphate-guanine (CpG) motifs present in microbial DNA and mitochondrial DNA. The enhanced neutrophil migration to peritoneal cavity observed in TLR9 deficient mice with S-CLP was associated with higher bacterial clearance, lower neutrophil sequestration in lungs and levels of TNF-alpha and CXCL2 in serum than their wild type (WT) counterparts. Differently of 100% of mortality observed in WT, approximately 40% of TLR9 deficient mice survived after given S-CLP within 7 days of observation (Figure 1b).

Investigating how TLR9 controls neutrophil recruitment, we also observed that TLR9 activation by type B CpG ODN (CpG-B ODN) induces desensitization of CXCR2 by induction of GRK2. CXCR2 is a G-protein coupled receptor (GPCR) whose presence on leukocytes surface are controlled by specific kinases (termed GRKs). GRK2 phosphorylate serine/threonine residues on GPCRs, leading to receptor internalization and intracellular sorting, which results in either recycling or degradation. Notably, the incubation of neutrophils with a GRK-2 inhibitor (GRKi) prevented the inhibitory effect of CpG-B ODN on CXCL2-induced chemotaxis (Figure 2a) and the down-regulation of CXCR2 (Figure 2b).

In summary, TLR9 is an important receptor in the pathogenesis of sepsis because it contributes to chemokine receptor desensitization in blood neutrophils and impairs the ability of these cells to traffic to sites of infection. We also suggest that development of TLR9-selective antagonists could be useful tools in sepsis management in future.

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Figure 1 - Toll-like receptor 9 deficiency improves sepsis outcome by enhancing neutrophil migration to the site of infection. Wild-type (WT) and TLR9^{-/-} mice were given severe (S-CLP) by the cecal ligation and puncture (CLP). A: Neutrophil migration to peritoneal cavity was determined six hours following CLP (n=5). B: The animals were monitored for survival every 24 hours until seven days post-CLP. The results are expressed as a percentage of 10 animals per group. **p<0.05.

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Figure 2 - Toll-like receptor 9 activation in neutrophils induces GRK-2 related to CXCR2 desensitization. Bone marrow neutrophils were incubated with GRK inhibitor (GRKi-150 μ M) for 30 minutes before CpG-B ODN treatment. A: The cells were submitted to chemotaxis toward CXCL2 (30ng/ml). B: The histogram represents fluorescence intensity (FI) of phycoerythrin (PE conjugated with CXCR2 mAb) in Gr1^{high} population. The pointed line in "a" graph represents the neutrophil chemotaxis toward culture medium. *p<0.05.

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ULIGINOSIN B, A PHLOROGLUCINOL DERIVATIVE FROM *HYPERICUM POLYANTHEMUM*, PRODUCE ANTIDEPRESSANT-LIKE EFFECT IN MICE: A NEW MOLECULAR PATTERN PROMISING TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF ANTIDEPRESSANT DRUGS.

Ana C Stein, Alice F Viana, Liz G Müller, Jéssica M Nunes, Eveline D Stolz, Jean C Do Rego, Jean Constentin, Gilsane L von Poser, Stela Maris Kuze Rates. **Behavior Brain Research** *228* (**2012**) 66-73. **DOI:** 10.1016/j.bbr.2011.11.031

New compounds that could improve conventional antidepressant therapies are still needed, since depressive disorders have high incidence in the world population and the treatment of depression with conventional antidepressants provides a complete remission just by 50% of the individuals and presents pronounced side effects, which reduce the patients' compliance to the treatment.

Natural products scaffolds have been well recognized as being privileged structures in terms of their ability to be the basis for successful drugs such as aspirin, opioid analgesics and cardiotonic drugs. Extracts of *Hypericum perforatum* (St. John's wort) have long been accepted as a treatment for depression and the components known to play a role in antidepressant activity include phloroglucinol derivatives (hyperforin), naphthodianthrones (hypericin) and the flavonoids (quercitrin). Accepted In this study, we have demonstrated that cyclohexane extract of *Hypericum polyanthemum* (POL) and its main phloroglucinol derivative uliginosin B (ULI) (Figure 1) present antidepressant-like activity in rodent forced swimming test (FST). We evaluated the involvement of monoaminergic neurotransmission on the antidepressant-like activity of ULI in vivo and in vitro. POL 90 mg/ kg (p.o.) and ULI 10 mg/kg (p.o.) reduced the immobility time in the mice FST (Figure 2) without altering locomotion activity in the open-field test. The combination of sub-effective doses of POL (45 mg/kg, p.o.)

and ULI (5 mg/kg p.o.) with sub-effective doses of imipramine (10 mg/kg, p.o.), bupropion (3 mg/kg, p.o.) and fluoxetine (15 mg/kg, p.o.) induced a significant reduction on immobility time in FST (Figure 3 and 4). The pretreatment with SCH23390 (15 μ g/kg, s.c., dopamine D1 receptor antagonist) sulpiride (50 mg/kg, i.p., dopamine D2 receptor antagonist), prazosin (1 mg/kg, i.p., α 1-adrenoceptor antagonist), yohimbine (1 mg/kg, i.p., α 2-adrenoceptor antagonist) and pCPA (100 mg/kg/day, i.p., p-chlorophenilalanine methyl ester, inhibitor of serotonin synthesis, for four consecutive days) before ULI administration (10 mg/kg, p.o.) significantly prevented the anti-immobility effect in FST (Figure 5). ULI was able to inhibit synaptosomal uptake of dopamine (IC50 = 90 ± 38 nM), serotonin (IC50 = 252 ± 13 nM) and noradrenaline (280 ± 48 nM), but it did not bind to any of the monoamine site on the neuronal transporters (Figure 6). These data firstly demonstrated the antidepressant-like effect of POL and ULI, which depends on the activation of the monoaminergic neurotransmission in a different manner from classical antidepressants. In summary, our study showed that dimeric phloglucinol derivatives obtained from species of the genus *Hypericum* natives to South Brazil could represent a molecular pattern promising to the development of new antidepressant drugs.



Figure 1 - Structure of dimeric phloroglucinol derivative Uliginosin B





Figure 2 - Effect of imipramine 60 mg/kg/day, p.o. and *H. polyanthemum* extract (270 mg/kg/day, p.o.) administration in rat forced swimming test (A). Anti-immobility effect of IMI (20 mg/kg, p.o.), POL 45 - 360 mg/kg, p.o., (B) and Uliginosin B 5 - 90 mg/kg, p.o. in mice FST (C). One-Way ANOVA followed by Student Newman-Keuls comparisions: **P*<0.05 ***P*<0.01 and ****P*<0.001 compared to the respective control group (vehicle).

Figure 3 - Effect of the administration of a sub-effective dose of POL (45 mg/kg, p.o.) with sub-effective dose of imipramine (10 mg/kg, p.o.) (A), bupropion (3 mg/kg, p.o.) (B) and fluoxetine (15 mg/kg, p.o.) (C) in the FST. One-Way ANOVA followed by Student Newman-Keuls comparisions ****P*<0.001 as compared with the saline-group (vehicle).







Figure 5 - Effect of pre-treatment of mice with SCH 23390 (15 μ g/kg, s.c.) (A), sulpiride (50 mg/kg, i.p. (B), prazosin (1 mg/kg, p.o.) (C), yohimbine (1 mg/kg, p.o.) (D) and *p*CPA (100 mg/kg/day, i.p. (E) on the ULI (10 mg/kg, p.o.) activity in the FST. Two-way ANOVA followed by Student Newman-Keuls comparisions: ****P*<0.001 as compared with the control group (vehicle).

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Figure 6 - Effect of ULI on [3 H]-dopamine (•), [3 H]-noradrenalin (\blacksquare) and [3 H]-serotonin (◊) synaptosomal uptake (panel A). Effect of ULI on [3 H]-mazindol (•), [3 H]-nisoxetine (\blacksquare) and [3 H]-citalopram (◊) binding to DAT, NAT and SERT, respectively (panel B). The data are presented as percentage of uptake inhibition over basal (mean ± SEM from 4 separated experiments performed in duplicate).

COMMENT FROM THE AUTHORS

This study was carried out in the scope of a big research project aiming at obtention of new neuroactive molecules from Southern Brazilian flora. It illustrates the main steps and challenges imposed when trying to identify active compounds from native plants in the academia context, looking at future drug development. It was supported by a CAPES-COFECUB project (656/09) and developed in cooperation between Brazil and France (Programa de Pós-Graduação em Ciências Farmacêuticas - Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Sul and Unité de Neuropsychopharmacologie – Université de Rouen). I think this species – Hypericum polyanthemum – was one of the first species native to Southern Brazil that reached intelectual protection property (WO2010092162-A1;INPI: PI0900614-1;PCT/EP2010/051816) and authorization (CGEN/IBAMA 003/2008 - P 02000.001717/2008 – 60) for collecting. It was a really hard - and also exciting –task! But most important we have shown that uliginosin B, a chemotaxonomic marker for species of Hypericum natives to Brazil, represents a useful molecular model for developing new antidepressant drugs.

Stela M. K. Rates

PLANT DERIVED ALKALOID (-)-CASSINE INDUCES ANTI-INFLAMMATORY AND ANTI-HYPERALGESICS EFFECTS IN BOTH ACUTE AND CHRONIC INFLAMMATORY AND NEUROPATHIC PAIN MODELS.

Kathryn A.B.S. da Silva, Marianne Neves Manjavachi, Ana Flávia Paszcuk, Marcos Pivatto, Claudio Viegas Jr., Vanderlan S. Bolzani, João B. Calixto. Neuropharmacology 62 (2012) 967-977. **DOI**: doi:10.1016/j.neuropharm.2011.10.002

(-)-Cassine is a major piperidine alkaloid isolated from the flowers, leaves and fruits of *Senna spectabilis* (syn. of *Cassia spectabilis*, Fabaceae).¹ The ethnopharmacological uses of the plant are associated with its antimicrobial, laxative, anti-ulcerogenic, anti-tumoral activity, analgesic and anti-inflammatory properties.^{2,3} In early studies we have first reported antinociceptive activity for (-)-spectaline (a co-metabolite of (-) -cassine) in different models of acute pain, including acetic acid, formalin and capsaicin pain models in mice and have also demonstrated that some piperidine alkaloids isolated from Cassia sp., such as (-)-spectaline and (+)-spectaline, show anti-inflammatory, acetylcholinesterase inhibitory and antioxidant activities.⁴⁻⁶ In the present paper we showed the pronounced anti-inflammatory and anti-nociceptive properties of the natural metabolite (-)-cassine, that are probably associated with its ability to inhibit the activation and/or release of various inflammatory mediators such as KC, IL-1β and IL-6. Also, the anti-nociceptive effects of this compound seem to be closely associated with its marked inhibition of PGE2 activity, which occurred mainly through blocking the up regulation of COX-2, MAPK/ERK and NF-kB. Furthermore, we also report the involvement of the TRP family (TRPV1 and TRPA1 receptors) in (-)-cassine anti-nociception effect. Finally, our data also indicate that (-)-cassine has systemic, spinal and supraspinal anti-nociception actions.

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Figure 1 - Senna spectabilis, chemical structure of (-)-cassine and its antinociceptive and anti-inflammatory properties.

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COMMENT FROM THE AUTHORS:

This paper is an important contribution to the understanding of the pharmacological profile of (-)-cassine and probably other piperidine alkaloidal analogues metabolites form *Senna* species. In early studies we have already identified an antinociceptive property of this kind of natural metabolite, but apparently with poor anti-inflammatory activity. In this more complete work we could not only clearly disclose the antinociceptive and anti-inflammatory profile, but also get important evidences about the possible mechanisms of action of this dual pharmacological profile. Based on these informations, we are now working on semi-synthetic derivatives that have showing improved antinociceptive and anti-inflammatory properties.

BIOTRANSFORMATION OF LASSBIO-579 AND PHARMACOLOGICAL EVALUATION OF *P*-HYDROXYLATED METABOLITE A *N*-PHENYLPIPERAZINE ANTIPSYCHOTIC LEAD COMPOUND.

Tatiana. F. Gomes; Thais E. T. Pompeu; Daniel A. Rodrigues; François Noël; Ricardo Menegatti; Carolina H. Andrade; José R. Sabino; Eric S. Gil; Teresa Dalla Costa; Andresa H. Betti; Camila B. Antonio; Stela M. K. Rates; Carlos A. M. Fraga; Eliezer J. Barreiro; Valéria de Oliveira. *European Journal of Medicinal Chemistry* (2012), doi.org/10.1016/j. ejmech.2012.08. 011.V 62, April 2013, 214-221.

Schizophrenia conventionally has been treated with dopamine D2 receptor antagonists such as haloperidol. However, these drugs have little effects on negative and cognitive symptoms and elicit extrapyramidal side effects at therapeutic doses. The introduction of clozapine (1) for treatment-resistant schizophrenia gave rise to a new group of atypical antipsychotics. These drugs exhibit potent antagonism at multiple receptor subtypes, including dopamine and serotonin receptors. However, a significant population of patients is still refractory to treatment, and these new drugs also induce serious side effects ^[1-3], thus underscoring the importance of developing more effective and safer antipsychotic drugs. In a research program aiming the development of new atypical antipsychotic drugs, with similar clozapine therapeutic profile, high-affinity to D4 receptor with conformational limited flexibility, but devoid of the hematological side effects, a series of heterocyclic *N*-phenylpiperazine derivatives were planned through molecular hybridization between clozapine (1) and L-741 (2).^[1]

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Figure 1 - Compound (3) design, metabolite (4) biosynthesis and organic synthesis.

In vitro and behavioral assays showed that three of these compounds LASSBio-579 (3), act on dopaminergic and serotonergic neurotransmission. As this compound has a very poor oral bioavailability, its activity could depend on until now unknown metabolite(s) that should deserve our attention. A combination of docking and molecular dynamics simulations, we predicted that *p*-hydroxylation by CYP1A2 would be the main metabolic pathway for the 1-[1-(4-chlorophenyl)-1*H*-4pyrazolylmethyl] phenylhexahydropiperazine, LASSBio-579 (3). The computational methods show how this antipsychotic lead-compound interacts in active site of CYP1A2. Using our experience with microbial models of mammalian metabolism, ^[4-5] we produced the *p*-hydroxylated (4) metabolite of (3) by bioconversion and used it as a reference *standard* for identifying the metabolite present in plasma after *i.p.* administration of (3) to rats.



Figure 2 - *p*-hydroxylated (4) metabolite *in silico* prediction, *in vivo* and *in vitro* production.

The pharmacological activity of the *p*-hydroxylated (4) metabolite was assayed in binding assays for determining its affinity to relevant receptors for the treatment of schizophrenia. Since our results indicated that (4) is the main metabolite of (3) *in vivo*, in a rodent model, we decided to determine its affinity for dopamine and 5-HT receptors that have been reported as putative molecular targets for the antipsychotic effect of clozapine (1), our reference drug. For this purpose, we first repeated and extended our previous binding assays with (3) and (1), initially restricted to the D2, 5-HT2A and 5-HT1A receptors ^[6]. Results indicates that (3), like (1), has a high affinity for the D4 receptor, but not for the 5-HT2C receptor that has been implicated in the mechanism of action of (1). With respect to (4), our data indicate that it has a binding profile very similar to (3), but with a 6-fold higher affinity for the D4 receptor and a 27-fold lower affinity for the 5-HT1A receptor, so that it could be considered as

a dual D2-D4 ligand. As side-effects are to be considered when tailoring the drug treatment to the individual schizophrenic patient, we also compared the affinity of (3) and its metabolite (4) for two receptors that have been considered as source of adverse effects of (1), ie the α_{1B} and the muscarinic receptors. Results indicates that both (3) and its main metabolite (4) have a low affinity for the α_{1B} receptor and no affinity for the muscarinic receptor, indicating that these lead compounds could have much less propensity that clozapine to produce adverse effects like postural hypotension and constipation. The compound (4) is a main metabolite of (3) in rat and that it has a high affinity for D2 and D4 receptors indicating that it could participate to the antipsychotic effect of (3) *in vivo*. Furthermore, the binding studies revealed a more favorable profile than (1) for both (3) and its metabolite (4) regarding two receptors involved in adverse effects.

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EVENTS









VI INCT-INOFAR Follow-Up and Evaluation Workshop

With a goal of strengthening the scientific cooperation among its research network and of internally discussing the results achieved in their subprojects that are more advanced in the chain of innovation in drugs and medicines, **INCT-INOFAR** organizes internal events for follow-up and evaluation.

In May 2012, the Institute welcomed the renowned scientist Dr. Simon Campbell to bring forward the view of the pharmaceutical industry for the evaluation of its research projects. Dr. Campbell is responsible for the discovery of Viagra[™] (sildenafil) and of other important medicines for Pfizer laboratories. He came to Brazil exclusively to take part in the VI **INCT**-**INOFAR** Follow-Up and Evaluation Workshop.

In the evaluation meeting, which took place on May 14 and 15 2012, in the city of Rio de Janeiro, **INCT-INOFAR** researchers had the opportunity to present their research projects that are more advanced in the chain of innovation in drugs and medicines, and of being rigorously questioned by the experienced scientist.





INCT-INOFAR researchers met with Dr. Simon Campbell (front row, in a blue shirt and blue tie) to present the main results of their projects of research in new drugs and medicines



Simon Campbell presented two lectures at INCT-INOFAR

In the occasion, Campbell lectured **INCT-INOFAR** researchers twice. During the opening of the VI Follow-Up and Evaluation Workshop, the scientist talked about the discovery of two medicines where he played important parts – the anti-hypertension drug Norvasc[™] (amlodepine) and the famous blue pill, Viagra[™] (sildenafil). At the closing conference, Dr. Campbell presented his personal perspective on the future of the pharmaceutical industry.

During the session dedicated to posters, in which 16 INCT-**INOFAR** research subprojects were presented, Dr. Simon Campbell was amazed at the work done in the bioconversion of human metabolites candidate pharmaceutical new prototypes developed by the INCT-INOFAR team from the Federal University of Goias (UFG). In reference to this research, the scientist, who was a visiting professor at the University of Sao Paulo (USP) from 1970 to 1972, recognized the importance of **INCT-INOFAR** for the regional technological development of the country. The project praised by Campbell is coordinated by Professor Valeria de Oliveira, of the Bioconversion Laboratory at UFG.

During a free discussion session, INCT-INOFAR researchers took a turn at questioning Dr. Campbell. Questions related to the choice of therapeutic targets, the scaling of research developed at a college level and the dilemma of patents, like the difficulty of patenting in Brazil and the right time to protect a discovery, were some of the questions asked. At the closing, Campbell praised the multidisciplinary research network established by INCT-INOFAR.



INCT-INOFAR researchers also had the opportunity to question Dr. Simon Campbell on different issues related to the discovery and development of new drugs and medicines

PROMOTION AND PARTICIPATION IN EVENTS

As an integral part of its institutional routine, **INCT-INOFAR** organizes, promotes, supports, and takes part in events in its field of research aimed at the innovation in drugs and medicines. A way to actively contribute to the promotion of knowledge in the academic-scientific community, helping Brazil train its human resources and advance in new medicines studies.

Periodically, INCT-INOFAR researchers take part in Congresses, Meetings, Seminars, Symposiums, and Workshops, teaching courses, lecturing, being a part of round tables, as well as other activities. Parallel to these actions, INCT-INOFAR also supports courses and conferences on drugs and medicines. Recognizing the importance of new partnerships, INCT-INOFAR also invests in events that seek out the cooperation of companies, NGOs, and other institutions.



XVIII Summer School in Medicinal Pharmaceutical Chemistry

http://www.farmacia.ufrj.br/lassbio/xviii_evqfm/

Traditionally organized by the Laboratory of Evaluation and Synthesis of Bioactive Substances (LASSBio[™]), the Summer School in Medicinal Pharmaceutical Chemistry was incorporated to **INCT-INOFAR** as an extension activity. The vent, which always takes place at UFRJ during summer academic break, has 5 consecutive days of courses and conferences with renowned Brazilian and foreign experts in the field of Medicinal Pharmaceutical Chemistry. In 2012, from January 23 to 27, the event took place for the 18th time.

Since its creation, in 1995, the School has had over 2,500 participants from different parts of Brazil and abroad, and has welcomed renowned scientists responsible for the development of innovative medicines, who personally recounted the stories of their discoveries. To support the presence of Latin American students at the XVIII Summer School, **INCT-INOFAR** offered scholarship for students from Mercosur countries. In 2012, the event welcomed two young researchers from Uruguay, undergraduate students from the licentiate in Biochemistry at the *Universidad de la Republica* (Udelar).

To celebrate the eighteen years of the Summer School, awarding people with an important scientific trajectory in the field of Medicinal Chemistry, the Organizing Committee for the School created, in 2012, the Camille-Georges Wermuth Medal of Honor in Medicinal Chemistry. Prof. Carlos Alberto Manssour Fraga (http://lattes.cnpq.br/9782159937151139) was awarded the medal. He is an **INCT-INOFAR** researcher and he was part of one of the first Summer Schools, when he was still applying to be an adjunct professor at UFRJ. Today, Manssour is a Professor at the same institution, working at LASSBio[®].



Prof. Carlos Manssour received a tribute

Planned to deal with multi and interdisciplinarity of topics, the XVIII Summer School delved into the basics for the courses "Introduction to Medicinal Pharmaceutical Chemistry" and "Metabolism of Drugs and Medication Interactions", presented the tutorial "Computational Chemistry and Molecular Modeling", shared foreign knowledge during "Highlights in Medicinal Chemistry", discussed "Synthesis of Drugs" and went as far as "Intellectual Property and Patents".

In the programming for the event, internationally renowned lecturers presented important themes in Medicinal Pharmaceutical Chemistry. In 2012, the XVIII Summer School welcomed Prof. Holger Stark from the University Johann Wolfgang Goethe (Germany); Prof. Pier G. Baraldi of the *Università di Ferrara* (Italy); and Prof. José A. S. Cavaleiro of the University of Aveiro (Portugal).

INCT-INOFAR - Annual Repport 2012



Prof. Baraldi (University of Ferrara), Prof. Eliezer (Federal University of Rio de Janeiro), Prof. Cavaleiro (University of Aveiro), Prof. Stark (Tübingen University) and Prof. Manssour (Federal University of Rio de Janeiro)

Prof. Baraldi presented Italian Medicinal Chemistry





28 a 31/05/2012 Águas de Lindóia- SP

35th Annual Meeting for the Brazilian Society of Chemistry

Like in previous editions, **INCT-INOFAR** was an active part of the 35th Annual Meeting for the Brazilian Society of Chemistry (RASBQ), helping enrich the discussions on Chemistry focused on the development of new drugs and medicines. The 35th RASBQ took place from May 27 to 31, 2012, in the city of Aguas de Lindoia, Sao Paulo.

At the event, considered the largest Chemistry event in Latin America, **INCT-INOFAR** researchers were an important part of the scientific programming. As well as teaching conferences and mini-courses, lecture in theme sessions, and present papers in coordinated sessions and panels, **INCT-INOFAR** was also part of the 35th RASBQ exposition.

At the expo, among corporate stands, with commercial representatives eager to promote their new equipment, the **INCT-INOFAR** space stood out as it was not selling anything. Its goal was to promote its research work in the area of drugs and medicines, as well as its initiatives for the popularization of science.

INCT-INOFAR - Annual Repport 2012



Those who had the opportunity to visit the stand got to know, and be surprised by, the work done by **INCT-INOFAR** in the search for new innovative synthesis routes to create generic drugs that are cheaper and use national technology. The visitors could also take home an educational cartoon and a portfolio-magazine that describes the actions in Scientific Awareness & Health Education promoted by **INCT-INOFAR**.

Among the initiatives highlighted in this small portfolio are the educational booklets and puzzles on the correct use of medicines, the video that tells the story of a molecule as it becomes a medicine, as well as an internet portal for the promotion of Pharmaceutical Sciences, the "Portal of Drugs". The visits to schools, as well as the support to events and the publicizing of **INCT-INOFAR** research in the media, were also actions that peaked the curiosity of many chemists who were not yet aware of these society actions by the Institute.

At the last day of the event, the **INCT-INOFAR** stand welcomed a group of High School students from Aguas de Lindoia. Thirsty for knowledge, the students, who are at the time of deciding their future careers, asked countless questions that were not only directly related to the Institute, but also to the field of Chemistry. "What is **INCT-INOFAR**? What research do you develop? How much does a chemist make?" were some of the questions asked by the students who visited the SBQ exposition.

INCT-INOFAR in the scientific programming of the event

Carlos Mauricio Rabello de Sant'Anna (UFRRJ) Taught the mini-course "*Molecular modeling applied to the planning of bioactive compounds*"

Eliezer J. Barreiro (UFRJ)

Lectured at the Workshop for the Medicinal Chemistry Division "Interactions between the productive sector and the University in research and innovation in drugs and medicines in Brazil"

Barbara Vasconcellos da Silva (UFRJ) Launched the book "*Organic Chemistry Experiments*", by SBQ Printers

Vanderlan da Silva Bolzani (UNESP- Araraquara) Participant in the Special Session with representatives from international scientific societies

Luiz Carlos Dias (Unicamp)

Lectured at the Symposium "*Responsibility, Ethics, and Social Progress*" as coordinator for the field of Chemistry at Capes

Renata Barbosa Lacerda (UFRJ)

Presented paper in the coordinated session dedicated to "Biological Chemistry and Medicinal Chemistry".

15+ at SBPC



INCT-INOFAR is part of a network that brings together coordinators of the National Institutes of Science and Technology (INCTs) with the goal of discussing governance of the Institutes and strengthening scientific and technological cooperation in research, human resources qualification, and scientific awareness. The network, named I5+, has held its third meeting during the 64th Annual Meeting of the Brazilian Society for the Progress of Science (SBPC),

The I5+ meeting took place on July 24 2012, at the Federal University of Maranhao, and was coordinated by Professors Manoel Barral (Vice-President of the CNPq - http://lattes. cnpq.br/0916805360400109) and Jailson Bittencourt de Andrade (INCT for Energy and Environment Coordinator - http://lattes.cnpq. br/4049958660392553). Representing INCT-INOFAR were its coordinator, Prof. Eliezer J. Barreiro (http:// lattes.cnpq.br/5942068988379022 and its scientific superintendent, Prof. Lidia Moreira Lima (http://lattes.cnpq. br/3986190995983234).

At the I5+ meeting, subjects like governance, evaluation of the INCTs program, financial resources and scholarships were discussed. Among the main demands from those present were the need to institutionalize the INCTs and the political strengthening of the Program, through explicit initiatives by CNPq. Among the 20 or so INCTs representatives and CNPq technicians were present in the I5+ meeting that took place in São Luis, Maranhão.
ISMC 2012



From September 2 to September 6, 2012, **INCT-INOFAR** was part of the 22nd International Symposium on Medicinal Chemistry (ISMC 2012), which took place in Berlin, Germany. At the event, promoted by the European Federation of Medicinal Chemistry (EFMC), were present Prof. Eliezer J. Barreiro (http://lattes.cnpq. br/5942068988379022), **INCT-INOFAR** coordinator, Prof. Lidia Moreira Lima (http://lattes.cnpq. br/3986190995983234), Scientific superintendent,

Prof. Angelo da Cunha Pinto (http://lattes.cnpq. br/0061106995455595, CGA member. At the occasion, Institute representatives took advantage of the opportunity to establish new professional contacts and scientific collaborations in Germany. **INCT-INOFAR** researcher Maria Leticia de Castro Barbosa (http://lattes.cnpq.br/0722721630520953) presented a paper at ISMC 2012, in poster format. At the time, Leticia Barbosa was in an exchange doctoral program at the Interdisciplinary Center for Pharmacogenomics and Pharmaceutical Research (ICEPHA), at the University of Tübingen, under the supervision of Prof. Stefan Laufer. The scientific exchange took place in Germany from October 2011 to September 2012. After this period, the doctoral student returned to Brazil to complete her thesis at the Graduate Program in Chemistry at UFRJ.

Silke Bauer (University of Tübingen) and Leticia Barbosa (UFRJ)

International Symposium on the Development of Marine Phytotherapeutics

With over 8 thousand kilometers of coastal area, the "Blue Rainforest" has in its oceans a pharmacological treasure as rich as the one in the land of the "Green Rainforest". Still not widely explored by Brazilian scientists, marine life forms are an important source of inspiration for new medications.

To discuss the topic and promote new research in the area, the Graduate Program in Pharmacology and Medicinal Chemistry (PPGFQM) from the Biomedical Sciences Institute at UFRJ organized, on October 26, 2012, the International Symposium on the Development of Marine Phytotherapeutics. The event was coordinated by Prof. Roberto Takashi Sudo (http://lattes.cnpq.br/9315809794088995), an associate researcher at **INCT-INOFAR**. In the programming, conferences and minisymposiums widened the debate on the chemical-biological diversity found in oceans and also in its surrounding coastal areas. **INCT-INOFAR** associate professor Patricia Dias Fernandes (http://lattes.cnpq.br/7880284010144634), from the Biomedical Sciences Institute (ICB) at UFRJ, presented her research on the babassu leaf, one of the most important Brazilian palm trees. According to her, the leaf of the plant has been shown to be interesting for its phytotherapeutic use, due to its great antinociceptive effect. That is a noble use for the leaf, as they are not usually used, as only the nut and the oil derived from babassu are marketed.

During a whole day of debates, different projects and outlooks on the field of research were presented, among them the PEPMAR project, which is an industry-university partnership with the goal of developing an anticoagulant from the body of the sea cucumber. This research, which is a radical innovation one, and may represent a significant technological leap for the country, is being developed through a public-private partnership between Cristalia Laboratories and the Federal Universities of Rio de Janeiro and Ceará.

BRAZMEDCHEM 2012

BrazMedChem 2012

The sixth edition of the Brazilian Symposium on Medicinal Chemistry (BrazMedChem) took place between October 28 and October 31, 2012, in the city of Canela, Rio Grande do Sul, with the participation of **INCT-INOFAR** researchers. The theme was "XX Century Diseases & Strategies for Drug Planning in the XXI Century", and BrazMedChem 2012 presented its participants with lectures, workshops, and mini-courses taught by researchers from Brazil as well as from other countries.

Among the international lecturers present at BrazMedChem 2012 we can highlight Prof. Stefan Laufer of the University of Tübingen, in Germany, Thierry Langer from Prestwick Chemical located in Strasbourg, France, and Edgar Schuck from Eisai Research Institute in Boston, USA.

The sixth edition of the event was considered a success and had the participation of over 500 researchers, with 343 abstracts presented as posters, during productive scientific discussion sessions. Compared to earlier editions of BrazMedChem, we noticed a growth of established groups as well as the birth of new research groups in several institutions throughout the country.

BrazMedChem is a biennial event promoted by the Division of Medicinal Chemistry of the Brazilian Society of Chemistry (SBQ) and it first took place in 2001. Throughout the years, the event has become more famous and has grown, both in quality as well as in size, and has been playing an important role in the promotion and evolution of Brazilian Medicinal Chemistry, locally and throughout the world.

Roadshow "From Bench to Market: A Practical Guide for Pharmaceutical Innovation"

With the goal of reducing the gap between pharmaceutical industries and researchers and small biotechnology companies, Interfarma – Association of the Research Pharmaceutical Industry – established a partnership with Biominas Brazil to publish the book "From Bench to Market: A Practical Guide for Pharmaceutical Innovation". To promote the guide, events called Roadshows, which include debates led by renowned scientists, took place in universities of different cities like Sao Paulo, Rio de Janeiro, Belo Horizonte, and Recife.

INCT-INOFAR was present at the release of the Guide in Rio de Janeiro, at the Roadshow that took place at the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro (UFRJ), on November 13, 2012, with the support of the UFRJ Agency of Innovation.

Developed by specialists that interact daily with research institutions as well as with industry, the guide tries to show researchers way to assess how attractive a project is, the sources for technological information, resources, market, basic knowledge on intellectual protection, development stages, and establishment of partnerships. The book also has a glossary, with terms that make it easier to interact with private partners, and it emphasizes the importance of sticking to a list of actions, avoiding shortcuts that often devalue a project.



Events where INCT-INOFAR was represented*

DECEMBER 13 E 14, 2012

International Symposium Drug Discovery in the 21st Century: The Challenge of Interdisciplinary Research Teams

UFRJ

Lecture: "INCT-INOFAR, a Brazilian network for drug design, discovery and development".

Roundtable: "Pitfalls of Drug Discovery and Development in Brazil".

NOVEMBER 09, 2012

Symposium of University and Industry Integration - SIUIN State University of Londrina - UEL - PR Lecture: "Scientific research and the qualification of the pharmaceutical professional"

NOVEMBER 07 AND 08, 2012

XIX Chemistry Meeting for the Southern Region – SBQ SUL Integrated Arts Center - UNISUL Lecture: "The importance of research and innovation for the sustainability of the Chemical and Pharmaceutical Industry"

OCTOBER 28 TO 31, 2012

6th Brazilian Symposium in Medicinal Chemistry - BRAZMEDCHEM Continental Hotel - Canelas - RS Session: "Synthesis and Pharmacological Activity"

OCTOBER 26, 2012

International Symposium on the Development of Marine Phytotherapeutics UFRJ – Health Sciences Center Opening Session

SEPTEMBER 27 TO 30, 2012

National Symposium on Natural Products - SIMPRONAT Tambau Hotel - Joao Pessoa - PB Lecture: "Natural products and innovative drugs"

SEPTEMBER 10 TO 14, 2012

University of Aveiro - Santiago Campus Aveiro - Portugal Lecture: "The Effect of Methyl in Medicinal Chemistry"

SEPTEMBER 02 TO 06, 2012

XXIInd International Symposium on Medicinal Chemistry Estrel Hotel - Berlin - Germany "Presentation of Papers"

AUGUST 16, 2012 VII Pharmacy Academic Week Federal University of Campinas - UNICAMP - SP Lecture: "On the process of invention of drug candidate molecules".

AUGUST 01 AND 02, 2012

IX Chemistry Week Federal University of Sao Carlos – UFSCar – SP Mini-Course: "Emphasis on Medicinal Chemistry."

JULY 22 TO 27, 2012

64th Annual SBPC Meeting Federal University of Maranhao - UFMA - Sao Luiz - MA Mini-course: "Planning of new drug candidates"

JUNE 13 TO 15, 2012

VI Ibero-American Symposium on Medicinal Plants State University of Ponta Grossa – UEPG – Ponta Grossa - PR Opening Class: "Biodiversity as a Source of New Medicines"

MAY 31 TO JUNE 02, 2012

VII Regional FeSBE Ponta Verde Hotel- Maceio - AL Conference: "National Institute of Science and Technology in Drugs and Medicines - INCT-INOFAR"

MAY 27 TO 29, 2012

35th Annual Meeting of the Brazilian Society of Chemistry – 35th RASBQ Monte Real Resort Hotel – Aguas de Lindoia – SP Workshop: "Interactions between the productive sector and University in research and innovation in drugs and medicines in Brazil"

MARCH 07, 2012

I Workshop of Science and Technology at UFRJ - Macae Lecture: "On the process of invention of drug candidate molecules"

* through the presence of its coordinator, Prof. Eliezer J. Barreiro (LASSBio/UFRJ).



OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

SCIENTIFIC AWARENESS AND PROMOTION Because it believes that the promotion and popularization of Science, Technology, and Innovation are an important factor in building critical thinking skills in the current globalized world, parallel to its laboratory research, **INCT-INOFAR** coordinates several initiatives in Scientific Awareness & Health Education.

Aware of the potential of children to spread knowledge acquired among friends and family, **INCT-INOFAR** invests in Health Education initiatives that try to create, among the young, awareness on the rational and safe use of medicines.

Periodically, **INCT-INOFAR** produces new scientific promotion content about health sciences and creates educational materials focused on the correct use of medicines. By cooperating with the popularization of scientific knowledge inherent to Pharmaceutical Sciences, **INCT-INOFAR** allows that new vocations be expressed among youth, especially those that are unconnected to their family environments.

With a goal of widening its actions for the promotion and awareness of Pharmaceutical Sciences, **INCT-INOFAR** created, in April 2012, an Extension Secretary (Av. Carlos Chagas Filho, 373, CCS, bloco K, sala 12, Cidade Universitaria, Rio de Janeiro, RJ). Acting alongside the other Secretaries of the Institute, the Extension Secretary has a goal of spreading **INCT-INOFAR** health education projects, bringing discussion on the correct use of medicines to public schools.











INCT-INOFAR IN SCHOOLS

With a goal of bringing content that is not usually part of school curriculum – the importance of the correct use of medicines – the **Drugs and Medicines INCT** created, in 2011, the project "**INCT-INOFAR in schools**".

In 2012, through the Extension Secretary, the project received the approval of the Municipal Secretary of Education of the Mayor's Office for the city of Rio de Janeiro, to be carried out in partnership with the 4th Regional Coordination of Education 4thCRE (Ilha do Governador region). The area was chosen due to its proximity with the UFRJ campus, where **INCT-INOFAR** is headquartered.



With the approval, **INCT-INOFAR** is now formally authorized to develop its Health Education work in the 177 child education centers and schools of the municipal educational network in the 4th CRE region. To kick off the "**INCT-INOFAR in Schools**" project, the institute decided to do a pilot project in a public school at the Ramos neighborhood, in Rio de Janeiro.

The institution chosen was the Edmundo Lins Municipal School. With approximately 260 students at the grade school level, the students were divided in 2 shifts to take part of the event promoted by **INCT-INOFAR.** In the activity done with the children, in June 2011, a couple of **INCT-INOFAR** pharmacists presented an animated booklet on the correct use of medicines and interacted with the students, encouraging them to ask questions.



- What is the difference between the doctor and the pharmacist?
- Why should we thake our medicines at the right time?
- How can we tell if a medicine is a fake?
- Is drinking sugar water a placebo?

Visit to the House of Science

Do you know where the Chemistry is in your house? In the living room, in the bedroom, in the kitchen, or in the bathroom... Those who said in all of those are right! To show that Chemistry is part of our everyday lives, the UFRJ House of Science created, in partnership with the Brazilian Society of Chemistry (SBQ), the "Where is the Chemistry?" show.

At the request of show organizers, **INCT-INOFAR** loaned its health education materials to delve deeper into questions related to the chemistry behind medications. The content of the **INCT**- **INOFAR** booklets inspired an appropriate place to store medicines, in the parents' bedroom – as it is far from heat, humidity, and away from the reach of children – and the puzzles, inspired in the correct use of medicines, filled the children's bedroom with play.

To continue its pilot project in health education, **INCT-INOFAR** invited the students from the Edmundo Lins Municipal School to visit the "Where is the Chemistry?" exposition. From the first grade (formerly literacy class) to the 4th grade, with ages ranging from 5 to 10, separated in small groups, **INCT-INOFAR** managed to bring all the classes to the exposition.

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Where is the Chemistry?

NCT-INOFAR took students from the Edmundo Lins Municipal School to visit the Where is the Chemistry show at the UFRJ House of Science

Inspired by cartoons, the fictitious house from the "Where is the Chemistry?" exposition had all the rooms of a real house, except without walls. Each corner was carefully thought out to promote the science in our daily lives. The guided visit to this fun house, where it was possible to find chemistry in our daily lives, took place on April 26 and 27, and on May 03 and 04, 2012.

- Chemistry of love
- Chemistry of medicines
- Chemistry of clothes
- Chemistry of foods
- Chemistry of cleaning
- Chemistry of dreams
- Chemistry of poop
- Chemistry of hair



LIVING ROOM

KITCHEN

In the living room, on the couch, the children received glasses to watch a 3D animation on the chemical history of humankind. "*It was like we were inside the TV!*"
- A boy said. For many children, it was the first time they watched a three dimensional movie.

The kitchen is a perfect Chemistry laboratory. Sitting together at the kitchen table, the children all learn about the fantastic world of Chemistry in our daily lives. Why does mommy wrap fruit in newspaper so it ripens faster? And in the fridge, is there Chemistry in there as well?



LAUNDRY ROOM

In the House of Science laundry room, the cleaning products have no brand. They are all generic to show that the name of the manufacturer does not matter. Deep down, they are all the same. They have the same chemical formula to clean.

CHILDREN'S BEDROOM

But what does Chemistry have to do with our sleep and our dreams? To find out the answer we just need to listen to the stories that come out, curiously, of a large cloud above the children's bed. To make children more familiar with the complicated names and chemical structure of molecules, the ones that are related to sleep were drawn on the sheets and on the pillows.



In the bathroom, the audience has the opportunity to find out a bit about the history of poop and its uses. A word used as a swear word, a synonym for smelly, in the "Where is the Chemistry?" exposition, children learn why we poop and that it is not a bad thing, it even has a noble use. They just need to open the toilet, put the headphones on, and pay attention to the animation.





BEDROOM

In the couple's bedroom, the audience is invited to lie on the bed to get intimate with mommy and daddy and learn how the chemistry of our body hormones works. An animation on the 7 year itch is curiously shown on the ceiling above their bed.

BATHROOM

Where do you keep medicines?

There are two environments in the house that are not recommended for storing medicines: bathroom and kitchen. The kitchen has fire, and the bathroom has water moisture. Heat and humidity can affect the chemical composition of medicines, which may compromise their therapeutic efficacy. The ideal is to store medications at a place with no temperature changes and that is, of course, far from the reach of children and pets. In the "Where is the Chemistry?" exposition, the medicine box is stored in the couple's bedroom.

THE MEDICINES BOX IS THE COUPLE'S BEDROOM

"Talking to students in a classroom is one thing, with interactivity it is different. Watching things live, all in a playful way is more conducive to learning. When we returned to the school, we try to contextualize the content in all the different subjects. Everything is useful!"

> - Heloise Machado Cabral. Edmundo Lins School teacher

STUDENTS RETURN HOME SAFELY





PORTAL DOS FÁRMACOS



The *Portal dos Fármacos* (www. portaldosfarmacos.ccs.ufrj.br) is a website maintained by **INCT-INOFAR** aimed at the promotion and popularization of Pharmaceutical Sciences. Through this portal, **INCT-INOFAR** publicizes its research activities, in language accessible to laymen, and makes its Health Education materials available. In sync with new trends in scientific journalism, the *Portal dos Fármacos* has an agenda and journalist coverage of relevant scientific events in the field. Periodically, it publishes new articles and interviews on current topics dealing with innovation in drugs and medicines and in health. It also produces cartoons that critically deal with the irrational use of medicines, proposing conscious alternatives for their use. Over one hundred articles, interviews, and reports in the pharmaceutical field have been published in the *Portal dos Fármacos* since **INCT-INOFAR** was created in 2009. Among the highlighted topics in the articles published in 2012 are the history of the pharmaceutical profession, recent advances in Medicinal Chemistry, access to essential medications, vaccination campaigns, ethics in scientific research.

others.

and development of drugs

from marine diversity, among

- Publicizing INCT-INOFAR research activities in language accessible to laymen;
- Publishing new articles on current topics surrounding innovation in drugs and medicines and health;
- Agenda and Journalistic coverage of the main scientific events in the field;
- Download of INCT-INOFAR education booklets dealing with the correct use of medicines.

the population of the correct use of medicines, INCT-INOFAR through the Portal dos Fármacos also support movements aimed at making access to medicines a universal right. On April 2012, the Portal dos Fármacos covered an event organized by Universities Allied for Essential Medications (UAEM) in Brazil. The student activism group fights for social justice and health equity and is present in over 70 Universities throughout the world. At the event, which took place at the University of São Paulo (USP), students from several parts of Brazil discussed how to adequate the movement the reality of our country.

Aside from increasing awareness in



Student Activism for Public Health College students from several parts of the world join movement for access to essential medicines. Event at USP gathered movement leaders to set activism strategies in Brazil. BY LUCIA BEATRIZ TORRES

Shocked by the high price of a medicine that made the treatment of AIDS inaccessible to African countries, two students from Yale University, in the USA, alongside "Doctors Without Borders", started a movement to convince Bristol-Myers Squibb Pharmaceuticals to reduce the cost of the antiretroviral drug. The medicine in question was Stavudine (D4T), discovered by a Yale researcher and licensed, exclusively, to Bristol for commercial exploitation. The case became public and became politically important when the author of the discovery expressed his wish that the medicine be accessible to all, not just in developed countries, in the New York Times. A short time after that, Bristol pharmaceuticals announced a drop in the price of Stavudine and allowed for a generic to be manufactured in South Africa. As a result of the student activism, started in 2001, the cost of other AIDS medicines has also been reduced and the access to these medicines was expanded in the entire African continent.

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UNIVERSITIES ALLIED FOR ESSENTIAL MEDICATIONS

The successful campaign by the Yale students inspired the creation of Universities Allied for Essential Medications (UAEM), student activism groups that are

now present in over 70 Universities around the world. Fighting for social justice and health equity, UAEM believes that Universities and research institutions have the social responsibility of promoting and managing medical innovation for public interest, ensuring that people, regardless of income, have access to essential medications and other health-related technologies.

REAWAKENING A POLITICAL CONSCIENCE IN YOUTH

"During the military dictatorship, the great protest moving force was in the student movement. Today, students need to get back to playing a responsible role in society" – said Eloan Pinheiro, director of Farmanguinhos between 1993 and 2002, who played a fundamental role in the implementation of universal access policies for antiretroviral drugs in Brazil, by standing up to multinational corporations and developing generic AIDS drugs in the state-owned laboratory.

To Rachel Kiddell-Monroe, president of the council of UAEM directors, access to medicines is something that may inspire college students to get involved, in a passionate manner, in the cause of health care access. She highlights that many health-related technologies are developed by Universities and research institutes with public funding and then licensed to industry.

"The way that intellectual property, licensing, technology transfer, and research priority election policies are created is fundamental for the access to medicines and medical technologies. UAEM depends on the intellectual capacity of students to properly articulate these issues and ensure health care as a universal right" - observed Rachel Kiddell-Monroe.

UAEM believes that Universities can have a positive impact on the lives of populations in developing countries, through humanitarian patenting and licensing strategies, which allow global access to discoveries that were publically funded. The directing of University research priorities, so that they truly meet the interests and needs of most of the population, is also part of the movement's demands. The incentive to investigations in the field of neglected illnesses is one of its core beliefs. With a multidisciplinary makeup that includes students in the fields of Medicine, Pharmacy, Public Health, Economy, Law, and other related areas, UAEM is a non-profit organization based on the activist movement of University students. Their engagement tries to create in academia, and in future professionals, conscience towards a more proactive attitude to ensure that publically funded discoveries promote global health.

Access the full article at: http:// www.portaldosfarmacos.ccs.ufrj.br/ atualidades_uaem.html



Animation "Joey's Crew in: the correct use of antibiotics"



Watch the animation:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GGIkKwcau-U

In the narrative created by **INCT-INOFAR** researchers Dr. Lidia Moreira Lima (http://lattes.cnpq.br/3986190995983234), of the Faculty of Pharmacy at UFRJ and Dr. Angelo da Cunha Pinto (http://lattes.cnpq.br/0061106995455595), of the Institute of Chemistry at UFRJ, Joey has a fever and his mother, scared, goes to her sister for advice. She says her son had something similar, and that a friend of hers had recommended a "great" medicine. Joey takes the leftover medicines used by his cousin, and suddenly gets better, but soon is sick again. As they go to a doctor, the family is told of the dangers connected to self-medicating and learns how to correctly use antibiotics.

In a playful manner, through the animation of the story of Joey's illness, **INCT-INOFAR** explains, in an easily understandable scientific language, how and why bacteria become resistant to antibiotics. It also calls attention to the importance of consulting a doctor, and especially, to rigorously follow the treatment prescribed.



"Experiments in Organic Chemistry"

With a goal of gathering and publicizing original Organic Chemistry experiments developed throughout the past 10 years, in the Laboratory of Chemistry of Natural Products and Chemical Transformations of the Institute of Chemistry at UFRJ, the researchers associated to INCT-INOFAR Angelo Pinto (http://lattes.cnpq.br/0061106995455595) and Barbara Vasconcellos da Silva (http://lattes. cnpq.br/3874886795138290) organized the book "Experiments in Organic Chemistry".

Book

With relatively simple experiments that use low cost raw materials, the book "Experiments in Organic Chemistry" was published by SBQ as part of the "Chemistry near You" collection. The book was released in May, during the 35th Annual Meeting of the Brazilian Society of Chemistry (SBQ), in Aguas de Lindoia, Sao Paulo.

With easily understandable language, the book "Experiments in Organic Chemistry" is aimed at Chemistry teaching and is especially aimed at undergraduate Chemistry students with prior laboratory experience. The book is available online and may be downloaded free at the Brazilian Society of Chemistry (SBQ) website through the link http://www.sbq.org.br/livros.php

INCT-INOFAR IN THE MEDIA*

Funded almost entirely by public resources – from funding agencies like CNPq, Capes, and the State Foundations of Research Support and Sector Funds – Brazilian science must commit to society, to enhance and expand the citizenship of its main financial backer: society.

As it tries to cross over from laboratory to society, scientific promotion allows common citizens to have access to knowledge, allowing the creation of a new critical mass capable of evaluation the impact of the social insertion of innovation in their daily lives. Access to quality scientific promotion is fundamental to allow society to demand, politically, the benefits that can be provided by science and technology.

> Aware of this reality, through its Media Affairs Secretary, **INCT-INOFAR** invests in actions to promote its most relevant research in the press. As well as accounting to society, the media reports have a goal of creating an

interest in pharmaceutical industries and official public laboratories in the development of promising molecules discovered by **INCT-INOFAR**, that are relevant for Brazilian public health care.

It is interesting to notice that, due to the confidentiality and non-disclosure inherent to pharmaceutical area projects, many **INCT-INOFAR** research projects, especially those in radical innovation, cannot be publicized until its final stages are reached. In the field of generic drugs, two incremental innovation projects by **INCT-INOFAR** had great repercussion in local and foreign press in the past years. Research makes way for the production of the active principle for these generic drugs at a reduced cost in Brazil.

Media Affairs Secretary Generic Drugs Project

Atorvastatin

A continuous use medicine to reduce cholesterol that is widely used, Lipitor[™] is the best-selling drug in the world. During the same month where the patent for Lipitor[™]/ Pfizer expired in Brazil (December 2010), **INCT-INOFAR** researchers announced the discovery of a new synthesis route for the production of its active principle, atorvastatin, in a more efficient and economical way.

Those in charge of the research were Prof. Luiz Carlos Dias (http://lattes. cnpq.br/2941335797138677), Prof. Angelo da Cunha Pinto (http:// lattes.cnpq.br/0061106995455595), Prof. Barbara Vasconcellos da Silva (http://lattes.cnpq.br/3874886795138290) and Dr. Adriano Siqueira Vieira (http://lattes.cnpq.br/8038637214540283) from the Institute of Chemistry of the State University of Campinas (Unicamp). The synthesis route for atorvastatin developed has been patented, and since then, the Institute has tried to negotiate the production of this generic with a Brazilian pharmaceutical company.

Sunitinibe

Recommended to fight certain types of cancers in the kidneys, stomach, and intestines, sunitinib is the active principle for Sutent[™]/ Pfizer. This is a high cost medicine – around R\$ 11,000 a box with 28 pills – that is not yet made available by the Public Health Care System (SUS), and which due to that is the reason for many lawsuits. This research was publicized by **INCT-INOFAR** in September 2011.

The new synthesis route for sunitinib was finished, in September 2011, by Prof. Angelo da Cunha Pinto and by Prof. Barbara Vasconcellos da Silva, from the Institute of Chemistry of the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro (UFRJ). The patent for Sutent[™] was required by Pfizer laboratories in Brazil in 2005. With this discovery, Brazil can be prepared ahead of time for its production, reducing production costs when the patent for sunitinib expires in the country.

As well as publicizing the discovery of new synthesis routes for the production of the active principle of important medicines, **INCT-INOFAR** also took advantage of this opportunity to bring up in the media the difficulties of producing in Brazil a generic medication with national technology. So far, Brazilian pharmaceutical companies, almost a whole, are limited to formulating and packaging active principles imported from markets such as China, India, and Korea.

On May 2012, **INCT-INOFAR** received a full page at Correio Popular newspaper, for a special report on generic drugs. In an interview with the paper, Prof. Luiz Carlos Dias (Unicamp), researcher responsible for the development of a new synthesis route to produce atorvastatin, spoke about **INCT-INOFAR** efforts to make Brazil independent from imported raw materials.

* All the media pieces on **INCT-INOFAR** research that have been aired or published on the radio, TV, newspapers, magazines, and online media outlets in Brazil and abroad are spontaneous media

> mentions. Those that can be freely accessed are made available in a specific press clipping area at the Institute's website.

CORREIO POPULAR GENÉRICOS

Uma missão e tanto: colaborar para o desenvolvimento do setor para o País, já que a indústria farmacêutica brasileira é refém do preço dos farmoquímicos praticados no Exterior

Tecnologia nacional

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MARCEN GASTIN



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Annual Areastics service

"National Technology" Correio Popular Newspaper May 20, 2012

INCT-INOFAR booklet inspires questions at Civil Service Admittance Exam

As well as providing press releases for the research in new drugs and medicines carried out by **INCT-INOFAR**, the Media Affairs Secretary for the Institute also promotes educational materials on the correct use of medicines in the media.

An article published on "Science Today" magazine, in 2011, on the cartoon "Joey's Crew in: the correct use of medicines", served as reference for 03 guestions for a Civil Servant Admittance Exam for technical-administrative workers at the Federal University of Bahia (UFBA). http://cienciahoje.uol.com.br/revista-ch/2011/278

"ABC of antibiotics" Ciência Hoje Magazine, nº 278 - Jan/Fev 2011

ABC dos antibióticos

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Depends with one they a use rate around have one a seat. Ela convesta que una Elho teve alga parecido e De reconvendaram un studie etino. Pava es comptandes para fequeña, que tem tem melhem eihita, mas lago carde cama eura trat. A mannitra fla parte de una castilha urber o non inmete de antibottion, elideculo prim progonadore de lastitato Nacional de datats mais ribro alguni", aleta a progonadora. Por mor zu-Cótacia e Texnelingia de Támianos e Mindicianentes (DCT-lacht). Neo, a Anema miculanes aseras myras para a renda de ambié-Lada Idaeses Lina e Angelo da Caulta Parte. O objetivo e alesta intos. Agosa, as reostas para a compri de medicamieno Ecan. para os antos da automediciple e do una indiscriminado de medicamentos. "Essa putticas, muito comuno hoje, contribuom para o manemo da envirtência barteriana. Mas conceptes ou relates ofter as checklin reperior resa", almos Lona

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The exam for a Laboratory Assistant - April 22, 2012



QUESTÕES de 56 a 58



"Zequinha está com febre e sua mãe aconselha-se com a irmã. Ela comenta que seu filho teve algo parecido e lhe recomendaram um remédio ótimo. Passa os comprimidos para Zequinha, que tem uma melhora súbita, mas logo cai de cama outra vez."

A narrativa faz parte de uma cartilha sobre o uso correto de antibióticos, elaborada por pesquisadores do Instituto Nacional de Ciência e Tecnología de Fármacos e Medicamentos (INCT- Inofar). (ZEQUINHA..., 2011, p. 65).

Questão 56

Os antibióticos devem ser prescritos para o tratamento de infecções causadas por virus.

Questão 57

A recalida de Zequinha, personagem do texto da cartilha, deve ser atribuída ao uso inadequado do medicamento, por seleção de linhagens resistentes ou por sensibilidade diferenciada das bactérias a diferentes antibióticos.

Questão 58

O diagnóstico laboratorial de uma doença causada por bactérias se limita ao uso da microscopia óptica. The exam, which took place on April 22, 2012, at the state of Bahia, was for a laboratory assistant. The position required a grade school education as well as specific knowledge of laboratory practices. On the questions based on the educational booklet produced by **INCT-INOFAR**, the candidates were required to mark the propositions presented with true (T) or false (F).

INCT-INOFAR Portfolio

Since the creation of **INCT-INOFAR**, the Institute has developed Scientific Awareness & Health Education material. During these four years, two booklets on the correct use of medication have been produced, as well as 10 versions of theme puzzles, a video on the necessary research stages to produce a medication, among other actions.



Portfolio Magazine

The full portfolio of INCT-INOFAR actions between 2009 and 2011 dealing with scientific awareness and popularization, as well as events and publicizing of its research, is listed in the "INCT-INOFAR 2009 – 2011 Booklet: Scientific Awareness and Health Education".

In a bilingual edition, in Portuguese and English, the booklet is available in print version and online at: www.inct-inofar.ccs.ufrj.br/revista

Booklet

With colorful illustrations and in simple and dynamic language, the booklet "**Commandments of the Correct Use of Medicines**" warns of the risks associated with the use of medication. In an educational manner, the material provides guidance on the different drug classifications, tells you where and how to store medicines at home, and calls attention to outlandish advertisement by the pharmaceutical industry. Access it at: http://www.portaldosfarmacos.ccs.ufrj.br/download/cartilha_medicamento.pdf

Cartoon ZEC

In cartoon form, the booklet "**Joey's Crew in: The Correct Use of Antibiotics**" calls attention to the risks incurred by the inadequate use of medicines, showing common daily practices that contribute to increasing bacterial resistance, like selfmedicating and being "prescribed" drugs by drugstore attendants. The **booklet** is approved by the Health Surveillance Agency (ANVISA).

ELIEZER J. BARRETRO NATALIA MEDETROS DE LIMA

MANDAMENTOS DO USO

DOS MEDICAMENTOS

1* EDIÇÃO

Access it at: http://www.portaldosfarmacos.ccs.ufrj.br/inct/cartilhas/cartilha_antibiotico.pdf

OTICO

Puzzle

The cartoons published in the Drugs Portal have been transformed into **puzzles.** Ten different versions of these educational toys have already been produced. The goal is that by assembling the theme puzzles, people are encouraged to reflect on the topics, so that people are more aware of the correct use of medicines.

Access the cartoons: http://www.portaldosfarmacos.ccs.ufrj.br/charges.html





Video

"LASSBIO 596: from molecule to medication" mixes fiction and science to tell the story of a substance developed by INCT-INOFAR to treat asthma. At 13 minutes long, the video presents the research stages necessary for the medication to reach the drugstore shelves. At each stage, an INCT-INOFAR researcher is shown describing the process.

Access it at: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wvo6xj6ePPs



E-book

In the electronic book "**Chemistry in Health**", **INCT-INOFAR** researchers have attempted to explain chemical reactions present in several health situations at a molecular level, dealing with everyday situations and explaining them from a chemical point of view. The issues are shown in a logical sequential order that go from the fecundation of the ova by the spermatozoid, to breastfeeding, to the explanation for the phenomena of puberty through chemical reactions.

The e-book is part of the collection "Chemistry in Everyday Life", produced by the Brazilian Society of Chemistry (SBQ), in celebration of the International Year of Chemistry (AIQ 2011). It is available for free download at http://quimica2011.org.br

Hotsite

INCT-INOFAR has produced a hot site to make media clippings on the discovery of a new route for the synthesis of atorvastatin. In it, it is possible to access full versions of media reports, including never before seen interviews with INCT-INOFAR researchers that were publicized in radios, TVs, newspapers, magazines, and online media outlets in Brazil and abroad. Access it at: www.portaldosfarmacos.ccs.ufrj.br/inct/hot_atorvastatina/main.swf



Annual Activities Report INCT-INOFAR



Every year, **INCT-INOFAR** publishes its **annual activities report** in English, as its main publicity tool in a foreign language. In the report, the main activities of the Institute are listed, highlighting its performance in research, education, scientific awareness, and health education. In extended summary format, the results of the most relevant scientific articles produced by its researchers are presented.

On the cover of the reports, a poetic figure gets our attention. Sancho Panza on top of his burro contemplates a constellation of chemical structures, the INCT-INOFAR object of study. In the Miguel de Cervantes allegory, the character is the faithful squire to Don Quixote, and he expresses the search for truth and knowledge in humans.
On the cover of the reports, a poetic figure gets our attention. Sancho Panza on top of his burro contemplates a constellation of chemical structures, the INCT-INOFAR object of study. In the Miguel de Cervantes allegory, the character is the faithful squire to Don Quixote, and he expresses the search for truth and knowledge in humans.

2009 ANNUAL ACTIVITIES REPORT

PDF: www.inct-inofar.ccs.ufrj.br/download/aar/2009.pdf Website: www.inct-inofar.ccs.ufrj.br/aar2009/online/main.swf

2010 ANNUAL ACTIVITIES REPORT

PDF: www.inct-inofar.ccs.ufrj.br/download/aar/2010.pdf Website: www.inct-inofar.ccs.ufrj.br/aar2010/aplicativo/index.html

2011 ANNUAL ACTIVITIES REPORT

PDF: http://www.inct-inofar.ccs.ufrj.br/download/aar/2011.pdf Website: http://www.inct-inofar.ccs.ufrj.br/aar2011/index.html#inct-inofar













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1) Estruturas-chave na síntese de antirretrovirais Key molecules in antiretrovirals' synthesis. Mendes, F.M.L., Antunes, A.M.S., Cartaxo, R.J.A. 2012. Revista Virtual de Quimica 4 (3), pp. 329-342.

2) DOI>Constituintes químicos dos galhos de simaba guianensis subesp. ecaudata (cronquist) | [Chemical constituents from stems of simaba guianensis subesp. ecaudata (cronquist)]. De Cássia Saraiva Nunomura, R., Pinto, A.C., Nunomura, S.M., Pohlit, A.M., Amaral, A.C.F. 2012. Química Nova 35 (11), pp. 2153-2158.

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4) DOI>Química sem fronteiras [Chemistry without borders]. Pinto, A.C., Zucco, C., Galembeck, F., De Andrade, J.B., Vieira, P.C. 2012. Química Nova 35 (10), pp. 2092-2097.

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6) DOI>Adição de anilinas à naftoquinona em água e em fase sólida [Addition of amines to naphthoquinone in water and solid phase]. Martinez, S.T., Silva, B.V., Pinto, A.C., Ferreira, V.F., De Carvalho Da Silva, F. 2012. Química Nova 35 (4), pp. 858-860.

7) DOI>Educação: Um dever de todos [Education: A duty of all]. Pinto, A.C. 2012. Journal of the Brazilian Chemical Society 23 (7), pp. 1199-1200.



8) A Química Pode Ser Vocação: Basta Melhorá-la no Ensino Médio [Chemistry can be a vocation: Just improve it in high school]. Pinto, A.C. 2012. Revista Virtual de Química 4 (4), pp. 347.

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Marluce Oliveira Dias. Separação dos Isômeros de alfa/beta-Amirina e Derivados por Cromatografia Líquida de Alta Eficiência - UV. 2012. Dissertação (Mestrado em Química) - Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro, Orientador: Angelo da Cunha Pinto.



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Patrícia Mendes Jorge. Estudo do mecanismo de ação do Ditelureto de difenila e sua possível interação com ezimas topoisomerase. 2012. Dissertação (Mestrado em Biologia Celular e Molecular) - Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Sul, Orientador: Joao Antonio Pegas Henriques.

Rachel Santos Levy. Contribuições aos métodos de análise aplicados na detecção de hormônios peptícos no controle de dopagem. 2012. Dissertação (Mestrado em Bioquímica) - Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro, Orientador: Francisco Radler de Aquino Neto.

Rafael Silveira Amendola. Papel do domínio desintegrina da ADAM-9D na ativação e quimiotaxia de neutrófilos. 2012. Dissertação (Mestrado em Biologia (Biociências Nucleares)) - Universidade do Estado do Rio de Janeiro, Coordenação de Aperfeiçoamento de Pessoal de Nível Superior. Orientador: Thereza Christina Barja Fidalgo.

Raphael Sanches Peres. Avaliação da função supressora de linfócitos T reguladores (tregs) em pacientes artríticos refratários ao tratamento com metotrexato. 2012. Dissertação (Mestrado em Imunologia Geral e Aplicada) - Faculdade de Medicina de Ribeirão Preto - USP, Conselho Nacional de Desenvolvimento Científico e Tecnológico. Orientador: Fernando de Queiroz Cunha.

Thais Emanoelle Tavares Pompeu. Avaliação do potencial mecanismo de ação antipsicótico do LASSBio-579 e de novos derivados N-fenilpiperazínicos e piperazínicos N-substituídos. 2012. Dissertação (Mestrado em Ciências Biológicas (Farmacologia e Química Medicinal)) -Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro, Coordenação de Aperfeiçoamento de Pessoal de Nível Superior. Orientador: François Germain Noël.

Tiago Fernandes da Silva. Desenho, Síntese e avaliação farmacológicas de novas N-acilidrazonas alifáticas: Análogos Simplificados de LASSBio-294.. 2012. Dissertação (Mestrado em Química) - Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro, Coordenação de Aperfeiçoamento de Pessoal de Nível Superior. Orientador: Eliezer Jesus de Lacerda Barreiro.

Thiago José Figueira Ramos. Efeito do composto ftalimídico LASSBio-468 sobre a fibrose pulmonar induzida por sílica em camundongos.. 2012. Dissertação (Mestrado em Biologia Celular e Molecular) - Fundação Oswaldo Cruz, Fundação Carlos Chagas Filho de Amparo à Pesq. do Estado do Rio de Janeiro. Orientador: Patricia Machado Rodrigues e Silva Martins.

CONCLUDED DOCTORAL (PhD) THESES 2012

Alexandre de Andrade Ferreira. Análise isotópica em sistemas petrolíferos da bacia potiguar. 2012. Tese (Doutorado em Química) - Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro, Orientador: Francisco Radler de Aquino Neto.

Aline Maria Araújo Martins. Proteômica dos processos inflamatórios crônicos e o estabelecimento do processo neoplásico. 2012. Tese (Doutorado em Biotecnologia - RENORBIO) - Universidade Estadual do Ceará, Orientador: Manoel Odorico de Moraes Filho.

Ana Cristina Stein. Avaliação do mecanismo de ação antidepressiva e estudo da toxicidade oral aguda e de doses repetidas de *hypericum polyanthemum* em camundongos. 2012. Tese (Doutorado em Ciências Farmacêuticas) - Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Sul, Conselho Nacional de Desenvolvimento Científico e Tecnológico. Orientador: Stela Maris Kuze Rates.

Ana Paula Bernardo dos Santos. Identificação de substâncias tóxicas de *dieffenbachia picta* de Mata Atlântica. 2012. Tese (Doutorado em Química) - Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro, Fundação Carlos Chagas Filho de Amparo à Pesq. do Estado do Rio de Janeiro. Orientador: Angelo da Cunha Pinto.

Angel Amado Recio Despaigne. Estudo do perfil farmacológico de novos complexos metálicos de hidrazonas derivadas de piridina e imidazóis. 2012. Tese (Doutorado em Química) - Universidade Fedearal de Minas Gerais, Conselho Nacional de Desenvolvimento Científico e Tecnológico. Orientador: Heloisa de Oliveira Beraldo.

Carla Cristina Perez. Síntese formal dos policetídeos bicíclicos salinecetais A e B. 2012. Tese (Doutorado em Química) - Universidade Estadual de Campinas, Fundação de Amparo à Pesquisa do Estado de São Paulo. Orientador: Luiz Carlos Dias.



Carolina Uchoa Guerra Barbosa de Lima. Avaliação da toxicidade aguda e subcrônica e atividade antitumoral do extrato hidroalcoólico bruto das folhas de *rollinia leptopetala*. 2013. Tese (Doutorado em Produtos Naturais e Sintéticos Bioativos) - Universidade Federal da Paraíba, Orientador: Margareth de Fátima Formiga Melo Diniz.

Cecília Carvalho de Oliveira. Avaliação da citotoxidade de fármacos em células troncos extraídas do cordão umbilical humano. 2012. Tese (Doutorado em Curso de Pós Graduação Em Farmacologia) - Universidade Federal do Ceará, Orientador: Manoel Odorico de Moraes Filho.

Cláudio Gleidiston Lima da Silva. "Avaliação da eficácia terapêutica do fluconazol na leishmaniose tegumentar humana". 2012. Tese (Doutorado em Programa de Pós-Graduação em Farmacologia) - Universidade Federal do Ceará, Orientador: Manoel Odorico de Moraes Filho.

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Fabrício de Oliveira Souto. Papel dos receptores LXR na sepse. 2012. Tese (Doutorado em Imunologia) - Faculdade de Medicina de Ribeirão Preto - USP, Fundação de Amparo à Pesquisa do Estado de São Paulo. Orientador: Fernando de Queiroz Cunha.

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Josane Alves Lessa. Novos complexos metálicos bioativos com tiossemicarbazonas: investigação do perfil farmacológico e de mecanismos de ação. 2012. Tese (Doutorado em Química) - Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais, Conselho Nacional de Desenvolvimento Científico e Tecnológico. Orientador: Heloisa de Oliveira Beraldo.

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Lavínia Almeida Cruz. Avaliação dos mecanismos de ação da associação de 5-fluorouracil e cisplatina quanto às vias de reparo de dano ao DNA. 2012. Tese (Doutorado em Genética e Biologia Molecular) - Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Sul, Coordenação de Aperfeiçoamento de Pessoal de Nível Superior. Orientador: Joao Antonio Pegas Henriques.

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Mariana Martins Gomes Pinheiro. Avaliação antinociceptiva e antiinflamatória da espécie Choysia ternata Kunth e dos derivados sintéticos N-metilantranilatos de metila, isopropila e propila. 2012. Tese (Doutorado em Programa de Pós-Graduação em Ciências Biológicas (Zoologia)) -Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro, Coordenação de Aperfeiçoamento de Pessoal de Nível Superior. Orientador: Patricia Dias Fernandes. Mariana Renovato Martins. Caracterização da expressão gênica das subpopulações de monócitos CD14+CD16-, CD14+CD16+, CD14dimCD16-. 2012. Tese (Doutorado em Biologia (Biociências Nucleares)) - Universidade do Estado do Rio de Janeiro, Coordenação de Aperfeiçoamento de Pessoal de Nível Superior. Orientador: Thereza Christina Barja Fidalgo.

Renata Barbosa Lacerda. Novos Derivados N-glicinil-N-acilidrazônicos Heterocíclicos Planejados como Inibidores de MAPK p38. 2012. Tese (Doutorado em Química) - Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro, Conselho Nacional de Desenvolvimento Científico e Tecnológico. Orientador: Carlos Alberto Manssour Fraga.

Renata Matuo. Avaliação dos mecanismos de ação do agente antitumoral 5-fluorouracil. 2012. Tese (Doutorado em Biologia Celular e Molecular) - Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Sul, Conselho Nacional de Desenvolvimento Científico e Tecnológico. Orientador: Joao Antonio Pegas Henriques.

Rodolfo do Couto Maia. Novos Derivados N-acilidrazônicos candidatos a protótipos úteis no tratamento da dor crônica inflamatória e neuropática. 2012. Tese (Doutorado em Química) - Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro, Conselho Nacional de Desenvolvimento Científico e Tecnológico. Orientador: Carlos Alberto Manssour Fraga.

Samantha Soares Barbosa. Análise de agentes dopantes por cromatografia gasosa bidimensional abrangente acoplada à espectrometria de massas por tempo de vôo (CGxCG-EMTDV). 2012. Tese (Doutorado em Química) - Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro, Conselho Nacional de Desenvolvimento Científico e Tecnológico. Orientador: Francisco Radler de Aquino Neto.

Tatiana Paula Teixeira Ferreira. Estudo do efeito antifibrótico da IL-13PE no controle da resposta pulmonar crônica causada por sílica em camundongos. 2012. Tese (Doutorado em Ciências Biológicas (Farmacologia e Química Medicinal)) - Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro, Coordenação de Aperfeiçoamento de Pessoal de Nível Superior. Orientador: Patricia Machado Rodrigues e Silva Martins.

Thiago Pompermaier Garlet. Papel da IL-10 e IFN- gama na movimentação ortodôntica em camundongos. 2012. Tese (Doutorado em Farmacologia) - Faculdade de Medicina de Ribeirão Preto - USP, Conselho Nacional de Desenvolvimento Científico e Tecnológico. Orientador: Fernando de Queiroz Cunha.

Human resources qualification



INCT-INOFAR SCHOLARSHIPS



FIOCRUZ/RJ

Iulio Beltrame Daleprane CV-Lattes CNPq Technological Development Scholarship - DTI-3 Time: March 2012 to April 2013 Project: "Study of the potential anti-inflammatory effect of compound LASSBio 897, in models of silicosis and asthma." Advisor: Prof. Dr. Marco Aurélio Martins FIOCRUZ/RJ

Vinicius Frias de Carvalho CV-Lattes CAPES Pos-doctoral Scholarship Time: March 2010 to February 2012 Project: "Study of pharmacological interaction of LASSBio-897 and Advisor: Prof. Dr. Luiz Carlos Dias LASSBio-294 with adenosine receptors in living cells." Advisor: Prof. Dr. Mraco Aurélio Martins FIOCRUZ/RI

UNIFAL

André Victor Pereira CV-Lattes

CNPg Scientific Initiation Scholarship - IC Time: June 2012 to May 2013 Project: "Technological foresight of intermediaries and synthetic chemical Advisor: Prof. Dr. Letícia Veras Costa Lotufo entities of interest in the scope of the INCT-INOFAR." Advisor: Prof. Dr. Marcia Paranho Veloso

UNICAMP

Adriano Sigueira Vieira CV-Lattes **CNPg Junior Post-Doctorate Scholarship** Time: August 2009 to July 2012 Project: "Atorvastatin synthesis" Advisor: Prof. Dr. Luiz Carlos Dias Institute of Chemistry

Leila de Souza Conegero CV-Lattes

CNPg Junior Post-Doctorate Scholarship Time: July 2010 to January 2011 Project: "Fluoxetine synthesis" Institute of Chemistry

UFC

Bruno Coelho Cavalcanti CV-Lattes

CNPg Junior Post-Doctorate Scholarship Time: May 2010 to December 2010 Project: " In vitro evaluation of citotoxic, genotoxic and mutagenic potential of samples provided by INCT-INOFAR." Unity of Clinical Pharmacology

UFG

Ana Maria Calado Dos Santos CV-Lattes

CNPq Technical Support Scholarship – AT NM Time: January to June 2011 Project: "In silico prediction and in vitro production of pharmaceutical prototype candidates through bioconversion of human metabolites" Advisor: Prof. Dr. Valeria de Oliveira Faculty of Pharmacy

Sarah da Silva Nunes CV-Lattes

CNPq Technical Support Scholarship – AT NM Time: July 2011 to December 2012 Project: "In silico prediction and in vitro production of pharmaceutical prototype candidates through bioconversion of human metabolites" Advisor: Prof. Dr. Valeria de Oliveira Faculty of Pharmacy

UFMG

Carolina Neris Cardoso CV-Lattes

Technological Initiation – ITI A Time: September 2011 to January 2012 Project: *"Semicarbazone Benzaldehyde (BS)"* Advisor: Prof. Dr. Carlos Alberto Tagliatti Faculty of Pharmacy

Marcus Vinicius dos Santos CV-Lattes Technology Undergraduate Grant - ITI A October 2009 to March 2010

Project: *"Benzaldehyde Semicarbazone (BS)"* Advisor: Prof. Dr. Carlos Alberto Tagliatti Faculty of Pharmacy

Nathalia Freitas Emiliano CV-Lattes

Technological Initiation – ITI A Time: September 2011 to January 2012 Project: *"Semicarbazone Benzaldehyde (BS)"* Advisor: Prof. Dr. Carlos Alberto Tagliatti Faculty of Pharmacy

Samira de Sá e Souza CV-Lattes

Technological Initiation – ITI A Time: September 2011 to January 2012 Project: *"Semicarbazone Benzaldehyde (BS)"* Advisor: Prof. Dr. Carlos Alberto Tagliatti Faculty of Pharmacy

Gabrielle Luck de Araujo CV Lattes

CNPq Junior Post-Doctorate Scholarship Time: July to December 2011 Project: "Semicarbazone Benzaldehyde (BS): toxicological aspects" Advisor: Prof. Dr. Carlos Alberto Tagliatti Faculty of Pharmacy

Wallace Carvalho Ferreira CV-Lattes

CNPQ Technical Support Grant- AT NM August 2009 to January 2010 Project: *"Benzaldehyde Semicarbazone (BS)"* Advisor: Prof. Dr. Marcio de Matos Coelho Faculty of Pharmacy

UFRJ

Alan Kardec Nogueira de Alencar CV-LattesCNPq Technological DevelopmentCNPQ Technical Support Grant- AT NMTime: July 2009 to June 2010April to August 2010CNPq Technological DevelopmentProject: Development of new substances for the reduction of ventricularTime: July to 2010 to June 2011dysfunction, caused by arterial and pulmonary hypertension.CNPq Technological DevelopmentAdvisor: Prof. Roberto Takashi SudoTime: July 2011 to March 2012Institute of Biological Sciences (ICB)Project: "Scientific awareness ar

Alan Rodrigues de Sousa CV-Lattes

CNPq Technological Development Scholarship – DTI-3 Time: February 2012 to July 2012 CNPq Technological Suport Scholarship – AT NM Time: August to 2012 to August 2013 Project: *"Scientific awareness and health education at INCT-INOFAR"* Advisor: Prof. Dr. Eliezer J. Barreiro LASSBio

Alexandra Basilio Lopes CV-Lattes CNPQ Technological Development Grant- DTI-3 June to September 2010 Project: *"Synthesis and evaluation of antinociceptive and antiinflammatory activities of phenyl-pyridine-n-acylhydrazone compounds planned from imidazo [1,2-a] pyridine-n-acylhydrazone derivatives."* Advisor: Prof. Eliezer J. Barreiro LASSBio

Ana Carla Dos Santos CV-Lattes

CNPq Technological Development Scholarship - DTI-3 Time: July 2009 to June 2010 CNPq Technological Development Scholarship - DTI-2 Time: July to 2010 to June 2011 CNPq Technological Development Scholarship - DTI-1 Time: July 2011 to March 2012 Project: *"Scientific awareness and health education at INCT-INOFAR"* Advisor: Prof. Dr. Eliezer J. Barreiro LASSBio

Ana Cristina da Mata Silva CV-Lattes

CNPq Technological Development Scholarship – DTI-3 Time: April 2012 to June 2013 Project: *"Scientific awareness and health education at INCT-INOFAR"* Advisor: Prof. Dr. Eliezer J. Barreiro LASSBio

Arthur Eugen Kümmerle CV-Lattes

Junior Post-Doctoral CNPQ Grant-PDJ September 2009 to March 2010 Project: *"Study of the Inclusion of LASSBio-579 in cyclodextrin."* Advisor: Prof. Eliezer J. Barreiro LASSBio


Arthur Henrique Freitas do Prado CV-Lattes

CNPg Technical Support Scholarship - AT NS Time: May 2011 to February 2012 Project: "Scientific awareness and health education at INCT-INOFAR" Advisor: Prof. Dr. Eliezer J. Barreiro LASSBio

Bárbara Assis Novak CV-Lattes

CNPg Scientific Initiation Scholarship - IC Time: September 2012 to February 2013 Project: "Implementation and validation of pre-clinical trial model for the evaluation of the teratogenic effect of bioactive substances: evaluation of the LASSBio 468 and LASSBio 596 prototypes" Advisor: Prof. Dr. Aloa Machado de Souza LASSBio

Carlos Eduardo da Silva Monteiro CV-Lattes

CNPg Technological Development Scholarship - DTI-3 Time: May 2010 to February 2011 Project: "Multitarget activation: strategy for symptomatic treatment of neuropathic pain" Advisor: Prof. Roberto Takashi Sudo Institute of Biological Sciences (ICB)

Clemilson Berto Junior CV-Lattes

CAPES Master Scholarship Time: October 2011 to January 2013 Project: "Evaluation of teratogenic potential of LASSBio 596 and LASSBio Advisor: Prof. Dr. Claudia Rezende 468 prototypes, antiasthma pharmaceutical candidates" Advisor: Prof. Dr. Aloa Machado LASSBio

Daniel Nascimento do Amaral CV-Lattes **CAPES Master Scholarship** Time: March 2010 to February 2012 Project: "Design, synthesis and pharmacological evaluation of new antitumor ß -tubulin inhibitor prototypes" Advisor: Prof. Dr. Lidia Moreira Lima LASSBio

Fabrício Maia da Silva Salvador CV-Lattes

CNPg Technological Development Scholarship - DTI-3 Time: October 2012 to June 2013 Project: "Scientific awareness and health education at INCT-INOFAR" Advisor: Prof. Dr. Eliezer J. Barreiro LASSBio

Givanildo Santos da Silva CV-Lattes **CAPES Doctoral Grant** October 2009 to August 2010 Project: "Studies for the discovery of new anti-influenza, neuramidase inhibitor prototypes." Advisor: Prof. Dr. Lidia Moreira Lima LASSBio

Hannah Carolina Tavares Domingos CV-Lattes

CNPg Scientific Initiation Scholarship - IC Time: September 2011 to February 2012 Project: "Qnint" Institute of Chemistry

Jessica Silva dos Santos CV-Lattes

CNPQ Technical Support Grant- AT NM From October to December 2010 Project: "*Scientific awareness and health education at INCT-INOFAR*" Advisor: Prof. Dr. Lidia Moreira Lima LASSBio

Juliana Fátima Vilachã Madeira Rodrigues dos Santos CV Lattes

CNPq Technical Support Scholarship – IC Time: March 2012 to Mar 2013 Project: *"Planning, synthesis, and pharmacological evaluation of 1,2,3,4-tetrahydroacridine derivates, acetylcholonesterase inhibitor prototypes."* Advisor: Prof. Dr. Eliezer J. Barreiro LASSBio

Leandro Louback da Silva CV-Lattes

CAPES Doctoral Grant October 2009 to August 2010 Project: "Study of the effects of different N-acylhydrazone derivatives on the cell-to-cell interaction mechanisms and inflammatory mediators that are part of the atherosclerotic process." Advisor: Prof. Dr. Ana Luisa Palhares de Miranda LASSBio

Lidilhone Hamerski Carbonezi CV-Lattes

CNPq Junior Post-Doctorate Scholarship Time: August 2010 to January 2011 Project: "*Sunitinib synthesis*" Advisor: Prof. Dr. Angelo da Cunha Pinto Institute of Chemistry (IQ) Lucia Beatriz Torres CV-Lattes CNPq Technological Development Scholarship - DTI-2 Time: October 2010 to September 2011 CNPq Technological Development Scholarship - DTI-1 Time: October 2011 to July 2012 Project: *"Scientific awareness and health education at INCT-INOFAR"* Advisor: Prof. Dr. Eliezer J. Barreiro LASSBio

Luciana Almeida Piovesan CV-Lattes

CNPq Junior Post-Doctorate Scholarship Time: February 2009 to August 2009 Project: "*Design, Synthesis and Pharmacological Evaluation of Novel Anti-Cancer Drug-Candidate Prototypes*" Advisor: Prof. Dr. Eliezer J. Barreiro LASSBio

Luciano da Silva Santos CV-Lattes

CNPq Scientific Initiation Scholarship - IC Time: August to October 2011 CNPq Technical Support Scholarship - AT NS Time: November 2011 to February 2012 Project: *"Synthesis and pharmacological activity of new ferrocene-N-acylhydrazone derivates"* Advisor: Prof. Dr. Lidia Moreira Lima LASSBio

Maria de Fátima do Nascimento Alfredo CV-Lattes

CNPq Technical Support Scholarship – AT NS Time: January 2012 to June 2013 Project: "*Scientific awareness and health education at INCT-INOFAR*" Advisor: Prof. Dr. Eliezer J. Barreiro LASSBio

Mariana Trad Rosner da Motta CV-Lattes

CNPg Scientific Initiation Scholarship - IC Time: August to October 2011 Project: "In vitro metabolism of new leishmanicide and tripanomicide pharmaceutical prototypes" Advisor: Prof. Dr. Lidia Moreira Lima LASSBio

Marlon Daniel Tonin CV-Lattes

CNPg Technical Support Scholarship - DTI-3 Time: April 2012 to July 2012 Project: "Novel 5-aryl-2-furfuryl-N-acylhydrazone derivatives with Advisor: Prof. Dr. Eliezer J. Barreiro potent anti-inflammatory and analgesic activity: LASSBio-1609 and LASSBio-1636" Advisor: Prof. Dr. Carlos Alberto Manssour Fraga LASSBio

Natalia Medeiros de Lima CV-Lattes

CNPg Technical Support Scholarship - AT NS Time: August 2010 to July 2011 Project: "Scientific awareness and health education at INCT-INOFAR" Advisor: Prof. Dr. Eliezer I. Barreiro LASSBio

Pedro Gabriel Dias Lobato Pereira CV-Lattes

CNPg Scientific Initiation Scholarship - IC Time: August to October 2011 Project: "Synthesis of cyclodextrin complexes of LASSBio-596 salts" Advisor: Prof. Dr. Lidia Moreira Lima LASSBio

Priscila de Paula Cabral CV-Lattes

CNPg Technological Development Scholarship - DTI-3 Time: May 2012 to June 2012 Project: "Scientific awareness and health education at INCT-INOFAR" Advisor: Prof. Dr. Eliezer J. Barreiro LASSBio

Raquel de Oliveira Lopes CV-Lattes

CNPg Technical Support Scholarship - DTI-3 Time: October 2010 to December 2010 Project: "Metabolic studies of LASSBio-596" LASSBio

Roberta Tesch CV-Lattes

CNPg Technical Support Scholarship – AT NS Time: June 2010 to November 2010 **CAPES Master Scholarship** Time: March to April 2011 Project: "Studies of molecular modeling and structural planning of new ligands to adenosine receptors" Advisor: Prof. Dr. Carlos Alberto Manssour Fraga LASSBio

Rodolfo do Couto Maia CV-Lattes

CAPES Exchange Doctorate Scholarship (Dsw) Time: February to July 2011 Project: "Synthesis and evaluation of antitumor activity of a new family of pyrazole-pyridone family" Advisor: Prof. Dr. Carlos Alberto Manssour Fraga LASSBio

Tais Rubia dos Santos CV-Lattes CNPq Scientific Initiation Scholarship - IC Time: September to November 2011 Project: *"Planning, synthesis and pharmacological evaluation of new leflunomide analogs"* Advisor: Prof. Dr. Lidia Moreira Lima LASSBio

Thiago Stevanatto Sampaio CV-Lattes CNPQ Technical Support Grant- AT NM April 2009 to March 2010 Project: Design, synthesis and evaluation of cytotoxic properties of new TK inhibitor pharmaceutical candidate prototypes. Advisor: Prof. Dr. Eliezer J. Barreiro LASSBio

USP- RIBEIRÂO PRETO

Giuliana Bertozi Francisco CV-Lattes CNPq Technical Support Scholarship – AT NM Time: September 2010 to December 2011 Project: *"Semicarbazone Benzaldehyde (BS)"* Advisor: Prof. Dr. Fernando de Queiroz Cunha Faculty of Medicine of Ribeirão Preto

Ana Katia dos Santos CV-Lattes CNPq Technical Support Scholarship – AT NM Time: January 2012 to July 2013 Project: *"Semicarbazone Benzaldehyde (BS)"* Advisor: Prof. Dr. Fernando de Queiroz Cunha Faculty of Medicine of Ribeirão Preto

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Scholarships

Adriano Sigueira Vieira (Unicamp) CV-Lattes Allan Kardec Nogueira de Alencar (UFRJ) CV-Lattes Alan Rodrigues de Sousa (UFRJ) CV-Lattes Alexandra Basilio Lopes (UFRJ) CV-Lattes Ana Carla Dos Santos (UFRJ) CV-Lattes Ana Cristina da Mata Silva (UFRJ) CV-Lattes Ana Katia dos Santos (UFRJ) CV-Lattes Ana Maria Calçado dos Santos (UFG) CV-Lattes André Victor Pereira (UNIFAL) CV-Lattes Arthur Eugen Kümmerle (UFRJ) CV-Lattes Arthur Henrique F. do Prado (UFRJ) CV-Lattes Bárbara Assis Novak (UFRJ) CV-Lattes Bruno Coelho Cavalcanti (UFC) CV-Lattes Carlos Eduardo da Silva Monteiro (UFRI) CV-Lattes Carolina Neris Cardoso (UFMG) CV-Lattes Clemilson Berto Junior (UFRJ) CV-Lattes Daniel Nascimento do Amaral (UFRJ) CV-Lattes Fabrício Maia da Silva Salvador (UFRI) CV-Lattes Gabrielle Luck de Araujo (UFMG) CV Lattes Givanildo Santos da Silva (UFRJ) CV-Lattes Giuliana Bertozi Francisco (USP-RP) CV-Lattes

Hannah Carolina T. Domingos (UFRJ) CV-Lattes Jessica Silva dos Santos (UFRJ) CV-Lattes Juliana Fátima Vilachã Madeira Rodrigues dos Santos (UFRJ) CV Lattes Julio Beltrame Daleprane (FIOCRUZ) CV-Lattes Leandro Louback da Silva (UFRJ) CV-Lattes Leila de Souza Conegero (Unicamp) CV-Lattes Lidilhone Hamerski Carbonezi (UFRJ) CV-Lattes Lucia Beatriz Torres (UFRJ) CV-Lattes Luciana Almeida Piovesan (UFRJ) CV-Lattes Luciano da Silva Santos (UFRJ) CV-Lattes Maria de Fátima do Nascimento Alfredo (UFRJ) CV-Lattes Mariana Trad R. da Motta (UFRJ) CV-Lattes Marlon Daniel Lima Tonin (UFRJ) CV-Lattes Marcus Vinicius Dos Santos (UFRJ) CV-Lattes Natalia Medeiros de Lima (UFRJ) CV-Lattes Nathalia Freitas Emiliano (UFMG) CV-Lattes Pedro Gabriel D. L. Pereira (UFRJ) CV-Lattes Priscila de Paula Cabral (UFRJ) CV-Lattes Raquel de Oliveira Lopes (UFRJ) CV-Lattes Roberta Tesch (UFRJ) CV-Lattes Rodolfo do Couto Maia (UFRJ) CV-Lattes Samira de Sa e Souza (UFMG) CV-Lattes Sarah da Silva Nunes (UFG) CV-Lattes Tais Rubia dos Santos (UFRJ) CV-Lattes Thiago Stevanatto Sampaio (UFRJ) CV-Lattes Vinicius Frias de Carvalho (FIOCRUZ) CV-Lattes Wallace Carvalho Ferreira (UFMG) CV-Lattes

