# Prediction of Drug Targets by Using a Curated Pharmacophore Database

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**Identification of biological targets** for an understanding of their mode of action is crucial for advancing a natural product to a modern medicine, which is effective and safe in treatment of human diseases. A curated 3D-pharmacophore database of therapeutic protein targets of human diseases and pathogens was generated for predicting pharmacological targets of natural products. The features of the pharmacophore models of disease-related proteins were created based on critical contactable residues participating in selectively binding to ligands. The usefulness of this database was demonstrated by a variety of compounds to identify their potential biological counterparts, which could provide useful clues for mode of action.

## Good or Bad ?

• Any other targets, resulting to side effects or multiple indications ?





COX-1 mediates the synthesis of prostaglandins responsible for protection of the stomach lining, while COX-2 mediates the synthesis of prostaglandins responsible for pain and inflammation. By creating "selective" NSAIDs that inhibit COX-2, but not COX-1, the same pain relief as traditional NSAIDs is offered, but with greatly reduced risk of fatal or debilitating peptic ulcers.

John Robert Vane (1982 Nobel Prize)



• Aspirin exerts activities at multiple points along carcinogenesis pathway.

Acetylsalicylic acid







Aspirin as adjuvant therapy for colorectal cancer—reinterpreting paradigms Whay Kuang Chia, Raghib Ali & Han Chong Toh Nature Reviews Clinical Oncology 9, 561-570 (October 2012) doi:10.1038/nrclinonc.2012.137

## Rofecoxib



- Rofecoxib is a selective COX-2 inhibitor, or "coxib", which offers pain relief effect but could reduced incidence of gastric ulceration.
- a nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drug (NSAID) marketed under the brand name **Vioxx** by **Merck** to treat osteoarthritis, acute pain conditions, and dysmenorrhea.
- Rofecoxib was approved by FDA in 1999 and market, but was then withdrew in 2004, because of concerns about increased risk of heart attack and stroke associated with long-term, high-dosage use, resulting in between 88,000 and 140,000 cases of serious heart disease.
- In the year before withdrawal, Merck had sales revenue of US\$2.5 billion from Vioxx. Merck reserved \$970 million to pay for its Vioxx-related legal expenses through 2007, and has set aside \$4.85bn for legal claims from US citizens.

## **Modern Medicine Aspect**

- How much do we know the effectors in the traditional remedy ?
- How do the active components work to cure diseases or "kill" invaders ?



## **A Modern Medicine Prospect**



## Approaches for mapping drug-target relationship



#### **Drug Databases**

- DrugBankThe DrugBank database is a blended bioinformatics and cheminformatics resource that combines detailed drug (i.e. chemical, pharmacological and<br/>pharmaceutical) data with comprehensive drug target (i.e. sequence, structure, and pathway) information. The database contains nearly 4800 drug entries<br/>including >1,350 FDA-approved small molecule drugs, 123 FDA-approved biotech (protein/peptide) drugs, 71 nutraceuticals and >3,243 experimental drugs.<br/>DrugBank also contains extensive SNP-drug data that is useful for pharmacogenomics studies.
- Therapeutic
   The Therapeutic Target Database (TTD) is a drug database designed to provide information about the known therapeutic protein and nucleic acid targets

   Target DB
   described in the literature, the targeted disease conditions, the pathway information and the corresponding drugs/ligands directed at each of these targets. The database currently contains 1535 targets and 2107 drugs/ligands.
- PharmGKB The PharmGKB database is a central repository for genetic, genomic, molecular and cellular phenotype data and clinical information about people who have participated in pharmacogenomics research studies. The data includes, but is not limited to, clinical and basic pharmacokinetic and pharmacogenomic research in the cardiovascular, pulmonary, cancer, pathways, metabolic and transporter domains. Its aim is to aid researchers in understanding how genetic variation among individuals contributes to differences in reactions to drugs. PharmGKB contains searchable data on genes (>20,000), diseases (>3000), drugs (>2500) and pathways (53). It also has detailed information on 470 genetic variants (SNP data) affecting drug metabolism.
- STITCH ('search tool for interactions of chemicals') is a searchable database that integrates information about interactions from metabolic pathways, crystal structures, binding experiments and drug-target relationships. Text mining and chemical structure similarity is used to predict relations between chemicals. Each proposed interaction can be traced back to the original data sources. The database contains interaction information for over 68 000 different chemicals, including 2200 drugs, and connects them to 1.5 million genes across 373 genomes.
- SuperTarget SuperTarget is a database that contains a core dataset of about 7300 drug-target relations of which 4900 interactions have been subjected to a more extensive manual annotation effort. SuperTarget provides tools for 2D drug screening and sequence comparison of the targets. The database contains more than 2500 target proteins, which are annotated with about 7300 relations to 1500 drugs; the vast majority of entries have pointers to the respective literature source. A subset of 775 more extensively annotated drugs is provided separately through the Matador database (Manually Annotated Targets And Drugs Online Resource)





Drugs

#### **Target Statistics**

Drug Group	Drug Type	Number of drug-target associations	Number of unique targets
Approved	Biotech	556	232
Approved	Small Molecule	5904	1679
Nutraceutical	Small Molecule	994	792
Experimental	Small Molecule	7602	2583
Illicit	Small Molecule	470	87
Withdrawn	Biotech	53	40
Withdrawn	Small Molecule	330	180
Investigational	Biotech	340	186
Investigational	Small Molecule	1868	780
		15475	4157



• Map active ingredients of drugs with known human gene targets



Known Protein Target

## **Examples:** Query a known drug

Answer to "What could be the targets of a drug?"



## **Examples:** Query a new compound

Answer to "What could be the targets of a new compound ?"



## **Examples:** Query a protein sequence

#### Answer to "Any existing drugs affect this protein ?"

GEAPNQALLRILKETEFKKIKVLGSGAFGTVYKGLWIPEGEKVKIPVAIKELREATSPKANKEILDEAYVMASVDNPHVC RLLGICLTSTVQLITQLMPFGCLLDYVREHKDNIGSQYLLNWCVQIAKGMNYLEDRRLVHRDLAARNVLVKTPQHVKITD FGLAKLLGAEEKEYHAEGGKVPIKWMALESILHRIYTHQSDVWSYGVTVWELMTFGSKPYDGIPASEISSILEKGERLPQ PPICTIDVYMIMVKCWMIDADSRPKFRELIIEFSKMARDPQRYLVIQGDERMHLPSPTDSNFYRALMDEEDMDDVVDADE





#### Search result

Hit score (bits) E-value

Query Accession Nu	umber Query Description	Accession Number	Description	Hit Score
SEQUENCE	no description available	Ic  720_C:\Users\HTS\Desktop\blastdb\me	Epidermal growth factor receptor (DB00002; DB00072; DB00281; DB00317; DB00530; DB01259; DB01269; DB03496; DB07602; DB07662; DB07998)	648.662
SEQUENCE	no description available	lcl Sci_5016	(chain = A) 2JIU_PROTEIN	614.764
SEQUENCE	no description available	lcl Sci_1105	(chain = A) 3IKA_PROTEIN	605.905
SEQUENCE	no description available	lcl Sci_5181	(chain = A) 2ITP_PROTEIN	595.504
SEQUENCE	no description available	lclSci_5125	(chain = A) 2J6M_PROTEIN	594.734

• drugs (or known bioactives) resulted from the previous query







Known Protein Target

**Computational Approach,** beside experimental approach



## **Establish Pharmacophore Database**

• Procedure

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- The Pharmacophore Database
  - **Progress**

• enzyme

• receptor

DNA binding

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- Neoplastic diseases Hormone ( and hormone antagonist) Blood pressure Blood homeostasis Immune response Viral infections Bacterial infections Renal and cardiovascular functions Synaptic and neuro effector Parasitic infectious disease Inflammation Gastrointestinal functions Metabolic disease Bone remodeling and resorption Glucose homeostasis
- Others

## **Examples:** Query hit compounds

Answer to "What could be the targets of a hit compound ?"



protein/pharmacophore



#### Comparison

search results from PharmMapper and GOSTAR databases

# Examples: Query Aspirin

Our database	COX-2 **	COX-1**	Androgen Receptor	ER-agonist	ER-antagonist	Glucoticoid Receptor	MR	RXRa	CDK2
	EGFr	FGFr1**	P39 4440**	Protein Kinase SRC **	Tymidine Kinase	VEGFr2	FXa	Thrombin	ACE
	COMT **	DHFR	AChE	РВ	Neuraminidase	InhA	PARP	PNP	HIVRT
	Aldose Reductase **	Alpha- Mannosidase II	Carbonic Annyorase II	S-AHH	DPP4	MMP9	MMP13	AmpC	Aurora A Kinase
	СНК1	Caspase3	LDHA	Trypanothione reductase	PDHK	SARS 3C-like proteinase	HCV-NS5B	SGLT2	PDE5
	3-Dehydroquinase	AMCase	Human serum albumin **	Trypsin	GluR	Cathepsin K	CYP450 3A4	ERK2	Phospholipase A2 **
	β-Glucuronidase	Topoisomerase	CYP450 2C9	5-Lipoxygenase	B-Raf kinase	c-Met			
Pharm Mapper database	GTPase HRas	Phosphoenolpyr uvate carboxykinase,	Aldose reductase **	RhoE	Aldo-keto reductase family 1	Tyr-protein kinase Src **	ACE	Tyr-protein phosphatase non- receptor type 1	Insulin receptor
	Sulfotransferase family cytosolic 2B member 1	Caspase-3	Coagulation factor VII	Stromelysin-1	Cytochrome P450 2C9	3- phosphoinositi de dependent protein kinase 1	Uridine- cytidine kinase 2	Glutathione S- transferase P	Cell division protein kinase 7
	Ornithine carbamoyltransfer ase, mitochondrial	Phospholipase A2 **	Ras-related protein Rap-2a	Dipeptidase 1	Proto-oncogene Tyr-protein kinase LCK	Arginase-1	Eukaryotic tran-slation initiation factor 4E	Cathepsin K	Death-associated protein kinase 1
	Cystathionine beta-synthase	Riboflavin kinase	ADAM 33	Thymidylate kinase	Farnesyl pyrophosphate synthetase	Heat shock protein HSP 90- alpha	ММР9	Inositol monophosphatase	Neprilysin
	Ser/Thr protein kinase 6	ADP-ribosylation factor 4	Cell division control protein 42	6-phosphofruc to 2-kinase/ fructose-2,6- biphosphatase	Pyruvate kinase isozymes R/L	Cyclin-A2	Interstitial collagenase	Beta-secretase 1	ADP-ribosylation factor-like protein 5B
	Eukaryotic translation initiation factor 4E	Leukocyte elastase	RAC-α Ser/Thr- protein kinase	3 histone mRNA exonuclease 1	L-serine dehydratase	5(3)-deoxyribo- nucleotidase,	Glu-6-P- isomerase	Ornithine aminotransferase, mitochondrial	UDP-N- acetylhexosamine pyrophosphorylase
	Uridine-cytidine	Tryptase beta-2	Neutrophil						
GOSTAR	Target/MOA unknown	COX-1**	COX-2 **	сох	Albumin **	Thromboxane A2 receptor	I-keppa-B kinase β	Vanilloid receptor 1	Thromboxane A synthase1
Gatabase	PRSS1	3-α-HSD2	Phospholipase A2 **	5-Lipoxygenase	NFKB	Postaglandin E recptor 2	Acid sensing ion chanel3	RPS6KA1	Organic anion transporter 1
	Organic anion transporter 3	Tachykinin receptor 1	Tachykinin receptor 2	Thrombin	МАРК8	MAPK14	Histamine H1 receptor	β-Glucuronidase	CAMP phosphodiesterase
	CYP2C9	Gastric H+/K+ ATPase	20-Alpha-HSD	Proto- oncogene c- ros-1	CDK5-P35	СҮР ЗА4	IL-1 receptor associated kinase 1	Activin receptor- like kinase4	Adenosine deaminase
	Alcohol dehydrogenase	3-α-HSD3	Allene oxide synthase	Anaplastic lymphoma synthase	Arbutin synthase	Arginine kinase	ABC transporter G2	Aurora kinase A	AXL kinase
	B-lymphoid Tyr kinase	BMX Tyr kinase	BRSK1	BRSK2	Brady kinin receptor B2	Bruton's Tyr kinase	Butyrylcholine esterase	ABL1	САМК2
		Carbonic Anhydrase II	CAMK1-delta						

### **Examples:** Query Cistanche tubulosa



• **Cistanche deserticola Y.C. Ma** is widely distributed in the northwest part of China. The whole dried parasitic plant (excluding the flower) is known as Cistanchis Herba.

• Cistanche deserticola has been traditionally used in the Chinese medicine as a tonic, vasodilator and neuroprotective agent.

The plant extract was found to improves the age-related behavioral decline, which makes it an attractive candidate for treatment of various neurodegenerative disorders and age-related eye diseases

• Pharmacology studies have been demonstrated that Cistanche deserticola possesses broad medicinal functions, especially for use in hormone regulation, aperient, immunomodulatory, neuroprotective, antioxidative, anti-apoptotic, anti-nociceptive, anti-inflammatory, anti-fatigue activities and the promotion of bone formation.











## Summary



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