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logues with the aim to establish further SAR on this class of NNRTIs. Molecular modelling studies have also been performed.

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The Application of Phosphoramidate Protide Technology to Acyclovir confers Novel Anti-HIV Inhibition

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The antiviral drug acyclovir is a guanosine nucleoside analogue which shows inhibitory activity against human herpesviruses (HHV) and in particular against herpes simplex virus (HSV) and varicella-zoster virus (VZV) showing low cytotoxicity. To show this activity, acyclovir needs to be phosphorylated to its active triphosphate form to inhibit the viral DNA polymerase (Elion et al., 1977).

Recently it has been reported that acyclovir inhibits HIV-1 in HHV coinfected tissues (Lisco et al., 2008). This activity is due to the phosphorylation to the monophosphate form mediated by HHV encoded kinase followed by further phosphorylation to di- and triphoshate form and consequent inhibition of the HIV-1 reverse transcriptase.

The phosphoramidate ProTide approach has been applied to acyclovir as a means to bypass the first phosphorylation. These compounds showed inhibitory effect against HIV-1 and 2, while acyclovir does not show any significant activity.

In the present work, we reported a series of acyclovir ProTides considering alanine as amino acid moiety and varying the aryl and the ester moiety to study the anti-HIV activity for these compounds.

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Design, Synthesis, and Biological Evaluation of Novel Fluoro Derivatives of BCNA

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Bicyclic nucleoside analogues (BCNAs), which are characterised by a fused bicyclic pyrimidine ring, showed potent and extremely selective activity against varicella-zoster virus (VZV). The 6-pentylphenyl-substituted BCNA, Cf1743, has been found to be the

most potent inhibitor of VZV being inhibitory in the sub-nanomolar range (McGuigan et al., 2000). Its valyl ester prodrug, FV-100, has concluded successfully Phase I clinical trials (McGuigan et al., 2007).

In the present work, a new series of BCNA derivatives has been designed considering fluorine as bioisostere for its chemical and biological properties. The synthesis, the affinity studies for VZV-TK and the biological evaluation of a series of novel BCNA fluoro derivatives will be reported.

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4,4-Disubstituted Cyclohexylamine based CCR5 Chemokine Receptor Antagonists as Anti-HIV-1 agents

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HIV/AIDS continues to be a threat to global public health care. While current anti-HIV therapies resulted in dramatic increase of life expectancy of AIDS patients, issues arising from these treatments such as the emergence of the resistant HIV-1 strains and long-term treatment side effects have brought significant challenges to drug discovery research. Need for drugs with novel treatment mechanism becomes increasingly urgent. Discovery of chemokine receptors 5 (CCR5) as a co-receptor for HIV-1 infection opened a new avenue to anti HIV-1 treatment and prevention. Over years, successful research and development in the pharmaceutical industry resulted in several small molecule clinic candidates and the launch of one FDA approved drug. This poster will present our efforts in identification and optimization of 4,4-disubstituted cyclohexylamine based CCR5 antagonists as anti-HIV-1 agents.

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