

Cover Picture

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The cover picture shows a model of the binding pocket of the estrogen receptor (ER) occupied by 8β -VE₂, a steroidal ER β -selective agonist. As illustrated by the model, a single amino acid, methionine, accounts for the ER β selectivity of this compound class. An exchange to leucine at this position in some animal species, depicted in the sequence alignment, generates unfavorable interactions with 8β -VE₂. Therefore, knowledge about the structure of the protein–ligand complex can be used to predict suitable animal models for in vivo pharmacological studies with this ligand class. For more details, see the Full Paper by L. Toschi et al. on p. 1237 ff.

