Valnoctamide as an Anti-viral Agent

OCR Number: OCR 6948

Description:

Valnoctamide (VCD) inhibits Cytomegalovirus (CMV) infection

- CMV is the most common infectious cause of congenital birth defects in fetuses and can generate debilitating disease in immunocompromised patients.
- Current anti-CMV drugs are only partially effective, teratogenic and not recommended for fetal exposure.
- VCD is already FDA approved for the treatment of epilepsy and mood disorders.
- In in vitro studies, VCD effectively inhibited human and murine CMV.
- In a mouse model of perinatal infection, VCD safely attenuated murine CMV and improved both survival and development.
- VCD appears to act by a novel mechanism arising from inhibition of CMV attachment to the cell.
- Reference: Ormagni et al. (2016) Virology
- Lead Innovator: Anthony van den Pol, PhD
- IP status: Application filed PCT/US2017/030966

PI: Anthony Van den Pol

Licensing Contact: Christopher Unsworth
christopher.unworth@yale.edu