Cardiogenesis inducing synthetic small molecules

TECHNOLOGY
Researchers of the Vienna University of Technology and the Medical University of Vienna have found that cardiomyocyte-like cells may be obtained not only from omnipotent or pluripotent mammalian cells, but also from lineage committed cells, such as skeletal myoblasts when cultured in the presence of substituted pyridine- and pyrimidine-compounds displaying potent cardiomyogenic activity like induction of beating heart cells in a mouse model.

In particular, these novel compounds may be used to produce cardiomyocyte-like cells (CMCs) from cells originating from a patient, for the treatment of disorders associated with the heart. Such treatment may e.g. be carried out by injection of cells which are produced by treating the omnipotent, pluripotent or lineage committed individual cells with these compound(s). Such treatment may improve damaged regions of the heart and may induce improved regeneration in regions which are damaged, e.g. by myocardial infarction.

So far, two patent families have been filed identifying two structurally independent leads for further elaboration.

APPLICATION
- Cell transplantation therapy after myocardial infarction
- Treatment of heart diseases

DEVELOPMENT STATUS
- New compounds with potent cardiomyogenic activity identified
- Induction of beating heart cells was achieved on a mouse model

KEYWORDS
- cardiomyocyte-like cells
- treatment of heart diseases

IPR
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INVENTORS
Marko MIHOVILOVIC
Michael SCHNÜRCH
Karlheinz HILBER
Xaver KÖNIG
Moumita KOLEY

CONTACT
Tanja Sovic
TU Wien
Research and Transfer Support
Karlsplatz 13/E0154
A-1040 Wien
T: +43.1.58801.41537
tanja.sovic@tuwien.ac.at
www.rt.tuwien.ac.at