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(57) Abstract :

The present invention provides a method of inducing cleavage of amyloid precursor protein to produce an approximately 17 kilodalton carboxy-terminal fragment of amyloid precursor protein in a subject, the method comprising administering a heterocyclic compound or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, hydrate or prodrug thereof to a subject in need thereof, wherein the approximately 17 kilodalton fragment includes the carboxyterminal amino acid sequence of amyloid precursor protein and amyloid-beta amino acid sequence. Also provided is a screening method for identifying compounds induce cleavage of amyloid precursor protein to produce the approximately 17 kilodalton carboxy-terminal fragment of amyloid precursor protein.

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