

"COMPOUNDS WITH CANNABIS-LIKE EFFECTS" VCU #08-62

Applications

• Study novel mechanisms of action by which compounds elicit THC-like effects

Advantages

- Elicit cannabis-like effects without activating the CB1 receptor
- Stable compounds
- Easy and inexpensive to synthesize
- Exhibit CNS activity when administered iv/ ip in a rodent model

Inventors

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Market Need

Delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinol (THC), the principle ingredient of *cannabis* produces psychoactive effects by binding to and activating the cannabinoid receptor, CB1. The

selective CB1 receptor antagonist, rimonabant, is able to block these psychoactive effects produced by THC and other available CB1 agonists.

Technology Summary

These are a series of new compounds chemically similar to rimonabant, which bind to CB1 receptor and produce THC-like psychoactive effects without activating the receptor. This absence of activation has been confirmed by the fact that these THC-like effects are not blocked by rimonabant.

 $C_{21}H_{30}O_2$ (molecular weight = 314.47)

Technology Status

This technology is available for licensing to industry for further development and commercialization.