Moclobemide: Evolution, Pharmacodynamic, and Pharmacokinetic Properties

Udo Bonnet

Department of Psychiatry and Psychotherapy, University of Essen, Essen, Germany

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ABSTRACT

The benzamide moclobemide is a reversible inhibitor of monoamine-oxidase-A (RIMA). It has been extensively evaluated in the treatment of a wide spectrum of depressive disorders and less extensively in anxiety disorders. While clinical aspects will be presented in a subsequent review, this article focuses primarily on moclobemide’s evolution, pharmacodynamic and pharmacokinetic properties. In particular, the effects on neurotransmission and intracellular signal transduction, the neuroendocrine system, the tyramine pressure response and animal models of depression are surveyed. In addition, other CNS effects are reviewed with special respect to experimental serotonergic syndrome, anxiolytic and antinociceptive activity, sleep, cognition and driving performance, neuroprotection and seizures.