

Antimycobacterial activity of a novel Diarylquinoline (TBAJ-876) against diverse drug-sensitive (DS) and drug-resistant (DR) clinical isolates of *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* (Mtb)

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Track selection

Track: A2: Drug and vaccine development, including for COVID-19

2nd Track: A3: TB diagnostics, including drug-resistance determination – Technical aspects and new developments

Title

Scientific Research Abstract Text

Background: Standardized in vitro MIC assays are used to compare relative potency of antimycobacterial drugs. For some classes of drugs, potency differences can be observed amongst different clades of Mtb. For second-generation drugs, the potential for cross-resistance or reduced potency may limit the effectiveness of new agents. Testing large panels of clinical isolates and strains having known resistance profiles is needed before advancing a novel Mtb drug into clinical development. Validating the in vitro activity in mouse infection models provides added confidence.

Design/Methods: The MICs of TBAJ-876 and BDQ were evaluated by an agar proportion method against a panel of 96 DS and DR clinical isolates representing broad phylogenetic and geographic diversity. MICs were also determined by MABA method for TBAJ-876, BDQ, and their mono-N-desmethyl metabolites (M3 and M2, respectively) against a panel of 5 DS clinical isolates representing 5 phylogenetic clades and against a panel of clinical and laboratory isolates with diverse Rv0678 mutations. The activity of TBAJ-876 and BDQ in combination with pretomanid and linezolid (PaL) was also assessed in BALB/c mice infected with an isogenic BDQ-R Rv0678 mutant selected in an H37Rv strain.

Results: Against 96 DS and DR clinical isolates, TBAJ-876 had an MIC₉₀ of 0.016 mg/L vs. 0.16 mg/L for BDQ. TBAJ-876 and 876-M3 were at least 10x more potent than BDQ and BDQ-M2 against DS and Rv0678 mutant strains. TBAJ-876 also provided improved activity vs BDQ in mice infected with an Rv0678 mutant strain.



