Drug-Receptor Interactions: Reading

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Biased G Protein-Coupled

Receptor Signaling: New Player in Modulating Physiology and Pathology.

- Bologna Z, Teoh JP, Bayoumi AS, Tang Y, Kim IM.
- Abstract
- G protein-coupled receptors (GPCRs) are a family of cell-surface proteins that play critical roles in regulating a variety of pathophysiological processes and thus are targeted by almost a third of currently available therapeutics. It was originally thought that GPCRs convert extracellular stimuli into intracellular signals through activating G proteins, whereas β -arrestins have important roles in internalization and desensitization of the receptor. Over the past decade, several novel functional aspects of β-arrestins in regulating GPCR signaling have been discovered. These previously unanticipated roles of β -arrestins to act as signal transducers and mediators of G protein-independent signalinghave led to the concept of biased agonism. Biased GPCR ligands are able to engage with their target receptors in a manner that preferentially activates only G protein- or β arrestin-mediated downstream signaling. This offers the potential for next high selectivity to therapeutically generation drugs with relevant GPCR signaling pathways. In this review, we provide a summary of the recent studies highlighting G protein- or β -arrestin-biased GPCR signaling and the effects of biased ligands on disease pathogenesis and regulation.