



Review on Drug Design and Drug Discovery

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ABSTRACT:-

Drug design is a long-standing and intricate field of pharmaceutical science. Since the late 1800s, a great deal of progress has been made in the field of drug design. The significant progress made in computer science, statistics, molecular biology, biophysics, biochemistry, medicinal chemistry, pharmacokinetics, and pharmacodynamics in the past few years is primarily responsible for its quick development many years. Rational drug design application has the prospective quality of being used for using all available theoretical and experimental information of the system to identify possible leads in drug discovery in research.

Keyword: - Principle of drug design , ligand based drug design, structure based drug design, rational drug design , computer aided drug design.

Drug Design:-

➤ **History & Definition of Drug Design:-**

The development of small drugs for the treatment and prevention of diseases has again played an important role in medical practice. In fact, the use of natural products for medicinal purposes dates back thousands of years. But the discovery of new medicines did not enter the realm of wisdom until the last century. In 1900, one-third of all deaths in the United States were due to three rare preventable and/or treatable causes: pneumonia and diarrhea. By 1940 the chance of dying from one of these three causes was one in 10; By 2000, this rate had dropped to one in 25.

Among the three causes of death, only pneumonia is in the top ten; More common diseases such as heart disease and stroke are at the top of the list, while cancer is at the top of the list. Although other factors such as improved sanitation and vaccination clearly played a role in the 20th century (less than 50 in 1900, more than 77 in 2000), infection has played a role in controlling high blood pressure and high cholesterol. The lack of medicine against diabetes and even to some extent cancer has led to great improvements in our health and life expectancy.

The half-century history of drug discovery in pharmaceutical research and science dates back to the advances in discovery of "perfect drugs" such as penicillin during World War II. It shows that it started shortly after it became available to the public after World War II. The same decade also saw the rise of synthetic organic chemistry, which developed to the point where "synthetic" drugs or pharmaceuticals were useful for mass administration.

Medicine design, constantly appertained to as rational drug design or simply rational design, is the inventive process of chancing new specifics predicated on the knowledge of a natural target. The drug is most generally an organic small patch that activates or inhibits the function of a biomolecule analogous as a protein, which in turn results in a remedial benefit to the case. In the most introductory sense, drug design involves the design of molecules that are complementary in shape and charge to the biomolecular target with which they interact and therefore will bind to it. drug design constantly but not inevitably relies on computer modeling ways. This type of modeling is sometimes appertained to as computer-backed drug design. ultimately, drug design that relies on the knowledge of the three-dimensional structure of the biomolecular target is known as structure-predicated drug design. In addition to small molecules, biopharmaceuticals including peptides and especially remedial antibodies are an increasingly important class of drugs and computational styles for perfecting the affinity, selectivity, and stability of these protein-predicated cures have also been developed.

➤ **Introduction:-**

The process of discovering new medicines is still a drawn-out, costly, delicate, and constrained one, with a high rate of wasteful new therapeutic development, despite advancements in biotechnology and understanding of natural systems. The creative process of coming up with novel details based on an understanding of a natural aim is known as medicine design. To put it simply, medicine design is the process of creating molecules that have the same shape and charge as the molecules they interact and bind with. In the big data era, bioinformatics techniques and computer modeling methods are frequently, but not inextricably, used in medicine design. Apart from small molecules, biopharmaceuticals, particularly therapeutic antibodies, are a progressively significant category of medications and computational approaches for optimizing the stability, selectivity, and affinity of these protein-based.



Fig 01:- Drug Design

➤ **Principle of Drug Design:-**

The rule was formulated by Christopher A. Lipinski in 1997, grounded on the observation that utmost drug Lipinski's rule of five also known as the Pfizer's rule of five or simply the Rule of five (RO5) is a rule of thumb to estimate medicine medicines are fairly small and lipophilic moieties. The rule describes molecular parcels important for a medicine's pharmacokinetics in the mortal body, including their immersion, distribution, metabolism, and excretion ("ADME"). still, the rule doesn't prognosticate if an emulsion is pharmacologically active. The rule is important to keep in mind during medicine discovery when a pharmacologically active lead structure is optimized step-wise to increase the exertion and selectivity of the emulsion as well as to ensure medicine- suchlike physicochemical parcels are maintained as described by Lipinski's rule.

Types of Drug Design:-

1. Ligand based drug design :-

Drug design that is ligand-based, also known as indirect drug design, is dependent on understanding which other molecules bind to the desired biological target. These additional molecules can be utilized to create a pharmacophore model, which outlines the minimal structural requirements that a molecule must meet in order to connect to the intended recipient. Put differently, a model of the biological target may be constructed using the understanding of what attaches to it, and using this model, new molecular entities that interact with the aim. A quantitative structure-activity relationship (QSAR), on the other hand, where a correlation between a molecule's computed characteristics and its biological activity as determined by testing, may be obtained. The activity of novel analog may then be predicted using these QSAR relationship.

1. Structural based drug design:-

With techniques like x-ray crystallography or NMR spectroscopy, one can collect information about the biological target's three-dimensional structure, which is necessary for structure-based drug design, also known as direct drug design. In the event that a target's experimental structure is unavailable, it could be able to construct a target homology model derived from an experimentally determined similar protein structure. Making use of the biological target's structure, potential medications that are anticipated to attach with great affinity, and Using interactive graphics and a medical professional's intuition, selectivity to the target can be designed. As an alternative, different automated computational techniques could be employed to recommend novel drugs. contenders. With the advancement of experimental techniques like NMR and X-ray crystallography, the quantity of details on the three-dimensional architecture of biomolecules. targets have significantly increased. Simultaneously, the body of knowledge regarding the electrical characteristics and structural dynamics of ligands has grown.

2. Rational drug design.:-

Unlike conventional approaches to drug discovery, which include experimenting with chemicals on animals or cultured cells and then matching the observed effects to treatments, rational drug design starts with a theory that altering a particular biological target could have medicinal worth. To choose a biomolecule as a potential therapeutic target, two crucial components of Data must be provided. The first piece of data suggests that target modification will be beneficial therapeutically. For instance, research on illness linkage may provide this information by demonstrating a correlation between changes to the biological target and specific illness conditions. The target is "drugable," according to the second. This indicates that it can bind to a tiny molecule and that the small molecule has the ability to affect its activity. Upon identification of a viable target, it is often cloned and expressed. The next, a screening assay is established using the expressed target.

3. Computer -aided drug design:-

Computational chemistry is used in computer-aided drug design to find, improve, or research pharmaceuticals and related physiologically active compounds. Predicting whether and how strongly a certain chemical will bind to a target is the most basic objective. Molecular dynamics, often known

as molecular mechanics, most frequently used to simulate conformational changes and predict the small molecule's structure that could happen in the biological target if the tiny molecule attaches to it. semi-empirical, first-hand to give optimum parameters, density functional theory or quantum chemistry techniques are frequently utilized for the computations involving molecular mechanics and moreover offer an approximation of the electronic properties (polarizability, electrostatic potential, etc.) of the proposed medication that will affect binding affinity. Molecular mechanics methods may also be used to provide semi-quantitative prediction of the binding affinity. Also, knowledge Additionally, binding affinity may be provided using a knowledge-based scoring function estimates.

➤ **Approaches of Drug Design:-**

1. Using bioassay techniques, synthesized substances and chemicals are randomly screened.
2. The creation of novel compounds based on the architecture of naturally occurring, physiologically active materials derived from both plants and animals, such as a lead skeleton.
3. Creation of structurally equivalent lead compounds with heightened biological activity.

➤ **Application of biososteric principle:-**

The current tendency in drug design is to structurally modify the lead nucleus in order to create novel, clinically successful medicines. The lead is a model substance with the intended biological or pharmacological action, however it may also have a number of unfavorable traits, such as high toxicity, other biological activity, insolubility, or issues related to metabolism. Once located, these organic leads are simple to utilize. This is a rather simple technique. Real testing will come from identifying such a lead. The discovery of these lead bioactive locations on the fundamental skeleton of such leads is the test.

➤ **Purpose of drug design:-**

To enhance the ADME profile (Absorption, Distribution, Metabolism, or Elimination) and to increase the selectivity of action. Obtaining a drug with more desirable properties in terms of potency, toxicity, and other aspects than the lead compound articularity. To lower the production cost. The exploitation of a current drug's side effects.

➤ **Prospective Developments in Drug Design:-**

Every scientific and technological breakthrough is quickly applied to the fields of medicine, pharmacy, and drug development. Investing in medication design pays off because the more a drug candidate is designed well in the experimental phase, the fewer chances there are that it would fail in the later phases, when testing becomes more costly, particularly in clinical trials. We have to reconsider how to speed up the time it takes to discover new medications and vaccinations in light of the COVID pandemic. Artificial Intelligence (AI) holds promise in delivering novel, efficient, and affordable approaches for drug discovery. AI has the speed and capacity to collect and analyze vast amounts of data in order to identify relevant targets to both create and carry out tests. The ability to create a particular, safe, efficient, and patient-specific medication in a few hours is the ultimate aim of future drug design. While it may appear far-fetched now, this objective is entirely doable in the near future.

Drug Discovery:-

Medicine discovery is a lengthy process that takes around 10- 15 times and costs up to 2.558 billion USD for a medicine to reach the request. It's a multistep process that begins with the identification of suitable medicine target, confirmation of medicine target, hit to lead discovery, optimization of lead notes, and preclinical and clinical studies. Despite the high investments and time incurred for the discovery of new medicines, the success rate through clinical trials is only 13 with a fairly high medicine waste rate. In the maturity of the cases (40- 60), the medicine failure at a after stage has been reported due to lack of optimum pharmacokinetic parcels on immersion, distribution, metabolism, excretion, and toxin. The process of finding a medicine that is chemically therapeutically beneficial in the treatment and management of a disease condition is known as drug discovery. Researchers typically discover novel medications by developing fresh insights into the pathophysiology of an illness, which enables them to create medications that counteract or stop the consequences of the illness. Drug candidates are identified, synthesized, characterized, screened, and assayed for therapeutic efficacy as part of the drug discovery process. Following clinical trials, a molecule will begin the process of medication development if it yields favorable results from these investigations. The process of finding and developing new drugs is costly since R&D and clinical trial expenses are so large. To create a single novel medicinal molecule.



Fig 02:- Drug Discovery

Stages of drug discovery and development includes:-

1. Target Identification:-

Identification of the Target Finding a disease's biological cause and possible intervention targets is the first stage in the drug discovery process. The first step in target identification is determining the function and contribution of a potential therapeutic target (gene, nucleic acid, or protein) to the illness. Characterization of the molecular pathways the target addresses comes after target identification. In addition to being safe, effective, and meeting clinical and commercial objectives, an ideal target should also be "druggable." Target identification methods might be derived from concepts in molecular biology, biochemistry, genetics, biophysics, or other fields.

2. Target validation:-

The process of proving the selected target's functional significance in the illness manifestation is known as target validation. The ultimate test is whether a medicine is effective in a clinical context, even if it is highly valuable to validate a drug's toxicity and efficacy in multiple disease-relevant cell models and animal models.

3. Reproducibility:-

The first step in ensuring that a pharmacological target can be effectively replicated is to repeat the experiment after it has been found, either via the use of a particular technique or by a literature study. The target validation technique consists of system biology research, protein microarray, reverse transfected cell microarray, siRNA, biochemical suppression, affinity chromatography, expression-cloning, DNA microarray, and examination of currently available medications.

4. Lead identification:-

In order to do this, the structure-activity relationship must be defined, the synthetic feasibility must be established, and there must be some indication of in vivo efficacy and target engagement.

5. Lead optimization:-

The process of designing a drug candidate after the identification of an initial lead molecule is known as lead optimization. In order to provide a picture of how chemical structure and activity are associated in terms of interactions with targets and metabolism, a prospective medication is put through an iterative series of synthesis and characterization steps.

6. Product characterisation:-

Any novel pharmacological molecule that exhibits potential therapeutic efficacy is identified by its size, shape, strength, weakness, application, toxicity, and biological activity. Early pharmacological research phases are useful for characterizing the compound's mechanism of action.

7. Formulation and development:-

A phase of medication development known as pharmaceutical formulation involves characterizing the physicochemical characteristics of active pharmaceutical ingredients (APIs) in order to create a dosage form that is stable, bioavailable, and ideal for a particular route of administration.

8. Preclinical testing:-

Pre-clinical research is a step in the drug development process that evaluates a medicine's safety and effectiveness in animal models before it is potentially applied to humans. The respective regulatory bodies must also approve the pre-clinical investigations. Only medications that have been proven to be both safe and effective will be approved by regulatory bodies, who also have an obligation to oversee the conduct of trials in an ethical and safe manner. ICH has created fundamental guidelines for technicians.

➤ **New drug applications:-**

Application of New Drug A drug's complete story is stated in its New Drug Application (NDA). Its goal is to confirm that a medication is both safe and effective in the subjects it is intended for. A drug developer is required to provide all relevant information about a drug in the NDA, from preclinical research to Phase 3 trial results. All research, data, and analysis reports are required to be included by developers. In addition to the results of clinical trials, developers need to provide.

- ◆ Proposed labeling
- ◆ Safety updates
- ◆ Drug abuse information
- ◆ Patent information

Factors affecting Drug Discovery:-

1. Medicinal objectives :-

Researchers and the pharmaceutical industry are eager to determine the medical goal since the more specific the goal, the less likely it is that a new drug will be developed or discovered. For example, creating a painkiller is not as difficult as creating a functional proton-pump inhibitor. As a result, the likelihood of success or failure in the drug discovery process depends on the medicinal criteria.

2. The ability of medical chemist:-

A medicinal chemist plays a critical role in the drug development process, identifying and preparing therapeutic compounds and assessing the safety and effectiveness of Structure-Activity Relationships (SARs).

3. Screening facilities:-

In-depth understanding of biomolecule screening and quick mass screening methods may be necessary to assess and find the possibly active medicinal molecule quickly.

4. Drug development facilities:-

For the purpose of developing new drugs, cutting edge facilities with multidisciplinary efforts in biology, chemistry, and pharmaceutical research are crucial.

5. The cost of a new drug:-

- Synthesis cost:- Out of the 5000–10,000 biomolecules under investigation, only one medicinal molecule is likely to make it to market.
- The nature of the active molecule:- If the active molecule is prepared by consumption, there will be a significant cost associated with design and manufacture. After the medication molecule is created, it must be prepared with the following factors in mind in order for the dosage form to be held in the consumer's hand: The drug's solubility in relation to its physicochemical properties; its capacity to dissolve from dosage forms; its effective permeability in the stomach; and the drug's pre-systemic metabolism

Stages of Drug Discovery and Development Include:-

1. Target validation:-

Target validation is the procedure used to certify the intended molecular target, such as a small molecule's gene, protein, or nucleic acid. Target validation encompasses various techniques such as analyzing the structure-activity relationship (SAR) of small molecule analogs, creating a drug-resistant mutant, over- or knock-expressing the presumed target, and keeping an eye on established signaling systems that are downstream of the presumed target. In the process of proving the functional significance of the selected target in the illness phenotype is known as target validation. Although it is highly beneficial to validate a drug's toxicity and efficacy in multiple disease-relevant cell models and animal models, the true test is whether the drug functions in a clinical environment.

2. Product characterization:-

Any novel pharmacological molecule that exhibits potential therapeutic efficacy is identified by its size, shape, strength, weakness, application, toxicity, and biological activity. The mechanism of action of a drug can be characterized with the use of preliminary pharmacological research.

3. Formulation and development:-

Creating and Developing In order to create a bioavailable, stable, and ideal dosage form for a particular administration route, the physicochemical characteristics of active pharmaceutical ingredients (APIs) are determined during the pharmaceutical formulation stage of drug development.

4. Preclinical Testing:-

Pre-clinical exploration in medicine development process involves evaluation of medicine 's safety and efficacy in beast species that conclude to prospective mortal outgrowth. Thepre-clinical trials also have to acquire blessing by corresponding nonsupervisory authorities. The nonsupervisory authorities must insure that trials are conducted in safe and ethical way and would give blessing for only those medicines which are confirm to be safe and effective. ICH has established a introductory guideline for specialized musts of respectable preclinical medicine development.

Toxicological studies of the medicine can be performed by in- vitro and in- vivo test which estimate the toxicological goods of the medicine. In- vitro studies can be performed to check the direct goods on cell proliferation and phenotype. In- vivo studies can be performed for qualitative and quantitative determination of toxicological goods. As numerous medicines are species specific, it is essential to elect applicable beast species for toxin study. In- vivo studies to estimate pharmacological and toxicological conduct, including mode of action, are frequently used to support the base of the proposed use of the product in clinical studies.

Conclusion:-

Rational Drug Design is a unique way to predicting binding affinity that has been made possible since the early 1980s by the contributions of molecular biology, protein crystallography, and computational chemistry. Two subsets of the computer-aided drug discovery process—structure-based and ligand-based drug design—contribute significantly to the faster and more affordable creation and identification of therapeutic compounds. Finding medications for the prevention and treatment of COVID-19 is urgently needed due to the rising number of positive cases and deaths from the virus, as well as the lack of licensed treatments and vaccines. These factors continue to be concerns for world health.

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