



# FOCUS ON meccanismo ALIA

Numerose evidenze dimostrano che il meccanismo d'azione delle alihamidi è esclusivamente periferico, e dipende dal legame ad un recettore periferico per i cannabinoidi (CB2 or CB2-like) espresso da cellule immunitarie – mastociti in particolare – e dai neuroni sensoriali delle corna dorsali del midollo spinale. Ne deriva la modulazione del rilascio di mediatori coinvolti nell'infiammazione e nel dolore.

Le ricerche sul meccanismo ALIA si sono di recente intrecciate con due filoni dalle incredibili prospettive terapeutiche: quello degli endocannabinoidi e quello degli endovanilloidi. Con gli endocannabinoidi, le alihamidi condividono gli effetti periferici e, probabilmente, il meccanismo d'azione (attivazione di un recettore per i cannabinoidi). Con gli endovanilloidi, interagiscono in modo sinergico, attraverso quello che viene definito "effetto entourage".

Entrambi questi sistemi endogeni di recente scoperta sono intimamente coinvolti nella protezione dell'organismo, con importanti coinvolgimenti nel controllo di dolore, infiammazione e prurito.

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