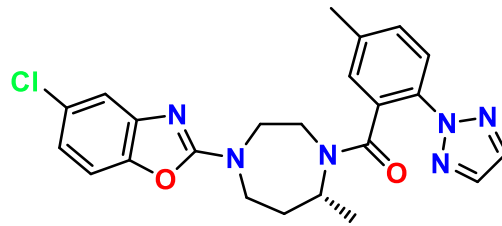


La molécule du mois - What molecule am I ?



Suvorexant is a first-in-class orexin receptor antagonist to treat Insomnia and has been approved by the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) on August 14, 2014.

Orexins are hypothalamic neuropeptides involved in the regulation of the sleep/wake cycle and play a crucial role in maintaining normal wakefulness. Suvorexant is a dual orexin receptor antagonist that blocks both, OX1R and OX2R, thus, facilitating sleep induction and maintenance. Unlike the benzodiazepine receptor agonists (BzRAs), which act diffusely on the GABA-nergic system and cause side effects such as visual hallucinations or dependence, Suvorexant is thought to act more centrally and selectively on the specific orexin receptors, thereby reducing major side effects. Suvorexant could represent a novel option for the treatment of patients with chronic insomnia.

Contribution : **David MONTAIR November 2016**