Table of Contents

List of Tables i
List of Figures ii-v
Abbreviations vi-ix

CHAPTER 1: MOLECULAR IMAGING: INTRODUCTION AND REVIEW OF LITERATURE 1-39

1.1 Introduction 1
1.2 Serotonergic System 2
  1.2.1 Pathways of the Serotonergic System in Human Brain 3
  1.2.2 Biosynthesis and Metabolism of Serotonin 4
  1.2.3 Serotonin Receptor Families 5
  1.2.4 The 5-HT1 Receptor Family 6
  1.2.5 5HT1A Receptors 7
  1.2.6 Mechanism of Action 7
1.3 Nuclear Imaging 8
  1.3.1 Positron Emission Tomography (PET) 8
  1.3.2 Single-photon Emission Computed Tomography 11
  1.3.3 Radioisotope Production 12
    1.3.3.1 Cyclotrons 12
    1.3.3.2 Radionuclide Generators 12
  1.3.4 Design of Molecular Imaging Probes 14
    1.3.4.1 Targeting Component 14
    1.3.4.2 Radionuclide Labeling 15
  1.3.5 Important Considerations in Radiolabeling 17
  1.3.6 Technetium Chemistry 18
    1.3.6.1 Generation of Technetium 19
1.4 Prerequisite for CNS Imaging Probe 19
1.5 SPECT and PET Imaging of Brain 22
1.6 SPECT and PET Ligands for the 5-HT1A Receptor 23
1.7 Rationale for the Development of 1-(2-methoxyphenyl)piperazine based Imaging Agents 25
1.8 Aim of this Thesis 28
1.9 Outline of the Thesis 28
1.10 References 30
CHAPTER 2: SYNTHESIS AND PRECLINICAL EVALUATION OF MULTIMODAL IMAGING AGENT BASED ON DO3A-BUTYL-MPP FOR SEROTONIN 5HT1A NEURORECEPTOR IMAGING

2.1 Introduction 40
2.2 Experimental 48
  2.2.1 Synthesis of DO3A-butyl-MPP 48
  2.2.2 MTT Assay 51
  2.2.3 Radiolabeling of DO3A-butyl-MPP ($^{99m}$Tc DO3A-butyl-MPP) 52
  2.2.4 Radiochemical Purity of $^{99m}$Tc DO3A-butyl-MPP Conjugate 52
  2.2.5 Human Serum Stability Evaluation 53
  2.2.6 Measurement of $^{99m}$Tc-DO3A-butyl-MPP uptake in Hippocampal Primary Cultures 53
  2.2.7 Blood Kinetics 55
  2.2.8 SPECT Acquisition 55
  2.2.9 Biodistribution 55
  2.2.10 Brain Biodistribution Experiment 56
  2.2.11 $^{68}$Ga Radiolabeling 56
  2.2.12 PET Imaging 56
  2.2.13 Gd(III) complexation of DO3A-butyl-MPP 57
  2.2.14 Eu(III) Complexation 57
  2.2.15 Spectroscopic Measurement 57
  2.2.16 Potentiometric Titrations 58
2.3 Results 58
  2.3.1 Synthesis 58
  2.3.2 Radiolabeling and Quality Control of $^{99m}$Tc-DO3A-butyl-MPP 59
  2.3.3 Human Serum Stability Studies 60
  2.3.4 Cytotoxicity Studies of DO3A-butyl-MPP 61
  2.3.5 Radioligand Binding Assay 62
  2.3.6 Blood Clearance Studies 63
  2.3.7 Scintigraphy in Animal Models 63
  2.3.8 Biodistribution 64
  2.3.9 Brain Biodistribution in Rats 64
  2.3.10 Ga(III) Complexation 66
  2.3.11 PET Imaging 67
  2.3.12 Gd(III) Complexation 67
  2.3.13 Eu(III) Complexation of DO3A-butyl-MPP 68
  2.3.14 Relaxometric Studies 68
CHAPTER 3: SYNTHESIS OF PET RADIOPHARMACEUTICALS BASED ON MPP

3.1 Introduction 87
3.2 5HT1A PET Radioligands 87
  3.2.1 \([^{11}C]WAY100635\) 87
  3.2.2 \([^{11}C]CPC-222\) 88
  3.2.3 \([^{11}C](R)\)-WAY 88
  3.2.4 \([^{11}C]DWAY\) 89
  3.2.5 \([^{18}F]6FPWAY\) 89
  3.2.6 \([^{18}F]MPPF\) 90
  3.2.7 \([^{18}F]FCWAY\) 90
  3.2.8 \([^{18}F]MefWAY\) 91
  3.2.9 \([^{11}C]NAD-299\) 92
3.3 Click Chemistry 93
  3.3.1 Merits of Click Chemistry 93
  3.3.2 Properties of Triazoles 93
  3.3.3 Microwave-Assisted Cu(I)-Catalyzed Alkyne–Azide Coupling 94
  3.3.4 Solid-Phase Cu(I) Catalyzed Alkyne–Azide Coupling 94
  3.3.5 Mechanism of Cu(I) Catalyzed Azide-Alkyne Cycloaddition 95
  3.3.6 Thermal 1, 3-dipolar Cycloaddition 96
  3.3.7 Solvent, Catalysts and Additives in the 1,3-Dipolar Cycloaddition 97
  3.3.8 Cu(I) Catalyst 97
3.4 \([^{11}C]\) labeled MPP Derivative 98
  3.4.1 Preparation of \([^{11}C]\)Methyl Iodide 99
  3.4.2 Objectives 100
  3.4.3 Experimental 101
    3.4.3.1 Chemical Synthesis 101
    3.4.3.2 Radiochemistry 104
  3.4.4 Result and Discussion 105
3.4.4.1 Synthesis of BTM
3.4.4.2 Radiolabeling of [11C]BTM
3.4.5 Conclusion

3.5 Synthesis of 18F labeled Compounds
3.5.1 Nucleophilic Radiofluorination
3.5.2 Electrophilic Radiofluorination
3.5.3 Objective
3.5.4 Experimental
3.5.4.1 Chemical Synthesis
3.5.4.2 Radiochemistry
3.5.4.3 Stability in Human Serum
3.5.4.4 Biodistribution of [18F]MNF
3.5.5 Result and Discussion
3.5.5.1 Chemical Synthesis
3.5.5.2 Radiochemistry
3.5.5.3 Serum Stability
3.5.5.4 Biodistribution of [18F]MNF
3.5.6 Conclusion

3.6 Synthesis of Silylated 18F PET Precursor
3.6.1 Objectives
3.6.2 Experimental
3.6.2.1 Chemical Synthesis
3.6.2.2 Cold Labelling
3.6.2.3 18F-Radiolabelling
3.6.2.4 Stability in Human Serum
3.6.2.5 Biodistribution of [18F]MPPSiF
3.6.3 Result and Discussion
3.6.3.1 Chemical Synthesis
3.6.3.2 Radiochemistry
3.6.3.3 Serum Stability
3.6.3.4 Biodistribution of [18F]MPPSiF
3.6.4 Conclusion

3.7 Characterisation Data

3.8 References
CHAPTER 4: BIVALENT LIGAND APPROACH TO SYNTHESISE MPP BASED SPECT IMAGING AGENT 157-194

4.1 Bivalent Ligand Approach: Introduction 157
4.2 Mechanism Supporting the Approach 161
4.3 Objectives 163
4.4 Experimental 164
  4.4.1 Synthesis 164
  4.4.2 Cytotoxicity Studies of DTPA-bis (MPBA) 165
    4.4.2.1 Viability Assay: Trypan Blue Exclusion Assay 165
    4.4.2.2 Macroculture Assay 165
    4.4.2.3 MTT Assay 166
  4.4.3 Radiolabeling of DTPA-bis(MPBA) ($^{99m}$Tc DTPA-bis(MPBA)) 166
  4.4.4 Radiochemical Purity of $^{99m}$Tc-DTPA-bis(MPBA) Conjugate 166
  4.4.5 Determination of the Partition Coefficient for the Complex 167
  4.4.6 Human Serum Stability Evaluation 167
  4.4.7 In vitro Receptor Binding of $^{99m}$Tc-DTPA-bis(MPBA) 168
    4.4.8 Measurement of $^{99m}$Tc-DTPA-bis(MPBA) Uptake in Hippocampal Primary Cultures 168
      4.4.8.1 5-HT1A Receptor Binding Assay 169
      4.4.8.2 5-HT2A Receptor Binding Assay 170
      4.4.8.3 D2 Receptor Binding Assay 170
      4.4.8.4 5-HT Transporter Binding Assay 170
  4.4.9 Blood Kinetics 170
  4.4.10 SPECT Acquisition 171
  4.4.11 Biodistribution 171
4.5 Result and Discussion 171
  4.5.1 Synthesis of DTPA-bis(MPBA) 171
  4.5.2 Cell Viability Assay 172
  4.5.3 Radiolabeling and Quality Control of $^{99m}$Tc-DTPA-bis(MPBA) 173
  4.5.4 Human Serum Stability Evaluation 174
  4.5.5 Glutathione Challenge 175
  4.5.6 Determination of Lipophilicity, Log P 175
  4.5.7 Radioligand Binding Assay 176
  4.5.8 Blood Clearance Studies 177
  4.5.9 Scintigraphy in Animal Models 179