

E-PodoFavalin-15999 (Atremorine®)-Induced Dopamine Response in Parkinson's Disease: Pharmacogenetics-Related Effects

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ABSTRACT

E-PodoFavalin-15999 (Atremorine®) is a novel biopharmaceutical compound, obtained by means of non-denaturing biotechnological procedures from structural components of *Vicia faba* L., for the prevention and treatment of Parkinsonian disorders. Preclinical studies revealed that Atremorine is a powerful neuroprotectant with specific activity on dopaminergic neurons, reversing neurodegeneration and improving motor function in animal models of Parkinson's disease (PD).

This is the first clinical study in Parkinsonian patients (N=119) addressing Atremorine-induced dopamine response. One hour after a single oral dose of Atremorine (5g), plasma DA levels increased from 762.28 ± 296.94 to 4556.61 ± 678.95 pg/mL in the whole group ($p < 0.001$). In patients never treated before with antiparkinsonian drugs, DA levels increased from 11.22 ± 0.29 to 2041.24 ± 249.12 pg/mL ($p < 0.001$), with a response rate of 100%; and in patients chronically treated with anti-PD drugs, DA levels raised from 2139.23 ± 804.72 to 9168.11 ± 1657.27 pg/mL ($p < 0.001$) with a response rate of 98%. No significant differences in the magnitude of the response were observed between females and males.

The Atremorine-induced dopamine response was different in carriers of APOE and CYP variants. APOE-2 carriers showed a stronger response than APOE-3 > APOE-4 carriers. Although a significant 200-500-fold increase in DA levels was common in over 80% of patients, CYP2D6-, CYP2C19-, CYP2C2- and CYP3A4/5-EMs and IMs showed a better response than PMs and UMs.

Atremorine is a powerful pro-dopaminergic neuroprotectant with potential preventive and therapeutic effects in neurodegenerative disorders that compromise the dopaminergic system.

Keywords: Atremorine, Dopamine, APOE, CYPs, Parkinson's disease, Pharmacogenetics

INTRODUCTION

Parkinson's disease (PD) is the second most important neurodegenerative disorder in the elderly population, after Alzheimer's disease. With a prevalence ranging from 35.8 per 100,000 to 12,500 per 100,000 and annual incidence estimates ranging from 1.5 per 100,000 to 346 per 100,000 in different countries [1-3], PD is becoming a major age-related problem of health [4,5]. Meta-analysis of the worldwide data indicate a rising prevalence of PD with age (41 per 100,000 in 40-49 years; 107 in 50-59 years; 173 in 55-64 years; 428 in 60-69 years; 425 in 65-74 years; 1087 in 70-79 years; and 1903 per 100,000 in older than age 80), also reflecting a characteristic distribution by geographic location (a prevalence of 1,601 per 100,000 in patients from North America, Europe and Australia, and a prevalence of 646 per 100,000 in Asian patients) [6]. PD is more prevalent in males (1729 per 100,000, >65 yrs) than in females (1644 per 100,000), with a peak prevalence in the age group of

≥ 90 years (4633 cases per 100,000), and a mean prevalence of 1680 per 100,000 in people older than 65 years of age [7]. Prevalence and incidence Male/Female ratios increase by 0.05 and 0.14, respectively, per 10 years of age. Incidence is similar in men and women under 50 years (M/F ratio <1.2), and over 1.6 times higher in men than women above 80 years

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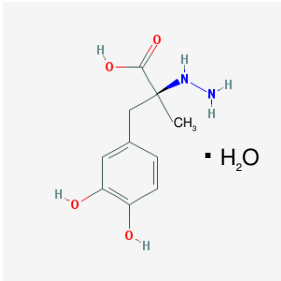
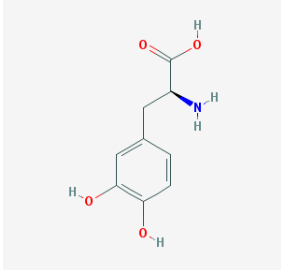
[8]. Furthermore, PD coexists with dementia in over 25% of the cases and with depression in over 30% of the cases in some countries [7].

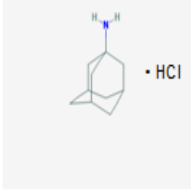
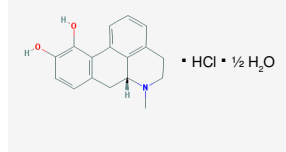
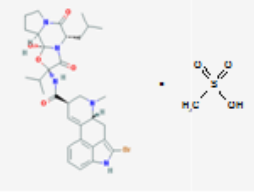
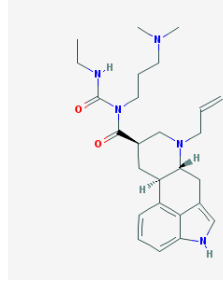
Associated with different potentially pathogenic risk factors (toxins, drugs, pesticides, brain microtrauma, focal cerebrovascular damage, genomic defects), PD neuropathology is characterized by a selective loss of dopaminergic neurons in the substantia nigra pars compacta, with widespread involvement of other CNS structures and peripheral tissues. PD-related neurodegeneration is likely to occur several decades before the onset of the motor symptoms (rigidity, bradykinesia, resting tremor) [9].

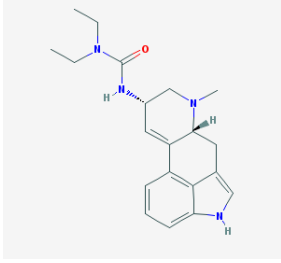
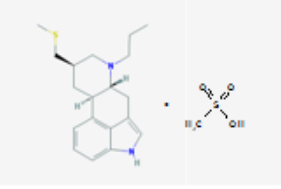
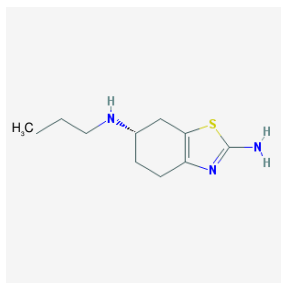
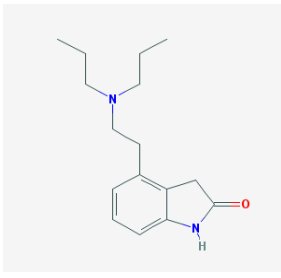
The introduction of L-DOPA in the 1960s represented a breakthrough in the treatment of PD, and it continues to be the most effective symptomatic therapy in Parkinsonian disorders [10]. In addition to dopamine precursors (L-DOPA), other symptomatic treatments for PD include dopamine agonists (amantadine, apomorphine, bromocriptine, cabergoline, lisuride, pergolide, pramipexole, ropinirole, rotigotine), monoamine oxidase (MAO)

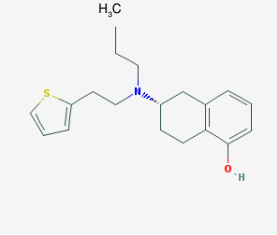
inhibitors (selegiline, rasagiline), and catechol-O-methyltransferase (COMT) inhibitors (entacapone, tolcapone) [11] (**Table 1**). The initial complication of long-term L-DOPA therapy is the “wearing-off” phenomenon [12,13], together with motor fluctuations and dyskinesia which develop during the use of both L-DOPA and dopamine agonists [10,14]. Diverse dopaminergic and nondopaminergic pharmacological approaches have been developed to manage such complications, including novel L-DOPA formulations, COMT inhibitors (opicapone), dopamine agonists, adenosine A2A antagonists (istradefylline, preladenant, tozadenant), glutamatergic N-methyl-d-aspartate (NMDA) antagonists, serotonergic agents (eltoprazine), and glutamate mGluR5 modulators (mavoglurant), with controversial results [15,16]. Polypharmacy with antidepressants, antipsychotics, urological drugs, analgesics, antihistaminics and cholinesterase inhibitors also contributes to severe complications associated with the anticholinergic burden in PD [17].

Table 1. Pharmacogenetics of anti-Parkinsonian drugs

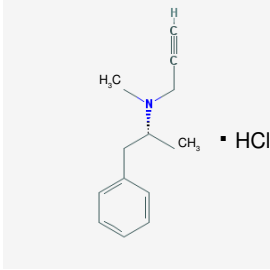
Dopamine Precursors		
Drug	Properties	Pharmacogenetics
	Name: Carbidopa; 28860-95-9; Lododyn. IUPAC Name: Benzenepropanoic acid, α-hydrazino-3,4-dihydroxy-α-methyl-, monohydrate, (S) Molecular Formula: C₁₀H₁₄N₂O₄ · H₂O Molecular Weight: 244.24 g/mol Mechanism: Carbidopa is a peripheral decarboxylase inhibitor with little or no pharmacological activity when given alone in usual doses. It inhibits the peripheral decarboxylation of levodopa to dopamine. At the same time, reduced peripheral formation of dopamine reduces peripheral side effects, notably nausea or vomiting, and cardiac arrhythmias, although the dyskinesias and adverse mental effects associated with levodopa therapy tend to develop earlier. Effect: Antiparkinsonian Agents. Dopamine Precursors.	Pathogenic genes: <i>BDNF</i>, <i>PARK2</i> Mechanistic genes: <i>DRD2</i>, <i>OPRM1</i> Metabolic genes Substrate: <i>COMT</i>, <i>DDC</i> Pleiotropic genes: <i>ACE</i>, <i>ACHE</i>
	Name: Levodopa; 59-92-7; Levodopa; L-dopa; Dopar; Bendopa; Dopasol; 3,4-dihydroxy-L-phenylalanine; Madopar. IUPAC Name: L-Tyrosine-3-hydroxy Molecular Formula: C₉H₁₁NO₄ Molecular Weight: 197.19 g/mol Mechanism: Levodopa circulates in the plasma to the blood-brain-barrier, where it crosses, to be converted by striatal enzymes to dopamine. Carbidopa inhibits the peripheral plasma breakdown of levodopa by inhibiting its carboxylation, and there by increases available levodopa at the blood-brain-barrier. Effect: Antiparkinsonian Agents. Dopamine Precursors.	Pathogenic genes: <i>ANKK1</i>, <i>BDNF</i>, <i>LRRK2</i>, <i>PARK2</i> Mechanistic genes: <i>CCK</i>, <i>CCKAR</i>, <i>CCKBR</i>, <i>DRD1</i>, <i>DRD2</i>, <i>DRD3</i>, <i>DRD4</i>, <i>DRD5</i>, <i>GRIN2A</i>, <i>GRIN2B</i>, <i>HCRT</i>, <i>HOMER1</i>, <i>LMO3</i>, <i>OPRM1</i> Metabolic genes Substrate: <i>COMT</i>, <i>CYP1A2</i>, <i>CYP2B6</i>, <i>CYP2C19</i>, <i>CYP2D6</i>, <i>CYP3A4</i>, <i>CYP3A5</i>, <i>DBH</i>, <i>DDC</i>, <i>G6PD</i>, <i>MAOB</i>, <i>TH</i>, <i>UGT1A1</i>, <i>UGT1A9</i> Transporter genes: <i>SLC22A1</i>, <i>SLC6A3</i> Pleiotropic genes: <i>ACE</i>, <i>ACHE</i>, <i>APOE</i>

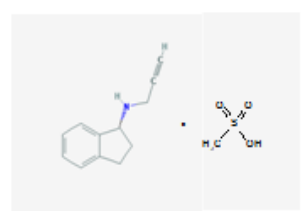
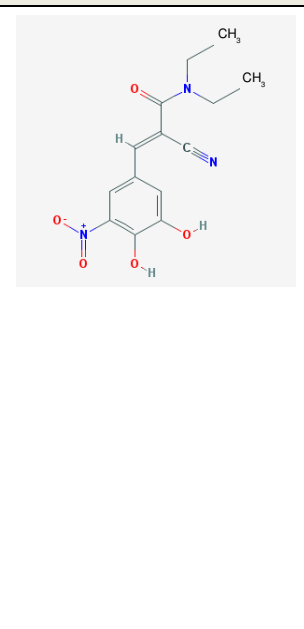
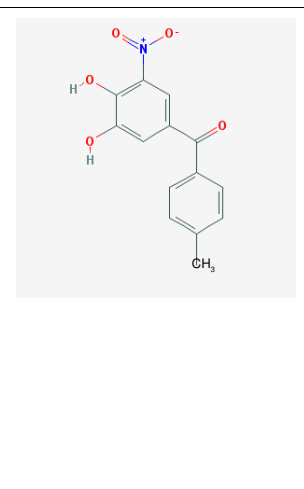
Dopaminergic Agonists		
Drug	Properties	Pharmacogenetics
	Name: Amantadine; 768-94-5; Amantadine; Symmetrel; PK-Merz; Amantadina. IUPAC Name: Tricyclo[3.3.1.1^{3,7}]decan-1-amine, hydrochloride Molecular Formula: C₁₀H₁₇NHCl Molecular Weight: 187.71 g/mol Mechanism: Antiparkinsonian activity may be due to inhibition of dopamine reuptake into presynaptic neurons or by increasing dopamine release from presynaptic fibers. Effect: Antiparkinsonian Agents; Adamantanes; Dopamine Agonists.	Pathogenic genes: <i>PARK2</i> Mechanistic genes: <i>CCR5, CXCR4, DRD1, DRD2, GRIN3A</i> Metabolic genes Substrate: <i>COMT, CYP1A2, CYP2B6, CYP2C19, CYP2D6, CYP3A4, CYP3A5, DDC, UGT1A1, UGT1A9</i> Transporter genes: <i>SLC22A1</i>
	Name: Apomorphine; 58-00-4; Apomorphin; Apo-go; Apofin; Apokinin; Apokyn; Apomorfina. IUPAC Name: 4H-Dibenzo[de,g]quinoline-10,11-diol, 5,6,6a,7-tetrahydro-6-methyl- hydrochloride, hemihydrate. Molecular Formula: C₁₇H₁₇NO₂·HCl·½H₂O Molecular Weight: 312.79 g/mol Mechanism: Stimulates postsynaptic D₂-type receptors within the caudate putamen in the brain. Effect: Antiparkinsonian Agents; Nonergot-derivative Dopamine Receptor Agonists.	Pathogenic genes: <i>PARK2</i> Mechanistic genes: <i>ADRA2A, ADRA2B, ADRA2C, CALY, DRD1, DRD2, DRD3, DRD4, DRD5, HTR1A, HTR1B, HTR1D, HTR2A, HTR2B, HTR2C</i> Metabolic genes Substrate: <i>COMT, CYP1A2 (minor), CYP2B6, CYP2C9 (minor), CYP2C19 (minor), CYP2D6, CYP3A4 (minor), CYP3A5, DDC, UGT1A1, UGT1A9</i> Inhibitor: <i>CYP1A2 (weak), CYP2C19 (weak), CYP3A4 (weak)</i>
	Name: Bromocriptine; 25614-03-3; Parlodel; Pravidel; Cycloset; Corpadel; Broman; Bromocriptina. IUPAC Name: Ergotaman-3'-6'-18-trione, 2-bromo-12'-hydroxy-2'-(1-methylethyl)-5'-(2-methylpropyl)-, monomethanesulfonate, (5'α). Molecular Formula: C₃₂H₄₀BrN₅O₅CH₄SO₃ Molecular Weight: 750.70 g/mol Mechanism: Semisynthetic ergot alkaloid derivative and dopamine receptor agonist which activates postsynaptic dopamine receptors in the tuberoinfundibular (inhibiting pituitary prolactin secretion) and nigrostriatal pathways (enhancing coordinated motor control). Causes transient increases in growth hormone secretion in individuals with normal growth hormone concentrations. Paradoxically causes sustained suppression of growth hormone secretion in acromegaly. Dysregulation of brain serotonin activity may also occur. Effect: Antiparkinsonian Agents; Ergot-derivative Dopamine Receptor Agonists.	Pathogenic genes: <i>ANKK1, BDNF, GSK3B, LRRK2</i> Mechanistic genes: <i>ABCB1, AKT1, BDNF, CCK, CCKAR, CCKBR, CNR1, DRD1, DRD2, DRD3, DRD4, DRD5, GRIN2A, GRIN2B, GSK3B, HCRT, HOMER1, LMO3, OPRM1</i> Metabolic genes Substrate: <i>COMT, CYP1A2, CYP2B6, CYP2C19, CYP2D6, CYP3A4 (major), CYP3A5, DDC, MAOB, UGT1A1, UGT1A9</i> Inhibitor: <i>CYP1A2 (weak), CYP3A4 (moderate)</i> Transporter genes: <i>SLC22A1, SLC6A3</i> Pleiotropic genes: <i>ACE, APOE</i>
	Name: Cabergoline; 81409-90-7; Cabergoline; Dostinex, Cabaser; Cabergolinum; Cabaseril; Cabergolina. IUPAC Name: Ergoline-8β-carboxamide, N-[3-(dimethylamino)propyl]-N-[(ethylamino)carbonyl]-6-(2-propenyl) Molecular Formula: C₂₆H₃₇N₅O₂ Molecular Weight: 451.60 g/mol Mechanism: A long-acting dopamine receptor agonist. Has high binding affinity for dopamine D₂-receptors and lesser affinity for D₁, α₁- and α₂-adrenergic, and serotonin (5-HT₁ and 5-HT₂) receptors. Reduces serum prolactin	Pathogenic genes: <i>BDNF, GSK3B</i> Mechanistic genes: <i>ADRA2A, ADRA2B, ADRA2C, AKT1, BDNF, CNR1, DRD1, DRD2, DRD3, DRD4, DRD5, GSK3B, HTR1A, HTR1B, HTR1D, HTR2A, HTR2B, HTR2C, HTR7</i> Metabolic genes Substrate: <i>COMT, CYP1A2, CYP2B6, CYP2C19, CYP2D6,</i>

	concentrations by inhibiting release of prolactin from the anterior pituitary gland (agonist activity at D ₂ receptors). Effect: Antiparkinsonian Agents; Ergot-derivative Dopamine Receptor Agonists.	CYP3A4 (minor), CYP3A5, DDC
	Name: Lisuride; 18016-80-3; Dopergin; Arolac; Dopergine; Dipergon; Lysenyl; Lisurida. IUPAC Name: 3-(9,10-Didehydro-6-methylergolin-8α-yl)-1,1-diethylurea Molecular Formula: C ₂₀ H ₂₆ N ₄ O Molecular Weight: 338.45 g/mol Mechanism: Displays dopaminergic, and consequently prolactin-reducing properties. Active substance lisuride has pronounced affinity for dopamine receptors in striatum and pituitary. Effect: Antiparkinsonian Agents; Ergot-derivative Dopamine Receptor Agonists. Antimigraine Agents. Miscellaneous.	Mechanistic genes: ADRA2A, ADRA2B, ADRA2C, DRD1, DRD2, DRD3, DRD4, DRD5, HTR1A, HTR1B, HTR1D, HTR2A, HTR2B, HTR2C Metabolic genes Substrate: COMT, CYP1A2, CY22B6, CYP2C19, CYP2D6 (major), CYP3A4 (major), CYP3A5, DDC, UGT1A1, UGT1A9
	Name: Pergolide; 66104-22-1; Pergolide; Permax; Pergolida; Pergolidum. IUPAC Name: Ergoline,8-[(Methylthio)methyl]-6-monomethenesulfonate Molecular Formula: C ₁₉ H ₂₆ N ₂ SCH ₄ O ₃ S Molecular Weight: 410.59g/mol Mechanism: A dopamin receptor agonist. Relieves symptoms of parkinsonism, presumably by directly stimulating post synaptic dopamine receptors in corpus striatum. Reduces serum prolactin concentrations by inhibiting release of prolactin from anterior pituitary gland. Causes transient increase in serum somatotropin (growth hormone) concentrations and decreases in serum luteinizing hormone concentrations. Effect: Antiparkinsonian Agents; Ergot-derivative Dopamine Receptor Agonists.	Mechanistic genes: ADRA1A, ADRA1B, ADRA1D, ADRA2A, ADRA2B, ADRA2C, DRD1, DRD2, DRD3, DRD4, DRD5, HTR1A, HTR1B, HTR1D, HTR2A, HTR2B, HTR2C Metabolic genes Substrate: COMT, CYP1A2, CY22B6, CYP2C19, CYP2D6, CYP3A4 (major), CYP3A5, DDC, UGT1A1, UGT1A9 Transporter genes: SLC6A4
	Name: Pramipexole; 104632-26-0; Pramipexole; Pramipexol; Parmital; Mirapex; Mirapexin; Sifrol IUPAC Name: 2,6-Benzothiazolodiamine, 4,5,6,7-tetrahydro-N ⁶ -propyl-,(S) Molecular Formula: C ₁₀ H ₁₇ N ₃ S Molecular Weight: 211.33g/mol Mechanism: By binding to D ₂ subfamily dopamine receptor, and to D ₃ , and D ₄ receptors, it is though that Pramipexole can stimulate dopamine activity on nerves of striatum and substantia nigra. Effect: Antiparkinsonian Agents; Nonergot-derivative Dopamine Receptor Agonists.	Pathogenic genes: ANKK1, BDNF, LRRK2 Mechanistic genes: ADRA2A, ADRA2B, ADRA2C, CCK, CCKAR, CCKBR, DRD1, DRD2, DRD3, DRD4, DRD5, GRIN2A, GRIN2B, HCRT, HOMER1, HTR1A, HTR1B, HTR1D, HTR2A, HTR2B, HTR2C, LMO3, OPRM1 Metabolic genes Substrate: COMT, CYP1A2, CY22B6, CYP2C19, CYP2D6, CYP3A4, CYP3A5, DDC, MAOB, UGT1A1, UGT1A9 Transporter genes: SLC22A1, SLC6A3 Pleiotropic genes: ACE, APOE
	Name: Ropinirole; 91374-21-9; Ropinirole; ReQuip; Ropinirol; Ropinilorum; ReQuip CR IUPAC Name: 2-H-Indol-2-one 4-[2-(dipropylamino)ethyl]-1,3-dihydro-, monohydrochloride Molecular Formula: C ₁₆ H ₂₄ N ₂ O Molecular Weight: 296.84g/mol Mechanism: Has high relative <i>in vitro</i> specificity and full intrinsic activity at D ₂ and D ₃ dopamine receptor subtypes, binding with higher affinity to D ₃ than to D ₂ and D ₄ receptor subtypes. Although precise mechanism of action unknown, it is believed to be due to stimulation of postsynaptic	Pathogenic genes: ANKK1, BDNF, LRRK2 Mechanistic genes: ADRA2A, ADRA2B, ADRA2C, CCK, CCKAR, CCKBR, DRD1, DRD2, DRD3, DRD4, DRD5, GRIN2A, GRIN2B, HCRT, HOMER1, HTR1A, HTR1B, HTR1D, HTR2A, HTR2B, HTR2C, LMO3, OPRM1 Metabolic genes

	dopamine D₂-type receptors within caudate putamen in brain. Mechanism of Ropinirole-induced postural hypotension believed to be due to D₂-mediated blunting of noradrenergic response to standing and subsequent decrease in peripheral vascular resistance. Effect: Antiparkinsonian Agents; Nonergot-derivative Dopamine Receptor Agonists.	Substrate: COMT, CYP1A2 (major), CY22B6, CYP2C19, CYP2D6, CYP3A4 (minor), CYP3A5, DDC, MAOB, UGT1A1, UGT1A9 Inhibitor: CYP1A2 (moderate), CYP2D6 (moderate), CYP3A4 (moderate) Transporter genes: SLC22A1, SLC6A3 Pleiotropic genes: ACE, APOE
	Name: Rotigotine; 99755-59-6; Rotigotine; Rotigotina; Neupro IUPAC Name: 1-Naphthalenol, 5,6,7,8-tetrahydro-6-[propyl[2-(2-thienyl)ethyl]amino]-6S Molecular Formula: C₁₉H₂₅NO Molecular Weight: 315.47g/mol Mechanism: A non-ergot dopamine receptor agonist with specificity for D₃-, D₂-, and D₁-dopamine receptors. Although precise mechanism of action unknown of Rotigotine, it is believed to be due to stimulation of post synaptic dopamine D₂-type auto receptors within substantia nigra in brain, leading to improved dopaminergic transmission in motor areas in basal ganglia, notably caudate nucleus/putamen regions. Effect: Antiparkinsonian Agents; Nonergot-derivative Dopamine Receptor Agonists.	Pathogenic genes: ANKK1, BDNF, LRRK2 Mechanistic genes: CCK, CCKAR, CCKBR, DRD1, DRD2, DRD3, DRD4, DRD5, GRIN2A, GRIN2B, HCRT, HOMER1, LMO3, OPRM1 Metabolic genes Substrate: COMT, MAOB Transporter genes: SLC22A1, SLC6A3 Pleiotropic genes: ACE, APOE

Monoamine-Oxidase B (MOB) Inhibitors

Drug	Properties	Pharmacogenetics
	Name: Selegiline; 14611-51-9; Selegiline; Selegilina; L-Deprenalin; Emsam; Jumex; Eldepryl; Carbox IUPAC Name: Benzeneethanamine,N,α-dimethyl-N-2-propynyl-,hydrochloride,(R) Molecular Formula: C₃₁H₁₇NHCl Molecular Weight: 223.74 g/mol Mechanism: Potent, irreversible inhibitor of monoamine oxidase (MAO). Plasma concentrations achieved via administration of oral dosage forms in recommended doses confer selective inhibition of the MAO type B, which plays a major role in metabolism of dopamine. Selegiline may also increase dopaminergic activity by interfering with dopamine reuptake at synapse. Effect: Antidepressants. Monoamine Oxidase Inhibitors. Antiparkinsonian Agents. Monoamine Oxidase B Inhibitors.	Pathogenic genes: ANKK1, BDNF, LRRK2 Mechanistic genes: CCK, CCKAR, CCKBR, DRD1, DRD2, DRD3, DRD4, DRD5, GRIN2A, GRIN2B, HCRT, HOMER1, LMO3, OPRM1 Metabolic genes Substrate: COMT, CYP1A1, CYP1A2 (minor), CYP1B1, CYP2A6 (minor), CYP2B6 (major), CYP2C8 (minor), CYP2C19 (major), CYP2D6 (minor), CYP2E1 (minor), CYP3A4 (minor), CYP3A5, CYP19A1, DDC, MAOA, MAOB, UGT1A1, UGT1A9 Inhibitor: CYP1A2 (weak), CYP2A6 (weak), CYP2C9 (weak), CYP2C19 (weak), CYP2D6 (weak), CYP2E1 (weak), CYP3A4 (weak), MAOB Transporter genes: SLC22A1, SLC6A3 Pleiotropic genes: ACE, APOE

	Name: Rasagiline; 136236-51-6; Azilet; Elbrux; Rasagilina; Raxac. IUPAC Name: 1H-Inden-1-amine, 2,3-dihydro-N-2-propynyl-,(R)-,methanesulfonate Molecular Formula: C₁₂H₁₃NCH₄O₃S Molecular Weight: 267.34g/mol Mechanism: Potent, irreversible inhibitor of the monoamine oxidase (MAO) type B, which plays a major role in catabolism of dopamine. Inhibition of dopamine depletion in striatal region of brain reduces symptomatic motor deficits of Parkinson's disease. There is also experimental evidence of Rasagiline conferring neuroprotective effects (antioxidant, antiapoptotic), which may delay onset of symptoms and progression of neuronal deterioration. Effect: Antidepressants. Monoamine Oxidase Inhibitors. Antiparkinsonian Agents. Monoamine Oxidase B Inhibitors.	Pathogenic genes: ANKK1, BDNF, LRRK2, PARK2 Mechanistic genes: BLC2, CCK, CCKAR, CCKBR, DRD1, DRD2, DRD3, DRD4, DRD5, GRIN2A, GRIN2B, HCRT, HOMER1, LMO3, OPRM1 Metabolic genes Substrate: COMT, CYP1A2 (major), CYP2B6, CYP2C19, CYP2D6, CYP3A4, CYP3A5, DDC, MAOB, UGT1A1, UGT1A9 Inhibitor: MAOB Transporter genes: SLC22A1, SLC6A3 Pleiotropic genes: ACE, APOE
Catechol-O-methyltransferase (COMT) Inhibitors		
Drug	Properties	Pharmacogenetics
	Name: Entacapone; 130929-57-6; Comtan; Comtess; Entacapona. IUPAC Name: E-α-Cyano-N,N-diethyl-3,4-dihydroxy-5-nitrocinnamamida Molecular Formula: C₁₄H₁₅N₃O₅ Molecular Weight: 305.29 g/mol Mechanism: A selective inhibitor of catechol-O-methyltransferase (COMT). When entacapone is taken with levodopa, the pharmacokinetics are altered, resulting in more sustained levodopa serum levels compared to levodopa taken alone. Effect: Antiparkinsonian Agents. Catechol-O-methyltransferase Inhibitors.	Pathogenic genes: ANKK1, BDNF, LRRK2, PARK2 Mechanistic genes: CCK, CCKAR, CCKBR, DRD1, DRD2, DRD3, DRD4, DRD5, GRIN2A, GRIN2B, HCRT, HOMER1, LMO3, OPRM1 Metabolic genes Substrate: COMT, CYP1A2, CYP2B6, CYP2C19, CYP2D6, CYP3A4, CYP3A5, DDC, MAOB, UGT1A1, UGT1A3, UGT1A4, UGT1A6, UGT1A9, UGT2B7, UGT2B15 Inhibitor: COMT, CYP1A2 (weak), CYP2A6 (weak), CYP2C9 (weak), CYP2C19 (weak), CYP2D6 (weak), CYP2E1 (weak), CYP3A4 (weak) Transporter genes: SLC22A1, SLC6A3 Pleiotropic genes: ACE, ACHE, APOE
	Name: Tolcapone; 134308-13-7; Tolcapona; Tasmar. IUPAC Name: Methanone,(3,4-hydroxy-5-nitrophenyl)(4-methylphenyl) Molecular Formula: C₁₄H₁₁NO₅ Molecular Weight: 273.24g/mol Mechanism: A selective inhibitor of catechol-O-methyltransferase (COMT). In the presence of a decarboxylase inhibitor (e.g. carbidopa), COMT is the major degradation pathway for levodopa. Inhibition of COMT leads to more sustained plasma levels of levodopa and enhanced central dopaminergic activity. Effect: Antiparkinsonian Agents. Catechol-O-Methyltransferase Inhibitors.	Pathogenic genes: ANKK1, BDNF, LRRK2, PARK2 Mechanistic genes: AKT1, CCK, CCKAR, CCKBR, CNR1, DRD1, DRD2, DRD3, DRD4, DRD5, GPT, GRIN2A, GRIN2B, GSK3B, HCRT, HOMER1, LMO3, OPRM1 Metabolic genes Substrate: COMT, CYP1A2, CYP2B6, CYP2C9, CYP2C19, CYP2D6, CYP3A4, CYP3A5, DDC, MAOB, UGT1A1, UGT1A3, UGT1A4, UGT1A6, UGT1A9, UGT2B7, UGT2B15 Transporter genes: SLC22A1, SLC6A3 Pleiotropic genes: ACE, APOE

ABCBI: ATP binding cassette subfamily B member 1, **ACE**: angiotensin I converting enzyme, **ACHE**: acetylcholinesterase, **ADCY7**: adenylate cyclase 7, **ADRA1A**: adrenoceptor alpha 1A, **ADRA1B**: adrenoceptor alpha 1B, **ADRA1D**: adrenoceptor alpha 1D, **ADRA2A**: adrenoceptor alpha 2A, **ADRA2B**: adrenoceptor alpha 2B, **ADRA2C**: adrenoceptor alpha 2C, **AKT1**: v-akt murine thymoma viral oncogene homolog 1, **ANKK1**: ankyrin repeat and kinase domain containing 1, **APOE**: apolipoprotein E, **BDNF**: brain-derived neurotrophic factor, **BLC2**: B-cell CLL/lymphoma 2, **CALY**: calcyon neuron specific vesicular protein, **CCK**: cholecystokinin, **CCKAR**: cholecystokinin A receptor, **CCKBR**: cholecystokinin B receptor, **CCR5**: C-C motif chemokine receptor 5 (gene/pseudogene), **CHAT**: choline O-acetyltransferase, **CNRI**: cannabinoid receptor 1 (brain), **COMT**: catechol-O-methyltransferase, **CREB1**: cAMP responsive element binding protein 1, **CXCR4**: C-X-C motif chemokine receptor 4, **CYP1A1**: cytochrome P450 family 1 subfamily A member 1, **CYP1A2**: cytochrome P450 family 1 subfamily A member 2, **CYP1B1**: cytochrome P450 family 1 subfamily B member 1, **CYP2A6**: cytochrome P450 family 2 subfamily A member 6, **CYP2B6**: cytochrome P450 family 2 subfamily B member 6, **CYP2C19**: cytochrome P450 family 2 subfamily C member 19, **CYP2C9**: cytochrome P450 family 2 subfamily C member 9, **CYP2D6**: cytochrome P450 family 2 subfamily D member 6, **CYP2E1**: cytochrome P450 family 2 subfamily E member 1, **CYP3A4**: cytochrome P450 family 3 subfamily A member 4, **CYP3A5**: cytochrome P450 family 3 subfamily A member 5, **CYP19A1**: cytochrome P450 family 19 subfamily A member 1, **DBH**: dopamine beta-hydroxylase, **DDC**: dopa decarboxylase, **DRD1**: dopamine receptor D1, **DRD2**: dopamine receptor D2, **DRD3**: dopamine receptor D3, **DRD4**: dopamine receptor D4, **DRD5**: dopamine receptor D5, **G6PD**: glucose-6-phosphate dehydrogenase, **GPT**: glutamic-pyruvate transaminase (alanine aminotransferase), **GRIN2A**: glutamate ionotropic receptor NMDA type subunit 2A, **GRIN2B**: glutamate ionotropic receptor NMDA type subunit 2B, **GRIN3A**: glutamate ionotropic receptor NMDA type subunit 3A, **GSK3B**: glycogen synthase kinase 3 beta, **HCRT**: hypocretin (orexin) neuropeptide precursor, **HOMER1**: homer scaffolding protein 1, **HRH1**: histamine receptor H1, **HTR1A**: 5-hydroxytryptamine receptor 1A, **HTR1B**: 5-hydroxytryptamine receptor 1B, **HTR1D**: 5-hydroxytryptamine receptor 1D, **HTR2A**: 5-hydroxytryptamine receptor 2A, **HTR2B**: 5-hydroxytryptamine receptor 2B, **HTR2C**: 5-hydroxytryptamine receptor 2C, **HTR7**: 5-hydroxytryptamine receptor 7, **LMO3**: LIM domain only 3, **LRRK2**: leucine-rich repeat kinase 2, **MAOA**: monoamine oxidase A, **MAOB**: monoamine oxidase B, **OPRM1**: opioid receptor mu 1, **PAH**: phenylalanine hydroxylase, **PARK2**: parkin RBR E3 ubiquitin protein ligase, **SLC22A1**: solute carrier family 22 member 1, **SLC6A3**: solute carrier family 6 member 3, **SLC6A4**: solute carrier family 6 member 4, **SST**: somatostatin, **TH**: tyrosine hydroxylase, **TSPO**: translocator protein, **UGT1A1**: UDP glucuronosyltransferase family 1 member A1, **UGT1A3**: UDP glucuronosyltransferase family 1 member A3, **UGT1A4**: UDP glucuronosyltransferase family 1 member A4, **UGT1A6**: UDP glucuronosyltransferase family 1 member A6, **UGT1A9**: UDP glucuronosyltransferase family 1 member A9, **UGT2B7**: UDP glucuronosyltransferase family 2 member B7, **UGT2B15**: UDP glucuronosyltransferase family 2 member B15.

Furthermore, gastrointestinal complications (constipation, sialorrhea, dysphagia, difficulty in mastication, choking/aspiration) [18], cardiovascular problems [19], neuroendocrine changes and psychiatric disorders are frequent in PD patients chronically treated with conventional antiparkinsonian drugs [11,18].

We introduce here, for the first time, E-PodoFavalin-15999 (Atremorine®), a novel biopharmaceutical compound, obtained by means of non-denaturing biotechnological procedures from structural components of *Vicia faba* L., for the prevention and treatment of PD [20]. Preclinical studies (in vitro) revealed that Atremorine is a powerful neuroprotectant in (i) cell cultures of human neuroblastoma SH-SY5Y cells; (ii) hippocampal slices in conditions of oxygen and glucose deprivation; and (iii) striatal slices under conditions of neurotoxicity induced by 6-OHDA. In vivo studies showed that Atremorine (i) protects against 1-methyl-4-phenyl-1,2,3,6-tetrahydropyridine (MPTP)-induced dopaminergic neurodegeneration; (ii) inhibits MPTP-induced microglia activation and neurotoxicity in substantia nigra; and (iii) improves motor function in mice with MPTP-induced neurodegeneration [20,21]. Clinical studies in untreated patients who receive Atremorine for the first time (never treated before with antiparkinsonian drugs) revealed that Atremorine enhances dopaminergic neurotransmission and increases by 200-500-fold plasma dopamine levels. In patients chronically treated with L-DOPA or other antiparkinsonian drugs, Atremorine induces a dopamine response of similar magnitude to that observed

in previously untreated patients. Atremorine is also a powerful regulator of noradrenaline and pituitary hormones such as prolactin and growth hormone, which are under supra-hypothalamic control of dopaminergic neurotransmission. In addition, this dopaminergic response is associated with the pharmacogenetic profile of the patients [20].

MATERIAL AND METHODS

Patients and Treatment

Patients (N=119; age: 61.11 ± 1.54 yrs) of both sexes (58 Females, age: 59.74 ± 2.21; 61 Males, age: 62.42 ± 3.16 yrs) with Parkinsonian disorders (Idiopathic PD, 49; Hemiparkinsonism, 4; Vascular PD, 24; Post-traumatic PD, 10; Toxic PD, 10; Parkinson-Dementia Complex, 13; Congenital Extrapyrimalid syndrome, 5; Cadasil-associated PD, 1; Familial PD, 3) were recruited for this study. The selected patients were divided into two groups: (i) Untreated patients (U; N=77, age: 58.81±2.07 yrs), who had never received any antiparkinsonian drug before; and (ii) patients chronically treated (T) with L-DOPA and other antiparkinsonian drugs (N=42, age: 65.33±2.04 yrs) (**Table 2**). All patients underwent, under informed consent, the following protocol: (i) Clinical (neurologic, psychiatric) examination, (ii) blood and urine analyses (**Table 2**), (iii) neuropsychological assessment (MMSE, ADAS, Hamilton-A/D, GDS, UPDRS, Hoehn and Yahr Staging, Schwab and England ADL Scale) (**Table 2**), (iv) cardiovascular evaluation (EKG), (v) structural neuroimaging (brain MRI),

(vi) functional neuroimaging (brain mapping, brain optical topography), (vii) genetic assessment (APOE), and (viii) pharmacogenetic profiling (CYP2D6, CYP2C19, CYP2C9, CYP3A4/5).

Table 2. Sample features and stratification of patients according to their therapeutic condition

Parameter	Total	Untreated	Treated	p
N	119	77	42	
Females	58	41	17	
Males	61	36	25	
Age (years)	61.11±1.54	58.81±2.07	65.33±2.04	0.04
Females	59.74±2.21	58.48±2.72	62.76±3.72	0.33
Males	62.42±3.16	59.19±3.21	67.08±2.31	0.14
Systolic blood pressure (mm Hg)	138.02±2.11	135.83±2.63	142.14±3.50	0.15
Diastolic blood pressure (mm Hg)	76.78±0.89	75.58±1.09	79.00±1.51	0.07
Pulse (bpm)	72.11±1.14	71.64±1.45	73.00±1.84	0.46
Weight (Kg)	68.89±1.24	67.96±1.70	70.50±1.70	0.31
Height (m)	1.62±0.008	1.62±0.01	1.62±0.01	0.76
BMI (Kg/m²)	26.12±0.44	25.70±0.56	26.83±0.70	0.21
Glucose (mg/dL)	101.34±2.13	101.10±2.99	101.78±2.56	0.56
Cholesterol (mg/dL)	193.83±3.54	192.13±4.25	196.95±45.48	0.51
HDL-Cholesterol (mg/dL)	58.97±1.28	58.48±1.67	59.89±1.96	0.55
LDL-Cholesterol (mg/dL)	114.87±3.18	114.19±3.89	116.11±5.57	0.77
Triglycerides (mg/dL)	99.94±4.63	97.45±4.86	105.56±9.71	0.93
Urea (mg/dL)	41.84±1.29	38.97±1.55	47.17±2.06	<0.001
Creatinine (mg/dL)	0.88±0.02	0.84±0.02	0.95±0.03	0.003
Uric acid (mg/dL)	4.51±0.12	4.55±0.15	4.43±0.19	0.66
Total Protein (g/dL)	6.99±0.04	7.01±0.05	6.95±0.08	0.54
Albumin (g/dL)	3.99±0.08	4.02±0.10	3.96±0.13	0.45
Calcium (mg/dL)	9.58±0.48	9.57±0.05	9.61±0.09	0.76
Phosphorus (mg/dL)	3.48±0.10	3.70±0.14	3.27±0.12	0.02
GOT/ASAT (IU/L)	21.19±1.06	21.31±1.53	20.97±1.10	0.67
GPT/ALAT (IU/L)	23.36±1.77	24.58±2.36	21.11±2.55	0.11
GGT (IU/L)	23.32±1.76	24.26±2.31	21.61±2.62	0.99
Alkaline phosphatase (IU/L)	80.69±7.54	70.92±6.36	92.08±14.23	0.08
Bilirubin (mg/dL)	0.67±0.10	0.57±0.06	0.78±0.20	0.55
CPK (IU/L)	277.31±186.67	400.77±300.14	75.27±7.09	0.77
LDH (IU/L)	289.21±25.84	304.75±48.14	272.27±15.32	0.85
Na⁺ (mEq/L)	140.35±0.34	140.50±0.18	140.05±0.96	0.23
K⁺ (mEq/L)	4.24±0.02	4.23±0.02	4.26±0.04	0.89
Cl⁻ (mEq/L)	102.80±0.54	103.27±0.23	101.85±1.57	0.90
Fe²⁺ (µg/dL)	78.86±2.60	78.96±3.33	78.67±4.19	0.98
Ferritin (ng/mL)	150.78±12.82	146.79±14.95	158.47±24.54	0.98
Folate (ng/mL)	17.76±0.63	18.82±0.72	15.71±1.16	0.04
Vitamin B₁₂ (pg/mL)	715.27±35.97	776.41±44.83	597.69±56.27	0.006

TSH (μIU/mL)	1.80±0.12	1.96±0.17	1.49±0.11	0.13
T4 (ng/mL)	0.91±0.01	0.91±0.01	0.89±0.03	0.30
RBC (x10⁶/μL)	4.58±0.04	4.56±0.05	4.61±0.06	0.56
HCT (%)	41.94±0.37	41.72±0.50	42.36±0.49	0.20
Hb (g/dL)	14.02±0.16	14.00±0.17	14.06±0.34	0.47
VCM (fL)	91.96±0.38	91.52±0.48	91.91±0.60	0.62
HCM (pg)	30.91±0.14	30.87±0.18	30.94±0.22	0.87
CHCM (g/dL)	33.69±0.06	33.72±0.06	33.65±0.11	0.61
ADE (RDW)(%)	12.91±0.09	12.84±0.12	13.06±0.14	0.09
WBC (x10³/μL)	6.57±0.17	6.66±0.22	6.40±0.74	0.72
%Neu	45.62±2.15	43.34±2.72	49.80±3.44	0.05
%Lin	32.04±0.78	32.52±0.99	31.17±1.26	0.40
%Mon	7.40±0.13	7.50±0.17	7.24±0.21	0.36
%Eos	2.80±0.12	2.81±0.15	2.79±0.23	0.87
%Bas	0.85±0.08	0.94±0.12	0.69±0.05	0.07
Platelets (x10³/μL)	211.27±5.31	210.51±6.23	212.66±9.89	0.64
VPM (fL)	8.81±0.07	8.86±0.10	8.72±0.12	0.42
MMSE Score	24.35±0.76	24.55±0.98	24.02±1.23	0.78
ADAS-Cog-T	15.05±0.97	14.27±1.19	16.02±1.62	0.50
ADAS-NonCog	5.19±0.38	4.62±0.44	5.90±0.64	0.15
ADAS-T	20.26±1.20	18.91±1.48	21.92±1.95	0.33
Hamilton-A	11.31±0.45	10.80±0.58	12.16±0.70	0.13
Hamilton-D	10.94±0.43	10.96±0.52	11.37±0.74	0.46
GDS	2.77±0.10	2.63±0.10	2.93±0.18	0.35
UPDRS	47.71±5.06	36.84±5.26	57.13±7.61	0.04
Hoehn and Yahr Staging	1.90±0.22	1.58±0.22	2.46±0.29	0.03
Schwab and England ADL Scale	73.20±4.75	79.23±5.12	65.66±6.82	0.13

Data: mean ± standard error

All patients received a single oral dose of 5g E-PodoFavalin-15999 (Atremorine®) (**Table 3**) in the morning to avoid circadian variations in biochemical and hormonal parameters, and blood samples were obtained prior to Atremorine intake and 60 minutes later.

Analytical methods

Venous blood samples were taken after overnight fasting with patients in supine position. Blood was collected in BD Vacutainer serum separation tubes while blood for analysis of plasma dopamine was collected in EDTA containing tubes. Specimens for dopamine analysis were immediately placed on ice and centrifuged at 3000 rpm, at 4°C, for 10 minutes, soon after venous extraction [22]. Serum tubes were allowed to clot at room temperature during 30 minutes before processing and were centrifuged within 60 minutes of sampling under the same conditions as the EDTA tubes.

After refrigerated centrifugation serum and plasma were removed from blood cells [23] and placed in an appropriate sample container. Plasma aliquots for fractionated dopamine determination were stored at -20 °C for no more than one week and purified with albumin until their analysis by High Performance Liquid Chromatography (HPLC) with electrochemical detection [24,25]. The HPLC system consisted of pump (515 Waters, USA), autosampler (717 Waters, USA), chromatographic column (Resolve C18 Waters, USA), electrochemical detector (2465 Waters, USA) and Empower2 chromatography data software (Waters, USA).

Genotype analysis

DNA was extracted from peripheral blood using Qiagen extraction columns (Qiagen, Hilden, Germany). A total of 13 single nucleotide polymorphisms (SNPs) and 1 copy number variation polymorphism (CNV) from 6 different genes

(Table 4) were genotyped. *APOE* $\epsilon 2$, $\epsilon 3$, and $\epsilon 4$ alleles were defined by SNPs rs429358 (3932T>C Cys112Arg) and rs7412 (4070C>T, Arg158Cys). *CYP2D6* alleles were identified as *1 (wild type), *1xN (gene duplication), *3 (rs35742686, 775delA, Arg259Glyfs), *4 (rs3892097, 506-1G>A), *5 (gene deletion), *6 (rs5030655, 454delT, Trp152Glyfs) and *41 (rs28371725, 985+39G>A). *CYP2C9* alleles were *1 (wild type), *2 (rs1799853, 430C>T, Arg144Cys) and *3 (rs1057910, 1075A>C, Ile359Leu). *CYP2C19* alleles were *1 (wild type), *2 (rs4244285, 681G>A, Pro227Pro) and *17 (rs12248560, -806C>T).

CYP3A4 alleles were *1 (wild type), *1G (rs2242480, 1026+12G>A) and *22 (rs35599367, 522-191C>T). *CYP3A5* alleles were *1 (wild type), *3 (rs776746, 219-237G>A). RT-PCR amplification (Real-Time Polymerase Chain Reaction) was performed using TaqMan assays for SNPs using StepOne Plus Real Time PCR System (Life Technologies, Waltham, Massachusetts, USA) and/or TaqMan®OpenArray® DNA microchips for QuantStudio™ 12K Flex Real-Time PCR System. OpenArray® genotyping analysis was performed using the Genotyper software (Thermo Fisher Scientific, Waltham, Massachusetts, USA).

Table 3. E-PodoFavalin-15999 composition

REFERENTIAL NUTRITIONAL ANALYSIS E-PodoFavalin-15999	
BASIC NUTRITIONAL COMPOSITON (100 g)	
Protein	17.10%
Total lipid	0.70%
Carbohydrates	66%
Humidity	9.80%
Ash	6.40%
Energy (Kcal)	339 Kcal/100g
Energy (Kjul)	1439 Kjul/100g
L-DOPA	
L-DOPA	21.6 mg/g
Vicine	< 0.1 mg/g
Convicine	< 0.1 mg/g
Condensed Tannins (flava-3-oles)	0.683 g catechin/100 g
MINERALS	
Calcium (Ca^{2+})	4411 mg/Kg
Iron (Fe^{2+})	94.4 mg/Kg
Magnesium (Mg^{2+})	2056 mg/Kg
Potassium (K^{1+})	18623 mg/Kg
Sodium (Na^{1+})	3855 mg/Kg
Zinc (Zn^{2+})	< 24 mg/Kg
Copper (Cu^{2+})	< 24 mg/Kg
Manganese (Mn^{2+})	21.99 mg/Kg
Selenium (Se^{2+})	< 2.4 mg/Kg
Vitamin A (retinol)	< 0.04 mg/Kg
Vitamin B1 (thiamine)	<0.2 mg/Kg
Vitamin B12 (cyanocobalamin)	<0.005 mg/Kg
Vitamin B2 (riboflavin)	2 mg/Kg

Vitamin B3 (niacin)	41.6 mg/Kg
Vitamin B5 (pantothenic acid)	6.8 mg/Kg
Vitamin B6 (pyridoxine)	13.5 mg/Kg
Vitamin B9 (folic acid)	0.011 mg/Kg
Vitamin C (ascorbic acid)	300 mg/Kg
Vitamin D (cholecalciferol)	< 0.005 mg/Kg
Vitamin E (α -tocopherol)	24.5 mg/Kg
Vitamin K (naphthoquinone)	< 0.30 mg/Kg
CARBOHYDRATES	
Fructose	4.48 g/100g
Glucose	13.29 g/100g
Maltose	< 0.5 g/100g
Saccharose	0.89 g/100g
Lactose Monohydrate	< 0.5 g/100g
Starch	16.24 g/100g
FATTY ACIDS	
Cholesterol	< 50 mg/Kg
TOTAL SATURATED	0.21 g/100g
Myristic	0.017 g/100g
Stearic	0.05 g/100g
Arachidic	0.004 g/100g
Palmitic	0.14 g/100g
TOTAL MONOUNSATURATED	0.20 g/100g
Oleic	0.20 g/100g
Palmitoleic	0.005 g/100g
TOTAL POLYUNSATURATED	0.29 g/100g
Linoleic	0.21 g/100g
Linolenic	0.08 g/100g
AMINOACIDS	
Aspartic acid	6.49% (6.49g/100g)
Arginine	4.61% (4.61g/100g)
Glutamic acid	1.05% (1.05g/100g)
Serine	0.86% (0.86g/100g)
Lysine	0.69% (0.69g/100g)
Alanine	0.68% (0.68g/100g)
Tyrosine	0.63% (0.63g/100g)
Valine	0.63% (0.63g/100g)
Glycine	0.56% (0.56g/100g)

Phenylalanine	0.55% (0.55g/100g)
Isoleucine	0.50% (0.50g/100g)
Threonine	0.48% (0.48g/100g)
Proline	0.41% (0.41g/100g)
Methionine	0.28% (0.28g/100g)
Histidine	0.27% (0.27g/100g)
Cysteine	< 0.01% (<0.01g/100g)
PIGMENT CAROTENOIDS (g/100 g pigments)	
trans-Lutein	37.37%
beta-Carotene	31.90%
Epoxides	29.76%
trans-Zeaxanthin	0.98%
o-beta-Cryptoxanthin	< 0.1 %
cis-Lutein	< 0.1%
trans-Capsanthin	< 0.1%
Violanxanthin	< 0.1 %
cis-Capsanthin	< 0.1%
Capsorubin	< 0.1%
PHYTOSTEROLS (g/100g fat)	
beta-Sitosterol	68.23%
Campesterol	20.54%
Stigmasterol	6.85%
Sitostanol	3.50%
Cholesterol	0.88%

Table 4. Genotyping

Symbol	Gene	Locus	dbSNP	Polymorphism
APOE	Apolipoprotein E	19q13.2	rs429358 rs7412	c.3932T>C; p.Cys112Arg c.4070C>T; p.Arg158Cys
CYP2D6	Cytochrome P450, family 2, subfamily D, polypeptide 6	22q13.2	rs35742686 rs3892097 dup/del rs5030655 rs28371725	c.775delA; p.Arg259Glyfs; *3 c.506-1G>A; *4 *1xN (Dup); *5 (Del) c.454delT; p.Trp152Glyfs; *6 c.985+39G>A; *41
CYP2C9	Cytochrome P450, family 2, subfamily C, polypeptide 9	10q24	rs1799853 rs1057910	c.430C>T; p.Arg144Cys; *2 c.1075A>C; p.Ile359Leu; *3
CYP2C19	Cytochrome P450, family 2, subfamily C, polypeptide 19	10q24	rs4244285 rs12248560	c.681G>A; p.Pro227Pro; *2 c.-806C>T; *17
CYP3A4	Cytochrome P450, family 3 subfamily A, polypeptide 4	7q21.1	rs2242480 rs35599367	c.1026+12G>A; *1G c.522-191C>T; *22
CYP3A5	Cytochrome P450, family 3 subfamily A, polypeptide 5	7q21.1	rs776746	c.219-237G>A; *3

Statistical analysis

Data were analyzed by using IBM SPSS Statistics 20 and SigmaPlot 10.0 Software. Comparisons between groups

were studied by t-Test, Mann-Whitney Rank Sum Test, Chi Square without Yates correction and Fisher exact, and Pearson Correlation Analysis (Nonlinear Regression, Durbin-Watson Statistic, Normality Test, Constant Variance

Test, 95% Confidence). All values are expressed as mean $\pm$ SE, and the degree of significance is considered when $p < 0.05$.

RESULTS

Basal dopamine levels

Atremorine was well tolerated by 100% of patients, and no side effects were reported in either U or T patients. Clinical improvement lasted for 3 to 12 hrs in U patients.

Basal DA levels in the whole group were 762.28 ± 296.94 pg/mL (range: 8-30318 pg/mL), and were lower in females (232.05 ± 107.33 pg/mL) than in males (1266.44 ± 564.98 pg/mL) ($p = 0.03$). Drastic differences were seen in basal DA levels between untreated patients (U) (11.22 ± 0.29 pg/mL) and patients chronically treated with antiparkinsonian drugs (T) (2139.23 ± 804.72 pg/mL) ($p < 0.001$). Basal DA levels in

U patients were below 20 pg/mL in practically 100% of the cases with a clear homogeneity; however, in T patients DA levels were extremely variable, ranging from >20 to 30318 pg/mL).

Atremorine-induced dopamine response

A single oral dose of Atremorine (5g) induced an increase in DA levels up to 4556.61 ± 678.95 pg/mL ($p < 0.001$) (Figure 1). In U patients DA levels increased from 11.22 ± 0.29 to 2041.24 ± 249.12 pg/mL ($p < 0.001$), with a response rate of 100%, and in T patients DA levels rose from 2139.23 ± 804.72 to 9168.11 ± 1657.27 pg/mL ($p < 0.001$) after one hour (Figure 2), with a response rate of 98% (Figure 2). No significant differences in the magnitude of the response were observed between females and males.

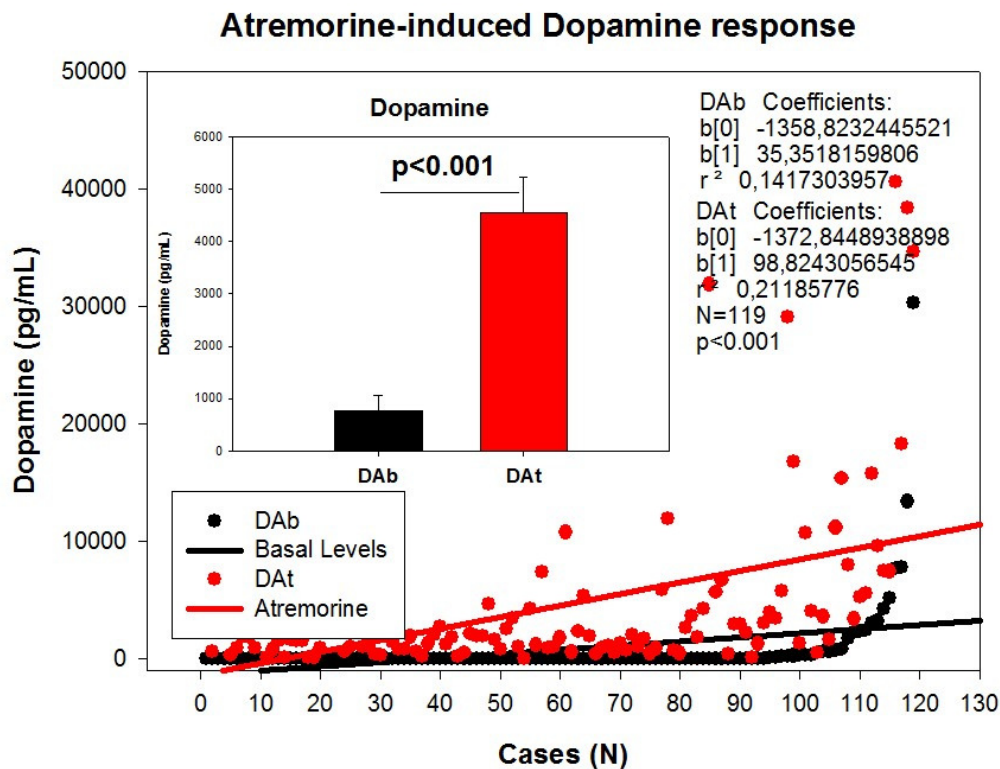


Figure 1. Atremorine-induced dopamine response in patients with Parkinsonian disorders. DAb: Basal dopamine levels. DAT: Plasma dopamine levels one hour after Atremorine administration (5g, p.o.).

Pharmacogenetics of Atremorine-induced Dopamine response

Plasma DA response to Atremorine was in part associated with the APOE genotype of patients as well as with their pharmacogenetic profile. Basal DA levels were substantially different among APOE-2 (294.89 ± 155.92 pg/mL), APOE-3

(752.20 ± 314.20 pg/mL) and APOE-4 allele carriers (2121.63 ± 1212.97 pg/mL), with significant differences between APOE-2 and APOE-4 carriers ($p < 0.05$); however, APOE allele-related DA surge was similar in APOE-2 (7765.36 ± 2040.83 pg/mL), APOE-3 (4469.67 ± 717.18 pg/mL) and APOE-4 carriers (5434.77 ± 1830.97 pg/mL), although the magnitude of the response with regard to basal

levels was the strongest in APOE-2 carriers and weaker in APOE-4 carriers.

The distribution and frequency of APOE genotypes were as follows: APOE-2/2 0%, APOE-2/3 14.53%, APOE-2/4 1.71%, APOE-3/3 58.12%, APOE-3/4 25.64%, and APOE-4/4 0% (Table 5). DA levels increased from 327.64 ± 173.00 to 7540.64 ± 2273.79 pg/mL in APOE-2/3 carriers ($p < 0.001$) (Figure 3); from 16.50 ± 4.50 to 9675.50 ± 2236.50 pg/mL in 2 cases harboring the APOE-2/4 genotype; from 292.97 ± 128.93 to 3471.83 ± 697.81 pg/mL in APOE-3/3 carriers ($p < 0.001$) (Figure 4); and from 2290.40 ± 1305.93 to 5095.52 ± 1959.83 pg/mL ($p < 0.001$) in APOE-3/4 carriers (Figure 5). Significant differences

were found between U and T patients according to their APOE genotype (Figure 6-8). DA levels in U APOE-2/3 patients increased from 11.75 ± 1.31 to 2799.37 ± 303.52 pg/mL ($p < 0.001$); and from 608.44 ± 303.52 to 11755.00 ± 3628.85 pg/mL ($p < 0.001$) in T patients (Figure 6). In U APOE-3/3 carriers DA levels increased from 10.75 ± 0.34 to 1964.37 ± 269.80 pg/mL ($p < 0.001$), and in T APOE-3/3 carriers DA levels augmented from 970.30 ± 406.32 to 7089.75 ± 2104.76 pg/mL ($p < 0.001$) (Figure 7). In U APOE-3/4 carriers DA levels changed from 12.10 ± 0.57 to 1652.60 ± 338.24 pg/mL ($p < 0.001$), whereas T APOE-3/4 carriers responded to Atremorine with an increase in DA levels from 5412.08 ± 2558.37 to 10463.16 ± 3817.54 ($p = 0.14$) (Figure 8).

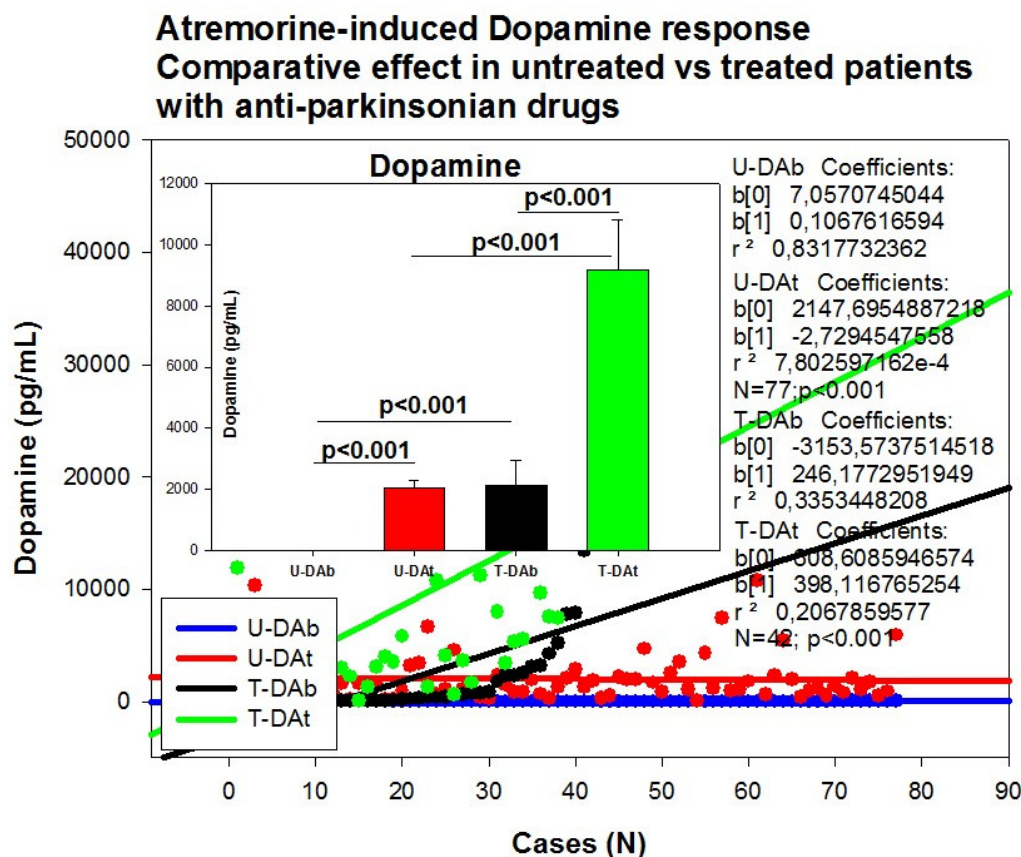


Figure 2. Atremorine-induced dopamine response. Comparative effect in untreated versus treated patients with antiparkinsonian drugs.

U-DAb: Basal dopamine levels in patients never treated before with antiparkinsonian drugs. U-DAt: Plasma dopamine levels in untreated patients one hour after atremorine administration (5g, p.o.). T-DAb: Basal dopamine levels in patients chronically treated with antiparkinsonian drugs. T-DAt: Plasma dopamine levels in patients chronically treated with antiparkinsonian drugs one hour after atremorine administration (5g, p.o.).

Important differences were also observed in DA response to Atremorine in patients with different metabolizing enzyme capacity associated with CYP2D6, CYP2C19, CYP2C9 and CYP3A4/5 genotypes, according to their condition of

extensive (EM), intermediate (IM), poor (PM), rapid (RM) or ultra-rapid metabolizers (UM) (Figure 9-12).

CYP2D6 geno-phenotypes were as follows: EMs 53.45%, IMs 33.62%, PMs 4.31% and UM 8.62% (Table 5). DA

levels increased from 633.46 ± 490.67 to 3517.50 ± 666.66 pg/ml ($p < 0.001$) in CYP2D6-EMs, from 528.15 ± 347.11 to 5098.87 ± 1441.70 pg/mL ($p < 0.001$) in CYP2D6-IMs, from 14.00 ± 2.51 to 2721.60 ± 705.35 pg/mL ($p = 0.008$) in CYP2D6-PMs, and from 2043.50 ± 901.24 to 8719.60 ± 3688.79 pg/mL ($p = 0.01$) in CYP2D6-UMs (**Table 5, Figure 9**).

CYP2C19 geno-phenotypes were 69.83%, 22.41%, 0.86% and 6.90% for EMs, IMs, PMs and UM, respectively (**Table 5**). CYP2C19-EMs showed an increase in DA levels from 417.43 ± 197.01 to 4657.77 ± 880.92 pg/ml ($p < 0.001$), whereas in CYP2C19-IMs and UM, DA levels increased from 1463.23 ± 1167.20 to 4314.11 ± 1345.21 pg/mL ($p < 0.001$), and from 1018.25 ± 660.93 to 3031.25 ± 871.10 pg/mL ($p = 0.03$), respectively (**Figure 10**).

Table 5. Genotype-related Atremorine-induced Dopamine response

Gene	Geno-Phenotype	N (%)	DA (B) (pg/mL)	DA (T) (pg/mL)	p
APOE	<i>APOE-2/2</i>	0 (0%)			
	<i>APOE-2/3</i>	17 (14.53%)	327.64 ± 173.00	7540.64 ± 2273.79	< 0.001
	<i>APOE-2/4</i>	2 (1.71%)	16.50 ± 4.50	9675.50 ± 2236.50	0.33
	<i>APOE-3/3</i>	68 (58.12%)	292.97 ± 178.93	3471.83 ± 697.81	< 0.001
	<i>APOE-3/4</i>	30 (25.64%)	2290.40 ± 1305.93	5095.52 ± 1959.83	< 0.001
	<i>APOE-4/4</i>	0 (0%)			
CYP2D6	<i>CYP2D6-EM</i>	62 (53.45%)	633.46 ± 490.67	3517.50 ± 666.66	< 0.001
	<i>CYP2D6-IM</i>	39 (33.62%)	528.15 ± 347.11	5098.89 ± 1442.70	< 0.001
	<i>CYP2D6-PM</i>	5 (4.31%)	14.00 ± 2.51	2721.60 ± 705.35	0.008
	<i>CYP2D6-UM</i>	10 (8.62%)	2043.50 ± 901.24	8719.60 ± 3688.79	0.01
CYP2C19	<i>CYP2C19-EM</i>	81 (69.83%)	417.43 ± 197.01	4657.77 ± 880.92	< 0.001
	<i>CYP2C19-IM</i>	26 (22.41%)	1463.23 ± 1167.20	4314.11 ± 1345.21	< 0.001
	<i>CYP2C19-PM</i>	1 (0.86%)	376	4048	
	<i>CYP2C19-UM</i>	8 (6.90%)	1018.25 ± 660.93	3031.25 ± 871.10	0.03
CYP2C9	<i>CYP2C9-EM</i>	71 (60.17%)	793.84 ± 447.23	4123.12 ± 867.18	< 0.001
	<i>CYP2C9-IM</i>	41 (34.75%)	529.92 ± 335.24	5332.51 ± 1222.67	< 0.001
	<i>CYP2C9-PM</i>	6 (5.08%)	797.50 ± 498.17	2096.83 ± 841.07	0.13
CYP3A4/5	<i>CYP3A4/5-EM</i>	90 (84.91%)	414.84 ± 171.33	3499.41 ± 585.08	< 0.001
	<i>CYP3A4/5-IM</i>	11 (10.38%)	342.36 ± 275.76	6463.63 ± 2735.78	< 0.001
	<i>CYP3A4/5-RM</i>	5 (4.71%)	10.80 ± 0.73	1095.40 ± 174.21	0.008

DA: Dopamine; DA (B): Basal Dopamine levels; DA (A): Dopamine levels 60 min. after oral administration of Atremorine (5g) EM: Extensive Metabolizer; IM: Intermediate Metabolizer; PM: Poor Metabolizer; RM: Rapid Metabolizer; UM: Ultra-Rapid Metabolizer.

The frequency of CYP2C9-EMs, IMs and PMs were 60.17%, 34.75% and 5.06%, respectively. In CYP2C9-EMs, DA levels raised from 793.84 ± 447.23 to 4123.12 ± 867.18 pg/mL ($p < 0.001$). CYP2C9-IMs exhibited an increase in DA levels from 529.92 ± 335.24 to 5332.51 ± 1222.67 pg/mL ($p < 0.001$); however, this response, though quantitatively important (from 797.50 ± 498.17 to 2096.83 ± 841.07 pg/mL), was not significant ($p = 0.13$) in CYP2C9-PMs (**Table 5, Figure 11**).

DA levels in CYP3A4/5-EMs (84.91%) increased from 414.84 ± 171.33 to 3499.41 ± 585.08 pg/mL ($p < 0.001$). In CYP3A4/5-IMs (10.38%) DA levels increased from 342.36 ± 275.76 to 6463.63 ± 2735.78 pg/mL ($p < 0.001$); and in CYP3A4/5-RMs DA levels changed from 10.80 ± 0.73 to 1095.40 ± 174.21 pg/mL ($p = 0.008$) one hour after Atremorine intake (**Table 5, Figure 12**).

DISCUSSION

This first clinical study with Atremorine in patients with Parkinsonian disorders clearly demonstrates the powerful

effect of this novel bioproduct on plasma dopamine (**Figure 1**) in both untreated patients and patients chronically treated with conventional antiparkinsonian drugs (**Figure 2**). This pro-dopaminergic effect can be attributed to the rich content of natural L-DOPA (average concentration 20 mg/g) in the composition of Atremorine (**Table 2**). However, the neuroprotective effect of this nutraceutical product on dopaminergic neurons, as demonstrated in *in vitro* studies [20] and in animal models of PD [21], cannot be only attributed to L-DOPA, but to other intrinsic constituents (selective neurotrophic factors) of the compound [20]. This study also makes clear that 100% of untreated PD patients exhibit a dramatic hypodopaminemia, with plasma levels of DA below 20 pg/mL (**Table 5**) and that PD patients under long-term treatment with L-DOPA and/or conventional antiparkinsonian drugs experience a hyperdopaminemic status which might be responsible for (i) the clinical improvement of PD cardinal symptoms in the short-term, (ii) the “wearing-off” phenomenon [12,13], (iii) motor fluctuations and dyskinesia [10,14], (iv) systemic complications (gastrointestinal disorders, cardiovascular

problems, hormonal dysregulation) [18,19], and (v) neuropsychiatric disorders (depression, anxiety, toxic psychosis) [11,18].

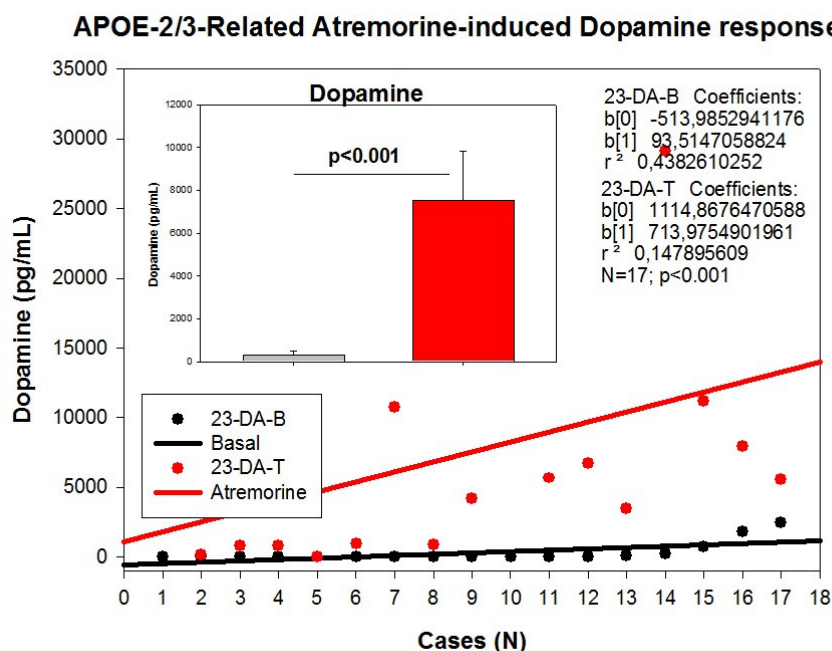


Figure 3. APOE-2/3-related atremorine-induced dopamine response.

23-DA-B: Basal dopamine levels in APOE-2/3 carriers. 23-DA-T: Plasma dopamine levels in APOE-2/3 carriers one hour after atremorine administration (5g, p.o.).

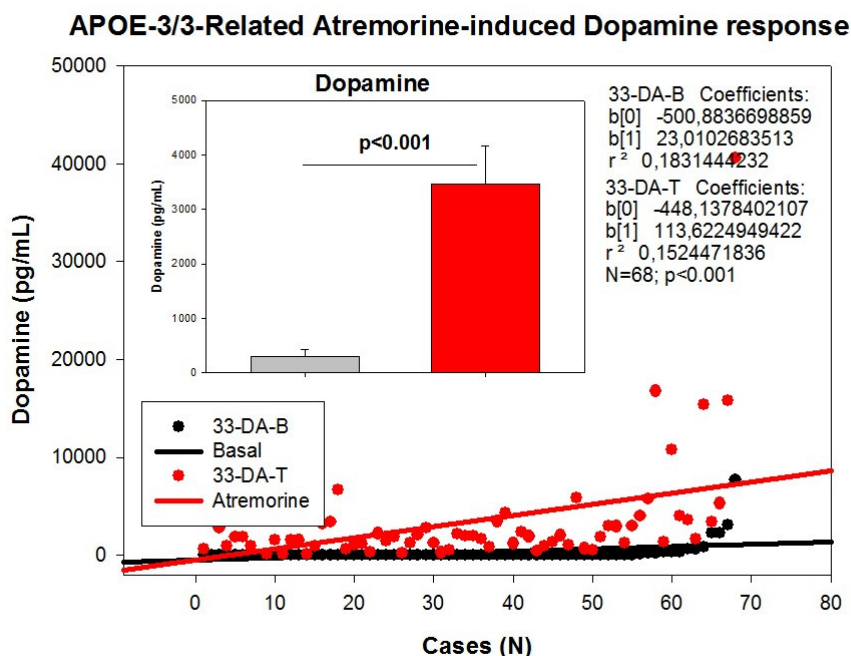


Figure 4. APOE-3/3-related atremorine-induced dopamine response.

33-DA-B: Basal dopamine levels in APOE-3/3 carriers. 33-DA-T: Plasma dopamine levels in APOE-3/3 carriers one hour after atremorine administration (5g, p.o.).

Atremorine is an option to minimize the “wearing-off” phenomenon, extending the therapeutic effect of conventional antiparkinsonian drugs, and reducing potential side effects, since the co-administration of Atremorine with other antiparkinsonian drugs allows a dose reduction of conventional drugs by 25-50% with enhancement of clinical benefits and reduction of short- and long-term adverse drug reactions.

However, although the dopaminergic surge induced by Atremorine is proportional to basal DA levels in U and T PD patients, with a potential 200-500-fold increase over basal levels, its real potency and pharmacodynamic and pharmacokinetic properties are highly influenced by genetic and pharmacogenetic factors (**Table 5**). Genes involved in the pharmacogenetic network include pathogenic, mechanistic, metabolic, transporter and pleiotropic genes [26,27], and all these genes are under the influence of epigenetic modifications (DNA methylation, histone/chromatin remodeling, mRNA regulation) [28-30]. In recent years novel evidence has demonstrated the impact of pharmacogenetics on anti-PD drug efficacy and safety

[11,31-34] (**Table 1**). In the particular case of L-DOPA, the *ANKK1*, *BDNF*, *LRRK2*, and *PARK2* genes are pathogenic genes potentially involved in its effects. The *CCK*, *CCKAR*, *CCKBR*, *DRD1*, *DRD2*, *DRD3*, *DRD4*, *DRD5*, *GRIN2A*, *GRIN2B*, *HCRT*, *HOMER1*, *LMO3*, and *OPRM1* genes are mechanistic genes whose products influence L-DOPA efficacy and safety. L-DOPA is a substrate of enzymes encoded by the *COMT*, *CYP1A2*, *CYP2B6*, *CYP2C19*, *CYP2D6*, *CYP3A4*, *CYP3A5*, *DBH*, *DDC*, *G6PD*, *MAOB*, *TH*, *UGT1A1*, and *UGT1A9* genes responsible for its metabolism. *SLC6A3* is the major transporter of L-DOPA; and *ACE*, *ACHE* and *APOE* are pleiotropic players in L-DOPA efficacy and safety [11] (**Table 1**). *ADORA2A* SNPs and *HOMER1* variants may be associated with L-DOPA-induced dyskinesia and psychotic symptoms [35,36]. A haplotype integrating -141CIns/Del, rs2283265, rs1076560, C957T, TaqIA and rs2734849 polymorphisms at the *DRD2/ANKK1* gene region might also be associated with L-DOPA-induced motor dysfunction [37]. *SLC6A3* is a genetic modifier of the treatment response to L-DOPA in PD [38].

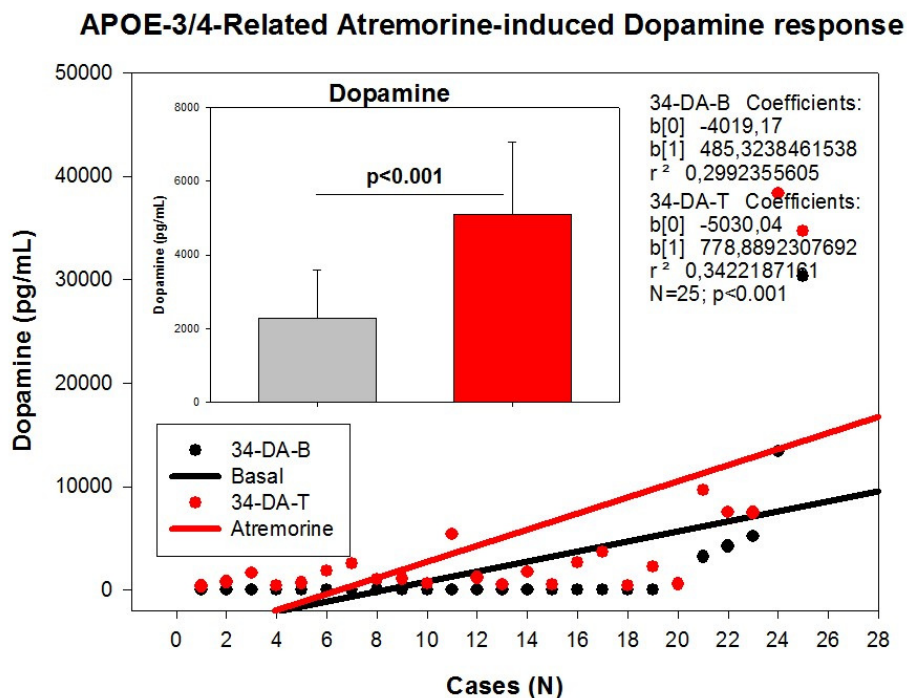


Figure 5. APOE-3/4-related atremorine-induced dopamine response.

34-DA-B: Basal dopamine levels in APOE-3/4 carriers. 34-DA-T: Plasma dopamine levels in APOE-3/4 carriers one hour after atremorine administration (5g, p.o.).

Our results illustrate the differential effect of APOE variants on Atremorine-induced dopamine response (**Figure 3-8, Table 5**). APOE is a pleiotropic gene with enormous influence on neurodegeneration, dementia and

cerebrovascular disorders [39]. It has also been extensively demonstrated that APOE-4 carriers are poor responders to conventional drugs in dementia with and without a cerebrovascular component [26,30,40-42]. In U PD patients, as previously mentioned, basal DA levels are very

homogeneous (<20 pg/mL) and Atremorine induces a spectacular increase in DA levels (>2000 pg/mL in 80% of the cases), especially in APOE-2 carriers. The only U APOE-2/4 case, with a basal DA level of 12 pg/mL responded with an increase in DA up to 7439pg/mL; and the only T APOE-2/4 case in our sample, with a basal DA

level of 21 pg/mL, showed a DA increase of 11912 pg/mL one hour after Atremorine administration. According to our data, APOE-2 carriers are the best responders (**Figure 6**), APOE-3 carriers exhibit an intermediate response (**Figure 7**), and APOE-4 carriers show a moderate (significant) response (**Figure 8**).

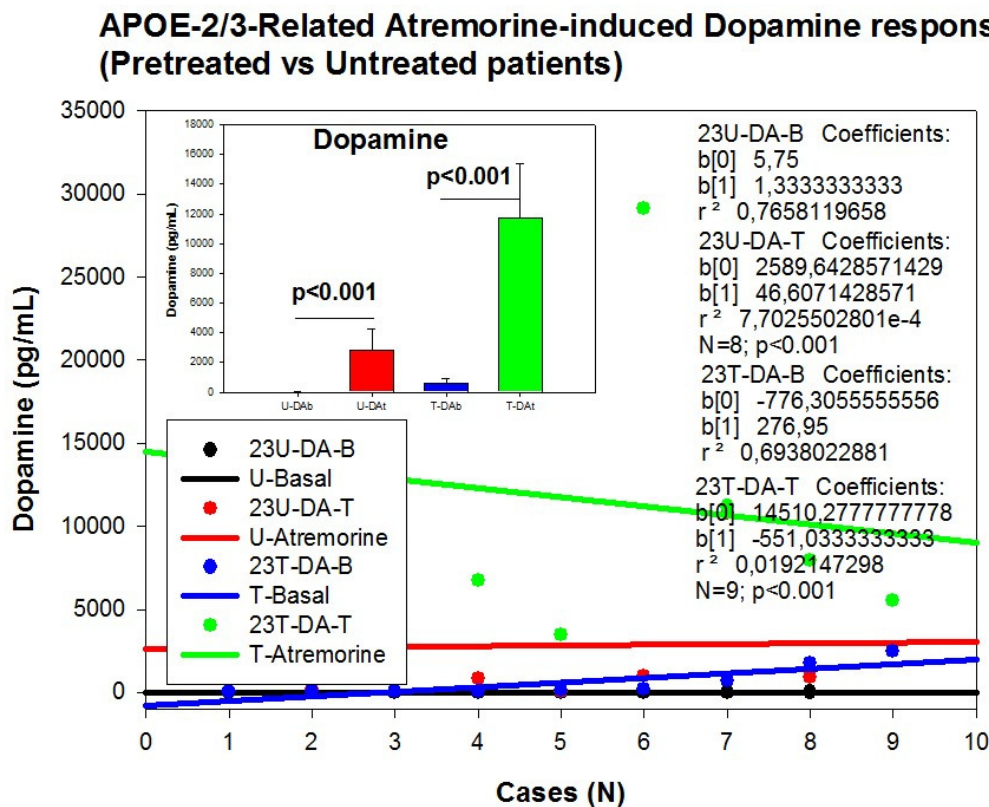


Figure 6. APOE-2/3-related atremorine-induced dopamine response. Comparative effects in untreated patients (U) and in patients chronically treated (T) with antiparkinsonian drugs.

U-DAb: Basal dopamine levels in patients never treated before with antiparkinsonian drugs. U-DAt: Plasma dopamine levels in untreated patients one hour after atremorine administration (5g, p.o.). T-DAb: Basal dopamine levels in patients chronically treated with antiparkinsonian drugs. T-DAt: Plasma dopamine levels in patients chronically treated with antiparkinsonian drugs one hour after atremorine administration (5g, p.o.).

23U-DA-B: Basal dopamine levels in untreated (U) APOE-2/3 carriers.

23U-DA-T: Plasma dopamine levels one hour after atremorine administration (5g, p.o.) in U-APOE-2/3 carriers.

23T-DA-B: Basal dopamine levels in APOE-2/3 carriers chronically treated (T) with antiparkinsonian drugs.

23T-DA-T: Plasma dopamine levels in APOE-2/3 carriers chronically treated with antiparkinsonian drugs one hour after atremorine administration (5g, p.o.).

Similarly, differential CYP-related Atremorine-induced dopamine responses have been observed (**Figure 9-12**). L-DOPA is a major substrate of CYP2D6, CYP2C19 and CYP3A4/5 enzymes [11] (**Table 1**). Assuming that the number of cases included in this study is limited (and a larger sample is needed for obtaining definitive conclusions), in general, CYP2D6-EMs are the best responders, followed by CYP2D6-IMs; however, CYP2D6-

PMs show a weaker response, whereas CYP2D6-UMs exhibit an uneven response, with great heterogeneity and response dispersion (**Figure 9**). In an almost identical manner, CYP2C19-EMs are the best responders, CYP2C19-IMs show an intermediate response (starting from higher basal DA values than EMs), and CYP2C19-UMs show a weaker (significant) response than EMs and IMs, probably due to a faster metabolism of L-DOPA (**Figure 10**). CYP2C9-IMs are better responders than EMs, and CYP2C9-

PMs show a poor, non-significant response (Figure 11). Finally, CYP3A4/5-IMs are also better responders to Atremorine than CYP3A3/4-EMs, though carriers of both geno-phenotypes are excellent responders, and the few cases that harbor a CYP3A4/5-RM geno-phenotype show a

weaker (significant) response than EMs and IMs (Figure 12).

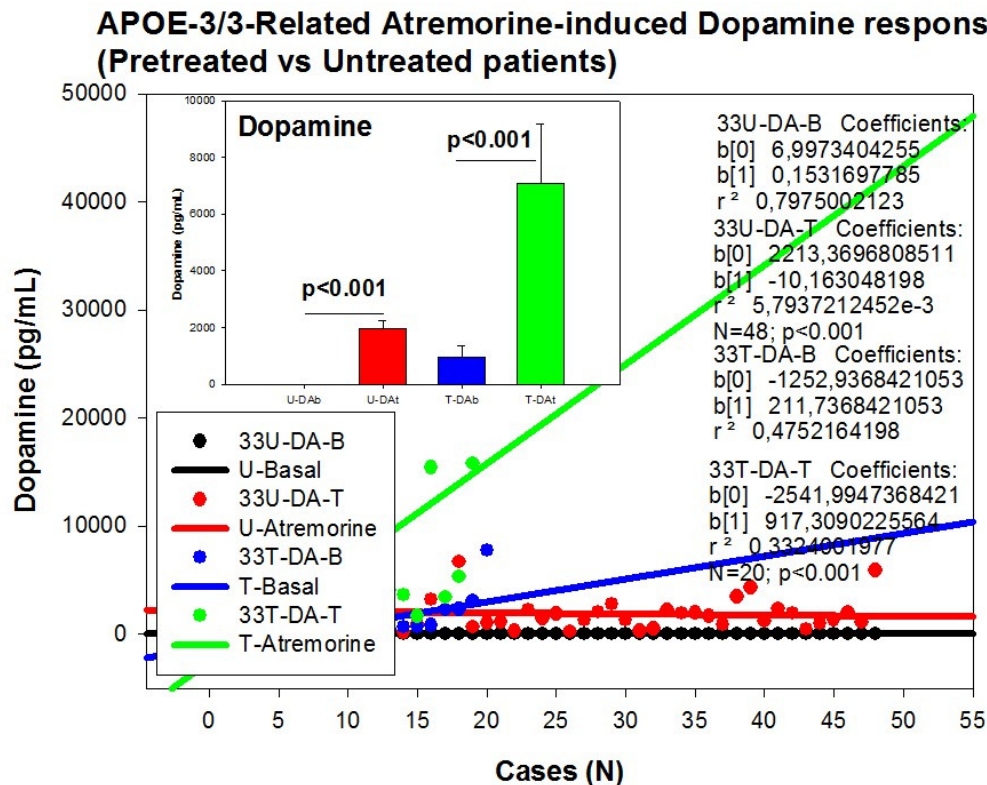


Figure 7. APOE-3/3-related atremorine-induced dopamine response. Comparative effects in untreated patients (U) and in patients chronically treated (T) with antiparkinsonian drugs.

U-DAb: Basal dopamine levels in patients never treated before with antiparkinsonian drugs. U-DAt: Plasma dopamine levels in untreated patients one hour after atremorine administration (5g, p.o.). T-DAb: Basal dopamine levels in patients chronically treated with antiparkinsonian drugs. T-DAt: Plasma dopamine levels in patients chronically treated with antiparkinsonian drugs one hour after atremorine administration (5g, p.o.).

33U-DA-B: Basal dopamine levels in untreated (U) APOE-3/3 carriers.

33U-DA-T: Plasma dopamine levels one hour after atremorine administration (5g, p.o.) in U-APOE-3/3 carriers.

33T-DA-B: Basal dopamine levels in APOE-3/3 carriers chronically treated (T) with antiparkinsonian drugs.

33T-DA-T: Plasma dopamine levels in APOE-3/3 carriers chronically treated with antiparkinsonian drugs one hour after atremorine administration (5g, p.o.).

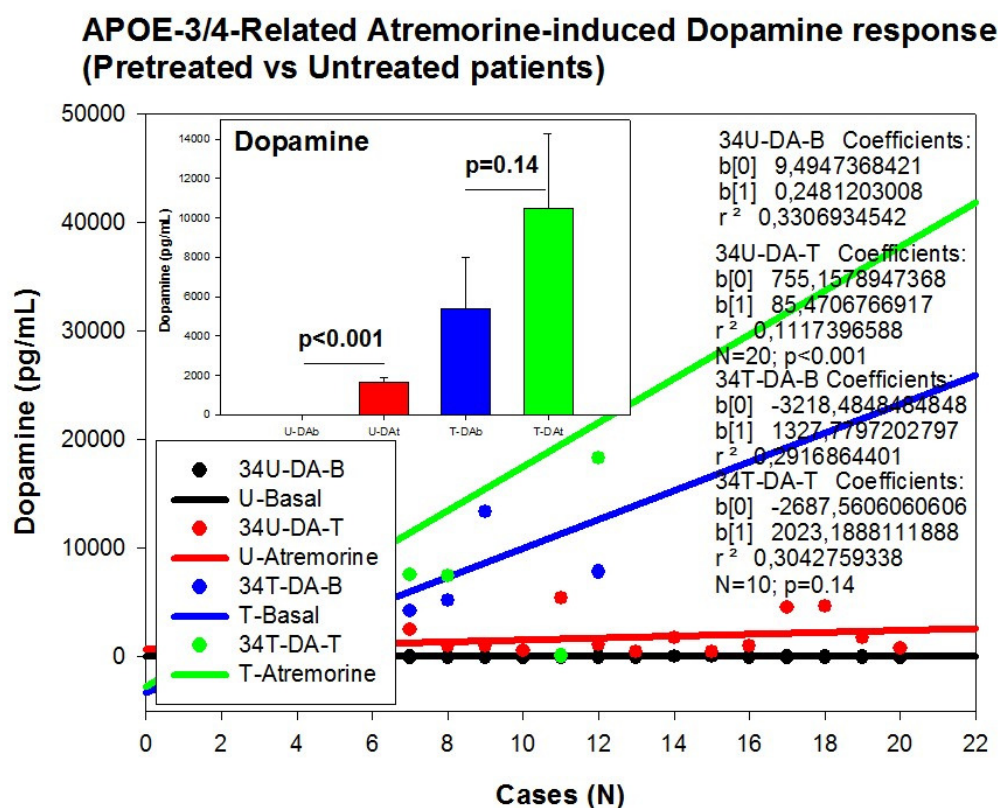


Figure 8. APOE-3/4-related atremorine-induced dopamine response. Comparative effects in untreated patients (U) and in patients chronically treated (T) with antiparkinsonian drugs.

U-DAb: Basal dopamine levels in patients never treated before with antiparkinsonian drugs. U-DAT: Plasma dopamine levels in untreated patients one hour after atremorine administration (5g, p.o.). T-DAb: Basal dopamine levels in patients chronically treated with antiparkinsonian drugs. T-DAT: Plasma dopamine levels in patients chronically treated with antiparkinsonian drugs one hour after atremorine administration (5g, p.o.).

34U-DA-B: Basal dopamine levels in untreated (U) APOE-3/4 carriers.

34U-DA-T: Plasma dopamine levels one hour after atremorine administration (5g, p.o.) in U-APOE-3/4 carriers.

34T-DA-B: Basal dopamine levels in APOE-3/4 carriers chronically treated (T) with antiparkinsonian drugs.

34T-DA-T: Plasma dopamine levels in APOE-3/4 carriers chronically treated with antiparkinsonian drugs one hour after atremorine administration (5g, p.o.).

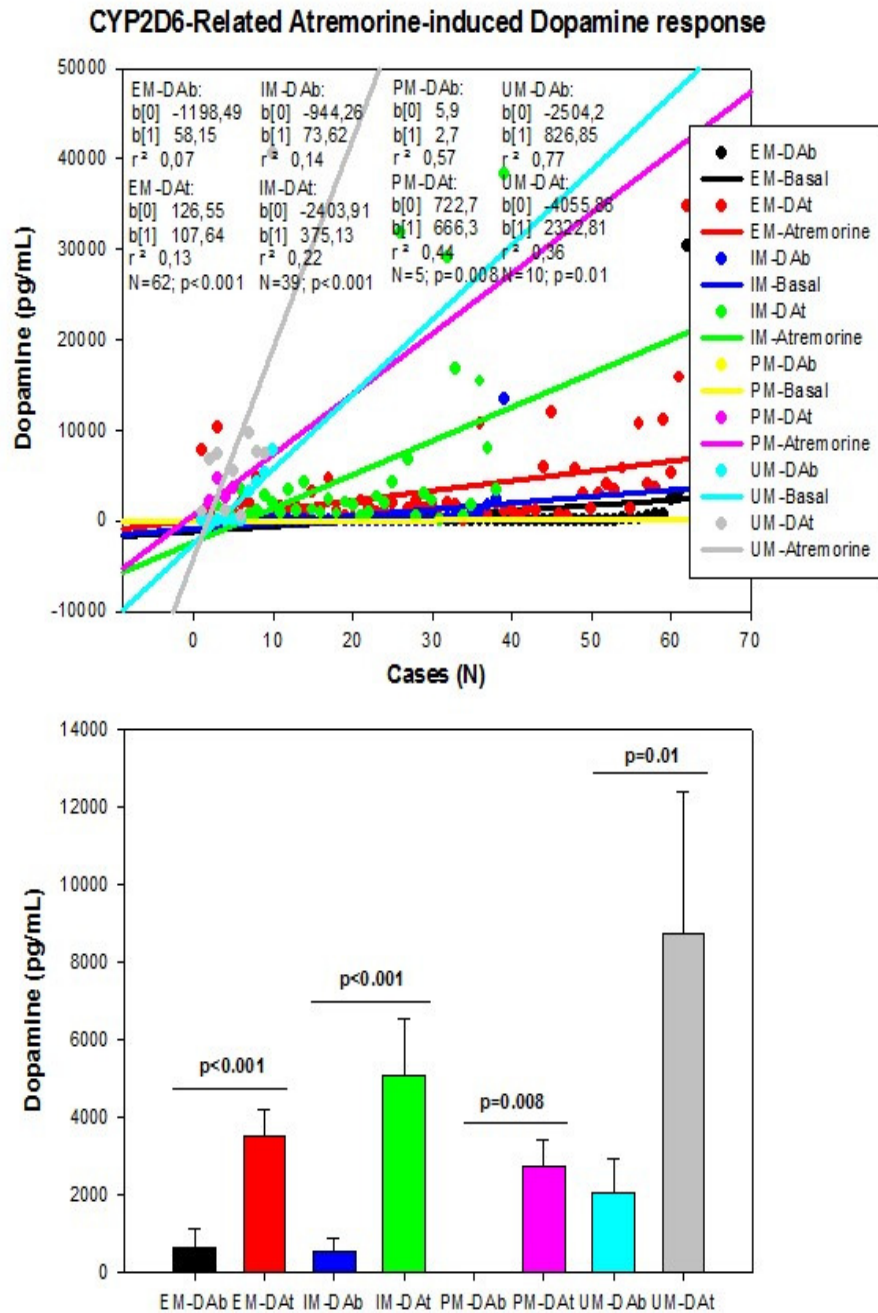


Figure 9. CYP2D6-related atremorine-induced dopamine response.

EM-DAb: Basal dopamine levels in CYP2D6 Extensive Metabolizers (EM).

EM-DAt: Plasma dopamine levels in CYP2D6-EMs one hour after atremorine administration (5g, p.o.).

IM-DAb: Basal dopamine levels in CYP2D6 Intermediate Metabolizers (IM).

IM-DAt: Plasma dopamine levels in CYP2D6-IMs one hour after atremorine administration (5g, p.o.).

PM-DAb: Basal dopamine levels in CYP2D6 Poor Metabolizers (PM).

PM-DAt: Plasma dopamine levels in CYP2D6-PMs one hour after atremorine administration (5g, p.o.).

UM-DAb: Basal dopamine levels in CYP2D6 Ultra-Rapid Metabolizers (UM).

UM-DAt: Plasma dopamine levels in CYP2D6-UMs one hour after atremorine administration (5g, p.o.).

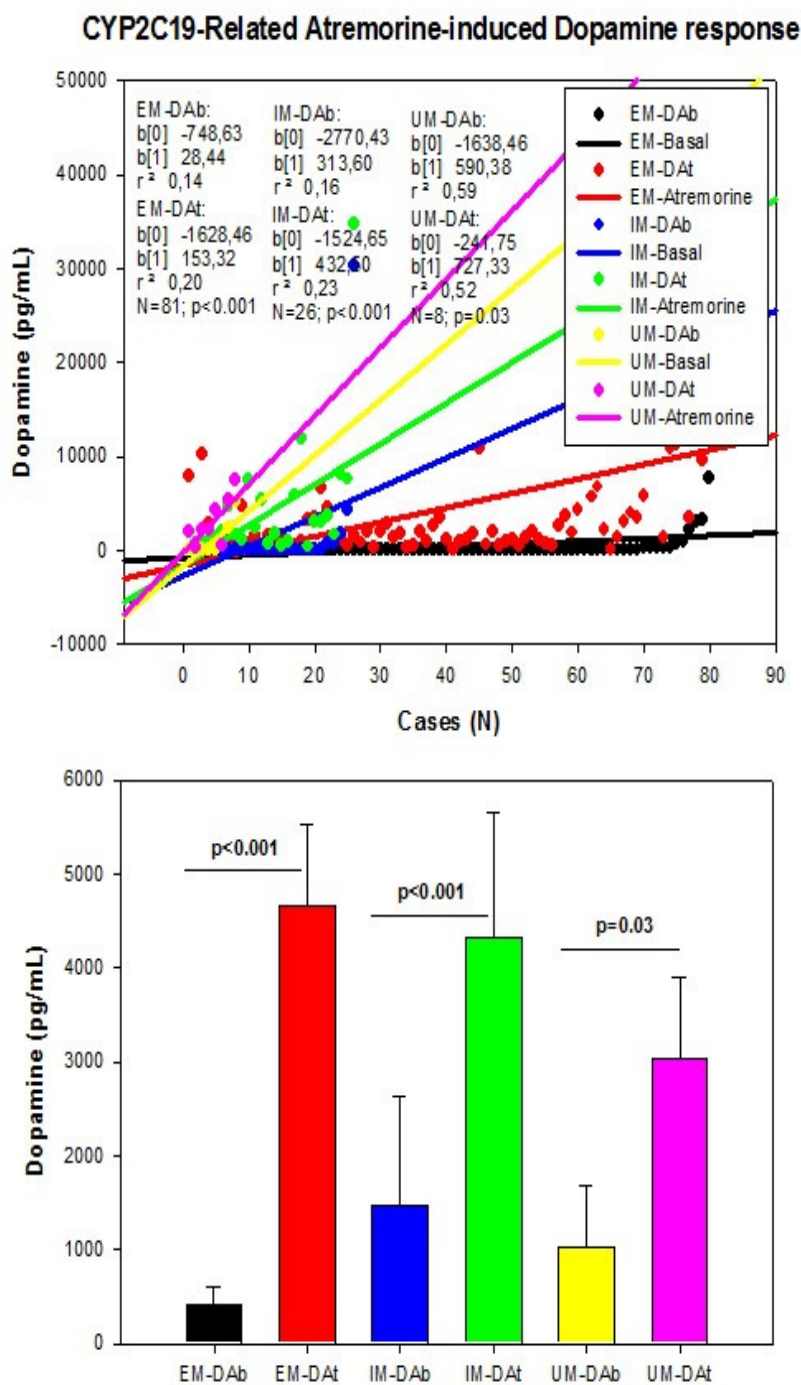


Figure 10. CYP2C19-related atremorine-induced dopamine response.

EM-DAb: Basal dopamine levels in CYP2C19 Extensive Metabolizers (EM).

EM-DAt: Plasma dopamine levels in CYP2C19-EMs one hour after atremorine administration (5g, p.o.).

IM-DAb: Basal dopamine levels in CYP2C19 Intermediate Metabolizers (IM).

IM-DAt: Plasma dopamine levels in CYP2C19-IMs one hour after atremorine administration (5g, p.o.).

UM-DAb: Basal dopamine levels in CYP2C19 Ultra-Rapid Metabolizers (UM).

UM-DAt: Plasma dopamine levels in CYP2C19-UMs one hour after atremorine administration (5g, p.o.).

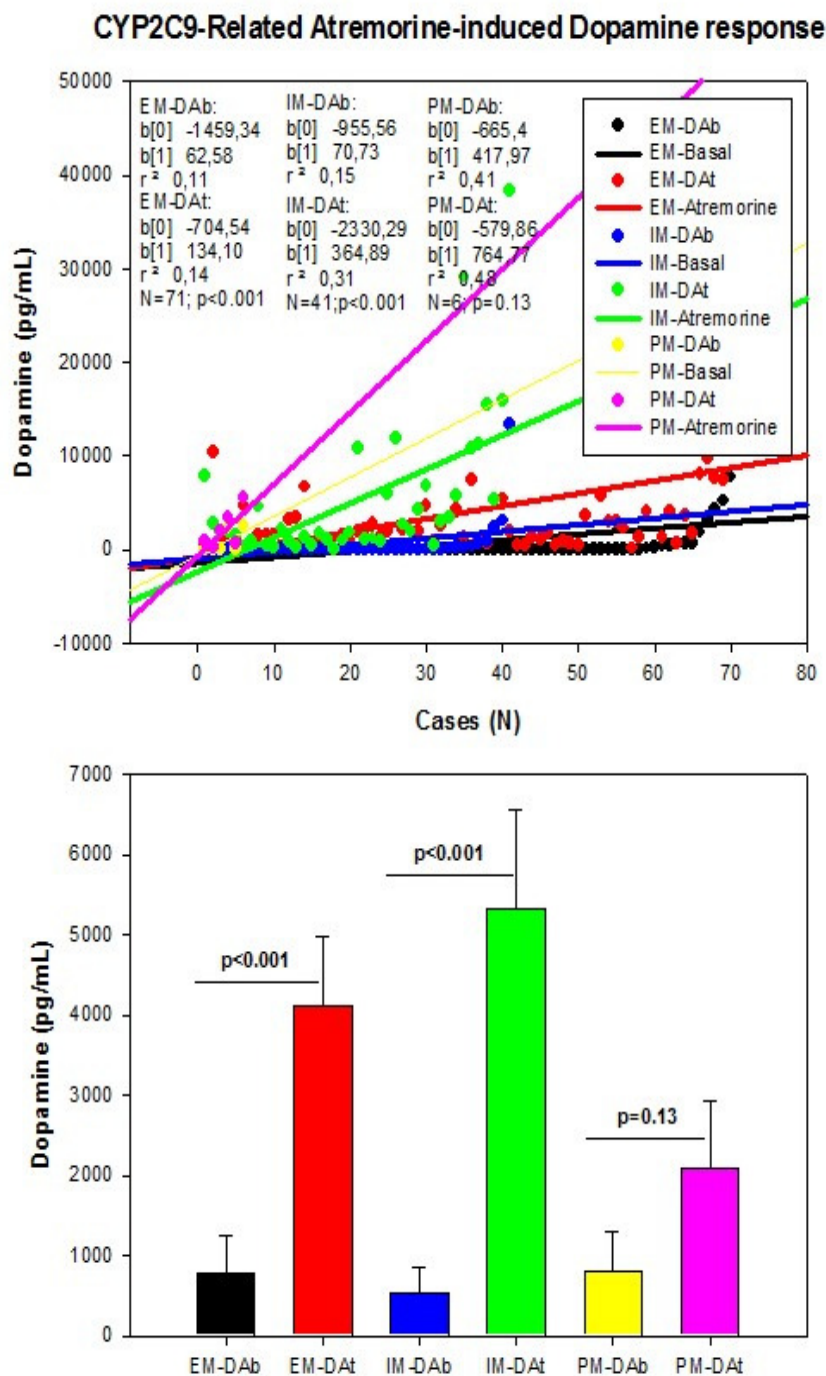


Figure 11. CYP2C9-related atremorine-induced dopamine response.

EM-DAb: Basal dopamine levels in CYP2C9 Extensive Metabolizers (EM).

EM-DAt: Plasma dopamine levels in CYP2C9-EMs one hour after atremorine administration (5g, p.o.).

IM-DAb: Basal dopamine levels in CYP2C9 Intermediate Metabolizers (IM).

IM-DAt: Plasma dopamine levels in CYP2C9-IMs one hour after atremorine administration (5g,p.o.).

PM-DAb: Basal dopamine levels in CYP2C9 Poor Metabolizers (PM).

PM-DAt: Plasma dopamine levels in CYP2C9-PMs one hour after atremorine administration (5g, p.o.).

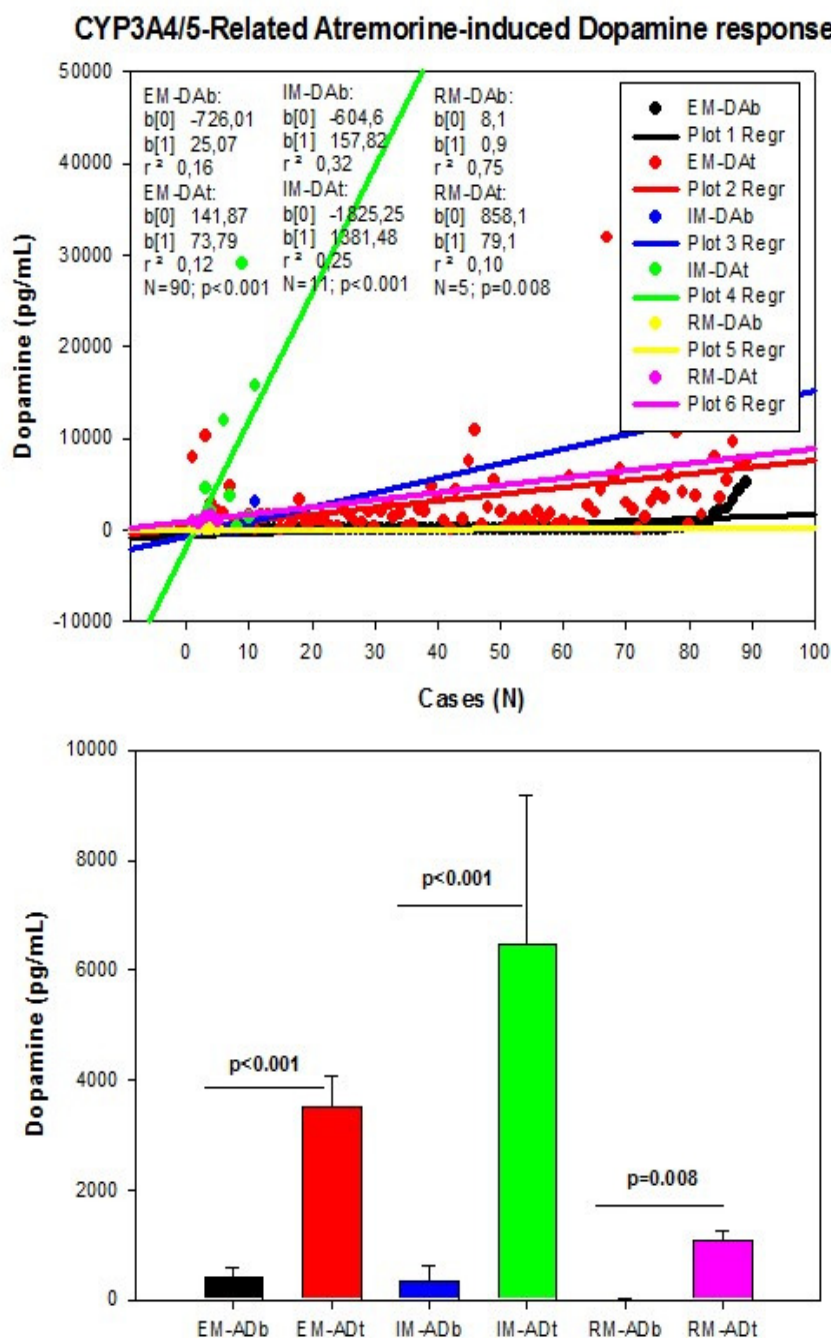


Figure 12. CYP3A4/5-related atremorine-induced dopamine response.

EM-DAb: Basal dopamine levels in CYP3A4/5 Extensive Metabolizers (EM).

EM-DAt: Plasma dopamine levels in CYP3A4/5-EMs one hour after atremorine administration (5g, p.o.).

IM-DAb: Basal dopamine levels in CYP3A4/5 Intermediate Metabolizers (IM).

IM-DAt: Plasma dopamine levels in CYP3A4/5-IMs one hour after atremorine administration (5g, p.o.).

UM-DAb: Basal dopamine levels in CYP3A4/5 Ultra-Rapid Metabolizers (UM).

UM-DAt: Plasma dopamine levels in CYP3A4/5-UMs one hour after atremorine administration (5g, p.o.).

In conclusion, Atremorine is a novel bioproduct derived from the *Vicia faba* pod with powerful pro-dopaminergic properties in PD patients. The Atremorine-induced dopamine response is genotype-dependent and is influenced by pleiotropic gene variants, such as APOE, and CYP2D6, CYP2C19, CYP2C9 and CYP3A4/5 pheno-genotypes which influence L-DOPA metabolism as well as other components present in the complex composition of E-PodoFavalin-15999.

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