

## Corticotropin-releasing factor receptors in GtoPdb v.2025.3

Frank M. Dautzenberg<sup>1</sup>, Dimitri E. Grigoriadis<sup>2</sup>, Richard L. Hauger<sup>3</sup>, Victoria B. Risbrough<sup>3</sup>, Thomas Steckler<sup>1</sup>, Wylie W. Vale<sup>4</sup> and Rita J. Valentino<sup>5</sup>

1. Johnson & Johnson Pharmaceutical Research & Development, Belgium
2. Neurocrine Biosciences, USA
3. University of California San Diego, USA
4. Salk Institute, USA
5. Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, USA

### Abstract

Corticotropin-releasing factor (CRF, **nomenclature as agreed by the NC-IUPHAR subcommittee on Corticotropin-releasing Factor Receptors [35]**) receptors are activated by the endogenous peptides [corticotrophin-releasing hormone](#), a 41 amino-acid peptide, [urocortin 1](#), 40 amino-acids, [urocortin 2](#), 38 amino-acids and [urocortin 3](#), 38 amino-acids. CRF<sub>1</sub> and CRF<sub>2</sub> receptors are activated non-selectively by CRH and UCN. CRF<sub>2</sub> receptors are selectively activated by UCN2 and UCN3.

Binding to CRF receptors can be conducted using radioligands [<sup>125</sup>I]Tyr<sup>0</sup>-CRF or [<sup>125</sup>I]Tyr<sup>0</sup>-[sauvagine](#) with K<sub>d</sub> values of 0.1-0.4 nM. CRF<sub>1</sub> and CRF<sub>2</sub> receptors are non-selectively antagonized by [α-helical CRF](#), [D-Phe-CRF-\(12-41\)](#) and [astressin](#). CRF<sub>1</sub> receptors are selectively antagonized by small molecules [NBI27914](#), [R121919](#), [antalarmin](#), [CP 154,526](#), [CP 376,395](#). CRF<sub>2</sub> receptors are selectively antagonized by [antisauvagine](#) and [astressin 2B](#). Although selective small molecule CRF<sub>1</sub> receptor antagonists were not effective in treating major depressive disorder, posttraumatic stress disorder, or alcohol use disorder in clinical trials, recent phase 2 studies have found that CRF<sub>1</sub> receptor antagonists effectively reduce adrenocortical androgens and precursors in congenital adrenal hyperplasia [61].

### Contents

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#### Receptors

#### CRF<sub>1</sub> receptor

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