

Contents

A Personal Foreword *xiii*

Preface *xvii*

1	Drug Discovery Strategies for Neglected Tropical Diseases: Repurposing Knowledge, Mechanisms and Therapeutics to Increase Discovery Efficiency	1
	<i>David C. Swinney and Michael P. Pollastri</i>	
1.1	Introduction	1
1.2	First-line Therapies for NTDs and Mechanisms of Action	1
1.3	Drug Discovery Efficiency	3
1.3.1	Drug Discovery Process	3
1.3.2	Drug Discovery Strategies	5
1.3.3	PDD versus TDD for NTDs	6
1.4	Critical Components for Successful Drug Discovery	7
1.4.1	Finding a Starting Point	7
1.4.2	Assays Robustness and Hit Selection Criteria	7
1.4.3	Optimization Processes	8
1.5	Repurposing Knowledge Mechanisms and Therapeutics	9
1.6	Summary	10
	References	10

Part I Virus 15

2	Toward Antiviral Therapies for the Treatment of Zika Virus Infection: Lessons Learned from Dengue Virus	17
	<i>Sarah K. Stevens, Paul C. Jordan, Andreas Jekle, and Jerome Deval</i>	
2.1	Zika Virus: History and Epidemiology	17
2.2	Detection, Clinical Presentation, and Medical Need	20
2.3	ZIKV Replication Cycle	21
2.4	Lessons Learned from Dengue Antiviral Research	23
2.4.1	Host Targeting Agents	24
2.4.2	Direct Antiviral Agents	24

2.5	<i>In Vitro</i> Tools for Anti-ZIKV Drug Discovery	25
2.5.1	Cell-Based Assays	25
2.5.2	Biochemical Assays and Tools for Structure-Based Drug Design	26
2.5.2.1	The NS5 MTase and Polymerase	26
2.5.2.2	The NS2B–NS3 Protease	27
2.5.2.3	The NS3 Helicase	27
2.6	Animal Models for Evaluating <i>In Vivo</i> Efficacy	28
2.7	ZIKV NS5 RdRp and MTase Inhibitors	30
2.7.1	Ribavirin and T-705 (Favipiravir)	30
2.7.2	2'-C-Methylated Nucleosides	32
2.7.3	NITD008	33
2.7.4	BCX4430	33
2.7.5	MTase Inhibitors	33
2.8	NS3 Protease and Helicase Inhibitors	34
2.9	Other Classes of Small Molecules against ZIKV	36
2.10	Conclusions and Future Directions on ZIKV Inhibition	37
	References	37

3 **Developing Therapeutics for Ebola Virus Disease: A Multifaceted Approach** 49

Michael K. Lo, Jessica R. Spengler, Bobbie Rae Erickson, and Christina F. Spiropoulou

3.1	Overview of Ebola Virus Disease (EVD)	49
3.2	Ebola Virus Diagnostics: Challenges and Innovations	50
3.3	Ebola Virus Genome Structure, Components, and Replication Cycle	52
3.4	<i>In vitro</i> Toolbox: Cell-Based Assays	54
3.5	<i>In Vivo</i> Toolbox: Animal Models for Efficacy Testing	54
3.6	Therapeutic Strategies	57
3.6.1	Host-Directed Antivirals	57
3.6.1.1	S-Adenosyl-Homocysteine Hydrolase Inhibitors	57
3.6.1.2	Kinases and Phosphatases	60
3.6.1.3	Protein Folding and Processing	60
3.6.1.4	Non-Proteolytic Endosomal Targets	63
3.6.1.5	Priming Host Immune Responses	65
3.6.1.6	Other Host Targets	67
3.6.2	Direct-Acting Antivirals	67
3.6.2.1	Antibody-Based Therapeutics	67
3.6.2.2	Inhibitors of Viral Protein Interactions	69
3.6.2.3	Nucleic Acid Inhibitors	70
3.6.2.4	Nucleoside Analogs/Polymerase Inhibitors	71
3.7	Conclusions	74
	Acknowledgments	74
	References	74

Part II Kinetoplastids 93

- 4 **Designing Drugs to Target *Trypanosoma cruzi*, the Etiological Agent of Chagas Disease: When Chemistry needs Biology** 95
Martine Keenan and Eric Chatelain
 - 4.1 Introduction 95
 - 4.2 Chagas Disease Overview 95
 - 4.3 Toward Sterile Cure in a Chagas Disease Mouse Model: Which Way Forward? 96
 - 4.3.1 Feeding the Chagas Disease Pipeline: Compound Selection and Identification of Potential Hits/Starting Points 98
 - 4.3.2 Choosing the “Right” Starting Points 98
 - 4.3.3 Using *In Vitro* Assays to Guide Structural Optimization 101
 - 4.3.4 Getting Compounds to the Site of Action 103
 - 4.3.5 Mechanism of Action: Is There a Need for Target Deconvolution before Starting a Lead Optimization Program? 106
 - 4.4 Conclusion 107
 - Acknowledgments 108
 - References 109
- 5 **Drug Discovery and Development for Human African Trypanosomiasis** 115
Andrew Spaulding, Mitchell F. Gallerstein, and Lori Ferrins
 - 5.1 Overview of Disease 115
 - 5.2 Etiology and Epidemiology 115
 - 5.3 Current Treatments 119
 - 5.3.1 Stage 1 Treatments 119
 - 5.3.2 Stage 2 Treatments 122
 - 5.4 Diagnostics 123
 - 5.5 Medicinal Chemistry 125
 - 5.6 Future Drug Candidates 129
 - 5.7 Conclusion 132
 - References 132
- 6 **Discovery of Drugs for Leishmaniasis: A Progress Report** 139
Baljinder Singh, Frederick S. Buckner, and Michael P. Pollastri
 - 6.1 Visceral Leishmaniasis (VL) 139
 - 6.1.1 Current Treatment Regimens for VL 140
 - 6.2 Cutaneous Leishmaniasis (CL) 141
 - 6.2.1 Current Treatment Regimens for CL 142
 - 6.3 Mucosal Leishmaniasis (ML) 143
 - 6.3.1 Current Treatment Regimens for ML 143
 - 6.4 Medicinal Chemistry 144
 - 6.4.1 Phenotypic Screening Approach Versus Target-Based Approach 144

6.4.2	Phenotypic Screening Approaches	144
6.4.3	Target-Based Approaches	150
6.4.4	<i>In Silico</i> Computational Approaches	152
6.5	Conclusion	153
	References	154

Part III Helminths 161

7	Onchocerciasis Drug Discovery	163
	<i>Natalie A. Hawryluk and Ivan Scandale</i>	
7.1	Introduction	163
7.1.1	The Vector	163
7.1.2	Life Cycle of <i>O. volvulus</i>	164
7.2	Epidemiology	165
7.3	Clinical Manifestation	166
7.3.1	Skin Lesions	166
7.3.2	Nodules	166
7.3.3	Eye Lesions	166
7.3.4	Nodding Syndrome	167
7.4	Diagnostics	168
7.4.1	Clinical Diagnosis	168
7.4.2	Ultrasonography	168
7.4.3	Mazzotti Test	168
7.4.4	Parasitological Diagnosis	168
7.4.5	Immunological Tests and PCR	169
7.5	Current Therapies and Approaches	169
7.5.1	Direct-Acting Approach	169
7.5.1.1	Diethylcarbamazine	170
7.5.1.2	Ivermectin	170
7.5.1.3	Albendazole	171
7.5.1.4	Suramin	171
7.5.2	Antibacterial Approach	171
7.5.2.1	Tetracycline Derivatives	171
7.5.3	Nodulectomy	172
7.6	Discovery Models	172
7.6.1	Primary <i>In Vitro</i> Assays	172
7.6.2	<i>In Vivo</i> Efficacy Models	173
7.7	Medicinal Chemistry Approaches	173
7.7.1	Benzimidazoles	173
7.7.1.1	Flubendazole (FLBZ)	173
7.7.1.2	UMF-078	174
7.7.1.3	Boron-Derived Benzimidazoles	175
7.7.2	Macrocyclic Lactones	175
7.7.2.1	Milbemycins	175
7.7.2.2	Cyclooctadepsipeptides	176
7.7.2.3	Tylosins	177

7.7.3	Natural Products	178
7.7.3.1	Corallopyronin A	178
7.7.4	Small Molecules	180
7.7.4.1	Pyrazolopyridine	180
7.8	Conclusion	180
	References	180
8	Drug Discovery and Development for Schistosomiasis	187
	<i>Conor R. Caffrey, Nelly El-Sakkary, Patrick Mäder, Reimar Krieg, Katja Becker, Martin Schlitzer, David H. Drewry, Jonathan L. Vennerstrom, and Christoph G. Grevelding</i>	
8.1	Schistosomiasis: The Disease and the One Drug We Have for Treatment, Praziquantel	187
8.2	Drug Discovery for Schistosomiasis: Strategies, Tools, Targets, and a Note on the Target Product Profile	189
8.3	Drug Repurposing	190
8.4	Structure-Based Drug Design	195
8.5	Phenotypic Approaches	196
8.6	Organometallics	199
8.7	Natural Products	200
8.8	Perspective on Schistosome Kinases as Potential Drug Targets	202
8.9	Case Study 1: Biarylalkyl Carboxylic Acids (BACAs) as Antischistosomes	206
8.10	Case Study 2: Arylmethylamino Steroids (AASs) as Antischistosomes	212
8.11	Brief Summary of the Drug Development Pipeline	213
	Acknowledgments	215
	References	215
9	Soil-transmitted Helminthiasis – Challenges with Discovery of Novel Anthelmintics	227
	<i>Graham M. Kyne, Michael P. Curtis, Jennifer Keiser, and Debra J. Woods</i>	
9.1	Current Therapies and Unmet Needs for Soil-transmitted Helminthiasis (STHs)	227
9.2	Anthelmintic Research and Development in Animal Health: Value Drivers	229
9.3	Anthelmintic Discovery: State of the Art (2005–2017)	232
9.3.1	New Molecules from the Patent Literature	232
9.3.2	Medicinal Chemistry Approaches to New Molecules	235
9.3.2.1	Intervet Multicyclics	235
9.3.2.2	Vesicular Acetylcholine Transporter (VACHT) Inhibitors	238
9.3.2.3	Cyclooctadepsipeptides	242
9.4	Discussion	245
	Acknowledgment	245
	References	245

10	Drug Discovery and Development for the Treatment of Echinococcosis, Caused by the Tapeworms <i>Echinococcus granulosus</i> and <i>Echinococcus multilocularis</i>	253
	<i>Andrew Hemphill, Reto Rufener, Dominic Ritler, Luca Dick, and Britta Lundström-Stadelmann</i>	
10.1	<i>Echinococcus</i> and Echinococcosis	253
10.2	The Biological Features of <i>E. granulosus</i> and <i>E. multilocularis</i> : Similar, but Different	254
10.3	Clinical Hallmarks, Diagnosis, and Prevention and Control of CE and AE	255
10.4	Currently Applied Benzimidazole Treatments for CE and AE	257
10.5	<i>In vitro</i> and <i>in vivo</i> Models to Study Drug Efficacy and Drug Targets in <i>Echinococcus</i>	261
10.6	Drug Repurposing as the Only Strategy for Discovering Novel Compounds to Treat Echinococcosis	264
10.6.1	Drug Repurposing for the Discovery of Novel Compounds to Treat AE	265
10.6.1.1	Anti-Infective Agents	265
10.6.1.2	Anticancer Drugs	269
10.6.2	Drug Repurposing for the Discovery of Novel Compounds to Treat CE	272
10.7	Where to Go from Here?	274
	Acknowledgments	276
	References	276
11	New Insights into the Treatment of Foodborne Trematode Infections	289
	<i>Rafael Toledo, Alba Cortés, Maria Álvarez-Izquierdo, Carla Muñoz-Antoli, and J. Guillermo Esteban</i>	
11.1	Introduction	289
11.2	Morphology and Biology of Foodborne Trematodes	290
11.3	Epidemiology and Global Impact	292
11.4	Major Foodborne Trematodes	293
11.4.1	Liver Foodborne Trematode Infections	293
11.4.1.1	Clonorchiasis and Opisthorchiasis	293
11.4.1.2	Fascioliasis	294
11.4.2	Lung Foodborne Trematode Infections (Paragonimiasis)	294
11.4.3	Intestinal Foodborne Trematode Infections	295
11.4.3.1	Diplostomiasis	295
11.4.3.2	Echinostomiasis	295
11.4.3.3	Fasciolopsiasis	296
11.4.3.4	Gymnophalloidiasis	296
11.4.3.5	Heterophyiasis	296
11.5	Current Drugs Used Against Foodborne Intestinal Trematodes	296
11.5.1	Praziquantel	296
11.5.2	Triclabendazole	299
11.5.3	Tribendimidine	301

- 11.5.4 Other Drugs 303
- 11.6 Natural Products and Drug Discovery against Foodborne
Trematodes 304
- Acknowledgments 312
- References 312

Part IV Bacteria 325

- 12 Buruli Ulcer 327**
Nicole Scherr and Gerd Pluschke
 - 12.1 Etiology and Epidemiology 327
 - 12.2 Current Treatments 328
 - 12.3 Unmet Needs 329
 - 12.4 Diagnostics 329
 - 12.5 Discovery Models 330
 - 12.5.1 *In Vitro* Test Formats 330
 - 12.5.2 *In Vivo* Testing 331
 - 12.6 Testing of Compounds for Activity Against *M. ulcerans* 332
 - 12.6.1 Preclinical Profiling of Currently Recommended Antibiotic Treatment
Regimens for BU 332
 - 12.6.2 Repurposing of Tuberculosis Drug Candidates 332
 - 12.6.3 Compound Screening 336
 - 12.7 Clinical Studies 336
 - 12.8 Future Directions and Opportunities 338
 - References 339
- 13 Drug Discovery and Development for Leprosy 349**
Carlos Franco-Paredes
 - 13.1 Unmet Medical Needs in the Treatment of Leprosy 349
 - 13.2 Current Therapies for Leprosy 350
 - 13.2.1 Direct-Acting Antibacterial Therapy 350
 - 13.3 Innovative Therapeutic Strategies 355
 - 13.3.1 Host-Directed Therapy 355
 - 13.4 Conclusions 358
 - References 358

Index 363