

## Effects of Agomelatine and Lacosamide on Kainate-Induced Status Epilepticus, Epileptogenesis and EEG Seizure Activity in Wistar Rat

*Tzveta Stoyanova<sup>1</sup>, Natasha Ivanova<sup>1</sup>, Jana Tchekalarova<sup>1\*</sup>, Lidia Kortenska<sup>1</sup>, Dimitrinka Atanasova<sup>1, 2</sup>, Nikolai Lazarov<sup>1, 3</sup>*

<sup>1</sup>*Institute of Neurobiology, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, Sofia, Bulgaria*

<sup>2</sup>*Department of Anatomy, Faculty of Medicine, Trakia University, Stara Zagora, Bulgaria*

<sup>3</sup>*Department of Anatomy and Histology, Medical University of Sofia, Sofia, Bulgaria*

\* Corresponding author e-mail: janetchekalarova@gmail.com

The antidepressant Agomelatine (Ago), unlike to classical antidepressants, possesses a unique receptor profile by activation of MT1 and MT2 receptors and antagonism on 5-HT<sub>2C</sub> receptor. The aim of the present study was to explore the effect of Ago on kainate (KA)-induced status epilepticus (SE) and chronic epilepsy in Wistar rats. Repeated i.p. injection with Ago (40 mg/kg) at the 1st, 6th, 24th, 32th, 48th h after KA neither alleviated the number of paroxysmal events and their duration (electrographic seizures) during SE nor EEG and behavioral spontaneous seizures during the chronic phase of epilepsy. The positive control with lacosamide (LCM) (50 mg/kg) significantly alleviated the SE-induced epileptiform activity. The present results revealed that Ago is unable to prevent SE and is ineffective against EEG registered spontaneous seizures.

*Key words:* status epilepticus; EEG; agomelatine; lacosamide; BDNF/TrkB