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Pre-stems: Suffixes used in the selection of INN March 2025

Programme on International Nonproprietary Names (INN)

Medicines and Health Products

World Health Organization, Geneva

stem *definition*
-suffix
-infix-
In bold: new pre-stems selected during the penultimate Consultation.

-adex	cyclodextrines α- cyclodextrine β-cyclodextrine γ-cyclodextrines
-afine	squalene mono-oxygenase inhibitors, antifungals
-algron	α_1-adrenoreceptor agonists
-ase *-fotase* *-liase*	enzymes alkaline phosphatase lyases (EC class 4)
-ast *-noflast*	*anti-allergic and anti-inflammatory, not acting as antihistaminics* inflammasome protein NLRP3 inhibitors
-atovir	see *vir*
-batinib	see *-tinib*
-berel	beta estrogen receptor agonists
-caltamide	T-type calcium channel blockers
-camra	intracellular adhesion molecule (ICAM-1) derivatives
-camten	**cardiac myosin inhibitors**
-camtiv	cardiac myosin activators
-caprant	kappa-opioid receptor (KOR) antagonists
-casan	caspase inhibitors
-caserin	serotonin receptor agonists (mostly 5-HT_2)
-cept	receptor molecules or membrane ligands, native or modified

-rpacept *-tacicept*	SIRPα receptor proteins TACI (TNFRSF13B)-derived TNF receptors
-citide	see *tide*
-codar	see *dar*
-cridar	see *dar*
-corvir	see vir
-cotrep	**see *-trep***
-dacigib	**diacylglycerol kinase inhibitors**
-dacin	antibiotics, DNA gyrase and topoisomerase IV inhibitors
dar *-codar* *-cridar* *-spodar*	*drugs used in multidrug resistance* pipecolinate derivatives acridine carboxamide derivatives ciclosporin D derivatives
defer- / -defer-	**deferitrin (or desferrithiocin) derivatives, iron chelating agents**
-depsin	depsipeptide derivatives
-desivir	see *vir*
-dirsen	see *-rsen*
-drimer	see *mer*
-dutide	see *-tide*
-ectedin	ecteinascidin derivatives
-fadine	monoamine transport inhibitors
-farnib	farnesyl transferase inhibitors
-fibatide	see *tide*
-forant	histamine H_4 receptor antagonists
-fotase	see *-ase*

-fulven	antineoplastics, acylfulvene derivatives
-gapil	neuronal apoptosis inhibitors, GAPDH
-gaptide	see *-tide*
-glanstat	see *stat*
-gli *-gliatin* *-glipron*	*antihyperglycaemics* glucokinase activators glucagon-like peptide 1 receptor (GLP1R) agonists
-gratinib	see *-tinib*
-grel *-grelor*	*platelet aggregation inhibitors* P2Y12 purinoceptor (ADP-glucose receptor) antagonists
-imepodib	inosine monophosphate dehydrogenase inhibitors
-inapant	inhibitors of inhibition-of-apoptosis proteins (IAPs)
-kalner	openers of calcium-activated (maxi-K) K^+-channels
-leptin(e)	leptin derivatives
-liase	see *-ase*
-lintide	see *-tide*
-loride	epithelial sodium channel (ENaC) inhibitors, amiloride derivatives
mab *-ami-*	*monoclonal antibodies* serum amyloid protein (SAP)/amyloidosis
-melagon	non-peptidic melanocortin receptor agonists
-mel(a)notide	see *-tide*
-melteon	melatonin receptor agonists
-mer *-drimer*	*polymers* dendritic polymers (dendrimers)
-metkib	MET (mesenchymal epithelial transition factor) kinase inhibitors

-mistat	**see *stat***
-moren	non-peptidic growth hormone secretagogues
-nectide	**see *-tide***
-nesib	kinesin inhibitors
-neurin	neurotrophins
-nexor	nuclear export inhibitors
-ngitide	see *-tide*
-nicant	**nicotinic acetylcholine receptor antagonists and negative allosteric modulators**
-nil *-punil*	*benzodiazepine receptor antagonists/agonists* mitochondrial benzodiazepine receptor (MBR)-selective agonists, also partial or inverse agonists (purine derivatives)
-nod	nitrogen monoxide (nitric oxide, NO) donors
-noflast	see *-ast*
-nontrine	phosphodiesterase 9 (PDE9) inhibitors
-opran	μ-opioid receptor (MOR/MOP) antagonists
-orexton	orexin receptor agonists
-osuran	urotensin receptor antagonists
-otilate	hepatoprotectants, di(propan-2-yl-2-(2*H*-1,3-dithiol-2-ylidene)propanedioate and analogues
-parantag	antagonists of heparin, including low-molecular weight heparins (LMWH)
-patide	**see *-tide***
-paxar	protease activated receptor type 1 (PAR1) antagonists
-pertin	glycine transporter inhibitors

-pilone	**microtubulin stabilizing epothilone derivatives, antineoplastics**
-pirdine	serotonin receptor antagonists
-pivat	pyruvate kinase activators
-plam	SMN2 gene splicing modulators (small molecules)
-plenib	Spleen tyrosine kinase (SYK) inhibitors
-podect	phosphodiesterase 10A (PDE10A) inhibitors
-prinim	nootropic agents, purine derivatives
-punil	see *nil*
-ralstat	see *-stat-/-stat*
-relaxin	**relaxin derivatives**
-rocin	aminoacyl-tRNA synthetase inhibitors
-rpacept	see *-cept*
-scein(e)	fluorescent imaging agents, fluorescein derivatives
-saicin	analgesics, capsaicin analogues
-setrag	serotonin (5-HT3/4) receptor agonists, prokinetics
-sopasem	superoxide dismutase (SOD) mimetics
-sotine	**non-peptidic somatostatin receptor agonists**
-spodar	see *dar*
-stat-/-stat *-costat* *-dodstat* *-glanstat* ***-mistat*** *-ralstat* *-taxestat*	*enzyme inhibitors* acetyl-CoA carboxylase inhibitors dihydro-orotate dehydrogenase (DHODH) inhibitors prostaglandin synthase inhibitors **mitochondrial enzymes involved in aerobic respiration inhibitors** kallikrein inhibitors autotaxin inhibitors

-xostat	**xanthine oxydase and/or xanthine dehydrogenase inhibitors**
-stinag	stimulator of interferon genes (STING) agonists, antineoplastics
-sulind	antineoplastics, sulindac metabolites
-tacicept	see -cept
-taxestat	see -stat
-terkib	extracellular signal-regulated kinase (ERK) inhibitors
-terone *-teronel*	*antiandrogens* non-steroid antiandrogens
-texafin	texaphyrin derivatives
-tide *-citide* *-fibatide* *-gaptide* *-lintide* *-melanotide* *(to shorten to -melnotide)* ***-nectide*** *-ngitide* ***-patide*** *-votide*	*peptides and glycopeptides* cardiovascular platelet aggregation inhibitors (GPIIb/IIIa receptor antagonists) gap junction modulators amylin receptor agonists including dual amylin / calcitonin receptor agonists melanocortin receptor agonists **nectins** angiogenesis regulating peptides **glucose-dependent insulinotropic polypeptide (GIP) receptor agonists** PSMA (prostate-specific membrane antigen, glutamate carboxypeptidase 2)-binding peptides
-tifan	hypoxia inducible factor (HIF)-2alpha (HIF-2α) inhibitors
-tinib *-batinib* *-gratinib*	*tyrosine kinase inhibitors* BCR-ABL kinase inhibitors fibroblast growth factor receptors (FGFR) inhibitors
-tomidate	hypnotics/sedatives, GABA receptor agonists
-toran	toll-like receptor antagonists
-trep ***-cotrep***	*transient receptor potential antagonists* **transient receptor potential canonical channel 5 (TRPC5) antagonists**

-vancin	*vancomycin* related compounds
vir *-atovir* *-corvir* *-desivir* *-virenz* *-virimat* *-xavir*	*antivirals (undefined group)* RSV fusion protein inhibitors core protein (Cp) inhibitors adenosine analogues acting as RNA polymerase inhibitors, antivirals benzoxazinone derivatives antivirals, disruptors of viral maturation influenza CAP-dependent endonuclease inhibitors
-votide	see *tide*
-xavir	see *vir*
-xian	blood coagulation factor XI inhibitors
-xostat	**see *stat***

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Bifunctional proteolysis-targeting substances (reviewed during 79th INN Consultation)

Naming scheme under elaboration

new	target
-bruti-deg	Bruton's tyrosine kinase
-raf-deg	Raf (rapidely accelerated fibrosarcoma) kinase
-serti-deg	IRAK4 belongs to **serine/threonine kinases** group
-bli-deg	BCL6
-luta-deg	androgen *receptor* (*-luta-* OR *-andr-* ?) under discussion

Old naming scheme

The scheme will be as follows: *-deg*(+ a vowel if necessary)- and the stem of the target (see below)

INN (PL)(RL)	construction	target
bavdegalutamide (125)(87)	-dega-lutamide	androgen receptor
luxdegalutamide (129)(91)	-dega-lutamide	androgen receptor
vepdegestrant (127)(89)	-deg-estrant	estrogen receptor
lirodegimod (130)(92)	-deg-imod	signal transducer and activator of transcription 3
sendegobresib (130) (92)	-dego-bresib	bromodomain-containing protein

setidegrasib (130) (92)	-deg-rasib	G12D-mutated GTPase KRas

Oher type of targeted protein degraders, thalidomide derivatives:
The scheme will be as follows:
Under the *-domide* stem (for *antineoplastics, thalidomide derivatives*), the infix will indicate the target

INN (PL)(RL)	construction	target
eragidomide (127)(87) *sontigidomide (129)(91)*	-gi-domide	G1 to S phase transition protein 1 (GSPT1)
zomiradomide (130) (92)	-ira-domide	interleukin-1 receptor-associated kinase 4 (IRAK4)

under (c) category: *mezigdomide (125)(87), golcadomide (127)(89), cemsidomide (128)(90)*

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Deuterated compounds

The prefix or infix *deu-/-deu-* is used for the designation of deuterated compounds. The prefix *deu-* is preferred in the case of an already existing name, e.g. *tolperisone (28)(13)* and *deutolperisone (92)(54).* When no parent compound has already been named, the infix *-deu-* may then be preferred such as in *vodudeutentan (127)(89),* etc..

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Tau-binding for diagnostic substances

The infix *-tau-* is used for the designation of Tau-binding for diagnostic substances *flortaucipir (^{18}F) (114)(76), izaflortaucipir (^{18}F) (122)(84), florquinitau (^{18}F) (126)(88), florzolotau (^{18}F) (127)(89)*

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-prefix: *indicates syllables at beginning of the word, usually in INN the prefix is random/fantasy*
-infix: *indicates the syllable in the middle of the word; usually when this term is mentioned in an INN it means that most likely it has meaning (e.g. the target infixes from monoclonal antibodies, -ba-, -ci-, -li-, -ta-, etc.)*
-substem: *infix* under a stem. *Used to differentiate between different related groups of substances, but in this case the syllable is protected (resolution WHA46.19) and it should not be used in trade marks*
-suffix: *a syllable at the end of a name, that usually has a meaning for the INN group, but the meaning is not published yet and it is also not protected yet*
-prestem: *it is similar to stem, but it didn't reach the stage of stem yet, it has just been flagged and it may be selected as official stem in the future*
-stem: *syllable or syllables that is/are used to group pharmacologically related substances, which is/are protected (resolution WHA46.19) and it should not be used in trade marks. In most of the cases, appears as a suffix, at the end of a name, but it can also be in the beginning or middle of a name.*

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