

# Respiratory Effects of IV CR845 - A Peripherally Acting, Selective Kappa Opioid Receptor Agonist

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# Opioid Analgesics and Respiratory Depression

- Mu opioid receptor agonists are commonly used to treat post-surgical and other acute pain: morphine, hydrocodone, fentanyl, etc.
- Mu opioid agonists are often abused due to centrally-mediated euphoria
- Opioid-induced respiratory depression is the leading cause of death following overdose<sup>1</sup>
- Kappa opioid receptor agonists have analgesic properties<sup>2,3</sup>
  - Centrally-mediated dysphoria has limited their development<sup>3</sup>

1-White, J.M. and Irvine, R.J. *Addiction*. 1999; 94: 961-72

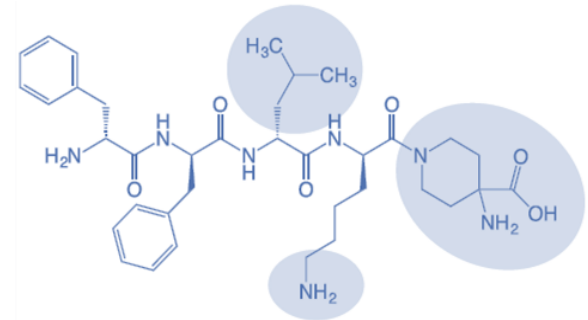
2-Kivell, B. and Prisinzano, T.E. *Psychopharmacology (Berl.)*. 2010; 210: 109-19

3-Vanderah, T.W. et al. *Eur. J. Pharmacol.* 2008; 583: 62-72

# CR845 (difelikefalin)

- **Peripherally restricted, highly selective kappa opioid receptor agonist**

- Peptidic structure restricts entry into the CNS<sup>1</sup>
- Minimizes potential for adverse events mediated by central opioid receptors



- **In development for treatment of pain and pruritus<sup>2,3</sup>**

- **3 double-blind, placebo-controlled clinical trials of treatment of post-operative pain<sup>2,4,5</sup>**

- Statistically significant analgesic response compared to placebo
- No changes in arterial oxygen saturation were observed using pulse oximetry
- Pulse-oximetry does not measure ventilation and may be limited in recognizing early signs of respiratory depression

# CR845 and Respiratory Depression – Study Design

- Single-center, double-blind, randomized, placebo controlled, 3-way crossover study
- Healthy adult non-smoking volunteers
  - Key exclusion criteria included: self-reported substance abuse in prior 2 years, opioid use in past 30 days, history of pulmonary or cardiac disease or dysfunction, history of sleep disorder breathing
- Treatments – All administered as intravenous bolus
  - A: Placebo
  - B: CR845 1  $\mu\text{g}/\text{kg}$
  - C: CR845 5  $\mu\text{g}/\text{kg}$
- Subjects randomized to 1 of 3 treatment sequences
  - ABC
  - BCA
  - BAC

# CR845 and Respiratory Depression – Study Design (cont.)

## ■ Measurements

- Respiratory rate
- End tidal CO<sub>2</sub> (ETCO<sub>2</sub>, mmHg)
- Peripheral capillary oxygen saturation (SpO<sub>2</sub>, %), measured by pulse oximetry

## ■ Definition of Respiratory Depression Events

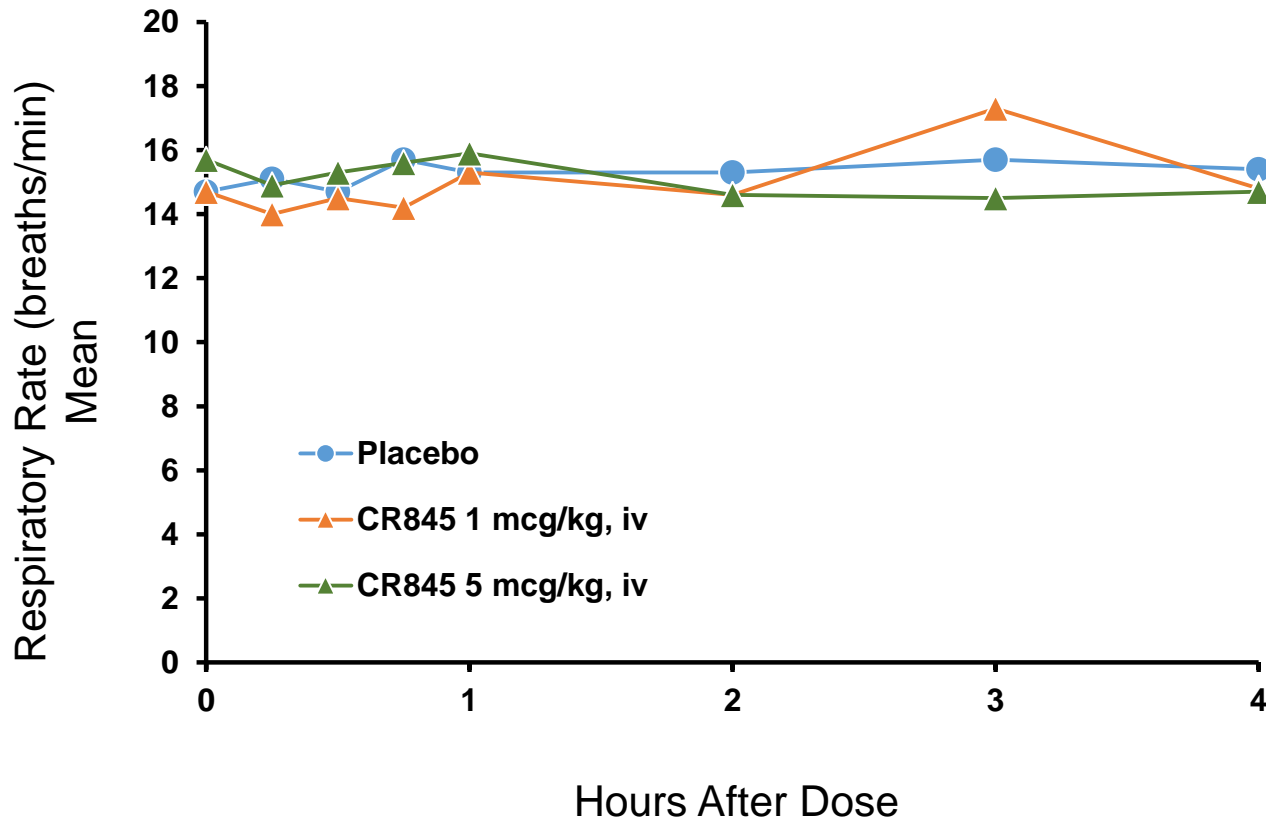
- Increased ETCO<sub>2</sub> of  $\geq 10$  mmHg compared to baseline or to a level  $> 50$  mmHg (sustained for at least 30 sec)
- Reduction in SpO<sub>2</sub> to  $< 92\%$  (sustained for at least 30 sec)
- Reduction in respiratory rate to  $< 10$  breaths per minute or by 30% compared with baseline (sustained for at least 30 sec)

# Subject Demographics

Parameter	
Subjects (n)	15
Male	11
Female	4
Race (n)	
White	6
African American	6
Asian	3
Age (years) <sup>a</sup>	38.3 ± 7.8
Body weight (kg) <sup>a</sup>	77.7 ± 8.9
BMI (kg/m <sup>2</sup> ) <sup>a</sup>	25.6 ± 2.4

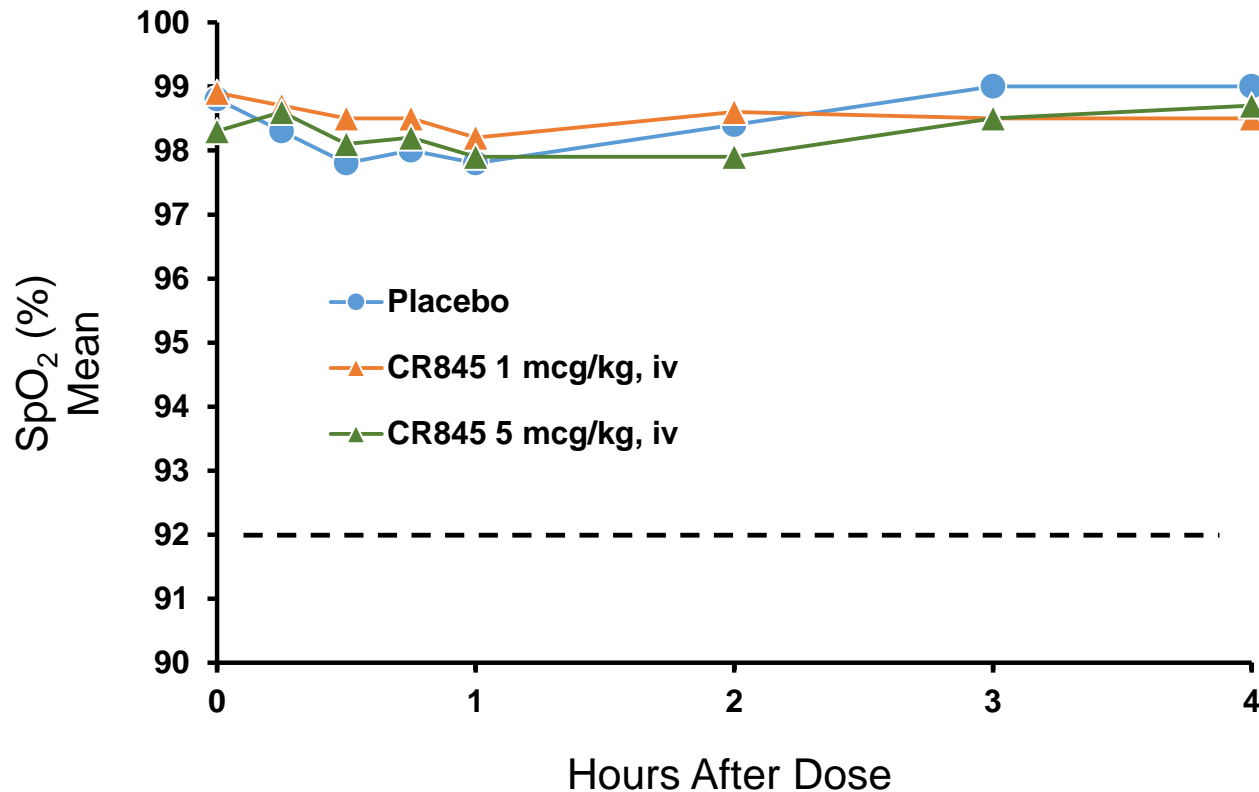
<sup>a</sup> mean ± SD

# Observed Respiratory Rate



- No incidence of a respiratory rate <10 breaths per minute or to a level 30% below baseline rate sustained for 30 seconds was seen in any subject

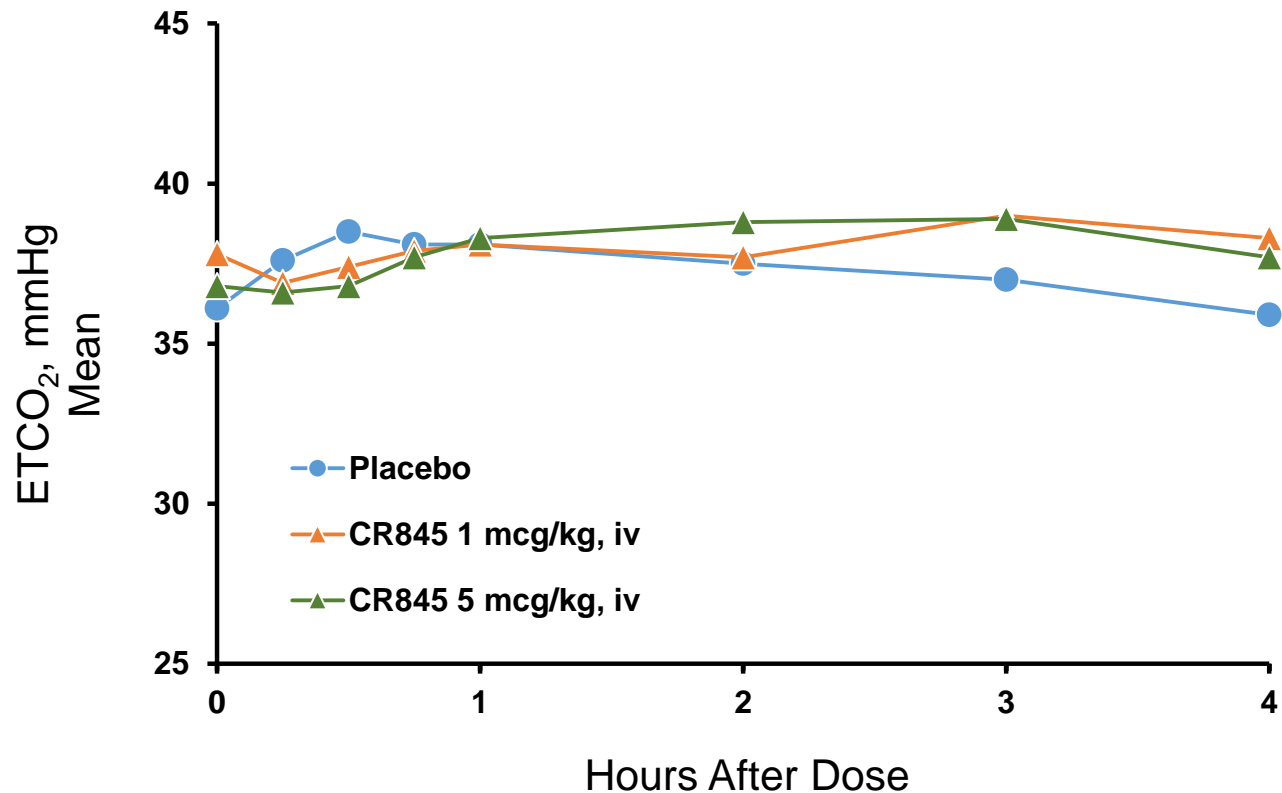
# Observed Oxygen Saturation (SpO<sub>2</sub>)



- No incidence of reduction in SpO<sub>2</sub> to below 92% for 30 sec duration was seen in any subject



# Observed End Tidal CO<sub>2</sub>



- No incidence of increased ETICO<sub>2</sub>  $\geq 10$  mmHg from baseline or to a level  $> 50$  mmHg sustained for  $\geq 30$  seconds was seen in any subject

# Safety: Treatment-related Adverse Events Reported in $\geq 10\%$ of Subjects

Treatment-related Adverse Event (TRAE)	Placebo N=15	CR845 1 mcg/kg N=15	CR845 5 mcg/kg N=15
Any TRAE	3 (20%)	12 (80%)	12 (80%)
Paraesthesia	1 (7%)	5 (33%)	9 (60%)
Hypoaesthesia	0	3 (20%)	5 (33%)
Dysgeusia	0	2 (13%)	1 (7%)
Headache	1 (7%)	2 (13%)	0
Gastrointestinal Disorders	1 (7%)	2 (13%)	1 (7%)
Dizziness	0	0	2 (13%)
Somnolence	1 (7%)	3 (20%)	2 (13%)
Discomfort	0	0	2 (13%)

# Conclusions

- No evidence of respiratory depression was observed in any subject during treatment with either dose of CR845 in healthy subjects
- CR845 was well tolerated and no unanticipated Treatment Related Adverse Events were observed