

# SMi Reports: Separating Analgesia from Euphoria in a Novel Opioid Agonist for Chronic Pain

*Nektar Pharmaceuticals Senior VP and Chief Scientific Officer to present at the 17th annual summit on Pain Therapeutics next month*

LONDON, ENGLAND, UNITED KINGDOM, April 24, 2017

/EINPresswire.com/ -- Traditional mu-

opioid agonists can have excellent

analgesic properties, but are typically associated with high abuse liability that can lead to addiction and dependence.



**Pain Therapeutics 2017**  
NKTR - 181: Separating Analgesia from Euphoria  
in a Novel Opioid Agonist for Chronic Pain  
Presented by Dr Stephen Doberstein,  
Senior Vice President & Chief Scientific Officer,  
Nektar Pharmaceuticals  
22 - 23 MAY | LONDON, UK  
www.pain-therapeutics.co.uk

Nektar at Pain 2017

Following on from recent research has associated the rate of molecular entry across the blood brain barrier with increased abuse liability in pre-clinical species, SMi Group are delighted to have Dr Stephen Doberstein, Senior VP and Chief Scientific Officer from Nektar Pharmaceuticals, present a keynote address at [Pain Therapeutics 2017](#) when the 17th annual show returns to Central London on 23rd & 24th May.

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I am very much looking forward to the meeting which serve an excellent way to keep up with the latest drug development results, like those from Nektar which will be instructive to see in more detail”

*Pharmaleads*

Novel opioids that have greatly reduced rates of entry into the CNS separate the euphorigenic effects from the analgesic effects of CNS receptor engagement, raising the prospect of an inherently low-abuse liability opioid analgesic, independent of formulation or route of administration.

Drawing from over 20 years of experience which spans across small molecule, protein therapeutics, and monoclonal antibody discovery and development in therapeutic areas including oncology, neuroscience, inflammation, immunology, and metabolic diseases, Dr Doberstein will explore the relationship of brain entry rate to euphoria and discuss engineering brain entry rate of MOR agonists to reduce euphoria and abuse liability.

Highlights from the [presentation](#) will also include both a preclinical analysis of brain transport rate, dopamine release and reinforcing behaviour; as well as a clinical analysis of human abuse liability of Nektar's novel opioid agonist with inherently slow CNS entry.

The notable speaker panel will also include further insight on opioid addiction, novel therapeutics, animal models, drug development & mechanisms, translational approaches and drug formulation from Cara Therapeutics, MSD USA, Pharmaleads, AstraZeneca, Janssen Pharmaceutica NV, Apollo Therapeutics, Mundipharma Research, Centrexion Therapeutics Corp, NeuroDigm Corp, Zoetis,

Grunenthal GmbH, Lilly UK, Novartis and Amgen.

The full line-up and detailed agenda is available at [www.pain-therapeutics.co.uk](http://www.pain-therapeutics.co.uk)

Pain Therapeutics 2017

22nd & 23rd May

Copthorne Tara Hotel, London, UK

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About SMi Group:

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