



Ruprecht-Karls-Universität Heidelberg

*Priv. Doz. Dr. Sabina Lewicka*

Pharmakologisches Institut

Pharmakologisches Institut · Im Neuenheimer Feld 366 · 69120 Heidelberg

Im Neuenheimer Feld 366  
69120 Heidelberg

Telefon 06221/548648  
06221/548614

Telefax 06221/548367

e-mail: [sabina.lewicka@pharma.uni-heidelberg.de](mailto:sabina.lewicka@pharma.uni-heidelberg.de)

July 27th, 2010

Re.: Jana Prokipová's diploma thesis

Dear Colleagues,

Ms. Jana Prokipová has been working on her diploma thesis in the Prof. Schwaninger's research group in the Institute of Pharmacology of the University of Heidelberg. Pursuing the area of interest of the group she has investigated the effect of the anti-apoptotic protein kinase TAK1 in brain neurons. Applying DAB immunohistochemistry she compared the number of neurons in TAK1 knockout mice and TAK1<sup>fl/fl</sup> control mice in the pre-defined brain areas. Although it is generally accepted that TAK1 is required for a normal cell survival in numerous organs, the results obtained in the Ms. Prokipová's studies seem not to support this in the brain. Further investigations may be necessary to confirm her negative findings.

Nevertheless the work of Ms Prokipová has provided new information on the role of TAK1 in the brain. Ms. Prokipová skilfully applied modern laboratory methods, the thesis is well, concisely written and comes to a well documented clear conclusion.

I recommend acceptance of the thesis and propose the grade "1.5".

Yours sincerely

Priv. Doz. Dr. Sabina Lewicka