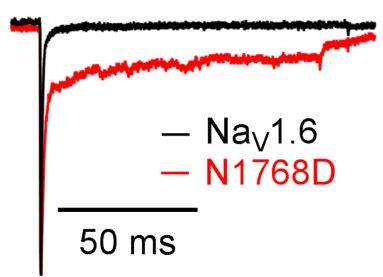
# Selective antagonists of Na<sub>V</sub>1.6 prevent electrically induced seizures in a mouse model of EIEE13



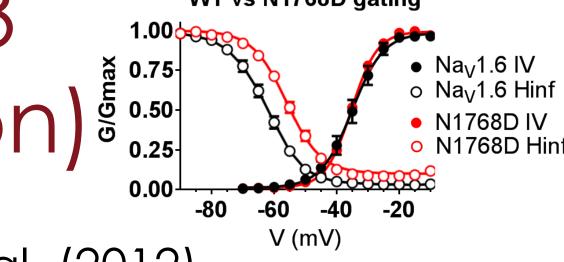
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#### Introduction

 $Na_V$  inhibitors are useful antiepileptics, but currently available drugs are nonselective. Inhibition of  $Na_V1.1$  likely limits their efficacy due to its' important role in inhibitory interneurons. Inhibition of  $Na_V1.5$  introduces risk of cardiac adverse events. We set out to create new drugs that block  $Na_V1.6$  but spare  $Na_V1.1$  and  $Na_V1.5$ 

## Mouse model of EIEE13 (Na<sub>V</sub>1.6 gain of function) $\frac{8}{9}$ 0.75 (Na<sub>V</sub>1.6 gain of function)



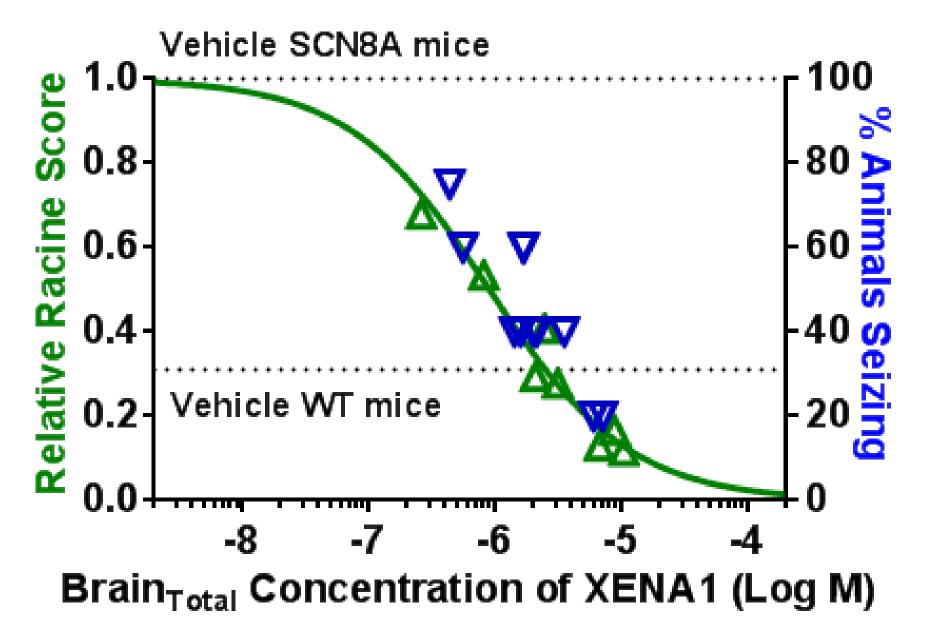
- N1768D mutation in  $Na_V1.6$ 
  - Mutation identified by Veeramah et al. (2012)
  - Mouse model created by Wagnon et al. (2015)
- Mice in our colony behave as described by Meisler
- Seizures begin ~ p70 to p90
- Only about 60% become epileptic

### 6-Hz psychomotor seizure induction assay

- 6Hz, 12 mA, transcorneal stimulus
- WT mice are resistant to stimulus
  - ~50% show no seizure behavior,
  - ~50% have brief clonic seizure
- N1768D mice are much more sensitive
  - All vehicle treated mice have a tonic clonic seizure after stimulus, some have multiple seizures

#### Seizures Assessed by 2 endpoints

- 1. % of animals seizing
- 2. Modified Racine Score

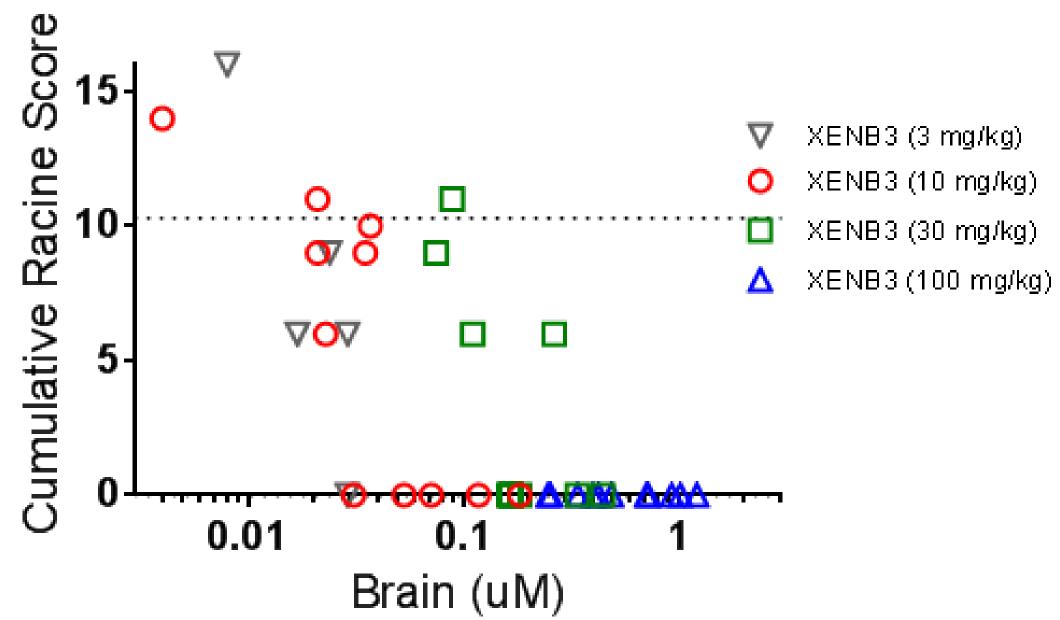


#### Scoring

- 0 = no response
  1 = Shaking/jerking/facial tremor, freezing, blinking
  2 = Forelimb clonus or
- Straub tail
  3 = Loss of balance, rearing, falling
- 4 = Clonic seizure
- 5 = Tonic-clonic seizure with extension of hind limbs

### Responses of individual animals are "binary"

Individual animal behavior vs brain concentration

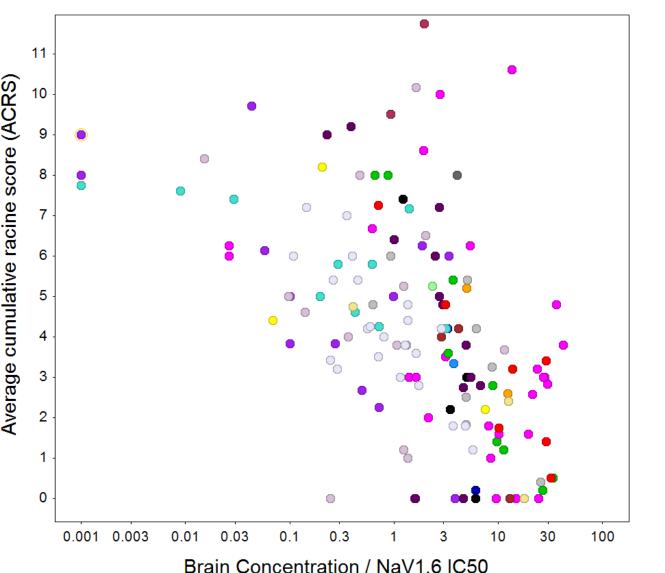


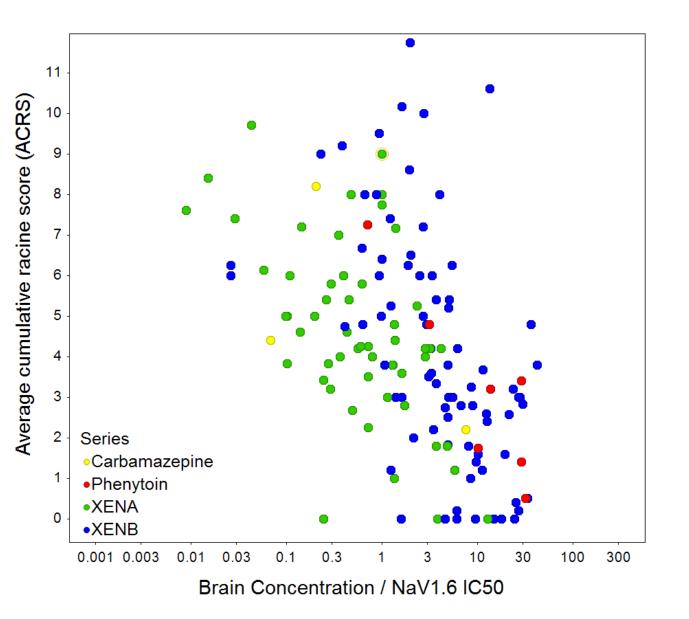
- An animal usually has a strong response or no response
- Improving efficacy results from recruiting more protected individuals

### In vivo $EC_{70} = 1-3$ fold $Na_V 1.6 IC_{50}$ Blocking more $Na_V$ subtypes does not increase efficacy

Each point is mean data for 4-6 animals

Brain concentration determined immediately after assay





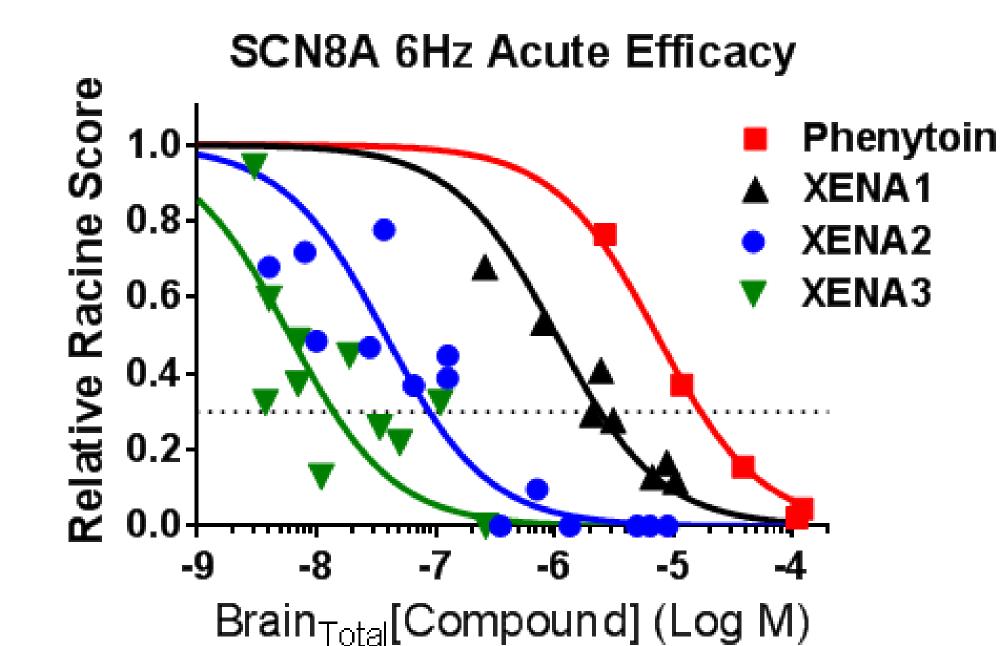
27 compounds at various dose levels. Each color indicates a distinct compound

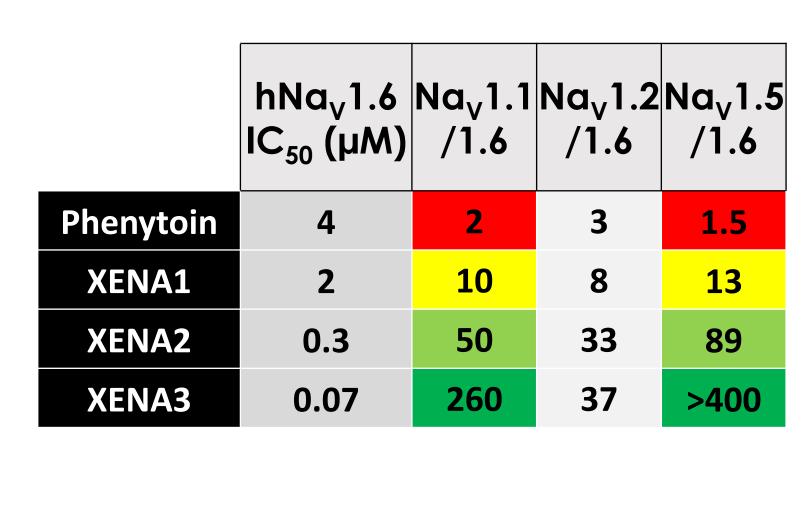
Same data colored by compound series.

XENA is green, XENB is blue

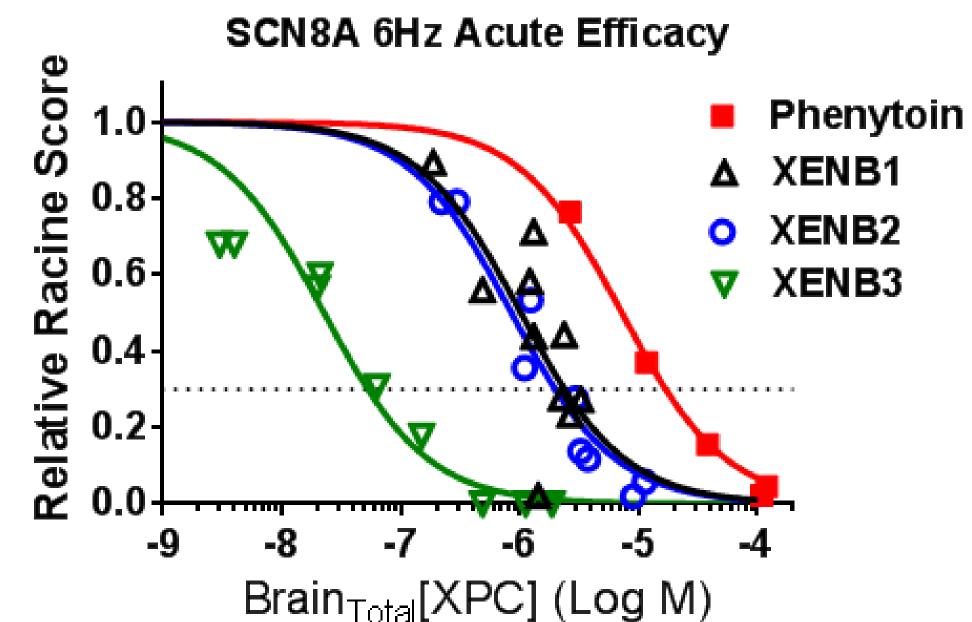
#### Series XENA – Na<sub>V</sub>1.6 Selective

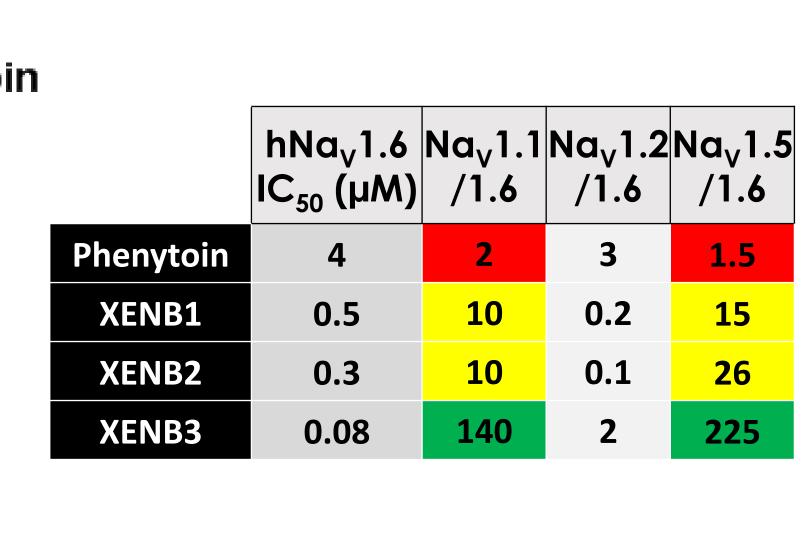
- Potency measured by Na<sup>+</sup> flux assays in HEK cells
- Electrophysiologic assays agree qualitatively
  - EP assays tuned to measure inactivated state potency
    - more potency for Na<sub>V</sub>1.6 than Na+ flux assays
    - greater selectivity than Na+ flux assays



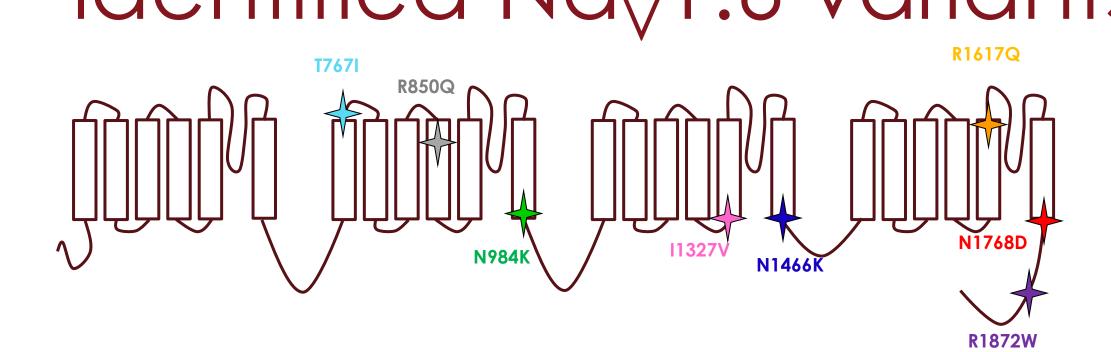


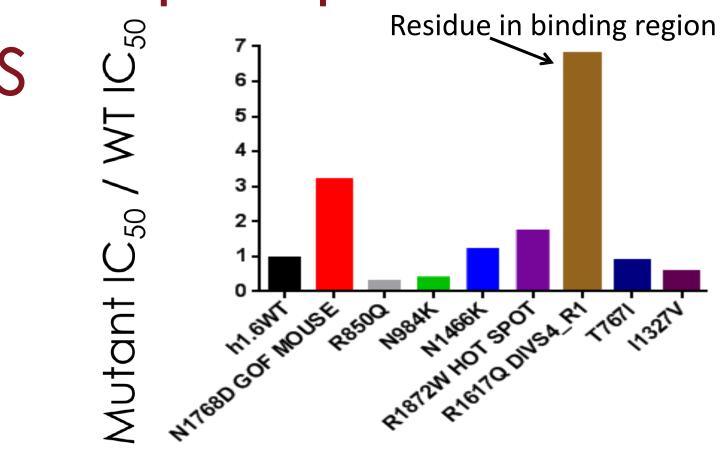
### Series XENB – Dual Na<sub>v</sub>1.6, Na<sub>v</sub>1.2





## XEN compounds block multiple patient identified Na<sub>V</sub>1.6 variants 2 3





### Summary

Novel, selective, inhibitors of  $Na_v1.6$  prevented induced seizures in a modified 6Hz psychomotor assay using the N1768D  $Na_v1.6$  mouse model of EIEE13 developed by Wagnon et al. at the Univ. of Michigan.

- 1. Efficacy was well predicted by in vitro potency and brain exposure.
- 2. Non-selective, or less selective Na<sub>v</sub> inhibitors had similar efficacy as selective inhibitors
- 3. The N1768D mouse 6Hz assay appears to be a good measure of on target efficacy for Na<sub>v</sub>1.6 inhibitors.

We expect that novel, selective Na<sub>V</sub>1.6 inhibitors will provide the basis for new antiepileptic drugs with an improved efficacy and safety profile