

S27-3 **H⁺-transporting ATP synthases: insights into how their electrochemically driven motor serve as a drug target**

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ATP synthases, widely distributed in bacteria, eukaryotic mitochondria and chloroplasts, are highly conserved multisubunit complexes. Although the conserved acidic residue in the transmembrane helix of the c subunit functions in H⁺ transport, the surrounding residues differ among species. There is further divergence in the number of c subunits that form the ring structure. Recently, it was also suggested that certain chemicals recognize the a and c subunits of pathogenic bacteria. In this report, I will focus on various bacterial c subunits, and discuss the possibility of developing specific inhibitors that target c subunit-ring as well as the a subunit.