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Abstract

Transporters are an emerging target family with enormous potential, offering scientific and economic opportunities. The Sodium/Calcium exchanger is an important mechanism for removing Ca^{2+} from diverse cells. In heart, it extrudes Ca^{2+} that has entered through Ca^{2+} channels to initiate contraction, while Na^{+} enters the heart cell. It is of considerable interest to identify compounds that modulate the activity of Sodium/Calcium exchangers.

The present invention is directed to a fluorescence-based assay for detecting NCX "forward mode" modulating compounds. It further refers to a kit of parts comprising cells expriming NCX and the use of the kit of parts to test a compound for activity as an agonist or antagonist of NCX.