

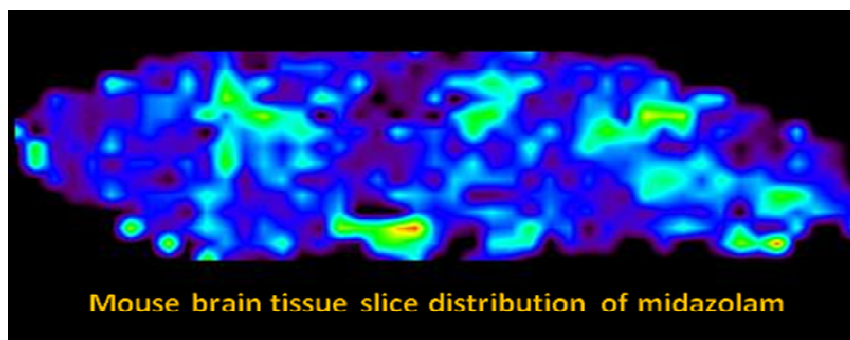
For Immediate Release

NIKEM RESEARCH LAUNCHES A NEW SERVICE AVAILABLE IN ITS ADMET AND DMPK UNIT: IMAGING BY MASS SPECTROMETRY

Baranzate (MI), Italy - June 2009. NiKem Research announces a new service available for its clients: Imaging Mass Spectrometry (IMS). IMS using MALDI TOF/TOF can provide a molecular ex vivo view of dissected organs or whole-body sections from an animal, making possible the label-free tracking of both endogenous and exogenous compounds with spatial resolution and molecular specificity. Drug distribution and individual metabolite distribution within whole-body or tissue sections can be detected simultaneously at various time points following drug administration. In the same way it is also possible to detect different biomarkers tracking their spatial distribution and relative intensity.

This technique gives a semi quantitative analysis. Images are retrieved with the spatial distribution of the target compound, potential metabolite and/or biomarkers and are obtained as pictures with different colour intensity proportional to their relative concentration. In summary, the technique allows:

- Use of cold compound;
- Simultaneous detection of parent and metabolites in the major organs;
- Detection of biomarkers of interest;
- Easy determination of regional distribution in the organ of interest and in tumors;
- Evaluation of skin penetration.



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About NiKem Research. Based on decades of drug discovery experience and now operating at biotech speed, NiKem Research offers a full range of Drug Discovery services to the pharmaceutical industry. In addition to its expertise in medicinal chemistry related to hit expansion, hit validation and multiparametric lead optimization, NiKem Research has chemical skills and parallel synthesis capabilities, and may provide also computational and analytical chemistry services. Furthermore, ADMET profiling, biochemical screening and in vivo PK services can be provided either as an integrated Drug Discovery platform, or as single, independent modules. NiKem Research usually operates as a classical fee-for-service partner, and all tangible and intangible assets generated during a collaboration are property of the client.

For further information visit www.nikemresearch.com