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Pre-stems: Suffixes used in the selection of INN June 2025

Programme on International Nonproprietary Names (INN)

Access to Medicines and Health Products

World Health Organization, Geneva

stem *definition*
-suffix
-infix-
In bold: new pre-stems selected during the last Consultation.

-adex	cyclodextrines
-afine	squalene mono-oxygenase inhibitors, antifungals
-algron	α_1-adrenoreceptor agonists
-ase *-fotase* *-liase*	enzymes alkaline phosphatase lyases (EC class 4)
-ast *-noflast*	*anti-allergic and anti-inflammatory, not acting as antihistaminics* inflammasome protein NLRP3 inhibitors
-atovir	see *vir*
-batinib	see *-tinib*
-berel	beta estrogen receptor agonists
-caltamide	T-type calcium channel blockers
-camra	intracellular adhesion molecule (ICAM-1) derivatives
-camten	cardiac myosin inhibitors
-camtiv	cardiac myosin activators
-caprant	kappa-opioid receptor (KOR) antagonists
-casan	caspase inhibitors
-caserin	serotonin receptor agonists (mostly 5-HT_2)
-cept *-rpacept* *-tacicept*	receptor molecules or membrane ligands, native or modified signal regulatory protein alpha (SIRPα) receptors TACI (TNFRSF13B)-derived TNF receptors
-citide	see *tide*

-codar	see *dar*
-corvir	see vir
-cotrep	see *-trep*
-cridar	see *dar*
-dacigib	diacylglycerol kinase inhibitors
-dacin	antibiotics, DNA gyrase and topoisomerase IV inhibitors
dar *-codar* *-cridar* *-spodar*	*drugs used in multidrug resistance* pipecolinate derivatives acridine carboxamide derivatives ciclosporin D derivatives
-depsin	depsipeptide derivatives
-desivir	see *vir*
-drimer	see *mer*
-dutide	see *-tide*
-ectedin	ecteinascidin derivatives
-fadine	monoamine transport inhibitors
-farnib	farnesyl transferase inhibitors
-fibatide	see *tide*
-forant	histamine H_4 receptor antagonists
-fotase	see *-ase*
-fulven	antineoplastics, acylfulvene derivatives
-gapil	neuronal apoptosis inhibitors, GAPDH inhibitors
-gaptide	see *-tide*
-glanstat	see *stat*

-gli *-gliatin* *-glipron*	*antihyperglycaemics* glucokinase activators glucagon-like peptide 1 receptor (GLP1R) agonists
-gratinib	see *-tinib*
-grel *-grelor*	*platelet aggregation inhibitors* P2Y12 purinoceptor (ADP-glucose receptor) antagonists
-imepodib	inosine monophosphate dehydrogenase inhibitors
-inapant	inhibitors of inhibition-of-apoptosis proteins (IAPs)
-kalner	openers of calcium-activated (maxi-K) K^+-channels
-leptin(e)	leptin derivatives
-liase	see *-ase*
-lintide	see *-tide*
-loride	epithelial sodium channel (ENaC) inhibitors, amiloride derivatives
mab *-ami-*	*monoclonal antibodies* serum amyloid protein (SAP)/amyloidosis
-melagon	non-peptidic melanocortin receptor agonists
-mel(a)notide	see *-tide*
-melteon	melatonin receptor agonists
-mer *-drimer*	*polymers* dendritic polymers (dendrimers)
-meran ***-vameran***	*mRNA* **prophylactic vaccines**
-metkib	MET (mesenchymal epithelial transition factor) kinase inhibitors
-mistat	see *stat*
-moren	non-peptidic growth hormone secretagogues
-nectide	see *-tide*

-nesib	kinesin inhibitors
-neurin	neurotrophins
-nexor	nuclear export inhibitors
-ngitide	see *-tide*
-nicant	nicotinic acetylcholine receptor antagonists and negative allosteric modulators
-nil *-punil*	*benzodiazepine receptor antagonists/agonists* mitochondrial benzodiazepine receptor (MBR)-selective agonists, also partial or inverse agonists (purine derivatives)
-nod	nitrogen monoxide (nitric oxide, NO) donors
-noflast	see *-ast*
-nontrine	phosphodiesterase 9 (PDE9) inhibitors
-opran	kappa-opioid receptor (MOR/MOP) antagonists
-orexton	orexin receptor agonists
-osuran	urotensin receptor antagonists
-otilate	hepatoprotectants, di(propan-2-yl-2-(2*H*-1,3-dithiol-2-ylidene)propanedioate and analogues
-parantag	antagonists of heparin, including low-molecular weight heparins (LMWH)
-patide	see *-tide*
-paxar	protease activated receptor type 1 (PAR1) antagonists
-pertin	glycine transporter inhibitors
-pilone	microtubulin stabilizing epothilone derivatives, antineoplastics
-pirdine	serotonin receptor antagonists
-pivat	pyruvate kinase activators
-plam	SMN2 gene splicing modulators (small molecules)

-plenib	spleen tyrosine kinase (SYK) inhibitors
-podect	phosphodiesterase 10A (PDE10A) inhibitors
-prinim	nootropic agents, purine derivatives
-punil	see *nil*
-ralstat	see *-stat-/-stat*
-relaxin	relaxin derivatives
-rocin	aminoacyl-tRNA synthetase inhibitors
-rpacept	see *-cept*
-scein(e)	fluorescent imaging agents, fluorescein derivatives
-saicin	analgesics, capsaicin analogues
-semtiv	**skeletal troponin activators**
-setrag	serotonin (5-HT3/4) receptor agonists, prokinetics
-sopasem	superoxide dismutase (SOD) mimetics
-sotine	non-peptidic somatostatin receptor agonists
-spodar	see *dar*
-stat-/-stat *-costat* *-dodstat* *-glanstat* *-mistat* *-ralstat* *-taxestat* *-xostat*	*enzyme inhibitors* acetyl-CoA carboxylase inhibitors dihydro-orotate dehydrogenase (DHODH) inhibitors prostaglandin synthase inhibitors mitochondrial enzymes involved in aerobic respiration inhibitors kallikrein inhibitors autotaxin inhibitors xanthine oxidase and/or xanthine dehydrogenase inhibitors
-stinag	stimulator of interferon genes (STING) agonists, antineoplastics
-sulind	antineoplastics, sulindac metabolites
-tacicept	see *-cept*
-taxestat	see *-stat*

-terkib	extracellular signal-regulated kinase (ERK) inhibitors
-terone *-teronel*	*antiandrogens* non-steroid antiandrogens
-texafin	texaphyrin derivatives
-tide *-citide* *-fibatide* *-gaptide* *-lintide* *-melanotide* *(to shorten to -melnotide)* *-nectide* *-ngitide* *-patide*	*peptides and glycopeptides* cardiovascular platelet aggregation inhibitors (GPIIb/IIIa receptor antagonists) gap junction modulators amylin receptor agonists including dual amylin / calcitonin receptor agonists melanocortin receptor agonists nectins angiogenesis regulating peptides glucose-dependent insulinotropic polypeptide (GIP) receptor agonists
-tifan	hypoxia inducible factor (HIF)-2alpha (HIF-2α) inhibitors
-tinib *-batinib* *-gratinib*	*tyrosine kinase inhibitors* BCR-ABL kinase inhibitors fibroblast growth factor receptors (FGFR) inhibitors
-tomidate	hypnotics/sedatives, GABA receptor agonists
-toran	toll-like receptor antagonists
-trep *-cotrep* ***-vatrep***	*transient receptor potential antagonists* transient receptor potential canonical channel 5 (TRPC5) antagonists **transient receptor potential vanilloid (TRPV) antagonists**
-vameran	see *meran*
-vancin	*vancomycin* related compounds
-vatrep	see *trep*
vir *-atovir* *-corvir* *-desivir* *-virenz*	*antivirals (undefined group)* RSV fusion protein inhibitors core protein (Cp) inhibitors adenosine analogues acting as RNA polymerase inhibitors, antivirals benzoxazinone derivatives

-virimat *-xavir*	antivirals, disruptors of viral maturation influenza CAP-dependent endonuclease inhibitors
-votide	see *tide*
-xavir	see *vir*
-xian	blood coagulation factor XI inhibitors
-xostat	see *stat*

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Bifunctional proteolysis-targeting substances (reviewed during 79th and 80th INN Consultations)

Naming scheme under elaboration

new	target
-bruti-deg	Bruton's tyrosine kinase
-raf-deg	Raf (rapidly accelerated fibrosarcoma) kinase
-serti-deg	serine/threonine kinases group
-bli-deg	BCL6
-andro-deg	**androgen receptors**

Old naming scheme

The scheme will be as follows: *-deg* (+ a vowel if necessary)- and the stem of the target (see below)

INN (PL)(RL)	construction	target
bavdegalutamide (125)(87)	-dega-lutamide	androgen receptor
luxdegalutamide (129)(91)	-dega-lutamide	androgen receptor
vepdegestrant (127)(89)	-deg-estrant	estrogen receptor
lirodegimod (130)(92)	-deg-imod	signal transducer and activator of transcription 3
sendegobresib (130) (92)	-dego-bresib	bromodomain-containing protein
setidegrasib (130) (92)	-deg-rasib	G12D-mutated GTPase KRas

Oher type of targeted protein degraders, thalidomide derivatives:
The scheme will be as follows:

Under the *-domide* stem (for *antineoplastics, thalidomide derivatives*), the infix will indicate the target

INN (PL)(RL)	construction	target
eragidomide (127)(87) *sontigidomide (129)(91)*	-gi-domide	G1 to S phase transition protein 1 (GSPT1)
zomiradomide (130) (92)	-ira-domide	interleukin-1 receptor-associated kinase 4 (IRAK4)

under (c) category: *mezigdomide (125)(87), golcadomide (127)(89), cemsidomide (128)(90)*

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Deuterated compounds

The prefix or infix *deu-/-deu-* has been used for the designation of deuterated compounds.

- The prefix *deu-* is preferred in the case of an already existing name, e.g. *tolperisone (28)(13)* and *deutolperisone (92)(54).*
- At previous Consultations, when no parent compound had already been named, the infix *-deu-* had then be preferred such as in *vodudeutentan (127)(89),* etc. During the 80th INN Consultation, the need of such an infix in the INN has been rediscussed and the INN Expert Group agreed not to use it in future to avoid long names. As usual, the deuteration information will remain indicated in chemical names, structures and molecular formulas. In support of this position, the INN Expert Group also considered that since deuteration confers metabolic advantage, creation of a non-deuterated version from a deuterated parent compound is unlikely. However, should this occur, the naming issue will be revisited.

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Tau-binding for diagnostic substances

The infix *-tau-* is used for the designation of Tau-binding for diagnostic substances *flortaucipir (^{18}F) (114)(76), izaflortaucipir (^{18}F) (122)(84), florquinitau (^{18}F) (126)(88), florzolotau (^{18}F) (127)(89)*

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-prefix: *indicates syllables at beginning of the word, usually in INN the prefix is random/fantasy*
-infix: *indicates the syllable in the middle of the word; usually when this term is mentioned in an INN it means that most likely it has meaning (e.g. the target infixes from monoclonal antibodies, -ba-, -ci-, -li-, -ta-, etc.)*
-substem: *infix* under a stem (or infix+stem). *Used to differentiate between different related groups of substances, but in this case the syllable is protected (resolution WHA46.19) and it should not be used in trade marks*
-suffix: *a syllable at the end of a name, that usually has a meaning for the INN group, but the meaning is not published yet and it is also not protected yet*
-prestem: *it is similar to stem, but it didn't reach the stage of stem yet, it has just been flagged and it may be selected as official stem in the future*
-stem: *syllable or syllables that is/are used to group pharmacologically related substances, which is/are protected (resolution WHA46.19) and it should not be used in trade marks. In most of the cases, appears as a suffix, at the end of a name, but it can also be in the beginning or middle of a name.*

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