

QSAR model for *in vivo* gene mutation study in somatic cells (comet assay) (v1.0)

ProtoREACH

ProtoREACH is a computational (*in silico*) tool specially focused on REACH, a European Union regulation, adopted to improve the protection of human health and the environment from the risks that can be posed by chemicals, while enhancing the competitiveness of the EU chemicals industry.

REACH also promotes alternative methods for the hazard assessment of substances in order to reduce the number of tests on animals. The requirements for registering a chemical substance are organized as annexes of the REACH regulation. Different annexes must be used depending on the substance mass produced or imported by each company.

Endpoint

Human health effects: Mutagenicity/Genotoxicity. *In vivo* comet assay in mouse.

The comet assay is a method for measuring DNA strand breaks in eukaryotic cells. Single cells/nuclei embedded in agarose on a slide are lysed with detergent and high salt concentration. This lysis step digests the cellular and nuclear membranes and allows the release of coiled DNA loops generally called nucleoids and DNA fragments. Electrophoresis at high pH results in structures resembling comets, which, by using appropriate fluorescent stains, can be observed by fluorescence microscopy; DNA fragments migrate away from the “head” into the “tail” based on their size, and the intensity of the comet tail relative to the total intensity (head plus tail) reflects the amount of DNA breakage.

Metrics

Training set

Experimental values	QSAR predictions	
	non-mutagenic	mutagenic
non-mutagenic	90	10
mutagenic	5	80

Validation set


Experimental values	QSAR predictions	
	non-mutagenic	mutagenic
non-mutagenic	31	7
mutagenic	6	36

Parameters	Training	Validation
Accuracy	0.92	0.84
Sensitivity / recall	0.94	0.86
Specificity	0.90	0.82
Precision	0.89	0.84
Negative predictive value	0.95	0.84
F-score	0.91	0.85
Matthews Correlation Coefficient	0.84	0.67
Critical Success Index	0.84	0.73
Area under the ROC	0.92	0.84

ProtoREACH is part of



ProtoPRED platform allows the easy, fast and user-friendly prediction of different properties of chemical compounds, using proprietary (Q)SAR models

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