Chiral recognition of flexible melatonin receptor ligands induced by conformational equilibria

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Supplementary Material

Figures S1-13. ¹H NMR spectra of compounds **6**, **7**, **8**, **9**, **10** and **12**, ¹³C NMR spectra of compounds **6**, **7**, **9**, **10** and **12**, NOESY spectrum of compound **10** and COSY spectrum of compound **12**.

Figures S14-19. Chiral HPLC chromatograms of compounds 6, (*R*)-6, (*S*)-6, 10, (*R*)-10 and (*S*)-10.

Figure S20. Free-energy surfaces calculated from the MD simulation of **(S)-10** in POPC membrane model and in TIP3P water molecules.

Protocol S1. Equilibration protocol for MD simulations of MT₂ receptor-ligand complexes.

Figure S21. Time-evolution of the free energy surface calculated from the MD simulation of **(S)-10** in chloroform.



Figure S1. ¹H NMR spectrum (200 MHz, CDCl₃) of compound 6.

Figure S2. ¹³C NMR spectrum (100 MHz, CDCl₃) of compound 6.





Figure S3. ¹H NMR spectrum (400 MHz, CDCl₃) of compound 7.

Figure S4. ¹³C NMR spectrum (100 MHz, CDCl₃) of compound 7.





Figure S5. ¹H NMR spectrum (200 MHz, CDCl₃) of compound 8.







Figure S6. ¹H NMR spectrum (200 MHz, CDCl₃) of compound 9.

-9E+08



Figure S8. ¹H NMR spectrum (600 MHz, CDCl₃) of compound 10.



Figure S9. ¹³C NMR spectrum (100 MHz, CDCl₃) of compound 10.



Figure S10. NOESY peaks (in red) of compound **10** (600 MHz, CDCl₃, 298 K). Proton assignment: (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 1.09 (CH<u>CH₃</u>), 1.89 (CO<u>CH₃</u>), 2.68 (N<u>CH₃</u>), 3.13 (Hα₂), 3.55 (Hα₁), 3.77 (O<u>CH₃</u>), 4.04 (Hβ), 5.63 (N<u>H</u>), 6.32 (H4), 6.37 (H2), 6.45 (H6), 7.13 (H5).



F2 (ppm)





Figure S11. ¹H NMR spectrum (400 MHz, CDCl₃) of compound 12.

Figure S12. ¹³C NMR spectrum (100 MHz, CDCl₃) of compound 12.



Figure S13. COSY spectrum (400 MHz, CDCl₃) of compound 12.



The observed NH-CH α correlation and the absence of a coupling between CH₂ protons and amidic NH is in agreement with the proposed structure.

Figure S14. Chiral HPLC of compound **6**.



Figure S15. Chiral HPLC of compound **(***R***)-6**.



Figure S16. Chiral HPLC of compound **(***S***)-6**.



Figure S17. Chiral HPLC of compound 10.





Figure S18. Chiral HPLC of compound (*R*)-10.

Figure S19. Chiral HPLC of compound (S)-10.



Figure S20. Free-energy surfaces calculated from the MD simulation of **(***S***)-10** in POPC (left) and in TIP3P water molecules (right). Dihedrals values assumed in the minimized docking pose are shown as a black diamond.



Protocol S1. Equilibration protocol for MD simulations of MT₂ receptor-ligand complexes

The equilibration protocol consists of a prolonged version of the default relaxation procedure implemented in Desmond 5.4 for protein-membrane systems.

- 1. 50 ps of Brownian dynamics in NVT ensemble with 1 ps timestep (3 ps for long-range electrostatics) for at 10 K with a force constant of 50 kcal·mol⁻¹·Å⁻² on the solute heavy atoms;
- 200 ps of Brownian dynamics in NPT ensemble with 1 ps timestep (3 ps for long-range electrostatics) at 100 K with a force constant of 20 kcal·mol⁻¹·Å⁻² on the solute heavy atoms. A directional restraint on Z-axis was applied to membrane heavy atoms with a force constant of 5 kcal·mol⁻¹·Å⁻²;
- 500 ps in NPγT ensemble with 1ps timestep (3 ps for long-range electrostatics) at 100 K with a force constant of 10 kcal·mol⁻¹·Å⁻² on the solute heavy atoms. A directional restraint on Z-axis was applied to membrane heavy atoms with a force constant of 2 kcal·mol⁻¹·Å⁻²;
- 4. 1.5 ns of gradual heating in NPγT ensemble from 100 K to 300 K with timesteps used during production (2 ps and 6 ps for long-range electrostatics, see main text) and a force constant of 10 kcal·mol⁻¹·Å⁻² on the solute heavy atoms. A directional restraint on Z-axis was applied to choline heads polar heteroatoms with a force constant of 2 kcal·mol⁻¹·Å⁻²;
- 5. 4.0 ns in NVT ensemble divided in steps with gradual release of restraints and timesteps as in production:
 - 0 1.0 ns with restraints on backbone and ligand heavy atoms of 5 kcal·mol⁻¹·Å⁻²;
 - 0 1.0 ns with restraints on alpha carbons and ligand heavy atoms of 5 kcal·mol⁻¹·Å⁻²;
 - 1.0 ns with restraints on alpha carbons of 2.5 kcal·mol⁻¹·Å⁻² and ligand heavy atoms of 1 kcal·mol⁻¹·Å⁻². Henceforth, restraints on cap-termini backbone heavy atoms are kept as in the production phase (see main text);
 - 1.0 ns with further differentiated restraint on the alpha carbons (helices alpha carbons are restrained with a spring constant of 2.5 kcal·mol⁻¹·Å⁻², while for the other alpha carbons it is reduced to 0.1 kcal·mol⁻¹·Å⁻²) and ligand heavy atoms restrained with a force constant of 0.1 kcal·mol⁻¹·Å⁻²;
- 6. 1.0 ns in NPγT ensemble with timesteps and restraints as in the production phase.

Figure S21. Time-evolution of the free energy surface calculated from the MD simulation of **(S)-10** in explicit chloroform.

