Behavioral Pharmacological Studies in Non-Human Primates

Research emphasis:
Dr. Ko’s research focuses on the behavioral neuropharmacology of drugs in monkeys. Using diverse behavioral and physiological assays, his group has conducted a series of functional studies of experimentally developed ligands, as compared to clinically used drugs, in animal models. In particular, his group establishes the efficacy and tolerability profiles of novel drugs as analgesics or antipruritics in rodents and monkeys. These preclinical studies in non-human primates not only provide the pharmacological evidence of novel ligand-receptor systems for regulating sensory processing, but also transform newly developed drugs into future therapies.

Application:
- Spinal cord
- Analgesics
- Itch
- Neuropeptides

Collaboration potential:
- In vivo profile of ligands in monkeys with telemetry devices
- Intrathecal/Intracisternal administration
- Cerebrospinal fluid analysis
- Monkey models for biomedical applications

Selected publications:


