where a prodrug of an existing drug has been developed, existing documentation and clinical experience have been, at least in part, accepted by regulatory agencies, therefore, resulting in simplified development path for the prodrug.

10.7 CONCLUDING REMARKS

Using prodrugs is a versatile and powerful strategy to temporarily improve the problematic characteristics of drug molecules. Prodrug strategies have traditionally been embarked to address ADME properties and risks of marketed drugs or as a tool in late-stage problem solving for drug candidates in development phases. However, prodrug design is now increasingly being integrated into early drug discovery. Admittedly, embarking a prodrug strategy can certainly present its own challenges, but depending on the chemical nature of the parent drug and the therapeutic target, many times the prodrug design can represent a comparable smaller challenge than the alternative of searching for a new therapeutically active molecule that also inherently possesses the desired ADME properties.

FURTHER READING

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