Fig. 3: Functions of COX-1 and COX-2 and a target for new NSAIDs.

Prostaglandins needed for normal physiological function in:
- stomach
- intestine
- kidneys
- platelets

Prostaglandins that mediate inflammation

Mediated by COX-1 (constitutive)

COX-1 and COX-2

NSAIDs block both COX-1 and COX-2

Target for COX-2-specific inhibitor

Glucocorticosteroids block production of COX-2

Arachidonic acid

Lianne Friesen