



TECHNOLOGY

Small Molecule Inhibitors of BCL6

OVERVIEW

BCL6 is a transcription factor essential for germinal center B-cell development. The BTB domain (also known as the POZ domain) is a common protein-protein interaction motif that is found in over 180 human proteins including BCL6 and has been implicated in many biological processes including central nervous development, oocyte maturation, eye development, hematopoiesis, apoptosis, immunity and protein degradation. One major class of BTB proteins consists of a single N-terminal BTB domain, a middle linker region, and a set of C-terminal C2H2 zinc-finger domains. Many BTB-zinc finger proteins have been implicated in cancer including BCL6. The present technology introduces a new class of small molecules that show promise as a cancer therapeutic by inhibiting BCL6 repression.

APPLICATIONS

Development of novel cancer therapies.

ADVANTAGES

The invention uses small compounds that possess broad-spectrum anti-cancer properties, which can be used to replace existing treatments or supplement existing ones. Offers novel approach for the treatment of cancer. The invention involves the use of novel compositions of promising new therapeutics.

STAGE OF DEVELOPMENT

Small molecules possessing anti-cancer properties have been identified.

R&D REQUIRED

Studies are required to demonstrate efficacy and safety prior to use in human subjects.

LICENSING POTENTIAL

UM seeks to develop and commercialize via an exclusive or non-exclusive license agreement and/or sponsored research with a company active in the area.

CONTACT INFO

Office of Technology Transfer
620 W Lexington St., 4th Floor
Baltimore, MD 21201
Email: ott@umaryland.edu
Phone: (410) 706-2380

Additional Information

INSTITUTION

University of Maryland, Baltimore

PATENT STATUS

U.S. Patent 8,338,464 issued 12/25/2012

LICENSE STATUS

Available for licensing

CATEGORIES

- Therapeutics
- Small molecules

INVESTIGATOR(S)

Alexander Donald MacKerell

Jr.

Ari M. Melnic

k Gilbert G. Prive

AM-2007-053