

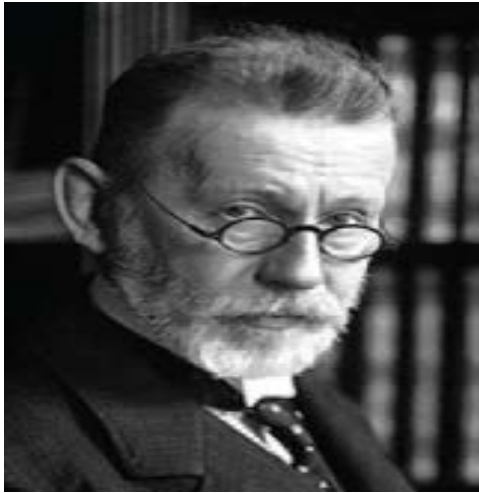
*Anti-cancer Compounds  
from  
Arizona State University*

**Yash Vaishnav, PhD, MBA**

**Vice President, Business Development**

**Arizona Technology Enterprises, LLC**

# *Prof. George Robert Pettit*



*ADC as a Modern Version  
of Ehrlich's Magic Bullet*

Prof. Pettit from Arizona State University (ASU) is one of the key players that helped advance antibody drug conjugate (ADC) technology

**Paul Ehrlich, George Koehler and Cesar Milstein, and Bob Pettit (clockwise from top left)**

*Nature Biotechnology* 30 (7), 631- 637 (2012)

# *Prof. George Robert Pettit*

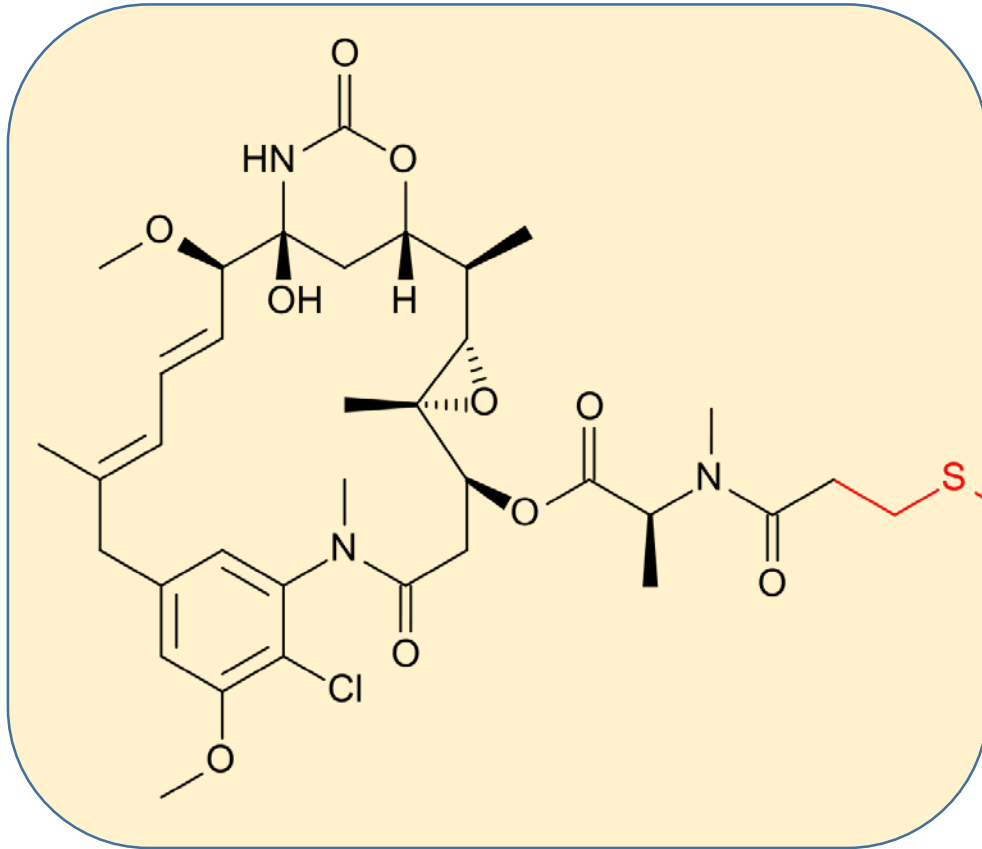


- A world renowned medicinal chemist with more than 800 publications
- Spent more than half century working on the discovery and development of anti-cancer compounds
- Discovered several hundred anti-cancer compounds from various natural sources
- Discovered and studied 19 separate drug classes
- An impressive portfolio of issued patents and patent applications
- Coined the term “statins” for these anti-cancer compounds long before that term was used for cholesterol lowering drugs
- Discovered dolastatin 10, one of the most cytotoxic compounds ever
- Synthesized numerous derivatives of dolastatin 10 with desirable medicinal properties
- Synthesized auristatin E, one of the most promising anti-cancer compounds

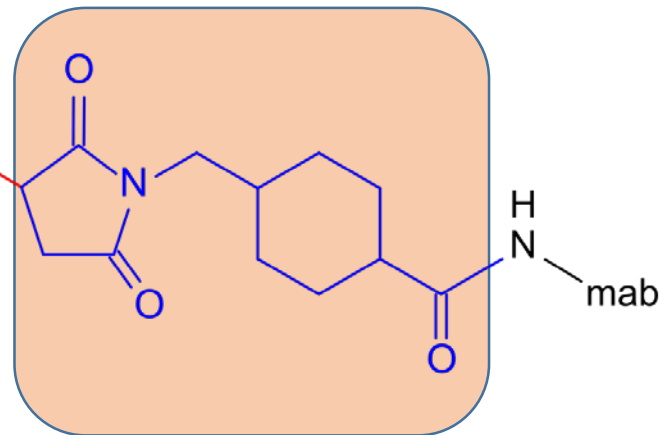
# Typical Antibody-Drug Conjugate (ADC)



Kadcyla (ado-trastuzumab emtansine):  
an ADC consisting of the mAb  
trastuzumab (Herceptin) linked to DM1



Maytansine DM1



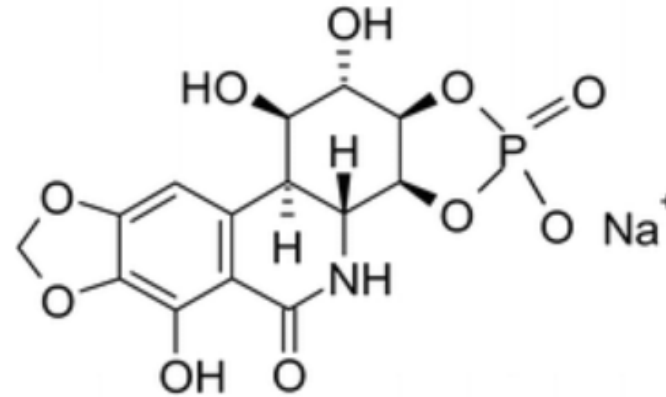
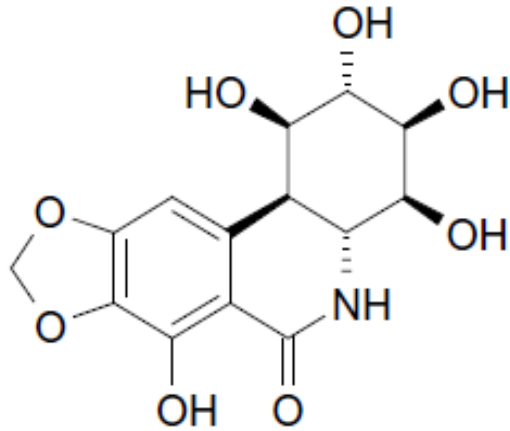
Linker SMCC

**Genentech**  
*A Member of the Roche Group*

# *ASU's IP Portfolio of Anti-cancer Compounds*

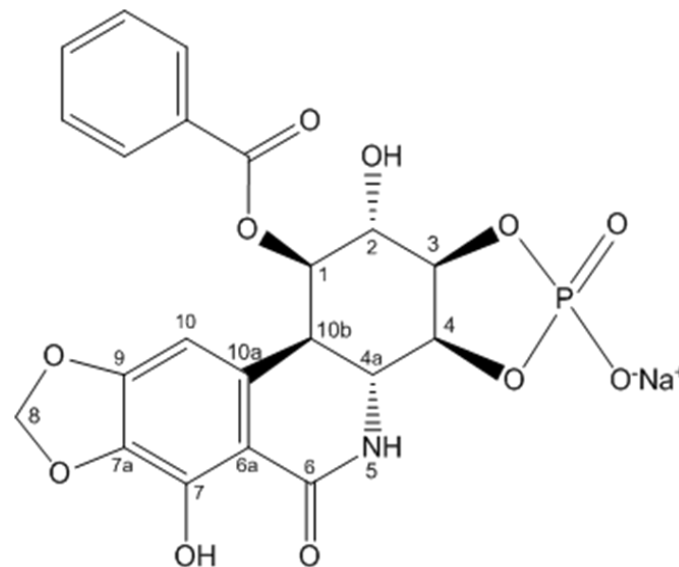
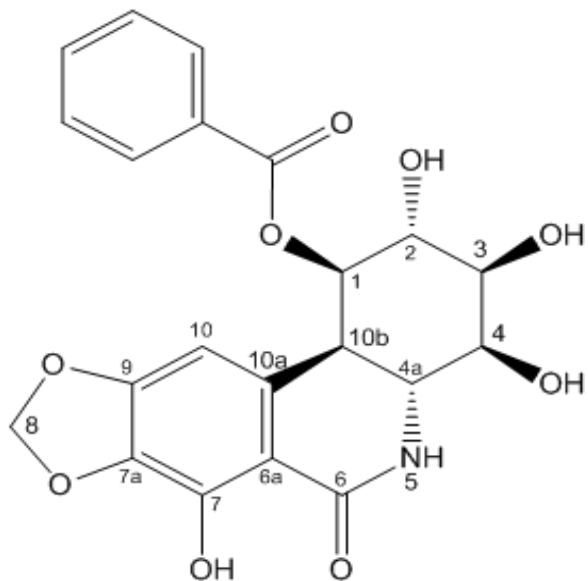
- A large portfolio of issued patents and pending applications
- Compounds described in this presentation have long patent life (at least 10 years)
- Highly potent as inhibitors of cancer cell growth
- Suitable as payloads for ADCs
- Some are suitable for anti-cancer applications as free (unconjugated) drugs
- Derived from natural sources or synthetic derivatives of natural compounds
- Synthetic schemes have been worked out for a majority of these compounds
- Most compounds have chemical groups that are readily amenable for conjugation chemistries
- Some compounds are available in prodrug forms to improve safety and widen therapeutic window of ADCs
- Several compounds with novel mechanism of action
- Compounds are available for licensing as well as for further development under sponsored research

# *Pancratistatin and its Cyclophosphate Derivative*



- US Patent 7,351,830- estimated expiration in 2025
- US Patent 6,949,647- estimated expiration in 2021
- Cyclophosphate derivative almost 1,000-fold more soluble and has higher bioavailability
- Potent anti-cancer activity against cancer cells *in vitro* as well as *in vivo* in xenograft mouse model
- Does not act by the inhibition of tubulin polymerization or inducing DNA cleavage
- Novel mechanism(s) of action: decreases mitochondrial membrane potential and induces apoptosis by activating caspase-3 and flipping of phosphatidyl serine to the outer leaflet of the plasma membrane; also activates the Fas receptor within membranous lipid rafts; causes increase in the production of reactive oxygen species (ROS); and causes accumulation of cells in G2/M phase
- Selectively induces apoptosis in cancer cells while sparing normal cells
- Potential for application as a free (unconjugated) drug
- Total synthesis achieved
- Anti-viral activity against Japanese encephalitis virus (JEV)- 80-85% inhibition
- Anti-parasite activity

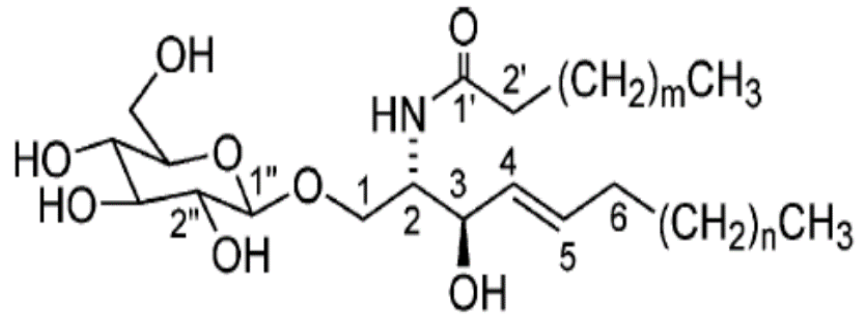
# *Phenpanstatin and its Cyclophosphate Derivative*



- US Patent 7,541,346- estimated expiration 12/15/25
- US Patent 6,777,578- estimated expiration 4/27/21
- Total synthesis achieved
- Highly potent: anti-cancer activity in nM range
- Does not act by the inhibition of tubulin polymerization or inducing DNA cleavage
- Novel mechanism of action: thought to act through mitochondria

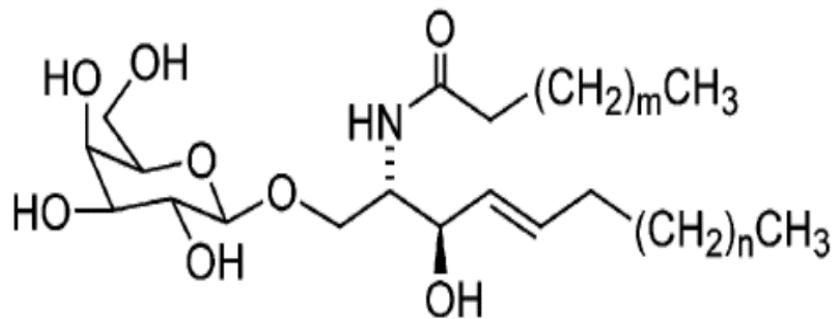


# Turbostatin 1-4



1,  $m = 13$ ,  $n = 9$

2,  $m = 15$ ,  $n = 9$



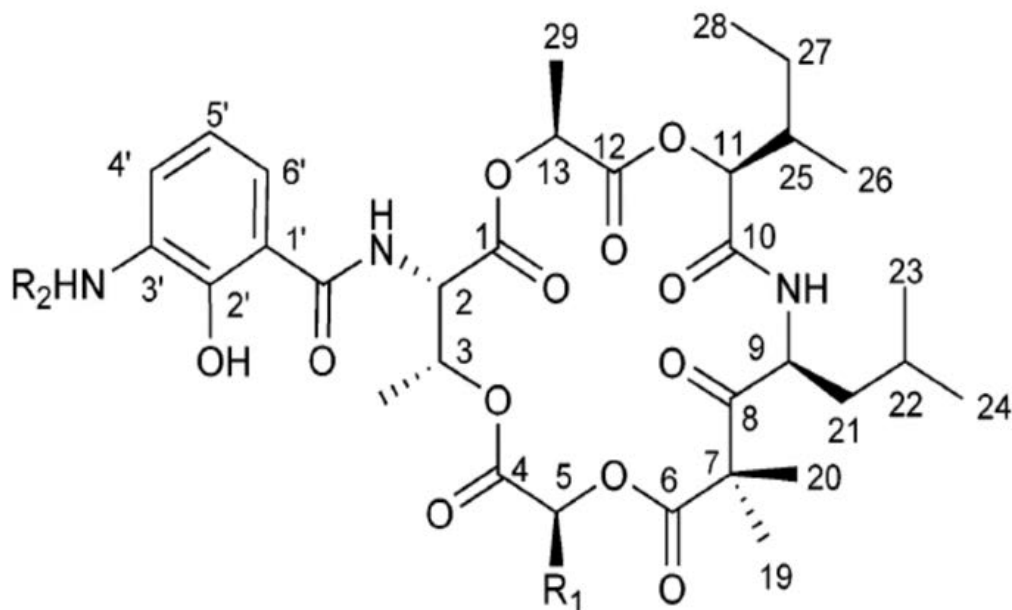
3,  $m = 13$ ,  $n = 9$

4,  $m = 15$ ,  $n = 9$

- US Patent 8,053,416- estimated expiration 2/12/28
- Cerebrosides (glycosphingolipid) in nature
- Potent inhibitors of the growth of cancer cells
- Could possibly have other therapeutic activities associated with cerebrosides: immunosuppressive, immunostimulatory, Alzheimer's disease, COX2 inhibition, antiviral, antibacterial, antifungal, etc
- Mechanism of action: not known
- Synthetic route available



# *Kitastatin (cyclodepsipeptide)*

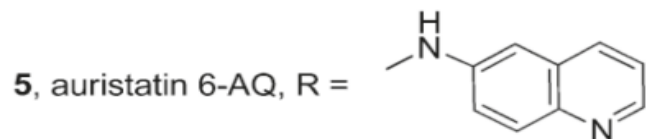
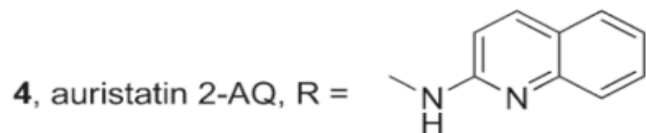
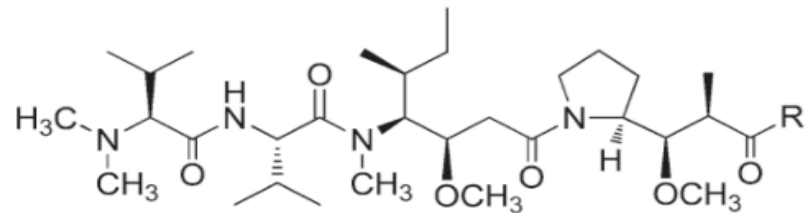
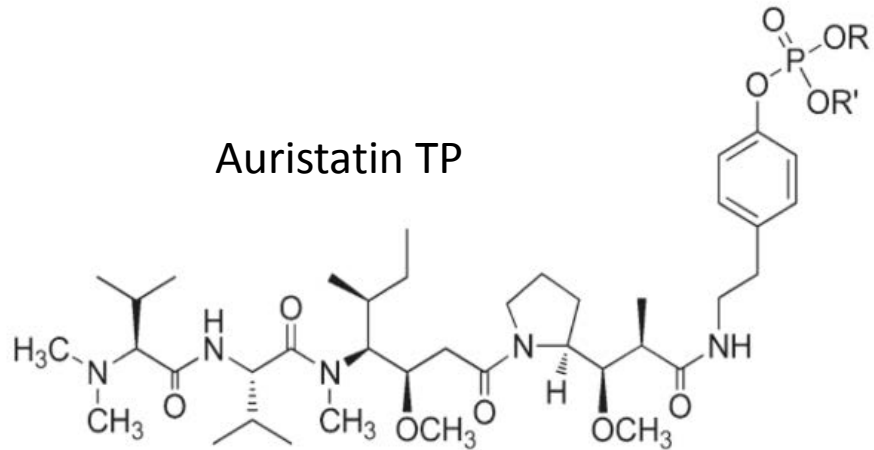


- US Patent 8,415,294, estimated expiration 5/11/29
- US Patent 8,663,154, estimated expiration 6/5/28
- Strong anti-cancer activities
- Also have anti-fungal and anti-bacterial activities
- Related to respirantin, which belongs to the antimycin family of antibiotics
- Total synthesis achieved
- Mechanism of action- not known

Respirantin:  $R_1 = \text{CH}_2\text{CH}(\text{CH}_3)_2$ ,  $R_2 = \text{CHO}$

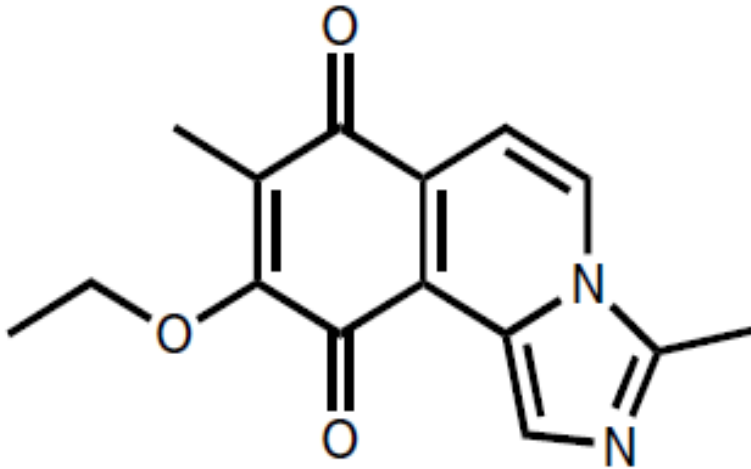
Kitastatin:  $R_1 = \text{CH}_2\text{CH}(\text{CH}_3)_2$ ,  $R_2 = \text{H}$

# Auristatin tyramine phosphate (TP) and auristatin aminoquinoline (AQ)



- Long patent life expected
  - US Patent 9,044,518, estimated expiration 3/29/32
  - Patent applications pending in US, EPO, JP, AU and CA
- Auristatin TP compounds are tyramine phosphate modifications of dolastatin 10 in the form of water-soluble salts with higher bioavailability. The salts are dephosphorylated by serum phosphatases to yield the active drug, which is then transported intracellularly
- Auristatin TP compounds exhibit superior cancer cell growth inhibitory properties against a panel of murine and human cancer cell lines. The *in vitro* data is quite comparable to those of dolastatin 10 and auristatin PE.
- Ease of conjugation through a phosphate group (TP) or terminal methyl group (AQ)
- Total synthesis achieved
- Mechanism of action- presumably inhibition of tubulin polymerization and anti-angiogenic activity

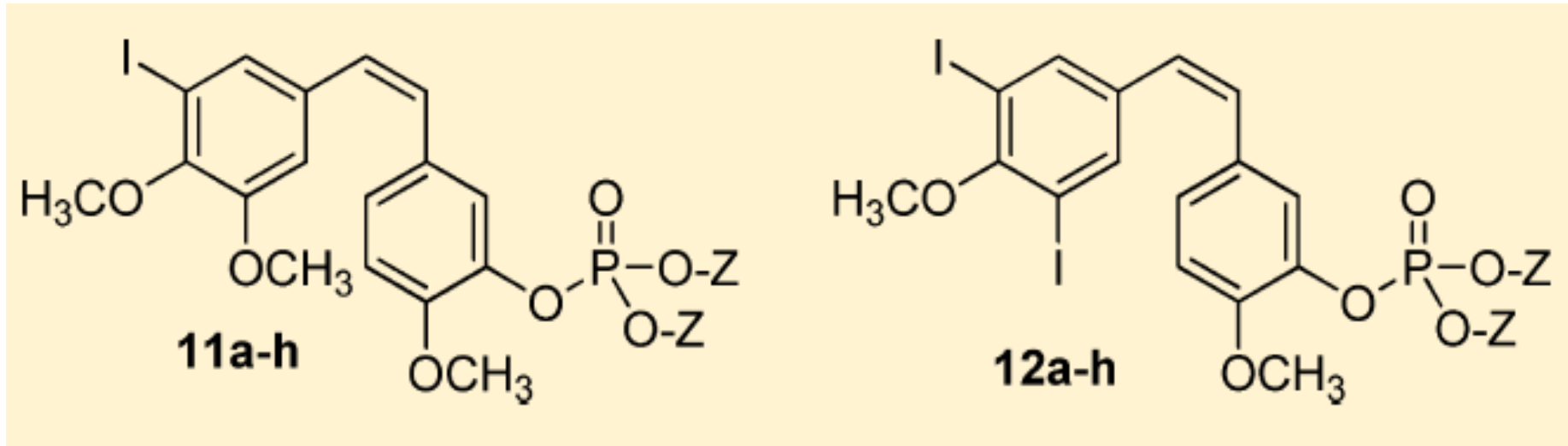
# *Cribrostatin-6*



cribrostatin 6

- US Patent 7,317,020- estimated expiration 2/22/24
- Anti-cancer, anti-fungal and anti-bacterial activities
- Induces reactive oxygen species (ROS) and apoptotic cell death; does not induce cell cycle arrest
- A notable ability to induce cell death even in quiescent (non-dividing) cells as well as in cells that are resistant to standard anti-cancer agents
- Potential for use in combination therapy
- Although a quinone, its primary mechanism of action does not seem to involve the inhibition of topoisomerase or direct DNA damage
- Synthetic route available

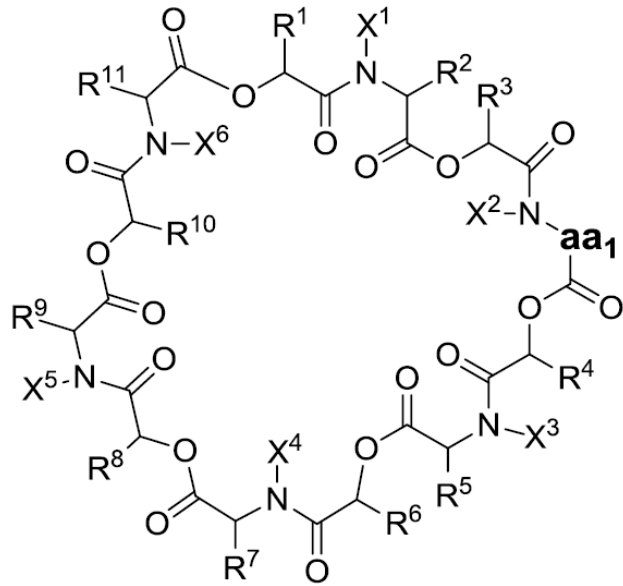
# Halocombstatins



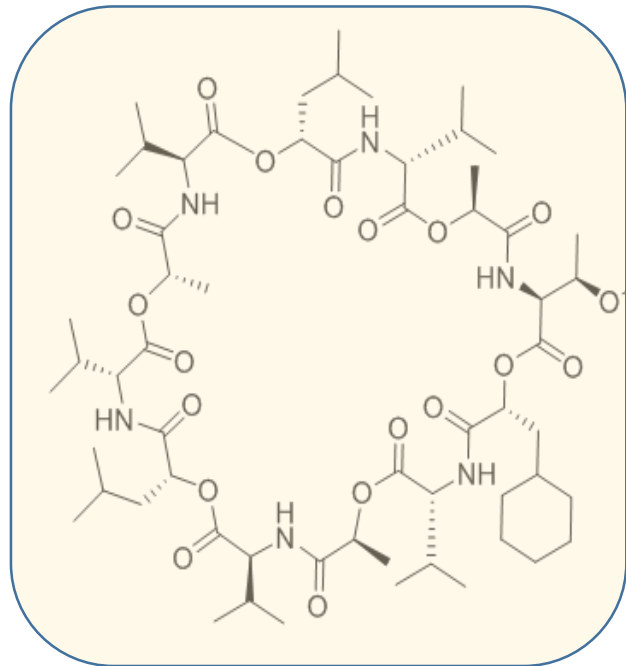
Iodocombstatin phosphate (11a–h) and diiodocombstatin phosphate prodrugs (12a–h)- derivatives of combretastatin A-4 phosphate. Z = 8 different substituent groups

- Halogenated derivatives of combretastatins
- US Patent 7,223,747- estimated expiration 2/22/25, covers iodo-combstatins (mono and di as well as their phosphate forms)
- Potent inhibition of cancer cell growth
- Mechanism of action: inhibition of tubulin polymerization
- Potential application for thyroid cancer treatment as these compounds are likely to accumulate in the thyroid carcinoma tissue
- Synthetic route available

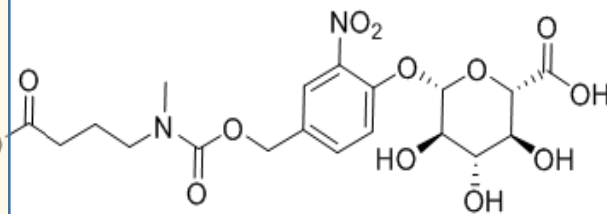
# Silstatins



Generic structure of Silstatins  
(Combination of R and X  
substituents yields 8 distinct  
Silstatins)



Glucuronide conjugate of Silstatin 7  
(boxed) as a prodrug



- Silstatins (-1 through -8): derivatives of Bacillistatins
- Highly potent inhibitors of cancer cell growth
  - GI<sub>50</sub>: 10<sup>-3</sup> to 10<sup>-4</sup> µg/ml
- Suitable as payloads for ADCs
- Hydroxyl group for convenient conjugation to antibodies through a linker
- Glucuronide derivative of Silstatin 7
  - Prodrug
  - Releases Silstatin 7 *in vivo*
  - Reduced toxicity compared to Silstatin 7
  - Potential application as a free drug
  - Intrinsic tumor targeting property
- Long patent life expected
  - Patent application filed recently
- Mechanism of action- not known
  - Likely to act as K<sup>+</sup> ionophore
- Total synthesis achieved

*Contact for Licensing or Collaborative  
Opportunity*

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