

Beautiful Chemistry

New Chemistry for K-Ras

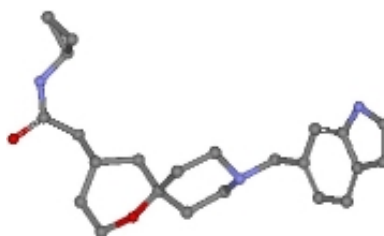
In the world of cancer drug discovery, the Ras family of G proteins – K-Ras, H-Ras and N-Ras – is a so-far unclaimed prize. Given that a third of all tumors have mutations in a RAS protein, with mutation rates in certain intractable cancer types such as pancreatic cancer topping 90%, that's not for lack of trying. But until recently, several decades of attempts to shut K-Ras – which is the black sheep of the RAS family, having the worst effect in terms of tumor growth – down have yielded no success. K-Ras has required a reputation for being 'undruggable' in some circles.

Direct targeting has been difficult, in part because given its importance there is surprisingly little structural information about the mutant forms of Ras. At the recent annual meeting of the American Association for Cancer Research, in fact, one of the educational sessions was titled "Anti-Ras Drug Discovery: Mission Impossible?"

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- [K-RAS Focused Library](#)
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- [CXCR4 Targeted Library](#)
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Compound S511-0490 represents a new series of helix-mimetics possessing high drug-like and natural product-like properties. Compounds based on this scaffold are included in several of our new focused and specialized libraries.

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