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From *para*-aminobenzoic acid to small compounds with multiple biological properties

The discovery of new molecules possessing multiple biological properties in a single entity is a subject of great interest to the scientific community. A simple compound previously used in our laboratory as a heterobifunctional linker to construct immunoconjugates was identified as a potential lead drug showing anti-inflammatory, anti-metastatic as well as anticancer activities. The lead compound is made in only three chemical steps from *para*-aminobenzoic acid with 43% overall yield. Its structure can be modified to give alternative analogs with similar activities. The prospect of lead optimization is significant. This communication will highlight the chemical and biological potential (*in vitro* and *in vivo*) of these types of molecules tested on bladder cancer. Amongst the results, the lead compound can reduce the size of a tumor in an animal model by 90% within 25 days without apparent side effects.

Biography

Gervais Bérubé completed his PhD in 1986 in the field of Organic Chemistry at the Université de Sherbrooke. After completing three Post-Doctoral stays initially in the field of Organic Chemistry, then in Oncology and lastly in Immunology, he became Assistant Professor of Medicinal Chemistry in the School of Pharmacy, Memorial University of Newfoundland. He is now Professor of Organic Chemistry at the Université du Québec à Trois-Rivières. His main research interest is the design and development of new anticancer drugs. He has published more than 76 papers in reputed journals and presented more than 110 communications in diverse meetings.

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