The Wisconsin Alumni Research Foundation (WARF) is seeking commercial partners interested in developing retinoic acid analogs with reduced toxicity for the treatment of cancer.

OVERVIEW

Retinoic acid and a number of its analogs have shown some ability to prevent and treat cancer. One of the most potent is 4-[(E)-2-(5,6,7,8-tetrahydro-5,5,8,8-tetramethyl-2-naphthalenyl)-1-propenyl]benzoic acid, or TTNPB. However, toxicity has been a significant obstacle to the development of these compounds.

THE INVENTION

UW-Madison researchers have developed less toxic TTNPB analogs for the prevention or treatment of breast cancer. One such analog, 4-HBTTNPB, inhibits the proliferation of tumor cells. Because it binds poorly to the retinoic acid receptor and the retinoic X receptor, it is less likely to cause adverse side effects than TTNPB.

APPLICATIONS

• Prevention or treatment of cancer, including breast cancer

KEY BENEFITS

• Stable and easy to synthesize
• Likely to have fewer side effects

STAGE OF DEVELOPMENT

The development of this technology was supported by WARF Accelerator. WARF Accelerator selects WARF’s most commercially promising technologies and provides expert assistance and funding to enable achievement of commercially significant
milestones. WARF believes that these technologies are especially attractive opportunities for licensing.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Related Portfolios
WARF Accelerator Program Technologies

Tech Fields
Pharmaceuticals & Vitamin D - Oncology & hematology

CONTACT INFORMATION

For current licensing status, please contact Rafael Diaz at rdiaz@warf.org or 608-960-9847.