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Novel drug wrenchnolol impairs transcription of Her2 oncogene.

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2004 MAY 18 - (NewsRx.com & NewsRx.net) -- A novel drug, wrenchnolol, impairs transcription of the Her2 oncogene.

"Development of synthetic molecules that provide external control over the transcription of a given gene represents a challenge in chemistry. Design and analysis of wrenchnolol, a wrench-shaped synthetic molecule that impairs the transcription of the Her2 association of transcription factor ESX with its coactivator Sur-2" is reported," wrote scientists in Japan.

"The "jaw" part of the compound mimics the alpha-helical interface of the activation domain of ESX, and the "handle" region for a range of analysis. A water-soluble handle permitted NMR study in aqueous solution; a biotinylated handle verified the fluorescent handle confirmed the cell permeability of the compound," H. Shimogawa and colleagues reported.

"The case study of wrenchnolol foreshadows the promise and the challenge of targeting protein-protein interactions in the development of unique synthetic modulators of gene transcription," concluded investigators.

Shimogawa and colleagues published their study in Journal of the American Chemical Society (A wrench-shaped synthetic transcription factor - Coactivator interaction. J Am Chem Soc, 2004;126(11):3461-3471).

For additional information, contact H. Kigoshi, University Tsukuba, Department Chemical, Tsukuba, Ibaraki 3058571, Japan
 Publisher contact information for the Journal of the American Chemical Society is: American Chemical Society, 1155 16TH S
 USA.

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