Inducing Annexin I to Control NF-kB Activity Leads to Novel Approach for Controlling Inflammation and Inflammation-Related Disorders

Background

Nuclear factor-κB (NF-κB), a transcription factor critical to immune responses, is being recognized as an important signaling molecule in the pathogenesis of cancer. A variety of human cancers, especially those of lymphoid cell origin, have a continuous NF-κB activity which prevents apoptotic cell death, and enhances cancer cell proliferation. Thus there remains a need for anti-tumor agents that block NF-κB activity or increase the sensitivity of tumors to conventional chemotherapy. There also remains a need for agents to block NF-κB activity to treat or prevent chronic inflammation or autoimmune disorders.

Technology

Dr. Basil Rigas, Professor of Medicine and Professor of Pharmacological Sciences has developed a novel approach to control the activity of NF-κB, a signaling system that is crucial for the development of inflammation. The expression of annexin I by cells can be induced by compounds such as nitric oxide releasing aspirin as well as novel peptide compositions.

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Advantages

- Control of inflammation without harmful side effects associated with the currently available anti-inflammatory drugs

Applications

- Cancer
- Inflammation

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