

Methods for Identifying Antiviral Agents Against Human Herpesviruses

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Technology description

Summary

A Strategy for Identifying Compounds that Block DNA Synthesis of Tumorigenic KSHV/HHV-8

Description

Kaposi's sarcoma-associated herpes virus (KSHV), or HHV-8, has been implicated in several human cancers such as KaposiÃs sarcoma, the most common neoplasm of AIDS patients. KSHV is also strongly associated with certain lymphomas, especially multiple myeloma, a form of bone cancer. In order to develop an anti-viral strategy and to screen chemical compounds for their potential to perturb DNA synthesis and replication of KSHV, researchers at the University of Pennsylvania have described a convenient colorimetric microliter plate assay. This method can be easily adopted for high-throughput robotic- screening of thousands of compounds. The described method can also be adopted for HHV-6, another virus which has been closely associated with multiple sclerosis.

Institution

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