

# A Therapeutic Candidate for Pediatric Orphan Cancers

### NSC 750854

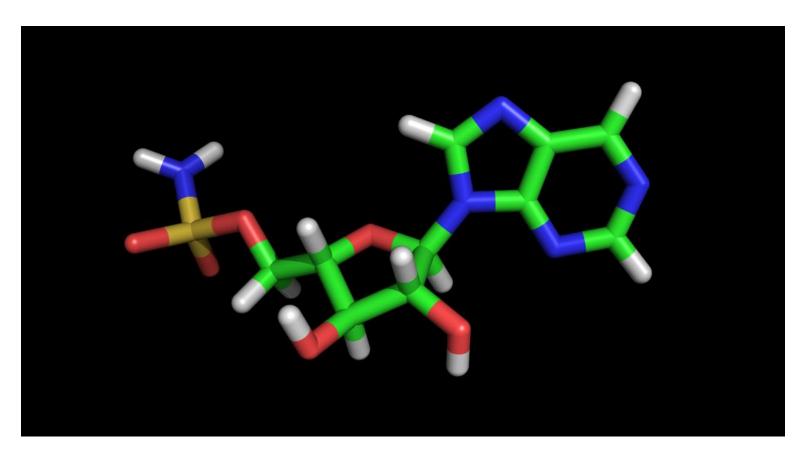
(3,4-dihydroxy-5-purin-9-yloxolan-2-yl)methyl sulfamate

CIFHER note: NCI developed 42 drugs before 2004. Since then, the drug development effort is practically non-existent. At the previous development rate, the tax-paying US Citizen is missing about 80 Investigational New Drugs that could be treating cancers. This Natural Product analog is one of them.



#### Computational Institute For Health and Environmental Research (formerly CDDG)

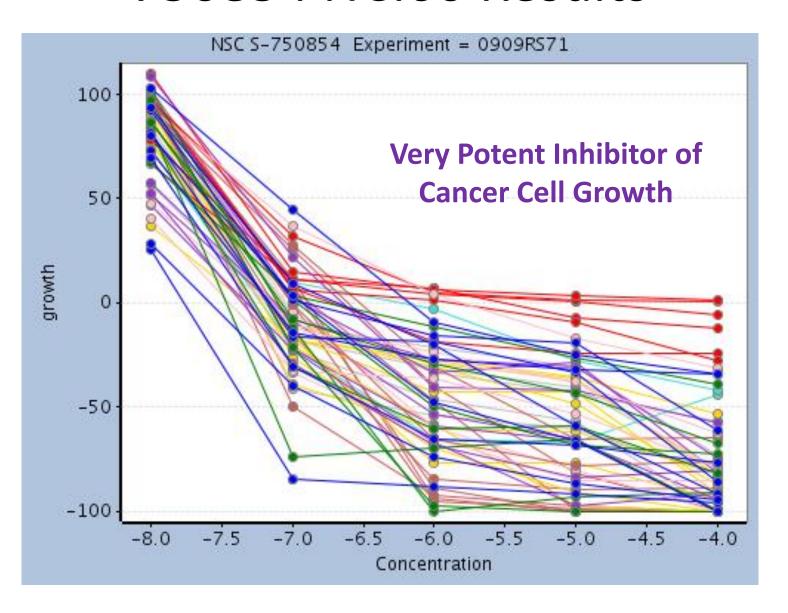
# NSC 750854



This compound was discovered by **Dr. Jerry Collins** at the NCI

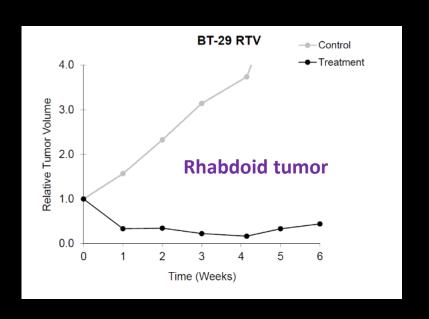


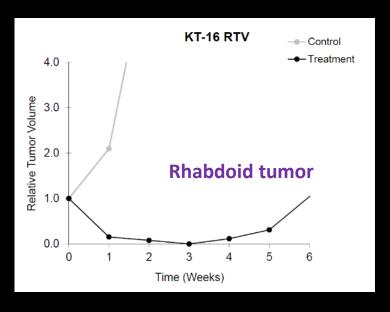
# 750854 NCI60 Results





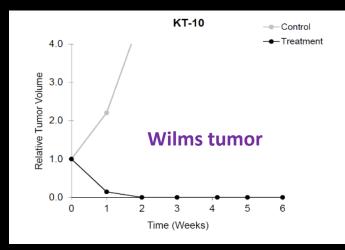
# Selected Pediatric Xenografts





- Multiple pediatric xenografts respond to 750854
- 5 mg/kg IP QDx5, repeated at 2 wk
- . Dose well-tolerated by mice
- KT-10 maintained complete remission

**CIFHER note:** Even as a mechanistic toxin, the efficacy and potency of this compound can have a high therapeutic index in specific patient populations such as these pediatric cancers





#### Overview

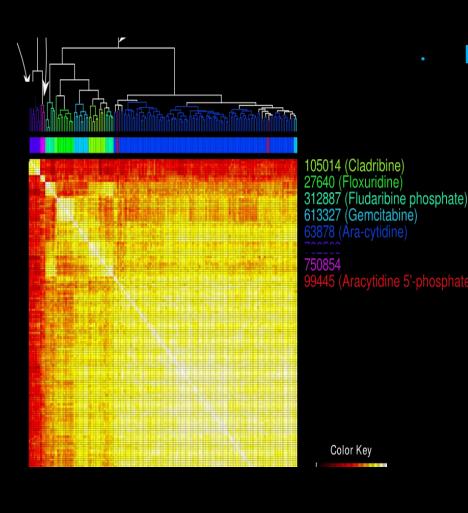
- 750854 is active in multiple xenografts models
- 750854 is distinct from approved nucleosides
- Mechanism is likely to be inhibition of amino-acyl tRNA synthetase, based on unpublished yeast data
- 750854 is active in 12 out of 20 Pediatric Cancer Efficacy Studies
- Especially active in Pediatric Rhabdomyosarcoma, and other Pediatric Orphan Cancers



# Mechanistic Studies



# NSC 750854 is very distinct from other FDA-Approved Nucleoside Agents by $GI_{50}$ Matrix COMPARE

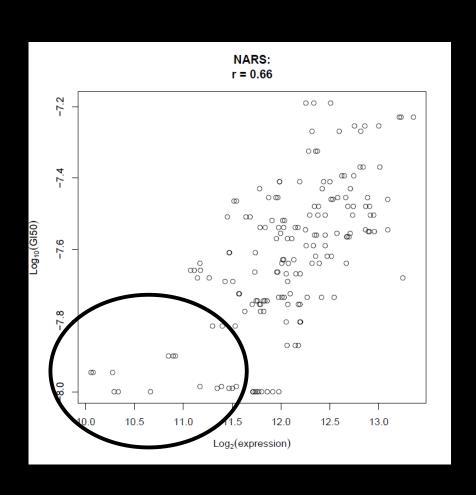


#### MATRIX COMPARE

- Pairwise complete Pearson's product moment correlation
- Each experiment yields ~60 GI50 values (one for each cell line)
  - Correlation of GI50 values for each experiment versus every other experiment is determined
- Self-consistent experiments were retained (mean self:self correlation ≥ 0.6)
- Vectors of correlation values were then hierarchically clustered



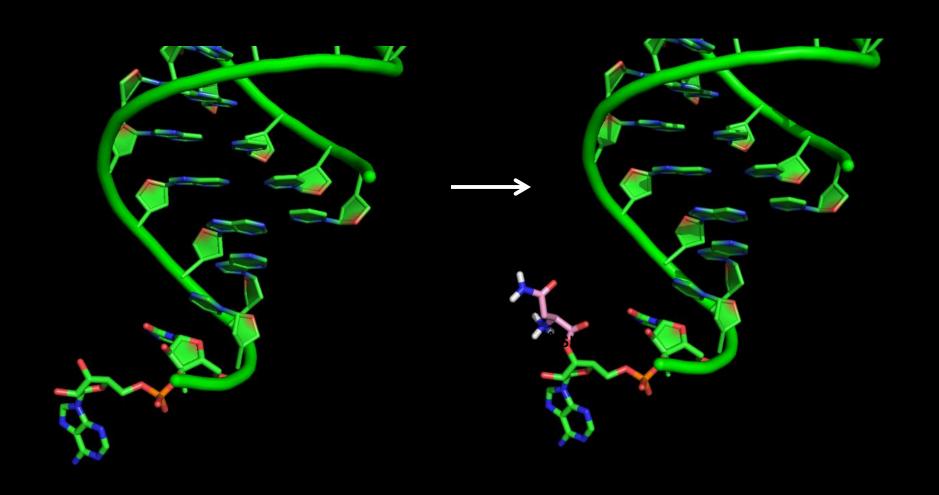
#### Susceptibility Correlates with mRNA Expression



- (NARS) mRNA expression is correlated with NCI-60  $GI_{50}$ : r = 0.66
- Low NARS expression is associated with low GI<sub>50</sub> (higher susceptibility)



# aaRS Enzymes Charge tRNA





## Binding Mode of 750854 in NARS

- Energy-refined all-atom protein model generated for human NARS based on archaebacterial crystal structure
- 750854 docked at AMP site of NARS



#### ATP binds aaRS's and the first PO₄ is charged for nucleophilic attack via a proton relay network.

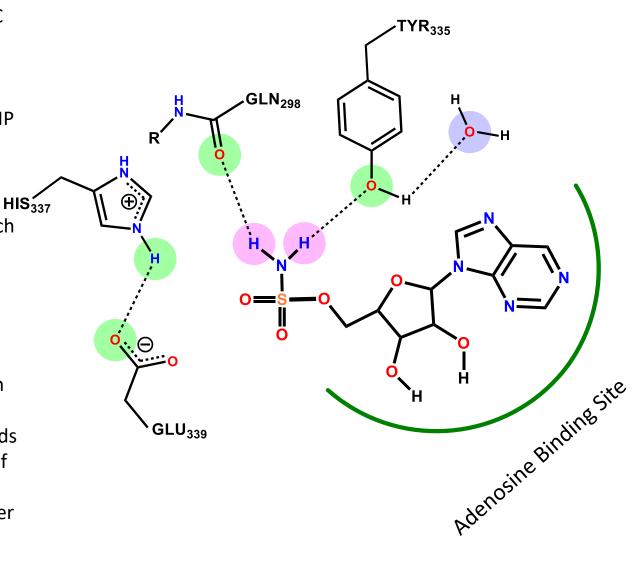
- A water serves as the ambident nucleophile.
- Subsequently, an amino acid: AMP conjugate is formed.

# Native Binding Mode: ATP - Proton Relay Network



#### NSC 750854: Transition State Mimic – Stage I

- Upon binding, the sulfonamide moiety of NSC 750854 mimics the phosphate of AMP, while the purine and sugar components mimic the AMP adenosine.
- The sulfonamide proceeds
   to 'trap' the enzyme's
   proton relay network (which
   normally facilitates amino
   acid: AMP conjugation).
- <u>Stage I</u>: **a)** sulfonamide nitrogen proton forms a **unique** H-bond with the back-bone carbonyl oxygen of GLN<sub>298</sub>, **b)** a second sulfonamide proton H-bonds with the hydroxyl oxygen of TYR<sub>335</sub>, **c)** an H-bond forms between an ambident water and the hydroxyl proton of TYR<sub>335</sub>, and **d)** GLU<sub>339</sub>, exchanges a proton with HIS<sub>337</sub>.





### Transition State Mimic – Stage II

- The unique H-bond between one of the sulfonamide nitrogen protons and the backbone carbonyl oxygen of GLN<sub>298</sub> is maintained during the entire mechanism.
- Stage II: a) the charged HIS<sub>337</sub> H-bonds with one of the oxygens of the sulfonamide, this begins to further delocalize the sulfonamide π electon network, b) the second proton of the sulfonamide nitrogen H-bonds with oxygen of tautomerized TYR<sub>335</sub>, which has lost its proton to an ambident water, and c) GLU<sub>339</sub> is no longer ionized.



# Transition State Mimic – Stage III

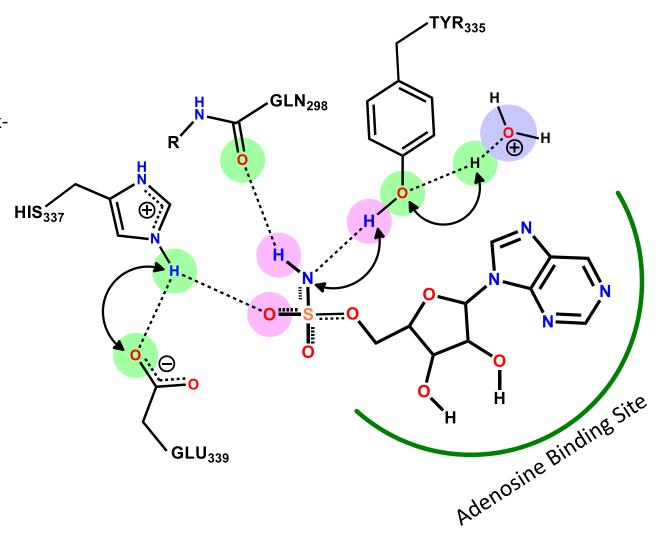
• Stage III: a) the acidic sulfonamide transfers a nitrogen proton to the oxygen of TYR<sub>335</sub>, restoring the more stable tautomer, and b) the sulfonamide nitrogen becomes a fully ionized atom.

Adenosine Binding Site



## Culmination: Proton Relay Network Trapped

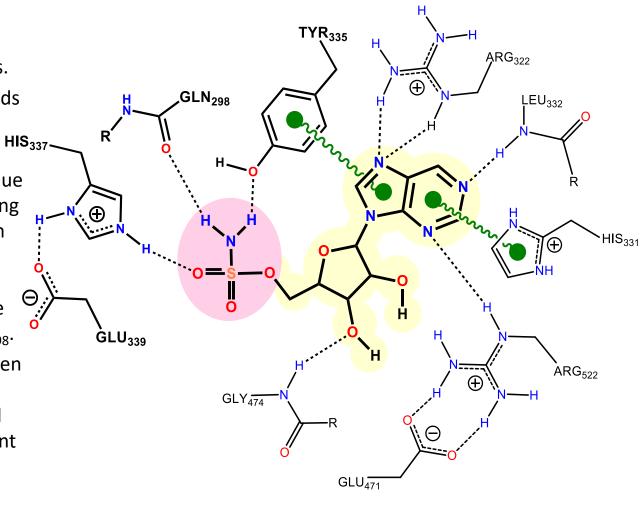
- Stages I III are reversible.
  This results in a 'trapped' proton relay network.
- The continual shuffling backand-forth of the proton relay network is hypothesized to contribute to the longevity of NSC 750854 binding site occupancy.





### Full View: All Binding Site Contacts

- NSC 750854 possesses excellent chemical complementarity for the AMP binding site of NARs.
- Contacts include 7 H-bonds and 2  $\pi$  stacking interactions.
- The binding mode is unique in that NSC 750854 binding results in a new hydrogen bond between the compound's sulfonamide moiety and the backbone carbonyl oxygen of GLN<sub>298</sub>.
- The GLN<sub>298</sub> carbonyl oxygen is engages in a watermediated hydrogen bond with an unrelated segment of tRNA during normal biological function.
- Two other saltbridges: D463-K445, E279-R322, may help stabilize the pocket.



#### NSC 750854 Binding Mode to NARs

