Quisinostat

Quisinostat (USAN; development code JNJ-26481585) is an experimental drug candidate for the treatment of cancer. It is a “second generation” histone deacetylase inhibitor with antineoplastic activity. It is highly potent against class I and II HDACs.

It was developed by Janssen Pharmaceuticals and licensed to NewVac LLC.

Preclinical studies show that quisinostat amplifies HDAC-repressed expression of E-cadherin, leading to a reversal of epithelial to mesenchymal transition in tumor cells. Results of a phase I trials in patients with multiple myeloma in combination with bortezomib and dexamethasone were published in 2016.

Data provide strong evidence that Quisinostat or other class I HDAC inhibitors might be therapeutically useful for patients with SHH medulloblastoma including those resistant to Smoothened (SMO) inhibition [1].

1)
Pak E, MacKenzie EL, Zhao X, Pazyra-Murphy MF, Park PMC, Wu L, Shaw DL, Addleson EC, Cayer SS, Lopez BG, Agar NYR, Rubin LL, Qi J, Merk DJ, Segal RA. A large-scale drug screen identifies selective inhibitors of class I HDACs as a potential therapeutic option for SHH medulloblastoma. Neuro Oncol. 2019 May 16. pii: noz089. doi: 10.1093/neuonc/noz089. [Epub ahead of print] PubMed PMID: 31111916.