

News Highlights

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Finding Potentially Improves Standard Mesothelioma Treatment

HONOLULU – University of Hawai'i Cancer Center researchers found that targeting chromosomal instability in mesothelioma, a very malignant cancer of the lining of the chest and abdomen often caused by asbestos, improves response to standard chemotherapies.

The study published in *Oncogene* found that a new drug known as CFI-402257 suppresses mesothelioma growth. The drug, synergized with the current standard of care for mesothelioma (Cisplatin/Pemetrexed therapy), reduced the growth of human mesothelioma cells thereby increasing the efficacy of the current standard of care. The preclinical findings indicated that CFI-402257 is a promising new therapeutic agent to improve current chemotherapeutic regimens for mesothelioma patients.

"We continue to search for weaknesses of mesothelioma cancer cells that can be exploited to improve current therapies for mesothelioma," said Dr. Haining Yang, senior author.

The research was coordinated and conducted in Hawai'i by Drs. Haining Yang and Michele Carbone at the UH Cancer Center, and in collaboration with the team of Dr. Tak Mak, at the University of Toronto.

Publication: *Oncogene*: Inhibition of the spindle assembly checkpoint kinase Mps-1 as a novel therapeutic strategy in malignant mesothelioma

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