

# COMPOSITIONS AND METHODS FOR THE INHIBITION OF FERROPTOSIS SUPPRESSOR PROTEIN 1

Tech ID: 32608 / UC Case 2022-061-0

## PATENT STATUS

Country	Type	Number	Dated	Case
European Patent Office	Published Application	4 486 461	01/08/2025	2022-061

Additional Patent Pending

## BRIEF DESCRIPTION

Researchers at UC Berkeley have developed ferroptosis suppressor protein 1 (FSP1) inhibitors and methods for their use in cancer therapy.

Ferroptosis is an iron-dependent, non-apoptotic form of regulated cell death that is characterized by the accumulation of oxidatively damaged phospholipids. Ferroptosis has been implicated in cell death and dysfunction in degenerative diseases. Triggering ferroptosis by inhibition of the GSH-GPX4 pathway has emerged as a promising strategy to trigger cell death in cancer. However, recent findings have uncovered protective mechanisms that promote resistance to ferroptosis inducing agents in cancer cells. For example, FSP1 mediates a GSH-independent ferroptosis suppression pathway and has emerged as a key ferroptosis resistance factor. Thus, a need exists for FSP1 inhibitors and their use in cancer therapy.

### Stage of Research

The inventors have developed FSP1 inhibitors and methods of inhibiting FSP1 comprised of contacting FSP1 with an FSP1 inhibitor in an amount effective to inhibit FSP1. The inventors have also developed methods for treating cancer wherein a subject is treated with a therapeutically effective amount of an FSP1 inhibitor, sometimes in a combination therapy regime.

## SUGGESTED USES

The FSP1 inhibitors disclosed herein can be used for treating various cancers in a subject; in some cases the cancer expresses FSP1, in some cases the cancer is GPX4-inhibitor resistant, and in some cases the cancer is ferroptosis-resistant.

The use of FSP1 inhibitor in combination therapy with other inhibitors of the GSH-GPX4 pathway.

## ADVANTAGES

Targeting ferroptosis has emerged as a promising strategy to trigger cell health in cancer, particularly in drug-resistant persistent cancer cells that give rise to relapse, as well as a variety of difficult to treat cancers such as pancreatic ductal adenocarcinoma and MYCN-amplified neuroblastoma.

It is likely that FSP1 inhibition will sensitize cancer cells to standard of care treatment that trigger ROS generation and ferroptosis, such as radiotherapy, photodynamic therapy, and immunotherapy.

## RELATED MATERIALS

- » Identification of structurally diverse FSP1 inhibitors that sensitize cancer cells to ferroptosis. Hendricks, J.M., Olzmann, J.A., et al., Cell Chemical Biology. (2023) 4;S2451-9456(23)00114-9. - 05/04/2023

## CONTACT

Laleh Shayesteh  
lalehs@berkeley.edu  
tel: 510-642-4537.



## INVENTORS

- » Olzmann, James Arthur

## OTHER INFORMATION

### KEYWORDS

Ferroptosis, FSP1, Cancer

### CATEGORIZED AS

- » Medical
- » Disease: Cancer
- » Therapeutics

### RELATED CASES

2022-061-0



University of California, Berkeley Office of Technology Licensing

2150 Shattuck Avenue, Suite 510, Berkeley, CA 94704

Tel: 510.643.7201 | Fax: 510.642.4566

[ipira.berkeley.edu/](http://ipira.berkeley.edu/) | [otl-feedback@lists.berkeley.edu](mailto:otl-feedback@lists.berkeley.edu)

© 2023 - 2025, The Regents of the University of California

[Terms of use](#) | [Privacy Notice](#)