

# Development of a Small-Molecule Inhibitor for USP48

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## Public-facing abstract

Acute myeloid leukemia is difficult to treat, and many patients receive hypomethylating agents that work only modestly on their own. This project follows a chemical clue: knocking out USP48 can make leukemia cells more sensitive to those drugs. The team is building and testing small-molecule USP48 inhibitors, using structure-activity studies and fluorescence assays to learn which chemical features improve potency. If the chemistry keeps improving, USP48 inhibition could become part of a smarter combination strategy for AML.