



Graduate Studies

Department of Physiology
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

Studies in Cancer and Infectious Diseases

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Research efforts of my laboratory are in the areas of cancer and infectious disease. In the former area, we are studying signal transduction processes and tumor metastasis, with a focus on isolation and identification of unknown proteins involved in such processes and the development of novel cancer therapies. Organochemical approaches are being investigated. In collaboration with Dr. George Vande Woude of the Van Andel Research Institute, the effects of ansamycin derivatives on the signal transduction pathway of the Met receptor are being investigated. Recent work has shown that the signaling pathway of the Met protooncogene, the tyrosine kinase receptor for hepatocyte growth factor/scatter factor (HGF/SF), is a potential target for cancer therapy. Also in collaboration with the Van Andel Research Institute, additional organo/biochemical research efforts are being made in the area of nuclear imaging for cancer. Our research efforts in the area of infectious diseases involve novel drug design toward new targets of parasitic diseases. This latter endeavor is being done in collaboration with Leslie Kuhn and Michael Kron here at Michigan State University.