

PRESS RELEASE

About ESM

Chroma has developed its "Esterase Sensitive Motif" (ESM) technology which attaches specific chemical (amino acid ester) motifs onto active drugs to enhance the delivery of the drugs to targets within cells. The result is a drug-motif that is freely transported into the cell but, following cleavage within the cell by intracellular esterases, generates an active charged species that cannot cross the cell membrane easily. Over time, the active species will accumulate within the cells, resulting in increased potency and duration of action.

Chroma has developed a subset of these chemical motifs that are cleaved only within monocytes and macrophages. This approach consequently has potential in the treatment of a wide range of diseases by delivering a drug selectively to these cell types, which are implicated in a variety of serious diseases including inflammatory disorders, cancer, atherosclerosis and diabetes.

About Chroma Therapeutics

Chroma Therapeutics, based in Oxford (UK), is a drug development company focused in the fields of oncology and inflammatory disorders. Chroma is building a broad pipeline of first- or best-in-class treatments utilising its expertise in chromatin biology and its novel intracellular accumulation technologies, which include the ability to selectively target drugs to macrophages. Chroma is backed by a number of leading specialist investors, including Abingworth, Essex Woodlands, Gilde, Phase4 and The Wellcome Trust. More information about Chroma can be found at www.chromatherapeutics.com.