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Thousands of Lung Cancer Patients Could Benefit from New Ways to Target Mutations

ROCKVILLE, MD — A new study has the potential to help more than 10,000 patients in the United States who are affected by drug-resistant lung cancer each year. Researchers have uncovered ways to target mutations in drug-resistant lung cancer. The research was presented at the 2023 annual meeting of the [American Society for Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics](https://www.aspet.org) (ASPET).

New research investigates inhibitors for mutations in epidermal growth factor receptors that cause unresponsiveness to cancer treatment. The researchers utilized a combination of high-throughput screening and structure-based drug design to discover and develop mutant-selective, allosteric EGFR inhibitors that are unaffected by common ATP-site resistance mutations.

According to the researchers, leveraging 'cooperative inhibition' with other allosteric inhibitor and TKI combinations represents a novel way to target difficult to treat variants. "Thus, we are utilizing structural and molecular insights of simultaneous drug binding to facilitate the identification and development of novel drug combinations," the researchers added.

This research was supported by the Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Award and the National Institutes of Health grants.

About ASPET

The American Society for Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics (ASPET), founded in 1908, is an international 4,000-member non-profit pharmacology society that advances the science of drugs and therapeutics to accelerate the discovery of cures for disease. ASPET members conduct basic and clinical pharmacological research in academia, industry, and the government. ASPET publishes four journals with the most recent discoveries in pharmacology and related fields. ASPET supports the dissemination and use of pharmacological research to promote the best available science in developing regulations and legislation. ASPET is headquartered in Rockville, Md. Learn more at [aspet.org](https://www.aspet.org). Visit [aspet.org](https://www.aspet.org) to learn more.