

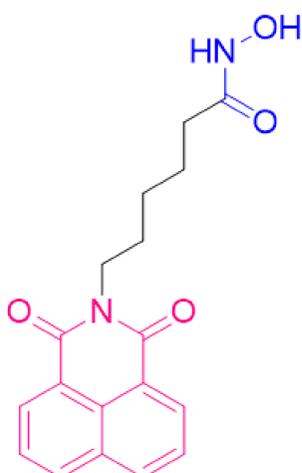
**SYNTHESIS AND BIOLOGICAL EVALUATION OF A HISTONE DEACETYLASE**

**INHIBITOR, ANALOGOUS OF SCRIPTAID**

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**Previous studies**



A series of HDAC inhibitors has been synthesized through the years, but only some of them showed good results with low toxicity. It is the case of Scriptaid.

**Scriptaid** is a potent histone deacetylase inhibitor belonging to the **hydroxamic acid group**, preferentially inhibiting the Class I HDAC (1,2,3).<sup>1,2</sup>

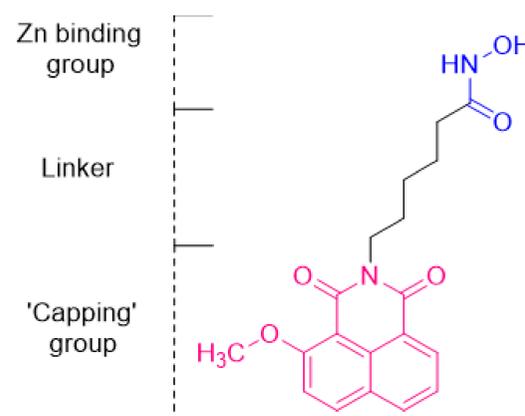
This compound **induces the inhibition of cellular growth in several tumour cells**.<sup>1</sup>

On the other hand, Scriptaid shows a **potent anti-Toxoplasma gondii activity in vitro**.<sup>2</sup>

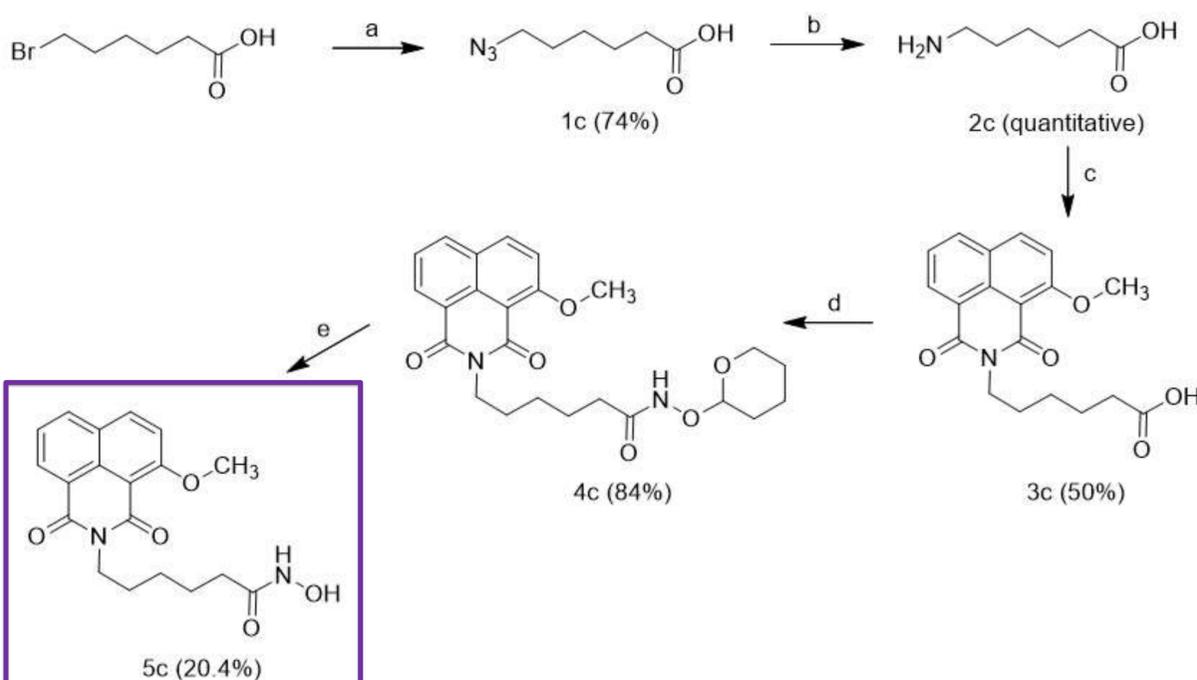
**Objectives**

- ❖ Synthesis of a derivative of scriptaid in a new and effective way, as a possible new antitumoral and antiparasitic agent.
- ❖ The **naphthalimide moiety** of our molecule **5c** is similar to the one of scriptaid but with an **additional methoxy group**. **It acts as the capping group**, and is connected to the **hydroxamic ZBG**, through a **5 carbon atom alkyl chain**.

**Figure 2.** Chemical structure of **5c**

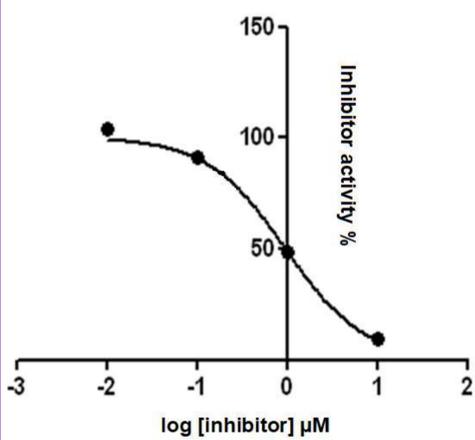


**Synthesis**



**Scheme 1** Reagents: (a)  $\text{NaN}_3$ , DMF, 60°C, 12h; (b) Pd black, methanol, rt, 24h; (c) 2-methoxy-1,8-naphthalic anhydride, ethanol, MW, 100 °C, 48h; (d)  $\text{NH}_2\text{OTHP}$ , HOBT, EDCI, NMM, DMF, rt, 12 h; (e)  $\text{CH}_3\text{COCl}$ , methanol, 0 °C, 5-10 min.

**log-dose vs response**



**Figure 3.** log dose / response graph for **5c**

We demonstrated that :

- The **amidation** reaction is **successfully completed** when :
  - preceded by the **reduction of the azide**,
  - followed by the **protection** reaction.
- Also the transformation into the hydroxamate was **successfully achieved**.

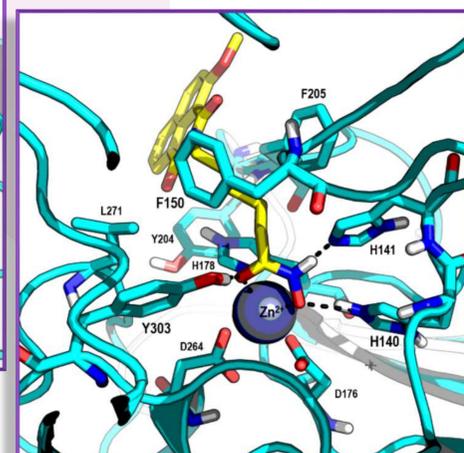
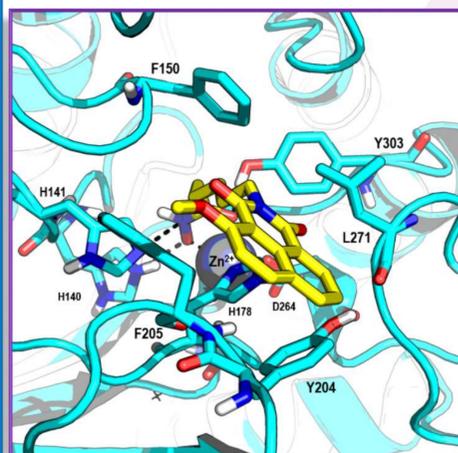
Its inhibitory activity was tested using a **Fluorimetric Activity Assay**.

- The compound is active in the low micromolar range ( $\text{IC}_{50} = 0,97 \mu\text{M}$ ).
- **Potential antitumoral and antiparasitic agent**.

**Results and discussion**

A docking study allowed us to propose a **mode of binding to HDAC 1**.

- The **ZBG** (hydroxamic acid group), establishes a **bidentate chelation to the catalytic  $\text{Zn}^{2+}$** , and three hydrogen bonds with the side chains of amino acids in the active site.
- The **linker** (5 carbon atom alkyl chain) establishes **van der Waals interactions with the side chains of the amino acids that make up the walls of the tunnel**.
- The **cap group** interacts with the amino acids located on the surface of the protein.



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<sup>1</sup> L. Giacinti, C. Giacinti, C. Gabellini, E. Rizzuto, M. Lopez and A. Giordano, *J. Cell. Physiol.* **2012**, 227, 3426-3433.

<sup>2</sup> J.S. Strobl, M. Cassell, S.M. Mitchell, C.M. Reilly and D.S. Lindsay, *J. Parasitol.* **2007**, 93(3), 694-700.