

Abemaciclib

Abemaciclib (previously known as **LY2835219**) is a CDK inhibitor selective for **CDK4** and **CDK6**.^[1] It is an investigational drug for various types of cancer developed by Eli Lilly. It was designated as a breakthrough therapy by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration in October 2015.^[2]

1 Clinical trials

Successful Phase I^[3] and Phase II^[4] trials against breast cancer were announced in May and December 2014 respectively.

As of early 2016 Abemaciclib is involved in 3 Phase III clinical trials:

- The JUNIPER Study is comparing Abemaciclib against Erlotinib in patients with stage IV Non-small-cell lung carcinoma^[5]
- The MONARCH 2 study is investigating the effectiveness of Abemaciclib in combination with Fulvestrant for women with breast cancer.^[6] It is due to end in Feb 2017.^[7]
- The MONARCH 3 study is investigating the effectiveness of Abemaciclib, plus either anastrozole or letrozole, as a first-line treatment for women with breast cancer.^[8] The trial is expected to end in June 2017.^[9]

2 Chemistry

Abemaciclib may be synthesized in a 4 step manner using a Suzuki coupling, followed by a Buchwald–Hartwig amination with the final step being a reductive amination using the Leuckart reaction.^[10]

3 References

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- [10] Frederick, Michael O.; Kjell, Douglas P. (February 2015). "A synthesis of abemaciclib utilizing a Leuckart–Wallach reaction". *Tetrahedron Letters*. **56** (7): 949–951. doi:10.1016/j.tetlet.2014.12.082.

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