Isatin derived spirocyclic analogs with α -methylene- γ butyrolactone as anticancer agents: A structure activity relationship study

Sandeep Rana^{‡, ^}, Elizabeth C. Blowers^{‡, ^}, Calvin Tebbe^{\$}, Jacob I. Contreras[^], Prakash Radhakrishnan[^], Smitha Kizhake[^], Tian Zhou[¶], Rajkumar N. Rajule^{†, ^}, Jamie L. Arnst [^], Adnan R. Munkarah^{\$}, Ramandeep Rattan^{\$} and Amarnath Natarajan^{*, ^, I, #*}

^ΔEppley Institute for Research in Cancer and Allied Diseases, Departments of [¶]Pharmaceutical Sciences and [#]Genetics Cell Biology and Anatomy, University of Nebraska Medical Center, Omaha, Nebraska 68022, United States

[§]Division of Gynecology Oncology, Department of Women's Health and Josephine Ford Cancer Center, Henry Ford Hospital, Detroit, Michigan 48202, United States

*Corresponding Author: E-mail address: anatarajan@unmc.edu

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Abbreviations

SAR Structure Activity Relationship TNFα Tumor Necrosis Factor Alpha NF-KB Nuclear factor kappa B IkB α inhibitor of nuclear factor kB IKKβ IκB kinase βCys Cysteine PARP poly (ADP-ribose) polymerase FBS fetal bovine serum HEK Human embryonic kidney cells DMEM Dulbecco's modified Eagle's medium **RPMI Roswell Park Memorial Institute-1640 medium** HEPES 4-(2-hydroxyethyl)-1-piperazineethanesulfonic acid EDTA Ethylenediaminetetraacetic acid **DTT** Dithiothreitol SDS-PAGE sodium dodecyl sulfate polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis HNTG HEPES, NaCl, Triton X-100, Glycerol PBS Phosphate-buffered saline PVDF polyvinylidene difluoride GAPDH Glyceraldehyde 3-phosphate dehydrogenase TCEP tris(2-carboxyethyl)-phosphine hydrochloride TBTA tris[(1-benzyl-1-H-1,2,3-triazol-4-yl)methyl]-amine TEA Triethanolamine RIPA radioimmunoprecipitation assay DMSO Dimethyl sulfoxide

General Experimental

Cell lines and culture conditions

Human pancreatic cancer cell lines MiaPaCa2, PANC1 and SUIT2, cervical cancer cell line HeLa and breast cancer cell line MDA-MB-231 were cultured in Dulbecco's modified Eagle's medium (DMEM) high glucose supplemented with 10% fetal bovine serum (FBS). Human embryonic kidney cells (HEK cells) were cultured in Dulbecco's modified Eagle's medium (DMEM) low glucose supplemented with 10% fetal FBS. Human ovarian cancer cell line A2780 was cultured in Roswell Park Memorial Institute-1640 medium (RPMI) supplemented with 10% FBS. Human lung cancer cell line luciferase A549 was cultured in DMEM high supplemented with 10% FBS and 100 μ g/mL hygromycin B.

Cell Lysis

Cytoplasmic fractions were generated by harvesting cells on ice in buffer A (10 mmol/L HEPES, 10 mmol/L KCl, 0.1 mmol/L EDTA, and 2 mmol/L DTT) containing protease and phosphatase inhibitors (MDA-MB-231 SAR Figure 3B). The cells were allowed to swell on ice for 30 minutes and 1.25% Nonidet P-40 was added and the samples were centrifuged in the cold. The resulting supernatant was transferred to a new tube and designated as the cytoplasmic fraction. All samples were stored at -80°C until needed.

Whole cell lysates (MiaPaCa2 dose response) were generated by harvesting cells on ice in HNTG lysis buffer (20 mM HEPES, pH 7.5, 25 mM NaCl, 0.1% Triton X-100, 10% glycerol) containing protease and phosphatase inhibitors. The cells were allowed to swell on ice for 30 minutes and the samples were centrifuged in the cold. The resulting supernatant was transferred to a new tube and designated as a whole cell lysate. All samples were stored at -80°C until needed.

For click chemistry cells were harvested via scraping in 1X PBS with protease and phosphatase inhibitors and sonicated for 15 m. Lysates were spun and the soluble fraction (supernatant) was collected and transferred to a new tube. All samples were stored at -80°C until needed.

Western Blotting

Western blot analyses were conducted as described previously with minor modifications. Briefly, cytoplasmic fractions or whole cell lysates were prepared from control and treated cells. The cell lysates (25 mg) were resolved in 4% to 20% denaturing polyacrylamide gel (Bio-Rad) and transferred to polyvinylidene difluoride (PVDF) membranes (Millipore). The blotted membranes were incubated with the following antibodies: rabbit anti-IkBa (Cell Signaling 4812), mouse antiphospho-IkBa (Cell Signaling 9246) or mouse anti-PARP antibody (Cell Signaling 9542). Internal loading control for cytoplasmic fractions and whole cell lysates used mouse anti-tubulin (Cell Signaling 3873) or GAPDH (Santa Cruz Biotechnology, Inc. sc-25778) as noted. These primary antibodies were incubated with horseradish peroxidase–conjugated specific secondary antibodies. The signals were developed by using Amersham ECL Prime Western Blotting Detection Reagent (General Electric Healthcare Life Sciences).

Cell viability assay

Cancer cells were plated at 4,000 cells/well in a 96-well plate and incubated overnight. On the following day, cells were treated with 40, 10, 2.5, 0.625, 0.156, 0.039 or 0 (vehicle control) μ M

of the indicated compounds and incubated at 37°C at 5% CO₂ for 24, 48 and 72 hours. Cells were then treated with Presto Blue (Life Technologies) for 15 minutes and read on a Spectramax $M5^e$ plate reader at $560_{ex}/590_{em}$. Dose–response curves were evaluated using the National Cancer Institute (NCI) algorithm: Tz = number of control cells at time t0, C = number of control cells at time t, and T = number of treated cells at time t; $100 \times [(T - Tz)/(C - Tz)]$.

kB-luciferase assay

A549 luciferase cells (generous gift from Prof. Brasier, University of Texas Medical Branch, Galveston, TX) were seeded in white 96-well plates at a density of 50,000 cells per well and incubated overnight. Cells were then treated with the indicated concentrations of drugs for 2 hours. Cells were then stimulated with 20 ng/mL TNF α (Panomics) for 3 hours. AlamarBlue (abSerotec) was added (which served as a control for seeding and viability) and the cells were incubated for 3 additional hours. ONE-Glo Luciferase reagent (Promega) was added to each well and cells were incubated at room temperature for an additional 10 minutes before luminescence was measured at 1000 ms integration on a SpectraMax M5^{*e*} plate reader.

For the focused library of of α -methylene- γ -butyrolactone analogs and the IKK β inhibitor ML-120B, A549 luciferase cells were grown in the absence of TNF α for 5 passages and then in the absence or presence of 5 ng/mL TNF α for 2 passages. Cells grown in the absence or presence of 5 ng/mL TNF α were plated in a 96-well clear-bottom, white-walled plate at 50,000 cells per well (or 12,500 cells per well for a 384-well plate) and incubated overnight. The following day, cells were treated with compound at a final concentration of 10 μ M or appropriate controls and incubated for 2h. After 2h, TNF α pretreated cells were treated with TNF α at a final concentration of 20 ng/mL and incubated for 7 hours. PrestoBlue cell viability reagent was added and the cells were incubated for 10 minutes and fluorescence (560_{ex}/590_{em}) was measured on the bottom-read setting on SpectramaxM5^e plate reader. Then 110 μ L of ONE-Glo Luciferase reagent was added to each well and cells were incubated at room temperature for an additional 10 minutes and read for luminescence at 1000 ms integration on Spectramax M5^e plate reader.

Click Chemistry

For click chemistry with purified proteins, purified IKK β (Cell Signaling 7584) or p65 (Active Motif 31102) (250 ng in a total volume of 200 µL) was incubated with 10 µM **20** for 1 hour. 5-TAMRA azide (Lumiprobe) (0.1 mM from a 1 mM DMSO stock) and click chemistry reagents (1 mM tris(2-carboxyethyl)-phosphine hydrochloride (TCEP) from 50 mM stock in water, 1 mM CuSO4·5H2O from a freshly prepared 50 mM stock in water, and 0.1 mM tris[(1-benzyl-1-H-1,2,3-triazol-4-yl)methyl]-amine (TBTA) from 10 mM stock in DMSO) at a total volume of 48 µL were added for 1 hour and then the reaction was quenched with ice cold methanol and stored at -20°C for 1 hour to precipitate. The resulting precipitate was spun and the methanol was removed. The pellet was resuspended in 4% SDS buffer (4% SDS, 150 mM NaCl, 50 mM TEA pH 7.4) and 2X sample buffer (20% glycerol, 0.2% bromophenol blue, 1.4% β mercaptoethanol) to 1X. Samples were resolved on 4% to 20% denaturing polyacrylamide gel (Bio-Rad) and visualized using Typhoon 9410 Variable Mode Imager.

PARP Cleavage

Cells were treated as indicated and harvested by collecting media, trypsinizing cells, and centrifuging to obtain a combined cell pellet from all steps. Cells were lysed in

radioimmunoprecipitation assay (RIPA) buffer (150 mM NaCl, 1.0% Triton X-100, 0.5% sodium deoxycholate, 0.1% sodium dodecyl sulfate, 50 mM Tris, pH 8.0) and protein content was resolved on 4% to 20% denaturing polyacrylamide gel (Bio-Rad) by SDS-PAGE and PARP cleavage was determined via Western blotting using anti-PARP antibody following transfer.

Caspase 3/7 assay

Plated 3,000 SKOV3 cells/well in a white, clear bottom sterile 96 well dish in 95 μ L and incubated cells overnight. The next day, cells were treated with 5 μ L compounds to yield final drug concentration as indicated. Cells were incubated with compound for 24 hr. alamarBlue was added to each well and cells were incubated for another 3 hours. Fluorescence (560_{ex}/590_{em}) was measured on the SpectraMax M5^e plate reader. 110 μ L Caspase Glo-3/7 reagent was added to each well and mixed with the plate reader at 300-500 rpm for 30 seconds. The plate was incubated at room temperature for 1 hour. Luminescence was measured at 1000 ms integration on the SpectraMax M5^e plate reader.

Colony formation assay

HeLa cells were plated in 6-well plates at a density of 500-1000 cells per well and cultured for 24 h, followed by drug treatment for 48 h at 37°C. DMSO was used as a control. Then, the supernatant fluid was replaced with fresh medium and the cells were cultured for 7 days. Cells were washed twice with PBS and then fixed with methanol for 15 min, followed by 0.1% crystal violet staining for 30 min at room temperature. Then, crystal violet was carefully removed by immersing the plates in tap water. The plates were then air-dried at room temperature for colony counting, where colonies with more than 50 cells were counted.

Mouse Studies

All animal experiments were performed according to an Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee of Henry Ford Health Systems approved protocol, and institutional guidelines for the proper and humane use of animals in research were followed. Our facility is approved by the Association for Assessment and Accreditation of Laboratory Animal Care. C57B6 mice were purchased from Jackson Laboratories (Bar Harbor, ME).Nude mice were injected with 2 million A2780 ovarian cancer cells. On day 3, mice were divided into 7 groups and treatments were started. Mice were treated with vehicle control, 1, 2.5, or 5 mg/kg **19** (given 5 days/week until day 30), 2 or 4 mg/kg cisplatin (given on days 5, 9, 14, and 21) or 2.5 mg/kg **19** and 2 mg/kg cisplatin in combination. On day 30, the mice were sacrificed and tumors were removed, weighed, and frozen for future immunohistochemistry studies.

Immunohistochemistry

Hematoxylin and eosin staining of ovarian tumor tissues was performed to identify tissue areas containing tumor. Tumor cores were punched, arranged in a tumor microarray, and sliced for staining. Tumor tissues were stained with p65 and Mcl-1 using Leica bond polymer refine detection kit according to manufacturer's instructions (Leica Microsystems Inc.). Briefly, the ovarian tumor tissue sections were incubated with the following primary antibodies rabbit anti-p65 antibody (Santa Cruz Biotechnology, Inc. sc-372), rabbit anti-Mcl-1 antibody (Sant

scale of 0-3 to indicate percentage of positive cells (0 = no detectable expression and $3 = \ge 67\%$ cells express the protein).

Synthetic Procedures

General methods

All reagents were purchased from commercial sources and were used without further purification. Flash chromatography was carried out on silica gel (200–400 mesh). Thin layer chromatography (TLC) were run on pre-coated EMD silica gel 60 F254 plates and observed under UV light at 254 nm and with basic potassium permanganate dip. Column chromatography was performed with silica gel (230-400 mesh, grade 60, Fisher scientific, USA). 1H NMR (500 MHz) and 13C NMR (125 MHz) spectra were recorded in chloroform-d or DMSO-d6 on a Varian-500, Varian-600 and Bruker-500 spectrometer (DMSO-d₆ was 2.50 ppm for ¹H and 39.55 ppm for ¹³C and CDCl3 was 7.27 ppm for ¹H and 77.23 ppm for ¹³C. Proton and carbon chemical shifts were reported in ppm relative to the signal from residual solvent proton and carbon. The purity of all final compounds was \geq 95% as determined by analytical HPLC on a reverse-phase column (Zorbax 300SB C18, 2.1 × 150 mm, 5 µm particle size) using an Agilent 1200 series system with UV detector (214 nm and 254 nm) with the binary system water/acetonitrile containing 0.1% trifluoracetic acid (TFA) as eluent. HRMS was carried out University of Kansas at Lawrence Mass Spectrometry facility.

General Procedure for Barbier-type reaction

In a dry round bottom flask equipped with a reflux condenser was taken indium metal powder (4.06 mmol, 2 eq) and ammonium chloride (4.06 mmol, 2 eq). To it was added a solution of methyl 2-(bromomethyl) acrylate (2.45 mmol, 1.2 eq) in dry methanol (5 mL). The reaction mixture was heated at 50 °C for 15 minutes followed by addition of a solution of isatin/isatin derivatives (2.03 mmol, 1 eq) in 5 mL methanol. Reaction mixture was heated at 50 °C with constant stirring for 30 minutes and reaction completion (disappearance of isatin) was monitored by thin layer chromatography using 50% ethyl acetate in hexane solvent. Following reaction completion, reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature and passed through silica gel to remove ammonium chloride and indium metal. Reaction solvent was evaporated under reduced pressure using rotavapor. Crude reaction mixture was dissolved in 0.1% HCl and extracted using ethyl acetate followed by washing with brine, and dried using magnesium sulfate. Crude mixture was column chromatographed using hexane and ethyl acetate gradient to obtain spirocyclic compound and acyclic compound respectively.

General procedure for the cyclization reaction of acyclic compounds: Taken acyclic compound (0.25 mmol, 1 eq.) in round bottom flask and added 5 mL of dichloromethane via syringe followed by addition of p-toluenesulfonic acid monohydrate salt (0.25 mmol, 1 eq.). Reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 12 h under nitrogen atmosphere. Completion of the reaction was monitored by thin layer chromatography. Crude mixture was washed with brine and extracted using dichloromethane, dried under magnesium sulfate and column chromatographed using hexane and ethyl acetate gradient to obtain desired product as white solid.

NMR spectra

1. 5-hexyl-3-methylenedihydrofuran-2(3H)-one:ⁱ ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 6.22 (s, 1H), 5.61 (s, 1H), 4.51 (p, *J* = 6.5 Hz, 1H), 3.07 – 3.02 (m, 1H), 2.60 – 2.55 (m, 1H), 1.77 – 1.70 (m, 1H), 1.64 – 1.57 (m, 2H), 1.48 – 1.42 (m, 2H), 1.39 – 1.28 (m, 10H), 0.88 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR δ 170.59, 135.02, 122.08, 77.80, 36.51, 33.79, 31.93, 29.47, 29.33, 25.08, 22.82, 14.28.

2. 3-methylene-5-phenyldihydrofuran-2(3H)-one:ⁱ ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 7.38 – 7.29 (m, 5H), 6.27 (t, *J* = 2.5 Hz, 1H), 5.66 (t, *J* = 2.5 Hz, 1H), 5.49 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 3.41 – 3.35 (m, 1H), 2.90 – 2.85 (m, 1H), 1.77 – 1.70 (m, 1H), 1.64 – 1.57 (m, 2H), 1.48 – 1.42 (m, 2H), 1.39 – 1.28 (m, 10H), 0.88 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR δ 170.19, 139.88, 134.29, 128.86, 128.58, 125.54, 125.48, 122.42, 78.02, 36.23.

3. 5-(4-fluorophenyl)-3-methylenedihydrofuran-2(3H)-one:ⁱ ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 7.36 – 7.33 (m, 2H), 7.06 – 7.02 (m, 2H), 6.39 (s, 1H), 5.70 (s, 1H), 4.94 – 4.91 (m, 1H), 2.79 – 2.75 (m, 1H), 2.70 – 2.65 (m, 1H); ¹³C NMR δ 163.40, 161.44, 139.54, 136.23, 131.12, 127.58, 115.55, 115.38, 72.74, 42.31.

4. 5-(4-methoxyphenyl)-3-methylenedihydrofuran-2(3H)-one:ⁱ ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 7.26 – 7.24 (m, 2H), 6.92 – 6.90 (m, 2H), 6.30 (t, *J* = 2.5 Hz, 1H), 5.68 (t, *J* = 2.5 Hz, 1H), 5.47 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 3.81 (s, 3H), 3.38 – 3.32 (m, 1H), 2.94 – 2.88 (m, 1H); ¹³C NMR δ 170.39, 160.06, 134.77, 131.86, 127.27, 122.41, 114.41, 78.25, 55.54, 36.42.

5. 5-(**4**-(**benzyloxy**)**phenyl**)-**3**-**methylenedihydrofuran**-**2**(**3H**)-**one**: ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 7.43 – 7.24 (m, 7H), 6.99 – 6.97 (m, 2H), 6.30 (t, *J* = 2.5 Hz, 1H), 5.68 (t, *J* = 2.5 Hz, 1H), 5.47 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 5.07 (s, 2H), 3.38 – 3.32 (m, 1H), 2.94 – 2.89 (m, 1H); ¹³C NMR δ 170.36, 159.27, 136.92, 134.76, 132.17, 128.85, 128.29, 127.67, 127.31, 122.44, 115.38, 78.21, 70.32, 36.44.

6. 3-methylene-5-(3-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)dihydrofuran-2(3H)-on: δ 7.62 – 7.53 (m, 4H), 6.35 (t, *J* = 2.5 Hz, 1H), 5.74 (t, *J* = 2.5 Hz, 1H), 5.58 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 3.50 – 3.44 (m, 1H), 2.93 – 2.87 (m, 1H); ¹³C NMR δ 169.90, 141.12, 133.66, 129.71, 128.84, 125.64, 123.40, 36.40.

7. 5-(3-methoxyphenyl)-3-methylenedihydrofuran-2(3H)-one:ⁱ ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 7.32 – 7.26 (m, 1H), 6.90 – 6.86 (m, 3H), 6.31 (t, *J* = 2.5 Hz, 1H), 5.69 (t, *J* = 2.5 Hz, 1H), 5.50 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 3.81 (s, 3H), 3.42 – 3.37 (m, 1H), 2.93 – 2.88 (m, 1H); ¹³C NMR δ 170.33, 160.19, 141.67, 134.34, 130.19, 122.70, 117.68, 114.20, 111.08, 77.98, 55.54, 36.49.

8. 5-(3-(benzyloxy)phenyl)-3-methylenedihydrofuran-2(3H)-one: ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 7.42 – 7.24 (m, 6H), 6.94 – 6.88 (m, 3H), 6.28 (t, *J* = 2.5 Hz, 1H), 5.66 (t, *J* = 2.5 Hz, 1H), 5.46 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 5.04 (s, 2H), 3.39 – 3.33 (m, 1H), 2.89 – 2.83 (m, 1H); ¹³C NMR δ 170.24, 159.29, 141.66, 136.80, 134.23, 130.16, 128.75, 128.19, 127.65, 122.64, 117.93, 114.91, 112.08, 77.87, 70.20, 36.33. HRMS (TOF MS EI+) calcd for C18H16O3Na m/z 303.0997, found: 303.0999.

9. 5-(3,4-dimethoxyphenyl)-3-methylenedihydrofuran-2(3H)-one:ⁱⁱ ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 6.87 (s, 2H), 6.84 (s, 1H), 6.31 (t, *J* = 2.5 Hz, 1H), 5.70 (t, *J* = 2.5 Hz, 1H), 5.47 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 3.89 (s, 6H), 3.40 - 3.34 (m, 1H), 2.96 - 2.90 (m, 1H); ¹³C NMR δ 170.37, 149.58, 149.51, 134.69, 132.31, 122.54, 118.26, 111.35, 108.78, 78.34, 56.19, 36.51.

10. 5-(3-(benzyloxy)-4-methoxyphenyl)-3-methylenedihydrofuran-2(3H)-one: ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 7.44 – 7.29 (m, 5H), 6.88 – 6.85 (m, 3H), 6.28 (t, *J* = 3.0 Hz, 1H), 5.65 (t, *J* = 2.5 Hz, 1H), 5.41 (dd, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 6.5 Hz, 1H), 5.13 (dd, *J* = 17 Hz, 12.5 Hz, 2H) 3.88 (s, 3H), 3.34 – 3.28 (m, 1H), 2.85 – 2.79 (m, 1H); ¹³C NMR δ 170.32, 150.25, 148.67, 136.98, 134.59, 132.24, 128.78, 128.17, 127.64, 122.49, 118.94, 111.96, 111.78, 78.18, 71.43, 56.30, 36.38. HRMS (TOF MS EI+) calcd for C19H18O4Na m/z 333.1103, found: 333.1101.

11. 3-methylene-5-(pyridin-2-yl)dihydrofuran-2(3H)-one: ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 8.61 – 8.60 (m, 1H), 7.75 – 7.72 (m, 1H), 7.44 (d, *J* = 3 Hz, 1H), 7.28 – 7.25 (m, 1H), 6.31 (t, *J* = 2.5 Hz, 1H), 5.71 (t, *J* = 2.5 Hz, 1H), 5.61 (dd, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 5.5 Hz, 1H), 3.49 – 3.43 (m, 1H), 3.21 – 3.15 (m, 1H); ¹³C NMR δ 170.30, 158.93, 149.81, 137.27, 133.86, 123.46, 123.01, 120.45, 34.20.

12. 5-(**6**-bromopyridin-2-yl)-3-methylenedihydrofuran-2(3H)-one 31-063: ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) d 7.60 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.44 (d, J = 17.0 Hz, 1H), 7.42 (d, J = 17.0 Hz, 1H), 6.31 (d, J = 2.5 Hz, 1H), 5.72 (s, 1H), 5.59 – 5.56 (m, 1H), 3.50 – 3.45 (m, 1H), 3.16 – 3.11 (m, 1H); ¹³C NMR d 169.99, 160.52, 142.17, 139.59, 133.26, 127.93, 123.54, 119.06, 76.97, 34.25.

13. 5,5'-(1,4-phenylene)bis(3-methylenedihydrofuran-2(3H)-one): ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 7.35 (s, 4H), 6.31 (s, 2H), 5.71 (s, 2H), 5.53 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 3.35 – 3.40 (m, 2H), 2.91 – 2.86 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR δ 170.14, 140.47, 134.07, 126.10, 122.91, 77.63, 36.34.

14. 3-methylene-5-(naphthalen-1-yl)dihydrofuran-2(3H)-one:^{iii 1}H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 7.91 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.83 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.79 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.57 – 7.45 (m, 4H), 6.35 – 6.34 (m, 1H), 6.28 – 6.25 (m, 1H), 5.67 – 5.66 (m, 1H), 3.66 – 3.60 (m, 1H), 2.99 – 2.94 (m, 1H); ¹³C NMR δ 170.55, 135.89, 134.09, 134.05, 129.61, 129.48, 129.06, 126.89, 126.25, 125.70, 123.34, 122.62, 122.03, 75.72, 36.17.

15. 3-methylene-5-(quinolin-4-yl)dihydrofuran-2(3H)-one: ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 9.06 – 9.04 (m, 2H), 8.15 – 7.98 (m, 3H), 6.47 – 6.46 (m, 1H), 6.41 – 6.38 (m, 1H), 5.83 – 5.82 (m, 1H), 3.90 – 3.85 (m, 1H), 2.98 – 2.93 (m, 1H); ¹³C NMR δ 168.41, 156.93, 143.15, 138.45, 134.93, 131.27, 131.08, 125.81, 125.18, 123.99, 123.15, 116.70, 73.33, 35.61. HRMS (TOF MS EI+) calcd for C14H12NO2 m/z 226.0868, found: 226.0850.

16. 5-(**2**-methoxynaphthalen-1-yl)-3-methylenedihydrofuran-2(3H)-one: ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 7.94 – 7.81 (m, 3H), 7.50 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.37 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.29 (d, *J* = 9.5 Hz, 1H), 6.51 – 6.48 (m, 1H), 6.36 (t, *J* = 2.5 Hz, 1H), 5.68 (t, *J* = 2.5 Hz, 1H), 3.90 (s, 3H), 3.40 – 3.34 (m, 1H), 3.26 – 3.20 (m, 1H); ¹³C NMR δ 171.26, 156.36, 136.32, 132.10, 131.43, 129.32, 127.53, 123.88, 121.98, 120.87, 119.42, 113.79, 72.58, 56.57, 33.82. HRMS (TOF MS EI+) calcd for C16H14O3Na m/z 277.0841, found: 277.0829.

17. 5-(2-(benzyloxy)naphthalen-1-yl)-3-methylenedihydrofuran-2(3H)-one: ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 8.19 (d, J = 9.0 Hz, 1H), 7.78 (d, J = 9.5 Hz, 1H), 7.51 – 7.33 (m, 8H), 6.32 (s, 1H), 5.84 – 5.81 (m, 1H), 5.60 (s, 1H), 5.30 – 5.25 (m, 1H), 3.05 – 3.00 (m, 1H), 2.90 – 2.86 (m, 1H); ¹³C NMR δ 172.27, 154.03, 137.05, 136.47, 131.86, 130.21, 129.78, 129.68, 129.10, 128.78, 128.70, 127.97, 127.19, 124.40, 123.27, 114.45, 71.75, 68.98, 40.05. HRMS (TOF MS EI+) calcd for C22H18O3Na m/z 353.1154, found: 353.1143.

18. 3-methylene-5-(naphthalen-2-yl)dihydrofuran-2(3H)-one:^{ii 1}H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 7.88 – 7.79 (m, 4H), 7.52 – 7.50 (m, 2H), 7.38 (dd, J = 2.0 Hz, 9.0 Hz 1H), 6.34 (t, J = 3.0 Hz, 1H),

5.71 – 5.67 (m, 2H), 3.49 – 3.43 (m, 1H), 3.01 – 2.95 (m, 1H); ¹³C NMR δ 170.22, 137.29, 134.34, 133.41, 133.25, 129.19, 128.28, 127.95, 126.85, 126.73, 124.75, 122.97, 122.80, 76.97, 36.45.

19. 4-methylene-3,4-dihydro-5H-spiro[furan-2,3'-indoline]-2',5-dione:^{iv}

20. 1'-(but-3-yn-1-yl)-4-methylene-3,4-dihydro-5H-spiro[furan-2,3'-indoline]-2',5-dione: ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 7.40 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.33 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.13 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.97 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.42 (t, *J* = 2.5 Hz, 1H), 5.80 (t, *J* = 2.5 Hz, 1H), 3.94 – 3.83 (m, 2H), 3.34 – 3.29 (m, 1H), 3.14 – 3.09 (m, 1H), 2.62 – 2.59 (m, 2H), 2.00 – 1.99 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR δ 173.74, 169.12, 143.11, 132.90, 131.42, 126.95, 124.63, 123.94, 123.44, 109.48, 80.22, 79.39, 71.03, 39.20, 36.69, 17.68. HRMS (TOF MS EI+) calcd for C16H13NO3Na m/z 290.0793, found: 290.0775.

21. 4-methylene-3,4-dihydro-5H-spiro[furan-2,3'-indoline]-2',5-dione:^{iv}

22. Methyl 2-((3-hydroxy-2-oxoindolin-3-yl)methyl)acrylate:^{iv}

23. 1'-methyl-4-methylene-3,4-dihydro-5H-spiro[furan-2,3'-indoline]-2',5-dione:^{iv}

24. 1'-benzyl-4-methylene-3,4-dihydro-5H-spiro[furan-2,3'-indoline]-2',5-dione:^v

25. 4-methylene-3-phenyl-3,4-dihydro-5H-spiro[furan-2,3'-indoline]-2',5-dione: ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 8.37 (s, 1H), 7.22 – 7.20 (m, 3H), 7.18 – 7.13 (m, 1H), 7.03 – 7.00 (m, 2H), 6.80 – 6.78 (m, 2H), 6.68 (d, *J* = 3.0 Hz, 1H), 6.61 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 5.81 (d, *J* = 3.0 Hz, 1H), 4.68 (t, *J* = 3.0 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR δ 175.86, 169.49, 140.84, 136.55, 135.42, 131.05, 129.21, 128.82, 128.45, 126.43, 125.63, 124.21, 122.97, 110.79, 84.65, 53.16. HRMS (TOF MS EI+) calcd for C18H13NO3Na m/z 314.0793, found: 314.0789.

26. 5'-iodo-4-methylene-3,4-dihydro-5H-spiro[furan-2,3'-indoline]-2',5-dione:^v

27. 5'-methoxy-4-methylene-3,4-dihydro-5H-spiro[furan-2,3'-indoline]-2',5-dione: ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 8.28 (s, 1H), 6.89 – 6.85 (m, 3H), 6.42 (t, J = 2.5 Hz, 1H), 5.82 (t, J = 2.5 Hz, 1H), 3.78 (s, 3H), 3.36 – 3.32 (m, 1H), 3.13 – 3.09 (m, 1H); ¹³C NMR δ 175.81, 169.20, 156.86, 134.20, 132.75, 128.26, 123.57, 116.41, 111.77, 111.33, 80.20, 56.12, 36.68. HRMS (TOF MS EI+) calcd for C13H11NO4Na m/z 268.0586, found: 268.0570.

28. 5'-bromo-4-methylene-7'-nitro-3,4-dihydro-5H-spiro[furan-2,3'-indoline]-2',5-dione: ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 9.09 (s, 1H), 8.33 (d, J = 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.71 (s, 1H), 6.48 (d, J = 2.5 Hz, 1H), 5.90 (d, J = 2.5 Hz, 1H), 3.41 – 3.37 (m, 1H), 3.15 – 3.11 (m, 1H); ¹³C NMR δ 173.25, 167.88, 137.27, 133.91, 132.25, 130.98, 128.84, 125.21, 115.74, 36.43.

29. 4',7'-dimethyl-4-methylene-3,4-dihydro-5H-spiro[furan-2,3'-indoline]-2',5-dione:^{iv}

ppm

































S20





















































Supplementary Table S1

0		
IKKβ inhibitor	Cancer Cell line	IC50 (µM)
19	MDA-MB-231 (Breast)	5.6 ± 0.9
19	PANC1 (Pancreas)	3.0 ± 0.6
19	MiaPaCa2 (Pancreas)	5.7 ± 3.2
19	A2780 (Ovarian)	2.6 ± 0.3
13-197	MDA-MB-231 (Breast)	2.1 ± 0.2
13-197	MiaPaCa-2 (Pancreas)	4.9 ± 0.7
Bayer VIII	MDA-MB-231 (Breast)	8.4 ± 1.2
Bayer VIII	MiaPaCa-2 (Pancreas)	7.3 ± 0.7
TPCA1	MDA-MB-231 (Breast)	6.6 ± 1.9
TPCA1	MiaPaCa-2 (Pancreas)	1.8 ± 0.7

Inhibition of cancer cell growth by **19** and known IKKβ inhibitors

Supplementary Figure S1



Covalent binding of **19** and parthenolide to serum albumin measured by HPLC

Supplementary Figure S2



MiaPaCa2 (left) and SKOV3 cells were treated with the indicated concentrations of **21** and **19** and Etoposide for 24 h and lysed. Lysates were subjected to Western blot analysis for PARP cleavage and tubulin was used as a loading control. In 24 h, **19** induced PARP cleavage while **21** and Etoposide do not. This was the same Etoposide used in the main text, which produces PARP cleavage in HeLa (48 h) and A2780 cells (96 h), indicating the compound is indeed active at later time points.





The data was analyzed and combination index (CI) values for the various combinations were derived from median effect plot and dose effect curves (Figure S2) using calcusyn.



Supplementary Figure S4

Mcl-1 staining of A2780 tumors from mice treated with vehicle control, **19**, cisplatin, or the combination with quantification.





Inhibition of A2780 cancer cell growth by substituted α -methylene- γ -butyrolactone – oxindoles.



Inhibition of A2780 cancer cell growth by Ibrutinib, Reduced-Ibrurtinib, Parthenolide, and Reduced-parthenolide.

Supplementary Figure S6





Inhibition of HeLa, MiaPaCa-2 and SW480 cancer cell growth.

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