

## 1 SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

### 2 **Materials and Methods:**

#### 3 **Chemicals and reagents**

4 Unless otherwise specified, chemical reagents were obtained from Merck or Thermo Fisher Scientific  
5 and were of molecular/mass spectroscopic research grade. All antibodies were purchased from Cell  
6 Signaling. HRP-conjugated anti-rabbit IgG was purchased from Sigma.

7

#### 8 **High-resolution tandem mass spectrometry**

9 High-resolution tandem mass spectrometry was performed on GsONC201 and ONC201  
10 (Oncoceutics) using direct infusion into an accurate mass Thermo Scientific Q Exactive Plus mass  
11 spectrometer (Thermo Fisher Scientific). Samples were resuspended in 1 mL of dimethyl sulfoxide  
12 (DMSO), diluted 1 in 100 in 50:50 methanol: acetonitrile / 0.1% formic acid and analyzed using a  
13 resolution of 140,000 at 200 m/z for both MS1 and MS2. Data analysis was performed using Mass  
14 Frontier 7.0 (Thermo Fisher Scientific).

15

#### 16 **Nuclear magnetic resonance spectroscopy**

17 NMR spectroscopy was performed using either a Bruker Avance 300 (300.13 MHz,  $^1\text{H}$ ; 75.5  
18 MHz,  $^{13}\text{C}$ ) or an Avance III 400 (400.13 MHz,  $^1\text{H}$ ; 100.6 MHz,  $^{13}\text{C}$ ) with or without a Prodigy cryoprobe  
19 CPPBBO. NMR spectra were processed using TopSpin 3.5 software (Bruker). Chemical shifts are  
20 expressed in parts per million (ppm) on the  $\delta$  scale. Chemical shifts in  $\text{CDCl}_3$  were referenced relative  
21 to  $\text{CHCl}_3$  (7.26 ppm) for  $^1\text{H}$  NMR and  $\text{CDCl}_3$  (77.16 ppm) for  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR and chemical shifts in  $(\text{CH}_3)_2\text{SO}$   
22 were referenced relative to  $(\text{CH}_3)_2\text{SO}$  (2.50 ppm) for  $^1\text{H}$  NMR and  $(\text{CD}_3)_2\text{SO}$  (39.52 ppm) for  $^{13}\text{C}$   
23 NMR.

24

#### 25 **Cell culture**

26 The use of DIPG neurosphere cell cultures in this study was approved by the Human Ethics  
27 Research Committee, University of Newcastle (H-2018-0241). Patient derived DIPG neurosphere  
28 cell lines, SU-DIPG-IV, SU-DIPG-VI, SU-DIPG-XIII, SU-DIPG-XVII, SU-DIPG-XXI, SU-DIPG-XXXVI,  
29 were generously donated by Prof. Michelle Monje (Stanford University). DIPG neurosphere cell  
30 cultures were maintained in serum-free Tumor Stem Medium (TSM), consisting of 50:50 Neurobasal-  
31 A medium and DMEM/F12 with 1% v/v HEPES, 1% v/v Sodium Pyruvate, 1% v/v Non-essential  
32 Amino Acids Solution, 1% v/v GlutaMAX-I Supplement and 1% v/v Antibiotic/Antimycotic. At time of  
33 use, TSM was supplemented with B27™, Hu-EGF, Hu-FGF, Hu-PDGF-AA, Hu-PDGF-BB, and  
34 Heparin and cells passaged using Accutase cell dissociation medium every 1-2 weeks, or when  
35 confluent.

36

### 37 **Growth and proliferation assays**

38 Cellular growth and proliferation of DIPG cell lines was determined using a resazurin cell proliferation  
39 assay.<sup>1</sup> DIPG cells were seeded at  $2.5 \times 10^4$  cells/well in a 96-well plate and incubated overnight at  
40 37°C. Following neurosphere formation, cells were incubated with a serial dilution of ONC201  
41 (Oncoceutics) or GsONC201, in a total volume of 200  $\mu$ L. Plates were then incubated for 96 hours.  
42 Five hours prior to the endpoint, 20  $\mu$ L of resazurin was added to each well and incubated for the  
43 remaining 5 hours at 37°C, 5% CO<sub>2</sub>. Plates were read using a Fluostar system (BMG LABTECH) at  
44 575/585 nm and values graphed as percentage cell proliferation compared to the untreated control.

45

### 46 **Apoptosis flow-cytometric assays**

47 To assay apoptosis, DIPG cells were seeded at  $2.5 \times 10^4$  cells/well in a 96-well plate and incubated  
48 overnight at 37°C. Following neurosphere formation, cells were then incubated with 5 $\mu$ M ONC201  
49 (Oncoceutics) or GsONC201, in a total volume of 200  $\mu$ L for 96h hours. Following treatment, cells  
50 were collected, washed three times in cold PBS, and resuspended in 100  $\mu$ L of Annexin-binding  
51 buffer. Cells were stained with 1  $\mu$ l of Annexin V-FITC antibody and 5  $\mu$ l of Popidium Iodide (BD

52 Bioscience) for 15 min in the dark and subsequently were diluted to a total volume of 500uL in  
53 Annexin-binding buffer. Fluorescence-activated cell sorting (FACS) analysis was performed on a  
54 Facs Canto 2 (BD Bioscience), to a total of 10,000 events for each sample.

55

## 56 **Immunoblotting**

57 Western immunoblotting was performed as previously described.<sup>2</sup>

58

## 59 **Binding of free base and protonated ONC201 into putative targets**

60 The free base and HCl salt derivative structures of ONC201 were docked into putative targets, CLPP  
61 and DRD2 using GOLD Protein Ligand Docking Software (version 2020.2.0).<sup>3,4</sup> The hydrophobic  
62 binding pocket for CLPP was defined by the co-crystal structure PDB: 6DL7,<sup>5</sup> whereas the binding  
63 pocket for DRD2 was defined by the co-crystal structure of the DRD2 agonist Risperidone PDB:  
64 6CM4.<sup>6</sup> Both ligands were allowed to search their respective conformational spaces during docking  
65 simulations. The 10 closest interacting sidechains in each binding pocket were allow to move, to  
66 accommodate each docking pose while the remainder of the protein was kept rigid. The top 4 poses  
67 for each ligand were recorded and the average fitness scores (ChemPLP, Goldscore) obtained.

68

## 69 **Calculation of pKa values**

70 The pKa values of ONC201 (Oncoceutics) or GsONC201 were calculated using the pKa calculator  
71 plug-in by ChemAxon as implemented in the MarvinSketch interface, Marvin 17.2.20 (ChemAxon).

72

## 73 **Tissue pharmacokinetics and multiple reaction monitoring**

74 The use of animals in this project was approved by the University of Newcastle, Animal Care and  
75 Ethics Committee (A-2019-900). ONC201 (Oncoceutics) and GsONC201 were diluted in 1%  
76 methylcellulose/0.2% Tween 80. Omeprazole was diluted in phosphate buffer saline (PBS). All drugs  
77 and vehicles were administered via gavage to 8-week-old BALB/c Nude mice. Mice were treated

78 with omeprazole (1.5 mg/kg/daily) for 7 days prior to administration of either ONC201 (Oncoceutics)  
79 or GsONC201. After one hour, mice were sacrificed by CO<sub>2</sub> euthanasia. Immediately following  
80 euthanasia, blood was extracted via cardiac puncture, and stomachs and brains collected. Blood  
81 plasma was separated via standard centrifugation techniques and frozen at -80°C. Brainstem,  
82 thalamus and prefrontal brain regions were dissected prior to snap freezing in liquid nitrogen.  
83 Stomach contents were pooled and pH measured using an Orion Star A221 precision pH probe  
84 (Thermo Fisher Scientific). Brain tissues were homogenized using Lysing Matrix beads in a  
85 FastPrep-24™ 5G system (MP Biomedicals) at the factory recommended settings. ONC201  
86 (Oncoceutics) and GsONC201 were extracted from plasma and homogenized brain tissues using a  
87 protein precipitating mixture composed of 90% v/v acetonitrile, 10% v/v ethanol and 0.1% v/v glacial  
88 acetic acid. The supernatant was separated and collected following centrifugation. The supernatants  
89 were then analyzed using a Nexera X2 UHPLC system (Shimadzu) coupled to a QTRAP 6500  
90 System (SCIEX) via multiple reaction monitoring (MRM) using 268.1 and 164.1 transitions of the 387  
91 m/z precursor mass. Quantitative analysis was conducted using MultiQuant Software (SCIEX)  
92 against a calibration curve for ONC201 (Oncoceutics) over the concentration range of 0.061 – 1000.0  
93 pg/μL.

94

#### 95 **Tissue pharmacodynamics**

96 A single cell suspension of SU-DIPG-VI-Luc neurospheres was injected into the fourth ventricle/pons  
97 of BalbC/Nude mice under isoflurane anesthesia. Stereotactic coordinates were 0.8mm to the right of  
98 midline, 0.5mm posterior to lambda and 5mm deep using 400,000 cells in 2uL. Following signs of  
99 successful disease mice were treated with 125mg/kg ONC201 or GsONC201 by gavage in 1%  
100 methylcellulose and 0.2% tween 80 for 48-hours before being sacrificed by CO<sub>2</sub> euthanasia.  
101 Immediately following euthanasia mice were transcardial perfused with saline, brain removed,  
102 brainstem and prefrontal cortex dissected and snap frozen in liquid nitrogen. Tissue was  
103 homogenized on ice using a Dounce homogenizer in RIPA protein extraction buffer containing

104 protease and phosphatase inhibitors. Homogenized samples were sonicated 5x for 20seconds at  
105 4°C, before being clarified through centrifugation at 25,000g for 30minutes at 4°C. Samples were  
106 then subjected to standard immunoblotting techniques as previously described.

107

### 108 **Orthotopic xenograft mouse models**

109 A single cell suspension of SU-DIPG-XIII-Pons\* neurospheres was injected into the fourth  
110 ventricle/pons of BalbC/Nude mice under isoflurane anesthesia. Stereotactic coordinates were 0.8m  
111 to the right of midline, 0.5mm posterior to lambda and 5mm deep using 400,000 cells in 2uL. SU-  
112 DIPG-XIII Pons\* xenografted mice were allowed to recover for one week post engraftment before  
113 being treated with 125mg/kg ONC201 or GsONC201 by gavage in 1% methylcellulose and 0.2%  
114 tween 80, every 5 days for 4 weeks. 24 hours after the last treatment, mice were euthanased via  
115 transcardial perfusion with saline, brain removed. Brains were fixed in 10% formalin neutral buffered  
116 solution and embedded in paraffin. 5 µm sections were sectioned and mounted on glass slides.  
117 Following dehydration, sections were stained with hematoxylin/eosin and Ki67 for histologic  
118 examination. Remaining mice were used for survival analysis and analyzed via the Kaplan Meier  
119 survival analysis GraphPad Prism Version 9.1.0. was used for in vivo statistical analyses using the  
120 Mantel-Cox test. In all cases values of  $p < 0.05$  were regarded as being statistically significant.

121

### 122 **Patient Survival analysis**

123 Kaplan-Meier survival estimates were used for patients receiving GsONC201 (n=28) compared to  
124 data published for patients diagnosed with DIPG n=32 (pontine) by Chen *et al.*<sup>7</sup> Log-rank tests were  
125 employed to contrast the different subgroups of the variables. Univariate and multivariate Cox  
126 proportional hazard regression models were performed to find significant predictors ( $p$  values < 0.05)  
127 and analyzed using GraphPad Prism Version 9.1.0.

128

### 129 **Supplementary Table:**

130 **Supplementary Table S1. Clinical information for patients who received German sourced**  
131 **ONC201 (GsONC201) 2017-2021.**

132

133 **Supplementary results captions:**

134 **Supplementary Figure S1. ONC201 (Oncoceutics) and German sourced ONC201 (GsONC201)**  
135 **are indistinguishable by high resolution accurate mass, mass spectrometry.** Both (A) ONC201  
136 (Oncoceutics) and (B) GsONC201 exhibited identical precursor ion mass  $387.21798^+$  m/z. Similarly,  
137 fragment ions originating from both chemicals were detected at  $105.070^+$ ,  $164.082^+$ , and  $268.144^+$   
138 m/z matched across three separate samples.

139

140 **Supplementary Figure S2. Nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) spectroscopy of authentic**  
141 **sample of ONC201 (Oncoceutics) showed that it is formulated as the dihydrochloride salt and**  
142 **converting the purified active component of German sourced ONC201 (GsONC201) to the**  
143 **dihydrochloride salt gives a matching spectrum. (A)**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of ONC201  
144 (Oncoceutics) in DMSO-d<sub>6</sub> as the dihydrochloride salt. (B)  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of purified GsONC201  
145 in DMSO-d<sub>6</sub> after being converted to the dihydrochloride salt by stirring with an excess of a  
146 methanolic HCl solution.

147

148 **Supplementary Figure S3. Nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) spectroscopy of German**  
149 **sourced ONC201 (GsONC201) shows that it is formulated as the free base and that converting**  
150 **ONC201 (Oncoceutics) to the free base gives a matching spectrum, with both spectra**  
151 **matching the literature values reported for this compound.<sup>8,9</sup> (A)**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of soluble  
152 component of GsONC201 capsule in  $\text{CDCl}_3$  formulated as the free base. (B)  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of  
153 ONC201 (Oncoceutics) in  $\text{CDCl}_3$  after being converted to the free base by washing the sample with  
154 an aqueous solution of  $\text{NaHCO}_3$ .

155

156 **Supplementary Figure S4. Biochemical analysis of cellular effects of ONC201 (Oncoceutics)**  
157 **and German sourced ONC201 (GsONC201).** (A) Immunoblots of signaling pathway  
158 phosphorylation and protein expression using ONC201 -sensitive (SU-DIPG-XXI) and -resistant  
159 (SU-DIPG-VI and SU-DIPG-XIII) treated with 5  $\mu$ M ONC201 or GsONC201 following 72-hours  
160 treatment (representative immunoblots presented, n = minimum of 3). (B) Both ONC201  
161 (Oncoceutics) and GsONC201 drive programmed cell death pathways in sensitive DIPG cell lines.

162

163 **Supplementary References:**

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Patient ID	Diagnosis Date	Age at Diagnosis (years months)	Sex	Mutation status (if known)	Time from diagnosis to deONC201 (months)	Started deONC201 @ recurrent disease (Y/N)	Dose* (mg/kg weekly or total weekly dose)	Duration of therapy** (months)	Concurrent anti-cancer therapies***	Concurrent non anti-cancer therapies***	Patient Succumbed (Y/N)	Event Free Survival (months)	Recurrent Survival (months)	Re-irradiation? (Y/N) or NA	Current Survival** (months)	Overall Survival (months)
CSRG1	17/02/2018	2y 9m	F	H3.1K27M PIK3CA, BCOR, ACVR1, PTEN-loss, VEGF OE	13	Y	15	9	bevacizumab (14 months), sirolimus (3 months), paxalisib (12 months), vandatenib (3 months), panobinostat (6 doses)	CBD	Y	NA	9	Y	NA	22
CSRG2	26/09/2018	3y 2m	F	H3.3K27M	8	N	15	18	paxalisib (1 month)	CBD	Y	24	NA	N	NA	26
CSRG3	8/05/2019	12y 0m	F	H3.3K27M PI3KR1, ATRX loss, PPM1D mutation, low BRCA1 expression	3	N	624mg total	19	everolimus	pantoprazole#	Y	14	8	Y	NA	22
CSRG4	unreported	6y 5m	M	H3.3K27M	4	N	20	8	ribociclib, everolimus	pantoprazole#, loratadine, metformin, melatonin, valproate	Y	9	4	Y	NA	13
CSRG5	28/05/2018	13y	M	H3.1K27M	3	N	635mg total	15	immunotherapy, sirolimus	unreported	Y	11	7	Y	NA	18
CSRG6	Nov-19	6y 1m	F	H3.1K27M	4	Y	312mg total	10	paxalisib, MTX110 via CED, sirolimus	lansoprazole#, TBL12	Y	NA	3	Y	NA	14
CSRG7	15/06/2018	14y 3m	M	H3.3K27M PTEN-loss	6	Y	11	16	paxalisib	omeprazole#, CBD	Y	6	16	Y	NA	22
CSRG8	approx 07/09/2020	7y	M	H3.3K27M	4	N	468mg total	2**	bevacizumab	dexamethasone, omeprazole#	N	NR	NR	NA	6	NR
CSRG9	unreported	3y	F	H3.3K27M	15	Y	312mg total	7	bevacizumab	CBD	Y	NA	7	unreported	NA	22
CSRG10	approx 11/08/2020	8y	M	H3.1K27M	3	N	312mg total	4**	bevacizumab	CBD, levetiracetam, dexamethasone, famotidine#	N	NR	NR	NA	7	NR
CSRG11	approx 30/01/2020	5y	F	H3.1K27M	12	N	312mg total	2**	unreported	unreported	N	NR	NR	NA	14	NR
CSRG12	5/05/2020	6y 4m	F	H3.3K27M	2	N	13	3	NIL	CBD, lansoprazole#	Y	NA	NA	N	NA	4
CSRG13	approx 01/07/2020	7y 2m	F	H3.1K27M, ACVR1, PIK3CA, FGFR3, MSH6	2	N	312mg total	6**	unreported	CBD	N	NA	NR	NA	8	NR
CSRG14	19/03/2017	5y7m	F	H3.3K27M, ATM, NOTCH2, loss of 16q	12	N	30	36**	immunotherapy, sirolimus	THC+CBD, TBL12, propranolol, fenofibrate,	Y	34	14	Y	NA	48
CSRG15	16/10/2019	7y 4m	M	H3.3K27M, TP53	0.5	N	22	6	bevacizumab	10THC:10 CBD, boswellia serrata extract with 20% AKBA, curcumin, TBL-12, melatonin, liposomal vitamin C, vitamin D3, vitamin K2, vitamin A, selen 12, omega 3, co-Q10, probiotic, magnesium	Y	5	unreported	N	NA	7
CSRG16	8/08/2020	15y 1m	M	H3.3K27M, TP53, PIK3R1, ATRX	<1	N	510mg total	6**	bevacizumab	steroids, levetiracetam	N	NR	NR	NA	7	NR
CSRG17	9/04/2018	3y 1m	M	H3.1K27M	13	Y	19.5	4	nivolumab, dendritic cell vaccine	dronabinol (THC), CBD, valproate, metformin, dexamethasone, Optune therapy	Y	11	4	Y	NA	17
CSRG18	17/10/2018	4y 1m	F	H3K27M, H3C2, PIK3CA, ACVR1	14	Y	24.7	7	temozolomide, everolimus (only 5 days)	frankincense, dexamethasone, trimethoprim / sulfamethoxazole, amphotericin B, ondansetron	Y	11	8.5	Y	NA	22
CSRG19	11/09/2019	6y 11m	F	H3K27M	2	N	312mg total	6	regorafenib	unreported	Y	7	4	Y	NA	11
CSRG20	9/09/2016	3y 11m	M	H3.3K27M	1	N	468mg total	4	temozolomide	dexamethasone, valproate	N	4	NA	Y	7	NR
CSRG21	14/04/2020	12y 3m	M	H3K27M	11 weeks	N	340mg total	9	temozolomide	Sativex (nabiximols)	Y	10	2	N	NA	12
CSRG22	4/12/2017	7y 5m	F	H3K27M	16	Y	156mg total	3	ponatinib, temozolomide	CBD, THC, francincence, vitamin D, Q10, selenium	Y	6	13	Y	NA	23
CSRG23	7/05/2018	8y 10m	M	H3.3K27M, LMNB1, TP53, ZMIZ,	7	Y	90	3	ipilimumab, nivolumab	CBD, THC, francincence,	Y	0	10	N	NA	10
CSRG24	23/01/2020	5y 6m	F	H3K27M	3	N	312mg total	10	bevacizumab	CBD, THC, vitamin D, vitamin K, vitamin C, omega 3 oil, LaVita Supplement	Y	7	5	N	NA	15
CSRG25	21/03/2019	8y 4m	F	H3K27M	8	Y	13	3		CBD, THC	Y	6.5	3	N	NA	12
CSRG26	11/02/2020	4y 9m	F	H3K27M	4	N	156mg total	10	temozolomide	Sativex (nabixamols), vitamin D, phosphorus, valproate, trimethoprim/sulfamethoxazole	N	14	NA	N	15	NR
CSRG27	30/01/2020	6y 6m	F	H3.3K27M	3	N	15	12	temozolomide	trimethoprim/sulfamethoxazole, vitamin D3, valproate, CBD, nordic oil, boswellia serrata, pregabalin, omeprazole#, dexamethasone, Laxbene Junior laxative, ondansetron, bisacodyl, simethicone/dimethicone, fentanyl	N	5	NA	Y	15	NR
CSRG28	29/01/2020	4y 7m	M	H3K27M	3	N	15	3	temozolomide	boswellia, ibuprofen	Y	4	1	N	NA	7

\* regimen for some patients included twice weekly dosing - reported values are averaged to weekly mg/kg amounts where patient bodyweight reported

\*\* for living patient at March 2021

\*\*\* concurrent at any point throughout deONC201 therapy

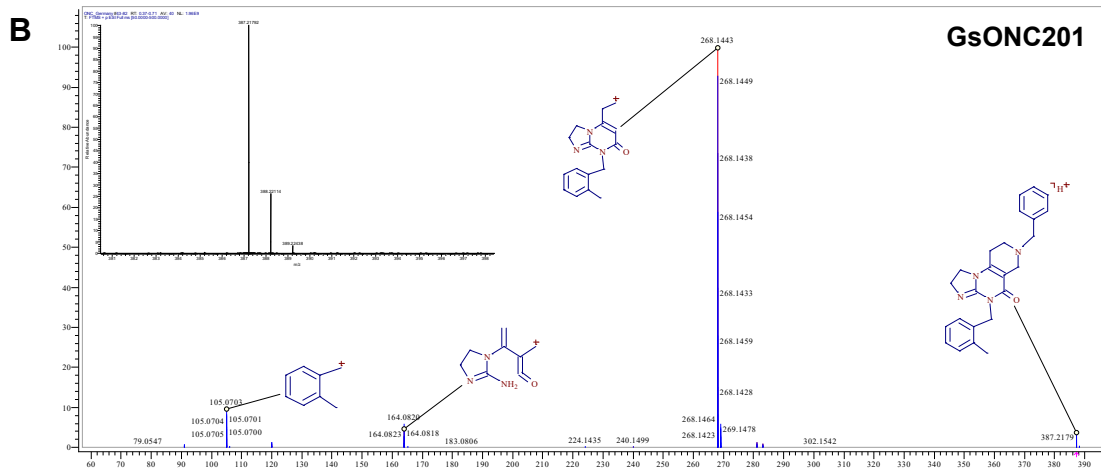
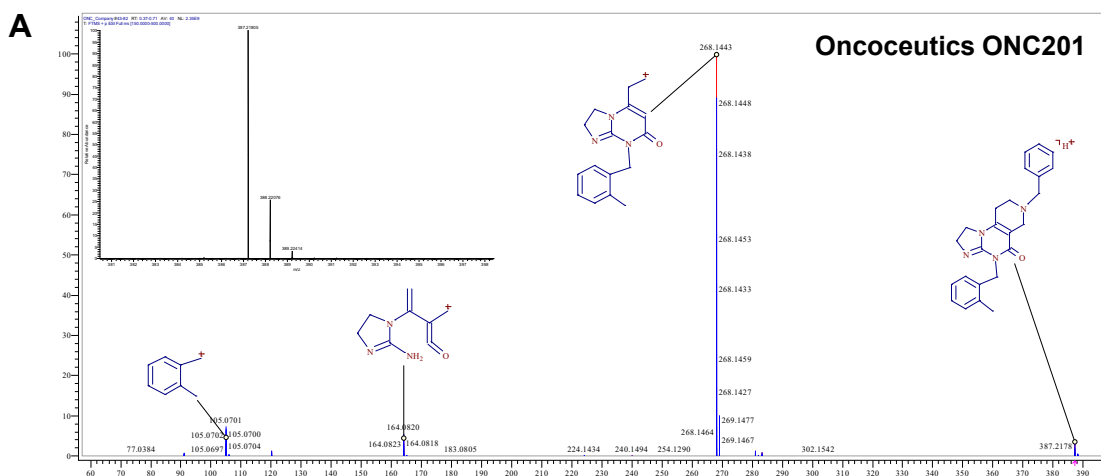
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"NR" Not Reached

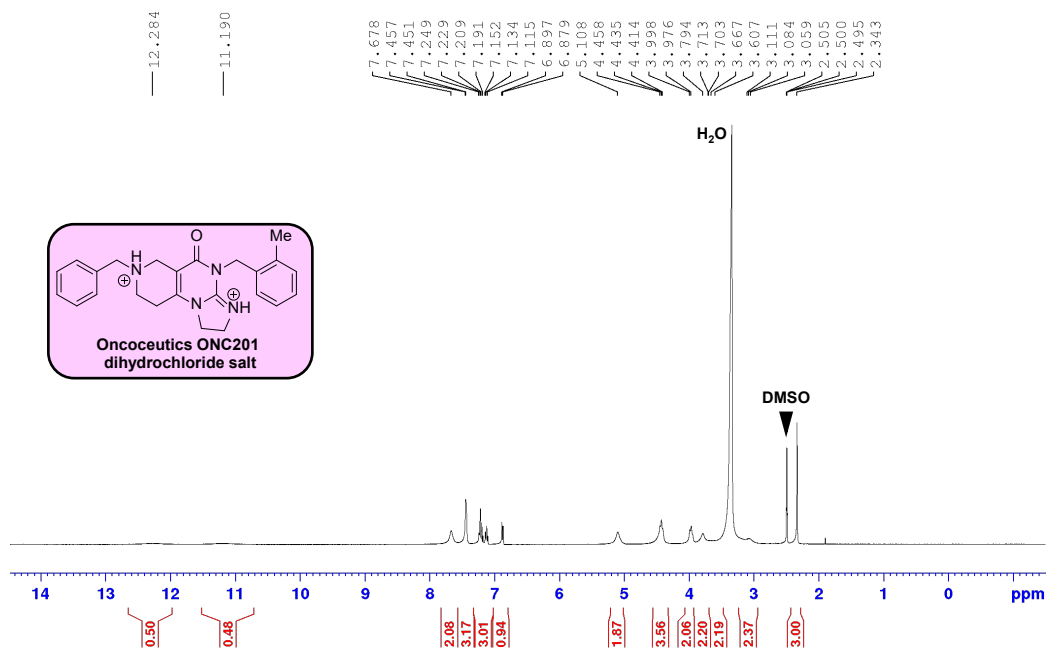
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# proton pump inhibitor (PPI)

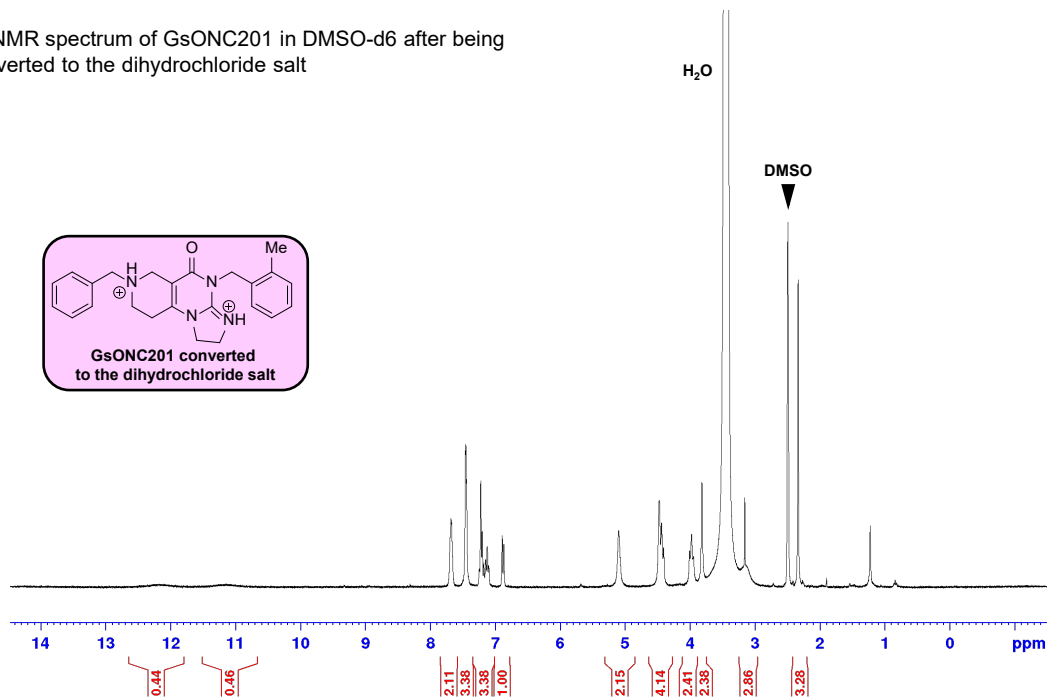
# Supplementary Figure S1.



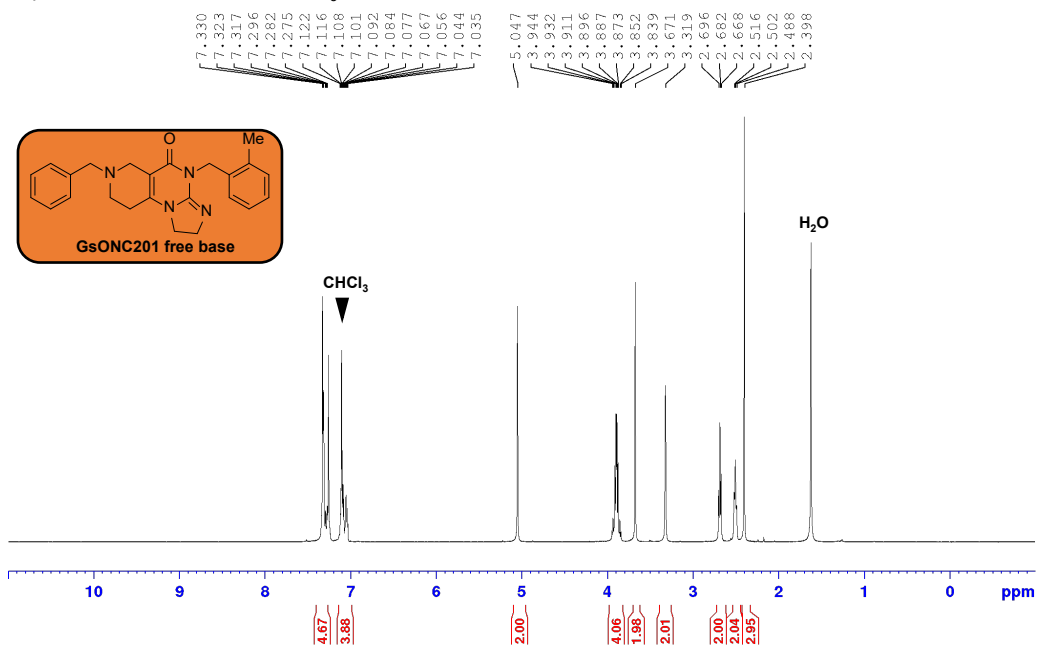
**A**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of authentic ONC201 in DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>



**B**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of GsONC201 in DMSO-d<sub>6</sub> after being converted to the dihydrochloride salt



**A**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of GsONC201 in  $\text{CDCl}_3$



**B**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of Oncoceutics ONC201 in  $\text{CDCl}_3$  after being converted to the free base

