Scientists discover enzyme linked to doxorubicin-induced cardiotoxicity.

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Chemotherapy is an effective treatment for many types of cancer, but the very factors that make chemotherapy so effective can also result in serious side effects. For many years, the dosage of doxorubicin has been limited because of its damaging effects on the heart. Limiting the dosage, however, limits the overall effectiveness of the treatment. Scientists at Queen's University Belfast have discovered that the enzyme NADPH oxidase plays a key role in this drug-induced cardiotoxicity. This discovery opens a new door into chemotherapy research. Researchers are now working to determine the exact role this enzyme plays, and how best to suppress it.

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