Tertomotide

National Cancer Institute

Source

A synthetic peptide vaccine, containing 16 amino acid residues (611-626) of the human telomerase reverse transcriptase catalytic subunit (hTERT), with potential antineoplastic activity. Telomerase, a reverse transcriptase normally repressed in healthy cells, is overexpressed in most cancer cells and plays a key role in cellular proliferation. Vaccination with tertomotide may activate the immune system to mount a cytotoxic T-lymphocyte (CTL) response against telomerase-expressing cells.