NIR Fluorochrome VM110

National Cancer Institute

Source

A synthetic near infrared fluorescent (NIRF) imaging agent that can potentially be used to detect the presence of certain cancers. Upon intravenous administration, VM110 is specifically cleaved by certain proteases, including cathepsins B, L, and S, and plasmin, which are highly expressed in various types of cancer. Proteolysis liberates a highly fluorescent cleavage product, which can be detected in vivo by NIRF imaging techniques. Thus, tumor cells can be visualized and the presence of micrometastases may be assessed.