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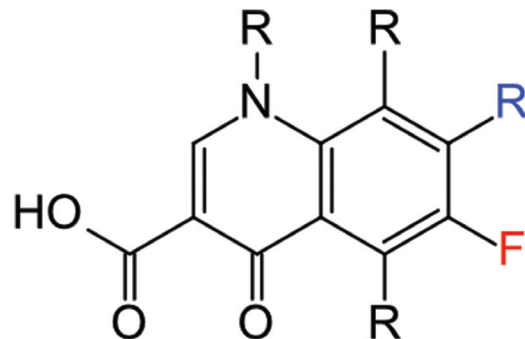
Address for correspondence: Gerald L. Murray, The Royal Women's Hospital, Parkville, Victoria, Australia 3052; email: gerald.murray@mcri.edu.au; and Catriona Bradshaw; Central Clinical School, Monash University, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia 3800; email: cbradshaw@mshc.org.au

etymologia

Fluoroquinolone [floor"o-kwin'o-lōn]

Ronnie Henry

The first quinolone (*quinol*[ine] + *-one* [compound related to ketone]), nalidixic acid, was isolated as a byproduct of chloroquine (see “quinine,” https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/EID/article/21/7/ET-2107_article) synthesis and was introduced in 1962 to treat urinary tract infections. In 1980, researchers at the Kyorin Pharmaceutical Company showed that the addition of a fluorine atom to the quinolone ring resulted in an antibiotic with broader antimicrobial activity, which was named norfloxacin, the first fluoroquinolone. In 1983, Bayer published data that showed adding a single carbon atom to norfloxacin—what would become ciprofloxacin—further increased activity. Fluoroquinolones are today among the most frequently used antimicrobial drugs to treat infections in humans and animals.



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Address for correspondence: Ronnie Henry, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 1600 Clifton Rd NE, Mailstop E03, Atlanta, GA 30329-4027, USA; email: boq3@cdc.gov

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