Researchers at the University of South Florida have discovered new therapeutics against influenza viruses. These compounds and their derivatives show potency against viral diseases.

Influenza is a viral disease that causes body aches, coughing, sneezing, fatigue, fever, headache, nausea, vomiting, and irritated eyes, skin, throat, and nose. The World Health Organization (WHO) estimates that 3 to 5 million people are infected each year, and as many as 500,000 people die from the complications of influenza infections in non-epidemic years and millions in epidemic years.

Currently there are approved antiviral drugs against viral infections; however, some are not well tolerated, some are ineffective against certain viral strains, and some have adverse side effects such as neurodegeneration. Therefore, there is urgent need for additional means of treating and preventing influenza and other viral diseases.

USF’s researchers have developed novel compounds effective against viral infections including influenza by discovering novel compounds with antiviral efficacy. This invention encompasses method of synthesis of the compounds and their derivatives which shares similar framework as anti-HIV and anticancer agents.

In addition to its established antiviral potency, this invention includes compounds that can be potentially explored to develop pharmacetically active drugs against other disease causing microbes.

**ADVANTAGES:**
- Exhibits potent antiviral activity
- Effective in multitude of diseases than the available drug compounds
- More convenient synthesis of compounds
- Aid in the development of new anti-viral compounds

**Treating and Preventing Viral Diseases**

![Photograph of Screening to Determine Inhibitory Effect of one of the Compounds on Viral Progeny](image)

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