

The platinum-based anticancer agents cisplatin, carboplatin, and oxaliplatin represent a spectacular translational science achievement. Cisplatin itself has been known for over 150 years since first synthesized by Michele Peyrone. The basic research observations that led to the discovery of Pt complexes as DNA-binding agents that elicit cell arrest, the preclinical tumor regression studies, and the inorganic medicinal chemistry that led to clinical implementation of effective platinum complexes in the clinic have fueled multidisciplinary research into platinum-based drugs. While the successes are clear and the research activity continues, a significant window of time has passed since a new Pt drug has been approved for clinical use. I will describe the beginning for cisplatin, discuss the current Pt drug landscape, and explore challenges for future Pt development drug development.

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