

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Brain tumors	Cytochrome c, somatic (CYCS); X-linked inhibitor of apoptosis (XIAP)	<p>Studies in cell culture suggest that increasing levels of oxidized CYCS in cancer cells could help treat cancer. In multiple cancer cell lines, exposure to the oxidizing agent hydrogen peroxide led to increased CYCS-mediated apoptosis compared with that seen in cells that received the reducing agent glutathione. The results suggest that the oxidized form of CYCS is involved in inducing apoptosis, and ongoing studies are exploring the delivery of oxidized CYCS or mimetics of it directly to brain tumors as proapoptotic adjuvants to chemotherapy.</p> <p>SciBX 1(45); doi:10.1038/scibx.2008.1096 Published online Dec. 18, 2008</p>	Unpatented	<p>Vaughn, A. & Deshmukh, M. <i>Nat. Cell Biol.</i>; published online Nov. 23, 2008; doi:10.1038/ncb1807</p> <p>Contact: Mohanish Deshmukh, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, N.C. e-mail: mohanish@med.unc.edu</p>