

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Cancer	Enhancer of zeste homolog 2 (<i>Drosophila</i>) (EZH2); microRNA-101	<p>Studies in cancer cell lines suggest that blocking expression of histone methyltransferase EZH2 in tumors could help treat cancer. In prostate cancer cell lines, overexpression of EZH2-targeting miRNA-101 lowered cell proliferation and invasiveness compared with what was seen in cancer cells that did not overexpress the miRNA. Analysis of human prostate tumors revealed that miRNA-101 levels decreased during cancer progression, whereas EZH2 levels increased. Next steps include designing compounds that target EZH2 activity and developing methods for increasing miRNA-101 levels in tumors.</p> <p>SciBX 1(42); doi:10.1038/scibx.2008.1017 Published online Nov. 20, 2008</p>	Patent application filed for miRNA-101 and EZH2 as cancer targets and disease biomarkers; available for licensing	<p>Varambally, S. <i>et al. Science</i>; published online Nov. 13, 2008; doi:10.1126/science.1165395</p> <p>Contact: Arul M. Chinnaiyan, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Mich. e-mail: arul@umich.edu</p>