SciBX
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THE DISTILLERY

## This week in therapeutics

| Indication | Target/marker/ pathway | Summary | Licensing status | Publication and contact information |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Cancer** | | | | |
| Cancer | Growth arrest specific 1 (GAS1) | An *in vitro* study suggests that GAS1 could be targeted to help treat metastatic melanoma. A genome-wide small hairpin RNA screen of metastatic mouse melanoma cells identified 22 genes whose knockdown increased metastasis without affecting primary tumor growth. One gene, *gas1*, displayed several properties of a melanoma tumor suppressor, including promoting apoptosis of disseminated tumor cells at secondary sites. *GAS1* was also frequently downregulated in human metastatic melanoma cell lines and tumor samples. Next steps include validating the functional role of the identified genes in additional models of metastasis.<br><br>***SciBX*** **1(42); doi:10.1038/scibx.2008.1018**<br>**Published online Nov. 20, 2008** | Patent application filed; available for licensing | Gobeil, S. *et al. Genes Dev.*; published online Nov. 1, 2008; doi:10.1101/gad.1714608<br>**Contact:** Michael R. Green, University of Massachusetts Medical School, Worcester, Mass. e-mail: michael.green@umassmed.edu |