

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Cancer	Regulator of G protein signaling 5 (Rgs5)	A study in mice suggests that antagonizing Rgs5 in perivascular cells could be part of an antiangiogenic strategy to treat some cancers. In a murine model of pancreatic islet carcinogenesis, Rgs5 knockout mice had less tumor vasculature leakiness and better oxygenation than did wild-type mice. The normalized tumor vasculature allowed for increased influx of immune effector cells and subsequent reductions in tumor angiogenesis. Moreover, tumor-bearing mice lacking Rgs5 had significantly longer survival following adoptive transfer of activated anti-Tag CD4 ⁺ and CD8 ⁺ T cells compared with survival of wild-type mice ($p=0.0004$). Ongoing studies are investigating pathways regulated by Rgs5 in tumor pericytes for therapeutic intervention in combination with immune therapy.	Patent and licensing status undisclosed	Hamzah, J. <i>et al. Nature</i> ; published online April 17, 2008; doi:10.1038/nature06868 Contact: Ruth Ganss, Western Australian Institute for Medical Research, Perth, Western Australia, Australia e-mail: ganss@waimr.uwa.edu.au