

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Cancer	Dedicator of cytokinesis 7 (Dock7); neuregulin 1 (NRG1)	A study in cell culture suggests that antagonizing Dock7 could help treat cancer. Dock7 is a Dock180-related guanine nucleotide exchange factor. In a Schwann cell migration assay, Dock7 short interfering RNA knockdown inhibited NRG1-induced migration by about 70% compared with that of cells expressing mock siRNA. Next steps include examining the binding partners of Dock7, analyzing the regulatory mechanisms of Dock7 in Schwann cells and investigating the effects of Dock7 siRNA on proliferation and motility of breast cancer cell lines.	Not patented; unlicensed	Yamauchi, J. <i>et al. J. Cell Biol.</i> ; published online April 21, 2008; doi:10.1083/jcb.200709033 Contact: Junji Yamauchi, National Research Institute for Child Health and Development, Tokyo, Japan e-mail: jyamauchi@nch.go.jp