SciBX
Science-Business eXchange

THE DISTILLERY

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Cancer	Integrin $\alpha_v\beta_3$	A study in mice suggests that inhibiting integrin $\alpha_v\beta_3$ could be useful for preventing cancer metastasis to the brain. Tumor cells with constitutive expression of activated integrin $\alpha_v\beta_3$ had significantly greater proliferation in the mouse striatum than cells expressing a nonactivated form ($p<0.03$). Imaging and immunohistochemistry studies showed that the integrin increased angiogenesis and prevented hypoxia in cancer cells implanted in the brain. Next steps could include evaluating the inhibition of integrin $\alpha_v\beta_3$ in animal models of cancer metastasis to the brain. CNTO 95, a human antibody against integrin α_v from Medarex Inc. and Johnson & Johnson, is in Phase II testing for multiple cancers. ***SciBX*** **2(25); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.1000** **Published online June 25, 2009**	Patent and licensing status unavailable	Lorger, M. *et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA*; published online June 8, 2009; doi:10.1073/pnas.0903035106 **Contact:** Brunhilde Felding-Habermann, The Scripps Research Institute, La Jolla, Calif. e-mail: brunie@scripps.edu