This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Brain cancer	Atonal homolog 1 (ATOH1; HATH1)	A study in mice suggests that inhibiting ATOH1 signaling could help prevent medulloblastoma caused by excessive proliferation of cerebellar granule neuron precursors. In a mouse model of medulloblastoma, animals with <i>Atoh1</i> knockout had no excessive precursor proliferation and no development of neoplastic lesions compared with wild-type mice. Next steps include determining whether the growth and spread of existing medulloblastomas are dependent on ATOH1 expression.	Work covered by multiple issued and pending patents; licensed to GenVec Inc.	Flora, A. <i>et al. Science</i> ; published online Dec. 3, 2009; doi:10.1126/science.1181453 Contact: Huda Zoghbi, Howard Hughes Medical Institute, Houston, Texas e-mail: hzoghbi@bcm.edu
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