

## This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
<b>Cancer</b>				
Hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC)	Metadherin (MTDH; AEG1)	<p>Studies in mice suggest that inhibiting metadherin could be useful for treating HCC. In nude mouse xenograft models of HCC, intratumoral injection of an adenoviral metadherin small interfering RNA inhibited tumor cell growth compared with that seen using saline buffer or scrambled control siRNA. Microarray analysis of HCC cells showed that metadherin modulated the expression of genes associated with metastasis, invasion, chemoresistance, angiogenesis and senescence. Next steps include high throughput screening to identify small molecule inhibitors of metadherin.</p> <p><b>SciBX 2(8); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.312</b>  <b>Published online Feb. 26, 2009</b></p>	Patent application filed; unlicensed	<p>Yoo, B. <i>et al. J. Clin. Invest.</i>; published online Feb. 16, 2009; doi:10.1172/JCI36460</p> <p><b>Contact:</b> Devanand Sarkar, Virginia Commonwealth University School of Medicine, Richmond, Va. e-mail: <a href="mailto:dsarkar@vcu.edu">dsarkar@vcu.edu</a></p>