

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Prostate cancer	N-Cadherin	<p>Studies in mice suggest that blocking N-cadherin could help treat and prevent castration-resistant prostate cancer (CRPC). In multiple mouse models of CRPC with established tumors, N-cadherin-targeting antibodies decreased tumor growth and metastasis compared with vehicle control. In mice with larger human prostate cancer tumors, higher doses of N-cadherin-targeting antibodies, compared with vehicle control, resulted in complete regression in more than 50% of the tumors. Next steps include investigating how N-cadherin mediates castration resistance and regulates androgen receptor expression.</p> <p>ADH-1 exherin, a cyclic pentapeptide that binds N-cadherin from Adherex Technologies Inc., is in Phase I/II testing in melanoma and solid tumors.</p> <p>SciBX 3(46); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.1381 Published online Dec. 2, 2010</p>	<p>Multiple patent applications filed; Emtx Therapeutics Inc. has an option to license and develop N-cadherin-specific antibodies for cancer therapy</p>	<p>Tanaka, H. <i>et al. Nat. Med.</i>; published online Nov. 7, 2010; doi:10.1038/nm.2236 Contact: Robert E. Reiter, University of California, Los Angeles, Calif. e-mail: rreiter@mednet.ucla.edu</p>