

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Brain cancer	Chr19q13.41 microRNA cluster (C19MC); microRNA-517c (miR-517c); miR-520g	<p>Studies in patients and in mice suggest that blocking overexpression of the C19MC family of miRNAs could help treat neuroectodermal brain tumors. In a cohort of 25 patients, brain tumors expressing high levels of C19MC miRNAs were associated with a mean survival of 4 months compared with 44-month survival for tumors expressing lower levels of C19MC miRNAs ($p < 0.0001$). Mice that received human medulloblastoma cells expressing C19MC miRNAs miR-517c or miR-520g developed larger tumor masses than controls that received cells not expressing miRNA. Next steps include evaluating C19MC miRNA levels in larger patient groups and developing therapeutics that target C19MC.</p> <p>SciBX 3(1); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.5 Published online Jan. 7, 2010</p>	<p>Patent application filed; licensing inquiries should be directed to the Hospital for Sick Children Contact: Sarah Fuller, Hospital for Sick Children, Toronto, Ontario, Canada phone: 416-813-7654 x1388 e-mail: sarah.fuller@sickkids.ca</p>	<p>Li, M. <i>et al. Cancer Cell</i>; published online Dec. 7, 2009; doi:10.1016/j.ccr.2009.10.025 Contact: Annie Huang, Hospital for Sick Children, Toronto, Ontario, Canada e-mail: annie.huang@sickkids.ca</p>