

## THE DISTILLERY

## This week in therapeutics

| Indication   | Target/marker/pathway  | Summary   | Licensing status                           | Publication and contact<br>information  |
|--------------|--|---|--|---|
| Cancer       |  |   |  |   |
| Brain cancer | ST6-N-acetylgalactosaminide<br>α-2,6-sialyltransferase 5<br>(ST6GALNAC5) | Studies in mice and in cell culture suggest that<br>increasing ST6GALNAC5 expression could help treat<br>gliomas. In a human glioma cell line, vector-based<br>overexpression of ST6GALNAC5 reduced invasiveness<br>compared with that in human glioma cell lines<br>treated with empty vector. In mice implanted with<br>ST6GALNAC5-overexpressing glioma cells, tumors<br>were between one-fifth and one-fourth the size of<br>those in vector-transfected control cells. Next steps<br>could include identifying compounds that increase<br>ST6GALNAC5 expression in glioma cells. | Patent and licensing<br>status unavailable | Kroes, R.A. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad.</i><br><i>Sci. USA</i> ;<br>published online June 28, 2010;<br>doi:10.1073/pnas.0909862107<br><b>Contact:</b> Joseph R. Moskal,<br>Northwestern University,<br>Evanston, Ill.<br>e-mail:<br>j-moskal@northwestern.edu |

*SciBX* **3**(28); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.852 Published online July 22, 2010