

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Cancer	Lysine-specific histone demethylase 1 (KDM1A; LSD1)	<i>In vitro</i> and cell culture studies identified small molecule LSD1 inhibitors that could help treat cancer by selectively killing cancer stem cells. <i>In vitro</i> , small molecules that mimic an LSD1 peptide ligand inhibited LSD1 with low micromolar IC ₅₀ values. In a panel of cell lines, the small molecules selectively killed cancer cells or embryonic stem cells expressing stem cell markers SOX2 and OCT4. Next steps include testing these LSD1 inhibitors in xenograft mouse models of cancer, developing more potent inhibitors and identifying organ-specific cancer stem cells sensitive to LSD1 inhibition.	Patent application filed; available for licensing from the Nevada Cancer Institute Contact: Ben Muskin, Technology Transfer Office, Nevada Cancer Institute, Las Vegas, Nev. e-mail: bmuskin@nvcancer.org	Wang, J. <i>et al. Cancer Res.</i> ; published online Oct. 5, 2011; doi:10.1158/0008-5472.CAN-11-0896 Contact: Hui Zhang, Nevada Cancer Institute, Las Vegas, Nev. e-mail: hzhang@nvcancer.org
		SciBX 4(43); doi:10.1038/scibx.2011.1204 Published online Nov. 3, 2011		