

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Breast cancer	<i>Microtubule associated serine/threonine kinase 1 (MAST1); MAST2</i>	Genomic analysis and mouse studies suggest inhibiting <i>MAST1</i> or <i>MAST2</i> could help treat a subset of breast cancers. In a panel of 89 breast cancer tumors and cell lines, genomic analysis identified 5 gene fusions involving <i>MAST1</i> or <i>MAST2</i> . In mice with human breast cancer cells with a <i>MAST2</i> gene fusion, small hairpin RNA against <i>MAST2</i> prevented tumor formation compared with scrambled shRNA. Next steps include defining the signaling pathways and molecular interactions of MAST kinase fusions in breast cancer.	Patent application filed; available for licensing	Robinson, D.R. <i>et al. Nat. Med.</i> ; published online Nov. 20, 2011; doi:10.1038/nm.2580 Contact: Arul M. Chinnaiyan, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Mich. e-mail: arul@umich.edu Contact: Chandan Kumar-Sinha, same affiliation as above e-mail: chakumar@med.umich.edu
		SciBX 4(47); doi:10.1038/scibx.2011.1316 Published online Dec. 8, 2011		