

### This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
<b>Cancer</b>				
Gastric cancer	Solute carrier family 1 glial high affinity glutamate transporter member 2 (SLC1A2; EAAT2; GLT-1); CD44	Studies in patient samples and in cell culture suggest that inhibiting SLC1A2 could help treat a subset of gastric cancers. In biopsy samples, <i>CD44-SLC1A2</i> gene fusions were detected in 1%–2% of gastric cancer cases compared with in matched normal tissue controls. In a gastric cancer cell line carrying a <i>CD44-SLC1A2</i> fusion, small interfering RNA knockdown of CD44-SLC1A2 lowered cell proliferation and invasion compared with those seen using siRNA control. Next steps include testing the effect of glutamate uptake inhibitors in treating gastric cancers with <i>CD44-SLC1A2</i> fusions or high levels of SLC1A2.	Patent application filed; available for licensing	Tao, J. <i>et al. Sci. Transl. Med.</i> ; published online April 6, 2011; doi:10.1126/scitranslmed.3001423 <b>Contact:</b> Patrick Tan, National University of Singapore, Singapore, Singapore e-mail: <a href="mailto:gmstanp@duke-nus.edu.sg">gmstanp@duke-nus.edu.sg</a> <b>Contact:</b> Jiong Tao, same affiliation as above e-mail: <a href="mailto:taojiong@nus.edu.sg">taojiong@nus.edu.sg</a>
		<b>SciBX 4(16); doi:10.1038/scibx.2011.455</b> Published online April 21, 2011		