

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Brain cancer	Solute carrier family 2 member 3 (SLC2A3; GLUT3)	<p>Studies in patient samples, mice and cell culture suggest targeting GLUT3 could help treat brain cancer. In cultured brain tumor-initiating cells (BTICs), GLUT3 mRNA and protein expression were greater than that in non-BTICs. In BTICs, small hairpin RNA knockdown of <i>GLUT3</i> decreased cell growth and BTIC-mediated tumor propagation in mice compared with no knockdown. In patient brain tumor samples, high GLUT3 expression correlated with poor survival. Next steps could include design and synthesis of GLUT3 inhibitors for testing in preclinical models of brain cancer.</p> <p>SciBX 6(39); doi:10.1038/scibx.2013.1087 Published online Oct. 10, 2013</p>	Patent and licensing status unavailable	<p>Flavahan, W.A. <i>et al. Nat. Neurosci.</i>; published online Sept. 1, 2013; doi:10.1038/nn.3510 Contact: Jeremy N. Rich, Cleveland Clinic, Cleveland, Ohio e-mail: richj@ccf.org</p>