This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Brain cancer	H3 histone family 3A (H3.3A; H3F3A); histone cluster 1 H3b (HIST1H3B); polycomb repressive complex 2 (PRC2)	<i>In vitro</i> and cell culture studies identified gain-of-function mutations in H3F3A and HIST1H3B that could be targeted to treat pediatric glioblastoma. The K27M mutation in either H3F3A or HIST1H3B is found in almost 80% of diffuse intrinsic pontine gliomas (DIPGs), a type of pediatric brain cancer. In a series of cell culture and <i>in vitro</i> assays, the K27M mutation was identified as a gain-of-function mutation that conferred the ability to inhibit PRC2. Next steps could include screening for compounds that inhibit the DIPG-associated mutant proteins.	Patent and licensing status unavailable	Lewis, P.W. <i>et al. Science</i> ; published online March 28, 2013; doi:10.1126/science.1232245 Contact: C. David Allis, The Rockefeller University, New York, N.Y. e-mail: alliscd@rockefeller.edu
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