

This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Brain cancer	Cytosolic branched chain amino-acid transaminase 1 (BCAT1); isocitrate dehydrogenase 1 (IDH1)	Patient tissue and mouse studies suggest inhibiting BCAT1 could be useful for treating gliomas with wild-type IDH1. In patient samples, BCAT1 was overexpressed in wild-type IDH1 gliomas and downregulated in mutant IDH1 gliomas. In a mouse xenograft model for wild-type IDH1 human glioma, small hairpin RNA against BCAT1 decreased tumor growth compared with nontargeting shRNA. Next steps could include identifying and evaluating small molecule BCAT1 inhibitors in gliomas with wild-type IDH1.	Patent and licensing status unavailable	Tönjes, M. <i>et al. Nat. Med.</i> ; published online June 23, 2013; doi:10.1038/nm.3217 Contact: Bernhard Radlwimmer, German Cancer Research Center, Heidelberg, Germany e-mail: b.radlwimmer@dkfz-heidelberg.de
		SciBX 6(29); doi:10.1038/scibx.2013.748 Published online Aug. 1, 2013		