Technology Brief: RhoB Variants for Suppression of Malignancy

Docket Number: 04B102

| Summary | • RhoB protein suppresses tumor growth and induces apoptosis. The signaling protein RhoB is reduced in certain tumors; hence restoration of RhoB activity may be an effective therapy.  
• Certain mutants of RhoB have been identified as maintaining certain tumor-suppressive functions of the wild type protein.  
• Mutants of RhoB introduced into tumor cells by gene therapy or other means may overcome the reduced activity of the endogenous RhoB and suppress tumor growth. |
| Features and Benefits | • Tumor types that might benefit from treatment by RhoB variants include lung, brain, pancreatic, prostate, and head and neck.  
• Mutants of RhoB may retain tumor suppressive activity while being resistant to inactivation by other signaling proteins.  
• RhoB variants may be combined with other interventions including radiation and chemotherapy.  
• Delivery of RhoB may be as polypeptides or encoding nucleic acids. |
| Stage of Development | Proof of concept in human prostate and pancreatic cancer cell lines. |
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