Small cell lung cancer (SCLC) is an aggressive highly metastatic neuroendocrine carcinoma. Treatments for SCLC have not significantly improved over the last four decades and there are no currently approved targeted therapies. The MacPherson Lab has shown that a subset of SCLCs exhibit high expression and frequently amplification of MYCL. The loss or inhibition of MYCL by genetic or pharmacological means results in strong suppression or elimination of SCLC tumor development, identifying MYCL as key therapeutic targets for SCLC.

Applications

- Small cell lung cancer

Advantages

- Novel mechanism
- No currently available therapies

Market Overview

Drug resistance to existing chemotherapy drugs is a major obstacle for effective treatment of SCLC. Though the market for SCLC drugs is expected to grow to $362 million by 2018, targeted therapies are largely unexplored for this disease. Identification of new SCLC molecular targets is essential to develop more effective therapies.

Investigator Overview

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