

OncoTherapy Science, Inc.

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Publication from our collaborator in The University of Chicago

Important biological roles of a methyltransferase SUV39H2, for which we are developing small molecule inhibitors, have been reported by Drs. Ryuji Hamamoto and Yusuke Nakamura, our collaborators in The University of Chicago. This enzyme is known to be upregulated in solid cancers and play a critical role in the growth of cancer cells. In the work reported, the group in The University of Chicago discovered that SUV39H2 was also highly expressed in acute lymphoblastic leukemia (ALL) cells but not in normal blood cells. The SUV39H2 knockdown resulted in a significant decrease in the viability of ALL cells, while its overexpression made cells more resistant to chemotherapy. Hence, SUV39H2 inhibitors that we are developing with The University of Chicago have the potential of being effective in the therapy of ALL as well as solid cancers. We will accelerate the development of drugs targeting SUV39H2 to contribute to the improvement of cancer treatment.

The paper was published on line in the journal *Translational Oncology*.

([http://www.transonc.com/article/S1936-5233\(15\)00059-5/abstract](http://www.transonc.com/article/S1936-5233(15)00059-5/abstract))