A New Therapeutic Strategy for Hedgehog Pathway-Dependent Cancers

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Abstract: Aberrant Hedgehog pathway activity is the cause of essentially all basal cell carcinomas and a leading cause of childhood medulloblastomas. While small molecule pathway inhibitors show promise as therapeutics for these diseases, existing drugs encounter resistance and are inappropriate for pediatric patients. We describe a strategy to develop an antagonist with a new mechanism of action that holds promise as a broad-range therapeutic for adult and childhood cancers.