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Targeting beta-catenin as a treatment for desmoid tumors

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Expert in Oncology Drug Development,Desmoid tumors frequently contain mutations in the beta-catenin pathway. Beta- Catenin is an oncogenic transcription factor that drives proliferation of tumor cells. In Desmoid tumors, beta-catenin mutations are present in Exon 3 (T41A, S45F, S45P). These mutations prevent beta-catenin degradation by stabilizing the protein and making it resistant to proteosomal degradation. BC2059 (Tegatrabetan) is a novel inhibitor of beta-catenin that destabilizes its interaction with TBL-1 (transducing beta-like protein 1) and leads to its degradation. Tegatrabetan has shown promising activity in desmoid cell lines. In this presentation, we will describe the rationale for targeting beta-catenin in desmoid tumors and future plans for clinical development in this disease.