

Review

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Molecular mechanisms of glioma invasiveness: the role of proteases

Jasti S. Rao¹ [About the author](#)

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The invasive nature of brain-tumour cells makes an important contribution to the ineffectiveness of current treatment modalities, as the remaining tumour cells inevitably infiltrate the surrounding normal brain tissue, which leads to tumour recurrence. Such local invasion remains an important cause of mortality and underscores the need to understand in more detail the mechanisms of tumour invasiveness. Several proteases influence the malignant characteristics of gliomas – could their inhibition prove to be a useful therapeutic strategy?

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Author affiliations

1. Program of Cancer Biology, Department of Neurosurgery, University of Illinois College of Medicine-Peoria, 1 Illini Drive, Peoria, Illinois 61656, USA. Email: jsrao@uic.edu

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