

# New Immune Cell Receptor

Published date: Feb. 1, 2012

## Technology description

### Description

Recent research has revealed details on the importance of the innate immune system for recognizing and eliminating tumors. The natural killer cell receptor NKG2d contributes to this immunity by binding to MHC class I molecules and to stress activated ligands that are elevated in potentially cancerous cells. NKG2d expressing immune cells are then believed to mediate cytotoxic effects to remove tumor cells as well as trigger an immune response against the cancer. Researchers at the University of Pennsylvania have identified and cloned a novel C-type leptin receptor that has homology to the NKG2d receptors. This newly discovered molecule likely interacts with ligands on the surface of tumor and virally infected cells and contributes to the immune system's removal of these unwanted cells.

### Institution

[University of Pennsylvania](#)

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