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(54) Title: JAGGED-BINDING AGENTS AND USES THEREOF

(57) Abstract: The present invention relates to Jagged-binding agents and methods of using the agents for treating diseases such as cancer. The present invention provides antibodies that specifically bind to an extracellular domain of human Jagged1 or human Jagged2 and modulate Jagged activity. The present invention further provides methods of using agents that modulate the activity of Jagged, such as antibodies that specifically bind Jagged, and inhibit tumor growth. Also described are methods of treating cancer comprising administering a therapeutically effect amount of an agent or antibody of the present invention to a patient having a tumor or cancer.



WO 2011/063237 A2

JAGGED-BINDING AGENTS AND USES THEREOF

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

[0001] This application claims the priority benefit of U.S. Provisional Application No. 61/262,879, filed November 19, 2009, which is hereby incorporated by reference herein in its entirety.

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

[0002] The field of this invention generally relates to antibodies and other agents that bind to Jagged proteins, as well as methods of using the antibodies or other agents for the treatment of diseases, such as cancer.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

[0003] Cancer is one of the leading causes of death in the developed world, resulting in over 550,000 deaths per year in the United States alone. Almost one and half million people are diagnosed with cancer in the U.S. each year, and currently one in four deaths in the U.S. is due to cancer. (Jemal *et al.*, 2008, *Cancer J. Clin.* 58:71-96). Although there are many drugs and compounds currently available and in use, these numbers show that a need continues to exist for new therapeutic agents for the treatment of cancer.

[0004] The Notch signaling pathway is a universally conserved signal transduction system. It is involved in cell fate determination during development including embryonic pattern formation and post-embryonic tissue maintenance. In addition, Notch signaling has been identified as a critical factor in the maintenance of hematopoietic stem cells (HSCs).

[0005] The mammalian Notch receptor family includes four members, Notch1, Notch2, Notch3 and Notch4. Notch receptors are large single-pass type I transmembrane proteins with several conserved structural motifs. The extracellular domain contains a variable number of epidermal growth factor (EGF)-like repeats involved in ligand binding and three cysteine-rich LIN-12/Notch repeats (LNRs) involved in Notch heterodimerization. The intracellular domain contains a RAM23 motif involved in binding Notch downstream signaling proteins, 7 CDC10/ankyrin repeats also involved in mediating downstream signaling and a PEST domain involved in Notch protein degradation.

[0006] Mammalian Notch ligands include Delta-like 1 (DLL1), Delta-like 3 (DLL3), Delta-like 4 (DLL4), Jagged1 and Jagged2. Similar to Notch receptors, Notch ligands are type I transmembrane proteins with several conserved structural motifs. Extracellular motifs common to all Notch ligands include a single Delta/Serrate/Lag-2 (DSL) domain involved in receptor binding, as well as a variable

number of EGF-like repeats that may be involved in stabilizing receptor binding. The extracellular domain of Jagged proteins contains a cysteine-rich region which has partial homology to the von Willebrand factor type C domain and is likely involved in ligand dimerization. This motif is not present in DLL family members. (Leong et al., 2006, *Blood*, 107:2223-2233).

[0007] The extracellular domain of a Notch receptor interacts with the extracellular domain of a Notch ligand, typically on adjacent cells, resulting in two proteolytic cleavages of the Notch receptor. One extracellular cleavage is mediated by an ADAM (A Disintegrin And Metallopeptidase) protease and a second cleavage within the transmembrane domain is mediated by the gamma secretase complex. This latter cleavage generates the Notch intracellular domain (ICD), which translocates to the nucleus where it activates the CBF1, Suppressor of Hairless, Lag-2 (CSL) family of transcription factors as the major downstream effectors to increase transcription of nuclear basic helix-loop-helix transcription factors of the Hairy/Enhancer of Split (HES) family. (Artavanis et al., 1999, *Science* 284:770; Brennan and Brown, 2003, *Breast Cancer Res.* 5:69; Iso et al., 2003, *Arterioscler. Thromb. Vasc. Biol.* 23:543).

[0008] The Notch pathway has been associated with several human diseases, including Alagille's syndrome and the neural degenerative disease CADASIL. In addition, the Notch pathway has been linked to the pathogenesis of both hematologic and solid tumors and cancers. Numerous cellular functions and microenvironmental cues associated with tumorigenesis have been shown to be modulated by Notch pathway signaling, including cell proliferation, apoptosis, adhesion, and angiogenesis. (Leong et al., 2006, *Blood*, 107:2223-2233). In addition, Notch receptors and/or Notch ligands have been shown to play potential oncogenic roles in a number of human cancers, including acute myelogenous leukemia, B cell chronic lymphocytic leukemia, Hodgkin lymphoma, multiple myeloma, T cell acute lymphoblastic leukemia, brain cancer, breast cancer, cervical cancer, colon cancer, lung cancer, pancreatic cancer, prostate cancer and skin cancer. (Leong et al., 2006, *Blood*, 107:2223-2233). Thus, the Notch pathway has been identified as a potential target for cancer therapy.

[0009] The Notch pathway is also involved in multiple aspects of vascular development including proliferation, migration, smooth muscle differentiation, angiogenesis and arterial-venous differentiation (Iso et al., 2003, *Arterioscler. Thromb. Vasc. Biol.* 23:543). It is clear that the Notch family is critically important for the proper construction of the vascular system. For example, global knockouts of Notch1 alone or Notch1/4 together are lethal in the embryo due to severe vascular defects. Global, as well as endothelium-specific, knockouts of Jagged1 induce embryonic death with vascular defects (Dufraine et al., 2008, *Oncogene* 27:5132-5137). In humans, mutations in Jagged1 are associated with Alagille's syndrome, a developmental disorder that includes vascular defects, and mutations in Notch3 are responsible for an inherited vascular dementia (CADASIL) in which vessel homeostasis is defective

(Joutel et al., 1996, *Nature* 383:707-10). Thus, the Notch pathway has also been identified as a potential target for affecting angiogenesis.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

[0010] The present invention provides agents that bind to Jagged, a Notch ligand, and compositions, such as pharmaceutical compositions, comprising those agents. In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agents are novel polypeptides, such as antibodies, fragments of such antibodies, and other polypeptides related to such antibodies. In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agents are antibodies that specifically bind to Jagged1 (e.g., human Jagged1). In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agents that specifically bind to Jagged1 further specifically bind to Jagged2 (e.g., human Jagged2). In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agents are antibodies that specifically bind to Jagged2 (e.g., human Jagged2). The invention further provides methods of inhibiting the growth of a tumor by administering the Jagged-binding agents to a subject with a tumor. The invention further provides methods of treating cancer by administering the Jagged-binding agents to a subject in need thereof. In some embodiments, the methods of treating cancer or inhibiting tumor growth comprise targeting cancer stem cells with the Jagged-binding agents. In certain embodiments, the methods comprise reducing the frequency of cancer stem cells in a tumor, reducing the number of cancer stem cells in a tumor, reducing the tumorigenicity of a tumor, and/or reducing the tumorigenicity of a tumor by reducing the number or frequency of cancer stem cells in the tumor. The invention also provides methods of using the Jagged-binding agents in the treatment of cancer and/or in the inhibition of the growth of tumors comprising cancer stem cells.

[0011] In one aspect, the invention provides a binding agent that specifically binds Jagged. In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent is an antibody that specifically binds to an extracellular domain of Jagged. In some embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent (e.g., an antibody) binds to a region comprising the DSL domain of Jagged. In some embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent (e.g., an antibody) binds to a region comprising EGF1, EGF2 and/or EGF3 of Jagged. In some embodiments, the Jagged is Jagged1. In some embodiments, the Jagged is Jagged2. In some embodiments, the Jagged is human Jagged1 and human Jagged2. In some embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent (e.g., an antibody) modulates Jagged activity. In some embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent (e.g., an antibody) is an antagonist of Jagged. In some embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent (e.g., an antibody) inhibits or interferes with binding of Jagged to a Notch receptor. In some embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent (e.g., an antibody) inhibits Notch signaling or Notch activation.

[0012] In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent (e.g., an antibody) that specifically binds to an extracellular domain of human Jagged1 and/or human Jagged2 comprises (a) a heavy chain CDR1

comprising SYWIIH (SEQ ID NO:9) or a variant thereof comprising 1, 2, 3, or 4 amino acid substitutions, a heavy chain CDR2 comprising RIYPGIGSTYYNEKFKD (SEQ ID NO:10) or a variant thereof comprising 1, 2, 3, or 4 amino acid substitutions, and a heavy chain CDR3 comprising NGGFFDY (SEQ ID NO:11) or a variant thereof comprising 1, 2, 3, or 4 amino acid substitutions; and/or (b) a light chain CDR1 comprising RASESVDSYGNSFMH (SEQ ID NO:12) or a variant thereof comprising 1, 2, 3, or 4 amino acid substitutions, a light chain CDR2 comprising RASNLES (SEQ ID NO:13) or a variant thereof comprising 1, 2, 3, or 4 amino acid substitutions, and a light chain CDR3 comprising QQSNEPWT (SEQ ID NO:14) or a variant thereof comprising 1, 2, 3, or 4 amino acid substitutions. In certain embodiments, the amino acid substitutions are conservative amino acid substitutions.

[0013] In some embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent (e.g., an antibody) that specifically binds to an extracellular domain of human Jagged1 and/or human Jagged2 comprises (a) a heavy chain CDR1 comprising SYAMH (SEQ ID NO:23) or a variant thereof comprising 1, 2, 3, or 4 amino acid substitutions, a heavy chain CDR2 comprising VISYDGSNKYYADSVKG (SEQ ID NO:24), AIYPDSSNKYYADSVKG (SEQ ID NO:47), AISPEASNKYYADSVKG (SEQ ID NO:48), or AIYPASSNKYYADSVKG (SEQ ID NO:49), or a variant thereof comprising 1, 2, 3, or 4 amino acid substitutions, and a heavy chain CDR3 comprising DKYDIPDAFDI (SEQ ID NO:25) or a variant thereof comprising 1, 2, 3, or 4 amino acid substitutions; and/or (b) a light chain CDR1 comprising RASQGISNDLA (SEQ ID NO:26) or a variant thereof comprising 1, 2, 3, or 4 amino acid substitutions, a light chain CDR2 comprising ATSTLQS (SEQ ID NO:27) or a variant thereof comprising 1, 2, 3, or 4 amino acid substitutions, and a light chain CDR3 comprising QQSYNAPI (SEQ ID NO:28) or a variant thereof comprising 1, 2, 3, or 4 amino acid substitutions. In certain embodiments, the amino acid substitutions are conservative amino acid substitutions.

[0014] In some embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent (e.g., an antibody) that specifically binds to an extracellular domain of human Jagged1 comprises (a) a heavy chain CDR1 comprising SSNWWS (SEQ ID NO:37) or a variant thereof comprising 1, 2, 3, or 4 amino acid substitutions, a heavy chain CDR2 comprising EIFHGENTNYPNPSLKS (SEQ ID NO:38) or a variant thereof comprising 1, 2, 3, or 4 amino acid substitutions, and a heavy chain CDR3 comprising NPGIGA AKFDS (SEQ ID NO:39) or a variant thereof comprising 1, 2, 3, or 4 amino acid substitutions; and/or (b) a light chain CDR1 comprising KSSQSLHSDGKTYLY (SEQ ID NO:40) or a variant thereof comprising 1, 2, 3, or 4 amino acid substitutions, a light chain CDR2 comprising EVSNRFS (SEQ ID NO:41) or a variant thereof comprising 1, 2, 3, or 4 amino acid substitutions, and a light chain CDR3 comprising MQHIDFP (SEQ ID NO:42) or a variant thereof comprising 1, 2, 3, or 4 amino acid substitutions. In certain embodiments, the amino acid substitutions are conservative amino acid substitutions.

[0015] In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent (e.g., an antibody) that specifically binds to an extracellular domain of human Jagged1 and/or human Jagged2 comprises (a) a heavy chain variable region having at least about 90%, at least about 95% or 100% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO:5; and/or (b) a light chain variable region having at least about 90%, at least about 95% or 100% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO:7. In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent (e.g., antibody) that specifically binds to an extracellular domain of human Jagged1 or human Jagged2 comprises (a) a heavy chain variable region having at least about 90%, at least about 95% or 100% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO:19, SEQ ID NO:50, SEQ ID NO:51, or SEQ ID NO:52; and/or (b) a light chain variable region having at least about 90%, at least about 95% or 100% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO:21. In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent (e.g., antibody) that specifically binds to an extracellular domain of human Jagged1 comprises (a) a heavy chain variable region having at least about 90%, at least about 95% or 100% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO:33; and/or (b) a light chain variable region having at least about 90%, at least about 95% or 100% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO:35. In some embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent is antibody 64M51, antibody 64R7 or antibody 64R1B. In some embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent is antibody 133R0201, antibody 133R0203 or antibody 133R0205. In some embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent is a humanized form of antibody 64M51.

[0016] In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent comprises the heavy chains and light chains of the 64R1B IgG2 antibody (with or without the leader sequence). In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent is the 64R1B IgG2 antibody. DNA encoding the heavy chains and light chains of the 64R1B IgG2 antibody was deposited with the American Type Culture Collection (ATCC), 10801 University Boulevard, Manassas, VA, USA, under the conditions of the Budapest Treaty on November 13, 2009 and assigned ATCC deposit designation number PTA-10469. In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent comprises the heavy chains and light chains of the 64R7 IgG2 antibody (with or without the leader sequence). In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent is the 64R7 IgG2 antibody. DNA encoding the heavy chains and light chains of the 64R7 IgG2 antibody was deposited with the ATCC, under the conditions of the Budapest Treaty on November 13, 2009 and assigned ATCC deposit designation number PTA-10470. In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent comprises the heavy chains and light chains of the 64M51 antibody (with or without the leader sequence). In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent is the 64M51 antibody. In some embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent is a humanized form of the 64M51 antibody. The hybridoma cell line producing the 64M51 antibody was deposited with the ATCC under the conditions of the Budapest Treaty on November 13, 2009 and assigned ATCC deposit designation number PTA-10468.

[0017] In some embodiments, the invention provides a Jagged-binding agent (e.g., an antibody) that specifically binds to the same or an over-lapping Jagged epitope as the epitope to which antibody 64M51

binds. In some embodiments, the invention provides a Jagged-binding agent (e.g., an antibody) that specifically binds to the same or an over-lapping Jagged epitope as the epitope to which antibody 64R7 binds. In some embodiments, the invention provides a Jagged-binding agent (e.g., an antibody) that specifically binds to the same or an over-lapping Jagged epitope as the epitope to which antibody 64R1B binds. In some embodiments, the invention provides a Jagged-binding agent (e.g., an antibody) that specifically binds to the same or an over-lapping Jagged epitope as the epitope to which antibody 133R0201 binds. In some embodiments, the invention provides a Jagged-binding agent (e.g., an antibody) that specifically binds to the same or an over-lapping Jagged epitope as the epitope to which antibody 133R0203 binds. In some embodiments, the invention provides a Jagged-binding agent (e.g., an antibody) that specifically binds to the same or an over-lapping Jagged epitope as the epitope to which antibody 133R0205 binds.

[0018] In certain embodiments of each of the aforementioned aspects or embodiments, as well as other aspects and/or embodiments described elsewhere herein, the Jagged-binding agent is an antibody. In certain embodiments, the antibody is a recombinant antibody. In certain embodiments, the antibody is a monoclonal antibody, a chimeric antibody, a humanized antibody, or a human antibody. In some embodiments, the antibody is an antibody fragment. In certain embodiments, the antibody or antibody fragment is monovalent, monospecific, bivalent, bispecific, or multispecific. In certain embodiments, the antibody is conjugated to a cytotoxic moiety. In certain embodiments, the antibody is isolated. In still further embodiments, the antibody is substantially pure.

[0019] In another aspect, the invention provides a Jagged-binding agent (e.g., an antibody) that competes for specific binding to an extracellular domain of human Jagged with an antibody of the invention. In some embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent (e.g., an antibody) competes for specific binding to an extracellular domain of human Jagged1 and/or human Jagged2 with an antibody that comprises a heavy chain variable region comprising SEQ ID NO:5 and a light chain variable region comprising SEQ ID NO:7. In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent (e.g., an antibody) competes for specific binding to an extracellular domain of human Jagged1 and/or human Jagged2 with an antibody that comprises a heavy chain variable region comprising SEQ ID NO:19 and a light chain variable region comprising SEQ ID NO:21. In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent (e.g., an antibody) competes for specific binding to an extracellular domain of human Jagged1 and/or human Jagged2 with an antibody that comprises a heavy chain variable region comprising SEQ ID NO:50 and a light chain variable region comprising SEQ ID NO:21. In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent (e.g., an antibody) competes for specific binding to an extracellular domain of human Jagged1 and/or human Jagged2 with an antibody that comprises a heavy chain variable region comprising SEQ ID NO:51 and a light chain variable region comprising SEQ ID NO:21. In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent

(e.g., an antibody) competes for specific binding to an extracellular domain of human Jagged1 and/or human Jagged2 with an antibody that comprises a heavy chain variable region comprising SEQ ID NO:52 and a light chain variable region comprising SEQ ID NO:21. In certain embodiments, the binding agent (e.g., an antibody) competes for specific binding to an extracellular domain of human Jagged1 with an antibody that comprises a heavy chain variable region comprising SEQ ID NO:33 and a light chain variable region comprising SEQ ID NO:35. In some embodiments, the binding agent competes for specific binding to an extracellular domain of human Jagged1 and/or Jagged2 with an antibody in an *in vitro* competitive binding assay.

[0020] In another aspect, the invention provides a Jagged-binding agent that competes for specific binding to an extracellular domain of human Jagged with any one of the following antibodies: 64M51, 64R7, 64R1B, 133R0201, 133R0203, or 133R0205. In some embodiments, the invention provides a Jagged-binding agent that competes for specific binding to an extracellular domain of human Jagged1 with antibody 64M51, antibody 64R7, antibody 133R0201, antibody 133R0203 or antibody 133R0205. In some embodiments, the invention provides a Jagged-binding agent that competes for specific binding to an extracellular domain of human Jagged2 with antibody 64M51, antibody 64R7, antibody 133R0201, antibody 133R0203 or antibody 133R0205. In some embodiments, the invention provides a Jagged-binding agent that competes for specific binding to an extracellular domain of human Jagged1 with antibody 64R1B.

[0021] In another aspect, the invention provides a Jagged-binding agent that specifically binds to the extracellular domain of a human Jagged, wherein the Jagged-binding agent comprises a polypeptide. In some embodiments, the polypeptide that binds to the extracellular domain of a human Jagged1 and/or Jagged2 comprises (a) a polypeptide having at least about 80% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO:5, and/or a polypeptide having at least about 80% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO:7. In some embodiments, the polypeptide that binds to the extracellular domain of a human Jagged1 and/or Jagged2 comprises (a) a polypeptide having at least about 80% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO:19, and/or a polypeptide having at least about 80% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO:21. In some embodiments, the polypeptide that binds to the extracellular domain of a human Jagged1 and/or Jagged2 comprises (a) a polypeptide having at least about 80% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO:50, and/or a polypeptide having at least about 80% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO:21. In some embodiments, the polypeptide that binds to the extracellular domain of a human Jagged1 and/or Jagged2 comprises (a) a polypeptide having at least about 80% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO:51, and/or a polypeptide having at least about 80% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO:21. In some embodiments, the polypeptide that binds to the extracellular domain of a human Jagged1 and/or Jagged2 comprises (a) a polypeptide having at least about 80% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO:52, and/or a polypeptide having at least about 80% sequence identity to SEQ ID

NO:21. In some embodiments, the polypeptide that binds to the extracellular domain of a human Jagged1 comprises (a) a polypeptide having at least about 80% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO:33, and/or a polypeptide having at least about 80% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO:35. In some embodiments, the polypeptide is isolated. In certain embodiments, the polypeptide is substantially pure.

[0022] In certain embodiments of each of the aforementioned aspects, as well as other aspects described herein, the Jagged-binding agent or polypeptide is an antibody.

[0023] In certain embodiments of each of the aforementioned aspects, as well as other aspects described herein, the Jagged-binding agent or polypeptide or antibody inhibits binding of human Jagged to a Notch receptor. In some embodiments, the human Jagged is Jagged1. In some embodiments, the human Jagged is Jagged2. In some embodiments, the Notch receptor is Notch1. In some embodiments, the Notch receptor is Notch2. In some embodiments, the Notch receptor is Notch3. In some embodiments, the Notch receptor is Notch4.

[0024] In certain embodiments of each of the aforementioned aspects, as well as other aspects described elsewhere herein, the Jagged-binding agent or antibody that specifically binds to and/or modulates the activity of Jagged1 further specifically binds to and/or modulates the activity of Jagged2. In certain embodiments, the antibody specifically binds to and/or modulates the activity of Jagged2.

[0025] In certain embodiments of each of the aforementioned aspects, as well as other aspects described elsewhere herein, the Jagged-binding agent is an antagonist of Jagged1. In some embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent is an antagonist of Jagged2. In some embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent is an antagonist of Jagged1 and Jagged2.

[0026] In certain embodiments of each of the aforementioned aspects, as well as other aspects described elsewhere herein, the Jagged-binding agent, *e.g.* an antibody, inhibits the binding of Jagged to a Notch receptor. In some embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent or antibody inhibits or blocks Notch receptor signaling. In some embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent or antibody inhibits or blocks Notch activation. In some embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent is an antagonist of a Notch receptor.

[0027] In another aspect, the invention provides a polynucleotide molecule encoding any of the antibodies and/or polypeptides of the aforementioned aspects, as well as other aspects as described herein. In some embodiments, an expression vector comprises the polynucleotide molecule. In other embodiments, a host cell comprises the expression vector. In some embodiments, a host cell comprises the polynucleotide molecule. In some embodiments, the host cell is a hybridoma cell line.

[0028] In one aspect, the invention provides a method of inhibiting the growth of a tumor in a subject, comprising administering to the subject a therapeutically effective amount of a Jagged-binding agent. In some embodiments, the tumor is a solid tumor. In some embodiments, the tumor is a colorectal tumor, a breast tumor, a prostate tumor, a pancreatic tumor, a lung tumor, a head and neck tumor or a melanoma

tumor. In certain embodiments, the tumor comprises cancer stem cells. In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent inhibits growth of the tumor by reducing the number and/or frequency of cancer stem cells in the tumor. In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent is an antibody, such as an antibody that specifically binds to Jagged1 and/or Jagged2. In some embodiments, the Jagged is human Jagged1 and/or human Jagged2. In some embodiments, the subject is a human.

[0029] In another aspect, the invention provides a method of reducing the tumorigenicity of a tumor comprising cancer stem cells by reducing the frequency of cancer stem cells in the tumor, wherein the method comprises contacting the tumor with an effective amount of a Jagged-binding agent. In certain embodiments, the agent is an antibody, such as an antibody that specifically binds to human Jagged1 and/or human Jagged2. In some embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent modulates the activity of Jagged1 and/or Jagged2. In some embodiments, the modulation of Jagged1 and/or Jagged2 activity inhibits Jagged interaction with Notch. In some embodiments, the modulation of Jagged1 and/or Jagged2 activity inhibits Notch signaling. In some embodiments, the modulation of Jagged1 and/or Jagged2 activity inhibits Notch activation.

[0030] In another aspect, the invention provides a binding agent (e.g., an antibody) that specifically binds Jagged and has an effect on cancer stem cells. In some embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent reduces the frequency of cancer stem cells in a tumor, reduces the number of cancer stem cells in a tumor, reduces the tumorigenicity of a tumor, and/or reduces the tumorigenicity of a tumor by reducing the number and/or frequency of cancer stem cells in the tumor. In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent (e.g., an antibody) specifically binds to Jagged1. In some embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent (e.g., an antibody) specifically binds to Jagged 2. In some embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent (e.g., an antibody) specifically binds to Jagged1 and Jagged2.

[0031] In certain embodiments of each of the aforementioned aspects, as well as other aspects described elsewhere herein, the tumors which are targeted are breast, colorectal, hepatic, renal, lung, pancreatic, ovarian, melanoma, prostate, or head and neck tumors.

[0032] In another aspect, the invention provides a method of treating cancer in a subject. In some embodiments, the method comprises administering to a subject a Jagged-binding agent. In some embodiments, the method comprises administering to a subject a therapeutically effective amount of any of the antibodies or polypeptides or agents described in the aforementioned aspects, as well as other aspects and embodiments described elsewhere herein. In some embodiments, the cancer to be treated is breast cancer, colorectal cancer, hepatic cancer, kidney cancer, liver cancer, lung cancer, pancreatic cancer, gastrointestinal cancer, melanoma, ovarian cancer, prostate cancer, cervical cancer, bladder cancer, glioblastoma, or head and neck cancer.

[0033] In certain embodiments of each of the aforementioned aspects, as well as other aspects described elsewhere herein, the treatment methods further comprise administering at least one additional therapeutic agent appropriate for effecting combination therapy (e.g., a chemotherapeutic agent or other anticancer agent, if cancer is to be treated).

[0034] Pharmaceutical compositions comprising both a Jagged-binding agent as described herein and a pharmaceutically acceptable vehicle are further provided, as are cell lines that produce the Jagged-binding agents. Methods of treating cancer and/or inhibiting tumor growth in a subject (e.g., a human) comprising administering to the subject an effective amount of a composition comprising the Jagged-binding agents are also provided.

[0035] Where aspects or embodiments of the invention are described in terms of a Markush group or other grouping of alternatives, the present invention encompasses not only the entire group listed as a whole, but also each member of the group individually and all possible subgroups of the main group, and also the main group absent one or more of the group members. The present invention also envisages the explicit exclusion of one or more of any of the group members in the claimed invention.

BRIEF DESCRIPTIONS OF THE DRAWINGS

[0036] Figure 1. Identification of antibodies that bind to Jagged1 and/or Jagged2. Human HEK293 cells expressing human or mouse Jagged1 (Jag1) or Jagged2 (Jag2) and GFP were incubated with 64R1B, 64R7, 64M51 or control antibodies and phycoerythrin (PE) conjugated secondary antibody. Binding of antibodies to the Jagged-expressing cells was analyzed by flow cytometry. Shown are FACS analyses of antibody binding to the Jagged transfected cells. Binding is highlighted in each panel by the dark grey box insert.

[0037] Figure 2. Identification of antibodies that block Jagged-Notch interaction. Human HEK293 cells expressing human Jagged1 (Jag1) or Jagged2 (Jag2) and GFP were incubated with recombinant Notch2-Fc fusion protein in the presence of antibodies 64R1B, 64R7, 64M14 or 64M51. The binding of Notch2-Fc to transfected cells was detected by incubation with PE-conjugated secondary antibody and analyzed by flow cytometry. Shown are FACS analyses of antibody blocking of Notch2 binding to the Jagged transfected cells. Binding is highlighted in each panel by the dark grey box insert.

[0038] Figure 3. Identification of distinct functional epitopes. In order to determine whether 64M51, 64R7 and 64R1B bound to distinct epitopes on Jagged1, epitope competition binding studies were conducted. Antibodies 64R1B (Fig. 3A), 64R7 (Fig. 3B) and 64M51 (Fig. 3C) were coated on CM5 Biacore chips. Human Jagged1 protein was then bound to the chip. Following binding of Jagged1 protein to each of the indicated antibody chips (64M51, 64R7 or 64R1B), the ability of additional Jagged

antibodies to be bound was assessed. The arrow indicates the point where the injection of the solution antibody over the chip was started.

[0039] Figure 4. Identification of antibodies that inhibit Notch activation *in vitro*. Human PC3 cells were transfected with a plasmid expressing a Notch2 receptor as well as plasmids encoding a Notch-dependent firefly luciferase reporter construct and a transfection control reporter (Renilla luciferase). Cells were incubated overnight in the presence of recombinant Jagged proteins and antibodies 64M51, 64R1B or 64R7. Luciferase activity (RLU) was determined using a dual luciferase assay kit. Fig. 4A shows human Jagged1 (hJag1), Fig. 4B shows human Jagged2 (hJag2), Fig. 4C shows rat Jagged1 (rJag1), and Fig. 4D shows mouse Jagged2 (mJag2). In Figs. 4A-4D 64M51 antibody is ♦, 64R1B antibody is ▲, 64R7 antibody is ✕, Jag control is ● and cells alone control is +.

[0040] Figure 5. Identification of antibodies that inhibit Notch activation *in vitro*. Human PC3 cells were transfected with a plasmid expressing a Notch2 receptor as well as plasmids encoding a Notch-dependent firefly luciferase reporter construct and a transfection control reporter (Renilla luciferase). A second set of human PC3 cells was transfected with a plasmid expressing either human Jagged1 or human Jagged2. Aliquots of each cell population were mixed together and incubated overnight in the presence of antibody 64M51, 64R1B or 64R7. Luciferase activity (RLU) was determined using a dual luciferase assay kit. Fig. 5A shows human Jagged1 (hJag1) and Fig. 5B shows human Jagged2 (hJag2). In all figures 64M51 antibody is ♦, 64R1B antibody is ▲, 64R7 antibody is ✕, Jag control is ● and cells alone control is +.

[0041] Figure 6. Inhibition of tumor growth with antibody 64M51 and paclitaxel. PE13 breast tumor cells were injected subcutaneously into NOD/SCID mice. Mice were treated with 64M51 (●), paclitaxel (▲), 64M51 + paclitaxel (▼), or a control antibody (■). Data is shown as tumor volume (mm³) over days post-treatment.

[0042] Figure 7. Inhibition of tumor growth with antibody 64M51 and gemcitabine. PN17 pancreatic tumor cells were injected subcutaneously into NOD/SCID mice. Mice were treated with 64M51 (●) or control antibody (■) in Fig. 7A and gemcitabine (▲) or 64M51 + gemcitabine (●) in Fig. 7B. Data is shown as tumor volume (mm³) over days post-treatment.

[0043] Figure 8. Pharmacokinetics studies with antibodies 64R1B and 64R7 in rats.

[0044] Figure 9. Inhibition of tumor growth with antibody 64R7 and taxol. Lu11 lung tumor cells were injected subcutaneously into NOD/SCID mice. Mice were treated with 64R7 (▲), taxol (■), a combination of 64R7 and taxol (●), or control antibody (○). Data is shown as tumor volume (mm³) over days post-treatment.

[0045] Figure 10. Inhibition of tumor growth with antibody 64R7 and irinotecan. C28 colon tumor cells were injected subcutaneously into NOD/SCID mice. Mice were treated with 64R7 (▲), irinotecan (●), a combination of 64R7 and irinotecan (▼), or control antibody (■). Data is shown as tumor volume (mm³) over days post-treatment.

[0046] Figure 11. Inhibition of tumor growth with antibody 64R7 and taxol. Lu45 lung tumor cells were injected subcutaneously into NOD/SCID mice. Mice were treated with taxol (●), or a combination of 64R7 and taxol (■). Data is shown as tumor volume (mm³) over days post-treatment (Fig. 11A). Cells from harvested tumors were used in a limiting dilution assay (LDA). Cancer stem cell frequency in Lu45 tumors was determined following treatment with taxol or a combination of antibody 64R7 and taxol using a limiting dilution analysis (Fig. 11B and 11C.)

[0047] Figure 12. Identification of anti-Jagged antibodies that inhibit Notch activation *in vitro*. Human PC3 cells were transfected with a plasmid expressing a Notch2 receptor as well as plasmids encoding a Notch-dependent firefly luciferase reporter construct and a transfection control reporter (Renilla luciferase). A second set of human PC3 cells was transfected with a plasmid expressing either human Jagged1 or human Jagged2. Aliquots of each cell population were mixed together and incubated overnight in the presence of anti-Jagged antibodies. Luciferase activity (RLU) was determined using a dual luciferase assay kit. Fig. 12A shows human Jagged2 (hJag2) and Fig. 12B shows human Jagged1 (hJag1).

[0048] Figure 13. Inhibition of tumor growth with antibodies 64R7, 133R0203 or 133R0205. Lu42 lung tumor cells were injected subcutaneously into NOD/SCID mice. Mice were treated with 64R7 (▲), 133R0203 (○), 133R0205 (▼) or control antibody (■). Data is shown as tumor volume (mm³) over days post-treatment.

[0049] Figure 14. Inhibition of tumor growth with anti-Jagged antibodies. Lu45 lung tumor cells were injected subcutaneously into NOD/SCID mice. Mice were treated with 64R7 (●), 133R0201 (▲), 133R0203 (○), 133R0205 (◆), 133R0206 (□), taxol (Δ), a combination of antibody 64R7 and taxol (◇), a combination of antibody 133R0203 and taxol (♥), a combination of antibody 133R0205 and taxol (▼) or control antibody (X). Data is shown as tumor volume (mm³) over days post-treatment.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

[0050] The present invention provides novel agents, including, but not limited to polypeptides such as antibodies, that bind one or more Jagged proteins. The Jagged-binding agents include antagonists of the Notch signaling pathway. Related polypeptides and polynucleotides, compositions comprising the Jagged-binding agents, and methods of making the Jagged-binding agents are also provided. Methods of

using the novel Jagged-binding agents, such as methods of inhibiting tumor growth, methods of treating cancer, methods of reducing the frequency of cancer stem cells in a tumor, and/or methods of inhibiting angiogenesis, are further provided.

[0051] Monoclonal antibodies that specifically bind to an extracellular domain of a Jagged, including the monoclonal antibodies 64M51, 64R7 and 64R1B, have been identified (Examples 1 and 2). Additional antibodies 133R0201, 133R0203, 133R0205, 133R0206, 133R0207, 133R0208, 133R0209, and 133R0210 have been identified (Example 13). Several of the antibodies have different binding patterns and/or different binding affinities to human Jagged1, human Jagged2, mouse Jagged1 and mouse Jagged2 (Examples 3 and 4). The antibodies 64M51, 64R7 and 64R1B appear to bind to different epitopes on human Jagged1 (Example 5). Several of the antibodies, including 64R7, 64R1B, 133R0201, 133R0203, 133R0205, 133R0207, 133R0208, 133R0209, and 133R0210 inhibit Jagged-induced Notch activation/signaling (Examples 6 and 14). Antibody 64M51 has been found to inhibit tumor cell growth *in vivo* in several xenograft models (Examples 7 and 8). Antibody 64R7 has been found to inhibit tumor cell growth *in vivo* in several xenograft models both as a single agent and in combination with chemotherapeutic agents (Examples 10, 11 and 12). In addition, antibody 64R7 has been found to reduce the frequency of cancer stem cells in a xenograft model (Example 12). Antibodies 133R0201 and 133R0203 have been found to reduce tumor cell growth *in vivo* in several xenograft models either as a single agent and/or in combination with chemotherapeutic agents (Examples 15 and 16).

I. Definitions

[0052] To facilitate an understanding of the present invention, a number of terms and phrases are defined below.

[0053] The term “antibody” means an immunoglobulin molecule that recognizes and specifically binds to a target, such as a protein, polypeptide, peptide, carbohydrate, polynucleotide, lipid, or combinations of the foregoing through at least one antigen recognition site or antigen-binding site within the variable region of the immunoglobulin molecule. As used herein, the term “antibody” encompasses intact polyclonal antibodies, intact monoclonal antibodies, antibody fragments (such as Fab, Fab', F(ab')₂, and Fv fragments), single chain Fv (scFv) mutants, multispecific antibodies such as bispecific antibodies generated from at least two intact antibodies, chimeric antibodies, humanized antibodies, human antibodies, fusion proteins comprising an antigen recognition site of an antibody, and any other modified immunoglobulin molecule comprising an antigen recognition site so long as the antibodies exhibit the desired biological activity. An antibody can be any of the five major classes of immunoglobulins: IgA, IgD, IgE, IgG, and IgM, or subclasses (isotypes) thereof (e.g., IgG1, IgG2, IgG3, IgG4, IgA1 and IgA2),

based on the identity of their heavy chain constant domains referred to as alpha, delta, epsilon, gamma, and mu, respectively. The different classes of immunoglobulins have different and well-known subunit structures and three-dimensional configurations. Antibodies can be naked or conjugated to other molecules including, but not limited to, toxins and radioisotopes.

[0054] The term “antibody fragment” refers to a portion of an intact antibody and refers to the antigenic determining variable regions of an intact antibody. Examples of antibody fragments include, but are not limited to Fab, Fab', F(ab')₂, and Fv fragments, linear antibodies, single chain antibodies, and multispecific antibodies formed from antibody fragments.

[0055] The term “variable region” of an antibody refers to the variable region of the antibody light chain or the variable region of the antibody heavy chain, either alone or in combination. The variable regions of the heavy and light chains each consist of four framework regions (FR) connected by three complementarity determining regions (CDRs) also known as “hypervariable regions”. The CDRs in each chain are held together in close proximity by the FRs and, with the CDRs from the other chain, contribute to the formation of the antigen-binding site of the antibody. There are at least two techniques for determining CDRs: (1) an approach based on cross-species sequence variability (i.e., Kabat et al. Sequences of Proteins of Immunological Interest, 5th ed., 1991, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda Md.); and (2) an approach based on crystallographic studies of antigen-antibody complexes (Al-Lazikani et al., 1997, *J. Molec. Biol.* 273:927-948). In addition, combinations of these two approaches are sometimes used in the art to determine CDRs.

[0056] The term “monoclonal antibody” refers to a homogeneous antibody population involved in the highly specific recognition and binding of a single antigenic determinant, or epitope. This is in contrast to polyclonal antibodies that typically include a mixture of different antibodies directed against different antigenic determinants. The term “monoclonal antibody” encompasses both intact and full-length monoclonal antibodies as well as antibody fragments (such as Fab, Fab', F(ab')₂, Fv fragments), single chain Fv (scFv) mutants, fusion proteins comprising an antibody portion, and any other modified immunoglobulin molecule comprising an antigen recognition site. Furthermore, “monoclonal antibody” refers to such antibodies generated in any number of techniques including, but not limited to, by hybridoma production, phage selection, recombinant expression, and transgenic animals.

[0057] The term “humanized antibody” refers to forms of non-human (e.g., murine) antibodies that are specific immunoglobulin chains, chimeric immunoglobulins, or fragments thereof that contain minimal non-human (e.g., murine) sequences.

[0058] The term “human antibody” means an antibody produced by a human or an antibody having an amino acid sequence corresponding to an antibody produced by a human made using any technique known in the art. This definition of a human antibody includes intact or full-length antibodies, fragments

thereof, and/or antibodies comprising at least one human heavy and/or light chain polypeptide such as, for example, an antibody comprising murine light chain and human heavy chain polypeptides.

[0059] The term “chimeric antibodies” refers to antibodies wherein the amino acid sequence of the immunoglobulin molecule is derived from two or more species. Typically, the variable region of both light and heavy chains corresponds to the variable region of antibodies derived from one species of mammal (e.g., mouse, rat, rabbit, etc.) with the desired specificity, affinity, and/or capability while the constant regions are homologous to the sequences in antibodies derived from another species (usually human) to avoid eliciting an immune response in that species.

[0060] The terms “epitope” or “antigenic determinant” are used interchangeably herein and refer to that portion of an antigen capable of being recognized and specifically bound by a particular antibody. When the antigen is a polypeptide, epitopes can be formed both from contiguous amino acids (often referred to as “linear epitopes”) and noncontiguous amino acids juxtaposed by tertiary folding of a protein (often referred to as “conformation epitopes”). Epitopes formed from contiguous amino acids are typically retained upon protein denaturing, whereas epitopes formed by tertiary folding are typically lost upon protein denaturing. An epitope typically includes at least 3, and more usually, at least 5 or 8-10 amino acids in a unique spatial conformation.

[0061] The terms “specifically binds” and “specific binding” mean that a binding agent or an antibody reacts or associates more frequently, more rapidly, with greater duration, with greater affinity, or with some combination of the above to an epitope or protein than with alternative substances, including unrelated proteins. In certain embodiments, “specifically binds” means, for instance, that an antibody binds to a protein with a K_D of about 0.1mM or less, but more usually less than about 1 μ M. In certain embodiments, “specifically binds” means that an antibody binds to a protein at times with a K_D of at least about 0.1 μ M or less, and at other times at least about 0.01 μ M or less. Because of the sequence identity between homologous proteins in different species, specific binding can include an antibody that recognizes a particular protein such as a Jagged in more than one species (e.g., mouse Jagged1 and human Jagged1). Likewise, because of homology between different Jagged proteins in certain regions of the polypeptide sequences of the proteins, specific binding can include an antibody (or other polypeptide or agent) that recognizes more than one Jagged protein (e.g., human Jagged1 and human Jagged2). It is understood that an antibody or binding moiety that specifically binds to a first target may or may not specifically bind to a second target. As such, “specific binding” does not necessarily require (although it can include) exclusive binding, i.e. binding to a single target. Thus, an antibody may, in certain embodiments, specifically bind to more than one target (e.g., human Jagged1, human Jagged2, mouse Jagged 1, and/or mouse Jagged2). In certain embodiments, the multiple targets may be bound by the same antigen-binding site on the antibody. For example, an antibody may, in certain instances, comprise

two identical antigen-binding sites, each of which specifically binds the same epitope on two or more Jagged proteins (e.g., Jagged1 and/or Jagged2). In certain alternative embodiments, an antibody may be bispecific or multispecific and comprise at least two antigen-binding sites with differing specificities. By way of non-limiting example, a bispecific antibody may comprise one antigen-binding site that recognizes an epitope on one Jagged protein, such as human Jagged1, and further comprises a second, different antigen-binding site that recognizes a different epitope on a second Jagged protein, such as human Jagged2. Generally, but not necessarily, reference to binding means specific binding.

[0062] The terms “polypeptide” and “peptide” and “protein” are used interchangeably herein and refer to polymers of amino acids of any length. The polymer may be linear or branched, it may comprise modified amino acids, and it may be interrupted by non-amino acids. The terms also encompass an amino acid polymer that has been modified naturally or by intervention; for example, disulfide bond formation, glycosylation, lipidation, acetylation, phosphorylation, or any other manipulation or modification, such as conjugation with a labeling component. Also included within the definition are, for example, polypeptides containing one or more analogs of an amino acid (including, for example, unnatural amino acids, etc.), as well as other modifications known in the art. It is understood that, because the polypeptides of this invention are based upon antibodies, in certain embodiments, the polypeptides can occur as single chains or associated chains.

[0063] The terms “polynucleotide” and “nucleic acid,” are used interchangeably herein and refer to polymers of nucleotides of any length, and include DNA and RNA. The nucleotides can be deoxyribonucleotides, ribonucleotides, modified nucleotides or bases, and/or their analogs, or any substrate that can be incorporated into a polymer by DNA or RNA polymerase. A polynucleotide may comprise modified nucleotides, such as methylated nucleotides and their analogs. If present, modification to the nucleotide structure may be imparted before or after assembly of the polymer. The sequence of nucleotides may be interrupted by non-nucleotide components. A polynucleotide may be further modified after polymerization, such as by conjugation with a labeling component. Other types of modifications include, for example, “caps”; substitution of one or more of the naturally occurring nucleotides with an analog; internucleotide modifications such as uncharged linkages (e.g., methyl phosphonates, phosphotriesters, phosphoamidates, carbamates, etc.) and charged linkages (e.g., phosphorothioates, phosphorodithioates, etc.); pendant moieties, such as proteins (e.g., nucleases, toxins, antibodies, signal peptides, poly-L-lysine, etc.); intercalators (e.g., acridine, psoralen, etc.); chelators (e.g., metals, radioactive metals, boron, oxidative metals, etc.); alkylators; modified linkages (e.g., alpha anomeric nucleic acids, etc.); as well as unmodified forms of the polynucleotide(s). Further, any of the hydroxyl groups ordinarily present in the sugars may be replaced, for example, by phosphonate groups, phosphate groups, protected by standard protecting groups, or activated to prepare additional linkages to

additional nucleotides, or may be conjugated to solid supports. The 5' and 3' terminal OH can be phosphorylated or substituted with amines or organic capping group moieties of from 1 to 20 carbon atoms. Other hydroxyls may also be derivatized to standard protecting groups. Polynucleotides can also contain analogous forms of ribose or deoxyribose sugars that are generally known in the art, including, for example, 2'-O-methyl-, 2'-O-allyl, 2'-fluoro- or 2'-azido-ribose, carbocyclic sugar analogs, alpha-anomeric sugars, epimeric sugars such as arabinose, xyloses or lyxoses, pyranose sugars, furanose sugars, heptuloses, acyclic analogs and abasic nucleoside analogs such as methyl riboside. One or more phosphodiester linkages may be replaced by alternative linking groups. These alternative linking groups include, but are not limited to, embodiments wherein phosphate is replaced by P(O)S ("thioate"), P(S)S ("dithioate"), (O)NR₂ ("amidate"), P(O)R, P(O)OR', CO or CH₂ ("formacetal"), in which each R or R' is independently H or a substituted or unsubstituted alkyl (1-20 C) optionally containing an ether (--O--) linkage, aryl, alkenyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkenyl or araldyl. Not all linkages in a polynucleotide need be identical.

[0064] "Conditions of high stringency" may be identified by those that: (1) employ low ionic strength and high temperature for washing, for example 0.015 M sodium chloride/0.0015 M sodium citrate/0.1% sodium dodecyl sulfate at 50°C; (2) employ during hybridization a denaturing agent, such as formamide, for example, 50% (v/v) formamide with 0.1% bovine serum albumin/0.1% Ficoll/0.1% polyvinylpyrrolidone/50mM sodium phosphate buffer at pH 6.5 with 750mM sodium chloride, 75mM sodium citrate at 42°C; or (3) employ 50% formamide, 5x SSC (0.75M NaCl, 0.075M sodium citrate), 50mM sodium phosphate (pH 6.8), 0.1% sodium pyrophosphate, 5x Denhardt's solution, sonicated salmon sperm DNA (50µg/ml), 0.1% SDS, and 10% dextran sulfate at 42°C, with washes at 42°C in 0.2x SSC (sodium chloride/sodium citrate) and 50% formamide at 55°C, followed by a high-stringency wash consisting of 0.1x SSC containing EDTA at 55°C.

[0065] The terms "identical" or percent "identity" in the context of two or more nucleic acids or polypeptides, refer to two or more sequences or subsequences that are the same or have a specified percentage of nucleotides or amino acid residues that are the same, when compared and aligned (introducing gaps, if necessary) for maximum correspondence, not considering any conservative amino acid substitutions as part of the sequence identity. The percent identity may be measured using sequence comparison software or algorithms or by visual inspection. Various algorithms and software are known in the art that may be used to obtain alignments of amino acid or nucleotide sequences. These include but are not limited to, BLAST, ALIGN, Megalign, BestFit, etc. In some embodiments, two nucleic acids or polypeptides of the invention are substantially identical, meaning they have at least 70%, at least 75%, at least 80%, at least 85%, at least 90%, and in some embodiments at least 95%, 96%, 97%, 98%, 99% nucleotide or amino acid residue identity, when compared and aligned for maximum correspondence, as

measured using a sequence comparison algorithm or by visual inspection. In some embodiments, identity exists over a region of the sequences that is at least about 10, at least about 20, at least about 40-60 residues in length or any integral value therebetween. In some embodiments, identity exists over a longer region than 60-80 residues, such as at least about 90-100 residues, and in some embodiments the sequences are substantially identical over the full length of the sequences being compared, such as the coding region of a nucleotide sequence.

[0066] A “conservative amino acid substitution” is one in which one amino acid residue is replaced with another amino acid residue having a similar side chain. Families of amino acid residues having similar side chains have been defined in the art, including basic side chains (e.g., lysine, arginine, histidine), acidic side chains (e.g., aspartic acid, glutamic acid), uncharged polar side chains (e.g., glycine, asparagine, glutamine, serine, threonine, tyrosine, cysteine), nonpolar side chains (e.g., alanine, valine, leucine, isoleucine, proline, phenylalanine, methionine, tryptophan), beta-branched side chains (e.g., threonine, valine, isoleucine) and aromatic side chains (e.g., tyrosine, phenylalanine, tryptophan, histidine). For example, substitution of a phenylalanine for a tyrosine is a conservative substitution. Preferably, conservative substitutions in the sequences of the polypeptides and antibodies of the invention do not abrogate the binding of the polypeptide or antibody containing the amino acid sequence, to the antigen(s), i.e., the one or more Jagged proteins to which the polypeptide or antibody binds. Methods of identifying nucleotide and amino acid conservative substitutions which do not eliminate antigen binding are well-known in the art.

[0067] The term “vector” means a construct, which is capable of delivering, and preferably expressing, one or more gene(s) or sequence(s) of interest in a host cell. Examples of vectors include, but are not limited to, viral vectors, naked DNA or RNA expression vectors, plasmid, cosmid or phage vectors, DNA or RNA expression vectors associated with cationic condensing agents, and DNA or RNA expression vectors encapsulated in liposomes.

[0068] A polypeptide, antibody, polynucleotide, vector, cell, or composition which is “isolated” is a polypeptide, antibody, polynucleotide, vector, cell, or composition which is in a form not found in nature. Isolated polypeptides, antibodies, polynucleotides, vectors, cell or compositions include those which have been purified to a degree that they are no longer in a form in which they are found in nature. In some embodiments, an antibody, polynucleotide, vector, cell, or composition which is isolated is substantially pure.

[0069] As used herein, “substantially pure” refers to material which is at least 50% pure (i.e., free from contaminants), more preferably at least 90% pure, more preferably at least 95% pure, more preferably at least 98% pure, more preferably at least 99% pure.

[0070] The terms “cancer” and “cancerous” refer to or describe the physiological condition in mammals in which a population of cells are characterized by unregulated cell growth. Examples of cancer include, but are not limited to, carcinoma, lymphoma, blastoma, sarcoma, and leukemia. More particular examples of such cancers include squamous cell cancer, small-cell lung cancer, non-small cell lung cancer, adenocarcinoma of the lung, squamous carcinoma of the lung, cancer of the peritoneum, hepatocellular cancer, gastrointestinal cancer, pancreatic cancer, glioblastoma, cervical cancer, ovarian cancer, liver cancer, bladder cancer, hepatoma, breast cancer, colon cancer, colorectal cancer, endometrial or uterine carcinoma, salivary gland carcinoma, kidney cancer, liver cancer, prostate cancer, melanoma, vulval cancer, thyroid cancer, hepatic carcinoma and various types of head and neck cancers.

[0071] The terms “tumor” and “neoplasm” refer to any mass of tissue that results from excessive cell growth or proliferation, either benign (noncancerous) or malignant (cancerous), including pre-cancerous lesions.

[0072] The terms “cancer stem cell” and “CSC” and “tumor stem cell” and “solid tumor stem cell” and “tumorigenic stem cell” are used interchangeably herein and refer to a population of cells from a solid tumor that: (1) have extensive proliferative capacity; 2) are capable of asymmetric cell division to generate one or more kinds of differentiated progeny with reduced proliferative or developmental potential; and (3) are capable of symmetric cell divisions for self-renewal or self-maintenance. These properties confer on the “cancer stem cells” the ability to form palpable tumors upon serial transplantation into an immunocompromised host (e.g., a mouse) compared to the majority of tumor cells that fail to form tumors. Cancer stem cells undergo self-renewal versus differentiation in a chaotic manner to form tumors with abnormal cell types that can change over time as mutations occur.

[0073] The terms “cancer cell” and “tumor cell,” and grammatical equivalents refer to the total population of cells derived from a tumor or a pre-cancerous lesion, including both non-tumorigenic cells, which comprise the bulk of the tumor cell population, and tumorigenic stem cells (cancer stem cells). As used herein, the term “tumor cell” will be modified by the term “non-tumorigenic” when referring solely to those tumor cells lacking the capacity to renew and differentiate to distinguish those tumor cells from cancer stem cells.

[0074] The term “tumorigenic” refers to the functional features of a solid tumor stem cell including the properties of self-renewal (giving rise to additional tumorigenic cancer stem cells) and proliferation to generate all other tumor cells (giving rise to differentiated and thus non-tumorigenic tumor cells) that allow solid tumor stem cells to form a tumor. These properties of self-renewal and proliferation to generate all other tumor cells confer on cancer stem cells the ability to form palpable tumors upon serial transplantation into an immunocompromised host (e.g., a mouse) compared to non-tumorigenic tumor cells, which are unable to form tumors upon serial transplantation. It has been observed that non-

tumorigenic tumor cells may form a tumor upon primary transplantation into an immunocompromised host after obtaining the tumor cells from a solid tumor, but those non-tumorigenic tumor cells do not give rise to a tumor upon serial transplantation.

[0075] The term “subject” refers to any animal (e.g., a mammal), including, but not limited to, humans, non-human primates, canines, felines, rodents, and the like, which is to be the recipient of a particular treatment. Typically, the terms “subject” and “patient” are used interchangeably herein in reference to a human subject.

[0076] The phrase “pharmaceutically acceptable salt” refers to a salt of a compound that is pharmaceutically acceptable and that possesses the desired pharmacological activity of the parent compound.

[0077] The phrase “pharmaceutically acceptable excipient, carrier or adjuvant” refers to an excipient, carrier or adjuvant that can be administered to a subject, together with at least one binding agent or antibody of the present disclosure, and which does not destroy the pharmacological and/or biological activity thereof and is nontoxic when administered in doses sufficient to deliver a therapeutic amount of the binding agent.

[0078] The phrase “pharmaceutically acceptable vehicle” refers to a diluent, adjuvant, excipient, or carrier with which at least one binding agent or antibody of the present disclosure is administered.

[0079] The phrase “therapeutically effective amount” refers to an amount of a binding agent, antibody, polypeptide, polynucleotide, small organic molecule, or other drug effective to “treat” a disease or disorder in a subject or mammal. In the case of cancer, the therapeutically effective amount of the drug (e.g., an antibody) can reduce the number of cancer cells; reduce the tumor size; inhibit and/or stop cancer cell infiltration into peripheral organs including, for example, the spread of cancer into soft tissue and bone; inhibit and/or stop tumor metastasis; inhibit and/or stop tumor growth; relieve to some extent one or more of the symptoms associated with the cancer; reduce morbidity and mortality; improve quality of life; decrease tumorigenicity, tumorigenic frequency, or tumorigenic capacity of a tumor; reduce the number or frequency of cancer stem cells in a tumor; differentiate tumorigenic cells to a non-tumorigenic state; or a combination of such effects. To the extent the drug prevents growth and/or kills existing cancer cells, it can be referred to as cytostatic and/or cytotoxic.

[0080] The terms “treating” and “treatment” and “to treat” and “alleviating” and “to alleviate” refer to both 1) therapeutic measures that cure, slow down, lessen symptoms of, and/or halt progression of a diagnosed pathologic condition or disorder and 2) prophylactic or preventative measures that prevent and/or slow the development of a targeted pathologic condition or disorder. Thus, those in need of treatment include those already with the disorder; those prone to have the disorder; and those in whom the disorder is to be prevented. In certain embodiments, a subject is successfully “treated” for cancer

according to the methods of the present invention if the patient shows one or more of the following: a reduction in the number of, or complete absence of, cancer cells; a reduction in the tumor size; inhibition of, or an absence of, cancer cell infiltration into peripheral organs including, for example, the spread of cancer into soft tissue and bone; inhibition of, or an absence of, tumor metastasis; inhibition of, or an absence of, tumor growth; relief of one or more symptoms associated with the specific cancer; reduced morbidity and mortality; improvement in quality of life; reduction in tumorigenicity, tumorigenic frequency, or tumorigenic capacity of a tumor; reduction in the number or frequency of cancer stem cells in a tumor; differentiation of tumorigenic cells to a non-tumorigenic state; or some combination of effects.

[0081] As used in the present disclosure and claims, the singular forms “a” “an” and “the” include plural forms unless the context clearly dictates otherwise.

[0082] It is understood that wherever embodiments are described herein with the language “comprising” otherwise analogous embodiments described in terms of “consisting of” and/or “consisting essentially of” are also provided.

[0083] The term “and/or” as used in a phrase such as “A and/or B” herein is intended to include each of the following embodiments: A and B; A or B; A (alone) and B (alone). Likewise, the term “and/or” as used in a phrase such as “A, B, and/or C” is intended to encompass each of the following embodiments: A, B, and C; A, B, or C; A or C; A or B; B or C; A and C; A and B; B and C; A (alone); B (alone); and C (alone).

II. Jagged-binding agents

[0084] The present invention provides agents that specifically bind Jagged (e.g., Jagged1 and/or Jagged2). These agents are referred to herein as “Jagged-binding agents”. In certain embodiments, the agents bind Jagged1. In certain embodiments, the agents bind Jagged2. In certain embodiments, the agents bind both Jagged1 and Jagged2. In certain embodiments, the Jagged is human Jagged1 (hJagged1) and/or human Jagged2 (hJagged2). The full-length amino acid (aa) sequences for human Jagged1 and human Jagged2 are known in the art and are provided herein as SEQ ID NO:43 (hJagged1 aa) and SEQ ID NO:44 (hJagged2 aa). In both sequences, the signal sequence and extracellular domain (ECD) are underlined.

[0085] In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent is an antibody that specifically binds to Jagged1. In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent is an antibody that specifically binds to Jagged2. In some embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent is an antibody that specifically binds to both Jagged1 and Jagged2. In certain embodiments, the Jagged1 is human Jagged1. In certain embodiments, the Jagged2 is human Jagged2. In some embodiments, the Jagged1 is mouse Jagged1. In certain embodiments, the Jagged2 is mouse Jagged2. In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent (e.g., an

antibody) binds human Jagged1 and mouse Jagged1. In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent (e.g., an antibody) binds human Jagged1, human Jagged2, mouse Jagged1 and mouse Jagged2. In some embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent (e.g., an antibody) does not bind mouse Jagged1 and/or mouse Jagged2.

[0086] In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent (e.g., an antibody) specifically binds to an extracellular domain (ECD) of Jagged. In some embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent (e.g., an antibody) binds to a region comprising the DSL domain of an extracellular domain of a Jagged protein. In some embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent (e.g., an antibody) binds to a region comprising an EGF domain of an extracellular domain of a Jagged protein. In some embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent (e.g., an antibody) binds to a region comprising an EGF1, EGF2, and/or EGF3 domain of an extracellular domain of a Jagged protein.

[0087] In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent (e.g., an antibody) binds to an extracellular domain of Jagged with a dissociation constant (K_D) of about 1 μ M or less, about 100nM or less, about 40nM or less, about 20nM or less, about 10nM or less or about 1nM or less. In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent (e.g., an antibody) binds to human Jagged1 with a K_D of about 40nM or less, about 20nM or less, about 10nM or less, or about 1nM or less. In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent (e.g., an antibody) binds to human Jagged2 with a K_D of about 40nM or less, about 20nM or less, about 10nM or less, or about 1nM or less. In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent (e.g., an antibody) binds to both human Jagged1 and human Jagged2 with a K_D of about 40nM or less, about 20nM or less, about 10nM or less, or about 1nM or less. In some embodiments, the dissociation constant of the binding agent (e.g., an antibody) to a particular Jagged is the dissociation constant determined using a Jagged fusion protein comprising a Jagged extracellular domain (e.g., a Jagged1 ECD-Fc fusion protein) immobilized on a Biacore chip.

[0088] In some embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent (e.g., an antibody) of the invention as described herein binds to an extracellular domain of Jagged1 with a K_D of 50nM or less and binds to an extracellular domain of Jagged2 with a K_D of 50nM or less. In some embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent (e.g., an antibody) binds to an extracellular domain of Jagged1 with a K_D of 10nM or less and binds to an extracellular domain of Jagged2 with a K_D of 10nM or less. In some embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent (e.g., an antibody) binds to an extracellular domain of Jagged1 with a K_D of 50nM or less and binds to an extracellular domain of Jagged2 with a K_D of 10nM or less. In some embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent (e.g., an antibody) binds to an extracellular domain of Jagged1 with a K_D of 10nM or less and binds to an extracellular domain of Jagged2 with a K_D of 50nM or less. In some embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent (e.g., an antibody) binds to an extracellular domain of Jagged1 with a K_D of 10nM or less and binds to Jagged2 at undetectable levels. In some embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent (e.g.,

an antibody) binds to an extracellular domain of Jagged2 with a K_D of 10nM or less and binds to Jagged1 at undetectable levels.

[0089] In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent (e.g., an antibody) binds to Jagged with a half maximal effective concentration (EC_{50}) of about 1 μ M or less, about 100nM or less, about 40nM or less, about 20nM or less, about 10nM or less, or about 1nM or less. In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent (e.g., an antibody) binds to human Jagged1 with an EC_{50} of about 40nM or less, about 20nM or less, about 10nM or less, or about 1nM or less. In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent (e.g., an antibody) binds to human Jagged2 with an EC_{50} of about 40nM or less, about 20nM or less, about 10nM or less, or about 1nM or less. In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent (e.g., an antibody) binds to both human Jagged1 and human Jagged2 with an EC_{50} of about 40nM or less, about 20nM or less, about 10nM or less, or about 1nM or less.

[0090] In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent is a polypeptide. In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent or polypeptide is an antibody. In certain embodiments, the antibody is an IgG antibody. In some embodiments, the antibody is an IgG1 antibody. In some embodiments, the antibody is an IgG2 antibody. In certain embodiments, the antibody is a monoclonal antibody. In certain embodiments, the antibody is a humanized antibody. In certain embodiments, the antibody is a human antibody. In certain embodiments, the antibody is an antibody fragment.

[0091] In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agents and polypeptides as described herein have a half-life of at least about 50 hours in a rat when administered via the tail vein at a dose ranging from about 2mg/kg to about 30mg/kg. In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent or polypeptide has a half-life of at least about 50 hours in a rat when administered via the tail vein at a dose of about 10mg/kg to about 30mg/kg. In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent or polypeptide has a half-life of at least about 50 hours in a rat when administered via the tail vein at a dose of about 10mg/kg. In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent or polypeptide has a half-life of at least about 100 hours in a rat when administered via the tail vein at a dose ranging from about 2mg/kg to about 30mg/kg. In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent or polypeptide has a half-life of at least about 100 hours in a rat when administered via the tail vein at a dose of about 10mg/kg to about 30mg/kg. In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent or polypeptide has a half-life of at least about 100 hours in a rat when administered via the tail vein at a dose of about 30mg/kg.

[0092] The Jagged-binding agents (e.g., antibodies) of the present invention can be assayed for specific binding by any method known in the art. The immunoassays which can be used include, but are not limited to, competitive and non-competitive assay systems using techniques such as Biacore analysis, FACS analysis, immunofluorescence, immunocytochemistry, Western blot analysis, radioimmunoassay, ELISA, "sandwich" immunoassay, immunoprecipitation assay, precipitation reaction, gel diffusion

precipitin reaction, immunodiffusion assay, agglutination assay, complement-fixation assay, immunoradiometric assay, fluorescent immunoassay, and protein A immunoassay. Such assays are routine and well known in the art (*see, e.g.,* Ausubel et al., eds, 1994, *Current Protocols in Molecular Biology*, Vol. 1, John Wiley & Sons, Inc., New York).

[0093] In some embodiments, the specific binding of a Jagged-binding agent (e.g., an antibody) to a human Jagged may be determined using ELISA. An ELISA assay comprises preparing Jagged antigen, coating wells of a 96 well microtiter plate with antigen, adding to the wells the Jagged-binding agent or antibody conjugated to a detectable compound such as an enzymatic substrate (e.g., horseradish peroxidase or alkaline phosphatase), incubating for a period of time and detecting the presence of the binding agent or antibody. In some embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent (e.g., an antibody) is not conjugated to a detectable compound, but instead a second conjugated antibody that recognizes the Jagged-binding agent (e.g., an antibody) is added to the well. In some embodiments, instead of coating the well with the Jagged antigen, the Jagged-binding agent (e.g., an antibody) can be coated to the well, antigen is added to the coated well and then a second antibody conjugated to a detectable compound is added. One of skill in the art would be knowledgeable as to the parameters that can be modified and/or optimized to increase the signal detected, as well as other variations of ELISAs that can be used (*see e.g.,* Ausubel et al., eds, 1994, *Current Protocols in Molecular Biology*, Vol. 1, John Wiley & Sons, Inc., New York at 11.2.1).

[0094] The binding affinity of an antibody or other binding agent to Jagged and the on-off rate of an antibody-antigen interaction can be determined by competitive binding assays. In some embodiments, a competitive binding assay is a radioimmunoassay comprising the incubation of labeled antigen (e.g., ³H- or ¹²⁵I-labeled antigen), or fragment or variant thereof, with the antibody of interest in the presence of increasing amounts of unlabeled antigen followed by the detection of the antibody bound to the labeled antigen. The affinity of the antibody for the antigen and the on-off rates can be determined from the data by Scatchard plot analysis. In some embodiments, Biacore kinetic analysis is used to determine the binding affinities and on-off rates of antibodies or agents that bind Jagged (e.g., human Jagged1, human Jagged2, mouse Jagged1, etc.). Biacore kinetic analysis comprises analyzing the binding and dissociation of antibodies from antigens (e.g., Jagged proteins) that have been immobilized on the surface of a Biacore chip. In some embodiments, Biacore kinetic analyses can be used to study binding of different antibodies in qualitative epitope competition binding assays.

[0095] In certain embodiments, the invention provides a Jagged-binding agent (e.g., an antibody) that specifically binds to an extracellular domain of human Jagged, wherein the Jagged-binding agent (e.g., an antibody) comprises one, two, three, four, five and/or six of the CDRs of antibodies 64M51, 64R1B, 64R7, 133R0201, 133R0203 or 133R0205 (see Table 1). In some embodiments, the Jagged-binding

agent comprises one or more of the CDRs of 64M51, two or more of the CDRs of 64M51, three or more of the CDRs of 64M51, four or more of the CDRs of 64M51, five or more of the CDRs of 64M51, or all six of the CDRs of 64M51. In some embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent comprises one or more of the CDRs of 64R7, two or more of the CDRs of 64R7, three or more of the CDRs of 64R7, four or more of the CDRs of 64R7, five or more of the CDRs of 64R7, or all six of the CDRs of 64R7. In some embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent comprises one or more of the CDRs of 64R1B, two or more of the CDRs of 64R1B, three or more of the CDRs of 64R1B, four or more of the CDRs of 64R1B, five or more of the CDRs of 64R1B, or all six of the CDRs of 64R1B. In some embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent comprises one or more of the CDRs of 133R0201, two or more of the CDRs of 133R0201, three or more of the CDRs of 133R0201, four or more of the CDRs of 133R0201, five or more of the CDRs of 133R0201, or all six of the CDRs of 133R0201. In some embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent comprises one or more of the CDRs of 133R0203, two or more of the CDRs of 133R0203, three or more of the CDRs of 133R0203, four or more of the CDRs of 133R0203, five or more of the CDRs of 133R0203, or all six of the CDRs of 133R0203. In some embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent comprises one or more of the CDRs of 133R0205, two or more of the CDRs of 133R0205, three or more of the CDRs of 133R0205, four or more of the CDRs of 133R0205, five or more of the CDRs of 133R0205, or all six of the CDRs of 133R0205. In some embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent comprises CDRs with up to four (i.e., 0, 1, 2, 3, or 4) amino acid substitutions per CDR. In certain embodiments, the heavy chain CDR(s) are contained within a heavy chain variable region. In certain embodiments, the light chain CDR(s) are contained within a light chain variable region.

Table 1

	64M51	64R7	64R1B
HC CDR1	SYWIIH (SEQ ID NO:9)	SYAMH (SEQ ID NO:23)	SSNWWS (SEQ ID NO:37)
HC CDR2	RIYPGIGSTYYNEKFKD (SEQ ID NO:10)	VISYDGSNKYYADSVKG (SEQ ID NO:24)	EIFHGENTNYNPSLKS (SEQ ID NO:38)
HC CDR3	NGGFFDY (SEQ ID NO:11)	DKYDIPDAFDI (SEQ ID NO:25)	NPGIGAAKFDS (SEQ ID NO:39)
LC CDR1	RASEVDSYGNSFMH (SEQ ID NO:12)	RASQGISNDLA (SEQ ID NO:26)	KSSQSLHSDGKTYLY (SEQ ID NO:40)
LC CDR2	RASNLES (SEQ ID NO:13)	ATSTLQS (SEQ ID NO:27)	EVSNRFS (SEQ ID NO:41)
LC CDR3	QQSNDPWT (SEQ ID NO:14)	QQSYNAPI (SEQ ID NO:28)	MQHIDFP (SEQ ID NO:42)

	133R0201	133R0203	133R0205
HC CDR1	SYAMH (SEQ ID NO:23)	SYAMH (SEQ ID NO:23)	SYAMH (SEQ ID NO:23)
HC CDR2	AIYPDSSNKYYADSVKG (SEQ ID NO:47)	AISPEASNKYYADSVKG (SEQ ID NO:48)	AIYPASSNKYYADSVKG (SEQ ID NO:49)
HC CDR3	DKYDIPDAFDI (SEQ ID NO:25)	DKYDIPDAFDI (SEQ ID NO:25)	DKYDIPDAFDI (SEQ ID NO:25)
LC CDR1	RASQGISNDLA (SEQ ID NO:26)	RASQGISNDLA (SEQ ID NO:26)	RASQGISNDLA (SEQ ID NO:26)
LC CDR2	ATSTLQS (SEQ ID NO:27)	ATSTLQS (SEQ ID NO:27)	ATSTLQS (SEQ ID NO:27)
LC CDR3	QQSYNAPI (SEQ ID NO:28)	QQSYNAPI (SEQ ID NO:28)	QQSYNAPI (SEQ ID NO:28)

[0096] In certain embodiments, the invention provides a Jagged-binding agent (e.g, an antibody) that specifically binds to an extracellular domain of human Jagged1 and/or human Jagged2, wherein the Jagged-binding agent comprises: a heavy chain CDR1 comprising SYWIIH (SEQ ID NO:9), a heavy chain CDR2 comprising RIYPGIGSTYYNEKFKD (SEQ ID NO:10), and a heavy chain CDR3 comprising NGGFFDY (SEQ ID NO:11). In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent further comprises: a light chain CDR1 comprising RASESVDSYGNSFMH (SEQ ID NO:12), a light chain CDR2 comprising RASNLES (SEQ ID NO:13), and a light chain CDR3 comprising QQSNEDPWT (SEQ ID NO:14). In some alternative embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent comprises: a light chain CDR1 comprising RASESVDSYGNSFMH (SEQ ID NO:12), a light chain CDR2 comprising RASNLES (SEQ ID NO:13), and a light chain CDR3 comprising QQSNEDPWT (SEQ ID NO:14). In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent specifically binds human Jagged1. In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent further specifically binds human Jagged2. In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent specifically binds human Jagged2.

[0097] In certain embodiments, the invention provides a Jagged-binding agent (e.g, an antibody) that specifically binds to an extracellular domain of human Jagged1 and/or Jagged2, wherein the Jagged-binding agent comprises (a) a heavy chain CDR1 comprising SYWIIH (SEQ ID NO:9), or a variant thereof comprising 1, 2, 3, or 4 amino acid substitutions; (b) a heavy chain CDR2 comprising RIYPGIGSTYYNEKFKD (SEQ ID NO:10), or a variant thereof comprising 1, 2, 3, or 4 amino acid substitutions; and (c) a heavy chain CDR3 comprising NGGFFDY (SEQ ID NO:11), or a variant thereof comprising 1, 2, 3, or 4 amino acid substitutions. In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent further comprises (a) a light chain CDR1 comprising RASESVDSYGNSFMH (SEQ ID NO:12), or a variant thereof comprising 1, 2, 3, or 4 amino acid substitutions; (b) a light chain CDR2 comprising

RASNLES (SEQ ID NO:13), or a variant thereof comprising 1, 2, 3, or 4 amino acid substitutions; and (c) a light chain CDR3 comprising QQSNEPWT (SEQ ID NO:14), or a variant thereof comprising 1, 2, 3, or 4 amino acid substitutions. In some alternative embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent comprises (a) a light chain CDR1 comprising RASESVDSYGNSFMH (SEQ ID NO:12), or a variant thereof comprising 1, 2, 3, or 4 amino acid substitutions; (b) a light chain CDR2 comprising RASNLES (SEQ ID NO:13), or a variant thereof comprising 1, 2, 3, or 4 amino acid substitutions; and (c) a light chain CDR3 comprising QQSNEPWT (SEQ ID NO:14), or a variant thereof comprising 1, 2, 3, or 4 amino acid substitutions. In certain embodiments, the amino acid substitutions are conservative substitutions. In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent specifically binds human Jagged1. In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent further specifically binds human Jagged2. In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent specifically binds human Jagged2.

[0098] In certain embodiments, the invention provides a Jagged-binding agent (e.g., an antibody) that specifically binds to an extracellular domain of human Jagged1 and/or human Jagged2, wherein the Jagged-binding agent comprises: a heavy chain CDR1 comprising SYAMH (SEQ ID NO:23), a heavy chain CDR2 comprising VISYDGSNKYYADSVKG (SEQ ID NO:24), AIYPDSSNKYYADSVKG (SEQ ID NO:47), AISPEASNKYYADSVKG (SEQ ID NO:48), or AIYPASSNKYYADSVKG (SEQ ID NO:49), and a heavy chain CDR3 comprising DKYDIPDAFDI (SEQ ID NO:25). In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent further comprises: a light chain CDR1 comprising RASQGISNDLA (SEQ ID NO:26), a light chain CDR2 comprising ATSTLQS (SEQ ID NO:27), and a light chain CDR3 comprising QQSYNAPI (SEQ ID NO:28). In some alternative embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent comprises: a light chain CDR1 comprising RASQGISNDLA (SEQ ID NO:26), a light chain CDR2 comprising ATSTLQS (SEQ ID NO:27), and a light chain CDR3 comprising QQSYNAPI (SEQ ID NO:28). In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent specifically binds human Jagged1. In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent further specifically binds human Jagged2. In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent specifically binds human Jagged2.

[0099] In certain embodiments, the invention provides a Jagged-binding agent (e.g., an antibody) that specifically binds to an extracellular domain of human Jagged1 and/or human Jagged2, wherein the Jagged-binding agent comprises (a) a heavy chain CDR1 comprising SYAMH (SEQ ID NO:23), or a variant thereof comprising 1, 2, 3, or 4 amino acid substitutions; (b) a heavy chain CDR2 comprising VISYDGSNKYYADSVKG (SEQ ID NO:24), AIYPDSSNKYYADSVKG (SEQ ID NO:47), AISPEASNKYYADSVKG (SEQ ID NO:48), or AIYPASSNKYYADSVKG (SEQ ID NO:49), or a variant thereof comprising 1, 2, 3, or 4 amino acid substitutions; and (c) a heavy chain CDR3 comprising DKYDIPDAFDI (SEQ ID NO:25), or a variant thereof comprising 1, 2, 3, or 4 amino acid substitutions. In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent further comprises (a) a light chain CDR1 comprising

RASQGISNDLA (SEQ ID NO:26), or a variant thereof comprising 1, 2, 3, or 4 amino acid substitutions; (b) a light chain CDR2 comprising ATSTLQS (SEQ ID NO:27), or a variant thereof comprising 1, 2, 3, or 4 amino acid substitutions; and (c) a light chain CDR3 comprising QQSYNAPI (SEQ ID NO:28), or a variant thereof comprising 1, 2, 3, or 4 amino acid substitutions. In some alternative embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent comprises (a) a light chain CDR1 comprising RASQGISNDLA (SEQ ID NO:26), or a variant thereof comprising 1, 2, 3, or 4 amino acid substitutions; (b) a light chain CDR2 comprising ATSTLQS (SEQ ID NO:27), or a variant thereof comprising 1, 2, 3, or 4 amino acid substitutions; and (c) a light chain CDR3 comprising QQSYNAPI (SEQ ID NO:28), or a variant thereof comprising 1, 2, 3, or 4 amino acid substitutions. In certain embodiments, the amino acid substitutions are conservative substitutions. In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent specifically binds human Jagged1. In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent further specifically binds human Jagged2. In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent specifically binds human Jagged2.

[00100] In certain embodiments, the invention provides a Jagged-binding agent (e.g., an antibody) that specifically binds to an extracellular domain of human Jagged1, wherein the Jagged-binding agent comprises: a heavy chain CDR1 comprising SSNWWS (SEQ ID NO:37), a heavy chain CDR2 comprising EIFHGENTNYNPSLKS (SEQ ID NO:38), and a heavy chain CDR3 comprising NPGIGAAKFDS (SEQ ID NO:39). In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent further comprises: a light chain CDR1 comprising KSSQSLHSDGKTYLY (SEQ ID NO:40), a light chain CDR2 comprising EVSNRFS (SEQ ID NO:41), and a light chain CDR3 comprising MQHIDFP (SEQ ID NO:42). In some alternative embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent comprises: a light chain CDR1 comprising KSSQSLHSDGKTYLY (SEQ ID NO:40), a light chain CDR2 comprising EVSNRFS (SEQ ID NO:41), and a light chain CDR3 comprising MQHIDFP (SEQ ID NO:42).

[00101] In certain embodiments, the invention provides a Jagged-binding agent (e.g., an antibody) that specifically binds to an extracellular domain of human Jagged1, wherein the Jagged-binding agent comprises (a) a heavy chain CDR1 comprising SSNWWS (SEQ ID NO:37), or a variant thereof comprising 1, 2, 3, or 4 amino acid substitutions; (b) a heavy chain CDR2 comprising EIFHGENTNYNPSLKS (SEQ ID NO:38), or a variant thereof comprising 1, 2, 3, or 4 amino acid substitutions; and (c) a heavy chain CDR3 comprising NPGIGAAKFDS (SEQ ID NO:39), or a variant thereof comprising 1, 2, 3, or 4 amino acid substitutions. In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent further comprises (a) a light chain CDR1 comprising KSSQSLHSDGKTYLY (SEQ ID NO:40), or a variant thereof comprising 1, 2, 3, or 4 amino acid substitutions; (b) a light chain CDR2 comprising EVSNRFS (SEQ ID NO:41), or a variant thereof comprising 1, 2, 3, or 4 amino acid substitutions; and (c) a light chain CDR3 comprising MQHIDFP (SEQ ID NO:42), or a variant thereof comprising 1, 2, 3, or 4 amino acid substitutions. In some alternative embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent comprises (a) a

light chain CDR1 comprising KSSQSLHSDGKTYLY (SEQ ID NO:40), or a variant thereof comprising 1, 2, 3, or 4 amino acid substitutions; (b) a light chain CDR2 comprising EVSNRFS (SEQ ID NO:41), or a variant thereof comprising 1, 2, 3, or 4 amino acid substitutions; and (c) a light chain CDR3 comprising MQHIDFP (SEQ ID NO:42), or a variant thereof comprising 1, 2, 3, or 4 amino acid substitutions. In certain embodiments, the amino acid substitutions are conservative substitutions.

[00102] In certain embodiments, the invention provides a Jagged-binding agent (e.g., an antibody) that specifically binds to an extracellular domain of human Jagged1 and/or human Jagged2, wherein the Jagged-binding agent comprises a heavy chain variable region having at least about 80% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO:5, and/or a light chain variable region having at least 80% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO:7. In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent comprises a heavy chain variable region having at least about 85%, at least about 90%, at least about 95%, at least about 97%, or at least about 99% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO:5. In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent comprises a light chain variable region having at least about 85%, at least about 90%, at least about 95%, at least about 97%, or at least about 99% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO:7. In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent comprises a heavy chain variable region having at least about 95% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO:5, and/or a light chain variable region having at least about 95% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO:7. In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent comprises a heavy chain variable region comprising SEQ ID NO:5 and/or a light chain variable region comprising SEQ ID NO:7. In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent specifically binds human Jagged1. In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent further specifically binds human Jagged2. In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent specifically binds human Jagged2.

[00103] In certain embodiments, the invention provides a Jagged-binding agent (e.g., an antibody) that specifically binds to an extracellular domain of human Jagged1 and/or human Jagged2, wherein the Jagged-binding agent comprises a heavy chain variable region having at least about 80% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO:19, SEQ ID NO:50, SEQ ID NO:51, or SEQ ID NO:52, and/or a light chain variable region having at least 80% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO:21. In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent comprises a heavy chain variable region having at least about 85%, at least about 90%, at least about 95%, at least about 97%, or at least about 99% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO:19. In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent comprises a heavy chain variable region having at least about 85%, at least about 90%, at least about 95%, at least about 97%, or at least about 99% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO:50. In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent comprises a heavy chain variable region having at least about 85%, at least about 90%, at least about 95%, at least about 97%, or at

least about 99% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO:51. In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent comprises a heavy chain variable region having at least about 85%, at least about 90%, at least about 95%, at least about 97%, or at least about 99% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO:52. In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent comprises a light chain variable region having at least about 85%, at least about 90%, at least about 95%, at least about 97%, or at least about 99% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO:21. In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent comprises a heavy chain variable region having at least about 95% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO:19, and/or a light chain variable region having at least about 95% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO:21. In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent comprises a heavy chain variable region comprising SEQ ID NO:19 and/or a light chain variable region comprising SEQ ID NO:21. In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent comprises a heavy chain variable region comprising SEQ ID NO:19 and a light chain variable region comprising SEQ ID NO:21. In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent comprises a heavy chain variable region comprising SEQ ID NO:50 and a light chain variable region comprising SEQ ID NO:21. In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent comprises a heavy chain variable region comprising SEQ ID NO:51 and a light chain variable region comprising SEQ ID NO:21. In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent comprises a heavy chain variable region comprising SEQ ID NO:52 and a light chain variable region comprising SEQ ID NO:21. In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent specifically binds human Jagged1. In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent further specifically binds human Jagged2. In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent specifically binds human Jagged2.

[00104] In certain embodiments, the invention provides a Jagged-binding agent (e.g., an antibody) that specifically binds to an extracellular domain of human Jagged1, wherein the Jagged-binding agent comprises a heavy chain variable region having at least about 80% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO:33, and/or a light chain variable region having at least 80% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO:35. In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent comprises a heavy chain variable region having at least about 85%, at least about 90%, at least about 95%, at least about 97%, or at least about 99% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO:33. In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent comprises a light chain variable region having at least about 85%, at least about 90%, at least about 95%, at least about 97%, or at least about 99% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO:35. In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent comprises a heavy chain variable region having at least about 95% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO:33, and/or a light chain variable region having at least about 95% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO:35. In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent comprises a heavy chain variable region comprising SEQ ID NO:33 and/or a light chain variable region comprising SEQ ID NO:35. In certain embodiments, the

Jagged-binding agent comprises a heavy chain variable region comprising SEQ ID NO:33 and a light chain variable region comprising SEQ ID NO:35.

[00105] In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent (e.g., an antibody) binds to the same epitope that a Jagged-binding agent comprising the heavy chain variable region comprising SEQ ID NO:5, and/or a light chain variable region comprising SEQ ID NO:7 binds. In some embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent (e.g., antibody) binds to the same epitope as the 64M51 antibody. In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent (e.g., antibody) binds to the same epitope as that antibody comprising the heavy chain variable region comprising SEQ ID NO:19, and/or a light chain variable region comprising SEQ ID NO:21 binds. In some embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent or antibody binds to the same epitope as the 64R7 antibody. In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent (e.g., antibody) binds to the same epitope as that antibody comprising the heavy chain variable region comprising SEQ ID NO:50, and/or a light chain variable region comprising SEQ ID NO:21 binds. In some embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent or antibody binds to the same epitope as the 133R0201 antibody. In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent (e.g., antibody) binds to the same epitope as that antibody comprising the heavy chain variable region comprising SEQ ID NO:51, and/or a light chain variable region comprising SEQ ID NO:21 binds. In some embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent or antibody binds to the same epitope as the 133R0203 antibody. In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent (e.g., antibody) binds to the same epitope as that antibody comprising the heavy chain variable region comprising SEQ ID NO:52, and/or a light chain variable region comprising SEQ ID NO:21 binds. In some embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent or antibody binds to the same epitope as the 133R0205 antibody. In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent (e.g., antibody) binds to the same epitope that antibody comprising the heavy chain variable region comprising SEQ ID NO:33, and/or a light chain variable region comprising SEQ ID NO:35 binds. In some embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent or antibody binds to the same epitope as the 64R1B antibody. In some embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent (e.g., antibody) binds to an overlapping epitope. In some embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent or antibody binds to an epitope that is distinct from the epitope anti-Jagged1 antibody 64M14 binds to. Antibody 64M14 is described in U.S. Patent Application Pub. No. 2008/0317760.

[00106] In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent (e.g., an antibody) competes for specific binding to an extracellular domain of human Jagged1 and/or human Jagged2 with an antibody, wherein the antibody comprises a heavy chain variable region comprising SEQ ID NO:5, and/or a light chain variable region comprising SEQ ID NO:7. In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent competes for specific binding to an extracellular domain of human Jagged1 and/or human Jagged2 with an antibody, wherein the antibody comprises a heavy chain variable region comprising SEQ ID NO:19, and/or a light chain variable region comprising SEQ ID NO:21. In certain embodiments, the Jagged-

binding agent competes for specific binding to an extracellular domain of human Jagged1 and/or human Jagged2 with an antibody, wherein the antibody comprises a heavy chain variable region comprising SEQ ID NO:50, and/or a light chain variable region comprising SEQ ID NO:21. In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent competes for specific binding to an extracellular domain of human Jagged1 and/or human Jagged2 with an antibody, wherein the antibody comprises a heavy chain variable region comprising SEQ ID NO:51, and/or a light chain variable region comprising SEQ ID NO:21. In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent competes for specific binding to an extracellular domain of human Jagged1 and/or human Jagged2 with an antibody, wherein the antibody comprises a heavy chain variable region comprising SEQ ID NO:52, and/or a light chain variable region comprising SEQ ID NO:21. In some embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent competes for specific binding to human Jagged1. In some embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent competes for specific binding to human Jagged2. In some embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent competes for specific binding to both human Jagged1 and human Jagged2. In some embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent or antibody competes for specific binding to an extracellular domain of human Jagged1 or Jagged 2 in a competitive binding assay.

[00107] In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent competes for specific binding to an extracellular domain of human Jagged1 with an antibody, wherein the antibody comprises a heavy chain variable region comprising SEQ ID NO:33, and/or a light chain variable region comprising SEQ ID NO:35. In some embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent or antibody competes for specific binding to an extracellular domain of human Jagged1 in a competitive binding assay.

[00108] In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent competes with antibody 64M51 for specific binding to human Jagged1. In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent competes with antibody 64M51 for specific binding to human Jagged2. In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent competes with antibody 64R7 for specific binding to human Jagged1. In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent competes with antibody 64R7 for specific binding to human Jagged2. In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent competes with antibody 133R0201 for specific binding to human Jagged1. In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent competes with antibody 133R0201 for specific binding to human Jagged2. In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent competes with antibody 133R0203 for specific binding to human Jagged1. In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent competes with antibody 133R0203 for specific binding to human Jagged2. In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent competes with antibody 133R0205 for specific binding to human Jagged1. In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent competes with antibody 133R0205 for specific binding to human Jagged2. In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent competes with antibody 64R1B for specific binding to human Jagged1. In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent does not compete with anti-Jagged antibody 64M14 for specific binding to human Jagged1. In some embodiments, the

Jagged-binding agent or antibody competes for specific binding to an extracellular domain of human Jagged1 or Jagged 2 in a competitive binding assay.

[00109] The invention provides polypeptides, including, but not limited to, antibodies that specifically bind to human Jagged1 and/or human Jagged2. In certain embodiments, the polypeptide comprises one, two, three, four, five and/or six of the CDRs of antibodies 64M51, 64R1B, 64R7, 133R0201, 133R0203, or 133R0205 (see Table 1 herein). In some embodiments, the polypeptide comprises one or more of the CDRs of 64M51, two or more of the CDRs of 64M51, three or more of the CDRs of 64M51, four or more of the CDRs of 64M51, five or more of the CDRs of 64M51, or all six of the CDRs of 64M51. In some embodiments, the polypeptide comprises one or more of the CDRs of 64R7, two or more of the CDRs of 64R7, three or more of the CDRs of 64R7, four or more of the CDRs of 64R7, five or more of the CDRs of 64R7, or all six of the CDRs of 64R7. In some embodiments, the polypeptide comprises one or more of the CDRs of 64R1B, two or more of the CDRs of 64R1B, three or more of the CDRs of 64R1B, four or more of the CDRs of 64R1B, five or more of the CDRs of 64R1B, or all six of the CDRs of 64R1B. In some embodiments, the polypeptide comprises CDRs with up to four (i.e., 0, 1, 2, 3, or 4) amino acid substitutions per CDR. In certain embodiments, the heavy chain CDR(s) are contained within a heavy chain variable region. In certain embodiments, the light chain CDR(s) are contained within a light chain variable region.

[00110] In some embodiments, the invention provides a polypeptide that specifically binds a human Jagged1 and/or human Jagged2, wherein the polypeptide comprises: an amino acid sequence having at least about 80% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO:5, and/or an amino acid sequence having at least 80% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO:7. In certain embodiments, the polypeptide comprises an amino acid sequence having at least about 85%, at least about 90%, at least about 95%, at least about 97%, or at least about 99% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO:5. In certain embodiments, the polypeptide comprises an amino acid sequence having at least about 85%, at least about 90%, at least about 95%, at least about 97%, or at least about 99% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO:7. In certain embodiments, the polypeptide comprises an amino acid sequence having at least about 95% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO:5, and/or an amino acid sequence having at least about 95% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO:7. In certain embodiments, the polypeptide comprises an amino acid sequence comprising SEQ ID NO:5 and/or an amino acid sequence comprising SEQ ID NO:7. In certain embodiments, the polypeptide comprises an amino acid sequence comprising SEQ ID NO:5 and an amino acid sequence comprising SEQ ID NO:7. In certain embodiments, the polypeptide specifically binds Jagged1. In some embodiments, the polypeptide further specifically binds Jagged2. In some embodiments, the polypeptide specifically binds Jagged2.

[00111] In some embodiments, the invention provides a polypeptide that specifically binds a human Jagged1 and/or human Jagged2, wherein the polypeptide comprises: an amino acid sequence having at least about 80% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO:19, SEQ ID NO:50, SEQ ID NO:51, or SEQ ID NO:52, and/or an amino acid sequence having at least 80% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO:21. In certain embodiments, the polypeptide comprises an amino acid sequence having at least about 85%, at least about 90%, at least about 95%, at least about 97%, or at least about 99% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO:19, SEQ ID NO:50, SEQ ID NO:51, or SEQ ID NO:52. In certain embodiments, the polypeptide comprises an amino acid sequence having at least about 85%, at least about 90%, at least about 95%, at least about 97%, or at least about 99% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO:21. In certain embodiments, the polypeptide comprises an amino acid sequence having at least about 95% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO:19, and/or an amino acid sequence having at least about 95% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO:21. In certain embodiments, the polypeptide comprises an amino acid sequence comprising SEQ ID NO:19 and/or an amino acid sequence comprising SEQ ID NO:21. In certain embodiments, the polypeptide comprises an amino acid sequence comprising SEQ ID NO:19 and an amino acid sequence comprising SEQ ID NO:21. In certain embodiments, the polypeptide comprises an amino acid sequence comprising SEQ ID NO:50 and an amino acid sequence comprising SEQ ID NO:21. In certain embodiments, the polypeptide comprises an amino acid sequence comprising SEQ ID NO:51 and an amino acid sequence comprising SEQ ID NO:21. In certain embodiments, the polypeptide comprises an amino acid sequence comprising SEQ ID NO:52 and an amino acid sequence comprising SEQ ID NO:21. In certain embodiments, the polypeptide specifically binds Jagged1. In some embodiments, the polypeptide further specifically binds Jagged2. In some embodiments, the polypeptide specifically binds Jagged2.

[00112] In some embodiments, the invention provides a polypeptide that specifically binds a human Jagged1, wherein the polypeptide comprises: an amino acid sequence having at least about 80% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO:33, and/or an amino acid sequence having at least 80% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO:35. In certain embodiments, the polypeptide comprises an amino acid sequence having at least about 85%, at least about 90%, at least about 95%, at least about 97%, or at least about 99% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO:33. In certain embodiments, the polypeptide comprises an amino acid sequence having at least about 85%, at least about 90%, at least about 95%, at least about 97%, or at least about 99% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO:35. In certain embodiments, the polypeptide comprises an amino acid sequence having at least about 95% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO:33, and/or an amino acid sequence having at least about 95% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO:35. In certain embodiments, the polypeptide comprises an amino acid sequence comprising SEQ ID NO:33 and/or an amino acid sequence comprising SEQ ID NO:35. In certain embodiments, the polypeptide comprises an amino acid sequence comprising SEQ ID NO:33 and an amino acid sequence comprising SEQ ID NO:35.

[00113] Polypeptides comprising one of the individual light chains or heavy chains described herein, as well as polypeptides (e.g., antibodies) comprising both a light chain and a heavy chain described herein are also provided.

[00114] In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent comprises, consists essentially of, or consists of, an anti-Jagged antibody selected from the group consisting of 64M51, 64R1B, 64R7, 133R0201, 133R0203, and 133R0205 IgG antibodies. In some embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent is not anti-Jagged1 antibody 64M14.

[00115] In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent comprises the heavy chains and light chains of the 64M51 IgG2 antibody (with or without the leader sequence). In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent is the 64M51 IgG2 antibody. The hybridoma cell line producing the 64M51 IgG2 antibody was deposited with the American Type Culture Collection (ATCC), 10801 University Boulevard, Manassas, VA, USA, under the conditions of the Budapest Treaty on November 13, 2009 and assigned ATCC deposit designation number PTA-10468. In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent comprises the heavy chains and light chains of the 64R1B antibody (with or without the leader sequence). In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent is the 64R1B antibody. DNA encoding the heavy chains and light chains of the 64R1B antibody was deposited with the ATCC, under the conditions of the Budapest Treaty on November 13, 2009, and assigned ATCC deposit designation number PTA-10469. In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent comprises the heavy chains and light chains of the 64R7 antibody (with or without the leader sequence). In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent is the 64R7 antibody. DNA encoding the heavy chains and light chains of the 64R7 IgG2 antibody was deposited with the ATCC, under the conditions of the Budapest Treaty on November 13, 2009 and assigned ATCC deposit designation number PTA-10470.

[00116] In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent is an agent that competes for specific binding to Jagged1 and/or Jagged2 with an antibody produced by the hybridoma having ATCC deposit designation number PTA-10468 (e.g., in a competitive binding assay). In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent is an agent that competes for specific binding to Jagged1 and/or Jagged2 with an antibody encoded by the plasmid having ATCC deposit designation number PTA-10470 (e.g., in a competitive binding assay). In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent is an agent that competes for specific binding to Jagged1 with an antibody encoded by the plasmid having ATCC deposit designation number PTA-10469 (e.g., in a competitive binding assay).

[00117] In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent (e.g., an antibody) as described herein binds to Jagged and modulates Jagged activity. In some embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent is an agonist and modulates Jagged activity. In some embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent is an antagonist and modulates Jagged activity.

[00118] In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent (e.g., an antibody) is an antagonist of at least one human Jagged (e.g., Jagged1 or Jagged2). In some embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent is an antagonist of at least one Jagged and inhibits Jagged activity. In some embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent inhibits human Jagged1 activity. In some embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent inhibits human Jagged2 activity. In some embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent inhibits both human Jagged1 and human Jagged2 activity. In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent inhibits at least about 10%, at least about 20%, at least about 30%, at least about 50%, at least about 75%, at least about 90%, or about 100% of the activity of the bound human Jagged.

[00119] In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent (e.g., an antibody) inhibits binding of Jagged to at least one Notch receptor. In some embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent blocks binding of Jagged to at least one Notch receptor. In certain embodiments, the Notch receptor is a human Notch. In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent inhibits or blocks binding of Jagged (e.g., human Jagged1 or human Jagged2) to human Notch1, Notch2, Notch3, and/or Notch4. In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent inhibits at least about 10%, at least about 25%, at least about 50%, at least about 75%, at least about 90%, or at least about 95% of binding of a particular Jagged to a particular human Notch receptor. In certain embodiments, a Jagged-binding agent that inhibits binding of a Jagged such as a human Jagged1 or human Jagged2 to a Notch receptor, further inhibits Notch signaling. In certain embodiments, antibody 64M51 inhibits binding of human Jagged to a Notch. In certain embodiments, 64M51 inhibits binding of human Jagged1 to a human Notch. In certain embodiments, 64M51 inhibits binding of human Jagged2 to a human Notch. In certain embodiments, antibody 64R7 inhibits binding of human Jagged to a Notch. In certain embodiments, 64R7 inhibits binding of human Jagged1 to a human Notch. In certain embodiments, 64R7 inhibits binding of human Jagged2 to a human Notch. In certain embodiments, antibody 133R0201 inhibits binding of human Jagged to a Notch. In certain embodiments, 133R0201 inhibits binding of human Jagged1 to a human Notch. In certain embodiments, 133R0201 inhibits binding of human Jagged2 to a human Notch. In certain embodiments, antibody 133R0203 inhibits binding of human Jagged to a Notch. In certain embodiments, 133R0203 inhibits binding of human Jagged1 to a human Notch. In certain embodiments, 133R0203 inhibits binding of human Jagged2 to a human Notch. In certain embodiments, antibody 133R0205 inhibits binding of human Jagged to a Notch. In certain embodiments, 133R0205 inhibits binding of human Jagged1 to a human Notch. In certain embodiments, 133R0205 inhibits binding of human Jagged2 to a human Notch. In certain embodiments, antibody 64R1B inhibits binding of human Jagged1 to a human Notch.

[00120] In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent (e.g., an antibody) inhibits Notch signaling. It is understood that a Jagged-binding agent that inhibits Notch signaling may, in certain embodiments, inhibit signaling by one or more Notchs, but not necessarily inhibit signaling by all Notchs. In certain

alternative embodiments, signaling by all human Notchs may be inhibited. In certain embodiments, signaling by one or more Notchs selected from the group consisting of Notch1, Notch2, Notch3 and Notch4 is inhibited. In certain embodiments, the inhibition of Notch signaling by a Jagged-binding agent is a reduction in the level of Notch signaling of at least about 10%, at least about 25%, at least about 50%, at least about 75%, at least about 90%, or at least about 95%.

[00121] In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent (e.g., an antibody) inhibits Notch activation. It is understood that a Jagged-binding agent that inhibits Notch activation may, in certain embodiments, inhibit activation by one or more Notchs, but not necessarily inhibit activation by all Notchs. In certain alternative embodiments, activation by all human Notchs may be inhibited. In certain embodiments, activation by one or more Notchs selected from the group consisting of Notch1, Notch2, Notch3 and Notch4 is inhibited. In certain embodiments, the inhibition of Notch activation by a Jagged-binding agent is a reduction in the level of Notch activation of at least about 10%, at least about 25%, at least about 50%, at least about 75%, at least about 90%, or at least about 95%.

[00122] *In vivo* and *in vitro* assays for determining whether a Jagged-binding agent (or candidate Jagged-binding agent) inhibits Notch activation are known in the art. In some embodiments, a cell-based, luciferase reporter assay utilizing a TCF/Luc reporter vector containing multiple copies of the TCF-binding domain upstream of a firefly luciferase reporter gene may be used to measure Notch signaling levels *in vitro*. In other embodiments, a cell-based, luciferase reporter assay utilizing a CBF/Luc reporter vector containing multiple copies of the CBF-binding domain upstream of a firefly luciferase reporter gene may be used. The level of Notch activation induced by Jagged in the presence of the Jagged-binding agent is compared to the level of Notch activation induced by Jagged in the absence of the Jagged-binding agent. Non-limiting, specific examples of the use of such luciferase reporter assays to assess inhibition of Notch activation are provided in Example 6 and Figures 4 and 5.

[00123] In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agents (e.g., antibodies) have one or more of the following effects: inhibit proliferation of tumor cells, inhibit tumor growth, prevent or reduce metastasis of tumor cells, reduce the frequency of cancer stem cells in a tumor, trigger cell death of tumor cells (e.g., by apoptosis), reduce the tumorigenicity of a tumor by reducing the frequency of cancer stem cells in the tumor, differentiate tumorigenic cells to a non-tumorigenic state, inhibit angiogenesis, or increase survival of a patient.

[00124] In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agents (e.g., antibodies) are capable of inhibiting tumor growth. In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agents are capable of inhibiting growth of tumor cells *in vitro* (e.g., contacting tumor cells with an antibody *in vitro*). In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agents are capable of inhibiting tumor growth *in vivo* (e.g., in a xenograft mouse model and/or in a human having cancer).

[00125] In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agents (e.g., antibodies) are capable of reducing the tumorigenicity of a tumor. In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent or antibody is capable of reducing the tumorigenicity of a tumor comprising cancer stem cells in an animal model, such as a mouse xenograft model. In some embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent is capable of reducing the tumorigenicity of a tumor by reducing the frequency of cancer stem cells in the tumor. In certain embodiments, the number or frequency of cancer stem cells in a tumor is reduced by at least about two-fold, about three-fold, about five-fold, about ten-fold, about 50-fold, about 100-fold, or about 1000-fold. In certain embodiments, the reduction in the frequency of cancer stem cells is determined by a limiting dilution assay (LDA) using an animal model. Examples and guidance regarding the use of limiting dilution assays to determine a reduction in the number or frequency of cancer stem cells in a tumor can be found, e.g., in International Pub. Number WO 2008/042236 and U.S. Patent Application Pub. Nos. 2008/0064049 and 2008/0178305.

[00126] In certain embodiments, Jagged-binding agents or antibodies mediate cell death of a cell expressing Jagged via antibody-dependent cellular cytotoxicity (ADCC). ADCC involves cell lysis by effector cells that recognize the Fc portion of an antibody. Many lymphocytes, monocytes, tissue macrophages, granulocytes and eosinophiles, for example, have Fc receptors and can mediate cytolysis (Dillman, 1994, *J. Clin. Oncol.* 12:1497).

[00127] In certain embodiments, Jagged-binding agents or antibodies trigger cell death of a cell expressing Jagged by activating complement-dependent cytotoxicity (CDC). CDC involves binding of serum complement to the Fc portion of an antibody and subsequent activation of the complement protein cascade, resulting in cell membrane damage and eventual cell death. Biological activity of antibodies is known to be determined, to a large extent, by the constant domains or Fc region of the antibody molecule (Uananeu and Benacerraf, 1984, *Textbook of Immunology*, 2nd Edition, Williams & Wilkins, p. 218). Antibodies of different classes and subclasses differ in this respect, as do antibodies of the same subclass but from different species. Of human antibodies, IgM is the most efficient class of antibodies to bind complement, followed by IgG1, IgG3, and IgG2 whereas IgG4 appears quite deficient in activating the complement cascade (Dillman, 1994, *J. Clin. Oncol.* 12:1497; Jefferis et al., 1998, *Immunol. Rev.* 163:59-76). According to the present invention, antibodies of those classes having the desired biological activity can be prepared.

[00128] The ability of any particular Jagged-binding agent or antibody to mediate lysis of the target cell by CDC and/or ADCC can be assayed. In some embodiments, the cells of interest are grown and labeled *in vitro* (target cells) and the antibody is added to the cell culture in combination with either serum complement or immune cells which can be activated by the antigen-antibody complexes. Cytolysis of the target cells is detected, for example, by the release of label from the lysed cells. In some embodiments,

antibodies can be screened using a patient's own serum as a source of complement and/or immune cells. The antibody that is capable of activating complement or mediating ADCC in the *in vitro* test can then be used therapeutically in that particular patient.

[00129] In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent (e.g., an antibody) has a circulating half-life in a subject or mammal (e.g., mice, rats, cynomolgus monkeys, or humans) of at least about 5 hours, at least about 10 hours, at least about 24 hours, at least about 48 hrs, at least about 3 days, at least about 1 week, or at least about 2 weeks. In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent is an IgG (e.g., IgG1 or IgG2) antibody that has a circulating half-life in a subject or mammal (e.g., mice, rats, cynomolgus monkeys, or humans) of at least about 5 hours, at least about 10 hours, at least about 24 hours, at least about 3 days, at least about 1 week, or at least about 2 weeks. Methods of increasing the half-life of agents such as polypeptides and antibodies are known in the art. In some embodiments, known methods of increasing the circulating half-life of IgG antibodies include the introduction of mutations in the Fc region which increase the pH-dependent binding of the antibody to the neonatal Fc receptor (FcRn) at pH 6.0 (*see e.g.*, U.S. Patent Pub. Nos. 2005/0276799; 2007/0148164; and 2007/0122403). Known methods of increasing the circulating half-life of antibody fragments lacking the Fc region include, but are not limited to, techniques such as PEGylation.

[00130] In some embodiments, the Jagged-binding agents are polyclonal antibodies. Polyclonal antibodies can be prepared by any known method. Polyclonal antibodies are prepared by immunizing an animal (e.g., a rabbit, rat, mouse, goat, donkey, etc.) by multiple subcutaneous or intraperitoneal injections of the relevant antigen (e.g., a purified peptide fragment, full-length recombinant protein, fusion protein, etc.). The antigen can be optionally conjugated to a carrier protein such as keyhole limpet hemocyanin (KLH) or serum albumin. The antigen (with or without a carrier protein) is diluted in sterile saline and usually combined with an adjuvant (e.g., Complete or Incomplete Freund's Adjuvant) to form a stable emulsion. After a sufficient period of time, polyclonal antibodies are recovered from blood, ascites and the like, of the immunized animal. Polyclonal antibodies can be purified from serum or ascites according to standard methods in the art including, but not limited to, affinity chromatography, ion-exchange chromatography, gel electrophoresis, and dialysis.

[00131] In some embodiments, the Jagged-binding agents are monoclonal antibodies. Monoclonal antibodies can be prepared using hybridoma methods known to one of skill in the art (*see e.g.*, Kohler and Milstein, 1975, *Nature* 256:495). Using the hybridoma method, a mouse, hamster, or other appropriate host animal, is immunized as described above to elicit from lymphocytes the production of antibodies that will specifically bind to the immunizing antigen. In some embodiments, lymphocytes can also be immunized *in vitro*. In some embodiments, the immunizing antigen (e.g., Jagged1) can be a human protein or a portion thereof. In some embodiments, the immunizing antigen (e.g., Jagged1) can be a

mouse protein or a portion thereof. In some embodiments, the immunizing antigen can be an extracellular domain of human Jagged1. In some embodiments, the immunizing antigen can be an extracellular domain of mouse Jagged1. In some embodiments, a mouse is immunized with a human antigen. In some embodiments, a mouse is immunized with a mouse antigen.

[00132] Following immunization, lymphocytes are isolated and fused with a suitable myeloma cell line using, for example, polyethylene glycol. The hybridoma cells are selected using specialized media as known in the art and unfused lymphocytes and myeloma cells do not survive the selection process. Hybridomas that produce monoclonal antibodies directed against a chosen antigen may be identified by a variety of techniques including, but not limited to, immunoprecipitation, immunoblotting, and *in vitro* binding assays (e.g., flow cytometry, enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA), radioimmunoassay (RIA)). The hybridomas can be propagated either in *in vitro* culture using standard methods (Goding, *Monoclonal Antibodies: Principles and Practice*, Academic Press, 1986) or in *in vivo* as ascites in an animal. The monoclonal antibodies can be purified from the culture medium or ascites fluid according to standard methods in the art including, but not limited to, affinity chromatography, ion-exchange chromatography, gel electrophoresis, and dialysis.

[00133] Alternatively, monoclonal antibodies can be made using recombinant DNA techniques as known to one skilled in the art (*see e.g.*, U.S. Patent No. 4,816,567). The polynucleotides encoding a monoclonal antibody are isolated from mature B-cells or hybridoma cells, such as by RT-PCR using oligonucleotide primers that specifically amplify the genes encoding the heavy and light chains of the antibody, and their sequence is determined using conventional techniques. The isolated polynucleotides encoding the heavy and light chains are cloned into suitable expression vectors which produce the monoclonal antibodies when transfected into host cells such as *E. coli*, simian COS cells, Chinese hamster ovary (CHO) cells, or myeloma cells that do not otherwise produce immunoglobulin protein. Recombinant monoclonal antibodies, or fragments thereof, can also be isolated from phage display libraries expressing CDRs of the desired species (*see e.g.*, McCafferty et al., 1990, *Nature*, 348:552-554; Clackson et al., 1991, *Nature*, 352:624-628; and Marks et al., 1991, *J. Mol. Biol.*, 222:581-597).

[00134] The polynucleotide(s) encoding a monoclonal antibody can be further modified using recombinant DNA technology to generate alternative antibodies. In some embodiments, the constant domains of the light and heavy chains of, for example, a mouse monoclonal antibody can be substituted 1) for those regions of, for example, a human antibody to generate a chimeric antibody or 2) for a non-immunoglobulin polypeptide to generate a fusion antibody. In some embodiments, the constant regions are truncated or removed to generate the desired antibody fragment of a monoclonal antibody. Site-directed or high-density mutagenesis of the variable region can be used to optimize specificity, affinity, and/or other biological characteristics of a monoclonal antibody. In some embodiments, site-directed

mutagenesis of the CDRs can be used to optimize specificity, affinity, and/or other biological characteristics of a monoclonal antibody.

[00135] In some embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent is a humanized antibody. Typically, humanized antibodies are human immunoglobulins in which residues from the complementary determining regions (CDRs) are replaced by residues from CDRs of a non-human species (e.g., mouse, rat, rabbit, hamster) that have the desired specificity, affinity, and/or capability using methods known to one skilled in the art. In some embodiments, the Fv framework region (FR) residues of a human immunoglobulin are replaced with the corresponding framework region residues from a non-human immunoglobulin that has the desired specificity, affinity, and/or capability. In some embodiments, the humanized antibody can be further modified by the substitution of additional residues either in the Fv framework region and/or within the replaced non-human residues to refine and optimize antibody specificity, affinity, and/or capability. In general, the humanized antibody will comprise substantially all of at least one, and typically two or three, variable domains containing all, or substantially all, of the CDRs that correspond to the non-human immunoglobulin whereas all, or substantially all, of the framework regions are those of a human immunoglobulin consensus sequence. In some embodiments, the humanized antibody can also comprise at least a portion of an immunoglobulin constant region or domain (Fc), typically that of a human immunoglobulin. In certain embodiments, such humanized antibodies are used therapeutically because they may reduce antigenicity and HAMA (human anti-mouse antibody) responses when administered to a human subject. One skilled in the art would be able to obtain a functional humanized antibody with reduced immunogenicity following known techniques (*see* for example U.S. Patent Nos. 5,225,539; 5,585,089; 5,693,761; and 5,693,762).

[00136] In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent is a human antibody. Human antibodies can be directly prepared using various techniques known in the art. Immortalized human B lymphocytes, immunized *in vitro* or isolated from an immunized individual, that produce an antibody directed against a target antigen can be generated. Alternatively, a human antibody can be selected from a phage library, where that phage library expresses human antibodies by methods well-known to those of skill in the art (*see* e.g., Vaughan et al., 1996, *Nat. Biotech.*, 14:309-314; Sheets et al., 1998, *Proc. Nat'l. Acad. Sci.*, 95:6157-6162; Hoogenboom and Winter, 1991, *J. Mol. Biol.*, 227:381; and Marks et al., 1991, *J. Mol. Biol.*, 222:581). Techniques for the generation and use of antibody phage libraries are also described in U.S. Patent Nos. 5,969,108; 6,172,197; 5,885,793; 6,521,404; 6,544,731; 6,555,313; 6,582,915; 6,593,081; 6,300,064; 6,653,068; 6,706,484; and 7,264,963; and Rothe et al., 2008, *J. Mol. Bio.*, 376:1182-1200. Affinity maturation strategies, such as chain shuffling (Marks et al., 1992, *Bio/Technology*, 10:779-783), and PCR-based mutagenesis methods are known in the art and may be employed to generate high affinity human antibodies.

[00137] Human antibodies can also be made in transgenic mice containing human immunoglobulin loci that are capable, upon immunization, of producing the full repertoire of human antibodies in the absence of endogenous immunoglobulin production. This approach is described in U.S. Patent Nos. 5,545,807; 5,545,806; 5,569,825; 5,625,126; 5,633,425; and 5,661,016.

[00138] In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent is a bispecific antibody. Bispecific antibodies are capable of specifically recognizing and binding to at least two different epitopes. The different epitopes can either be within the same molecule or on different molecules. In some embodiments, the antibodies can specifically recognize and bind a first antigen target, (e.g., hJagged) as well as a second antigen target, such as an effector molecule on a leukocyte (e.g., CD2, CD3, CD28, or B7) or a Fc receptor (e.g., CD64, CD32, or CD16) so as to focus cellular defense mechanisms to the cell expressing the first antigen target. In some embodiments, the antibodies can be used to direct cytotoxic agents to cells which express a particular target antigen, such as Jagged. These antibodies possess an antigen-binding arm and an arm which binds a cytotoxic agent or a radionuclide chelator, such as EOTUBE, DPTA, DOTA, or TETA. In certain embodiments, the bispecific antibody specifically binds at least one human Jagged, as well as either VEGF, a second Notch ligand (e.g., DLL1, DLL3 or DLL4), or at least one Notch receptor selected from the group consisting of Notch1, Notch2, Notch3, and Notch4.

[00139] Techniques for making bispecific antibodies are known by those skilled in the art, see for example, Millstein et al., 1983, *Nature*, 305:537-539; Brennan et al., 1985, *Science*, 229:81; Suresh et al., 1986, *Methods in Enzymol.*, 121:120; Traunecker et al., 1991, *EMBO J.*, 10:3655-3659; Shalaby et al., 1992, *J. Exp. Med.*, 175:217-225; Kostelny et al., 1992, *J. Immunol.*, 148:1547-1553; Gruber et al., 1994, *J. Immunol.*, 152:5368; and U.S. Patent No. 5,731,168). Bispecific antibodies can be intact antibodies or antibody fragments. Antibodies with more than two valencies are also contemplated. For example, trispecific antibodies can be prepared (Tutt et al., 1991, *J. Immunol.*, 147:60). Thus, in certain embodiments the antibodies to human Jagged are multispecific.

[00140] In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agents (e.g., antibodies or other polypeptides) described herein may be monospecific. For example, in certain embodiments, each of the one or more antigen-binding sites that an antibody contains is capable of binding (or binds) a homologous epitope on Jagged. In certain embodiments, an antigen-binding site of a monospecific antibody described herein is capable of binding (or binds) Jagged1 and Jagged2 (i.e., the same epitope is found on Jagged1 and Jagged2).

[00141] In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent is an antibody fragment. Antibody fragments may have different functions or capabilities than intact antibodies; for example, antibody fragments can have increased tumor penetration. Various techniques are known for the production of antibody fragments including, but not limited to, proteolytic digestion of intact antibodies. In some embodiments,

antibody fragments include a F(ab')₂ fragment produced by pepsin digestion of an antibody molecule. In some embodiments, antibody fragments include a Fab fragment generated by reducing the disulfide bridges of an F(ab')₂ fragment. In other embodiments, antibody fragments include a Fab fragment generated by the treatment of the antibody molecule with papain and a reducing agent. In certain embodiments, antibody fragments are produced recombinantly. In some embodiments, antibody fragments include Fv or single chain Fv (scFv) fragments. Fab, Fv, and scFv antibody fragments can be expressed in, and secreted from, *E. coli* or other host cells, allowing for the production of large amounts of these fragments. In some embodiments, antibody fragments are isolated from antibody phage libraries as discussed herein. For example, methods can be used for the construction of Fab expression libraries (Huse et al., 1989, *Science*, 246:1275-1281) to allow rapid and effective identification of monoclonal Fab fragments with the desired specificity for a Jagged protein or derivatives, fragments, analogs or homologs thereof. In some embodiments, antibody fragments are linear antibody fragments as described in U.S. Patent No. 5,641,870. In certain embodiments, antibody fragments are monospecific or bispecific. In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent is a scFv. Various techniques can be used for the production of single-chain antibodies specific to Jagged1 and/or Jagged2 (see, e.g., U.S. Patent No. 4,946,778).

[00142] It can further be desirable, especially in the case of antibody fragments, to modify an antibody in order to increase its serum half-life. This can be achieved, for example, by incorporation of a salvage receptor binding epitope into the antibody fragment by mutation of the appropriate region in the antibody fragment or by incorporating the epitope into a peptide tag that is then fused to the antibody fragment at either end or in the middle (e.g., by DNA or peptide synthesis).

[00143] For the purposes of the present invention, it should be appreciated that modified antibodies, or fragments thereof, can comprise any type of variable region that provides for the association of the antibody with Jagged. In this regard, the variable region may be derived from any type of mammal that can be induced to mount a humoral response and generate immunoglobulins against a desired antigen (e.g., Jagged1 or Jagged2). As such, the variable region of the modified antibodies can be, for example, of human, murine, non-human primate (e.g., cynomolgus monkeys, macaques, etc.) or lapine origin. In some embodiments, both the variable and constant regions of the modified immunoglobulins are human. In other embodiments, the variable regions of compatible antibodies (usually derived from a non-human source) can be engineered or specifically tailored to improve the binding properties or reduce the immunogenicity of the molecule. In this respect, variable regions useful in the present invention can be humanized or otherwise altered through the inclusion of imported amino acid sequences.

[00144] In certain embodiments, the variable domains in both the heavy and light chains are altered by at least partial replacement of one or more CDRs and, if necessary, by partial framework region replacement

and sequence modification. Although the CDRs may be derived from an antibody of the same class or even subclass as the antibody from which the framework regions are derived, it is envisaged that the CDRs will be derived from an antibody of a different class and preferably from an antibody from a different species. It may not be necessary to replace all of the CDRs with all of the CDRs from the donor variable region to transfer the antigen binding capacity of one variable domain to another. Rather, it may only be necessary to transfer those residues that are necessary to maintain the activity of the antigen binding site.

[00145] Alterations to the variable region notwithstanding, those skilled in the art will appreciate that the modified antibodies of this invention will comprise antibodies (e.g., full-length antibodies or antigen-binding fragments thereof) in which at least a fraction of one or more of the constant region domains has been deleted or otherwise altered so as to provide desired biochemical characteristics, such as increased tumor localization, increased tumor penetration, reduced serum half-life or increased serum half-life, when compared with an antibody of approximately the same immunogenicity comprising a native or unaltered constant region. In some embodiments, the constant region of the modified antibodies comprises a human constant region. Modifications to the constant region include additions, deletions or substitutions of one or more amino acids in one or more domains. The modified antibodies disclosed herein may comprise alterations or modifications to one or more of the three heavy chain constant domains (CH1, CH2 or CH3) and/or to the light chain constant domain (CL). In some embodiments, one or more domains are partially or entirely deleted from the constant regions of the modified antibodies. In some embodiments, the entire CH2 domain has been removed (Δ CH2 constructs). In some embodiments, the omitted constant region domain is replaced by a short amino acid spacer (e.g., 10 aa residues) that provides some of the molecular flexibility typically imparted by the absent constant region.

[00146] In certain embodiments, the modified antibodies are engineered to fuse the CH3 domain directly to the hinge region of the antibody. In other embodiments, a peptide spacer is inserted between the hinge region and the modified CH2 and/or CH3 domains. For example, constructs may be expressed wherein the CH2 domain has been deleted and the remaining CH3 domain (modified or unmodified) is joined to the hinge region with a 5-20 amino acid spacer. Such a spacer may be added to ensure that the regulatory elements of the constant domain remain free and accessible or that the hinge region remains flexible. However, it should be noted that amino acid spacers can, in some cases, prove to be immunogenic and elicit an unwanted immune response against the construct. Accordingly, in certain embodiments, any spacer added to the construct will be relatively non-immunogenic so as to maintain the desired biological qualities of the modified antibodies.

[00147] In some embodiments, the modified antibodies may have only a partial deletion of a constant domain or substitution of a few or even a single amino acid. For example, the mutation of a single amino

acid in selected areas of the CH2 domain may be enough to substantially reduce Fc binding and thereby increase tumor localization and/or tumor penetration. Similarly, it may be desirable to simply delete a part of one or more constant region domains that control a specific effector function (e.g., complement C1q binding) to be modulated. Such partial deletions of the constant regions may improve selected characteristics of the antibody (serum half-life) while leaving other desirable functions associated with the subject constant region domain intact. Moreover, as alluded to above, the constant regions of the disclosed antibodies may be modified through the mutation or substitution of one or more amino acids that enhances the profile of the resulting construct. In this respect it may be possible to disrupt the activity provided by a conserved binding site (e.g., Fc binding) while substantially maintaining the configuration and immunogenic profile of the modified antibody. In certain embodiments, the modified antibodies comprise the addition of one or more amino acids to the constant region to enhance desirable characteristics such as decreasing or increasing effector function or provide for more cytotoxin or carbohydrate attachment.

[00148] It is known in the art that the constant region mediates several effector functions. For example, binding of the C1 component of complement to the Fc region of IgG or IgM antibodies (bound to antigen) activates the complement system. Activation of complement is important in the opsonization and lysis of cell pathogens. The activation of complement also stimulates the inflammatory response and can also be involved in autoimmune hypersensitivity. In addition, the Fc region of an antibody can bind to a cell expressing a Fc receptor (FcR). There are a number of Fc receptors which are specific for different classes of antibody, including IgG (gamma receptors), IgE (epsilon receptors), IgA (alpha receptors) and IgM (mu receptors). Binding of antibody to Fc receptors on cell surfaces triggers a number of important and diverse biological responses including engulfment and destruction of antibody-coated particles, clearance of immune complexes, lysis of antibody-coated target cells by killer cells (ADCC), release of inflammatory mediators, placental transfer and control of immunoglobulin production.

[00149] In certain embodiments, the anti-Jagged antibodies provide for altered effector functions that, in turn, affect the biological profile of the administered antibody. For example, in some embodiments, the deletion or inactivation (through point mutations or other means) of a constant region domain may reduce Fc receptor binding of the circulating modified antibody (e.g., anti-Jagged antibody) thereby increasing tumor localization and/or penetration. In other embodiments, the constant region modifications increase or reduce the serum half-life of the antibody. In some embodiments, the constant region is modified to eliminate disulfide linkages or oligosaccharide moieties allowing for enhanced tumor localization and/or penetration.

[00150] In certain embodiments, an anti-Jagged antibody does not have one or more effector functions. In some embodiments, the antibody has no antibody-dependent cellular cytotoxicity (ADCC) activity and/or

no complement-dependent cytotoxicity (CDC) activity. In certain embodiments, the antibody does not bind to an Fc receptor and/or complement factors. In certain embodiments, the antibody has no effector function.

[00151] The present invention further embraces variants and equivalents which are substantially homologous to the chimeric, humanized and human antibodies, or antibody fragments thereof, set forth herein. These can contain, for example, conservative substitution mutations, i.e. the substitution of one or more amino acids by similar amino acids.

[00152] Thus, the present invention provides methods for generating an antibody that binds Jagged. In some embodiments, the method for generating an antibody that binds Jagged comprises using hybridoma techniques. In some embodiments, the method comprises using an extracellular domain of mouse Jagged1 as an immunizing antigen. In some embodiments, the method of generating an antibody that binds Jagged comprises screening a human phage library. The present invention further provides methods of identifying an antibody that binds to Jagged. In some embodiments, the antibody is identified by screening for binding to Jagged with flow cytometry (FACS). In some embodiments, the antibody is screened for binding to human Jagged1. In other embodiments, the antibody is screened for binding to human Jagged2. In some embodiments, the antibody is screened for binding to mouse Jagged1. In some embodiments, the antibody is screened for binding to mouse Jagged2. In some embodiments, the antibody is identified by screening for inhibition or blocking of Jagged-induced Notch activation. In some embodiments, the Jagged is human Jagged1. In some embodiments, the Jagged is human Jagged2. In some embodiments, the Jagged is mouse or rat Jagged1. In some embodiments, the Jagged is mouse Jagged2. In some embodiments, the Notch is human Notch1, Notch2, Notch3 or Notch4.

[00153] In certain embodiments, the antibodies as described herein are isolated. In certain embodiments, the antibodies as described herein are substantially pure.

[00154] In some embodiments of the present invention, the Jagged-binding agents are polypeptides. The polypeptides can be recombinant polypeptides, natural polypeptides, or synthetic polypeptides that bind Jagged. In some embodiments, the polypeptides comprise an antibody or fragment thereof that binds Jagged. It will be recognized by those in the art that some amino acid sequences of a polypeptide can be varied without significant effect on the structure or function of the protein. Thus, the Jagged-binding polypeptides further include variations of the polypeptides which show substantial binding activity against a Jagged protein. In some embodiments, amino acid sequence variations of Jagged-binding polypeptides include deletions, insertions, inversions, repeats, and/or type substitutions.

[00155] The polypeptides and variants thereof, can be further modified to contain additional chemical moieties not normally part of the polypeptide. The derivatized moieties can improve the solubility, the biological half-life or absorption of the polypeptide. The moieties can also reduce or eliminate any

undesirable side effects of the polypeptides and variants. An overview for such chemical moieties can be found in Remington: The Science and Practice of Pharmacy, 21st Edition, University of the Sciences in Philadelphia, 2005.

[00156] The polypeptides described herein can be produced by any suitable method known in the art. Such methods range from direct protein synthesis methods to constructing a DNA sequence encoding polypeptide sequences and expressing those sequences in a suitable host. In some embodiments, a DNA sequence is constructed using recombinant technology by isolating or synthesizing a DNA sequence encoding a wild-type protein of interest. Optionally, the sequence can be mutagenized by site-specific mutagenesis to provide functional variants thereof.

[00157] In some embodiments, a DNA sequence encoding a polypeptide of interest may be constructed by chemical synthesis using an oligonucleotide synthesizer. Oligonucleotides can be designed based on the amino acid sequence of the desired polypeptide and by selecting those codons that are favored in the host cell in which the recombinant polypeptide of interest will be produced. Standard methods can be applied to synthesize a polynucleotide sequence encoding a polypeptide of interest. For example, a complete amino acid sequence can be used to construct a back-translated gene. Further, a DNA oligomer containing a nucleotide sequence coding for the particular polypeptide can be synthesized. For example, several small oligonucleotides coding for portions of the desired polypeptide can be synthesized and then ligated. The individual oligonucleotides typically contain 5' or 3' overhangs for complementary assembly.

[00158] Once assembled (by synthesis, site-directed mutagenesis or another method), the polynucleotide sequences encoding a particular polypeptide of interest can be inserted into an expression vector and operatively linked to an expression control sequence appropriate for expression of the polypeptide in a desired host. Proper assembly can be confirmed by nucleotide sequencing, restriction mapping, and/or expression of a biologically active polypeptide in a suitable host. As is well known in the art, in order to obtain high expression levels of a transfected gene in a host, the gene must be operatively linked to transcriptional and translational expression control sequences that are functional in the chosen expression host.

[00159] In certain embodiments, recombinant expression vectors are used to amplify and express DNA encoding Jagged-binding agents such as polypeptides or antibodies, or fragments thereof. For example, recombinant expression vectors can be replicable DNA constructs which have synthetic or cDNA-derived DNA fragments encoding a polypeptide chain of an anti-Jagged antibody, or fragment thereof, operatively linked to suitable transcriptional or translational regulatory elements derived from mammalian, microbial, viral or insect genes. A transcriptional unit generally comprises an assembly of (1) a regulatory element or elements having a role in gene expression, for example, transcriptional promoters and/or enhancers, (2) a structural or coding sequence which is transcribed into mRNA and

translated into protein, and (3) appropriate transcription and translation initiation and termination sequences. Regulatory elements can include an operator sequence to control transcription. The ability to replicate in a host, usually conferred by an origin of replication, and a selection gene to facilitate recognition of transformants can additionally be incorporated. DNA regions are "operatively linked" when they are functionally related to each other. For example, DNA for a signal peptide (secretory leader) is operatively linked to DNA for a polypeptide if it is expressed as a precursor which participates in the secretion of the polypeptide; a promoter is operatively linked to a coding sequence if it controls the transcription of the sequence; or a ribosome binding site is operatively linked to a coding sequence if it is positioned so as to permit translation. Structural elements intended for use in yeast expression systems include a leader sequence enabling extracellular secretion of translated protein by a host cell. Alternatively, where recombinant protein is expressed without a leader or transport sequence, it can include an N-terminal methionine residue. This residue can optionally be subsequently cleaved from the expressed recombinant protein to provide a final product.

[00160] The choice of an expression vector and control elements depends upon the choice of host. A wide variety of expression host/vector combinations can be employed. Useful expression vectors for eukaryotic hosts include, for example, vectors comprising expression control sequences from SV40, bovine papilloma virus, adenovirus and cytomegalovirus. Useful expression vectors for bacterial hosts include known bacterial plasmids, such as plasmids from *E. coli*, including pCR1, pBR322, pMB9 and their derivatives and wider host range plasmids, such as M13 and other filamentous single-stranded DNA phages.

[00161] Suitable host cells for expression of a Jagged-binding polypeptide or antibody (or a Jagged protein to use as an antigen) include prokaryotes, yeast, insect or higher eukaryotic cells under the control of appropriate promoters. Prokaryotes include gram-negative or gram-positive organisms, for example, *E. coli* or *Bacilli*. Higher eukaryotic cells include established cell lines of mammalian origin as described below. Cell-free translation systems can also be employed.

[00162] Various mammalian or insect cell culture systems are used to express recombinant protein. Expression of recombinant proteins in mammalian cells may be preferred because such proteins are generally correctly folded, appropriately modified and completely functional. Examples of suitable mammalian host cell lines include COS-7 (monkey kidney-derived), L-929 (murine fibroblast-derived), C127 (murine mammary tumor-derived), 3T3 (murine fibroblast-derived), CHO (Chinese hamster ovary-derived), HeLa (human cervical cancer-derived) and BHK (hamster kidney fibroblast-derived) cell lines. Mammalian expression vectors can comprise non-transcribed elements such as an origin of replication, a suitable promoter and enhancer linked to the gene to be expressed, and other 5' or 3' flanking non-transcribed sequences, and 5' or 3' non-translated sequences, such as necessary ribosome binding sites, a

polyadenylation site, splice donor and acceptor sites, and transcriptional termination sequences.

Baculovirus systems for production of heterologous proteins in insect cells are well known to those of skill in the art (*see, e.g., Luckow and Summers, 1988, Bio/Technology, 6:47*).

[00163] The proteins produced by a transformed host can be purified according to any suitable method. Such methods include chromatography (e.g., ion exchange, affinity and sizing column chromatography), centrifugation, differential solubility, or by any other standard technique for protein purification. Affinity tags such as hexa-histidine, maltose binding domain, influenza coat sequence and glutathione-S-transferase can be attached to the protein to allow easy purification by passage over an appropriate affinity column. Isolated proteins can also be physically characterized using such techniques as proteolysis, high performance liquid chromatography (HPLC), nuclear magnetic resonance and x-ray crystallography.

[00164] For example, supernatants from expression systems which secrete recombinant protein into culture media can be first concentrated using a commercially available protein concentration filter, for example, an Amicon or Millipore Pellicon ultrafiltration unit. Following the concentration step, the concentrate can be applied to a suitable purification matrix. In some embodiments, an anion exchange resin can be employed, for example, a matrix or substrate having pendant diethylaminoethyl (DEAE) groups. The matrices can be acrylamide, agarose, dextran, cellulose or other types commonly employed in protein purification. In some embodiments, a cation exchange step can be employed. Suitable cation exchangers include various insoluble matrices comprising sulfopropyl or carboxymethyl groups. In some embodiments, a hydroxyapatite (CHT) media can be employed, including but not limited to, ceramic hydroxyapatite. In some embodiments, one or more reversed-phase HPLC steps employing hydrophobic RP-HPLC media, e.g., silica gel having pendant methyl or other aliphatic groups, can be employed to further purify a protein. Some or all of the foregoing purification steps, in various combinations, can be employed to provide a homogeneous recombinant protein.

[00165] In some embodiments, recombinant protein produced in bacterial culture can be isolated, for example, by initial extraction from cell pellets, followed by one or more concentration, salting-out, aqueous ion exchange or size exclusion chromatography steps. HPLC can be employed for final purification steps. Microbial cells employed in expression of a recombinant protein can be disrupted by any convenient method, including freeze-thaw cycling, sonication, mechanical disruption, or use of cell lysing agents.

[00166] Methods known in the art for purifying antibodies and other proteins also include, for example, those described in U.S. Patent Pub. Nos. 2008/0312425; 2008/0177048; and 2009/0187005.

[00167] In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent is a polypeptide that is not an antibody. A variety of methods for identifying and producing non-antibody polypeptides that bind with high affinity

to a protein target are known in the art. See, e.g., Skerra, 2007, *Curr. Opin. Biotechnol.*, 18:295-304; Hosse et al., 2006, *Protein Science*, 15:14-27; Gill et al., 2006, *Curr. Opin. Biotechnol.*, 17:653-658; Nygren, 2008, *FEBS J.*, 275:2668-76; and Skerra, 2008, *FEBS J.*, 275:2677-83. In certain embodiments, phage display technology may be used to produce and/or identify a Jagged-binding polypeptide. In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding polypeptide comprises a protein scaffold of a type selected from the group consisting of protein A, protein G, a lipocalin, a fibronectin domain, an ankyrin consensus repeat domain, and thioredoxin.

[00168] In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agents or antibodies can be used in any one of a number of conjugated (e.g., an immunoconjugate or radioconjugate) or non-conjugated forms. In certain embodiments, the antibodies are used in non-conjugated form to harness the subject's natural defense mechanisms including complement-dependent cytotoxicity (CDC) and/or antibody dependent cellular toxicity (ADCC) to eliminate malignant or cancerous cells.

[00169] In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent (e.g., an antibody or polypeptide) is conjugated to a cytotoxic agent. In some embodiments, the cytotoxic agent is a chemotherapeutic agent including, but not limited to, methotrexate, adriamycin, doxorubicin, melphalan, mitomycin C, chlorambucil, daunorubicin or other intercalating agents. In some embodiments, the cytotoxic agent is a enzymatically active toxin of bacterial, fungal, plant, or animal origin, or fragments thereof, including but not limited to, diphtheria A chain, nonbinding active fragments of diphtheria toxin, exotoxin A chain, ricin A chain, abrin A chain, modeccin A chain, alpha-sarcin, Aleurites fordii proteins, dianthin proteins, Phytolacca americana proteins (PAPI, PAPII, and PAP-S), Momordica charantia inhibitor, curcin, crotin, Sapaonaria officinalis inhibitor, gelonin, restrictocin, phenomycin, enomycin, and the tricothecenes. In certain embodiments, the cytotoxic agent is a radioactive isotope to produce a radioconjugate or a radioconjugated antibody. A variety of radionuclides are available for the production of radioconjugated antibodies including, but not limited to, ^{90}Y , ^{125}I , ^{131}I , ^{123}I , ^{111}In , ^{131}In , ^{105}Rh , ^{153}Sm , ^{67}Cu , ^{67}Ga , ^{166}Ho , ^{177}Lu , ^{186}Re , ^{188}Re and ^{212}Bi . Conjugates of an antibody and one or more small molecule toxins, such as a calicheamicin, maytansinoids, a trichothene, and CC1065, and the derivatives of these toxins that have toxin activity, can also be used. Conjugates of an antibody and cytotoxic agent are made using a variety of bifunctional protein-coupling agents such as N-succinimidyl-3-(2-pyridyldithiol) propionate (SPDP), iminothiolane (IT), bifunctional derivatives of imidoesters (such as dimethyl adipimidate HCL), active esters (such as disuccinimidyl suberate), aldehydes (such as glutaraldehyde), bis-azido compounds (such as bis(p-azidobenzoyl) hexanediamine), bis-diazonium derivatives (such as bis(p-diazoniumbenzoyl)-ethylenediamine), diisocyanates (such as tolyene 2,6-diisocyanate), and bis-active fluorine compounds (such as 1,5-difluoro-2,4-dinitrobenzene).

[00170] Heteroconjugate antibodies are also within the scope of the present invention. Heteroconjugate antibodies are composed of two covalently joined antibodies. Such antibodies have, for example, been proposed to target immune cells to unwanted cells (U.S. Patent No. 4,676,980). It is contemplated that the antibodies can be prepared *in vitro* using known methods in synthetic protein chemistry, including those involving crosslinking agents.

III. Polynucleotides

[00171] In certain embodiments, the invention encompasses polynucleotides comprising polynucleotides that encode a polypeptide that specifically binds a human Jagged or a fragment of such a polypeptide. The term “polynucleotides that encode a polypeptide” encompasses a polynucleotide which includes only coding sequences for the polypeptide as well as a polynucleotide which includes additional coding and/or non-coding sequences. For example, the invention provides a polynucleotide comprising a nucleic acid sequence that encodes an antibody to a human Jagged or encodes a fragment of such an antibody. The polynucleotides of the invention can be in the form of RNA or in the form of DNA. DNA includes cDNA, genomic DNA, and synthetic DNA; and can be double-stranded or single-stranded, and if single stranded can be the coding strand or non-coding (anti-sense) strand.

[00172] In certain embodiments, a polynucleotide comprising a polynucleotide encoding a polypeptide comprising a sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:5, SEQ ID NO:7, SEQ ID NO:19, SEQ ID NO:21, SEQ ID NO:33, SEQ ID NO:35, SEQ ID NO:50, SEQ ID NO:51, and SEQ ID NO:52 is provided. In some embodiments, a polynucleotide sequence encoding a polypeptide (with or without the signal sequence) comprising a sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:1, SEQ ID NO:3, SEQ ID NO:15, SEQ ID NO:17, SEQ ID NO:29, and SEQ ID NO:31 is provided.

[00173] In some embodiments, a polynucleotide comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:6, SEQ ID NO:8, SEQ ID NO:20, SEQ ID NO:22, SEQ ID NO:34, SEQ ID NO:36, SEQ ID NO:53, SEQ ID NO:54, and SEQ ID NO:55 is provided. In some embodiments, a polynucleotide sequence comprising a nucleotide sequence (with or without the signal sequence) selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:2, SEQ ID NO:4, SEQ ID NO:16, SEQ ID NO:18, SEQ ID NO:30, and SEQ ID NO:32 is provided.

[00174] In certain embodiments, a polynucleotide comprising a polynucleotide having a nucleotide sequence at least 80% identical, at least 85% identical, at least 90% identical, at least 95% identical, and in some embodiments, at least 96%, 97%, 98% or 99% identical to a polynucleotide comprising a sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:6, SEQ ID NO:8, SEQ ID NO:20, SEQ ID NO:22, SEQ ID NO:34, SEQ ID NO:36, SEQ ID NO:53, SEQ ID NO:54, and SEQ ID NO:55 is provided. In certain embodiments, a polynucleotide comprising a polynucleotide (with or without the

signal sequence) having a nucleotide sequence at least 80% identical, at least 85% identical, at least 90% identical, at least 95% identical, and in some embodiments, at least 96%, 97%, 98% or 99% identical to a polynucleotide comprising a sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:2, SEQ ID NO:4, SEQ ID NO:16, SEQ ID NO:18, SEQ ID NO:30 and SEQ ID NO:32 is provided.

[00175] Also provided is a polynucleotide that comprises a polynucleotide that hybridizes to SEQ ID NO:6, SEQ ID NO:8, SEQ ID NO:20, SEQ ID NO:22, SEQ ID NO:34, SEQ ID NO:36, SEQ ID NO:53, SEQ ID NO:54 or SEQ ID NO:55, and/or to a polynucleotide encoding a polypeptide having the sequence of SEQ ID NO:5, SEQ ID NO:7, SEQ ID NO:19, SEQ ID NO:21, SEQ ID NO:33, SEQ ID NO:35, SEQ ID NO:50, SEQ ID NO:51, or SEQ ID NO:52. In certain embodiments, the hybridization is under conditions of high stringency.

[00176] In certain embodiments, the polynucleotides comprise the coding sequence for the mature polypeptide fused in the same reading frame to a polynucleotide which aids, for example, in expression and secretion of a polypeptide from a host cell (e.g., a leader sequence which functions as a secretory sequence for controlling transport of a polypeptide from the cell). The polypeptide having a leader sequence is a preprotein and can have the leader sequence cleaved by the host cell to produce the mature form of the polypeptide. The polynucleotides can also encode for a proprotein which is the mature protein plus additional 5' amino acid residues. A mature protein having a prosequence is a proprotein and is an inactive form of the protein. Once the prosequence is cleaved an active mature protein remains.

[00177] In certain embodiments the polynucleotides comprise the coding sequence for the mature polypeptide fused in the same reading frame to a marker sequence that allows, for example, for purification and/or identification of the encoded polypeptide. For example, the marker sequence can be a hexa-histidine tag supplied by a pQE-9 vector to provide for purification of the mature polypeptide fused to the marker in the case of a bacterial host, or the marker sequence can be a hemagglutinin (HA) tag derived from the influenza hemagglutinin protein when a mammalian host (e.g., COS-7 cells) is used. In some embodiments, the marker sequence is a FLAG-tag, a peptide of sequence DYKDDDK (SEQ ID NO:46) which can be used in conjunction with other affinity tags.

[00178] The present invention further relates to variants of the hereinabove described polynucleotides encoding, for example, fragments, analogs, and/or derivatives.

[00179] In certain embodiments, the present invention provides polynucleotides comprising polynucleotides having a nucleotide sequence at least 80% identical, at least 85% identical, at least 90% identical, at least 95% identical, and in some embodiments, at least 96%, 97%, 98% or 99% identical to a polynucleotide encoding a polypeptide comprising an antibody, or fragment thereof, to human Jagged described herein.

[00180] As used herein, the phrase a polynucleotide having a nucleotide sequence at least, for example, 95% “identical” to a reference nucleotide sequence is intended to mean that the nucleotide sequence of the polynucleotide is identical to the reference sequence except that the polynucleotide sequence can include up to five point mutations per each 100 nucleotides of the reference nucleotide sequence. In other words, to obtain a polynucleotide having a nucleotide sequence at least 95% identical to a reference nucleotide sequence, up to 5% of the nucleotides in the reference sequence can be deleted or substituted with another nucleotide, or a number of nucleotides up to 5% of the total nucleotides in the reference sequence can be inserted into the reference sequence. These mutations of the reference sequence can occur at the 5' or 3' terminal positions of the reference nucleotide sequence or anywhere between those terminal positions, interspersed either individually among nucleotides in the reference sequence or in one or more contiguous groups within the reference sequence.

[00181] The polynucleotide variants can contain alterations in the coding regions, non-coding regions, or both. In some embodiments, the polynucleotide variants contain alterations which produce silent substitutions, additions, or deletions, but do not alter the properties or activities of the encoded polypeptide. In some embodiments, polynucleotide variants contain “silent” substitutions due to the degeneracy of the genetic code. Polynucleotide variants can be produced for a variety of reasons, for example, to optimize codon expression for a particular host (e.g., change codons in the human mRNA to those preferred by a bacterial host such as *E. coli*).

[00182] In certain embodiments, the polynucleotides as described herein are isolated. In certain embodiments, the polynucleotides as described herein are substantially pure.

[00183] Vectors and cells comprising the polynucleotides described herein are also provided. In some embodiments, an expression vector comprises a polynucleotide molecule. In some embodiments, a host cell comprises an expression vector comprising the polynucleotide molecule. In some embodiments, a host cell comprises a polynucleotide molecule.

IV. Methods of use and pharmaceutical compositions

[00184] The Jagged-binding agents (e.g., polypeptides and/or antibodies) of the invention are useful in a variety of applications including, but not limited to, therapeutic treatment methods, such as the treatment of cancer. In certain embodiments, the agents are useful for modulating Jagged activity, inhibiting Jagged activity, inhibiting or blocking Jagged/Notch interactions, inhibiting Notch signaling, and/or inhibiting Notch activation. In some embodiments, the Jagged-binding agents are useful in inhibiting tumor growth, reducing tumor volume, reducing the tumorigenicity of a tumor, reducing the frequency of cancer stem cells in a tumor, inducing death of tumor cells, inducing differentiation, inhibiting angiogenesis, and/or interfering with angiogenesis. The methods of use may be *in vitro*, *ex vivo*, or *in vivo* methods. In certain

embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent (e.g., polypeptide and/or antibody) is an antagonist of Jagged1 and/or Jagged2. In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent is an antagonist of a Notch signaling pathway. In some embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent is an antagonist of Notch activation.

[00185] In certain embodiments, Jagged-binding agents are used in the treatment of a disease associated with Notch signaling and activation. In particular embodiments, the disease is a disease associated with a Notch signaling pathway. In some embodiments, tumor growth is associated with a Notch signaling pathway. In some embodiments, tumor growth is associated with Notch activation. In some embodiments, the disease is a tumor. In some embodiments, the disease is cancer.

[00186] The present invention further provides methods for inhibiting tumor growth using the Jagged-binding agents described herein. In certain embodiments, the method of inhibiting tumor growth comprises contacting tumor cells with a Jagged-binding agent (e.g., an antibody) *in vitro*. For example, an immortalized cell line or a cancer cell line that expresses Jagged on the cell surface is cultured in medium to which is added the antibody or other agent to inhibit tumor cell growth. In some embodiments, tumor cells are isolated from a patient sample such as, for example, a tissue biopsy, pleural effusion, or blood sample and cultured in medium to which is added a Jagged-binding agent to inhibit tumor growth.

[00187] In some embodiments, the method of inhibiting tumor growth comprises contacting the tumor or tumor cells with a Jagged-binding agent (e.g., an antibody) *in vivo*. In certain embodiments, contacting a tumor or tumor cells with a Jagged-binding agent is undertaken in an animal model. For example, Jagged-binding agents are administered to immunocompromised mice (e.g., NOD/SCID mice) that have xenograft tumors expressing Jagged1 and/or Jagged2. After administration of Jagged-binding agents, the mice are observed for inhibition of tumor growth. In some embodiments, cancer stem cells are isolated from a patient sample such as, for example, a tissue biopsy, pleural effusion, or blood sample and injected into immunocompromised mice that are then administered a Jagged-binding agent to inhibit tumor growth. In some embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent is administered at the same time or shortly after introduction of tumorigenic cells (CSCs) into the animal to prevent tumor growth. In some embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent is administered as a therapeutic after the tumorigenic cells have grown to a specified size.

[00188] In certain embodiments, the method of inhibiting tumor growth comprises administering to a subject a therapeutically effective amount of a Jagged-binding agent. In certain embodiments, the subject is a human. In certain embodiments, the subject has a tumor. In certain embodiments, the subject has had a tumor removed. In some embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent is an antibody. In some embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent is antibody 64M51, 64R7, 64R1B, 133R0201, 133R0203, or 133R0205. In some embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent is not antibody 64M14.

[00189] In certain embodiments, the tumor expresses Jagged1 and/or Jagged2 to which the Jagged-binding agent or antibody binds. In certain embodiments, the tumor over-expresses a human Jagged1 and/or Jagged2. In certain embodiments, the tumor expresses a Notch receptor (e.g., Notch1, Notch2, Notch3 and/or Notch4) with which Jagged interacts. In some embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent binds to Jagged and inhibits or reduces growth of the tumor. In some embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent binds to Jagged, interferes with Jagged/Notch interactions and inhibits or reduces growth of the tumor. In some embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent binds to Jagged, inhibits Notch activation and inhibits or reduces growth of the tumor. In some embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent binds to Jagged, and reduces the frequency of cancer stem cells in the tumor. In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent binds to Jagged and inhibits or reduces angiogenesis. In certain embodiments, the inhibition and/or reduction of angiogenesis inhibits or reduces growth of the tumor.

[00190] In certain embodiments, the tumor is a tumor selected from the group consisting of colorectal tumor, pancreatic tumor, lung tumor, ovarian tumor, liver tumor, breast tumor, kidney tumor, prostate tumor, gastrointestinal tumor, melanoma, cervical tumor, bladder tumor, glioblastoma, and head and neck tumor. In certain embodiments, the tumor is a colorectal tumor. In certain embodiments, the tumor is a pancreatic tumor. In certain embodiments, the tumor is a breast tumor. In certain embodiments, the tumor is a prostate tumor. In certain embodiments, the tumor is a lung tumor. In certain embodiments, the subject is a human.

[00191] The present invention further provides methods for treating cancer using the Jagged-binding agents described herein. In certain embodiments, the cancer is characterized by cells expressing Jagged1 and/or Jagged2 to which the Jagged-binding agent (e.g., antibody) binds. In certain embodiments, the cancer over-expresses a human Jagged1 and/or Jagged2. In certain embodiments, the cancer is characterized by cells expressing Notch receptors, wherein the Jagged-binding agent (e.g., an antibody) interferes with Jagged-induced Notch signaling and/or activation. In some embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent binds to Jagged and inhibits or reduces growth of the cancer. In some embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent binds to Jagged, interferes with Jagged/Notch interactions and inhibits or reduces growth of the cancer. In some embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent binds to Jagged, inhibits Notch activation and inhibits or reduces growth of the cancer. In some embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent binds to Jagged, and reduces the frequency of cancer stem cells in the cancer. In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent binds to Jagged and inhibits or reduces angiogenesis. In certain embodiments, the inhibition and/or reduction of angiogenesis inhibits or reduces growth of the cancer.

[00192] The present invention provides for methods of treating cancer comprising administering a therapeutically effective amount of a Jagged-binding agent to a subject (e.g., a subject in need of treatment). In certain embodiments, the subject is a human. In certain embodiments, the subject has a

cancerous tumor. In certain embodiments, the subject has had a tumor removed. In some embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent is an antibody. In some embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent is antibody 64M51, 64R7, 64R1B, 133R0201, 133R0203 or 133R0205. In some embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent is not antibody 64M14.

[00193] In certain embodiments, the cancer is a cancer selected from the group consisting of colorectal cancer, pancreatic cancer, lung cancer, ovarian cancer, liver cancer, breast cancer, kidney cancer, prostate cancer, gastrointestinal cancer, melanoma, cervical cancer, bladder cancer, glioblastoma, and head and neck cancer. In certain embodiments, the cancer is pancreatic cancer. In certain embodiments, the cancer is colorectal cancer. In certain embodiments, the cancer is breast cancer. In certain embodiments, the cancer is prostate cancer. In certain embodiments, the cancer is lung cancer.

[00194] The invention also provides a method of inhibiting Notch signaling or Notch activation in a cell comprising contacting the cell with an effective amount of a Jagged-binding agent. In certain embodiments, the cell is a tumor cell. In certain embodiments, the method is an *in vivo* method wherein the step of contacting the cell with the Jagged-binding agent comprises administering a therapeutically effective amount of the Jagged-binding agent to the subject. In some embodiments, the method is an *in vitro* or *ex vivo* method. In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent inhibits Notch signaling. In some embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent inhibits Notch activation. In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent interferes with a Jagged/Notch interaction. In certain embodiments, the Notch signaling is signaling by Notch1, Notch2, Notch3, and/or Notch4. In some embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent is an antibody. In some embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent is antibody 64M51, 64R7, 64R1B, 133R0201, 133R0203, or 133R0205. In some embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent is not antibody 64M14.

[00195] In addition, the invention provides a method of reducing the tumorigenicity of a tumor in a subject, comprising administering a therapeutically effective amount of a Jagged-binding agent to the subject. In certain embodiments, the tumor comprises cancer stem cells. In certain embodiments, the frequency of cancer stem cells in the tumor is reduced by administration of the Jagged-binding agent. The invention also provides a method of reducing the frequency of cancer stem cells in a tumor, comprising contacting the tumor with an effective amount of a Jagged-binding agent (e.g., an anti-Jagged antibody). In some embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent is antibody 64M51, 64R7, 64R1B, 133R0201, 133R0203, or 133R0205. In some embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent is not antibody 64M14.

[00196] The invention also provides a method of treating a disease or disorder in a subject, wherein the disease or disorder is characterized by an increased level of stem cells and/or progenitor cells. In some

embodiments, the treatment methods comprise administering a therapeutically effective amount of the Jagged-binding agent, polypeptide, or antibody to the subject.

[00197] The present invention further provides pharmaceutical compositions comprising one or more of the Jagged-binding agents described herein. In certain embodiments, the pharmaceutical compositions further comprise a pharmaceutically acceptable vehicle. These pharmaceutical compositions find use in inhibiting tumor growth and treating cancer in a subject (e.g., a human patient).

[00198] In certain embodiments, formulations are prepared for storage and use by combining a purified antibody or agent of the present invention with a pharmaceutically acceptable vehicle (e.g., a carrier or excipient). Suitable pharmaceutically acceptable vehicles include, but are not limited to, nontoxic buffers such as phosphate, citrate, and other organic acids; salts such as sodium chloride; antioxidants including ascorbic acid and methionine; preservatives such as octadecyldimethylbenzyl ammonium chloride, hexamethonium chloride, benzalkonium chloride, benzethonium chloride, phenol, butyl or benzyl alcohol, alkyl parabens, such as methyl or propyl paraben, catechol, resorcinol, cyclohexanol, 3-pentanol, and m-cresol; low molecular weight polypeptides (e.g., less than about 10 amino acid residues); proteins such as serum albumin, gelatin, or immunoglobulins; hydrophilic polymers such as polyvinylpyrrolidone; amino acids such as glycine, glutamine, asparagine, histidine, arginine, or lysine; carbohydrates such as monosaccharides, disaccharides, glucose, mannose, or dextrans; chelating agents such as EDTA; sugars such as sucrose, mannitol, trehalose or sorbitol; salt-forming counter-ions such as sodium; metal complexes such as Zn-protein complexes; and non-ionic surfactants such as TWEEN or polyethylene glycol (PEG). (Remington: The Science and Practice of Pharmacy, 21st Edition, University of the Sciences in Philadelphia, 2005).

[00199] The pharmaceutical compositions of the present invention can be administered in any number of ways for either local or systemic treatment. Administration can be topical by epidermal or transdermal patches, ointments, lotions, creams, gels, drops, suppositories, sprays, liquids and powders; pulmonary by inhalation or insufflation of powders or aerosols, including by nebulizer, intratracheal, and intranasal; oral; or parenteral including intravenous, intraarterial, intratumoral, subcutaneous, intraperitoneal, intramuscular (e.g., injection or infusion), or intracranial (e.g., intrathecal or intraventricular).

[00200] The therapeutic formulation can be in unit dosage form. Such formulations include tablets, pills, capsules, powders, granules, solutions or suspensions in water or non-aqueous media, or suppositories. In solid compositions such as tablets the principal active ingredient is mixed with a pharmaceutical carrier. Conventional tableting ingredients include corn starch, lactose, sucrose, sorbitol, talc, stearic acid, magnesium stearate, dicalcium phosphate or gums, and diluents (e.g., water). These can be used to form a solid preformulation composition containing a homogeneous mixture of a compound of the present invention, or a non-toxic pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof. The solid preformulation composition

is then subdivided into unit dosage forms of a type described above. The tablets, pills, etc. of the formulation or composition can be coated or otherwise compounded to provide a dosage form affording the advantage of prolonged action. For example, the tablet or pill can comprise an inner composition covered by an outer component. Furthermore, the two components can be separated by an enteric layer that serves to resist disintegration and permits the inner component to pass intact through the stomach or to be delayed in release. A variety of materials can be used for such enteric layers or coatings, such materials include a number of polymeric acids and mixtures of polymeric acids with such materials as shellac, cetyl alcohol and cellulose acetate.

[00201] The Jagged-binding agents or antibodies described herein can also be entrapped in microcapsules. Such microcapsules are prepared, for example, by coacervation techniques or by interfacial polymerization, for example, hydroxymethylcellulose or gelatin-microcapsules and poly-(methylmethacrylate) microcapsules, respectively, in colloidal drug delivery systems (for example, liposomes, albumin microspheres, microemulsions, nanoparticles and nanocapsules) or in macroemulsions as described in Remington: The Science and Practice of Pharmacy, 21st Edition, University of the Sciences in Philadelphia, 2005.

[00202] In certain embodiments, pharmaceutical formulations include Jagged-binding agents (e.g., an antibody) of the present invention complexed with liposomes. Methods to produce liposomes are known to those of skill in the art. For example, some liposomes can be generated by reverse phase evaporation with a lipid composition comprising phosphatidylcholine, cholesterol, and PEG-derivatized phosphatidylethanolamine (PEG-PE). Liposomes can be extruded through filters of defined pore size to yield liposomes with the desired diameter.

[00203] In certain embodiments, sustained-release preparations can be produced. Suitable examples of sustained-release preparations include semi-permeable matrices of solid hydrophobic polymers containing the Jagged-binding agent (e.g., an antibody), where the matrices are in the form of shaped articles (e.g., films or microcapsules). Examples of sustained-release matrices include polyesters, hydrogels such as poly(2-hydroxyethyl-methacrylate) or poly(vinyl alcohol), polylactides, copolymers of L-glutamic acid and 7 ethyl-L-glutamate, non-degradable ethylene-vinyl acetate, degradable lactic acid-glycolic acid copolymers such as the LUPRON DEPOTTM (injectable microspheres composed of lactic acid-glycolic acid copolymer and leuprolide acetate), sucrose acetate isobutyrate, and poly-D-(-)-3-hydroxybutyric acid.

[00204] In certain embodiments, in addition to administering a Jagged-binding agent, the method or treatment further comprises administering at least one additional therapeutic agent. An additional therapeutic agent can be administered prior to, concurrently with, and/or subsequently to, administration of the Jagged-binding agent. Pharmaceutical compositions comprising the Jagged-binding agent and the

additional therapeutic agent(s) are also provided. In some embodiments, the at least one additional therapeutic agent comprises 1, 2, 3, or more additional therapeutic agents.

[00205] Combination therapy with at least two therapeutic agents often involves agents that work by different mechanisms of action, although this is not required. Combination therapy using agents with different mechanisms of action may result in additive or synergetic effects. Combination therapy may allow for a lower dose of each agent than is used in monotherapy, thereby reducing toxic side effects. Combination therapy may decrease the likelihood that resistant cancer cells will develop. Combination therapy may allow for one therapeutic agent to be targeted to tumorigenic cancer stem cells, while a second therapeutic agent may be targeted to non-tumorigenic cancer cells.

[00206] It will be appreciated that the combination of a Jagged-binding agent and an additional therapeutic agent may be administered in any order or concurrently. In some embodiments, the Jagged-binding agents will be administered to patients that have previously undergone treatment with a second therapeutic agent. In certain other embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent and a second therapeutic agent will be administered substantially simultaneously or concurrently. For example, a subject may be given the Jagged-binding agent (e.g., an antibody) while undergoing a course of treatment with a second therapeutic agent (e.g., chemotherapy). In certain embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent will be administered within 1 year of the treatment with a second therapeutic agent. In certain alternative embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent will be administered within 10, 8, 6, 4, or 2 months of any treatment with a second therapeutic agent. In certain other embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent will be administered within 4, 3, 2, or 1 weeks of any treatment with a second therapeutic agent. In some embodiments, the Jagged-binding agent will be administered within 5, 4, 3, 2, or 1 days of any treatment with a second therapeutic agent. It will further be appreciated that the two (or more) agents or treatments may be administered to the subject within a matter of hours or minutes (i.e., substantially simultaneously).

[00207] Useful classes of therapeutic agents include, for example, antitubulin agents, auristatins, DNA minor groove binders, DNA replication inhibitors, alkylating agents (e.g., platinum complexes such as cisplatin, mono(platinum), bis(platinum) and tri-nuclear platinum complexes and carboplatin), anthracyclines, antibiotics, antifolates, antimetabolites, chemotherapy sensitizers, duocarmycins, etoposides, fluorinated pyrimidines, ionophores, lexitropsins, nitrosoureas, platinols, purine antimetabolites, puromycins, radiation sensitizers, steroids, taxanes, topoisomerase inhibitors, vinca alkaloids, or the like. In certain embodiments, the second therapeutic agent is an antimetabolite, an antimitotic, a topoisomerase inhibitor, or an angiogenesis inhibitor.

[00208] Therapeutic agents that may be administered in combination with the Jagged-binding agents include chemotherapeutic agents. Thus, in some embodiments, the method or treatment involves the combined administration of a Jagged-binding agent or antibody of the present invention and a

chemotherapeutic agent or cocktail of multiple different chemotherapeutic agents. Treatment with an antibody can occur prior to, concurrently with, or subsequent to administration of chemotherapies. Combined administration can include co-administration, either in a single pharmaceutical formulation or using separate formulations, or consecutive administration in either order but generally within a time period such that all active agents can exert their biological activities simultaneously. Preparation and dosing schedules for such chemotherapeutic agents can be used according to manufacturers' instructions or as determined empirically by the skilled practitioner. Preparation and dosing schedules for such chemotherapy are also described in *Chemotherapy Service Ed.*, M. C. Perry, Williams & Wilkins, Baltimore, Md. (1992).

[00209] Chemotherapeutic agents useful in the instant invention include, but are not limited to, alkylating agents such as thiotepa and cyclophosphamide (CYTOXAN); alkyl sulfonates such as busulfan, improsulfan and piposulfan; aziridines such as benzodopa, carboquone, meturedopa, and uredopa; ethylenimines and methylamelamines including altretamine, triethylenemelamine, triethylenephosphoramide, triethylenethiophosphoramide and trimethylolomelamine; nitrogen mustards such as chlorambucil, chlornaphazine, cholophosphamide, estramustine, ifosfamide, mechlorethamine, mechlorethamine oxide hydrochloride, melphalan, novembichin, phenesterine, prednimustine, trofosfamide, uracil mustard; nitrosureas such as carmustine, chlorozotocin, fotemustine, lomustine, nimustine, ranimustine; antibiotics such as aclacinomysins, actinomycin, anthramycin, azaserine, bleomycins, cactinomycin, calicheamicin, carabycin, caminomycin, carzinophilin, chromomycins, dactinomycin, daunorubicin, detorubicin, 6-diazo-5-oxo-L-norleucine, doxorubicin, epirubicin, esorubicin, idarubicin, marcellomycin, mitomycins, mycophenolic acid, nogalamycin, olivomycins, peplomycin, potfiromycin, puromycin, quelamycin, rodorubicin, streptonigrin, streptozocin, tubercidin, ubenimex, zinostatin, zorubicin; anti-metabolites such as methotrexate and 5-fluorouracil (5-FU); folic acid analogues such as denopterin, methotrexate, pteropterin, trimetrexate; purine analogs such as fludarabine, 6-mercaptopurine, thiamiprine, thioguanine; pyrimidine analogs such as ancitabine, azacitidine, 6-azauridine, carmofur, cytosine arabinoside, dideoxyuridine, doxifluridine, enocitabine, floxuridine, 5-FU; androgens such as calusterone, dromostanolone propionate, epitioestanol, mepitioestane, testolactone; anti-adrenals such as aminoglutethimide, mitotane, trilostane; folic acid replenishers such as folinic acid; aceglatone; aldophosphamide glycoside; aminolevulinic acid; amsacrine; bestrabucil; bisantrene; edatraxate; defofamine; demecolcine; diaziqune; elformithine; elliptinium acetate; etoglucid; gallium nitrate; hydroxyurea; lentinan; lonidamine; mitoguazone; mitoxantrone; mopidamol; nitracrine; pentostatin; phenamet; pirarubicin; podophyllinic acid; 2-ethylhydrazide; procarbazine; PSK; razoxane; sizofuran; spirogermanium; tenuazonic acid; triaziquone; 2,2',2''-trichlorotriethylamine; urethane; vindesine; dacarbazine; mannomustine; mitobronitol; mitolactol; pipobroman; gacytosine; arabinoside

("Ara-C"); taxoids, e.g. paclitaxel (TAXOL) and docetaxel (TAXOTERE); chlorambucil; gemcitabine; 6-thioguanine; mercaptopurine; platinum analogs such as cisplatin and carboplatin; vinblastine; platinum; etoposide (VP-16); ifosfamide; mitomycin C; mitoxantrone; vincristine; vinorelbine; navelbine; novantrone; teniposide; daunomycin; aminopterin; xeloda; ibandronate; CPT11; topoisomerase inhibitor RFS 2000; difluoromethylornithine (DMFO); retinoic acid; esperamicins; capecitabine; and pharmaceutically acceptable salts, acids or derivatives of any of the above. Chemotherapeutic agents also include anti-hormonal agents that act to regulate or inhibit hormone action on tumors such as anti-estrogens including for example tamoxifen, raloxifene, aromatase inhibiting 4(5)-imidazoles, 4-hydroxytamoxifen, trioxifene, keoxifene, LY117018, onapristone, and toremifene (Fareston); and anti-androgens such as flutamide, nilutamide, bicalutamide, leuprolide, and goserelin; and pharmaceutically acceptable salts, acids or derivatives of any of the above.

[00210] In certain embodiments, the chemotherapeutic agent is a topoisomerase inhibitor. Topoisomerase inhibitors are chemotherapy agents that interfere with the action of a topoisomerase enzyme (e.g., topoisomerase I or II). Topoisomerase inhibitors include, but are not limited to, doxorubicin HCl, daunorubicin citrate, mitoxantrone HCl, actinomycin D, etoposide, topotecan HCl, teniposide (VM-26), and irinotecan, as well as pharmaceutically acceptable salts, acids, or derivatives of any of these. In certain embodiments, the second therapeutic agent is irinotecan.

[00211] In certain embodiments, the chemotherapeutic agent is an anti-metabolite. An anti-metabolite is a chemical with a structure that is similar to a metabolite required for normal biochemical reactions, yet different enough to interfere with one or more normal functions of cells, such as cell division. Anti-metabolites include, but are not limited to, gemcitabine, fluorouracil, capecitabine, methotrexate sodium, ralitrexed, pemetrexed, tegafur, cytosine arabinoside, THIOGUANINE, 5-azacytidine, 6-mercaptopurine, azathioprine, 6-thioguanine, pentostatin, fludarabine phosphate, and cladribine, as well as pharmaceutically acceptable salts, acids, or derivatives of any of these. In certain embodiments, the second therapeutic agent is gemcitabine.

[00212] In certain embodiments, the chemotherapeutic agent is an antimetabolic agent, including, but not limited to, agents that bind tubulin. In some embodiments, the agent is a taxane. In certain embodiments, the agent is paclitaxel or docetaxel, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, acid, or derivative of paclitaxel or docetaxel. In certain embodiments, the agent is paclitaxel (TAXOL), docetaxel (TAXOTERE), albumin-bound paclitaxel (ABRAXANE), DHA-paclitaxel, or PG-paclitaxel. In certain alternative embodiments, the antimetabolic agent comprises a vinca alkaloid, such as vincristine, vinblastine, vinorelbine, or vindesine, or pharmaceutically acceptable salts, acids, or derivatives thereof. In some embodiments, the antimetabolic agent is an inhibitor of kinesin Eg5 or an inhibitor of a mitotic kinase such as Aurora A or Plk1. In certain embodiments, where the chemotherapeutic agent administered in

combination with the Jagged-binding agent is an anti-mitotic agent, the cancer or tumor being treated is breast cancer or a breast tumor.

[00213] In certain embodiments, the treatment involves the combined administration of a Jagged-binding agent (e.g. an antibody) of the present invention and radiation therapy. Treatment with the Jagged-binding agent can occur prior to, concurrently with, or subsequent to administration of radiation therapy. Dosing schedules for such radiation therapy can be determined by the skilled medical practitioner.

[00214] In some embodiments, a second therapeutic agent comprises an antibody. Thus, treatment can involve the combined administration of a Jagged-binding agent (e.g. an antibody) of the present invention with other antibodies against additional tumor-associated antigens including, but not limited to, antibodies that bind to EGFR, ErbB2, HER2, DLL4, Notch and/or VEGF. Exemplary, anti-DLL4 antibodies, are described, for example, in U.S. Patent Application Pub. No. 2008/0187532. Additional anti-DLL4 antibodies are described in, e.g., International Patent Pub. Nos. WO 2008/091222 and WO 2008/0793326, and U.S. Patent Application Pub. Nos. 2008/0014196; 2008/0175847; 2008/0181899; and 2008/0107648. Exemplary anti-Notch antibodies, are described, for example, in U.S. Patent Application Pub. No. 2008/0131434. In certain embodiments, a second therapeutic agent is an antibody that is an angiogenesis inhibitor (e.g., an anti-VEGF antibody). In certain embodiments, a second therapeutic agent is bevacizumab (AVASTIN), trastuzumab (HERCEPTIN), panitumumab (VECTIBIX), or cetuximab (ERBITUX). Combined administration can include co-administration, either in a single pharmaceutical formulation or using separate formulations, or consecutive administration in either order but generally within a time period such that all active agents can exert their biological activities simultaneously.

[00215] Furthermore, treatment with the Jagged-binding agents described herein can include combination treatment with one or more cytokines (e.g., lymphokines, interleukins, tumor necrosis factors, and/or growth factors) or can be accompanied by surgical removal of tumors, cancer cells or any other therapy deemed necessary by a treating physician.

[00216] For the treatment of the disease, the appropriate dosage of an Jagged-binding agent (e.g., an antibody) of the present invention depends on the type of disease to be treated, the severity and course of the disease, the responsiveness of the disease, whether the Jagged-binding agent or antibody is administered for therapeutic or preventative purposes, previous therapy, the patient's clinical history, and so on, all at the discretion of the treating physician. The Jagged-binding agent or antibody can be administered one time or over a series of treatments lasting from several days to several months, or until a cure is effected or a diminution of the disease state is achieved (e.g., reduction in tumor size). Optimal dosing schedules can be calculated from measurements of drug accumulation in the body of the patient and will vary depending on the relative potency of an individual antibody or agent. The administering physician can easily determine optimum dosages, dosing methodologies and repetition rates. In certain

embodiments, dosage is from 0.01 μ g to 100mg per kg of body weight, and can be given once or more daily, weekly, monthly or yearly. In certain embodiments, the antibody or other Jagged-binding agent is given once every two weeks or once every three weeks. In certain embodiments, the dosage of the antibody or other Jagged-binding agent is from about 0.1mg to about 20mg per kg of body weight. The treating physician can estimate repetition rates for dosing based on measured residence times and concentrations of the drug in bodily fluids or tissues.

EXAMPLES

Example 1

Generation of anti-Jagged monoclonal antibodies

[00217] Antibodies were generated against an extracellular domain of mouse Jagged1. Standard recombinant DNA technology was used to isolate polynucleotides encoding the extracellular domain of mouse Jagged1 (aa 1-1060) and were separately ligated in-frame to a histidine-tag. This polynucleotide construct was cloned into a transfer plasmid vector for baculovirus-mediated expression in insect cells. Standard transfection, infection, and cell culture protocols were used to produce recombinant insect cells expressing the mouse Jagged1 polypeptide corresponding to the extracellular domain of mouse Jagged1 comprising amino acids 1-1060 with the histidine tag (SEQ ID NO:45) (O'Reilly et al., 1994, Baculovirus Expression Vectors: A Laboratory Manual, Oxford: Oxford University Press).

[00218] The extracellular domain of mouse Jagged1 polypeptide with His-tag was purified from insect cell supernatant using Ni⁺⁺-chelate affinity chromatography as known to one skilled in the art. Purified mouse Jagged1 polypeptide was dialyzed against PBS (pH=7), concentrated to approximately 1mg/ml, and sterile filtered in preparation for immunization.

[00219] Mice (n=3) were immunized with the purified mouse Jagged1 antigen protein described above using standard techniques. Blood from individual mice was screened approximately 70 days after initial immunization for antigen recognition using FACS analysis (as described herein). The animal with the highest antibody titer for blocking Notch2-Fc binding to human Jagged1-expressing HEK293 cells was selected for final antigen boost after which spleen cells were isolated for hybridoma production.

Hybridoma cells were plated at 1 cell per well in 96 well plates, and the supernatant from each well screened by FACS analysis for reactivity to human Jagged1 polypeptide and for the ability to block Notch2-Fc binding to human Jagged1-expressing HEK293 cells. Several hybridomas with high antibody titer were selected and scaled up as ascites in Balb/c mice. Antibodies were purified from the hybridoma supernatants or ascites using protein A or protein G agarose chromatography. Purified monoclonal antibodies were assayed again by FACS as described herein. Antibodies were analyzed for binding to HEK293 cells expressing human Jagged1, mouse Jagged1, human Jagged2 or mouse Jagged2. The

antibodies were also tested for their ability to block human Notch2-Fc binding to HEK293 cells expressing human Jagged1, mouse Jagged1, human Jagged2 or mouse Jagged2. Several antibodies that recognized the extracellular domain of human Jagged1 and mouse Jagged1 and/or Jagged2 were isolated. A hydridoma cell line expressing antibody 64M51 was deposited with ATCC under the conditions of the Budapest Treaty on November 13, 2009 and assigned ATTC Patent Deposit Designation []. The nucleotide and predicted protein sequences of both the heavy chain (SEQ ID NO:2 (nt) and SEQ ID NO:1 (aa)) and light chain (SEQ ID NO:4 (nt) and SEQ ID NO:3 (aa)) of antibody 64M51 were determined.

Example 2

Generation of Human anti-Jagged Antibodies

[00220] Human antibodies that specifically recognize Jagged can be isolated using phage display. For example, a synthetic antibody library containing human antibody variable domains may be panned for specific and high affinity recognition of the extracellular domain of human Jagged1. Once a specific Fab with the desired characteristics has been identified, the human variable regions of the Fab are cloned into an Ig expression vector containing a human IgG2 heavy chain and a human light chain (kappa or lambda) for expression of human antibodies in CHO cells.

[00221] Phage display was used to identify specific Fabs that bind to the extracellular domain of human Jagged1. 2×10^{13} Fab displaying phage particles from a human Fab phage library were incubated with passively immobilized recombinant human Jagged1 ECD protein fused with a human Fc domain. The non-binding phage were washed off, phage bound to the Jagged1 protein were eluted with 100mM glycine, 500nM NaCl pH2.2 and the elutant was neutralized with 1/10 volume of 2M Tris base. The eluted output phage were used to infect TG1 F+ bacteria and rescued with helper phage. The output of rescued round one served as the starting point for further selection rounds. The selections were continued to round 3, and then the output was screened in ELISA for Fabs specifically binding to recombinant human Jagged1 ECD-Fc protein. Several Fabs that specifically bound to human Jagged1 were identified.

[00222] The sequences of the variable regions of two of the identified Fabs were determined. The amino acid sequence of the Fab 64R7 heavy chain variable region is provided as SEQ ID NO:19 and the nucleotide sequence as SEQ ID NO:20. The amino acid sequence of the Fab 64R7 light chain variable region is provided as SEQ ID NO:21 and the nucleotide sequence as SEQ ID NO:22. The amino acid sequence of the Fab 64R1B heavy chain variable region is provided as SEQ ID NO:33 and the nucleotide sequence as SEQ ID NO:34. The amino acid sequence of Fab 64R1B light chain variable region is provided as SEQ ID NO:35 and the nucleotide sequence as SEQ ID NO:36. The heavy chain and light chain CDR sequences of 64R7 and 64R1B, as well as 64M51 are shown below in Table 2.

Table 2

	64M51	64R7	64R1B
Heavy Chain CDR1	SYWIIH (SEQ ID NO:9)	SYAMH (SEQ ID NO:23)	SSNWWS (SEQ ID NO:37)
Heavy Chain CDR2	RIYPGIGSTYYNEKFKD (SEQ ID NO:10)	VISYDGSNKYYADSVKG (SEQ ID NO:24)	EIFHGENTNYPNPSLKS (SEQ ID NO:38)
Heavy Chain CDR3	NGGFFDY (SEQ ID NO:11)	DKYDIPDAFDI (SEQ ID NO:25)	NPGIGA AKFDS (SEQ ID NO:39)
Light Chain CDR1	RASESVDSYGNSFMH (SEQ ID NO:12)	RASQGISNDLA (SEQ ID NO:26)	KSSQSLLHSDGKTYLY (SEQ ID NO:40)
Light Chain CDR2	RASNLES (SEQ ID NO:13)	ATSTLQS (SEQ ID NO:27)	EVS NRFS (SEQ ID NO:41)
Light Chain CDR3	QQSNDPWT (SEQ ID NO:14)	QQSYNAPI (SEQ ID NO:28)	MQHIDFP (SEQ ID NO:42)

[00223] The human variable regions of the 64R7 and 64R1B Fabs were cloned into Ig expression vectors containing human IgG2 heavy chain and human light chain (kappa) regions for expression in CHO cells using standard methods known to one skilled in the art. The amino acid sequences of the heavy chain and light chain of the 64R7 IgG antibody (including signal sequences) are provided in SEQ ID NO:15 and SEQ ID NO:17, respectively. The signal sequence at the N-terminus of the amino acid sequence of each of the chains is cleaved upon secretion. The nucleic acid sequences encoding the heavy and light chains of the 64R7 IgG antibody (including signal sequences) are provided in SEQ ID NO:16 and SEQ ID NO:18, respectively. The amino acid sequences of the heavy chain and light chain of the 64R1B IgG antibody (including signal sequence) are provided in SEQ ID NO:29 and SEQ ID NO:31, respectively. (Again, the signal sequence at the N-terminus of the amino acid sequence of each of the chains is cleaved upon secretion.) The nucleic acid sequences encoding the heavy and light chains of the 64R1B IgG antibody (including signal sequence) are provided in SEQ ID NO:30 and SEQ ID NO:32, respectively.

Example 3

[00224] FACS Analysis of anti-Jagged1 Antibodies

[00225] Human HEK293 cells were co-transfected with expression vectors encoding (1) full-length cDNA for human Jagged1 or Jagged2 and (2) the transfection marker GFP. Twenty-four to forty-eight hours post-transfection, cells were collected in suspension and incubated on ice with anti-Jagged antibodies (10µg/ml unless otherwise indicated) or control IgG to detect background antibody binding. The cells were washed in PBS and bound antibodies were detected with PE-conjugated anti-human Fc

secondary antibodies. Labeled cells were analyzed by flow cytometry to identify anti-Jagged antibodies that specifically recognized cell surface expression of Jagged protein. Several monoclonal antibodies that recognized Jagged1 were identified and included antibodies 64M51, 64R7 and 64R1B.

[00226] As shown in Figure 1, 64M51 and 64R7 antibodies bound to human Jagged1 and human Jagged2. In contrast, 64R1B bound specifically to human Jagged1 but did not bind human Jagged2. 64M51 antibodies also bound to mouse Jagged1 and mouse Jagged2, while 64R7 bound to mouse Jagged1 and weakly to Jagged2. Similar to the binding pattern seen with human Jagged, 64R1B bound specifically to mouse Jagged1, and did not bind to mouse Jagged2.

[00227] To determine the effect of anti-Jagged antibodies on Jagged ligand binding to Notch receptors, a FACS-based assay was used. Human HEK293 cells were transfected with expression vectors encoding full-length cDNA for human Jagged1 or Jagged2, along with an expression vector encoding GFP. Transfected cells were incubated with recombinant Notch2-Fc fusion protein (containing the amino acids 375-608 of human Notch2 fused to the Fc region of human IgG1) in the presence or absence of 64M51, 64R7, 64R1B and 64M14 antibodies. Cells were washed in PBS and the binding of Notch2-Fc to transfected cells was detected by incubation with PE-conjugated anti-human Fc secondary antibody and analyzed by flow cytometry as described above.

[00228] As shown in Figure 2, 64M51 and 64R7 antibodies blocked the binding of Notch2-Fc to both Jagged1 and Jagged2-expressing cells. In contrast, 64M14 antibodies blocked the binding of Notch2-Fc to Jagged1-expressing cells but did not block binding of Notch2-Fc to Jagged2-expressing cells. 64R1B antibodies did not show Jagged-Notch2 interaction blocking activity against either Jagged1 or Jagged2-expressing cells in this assay.

Example 4

Binding Affinities

[00229] The K_{DS} of 64M51, 64R7 and 64R1B antibodies were determined using a Biacore 2000 system from Biacore Lifescience (GE Healthcare). Recombinant Jagged proteins human Jagged1-Fc (hJag1), mouse Jagged1-His (mJag1), human Jagged2-Fc (hJag2) and mouse Jagged2-Fc (mJag2) were immobilized on a CM5 chip using standard amine-based chemistry (NHS/EDC). Antibodies were serially diluted in 2-fold increments from 100 to 1.0nM in HBS-P (0.01M HEPES pH7.4, 0.15M NaCl, 0.005% v/v Surfactant P20) and were injected over the chip surface. Kinetic data were collected over time and were fit using the simultaneous global fit equation to yield affinity constants (K_D values) for each antibody (Table 3).

Table 3

Ab	hJag1 (nM)	mJag1 (nM)	hJag2 (nM)	mJag2 (nM)
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64M51	30	33	6.2	7.9
64R7	5.9	10.5	8.3	20.6
64R1B	0.61	0.82	NB*	NB*

* NB = No binding detected at 100nM

[00230] 64M51 bound to both human and mouse Jagged1 and Jagged2, with the antibody demonstrating a higher affinity for Jagged2 in this assay. 64R7 bound to both human and mouse Jagged1 and Jagged2, with the antibody having a slightly higher affinity for the human Jaggeds over the mouse Jaggeds in this assay. 64R1B bound only to Jagged1 and bound to both human and mouse Jagged1 with similar affinities.

Example 5

Epitope Competition Assays

[00231] The antibodies were analyzed to determine whether they had distinct or non-overlapping epitopes. Each antibody (64R1B, 64R7 and 64M51) was immobilized on a CM5 chip (chip antibody) and then 10 µg/ml of recombinant monovalent human Jagged1 protein was flowed over the surface. Immediately after injection of Jagged1, one of the three antibodies (solution antibody) was flowed over the same surface (chip antibody + Jagged1) at 100nM concentration. If the chip-bound and solution antibodies bind the same epitope, then the solution antibody should not bind the surface, e.g. chip and solution antibodies bind the same (or an over-lapping) Jagged epitope. In other words, the Jagged1 epitope is already occupied by binding to the first chip antibody and not available to bind to a second antibody. On the other hand, if the first antibody (chip antibody) and the second antibody (solution antibody) have their own distinct or non-overlapping epitopes, the solution antibody should bind to the surface. The Jagged epitope recognized by the second antibody is free to be bound by that second antibody.

[00232] For evaluating the binding curves, if the solution antibody maximal binding signal is greater than both the buffer control (Buffer) and the self antibody control (solution antibody = chip antibody), then the solution antibody is scored as (+) and has a distinct or non-overlapping epitope. If the solution antibody maximal binding signal is greater than the buffer control but less than the self antibody control, then the solution antibody is scored as (+/-) and may have a partially overlapping epitope with the chip antibody. If the solution antibody maximal binding signal is equivalent or less than both the buffer and self antibody control, then the solution antibody is scored as a (-) and has an overlapping epitope with the chip antibody.

[00233] As shown in Figure 3 and summarized in Table 4, antibodies 64M51, 64R7 and 64R1B appear to bind distinct epitopes. Following binding of human Jagged1 to each of the indicated antibody chips, 64R1B (Fig. 3A), 64R7 (Fig. 3B) and 64M51 (Fig. 3C), further subsequent binding of that antibody (e.g., further binding of 64R1B to a chip that had been initially coated with 64R1B) to the chip was limited, (i.e., very weak or non-detectable). In contrast, robust binding of the other two Jagged antibodies was readily observed, indicating that each of these anti-Jagged antibodies appears to bind to a distinct epitope.

Table 4

Chip Antibody	Solution Antibody		
	64R1B	64R7	64M51
64R1B	-	+	+
64R7	+	+/-	+
64M51	+	+	+/-

Example 6

Reporter Assays

[00234] The ability of anti-Jagged antibodies to inhibit Notch activation was investigated using a Notch-dependent luciferase reporter assay. Recombinant fusion proteins containing the extracellular domain of either human Jagged1 or rat Jagged1 fused to human Fc were generated by standard recombinant methods. Fusion proteins containing the extracellular domain of either human Jagged2 or mouse Jagged2 fused to human Fc were generated by standard recombinant methods. Human PC3 cells were transfected with an expression vector encoding a full-length Notch2 receptor as well as plasmids encoding a Notch-dependent firefly luciferase reporter construct (8xCBF-luciferase) and a Renilla luciferase reporter (Promega, Madison, WI) as an internal control for transfection efficiency. Purified Jagged proteins were coated onto 96 well plates at 400ng per well, and Notch2-expressing PC3-luc cells were added to the wells. 64M51, 64R7 and 64R1B antibodies were serially diluted 1:4 from 40 to 0.039 μ g/ml, added to the appropriate wells and incubated overnight. Luciferase activity was determined 18 hours later using a dual luciferase assay kit (Promega, Madison, WI) with firefly luciferase activity normalized to Renilla luciferase activity.

[00235] 64R7 and 64R1B inhibited human Jagged1-induced Notch2 activation at similar levels, while 64M51 did not inhibit human Jagged1-induced Notch2 activation (Fig. 4A). 64R1B inhibited rat Jagged1-induced Notch2 activation at a higher level than 64R7, while 64M51 did not inhibit rat Jagged1-induced Notch2 activation (Fig. 4C). 64R7 inhibited human Jagged2-induced Notch2 activation, while 64R1B did not inhibit human Jagged2-induced Notch2 activation. There appeared to be partial inhibition of human Jagged2-induced Notch2 activation by 64M51 (Fig. 4B). 64R7 inhibited mouse Jagged2-

induced Notch2 activation, while 64R1B did not inhibit mouse Jagged2-induced Notch activation. 64M51 inhibited mouse Jagged2-induced Notch2 activations, but at a higher concentration of antibody than 64R7 (Fig. 4D).

[00236] The ability of Jagged antibodies to inhibit Jagged-induced Notch signaling was also investigated using a two cell population assay format. One population of human PC3 cells was transfected with an expression vector encoding a full-length Notch2 receptor as well as plasmids encoding a Notch-dependent firefly luciferase reporter construct (8xCBF luciferase) and a Renilla luciferase reporter (Promega, Madison WI) as an internal transfection control. A second population of human PC3 cells was transfected with an expression vector encoding a full-length cDNA for either hJagged1 or hJagged2. Aliquots of the two cell populations were mixed together and incubated overnight in the presence of 64M51, 64R7 or 64R1B antibodies that were serially diluted 1:4 from 40 to 0.039 μ g/ml. Luciferase levels were measured 18 hours later using a dual luciferase assay kit (Promega, Madison, WI) with firefly luciferase activity normalized to Renilla luciferase activity. Shown is a titration of 64M51, 64R1B and 64R7 antibodies in this assay. 64R1B was shown to be a potent inhibitor of human Jagged1-induced Notch2 activation, while 64R7 was shown to be an inhibitor of both human Jagged1 and human Jagged2-induced Notch activation (Fig. 5A and 5B).

Example 7

Evaluation of anti-tumor activity of anti-Jagged antibodies, alone or in combination with taxol in a breast tumor xenograft model

[00237] PE13 breast tumor cells were injected subcutaneously into the mammary fat pads of NOD/SCID mice. 10,000 cells were injected per animal. Mice were monitored weekly and tumors were allowed to grow until they were approximately 170 mm³. The mice were randomized into four treatment groups (n=10 mice/group) and treated with either control antibody (LZ-1, directed against bacterial lysozyme), anti-Jagged 64M51, taxol or a combination of 64M51 and taxol. Taxol was administered intraperitoneally at a dose of 7.5mg/kg once a week and antibodies were administered intraperitoneally at a dose of 15mg/kg twice a week. Tumor measurements were made on the days indicated in Figure 6.

[00238] Treatment with antibody 64M51 was observed to reduce tumor growth as a single agent relative to the control antibody group, and to a level similar to taxol treatment. In addition, treatment with the combination of 64M51 and taxol reduced tumor growth to a level greater than either agent alone (Fig. 6).

Example 8

Evaluation of anti-tumor activity of anti-Jagged antibodies, alone or in combination with gemcitabine in a pancreatic xenograft model

[00239] PN17 pancreatic tumor cells were injected subcutaneously into the flanks of NOD/SCID mice. 10,000 cells were injected per animal. Mice were monitored weekly and tumors were allowed to grow until they were approximately 145 mm³. The mice were randomized into four treatment groups (n=10 mice/group) and treated with either control antibody (LZ-1), anti-Jagged 64M51, gemcitabine or a combination of 64M51 and gemcitabine. Gemcitabine was administered intraperitoneally at a dose of 5mg/kg once a week and antibodies were administered intraperitoneally at a dose of 15mg/kg twice a week. Tumor measurements were made on the days indicated in Figure 7.

[00240] Treatment with antibody 64M51 showed no significant reduction in tumor growth relative to the control antibody (Fig. 7A). Treatment with gemcitabine resulted in a transient initial response as demonstrated by the slowing and slight reduction in tumor volume, but tumor growth resumed subsequently. In contrast, treatment with the combination of gemcitabine plus 64M51 resulted in a prolonged reduction in tumor growth (Fig. 7B).

Example 9

Pharmacokinetics of 64R7 and 64R1B

[00241] The pharmacokinetics of 64R7 and 64R1B were assessed in rats in a one week pharmacokinetics (PK) study using doses of 10mg/kg and 30mg/kg. Sprague Dawley rats, five males in each group, were dosed with 64R7 or 64R1B via the tail vein at 10mg/kg or 30mg/kg and followed for one week with samples collected at the time points 1, 24, 48, 72, 96, and 168 hours. At each time point, 1mL of blood was collected into potassium-EDTA tubes and centrifuged. The plasma supernatants were collected and frozen until the samples were analyzed.

[00242] The level of antibodies 64R7 or 64R1B present in the plasma at each time point was quantified and the half-life was calculated for the two doses (Fig. 8). Antibody 64R1B at a dose of 10mg/kg was determined to have a half-life of 123 hours and at a dose of 30mg/kg was determined to have a half-life of 129 hours. Antibody 64R7 at a dose of 10mg/kg was determined to have a half-life of 75 hours and at a dose of 30mg/kg was determined to have a half-life of 115 hours.

Example 10

Inhibition of Tumor Growth by 64R7 in Lung Tumor Xenograft Model.

[00243] The anti-tumor activity of antibody 64R7 was evaluated in the lung Lu11 tumor xenograft model. Dissociated OMP-Lu11 cells (10,000 per animal) were injected subcutaneously into 6-8 week old male NOD/SCID mice. Tumor growth was monitored weekly and tumor measurements were initiated once tumors were palpable. On day 45, mice with average tumor volumes of 144 mm³ were randomized into 4 groups of 10 animals each. Animals were injected with either control antibody, 64R7 antibody (40

mg/kg), taxol (15 mg/kg) or a combination of 64R7 antibody and taxol. Administration of the antibodies and taxol was performed via injection into the intraperitoneal cavity, twice weekly for the antibodies and once a week for taxol. Tumors were measured twice a week and tumor volume was determined using the formula $\frac{1}{2}(a \times b^2)$; where a = length, and b = breadth. Data are expressed as mean and mean $\pm$ S.E.M. Group means were compared using Student's two-tailed, unpaired t test. Probability (p) values of < 0.05 were interpreted as significantly different.

[00244] Treatment with antibody 64R7 resulted in a 29% reduction in tumor growth, as shown in Figure 9 ($p = 0.04$). Furthermore, treatment with a combination of antibody 64R7 and taxol resulted in a 36% reduction of tumor growth relative to treatment with taxol alone ($p < 0.001$ vs. taxol alone) (Fig. 9). Thus, antibody 64R7 demonstrated anti-tumor growth activity in the Lu11 lung tumor model as a single agent as well as in combination with taxol.

Example 11

Evaluation of anti-tumor activity of anti-Jagged antibody 64R7 in colon xenograft model

[00245] The anti-tumor activity of antibody 64R7 was evaluated in the colon C28 tumor xenograft model. Dissociated OMP-C28 cells (10,000 per animal) were injected subcutaneously into the flanks of 6-8 week old male NOD/SCID mice. Tumor growth was monitored weekly and tumor measurements were initiated once tumors were palpable. On day 31, mice with average tumor volumes of 128 mm^3 were randomized into 4 groups of 10 animals each. Animals were injected with either control antibody (LZ-1, 15mg/kg), 64R7 (15 mg/kg), irinotecan (7.5mg/kg) or a combination of 64R7 and irinotecan. Administration of the antibodies and irinotecan was performed via injection into the intra-peritoneal cavity, twice weekly for antibodies, and once weekly for irinotecan. Tumors were measured twice a week and tumor volume was determined using the formula $\frac{1}{2}(a \times b^2)$; where a = length, and b = breadth. Data are expressed as mean and mean $\pm$ S.E.M. Group means were compared using Student's two-tailed, unpaired t test. Probability (p) values of < 0.05 were interpreted as significantly different.

[00246] Treatment with antibody 64R7 resulted in a 37% reduction in tumor growth, as shown in Figure 10 ($p < 0.001$). Furthermore, treatment with a combination of antibody 64R7 and irinotecan resulted in a 20% reduction of tumor growth relative to treatment with irinotecan alone ($p = 0.02$) (Fig. 10). Thus, antibody 64R7 demonstrated anti-tumor growth activity in the C28 colon tumor xenograft model both as a single agent and in combination with irinotecan.

Example 12

Evaluation of anti-tumor activity of anti-Jagged antibody 64R7 in lung xenograft model

[00247] The anti-tumor activity of 64R7 was evaluated in the lung Lu45 tumor xenograft model. Dissociated OMP-Lu45 cells (50,000 per animal) were injected subcutaneously into 6-8 week old male

NOD/SCID mice. Tumor growth was monitored weekly and tumor measurements were initiated once tumors were palpable. On day 39, mice with average tumor volumes of 187 mm³ were randomized into 2 groups of 7 animals each. Animals were injected with either taxol alone (15mg/kg), or a combination of antibody 64R7 (40 mg/kg) and taxol (15mg/kg). Administration of antibody 64R7 and taxol was performed via injection into the intra-peritoneal cavity, once weekly. Tumors were measured twice a week and tumor volume was determined using the formula $\frac{1}{2}(a \times b^2)$; where a = length, and b = breadth. Data are expressed as mean and mean $\pm$ S.E.M. Group means were compared using Student's two-tailed, unpaired t test. Probability (p) values of < 0.05 were interpreted as significantly different.

[00248] Treatment with a combination of antibody 64R7 and taxol resulted in a 42% reduction in tumor growth as compared to treatment with taxol alone, as shown in Figure 11A ($p = 0.04$). Thus, antibody 64R7 demonstrated anti-tumor growth activity in the Lu45 lung tumor model in combination with taxol.

[00249] Limiting dilution assays (LDA) can be used to assess the effect of therapeutic agents on solid tumor cancer stem cells and on the tumorigenicity of a tumor comprising the cancer stem cells. Such assays can be used to determine the frequency of cancer stem cells in tumors from animals treated with antibody 64R7 or other agents and can be used to compare that frequency to the frequency of cancer stem cells in tumors from control animals.

[00250] Tumors from the Lu45 xenograft study described above were harvested at the end of the study (day 42 of treatment). The tumors were processed and dissociated into single cells. Single cell suspensions derived from 5 tumors of each treatment group were pooled, and the pooled samples were then incubated on ice for 30 min with antibodies that bind mouse cells selectively (α -mouse CD45-biotin 1:200 dilution and rat α -mouse H2Kd-biotin 1:100 dilution, BioLegend, San Diego, CA), followed by addition of streptavidin-labeled magnetic beads (Invitrogen, Carlsbad, CA). The mouse cells were removed with the aid of a magnet. The human cells in the suspension were harvested, counted, and stained for cell surface markers and appropriate cell doses (30, 90, and 270 cells) in FACS buffer were mixed in a 1:1 mixture with Matrigel and injected subcutaneously in NOD/SCID mice (10 mice per cell dose per treatment group).

[00251] At day 68 post cell injection, the percentage of mice with detectable tumors was determined in all groups injected with the tumor cells from animals treated with a combination of antibody 64R7 and taxol and compared to the percentage of mice with detectable tumors in the control animals injected with tumor cells from animals treated with taxol alone. Cancer stem cell frequency can be calculated using L- CalcTM software (StemCell Technologies Inc.; www.stemcell.com). Briefly, based on Poisson statistics, exactly one cancer stem cell exists among the known number of injected cells if 37% of the animals fail to develop tumors.

[00252] On day 68 after injection of the cells, tumor volumes and tumor take rates in the various groups were determined (Fig. 11B). The reduced tumor take rate in the combination treated groups indicated that the cancer stem cell frequency was reduced by treatment with a combination of antibody 64R7 and taxol. Specifically, in the taxol-treated tumors the CSC frequency was 1:44 cells, whereas treatment with a combination of antibody 64R7 and taxol reduced the CSC frequency to 1:144 cells (Fig. 11C).

Example 13

Additional anti-Jagged Antibodies

[00253] Additional anti-Jagged antibodies were produced and screened for binding affinity to Jagged1 and/or Jagged2. Several antibodies were identified including 133R0201, 133R0203, 133R0205, 133R0206, 133R0207, 133R0208, 133R0209, and 133R0210 antibodies.

Binding Affinities

[00254] The K_{DS} of antibodies 133R0201, 133R0203 and 133R0205 were determined using a Biacore 2000 system from Biacore Lifescience (GE Healthcare) and compared to K_D of antibody 64R7. As described above in Example 4, recombinant Jagged proteins human Jagged1-Fc (hJag1), mouse Jagged1-His (mJag1), human Jagged2-Fc (hJag2) and mouse Jagged2-Fc (mJag2) were immobilized on a CM5 chip using standard amine-based chemistry (NHS/EDC). Antibodies were serially diluted in 2-fold increments from 100 to 1.0nM in HBS-P (0.01M HEPES pH7.4, 0.15M NaCl, 0.005% v/v Surfactant P20) and were injected over the chip surface. Kinetic data were collected over time and were fit using the simultaneous global fit equation to yield affinity constants (K_D values) for each antibody (Table 5).

Table 5

Ab	hJag1 (nM)	mJag1 (nM)	hJag2 (nM)	mJag2 (nM)
64R7	1.7	4.8	10.0	9.6
133R0201	0.76	0.80	2.9	3.2
133R0203	1.4	1.6	3.7	3.8
133R0205	1.2	1.5	5.8	4.8

[00255] As observed previously, 64R7 has a higher affinity to Jagged1 than to Jagged2, with the antibody having a slightly higher affinity for the human Jaggeds over the mouse Jaggeds in this assay. Antibody 133R0201 had a higher affinity for human and mouse Jagged 2 as compared to the binding affinity of antibody 64R7. Antibody 133R0201 also had a higher affinity for human and mouse Jagged 1 as compared to the binding affinity of antibody 64R7. Antibodies 133R0203 and 133R0205 had a binding affinity to human Jagged1 that was very similar to the binding affinity of antibody 64R7, while the binding affinity to mouse Jagged1 was observed to be modestly increased. In contrast, antibodies

133R0203 and 133R0205 had a binding affinity to human Jagged2 that was increased as compared to the binding affinity of antibody 64R7.

Example 14

Reporter Assays

[00256] The ability of Jagged antibodies 133R0201, 133R0203, 133R0205, 133R0207, 133R0208, 133R0209 and 133R0210 to inhibit Jagged-induced Notch signaling was investigated using a two cell population assay format as described above in Example 6. One population of human PC3 cells was transfected with an expression vector encoding a full-length Notch2 receptor as well as plasmids encoding a Notch-dependent firefly luciferase reporter construct (8xCBF luciferase) and a Renilla luciferase reporter (Promega, Madison WI) as an internal transfection control. A second population of human PC3 cells was transfected with an expression vector encoding a full-length cDNA for either hJagged1 or hJagged2. Aliquots of the two cell populations were mixed together and incubated overnight in the presence of antibodies 64R7, 133R0201, 133R0203, 133R0205, 133R0207, 133R0208, 133R0209 and 133R0210 that were serially diluted 1:3 from 50 to 0.2 μ g/ml. Luciferase levels were measured 18 hours later using a dual luciferase assay kit (Promega, Madison, WI) with firefly luciferase activity normalized to Renilla luciferase activity. Shown in Figures 12A and 12B are titrations of the antibodies in this assay. As previously demonstrated, 64R7 was shown to be an inhibitor of both human Jagged1 and human Jagged2-induced Notch activation. In addition, all of antibodies 133R0201, 133R0203, 133R0205, 133R0207, 133R0208, 133R0209 and 133R0210 were shown to be inhibitors of both human Jagged1 and human Jagged2-induced Notch activation (Figs. 12A and 12B).

Example 15

Inhibition of Tumor Growth by anti-Jagged Antibodies in Lung Tumor Model

[00257] The anti-tumor activity of antibodies 64R7, 133R0203, and 133R0205 were evaluated in the lung Lu42 tumor xenograft model. Dissociated OMP-Lu42 cells (50,000 per animal) were injected subcutaneously into 6-8 week old male NOD/SCID mice. Tumor growth was monitored weekly and tumor measurements were initiated once tumors were palpable. On day 54, mice with average tumor volumes of 114 mm³ were randomized into 4 groups of 10 animals each. Animals were injected with 15mg/kg of either control antibody, antibody 64R7, antibody 133R0203, or antibody 133R0205. Administration of the antibodies was performed via injection into the intraperitoneal cavity, twice a week. Tumors were measured twice a week and tumor volume was determined using the formula $\frac{1}{2}(a \times b^2)$; where a = length, and b = breadth. Data are expressed as mean and mean $\pm$ S.E.M. Group means were

compared using Student's two-tailed, unpaired t test. Probability (p) values of < 0.05 were interpreted as significantly different.

[00258] Treatment with antibody 133R0203 resulted in a 28% reduction in tumor growth as compared to treatment with control antibody (Fig. 13, $p = 0.04$). Furthermore, treatment with 133R0205 resulted in a 33% reduction of tumor growth as compared to treatment with control antibody (Fig. 13, $p < 0.02$). Thus, both antibodies 133R0203 and 133R0205 demonstrated anti-tumor growth activity in the Lu42 lung tumor model as a single agent.

Example 16

Inhibition of Tumor Growth by anti-Jagged Antibodies in Lung Tumor Model

[00259] The anti-tumor activity of antibodies 64R7, 133R0201, 133R0203, 133R0205 and 133R0206 was evaluated in the lung Lu45 tumor xenograft model. Dissociated OMP-Lu45 cells (50,000 per animal) were injected subcutaneously into 6-8 week old male NOD/SCID mice. Tumor growth was monitored weekly and tumor measurements were initiated once tumors were palpable. On day 41, mice with average tumor volumes of 132 mm^3 were randomized into 10 groups of 10 animals each. Animals were injected with control antibody, antibody 64R7, antibody 133R0201, antibody 133R0203, antibody 133R0205, antibody 133R0206 (all at 15mg/kg), taxol (15 mg/kg), a combination of antibody 64R7 and taxol, a combination of antibody 133R0203 and taxol, or a combination of antibody 133R0205 and taxol. Administration of the antibodies and taxol was performed via injection into the intra-peritoneal cavity, once a week for taxol and twice a week for antibodies. Tumors were measured twice a week and tumor volume was determined using the formula $\frac{1}{2}(a \times b^2)$; where a = length, and b = breadth. Data are expressed as mean and mean $\pm$ S.E.M. Group means were compared using Student's two-tailed, unpaired t test. Probability (p) values of < 0.05 were interpreted as significantly different.

[00260] Treatment with antibody 133R0201 resulted in a 24% reduction in tumor growth as compared to treatment with the control antibody (Fig. 14, $p = 0.03$). Furthermore, treatment with a combination of 133R0203 and taxol resulted in a 36% reduction of tumor growth relative to treatment with taxol alone ($p = 0.01$ vs. taxol alone) (Fig. 14). Treatment with a combination of 133R0205 and taxol also resulted in a reduction of tumor growth relative to treatment with taxol alone. Thus, antibody 133R0201 demonstrated anti-tumor growth activity in the Lu45 lung tumor model as a single agent, and antibodies 133R0203 and 133R0205 displayed anti-tumor growth activity in combination with taxol.

[00261] It is understood that the examples and embodiments described herein are for illustrative purposes only and that various modifications or changes in light thereof will be suggested to persons skilled in the art and are to be included within the spirit and purview of this application.

[00262] All publications, patents and patent applications cited herein are hereby incorporated by reference in their entirety for all purposes to the same extent as if each individual publication, patent or patent application were specifically and individually indicated to be so incorporated by reference.

CLAIMS

What is claimed:

1. An isolated antibody that specifically binds to an extracellular domain of human Jagged, wherein the antibody comprises:
 - (a) a heavy chain CDR1 comprising SYWIIH (SEQ ID NO:9), a heavy chain CDR2 comprising RIYPGIGSTYYNEKFKD (SEQ ID NO:10), and a heavy chain CDR3 comprising NGGFFDY (SEQ ID NO:11); and/or
 - (b) a light chain CDR1 comprising RASESVDSYGNSFMH (SEQ ID NO:12), a light chain CDR2 comprising RASNLES (SEQ ID NO:13), and a light chain CDR3 comprising QQSNEDPWT (SEQ ID NO:14).
2. An isolated antibody that specifically binds to an extracellular domain of human Jagged, wherein the antibody comprises:
 - (a) a heavy chain CDR1 comprising SYAMH (SEQ ID NO:23), a heavy chain CDR2 comprising VISYDGSNKYYADSVKG (SEQ ID NO:24), AIYPDSSNKYYADSVKG (SEQ ID NO:47), AISPEASNKYYADSVKG (SEQ ID NO:48), or AIYPASSNKYYADSVKG (SEQ ID NO:49), and a heavy chain CDR3 comprising DKYDIPDAFDI (SEQ ID NO:25); and/or
 - (b) a light chain CDR1 comprising RASQGISNDLA (SEQ ID NO:26), a light chain CDR2 comprising ATSTLQS (SEQ ID NO:27), and a light chain CDR3 comprising QQSYNAPI (SEQ ID NO:28).
3. The isolated antibody of claim 2, wherein the heavy chain CDR2 comprises VISYDGSNKYYADSVKG (SEQ ID NO:24).
4. The isolated antibody of claim 2, wherein the heavy chain CDR2 comprises AIYPDSSNKYYADSVKG (SEQ ID NO:47).
5. The isolated antibody of claim 2, wherein the heavy chain CDR2 comprises AISPEASNKYYADSVKG (SEQ ID NO:48).
6. The isolated antibody of claim 2, wherein the heavy chain CDR2 comprises AIYPASSNKYYADSVKG (SEQ ID NO:49).
7. An isolated antibody that specifically binds to an extracellular domain of human Jagged, wherein the antibody comprises:
 - (a) a heavy chain CDR1 comprising SYWIIH (SEQ ID NO:9), or a variant thereof comprising 1, 2, 3, or 4

conservative amino acid substitutions;

(b) a heavy chain CDR2 comprising RIYPGIGSTYYNEKFKD (SEQ ID NO:10), or a variant thereof comprising 1, 2, 3, or 4 conservative amino acid substitutions;

(c) a heavy chain CDR3 comprising NGGFFDY (SEQ ID NO:11), or a variant thereof comprising 1, 2, 3, or 4 conservative amino acid substitutions;

(d) a light chain CDR1 comprising RASESVDSYGNSFMH (SEQ ID NO:12), or a variant thereof comprising 1, 2, 3, or 4 conservative amino acid substitutions;

(e) a light chain CDR2 comprising RASNLES (SEQ ID NO:13), or a variant thereof comprising 1, 2, 3, or 4 conservative amino acid substitutions; and

(f) a light chain CDR3 comprising QQSNEPWT (SEQ ID NO:14), or a variant thereof comprising 1, 2, 3, or 4 conservative amino acid substitutions.

8. An isolated antibody that specifically binds to an extracellular domain of human Jagged, wherein the antibody comprises:

(a) a heavy chain CDR1 comprising SYAMH (SEQ ID NO:23), or a variant thereof comprising 1, 2, 3, or 4 conservative amino acid substitutions;

(b) a heavy chain CDR2 comprising VISYDGSNKYYADSVKG (SEQ ID NO:24),

AIYPDSSNKYYADSVKG (SEQ ID NO:47), AISPEASNKYYADSVKG (SEQ ID NO:48),

AIYPASSNKYYADSVKG (SEQ ID NO:49), or a variant thereof comprising 1, 2, 3, or 4 conservative amino acid substitutions;

(c) a heavy chain CDR3 comprising DKYDIPDAFDI (SEQ ID NO:25), or a variant thereof comprising 1, 2, 3, or 4 conservative amino acid substitutions;

(d) a light chain CDR1 comprising RASQGISNDLA (SEQ ID NO:26), or a variant thereof comprising 1, 2, 3, or 4 conservative amino acid substitutions;

(e) a light chain CDR2 comprising ATSTLQS (SEQ ID NO:27), or a variant thereof comprising 1, 2, 3, or 4 conservative amino acid substitutions; and

(f) a light chain CDR3 comprising QQSYNAPI (SEQ ID NO:28), or a variant thereof comprising 1, 2, 3, or 4 conservative amino acid substitutions.

9. The isolated antibody of claim 8, wherein the heavy chain CDR2 comprises VISYDGSNKYYADSVKG (SEQ ID NO:24).

10. The isolated antibody of claim 8, wherein the heavy chain CDR2 comprises AIYPDSSNKYYADSVKG (SEQ ID NO:47).

11. The isolated antibody of claim 8, wherein the heavy chain CDR2 comprises AISPEASNKYYADSVKG (SEQ ID NO:48).
12. The isolated antibody of claim 8, wherein the heavy chain CDR2 comprises AIYPASSNKYYADSVKG (SEQ ID NO:49).
13. An isolated antibody that specifically binds to an extracellular domain of human Jagged, wherein the antibody comprises:
 - (a) a heavy chain variable region having at least about 90% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO:5; and/or
 - (b) a light chain variable region having at least about 90% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO:7.
14. The antibody of claim 5, which comprises:
 - (a) a heavy chain variable region having at least about 95% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO:5; and/or
 - (b) a light chain variable region having at least about 95% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO:7.
15. The antibody of claim 5, which comprises:
 - (a) a heavy chain variable region comprising SEQ ID NO:5; and/or
 - (b) a light chain variable region comprising SEQ ID NO:7.
16. An isolated antibody that specifically binds to an extracellular domain of human Jagged, wherein the antibody comprises:
 - (a) a heavy chain variable region having at least about 90% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO:19, SEQ ID NO:50, SEQ ID NO:51, or SEQ ID NO:52; and/or
 - (b) a light chain variable region having at least about 90% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO:21.
17. The antibody of claim 16, which comprises:
 - (a) a heavy chain variable region having at least about 95% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO:19, SEQ ID NO:50, SEQ ID NO:51, or SEQ ID NO:52; and/or
 - (b) a light chain variable region having at least about 95% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO:21.
18. The antibody of claim 16, which comprises:
 - (a) a heavy chain variable region comprising SEQ ID NO:19; and/or
 - (b) a light chain variable region comprising SEQ ID NO:21.
19. The antibody of claim 16, which comprises:
 - (a) a heavy chain variable region comprising SEQ ID NO:50; and/or
 - (b) a light chain variable region comprising SEQ ID NO:21.

20. The antibody of claim 16, which comprises:
- (a) a heavy chain variable region comprising SEQ ID NO:51; and/or
 - (b) a light chain variable region comprising SEQ ID NO:21.
21. The antibody of claim 16, which comprises:
- (a) a heavy chain variable region comprising SEQ ID NO:52; and/or
 - (b) a light chain variable region comprising SEQ ID NO:21.
22. The antibody according to any one of claims 1-21, wherein the human Jagged is Jagged1.
23. The antibody of claim 22, wherein the antibody further specifically binds to human Jagged2.
24. The antibody according to any one of claims 1-21, wherein the human Jagged is Jagged2.
25. An isolated antibody that specifically binds to an extracellular domain of human Jagged1, wherein the antibody comprises:
- (a) a heavy chain CDR1 comprising SSNWWS (SEQ ID NO:37), a heavy chain CDR2 comprising EIFHGENTNYNPSLKS (SEQ ID NO:38), and a heavy chain CDR3 comprising NPGIGAAKFDS (SEQ ID NO:39); and/or
 - (b) a light chain CDR1 comprising KSSQSLHSDGKTYLY (SEQ ID NO:40), a light chain CDR2 comprising EVSNRFS (SEQ ID NO:41), and a light chain CDR3 comprising MQHIDFP (SEQ ID NO:42).
26. An isolated antibody that specifically binds to an extracellular domain of human Jagged1, wherein the antibody comprises:
- (a) a heavy chain CDR1 comprising SSNWWS (SEQ ID NO:37), or a variant thereof comprising 1, 2, 3, or 4 conservative amino acid substitutions;
 - (b) a heavy chain CDR2 comprising EIFHGENTNYNPSLKS (SEQ ID NO:38), or a variant thereof comprising 1, 2, 3, or 4 conservative amino acid substitutions;
 - (c) a heavy chain CDR3 comprising NPGIGAAKFDS (SEQ ID NO:39), or a variant thereof comprising 1, 2, 3, or 4 conservative amino acid substitutions;
 - (d) a light chain CDR1 comprising KSSQSLHSDGKTYLY (SEQ ID NO:40), or a variant thereof comprising 1, 2, 3, or 4 conservative amino acid substitutions;
 - (e) a light chain CDR2 comprising EVSNRFS (SEQ ID NO:41), or a variant thereof comprising 1, 2, 3, or 4 conservative amino acid substitutions; and
 - (f) a light chain CDR3 comprising MQHIDFP (SEQ ID NO:42), or a variant thereof comprising 1, 2, 3, or 4 conservative amino acid substitutions.

27. An isolated antibody that specifically binds to an extracellular domain of human Jagged1, wherein the antibody comprises:
- (a) a heavy chain variable region having at least about 90% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO:33; and/or
 - (b) a light chain variable region having at least about 90% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO:35.
28. The antibody of claim 27, which comprises:
- (a) a heavy chain variable region having at least about 95% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO:33; and/or
 - (b) a light chain variable region having at least about 95% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO:35.
29. The antibody of claim 27, which comprises:
- (a) a heavy chain variable region comprising SEQ ID NO:33; and/or
 - (b) a light chain variable region comprising SEQ ID NO:35.
30. The antibody according to any one of claims 1-29, which is a recombinant antibody, a monoclonal antibody, a chimeric antibody, a humanized antibody, a human antibody, or an antibody fragment.
31. The antibody according to any one of claims 1-30, which is a monospecific antibody or a bispecific antibody.
32. The antibody according to any one of claims 1-31, which is a monovalent antibody.
33. The antibody according to any one of claims 1-32, which is an IgA, IgD, IgE, IgG or IgM antibody.
34. The antibody of claim 33, wherein the IgG antibody is an IgG1 or IgG2 antibody.
35. A monoclonal antibody produced by the hybridoma cell line 64M51 on deposit as ATCC Patent Deposit Designation PTA-10468.
36. A humanized form of the antibody of claim 35.
37. An antibody encoded by the polynucleotide deposited with the ATCC as 64R7 or PTA-10470.
38. An antibody encoded by the polynucleotide deposited with the ATCC as 64R1B or PTA-10469.
39. An isolated antibody that competes with the antibody according to any one of claims 1-23 and 25-38 for specific binding to an extracellular domain of human Jagged1.

40. The antibody according to any one of claims 1-23 and 25-38, which binds Jagged1 with a K_D of 50nM or less.
41. The antibody of claim 40, which binds Jagged1 with a K_D of 10nM or less.
42. The antibody of claim 40, which binds Jagged1 with a K_D of 1nM or less.
43. The antibody according to any one of claims 40-42, which further binds Jagged2 with a K_D of 50nM or less.
44. The antibody according to any one of claims 40-42, which further binds Jagged2 with a K_D of 10nM or less.
45. An isolated antibody that competes with the antibody according to any one of claims 1-21, 24, 30-37 for specific binding to an extracellular domain of human Jagged2.
46. The antibody according to any one of claims 1-21, 24, 30-37, which binds Jagged2 with a K_D of 50nM or less.
47. The antibody of claim 46, which binds Jagged2 with a K_D of 10nM or less.
48. The antibody according to any one of claims 1-47, which has a half-life of at least about 50 hours in a rat when administered via the tail vein at a dose of about 10mg/kg.
49. The antibody according to any one of claims 1-48, which has a half-life of at least about 100 hours in a rat when administered via the tail vein at a dose of about 30mg/kg.
50. The antibody according to any one of claims 1-49, which modulates Jagged activity.
51. The antibody according to any one of claims 1-50, which is an antagonist of Jagged.
52. The antibody according to any one of claims 1-51, which inhibits Jagged activity.
53. The antibody according to any one of claims 1-52, which inhibits binding of Jagged to at least one Notch receptor selected from the group consisting of Notch1, Notch2, Notch3 and Notch4.
54. The antibody according to any one of claims 1-53, which inhibits Notch signaling.
55. The antibody according to any one of claims 1-54, which inhibits Notch activation.
56. The antibody according to any one of claims 1-55, which inhibits tumor growth.

57. The antibody according to any one of claims 1-56, which reduces the frequency of cancer stem cells in a tumor.
58. The antibody according to any one of claims 1-57, which reduces the tumorigenicity of a tumor that comprises cancer stem cells by reducing the frequency of cancer stem cells in the tumor.
59. A polypeptide comprising a sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:5, SEQ ID NO:7, SEQ ID NO:19, SEQ ID NO:21, SEQ ID NO:33, SEQ ID NO:35, SEQ ID NO:50, SEQ ID NO:51, and SEQ ID NO:52.
60. The polypeptide of claim 59, wherein the polypeptide comprises a polypeptide having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:5 and a polypeptide having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:7.
61. The polypeptide of claim 59, wherein the polypeptide comprises a polypeptide having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:19 and a polypeptide having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:21.
62. The polypeptide of claim 59, wherein the polypeptide comprises a polypeptide having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:50 and a polypeptide having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:21.
63. The polypeptide of claim 59, wherein the polypeptide comprises a polypeptide having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:51 and a polypeptide having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:21.
64. The polypeptide of claim 59, wherein the polypeptide comprises a polypeptide having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:52 and a polypeptide having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:21.
65. The polypeptide of claim 59, wherein the polypeptide comprises a polypeptide having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:33 and a polypeptide having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:35.
66. The polypeptide according to any one of claims 59-65, wherein the polypeptide is an antibody.
67. A cell comprising or producing the antibody or polypeptide of any one of claims 1-66.
68. A pharmaceutical composition comprising the antibody or polypeptide according to any one of claims 1-66 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.
69. A pharmaceutical composition comprising the antibody or polypeptide according to any one of claims 1-66 and at least one additional therapeutic agent.
70. An isolated polynucleotide molecule comprising a polynucleotide that encodes the antibody or polypeptide according to any one of claims 1-66.

71. An expression vector comprising the polynucleotide molecule of claim 70.
72. A host cell comprising the expression vector of claim 71.
73. A host cell comprising the polynucleotide molecule of claim 70.
74. A method of inhibiting Notch signaling in a cell, comprising contacting the cell with an effective amount of the antibody of any one of claims 1-58.
75. A method of inhibiting Notch activation in a cell, comprising contacting the cell with an effective amount of the antibody of any one of claims 1-58.
76. A method of inhibiting growth of a tumor or tumor cells, the method comprising contacting the tumor cells with an effective amount of the antibody of any one of claims 1-58.
77. The method of claim 76, wherein the tumor is a colorectal tumor, a breast tumor, a prostate tumor, a pancreatic tumor, a lung tumor, a head and neck tumor or a melanoma tumor.
78. A method of treating cancer in a subject, comprising administering an effective amount of the antibody of any one of claims 1-58 to the subject.
79. The method of claim 78, wherein the cancer is colorectal cancer, breast cancer, prostate cancer, pancreatic cancer, lung cancer, head and neck cancer or melanoma.
80. A method of reducing the tumorigenicity of a tumor that comprises cancer stem cells by reducing the frequency of cancer stem cells in the tumor, said method comprising contacting the tumor with an effective amount of an antibody of any one of claims 1-58.
81. The method of any one of claims 74-80, further comprising administering a therapeutically effective amount of a second therapeutic agent to the subject.
82. The method of claim 81, wherein the second therapeutic agent is a chemotherapeutic agent.
83. The method of claim 82, wherein the chemotherapeutic agent is selected from the group consisting of paclitaxel, docetaxel, irinotecan, and gemcitabine.
84. The method of claim 81, wherein the second therapeutic agent is a therapeutic antibody.
85. The method of claim 84, wherein the therapeutic antibody is an anti-DLL4 antibody or an anti-Notch antibody.

86. The method of claim 84, wherein the therapeutic antibody is an anti-VEGF antibody.
87. The method of claim 86, wherein the anti-VEGF antibody is bevacizumab.
88. A polynucleotide which comprises a polynucleotide of SEQ ID NO:6, SEQ ID NO:8, SEQ ID NO:20, SEQ ID NO:22, SEQ ID NO:34, SEQ ID NO:36, SEQ ID NO:53, SEQ ID NO:54 or SEQ ID NO:55.
89. A polynucleotide that comprises a polynucleotide encoding a polypeptide having the sequence of SEQ ID NO:5, SEQ ID NO:7, SEQ ID NO:19, SEQ ID NO:21, SEQ ID NO:33, SEQ ID NO:35, SEQ ID NO:50, SEQ ID NO:51, or SEQ ID NO:52.
90. A polynucleotide that comprises a polynucleotide that hybridizes to SEQ ID NO:6, SEQ ID NO:8, SEQ ID NO:20, SEQ ID NO:22, SEQ ID NO:34, SEQ ID NO:36, SEQ ID NO:53, SEQ ID NO:54 or SEQ ID NO:55.
91. A polynucleotide that comprises a polynucleotide that hybridizes to a polynucleotide encoding a polypeptide having the sequence of SEQ ID NO:5, SEQ ID NO:7, SEQ ID NO:19, SEQ ID NO:21, SEQ ID NO:33, SEQ ID NO:35, SEQ ID NO:50, SEQ ID NO:51, or SEQ ID NO:52.
92. The polynucleotide of claim 90 or claim 91, wherein the hybridization is under conditions of high stringency.

1/14

Figure 1

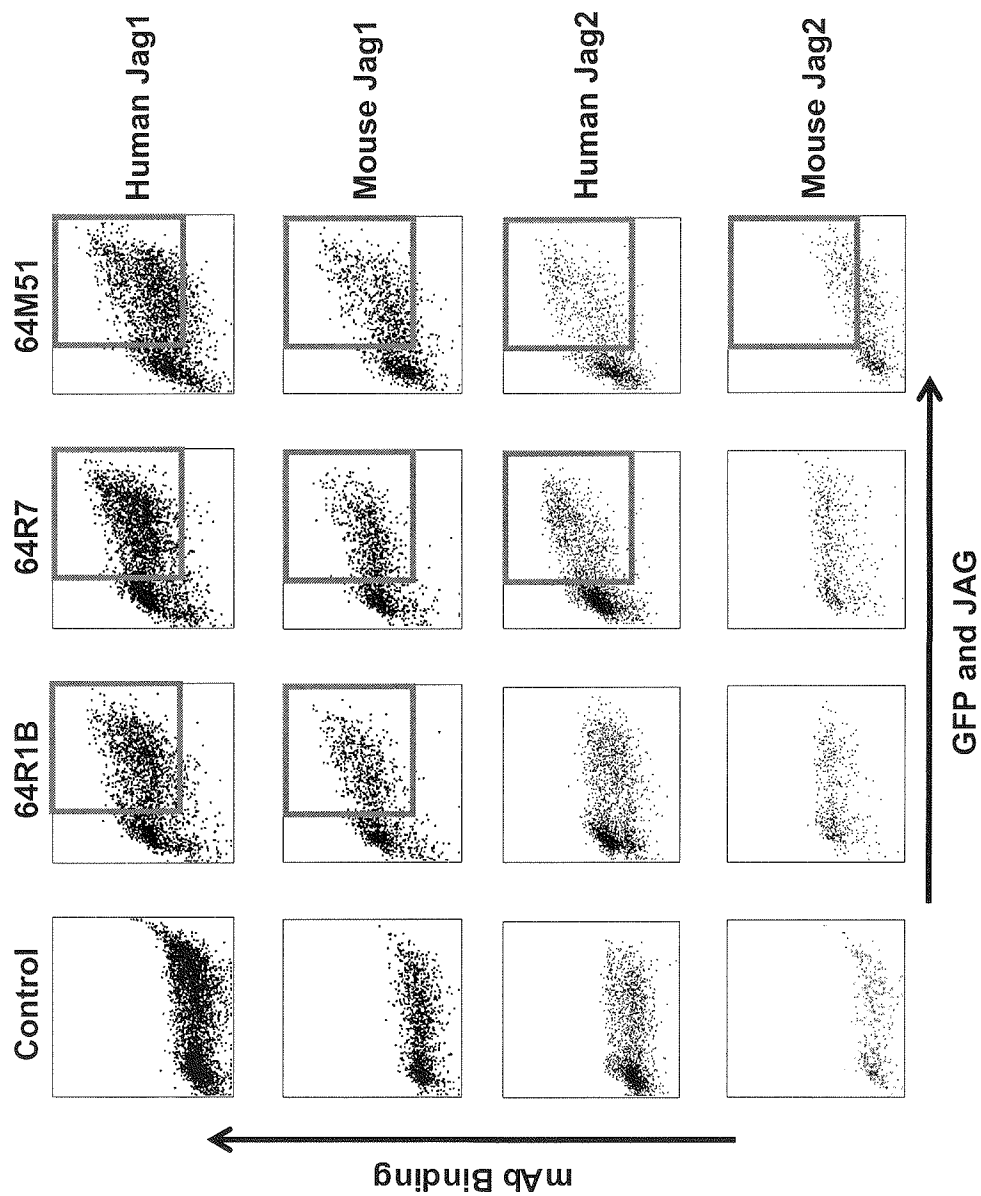
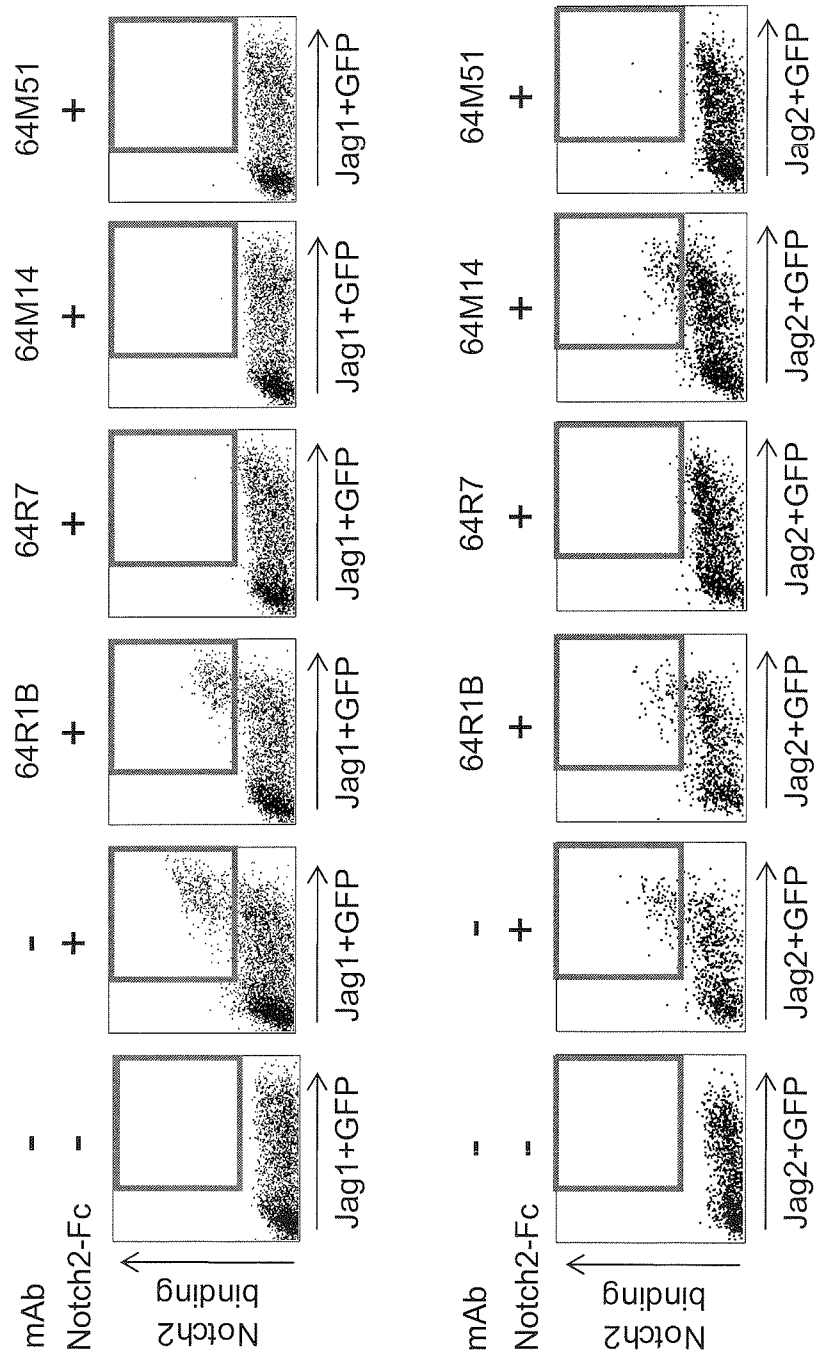


Figure 2



3/14

Figure 3

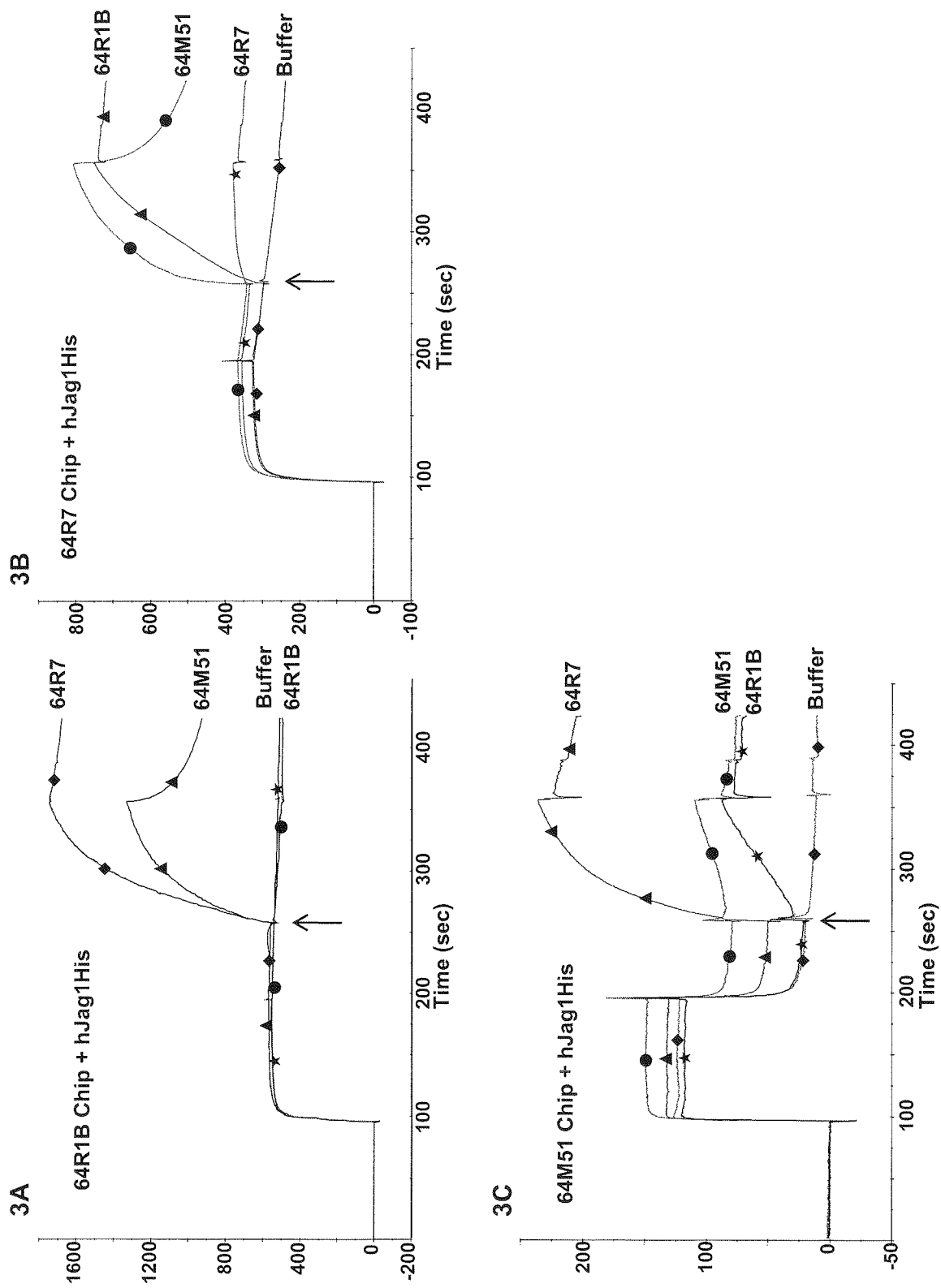


Figure 4

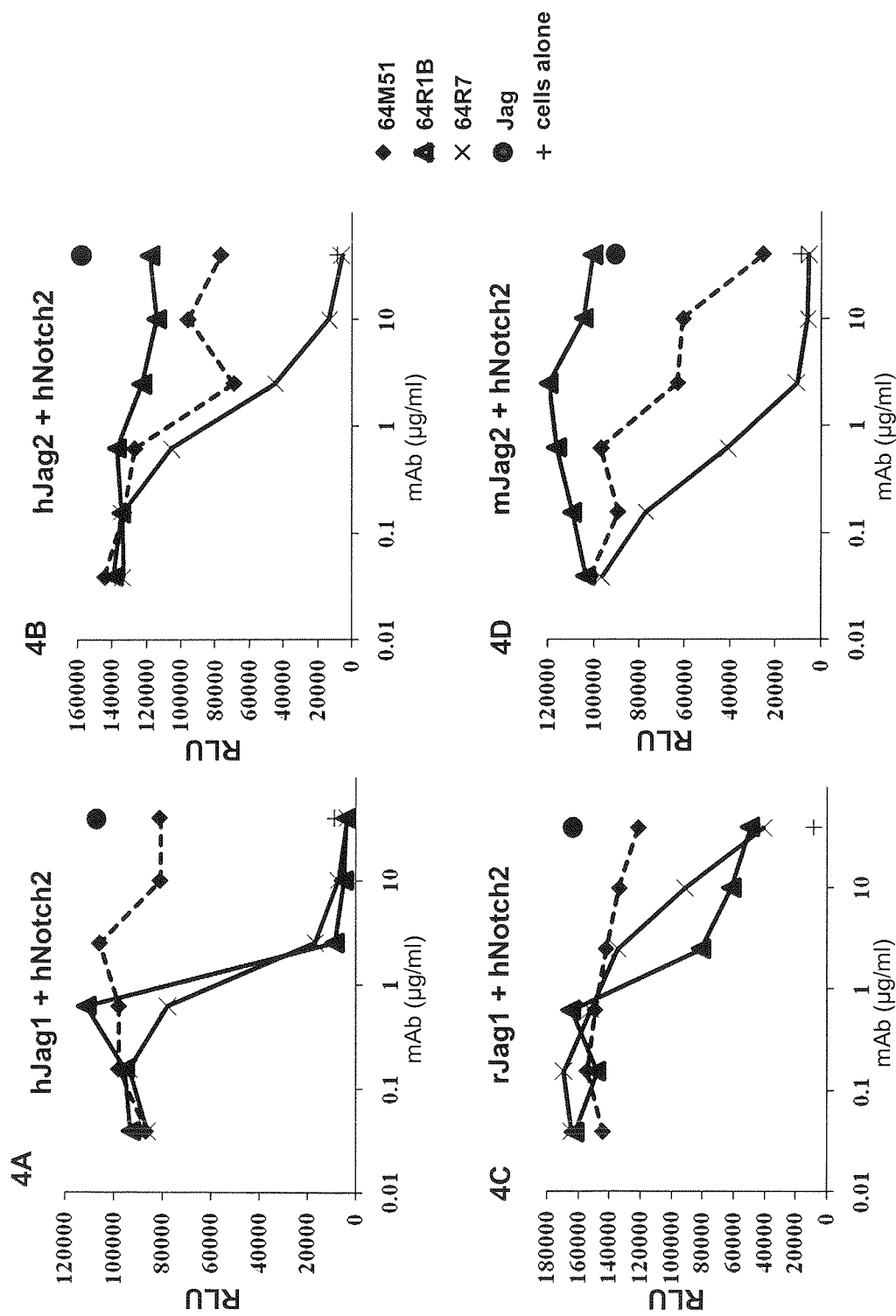
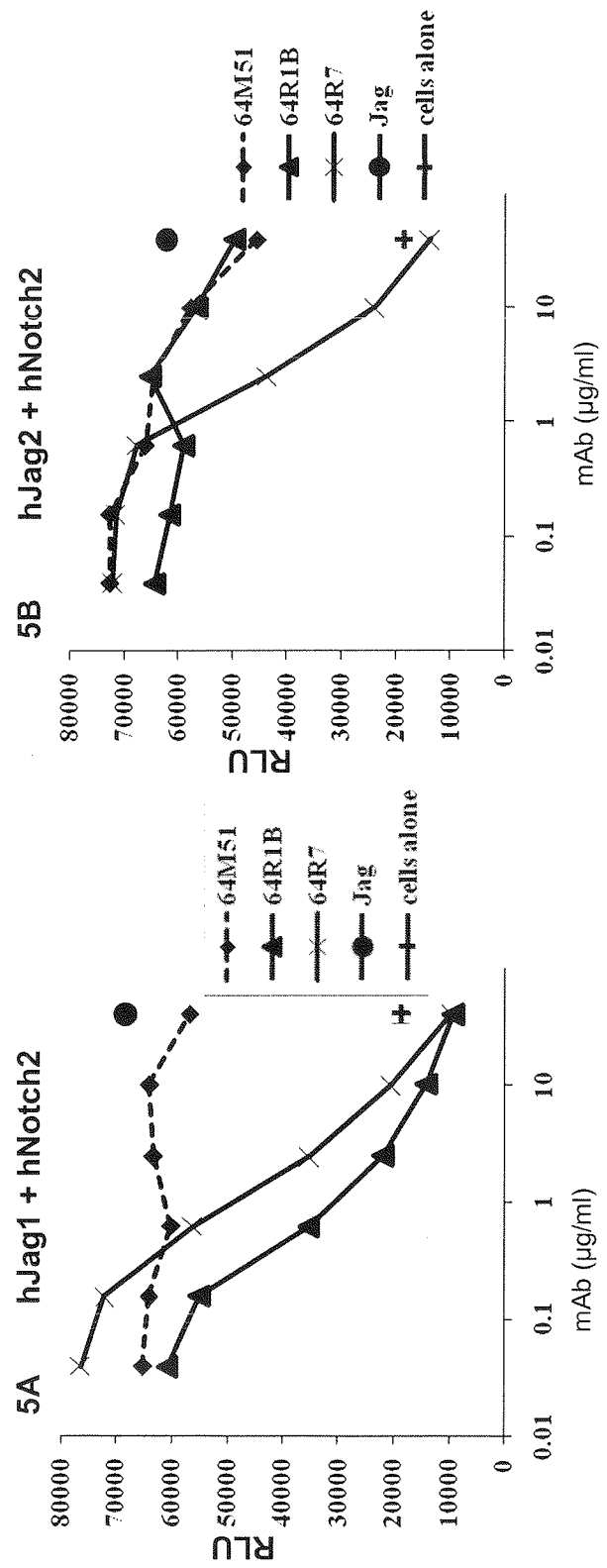
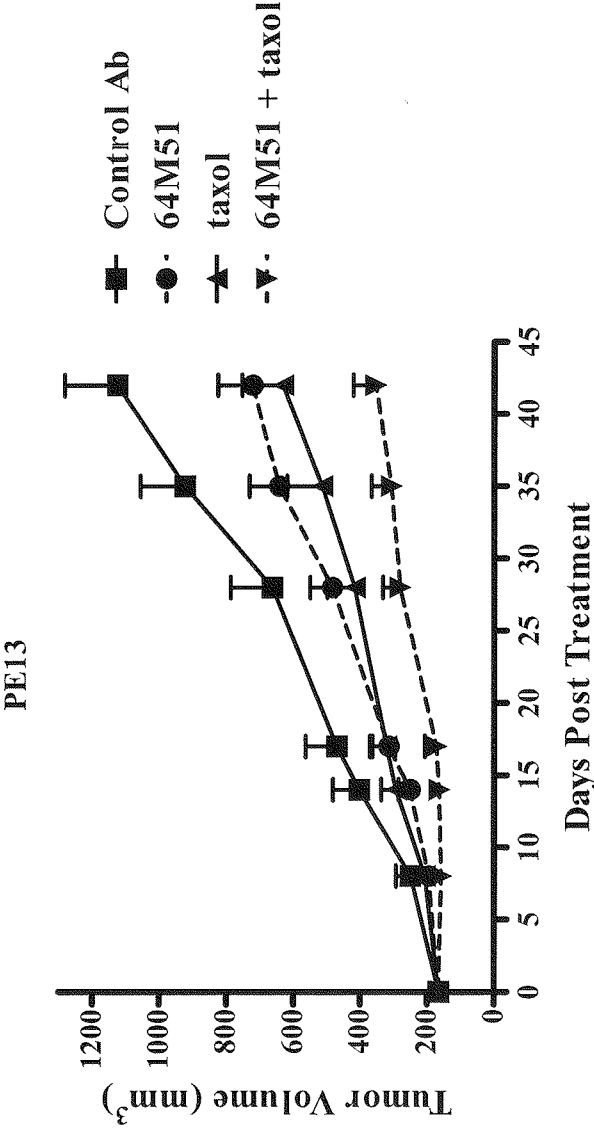


Figure 5



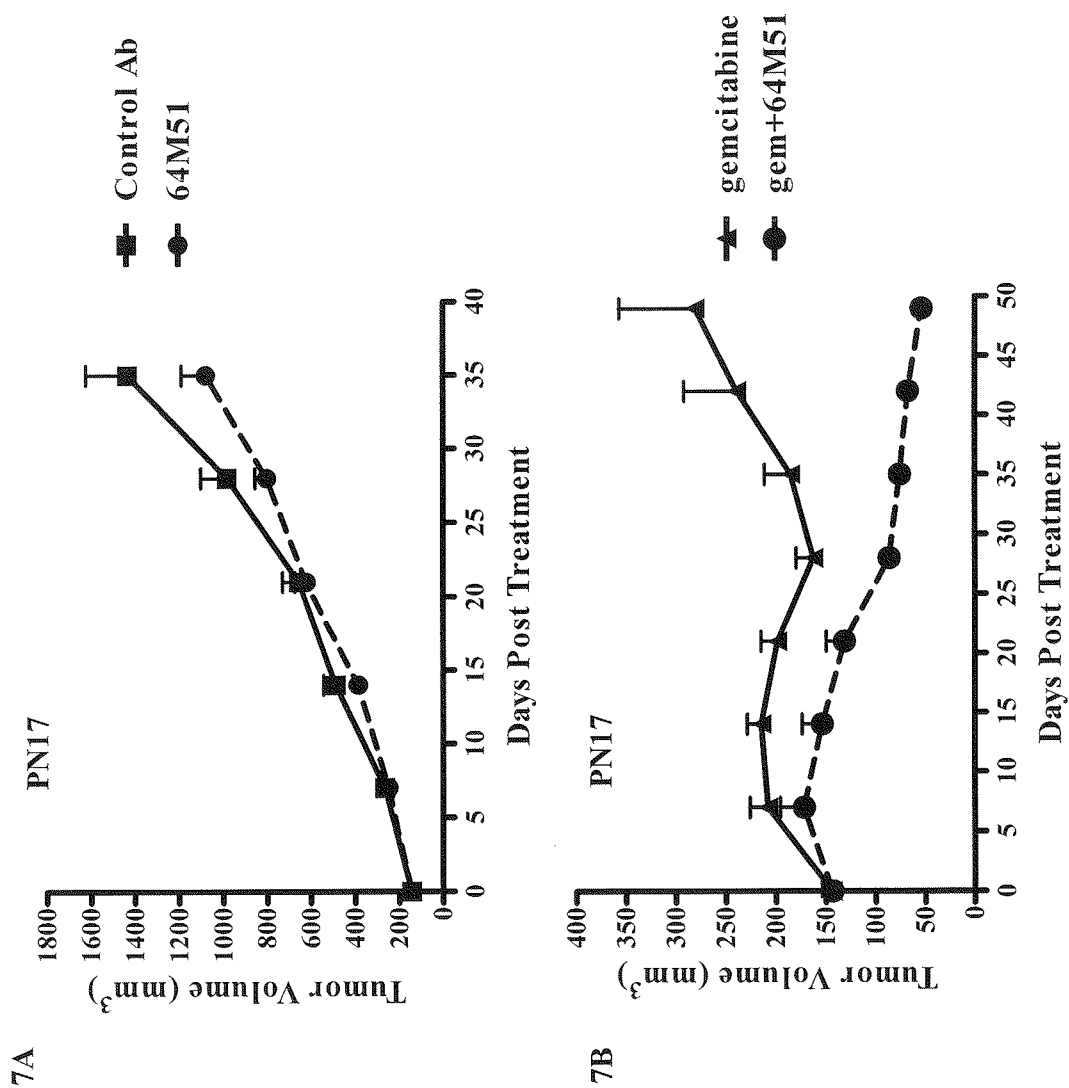
6/14

Figure 6



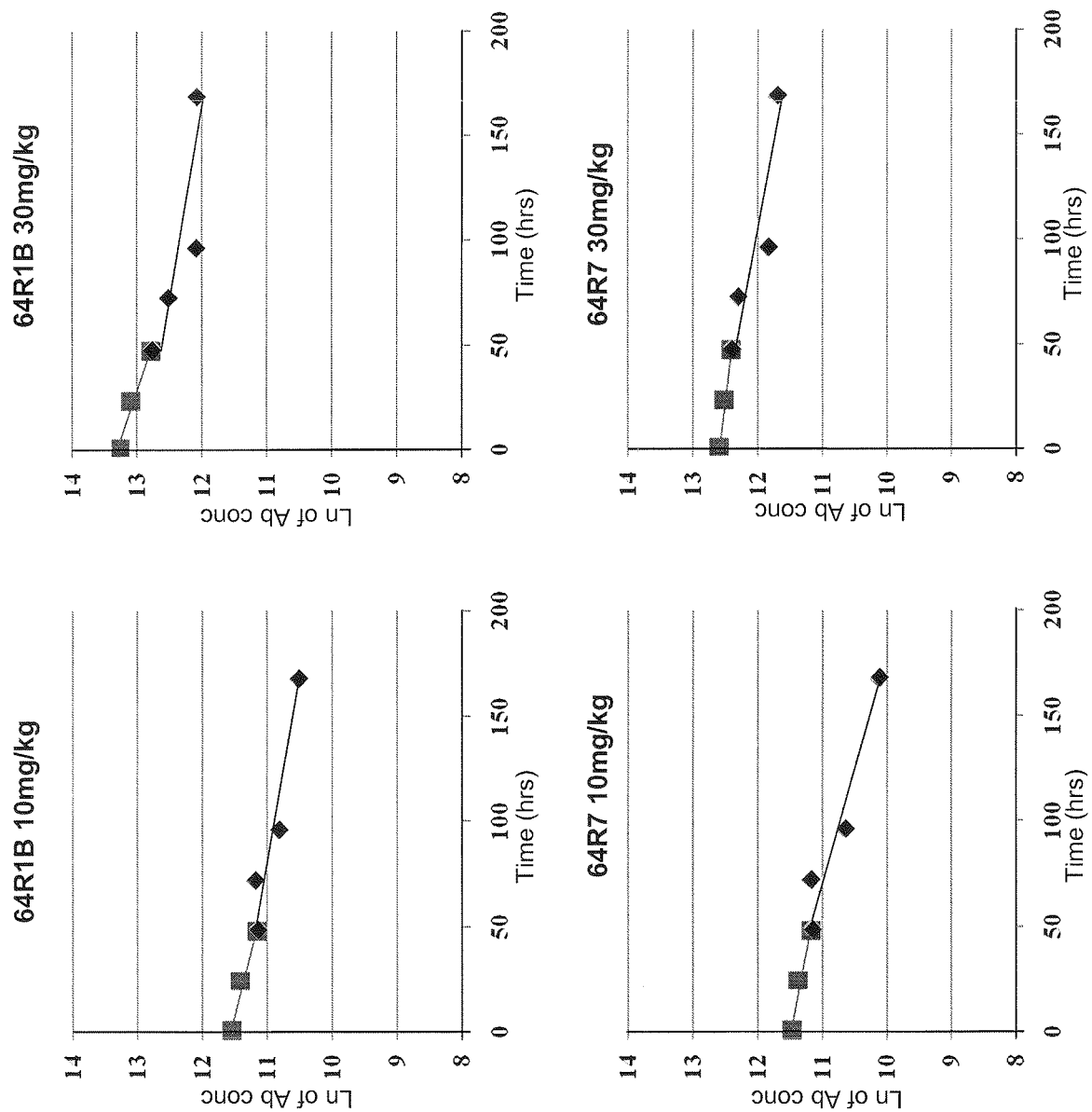
7/14

Figure 7



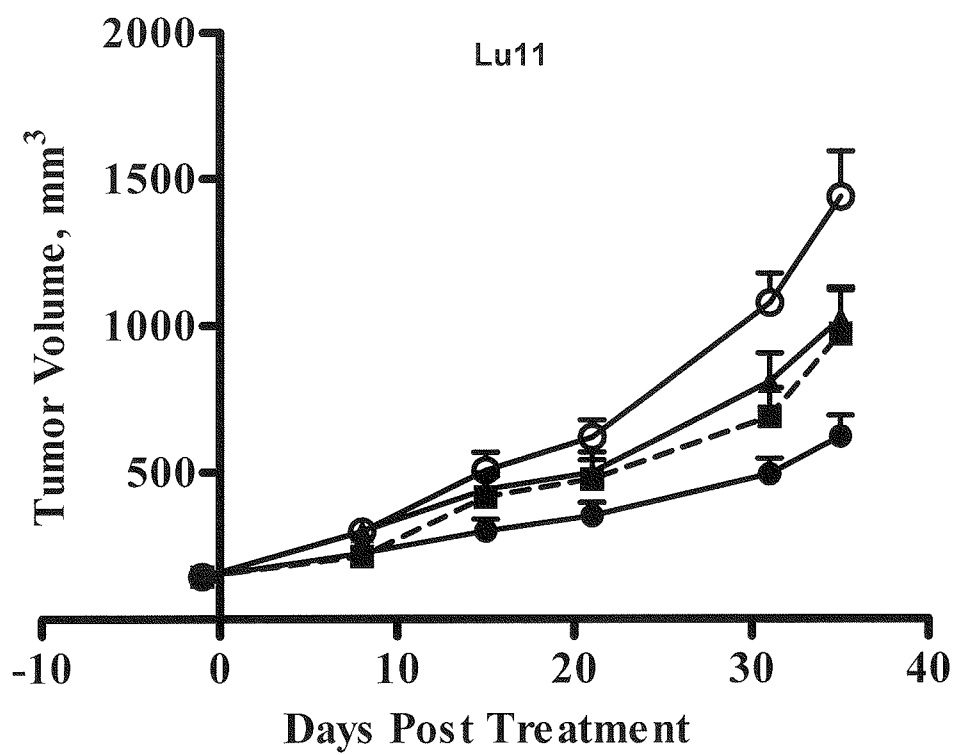
8/14

Figure 8



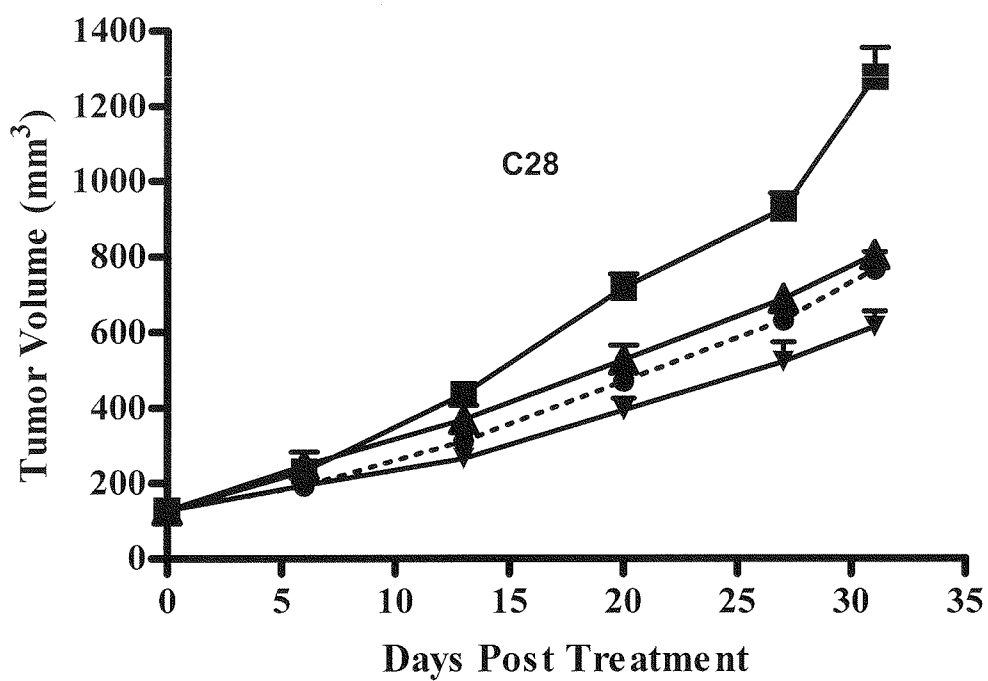
9/14

Figure 9



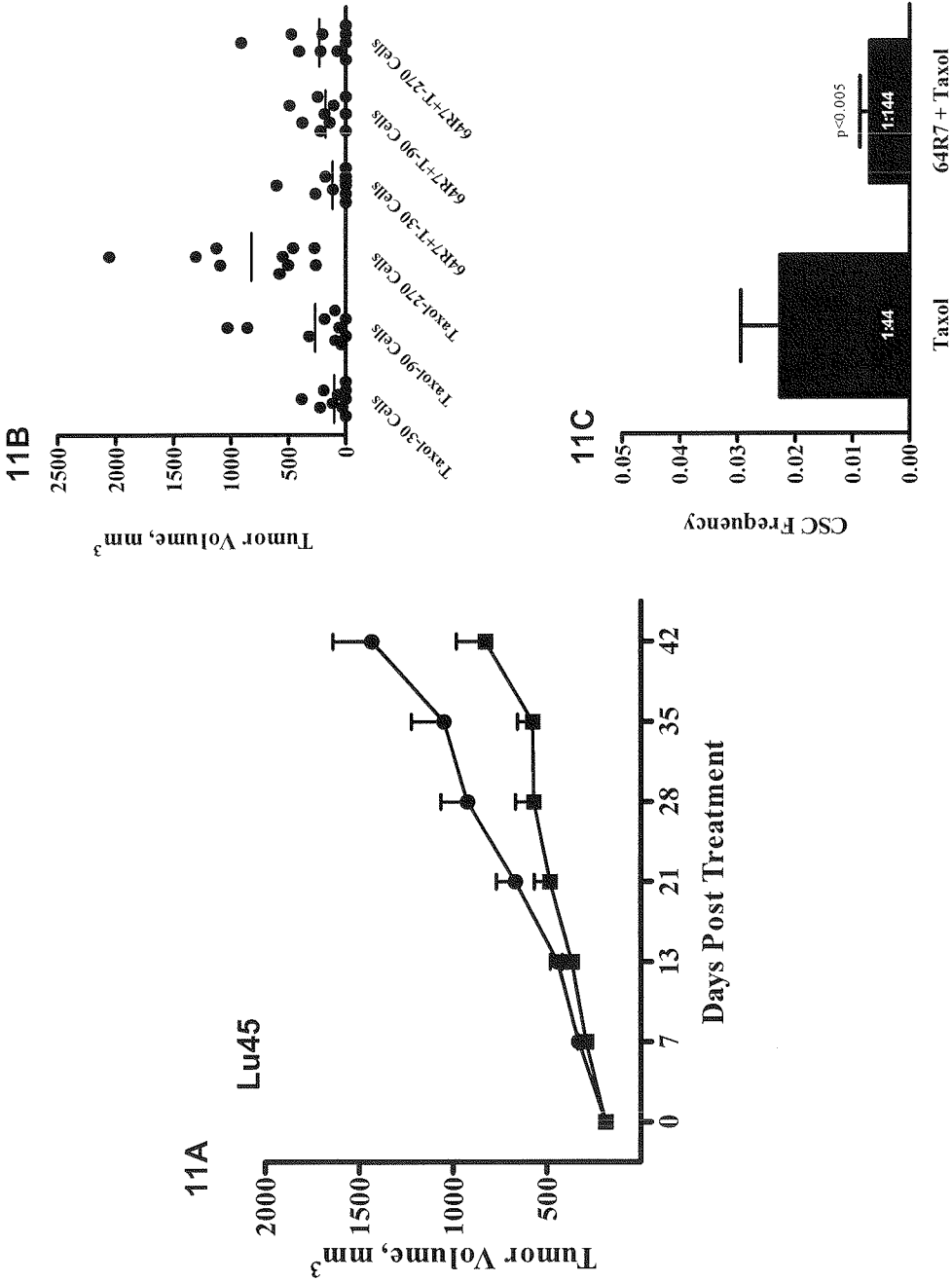
10/14

Figure 10



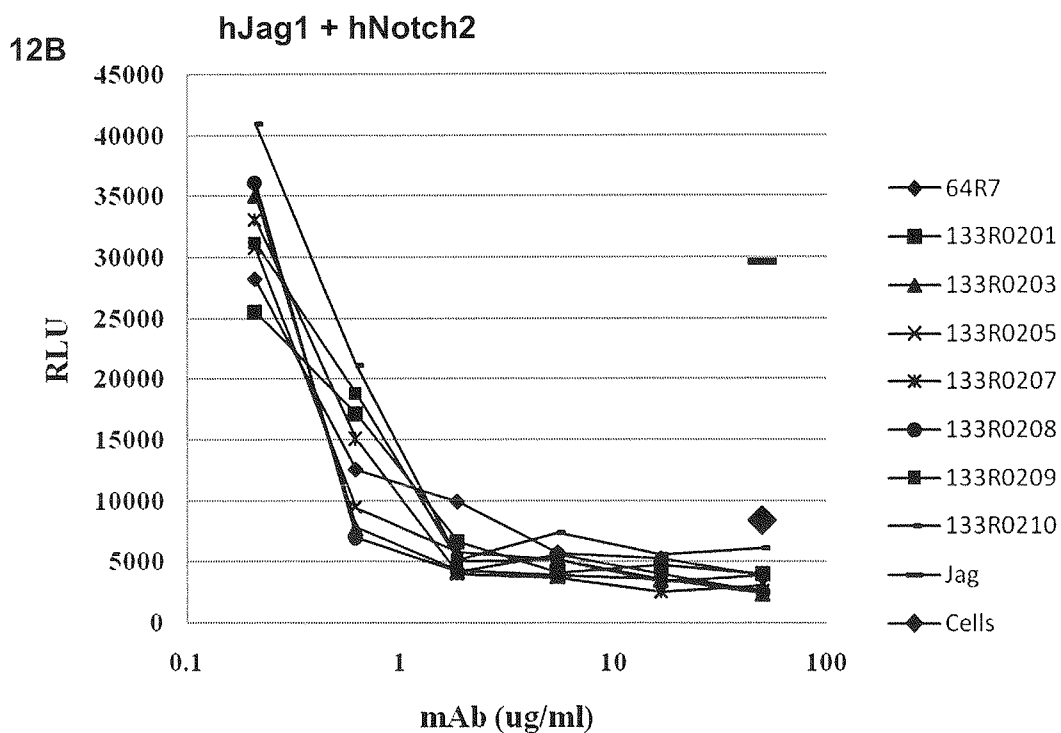
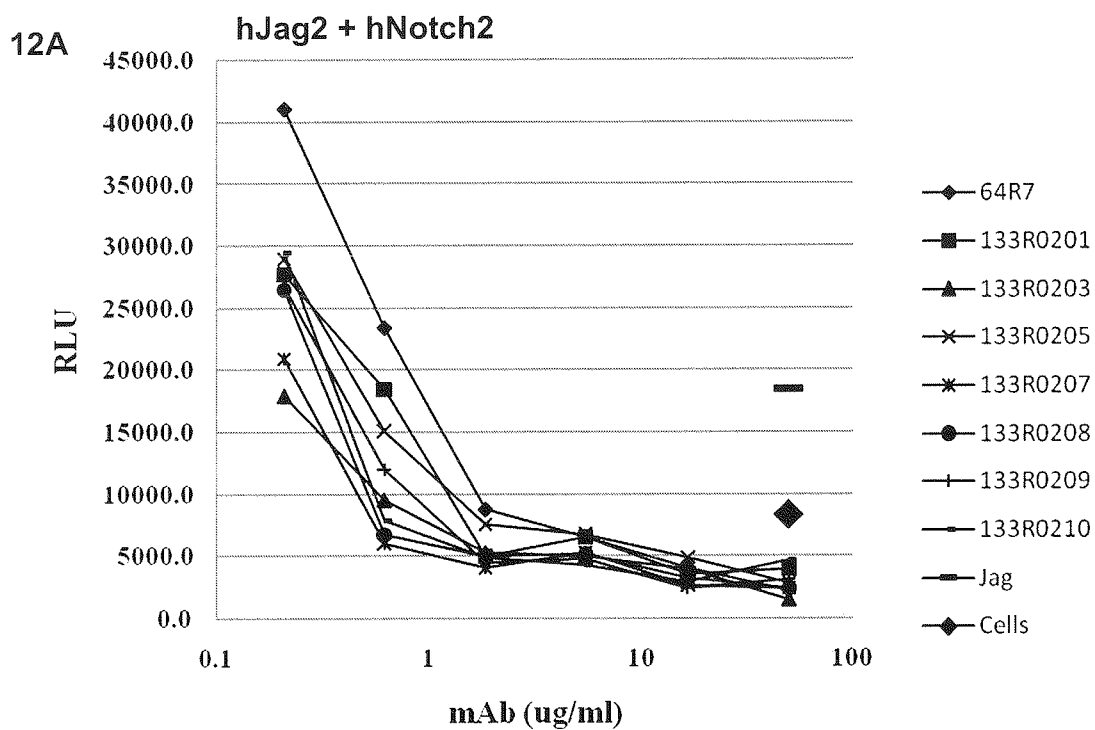
11/14

Figure 11



12/14

Figure 12



13/14

Figure 13

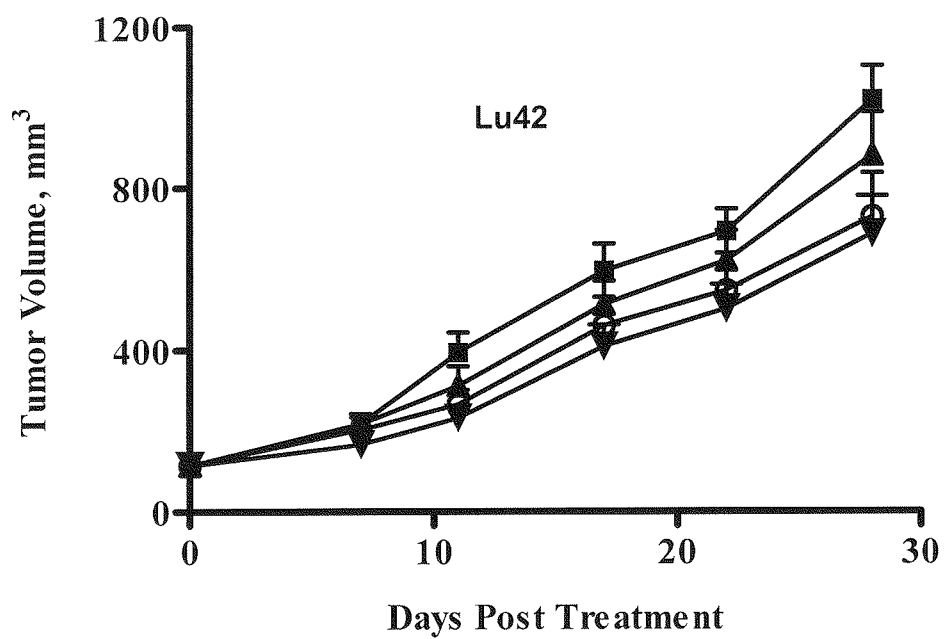


Figure 14

