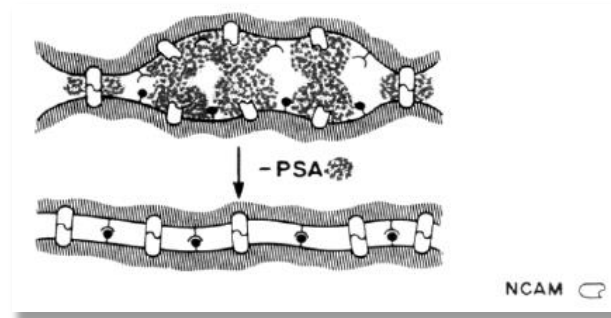


# Intrabodies against the Polysialyltransferases ST8SialII and ST8SialIV inhibit Polysialylation of NCAM in rhabdomyosarcoma tumor cells

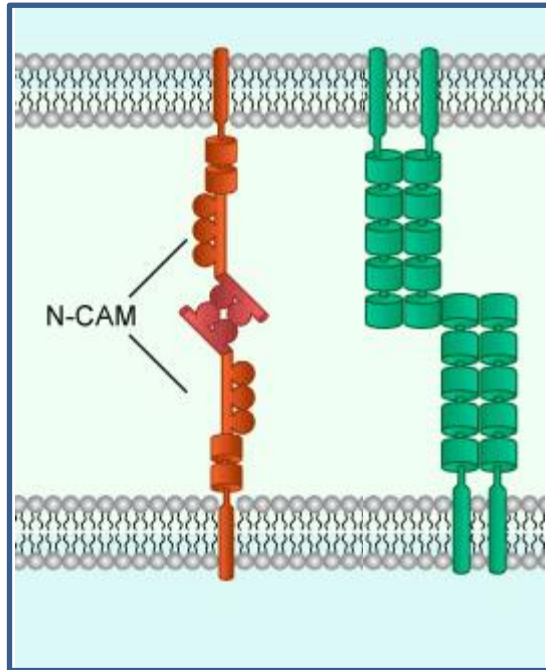
Somplatzki S, Mühlenhoff M, Kröger A, Gerardy-Schahn R, Böldicke T.  
BMC Biotechnol. 2017 May 12;17(1):42. doi: 10.1186/s12896-017-0360-7.



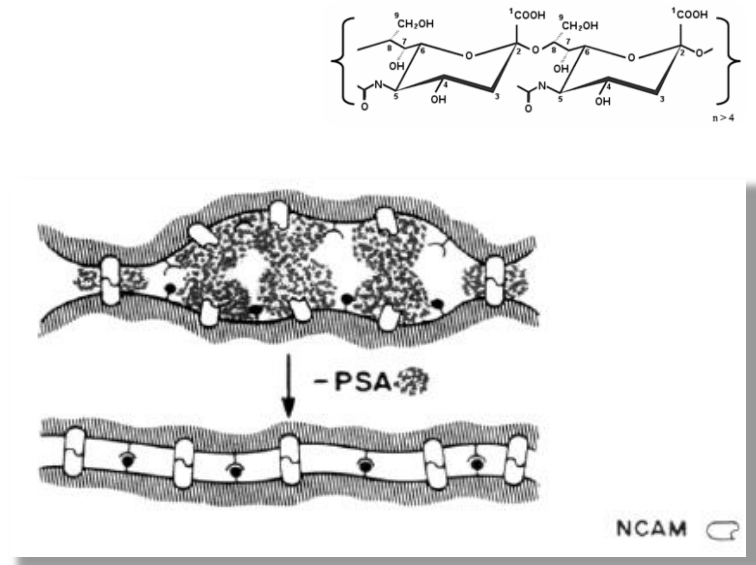
8th European Immunology Conference  
Madrid, Spain

Dr. Thomas Böldicke  
Helmholtz-Centre for Infection Research, Germany  
Structure and Function of Proteins

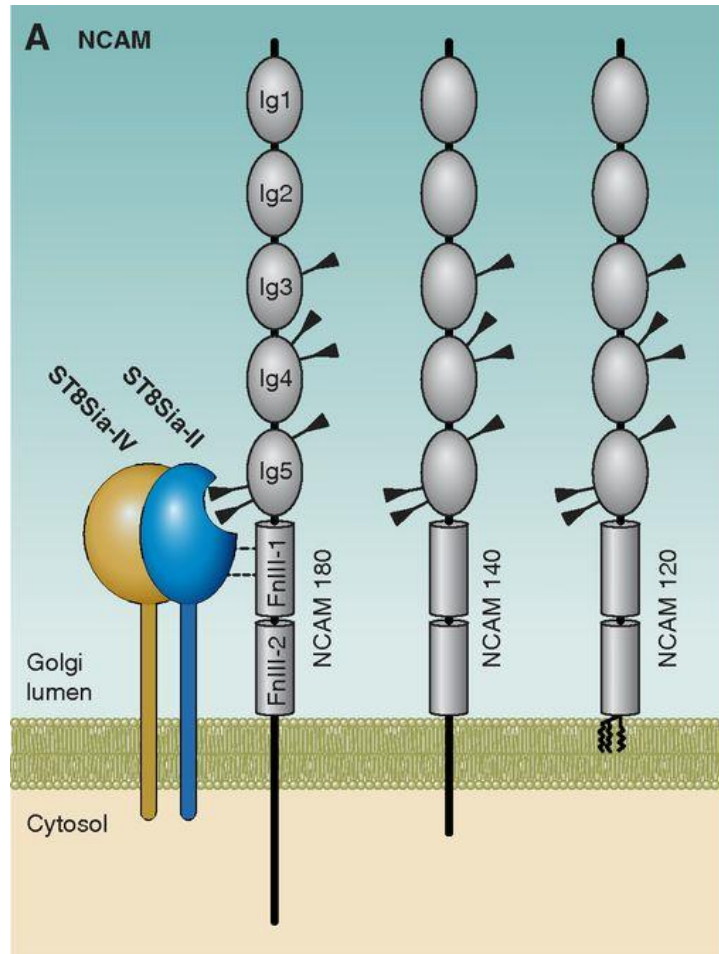
# NCAM promotes cell interactions whereas PSA-NCAM inhibits these interactions



a, NCAM-NCAM interaction



b, PSA-NCAM inhibits NCAM-NCAM interaction and interaction of other cell surface molecules



Polysialylation of NCAM is mediated by Golgi-located polysialyltransferases ST8Sia-II and ST8Sia-IV

# Function of Polysialated NCAM (PSA-NCAM)

- PSA on NCAM avoids cell interactions due to steric inhibition and/or inhibited interaction with other cell molecules
- involved in cell migration, axon growth, nerve branching, pathfinding, synaptic arrangement
- highest expression during late embryonic and early postnatal stages (development and rearrangement of the nervous system)
- almost no expression in adult organisms, except for some regions connected with repairing issues
- expressed in some tumors

# **PolySia has an important influence on cell migration of tumor cells**

- Tumor cells of neural origin often express NCAM and ST8SialI and ST8SialIV.
- Polysialylation of NCAM has been detected in Wilms Tumor, Nephroblastom, Multiple Myeloma and Rhabdomyosarcoma.

## **Aim of our project was to answer the following questions:**

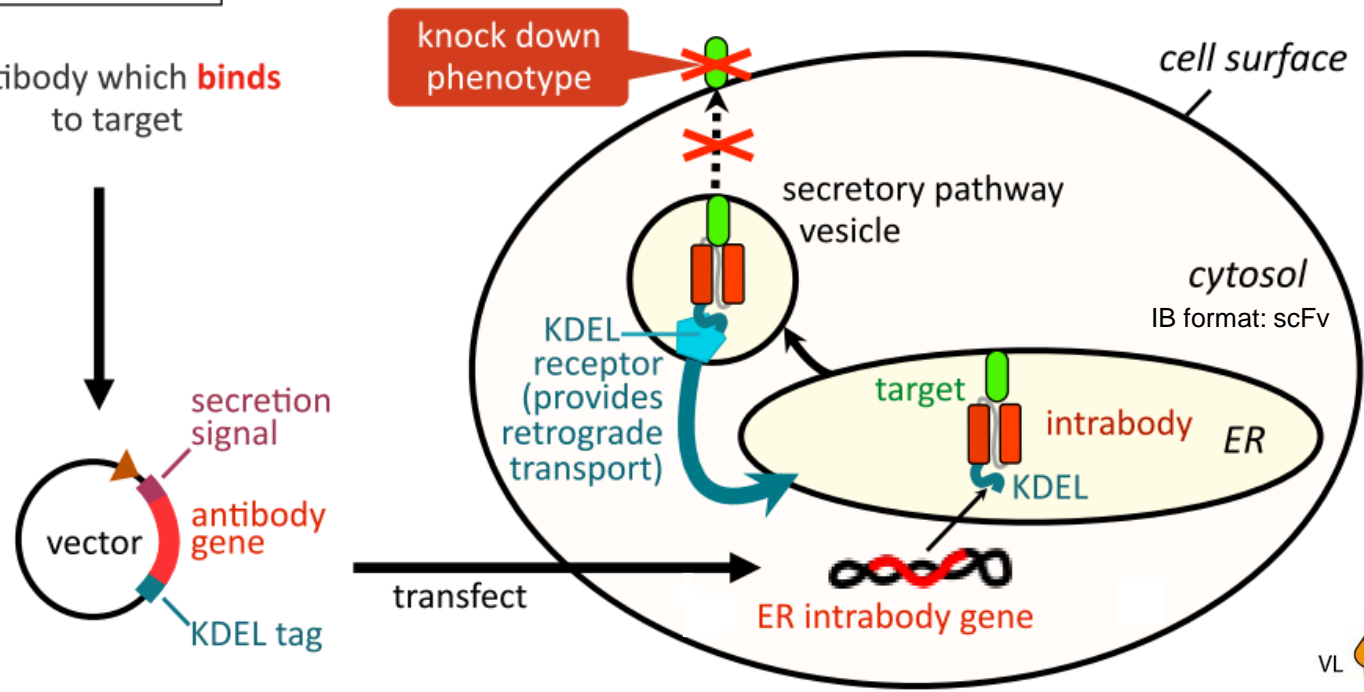
1. Is the polysialylation of NCAM in rhabdomyosarcoma tumors mediated by two polysialyltransferases responsible for the metastasis of tumor cells in mice?
2. Is it possible to inactivate the polysialyltransferases by intrabodies expressed inside the ER?
3. If the translocation of the two polysialyltransferases from the ER to the Golgi-apparatus is inhibited by two ER intrabodies we can use them to analyse the effect of polysialylation on metastasis.

# Intrabodies

- Recombinant antibody fragments, format: scFv or single domain antibody
- Expressed in target cells expressing the corresponding antigen
- Protein Knockdown of the antigen
- Main advantage: Specificity
- Targeting of proteins passing the ER, nuclear and cytosolic proteins.

# ER intrabodies

antibody which binds to target



knock down phenotype

cell surface

secretory pathway vesicle

cytosol  
IB format: scFv

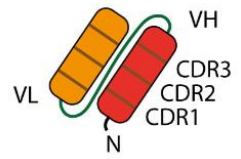
target intrabody ER

KDEL receptor (provides retrograde transport)

secretion signal  
antibody gene  
vector  
KDEL tag

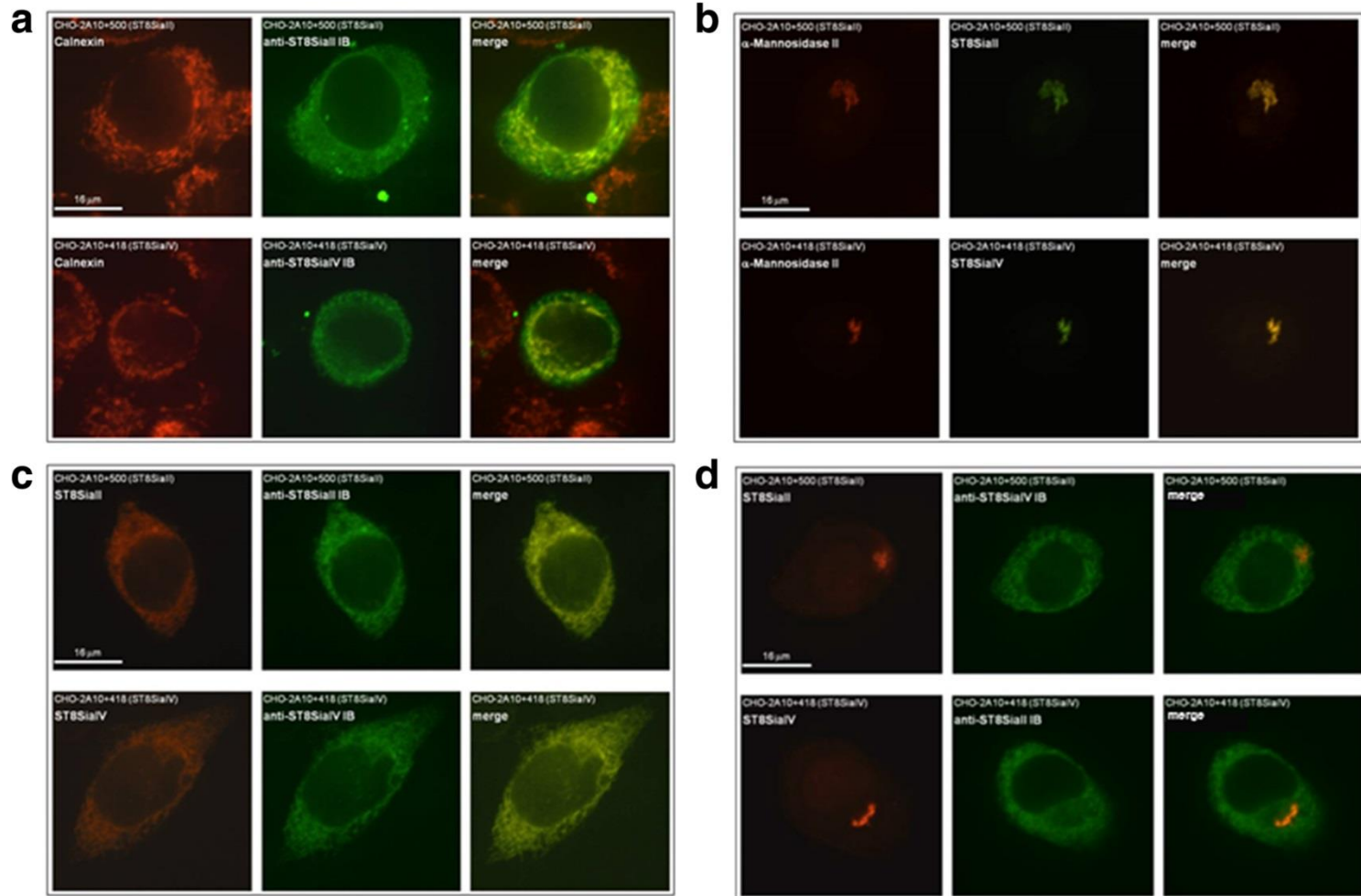
transfect

ER intrabody gene



IB format scFv

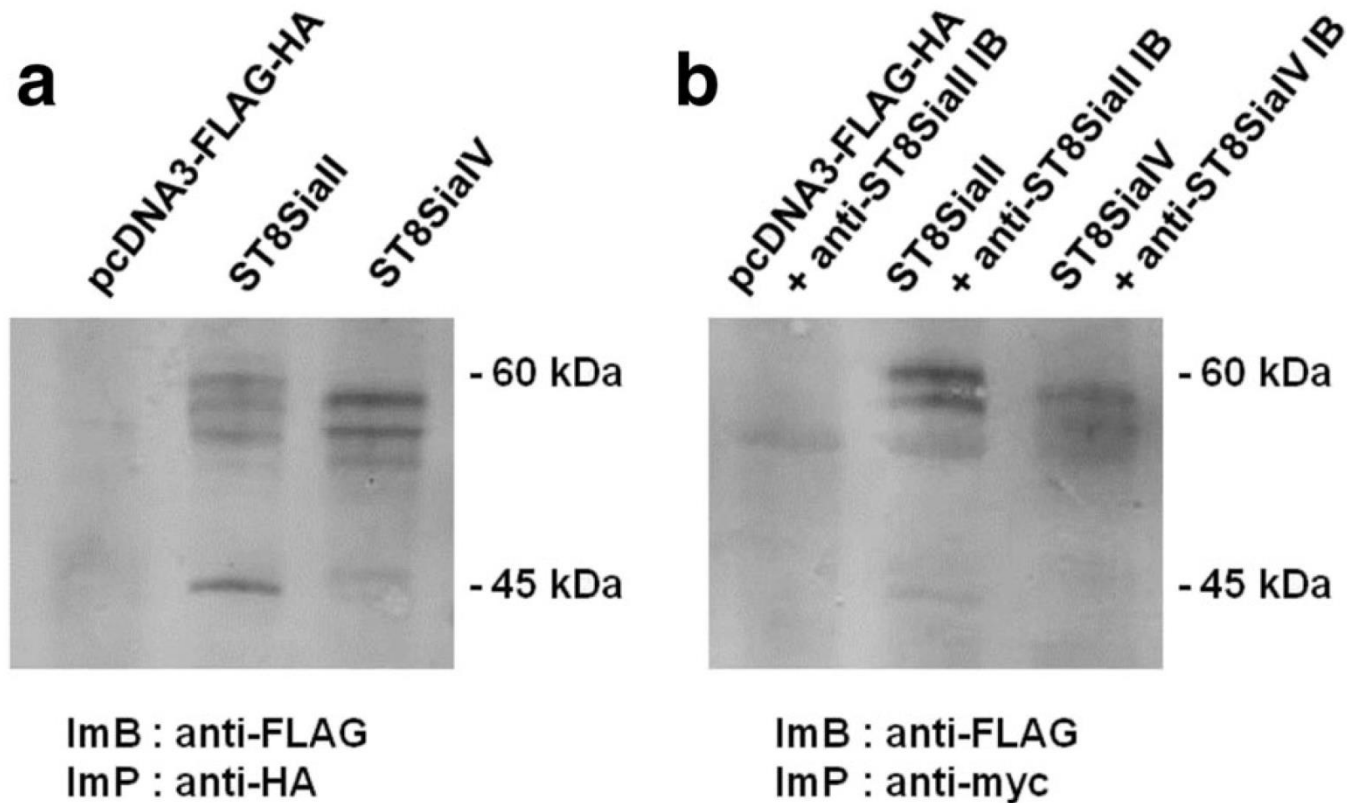
## Mechanism of Knockdown of ER intrabodies



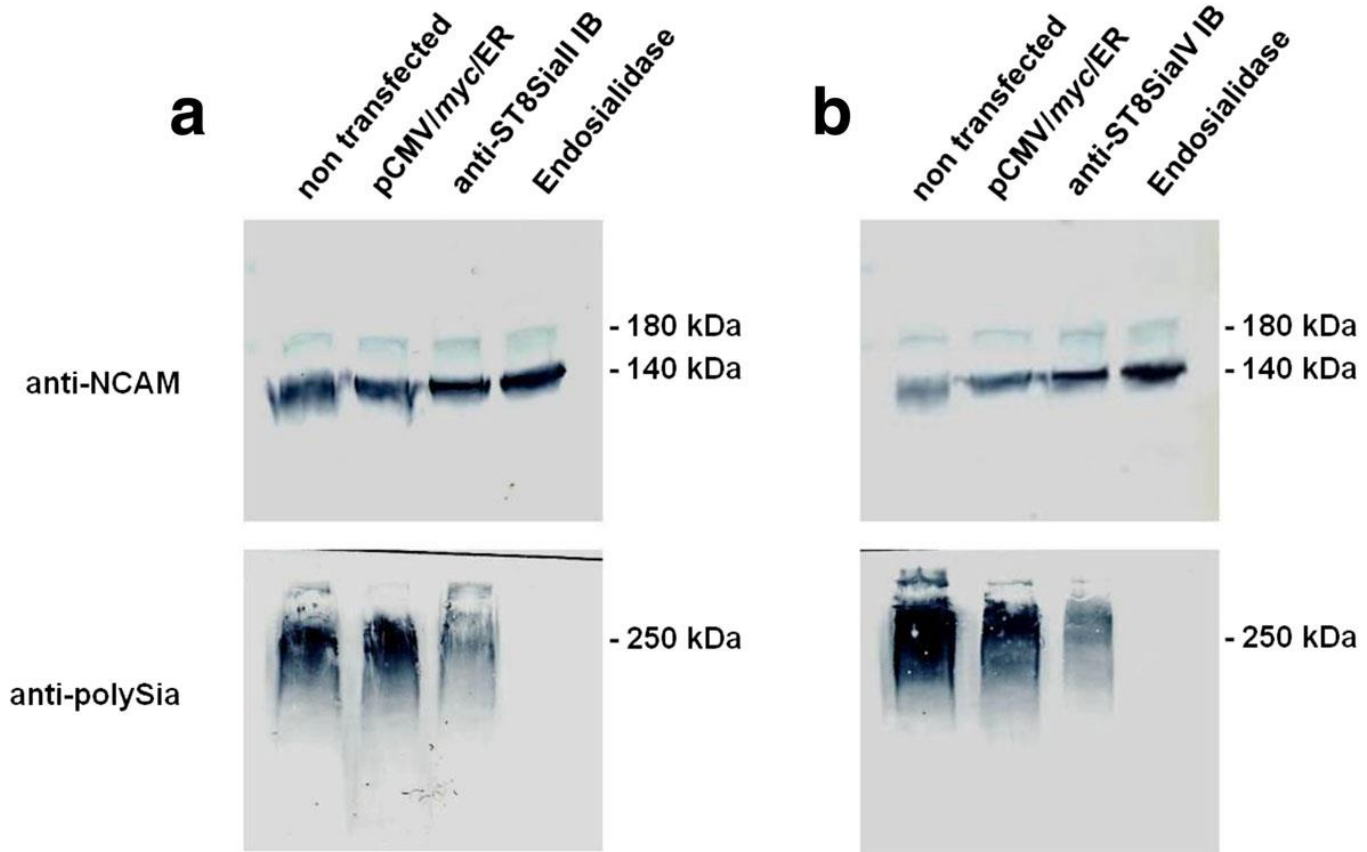
Anti-ST8SialII-IB and anti-ST8SialIV-IB mediates retention of ST8SialII and ST8SialIV inside the ER

(a) Colocalisation of IBs with ER marker calnexin, (b) colocalisation of ST8SialII and ST8SialIV with Golgi marker  $\alpha$ -mannose II, (c) staining of ST8SialII and ST8SialIV and specific intrabodies, (d) negativ control



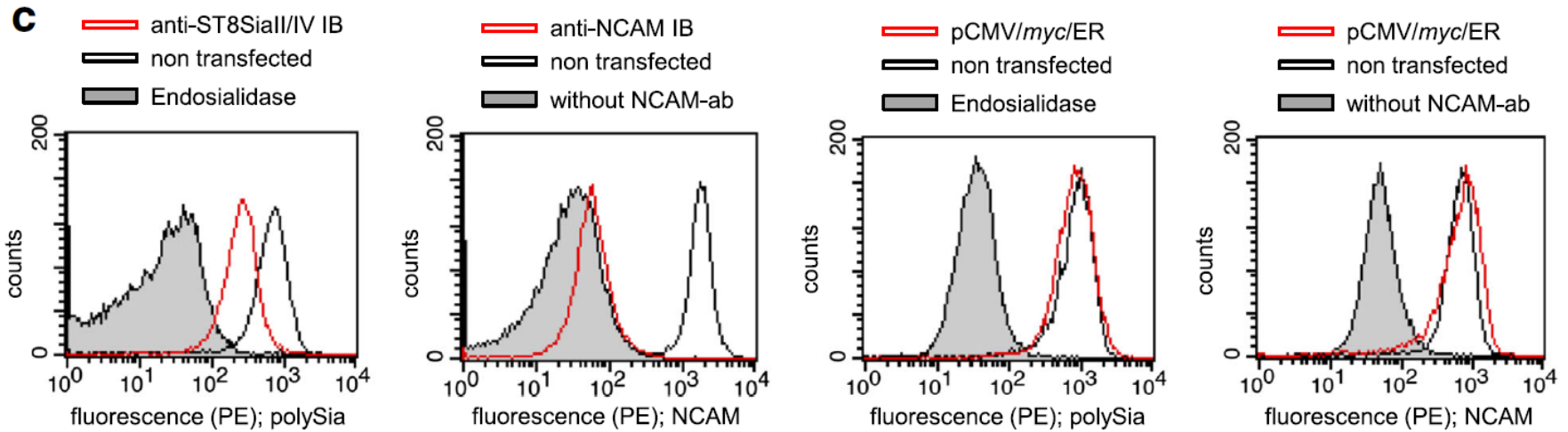


Intracellular Binding of anti-ST8Siall-IB and anti-ST8SiaVI-IB to their antigens. a, control IP, b, Co-IP.



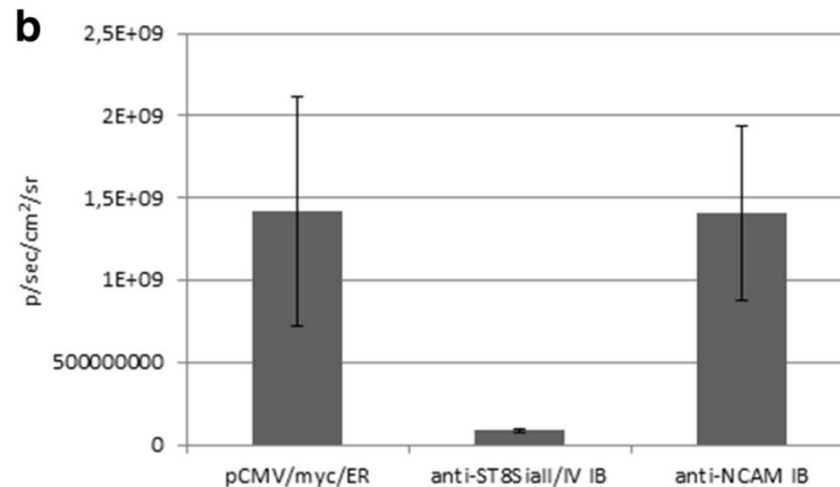
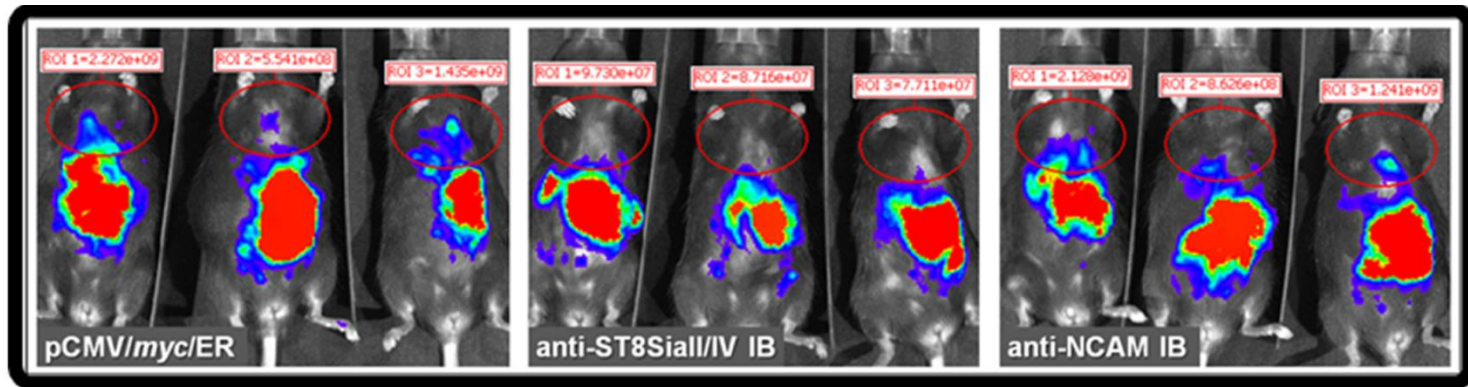
Reduced expression of polySia in recombinant CHO cells mediated by anti-ST8SialI and anti-ST8SialIV IBs.

a Immunoblot analysis of expressed NCAM and polySia of NCAM in CHO-2A10 + 500-cells expressing ST8SialII transfected with ST8SialII-IB. Negative control: cells non transfected or transfected with pCMV/myc/ER. Positive control: cell lysat treated with endosialidase. b Immunoblot analysis of expressed NCAM and polySia of NCAM in CHO-2A10 + 418-cells expressing ST8SialIV transfected with ST8SialIV IB.



PolySia cell surface expression is inhibited in TE671 rhabdomyosarcoma cells stable expressing  $\alpha$ ST8SiaII-IB,  $\alpha$ ST8SiaIV-IB.

a

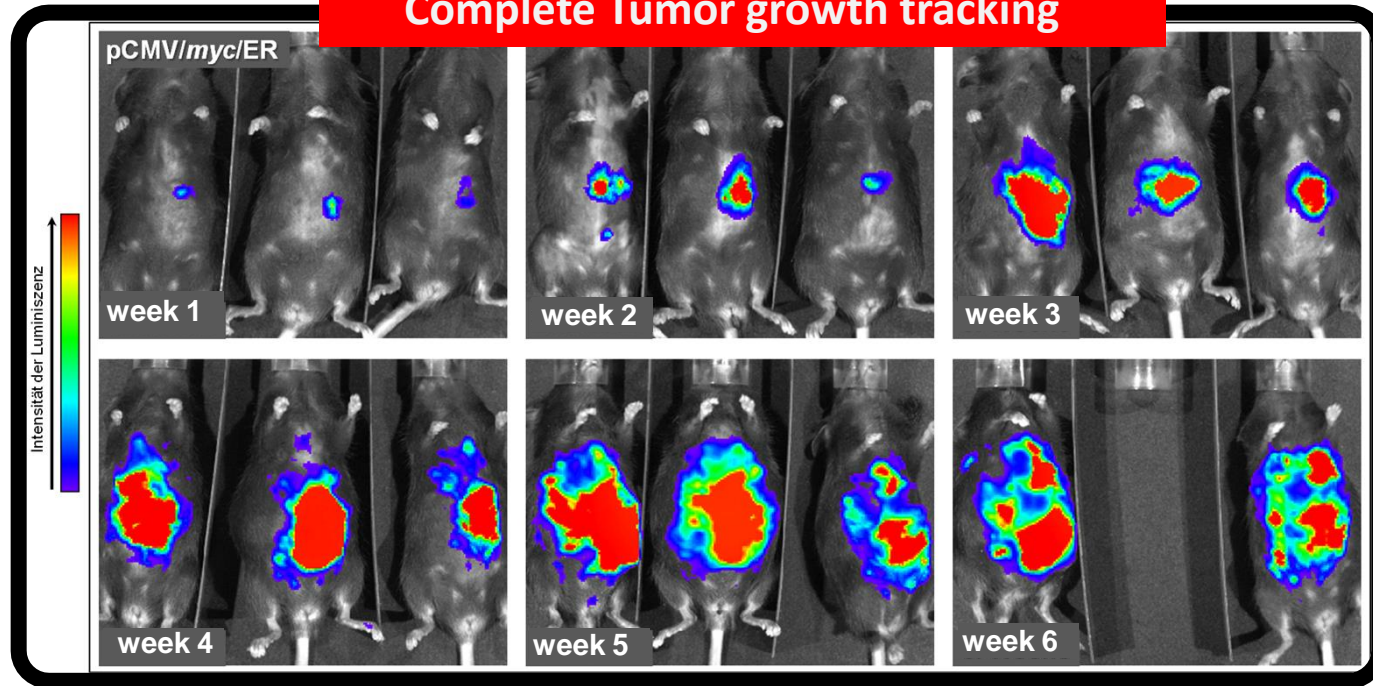


Inhibitory effect of anti-ST8Siall-IB and anti-ST8SialV-IB on metastasis of rhabdomyosarcoma cells after 4 weeks of tumor cell injection in mice.

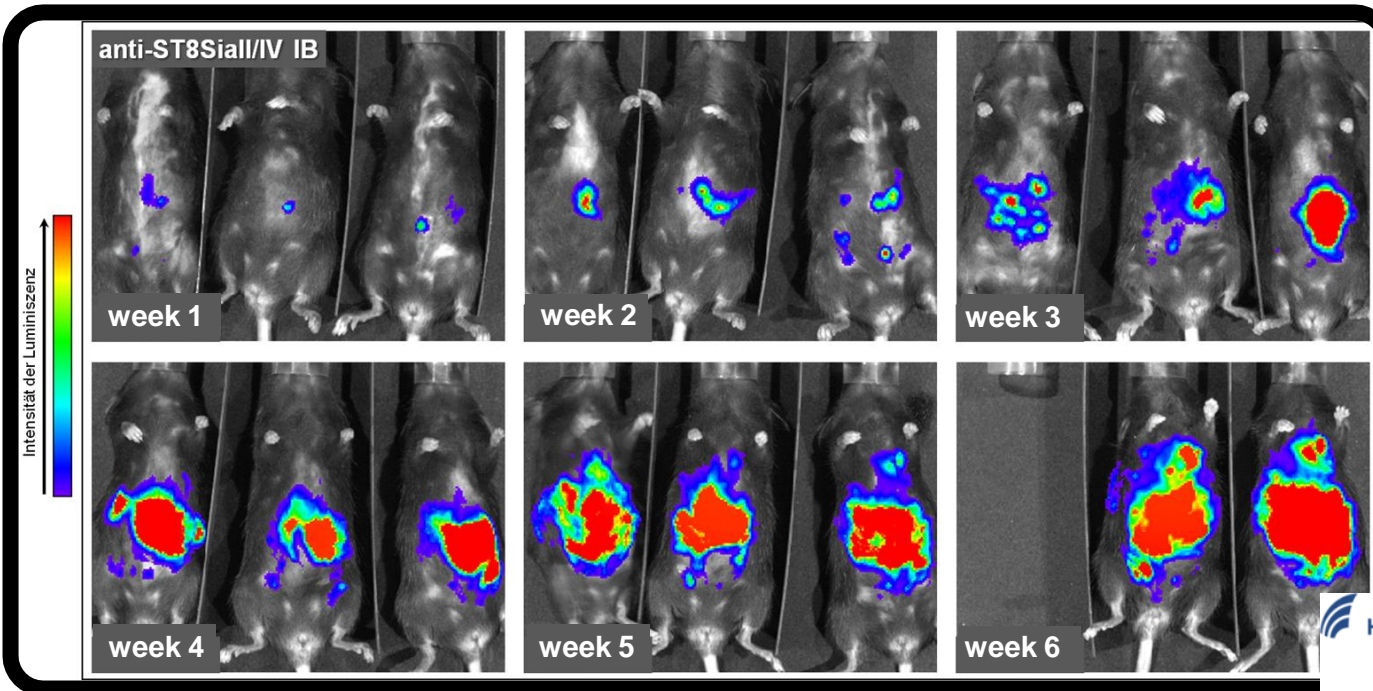
a) Detection of tumor cells by luminescence, b) Mean values of each group of mice with corresponding standard deviation.

# Complete Tumor growth tracking

A



B



# Conclusion

- The new IBs are potent tools to study the individual role of each enzyme in cell migration and tumor progression of different tumors.
- In addition they can be used to get more insight into the role of ST8SialII and ST8SialIV on the polysialylation of targets different from NCAM (i.e. SynCAM-1, europilin-2, the chemokine receptor CCR7, and E-selectin ligand-1).

# Acknowledgement

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