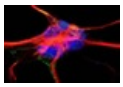
Tumors prepare distant sites for metastatic growth.

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The spread (metastasis) of cancer to distant locations is responsible for about 9 out of 10 cancer deaths. It is very important that we understand how and why a cancer spreads to particular locations. New research shows that tumors can prepare a site for metastasizing cells before the cells even leave the tumor. By activating an enzyme in the lungs (focal adhesion kinase; FAK), the original (primary) tumor caused the alteration of blood vessels in parts of the lungs, making it easier for cancer cells to enter those locations and form secondary growths (metastases).

Source
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