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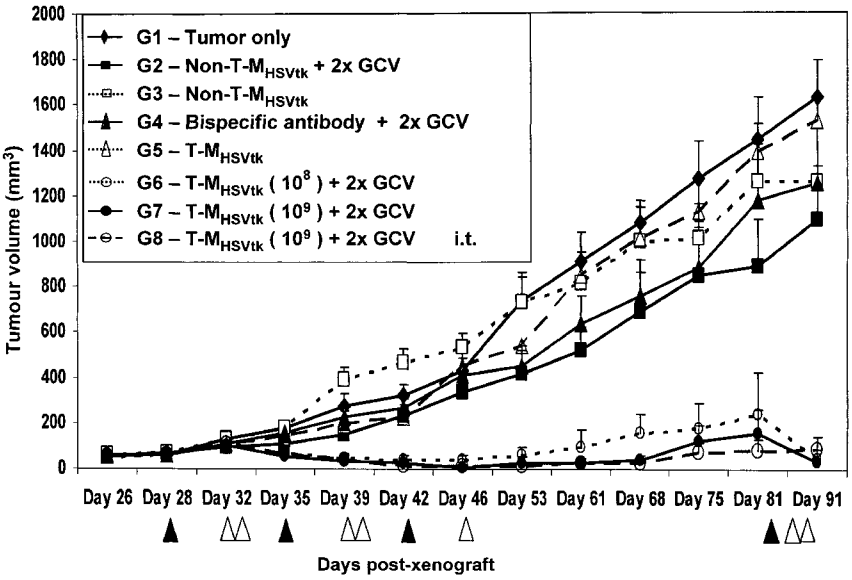
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(54) **Title:** TARGETED GENE DELIVERY TO NON-PHAGOCYTIC MAMMALIAN CELLS VIA BACTERIALLY DERIVED INTACT MINICELLS



(57) **Abstract:** A method of targeting bacterially-derived, intact minicells to specific, non-phagocytic mammalian cells employs bispecific ligands to deliver nucleic acids efficiently to the mammalian cells. Bispecific ligands, comprising (i) a first arm that carries specificity for a bacterially-derived minicell surface structure and (ii) a second arm that carries specificity for a non-phagocytic mammalian cell surface receptor are useful for targeting minicells to specific, non-phagocytic mammalian cells and causing endocytosis of minicells by non-phagocytic cells.

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