A potent small-molecule inhibitor of Cdc7. In a high-throughput screen, Montagnoli et al. (p 357) identified an ATP-competitive inhibitor of Cdc7, a kinase involved in initiating DNA replication. Using this inhibitor, the authors demonstrated that Cdc7 inhibition decreases the firing of replication origins and halts DNA synthesis. In rodents, the Cdc7 inhibitor had antitumor activity, which suggests that Cdc7 is a potential target for anticancer therapeutics (see also News and Views by Jackson on p 331). Shown is an immunofluorescence image of a xenograft tumor with the Cdc7 substrate pSer40/41 Mcm2 stained in red and nuclei in blue. Cover art by Erin Boyle based on images provided by Veronica Patton and Rachele Alzani.
BRIEF COMMUNICATIONS

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344  Protein lysine methyltransferase G9a acts on non-histone targets
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