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ABOUT THE COVER
KIT receptor signaling in mast cells is linked to the recruitment of these immune cells to a variety of solid tumors that express Stem cell factor (SCF). Within tumors, mast cell-derived mediators can enhance growth of the tumor vasculature and promote metastasis. Thus, inhibitors of KIT receptor, or downstream signaling pathways linked to mast cell chemotaxis, may be useful to limit tumor progression. Using a time lapse chemotaxis assay, FES kinase-deficient mast cells (red) were found to migrate less than control mast cells (green) under an agarose drop containing SCF. Interestingly, in FES-deficient mice, mammary tumors expressing SCF also failed to attract comparable mast cells to wild-type control mice, and tumor progression was suppressed. For details, see article by Kwok and colleagues on page 881.