This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Ovarian cancer	Toll-like receptor 5 (TLR5)	<i>In vitro</i> and mouse studies suggest that polyethylenimine-based nanoparticles encapsulating small interfering RNAs could help treat cancer. In mice with ovarian cancer, tumor-infiltrating immunosuppressive dendritic cells (DCs) engulfed the nanoparticles and were transformed into DCs with anticancer activity, extending the survival of the mice compared with that of mice that received control buffer. In the mice, TLR5 and TLR5-inducible cytokines were activated by the polyethylenimine component of the nanoparticles, suggesting the compound is a TLR5 agonist. Next steps include Phase I testing. <i>SciBX</i> 2(29); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.1146 Published online July 30, 2009	Findings unpatented; unavailable for licensing	Cubillos-Ruiz, J. <i>et al. J. Clin. Invest.</i> ; published online July 13, 2009; doi:10.1172/JCI37716 Contact: Jose R. Conejo-Garcia, Dartmouth Medical School, Lebanon, N.H. e-mail: jose.r.conejo-garcia@dartmouth.edu