This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Lymphoma	B-cell lymphoma 2 (BCL-2; BCL2); v-myc myelocytomatosis viral oncogene homolog (MYC; c-Myc)	<p>Comprehensive cytogenetic analysis of lymphoma patients could help identify patients who would benefit from Rituxan rituximab plus chemotherapy. In a retrospective analysis of 54 patients with double BCL2 and MYC translocation mutations, Rituxan plus chemotherapy produced median overall survival of 1.4 years compared with 0.4 years for chemotherapy alone ($p=0.05$). Next steps could include evaluating the impact of the double translocation on various cancer therapies in larger patient cohorts.</p> <p>Rituxan, a chimeric mAb against CD20 from Biogen Idec Inc. and Roche's Genentech Inc. unit, is approved to treat non-Hodgkin's lymphoma (NHL), rheumatoid arthritis (RA) and follicular lymphoma.</p> <p>SciBX 2(30); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.1176 Published online Aug. 6, 2009</p>	Patent and licensing status unavailable	<p>Johnson, N.A. <i>et al. Blood</i>; published online July 13, 2009; doi:10.1182/blood-2009-03-212191 Contact: Douglas E. Horsman, British Columbia Cancer Agency, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada e-mail: dhorsman@bccancer.bc.ca</p>