This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Cancer	Heat shock 70kDa protein 5 (glucose-regulated protein, 78kDa) (HSPA5; GRP78)	<p><i>In vitro</i> and <i>in vivo</i> studies suggest that inhibiting GRP78 could help treat Velcade bortezomib-resistant cancers. In GRP78-expressing cancer cell lines resistant to Velcade, anti-GRP78 antibodies or small interfering RNA knockdown of GRP78 restored sensitivity to the proteasome inhibitor. Next steps include identifying GRP78 inhibitors and investigating GRP78 expression as a marker for Velcade resistance.</p> <p>Velcade is marketed by Takeda Pharmaceutical Co. Ltd. and Johnson & Johnson to treat multiple myeloma (MM) and mantle cell lymphoma. The drug is also in Phase III testing to treat relapsed or refractory non-Hodgkin's lymphoma (NHL).</p> <p>SciBX 2(35); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.1337 Published online Sept. 10, 2009</p>	Patent and licensing status undisclosed	<p>Kern, J. <i>et al. Blood</i>; published online Aug. 27, 2009; doi:10.1182/blood-2009-03-209668 Contact: Michael Steurer, Innsbruck Medical University, Innsbruck, Austria e-mail: michael.steurer@i-med.ac.at</p>