This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Hematology				
HIV/AIDS	α -1,4-Galactosyltransferase (A4GALT; P1; PK)	<p>A study in patient samples suggests that increased expression of the PK blood antigen may be useful for preventing HIV infection. In HIV-1 infection assays, peripheral blood mononuclear cells (PBMCs) isolated from healthy patients overexpressing the PK antigen showed less infection than matched controls. Assays of PBMCs from healthy patients lacking PK antigen showed greater infection than blood type-matched controls. Next steps include studying the protective effects of increased PK expression in a macaque model of HIV infection.</p> <p>SciBX 2(4); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.144 Published online Jan. 29, 2009</p>	<p>Multiple patent disclosures filed; available for licensing from The Hospital for Sick Children Corporate Venture Office</p> <p>Contact: Arlene Yee, The Hospital for Sick Children, Toronto, Ontario, Canada phone: 416-813-8858 e-mail: arlene.yee@sickkids.ca</p>	<p>Lund, N. <i>et al. Blood</i>; published online Jan. 12, 2009; doi:10.1182/blood-2008-03-143396</p> <p>Contact: Donald R. Branch, University of Toronto, Toronto, Ontario, Canada e-mail: don.branch@utoronto.ca</p>