This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Leukemia	DNA (cytosine-5-)- methyltransferase 1 (DNMT1)	A study in mice suggests that inhibiting DNMT1 could help treat leukemia. In mice injected with <i>Dnmt1</i> -deficient leukemia stem cells, time to disease onset was greater than that for mice receiving cells containing functional <i>Dnmt1</i> . In cell culture, the <i>Dnmt1</i> -deficient leukemia stem cells had impaired self-renewal capacity. Next steps include developing DNMT1 inhibitors and identifying other cancer stem cell programs that are controlled by aberrant DNA methylation. <i>SciBX</i> 2(40); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.1502 Published online Oct. 15, 2009	Work unpatented; licensing status not applicable	Bröske, A.-M. <i>et al. Nat. Genet.</i> ; published online Oct. 4, 2009; doi:10.1038/ng.463 Contact: Frank Rosenbauer, Max Delbrück Center for Molecular Medicine, Berlin, Germany e-mail: f.rosenbauer@mdc-berlin.de