This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Lymphoma	CD19	<p>A study in mice suggests that SGN-19A may be useful for treating lymphomas insensitive to Rituxan rituximab. In mice with a rituximab-resistant lymphoma cell line, SGN-19A significantly delayed tumor growth compared with that seen using rituximab or no treatment ($p < 0.001$). Next steps include evaluating SGN-19A in clinical trials. Seattle Genetics Inc.'s SGN-19A, a microtubule destabilizing agent conjugated to a humanized anti-CD19 antibody, is in preclinical testing to treat hematological malignancies.</p> <p>Rituxan, a chimeric mAb against CD20 from Biogen Idec Inc., Genentech Inc. and Roche, is approved to treat CD20⁺ diffuse large B cell non-Hodgkin's lymphoma (NHL) and rheumatoid arthritis (RA), and it is approved as a first- and second-line treatment of follicular lymphoma.</p> <p>At least eight companies have compounds targeting CD19 in Phase II or earlier to treat various cancers.</p> <p>SciBX 2(6); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.225 Published online Feb. 12, 2009</p>	<p>Patent status undisclosed; SGN-19A available for licensing from Seattle Genetics</p> <p>Contact: Seattle Genetics Inc., Bothell, Wash. phone: 425-527-4000 e-mail: businessdevelopment@seagen.com</p>	<p>Gerber, H.-P. <i>et al. Blood</i>; published online Jan. 15, 2009; doi:10.1182/blood-2008-09-179143</p> <p>Contact: Hans-Peter Gerber, Seattle Genetics Inc., Bothell, Wash. e-mail: hgerber@seagen.com</p>