This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Leukemia	Runt-related transcription factor 1 (RUNX1; AML1); runt-related transcription factor 1 translocated to 1 (cyclin D-related) (RUNX1T1; ETO)	<p>Studies in cell culture suggest that targeting the AML1-ETO fusion protein could be useful for treating acute leukemia. <i>In vitro</i>, oncogenic transformation of primary hematopoietic cells by the fusion protein was dependent on its homo-oligomerization. Small molecule inhibition of primary hematopoietic cells expressing a recombinant version of the fusion protein prevented oncogenic transformation. Next steps include developing small molecule inhibitors that target AML1-ETO-mediated homo-oligomerization.</p> <p>SciBX 2(7); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.267 Published online Feb. 19, 2009</p>	Patent status not applicable; unlicensed	<p>Kwok, C. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i>; published online Feb. 5, 2009; doi:10.1073/pnas.0810558106 Contact: Chi Wai Eric So, The Institute of Cancer Research, Greater London, U.K. e-mail: eric.so@icr.ac.uk Contact: Shuo Dong, Baylor College of Medicine, Houston, Texas e-mail: sdong@bcm.tmc.edu</p>