This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Transplantation				
Graft-versus-host disease (GvHD)	CD200 receptor 3 (CD200R3)	<p>Studies in mice suggest that CD200R3-positive dendritic cells (DCs) may help prevent chronic GvHD induced by allogeneic transplantation. In mice undergoing allogeneic hematopoietic stem cell transplantation, an infusion of Cd200r3-positive DCs prior to the procedure significantly lowered the incidence and severity of chronic GvHD compared with what was seen in untreated controls ($p<0.01$). Conversely, depletion of Cd200r3-positive DCs prior to transplantation accelerated chronic GvHD progression ($p<0.01$). Next steps include evaluating the cellular infusion therapy in a Phase I trial.</p> <p>SciBX 2(9); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.378 Published online March 5, 2009</p>	Patent and licensing status undisclosed	<p>Sato, K. <i>et al. Blood</i>; published online Feb. 19, 2009; doi:10.1182/blood-2008-10-183145 Contact: Katsuaki Sato, RIKEN Research Center for Allergy and Immunology, Yokohama, Kanagawa, Japan e-mail: katsuaki@rcai.riken.jp</p>