This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Cancer	Caspase-2	<p>A study in mice suggests that preventing the loss of caspase-2 may be useful for treating cancer. In immunocompromised mice, injection with transformed caspase-2^{-/-} mouse embryonic fibroblasts resulted in significantly larger tumor volumes by day 10 than those seen using caspase-2^{+/+} cells ($p=0.00019$). In a mouse model of spontaneous lymphoma, loss of caspase-2 accelerated disease onset compared with that seen in controls that expressed caspase-2 ($p<0.001$). Next steps include validating the tumor suppressor function of caspase-2 in additional mouse models and identifying the targets of this protein.</p> <p>SciBX 2(11); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.438 Published online March 19, 2009</p>	Patent application filed covering work; available for licensing from Medvet Science Pty Ltd.	<p>Ho, L.H. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i>; published online March 9, 2009; doi:10.1073/pnas.0811928106</p> <p>Contact: Sharad Kumar, Hanson Institute, Adelaide, Australia e-mail: sharad.kumar@imvs.sa.gov.au</p>