This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Bone cancer	Macrophage colony-stimulating factor 1 (CSF1; M-CSF)	<p>A study in mice suggests that inhibiting M-CSF could be useful for treating osteosarcoma. Mice with a loss-of-function mutation in the <i>M-csf</i> gene had fewer macrophages and lower levels of angiogenesis and lymphogenesis in a variety of tissues than wild-type controls. In mice injected with osteosarcoma cells, inhibition of the M-csf receptor prevented tumor growth and vascularization and increased survival compared with what was seen in mock-treated controls. Next steps include testing the effect of M-CSF inhibition in a xenograft model of osteosarcoma.</p> <p>Ki20227, a preclinical M-CSF receptor inhibitor from Kyowa Hakko Kirin Co. Ltd., was used in this study.</p> <p>SciBX 2(20); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.819 Published online May 21, 2009</p>	Patent pending for the osteosarcoma cell lines used in this study; licensing status undisclosed	<p>Kubota, Y. <i>et al. J. Exp. Med.</i>; published online April 30, 2009; doi:10.1084/jem.20081605</p> <p>Contact: Toshio Suda, Keio University, Tokyo, Japan e-mail: sudato@sc.itc.keio.ac.jp</p> <p>Contact: Yoshiaki Kubota, same affiliation as above e-mail: ykubo33@sc.itc.keio.ac.jp</p>