This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Hematology				
Hemophilia	Factor VIIa	<p>A canine study suggests that adeno-associated viral (AAV) vectors expressing factor VIIa may be useful for treating hemophilia. In canine models of the disease, recombinant AAV vectors expressing canine factor VIIa (AAV8-cFVIIa) decreased clotting time. AAV8-cFVIIa-treated canines also did not have spontaneous bleeding episodes for up to 45 months, which is longer than historical data for dog models of hemophilia. Next steps could include evaluating the safety of the AAV vector in long-term follow-up studies with the dogs and in nonhuman primates.</p> <p>NN1731, a recombinant factor VIIa from Novo Nordisk A/S, is in Phase I testing to treat bleeding. At least two other companies have factor VIIa-based compounds in preclinical testing to treat hemophilia.</p> <p>SciBX 2(3); doi:10.1038/scibx.2009.98 Published online Jan. 22, 2009</p>	<p>Patent application filed; available for licensing from The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia Office of Technology Transfer</p> <p>Contact: Ellen Purpus, Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, Philadelphia, Pa. phone: 215-590-4660 e-mail: purpus@email.chop.edu</p>	<p>Margaritis, P. <i>et al. Blood</i>; published online Dec. 23, 2008; doi:10.1182/blood-2008-07-168377</p> <p>Contact: Katherine A. High, The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, Philadelphia, Pa. e-mail: high@email.chop.edu</p>