This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Leukemia, lymphoma	Ataxia telangiectasia mutated (ATM); poly(ADP-ribose) polymerase (PARP)	<p>A study <i>in vitro</i> and <i>in vivo</i> suggests the PARP inhibitor olaparib could help treat ATM-deficient leukemias and lymphomas. In a mouse xenograft model of ATM-mutated human mantle cell lymphoma, mice given olaparib had reduced tumor load and higher survival compared with vehicle-treated controls. In ATM-deficient human chronic lymphocytic leukemia cells, olaparib pretreatment increased sensitivity to DNA-damaging agents compared with no pretreatment. Next steps could include evaluating olaparib in combination with DNA-damaging drugs in more animal models of leukemia and lymphoma.</p> <p>Olaparib from AstraZeneca plc is in Phase II trials for breast and ovarian cancers.</p> <p>SciBX 3(36); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.1089 Published online Sept. 16, 2010</p>	Patent and licensing status unavailable	<p>Weston, V.J. <i>et al. Blood</i>; published online Aug. 25, 2010; doi:10.1182/blood-2010-01-265769 Contact: Tatjana Stankovic, University of Birmingham, Birmingham U.K. e-mail: t.stankovic@bham.ac.uk</p>