This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Acute lymphoblastic leukemia (ALL); acute myelogenous leukemia (AML)	5-Methyltetrahydrofolate-homocysteine methyltransferase (MTR); myeloid-lymphoid or mixed-lineage leukemia (MLL; HRX)	A study in children suggests that genetic variation in MTR could help predict leukemia risk. In ALL and AML patients, the GG genotype at position 2756 of the <i>MTR</i> gene was significantly associated with an increased risk for ALL ($p=0.010$) and AML ($p=0.036$). Next steps could include studying the mechanism by which <i>MTR</i> genetic variation contributes to the two diseases.	Patent and licensing status unavailable	Lightfoot, T.J. <i>et al. Blood</i> ; published online Jan. 25, 2010; doi:10.1182/blood-2009-10-249722 Contact: Tracy J. Lightfoot, The University of York, York, U.K. e-mail: tracy.lightfoot@egu.york.ac.uk
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