This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Transplantation				
Transplantation	Programmed cell death 1 ligand 1 (CD274 molecule; PD-L1; B7-H1); PD-1 receptor (PDCD1; PD-1; CD279)	<p>A study in mice suggests that antagonizing PD-L1 could help increase the protective graft-versus-leukemia (GvL) effect in bone marrow transplant patients. In a mouse model of bone marrow transplantation, a mAb targeting PD-L1 improved protective GvL activity compared with control antibodies ($p < 0.05$). Next steps include determining the optimal timing and duration of PD-L1 blockade to avoid potentially triggering graft-versus-host disease (GvHD).</p> <p>MDX-1106 (ONO-4538), a humanized anti-PD-1 antibody from Ono Pharmaceutical Co. Ltd. and Bristol-Myers Squibb Co., is in Phase I testing to treat cancer and HCV.</p> <p>SciBX 3(24); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.743 Published online June 17, 2010</p>	Work unpatented; licensing status not applicable	<p>Asakura, S. <i>et al. J. Clin. Invest.</i>; published online June 7, 2010; doi:10.1172/JCI39165</p> <p>Contact: Takanori Teshima, Kyushu University, Fukuoka, Japan e-mail: tteshima@cancer.med.kyushu-u.ac.jp</p>