This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Colorectal cancer	CC chemokine receptor 1 (CCR1; CC191)	<p>Mouse studies suggest that a CCR1 antagonist could help prevent colon cancer metastasis to the liver. In a mouse model of liver metastasis, injected human or mouse colon cancer cells secreted the CCR1 ligand chemokine CC motif ligand 9 (CCL9) and recruited immature myeloid cells to the liver. Those cells promote colon cancer invasion into adjacent tissues. Also in the mouse model, a CCR1 antagonist reduced colon cancer cell metastasis to the liver, decreased immature myeloid cell accumulation and prolonged survival compared with vehicle control. Next steps could include testing CCR1 antagonists in combination with other cancer therapeutics.</p> <p>ChemoCentryx Inc.'s CCX354, a CCR1 antagonist, is in Phase II testing to treat rheumatoid arthritis (RA). Ligand Pharmaceuticals Inc.'s PS031291, a CCR1 antagonist, is in preclinical testing to treat RA and multiple sclerosis (MS).</p> <p>SciBX 3(28); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.858 Published online July 22, 2010</p>	Patent and licensing status unavailable	<p>Kitamura, T. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i>; published online June 28, 2010; doi:10.1073/pnas.1002372107</p> <p>Contac: Makoto M. Taketo, Kyoto University, Kyoto, Japan e-mail: taketo@mfour.med.kyoto-u.ac.jp</p>