This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Acute lymphoblastic leukemia (ALL)	IL-23; microRNA- 15a (miR-15a)	<i>In vitro</i> and mouse studies suggest that IL-23 and miR-15a could help treat pediatric ALL. In ALL patient samples and human ALL cell lines, IL-23 upregulated miR-15a, which led to greater apoptosis than no treatment. In mouse models of pediatric ALL, human IL-23 or forced overexpression of miR-15a decreased tumor growth compared with vehicle control or expression of an irrelevant miRNA precursor. Future studies could include testing miR-15a in animal models of ALL.	Patent and licensing status unavailable	Cocco, C. <i>et al. Blood</i> ; published online July 29, 2010; doi:10.1182/blood-2009-10-248245 Contact: Irma Airolidi, G. Gaslini Institute, Genoa, Italy e-mail: irmaairolidi@ospedale-gaslini.ge.it
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