This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Liver cancer	IL-12; granulocyte macrophage colony-stimulating factor (CSF2; GM-CSF); pigment epithelium derived factor (SERPINF1; PEDF); endostatin (ED)	<p>A study in woodchucks suggests that a combination of antiangiogenic factors and cytokines could help treat advanced liver cancer. In woodchucks with hepatocellular carcinomas, two antiangiogenic factors (PEDF and ED) in combination with two cytokines (GM-CSF and IL-12) decreased tumor size compared with antiangiogenic factors alone ($p < 0.05$). In the subset of woodchucks with large tumors, the four factors reduced tumor size compared with cytokines alone ($p = 0.004$). Next steps include toxicology studies of the combination of antiangiogenic factors plus cytokines.</p> <p>EGEN-001, an IL-12-expressing plasmid formulated with a lipopolymeric gene delivery system from Egen Inc., is in Phase I testing for ovarian cancer.</p> <p>Endostar, a recombinant human ED, is marketed in China by Simcere Pharmaceutical Group to treat non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC).</p> <p>SciBX 3(32); doi:10.1038/scibx.2010.982 Published online Aug. 19, 2010</p>	Patent application filed; licensing status undisclosed	<p>Huang, K.-W. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i>; published online Aug. 2, 2010; doi:10.1073/pnas.1009534107</p> <p>Contact: Ding-Shinn Chen, National Taiwan University Hospital, Taipei, Taiwan e-mail: chends@ntu.edu.tw</p> <p>Contact: Lih-Hwa Hwang, National Yang-Ming University, Taipei, Taiwan e-mail: lhhwang@ym.edu.tw</p>