This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Chronic myelogenous leukemia (CML)	Galectin-3 (LGALS3; GAL3)	<p>Cell culture studies suggest inhibiting GAL3 could help treat drug-resistant CML. In two human CML cell lines, vector-based overexpression of GAL3 led to greater proliferation and lower sensitivity to both tyrosine kinase inhibitors and chemotherapy than those seen using vector controls. Next steps could include antagonizing GAL3 in models of drug-resistant CML.</p> <p>Galectin Therapeutics Inc.'s Davanat, a polysaccharide in a carboxosome formulation that targets specific lectin receptors including GAL3 on cancer cells, is in Phase III testing for colorectal cancer and Phase II trials or earlier for other cancers.</p>	Patent and licensing status unavailable	<p>Yamamoto-Sugitani, M. <i>et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i>; published online Oct. 10, 2011; doi:10.1073/pnas.1111138108</p> <p>Contact: Junya Kuroda, Kyoto Prefectural University of Medicine, Kyoto, Japan e-mail: junkuro@koto.kpu-m.ac.jp</p>
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