This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Colorectal cancer	Lysyl oxidase (LOX)	<p>Studies in mice and in patient samples suggest that decreasing LOX levels could help prevent metastatic colorectal cancer. In cancer patient samples, LOX levels were significantly higher in metastatic tumors than primary tumors ($p < 0.001$). In a mouse xenograft model of human colorectal cancer, LOX overexpression led to greater metastases than normal LOX expression ($p = 0.044$). In the same xenograft model, small hairpin RNA-mediated knockdown of LOX decreased metastases compared with those seen using control shRNA ($p = 0.035$). Next steps include confirming the results in additional models of colorectal cancer metastasis. AB0024, a humanized mAb against lysyl oxidase-like 2 (LOXL2) from Gilead Sciences Inc., is in Phase I testing for cancer.</p> <p>SciBX 4(8); doi:10.1038/scibx.2011.220 Published online Feb. 24, 2011</p>	<p>Patent application filed covering LOX targeting agents for treatment and prevention of metastasis; licensed to Arresto Biosciences Inc. (now part of Gilead Sciences)</p>	<p>Baker, A.-M. <i>et al.</i> <i>J. Natl. Cancer Inst.</i>; published online Jan. 31, 2011; doi:10.1093/jnci/djq569 Contact: Janine T. Erler, The Institute of Cancer Research, London, U.K. e-mail: janine.erler@icr.ac.uk</p>