This week in therapeutics

Indication	Target/marker/ pathway	Summary	Licensing status	Publication and contact information
Cancer				
Acute myelogenous leukemia (AML)	Lysine-specific histone demethylase 2B (KDM2B; JHDM1B)	Studies in mice and in cell culture suggest that inhibiting KDM2B could help treat AML. In a mouse model of AML, small hairpin RNA-mediated knockdown of <i>Kdm2b</i> decreased the proliferation of AML cells compared with that seen using control shRNA. In primary AML cells isolated from the mice, loss of <i>Kdm2b</i> lowered the self-renewal capacity of leukemia stem cells compared with intact <i>Kdm2b</i> . Researchers did not disclose next steps, which could include developing KDM2B inhibitors and evaluating the molecules in animal models of AML.	Patented; licensed to an undisclosed company	He, J. <i>et al. Blood</i> ; published online Feb. 10, 2011; doi:10.1182/blood-2010-10-312736 Contact: Yi Zhang, The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, N.C. e-mail: yi_zhang@med.unc.edu
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